

# Putnam County Florida

**CITIZENS' ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2009



March 31, 2010

To the Citizens of Putnam County:

Thank you for your interest in the Citizens' Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009. The Finance Department of the Clerk of Courts has prepared this report to provide you with an objective and easy to read analysis of Putnam County's financial activities. I trust that this overview will give you a better understanding of the County's recent undertakings and a snapshot of our current financial condition. You can view this report and the full Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) on our website.

Each year the County legally adopts a budget to determine how much money it will raise and to prioritize how it will be spent. The County's Operating Budget exceeds \$130 million annually. That amount is funded primarily by Taxes, Grants & Contributions, Debt Proceeds, and Charges for Services. Much of the total revenue received is restricted in some manner or limited to "specific-use" purposes. This restricted use revenue is not available for the County's general operations, as it can only be spent for the specific purposes for which it was created or mandated. Within this report, spending is summarized into major taxpayer service categories such as: Public Safety, Transportation, Physical Environment, Culture and Recreation, and General Government Services.

The majority of the operations and services within Putnam County are under the control of the Board of County Commissioners, but certain specific functions fall within financially related special districts or the duties of separately elected Constitutional Officers. Contact information for these Constitutional Officers, the Board of County Commissioners, and many of the departments supervised by the Board of County Commissioners, is provided in this report.

We are pleased to present the Citizens' Annual Financial Report as part of our accountability to you as the Citizens of Putnam County. We hope you find the information contained here interesting and informative. I welcome your input.

Sincerely,

*Tim Smith*

Tim Smith  
Clerk of Courts & Comptroller



## ABOUT THIS REPORT

This Citizens' Annual Financial Report is derived from information included in the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), but is reformatted to make it easier to read and understand. The financial information is presented in a condensed and summarized form and does not substitute for the County's CAFR, which provides detail on the County's financial position and financial changes for the year in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Please note that all dollars in this report are in thousands unless otherwise indicated.

The financial information found throughout this report includes all funds and fund types of the County, including Constitutional Officers, excluding Fiduciary (Trust) funds and the Putnam County Development Authority, a component unit of the County. In addition, transfers between funds have been excluded.

To view the CAFR or to download a copy of this report, please visit the Clerk of the Courts website at:

<http://www.putnam-fl.com/coc>  
Click on Clerks in the Sunshine



## FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH

"Sunset over the St. Johns River, from East Palatka".  
Photo courtesy of Darlene Smith.

## AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

### Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

PRESENTED TO

Putnam County  
Florida

for the Fiscal Year Ended  
September 30, 2008



*JR*  
President

*Jeffrey L. Esser*  
Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Putnam County, Florida for its Popular Annual Financial Report (the Citizens' Report) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understanding and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our

current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.

# ABOUT PUTNAM COUNTY

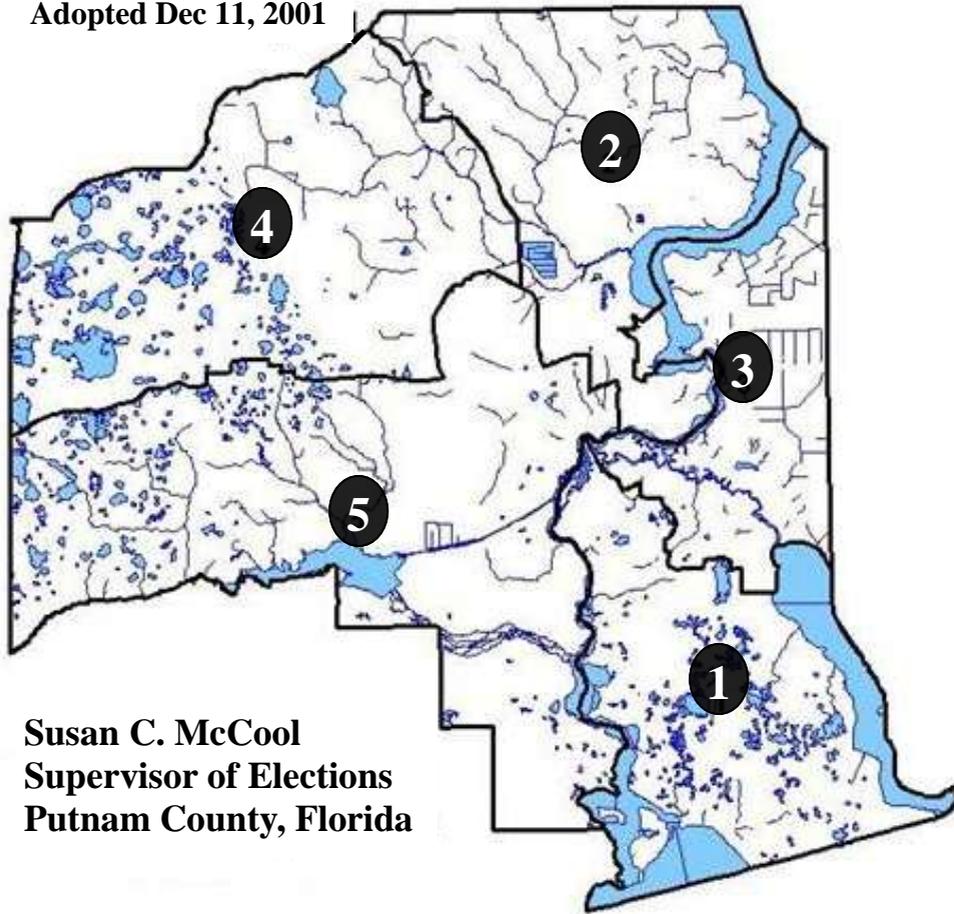


Putnam County is in Northeast Florida between Gainesville to the west and Jacksonville to the northeast. We are a rural county, with relatively slow growth in development and population, a trend that is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. The County straddles approximately 100 miles of the St. Johns River. Palatka was a major water transportation and commerce center until a fire in 1884 destroyed the majority of the downtown and riverfront area. Today, the river and many large and small lakes throughout the County are primarily used for boating and fishing.

Putnam County

## Putnam County Commissioners and Districts

Adopted Dec 11, 2001



**Nancy S. Harris**  
District 1



**Chip Laibl**  
Chairperson  
District 2



**Kenny Eubanks**  
District 3



**Ed Taylor**  
District 4



**Brad Purcell**  
Vice-Chair  
District 5

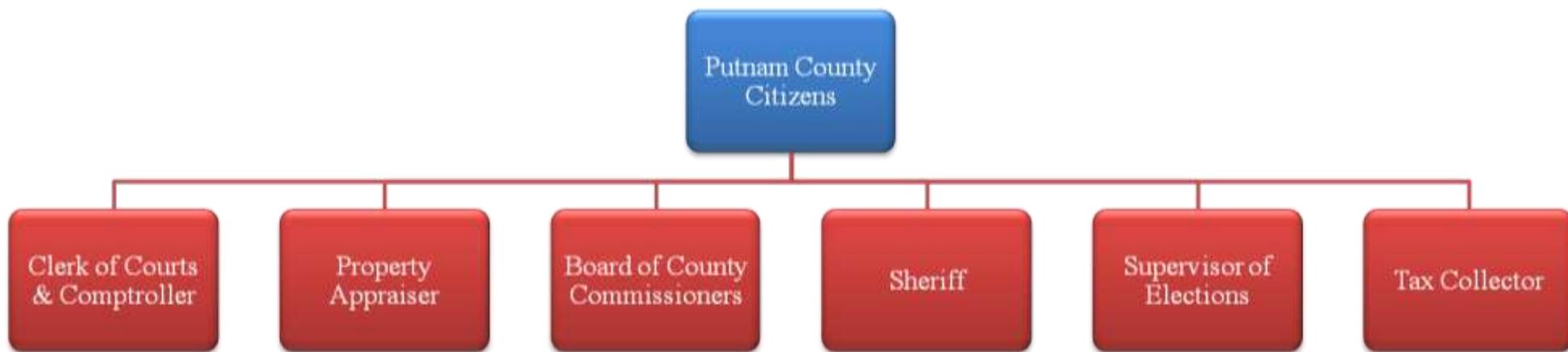


**Susan C. McCool**  
Supervisor of Elections  
Putnam County, Florida

### Quick Facts

<b>Founded:</b>	1849
<b>County Seat:</b>	Palatka
<b>Population (2000 Census):</b>	70,423
<b>Population (2009 Est.):</b>	74,608
<b>Population in Unincorporated Areas:</b>	79%
<b>Total Area:</b>	827.2 sq mi
<b>Land Area:</b>	721.9 sq mi
<b>Water Area:</b>	12.73%
<b>Unpaved Roads:</b>	68%

The County is governed by a board of 5 Commissioners. Other elected officials, Clerk of Courts & Comptroller, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector, have their own areas of responsibility. All are elected to 4 year terms of office.



# ELECTED OFFICIALS

## Board of County Commissioners

**Board Members:** Nancy S. Harris, Chip Laibl, Kenny Eubanks, Ed Taylor and Brad Purcell

329-0205; Fax: 329-1216

2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 100, Palatka, FL 32177

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) serves as the legislative and policy making body for Putnam County. They have the power to approve the budget, set millage rates, prepare and enforce comprehensive plans for County development, and adopt ordinances and resolutions necessary to carry out the operations of all County departments and programs. The BOCC adopts its own rules of procedure, selects its officers, and sets the time and place of its official meetings.



### Clerk of Courts & Comptroller: Tim Smith

Palatka Main Office

326-7600; Fax: 329-0888

410 St. Johns Avenue

Putnam County Courthouse

Crescent City Satellite Office

698-1217; Fax: 698-4283

115 North Summit Street

Crescent City, FL 32112

Interlachen Satellite Office

684-3717; Fax: 684-4640

1114 State Road 20

Interlachen, FL 32148

**As Clerk to both County Court and Circuit Court, the Clerk is custodian of court records, evidence, and the court's seal.**

The Clerk's office issues subpoenas and warrants, enters judgments and orders, gives certified copies from record, collects court ordered child support and court fines and fees, and makes disbursements pursuant to law. The Clerk acts as County Recorder, issuing marriage licenses and home solicitation permits, and collecting and distributing documentary stamps and intangible taxes for the Department of Revenue.

The Clerk serves as the BOCC's Chief Financial Officer, providing a full range of financial services to the County. The services include: financial statements and other mandated financial reporting, general accounting, accounts payable, payroll, accounts receivable, grant and enterprise accounting, treasury and investment functions, debt and property management, and internal auditing. The Clerk also records BOCC meeting minutes.

### Property Appraiser: Tim Parker

Palatka Main Office

329-0286; Fax: 329-0447

312 Oak Street

Crescent City Satellite Office

698-4284; Fax: 698-4283

115 North Summit Street

Interlachen Satellite Office

684-3383; Fax: 684-4640

1114 State Road 20

The Property Appraiser's office determines the value of all property in Putnam County; administers Ad Valorem exemptions, produces and administers tax rolls for BOCC, the Municipal Services Taxing Units, the School District, and various municipalities and other County entities.



### Sheriff: Jeff Hardy

329-0800

Fax: 329-0893

130 Oriie Griffin Blvd

The Sheriff is responsible for protection of the lives and property of Putnam County citizens. Enforces laws mandated by Florida Statute and County ordinances, manages centralized dispatch center (which receives service calls for law enforcement, fire and rescue), dispatches and maintains coordinated communication and response for those responding units. Provides bailiffs for Putnam County Courts. Oversees and operates the Putnam County Jail. Provides animal control services and school crossing guards throughout the County.

### Supervisor of Elections: Susan McCool

329-0224; Fax: 329-0455

2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 900

The Supervisor of Elections is responsible for all matters pertaining to voter registration within Putnam County. These duties include: supervising County, State, and National elections, maintaining County voting equipment, filing all candidate contributions and expenditure reports, overseeing candidate qualifying and financial disclosures filed by selected government officials and employees, and assisting County municipalities with their elections.



### Tax Collector: Ken Mahaffey

Palatka Main Office

329-0282; Fax: 329-0886

312 Oak Street (East Annex)

Interlachen Satellite Office

684-1288; Fax: 684-4640

1114 State Road 20

Crescent City Satellite Ofc

698-3088; Fax: 698-4283

19th North Summit Street

Palatka Mall Office

329-3762; Fax: 329-3763

400 Hwy 19 N, Suite 52

The Tax Collector's office collects and distributes all current and delinquent Ad Valorem Taxes and Non-Ad Valorem Assessments levied by the BOCC, School Board, Municipalities, and Refuse and Water Districts. Acts as an agent for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and Fish and Wild Life Commission in issuing licenses and collecting fees. The office also collects tourist development taxes and occupational license fees.

# DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

## County Administrator: R.G. Leary

329-0212; Fax: 329-1216 2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 200

Directs and coordinates all County government functions and activities under jurisdiction of Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), in accordance with Chapter 125 of Florida Statutes and the County Ordinance. Serves as a liaison between BOCC and Putnam County citizens. Responsible for County's annual budget.



## County Attorney: Russ Castleberry

329-1903; Fax: 326-2721 2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 200

Provides legal representation and advice to BOCC, County Administration, County Departments, Port Authority and Solid Waste District.

## County Extension Service Director: Edsel Redden

329-0318; Fax 329-1262 111 Yelvington Road, East Palatka

In cooperation with the University of Florida, provides research based information and conducts life-long learning programs on issues such as sustainable agriculture, natural resource and energy conservation, food nutrition and safety, child and family development, consumer education, youth development through 4-H, and homeowner and commercial horticulture.

## Deputy County Administrator/ Budget Officer:

**Michael E. Anderson, CPA, CGFO, PhD**

329-0403; Fax: 329-1216 2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 200

Assists County Administrator in the execution of duties. Represents the Office in the absence of the County Administrator. Monitors and manages County's \$130 million Operating Budget. Coordinates information and assures effective communications between County departments; clarifies and reconciles issues relating to County funds, budgets and accounting procedures.

## Emergency Services

**Chief, Emergency Management:  
Quin Romay**

**Chief, Emergency Medical Svcs:  
Mike Patterson**

329-0379; Fax: 329-0897  
410 South Highway 19

Provides 24-hour Fire and Emergency Management response and coordination throughout Putnam County, including: fire

suppression, Fire Marshal, prevention, fire code compliance and fire investigations (except within City of Palatka), using full-time and volunteer staff. Provides emergency management / disaster response and shelter coordination countywide. Reviews healthcare and other State required emergency plans. The Emergency Operations Center is the coordination point for all declared emergencies in Putnam County.

**Veterans Services Director: Thomas Moltimore**

329-0327; Fax: 329-0329 2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 800

Operates Veterans Service office. Assures efficient service to veterans and their dependents and widows.

## Finance Department

**Director: John H. Jones, CPA, CIA**

326-7660; Fax: 329-0473 514 St. Johns Ave, 1-C

Under direction of Clerk of Courts, serves as auditor, recorder and custodian of all funds for BOCC and Clerk of Courts. Responsible for maintaining accurate accounting, payroll and Accounts Payable records in accordance with Board and Clerk policies; prepares financial, regulatory and compliance reports; formulates, recommends and implements new and changed policies of BOCC and Clerk of Courts. Has fiduciary responsibility to accurately account for and prudently manage all public funds.

## Fleet Maintenance Manager: Gary Armstrong

329-0475; Fax: 329-1203

223 Putnam County Blvd, Bldg 231-B, East Palatka

Directs the work of county fleet maintenance operation, which maintains all County owned vehicles and equipment. Develops and administers a comprehensive preventive maintenance program. Assists in developing bid specifications, evaluating bid proposals, and recommending vendor selection for County owned vehicles and equipment.

## General Services Director: Maureen Torma

329-0368; Fax: 329-0468

223 Putnam County Blvd, Bldg 10-C, East Palatka

Procures all supplies, equipment, and services for County government; coordinates County records management; cares for, maintains and repairs buildings, facilities and grounds.

## Human Resources Director: Ken McClinton

329-0219; Fax: 329-1257 2509 Crill Ave, Ste 300

Duties include employee recruitment, selection, and training. Develops and maintains personnel records, policies and procedures, and employee benefits. Oversees safety program, risk management, social services, and insurance claims for the County.

## Information Technology

**Director: John Rundgren**

329-0216; Fax: 329-0215

323 St. Johns Ave

Provides technology related services to the BOCC, Clerk of Courts, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector. Assists in analyzing, acquiring, installing, and maintaining application systems and hardware necessary for County

government operation. Provides technical assistance for Judiciary, Public Defender, State Attorney, and Public Access customers.

## Parks and Recreation

**Director: Bob Stevens**

329-1268; Fax: 329-1265

120 Carter Rd

Administers and directs a comprehensive County recreation program for youth and adults. Maintains county parks, athletic fields, and boat ramps.

## Library System Director: Steve Crowley

Palatka (Main Branch) Bostwick Branch  
329-0126; Fax: 329-1240 326-2750; Fax 326-2733  
601 College Road 125 Tillman Street

Interlachen Branch Crescent City Branch  
684-1600; Fax 684-1601 698-2600; Fax 698-4212  
133 N State Road 318 610 N Summit Street

Melrose Branch  
(352) 475-1237; Fax 352-475-5779  
312 Wynwood Avenue

Oversees library system, including children's story times, travel and classic film programs, visiting author programs, Florida Virtual Library, literacy and early childhood development programs and one-on-one adult literacy tutoring. Develops and maintains collections of print and non-print items and popular films. Responsible for County Archives and Law Library.

## Planning & Development Director: Brian Hammons

329-0310; Fax: 329-1213

Comprised of three Divisions responsible for preparing and implementing the County's Comprehensive Plan. Assists the public and makes recommendations to the BOCC on zonings, land development regulations, Comprehensive Plan amendments, and Developments of Regional Impact. Issues building permits, performs inspections, Administers trades licensing program for contractors such as electricians and plumbers, provides information about building codes, zoning and other development regulations. Violations processed through the Codes Enforcement Division of the Department.

## Public Works Director: Don Jacobovitz, P.E.

329-0346; Fax: 329-0340

223 Putnam County Boulevard, East Palatka

Maintains roads, bridges and storm water systems; provides engineering services for County; manages and operates County water and wastewater systems; assesses transportation needs; designs transportation and storm water management projects; inspects transportation, storm water, and utility construction projects; reviews development plans; oversees engineering and construction contracts. Issues various types of permits, acquires real property and rights of way for the County.

## Sanitation Director: Stephen Natalie

329-0395; Fax: 329-0486 140 County Landfill Road

Operates one active landfill and maintains three closed landfills; operates two solid waste collection/recycling centers; maintains four recyclable materials collection sites and eight waste oil sites. Administers Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program, Waste Tire Collection Program, and Mosquito Control Program. Monitors household garbage collection, yard trash collection, and curbside recycling programs.



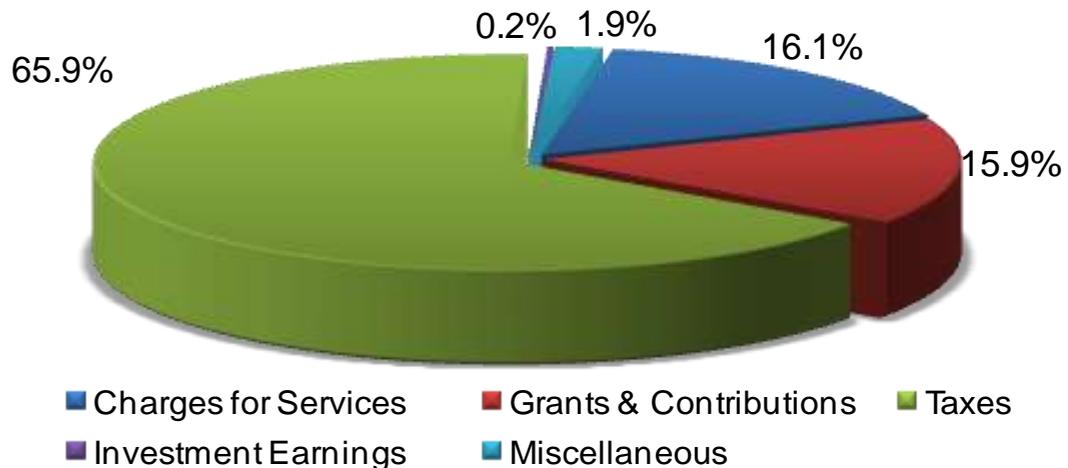
# COUNTY REVENUES

Revenues	Governmental Activities	Business Type Activities	Total 9/30/2009	Total 9/30/2008	Total 9/30/2007	Total 9/30/2006	Total 9/30/2005
Charges for Services	\$11,832	\$6,470	\$18,302	\$18,101	\$19,026	\$19,101	\$18,171
Grants & Contributions	11,654	7,313	18,967	11,589	12,437	13,619	9,657
Taxes	48,328	-	48,328	49,380	52,308	43,430	39,562
Investment Earnings	167	134	301	1,818	2,505	1,823	848
Sales of Capital Assets	-	120	120	108	159	436	65
Miscellaneous	1,363	7	1,370	480	538	540	624
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$73,344</b>	<b>\$14,044</b>	<b>\$87,388</b>	<b>\$81,476</b>	<b>\$86,973</b>	<b>\$78,949</b>	<b>\$68,927</b>

\*\*\* NOTE: Dollars in thousands

<b>Charges for Services \$11,832</b>	
<b>General Government</b>	<b>\$5,153</b>
Tax Collector	\$2,563
Property Appraiser	\$43
Clerk of Courts (Non-Court)	\$544
Internal Service/Health Insurance	\$1,747
Other, General Government	\$256
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>\$4,350</b>
Ambulance Fees	\$2,862
E-911 Fees	\$337
Building Permits	\$327
Building Codes Enforcement	\$33
Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties & Surcharges	\$226
Law Enforcement Related	\$427
Other, Public Safety	\$138
<b>Court Related</b>	<b>\$1,265</b>
Court Service Charges & Filing Fees	\$966
Judgments and Fines	\$298
Miscellaneous, Court Related	\$1
<b>Other Charges for Services</b>	<b>\$1,064</b>
Cultural and Recreation	\$90
Human Services	\$197
Local Housing Assistance	\$12
Physical Environment	\$221
Special Assessments (MSBU's)	\$544
<b>Grants and Contributions \$11,654</b>	
Federal	\$3,648
State	\$7,583
Local	\$414
Private	\$9
<b>Taxes \$48,328</b>	
Property Taxes	\$36,881
Sales Taxes and Other State Shared Revenue	\$4,568
Local Infrastructure Surtax	\$1,361
Gas Taxes and Fuel Fees	\$1,767
Communications Service Tax	\$542
Tourist Development Tax	\$209
<b>Investment Earnings \$167</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous \$1,363</b>	

## Primary Governmental Revenues \$73.3 Million



## LIQUIDITY AND DEBT

One indicator of a county's financial strength is its ability to pay current obligations. The Current Ratio is such an indicator and is defined as Current Assets divided by Current Liabilities. The term "current" refers to assets and liabilities that can, or will be, liquidated within the next year. Numbers are in millions.

Description	9/30/2009	9/30/2008	9/30/2007	9/30/2006	9/30/2005
Total Current Assets	\$47.5	\$48.1	\$43.9	\$34.4	\$30.3
Total Current Liabilities	\$19.1	\$26.9	\$17.1	\$13.6	\$8.4
Current Ratio	2.5	1.8	2.6	2.5	3.6

## CURRENT RATIO

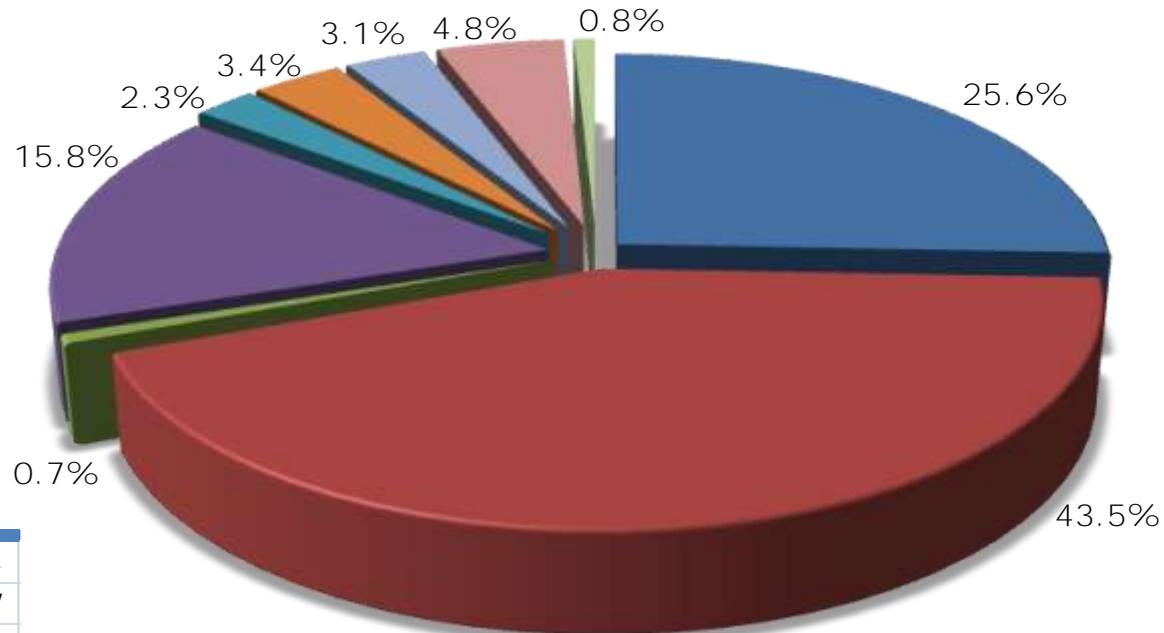


# COUNTY EXPENSES

Expenses	Governmental Activities	Business Type Activities	Total 9/30/2009	Total 9/30/2008	Total 9/30/2007	Total 9/30/2006	Total 9/30/2005
General Government	\$16,714		\$16,714	\$16,081	\$12,956	\$13,296	\$12,779
Public Safety	28,419		28,419	29,311	26,527	22,232	21,461
Physical Environment	426	\$6,925	7,351	7,517	8,883	8,847	11,070
Transportation	10,282		10,282	9,709	8,298	11,403	11,750
Economic Environment	1,530		1,530	1,939	5,341	1,785	1,865
Human Services	2,229		2,229	1,945	2,682	2,417	2,481
Culture and Recreation	1,997		1,997	2,327	2,329	1,863	1,559
Court Related	3,135		3,135	3,292	3,200	3,034	2,798
Interest on Long Term Debt	517		517	1,053	653	317	218
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$65,249</b>	<b>\$6,925</b>	<b>\$72,174</b>	<b>\$73,174</b>	<b>\$70,869</b>	<b>\$65,194</b>	<b>\$65,981</b>

## Primary Governmental Expenses \$65.2 Million

- General Government
- Public Safety
- Physical Environment
- Transportation
- Economic Environment
- Human Services
- Culture & Recreation
- Court Related
- Interest on Long-Term Debt



General Government	\$16,714
Administrative/Financial/Legislative	\$10,737
Clerk of Courts & Comptroller	\$1,702
Property Appraiser	\$1,533
Supervisor of Elections	\$757
Tax Collector	\$1,985
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>\$28,419</b>
Ambulance Services	\$5,140
E-911 System	\$575
Medical Examiner	\$275
Disaster Relief	\$643
Fire Protection	\$2,454
Building Inspection/Code Enforcement	\$1,459
<b>Sheriff's Operations</b>	<b>\$16,942</b>
Other Law Enforcement Related	\$105
Other Public Safety	\$826
<b>Physical Environment</b>	<b>\$426</b>
Agriculture/Resource Conservation	\$381
Fishing Facilities Improvement	\$17
Water and Sewer Utilities	\$28

<b>Transportation</b>	<b>\$10,282</b>
Economic Environment	\$1,530
Housing Assistance	\$811
Industry Development	\$484
Tourist Development	\$139
Veterans Services	\$96
<b>Human Services</b>	<b>\$2,229</b>
Behavioral Health Care	\$336
Health Care for the Needy	\$1,777
Mosquito Control	\$116
<b>Culture &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>\$1,997</b>
Library	\$888
Parks and Recreation	\$1,098
Other	\$11
<b>Court Related</b>	<b>\$3,135</b>
<b>Interest on Long-Term Debt</b>	<b>\$517</b>

# OPERATING INDICATORS

Function/Program	Fiscal Year		
	2009	2008	2007
<b>Supervisor of Elections</b>			
Registered Voters	47,929	45,566	43,019
<b>Court Related</b>			
New Cases Opened	24,801	24,640	26,928
Cases Closed	19,270	20,913	25,478
<b>Culture &amp; Recreation – Library</b>			
Registered Borrowers	38,817	36,620	34,472
Volumes in Collection	125,232	128,547	96,641
Volumes Borrowed	109,349	111,460	97,600
<b>Culture &amp; Recreation – Parks &amp; Recreation</b>			
Program Participants	19,258	15,906	16,448
Program/Events Offered	41	37	45
<b>Economic Environment – Veterans Services</b>			
Claims Processed	1,969	1,905	1,658
<b>Human Services – Animal Control</b>			
Complaints Answered	6,703	7,533	6,913
Citations Issued	58	207	204
<b>Human Services – Mosquito Control</b>			
Complaints Answered	685	1,177	274
Miles Sprayed	2,428	2,566	2,165
<b>Human Services – Welfare Administration</b>			
Nursing Home Verifications	0	0	0
HCRA Cases (f)	207	166	182
<b>Public Safety – Buildings &amp; Inspection</b>			
Permits Issued: (a) Commercial – New (g)	7	11	20
(b) Commercial – Existing (g)	532	430	91
(c) Residential – New (g)	78	226	512
(d) Residential – Existing (g)	5,168	6,055	7,867
Inspections	12,256	20,154	25,151
<b>Public Safety – Codes Enforcement</b>			
New Cases Opened	970	1,278	1,646
New Case Inspections	2,820	4,031	5,574
<b>Public Safety – Emergency Medical Services</b>			
Emergency Responses	9,397	12,350	8,234
Transports	8,831	8,707	6,693
<b>Public Safety – Fire Department</b>			
Emergency Responses	11,871 (h)	10,622 (a)	5,615
Fires Attended	659 (h)	601 (a)	635
<b>Sheriff's Office</b>			
Violations	3,697 (h)	3,503 (a)	3,068
Arrests	3,339 (h)	3,355 (h)	3,122
<b>Transportation/Public Works</b>			
Road Gradings (miles)	3,507	3,004	2,722
Roads Paved/Resurfaced (miles)	21	22	56
Water Service Connections	136	136	235
Average Daily Water Consumption	45,658	37,465	42,037
Peak Daily Water Consumption	103,857	59,933	66,372
Average Daily Wastewater Treatment (gallons)	20,379	16,809	9,333
<b>Business Type Activities – Sanitation</b>			
Solid Waste Collections (tons)	78,816	90,482	96,357
Recycling Rate (i)	29%	30%	30%
<b>Business Type Activities – Port Authority</b>			
Dockage Days (j)	365	365	282



## Sources:

- I. Fire Department Data has been taken from Florida's Annual Fire Marshall Report.
- II. Sheriff's Office information has been extracted from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Uniform Crime Reports.
- III. Sources other than those specified above were the various County departments.

## Notes:

- (a) Revised figures based on newly acquired data.
- (b) Participation increase is largely attributable to the opening of a second Senior Citizen Center in fiscal year 2006.
- (c) The increase in claims filed appears to be the result of an aging populace filing disability claims.
- (d) Annualized estimate – data loss due to system problems.
- (e) Nursing home verifications are no longer performed by the County's Human Resources Department.
- (f) HCRA (Health Care and Responsibility Act) obligates counties to pay out-of-county health care for county residents that meet eligibility criteria.
- (g) Categories were modified effective with FYE 2007 to reflect new and existing commercial and residential permits issued.
- (h) Projected estimates – finalized reports were not available.
- (i) Recycling rates represent ratios of Recycled Tons to Collected Tons.
- (j) The fluctuations in dockage days reported are largely attributable to one entity's usage.



# ECONOMIC CONDITION AND OUTLOOK

The unemployment rate for the County for September 2009 was 10.8%, a 71% increase over the previous year's unemployment rate of 6.3%. This rate is also higher than the State of Florida average of 9.4%. The unemployment rate in Putnam County was 4.8% two years ago, indicating that unemployment was more than 2.2 times higher in September 2009 than September 2007. This is indicative of the recent downturn in the economy.

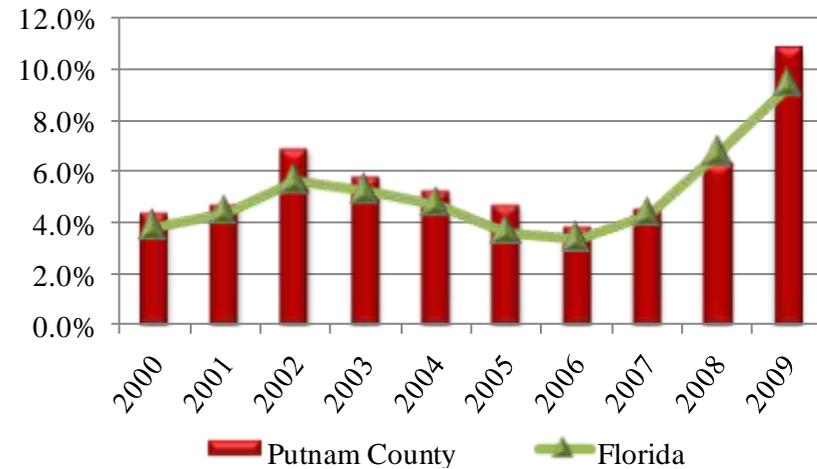
However, per capita income increased by 3% during the year Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to stimulate the economy and create jobs. This Act contained appropriations local governments could compete for to effect infrastructure projects in local jurisdictions.

Putnam County was successful in securing \$1.9 million in transportation funds which were used for resurfacing, drainage and sidewalk projects.

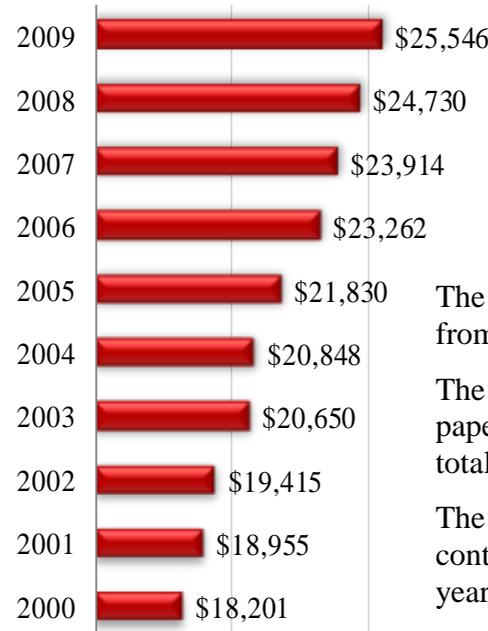
The County hopes to receive a similar amount under the Jobs Creation Bill which will be used for like projects. Congress has not yet finalized this legislation.

The County previously joined a fourteen county organization entitled the North Florida Broadband Authority to compete for funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grant dollars will be used to enhance broadband services and expand high speed connectivity infrastructure throughout the rural counties that joined the Authority. In February it was announced by the Department of Commerce that the organization had been awarded a grant of slightly more than \$30 million.

## Unemployment Rate



## Per Capita Income

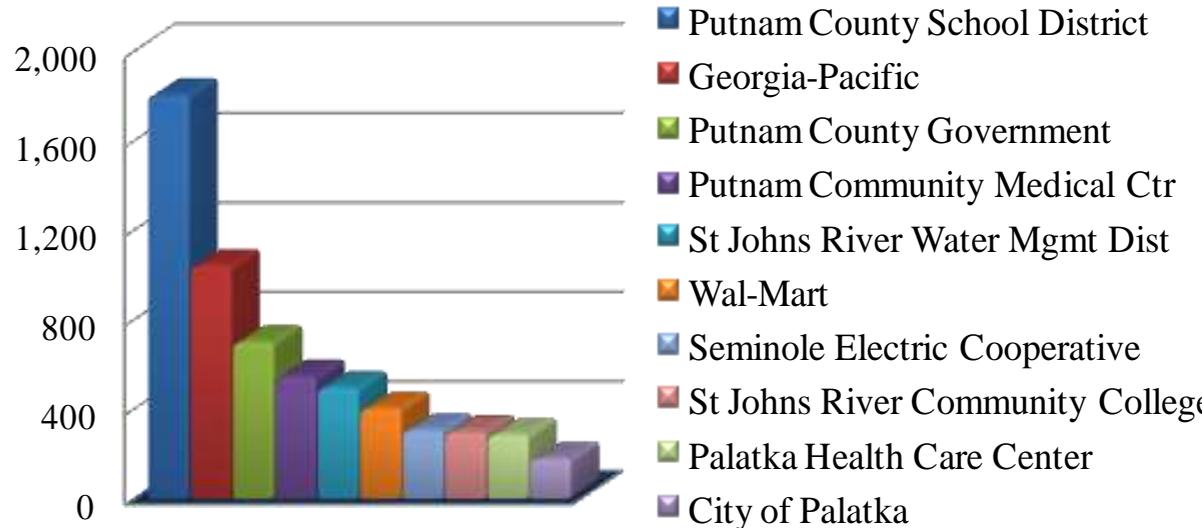


The outlook for future economic growth in the County has moderated from previous years. Some of the factors affecting future growth are :

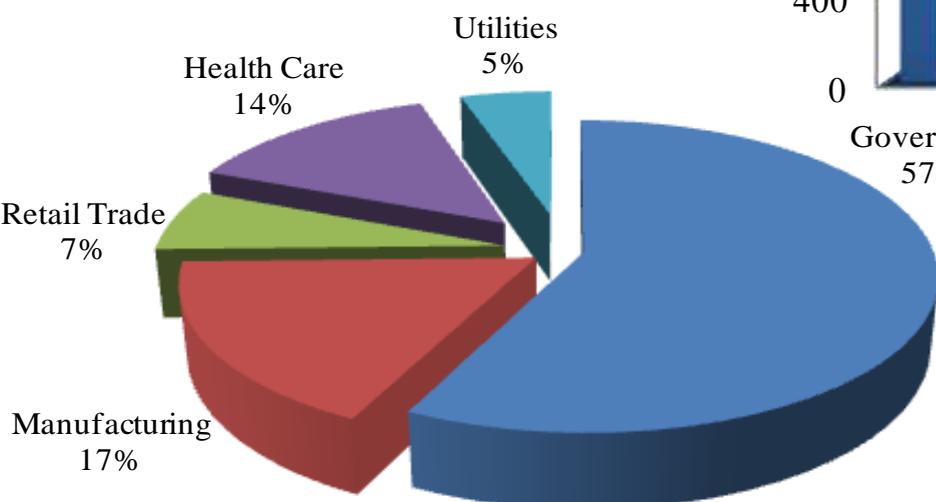
The largest taxpayer in the County is Georgia-Pacific Corporation, a paper products manufacturer, contributing approximately 6.8% of total ad valorem taxes.

The top ten taxpayers, including Georgia-Pacific Corporation, contribute approximately 22% of County ad valorem taxes. Ten years ago, this number was closer to 39%.

## Principal Employers



## Principal Employers by Industry



The Putnam County School District, with slightly less than 1,800 employees, is the single largest employer in the County. The school district, along with other governmental organizations, has maintained a significant portion of the employment market over the last ten or more years.

Second as a principal employer, but not as an industry, is Georgia-Pacific Corporation with over 1,000 employees. The top ten employers, including the school district and Georgia Pacific Corporation, employed approximately 20% of the County's labor force in 2009, down from approximately 21% ten years ago.

# MAJOR INITIATIVES

## Business Park

Property tax reform and the passage of Amendment 1 both resulted in annual revenue reductions which have created a difficult situation for the county in being able to move forward on critical infrastructure projects and those which would improve quality of life. This makes it even more important that the County broaden its tax base through economic development and the creation of jobs. The Business Park on

St. Johns Avenue should be a major attraction to companies and businesses considering relocation. Previously, the County, in partnership with a private developer, constructed a 52,000 square foot industrial shell building in the Park. This building remains available, and it is hoped that this will aid in attracting a prospect that has an interest in a facility which can be readily completed to expedite

start-up in a new location. Successful marketing of this structure may lead to the construction of another building or the extension of infrastructure within the Park. During the year, the County acted on changes to the future land use map designating several properties for large scale industrial use in order to provide some diversity in location for businesses which may have an interest in Putnam County.



## Roads

Improving roads through resurfacing, widening and turning “dirt to pavement” will continue to be a major priority for the County both now and in the future. The evaluation of alternative asphalt mixes has aided in stretching available dollars to maximize the number of miles that can be improved.

While the one cent infrastructure surtax, approved in a referendum in September 2002, provides the primary source of revenue for these road projects, the County continues to pursue grant funds from both the State and Federal governments. Additionally, the Board of Commissioners adopted ordinances in May 2009 which will increase gasoline taxes resulting in more revenue available for transportation infrastructure. Proceeds from these increased taxes will be realized beginning in January 2010. Federal funds are earmarked for 309C which is in design and construction expected to be initiated in the coming fiscal year. Grant funds from the State for county roads 309 and 310 were used in the resurfacing of 310 and the widening and resurfacing of 309. Road projects undertaken using the surtax dollars were limited during the year due to accelerated spending to accomplish multiple projects in the past and the need to repay principal and interest of Board-authorized borrowing against the expected surtax proceeds.



## Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department provided oversight to the design and construction of an amphitheater and related amenities at the West Putnam Recreation Complex in Interlachen during the year. An LWCF grant and local funds made this project possible, and a formal dedication is anticipated during the first quarter of the next fiscal year. The project features the County’s first skateboard park as well as the amphitheater.

## Landfill



The County’s consultant for solid waste provided a design and secured permitting for a new class I area at the landfill for the disposal of household solid waste. The construction of this cell was awarded in July 2009, and it is imperative to

ensure continued viability of the County’s landfill as a facility to dispose of solid waste prior to the space in the current cell becoming filled to capacity. Construction on the new cell for solid waste at the landfill is ongoing with substantial completion expected in April 2010. The new cell may be receiving solid waste by May 2010. Life expectancy of the cell under construction is approximately five years.

## Jail

The existing jail facility continues to be a situation that must be addressed in the future. A needs assessment indicated that a two hundred bed expansion, renovation of existing cells and improved and expanded ancillary services is necessary. The

estimated costs vary, but approximately \$15 million may be required. The anticipated increased operational costs have slowed progress on this project during a time when limited resources make it difficult to consider undertaking a project of this magnitude. The County will be evaluating possible alternative construction options, i.e., pre-cast concrete, prefabricated steel cells, etc., throughout the year. The engagement of an architect to provide final cost information regarding alternatives will be necessary at a future date.



# MAJOR INITIATIVES

## Court Expansion

A consultant previously conducted a needs assessment of the court functions and judicial offices. An increasing number of court cases requiring the assignment of additional court personnel have created overcrowded conditions in the courthouse and in offices that support the judicial process. A Task Force recommended that the County consider a new, stand-alone structure to address the space requirements for the judiciary and support functions. To this end, a fifty-six acre parcel of property adjacent to the existing jail was acquired in January 2006. Regrettably, progress on this project has been brought to a halt by limited resources with the cancellation of the Seminole Electric expansion project being the most significant factor. However, the renovation of a newly-acquired facility to house county offices in the 2007-08 year provides some vacated space that could be used as relief for court-related functions and may obviate the need for immediate action on a future judicial center. This will remain a long-term objective for the County. During the year there was some ongoing discussion with judges and other court personnel regarding the conversion of the former Planning and Development facility to house an additional courtroom. More definitive action on this project may occur in the coming year.

## Impact Fees

In October 2006 the county implemented impact fees on new construction to generate revenue to offset the capital costs of providing infrastructure for essential county services that are impacted by growth. Ordinances were prepared to implement impact fees for schools, fire, transportation, EMS and parks and recreation. In February 2009 the County adopted a one year moratorium on impact fees as one means to help stimulate the local economy. In February 2010 the Board of Commissioners extended the moratorium for an additional 12 months.



## Water



The East Putnam Regional Water System was a project that took quite a bit of time to arrive at the development phase, but a Notice to Proceed was issued to the successful low bidder in November 2007.

Construction ensued, and water service was initiated on November 1, 2009.

Approximately 1,100 users had signed up for the high quality water produced by the water treatment plant. The system consists of a reverse

osmosis treatment plant, storage, transmission and distribution lines. The \$26 million project was funded from state, federal, water management district, and local sources.

## Wastewater

The need for a centralized wastewater treatment system in the East Putnam area is essential to abating pollution of the river and reducing contamination of water supply wells. The County negotiated with the Florida Department of Corrections to partner in utilizing parts of its facilities as a segue to a Regional County Wastewater System in that area. Leases and agreements for services were formally executed during the year. A Scope of Services with a consulting engineering firm for the design, permitting and bidding of a wastewater system has been approved. In February 2010 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection notified the County of its intent to issue a permit for the East Putnam Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility. Some administrative issues remain to be resolved before the County will be in a position to move forward with soliciting bids on the proposed \$9 million first phase of the system.

The County is putting together an application for CDBG-Disaster Recovery grant funds to assist in repairing infrastructure that was damaged during the storms of 2008. The application will focus on funding for the Paradise Point wastewater system and the Port Buena Vista water/wastewater systems. Florida Department of Community Affairs has conducted a site visit to review the components of another CDBG grant to repair infrastructure that was damaged during the storms of 2008. Formal notification of grant award has not yet been received.

# REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



This is the 5th Consecutive year that Putnam County has received the GFOA reward for excellence in Popular Annual Financial Reporting.

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Find out...

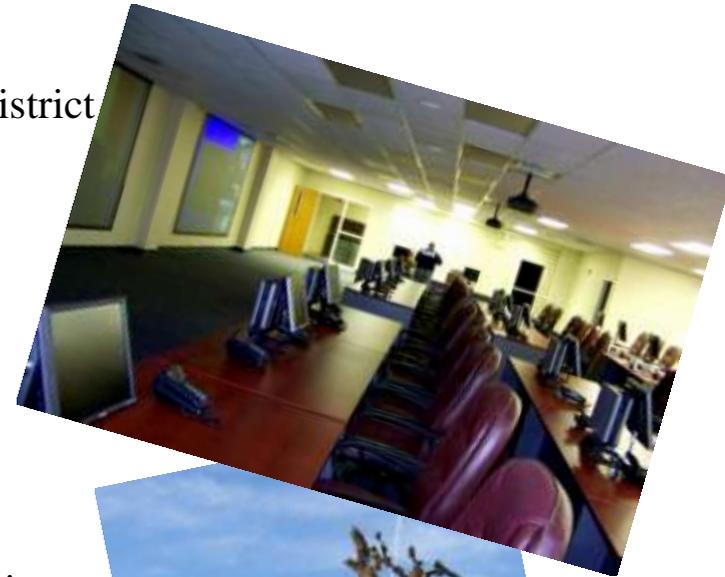
- ...Which County Commissioner is in charge of your District
- ...Current population estimates for Putnam County

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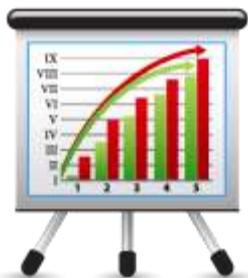
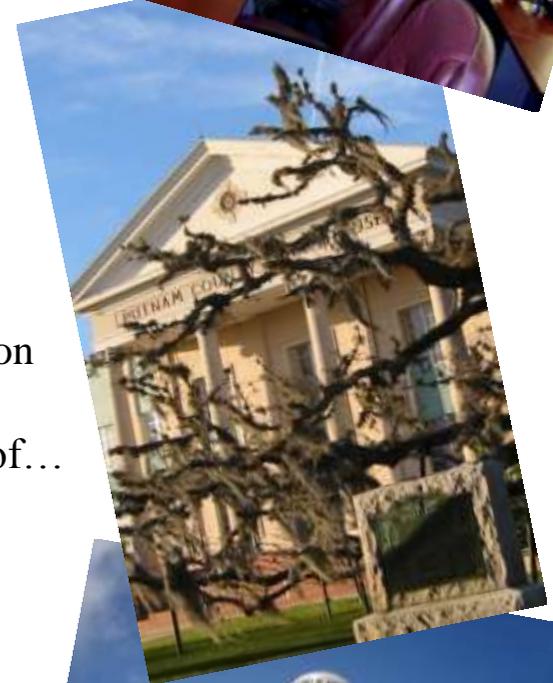
- Contact information for and duties of...
- ...Board of County Commissioners
  - ...Clerk of Courts and Comptroller
  - ...Property Appraiser
  - ...Sheriff
  - ...Supervisor of Elections
  - ...Tax Collector
  - ...Other County Departments and Services



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- Financial data including...
- ...County Revenues
  - ...County Expenses
  - ...Liquidity and Debt Information



- Productivity data for the last 3 years, including the number of...
- ...Court cases opened
  - ...Building permits issued
  - ...Ambulance transports
  - ...Arrests
  - ...Miles of road paved

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- The state of the economy in Putnam County including...
- ...Unemployment Rate
  - ...Major Employers
  - ...Government Stimulus money

County project information and updates, including...

- ...Court expansion plans
- ...Impact fee moratorium
- ...Putnam County's first skateboard park

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