Economic Analysis
of the
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

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Acknowledgments

The Center for Economic Development at Jacksonville State University is grateful for the long hours of research and hard work required to prepare this Economic Analysis of the Northeast Economic Activity Zone.

Researchers for this study include: William T. Fielding, Ph.D., Dean, JSU College of Commerce and Business Administration (CCBA); Richard Cobb, Ph.D., Department Head, Management and Marketing, JSU CCBA; William A. Scroggins, Ph.D., Department Head, Finance, Economics, and Accounting, JSU CCBA; W. Mark Hearn, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Management, JSU CCBA; Pat W. Shaddix, Director, JSU Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CED); Mike Self, Consultant, JSU CED; Penn Wilson, Consultant, JSU CED; Willard Butterworth, Program Coordinator, JSU CED; Debby Jones, Secretary, JSU CED; and Judy Porter, Secretary, JSU CED. Special appreciation is expressed to the JSU Finance, Economics, and Accounting departmental student worker, Dianna Hardy for her assistance in the preparation of this document.

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this analysis is to demonstrate the economic vitality and growth capacity of the Northeast Economic Activity Zone (also identified as The NEAZ). The NEAZ includes Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall Counties.

Population: The NEAZ experienced an 11.9 percent increase in population during the decade of the nineties. When calculated for the period 1990-2004, a 14.1 percent increase results. Women outnumber men, non-whites accounted for 7.8 percent of the population in 1990, and 10.8 percent in 2000. Hispanic population has experienced a boom, advancing 1,043.6 percent during the nineties.

Education: For the NEAZ, 1990-2000, the percentage of people 25 and above with a high school diploma increased significantly. The percentage of twenty-five year-olds and above with a college degree also increased during the census period of the 90’s. There is a substantial excess capacity in K-12, and at the community college and university level that can sustain growth in the NEAZ’s economy. Drop-out among students is also declining in the NEAZ.

Income: From 1990 to 2000 median family income increased substantially for the NEAZ: 48.4 percent in Marshall County, 48.1 percent in Cherokee County, 44.1 percent in DeKalb County, and 42.9 percent in Etowah County. This substantial increase in family income in the NEAZ is an indication of economic vitality and growth capacity.

Labor Force: The civilian labor force in the NEAZ has increased from 1990 to 2000. From 1990 to 2000 the civilian labor force increased from 115,258 to 126,474. Labor force participation rate declined from 58.9 percent of the civilian population 16 years old and older in 1990, to 58.6 percent in 2000 while the civilian labor force expanded by 11.7 percent during the period. Total number employed increased by 13.4 percent. Fewer workers were unemployed in 2000, at 5.5 percent, compared to 6.9 percent in 1990 for the four counties. By 2006, unemployment dropped to an all-time low of 2.7 percent in Marshall County, 3.9 percent in Cherokee County, 3.4 percent in Etowah County, and 3.5 percent in DeKalb County, which reflects national and state unemployment rates for that time period.

Housing: In the NEAZ housing increased from 104,330 units in 1990 to 124,816 in 2000, a 19.6 percent increase. Mobile homes increased over the same period from 16,507 to 24,326, a 89.9 percent increase. The fastest home growth has occurred in Cherokee County. Value of housing is higher, houses are constructed larger, while most is considered sound structurally, in good condition, with most having adequate plumbing, telephone, and kitchen. Housing is considered decent, safe, sanitary, and a good inventory of housing is available.

Economic Trends: Economic strength and vitality of the study area is the strong-point of this analysis. All categories of the general economy were found to be strong and vibrant. Manufacturing activity is strong, wholesale activity, retail activity, and the service industries have shown tremendous growth during the 1997 to 2002 time frame in the study area.
< **Infrastructure:** Infrastructure of the NEAZ is generally adequate with improvements going on throughout the area. The United States Environmental Protection Agency has designated the region an Attainment Area. The air quality is exceptionally good by EPA standards, municipal water treatment capacity is on the surplus side with improvements, extension and upgrades in several jurisdictions. Sewerage capacity is good and residents are being added in the area. Improvements in the road and transportation system are underway with road and bridge upgrades being completed. Some twenty-two industrial sites and a large number of commercial sites are available in the study area. Information technology is good and improving in the area. Health care delivery is exemplary in the study area, physicians/population ratios are good, and a full range of health services are provided. The Healthcare industry is one of the largest employers in the area.

< **Tourism/Utilities/Financial:** Tourism has grown in the study area and has a huge economic impact on the local economy. Retiree attraction has become an economic dynamo with leadership provided by the respective chambers of commerce and Jacksonville State University’s Center for Economic Development. The public utilities, Tennessee Valley Authority, Alabama Power, Alabama Gas, and telephone companies provide area residents and industries with adequate resources, and are continually upgrading distribution systems. Representatives of area utilities have indicated that they can meet any needs resulting from economic expansion. The financial sector of the area under study is strong, vibrant, and financial deposits reflect a healthy economy.

In summary, the population base is growing; the area economy is strong and vibrant. There are adequate resources for economic expansion.
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Economic Analysis of the
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

A. Population Trends

A shift in population up or down has significant influences on a community or area. Generally, an expanding population base is looked upon favorably and is considered desirable, as this factor alone points to an expanding demand for amenities and services, therefore stimulating economic activity.

Census data for the four-county study area indicates an 11.9 percent increase in total population during the decade of the nineties. Table A-1 illustrates an increase of only 0.2 percent in the study area in the four year period 2000 to 2004. Total population for the four-county study area advanced from 244,866 in 1990, to 274,130 by the year 2000, and shifted upward by 5,361 in 2004. As shown in Table A-2 (p. 2), females outnumber males in the four counties. There were more females in 1990, at 52.1 percent of the population, than males, but ratio of females to males declined during the nineties and by 2000 females made up 51.5 percent of the population, even though the female population increased by 10.6 percent. Females generally outnumber males and this is not an uncommon occurrence, but reflects that for the state and nation as well. Women generally outlive men in our society for different reasons.

~ Table A – 1 ~
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
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<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>19,543</td>
<td>23,988</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>24,525</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>54,651</td>
<td>64,452</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>66,935</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>99,840</td>
<td>103,459</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>103,250</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>70,832</td>
<td>82,231</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>84,781</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>244,866</td>
<td>274,130</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>279,491</td>
<td>0.2</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>% Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>% Female</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>9,607</td>
<td>9,936</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>11,794</td>
<td>12,194</td>
<td>50.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>26,377</td>
<td>28,274</td>
<td>51.7</td>
<td>31,508</td>
<td>32,944</td>
<td>51.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>47,261</td>
<td>52,579</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>49,506</td>
<td>53,953</td>
<td>52.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>33,905</td>
<td>36,927</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>40,011</td>
<td>42,220</td>
<td>51.3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>127,716</strong></td>
<td><strong>52.1</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>141,311</strong></td>
<td><strong>51.5</strong></td>
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Table A-3 (p. 3) illustrates the population by county census division in each county. Overall, the Gadsden county census division boasts the greatest population concentration at 72,421 in 1990, and 72,207 in 2000. The Albertville-Boaz county census division had the second largest concentration population during the decade, followed by the Fort Payne county census division. In Etowah County, of course, the Gadsden county census division maintains the highest population concentration, but the Lookout Mountain county census division has the highest percentage increase during the decade, 26.0 percent, followed by the Turkeytown division at 19.1 percent, and Altoona division at 16.8 percent. A redistribution of population appears to be occurring in the county.

In Cherokee County, the Centre county census division contains the greatest concentration population for 1990 and 2000.

Fort Payne county census division in DeKalb County contains the greatest proportion population, 29.1 percent in 1990, and 27.7 percent in the year 2000. Fastest growing divisions were Crossville at 36.4 percent, followed by the Geraldine division at 21.0 percent for the decade of the nineties.

In Marshall County, the Albertville-Boaz division represents the largest concentration population, while the Town Creek division experienced the greatest percentage increase in population, 36.7 percent. The Douglas division experienced a 24.9 percent population growth during the nineties.

It should be noted that Cherokee County experienced a 22.7 percent increase in population during the nineties making it the fastest growing county of the four under study.
### Table A – 3

#### Population By County Census Division – 1990, 2000

**Northeast Economic Activity Zone**

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<th>Cherokee County</th>
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<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cedar Bluff-Gaylesville CCD</td>
<td>5,204</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>6,804</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>30.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centre CCD</td>
<td>6,597</td>
<td>33.8</td>
<td>7,733</td>
<td>32.2</td>
<td>17.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leesburg CCD</td>
<td>3,924</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>4,767</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>21.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mud Creek CCD</td>
<td>3,818</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>4,684</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>19,543</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>23,988</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>22.7</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DeKalb County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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<td>Collinsville CCD</td>
<td>3,245</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>4,116</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>26.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossville CCD</td>
<td>4,874</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>6,649</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>36.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Payne CCD</td>
<td>15,893</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>17,850</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fyffe CCD</td>
<td>4,551</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>5,041</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geraldine CCD</td>
<td>4,822</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>5,836</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henagar CCD</td>
<td>2,973</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>3,504</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ider CCD</td>
<td>5,161</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>5,853</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainsville-Sylvania CCD</td>
<td>9,816</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>11,752</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Head-Mentone CCD</td>
<td>3,316</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>3,851</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>54,651</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>64,452</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Etowah County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Altoona CCD</td>
<td>4,390</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>5,127</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden CCD</td>
<td>72,421</td>
<td>72.5</td>
<td>72,207</td>
<td>69.8</td>
<td>- .3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hokes Bluff CCD</td>
<td>7,949</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>8,826</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lookout Mtn. CCD</td>
<td>2,567</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>3,235</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountainboro CCD</td>
<td>7,930</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>8,793</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkeytown CCD</td>
<td>3,188</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3,796</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills Valley CCD</td>
<td>1,395</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1,475</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>98,840</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>103,459</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marshall County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albertville-Boaz CCD</td>
<td>26,537</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>31,407</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab CCD</td>
<td>12,187</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>14,220</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas CCD</td>
<td>4,194</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>5,241</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>24.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant CCD</td>
<td>8,345</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>9,495</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntersville CCD</td>
<td>12,677</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>13,414</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Creek CCD</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2,669</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Grove CCD</td>
<td>4,940</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>5,785</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>70,832</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>82,231</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As far as land area and population density are concerned, the four-county study area had 112.6 persons per square mile in the year 2000, compared to 87.6 persons per square mile for the state of Alabama as a whole as shown in Table A-4. The largest concentration population, or persons per square mile, occurred in Etowah County at 193.4 persons per square mile. Cherokee County at 43.4 persons per square mile was the lowest.

Table A-5 illustrates the population by urban/rural distribution. Only 38.3 percent of the four-county population was considered urban in the year 2000. In 1990, 72.2 percent of the population in Etowah County was tabulated as urban. By 2000, urban population declined to 60.0 percent. The other three counties had similar experiences, becoming more rural in nature. Bureau of the Census classified 14.8 percent of the Cherokee County population as urban in 1990, and by 2000 the county was classified as rural.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Square Miles</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Population Per Square Mile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>23,988</td>
<td>43.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>64,452</td>
<td>82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>103,459</td>
<td>193.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>82,231</td>
<td>145.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,433</td>
<td>274,130</td>
<td>112.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Population projections for the four county study area are presented in Table A-6 (p. 5) and Table A-7 (p. 5). The Bureau of the Census projections for the study area was 289,037 in 2005. The Community Survey by the Bureau of the Census yielded 280,616 persons in the study area in 2005. While it is not the desire of the researchers of this project to challenge the Bureau of the Census, we surveyed electric providers in the four counties and using the census persons per household arrived at a significantly higher population count for the area, 329,123 in July 2006, as can be seen in Table A-7 (p. 5). When compared to the Bureau of the Census Community Survey of 280,616, it is estimated that an additional 48,507 persons reside in these counties, or 17.3 percent more than the regular census, a significant difference.
~ Table A – 6 ~
Population Projection
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>23,988</td>
<td>26,166</td>
<td>28,320</td>
<td>30,407</td>
<td>32,384</td>
<td>34,220</td>
<td>42.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>64,452</td>
<td>69,850</td>
<td>75,408</td>
<td>80,919</td>
<td>86,253</td>
<td>91,301</td>
<td>41.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>103,459</td>
<td>104,765</td>
<td>105,907</td>
<td>106,945</td>
<td>107,844</td>
<td>108,578</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>82,231</td>
<td>88,256</td>
<td>94,319</td>
<td>100,304</td>
<td>106,064</td>
<td>111,385</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>274,130</strong></td>
<td><strong>289,037</strong></td>
<td><strong>303,954</strong></td>
<td><strong>318,575</strong></td>
<td><strong>332,545</strong></td>
<td><strong>345,484</strong></td>
<td><strong>26.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


~ Table A – 7 ~
Population Estimates By Electric Metered Customers, 2006
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Cherokee</th>
<th>DeKalb</th>
<th>Etowah</th>
<th>Marshall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama Power</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>42,165</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee Electric</td>
<td>16,619</td>
<td>2,142</td>
<td>1,411</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab Electric</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Mountain Electric</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16,560</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coosa Valley Electric</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall/DeKalb Electric</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,821</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>10,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ala/Stevenson Electric</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Payne Improvement</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,087</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntersville Electric Board</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albertville Utility Board</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Metered Households</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,619</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,610</strong></td>
<td><strong>44,189</strong></td>
<td><strong>43,664</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Persons Per Household</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population Estimates</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,885</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,025</strong></td>
<td><strong>106,053</strong></td>
<td><strong>109,160</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Population Estimate – Four Counties – July 2006 | 329,123 |

*Source: Survey, Center for Economic Development  

Table A-8 (p. 6) depicts the population by race. The non-white population shifted from 7.8 percent of the four-county population in 1990 to 10.8 percent by the year 2000. Non-white population expanded in numbers from 19,097 in 1990, to 29,682 in 2000. Etowah County has the highest percentage of non-whites, while Marshall County has the lowest percentage of non-whites.

Table A-9 (p. 6) introduces the Hispanic population count for 1990 and 2000. According to the Bureau of the Census, the Hispanic population jumped from only 892 in the four-county study area in 1990 to 10,201 in 2000, or 1,043.6 percent. The greatest concentration in 2000 was in Marshall County while Cherokee County experienced the smallest concentration of Hispanics.
## Table A – 8
### Population By Race – 1990, 2000
#### Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>1990 White</th>
<th>1990 Non-White</th>
<th>% Non-White</th>
<th>2000 White</th>
<th>2000 Non-White</th>
<th>% Non-White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>18,154</td>
<td>1,389</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>22,268</td>
<td>1,720</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>52,980</td>
<td>1,671</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>59,652</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>85,274</td>
<td>14,566</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>85,737</td>
<td>17,722</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>69,361</td>
<td>1,471</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>76,791</td>
<td>5,440</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>225,769</td>
<td>19,097</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>244,448</td>
<td>29,682</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>244,866</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>274,130</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


## Table A – 9
### Hispanic Origin
#### Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>258.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>3,578</td>
<td>1,564.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>1,763</td>
<td>433.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>4,656</td>
<td>1,511.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>10,201</td>
<td>1,043.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A demographic study of an area would not be complete without reviewing age groups. Table A-11 (p. 8) is a summary of the four county study area shown in Table A-10 and reveals some interesting facts. By broad age groups, the 18-44 year olds made up the largest class population, 38.3 percent in 1990, and 36.3 percent in the year 2000. The 45-64 year old age group was second high at 21.2 percent in 1990 and 23.5 percent ten years later. When added together the two age groups, 18-44 and 45-64, made up 59.5 percent of the population in 1990 and 59.8 percent ten years later. Generally, the 18-64 year olds are considered the established work force and is a great asset to the community. Better health care, patient health awareness education has contributed to a growing class of 85 year olds and older. Observation of the numbers reveals a whopping 48.6 percent increase in that group of seniors advancing from 3,039 in 1990 to 4,516 by the year 2000, the sharpest increase in Table A-11 (p. 8). The 45-64 age group moved upward by 25.0 percent, or 13,145 people. The 0-4 year old group shifted upward significantly for the counties during the nineties, nineteen percent, or 2,876 youngsters. The 85 year olds are growing fastest, followed by the 45-64 year olds and 0-4 year olds in the four counties for the decennial period 1990 – 2000. 

### Table A – 11

#### Summary - Population By Age – 1990, 2000

Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Dist.</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 4 Years Old</td>
<td>15,050</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>17,926</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 – 17</td>
<td>45,604</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>48,384</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 – 44</td>
<td>95,061</td>
<td>38.3</td>
<td>101,272</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 – 64</td>
<td>52,426</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>65,571</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 +</td>
<td>36,725</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>40,977</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 +</td>
<td>3,039</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>4,516</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>48.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>247,905</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>278,646</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Calculation: Center for Economic Development.
Economic Analysis of the
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

B. Trends in Education

1. K-12

There are eleven separate K–12 public school systems in the urbanized area of Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall Counties. Within these systems are a total of one hundred different schools. In addition, there are several private accredited schools. All of the schools within the systems offer an excellent curriculum, with a few having expanded to provide students with more alternatives in career education, especially in technical education. A listing of the school systems, by county, is shown in Table B-1 (pgs. 9-10).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>System &amp; Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>• Cherokee County - Gaylesville High, Cedar Bluff High, Centre Elementary, Centre Middle, Cherokee County High, Cherokee County Career &amp; Technology Center, Sand Rock High, Spring Garden High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>• DeKalb County – Alternative School, Collinsville High, Crossville High, Crossville Elementary, DeKalb Annex, DeKalb Technical Center, Fyffe High, Geraldine High, Henagar Junior High, Ider High, Moon Lake Elementary, Plainview High, Ruhama Junior High, Sylvania High, Valley Head High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fort Payne City – Fort Payne Middle, Fort Payne High, Williams Avenue Elementary, Wills Valley Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>• Attalla City – Curtiston Primary, Etowah High, Etowah Middle, Stowers Hill Intermediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Etowah County – Carlisle Elementary, Career Technical Center, Duck Springs Elementary, Etowah County Special Education Learning Center, Etowah County Alternative, Gaston K-12, Glencoe Elementary, Glencoe Middle, Glencoe High, Hokes Bluff Elementary, Hokes Bluff Middle, Hokes Bluff High, Ivalee Elementary, John S. Jones Elementary, Highland Elementary, Rainbow Middle, Sardis High, Southside Elementary, Southside High, West End High, West End Elementary, Whitesboro Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Gadsden City – Adams Elementary, Eura Brown Elementary, Donehoo Elementary, Emma Samson Middle, Floyd Elementary, Gadsden Middle, Gadsden High, Litchfield Middle, Mitchell Elementary, Secondary Alternative Program, Striplin Elementary, Thompson Elementary, Walnut Park Elementary, Weaver Technical Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Continued on next page.)
### Table B – 1

Public School Systems in the Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>System &amp; Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Marshall | - Albertville City – Alabama Avenue Middle, Albertville Elementary, Albertville High, Big Spring Lake Kindergarten, Evans Elementary  
- Arab City – Arab Elementary, Arab High, Arab Junior High, Arab Primary  
- Boaz City – Boaz Elementary, Boaz High, Boaz Intermediate, Boaz Middle, Corley Elementary  
- Guntersville City – Guntersville Middle, Cherokee Elementary, Guntersville Elementary, Guntersville High  
- Marshall County – Asbury K-12, Brindlee Mountain Middle, Brindlee Mountain High, Claysville Junior High, Douglas Elementary, Douglas High, Douglas Middle, Grassy Elementary, Smith DAR Elementary, Smith DAR High, Smith DAR Middle, Marshall County Alternative, Marshall Technical, Sloman Primary, Union Grove Elementary |

Source: Alabama State Department of Education; Superintendent’s office of each school system.

Enrollment for public school systems in the four-county area included in this study totals nearly 50,000 as shown in Table B-2.

### Table B – 2

Public School System Enrollment in the Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>School System &amp; (# of Schools)</th>
<th>System Enrollment</th>
<th>Excess Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>- Cherokee County (8) Total</td>
<td>4,224</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>- DeKalb County (15) - Fort Payne City (4) Total</td>
<td>11,382</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>- Attalla City (4) - Etowah County (22) - Gadsden City (14) Total</td>
<td>16,403</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>- Albertville City (5) - Arab (4) - Boaz City (5) - Guntersville City (4) - Marshall County (15) Total</td>
<td>15,968</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Superintendent’s office of each school system.

In addition to the public school system the Northeast Economic Activity Zone has a significant representation of private schools offering an alternative to public schooling. Etowah County hosts most
of these. While some of the private schools offer K–12, most provide only a limited number of grade levels and, therefore, a small enrollment. The institutions listed with the Alabama State Department of Education are shown in Table B-3. This list is not all inclusive as there are potentially other private institutions within the area which are not listed with the Department of Education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>~ Table B – 3 ~</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Schools in the Northeast Economic Activity Zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama State Department of Education; Head Master’s office of each school shown.

Overall the facilities for public schools are sufficient. Within the last five to seven years in each public school system, there have been renovations to current facilities or new buildings constructed. While this is true, all of the systems need additional capital improvement funding to renovate or replace older facilities still in use.

While these systems have adequate facilities and faculty, the educational attainment still remains below the national average as a whole. Only in Etowah County does the education attainment roughly match the state level, although in all of the counties the percentages are increasing in a positive direction. Even though this fact appears negative, at first, the numbers are improving each year as the percentage of population over 25+ years of age having attained a high school diploma or higher is increasing, thus inching toward the state and national average. In relation to this, the education attainment of those within this same age bracket who have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher is also increasing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>~ Table B – 4 ~</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Attainment Northeast Economic Activity Zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Educational institutions are taking a more active role in trying to maintain students whose performance indicates them as a potential dropout. This is an important improvement. From 1990 to 2004, the number of students dropping out of school decreased significantly. In comparing 1990 to 2004, total enrollment and the number graduating from state schools remained relatively the same. This is due primarily to fluctuations in the various age groups over this time. While these are state numbers, the percentage remains approximately the same for local systems on average. Still, additional effort is necessary to reduce the drop-out rate even more.

~ Chart B – 1 ~

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Dropping Out</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>12709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>13043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>9261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>7511</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama State Department of Education.

2. Vocational - Technical Schools

Another major emphasis that has been taking place in this area is the role of secondary schools in career preparation for students not planning to pursue college degrees. In past decades, the predominant emphasis was strictly upon academics and preparation for post-secondary education. Additional programs were offered in the vocational fields, usually basic trade work. The trend over the past two decades is for schools to offer a more diversified curriculum that is based upon needs of the business community. These career and technical programs are forming partnerships with business and industry to align their curriculum with their standards. Numerous technical, health-related, business, information technology, and other programs have been established to help prepare students for a career.

There are five vocational technical schools in the area of study. One is located in each county to which schools from throughout the county send students. Additionally, the City of Gadsden school system has its own vocational technical school. As previously mentioned the traditional “trade-school” has changed over the years and now offers much more than the trade-type of class (automotive repair, carpentry, welding, etc.). Each program now has to be certified every five years by a board comprised of business and industry personnel for particular skill areas.

Even with the additional curriculum for career education throughout the school systems, business and industry needs, to some extent, are still not being met as enrollment within many of the technical programs is insufficient. As technology increases, so does the need for individuals with technical backgrounds and training. The traditional trades – carpentry, automotive repair, welding, etc. – suffer as well with insufficient enrollment.

This lack of trained students will continue to have a serious effect upon the community as time goes on and will need to be addressed by business, education, and industrial leaders with more emphasis.
3. Higher Education

A number of post-secondary institutions offer classes throughout the four county area making higher education readily accessible. These include Athens State University, Gadsden State Community College, Jacksonville State University, Northeast Alabama Community College, Snead State Community College, and the University of Alabama. Other post-secondary schools are available in adjacent counties as well.

Athens State University, an upper-level school with its main campus in Athens, Alabama, offers numerous classes at both Snead State (Marshall County) and at Northeast Alabama Community College (DeKalb County). Coursework is oriented strictly to the junior and senior level student.

Gadsden State Community College (GSCC) with its main campuses on Wallace Drive and on Valley Street in Gadsden, Alabama, offers an excellent two-year program of instruction for students. It offers a broad spectrum of programs both academic and technical. The academic courses prepare students for transfer to a four-year institution. Technical programs equip students to master certain skills helping them be prepared for a career. Additional classes are held at the GSCC Center in the City of Centre (Cherokee County) and outside the study area in Anniston.

Jacksonville State University (JSU) is a multipurpose institution, offering a diversity of undergraduate and graduate programs. In addition to the main campus in Jacksonville, JSU is also headquartered in Gadsden at the Joe Ford Economic Development Center where numerous classes are held each semester. The University also has additional classroom and distance-learning offerings in Fort Payne and at Northeast Alabama Community College near Rainsville – both of which are in DeKalb County, as well as in Guntersville in Marshall County. Other classes are offered in Centre (Cherokee County).

The University provides a comprehensive education experience with a variety of degree programs available including technical degrees. Well-known colleges within the University include the College of Commerce and Business Administration, Music, Criminal Justice, Education and Professional Studies, and Nursing.

Northeast Alabama Community College located near Rainsville (DeKalb County) provides education opportunities in the northern portion of the four-county area. The College offers a well-rounded two-year program for students preparing them for transfer to a four-year school. In addition, it is the host for higher-level class offerings from other institutions.

Snead State Community College is located in Boaz and also provides courses in Arab – both in Marshall County. The institution offers an excellent two-year program which prepares students for transfer to a four-year institution.

The University of Alabama offers undergraduate, masters, and doctorate programs at its Gadsden Center. Coursework has been expanded over the past few years to accommodate all three levels. Of course, its primary campus is located in Tuscaloosa and has several other satellite locations as well.
## Current Enrollment
for Area Post-Secondary Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Enrollment*</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athens State University</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>Athens, Snead, Rainsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden State Community College</td>
<td>5,308</td>
<td>Gadsden, Centre, Anniston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacksonville State University</td>
<td>8,957</td>
<td>Jacksonville, Gadsden, Rainsville, Fort Payne, Guntersville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Alabama Community College</td>
<td>2,350</td>
<td>Rainsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snead State Community College</td>
<td>2,112</td>
<td>Boaz, Arab, Oneonta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Alabama</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Approximate Fall 2006 enrollment does include the main campus of each institution in or adjacent to the four-county area. Source: Admissions Office of schools shown.

It must be noted that a significant number of students travel out of the area to attend classes on the main campus of the schools listed above or to other schools in adjacent counties that do not have a physical presence in the four-county area. In addition, many students supplement their in-class coursework with classes offered by accredited schools on the Internet.

### Special Note

Schools in the state of Alabama, and, in particular, local systems have been under constant budgetary strain for decades. Yet, the region’s schools have struggled and provided quality education to thousands of students. While the past few years the financial situation has been somewhat better, the major problem in the years ahead is solving the funding crisis for the education community by deciding upon stable and constant sources of revenue.

### 4. Workforce Development

An integral part of the continued growth of business and jobs is the opportunity for career development and job training for Alabama’s workforce. On December 30, 2003, Alabama Governor Bob Riley announced the consolidation of workforce development programs into a single office. This office – The Office of Workforce Development – is the coordinating body for all workforce development within the state. It is a division of the Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs (ADECA).

The office oversees all statewide effort to assure industries and other organizations that a sufficiently educated and trained labor pool is available. Within the four-county area, the state has partnered with employers, educational organizations, and other state agencies to assist growth and in recent years, particularly, that associated with the automotive industry. Other industries in the area have been able to realize these services as well.

The Alabama Industrial Development Training program (AIDT) is the primary training agency for workforce development and has provided training for thousands of individuals preparing for work at specific organizations. Training services are offered in many areas and are free of charge to new and expanding industries throughout the state. In addition to fixed locations, AIDT provides mobile training facilities where the need exists.

In 2004, AIDT set up the “Focused Industry Training” program through the community college network as well as other providers to train workers for jobs vacated by those who found work in the expanding automotive industry. The program provides training and job placement services at 39 sites around the state, concentrating around Alabama’s automotive and other major manufacturing plants. The Northeast Economic Activity Zone has training sites located in the cities of Attalla, Gadsden, and Fort Payne.
The Governor has placed a major emphasis on workforce education and training. This is very important! It helps demonstrate that state government, along with local agencies, cities, and other organizations are dedicated to making Alabama better. In his press release on July 26, 2004, the Governor announced that Alabama’s industrial workforce training program ranks number one among workforce training programs in all 50 states. He continues to reiterate this in his speeches and talks with business and industry leaders throughout the world. This sends an important message for the business and governmental sectors of the local economy. That message is that “Alabama Is Open For Business!”
Economic Analysis of
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

C. Trends in Income

Economic vitality of an area is generally looked at through examination of income. A direct correlation exists between an area’s income and demand for goods, services, and amenities. Income levels affect an area’s revenue base and the ability of a jurisdiction to provide amenities and facilities to accommodate population and economic growth.

One measure of income used to measure vitality is family income. As Table C-1 illustrates, the median family income for the study area is quite healthy. Marshall County experienced a 48.4 percent increase in family income during the 1990-2000 census period -- up from $26,135 in 1990 to $38,788 in the year 2000. The term, median, is the midpoint, that is, half the families had incomes less than $38,788 and half the families had incomes greater than $38,788.

Another measure used to compare income is household income. Healthy increases are shown for the census period for all four counties under study.

| ~ Table C – 1 ~ |
| ~ Median Income – 1990, 2000 |
| ~ Northeast Economic Activity Zone ~ |
|                      | Median Household Income | Median Family Income |
|                      | 1990  | 2000  | % Change | 1990   | 2000   | % Change |
| Cherokee             | 21,368 | 30,874 | 44.5    | 24,932 | 36,920  | 48.1    |
| DeKalb               | 20,135 | 30,137 | 49.6    | 24,836 | 35,801  | 44.1    |
| Etowah               | 22,314 | 31,170 | 39.7    | 27,071 | 38,697  | 42.9    |
| Marshall             | 21,458 | 32,167 | 49.9    | 26,135 | 38,788  | 48.4    |


Household income is a little different from family income and is usually less because many households consist of only one person. As Table C-2 (p. 17) shows, household income has made tremendous gains in recent years. Households with incomes of $24,999 and less declined substantially while households with incomes of $25,000 or more increased at a rapid rate as the study area becomes wealthier. In 1990, 11,521 households had incomes of $50,000 or more. By the year 2000, 30,139 households had incomes of $50,000 or more. This represents a 161.6 percent increase in households with an income of $50,000 or more.
# Table C-2

## Income by Households – 1990, 2000

### Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>1,833</td>
<td>1,331</td>
<td>-27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $14,999</td>
<td>877</td>
<td>1,020</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 to $24,999</td>
<td>1,573</td>
<td>1,597</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $34,999</td>
<td>1,319</td>
<td>1,550</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>1,048</td>
<td>1,813</td>
<td>73.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 or more</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>2,407</td>
<td>200.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cherokee County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>5,356</td>
<td>3,745</td>
<td>-30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $14,999</td>
<td>2,592</td>
<td>2,363</td>
<td>-8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 to $24,999</td>
<td>4,494</td>
<td>4,384</td>
<td>-2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $34,999</td>
<td>3,529</td>
<td>3,921</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>3,020</td>
<td>4,314</td>
<td>42.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 or more</td>
<td>2,024</td>
<td>6,420</td>
<td>217.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DeKalb County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>8,851</td>
<td>6,145</td>
<td>-30.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $14,999</td>
<td>4,668</td>
<td>3,642</td>
<td>-21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 to $24,999</td>
<td>7,401</td>
<td>6,990</td>
<td>-5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $34,999</td>
<td>6,413</td>
<td>6,083</td>
<td>-5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>5,976</td>
<td>6,899</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 or more</td>
<td>5,144</td>
<td>11,875</td>
<td>130.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Etowah County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>6,522</td>
<td>4,576</td>
<td>-29.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $14,999</td>
<td>3,359</td>
<td>2,912</td>
<td>-13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 to $24,999</td>
<td>5,839</td>
<td>4,918</td>
<td>-15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $34,999</td>
<td>4,123</td>
<td>5,119</td>
<td>24.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>4,294</td>
<td>5,674</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 or more</td>
<td>3,551</td>
<td>9,437</td>
<td>165.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Marshall County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>6,796</td>
<td>15,797</td>
<td>-29.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $14,999</td>
<td>11,496</td>
<td>9,937</td>
<td>-13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 to $24,999</td>
<td>19,307</td>
<td>17,889</td>
<td>-7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $34,999</td>
<td>15,384</td>
<td>16,673</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>14,338</td>
<td>18,700</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 or more</td>
<td>11,521</td>
<td>30,139</td>
<td>161.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Income by NEAZ Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>22,562</td>
<td>15,797</td>
<td>-29.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 to $14,999</td>
<td>11,496</td>
<td>9,937</td>
<td>-13.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>$15,000 to $24,999</td>
<td>19,307</td>
<td>17,889</td>
<td>-7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to $34,999</td>
<td>15,384</td>
<td>16,673</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000 to $49,999</td>
<td>14,338</td>
<td>18,700</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 or more</td>
<td>11,521</td>
<td>30,139</td>
<td>161.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economic Analysis of
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

D. Labor Force

The labor force can be one of the greatest assets an area can possess. Characteristics of the people who make up the labor force and the skills they possess significantly affect the area’s potential for commercial and industrial development.

The four county area experienced a 12.2 percent change in the total number population 16 years and older, as Table D-1 illustrates. The total number 16 years and older moved upward from 192,111 in 1990 to 215,491 ten years hence in 2000. The labor force participation rate declined from 58.9 percent in 1990 to 58.6 percent by 2000. The civilian labor force expanded by 11.7 percent during the decade of the nineties in the four counties. DeKalb County experienced a higher rate of growth at 18.3 percent in the civilian labor force for the period.

Total number employed in the study area experienced a healthy gain of 13.4 percent. Cherokee County outpaced the other counties gaining 20.5 percent in total employed. The total number employed in the study area shifted from 105,394 in 1990 to 119,505 which yields 13.4 percent.

An important issue concerning labor/employment is the unemployment factor, a critical measure in the strength of an area’s economy. In 1990, data from the 1990 census indicates a total of 7,864 workers were unemployed in the four-county area for a 6.9 percent unemployment rate. DeKalb had the lowest unemployment rate, 5.5 percent, while Cherokee County experienced the highest unemployment rate. This is compared to an unemployment rate of 6.8 percent for the state at that time. Unemployment was down in the study area by 2000 to only 5.5 percent. Cherokee County experienced a tremendous turn-around to only 3.9 percent unemployed. DeKalb County was the high at 6.0 percent.

| ~ Table D – 1 ~ |
| Northeast Economic Activity Zone |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cherokee</th>
<th>DeKalb</th>
<th>Etowah</th>
<th>Marshall</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population 16 &amp; Over</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>15,541</td>
<td>42,541</td>
<td>78,517</td>
<td>55,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>19,300</td>
<td>50,247</td>
<td>81,735</td>
<td>64,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Ch.</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Labor Force</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>9,135</td>
<td>26,085</td>
<td>44,094</td>
<td>33,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>10,590</td>
<td>30,862</td>
<td>46,180</td>
<td>38,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Ch.</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>8,444</td>
<td>24,643</td>
<td>40,902</td>
<td>31,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>10,177</td>
<td>29,289</td>
<td>43,410</td>
<td>36,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Ch.</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>1,442</td>
<td>3,192</td>
<td>2,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>1,573</td>
<td>2,770</td>
<td>2,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Unemployed</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006*</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, March 2006.
When plotted in 2006, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations unemployment data is still more promising. Only 2.7 percent unemployment in Marshall County, 3.0 in Cherokee County, 3.4 in Etowah County, and 3.5 percent unemployed in DeKalb County. These numbers compare quite favorably to Alabama, experiencing an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent, March 2006, and that of the U.S. at 4.7 percent. The study counties and Alabama unemployment numbers compare very well to the country as a whole. In previous years those numbers generally would be the opposite. Our study counties and Alabama have come a long way in job creation, especially those associated with the automotive manufacturing segment.

1. Commuting Patterns and Percent Working Outside County of Residence

Table D-2 depicts commuting patterns for the counties. Cherokee County had the highest number out-commuting while Marshall County had the highest number of workers in-commuting. Total number out-commuting exceeded those in-commuting by 9,522. Cherokee County had the highest number out-commuting at 4,461 followed closely by Etowah County with an even 4,000 out-commuting. Marshall County experienced in-commuting, roughly 1,512 workers came into the county for work each day.

Table D-3 (p. 20) provides a view of workers working outside county of residence for 1980, 1990, and 2000. Cherokee County has consistently had more workers driving outside the county for work over the twenty year period -- shifting from 43.3 percent in 1980, to 49.6 percent in 1990, and 53.6 percent by the year 2000. Etowah County had the fewest working outside their county for the period according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

2. Employed Persons by Industry

Tables D-4 (p. 20) and D-5 (p. 21) illustrate the workers’ industry of employment and reveal several interesting trends. Table D-5 (p. 21) summarizes employed persons by industry. The fewest employees work in forestry and fisheries which are followed by mining, and finally agriculture. Since these industries generally employ the fewest workers, this is not unusual. A significant switch occurred during the nineties decade with manufacturing and services. Employment dropped 1.8 percent in manufacturing from 35,365 workers in 1990 to 34,721 workers by the year 2000 as presented in this data by the Bureau of the Census. Employment jumped 60.1 percent in the services industries, from 23,269 in 1990 up to 37,270 by the year 2000 in the four counties. Strong increases are also shown for transportation; communication and utilities; construction; and finance, insurance and real estate industries. Retail trade experienced a 12.6 percent decline in workers for the period. While employment in manufacturing declined, it is still a major employer in the study counties and is not to be overlooked or discounted.

~ Table D – 2 ~

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commuting Patterns, 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|                      Northeast Economic Activity Zone
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Commuting</th>
<th>Out-Commuting</th>
<th>Net Commuting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>5,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>4,618</td>
<td>7,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>6,455</td>
<td>10,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>10,934</td>
<td>9,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,915</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,437</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table D – 3
Percent Working Outside County of Residence
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1980 %</th>
<th>1990 %</th>
<th>2000 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>43.3</td>
<td>49.6</td>
<td>53.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>25.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
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### Table D – 4
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cherokee</th>
<th>DeKalb</th>
<th>Etowah</th>
<th>Marshall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>1,174</td>
<td>1,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry &amp; Fisheries</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>1,557</td>
<td>2,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>3,546</td>
<td>3,648</td>
<td>10,787</td>
<td>11,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation,</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>1,317</td>
<td>1,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; Utilities</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>1,097</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesal Trade</td>
<td>1,148</td>
<td>1,123</td>
<td>3,124</td>
<td>2,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial, Insurance &amp; Real Estate</td>
<td>1,390</td>
<td>2,535</td>
<td>4,306</td>
<td>7,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>8,444</td>
<td>10,180</td>
<td>24,643</td>
<td>29,280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Table D – 5

**Employed Persons by Industry – 1990, 2000**

**NEAZ Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Total Employed</th>
<th>% Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>2,994</td>
<td>2,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry &amp; Fisheries</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>7,466</td>
<td>9,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>35,365</td>
<td>34,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, Communication &amp; Utilities</td>
<td>6,221</td>
<td>7,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>3,816</td>
<td>3,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>16,848</td>
<td>14,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial, Insurance &amp; Real Estate</td>
<td>3,677</td>
<td>4,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>23,269</td>
<td>37,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>4,475</td>
<td>4,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>104,394</strong></td>
<td><strong>119,491</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Center for Economic Development calculations.

### 3. Current Trends in Employment

Data in Table D-6 (p. 22) is more current, collected by the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, and gives a quick look at more recent employment events in the study area. In March 2006, the total civilian workforce amounted to 133,299 workers in the study counties, 129,108 were employed, leaving only 4,191 unemployed, or only 3.1 percent. This data is quite favorable when compared to Alabama with a 3.3 percent unemployment rate and the United States with 4.7 percent unemployed. This will take some getting use to as unemployment numbers for all classifications are generally the other way around.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Civilian Workforce</th>
<th>Employed</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate</th>
<th>Year 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>12,075</td>
<td>11,717</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>31,258</td>
<td>30,158</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>47,283</td>
<td>45,694</td>
<td>1,589</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>42,683</td>
<td>41,539</td>
<td>1,144</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>133,299</strong></td>
<td><strong>129,108</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,191</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.1</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>2,170,027</td>
<td>2,098,351</td>
<td>71,676</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>150,652,000</td>
<td>143,641,000</td>
<td>7,011,000</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, March 2006.
Economic Analysis of
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

E. Housing Trends

Growth in population in the four-county study area has been complemented with steady growth in housing during the last decennial census period, the 1990’s. Table E-1 (pgs. 23-24) illustrates housing tenure. Total housing units increased from 104,330 in 1990 to 124,816 by 2000, representing a 19.6 percent increase, or 20,486 housing units. At least 90.9 percent of the housing stock was occupied in 1990, compared to 87.3 percent in 2000, ten years later. Total vacant housing units jumped from 9,460 in 1990 to 15,372 in 2000, or 62.5 percent, and at least 12.3 percent of the housing stock is classified as vacant.

Table E-2 (p. 25) illustrates housing stock by structure type. Most of the housing stock is classified as single family, 75.1 percent in 1990, and 70.0 percent by the year 2000. There is a slight decline when calculated in a percent distribution table, even though single family housing units increased by 12.6 percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cherokee County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Housing Units</td>
<td>9,379</td>
<td>14,025</td>
<td>49.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>7,466</td>
<td>9,719</td>
<td>30.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>5,959</td>
<td>7,944</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>1,507</td>
<td>1,775</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>1,913</td>
<td>4,306</td>
<td>125.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Distribution:</td>
<td>- - -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>63.5</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb County</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>% Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Housing Units</td>
<td>22,939</td>
<td>28,501</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>20,968</td>
<td>25,113</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>16,393</td>
<td>19,767</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>4,575</td>
<td>5,346</td>
<td>16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>1,971</td>
<td>2,938</td>
<td>49.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Distribution:</td>
<td>- - -</td>
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<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Continued on next page.)
### Table E – 1

**Housing Tenure – 1990, 2000**

**Northeast Economic Activity Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Etowah County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Housing Units</td>
<td>41,787</td>
<td>45,959</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>38,675</td>
<td>41,615</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>28,612</td>
<td>30,960</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>10,063</td>
<td>10,655</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>3,112</td>
<td>4,344</td>
<td>39.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Distribution:</td>
<td>- - -</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marshall County</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Housing Units</td>
<td>30,225</td>
<td>36,331</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>27,761</td>
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<td>Owner</td>
<td>20,587</td>
<td>24,319</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>7,174</td>
<td>8,228</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>2,464</td>
<td>3,784</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Distribution:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>66.9</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>- - -</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Housing Units</td>
<td>104,330</td>
<td>124,816</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>94,870</td>
<td>108,994</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>71,551</td>
<td>82,990</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>23,319</td>
<td>26,004</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>9,460</td>
<td>15,372</td>
<td>62.5</td>
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<td>Percent Distribution:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cherokee County</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>9,379</td>
<td>14,025</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Family</td>
<td>6,162</td>
<td>7,838</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>543</td>
<td>65.6</td>
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<td>Mobile Homes</td>
<td>2,821</td>
<td>4,682</td>
<td>66.0</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DeKalb County</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>22,939</td>
<td>28,051</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Family</td>
<td>17,226</td>
<td>19,134</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More</td>
<td>1,362</td>
<td>1,647</td>
<td>20.9</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Homes</td>
<td>4,125</td>
<td>7,079</td>
<td>71.6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Etowah County</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>41,787</td>
<td>45,959</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Family</td>
<td>32,154</td>
<td>34,292</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More</td>
<td>4,861</td>
<td>5,011</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Homes</td>
<td>4,426</td>
<td>6,056</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marshall County</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>30,225</td>
<td>36,335</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Family</td>
<td>21,791</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More</td>
<td>3,029</td>
<td>3,511</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Homes</td>
<td>5,135</td>
<td>6,509</td>
<td>26.7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>104,330</td>
<td>124,370</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Dist.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The number of mobile homes increased from 16,507 in 1990 to 24,326 in 2000 for a large 89.9 percent gain.

Tables E-3 and E-4 (p. 26) provide an idea of the age of the housing stock from 1939 and earlier through the 1990’s. The greatest growth in new housing construction occurred in the four counties during the 1940’s and 1950’s, increasing 132.7 percent over the 1930’s. New housing construction advanced by 37.0 percent in the 1970’s, and 28.0 percent in the 1990’s. Around 21.5 percent of the existing housing stock was constructed in the 1990’s.

In conclusion, the four-county housing stock is in good condition structurally, with most having adequate plumbing, telephone, and kitchen. Value of housing is higher, number of persons per unit has
declined, and houses are being constructed larger. Housing is considered decent, safe, and sanitary, and a relatively modern inventory of housing is available in the study area.

~ Table E – 3 ~
Date of Construction, Housing Stock
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1939 &amp; Earlier</th>
<th>1940’s &amp; 1950’s</th>
<th>1960’s</th>
<th>1970’s</th>
<th>1980’s</th>
<th>1990’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>1,231</td>
<td>1,273</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>2,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>2,340</td>
<td>3,945</td>
<td>2,954</td>
<td>5,220</td>
<td>4,643</td>
<td>6,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>4,339</td>
<td>11,284</td>
<td>6,153</td>
<td>7,778</td>
<td>5,637</td>
<td>6,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>1,898</td>
<td>4,941</td>
<td>5,094</td>
<td>6,436</td>
<td>6,009</td>
<td>8,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,194</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,401</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,474</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,204</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,298</strong></td>
<td><strong>23,423</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

~ Table E – 4 ~
Percent Distribution, % Change, Housing Stock, Date of Construction
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Housing</th>
<th>% Distribution</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1939 &amp; Earlier</td>
<td>9,194</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940’s &amp; 1950’s</td>
<td>21,401</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>132.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960’s</td>
<td>15,474</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>-27.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970’s</td>
<td>21,204</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>37.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980’s</td>
<td>18,298</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>-13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990’s</td>
<td>23,423</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>108,994</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.
Economic Analysis of Northeast Economic Activity Zone

F. Economic Strength/Vitality

1. Trends in Manufacturing Activity

Manufacturing activity has slowly declined in the five year period for which data is available in the four-county area. Table F-1 illustrates trends in manufacturing for the study area for 1997 and 2002. According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census total manufacturing establishments declined from 525 in 1997 to 489 in 2002, or -6.8%. For the five year period total employment declined by 18.7 percent while total sales declined by 13.2 percent, from $5.6 billion in 1997 to $4.8 billion by 2002. While manufacturing activity has declined in the study area, it is still strong and employs around 30,000 workers. Improvements in automation, production techniques and methods, improvements in materials, and better transportation have contributed to improved efficiency and production.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Establishment</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
<th>1997 ($1,000)</th>
<th>2002 ($1,000)</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>-27.3</td>
<td>121,248</td>
<td>217,684</td>
<td>79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>-11.5</td>
<td>11,774</td>
<td>11,684</td>
<td>-.7</td>
<td>1,285,968</td>
<td>1,487,570</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>8,775</td>
<td>6,504</td>
<td>-25.8</td>
<td>1,577,010</td>
<td>1,043,119</td>
<td>-33.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>-11.8</td>
<td>15,773</td>
<td>11,446</td>
<td>-27.4</td>
<td>2,616,683</td>
<td>2,112,403</td>
<td>-19.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>-6.8</td>
<td>37,516</td>
<td>30,501</td>
<td>-18.7</td>
<td>5,600,909</td>
<td>4,860,776</td>
<td>-13.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


2. Trends in Wholesale Activity

The positive aspect in wholesale activity is reflected in total sales, from $1.2 billion in 1997 to $1.6 billion in 2002 as Table F-2 (p. 28) shows. Total wholesale establishments in the four counties declined from 334 in 1997 to 287, or -14.0 percent. Employment data and sales data were incomplete for wholesale activity for Etowah County for 1997. Wholesale activity has experienced better warehousing facilities, computerization of inventory, and improved transportation and scheduling resulting in improved operation.
### Trends in Wholesale Activity – 1997, 2002
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Establishment</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
<th>1997 ($1,000)</th>
<th>2002 ($1,000)</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-40.9</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>-57.7</td>
<td>65,174</td>
<td>35,935</td>
<td>-44.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-9.6</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>-10.4</td>
<td>309,628</td>
<td>323,282</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>-11.8</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,333</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
<td>413,895</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>-13.9</td>
<td>1,424</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
<td>866,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>334</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>-14.0</td>
<td>2,187</td>
<td>3,253</td>
<td>48.7</td>
<td>1,233,622</td>
<td>1,639,612</td>
<td>32.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Trends in Retail Activity

Retail activity is at an all-time high in the four-county area. Total retail establishments declined from 1,369 in 1997, to 1,290 by 2002, representing a 5.7 percent decline as indicated in Table F-3. Total employment in retail activity declined by 7.4 percent, but retail sales surged from $2.2 billion in 1997, to $2.5 billion, or 16.7 percent just five years later. Retail sales remain strong in all four counties. DeKalb County experienced a 29.8 percent increase in sales, followed closely by Etowah County at 23.6 percent for the five year period.

### Trends in Retail Activity – 1997, 2002
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Establishment</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
<th>1997 ($1,000)</th>
<th>2002 ($1,000)</th>
<th>% Ch.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>678</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>123,145</td>
<td>141,575</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>-2.9</td>
<td>2,576</td>
<td>2,302</td>
<td>-10.6</td>
<td>343,027</td>
<td>445,468</td>
<td>29.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>.4</td>
<td>4,935</td>
<td>4,581</td>
<td>-7.1</td>
<td>737,764</td>
<td>912,041</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>-14.1</td>
<td>5,254</td>
<td>4,845</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
<td>1,008,171</td>
<td>1,082,162</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,369</td>
<td>1,290</td>
<td>-5.7</td>
<td>13,443</td>
<td>12,446</td>
<td>-7.4</td>
<td>2,212,107</td>
<td>2,581,246</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Trends in the Service Sector

The service sector of the four-county economy is exceptionally strong as illustrated in Table F-4 (p. 29). Total number of service establishments shifted upward from 1,969 in 1997, to 2,243, or 13.9 percent by the year 2002. Total number employed jumped 30.5 percent for the period, from 22,262 in 1997 to 29,068 in 2002. The encouraging mark in service activity is reflected in sales. Total sales shifted from $1.0 billion in 1997 to $1.5 billion in 2002, just five years later showing tremendous strength. Marshall County experienced an increase in sales of 80.1 percent, DeKalb County 71.2 percent, and...
Etowah 36.8 percent. Cherokee County experienced a decline of 25.1 percent for the five year period; however, it appears that data for all service sectors may be deficient. The service sector of the four county economies is exceptionally strong.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Establishments</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>% Ch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,969</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,243</strong></td>
<td><strong>13.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economic Analysis of
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

G. Infrastructure

1. Air Quality

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated the region an Attainment Area. The Zone under study shows no ambient air quality problems and is free of air pollution of any kind year-round.

The Clean Air Act, which was amended in 1990, requires the EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for wide-spread pollutants from numerous and diverse sources considered harmful to public health and the environment. The Clean Air Act established two types of national air quality standards. Primary standards set limits to protect public health, including the health of sensitive populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly. Secondary standards set limits to protect public welfare, including protection against visibility impairment, and damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings.

The Environmental Protection Agency has set national Ambient Air Quality Standards for six (6) principal pollutants, which are called criteria pollutants. They include ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. Local air quality affects how individuals live and breathe and like the weather, can change from day to day or even hour to hour.

The EPA monitors these criteria pollutants across the nation and calculates an Air Quality Index (AQI) for each criterion from 0 to 500. The higher the AQI value of a pollutant, the greater level of air pollution and the greater the health concern. The highest calculated AQI for one of the six criteria pollutants for an area would be the named health hazard pollutant for however long it lasted.

2. Water

Adequate water resources are considered as a basic, essential requirement before any form of development can occur. Availability of water is crucial to any type of development and conforms to four basic characteristics: supply, quality, quantity, and distribution. The area under study (Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall Counties) has no less than thirty-nine (39) suppliers of water for the area (Table G-1, p. 31).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Water Providers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>Cedar Bluff Utilities Board, Centre Water &amp; Sewer Board, Cherokee County Water Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cagles, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collinsville Water Works, Crossville Water Works, Fort Payne Water Works Board, Mentone Water Works Board, Northeast Alabama Water System, Sand Mountain Water Authority, Valley Head Water Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>Source: Alabama Department of Environmental Management, (ADEM).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the study area approximately 112,359 resident households are being served with a total resident population of 329,666 (Table G-2). According to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management Water Division, total water usage amounted to approximately 59,226,600 GPD with total capacity of 103,999,600 GPD, and a total supply capability of 95,298,142 GPD in the four-county study area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential Households Served</th>
<th>Residential Persons Served</th>
<th>Water Usage (GPD)</th>
<th>Treatment Capacity (GPD)</th>
<th>Supply Capability (GPD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee County</td>
<td>6,638</td>
<td>18,958</td>
<td>1,834,300</td>
<td>2,316,800</td>
<td>4,369,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb County</td>
<td>24,369</td>
<td>73,011</td>
<td>11,517,200</td>
<td>17,703,600</td>
<td>15,272,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah County</td>
<td>41,837</td>
<td>126,401</td>
<td>20,115,100</td>
<td>35,727,200</td>
<td>38,156,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall County</td>
<td>39,515</td>
<td>111,296</td>
<td>25,760,000</td>
<td>48,252,000</td>
<td>37,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>112,359</strong></td>
<td><strong>329,666</strong></td>
<td><strong>59,226,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>103,999,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>95,298,142</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Environmental Management, (ADEM).

3. Sewerage

A total of twenty-one (21) municipal wastewater treatment boards and entities provide wastewater treatment in the four-county study area as Table G-3 (p. 33) illustrates. Table G-4 (p. 33) shows the systems served 52,496 residence customers and 144,022 resident persons treating 31,400,000 GPD in effluent. The 144,022 population represents 51.5 percent of the resident population of 279,491 in 2004. Total wastewater treatment capacity for the area amounts to 53,880,000 GPD which yields a surplus sewerage treatment capacity of 22,480,000 GPD, a substantial reserve capacity.
### Table G – 3

**Sewer System Inventory for Northeast Economic Activity Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Residence Customers Served</th>
<th>Residential Persons Served</th>
<th>Wastewater Treatment GPD</th>
<th>Wastewater Treatment Capacity GPD</th>
<th>Surplus/Deficit Capacity GPD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>1,801</td>
<td>4,879</td>
<td>690,000</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
<td>710,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>6,667</td>
<td>15,459</td>
<td>3,170,000</td>
<td>8,020,000</td>
<td>4,850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>19,816</td>
<td>48,377</td>
<td>13,340,000</td>
<td>20,260,000</td>
<td>6,920,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>24,212</td>
<td>75,307</td>
<td>14,200,000</td>
<td>24,200,000</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>52,496</strong></td>
<td><strong>144,022</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,400,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>53,880,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,480,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

### Table G – 4

**Sewer Systems in Northeast Economic Activity Zone**

Sources: East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission, Sewer Inventory Etowah County and Cherokee County 2001, Center for Economic Development Survey, 2006.
4. Transportation

The following tables pertain to the activity in road and bridge improvements over the counties of DeKalb, Cherokee, Etowah, and Marshall.

Information initially shown is that for each of the four counties drawn from the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) Five Year Plan (www.dot.state.al.us). ALDOT information is organized by Location, Cost Range in $1,000’s, and Target Start Date. ALDOT information is followed by that provided by the County Engineer or Road Departments in Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall Counties. Each set of county information is arranged by the Category of Funding and with Project, Year, Dollar Amount and, in some cases, Districts within the county. County information is in the format submitted by respective counties.

These tables show that ALDOT projects at the State level, over the years, have had a profound and positive impact on the State maintained roads and bridges of Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall Counties. Moreover, the data shows that there have been great improvements, over recent years, in the county maintained roads and bridges under the respective county administrations and engineering/road departments.

~ Table G – 5 ~

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALDOT Five Year Plan – Cherokee County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-68 MILL CREEK UTL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-68 MIL CREEK BRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-35 LITTLE RIVER CANYON BRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-35 LITTLE RIVER CANYON BRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-9 TERRAPIN CREEK BRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-273 DANIEL’S BRANCH BRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-35 LITTLE RIVER CANYON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-9 TERRAPIN CREEK BRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-273 DANIEL’S BRANCH BRA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.dot.state.al.us.

~ Table G – 6 ~

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALDOT Five Year Plan – DeKalb County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-117 OVER LITTLE RIVER BRL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE SR-117 OVER W. FORK LITTLE RIVER BRL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-59 REHAB ETOWAH CTY LINE TO S. OF SR-35 FT PAYNE PVR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELCOME CTR REHAB I-59 NEAR GA LINE RAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR-75 NEAR CR-52 TO CR-54 GRP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE REPL SR-117 OVER W. FORK LITTLE RIVER BRL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-59 INTERCHANGE SR-7 (US 11) UTL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-59 INTERCHANGE US 11/4930 ST FT PAYNE GPB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELCOME CTR REHAB I-59 NEAR GA LINE RAR</td>
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<td>BRIDGE SR-7 (US 11) OVR DRY CREEK BRL</td>
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<td>MEMPHIS – ATLANTA CORRIDOR FROM I-59 NEAR SR-9 AT GA STATE LINE</td>
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<td>SR-7 (US 11) ADDTL LANES AIRPRTD TO S. OF 4930 ST INTERCHANGE – INCLUDES NEW BRIDGE OVER BIG WILL’S CREEK GPB</td>
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<td>SR-75 DEKALB/MARSHALL CTY LINE TO DEKALB CR-3 GRP</td>
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<td>SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS I-59 ETOWAH CTY LINE TO DEKALB CR-3 SAF</td>
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<td>MEMPHIS-ATLANTA I-59 NEAR SR-9 GDB</td>
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<td>SR-75 ADDTL LANES CR-54 IN GERALDINE TO CR-43 BSP</td>
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Source: www.dot.state.al.us.
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<td>SR-77 FR CR-162 TO I-59 RAMPS (E. SIDE) ATTALLA (PHASE II) ADL</td>
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<td>BRIDGE SR-74 (US 278) OVER LOCUST FORK OF WARRIOR RIVER BRA</td>
<td>1503-2255</td>
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<td>BRIDGE SR-74 (US 278) OVER LOCUST FORK OF WARRIOR RIVER UTL</td>
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<td>PVMT REHAB ON SR-1 (US 431) W/CONCRETE PVMT AT NS RR UNDERPASS NEAR SR-7 (US 11) UTL</td>
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<td>BRIDGE REPL SR-132 OVR WARRIOR RIVER BRA</td>
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<td>BRIDGE REPL CADDELL CIR OVER BIG COVE CREEK N. OF SR-74 NW OF HOKES BLUFF &amp; W. OF TIDMORE BEND BRL</td>
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<td>WIDEN CR-162 (STEELE STATION RD) FROM SR-77 TO CR-203 (SUTTON BR RD) GRP</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRIDGE REPL ON CR-164 (AIRPORT RD) @ NO NAME TRIBUTARY TO WILLS CREEK BRL</td>
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<td>220-330</td>
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<td>US 411 NEW LOC FR 4LN @ GADSDEN TO TURKEYTOWN GDB</td>
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<td>RESURFACE CR-159 FR ST. CLAIR CNTY LINE TO CR-56 RSF</td>
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<td>BRIDGE REPL ON CR-290 OVER BLACK CREEK BRL</td>
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<td>ADDTL LANES SR-77 FR GREEN VALLEY RD TO SUNSET DR ADL</td>
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<td>I-759 EXTENSION FR I-59 TO US 431 (4 LANE) BRG</td>
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<td>SR-77 FR I-59 RAMPS (W. SIDE) TO US 11 IN ATTALLA PHASE III ADL</td>
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Source: [www.dot.state.al.us](http://www.dot.state.al.us).
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<tr>
<td>SR-75 FR NEAR SR-68 TO MARSHALL DEKALB LINE GPB</td>
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<td>PEDESTRIAN BICYCLE LINKAGE FROM SCENIC OVERLOOK TO GRANT CITY PARK UNC</td>
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<td>1600-2400</td>
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<td>SR-75 FR CR-131 TO 5 POINTS IN ALBERTVILLE GPB</td>
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<td>ADTL LANES US 431 FR MARSHALL/ETOWAH CO LINE TO SR-75 SURVEY &amp; PLAN PRE</td>
<td>1196-1794</td>
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<td>ALBERTVILLE GRP</td>
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<td>SR-69 FR US 231 TO MAIN ST IN ARAB SURVEY &amp; PLAN PRE ARAB</td>
<td>312-468</td>
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Source: [www.dot.state.al.us](http://www.dot.state.al.us)
## Table G – 9

**Cherokee County Highway Department Improvements, 2000 – 2006**

### State and Federal Aid Projects

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
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<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
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<td>County Road #148, 8, 63, 65, 686, 97 &amp; 56</td>
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**Total** $11,127,027.34

Source: Roger Hall, County Engineer.
### Table G – 10

GARVEE/Amendment One Bridges, 2000 - 2006
Cherokee County

<table>
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<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
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<td>County Road #47 &amp; 39</td>
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Source: Roger Hall, County Engineer.

### Table G – 11

Cherokee County Funded Tar & Gravel Projects, 2000 - 2006

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Source: Roger Hall, County Engineer.
### Table G – 12

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<td>County Road #13</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>137,744.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #93</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>172,056.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #113</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>62,185.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #86</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>72,419.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #30</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14,095.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #239</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>77,733.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #241</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16,843.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #77</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>246,660.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #58</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>56,711.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #81</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>138,776.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #114</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>49,369.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #189</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>31,468.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #669</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13,242.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Road #120 &amp; 97</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>159,118.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $2,825,549.97

Source: Roger Hall, County Engineer.

### Table G – 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; Federal Aid Projects</td>
<td>$11,127,027.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GARVEE/Amendment One Bridges</td>
<td>$2,929,414.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee County Funded Tar &amp; Gravel Projects</td>
<td>$3,726,762.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee County Funded Bond Issue Plantmix Paving</td>
<td>$2,825,549.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $20,608,754.20

Source: Roger Hall, County Engineer.
DEKALB COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IMPROVEMENTS  
2003-2006  
SOURCE: PHILIP B. WIDNER, COUNTY ENGINEER

The following is a summary of projects completed in DeKalb County since 2003. The calendar year corresponds to the year the project was let to contract. DeKalb County replaced eight (8) deficient bridges with its $3.25 million of Amendment One/GARVEE Funds.

CALENDAR YEAR 2003

Bridge Replacement Projects: ($)
- Co. Rd. 606 - 244,318.30 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)
- Co. Rd. 468 – 290,445.51 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)
- Co. Rd. 104 – 283,595.60 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)
- Co. Rd. 223 – 135,572.07 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)

CALENDAR YEAR 2004

Resurfacing Projects:
- Co. Rd. 23 – 586,600 (6.0 miles) (Federal Aid Funds)
- Co. Rd. 137 from Fort Payne City Limits to AL Hwy. 117 – 371,965.67 (3.0 miles) (Federal Aid Funds)

Bridge Replacement Projects:
- Co. Rd. 246 – 101,990.60 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)
- Co. Rd. 736 – 533,923.10 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)
- Co. Rd. 94 – 512,688.95 (Amendment One/GARVEE Funds)

CALENDAR YEAR 2005

Resurfacing Projects:
- Co. Rd. 89 – from AL Hwy. 176 to Ft. Payne City Limits – 377,698.49 (2.8 miles) (Federal Aid Funds)
- Co Rd. 47 from Co. Rd. 56 to AL Hwy. 35 – 523,998.25 (3.7 mi.) (Federal Aid Funds)

Bridge Replacement Projects:
- Co. Rd. 577 – 665,446.15 (Amendment One/GARVEE/Federal Aid Funds)
- Co. Rd. 515 – (CDB Grant – See breakdown below)

Miscellaneous Projects:
- Co. Rd. 515 Improvements & Paving (CDB Grant – See below)

CALENDAR YEAR 2006

Resurfacing Projects:
- Co. Rd. 108 – 516,963.55 (2.8 miles) (Federal Aid Funds)
CALANDER YEAR 2007

Resurfacing Projects:
- Co. Rd. 89 – from AL Hwy. 35 to Desoto State Park – 525,000 Estimate (5.1 miles) March 2007 proposed letting date (Federal Aid Funds)
- Co Rd. 140 from Co. Rd. 739 to Interstate 59 – 450,000 Estimate (2.6 miles) April 2007 proposed letting date (Federal Aid Funds)

The following is a breakdown of CDB Grant and local monies spent for FY 2005 & FY 2006:

CALANDER YEAR 2005

$41,709.47 ($38,820 was CDBG money)

CALANDER YEAR 2006

$253,058.80 $214,160 was CDBG money

See the following:

Revenue
- CDBG Revenue: $252,980.00
- Local Revenue: $41,788.27
- Total Revenue: $294,768.27

Expenditures:
- Administration Costs $30,000.00
- Engineering Costs $51,021.61
- Utility Relocation $2,889.47
- Paving $71,591.78
- Bridge Replacement $139,265.41
- Total Expenditures $294,768.27
The following is a summary of projects completed in Etowah County since 1997.

- **GARVEE/Amendment One Bridges Fund Status.**

### CALENDAR YEAR 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Let to Bid</th>
<th>Low Bid ($)</th>
<th>Low Bid E&amp;I ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co. Rd 71 at Little Dry Creek and Rabbit Town Rd at Little Cove Creek</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/17/2003</td>
<td>508,551.75</td>
<td>559,406.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nichols Road at Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River and Tidmore Bend road at Henley Creek</td>
<td>2&amp;4</td>
<td>9/26/2003</td>
<td>598,344.00</td>
<td>658,178.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALENDAR YEAR 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Let to Bid</th>
<th>Low Bid ($)</th>
<th>Low Bid E&amp;I ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuels Chapel Bridge and Tumlin Gap Bridge at Samuels Chapel Creek</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1/16/2004</td>
<td>285,345.66</td>
<td>313,880.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALENDAR YEAR 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Let to Bid</th>
<th>Low Bid ($)</th>
<th>Low Bid E&amp;I ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Rhea Road at Big Wills Creek</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3/31/2006</td>
<td>891,202.00</td>
<td>980,322.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALENDAR YEAR 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Let to Bid</th>
<th>Low Bid ($)</th>
<th>Low Bid E&amp;I ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Pleasant Hill Rd at Black Creek (including Federal Funds)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/12/2007</td>
<td>594,899.40</td>
<td>654,389.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*GARVEE Bond Funds $330,887.70; Amendment One Bond Funds $82,721.92; Federal Funds $218,576.00.*

**CALENDAR YEAR 1997**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tabor Road Resurfacing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>744,983.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various County Road Culvert Replacements</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>712,004.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian Highway Resurfacing</td>
<td>1&amp;2</td>
<td>617,556.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 1998**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Parkway Resurfacing</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>406,171.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Valley Culvert Replacement</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>342,424.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 1999**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Street in Hokes Bluff Resurfacing and Widening</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>199,085.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 2000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thompson Bridge Road Bridge Replacement</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>913,638.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardis Road Resurfacing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>747,123.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 2002**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Rd 71 Resurfacing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,160,614.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley Rd Resurfacing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>438,897.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 2004**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tabor Road Resurfacing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,123,752.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lonesome Bend Road Resurfacing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>325,635.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeth Gap Road Resurfacing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>803,724.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Valley Resurfacing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,164,756.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CALENDAR YEAR 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coats Bend Bridge Replacement at Turkeytown Creek</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>267,670.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbit Town Road Resurfacing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>870,015.83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALENDAR YEAR 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Pleasant Hill Bridge Culvert also used in GARVEE Funds</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>218,576</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* GARVEE Bond Funds $330,887.70; Amendment One Bond Funds $82,721.92; Federal Funds $218,576.00.
The following is a summary of projects completed in Marshall County since 1992.

- **GARVEE/Amendment One Bridges Fund Status.**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2003**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Let to Bid</th>
<th>Low Bid ($)</th>
<th>Low Bid E&amp;I ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mat Morrow Road</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>02/03</td>
<td>294,000.00</td>
<td>307,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Line Road</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>03/03</td>
<td>330,500.00</td>
<td>347,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martling Road</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>04/03</td>
<td>715,822.00</td>
<td>817,130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown's Valley</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>09/03</td>
<td>515,905.00</td>
<td>541,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solitude Avenue</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11/03</td>
<td>146,753.00</td>
<td>154,091.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 2004**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Let to Bid</th>
<th>Low Bid ($)</th>
<th>Low Bid E&amp;I ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Sauty</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>07/04</td>
<td>1,484,267.00</td>
<td>1,558,480.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **State & Federal Aid Projects Listing – 1996 to Present.**

**CALENDAR YEAR 1992**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beech Creek Bridge</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>150,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 1994**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eddy – Scant City Road</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>217,300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swearengin Road</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>230,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 1995**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summerville – Mt. Hebron</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>518,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Road Bridge</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>226,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALENDAR YEAR 1996**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union Grove Road</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>523,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral Caverns thru Grant</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>220,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CALENDAR YEAR 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oneonta Cut-off Road</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>338,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beulah Road</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>202,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CALENDAR YEAR 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union Grove Road</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>342,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral Caverns 431 Simpson Point</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>220,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Mountain (ST Funds)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>133,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CALENDAR YEAR 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highpoint Road</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>193,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bridges Bridge</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>424,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CALENDAR YEAR 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warrenton Road (I)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>474,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge on Oak Grove Road (FEMA Funds)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>180,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral Caverns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>195,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CALENDAR YEAR 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summerville Road</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>163,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Tower Road (IA Funds)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>326,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge on Perkins Creek (FEMA Funds)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>180,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnpike Road (ST Funds)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McVille Road</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>260,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haden Lane – Scant City (ST Funds)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>301,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CALENDAR YEAR 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warrenton Road (II)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>450,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simpson Point</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>705,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CALENDAR YEAR 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Grove Road</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>518,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CALENDAR YEAR 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Road</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>446,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral Caverns to Jackson County Line</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>353,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALENDAR YEAR 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Sauty Road</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>810,890.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CALENDAR YEAR 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union Grove Turn Lane</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>56,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddy – Scant City Road</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>371,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral Caverns – Simpson Point to DAR School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>350,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. **Industrial Sites**

Many factors contribute to the economic growth of an area. One of the most important is industrial development. To improve the chances of increased industrial growth an area must have suitable sites for industry to expand or to relocate. The four-county area, which is the focus of this report, has an abundance of sites which can enhance economic growth in the coming years.

There are twenty-three (23) industrial sites located within the area, which are publicly owned, or under option to a public organization. A wide range of services is available to industries located or locating within these parks. Most are established parks and have electrical and water service.

Marshall County has a total of ten (10) industrial sites. Etowah County has the next highest total of five (5) sites, while DeKalb County has five (5) sites, and Cherokee County has two (2) sites. A list of the industrial sites can be viewed in Table G-14 (p. 49).

The potential for industrial expansion is positive due to growth within Alabama, particularly in the area of automotive manufacturing plants and related firms. The accessibility to I-59, I-20, and I-65, which are major arteries for industrial product transportation, enhances the growth potential of the area even more.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total Acreage</th>
<th>Available Acreage</th>
<th>Rail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centre Industrial Park</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>89.0</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leesburg Industrial Park</td>
<td>Leesburg</td>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collinsville Industrial Park</td>
<td>Collinsville</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ft. Payne Industrial Park</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>40.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainsville Industrial Park</td>
<td>Rainsville</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>50.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stout-Campbell-McCurdy Site</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>105.0</td>
<td>105.0</td>
<td>&lt; 1 mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills Valley Industrial Site</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>69.9</td>
<td>55.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attalla Industrial Park</td>
<td>Attalla</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>Spur Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attalla Industrial Park 2</td>
<td>Attalla</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brook Ave. Site 1</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns Park</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>53.5</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden Airport Ind. Park</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>1020.0</td>
<td>930.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden Industrial Complex</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>260.0</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albertville Ind. Park East</td>
<td>Albertville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>123.1</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>&lt; 1 mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab Industrial Park</td>
<td>Arab</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bright Site</td>
<td>Albertville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>Onto Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boaz Industrial Property</td>
<td>Boaz</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>115.0</td>
<td>115.0</td>
<td>&lt; 1 mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creek Ridge Industrial Park</td>
<td>Guntersville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conners Island Business Park</td>
<td>Guntersville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>550.0</td>
<td>550.0</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Greenfield Site</td>
<td>Douglas</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monsanto Site</td>
<td>Guntersville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>600.0</td>
<td>600.0</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parker-Hannifin Site</td>
<td>Boaz</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>Onto Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Segers Site</td>
<td>Albertville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>Onto Site</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


While industrial sites are important, the presence of suitable buildings certainly adds to the likelihood of attracting industrial businesses whose management does not want to build from the ground up. Within the four county area, there are forty-eight (48) available properties at the time of this report. Etowah County has the most with a total of thirty-seven (37). Both DeKalb and Marshall Counties have five (5) each while Cherokee County has one (1) spec building. Of course, within the industrial sites, there is ample room for industries wanting to build.

Additionally, sufficient properties that are more suitable for non-industrial usage are available throughout the area.

The following buildings are available for usage at the present time (Table G-15, p. 50-51).
## Table G – 15
Available Properties, Fall 2004
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Space Available (sq. ft.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centre Spec Building</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A One Hosiery</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>32,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garan Building</td>
<td>Rainsville</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockleer Hosiery Building</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin-Lynn Mills Plant 1</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>74,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Knit</td>
<td>Fort Payne</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>54,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benson Plumbing</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranford Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D &amp; L Molds</td>
<td>Rainbow City</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Express</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP C-2 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>138,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP C-3 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>110,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP C-4 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP C-5 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>10,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP C-6 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>144,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP N-1 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>8,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP N-2 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>27,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP N-3 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>27,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP N-4 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>20,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP N-5 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP N-6 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SE-1 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>60,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SE-2 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>74,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SE-3 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>135,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SE-4 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>43,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SE-5 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>287,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SE-6 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SW-2 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>63,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SW-3 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>90,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SW-4 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>25,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SW-5 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>11,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP SW-6 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIP W-1 Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>67,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodyear Warehouse</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>96,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(Continued on next page.)*
### Table G – 15

#### Available Properties, Fall 2004

Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Space Available (sq. ft.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greene Building</td>
<td>Attalla</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greer-Hosmer Moving Bldg</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Lamp Building</td>
<td>Glencoe</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>53,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANS Building</td>
<td>Rainbow City</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>33,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leach Manufacturing</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCO LLC Building</td>
<td>Attalla</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progressive Plastics</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>32,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SunStar Building</td>
<td>Rainbow City</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-City Auction Building</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandelieur #2</td>
<td>Boaz</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandelieur #3</td>
<td>Boaz</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kappler Sales Office Bldg.</td>
<td>Guntersville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>10,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monsanto</td>
<td>Guntersville</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>443,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>Arab</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>137,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Economic Development Partnership of Alabama (www.edpa.org)

### 6. Banking

Table G-16 (p. 52) reflects growth in deposits of commercial banks insured by the FDIC over the years 2002 – 2006 as of June 30 of each respective year. Alabama counties are Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall. A positive change in bank deposits is one indicator of economic health in the four county Northeast Economic Activity Zone.
## Bank Deposits ($000) by County Inside Market by Year

### Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank</th>
<th>Cherokee County</th>
<th>DeKalb County</th>
<th>Etowah County</th>
<th>Marshall County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regions</strong></td>
<td>89,094</td>
<td>88,366</td>
<td>86,278</td>
<td>107,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers &amp; Merchants</td>
<td>49,168</td>
<td>50,874</td>
<td>49,981</td>
<td>50,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union State</td>
<td>45,489</td>
<td>46,525</td>
<td>46,737</td>
<td>51,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Bank Co.</td>
<td>21,195</td>
<td>23,134</td>
<td>23,962</td>
<td>23,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb Bank</td>
<td>3,032</td>
<td>3,530</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AmSouth</strong></td>
<td>118,754</td>
<td>128,774</td>
<td>132,251</td>
<td>134,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>100,951</td>
<td>108,234</td>
<td>85,106</td>
<td>91,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Federal</td>
<td>64,015</td>
<td>69,234</td>
<td>71,039</td>
<td>67,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizon</td>
<td>55,529</td>
<td>59,983</td>
<td>59,289</td>
<td>62,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty</td>
<td>55,493</td>
<td>59,697</td>
<td>59,524</td>
<td>61,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st DeKalb</td>
<td>52,964</td>
<td>55,499</td>
<td>55,143</td>
<td>55,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Scottsboro</td>
<td>29,037</td>
<td>29,384</td>
<td>29,050</td>
<td>30,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>55,529</td>
<td>59,697</td>
<td>59,524</td>
<td>61,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions</td>
<td>25,030</td>
<td>25,836</td>
<td>27,735</td>
<td>32,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Southern</td>
<td>18,938</td>
<td>19,251</td>
<td>19,366</td>
<td>19,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty</td>
<td>37,079</td>
<td>38,691</td>
<td>42,638</td>
<td>40,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens Valley Head</td>
<td>9,705</td>
<td>9,807</td>
<td>10,876</td>
<td>10,157</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Reflects name change.
Table G-17 reflects growth in total shares and other deposits of Credit Unions, either insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) or by private firms. Deposits include years 2002 – 2006 as of June 30 of each respective year.

Table G-16 (p. 52) on bank deposits were grouped by counties because the FDIC website groups them that way. Deposits of credit unions, however, on the NCUA website or on credit union books are aggregated in total under the title of the respective credit union. So the deposits of credit unions operating in counties of the NEAZ are not broken down by counties as are those of commercial banks, but include those of many more counties than just Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall.

The fact remains that a positive change in credit union deposits is one indicator of economic health in the overall region. It appears that the above credit unions have healthy growth in deposits.

7. Airports

Table G-18 lists the airports listed in the source: GLOBALAIR.COM as being located in the counties of Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah, and Marshall. Information is arranged by County, Airport Name, Runway Length, and Ownership. Note that the new Centre – Piedmont – Cherokee County Regional Airport will have the longest runway of all the airports researched. The new airport will provide for more business jet traffic and other commercial flight activity that will have a strong positive effect on regional economic development and tourism. According to the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce, the new airport will open in the spring of 2008.
8. Public Utilities

Integral to the growth of any area is the absolute necessity of public utilities providing energy service in the amounts needed and at reasonable prices. The four-county area is served by a number of utility companies some of which are distributors who purchase from the larger, primary providers. Due to geographic features and county boundaries, each county has more than one utility company – both gas and electric – serving customers within its jurisdiction.

Primary providers of electricity within the area are Alabama Power and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) along with several local distributors (some being cities) who purchase from them. The primary natural gas providers throughout the region are Alabama Gas Corporation, Southern Natural Gas, and United Gas Pipeline who either sell directly to consumers or indirectly through distributors including several cities.

The four-county area is fortunate with the Coosa River running through Cherokee and Etowah Counties upon which there are two primary hydro-electric generating facilities providing power. These belong to the Alabama Power system. One is located at Weiss Lake which produces approximately 105,000 kilowatts. The other, located on the Coosa River just inside the Calhoun County line, is the H. Neely Henry facility which can produce approximately 75,000 kilowatts. The Marshall County area is blessed with the Guntersville Reservoir, a part of the Tennessee River system. The Guntersville Dam hydro-electric generating plant, a part of the TVA system, can produce approximately 140,400 kilowatts of power. Additionally, Alabama Power has the Gadsden Steam Generating Plant, a fossil fuel facility, which produces 138,000 kilowatts.

Other power generating facilities which are primarily part of the TVA system are located in adjacent counties north of the four-county area. These facilities include Widow’s Creek, a fossil-fuel plant with a generating capacity of 1,629 megawatts, and Brown’s Ferry, a nuclear plant with a generating capacity of 2,285 megawatts.

The price of energy, especially electrical, in the four-county area is near the lowest in the United States: 5.88 cents per kilowatt hour (see Chart G-1, p.55).

Table G-19 (p. 55) displays a breakdown by county of the various energy providers to the four-county area. It does not include the many butane gas distributors.
Table G – 19
Energy Providers
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Electrical – Suppliers/Distributors</th>
<th>Natural Gas – Suppliers/Distributors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>Cherokee Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>DeKalb-Cherokee Natural Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tennessee Valley Authority</td>
<td>United Gas Pipeline/Huntsville Utility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>Fort Payne Improvement Authority</td>
<td>Alabama Gas Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marshall-DeKalb Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>DeKalb-Cherokee Natural Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>United Gas Pipeline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tennessee Valley Authority</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>Alabama Power Company</td>
<td>Alabama Gas Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cherokee Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>Southern Natural Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coosa Valley Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>Boaz Gas Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>Albertville Electric Board</td>
<td>Boaz Gas Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arab Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>Marshall County Gas District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guntersville Electric Board</td>
<td>North Alabama Gas District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marshall-DeKalb Electric Cooperative</td>
<td>Southern Natural Gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North Alabama Electric Cooperative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Economic Development Partnership of Alabama
Community Details (2006); Alabama Power Company – Gadsden District Office.

~ Chart G - 1 ~
Electricity Prices for Selected States - 2003

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census,
State and Metropolitan Area Data Book: 2006,
A Statistical Abstract Supplement.
While most of the four-county area is served natural gas by Southern Natural Gas, Alabama Gas Corporation, and United Gas Pipeline, some of the more rural areas within each county are supplied by local butane gas providers as natural gas is not available. While this is true, natural gas transmission lines run throughout the four-county area making it possible for natural gas to be more available to communities upon sufficient demand.

Overall, the existing public utilities are meeting the current demand for service and have the capacity for expansion as needed and necessary for economic growth within the region.

9. Healthcare System

The total economic impact of the Medical Care Industry in the NEAZ is substantial (see Worksheet G-1). The estimated impact listed below is an annual figure.

Economic benefits to the local area result from expenditures by the following:

1. Medical employees’ expenditures in NEAZ.
2. Employer non-employee expenditures in NEAZ.
3. Capital investment expenditures in NEAZ.

Benefits resulting from these expenditures include sales and income to local business and individuals, tax benefits to governments and job benefits.

There are 101,564 payroll employees in the NEAZ area. Healthcare workers make up 11.04% of payroll employment and 11.35% of the annual payroll in the area (see Table G-20). Of the 101,564 persons employed in the NEAZ area there are 387 physicians and 2,387 RN’s (see Table G-21).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEAZ Medical Care Payroll</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Payroll Employment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEAZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, Employment, Wages, and Benefit Payment by County, Annual 2005.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Medical Care Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEAZ</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPN’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, Employment, Wages, and Benefit Payment by County, Annual 2005.
Benefits calculated in the study are based on figures from published sources including the Census Bureau and several Alabama professional boards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>~ Table G – 22 ~</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Economic Impacts of Medical Care Industry</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Northeast Economic Activity Zone</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales/Income Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs Benefits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, Employment, Wages, and Benefit Payment by County, Annual 2005.
### A. Sales Benefits from Health Industry

1. Annual salaries of health employees
   - $311,608,000
2. Business non-salary expenditures
   - 211,025,670
3. Calculate Direct Sales. (1) + (2)
   - 522,633,670
4. Enter the estimated Indirect & Induced Sales Multiplier. (Range is 1.2 – 2.8; avg = 2.0)
   - 2.0
5. Calculate Total Sales Benefits from Health Industry. (4) x (3)
   - $1,045,267,342

### B. Tax Revenue Benefits from Health Industry

1. Enter Total Sales from 5 above.
   - $1,045,267,342
2. Enter Combined State & Local Retail Sales Tax Rate.
3. Calculate Sales Tax Revenues. (1) x (.05) x (2)
   - $41,810,693
4. Enter Total Sales from 5 above.
   - $1,045,267,340
5. Enter the Taxable Income Ratio (i.e., taxable portion of salaries & business profits: range is 0.2 - 0.6; ave. = 0.3)
   - 0.3
6. Enter the State Income Tax Rate.
   - 0.05
7. Calculate Income Tax Revenue. (4) x (5) x (6)
   - $15,679,010
8. Tax Revenue Benefits from health industry. Add (3) + (7)
   - $57,489,703

### C. Job Benefits from Medical Care

1. Each Total Sales from 5, expressed in millions.
   - $1,045 million
2. Estimate multiplier for Jobs Created Per Million Dollars of Total Sales. (Range is 10-50; ave. = 30).
   - 15
3. Calculate Jobs Created by health industry (1) x (2)
   - 15,675
a. Health Providers

In NEAZ the number of physicians with active clinical practice per 10,000 population is well above the state median of 7.1. For NEAZ, the average of the four counties is 12.0 (see Table G-23). The lowest is Cherokee with 6.1 physicians per 10,000 population. Clearly NEAZ has more than adequate access to physicians. In addition, the NEAZ’s proximity to Jefferson County positively impacts the area’s access to medical care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Physicians with Active Clinical Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>103,459</td>
<td>214*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>23,988</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>64,452</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>82,231</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners, January 2007.

b. Health Provider Services

Table G-24, p. 60 in this section contains a list of health care facilities/providers currently licensed by the Alabama State Board of Health as well as home health agencies that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The Division of Licensure and Certification is the State Agency responsible for licensing applicable health care facilities, pursuant to State Law and providing assistance to health care facilities/providers in complying with federal certification requirements for participation in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The NEAZ compares well with the rest of the state in regard to health provider services. Most health provider services present in the state are also represented in the NEAZ area, see Table G-24, p. 60. Any of the very specialized services not available in our urbanized area are readily available to our population a short distance away.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Total Facilities</th>
<th>Licensed Facilities</th>
<th>Total Beds or Stations</th>
<th>Total Facilities</th>
<th>Licensed Facilities</th>
<th>Total Beds or Stations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive Health Centers</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulatory Surgical Centers</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted Living Facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congregate</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>2,054</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>7,278</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerebral Palsy Centers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Mental Health Centers</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Stage Renal Disease Treatment Centers</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>1,717</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federally Qualified Health Centers</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Health Agencies</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospices</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCAH Facility</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>18,824</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not FCAH</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>20,359</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Clinical Laboratories</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Physiological Laboratories</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Homes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INF/MR</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NF</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNF</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>27,267</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>27,738</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organ Procurement Centers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portable X-Ray Suppliers</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Centers</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Treatment Facilities</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Clinics</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleep Disorders Centers</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty Care Assisted Living Facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congregate</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>1,674</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>956</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>2,630</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTALS</td>
<td>1,867</td>
<td>1,867</td>
<td>59,780</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>3,829</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Alabama Department of Public Health.
10. Tourism

Tourism has become big business in many states as state governments become more aware of the economic benefits from tourist dollars being brought into the state. The four counties under study, lead by the respective Chambers of Commerce, have, along with their respective governments, promoted and tapped into a growing mobile tourism industry. These efforts have been augmented with a very active Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel, The Alabama Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Highland Lakes Association. Visitor’s centers along with internet services have put a stockpile of information in the hands of travelers.

The study area benefits enormously from area attractions and cultural events as Table G-25 shows. These expenditures translate into income, employment, and revenue for governments. It is estimated that one job is created for each $70,735 in tourism expenditures, calculated in the Economic Impact, Alabama Travel Industry, 2005. The report calculates 43 cents out of each dollar is retained by the state. With this in mind it is easy to understand the importance of tourism in the area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>$15,993,576</td>
<td>$17,770,640</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>$48,417,333</td>
<td>$52,097,148</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>$94,537,592</td>
<td>$100,491,847</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>$84,282,693</td>
<td>$96,367,238</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$243,231,194</strong></td>
<td><strong>$266,726,873</strong></td>
<td><strong>9.5%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Economic Impact, Alabama Travel Industry, 2005
Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel.
Lodging taxes are up by 7.5 percent in the study area for 2004-2005 as Table G-26 shows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>$41,796</td>
<td>$46,040</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>$247,430</td>
<td>$266,235</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>$473,174</td>
<td>$502,976</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>$408,634</td>
<td>$444,050</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,171,034</td>
<td>$1,259,301</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Economic Impact, Alabama Travel Industry, 2005
Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel.

Most tourists traveled by personal automobile 206 miles one way to reach the event, or destination. While traveling, 43.2 percent of the tourists sought hotel accommodations at the end of the day, and stayed 2.2 nights while attending local events.

Local governments, chambers of commerce, and other groups are continually planning and hosting a multiplicity of recreation, sports, and cultural events which attract tourists to this area from all over.

Within the study area lies a large variety of tourist attractions that brings them to the area. Economic activity is stimulated by the tourism and travel industry in the area as tourists spend for gas, lodging, food, entertainment, shopping, etc., which results in an additional wave of spending.

The Economic Impact is estimated for the study area. The estimated impact of tourists is an annual figure for the current calendar year of all people visiting the area outside their normal routines.

The economic benefits to the local area result from expenditures by the following:

1. Tourist expenditures
2. Additional tax revenues
3. Additional employment.

Benefits calculated in the study are based on figures from a study done thru the Center for Economic Development at Jacksonville State University and the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel.

The total sales/income impact comes from the combined effect of tourist expenditures. These figures do not include substantial expenditures of tourist related capital investment. Tax benefits include taxes generated by tourist expenditures. Worksheet G-2 (p. 63) demonstrates how the tax benefits are calculated. The impact on employment is the sum of jobs generated by tourist expenditures and expenditures of the tourist related industry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sales/Income Impact</th>
<th>$533.4 million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Benefits</td>
<td>$30.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs Benefit</td>
<td>8,000 jobs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Calculations, Dr. William Scroggins, JSU
~ Worksheet G - 2 ~
Annual Economic Benefits Resulting From
Tourism in the Northeast Economic Activity Zone

A. **SALES BENEFITS FROM TOURISM INDUSTRY:**
Dollar value of goods and services purchased in the local area.

1. Annual Tourist expenditures in 2004  $ 266.7 million
2. Enter the estimated INDIRECT & INDUCED SALES MULTIPLIER. (Range is 1.2 – 2.8; avg = 2.0)  2.0
3. Calculate TOTAL SALES BENEFITS FROM TOURIST INDUSTRY. (4) X (3)  $ 533.4 million

B. **TAX REVENUE BENEFITS FROM TOURISM**

1. Enter TOTAL SALES from 3 above. $ 533.4 million
2. Enter COMBINED STATE & LOCAL RETAIL SALES TAX RATE. .08
3. Calculate SALES TAX REVENUES. (1) x (2)  $ 21.3 million
4. Enter TOTAL SALES from 3 above. $ 533.4 million
5. Enter the TAXABLE INCOME RATIO (i.e., taxable portion of salaries & business profits: range is 0.2 - 0.6; ave. = 0.3) .3
6. Enter the STATE INCOME TAX RATE. .05
7. Calculate INCOME TAX REVENUE. (4) x (5) x (6)  $ 8.0 million
8. COUNTY LODGINGS TAX REVENUES  $ 1.26 million
9. TAX REVENUE BENEFITS from tourism industry. Add (3)  $ 30.5 million

C. **JOB BENEFITS FROM TOURISM**

1. Each TOTAL SALES from 3, expressed in millions. $ 533.4 million
2. Estimate multiplier for JOBS CREATED PER MILLION DOLLARS of total sales. (Range is 10-50; ave. = 30) 15
3. Calculate JOBS CREATED by tourism (1) x (2)  8,000
11. Recreational and Cultural Attractions

An abundance of lakes, parks, scenic nature, recreational opportunities, as well as festivals and the performing arts are available for enjoyment throughout the Northeast Economic Activity Zone. A brief description of some of these major opportunities is included.

While every attempt was made to include all known attractions in the NEAZ, some may have been inadvertently omitted. Please help to maintain a complete up-to-date history by e-mailing a brief description of any omitted attractions to Dr. Bill Scroggins at scroggin@jsu.edu.

Recreational

Lakes/Rivers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coosa River</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>256-549-4680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb County Lake</td>
<td>Sylvania</td>
<td>256-657-3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Neely Henry Lake</td>
<td>Gadsden</td>
<td>256-549-0351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Guntersville</td>
<td>Guntersville</td>
<td>256-571-5444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrapin Creek</td>
<td>Cherokee County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It has been reported that the Coosa River in Gadsden, Alabama is one of the best rivers for fishing in the state. The Coosa River lies between two power reservoirs, Weiss Lake Dam which is up river about 26 miles, and Henry Neely Dam, down river about 13 miles from the Riverside City Docks. Largemouth and spotted bass are the most targeted by fishermen.

DeKalb County Lake is a popular fishing spot that also serves as an excellent introduction to northern Alabama’s bird life. An accessible fishing pier makes it easy to reach deeper water without using a boat. Fish attractors have been added around the lake. Boats are also available for rent; a launching ramp is available for anglers with their own boats.

Neely Henry Reservoir is located in northeast Alabama on the Coosa River, near the towns of Gadsden and Ohatchee. Just off I-59, the reservoir envelopes 11,235 acres and extends 77.6 miles from the dam upstream to Weiss dam. Generally a river-run lake, Neely Henry fans out toward the dam to offer more open water. Sandwiched between Weiss Lake and Logan Martin, Neely Henry is one of the best-kept secrets in the state.

Lake Guntersville is located in north Alabama between Bridgeport and Guntersville. Alabama’s largest lake contains 69,100 acres and stretches 75 miles from Nickajack Dam to Guntersville Dam. Fishing, boating, camping, hunting and eagle watching are popular sports in the area. Eagle watching centers on Guntersville State Park and the dam during the winter, though some bald eagles stay all year. Though most noted nationally for large bass, Lake Guntersville is home to quality angling for a variety of fish. Historically, about two-thirds of the anglers on Guntersville target largemouth bass, although bream (bluegill, redbreast sunfish, and longear sunfish), crappie, sauger and catfish attract their fair share of anglers.

Terrapin Creek flows from the Talladega National Forest in Cleburne County through Calhoun and then into Cherokee County. It is an excellent float fishing stream in its lower reaches from County Road 8 Bridge, ¾ of a mile west of Hwy 9 north of Piedmont, AL, to the County Road 71 Bridge before the creek empties into the old Coosa River channel. Terrapin Creek provides excellent fishing for spotted bass, largemouth bass, redeye bass, bluegill, redbreast sunfish, shadow bass, and an occasional striped bass.
Weiss Lake  
Centre  
256-927-8455  
Weiss Lake, owned by Alabama Power Company, is a 30,200+ acre hydro-electric impoundment of the Coosa, Chattooga, and Little Rivers offering 447 miles of shoreline with shallow flats, under-water drop-offs, deep channels and large coves. Privately owned motels, marinas, campgrounds, boat and motor rentals, guide service, bait and supply shops are all available. The largemouth bass fishery has been a best-kept secret for several years. Data collected from tournament anglers and state fisheries personnel has shown that Weiss Lake is one of the better bass fisheries in the state. [www.cherokee-chamber.org/weiss.htm](http://www.cherokee-chamber.org/weiss.htm)

GOLF

**Briarmeade Golf Club**  
Glencoe  
256-492-1150  
The 18-hole "Briarmeade" course at the Briarmeade Golf Course facility in Glencoe, Alabama features 6,066 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 71. The course rating is 68 and it has a slope rating of 120. Designed by George L. Black, the Briarmeade golf course opened in 1938. David Bright is the Golf Professional.  
[www.golflink.com/golf-courses/golf-course.asp?course=82](http://www.golflink.com/golf-courses/golf-course.asp?course=82)

**Cloudmont Ski & Golf Resort**  
Mentone  
256-634-4344  
Saddle Rock Golf Course is a part of the one thousand-acre Cloudmont Resort complex. The course is open seven days a week, year around. Play is on nine holes from 18 tees and the first tee is uniquely lofted above a fairway on a 30-foot rock. The par 63 executive courses offer a challenge for the amateur or professional with water hazards and sand traps.  
[www.cloudmont.com/golf.htm](http://www.cloudmont.com/golf.htm)

**Gadsden Country Club**  
Gadsden  
256-547-2011  
The 18-hole “Gadsden” course at the Gadsden Country Club facility in Gadsden, Alabama features 6,575 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 71. The course rating is 72.3 and it has a slope rating of 134 on Bermuda grass. Shane Honaker is the General Manager.

**Gunters Landing**  
Guntersville  
256-582-3000  
Eighteen masterfully crafted holes offering awe inspiring beauty with a choice of difficulty ranging from moderate to darn tough! Imagine playing a manicured golf course where every hole leaves you with the impression that yours is the only foursome on the course. Winding through this lush green forest it seems every hole provides a new and exciting experience. A full scale practice facility offering range putting green, chipping green and sand bunker allows golfers to hone their skills before and after their rounds. Overlooks Lake Guntersville and also includes swimming and tennis. Number of holes: 18, Par: 72. [www.gunterslanding.com](http://www.gunterslanding.com)

**Hidden Oaks**  
Rainbow City  
256-413-4653  
The 9-hole "Hidden Oaks" course at the Hidden Oaks Golf Club facility in Rainbow City, Alabama features 2,640 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 34. Designed by Shane Martin, the Hidden Oaks golf course opened in 2001. Scott Harris is the General Manager.  

**Saddle Rock Golf Course**  
Mentone  
256-634-4344  
This scenic course has one small lake that comes into play and its fairways are lined with pine, maple, and oak trees. Huge boulders and hills are part of the overall terrain. The tee box on hole #1 is located on one of the boulders. The ladies tee off from the same set of tees as the men.  
[www.thegolfcourses.net/golfcourses/AL/14615.htm](http://www.thegolfcourses.net/golfcourses/AL/14615.htm)

**Silver Lakes Golf Course**  
Glencoe  
256-892-3268  
Set on rolling terrain at the edge of Talladega National Forest between Anniston and Gadsden, Silver Lakes Golf Course features 3 championship nines plus a nine hole Short Course. The immaculate undulating greens and beautiful sloping fairways appeal to golfers at various skill levels. It was named by Golf Digest’s places to play and take in breathtaking course views and enjoy our friendly comfortable atmosphere. [http://www.rtigolf.com/courses/silver_lakes/](http://www.rtigolf.com/courses/silver_lakes/)
Twin Lakes Golf Club

Twin Lakes Golf Club in Arab, Alabama provides what golfers have come to expect of fine golf clubs. From a great golf course to professional instruction and courteous service, Twin Lakes has it all.  
www.playtwinlakes.com/golf/proto/twinlakes-al/index.htm

Twin Bridges Golf Course

Twin Bridges offers five sets of tees to entice golfers of all skill levels to experience this 5,800 yard par 72 beauty.  Twin Bridges offers golfers well manicured Bermuda fairways, bent grass greens, and a beautiful view of the Coosa River.  
www.twinbridgesgolf.com

Will Creek Golf Club

The 18-hole "Wills Creek" course at the Wills Creek Country Club facility in Attalla, Alabama features 6,502 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 70.  The course rating is 66.6 and it has a slope rating of 106.  Wills Creek golf course opened in 1960. Glynda Faucett manages the course.

STATE PARKS

Buck's Pocket State Park

As the story goes, Buck's Pocket, is where all the defeated public officials go to lick their wounds after an unsuccessful election. We don't know if this story is true, but we do know this park is secluded in a natural pocket of the Appalachian Mountain chain. This is a 2,000-acre nature lover's dream. Uniquely located, the park's picnic area offers a canyon rim natural vista into the pocket below. The pocket itself, on an upstream tributary of Lake Guntersville, hosts a campground, complete with tables, grills, shelters, laundry, comfort station, playground and hiking trails.

Cathedral Caverns State Park

Alabama’s newest state park!  The first thing visitors notice about Cathedral Caverns is the massive entrance.  The huge opening measures 126 feet wide and 25 feet high.  And it gets even better.  Inside the cavern, you will find Big Rock Canyon, Mystery River and some of the most beautiful formations Mother Nature has ever created.  Among them, visitors will see Stalagmite Mountain and The Frozen Waterfall and Goliath that are huge stalagmite columns that reach the ceiling of the cave some 45 feet above!

DeSoto State Park

Take the opportunity to commune with nature here at DeSoto. The park offers overnight accommodations such as rustic cabins, modern chalets and motel rooms that are convenient to hiking trails, the lodge, a restaurant and a swimming pool. Be sure to check with them to find out more about their weekend interpretive programs and guided hikes they have planned all throughout the summer and fall seasons. All programs are free to the public and guests of the park.  
www.desotostatepark.com

Lake Guntersville State Park

In the Tennessee Valley, overlooking the majestic 69,000 acre Guntersville Reservoir, this park includes over 6,000 acres of natural woodlands. The park has an 18-hole championship golf course, a beach complex, fishing center, hiking trails, nature programs and a day-use area. Modern campground and lake view cottages on the lake coupled with a resort lodge on the pinnacle of Taylor Mountain, and chalets on the ridge-tops provide a selection of overnight accommodations beyond comparison.  
www.alapark.com/parks/park.cfm?parkid=5

SCENIC, NATURE, AND WILDLIFE

Canyon Mouth Park Recreation Area

Day-use facility features swimming, picnicking, hiking or simply relaxing near Little River. Southern gateway to beautiful Little River Canyon National Preserve.
Cherokee Rock Village
Centre
256-927-8455
Marvel at the view from atop Lookout Mountain Ridge. You won’t soon forget breath taking
views of Weiss Lake and distant cities. The 200+ acre park contains boulders as large as 200 ft.
tall and dating back 300 million years to the Pennsylvanian Period of Geologic time. The park
has eight mountain springs and offers many miles of exciting crevices, cracks, caves and trails.
www.cherokee-chamber.org/rock.htm

Cloudmont Ski & Golf Resort
Mentone
256-634-4344
The resort has two one-thousand foot, beginner-intermediate slopes. Two "pony lifts" take skiers
to the top of the slopes that have an elevation of 1,800 feet and a vertical rise of 150 feet.
Campfires, Storytelling, Legends, Square Dancing, and History of the Mountain, Hiking, Fishing,
Swimming, Golf and Skiing are offered. www.cloudmont.com/

Cornwall Furnace Park
Cedar Bluff
256-779-6121
In 1862 the Noble brothers of Rome, GA. erected this cold blast furnace, the first in the country
to be powered by water. The Furnace was part of the Confederate States of America’s iron works
and is said to be the best preserved in the southeast. The 5-1/2 acre park contains a 3000 foot
nature trail and picnic pavilion. Located of AL hwy 9 two miles east of Cedar Bluff. Open all
year. www.cedarbluff-al.org/history.html

Fort Payne's Union Park
Fort Payne
256-845-1524
Located in downtown Fort Payne on the corner of 5th and Gault Avenue North, across from the
Depot Museum. The park provides the perfect setting for picnics and family reunions. It holds a
wealth of history, from historic markers flanking the outskirts of the park to the century old
Ginko trees that fill the park with a cool shade in the summer and an amber glow of foliage in the
fall.

High Falls Park
Geraldine
256-623-2281
Stroll across a bridge that spans a gorge overlooking the beautiful Town Creek. Drift back to a
time when men and women rode by horse and buggy across the gorge to the local mercantile
beyond the ridge. Marvel at the majestic scenic vistas and waterfall. Plan a picnic for two or for
the whole family. Park offers pavilions, restrooms, playground and peace and tranquility.

Horse Pens 40
Steele
256-570-0002
The unique feature of this land is a ring of rocks, known as “pens” which early settlers used to
corral horses. Horse Pens 40 continues to host music festivals, arts & crafts shows, Native
American Festivals, and Civil War reenactments. It also offers camping sites, six miles of hiking
trails and a museum with Native American and Civil War exhibits.
www.horsepens40.tripod.com/index.html

Little River Canyon National Preserve
Fort Payne
256-845-9605
Includes mountains, canyons, caves, water falls and majestic vistas! One of the most extensive
canyon systems of the Cumberland Plateau section. Habitat for unique plants and animals (some
rare and endangered species). Also includes a river that flows most of its length on a mountain
top and archeological resources (rock shelters, etc.) and historic sights from ancient Indian
cultures. This is one of the deepest canyons and some of the most rugged scenery in the eastern
U.S. Little River Canyon Rim Parkway follows the west rim of the canyon, with picnic tables
available at the scenic overlooks. www.nps.gov/liri/

Noccalula Falls
Gadsden
256-549-4663
This natural wonder features a 90-foot waterfall named for Noccalula, a young Cherokee maiden
who plunged to her untimely death rather than forsake her true love. She is memorialized by a
statue and the engraved story of her fate. Nestled among the trees in the park is a pioneer village,
a group of rustic, hand-hewn log buildings representing a display of pioneer living conditions.
Included in the village are a country store, grist mill, covered bridge, pioneer home, smoke house,
blacksmith shop and more. Other park attractions include a War Memorial and Museum,
botanical gardens, hiking trails, sightseeing train, playground, carpet golf, picnic pavilions and
meeting facilities. www.800alabama.com
Paddling Clinic at Terrapin Creek       Piedmont       256-447-8383
Learn the secrets of safe paddling from the experts. The object of this event is to promote paddling and river safety for all levels of participants. This event will feature hands-on paddling safety instruction, proper use of personal flotation devices, how to read the river that you are exploring and much more. Workshop participants will receive valuable knowledge, skills, packages including coupons for future clinics and a certificate of completion. They also rent canoes and kayaks! There's nothing better than a quiet peaceful float down Terrapin Creek. Clean clear water, beautiful scenery, great fishing, wildlife, and enough moving water to keep things interesting. www.canoeshop.net/events.htm

Sequoyah Caverns       Valley Head       256-635-0024
Sequoyah Caverns is nestled in Will's Valley surrounded by rolling hills and pastureland. Fallow deer and peacock roam the pastures, with the cave extending into the base of Sand Mountain. Known for it's reflecting pools, this cave is named for the Cherokee Indian Chief Sequoyah. Guided tours of the cave are available with special group rates. Looking for a more adventurous tour? Try a wild cave tour, rock climbing or rappelling! Coming soon - Horseback Riding. www.sequoyahcaverns.com

Shady Grove Dude Ranch       Mentone       256-634-4344
The Ranch sits high atop Lookout Mountain near Mentone, Alabama. It includes a giant rock formation that spreads at length across the mountain that shows Little River and a ski area. The Ranch includes 1,000 acres of beautiful wooded wilderness, and is laced with 100 miles of picturesque trails that are used by part-time cowboys and nature enthusiasts for on-foot or on-horse hikes. www.shadegroupduderanch.com

True Adventure Sports       DeSoto State Park       256-523-4089
True Adventure Sports helps visitors plan their adventure at DeSoto State Park, the Little River Canyon National Preserve, Sequoyah Caverns and other Lookout Mountain locations. They offer outdoor gear, rock climbing, rappelling, wild cave tours, camping, kayaking, clothing and shoes. Guided trips. Lessons available and team building. Snacks & hot showers available.

Tigers for Tomorrow at Untamed Mountain     Attalla       256-524-4150
Tigers for Tomorrow provide a last stop sanctuary for exotic animals, specializing in exotic cats. Open to the public on Saturday and Sundays, as well as for private parties and group tours by appointment Wednesday - Friday. www.tigersfortomorrow.org/

TRAILS
Azalea Cascade Boardwalk Trail       Fort Payne       1-800-ALAPARK
The Azalea Cascade Boardwalk Trail was planned and built through a community effort. Grants and donations paid for the materials used to build the trail. It was constructed by the Alabama State Parks Maintenance Crew. The Boardwalk is a 360-yard trail that can be enjoyed and traveled by people of all abilities. No matter what the season, the boardwalk gives the hiker a unique perspective of the surrounding habitat. A 20-foot octagon deck at the end of the trail places visitors over the pool created by the Azalea Cascade. A mid-April walk encircles visitors with the fragrant aroma of wild azaleas. Enjoy the breathtaking views from the Boardwalk Trail. www.alapark.com/parks/feature.cfm?parkid=3&featureid=15

James D. Martin Wildlife Park & Walking Trail       Etowah
This attraction is located on the land bordering H. Neely Henry Lake that was set aside as an urban green space. This wildlife acreage was transformed into a recreational space for hikers, bikers and others who enjoy the outdoors. www.trails.com

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VINEYARDS
Wills Creek Vineyards  
Attalla  256-538-5452
The only active winery in Northern Alabama, it is one of seven vineyards in the state of Alabama. Wills Creek with a generations old family tradition of wine making and immigrated from Switzerland, produces eight varieties of muscadine wines.  
www.muscadine.com

CULTURAL

HISTORIC SITES
Arab Historic Complex  
Arab  256-586-8128
Arab City Park, Shoal Creek Trail. Open 1st & 3rd Sat. & Sun., includes 1935 Old Hunt School, 1912 church, county store, museum, grist mill, and blacksmith shop.

Historic Downtown Gadsden  
Gadsden  256-549-0351
A trip to Gadsden wouldn’t be complete without touring the historic downtown area, which has recently been restored to reflect its original luster. The streets, graced with old-fashioned street lamps, are lined with several specialty stores, and a variety of antique stores.

Memorial Bridge & Emma Samson Statue  
Gadsden  256-549-0351
At the end of Brad Street is the entrance of Memorial Bridge, where you’ll find the Emma Samson monument. Samson, a local resident was a noted Confederate heroine. On the morning of May 2, 1863, she guided General Nathan Bedford Forrest to an obscure ford across Black Creek near Gadsden. As a result, Forrest later overtook and captured Streight’s Raiders and saved the Confederate supply line at Rome, Georgia.  
www.gadsden-etowahtourismboard.com/attractions.htm

Nichols Memorial Library  
Gadsden  256-549-0351
The home of the Northeast Alabama Genealogical Society is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The library is open for genealogical research every Thursday.

Pre-Civil War Cemetery  
Albertville  256-891-8270
Open 24 hours, the cemetery is located on a vast stretch of land marked with rows of white marble and granite headstones. Words carved in old stones tell unique and fascinating stories not found in school books and libraries.  
www.cityofalbertville.com/?id=65

Spirit of American Citizenship Monument  
Gadsden  256-549-0351
Includes a spiral, pyramid-shaped lighted monument to honor citizens and history of the area. Also includes taped messages with area history, the national anthem sung by Jeff Cook, and a George Washington quote.

War Memorial Monument  
Gadsden  256-549-4663
This structure stands as a tribute to the 457 known Etowah County men who died in World War I & II, The Korean, Vietnam and Lebanon Wars. Their names are listed in marble to remind everyone of their supreme sacrifice for their county.  

MUSEUMS
Alabama Fan Club and Museum  
Fort Payne  256-845-1646
Home of the Country Music Group of the Century, this museum houses the group Alabama's many awards and achievements, as well as collections from their youth and a souvenir and gift shop.  
www.thealabamaband.com/

Central Carver Museum  
Gadsden  256-549-4742
Phase One of the Central-Carver Museum, which was completed in March of 2006, showcases the spirit of excellence and determination of Central-Carver High School administrators, instructors and students through archival information and an array of cultural activities. The Museum is located on the site of the former Carver High School. Activities include tours,
training, seminars, and special exhibits. The Museum encourages alumni participation in special events such as art exhibits, monthly observances, and local school events.

**Cherokee County Historical Museum**

Centre 256-927-7835

Featuring a wide array of local historical items and memorabilia, Cherokee County heritage is depicted in displays of old local newspapers, shotguns, wagons, Indian artifacts, doll collection, celebrity memorabilia, house wares, telephones, appliances, washtubs, daguerreotype photographs from 1831 to the present and Civil War, WWI, WWII, and Railroad artifacts.


**Fort Payne Depot Museum**

Fort Payne 256-845-5714

Crafted from beautiful pink sandstone and Richardson Romanesque architecture, this 1891 depot was operated by the Alabama Great Southern Railroad. It served as a train station until 1970. It now houses railroad memorabilia, dioramas handcrafted back in 1913, Indian Artifacts, local history and more!  [www.tourdekalb.com/attractions.htm](http://www.tourdekalb.com/attractions.htm)

**Gadsden Museum of Art**

Gadsden 256-546-7365

The museum features a year-round schedule of programs and services. Includes permanent collections of fine arts, as well as a collection of historical and local art. Offers extensive educational outreach programs. It features works of Southern art and artists and houses and extensive permanent collection of paintings, sculptures and prints. The museum also hosts a series of changing exhibits featuring the works of local and regional artists.

[www.museum@gadsden.com](http://www.museum@gadsden.com)

**Imagination Place Children’s Museum**

Gadsden 256-543-2787

Enriches the lives of children by sparking creativity and imagination to build the foundation for a life of learning. The museum is committed to providing exhibits and activities in the arts and sciences that promote imagination, exploration and discovery. As a children’s museum, Imagination Place provides interactive learning environments through participatory, hands-on exhibits and complementary educational programs to stimulate young minds.

[www.culturalarts.org](http://www.culturalarts.org)

**PERFORMING ARTS**

**Center for Cultural Arts**

Gadsden 256-543-2787

The Center for Cultural Arts offers residents and visitors to North Alabama opportunities to see, learn and experience the arts in all their forms. The Center is a place for art lovers to view a variety of visual, musical and theatrical presentations in a unique facility located in the heart of historic downtown Gadsden. Three galleries change exhibits frequently to provide varied enrichment opportunities. The nationally celebrated Etowah Youth Symphony Orchestra draws enthusiastic crowds at concerts throughout the year. The center features complete convention and banquet facilities and a full service restaurant open for lunch Monday - Friday and for dinner Monday - Saturday. The Center's New Orleans-style Courtyard features live entertainment every weekend all summer, weather permitting. [www.culturalarts.org/](http://www.culturalarts.org/)

**Courtyard Concerts**

Gadsden 256-543-2787

Courtyard Concerts take place every Friday and Saturday night from May until September. The courtyard features a variety of music including Jazz, Funk, Rock, Blues, today’s hits and more. [www.culturalarts.org/cc.asp](http://www.culturalarts.org/cc.asp)
Gadsden Convention Hall & Historic Mort Glosser Amphitheater
The Historic Mort Glosser Amphitheater offers drama, music and other special events. Convention Hall has an auditorium which has a banquet seating capacity of 1,000 persons and concert seating of 1,750. The Arthur Green Room has a capacity of 200 persons, with other meeting rooms accommodating 30 to 70 persons. The facility also has kitchen facilities, a concession stand, and modern stage equipment.
www.gadsden-etowahtourismboard.com/attractions.htm

Landmarks Opera House Fort. Payne 256-845-0720
This structure was built in 1889 by W.O. Rice and was known as the "handsomest opera house in the South." The Landmarks Opera House showed silent movies during the roaring twenties, and brought popular actors to the stage in the 50's and 60's. Landmarks of DeKalb County restored the building during the 1970's and it has served the community ever since featuring some fine productions from plays to music to patriotic celebrations. It is the oldest opera house in the state still in use today.

Theatre of Gadsden Gadsden 256-547-7469
The historic Ritz Theater, located on Wall Street behind the Alabama City Library, serves as the home of Theatre of Gadsden. For many years, audiences have been enchanted and entertained by the best in popular dramas and musicals, whether classic or contemporary. Upcoming improvements to the theater will ensure that audiences for generations to come will enjoy the finest in local dramatic production. www.theatreofgadsden.com/

The Etowah Youth Orchestra Gadsden 256-543-2787
Recognized nationally for their commitment to new music, the Etowah Youth Orchestras entertain large, enthusiastic crowds at concerts throughout the year. Four ensembles – the Etowah Youth Symphony Orchestra, EYS Honor Strings, Etowah Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and June Bugg Prelude Strings make up the EYO. The EYO is one of the most celebrated performing groups in Northeast Alabama. www.culturalarts.com/eyo.asp

ANTIQUE SHOPS/SHOPPING

Antique Attalla Attalla 256-538-7811
Includes “Three Blocks of Shops”, approximately 21 antique and specialty stores nestled in a quaint little town. In 1903, Attalla (founded 1870) was home to the first hydroelectric generator in the world, becoming the first city completely powered by water, and the birthplace of Alabama Power. The more than 20 antique stores provide an antique enthusiast's dream come true!

Boaz Outlet Stores Boaz 800-SHOPBOAZ
Located just 50 miles southeast of Huntsville, Alabama is a Shopper's Paradise--Boaz. There you will find 5 Outlet Malls, back to back, featuring over 100 different stores and most within walking distance of each other. Boaz is proud to combine its friendly hometown atmosphere with the serious business of shopping. The Outlets started in 1982 with Vanity Fair, followed by the Boaz Outlet Center in 1984 and then Fashion Outlets. Tanger Factory Outlet Center and Factory Stores of America Outlet Centers soon followed. www.boaz.net

US11 Antique Alley Etowah County 877-871-1386
Always a four-day weekend (Thursday-Sunday) after Mother's Day in May, May 17-20, 2007, a 502-mile festive roadside sale is held on U.S. Highway 11 from Meridian, Mississippi through Birmingham, Alabama, and towns in Dade County, Georgia, then Chattanooga, Tennessee, to Knoxville, Tennessee, and on to Bristol, Virginia. The event, known as "U.S. 11 Antique Alley," is celebrated in each county up and down the US 11 corridors. Each town along the route plans its own events, as festivals, antique sales, flea markets and yard sales, carnivals, etc., and many other activities to be held in conjunction with the "Happening." www.us11antiquealley.com
FLEA MARKETS

**411 Yard Sale**  
*Cherokee County*  
256-523-2974


**I-59 Flea Market**  
*Valley Head*  
256-638-5907

The I-59 Flea Market has been Featured on *Turner South's JUNKIN*. This indoor/outdoor event takes place each Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Individual booths sell anything from antiques, collectibles, tools, garden decor, fresh fruits and vegetables, and various name brand products. Located in Valley Head off Alabama Highway 117 at exit #231 on Interstate 59. [http://www.tourdekalb.com/Calendar.htm](http://www.tourdekalb.com/Calendar.htm)

**Collinsville Tradeday**  
*Collinsville*  
256-524-2536

Collinsville Trade Day is open every Sat. More than 160 acres of colorful alleys and treasure-laden corridors. Shop from many sellers. Visitors will find an enormous variety of collectibles, arts, crafts, comic books, belt buckles, jewelry, groceries, produce, pets and more. You'll see a huge selection of fashion clothing, walking shoes, fine furniture, and tools -- from bonsai pruning shears to power meters. [www.collinsvilletradeday.net](http://www.collinsvilletradeday.net)

**Mountain Top Flea Market**  
*Attalla*  
800-535-2286

Mountain Top started in 1973 with just a few vendors, a hot dog stand, and a couple of loyal folks who are still sticking around with us today. Owners Melton "Cowboy" and Janie Terrell can always be found somewhere on Sunday's mingling with the crowd, "People are what makes this what it is", says Cowboy, "Without them we wouldn't be here". And it shows. Visitors have come to Mountain Top from all 50 states and from around the world just to experience a "true" southern flea market. Every year they grow a little bit more. They add some more vendors, and pave a little more of the parking lot. Rest assured this will always be the home for the BEST of America's Flea Markets. In 1995, it was rated #1 in the Fairs and Flea Market category by Alabama’s Bureau of Tourism and Travel, with over 1.64 million visitors. [www.mountaintopfleamarket.com](http://www.mountaintopfleamarket.com)

**World’s Longest Yard Sale**  
*(450 Mile Yard Sale)*  
*Fort Payne*  
888-805-4740

Travel more than 450-miles of scenic beauty and see thousands of yard sales. Get started on your journey by traveling the 93-mile Lookout Mountain Parkway route from Gadsden, Alabama to Chattanooga, Tennessee for the most "scenic rural America" in the United States. Alabama has more than 1,000 yard sale vendors alone! You will find everything from antiques, collectibles, furniture, dishware, fresh garden produce, homemade jams and jellies, food vendors, live entertainment and so much more. Continue with the yard sale, following the U.S. 127 Corridor from Chattanooga, TN to Covington, KY for another 350 miles of yard sale bargains. When combined, the Lookout Mountain Parkway and the 127 Corridor have had as many as 5,000 vendors lined along the 450-mile scenic yard sale route in past years. [www.tourdekalb.com/yardsaleinfo.htm](http://www.tourdekalb.com/yardsaleinfo.htm)

FESTIVALS

**Centre Fall Festival**  
*Centre*  
256-927-5222

The Fall Festival event is on the first Saturday of October each year in downtown Centre. This event has over 100 vendors participating each year with crafts, handmade items, jewelry, wood-works, fund raisers, games and rides for children, home cooked baked goods, and many more. The day begins at 7am with a 5K run, followed by other short runs, a parade of antique cars and saddle clubs and local entertainment until 1pm. [www.cherokee-chamber.org/localevents.htm](http://www.cherokee-chamber.org/localevents.htm)

**Gadsden Riverfest**  
*Gadsden*  
256-543-3472

The Riverfest Festival has been a Gadsden tradition for over 14 years. Like most festivals, Riverfest began as a small one-day event showcasing local talent, arts & crafts and providing local residents with a day of fun and music. Over the years, the festival has grown into a regional
musical festival, attracting people from all over the South. Dedicated fans from across the country have made their way to Gadsden, Alabama to see their favorite performers. The streets of Albert Rains Boulevard, along the banks of the Coosa River near Moragne Park, are blocked off for two days of music and entertainment. Of course, no festival would be complete without good food. For the last few years, food vendors have been selling everything from funnel cakes to gyros and have become a part of the variety that is Riverfest. Each year, along Riverfest’s main walk there are also craft vendors and artisans displaying their wares. This popular element keeps Riverfest going and provides a chance for the audience to browse during the day or between musical acts.

www.gadsdenriverfest.com

**Mentone Colorfest**  
Mentone  
256-997-9051

As the summer fades to autumn, leaves of crimson and gold begin to fall. Swirling clouds of sparkling embers rise from a bonfire like fireflies bringing warmth to the crisp autumn night. Mentone opens her arms to welcome one and all to Colorfest and the beauty of the mountain with its colorful splendor that comes only with the fall. Colorfest 2006, located on Lookout Mountain, begins Friday evening at 6:30 on October 20th with a crackling bonfire, heart-warming, foot-stomping, hand-clapping music, with roasted peanuts, hot chocolate, spiced cider, and storytelling and a marshmallow roast for the children.

http://www.mentonealabama.org/ColorFest2006.htm

**Rainbow City Chocolate Festival**  
Rainbow City  
256-543-3472

This is truly an event for all ages. Enjoy tasting, sipping, chewing, and smelling products and recipes that are a tribute to this age-old ingredient that turns us all into youngsters again. Activities include a chocolate dunking booth; recipe contests in four categories: cakes, cookies, pies, and candy; children’s activities; food, art, and merchandise vendors; a chocolate pudding eating contest; and musical entertainment by Tim Watson & Black Creek; Rick & Tad; Rita Allen; and Road Trip. www.chocolatefestivalrbc.com/

**Rhododendron Festival**  
Mentone  
256-997-9051

The Mentone Area Preservation Association presents old time fun with arts, demonstrations, crafts, music, dancing, boat rides, games, & more. See the arts and crafts vendors at Brow Park during the day on Saturday and Sunday in May. Rhododendron plants will be for sale.

www.northalabama.net/calendar/mentone-rhod-festival_2006.html

**EDUCATION**

**Gadsden Community School for the Arts**  
Gadsden  
256-546-2787

Classes in ballet, lyrical dance, yoga, jazz, piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, voice, conducting, visual arts and theatre are offered by the Gadsden Community School for the Arts, regardless of age or experience level. Additionally, there is private instruction throughout the county in dance, music, drama, painting and other activities, plus many non-credit, special-interest classes. Registration forms are available at The Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts located at 501 Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama. http://www.culturalarts.com/gcsa.asp

**Gadsden State Community College**  
Gadsden  
256-549-8200

Gadsden State Community College is a public, open-door; comprehensive community college dedicated to meeting the changing needs of citizens in its service area. It offers two year degrees, a number of technical and certificate programs, and non-credit programs that include continuing education, skills training, and adult education. http://www.gadsdenstate.edu/

**Jacksonville State University at Gadsden**  
Gadsden  
256-549-8390

JSU-Gadsden is an off-campus center of the main campus of Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama, and located in the new Joe M. Ford Center of Economic Development, on campus of Gadsden State Community College. The Joe M. Ford Center for economic development is a partnership between Gadsden State Community College, Jacksonville State University and the State of Alabama. The Ford Center serves as an education and economic development resource for business, industry, government, and economic developers. The Center
provides educational opportunities to retain, train, and retrain the area’s workforce. It also serves to foster the development of strategic initiatives to serve our current workforce while planning for its future. In addition, it is the community’s partner in workforce readiness and in meeting the needs of our ever-changing economy. JSU-Gadsden offers courses in Business, Education, Arts and Sciences, and Masters’ level course work in Education and Business Administration.

http://www.gadsden.ua.edu/

The University of Alabama Gadsden 256-546-2886

Outreach Program-Gadsden Center
At The University of Alabama Gadsden Center, you may earn your degree through flexible programs designed for adults. These accredited programs accommodate your schedule, enabling you to balance your family, career, and education.

http://www.ua.edu/academic/colleges/academicoutreach/page.cfm?page=about_us

Snead Community College Boaz 256-593-5120
Founded in 1898, Snead State has built a reputation of offering quality educational programs. The College has successfully meshed its proven method of teaching with cutting edge technology. Their programs of study include academic transfer, career and applied technology, continuing education, and workforce development. With the availability of the STARS guide, transferring your credits from Snead State to the university of your choice has never been simpler.

http://www.snead.cc.al.us/about/welcome.asp
Calendar of Events 2006-2007
Northeast Economic Activity Zone

A wide variety and large number of recreational and cultural activities occur throughout the cities and counties comprising the Northeast Economic Activity Zone. The listing that follows represents a compilation of events scheduled to occur in the four counties included in this study.

While every attempt was made to include all known events and activities in the NEAZ, some may have been inadvertently omitted. Please help to maintain a complete up-to-date history by e-mailing a brief description of any omitted attractions to Dr. Bill Scroggins at scroggin@jsu.edu.

Attalla
- Oct 14, Wills Creek Vineyard. “Grape Stomping Festival”.
- Every Sun, Mountain Top Flea Market. More than 1,500 dealers and 2.6 miles of shopping.
- Oct 21, Attalla Heritage Day. This year’s festivities will have stages situated in historic downtown Attalla with entertainment for the whole family.

Albertville
- Apr 26, Professional Assistants Day.
- Jun 30-Jul 1, Taste of Freedom BBQ Cook-off.
- Nov 30, Albertville Chamber of Commerce sponsors the annual Christmas Parade through downtown Albertville.
- Dec 1, Main Street Holiday Celebration.

Arab
- May 5-6, Poke Salat Festival. Activities include Poke Salat cook-off, womanless beauty pageant, crafts, food and entertainment.
- Jul 8, Arab Park & Recreation 14th Annual Horse Show. Arab Horse Arena—Walking, Racking, and Spotted Horse Show. 4:30 p.m. 256-586-6793. Admission charged.
- Sept 9, Arab Community Fair. Arab City Park—Arts, crafts, food, entertainment, and children's activities.
- Nov 24-Dec 31, Christmas in the Park. Over 1,000,000 lights transform Arab City Park with nightly entertainment each weekend through Dec 23rd.

Boaz
- Feb 28-Mar 9, Alabama Wagon Train, a 10-day, 190 mile trail ride with horses and wagons from Boaz to Montgomery. Rodeo in Montgomery Mar. 8-10.
- Mar 13, Benefit Celebrity Basketball Game. Boaz Recreation Center.
- May, Marshall County VFW Spring Carnival, Boaz.
- Sept 22, 5th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament.
- Oct 6-7, Boaz Harvest Festival. Food, vendors, crafts, entertainment, Miss Harvest Festival Pageant, moon pie eating contest, and more.
- Dec 1, Annual Boaz Christmas Parade. Through downtown Boaz, candy, Santa, and more.
- Nov 3-Dec 23, Marshall County Craft Club. The Marshall County Craft Club will have its 12th annual Christmas Craft Show.
- 12th Annual Christmas Craft Show. Similar to a craft mall, the show features more than 75 booths of unique, handmade crafts. A portion of each sale supports local children charities.
- Nov 5, Billy Drove – LIVE!! BOAZ SON and Up and Coming Nashville Artist on the verge of signing a major record deal is appearing in his home town to help the Marshall County School music programs.
Centre
- Feb 15-May 15, WLIA Spring Crappie Rodeo. Sponsored by the Weiss Lake Improvement Assoc. and participating merchants and cities & towns. Over $10,000 worth of prizes and money.
- Mar 3, Cherokee electric Coop Home & Garden Show.
- Mar 11, American Red Cross Super Soup Supper. An annual event that consists of soup tasting contest, meal, and auction fund raiser. This event draws a large crowd and is a great opportunity to bid on items and contribute to a good cause.
- Apr, Humane Society Annual Yard Sale and Spring Flower Sale, Corner of Hwy 411 and 68.
- Apr 8, The Taste of Cherokee. Through a buffet line at this event, you can taste a sample of specialty dishes from over 30 Cherokee County restaurants, diners, fast food, deli’s, caterers, and other food sources.
- Jun 3, Essentials of River Safety.
- Jun 9, 2nd Annual Golf Classic.
- Sep 9, Leesburg Day. Second Saturday of September each year. Opening ceremony at 10:00 am under the pavilion. Lots of food, games, crafts, door prizes, antique car show, and entertainment.
- Aug 3-6, World’s Longest Yard Sale. Begins at Noccalula Falls in Gadsden, travels on Lookout Mountain Parkway through Cherokee County and Dekalb County along US 127 to Covington, KY.
- Sept, Walker Brothers Circus. Sponsored by the Civitan Club of Centre. Held in late September. Held behind Tab’s located on Main Street in Centre.
- The Harley McGatha Annual Fly In. Hosted by Harley McGatha and the Alabama Belle. Watch for sea planes landing and taking off at the Cowin-Spring Creek area of Weiss Lake. Vintage planes will be on display at the Centre Airport.
- Oct 4-7, Hwy. 411 Yard Sale. Yard sale begins at US Hwy 411 in Leeds, AL travels through Leesburg and Centre, through Rome, GA and ends at Newport, TN.
- Oct 7, Centre Fall Festival. The Fall Festival event is on the first Saturday of October each year in downtown Centre. This event has over 100 vendors participating each year with crafts, handmade items, jewelry, woodworks, fund raisers, games and rides for children, home cooked baked goods, and many more.
- Oct 7-8, McCord’s Quilt Show. Held first weekend of October, at the McCord Family & Community & Education Center, located on County Road 157. Enter quilts on first day, judging done after 4 pm.
- Dec 7, Cherokee County Christmas Parade. The Cherokee County Christmas parade will be held Saturday, December 8, 2007. It begins at 10 am, on Main Street in Centre. Over 100 participants consisting of floats (by schools, churches, and businesses) banks, school representatives, beauty queens, antique cars, saddle clubs, rescue units, fire departments, municipality representatives, many others, and Santa Claus.

Cedar Bluff
- Mar 4, Cedar Bluff Civitan Club Chili Supper.
- Jul 1, Cedar Bluff Liberty Day Celebration. Crafts, rides, live entertainment, refreshments, an antique car show, and sporting competitions.

Collinsville
- 4th weekend in Sept, Collinsville Annual Quilt Walk. Vintage and contemporary quilts are on tour of this annual tour of historic homes and churches.
- Every Sat, Collinsville Trade-day. 160-acre flea market. One can find art, collectables, plants, produce, traditional foods, house wares, clothing and more.
Nov 10-11, **Collinsville Historic Turkey Trot.** This event kicks off with an old fashioned dance at the Collinsville Community Center. Includes a turkey shoot, cake walk, games, antique car and tractor show, food, and of course the historic turkey toss from the buildings in downtown Collinsville.

**Crossville**

- Apr 29-May 6, **Mule Days In Alabama.** Mule Days in Alabama from Sand Mountain to Cullman. Begins April 29th with a show at Crossville & Bar B Q on the 30th. Trail Ride begins on Monday, May 1 in Crossville. Ride ends in Cullman on Friday, May 5. May 6th includes a Mule Day Show in Cullman, AL. Also, includes a Wagon & Buggy Show.

**Fort Payne**

- Feb 10-18, **Advocacy Dinner Theater.**
- Feb 25-26, **Bridal Fair.**
- Apr 1, **Deep Canyon Hike.**
- Apr 1, **Orbix Hot Glass Spring Open House.**
- Apr 22, **Wildflower Saturday at Little River.**
- Apr 29, **Bilingual Spanish-English Hike.**
- May 4-6, **Krazy Kudzu Follies.**
- May 6-Oct 31, **DeSoto State Park Programs.**
- May 6, **Wildflower Saturday at Desoto.** Northeast Alabama boasts over 900 species of wildflowers. From the prevalent Blue to the sparse Catesby’s Trillium, DeSoto State Park is home to many common and unusual wildflowers.
- May 18-21, **U.S. 11 Antique Alley Yard Sale.**
- May 27, **Medicinal & Edible Plants Workshop.**
- Jun 10, **Group Alabama Fan Appreciation Day.**
- Jul 1, **Fort Payne 4th of July Celebration.**
- Jul 15, **Native American Pottery Workshop.**
- Jul 28-29, **Mountain Music Festival.**
- Aug 4, **DeKalb County Fiddlers’ Convention.** Over 10 categories for contestants to register & participate in fiddling, harp, banjos, blue grass & more.
- Aug 3-6, **World’s Longest Yard Sale.** Begins at Noccalula Falls in Gadsden, travels on Lookout Mountain Parkway through Cherokee County and DeKalb County along US 127 to Covington, KY.
- Aug 19, **Summer Music Festival.** A variety of music styles to be performed by amazing local talent on stage of the Fort Payne Opera House.
- Sept 16, **John Benge Motorcycle Ride.** Join us as we ride in commemoration of DeKalb County’s Cherokee Indian Heritage and all Indian Nations who were forced to walk on the Infamous Trail of Tears.
- Sept 16, **Rappelling Adventure at Little River Canyon.** Rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama.
- Sept 22-23, **Boom Days Heritage Celebration.** A multimedia and interdisciplinary arts, culture, and heritage of Fort Payne and the surrounding region in celebration of the boom days of our town’s founding.
- Sept 22, **Wild Cave Tour.** Explore on your knees, on your bell, in the mud and through tight tunnels in one of NE Alabama’s most unique all-weather caves, Manitou Cave, in Fort Payne.
- Oct 6, **JSU Campfire Talks: Ghosts on the Mountain and Spooks in the Valley.** A fun night of spine-tingling and deliciously frightening ‘old-time Alabama ghost lore. Tales are enhanced by live animals.
- Oct 7, **JSU Campfire Talks: Animal Camouflage.** Many animals at Little River mimic backgrounds. Other more threatening critters survive the challenges of their environments.
- Oct 7, **Mt. Valley Cruisers "Classic Summer Nites” in Union Park 6-9pm.**
• Oct 9, “Taste of DeKalb”. Restaurants will promote and showcase their businesses.
• Oct 28, Blow your Own Ornament at Orbix. Design and literally blow your own ornament with the help of one of our class artists.
• Nov 2-4, Civil War Re-enactment at Sequoyah Caverns. Relive history at our spectacular Civil War re-enactments that take place for several days every November.
• Nov 4, Mt. Valley Cruisers "Classic Summer Nites" in Union Park Cruisin' for Kids 5-8 pm.
• Nov 4, Guided Archaeology Tour. Archaeologist Dr. Harry Holstein leads a guided tour of sites throughout Cherokee and DeKalb Counties.
• Nov 4, Rappelling Adventure in the Little River Canyon with True Adventure Sports. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. No previous experience necessary. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction.
• Nov 6, Rock Climbing Adventure with True Adventure Sports. Nestled in the NE corner of Alabama are some of the best and unique sandstone cliffs in the country. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed.
• Nov 9, Extreme Night Hike with True Adventure Sports. This end-of-day adventure does not slow down just because it’s dark. Intended for a large group team-building exercise, this hike has a bit of bouldering, some scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required working together. Headlamp and enthusiastic guide included.
• Nov 10, Rappelling Basics Class with True Adventure Sports. Come learn how to rig, tie the different knots, and the equipment to use when rappelling. Then take the information you learned and experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. No previous experience necessary. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. Event takes place in the Little River Canyon.
• Nov 11, Rock Climbing/Rappelling with True Adventure Sports. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing and rappelling is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic.
• Nov 11-12, Gun & Knife Show Plus. The DeKalb County VFW Fair Association is pleased to present the 2007 Gun & Knife Show at the VFW Fairgrounds in Fort Payne.
• Nov 12, Veterans Day Program. This event will take place at the Fort Payne Opera House and pay tribute to our Veterans.
• Nov 12-13, Holiday Open House.
• Nov 17-18, Rock Climbing Adventure with True Adventure Sports at Cherokee Rock Village. Nestled in the NE corner of Alabama are some of the best and unique sandstone cliffs in the country. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic.
• Nov 21, Extreme Hike at Cherokee Rock Village with True Adventure Sports. This end-of-day adventure does not slow down just because it’s dark. Intended for a large group team-building exercise, this hike has a bit of bouldering, some scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required working together.
• Nov 22, Rappelling Basics Class with True Adventure Sports. Come learn how to rig, tie the different knots, and the equipment to use when rappelling. Then take the information you learned and experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama.
• Nov 24, Wild Cave Tour with True Adventure Sports in Manitou Cave. Go beyond where the average tourist explores! This 2.5 hr. adventure is for those of you ready to explore on your knees, on your belly, in the mud and through tight tunnels.
• Nov 25, Rappelling Adventure with True Adventure Sports. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. No previous experience necessary.
• Dec 1, Christmas in the Park & Parade. Fort Payne Christmas in the Park and Parade Caroling, popcorn, sodas, hot chocolate and more will be offered in Union Park. Free of charge
compliments of the City of Fort Payne. The Jaycee's sponsor the Christmas Parade which starts at 6:00 p.m.

- Dec 5, **Free Concert at the DeKalb Theater.** The Big Wills Arts Council presents Electric Voodoo Blues Band and Country Music singer/songwriter Tina Marie in concert after the parade.
- Dec 22 – 24, **Christmas at the Caverns,** Live Nativity Scene at New Oregon United Methodist Church. Luminaries light the way from the Lookout Mountain Parkway leading you to a live Nativity Scene including live farm animals.
- Dec 28 - **Holiday Extravaganza at the Opera House.** Join Landmarks this year for a special holiday treat of music and Christmas cheer, as they present Anna Crow, Soprano, of Mentone and The San Francisco Conservatory of Music and the talents of other guest artists.

**Fyffe**

- Aug 24-25, **3rd Annual Fyffe UFO Days.** Hot air balloon rides, arts, food, antique tractors, live entertainment, civil war re-enactors & more.
- Dec 2, **Geraldine & Fyffe Christmas Parade.**

**Gadsden**

- Feb 3-5, **Altrusa Antique Show & Sale.** Dealers from throughout the South set up booths of furniture, glassware, silver, linens, jewelry and other collectibles.
- May-Oct, **Courtyard Concerts.** Courtyard is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights weather permitting.
- May 11-14, **502 Mile US11 Antique Alley.** Antique shopping from Meridan, MS, to Bristol, VA.
- Jun 9-10, **Riverfest.** Outdoor festival on the Coosa River, featuring music, arts and crafts, food, fireworks and children’s activities.
- Aug 3-6, **World’s Largest Yard Sale.** The “Southern Point of Beginning” is Noccalula Falls Park on the Lookout Mountain Parkway to Chattanooga.
- Aug 4-5 – **Boys and Girls Club Rodeo,** Western-type outdoor rodeo with calf roping, steer wrestling, barrel racing, bronco, and bull riding.
- Sept 16, **Downtown G.R.I.T.S. Festival.** Live music, sidewalk sales, food and more.
- Oct 28, **Twin Bridges Golf Course Tournament.** Tournament will benefit the Gadsden Times Reading in Education Programs in local schools.
- Dec 18-31, **Christmas on the Rocks.** Noccalula Falls.
- Dec 21-31, **Festival of Trees.** 501 Broad St., Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts—more than 25 decorated trees, 75 animated figurines.

**Parks and Recreation Center**

- Oct 27, **Kids Hoe Down at Noccalula Falls.** Where families can come together and play games, win candy, jump on inflatables, and enjoy entertainment for free.
- Nov 15, **Senior Holiday Luncheon** at Gadsden Convention Hall. Where Senior 55 and older come together for a free meal and entertainment.
- Dec 2, **Winterfest** at Gadsden City Hall. Where area families can come together for free and play games, win candy, jump on inflatables, enjoy entertainment, and get their picture made with Mr. And Mrs. Clause.
- Apr 5, **Easter Egg Hunt** at Gadsden Softball Complex. Where kids ages 0-8 can enjoy games, inflatables, a Easter Egg Hunt, and have their picture made with the Easter Bunny.
- May 12, **Kids Fishing Rodeo** at Moragne Park. Where kids ages 12 and under can enjoy a day of fishing in a pond with 100 lbs. of fresh catfish. Two hundred fifty kids receive new fishing rods, bait, and win prizes.
- May, **Senior Fun Day** at Gadsden Convention Hall. Where Seniors 55 and older can enjoy a day with games, entertainment, and a free meal.
- June 12, **Ice Cream Bingo Bash** at Senior Activity Center. Where Seniors 55 and older play bingo and eat ice cream.

**Center for Cultural Arts**
- **July 9 – Sept 3, Vik Muniz: Remastered Selections from the West Collection.** Sara May Love Gallery and Zoe Golloway Exhibit Hall. Reception 3:00-5:00.
- **Through Oct 10, Gadsden native, Jimmy Rickles– A Retrospective Exhibition.**
- **Nov 27, Family Book Club.** Join the Gadsden Public Library’s Family Book club.
- **Nov 30, Etowah Youth Symphony Honor Strings Winter Concert.** The annual Winter Concert of the EYS Honor Strings.
- **Dec 10, Etowah Symphonic Wind Ensemble Holiday Concert.** A holiday performance by the Etowah Symphonic Wind Ensemble.
- **Dec 14, Family Holiday Night.** Celebrate the holidays with the Gadsden Public Library.
- **Dec 16, The Etowah Youth Orchestras Rock and Roll Christmas Spectacular.** A rock and roll Christmas program with Rick and Tad & Friends and the Etowah Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- **Dec 17, The Etowah Youth Orchestras Holiday Pops Concert.** The annual Holiday Pops Concert of the EYO.
- **Jan 30-Mar 5, Courageous Journey: Honoring Rosa Parks.**
- **Jan 30-Mar 26, Spirited Ancestors: Pat Drew.** The walls of the Heritage Room will come alive with Pat Drew's Spirited Ancestors Collection.
- **Feb 17, Center Stage presents: Celebrating Women of Movement.**
- **Feb 7-Jan 1, Rare Art Acquisitions with Abraham Lincoln Connection.** The Gadsden Museum or Art Announces Rare Art Acquisitions with Abraham Lincoln Connection.
- **Feb 25, Rhythms of the Spirit.** Natifa Dance Company African and Modern Dance workshop.
- **Mar 20 –Mar24, Imagination Place Nature Quest Mini Camp.** Children will be introduced to “The Great Outdoors” through books, hands-on activities, arts and crafts, games, snacks, live animal encounters, and fun explorations.
- **Apr 1-Jul 31, Imagination Place and Coosa River Watershed present a science and eco-exhibit with a 9 hole mini golf course. In conjunction with the exhibit, a field trip program has been developed to go to the James D. Martin Wildlife Park.
- **Apr 22, Earth Day Celebration.**
- **Apr 24, The Gadsden Symphony Orchestra – Broadway Cabaret Concert a celebration of the 15th Concert Season.** Concert under the Direction of Conductor Les Fillmer. Featuring the Kings of Swing under the Direction of Mayor Steve Means.
- **Sept 29-Oct 7, “The Sunshine Boys”, Neil Simon’s timeless show biz comedy.**
- **Aug 11, Annual Cultural Arts League Charity Auction.**
- **Aug 14-Dec 11, Gadsden Community School for the Arts.** Hand building with clay/wheel thrown pottery with Mr. Beer.
- **Aug 14-Dec 11, Gadsden Community School for the Arts.** Art is Fun! With Joan Robertson.
- **Aug 14-Dec 11, Gadsden Community School for the Arts.** Yoga Pilates Fusion with Jane Watkins.
- **Aug 14-Dec 11, Etowah Youth Orchestras Fall Formal Concert.** The annual Fall Formal Concert of the EYO.
- **Aug 14-Dec 11, Gadsden Community School for the Arts.** Private study of the violin with Toung Nguyen.
- **Sept 5-Nov 5, Helen Keller Exhibit.**
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- Sept 9, **Blue Moon Boys Book Signing and Film Viewing.** Author Dan Griffin signs his books and shows his film.
- Sept 12, **Exhibit Reception.** Opening reception for Arctic Penguins and Courageous Journey Exhibits.
- Sept 5-Sept 26, **Radkids.** Teach your children how to stay out of dangerous situations and what to do if they find themselves in danger.
- Sept 5-Nov 5, **Courageous Journey: Honoring the Life of Helen Keller.**
- Sept 14, **Glenn Miller Orchestra.** Relive the Big Band era with this concert and dance.
- Sept 16, **Downtown GRITS.** Fun and excitement for the whole family.
- Sept 21, **Gadsden Public Library Wild about Books.** Family Literacy Night.
- Sept 25, **Family Book Club.** Join the Gadsden Public Library’s Family Book Club.
- Sept 28, **Gadsden Public Library Teen Banned Books Night.** Teen Night.
- Oct 12, **Gadsden Public Library Family Fall Festival.** Family Literacy Night.
- Oct 14, **Glenn Miller Orchestra.** Relive the Big Band era with this concert and dance.
- Oct 16, **Downtown GRITS.** Fun and excitement for the whole family.
- Oct 21, **Gadsden Public Library and Teen Read Week.** Teen Night.
- Oct 19-Oct 31, **Fantasy Falls at Noccalula Falls Park.** Train rides, games, pumpkin carving, face painting and more!
- Nov 4, **Every Child Ready to Read.** Learn the most effective techniques when reading with your young child.
- Nov 8, **Gadsden Veterans Day Parade, 2nd Annual Veterans Day Parade.** In Downtown Gadsden on Broad Street.
- Nov 12, **Gadsden Community School of the Arts.** Private study of the woodwind with Carl Anderson.
- Nov 16, **Create a Book Contest.** Winners of the Gadsden Public Library Create a Book Contest are announced and winning entries read.
- Nov 19-Dec 24, **Elizabeth Austin, opening reception on Nov 19.**

**Glencoe**

- Oct 21, **Yellow Jacket Classic.** Three-man scramble starts at 8:00 am.
- Oct 26, **The Eighth Annual Hokes Bluff Lodge Golf Tournament.** Four-man scramble tournament will start at 1 pm, with prizes for the top teams longest drive and closest pin.

**Grant**

- Apr 28, **Bicycle Ride Thru Grant.**
- May 20, **Armed Forces Day Celebration.** Cathedral Caverns State Park, Grant.
- Jul 4, **Country Festival.**
- Aug 25, **Grant Founder’s Day.**
- Sept 29-Oct 1, **Cowboy Action Championship.**
- Dec 9, **Christmas on the Mountain.**
- Dec 2, **Grant Christmas Parade.**

**Guntersville**

- Jan 1-29, **Eagle Awareness.** Bald Eagle Field Trips at Guntersville State Park, Saturdays meet at 5:45 am & 3:30. Sundays meet at 5:45 am.
- Jan-Dec, **Bass & Crappie Fishing Tournaments.**
- Feb 25-Mar 5, **1776, The Musical.**
- Mar 5, **Bassmaster Tournament.** Lake Guntersville.
- Mar 18, **Lake Guntersville Wild Irish Run.** Guntersville Rec. Center, 9 a.m., Entry fee $15. 10K road race along Lake Guntersville; 2 mi. fun run/walk will follow.
Mar 17-28, **Winterfest**. Junior Fine Art Exhibition and Competition. Guntersville Museum. An exhibit of works on canvas, works on paper, mixed media, photography and 3-dimensional works.

Apr 7, **Art on the Lake**. Carlisle Park School/Sunset Drive, Guntersville, Arts, Craft activities, food court & bake sale.

Apr 20-23, **CITGO Bassmaster Tournament Trail**. Southern Challenge - Lake Guntersville.

Apr 21-23, **Cherokee Intertribal Pow Wow**.

Apr 28-May 6, **“Lend Me a Tenor”**. Presented by the Whole Guntersville.

May 6, **3rd Annual Locust Fork Lodge 48 Bass Tournament**. $50 per boat, Location: State Boat Launch 431 located at the Guntersville City Ball Field.

May 30-Aug 8, **Summer Concert Series**.

Jun 3-4, **McDonald’s Big Bass Splash on Lake Guntersville**.

Jun 23-Jul 2, **The Musical, "42nd Street"**, presented by the Whole Backstage, Guntersville.

Jul, **10th Annual Tennessee River 600**.

Jul 4, **All American Celebration**.

Jul 10-17, **Arts Camp 2006**.

Sep 2-3, **St. Williams Seafood Festival**.

Sep 15-17, **MOVA Arts Festival**.

Oct 20-28, **"To Kill A Mockingbird"**.

Oct 21, **Ninth Annual Chili Cook-off**.

Nov 24-Dec 6, **"It’s A Wonderful Life”**.

Dec 1, **Guntersville Boat Parade**. Spectators watch from shore as boats decorated with Christmas lights parade by them on the lake.

**Henagar**

- Jul 4, **Sand Mountain Potato Festival**.

**Ider**

- Labor Day Monday, **Ider Mule Days**. Ider’s rural heritage is on display at this community festival. Livestock shows, mule pull, horse pull, antique tractors, and farm equipment, entertainment, and food.

**Leesburg**

- Sept 16, **Leesburg Day**.
- October, **Native American Festival**. Experience Native American Arts & Crafts, demonstration and Intertribal Dancing.

**Mentone**

- Feb 14, **“Jewelry & Flowers Required”**.
- May 5-6, **Rhododendron Festival**. Mentone Area Preservation Association presents old time fun with arts, demonstrations, crafts, music, dancing, boat rides, games & more.
- May 14, **Mother’s Day Lunch on the Porch**.
- May 20, **Mentone Wildflower Art Show**.
- May 28, **“Low Country Boil”**.
- Aug 3-6, **World’s Longest Yard Sale**.
- Sept 1, **Flower Show & Competition**.
- Sept 3, **Broadway Under the Stars**.
- Sept 16-17, **Byzantine Iconography Exhibit**. View this unique exhibit at Tall Meadow Rue Chapel in Mentone. Contact the Mentone Springs Hotel.
- Sept 23, **Checkers Tournament**. A round-robin tournament with two losses eliminating the contender.
- Oct 20-22, **Mentone Fall Color Fest**. Enjoy autumn’s beauty as you stroll through Mentone Brow Park set up with arts & crafts vendors, food, live music and more.
• Nov 24-26, **Christmas Open House at The White Elephant.** Enjoy the holidays in Lookout Mountain! This historic building from the turn of the century houses 25 rooms full of antiques and collectibles. Located on Highway 117 in downtown Mentone.

• Dec 2, **Artisans Ltd, Special Gallery Viewing.**

• Dec 6 - **Craft Demonstrations** in and about Mentone and various shops.

• Dec 7 - **Christmas B&B Tours in Mentone.** Visit the mountain top village of Mentone! B&B's will be decked out for the Holiday Season and open for tours.

• Dec 20 - **Mentone Musical Mountain Strings Presents "Holiday Music"** performed by a cellist and classical violinist and other musical artists.

• Dec 31, **New Year's Eve Ball.** Come enjoy the remainder of the year in style with an elegant dinner, dancing, & live entertainment at the Mentone Springs Hotel. Seating will begin at 7:00 p.m. A Jazz Band will perform 9-12 p.m.

**Rainbow City**

• Mar 9-28, **26th Annual Wagon Train** – “The ridge that warms your heart and tests your britches!” Whether you drive a horse or mule, or drive a team of mules or horses, trail ride in a saddle or ride on a wagon, the Alabama Wagon Train is an annual event at 190 miles, a 10-day wagon train ride from Boaz to Montgomery with a stopover at the Rainbow City Saddle Club in Rainbow City.

• April 8, **Rainbow City Chocolate Festival.** Live entertainment by Tim Watson and Black Creek, Chocolate cook-off, games, dunking booth, and lots more activities for the whole family.

**Rainsville**

• Apr 19-30, **“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”.**

• Jun 9, **June Jam Songwriter’s Showcase.**

• July 22, **Latino Festival.** Hosted by NACC & offers music, dancing, arts & crafts, games, food, pony rides, and more.

• Sep 15-Oct 31, **Down on the Farm.** Fun for the whole family on this farm in Rainsville. Pick your own pumpkin from a pumpkin patch, enjoy hay rides, corn mazes, a gift shop, and “Farmhouse Grille” restaurant.

• Nov 29, "**Let's Celebrate Jesus" Third Annual Gospel Singing.** Enjoy the Dennis Family, James Wright & Redemption, Rachel Brown & more.

• Dec 6 - **Parade and Christmas at the Crossroads in Rainsville.** Parade begins at 4:00 p.m. with a tree lighting ceremony taking place in the Rainsville City Park at 5:30 p.m. Hot dogs and hot chocolate will be served. Fireworks will top off the event.

**Sylvania**

• **Dec 9, Christmas Parade.** Bring the family out to see an old-fashioned parade with floats, marching bands, music, and Santa.

**Valley Head**

• May 5, **Ellis Homestead Day at Sequoyah.** Come witness powerful tractors, engines, machinery, great music, food & crafts as part of this festival.

• July 4, **Independence Day Celebration.** Fireworks and Bluegrass music at Sequoyah Caverns & Ellis Homestead.

• Nov 11-12, **Free Concert at I-59 Flea Market in Valley Head.** Enjoy a free country music concert featuring Levi Jones at this indoor/outdoor flea market. Music from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Dec 21-24, **Christmas in Sequoyah Caverns.** Live Nativity includes a choir, live animas & the depiction of the birth of a Savior.
12. Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife – Cherokee County

The Economic Impact is estimated for Cherokee County. The estimated impact of fishing/hunting/other is an annual figure for the current calendar year of people visiting Cherokee County outside their normal routines.

Economic benefits to the local area result from expenditures by the following:

1. Visitor expenditures in Cherokee County.
2. Additional tax revenues for Cherokee County.
3. Additional employment in Cherokee County.

There were 540 fishing/other jobs in Cherokee County in 2006. Direct impacts make up 10% of payroll employment in the County (see Table G-28).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>~ Table G – 28 ~</th>
<th>Cherokee County Employment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll Employment</td>
<td>Expenditures</td>
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<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>5,156</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fishing/other</td>
<td>540</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of Total</td>
<td>10</td>
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Source: 2005, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations.

Benefits calculated in the study are based on figures from a study done by the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Service in 2001. Total impacts, direct and indirect are shown in Table G-29.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>~ Table G – 29 ~</th>
<th>Total Impacts – Cherokee County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales/Income Impact</td>
<td>$35,541,280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax Benefits</td>
<td>$1,954,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs Benefit</td>
<td>540</td>
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</table>

Source: CED Calculations.

* Tax benefits include taxes generated by fishing/other expenditures. The worksheet demonstrates how tax benefits are calculated.

* The impact on employment is the sum of jobs generated by fishing and expenditures of related industry. Fishing/other related expenditures will generate 540 jobs, equal to 10% of payroll employment in the county. See Worksheet G-3, p. 85.

Worksheet G – 3

CHEROKEE COUNTY
FISHING, HUNTING, AND WILDLIFE RELATED
ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM NON RESIDENTS

A. SALES BENEFITS FROM JOB INCREASE: Dollar value of goods and services purchased in the local area.

1. Annual payroll/non payroll expenditures $17,770,640
2. Enter the estimated INDIRECT & INDUCED SALES MULTIPLIER. (Range is 1.2 - 2.8; avg = 2.0) 2
3. Calculate TOTAL SALES BENEFITS (1) X (2) $40,872,472

B. TAX REVENUE BENEFITS

1. Enter TOTAL EXPENDITURES from 3 above. $35,541,250
2. Enter COMBINED STATE & LOCAL RETAIL SALES TAX RATE. .08
3. Calculate SALES TAX REVENUES. (1) x (2) x (.5) $1,421,651
4. Enter TOTAL EXPENDITURES from 3 above. $35,541,280
5. Enter the TAXABLE INCOME RATIO (i.e., taxable portion of salaries & business profits: range is 0.2 - 0.6; ave. = 0.3) .3
6. Enter the STATE INCOME TAX RATE. .05
7. Calculate INCOME TAX REVENUE. (4) x (5) x (6) $533,119
8. TAX REVENUE BENEFITS. Add (3 & 7) $1,954,770

C. TOTAL JOB BENEFITS

1. TOTAL EXPENDITURES from 3, expressed in millions. $36 million
2. Estimate multiplier for JOBS CREATED PER MILLION DOLLARS OF TOTAL SALES. (Range is 10-50; ave. = 30). 15
3. Calculate JOBS CREATED (1) x (2) 540

Source: Model developed by the Social Science Division of the National Park Service.
13. Retiree Attraction and Retention

a. Strategy for Attracting Retirees to the NEAZ

Scholars have estimated that a retiree household relocating into a community creates 3.7 jobs. With this in mind it is not unreasonable to see communities and states developing active retiree attraction programs as an economic development strategy. Migratory retirees have higher incomes and economic assets and the numbers, or pool of retirees, is growing and accompanying wealth is staggering. Economic impact of retirees has been well documented.

Greater numbers of retirees are moving to rural counties and smaller communities. These destination communities are growing economically from this influx of retirees. Communities have organized to attract migrants as tourists and residents. New and exciting businesses are growing from selling goods and services to the growing population. There is more literature communicating potential retirement destinations as communities actively promote amenities and lifestyle to this growing retirement population. Retirement development is an industry that is growing exponentially. Some of the obvious components that benefit directly from retirees include real estate, recreation, health care, insurance, utilities, commercial, and financial.

The study area is a strong magnet for attracting retirees and maintains a rich history to that end. Chambers of Commerce in each county have long recognized the importance of retirees, participating in The Alabama Advantage program sponsored by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), and statewide and national conferences and workshops dedicated to formal retiree attraction programs. Jacksonville State University’s Center for Economic Development has conducted pioneering research into the retiree population. The Center for Economic Development continues to research and publish information on current trends in retiree development such as the latest treatise entitled, Retirement Development: A How to Guidebook.

Etowah and Cherokee Counties, situated on the Coosa River, maintain strong retiree attraction programs and benefit immensely from this relocating, pension-elite populace.

Marshall County, led by the Guntersville Chamber of Commerce and located on the Tennessee River, was a state leader in the past when this segment was first identified as an economic development tool.

DeKalb County, boasting the Little River Canyon and situated between the Tennessee and Coosa Rivers, straddles the I-59 corridor. This area will continue as an attraction for migrating retirees.

The area under study possesses all the scenic beauty and amenities anyone would desire to retire to, outside the love for an ocean. Historic communities, hills, lakes, wildlife, semi-tropical climate, sunshine, four seasons, rivers, and the Little River Canyon, no small asset, make the area suitable to a relaxed retirement lifestyle for anyone.

(1) Overview

The four counties of the Northeast Economic Activity Zone stand to benefit from the wealth controlled by retirees. The trend of affluent retirees moving into the Sun Belt is expected to continue and the need to retain retirees in the area upon retirement is also of significant economic advantage.

Retirees are a source of growth to a number of industries, e.g., real estate, building development, financial institutions, utilities, recreation, health services, insurance, and retail. Retiree attraction boosts the local economy and does not require large investments in infrastructure or tax abatements in order for governments to initiate such programs.

Seniors do not pollute or destroy the environment. They often serve as volunteers and contributors to local philanthropic and service organizations. Churches especially benefit from their financial and service contributions. Affluent retirees place little added strain on schools, welfare systems, criminal justice systems, or written off health care system accounts.
While the importance of attracting manufacturing and other industries is recognized, research finds that one affluent retired couple will provide the same economic benefit to the region as 3.7 factory jobs. The average couple will bring assets of about $300,000, and will have retirement income of $35,000 to $40,000 and will spend 80 – 90% of income locally for goods and services.

(2) Organizing and Implementing a Retirement Development Strategy

The Northeast Economic Activity Zone is well suited to pursue a regional approach to retiree retention and attraction. The communities in the four-county area have many of the small town amenities sought by affluent retirees. The region’s location within easy driving distance to Birmingham, Atlanta, and Chattanooga makes access to the attractions of the larger cities relatively easy.

Essential to an effective regional retiree development and retention strategy is a Retiree Development Council formed either by local chambers of commerce or local governments or by a partnership of the two kinds of organizations. If local chambers of commerce do not want to pursue retiree attraction, then local governments could take the lead.

The lead agency, being either a chamber or government entity, could support the Retiree Development Council by selecting appropriate members, and provide for incorporation similar to that done by industrial development boards. The boards would develop their own bylaws which cover membership, offices, handling of funds, and other necessary functions.

The Retiree Development Council should be composed of those who have a vision and, hopefully, a vested interest in attracting and retaining retirees in the region. Typical members would be chamber of commerce and local government representatives, realtors, developers, health care professionals, bankers, local retirees, utilities personnel, and those representing news media.

Possible committees organized under the Retiree Development Council are: budget, community assessment, community relations, marketing and promotions, and ambassador. For comprehensive instructions of organizing and implementing a retirement development strategy, see the publication Retirement Development: A How To Guidebook published by the Center for Economic Development, Jacksonville State University.

One important component of a retirement development strategy for the region is to complete a self-evaluation and inventory of the amenities available to attract retirees and recommended improvements. This normally is done by the Community Assessment Committee of the Retiree Development Council; however, input from the entire council is useful. Recommend also that technical advice and assistance of the Center for Retiree Research and Recruitment of the Center for Economic Development, Jacksonville State University be obtained in conducting this self-evaluation and inventory. The above guidebook will be invaluable in organizing and conducting the self-evaluation and inventory by providing step by step instructions.

(3) Measure of the Success of a Retiree Attraction Strategy

Once a retiree attraction strategy is implemented, it is essential to measure the effectiveness of the strategy. This is necessary in order to promote continued financial and in-kind support of the strategy as well as to make adjustments, as necessary, in the strategy in order to improve effectiveness.

The Ambassador Committee of the regional Retiree Development Council, for example, could be used to contact community newcomers to determine if they are in fact retirees and if they moved into the region in response to programs of the retirement development strategy.
Another technique to assess progress in retiree attraction is to track the percentage of total family incomes that are due to pension income. Census data from the 2000 U.S. Census is available to accomplish this. These percentages can be used as a baseline to track changes in the proportion of retirees, by county, in the region. See Table G-23.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Excluding income from social security.


(4) Summary

The above discussion is a suggested approach to development of a strategy to attract retirees in the Northeast Economic Activity Zone composed of Etowah, Cherokee, DeKalb, and Marshall Counties. A major decision in the process is to decide on which entity, either chambers of commerce, or county/municipal governments, or a combination of the two, would serve as lead agency. The Center for Retiree Research and Recruitment located within the Center for Economic Development at Jacksonville State University will be a key resource to provide technical advice and assistance.

b. The Chamber – Gadsden & Etowah County Retiree Recruitment Program

The Chamber – Gadsden & Etowah County initiated a retiree recruitment program in late 1993 to encourage solvent, retired people to move into our community. The result of over three months of analysis revealed that the Gadsden/Etowah County area was ideal as a new, permanent home for retirees.

Factors the 55-74 year old retirees or retired couples consider are: safety; quality medical & dental services; affordable housing; overall low cost-of-living; location within 75 miles of a large, metropolitan city; recreation; shopping; entertainment and cultural amenities (Cultural Arts Center, Symphony, RiverFest, G.R.I.T.S., Noccalula Falls); colleges/ universities. What we have seen in the Gadsden area, and what has become a trend nationally, is retirees move from the north, east and Midwest to the “sun states”…only to discover they miss the four seasons that are available in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina. All these states have some type of development efforts on a state level, as well as local community concentration to entice migrating individuals or couples to re-locate to their town or city.

Since the early part of 1994, when the first retiree influenced by our program moved into the community, we have provided information to 408 new retiree households. The City of Gadsden is the choice for a home for almost 32% or 129 of these new residents (this includes the unincorporated area of Etowah County i.e., Whorton Bend). Rainbow City is with 123 new retiree households or approximately 31%. Southside is the fastest growing city in the county and this is evident by their new housing starts; their twelve-year percent of the 367 new retiree households is 118 or 29%. The remaining 38 retiree households, 9% have established households in Glencoe, Hokes Bluff, Attalla, with a couple in Sardis City.
Using the *standard formula* to determine the economic impact of these new citizens on the Gadsden MSA, our results are impressive. When a retiree decides to move from one area of the country to another, the average amount of *net assets* he or she brings to their new location is $300,000. This amount is easily explained. Most retirees have a home, with no mortgage or with a considerable amount of equity in their residence. A home in Gadsden that would cost $180,000 would be between $275,000 and $400,000 in the northeast, north or urbanized areas of the Midwest. In addition, a person between 55 and 74, who has been employed for 30 to 40 years, is likely to have savings, investments, and other liquid assets. Besides *assets*, the retiree or retired couple will have an average of **$36,500** in net income (retirement or pension plans, 401-K programs, investment income). Extending this formula to the 408 new retiree households *assisted by The Chamber or reported through a local newcomer’s service*, the net assets of these new citizens is approximately **$122,400,000**. Using the $36,500 average income the 408 retirees or retired couples locating in our communities in ten years is **$14,892,000**.

It may surprise some that Florida has been the number one state from which retirees have moved. Retirees from the North, Northeast and Midwest, evidently move to the sunshine state to get away from the cold winters with snow and ice. Florida offers beautiful sites but is also includes hurricanes and other strong storms destroying property and forcing evacuations. In addition, the cost of living is higher there than Alabama and other southeastern states. One other reason given for moving north from Florida has been, “We miss the four seasons.”

The Chamber realizes that we have not had contact with every new retiree who has moved to the Gadsden area. The impact is likely more than what we know, however, we hope to have a better tracking system in-place by mid to late summer. This will be The Chamber’s version of *Welcome Wagon*. If we miss their move to Etowah County, we should discover it after they are visited by the new service called *Chamber Champions*.

The economic value of in-migrating retirees to the Gadsden/Etowah County area is often misunderstood or *understated*. Everyone wants our new residents to be young, with young needs in what they purchase i.e. houses, clothing, food, recreation, building materials, jewelry, appliances, and a wide variety of services. The *assumption* is older citizens are not as desirable because they do not purchase as much as younger families do. That is a *false assumption*. They may not purchase the same items, but they have more disposable income than most younger citizens. They buy houses, vehicles groceries, clothing, appliances, etc. and they are more likely to use professionals; physicians, dentists, CPA’s. They utilize service providers such as home repairs (painters, carpenters, roofers, heating/air conditioning businesses, lawn or landscape services). They eat out often, and they will attend concerts, plays, symphonies, museums, movies, play on local golf courses, and look for other types of entertainment offered in Etowah County or in nearby big cities such as Birmingham, Atlanta, Chattanooga and others.