Elbert County Community Profile

13th in order of county creation Dec. 10, 1790

Prepared for Elbert County Cooperative Extension by The Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development

The University of Georgia • Athens, GA
Total Population
Elbert County

2010 Trend CAED: 21,734
2010 Proj. OPB: 20,966
2004 Est.: 20,908
2000: 20,511
1990: 18,949
1980: 18,758
1970: 17,262
1960: 17,835
1950: 18,585
1940: 19,618
1930: 18,485

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
Elbert County

2004 Estimated Median Age
Elbert Co. = 37.3 yrs.  GA = 33.8 yrs.

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>ELBERT</td>
<td>20,908</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HART</td>
<td>23,369</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>100.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>8,398</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>39.8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADISON</td>
<td>27,312</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OGLETHORPE</td>
<td>13,557</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKES</td>
<td>10,583</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>138</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>ELBERT</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HART</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>-20</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-82</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADISON</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OGLETHORPE</td>
<td>922</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKES</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>3.5</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
### 2003 Elbert Co. Natality Data
- 250 total births
- 126 unwed births
- 39 induced terminations
- 42 teen pregnancies
- 30 low birth weight babies

### 2003 Elbert Co. Mortality Data
- 237 total deaths
- 5 infant deaths

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health
Highest Level of Educational Attainment: 2000

Elbert Co.
Not completing HS = 32.8%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 9.8%

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

- Teachers w/adv degrees: Elbert Co. 51.8, Georgia 51.8
- College prep certif: Elbert Co. 73.4, Georgia 73.4
- Class '04 Grad Rate: Elbert Co. 65.4, Georgia 65.4
- Gifted: Elbert Co. 6.8, Georgia 8.2
- Special Ed: Elbert Co. 12.0, Georgia 12.1
- Free/Reduc lunch: Elbert Co. 46.4, Georgia 57.2
- Retained in grade: Elbert Co. 7.0, Georgia 3.9
- Absent >15 days: Elbert Co. 13.8, Georgia 9.5
- HS Dropout rate: Elbert Co. 5.1, Georgia 7.8

Elbert Co.
Enrollment, K12 = 3,591
H.S. dropouts = 93
General Fund expenditures per pupil = $6,546

Primary data source:
Governor's Office of Student Achievement
Per Capita Income: 1998-2003

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

2003 PCI
Elbert Co. = $22,274
Georgia = $29,000
U.S. = $31,472
Per Capita Income: 1998-2003
Percentage Change

Elbert Co. Georg U.S.

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>ELBERT</td>
<td>$22,274</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HART</td>
<td>$21,663</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>$21,156</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADISON</td>
<td>$24,349</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>84.0</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OGLETHORPE</td>
<td>$22,979</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>79.2</td>
<td>19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKES</td>
<td>$20,598</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>6.6</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
Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau
Transfer Receipts: 2003
Elbert Co. Total = $111,660,000

Elbert Co.
$5,394 per capita transfer receipts
24.2% of total personal income
-1.0% change in total 2002-2003

Elbert Co.
Georgia

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis
## Persons Living Below Poverty Level

### 2002 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>ELBERT</td>
<td>3,143</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HART</td>
<td>3,192</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>1,255</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADISON</td>
<td>3,365</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OGLETHORPE</td>
<td>1,679</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKES</td>
<td>1,802</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>6,964</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2002 Model-Based Estimates

4.4 – 11.7%
11.7 – 15.0%
15.0 – 18.4%
18.4 – 21.6%
21.6 – 30.2%

GA = 13.0%
US = 12.1%

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family of 4 persons in 2002 = $18,392

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

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
Business Establishments, Employment and Wages
Elbert County 2004 Annual Averages, % of Total

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
Elbert Co. Total Value = $67,595,233

- Poultry-Egg: 74.0%
- Livestock: 11.3%
- Ornamental Horticulture: 3.6%
- Forestry: 2.6%
- Row-Forage crops: 5.5%
- All other: 3.0%

Primary data source: Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development, UGA
Components of Gross Property Tax Digest: 2004
Elbert Co. Gross Digest (40% Value) = $499,523,094

- Residential: 34.9% (Elbert Co.), 25.9% (GA Avg. Co.), 22.6% (GA Total)
- Ag/Pref/Environ: 6.3% (Elbert Co.), 15.8% (GA Avg. Co.), 8.1% (GA Total)
- Commercial: 13.1% (Elbert Co.), 10.6% (GA Avg. Co.), 18.1% (GA Total)
- Industrial: 8.1% (Elbert Co.), 7.7% (GA Avg. Co.), 7.1% (GA Total)
- Utility: 5.7% (Elbert Co.), 3.9% (GA Avg. Co.), 3.9% (GA Total)
- Motor Vehicle: 9.5% (Elbert Co.), 9.0% (GA Avg. Co.), 8.9% (GA Total)
- Mobile Home: 1.5% (Elbert Co.), 1.5% (GA Avg. Co.), 0.5% (GA Total)
- Timber: 1.1% (Elbert Co.), 0.5% (GA Avg. Co.), 0.2% (GA Total)

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
# County Property Tax Digest Comparisons: 2004

<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>ELBERT</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HART</td>
<td>54.1</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>52.8</td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADISON</td>
<td>46.8</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OGLETORPE</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>40.2</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKES</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. GA Co.</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>’03 County-wide Millage*</th>
<th>’03 School Millage*</th>
<th>’03 Taxes Levied* ($000)</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 10/05</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 10/05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELBERT</td>
<td>27.35</td>
<td>16.90</td>
<td>$11,739</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HART</td>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>12.95</td>
<td>$16,513</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>22.02</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>$6,442</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADISON</td>
<td>27.75</td>
<td>16.72</td>
<td>$15,085</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>OGLETHORPE</td>
<td>20.92</td>
<td>13.50</td>
<td>$7,702</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>WILKES</td>
<td>24.73</td>
<td>16.69</td>
<td>$7,541</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
Elbert Co. Total Retail Sales = $204,251,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Sales Activity Index-Wealth Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Retail Sales</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health-Personal Care</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bldg Mat-garden equip-supplies</td>
<td>0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas stations</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle-parts</td>
<td>1.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture-Home Furn-Appliance</td>
<td>0.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing &amp; Accessories</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Merchandise</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Services-Drinking Places</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food-Beverage Stores</td>
<td>1.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 = 6,238
Residents working out of county = 2,338
Total working in county = 7,762
Workers commuting into county = 1,524

Elbert County
Mean travel time to work = 21.2 min.
Ratio of IN to OUT = 0.65

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
# 06-02 January, 2006

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