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FORT BENNING, GA

Demographics

The following tables provide a short description of the area near the installation/activity. FORT BENNING is within Columbus, GA, the nearest city with a population of 100,000 or more. The nearest metropolitan statistical area (MSA) is

MSA	Population
COLUMBUS MSA	274,624

The following entities comprise the military housing area (MHA):

County/City	Population
Chattahoochee	14882
Harris	23695
Muscogee	186291
Russell	49756
Total	274,624

Child Care

This attribute captures the number of nationally accredited child-care centers within the local community: 4

Cost of Living

Cost of Living provides a relative measure of cost of living in the local community. General Schedule (GS) Locality Pay provides a relative scale to compare local salaries with government salaries and Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) is an indicator of the local rental market. In-state tuition is an indicator of the support provided by the state for active duty family members to participate in higher-level education opportunities.

Median Household Income	(US Avg $41,994)	$34,512	Basis: MSA
Median House Value	(US Avg $119,600)	$84,000	
GS Locality Pay	("Rest of US" 10.9%)	13.1%	
O-3 with Dependents BAH Rate		$1,152	
In-state Tuition for Family Member		Yes	
In-state Tuition Continues if Member PCSs Out of State		Yes	

Education

This attribute defines the population in local school districts and identifies capacity. The pupil/teacher ratio, graduation rate, percentage of certified teachers and composite SAT I/ACT scores provide a relative quality indicator of education. This attribute also attempts to give communities credit for the potential intellectual capital they provide.

Extracted from OSD BRAC database as of Jan 10, 2005

NOTE: "MFR" means a Memorandum For Record is on file at the installation/activity/agency to document problems in obtaining the required information. Reasons for not being able to obtain information may be that the school district refused to provide the information or the school district does not use or track the information.

If the installation/activity/agency has incomplete information from the local school system in order to accurately compute a score in this area, the number of school districts reporting information will be captured in addition to the computed answer.

		Basis
School District(s) Capacity	51,775	5 of 5 districts
Students Enrolled	48,317	5 of 5 districts
Average Pupil/Teacher Ratio	14.7:1	5 of 5 districts
High School Students Enrolled	15,908	5 of 5 districts
Average High School Graduation Rate (US Avg 67.3%)	71.0%	5 of 5 districts
Average Composite SAT I Score (US Avg 1026)	616	2 of 5 districts
Average ACT Score (US Avg 20.8)	18	5 of 5 districts
Available Graduate/PhD Programs	6	
Available Colleges and/or Universities	10	
Available Vocational and/or Technical Schools	2	

Employment

Unemployment and job growth rates provide a relative merit of job availability in the local community. National rates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics are also provided.

The unemployment rates for the last five-years:

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Local Data	5.1%	4.7%	4.8%	5.5%	5.4%
National	4.2%	4.0%	4.7%	5.8%	6.0%
Basis:	MSA	MSA	MSA	MSA	MSA

The annual job growth rate for the last five-years:

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Local Data	.6%	.6%	-3.0%	.2%	3.9%
National	1.5%	2.4%	.03%	-.31%	.86%
Basis:	MSA	MSA	MSA	MSA	MSA

Housing

This attribute provides an indication of availability of housing, both sales and rental, in the local community. Note: according to the 2000 Census, Vacant Sale and Vacant Rental Units do not equal Total Vacant Housing Units; Total Vacant Housing Units may also include units that are vacant but not on the market for sale or rent.

Total Vacant Housing Units	11,303	Basis: MSA
Vacant Sale Units	1,662	
Vacant Rental Units	5,200	

Medical Providers

This attribute provides an indicator of availability of medical care for military and DoD civilians in the local community. The table reflects the raw number of physicians/beds and ratio of physicians/beds to population.

	# Physicians	# Beds	Population	
Local Community	796	1,162	274,624	Basis: MSA
Ratio	1:345	1:236		
National Ratio (2003)	1:421.2	1:373.7		

Safety/Crime

The local community's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) Index for 2002 per 100,000 people and the national UCR based on information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for 2002:

Local UCR	5,042.0	Basis: MSA
National UCR	4,118.8	

Transportation

Distance to an airport shows convenience and availability of airline transportation. Public transportation shows potential for members and DoD civilians to use it to commute to/from work under normal circumstances and for leisure.

Distance from FORT BENNING to nearest commercial airport: 10.8 miles
Is FORT BENNING served by regularly scheduled public transportation? Yes

Utilities

This attribute identifies a local community's water and sewer systems' ability to receive 1,000 additional people.

Does the local community's water system have the ability to meet an expanded need of an additional 1,000 people moving in the local community? Yes

Does the local community's sewer system have the ability to meet an expanded need of an additional 1,000 people moving in the local community? Yes