



Osage

In 1872, the United States purchased land from the Cherokee Nation for the Osage Nation and it was then that the tribe moved to Indian Territory. At statehood in 1907, this Osage Reservation became Osage County, the largest county in Oklahoma. The name is a corruption by the French of the tribal name Wah-Sha-She. Pawhuska, the county seat, was named for Chief Pa-hue-Skah, which means “white hair.”

Oil and gas as well as horse and cattle ranching on the famous bluestem grass contribute to the economy of Osage County. Attractions to the county include Indian and western cultural activities, museums, recreational facilities, lakes, creeks, rivers, the Tall Grass Prairie Reserve north of Pawhuska, the Osage Tribal Museum and Headquarters in Pawhuska, and Osage Hills State Park.

For more information, call the county clerk’s office at 918/287-3136.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 3	Court Clerk	Angie Bruce (D)	Pawhuska
St. Sen. 10, 11	Clerk	Denny Hutson (D)	Pawhuska
St. Rep. 10, 35-38, 73	Sheriff	Wes Penland (D)	Pawhuska
D.A. 10	Treasurer	Joyce Hathcoat (D)	Pawhuska
Ct. of Appeals 1,5	Assessor	Gail Hedgcoth (D)	Pawhuska
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 2	Elect. Brd. Sec.	Renee Weyl (D)	Burbank
Supreme Ct. Jud. 1	Dist. 1 Comm.	Clarence Brantley (D)	Pawhuska
N.E. Jud. Adm. 10	Dist. 2 Comm.	Scott Hilton (D)	Skiatook
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Jim Clark (D)	Osage

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$126,200,549	\$133,201,876	\$7,001,327
Personal Subject to Tax	\$26,102,199	\$27,424,033	\$1,321,834
Total Locally Assessed	\$152,302,748	\$160,625,909	\$98,323,161
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$10,423,203	\$10,383,165	(\$40,038)
Net Assessed Locally	\$141,879,545	\$150,242,744	\$8,363,199
Public Service Assessment	\$27,458,004	\$26,600,321	(\$857,683)
Net Assessed Valuation	\$169,337,549	\$176,843,065	\$7,505,516

County Seat—Pawhuska (Pop. 3,571) 2003 Estimate

Area (Land & Water)—2,303.80 square miles

Per Capita Income (2003)—\$22,724 (Ranks 32nd of 77 counties)

Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—21,986, Male—22,451 • **Ethnicity**—Wh.—29,380; Bl.—4,773; Am. Ind.—6,299; As.—99; Other—16; Pacific Is.—14; Two or more races—2,916; Hisp.—940

Births (2003)—423 • **Deaths (2003)**—391

Unemployment Rate (2003)—6.7%

Labor Force (2003)—20,650

Number of Establishments (2002)—516

Number of Manufacturers (2002)—23

Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$603,916
TANF—\$223,569 • Supplements—Aged—\$90,426; Blind—\$3,208; Disabled—\$286,713

Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—30,457;
Farm Trucks—1,838; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
Trailers—1,986; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,349;
Motorcycles—924; Manufactured Homes—60; Tax
Exempt Licenses—108; Boats—4,863

Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—3; Rape—1; Robbery—
16; Fel. Assault—93; Breaking and Entering—214;
Larceny—263; Motor Vehicle Theft—53; Arson—7 • Total
Crime Index—643; Crime Rate per 1,000—18.18

Farms (2002)—1,420 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—
1,186,354

County Population

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	15,332
1910	20,101
1920	36,536
1930	47,334
1940	41,502
1950	33,071
1960	32,441
1970	29,750
1980	39,327
1990	41,645
2000	44,437
2004 Estimate	45,181

Recreation Area—Osage Hills,
Walnut Creek, Wah-Sha-She

Major Lakes—Hulah, Kaw, Bluestern,
Walnut Creek, Birch, Skiatook

Major Stream Systems—Arkansas
and its tributaries, Bird Creek, Caney
River

Museums and Historic Sites—
Woolaroc Museum, Osage County
Historical Museum, Osage Tribal
Museum, Cathedral of the Osage,
Pawhuska

Minerals—oil and gas; crushed stone

