

CHAPTER 1 - POPULATION ELEMENT

1.1 CURRENT POPULATION AND REGIONAL COMPARISONS

The population element includes historical trends and projections for the City and adjacent areas. The element also addresses the numbers, size, and characteristics of households, educational attainment, income, race, gender, age, and other information to consider how population affects existing conditions and the community’s potential for the future.

The City of Orangeburg population numbers from the US decennial census were reviewed to track the historical progression of the City’s residential growth. Between 1860 and 1950 the City showed an increase in over each decade from less than 1,000 to 15,322 residents at the middle of the 20th century. However during the 50’s and 60’s, the number of residents declined to 13,252 in 1970. The number rebounded to 14,033 in 1980 and then declined again over the next two decades. State population grew over each decade since 1860 with significant slow periods during the 1860s and the 1920s.

Table 1.1 provides a summary of population growth between 1980 and 2010 for the City of Orangeburg, Orangeburg County, the Columbia-Orangeburg-Newberry Consolidated Statistical Area (CSA), and the State of South Carolina. The City posted an 8 percent population rebound in the 2010 census.

Table 1.1: Regional Population and Growth Rates, 1980-2015

Population and Growth Rates, 1980-2015 - City of Orangeburg, Orangeburg County, and Surrounding Regions								
Jurisdiction	1980	1990	%Change 80-90	2000	%Change 90-00	2010	%Change 00-10	2015 (est.)*
City of Orangeburg	14,933	13,772	-7.8%	12,765	-7.3%	13,650	+6.9%	13,415
Orangeburg Urban Area	37,570	37,651	+0.0%	47,189	+0.25%			
Orangeburg County	82,276	84,803	+3.1%	91,582	+8.0%	92,501	+1.0%	91,355
Columbia-Orangeburg-Newberry CSA	549,492	666,911	+21.1%	774,706	+16.2%	897,480	+15.8%	937,794
South Carolina	3,121,820	3,489,703	+11.8%	4,012,012	+15.0%	4,625,364	+15.3%	4,896,146

Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census

*2015 Population Estimates from American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates

The 2015 population estimates in Table 1.1 are based on the “Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015”, and shows a new decline of about 47 persons per year (this is a rate of 0.34% per year). During the same period, Orangeburg County also lost population (at a rate of 0.25% per year), although South Carolina grew by more than a quarter million persons (1.2% per year).

Orangeburg is the county seat of Orangeburg County, and is located within the Lower Savannah Council of Governments region along with Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, and Calhoun Counties. Orangeburg County is defined as one of 576 micropolitan statistical areas in the United States. A micropolitan statistical area is defined as a labor market area centered on an urban area with a population at least 10,000 but less than 50,000. The County also is located immediately to the south of the Columbia Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), and is included as part of the Columbia-Newberry-Orangeburg Combined Statistical Area (CSA). The CSA includes the Columbia metropolitan area, Newberry County, and Orangeburg County. In addition, Orangeburg and Orangeburg County are located immediately to the east of the Augusta metropolitan area and to the north of the Charleston-North Charleston Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

The location of the City and County at this important location between these three regions may have significant implications regarding the growth and development of the City’s future, both attracting and siphoning off different elements of the City’s growth. Table 1.2 provides a review of population growth for the three Council of Government (COG) regions surrounding Orangeburg County. The population for the Lower Savannah COG in the table below has been edited to exclude Orangeburg County.

Table 1.2: Population and Growth Rates, 1980-2015

Population and Growth Rates, 1980-2015 Surrounding Regions								
Region	1980	1990	%Change 80-90	2000	%Change 90-00	2010	%Change 00-10	2015 (est.)
Lower Savannah COG (excl. Orangeburg Co.)	166,518	182,610	9.7%	209,084	14.5%	224,299	7.3%	226,648
Central Midlands COG	455,010	508,798	11.8%	596,253	17.2%	708,359	18.8%	749,643
Berkeley Charleston Dorchester COG	430,462	506,877	17.8%	549,033	8.4%	664,607	21.1%	744,526

Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census
 *2015 Population Estimates from American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates

1.2 COMPARATIVE CITIES

Orangeburg is one of several municipalities within the LSCOG Region and across South Carolina that are of comparable size. Table 1.3 provides a comparison of nine South Carolina municipalities, including Aiken and North Augusta in the LSCOG area and Lexington and Newberry in the Columbia-Orangeburg-Newberry Consolidated Statistical Area. Each municipality has a current population over 10,000.

Table 1.3: South Carolina Municipal Growth Comparisons, 1980-2010

Jurisdiction	1980	1990	2000	2010	%Change 2000-2010	2015 (Est.)
Aiken	14,978	19,872	25,337	29,566	16.7%	30,604
Greenwood	21,613	20,807	22,071	23,222	5.2%	23,260
North Augusta	13,593	15,354	17,574	21,348	21.5%	22,300
Lexington	2,131	3,289	9,793	17,870	82.5%	20,138
Conway	10,240	9,819	11,788	17,103	45.1%	21,053
Orangeburg	14,933	13,772	12,765	13,964	9.4%	13,415
Clemson	8,118	11,096	11,939	13,905	16.5%	15,446
Gaffney	13,463	13,145	12,968	12,539	-3.4%	12,566
Newberry	9,866	10,542	10,580	10,277	-2.9%	10,331

Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial Census

Each city was well-established in 1980, yet Lexington’s population increased ten-fold between 1980 and 2015 and Conway and Aiken doubled in size, while Greenwood, Gaffney, Newberry, and Orangeburg have population totals that are about the same as 35 years before. In addition to Orangeburg, Aiken, Greenwood, Clemson, Conway, Gaffney, and Newberry include college campuses, and only Clemson and North Augusta are not the seats of county governments.

1.3 AGE DISTRIBUTION

Table 1.4 shows age distributions in Orangeburg, the State of South Carolina, and the United States between 1990 and 2010. The median age in 2010 was 27.7 in the City of Orangeburg compared to 37.9 in South Carolina and 37.2 in the U.S. as a whole. However, the population in the City has a significantly lower percentage of young persons aged 5 to 18 compared to the state and national percentiles. The lower percentages of young persons in the City may be assumed to be created by fewer families raising children and aging housing stock within the city limits. In addition, a higher proportion of college age students attending local universities in the population mix may be assumed to affect the percentiles.

Table 1.4: Age Distribution Comparisons 1990-2010

Location	Age Range	1990	2000	2010	2010 % of Total
Orangeburg	0 – 4	772	699	897	6.4%
“	5 – 18	2,534	1,559	2,639	18.9%
“	19 – 64	8,378	9,868	9,345	66.9%
“	65+	2,088	1,940	1,978	14.4%
South Carolina	0 – 4	256,337	264,679	302,297	6.5%
“	5 – 18	1,070,396	1,152,813	1,254,622	27.1%
“	19 – 64	1,763,035	2,109,187	2,436,571	52.7%
“	65+	396,935	485,333	631,874	13.7%
United States	0 – 4	18,354,443	19,175,798	20,201,362	6.5%
“	5 – 18	71,987,755	80,261,468	84,652,193	27.4%
“	19 – 64	127,125,844	146,992,887	163,623,999	53.0%
“	65+	31,241,831	34,991,753	40,267,984	13.1%

Source: U.S. Census

The City has a slightly higher proportion of persons aged 65 or older than South Carolina or the US, and the senior population (65 and older) is 14.4% of the population compared to the statewide and national levels (13.7% and 13.0% respectively).

Table 1.5 shows the City’s age distribution in greater detail between 2000 and 2010.

The largest growth in age cohorts between 2000 and 2010 in Orangeburg were among young children aged 0-4 years (+28.5%) and older adults aged 55-59 years (+39.1%) and 60-65 (+51%).

Although the percentage of preschool age children increased and the cohorts representing school age children also increased less dramatically, there was a decline in the cohort representing typical parental ages (20-44). In contrast, the age cohorts between 25 and 54 years decreased substantially in percentages. Additional analysis may be able to identify a generational link between these two groups associated with housing availability preferred by households of the two generations within the cohorts.

Table 1.5: Detailed Age Distribution 2000-2010, City of Orangeburg

Age	2000		2010		% Change 00-10
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	
Under 5	699	5.5%	897	6.4%	28.3%
5 to 9	612	4.8%	696	5.0%	13.7%
10 to 14	580	4.5%	645	4.6%	11.2%
15 to 19	1669	13.9%	1,715	12.3%	2.8%
20 to 24	2343	18.4%	2,276	16.3%	-2.9%
25 to 34	1402	11.0%	959	6.9%	-46.2%
35 to 44	1285	10.1%	610	5.3%	-110.7%
45 to 54	1251	9.8%	735	5.3%	-70.2%
55 to 59	527	4.1%	733	5.2%	39.1%
60 to 64	458	3.6%	692	5.0%	51.1%
65 to 74	908	7.1%	590	4.2%	-53.9%
75 to 84	757	5.9%	761	5.5%	0.5%
85+	274	2.1%	627	4.5%	128.8%
Total	12,765	100.0%	13,964	100.0%	9.4%

Source: U.S. Census

1.4 HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

Table 1.6 provides a breakdown of households by type in Orangeburg, Orangeburg County, and the state. The percentage of family households within the City is significantly less than the County or the State (about 10%), and the number of female-head household with children is nearly 10% higher than the state as a whole. The table illustrates the challenges faced by many of the households located within the city.

Table 1.6: Household by Type 2017

Household Type	Orangeburg City		Orangeburg County		South Carolina	
	HH	%	HH	%	HH	%
Total households (HH)	4945	100%	35,788	100%	1,801,181	100%
Nonfamily households	2168	43.8%	12,208	34.1%	785,766	43.6%
<i>Living Alone</i>	1771	35.8%	10,362	29.0%	477,894	26.5%
Family households	2777	56.2%	23,580	65.9%	1,216,415	67.5%
<i>With related children under 18 years</i>	1453	29.4%	11,458	32.0%	583,361	32.4%
Husband-wife families	1321	26.7%	13,653	38.1%	849,959	47.2%
<i>With related children under 18 years</i>	469	9.5%	5,225	14.6%	350,288	19.4%
Female householder, no husband present families	1216	24.6%	8,042	22.5%	281,102	15.6%
<i>With related children under 18 years</i>	861	17.4%	5,236	14.6%	185,957	10.3%

Source: US Census Bureau Orangeburg Data and Demographics Profile, 2010

1.5 RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION

Table 1.7 shows the racial composition of the population of Orangeburg in 2000 and 2010. The City grew by 9.4%; however the racial percentages changed significantly with a 27.7 percent decline in the white population and a 21.7% increase in the black population. African Americans represent an increased plurality of the city’s residents, changing from 67.5% of the total in 2000 to 75% of the total population in 2010. African Americans represent approximately 62.2% of the population in the county and 27.9% of the population in the State of South Carolina.

Table 1.7: Racial Composition 2000-2010, City of Orangeburg

	2000	% of Total 2000	2010	% of Total 2010	% Change 00-10
Population of one race:	12,687	99.4%	13,052	%	+2.9%
White alone	3,801	29.8%	2,977	21.3%	-27.7%
Black or African American alone	8,618	67.5%	10,479	75.0%	+21.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	17	0.1%	25	0.2%	+47.1%
Asian alone	145	1.1%	231	1.2%	+59.3%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander alone	5	>0.1%	7	0.1%	+40.0%
Some other race alone	101	0.8%	93	0.7%	-8.6%
Two or more races:	78	0.6%	152	1.1%	+94.9%
TOTAL	12,765	100.0%	13,964	100.0%	+9.4%
Hispanic or Latino	165	1.3%	266	1.9%	+61.2%

Source: US Census

For the purposes of census demographics, Hispanic or Latino origin is considered an ethnicity rather than a race. Therefore, Hispanic ethnicity is tabulated independently of race, with crosstabs available for more detailed analysis. Mirroring national trends, the Hispanic population in Orangeburg is small. However and represents less than 2% of the total population. However, it increased by 61.2% between 2000 and 2010. The Hispanic population represents an increase in a group of largely non-English speaking workers and residents

Although the census tracts extend across city limits lines, Table 1.8 below illustrates that the black population forms a higher percentage within the city, and although the white population in the other portions of the county is larger, it is still a significant minority at just below 60%.

Table 1.8: Racial Composition by 2010 Census Tract, Orangeburg Urban Area

Census Tract	2010	White Population 2010		Black Population 2010		Other Race 2010		Two or More Races 2010	
	Total	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Orangeburg City	13,964	2,977	21.3%	10,479	75.0%	381	2.7%	152	1.1%
Outside the City in Orangeburg County	78,537	28,793	36.7%	47,056	59.9%	1,719	2.2%	944	1.2%
Total Orangeburg County	92,501	31,770	34.3%	57,535	62.2%	2,100	2.3%	1,096	1.2%

Note: These population statistics include some unincorporated areas which fall outside the limits of the City of Orangeburg
 Source: US Census

1.6 INCOME AND EDUCATION

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Household income and poverty status are crucial factors affecting the quality of life for people in the City of Orangeburg. Table 1.9 below shows the distribution of household income in the Orangeburg according to the Census Bureau’s 2015 American Community Survey. More than 40% of the city’s households have an income of less than \$25,000, and more than 15% of households have an income less than \$10,000. At the other end of the spectrum, only 8.3% of households have an income above \$100,000.

Table 1.9: Household Income Distribution 2015, City of Orangeburg

Income	Households	%
Less than \$10,000	746	16.4%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	514	11.3%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	710	15.6%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	555	12.2%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	478	10.5%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	851	18.7%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	323	7.1%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	314	6.9%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	45	1.0%
\$200,000 or more	18	0.4%
Total	4,549	100.0%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

A comparison between median household income in the City of Orangeburg, in Orangeburg County, and in the State of South Carolina is provided by Table 1.10. The table shows the 2015 median household income in the City was almost \$15,000 (33%) lower than the County and the state.

Table 1.10: Median Per Capita and Household Incomes 1999-2015, Orangeburg City, County, and State of South Carolina

Planning Area	Median Per Capita Income			Median Household Income		
	1999	2015	% Change (99-15)	1999	2015	% Change (99-15)
City of Orangeburg	\$15,263	\$15,543	+1.8%	\$37,008	\$30,552	-21.3%
Orangeburg County	\$15,057	\$16,356	+8.6%	\$36,135	\$45,457	+25.8%
South Carolina	\$18,795	\$24,604	+30.9%	\$44,227	\$45,483	+2.8%

Source: American Community Survey One Year Estimates, 2015

*Inflation Adjusted to 2015 Dollars

POVERTY

Poverty rates are another important measure of income relative to average expenses and the consumer price index. In 2015, the poverty rate for individuals within the City of Orangeburg was 30.4%, compared to 23.5% in the County, and 18.6% in the State of South Carolina as a whole.

EDUCATION

Table 1.11 reports educational attainment in Orangeburg, Orangeburg County, and the State of South Carolina for population over the age of 25. The percentage of college graduates (over age 25) in the City of Orangeburg is more than 29%, compared to 19% in the County, and less than 26% in the State. The percentage of college degrees within the City is similar to the national average, and is considered due to the local presence of the universities and colleges in and near the City. However, the City has a higher proportion of residents without a high school diploma and Orangeburg County trails behind the City. A critical review of the table that includes consideration of the local presence of the universities within the City shows that the local education levels appear to be behind the national averages. The high proportion of adults without high school diplomas (15% in the City and 17.7% in the County) indicate that local education programs need work to support students to stay in school.

Table 1.11: Educational Attainment, City of Orangeburg

Education Level Attainment	No High School Diploma		High School Graduate (or Equivalency)		Some College		Bachelors Degree or Higher		Total Population 25 and Older
City of Orangeburg	1,136	15.0%	2,093	27.7%	2,084	27.6%	2,243	29.7%	7,556
Orangeburg County	10,530	17.7%	20,677	34.8%	16,778	28.2%	11,493	19.3%	59,478
South Carolina	463,330	14.4%	955,658	29.8%	961,489	30.0%	829,540	25.8%	3,210,007
United States	28,229,094	13.3%	58,722,578	27.8%	61,558,628	29.1%	62,952,272	29.8%	211,462,522

Source: U.S. Census,

1.7 PROJECTIONS

REGIONAL PROJECTIONS

Table 1.12 lists population projections for Orangeburg County, the surrounding counties, and the State of South Carolina provided by the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. Projections for 2030 and 2035 were created in 2006. The projections for 2020-2030 were revised in 2015 using the 2010 census. The numbers for 2030 include the more recent projections in the on the upper line in each cell and the older projections below.

Table 1.12: Regional Population Projections

Area	2000 Census	2010 Census	2015 Projection	2020 Projection	2025 Projection	2030 Projection	2035 Projection
Orangeburg County	91,582	92,501	92,800	93,000	93,500	94,100 100,700	102,890
Lexington County	216,014	262,391	277,100	291,800	312,500	333,200 333,180	352,590
Calhoun County	15,185	15,175	15,200	15,200	15,100	15,100 17,980	18,640
Aiken County	142,552	160,099	165,500	171,200	176,800	182,500 196,500	206,020
Barnwell County	23,478	22,621	22,400	22,200	22,100	22,000 27,190	28,070
Bamberg County	16,658	15,987	15,800	15,700	15,400	15,200 13,560	13,110
Berkeley County	142,651	177,843	187,800	197,700	208,400	219,100 214,140	225,010
Dorchester County	96,413	136,555	152,000	167,400	178,800	190,200 170,210	180,580
South Carolina	4,012,012	4,625,364	4,823,200	5,020,800	5,235,500	5,451,700 5,488,460	5,722,720

Source: South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

The two projections provide a range for considering population changes as the community moves forward. The newer projections for reduced the statewide total and reallocated the projections into each county and may be considered more conservative. The projections for Orangeburg County in 2030 show a range of about 7% variance between the two projections.

An aggressive assumption provides a potential population for the County of nearly 103,000 Orangeburg County residents in 2035 (a growth of about 8.5%). The lower projections may be assumed to represent a more moderate population growth of approximately 11.2% between 2010 and 2035, and a more moderate assumption may assume that growth may be about 2100 persons over the 20-year period to approximately 94,635 (2.3%).

The State of South Carolina is projected to grow to 5,722,720 by 2035 (approximately 23.7%) during the 25 year period. These numbers reflect the growing appeal of South Carolina as a place to reside.

CITY OF ORANGEBURG PROJECTIONS

Population projections are usually built on a model that provides a continuation of past growth. However, the City of Orangeburg has lost population since 1980 albeit some recoveries were made in the first decade on this century (2000-2010). Unfortunately, much of that growth was lost with the recession of 2007 to 2012. Table 1.13 illustrates several population growth methods to represent a range of possible outcomes. Each scenario applies different assumptions. The appropriate projection depends on the strength of these assumptions and modifiers that may change the equations. The “share-based” or “step-down” projection assumes that the city will grow proportionally to the growth of the County as a whole. The constant share projection uses the LSCOG County projection and assumes the proportion of the city’s population will remain constant to the County.

Historic trend projection methods, such as linear average, linear regression, and exponential regression assume that the city’s population will follow a trend based on historic growth rates. These trends are calculated independently of regional and state projections. Orangeburg’s 1980-2015 population growth was used.

Table 1.13: Orangeburg Population Projections

Projection Method	2010	2015**	2020**	2025**	2030**	2035**
Constant Share (County)	13,650	13,415	13,485	13,558	13,645	14,919
Linear Regression (80-15)	13,650	13,415	13,900	14,200	14,555	15,000
Linear Average (80-15)	13,650	13,415	13,150	12,950	12,700	12,400

*American Community Survey Estimates based on current city limits

**Robert and Company Forecast

For this update to the Orangeburg Comprehensive Plan, the Linear Regression model is recommended as the best outcome for planning future population growth. The city’s population growth is expected to increase as expansion from the Columbia Metropolitan Area continues and as long as gas prices do not have a major increase or drop compared to current conditions. Growth is projected in the foreseeable future as new residents move into the urban mixed use areas at the heart of the City to take advantage of pedestrian “walkability” and proximity to cultural resources. These population projections are limited to the existing land area of the city. However, the City’s management of public water, sewer, gas, and electric utilities can be expected to serve as an attractive resource for developing areas at the edge of the City and

should be used to create an advantage for annexation of newly developing areas. Some of these areas may be expected to have residential components that will also provide growth of the City’s future population over time.

1.8 POPULATION GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL	POLICY	ACTION	STATUS
Improve planning efforts to consider impacts on local population.	Promote coordination with regional and State of South Carolina planning for distribution of population	Participate in joint planning efforts with LSCOG and the County	Continuing...
	Manage City utilities to support population growth within the City of Orangeburg boundaries	Consider residential development opportunities at the edge of the City	

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