

Part V - Counties

South Carolina is comprised of 46 counties, each with its own unique set of demographic, geographic, and political characteristics. These and other factors influence events within a county's borders. Using this information, planners can tailor specific countermeasures to the unique situation of a given county. Crime, economic activity, accidents and the subject of this book, traffic collisions are all affected by these characteristics. On the following pages, a summary of each county's traffic collision characteristics is provided. Among other facts, this data shows the following for 1999:

- ◆ Charleston County had the most traffic collisions with 11,071. This total was just slightly more than the number two county, Greenville (11,010).
- ◆ Horry County had the most fatal collisions with 57 reported during the year followed by Greenville with 55. Horry and Greenville tied for the most traffic fatalities with 65. Spartanburg was third in both categories with 53 and 59 fatal collisions and traffic fatalities respectively.
- ◆ Charleston county had the most injury collisions and persons injured with 4,125 and 6,574 respectively in 1999. These totals were well ahead of the number two county, Richland, which had 2,747 injury crashes and 4,668 injuries.
- ◆ The high number of collisions in Greenville, Charleston and Richland counties are largely a result of the large populations in each of these counties
- ◆ The counties with the highest collision and fatality rates were the rural counties. Jasper County, for example, had 24 traffic fatalities in 1999. This tied for sixteenth among the 46 counties in the number of fatalities. However, its population death rate was 155 per 100,000 population, making it by far the leading county in the state.