



GEORGIA IN PERSPECTIVE

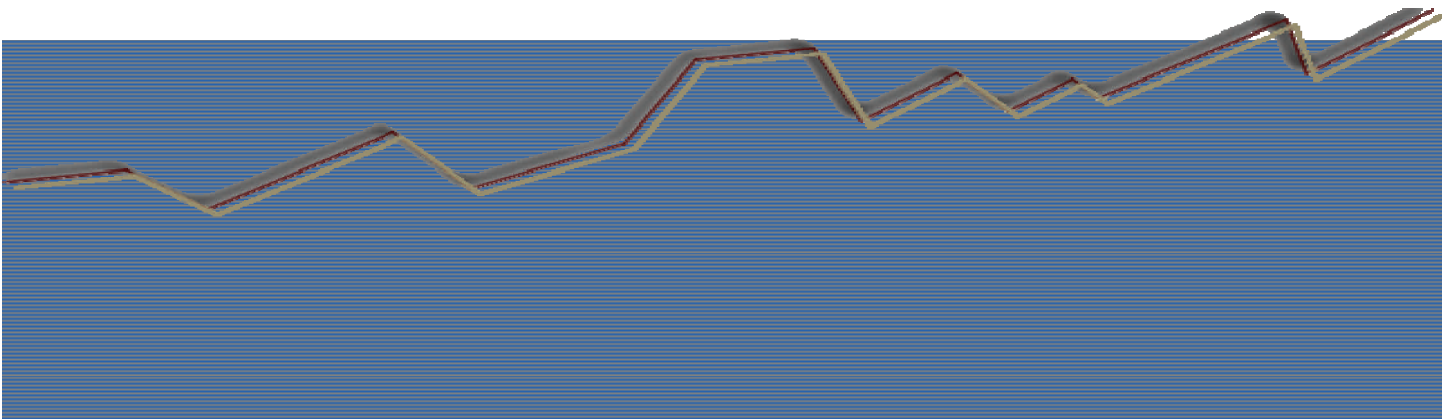
2011

Educated Georgia

Statistics, Trends,
Facts & Figures



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
of PLANNING & BUDGET



EDUCATED GEORGIA

2011

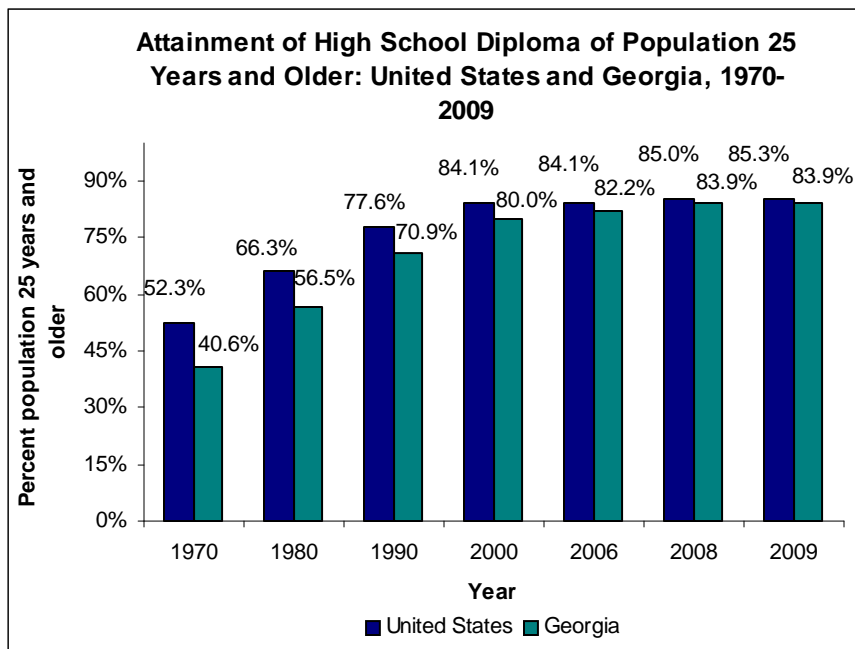


Georgia's high school graduation rate has continued to improve. 80.8 % of students graduated in the 2009-2010 school year, reaching the 80% goal set for 2010.

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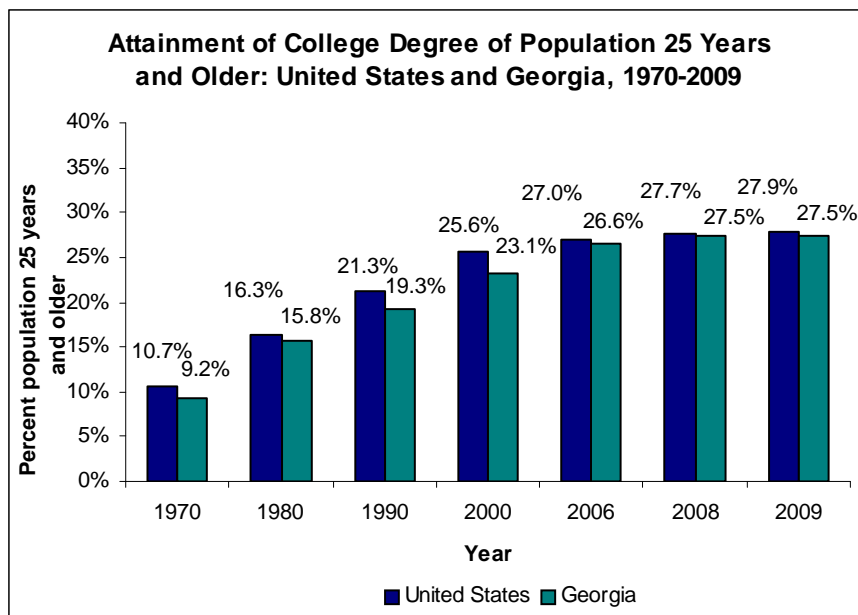
Education Level of Population 25 Years and Older



- The percentage of adult Georgians completing high school increased significantly each decade between 1970 and 2000; 39% during the 1970s, 25% during the 1980s, and 13% in 1990s.
- During the current decade, the percentage of Georgia's adults completing high school increased 5%.
- The percent of Georgians age 25 and older who have completed high school (83.9%) is now similar to the national average (85.3%).

Source: 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 58.1% of the state's total budget.
- The Georgia Department of Education Virtual School provides on-line access statewide to classes, including Advanced Placement, foreign languages and core subjects. The school offers 121 on-line courses, with nearly 4,000 students enrolled during the 2009-2010 school year.



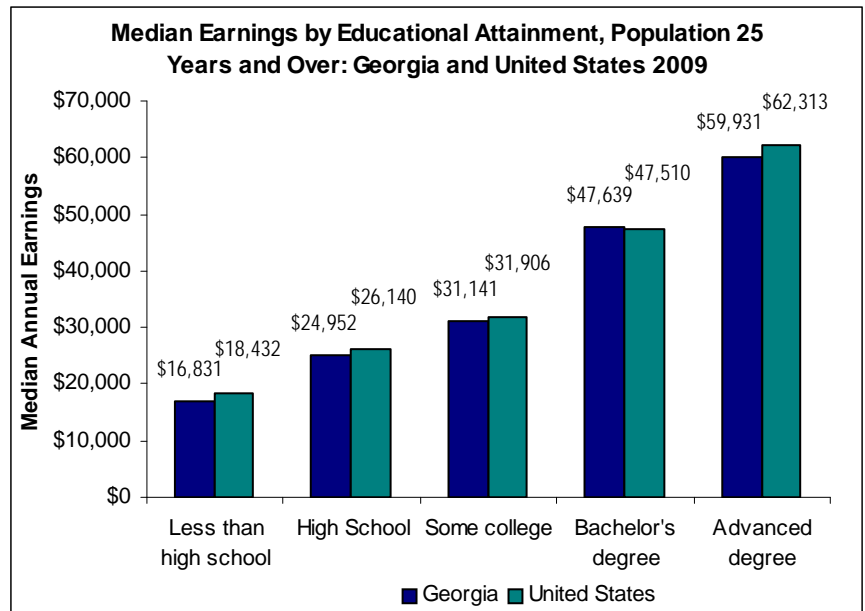
- The proportion of Georgians completing college tripled between 1970 and 2009.
- The percentage of Georgians completing a college degree increased from 9.2% in 1970 to 27.5% in 2009.
- More than one-quarter of Georgia's adults 25 years and older (27.5%) have earned a college degree, comparable to the national average (27.9%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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Earnings and Unemployment of Population 25 Years and Older

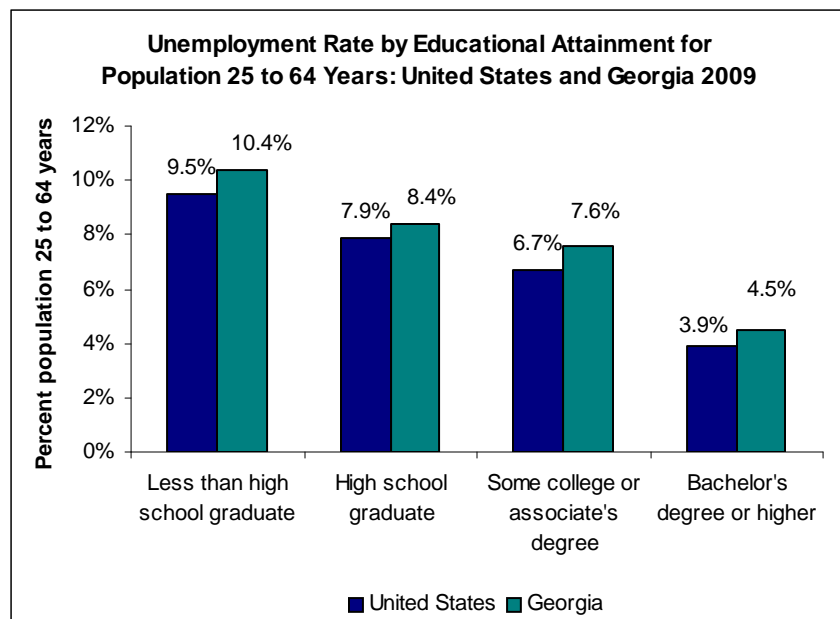
- Median income increases with each level of education completed.
- A college graduate with a bachelor's degree in Georgia earns, on average, \$22,687 more per year compared to a high school graduate.
- Earnings for Georgia's college graduates (\$47,639) are comparable to the national average (\$47,510).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

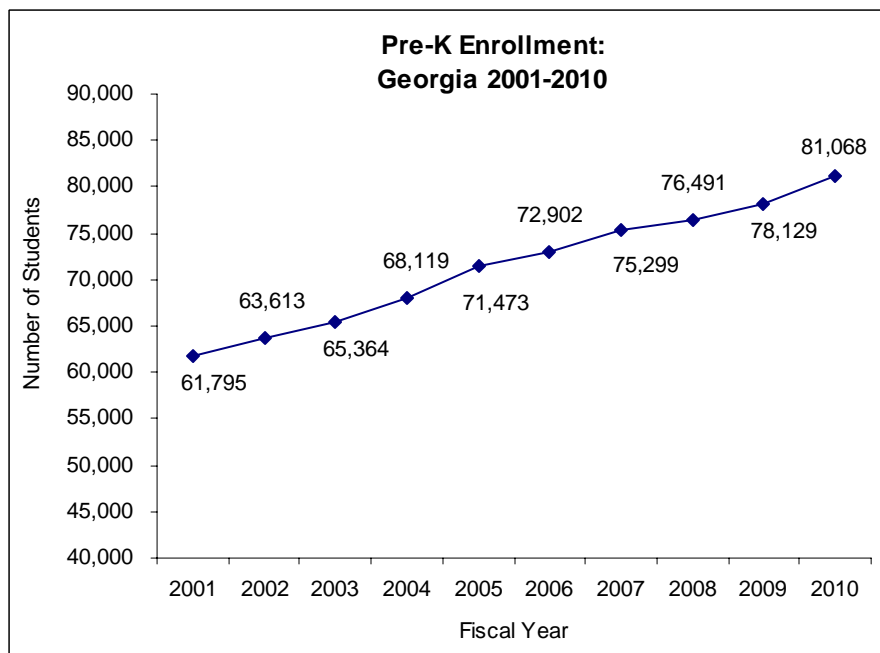
- Education is a crucial element in sustaining and growing the economy of the state. Georgia has made significant investments in education and training in strategic industries and high demand professions, such as health professions with service cancelable loans and other incentive programs.
- Between 2008 and 2009, median earnings for adults with less than a high school education declined 14.1%, while increasing 1.4% for adults with a college degree.

- Less educated working age adults, 25 to 64 years, are more likely to be unemployed compared to college graduates.
- Only 4.5% of Georgia's working age college graduates were unemployed in 2009.
- Adults in Georgia who have not completed high school have a slightly higher unemployment rate (10.4%) compared to their counterparts nationally (9.5%).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

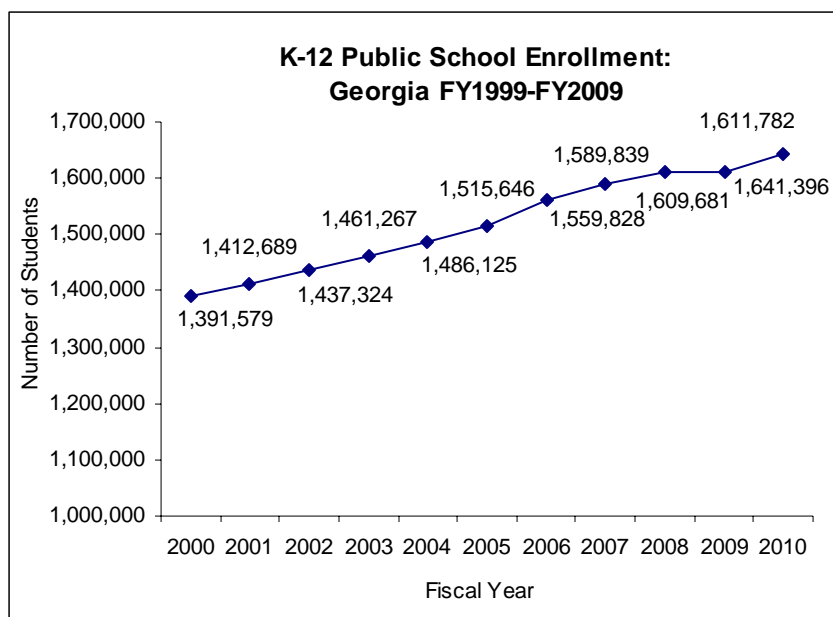
Pre-K through 12th Grade Enrollment



- Since 2001, Pre-K enrollment in Georgia has increased 31%, from 61,795 in 2001 to 81,068 in 2010.
- During the 2008-2009 school year, 58% of Georgia's four-year olds enrolled in Pre-K.
- Georgia's Lottery funds the Pre-K program. The FY 2010 budget for Pre-K is more than \$349 million.
- Children who attend Pre-K perform better in reading, language and math in kindergarten.

Source: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

- 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 (*Snow, Burns, Griffin*).
- According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the percentage of 3-5 year olds read to three or more times a week by a family member increased from 78% in 1993 to 83% in 2007.



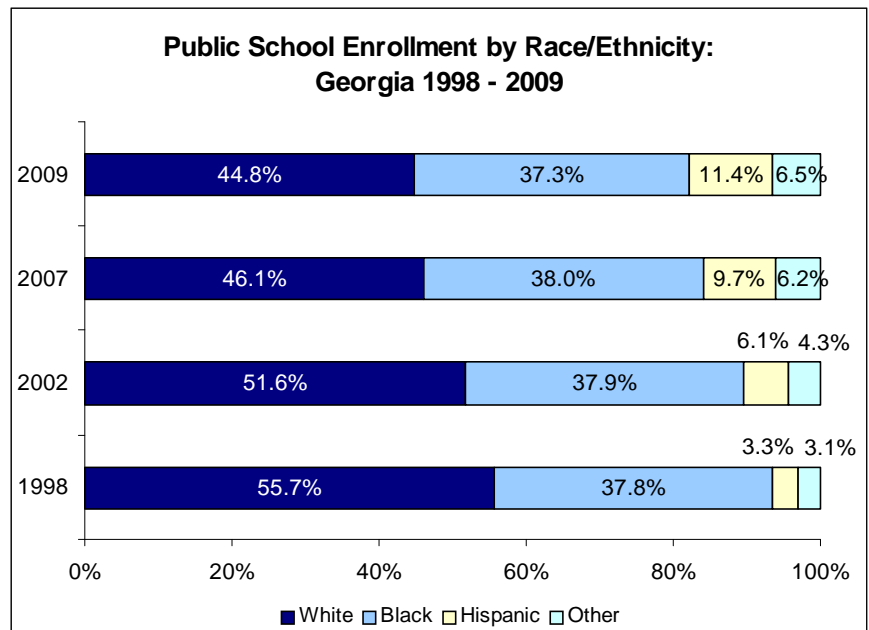
- Georgia's public schools educated more than 1.6 million children during the 2009-2010 school year.
- Over the past decade, public school enrollment increased by nearly a quarter of a million students (241,000); an 18% increase over the decade.
- The largest increase in public school enrollment took place in high school with an increase of 29.5% between the 1998-1999 and 2009-2010 school years. Elementary and middle school enrollment increased 14.1% and 16.3% respectively.

Source: Georgia Department of Education

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Public, Private and Home School Enrollment

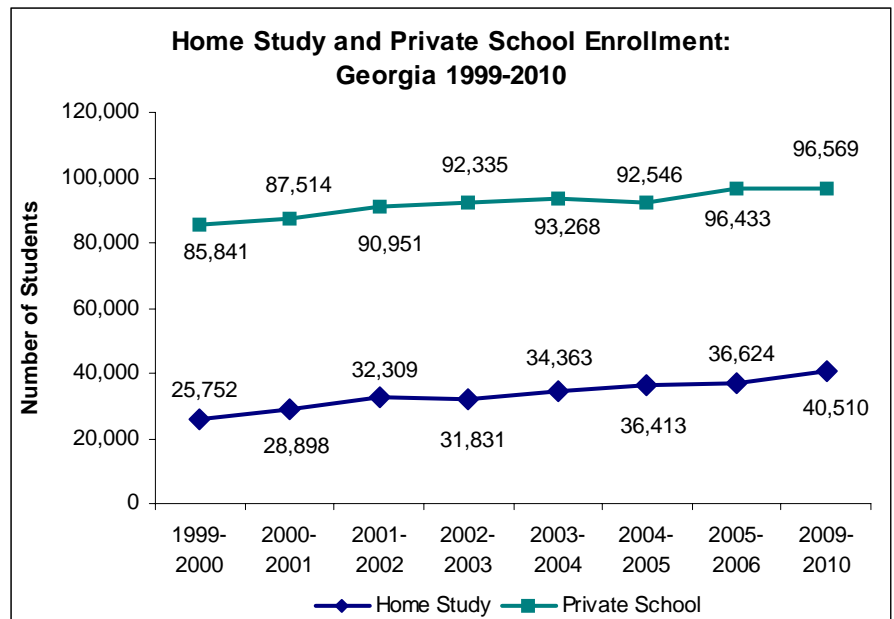
- Georgia's public school population has become increasingly diverse. During the 2009-2010 school year, 55% of students were racial or ethnic minorities.
- The percentage of Black students enrolled in Georgia's public schools has remained stable at approximately 38% over the past decade.
- The Hispanic K-12 student population has grown by 314% since the 1998-1999 school year.



Source: Georgia Department of Education

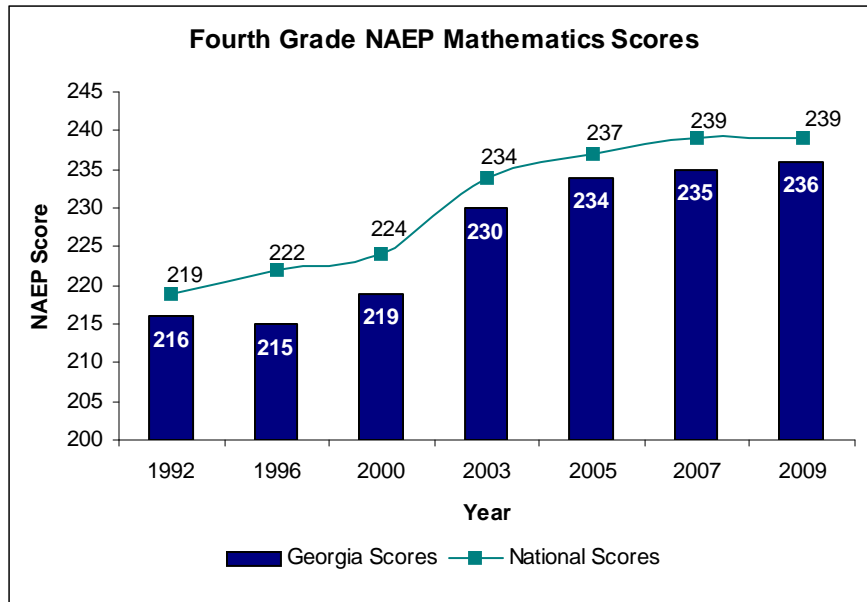
- In FY 2010, 105,653 students attended private schools and 41,998 were home schooled.
- Public school enrollment has increased at a slower pace (18%) compared to Home Study (63.1%), and private school enrollment (23.1%).

- The number of students enrolled in Home Study increased by 57.3% between the 1999-2000 school year (25,752) and the 2009-2010 school year (40,510).
- Private school enrollment in Georgia increased 12.5% between the 1999-2000 year (85,841) and the 2009-2010 school year (96,569).
- More than twice as many Georgia students attend private school than are home schooled.



Source: Georgia Department of Education

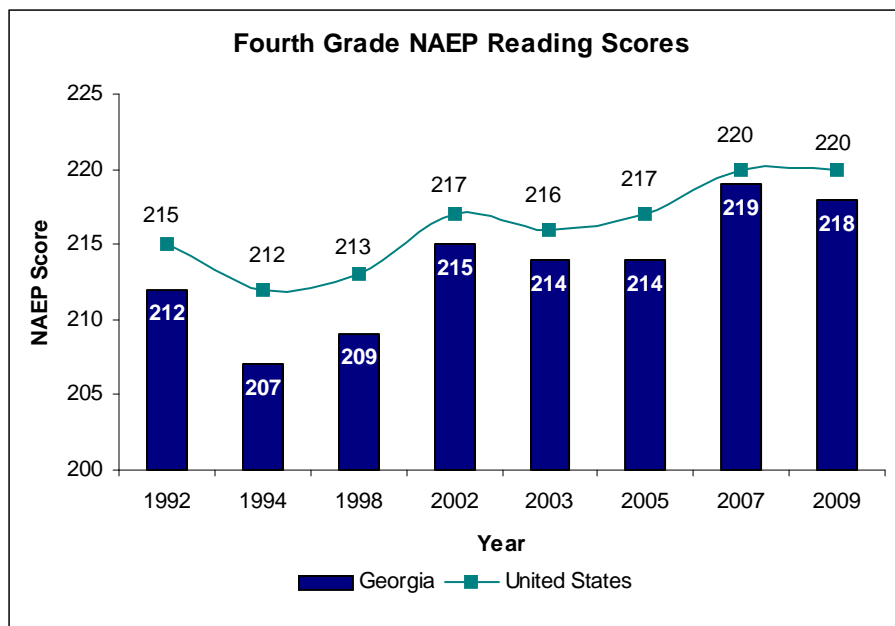
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



- In 2009, 4th grade Georgia students scored 20 points higher in mathematics than in 1992, when the test was first administered.
- In 2009, Georgia 4th grade mathematics students were behind the national average by 3 points.
- Between 1992 and 2007, Georgia 4th grade mathematics scores improved steadily, followed by stable scores.

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

- Under the No Child Left Behind Act, all states were required to participate in the biennial NAEP tests for 4th and 8th grade reading and mathematics assessments.
- The NAEP results provide a national comparison of student academic progress over time.



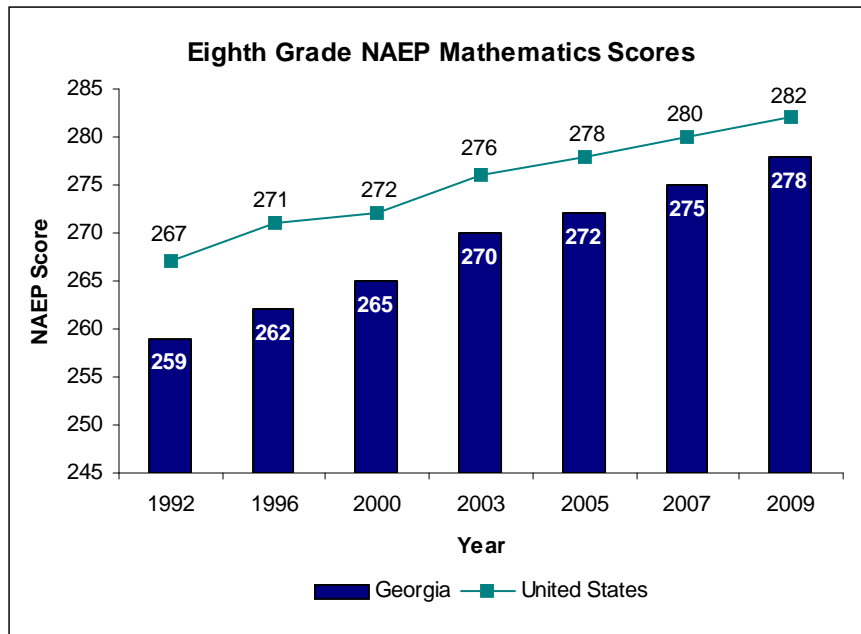
- In 2007, Georgia rose to within 1 percentage point of the national average in 4th grade reading for the first time since testing began in 1992.
- Though falling a point in 2009, Georgia still remains only two points behind the national reading average for 4th grade.

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)

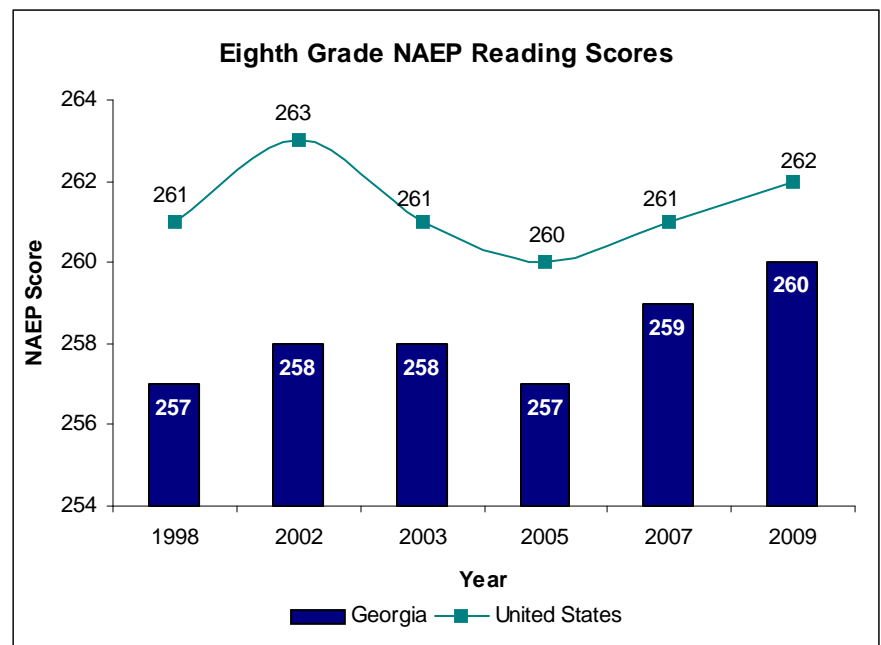
- In 2009, 8th grade students scored 19 points higher in mathematics compared to 1992.
- However, 8th grade mathematics students lag behind the national average by 4 points, with a score of 278.
- Similar to the 4th grade scores, 8th grade mathematics scores have continuously improved since 1992.



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

- The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 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.
- The NAEP is given to students in the 4th, 8th and 12th grades, at the ages of 9, 13, and 17.

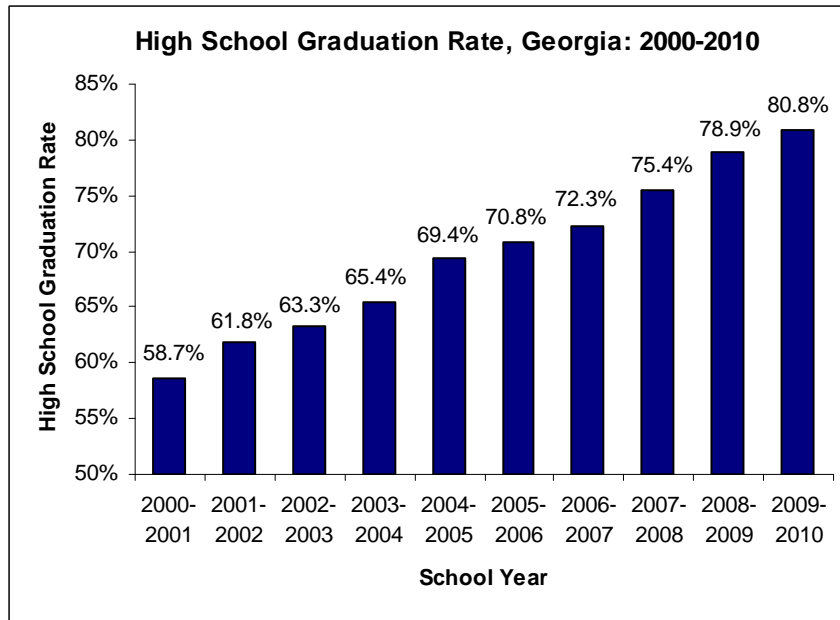
- 8th grade reading scores demonstrate continued learning in the classroom, when compared to their 4th grade counterparts. For example, in 1992, the 4th grade average was 209. In 2002, that same class scored a 258 in 8th grade reading.
- 8th grade reading score trends in Georgia are similar to the national trend of slightly declining scores between 2002 and 2005, followed by improvements in 2007 and 2009.



Note: The 8th 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

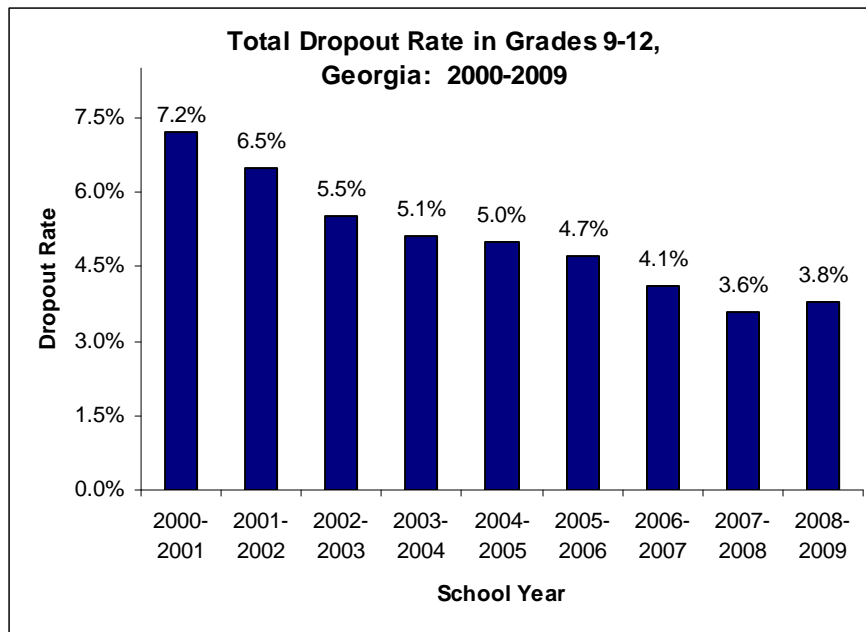


- Georgia's graduation rate has steadily increased since the 2000-2001 school year, from 58.7% to 80.8% (2009-2010 school year).
- The graduation rate is calculated as follows: the number of students graduating with a regular diploma, divided by the sum of drop outs in 9th through 12th grades, graduates, and other completers.

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

According to the National Dropout Prevention Center at Clemson University, risk factors related to dropping out of school include:

- School engagement: poor attendance, low educational expectations, lack of effort, low commitment
- School performance: low achievement, retention in grade
- Transient population, foster and homeless children
- Learning disability or emotional disturbance
- Economically disadvantaged

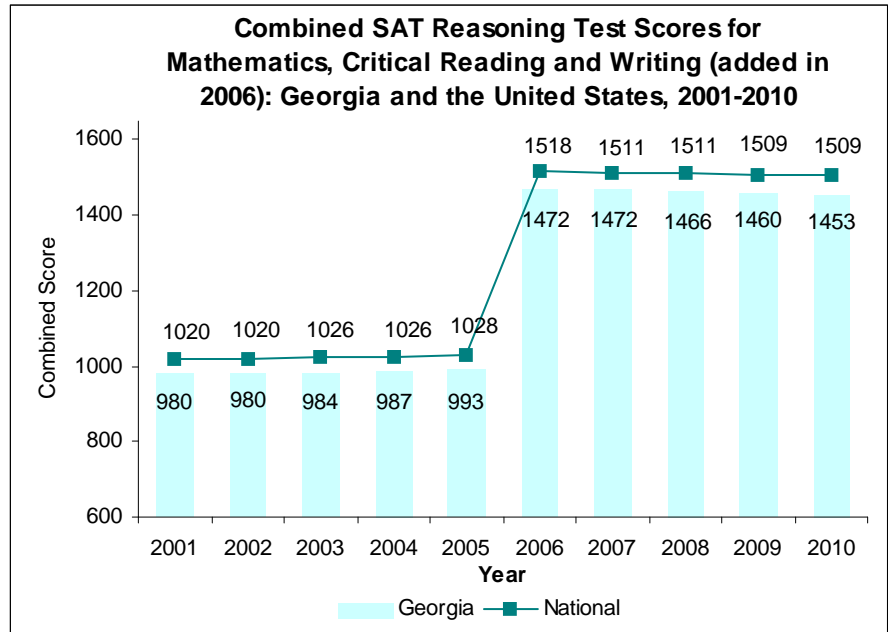


- The dropout rate calculation is the number of students with a withdrawal code corresponding to a dropout divided by the number of students that attended the school.
- The dropout rate declined 47% between the 2000-2001 and the 2008-2009 school years, from 7.2% to 3.8%.

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

SAT and ACT Scores

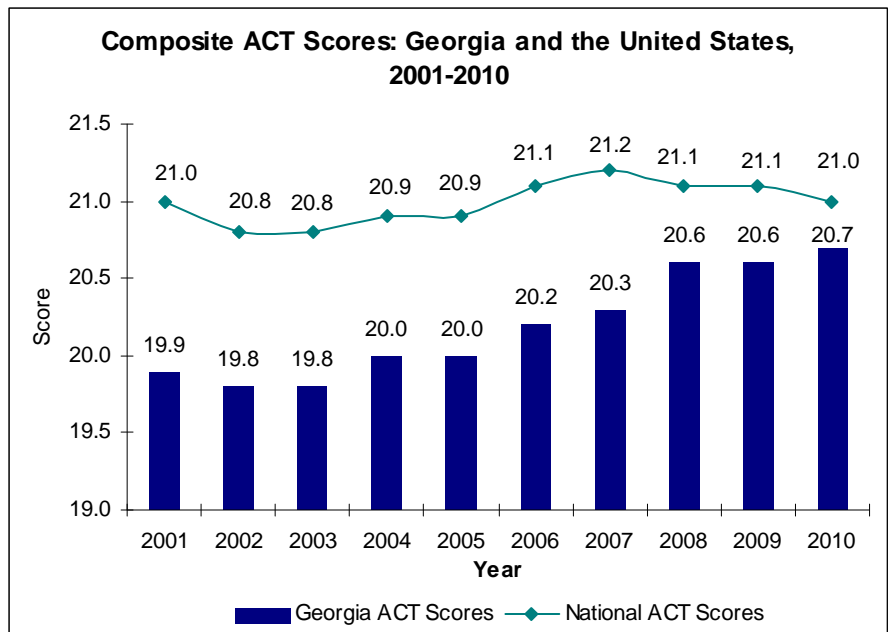
- Students who took the SAT Reasoning Test after 2005 were tested in mathematics, critical reading and writing, for a composite score of 2,400 (each section is worth a total of 800 points). Previously, students were tested in mathematics and critical reading, for a composite score of 1600.
- In 2010, 66,019 of Georgia's high school seniors took the SAT Reasoning Test.
- The combined average score for Georgia's students was 1,453 in 2010, down slightly from the previous year (1,460).



Source: The College Board

- The SAT Reasoning Test 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, mathematics 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.
- 39,436 of Georgia's graduating seniors took the ACT in 2010, 44% of all graduates.
- The average composite ACT score for Georgia was 20.7 in 2010, slightly below the national average of 21.0.

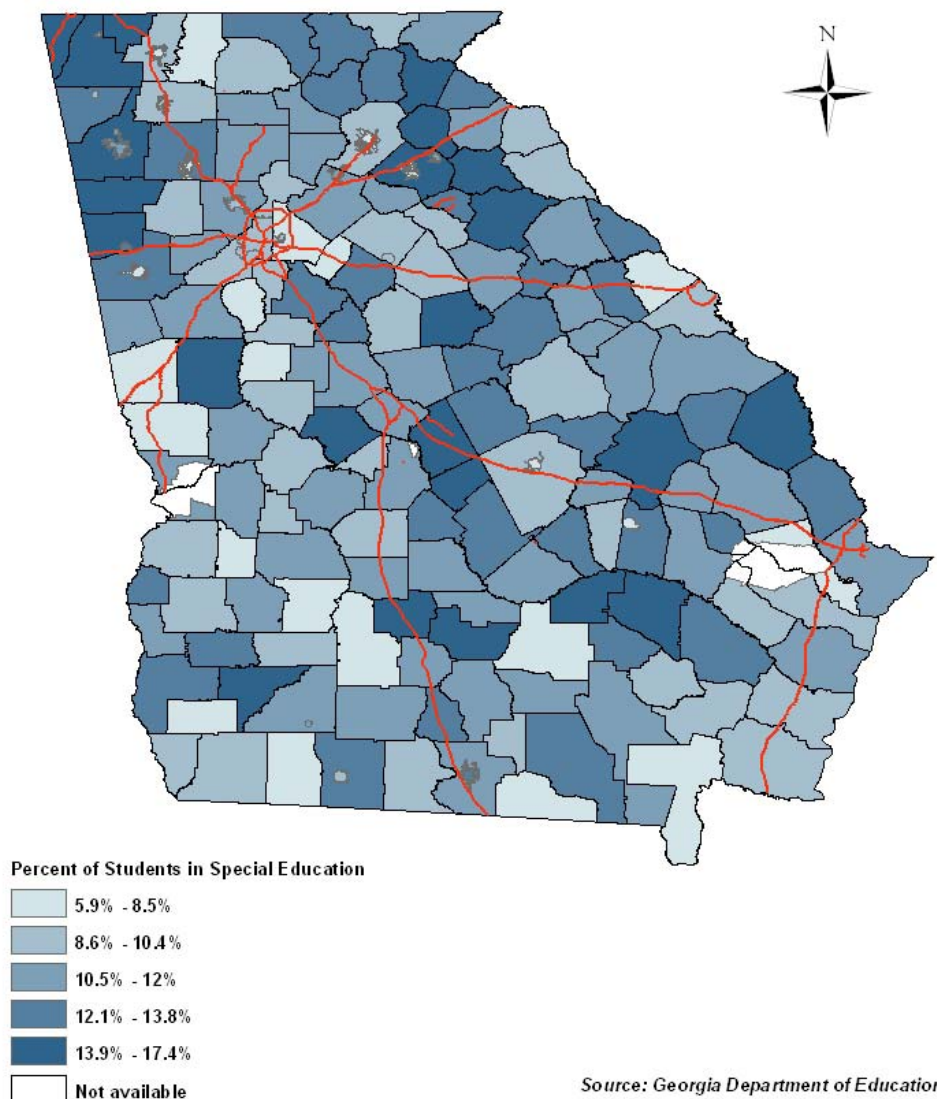


Source: Governor's Office of Student Achievement and ACT, Inc.

Special Education

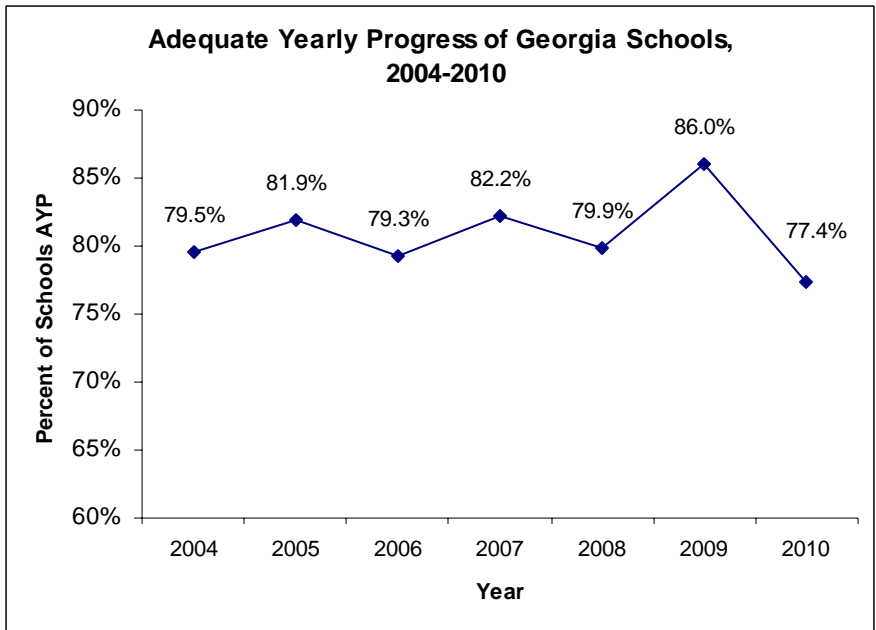
- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) assures access to quality education for children with disabilities.
- Nationally, during the 2007-2008 school year 6.6 million children and youth (13% of public school students received special education services, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.
- Three state schools serve students with disabilities: the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf in Clarkston, 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 served in special education ranges from 6%

**Percent of Students in Special Education
Georgia School Districts: 2009-2010**



Adequate Yearly Progress

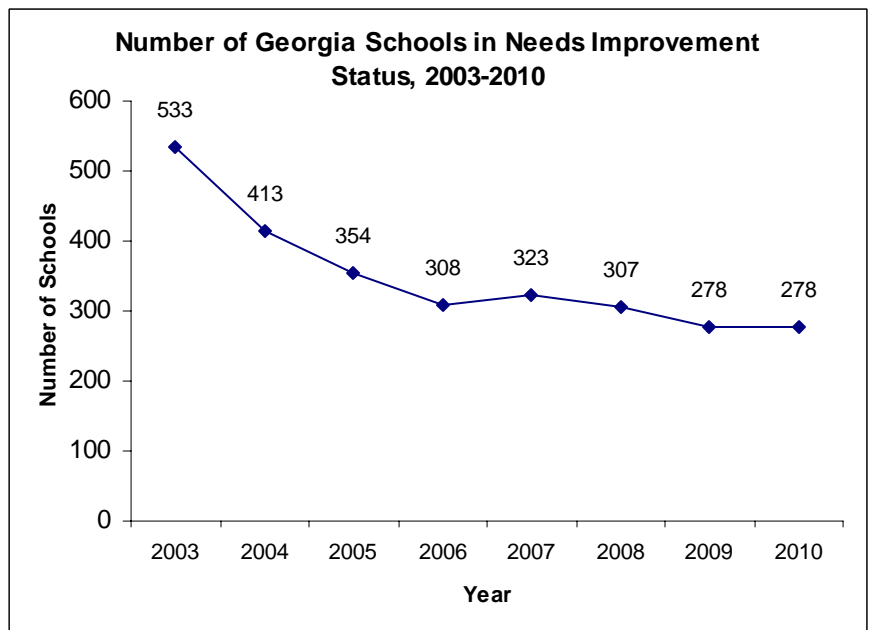
- Adequate yearly progress (AYP) is measured by a series of performance goals that each school must achieve within time frames specified in the No Child Left Behind Act.
- The percentage of Georgia schools meeting AYP has varied only slightly this decade, with the exception of 2009.
- In 2010, 99% of schools met academic performance requirements in Reading, English, Language Arts and Mathematics.



Source: Georgia Department of Education

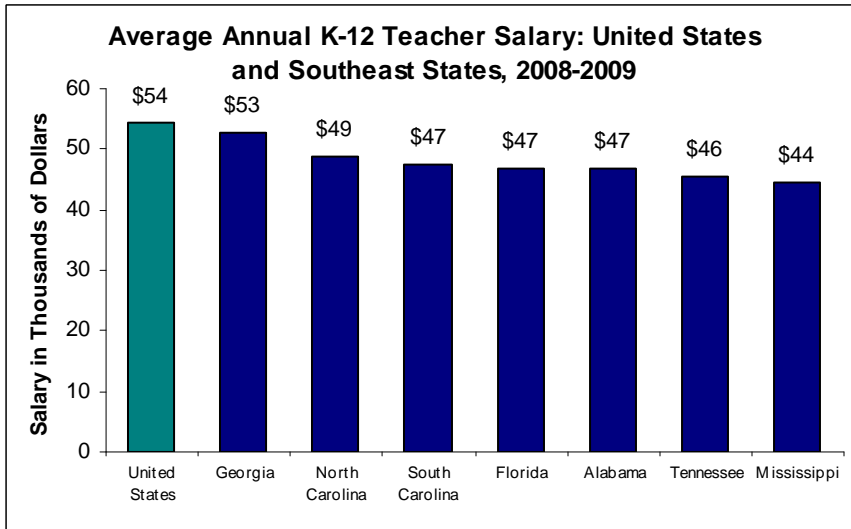
- Children and youth between the ages of 8 and 18 spend approximately four hours a day watching television and two hours on the computer on non-educational activities, including video games. Television can interfere with homework, physical activities, reading, playing with friends, and family time. (KidsHealth.org)
- The number of school systems with 100% of schools making Adequate Year Progress in 2010 (43) declined compared to the previous year (73).

- 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 278 in 2009. The number of schools in needs improvement status remained unchanged in 2010 (278) from the previous year.



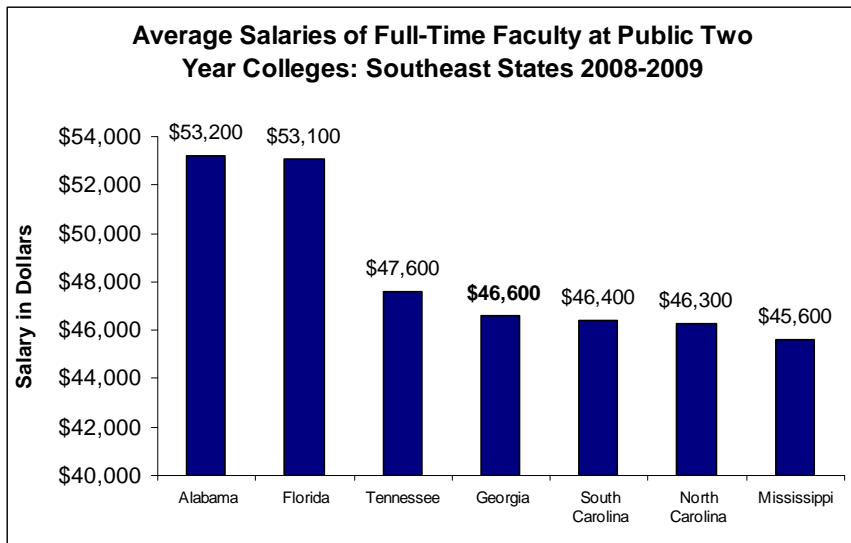
Source: Georgia Department of Education

Educator Salaries



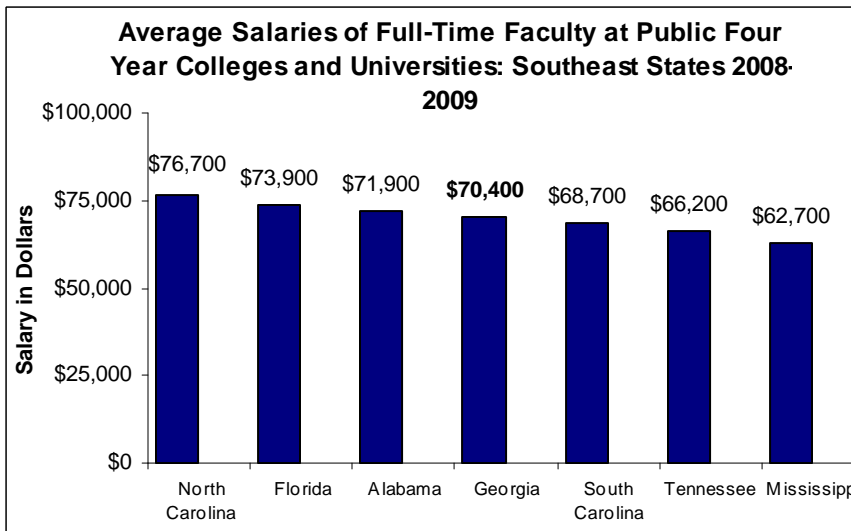
Source: National Education Association

- The average K-12 teacher salary in Georgia was \$52,879 during the 2008-2009 school year, compared to the national average \$54,319.
- K-12 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.
- Teacher salaries comprise 85% of the \$6.6 billion FY 2010 amended budget for K-12 schools.



Source: Southern Regional Education Board

- Georgia's teacher salary ranked 4th among the southeastern states.
- The average salary for faculty at two-year public colleges in Georgia was \$46,600 in 2008.
- Georgia ranks 4th among the southeastern states with respect to average salaries at two year public colleges.



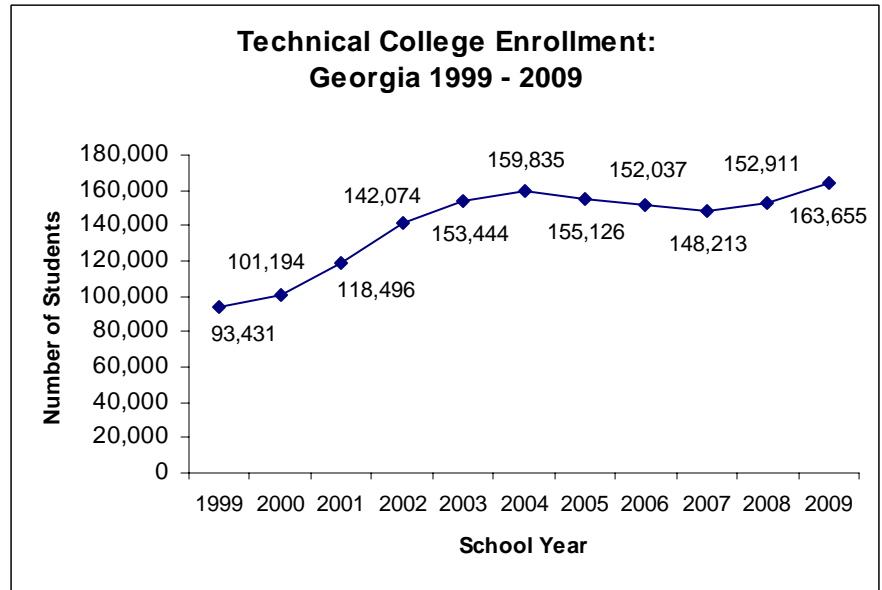
Source: Southern Regional Education Board

- The average faculty salary at four-year public colleges and universities in Georgia during 2008 was \$70,400.
- The average salary for faculty at public four-year colleges in Georgia ranked 4th among the seven southeast states.

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Technical College Enrollment and Employment

- During the 2008-2009 school year, the Technical College System enrolled 163,655 students; a 75% increase compared to the 1998-1999 school year.
- The number of Technical College System unduplicated graduates jumped from 27,630 in 2004 to 30,275 in 2009.

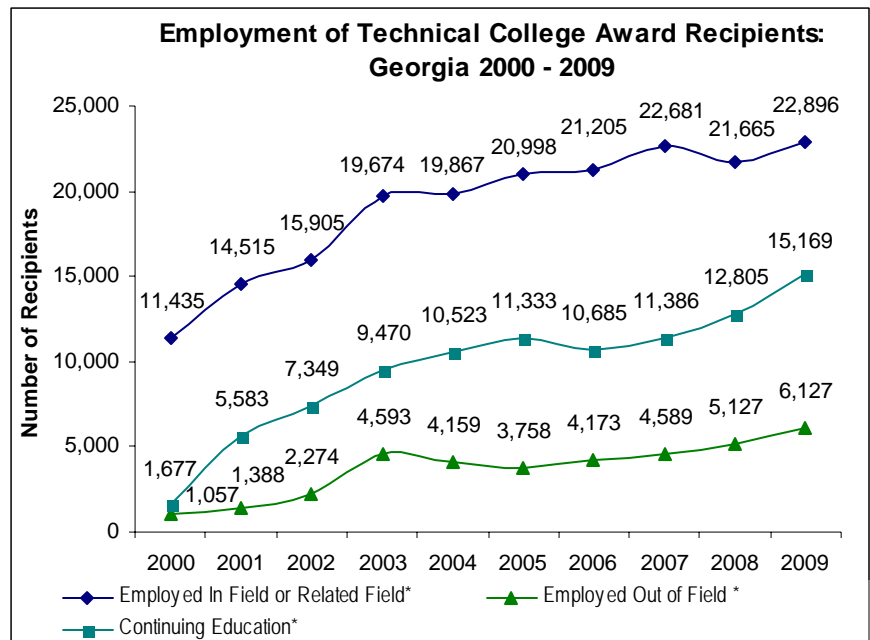


Source: Technical College System of Georgia

- 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.

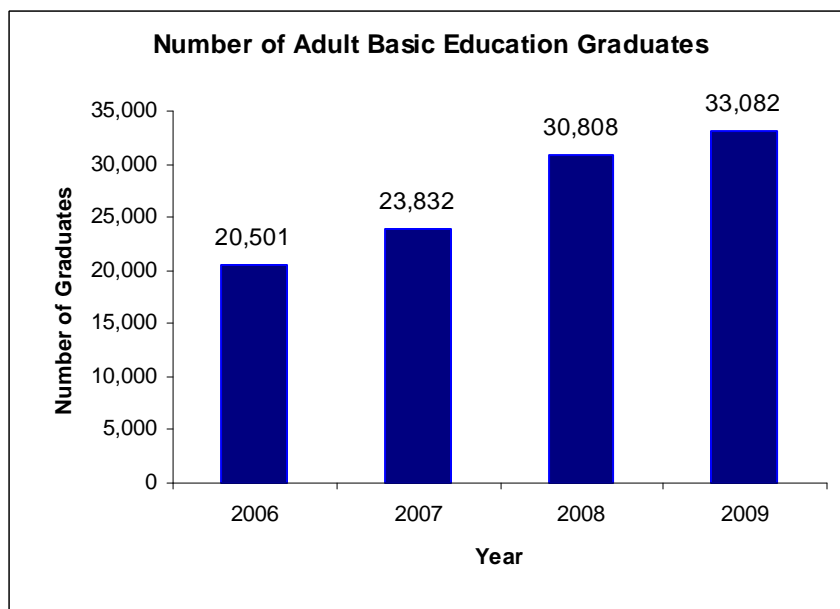
- More than one out of three Technical College System students continue their education following completion of a course of study.
- In 2009, almost three out of four Technical College System award recipients were employed either in the field or a related field (58%).

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



Source: Technical College System of Georgia

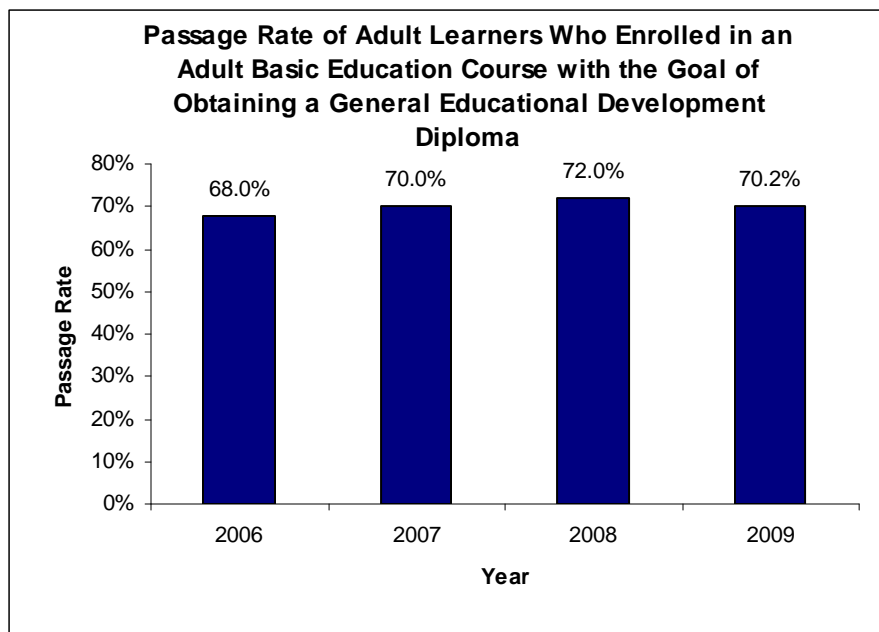
Adult Basic Education Passage Rates and Graduates



- The number of Adult Basic Education graduates has increased over 60% in the past 4 years.
- The Adult Basic Education program is designed to provide special attention to adults returning to school to resume educational programs which were interrupted in earlier years.
- Adult basic education focuses on reading, writing, and math skills.

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

- Technical College System of Georgia oversees the state's adult education efforts, enrolling more than 90,000 individuals.
- According to the U.S. Census Bureau the proportion of Georgians who lack a high school education declined from 21.4% in 2000 to 16.1% in 2009.

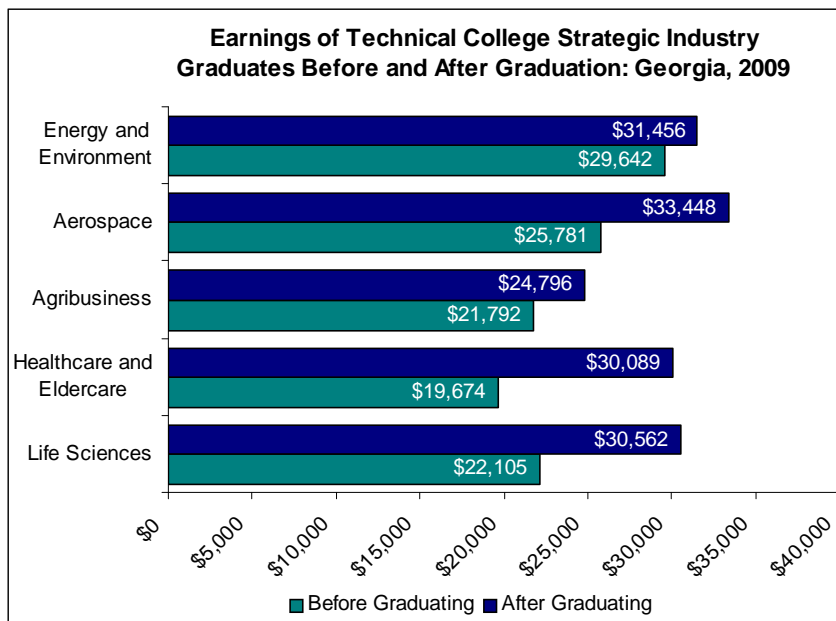


- Technical College System of Georgia awards approximately 19,000 General Educational Development (GED) diploma's each year.
- There are 49 GED Testing Centers in Georgia.
- 7 out of 10 adults enrolled in an Adult Basic Education course earn a General Educational Development Diploma.

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

Strategic Industries and University System of Georgia

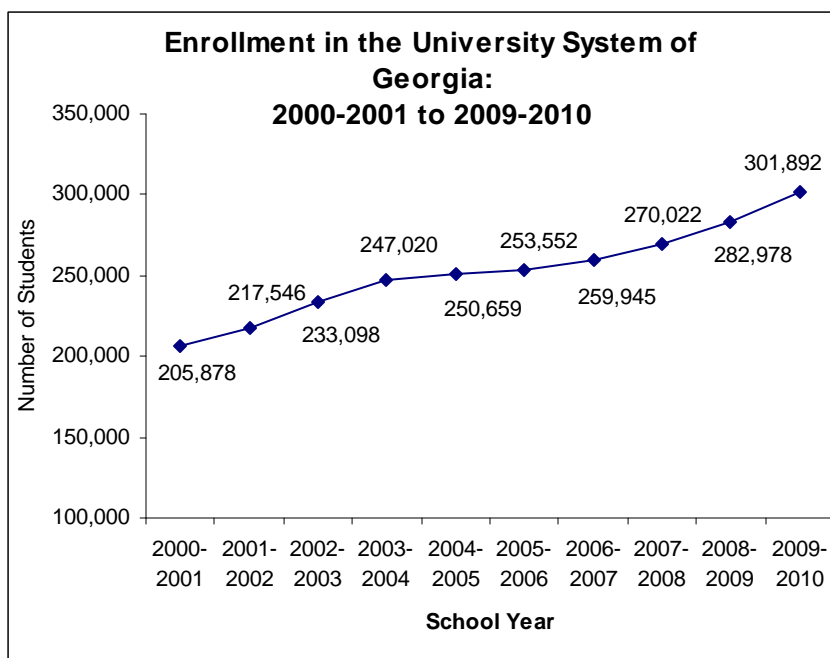
- Students in Technical College programs increase their earnings following graduation, ranging from 6% among energy and environmental program graduates to 53% among healthcare and eldercare program graduates.
- More than 56,000 students are enrolled in programs that prepare graduates to work in strategic industries.



Source: Technical College System of Georgia

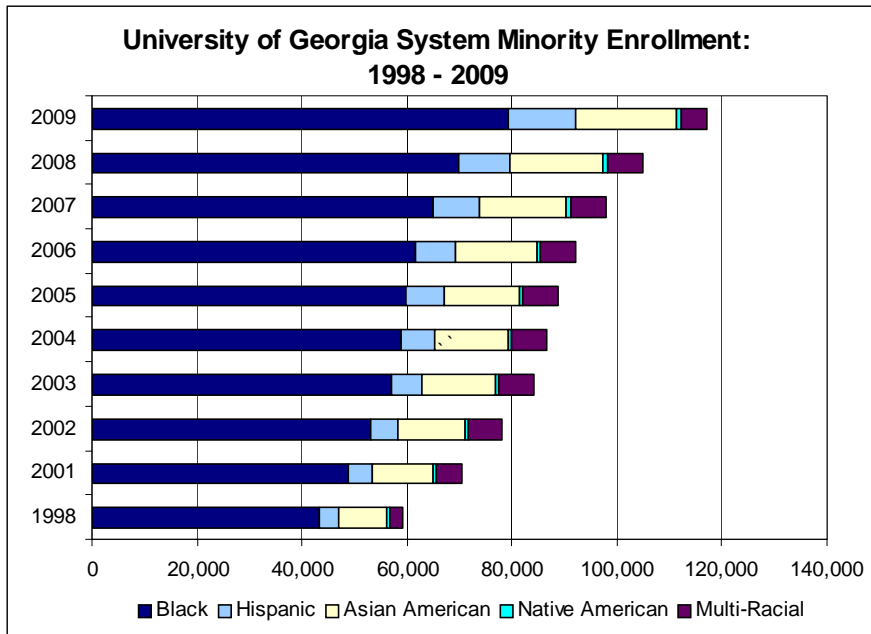
- Georgia's public colleges and universities operate under the University System of Georgia umbrella. The system consists of 4 research universities, 2 regional universities, 13 state universities, 8 state colleges and 8 two-year colleges.

- 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 fall 2009, more than 300,000 students were enrolled at a USG college or university.
- Enrollment in the University System of Georgia increased 47% between the 2000-2001 school year and fall 2009.



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

USG Minority and Foreign Student Enrollment

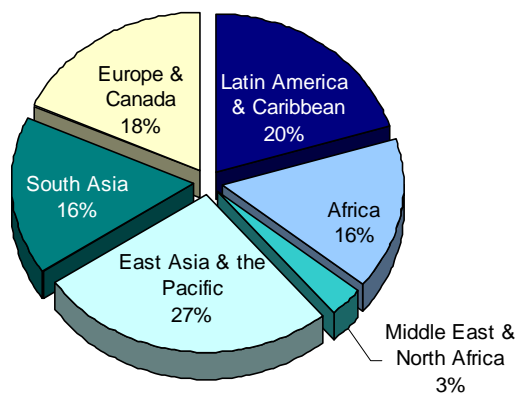


- The Black student population enrolled at University System of Georgia institutions increased by 82.6% between 1998 and 2009.
- The percentage of Asian American students enrolled in the University of Georgia system increased from 4.5% in 1998 to 6.4% in 2009.
- The number of Hispanics students enrolled in the University of Georgia System more than tripled 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 the student population (57.6%) in the University System of Georgia in 2009.
- The number of non-citizen students enrolled in the University System of Georgia increased to 20,992 students in 2008.

University of Georgia System Foreign Student Enrollment: 2007-2008

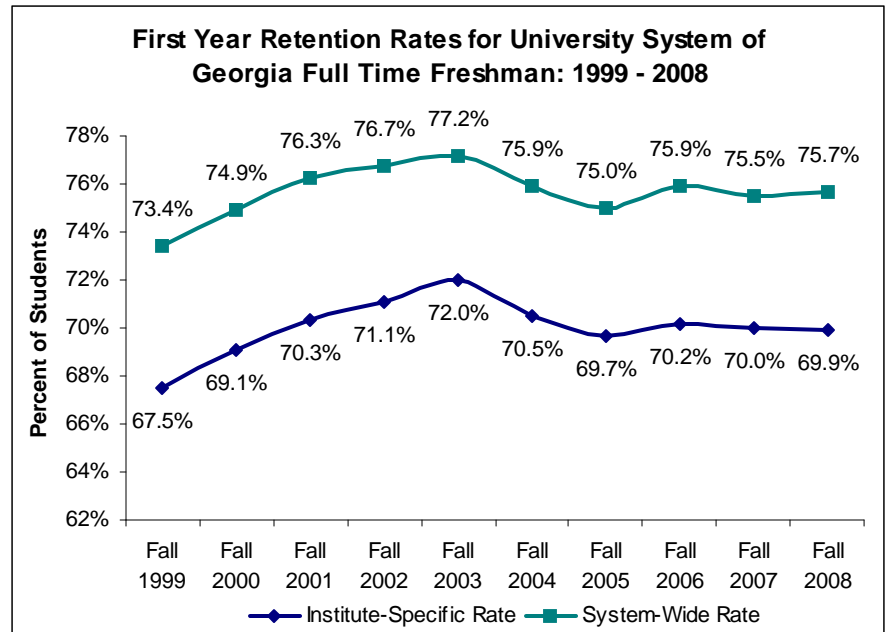


- International students comprised 7.4% (20,992) of students within the University System of Georgia in 2008.
- Approximately one-quarter of foreign students (26.6%) are from the East Asian and Pacific region and 20.3% are from Latin America and the Caribbean.

Source: Georgia Board of Regents

University System of Georgia Retention and Graduation Rates

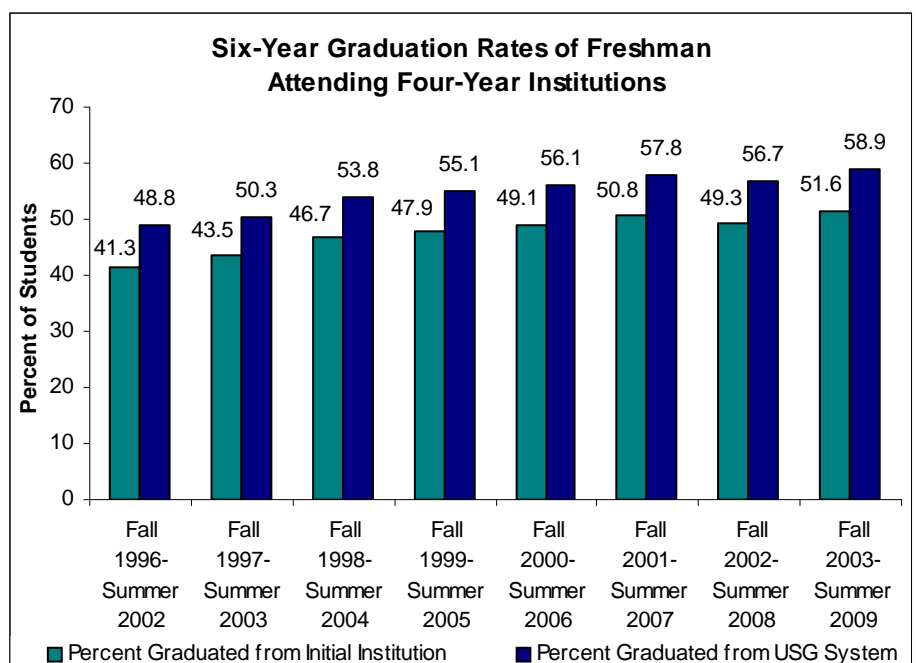
- Three-quarters of students entering a University System of Georgia college or university return to school the following fall.
- Among degree seeking, full-time freshmen who entered a University System of Georgia institution in fall 2008, 69.9% returned to the same institution in fall of 2009, and 75.5% returned to the same or another USG institution.



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

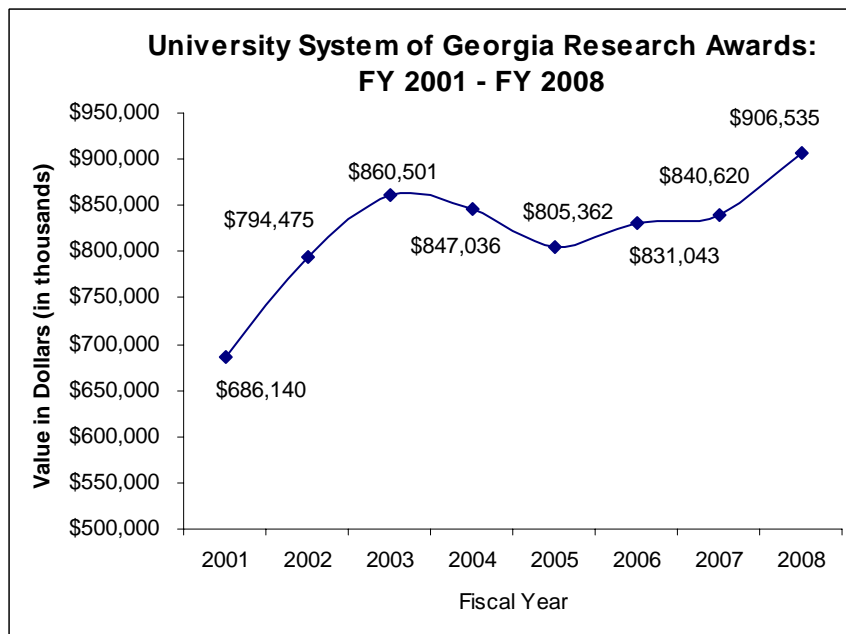
- Key indicators of post-secondary performance:
 - Six-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time freshman at four-year colleges
 - Three-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time freshmen at two-year colleges

- The proportion of Georgia's university students completing their degree has increased significantly since the mid-1990s.
- Among first-time, full-time bachelor's degree seeking undergraduates at four-year colleges who entered a University System of Georgia college or university in fall 2003, 51.3% graduated from the same institution within six years and more than 58% graduated from an institution within the system.



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

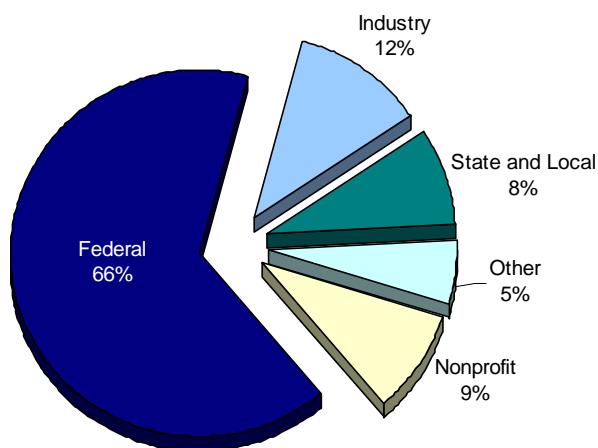
USG Research Awards



Source: Georgia Board of Regents

- Between FY 2001 and FY 2008, the University System of Georgia was awarded more than \$6.5 billion in research funds.
- In FY 2008, the University System of Georgia received \$906.5 million extramural funding, \$66 million more than the previous year.

University of Georgia System Research Fund Resources, Fiscal Year 2008

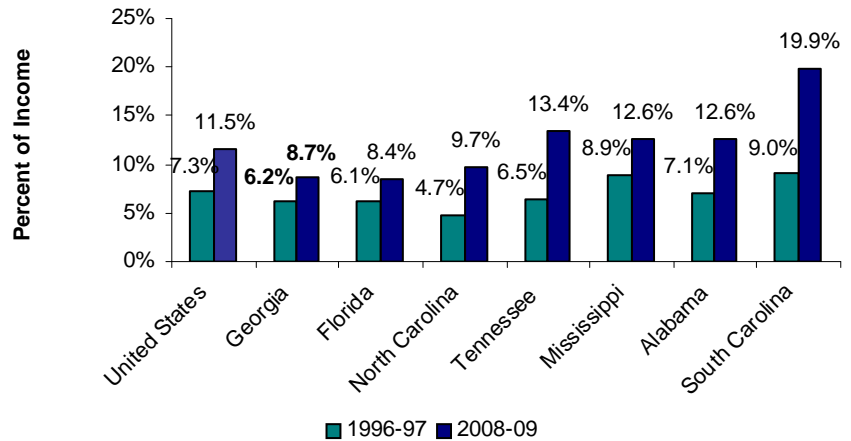


Source: Georgia Board of Regents

HOPE Scholarship and Tuition Costs

- HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally), 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 (50.7%), 38.8% attend public colleges and universities, and 10.5% attend private colleges and universities.

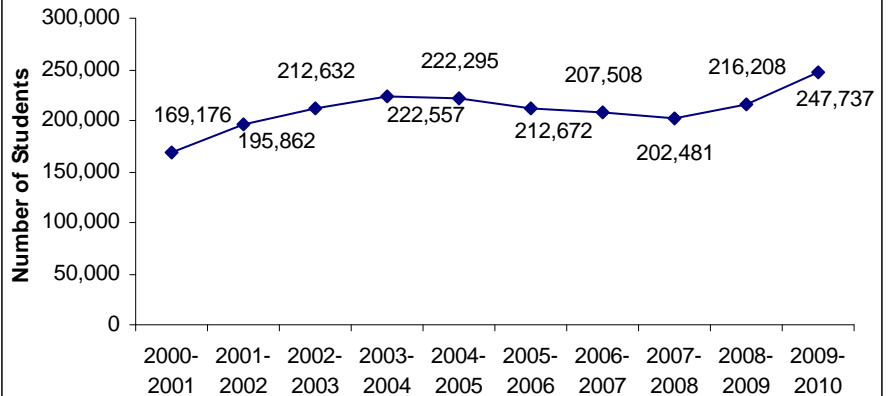
Percent of Family Income Required for Annual Tuition: United States and Southeast States 1996-1997 and 2008-2009



Source: Southern Regional Education Board

- The median average tuition at Georgia's universities and colleges is the most affordable in the southeast region.
- Tuition in Georgia as a percentage of median household income (8.7%) is the second lowest among the southeast states, which range from 8.4% to 19.9%.

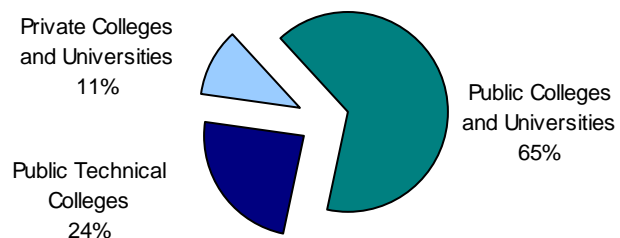
Students Earning Georgia's HOPE Scholarships and Grants: 2000-2001 to 2009-2010



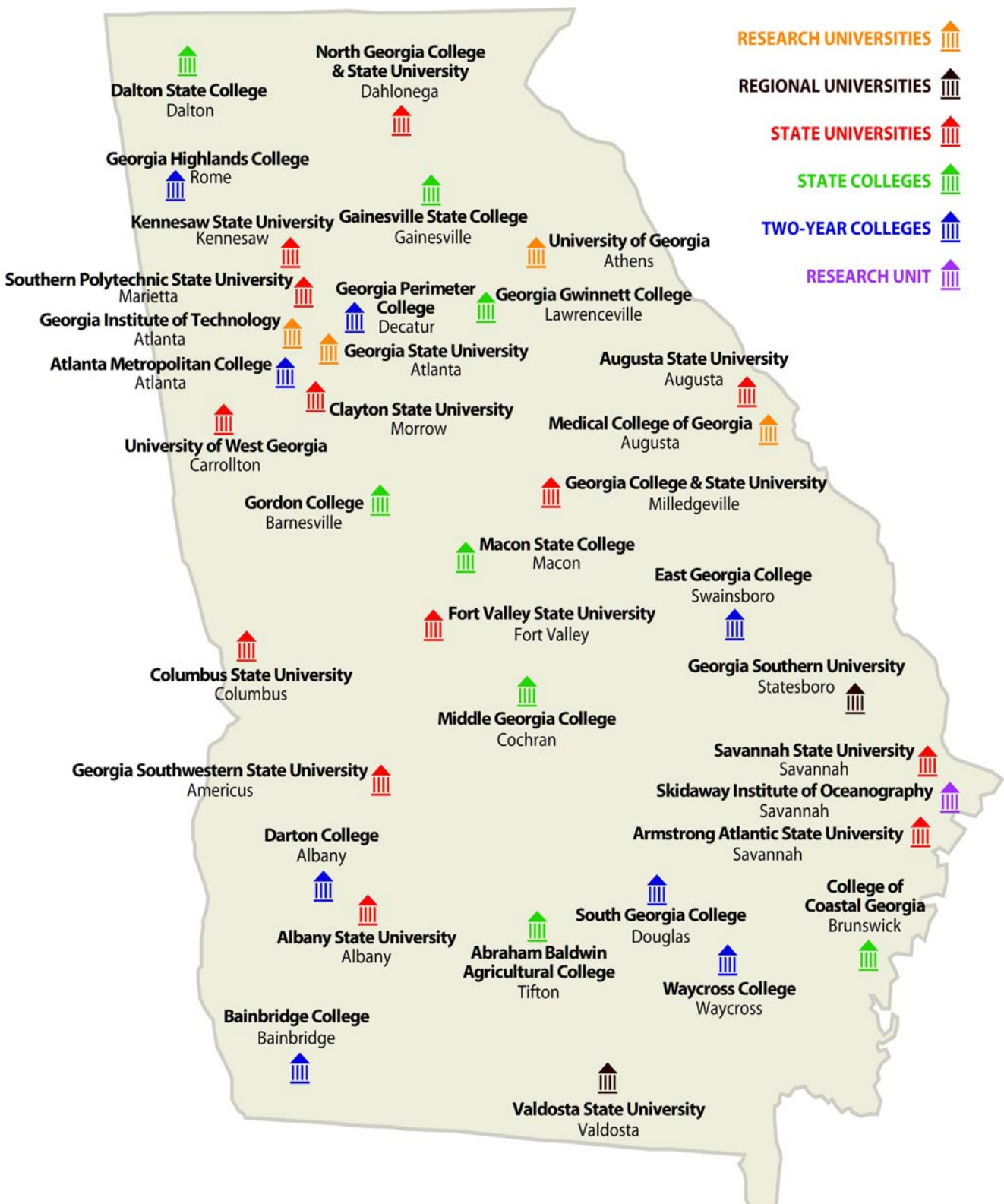
Source: Georgia Student Finance Commission

- Between September 1, 1993 and July 17, 2010, \$5.3 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 11% remaining went to private colleges and universities.

Disbursements of HOPE Scholarships and Grants by Type of Institution: September 1993-July 2010



Source: Georgia Student Finance Commission



Source: Georgia Board of Regents