



LeFlore

Once part of the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, LeFlore County is diverse in its topography. With rugged hills, narrow valleys and productive farmland, there is a gentle blending of modern days and old ways. Many of the towns were established as a result of railroad expansion.

Within its borders there are two hospitals, seven libraries, a two-year college, three vocational schools, five newspapers, a veteran’s center, and numerous clinics. Manufacturing produces such items as refrigerator parts, instrument panels, crackers, and cattle feed. Carl Albert State College offers courses to more than 2,000 full and part-time students annually.

Poteau, the county seat, was home to late Senator Robert S. Kerr. Tourism is an important aspect of the LeFlore County economy. The Heavener Runestone and Spiro Mounds are well-known historic sites, as are stops on the old Butterfield Trail. Hailed as the first transcontinental link between East and West, several stops are still found in the northern part of the county. The Ouachita National Forest, including the Talimena Scenic Drive, dominates the southern half of the county. Annual events include the Cavanal Fall Festival and Auto Show in October near Poteau. For more information, call the county clerk’s office at 918/647-5738.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 2	Court Clerk	Melba Hall (D)	Poteau
St. Sen. 4	Clerk	Alan Vickers (D)	Heavener
St. Rep. 3, 15, 17, 19	Sheriff	Bob Campbell (D)	Poteau
D.A. 16	Treasurer	Joe Wiles (D)	Poteau
Ct. of Appeals 3	Assessor	Ruth Darneal (D)	Wister
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 3	Elect. Brd. Sec.	Phillip Zearley (D)	Poteau
Supreme Ct. Jud. 2	Dist. 1 Comm.	Carroll Rogers (D)	Spiro
S.E. Jud. Adm. 16	Dist. 2 Comm.	Lance Smith (D)	Monroe
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Freddie Cox (D)	Heavener

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$115,111,385	\$119,970,035	\$4,858,650
Personal Subject to Tax	\$41,354,657	\$42,355,519	\$1,000,862
Total Locally Assessed	\$156,466,042	\$162,325,554	\$5,859,512
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$11,651,865	\$11,640,029	(\$11,836)
Net Assessed Locally	\$144,814,177	\$150,685,525	\$5,871,348
Public Service Assessment	\$26,387,684	\$26,825,081	\$437,397
Net Assessed Valuation	\$171,201,861	\$177,510,606	\$6,308,745

County Seat—Poteau (Pop. 7,990) 2003 Estimate

Area (Land & Water)—1,608.03 square miles

Per Capita Income (2003)—\$20,832 (Ranks 54th of 77 counties)

Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—24,141, Male—23,968 • **Ethnicity**—Wh.—37,707; Bl.—1,059; Am. Ind.—5,080; As.—97; Other—10; Pacific Is.—11; Two or more races—2,296; Hisp.—1,849

Births (2003)—742 • **Deaths (2003)**—540

Unemployment Rate (2003)—6.7%

Labor Force (2003)—20,120

Number of Establishments (2002)—746

Number of Manufacturers (2002)—25

Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$1,460,143
TANF—\$410,631 • Supplements—Aged—\$232,615;
Blind—\$7,361; Disabled—\$809,536

Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—39,487;
Farm Trucks—3,721; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
Trailers—2,637; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,862;
Motorcycles—1,134; Manufactured Homes—88; Tax
Exempt Licenses—198; Boats—5,358

Institutions of Higher Learning—Carl Albert State
College, Poteau

Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—2; Rape—10;
Robbery—4; Fel. Assault—119; Breaking and Entering—
233; Larceny—512; Motor Vehicle Theft—71; Arson—2 •
Total Crime Index—951; Crime Rate per 1,000—19.54

Farms (2002)—1,927 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—
410,923

County Population

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	24,678
1910	29,127
1920	47,765
1930	42,896
1940	45,866
1950	35,276
1960	29,106
1970	32,137
1980	40,698
1990	43,270
2000	48,109
2004 Estimate	49,161

Recreation Area—Heavener
Runestone, Talimena, Wister

Major Lakes—Robert S. Kerr, Wister

Major Stream Systems—Poteau,
Kiamichi and Arkansas rivers,
tributaries to main stem of Arkansas
and Little rivers

Museums and Historic Sites—
Runestone Area, Peter Conser Home,
Heavener; Robert S. Kerr Museum
and Caboose Museum, Poteau; Spiro
Mounds Interpretive Center, Spiro

Minerals—oil and gas, coal

