



Pottawatomie

Settled by Seminole, Creek, Citizen Band Potawatomi, Absentee Shawnee, Kickapoo, and Sac and Fox Indian tribes, this area was opened to white settlement in the land run on September 22, 1891, and was designated County “B.” The county name was changed by vote in 1892 to honor the Pottawatomie Indians and means “people of the place of fire.”

Tecumseh, originally the county seat, soon lost to the fast growing community of Shawnee which was also in competition for the state capitol. City fathers even went so far as to build a proposed governor’s mansion. The oil and railroad industries were vital to the development of some Pottawatomie County towns and the decline of others, but agriculture has remained a mainstay of the county’s economy.

History comes to life in annual celebrations such as Frontier Days in Tecumseh and the Heritage Fest in Shawnee. And the historic Santa Fe depot, built in 1903, still stands in Shawnee along with other early structures. Pottawatomie County is the site of the Shawnee Indian Reservation and has sixty-three “Ghost Towns.”

Pottawatomie County has two institutions of higher education. Offices of the Shawnee, Pottawatomie, and Sac and Fox tribes are located in the county.

For more information, call the county clerk’s office at 405/273-8222.

Districts

Cong.	5
St. Sen.	17, 28
St. Rep.	25, 26, 27, 28
D.A.	23
Ct. of Appeals	3, 4
Ct. of Crim. Appeals...	2
Supreme Ct. Jud.	8
N.Cent. Jud. Adm.	23

County Officials

Court Clerk	Reta J. Head (D)	Shawnee
Clerk	Nancy Bryce (D)	Shawnee
Sheriff	Kurt C. Shirey (D)	Shawnee
Treasurer	Michelle Pecore (D)	Shawnee
Assessor	Joy Anderson (D)	Shawnee
Elect. Brd. Sec.	Diana Knight (D)	Shawnee
Dist. 1 Comm.	Bob Guinn (D)	Shawnee
Dist. 2 Comm.	Jerry Richards (D)	Shawnee
Dist. 3 Comm.	Buck Day (D)	Maud

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$158,120,619	\$166,519,341	\$8,398,722
Personal Subject to Tax	\$38,223,526	\$37,210,155	(\$1,013,371)
Total Locally Assessed	\$196,344,145	\$203,729,496	\$7,385,351
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$14,819,885	\$14,909,963	\$90,078
Net Assessed Locally	\$181,524,260	\$188,819,533	\$7,295,273
Public Service Assessment	\$32,774,867	\$31,344,550	(\$1,430,317)
Net Assessed Valuation	\$214,299,127	\$220,164,083	\$5,864,956

County Seat—Shawnee (Pop. 29,446) 2003 Estimate
Area (Land & Water)—793.26 square miles
Per Capita Income (2003)—\$22,563 (Ranks 34th of 77 counties)
Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—33,881, Male—31,640 • **Ethnicity**—
 Wh.—51,625; Bl.—1,881; Am. Ind.—7,154; As.—389; Other—32; Pacific
 Is.—64; Two or more races—2,832; Hisp.—1,544
Births (2003)—870 • **Deaths (2003)**—740
Unemployment Rate (2003)—6.1%
Labor Force (2003)—30,380
Number of Establishments (2002)—1,310
Number of Manufacturers (2002)—60
Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$1,903,985
 TANF—\$1,004,056 • Supplements—Aged—\$173,622;
 Blind—\$7,987; Disabled—\$718,320
Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—46,964;
 Farm Trucks—2,204; Comm. Trucks, Tractors,
 Trailers—2,496; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—1,711;
 Motorcycles—1,473; Manufactured Homes—83; Tax
 Exempt Licenses—176; Boats—5,470
Institutions of Higher Learning—Oklahoma Baptist
 University, St. Gregory's College, Shawnee
Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—4; Rape—42;
 Robbery—32; Fel. Assault—212; Breaking and Entering—
 721; Larceny—1,328; Motor Vehicle Theft—217; Arson—20
 • Total Crime Index—2,556; Crime Rate per 1,000—38.10
Farms (2002)—1,663 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—343,119

County Population	
1907 (Okla. Terr.)	43,272
1910	43,595
1920	46,028
1930	66,572
1940	54,377
1950	43,517
1960	41,486
1970	43,134
1980	55,239
1990	58,760
2000	65,521
2004 Estimate	67,111

Major Lake—Shawnee Reservoir
Major Stream Systems—North
 Canadian, Canadian and Little rivers
 and minor tributaries to Deep Fork
Museums and Historic Sites—St.
 Gregory's College Gerrer Collection,
 Oklahoma Baptist University
 Museum, Santa Fe Depot Museum,
 Shawnee
Minerals—oil and gas

