



# Dewey

Part of the original Cheyenne-Arapaho Reservation, Dewey County was designated by Treaty of 1867 and opened to settlement by the Land Run of April 19, 1892. The county was named for Admiral George Dewey. Taloga, an Indian word meaning “beautiful valley,” is the county seat.

Divided from east to west by both the North and South Canadian rivers, the construction of bridges was important to the growth of the county and did not occur until later years. The development of transportation was slow and began with the construction of the Wichita Falls and Northwestern Railroad (later part of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad, known as the M-K-T—or Katy) in 1910. The railroad followed the old Western or Dodge Cattle Trail that cut through the county in the 1870s to the railhead at Dodge City. On the east side of Dewey County, the old Orient Railroad remains as the Burlington Ohio today.

Sparsely populated, the land is used for agriculture and cattle raising with some horse ranches and many oil and gas wells. People of note who have lived in Dewey County are former Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Pat Irwin, TV climatologist Gary England, and prohibitionist Carry Nation.

For additional information, contact the Dewey County Historical Society in Taloga or call the county clerk’s office at 580/328-5361.

## Districts

## County Officials

Cong. .... 3	Court Clerk	Nancy Louthan (D)	Seiling
St. Sen. .... 38	Clerk	Sandra Clendenny (D)	Seiling
St. Rep. .... 59	Sheriff	Robert Prentice (D)	Leedey
D.A. .... 26	Treasurer	Cindy Farris (D)	Taloga
Ct. of Appeals ..... 6	Assessor	Lennet Pisacka (D)	Taloga
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 5	Election Brd. Sec.	Barbara Squires (D)	Taloga
Supreme Ct. Jud. .... 4	Dist. 1 Comm.	Bobby A. Logan (D)	Taloga
N.W. Jud. Adm. .... 4 (Div. I)	Dist. 2 Comm.	Rupert Irving (R)	Seiling
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Darrell Balfour (D)	Vici

## Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$18,106,928	\$18,597,501	\$490,573
Personal Subject to Tax	\$17,163,543	\$17,171,604	\$8,061
Total Locally Assessed	\$35,270,471	\$35,769,105	\$498,634
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$1,304,785	\$1,296,080	(\$8,705)
Net Assessed Locally	\$33,965,686	\$34,473,025	\$507,339
Public Service Assessment	\$7,723,148	\$7,886,311	\$163,163
Net Assessed Valuation	\$41,688,834	\$42,359,336	\$670,502

**County Seat**—Taloga (Pop. 360) 2003 Estimate

**Area (Land & Water)**—1,008.26 square miles

**Per Capita Income** (2003)—\$25,171 (Ranks 15th of 77 counties)

**Population Stats** (2000)—Fem.—2,434, Male—2,309 • **Ethnicity**—Wh.—4,299; Bl.—6; Am. Ind.—214; As.—3; Other—3; Pacific Is.—0; Two or more races—91; Hisp.—127

**Births** (2003)—47 • **Deaths** (2003)—79

**Unemployment Rate** (2003)—3.3%

**Labor Force** (2003)—2,020

**Number of Establishments** (2002)—126

**Number of Manufacturers** (2002)—4

**Public Assistance Payments** (FY2004)—\$41,572

TANF—\$8,055 • Supplements—Aged—\$10,080; Blind—0; Disabled—\$23,457

**Vehicle Registration** (2004)—Automobiles—4,081; Farm Trucks—1,874; Comm. Trucks, Tractors, Trailers—434; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—279; Motorcycles—134; Manufactured Homes—11; Tax Exempt Licenses—13; Boats—542

**Crime Incidents** (2003)—Murder—0; Rape—0; Robbery—0; Fel. Assault—5; Breaking and Entering—17; Larceny—23; Motor Vehicle Theft—7; Arson—1 • Total Crime Index—52 Crime Rate per 1,000—11.22

**Farms** (2002)—774 • **Land in Farms** (2002)—584,368

**County Population**

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	13,329
1910	14,132
1920	12,434
1930	13,250
1940	11,981
1950	8,789
1960	6,051
1970	5,656
1980	5,922
1990	5,551
2000	4,743
2004 Estimate	4,667

**Major Lake**—Canton

**Major Stream Systems**—Canadian, North Canadian, and Washita rivers

**Museums and Historic Sites**—Boswell Museum, Leedy; Jail House Museum, Taloga

**Minerals**—oil and gas

