

ECONOMIC
WELL-BEING

DOMAIN RANK

29

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

32.3%

South Carolina 22.1%
County Ranking 29

IMPROVED

2018

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

11.2%

South Carolina 8.6%
County Ranking 26

IMPROVED

2014 - 2018

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

18.0%

South Carolina 20.4%
County Ranking 14

IMPROVED

2014 - 2018

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

14.3%

South Carolina 6.9%
County Ranking 39

IMPROVED

2014 - 2018



EDUCATION

DOMAIN RANK

33

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

0.6%

South Carolina 1.4%
County Ranking 6

IMPROVED

2018

Third graders
testing below state
standards in English/
Language Arts¹

68.9%

South Carolina 50.2%
County Ranking 37

N/A

2018 - 2019

Eighth graders
testing below state
standards in math¹

69.2%

South Carolina 63.4%
County Ranking 26

N/A

2018 - 2019

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

3.8%

South Carolina 1.9%
County Ranking 43

IMPROVED

2018 - 2019



HEALTH

DOMAIN RANK

42

Low-birthweight babies

14.7%

South Carolina 9.6%
County Ranking 44

WORSENERD

2018

Infant mortality
rate per 1,000

6.7

South Carolina 7.2
County Ranking 19

WORSENERD

2018

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

22.4

South Carolina 19
County Ranking 30

IMPROVED

2018

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

252.7

South Carolina 71.9
County Ranking 42

WORSENERD

2018

FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY

DOMAIN RANK

39

Children living in single
parent families

55.8%

South Carolina 40.3%
County Ranking 38

IMPROVED

2014 - 2018

Families where
householder lacks a
high school diploma

14.2%

South Carolina 10.3%
County Ranking 27

IMPROVED

2014 - 2018

Children living
in concentrated
areas of poverty

25.7%

South Carolina 11.0%
County Ranking 39

WORSENERD

2014 - 2018

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

40.2

South Carolina 1.6
County Ranking 40

IMPROVED

2018

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.

1. This year's data is not comparable to last year's per South Carolina Department of Education. See definitions and sources on KIDS COUNT data center.

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

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.

The 2020 child well-being county profiles reflect data that was collected in 2018. These profiles DO NOT share current data on the impacts of COVID-19 on child well-being in South Carolina.

Questions?

Want to host a data conversation in your community? Contact Dr. Aditi Srivastav at asrivastav@scchildren.org or 803-744-4062 for more information.