

 **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	65,645
Population change 2010 to 2016	+4.2%
Age	
Persons under 5 years, percent, 2016	5.5%
Persons under 18 years, percent, 2016	23.7%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2016	15.8%
Gender	
Female persons, percent, 2016	51.5%
Male persons, percent, 2016	48.5%
Race	
White alone, percent, 2016	93.2%
Black or African American alone, percent, 2016	2.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, 2016	0.2%
Asian alone, percent, 2016	1.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2016	0.0%
Two or More Races, percent, 2016	1.8%
Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2016	2.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2016	91.7%
Education	
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25+	85.6%
Bachelor’s degree or higher, percent of persons age 25+	19.7%
Commuting	
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	23.1
Homeownership & Income	
Homeownership rate, 2010-2016	73.9%
Households, 2010-2016	24,099
Per capita money income in past 12 months, 2010-2016	\$23,834
Median household income, 2010-2016	\$52,265
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2010-2016	\$135,300

Labor

Labor Force	33,315
Employed	32,051
Unemployed	1,264
Unemployment Rate	3.8%
Average Goods Producing Weekly Wage	\$850
Average Service Providing Weekly Wage	\$565

Source: USDOL - Bureau of Labor Statistics October 2017 (not seasonally adjusted); Georgia DOL County Labor Profiles 2017; U.S. Census Bureau