



**DATE:** August 13, 2025

**ISSUE SUMMARY: Annual Population Estimates**

**FROM:** Mike Alexander, Chief Operating Officer

**IMPORTANCE:**

The Atlanta Regional Commission annually produces population estimates for major jurisdictions in the Atlanta Region. These estimates are the basis for assessing dues for the following year. Under the law establishing the Atlanta Regional Commission, the estimates and dues calculation must be adopted by the Commission before the end of August.

**METHODOLOGY**

The foundation for these population estimates is the 2020 United States Census . Counts of housing units are updated to April 1 of the estimate year based on prior year building permit data and previous year estimates. The updated permit trends are translated into population change based on observed 2020 average occupancy rates and household sizes. Attached are:

- A proposed resolution adopting the April 1, 2025 estimates.
- A table detailing the April 1, 2025 estimates and comparing them with data for earlier years.
- A table detailing the calculation of the appropriation due from each political jurisdiction in the year 2026.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

The ARC Board will be asked to adopt population estimates and corresponding dues at the August 13 meeting.



## **A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE ANNUAL POPULATION ESTIMATES AND APPROVING THE OPERATING FUNDS DUE**

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is a Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission created pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-8-80, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, under Subsection (b) of Georgia Code Section 50-8-101, as amended, the Atlanta Regional Commission is required to prepare annual estimates of the population of each county within the Area and the City of Atlanta as the basis for determining the operating funds which each county and the City of Atlanta will provide the Commission in the calendar year next following the year in which the estimates were made; and

WHEREAS, Subsection (c) of Georgia Code Section 50-8-101 requires that after the first day of April but before the first day of September of each year the Atlanta Regional Commission shall make the necessary population estimates and compute the amount due from the governing body of each political subdivision in accordance with a formula set forth in Subsection (b) of Georgia Code Section 50-8-101 and certify such population estimates and other data to each such governing body; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Atlanta Regional Commission has prepared population estimates based on the analysis of a variety of social and economic measures and calculated the amount due from the governing body of each political subdivision as set forth in the attached table;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission hereby approves the April 1, 2025, population estimates and computations set forth in the attached tables and authorizes the Director to certify them to the governing bodies as required by law.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Atlanta Regional Commission on August 13, 2025.

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Charissa White-Fulks, ARC Executive Assistant/Assistant Board Secretary

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average Annual</b>	
	<b>Census</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>ARC</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Change 2020-2025</b>	
				<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change 2020-2025</b>	<b>Percent</b>
					<b>00-10</b>	<b>10-20</b>	<b>Persons</b>	
<b>Atlanta Region</b>	3,527,779	4,283,261	4,967,514	5,285,474	75,548	68,425	63,592	1.2
<b>Cherokee</b>	141,903	214,346	266,620	299,460	7,244	5,227	6,568	2.4
<b>Clayton</b>	236,517	259,424	297,595	306,615	2,291	3,817	1,804	0.6
<b>Cobb</b>	607,751	688,078	766,149	795,749	8,033	7,807	5,920	0.8
<b>DeKalb</b>	665,865	691,893	764,382	786,542	2,603	7,249	4,432	0.6
<b>Douglas</b>	92,174	132,403	144,237	154,197	4,023	1,183	1,992	1.3
<b>Fayette</b>	91,263	106,567	119,194	126,284	1,530	1,263	1,418	1.2
<b>Forsyth</b>	98,400	175,511	251,283	281,933	7,711	7,577	6,130	2.3
<b>Fulton</b>	816,006	920,581	1,066,710	1,141,870	10,458	14,613	15,032	1.4
<b>Gwinnett</b>	588,448	805,321	957,062	1,027,312	21,687	15,174	14,050	1.4
<b>Henry</b>	119,341	203,922	240,712	267,152	8,458	3,679	5,288	2.1
<b>Rockdale</b>	70,111	85,215	93,570	98,360	1,510	836	958	1.0
<b>City of Atlanta</b>	416,474	420,003	498,715	542,715	353	7,871	8,800	1.7
<b>in DeKalb</b>	29,775	28,292	40,020	43,558	-148	1,173	708	1.7
<b>in Fulton</b>	386,699	391,711	458,695	499,157	501	6,698	8,092	1.7

**Draft for Adoption**

**POPULATION ESTIMATE AND APPROPRIATION**

**DUE BY POLITICAL JURISDICTION**

<u>Political Subdivision</u>	<u>Estimated Population 4/1/2025</u>	<u>Formula for Fiscal Support of Regional Planning</u>		<u>Appropriation Due for 2026 Budget</u>
<u>Cherokee County</u>	299,460	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$361,352
<u>Clayton County</u>	306,615	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$369,938
<u>Cobb County</u>	795,749	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$956,899
<u>DeKalb County</u>				
City of Atlanta	43,558	\$.48 per capita	\$20,908	
Outside Atlanta	742,984	\$1.20 per capita	\$891,581	
DeKalb County Total			plus \$2,000	\$914,489
<u>Douglas County</u>	154,197	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$187,036
<u>Fayette County</u>	126,284	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$153,541
<u>Forsyth County</u>	281,933	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$340,320
<u>Fulton County</u>				
City of Atlanta	499,157	\$.48 per capita	\$239,595	
Outside Atlanta	642,713	\$1.20 per capita	\$771,256	
Fulton County Total			plus \$2,000	\$1,012,851
<u>Gwinnett County</u>	1,027,312	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$1,234,774
<u>Henry County</u>	267,152	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$322,582
<u>Rockdale County</u>	98,360	\$1.20 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$120,032
<u>City of Atlanta</u>	542,715	\$.72 per capita	plus \$2,000	\$392,755
<b>Total</b>	5,285,474			\$6,366,569