



## Sumter County, Georgia

Located 135 miles south of Atlanta.



### Population Latest data available

Year	County	GA (millions)	U.S. (millions)
2006	32,490	9.4	301
2005	32,912	9.1	296
2004	32,873	8.8	296

### Per Capita Income

Year	County	GA	U.S.
2005	\$24,431	\$30,914	\$34,471
2004	\$22,875	\$29,782	\$33,050
2003	\$22,881	\$29,000	\$31,472

### Education

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS:** 8 county public schools with 385 teachers, 5,330 students, and 220 high school graduates in 2005; 2 private schools with 742 students in 2005. 1995 National School of Excellence (2 schools).

**HIGHER EDUCATION:**

Technical College: South Georgia at Americus (local) with 2,854 students.

2-yr: Darton College at Albany (35 miles) with 3,400 students.

4-yr: Georgia Southwestern State Univ. at Americus (local) with 2,508 students.

Georgia Southwestern State University designated as Center for Asian Studies, Univ. of Ga. System. South Georgia Tech has emphasis on avionics, transportation, and electronics curriculum.

### Local Taxes

**PROPERTY:** Property taxes are determined by tax rates and assessment ratios which vary by location. The only realistic way to compare property taxes from different locations is to use 'effective tax rates' (tax rate multiplied by assessment ratio). Effective tax rates combine city, county, school, and state tax rates into one convenient figure -- the annual tax for each \$1000 of property at its fair market value. This rate applies to all property: land, buildings, machinery, equipment, and inventory. Add \$.28 for property located in fire district 1, \$.41 for fire district 2 and 3 and \$.80 for fire districts 3 and 4.

Effective Rates:

City	Year	Within City	Outside City
Americus	2006	\$18.90	\$11.33

**SALES:** City and county have 3% local sales tax in addition to the 4% state sales tax.

### Incentives/Exemptions

**INVENTORY (Freeport):** *Freeport* is the general term used for the exemption of ad valorem tax on inventories as defined by

Georgia law. The law offers manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and warehouse operations an attractive inventory tax exemption on three classes of property.

Sumter County, Americus and Plains exempt 100% on all classes of certain business inventory from property taxation.

**JOB TAX CREDIT:** Tier: 1, Amount: \$4,000 as of 2006

Tier refers to the economic well-being of a county. For more information go to <http://www.dca.state.ga.us/economic/TaxCredits/programs/taxcredit.asp>

**JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Yes

## Municipal Services

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**FIRE PROTECTION:** 52 full-time city personnel. Protection outside city limits but within 5-mile radius of fire department for registered households. Fire insurance classification 4. Leslie, DeSoto, and Andersonville each have a volunteer fire department.

**ZONING:** Cities have zoning ordinance and subdivision design standards.

## Transportation

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**COMMERCIAL AIRPORT:** Albany Airport (35 miles) service by ASA; Columbus Airport (60 miles) service by ASA.

**GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT:** Albany Airport (35 miles) with a 6,600 feet asphalt runway, aircraft tiedown, hangar, lighted runway, VOR, ILS, NDB, airframe & power plant repair. Additional 5,100' wind runway. 5 air cargo companies serve the airport, including UPS's Boeing 757 "mini-hub" jet service; Americus Airport (local) with a 5,000 feet asphalt runway, lighted runway, airframe & power plant repair, fuel, hangar, aircraft tiedown, Unicom, NDB, VASI, AWOS, aircraft rental, rotating beacon, localizer. Available industrial sites at airport; Columbus Airport (60 miles) with a 7,000 feet bituminous runway, aircraft tiedown, airframe & power plant repair, hangar, lighted runway, VOR, ILS, NDB.

**RAIL:** CSX piggyback - Cordele (32 miles); Norfolk Southern piggyback - Macon (72 miles). Georgia Southwestern Rail service at Americus (local) corporate office.

## Utilities

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**ELECTRICITY:** A part of Georgia's modern integrated electrical transmission system, Sumter County has excellent ability to supply industrial demands. Compared to 47% for the U.S., coal accounts for 84% of fuel used by the state's power generating plants. This assures long-term continuity.

Electricity supplied by Georgia Power Company and Sumter EMC. On demands over 900 Kw, customers may request bids from suppliers. If demand exceeds 900kw, any supplier can step in and offer service.

**NATURAL GAS:** Supplied by City of Americus and available in industrial quantities.

**WATER:** Americus plant capacity: 7,000,000 gal/day. Consumption: 3,500,000 gal/day average, 3,700,000 gal/day maximum. Storage capacity: 3,000,000 gal. elevated, 650,000 gal. ground. Source: 8 deep wells.

**SEWER:** Plant Capacity: 4,400,000 gal/day; Plant Load: 2,900,000 gal/day; Secondary treatment plant.