



Okfuskee

Named for a Creek town in Cleburn County, Alabama, Okfuskee County was originally part of the Creek Nation, Indian Territory.

Much of its history is tied to that of the Creek Nation. For example, Thlopthlocco Town, established in the 1830s in this area in the Creek Nation, became the headquarters of Colonel D. H. Cooper’s Confederate forces in 1861, prior to battles with Opothleyahola and the “Loyal Creeks.”

Okemah, the county seat, is named for the Creek Chief Okemah, meaning “Big Chief.” Two of Okemah’s most noted residents were Leon Chase Phillips, eleventh governor of Oklahoma, and legendary songwriter Woody Guthrie. Glen D. Johnson, a two-term Oklahoma Speaker of the House, is also from Okemah.

Boley, founded in 1904 on eighty acres of land belonging to a Creek freedman, is one of the few black towns remaining in the United States. Established to show the ability of the black community to govern itself, it thrived for many years until, in 1932, George Birdwell, “chief lieutenant” of Pretty Boy Floyd, not only robbed the Farmer’s State Bank, but in the process shot and killed D. J. Turner, bank president and mayor of Boley.

For more county information, call the county clerk’s office at 918/623-1724.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 2	Court Clerk	Kay Adams (D)	Okemah
St. Sen. 8, 12	Clerk	Dianne Flanders (D)	Okemah
St. Rep. 24, 28	Sheriff	J.C. Muggs Fox (D)	Okemah
D.A. 24	Treasurer	Dorothy Ross (D)	Okemah
Ct. of Appeals 2	Assessor	Peggy Williams (D)	Okemah
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 2	Elect. Brd. Sec.	Deborah Dean (D)	Okemah
Supreme Ct. Jud. 8	Dist. 1 Comm.	Dale Corky Fipps (R)	Paden
E. Cent. Jud. Adm. 24 (Div. II)	Dist. 2 Comm.	Max Henry (D)	Okemah
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Jack Pangle (D)	Weleetka

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$22,294,955	\$23,135,882	\$840,927
Personal Subject to Tax	\$7,350,448	\$7,477,976	\$127,528
Total Locally Assessed	\$29,645,403	\$30,613,858	\$968,455
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$2,874,788	\$2,871,484	(\$3,304)
Net Assessed Locally	\$26,770,615	\$27,742,374	\$971,759
Public Service Assessment	\$13,665,080	\$14,025,071	\$359,991
Net Assessed Valuation	\$40,435,695	\$41,767,445	\$1,331,750

County Seat—Okemah (Pop. 3,003) 2003 Estimate

Area (Land & Water)—628.91 square miles

Per Capita Income (2003)—\$17,206 (Ranks 76th of 77 counties)

Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—5,721, Male—6,093 • **Ethnicity**—
Wh.—7,664; Bl.—1,224; Am. Ind.—2,118; As.—9; Other—1; Pacific Is.—0;
Two or more races—604; Hisp.—194

Births (2003)—140 • **Deaths (2003)**—133

Unemployment Rate (2003)—10.7%

Labor Force (2003)—3,990

Number of Establishments (2002)—164

Number of Manufacturers (2002)—8

Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$409,465
TANF—\$172,241 • Supplements —Aged—\$68,127;
Blind—\$1,938; Disabled—\$167,159

Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—5,540;
Farm Trucks—1,010; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
Trailers—421; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—219;
Motorcycles—108; Manufactured Homes—13; Tax
Exempt Licenses—41; Boats—760

Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—1; Rape—1; Robbery—
1; Fel. Assault—48; Breaking and Entering—187; Larceny—
111; Motor Vehicle Theft—18; Arson—5 • Total Crime Index—267; Crime Rate per 1,000—22.77

Farms (2002)—901 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—289,778

County Population

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	15,595
1910	19,995
1920	15,051
1930	29,016
1940	26,279
1950	16,948
1960	11,706
1970	10,683
1980	11,125
1990	11,551
2000	11,814
2004 Estimate	11,637

Major Stream Systems—North
Canadian and Deep Fork rivers

Museums and Historic Sites—
Territory Town Museum and Okfuskee
County Historical Museum, Okemah

Minerals—oil and gas

