

# STUDENT POVERTY

*This Fact Sheet provides three rankings of poverty:*

1. *South Carolina school districts by poverty index.*
2. *Schools in Greenville County Schools by poverty index.*
3. *Schools in Greenville County Schools by number of homeless students.*

## PERCENT IN POVERTY

## SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICTS

According to Kids Count, 23% of the children in South Carolina in 2018 lived in poverty - the 7<sup>th</sup> highest child poverty rate among the 50 states. Using the federal poverty definition, in 2018 a family of two adults and two children fell in the poverty category if their annual income fell below \$25,465.

*(Kids Count, The Annie E. Casey Foundation)*

As shown to the right, the South Carolina Department of Education uses a different measure of poverty for school districts and schools. By this measure 62% of students in public schools in the state in school year 2018-19 lived in poverty. More than half of the 83 districts in the state had a poverty index above 70%, and 95% of districts had a rate at or above 50%.

### Measuring Poverty

The South Carolina Department of Education's measure of poverty is the poverty index. It is the percentage of students who are transient, in foster care, homeless, or have been Medicaid-eligible or qualified for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) services within the last three years.

*(S.C. Education Oversight Commission)*

**Table 1: Poverty Index by School District in South Carolina**

School Year 2018-19

Pov. Level	School District	Pov. Index	Pov. Level	School District	Pov. Index
<b>90 - 99</b>	ALLENDALE	94.2		LEXINGTON 03	71.5
	DILLON 04	93.3		DILLON 03	71.4
	FLORENCE 04	92.6		NEWBERRY	71.1
	BAMBERG 02	92.6		SPARTANBURG 03	71.0
	CLARENDON 01	92.1			
	BARNWELL 19	91.5	<b>60 - 69</b>	FLORENCE 05	69.9
	HAMPTON 02	91.5		ABBEVILLE	69.0
	MARION 10	91.4		GEORGETOWN	68.2
	LEE	91.2		YORK 01	67.9
	WILLIAMSBURG	90.8		FLORENCE 01	67.9
ORANGEBURG 03	90.5	SPARTANBURG 04		67.8	
		SPARTANBURG 06		66.8	
		OCONEE		66.0	
		HORRY		65.7	
		AIKEN		65.5	
<b>80 - 89</b>	FLORENCE 03	88.8		ANDERSON 05	65.4
	JASPER	88.7		EDGEFIELD	64.7
	FAIRFIELD	86.9		ANDERSON 02	64.1
	CLARENDON 02	86.4		CLARENDON 03	63.2
	ORANGEBURG 05	86.3		GREENWOOD 52	62.2
	MARLBORO	85.0		YORK 03	61.2
	MCCORMICK	83.7		ANDERSON 04	61.2
	COLLETON	83.4		KERSHAW	60.7
	LEXINGTON 04	80.7			
<b>70 - 79</b>	LAURENS 56	79.8	<b>50 - 59</b>	PICKENS	59.9
	ORANGEBURG 04	79.4		CHARTER INST ERSKINE	58.4
	CHESTER	78.8		BEAUFORT	58.3
	BAMBERG 01	78.5		SPARTANBURG 02	58.3
	HAMPTON 01	78.5		BERKELEY	57.8
	CALHOUN	78.2		SPARTANBURG 01	57.3
	DARLINGTON	77.7		LANCASTER	55.1
	UNION	77.2		<b>GREENVILLE</b>	<b>54.5</b>
	SALUDA	76.9		RICHLAND 02	54.3
	BARNWELL 29	76.4		SPARTANBURG 05	54.1
GREENWOOD 51	76.2	CHARLESTON	52.7		
RICHLAND 01	76.1	DORCHESTER 02	51.3		
BARNWELL 45	76.0	ANDERSON 01	50.7		
LEXINGTON 02	76.0	SC PUBLIC CHARTER	50.0		
DORCHESTER 04	75.9				
CHESTERFIELD	74.9				
LAURENS 55	74.6				
SUMTER	74.4	<b>0 - 49</b>	LEXINGTON 01	44.8	
CHEROKEE	74.3		LEXINGTON 05	42.8	
GREENWOOD 50	73.5		YORK 02	35.7	
ANDERSON 03	73.3		YORK 04	21.1	
SPARTANBURG 07	72.3				
FLORENCE 02	71.9				
		<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>61.7</b>		

# PERCENT IN POVERTY GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Table 2 lists the 2018-19 poverty index for each elementary, middle and high school in Greenville County Schools from highest to lowest. The overall poverty index for the school district was 54.5.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2017, 18.6% of children under 18 in Greenville County lived in poverty. Of children ages 5 to 17, the rate was 20%. (*U.S. Census Bureau*)

**Table 2: Poverty Index by School in Greenville County Schools**

*School Year 2018-19*

Poverty Level	Elementary Schools	Poverty Index	Middle Schools	Poverty Index	High Schools	Poverty Index
<b>90-99</b>	HOLLIS ACADEMY*	94.8	TANGLEWOOD MIDDLE*	90.8		
	CHERRYDALE ELEM.*	92.9	LAKEVIEW MIDDLE*	90.2		
	WELCOME ELEM.*	92.7				
	GROVE ELEM.*	92.2				
	THOMAS E. KERNS ELEM.*	91.7				
	ALEXANDER ELEM.*	90.1				
<b>80-89</b>	MONAVIEW ELEM.*	87.8	BEREA MIDDLE*	84.5	CAROLINA ACADEMY	85.5
	SUE CLEVELAND ELEM.*	87.6				
	BEREA ELEM.*	87.0				
	WESTCLIFFE ELEM.*	84.8				
	DUNCAN CHAPEL ELEM.*	83.3				
	ARMSTRONG ELEM.*	82.5				
	E. NORTH STREET ACAD*	80.1				
<b>70-79</b>	BROOK GLENN ELEM.	79.2			BEREA HIGH	78.8
	ROBERT CASHION ELEM.*	76.2			SOUTHSIDE HIGH	73.7
	FOUNTAIN INN ELEM.	74.3				
	CHANDLER CREEK ELEM	74.2				
	SLATER MARIETTA ELEM.	73.9				
	LAKE FOREST ELEM.	73.4				
	HERITAGE ELEM.	72.3				
	CRESTVIEW ELEM.	70.8				
<b>60-69</b>	ELLEN WOODSIDE ELEM.	67.5	GREER MIDDLE	69.8	GREER HIGH	60.6
	A.J. WHITTENBURG ELEM.	65.4	WOODMONT MIDDLE	69.1		
	MITCHELL ROAD ELEM.	64.0	NORTHWEST MIDDLE	62.4		
	GREENBRIER ELEM.	62.2	BRYSON MIDDLE	61.0		

\*2019-20 Title I Schools

Poverty Level	Elementary Schools	Poverty Index	Middle Schools	Poverty Index	High Schools	Poverty Index
<b>50-59</b>	TAYLORS ELEM.	59.7	HUGHES ACADEMY	59.4	TRAVELERS REST HIGH	58.6
	MAULDIN ELEM.	58.9	SEVIER MIDDLE	57.5	GREENVILLE HIGH ACAD	52.7
	BRYSON ELEM.	57.4	NORTHWOOD MIDDLE	51.2	WOODMONT HIGH	50.2
	GATEWAY ELEM.	57.1				
	SIMPSONVILLE ELEM.	55.7				
	SKYLAND ELEM.	54.2				
	BLYTHE ACADEMY	54.2				
	SUMMIT DRIVE ELEM.	51.9				
<b>40-49</b>	TIGERVILLE ELEM.	49.5	GREENVILLE MID. ACAD.	48.9	WADE HAMPTON HIGH	45.1
	BETHEL ELEM.	46.9	LEAGUE ACADEMY	48.2	HILLCREST HIGH	44.2
	BRUSHY CREEK ELEM.	46.0	BECK ACADEMY	46.0		
	FORK SHOALS SCHOOL	45.5	STERLING SCHOOL	43.8		
	PARIS ELEM.	45.3	HILLCREST MIDDLE	43.4		
	MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEM.	44.4	PHINNIZE J. FISHER MID.	42.9		
	STERLING SCHOOL	43.8	BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE	42.8		
	WOODLAND ELEM.	43.7	RALPH CHANDLER MID.	41.8		
	SARA COLLINS ELEM.	43.6	MAULDIN MIDDLE	40.3		
	PLAIN ELEM.	42.7				
<b>0 - 39</b>	RUDOLPH GORDON ELEM	32.7	RIVERSIDE MIDDLE	29.8	BLUE RIDGE HIGH	38.4
	STONE ACADEMY	30.1	LANGSTON CHARTER MID	8.4	J. L. MANN HIGH ACAD.	36.2
	BUENA VISTA ELEM.	29.6			EASTSIDE HIGH	34.1
	PELHAM ROAD ELEM.	28.2			MAULDIN HIGH	32.5
	BELL'S CROSSING ELEM.	28.1			RIVERSIDE HIGH	24.3
	MONARCH ELEM.	25.8				
	OAKVIEW ELEM.	22.2				
	AUGUSTA CIRCLE ELEM.	11.2				

Source: "2019 Poverty Index," SC School Report Card. (online: <https://screportcards.com>).

# HOMELESSNESS

# GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

More than 1,100 students in Greenville County Schools were homeless in 2018-19 (not including child development centers). This equals 1.5% of the total number of students and is the highest level of homelessness over the last eight years. Table 3 lists, for each school in Greenville County Schools, the number of homeless in 2018-19 and an average for the prior three years. (*Greenville County Schools*)

Using the most recent data, there were 14,140 homeless students in South Carolina in 2015-16. This was 1.9% of the total number of public school students in the state. (*National Center for Education Statistics*)

**Table 3: Number of Homeless Students by School in Greenville County Schools**

*School Year 2018-19 and Average for Three Previous Years*

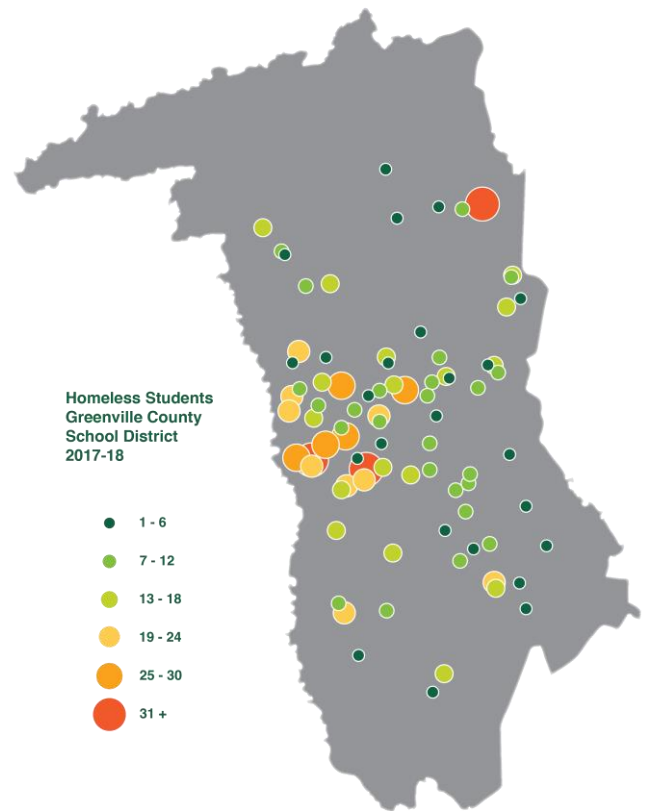
School Name	Avg. for 3 prior years	2018-19
Blythe Elem.	75	66
Wade Hampton High	9	51
Lake Forest Elem.	34	38
Simpsonville Elem.	3	37
Travelers Rest High	7	32
Carolina High	21	31
AJ Whittenberg Elem.	11	28
Plain Elem.	6	28
Mauldin Middle	10	26
Slater Marietta Elem.	12	25
Northwest Middle	7	24
Riverside High	3	22
Skyland Elem.	17	21
Grove Elem.	16	20
Hughes Middle	18	20
Rudolph Gordon Elem.	2	20
Summit Drive Elem.	2	19
Hollis Elem.	25	18
Lakeview Middle	12	18
Mauldin High	7	18
Woodmont Middle	4	18
Berea High	21	17
Hillcrest Middle	5	17

School Name	Avg. for 3 prior years	2018-19
East North Street Elem.	16	16
Greenville Middle	8	16
Cherrydale Elem.	16	15
League Middle	10	15
Northwood Middle	6	15
Buena Vista Elem.	6	14
Gateway Elem.	15	14
Greer Middle	9	14
Hillcrest High	16	14
Alexander Elem.	16	13
Brook Glenn Elem.	10	13
Sara Collins Elem.	11	13
Duncan Chapel Elem.	8	12
Greenbrier Elem.	7	12
Taylor's Elem.	2	12
Berea Elem.	9	11
Bryson Middle	14	11
Crestview Elem.	3	11
Fountain Inn Elem.	8	11
Greenville High	25	11
Tigerville Elem.	2	11
Westcliffe Elem.	11	11
Riverside Middle	14	10

School Name	Avg. for 3 prior years	2018-19
Robert E Cashion Elem.	17	10
Woodland Elem.	13	10
Beck Middle	12	9
Fork Shoals Elem.	3	9
Mauldin Elementary	12	9
Chandler Creek Elem.	12	8
Eastside High	7	8
Pelham Road Elem.	2	8
Sterling School	12	8
Armstrong Elem.	9	7
Blue Ridge High	8	7
Blue Ridge Middle	5	7
Bells Crossing Elem.	6	6
Greer High	5	6
JL Mann High	10	6
Mitchell Road Elem.	11	6
Monarch Elem.	4	6
Phinnize J. Fisher Middle	4	6
Southside High	15	6
Berea Middle	15	5
Bethel Elem.	5	5
Brushy Creek Elem.	5	5
Bryson Elem.	3	5
Heritage Elem.	2	5
Monaview Elem.	7	5
Stone Elem.	20	5
Woodmont High	8	5
Oakview Elem.	3	4
Ralph Chandler Middle	24	4
Sevier Middle	17	3
Tanglewood Middle	23	3
Thomas E Kerns Elem.	11	3
Welcome Elem.	29	3
Augusta Circle Elem.	3	2
Ellen Woodside Elem.	7	2
Sue Cleveland Elem.	7	2
Donaldson Career Ctr.	0	1
Mountain View Elem.	8	1
Paris Elem.	4	1
Langston Charter Middle	0	0
<b>Greenville Co. Schools</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>1,120</b>

Source: Homeless Education Liaison Office, Greenville Co. Schools

**Map 1: Homeless Students in Greenville County Schools** School Year 2017-18



Source: Greenville Homeless Alliance