
State of South Carolina
Department of Revenue
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SC INFORMATION LETTER #08-8

SUBJECT: Per Capita Income Figures for State of South Carolina and Counties

DATE: May 6, 2008

SUPERSEDES: All previous documents and any oral directives in conflict herewith.

REFERENCE: S. C. Code Section 12-6-3360 (2000, Supp. 2007)
S. C. Code Section 12-6-3410 (2000, Supp. 2007)
S. C. Code Chapter 15, Title 12 (Supp. 2007)
S. C. Code Section 12-36-2120(65) (2000, Supp. 2007)
S. C. Code 12-37-930 (2000, Supp. 2007)

AUTHORITY: S. C. Code Ann. Section 12-4-320 (2000)
S.C. Code Ann. Section 1-23-10(4) (Supp. 2007)
SC Revenue Procedure #05-2

SCOPE: An Information Letter is a written statement issued to the public to announce general information useful in complying with the laws administered by the Department. An Information Letter has no precedential value.

In recent years, a number of income, sales and use, and property tax incentives have been added that require jobs associated with the incentive to meet certain state or county per capita personal income (herein referred to as “per capita income”) requirements to determine qualification for, or the amount of, the particular incentive. In order to aid taxpayers in determining whether the per capita income requirements of an incentive are met, the Department publishes the county and state per capita income amounts each year.

Generally, the information concerning state per capita income is updated twice a year, usually in May and October. The information concerning per capita income for South Carolina’s counties is updated once a year, usually in May. The Department publishes both the county and state figures when it receives the figures from the South Carolina Board of Economic Advisors. The most recently available state per capita income figure is:

State of South Carolina \$31,013

The following chart contains the most recently available per capita income figures for all South Carolina counties.

County	Per Capita Income
Abbeville	\$23,172
Aiken	\$29,912
Allendale	\$22,509
Anderson	\$27,955
Bamberg	\$21,991
Barnwell	\$21,900
Beaufort	\$41,724
Berkeley	\$27,069
Calhoun	\$30,810
Charleston	\$36,326
Cherokee	\$23,682
Chester	\$26,310
Chesterfield	\$23,208
Clarendon	\$22,350
Colleton	\$24,550
Darlington	\$27,361
Dillon	\$21,916
Dorchester	\$27,408
Edgefield	\$24,620
Fairfield	\$25,427
Florence	\$30,334
Georgetown	\$32,524
Greenville	\$33,460
Greenwood	\$26,529
Hampton	\$22,668
Horry	\$27,809
Jasper	\$26,247
Kershaw	\$30,067
Lancaster	\$21,497
Laurens	\$25,155
Lee	\$21,601
Lexington	\$33,645
McCormick	\$21,610
Marion	\$21,608
Marlboro	\$20,661
Newberry	\$25,160
Oconee	\$29,715
Orangeburg	\$25,528
Pickens	\$25,591
Richland	\$33,157
Saluda	\$27,603
Spartanburg	\$28,261

Sumter	\$26,242
Union	\$25,320
Williamsburg	\$21,038
York	\$31,657

Among the incentives that use per capita income are the following:

Personal Property Corporate Headquarters Credit in Code Section 12-6-3410 - The personal property headquarters credit contained in Code Section 12-6-3410 is available to a taxpayer that: (1) meets all the requirements necessary to claim the real property headquarters credit, (2) meets other statutory requirements as to the personal property that is used at the headquarters; (3) creates at least 75 new full-time headquarters or research and development type jobs at the headquarters and those jobs have an average cash compensation level of more than one and one-half times the per capita income of the state; and (4) pays all its employees in the state an average cash compensation level of more than twice the state per capita income.

“Qualifying Service-Related Facility” Definition in Code Section 12-6-3360 - Code Section 12-6-3360 allows a job tax credit for taxpayers that create new full-time jobs at a qualifying new facility or an expansion of an existing qualifying facility. One of qualifying facilities is a “qualifying service-related facility.” A “qualifying service-related facility” includes a business, other than a business engaged in legal, accounting, banking or investment services or retail sales, which has a net increase at a single location of at least:

- (1) two hundred fifty jobs;
- (2) one hundred twenty-five that have an average cash compensation level of more than one and one-half times the state per capita income or the per capita income in the county where the jobs are located, whichever is lower;
- (3) seventy-five jobs that have an average cash compensation level of more than twice the state per capita income or the per capita income in the county where the jobs are located, whichever is lower; or
- (4) thirty jobs that have an average cash compensation level of more than two and one-half times the state per capita income or the per capita income in the county where the jobs are located, whichever is lower.

Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Computer Equipment for Technology Intensive Facilities in Code Section 12-36-2120(65) – A sales and use tax exemption is available for computer equipment used in connection with a technology intensive facility if the taxpayer meets certain investment requirements and creates at least 100 jobs at the facility over a five year period and those jobs have an average cash compensation of at least 150% of the state per capita income.

Special Benefits for Life Sciences Facilities in Chapter 15, Title 12 and Code Section 12-37-930 – A business may qualify for special incentives if its facility qualifies as a life sciences facility A business will qualify as a life sciences facility if it is engaged in pharmaceutical, medicine, and related laboratory instrument manufacturing, processing, or research and development and it invests \$100 million in a project and creates 200 new jobs at the project with an average cash compensation of at least 150% of the annual per capita income in the state or county in which the facility is located, whichever is less.

Small Business Job Tax Credit in Code Section 12-6-3360 - Code Section 12-6-3360(C)(2) provides that small businesses with 99 or fewer employees that increase employment by two or more new full-time jobs may be eligible for the job tax credit. The amount of the credit depends in part on whether the gross wages of the new full-time job amounts to a minimum of 120% of the county's or state's average per capita income, whichever is lower.

Each of these incentives has special rules on how to determine whether the per capita income requirements of each particular incentive have been met. Therefore, the appropriate statutes should be consulted to determine whether the per capita income requirements of the particular statute are met as well as to assure that all other requirements of the statute have been met.