

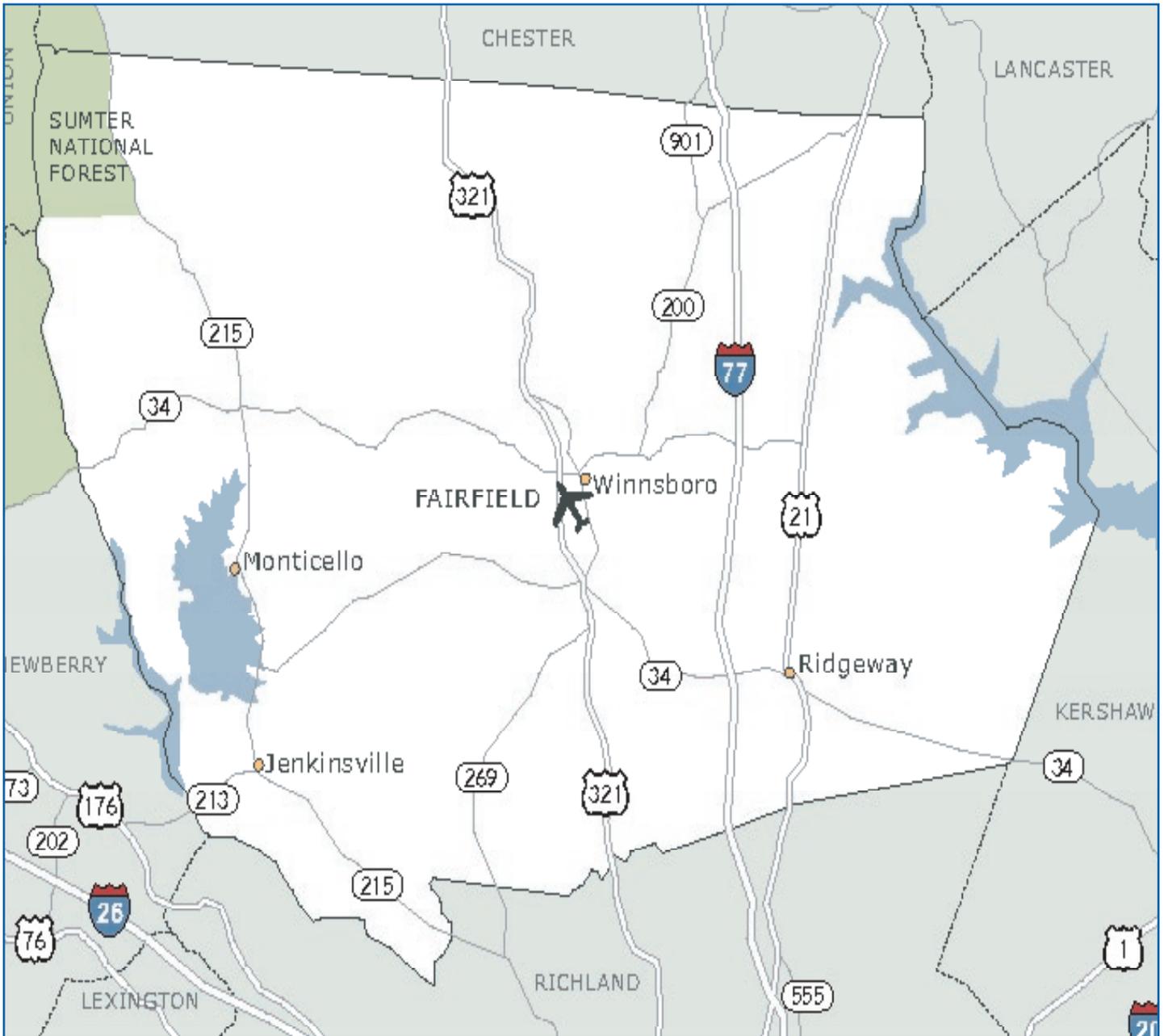
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY

2008



LOCATION

Fairfield



Fairfield County is located in the Midlands region of South Carolina. It is uniquely positioned halfway between New York and Miami, within 24 hour ground access to more than 70 percent of the U.S. market. The total area of the county is 687 square miles. The county seat, which is the Town of Winnsboro, is located approximately 28 miles from the state's capital, Columbia.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways

Interstates in Fairfield County:	I-77 (5 interchanges)		
Other Interstates Near Fairfield County:	I-26, 25 miles; I-20, 16 miles; I-95, 83 miles		
US & State Highways in Fairfield County:	US321 SC 34, SC 200, SC 21, SC 213, SC 215, SC 269		
Delivery Days To:			
Atlanta:	1	Chicago:	3
Houston:	3	New York:	2
San Francisco:	5	St. Louis:	2

Airports

Fairfield County Airport: Located 4 miles south of Winnsboro on S.C. 269, 1 paved runway (5,000 ft.) and a parallel taxiway, jet and 100 low-lead fuel, terminal building, t-hangars, rental cars, seven rental airplanes, flight instruction, pilots' shop stocks supplies and maintenance.

Columbia Metropolitan Airport: Located 42 miles from Winnsboro and offers regularly scheduled commercial airline services. There are approximately 60 scheduled arrivals and departures per day from Columbia Metropolitan. The Columbia Metropolitan Airport recently completed a \$48 million renovation project.

Scheduled Airlines Serving Columbia MetroAmerican Eagle, Delta, Delta Connection, Continental, Northwest, US Airways Express, United Express.

Air Freight OperatorsAirborne Express, Bankair, Federal Express, Mountain Air Cargo, Piedmont, United Parcel Service*

*In the Summer of 1994, UPS selected Columbia as the new home of a \$45 million southeast regional air cargo hub. Today, the hub handles 42,000 packages per hour and holds many unique advantages for Columbia area businesses.

Runway Lengths8,602 ft and 8,000 ft.



Ports & Rail

The Port of Charleston is 138 miles from Fairfield County. The county's rail system is served by Norfolk Southern.

Worker Training

In its October 2003 issue, *Expansion Management Magazine* listed South Carolina as number one on its annual ranking for the top 15 states for workforce training. The reason behind the number one ranking is the Center for Accelerated Technology Training or CATT. More recently in the June 2004 issue of *The Manufacturer*, SC's CATT program was featured as one of the best state training programs in the US. Created in 1961, CATT is one of the longest running and most experienced worker training programs in the nation. The Center for Accelerated Technology Training (CATT) focuses on the

training needs of new and existing business and industry in South Carolina. They provide recruiting, assessment, training development, management and implementation services to customers who are creating new jobs with competitive wages and benefits. These services are provided through state funds at little or no cost to the company. From 1994 to 2003 CATT has trained 398 workers at companies in Fairfield County including: *Isola USA, Lang-Mekra North America, JPM, Gividi Italia S.P.A., UniRoyal, Fuji, Werner Makat.*

Industrial Employers

INDUSTRIAL DIRECTORY 2008		
Company Name	Employment	Product Description
VC Summer Nuclear Station	926	Power generation
Ben Arnold Beverage Co.	426	Wine & spirit distribution
Performance Fabrics	225	Tire cord: rayon and polyester
Isola Laminate Systems	170	Copper clad laminates
Lang-Mekra North America LLC	153	Mirror systems for commercial vehicles
Guardian Fiberglass	108	Fiberglass Insulation
Elite Electronic Systems	70	Electrical Components
Prime Metal Coatings	35	Powder and E-Coating
Palmetto Imaging Technology	34	Magnetic tape, typewriter ribbons
Ruff & Tuff	22	Electric Vehicles and Accesories Distribution
Hacker Instruments	13	Medical Instruments
Vulcan Materials	12	Crushed granite
Fairfield Industrial Services	10	Specialty metal fabrication
Phillips Granite Co	10	Granite monuments
Fairfield Fabricators Inc	6	Louver windows and doors
Metal & Wire Products	5	Metal Coating
Vision Industries, Inc	5	Aluminum anodizing
Winnsboro Concrete Co	5	Ready-mixed concrete

LIVING HERE

Fairfield

Festivals & Events

Fairfield's most popular festival is the annual **Rock Around the Clock**. A variety of bands and entertainers, "Rock" around the oldest continuously running clock in the nation, built 1833, in historic downtown Winnsboro. The event is usually held either the last weekend in September or the first weekend in October. The Festival kicks off with a patriotic parade on Friday evening, followed by a Street Dance. Classic cars and motorcycles from all over the southeast cruise into the central business district, listed



in the National Historic Register, to show off their rides. Runners enjoy the challenging 5K run course, children take much pleasure in various amusements, including train rides and a climbing wall.

During Christmas children and adults alike flock to the rail road museum in Ridgeway for the annual **Train Ride with Santa**. Families can take a hour long trip on an historic train with Santa. The rides are open every Saturday between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Recreation

Two lakes in Fairfield County offer recreation to the residents of the county. **Lake Monticello** is a 7,000 acre lake that offers picnic shelters, fishing, a boat ramp and many other water recreational activities. The Fairfield Recreation Commission also operates a park at the lake. There is also a smaller area, the **Monticello Recreation Lake**, which is located north of the large body of water and is about 300 acres in size. This park area offers fishing two days a week (Wednesdays and Saturdays), swimming (no lifeguard on duty) and picnic facilities. The park gates open from sunrise to sunset. Located in the park is the **V.C. Summer Nuclear Station Nature Trail**. Benches, wood duck boxes, blue bird boxes and plant identification markers dot this 1.5 mile long trail. The other and largest lake in Fairfield County is **Lake Wateree**, which is one of South Carolina's premier fishing and boating destinations.



There is also a state recreation area at the Lake. **The Lake Wateree State Recreation Area** provides ideal access to the 21-mile long, 13,700-acre reser-

voir. The 238-acre park's offerings include a tackle shop/park store with refueling dock and public boat ramp. A large population of crappie, bream, largemouth bass, catfish and striped bass make this lake a popular fishing spot. The area also has a wooded, lake side campground which includes 72 sites, many that can accommodate large RVs and all with water and electrical service. Day visitors and campers also can enjoy the numerous picnic tables, playground and the mile-long nature trail through the woods.

Located in the Northwestern corner of Fairfield County is 11,080 acres of **The Sumter National Forest**. This forest stretches over 253,381 acres of the state and connects with trial and forests in both Georgia and North Carolina. The forest is a mecca for both hikes, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts alike. There are so many things to do in this forest one could probably stay there for an entire year and still not have seen and done all there is to do. Some activities include:

- Bird Watching
- Hunting
- Camping
- The Chattooga National Wild & Scenic River
- Canoeing
- Rafting
- Picnicking
- Fishing
- Target Shooting
- Hiking

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patriotic parade on Friday evening, followed by a Street Dance. Classic cars and motorcycles from all over the southeast cruise into the central business district, listed in the National Historic Register, to show off their rides. Runners enjoy the challenging 5K run course, children take much pleasure in various amusements, including train rides and a

Places to Visit

The South Carolina Railroad Museum, located minutes off I-77, is the biggest attraction in Fairfield County. Since 1973 the museum has been collecting various types of freight and passenger cars as well as a steam locomotive #44 which once belonged to the Hampton and Branchville Railroad. There are also cabooses, freight cars, and diesel engines from CSX, and Norfolk Southern. Currently, the Museum operates on 6 miles of the 11.5 mile line of the former Rockton and Rion Railroad. The rail line runs through the Rion community to Anderson Quarry, home of the world famous, and state rock, blue granite. Ultimately the Museum plans to have educational train excursions over the entire 11.5 mile route, exhibitions of freight and passenger train operations, static displays of railroad related artifacts, and a library of railroad related publications.



can venture over to the **Fairfield County Museum**. The building itself is part of the museum as the main floor of the house is maintained as an historic house with antique furnishings in period rooms. Other floors exhibit collections related to Fairfield County history. Museum collections include 19th century clothing and quilts, Victorian accessories and toys, Indian and military artifacts, tools, kitchen and sewing implements and banking and commerce displays. Admission is free and is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. There are also many historic walking tours in Fairfield County. Please visit the Fairfield Chamber website at www.fairfieldchamber.org for more information.

Fairfield County Courthouse and Town Clock are two of the most iconic symbols of Fairfield County. Built in 1823 by Robert Mills, whom designed the Washington Monument, the county courthouse is located in downtown Winnsboro across the street from the Town Clock.



The Courthouse was designed in Greek Revival style is a breath taking building and a site that should definitely not be missed! Located across the street from the courthouse is the Winnsboro Town Clock. This historic clock tower is said to be the longest continuously running clock in America.

To continue your historic look at Winnsboro you

Carolina Adventure World (CAW), a 2,600-acre outdoor enthusiast destination park is located in the Northeastern section of the County. Just 2 1/2 miles off Exit 46 on I-77, the CAW park offers 100 miles of professionally designed ATV trails, a championship motocross course, Go Kart course, mud bog, ATV rentals and ATV and motor bike storage facilities. If ATV riding doesn't interest you, CAW offers *The Carolina Blue Zipline*. Get harnessed in and attached to a double line cable system by expert guides and enjoy safely soaring over the motocross course and through the treetops. For those interested in enjoying nature in a more relaxed fashion, the Park also offers biking and golf cart trails. Visitors are encouraged to spend more than one day enjoying the park and to stay overnight at the on-site rustic campground. Carolina Adventure World is open Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Friday - Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.carolinaadventureworld.net.

Healthcare

Since 1955 Fairfield Memorial Hospital has been providing the people of Fairfield County with modern medical services and the caring touch that comes from trusted neighbors and friends.

Centrally located in Winnsboro, Fairfield Memorial Hospital is a full-service, county-owned hospital that offers inpatient, respite, emergency and surgical care. The hospital also provides outpatient services which include MRI's, multi-slice spiral CT scanners, ultrasounds, mammography, nuclear medicine, cardiac rehab services, and physical/occupational/speech therapies. also provided are home health care with community outreach and

education. The hospital offers dietetic counseling through its Diabetes Education Center. A group of cardiologists from Columbia (Columbia Heart) offer cardiology clinics on Tuesdays and Fridays. Other outpatient clinics available include: oncology, podiatry, an ear/nose/throat clinic and outpatient surgery. Compassionate care from the skilled hands of professionals using state-of-the-art technology... this is the hallmark of Fairfield Memorial Hospital.

FMH has the ability to serve its citizens with the most up-to-date care possible but small enough to create a relationship with each of their patients. FMH's motto is "Modern Medicine. Old-Fashioned Care."

Climate

Fairfield county enjoys four distinct seasons. It is cool in the spring and fall, warm in the summer and cold, but not too cold, in the winter. You don't have to worry about digging your car out of the snow here. For the past 40 years Winnsboro has received 2 inches of snow each year on average.

Total precipitation averages about 45 to 50 inches per year. The average temperatures for the town of Winnsboro are: January, high 52 low 31; April, high 74 low 48; July, the warmest month in Winnsboro, high 91 low 71; October high 74 low 49.

Housing

There are plenty of housing options for those in Fairfield County, from apartment living to a brand new house in a subdivision, to a 150 year old house in historic Winnsboro, to a farm house on hundreds of acres just outside of



town. Please contact any of the many real estate agents in the area for more information about specific houses and neighborhoods. Check out www.carolinarealestatecompany.com for more information.

Shopping

There is great downtown shopping in both Winnsboro and Ridgeway. While strolling through historic Winnsboro, you'll find an artist's studio and shop, an authentic Italian restaurant, a gift shop at the top of the Town Clock that specializes in regional items and other unique stores that offer one-of-a-kind items. In quaint downtown Ridgeway, you'll find two antique stores, a turn of the century hardware store that still sells nails "by the pound" and a newly renovated general store, with an upstairs tearoom. But if downtown shopping isn't for you, there are many other options within a 45 minute drive. There are many unique shopping opportunities in Northeast Columbia, which is a short 25 minute drive from downtown Winnsboro. The new Village at Sandhills offers a variety of shops and restaurants in an open air environment. There are also several shop-

ping centers that are home to stores such as Target, Kohl's, Bed Bath and Beyond and World Market. If you like a mall atmosphere better, Columbiana Center is just 40 minutes away in Irmo. It is anchored by Parisian's, Belk's, Dillard's, and JCPenny's and has national chains like Williams Sanoma, Gap, Arden B and Hollister. For the most serious of all shoppers there is South Park, located in Charlotte, NC, about 45 minutes away. This mall has everything and is the premier mall in the Carolinas. It is anchored by department stores like Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus. Some of the many exclusive stores in the mall include Anthropologie, Apple, Bob Ellis, Burberry, Club Libby Lu, Frontgate, Kate Spade, Janie and Jack, Kenneth Cole, Lacoste, Lindt Chocolate, L'Occitane, Louis Vuitton, Origins, Sigrid Olsen, Salon Cielo & Spa, Sur La Table and Tumi.

Religion

Religion is an important part of life in Fairfield County. The county is home to 29 Protestant

churches and 2 Roman Catholic churches. The nearest Synagogue is 26 miles away.

Government

Fairfield County is governed by a Council/Administrative format. The council consists of seven members elected through a single member

method. Term length for a council seat is four years. Fairfield county belongs to the Central Midland Council of Governments.

Police & Fire

Fairfield County Sheriff's Department

46 officers
48 patrol cars
52 total personnel

Fairfield County Fire Department

153 firefighters
13 fire stations
30 fire trucks

Winnsboro Town Police Department

25 officers
27 patrol cars
29 total personnel

Utilities

Water & Wastewater Services

Town of Winnsboro
Total Water Capacity 4 million gpd
Average Daily Use 1.6 million gpd
Total Sewer Capacity 1.6 million gpd
Average Daily Use .8 million gpd

Telephone Services

BellSouth, Verizon, TruVista

Gas Suppliers

Town of Winnsboro

Other Water & Sewer Providers

Mitford Water & Sewer
Mid-County Water Company
Jenkinsville Water Company

Electric Suppliers

SCE&G, Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Town of Winnsboro

Media

Published daily, *The State* is the largest newspaper and covers the entire state of South Carolina. Fairfield County's newspaper is *The Herald Independent* is published every other day. Cable is provided by Time Warner Cable and Comcast.

Fairfield EDUCATION

Primary & Secondary Education

Fairfield County has 10 public schools: 1 early childhood school, 4 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 high school, 1 career center, and 1 learning center. In addition to its traditional educational programs, the district offers both a learning center and a career center for the students of Fairfield County. The Learning Center is an alternative program that gives students facing expulsion a chance to change. The Learning Center is considered the model for programs like this around the state. The Fairfield County Career Center offers many areas of vocational training and boasts nationally certified welding and electricity programs. The health occupations class and the graphics department routinely win awards and all departments at the school have had students place in regional and state competitions. The Career Center also has a highly successful school-to-work program for students. The district also has a summer enrichment program, during which media centers and computer labs are open for students.



PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT STATISTICS 2007

District	Enrollment	Total SAT Score	Pupil/Teacher Ratio	Expenditure per Pupil
Fairfield	3,574	783	18.8 to 1	\$12,094
South Carolina	694,584*	984	20.6 to 1	\$7,434

Source: SC Department of Education

Fairfield County has one K-12 private school, the Richard Winn Academy. RWA offers kindergarten for 3-, 4- and 5-year olds. A daycare center on the campus is available for students from noon to 6 pm. The school is divided into a lower school for grades 1-5 and an upper school for grades 6-12. The curriculum is focused on academics and, for older students, preparation for college. The Palmetto Montessori School opened in November 1999. It is located about one-quarter mile south past the Walter B. Brown Industrial Park and directly across the street from the Walter B. Brown II Industrial Park. The school provides after school care and instruction using the Montessori Method of teaching for children eighteen months to twelve years of age. Class sizes range from five to twenty five with a very low teacher-to-student ratio. Core curricula includes reading and math along with instruction in geography, science, art, music, literature, and culture.



PRIVATE SCHOOLS 2007

Private School	Enrollment	Grades	Denomination
Christian Liberty Classical School	35	K-8	Nondenominational - Christian
Richard Winn Academy	304	K - 12	Secular
Palmetto Montessori	82	Toddler - 6	Secular

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AGES 25+

2007 ESTIMATE

	Number	Percent
High school or higher degree	11,425	69.5%
High school graduate	6,004	36.5%
Some college, no degree	2,613	15.9%
Associate degree	765	4.7%
Bachelor's degree	1,435	8.7%
Master's degree	608	3.7%

Source: www.demographicsnow.com

Higher Education

There are no institutions of higher education in Fairfield County, but just a short thirty minute drive away are several colleges and universities in the Columbia area. The state's flagship university, the University of South Carolina is located in the heart of downtown Columbia. There are nine colleges and universities in the Columbia area including the University



of South Carolina, Midlands Technical College, Allen University, Benedict College, Columbia College, Columbia International University, Columbia Jr. College, and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. Also located close by are the Central Carolina Technical College in Sumter and Newberry College in Newberry.

HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS

2007

Institution	Type	Enrollment	Graduation	Location	Website
Midlands Technical College	Public Technical	10,706	824	Columbia	www.midlandstech.com
University of South Carolina	Public Flagship	27,272	6,086	Columbia	www.sc.edu

Source: South Carolina Commission of Higher Education