

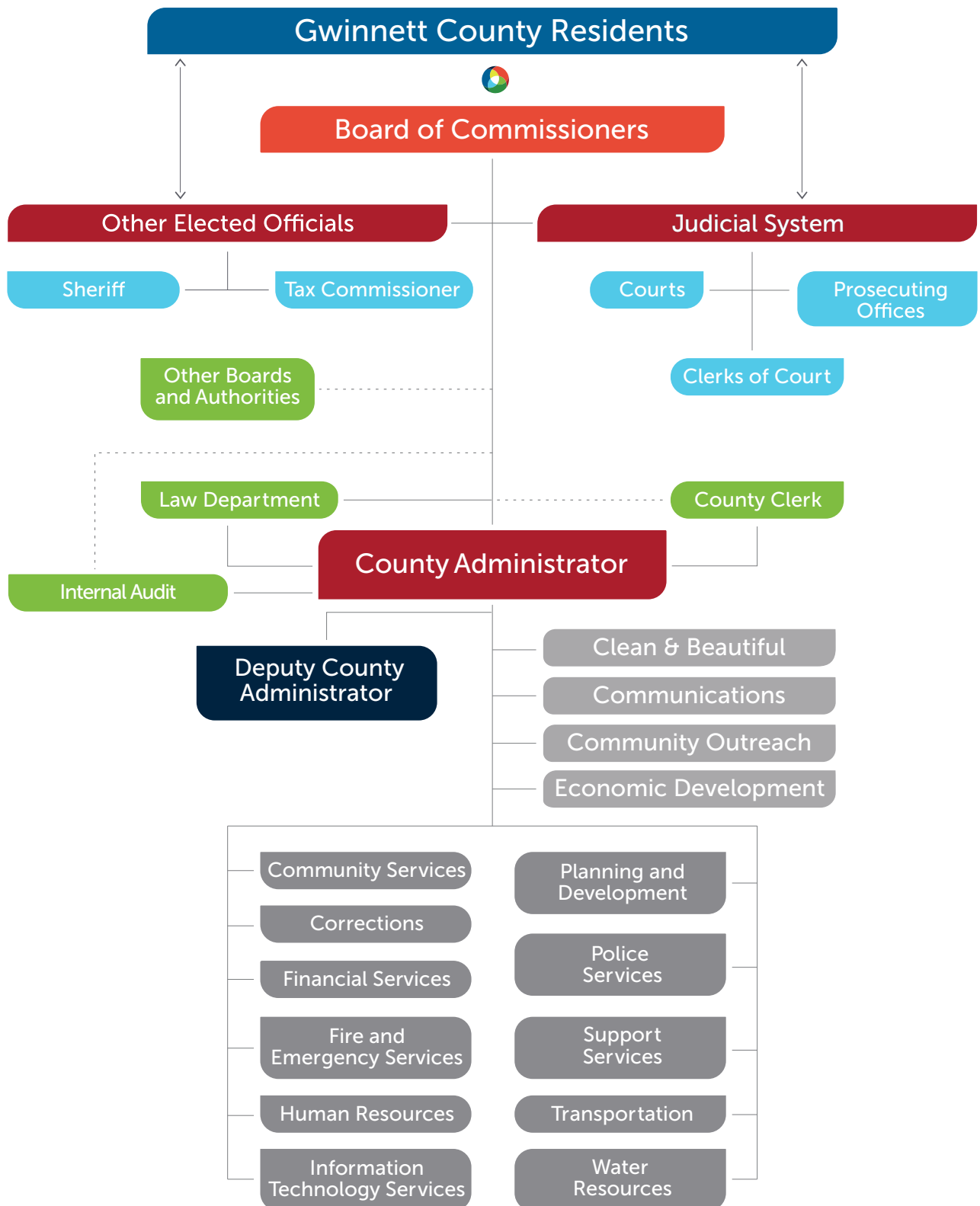


Section 1

INTRODUCTION

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

GWINNETT COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



COUNTY ADMINISTRATION & DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

County Administrator

Glenn P. Stephens

Deputy County Administrator

Phil Hoskins

County Attorney

Mike Ludwiczak

Community Services

Tina Fleming, *Director*

Corrections

Darrell Johnson, *Warden*

Financial Services

Maria Woods, *CFO/Director*

Fire and Emergency Services

Chief Russell Knick

Human Resources

Vicki Casella, *Acting Director*

Information Technology Services

Abe Kani, *Director/CIO*

Planning and Development

Kathy Holland, *Director*

Police Services

Chief Tom Doran

Support Services

Angelia Parham, *Director*

Transportation

Alan Chapman, *Director*

Water Resources

Tyler Richards, *Director*

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Clerk of Court

Richard T. Alexander Jr.

District Attorney

Daniel J. Porter

Chief Magistrate Court Judge

Kristina H. Blum

Probate Court Judge

Christopher A. Ballar

Sheriff

R.L. "Butch" Conway

Solicitor

Brian Whiteside

Tax Commissioner

Richard Steele

State Court Judges

Pamela D. South, Chief Judge

Carla E. Brown

John F. Doran Jr.

Emily J. Brantley

Shawn F. Bratton

Ronda Colvin Leary

Howard E. Cook, Senior Judge

Joseph C. Iannazzone, Senior Judge

Robert W. Mock Sr., Senior Judge

Superior Court Judges

George F. Hutchinson III, Chief Judge

R. Timothy Hamil

Ronnie K. Batchelor

Warren P. Davis

Karen E. Beyers

Kathryn M. Schrader

Randolph G. Rich

Tracey D. Mason

Tracie H. Cason

Tadia D. Whitner

Angela D. Duncan

Fred A. Bishop Jr., Senior Judge

Melodie Snell Conner, Senior Judge

Tom Davis, Senior Judge

K. Dawson Jackson, Senior Judge

Debra K. Turner, Senior Judge

JUDICIALLY APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Juvenile Court Judges

Robert V. Rodatus, Presiding Judge

Robert Waller

Rodney Harris

Clerk of Recorder's Court

Jeff C. West

Recorder's Court Judges

Michael Greene, Chief Judge

Ramón Alvarado

Kathrine Armstrong

Court Administrator

Philip M. Boudewyns

GOVERNMENT

Governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners, Gwinnett's local government is comprised of a chairman elected at-large and four commissioners elected by district for four-year terms. The Board of Commissioners appoints the County Administrator. To implement the Board's directives, the County Administrator uses a management team consisting of members of his immediate staff and 12 department directors. The 12 departments that make up the executive side of the County government are Community Services, Corrections, Financial Services, Fire and Emergency Services, Human Resources, Information Technology Services, Law, Planning and Development, Police Services, Support Services, Transportation, and Water Resources. Each department director is charged with managing departmental operations in a manner which stresses efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and customer service.

In addition to the internal departments that comprise the executive side of County government, certain services are provided to residents through constitutional officers and independent elected officials. These external offices are created by the Georgia Constitution or through state law and are listed on page I:2 under ["Elected Officials."](#)

There are also numerous boards, authorities, and committees within Gwinnett County that serve as indicators of public opinion and act in accordance with particular issues involving both the County's future and the taxpayers' dollars. Some Gwinnett County authorities also act as financing vehicles for the issuance of revenue bonds, obligations, securities, etc., to fund capital facilities' construction, acquisition, or equipment. County residents make up the membership of boards, authorities, and committees. The Board of Commissioners appoints one or more members to many of the groups. A complete list of [Gwinnett County boards, authorities, and committees](#) is available on the County's website.

HISTORY

Gwinnett County was created on December 15, 1818, and named for Button Gwinnett, one of the three Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence. The county was formed from the combination of land that was ceded to the state of Georgia by the Cherokee and Creek Indians and a portion of Jackson County. Gwinnett was the 50th county to be organized in the state. The county currently covers 437 square miles and includes approximately 280,000 acres of land. This makes Gwinnett the 50th largest county in the state in landmass.

When Gwinnett County was created in 1818, it was home to about 4,000 residents. Early pioneers came for opportunity, primarily the chance to own land. During the decades from 1818 to 1950, the county slowly grew as a community of farms and small towns, with some trade and manufacturing. In 1950, the county was still mostly rural with about 32,000 residents. Then some key decisions by federal, state, and local leaders paved the way for some great opportunities:

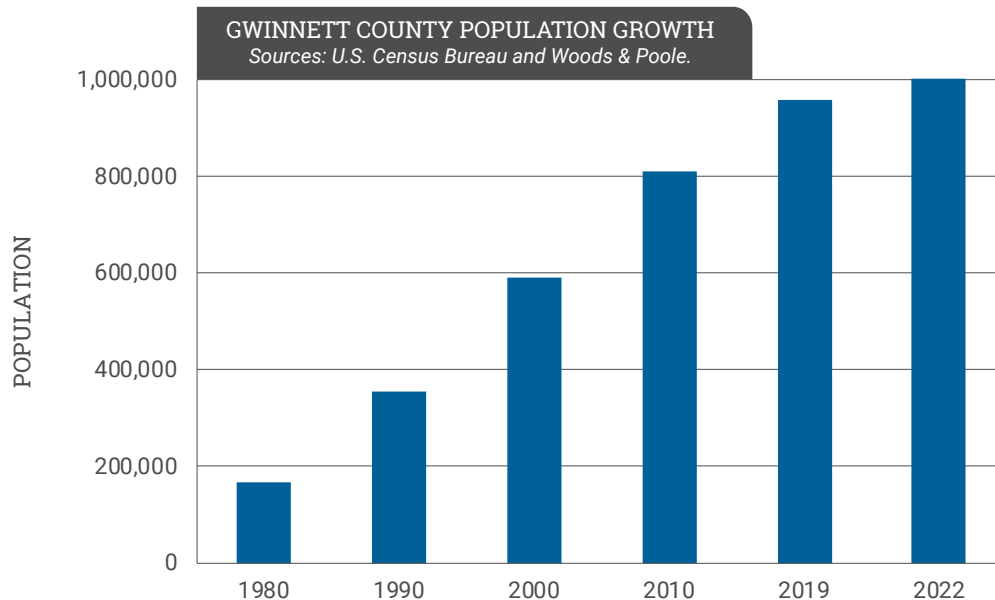
- The expansion and growth of what is now Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport
- The creation of Lake Lanier and the investment in a countywide water system
- The completion of I-85 from Atlanta to South Carolina, right through the middle of Gwinnett

Those initial investments transformed Gwinnett from an outlying slice of rural landscape into a desirable suburban bedroom community. Residential development exploded, and, as businesses took note, commercial growth began to parallel our residential growth. Gwinnett began to mature, becoming more urbanized and more diverse. Visit the [History of Gwinnett](#) webpage to learn more about Gwinnett's rich history.



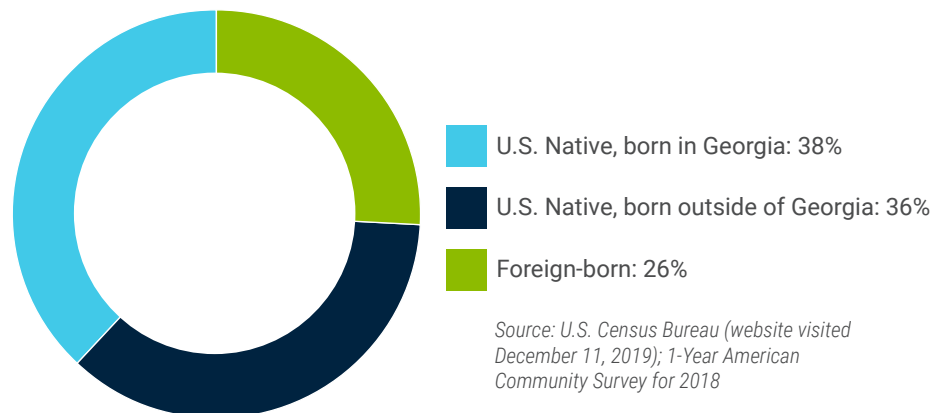
POPULATION

For three consecutive years, 1986 through 1988, Gwinnett ranked as the fastest growing county in the U.S. among counties with a population greater than 100,000. Growth slowed during the recessions of 1990 and 2007, but the influx of new residents and businesses continued. The county's population in 2019 stood at an estimated 958,574, up nearly 19 percent from 2010. Today Gwinnett County is the second most populous county in the state of Georgia. According to Woods & Poole, Gwinnett's population is projected to top one million residents in 2022.



Gwinnett County is entering into its third century of growth as a beautiful mosaic of people, cultures, and businesses; the melting pot of the South. Gwinnett has attracted businesses and residents from around the globe. More than 115 different languages are spoken here, and more than 600 internationally-based companies are located in Gwinnett. A majority-minority community, Gwinnett County is the most diverse county in the southeast.

26 Percent
of Gwinnett's
population was
born outside of
the United States



Our Story

1818 Gwinnett County formed by an act of the Georgia General Assembly



1868 RH Allen Tannery opening, Gwinnett's first major industry

1885 Historic Gwinnett County courthouse constructed

1891 The Georgia, Carolina, and Northern Railway (now CSX) is built



1956 The gates of Buford Dam are closed, creating Lake Lanier

1965 Section of I-85 between South Carolina and Suwanee completed

1984 Gwinnett Place Mall opens

1986 – 1988 Gwinnett County is the fastest growing county in the United States with a population over 100,000

1996 Atlanta and Georgia host the Centennial Summer Olympics

2000 Population: 588,448

2001 Gwinnett County Transit begins operations



2009 Gwinnett Stadium (now Coolray Field) opens

2010 Population: 808,719

2019 Population: 958,574

2022 Population estimated to reach 1 million

1820 First U.S. Census including Gwinnett County; Population: 4,589

1850 Population: 11,257

1871 The Danville and Piedmont Air Line railroad (now Norfolk Southern) is built, inducing the founding of Norcross, Duluth, Suwanee, and Buford

1900 Population: 25,585



1960 Population: 43,541

1970 Population: 72,349

1980 Population: 166,903

1988 Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center opens

1990 Population: 352,910

1999 Mall of Georgia opens

2001 Discover Mills (now Sugarloaf Mills) opens

2003 Gwinnett Arena (now Infinite Energy Arena) opens



2018 Gwinnett County celebrates its bicentennial

Decennial (every 10 years) population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. 2019 and 2022 population estimates from Woods & Poole.

GWINNETT COUNTY SERVICES

Gwinnett County provides many complex and valuable services to its expanding and diverse population. These include public safety, transportation, water, sewer, courts, libraries, and more. While more residents may mean a larger tax base, as Gwinnett County's population continues to grow and diversify, demand increases for both core services and new services. In order to maintain providing the same level of exceptional services to a growing population, the County must invest in a larger workforce, more facilities, and expanded services which lead to higher operating costs. In 2020, 179 positions were added to the County as a result of decision packages to help meet the increased demand for services.

Public Safety

Safety is crucial to a thriving community. The County recognizes this and invests heavily in public safety. That includes taking steps to recruit and retain law enforcement professionals and leading the nation in training and equipping our public safety personnel.

The [Gwinnett County Police Department](#) has an authorized strength of 877 sworn officers, supported by 275 non-sworn employees. With the approval of the 2020 decision packages, 41 new positions will be added to the authorized strength. These positions will become available at various times throughout the year. The following is a breakdown of the positions and their effective dates: one Program Analyst position will become available on March 1, 2020; two Crime & Intelligence Analyst III positions will become available on July 1, 2020; and 30 Master Police Officer positions, two Administrative Staff Assistant positions, two Communication Officer II, and four Communication Officer IV positions will become available on October 1, 2020. With the addition of these new positions, the authorized strength will increase to 907 sworn officers and 286 non-sworn employees.

The department has maintained accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. since 1993. Less than 4 percent of more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide enjoy this prestigious recognition. First in 2013 and again in 2016, the Gwinnett County Police Department received the Accreditation with Excellence Award, the highest level of accreditation, which few police agencies nationwide attain. The department's goals in 2020 are to continue to meet the needs of the increasing population and its changing demographics and to ensure fiscal responsibility while providing the latest technology, facilities, training, and equipment. In 2020, this commitment includes funding for a Situational Awareness and Crime Response Center, an alternate E-911 center, 30 master police officer positions, the design and completion of the 50-yard firearms range, and the design phase for expansion of the Training Center.

The [Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services](#) responded to 84,587 calls for assistance in 2019. The department has 1,008 authorized personnel and operates 31 engines, 12 ladder trucks, and 31 Advanced Life Support medical units in strategically located fire stations throughout the county. Specialty teams are trained to respond to situations involving hazardous materials, technical rescue, swift water rescue, and mass casualty incidents. The department operates with a service model that integrates fire suppression, emergency medical response, and community risk reduction efforts. This model enables the department to operate at a high and efficient level and ensures that the organization can meet its main goal and objective of optimal service delivery. In 2019, the department maintained accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International from the Center for Public Safety Excellence and a Public Protection Classification of 2/2x from the Insurance Service Office.



The [Gwinnett County Department of Corrections](#) has 136 authorized personnel, including an authorized strength of 119 sworn officers supported by 17 non-sworn officers. The department 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 county government-owned prison in Georgia that is nationally accredited.

The [Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office](#) has an authorized strength of 645 sworn officers supported by 175 non-sworn employees. The office continually strives to maintain the highest law enforcement standards possible and is committed to efficiently providing the community with professional law enforcement through well-trained employees and up-to-date technology. The Sheriff's Office is a state certified agency responsible for constitutional duties that include court security, arrest warrant service, civil order service, sex offender registry, family violence orders, general law enforcement, and operation of the detention center. The Gwinnett County Detention Center is a direct supervision pretrial detention facility with a total capacity of 2,765 inmates. The Sheriff's Office opened a veterans housing unit in 2019 at the detention center. The veterans unit is designed to address specific needs of incarcerated veterans.

Public Works

[Transportation](#) is another basic building block for a successful community and has always played a major role in Gwinnett's economy. The County is continuously seeking new transportation solutions and has completed its comprehensive transportation plan to guide spending for the next two decades.

Gwinnett County's infrastructure includes 2,650 miles of roads, with more than 720 signalized intersections. The 2020 Capital Budget and 2021 – 2025 Transportation Capital Improvement Program totals approximately \$351.8 million, the majority of which is funded by Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

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

Gwinnett County Transit operates five commuter bus routes during morning and afternoon peak travel times Monday through Friday and seven local bus routes all day Monday through Saturday. The commuter routes allow transit customers to park their cars at County-operated park-and-ride lots and ride to destinations in downtown and midtown Atlanta and the Emory/CDC area. The local routes are complemented by door-to-door Americans with Disabilities Act paratransit service for ADA-eligible customers unable to use the local bus. The transit system is operated using 43 commuter coaches, 35 local buses, and seven paratransit vehicles. In 2019, the transit system transported over 1.5 million riders on commuter coaches, local buses, and paratransit vehicles.



The [Department of Water Resources](#) has been recognized both statewide and nationally for excellence in water production, wastewater treatment, and infrastructure development and continues to innovate to meet Gwinnett's needs. Every day, the Department of Water Resources produces more than 73 million gallons of water to be used by the residents and businesses of Gwinnett County. More than \$1 billion has been invested over the last two decades to ensure that the water processed and later returned to the environment is among the highest quality in the country. Our facilities have won multiple awards for exceptional design and operation, and our F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center attracts visitors from around the globe. On this site, in 2019, the County broke ground on a \$47 million facility called The Water Tower: Global Innovation Hub @ Gwinnett. When complete, the campus will include state-of-the-art research laboratories, indoor and outdoor classrooms, conference space, an atrium with exhibit space, and office space for water entrepreneurs and businesses.

Planning and Development

The function of the [Department of Planning and Development](#) is to promote and enhance the well-being of the residents, visitors, property owners, and businesses of Gwinnett County. The department accomplishes its mission through programs and services that encourage high-quality development as well as maintenance and revitalization of existing neighborhoods and industrial areas. The Department of Planning and Development consists of the Planning Division, Development Division, Economic Analysis Division, and the Strategic Infrastructure Planning Division.

To support economic development and nurture small business startups, plans were developed for the Gwinnett Entrepreneurial Center. The GEC will provide budding entrepreneurs with instruction, networking connections, co-working space, and offices. In addition, regulations and processes continue to be refined to support business activity and keep it in balance with the needs of our residents. The department is experimenting with overlay districts, mixed-use zoning provisions, and infrastructure support aimed at encouraging revitalization of areas that are ripe for change. In 2019, the Department of Planning and Development issued 182 development permits, 7,228 residential and 2,621 non-residential permits, and 18,249 business licenses.





Community Services

The Department of Community Services is organized into divisions that provide high-quality recreational, educational, electoral, human, and other services in partnership with the Gwinnett community:

- **Animal Welfare and Enforcement** works diligently to enforce Gwinnett County animal welfare ordinances and comply with guidelines recommended by the National Animal Care and Control Association. It also houses the Gwinnett County Animal Shelter. The animal shelter found homes for 4,211 animals through adoptions and saved 97 percent of impounded animals in 2019.
- **Health and Human Services** is a public/private partnership that connects children and families with important services by offering OneStop health and human services centers, senior services, and other community resources including addressing homelessness.
- **Parks and Recreation** strives to meet the recreational needs of every resident in Gwinnett by offering year-round recreation classes, special events, summer day camps, skate complexes, leisure activities, art classes, swimming pools, tennis courts, disc golf courses, sports fields, and much more!
- **UGA Extension Gwinnett** operates as part of the University of Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and College of Family and Consumer Sciences. The UGA Extension Gwinnett Office also functions as an educational division of the Gwinnett County Department of Community Services.
- **Voter Registration and Elections** provides voter registration and/elections opportunities (voter registration, advance voting, absentee voting, and election day voting) to all citizens as required by federal and state laws and the rules and regulations of the State Elections Board of Georgia. It also conducts special elections as needed.

Health Care

Health and medical services have a significant impact on our community. Gwinnett County is home to hospitals, extended care, rehabilitation, urgent care, and pediatric care facilities. As one of the largest employment sectors, hospitals are helping sustain economic vitality while offering the best health care possible. Access to new health care jobs, new medical facilities, and new medical technology make Gwinnett County an attractive place to live, work and play.

Through various funding arrangements, Gwinnett County helps support Northside Hospital Gwinnett and the Gwinnett County Health Department. [Northside Hospital Gwinnett](#) (formerly GMC – Lawrenceville) offers nationally recognized and renowned services, including the Strickland Heart Center's cardiovascular specialties, neurosurgery, genetic testing, and more. The [Gwinnett County Health Department](#) works to protect and improve the health of residents and visitors and continually strive to meet the varied health needs of our community.



Gwinnett Public Library System

The [Gwinnett County Public Library](#) is proud to operate 15 successful branches at different locations around the county. Several libraries, including the Hamilton Mill Branch and Grayson Branch, have been funded by SPLOST revenues, as have renovations to existing branches. In 2019, construction began on replacement branches in Norcross and Duluth. These replacement facilities will be twice the size of their predecessors and will contain state-of-the-art equipment, small study rooms, dedicated children and teen spaces, and much more. The library offers more than 50 programs daily, technology-driven learning labs, and expanded hours. New programs and services are continuing to be developed to meet the needs of a diverse community.

EDUCATION

Gwinnett County residents benefit from a full range of public education and lifelong learning opportunities.

Gwinnett County Public Schools

The county is home to the largest school system in Georgia, which continues to grow. The Gwinnett County Board of Education, a separate governmental entity, operates all public, K-12 schools in Gwinnett except in the city of Buford. As a school system of choice, the finest teachers, involved parents, and a supportive community are key elements in the district's quest to become a system of world-class schools. In 2019 – 2020, the school district is serving nearly 180,000 students. One of every five Gwinnett County residents is a student of [Gwinnett County Public Schools](#).

Buford City Schools

[Buford City Schools](#) serves approximately 4,900 students in a campus-like setting of five schools, a performing arts center, and a multipurpose arena. Buford City Schools boasts beautiful facilities with state-of-the-art instructional resources and also has a rich tradition of success in academics, the arts, and athletics.

College and Universities

Gwinnett has something to offer across a multitude of curriculums, degree programs, and certifications. Students have options to live on campus at [Georgia Gwinnett College](#), a four-year college that offers undergraduate degrees in 18 programs of study with more than 45 areas of concentration, or commute to other institutions of higher learning in the areas of technical, trade, business, and music. [Gwinnett Technical College](#) offers more than 140 degree, diploma, and certificate options that can be completed in two years or less. The [University of Georgia](#) offers a range of graduate degree programs at its Gwinnett Campus.

BUSINESS

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners is committed to ensuring growth in employment opportunities and high-quality jobs for its residents. With a population of more than 950,000, Gwinnett County is the second-most populous county in the state of Georgia and a premier area for locating, growing, and conducting business.

Gwinnett County is a leader in capital investment and job creation in metro Atlanta. We are home to the global headquarters of the Fortune 500 companies AGCO Corporation and Asbury Automotive. As of May 2019, permits were issued for a proposed development of a 1,000-employee Amazon fulfillment center. The facility will be the first of its kind in the state. Further, more than 60 international companies have chosen Gwinnett for their U.S. or global headquarter operations, such as Mitsubishi Electric, Ricoh Electronics, and WIKA Instruments.

Investment and trade is encouraged through the relocation and expansion assistance of local and regional partners. Gwinnett County caters to domestic and international businesses of all sizes and works to promote certain targeted sectors. These include:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Professional & Corporate Services
- Health Sciences & Services
- Information & Technology Solutions
- Supply Chain Management

Recently, Gwinnett's economic outlook has been very positive. According to Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. projections, the county has an estimated 582,000 workers in 2020. In the future, it is expected that, Gwinnett's focus on redevelopment and revitalization will continue to spur growth in the local economy.

TOURISM, FILM INDUSTRY, & RETAIL

Tourism

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners has recently taken several actions intended to enhance tourism in the county. These included amending the Hotel/Motel Occupancy Tax Ordinance to increase the rate from 7 percent to 8 percent to allow expanded efforts towards the promotion, attraction, and development of tourism within Gwinnett County and appointing the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau, now known as Explore Gwinnett, as the County's destination marketing organization. Explore Gwinnett receives a portion of the County's hotel/motel tax for the purposes of promoting tourism, conventions, and trade shows. In 2016, the Board of Commissioners endorsed the master plan for the Infinite Energy Center campus, an important local amenity and regional tourist attraction. Voters approved \$67.34 million in 2017 SPLOST funding for expansion projects at the center.

In 2018, visitor expenditures in Gwinnett County were approximately \$1.4 billion according to the U.S. Travel Association. In 2019, the occupancy rate at more than 100 hotels located in the county was 72.1 percent. Tourism can expect continued growth with easy access to and from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, concerts and music festivals at the arena, expansion of the convention center, and the emerging film industry.

Film Industry

Gwinnett County is home to Eagle Rock Studios, the largest stage complex under one roof in the country. Film friendly and economical Gwinnett County has become a popular setting with approximately 81 film permits and 35 special effects permits issued by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in 2019. There are 400 plus Gwinnett County filming locations listed in the state film database. Productions have been filmed at the County's Justice and Administration Center, the Infinite Energy Center, Parks and Recreation facilities, and the Detention Center. Major productions (both television and film) with primary studio stages in the county include Ozark, MacGyver, Dynasty, Greenleaf, and Stranger Things season 3.

Shop Gwinnett

The county has thrived as a major retail center for more than 30 years. Home to the state's largest mall, Gwinnett offers upscale chains and boutiques, shops with dining and entertainment, and shopping centers rich in culture. For more information about shopping in Gwinnett, see the shopping directory at [Explore Gwinnett](#).

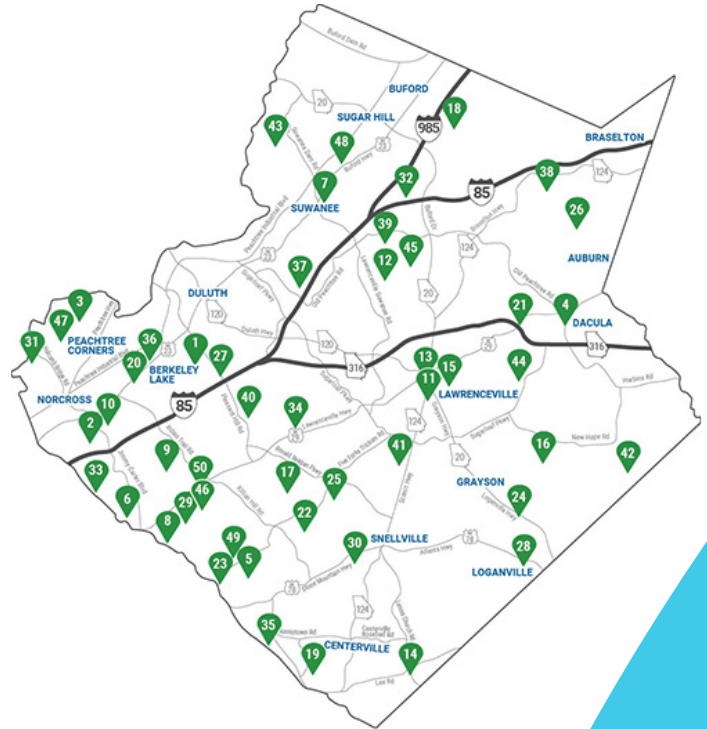
RECREATION & THE ARTS

Award-Winning Parks

Being responsive to the changing recreational needs of a diverse and growing community, [Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation](#) has a citizen-driven and professional approach to provide safe, well-designed and maintained facilities and programs, providing responsible stewardship of human, fiscal, natural and historic resources maximizing community resources. With 51 parks, five year-round and seven seasonal aquatic centers, sports diamonds, soccer pitches, multipurpose sports fields and courts, there is something for everyone in Gwinnett County.

Early in Gwinnett's development, County leaders decided that parks and recreation would be a top priority and went about acquiring the land needed to pursue its system. To date, the County owns, maintains, and operates approximately 9,908 acres of passive and active parks, with 12 cultural and historical sites. The County's dedication is easy to see with the park system supporting environmental conservation, stewardship of public lands, and historic restoration and programming through the natural and cultural resources section. The park system offers playgrounds, pavilions, dog parks, open space, and multi-use trails, and recreational, educational, and cultural and historical programming to serve the diverse community in Gwinnett. For more information on Gwinnett County Parks, see [Explore Your Parks](#).

[Gwinnett L.I.F.E.](#) is the Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation's complete program guide to exciting classes and recreational activities.





Arts and Entertainment

Gwinnett County boasts a wide variety of arts and entertainment choices. Those that receive funding or support from the County are listed below.

- **[Explore Gwinnett](#)**: Explore Gwinnett (formerly the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau) joins public and private interests to support newcomers, visitors, and tourists by providing information on facilities, accommodations, and attractions and helping organize conventions and gatherings in Gwinnett. Its operations are supported in part by the hotel/motel tax.
- **[Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center](#)**: The Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center is a unique partnership between the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners, the Gwinnett County Board of Education, and the University of Georgia. The center is used as a multi-use facility that emphasizes history, culture, heritage, and the environment. Located on 233 wooded acres near the Mall of Georgia, the center is a model of innovative green building techniques and features interactive exhibits, walking trails and greenways, unique rental spaces, and a gift shop.
- **[Infinite Energy Center](#)**: The multipurpose campus includes a 13,000-seat arena (Infinite Energy Arena), a 708-seat theater (Infinite Energy Theater), 23 versatile meeting rooms, a 50,000-square-foot exhibit hall space, and a 21,600-square-foot grand ballroom (Infinite Energy Forum). The campus, operated by Explore Gwinnett, distinguishes itself by hosting a diverse range of events.

Known as the “Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center” when it opened in 1992, the name was changed to “Gwinnett Center” after the Tommy Hughes Ballroom and the Arena at Gwinnett Center officially opened in 2002 and 2003. The Center was one of the projects built with funds from a four-year sales tax approved by voters in 1988. The campus continued expansion with the addition of a parking deck in 2007. The momentum continued with a naming rights agreement with Infinite Energy for the Gwinnett Center in 2015 and the creation of a revised master plan for the campus in 2016. The master plan includes an expansion of the exhibit hall, new outdoor gathering spaces, new parking lots and decks, a headquarters hotel, new and improved access to the center from surrounding roadways and additional arena seating, plus a mixed-use district that offers entertainment, dining, retail and housing options. Progress has already been made toward some of these goals with the opening of the first of two parking decks in 2019.

- **[Gwinnett Historic Courthouse](#)**: The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse sits majestically on the square in historic downtown Lawrenceville. Built in 1885 for \$23,000, it served as the center of Gwinnett County Government operations until 1988. Today, the building and grounds are available for private rentals and play host to special events throughout the year, including the annual Lighting of the Tree and Old Fashioned Picnic.
- **[Gwinnett History Museum](#)**: Originally built in the 1830s, this historic building was first used as a finishing school for the county’s young women. After being destroyed by fire, it was reconstructed in 1855 and was later converted into a ‘civic center’ for community activities. At one time, it housed local radio station. Today, it houses the Gwinnett History Museum, with exhibits relating to early Gwinnett County farming, textiles, schools, and more.
- **[Jacqueline Casey Hudgens Center for Art & Learning](#)**: Founded more than 35 years ago, the Jacqueline Casey Hudgens Center for Art & Learning works to spread the love of art and learning throughout Gwinnett County. The facility helps adults and children discover the power of imagination with fine art exhibitions, arts enrichment classes, self-guided tours, and community outreach programs.

In addition to the choices mentioned above, Gwinnett County and its cities have plenty to offer lovers of arts and culture with community theaters, outdoor concerts, local sporting events, and culinary experiences. These activities not only impact the County’s quality of life, they also invest in its economic well-being because patrons of the arts spend more than just the ticket price when visiting local theaters — they also visit restaurants and retail businesses. For more information, see the [Explore Gwinnett](#) website.



WHERE WE ARE GOING

The Board of Commissioners adopted the Gwinnett County [2040 Unified Plan](#) on February 5, 2019. The long-term plan is a blueprint for the future of Gwinnett County and reflects the goals and aspirations of Gwinnett's residents, business owners, workers, parents, homeowners, and newcomers.

The plan traces Gwinnett's history, covers the results from public input sessions, incorporates demographic trends, and inventories the County's infrastructure, community amenities, land use, and built environment. It establishes a vision taking into account the County's needs and opportunities and incorporates five themes:

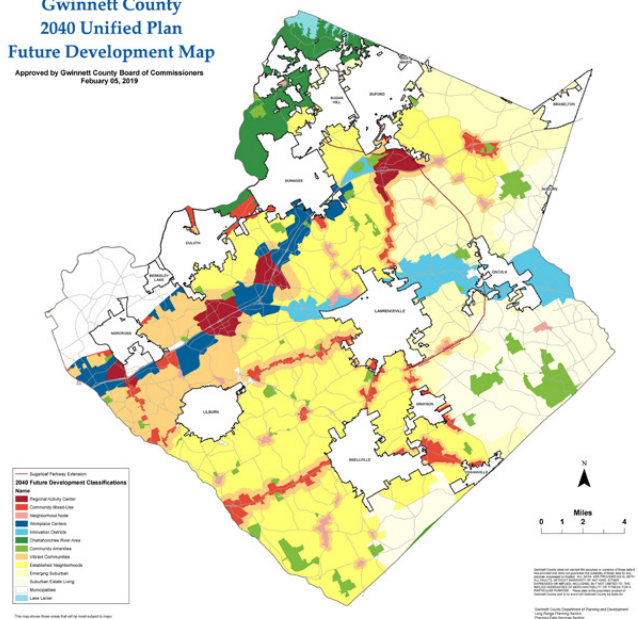
- Maintain Economic Development and Fiscal Health
- Foster Redevelopment
- Maintain Mobility and Accessibility
- Provide More Housing Choices
- Keep Gwinnett a Preferred Place

The blueprint incorporates several plans into one multifaceted and coordinated path forward. It serves as a framework to guide decisions on land use, development, redevelopment, transportation and transit, trails and recreation, economic growth, community amenities, and infrastructure.

Future development possibilities are laid out, identifying higher and lower density areas, and those in between. The plan enumerates possible activity centers, employment centers, residential neighborhoods, and low-intensity areas.

The Board of Commissioners and senior department leaders attend an annual planning session to identify key priorities, goals, and major projects for the upcoming year. As part of the 2019 strategic planning session, economic forecasts and updates were given in connection with impacts on the tax digest and land uses. County leaders discussed transit plan revisions, completion of the airport redevelopment plan, expansion of trails and greenways through partnerships with cities, and developing a trail maintenance program. Through the intentional planning of our resources, our next century of government will continue to be impactful, inclusive, and transparent.

**Gwinnett County
2040 Unified Plan
Future Development Map**
Approved by Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners
February 05, 2019



STAYING VIBRANTLY CONNECTED

In 2019, Gwinnett expanded its social media presence, adding several Facebook and Twitter accounts to better inform the public about events, news, tips and other important things to know.

Gwinnett County Government established pages on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and Instagram (@GwinnettGov), Police added a [Facebook](#) page (@GwinnettPD), and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services created new [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts (@GwinnettFire).

In addition to social media pages established by the offices of the Sheriff, District Attorney and Tax Commissioner, Gwinnett County's previous social media presence consisted of a Twitter page for the [Gwinnett Police Department](#) (also @GwinnettPD), a Facebook page for the [Gwinnett Animal Shelter](#) (@GwinnettAnimalShelter), and Gwinnett Transit on [Facebook](#) (@GwinnettCountyTransit) and [Twitter](#) (@GCTransit).





DID YOU KNOW

The Department of Transportation maintained 2,650 miles of roads and 732 traffic signals in 2019.