

SOUTH CAROLINA LOWCOUNTRY PROMISE ZONE

# S.C. Promise Zone Metrics 2015

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June 2017

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# 1: INTRODUCTION

***This report is the second of an annual series that offers insights for evaluation of dynamics at work in the South Carolina Lowcountry Promise Zone. It compares 2015 data to baseline data from 2014 to highlight progress in the region.***

The data in *S.C. Promise Zone Metrics 2015*, the first report to compare baseline data from 2014 in an earlier evaluation, is intended to be used as a tool to measure progress in the South Carolina Lowcountry Promise Zone, a federal designation awarded in April 2015 to six counties in the southern tip of South Carolina.



The Promise Zone includes all or parts of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties. The region, generally located west of Interstate 95, had an estimated poverty rate of 28.12 percent, an unemployment rate of just under 15 percent and a median income that was 25 percent less than the state’s average in 2014.

In November 2014, Southern Carolina Regional Development alliance served as lead organization of more than 30 partners and supporters to apply for the federal Promise Zone designation to tap into grant monies and other resources to create jobs, increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities and reduce violent crime; and more. Six months later, the region became what has become one of only four rural areas in the country to receive the designation.

In the months that followed, Southern Carolina Alliance, its partners and supporters have met with more than 1,000 people to develop a broad, long-term strategic plan to collaborate of big and small projects to improve the lives of people in the Promise Zone. As of June 30, 2017, the Promise Zone counties received at least \$13.8 million in funding through program-related grants. The region also experienced more than \$523 million in capital investment and an increase in 374 jobs, according to [SCPromiseZone.org](http://SCPromiseZone.org).

In an effort to determine success and progress in the Promise Zone, it’s important to have a series of metrics that compare evolving conditions to baseline metrics. This report is the first follow-up report to the baseline report on various demographic indicators to allow Promise Zone leaders to document community changes during the 10-year designation period of the Zone.

This report compares 2015 data to the baseline report data from 2014. This report provides more than 50 different metrics in several content areas. Here is a summary of analyses in each of the eight categories in the report:

**Employment indicators:** Population and employment grew in Promise Zone counties from 2014 to 2015, but lagged the state’s growth. Unemployment was down. Wage gains were generally stagnant, except in Jasper County.

**Economic indicators:** The number of paid employees was up, with gains in four counties from 2014 to 2015. Overall earnings rose \$20 million in the six counties but

median household income generally dropped. Per capita income remained stable. Revenue from tourism increased 4 percent by \$8 million, which outpaced the state's average of 3.2 percent.

**Housing indicators:** Homeownership decreased overall from 2014 to 2015, but the median home value increased an average of \$383. Vacancy rates dropped in two counties, but increased slightly in four other counties. Overall, more housing units were occupied.

**Education indicators:** The good news found that high school graduation rates rose in six of 10 Promise Zone school districts and per pupil expenditures rose in nine of 10 districts from 2014 to 2015. But while college enrollment increased in eight of 10 school districts, college readiness generally dropped. Overall, five of six counties had better educational attainment levels for high school graduates than the state. A new metric that assesses skills shows none of the 10 school districts perform well on a skills assessment test for math or locating information.

**Poverty indicators:** Three counties experienced drops in their poverty rates from 2014 to 2015, but all counties are higher than the state average. Child poverty is much higher than the state average. All Promise Zone counties had a higher percentage of people receiving SNAP benefits than the rest of the state. Five of six counties had a decrease in food insecurity. A national indicator of child well-being showed little improvement for each county.

**Broadband indicators:** There was no new data for this category.

**Crime indicators:** Violent crime rates went down in two counties. Property crimes dropped in five of six counties from 2014 to 2015. Drug-related offenses declined, too, but overdose deaths went up in three of six counties.

**Health indicators:** On a variety of health metrics, the quality of health care and the overall health of people in the Promise Zone were not much improved from 2014 to 2015. Obesity grew, but hypertension went down in three counties. On the plus side, the number of teen births dropped in four counties and infant mortality dropped in three. Even better: Five of six Promise Zone counties had fewer adults without health insurance in 2015 compared to the previous year.

The information used for this report is based on the availability of publicly-accessible annual data on the county level, but does not represent all available data.

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## 2: EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

A primary focus of the S.C. Lowcountry Promise Zone continues to be to boost economic activity through creation of long-lasting sustainable employment. In this section are data related to demographics and employment in each of the six Promise Zone counties and for the state, including:

- Population and households;
- Employment by county;
- Unemployment rates;
- Labor force numbers; and
- Wages.

Analysis of the data from the 2014 base year to 2015, when the Promise Zone designation was awarded, shows:

- **Population grew some.** The number of people living in the Promise Zone counties 0.27 percent in 2015 compared to a 1.3 percent rise for the state of South Carolina.
- **Employment grew, but lagged state.** The number of people employed in the Promise Zone grew by 0.86 percent in 2015, compared to a more robust 3.4 percent for the state. Labor force rates grew by similar numbers in the Promise Zone and state.
- **Unemployment down.** Meanwhile, the unemployment rate dropped 0.4 percent for the state and Promise Zone counties.
- **Wages mixed.** For the six Promise Zone counties, wage increases were virtually stagnant as a while, but a big gain in Jasper County offset drops or negligible gains in other counties. Across the state, wages increased almost 3 percent.

### Population and households

Five out of the six Promise Zone counties had an increase in population between 2014 and 2015.

Only Jasper County experienced a significant decrease in population during the time frame. On the whole, population in the Promise Zone grew at a rate four times slower than it did for the state.

### Population and households

|                       | 2014             |                  | 2015                    |                         | Change        |               |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                       | Population       | Households       | Population              | Households              | Population    | Households    |
| Allendale             | 9,693            | 3,424            | <b>9,838</b>            | <b>3,346</b>            | 145           | -78           |
| Bamberg               | 15,191           | 5,883            | <b>15,432</b>           | <b>5,921</b>            | 241           | 38            |
| Barnwell              | 21,935           | 8,416            | <b>22,098</b>           | <b>8,344</b>            | 163           | -72           |
| Colleton              | 37,776           | 14,905           | <b>38,004</b>           | <b>14,774</b>           | 228           | -131          |
| Hampton               | 20,422           | 7,470            | <b>20,473</b>           | <b>7,530</b>            | 51            | 60            |
| Jasper                | 27,019           | 8,563            | <b>26,549</b>           | <b>9,095</b>            | -470          | 532           |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>132,036</b>   | <b>48,661</b>    | <b>132,394</b>          | <b>49,010</b>           | <b>358</b>    | <b>149</b>    |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>4,727,273</i> | <i>2,160,383</i> | <i><b>4,777,576</b></i> | <i><b>2,174,319</b></i> | <i>50,303</i> | <i>13,936</i> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, American Community Survey, Demographic and Housing Estimates, 2014 and 2015.

### Employment by county

The following chart presents employment number for each Promise Zone county. Employment includes nonfarm and farm self-employment as well as wage and salary employment.

In 2015, Promise Zone counties had a combined total employment of 49,376 people, which was an increase of 421 people employed over the number from 2014. For the six-county region, employment grew 0.8 percent, which was just under a quarter of the state’s 3.4 percent unemployment growth.

Two of the Promise Zone counties – Colleton and Jasper -- experienced employment growth, while four counties dropped in total employment.

### Employment by county

|                       | 2014             | 2015                    | Change        |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
|                       | # employed       | # employed              |               |
| Allendale             | 2,513            | <b>2,447</b>            | -66           |
| Bamberg               | 4,908            | <b>4,906</b>            | -2            |
| Barnwell              | 7,790            | <b>7,698</b>            | -92           |
| Colleton              | 15,337           | <b>15,578</b>           | 241           |
| Hampton               | 7,654            | <b>7,615</b>            | -38           |
| Jasper                | 10,753           | <b>11,132</b>           | 379           |
| <b>PZ Counties</b>    | <b>48,955</b>    | <b>49,376</b>           | <b>421</b>    |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>2,074,277</i> | <i><b>2,144,573</b></i> | <i>70,296</i> |

Sources: S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, SC Works, Labor Force Employment and Unemployment, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Not Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2014 and 2015.



## Unemployment rates

Between 2014 and 2015, five out of the six Promise Zone counties had decreases in unemployment with only Hampton County experiencing a 0.8 percent increase.

During the same period, the unemployment rate for five of the Promise Zone counties had an employment rate higher than the state rate of 6.0 percent. Only Jasper County had a rate lower than the state’s unemployment rate.

### Unemployment rates

|                       | 2014        | 2015               | Change       |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 12.1%       | <b>11.4%</b>       | -0.7%        |
| Bamberg               | 11.5%       | <b>10.5%</b>       | -1.0%        |
| Barnwell              | 9.6%        | <b>8.9%</b>        | -0.7%        |
| Colleton              | 7.6%        | <b>7.0%</b>        | -0.6%        |
| Hampton               | 7.7%        | <b>8.5%</b>        | 0.8%         |
| Jasper                | 5.7%        | <b>5.1%</b>        | -0.6%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>6.4%</i> | <i><b>6.0%</b></i> | <i>-0.4%</i> |

Sources: S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, SC Works, Labor Force Employment and Unemployment, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Not Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2014 and 2015.

## Labor force data

The number of people participating in the labor force increased in Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties, while Allendale, Bamberg and Barnwell Counties experience a labor force that got slightly smaller.

On the state level, the number of people participating in the labor force increased while the number of people unemployed decreased during the same period. This trend was the same for the combined Promise Zone counties. The statewide labor force increased by 40,295 people, 178 of which were from the Promise Zone counties. The number of people unemployed decreased by 8,001 statewide, 243 of whom were from the Promise Zone counties.

| <b>Allendale County</b> | 2014  | 2015         | Change | % Change |
|-------------------------|-------|--------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force             | 2,860 | <b>2,763</b> | -97    | -3.5%    |
| Employed                | 2,513 | <b>2,447</b> | -66    | -2.7%    |
| Unemployed              | 347   | <b>316</b>   | -31    | -9.8%    |

| <b>Bamberg County</b> | 2014  | 2015         | Change | % Change |
|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force           | 5,548 | <b>5,482</b> | -66    | -1.2%    |
| Employed              | 4,908 | <b>4,906</b> | -2     | -0.04%   |
| Unemployed            | 640   | <b>576</b>   | -64    | -11.1%   |

| <b>Barnwell County</b> | 2014  | 2015         | Change | % Change |
|------------------------|-------|--------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force            | 8,622 | <b>8,453</b> | -169   | -2.0%    |
| Employed               | 7,790 | <b>7,698</b> | -92    | -1.2%    |
| Unemployed             | 832   | <b>755</b>   | -77    | -10.2%   |

| <b>Colleton County</b> | 2014   | 2015          | Change | % Change |
|------------------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force            | 16,600 | <b>16,745</b> | 145    | .87%     |
| Employed               | 15,337 | <b>15,578</b> | 241    | 1.5%     |
| Unemployed             | 1,263  | <b>1,167</b>  | -96    | -8.2%    |

| <b>Hampton County</b> | 2014  | 2015         | Change | % Change |
|-----------------------|-------|--------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force           | 8,291 | <b>8,323</b> | 32     | 0.4%     |
| Employed              | 7,654 | <b>7,615</b> | -39    | -0.5%    |
| Unemployed            | 637   | <b>708</b>   | 71     | 10.0%    |

| <b>Jasper County</b> | 2014   | 2015          | Change | % Change |
|----------------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force          | 11,400 | <b>11,733</b> | 333    | 2.8%     |
| Employed             | 10,753 | <b>11,132</b> | 379    | 3.4%     |
| Unemployed           | 647    | <b>601</b>    | -46    | -7.7%    |

| <b>PZ counties total</b> | 2014   | 2015          | Change | % Change |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force              | 53,321 | <b>53,499</b> | 178    | 0.3%     |
| Employed                 | 48,955 | <b>49,376</b> | 421    | 0.9%     |
| Unemployed               | 4,366  | <b>4,123</b>  | -243   | -5.9%    |

| <b>South Carolina</b> | 2014      | 2015             | Change | % Change |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|--------|----------|
| Labor Force           | 2,216,782 | <b>2,257,077</b> | 40,295 | 1.8%     |
| Employed              | 2,074,277 | <b>2,122,573</b> | 48,296 | 2.3%     |
| Unemployed            | 142,505   | <b>134,504</b>   | -8,001 | -6.0%    |

Source: S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, SC Works, Labor Force Employment and Unemployment, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Not Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2014 and 2015.

## Annual weekly wage and annual wage per employee

From 2014 to 2015, four Promise Zone counties – Barnwell, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper – experienced increases in wages with Jasper and Colleton counties having wage increases of more than \$1,000 a year.

Jasper County, in fact, outpaced the state’s \$1,205 annual increase by more than \$200 for the year. Wages dropped, however, by more than \$1,500 in Allendale and Bamberg counties.

### Annual weekly wage and annual wage per employee

|                       | 2014               |                          | 2015                |                          | Change             | Change                   |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
|                       | Annual Weekly Wage | Annual Wage Per Employee | Annual Weekly Wage  | Annual Wage Per Employee | Annual Weekly Wage | Annual Wage Per Employee |
| Allendale             | \$775              | \$40,308                 | <b>\$742</b>        | <b>\$38,573</b>          | -\$33              | -\$1,735                 |
| Bamberg               | \$639              | \$33,207                 | <b>\$609</b>        | <b>\$31,679</b>          | -\$30              | -\$1,528                 |
| Barnwell              | \$585              | \$30,416                 | <b>\$607</b>        | <b>\$31,571</b>          | \$22               | \$1,155                  |
| Colleton              | \$589              | \$30,616                 | <b>\$591</b>        | <b>\$30,737</b>          | \$2                | \$121                    |
| Hampton               | \$733              | \$38,096                 | <b>\$746</b>        | <b>\$38,785</b>          | \$13               | \$689                    |
| Jasper                | \$684              | \$35,546                 | <b>\$711</b>        | <b>\$36,963</b>          | \$27               | \$1,417                  |
| PZ counties           | \$668              | \$34,698                 | <b>\$668</b>        | <b>\$34,718</b>          | \$0                | \$20                     |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>\$785</i>       | <i>\$40,797</i>          | <i><b>\$808</b></i> | <i><b>\$42,002</b></i>   | <i>\$23</i>        | <i>\$1,205</i>           |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Employment and Wages, Annual Averages, All Industries, All Establishment Sizes, 2014 and 2015.

### 3: Indicators of economic activity

Data related to economic activity in the Promise Zone show promising results from 2014 to 2015, particularly for Colleton and Jasper counties. While tourism revenues were up, incomes were down or stagnant. Highlights:

- **Employees.** The overall number of paid employees was up, with gains in four counties.
- **Annual payroll.** The amount of money paid to workers surpassed \$1 billion, but a large majority of the \$161 million increase may be due to a reporting error related to Hampton County, as explained below.
- **Earnings.** Overall earnings by place of work rose \$20 million for the zone counties, but big gains in Jasper and Colleton counties were offset by \$30 million in losses in the other four counties.
- **Income.** Median household income across the Promise Zone dropped dramatically by \$677 per household, but per capita income remained stable, dropping only \$2 in 2015 compared to the previous year.
- **Tourism.** Direct expenditures by tourists and other visitor to Promise Zone counties increased about \$8 million in 2015, an increase of 4 percent. That outpaced the state average of 3.2 percent.

#### Business and non-employer establishments

The charts in this section highlight the total number of business and non-employer establishments in Promise Zone counties in 2014, the base evaluation year, and in 2015. Looking at the number of businesses and paid employees in the region are indicators of economic health. More businesses and employees may indicate more economic prosperity, for example, than declines in both indicators.

#### Summary chart of annual payroll and paid employees

| County                | Annual payroll (000s) |                     |                    | # of paid employees |                  |               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
|                       | 2014                  | 2015                | difference         | 2014                | 2015             | difference    |
| Allendale             | \$68,434              | \$69,907            | \$1,473            | 1,646               | 1,665            | 19            |
| Bamberg               | \$93,733              | \$92,694            | -\$1,039           | 3,077               | 2,983            | -94           |
| Barnwell              | \$152,672             | \$139,509           | -\$13,163          | 4,739               | 4,436            | -303          |
| Colleton              | \$226,540             | \$237,456           | \$10,916           | 7,220               | 7,479            | 259           |
| Hampton               | \$117,390             | *\$235,260          | *\$117,870         | 3,253               | 3,272            | 19            |
| Jasper                | \$230,746             | \$275,608           | \$44,862           | 6,642               | 7,338            | 696           |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>\$889,515</b>      | <b>\$1,050,434</b>  | <b>\$160,919</b>   | <b>26,577</b>       | <b>27,173</b>    | <b>596</b>    |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>\$62,406,424</i>   | <i>\$66,120,263</i> | <i>\$3,713,839</i> | <i>1,617,249</i>    | <i>1,662,251</i> | <i>45,002</i> |

\* These numbers have been double-checked. Please see cautionary note in paragraph below.

As reflected in the summary chart above, the annual employee payroll grew by more than \$161 million in the Promise Zone counties between 2014 and 2015. However bulk of the growth, according to Census data, comes from Hampton County, where payroll more than doubled. While we double-checked the data for accuracy, we caution that it may be inflated due to a Census reporting error. The authors of this report note that because the number of employees in the county rose by 19 individuals, the payroll numbers may be off due to a reporting error. (It would make more sense for the county’s payroll to be \$135 million, instead of \$235 million, based on past numbers.)

Overall, the number of employees in the Promise Zone counties grew modestly by 596, with the bulk of the positive change due to activity in Colleton and Jasper counties. Bamberg and Barnwell counties lost employees.

The charts below provide full information for the summary charts above. These charts are based on Census data on business and non-employer establishments. The Census defines non-employers as firms that have no paid employees, have annual business receipts of \$1,000 or more (or \$1 for construction sector) and are subject to federal income tax. Non-employers may be an incorporated business, a partnership or a sole proprietorship, and are typically considered representative of entrepreneurs. In contrast, business establishments are defined as having at least one paid employee at some time during the year and include corporations, S-corporations, partnerships, sole proprietorships, nonprofit organizations and government.

**Business and Non-employer Establishments, and Paid Employees, 2014**

|                    | # of Establishments |              |               | # Paid Employees |                  |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
|                    | Non-employers       | Employers    | Total         | Total            | Annual Payroll   |
| Allendale          | 515                 | 125          | 640           | 1,646            | \$68,434         |
| Bamberg            | 803                 | 264          | 1,067         | 3,077            | \$93,733         |
| Barnwell           | 1,345               | 359          | 1,704         | 4,739            | \$152,672        |
| Colleton           | 2,835               | 713          | 3,548         | 7,220            | \$226,540        |
| Hampton            | 1,174               | 325          | 1,499         | 3,253            | \$117,390        |
| Jasper             | 1,575               | 576          | 2,151         | 6,642            | \$230,746        |
| <b>PZ counties</b> | <b>8,247</b>        | <b>2,362</b> | <b>10,609</b> | <b>26,577</b>    | <b>\$889,515</b> |
| South Carolina     | 319,046             | 102,297      | 421,343       | 1,617,249        | \$62,406,424     |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts Data, County Business Patterns, Non-employer Statistics, 2014

### Business and Non-employer Establishments, and Paid Employees, 2015

|                       | # of Establishments |                |                | # Paid Employees |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
|                       | Non-employers       | Employers      | Total          | Total            | Annual Payroll      |
| Allendale             | 484                 | 124            | 608            | 1,665            | \$69,907            |
| Bamberg               | 786                 | 264            | 1,050          | 2,983            | \$92,694            |
| Barnwell              | 1,390               | 350            | 1,740          | 4,436            | \$139,509           |
| Colleton              | 2,892               | 731            | 3,623          | 7,479            | \$237,456           |
| Hampton               | 1,232               | 322            | 1,554          | 3,272            | \$235,260           |
| Jasper                | 1,602               | 604            | 2,206          | 7,338            | \$275,608           |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>8,386</b>        | <b>2,395</b>   | <b>10,781</b>  | <b>27,173</b>    | <b>\$1,050,434</b>  |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>329,431</i>      | <i>103,973</i> | <i>433,404</i> | <i>1,662,251</i> | <i>\$66,120,263</i> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts Data, County Business Patterns, Non-employer Statistics, 2015

### Earnings by place of work

The chart below is for earnings by place of work, a data set that is the sum of wages and salaries (full-time and part-time employment), supplements to wages and salaries, and proprietors' income, and indicates the economic activity of businesses.

The data show earnings went down overall from 2014 to 2015 by \$20.5 million in the Promise Zone counties a 1.1 percent gain (compared to a robust 5.4 percent for the state overall). Big gains of more than \$50 million by Colleton and Jasper counties were offset by about \$30 million in losses in Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell and Hampton counties and a small loss in Barnwell County. Jasper County's earnings grew by more than \$34 million, while Colleton County's earnings rose \$15.4 million.

#### Earnings by place of work (in thousands of dollars)

| County                | 2014                 | 2015                        | change                    | % change           |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Allendale             | \$163,488            | <b>\$160,010</b>            | -\$3,478                  | -2.1%              |
| Bamberg               | \$217,878            | <b>\$205,949</b>            | -\$11,929                 | -5.5%              |
| Barnwell              | \$272,208            | <b>\$267,892</b>            | -\$4,316                  | -1.6%              |
| Colleton              | \$525,271            | <b>\$540,662</b>            | \$15,391                  | 2.9%               |
| Hampton               | \$276,247            | <b>\$266,477</b>            | -\$9,770                  | -3.5%              |
| Jasper                | \$438,802            | <b>\$473,393</b>            | \$34,591                  | 7.9%               |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>\$1,893,894</b>   | <b>\$1,914,383</b>          | <b>\$20,489</b>           | <b>1.1%</b>        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>\$118,614,881</i> | <i><b>\$124,998,692</b></i> | <i><b>\$6,383,811</b></i> | <i><b>5.4%</b></i> |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Local Area Personal Income, Interactive Tables, Economic Profiles, 2014 and 2015.

## Income: Median and per capita

In 2015, the median household income in the Promise Zone counties ranged from a low of \$25,327 in Allendale County to a high of \$37,141 in Jasper County. Overall, median household income dropped \$677 with decreases in Allendale, Bamberg, Hampton and Jasper counties. Median household income grew in Barnwell and Colleton counties at more than the state average.

Per capita data are more encouraging, although per capital income dropped slightly across the Promise Zone. Per capita income rose in Barnwell, Colleton and Hampton counties, but dropped big (\$921) in Bamberg County with modest decreases in Allendale and Jasper counties.

### Median household income (in dollars)

|                       | 2014             | 2015             | Change |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
|                       | Median household | Median household |        |
| Allendale             | \$25,495         | <b>\$25,327</b>  | -168   |
| Bamberg               | \$32,738         | <b>\$31,314</b>  | -1,604 |
| Barnwell              | \$33,639         | <b>\$34,336</b>  | 697    |
| Colleton              | \$32,224         | <b>\$32,804</b>  | 580    |
| Hampton               | \$34,494         | <b>\$31,410</b>  | -3,084 |
| Jasper                | \$37,801         | <b>\$37,141</b>  | -660   |
| PZ counties           | \$32,732         | <b>\$32,055</b>  | -\$677 |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | \$45,033         | <b>\$45,483</b>  | 450    |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015

### Per capita income (in dollars)

|                       | 2014       | 2015            | Change |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------|--------|
|                       | Per capita | Per capita      |        |
| Allendale             | \$12,277   | <b>\$12,199</b> | -78    |
| Bamberg               | \$19,136   | <b>\$18,215</b> | -921   |
| Barnwell              | \$18,695   | <b>\$19,026</b> | 331    |
| Colleton              | \$18,517   | <b>\$19,015</b> | 498    |
| Hampton               | \$19,849   | <b>\$20,046</b> | 197    |
| Jasper                | \$17,606   | <b>\$17,565</b> | -41    |
| PZ counties           | \$17,680   | <b>\$17,678</b> | -\$2   |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | \$24,222   | <b>\$24,604</b> | \$382  |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015

## Tourism revenue

Direct tourism expenditures are comprised of expenditures on goods and services for people traveling in South Carolina, including spending at attractions, lodging, restaurants, automobiles service stations, shopping centers and other retail outlets.

As shown below, direct expenditures by tourists and other visitors increased an average of 4 percent, outpacing the state average of 3.2 percent. In five of the six Promise Zone counties between 2014 and 2015, tourism revenue went up, particularly in Jasper County, which experienced a 6.6 percent growth. Only Allendale County suffered a loss in tourism dollars, dropping about \$100,000 in revenues to \$4.04 million.

### Direct tourism expenditures

|                       | 2014            | 2015                    | % Change     |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|                       | (\$ millions)   | (\$ millions)           |              |
| Allendale             | 4.15            | <b>4.04</b>             | -2.83%       |
| Bamberg               | 6.43            | <b>6.48</b>             | 0.82%        |
| Barnwell              | 9.38            | <b>9.39</b>             | 0.08%        |
| Colleton              | 104.9           | <b>108.53</b>           | 3.46%        |
| Hampton               | 12.15           | <b>12.62</b>            | 3.85%        |
| Jasper                | 57.89           | <b>61.69</b>            | 6.56%        |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>194.9</b>    | <b>202.75</b>           | <b>4.03%</b> |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>12,892.4</i> | <i><b>12,538.52</b></i> | <i>3.16%</i> |

Source: S.C. Parks Recreation and Tourism, US Travel Association, 2014 and 2015.



## 4: Housing indicators

Metrics related to housing may indicate wealth of an area. For example, if an area has more owner-occupied dwellings, it means more residents have savings to put money down on homes to purchase them. Data from 2014 and 2015 show:

- Homeownership decreased in the Promise Zone overall, but decreases in four counties outpaced growth in Colleton and Jasper counties.
- Median home value in the Zone counties increased an average of \$383.
- From 2014 to 2015, vacancy rates dropped in Colleton and Jasper counties, but increased slightly in the other four counties. Meanwhile, the Promise Zone had more housing units occupied overall.

### Homeownership and median home value

The chart below shows that two of the Promise Zone counties -- Colleton and Jasper Counties increased in homeownership between 2014 and 2015 with Jasper County having the highest number of new homeowners.

During the period of 2014 to 2015, four of the Promise Zone counties – Allendale, Barnwell, Colleton, and Jasper – realized increases in median home values with Jasper County increasing by \$4,900 during that period. The median home value dropped in Bamberg and Barnwell counties.

Overall, the Promise Zone had slightly fewer owner-occupied dwellings, but the median home value rose an average of \$383, about 15 percent of what the value grew throughout the state.

### Owner Occupied and Median Home Value

|                       | 2014             |                   | 2015                    |                         | Change         |                   |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|                       | Owner Occupied   | Median Home Value | Owner Occupied          | Median Home Value       | Owner Occupied | Median Home Value |
| Allendale             | 2,241            | \$55,800          | <b>2,139</b>            | <b>\$56,300</b>         | -102           | \$500             |
| Bamberg               | 4,567            | \$67,300          | <b>4,480</b>            | <b>\$63,900</b>         | -87            | -\$3,400          |
| Barnwell              | 6,257            | \$72,200          | <b>6,086</b>            | <b>\$74,100</b>         | -171           | \$1,900           |
| Colleton              | 10,790           | \$85,200          | <b>10,844</b>           | <b>\$86,000</b>         | 54             | \$800             |
| Hampton               | 5,721            | \$78,800          | <b>5,658</b>            | <b>\$76,400</b>         | -63            | -\$2,400          |
| Jasper                | 6,214            | \$94,400          | <b>6,431</b>            | <b>\$99,300</b>         | 217            | \$4,900           |
| PZ counties           | 35,790           | \$75,617          | <b>35,638</b>           | <b>\$76,000</b>         | -152           | \$383             |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>1,232,154</i> | <i>\$137,600</i>  | <i><b>1,244,998</b></i> | <i><b>\$139,900</b></i> | <i>12,844</i>  | <i>\$2,300</i>    |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.

## Housing occupancy and vacancy

The chart below shows the level of occupied and vacant housing units from 2014 and 2015. Vacant units include those that are “for rent” or “for sale”, units that rented or sold but not yet occupied, vacant units that are for seasonal/occasional use, vacant units intended for migrant workers employed in seasonal farm work, and other vacant units.

The chart below shows in 2014 and 2015, the Promise Zone counties combined had a higher percentage rate of vacant housing units than the state average, but the rate dropped more in Promise Zone counties than at the state level overall.

From 2014 to 2015, vacancy rates dropped in Colleton and Jasper counties, but increased slightly in the other four counties. Meanwhile, the Promise Zone had more housing units occupied overall.

### Occupied and Vacant Housing Units

|                       | 2014             |                  |                |              |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
|                       | Housing Units    | Occupied Units   | Vacant Units   | % Vacant     |
| Allendale             | 4,454            | 3,456            | 998            | 22.4%        |
| Bamberg               | 7,659            | 5,777            | 1,882          | 24.6%        |
| Barnwell              | 10,431           | 8,434            | 1,997          | 19.1%        |
| Colleton              | 19,782           | 14,678           | 5,104          | 25.8%        |
| Hampton               | 9,079            | 7,463            | 1,616          | 17.8%        |
| Jasper                | 10,580           | 8,749            | 1,831          | 17.3%        |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>61,985</b>    | <b>48,557</b>    | <b>13,427</b>  | <b>21.7%</b> |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>2,160,383</i> | <i>1,795,715</i> | <i>364,668</i> | <i>16.9%</i> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.

|                       | 2015             |                  |                |              | % change     |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
|                       | Housing Units    | Occupied Units   | Vacant Units   | % Vacant     |              |
| Allendale             | <b>4,448</b>     | <b>3,348</b>     | <b>1,102</b>   | <b>24.8%</b> | <b>2.4%</b>  |
| Bamberg               | <b>7,646</b>     | <b>5,921</b>     | <b>1,725</b>   | <b>22.6%</b> | <b>2.0%</b>  |
| Barnwell              | <b>10,411</b>    | <b>8,344</b>     | <b>2,067</b>   | <b>19.9%</b> | <b>0.8%</b>  |
| Colleton              | <b>19,749</b>    | <b>14,774</b>    | <b>4,975</b>   | <b>25.2%</b> | <b>-0.6%</b> |
| Hampton               | <b>9,058</b>     | <b>7,530</b>     | <b>1,528</b>   | <b>16.9%</b> | <b>0.9%</b>  |
| Jasper                | <b>10,729</b>    | <b>9,095</b>     | <b>1,634</b>   | <b>15.2%</b> | <b>-2.1%</b> |
| <b>PZ counties</b>    | <b>62,041</b>    | <b>49,012</b>    | <b>13,031</b>  | <b>21.0%</b> | <b>-0.7%</b> |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>2,174,319</i> | <i>1,815,094</i> | <i>359,225</i> | <i>16.5%</i> | <i>-0.4%</i> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.

## 5: Indicators for education

Data on education shows some positive gains in public education in the Promise Zone counties.

- **Graduation.** High school graduation rates improved in six of the zone's 10 school districts. Six districts had graduation rates higher than the state's 80.3 percent; one tied the state's average.
- **College readiness.** Scores on the ACT, a college readiness indicator, dropped in eight of 10 school districts in the Promise Zone. But in five of the 10 districts with lower scores were still higher than the state's average, which dropped 2.3 points.
- **College enrollment.** Eight of 10 school districts in the Promise Zone increased the percentage of students enrolled in post-secondary education. Additionally, two of the 10 Promise Zone school districts – Bamberg 1 (78.2 percent) and Bamberg 2 (83.8 percent) – had a higher percentage of students enrolled in college than the state did (70.7 percent).
- **Educational attainment.** Five of the Zone's six counties have higher high school graduation percentages than the state average. Between 2014 and 2015, three Promise Zone counties increased their percentage of high school graduates; four increased graduates with associate's degrees and two slightly grew the percentage of college graduates.
- **Per pupil expenditures.** Nine out of the Zone's 10 school districts spent more money per pupil in 2015, compared to 2014. Six of the nine spent more than the state average.
- **Overall quality.** The state did not update its overall quality measure in 2015. A new quality assessment measure is expected in the fall of 2017.
- **Assessing skills.** In this new indicator, none of the 10 school districts scored higher than the state average on a skills assessment test for math or locating information. Two of 10 scored higher than the state average on reading.

### High school graduation rates

High school graduation rates are currently measured using an “adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR)”, which follows actual students in grades 9 to 12 and adjusts each cohort by adding students that transfer in from another state and subtracting those that transfer out, emigrate to another country, or die. The ACGR only includes regular high school diplomas, not high school equivalency diplomas or other alternative credentials.

The Promise Zone has ten school districts within the six counties. The chart below uses data from the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years. During that period of time, Hampton 2 had the largest increase in their graduation rate from 70.6% to 85.7% while six of the Promise Zone counties' school districts – Allendale, Bamberg 1, Barnwell 19, Barnwell 29, Hampton 1 and Hampton 2 -- had a higher graduation rate in 2015 than the state.

### 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR)

|                       | 2014         | 2015                | % change    |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Allendale             | 76.0%        | <b>84.3%</b>        | <b>8.3</b>  |
| Bamberg 1             | 80.4%        | <b>81.4%</b>        | <b>1.0</b>  |
| Bamberg 2             | 80.3%        | <b>77.3%</b>        | -3.0        |
| Barnwell 19           | 82.8%        | <b>81.8%</b>        | -1.0        |
| Barnwell 29           | 91.9%        | <b>98.5%</b>        | <b>6.6</b>  |
| Barnwell 45           | 83.1%        | <b>72.9%</b>        | -10.2       |
| Colleton              | 76.1%        | <b>80.3%</b>        | <b>4.2</b>  |
| Hampton 1             | 80.2%        | <b>86.4%</b>        | <b>6.2</b>  |
| Hampton 2             | 70.6%        | <b>85.7%</b>        | <b>15.1</b> |
| Jasper                | 68.5%        | <b>75.0%</b>        | <b>6.5</b>  |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>80.3%</i> | <i><b>80.3%</b></i> | <i>0.0%</i> |

Source: S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2014 and 2015.

### College and career readiness

The ACT, a college readiness assessment, is given to every South Carolina 11<sup>th</sup> grader with the exception of those eligible for alternative assessments. The ACT scores range from 0 to 36. The district and state averages are included for comparison. State averages for ACT data are based on regular public schools and do not include private schools in the state. ACT benchmarks (English, Math, Reading and Science) are scores on the ACT subject-area tests that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50 percent chance of obtaining a B or higher grade or about a 75 percent chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses. The chart shows each school district's combined score for all four subjects. The ACT is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc.

During the period of 2014 and 2015, two of the 10 school districts in the Promise Zone counties had an increase including the state which had a decrease statewide.

### College and Career Readiness – ACT Readiness Assessment

|                       | 2014        | 2015               | Score change |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 14.4        | <b>12.7</b>        | -1.7         |
| Bamberg 1             | 19.3        | <b>17.2</b>        | -2.1         |
| Bamberg 2             | 14.4        | <b>14.8</b>        | <b>0.4</b>   |
| Barnwell 19           | 16.5        | <b>14.8</b>        | -1.7         |
| Barnwell 29           | 19.4        | <b>15.7</b>        | -3.7         |
| Barnwell 45           | 20.1        | <b>16.8</b>        | -3.3         |
| Colleton              | 17.9        | <b>16.7</b>        | -1.2         |
| Hampton 1             | 17.1        | <b>14.6</b>        | -2.5         |
| Hampton 2             | 14.8        | <b>12.8</b>        | -2           |
| Jasper                | 14.5        | <b>14.8</b>        | <b>0.3</b>   |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>20.2</i> | <i><b>17.9</b></i> | <i>-2.3</i>  |

Source: S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2014 and 2015

## Percentage of student enrolled in post-secondary education

The chart on the next page shows the percentage of students from the 2015 graduating class enrolled in a two- or four-year college or technical college pursuing an associate’ degree, certificate, or diploma in Fall 2015.

As the chart below shows, eight of 10 school districts in the Promise Zone increased the percentage of students enrolled in post-secondary education. Additionally, two of the 10 Promise Zone school districts – Bamberg 1 (78.2 percent) and Bamberg 2 (83.8 percent) -- had a higher college-enrolled rate than the state at 70.7 percent.

### Percentage of Student Enrolled in Post-Secondary Education

|                       | 2013-2014    | 2014-2015           | % change     |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 54.2%        | <b>55.3%</b>        | <b>1.0%</b>  |
| Bamberg 1             | 67.0%        | <b>78.2%</b>        | <b>11.2%</b> |
| Bamberg 2             | 81.5%        | <b>83.8%</b>        | <b>2.3%</b>  |
| Barnwell 19           | 58.0%        | <b>66.9%</b>        | <b>8.9%</b>  |
| Barnwell 29           | 50.0%        | <b>66.7%</b>        | <b>16.7%</b> |
| Barnwell 45           | 71.1%        | <b>66.9%</b>        | -4.2%        |
| Colleton              | 53.8%        | <b>58.5%</b>        | <b>4.7%</b>  |
| Hampton 1             | 56.9%        | <b>47.0%</b>        | -9.9%        |
| Hampton 2             | 45.0%        | <b>52.1%</b>        | <b>7.1%</b>  |
| Jasper                | 41.5%        | <b>48.4%</b>        | <b>6.9%</b>  |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>70.3%</i> | <i><b>70.7%</b></i> | <i>0.4%</i>  |

Source: S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2013 -2014 and 2014-2015.

## Educational attainment

The first two charts in this section highlight 2014 and 2015 data for the level of education of people in each Promise Zone county. The third chart, a summary chart, highlights the percentage increase or decrease in 2015, compared to 2014.

In 2015, five of six counties had higher high school graduation rates than the state average of 51 percent. Three counties had a higher rate of associate-degree level graduates than the state, but none of the Promise Zone counties we’re close to the state’s average of 25.3 percent of residents having college degrees.

Three Promise Zone counties increased their percentage of high school graduates; four increased graduates with associate’s degrees and two slightly grew the percentage of college graduates.

**Percent of Population 25 Years and Over That Are High School Graduates or Higher, Attained an Associate’s Degree or Higher, and Attained a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher**

|                       | 2014                     |                      |                               |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                       | % HS Graduates or Higher | % Associate’s Degree | % Bachelor’s Degree or Higher |
| Allendale             | 50.7%                    | 7.8%                 | 12.7%                         |
| Bamberg               | 45.9%                    | 11.8%                | 18.3%                         |
| Barnwell              | 59.3%                    | 9.5%                 | 11.7%                         |
| Colleton              | 57.1%                    | 8.6%                 | 14.1%                         |
| Hampton               | 59.1%                    | 6.6%                 | 11.1%                         |
| Jasper                | 59.4%                    | 6.0%                 | 13.0%                         |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>51.0%</i>             | <i>8.7%</i>          | <i>25.3%</i>                  |

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2013 and 2014.

|                       | 2015                     |                      |                               |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                       | % HS Graduates or Higher | % Associate’s Degree | % Bachelor’s Degree or Higher |
| Allendale             | <b>55.1%</b>             | <b>7.0%</b>          | <b>12.5%</b>                  |
| Bamberg               | <b>46.7%</b>             | <b>11.6%</b>         | <b>18.2%</b>                  |
| Barnwell              | <b>57.4%</b>             | <b>9.9%</b>          | <b>11.9%</b>                  |
| Colleton              | <b>58.1%</b>             | <b>10.0%</b>         | <b>14.0%</b>                  |
| Hampton               | <b>59.9%</b>             | <b>7.4%</b>          | <b>10.6%</b>                  |
| Jasper                | <b>57.8%</b>             | <b>6.1%</b>          | <b>15.0%</b>                  |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i><b>50.8%</b></i>      | <i><b>8.9%</b></i>   | <i><b>25.8%</b></i>           |

|                       | Educational attainment changes from 2014 to 2015 |                      |                               |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                       | % HS Graduates or Higher                         | % Associate’s Degree | % Bachelor’s Degree or Higher |
| Allendale             | <b>4.4%</b>                                      | -0.8%                | -0.2%                         |
| Bamberg               | -0.8%  | -0.2%                | -0.1%                         |
| Barnwell              | -1.9%  | <b>0.4%</b>          | <b>0.2%</b>                   |
| Colleton              | <b>1.0%</b>                                      | <b>1.4%</b>          | -0.1%                         |
| Hampton               | -0.8%  | <b>0.8%</b>          | -0.5%                         |
| Jasper                | <b>1.6%</b>                                      | <b>0.1%</b>          | <b>2.0%</b>                   |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>-1.0%</i>                                     | <i>0.2%</i>          | <i>0.5%</i>                   |

## Per pupil expenditures

The chart below highlights the amount of money spent per pupil in each of the Promise Zone counties' school districts. Of note:

- Six of 10 districts had more per-pupil spending than the state average for 2015.
- Nine of the 10 school districts had more spending per pupil in 2015. Only Allendale's district, which was taken over by the state in the summer of 2017, decreased in per-pupil expenditures.
- From the 2014 school year to the 2015 school year, Barnwell District 19 had the highest increase of \$1,013.

### Per pupil expenditures by school district

| School district       | 2013-2014       | 2014-2015              | # change     | % change           |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Allendale             | \$16,427        | <b>\$15,676</b>        | -\$751       | <b>-4.6%</b>       |
| Bamberg 1             | \$12,420        | <b>\$13,304</b>        | \$884        | <b>7.1%</b>        |
| Bamberg 2             | \$15,407        | <b>\$15,548</b>        | \$141        | <b>0.9%</b>        |
| Barnwell 19           | \$12,716        | <b>\$13,729</b>        | \$1,013      | <b>8.0%</b>        |
| Barnwell 29           | \$10,414        | <b>\$11,250</b>        | \$836        | <b>8.0%</b>        |
| Barnwell 45           | \$9,824         | <b>\$10,222</b>        | \$398        | <b>4.1%</b>        |
| Colleton              | \$10,835        | <b>\$10,968</b>        | \$133        | <b>1.2%</b>        |
| Hampton 1             | \$11,052        | <b>\$11,590</b>        | \$539        | <b>4.9%</b>        |
| Hampton 2             | \$15,524        | <b>\$16,180</b>        | \$656        | <b>4.2%</b>        |
| Jasper                | \$13,471        | <b>\$14,445</b>        | \$974        | <b>7.2%</b>        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>\$11,634</i> | <b><i>\$12,007</i></b> | <i>\$373</i> | <b><i>3.2%</i></b> |

Source: S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office.

## Overall school district quality rating

Prior to 2015, the South Carolina Department of Education provided an overall school district quality rating in an annual school report card for each of the state's school districts. That overall rating was suspended until the fall of 2017 to comply with a state law that changed the accountability ratings for school districts.

For continuity purposes, we provide the most recent ratings, which were done in 2014. Updated ratings are expected to be released in the fall of 2017.

### Overall quality rating

|             | 2013                   |                      | 2014                   |                      |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
|             | <i>Absolute Rating</i> | <i>Growth Rating</i> | <i>Absolute Rating</i> | <i>Growth Rating</i> |
| Allendale   | Below Average          | Good                 | Below Average          | Average              |
| Bamberg 1   | Good                   | Good                 | Excellent              | Average              |
| Bamberg 2   | Average                | Good                 | Average                | Average              |
| Barnwell 19 | Average                | Good                 | Average                | Average              |
| Barnwell 29 | Good                   | Below Average        | Excellent              | Excellent            |
| Barnwell 45 | Average                | Excellent            | Average                | Good                 |
| Colleton    | Average                | Average              | Average                | Below Average        |
| Hampton 1   | Good                   | Good                 | Average                | At-Risk              |
| Hampton 2   | Below Average          | Good                 | Below Average          | At-Risk              |
| Jasper      | At-Risk                | At-Risk              | At-Risk                | Good                 |

Source: S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2013 -2014

### NEW: Skill assessment indicator

ACT WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system measuring “real world” skills that employers believe are critical in the workplace. The assessment is given to every South Carolina 11<sup>th</sup> grader with the exception of those eligible for alternative assessments. The assessment consists of three subtests: Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information and Locating Information. Students can earn certificates at the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze level on WorkKeys assessments.

This data set is new to the 2015 evaluation to provide more depth in this report. Because it is a comparatively new assessment system, the data is provided in this report so that it can be followed and analyzed in any follow-up reports. In other words, this dataset is the benchmark for this indicator.

Of note:

- **Math:** None of the 10 Promise Zone school districts scored higher than the state’s average score on applied math (73.4 percent).
- **Reading:** In 2015, two of the Promise Zone school districts – Bamberg 1 (94.7 percent) and Barnwell 29 (94.9 percent) – scored higher in Reading for Information than the state of South Carolina as a whole. (93.5 percent)..
- **Locating information:** None of the 10 Promise Zone school districts scored higher than the state’s average score on locating information (87.7 percent), but four districts got within four percentage points.



**ACT WorkKeys job skills assessment system**

|                       | <b>2015</b>         |                         |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
|                       | Applied Mathematics | Reading for Information | Locating Information |
| Allendale             | 31.1%               | 80.3%                   | 60.0%                |
| Bamberg 1             | 70.3%               | 94.7%                   | 85.5%                |
| Bamberg 2             | 36.1%               | 90.5%                   | 73.8%                |
| Barnwell 19           | 47.4%               | 73.0%                   | 72.5%                |
| Barnwell 29           | 57.1%               | 94.9%                   | 84.4%                |
| Barnwell 45           | 64.5%               | 88.2%                   | 80.5%                |
| Colleton              | 65.4%               | 91.8%                   | 86.3%                |
| Hampton 1             | 58.0%               | 87.0%                   | 80.9%                |
| Hampton 2             | 19.4%               | 82.4%                   | 70.0%                |
| Jasper                | 58.6%               | 90.1%                   | 85.8%                |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <b>73.4%</b>        | <b>93.5%</b>            | <b>87.7%</b>         |

Source: S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2015

## 6: Indicators related to poverty

This section of the report highlights five measures related to poverty in the Promise Zone counties. In general, the data continue to show Promise Zone counties are among the poorest in South Carolina, which is one of the nation’s poorest states. But as outlined in these summaries, there are some bright spots in the data:

- **Poverty.** While overall poverty in the Promise Zone counties is higher than the state average, three counties experienced drops in poverty from 2014 to 2015.
- **Child poverty.** Similarly, child poverty is much higher in Promise Zone counties, but two counties showed lower rates in 2015 than 2014.
- **SNAP.** Formerly known as “food stamps,” the percentage of people receiving benefits went down in three counties and up in three counties. All Promise Zone counties had a higher SNAP usage percentage than the state’s 15.1 percent average.
- **Food insecurity.** From 2014 to 2015, five Promise Zone counties -- Allendale, Barnwell, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper -- had a decrease in food insecurity. All Promise Zone counties, however, had higher rates of food insecurity than the state average.
- **Child well-being.** The Annie E. Casey’s annual rating of the well-being of children shows that rankings in Promise Zone counties are among the lowest in the state, but two counties – Bamberg and Colleton – improved their ratings slightly.

### Poverty rate

The chart shows the poverty rates for Promise Zone counties in 2014 and 2015. Three Promise Zone counties - Allendale, Barnwell and Hampton counties – experienced decreases in their poverty rates from 2014 to 2015, while two counties had slight upticks in poverty. Jasper County’s poverty rate was stagnant at 23.5 percent. All of the Promise Zone counties had poverty rates significantly higher than the state’s 17.9 percent rate, from 20.8 percent in Hampton County to 29 percent in Allendale County.

#### Poverty rate

|                       | 2014         | 2015                | Change       |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 32.5%        | <b>29.0%</b>        | -3.5%        |
| Bamberg               | 28.0%        | <b>28.2%</b>        | 0.2%         |
| Barnwell              | 28.7%        | <b>26.9%</b>        | -1.8%        |
| Colleton              | 21.7%        | <b>22.3%</b>        | 0.6%         |
| Hampton               | 23.1%        | <b>20.8%</b>        | -2.3%        |
| Jasper                | 23.5%        | <b>23.5%</b>        | 0.0%         |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>18.3%</i> | <i><b>17.9%</b></i> | <i>-0.4%</i> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.

## Child poverty rate

The percentage of children living in poverty in Allendale County (50.6 percent) is more than twice the state’s average of 24.4 percent. While all Promise Zone counties are more than 10 points higher on child poverty, the rate went down in two counties (Barnwell and Jasper) from 2014 to 2015.

### Percentage of children in poverty

|                       | 2014         | 2015                | Change       |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 48.7%        | <b>50.6%</b>        | 1.9%         |
| Bamberg               | 41.0%        | <b>43.9%</b>        | 2.9%         |
| Barnwell              | 42.3%        | <b>38.2%</b>        | -4.1%        |
| Colleton              | 35.1%        | <b>36.7%</b>        | 1.6%         |
| Hampton               | 34.8%        | <b>35.1%</b>        | 0.3%         |
| Jasper                | 41.2%        | <b>40.1%</b>        | -1.1%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>27.0%</i> | <i><b>24.4%</b></i> | <i>-2.6%</i> |

Source: Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) data

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, is a public program designed to assist people living in poverty with buying healthy food.

Formerly known as “food stamps,” the percentage of people receiving benefits went down in three counties and up in three counties. All Promise Zone counties had a higher SNAP usage percentage than the state’s 15.1 percent average.

### Percentage of population receiving SNAP benefits

|                       | 2014         | 2015                | Change       |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 29.6%        | <b>31.6%</b>        | 2.0%         |
| Bamberg               | 23.4%        | <b>23.8%</b>        | 0.4%         |
| Barnwell              | 19.6%        | <b>22.4%</b>        | 2.8%         |
| Colleton              | 22.2%        | <b>22.0%</b>        | -0.2%        |
| Hampton               | 20.5%        | <b>19.7%</b>        | -0.8%        |
| Jasper                | 22.6%        | <b>20.9%</b>        | -1.7%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>15.2%</i> | <i><b>15.1%</b></i> | <i>-0.1%</i> |

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.

## Food insecurity

Food insecurity refers to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for all members of a household to have an active, healthy life. “Food insecurity” essentially is a more sophisticated way to measure hunger, which may rise in months that gardens aren’t producing.

From 2014 to 2015, five Promise Zone counties -- Allendale, Barnwell, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper -- had a decrease in food insecurity while Bamberg County rate of 23.9 percent stayed the same during that period of time. But all Promise Zone counties also had higher rates of food insecurity than the state average.

**Food insecurity by county**

|                       | 2014         | 2015                | Change       |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 27.9%        | <b>26.9%</b>        | -1.0%        |
| Bamberg               | 23.9%        | <b>23.9%</b>        | 0.0%         |
| Barnwell              | 21.2%        | <b>20.7%</b>        | -0.5%        |
| Colleton              | 18.2%        | <b>17.8%</b>        | -0.4%        |
| Hampton               | 19.8%        | <b>19.7%</b>        | -0.1         |
| Jasper                | 16.7%        | <b>15.9%</b>        | -0.8%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>16.4%</i> | <i><b>15.3%</b></i> | <i>-1.1%</i> |

Source: Feeding America, 2014 and 2015.

**Child well-being ratings**

KIDS COUNT offers an annual data book that provides information on the status of children and their well-being on county, state and national levels. The annual data set, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, measures the overall child well-being rate in four domains: Economic Well-Being, Education, Family and Community.

In 2014, South Carolina ranked 44<sup>th</sup> in the nation in child well-being. In 2015, it was 42<sup>nd</sup>.

The chart below, however, includes the overall ranking for counties in 2014 and 2015. While it shows that rankings in Promise Zone counties are among the lowest in the state, two counties – Bamberg and Colleton – improved their ratings slightly.

**Kids Count child well-being rating by county**

|           | 2014 | 2015      |
|-----------|------|-----------|
| Allendale | 46   | 46        |
| Bamberg   | 39   | <b>35</b> |
| Barnwell  | 41   | 42        |
| Colleton  | 33   | <b>32</b> |
| Hampton   | 37   | 38        |
| Jasper    | 40   | 40        |

Source: Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

## 7: Indicators related to broadband access

The data below are repeated in this report for continuity purposes. New data from the FCC reportedly were available at the county level in 2016, but the data were not available for 2015 for a comparison.

### Broadband Availability by Download Speed (Wire line) 2014

|                       | Download<br>>3 Mbps | Download<br>>6 Mbps | Download<br>>10 Mbps | Download<br>>25 Mbps | Download<br>>50 Mbps | Download<br>>100 Mbps |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Allendale             | 77.0%               | 76.5%               | 52.8%                | 17.7%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Bamberg               | 76.7%               | 75.3%               | 44.5%                | 6.4%                 | 1.0%                 | 1.0%                  |
| Barnwell              | 83.0%               | 81.3%               | 41.8%                | 16.0%                | 0.2%                 | 0.2%                  |
| Colleton              | 99.9%               | 99.9%               | 99.9%                | 46.8%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Hampton               | 79.8%               | 75.6%               | 70.1%                | 52.4%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Jasper                | 89.7%               | 88.6%               | 85.6%                | 73.3%                | 64.3%                | 0.25                  |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>95.2%</i>        | <i>94.9%</i>        | <i>92.2%</i>         | <i>84.9%</i>         | <i>82.5%</i>         | <i>42.0%</i>          |

Sources: NTIA, FCC, National Broadband Map

### Broadband Availability by Download Speed (Wireless) 2014

|                       | Download<br>>3 Mbps | Download<br>>6 Mbps | Download<br>>10 Mbps | Download<br>>25 Mbps | Download<br>>50 Mbps | Download<br>>100 Mbps |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Allendale             | 96.0%               | 95.6%               | 95.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Bamberg               | 99.9%               | 99.7%               | 99.7%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Barnwell              | 100.0%              | 99.8%               | 99.8%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Colleton              | 100.0%              | 99.9%               | 99.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Hampton               | 99.8%               | 98.9%               | 98.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| Jasper                | 99.5%               | 99.5%               | 98.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>99.6%</i>        | <i>98.7%</i>        | <i>98.7%</i>         | <i>0.1%</i>          | <i>0.0%</i>          | <i>0.0%</i>           |

Sources: NTIA, FCC, National Broadband Map.

### Broadband Availability by Upload Speed (Wire line) 2014

|                       | Upload<br>>768<br>kbps | Upload<br>>1.5<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>3<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>6<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>10<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>25<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>50<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>100<br>Mbps |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Allendale             | 76.5%                  | 22.4%                  | 17.7%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Bamberg               | 75.3%                  | 8.7%                   | 8.3%                 | 1.0%                 | 1.0%                  | 1.0%                  | 1.0%                  | 1.0%                   |
| Barnwell              | 81.3%                  | 16.0%                  | 0.2%                 | 0.2%                 | 0.2%                  | 0.2%                  | 0.2%                  | 0.2%                   |
| Colleton              | 99.9%                  | 99.8%                  | 99.4%                | 0.1%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Hampton               | 83.0%                  | 54.4%                  | 37.7%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Jasper                | 91.1%                  | 74.9%                  | 65.0%                | 0.2%                 | 0.2%                  | 0.2%                  | 0.2%                  | 0.2%                   |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>95.2%</i>           | <i>89.9%</i>           | <i>87.0%</i>         | <i>31.8%</i>         | <i>30.3%</i>          | <i>8.3%</i>           | <i>6.6%</i>           | <i>6.6%</i>            |

Sources: NTIA, FCC, National Broadband Map.

**Broadband Availability by Upload Speed (Wireless) 2014**

|                       | Upload<br>>768<br>kbps | Upload<br>>1.5<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>3<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>6<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>10<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>25<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>50<br>Mbps | Upload<br>>100<br>Mbps |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Allendale             | 96.0%                  | 96.0%                  | 95.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Bamberg               | 99.9%                  | 99.9%                  | 99.7%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Barnwell              | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                 | 99.8%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Colleton              | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                 | 99.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Hampton               | 99.8%                  | 99.8%                  | 98.9%                | 0.0%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| Jasper                | 99.5%                  | 99.5%                  | 98.9%                | 2.6%                 | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                  | 0.0%                   |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>99.7%</i>           | <i>99.6%</i>           | <i>98.7%</i>         | <i>56.9%</i>         | <i>0.0%</i>           | <i>0.0%</i>           | <i>0.0%</i>           | <i>0.0%</i>            |

Source: NTIA, FCC, National Broadband Map.

**Broadband ranking by technology and by speed (2014)**

|           | Technology | Speed |
|-----------|------------|-------|
| Allendale | 46         | 46    |
| Bamberg   | 40         | 38    |
| Barnwell  | 19         | 26    |
| Colleton  | 12         | 12    |
| Hampton   | 35         | 30    |
| Jasper    | 17         | 39    |

Source: NTIA, FCC, National Broadband Map.

## 8: Indicators related to crime

Data reflect that Promise Zone counties tend to be more violent than other counties in the state, but there are fewer property crimes. Some general conclusions.

- **Violent and property crimes:** Violent crime rates went down in Allendale and Bamberg counties, both of which were below the state average. The number of property crimes went down in all but Jasper County.
- **Drug-related deaths and overdoses:** During the period from 2014 to 2015, two of the Promise Zone counties – Colleton and Jasper -- had significant decreases in drug-related offenses. Data show overdose deaths went up in three counties and dropped in one.
- **Domestic violence.** This report does not include an update on domestic violence, as the last data available from the state was 2012. Future report may want to consider finding alternative sources by county for domestic violence.

### Violent and property crimes

Violent offenses are typically categorized as (murder, sexual battery, robbery, and Aggravated assault) and property crime offenses (breaking and entering, larceny, and motor vehicle theft). As shown in the chart below, crimes are presented as the number of reported offenses and as the rate of offenses per 10,000 unit of population.

In the Promise Zone counties, violent crime rates went down in Allendale and Bamberg counties, both of which were below the state average. The number of property crimes went down in all but Jasper County.

#### Violent crime rate per 10,000 people

|                       | 2014          |             | 2015                 |                    |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
|                       | # of Offenses | Rate        | # of Offenses        | Rate               |
| Allendale             | 61            | 62.1        | <b>37</b>            | <b>39.2</b>        |
| Bamberg               | 92            | 59.6        | <b>67</b>            | <b>45.0</b>        |
| Barnwell              | 146           | 65.9        | <b>181</b>           | <b>83.3</b>        |
| Colleton              | 253           | 66.9        | <b>305</b>           | <b>80.8</b>        |
| Hampton               | 115           | 56.4        | <b>157</b>           | <b>78.3</b>        |
| Jasper                | 65            | 24.3        | <b>105</b>           | <b>37.7</b>        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>24,195</i> | <i>50.7</i> | <i><b>24,236</b></i> | <i><b>49.5</b></i> |

Source: S.C. Law Enforcement Division, Crime in South Carolina Book, 2014 and 2015.

**Property crime rate per 10,000 people**

|                       | 2014           |              | 2015                  |                     |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
|                       | # of Offenses  | Rate         | # of Offenses         | Rate                |
| Allendale             | 229            | 233.2        | <b>106</b>            | <b>112.4</b>        |
| Bamberg               | 607            | 939.1        | <b>441</b>            | <b>296.4</b>        |
| Barnwell              | 953            | 430.0        | <b>832</b>            | <b>383.0</b>        |
| Colleton              | 1,655          | 425.3        | <b>1,266</b>          | <b>335.5</b>        |
| Hampton               | 645            | 316.3        | <b>551</b>            | <b>274.8</b>        |
| Jasper                | 733            | 274.4        | <b>1,062</b>          | <b>381.7</b>        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>176,923</i> | <i>370.8</i> | <i><b>164,970</b></i> | <i><b>336.9</b></i> |

Source: S.C. Law Enforcement Division, Crime in South Carolina Book, 2014 and 2015

**Drug-related crimes, deaths**

On the chart below, arrests are presented as the rate per 10,000 unit of population. During the period from 2014 to 2015, two of the Promise Zone counties – Colleton and Jasper -- had significant decreases in drug-related offenses.

**Drug/narcotic offenses**

**Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 people**

|                       | 2014          | 2015                 | # change      | % change     |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 37            | <b>39</b>            | 2             | 5.4%         |
| Bamberg               | 119           | <b>125</b>           | 6             | 5%           |
| Barnwell              | 152           | <b>171</b>           | 19            | 12.3%        |
| Colleton              | 437           | <b>278</b>           | -159          | -36.4%       |
| Hampton               | 127           | <b>151</b>           | 24            | 18.9%        |
| Jasper                | 136           | <b>114</b>           | -22           | -16.2%       |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>35,336</i> | <i><b>34,128</b></i> | <i>-1,208</i> | <i>-6.5%</i> |

Source: S.C. Law Enforcement Division, Crime in South Carolina Book, 2014 and 2015.

**Drug overdose deaths**

Drug poisoning deaths are the number of deaths per 100,000 unit of population. Data show overdose deaths went up in three counties and dropped in one. Barnwell County remained the same. No data was reported for Allendale County.



**Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 people**

|                       | 2014      | 2015             | # change | % change    |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| Allendale             | n/r       | <b>n/r</b>       | n/r      | n/r         |
| Bamberg               | 11        | <b>13</b>        | 2        | 18.2%       |
| Barnwell              | 11        | <b>11</b>        | 0        | 0           |
| Colleton              | 14        | <b>17</b>        | 3        | 21.4%       |
| Hampton               | 8         | <b>11</b>        | 3        | 37.5%       |
| Jasper                | 12        | <b>9</b>         | -3       | -25%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>12</i> | <b><i>13</i></b> | <i>1</i> | <i>8.3%</i> |

Source: County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015

## 9: Indicators related to health

The report reviews a lot of different data points which indicate health-related improvements in some areas of the Promise Zone. Some general observations:

- **County health rankings.** Health outcome rankings for Allendale, Bamberg and Hampton counties improved, while it went down slightly in Colleton and Jasper counties. Meanwhile, the counties generally ranked worse, except for Bamberg and Jasper counties, on health factors.
- **Health quality.** Remained the same in the Promise Zone counties from 2014 to 2015. A higher percentage of people, in the Promise Zone however, gave health quality a poor or fair rating, compared to the rest of the state.
- **Obesity.** In five of six Promise Zone counties, a higher percentage of people were classified as obese in 2015 compared to the year before.
- **Hypertension.** All Promise Zone counties have a higher hypertension hospitalization rate than the state. Rates, went down, however, in the 2012-14 period for Bamberg, Barnwell and Jasper counties.
- **Teen births.** During the period from 2014 to 2015, four of the Promise Zone counties – Bamberg, Barnwell, Hampton, and Jasper -- had a decrease in teen births.
- **Infant mortality.** The number of deaths of babies less than a year old dropped in three Promise Zone counties, but rose in three others.
- **Adult smoking.** Data show the adult smoking rate remained the same in the state and all Promise Zone counties.
- **Uninsured adults.** Five of six Promise Zone counties had fewer adults without health insurance in 2015 compared to the year before.

### County health rankings

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute developed two kinds of general county health rankings:

- County health outcomes are weighted measures of outcomes such as the length and quality of life, which represent how healthy a county is.
- County health factors are also weighted but focus on data that includes health behaviors, clinical care, socio-economic factors, and physical environment, which represent what influences the health of the county.

These charts highlight both types of county rankings with 1 being the highest and 46 being the lowest in the Palmetto State. The scores are only comparative inside South Carolina as the rankings don't provide absolute scores.

As can be seen below, the health outcome ranking for Allendale, Bamberg and Hampton counties improved, while it went down slightly in Colleton and Jasper counties. Meanwhile, the counties generally ranked worse, except for Bamberg and Jasper counties, on health factors.

**County Health Ranking – Health Outcomes**

|           | 2014 | 2015      |
|-----------|------|-----------|
| Allendale | 32   | <b>28</b> |
| Bamberg   | 44   | <b>41</b> |
| Barnwell  | 36   | <b>36</b> |
| Colleton  | 37   | <b>38</b> |
| Hampton   | 29   | <b>25</b> |
| Jasper    | 22   | <b>24</b> |

Source: County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.

**County Health Ranking – Health Factors**

|           | 2014 | 2015      |
|-----------|------|-----------|
| Allendale | 46   | <b>46</b> |
| Bamberg   | 29   | <b>28</b> |
| Barnwell  | 34   | <b>39</b> |
| Colleton  | 40   | <b>41</b> |
| Hampton   | 36   | <b>38</b> |
| Jasper    | 44   | <b>42</b> |

Source: County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015

**Quality of health**

The County Health Rankings measures data from a self-reported survey that asks in general about a person's health condition. As shown in the chart below, the percentage of adult respondents rated their health "fair" or "poor" in 2015 ranged between 16 percent to 25 percent within the Promise Zone counties. Jasper County in 2015 was the only county that respondents match the state average with a 16 percent rating.

**Percentage of adults who say their health is “Poor” or “Fair”**

|                       | 2014         | 2015                |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Allendale             | 25.0%        | <b>25.0%</b>        |
| Bamberg               | 22.0%        | <b>22.0%</b>        |
| Barnwell              | 22.0%        | <b>22.0%</b>        |
| Colleton              | 20.0%        | <b>20.0%</b>        |
| Hampton               | 23.0%        | <b>23.0%</b>        |
| Jasper                | 16.0%        | <b>16.0%</b>        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>16.0%</i> | <i><b>16.0%</b></i> |

Source: County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015

**Obesity**

Adult obesity is the percentage of the adult population (age 20 and older) that report a Body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30.

In five of six Promise Zone counties, a higher percentage of people were classified as obese in 2015 compared to the year before. Only in Jasper County did the percentage go down – but all counties are significantly over the state average of 32 percent.

**Percentage of adult population classified as obese**

|                       | 2014         | 2015                |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Allendale             | 37.0%        | <b>40.0%</b>        |
| Bamberg               | 42.0%        | 41.0%               |
| Barnwell              | 37.0%        | <b>39.0%</b>        |
| Colleton              | 37.0%        | <b>38.0%</b>        |
| Hampton               | 42.0%        | <b>43.0%</b>        |
| Jasper                | 42.0%        | 40.0%               |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>32.0%</i> | <i><b>32.0%</b></i> |

Source: County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.

**Hypertension**

Hypertension is defined as blood pressure above 140/90 and is considered severe if the pressure is above 180/120. The chart below shows the hypertension hospitalization rate per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries.

All Promise Zone counties have a higher hypertension hospitalization rate than the state. Rates, went down, however, in the 2012-14 period for Bamberg, Barnwell and Jasper counties.

### Hospitalization for Hypertension per 1,000

|                       | 2011-2013 | 2012-2014  |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Allendale             | 3.5       | <b>3.6</b> |
| Bamberg               | 4.0       | <b>3.6</b> |
| Barnwell              | 4.0       | <b>3.3</b> |
| Colleton              | 4.4       | <b>4.9</b> |
| Hampton               | 2.6       | <b>2.8</b> |
| Jasper                | 4.5       | <b>4</b>   |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | 2.0       | <b>2.9</b> |

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011-2013 and 2012-2014

### Teen birth rate

The chart shows the birth rate among teens age 15 to 19 per 1,000 births.

During the period from 2014 to 2015, four of the Promise Zone counties – Bamberg, Barnwell, Hampton, and Jasper -- had a decrease in teen births with Barnwell County experiencing the largest rate decrease of 13.6. Only Bamberg County in 2015 had a lower teen birth rate (15.6) than the state of 26.1.

#### Teen birth rate

|                       | 2014 | 2015        | % change |
|-----------------------|------|-------------|----------|
| Allendale             | 59.1 | <b>61.3</b> | 2.2      |
| Bamberg               | 29.2 | <b>15.6</b> | -13.6    |
| Barnwell              | 53.6 | <b>26.1</b> | -27.5    |
| Colleton              | 38.8 | <b>43.1</b> | 4.3      |
| Hampton               | 37.7 | <b>31.0</b> | -6.7     |
| Jasper                | 49.3 | <b>41.4</b> | -7.9     |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | 31.6 | <b>26.1</b> | -5.5     |

Source: Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

### Infant mortality rate

The chart shows the number of infants who died before their first birthday per 1,000 annual live births.

Infant mortality dropped in three Promise Zone counties, but rose in three others.

### Infant mortality rate

|                       | 2014       | 2015        | Change     |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Allendale             | 19.4       | <b>0.0</b>  | -19.4      |
| Bamberg               | 13.5       | <b>16.4</b> | 2.9        |
| Barnwell              | 7.5        | <b>4.0</b>  | -3.5       |
| Colleton              | 6.7        | <b>10.4</b> | 3.7        |
| Hampton               | 13.6       | <b>4.7</b>  | -8.9       |
| Jasper                | 2.6        | <b>5.6</b>  | 3.0        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>6.9</i> | <i>7.0</i>  | <i>0.1</i> |

Source: Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

### Adult smoking rate

The chart below shows the percentage of adults who are current smokers. Measuring the prevalence of tobacco use in the population can alert communities to potential adverse health outcomes. According to the data, the adult smoking rate remained the same in the state and all Promise Zone counties.

#### Percentage of adult smokers

|                       | 2014         | 2015         |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 22.0%        | 22.0%        |
| Bamberg               | 17.0%        | 17.0%        |
| Barnwell              | 21.0%        | 21.0%        |
| Colleton              | 24.0%        | 24.0%        |
| Hampton               | 19.0%        | 19.0%        |
| Jasper                | 26.0%        | 26.0%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>20.0%</i> | <i>20.0%</i> |

Source: County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.

### Uninsured adults

The chart below shows the percentage of the population over the age of 18 has no health insurance coverage. Lack of health insurance coverage is a significant barrier to accessing needed health care.

During the period from 2014 to 2015, only one of the Promise Zone counties – Bamberg County had an increase in uninsured adults and Hampton County in 2015 had a lower rate (13.2 percent) than the state at 14.5 percent.

**Percentage of uninsured adults**

|                       | 2014         | <b>2015</b>         | Change       |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Allendale             | 23.0%        | <b>18.2%</b>        | -4.8%        |
| Bamberg               | 17.9%        | <b>18.8%</b>        | 0.9%         |
| Barnwell              | 15.9%        | <b>15.4%</b>        | -0.5%        |
| Colleton              | 19.2%        | <b>18.2%</b>        | -1.0%        |
| Hampton               | 15.4%        | <b>13.2%</b>        | -2.2%        |
| Jasper                | 23.5%        | <b>20.9%</b>        | -2.6%        |
| <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>15.9%</i> | <b><i>14.5%</i></b> | <i>-1.4%</i> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015

## APPENDIX 1: Data sources chart

| DATA INDICATORS                                  | SOURCES OF DATA  |
|--|--|
| <b>Indicators of Creating Jobs</b>               |  |
| Employment                                       | S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, SC Works, Labor Force Employment and Unemployment, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Not Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="https://jobs.scworks.org">https://jobs.scworks.org</a> |
| Unemployment Rates                               | S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, SC Works, Labor Force Employment and Unemployment, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Not Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="https://jobs.scworks.org">https://jobs.scworks.org</a> |
| Labor Force                                      |  |
| Annual Weekly Wage and Annual Wage Per Employee  | U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Employment and Wages, Annual Averages, All Industries, All Establishment Sizes, 2014 and 2015.  |
| <b>Indicators of Improving Economic Activity</b> |  |
| Population and Households                        | U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, American Community Survey, Demographic and Housing Estimates, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>   |
| Business and Nonemployer Establishments          | U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts Data, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, 2015<br><a href="http://www.census.gov/quickfacts">http://www.census.gov/quickfacts</a>  |
| Earnings by Place of Work                        | U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Local Area Personal Income, Interactive Tables, Economic Profiles, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://www.bea.gov/regional/index.htm">http://www.bea.gov/regional/index.htm</a>   |
| Median Household Income and Per Capita Income    | U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>   |
| Tourism Revenue                                  | S.C. Parks Recreation and Tourism, US Travel Association, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="https://www.scprt.com/research">https://www.scprt.com/research</a>  |
| <b>Indicators of Housing</b>                     |  |
| Owner Occupied and Vacancy Rate                  | U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>   |
| Homeownership and Median Home Value              |  |



| Indicators of Improving Educational Opportunities           |  |
|---|--|
| High School Graduation Rates                                | S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards">http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards</a>  |
| College and Career Readiness                                |  |
| Percentage of Students Enrolled in Post-Secondary Education |  |
| Educational Attainment                                      | U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>   |
| Per Pupil Expenditures                                      | S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office<br><a href="http://rfa.sc.gov/files/Revenue%20Per%20Pupil%20Report%20FY%202016-17.pdf">http://rfa.sc.gov/files/Revenue%20Per%20Pupil%20Report%20FY%202016-17.pdf</a>                                      |
| ACT WorkKeys  | S.C. Department of Education, School District Report Cards, 2015.<br><a href="http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards">http://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards</a>   |
| Indicators of Reducing Poverty                              |  |
| Poverty Rate  | U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>   |
| Child Poverty Rate  | Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation<br><a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/2913-children-in-poverty">http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/2913-children-in-poverty</a> |
| Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)            | U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>   |
| Food Insecurity   | Feeding America, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america">http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america</a>   |
| Child Well-Being  | Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.<br><a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#SC">http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#SC</a>  |

| Indicators of Reducing Crimes/Deaths Related to Substance Abuse |   |
|---|---|
| Violent and Property Crime Offense                              | S.C. Law Enforcement Division, Crime in South Carolina Book, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://www.sled.sc.gov/SCCrimeBooks.aspx">http://www.sled.sc.gov/SCCrimeBooks.aspx</a>  |
| Drug/Narcotic Offenses  |   |
| Drug Overdose Deaths  | County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org</a>  |
| Indicators of Improving Health                                  |   |
| County Health Rankings  | County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2014/overview">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2014/overview</a><br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2015/overview">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2015/overview</a>   |
| Poor or Fair Health   |   |
| Obesity   | County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2014/overview">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2014/overview</a><br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2015/overview">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2015/overview</a>   |
| Hypertension  | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012-2014.<br><a href="https://nccd.cdc.gov/DHDSPAtlas/Reports.aspx">https://nccd.cdc.gov/DHDSPAtlas/Reports.aspx</a>   |
| Teen Pregnancy  | Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.<br><a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5541-births-to-teens-15-to19-years-of-age-by-race?loc=42&amp;loct=5#detailed/5/6310.63126313.6322.6332.6334/false/573.869.36.868.867/13.107.133/12122">http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5541-births-to-teens-15-to19-years-of-age-by-race?loc=42&amp;loct=5#detailed/5/6310.63126313.6322.6332.6334/false/573.869.36.868.867/13.107.133/12122</a> |
| Infant Mortality Rate   | Children’s Trust of South Carolina, Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation.<br><a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#SC">http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#SC</a>   |
| Adult Smoking Rate  | County Health Ranking, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2014/overview">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2014/overview</a><br><a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2015/overview">http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2015/overview</a>   |
| Uninsured Adults  | U.S. Census Bureau, America FactFinder, American Community Survey, 2014 and 2015.<br><a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a>  |

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