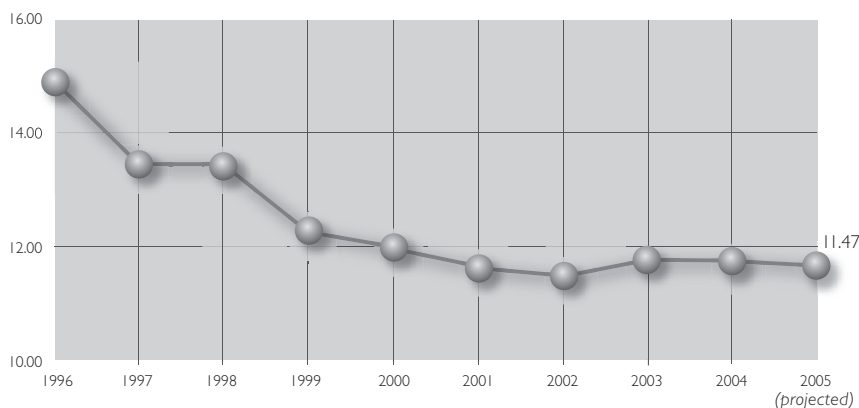


Local Economy

By many different measures, Gwinnett is a prosperous and growing county. We continue to attract tens of thousands of new residents each year, drawn by the opportunities and outstanding quality of life we have to offer.

- The county's population now stands at an estimated 697,455 residents, up more than 109,000 from the 2000 census (*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and Gwinnett County Forecasting and Research Division*)
- Gwinnett's gain of 2,900 jobs from 2002 to 2003 is in contrast to the loss of 23,000 jobs statewide; according to the Georgia Department of Labor, Gwinnett had approximately 295,919 employment positions in the 4th quarter of 2003 (*4th quarter 2003 monthly average – latest figure available*)
- Unemployment in the county is 3.3 percent, below the Georgia rate of 4.1 percent (*Source: Georgia Department of Labor – November 2004, preliminary numbers*)
- The Tax Digest continues to grow even during this current economic downturn with the real property net tax digest and the personal property net tax digest projected to grow 5.5 percent and 4.2 percent respectively during 2005
- The County has rolled back the millage rate with the passage of the 1997 and 2001 SPLOST programs a total of 2.0 mills. These reductions remain in effect and when combined with rollbacks to offset property value updates, the County has reduced the millage rate a total of 3.48 mills since 1996 – a 23 percent reduction to the total county millage. This includes the addition of .25 mill in 2003 for the voter-approved \$75 million General Obligation Bond to fund the jail expansion.

History of Millage Rates 1996 – 2005



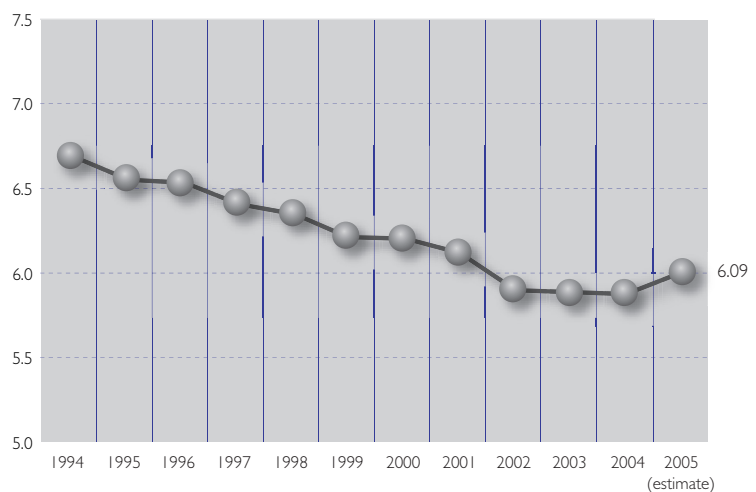
County Finances

Gwinnett County has again maintained its AAA credit rating from all three major credit rating agencies, as we have done since 1997. We issued \$120 million in water/sewer bonds in 2004. Our excellent credit indicates solid financial management and results in significant interest savings for our citizens.

- The proposed 2005 budget total is \$1.5 billion

- The 2005 Operating Budget includes:
 - 239 new positions (compared to 106 last year)
 - 204 for public safety, courts, and sheriff
 - 2 for public utilities – stormwater
 - 5 for planning/development and transportation
 - 6 for community services
 - 6 for tax commissioner (new Mall of Georgia Tag Office)
 - 3 for support services (fleet, information technology)
 - 13 other general government positions
 - 2 percent pay for performance and 2 percent one-time market adjustment payment
 - Targeted market adjustment reserve of approximately \$2.8 million

County Employees Per 1,000 Population



- The long-term Capital Improvement Program includes these six-year program costs (2005 – 2010):
 - \$737 million for water and sewer projects
 - \$609 million for transportation improvements
 - \$267 million for parks, libraries, and social-service delivery centers
 - \$196 million for courts, tag offices, and central service facilities
 - \$222 million for public safety, including the jail expansion
- The 2001 SPLOST program with \$477 million in sales tax revenues is moving forward with continued development of our parks and recreation facilities, public safety facilities, and transportation improvements. The 2005 SPLOST program will begin accumulating revenues beginning April 1, 2005, with an initial sales tax revenue budget of \$503 million. The County portion of the SPLOST revenue is budgeted conservatively at 90 percent of projected sales tax revenues of \$550 million.
 - In this year's 2005 capital budget we have designated projects for the libraries, parks and recreation, and public safety portions of these two SPLOST programs including:
 - Completion of construction on the Dacula library and beginning construction of the Grayson library
 - Continuation of existing fire station relocations and the addition of new fire stations
 - New Police Training Complex and Eastside Precinct
 - Begin construction on a new Animal Control Facility
 - Park improvements including renovations to Bethesda Park and Best Friend Park plus funding for park land and open space acquisitions



Bethesda Park Plan



Police Training Complex



Recorder's Court/Juvenile Court



Fire Station 25



Westside Precinct



New Home Construction

Public Safety and Courts

Corrections

- Total value of inmate and community-service labor in 2004: \$5.6 million

Courts

- Ground was broken in August 2004 for a new, four-story Recorder's Court/Juvenile Court building in Lawrenceville

DMVS Customer Service Center

- Gwinnett County partnered with State of Georgia to build a new, state-of-the-art Department of Motor Vehicle Safety driver license facility in Lawrenceville; ground was broken in February 2004 and the first customers were served in September

Fire

- A new Fire Administration and Logistical Support Facility opened in 2004, along with Fire Station 25 on Lawrenceville Highway at Ronald Reagan Parkway and the relocation of Station 5 to Old Norcross Road
- Station 24 near the Mall of Georgia and Station 26 in Sugar Hill will open this year
- New stations being planned include: Station 27 on Old Fountain Road, Station 28 on Rosebud Road, Station 29 on Hosea Road, and the relocation of Station 12 in Snellville

Police

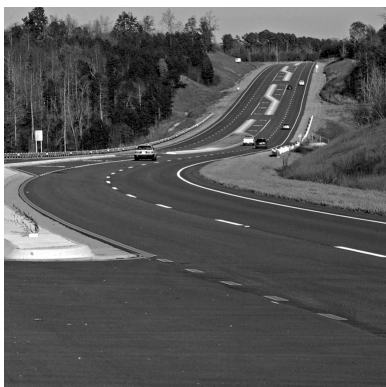
- New Westside Police Precinct building located at Jimmy Carter Boulevard and I-85 opened
- Construction on the new Northside Police Precinct near the Mall of Georgia began in 2004 and will be completed in 2005
- Design was completed for a new \$20 million Police Training Facility with construction scheduled to begin in 2005
- Design began on the new Eastside Police Precinct building to be located in Dacula – construction should start in 2005

Sheriff

- Construction began in 2004 on a \$75 million expansion of the Pre-Trial Detention Center, which will provide 1,440 new beds in 2006

Planning and Development

- Atlanta Regional Commission recognized the Revitalization Task Force with a CREATE Community Award for its study of three pilot areas: Highway 78/Stone Mountain Highway, Beaver Run residential area northeast of Norcross, and the Gwinnett Place Mall area
- Georgia Urban Forestry Council awarded the department the 2004 Outstanding Marketing Award for its Buffer Landscape and Tree Ordinance Handbook
- Board of Commissioners approved overlay districts for Highway 78, Grayson Highway, and Centerville Highway to improve the overall quality of development through enhanced architectural design standards, increased landscaping, and streetscape design
- Planning Division processed 223 rezoning cases and 91 special use permits
- The total number of building permits issued in 2004 increased from the previous year
 - Single-family permits totaled 8,291, up 4.7 percent over 2003
 - Commercial, office, and industrial permits totaled 1,307, up 17.2 percent over 2003



Satellite Boulevard Extension



Shoal Creek Filter Plant



Suwanee Library



McDaniel Farm Park

Transportation

- Two major road projects opened to traffic: a 4.4-mile extension of Satellite Boulevard and the extension of Fork Creek Parkway
- Completed construction of Taxiway B, an approximately 2,800-foot-long parallel taxiway on the north side of the airport. It connects the north ramp area to Runway 7, eliminating the number of runway crossings, which in turn helps to lessen the potential for runway incursion
- The Discover Mills Park and Ride facility opened in July to the delight of Gwinnett County Transit's express bus commuters
- Local routes averaged 3,900 daily boardings and the Express routes saw an average of 1,400 daily boardings last year
- The Department of Transportation maintained 2,460 miles of roads and 576 traffic signals

Public Utilities

- The new Shoal Creek water filter plant opened in 2004, providing Gwinnett with a second plant for much-needed redundancy and capacity to meet future drinking water needs
- Wastewater treatment capacity is also expanding with a 40-million-gallon-per-day addition to the F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center, a new pump station, upgrades at three smaller treatment facilities, and construction of a deep tunnel from No Business Creek to Jacks Creek
- Gwinnett County built about 65 miles of new water mains and 90 miles of new sewer in 2004
- An \$8.7-million project to build nearly five miles of 48- and 36-inch water mains in north Gwinnett will be finished in 2006

Community Services

- The new Suwanee Branch Library, the county's 12th, opened in August 2004
- A new branch at Dacula is under construction in 2005, and another new library is planned for Grayson
- The Lawrenceville Senior Center will expand its facilities for the Meals on Wheels program to support the needs of an additional 300 – 400 clients
- Four new parks opened in 2004: Bay Creek Park, McDaniel Farm Park, Ronald Reagan Park, and Little Mulberry Park (Phase One)
- Phase Two at Little Mulberry Park will be under construction in 2005 along with new facilities at Sweet Water Park, DeShong Park, Graves Park, improvements at Bethesda Park, and a new community center at George Pierce Park
- New recreation facilities that opened last year include: the Mountain Park Aquatic Center and Activity Building, the Bogan Park Community Center expansion, and a Dacula Park Activity Building; renovations were completed or are under way at Jones Bridge, Shorty Howell, Yellow River, and Best Friend Parks
- Groundbreaking for the new Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center was held in December 2004
- A citizen steering committee guided the recent development of a master plan for parks and recreation
- More than 54,000 youth participated in the educational activities of the Gwinnett 4-H program

Support Services

- The One Justice Square building opened in 2004 to house the Gwinnett offices of the Georgia Department of Family and Children's Services as well as the County's one-stop permitting offices
- The Elections division conducted four major elections and completed two reapportionment processes