



Columbia's Population



Population Projections

In 2017, the City of Columbia had approximately 133,112 citizens. The number of people coming to the Midlands is expected to increase dramatically in the coming decades. In order to support the influx of new people, we must try to understand where these people are going to live and the impact that will have on Columbia.

Estimated Percentage Increase 2010-2050:

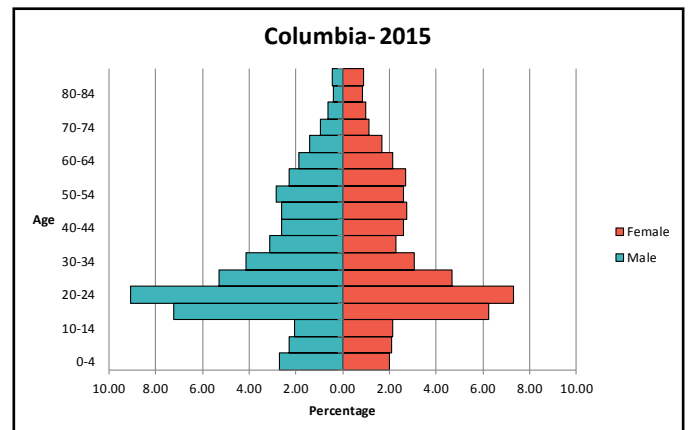
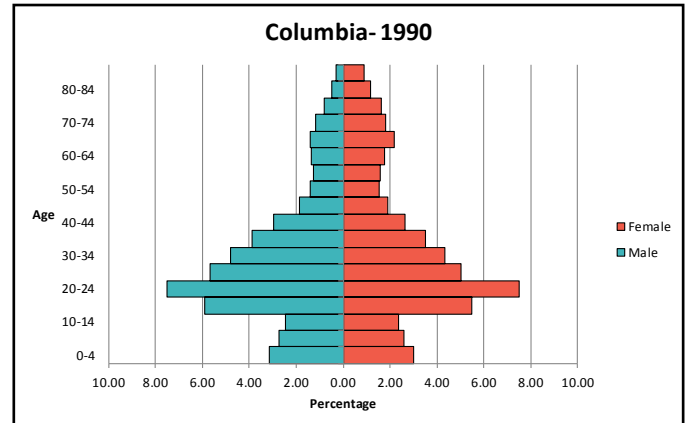
<h1>+93%</h1> Central Midlands Region	<h1>+84%</h1> Richland County
<h1>+121%</h1> Lexington County	<h1>+????%</h1> City of Columbia

Source: Central Midlands Council of Governments

While we believe that the density of the urban core will continue to increase based on regional and national, it is difficult to accurately estimate how many of these people will actually end up within the City limits. Regardless of where people choose to live, the City will still have to address the impacts of this regional population increase as the majority of these people will come to Columbia to work or for entertainment.

Age

Columbia is a vibrant community with various age groups living and working next to each other. To plan for everyone regardless of age or capability, it is important to better understand who calls Columbia home.

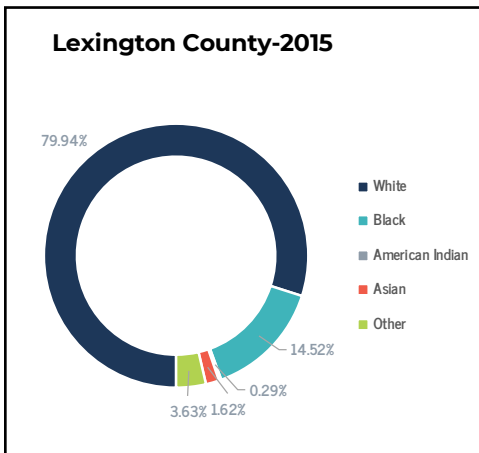
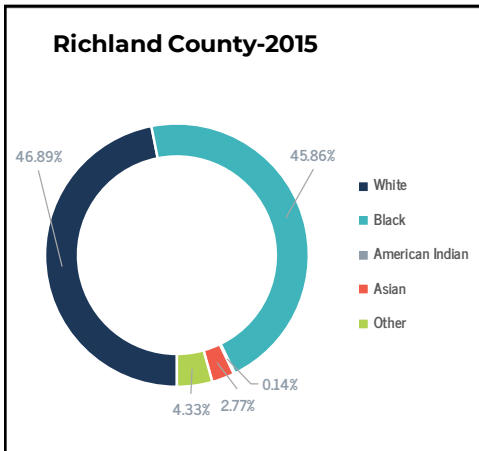
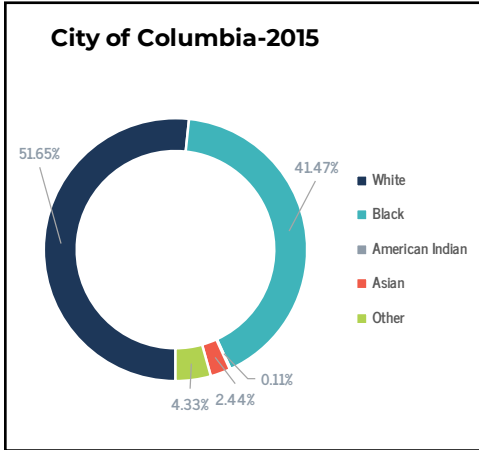


Source: United States Census Bureau

As can be seen in the above charts, the City of Columbia has a large number of people age 20 to 30, due largely to the presence of USC and other universities and colleges as well as the City's low cost of living. At the same time, the City, following similar national trends, is aging with a large number of boomers entering retirement age. In order to attract and retain residents and workers, it is important to ensure Columbia is attractive to livable for all age groups.

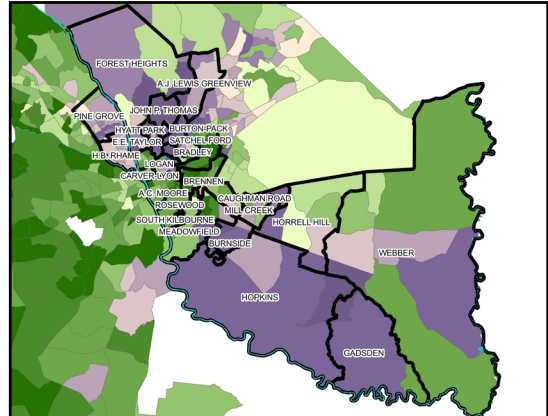
Racial Makeup

The City of Columbia is one of the most diverse communities in South Carolina. The City is home to people with a wide array of backgrounds, languages and beliefs, especially compared to neighboring communities. As the City plans for our future, it is important to recognize that different communities may have different or unique desires or needs.

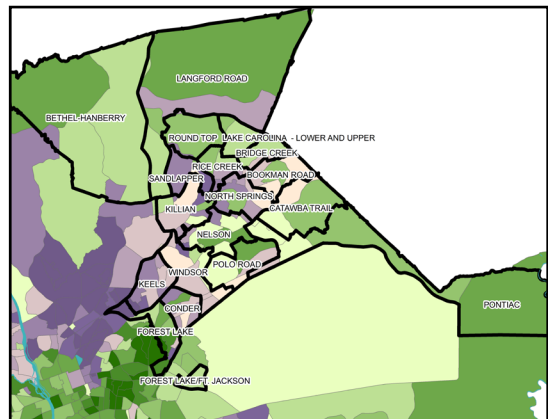


School Districts

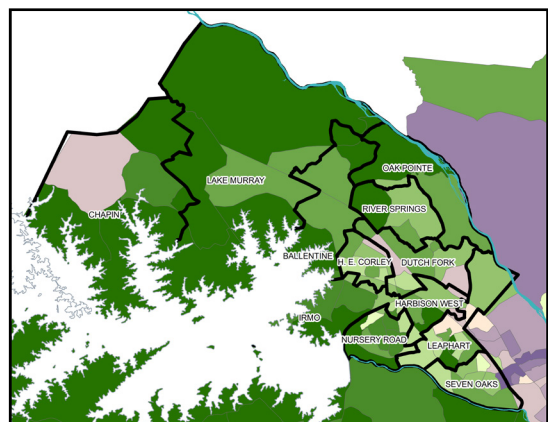
One of the main reasons a family chooses to live in a certain area is because of the availability of quality of the schools in that area. These school attendance zones can become a driver of the inequity as higher achieving schools will attract people who can afford to move and live there, leaving behind those unable to move. As the City attempts to become more equitable, these barriers should be considered.



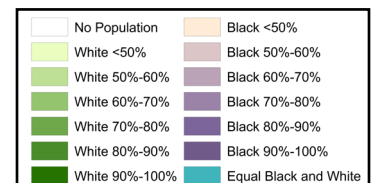
Richland One Elementary School Attendance Zones



Richland Two Elementary School Attendance Zones



LexRich 5 Elementary School Attendance Zones



Source: United States Census Bureau

Source: United States Census Bureau