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# FLORENCE

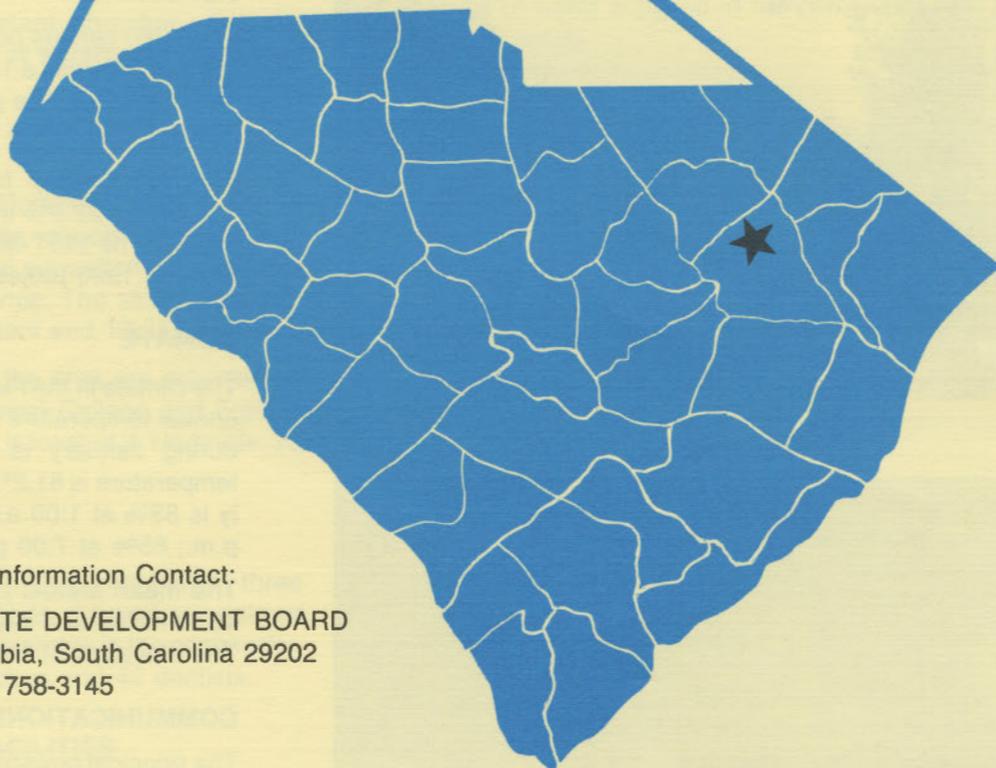
## south carolina



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STATE DOCUMENTS



For Additional Information Contact:

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
P. O. Box 927, Columbia, South Carolina 29202  
(803) 758-3145



Florence Little Theatre



Black Creek Plantation and Country Club



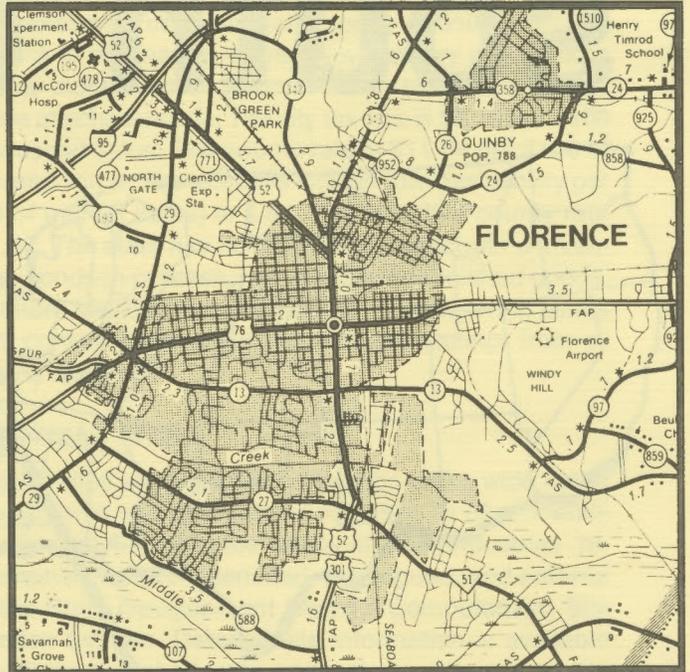
Stokes Hall  
Francis Marion College



Florence-Darlington Area  
Technical Education Center

## LOCATION

As depicted on the cover, Florence, seat of Florence County, is in the northeastern section of the state. Charleston, South Carolina's busiest port, is 110 miles south. Columbia is 80 miles west and Greenville is 182 miles west. Florence is 294 miles east of Atlanta; 639 miles south of New York; and 2,817 miles east of San Francisco.



## POPULATION

The 1980 census population of the city of Florence was 30,062. This was a 15.6% increase from the 1970 population of 25,997. The population within a 15-mile radius is 100,018 and within a 30-mile radius is 272,954.

Florence County had a 1980 census population of 110,163, a 22.9% increase over the 1970 population of 89,636. The 1981 estimated county population is 110,900 and the 1990 projected population is 136,800.

## CLIMATE

The climate in the Florence area is temperate with a mean annual temperature of 63.5° F. The average temperature during January is 45.4° F, while the average July temperature is 81.2° F. The average relative humidity daily is 83% at 1:00 a.m.; 87% at 7:00 a.m.; 52% at 1:00 p.m.; 65% at 7:00 p.m.

The mean annual precipitation in the Florence area is 46.36 inches and the average growing season is 241 days. The elevation of Florence is 140 feet above sea level.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The principal newspaper of Florence is the *Florence Morning News*, published daily. The community is served by radio stations WJMX-AM, WOLS-AM, WYNN-AM and WSTN-FM. Television stations WPDE, WBTW and WJPM-ETV are also located in Florence. Cable TV is available. Telephone service is provided by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company.

## GOVERNMENT

The community has a council-manager form of municipal government. The six city council members and the mayor are elected for four-year terms. Florence County is governed locally by a nine-member council and an administrator. Council members are elected for four-year terms.

## POLICE AND FIRE

The Florence Police Department has 69 full-time police officers. The department operates 41 radio equipped patrol cars. The Florence Fire Department has 62 full-time firemen who operate ten pumper trucks. Florence's insurance rating is Class 4.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Florence has seven banks, three savings and loan associations and a locally chartered savings and loan bank being planned. The banks have total assets of \$7.92 billion dollars, while the savings and loan associations have total assets of \$989 million.

## HOTELS AND MOTELS

The community has 25 motels with a total of over 2,200 overnight accommodations. Numerous banquet and meeting facilities for large and small groups are available in the community.

## CHURCHES

Florence has over 90 Protestant churches. Catholic churches and a Jewish house of worship are located in the city.

## EDUCATION

Florence, which is included in Florence District 1, has 12 elementary schools; three middle schools; and three high schools, which includes special education. A vocational center is also located in Florence. The student/teacher ratio is 19 to 1, with 715 teachers and 13,843 students.

Higher education facilities for the area are provided by the Florence-Darlington Technical College and Francis Marion College. Coker College is located in Hartsville, 23 miles away.

## MEDICAL SERVICES

Medical services are provided in the community by three hospitals with a total of 620 beds. Several specialized medical treatment facilities are available in the community. Florence has 125 medical doctors and 42 dentists.

## RECREATION AND CIVIC FACILITIES

Recreation facilities consist of year-round organized recreational programs, Little League and Dixie Youth League baseball programs, several fully equipped parks and playgrounds and three country clubs with 18-hole golf courses. In addition, the city has two museums, a little theater group, symphony orchestra, concert association,

two ballet companies, bowling alley, family Y.M.C.A., and nine movie theaters. Excellent hunting and fishing areas offer a wide variety of fish, game and fowl. Florence is 70 miles from South Carolina's Grand Strand coastal resorts.

## POWER

Electric power is supplied by Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L). CP&L has firm generation capacity of 8,000 megawatts and forecasts sufficient reserves to accommodate industrial growth in its service area. Economical power from nuclear energy accounts for a major portion of CP&L's generation and serves to keep the company's rates below the national average. Usually CP&L will install, at no cost to the customer, the necessary equipment to supply the electrical requirements. Alternative rate schedules are available to the industrial customer with the most economical rate for a specific application determined by the characteristics of the user's consumption.

## FUELS

Natural gas is supplied by Peoples Natural Gas Company.

## WATER

The community obtains its municipal water supply from seven deep wells. The system has a daily capacity of 12.5 million gallons, with an average daily demand of 7.0 million gallons. Treated water storage consists of 3.1 million gallons in elevated storage.

Analysis of water supplied in the community:

Total solids	130 mg/L
Alkalinity	64 mg/L
Calcium	2 mg/L
Hardness	6 mg/L
Iron	1 mg/L
pH	8.4

## SEWER

Florence utilizes a tertiary wastewater treatment plant, with a daily capacity of 9.6 million gallons. The system is currently averaging 5.8 million gallons per day.

## LABOR

Because labor information may change in this area, a current labor availability report prepared and kept up to date by the S. C. State Development Board will be furnished to prospective manufacturers at their request. The comprehensive report will include sources of recruitable labor, labor force characteristics, work force skill levels, earnings data and other pertinent information. The S. C. State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education has the resources to recruit and train workers in accordance with a company's entry criteria. This training is at little or no cost to the employer. A lead-time schedule is developed to coordinate recruiting, testing, selecting, and training. This assures that persons will be able to move from training to their respective jobs at the time the plant is ready for initial production.

## TRANSPORTATION

Florence is served by two interstate highways, I-20 and I-95, four United States highways and numerous South Carolina highways. The community is served by five lines of Seaboard System Railroad. Florence has 39 authorized motor carriers, 17 of which have terminal facilities in the area.

### Freight Delivery Times:

To:	By Rail:	By Truck:
Atlanta	3 days	1 day
Boston	6 days	4 days
Chicago	6 days	3 days
Houston	9 days	2 days
New York	4 days	3 days
St. Louis	6 days	2 days
San Francisco	12 days	5 days

The Florence City-County Airport, three miles from downtown Florence, offers regularly scheduled commercial airline service on Atlantis and Trans Southern Airlines. Private aircraft also utilize the Florence Airport, which has a 6,500-foot runway and a 6,000-foot runway, both of which are paved and lighted. Services available at the airport are flight instruction, rental charter, air taxi, ILS, airframe and powerplant repairs, 24-hour weather service, 100 LL and Jet A fuels, Unicom, RBn and Abvortoc.

## FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

There is a Foreign Trade Zone in South Carolina located

in Charleston, 100 miles away. The Foreign Trade Zone allows manufacturers to store, manufacture or process goods without paying U. S. Customs duties or worrying about quota compliance. This Foreign Trade Zone is served by a multi-mode transportation network which provides excellent accessibility to market areas.

## TAXES

The assessment on industrial property in South Carolina is 10.5% of the market value. New industry is granted a five-year moratorium on general county taxes (with the exception of school taxes). The city tax rate is \$8.70 per \$100 of assessed value. The county rate is \$11.64 per \$100 of assessed value. The effective city tax rate (tax liability per \$100 of market value) is \$.91. The effective county rate is \$1.22. The state has no tax on a manufacturer's inventories, goods-in-process, raw materials or finished goods. Treatment facilities or equipment of manufacturing plants which control water or air pollution are exempt from all property taxation.

## INDUSTRIAL SITES

Industrial sites are available in Florence with a wide range of geographic and topographic features. In all probability, a site that will meet the needs of most industries' requirements has been identified, catalogued, and entered into the State Development Board's Computerized Site Selection System. Detailed site information is available and will be furnished upon request.

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Name	Product or Service	Employees
American Bakeries Co.	Bakery products	351
E. I. DuPont De Nemours & Co.	Polyester film	725
General Electric	Mobile radio systems	1,075
La-Z-Boy East	Recliners	480
Marlowe Manufacturing Co.	Children's clothing	700
Nucor Corp., Vulcraft Div.	Steel joists & girders	360
Stone Container Corp.	Kraft linerboard	550
Union Carbide Corp., Linde Division	Welding equipment	675

