Polk County Community Profile

96th in order of county creation
Dec. 20, 1851

Prepared for Polk County Cooperative Extension
by the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development
The University of Georgia • Athens, GA
Total Population
Polk County

Primary data sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial censuses & estimate; CAED (Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development); OPB (State Office of Planning & Budget).
Population Composition by Age
Polk County

2004 Estimated Median Age
Polk Co. = 34.4 yrs.  GA = 33.8 yrs.

Change in proportion 1990-2000

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
## 2004 County Population Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total Rank</th>
<th>Density per sq.mi. land area</th>
<th>% Chg. 2000-04</th>
<th>Rank of % Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>40,267</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>129.4</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>86,972</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>189.3</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>94,009</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>183.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>28,069</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>105,936</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>338.0</td>
<td>29.7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau
Population Change: 1930-2000

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
## Components of Population Change: 2000-2004

### Natural Increase & Net Migration*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Numerical Change</th>
<th># Natural Increase (Births-Deaths)</th>
<th>Rate of Natural Increase</th>
<th># Net Migration</th>
<th>Rate of Net Migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>2,140</td>
<td>1,152</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>10,953</td>
<td>3,183</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>7,804</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>3,444</td>
<td>1,539</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1,947</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>2,379</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>1,969</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>24,289</td>
<td>4,939</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>19,394</td>
<td>48.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. GA Co.</td>
<td>4,041</td>
<td>1,878</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>2,156</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>642,567</td>
<td>298,562</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>342,818</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Numerical change includes “residual” not represented in either NI or NM. Average annual estimates of annual rates per 1,000 population.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Population Change: 2000-2004

Loss

0 – 4.3%
4.3 – 7.8%
7.8 – 15.7%
15.7 – 34%

GA = 7.8%
US = 4.3%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected Vital Statistics

2004 Rates

- Total births per 1,000 pop: Polk Co. 16.5, Georgia 15.7
- Unwed per 100 total births: Polk Co. 42.3, Georgia 39.2
- Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19: Polk Co. 47.8, Georgia 34.7
- Deaths per 1,000 pop: Polk Co. 12.4, Georgia 7.4
- Induced terminations per 1,000 females age 15-44: Polk Co. 9.9, Georgia 16.2
- Low birth weight per 100 births: Polk Co. 9.2, Georgia 8.8
- Infant deaths per 1,000 births: Polk Co. 7.4, Georgia 8.7

10-yr. rates 1995-2004

- Polk Co. Natality Data: 666 total births, 282 unwed births, 75 induced terminations, 125 teen pregnancies, 64 low birth weight babies
- Polk Co. Mortality Data: 499 total deaths, 5 infant deaths

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health
Polk Co.
Not completing HS = 36.7%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 8%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected Public School Statistics
School Year 2003-04

- Teachers w/adv degrees: Polk Co. 54.4, Georgia 51.8
- College prep certif: Polk Co. 46.9, Georgia 73.4
- Class ’04 Grad Rate: Polk Co. 56.2, Georgia 65.4
- Gifted: Polk Co. 4.5, Georgia 8.2
- Special Ed: Polk Co. 16.3, Georgia 12.1
- Free/Reduc lunch: Polk Co. 44.2, Georgia 46.4
- Retained in grade: Polk Co. 3.8, Georgia 3.9
- Absent >15 days: Polk Co. 14.5, Georgia 9.5
- HS Dropout rate: Polk Co. 5.1, Georgia 8.0

Primary data source:
Governor's Office of Student Achievement

Polk Co.
K12 enrollment = 6,849
HS dropouts = 165
General Fund expenditures per pupil = $6,114
Per Capita Income: 1998-2003

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

2003 PCI
Polk Co. = $20,102
Georgia = $29,000
U.S. = $31,472
Per Capita Income: 1998-2003
Percentage Change

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
## Per Capita Income: 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>PCI</th>
<th>Rank of PCI</th>
<th>% PCI of GA Total</th>
<th>% Change in PCI 1998-2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>$20,102</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>$26,265</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>$25,337</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>$21,742</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>$23,191</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$22,879</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Median Household Income
2003 Model-Based Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Median Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>$43,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>$42,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$34,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>$33,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>$46,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>$34,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>$33,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>$56,998</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau
Transfer Receipts: 2003
Polk Co. Total = $205,736,000

- Retirement/Disab: Polk Co. 37.2%, Georgia 35.8%
- Medicare: Polk Co. 21.3%, Georgia 19.2%
- Pub Med Assist: Polk Co. 17.0%, Georgia 18.9%
- Supp Sec Inc: Polk Co. 2.7%, Georgia 2.7%
- Family Assist: Polk Co. 0.3%, Georgia 0.6%
- Food Stamps: Polk Co. 4.5%, Georgia 2.5%
- Other Inc Maint: Polk Co. 5.6%, Georgia 5.6%
- Unemp: Polk Co. 2.1%, Georgia 3.2%
- Veteran Benefit: Polk Co. 3.4%, Georgia 4.9%
- All Other: Polk Co. 8.5%, Georgia 8.2%

Polk Co.
$5,158 per capita transfer receipts
25.7% of total personal income
0.1% change in total 2002-2003

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis
### Persons Living Below Poverty Level
#### 2003 Model-Based Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th># of Persons</th>
<th>% of all Persons</th>
<th>Rank of %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>5,761</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>9,380</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>13,495</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>4,069</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>7,156</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>7,246</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2003 Model-Based Estimates

5.2 – 9.4%
9.4 – 13.4%
13.4 – 17.0%
17.0 – 20.1%
20.1 – 24.7%

Georgia
1,152,089 persons
13.3%

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family of 4 persons in 2003 = $18,810

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Unemployment Rates

Rate per 100 in Labor Forc

Polk Co. = 4.7       GA = 4.6        US = 5.5

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
Employment Comparisons by Industry: 2004

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
Farm Gate Value by Commodity Group: 2004
Polk Co. Total Value = $28,187,238

- Poultry-Egg: 59.8%
- Livestock: 20.3%
- Row-Forage crops: 9.2%
- Forestry: 7.4%
- Other: 3.4%

Primary data source: Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development, UGA
Components of Gross Property Tax Digest: 2004 Polk Co. Gross Digest (40% Value) = $904,651,449

- Residential: Polk Co. $45.3%, GA Avg. Co. $13.2%, GA Total $20.7%, Total $52%
- Ag/Pref/Environ: Polk Co. $6.3%, GA Avg. Co. $12.4%, GA Total $13.1%, Total $22.6%
- Commercial: Polk Co. $8.4%, GA Avg. Co. $7.7%, GA Total $7.1%, Total $10.2%
- Industrial: Polk Co. $5.7%, GA Avg. Co. $3.9%, GA Total $4.1%, Total $9.8%
- Utility: Polk Co. $0.5%, GA Avg. Co. $1.5%, GA Total $0.5%, Total $1.1%
- Motor Vehicle: Polk Co. $0.2%, GA Avg. Co. $0.2%, GA Total $0.2%, Total $0.2%
- Mobile Home: Polk Co. $0.5%, GA Avg. Co. $0.5%, GA Total $0.5%, Total $0.5%
- Timber: Polk Co. $1.1%, GA Avg. Co. $0.2%, GA Total $0.2%, Total $1.1%

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>% Residential</th>
<th>% Agricultural</th>
<th>% Commercial</th>
<th>% Industrial</th>
<th>% Motor Vehicle</th>
<th>% Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>71.9</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. GA Co.</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
## Millage Rates, Taxes Levied, & Sales Tax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>’05 County-wide Millage*</th>
<th>’05 School Millage*</th>
<th>’04 Taxes Levied* ($000)</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 1/06</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 1/06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
<td>25.29</td>
<td>15.28</td>
<td>$23,581</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>27.69</td>
<td>19.19</td>
<td>$65,343</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>29.51</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>$77,582</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>LE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>24.80</td>
<td>13.33</td>
<td>$15,426</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAULDING</td>
<td>24.53</td>
<td>16.41</td>
<td>$65,403</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All tax districts are assessed an additional .250 state millage. Taxes Levied, but not necessarily collected. L=Local Option Sales Tax, S=Special Purpose, E=Educational.

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
Retail Sales Analysis: 2004
Polk Co. Total Retail Sales = $305,811,000

A “pull factor” of 1.0 means that the county’s sales are what would be expected based upon the number of residents and their relative wealth.

Residents working in county = 8,582
Residents working out of county = 6,970
Total working in county = 11,637
Workers commuting into county = 3,055

Mean travel time to work = 30 min.
Ratio of IN to OUT = 0.44

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
This study was developed to assist community leadership with their future planning and decision making.

Special County Area Report 
# 06 - 11 February, 2006

Prepared for Polk County Cooperative Extension by Susan R. Boatright and Emily Olliff
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