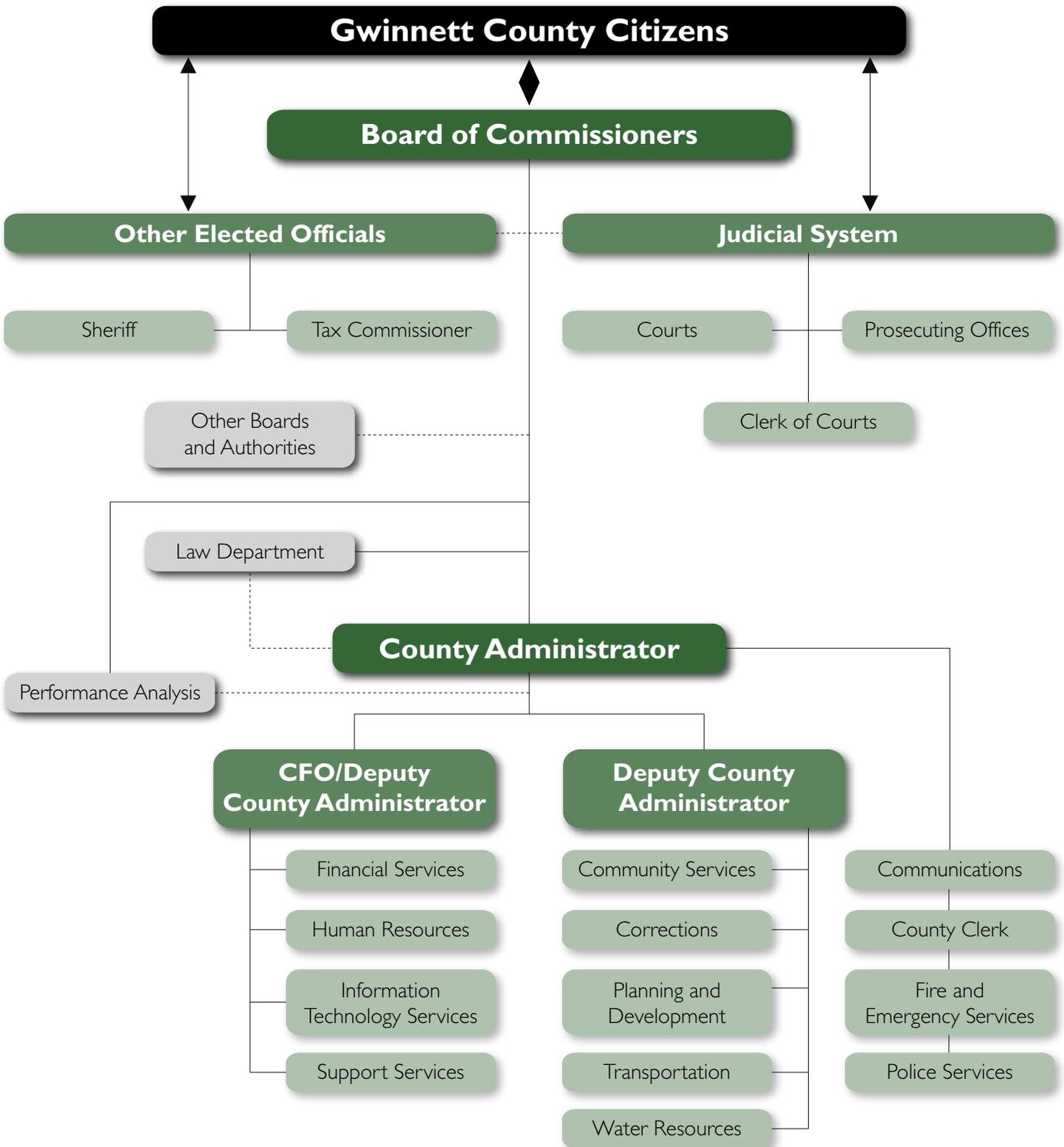




- introduction section

This section contains a high-level organizational chart and general facts about Gwinnett County and its municipalities.

## Gwinnett County Organizational Chart



## County Administration/Department Directors

County Administrator  
Glenn P. **Stephens**

Deputy County Administrator/CFO  
Aaron J. **Bovos**

Deputy County Administrator  
Vacant

County Attorney  
Karen **Thomas**

Community Services  
Phil **Hoskins**, Director

Corrections  
David **Peek**, Warden

Financial Services  
Maria **Woods**, Director

Fire and Emergency Services  
Chief Bill **Myers**

Human Resources  
Kenneth **Poe**, Director

Information Technology Services  
John **Matelski**, Director

Planning and Development  
Bryan **Lackey**, Acting Director

Police Services  
Chief Charles M. **Walters**

Support Services  
Steve **North**, Director

Transportation  
Brian **Allen**, Director

Water Resources  
Lynn **Smarr**, Acting Director

## Elected Officials

Clerk of Court  
Tom **Lawler**

District Attorney  
Daniel J. **Porter**

Chief Magistrate Court Judge  
George F. **Hutchinson III**

Probate Court Judge  
Walter J. **Clarke Jr.**

Sheriff  
R.L. "Butch" **Conway**

Solicitor  
Rosanna **Szabo**

Tax Commissioner  
Katherine **L. Meyer** (retiring Spring 2011)  
Richard **Steele**

State Court Judges  
Robert W. **Mock Sr.**, Chief Judge  
Pamela D. **South**  
Joseph C. **Iannazzone**  
Carla E. **Brown**  
Randolph G. **Rich**  
John F. **Doran Jr.**

Superior Court Judges  
K. Dawson **Jackson**, Chief Judge  
Michael C. **Clark**  
Melodie **Snell-Conner**  
Debra K. **Turner**  
William M. **Ray II**  
R. Timothy **Hamil**  
Ronnie K. **Batchelor**  
Thomas N. **Davis Jr.**  
Warren P. **Davis**  
Karen E. **Beyers**  
Homer M. **Stark**, Senior Judge

## Judicially Appointed Officials

Juvenile Court Judges  
Robert V. **Rodatus**, Presiding Judge  
Stephen E. **Franzén**  
Robert **Waller**

Recorder's Court Judges  
Michael **Greene**, Chief Judge  
Patti **Muise**  
Rodney S. **Harris**

Clerk of Recorder's Court  
Jeff C. **West**

Court Administrator  
Philip M. **Boudewyns**

## Government Finance Officers Association Statement

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented an award of Distinguished Budget Presentation to Gwinnett County, Georgia for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010.

In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as communications device.

The award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.





## History

Covering 437 square miles of frontier land the Creek and Cherokee Indians ceded to the state, Gwinnett County was named after Button Gwinnett, one of Georgia's three signers of the Declaration of Independence. The Georgia Legislature created Gwinnett County on December 15, 1818.

In 1819, the home of Elisha Winn, one of Gwinnett's early leaders instrumental in the creation of the county and in whose parlor the early planning took place, became the first county courthouse. The first elections were held in the parlor, and superior court proceedings were conducted in his barn, while the first jail stood nearby. Winn selected Lawrenceville as the site for the county seat and donated the land for the first permanent courthouse, which was completed in 1824 for \$4,000. When it was destroyed by fire in 1871, a second courthouse was constructed in 1872, but was torn down in 1884 when it was deemed inadequate. It was finally replaced in 1885 with the building now known as the Historic Courthouse and was used as the county's courthouse until 1988, when the construction on the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center was completed.

In 1914, a portion of Gwinnett was joined with parts of Walton and Jackson Counties to form Barrow County. More of Gwinnett's land area was lost in the mid-1950s with the construction of Buford Dam. As the Chattahoochee River was backed up behind the new dam, the water of Lake Lanier covered hundreds of acres.

## Population

According to the most recent Census number, in 2010, Gwinnett's population was estimated at 805,321. Based on projections, Gwinnett is expected to reach nearly one million by the year 2026.

## Public Safety

Gwinnett County's Department of Police Services is a nationally accredited agency with an authorized strength of 759 sworn officers, supported by 307 non-sworn employees providing law enforcement services to the county.

The Department of Corrections operates the Comprehensive Correctional Complex, an 800-bed prison facility that contains 512 beds for state and county inmates classified as minimum or medium security. This complex also contains 288 work release beds for non-violent criminal offenders sentenced to part-time incarceration and parents who habitually fail to pay court-ordered child support. The correctional complex is the only government-owned prison in Georgia that is nationally accredited.

Gwinnett County's Department of Fire and Emergency Services covers one of the largest demographic areas in the state of Georgia. Serving this area with fire protection and emergency medical services is the mission of the department. The department meets its challenge with an authorized force of 844 well-trained men and women. Fire stations are strategically located to provide quick response times for fire, medical, and other emergencies. In fall 2010, Fire Station 18 was relocated to Hamilton Mill; new fire stations 29 and 30 opened in Buford and Loganville, respectively.

## Transportation

Gwinnett County's infrastructure includes more than 2,750 miles of roads, which include more than 660 signalized intersections. The 2011 Capital Budget and 2011 – 2016 plan for the Transportation Capital Improvement Program (CIP) totals over \$259 million.

Construction continues on the Sugarloaf Parkway Extension from SR 20/Grayson Highway to SR 316/University Parkway, east of Lawrenceville. Construction of Section Two (New Hope Road to Martins Chapel Road) was completed and opened to traffic on December 14, 2010. Construction on Sections Three A and Three B (Martins Chapel Road/Bramlett Shoals Road to SR 316/University Parkway) began in 2010 and is anticipated to be open to traffic in 2012.

Briscoe Field is the fourth busiest airport in the state, located on approximately 500 acres. It is capable of handling all light, general aviation, and most corporate jet aircraft. Two fixed-base operators provide excellent service and three flight schools provide instruction.

Gwinnett County Transit operates local bus service Monday through Saturday. Sixty-three Express Buses operate weekdays during peak travel times. The six express routes allow individuals to park their cars at central locations and take transit to destinations in downtown and midtown Atlanta. In 2010, the Transit system transported more than 2.1 million riders on express and local buses.

## Education

Gwinnett County Public Schools is the largest school system in Georgia and the 16<sup>th</sup> largest school system in the country with a growth rate of 1,600 new students each year. Total enrollment for 2010-2011 was approximately 161,000 including students in 77 elementary schools, 25 middle schools, 19 high schools, and nine other educational facilities. The average cost to educate a student is \$7,638 per year. Gwinnett's school system serves over 180,000 meals daily and operates over 1,800 school buses that travel more than 24 million miles annually. Averages of 119,990 students are transported twice daily. In fiscal year 2011, the total budget is \$1.76 billion dollars.

Gwinnett County Public Schools was the recipient of the 2010 Broad Prize through The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation. As the winner of the largest education award in the country, Gwinnett County Public Schools will receive \$1 million in college scholarships for its high school students. This annual award honors large urban school districts that demonstrate the strongest student achievement and improvement while narrowing achievement gaps between income and ethnic groups. The money goes directly to graduating high school seniors for college scholarships.

There are more than 35 private schools in Gwinnett, and the City of Buford operates its own public school system.

Gwinnett is also home to several universities, such as DeVry Institute of Technology, Shorter College, Gwinnett Technical College, and Georgia Gwinnett College.





Georgia Gwinnett College opened its doors as a four-year college in fall 2006. Prior to that, the College only offered a two-year associate degree. The first Georgia Gwinnett College graduation was held in June 2008. By Fall 2011, enrollment is estimated to be in excess of 8,000.

In May 2008, The University of Georgia moved its Gwinnett programs from the campus it shared with Georgia Gwinnett College to its new location near Sugarloaf Parkway and I-85. Although the last class of UGA undergraduates students in Gwinnett graduated in the Spring of 2008, enrollment in the graduate programs continues to expand, as well as the number of programs offered.

Established in 1935, the Gwinnett County Library System has grown to 15 full-service branches. Construction of the most recent library branch, Hamilton Mill Branch Library, began in 2008 and opened in 2010. It was the County's third "green" building. After receiving the Building of America Gold Medal Feature, the library was recognized by the Georgia chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council with an Honorable Mention for Excellence in Sustainability.

### Business Environment

Gwinnett County has maintained its AAA rating from all three major credit rating agencies since 1997. The County's favorable rating indicates solid financial management and results in significant interest savings for our citizens.

Gwinnett County issued 22,165 occupation tax certificates (business licenses) in 2010. Gwinnett's hospitality and international sophistication, along with affordable real estate and a well-educated labor pool, continues to attract a comprehensive array of diverse companies.

For nearly 30 years, Gwinnett has been a major retail center. It became home to Gwinnett Place Mall in 1984, the Mall of Georgia in 1999, and Discover Mills in 2001. In addition to being a retail center, Gwinnett is also a high-tech hub.

According to the Gwinnett Chamber, Gwinnett is one of the Southeast's leading high-tech hubs. A leading research and development center, is linked to the top six research colleges and universities in Georgia, and is home to more than 850 manufacturers, 1,300 high-tech companies, 275 bioscience-related and 375 international firms. Gwinnett is home to more than 10 percent of the total metro Atlanta high-tech companies and seven of the region's top 25 high-tech employers operate facilities in Gwinnett.

Home to FORTUNE 1000 companies and leading metro Atlanta's job creation for the past five years, Gwinnett and the Atlanta region have been named America's "Hottest Cities for Business Relocation and Expansion" by Expansion Management Magazine, KPMG's "Least Expensive City to do Business" and among *Site Selection Magazine's* "Top Ten Metros." Additionally, Gwinnett's activities captured the attention of *USA Today* in a story titled "Suburbs get urban makeover" acknowledging Gwinnett as a national leader in capitalizing on new urbanism.

With extensive research complete, the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce along with partners in government, education, healthcare, and business are readily implementing Gwinnett's Community and Economic Development Plan known as Partnership Gwinnett. The plan will serve to create over 65,000 new jobs and \$5.8 billion in new net wealth in Gwinnett over the next five years.

The vision is that Gwinnett will be known as an inclusive community where businesses thrive and residents maximize their potential through world-class schools, opportunities for life-long learning, a vibrant economy, diverse partnerships, and a superior quality of life.

## Recreation and Arts

Gwinnett Parks and Recreation offer award-winning parks and leisure activities year round to the young and young at heart citizens of Gwinnett County. From a stroll on a trail, to playing a sport, to learning how to swim, to exploring the past and enjoying Gwinnett County history, to a fitness or pottery class, to a horseback or bike ride; there is something for everyone. They also offer facility rentals and partner with Gwinnett's 27 volunteer youth athletic associations to offer sports such as baseball/softball, basketball, cheerleading, football, soccer, roller hockey, and the newest sport, lacrosse. In 2010, Gwinnett Parks and Recreation offered over 6,500 classes, summer camps, and special events.

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation operates 44 parks and facilities that include: 153 sports fields, 51 tennis courts, 31 multi-purpose sports courts, two indoor and seven outdoor leisure pools, four indoor competition pools, three indoor instructional pools and one outdoor pool, five dog park areas, six cultural/historic sites, over 100 miles of trails, skate complexes, playgrounds, picnic areas, pavilions, fishing lakes, and more. In 2010 Freeman's Mill Park, the newest park along the banks of the Alcovy River, including a unique playground that replicates a gristmill, picnic pavilion, half-mile multi-purpose trail, parking, and restroom facilities as well as the historic Freeman's Gristmill, was opened to the public.

Gwinnett County continues to place a high priority on greenspace, as well as active and passive park land. As of 2010, the total parkland acreage grew to 8,988 acres for both passive and active parks.

The Gwinnett Center consists of a convention center, 702-seat performing arts center, 13,000-seat arena, and a grand ballroom. Beautiful landscaping and onsite parking make a visit to any of these facilities enjoyable.

A 50,000-square-foot exhibit hall anchors the Convention Center. This facility also has 23 meeting rooms that can accommodate up to 1,000 attendees. The Grand Ballroom is also located in the Convention Center and is a spacious 21,600 square feet. The Arena continues to be home to the Gwinnett Gladiators of the East Coast Hockey League and the Georgia Force of the Arena Football League. Included in the facility design are 36 corporate suites, wider seats, high-end sound, and versatile lighting. This facility is a popular venue for family shows, sporting events, music concerts, and many other types of entertainment. A parking deck was added to the facility in 2009 providing 950 additional spaces for patrons.





The Triple-A affiliate of the Atlanta Braves, the Gwinnett Braves moved from Richmond, Virginia, to Lawrenceville in 2008. Coolray Field is a state-of-the-art stadium seating more than 10,000 fans, which opened in April 2009. The opening of Coolray Field has generated more than 400 jobs in the county. In its inaugural season, the team welcomed more than 400,000 fans and it continues to be a popular venue to this day. The Gwinnett Braves have given back to the community by donating more than \$155,000 to local non-profits as a result of fundraisers. This amount includes monthly grants through the Atlanta Braves Foundation as well as memorabilia and tickets which have been provided to the community. In 2011, there are several outdoor concerts series planned for the stadium, including the Willie Nelson Country Throwdown Tour and the Boston Pops, featuring Kenny Loggins.

### Healthcare

Gwinnett Medical Center (GMC) is a 553-bed, not-for-profit healthcare network comprised of two hospitals, a nursing facility, and a full spectrum of outpatient services.

The Hospital System employs more than 4,300 associates and approximately 800 affiliated physicians. GMC is comprised of the following licensed facilities: Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville with 353 acute care beds, Gwinnett Medical Center in Duluth with 81 acute medical/surgical beds and 30 acute physical rehabilitation beds, and the Gwinnett Extended Care Center on the Lawrenceville campus with 89 nursing home beds. These facilities provide a continuum of inpatient and outpatient healthcare services, including general acute care, emergency services, physical rehabilitation services, and skilled nursing services along with diagnostic and ambulatory surgical services. Specialized services include a Level II Trauma Center, a Level III Neonatal Intensive-Care Unit supporting newborn care, a Chest Pain Center, the Center for Neuroscience, minimally invasive robotic surgery and comprehensive Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Care services. In 2009, Gwinnett Hospital System served approximately 400,000 inpatient, outpatients, emergency patients and newborns.

In September 2009, the new patient tower (North Tower) located on the Lawrenceville campus opened and added 129 acute beds to the system. The Duluth campus expanded its services by offering bariatric surgery starting in March 2010. The construction project for Open Heart Surgical Services is scheduled for completion during the winter of 2011.

Serving the area since 1980, the Emory Eastside Medical Center in Snellville is a 231-bed full-service hospital, which includes a pediatric urgent care unit, day surgery, obstetrics, breast health center, and an in-patient physical rehabilitation center. The hospital has over 400 physicians and employs 1500 clinical and support staff. The Eastside Heritage Center, located at the original hospital campus on Fountain Drive, specializes in the caring and treatment of many adult conditions. The center includes programs for senior mental health, wound care, sleep disorders, and pain management.

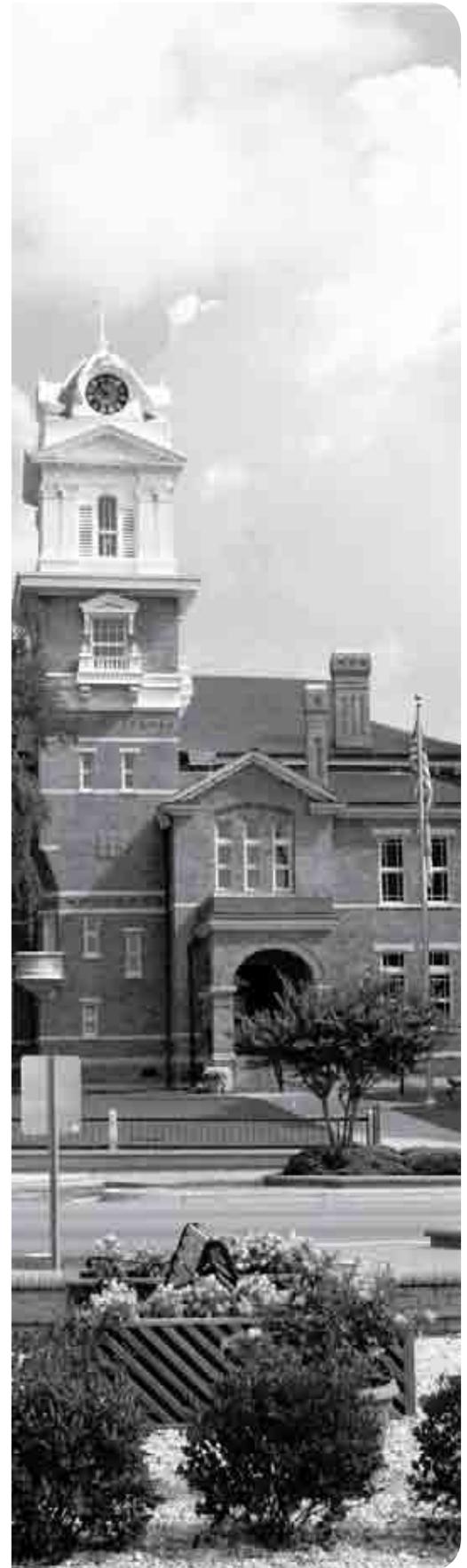
Gwinnett County Health and Human Services supports the needs of residents through coordination with private and public organizations. It participates in the planning of the Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services, provides services to Gwinnett's senior citizens, develops and manages one-stop service centers, and manages County funding for nonprofit and other governmental organizations. Numerous health centers throughout Gwinnett County offer medical care to residents who meet income and eligibility requirements.

## Government

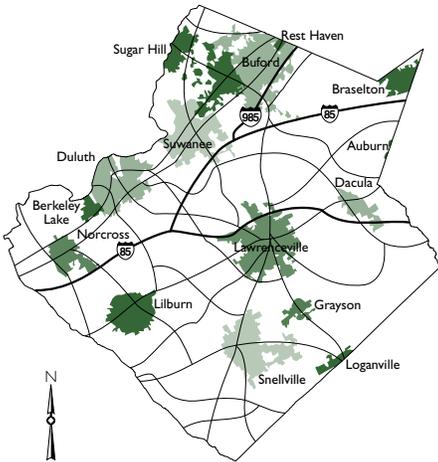
Built in 1885 and renovated in 1992, the Historic Courthouse is located on the square in downtown Lawrenceville and is open for tours Monday through Friday. County offices were housed in this facility until 1988. This building serves as a public museum and meeting facility for citizens and civic organizations. The annual lighting of the tree at Christmas, the Moonlight and Music Summer Concert Series, and many other festivals are held here during the year.

Governed by a five-member Board, Gwinnett's local government is composed of a chairperson elected at-large and four commissioners elected by district to four-year terms. The chairperson appoints the County Administrator, who oversees 12 executive departments.

While most County government operations are located in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center (GJAC), some departments are now located in the Annex Building, One Justice Square, and the Recorder's/Juvenile Court facility. As relocations and additions occur, the existing facilities undergo reconfigurations to better meet residents' needs.



## Municipalities



Spanning 437 square miles, Gwinnett County has 15 municipalities within its boundaries. For 2010, there were an estimated 805,321 people who called Gwinnett home.

POPULATION	
April 1, 2010 Estimate	
<i>(Source – U.S. Census Bureau)</i>	
Auburn	209*
Berkeley Lake	1,574
Braselton	2,973*
Buford	11,279*
Dacula	4,442
Duluth	26,600
Grayson	2,666
Lawrenceville	28,546
Lilburn	11,596
Loganville	2,474*
Norcross	9,116
Rest Haven	32*
Snellville	18,242
Sugar Hill	18,522
Suwanee	15,355
Unincorporated	651,695

\* Population within Gwinnett County

**Auburn** – Located on U.S. Highway 29 between Lawrenceville and Athens, Auburn became a part of Gwinnett County in 1988 annexing 2,500 acres.

**Berkeley Lake** – Established in 1956, Berkeley Lake is located near the Chattahoochee River and is mostly residential with wooded lots and rolling hills.

**Braselton** – Settled in 1876, part of this municipality is located within Gwinnett where property was annexed in 1989. It also extends into Barrow, Hall and Jackson counties.

**Buford** – Buford is Gwinnett’s northern most city with a small portion of the city in Hall County. It was founded in 1872 and originally developed as a railroad town.

**Dacula** – Founded in 1891, a branch of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad was constructed from Dacula through Lawrenceville to Duluth. Elisha Winn is one of Gwinnett’s early leaders and his home served as a temporary first courthouse.

**Duluth** – In the early 1800s, this town was part of Cherokee Indian territory. In 1821, it developed as the town of Howell Crossing and in 1873 the town name was changed to Duluth following completion of the railroad.

**Grayson** – An area of rolling pastures and small farms, Grayson was founded in 1880. Previously known as Berkely, it is another city given birth by the railroad.

**Lawrenceville** – Lawrenceville is the largest city in Gwinnett. Incorporated in 1821, it is the second oldest city in metro Atlanta and is the county seat.

**Lilburn** – In 1892 a railroad stop known as the town of McDaniel developed. Changing to Lilburn in the early 1900s, this city is named after Lilburn Trigg Myers who was the general superintendent for the Seaboard Airline Railway.

**Loganville** – This town also started as a branch of the railroad in 1898 and is another city that Gwinnett shares with an adjoining county.

**Norcross** – The second oldest city in Gwinnett, Norcross was founded as a resort town for wealthy Atlantans. Chartered in 1870, Norcross has an area of 112 acres listed in the U.S Register of Historic Places.

**Rest Haven** – Incorporated in 1940, Rest Haven is one of the newest cities in Gwinnett at only a mile and a half wide.

**Snellville** – In 1885 Snellville was founded by Thomas Snell and James Sawyer. It is located on U.S. Highway 78 in the southeastern corner of the county.

**Sugar Hill** – This town’s name came from a freight wagon traveling down a steep hill. In the 1800s, the wagon spilled its load of sugar all over that hill becoming “Sugar Hill.” The city was chartered in 1939.

**Suwanee** – Beginning as an Indian village and later developed as a railroad stop, Suwanee was officially founded in 1837 with the establishment of the post office.