



# Gadsden MSA Profile

March 2008

## LOCATION

County	Etowah
Nearest Major City	Birmingham
Distance to Major City	55 miles
Nearest Interstate	1-59
Distance to Interstate	0 mile
Next Nearest Interstate	1-20
Distance to I-20	35 miles

## CLIMATE

Annual Average Temperature	71.0° F
January Average Temperature	49.4° F
July Average Temperature	79.5° F
Annual Rainfall	54.52 Inches
Annual Snowfall	1 Inch

## HISTORY

The City of Gadsden stands on lands once occupied by the Cherokee Indians. The city is named for Colonel James Gadsden, who negotiated the "Gadsden Purchase" which annexed from Mexico what is now a vast part of the southwestern United States. The word Etowah, spelled "Ettewah" by the Cherokee, means "Ette" tree and "wah" good.

## WORKFORCE

Total county workforce	45,921
Construction, mining, manufacturing	7,300
Percent of workforce in county, male	48.2%
Percent of workforce in county, female	51.8%
Average unemployment rate over past 2 years	5.6%
Right to Work Law	Yes

## LABOR AVAILABILITY

Management	310
Business and financial operations	93
Computer and mathematical	59
Architecture and engineering	83
Education, training and library	63
Healthcare practitioner-technical	104
Healthcare support	315
Protective services	141
Food preparation and servicing	685
Building and grounds cleaning, maintenance	242
Personal care and service	109
Sales and related	759
Office and administrative support	952
Construction and extraction	643
Installation, maintenance and repair	416
Production	1,805
Transportation and material moving	1,025
Military specific	13
Life, physical and social science	31
Community and social services	58
Legal	8
Art, design, entertainment, sport, media	50
Farming, fishing, forestry	43

The Gadsden Employment Security Office had 7,019 active applicants for work on file as of December, 2007. The numbers of applications by occupational category are listed above.

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### GOVERNMENT

Gadsden Government	Mayor/Council
Planning Commission	Yes
Zoning Regulations	Yes
Sales Tax	9% combined
Full-Time Firefighters	112
Fire Insurance Rating	4
Police Officers	88

### EDUCATION

Number of high school graduates per year	604
High Schools-10 public 3 private	11
Student to Teacher Ratio	14:1
Average ACT Score	20.80
Vocational Technical School	Yes
Colleges/Branch Campuses	3
Percentage of 4-year College Graduates	8.1%

### RECREATION/SOCIAL FACILITY

Movie theatres	7
Public libraries	7
Parks and Playgrounds	28
Public Golf Courses	4
Community Centers	9

### FINANCIAL

Banks represented	10
Total bank locations	26
Total Deposits	\$648 million +

### MEDICAL FACILITIES

General Hospitals	2
Substance Abuse	1
Total Number of Beds	627
Number of Physicians	186

### ENTRY LEVEL HOURLY WAGES

Assembly Worker	\$6.18
Metal Fabricator	\$9.91
Material Handler	\$6.84
Millwright	\$10.67
Industrial truck operator	\$9.56
Tool and Die Maker	\$16.20
Welder	\$9.34
Electrician	\$12.55
Janitor	\$6.11
Machinist	\$9.18
Maintenance Mechanic	\$10.86
Tractor Trailer Driver	\$10.06
CNC Machine Operator	\$14.58

### LARGEST EMPLOYERS

Employers	PRODUCT	Number of Employees
Goodyear Tire & Rubber	Tires	1,430
Gadsden Regional Medical Ctr.	Hospital	1,200
Etowah Co. Bd. Of Education	Education	1,000
Riverview Reg. Med. Center	Hospital	800
Tyson Foods	Poultry processing	790
Gadsden City Bd. Of Education	Education	650
City of Gadsden	Govt. services	513
Equity Group of Alabama	Further poultry processing	500
Mid-South Industries	Contract manufacturing	440
Dept. of Human Resources	Social Services	400
Gadsden State Comm. Coll.	Education	373
Wal-Mart	Retail	350
Etowah Co. Commission	Govt. services	321
McGuffey Health Care, Inc.	Nursing home	275
Mountain View Hospital	Hospital	247
Choice Fabricators	Metalworking	239
Gadsden Health Care	Nursing home	230
Attalla City Schools	Education	215
Quality of Life Health Svcs.	Health care	194

### INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE

Cost per acre of industrial land	\$4,500—15,000
Average construction cost/industrial building	\$30.00-40.00/s.f. (depending on building size)

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### INDUSTRIAL PARKS

Industrial Park	Available Acreage
Gadsden Airport Industrial Park	60
Gadsden Industrial Complex	40
Gadsden Commerce Center	127
Attalla Industrial Park #1	10
Attalla Industrial Park #2	60
Cameron	135

### DISTANCE TO MAJOR CITIES

	Miles	# Days	
		Truck	Rail
Birmingham	55	1	1
Atlanta	110	1	1
Memphis	275	1	1
New Orleans	400	1	2
Jacksonville	423	1	2
Chicago	640	2	2
Washington, D.C.	680	2	2
Houston	756	2	3
Miami	775	2	3

### TRANSPORTATION

Truck Number of carriers	11
Rail Carriers	OmniTRAX and Norfolk Southern
Air Local Airport	Gadsden Municipal
Runway Length	6,800' x 150' (lighted) 4,500' x 150'
Nearest Major Airport	Birmingham (55 miles) Service includes: American, Delta, United, Northwest and Southwest Airlines
Bus Carrier	Greyhound

### COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

MUNICIPALITY	2000 POPULATION
Altoona	944
Attalla	6,226
Gadsden	36,835
Glencoe	5,179
Hokes Bluff	4,391
Mountainboro	315
Rainbow City	8,875
Reece City	588
Ridgeville	137
Sardis City	1,415
Southside	8,077
Walnut Grove	602

### POPULATION

Population within 30-mile radius	350,000
County population	103,459
Male	46.8%
Female	53.2%
White	82.4%
Black	15.1%
Under 25	43.4%
25 to 44	26.6%
45 to 64	27.0%
65 and over	16.1%

### COST OF HOMES

Average home price in 2007	\$116,121
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### HOTELS/MOTELS

Name	Rooms
Holiday Inn Express	70
Gadsden Inn & Suites	83
Comfort Inn & Suites	85
Best Western	67
Hampton Inn	100