



McClain

McClain County, originally part of Curtis County in the proposed state of Sequoyah, was created at statehood. The county was named for Charles M. McClain, a member of the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention and an early resident of Purcell.

Forty-niners on their way to the gold fields of California passed through southern McClain County on the California Trail that paralleled present S.H. 59. To protect travellers going west, Camp Arbuckle was established by the U.S. Army in 1850, northwest of present-day Byars. For health reasons, the camp was abandoned after a year for a site thirty miles southwest in the Arbuckles.

In the 1870s large ranching operations north of the Washita River belonged either to those of Indian blood or those related to Indians by marriage. Black slaves formerly owned by Choctaw and Chickasaw families were also eligible to own land. Cotton gins in many small towns prepared raw cotton for the cotton press in Purcell, the county seat. Broom corn growing was also productive in the 1920s and 1930s.

The McClain County Historical Society has published a three-volume history of the area, and sponsored the Morman microfilming of county records in 1998. For more information, call the county clerk's office at 405/527-3360, or the McClain County Museum at 405/527-5894 weekday afternoons.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 4	Court Clerk	Lynda Baker (D)	Purcell
St. Sen. 15, 16, 24	Clerk	Lois Hawkins (D)	Wayne
St. Rep. 22, 25, 42, 46, 51	Sheriff	Don Hewett (D)	Washington
D.A. 21	Treasurer	Twana Haley (D)	Purcell
Ct. of Appeals 4	Assessor	Glenda Cypert (D)	Purcell
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 3	Elect. Brd. Sec.	Marilyn McReynolds (D)	Purcell
Supreme Ct. Jud. 5	Dist. 1 Comm.	Benny McGowen (D)	Wayne
S. Cent. Jud. Adm. 21 (Div. II)	Dist. 2 Comm.	Loyd Tucker (D)	Purcell
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Charles Shorty Foster (D)	Blanchard

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$76,390,786	\$81,264,532	\$4,873,746
Personal Subject to Tax	\$28,146,466	\$39,997,733	\$11,851,267
Total Locally Assessed	\$104,537,252	\$121,262,265	\$16,725,013
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$6,049,832	\$6,199,695	\$149,863
Net Assessed Locally	\$98,487,420	\$115,062,570	\$16,575,150
Public Service Assessment	\$18,171,401	\$18,768,917	\$597,516
Net Assessed Valuation	\$116,658,821	\$133,831,487	\$17,172,666

County Seat—Purcell (Pop. 5,627) 2003 Estimate
Area (Land & Water)—580.13 square miles
Per Capita Income (2003)—\$24,602 (Ranks 22nd of 77 counties)
Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—13,966, Male—13,774 • **Ethnicity**—
 Wh.—23,669; Bl.—175; Am. Ind.—1,510; As.—58; Other—5; Pacific Is.—9;
 Two or more races—965; Hisp.—1,349
Births (2003)—387 • **Deaths (2003)**—265
Unemployment Rate (2003)—4.6%
Labor Force (2003)—13,900
Number of Establishments (2002)— 624
Number of Manufacturers (2002)—23
Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$302,276
 TANF—\$94,980 • Supplements—Aged—\$54,322; Blind—
 \$2,479; Disabled—\$150,495
Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—24,453;
 Farm Trucks—2,000; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
 Trailers—2,265; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,288;
 Motorcycles—846; Manufactured Homes—74; Tax
 Exempt Licenses—73; Boats—3,300
Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—0; Rape—15;
 Robbery—3; Fel. Assault—78; Breaking and Entering—252;
 Larceny—399; Motor Vehicle Theft—57; Arson—14 • Total
 Crime Index—804; Crime Rate per 1,000—28.29
Farms (2002)—1,273 • **Land in Farms (2002)** 307,330

County Population	
1907 (Okla. Terr.)	12,888
1910	15,659
1920	19,326
1930	21,575
1940	19,205
1950	14,681
1960	12,740
1970	14,157
1980	20,291
1990	22,795
2000	27,740
2004 Estimate	29,070

Recreation Area—Locust Grove State
 Park, Saline, Snowdale, Spavinaw,
 Disney, Cherokee I,II,III.
Major Lakes—Grand Lake O’ the
 Cherokees, Hudson, Fort Gibson
Major Stream Systems—Grand
 River
Museums and Historic Sites—
 Saline County Courthouse, Rose;
 Chouteau Memorial, Salina; Coo-Y-
 Yah Museum, Pryor
Minerals—oil and gas, cement,
 crushed stone, (dimension) clays

