



“We’re moving the needle all around Georgia, but we want to bring more to rural Georgia because they’re the ones that need it most right now.”

— Gov. Brian Kemp, announcing a “rural strike team” to advance economic development in sparsely populated areas

Georgia Dept. of Econ. Dev.
Technology Square
75 Fifth Street N.W., Ste. 1200
Atlanta, GA 30308

Pat Wilson
COMMISSIONER
404-962-4000

georgia.org

Georgia

Pop. (2019): 10,655,025
Median household income (2019): \$56,932
Credit Rating: AAA/Stable

Pop. growth 2019–2024: 1.1%
Median age (2019): 37
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- A \$3,000 pay increase for all certified teachers and public-school personnel is to cost Georgia \$530 million in FY 2020. Legislators also increased spending for K-12 education, post-secondary education, healthcare, rural assistance and transportation.
- A new 4% sales tax on the purchase of digital products such as e-books, video games and music is to generate revenue to fund rural broadband projects. A provision to extend the tax to streaming services was stripped from the legislation.
- As of January 1, 2020, online sellers are subject to sales tax collection based on a “nexus” threshold of \$100,000 annual gross revenue in Georgia. The previous threshold was \$250,000.
- A law adopted in May to ban most abortions as early as six weeks into pregnancy was temporarily blocked by a federal judge in October. A group of Hollywood actors had called on studios to boycott Georgia’s \$9.5 billion film industry. At least 10 major production houses, including Disney, AMC, Netflix, WarnerMedia and Viacom, all have issued statements saying they would reconsider filming in the state should the law go into effect.



32nd

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2019–2020: 4



11th

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: 2,473,503



4th

Number of NCRCs: 343,385 | Percent Improvement 2019–2020: 0.85%



45th

2019 Workers' Comp Index Rate: 2.27



40th

Industrial power cost per kWh: \$5.94

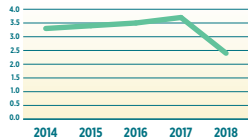


28th

Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2004-2018: 102.0%

GDP

9th



2018 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$528,998.9

Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2019

COMPANY	CITY	COUNTY	TYPE	NEW/ EXPANDED	PRODUCT	INVESTMENT (US\$ M)	EMP
Norfolk Southern Corp.	Atlanta	Fulton	HQ	N	Logistics	575	850
Nestle Purina Petcare Co.	Hartwell	Hart	MF/DW	N	Animal Food	500	240
Ball Corp.	Rome	Floyd	MF	N	Metal	200	180
Plastic Express	Pooler	Chatham	MF	N	Plastics	172	166
Georgia-Pacific	Albany	Dougherty	MF	N	Sawmills	150	130
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.	Newnan	Coweta	DW	N	Tires	140	250
Georgia-Pacific	Warrenton	Warren	MF	N	Sawmills	135	80
Arglass Southeast	Valdosta	Lowndes	MF	N	Glass	123	150
Starbucks Corp.	Augusta	Richmond	MF	E	Coffee	121	100
Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas	Monroe	Walton	MF	E	Auto Parts	100	100
Kubota Corp.	Gainesville	Hall	RD	N	Machinery	85	
PVH Corp.	Palmetto	Fulton	DW	N	Clothing	78	575
Invesco	Atlanta	Fulton	HQ	N	Financial Services	70	500
Harrison Poultry	Crawfordville	Taliaferro	MF	E	Animal Food	70	102
Beach Timber Co.	Alma	Bacon	MF	E	Sawmills	67	60
Mars Wrigley Confectionery US	Gainesville	Hall	MF	N	Food	60	126
Sandler Nonwoven Corp.	Perry	Houston	MF/DW	E	Fabrics	60	70
Kroger Co.	Forest Park	Clayton	DW	N	Food	55	400

DT = Data Center | MF = Manufacturing | OF = Office | HQ = Headquarters | RD = Research & Development | DW = Distribution/Warehouse

Did You Know?

Site Selection in November ranked Georgia’s business climate as tops in the nation for a record seventh consecutive year.

Oprah Winfrey, Spike Lee, Beyoncé, Denzel Washington and Samuel L. Jackson were among celebrities to attend the grand opening of the \$250 million Tyler Perry Studios in October. The 330-acre (135-hectare) complex on the grounds of the former Fort McPherson in Atlanta already features a hospital set, a mock jumbo jet, airport terminal, trailer park and a White House replica.

According to the Census Bureau, Forsyth County, north of Atlanta, has the fastest-growing Asian population in the United States, expanding by 199% from 2017 to 2018.

Jennifer Kupcho, then the world’s top-ranked women’s amateur golfer, won the inaugural Augusta National Women’s Amateur, held the week before the 2019 Masters. The tournament marked the first time that women have competed on the famed golf course.

PLUG INTO MEAG POWER CARBON-FREE ENERGY

With delivered wholesale power that is more than 65% carbon-free, MEAG Power provides our exclusive member communities – the hometowns listed below – with some of the most affordable, environmentally-friendly energy to be found. Our strong generation fleet and transmission infrastructure have a reliability record that businesses depend on.

These MEAG Power communities are ideally suited to facilitate your success with prompt, nearby service, customized solutions and local rate-setting. Plus, because they are public power communities, the utility revenue stays at home helping make things even better. Sounds like it might be time for you to plug in.

Acworth	East Point	Monticello
Adel	Elberton	Moultrie
Albany	Ellaville	Newnan
Barnesville	Fairburn	Norcross
Blakely	Fitzgerald	Oxford
Brinson	Forsyth	Palmetto
Buford	Fort Valley	Quitman
Cairo	Grantville	Sandersville
Calhoun	Griffin	Sylvania
Camilla	Hogansville	Sylvester
Cartersville	Jackson	Thomaston
College Park	LaFayette	Thomasville
Commerce	LaGrange	Washington
Covington	Lawrenceville	West Point
Crisp County	Mansfield	Whigham
Doerun	Marietta	
Douglas	Monroe	

