

SC Economy and Demographics - An Update



Presented to
Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina

May 5, 2025



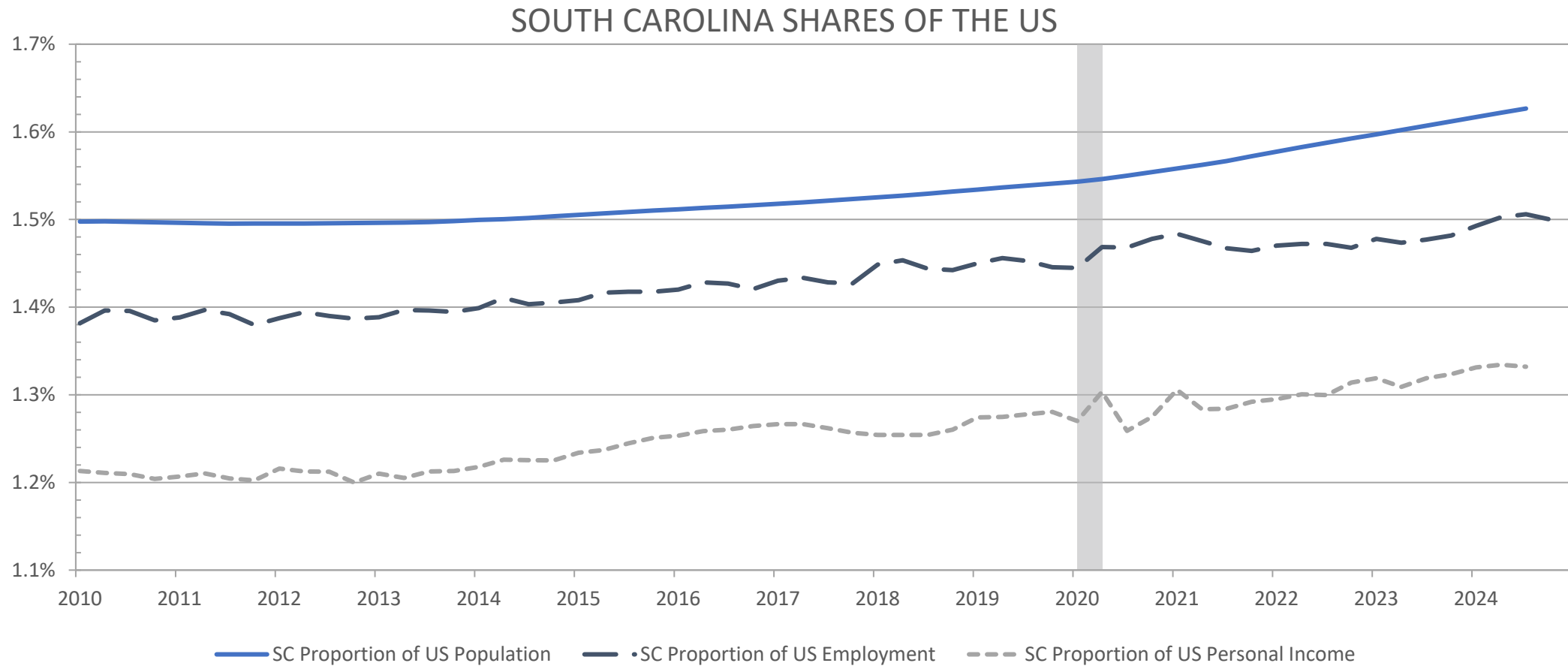
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Key Economic Factors



South Carolina Compared to the US

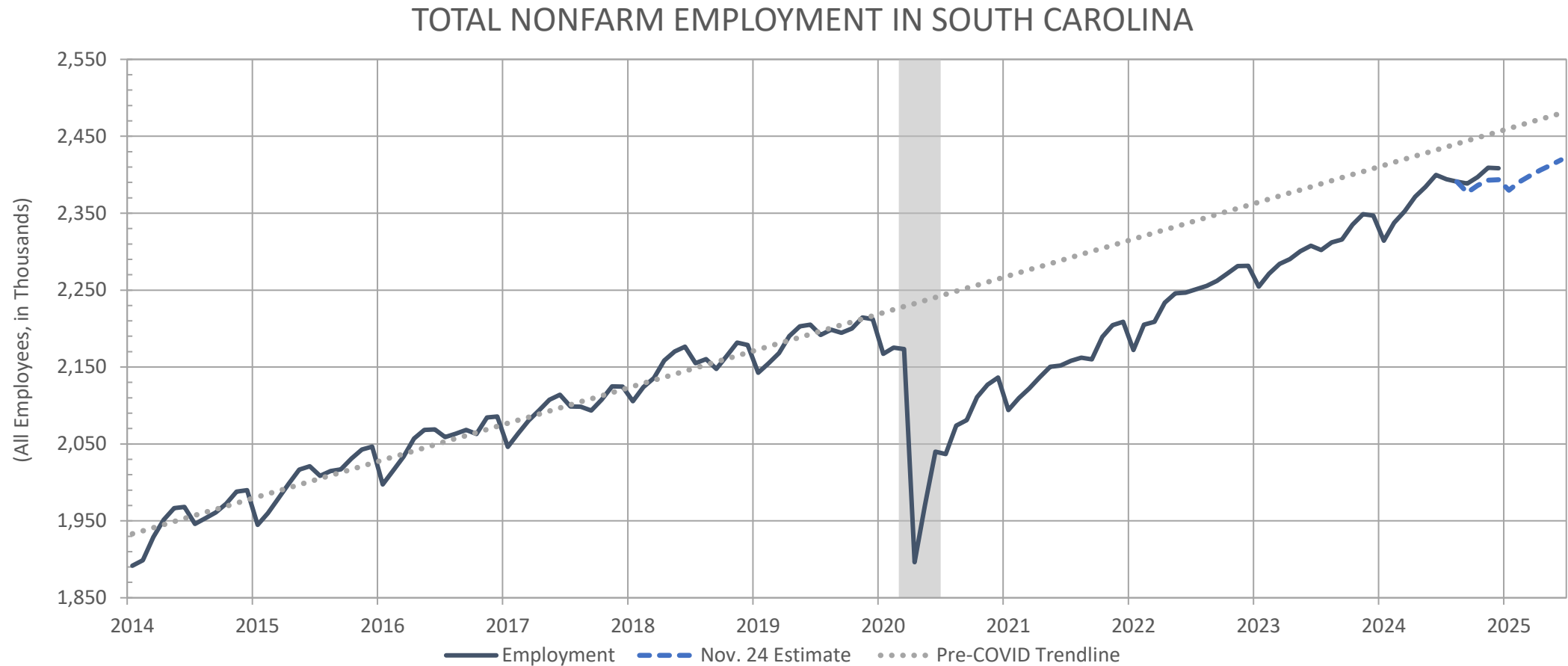
SC's shares of the total US population, employment, and personal income continue to increase



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; 344- RFA/kav/2/6/2025

SC Employment Since 2014

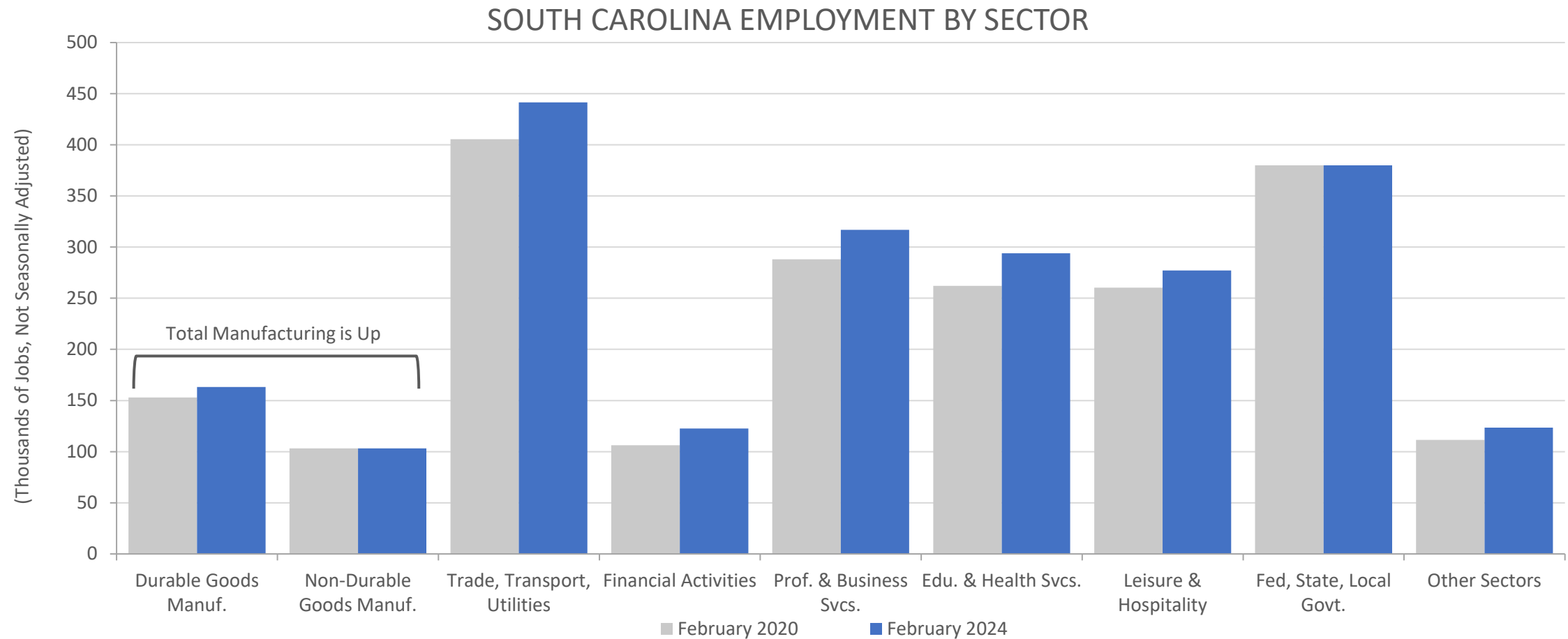
Over the long-run, employment is close to the trend prior to COVID



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics 60-RFA/kav/3/17/2025

SC Employment by Industry

All major private sector industries are above their pre-COVID level; public sector employment is even



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor 325-RFA/kav/04/09/2024

Unemployed Persons per Job Opening

Both SC and the US are experiencing more job openings than unemployed people



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPS and JOLTS; seasonally adjusted 259A2 - RFA/kv/4/10/2025

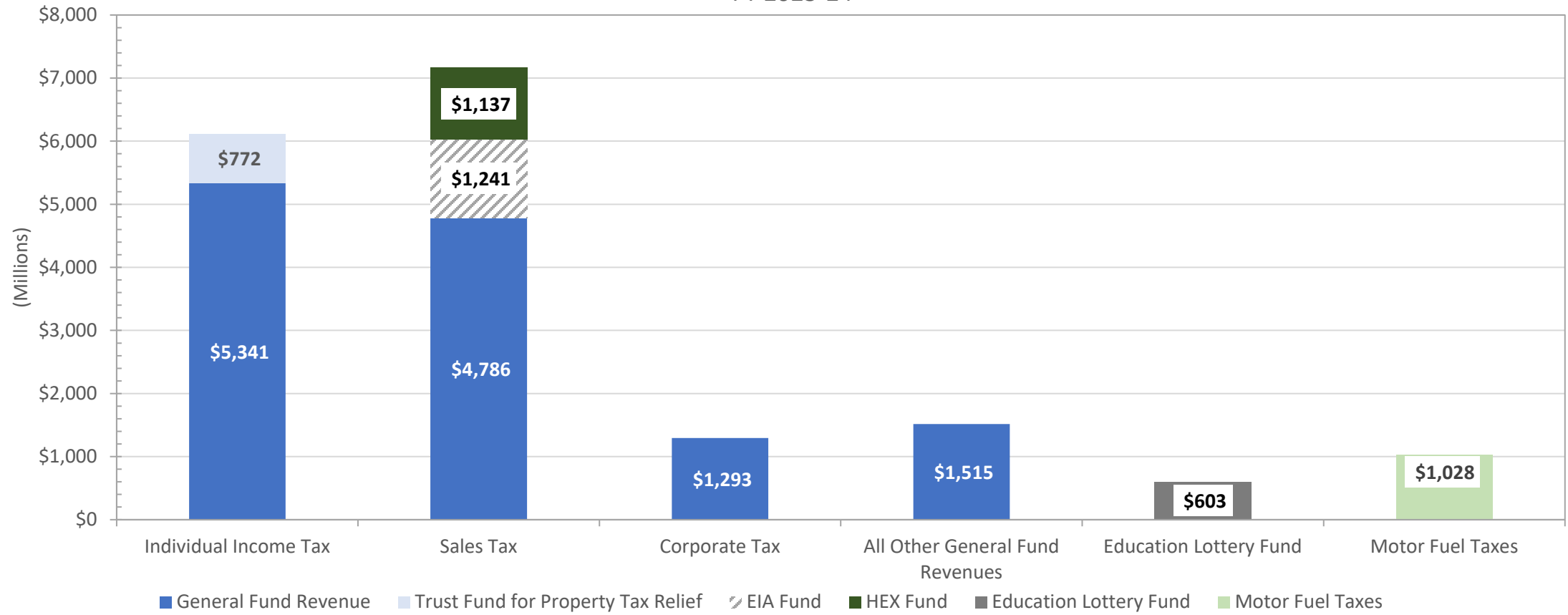
State Fiscal Issues



General Fund and Major Other Fund Revenues

After total state sales taxes, individual income tax is the second largest source of revenue for state appropriations

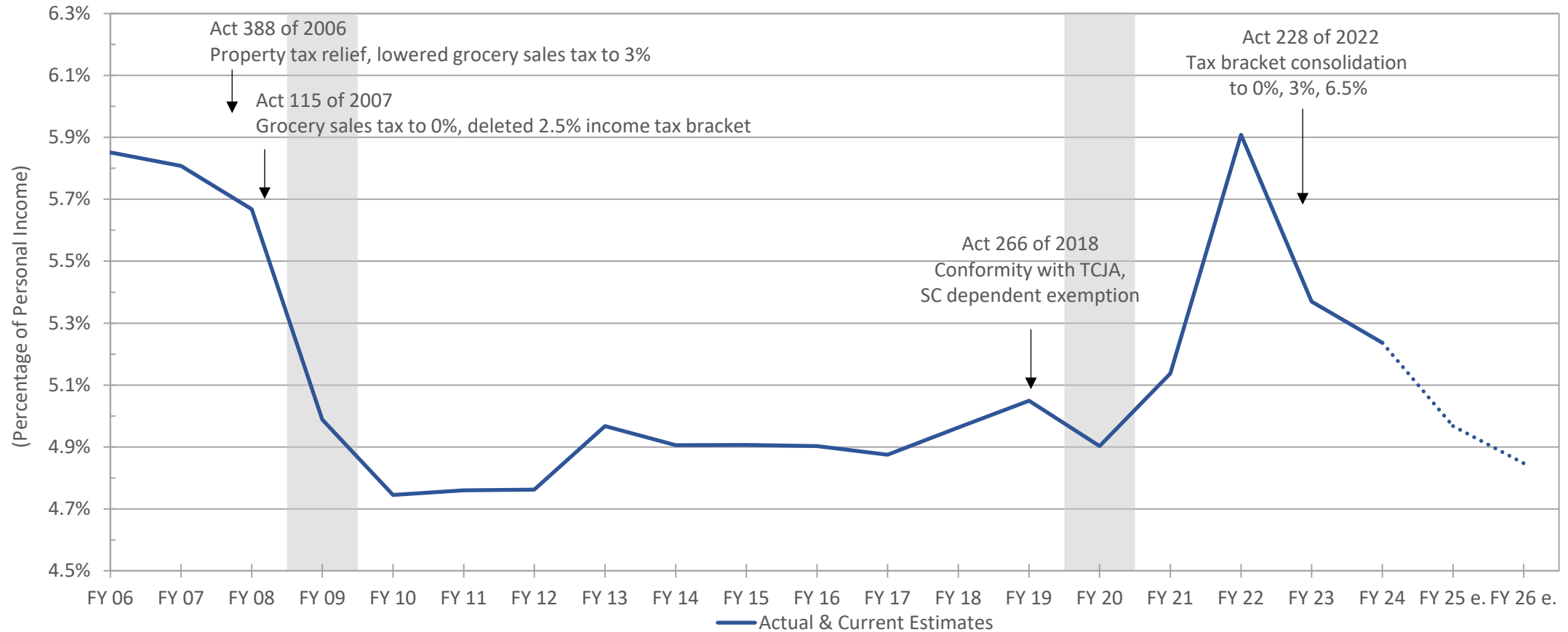
GENERAL FUND AND MAJOR OTHER FUND REVENUES
FY 2023-24



Source: SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs - 366/kv/3/26/2025

General Fund, EIA, HEX, Lottery

SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL FUND, EIA, HEX, LOTTERY REVENUE as a Percentage of Total Personal Income

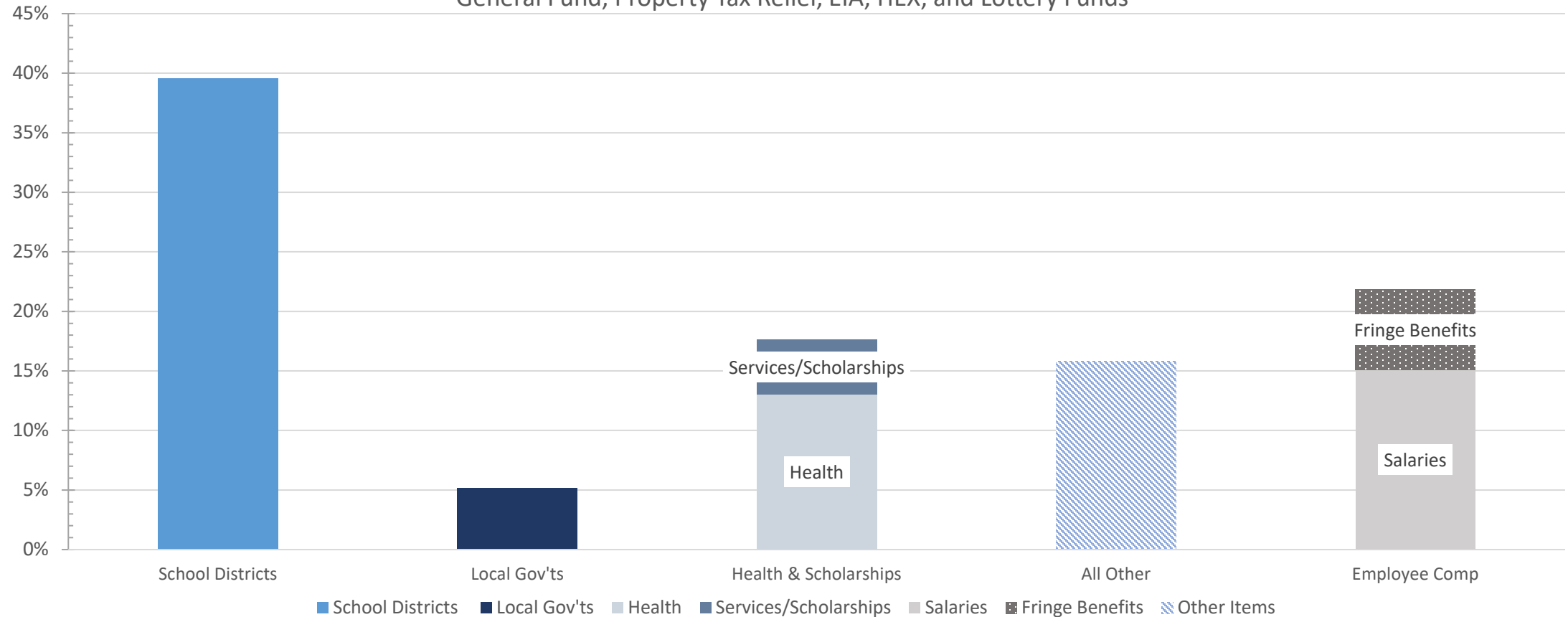


Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office 34-kv/3/27/2025

Major Recipients of Budget Allocations – FY 2024-25

Over 60% of funding items provide aid to local governments and the public

ALLOCATION OF MAJOR FUNDING SOURCES - FY 2024-25
General Fund, Property Tax Relief, EIA, HEX, and Lottery Funds

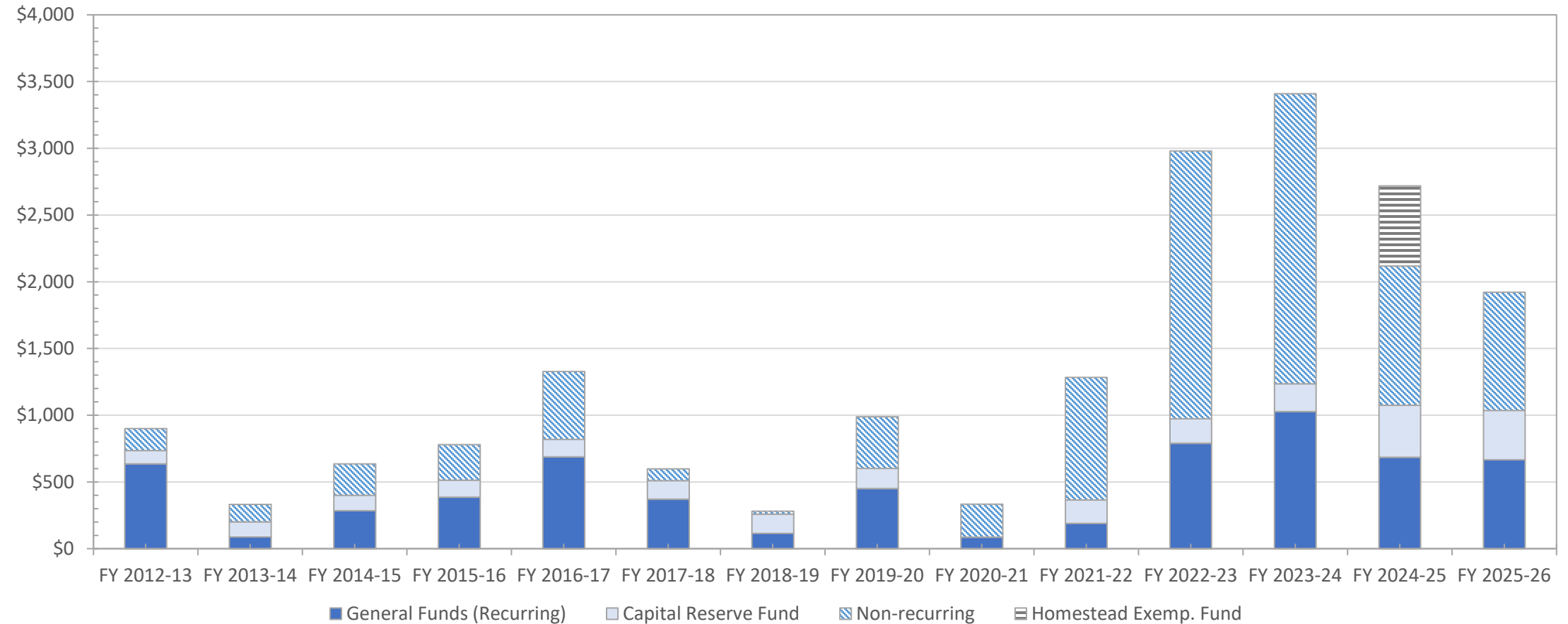


Source: SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs 175/RFA/far/03/12/2025

"New" Budget Funds by Fiscal Year

FY 26 budget funds will be much lower than recent years

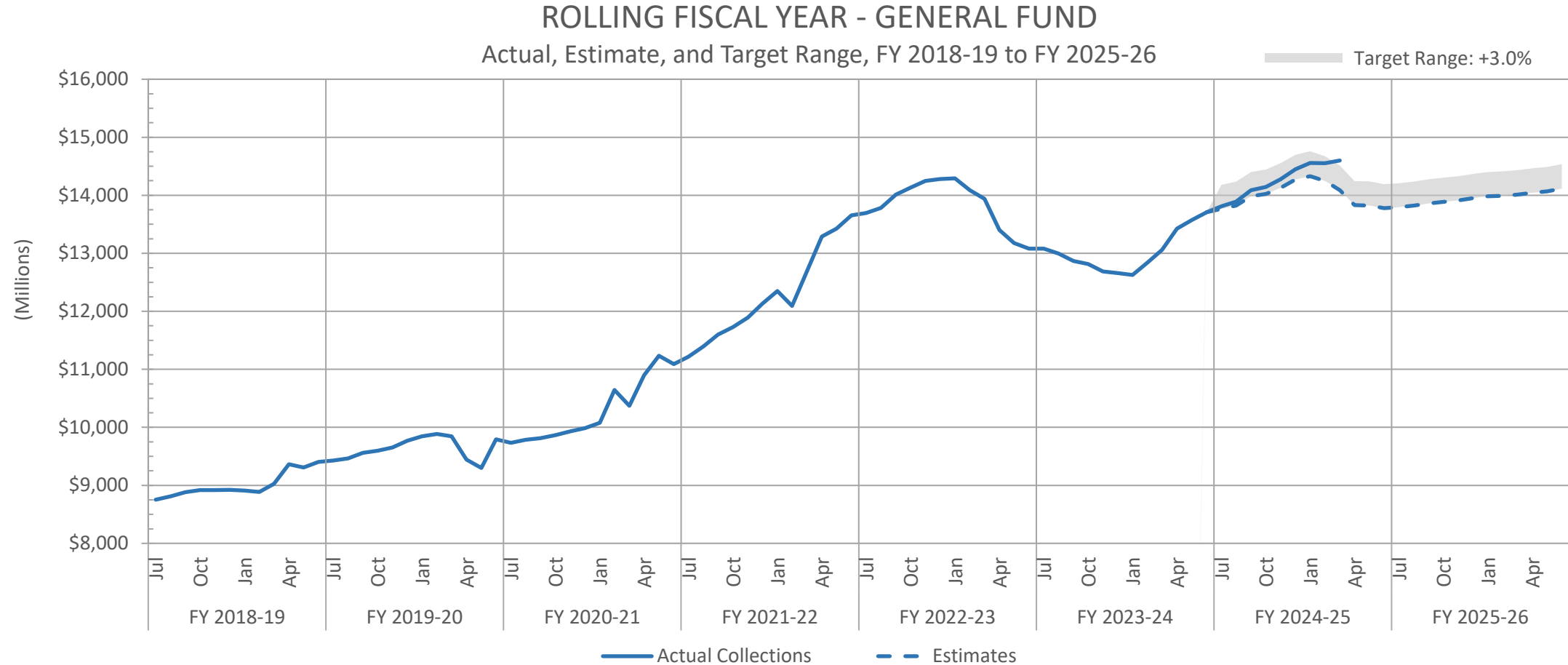
AVAILABLE "NEW" FUNDS BY BUDGET YEAR



Source: Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office 333 - lhj/2/14/25

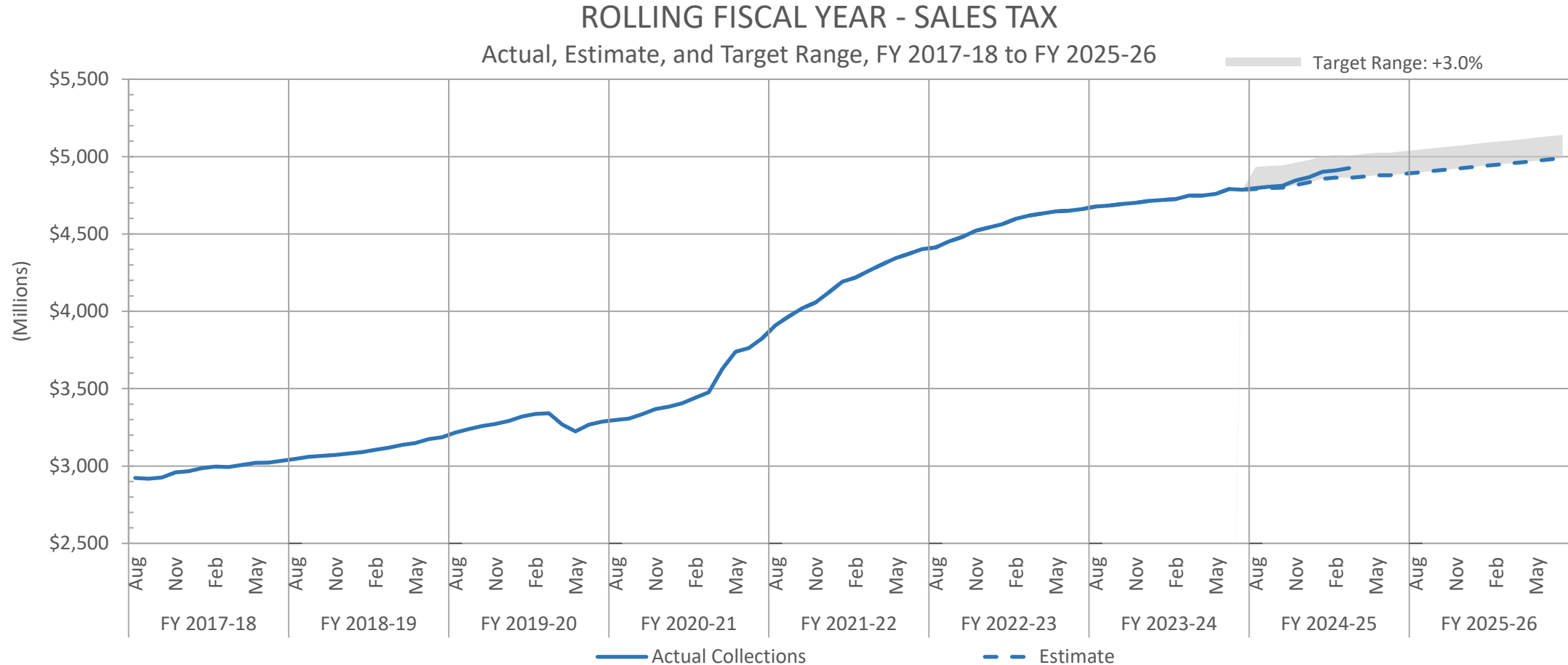
General Fund – February 2025 Estimate

Collections are 9.7% above last year and \$510.9 million ahead of year-to-date expectations through March



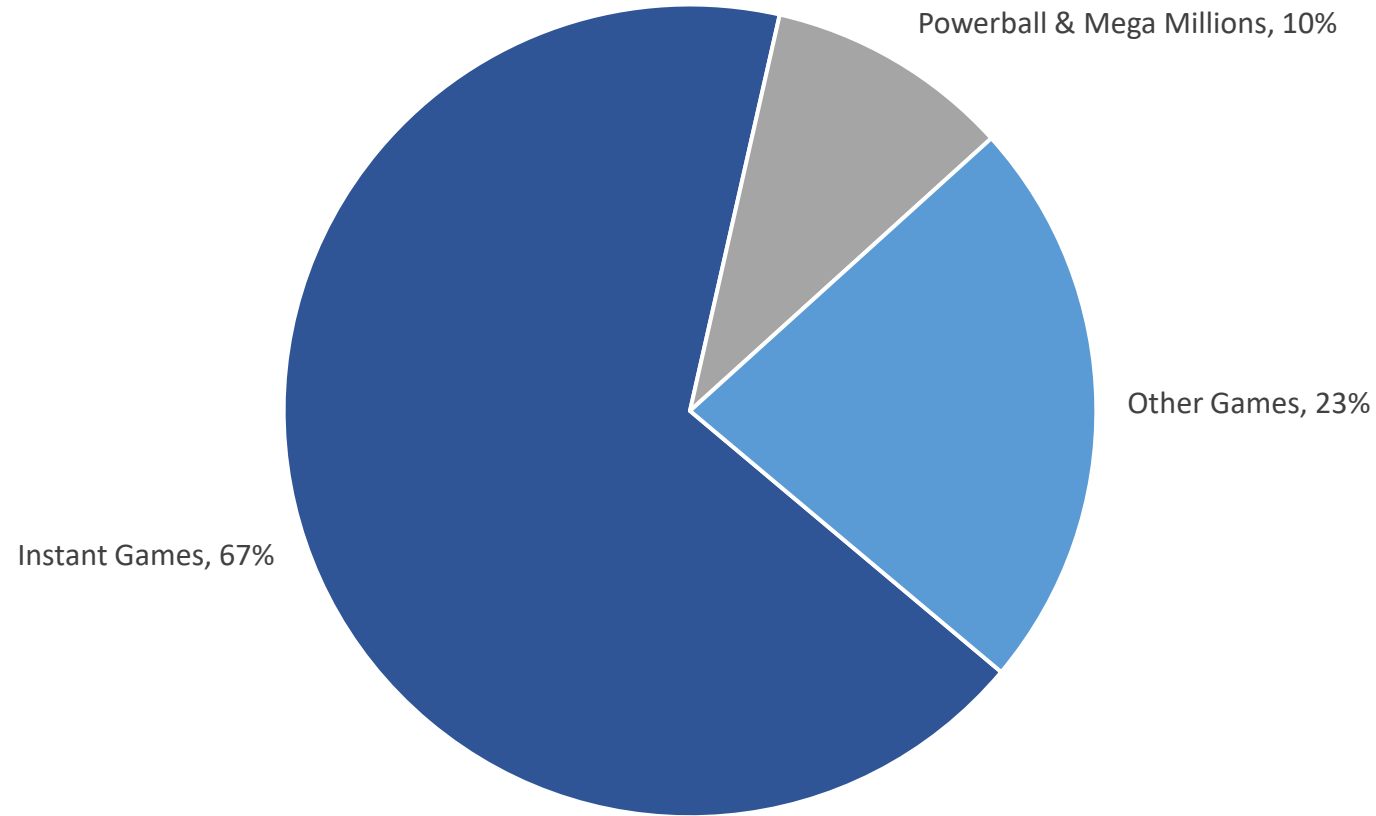
Sales Tax - Actual vs. Estimate

Growth has slowed following the pandemic run-up in collections and is expected to be 2.1% for FY 25



SC Education Lottery - Online and Instant Games

FY 2023-24 SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY SALES BY GAME TYPE

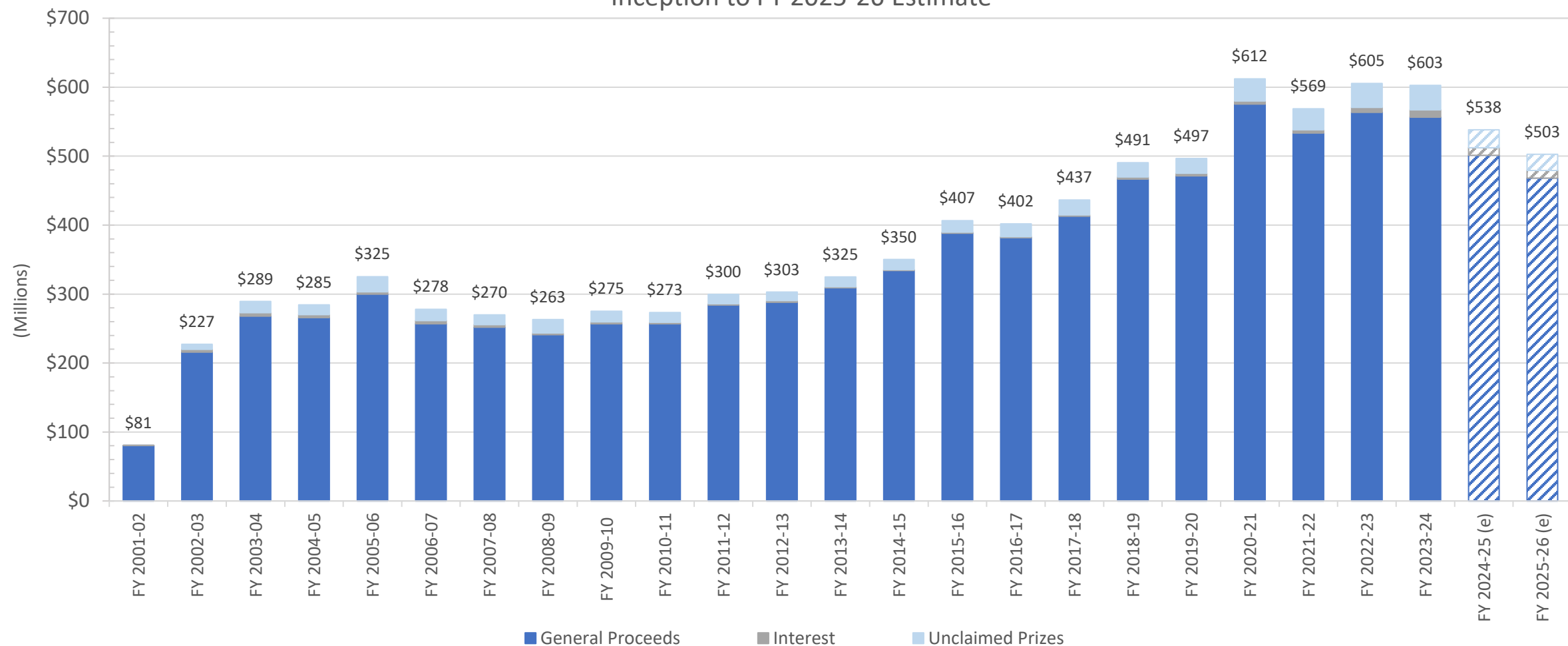


Other Games includes Cash Pop, Palmetto Cash 5, Pick 3, and Pick 4

Source: SC Education Lottery Weekly Sales by Product RFA-351/lhj/08/01/2024

SC Education Lottery Proceeds

TRANSFERS TO SC EDUCATION LOTTERY ACCOUNTS
Inception to FY 2025-26 Estimate



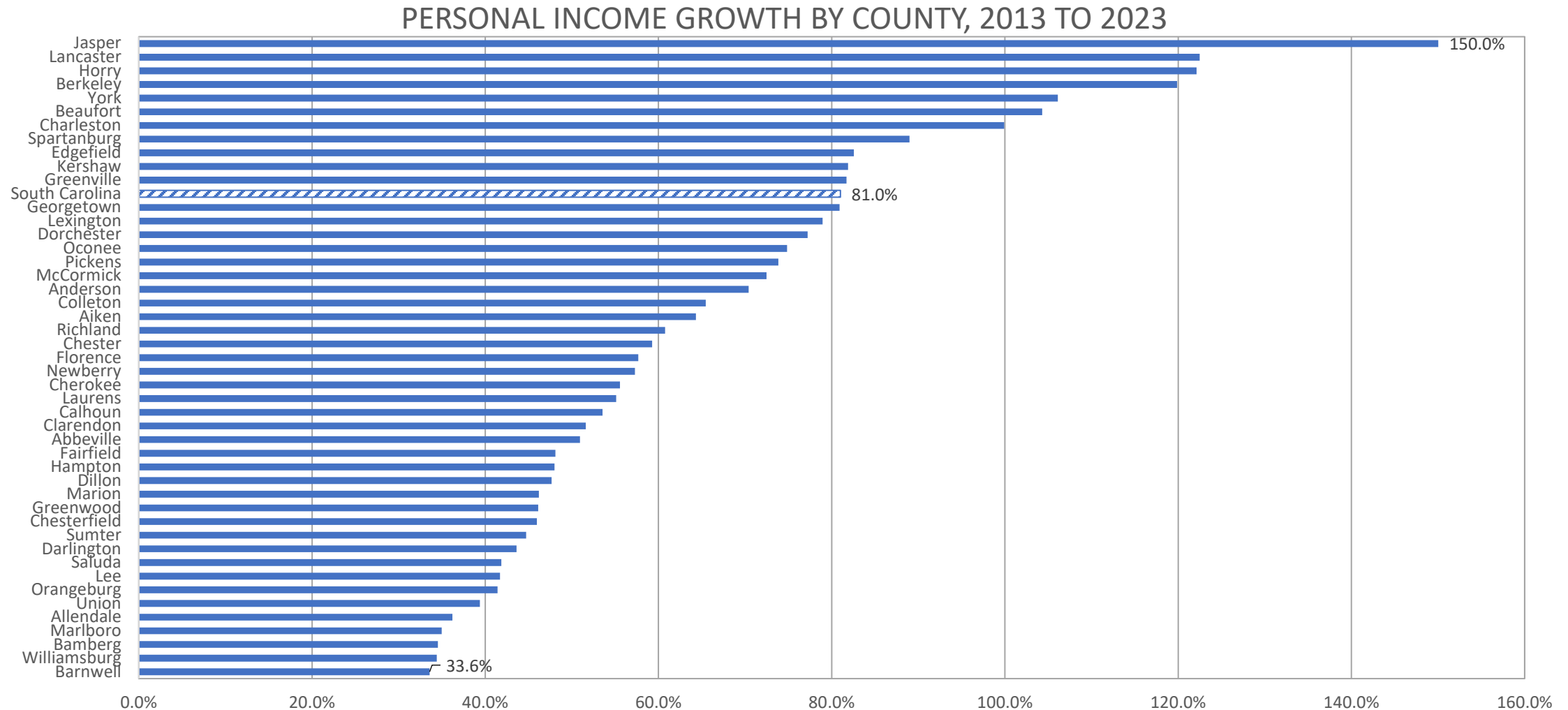
Source: South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office RFA/265/lpw/11/19/2024 Based on BEA General Fund Revenue Forecast as of November 19, 2024

Around the State



Personal Income Growth by County over the Past 10 Years

Geographic dispersion of personal income varies significantly

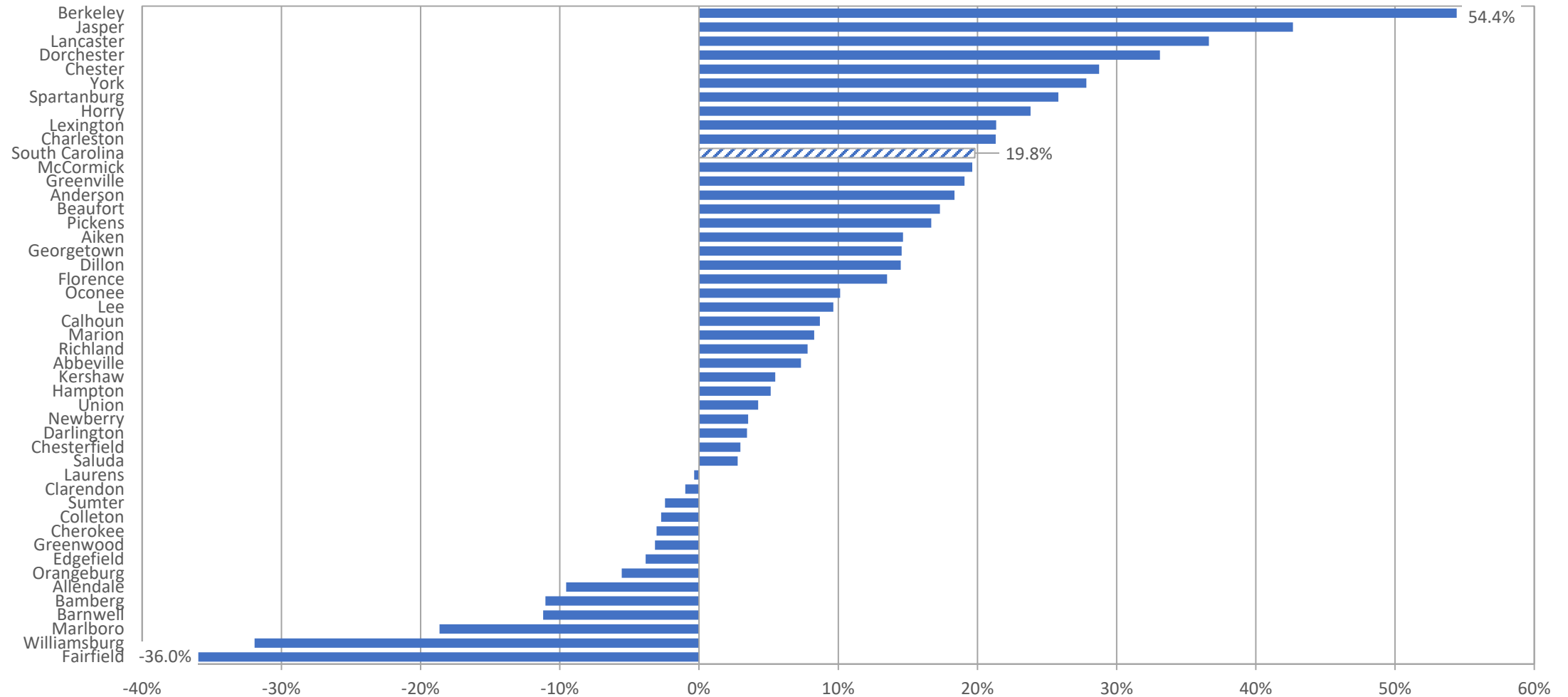


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Personal Income by County for 2013 and 2023 365-RFA/lpw/3/12/2025

Employment Growth by County over the Past 10 Years

Geographic dispersion of job growth varies significantly

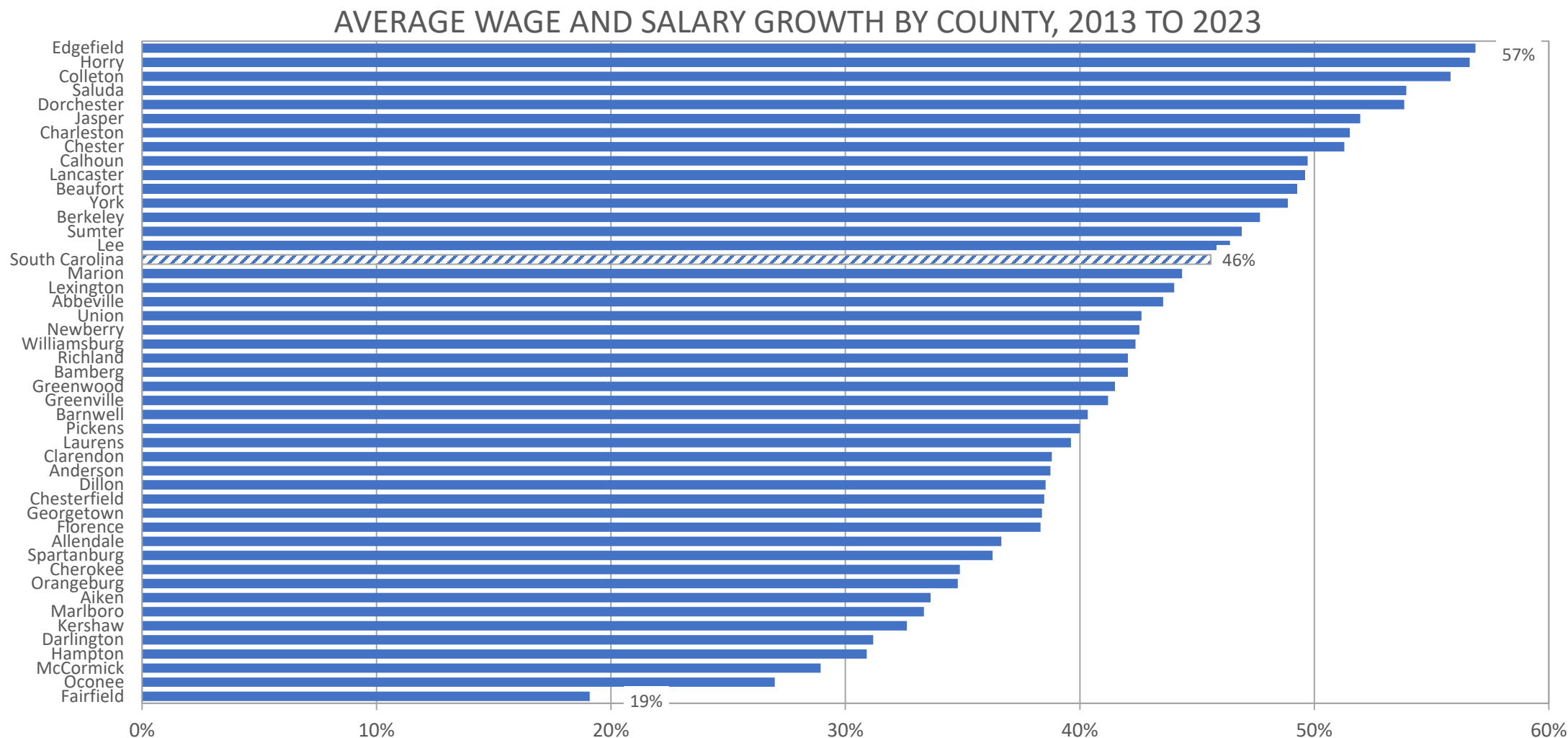
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY COUNTY, 2014 TO 2024



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; 2014 Annual Average to First Half of 2024 363-RFA/kav/2/6/2025

Average Job Wage Growth by County over the Past 10 Years

The annual wage for the average job has risen 46% statewide in the past 10 years



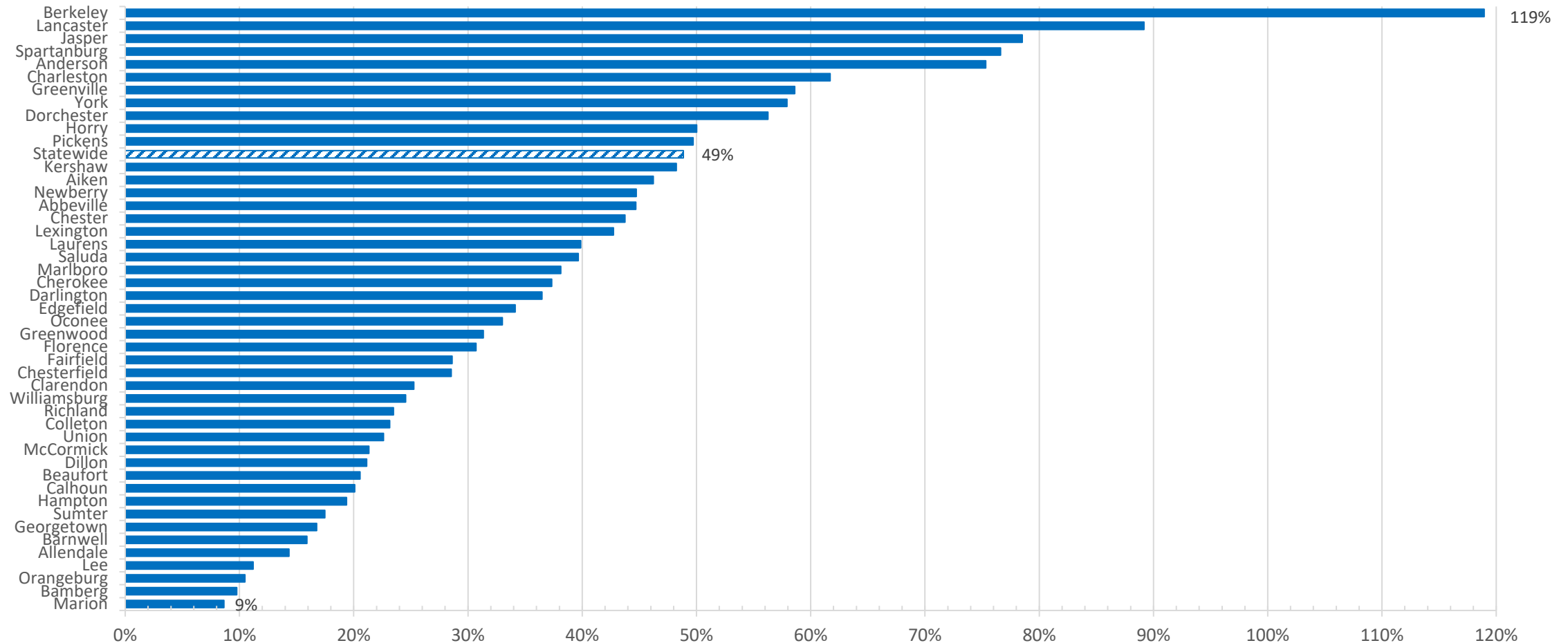
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor 363-RFA/kv/2/21/2025



Growth in Value of a Mill by County over the Past 10 Years

Growth in property values varies widely across the state

VALUE OF A MILL - GROWTH FROM TAX YEAR 2012 to 2022

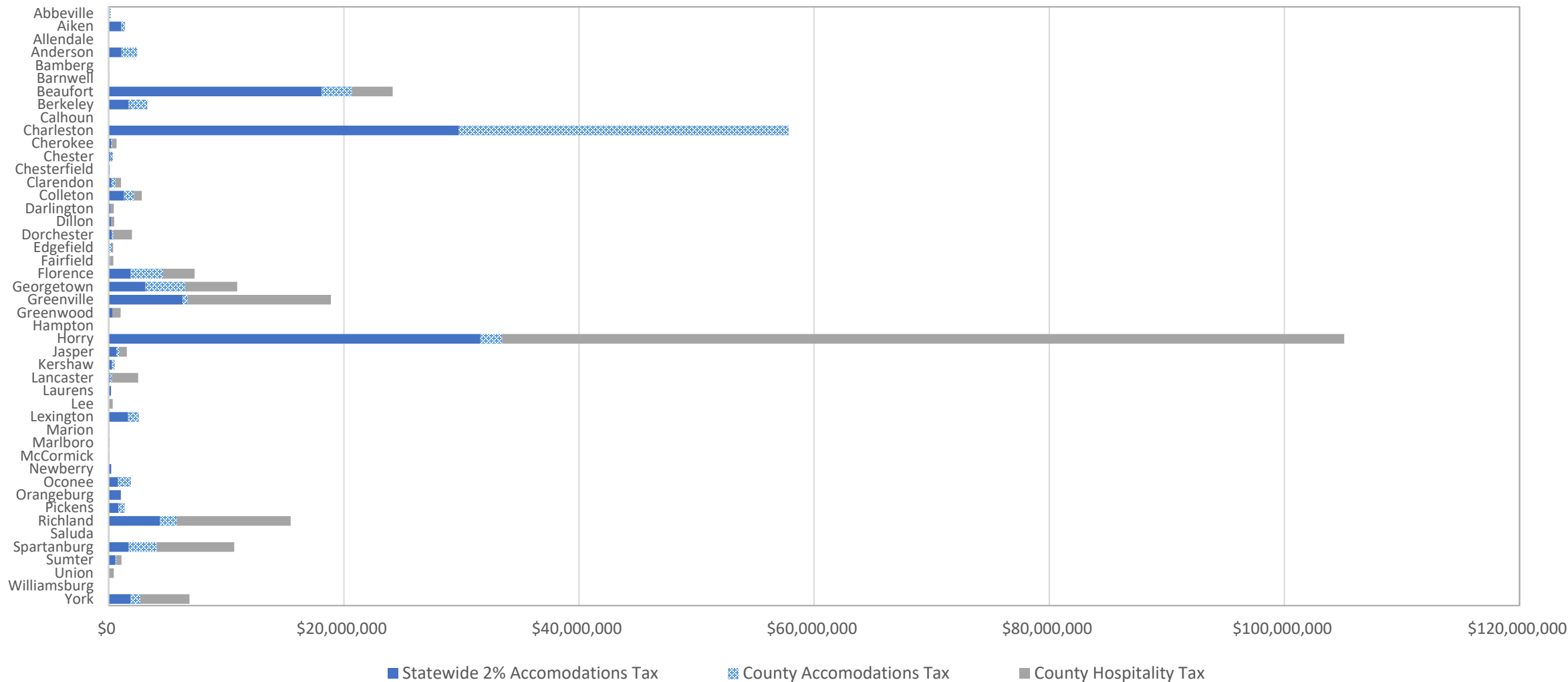


Source: Department of Revenue 2024 and 2014 Index of Taxpaying Ability Reports RFA/mkm/3/10/2025

Note: For purposes of this chart, Lexington/Richland 5 is included in Lexington County

Accommodations and Hospitality Taxes – FY 2022-23

STATE AND LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS AND HOSPITALITY TAXES – FY 2022-23



Source: SC Department of Revenue; Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, Local Government Finance Report – figures reported by counties

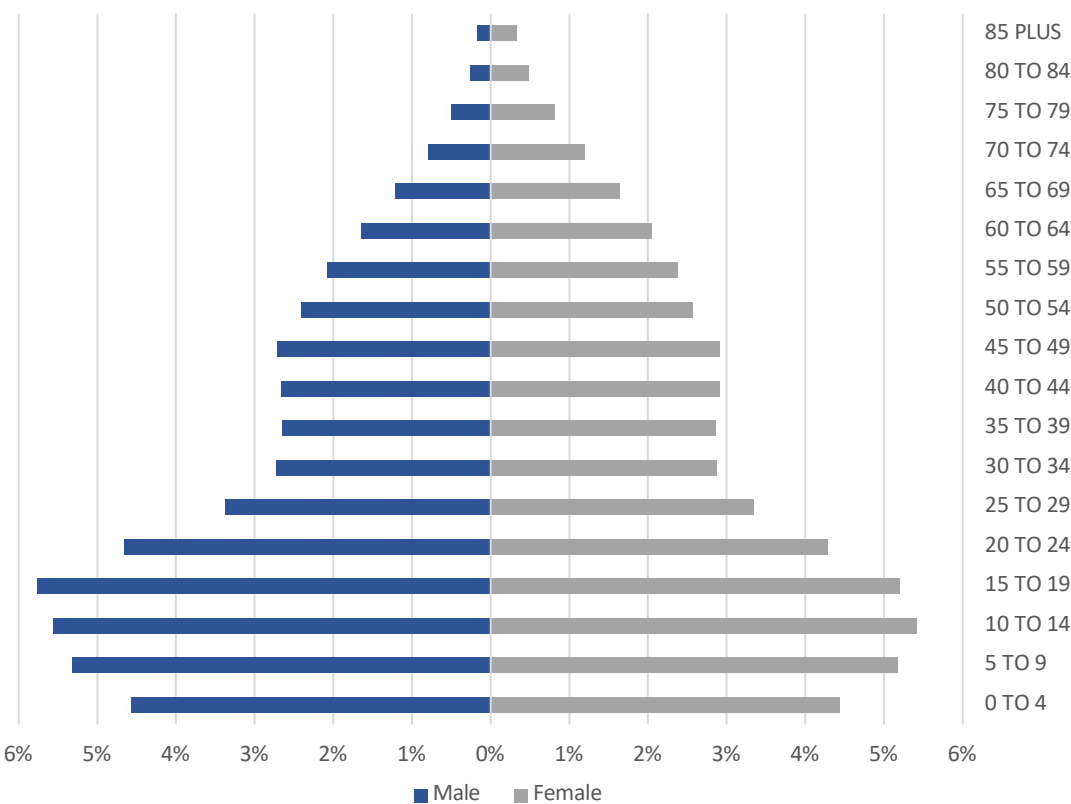
SC Population and Demographic Trends



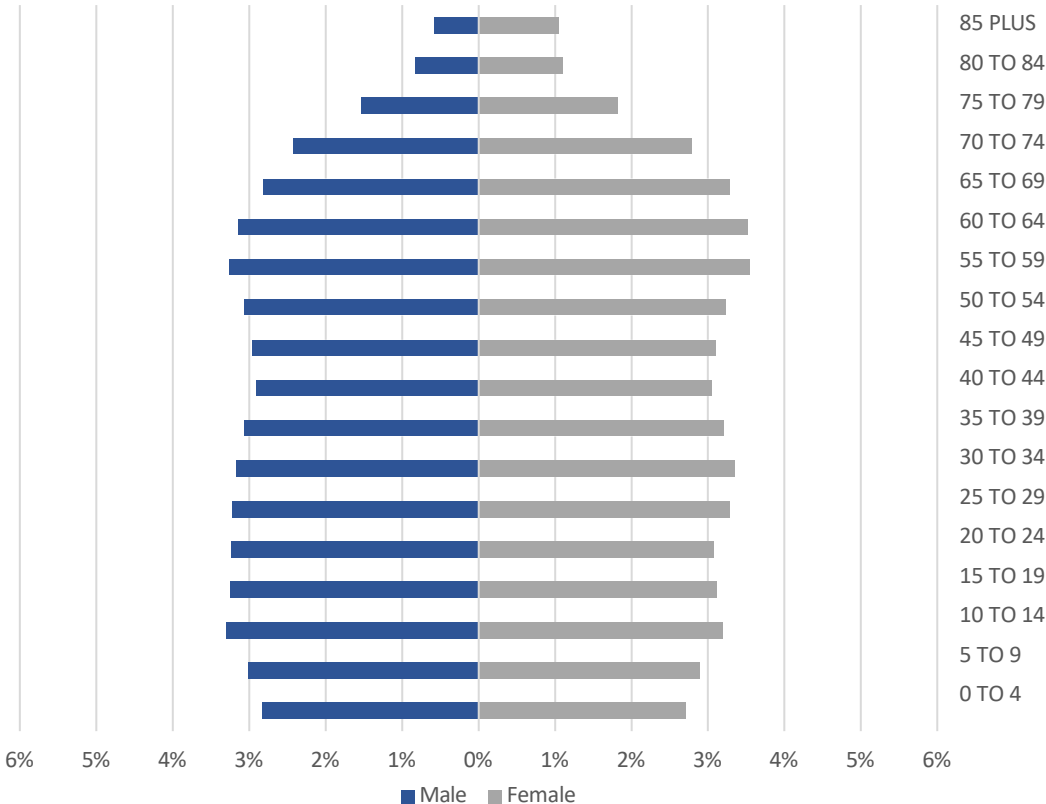
SC Population Pyramid

The age distribution of the state’s population has shifted dramatically since 1970; the median age has increased from 24 in 1970 to 40 in 2020

1970 POPULATION PYRAMID



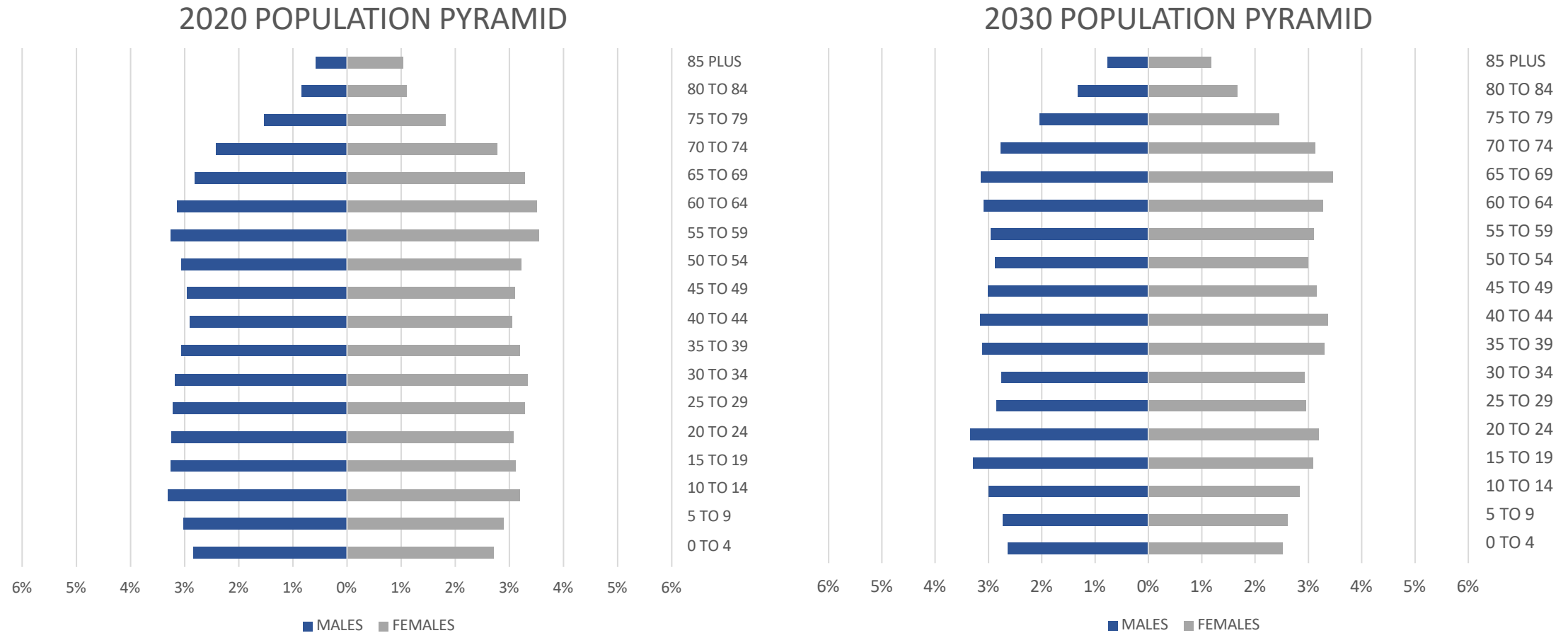
2020 POPULATION PYRAMID



Source: S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office 320 /08/25/2020

SC 2030 Population Projections

The median age is expected to increase from 40 to 42 over the next decade;
all baby boomers will be older than 65

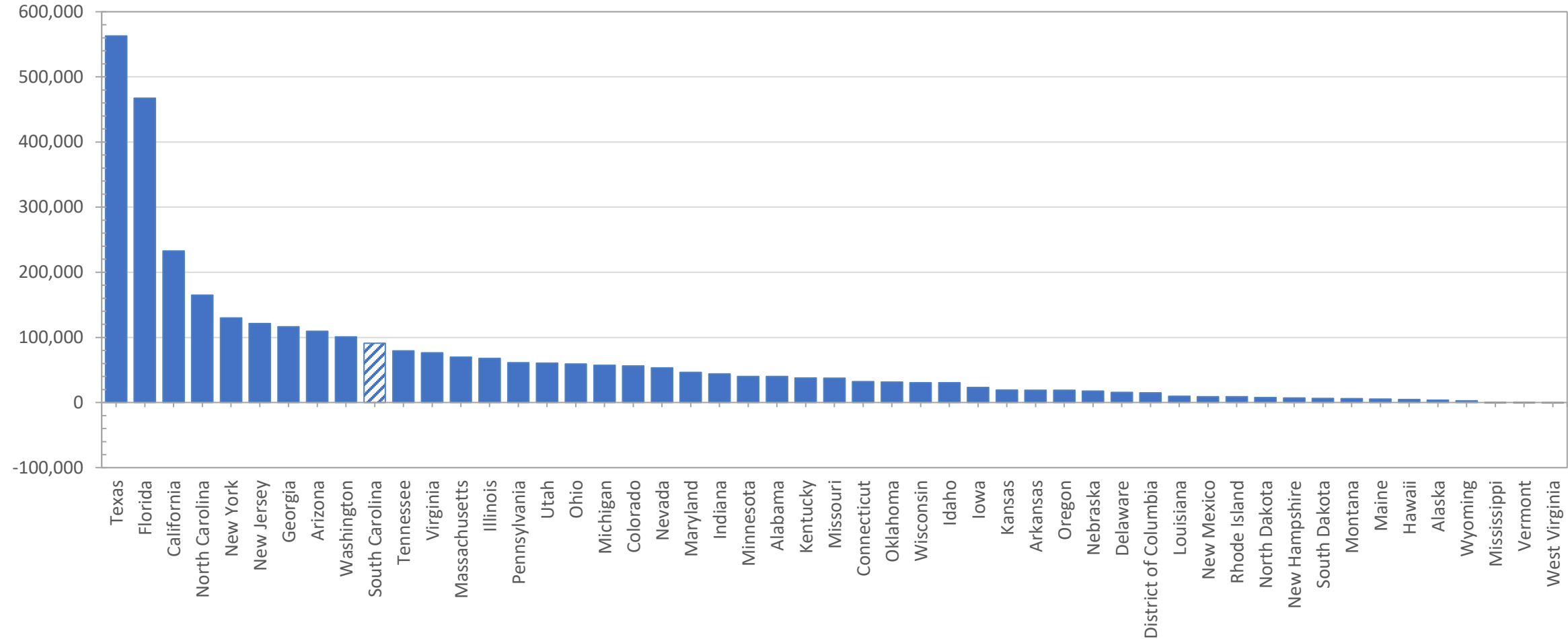


Source: US Census Bureau, Estimates, Projections by S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs

South Carolina had the 10th Largest Population Increase in the US

Population increased by 91,001 (1.7%) from 2023 to 2024

STATE RANKINGS BY TOTAL POPULATION CHANGE 2023 TO 2024



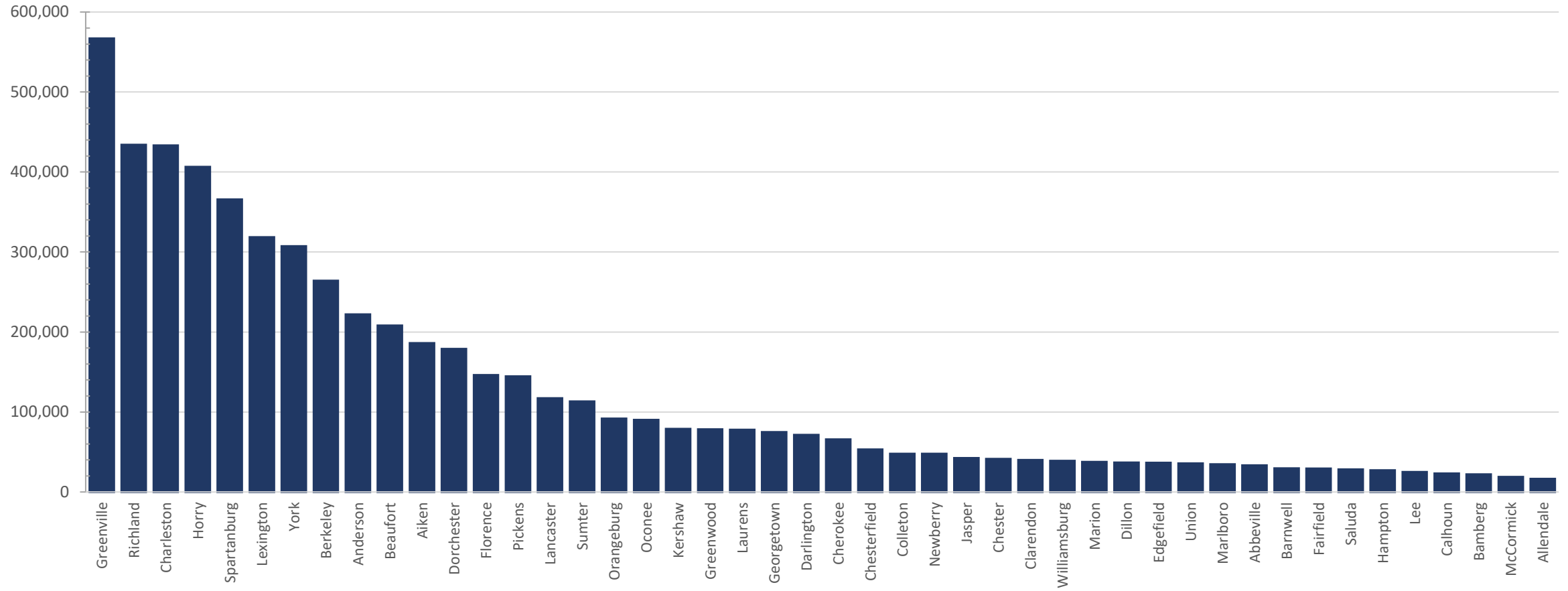
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population as of December 2024 - RFA/358/lpw/12/19/2024



South Carolina Population, 2023

Five Largest: Greenville, Richland, Charleston, Horry, Spartanburg

Five Smallest: Allendale, McCormick, Bamberg, Calhoun, Lee

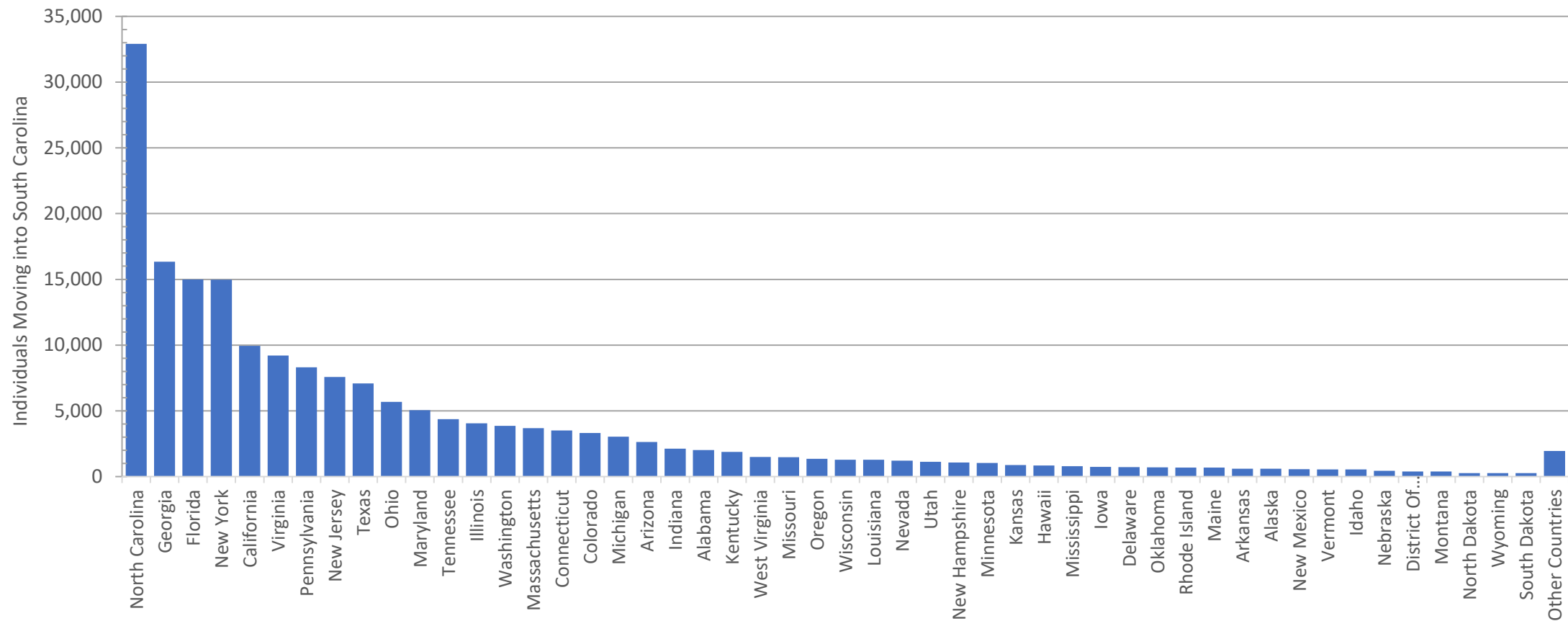


Source: US Census Bureau, Vintage 2023 Postcensal Estimates

South Carolina In-Migration

The majority of people moving to SC came from North Carolina and Georgia

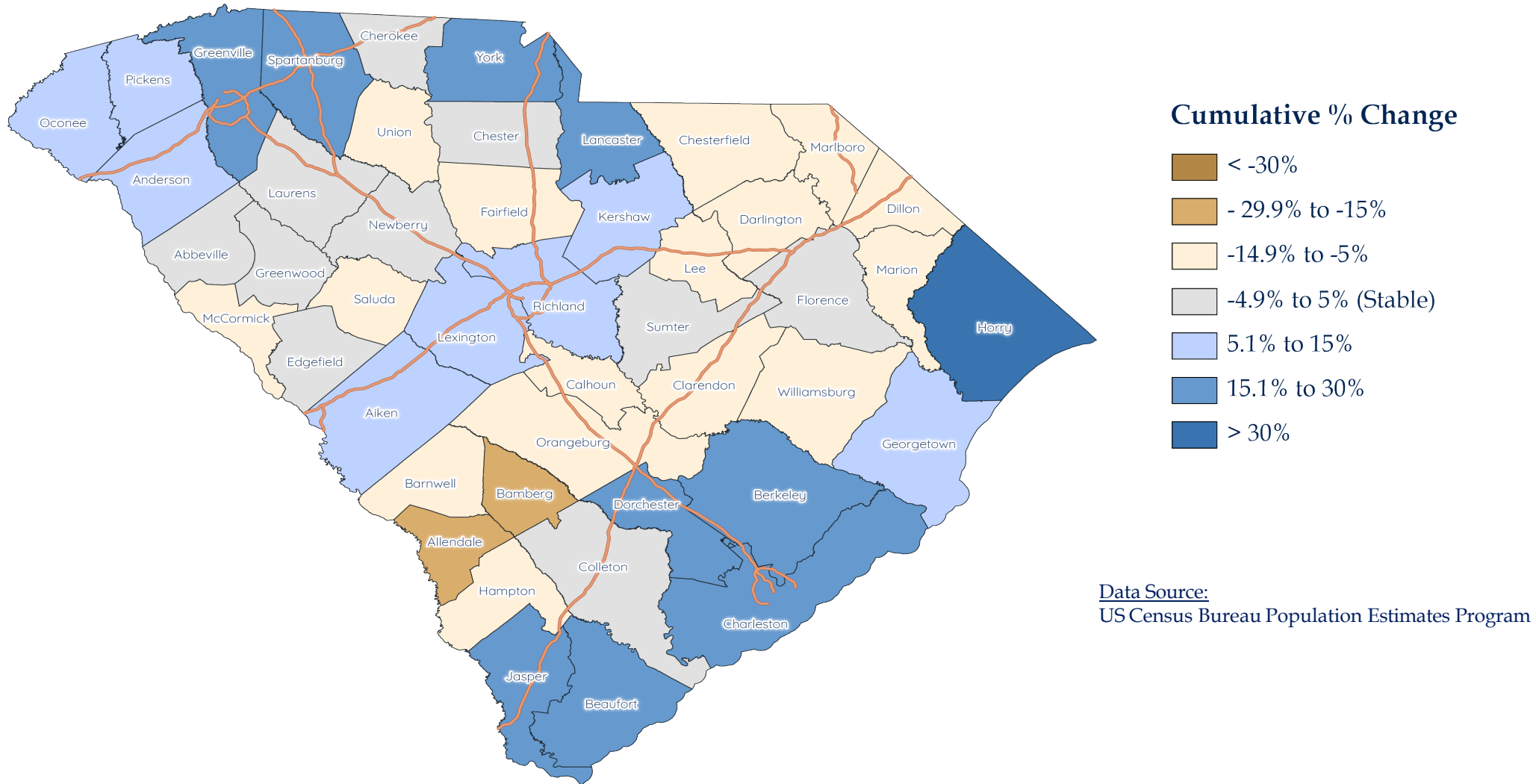
MIGRATION INTO SOUTH CAROLINA, 2021 to 2022
by State of Previous Residence



Source: Internal Revenue Service, Individual Income Tax Filings, 360-RFA/kv/01/27/2025

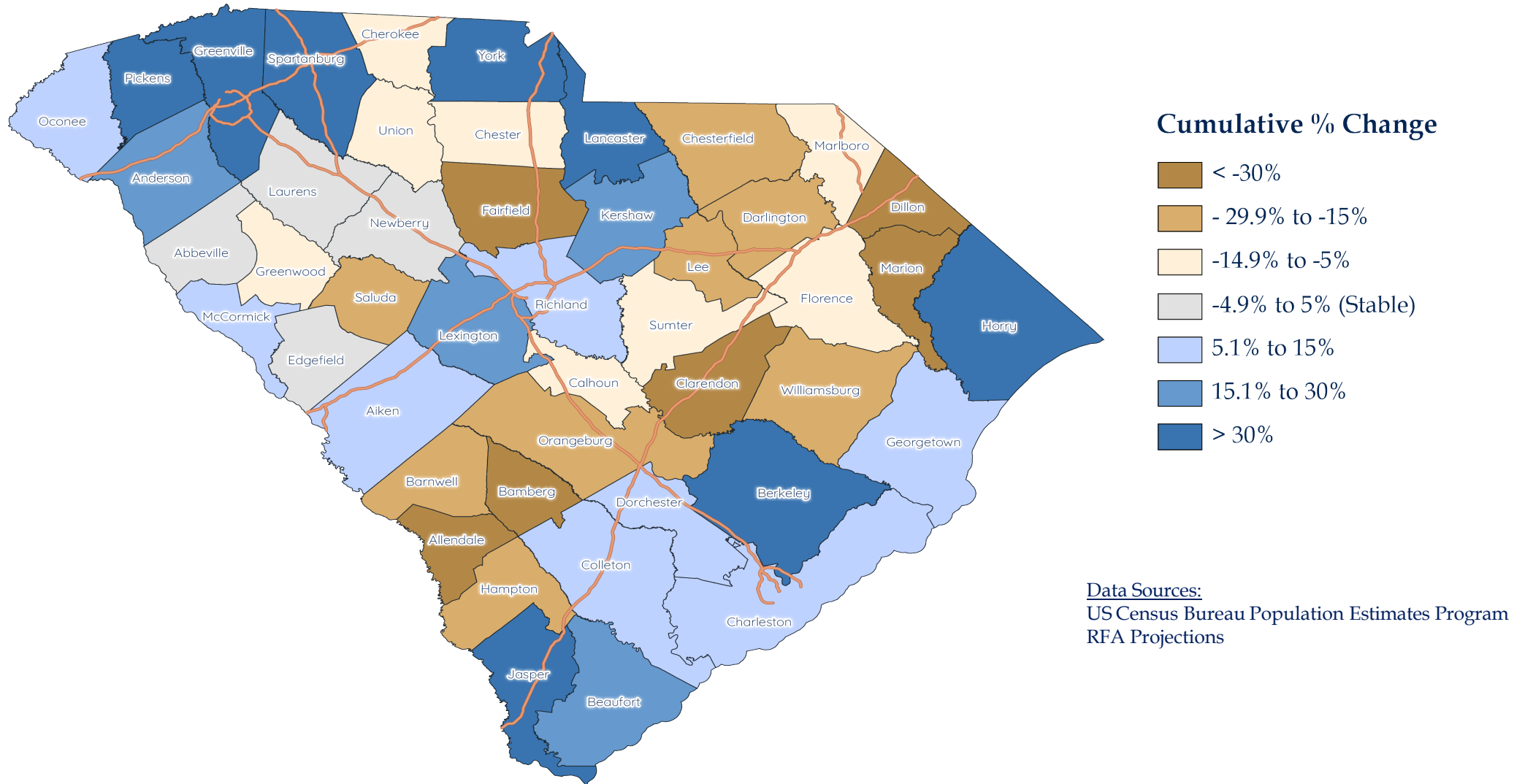
South Carolina's Population Change, 2010 - 2020

Varied by county from +30.9% (Horry) to -23.4% (Allendale)



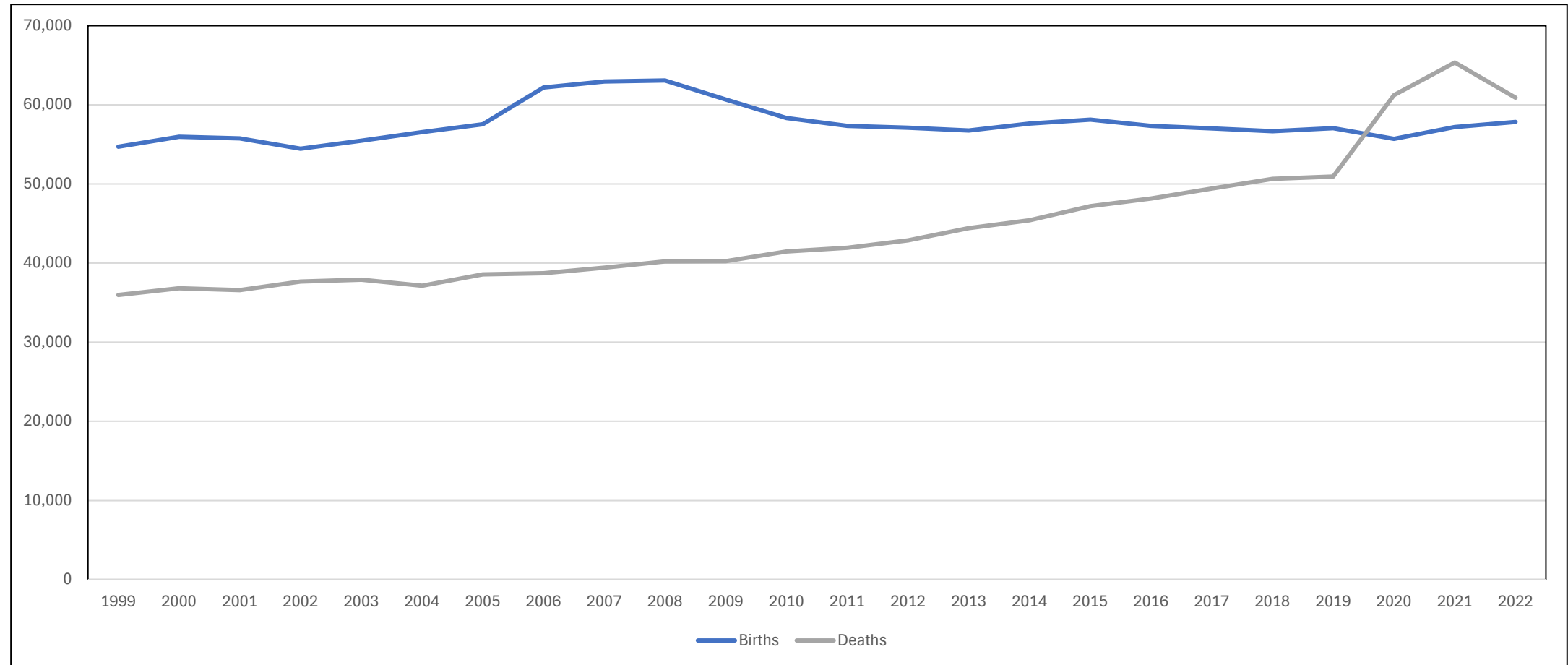
South Carolina's Population Change, 2020 - 2040

Varied by county from +68.6% (Horry) to -51.6% (Allendale)



South Carolina Births and Deaths, 1999 - 2022

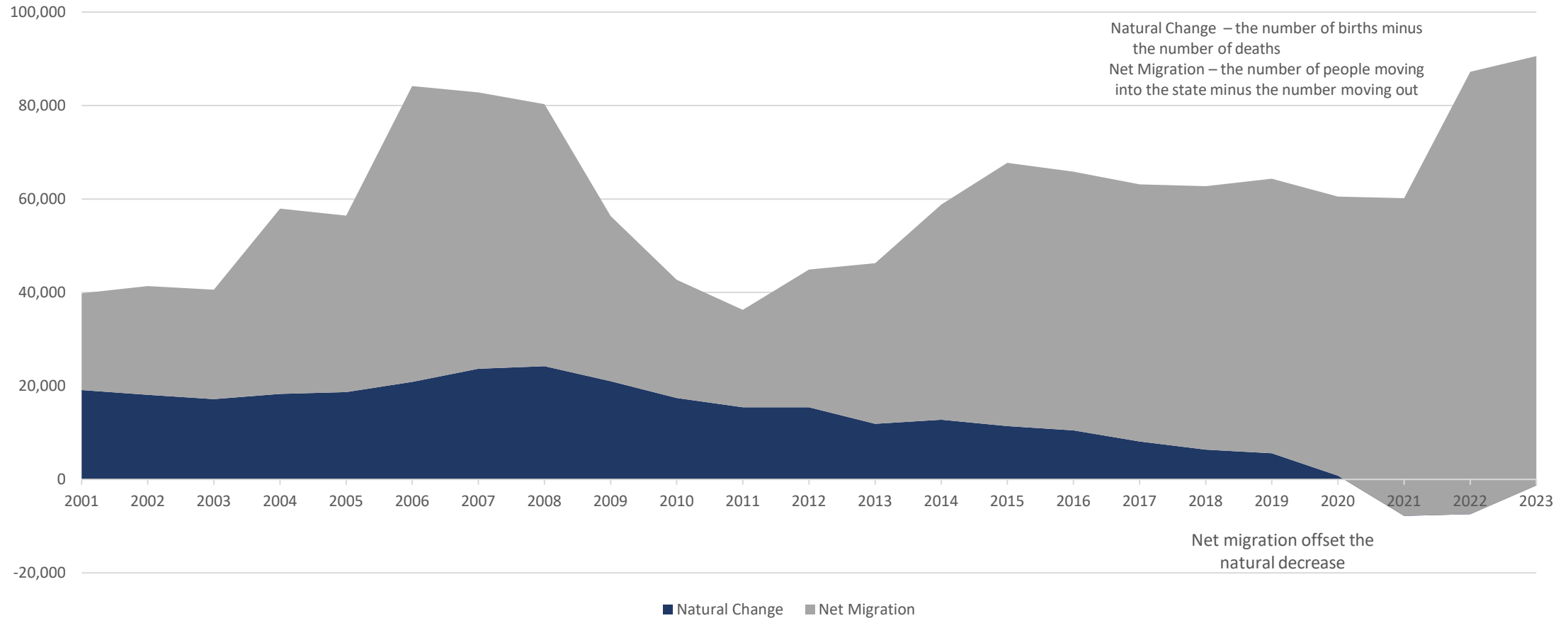
The number of births remains relatively constant while deaths increased each year until 2022, surpassing births in 2020.



Source: SC Department of Public Health, Vital Records

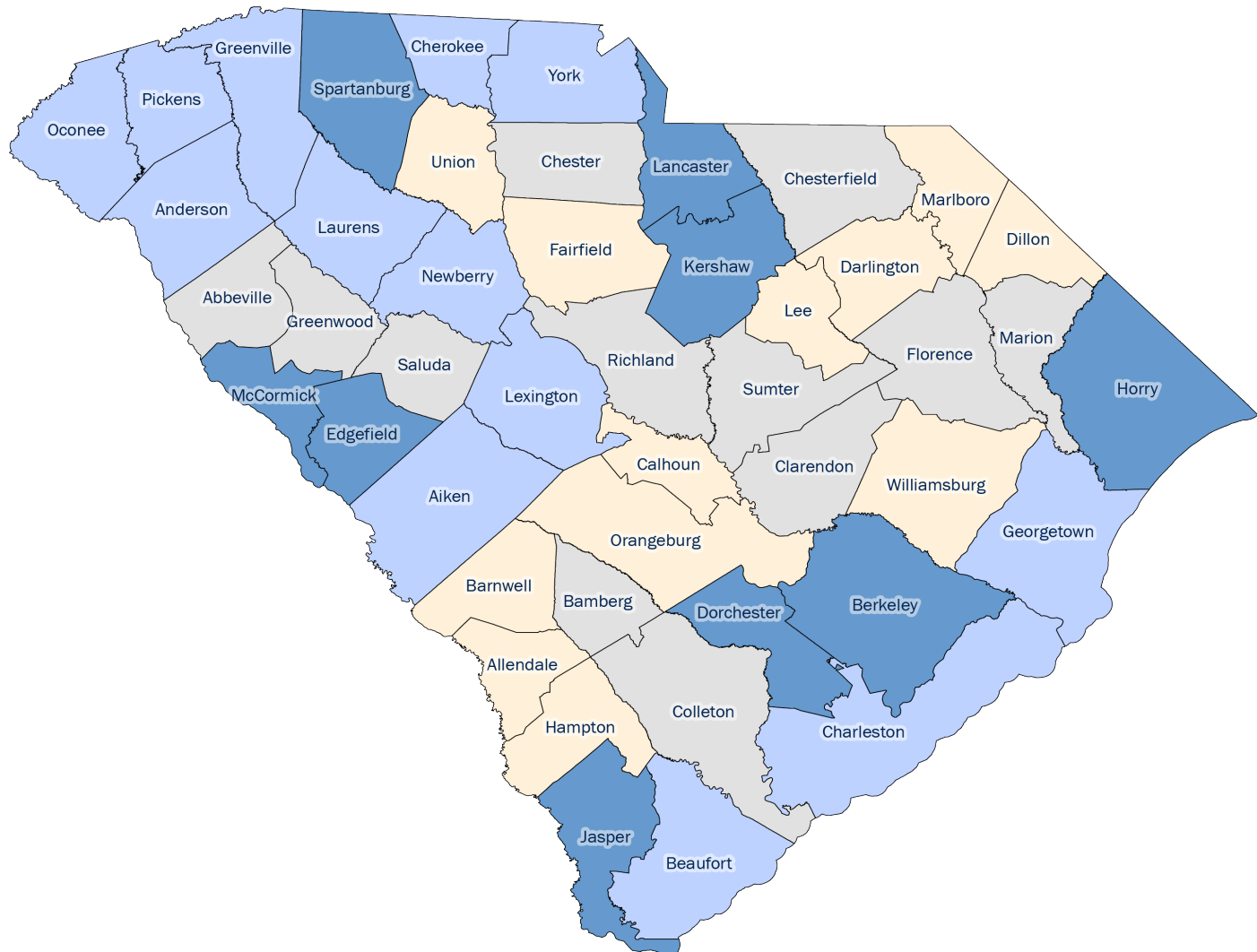
Components of Population Change

Migration into the state accounted for all recent population growth as deaths have outnumbered births in recent years



Source: US Census Bureau Population Estimates

South Carolina's Population Change, 2022 - 2023



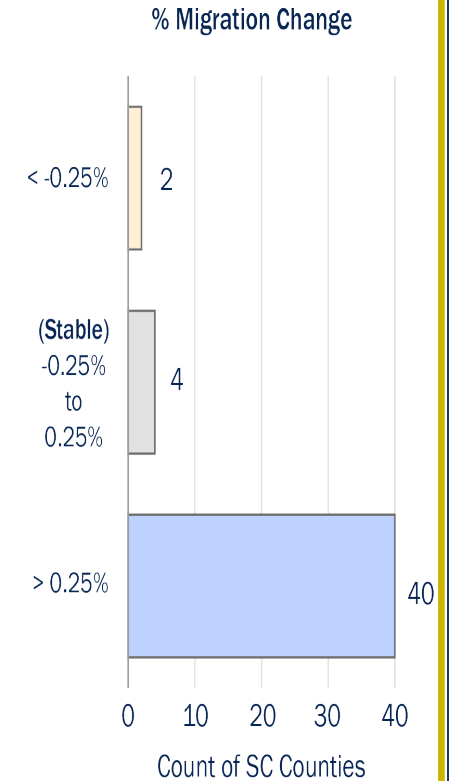
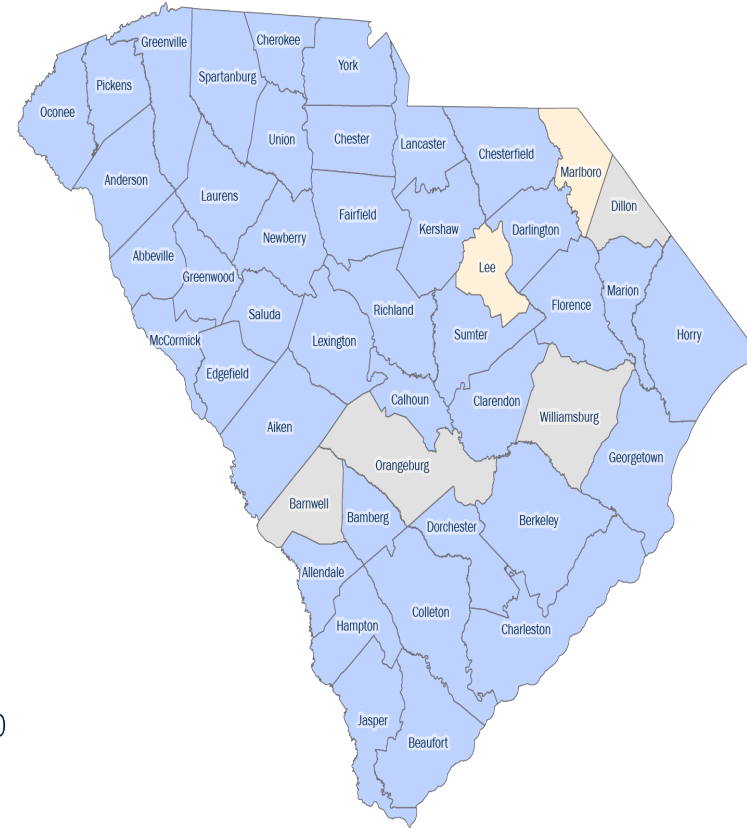
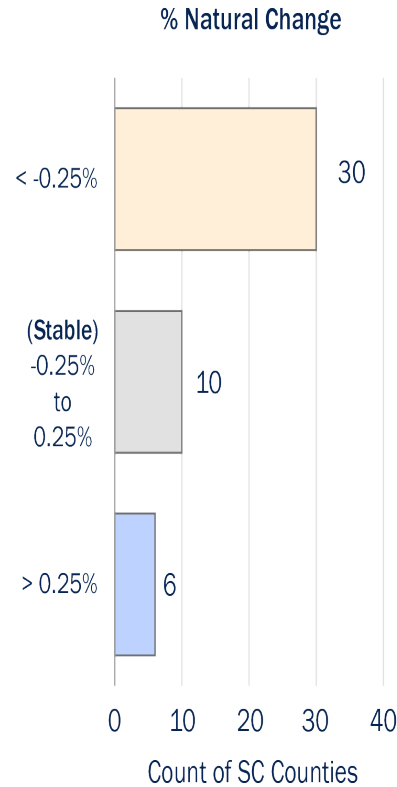
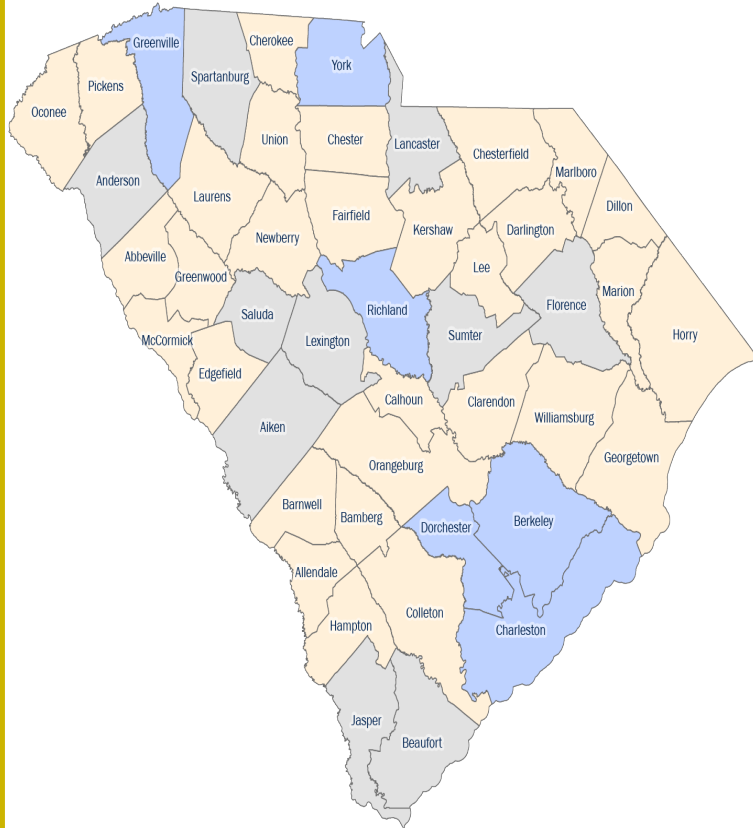
% Population Change 2022-2023

- < 0% (Population Decrease)
- 0% to 1% (Stable)
- 1.1% to 2%
- > 2%

Population change between 2022
and 2023 ranges from -1% to 5%.

Data Sources:
US Census Bureau Population Estimates Program

South Carolina's Components of Population Change 2022 - 2023



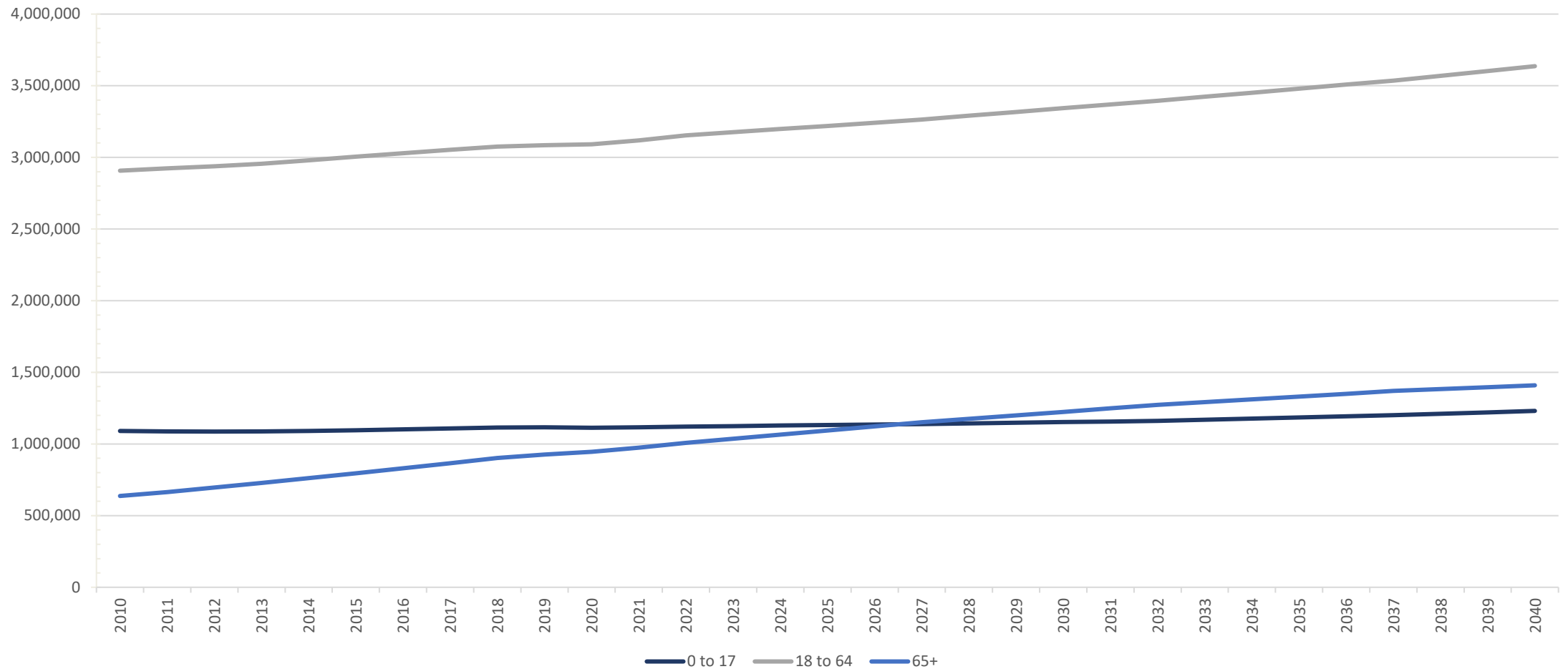
Data Sources:
US Census Bureau Population Estimates Program
Vintage 2023 Postcensal Estimates

Statewide Age Trends



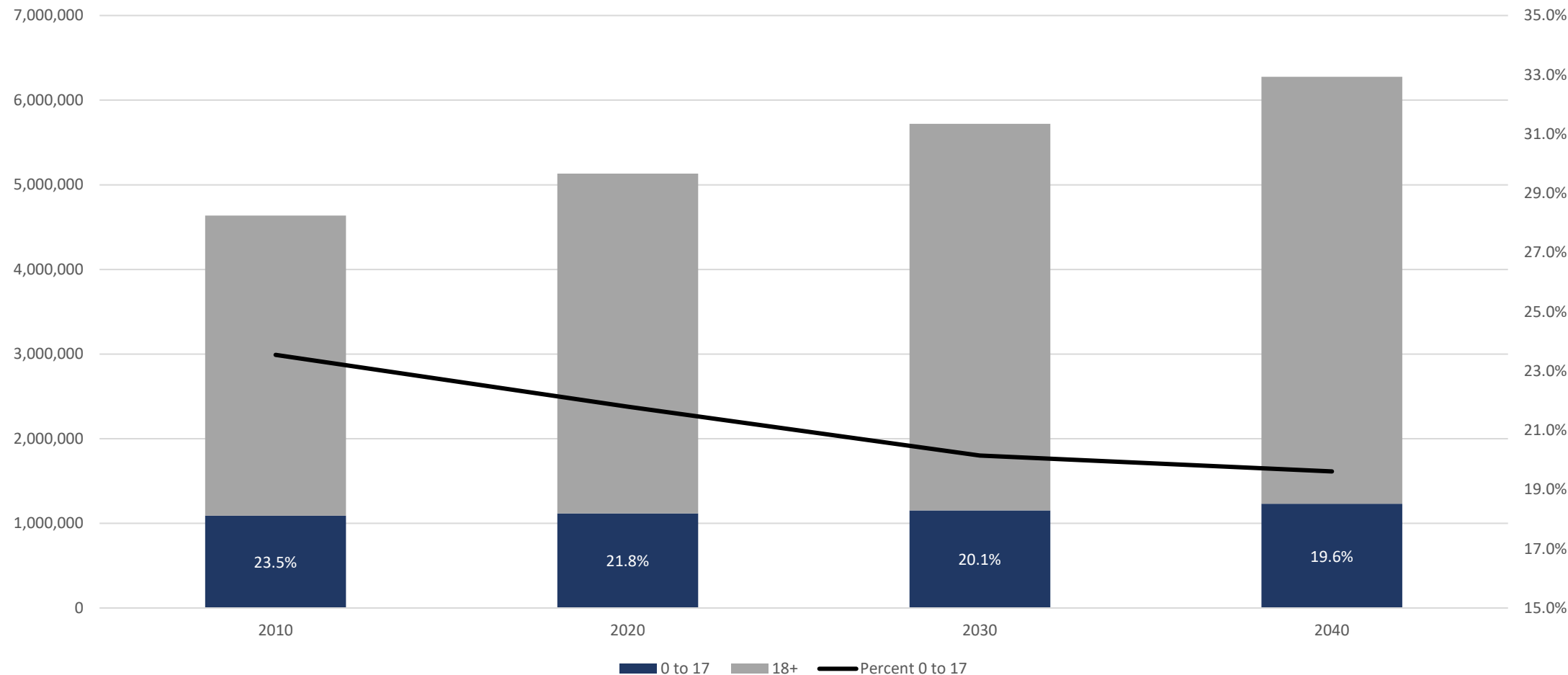
SC Population by Age Group – South Carolina

Population in the 65 plus age range is projected to surpass the under 0-17 age range by 2027



SC Age 0 - 17 Population

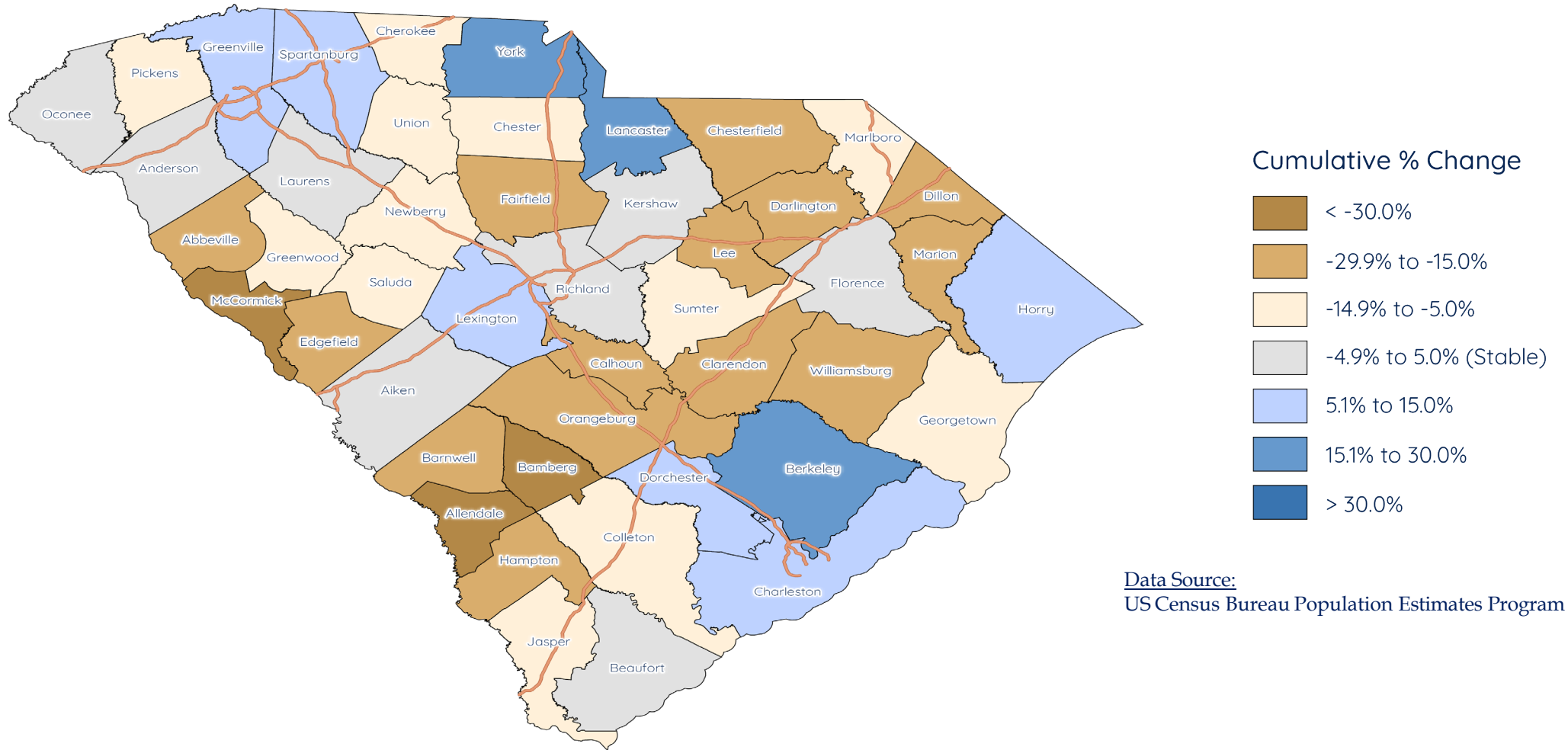
Projected to decline to less than 20% of total population by 2040



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates and RFA Population Projections

South Carolina Age 0 – 17 Population Change, 2010 - 2020

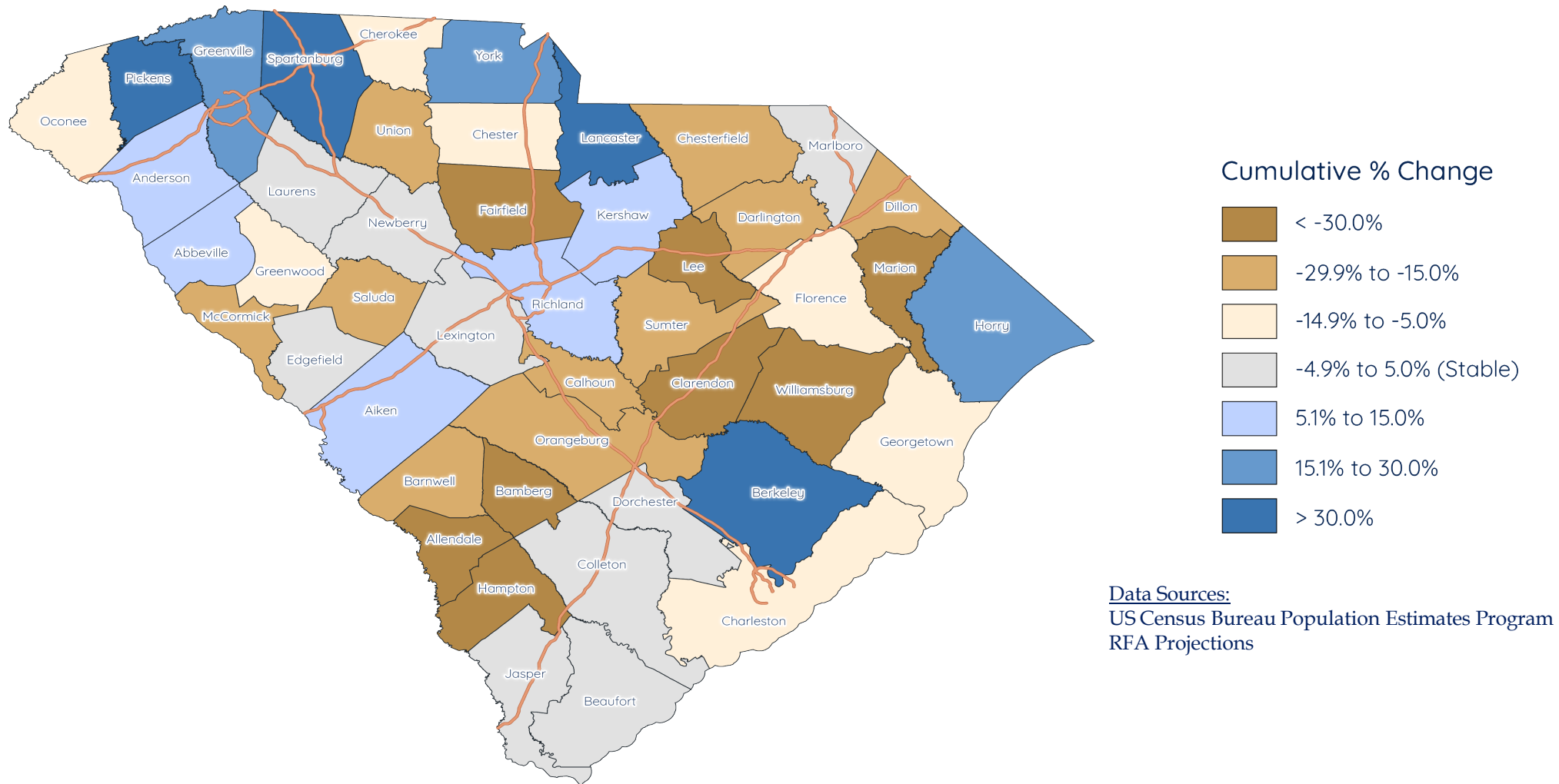
Only nine counties increased in this age group



Data Source:
US Census Bureau Population Estimates Program

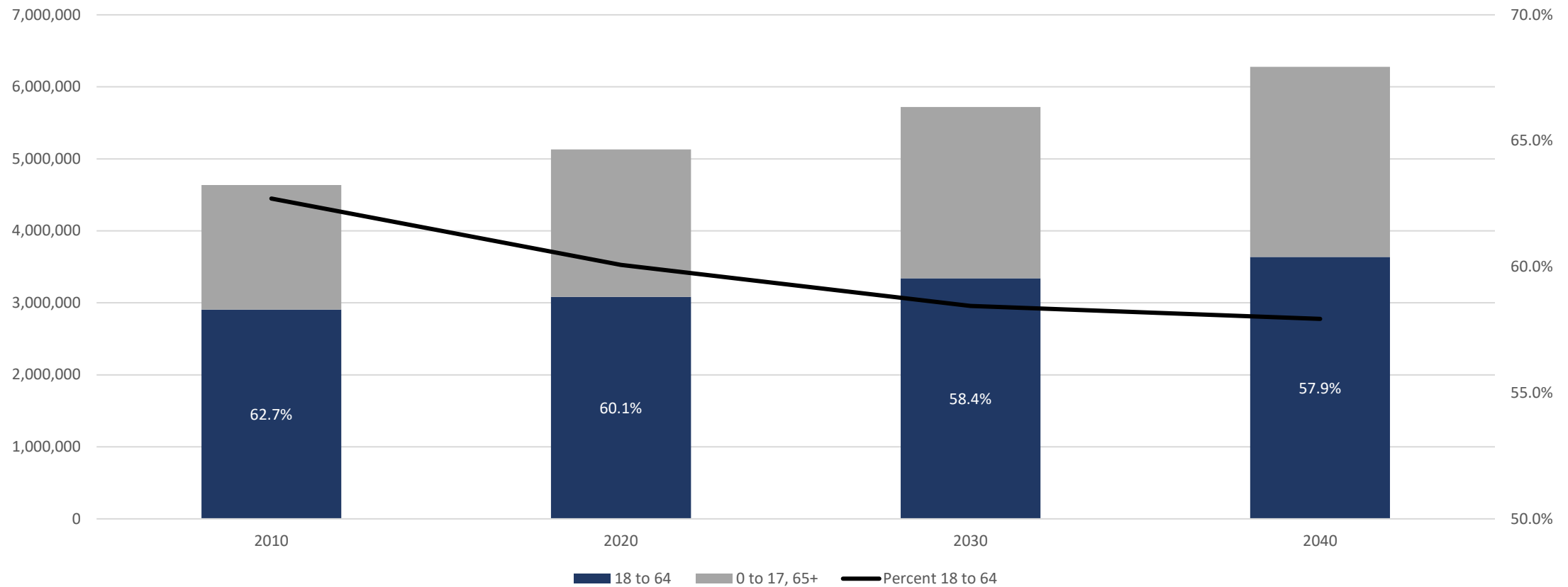
South Carolina Projected Age 0 – 17 Population, 2020 - 2040

Twelve counties are projected to increase in this age group



SC Workforce Population, Age 18 - 64

The workforce age population is expected to comprise a smaller percentage of the total SC population; employers may be faced with more demand for goods and services but a smaller pool of workers



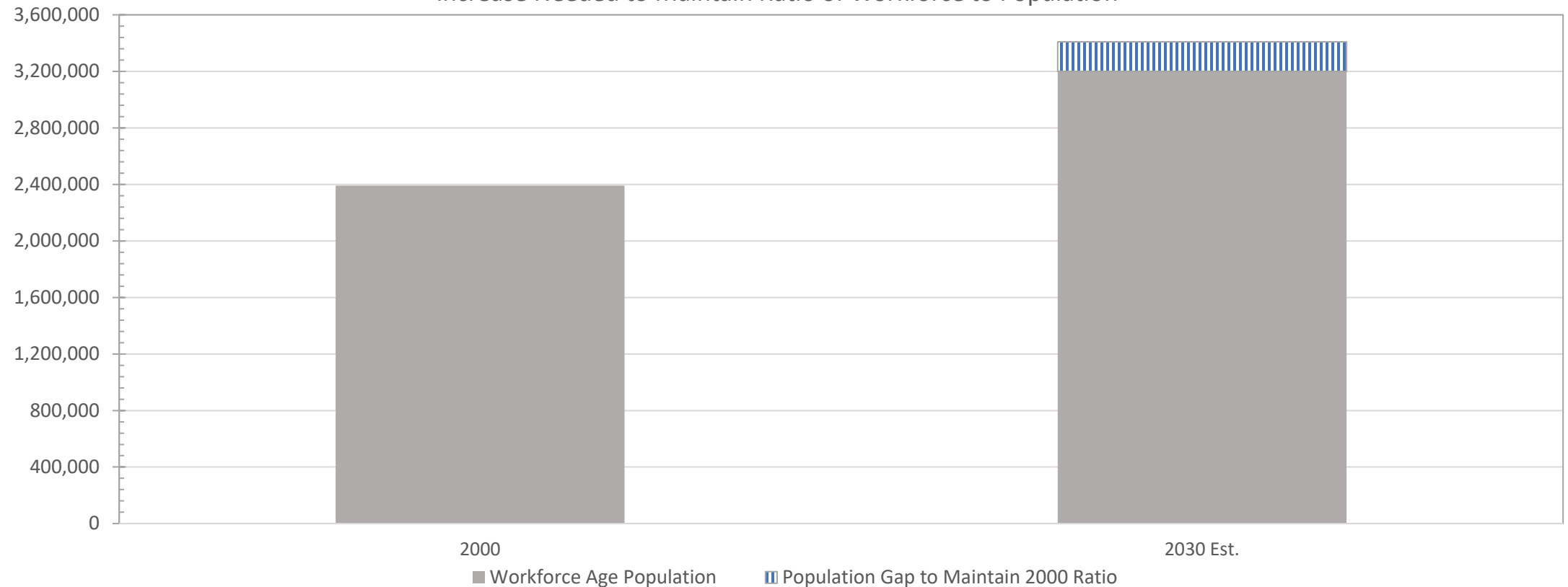
Source: US Census Bureau Estimates; RFA Projections

Projected Impact of Aging Population

The declining percentage of workforce age population means there will be a relatively smaller pool, 208,000 people or 6%, to support the total population than in 2000

WORKFORCE AGE POPULATION COMPARISON, 2000 & 2030

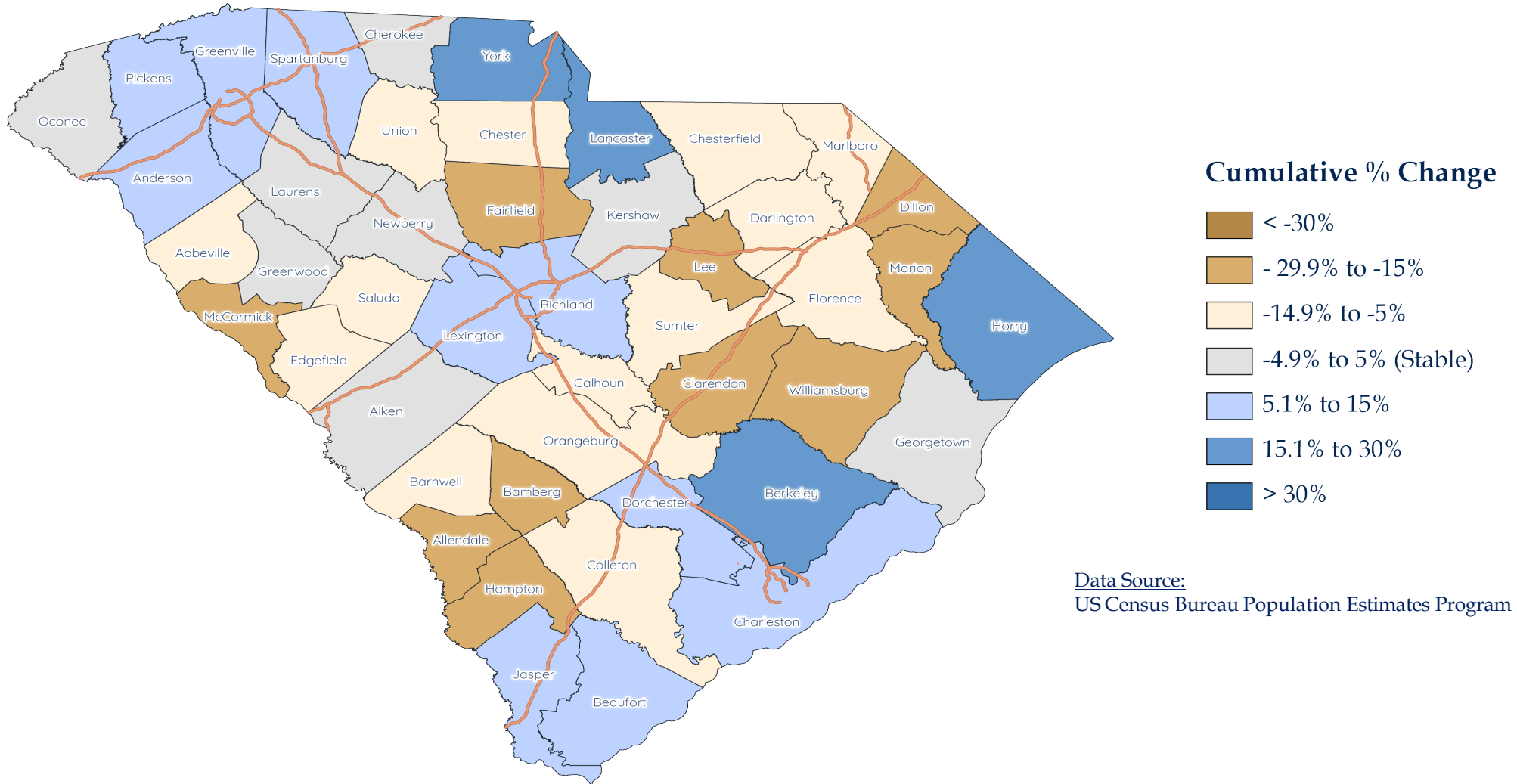
Increase Needed to Maintain Ratio of Workforce to Population



Source: Census Bureau Population Estimates, Vintage 2023 Estimates for 2020; SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs projections, 364-RFA/lhj/2/25/2025

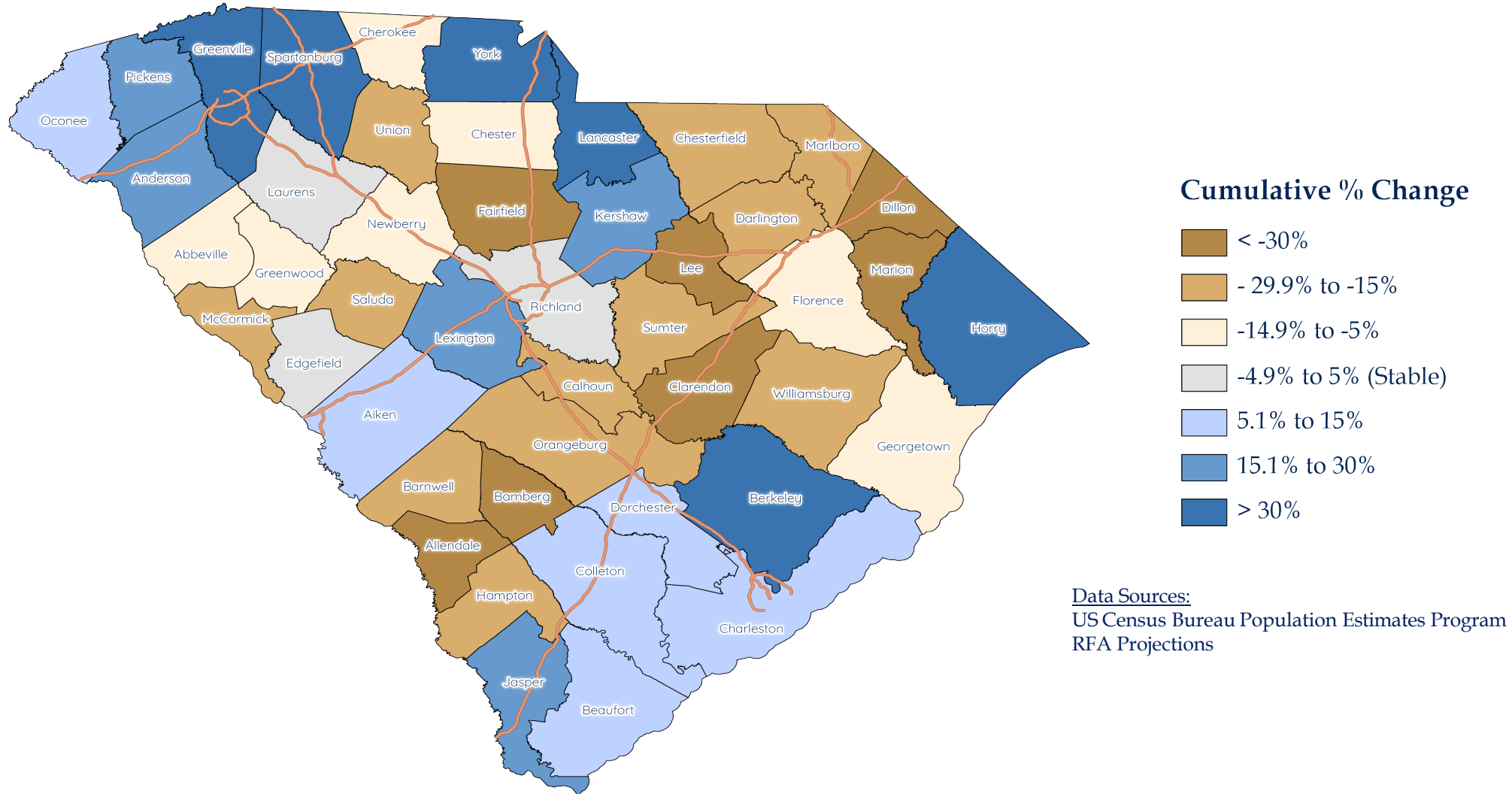
SC Estimated Workforce Age (18 – 64) Population, 2010 – 2020

Fourteen counties increased in this age group



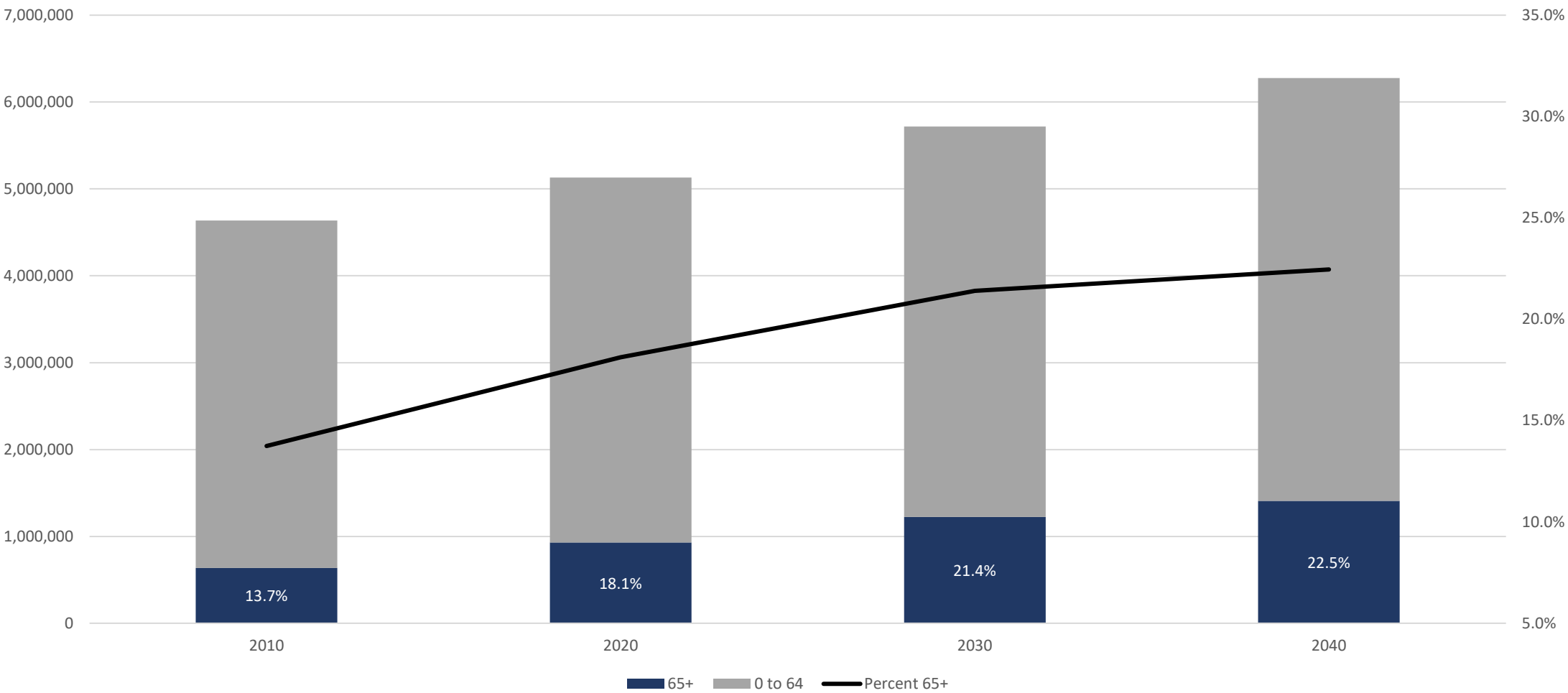
SC Estimated Workforce Age (18 – 64) Population, 2020 – 2040

Seventeen counties are projected to increase in this age group



SC Projected Age 65+ Population

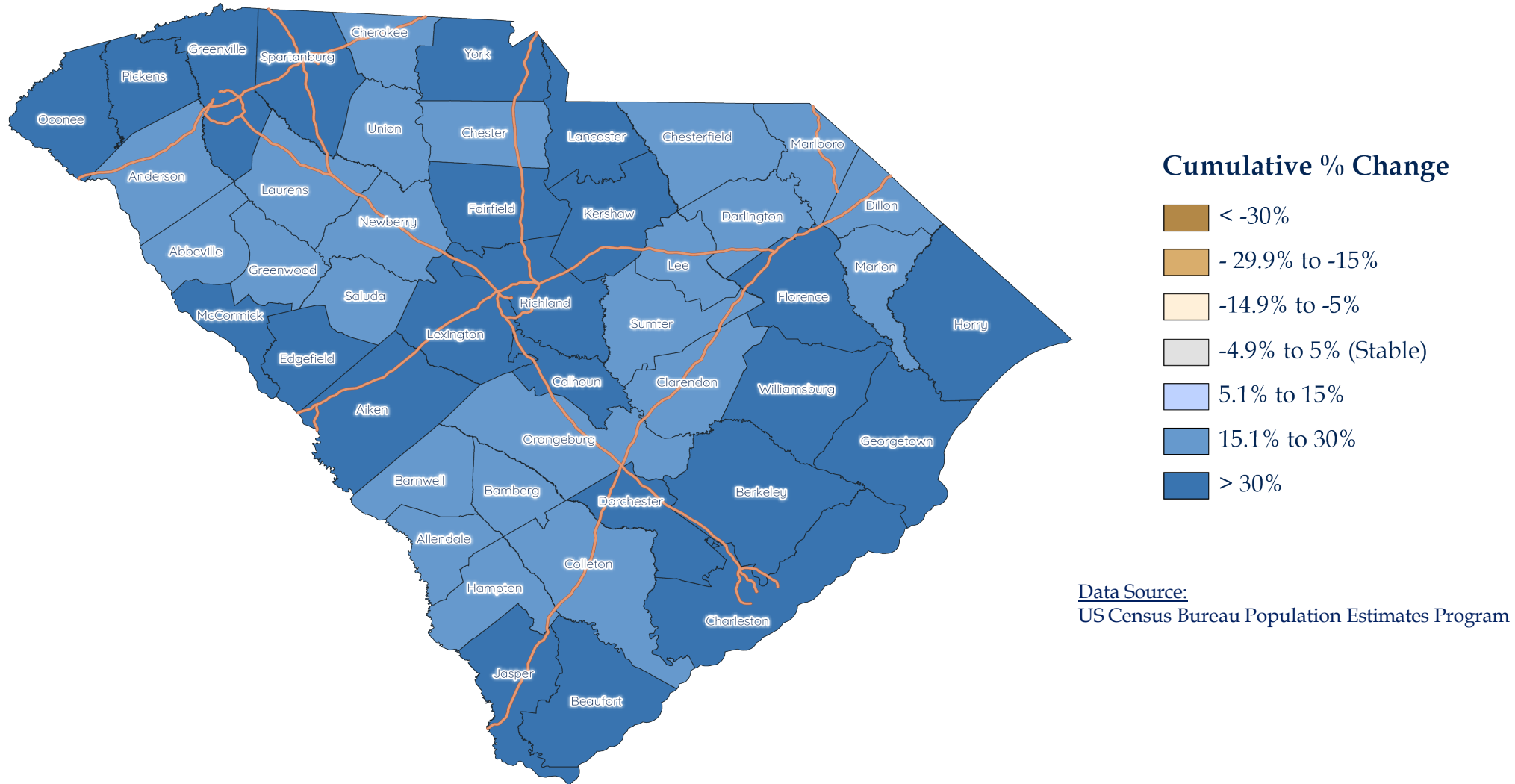
Projected to increase to over 22% of total population by 2040



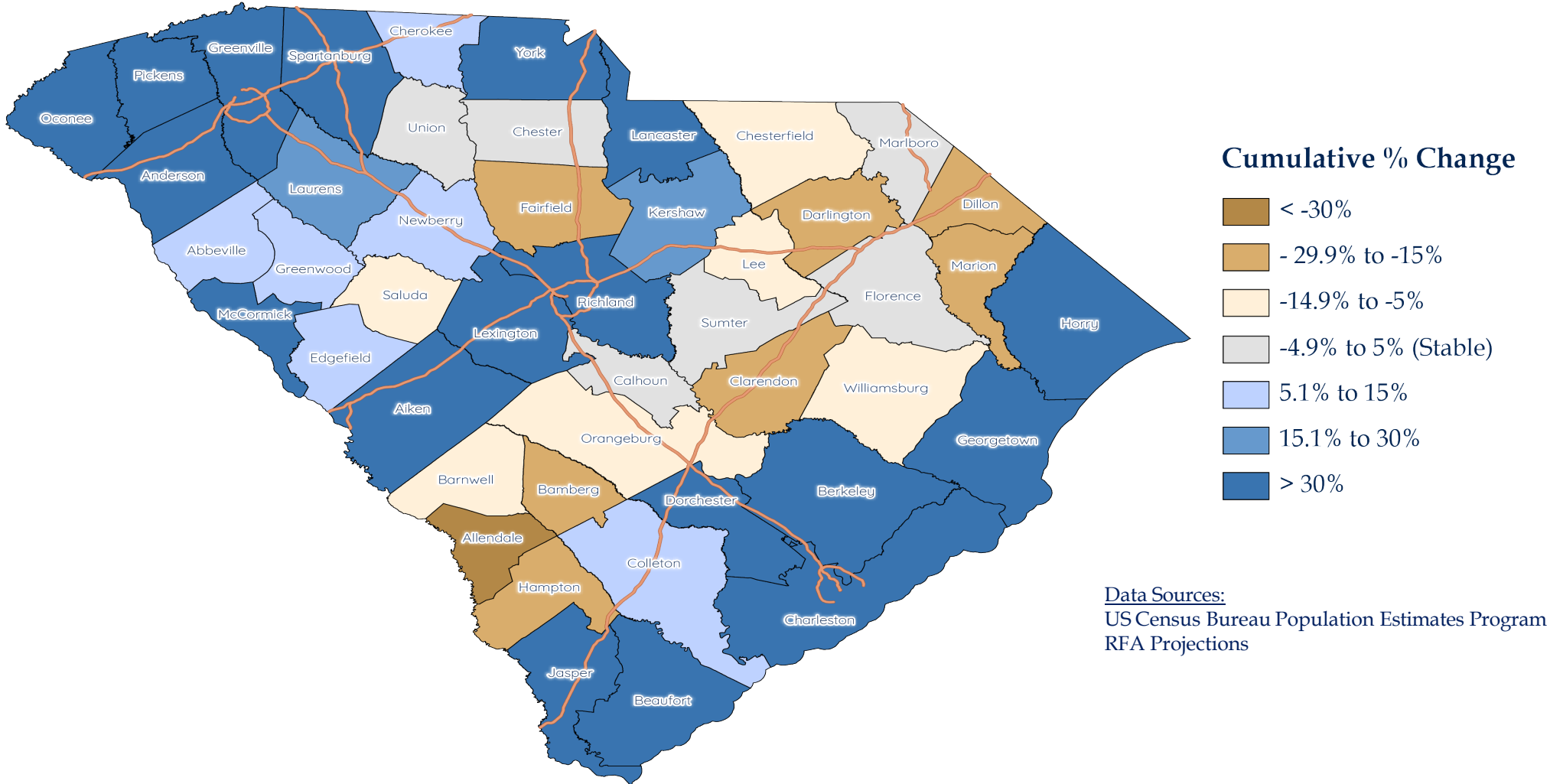
Source: US Census Bureau Estimates; RFA Projections

SC Estimated Retirement Age (65+) Population, 2010 - 2020

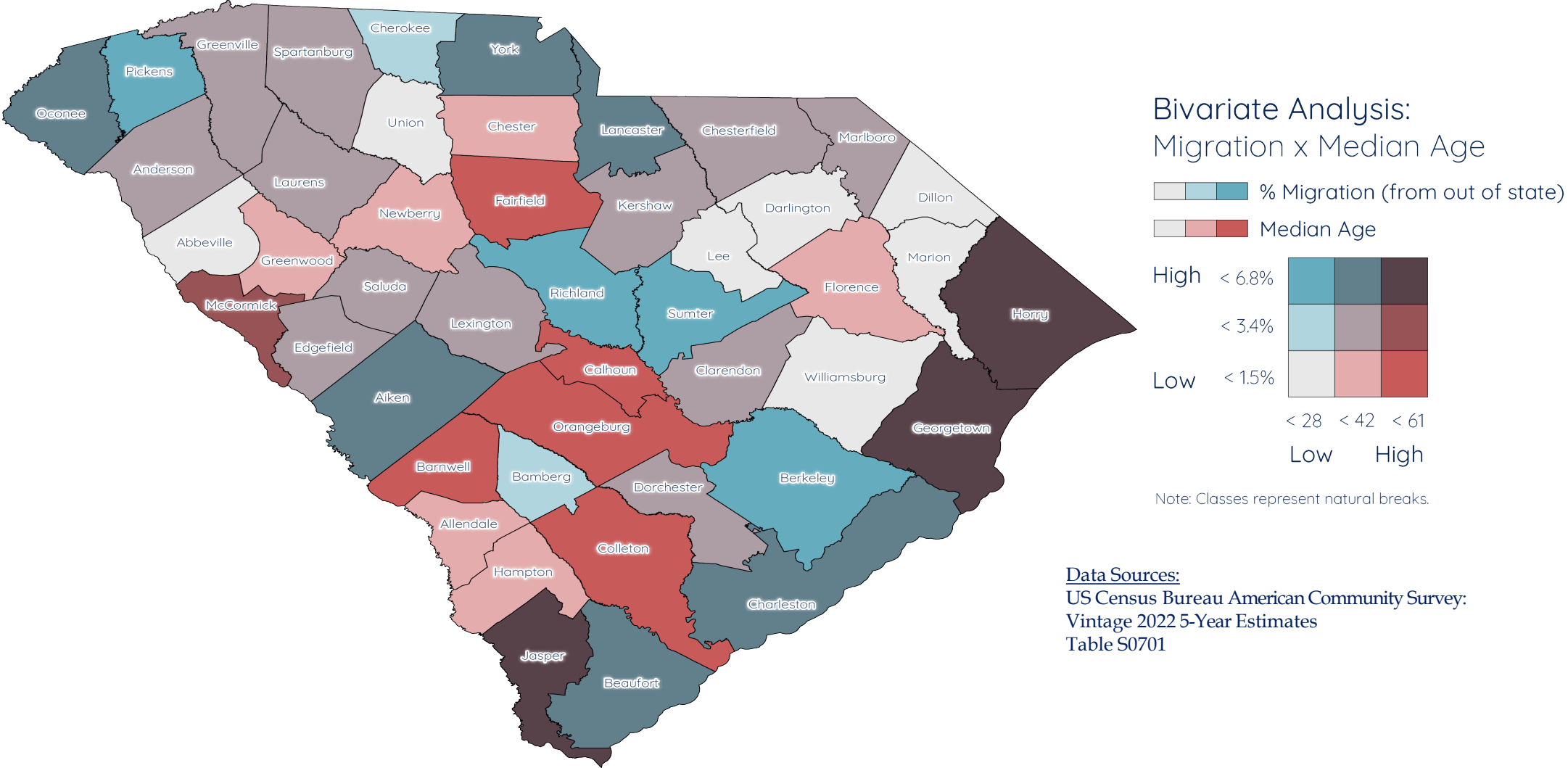
All counties experienced an increase in this age group



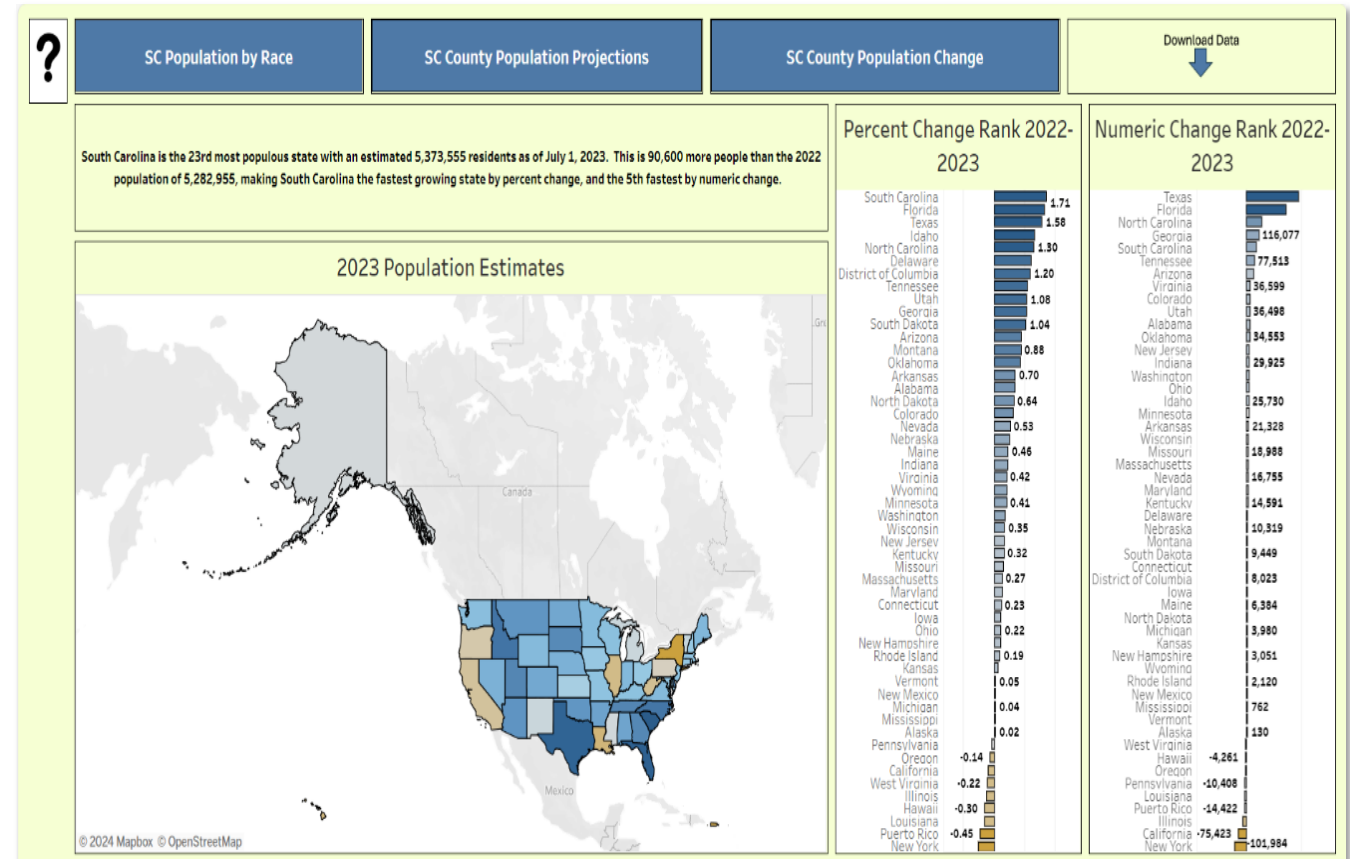
Twenty-Six counties projected to increase in this age group



SC Bivariate Analysis of Population Migration and Age: 2022



- **South Carolina Population Estimates and Projections**
- The South Carolina Census State Data Center at RFA is the U.S. Census Bureau's premier partner in our state for making census data more easily accessible, and for providing guidance in the use of Census Bureau data products.
- [Check out RFA's website to view the dashboard](#)



Questions?

Happy Cinco de Mayo!

