

**Number of South Carolina Certificates of Religious Exemption
Presented to Public and Private School for Students Enrolled for Last Five School Years**

South Carolina Code Section 44-29-180 (A) requires schools to maintain records of vaccinations or immunizations. Annually, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) requires public and private schools to complete the School Summary of Student Immunization Status to obtain the number of students enrolled in South Carolina schools that are adequately protected against certain vaccine-preventable diseases (DHEC Regulation 61-8). Principals/school administrators submit this report, which includes the number of students admitted to school with exemptions, within forty-five (45) calendar days after the beginning of each school year. This process also ensures that schools identify students who are not adequately protected, and can either refer them to a health care provider for vaccination or have an available list in the case of a disease outbreak. In the case of an outbreak, students who are not vaccinated against the disease will be recommended to be excluded from school until the outbreak has been declared over. The data below represents the number of students enrolled with South Carolina Certificates of Religious Exemption for the last five (5) school years.

County	2015-2016			2016-2017			2017-2018			2018-2019			2019-2020		
	Enrolled	#	%	Enrolled	#	%	Enrolled	#	%	Enrolled	#	%	Enrolled	#	%
Abbeville	3,225	17	0.53%	3,323	33	0.99%	3,281	59	1.80%	3,266	71	2.17%	3,213	67	2.09%
Aiken	25,395	131	0.52%	26,163	158	0.60%	25,955	165	0.64%	25,624	170	0.66%	25,622	192	0.75%
Allendale	1,196	0	0.00%	1,156	1	0.09%	1,110	1	0.09%	1,125	2	0.18%	1,036	5	0.48%
Anderson	33,088	284	0.86%	32,244	297	0.92%	32,301	376	1.16%	32,386	431	1.33%	32,428	491	1.51%
Bamberg	2,197	5	0.23%	2,200	4	0.18%	2,180	7	0.32%	2,100	9	0.43%	2,074	4	0.19%
Barnwell	4,071	16	0.39%	3,871	17	0.44%	3,883	15	0.39%	3,773	15	0.40%	3,743	17	0.45%
Beaufort	23,941	227	0.95%	24,321	269	1.11%	24,482	278	1.14%	24,744	335	1.35%	24,828	386	1.55%
Berkeley	33,585	208	0.62%	33,830	269	0.80%	35,224	321	0.91%	37,236	419	1.13%	38,391	500	1.30%
Calhoun	1,991	18	0.90%	1,981	17	0.86%	1,984	19	0.96%	1,951	23	1.18%	1,972	24	1.22%
Charleston	54,026	604	1.12%	53,749	629	1.17%	55,511	722	1.30%	54,645	912	1.67%	55,881	1,053	1.88%
Cherokee	9,349	31	0.33%	8,683	43	0.50%	8,573	54	0.63%	8,497	76	0.89%	8,612	94	1.09%
Chester	5,108	19	0.37%	5,199	12	0.23%	5,252	16	0.30%	5,118	25	0.49%	5,061	32	0.63%
Chesterfield	7,461	18	0.24%	7,358	5	0.07%	7,391	22	0.30%	7,018	22	0.31%	7,105	29	0.41%
Clarendon	6,164	11	0.18%	5,985	9	0.15%	5,820	5	0.09%	6,017	8	0.13%	5,876	12	0.20%
Colleton	6,039	20	0.33%	6,016	10	0.17%	5,921	15	0.25%	5,789	30	0.52%	5,697	39	0.68%
Darlington	11,123	39	0.35%	10,999	40	0.36%	10,981	44	0.40%	10,815	51	0.47%	10,669	65	0.61%
Dillon	6,075	17	0.28%	6,001	17	0.28%	5,963	20	0.34%	5,997	28	0.47%	5,798	29	0.50%
Dorchester	28,745	237	0.82%	28,067	223	0.79%	29,138	293	1.01%	29,216	430	1.47%	29,220	499	1.71%
Edgefield	4,049	6	0.15%	3,560	17	0.48%	3,460	16	0.46%	3,506	13	0.37%	3,486	18	0.52%
Fairfield	2,941	7	0.24%	2,944	5	0.17%	2,970	6	0.20%	2,954	14	0.47%	2,682	17	0.63%
Florence	24,911	87	0.35%	24,360	96	0.39%	24,490	122	0.50%	23,856	136	0.57%	23,835	148	0.62%
Georgetown	9,672	54	0.56%	9,528	57	0.60%	9,484	71	0.75%	9,420	92	0.98%	9,305	103	1.11%
Greenville	83,192	1,371	1.65%	86,244	1,678	1.95%	87,200	1,946	2.23%	87,923	2,178	2.48%	90,491	2,571	2.84%
Greenwood	11,909	70	0.59%	11,839	74	0.63%	11,882	81	0.68%	11,737	113	0.96%	11,772	123	1.04%
Hampton	3,258	2	0.06%	3,152	8	0.25%	3,114	4	0.13%	2,775	1	0.04%	2,910	9	0.31%
Horry	44,016	346	0.79%	44,293	455	1.03%	45,318	387	0.85%	45,948	536	1.17%	46,048	733	1.59%
Jasper	3,916	6	0.15%	3,835	14	0.37%	4,081	5	0.12%	4,030	22	0.55%	4,209	18	0.43%
Kershaw	10,705	79	0.74%	10,961	52	0.47%	10,966	51	0.47%	11,005	85	0.77%	11,272	91	0.81%
Lancaster	12,668	67	0.53%	13,008	93	0.71%	12,892	113	0.88%	13,463	149	1.11%	14,220	179	1.26%
Laurens	9,252	49	0.53%	8,873	56	0.63%	8,753	82	0.94%	8,739	93	1.06%	8,544	86	1.01%
Lee	2,525	3	0.12%	2,417	5	0.21%	2,380	5	0.21%	2,238	4	0.18%	2,121	6	0.28%
Lexington	56,817	482	0.85%	58,629	569	0.97%	59,097	630	1.07%	58,482	762	1.30%	59,423	810	1.36%
Marion	5,274	4	0.08%	5,042	8	0.16%	4,859	9	0.19%	4,668	10	0.21%	4,626	11	0.24%
Marlboro	4,288	1	0.02%	4,251	3	0.07%	4,196	2	0.05%	4,098	9	0.22%	3,999	7	0.18%
McCormick	858	3	0.35%	785	0	0.00%	779	0	0.00%	698	0	0.00%	635	1	0.16%
Newberry	6,099	24	0.39%	6,012	38	0.63%	6,101	41	0.67%	6,017	42	0.70%	5,949	43	0.72%
Oconee	10,152	96	0.95%	10,530	117	1.11%	10,504	120	1.14%	10,536	179	1.70%	10,467	184	1.76%
Orangeburg	14,462	26	0.18%	13,305	30	0.23%	13,574	35	0.26%	13,583	29	0.21%	13,301	31	0.23%
Pickens	16,565	148	0.89%	16,411	176	1.07%	16,224	199	1.23%	16,129	250	1.55%	15,768	279	1.77%
Richland	61,470	457	0.74%	63,000	602	0.96%	63,700	764	1.20%	60,851	781	1.28%	61,306	857	1.40%
Saluda	2,849	14	0.49%	2,357	12	0.51%	2,434	14	0.58%	2,489	19	0.76%	2,434	17	0.70%
Spartanburg	48,839	952	1.95%	50,053	1,126	2.25%	50,630	1,389	2.74%	50,683	1,608	3.17%	51,922	1,782	3.43%
Sumter	18,036	30	0.17%	18,115	33	0.18%	17,745	50	0.28%	17,532	63	0.36%	17,422	70	0.40%
Union	4,051	5	0.12%	4,048	11	0.27%	4,073	10	0.25%	4,060	14	0.34%	4,686	22	0.47%
Williamsburg	4,645	6	0.13%	4,470	6	0.13%	4,313	6	0.14%	3,912	8	0.20%	3,743	7	0.19%
York	45,597	569	1.25%	47,138	685	1.45%	48,389	837	1.73%	49,735	887	1.78%	50,631	1,014	2.00%
Statewide	785,795	6,866	0.87%	789,405	8,074	1.02%	798,558	9,427	1.18%	796,384	11,154	1.40%	804,433	12,775	1.59%

References: School Summary of Student Immunization Status for the school years noted above.

DHEC Immunization Division, 03/17/2020