

Government

Management of local government varies between city and county governments in the Charleston area.

- In Berkeley County, county affairs are managed by a county council with an elected county supervisor serving as chief administrative officer.
- Charleston County has a council-administrator form of government. Council members are elected from single-member districts to four year terms. A county administrator is appointed by the county council to manage the day-to-day activities of the county.
- Dorchester County has a seven-member county council, with each member elected to a four-year term. The council administrator is appointed by the county council to administer the day-to-day activities of the county.
- The 27 incorporated areas within Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties operate separately under the mayor/council form of government although the day-to-day operations vary from city to city.

Telecommunications

The Charleston region features a fiber optic, digital network that offers businesses highly reliable, state-of-the-art communications services. Businesses here can tap into everything from the latest feature-rich voice services to broadband and complex data communications to advanced wireless solutions – all provided by leaders in the telecommunications industry.

Reliable, Redundant Networks

- More than 50 fiber optic SONET rings permit instant rerouting in case of network failure, which ensures continuous communications.
- AT&T's Network Reliability Centers monitor systems and perform 24/7 diagnostic checks on the company's core switching and transmission network. The company's local Emergency Operations Center in Summerville allows for quick, on-site recovery.
- More than 90% of the region's telecommunications lines are buried.

Digital Switching Systems

- The Charleston region has 19 digital switching offices.

Broadband Data & Internet Services

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DS1, DS3 • OC 3, OC 12, OC 48 and OC 192 • Frame Relay • Primary Rate ISDN • Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) • Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM) • Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) • 10 or 100 MBPS Ethernet LAN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide area Metro-Ethernet • Gigabit Ethernet Service • Dedicated Internet access • Managed VPN (Virtual Private Network) • Multi Protocol Layer Switching (MPLS) • A full range of managed data services |
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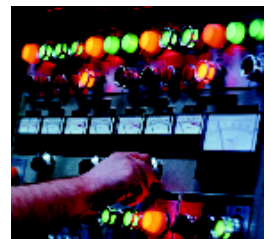
Related Websites

For information specific to the governmental structure of each county, visit:

Berkeley County
www.co.berkeley.sc.us

Charleston County
www.charlestoncounty.org

Dorchester County
www.dorchestercounty.net



Data Source

Center for Business Research
Charleston Metro
Chamber of Commerce, 2004

Electricity and Natural Gas

South Carolina power generators use numerous fuel sources – such as oil, coal, nuclear, hydroelectric, natural gas and methane – to provide an abundant, reliable energy supply.

The Charleston region is served by four providers of electric power. For natural gas transmission and distribution, the region is served by South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) and Carolina Gas Transmission Corp., both subsidiaries of SCANA Corporation.

Electricity and natural gas providers:

- Berkeley Electric Cooperative
www.becsc.com
- Edisto Electric Cooperative
www.edistoelectric.com
- Santee Cooper
www.santeecooper.com
- SCANA — SCE&G and SC Pipeline
www.scana.com



In 2006, rates for industrial electricity in South Carolina averaged 24% below the national average.

Industrial Electric Rates (Nov. 2006)

	Cents Per Kilowatt Hour
West Virginia	3.77¢
Kentucky	4.08
Missouri	4.18
Alabama	4.56
Illinois	4.63
Indiana	4.87
SOUTH CAROLINA	4.96
North Carolina	5.04
Georgia	5.05
Arkansas	5.16
Tennessee	5.29
Mississippi	5.32
Michigan	5.56
Pennsylvania	6.69
Louisiana	6.65
Florida	7.61
New York	8.55
California	8.97
Maine	11.08
Massachusetts	12.06
Connecticut	12.33

Industrial Natural Gas Rates (Nov. 2006)

	Dollars Per 1,000 Cubic Feet
Illinois	\$ 7.43
Mississippi	7.52
Louisiana	7.53
Indiana	7.57
Georgia	7.90
California	8.12
Kentucky	8.75
Tennessee	8.81
West Virginia	8.83
Alabama	9.26
SOUTH CAROLINA	9.38
Virginia	10.17
Arkansas	10.23
Missouri	10.68
North Carolina	10.77
Florida	11.10
Pennsylvania	11.18
Connecticut	11.48
New York	11.49
Maine	14.00

Data Sources

*Center for Business Research
Charleston Metro Chamber of
Commerce, 2007*

*U.S. Energy
Information Administration*

Water & Sewer Services

The Charleston region features an abundant, high-quality supply of fresh water to meet both current and future demands, with an excess water supply of 58.5 million gallons per day. The region has also invested heavily in its sewer infrastructure, with excess wastewater capacity of 25 million gallons per day. (1 Gallon = 3.78 Liters)

Berkeley County Water & Sanitation Authority (BCW & SA)		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	gallons: 8.0 million liters: 30.3 million	gallons: 22.5 million liters: 85.2 million
Average Daily Use	gallons: 5.7 million liters: 21.6 million	gallons: 10.7 million liters: 40.5 million
Daily Peak Use	gallons: 7.1 million liters: 26.9 million	gallons: 14 million liters: 52.9 million
Expansion plans: upgrading sewer plant to 22.5 MGD in 2007.		

Charleston Water System (WS)		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	gallons: 118.0 million liters: 446.0 million	gallons: 37.5 million liters: 136.0 million
Average Daily Use	gallons: 54.5 million liters: 206.3 million	gallons: 20.5 million liters: 83.3 million
Daily Peak Use	gallons: 80.0 million liters: 302.8 million	gallons: 28.0 million liters: 105.9 million

City of Goose Creek		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	gallons: 5.9 million liters: 22.3 million	Treated at BCW & SA
Average Daily Use	gallons: 2.1 million liters: 7.9 million	See BCW & SA
Daily Peak Use	gallons: 3.5 million liters: 13.2 million	See BCW & SA

Dorchester County Water and Sewer		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	Purchased from Charleston WS	gallons: 8.0 million liters: 30.3 million
Average Daily Use	Purchased from Charleston WS	gallons: 3.0 million liters: 11.4 million
Daily Peak Use	Purchased from Charleston WS	gallons: 3.2 million liters: 12.1 million

Moncks Corner Public Works Commission		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	gallons: 3.5 million liters: 13.2 million	gallons: 1.6 million liters: 6.0 million
Average Daily Use	gallons: 0.9 million liters: 3.4 million	gallons: 1.1 million liters: 4.2 million
Daily Peak Use	gallons: 1.3 million liters: 4.9 million	gallons: 1.5 million liters: 5.7 million
Expansion plans: permit submitted to DHEC for plant upgrade.		

Mt. Pleasant Waterworks and Sewer Commission		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	gallons: 12.6 million liters: 47.6 million	gallons: 9.7 million liters: 36.7 million
Average Daily Use	gallons: 8.4 million liters: 31.8 million	gallons: 6.4 million liters: 24.2 million
Daily Peak Use	gallons: 12.5 million liters: 47.3 million	gallons: 8.8 million liters: 33.3 million

North Charleston Sewer District		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	Provided by Charleston WS	gallons: 27.0 million liters: 102.0 million
Average Daily Use	Provided by Charleston WS	gallons: 14.0 million liters: 52.9 million
Daily Peak Use	Provided by Charleston WS	gallons: 42.0 million liters: 159.0 million

Summerville Commissioners of Public Works		
	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>
Daily Capacity	gallons: 16.4 million liters: 62.1 million	gallons: 10.0 million liters: 37.8 million
Average Daily Use	gallons: 7.0 million liters: 26.5 million	gallons: 5.6 million liters: 21.2 million
Daily Peak Use	gallons: 11.9 million liters: 45.0 million	gallons: 9.8 million liters: 37.1 million