Forsyth County Community Profile

81st in order of county creation
Dec. 3, 1832

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

2004 Estimated Median Age
Forsyth Co. = 33.9 yrs.  GA = 33.8 yrs.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
<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>FORSYTH</td>
<td>131,865</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>584.0</td>
<td>34.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>174,680</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>412.3</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>19,064</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90.3</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>814,438</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,540.6</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>128</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>700,794</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,619.5</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>160,925</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>408.8</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICKENS</td>
<td>27,771</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>119.6</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>7</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>FORSYTH</td>
<td>33,458</td>
<td>6,184</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>27,350</td>
<td>55.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>32,777</td>
<td>7,696</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>25,175</td>
<td>37.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>3,065</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>2,581</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>-1,368</td>
<td>31,820</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>-36,062</td>
<td>-10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>112346</td>
<td>37,941</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>74,771</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>21,610</td>
<td>7,757</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>13,699</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICKENS</td>
<td>4,788</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4,341</td>
<td>40.2</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: Forsyth Co. 18.1, Georgia 15.7
- Unwed per 100 total births: Forsyth Co. 13.9, Georgia 39.2
- Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19: Forsyth Co. 17.1, Georgia 34.7
- Deaths per 1,000 pop: Forsyth Co. 4.8, Georgia 7.4
- Induced terminations per 1,000 females age 15-44: Forsyth Co. 8.2, Georgia 16.2
- Low birth weight per 100 births: Forsyth Co. 6.6, Georgia 8.8
- Infant deaths per 1,000 births: Forsyth Co. 5.1, Georgia 8.7

10-yr. rates 1995-2004

- 2004 Forsyth Co. Natality Data: 2,388 total births, 333 unwed births, 174 induced terminations, 143 teen pregnancies, 194 low birth weight babies
- 2004 Forsyth Co. Mortality Data: 635 total deaths, 15 infant deaths

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health
Forsyth Co.
Not completing HS = 14.3%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 34.6%

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

Teachers w/adv degrees
- Forsyth Co.: 50.0%
- Georgia: 51.8%

College prep certif
- Forsyth Co.: 88.7%
- Georgia: 73.4%

Class '04 Grad Rate
- Forsyth Co.: 65.4%
- Georgia: 78.0%

Gifted
- Forsyth Co.: 13.9%
- Georgia: 8.2%

Special Ed
- Forsyth Co.: 12.4%
- Georgia: 12.1%

Free/Reduc lunch
- Forsyth Co.: 46.4%
- Georgia: 13.0%

Retained in grade
- Forsyth Co.: 2.4%
- Georgia: 3.9%

Absent >15 days
- Forsyth Co.: 9.5%
- Georgia: 9.5%

HS Dropout rate
- Forsyth Co.: 3.0%
- Georgia: 5.1%

Primary data source:
Governor's Office of Student Achievement

Forsyth Co.
K12 enrollment = 21,907
HS dropouts = 171
General Fund expenditures per pupil = $6,560
Per Capita Income: 1998-2003

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

2003 PCI
Forsyth Co. = $30,555
Georgia = $29,000
U.S. = $31,472

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
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>FORSYTH</td>
<td>$30,555</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>105.4</td>
<td>-5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>$30,059</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>103.7</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>$28,010</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>$48,647</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>167.7</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>$30,277</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>104.4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>$25,132</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>86.7</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICKENS</td>
<td>$27,730</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>10.1</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

US: $43,318
GEORGIA: $42,421
GA Avg. Co.: $34,859
FORSYTH: $72,945
CHEROKEE: $63,616
DAWSON: $49,909
FULTON: $45,744
GWINNETT: $56,636
HALL: $44,334
PICKENS: $44,905

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau
Transfer Receipts: 2003
Forsyth Co. Total = $248,613,000

- Retirement/Disab: Forsyth Co. 49.0%, Georgia 35.8%
- Medicare: Forsyth Co. 20.3%, Georgia 19.2%
- Pub Med Assist: Forsyth Co. 11.3%, Georgia 18.9%
- Supp Sec Inc: Forsyth Co. 0.9%, Georgia 2.7%
- Family Assist: Forsyth Co. 0.1%, Georgia 0.6%
- Food Stamps: Forsyth Co. 0.8%, Georgia 2.5%
- Other Inc Maint: Forsyth Co. 0.7, Georgia 5.6%
- Unemployment: Forsyth Co. 3.7, Georgia 3.2%
- Veteran Benefit: Forsyth Co. 0.6, Georgia 3.4%
- All Other: Forsyth Co. 12.7, Georgia 8.2%

Forsyth Co. transfer receipts:
- $2,002 per capita
- 6.6% of total personal income
- 5.3% 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>FORSYTH</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>11,212</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>128,398</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>57,163</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>19,069</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICKENS</td>
<td>2,811</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>7,246</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>--</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

- Weighted average poverty threshold for a family of 4 persons in 2003 = $18,810
- Georgia: 1,152,089 persons 13.3%
- US = 12.5%

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

2004 Rates
- Forsyth Co. = 3.1
- GA = 4.6
- US = 5.5

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
Business Establishments, Employment and Wages
Forsyth 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
Forsyth Co. Total Value = $71,713,870

Primary data source: Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development, UGA
Components of Gross Property Tax Digest: 2004 Forsyth Co. Gross Digest (40% Value) = $6,449,062,732

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>FORSYTH</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>55.8</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>57.8</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICKENS</td>
<td>58.2</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<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>FORSYTH</td>
<td>22.633</td>
<td>14.708</td>
<td>$141,365</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>26.590</td>
<td>18.450</td>
<td>$155,898</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>SE</td>
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<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>22.184</td>
<td>13.646</td>
<td>$22,660</td>
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<td>LSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
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<td>17.825</td>
<td>$1,570,084</td>
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<td>MLE</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>32.020</td>
<td>19.250</td>
<td>$789,715</td>
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<td>HALL</td>
<td>24.410</td>
<td>16.300</td>
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<td>LSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>PICKENS</td>
<td>21.280</td>
<td>15.120</td>
<td>$22,287</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, M=MARTA

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
Retail Sales Analysis: 2004
Forsyth Co. Total Retail Sales = $1,381,319,000

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 = 21,039
Residents working out of county = 30,185
Total working in county = 42,509
Workers commuting into county = 21,470

Forsyth County
Mean travel time to work = 33.2 min.
Ratio of IN to OUT = 0.71

Resident workers 16+ = 51,224
Residents working in county = 21,039
Residents working out of county = 30,185
Total working in county = 42,509
Workers commuting into county = 21,470

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
# 06-07 March, 2006

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