



## How Enterprise-Friendly are South Carolina's 50 Largest Cities?

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# enterprise

noun

'en-tə(r)-,prīz

a project or activity that involves many people; readiness to engage in daring action; initiative

# free enterprise

noun

'frē 'en-tə(r)-,prīz

freedom of private business to organize and operate for profit in a competitive system without interference by government

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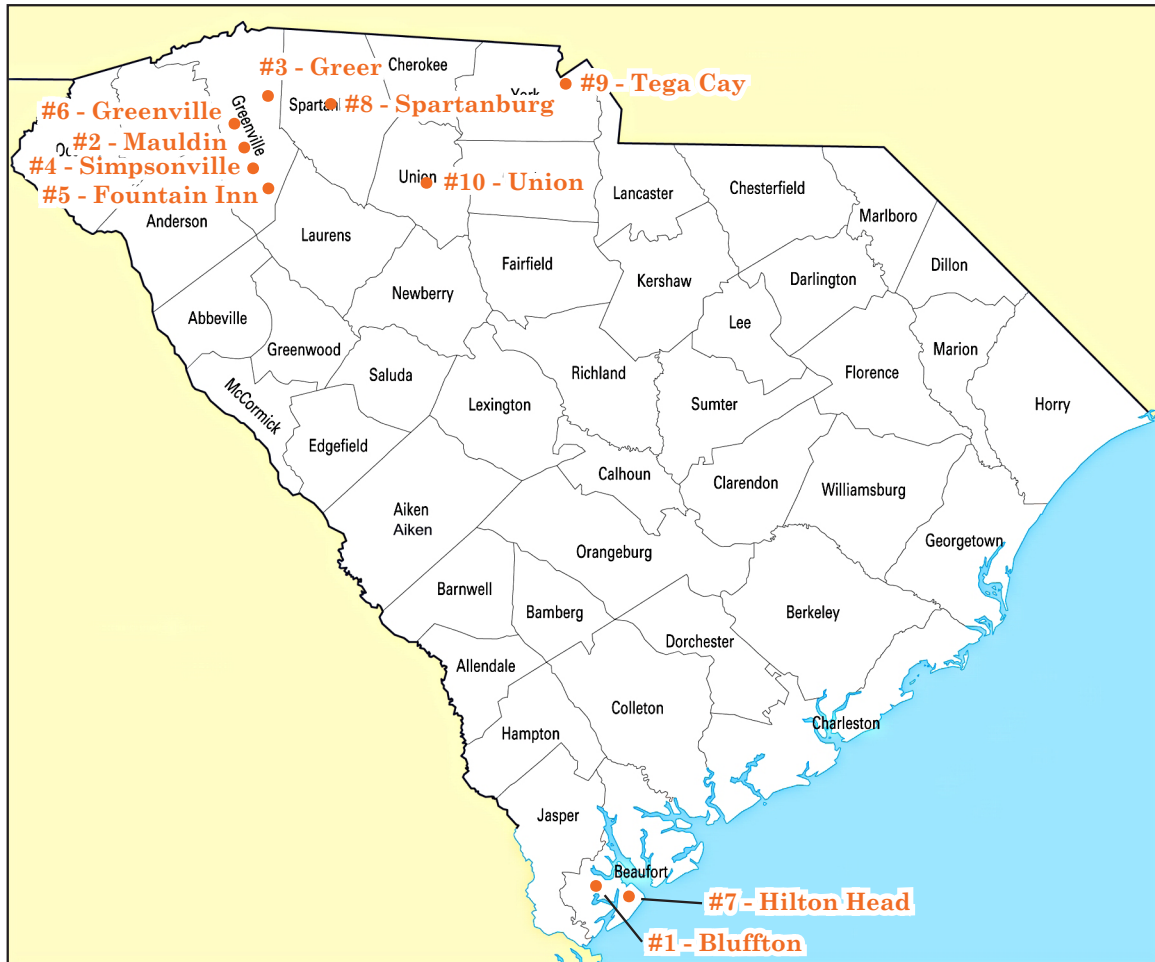
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## The Top Ten Enterprise-Friendly Cities in South Carolina



**#1 Bluffton**

**#6 Greenville**

**#2 Mauldin**

**#7 Hilton Head Island**

**#3 Greer**

**#8 Spartanburg**

**#4 Simpsonville**

**#9 Tega Cay**

**#5 Fountain Inn**

**#10 Union**

## Introduction

In order to excel in an increasingly competitive global marketplace, South Carolina must be as attractive as possible to businesses wishing to relocate to or expand in the state. While state-level policies undoubtedly drive our state's overall economic health and job creation potential, we cannot afford to overlook the vital role played by local communities. Cities and towns are the real engines that drive the statewide economy and South Carolinians should consider how they compare against each other with respect to enterprise: the economic, social, and education factors attractive to businesses.

We were surprised to learn that though there are numerous *state-level* comparisons of South Carolina's free-enterprise friendliness to inform policymakers at the Statehouse, the same sort of report dedicated to comparing *cities and towns* in South Carolina simply didn't exist.

To fill this knowledge gap, Palmetto Promise Institute and American Indicators have collected data on South Carolina's 50 most populous incorporated areas and ranked them based on criteria that both ensure business success and protect the entrepreneurial spirit.<sup>1</sup> The four categories ranked are Economic Vitality, Business Tax Burden, Community Allure (Quality of Life), and Infrastructure.

In summary, this report looks at a number of factors: What cities have the best tax policies? Which have more community allure, such as low costs of living and low crime rates? What cities have experienced the most year-over-year population and job growth? What type of economic vitality do cities have, including the average incomes for local residents? These and other questions are answered in this report.

Our goal is to bring a new statewide focus on local decision-making. For after all, the "little platoons" of civil society, the backbone of South Carolina's potential are her local communities.



# **THE FOUR FACTORS OF ENTERPRISE- FRIENDLINESS**



## 1. Economic Vitality

*The economic vitality of a city is important to enterprise because factors such as job growth, population growth, and median per-capita income reflect its ability to survive, especially during an economic downturn. Population growth indicates that an area has a solid consumer base that can attract and support commerce. Job performance has a clear impact on a city's business climate, while income levels reveal a city's ability to generate wealth for its residents.<sup>2</sup>*

As Appendix B shows, the five best-performing cities in South Carolina in the category of Economic Vitality are **Bluffton** (92.16 out of a possible 100), **Moncks Corner** (81.24), **Tega Cay** (77.00), **Hanahan** (70.88), and **Mt. Pleasant** (70.22).



**Moncks Corner** had the largest short-term job growth from 2014 to 2015 (4.81%), **Bluffton** had the greatest long-term residential population growth from 2005 to 2015, and **Tega Cay** had the highest per-capita income (\$119,250).

**Bennettsville** scored lowest in the Economic Vitality metric, earning only 8.19 points. It was immediately preceded by **Georgetown** (10.03), **Newberry** (14.89), **Hartsville** (19.49), and **Laurens** (21.55). Each of these cities have suffered declines in job growth, and the per-capita incomes of **Georgetown** (\$24,534) and **Hartsville** (\$24,768) are among the lowest in the state.

## 2. Business Tax Burden

*The Business Tax Burden category evaluates the enterprise friendliness of each incorporated area based on the sales and use tax in each municipality. As of March 2017, the median sales and use tax among the 50 cities examined in South Carolina was 7%, with rates ranging from 6% in 13 municipalities to 8.5% in Charleston, North Charleston and Mt. Pleasant.*

According to Appendix C, there is a 13-way tie when it comes to South Carolina's best-ranking cities in terms of their Business Tax Burden. All of the following have a sales and use tax of 6%: **Beaufort, Bluffton, Fountain Inn, Greenville, Greenwood, Greer, Hilton Head Island, Mauldin, Port Royal, Seneca, Simpsonville, Spartanburg, and Union**. On the other hand, **Charleston** (8.5%), **North Charleston** (8.5%) and **Mount Pleasant** (8.5%) are the three worst cities in South Carolina when it comes to their sales and use taxes. The Capital City of **Columbia** (8%) tied with sixteen other municipalities for 32nd place.





### 3. Community Allure/Quality of Life

*The factors that make up the Community Allure/Quality of Life category count for a smaller percentage of the rankings than Business Tax Burden and Economic Vitality. Even so, indicators included here, such as the cost of living index, education performance, and crime rates, all play a key role in any city's enterprise climate.*

With its reasonable cost of living, safe neighborhoods, and above-average education system, **Lexington** takes the top spot in the Community Allure category with a score of 73.39 (see Appendix D). **Aiken** (72.98) is in second place, with a lower cost of living than Lexington but a slightly worse education environment. **Mauldin** (72.78), **Irmo** (71.53), and **Clemson** (70.51) round out the top five in Community Allure/Quality of Life.



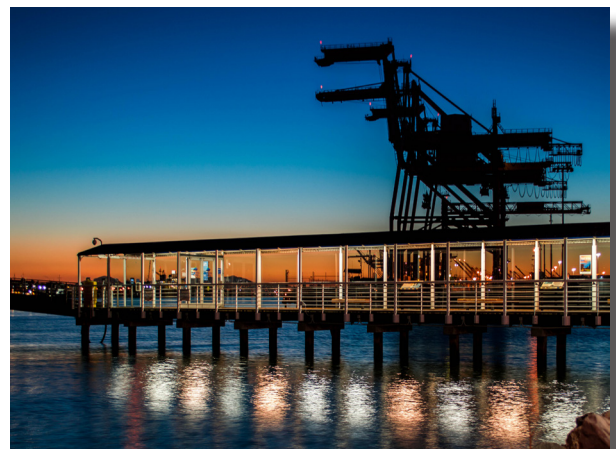
With a high cost of living and higher than average violent crime rate, **Beaufort's** education outcomes were not enough to keep it from last place (28.97) in this category. **Lancaster** (30.86), **North Myrtle Beach** (32.51), **Georgetown** (33.03), and **Bennettsville** (34.02) finish out the bottom five in this category.

Within each subcategory, **Bennettsville** and **Union** tied for the most affordable cost of living, **Tega Cay** had the lowest violent crime rate and the highest percentage of adults age 25 or older with at least a high school diploma (95.11%). **Clemson** had the highest SAT Composite Reading and Math Score (1608).

### 4. Transportation Infrastructure

*While the components of the Transportation Infrastructure category comprise the smallest percent of the ranking system, they are important because enterprise needs quick, convenient access for customers, employees, and suppliers. Moreover, many small and large businesses need access to a variety of transportation hubs to ensure that their products are able to make it to broader markets quickly and affordably. This report takes into account the major ports along South Carolina and Georgia's eastern seaboard and S.C.'s inland port, located in Greer, S.C.*

Because it is close to a major airport, rail service, interstate access, and a container-ready commercial port, **Greer** takes first place in Transportation Infrastructure with a score of 99.74. **Hanahan** (97.45), **North Charleston** (97.40), **Goose Creek** (95.52), and **Charleston** (95.33), all of which possess rail lines, interstates, and are near the state's largest commercial port, placed 2nd through 5th, respectively.



Although relatively close to a major port as the crow flies, **Beaufort** (43.76) takes last place in the Transportation Infrastructure Category due to distance from a major rail line and commercial airport. The other four cities with the lowest scores for Transportation Infrastructure are **Greenwood** (47.27), **Port Royal** (49.24), **Lancaster** (51.42), and **Bennettsville** (51.61).

## Conclusion

South Carolina's most enterprise-friendly cities possess responsible, limited governance, reasonable tax rates, quality education outcomes, low crime and a thriving economy despite significant economic hurdles. Six of the state's top 10 business-friendly cities have populations larger than 25,000 residents, all of them have increased in size since 2003, and seven of the top 10 have per-capita incomes higher than the state average.

This does not mean, though, that South Carolina's smaller cities cannot compete against the larger, more metropolitan ones. **Bluffton**, for example, ranked #1 on economic vitality, the most heavily weighted metric in this report.

Local policymakers seeking to make their cities more enterprise-friendly should follow the path of these cities by maintaining low tax rates on businesses and families, focusing on education and public safety, and making their cities as attractive as possible to prospective businesses. By making simple adjustments, many cities across South Carolina could be on their way to becoming South Carolina's most enterprise-friendly city, and in the process, continue to establish South Carolina as a destination for growing companies both regionally and nationally.

A word of encouragement to the cities whose scores are not where they want them to be: every city surveyed, from the worst to the best, has considerable room for improvement. **Bluffton**, the best city in South Carolina for enterprise, scored only 81.07 out of a possible 100 points. While a perfect score is highly unlikely, an improvement of only 10 points could move a lagging city to the center of the pack, or one currently near the middle of the rankings to the top 10. Some cities have only one or two missing pieces of the enterprise puzzle. This document provides a roadmap for the future for attracting enterprise.

At the same time, cities at or near the top should not rest on their laurels. On average, only about one point separated ranks from each other. If several cities made even small changes to improve their enterprise climates, next year's rankings could be dramatically different.



# THE ENTERPRISE- FRIENDLY FORMULA

## The Enterprise-Friendly Formula

### 35% **Economic Vitality**

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(35% of overall score)

Recent job growth from 2014 to 2015 (50% of Economic Vitality category) <sup>3</sup>

Residential population growth from 2014 to 2015 (12.5%) <sup>4</sup>

Long-term population growth from 2005 to 2015 (12.5%) <sup>5</sup>

Median per capita income, averaged from 2011 to 2015 (25%) <sup>6</sup>

### 30% **Business Tax Burden**

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(30% of overall score)

Business property taxes as of March 2017 (100% of Business Tax Burden category) <sup>7</sup>

### 20% **Community Allure/Quality of Life**

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(20% of overall score)

Cost of living index, 2016 (35% of Community Allure category) <sup>8</sup>

Per-capita violent crime rate, 2013 (35%) <sup>9</sup>

Percent of adults age 25 or older with at least a high school diploma, 2015 (15%) <sup>10</sup>

Average SAT Composite Reading and Math Scores for 2016 Graduating Seniors (15%) <sup>11</sup>

### 15% **Transportation Infrastructure**

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(15% of overall score)

Distance to primary commercial airport (25%) <sup>12</sup>

Distance to commercial rail service (25%) <sup>13</sup>

Distance to port capable of handling container shipping (25%) <sup>14</sup>

Distance to Interstate Highway System (25%) <sup>15</sup>

## Scoring

Due to the volume of metrics studied in this report, which give rise to an overall grade for every municipality, each page in the “City by City” section lists every score for every aspect listed above. The best score in each category is 100, the worst is 0 according to the proper comparison.



# **RANKINGS**

**How enterprise-friendly?**

## South Carolina's Most Enterprise-Friendly Cities

So what city takes the prize? After careful analysis, the results are in: **Bluffton** is South Carolina's Most Enterprise-Friendly City. Located in Beaufort County, **Bluffton** finished first in Economic Vitality and tied for first in the Business Tax Burden rankings, the two most heavily weighted aspects in determining the rank of the fifty cities. Though in the middle of the pack in the categories of community allure and transportation (29th and 23rd respectively), Bluffton's fast-growing population, and private-sector growth placed it firmly in the lead with 81.07 points out of a possible 100 (see Appendix A).

**Mauldin**, in Greenville County, finished in second place (75.07) because of its top-ranked sales and use tax rate as well as its third-best score for Community Allure.

**Greer** (72.52) finished third after **Bluffton** and **Mauldin**, meaning Greenville County houses two of the top three most business-friendly cities in South Carolina. It, too, tied for first place in terms of the Business Tax Burden Ranking, ranked first place in terms of transportation infrastructure and fifteenth place in Economic Vitality. Of supreme importance to the third place finish of Greer, SC is the completion of the inland port, a critical piece of transportation infrastructure transforming the economic competitiveness of the Upstate.

## South Carolina's Least Enterprise-Friendly Cities

With every best there is a worst, and the dubious honor of being South Carolina's least enterprise-friendly city belongs to **Bennettville**, with a total score of 22.09 out of 100 possible points. Unfortunately, **Bennettville's** scores were near the bottom in both Economic Vitality (50th) and Community Allure/Quality of Life (46th) because of high unemployment, stagnant population growth and an above-average violent crime rate.

Preceding **Bennettville** as the worst cities for business in South Carolina are **Hartsville** (30.78) and **Camden** (36.21). On the metric of economic vitality Hartsville and Georgetown rank 47th and 44th respectively. Combine low marks on the economic vitality front with a relatively high business tax burden, and higher-than-average violent crime rates and both cities suffer in the business-friendly rankings as laid out in this report.

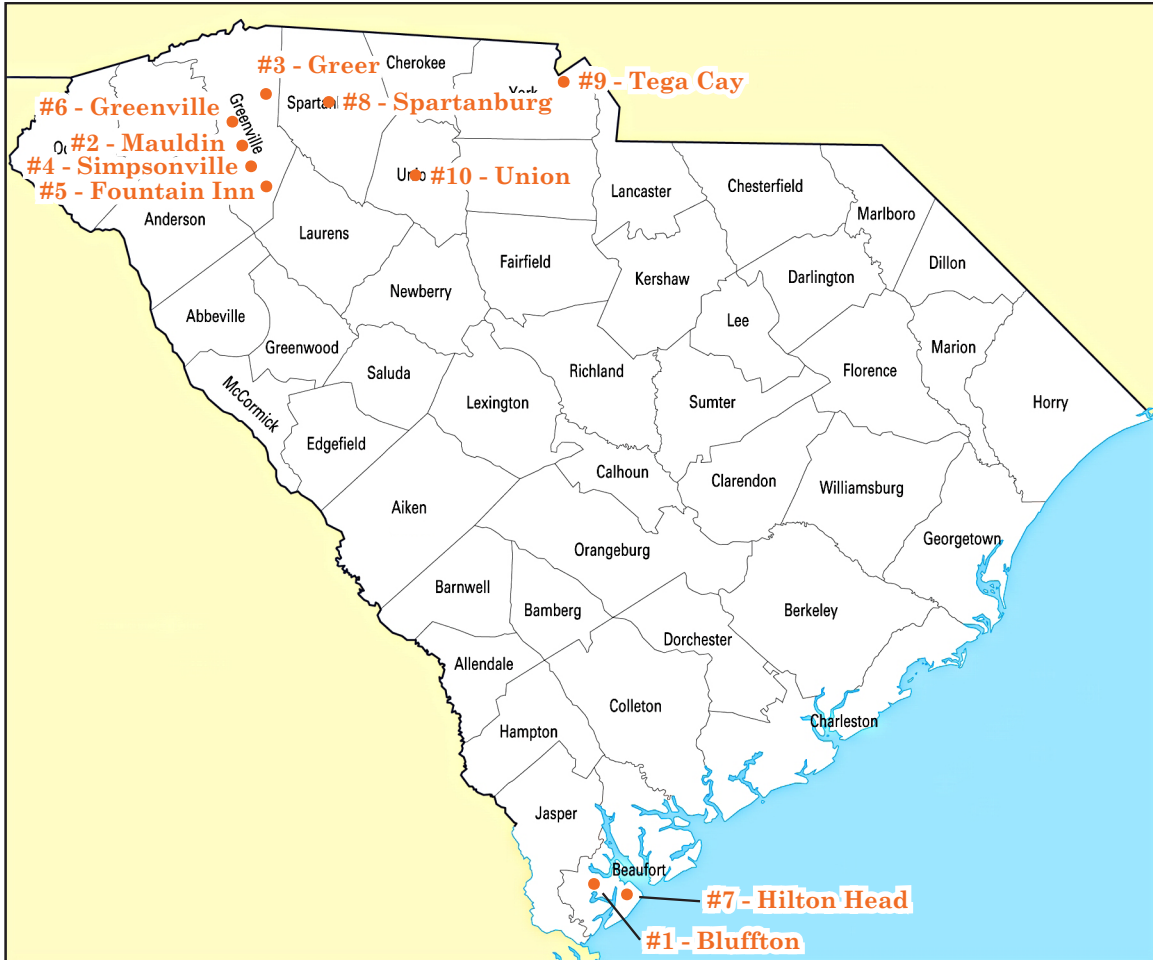


# SOUTH CAROLINA'S

# Cities

# #1-10

*How Enterprise-Friendly?*



	City	Economic Vitality	Business Tax Burden	Community Allure	Transportation Infrastructure	Overall Score
#1	Bluffton	92.16	91.44	51.10	74.38	81.07
#2	Mauldin	54.02	91.44	72.78	94.48	75.07
#3	Greer	55.94	91.44	52.76	99.74	72.52
#4	Simpsonville	55.62	91.44	58.01	92.63	72.39
#5	Fountain Inn	50.54	91.44	58.59	88.07	70.05
#6	Greenville	53.38	91.44	47.75	94.54	69.84
#7	Hilton Head Island	60.50	91.44	50.83	65.52	68.60
#8	Spartanburg	52.87	91.44	36.23	90.92	66.82
#9	Tega Cay	77.00	57.08	62.22	67.05	66.58
#10	Union	54.74	91.44	42.55	59.08	63.96

# SOUTH CAROLINA'S

# Cities

# #11-20

*How Enterprise-Friendly?*



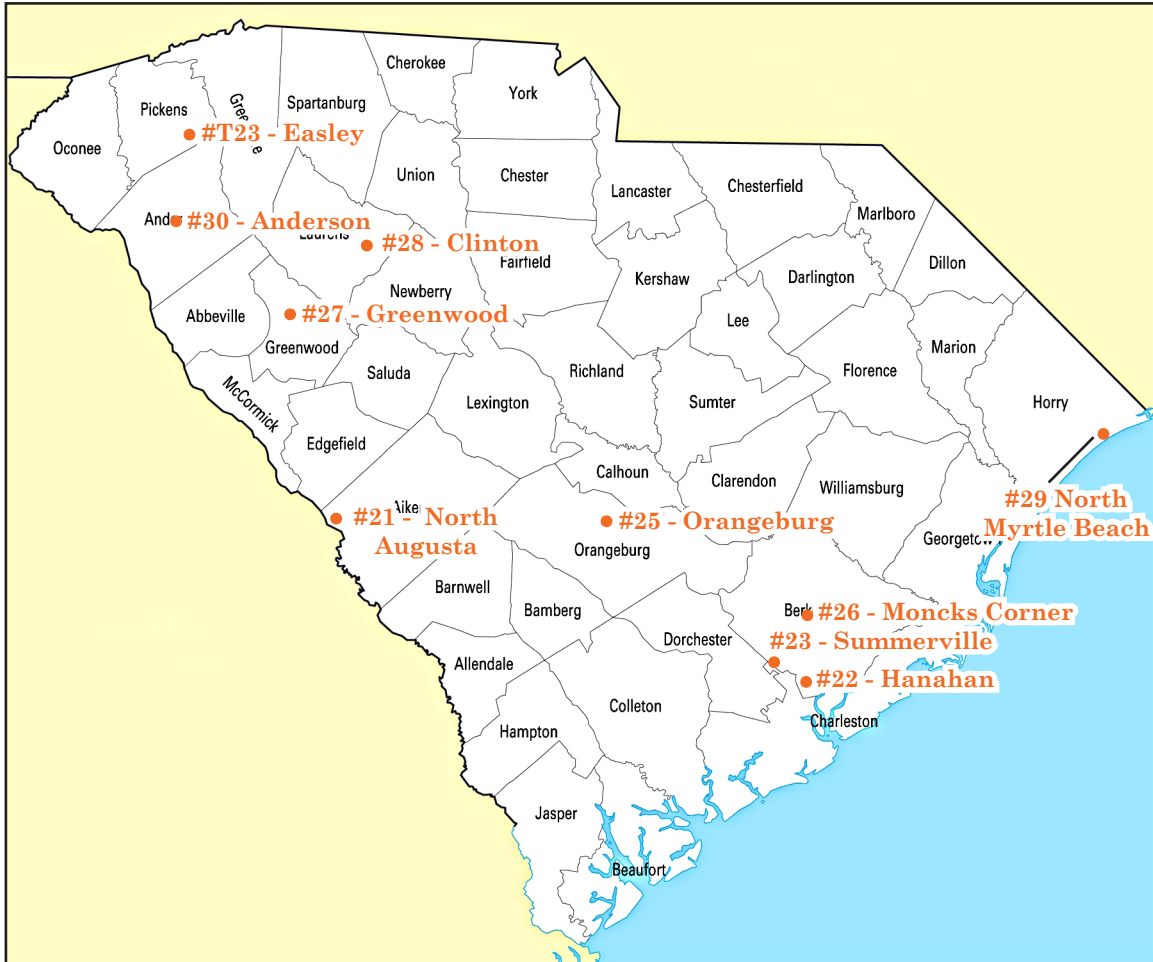
	City	Economic Vitality	Business Tax Burden	Community Allure	Transportation Infrastructure	Overall Score
#11	Clemson	61.51	57.08	70.51	66.93	62.79
#12	Fort Mill	62.84	57.08	57.52	74.89	61.86
#12T	Lexington	53.18	57.08	73.39	76.30	61.86
#14	Port Royal	33.37	91.44	69.96	49.24	60.49
#15	Seneca	31.16	91.44	55.53	62.19	58.77
#16	Rock Hill	54.50	57.08	54.01	71.54	57.73
#17	York	62.86	57.08	40.29	66.20	57.11
#18	West Columbia	50.25	57.08	51.94	78.39	56.86
#19	Irmo	38.73	57.08	71.53	76.14	56.41
#20	Conway	49.84	57.08	53.64	71.91	56.08

# SOUTH CAROLINA'S

# Cities

# #21-30

*How Enterprise-Friendly?*



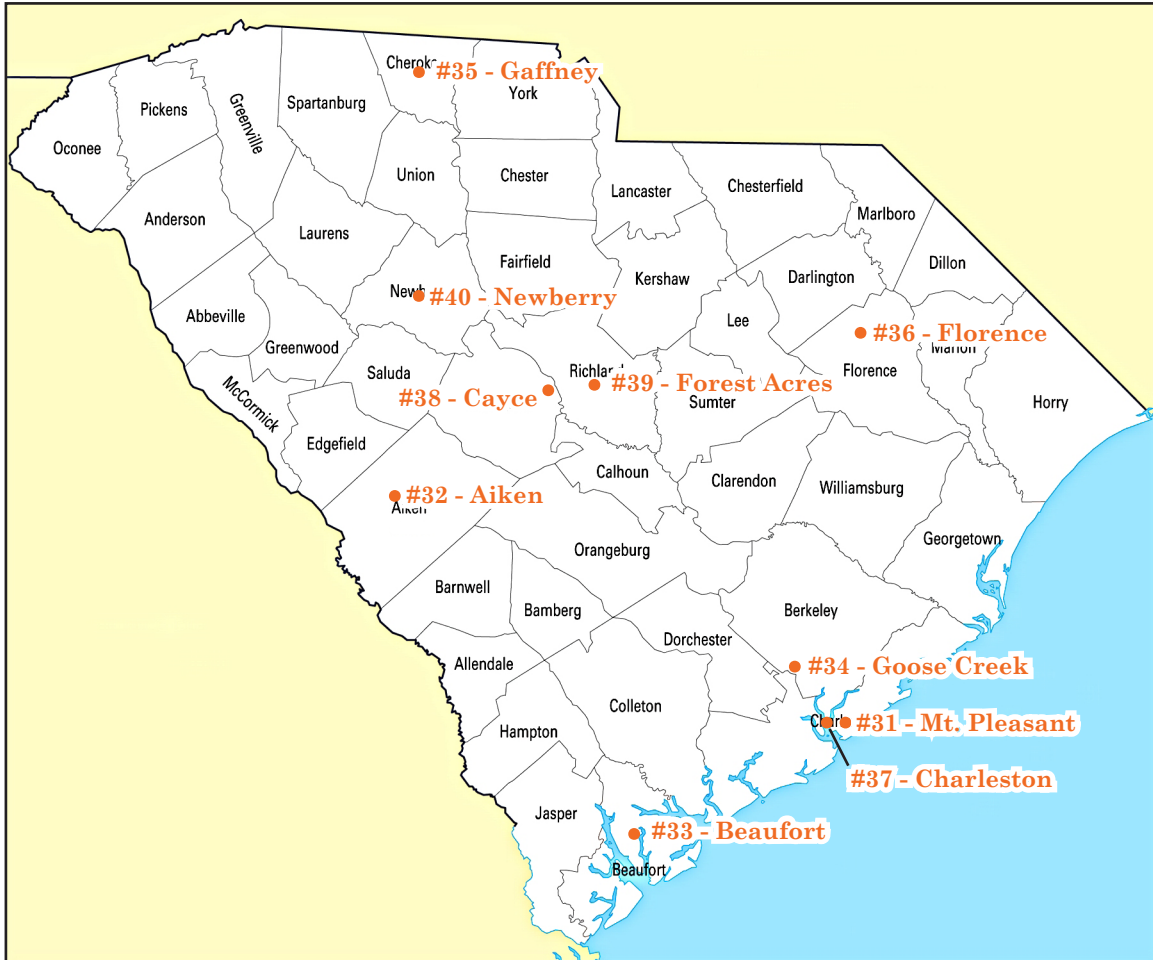
	City	Economic Vitality	Business Tax Burden	Community Allure	Transportation Infrastructure	Overall Score
#21	North Augusta	41.28	57.08	64.19	75.16	55.69
#22	Hanahan	70.88	15.60	57.07	97.45	55.52
#23	Summerville	69.52	15.60	63.00	92.59	55.50
#23T	Easley	45.51	57.08	59.16	70.76	55.50
#25	Orangeburg	50.03	57.08	51.59	65.53	54.78
#26	Moncks Corner	81.24	15.60	49.82	76.31	54.52
#27	Greenwood	31.74	91.44	36.23	47.27	52.88
#28	Clinton	47.18	57.08	47.31	59.66	52.05
#29	North Myrtle Beach	53.01	57.08	32.51	63.54	51.71
#30	Anderson	44.40	57.08	39.48	73.33	51.56

# SOUTH CAROLINA'S

# Cities

# #31-40

*How Enterprise-Friendly?*



	City	Economic Vitality	Business Tax Burden	Community Allure	Transportation Infrastructure	Overall Score
#31	Mount Pleasant	70.22	5.41	59.29	86.52	51.04
#32	Aiken	60.59	15.60	72.98	67.51	50.61
#33	Beaufort	27.44	91.44	28.97	43.76	49.39
#34	Goose Creek	47.35	15.60	67.26	95.52	49.03
#35	Gaffney	57.26	15.60	57.85	75.56	47.62
#36	Florence	53.50	15.60	49.43	84.96	46.03
#37	Charleston	56.05	5.41	51.16	95.33	45.78
#38	Cayce	48.77	15.60	60.55	78.80	45.68
#39	Forest Acres	52.52	15.60	54.33	70.38	44.48
#40	Newberry	14.89	57.08	61.64	65.40	44.47

# SOUTH CAROLINA'S

# Cities

# #41-50

*How Enterprise-Friendly?*



	City	Economic Vitality	Business Tax Burden	Community Allure	Transportation Infrastructure	Overall Score
#41	Laurens	21.55	57.08	40.89	74.20	43.97
#42	North Charleston	50.86	5.41	44.29	97.40	42.89
#43	Columbia	49.62	15.60	41.30	77.83	41.89
#44	Sumter	53.79	15.60	44.70	55.17	40.72
#45	Lancaster	57.47	15.60	30.86	51.42	38.68
#46	Myrtle Beach	42.85	15.60	40.05	63.12	37.15
#47	Georgetown	10.03	57.08	33.03	65.42	37.05
#48	Camden	31.03	15.60	42.01	58.70	32.75
#49	Hartsville	19.49	15.60	51.88	59.37	30.78
#50	Bennettsville	8.19	15.60	34.02	51.61	22.09



# CITY BY CITY



# 32 Aiken

Overall Score **50.61**  
State Rank **#32**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	64.66	Economy
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	40.69	<b>60.59</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	38.79	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	73.29	

## Business Tax Burden Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	75.01	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	79.46	<b>72.98</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	65.88	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	60.19	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>67.51</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	10.02	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	60.03	

# 30 Anderson

Overall Score **51.56**  
State Rank **#30**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	63.82	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	25.66	<b>44.40</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	37.21	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	18.52	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	72.50	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	17.56	<b>39.48</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	15.60	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	37.42	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>73.33</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	69.75	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	23.58	

# 33 Beaufort

Overall Score **49.39**  
State Rank **#33**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	12.16	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	46.30	<b>27.44</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	37.32	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	43.63	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	21.61	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	9.51	<b>28.97</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	66.94	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	53.58	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	46.89	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	34.74	<b>43.76</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	66.73	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	26.70	

# 50 Bennettsville

Overall Score **22.09**  
State Rank **#50**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	0.76	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	3.46	<b>8.19</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	30.51	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	14.27	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	90.14	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	5.65	<b>34.02</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	0.19	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	3.09	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	65.89	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>51.61</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	18.41	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	22.16	

# 1 Bluffton

Overall Score **81.07**  
State Rank **#1**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	90.53	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	99.99	<b>92.16</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	100	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	87.60	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	12.11	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	77.17	<b>51.10</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	80.87	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	51.49	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	88.79	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	37.60	<b>74.38</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	85.75	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	85.38	

# 48 Camden

Overall Score **32.75**  
State Rank **#48**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	24.77	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	33.20	<b>31.03</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	34.75	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	40.59	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	83.70	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	5.87	<b>42.01</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	39.84	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	31.24	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>58.70</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	15.20	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	19.60	



# 38 Cayce

Overall Score **45.68**  
State Rank **#38**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	55.40	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	37.43	<b>48.77</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	39.91	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	45.60	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	81.73	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	42.94	<b>60.55</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	65.88	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	46.87	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>78.80</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	15.20	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	100	

# 37 Charleston

Overall Score **45.78**  
State Rank **#37**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	49.53	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	56.35	<b>56.05</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	47.21	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	73.38	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	5.41	Taxes
<b>5.41</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	5.15	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	87.51	<b>51.16</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	84.22	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	40.65	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>95.33</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	100	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	81.35	

# 11 Clemson

Overall Score **62.79**  
State Rank **#11**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	82.66	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	60.37	<b>61.51</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	49.01	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	26.04	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	31.63	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	88.92	<b>70.51</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	92.06	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	96.69	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	78.57	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>66.93</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	71.72	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	17.42	

# 28 Clinton

Overall Score **52.05**  
State Rank **#28**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	72.84	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	21.58	<b>47.18</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	31.16	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	16.66	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	77.39	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	53.23	<b>47.31</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	5.42	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	5.20	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	54.47	<b>59.66</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	65.71	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	18.46	

# 43 Columbia

Overall Score **41.98**  
State Rank **#43**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	59.91	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	38.34	<b>49.62</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	38.23	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	40.38	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	58.46	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	21.10	<b>41.30</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	53.03	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	36.63	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>77.83</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	16.04	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	95.29	

# 20 Conway

Overall Score **56.08**  
State Rank **#20**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	48.02	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	88.44	<b>49.84</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	66.48	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	25.88	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	61.43	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	54.93	<b>53.64</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	43.80	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	42.30	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	29.83	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>71.91</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	76.47	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	81.35	



# 23T Easley

Overall Score **55.50**  
State Rank **#23T**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	51.84	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	36.24	<b>45.51</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	39.24	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	40.63	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	52.39	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	75.58	<b>59.16</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	39.28	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	56.50	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	89.02	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	57.51	<b>70.76</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	86.50	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	50.01	

# 36 Florence

Overall Score **46.03**  
State Rank **#36**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	67.50	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	22.17	<b>53.50</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	47.52	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	44.17	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	64.33	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	38.44	<b>49.43</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	62.09	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	27.61	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>84.96</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	42.00	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	97.83	

# 39 Forest Acres

Overall Score **44.48**  
State Rank **#39**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	53.65	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	24.67	<b>52.52</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	36.69	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	72.09	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	34.42	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	45.49	<b>54.33</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	92.28	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	83.50	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	75.96	<b>70.38</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	14.80	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	90.77	

# 12T Fort Mill

Overall Score **61.86**  
State Rank **#12T**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	43.81	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	87.31	<b>62.84</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	71.82	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	84.19	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	8.07	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	87.40	<b>57.52</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	70.03	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	90.69	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>74.89</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	27.21	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	72.36	

# 5 Fountain Inn

Overall Score **70.05**  
State Rank **#5**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	46.34	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	59.04	<b>50.54</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	47.66	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	56.15	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	55.44	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	63.47	<b>58.59</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	72.50	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	40.65	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>88.07</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	87.24	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	65.05	

# 35 Gaffney

Overall Score **47.62**  
State Rank **#35**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	92.36	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	19.79	<b>57.26</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	31.88	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	18.47	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	87.20	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	60.92	<b>57.85</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	9.18	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	30.87	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>75.56</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	75.54	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	26.70	

# 47 Georgetown

Overall Score **37.05**  
State Rank **#47**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	0.00	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	23.76	<b>10.03</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	35.69	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	10.39	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
		<b>57.08</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	64.33	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	11.92	<b>33.03</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	32.79	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	9.50	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	29.58	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>65.42</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	100	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	32.11	

# 34 Goose Creek

Overall Score **49.03**  
State Rank **#34**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	32.92	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	31.13	<b>47.35</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	49.59	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	83.22	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	40.23	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	86.06	<b>67.26</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	81.65	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	72.06	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>95.52</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	91.31	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	90.77	



# 6 Greenville

Overall Score **69.84**  
State Rank **#6**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	55.63	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	78.89	<b>53.38</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	41.71	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	41.95	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	49.33	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	40.18	<b>47.75</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	55.90	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	53.58	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>94.54</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	94.77	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	83.41	

# 27 Greenwood

Overall Score **52.88**  
State Rank **#27**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	42.33	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	27.66	<b>31.74</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	35.99	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	10.46	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
		<b>91.44</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	79.63	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	3.96	<b>36.23</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	1.73	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	44.78	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	29.10	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>47.27</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	50.07	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	9.92	

# 3 Greer

Overall Score **72.52**  
State Rank **#3**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	58.91	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	61.77	<b>55.94</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	54.05	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	48.03	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	37.29	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	67.53	<b>52.76</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	37.62	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	69.53	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>99.74</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	100	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	98.96	

# 22 Hanahan

Overall Score **55.52**  
State Rank **#22**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	65.98	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	99.84	<b>70.88</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	69.23	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	67.02	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	19.43	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	88.26	<b>57.07</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	69.01	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	60.19	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	97.75	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>97.45</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	94.24	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	97.83	

# 49 Hartsville

Overall Score **30.78**  
State Rank **#49**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	19.98	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	17.86	<b>19.49</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	36.89	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	10.65	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	81.73	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	12.76	<b>51.88</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	34.37	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	91.03	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	73.42	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>59.37</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	16.48	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	47.57	

# 7 Hilton Head Island

Overall Score **68.60**  
State Rank **#7**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	53.07	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	47.52	<b>60.50</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	43.56	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	90.29	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	0.13	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	77.17	<b>50.83</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	82.03	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	76.47	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	56.61	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	34.79	<b>65.52</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	71.72	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	98.96	

# 19 Irmo

Overall Score **56.41**  
State Rank **#19**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	20.78	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	44.13	<b>38.73</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	37.39	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	72.62	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	52.39	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	78.41	<b>71.53</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	80.47	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	91.20	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>76.14</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	21.17	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	83.41	

# 45 Lancaster

Overall Score **38.68**  
State Rank **#45**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	91.45	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	27.69	<b>57.47</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	31.02	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	17.64	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	69.88	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	7.36	<b>30.86</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	18.54	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	6.96	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	67.90	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>51.42</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	15.61	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	22.16	



# 41 Laurens

Overall Score **43.97**  
State Rank **#41**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	21.29	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	23.89	<b>21.55</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	30.16	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	16.59	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	83.70	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	19.29	<b>40.89</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	11.52	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	20.74	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>74.20</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	71.72	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	25.09	

# 12T Lexington

Overall Score **61.86**  
State Rank **#12T**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	38.33	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	43.35	<b>53.18</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	64.61	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	82.06	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	58.46	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	84.71	<b>73.39</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	84.57	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	70.63	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>76.30</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	14.42	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	90.77	

## 2 Mauldin

Overall Score **75.07**  
State Rank **#2**

### Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	43.82	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	41.67	<b>54.02</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	52.45	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	81.39	

### Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

### Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	49.33	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	88.12	<b>72.78</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	83.15	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	81.33	

### Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>94.48</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	92.53	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	85.38	

# 26 Moncks Corner

Overall Score **54.52**  
State Rank **#26**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	96.56	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	84.56	<b>81.24</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	64.41	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	57.36	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	28.95	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	72.94	<b>49.82</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	38.73	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	55.67	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	67.68	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>76.31</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	80.05	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	57.51	

# 31 Mount Pleasant

Overall Score **51.04**  
State Rank **#31**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	54.98	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	89.74	<b>70.22</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	57.04	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	97.54	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	5.41	Taxes
<b>5.41</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	0.03	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	88.46	<b>59.29</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	94.33	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	94.47	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	78.89	<b>86.52</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	97.22	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	69.96	

# 46 Myrtle Beach

Overall Score **37.15**  
State Rank **#46**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	40.24	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	79.78	<b>42.85</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	42.58	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	29.74	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	55.44	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	0.61	<b>40.05</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	44.38	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	91.85	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	28.89	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	46.32	<b>63.12</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	78.28	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	98.96	

# 40 Newberry

Overall Score **44.47**  
State Rank **#40**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	3.14	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	26.78	<b>14.89</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	31.65	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	24.07	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	87.20	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	48.96	<b>61.64</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	4.39	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	88.81	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>65.40</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	42.00	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	19.60	

# 21 North Augusta

Overall Score **55.69**  
State Rank **#21**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	31.21	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	39.32	<b>41.28</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	43.34	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	61.37	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	64.33	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	70.52	<b>64.19</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	73.46	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	39.84	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>75.16</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	11.58	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	89.07	



# 42 North Charleston

Overall Score **42.89**  
State Rank **#42**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	59.94	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	46.42	<b>50.86</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	47.90	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	36.40	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	5.41	Taxes
<b>5.41</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	49.33	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	47.75	<b>44.29</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	23.99	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	44.78	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>97.40</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	97.22	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	92.37	

# 29 North Myrtle Beach

Overall Score **51.71**  
State Rank **#29**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	51.63	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	68.20	<b>53.01</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	38.27	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	55.54	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax Scores	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	23.93	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	33.64	<b>32.51</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	80.87	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	1.53	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	28.99	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>63.54</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	62.62	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	62.55	

# 25 Orangeburg

Overall Score **54.78**  
State Rank **#25**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	78.33	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	16.65	<b>50.03</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	33.16	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	18.57	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	87.20	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	42.34	<b>51.59</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	40.40	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	1.30	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>65.53</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	35.43	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	26.70	

# 14 Port Royal

Overall Score **60.49**  
State Rank **#14**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	11.99	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	60.55	<b>33.37</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	47.90	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	55.26	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
		<b>91.44</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	46.27	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	89.64	<b>69.96</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	81.65	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	67.67	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	61.32	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	34.77	<b>49.24</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	68.75	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	32.11	

# 16 Rock Hill

Overall Score **57.73**  
State Rank **#16**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	63.66	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	58.24	<b>54.50</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	46.44	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	38.36	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	52.39	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	60.50	<b>54.01</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	57.61	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	39.03	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>71.54</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	33.67	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	52.49	

# 15 Seneca

Overall Score **58.77**  
State Rank **#15**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	32.64	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	27.12	<b>31.16</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	35.92	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	27.87	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	61.43	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	43.27	<b>55.53</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	36.53	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	89.40	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	71.79	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>62.19</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	64.68	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	12.27	

# 4 Simpsonville

Overall Score **72.39**  
State Rank **#4**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	41.97	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	71.09	<b>55.62</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	54.82	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	75.61	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax Scores	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	26.38	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	85.92	<b>58.01</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	74.86	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	49.81	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>92.63</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	91.31	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	79.20	

# 8 Spartanburg

Overall Score **66.82**  
State Rank **#8**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	76.50	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	30.37	<b>52.87</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	32.84	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	26.89	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	72.50	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	3.18	<b>36.23</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	26.30	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	38.63	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>90.92</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	91.31	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	72.36	



# 23T Summerville

Overall Score **55.50**  
State Rank **#23T**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	68.84	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	83.52	<b>69.52</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	50.86	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	73.24	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	28.95	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	85.01	<b>63.00</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	81.65	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	72.42	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>92.59</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	84.98	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	85.38	

# 44 Sumter

Overall Score **40.72**  
State Rank **#44**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	76.79	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2015-2015)	18.33	<b>53.79</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	35.34	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	34.73	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	15.60	Taxes
		<b>15.60</b>

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	85.52	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	23.94	<b>44.70</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	34.91	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	7.69	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	72.95	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>55.17</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	33.67	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	14.05	

# 9 Tega Cay

Overall Score **66.58**  
State Rank **#9**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	56.97	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	94.39	<b>77.00</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	93.73	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	100	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	3.72	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	93.87	<b>62.22</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	95.11	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	92.01	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	95.64	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	75.96	<b>67.05</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	17.41	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	79.20	

# 10 Union

Overall Score **63.96**  
State Rank **#10**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	91.85	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	14.69	<b>54.74</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	31.99	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	11.92	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	91.44	Taxes
<b>91.44</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	90.14	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	23.58	<b>42.55</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	12.99	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	5.31	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	55.83	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>59.08</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	65.71	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	14.77	

# 18 West Columbia

Overall Score **56.86**  
State Rank **#18**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	47.79	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	39.12	<b>50.25</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	45.82	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	62.96	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	75.01	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	43.69	<b>51.94</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	40.97	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	28.32	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	100	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>78.39</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	16.94	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	96.61	

# 17 York

Overall Score **57.11**  
State Rank **#17**

## Economic Vitality Score

Recent Job Growth (2014-2015)	93.48	Economic
Residential Population Growth (2014-2015)	18.95	<b>62.86</b>
Residential Population Growth (2005-2015)	40.50	
Median Per-Capita Income (2011-2015)	34.75	

## Business Tax Burden Ranking Score

Sales and Use Tax	57.08	Taxes
<b>57.08</b>		

## Community Allure Score

Cost of Living	52.39	Life
Per-Capita Violent Crime	35.68	<b>40.29</b>
High School Graduation Rate Score	7.01	
SAT Composite Math & Reading	56.08	

## Transportation Infrastructure Score

Distance to Interstate Highway System	72.26	Infrastructure
Distance to Rail Line	100	<b>66.20</b>
Distance to Port with Container Shipping	44.97	
Distance to Major Commercial Airport	47.57	



# APPENDICES

# Appendix A: Overall Enterprise-Friendly Ranks

	City	Economic Vitality Score	Business Tax Burden Score	Community Allure Score	Transportation Infrastructure Score	Overall Score
1	Bluffton	92.16	91.44	51.10	74.38	81.07
2	Mauldin	54.02	91.44	72.78	94.48	75.07
3	Greer	55.94	91.44	52.76	99.74	72.52
4	Simpsonville	55.62	91.44	58.01	92.63	72.39
5	Fountain Inn	50.54	91.44	58.59	88.07	70.05
6	Greenville	53.38	91.44	47.75	94.54	69.84
7	Hilton Head Island	60.50	91.44	50.83	65.52	68.60
8	Spartanburg	52.87	91.44	36.23	90.92	66.82
9	Tega Cay	77.00	57.08	62.22	67.05	66.58
10	Union	54.74	91.44	42.55	59.08	63.96
11	Clemson	61.51	57.08	70.51	66.93	62.79
12	Fort Mill	62.84	57.08	57.52	74.89	61.86
12T	Lexington	53.18	57.08	73.39	76.30	61.86
14	Port Royal	33.37	91.44	69.96	49.24	60.49
15	Seneca	31.16	91.44	55.53	62.19	58.77
16	Rock Hill	54.50	57.08	54.01	71.54	57.73
17	York	62.86	57.08	40.29	66.20	57.11
18	West Columbia	50.25	57.08	51.94	78.39	56.86
19	Irmo	38.73	57.08	71.53	76.14	56.41
20	Conway	49.84	57.08	53.64	71.91	56.08
21	North Augusta	41.28	57.08	64.19	75.16	55.69
22	Hanahan	70.88	15.60	57.07	97.45	55.52
23	Summerville	69.52	15.60	63.00	92.59	55.50
23T	Easley	45.51	57.08	59.16	70.76	55.50
25	Orangeburg	50.03	57.08	51.59	65.53	54.78
26	Moncks Corner	81.24	15.60	49.82	76.31	54.52
27	Greenwood	31.74	91.44	36.23	47.27	52.88
28	Clinton	47.18	57.08	47.31	59.66	52.05
29	North Myrtle Beach	53.01	57.08	32.51	63.54	51.71
30	Anderson	44.40	57.08	39.48	73.33	51.56
31	Mount Pleasant	70.22	5.41	59.29	86.52	51.04
32	Aiken	60.59	15.60	72.98	67.51	50.61
33	Beaufort	27.44	91.44	28.97	43.76	49.39
34	Goose Creek	47.35	15.60	67.26	95.52	49.03
35	Gaffney	57.26	15.60	57.85	75.56	47.62
36	Florence	53.50	15.60	49.43	84.96	46.03
37	Charleston	56.05	5.41	51.16	95.33	45.78
38	Cayce	48.77	15.60	60.55	78.80	45.68
39	Forest Acres	52.52	15.60	54.33	70.38	44.48
40	Newberry	14.89	57.08	61.64	65.40	44.47
41	Laurens	21.55	57.08	40.89	74.20	43.97
42	North Charleston	50.86	5.41	44.29	97.40	42.89
43	Columbia	49.62	15.60	41.30	77.83	41.98
44	Sumter	53.79	15.60	44.70	55.17	40.72
45	Lancaster	57.47	15.60	30.86	51.42	38.68
46	Myrtle Beach	42.85	15.60	40.05	63.12	37.15
47	Georgetown	10.03	57.08	33.03	65.42	37.05
48	Camden	31.03	15.60	42.01	58.70	32.75
49	Hartsville	19.49	15.60	51.88	59.37	30.78
50	Bennettsville	8.19	15.60	34.02	51.61	22.09



# Appendix B: Economic Vitality Ranking

	City	Job Growth 2014-2015	Population Growth 2014-2015	Population Growth 2005-2015	Median Per-Capita Income 2010-2015	Total Economic Vitality Score
1	Bluffton	90.53	99.99	100.00	87.60	92.16
2	Moncks Corner	96.56	84.56	64.41	57.36	81.24
3	Tega Cay	56.97	94.39	93.73	100.00	77.00
4	Hanahan	65.98	99.84	69.23	67.02	70.88
5	Mount Pleasant	54.98	89.74	57.04	97.54	70.22
6	Summerville	68.84	83.52	50.86	73.24	69.52
7	York	93.48	18.95	40.50	34.75	62.86
8	Fort Mill	43.81	87.31	71.82	84.19	62.84
9	Clemson	82.66	60.37	49.01	26.04	61.51
10	Aiken	64.66	40.69	38.79	73.29	60.59
11	Hilton Head Island	53.07	47.52	43.56	90.29	60.50
12	Lancaster	91.45	27.69	31.02	17.64	57.47
13	Gaffney	92.36	19.79	31.88	18.47	57.26
14	Charleston	49.53	56.35	47.21	73.38	56.05
15	Greer	58.91	61.77	54.05	48.03	55.94
16	Simpsonville	41.97	71.09	54.82	75.61	55.62
17	Union	91.85	14.69	31.99	11.92	54.74
18	Rock Hill	63.66	58.24	46.44	38.36	54.50
19	Mauldin	43.82	41.67	52.45	81.39	54.02
20	Sumter	76.79	18.33	35.34	34.73	53.79
21	Florence	67.50	22.17	47.52	44.17	53.50
22	Greenville	55.63	78.89	41.71	41.95	53.38
23	Lexington	38.33	43.35	64.61	82.06	53.18
24	North Myrtle Beach	51.63	68.20	38.27	55.54	53.01
25	Spartanburg	76.50	30.37	32.84	26.89	52.87
26	Forest Acres	53.65	24.67	36.69	72.09	52.52
27	North Charleston	59.94	46.42	47.90	36.40	50.86
28	Fountain Inn	46.34	59.04	47.66	56.15	50.54
29	West Columbia	47.79	39.12	45.82	62.96	50.25
30	Orangeburg	78.33	16.65	33.16	18.57	50.03
31	Conway	48.02	88.44	66.48	25.88	49.84
32	Columbia	59.91	38.34	38.23	40.38	49.62
33	Cayce	55.40	37.43	39.91	45.60	48.77
34	Goose Creek	32.92	31.13	49.59	83.22	47.35
35	Clinton	72.84	21.58	31.16	16.66	47.18
36	Easley	51.84	36.24	39.24	40.63	45.51
37	Anderson	63.82	25.66	37.21	18.52	44.40
38	Myrtle Beach	40.24	79.78	42.58	29.74	42.85
39	North Augusta	31.21	39.32	43.34	61.37	41.28
40	Irmo	20.78	44.13	37.39	72.62	38.73
41	Port Royal	11.99	60.55	47.90	55.26	33.37
42	Greenwood	42.33	27.66	35.99	10.46	31.74
43	Seneca	32.64	27.12	35.92	27.87	31.16
44	Camden	24.77	33.20	34.75	40.59	31.03
45	Beaufort	12.16	46.30	37.32	43.63	27.44
46	Laurens	21.29	23.89	30.16	16.59	21.55
47	Hartsville	19.98	17.86	36.89	10.65	19.49
48	Newberry	3.14	26.78	31.65	24.07	14.89
49	Georgetown	0.00	23.76	35.69	10.39	10.03
50	Bennettsville	.76	3.46	30.51	14.27	8.19

# Appendix C: Business Tax Burden Ranking

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	City	Sales and Use Tax
1	Beaufort	91.44
T1	Bluffton	91.44
T1	Fountain Inn	91.44
T1	Greenville	91.44
T1	Greenwood	91.44
T1	Greer	91.44
T1	Hilton Head Island	91.44
T1	Mauldin	91.44
T1	Port Royal	91.44
T1	Seneca	91.44
T1	Simpsonville	91.44
T1	Spartanburg	91.44
T1	Union	91.44
14	Anderson	57.08
T14	Clemson	57.08
T14	Clinton	57.08
T14	Conway	57.08
T14	Easley	57.08
T14	Fort Mill	57.08
T14	Georgetown	57.08
T14	Irmo	57.08
T14	Laurens	57.08
T14	Lexington	57.08
T14	Newberry	57.08
T14	North Augusta	57.08
T14	North Myrtle Beach	57.08
T14	Orangeburg	57.08
T14	Rock Hill	57.08
T14	Tega Cay	57.08
T14	West Columbia	57.08
T14	York	57.08
32	Aiken	15.60
T32	Bennettsville	15.60
T32	Camden	15.60
T32	Cayce	15.60
T32	Columbia	15.60
T32	Florence	15.60
T32	Forest Acres	15.60
T32	Gaffney	15.60
T32	Goose Creek	15.60
T32	Hanahan	15.60
T32	Hartsville	15.60
T32	Lancaster	15.60
T32	Moncks Corner	15.60
T32	Myrtle Beach	15.60
T32	Summerville	15.60
T32	Sumter	15.60
48	Charleston	5.41
T48	Mount Pleasant	5.41
T48	North Charleston	5.41

# Appendix D: Community Allure / QOL Ranking

	City	Cost of Living	Per-Capita Violent Crime	High School Graduation Rate	SAT Composite Reading & Math Scores	Total Community Allure Score
1	Lexington	58.46	84.71	84.57	70.63	73.39
2	Aiken	75.01	79.46	65.88	60.19	72.98
3	Mauldin	49.33	88.12	83.15	81.33	72.78
4	Irmo	52.39	78.41	80.47	91.20	71.53
5	Clemson	31.63	88.92	92.06	96.69	70.51
6	Port Royal	46.27	89.64	81.65	67.67	69.96
7	Goose Creek	40.23	86.06	81.65	72.06	67.26
8	North Augusta	64.33	70.52	73.46	39.84	64.19
9	Summerville	28.95	85.01	81.65	72.42	63.00
10	Tega Cay	3.72	93.87	95.11	92.01	62.22
11	Newberry	87.20	48.96	4.39	88.81	61.64
12	Cayce	81.73	42.94	65.88	46.87	60.55
13	Mount Pleasant	0.03	88.46	94.33	94.47	59.29
14	Easley	52.39	75.58	39.28	56.50	59.16
15	Fountain Inn	55.44	63.47	72.50	40.65	58.59
16	Simpsonville	26.38	85.92	74.86	49.81	58.01
17	Gaffney	87.20	60.92	9.18	30.87	57.85
18	Fort Mill	8.07	87.40	70.03	90.69	57.52
19	Hanahan	19.43	88.26	69.01	60.19	57.07
20	Seneca	61.43	43.27	36.53	89.40	55.53
21	Forest Acres	34.42	45.49	92.28	83.50	54.33
22	Rock Hill	52.39	60.50	57.61	39.03	54.01
23	Conway	61.43	54.93	43.80	42.30	53.64
24	Greer	37.29	67.53	37.62	69.53	52.76
25	West Columbia	75.01	43.69	40.97	28.32	51.94
26	Hartsville	81.73	12.76	34.37	91.03	51.88
27	Orangeburg	87.20	42.34	40.40	1.30	51.59
28	Charleston	5.15	87.51	84.22	40.65	51.16
29	Bluffton	12.11	77.17	80.87	51.49	51.10
30	Hilton Head Island	0.13	77.17	82.03	76.47	50.83
31	Moncks Corner	28.95	72.94	38.73	55.67	49.82
32	Florence	64.33	38.44	62.09	27.61	49.43
33	Greenville	49.33	40.18	55.90	53.58	47.75
34	Clinton	77.39	53.23	5.42	5.20	47.31
35	Sumter	85.52	23.94	34.91	7.69	44.70
36	North Charleston	49.33	47.75	23.99	44.78	44.29
37	Union	90.14	23.58	12.99	5.31	42.55
38	Camden	83.70	5.87	39.84	31.24	42.01
39	Columbia	58.46	21.10	53.03	36.63	41.30
40	Laurens	83.70	19.29	11.52	20.74	40.89
41	York	52.39	35.68	7.01	56.08	40.29
42	Myrtle Beach	55.44	0.61	44.38	91.85	40.05
43	Anderson	72.50	17.56	15.60	37.42	39.48
44	Greenwood	79.63	3.96	1.73	44.78	36.23
T44	Spartanburg	72.50	3.18	26.30	38.63	36.23
46	Bennettsville	90.14	5.65	0.19	3.09	34.02
47	Georgetown	64.33	11.92	32.79	9.50	33.03
48	North Myrtle Beach	23.93	33.64	80.87	1.53	32.51
49	Lancaster	69.88	7.36	18.54	6.96	30.86
50	Beaufort	21.61	9.51	66.94	53.58	28.97

# Appendix E: Transportation Infrastructure Ranking

	City	Distance to Interstate Highways	Distance to Rail Lines	Distance to Port With Container Shipping	Distance to Major Commercial Airport	Transportation Infrastructure Score
1	Greer	100	100	100	98.96	99.74
2	Hanahan	97.75	100	94.24	97.83	97.45
3	North Charleston	100	100	97.22	92.37	97.40
4	Goose Creek	100	100	91.31	90.77	95.52
5	Charleston	100	100	100	81.35	95.33
6	Greenville	100	100	94.77	83.41	94.54
7	Mauldin	100	100	92.53	85.38	94.48
8	Simpsonville	100	100	91.31	79.20	92.63
9	Summerville	100	100	84.98	85.38	92.59
10	Spartanburg	100	100	91.31	72.36	90.92
11	Fountain Inn	100	100	87.24	65.05	88.07
12	Mount Pleasant	100	78.89	97.22	69.96	86.52
13	Florence	100	100	42.00	97.83	84.96
14	Cayce	100	100	15.20	100	78.80
15	West Columbia	100	100	16.94	96.61	78.39
16	Columbia	100	100	16.04	95.29	77.83
17	Moncks Corner	67.68	100	80.05	57.51	76.31
18	Lexington	100	100	14.42	90.77	76.30
19	Irmo	100	100	21.17	83.41	76.14
20	Gaffney	100	100	75.54	26.70	75.56
21	North Augusta	100	100	11.58	89.07	75.16
22	Fort Mill	100	100	27.21	72.36	74.89
23	Bluffton	88.79	37.60	85.75	85.38	74.38
24	Laurens	100	100	71.72	25.09	74.20
25	Anderson	100	100	69.75	23.58	73.33
26	Conway	29.83	100	76.47	81.35	71.91
27	Rock Hill	100	100	33.67	52.49	71.54
28	Easley	89.02	57.51	86.50	50.01	70.76
29	Forest Acres	100	75.96	14.80	90.77	70.38
30	Aiken	100	100	10.02	60.03	67.51
31	Tega Cay	95.64	75.96	17.41	79.20	67.05
32	Clemson	78.57	100	71.72	17.42	66.93
33	York	72.26	100	44.97	47.57	66.20
34	Orangeburg	100	100	35.43	26.70	65.53
35	Hilton Head Island	56.61	34.79	71.72	98.96	65.52
36	Georgetown	29.58	100	100	32.11	65.42
37	Newberry	100	100	42.00	19.60	65.40
38	North Myrtle Beach	28.99	100	62.62	62.55	63.54
39	Myrtle Beach	28.89	46.32	78.28	98.96	63.12
40	Seneca	71.79	100	64.68	12.27	62.19
41	Clinton	100	54.47	65.71	18.46	59.66
42	Hartsville	73.42	100	16.48	47.57	59.37
43	Union	55.83	100	65.71	14.77	59.08
44	Camden	100	100	15.20	19.60	58.70
45	Sumter	72.95	100	33.67	14.05	55.17
46	Bennettsville	65.89	100	18.41	22.16	51.61
47	Lancaster	67.90	100	15.61	22.16	51.42
48	Port Royal	61.32	34.77	68.75	32.11	49.24
49	Greenwood	29.10	100	50.07	9.92	47.27
50	Beaufort	46.89	34.74	66.73	26.70	43.76

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> In developing those rankings, the Palmetto Promise Institute and American Indicators looked to the Beacon Center of Tennessee's annual report, "How Business-Friendly are Tennessee's Cities?" See Justin Owen & Ryan Turbeville, Beacon Center of Tennessee, No. 11-05, how business-friendly are Tennessee's Cities? <http://www.beacontn.org/wp-content/uploads/How-Business-Friendly-are-Tennessee-Cities-in-2011.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Beacon Center of Tennessee, *supra* note 1, at p. 4.

3. U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, Table DPO3: Employment Status (American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for 2011-2015), [www.factfinder2.census.gov](http://www.factfinder2.census.gov) (last visited March 1, 2017).

4. U.S. Census Bureau, State & County Quick Facts, <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045216/00> (last visited March 1, 2017).

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. Department of Revenue, State of South Carolina, ST-427: Sales and Use Tax Rates of South Carolina (Jan 26, 2017), available at <https://dor.sc.gov/tax-index/sales-and-use/Sales%20Notices/ST427.pdf>

8. Sperling's Best Cities, [www.bestplaces.net](http://www.bestplaces.net) (last visited Sept. March 1, 2017).

9. South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Crime in South Carolina 2013, <http://www.sled.sc.gov/documents/CrimeReporting/SCCrimeBooks/2013/2013%20Crime%20in%20South%20Carolina.pdf> (last visited March 1, 2017).

10. U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, Table 1501: Educational Attainment (American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for 2011-2015), [www.factfinder.census.gov](http://www.factfinder.census.gov) (last visited March 1, 2017)

11. Office of Data Management and Analysis, South Carolina Department of Education, South Carolina Public

School Distribution: 2016 Mean SAT Scores for Graduating Seniors with Score Comparisons to 2015 Results, available at <http://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/sat/>

12. Travel Math, nearest airport to any city, [www.travel-math.com/nearest-airport/](http://www.travel-math.com/nearest-airport/) (last visited, March 1, 2017)

13. Distances to rail service calculated using Google Maps, [maps.google.com](http://maps.google.com).

14. *Ibid.*

15. *Ibid.*



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