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 and estimates; GA Office of Planning & Budget projections (2012 series).
## Population Composition by Age
### Forsyth County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>65+</th>
<th>45-64</th>
<th>20-44</th>
<th>5-19</th>
<th>&lt;5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>32.1</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>32.1</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>42.6</td>
<td>42.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>41.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>33.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>33.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2013 Median Age  
- Forsyth Co. = 37.9 yrs.  
- GA = 35.9 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.</th>
<th>% Chg. 2010-14</th>
<th>Rank of % Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORSYTH</td>
<td>204,302</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>912.0</td>
<td>16.40</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>230,985</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>547.8</td>
<td>7.76</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>22,957</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>108.9</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>996,319</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,891.9</td>
<td>8.23</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>877,922</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,039.9</td>
<td>9.01</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>190,761</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>485.7</td>
<td>6.16</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (3/15)
Population Change: 1930-2010

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

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></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth</td>
<td>28,791</td>
<td>5,400</td>
<td>22,743</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>16,639</td>
<td>6,584</td>
<td>9,782</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawson</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulton</td>
<td>75,740</td>
<td>29,104</td>
<td>45,345</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwinnett</td>
<td>72,598</td>
<td>33,115</td>
<td>39,048</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>11,077</td>
<td>5,446</td>
<td>5,294</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. County</td>
<td>2,570</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>408,662</td>
<td>248,226</td>
<td>151,661</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (3/15)

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

### 2012 Rates

- **Total births per 1,000 pop**
  - Forsyth Co.: 11.5
  - Georgia: 13.1

- **Unwed per 100 total births**
  - Forsyth Co.: 19.2
  - Georgia: 45.0

- **Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19**
  - Forsyth Co.: 6.5
  - Georgia: 22.4

- **Deaths per 1,000 pop**
  - Forsyth Co.: 5.0
  - Georgia: 7.3

- ****ITOP per 1,000 females age 10-55**
  - Forsyth Co.: 3.9
  - Georgia: 9.5

- **Low birth weight per 100 births**
  - Forsyth Co.: 7.1
  - Georgia: 9.4

- **Infant deaths per 1,000 births**
  - Forsyth Co.: 3.8
  - Georgia: 7.9

**2012 Forsyth Co. Natality Data**
- 2,154 total births, 413 unwed births
- 195 induced terminations
- 95 teen pregnancies
- 160 low birth weight babies

**2012 Forsyth Co. Mortality Data**
- 932 total deaths
- 8 infant deaths

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health, OASIS

**ITOP**—Induced Terminations of Pregnancy
Highest Level of Educational Attainment: 2009-2013
5 Yr. Avg. – American Community Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment</th>
<th>Forsyth Co.</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grad or Prof Degree</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td></td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS Grad</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th-12th no diploma</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;9th grade</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of Persons Age 25+

Forsyth Co.
Not completing HS = 8.6%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 43.8%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected Public School Statistics
School Year 2013-14

- Teachers with advanced degrees: Forsyth Co. - 66.8%, Georgia - 68.0%
- HOPE Eligible: Forsyth Co. - 46.0%, Georgia - 65.1%
- Class '14 Grad Rate: Forsyth Co. - 72.5%, Georgia - 90.3%
- Students with disabilities: Forsyth Co. - 11.9%, Georgia - 11.4%
- Limited English Proficiency: Forsyth Co. - 6.0%, Georgia - 7.0%
- Gifted: Forsyth Co. - 17.7%, Georgia - 11.4%
- Special Ed: Forsyth Co. - 11.9%, Georgia - 10.8%
- Free/Reduced Lunch: Forsyth Co. - 19.0%, Georgia - 62.0%
- Absent >15 days: Forsyth Co. - 5.7%, Georgia - 8.2%
- HS Dropout rate: Forsyth Co. - 1.1%, Georgia - 3.7%

Primary data source:
Governor’s Office of Student Achievement

Forsyth Co.
K12 FTE enrollment = 40,414
HS dropouts = 138
General Fund Expenditures per FTE = $6,997
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>PCI</th>
<th>Rank of PCI</th>
<th>% PCI of GA Total</th>
<th>% Change in PCI 2009-2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORSYTH</td>
<td>$45,930</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>121.4</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>$39,930</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>105.5</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>$35,128</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>92.8</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>$58,123</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>153.6</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>$34,061</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>$33,945</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$32,146</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>84.9</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/15)
Per Capita Income: 2009-2013

2013 PCI
Forsyth Co. = $45,930
Georgia = $37,845
US = $44,765

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/15)
Median Household Income
2013 Model-Based Estimates

US: $52,250
GEORGIA: $47,765
GA Avg. Co.: $40,594
FORSYTH: $87,565
CHEROKEE: $67,686
DAWSON: $52,804
FULTON: $55,474
GWINNETT: $59,081
HALL: $46,986

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/14)
Personal Current Transfer Receipts: 2013
Forsyth Co. Total = $791,105,000

- Retirement/Disab: Forsyth Co. = 46.6%, Georgia = 35.0%
- Medicare: Forsyth Co. = 27.9%, Georgia = 22.7%
- Pub Med Assist: Forsyth Co. = 6.1%, Georgia = 14.1%
- Supp Sec Inc: Forsyth Co. = 0.8%, Georgia = 2.4%
- EI Tax Cred: Forsyth Co. = 2.0%, Georgia = 4.0%
- SNAP: Forsyth Co. = 1.8%, Georgia = 4.7%
- Other Inc Maint: Forsyth Co. = 1.5%, Georgia = 3.0%
- Unemployment: Forsyth Co. = 2.4%, Georgia = 2.4%
- Vet Benefits: Forsyth Co. = 2.4%, Georgia = 4.7%
- Edu/Train Assist: Forsyth Co. = 3.1%, Georgia = 2.4%
- All Other: Forsyth Co. = 6.2%

Forsyth Co.
$4,049 per capita transfer receipts
8.8% of total personal income
6.2% change in total 2012-13

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/15)
Transfer Receipts as a Percentage of Total Personal Income
2008-2013

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/15)
## Persons Living Below Poverty Level
### 2013 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>14,882</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>24,473</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>3,409</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>173,866</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>116,604</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>38,385</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>11,651</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/14)
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2013 Model-Based Estimates

7.2 – 17.4%
17.4 – 21.5%
21.5 – 25.3%
25.3 – 29.1%
29.1 – 45.0%

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family household of 4 persons in 2013 = $23,834

Georgia
1,849,944 Persons
--
19.0%

US = 15.8%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (12/14)
Civilian Labor Force Average Annual Unemployment Rates

2014 Rates
- Forsyth Co. = 5.3
- GA = 7.2
- US = 6.2

Avg. GA County = 8.1

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forsyth County</th>
<th>Avg. #</th>
<th>Avg. Monthly Employment</th>
<th>Avg. Wage Weekly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</td>
<td>877</td>
<td>13,782</td>
<td>$938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>$596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>4,841</td>
<td>$938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>8,831</td>
<td>$938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</td>
<td>4,353</td>
<td>43,148</td>
<td>$875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>4,964</td>
<td>$1,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>$511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transp/Warehousing</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>$944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance/Insurance</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>1,405</td>
<td>$1,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Sci/Tech</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>4,974</td>
<td>$1,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin/Suppt/WasteMgmt/Remediation</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>6,456</td>
<td>$732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care/Soc Svcs</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>7,004</td>
<td>$860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations/Food Svc</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>5,678</td>
<td>$278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>6,488</td>
<td>$806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</td>
<td>5,722</td>
<td>63,748</td>
<td>$883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (6/14)
Employment Comparisons by Industry Group: 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Group</th>
<th>Forsyth Co.</th>
<th>Avg. GA County</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goods Producing</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Providing</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>52.0</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (6/14)
Components of 2013 Property Tax Gross Digest
Forsyth County

- Timber * 0.0007%
- Heavy Equipment 0.0002%
- Motor Vehicle 70%
- Mobile Home 0.1%
- Public Utility 1.3%
- Industrial 7.6%
- Commercial 13.6%
- Ag-Preferential-Environ-Conserv 2.1%

40% Assessment Value of Property
Gross Digest = $9,142,840,703
Homestead & Property Exemptions = $859,724,884
Net M&O Digest = $8,283,115,819
Value of exempt property = $583,024,765

* Timber taxed at 100% based on previous year sales

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2013 County-wide Millage*</th>
<th>2013 Taxes Levied*</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 4/1/2015</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 4/1/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORSYTH</td>
<td>26.524</td>
<td>$211,008,519</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEROKEE</td>
<td>29.947</td>
<td>$196,418,073</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>SE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAWSON</td>
<td>25.534</td>
<td>$25,487,335</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULTON</td>
<td>41.602</td>
<td>$1,877,331,959</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>MLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWINNETT</td>
<td>35.750</td>
<td>$878,692,597</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>SE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALL</td>
<td>28.050</td>
<td>$166,375,046</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
2013 Farm Gate Value by Commodity Group
Forsyth Co. Total Value = $15,623,551

- Livestock 55.1%
- Ornamental Horticulture 24.1%
- Fruits-Nuts 3.5%
- Ag Tourism 0.9%
- Other 0.1%
- Poultry-Egg 13.5%
- Row-Forage crops 0.4%
- Forestry 1.8%
- Veges 0.6%

Primary data source: UGA Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development
http://farmgate.caes.uga.edu/TotalValueReport.aspx data downloaded 1/13/15
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.

Commuting to Work: 2009-2013
5 Yr. Average – American Community Survey

- Residents working in county: 45.9%
- Residents working out of county: 52.5%
- Residents driving to work alone: 80.5%
- Residents carpooling: 8.2%
- Residents working at home: 8.3%

Travel time to work for residents not working at home:
- < 20 min. = 32.5%
- 45+ min. = 23.3%

Mean travel time to work = 29.9 minutes

Forsyth Co.
Resident workers 16+ = 83,000

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau 12/14
This study was developed to assist community leadership with their future planning and decision making.

Special Area Report
# 15-06 May 2015

Prepared for Forsyth 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