Wheeler County
Community Profile

148th in order of county creation
Nov. 5, 1912

Prepared for Wheeler 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 (2012 series).
Population Composition by Age
Wheeler County

2010 Median Age  Wheeler Co. = 37.9 yrs.  GA = 35.3 yrs.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
## 2010 County Population Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total Rank</th>
<th>Density per sq.mi.</th>
<th>% Chg. 2000-10</th>
<th>Rank of % Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHEELER</td>
<td>7,421</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>21,796</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEFF DAVIS</td>
<td>15,068</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>48,434</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>59.5</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTGOMERY</td>
<td>9,123</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>36.4</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELFAIR</td>
<td>16,500</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>39.9</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREUTLEN</td>
<td>6,885</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>35.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (3/11)
Population Change: 1930-2010

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Population Change: 2000-2010

LATITUDE

Gain < US
Gain > US but < GA
Gain > GA
Gain > 2x GA

Avg. GA County = 14.2%
GA = 18.3%
US = 9.7%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (3/11)
# Components of Population Change

## Natural Increase & Net Migration*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>4/1/2010-7/1/2012 Numerical Change*</th>
<th>4/1/2010-7/1/2012 # Natural Increase (Births-Deaths)</th>
<th>4/1/2010-7/1/2012 # Net Migration</th>
<th>7/1/2011-7/1/2012 1-yr Natural Increase Rate</th>
<th>7/1/2011-7/1/2012 1-yr Net Migration Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHEELER</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>-18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>-468</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-531</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEFF DAVIS</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>-88</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>-3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>-393</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>-740</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>-3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTGOMERY</td>
<td>-210</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>-272</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>-15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELFAIR</td>
<td>-151</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-189</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREUTLEN</td>
<td>-116</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-130</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. County</td>
<td>1,461</td>
<td>861</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>232,282</td>
<td>136,956</td>
<td>90,782</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (3/13)
### Selected Vital Statistics

#### 2010 Rates

- **Total births per 1,000 pop**: Wheeler Co. 9.2, Georgia 14.4
- **Unwed per 100 total births**: Wheeler Co. 47.1, Georgia 45.1
- **Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19**: Wheeler Co. 31.5, Georgia 43.8
- **Deaths per 1,000 pop**: Wheeler Co. 5.0, Georgia 7.0
- **Infant deaths per 1,000 births**: Wheeler Co. 9.2, Georgia 8.2

#### 10-yr. rates 2001-2010

- **Induced terminations per 1,000 females age 15-44**: Wheeler Co. 4.7, Georgia 14.8
- **Low birth weight per 100 births**: Wheeler Co. 9.4, Georgia 9.2
- **Teen pregnancies per 1,000 females age 10-19**: Wheeler Co. 16, Georgia 31.5

### Wheeler Co. Natality Data
- 68 total births, 32 unwed births
- 6 induced terminations
- 16 teen pregnancies
- 9 low birth weight babies

### Wheeler Co. Mortality Data
- 37 total deaths
- 0 infant deaths

**Primary data source:** GA Dept. Public Health, OASIS
Highest Level of Educational Attainment: 2006-2010
5 Yr. Avg. – American Community Survey

Wheeler Co.
Not completing HS = 30.3%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 8.6%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected Public School Statistics
School Year 2010-11

- Teachers w/adv degrees: Georgia 55.4%, Wheeler Co. 65.6%
- College prep certif: Georgia 27.5%, Wheeler Co. 40.2%
- HOPE Eligible: Georgia 19.1%, Wheeler Co. 40.2%
- Class '11 Grad Rate: Georgia 87.5%, Wheeler Co. 80.9%
- Gifted: Georgia 6.6%, Wheeler Co. 10.4%
- Special Ed: Georgia 13.6%, Wheeler Co. 10.4%
- Econ Disadvantaged: Georgia 57.5%, Wheeler Co. 78.5%
- Retained in grade: Georgia 3.6%, Wheeler Co. N/A
- Absent >15 days: Georgia 7.9%, Wheeler Co. 8.8%
- HS Dropout rate: Georgia 0.7%, Wheeler Co. 3.7%

Primary data source: Governor's Office of Student Achievement
K12 enrollment = 940
HS dropouts = 2
General Fund Expenditures per FTE = $7,089
Per Capita Income: 2007-2011

2011 PCI
Wheeler Co. = $17,340
Georgia = $35,979
US = $41,560

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/13)
Per Capita Income: 2007-2011
Percentage Change

Wheeler Co.  Georgia  US

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/13)
## Per Capita Income: 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>PCI</th>
<th>Rank of PCI</th>
<th>% PCI of GA Total</th>
<th>% Change in PCI 2007-2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHEELER</td>
<td>$17,340</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>-2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>$23,183</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>64.4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEFF DAVIS</td>
<td>$24,979</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>69.4</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>$29,622</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>82.3</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTGOMERY</td>
<td>$26,251</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELFAIR</td>
<td>$17,385</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>48.3</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREUTLEN</td>
<td>$24,686</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$29,704</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/13)
Median Household Income
2011 Model-Based Estimates

- US: $50,502
- GEORGIA: $45,886
- GA Avg. Co.: $38,797
- WHEELER: $29,780
- DODGE: $31,696
- JEFF DAVIS: $32,248
- LAURENS: $34,865
- MONTGOMERY: $34,379
- TELFAIR: $27,831
- TREUTLEN: $30,131

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/12)
Transfer Receipts: 2011
Wheeler Co. Total = $45,959,000

- Retirement/Disab: Wheeler Co. = 27.8%, Georgia = 32.0%
- Medicare: Wheeler Co. = 24.3%, Georgia = 21.9%
- Pub Med Assist: Wheeler Co. = 17.4%, Georgia = 13.9%
- Supp Sec Inc: Wheeler Co. = 2.6%, Georgia = 2.2%
- Family Assist: Wheeler Co. = 0.6%, Georgia = 0.5%
- SNAP: Wheeler Co. = 5.4%, Georgia = 4.7%
- Other Inc Maint: Wheeler Co. = 8.7%, Georgia = 8.3%
- Unemp: Wheeler Co. = 3.7%, Georgia = 4.1%
- Veteran Benefit: Wheeler Co. = 3.0%, Georgia = 3.8%
- All Other: Wheeler Co. = 6.6%, Georgia = 8.6%

Wheeler Co.
$5,789 per capita
transfer receipts

33.4% of total personal income
5.1% change in total 2010-11

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/13)
## Persons Living Below Poverty Level

### 2011 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>WHEELER</td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>5,459</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEFF DAVIS</td>
<td>3,743</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>11,688</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTGOMERY</td>
<td>2,138</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELFAIR</td>
<td>4,703</td>
<td>36.4</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREUTLEN</td>
<td>1,804</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>11,552</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/12)
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2011 Model-Based Estimates

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family household of 4 persons in 2011 = $23,021

Georgia
1,836,715 Persons
-- 19.2%
US = 15.9%

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Wheeler Co.</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **2012 Rates**
  - Wheeler Co. = 10.2
  - GA = 9.0
  - US = 8.1

**Avg. GA County** = 10.1

*Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wheeler County</th>
<th>Avg. # Establishments</th>
<th>Avg. Monthly Employment</th>
<th>Avg. Wage Weekly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>$688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>$594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>$308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transp/Warehousing</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>$584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance/Insurance</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Sci/Tech</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin/Suppt/WasteMgmt/Remediation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care/Soc Svcs</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>$618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations/Food Svc</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>$503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>1,398</td>
<td>$584</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (7/12) -- data not available
Employment Comparisons by Industry Group: 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Group</th>
<th>Wheeler Co.</th>
<th>Avg. GA County</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goods Producing</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Providing</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>61.7</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (7/12)
Components of 2011 Property Tax Gross Digest
Wheeler County

Residential
17.8%

Timber *
2.6%

Mobile Home
1.2%

Motor Vehicle
6.5%

Public Utility
5.9%

Industrial
0.5%

Commercial
16.6%

Ag-Preferential-Environ-Conserv
48.9%

40% Assessment Value of Property
Gross Digest = $165,328,581
Homestead & Property Exemptions = $39,991,754
Net M&O Digest = $125,336,827
Value of exempt property = $2,530,900

* Timber taxed at 100% based on previous year sales

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2011 County-wide Millage*</th>
<th>2010 Taxes Levied* ($000)</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 1/1/2013</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 1/1/2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheeler</td>
<td>31.863</td>
<td>$4,317</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>L. SET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodge</td>
<td>22.250</td>
<td>$9,127</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>L. SET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEFF DAVIS</td>
<td>25.880</td>
<td>$7,293</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>L. SET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurens</td>
<td>22.570</td>
<td>$30,108</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>L. SET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>24.946</td>
<td>$4,977</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>L. SET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telfair</td>
<td>29.439</td>
<td>$8,779</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>L. SET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treutlen</td>
<td>24.607</td>
<td>$2,958</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LET</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Countywide Includes .250 state millage. Taxes levied, but not necessarily collected. L=Local Option, S=Special Purpose, E=Educational, T=Transportation

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
Farm Gate Value by Commodity Group: 2011
Wheeler Co. Total Value = $20,471,493

Livestock 29.4%
Forestry 37.2%
Other 14.9%
Fruits-Nuts 8.7%
Ornamental Horticulture 9.7%

Primary data source: Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development, UGA (1/13)
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 & Use Tax Unit. Pull factor calculations by Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development.
Commuting to Work: 2006-2010
5 Yr. Average – American Community Survey

Percentage of:

- Residents working in county: 53.5%
- Residents working out of county: 46.5%
- Residents driving to work alone: 82.0%
- Residents carpooling: 12.2%
- Residents working at home: 4.1%

Resident workers 16+ = 1,746
Residents working in county = 934
Residents working out of county = 812

Travel time to work for residents not working at home:
- < 20 min. = 56.4%
- 20-44 min. = 39.2%
- 45+ min. = 4.5%

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

Special Area Report

# 13-07 May 2013

Prepared for Wheeler County Cooperative Extension

by Susan R. Boatright

Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

The University of Georgia • Athens, GA

Georgia Cooperative Extension

www.caes.uga.edu/center/caed/

To learn more about your county check the “Georgia Statistics System” website:

www.georgiastats.uga.edu