

APPENDIX B
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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A thorough understanding of the economic development characteristics can help to improve the overall economic wellbeing of Ware County and the City of Waycross, allow early planning for any future housing and education needs, and provide the basis to develop the necessary economic development tools to ensure sustainable growth in the targeted industries.

Employment by Industry

The Greater Ware economy is based on 13 primary sectors. Table B-1 shows the total number of residents employed in each sector for Ware County from 1980 to 2000.

TABLE B-1 WARE COUNTY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment by Industry	1980	1990	2000
Total Employed Civilian Population	13,764	13,787	13,798
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, hunting & mining	543	388	391
Construction	763	827	879
Manufacturing	2,426	2,489	2,028
Wholesale Trade	554	513	402
Retail Trade	2,466	2,503	1,968
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	2,301	1,488	1,123
Information	NA	NA	147
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	462	624	491
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	398	508	682
Educational, health and social services	2,121	2,394	2,955
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	602	154	851
Other Services	512	968	824
Public Administration	616	931	1,057

Source: U.S. Census

The number of individuals employed in Ware County barely changed from 1980-2000. The total increase has only been 34 in this 20 year period. This is consistent with slight population decrease for the same period. Education, health, and social services employed the most people at the last census count. The top employers in the county include Satilla Regional Medical Center, Ware County Schools, and Baptist Village (retirement community/nursing home). The second largest employment category is manufacturing.

TABLE B-2, EMPLOYMENT COMPARISONS

Employment by Industry Comparison	Ware	Georgia	United States
Total Employed Civilian Population	100.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, hunting & mining	2.83 %	1.39 %	1.87 %
Construction	6.37 %	7.94 %	6.78 %
Manufacturing	14.70 %	14.81 %	14.10 %
Wholesale Trade	2.91 %	3.86 %	3.60 %
Retail Trade	14.26 %	11.97 %	11.73 %
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	8.14 %	6.02 %	5.20 %
Information	1.07 %	3.53 %	3.08 %
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	3.56 %	6.54 %	6.89 %
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	4.94 %	9.44 %	9.30 %
Educational, health and social services	21.42 %	17.59 %	19.92 %
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	6.17 %	7.15 %	7.87 %
Other Services	5.97 %	4.74 %	4.87 %
Public Administration	7.66 %	5.03 %	4.79 %

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1

Table B-2 above compares the employment categories for Ware County, Georgia, and the United States. Education, health and social services is the highest employer for the County as well as Georgia and the US. Manufacturing is the second highest for all three as well.

TABLE B-3, TOTAL LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION, WARE COUNTY

Labor Force Participation Trend	1990	2000
Total Males and Females	27,050	27,645
In Labor Force	14,777	14,774
Civilian Labor Force	14,736	14,736
Civilian Employed	13,787	13,798
Civilian Unemployed	949	938
In Armed Forces	41	38
Not In Labor Force	12,273	12,871

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1

TABLE B-4, MALE LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION, WARE COUNTY

Total Males	12,727	13,525
Male in Labor Force	7,845	7,730
Male Civilian Labor Force	7,812	7,699
Male Civilian Employed	7,381	7,220
Male Civilian Unemployed	431	479
Male in Armed Forces	33	31
Male Not in Labor Force	4,882	5,795

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1

TABLE B-5, FEMALE LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION, WARE COUNTY

Total Females	14,323	14,120
Female in Labor Force	6,932	7,044
Female Civilian Labor Force	6,924	7,037
Female Civilian Employed	6,406	6,578
Female Civilian Unemployed	518	459
Female In Armed Forces	8	7
Female Not in Labor Force	7,391	7,076

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1

Although the total number of males and females increased slightly from 1990 to 2000, the labor force participation has not shown marked changes in this 10 year period. The number in the labor force decreased by 3. The civilian labor force remained the same. The only noticeable changes were the number of males not in the labor force increasing and the number of females in the civilian labor force and labor force increasing.

TABLE B-6, LABOR FORCE COMPARISON

Labor Force Participation Comparison	Georgia	United States	Ware
Total Males and Females	62,50,687	217,168,077	27,645
In Labor Force (percent)	66.07 %	63.92 %	53.44 %

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1

Per Table B-6, it appears the total number of males and females in the labor force in Ware County is significantly lower than the total number in the labor force in Georgia and the US. Only just over one-half of the population in Ware County is in the labor force.

TABLE B-7, LABOR FORCE BY PLACE OF WORK for WARE COUNTY and WAYCROSS

Labor Force by Place of Work	WARE		WAYCROSS	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Total population	35,471	35,483	16,410	15,333
Worked in State of residence	13,296	13,301	5,633	5,419
Worked in place of residence	11,696	11,024	4,060	3,486
Worked outside of place of residence	1,600	2,277	1,573	1,933
Worked outside of state of residence	185	261	0	0

Source: U.S. Census

Examining where individuals work, it appears more and more people were working outside of their place of residence at the time of the 2000 Census, compared to at the time of the 1990 Census. This could mean that the County is losing its workforce to neighboring cities and counties.

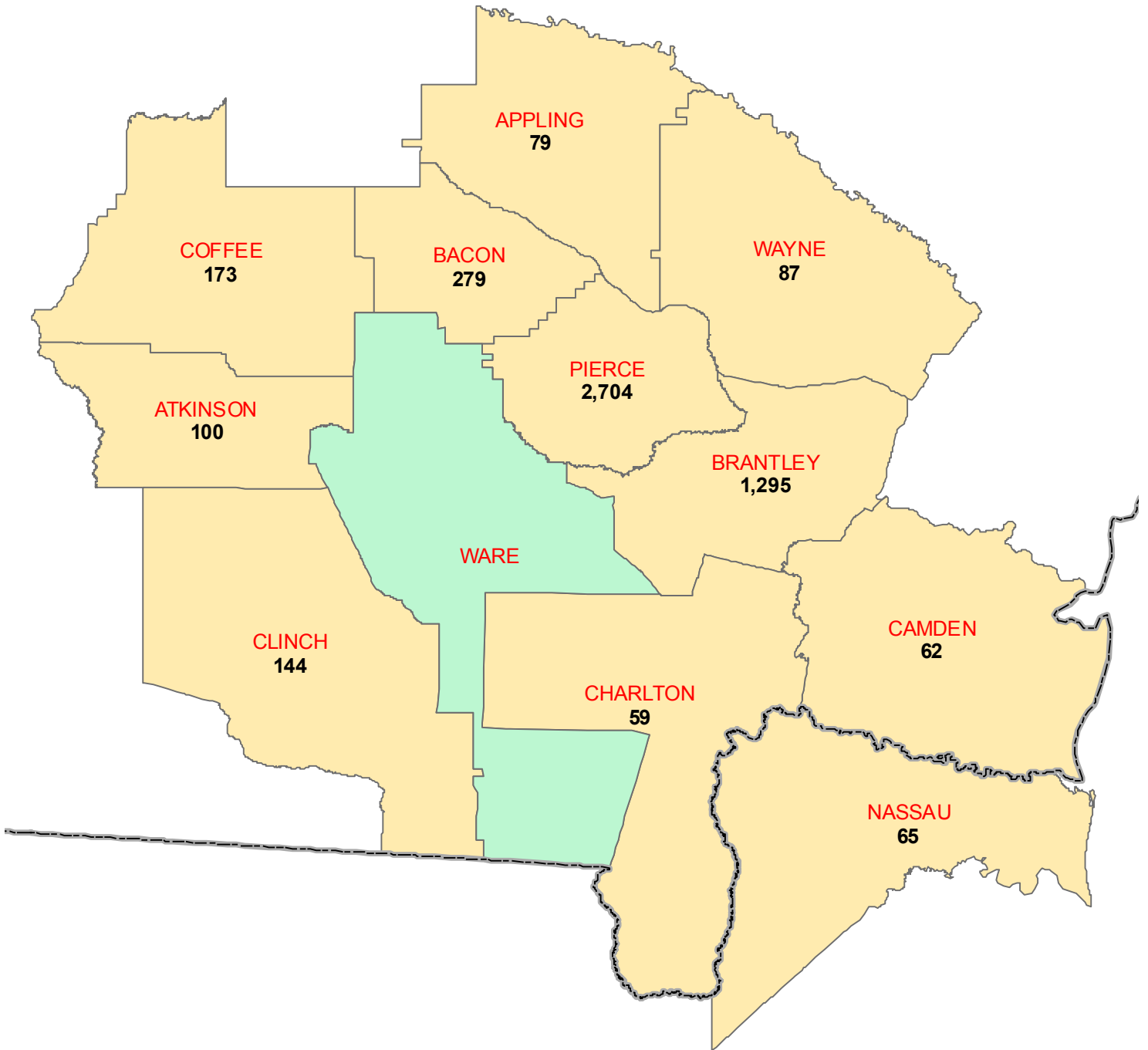
TABLE B-8, COMMUTING PATTERNS

Geographic Area	Population 16 years and over—percent in labor force	Civilian labor force—Percent unemployed	Working 16 years and over			
			Percent in car pool	Percent using public transportation	Who did not work at home—mean travel time to work (minutes)	Percent worked outside county of residence
Ware County	55.2%	2.9%	14.6%	0%	22	6.42%

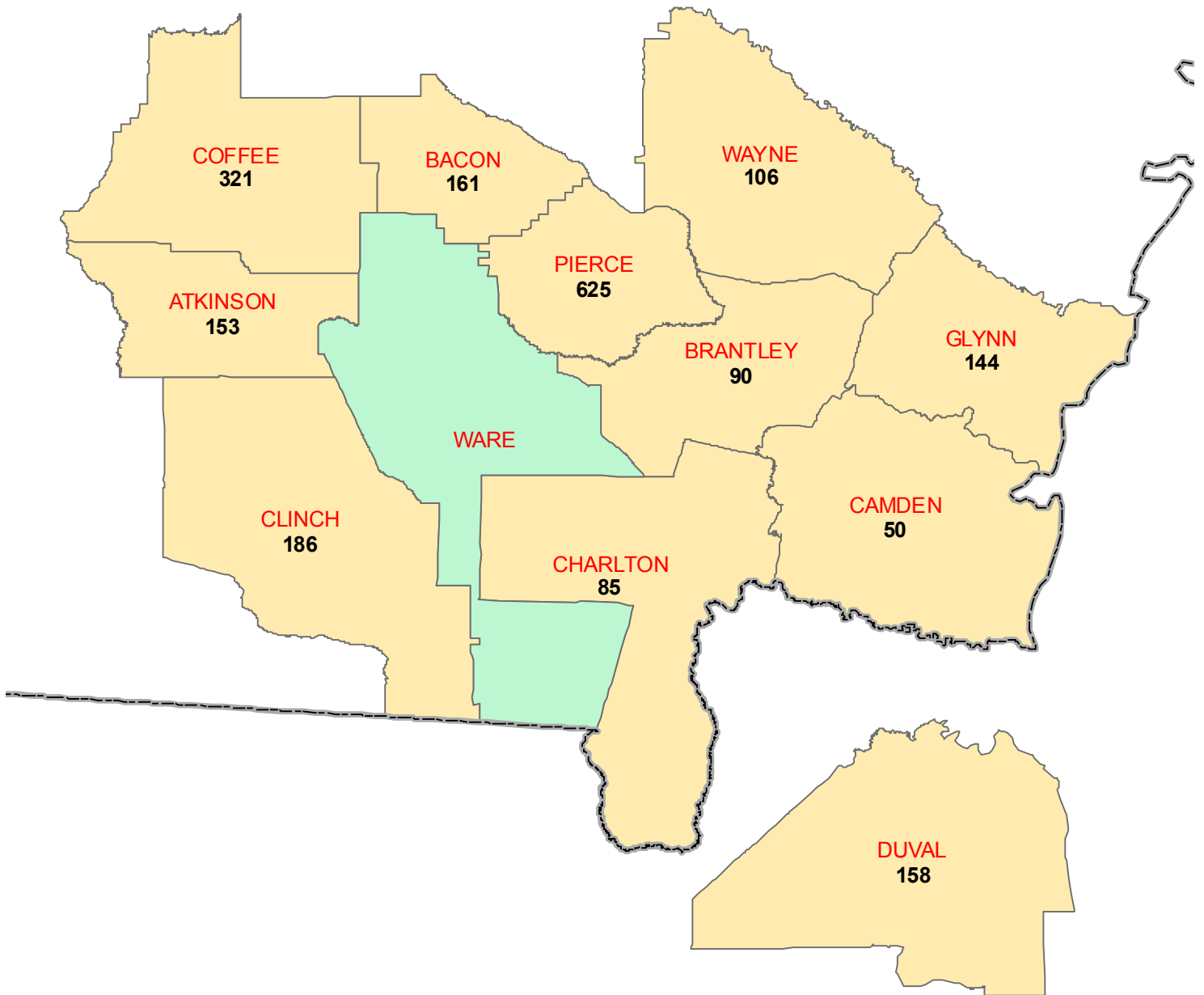
Source: Census 2000

Looking at Census Commuting Patterns, 55.2 percent of the population 16 years of age and older are in the labor force. A total of 6.42 percent of this working class works outside of Ware County. The mean travel time for people who do not work at home was approximately 22 minutes. While there are public transportation options available in Ware County, no public transportation use was recorded in the 2000 Census. The maps on the following two pages show commuting patterns both into and out of Ware County. It is interesting to identify where people are coming from and going to for work. These number are from the 2000 census.

Workers 16 and Older Commuting into Ware County



Workers 16 and Older Commuting from Ware County



Economic Resources

Development Agencies:

Waycross/Ware County Chamber of Commerce: The Waycross/Ware County Chamber of Commerce is an association of over 400 businesses and professional people organized to strengthen the local economy and enhance the overall quality of life for the community through special events, promoting tourism, and providing information, services and advocacy for our members.

Waycross and Ware County are served by two industrial development authorities: the Waycross-Ware County Development Authority (established in 1954 by an Amendment to the Georgia State Constitution) and the Okefenokee Area Development Authority (established in 1996). This two-pronged approach of incentives and proactive recruitment has served our community well, and will continue to do so in the future.

Waycross-Ware County has two publicly owned industrial parks that can meet any facility needs prospective industries and other large businesses may have. Adjacent to the Ware County airport is the Waycross Ware County Industrial Park and is home to over two dozen industries employing more than 2,600 people. The park offers excellent four-lane access to three interstates via US Highway 82 and US Highway 1. CSX Transportation provides rail service to many of the companies in the park and can offer service to most of the remaining sites. Water, sewer, electric power, and natural gas are immediately available in the developed areas of the park.

The newly developed Waycross Corporate Center is a 215 acre development along U.S. Highway 82. The park is being developed to provide an up-scale alternative to our heavy industrial parks. The park will offer an attractive campus atmosphere with underground utilities, lighted roads, landscaped lots, and masonry buildings. Rail service is available from the CSX transfer facility located on the south side of the park. All utilities, including a fiber optics network, are available to the park.

Programs:

- *SGRC Loan Program:* The Southern Georgia Regional Commission's loan department offers in-house loans and Small Business Administration financing to businesses within the 18- county region, including Greater Ware County.
- *Workforce Investment Act Programs:* Various programs include the South Georgia Workforce Development Board, South Georgia CareerNET, area employers, and economic development organizations. The programs serve a 9-county region by providing job-skills training and education, establishing partnerships, and leveraging resources.
- *Department of Labor:* Through various programs, the department provides job matching for employers and job seekers, unemployment insurance, GED classes, a job-search resource center, assistance for individuals with disabilities, and education for migrant farm workers.

Major Employers

The Chamber of Commerce identified the following as the current major employers in the Ware County area.

Major Employers

Satilla Regional Medical Center	1,200
Ware County Board of Education	911
Flash Foods	542
Baptist Village	400
Ware County State Prison	388