

# Building and Supporting the Healthcare Workforce

## South Carolina Needs



# 2023



# Annual Report

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium

## Welcome to the Annual Report



Ann Lefebvre, MSW, CPHQ  
SC AHEC Executive Director

Welcome to the South Carolina AHEC 2023 Annual Report. The data and information compiled within these pages represent the work of our statewide system this past fiscal year to build and support the healthcare workforce South Carolina needs. But our work cannot only be measured in numbers. AHEC is the support for the student in a rural community so they can follow a lifelong dream to become the first in their family to go to college and pursue a career in healthcare. AHEC facilitates the rural rotation for the medical student who discovers the value and vibrance of a rural community-based practice while they stay in AHEC housing during their training. AHEC provides low-cost and local continuing professional development, so the nurse practitioner can maintain their licensure and certifications and meet the needs of their community. I welcome you to review the outcomes of the tremendous work our statewide team has done this past year but please remember that AHEC's mission is so much more than numbers. AHEC's mission is the people and ensuring that every community has access to the diverse, high-quality, patient-focused care that it needs.

In Fiscal  
Year  
2023:

**10,707**

Total individuals served  
throughout the state across  
all AHEC programs

**136,116**

Total contact hours  
of programming  
delivered statewide

**7,068** total contact hours of programming delivered to 992 high school and college students

**742** training site placements for health professions students with 263 preceptors at 196 sites

**87** medical students from 16 medical schools attended Family Medicine Interest Day

**98** total providers active in the Rural Incentive Grant Program

**8,096** professionals participated in SC AHEC continuing professional development programs

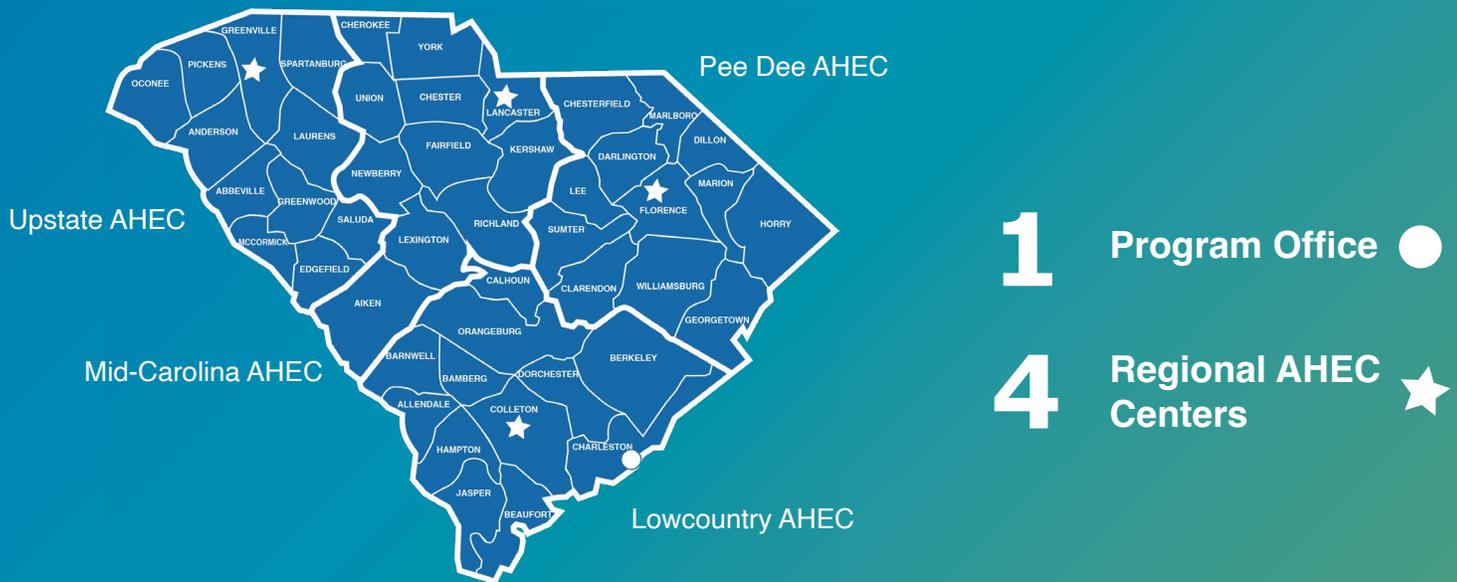
**50** data requests fulfilled and 7 state and national presentations given by the SCOHW team



*South Carolina AHEC System staff gathered at the statewide staff meeting in May 2023*

# South Carolina AHEC System

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC) connects students and professionals with the tools, training and resources necessary to develop an effective healthcare workforce, with a focus on primary care for rural and underserved areas. Our education, recruitment and retention programs serve as a bridge between academics and communities, connecting students to health careers, health professionals to communities and communities to better care. Since 1972, South Carolina AHEC has strived to improve the training, diversity and distribution of health professionals to build and support the healthcare workforce South Carolina needs to connect all communities to better health.



## SC AHEC Programs Build and Support the Healthcare Workforce South Carolina Needs

- + Health Careers Program**  
Supports diverse high school and college students on their paths to becoming healthcare professionals, building a future healthcare workforce that is representative of the communities it serves.
- + Recruitment & Retention Program**  
Provides financial incentives to healthcare professionals who practice in rural and underserved areas to improve the distribution of providers statewide.
- + Health Professions Student Program**  
Provides community-based training experiences, exposing students to the opportunities of working in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.
- + Continuing Professional Development**  
Enhances clinical skills, addresses ongoing and emerging health trends and helps professionals maintain their licensure and certifications.
- + Graduate Medical Education**  
Works collaboratively with all of the family medicine residency programs in the state to facilitate recruitment for high-quality training in family medicine in South Carolina.
- + SC Office for Healthcare Workforce**  
Analyzes data and provides policy-relevant information about the healthcare workforce in South Carolina.

# Fiscal Year 2023 Funding

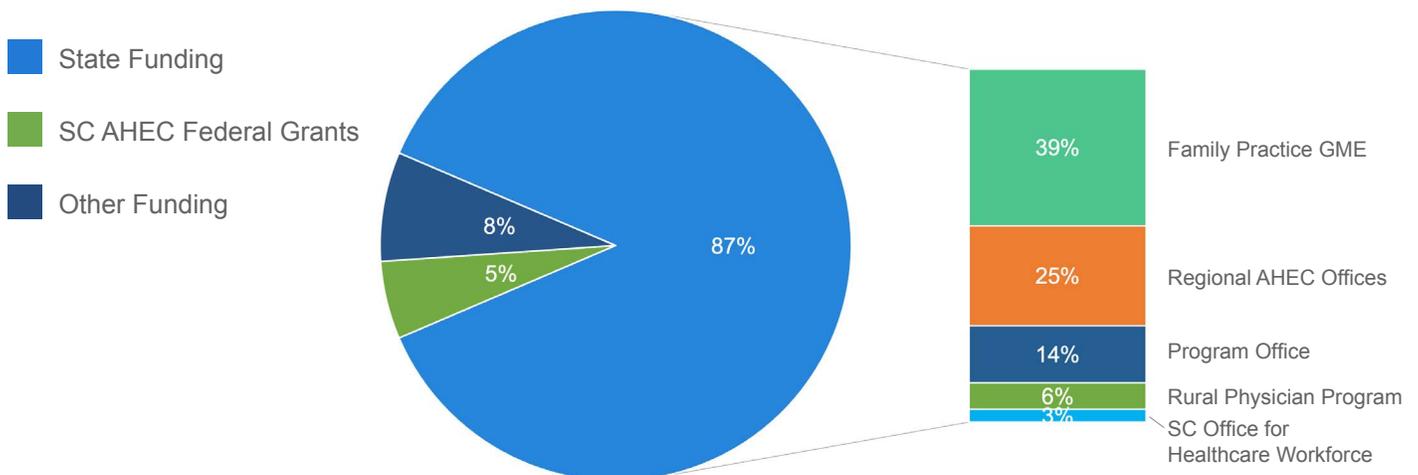
Family Practice GME	\$5,442,811
Regional AHEC Offices	\$3,477,458
Program Office	\$1,982,298
Rural Physician Incentive Grant Program	\$917,287
South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce	\$450,000
<b>Total State Funding</b>	<b>\$ 12,269,854</b>

AHEC Point of Service Maintenance & Enhancement Award, POSME (HRSA Grant)	\$577,000
Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program (HRSA Grant)	\$177,100
<b>Total Federal Funding</b>	<b>\$754,100</b>

Rural Physician Program/Rural Dentist Program (DHHS Contract)	\$ 637,513
Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program (MUSC Contract)	\$176,101
Office for Telehealth Education (MUSC Center for Telehealth Contract)	\$115,000
Delta Dental of South Carolina (Direct Grant)	\$50,000
Health Occupations Providing Excellence in Workforce Wellness & Resilience (USC Grant)	\$36,000
Results-Based Accountability (SCHA Grant)	\$33,497
DHEC Office of Primary Care Projects (DHEC Contract)	\$10,000
<b>Total Other Funding</b>	<b>\$1,058,111</b>

**Total Funding for FY23 \$14,082,065**

## Funding Breakdown



# Regional Highlights

Read the full regional highlights



Each of South Carolina AHEC's four regional centers serves an 11- or 12-county region of the state where they connect students to health careers, health professionals to communities and communities to better health. The centers do this through collaboration with healthcare organizations, high schools and colleges, graduate health professions programs and other community partners. Together, the four centers serve all 46 counties in the state.

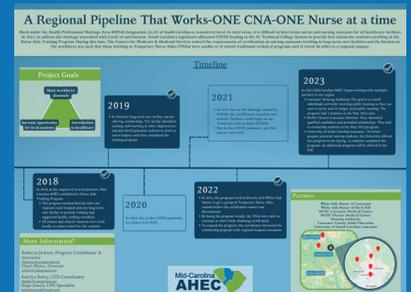
## Lowcountry AHEC | Walterboro | [lcahec.com](http://lcahec.com)

For more than 30 years, Lowcountry AHEC has been proud to support school nurses across South Carolina in their professional development through statewide conferences and meetings. When the pandemic disrupted in-person events, Lowcountry AHEC adapted by implementing online modules for school nurses with the first course, *Foundations of School Nursing*, being uploaded to the AHEC Learning Portal (ALP) in August 2020. A subaward from ESSER funds and a strong partnership with the SC Association of School Nurses (SCASN) has since allowed Lowcountry AHEC to update existing modules, introduce new courses and help present the 2023 School Nurse Summer Conference this past June.



## Mid-Carolina AHEC | Lancaster | [midcarolinaahec.org](http://midcarolinaahec.org)

Mid-Carolina AHEC's Nurse Aide Training Program was established in 2018 to assist regional healthcare facilities with their hiring and retention needs. The six-week program provides individuals with the skills and knowledge required to perform basic care services with all classes and clinicals hosted locally. At the end of their training, participants can sit for the exam to become certified nursing assistants (CNAs). This program was paused during the pandemic due to the federal government suspending the certification requirement to allow temporary nursing assistants (TNAs). In 2022 when the certification requirement were reinstated, Mid-Carolina AHEC stepped in to begin trainings again and ensure TNAs could obtain certification and keep their jobs.



## Pee Dee AHEC | Florence | [pedeeahec.net](http://pedeeahec.net)

Pee Dee AHEC has partnered with Francis Marion University (FMU) to collaborate on a Medical Mentors program, connecting undergraduate biology students with practicing medical professionals to gain real-life experiences in the field. The program aims to introduce college students to clinical experiences, giving them the opportunity to shadow physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals at McLeod Health Regional Medical Center to gain insights on the day-to-day realities of medicine. Offered to sophomores, juniors and seniors at FMU as a biology course for credit, program participants can also choose to count their hours towards their observation shadow hours that are required if they apply to medical or PA school later.

## Upstate AHEC | Greenville | [upstateahec.org](http://upstateahec.org)

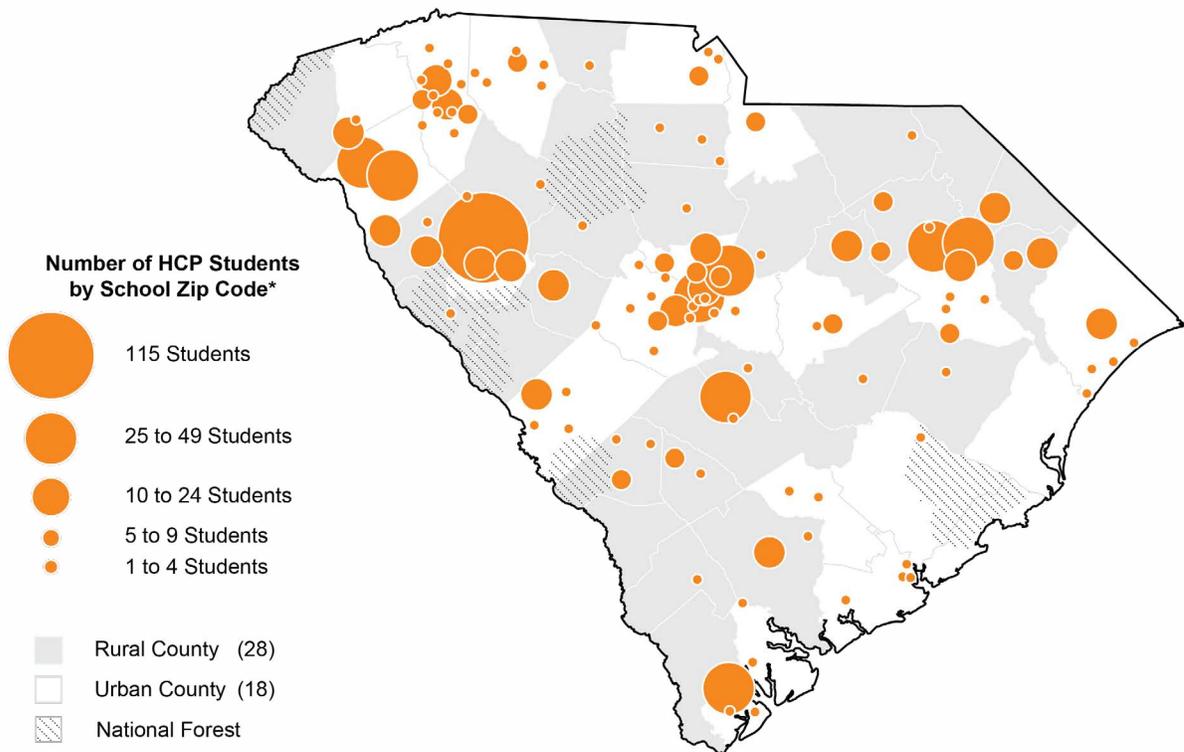
Anderson University (AU) and AnMed hosted their second annual Pre-Med Boot Camp this year in May and Upstate AHEC was proud to support it as a sponsor. The two-week workshop is structured to prepare students for the expectations and application process of medical school and is led by physicians from AnMed and faculty members from AU's College of Health Professions and College of Arts and Sciences. The program is offered at no cost to participants and is designed for students from smaller colleges in the state who typically don't have access to such opportunities available at larger universities or the ability to participate in longer summer programming. 24 students from nine area colleges attended the 2023 bootcamp.

# Health Careers Program

The South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program provides support to diverse high school and early college students on their paths to becoming healthcare professionals, building a future healthcare workforce that will reflect the diverse range of communities it serves in South Carolina.



## SC AHEC Health Careers Program (HCP) Serves Students across South Carolina in FY23



Note: \*Data show the unique number of Health Careers Program participants in FY2023 (7/1/2022-6/30/2023), by students' secondary school zip code. If secondary school zip code was missing, post-secondary school zip code was used (n=270). If that was missing, home zip code was used (n=59). Map excludes 51 out-of-state records and 16 records that were missing zip code. Sources: HCP data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urban area, based on the 2020 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022. Produced by: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce, a division of South Carolina AHEC.

## During the last fiscal year, the AHEC Health Careers Program achieved:

**7,068** total contact hours of programming delivered to 992 high school and college students

**55%** of HCP students identified as Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color\*

**36%** of HCP students were from rural areas

**1,416** hours of job shadowing completed by HCP students

\* Percent of total students for whom race/ethnicity data was available/provided

### ***Building South Carolina's Future Healthcare Workforce***



“I am a senior at Orangeburg High School for Health Professions. I have had the honor of participating in The South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program (HCP) for almost four years. During my tenure with SC AHEC, I was provided with aligned resources, exposure to health-related professions and facilitated my growth over these past four years in the health sciences. I have enjoyed attending the Pop-Out Sessions with professionals that are actively practicing in the respective areas, while also being provided with SAT and ACT resources. On March 14th, 2023, I participated in the SC AHEC Phlebotomy Workshop that was offered, and this piqued my interest in phlebotomy. As a senior in high school, I am currently enrolled in a Medical Assistant program that offers Phlebotomy, EKG, and Medical Assistant (MA) certifications. SC AHEC has provided me with unique opportunities to serve, as well as, facilitated and coordinated community-based training experiences, that have allowed me to enhance my skill set all while working in rural and underserved areas in Orangeburg County.”

Jackston M.N.  
Lowcountry AHEC HCP Student

“I participated in the HCP Summer Enrichment Program. I took a CNA class through NHC Healthcare and completed my classes and clinicals. I will graduate on Friday, July 28, 2023, with my certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant. I completed this while also touring colleges and deciding my future and college choices . . . Upstate AHEC will be here in the future to help me with my college and career goals, and to help guide me in other health career opportunities; so, I don't have to just settle on one.”

Amerika K.  
Upstate AHEC HCP Student



### **Why It Matters: Connecting Students to Health Careers**

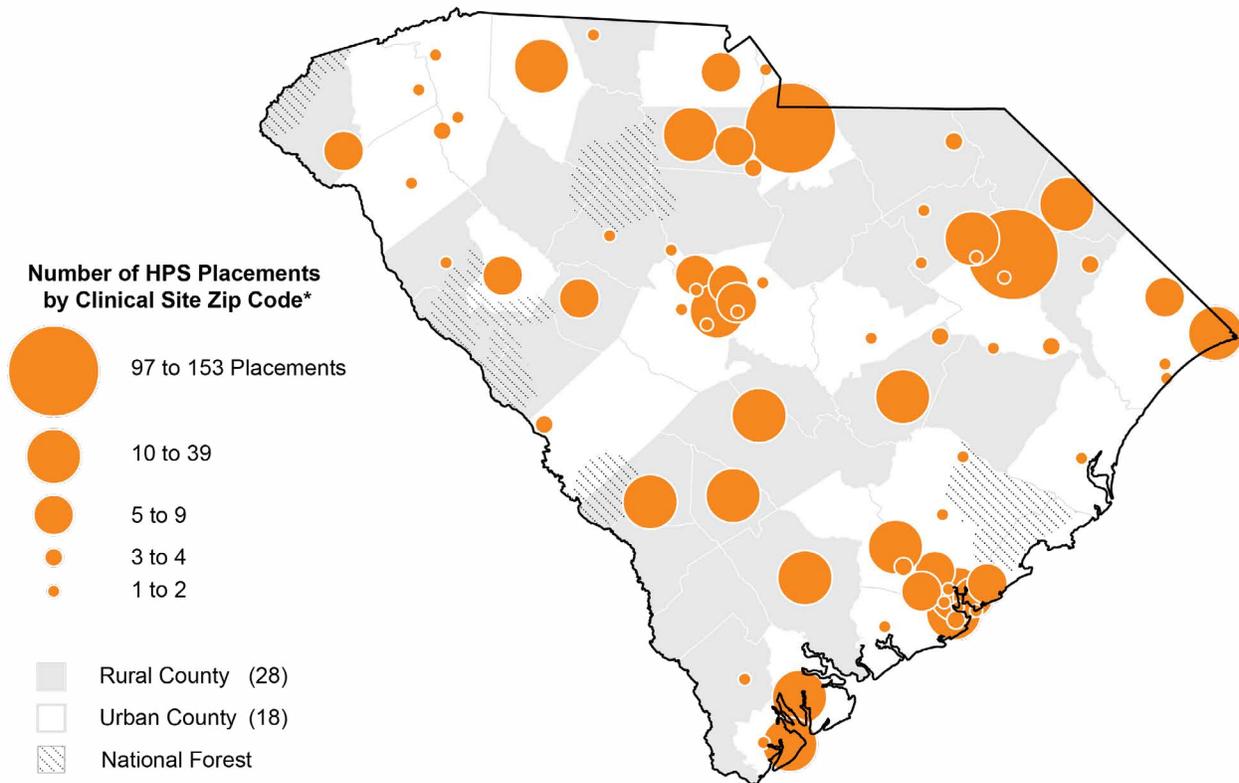
A more representative health workforce provides more career opportunities for more individuals and also improves access to care, reduces health disparities, and improves patient outcomes through more productive patient/clinician relationships.

# Health Professions Student Program

The South Carolina AHEC Health Professions Student Program provides community-based training experiences, exposing students to the opportunities of working in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.



## SC AHEC Health Professions Student (HPS) Training Assignments Placed Students in Communities across South Carolina



Note: \*Data are based on the number of students participating in the SC AHEC HPS Program who performed clinical rotations in state fiscal year 2023 at the sites shown (n=717). Circles are located at the zip code centroid (center), may include more than one site, and may not represent actual street location. Map excludes out-of-state student training placements (n=25). Source: Student data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urbanized area, based on the 2020 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022. Produced by: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce, a division of South Carolina AHEC.

## During the last fiscal year, the AHEC Health Professions Student Program achieved:

**742** training site placements for health professions students

**43%** of placements in a rural setting

**43%** of placements in a medically-underserved setting

**52%** of placements in a primary care setting

**263** clinical preceptors at 196 community-based training sites

### *Supporting Rural Clinical Student Training Experiences*



Stephen Musial  
Medical Student, VCOM Carolinas Campus

“Lancaster is an excellent clinical site to attend. They offer an impressive variety of clerkships that are well beyond what one would expect for a local community hospital. The preceptors are enthusiastic about teaching and the site coordinators are indispensable. Casey and Sara, in particular, have ensured that my rotations run as smooth as possible. I never have to worry about the logistics and can always count on them to support me. Mid-Carolina AHEC is also extremely helpful in offering housing options to assist healthcare students traveling here from outside the region. I personally stayed at the Chester housing and found it to be a convenient option for my rural health rotation. Overall, I am incredibly satisfied with my choice to rotate here in Lancaster, SC!”

### **Why It Matters: Connecting Students to Communities**

Evidence shows when health professions students are exposed to training experiences in rural/underserved areas during their education, they are more likely to ultimately practice in a rural/underserved area.

The South Carolina AHEC Scholars program supports health professions students interested in practicing in rural and underserved communities. See the project feature on the next two pages to learn more about how this program builds the healthcare workforce South Carolina needs.



Project Feature:

# SC AHEC Scholars



*An interprofessional group of AHEC Scholars and other health professions students participate in a high-fidelity simulation*

The AHEC Scholars Program prepares health professions students for interprofessional primary care practice and service to rural and underserved populations. The AHEC Scholars program supports students on their paths to practice in rural and underserved areas by providing: a dedicated two-year curriculum; training opportunities via team-based clinical fieldwork placements; networking with leaders and providers statewide; focused training in key areas such as behavioral health integration, social determinants of health and cultural competency; and interprofessional simulation and training activities.



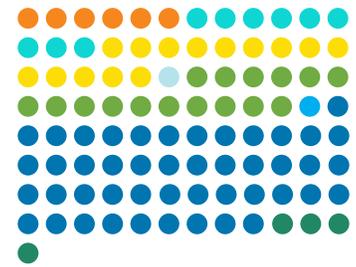
42

students completed the AHEC Scholars program in FY23, for a total of 126 graduates since program inception in 2016

“Sometimes we think if a patient is not here or missing their medications or appointments, they’re just non-compliant. And really it is that they lack health literacy, they don’t have transportation, or honestly they just don’t have the funds. I think regardless of what someone decides to go into – I decided to go into a primary care specialty which is very much needed since the healthcare [workforce] is having a shortage of primary care providers – but even if you’re going into a specialty, the knowledge that you can learn from [AHEC Scholars] can be applied to any type of patient.”

**During the last fiscal year, the AHEC Scholars Program achieved:**

**97 Scholars in the program representing 7 professions:**



- Medicine - MD (6)
- Medicine - DO (9)
- Nurse Practitioner (14)
- Occupational Therapy (1)
- Pharmacy (16)
- Physical Therapy (1)
- Physician Assistant (46)
- Social Work - MSW (4)

**Scholars represented 8 educational institutions:**

Charleston Southern University  
Francis Marion University  
Maryville University  
MUSC  
Presbyterian College  
University of South Carolina  
VCOM Carolinas Campus  
Winthrop University



*Hannah Robinson, MD  
Current OB/GYN resident & former AHEC Scholar*

"I was able to speak with a couple of high school students at one of the events that AHEC offered and to me that was very exciting because I didn't really have anybody when I was going into medical school to talk with and who was able to tell me things to do. I figured it out on my own. To be able to work with other students that want to go into medicine and be able to help educate them as to the steps they need to take and what goals to set for themselves – that was very rewarding and I very much enjoyed that."



*Andrew Westfall  
Current USC Medical Student & AHEC Scholar*



4,409

hours of didactic education  
accrued by SC AHEC  
Scholars this year



36,860

hours of experiential training  
accrued by SC AHEC  
Scholars this year



*Jasmine Fox-Bookhardt, PA  
MUSC graduate & former AHEC Scholar*

"The program has introduced me to so many different live simulations that have shown me that it's not just you. You really have access to all of the team members and the roles they play from medical assistant to pharmacists to social workers and they all help in that role of health care for the patient and giving them the optimal care they need. [The AHEC Scholars Program] really exposed me to that and showed me that once I start my career as a PA, I have so many other options that can help me better take care of my future patients."

"I think the AHEC Scholars program has been a phenomenal piece to my education because it truly does help you build your foundation for serving the rural, underserved populations and often times you don't learn this in school . . . I realized that AHEC Scholars was this amazing opportunity to learn about topics and skills outside of just textbooks and be able to add more resources to my toolkit."



*Vyoma Barodia, PA  
MUSC graduate & former AHEC Scholar*



**Learn more about the program and watch the full AHEC Scholars  
"In Their Own Words" videos at:**

**[www.scahec.net/ahecscholars](http://www.scahec.net/ahecscholars)**

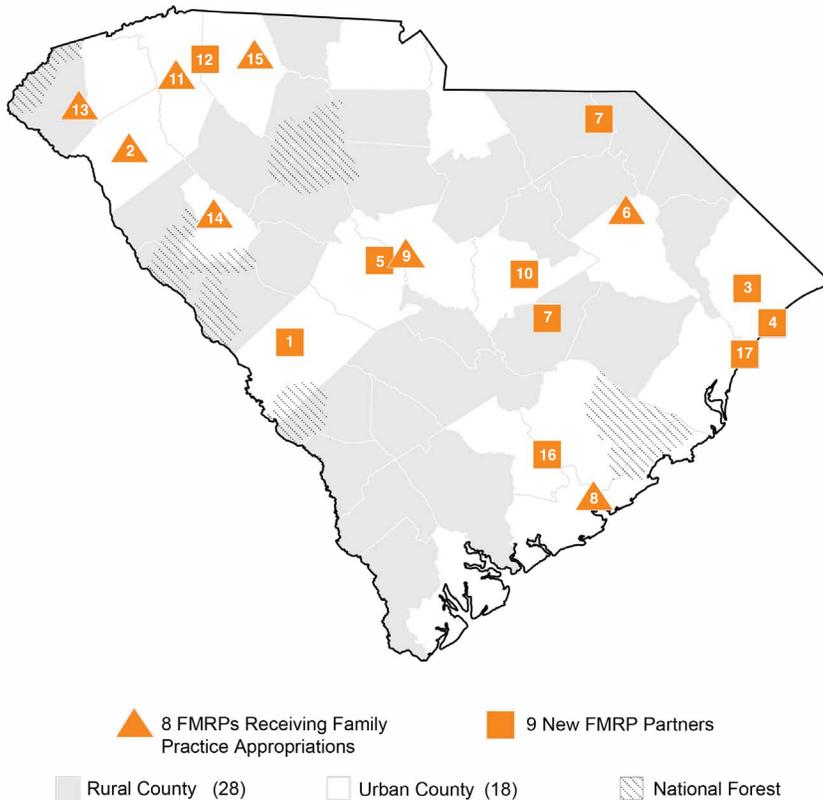
# Graduate Medical Education

South Carolina AHEC works collaboratively with all of the family medicine residency programs in the state to facilitate recruitment for high-quality training in family medicine for South Carolina.



SC Family Medicine Interest Day

## Family Medicine Residency Programs (FMRPs) in South Carolina



- 1 Aiken Regional Medical Centers
- 2 AnMed Health
- 3 Conway Medical Center
- 4 Grand Strand Health
- 5 Lexington Medical Center/USC SOMC
- 6 McLeod Health
- 7 McLeod Health Rural
- 8 MUSC Health
- 9 Prisma Health Midlands/USC SOMC Columbia
- 10 Prisma Health Midlands/USC SOMC Sumter
- 11 Prisma Health Upstate/USC SOMG Greenville
- 12 Prisma Health Upstate/USC SOMG Greer
- 13 Prisma Health Upstate/USC SOMG Seneca
- 14 Self Regional Healthcare Greenwood
- 15 Spartanburg Regional Healthcare Spartanburg
- 16 Summerville Medical Center
- 17 Tidelands Health MUSC

Note: Seventeen Family Medicine Residency Programs included based on residency program city. McLeod Health Rural FMRP has two locations (Cheraw & Manning). Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urban area, based on the 2020 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022.

**During the last fiscal year, programming for SC Family Medicine Residencies achieved:**

**87** medical students attended South Carolina Family Medicine Interest Day

**16** medical schools represented by Family Medicine Interest Day attendees

**1,529** contact hours of training accrued by residents on the AHEC Learning Portal

**125** residents participated in training via the AHEC Learning Portal



*South Carolina's State Booth Block @ the American Academy of Family Physicians National Conference*



### ***Supporting Recruitment for South Carolina's Family Medicine Residency Programs***

“SC AHEC’s efforts are instrumental in addressing the shortage of primary care physicians in South Carolina, especially in underserved areas of the state. The South Carolina State Booth Block at the National AAFP Conference (organized by SC AHEC) is one of the premier exhibits at the entire convention, drawing medical students from around the country. Their efforts drastically increase the recruiting footprint of South Carolina’s Family Medicine residency programs. This is important on a larger scale, as most graduates ultimately practice in close proximity to where they trained.”

Michael Kopscik, MD  
Chief Resident | AnMed Family Medicine Residency Program

### **Why It Matters: Connecting Physicians to Family Medicine Training**

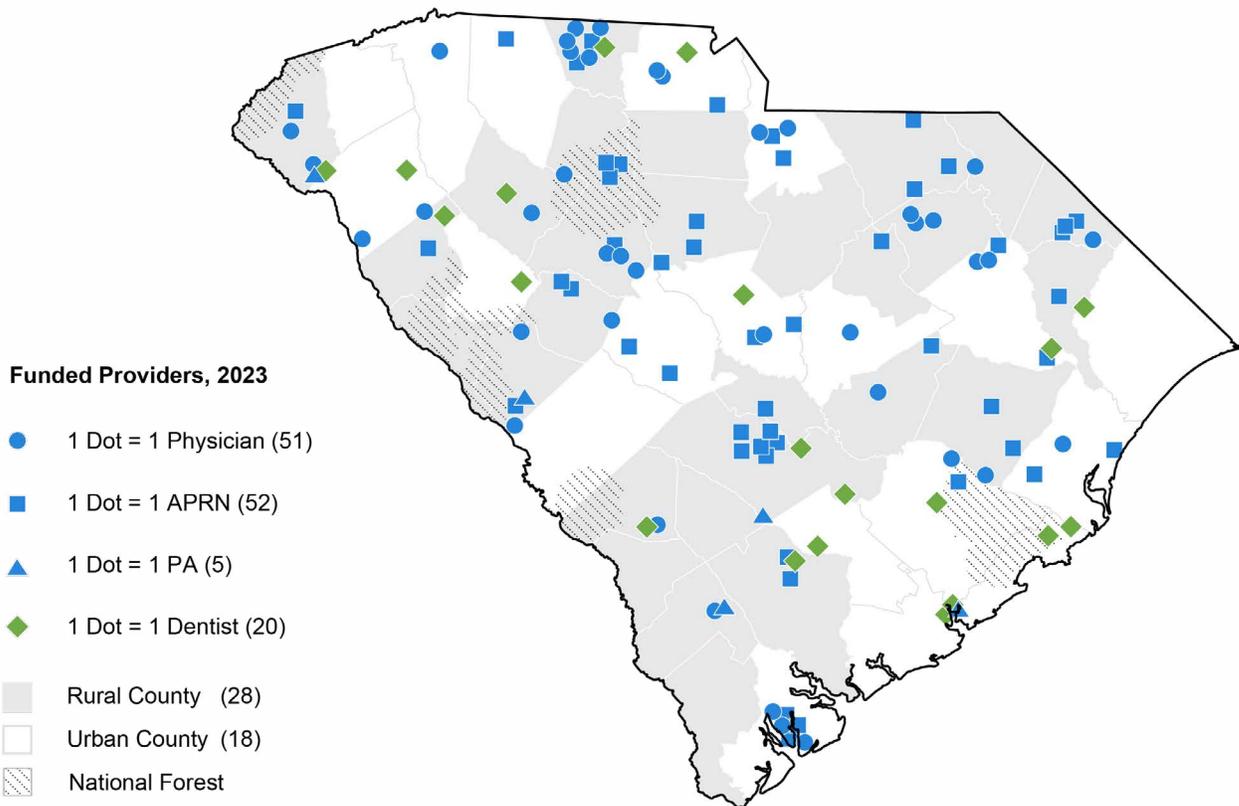
Family medicine physicians provide lifelong care for the entire family, making them an important asset for the health of communities, especially in rural areas where they can practice comprehensive, full-scope medicine.

# Recruitment & Retention Program

The South Carolina AHEC Recruitment and Retention Program utilizes financial incentives to build an effective healthcare workforce to address the maldistribution of clinicians in rural and underserved areas of South Carolina.



## South Carolina Rural Incentive Grant and Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program Participants, FY23



Note: Information is based on the provider's current practice zip code in 2023. Symbols are randomly scattered within the zip code area and may not indicate a precise address. Source: Rural Incentive Grant Program recipient data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urban area, based on the 2020 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022. Produced by: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce, a division of South Carolina AHEC.

**During the last fiscal year, AHEC Recruitment & Retention Programs achieved:**

**98** total providers active in the Rural Incentive Grant Program

**28** providers received Rural Incentive Grant funding for the first time in FY23

**95%** retention rate for current Rural Incentive Grant Program participants

**6** new dentists received funding in the Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program



***Supporting Health Professionals in Rural Practice***

“I am incredibly grateful to have been chosen for the South Carolina Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program. I grew up in a rural town, Gaffney, South Carolina, and I knew when I graduated dental school that I wanted to move back home to serve my community. I wanted to provide care to those who are underserved. Being accepted into this program has helped to lower the financial burden of my dental school student debt while also allowing me to serve the low income families of my community. It is an honor to be a part of the program.”

Dr. Elyse Little  
Dentist practicing in Gaffney, SC

*Loan repayment program funding supported by a grant from Delta Dental of South Carolina*

**Rural Incentive Grant Program  
New Participants in FY23**

**16** advanced practice nurses

**10** physicians

**2** physician assistants

**Rural Dentist Loan Repayment Program  
New Participants in FY23**

**4** community dentists

**2** dental faculty at the MUSC  
College of Dental Medicine

**New Program Launched in FY23: Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program**

South Carolina AHEC was awarded federal funding from HRSA to establish the State Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program to address gaps in access to mental health care and disparities in health outcomes between rural and urban areas of the state. In its initial application period, the program received 70 applications, with funding decisions and awards to be made in FY24.

**Why It Matters: Connecting Health Professionals to Communities**

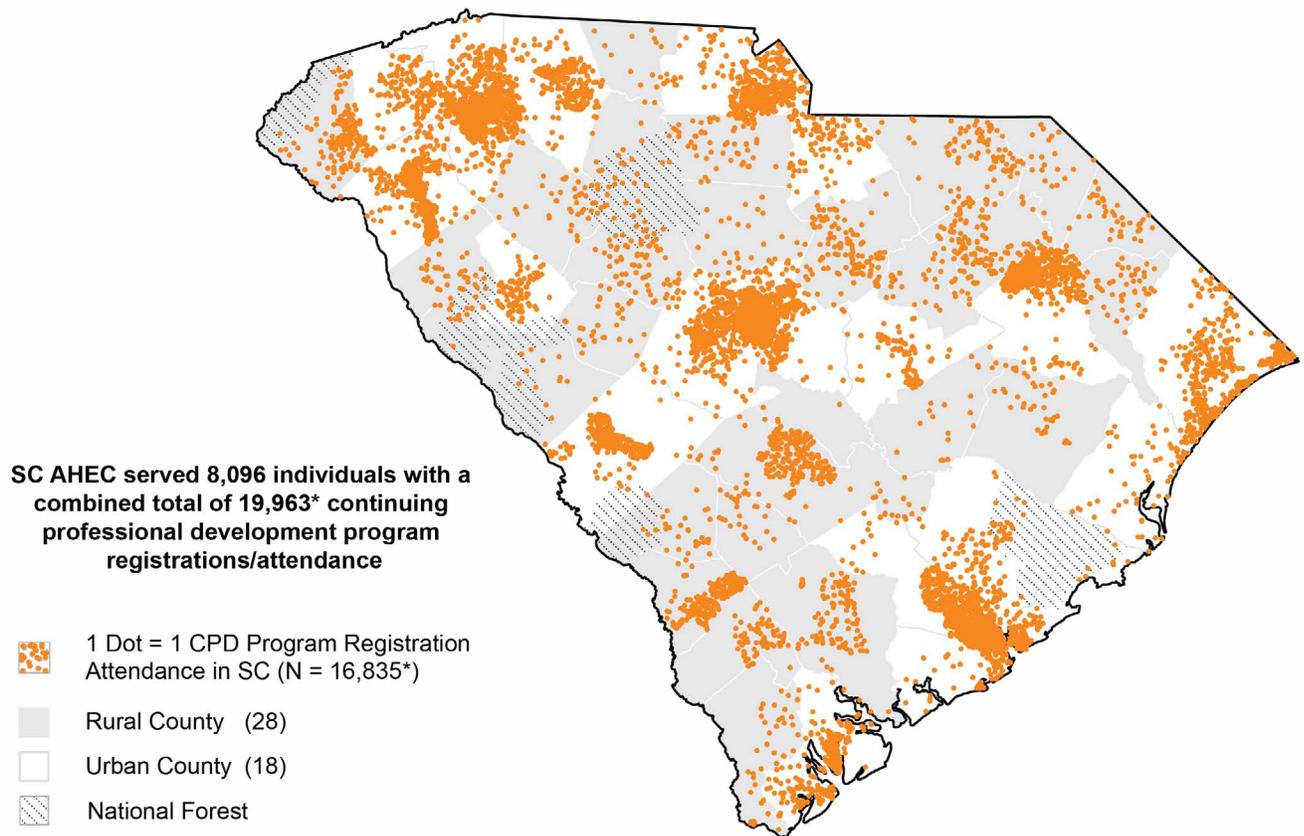
Research shows that financial incentives are effective at encouraging and supporting practitioners to live and work in rural and/or underserved areas. Increasing the availability of healthcare providers in these communities provides more access to care and better health for South Carolina.

# Continuing Professional Development

South Carolina AHEC Continuing Professional Development Programs enhance clinical skills, address ongoing and emerging health trends and help professionals maintain their licensure and certifications.



## SC AHEC Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program Registrations by Zip Code, FY23



Note: \*Data show the number of continuing professional development program registrations/attendances provided in FY2023 (7/1/2022-6/30/2023), by individuals' self-reported practice zip code. Dots are scattered randomly within the zip code area and show 16,835 records within South Carolina. Map excludes 845 out-of-state records and 2,283 records that were missing zip code. Sources: CPD data from South Carolina AHEC. Rural definition from the U.S. Census Bureau, Geography Division, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Rural counties are those counties where 50% or more of the population lives outside an urban area, based on the 2020 Census counts. Administrative Forest Boundaries (Feature Layer) from the USDA Forest Service FSGeodata Clearinghouse, accessed 2/2/2022. Produced by: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce, a division of South Carolina AHEC.

**During the last fiscal year, AHEC Continuing Professional Development Programs achieved:**

- 8,096** professionals participated in SC AHEC continuing professional development programs
- 84,727** contact hours of continuing education accrued by participants in SC and beyond
- 12,084** registrations from professionals in medically-underserved communities
- 2,705** registrations from professionals in rural communities



**Supporting Health Professionals in the Provision of High-Quality Care**



“Working in a Federally Qualified Health Center, our behavioral health staff accommodates those with the highest needs or social determinants of health in our community. Since joining LRMC, it has been a pleasure working with Pee Dee AHEC for staff training. Throughout the years, they have provided many opportunities to participate in virtual and in-person trainings to further develop and strengthen our clinical skills, ensuring we are using best practice standards when serving our patients in primary care. Most importantly, when I have reached out to them with a training need, they have been able to accommodate our training needs.”

Taanya Mannain, LISW-CP  
Director of Integrated Healthcare Services | Little River Medical Center

**Why It Matters: Connecting Professionals to Training and Education**

AHEC continuing education programs provide a local and low-cost approach to the education needed for health professionals to maintain their licensure and certifications and practice high-quality healthcare.

# SC Office for Healthcare Workforce

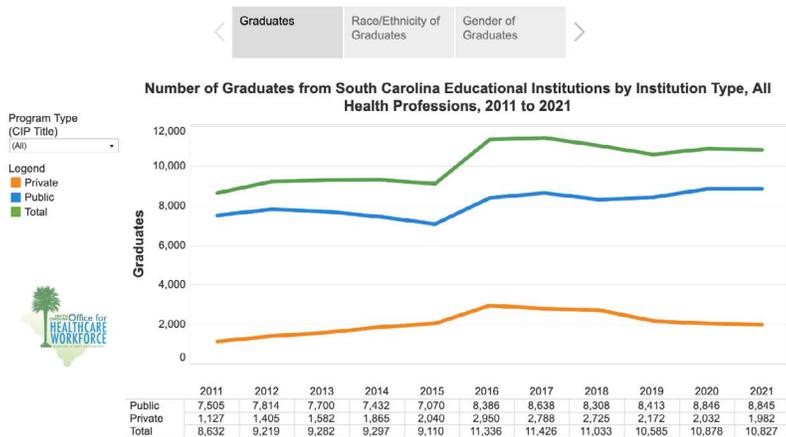
The South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce (SCOHW), a division of South Carolina AHEC, studies issues that affect the balance of supply and demand for different types of healthcare professionals across South Carolina. Its primary mission is to develop accurate, reliable information about the healthcare workforce in South Carolina and to make that information widely available to support planning and policy decisions.



## New in FY23: Interactive Data Visualizations

### South Carolina Healthcare Workforce Education Dashboard

This series of interactive dashboards displays information about health professions graduates from South Carolina educational institutions from 2011 to 2021.



Source: South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce with data derived from The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter/institutionbyname.aspx>. Created on 4/30/2023.

SCOHW launched its first interactive data visualization dashboard on its website this fiscal year. Interactive visualizations make data more accessible, engaging and useful for stakeholders rather than trapping data in a static report or graphic.

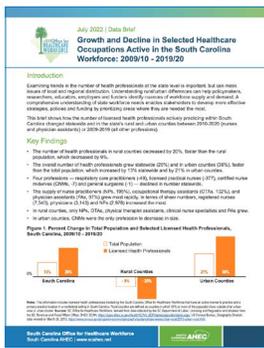
The first visualization dashboard focused on the number of students graduating from South Carolina health professional education programs. It is important to understand how many health professions students are training in the state to more fully understand healthcare workforce dynamics.

The SCOHW team plans to create more visualizations in the coming year to support a robust understanding of the nuances and trends that affect the state’s healthcare workforce.

Access reports, briefs, visualizations and the South Carolina Health Professions Data Book at:  
[www.scahec.net/scohw](http://www.scahec.net/scohw)

Go to the SCOHW Visualizations Page





## Featured Report

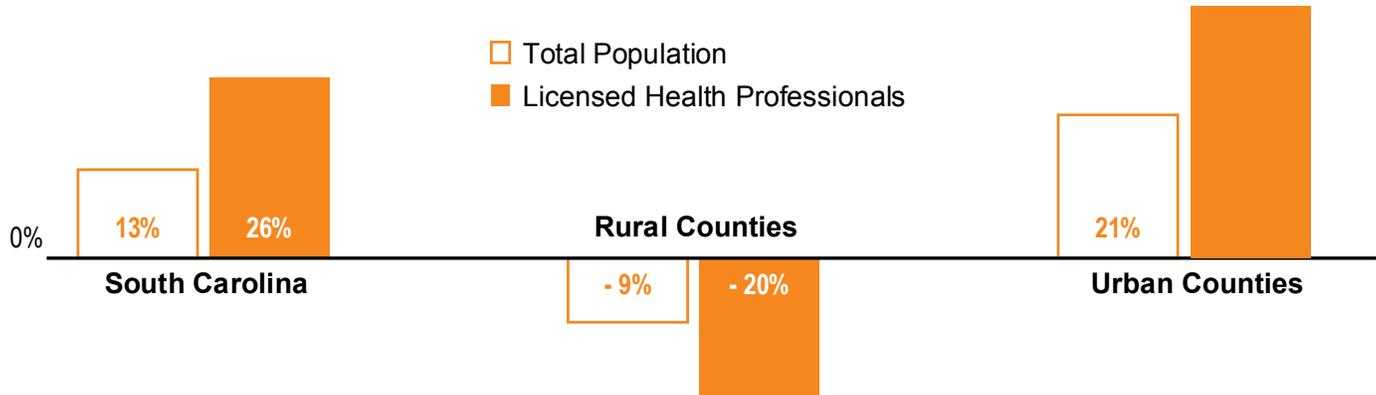
# Growth and Decline in Selected Healthcare Occupations Active in the South Carolina Workforce: 2009/10 - 2019/20

This brief shows how the number of licensed health professionals actively practicing within South Carolina changed statewide and in the state's rural and urban counties between 2010-2020 (nurses and physician assistants) or 2009-2019 (all other professions).

View the full report:



## Percent Change in Total Population and Selected Licensed Health Professionals, South Carolina, 2009/10 - 2019/20



Notes: This information includes licensed health professionals tracked by the South Carolina Office for Healthcare Workforce that have an active license to practice and a primary practice location in a nonfederal setting in South Carolina. Rural counties are defined as counties in which 50% or more of the population lives outside of an urban area or urban cluster. Sources: SC Office for Healthcare Workforce, derived from data collected by the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and obtained from the SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office; DHEC SCAN, [https://apps.dhec.sc.gov/Health/SCAN\\_BDP/tables/populationtable.aspx](https://apps.dhec.sc.gov/Health/SCAN_BDP/tables/populationtable.aspx); US Census Bureau, Geography Division, data revised on March 26, 2012, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural/2010-urban-rural.html>.

## Supporting Data-Driven Decision Making

“In order to make objective workforce planning decisions, you need objective data to guide the decision making. In an environment with numerous healthcare workforce needs, the data generated by the SC Office of Healthcare Workforce leads the way in helping to inform those decisions. National data could have significant variables or assumptions so we rely closely on the state level analysis provided by the team at the SCOHW.”

Lara Hewitt

Vice President, Workforce & Member Engagement | South Carolina Hospital Association



## Why It Matters: Connecting Data to Decision Making

Policymakers and other stakeholders need objective, timely and reliable information with which to make data-driven decisions about healthcare—including the healthcare workforce—that impact the health of all South Carolinians.

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