



Pickens County Chamber of Commerce

Community Economic Development

500 Stegall Drive Jasper, Georgia 30143 (706) 692-5600 economicdevelopment@pickenschamber.com

Executive Summary and Overview

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pickens County is located 55 miles north of Atlanta on the Interstate 75/575 corridor and is the first county outside of the Metro Atlanta Non-Attainment Zone for ozone and fine particulate matter. The county area covers 232 square miles and the population is just under 31,000 people. Pickens offers a very high quality workforce with a great deal of integrity as supported by a crime rate statistic that is five times lower than the Georgia County Average. Approximately 52% of residents work outside of the county. Interstate 575, numerous highways, and the Georgia Northeastern Railroad provide a comprehensive transportation network.

Piedmont Mountainside Hospital offers a wide array of services including internal medicine and cardiology with a dedicated staff of over 95 doctors. Housing options cover the spectrum from entry-level low cost houses to high-end lifestyle developments featuring all amenities including championship golf courses. The new addition at the Pickens County High School features an 833 seat auditorium with hydraulic stage and an orchestra pit, a gym with tournament ready basketball courts on two levels in addition to art, science, and band rooms. Appalachian Technical College in Jasper offers thirty-five courses of study that include six degree, thirteen diploma, and sixteen tech programs as well as specialized training and Quickstart programs.

The Pickens County Development Authority and the City of Jasper Downtown Development Authority stand ready to offer competitive incentives for new industries seeking to locate in Pickens County. The Community Economic Development Department at the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce officially represents the County and the Development Authorities and will work closely with prospects at all stages of the project.

OVERVIEW

Population

2010 Estimate	33,844
2008	30,820
2000	22,983

Per Capita Income

2008	\$32,108
2004	\$28,504
2003	\$27,730

Workforce

2008	15,294
Unemployment 2/09	10.4%
Average Wage	\$571

Taxes and Incentives

County Millage	20.80
Sales Tax	7.00%
Job Tax Credit	\$1750



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Executive Summary and Overview- continued

TOP FIVE MANUFACTURING COMPANIES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Primary Product</u>	<u>Employment</u>
Royston LLC	Metal Displays	325
Lexington Insulators	Silicone Spark Plug Boots	280
Georgia Marble Company	Marble Quarrying and Cutting	165
Imerys	Marble Mining and Processing	114
JM Huber	Marble Crushing and Processing	82

Transportation

Interstates	I-575
Railroad	Georgia Northeastern
Municipal Airport	Pickens County Airport 5500' Runway
International Airport	Hartsfield-Jackson International 60 miles south

UTILITIES

<u>Electric Suppliers</u>	<u>Natural Gas Distributors</u>	<u>Communications</u>
Georgia Power	Atlanta Gas Light	Windstream
Amicalola EMC		ETC
		TDS Telecom

EDUCATION

College

Appalachian Technical College		
800 Students	35 Programs of Study	Customized Training and Quickstart

Public Schools

Pickens County		
4400 Students	88% Graduation Rate	1461 Average SAT

Contact

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