



GEORGIA IN PERSPECTIVE

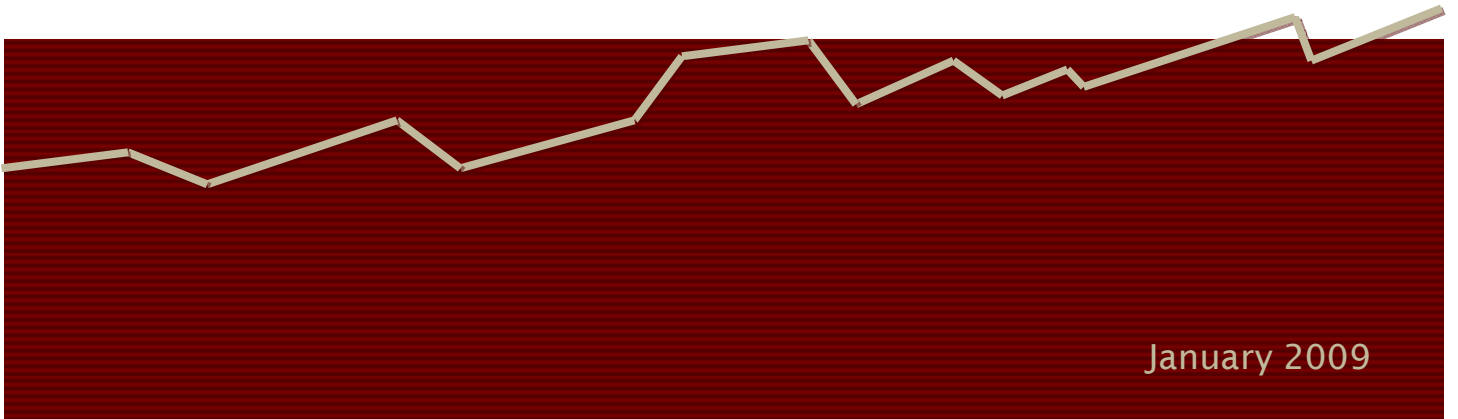
2009

EDUCATED GEORGIA

Statistics, Trends,
Facts, and Figures



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
of PLANNING & BUDGET



January 2009

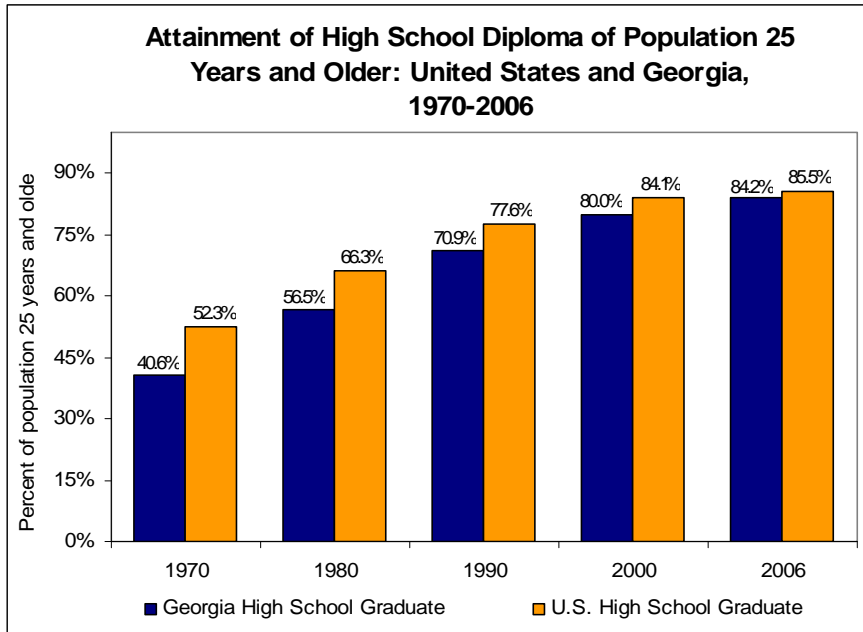


Georgia's high school graduation rate has continued to improve. 75.4% of students graduated in the 2007-2008 school year. The state hopes to achieve 80% by 2010.

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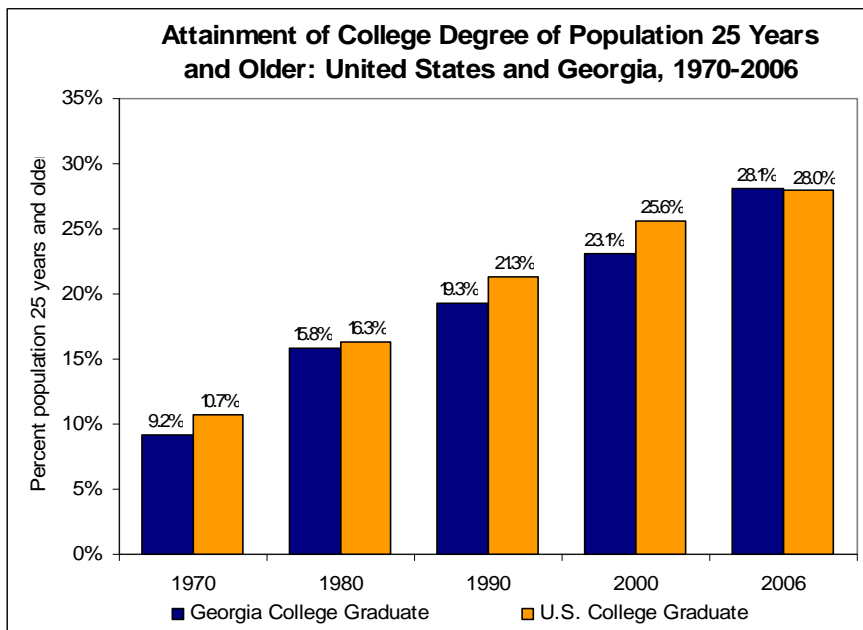
Education Level of Population 25 Years and Older



- The proportion of Georgians 25 years and older completing high school more than doubled between 1970 (40.6%) and 2006 (84.2%).
- The percent of Georgians age 25 and older who have completed high school is comparable to the national average (85.5%) .

Source: U.S. Statistical Abstract and the U.S. Census Bureau

- Georgia invests a significant portion of the State's annual budget to educate its citizens. Education is Georgia's number one priority, representing more than 55% of the state's total budget.



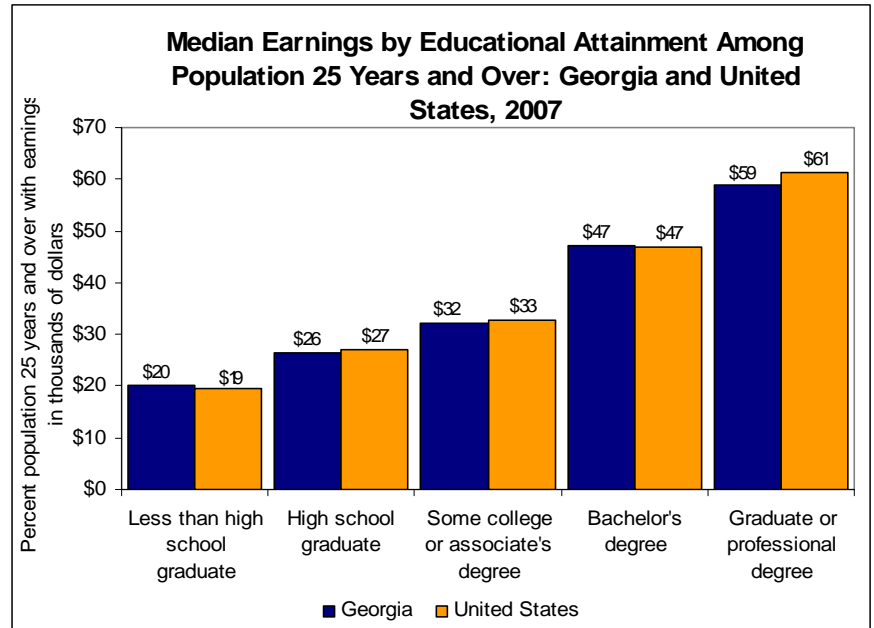
- The proportion of Georgians completing college tripled between 1970 and 2006.
- More than one-quarter of Georgia's adults 25 years and older (28.1%) have earned a college degree, equivalent to the national average (28.0%).
- The percentage of Georgians completing a college degree increased from 9.2% in 1970 to 28.1% in 2006.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract

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Earnings and Unemployment of Population 25 Years and Older

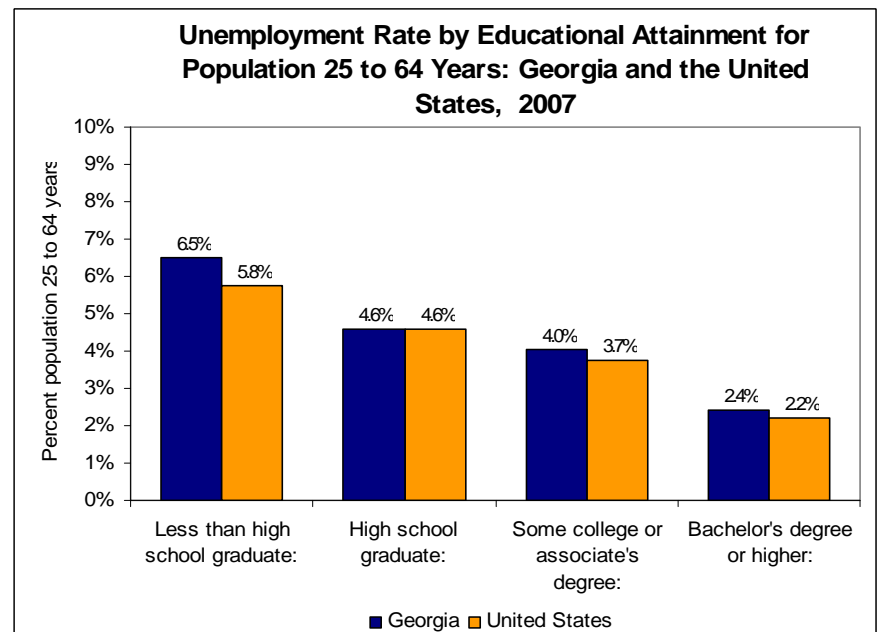
- Median income increases with each level of education completed.
- A college graduate with a bachelor's degree in Georgia earns, on average, \$20,638 more per year compared to a high school graduate.
- Earnings for Georgia's college graduates (\$47,029) are slightly higher than the national average (\$46,805).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey

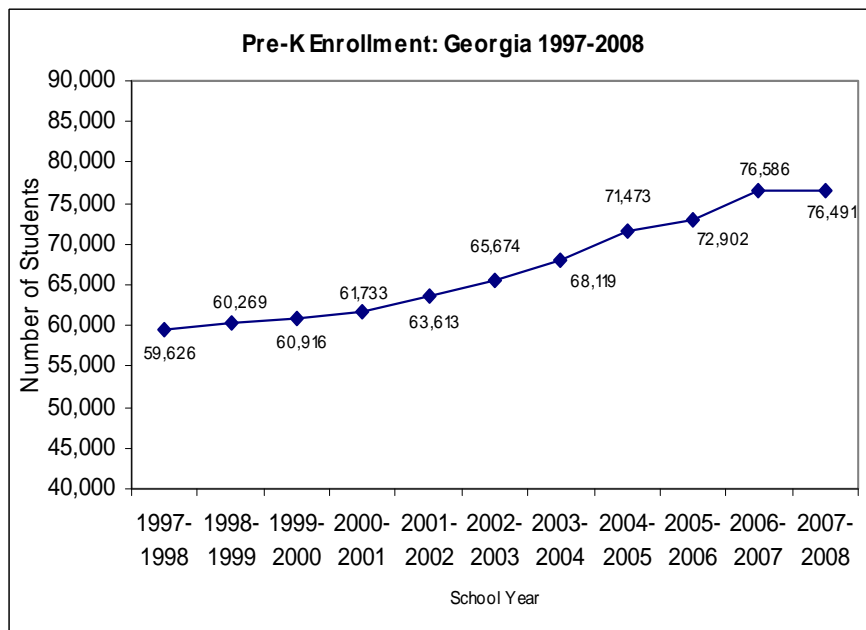
- Education is a crucial element in sustaining and growing the economy of the state, Georgia has made significant investments in education and training in strategic industries and high demand professions, such as health professions with service cancelable loans and other incentive programs.

- Less educated working age adults, 25 to 64 years, are more likely to be unemployed compared to college graduates.
- Only 2.2% of Georgia's working age college graduates were unemployed in 2007.
- Adults in Georgia who have not completed high school have a slightly higher unemployment rate (6.5%) compared to their counterparts nationally (5.8%).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey

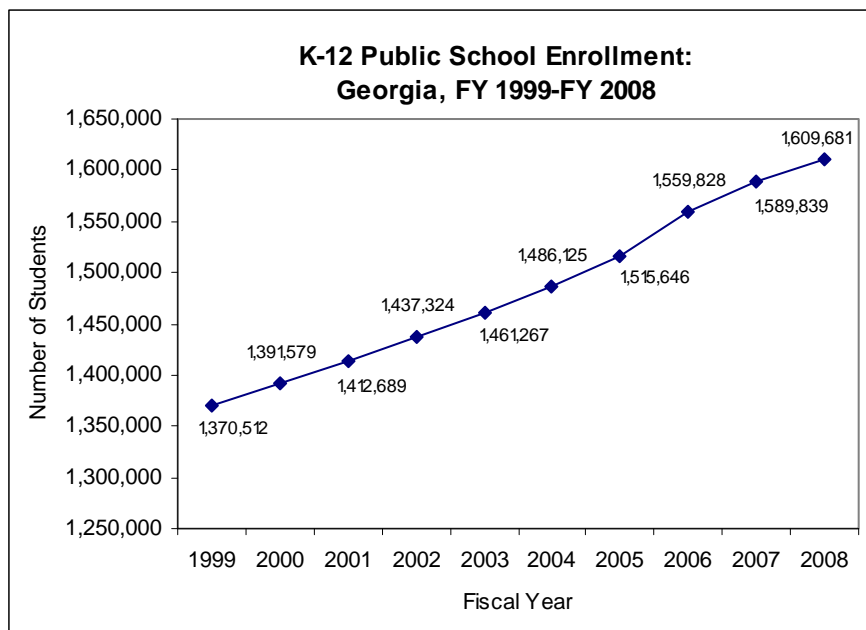
Pre-K through 12th Grade Enrollment



Source: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

- Over the past decade Pre-K enrollment in Georgia increased by 16,960 children (28.4%); from 59,626 in 1997 to 76,586 in 2006.
- Georgia ranked third highest among the states in the proportion of four year olds enrolled in Pre-K (53%) during the 2006-2007 school year.
- Georgia's Lottery funds the Pre-K program. The FY 2009 budget for Pre-K is more than \$337 million.
- Children who attend Pre-K perform better in reading, language and math in kindergarten.

- Georgia became the first state in the country to provide Pre-K to all four year olds in 1995. More than half of Pre-K students (57%) are enrolled in private schools and 43% are enrolled in public schools.
- Children whose parents read to them tend to become better readers and perform better in school. Other family activities such as telling stories and singing songs also encourage children's acquisition of literacy skills.
- The percentage of 3-5 year olds read to three or more times a week increased from 78 percent in 1993 to 86 percent in 2005. The percentage of children whose family members frequently told them a story increased from 43 to 54 percent.



Source: Georgia Department of Education

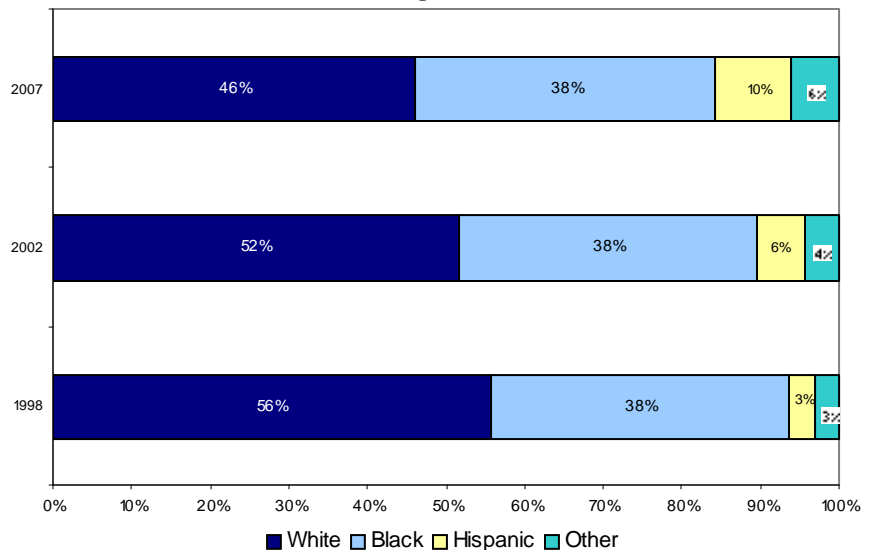
- Georgia's public schools educated more than 1.6 million children during the 2007-2008 school year.
- Over the past decade, public school enrollment increased by approximately 240,000 students; a 17.5% increase over the decade, a 1.7% annual increase.
- The largest increase in public school enrollment took place in high school with an increase of 26.6% between the 1998-1999 and 2007-2008 school years. Elementary and middle school enrollment increased 12.8% and 15.6% respectively.

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Public, Private and Home School Enrollment

- Georgia's public school population has become increasingly diverse. During the 2007-2008 school year, 54% of students were racial or ethnic minorities.
- The percentage of Black students enrolled in Georgia's public schools has remained at 38% over the past decade.
- The Hispanic K-12 student population has grown by 241% since the 1998-1999 school year.
- The number of Asian students increased by 78.5% between the 1998-1999 and the 2007-2008 school years.

**Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity:
Georgia 1998 - 2007**

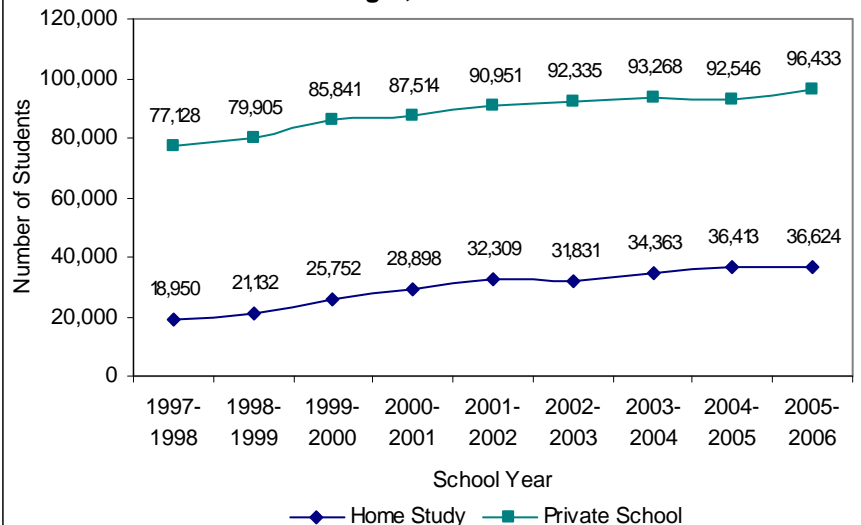


Source: Georgia Department of Education

- Approximately 8 percent of Georgia's students (137,223) attended non-public schools in FY 2005-06; 96,433 students attended private schools, 36,624 were home schooled and 4,166 attended military or out of state schools.
- The number of students who are home schooled nearly doubled between 1997 and 2005, from 18,950 to 36,624.

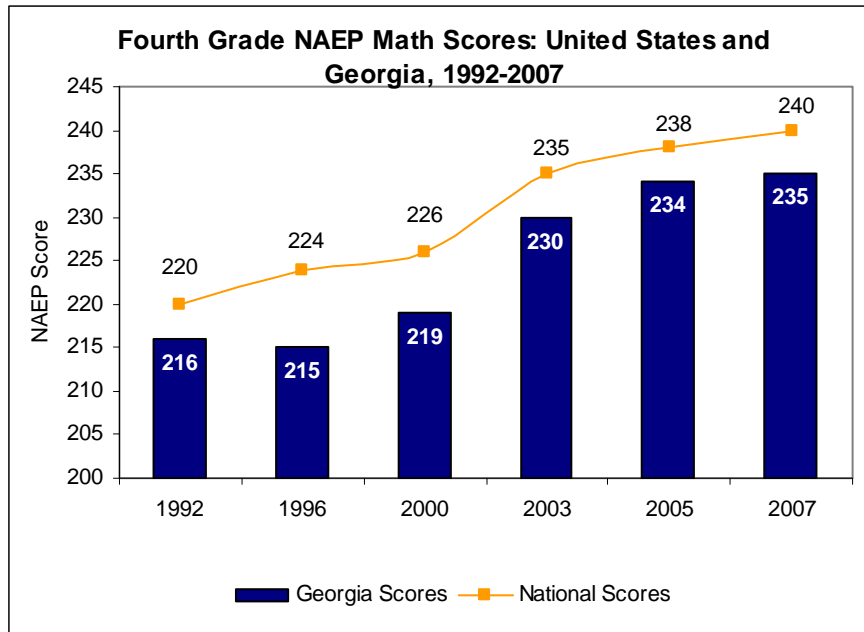
- One out of twelve children in Georgia (137,233) are enrolled in home study (2.1%), private schools (5.6%), or military schools (0.1%).
- The number of children enrolled in home study nearly doubled between 1997 and 2007, from 18,950 to 36,624.

**Home Study and Private School Enrollment:
Georgia, 1997 to 2006**



Source: Georgia Department of Education

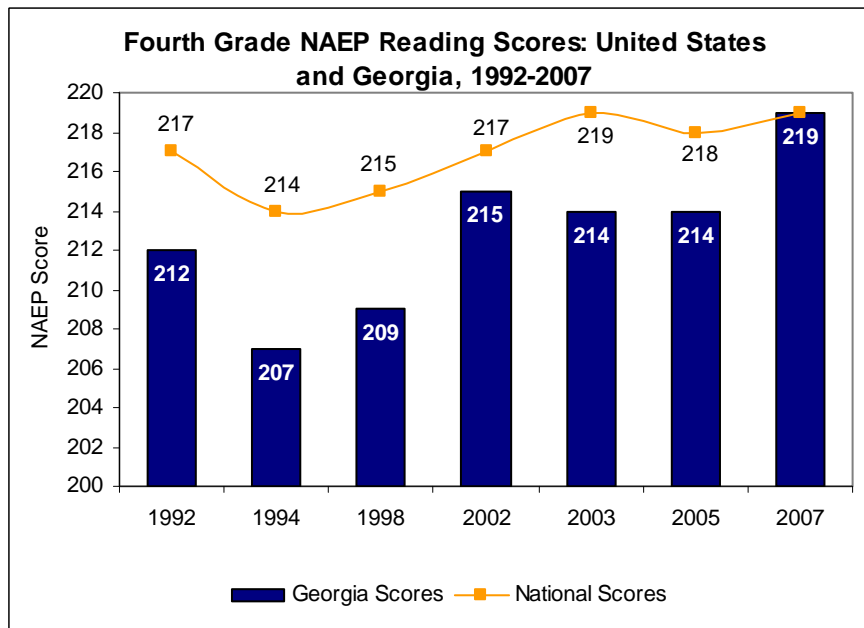
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



- In 2007, fourth grade students scored 19 points higher in math than in 1992, when the test was first administered.
- In 2007, Georgia fourth grade math students were behind the national average by 5 points.
- From 1992 to 2007, Georgia fourth grade math scores have continuously improved.

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card

- The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics to elementary and secondary students in various subject areas. Four of the nine total subject areas are reported at the state level including mathematics and reading. Both private and public school children are assessed, however, only public school data is available for state comparisons.
- Under the No Child Left Behind Act, all states are required to participate in the biennial NAEP tests for fourth and eighth grade reading and mathematics assessments.
- The NAEP results provide a national comparison of student academic progress over time.



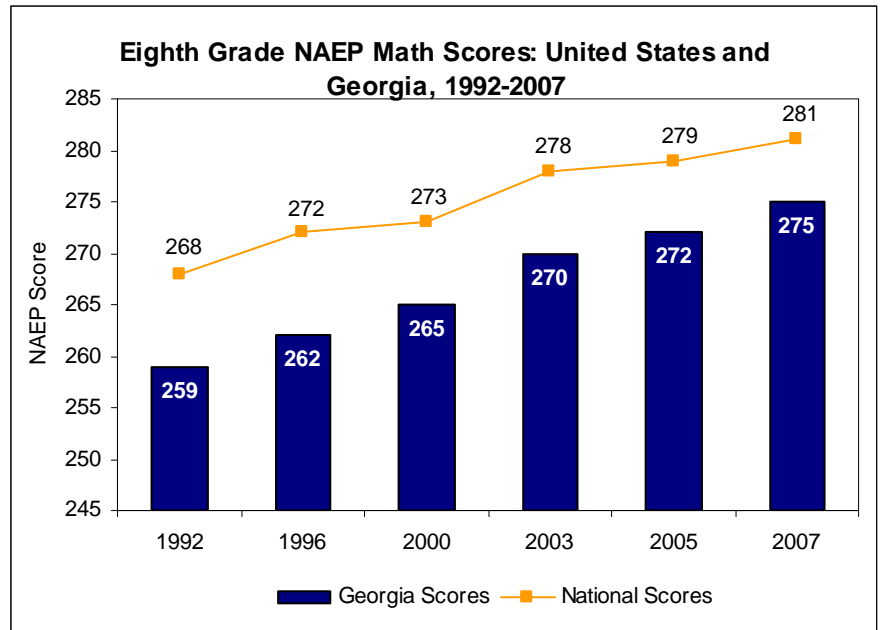
- In 2007, Georgia reached the national average in fourth grade reading for the first time since testing began in 1992.

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card

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National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

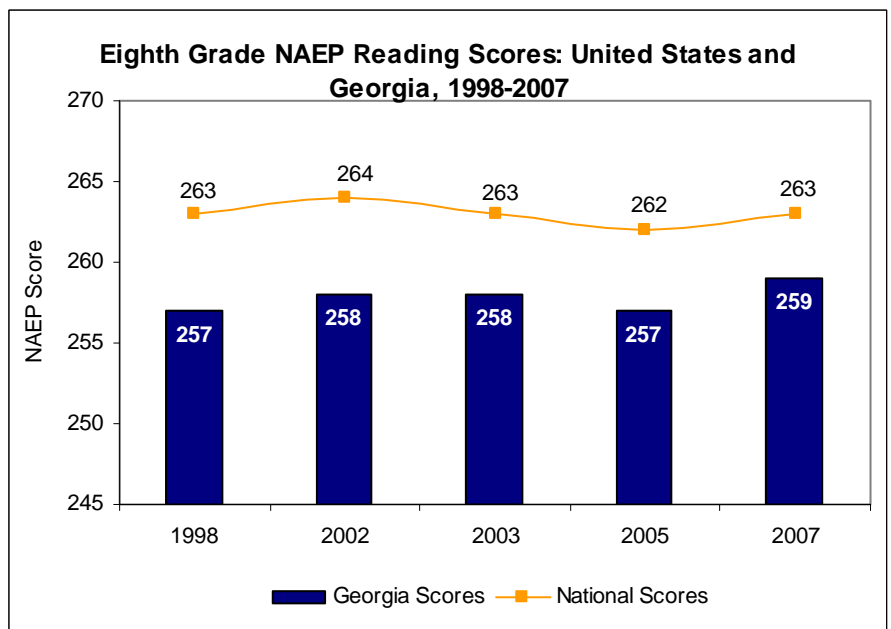
- In 2007, eighth grade students scored 16 points higher in math than in 1992.
- However, eighth grade math students lag behind the national average by 6 points, with a score of 275.
- Similar to the fourth grade scores, eighth grade math scores have continuously improved since 1992.



Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card

- The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) provides a common yardstick for measuring the progress of students' education across the nation.
- The NAEP is given to students in the fourth, eighth and twelfth grades, at the ages of nine, thirteen, and seventeen.

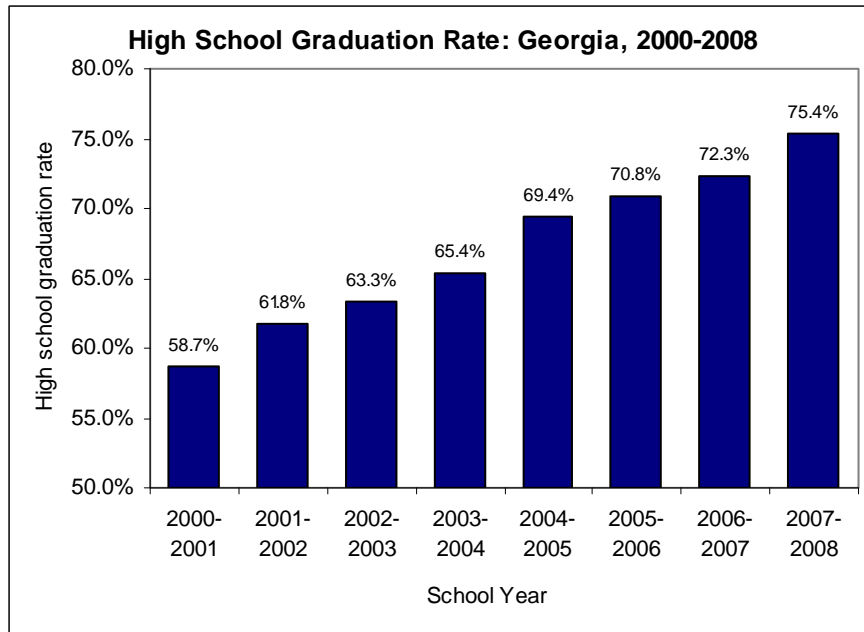
- Eighth grade reading scores demonstrate continued learning in the classroom, when compared to their fourth grade counterparts. For example, in 1992, the fourth grade average was 209. In 2002, that same class scored a 258 in eighth grade reading.
- In 2007, Georgia fourth grade reading scores were only 4 points behind the national average.



Note: The eighth grade reading test was not assessed on the state level until 1998.

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card

High School Graduation and Dropout Rates



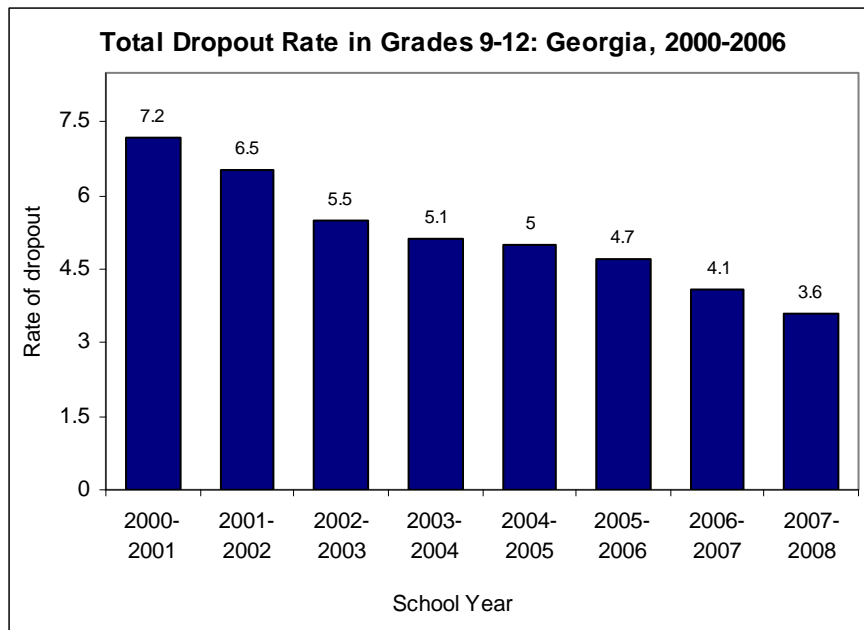
- Georgia's graduation rate has steadily increased since the 2000-2001 school year, from 58.7% to 75.4%.
- The graduation rate reflects the percentage of students who entered ninth grade in a given year and were in the graduating class four years later.
- The state hopes to achieve an 80% graduation rate by 2010.

Note: Georgia's methodology for calculating the graduation rate will change in 2009, to implement the National Governor's Association Compact definition and will then be comparable to national calculations and comparison.

Source: Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement and National Center for Education Statistics, Digest for Education Statistics

Risk factors related to dropping out of school:

- Disengaged or bored with school
- Academically unprepared
- Transient population – foster children and homeless
- Students with disabilities
- English language learners
- Economically disadvantaged



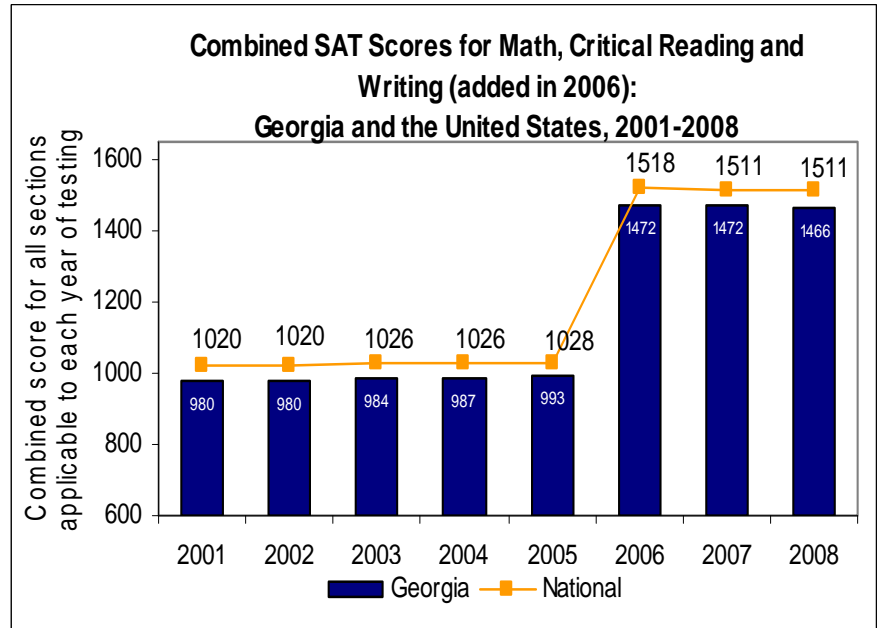
- The dropout rate calculation is the number of students with a withdrawal code corresponding to a dropout divided by the number of students that attended the school
- In the 2007-2008 school year, 2,241 fewer students dropped out.

Source: Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement and National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data

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SAT and ACT Scores

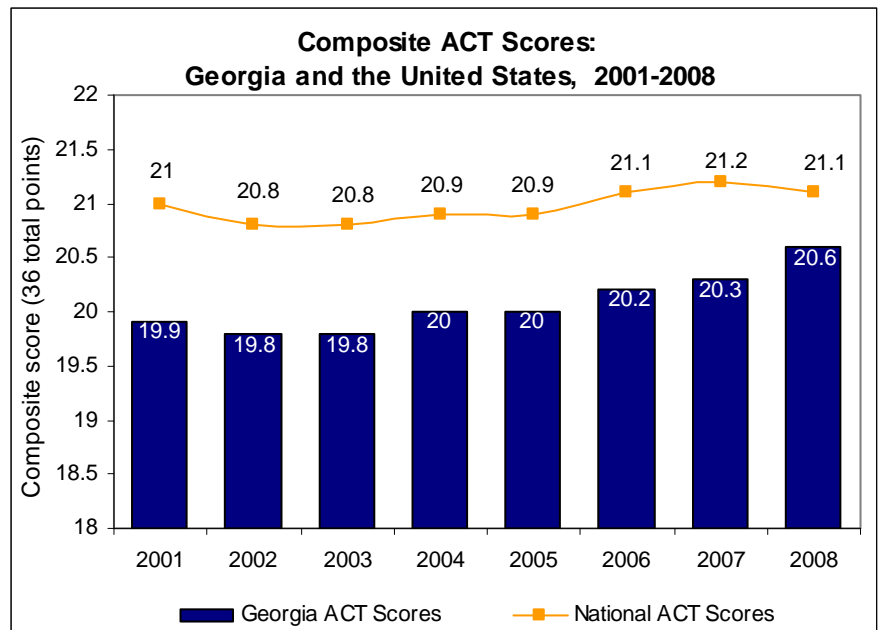
- Students who took the SAT after 2005 were tested in mathematics, critical reading and writing, for a composite score of 2,400 (each section is worth a total of 800 points). Previously, students were tested in mathematics and critical reading, for a composite score of 1600.
- Between 2006 and 2007, Georgia's national SAT ranking improved 4 positions from 46th to 42nd.
- 65,287 Georgia students took the SAT in 2008; a 70% participation rate for the state.



Source: The College Board

- The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is a standardized test used by most colleges to determine admittance along with other deciding factors including coursework, grades, letters of recommendations, and other criteria.
- The ACT is a standardized test that colleges use comparably to the SAT to determine admittance. The ACT assesses student's general educational development and ability to complete college-level work.

- The ACT tests four subjects- English, reading, math and science. Each section is worth a maximum of 36 points and the total score, or composite score, is the average of all four sections.
- 33,238 (38%) Georgia graduating seniors took the ACT in 2008, an increase of almost 4,000 students from 2007.
- In 2008, 19% of Georgia students taking the ACT met the minimum score in the four subject areas indicating college readiness, an increase of 4% since 2004.

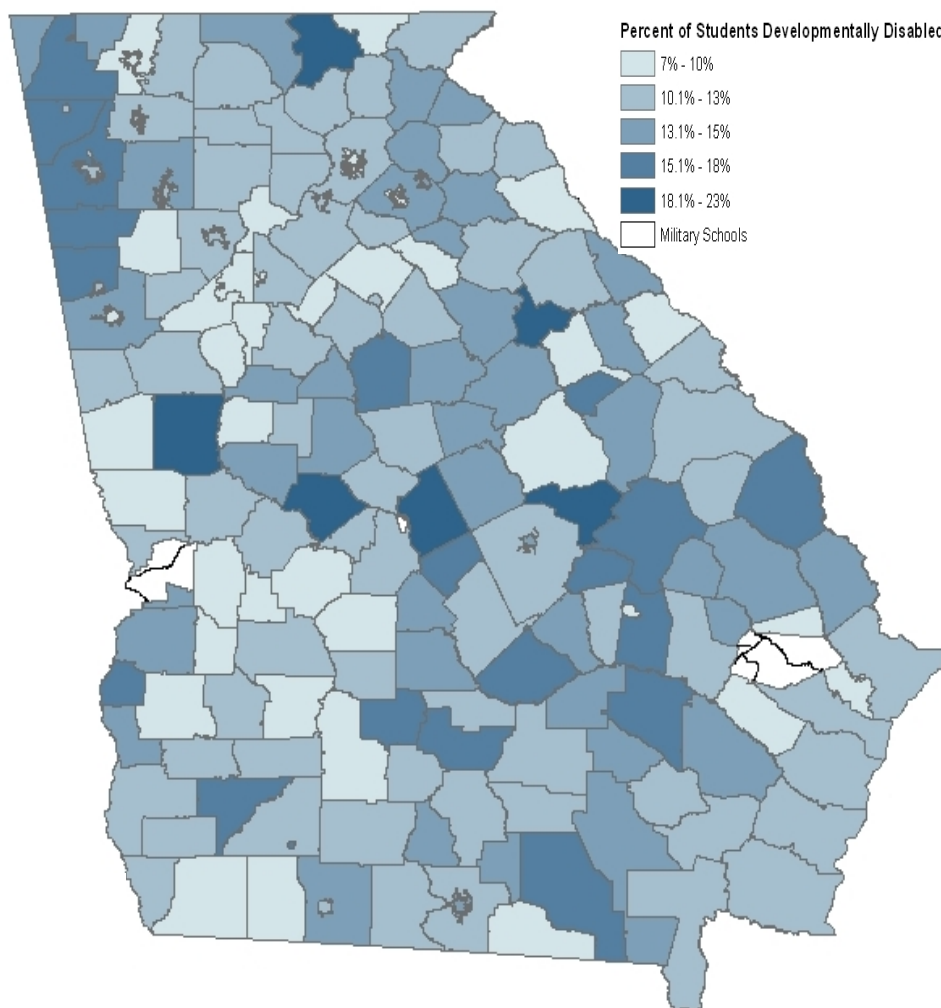


Source: Governor's Office of Student Achievement and ACT, Inc.

Developmentally Disabled Students

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) assures access to quality education for children with disabilities.
- Nationally, during the 2003-2004 school year, 6.6 million children ages 3 to 21 years were served in federally funded programs; 13.7 percent of total enrollment.
- More than 250,000 of the nation's students (7%) receive special education under IDEA during kindergarten, by age 9 more than 500,000 students receive special education. (Source: NCES National Center for Education Statistics)

Percent of Students Developmentally Disabled: Georgia, School Year 2006-2007

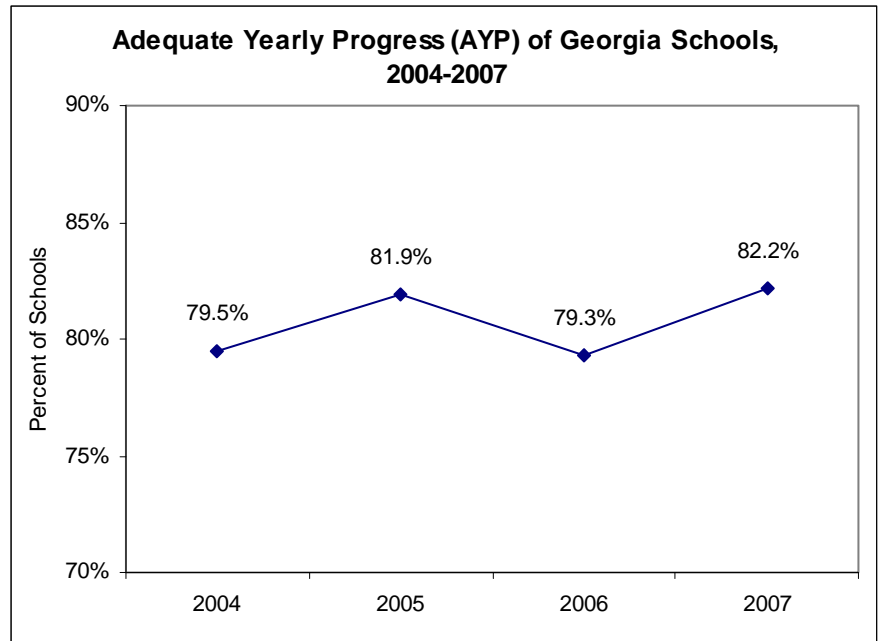


Source: Georgia Department of Education

- Since 2001 the percentage of Georgia's students with developmental disabilities has remained constant at 12 percent.
- Two state schools serve students with disabilities: the Georgia Academy for the Blind in Macon and the Georgia School for the Deaf in Cave Spring in Floyd County.
- Among Georgia's school systems, the percentage of students with developmental disabilities ranges from 7 percent (Bryan County, Schley County, Webster County, and Vidalia City) to 23 percent (Meriwether County).

Adequate Yearly Progress

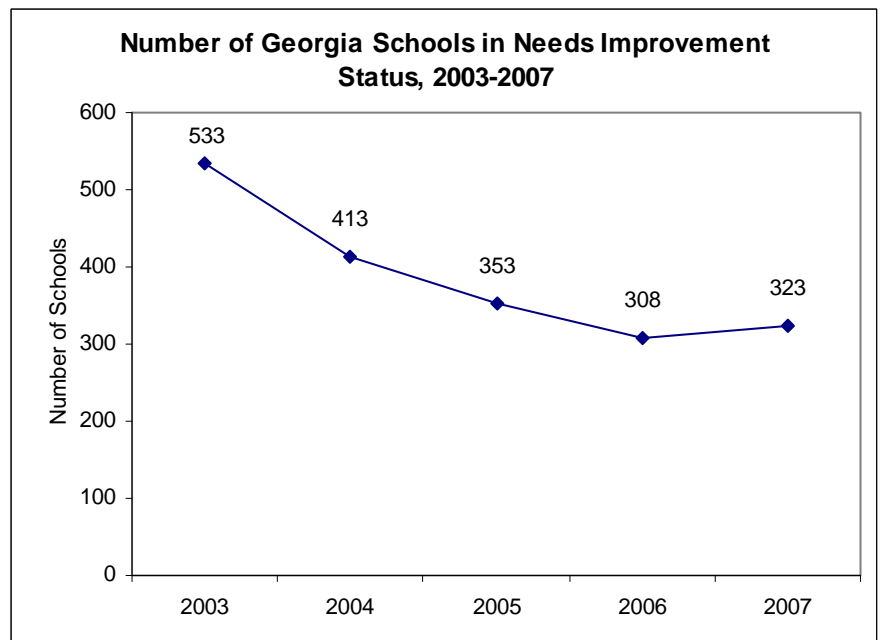
- Adequate yearly progress is measured by a series of performance goals that each school must achieve within time frames specified in No Child Left Behind Act.
- The percentage of Georgia schools meeting AYP has remained relatively constant; 79.5% met AYP in 2004 and 82.2% in 2007.
- In 2007, 99% of schools met No Child Left Behind participation requirements.



Source: Georgia Department of Education

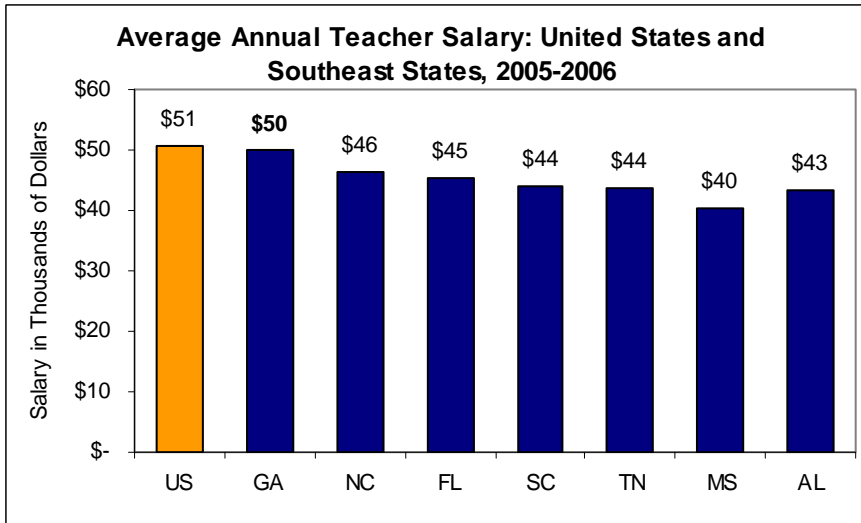
- Children and youth between the ages of 8 and 18 spend approximately four hours a day watching television and two hours on the computer on non-educational activities, including video games. Television can interfere with homework, physical activities, reading, playing with friends, and family time. (KidsHealth.org)

- A school that does not make AYP for two consecutive years in the same content area is designated as a school in need of improvement.
- The number of Georgia schools in needs improvement status declined from 533 in 2003 to 323 in 2007.



Source: Georgia Department of Education

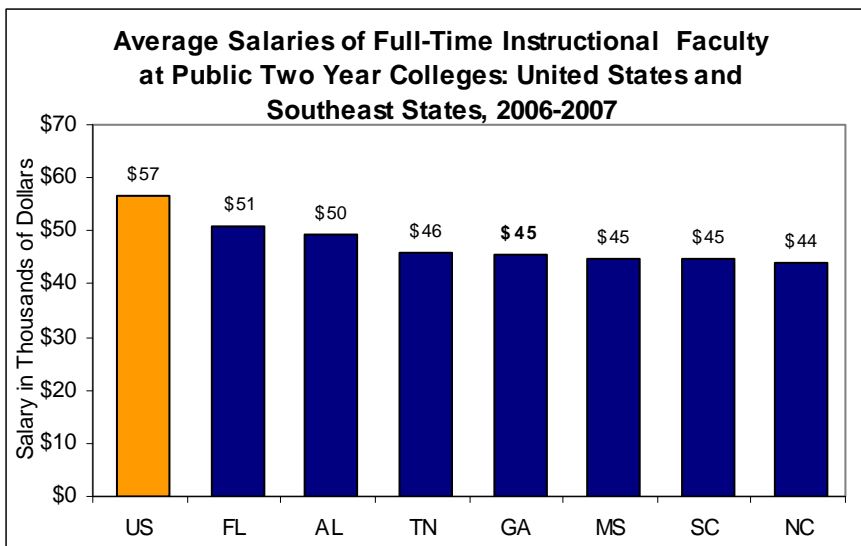
Educator Salaries



- The average teacher salary in Georgia was \$49,905 during the 2005-2006 school year, compared to the national average \$50,816.
- Teacher salary in Georgia is competitive among the seven southeast states, more than \$4,000 higher than the salary in North Carolina, which recorded the second highest salary in the region.

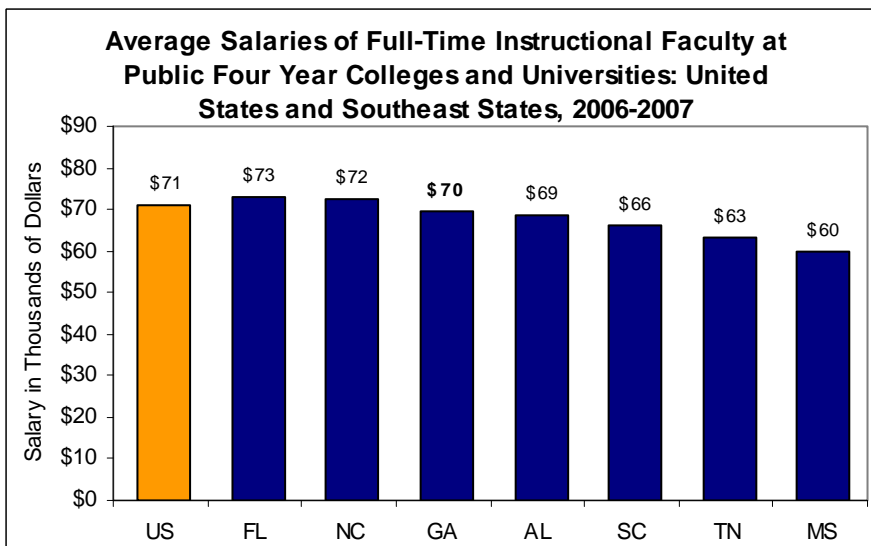
NOTE: Average annual teacher salary also includes adjustments for cost of living and benefits.

Source: National Education Association, John Locke Foundation



- Georgia's teacher salary ranked 18th among the states.
- Teacher salaries comprise 85% of the \$7.4 billion budget for K-12 schools.
- The average salary for faculty at two-year colleges in Georgia was \$45,431 in 2006-2007, ranking fourth among the seven southeast states.
- Georgia's two year college faculty earned \$11,344 less compared to the national average salary.

Source: Southern Regional Education Board



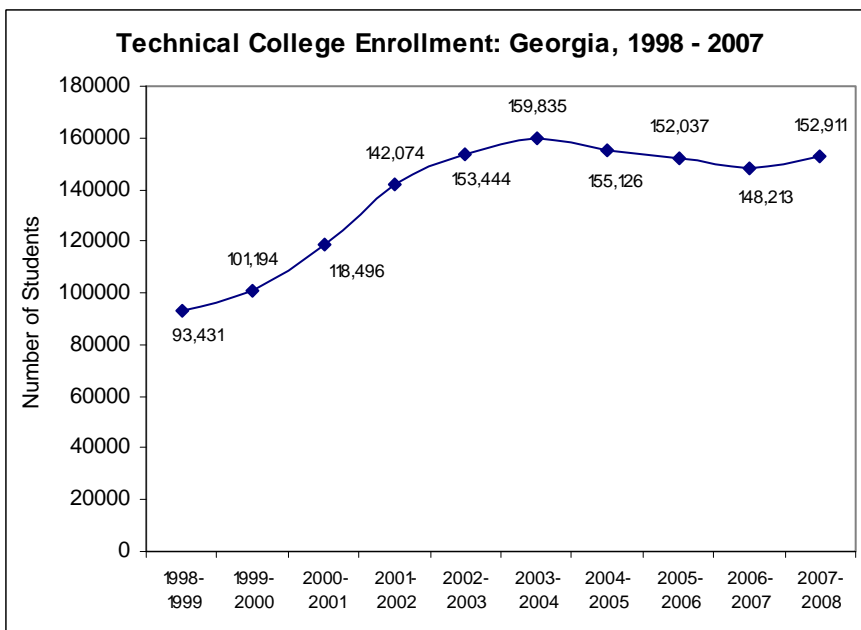
- The average instructor salary at four-year colleges and universities in Georgia during 2006-2007 was \$1,241 below the national average salary.
- The average salary for faculty at four-year colleges in Georgia was \$69,795 in 2006-2007, ranking third among the seven southeast states.

Source: Southern Regional Education Board

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Technical College Enrollment and Employment

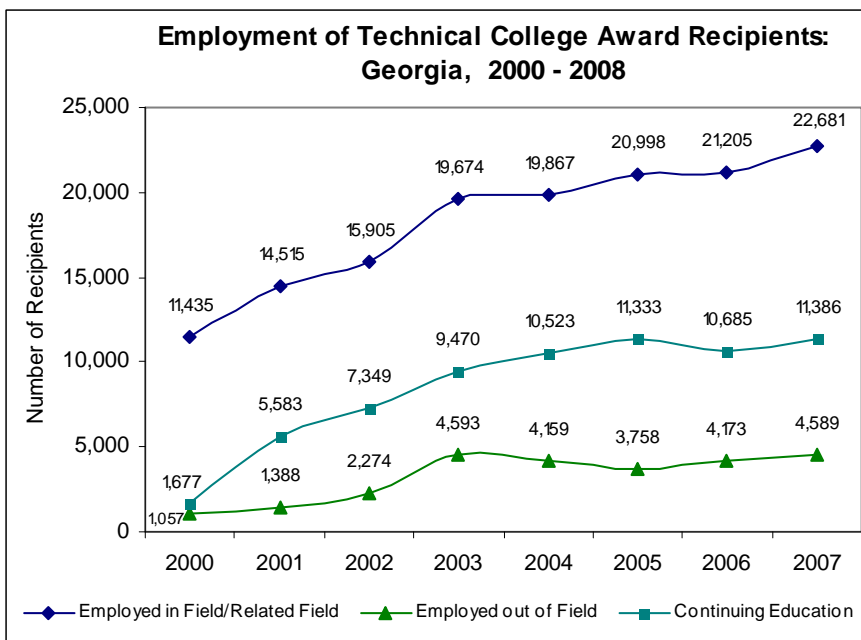
- During the 2007-2008 school year, the Technical College System enrolled 152,911 students; a 63.7% increase compared to the 1998-1999 school year.
- The number of Technical College System awards conferred to graduates more than doubled between 2000 and 2008, from 15,304 to 36,623.



Source: Technical College System of Georgia

- The Technical College System of Georgia provides student-centered, high quality, and affordable technical, academic, adult education and training. This contributes to building literate and economically strong communities and businesses in Georgia.
- Georgia's Technical College System students may enroll in programs that lead to an associate degree, a diploma, or a technical certificate.

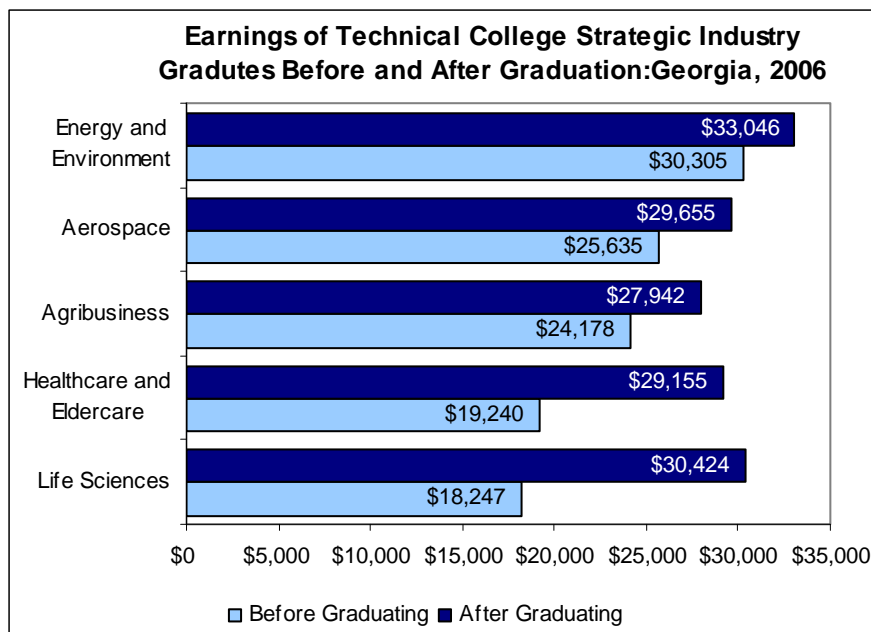
- More than one out of three Technical College System students continue their education following completion of a course of study.
- In 2008, almost three out of four Technical College System award recipients were employed either in the field or a related field (59%) or another field (14%).



Note: There is some duplication of graduates who are both employed and continuing their education.

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

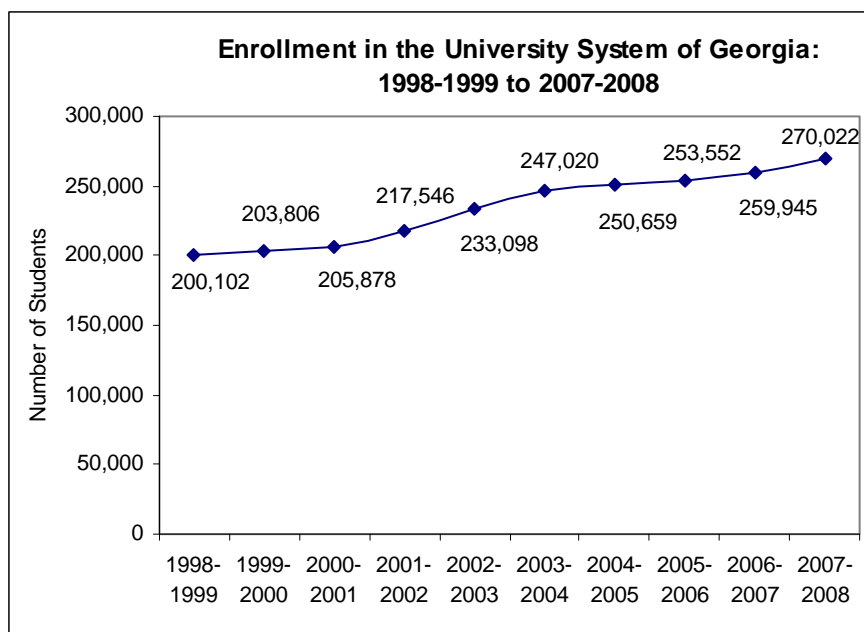
Strategic Industries and University System of Georgia (USG)



- Students in Technical College programs increase their earnings following graduation, ranging from 9% among energy and environmental program graduates to 67% among life science program graduates.
- More than 56,000 students are enrolled in programs that prepare graduates to work in strategic industries.

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

- Georgia's public colleges and universities operate under the University System of Georgia umbrella. The system consists of 4 research universities, 2 regional universities, 13 state universities, 4 state colleges and 12 two-year colleges.



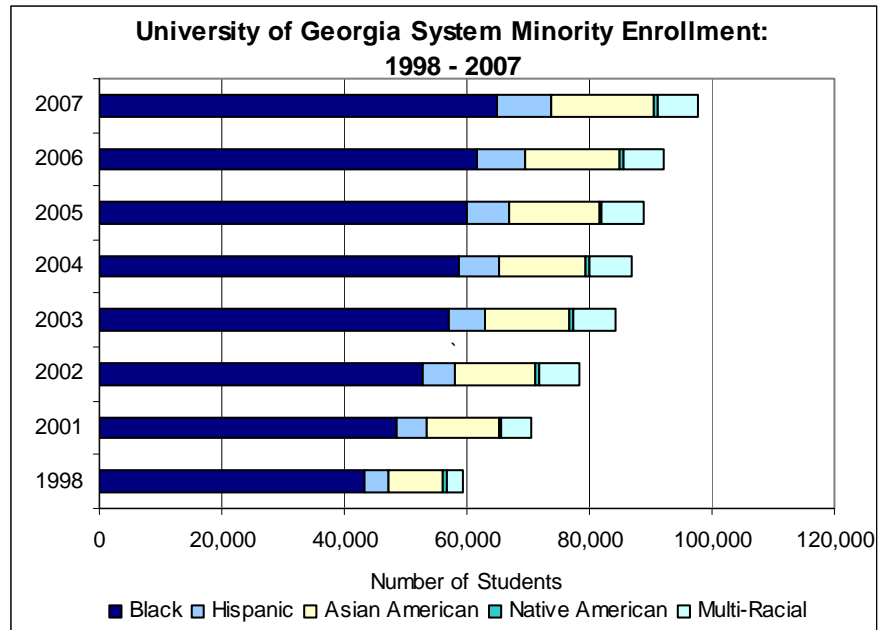
- The University System of Georgia (USG) is responsible for providing higher education to Georgia residents to create a more educated Georgia through instruction, research and public service.
- In 2007, more than one-quarter of a million students attended a University System of Georgia college or university.
- Enrollment in the University System of Georgia has increased by 34.9% over the past decade from 200,102 in 1998-1999 to 270,022 in 2007-2008.

Source: Georgia Board of Regents

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USG Minority and Foreign Student Enrollment

- The Black student population enrolled at University System of Georgia institutions increased by 49.4% between 1998 and 2007.
- The percentage of Asian American students enrolled in the University system increased from 4.5% in 1998 to 6.2% in 2007.
- The Hispanic student population more than doubled (138.9%) over the past decade.

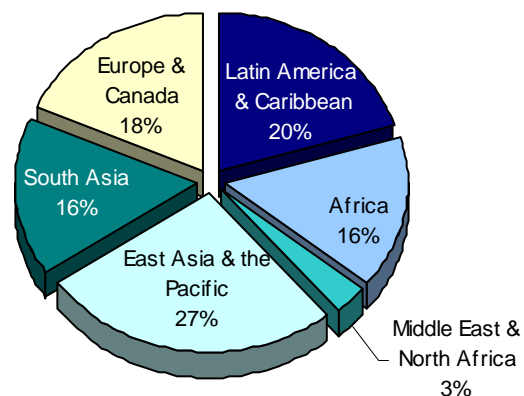


Source: Georgia Board of Regents

- The University of Georgia System student minority population has increased significantly over the past decade.
- Females comprised more than half of student population (57.9%) in the University System of Georgia in 2007.
- The number of foreign students enrolled in the University System of Georgia increased by 297% between 1988 and 2007.

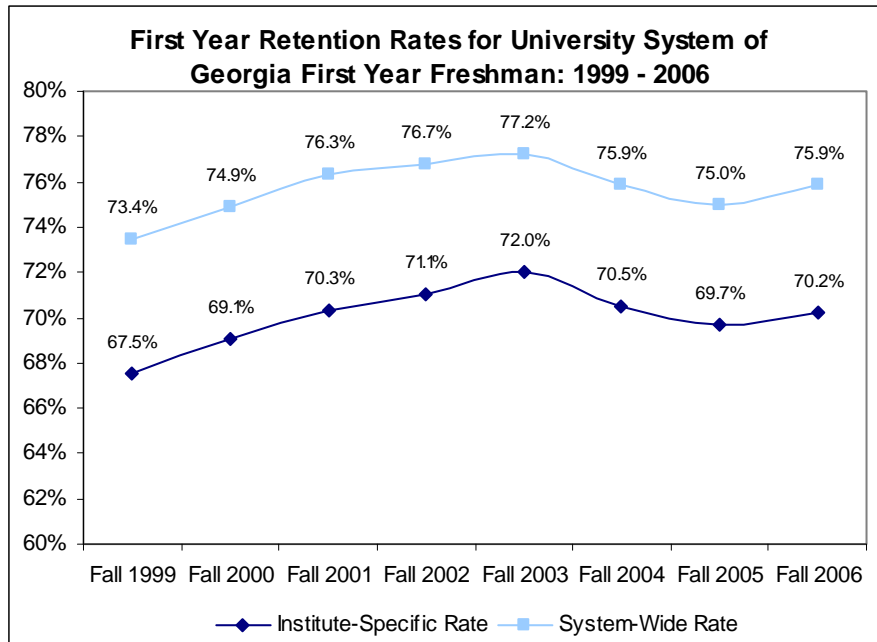
- International students comprised 7.5% (20,302) of students within the University System of Georgia in 2007.
- Approximately one-quarter of foreign students (26.6%) are from East Asian and Pacific region and 20.3% are from Latin America and the Caribbean.

University of Georgia System Foreign Student Enrollment: 2007-2008



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

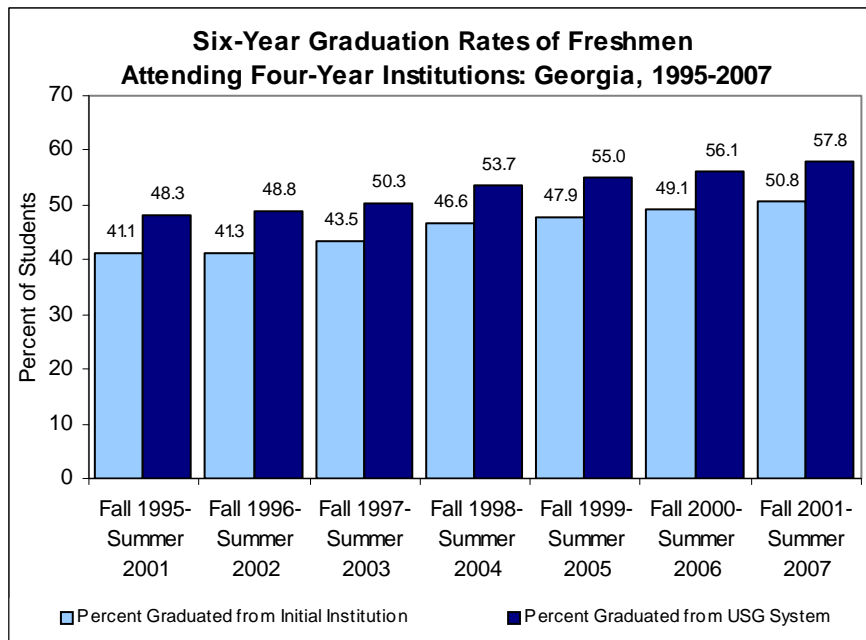
USG Retention Rates and Six-Year Graduation Rates



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

- Three-quarters of students entering a University System of Georgia college or university return to school the following fall.
- Among degree seeking, first-time freshmen who entered a University System of Georgia institution in fall 2006, 70.2% returned to the same institution in fall of 2007, and 75.9% returned to the same or another USG institution.

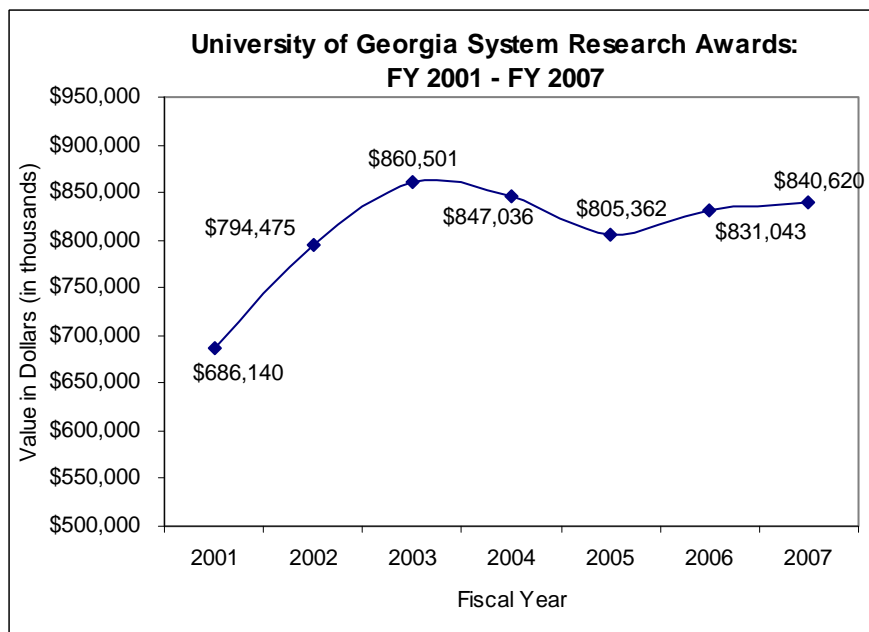
- The six-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time freshman at four-year colleges and the three-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time freshmen at two-year colleges are key indicators of post-secondary performance.



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

- The proportion of Georgia's university students completing their degree has increased significantly since the mid-1990s.
- Among first-time, full-time freshmen who entered a four-year University System of Georgia college or university in fall 2001, half (50.8%) graduated from the same institution within six years and more than half (57.8%) graduated from an institution within the system.

- Between FY 2001 and FY 2007, the University System of Georgia was awarded more than \$5.6 billion in research funds.
- In FY 2007, the University System of Georgia received \$840 million extramural funding, \$9.5 million more than the previous year.

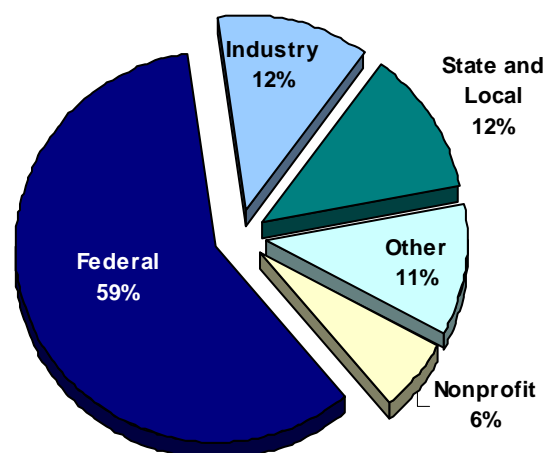


Source: Georgia Board of Regents

- Research within the University System of Georgia spans many subject areas and is primarily concentrated in the four research universities; the University of Georgia, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University and the Medical College of Georgia.
- Three-fourths of extramural funding received by the University System of Georgia in FY 2007 was for research (78%), 11% was for public service, and 10% for instruction.

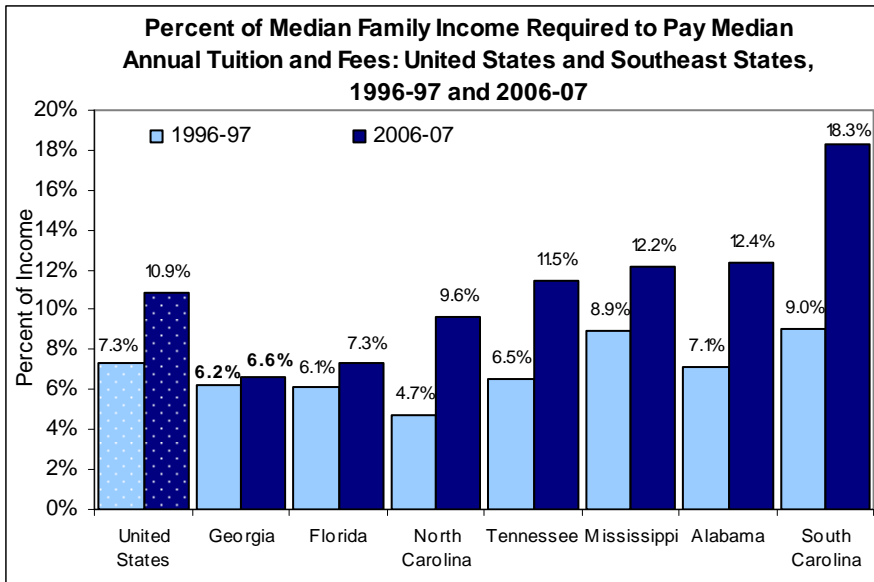
- The majority of USG research funding is provided by the federal government (59%).
- State and local and industry provide approximately one-quarter of USG research funds.

**University of Georgia System Research Fund
Resources, Fiscal Year 2007**

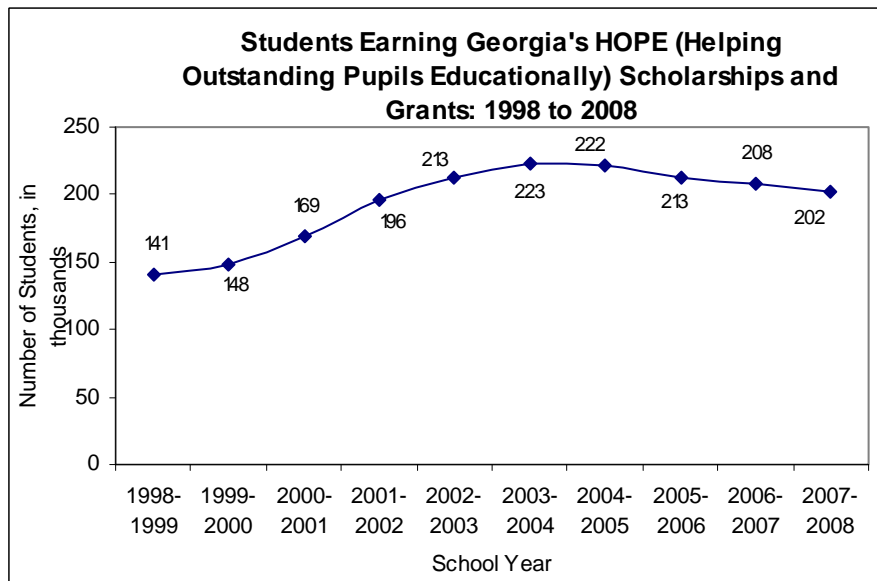


Source: Georgia Board of Regents

HOPE Scholarship and Tuition Costs

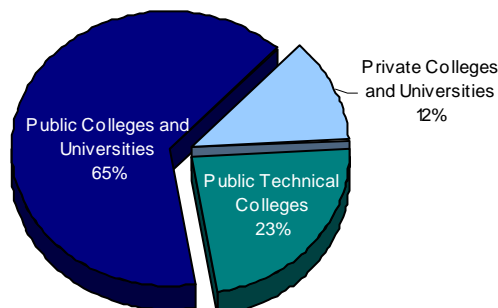


Source: Southern Regional Education Board



Source: Georgia Student Finance Commission

Disbursements of HOPE Scholarships and Grants by Type of Institution: Georgia, September 1993- November 2008



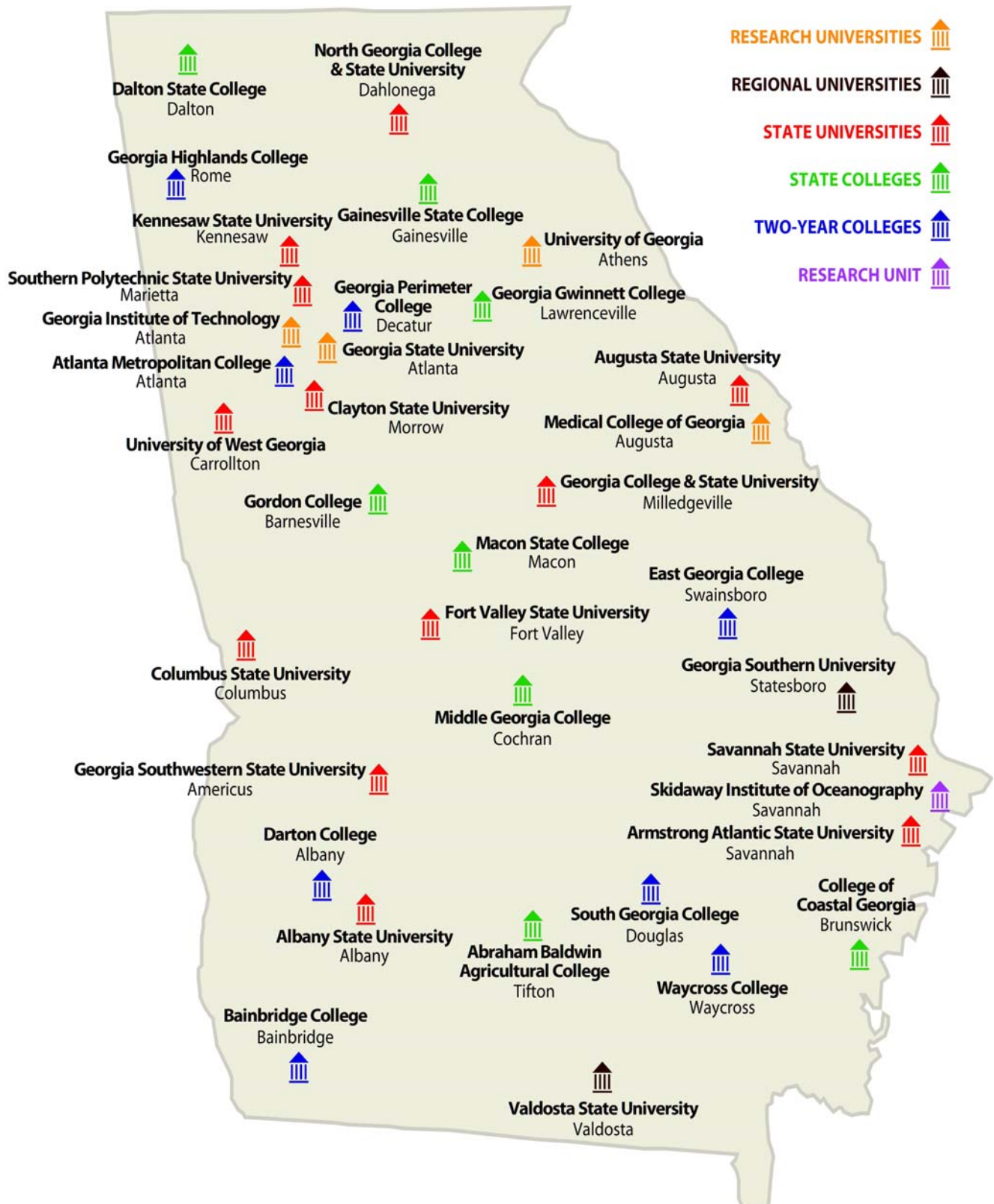
Source: Georgia Student Finance Commission

- Median average tuition at Georgia's universities and colleges is the most affordable in the southeast region.
- Tuition in Georgia was \$3,236 during the 2006-2007 school year, compared to \$5,264 nationally and \$7,234 in South Carolina.
- Tuition in Georgia as a percentage of median household income (6.6%) is the lowest among the southeast states, which range from 6.6% to 18.3%.

- HOPE, Georgia's scholarship and grant program, provides financial assistance at public and private colleges and universities and public technical colleges.
- Half of Georgia's HOPE recipients attend public technical colleges (49.4%), 39.7% attend public colleges and universities, and 11% attend private colleges and universities.

- Between September 1, 1993 and November 1, 2008, \$4.3 billion were disbursed through Georgia HOPE scholarships and grants.
- Two-thirds of the HOPE scholarships and grants have been disbursed to public colleges and universities, one-quarter were disbursed to public technical colleges and the approximately 12% remaining went to private colleges and universities.

University System of Georgia



EDUCATED GEORGIA SOURCES

- U.S. Census Bureau, <http://www.census.gov/>
- Department of Early Care and Learning, <http://www.decal.state.ga.us/>
- Department of Education, <http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/index.aspx>
- National Center on Education Statistics, <http://nces.ed.gov/NationsReportCard/>
- Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement, <http://www.gaosa.org/>
- The College Board, <http://www.collegeboard.com/>
- Southern Regional Education Board, <http://www.sreb.org>
- Technical College System of Georgia; <http://www.technicalcollegesystemofgeorgia.org/>
- Georgia Board of Regents, <http://www.usg.edu/>
- Georgia Student Finance Commission, <http://www.gsfc.org/gsfnew/index.cfm>