Thomas County Community Profile

67th in order of county creation
December 23, 1825

Prepared for Thomas 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
Thomas County

2016 Median Age  Thomas Co. = 39.9 yrs.  GA = 36.5 yrs.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
### 2016 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. 2010-16</th>
<th>Rank of % Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>45,248</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>91.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS</td>
<td>15,687</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>-3.9</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLQUITT</td>
<td>45,708</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADY</td>
<td>24,808</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td>22,459</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>-4.4</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (4/17)
Population Change: 1930-2010

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

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>4/1/2010-6/30/2016 Numerical Change*</th>
<th>4/1/2010-6/30/2016 # Natural Increase (Births-Deaths)</th>
<th>7/1/2015-6/30/2016 1-yr Natural Increase Rate</th>
<th>7/1/2015-6/30/2016 1-yr Net Migration Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS</td>
<td>-635</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>-1.5</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLQUITT</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>1,421</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>-4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADY</td>
<td>-204</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>-14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td>-1,039</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>-2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. County</td>
<td>3,910</td>
<td>2,192</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>621,691</td>
<td>348,541</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Primary data source:
U. S. Census Bureau (4/17)
Selected Vital Statistics

2015 Rates

- Total births per 1,000 pop: 12.1 (Thomas Co.), 12.9 (Georgia)
- Unwed per 100 total births: 45.1 (Thomas Co.), 57.1 (Georgia)
- Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19: 19.3 (Thomas Co.), 16.9 (Georgia)
- Deaths per 1,000 pop: 10.8 (Thomas Co.), 7.8 (Georgia)

- **ITOP per 1,000 females age 10-55: 0.5 (Thomas Co.), 9.1 (Georgia)
- Low birth weight per 100 births: 10.7 (Thomas Co.), 9.5 (Georgia)
- Infant deaths per 1,000 births: 7.7 (Thomas Co.), 7.4 (Georgia)

2015 Thomas Co. Natality Data
546 total births, 312 unwed births
2 induced terminations
56 teen pregnancies
48 low birth weight babies

2015 Thomas Co. Mortality Data
488 total deaths
6 infant deaths

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health, OASIS
**ITOP—Induced Terminations of Pregnancy
Highest Level of Educational Attainment: 2011-2015
5 Yr. Avg. – American Community Survey

Grad or Prof Degree
Thomas Co. 8.6
Georgia 10.7

Bachelor’s degree
Thomas Co. 10.5
Georgia 18.1

Associate degree
Thomas Co. 7.8
Georgia 7.2

Some college, no degree
Thomas Co. 21.4
Georgia 21

HS Grad
Thomas Co. 32.7
Georgia 28.4

9th-12th no diploma
Thomas Co. 13.2
Georgia 10.7

< 9th grade
Thomas Co. 5.7
Georgia 5.4

Percent of Persons Age 25+

Thomas Co.
Not completing HS = 18.9%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 19.2%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected County Public School Statistics
School Year 2015-16

- Teachers w/Adv Degrees: Thomas Co. 51.7%, Georgia 65.5%
- HOPE Eligible: Thomas Co. 36.6%, Georgia 43.0%
- Class '16 Grad Rate: Thomas Co. 79.4%, Georgia 86.4%
- Students w/Disabilities: Thomas Co. 15.6%, Georgia 11.2%
- Limited English: Thomas Co. 2.0%, Georgia 8.0%
- Gifted: Thomas Co. 6.9%, Georgia 11.5%
- Free/Reduced Lunch: Thomas Co. 62.0%, Georgia 77.0%
- Absent >15 Days: Thomas Co. 11.3%, Georgia 10.1%
- Retained in Grade: Thomas Co. 2.9%, Georgia 2.6%
- HS Dropout Rate: Thomas Co. 0.2%, Georgia 3.6%

Primary data source:
Governor’s Office of Student Achievement

Thomas Co.
FTE K12 enrollment = 5,467
HS dropouts = too few students to disclose
General Fund Expenditures per FTE = $7,811
### Per Capita Income: 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>PCI</th>
<th>Rank of PCI</th>
<th>% PCI of GA Total</th>
<th>% Change in PCI 2011-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>$38,574</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>95.7</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS</td>
<td>$32,246</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLQUITT</td>
<td>$29,603</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>73.4</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADY</td>
<td>$30,885</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>76.6</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td>$32,983</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>81.8</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$32,346</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>80.3</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/17)
Per Capita Income: 2011-2015
Percentage Change

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/17)
Per Capita Income: 2011-2015

2015 PCI
- Thomas Co. = $38,574
- Georgia = $40,306
- US = $48,112

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/17)
Median Household Income
2015 Model-Based Estimates

- Thomas: $40,449
- Brooks: $36,820
- Colqitt: $34,151
- Grady: $36,486
- Mitchell: $34,139
- Avg. GA County: $42,510
- U. S.: $55,775

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (1/17)
Personal Current Transfer Receipts: 2015
Thomas Co. Total = $449,385,000

- Retirement/Disab: 34.0%
- Medicare: 23.0%
- Pub Med Assist: 18.2%
- Supp Sec Inc: 13.7%
- EI Tax Cred: 10.0%
- SNAP: 4.3%
- Other Inc Maint: 2.6%
- Unemployment: 2.6%
- Vet Benefits: 2.2%
- Edu/Train Assist: 2.7%
- All Other: 4.8%

Thomas County:
- 25.9% of total personal income
- 4.3% change in total transfer receipts 2014-15
- $9,972 per capita transfer receipts

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/17)
Transfer Receipts as a Percentage of Total Personal Income 2010-2015

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (1/17)
## Persons Living Below Poverty Level
### 2015 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>THOMAS</td>
<td>9,608</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS</td>
<td>3,930</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLQUITT</td>
<td>10,851</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADY</td>
<td>7,309</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td>5,698</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>10,729</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (1/17)
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2015 Model-Based Estimates

6.3 – 15.3%
15.3 – 20.3%
20.3 – 24.1%
24.1 – 27.5%
27.5 – 42.0%

Georgia
1,705,831
Persons
--
17.2%

US = 14.7%

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family household of 4 persons in 2015 = $24,257

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (1/17)
Civilian Labor Force Average Annual Unemployment Rates

2016 Rates
- Thomas Co. = 6.4
- 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>Thomas 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>273</td>
<td>4,133</td>
<td>$1,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>$590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>$727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>3,011</td>
<td>$1,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>13,684</td>
<td>$704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>901</td>
<td>$1,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>2,263</td>
<td>$490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transp/Warehousing</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>$801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance/Insurance</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>$1,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Sci/Tech</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>$1,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin/Suppt/WasteMgmt/Remediation</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2,834</td>
<td>$561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care/Soc Svcs</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>3,476</td>
<td>$1,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations/Food Svc</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>1,624</td>
<td>$269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>3,227</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</td>
<td>1,518</td>
<td>21,094</td>
<td>$775</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (7/17)
## Employment Comparisons by Industry Group: 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Group</th>
<th>Thomas Co.</th>
<th>Avg. GA County</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goods Producing</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>64.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Providing</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>52.4</td>
<td>70.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (7/17)
Components of 2016 Property Tax Gross Digest
Thomas County

- Residential: 38.9%
- Ag-Preferential-Environ-Conserv: 26.4%
- Commercial: 22.7%
- Industrial: 6.4%
- Public Utility: 1.5%
- Motor Vehicle: 2.9%
- Mobile Home: 0.9%
- Heavy Equipment: 0.013%
- Timber: 0.258%

40% Assessment Value of Property
Gross Digest = $1,762,922,017
Homestead & Property Exemptions = $278,836,695
Net M&O Digest = $1,484,085,322
Value of exempt property = $279,379,824

* Timber taxed at 100% based on previous year sales

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
Data downloaded 7/17
## Thomas Co. Millage Rates

### Tax Districts with 2016 Millage Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barwick</td>
<td>12.464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>13.023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coolidge</td>
<td>12.261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co Incorporated</td>
<td>9.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co Unincorporated</td>
<td>7.845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CoWide Emerg Svcs</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Dist 1</td>
<td>3.195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Dist 2</td>
<td>3.182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Dist 3</td>
<td>2.364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavo</td>
<td>12.400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomasville Schools</td>
<td>17.869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meigs</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ochlocknee</td>
<td>8.537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavo</td>
<td>12.400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Co. Schools</td>
<td>14.524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomasville</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Taxes Levied & Sales Tax Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2016 Taxes Levied*</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 10/1/2017</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 10/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>$41,996,473</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS</td>
<td>$11,537,396</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLQUITT</td>
<td>$28,780,693</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADY</td>
<td>$15,366,246</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td>$21,811,612</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
2015 Farm Gate Value by Commodity Group
Thomas Co. Total Value = $97,792,152

Row & Forage crops 32.7%
Livestock 43.9%
Forestry 3.7%
Vegetables 1.5%
Ornamental Horticulture 4.7%
Fruits & Nuts 5.88%
Ag Tourism & Other Inc 7.8%

Primary data source: UGA Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development
http://farmgate.caes.uga.edu/TotalValueReport.aspx
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.
Commuting to Work: 2011-2015
5 Yr. Average – American Community Survey

Percentage of:

- Residents working in county: 79.5%
- Residents working out of county: 20.5%
- Residents driving to work alone: 80.0%
- Residents carpooling: 13.6%
- Residents working at home: 2.6%

Thomas Co.
Resident workers 16+ = 16,829

Travel time to work for residents not working at home:
- < 10 min. = 18.1%
- 60+ min. = 6.2%

Mean travel time to work = 20.4 minutes

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (1/17)
This study was developed to assist community leadership with their future planning and decision making.

Special Area Report
# 17-15       October 2017

Prepared for
Thomas 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