



# Harper

Part of the area opened in the land run of September 16, 1893, Harper County was named for Oscar G. Harper, clerk of the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention.

The mainstay of the Harper County economy is agriculture, but the production of oil and gas also plays an important economic role. Prime cattle are in evidence throughout the area's feed yards. A modern veterinarian clinic and hospital with facilities for large animal surgery is close at hand.

Located on the old Military Trail from Fort Supply to Fort Dodge, Buffalo, the county seat, is twelve miles south of the Kansas line and approximately thirty miles from Texas.

With many of its original stone buildings still in use, Buffalo is the home of the State Highway Department's Sixth Division Headquarters. Two schools, the Harper County Community Hospital, and an airport, are located in Buffalo. Laverne also has an airport.

Famous county residents include Roy Dunn, world champion wrestler; Mel Harpe, who recommended Knute Rockne as football coach for Notre Dame; and Jane Jayroe, Miss America, 1967. Annual events include the County Fair during early fall and the Laverne Trade Show. The Old Settler's Picnic has been held on the third Sunday in August annually since 1940. For more information, call the county clerk: 580/735-2012.

## Districts

## County Officials

Cong. .... 3	Court Clerk	Linda Crouch (D)	Buffalo
St. Sen. .... 27	Clerk	Joyce Johnson (D)	Buffalo
St. Rep. .... 61	Sheriff	Marty L. Drew (R)	Buffalo
D.A. .... 1	Treasurer	Karen Krenz Payne (R)	Buffalo
Ct. of Appeals ..... 6	Assessor	Scotty Cosby (D)	Buffalo
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 5	Election Brd. Sec.	Pauletta Roberts (R)	Buffalo
Supreme Ct. Jud. .... 4	Dist. 1 Comm.	David Weaver (R)	Rosston
N.W. Jud. Adm. .... 1	Dist. 2 Comm.	Carl Laverty (R)	Laverne
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Bill Bair (D)	Buffalo

## Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$16,730,254	\$16,946,255	\$216,001
Personal Subject to Tax	\$14,679,452	\$17,182,484	\$2,503,032
Total Locally Assessed	\$31,409,706	\$34,128,739	\$2,719,033
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$1,053,665	\$1,045,424	(\$8,241)
Net Assessed Locally	\$30,356,041	\$33,083,315	\$2,727,274
Public Service Assessment	\$5,462,929	\$5,245,885	(\$217,044)
Net Assessed Valuation	\$35,818,970	\$38,329,200	\$2,510,230

**County Seat**—Buffalo (Pop. 1,139) 2003 Estimate

**Area (Land & Water)**—1,040.96 square miles

**Per Capita Income (2003)**—\$32,247 (Ranks 2nd of 77 counties)

**Population Stats (2000)**—Fem.—1,812, Male—1,750 • **Ethnicity**—Wh.—3,310; Bl.—1; Am. Ind.—32; As.—2; Other—0; Pacific Is.—0; Two or more races—16; Hisp.—201

**Births (2003)**—27 • **Deaths (2003)**—70

**Unemployment Rate (2003)**—3.1%

**Labor Force (2003)**—1,720

**Number of Establishments (2002)**—110

**Number of Manufacturers (2002)**—2

**Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)**—\$31,216  
TANF—\$10,216 • Supplements—Aged—\$6,823; Blind—\$1,215; Disabled—\$12,962

**Vehicle Registration (2004)**—Automobiles—4,287; Farm Trucks—1,186; Comm. Trucks, Tractors, Trailers—317; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—252; Motorcycles—149; Manufactured Homes—7; Tax Exempt Licenses—12; Boats—337

**Crime Incidents (2003)**—Murder—0; Rape—0; Robbery—0; Fel. Assault—15; Breaking and Entering—10; Larceny—25; Motor Vehicle Theft—4; Arson—0 • Total Crime Index—54; Crime Rate per 1,000—15.52

**Farms (2002)**—517 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—601,162

**County Population**

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	8,089
1910	8,189
1920	7,623
1930	7,761
1940	6,454
1950	5,977
1960	5,956
1970	5,151
1980	4,715
1990	4,063
2000	3,562
2004 Estimate	3,397

**Major Stream Systems**—North Canadian and Cimarron rivers

**Museums and Historic Sites**—Harper County Historical Society Museum, Laverne; Buffalo Museum, Buffalo

**Minerals**—oil and gas

