



Kay

Located in north central Oklahoma bordering Kansas, Kay County was formed from the “Cherokee Strip” or “Cherokee Outlet.” Originally designated as county “K,” its name means simply that.

Newkirk, the county seat, is home of the Kay County Courthouse, originally built in 1894 and replaced with the current stone courthouse in 1926. The economy of the county is based on petroleum wealth as well as productive agricultural land. Blackwell, the second largest city, is located in the midst of the rich Chikaskia River farmland.

Kaw Dam and Reservoir, part of the \$1.2 billion plan for the Arkansas River in Oklahoma and Arkansas, is located in Kay County. Other attractions include the 101 Ranch site, Pioneer Woman Statue and Museum, the Chilocco Indian School, Ponca City Cultural Center and Indian Museum, and the Marland Mansion, all in Ponca City. Annual events include the Iris Festival in April and the 101 Ranch Rodeo in August.

Kay County was once home to Territorial Governor William M. Jenkins and infamous outlaw Belle Starr. Three history books have been written about the county. They are: *Diamond Jubilee*, *The Last Run*, and *Keepsakes and Yesteryears*. Historical societies are located in Newkirk and Tonkawa. For more info, call the county clerk at 580/362-2537.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 3	Court Clerk	Glenda Emerson (R)	Blackwell
St. Sen. 10, 20	Clerk	Tammy Reese (R)	Nardin
St. Rep. 37, 38	Sheriff	Everett Van Hoesen (R)	Ponca City
D.A. 8	Treasurer	Pat Schieber (R)	Newkirk
Ct. of Appeals 5	Assessor	Judy A. Barnes (D)	Blackwell
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 2	Election Brd. Sec.	Carol Kellum (D)	Blackwell
Supreme Ct. Jud. 1	Dist. 1 Comm.	Dee Schieber (R)	Ponca City
N.Cent. Jud. Adm. 8	Dist. 2 Comm.	Wayne Leven (D)	Newkirk
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Laile Wilson (R)	Blackwell

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$157,325,653	\$157,753,435	\$427,782
Personal Subject to Tax	\$88,652,674	\$75,199,425	(\$13,453,249)
Total Locally Assessed	\$245,978,327	\$232,952,860	(\$13,025,467)
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$11,703,376	\$11,426,270	(\$277,106)
Net Assessed Locally	\$234,274,951	\$221,526,590	(\$12,748,361)
Public Service Assessment	\$29,717,028	\$30,583,054	\$866,026
Net Assessed Valuation	\$263,991,979	\$252,109,644	(\$11,882,335)

County Seat—Newkirk (Pop. 2,188) 2003 Estimate

Area (Land & Water)—945.12 square miles

Per Capita Income (2003)—\$25,126 (Ranks 16th of 77 counties)

Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—24,817, Male—23,263 • **Ethnicity**—
Wh.—39,687; Bl.—850; Am. Ind.—3,504; As.—246; Other—15; Pacific
Is.—12; Two or more races—1,721; Hisp.—2,045

Births (2003)—711 • **Deaths (2003)**—627

Unemployment Rate (2003)—7.9%

Labor Force (2003)—21,800

Number of Establishments (2002)—1,269

Number of Manufacturers (2002)—80

Public Assistance Payments (FY2002)—\$596,023
TANF—\$175,266 • Supplements—Aged—\$79,835; Blind—
\$3,256; Disabled—\$337,666

Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—40,038;
Farm Trucks—2,758; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
Trailers—2,103; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,574;
Motorcycles—1,424; Manufactured Homes—29; Tax
Exempt Licenses—131; Boats—6,028

Institutions of Higher Learning—Northern
Oklahoma College, Tonkawa

Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—2; Rape—34;
Robbery—21; Fel. Assault—1,726; Breaking and Entering—
409; Larceny—1,295; Motor Vehicle Theft—122; Arson—43
• Total Crime Index—2,059, Crime Rate per 1,000—42.96

Farms (2002)—1,003 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—
479,927

County Population

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	24,757
1910	26,999
1920	34,907
1930	50,186
1940	47,084
1950	48,892
1960	51,042
1970	48,791
1980	49,852
1990	48,056
2000	48,080
2004 Estimate	46,761

Major Lake—Kaw

Major Stream Systems—Chikaskia
and Arkansas rivers, Salt Fork of the
Arkansas, tributaries to the main stem
of the Arkansas

Museums and Historic Sites—
Cherokee Outlet Museum, Blackwell;
Newkirk Community Historical
Museum; Marland Estate, Pioneer
Woman Statue, and Rose Garden
Museum, Ponca City; A.D. Buck
Museum of Science and History,
Tonkawa

Minerals—oil and gas

