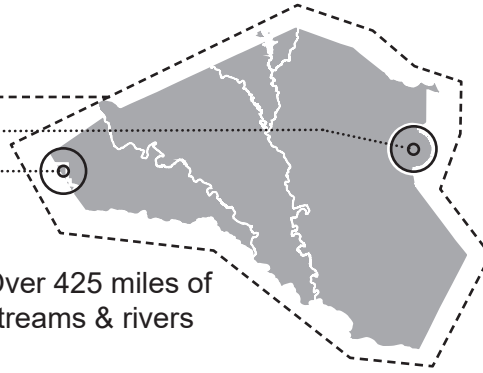


# Athens-Clarke County By the Numbers

## Incorporated Areas

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



## Geography

**70** 70 miles northeast of Atlanta

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

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

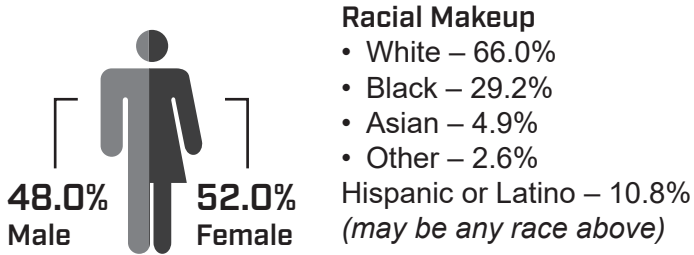
**159th** Smallest of Georgia's 159 counties

## 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 (2014-2019 Census data, unless noted)



- Population, including students (2019 est.).. **126,913**
- UGA enrollment (Athens only, Fall 2020) ..... **37,283**
- 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, Dec. 2020).. **5.2%**

**6th** Most populous of Georgia's 539 cities/towns

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

## ✂ Employment

### Largest employers (estimates, Feb. 2021)

- 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

- Top 100 Best Places to Live in 2020 (#32 nationally, #1 in Georgia, Livability)
- Coolest Small Towns in America (Discoverer, 2020)
- South's Best College Town (*Southern Living*, 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 2021.*

# 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

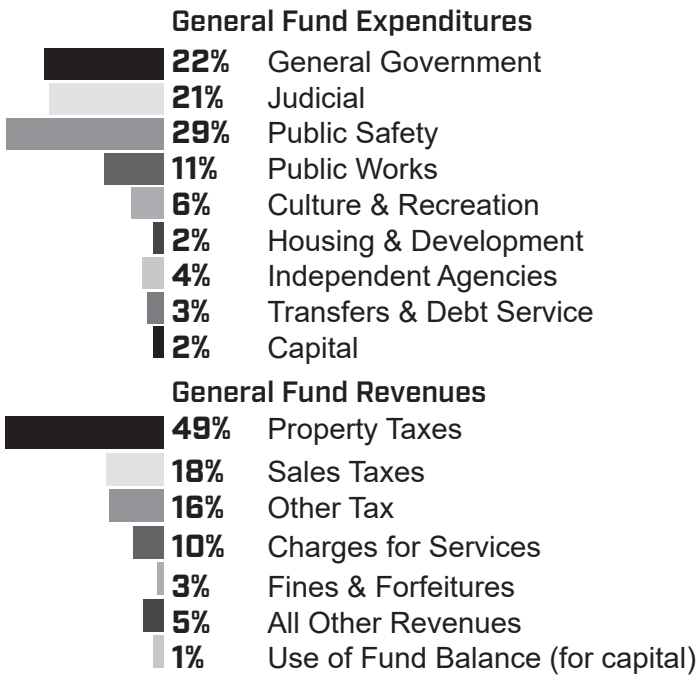
- Magistrate Court
- Juvenile Court
- Municipal Court
- Probate Court
- State Court
- Superior Court (circuit includes Oconee County)
- Accountability courts: DUI/Drug Court, Felony Drug Court, Family Treatment Court, Parental Accountability Court, Treatment & Accountability Court, and Veterans Court



## Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget

- Runs July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021
- \$267 million total budget for all funds
- The General Fund supports the majority of basic government services

**\$140.5 million (General Fund)**



## Average General Fund cost per ACC resident for local government services (FY21):

- \$ 321 Public Safety
- \$ 232 Judicial Services
- \$ 244 General Government
- \$ 122 Public Works
- \$ 66 Culture & Recreation
- \$ 22 Housing & Development
- \$ 44 Independent Agencies
- \$ 22 Capital Projects
- \$ 33 Transfers to Other Funds & Debt Services

**Average overall cost per resident**

<b>\$1,106</b> annually	<b>\$92.17</b> monthly	<b>\$3.03</b> daily
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### Property Taxes

For a \$200,000 home in 2021 *(Note: only an estimate – other exemptions possible)*

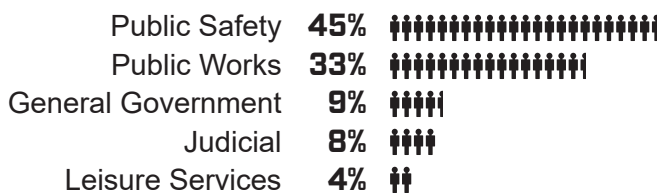
### Millage Rate (FY21)

[property tax rates]	
20.00	School district
13.70	Unified Government
33.70	Total

With homestead exemption		No exemptions
ACC	\$1,337.91	\$1,529.04
School	\$1,400.00	\$1,600.00
State	\$0	\$0
LOST credit <i>(see below)</i>	-\$378.91	-\$433.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,359.00</b>	<b>\$2,696.00</b>

## Employees

- 43 departments / offices / courts
- 1,728 [FY21] full-time positions
- 13.2 [FY21] employees per 1000 residents



## 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)