QUALITY OF LIFE STUDY

STUDY AREA COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

December 13, 2016

UNCG - CENTER FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY STUDIES

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Quality of Life Study Area

The Hinton Rural Life Center Quality of Life Study area is comprised of three counties spanning across the mountainous southwestern North Carolina and northwestern Georgia. The counties included in the Quality of Life Study area are Cherokee county (NC), Clay County (NC), and Towns County (GA). Included in this community snapshot are residential demographics, economic conditions, and health profiles for each of the three counties. Data Sources for this snapshot include: Policy Map, US Census, 2010-2014 American Community Survey, CMS, BLS, Health Resources & Services Administration, NACo, the National Center for Educational Statistics, Walkability Score, Trip Advisor, NCSCHS, and the DEA.

Cities and Townships: Murphy, Andrews, Hayesville, Young Harris,
Zip Codes: 28906, 28734, 30525, 28904, 30546, 28781, 28901, 30582, 28905, 28902, 28909, 28903.
Congressional District(s): Georgia's 9th District, North Carolina's 11th District
State Senate District(s): State Senate District 50, State Senate District 50
State House District(s): State House District 8, State House District 120
Population Demographics

The Quality of Life Study area is home to an estimated 48,442 people. Of the people living in the area, 4.9% are under five years old, 18.13% under 18 years old, 55.52% are between 18 and 64 years old (working aged), and 26.36% are 65 years and older. The racial composition of the entire Hinton area is 94.56% are White, 1.3% are African American, 2.62% are Hispanic, 0.23% are Asian, 0% are either Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 1.31% are American Indian or Alaskan Native, 0.96% are of "some other race", and 1.63% are of two or more races.

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2010-2014 American Community Survey indicate that 1,395 people or 2.88% of the population living in this area were "foreign born". The census defines foreign born as anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth. The average size of a household in this area ranged from 2.29 to 2.54 between 2010-2014, as compared to the average household size for the county and the state, 2.54 (Cherokee), 2.42 (Clay), 2.29 (Towns) and 2.72 (Georgia), 2.54 (North Carolina) respectively. In terms of family composition in the Hinton region, 12,797 reported as families of some kind. Of those, there were 2,468 (19.29%) married with children, 1,065 (8.32%) were single with children, 757 (5.92%) were single female with children, and 9,264 (72.39%) classified as "other families."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>2010-2014</th>
<th>% change from 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Life Study area</td>
<td>48,442</td>
<td>14.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee County</td>
<td>27,156</td>
<td>11.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay County</td>
<td>10,616</td>
<td>20.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towns County</td>
<td>10,670</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>9,907,756</td>
<td>21.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>9,750,405</td>
<td>21.13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: population & percent growth comparison by area

Housing Stock

Across the area, an estimated 81.47% or 15,603 households owned their home. There were an estimated 32,607 housing units in the study area. An estimated 41.26% of housing units were vacant in 2014, compared to 14.66% in the state of North Carolina.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Stock</th>
<th>Number of Units</th>
<th>Percent of Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single family detached homes</td>
<td>24,519</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single family attached homes</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>0.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-unit homes and duplexes</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>0.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apartments</td>
<td>1,246</td>
<td>3.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile/Manufactured homes</td>
<td>6427</td>
<td>19.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Hinton region housing composition 2010-2014
Demographics

Cherokee County, NC, had a population of 27,156 residents. Though it is a non-metropolitan county, it has experienced an 11.76% population increase since the reported population recording in the year 2000. There were 13,290 reported male residents (making up 48.9% of the population) and 13,866 reported female residents (making up 51.1% of the population). The median resident age is 49 years old. Of the residents, 2122 are veterans of the US armed forces. Approximately 82.4% of the population has earned a high school diploma or higher, and approximately 12% of the population lacks basic prose literacy skills. Only 1% are reported as non-English speaking.

The reported racial composition of the county population is: 93.3% (25,328) white, 1.7% (460) black, 0.3% (80) Asian, 2% (560) Native American, 0.8% (208) reported as “Other”, and 1.9% (518) reported as being two or more races. Only 2.7% (729) reported identifying as ethnically Hispanic. The diversity index in Cherokee County is 15.27. Whereas compared to areas with increased heterogeneity and therefore higher diversity index values, there is a low likelihood that two individuals chosen at random in the county would be of different races or ethnicities.
Economy
In Cherokee County, the median household income is $34,507, with an average per capita income of $18,556. Approximately 19.39% of the residential population lives in poverty. Unemployment has dropped from 12.9% (1,504 residents) in 2010 to 6.5% (725 residents) in 2015. Approximately 8,660 of the county’s residents are homeowners. The median home value is $137,800 and the average rental unit cost is $637 per month.

Housing
According to 2014 data for Cherokee County, 40.37% of the total housing stock is vacant. Homeowners make up 82.45% of the populated houses, and renters make up the remainder 17.55%. 25.13% of homeowners are cost burdened (spending 30% or more of income on housing) and 10.07% are extremely cost burdened (spending 50% or more of income on housing) for Cherokee County. For renters 40.64% are cost burdened range, and 15.14% are extremely cost burdened. These renters in cost burden or extreme cost burden are mostly younger, single individuals paying for 1 bedroom apartments. The median rent for Cherokee County is $637 per month, so a single person must make roughly over $2000 each month to be right under the line of cost burden.
Medical

Approximately 21.28% of Cherokee County’s residents were completely uninsured. This is likely to have changed with the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, however the data is not yet available. Around 22.9% received Medicare benefits. There were only 11 primary care physicians and 9 dentists in the entire county. For 2016 Cherokee county ranks 84th in the NC counties in health outcomes.

Type 2 diabetes affects over 20 million people, which is roughly 7% of the entire US population. Being overweight and obese is a dominant causal factor for a person to get type 2 diabetes. In Cherokee County 38.31% of adults are considered overweight (with a BMI of 24.9-30) and 29% are obese (BMI of 30 or more). The percentage of adults with diabetes (Type 1 & 2) in Cherokee County currently is 14.72%.

Nearly 9.32% of adults in Cherokee County have chronic asthmatic conditions. Many factors can be attributed to chronic asthma like; pollens, molds, air irritants and respiratory illnesses. Some of these factors can come from lower quality housing conditions like mold. Cigarettes are an air irritant and can lead to possible respiratory illnesses, so smoking these can highly increase chances of chronic asthma. According to 2016 records 19% of adults in Cherokee County reported that they were regular smokers.

According to the NC DHHS Communicable Diseases Branch Cherokee county in 2013 there were 29 cases of Chlamydia and 4 cases of Gonorrhea (reported cases). The DHHS branch claims “The total numbers of Chlamydia and Gonorrhea cases are useful indicators of adolescent sexual health as they are most common in adolescents.” In 2014 there were a total of 21 teenage pregnancies (15-19), and a teen pregnancy rate of 32.7 per 1000 for Cherokee county. This is around a -13.7% drop in teen pregnancy rates for this county from 2013-2014.
Foster Care
The Cherokee County foster statistics from the Fostering Court Improvements Organization state that between October 2014 and September 2015 there were 60 total removals of children. Out of those 60 removal cases, 35 were from parent drug or alcohol abuse, 56 out of the 60 were from child neglect, and 8 out of 60 were from poor housing conditions (multiple reasons for some removals).

Education
For adults 25 and older, 2014 statistics say 82.37% of the population has at least a high school diploma in Cherokee County. In the Cherokee County School District 29.96% of the students lived in poverty, which can affect a student’s behavior and performances in class. The student to teacher ratio for the school district is 13.48 to 1 according to 2014 statistics.
Crime Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>394.9</td>
<td>175.06</td>
<td>141.45</td>
<td>528.17</td>
<td>187.1</td>
<td>149.29</td>
<td>115.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary/Larceny</td>
<td>4,070.47</td>
<td>2,596.1</td>
<td>2,069.61</td>
<td>4,137.32</td>
<td>2,507.92</td>
<td>2,749.15</td>
<td>2,317.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>486.03</td>
<td>63.32</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>117.37</td>
<td>75.56</td>
<td>127.44</td>
<td>126.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>30.38</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>10.92</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>91.13</td>
<td>7.45</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>29.34</td>
<td>21.59</td>
<td>14.57</td>
<td>19.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>30.38</td>
<td>7.45</td>
<td>11.17</td>
<td>29.34</td>
<td>14.29</td>
<td>10.92</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 1 - Crime Rates per 100,000 persons in Cherokee County, NC*

Townships

**Murphy, NC**

Walk Score

*C精通 Dependent*

Most errands require a car.

Trip Advisors top 10 things to do in Murphy:

1. Fields of the Wood
2. Harrah’s Cherokee Valley River Casino
3. Murphy River Walk
4. Fire Creek Falls
5. Cherokee Cellars Winery
6. Salty Dog Gem Mine
7. Murphy Visitor Center
8. Cherokee County Museum
9. Hiwassee Dam

**Andrews, NC**

Walk Score

*C精通 Dependent*

Most errands require a car.

Trip Advisors top 10 things to do in Andrews:

1. Ridge Runner Ziplines
2. Calaboose Cellars
3. Andrews Brewing Company
4. Appalachian Memories
5. Nancy’s Treasures
6. Andrews Disc Golf Course
7. Performing Arts Hair Design and Gift Shop
8. In Nonnie’s Attic
9. Courtyard Jewelry
Clay County, North Carolina

Demographics
Clay County, NC, had a population of 10,616 residents as of the 2014 US Census estimates. Though it is a non-metropolitan county, it has experienced a 20.98% population increase since the reported population recording in the year 2000. There were 5,187 reported male residents (making up 48.9% of the population) and 5,429 reported female residents (making up 51.1% of the population). The median resident age is 50 years old. Of the residents, 1246 are veterans of the US armed forces.

The reported racial composition of the county population is: 96.5% (10,244) white, 0.6% (68) black, 0.1% (12) Asian, 0.1% (13) Native American, 2% (212) reported as “Other”, and 0.6% (67) reported as being two or more races. Only 2.8% (294) reported identifying as ethnically Hispanic. The diversity index in Clay County 8.29. Whereas compared to areas with increased heterogeneity and therefore higher diversity index values, there is a low likelihood that two individuals chosen at random in the county would be of different races or ethnicities between the years 2010 and 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZING UP 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPULATION 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REAL GDP 2015, IN 2009 DOLLARS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clay County, NC has a county government.
Clay County is a small county not in a metropolitan or micropolitan area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP FIVE SPECIALIZED INDUSTRIES, BY EMPLOYMENT, 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENT - 550 JOBS - 25.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRADE, TRANSPORT &amp; UTILITIES - 470 JOBS - 24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATION &amp; HEALTH - 380 JOBS - 16.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTRUCTION - 220 JOBS - 9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES - 100 JOBS - 4.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economy
In Clay County, the median household income is $36,693, with an average per capita income of $21,935. Approximately 23.56% of the residential population lives in poverty. Unemployment has dropped from 12.5% (531 residents) in 2010 to 6.1% (251 residents) in 2015. Approximately 3,406 of the county’s residents are homeowners. The median home value is $146,400 and the average rental unit cost is $668 per month.

Housing
For the housing in Clay County approximately 39.38% of the total housing units are vacant. Homeowners in Clay make up 78.28% of the total occupied housing, while renters are the remaining 21.72% for occupied housing. For economic status of homeowners 24.9% in Clay County are cost burdened, and 12.04% are extremely cost burdened. With 2014 statistics for renters in Clay County 44.02% of renters were in the range of cost burdened, and 34.39% are extremely cost burdened. With the average rent for units being around $668 per month, the renter must make around $2,100-$2,200 every month just to meet the border of cost burdened to not cost burdened.
Medical
As of 2014, approximately 23.27% of Clay County’s residents were completely uninsured. This is likely to have changed with the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, however the data is not yet available. Around 24.44% received Medicare benefits. There were only 7 primary care physicians and 4 dentists in the entire county. For 2016 Clay county ranks 41st in NC counties in overall ranks of health outcomes.

In Clay County roughly 38.29% of all adults are considered overweight and have a BMI within 24.9-30, while 29% of adults are reported to be obese having a BMI of over 30. The rates for Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in 2014 was 13.45% of all adults in Clay County.

Adults that have reported chronic asthmatic conditions was estimated in 2016 to be 9.13% for all of Clay. The rates of adults who had reported being regular smokers was 18% which acts as a strong irritant for people with asthma or asthma like conditions. For communicable diseases the NC DHHS Communicable diseases branch for Clay County reported that in 2013 there were 12 reported cases of Chlamydia and 4 reported cases for Gonorrhea. There were 8 reported teen pregnancies for Clay County however there was no further information on trends to see if the rates of teen pregnancy had increased or decreased for the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clay County</th>
<th>Trend</th>
<th>Error Margin</th>
<th>Top U.S. Performers</th>
<th>North Carolina</th>
<th>Rank (of 100)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult smoking</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18-19%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult obesity</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>22-36%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food environment index</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical inactivity</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24-40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to exercise opportunities</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive drinking</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12-13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol-impaired driving deaths</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0-10%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexually transmitted infections</td>
<td>113.0</td>
<td>134.1</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen births</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>27-45</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Foster Care
The Clay County foster statistics say that between October 2014 and September 2015 there were a total of 7 removals into foster care. All 7 of these were from drug or alcohol abuse, while 3 out of 7 were from neglect and 2 out of the 7 were from inadequate housing conditions. According to Debbie Mauney, director of Clay County DDS, “18 children are in foster care currently, all 18 are from parental drug abuse. 10 of the children are placed with relatives, and 8 of the children are in a foster home.”
Education

In the 2014 statistics for Clay County, 87.93% of adults 25 or greater have their high school diploma or greater. According to the school system for Clay County the percentage of all students who lived in poverty were around 27.09%, and the student to teacher ratio in an average class is 13.7 to 1. Approximately 11% of the population lacks basic literacy. Only 1% are reported as non-English speaking.
Crime Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>126.39</td>
<td>105.18</td>
<td>141.56</td>
<td>141.68</td>
<td>130.58</td>
<td>224.97</td>
<td>168.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary/Larceny</td>
<td>1,711.06</td>
<td>1,348.25</td>
<td>1,292.94</td>
<td>1,549.07</td>
<td>2,518.42</td>
<td>2,137.23</td>
<td>2,259.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>204.16</td>
<td>114.74</td>
<td>94.38</td>
<td>132.24</td>
<td>149.24</td>
<td>93.74</td>
<td>121.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9.33</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>9.72</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>18.88</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9.33</td>
<td>18.75</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9.44</td>
<td>9.45</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 - Crime Rates per 100,000 persons in Clay County, NC

Townships

Brasstown, NC
Walk Score

Trip Advisors top 9 things to do in Brasstown:

1. John C. Campbell Folk School
2. River’s Rim Studio and Gallery
3. Silva Gallery
4. Clay’s Corner
5. LG Designs
6. Back to Balance Massage Therapy & Bodyworks
7. Frog and the Dragon
8. Creative Wood Workz
9. The Bear

Hayesville, NC
Walk Score

Trip Advisors top 9 things to do in Hayesville:

1. Chunky Gal Stables
2. Chatuge Dam and Recreation Area
3. Eagle Fork Vineyards
4. Jackrabbit Mountain Bike & Hiking Trails
5. Walnut Hallow Ranch
6. Cherokee Homestead Exhibit
7. Green Willow Gifts, Inc.
8. The Ridges Golf Club
9. Hayesville Evening Market
10. Old Jail Museum
Demographics

Towns County, GA, had a population of 10,670 residents as of the 2014 US Census estimates. Though it is a non-metropolitan county, it has experienced a 14.5% population increase since the reported population recording in the year 2000. There were 5,130 reported male residents (making up 48% of the population) and 5,540 reported female residents (making up 52% of the population). The median resident age is 52 years old. Of the residents, 1280 are veterans of the US armed forces. Approximately 88.74% of the population has earned a high school diploma or higher, and approximately 13% of the population lacks basic prose literacy skills. Only 1% are reported as non-English speaking.

The reported racial composition of the county population is: 95.9% (10,235) white, 1% (103) black, 0.2% (21) Asian, 0.6% (63) Native American, 0.4% (45) reported as “Other”, and 1.9% (203) reported as being two or more races. Only 2.3% (248) reported identifying as ethnically Hispanic. The diversity index in Towns County is 8.71. Whereas compared to areas with increased heterogeneity and therefore higher diversity index values, there is a low likelihood that two individuals chosen at random in the county would be of different races or ethnicities.

### SIZING UP 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POPULATION 2014</th>
<th>11,098</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2015</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REAL GDP 2015, IN 2009 DOLLARS</td>
<td>$357.0 Million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Towns County, GA has a county government.

Towns County is a small, county not in a metropolitan or micropolitan area.

### TOP FIVE SPECIALIZED INDUSTRIES, BY EMPLOYMENT, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Number of Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATION &amp; HEALTH</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEISURE &amp; HOSPITALITY</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTRUCTION</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economy

In Towns County, the median household income is $37,425, with an average per capita income of $20,620. Approximately 16.94% of the residential population lives in poverty. Unemployment has dropped from 12.9% (558 residents) in 2010 to 7.8% (304 residents) in 2015. Approximately 3,537 of the county’s residents are homeowners. The median home value is $162,700 and the average rental unit cost is $693 per month.

Housing

The housing in Towns County according to 2014 statistics has an estimated 45% of total available housing labeled as vacant. For occupied housing homeowners make up 82.27%, and renters are the remaining 17.73%. The percentage of homeowners that are cost burdened is 30.93%, and 14.9% are extremely cost burdened for Clay County. For renters the approximate percentage of people that are cost burdened is 47.11% and 24.28% are extremely cost burdened. For a renter not to be cost burdened on the average rent of $693 the person must make over $2,200 per month.
Percentage Homeowners Cost Burdened, Towns County

Percentage Renters Cost Burdened, Towns County
Medical

As of 2014, approximately 14.75% of Towns County’s residents were completely uninsured. This is likely to have changed with the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, however the data is not yet available. Around 26.94% received Medicare benefits. There were only 9 primary care physicians and 4 dentists in the entire county. For 2016 the overall ranking for health outcomes for Towns County was 65th in comparison with the other counties in GA.

In Towns County the rate of overweight people is approximately 37.45% for adults with a BMI of 24.9-30, and the rate of obesity is 26% for people with a BMI of greater than 30. The percentage of adults in Towns County with Type 1 or 2 diabetes is 14.35%, which being overweight or obese significantly increases the likelihood of Type 2 diabetes occurring. For people with chronic asthma conditions in Towns the percentage of the population that are regular smokers is 14%, and adults who have asthma are approximately 9.04%.

Reports from the Towns County Health Practitioner Chlamydia is the #1 STD in rates for Towns county with 25 currently reported cases for this year, but 0 in Gonorrhea. Also in Towns county 2014 statistics reported that there were 4 teenage pregnancies, but does not have a growth stat available yet.

Foster Care

In Towns County the statistics for children in foster care, between the times of April 2015 and March 2016 there were 11 total children in removal to foster care. Out of the total 11, 10 removal cases were recorded with caretaker drug or alcohol abuse, 6 out of the 11 were from the caretaker being incarcerated, and 1 out of 11 was from physical abuse.
Education
For Towns County the 2014 statistics the approximate percentage of people who have their diplomas or higher is 88.69%. 28.04% of the total student body in the Towns County School System were in poverty, and the student teacher ratio was 13.15 students to 1 teacher.

Crime Rates and Drugs
According to DEA of Georgia’s drug arrests for Towns county; between 7/1/2013 and 8/31/2014 there were a total of 28 drugs arrests dealing with hydrocodone, LSD, marijuana commercial, marijuana-synthetic, methamphetamine, OxyContin, Xanax, and other unnamed drugs for a total of $172,226.50 totaled pricing. Between 7/1/2014 and 8/31/2015 there were 11 drug arrests dealing with Lortab, marijuana commercial, methamphetamine and other unnamed drugs for a total of $247,170.00 totaled pricing and between 7/1/2015 and 8/31/2016 there were 23 drugs arrests dealing with alprazolam, ice, marijuana commercial, methamphetamine, Xanax and other unnamed drugs for a total of $427,643.75. (some of these drug cases overlap with the recording timeline the DEA of Georgia uses.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>186.95</td>
<td>144.82</td>
<td>116.11</td>
<td>114.6</td>
<td>65.98</td>
<td>130.55</td>
<td>133.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burglary/Larceny</td>
<td>2,084.5</td>
<td>1,810.28</td>
<td>1,795.28</td>
<td>1,470.73</td>
<td>1,696.67</td>
<td>1,771.73</td>
<td>1,794.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>112.17</td>
<td>81.46</td>
<td>53.59</td>
<td>47.75</td>
<td>47.13</td>
<td>46.62</td>
<td>85.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>9.35</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>19.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>17.86</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>9.43</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>19.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>8.93</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>18.85</td>
<td>9.32</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 - Crime Rates per 100,000 persons in Towns County, GA

Townships
Hiawassee, GA

Walk Score

Trip Advisors top 10 things to do in Hiawassee:
1. Boundary Waters Resort & Marina  
   - Day Rentals
2. High Shoals Falls Trail
3. Southern Water Trails LLC
4. Fred Hamilton Gardens
5. Hightower Creek Vineyards
6. Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds
7. Art Works
8. Just 2 Dollars
9. Mountain Wake Park
10. Always Christmas

Young Harris, GA

Walk Score:

Trip Advisors top 5 things to do in Young Harris:
1. Crane Creek Vineyards
2. Rollins Planetarium
3. Destiny Alpaca Farm
4. Young Harris Water Sports
5. Fun World
Center for Housing and Community Studies

http://chcs.uncg.edu

The Center for Housing and Community Studies (CHCS) is a university-based research, evaluation, and technical assistance center. We fulfill our research agenda through technical assistance to governmental and nonprofit agencies as well as the preparation of working papers, research notes, and scholarly publications. We are actively engaged in funded studies of impediments to fair housing, continuum of care for the homeless, housing market trends and market segmentations studies, county and regional community planning, and studies of the impact of housing on health. CHCS currently has a staff consisting of sixteen researchers, assistants, and interns including: two PhD-level research methodologists in Sociology, one PhD candidate in Geography, two MS candidates in Information Systems and Supply Chain Management, three affiliated graduate researchers (Columbia, University of Delaware, and NC State), and eight research assistants working on BAs in Sociology, Criminology, Geography, Public Health, Religious Studies, and Human Development and Family Studies. The Center regularly collaborates with faculty in Geography, Political Science, Public Health, Nursing, Economics, Information Systems and Supply Chain Management, Nutrition, and Communication Studies. CHCS is a member organization in the UNCG Institute for Data, Evaluation, and Analytics (IDEA) and has partnered with the UNCG Center for New North Carolinians (CNNC) and the Institute for Community and Economic Engagement (ICEE) as well as various academic units on grants and research projects.

CHCS was incorporated on February 2015 as a newly established research and technical assistance center. The first year of operation saw contracts and grants awarded from the City of High Point, Community Housing Solutions, Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayesville, NC, the City of Greensboro, the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, the Adam Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the UNCG Office of Undergraduate Research, and an InvestHealth Grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Reinvestment Fund.

As part of its mission, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro’s Center for Housing and Community Studies is committed to investigating and understanding how the social, economic, environmental and spatial aspects of home and neighborhood affect people’s health, well-being, and life course. The CHCS staff has been working to identify substandard homes, weak housing markets, vacant and abandoned lots and buildings, systemic inequality, and other community conditions that impact the quality of life of residents. Recent projects also include the use of advanced data visualization and mapping. The Center is equipped to assist in many forms of in-person and remote quantitative and qualitative data collection includes: one-on-one interviews, focus groups, telephone interviews, postal mail surveys, electronic/web-based surveys, and computer-assisted in-person or telephone surveys. We are also able to assist with sample design, questionnaire development, qualitative and quantitative data analysis and reporting, as well as data mapping. We are experienced in the design and implementation of formative and summative program evaluation, needs assessment, and policy analysis.