



# Payne

Payne was among the first counties settled during the land run on April 22, 1889. It was named to honor David L. Payne, the Boomer leader. After Payne's death in 1884, William L. Couch led the Boomers to a settlement on the banks of a creek they called the Still Water. Stillwater, thus, became the name of the settlement and later of the county seat.

For more than half a century, agriculture was the basis of the county's economy, with cotton, corn, and later oats, wheat and alfalfa the major crops. Agriculture remains an important part of the economy. The number of farms has actually increased, but many are now much smaller. Livestock and hay are the primary agricultural commodities. Wheat production and dairies have declined but continue to make an impact in the county.

Since World War II, the economic base has changed. Industry has replaced agriculture as the leading source of employment. Major industrial plants along North Perkins Road in Stillwater employ more than 2,500 workers, many of whom commute from Yale, Ripley, Glencoe, Perkins, and Cushing. Oklahoma State University, which opened in 1891, is still the county's largest employer with more than 7,500 employees.

From 1913 to 1930, oil was a major economic factor in the county, but this, too, has declined except for massive facilities at Cushing, enhancing its status as "Pipeline Crossroads of the World." For more information, call the county clerk's office at 405/747-8347.

## Districts

## County Officials

Cong. .... 3	Court Clerk	Lisa Lambert (D)	Stillwater
St. Sen. .... 10, 21	Clerk	Sherri Schieffer (D)	Stillwater
St. Rep. .... 33, 34, 35	Sheriff	Carl Hiner (D)	Glencoe
D.A. .... 9	Treasurer	Bonita Stadler (R)	Stillwater
Ct. of Appeals ..... 3	Assessor	Jacquie Rose(D)	Stillwater
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 2	Elect. Brd. Sec.	Glenna Craig (D)	Stillwater
Supreme Ct. Jud. .... 8	Dist. 1 Comm.	William Deering (D)	Yale
N.Cent. Jud. Adm. .... 9	Dist. 2 Comm.	Gloria Hesser (D)	Stillwater
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Jim Arthur (R)	Stillwater

## Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$226,620,908	\$240,525,817	\$13,904,909
Personal Subject to Tax	\$49,278,097	\$49,251,340	(\$26,757)
Total Locally Assessed	\$275,899,005	\$289,777,157	\$13,878,152
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$12,211,577	\$12,072,616	(\$138,961)
Net Assessed Locally	\$263,687,428	\$277,704,541	\$14,017,113
Public Service Assessment	\$33,650,652	\$34,565,013	\$914,361
Net Assessed Valuation	\$297,338,080	\$312,269,554	\$14,931,474

**County Seat**—Stillwater (Pop. 41,320) 2003 Estimate

**Area (Land & Water)**—697.13 square miles

**Per Capita Income (2003)**—\$22,433 (Ranks 37th of 77 counties)

**Population Stats (2000)**—Fem.—33,542, Male—34,648 • **Ethnicity**—

Wh.—56,793; Bl.—2,455; Am. Ind.—3,047; As.—2,034; Other—67;  
Pacific Is.—28; Two or more races—2,303; Hisp.—1,463

**Births (2003)**—857 • **Deaths (2003)**—534

**Unemployment Rate (2003)**—2.6%

**Labor Force (2003)**—36,370

**Number of Establishments (2002)**—1,624

**Number of Manufacturers (2002)**—59

**Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)**—\$673,976

TANF—\$200,760 • Supplements —Aged—\$73,997;  
Blind—\$5,563; Disabled—\$393,656

**Vehicle Registration (2004)**—Automobiles—50,149;

Farm Trucks—2,420; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,  
Trailers—3,968; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,546;  
Motorcycles—1,657; Manufactured Homes—280; Tax  
Exempt Licenses—169; Boats—4.005

**Institutions of Higher Learning**—Oklahoma State  
University, Stillwater

**Crime Incidents (2003)**—Murder—2; Rape—57;

Robbery—18; Fel. Assault—143; Breaking and Entering—  
551; Larceny—1,651; Motor Vehicle Theft—101; Arson—18  
• Total Crime Index—2,523; Crime Rate per 1,000—35.94

**Farms (2002)**—1,445 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—340,629

**County Population**

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	22,022
1910	23,735
1920	30,180
1930	36,905
1940	36,057
1950	46,430
1960	44,231
1970	50,654
1980	62,435
1990	61,507
2000	68,190
2004 Estimate	69,675

**Major Lake**—Carl Blackwell

**Major Stream Systems**—Cimarron  
River and tributaries to Arkansas River

**Museums and Historic Sites**—

Cimarron Valley Railroad Museum,  
Cushing; Nat'l Wrestling Hall of Fame,  
Sherrar Cultural and Heritage Center,  
Gardiner Art Gallery, Okla. Museum  
of Higher Education, Old Central,  
Stillwater; Jim Thorpe Home, Yale

**Minerals**—oil and gas, crushed stone

