

 **Our Communities** - Catoosa County



**Referred to as the “Gateway to Georgia,” Catoosa County is rich in beautiful scenery, deep-rooted history, and logistical convenience.**

Catoosa, whose border is contiguous with Tennessee, gets its “Gateway to Georgia” nickname because I-75 enters the state here.

Catoosa County, Georgia is home to the cities of Ringgold and Fort Oglethorpe and part of the town of Tunnel Hill. Ringgold is the county seat.

A portion of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park is located in this Northwest Georgia county as well as several pre-Civil War buildings and historic Fort Oglethorpe. The Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park “preserves, protects and interprets” the sites of the battles of Chickamauga and Chattanooga. In addition to the area’s Civil War history, Fort Oglethorpe served as a major military outpost during the Spanish-American War, World War I, and World War II.

The county is also home to Lake Winnepesaukah, a popular family-owned amusement and water park.

**People**

Demographics	
Population	66,050
Population change 2010 to 2015	3.3%
Age	
Persons under 5 years, percent, 2015	5.7%
Persons under 18 years, percent, 2015	23.6%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2015	16.5%
Gender	
Female persons, percent, 2015	51.6%
Male persons, percent, 2015	48.4%
Race	
White alone, percent, 2015 (a)	93.4%
Black or African American alone, percent, 2015 (a)	2.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, 2015 (a)	0.4%
Asian alone, percent, 2015 (a)	1.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2015 (a)	0.1%
Two or More Races, percent, 2015	1.7%
Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2015 (b)	2.9%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2015	91.0%
Education	
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25+	84.2%
Bachelor’s degree or higher, percent of persons age 25+	18.6%
Commuting	
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.7
Homeownership & Income	
Homeownership rate, 2010-2015	75.0%
Households, 2010-2015	23,943
Per capita money income in past 12 months, 2010-2015	\$22,642
Median household income, 2010-2015	\$50,876
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2010-2015	\$129,800

**Labor**

Labor Force	31,304
Employed	29,698
Unemployed	1,606
Unemployment Rate	5.1%
Average Goods Producing Weekly Wage	\$829
Average Service Providing Weekly Wage	\$567

Source: Georgia Department of Labor Area Labor Profile 2015; U.S. Census Bureau