Bleckley County
Community Profile

147th in order of county creation
November 5, 1912

Prepared for Bleckley County Cooperative Extension by the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development
The University of Georgia • Athens, GA
Total Population
Bleckley County

Census 2010: 13,063
2000: 11,666
1990: 10,430
1980: 10,767
1970: 10,291
1960: 9,642
1950: 9,218
1940: 9,655
1930: 9,133

2020 OPB Proj.: 14,501
2015 OPB Proj.: 13,760

Primary data sources: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial censuses; GA Office of Planning & Budget projections.
Population Composition by Age
Bleckley County

2009 Estimated Median Age
Bleckley Co. = 33.8 yrs.  GA = 34.9 yrs.

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
## 2010 County Population Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total Rank</th>
<th>Density per sq.mi.</th>
<th>% Chg. 2000-10</th>
<th>Rank of % Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLECKLEY</td>
<td>13,063</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>21,796</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSTON</td>
<td>139,900</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>372.5</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>48,434</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PULASKI</td>
<td>12,010</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWIGGS</td>
<td>9,023</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>-14.8</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKINSON</td>
<td>9,563</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>-6.4</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (3/11)
Population Change: 1930-2010

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Population Change: 2000-2010

- LOSS
- Gain < US
- Gain > US but < GA
- Gain > GA
- Gain > 2X GA

Avg. GA County = 14.2%
GA = 18.3%
US = 9.7%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (3/11)
### Components of Population Change

**Natural Increase & Net Migration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2000-2009 Numerical Change*</th>
<th>2000-2009 # Natural Increase (Births-Deaths)</th>
<th>2000-2009 # Net Migration</th>
<th>2008-09 1-yr Natural Increase Rate</th>
<th>2008-09 1 yr Net Migration Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLECKLEY</td>
<td>1,189</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>987</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSTON</td>
<td>24,950</td>
<td>9,474</td>
<td>15,946</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>3,421</td>
<td>1,969</td>
<td>1,713</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PULASKI</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWIGGS</td>
<td>-479</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>-589</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>-9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKINSON</td>
<td>-144</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>-594</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. County</td>
<td>10,330</td>
<td>4,305</td>
<td>5,340</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>1,642,430</td>
<td>684,445</td>
<td>849,133</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Primary data source:**
U. S. Census Bureau (3/10)
Selected Vital Statistics

2007 Rates

- Total births per 1,000 pop: Bleckley Co. 14.1, Georgia 15.8
- Unwed per 100 total births: Bleckley Co. 47.7, Georgia 43.8
- Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19: Bleckley Co. 36.5, Georgia 35.3
- Deaths per 1,000 pop: Bleckley Co. 9.5, Georgia 7.1
- Induced terminations per 1,000 females age 15-44: Bleckley Co. 5.4, Georgia 14.9
- Low birth weight per 100 births: Bleckley Co. 11.1, Georgia 9.1
- Infant deaths per 1,000 births: Bleckley Co. 7.8, Georgia 8.4

10-yr. rates 1998-2007

- Total births per 1,000 pop: Bleckley Co. 174, Georgia 155
- Unwed per 100 total births: Bleckley Co. 147, Georgia 135
- Teen pregnancy per 1,000 females age 10-19: Bleckley Co. 36, Georgia 35
- Deaths per 1,000 pop: Bleckley Co. 117, Georgia 100
- Induced terminations per 1,000 females age 15-44: Bleckley Co. 15, Georgia 44
- Low birth weight per 100 births: Bleckley Co. 25, Georgia 23
- Infant deaths per 1,000 births: Bleckley Co. 1, Georgia 1

Primary data source: GA Dept. Public Health, OASIS
Bleckley Co.
Not completing HS = 28.3%
With a bachelor’s + degree = 12.5%

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau
Selected Public School School Year 2008-09

Teachers w/adv degrees
Georgia: 60.0, Bleckley Co.: 59.5

College prep certif
Georgia: 44.2, Bleckley Co.: 75.7

HOPE Eligible
Georgia: 30.8, Bleckley Co: 38.0

Class '09 Grad Rate
Georgia: 83.2, Bleckley Co.: 78.9

Gifted
Georgia: 4.8, Bleckley Co.: 9.3

Special Ed
Georgia: 10.6, Bleckley Co.: 16.6

Econ Disadvantaged
Georgia: 48.2, Bleckley Co.: 53.9

Retained in grade
Georgia: 3.8, Bleckley Co.: 5.6

Absent >15 days
Georgia: 10.4, Bleckley Co.: 8.7

HS Dropout rate
Georgia: 4.2, Bleckley Co.: 3.8

Primary data source:
Governor’s Office of Student Achievement

Bleckley Co.
K12 enrollment = 2,340
HS dropouts = 35
General Fund Expenditures per FTE = $7,945
2008 PCI
Bleckley Co. = $27,724

Georgia = $34,849
US = $40,166

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/10)
Per Capita Income: 2003-2008
Percentage Change


Bleckley Co., Georgia, US

Primary data source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/10)
## Per Capita Income: 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>PCI</th>
<th>Rank of PCI</th>
<th>% PCI of GA Total</th>
<th>% Change in PCI 2003-2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLECKLEY</td>
<td>$27,724</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>$24,418</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>70.1</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSTON</td>
<td>$32,577</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>$29,099</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>83.5</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PULASKI</td>
<td>$29,939</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWIGGS</td>
<td>$25,827</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>74.1</td>
<td>28.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKINSON</td>
<td>$25,157</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>$28,543</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>81.9</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/10)
Median Household Income
2009 Model-Based Estimates

US: $50,221
GEORGIA: $47,469
GA Avg. Co.: $38,972
BLECKLEY: $38,610
DODGE: $32,743
HOUSTON: $50,733
LAURENS: $36,476
PULASKI: $35,180
TWIGGS: $34,000
WLKINSON: $34,660

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/10)
Transfer Receipts: 2008
Bleckley Co. Total = $86,159,000

- Retirement/Disab: 28.7%
- Medicare: 27.6%
- Pub Med Assist: 15.5%
- Supp Sec Inc: 2.2%
- Family Assist: 0.4%
- Food Stamps: 2.7%
- Other Inc Maint: 6.2%
- Unemp: 2.6%
- Veteran Benefit: 3.4%
- All Other: 14.8%

Bleckley Co.
$6,743 per capita transfer receipts
25.5% of total personal income
11.7% change in total 2007-08

Primary data source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (4/10)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th># of Persons</th>
<th>% of all Persons</th>
<th>Rank of %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLECKLEY</td>
<td>2,285</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>4,187</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSTON</td>
<td>18,099</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>10,465</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PULASKI</td>
<td>1,982</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWIGGS</td>
<td>2,286</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKINSON</td>
<td>2,074</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Avg. Co.</td>
<td>9,969</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: U. S. Census Bureau (12/10)
Persons Living Below the Poverty Level
2009 Model-Based Estimates

Weighted average poverty threshold for a family household of 4 persons in 2009 = $21,954

Primary data source: U.S. Census Bureau (12/10)
Unemployment Rates

Rate per 100 in Labor Force

2010 Rates

Bleckley Co. = 12.2  
GA = 10.2  
US = 9.6

Avg. GA County = 11.1

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bleckley 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>30</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>$426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>1,442</td>
<td>$396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>$853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>$418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transp/Warehousing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance/Insurance</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>$644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Sci/Tech</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>$520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin/Suppt/WasteMgmt/Remediation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care/Soc Svcs</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>$423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations/Food Svc</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>$233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1,221</td>
<td>$556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>3,622</td>
<td>$458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (8/10)
Employment Comparisons by Industry Group: 2009

- **Goods Producing**
  - Bleckley Co.: 14.6%
  - Avg. GA County: 22.1%
  - Georgia: 26.5%

- **Service Providing**
  - Bleckley Co.: 39.8%
  - Avg. GA County: 50.2%
  - Georgia: 67.4%

- **Government**
  - Bleckley Co.: 17.9%
  - Avg. GA County: 27.3%

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Labor (8/10)
Components of 2009 Property Tax Gross Digest
Bleckley County

- Residential: 43.2%
- Mobile Home: 1.4%
- Motor Vehicle: 9.4%
- Public Utility: 2.9%
- Industrial: 3.9%
- Commercial: 11.2%
- Ag-Preferential-Environ-Conserv: 27.2%
- Timber *: 0.7%

40% Assessment Value of Property
- Gross Digest = $321,613,730
- Homestead & Property Exemptions = $38,953,246
- Net M&O Digest = $282,660,484
- Value of exempt property = $23,401,339

* Timber taxed at 100% based on previous year sales

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
### Millage Rates, Taxes Levied, & Sales Tax Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2010 County-wide Millage*</th>
<th>'08 Taxes Levied* ($000)</th>
<th>Sales Tax Rate as of 1/11</th>
<th>LOST Type* as of 1/11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLECKLEY</td>
<td>25.802</td>
<td>$7,255</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DODGE</td>
<td>22.250</td>
<td>$8,556</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSTON</td>
<td>24.720</td>
<td>$102,916</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURENS</td>
<td>22.550</td>
<td>$28,545</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PULASKI</td>
<td>28.063</td>
<td>$6,887</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWIGGS</td>
<td>32.450</td>
<td>$7,194</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILKINSON</td>
<td>32.350</td>
<td>$12,485</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Countywide Includes .250 state millage. School includes bonds, if any. Taxes levied, but not necessarily collected. Sales Tax: 4% State not included; L=Local Option, S=Special Purpose, E=Educational

Primary data source: GA Dept. of Revenue
Farm Gate Value by Commodity Group: 2009
Bleckley Co. Total Value = $27,818,246

- Row-Forage crops: 47.9%
- Livestock: 14.5%
- Forestry: 14.7%
- Ornamental Horticulture: 1.8%
- Other: 12.8%
- Poultry-Egg: 8.0%
- Veges: 0.3%

Primary data source: Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development, UGA (5/10)
Retail Sales Analysis: 2008
Bleckley Co. Total Retail Sales = $112,739,000

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.

Residents working in county = 2,583
Residents working out of county = 2,116
Total working in county = 3,891
Workers commuting into county = 1,308

Bleckley County
Mean travel time to work = 26.1 min.
Ratio of IN to OUT = 0.62

Resident workers 16+ = 4,699
Residents working in county = 2,583
Residents working out of county = 2,116
Total working in county = 3,891
Workers commuting into county = 1,308

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

Special Area Report
# 1105 April 2011

Prepared for Bleckley County Cooperative Extension
by Susan R. Boatright
Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
The University of Georgia • Athens, GA
Georgia Cooperative Extension
706-542-0760 • 706-542-8938

To learn more about your county, click on “Georgia Statistics System” at our website:
www.caed.uga.edu