

Meigs County, TN



GREATER CHATTANOOGA
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



Meigs County is a Three-Star Community located in eastern Tennessee. The area is known as the “Shoreline Community” because it is located on the western boundary of the Tennessee River. Watts Bar Dam is located along the river between Meigs and Rhea counties and forms Watts Bar Lake. The Hiwassee River flows into the Tennessee River a few miles west of State Hwy. 58 in the county.

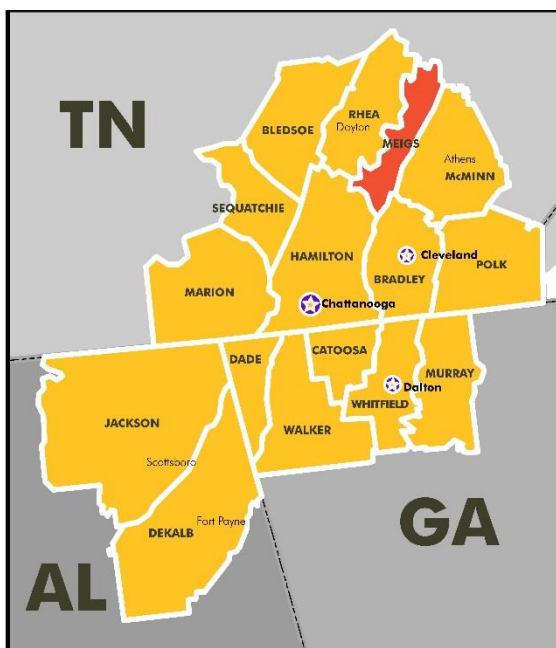
Hwy. 58 is the principal north/south highway which runs the entire length of the county dividing it down the middle. The only link via the Hiwassee River Bridge to the southernmost part of the county. Hwy. 30 is the principal east/west highway and divides the county into north and south and intersects Hwy. 58 in Decatur. Hwy. 30 allows for more major east/west traffic and faster connection to I-75. The Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport, located within 44 miles of Decatur, offers non-stop service to nine locations throughout the U.S. Air cargo is also available. Airlines serving the Chattanooga airport include: Allegiant, American Airlines, American Eagle, Delta and United Airlines.

The Meigs County Industrial Park is a 72 acre, EDC owned area located 12 miles from I-75. The park features four pad ready sites with expansion possibility and is accessible by four-lane Hwy. 30 and Hwy. 58. Paved road, electricity, water, sewer, and gas are installed in the park. The park currently is powered by a highly reliable 161/12 KV, 42 MVA Volunteer Energy Cooperative substation located on site. The substation has the ability to be fed from a second substation. Meigs County is part of the 11-county Foreign Trade Zone 134.

Post-secondary educational choices include a wide selection of community and state colleges and universities all within a short 15 to 30 mile drive.

Meigs County Primary Care is the only health center in the county. It is part of the Ocoee Regional Health Corporation Health Centers network, and it operates year-round. It primarily serves the rural population in Decatur and surrounding cities. Other medical facilities in close proximity include Rhea Medical Center (12 miles) and Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens (13 miles).

No matter where you live in Meigs County, you are never far from the river, from a meandering creek, or from a soothing pond. It contains several of the South’s most beautiful bodies of water making it a vacation haven.



MAJOR EMPLOYERS

COMPANY	EMPLOYEES
Shaw Industries, Inc.	322
Meigs County Schools	300
Storm Manufacturing Corp.	250
Meigs Co. Government	115
Solomon Corporation	80

Source: Companies

POPULATION

Population 2019	12,258
Population 2024	12,739
Households 2019	5,010
Median Age	44.8
Median Household Income	\$43,470
Per Capita Income	\$22,648

Source: Gale Research

ANNOUNCED PROJECTS (2016-2020)

Number of Projects	1
New Jobs	75
Capital Investment	\$42,000,000

Source: GCEP

LABOR FORCE (2020 ANNUAL AVERAGE)

Labor Force	5,195
Unemployment Rate	8.6%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Population 25+	8,850
High School Graduate (only)	44.3%
Some College	18.9%
Associate's Degree	6.2%
Bachelor's Degree	6.7%
Graduate or Professional	3.3%
ACT-County	18.7
ACT-State	19.3

Source: Gale Research, Tennessee Department of Education

EDUCATION

Public Schools	4
Public School Enrollment	1,683
School Districts	1

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, Individual Schools and GCEP

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

New Employers (Maximum)	2.7%
Experience Rate Range	0.01% to 10.0%
Taxable Base	\$7,000

Source: ADP

SALES TAX - GENERAL AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Taxable Retail Sales (2020)	\$55,577,783
Sales Tax Rate-State	7%
Sales Tax Rate-County	2%
Electricity* (State/Local)	None
Piped Natural Gas* (State/Local)	None
Mfg. Water (State/Local)	1.0%/.33-.05%
Mfg. Fuels (State/Local)	1.5%/0%
Mfg. Equipment (State/Local)	None
Telecommunications (State/Local)	7%/2%

*Residential
Source: Tennessee Department of Revenue

PROPERTY TAX (PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUE)

Property Taxes-County Incorporated	\$1.9813
Property Taxes-County Unincorporated	\$1.9813
Property Taxes-County Seat	\$2.3242

Source: Tennessee Department of Revenue

INVENTORY TAX

Finished Goods	None
Raw Materials	None
Goods in Process	None
Materials Consumed in Manufacturing	None

Source: Tennessee Department of Revenue

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES (2020 ANNUAL AVERAGE)

	% OF TOTAL	WEEKLY WAGES
Manufacturing	49.7%	\$910
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	11.1%	\$892
Financial Activities	1.8%	\$1,315
Professional & Business Services	1.4%	\$1,170
Education & Health Services	6.8%	\$1,017
Leisure & Hospitality	6.0%	\$283
Other Services	20.7%	\$751
Government	49.7%	\$910

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

ACCESSIBILITY

Largest City or Town	Decatur
Population-2019	1,667
Miles to Chattanooga	48
Nearest Commercial Airport	Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport
Runway Length	7,400 and 5,575
Miles to Airport	44
Nearest Interstate	I-75
Miles to Nearest Interstate	9
Foreign Trade Zone	Yes
Population within 50-mile radius	1,251,483

Source: GCEP, Gale Research

UTILITIES

Name of Electricity Provider	Volunteer Energy Co-Op
Is Natural Gas Available (Yes/No)	Yes
Name of Natural Gas Provider	Middle TN Natural Gas
Name of Water Provider	Multiple municipal providers
Excess System Capacity	Yes
Name of Wastewater Provider	Town of Decatur Utilities
Excess System Capacity	Yes

Source: GCEP

CONTACT US

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