**Athens-Clarke County By the Numbers**

### Incorporated Areas
1. Athens-Clarke County
2. City of Winterville
3. City of Bogart (partial)

### Geography
- **Approximately 122 square miles in area**
- **Smallest of Georgia’s 159 counties**

### History
- **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 (2021 Census ACS estimates, unless noted)
- **Population, including students**: 128,711
- **UGA enrollment (Athens only, Fall 2022)**: 38,699
- **Median age in years**: 29.3
- **Median household income**: $50,447
- **High school graduates (ages 25+)**: 89.6%
- **Bachelor’s degree or higher (ages 25+)**: 49.1%
- **Persons below poverty level**: 20.7%
- **Unemployment (GA Dept. of Labor, Dec. 2022)**: 2.6%

### Employment
**Largest employers (estimates, Dec. 2022)**
- 11,541 – 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

### 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
- Best Places to Travel in 2023 (Forbes Advisor)
- 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)

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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 February 2023.
**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.

**Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Budget**
- Runs July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023
- $287.7 million total budget for all funds
- The General Fund supports the majority of basic government services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund Expenditures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22% General Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>7% Judicial</td>
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<tr>
<td>38% Public Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>11% Public Works</td>
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<tr>
<td>6% Culture &amp; Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>3% Housing &amp; Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>4% Independent Agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>3% Transfers &amp; Debt Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>7% Capital</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund Revenues</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50% Property Taxes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18% Sales Taxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>15% Other Tax</td>
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<tr>
<td>8% Charges for Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>1% Fines &amp; Forfeitures</td>
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<tr>
<td>4% All Other Revenues</td>
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<tr>
<td>4% Use of Fund Balance</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Average General Fund cost per ACC resident for local government services (FY23):**
- $478 Public Safety
- $87 Judicial Services
- $281 General Government
- $133 Public Works
- $71 Culture & Recreation
- $39 Housing & Development
- $50 Independent Agencies
- $88 Capital Projects
- $37 Transfers to Other Funds & Debt Services

**Average overall cost per resident**
- $1,262 annually
- $105.17 monthly
- $3.46 daily

**Property Taxes**
For a $250,000 home in 2023 *(Note: only an estimate – other exemptions possible)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Millage Rate (FY23) <em>(property tax rates)</em></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18.80</td>
<td>School district</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.10</td>
<td>Unified Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.90</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**With homestead exemption**

| ACC | $1,348.20 |
| School | $1,692.00 |
| State | $0 |
| LOST credit | -$365.70 |

Total $2,674.50

**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 (Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)
- 1% TSPLOST (Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)

**Employees**
- 43 departments / offices / courts
- 1,769 (FY23) full-time positions
- 13.4 (FY23) employees per 1000 residents

| Public Safety | 44% |
| Public Works  | 33% |
| General Government | 10% |
| Judicial      | 8% |
| Leisure Services | 4% |