Whitfield County Community Profile

98th in order of county creation
December 30, 1851

Prepared for Whitfield 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 and estimates; GA Office of Planning & Budget projections (2015 series).
Population Composition by Age
Whitfield County

2016 Median Age
Whitfield Co. = 35.5 yrs.  GA = 36.5 yrs.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
## 2017 County Population Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total Rank</th>
<th>Density per sq.mi.</th>
<th>% Chg. 2010-17</th>
<th>Rank of % Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHITFIELD</td>
<td>104,658</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>360.3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATOOSA</td>
<td>66,550</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>410.4</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATTOOGA</td>
<td>24,770</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>-4.8</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>97,613</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>191.4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORDON</td>
<td>57,089</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>160.4</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURRAY</td>
<td>39,782</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>115.5</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALKER</td>
<td>68,939</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>154.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (3/18)
Population Change: 1930-2010

Percentage Change

U.S. Georgia Whitfield Co.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses
Population Change: 2010-2016

- **LOSS**
- **Gain < US**
- **Gain > US but < GA**
- **Gain > GA**
- **Gain > 2x GA**

US = 4.7%
GA = 6.4%
Avg. GA County = 1.0%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (3/17)
## Components of Population Change
### Natural Increase & Net Migration*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>4/1/2010-6/30/2017 Numerical Change*</th>
<th>4/1/2010-6/30/2017 # Natural Increase (Births-Deaths)</th>
<th>4/1/2010-6/30/2017 # Net Migration</th>
<th>7/1/2016-6/30/2017 1-yr Natural Increase Rate</th>
<th>7/1/2016-6/30/2017 1-yr Net Migration Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHITFIELD</td>
<td>2,059</td>
<td>4,542</td>
<td>-2,441</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>-6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATOOSA</td>
<td>2,614</td>
<td>1,106</td>
<td>1,547</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATTOOGA</td>
<td>-1,245</td>
<td>-167</td>
<td>-1,091</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>-2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>1,297</td>
<td>1,221</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORDON</td>
<td>1,903</td>
<td>1,557</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>-1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURRAY</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>-774</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALKER</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. County</td>
<td>4,658</td>
<td>2,510</td>
<td>2,127</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>740,689</td>
<td>399,055</td>
<td>338,202</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Numerical change includes “residual” not represented in either NI or NM.

Primary data source:
U. S. Census Bureau (3/18)
Selected Vital Statistics

2016 Rates

- Total births per 1,000 pop: 13.4 (Whitfield Co.), 12.6 (Georgia)
- Unwed per 100 total births: 43.4 (Whitfield Co.), 44.7 (Georgia)
- Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19: 21.8 (Whitfield Co.), 16.1 (Georgia)
- Deaths per 1,000 pop: 8.0 (Whitfield Co.), 7.9 (Georgia)
- **ITOP per 1,000 females age 10-55: 3.4 (Whitfield Co.), 9.1 (Georgia)
- Low birth weight per 100 births: 7.6 (Whitfield Co.), 9.5 (Georgia)
- Infant deaths per 1,000 births: 4.8 (Whitfield Co.), 7.4 (Georgia)

2016 Whitfield Co. Natality Data
- 1,405 total births, 610 unwed births
- 106 induced terminations
- 167 teen pregnancies
- 110 low birth weight babies

2016 Whitfield Co. Mortality Data
- 836 total deaths
- 6 infant deaths

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health, OASIS
**ITOP—Induced Terminations of Pregnancy
Whitfield Co.
Not completing HS = 31.1%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 13.6%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected Public School Statistics
School Year 2016-17

Primary data source:
Governor’s Office of Student Achievement

- Teachers w/Adv Degrees
- HOPE Eligible
- Class '17 Grad Rate
- Students w/Disabilities
- Limited English
- Gifted
- Free/Reduced Lunch
- Absent >15 Days
- Retained in Grade
- HS Dropout Rate

FTE K12 enrollment
Whitfield Co.: 12,868
Dalton City: 7,777

HS dropouts
Whitfield Co.: 181
Dalton City: 75

Expenditures per FTE
Whitfield Co.: $8,401
Dalton City: $8,449
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>PCI</th>
<th>Rank of PCI</th>
<th>% PCI of GA Total</th>
<th>% Change in PCI 2012-2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHITFIELD</td>
<td>$36,068</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>85.6</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATOOSA</td>
<td>$33,083</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>78.5</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATTOOGA</td>
<td>$28,840</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>$36,470</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORDON</td>
<td>$32,234</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURRAY</td>
<td>$27,904</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>14.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALKER</td>
<td>$30,715</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$33,549</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (12/17)
Per Capita Income: 2012-2016
Percentage Change

Whitfield Co.
Georgia
US

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (12/17)
Per Capita Income: 2012-2016

2016 PCI
Whitfield Co. = $36,068
Georgia = $42,159
US = $49,246

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (12/17)
Median Household Income
2016 Model-Based Estimates

- Whitfield: $46,796
- Catoosa: $53,740
- Chattooga: $37,345
- Floyd: $46,634
- Gordon: $45,705
- Murray: $43,203
- Walker: $40,814
- Avg. GA County: $44,018
- Georgia: $53,468
- U. S.: $57,617

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/17)
Personal Current Transfer Receipts: 2016
Whitfield Co. Total = $759,817,000

Whitfield County:
- 20.1% of total personal income
- 2.8% change in total transfer receipts 2015-16
- $7,265 per capita transfer receipts

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (12/17)
Transfer Receipts as a Percentage of Total Personal Income
2010-2016

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (12/17)
## Persons Living Below Poverty Level
### 2016 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>WHITFIELD</td>
<td>16,688</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATOOSA</td>
<td>8,505</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATTOOGA</td>
<td>4,716</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>14,596</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORDON</td>
<td>9,020</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURRAY</td>
<td>7,055</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALKER</td>
<td>12,349</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>10,141</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/17)
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2016 Model-Based Estimates

5.7 – 14.9%
14.9 – 18.6%
18.6 – 22.8%
22.8 – 26.7%
26.7 – 39.2%

Georgia
1,612,368 Persons
16.1%

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family household of 4 persons in 2016 = $24,563

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (12/17)
Civilian Labor Force Average Annual Unemployment Rates

2016 Rates
- Whitfield Co. = 5.9
- GA = 5.4
- US = 4.9

Avg. GA County = 6.1

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
### Establishments, Employment & Wages: 2016 Averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whitfield County</th>
<th>Avg. # Establishments</th>
<th>Avg. Monthly Employment</th>
<th>Avg. Wage Weekly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>$775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>20,407</td>
<td>$872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</strong></td>
<td>1,823</td>
<td>30,377</td>
<td>$787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>3,508</td>
<td>$1,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>7,598</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transp/Warehousing</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>3,297</td>
<td>$801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance/Insurance</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>$994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Sci/Tech</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>2,556</td>
<td>$1,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin/Suppt/WasteMgmt/Remediation</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>1,673</td>
<td>$606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care/Soc Svcs</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>5,306</td>
<td>$938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations/Food Svc</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>3,324</td>
<td>$294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</strong></td>
<td>90</td>
<td>5,252</td>
<td>$775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</strong></td>
<td>2,457</td>
<td>57,299</td>
<td>$816</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (7/17) * data not disclosed

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (7/17)
Components of 2017 Property Tax Gross Digest
Whitfield County

40% Assessment Value of Property
Gross Digest = $3,571,228,030
Homestead & Property Exemptions = $887,587,000
Net M&O Digest = $2,683,641,030
Value of exempt property = $540,322,272

* Timber taxed at 100% based on previous year sales

Primary data source:
GA Dept. of Revenue
Data downloaded 3/18
## Whitfield Co. Millage Rates, Taxes Levied, & Sales Tax Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected County Tax Districts</th>
<th>2017 Millage Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co. Fire District</td>
<td>2.755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co. Solid Waste</td>
<td>0.286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co. Spec Svc Dist</td>
<td>0.397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co. Unincorporated</td>
<td>9.329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>18.756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co. Incorporated</td>
<td>9.329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2016 Taxes Levied*</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 4/1/18</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 4/1/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHITFIELD</td>
<td>$91,386,863</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATOOSA</td>
<td>$41,567,694</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATTOOGA</td>
<td>$10,951,413</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOYD</td>
<td>$92,147,131</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORDON</td>
<td>$46,551,060</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MURRAY</td>
<td>$17,465,912</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALKER</td>
<td>$31,769,964</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>LSET</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Taxes levied, but not necessarily collected.
L=Local Option, S=Special Purpose, E=Educational, T=Transportation

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
Whitfield Co. Total Value = $19,399,475

**2016 Farm Gate Value by Commodity Group**

- **Poultry & Eggs**: 37.2%
- **Row & Forage crops**: 9.9%
- **Livestock & Aquaculture**: 44.7%
- **Forestry & Related Products**: 2.3%
- **Ornamental Horticulture**: 2.1%
- **Other Income**: 3.82%

Primary data source: UGA Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development
http://farmgate.caes.uga.edu
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.

Primary data sources: Georgia Dept. of Revenue, Sales Tax Commodity Report, Calendar Years 2016-2017. Pull factors calculated by CAED.
Residents working in county: 81.0%

Residents working out of county: 19.0%

Residents driving to work alone: 84.9%

Residents carpooling: 10.1%

Residents working at home: 1.9%

Whitfield Co.
Resident workers 16+ = 44,990

Travel time to work for residents not working at home:
< 10 min. = 8.3%
60+ min. = 2.2%

Mean travel time to work = 20.7 minutes

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (12/17)
This study was developed to assist community leadership with their future planning and decision making.

Special Area Report
# 18-05 April 2018

Prepared for
Whitfield County Cooperative Extension
by Sue Boatright

caes2.caes.uga.edu/center/caed/

College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA