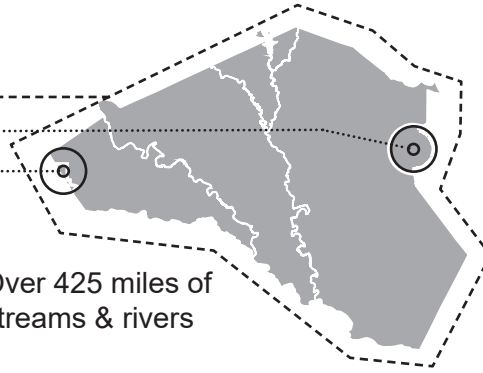


# Athens-Clarke County By the Numbers

## Incorporated Areas

- 1 Athens-Clarke County
- 2 City of Winterville
- 3 City of Bogart (partial)



## Geography

**122 mi<sup>2</sup>** Approximately 122 square miles in area

**159th** Smallest of Georgia's 159 counties

**70** 70 miles northeast of Atlanta

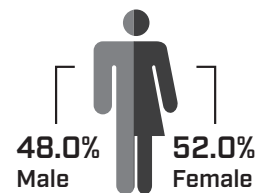
**425** Over 425 miles of streams & rivers

## History

- **44** nationally-registered historical sites
- **16** districts on National Register of Historic Places
- **16** local historic districts
- **44** individual local historic landmarks
- Athens named for Greek center of learning
- Clarke County named for Revolutionary War General Elijah Clarke

- 1785** University of Georgia (UGA) chartered
- 1801** Clarke County created as 25th county in Georgia and the site of UGA selected
- 1806** Town of Athens chartered
- 1991** Clarke County and the City of Athens governments unified on January 14

## Demographics (2019 Census estimates, unless noted)



### Racial Makeup (2020 Census)

- White – 58.0%
- Black – 24.7%
- Asian – 3.9%
- Other (one race) – 6.1%
- Other (2+ races) – 6.7%
- Hispanic or Latino – 11.2%  
(*may be any race above*)

- Population, including students (2020) ..... **127,315**
- UGA enrollment (Athens only, Fall 2021) ..... **38,091**
- Median age in years ..... **28.0**
- Median household income ..... **\$38,311**
- High school graduates (ages 25+) ..... **87.9%**
- Bachelor's degree or higher (ages 25+) ..... **44.0%**
- Persons below poverty level ..... **29.9%**
- Unemployment (GA Dept. of Labor, Nov. 2021) ... **2.1%**

**6th** Most populous of Georgia's 537 cities/towns

**19th** Most populous of Georgia's 159 counties

## Employment

### Largest employers (estimates, Jan. 2022)

*Figures may include part-time employees*

- 10,800 – University of Georgia
- 3,300 – Piedmont Athens Regional
- 2,350 – Clarke County School District
- 1,863 – St. Mary's Health Care System
- 1,728 – Athens-Clarke County Unified Government (FY21)
- 1,500 – Caterpillar
- 1,300 – Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

- GA Entrepreneur-Friendly Community
- GA Certified Work-Ready Community
- #8 - Best-Performing Small Cities 2018 index of 201 U.S. metros for economic growth (Milken Institute)

## Education

- Clarke County School District is separate from the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government
- 9 elected to the Board of Education
- Public schools: 15 Pre-K sites, 14 elementary, 4 middle, 3 high
- Private schools: 7 secondary & elementary
- Higher education: The University of Georgia, Athens Technical College, Piedmont University

## Accolades

- South's Best College Town (*Southern Living*, 2022)
- Top 100 Best Places to Live in 2020 (#32 nationally, #1 in Georgia, Livability)
- Coolest Small Towns in America (Discoverer, 2020)
- Best Places to Retire in 2019 (*Forbes*)
- Prettiest Town in Georgia (The Daily Meal, 2017)
- 25 Most Giving Cities in the U.S. (Travelocity, 2016)

*Information from UGA, the Georgia County Guide, GA Department of Community Affairs, U.S. Census Bureau, GA Department of Labor & ACC Unified Government departments. Updated January 2022.*

# Athens-Clarke County Unified Government

**Mission:** Athens-Clarke County, an open and responsive government, facilitating a positive environment for individuals to obtain a high quality of life and local organizations to achieve success by providing innovative, high quality services and responsible stewardship of the community’s resources, to benefit current and future generations. *(Adopted November 4, 1997)*



## Legislative

Elected Mayor and 10 elected Commissioners. Each citizen has two directly-elected local representatives.



## Executive

Day-to-day operations are overseen by a Manager appointed by the Mayor and Commission and two Assistant Managers.

## Judicial

- Magistrate Court
- Juvenile Court
- Municipal Court
- Probate Court
- State Court
- Superior Court (circuit includes Oconee County)
- Accountability courts: DUI/Drug Court, Felony Drug Court, Family Treatment Court, Parental Accountability Court, Treatment & Accountability Court, and Veterans Court

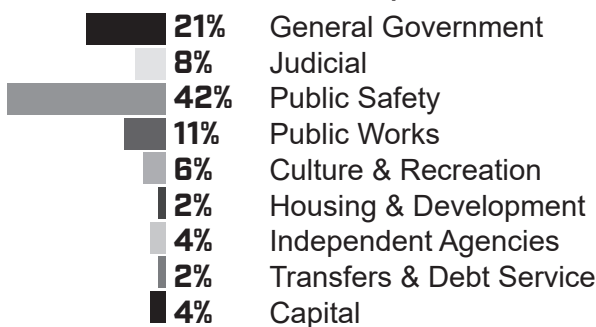


## Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Budget

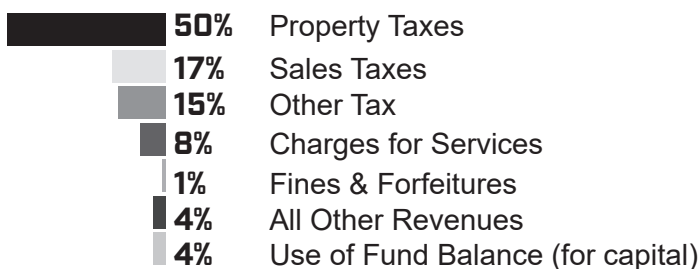
- Runs July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
- \$274.6 million total budget for all funds
- The General Fund supports the majority of basic government services

**\$148.5 million**  
(General Fund)

### General Fund Expenditures

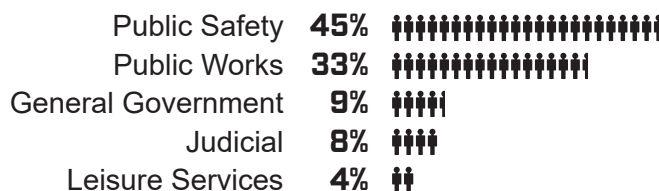


### General Fund Revenues



## Employees

- 43 departments / offices / courts
- 1,744 [FY22] full-time positions
- 13.2 [FY22] employees per 1000 residents



## Average General Fund cost per ACC resident for local government services (FY22):

\$ 467	Public Safety
\$ 87	Judicial Services
\$ 241	General Government
\$ 125	Public Works
\$ 64	Culture & Recreation
\$ 28	Housing & Development
\$ 45	Independent Agencies
\$ 43	Capital Projects
\$ 26	Transfers to Other Funds & Debt Services

Average overall cost per resident		
\$1,126	\$93.83	\$3.08
annually	monthly	daily

## Property Taxes

For a \$225,000 home in 2021 (Note: only an estimate – other exemptions possible)

Millage Rate [FY22]	
<i>(property tax rates)</i>	
20.00	School district
13.70	Unified Government
33.70	Total

	With homestead exemption	No exemptions
ACC	\$1,501.28	\$1,688.94
School	\$1,600.00	\$1,800.00
State	\$0	\$0
LOST credit (see below)	-\$405.28	-\$455.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,696.00</b>	<b>\$3,033.00</b>

## Sales Tax: 8%

- 4% State of Georgia
- 1% SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)
- 1% LOST (Local Option Sales Tax) - ACC General Fund credit on property taxes
- 1% E-SPLOST (Educational Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)
- 1% TSPLOST (Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)