

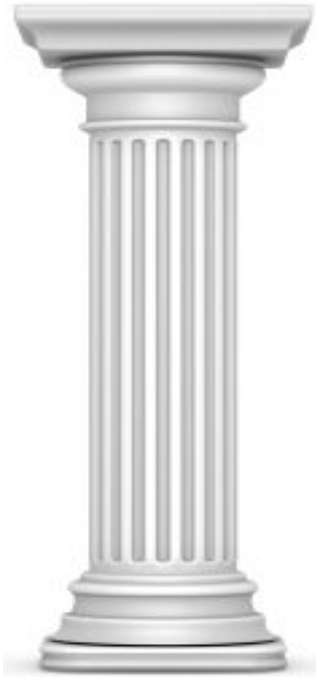


Planning for 2025 and Beyond

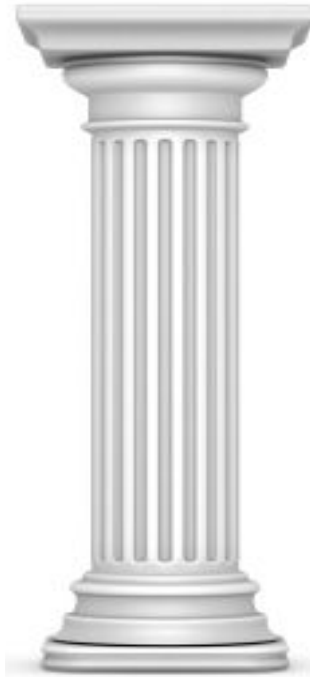
HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ANNUAL RETREAT, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Partnership Habersham Three Pillars

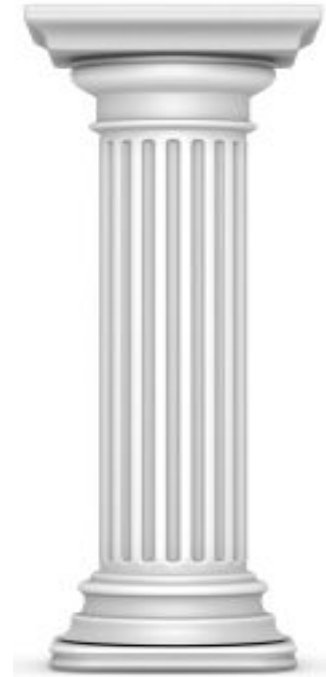
Support Existing
Industry



Workforce
Development



Recruit New
Businesses





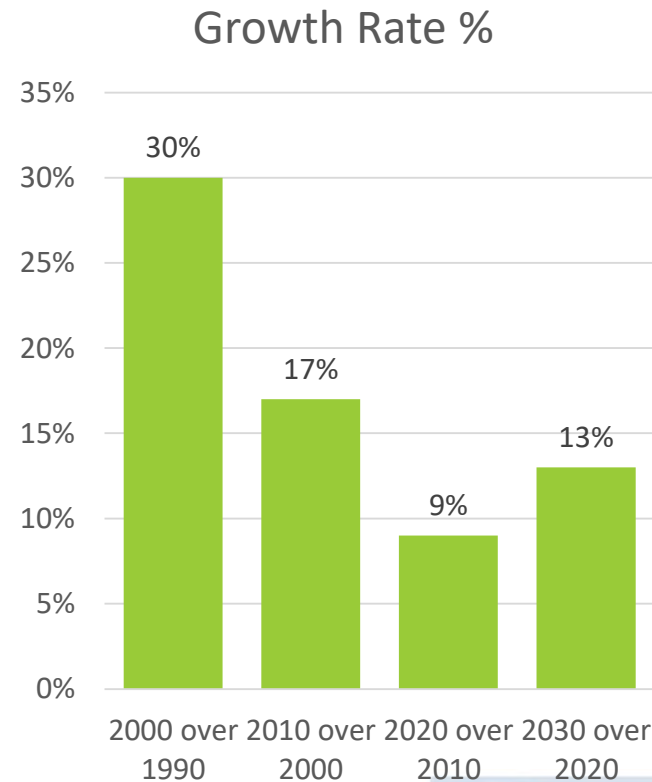
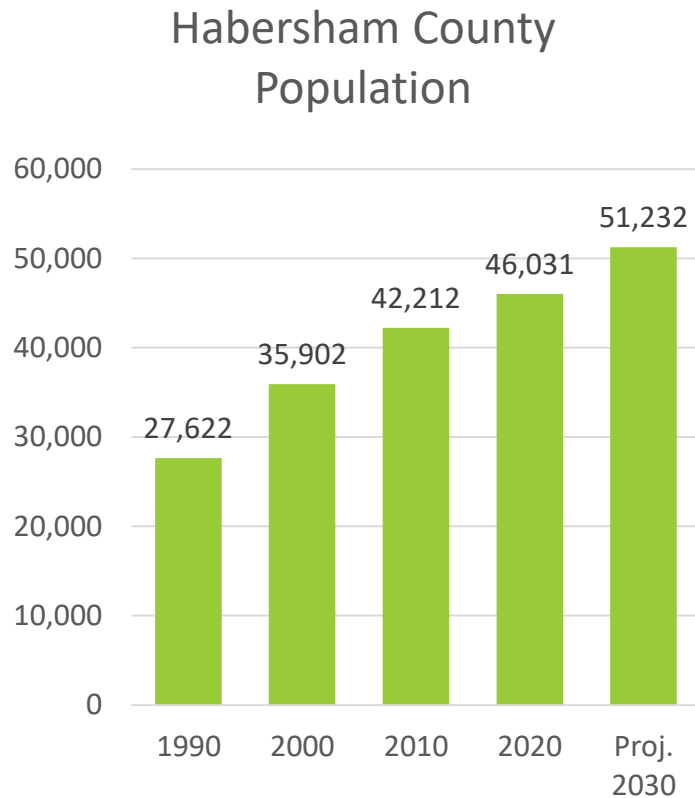
Demographic Profile and Trends

HABERSHAM COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS AND TRENDS



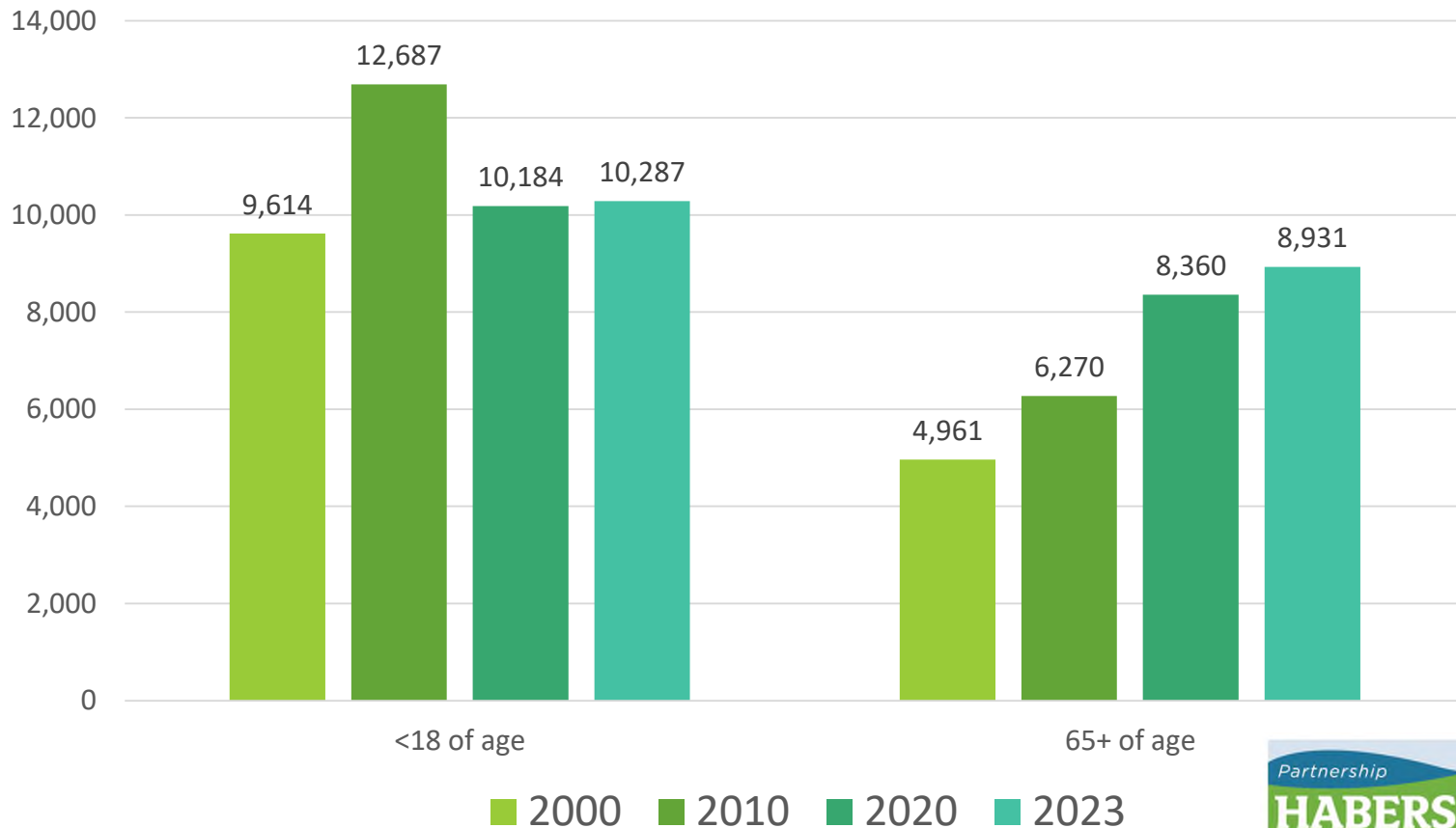
Demographic Trends - Population

- Habersham County's population grew faster from 1990 to 2000 by 30%.
- The growth rate trend for the county as a whole was slowing but projected to pick up.



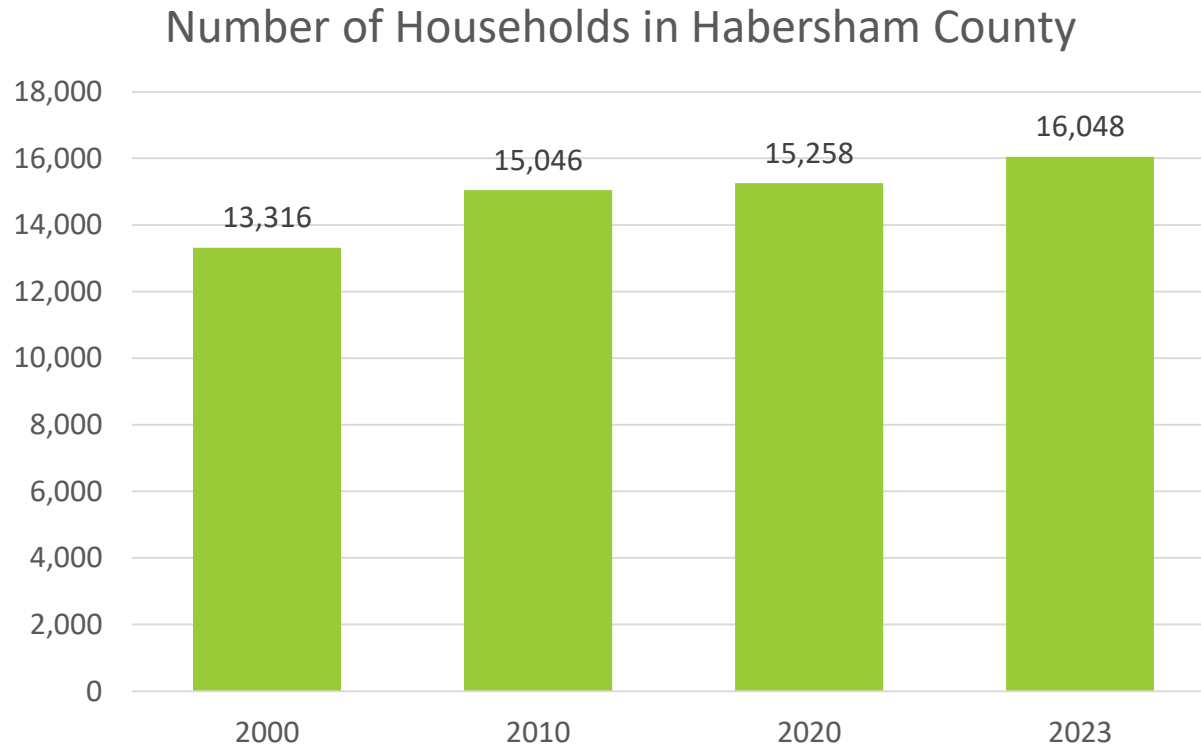
Demographic Trends – Population

- It is important to look at the bookends of the population. The population under 18 years old has grown by 7% since 2000 but seems to have peaked in 2010.
- The population over 65 years old has grown by 80% from 2000 to 2023. This growth is projected to continue.



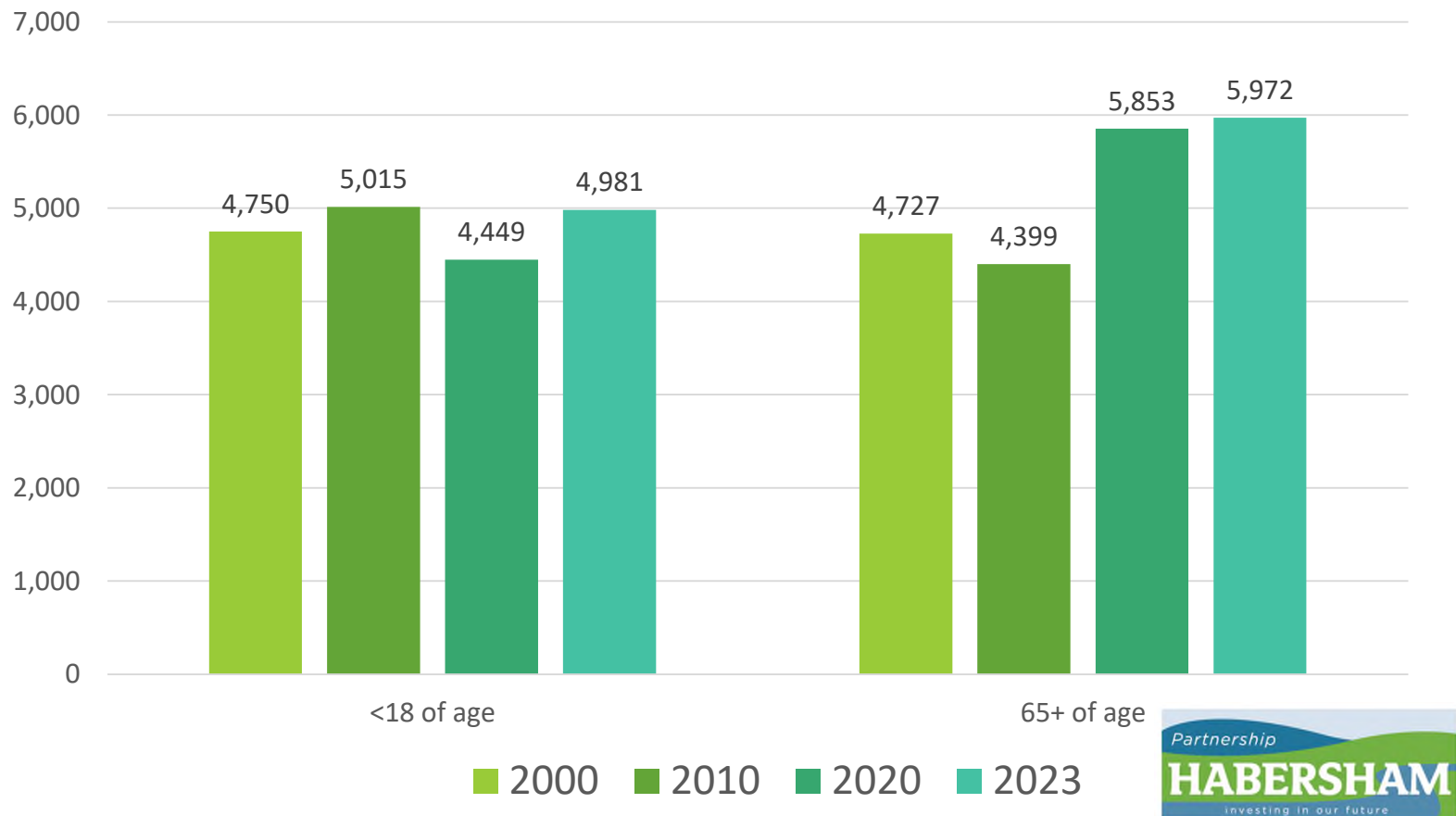
Demographic Trends - Households

- Since 2000, the number of households have grown 20%, but only 6% since 2010.



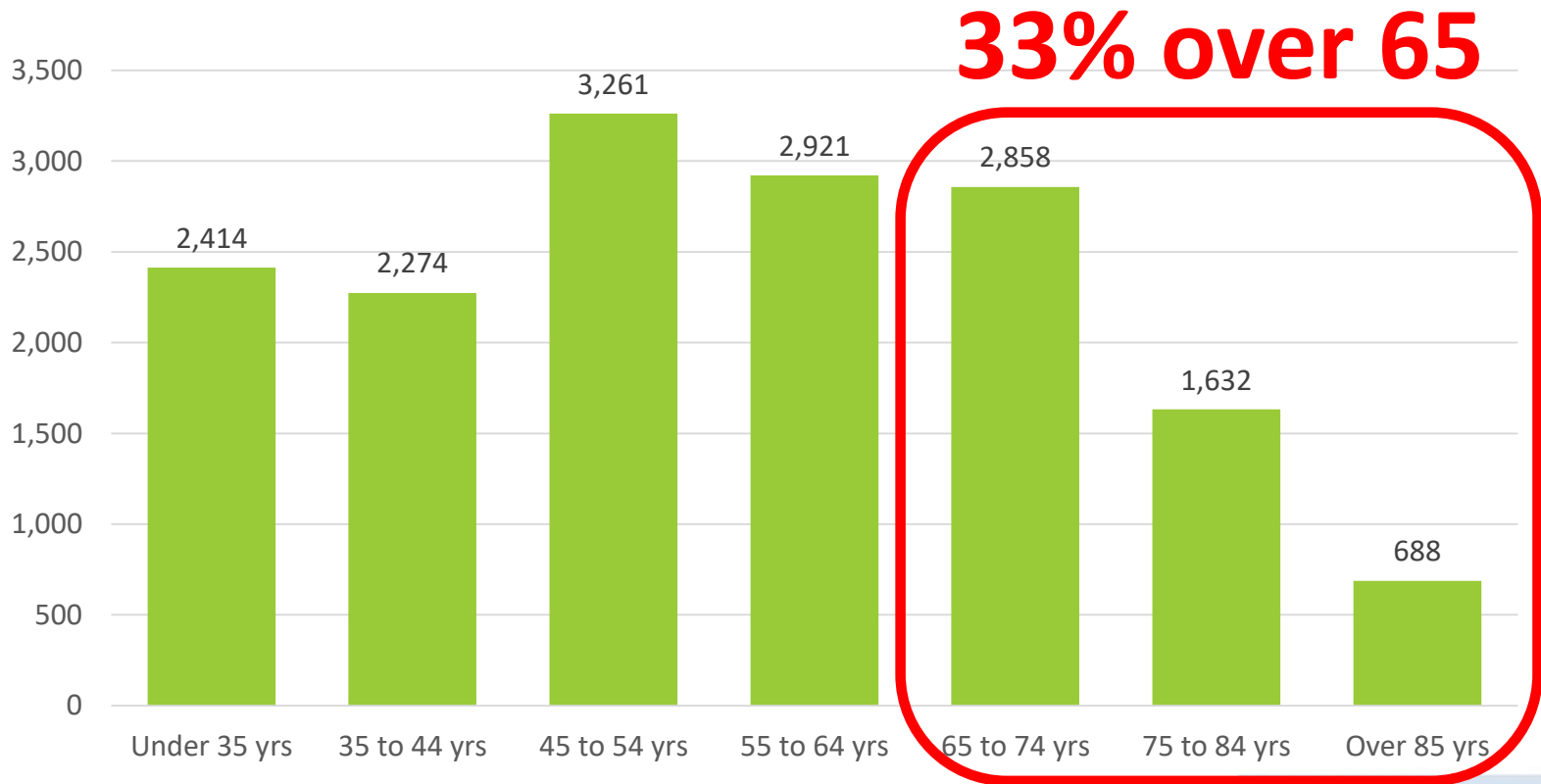
Demographic Trends – Households(HHs)

- Since 2000, the number of HHs with people under 18 grew only 5% which included a small increase in 2010 and a downturn in 2020. This follows the population trends.
- Since 2000, the number of HHs with people over 65 increased 26% and increased by 36% since 2010.
- The population is holding steady for people under 18 while increasing for people over 65.



Demographic Trends – Age of Householder

- For the first time in U.S. history, the number of residents aged 65 and older will surpass those aged 18 and younger, with one-fifth of the total population reaching the retirement age of 65.
- In 2023, one-third of householders in Habersham County were of age 65 or older.

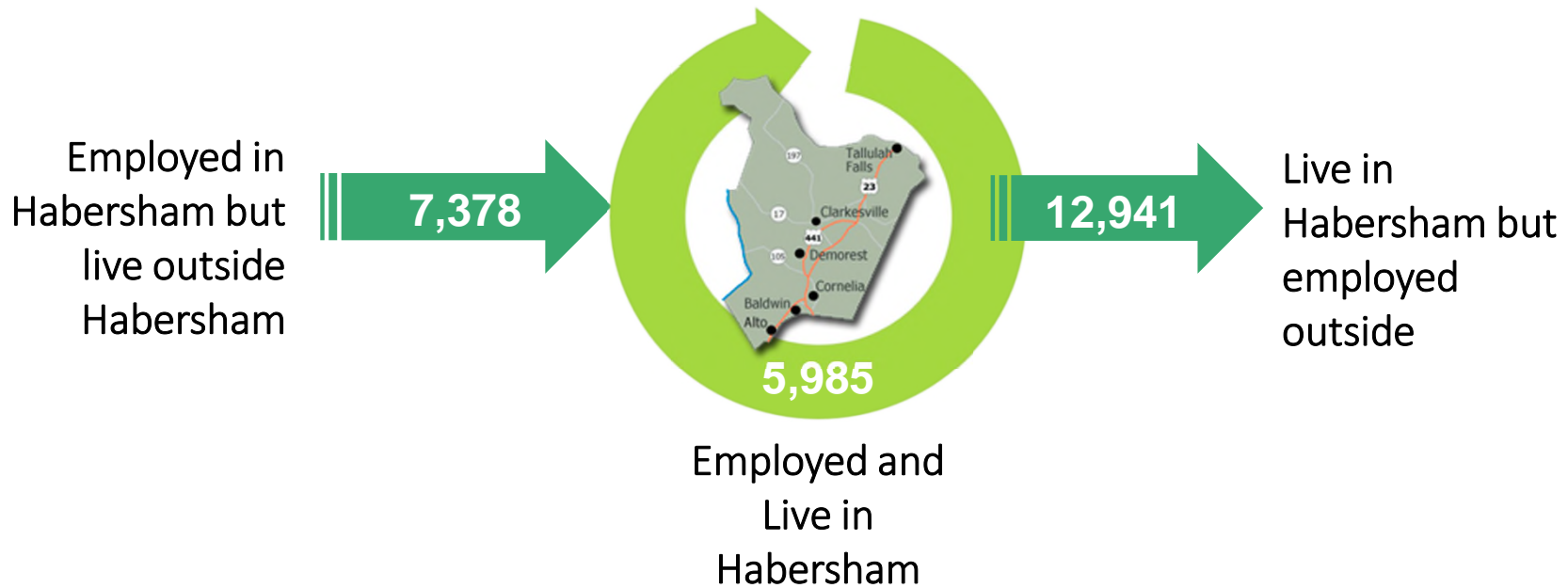


Demographic Trends

- Our population is aging.
- Those with money are buying/building homes.
- We need a place for our young people to live when they graduate.
- Those who need homes are moving to where it is affordable.
- To protect our future workforce, we need housing that young workers can afford.

Habersham County – Inflow/Outflow

Habersham County Inflow/Outflow, **All Industries, All Primary Jobs**



Source: US. Bureau of the Census, OnTheMap, Primary Jobs, 2021



Habersham County High Schools, Class of 2017



469
Students
graduating in
2022

50.1%

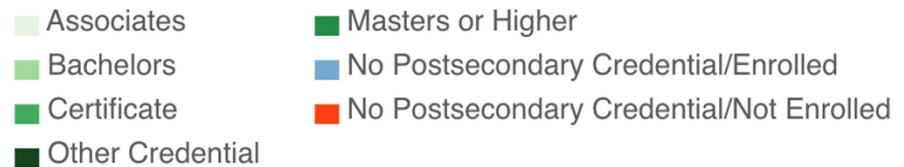
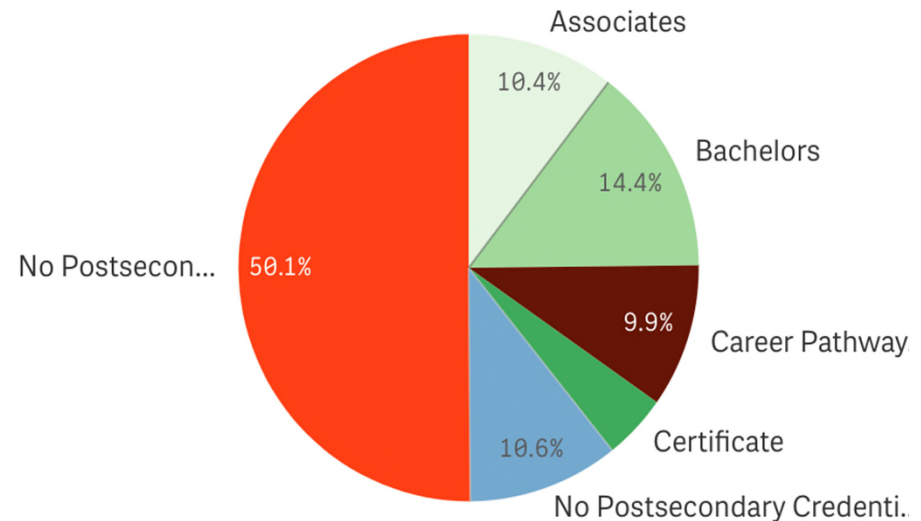
of class of 2017 has acquired no post
secondary credential within 5 years
of graduation (and not enrolled)

14.4%

of class of 2017 has acquired a
Bachelor's Degree within 5 years
of graduation compared to 20%
at state level.

Highest Postsecondary Credential Earned after Five Years

All Habersham County High Schools, Class of 2017

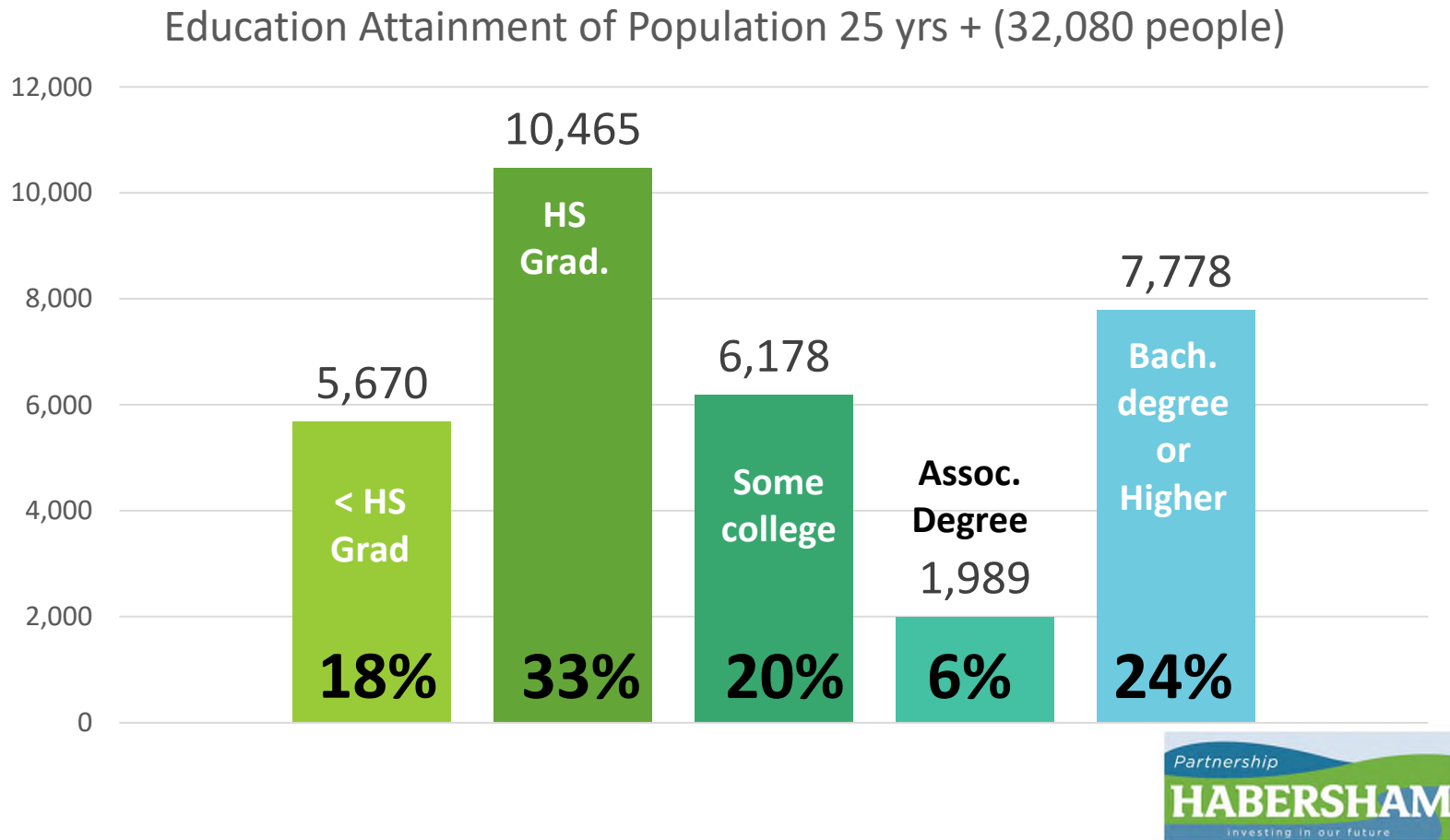


Source: <https://hsgrad.gosa.ga.gov/>

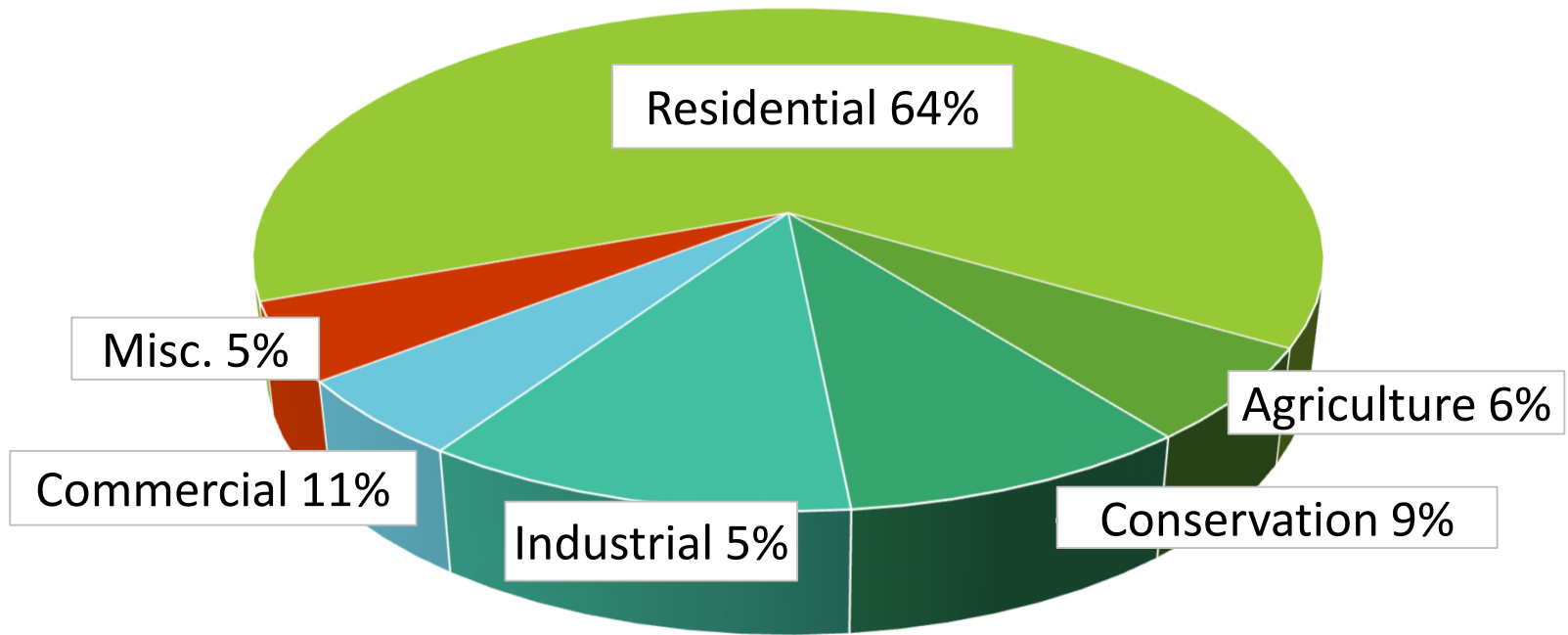


Demographic Trends – Education Level

- In 2023, the education attainment of the population of those 25 and older



Habersham County Tax Digest





Going Forward

- SPLOST vote in Nov. 2026 – begin process in 2025
- Attract new businesses to remaining lots in Phase II
- Research a new location for an industrial/business park
- Planning for the future with an Economic Development Strategic Plan

Economic Development Strategic Plan

***Write down your name & answers on the paper provided.
We will use this information when applying for the ARC Grant.***

- What is your economic development vision for Habersham County?
- What are the top two most pressing economic development issues we face in Habersham County?

Economic Development Strategic Plan

Results of the responses from the January 29th
Partnership Habersham Board of Directors Meeting



Questions?