



Pittsburg

Pittsburg County was created at statehood from Tobucksy County in the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory. The new county took its name from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Perryville, which no longer exists, was the place in Tobucksy County that court was held and elections were designated to take place. It was located a few miles south of present-day McAlester and was also an important military post and depot for Confederate forces. In September 1863 Perryville was burned to the ground by Union troops.

The largest city and the county seat of Pittsburg County is McAlester, which was originally developed as a rail center for the coal mining industry. Today, it is also the site of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary.

Agriculture is an important factor in the present-day economy of Pittsburg County. Peanuts, cotton, wheat, oats, and soybeans are among the major crops grown. McAlester Union Stockyard, which is one of the largest in the Southwest, and a large army ammunition plant are also vital to the county. Krebs is the largest Italian community in Oklahoma and is known for its fine food.

Annual events include the Italian Festival in McAlester in May, the Prison Rodeo in McAlester in September, and the Southeast Oklahoma Arts & Crafts Show during the first weekend in November. For more information, contact the county clerk at 918/423-6865.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 2	Court Clerk	Linda Williams (D)	Hartshorne
St. Sen. 7	Clerk	Debbie Burch (D)	McAlester
St. Rep. 17, 18	Sheriff	Jerome Amaranto (D)	Kiowa
D.A. 18	Treasurer	Cerita Morley (D)	Alderson
Ct. of Appeals 3	Assessor	Jim Kelley (D)	McAlester
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 3	Elect. Brd. Sec.	Carolyn Morris (D)	Arpelar
Supreme Ct. Jud..... 2	Dist. 1 Comm.	Gene Rogers (D)	Crowder
E. Cent. Jud. Adm..... 18	Dist. 2 Comm.	Kevin Smith (D)	Blanco
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Randy Crone (D)	McAlester

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$115,436,239	\$120,174,517	\$4,738,278
Personal Subject to Tax	\$25,983,162	\$88,138,295	\$62,155,133
Total Locally Assessed	\$141,419,401	\$208,312,812	\$66,893,411
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$12,241,367	\$12,164,605	(\$76,762)
Net Assessed Locally	\$129,178,034	\$196,148,207	\$66,970,173
Public Service Assessment	\$26,100,542	\$31,528,120	\$5,427,578
Net Assessed Valuation	\$155,278,576	\$227,676,327	\$72,397,751

County Seat—McAlester (Pop. 17,870) 2003 Estimate
Area (Land & Water)—1,377.85 square miles
Per Capita Income (2003)—21,723 (Ranks 44th of 77 counties)
Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—21,814, Male—24,139 • **Ethnicity**—
 Wh.—33,528; Bl.—1,753; Am. Ind.—5,409; As.—113; Other—32; Pacific
 Is.—13; Two or more races—2,166; Hisp.—939
Births (2003)—543 • **Deaths** (2003)—515
Unemployment Rate (2003)—6.3%
Labor Force (2003)—19,400
Number of Establishments (2002)—909
Number of Manufacturers (2002)—26
Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$923,025
 TANF—\$237,339 • Supplements—Aged—\$156,208;
 Blind—\$4,601; Disabled—\$524,877
Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—28,718;
 Farm Trucks—2,856; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
 Trailers—1,733; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,253;
 Motorcycles—1,011; Manufactured Homes—74; Tax
 Exempt Licenses—126; Boats—4,319
Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—1; Rape—7; Robbery—
 11; Fel. Assault—107; Breaking and Entering—481;
 Larceny—817; Motor Vehicle Theft—152; Arson—14 • Total
 Crime Index—1,576; Crime Rate per 1,000—35.63
Farms (2002) 1,687 • **Land in Farms** (2002) 499,269

County Population	
1907 (Okla. Terr.)	37,677
1910	47,650
1920	52,570
1930	50,778
1940	48,985
1950	41,031
1960	34,360
1970	37,521
1980	40,524
1990	40,581
2000	45,953
2004 Estimate	43,950

Recreation Area—Arrowhead
 State Park

Major Stream Systems—Canadian
 River and tributaries, tributaries to the
 Poteau, Miami-chi and Muddy Boggy
 rivers

Museums and Historic Sites—Old
 Choate House, Indianola; Naval
 Ammunition Depot Museum, Scottish
 Rite Temple, International Order of
 Rainbow Girls and its Gardens with
 the “Temple of Silence,” Oklahoma
 Prisons Historical Museum

Minerals—oil and gas, coal

