



Georgia Goes GLOBAL

As the home of a powerful transportation and logistics network that includes the busiest airport in the world, booming deepwater ports and an interstate system to connect them to each other and the rest of the country, Georgia is well-positioned to foster global business. In fact, it's an area where the state excels. In 2019, the state set a record for international trade, with a total of \$143.3 billion.

As 2020 opened, however, there have been challenges, most notably COVID-19, which is impacting the economy in ways that couldn't have been imagined even a month before.

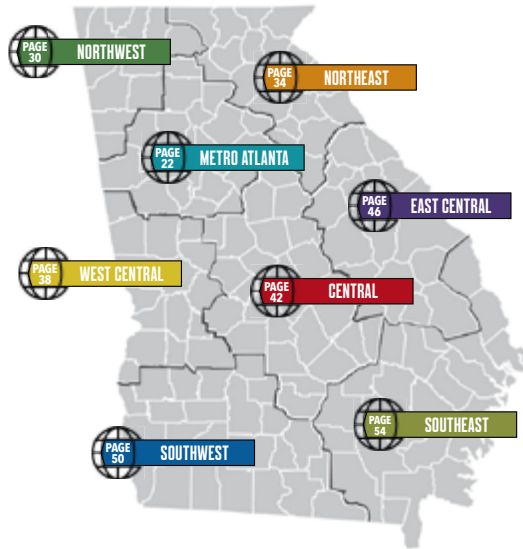
"The COVID-19 pandemic is a black swan event that I expect will push Georgia's economy into recession," says Jeffrey Humphreys, director of the Selig Center for Economic Growth at University of Georgia's Terry College of Business. "It will help tremendously that Georgia's economy was very strong when the coronavirus hit."

The 2020 Economic Yearbook was written before COVID-19 reached Georgia. It looks at global businesses around the state -- from companies that buy products from overseas to agricultural and manufacturing operations that ship everything from peanuts to floor covering around the world.

While in the short term the virus is disrupting business and life in Georgia and around the world, we are fortunate in many ways.

"For years, Georgia has been landing more than its share of major competitive economic development projects," Humphreys says. "Those projects are building out. Plus, a dozen new economic development projects were announced in the first 10 weeks of 2020.

"We will get through this," he adds. "The fundamental economic strengths that made Georgia the top state in which to do business will endure."



BIGGEST COUNTIES PER REGION		POPULATION (2019)
Georgia		10,519,475
Metro Atlanta	Fulton	1,050,114
Northwest	Bartow	106,408
Northwest	Hall	202,148
West Central	Muscogee	194,160
Central	Houston	155,469
East Central	Richmond	201,554
Southwest	Lowndes	116,321
Southeast	Chatham	289,195

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME		HIGHEST PER REGION (2019)
Georgia		\$46,482
Metro Atlanta	Fulton	\$84,386
Northwest	Whitefield	\$38,752
Northwest	Oconee	\$66,740
West Central	Harris	\$47,469
Central	Morgan	\$50,541
East Central	Columbia	\$49,473
Southwest	Lee	\$47,258
Southeast	Bryan	\$52,456

UNEMPLOYMENT		LOWEST PER REGION (2019)
Georgia		2.9%
Metro Atlanta	Forsyth	2.2%
Northwest	Calhoun	2.7%
Northwest	Oconee	2.0%
West Central	Harris, Pike, Troup	2.6%
Central	Jasper	2.6%
East Central	Columbia	2.5%
Southwest	Echols	2.4%
Southeast	Effingham	2.5%

The Simon S. Selig Jr. Center for Economic Growth at University of Georgia's Terry College of Business provided the statistical information for these tables. This edition of the Economic Yearbook divides Georgia's 159 counties among the eight regions introduced in 1998. Each table lists the counties alphabetically within their region. This year's data compilation was prepared by Senior Research Analyst Alexandra Hill. Per capita personal income estimates are based on population and income data from the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Bureau of Labor Statistics is the source for the unemployment data.

ECONOMIC YEARBOOK

April 2021 Edition

- ✓ County-by-County
- ✓ Region-by-Region
- ✓ Industry-by-Industry



The Complete Economic Picture of Georgia

Georgia has a great story to tell and we tell it by region through county-by-county snapshots and profiles of the state's leading industries. Georgia's most influential leaders in business, politics and economic development can refer throughout the year to the valuable information compiled in this April issue.

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