

DORCHESTER COUNTY

ECONOMIC
WELL-BEING

DOMAIN RANK

16

Children 0-17 in households
with incomes below the
poverty level

14.0%

South Carolina 20.0%
County Ranking 2

UNCHANGED

2021

Children under age 18
whose resident parents are
not in the labor force

7.5%

South Carolina 8.2%
County Ranking 12

WORSENERD

2017 - 2021

Owner-occupied housing
where household spends
at least 30 percent of their
income on housing

21.2%

South Carolina 18.8%
County Ranking 32

IMPROVED

2017 - 2021

Teens age 16-19
not enrolled in school
and not working

9.5%

South Carolina 8.2%
County Ranking 27

WORSENERD

2017 - 2021



EDUCATION

DOMAIN RANK

8

Cumulative percent of
children failing grades
1, 2, or 3

2.7%

South Carolina 1.4%
County Ranking 31

WORSENERD

2021 - 2022

Third graders testing
below state standards in
English/Language Arts

45.9%

South Carolina 52.0%
County Ranking 7

WORSENERD

2021 - 2022

Eighth graders
testing below state
standards in math

66.6%

South Carolina 69.8%
County Ranking 11

WORSENERD

2021 - 2022

Dropouts as a percentage
of the total enrollment
for grades 9-12

0.7%

South Carolina 2.4%
County Ranking 5

IMPROVED

2020 - 2021



HEALTH

DOMAIN RANK

14

Low-birthweight babies

10.2%

South Carolina 9.8%
County Ranking 27

WORSENERD

2020

Infant mortality
rate per 1,000

4.2

South Carolina 6.5
County Ranking 7

IMPROVED

2020

Child deaths, ages 1-14,
rate per 100,000

9.7

South Carolina 18.7
County Ranking 10

IMPROVED

2020

Teen deaths, ages 15-19
rate per 100,000

103.4

South Carolina 82.7
County Ranking 25

IMPROVED

2020

FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY

DOMAIN RANK

3

Children living in single
parent families

35.7%

South Carolina 39.7%
County Ranking 9

WORSENERD

2017 - 2021

Families where
householder lacks a
high school diploma

6.4%

South Carolina 10.0%
County Ranking 5

WORSENERD

2017 - 2021

Children living
in concentrated
areas of poverty

5.3%

South Carolina 9.8%
County Ranking 14

IMPROVED

2016 - 2020

Births to teens 15 to 19
years of age, rate per 1,000

13.5

South Carolina 19.3
County Ranking 2

IMPROVED

2020

Lower county rankings (e.g. #1) indicates better outcomes. There are 46 counties in South Carolina. The data source for each indicator can be found at datacenter.kidscount.org/data#SC. N.A. = Not Available.

DORCHESTER COUNTY

South Carolina County Rankings

All 46 counties are ranked from first (1) to last (46). In addition to the overall ranking, each county has a domain and indicator ranking.

1	York	11	Lancaster	21	Newberry	31	Laurens	41	Marlboro
2	Greenville	12	Berkeley	22	Florence	32	Chesterfield	42	Barnwell
3	Pickens	13	Aiken	23	Georgetown	33	Union	43	Dillon
4	Lexington	14	Oconee	24	Calhoun	34	Clarendon	44	Colleton
5	Dorchester	15	Richland	25	Sumter	35	McCormick	45	Lee
6	Spartanburg	16	Abbeville	26	Bamberg	36	Chester	46	Allendale
7	Beaufort	17	Kershaw	27	Cherokee	37	Fairfield		
8	Charleston	18	Saluda	28	Jasper	38	Hampton		
9	Horry	19	Greenwood	29	Darlington	39	Orangeburg		
10	Anderson	20	Edgefield	30	Williamsburg	40	Marion		

Why is this important?

Children's Trust of South Carolina produces the child well-being profiles for each county in South Carolina. They provide us with a snapshot into the status of children and families in South Carolina.

When children thrive, they meet educational milestones, live in economically stable homes and in supportive communities, and they are more likely to grow into productive, contributing members of our state.

However, as the profiles show, too many of South Carolina's children live in environments that may put them at risk for negative outcomes, including child abuse and neglect.

How to use them?

These child well-being profiles can be used in a wide variety of ways: grant writing, community and coalition meetings, decision-making, policy and advocacy.

Where does this data come from?

This work, done in partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) and the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, is modeled after the AECF's KIDS COUNT state and national profiles.

When county-level data are available, the profiles use the same indicators as KIDS COUNT. When county-level data are not available, the profiles use proxies for the KIDS COUNT indicators.

Questions?

Want to host a data conversation in your community? Contact the research and evaluation team at research@scchildren.org for more information.