

## 1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

## PRELIMINARY REPORTS

FOR RELEASE

July 27, 1951

Washington 25, D. C.

Series PC-12, No. 30

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
APRIL 1, 1950

(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of South Carolina between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 217,223, or 11.4 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 88,936, or 32.7 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 41.4 percent. On the other hand, the number of persons 15 to 24 years old decreased by 11.2 percent. In 1950 there were fewer males than females in the population of South Carolina, and the shortage of males was relatively larger than it had been at the time of the preceding census. There were 98.7 males for every 100 females in 1950 as compared with 97.0 in 1940. Between 1940 and 1950, the nonwhite population of the State increased by only 1.0 percent in contrast to an increase of 19.3 percent in the white population.

## DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,<sup>1</sup> and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringes, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated

<sup>1</sup> Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "non-white" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR SOUTH CAROLINA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	2,117,027	1,899,804	11.4	777,921	1,339,106	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,293,403	1,084,308	19.3	542,262	751,141	61.1	57.1	69.7	56.1
Nonwhite.....	823,624	815,496	1.0	235,659	587,965	38.9	42.9	30.3	43.9
Male.....	1,040,540	935,239	11.3	370,277	670,263	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	643,573	540,597	19.0	261,984	381,589	61.8	57.8	70.8	56.9
Nonwhite.....	396,967	394,642	0.6	108,293	288,674	38.2	42.2	29.2	43.1
Female.....	1,076,487	964,565	11.6	407,644	668,843	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	649,830	543,711	19.5	280,278	369,552	60.4	56.4	68.8	55.3
Nonwhite.....	426,657	420,854	1.4	127,366	299,291	39.6	43.6	31.2	44.7

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR SOUTH CAROLINA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	2,117,027	1,899,804	11.4	777,921	638,495	700,611	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	36.7	30.2	33.1	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	279,596	210,660	32.7	92,705	91,416	95,475	13.2	11.1	11.9	14.3	13.6
5 to 14 years.....	456,370	430,025	6.1	133,392	137,132	185,846	21.6	22.6	17.1	21.5	26.5
15 to 24 years.....	371,283	417,981	-11.2	135,614	111,105	124,564	17.5	22.0	17.4	17.4	17.8
25 to 34 years.....	321,740	289,325	11.2	138,815	103,669	79,256	15.2	15.2	17.8	16.2	11.3
35 to 44 years.....	267,424	210,873	26.8	112,496	78,290	76,638	12.6	11.1	14.5	12.3	10.9
45 to 54 years.....	183,395	158,574	15.7	75,137	49,431	58,827	8.7	8.3	9.7	7.7	8.4
55 to 64 years.....	122,205	101,052	20.9	48,071	32,484	41,650	5.8	5.3	6.2	5.1	5.9
65 years and over.....	115,014	81,314	41.4	41,691	34,968	38,355	5.4	4.3	5.4	5.5	5.5
Median age.....years..	23.7	22.4	...	27.0	23.2	20.5	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	1,040,540	935,239	11.3	370,277	314,621	355,642	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	141,836	105,918	33.9	47,245	46,319	48,272	13.6	11.3	12.8	14.7	13.6
5 to 14 years.....	231,003	216,875	6.5	66,901	69,115	94,987	22.2	23.2	18.1	22.0	26.7
15 to 24 years.....	182,405	204,325	-10.7	62,777	55,223	64,405	17.5	21.8	17.0	17.6	18.1
25 to 34 years.....	156,507	140,452	11.4	66,753	50,883	38,871	15.0	15.0	18.0	16.2	10.9
35 to 44 years.....	129,850	100,467	29.2	53,288	38,901	37,661	12.5	10.7	14.4	12.4	10.6
45 to 54 years.....	87,880	77,606	13.2	34,997	23,792	29,091	8.4	8.3	9.5	7.6	8.2
55 to 64 years.....	58,931	50,427	16.9	21,861	15,032	22,038	5.7	5.4	5.9	4.8	6.2
65 years and over.....	52,128	39,169	33.1	16,455	15,356	20,317	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.9	5.7
Median age.....years..	23.1	22.1	...	26.2	22.6	20.4	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	1,076,487	964,565	11.6	407,644	323,874	344,969	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	137,760	104,742	31.5	45,460	45,097	47,203	12.8	10.9	11.2	13.9	13.7
5 to 14 years.....	225,367	213,150	5.7	66,491	68,017	90,859	20.9	22.1	16.3	21.0	26.3
15 to 24 years.....	188,878	213,656	-11.6	72,837	55,882	60,159	17.5	22.2	17.9	17.3	17.4
25 to 34 years.....	165,233	148,873	11.0	72,062	52,786	40,385	15.3	15.4	17.7	16.3	11.7
35 to 44 years.....	137,574	110,406	24.6	59,208	39,389	38,977	12.8	11.4	14.5	12.2	11.3
45 to 54 years.....	95,515	80,968	18.0	40,140	25,639	29,736	8.9	8.4	9.8	7.9	8.6
55 to 64 years.....	63,274	50,625	25.0	26,210	17,452	19,612	5.9	5.2	6.4	5.4	5.7
65 years and over.....	62,886	42,145	49.2	25,236	19,612	18,038	5.8	4.4	6.2	6.1	5.2
Median age.....years..	24.3	22.7	...	27.6	23.7	20.7	...	...	...	...	...