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

Demographics (2013-2018 Census data, unless noted)
- Population, including students (2018 est.) 126,000
- UGA Athens only enrollment (Fall 2019) 37,311
- Median age in years ............................................ 37.6
- Median household income .................................... $36,637
- High school graduates (ages 25+) ......................... 87.0%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher (ages 25+) .................. 42.7%
- Persons below poverty level ................................. 31.6%
- Unemployment (GA Dept. of Labor, Nov. 2019) ........ 2.6%

Racial Makeup
- White – 66.0%
- Black – 29.2%
- Asian – 4.9%
- Other – 2.6%
- Hispanic or Latino – 10.8%

Employment
Largest employers (Dec. 2019)
- University of Georgia (UGA) chartered
- Clarke County created as 25th county in Georgia and the site of UGA selected
- Town of Athens chartered
- Clarke County and the City of Athens governments unified on January 14

- 70 miles northeast of Atlanta
- Over 425 miles of streams & rivers

Most populous
6th of Georgia’s 539 cities/towns
Most populous
18th of Georgia’s 159 counties

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 College

Accolades
- 2018 Live, Work, Play Award for Large Cities (Georgia Municipal Association & Georgia Trend)
- Best Places to Retire in 2018 (Forbes)
- South’s Best Food Cities 2018 (Southern Living)
- America’s Coolest Southern Towns (Jetsetter, 2017)
- 12 Best Music Towns in the Nation (Expedia, 2017)
- Prettiest Town in Georgia (The Daily Meal, 2017)

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 2020.
**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 Dependency Treatment Court, Parental Accountability Court, Treatment & Accountability Court, and Veterans Court

### Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) Budget
- Runs July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020
- $249 million total budget for all funds
- The General Fund supports the majority of basic government services

#### General Fund Expenditures
- 22% General Government
- 21% Judicial
- 29% Public Safety
- 11% Public Works
- 6% Culture & Recreation
- 2% Housing & Development
- 4% Independent Agencies
- 3% Transfers & Debt Service
- 2% Capital

#### General Fund Revenues
- 47% Property Taxes
- 17% Sales Taxes
- 16% Other Tax
- 9% Charges for Services
- 2% Fines & Forfeitures
- 6% All Other Revenues
- 3% Use of Fund Balance (for capital)

### Average General Fund cost per ACC resident for local government services (FY20):
- $315 Public Safety
- $226 Judicial Services
- $245 General Government
- $126 Public Works
- $63 Culture & Recreation
- $26 Housing & Development
- $44 Independent Agencies
- $18 Capital Projects
- $39 Transfers to Other Funds & Debt Services

**Average overall cost per resident**
- $1,101 annually
- $91.75 monthly
- $3.02 daily

### Property Taxes
For a $200,000 home in 2020 *(Note: only an estimate – other exemptions possible)*

**Millage Rate [FY19]**
- 20.00 School district
- 13.95 Unified Government
- 33.95 Total

**With homestead exemption**
- ACC $1,357.51
- School $1,400.00
- State $0
- LOST credit *(see below)* -$381.01

**Total** $2,376.50

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