Dear Fellow Georgians:

We are fortunate to live in one of the most dynamic states in the nation. Our foundation of solid economic growth, based on policies that encourage business investment and job growth, have encouraged hundreds of thousands of people to pick Georgia as their home during the past decade.

Today Georgia has 9.7 million residents. The state’s population grew by 18.3% between 2000 and 2010, nearly twice the national average. Only three states added more people. We are now the ninth largest state in the country.

With this growth has come increasing demands on state government to provide necessary services in such areas as education, transportation, health care, and environmental protection. It is important that these services be delivered in the most cost efficient and effective manner possible. In state dollars, our budget now stands at over $18 billion annually. Performance data provides information to ensure that funds are utilized to benefit all of Georgia’s people. Updated every two years, Georgia In Perspective is a concise summary of data that provides policy makers a context for making resource allocation decisions, set policy, and determine if the policies implemented are having the desired effect.

The information is presented by policy area: Growing Georgia, Educated Georgia, Healthy Georgia, Safer Georgia, and Best Managed State. By grouping state services by policy area, it is possible to get a quick overview of the work of state government and state programs.

Captured in this one publication are some of the important trends and statistics with a national, regional or county comparison. The data offered in this publication provides an understanding of where we are as a state today and some of our past experience. Using performance and trend information, we can make better informed decisions that insure that future generations of Georgians will enjoy increasing prosperity as a result of policies that promote and sustain growth.

Sincerely,

Debbie Dlugolenski, Director
Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget
GEORGIA IN PERSPECTIVE 2011

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As a growing state, with the 9th largest population in the nation, Georgia continues to attract new business. Georgia has superb logistics, a young and growing workforce, low operating costs, international business connections, an outstanding business environment and a great quality of life.

(Georgia Department of Economic Development)
Population Growth and Change

- Georgia has experienced rapid population growth over the past several decades. Overall, the state’s population doubled during the period from 1960 to 2000.
- During the 1960s Georgia’s population grew by 16%, followed by rates of approximately 19% during each of the succeeding two decades.
- During the 2000s Georgia ranked 7th in population growth among the states, growing by 18.3%, which was nearly twice the national average rate (9.7%).

Two of Georgia’s metropolitan statistical areas rank among the country’s 25 fastest growing this decade. Gainesville, with a growth rate of 35%, ranks 9th and Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, with a growth rate of 29%, ranks 18th among the nation’s 366 metropolitan areas. Within the Atlanta MSA, six counties have experienced growth rates exceeding 50% (Barrow, Cherokee, Forsyth, Henry, Newton, and Paulding).

Two of the Savannah metropolitan area counties have also experienced rapid population expansion during the current decade; Effingham (43%) and Bryan (39%). Hall County, in the Gainesville metropolitan area, experienced a 35% growth rate.

- Georgia grew by approximately 1.6 million people between 2000 and 2009.
- Georgia added approximately 182,000 new residents each year between 2000 and 2009, making it the 4th fastest growing state in the nation.
- The higher growth rate between 2005 and 2006 was due, in part, to migration following Hurricane Katrina.
- Georgia’s population growth rate has slowed since 2008, as economic conditions changed.
• Georgia’s population increased at the second fastest pace among southeastern states between 2000 and 2010.

• Between 2000 and 2010, Georgia’s population grew by 18.3%, nearly twice the national growth rate of 9.7%.

• Population growth rates among the southeastern states ranged from 4.3% in Mississippi to 18.5% in North Carolina between 2000 to 2010.

• Population change occurs due to natural increase (number of births minus number of deaths) and net migration (people moving into the area minus people moving out).

• Net migration accounts for at least half of population growth in all of the southeastern states. The percentage of population growth attributable to net migration ranges from 50% in Alabama to 81% in Florida.

• Less than half (45%) of Georgia’s population growth was due to natural increase between 2000 and 2009. The balance of the growth was due to net migration.

• Net migration will continue to be the driving force for Georgia’s population growth in the next two decades.
A GROWING GEORGIA

Population Migration and Distribution by Race

- Domestic migration was a primary source of Georgia’s population growth during the period between 1990 through 2008.
- The number of domestic migrants slowed from 56,674 between 2007 and 2008 to 26,604 between 2008 and 2009.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security estimates that 480,000 unauthorized immigrants resided in Georgia in January 2009, more than double the 2000 estimate of 220,000.

Georgia ranks 9th among the states in the number of legal permanent residents, according to the Department of Homeland Security. In FY 2009, 28,396 legal permanent residents immigrated to Georgia.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin: Georgia

- In 2009, Non-Hispanic Whites represented more than half of Georgia’s population (58%), which is slightly lower compared to 2000 (63%). Blacks represent the second largest race group, comprising 30% of the total population in 2009, consistent since 2000.
- The Hispanic population nearly doubled between 2000 and 2009. The percentage of Asians increased from 2.1% to 2.9% and persons of two or more races increased from 0.8% to 1.2%.
As expected, Census figures indicate that the baby boom group (60-64 year olds), grew at the fastest pace (65%) between 2000 and 2009. In contrast, the 30-39 age group increased less than 5% during the same time frame.

The U.S. Census Bureau projects that by 2030, the 65 and over population will be twice as large as it was in 2000 and will number 72 million people, or 20% of the total population nationally.

Approximately 4 out of 5 seniors in the United States have one chronic health condition and half have two or more conditions. The conditions that most frequently limit activity among older Americans include arthritis, hypertension, heart disease, diabetes and respiratory diseases. (Census Bureau)

Georgia has a relatively young population, with 36% of the residents under the age of 24 years.

Georgia has the 5th youngest population among the 50 states, with a median age of 34.7 years in 2009.

Georgia’s elderly population continues to increase; residents who are over the age of 65 years account for 10.3% of the population, an increase of 29.2% since 2000.
Percent of Georgia Students who are Limited English Proficient: School Year 2008-2009

- Statewide, a small portion of Georgia’s public school students (6%) have limited proficiency in English.
- School systems vary greatly in the proportion of students who have limited English proficiency, from 0% to 30%.
- Nine school systems have 10% or more students with limited English proficiency (Gainesville City, Dalton City, Marietta City, Hall County, Whitfield County, Gwinnett County, Buford City, Clarke County, and Gilmer County).
- Thirty school systems have between 5% and 9% of students with limited English proficiency and 63 systems have less than 1% of students with limited proficiency.

Source: Georgia Department of Education
• Georgia’s per capita income increased by 28.2% from $26,359 in 1999 to $33,786 in 2009.

• Per capita income in Georgia decreased in 2009, for the first time during the past decade, parallel to the national trend.

• Nationally, the average per capita income has remained higher than Georgia’s average since 1999.

• Georgia ranked 1st in the nation for its workforce in America’s Top States for Businesses, a study conducted annually by CNBC. In the same study, Georgia ranked 3rd for its cost of living and transportation.

• Georgia’s cost of living makes the state attractive to growing businesses.

• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a state.

• In Georgia, per capita GDP peaked twice during the past decade, at $40,062 in 2000 and $39,918 in 2005. Per capita GDP declined by 7.8% in Georgia between 2007 and 2009, from $39,761 to $36,677.

Note: Chained (constant) 2005 dollars is an economic term used to define the level of real GDP by setting it equal to the GDP of a selected base year and then “chaining” forward and backward from the base year to calculate growth rates.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts
• Georgia’s median household income of $50,834 is the highest among Southeastern states.

• Nationally, Georgia ranks in the middle (24th) for median household income.

• In 2008, among the country’s 3,143 counties, two of Georgia counties ranked among the top 50 for median income; Forsyth (18th) and Fayette (33rd).

Household income as well as per capita income rise significantly as educational attainment increases (U.S. Census Bureau).

Georgia has a young and growing workforce with more than half the population between the ages of 25 and 64 years of age.

A younger population contributes to a growing workforce, currently estimated to be at 5.2 million.

Employment declined 2.1% in Georgia between 2000 and 2009.

Employment in the manufacturing industry decreased by 33% between 2000 to 2009.

The percentage of jobs in the public sector remained relatively stable between 2000 (5.5%) and 2009 (6.4%).

The service sector posted the largest gain in employment this decade.

Note: Other services include leisure and hospitality, information, education and health.
• According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in Georgia increased by 66.6% between June 2008 and June 2010.

• Georgia’s unemployment rate increased from 9.7% in June 2009 to 10.0% in June 2010.

• Georgia’s unemployment rate exceeded the national average every month during the past two years. In June 2010 Georgia’s unemployment rate was 10.0% compared to 9.5% nationally.

The annual unemployment rates among Georgia counties vary greatly from 5.6% in Long County up to 17.8% in Jenkins County. For Jenkins County, that means more than 1 out of every 6 workers was out of work and actively looking for a job in 2009.

• The poverty rate measures the percentage of people or families who are below the income threshold specified by the federal government. The threshold varies by family size and composition (see chart below graph).

• The percent of Georgia’s families living below the poverty threshold has remained above the national rate in recent years.

• Georgia’s poverty rate (16.5%) in 2009 ranked 12th highest among the 50 states, and higher than the national rate (14.3%).

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Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a monthly cash assistance program for low income families and children under the age of 18.
- The number of TANF cases decreased 15.8% from 23,778 in July 2007 to 20,018 in May 2010.

Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children’s Services

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps): Georgia, July 2007- May 2010

- Between July 2007 and May 2010, the number of families seeking food assistance through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program increased by 80.3%.
- In the last year (May 2009 to May 2010), the state added more than 10,000 new SNAP cases each month.

Note: Cases can include one person or entire families: the actual number of persons receiving assistance is likely higher.

Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children’s Services
Georgia’s homeownership rate has fluctuated slightly this decade from a high of 68.5% in 2007 to a low of 66.8% in 2005.

Nationally homeownership rates rose gradually this decade with a dip in 2005, similar to Georgia.

Homeownership rates are the number of owner-occupied housing units divided by the total occupied housing units.

Georgia has the 8th highest rate of foreclosure in the nation. As of June 2010, there were 12,037 filings, representing 1 in every 334 housing units.

The 10 counties with the greatest number of foreclosures in Georgia include Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, Clayton, Henry, Cherokee, Hall, Chatham, and Douglas.

Median housing values peaked nationally and in Georgia in 2007, but have declined each year since that time.

Median housing costs in Georgia have remained below average costs nationally.

Adequate, affordable housing is important as it helps foster safer, more equitable, productive, and healthier communities.
Jobs and Agricultural Exports

- The number of non-agricultural jobs increased from 3.8 million in 2003 to 4.1 million in 2007.
- Since 2007 non-agricultural jobs in Georgia declined from 4.1 million to 3.8 million.
- Georgia has the 10th largest economy among the states.
- Georgia ranked among the top 10 states in exports of 7 agricultural products in 2009. The state was first in exports of peanuts and poultry, second in cotton, and third in tree nuts.

![Graph of Number of Non-Agricultural Jobs: Georgia, 2000-2009]

Source: Georgia Statistics System, University of Georgia

- Net farm income in Georgia increased by one-third between 2000 and 2008, from $2.1 billion to $2.8 billion. (USDA, Economic Research Service, Farm Income Data Sets)
- The Vidalia® onion is Georgia's state vegetable; the Vidalia name was coined by tourists who bought the sweet onion at the Vidalia Farmers market. The onion is grown exclusively in a 20-county region in Georgia.

![Graph of Value of Agricultural Sector Production: Georgia, 2000-2008]

Source: Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

- Top Five Agricultural Commodities in 2009:
  - Broilers
  - Cotton
  - Chicken Eggs
  - Peanuts
  - Greenhouse/nursery
- Georgia is the nation’s leading pecan producing state. Albany and Dougherty County are known as the “pecan capital of the world” due to the large number of pecan trees in the area.

Note: Value of agricultural sector production is the gross value of the commodities and services produced within a year.
• Canada, China, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and Japan are Georgia’s top 5 trade partners. Georgia exports more than one billion in exports with each of these countries.

• **Top Five Georgia Exports in 2009:**  
  - Transportation equipment  
  - Machinery  
  - Chemicals  
  - Paper products  
  - Computers and electronic products

**Value of Exports: Georgia 2000-2009**

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$14,643,686</td>
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Source: US Department of Commerce, Trade Statistics Express

• Georgia exported to 210 destinations in 2009 and is ranked 12th in the nation in terms of export value.

• The state cultivates strong tourism through convention and conference business, coastal tourism and the world’s busiest airport.

• The United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, France, and South Korea are the top five origin countries for international visitors to Georgia.

**Direct Tourism Expenditures: Georgia, 1998-2008**

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<td>$20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$20.8</td>
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</tbody>
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```

Source: The Travel Industry Association
Georgia’s deepwater ports and inland barge terminals contribute over 286,000 jobs and $55.8 billion in total sales.

The Port of Savannah is projected to have a capacity of 6.5 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) by the year 2020.

Hartsfield-Jackson has three main air cargo complexes which maintain more than 1.5 million square feet of air cargo handling space; ranking 12th in the nation in total cargo in 2009. Cargo operations create 176,000 jobs and generate $35 billion in revenue, according to the airport’s 2009 Annual Report.

The total cargo handled at Hartsfield-Jackson declined between 2004 and 2009, but began to improve during the first months of 2010.

Hartsfield-Jackson houses a U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved Perishables Complex, one of a kind in the Southeast United States.

Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport’s economic impact was more than $32.6 billion in 2009.

Note: Total cargo is composed of freight, express and mail.
Hartsfield-Jackson is the world’s busiest passenger airport, followed by Chicago O’Hare International Airport.

Hartsfield-Jackson hosts 31 passenger airlines and 19 cargo airlines.

Construction of Hartsfield-Jackson’s new 12 gate International Terminal is creating 3,000 trade, professional and administrative jobs.

Hartsfield-Jackson is the first airport in the US to open a rental car center and people mover simultaneously, eliminating 125 shuttle buses.

In 2010, Hartsfield-Jackson was named the World’s Most Efficient Airport by the Air Transport Research Society. In 2009, the airport earned the Airports Council International-North American Concessions Person of the Year and Best Convenience Retail Program awards.

Reasons why businesses continue to choose Georgia: 1) superb logistics, 2) young and growing workforce, 3) low operating costs, 4) international business connections, 5) outstanding business environment and 6) great quality of life.

There are a total of 104 local, regional and business airports in Georgia. Local and business airports that meet the recommended length are helping bring business to rural Georgia and foster economic development.

Georgia continues to attract new business, with help from airports that enable business prospects to fly directly to the city or county in which they are doing business.
Georgia has expanded the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) and Highway Emergency Response Operators (HERO) coverage to more safely and efficiently clear traffic incidents that disrupt the flow of traffic and cause delays. Roadway clearance time in Metropolitan Atlanta for passenger vehicles declined from 29.8 minutes in 2002 to 9.3 minutes in 2008.

Investing in Tomorrow’s Transportation Today, or IT3, established in June of 2008, is charged with developing transportation strategies to improve access and mobility for Georgians. This business case analysis will give legislators and state planners a clear understanding of how to invest in transportation infrastructure and services that will yield positive returns for Georgia’s citizens, businesses and visitors.

The Planning Time Index (PTI) helps a traveler plan for the amount of time it will take to make a trip under congested conditions relative to free flow conditions so that the traveler can arrive on time 95% of the time. The higher the PTI number, the less reliable the travel time.

The PTI increased between 2002 and 2006, but indicates improving conditions in both 2007 and 2008.

The annual number of passenger trips on MARTA decreased between 2000 (167.1 million trips) and 2004 (136.1 million) but rebound to 156.5 million in 2009.

The annual unlinked trips is the number of times a year individuals board a bus or train, including transfers.

The number of passenger trips per transit service hour on MARTA decreased from 53 in 2000 to 49 in 2008.

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• Four main fuel types contribute to Georgia’s total energy consumption: coal, petroleum, natural gas and electricity fuels such as nuclear, hydropower and wood.

• The average amount of energy each Georgian uses decreased by 11% between 2004 to 2008.

• Georgia ranked 31st among the 50 states for per capita total energy consumption in 2008.

“America’s Best Places for Alternative Energy”, a study conducted annually by Forbes, ranked Georgia as the 3rd best state for alternative energy from biomass.

Pollutants that cause water quality standard violations can pose risks to human health, impact fish and wildlife populations and decrease the recreational quality of these waters.

• Total number of river miles in Georgia: 70,150.

• Total number of river miles assessed in 2006-2007: 13,107.

• In 2006-2007, 42% of the assessed river miles met water quality standards and supported designated uses. In 2004-2005, 43% of assessed miles supported designated uses.

Water quality standards define the goals for a water body by designating its uses and setting criteria to protect those uses, including limits that define acceptable amounts of specific pollutants.
Air Quality

Number of Days Air Quality Index Values Greater than 100: Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, 1999-2008

- The number of days the Air Quality Index exceeded 100 in the Atlanta metropolitan area has fluctuated over the last decade, but in 2008 (24) was well below the number of days experienced in 1999 (88) and 2000 (66).

- Sources that contribute to ozone levels include both mobile (automobiles and trucks) and stationary (power plants and industry) sources.

- Commute alternatives include vanpools, carpools, teleworking and public transit.

Note: Sensitive groups (people with lung or heart disease) may experience health effects when the air quality index exceeds 100.

Ozone and Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM-2.5) are the only two pollutants for which Georgia continues to be in "non-attainment status". Non-attainment occurs when the area in question does not meet the air quality standards set by the U.S. EPA. Georgia currently has 28 counties in non-attainment status. Air quality levels continue to improve, therefore, Georgia expects to attain these standards set in 1997 and request re-designation back to attainment in 2011 or 2012.

Ozone and particulate matter, at increased levels, can cause or worsen health problems such as asthma, bronchitis, respiratory illnesses and nonfatal heart attacks.

Air quality standards may become more stringent by EPA if new scientific data indicates lower levels are necessary to protect public health.

Ozone and particulate matter, at increased levels, can cause or worsen health problems such as asthma, bronchitis, respiratory illnesses and nonfatal heart attacks.

Air quality standards may become more stringent by EPA if new scientific data indicates lower levels are necessary to protect public health.

Particulate Matter 2.5 is a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air. Fine particulate matter is less than 2.5 microns in diameter.

Georgia continues efforts to reduce PM-2.5 emissions. Such efforts have resulted in air quality within the national standard during the two most recent years.

The Georgia Clean Air Campaign offers financial incentives to Georgians who use commute alternatives, including commuter cash and prizes as well as carpool rewards.

Source: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Ambient Monitoring Program

Particulate Matter (PM-2.5) Concentration Levels: Georgia, 1999-2009

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Georgia has successfully increased access for the uninsured and underserved in Georgia through its safety net clinics. Georgia invested $8.15 million in state funds to expand Safety Net Clinics throughout the state and received $20.2 million from the federal government.

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Factors Influencing Health Status

- **Lifestyle** impacts account for 51% of health status.
- **Environment** factors make up 19%.
- **Human Biology** contribute 20%.
- **Health Care** account for 10%.

- **Environmental factors** impacting health include housing, access to food, income distribution, transportation means, and racial disparities, as well as physical conditions such as air quality.
- **Lifestyle factors** include behavioral risk factors such as smoking, obesity, stress, nutrition, blood pressure, and alcohol and drug use.
- **Health care factors** include insurance status, prenatal care, immunizations and dental care.

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Source: Georgia Health Policy Center, Georgia State University and National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion

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- **America’s Health Rankings™** combines individual measures of each of the determinants (personal behaviors, clinical care, community environment and public and health policy) into one comprehensive measure of the state’s health.
- In 2010, Georgia’s health ranking among the states increased to 36th compared to 43rd in 2009. The state’s strengths include low prevalence of binge drinking, and few mental and physical health days lost per month.

**Note:** Scores indicate the percentage a state is above or below the national norm. For example, a state with a score of 20 is 20% above the national average for that component. A negative score means the state is below the national average.

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, lifestyle choices have the greatest impact on a person’s health.
- Georgia ranks 28th among the states on the percentage of adults participating in exercise (75.7%), compared to the national average of 76.3%, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Over the past decade the percentage of adults in Georgia reporting their health as either excellent or very good declined from 62.3% in 1997 to 53.0% in 2009.
Between 2000 and 2008, the number of dentists per capita in Georgia decreased by 17.9%.

The Medical College of Georgia, School of Dentistry is the only dental school in Georgia. The most recent class graduated 56 dentists.

Georgia was one of 16 states to receive federal funding for FY 2009 from the CDC to improve basic state oral health services. The goal was to strengthen state-based public health programs that are critical to oral health.

Over the last 30 years, 85% of graduates from Georgia’s dental program have remained in Georgia to practice.

According to the American Dental Association, Georgia is one of only 10 states that require a dental exam before children start school.

Dental disease places children at risk for expensive chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Maternal dental problems can lead to increased risk of low birth weight in infants.

Dental sealants help prevent caries (dental decay) in risk groups and cost approximately one-third ($27) the cost of an average filling ($73).

1 in 2 (56%) 3rd grade children in Georgia have caries (dental decay) experience.

1 in 4 (27%) 3rd grade children in Georgia have untreated dental decay.

Children from rural areas and suburban Atlanta are most likely to have caries experience.

Only Metropolitan Atlanta (20%) met the Healthy People 2010 objective for untreated dental decay.

Source: Health Resources and Services Administration and Kaiser Family Foundation, State Health Facts

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health
**Insurance Status**

### Health Insurance Coverage: 2009

**Georgia, 2009**
- 52% Employer
- 19% Medicare
- 5% Medicaid
- 13% Other/Public
- 2% Individual
- 9% Uninsured

**United States, 2009**
- 49% Employer
- 17% Medicare
- 5% Medicaid
- 16% Other/Public
- 12% Individual
- 1% Uninsured

- Approximately 1.8 million (19%) Georgians are uninsured, ranking Georgia 7th among the states for the highest percentage of uninsured.
- More than half of all Georgians (52%) have employer sponsored health insurance coverage, slightly higher than the national average (49%).
- The cost of employer based health insurance premiums increased 131% between 1999 and 2009.

![Graph showing health insurance coverage in Georgia and the United States in 2009.](source)

**Average Monthly Medicaid and PeachCare Enrollment: Georgia FY 2000 to FY 2009**

- Number Enrolled: 947,054 to 1,353,569
- Fiscal Year: 2000 to 2009

- Average monthly Medicaid enrollment in Georgia increased 43% between FY 2000 and FY 2009, from 947,054 to 1,353,569.
- Enrollment in PeachCare, Georgia’s Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollment increased each year during the past decade, until 2008 when enrollment began to decrease. Enrollment declined from 273,659 in FY 2007 to 205,548 in FY 2009.
- Georgia ranks 15th among the states with respect to the highest number of children enrolled in Medicaid/CHIP.

**Source:** Georgia Department of Community Health, Kaiser State Health Facts
• Georgia ranked 40th in the nation with respect to the number of physicians per capita in 2009; a decline from 38th in 2002, according to American Medical Association.

• Primary care specialties include pediatrics, internal medicine, family medicine and OB/GYN.

• The rate of pediatricians per 100,000 population was nearly two times greater in urban areas than in rural areas in 2006.

Note: Data for 2008 is provisional.

Source: Georgia Board of Physicians Workforce, Kaiser State Health Facts

• Safety net clinics include the following in Georgia: Federally Qualified Health Centers, Free Clinics, Georgia Farm Worker Health Programs, Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program, Rural Health Clinics and the Rural Health Safety Net Project.

• Nearly 78% of counties in Georgia have some type of safety net clinic; however, 35 counties (22%) have no safety net clinic available to serve its residents.

• After investing $8.15 million in state funds for safety net clinics between FY 2006 and FY 2009, Georgia received $20.2 million from the federal government.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health
Emergency Room Utilization

Emergency Room Visits
Per 100,000 Population
Georgia Counties: 2008

Georgia ranks 20th among the states with respect to the lowest number of emergency room visits per 100,000 population.

According to the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), the average emergency room visit in the U.S. cost $1,038 in 2007.

One out of four hospital emergency rooms (26.1%) in Georgia is owned by state or local government compared to the national average of 16.6%, resulting in a ranking of 12th among the states with the highest proportion of ER rooms owned by government agencies.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, OASIS
• The rate at which Georgians used mental health services between 2003 and 2008 declined from 18.13 per 1,000 residents to 14.08.

• The rate at which hospital based mental health services were used by state residents declined 32%, from 1.7 per 1,000 to 1.2 per 1,000 between 2003 and 2008.

• The state of Georgia instituted the Georgia Crisis and Access Line in 2006 in order to centralize and improve access to mental health services.

• In 2008, 26% of mental health patients were re-admitted to a state hospital within 180 days, higher than the national average of 21%.

• 18.8% of families who have children with special health care needs pay $1,000 or more out of pocket for medical expenses annually and 23.8% have conditions that require a family member to reduce work hours or leave the labor force.

• Georgia’s hospitalization and discharge rate of patients with mental health disorders peaked in 2003 at 590.6 per 100,000 population, followed by a steady decline until 2008.

• The National Institute of Mental Health estimates that approximately 1 in 4 adults suffer from a diagnosable mental health disorder each year, including depression.

• Georgia provides crisis services, outpatient services, community support services, residential support and day and employment services.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, OASIS
Vaccinations: Children and Adults

- To overcome barriers to vaccination, Georgia’s public health departments remind parents when their children’s vaccinations are due; offer extended clinic hours; provide vaccinations on a walk-in basis; and distribute educational materials on immunization.

- Infections caused by pneumococci are a major cause of death and disease globally. Pneumococcal vaccinations in Georgia are given year round and usually only has to be administered once after the age of 65 years. Some adults with weakened immune systems may receive more than one dose over their lifetime.

- Pneumonia and meningitis are the most common manifestations of invasive pneumococcal disease. Bacteria spread in the respiratory tract to cause ear infection, sinusitis or recurrent bronchitis (World Health Organization).

- The highest rate of pneumococcal disease occurs in the elderly and young children and affects those suffering from chronic conditions and weakened immune systems.

- 65.2% of elderly Georgians were vaccinated against pneumococcal disease in 2008.

Note: The methodology for reporting Hib vaccination status was revised in 2009, while at the same time there was a national shortage of available Hib vaccine. These factors impacted vaccination rates at the state and national levels.
- In 2007, Georgia ranked 11th nationally in the rate of teen births and had the second highest rate among its southeast neighbors – Tennessee had the highest.

- Georgia’s teen birth rate is consistently higher compared to the national rate.


- Children born to teen mothers are more likely to be born preterm and low birthweight, as well as to be born into families with limited educational and economic resources (Kids Count Data Book 2010).

- Educating expectant mothers about smoking cessation during pregnancy, prenatal care, eating right and appropriate weight gain can help deter low birthweight. Socioeconomic factors must also be considered; low birthweight babies and teen mothers are more likely to use Medicaid and state services.

- Low birthweight babies weigh less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces and face an increased risk of death, long-term disability and developmental delays.

- Georgia’s low birthweight rate increased to 9.4% in 2005 and has remained fairly stable since that year.

- Georgia’s percentage of infants born at low birthweight has exceeded the national average each year during the past decade.
Obesity: Children, Youth and Adults

- A child who is classified as obese has a body mass index (BMI) for age and gender that is greater than or equal to the 95th percentile.
- In 2009, 12.4% of Georgia’s high school students were obese.
- Until the early 1990’s, Type II diabetes was rarely diagnosed in children; today nearly half of the newly diagnosed patients with Type II diabetes are children.
- In 2009, one out of seven Georgia middle school students (15%) were obese.

Many factors, including poor diet and physical inactivity have contributed to the rise in both adult and youth obesity.

The Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health estimates the annual cost of obesity in Georgia at $2.1 billion, or approximately $250 per Georgian each year.

Adult obesity is defined by a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or greater.

Obesity increases the risk of many diseases and health conditions, including hypertension, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, osteoarthritis, dyslipidemia and some cancers.

Georgia was ranked as the 23rd most obese state in the nation in 2009.

Source: CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System and DCH, Division of Public Health

Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
• Approximately 19,000 (5%) of middle school students and 72,000 (17%) high school students in Georgia smoke cigarettes.

• The percentage of students who have tried smoking has declined 32% among middle school students and 18% among high school students since 2003.

• Tobacco use in adolescence is associated with other risky behaviors including sexual behavior and alcohol and drug use.

Note: The dashed line in the chart indicates the gap in years for which Georgia did not collect data for the national survey (between 1993 and 2003).

• In 2005, Georgia banned smoking in all public places, except bars or restaurants that do not serve children, mandated separate hotel rooms for smokers, and required workplaces to have separate ventilation for smokers.

• 900,000 adult smokers in Georgia do not have health insurance, according to the Department of Community Health.

• Adult smokers lose an average of 16 years of life compared to adult non-smokers and 1 out of 6 Georgians die annually from smoking related illnesses.

• Approximately 1.4 million adults in Georgia smoke cigarettes.

• Despite some fluctuations, the percentage of adults who use tobacco has declined since 2000 both nationally and in Georgia.

• The Department of Community Health estimates the healthcare costs associated with smoking among Georgia adults at $1.8 billion.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Office of Vital Records and CDC National Youth Risk Behavioral Factor Surveillance System
Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease

- Cardiovascular disease (CVD) includes all diseases of the heart and blood vessels, including ischemic heart disease, stroke, congestive heart failure, hypertensive disease and atherosclerosis.

- Modifiable risk factors for CVD include: smoking, poor diet, lack of physical activity, obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes.

- Georgia recorded 65,016 major cardiovascular deaths during the period from 2005 to 2007, representing one third (32.5%) of all deaths in the state.

- CVD death rate increases with age, however, 1 in 4 persons who died from CVD in 2006 was less than 65 years of age.

- In 2009, 9.5% of Georgia adults were diabetic compared to 8.3% nationwide.

- Over the past decade the percentage of Americans with diabetes nearly doubled, from 4.8% in 1997 to 8.3% in 2009.

- There was a slight decline in the number of adult Georgians with diabetes, from the high of 10.1% in 2007 to 9.5% in 2009.

- Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness and kidney failure. Stroke and heart disease are the two leading causes of death in patients with diabetes.

- Diabetes is a disease with serious complications and can lead to premature death. However, those living with the disease can control the disease and reverse the course of the disease through proper nutrition, regular physical activity and well-managed treatment plans.

- Like diabetes, cardiovascular disease can be moderated by living a healthier life and understanding what risk factors influence an individual’s likelihood of developing the disease.

Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Office of Vital Records

A Healthier Georgia

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• Mammograms screen for breast cancer and allow for early detection. When detected early, especially when the woman exhibits no other signs or symptoms of the cancer, her survival rate increases by as much as 30%.

• Mammograms are recommended biennially for women over 40 years of age and annually for those over the age of 50.

• Georgia women were screened at a slightly higher rate (78.9%) than the U.S. average (76.0%) in 2008.

Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

• Breast cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women, after lung cancer.

• The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the primary risk factor for cervical cancer, however, a woman’s age and genetic factors also play a role. According the Centers for Disease Control, in 2009, 44.3% of 13-17 year olds in the United States had received at least one shot in the three shot series for HPV vaccination.

• Pap tests primarily detect cervical cancer; and like mammograms early detection improves survival rates.

• Nationwide, in 2008, 82.9% of women 18 years and older had a pap test within the last three years.

• Georgia ranked 1st among the 50 states with respect to the percentage of women having a pap test within three years in 2008 (87.6%).

Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
Colorectal Cancer and Cancer Mortality

- Colorectal cancer screenings are recommended for both men and women over the age of 50.
- Colon cancer is detected through colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy and fecal occult blood test. Polyps in the colon detected by these tests can be removed and prevent the onset of cancer or allow for earlier, aggressive treatment.
- In men, colorectal cancer is the third most common type of cancer deaths, after lung and prostate cancers.

It is estimated that as many as 60% of deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented if all men and women over the age of 50 years were screened routinely for colorectal cancer (CDC).

Among cancers that affect men and women, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States (CDC). In Georgia, cancer is the second leading cause of all deaths; cardiovascular disease is the leading cause.

The National Institutes of Health estimate that direct medical costs of cancer in 2010 nationwide will be $20.8 billion.

- Cancer mortality rates in Georgia declined each year between 2000 (205.8) and 2006 (178.3).
- The age-adjusted cancer mortality rate among Georgia males (229.2 per 100,000 population) is higher than that for Georgia females (147.5 per 100,000).
- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among Georgians, with an age-adjusted mortality rate of 53.9 per 100,000 population. This is followed by prostate cancer for males (27.4 per 100,000) and breast cancer for females (22.2 per 100,000).
During the 5-year period between 2003 and 2007, 71,532 Georgians died of cancer. The cancer mortality rate during this period declined 3.5%, from 161.2 to 155.5 per 100,000 residents (OASIS).

The highest cancer mortality rates for the period between 2003 and 2007 were recorded in the following counties: Quitman, Taliaferro, Clay, Union, and Townes. Three of the five counties with the highest cancer mortality rates are small communities with fewer than 5,000 residents.
HIV/AIDS and Pneumonia Mortality

- The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) affects the immune system, and the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is the advanced stage of HIV.

- In 2007, there were 20,507 known Georgians living with AIDS. Of those, 76% were male, 24% female. The majority of persons (69%) were 40 years of age and older.

- The number of persons living with AIDS continues to increase each year, resulting in a declining mortality rate. Effective drug treatments and therapies are prolonging the lives of those living with AIDS.

- Early screening helps detect HIV earlier, prevents the transmission of HIV and allows for initiation of treatment to slow the onset of AIDS.

- High risk behaviors, such as engaging in unprotected sex or intravenous drug use, are associated with the transmission of HIV, along with a host of other sexually transmitted diseases and teen pregnancy.

- Georgia’s pneumonia mortality rate decreased by 34.7% between 2002 and 2007. During this same period, the flu vaccination coverage rate of elderly Georgians increased by 11%.

- Pneumonia related deaths most often occur among the elderly population, the very young (under the age of 2 years) or in patients with diseases that weaken the immune system, such as AIDS.

- Flu and pneumonia together are the 8th leading cause of death in the United States.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Annual Health Status Measures 2008 and CDC WONDER
In 2007, 45% of traumatic injuries in Georgia were caused by motor vehicle crashes. Other causes include falls (23%), weapons (12%), assault/abuse (6%), and pedestrian accidents (5%). Traumatic injuries include multiple fractures, paralysis, punctured lungs, stab wounds and brain injuries. These types of injuries must be treated at a trauma center as death or the inability to recover may result if not treated within the first hour of injury.

- Georgia’s trauma mortality rate is 20% higher than the national average, which is equivalent to approximately 700 more deaths a year.
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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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 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%).

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
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).

- 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, 2009 American Community Survey
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.

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.

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.

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 Department of Early Care and Learning

**Pre-K through 12th Grade Enrollment**

**Pre-K Enrollment: Georgia 2001-2010**

- 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.

**K-12 Public School Enrollment: Georgia FY1999-FY2009**

- 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 Early Care and Learning

Source: Georgia Department of Education
• 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.

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.
**Fourth Grade NAEP Mathematics Scores**

- 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

**Fourth Grade NAEP Reading Scores**

- 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
• 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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation’s Report Card
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High School Graduation and Dropout Rates

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%.
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).

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.
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%
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.

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.
**Educator Salaries**

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

**Average Annual K-12 Teacher Salary: United States and Southeast States, 2008-2009**

![Bar chart showing average annual K-12 teacher salary in dollars for United States and Southeast states, 2008-2009](chart1)

Source: National Education Association

**Average Salaries of Full-Time Faculty at Public Two Year Colleges: Southeast States 2008-2009**

![Bar chart showing average salaries of full-time faculty at public two-year colleges in Southeast states, 2008-2009](chart2)

Source: Southern Regional Education Board

**Average Salaries of Full-Time Faculty at Public Four Year Colleges and Universities: Southeast States 2008-2009**

![Bar chart showing average salaries of full-time faculty at public four-year colleges and universities in Southeast states, 2008-2009](chart3)

Source: Southern Regional Education Board

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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.

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
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.

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.
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.

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.
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.

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.

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.
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.

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.
• 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.

• 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.

• Two-thirds of USG research funding is provided by the federal government (66%).

• State, local, and industry provide approximately one-fifth of USG research funds.

• Nonprofits contribute nearly one-tenth of USG research funds.
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.

- 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%.

- 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.
Georgia’s incarceration rate is one of the highest in the nation (8th). Georgia remains tough on crime; violent and sexual crime offenders serve 79% of their sentences behind bars.

**INDICATORS**

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Child Protection

- In FY 2009, the Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services (DFCS) received 81,066 reports of child abuse and neglect. Of those reports: 19% did not meet the definition of maltreatment, 15% were identified as diversion, and 35% were investigated.

- In order to concentrate on cases where actual abuse and neglect have occurred, DFCS generally refers families with poverty-related problems to community resources.

The number of children in the legal custody of the Division of Family and Children Services declined 12.6% between July 2009 (8,854) and June 2010 (7,735).

More than one-quarter of children in DFCS custody (29%) in FY 2009 were under the age of 4 years.

In June 2010, 68.6% of children were reunified with their family in less than 12 months of their removal from home, below the national standard of 76.2%.

The number of active Child Protective Service (CPS) cases decreased 68% from 28,815 in July 2004 to 9,105 in June 2010.

Active CPS cases have declined largely in response to the utilization of diversion.

"Diversion" is an option DFCS uses to assist families when the safety of children is not in question, which emphasizes a strength-based, prevention-driven, community response to vulnerable children and families.

Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services
Almost half of child maltreatment reports investigated by DFCS offices in FY 2009 (45%) were found to be unsubstantiated, and the remainder were substantiated (55%).

Substantiated cases of maltreatment are opened for ongoing Child Protective Services action when the level of risk for recurring maltreatment is high or moderate.

The maltreatment rate per 1,000 children peaked nationwide in 1996 at 14.7, but has since declined to 10.3 per 1,000 in 2008.

The percentage of children who had a subsequent substantiated report of maltreatment within 6 months decreased in Georgia from 3.1% in July 2009 to 2.1% in June 2010. The proportion of children in Georgia with a recurrence of maltreatment is below the national standard of 5.4%.

The Georgia foster care re-entry rate in FY 2010 was approximately 5.8%, well below the national standard of 8.6%.

More than half of Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) investigative hours (58%) were spent on crimes against persons and drug investigations.

Crime scenes, property crimes, bomb disposal, and intelligence examinations account for more than one-quarter (27%) of GBI total investigative hours.

Approximately 5% of GBI investigative hours were spent on polygraphs and background examinations.

Note: Other Investigations include intelligence investigations, preliminary investigations, public corruption, et cetera.

Source: Georgia Bureau of Investigation

Child Protection and Georgia Bureau of Investigation

GBI Investigative Hours Expended: June 2010
The number of polygraph and background examinations conducted by the GBI declined 63% between 2000 and 2009, while property cases declined 31% during the same period.

The methods for conducting background examinations has changed over time and GBI involvement has decreased as a result.

Cases involving crimes against persons, other types of investigations and narcotics declined 16%, 4%, and 33% respectively.

Georgia ranks third lowest among the southeastern states with respect to the murder and non-negligent manslaughter rate. Georgia’s rate is 5.8 per 100,000 residents, compared to 5.3 in North Carolina and 7.3 in Tennessee.

In 2009, the highest violent and property crime rates in Georgia were reported in the state’s cities outside metropolitan areas, followed by the rates recorded in metropolitan statistical areas. The lowest crime rates were recorded in non-metropolitan/rural counties.

Georgia has the lowest property crime rate among the southeastern states at 3,667 per 100,000 residents and South Carolina ranks highest in the region at 3,889 per 100,000.

Georgia ranks 2nd lowest in overall violent crime rate among the southeastern states at 426 per 100,000 residents. The state with the lowest rate in the region is North Carolina with a rate of 404, while South Carolina ranks highest at 671.
• Georgia’s rate of reported violent crime decreased by 33.3% between 1996 and 2009, similarly there was 32.5% decrease nationally.

• Aggravated assault is the most frequently reported violent crime in Georgia, with a rate of 248 per 100,000 residents.

• Robbery is the second most frequently reported violent crime in the state with a rate of 149 per 100,000 residents.

• During 2007 and 2008, Georgia’s violent crime rate was higher than the national average; but declined in 2009 to a level similar to the national rate.

• U.S. Department of Justice statistics indicate that violent offenders have a greater probability of being arrested than property offenders. Clearance rates (by arrest) in 2009 were 66.6% for murder and non-negligent manslaughter, 56.8% for aggravated assaults, 41.2% for forcible rapes, and 28.2% for robbery. In contrast, the clearance rate was 21.5% for larceny-theft, 12.5% for burglary, and 12.4% for motor vehicle theft.

• Georgia’s property crime rate continues to exceed the national average, despite a decline of 35.3% between 1996 and 2009.

• Larceny-theft is the most frequently reported non-violent crime in Georgia, with a rate of 2,328.7 per 100,000 residents, followed by burglary at 1,000.7 per 100,000, and motor vehicle theft at 337.2 per 100,000 residents.
• Incarceration rates are determined by the number of offenders convicted and committed, the length of time served, and the rate of recidivism.

• The average length of time served by Georgia offenders in FY 2009 was 2.8 years.

• The percentage of Georgia's inmates released to parole declined from 87% in 1991 to 66% in 2009, as result of legislative changes such as mandatory sentencing.

• Incarceration rates have remained above the national average for the past three decades.

• In 2009, Georgia's incarceration rate (533 prisoners per 100,000 residents) ranked 7th highest in the nation, behind states such as Louisiana (866) and Mississippi (718).

• Mandatory sentencing laws require increased numbers of convicted felons be incarcerated and in many cases also require lengthy prison terms. As a result the proportion of prisoners eligible for parole consideration has decreased significantly.

Leading factors contributing to Georgia’s higher than average incarceration rate include discontinuance of Earned Time Credit in the mid-1980’s, mandatory sentencing statutes enacted during the mid-1990’s, a lower proportion of inmates paroled, and increased time served by offenders.

Georgia’s incarceration rate has remained above the national average for the past three decades.

In 2009, Georgia’s incarceration rate (533 prisoners per 100,000 residents) ranked 7th highest in the nation, behind states such as Louisiana (866) and Mississippi (718).

Mandatory sentencing laws require increased numbers of convicted felons be incarcerated and in many cases also require lengthy prison terms. As a result the proportion of prisoners eligible for parole consideration has decreased significantly.

Source: Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, 2008 Incarceration Report

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics
State Prisoners and Time Served

- In Georgia, sex offenders serve the greatest proportion of their sentence (93%). The average sentence is 6.8 years and average time served is 6.4 years.

- Violent offenders serve 79% of their sentence. The average sentence for violent crimes is 6.6 years and average time served is 5.3 years.

- Property offenders serve 60% of their sentence. The average sentence for this type of crime is 3.9 years and average time served is 2.3 years.

Georgia’s Active Inmate Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>67% non-white; 33% white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>94% male; 6% female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Age</td>
<td>36 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation to Follow Release</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Georgia Incarcerations</td>
<td>59% none; 17% have one; 24% have two or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In FY 1991, Georgia’s parole population (23,302) and prison population (23,005) were approximately the same size.

- Between 1991 and 2008, Georgia’s inmate population has more than doubled (134%), while the parole population has remained stable, increasing only 1.8%.

Note: Using rates, such as crime rates or incarceration rates, allows more accurate comparisons of one state to another to account for the differences in overall state population.

Incarceration Rate Rankings - 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Rate (per 100,000 residents)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U.S. Average</td>
<td>504</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics
Prisoners by Crime Type and Jail Population

- Nearly half of adult prisoners (45%) were convicted of violent offenses.
- Approximately 50% of Georgia’s offenders have substance abuse problems.
- Nearly 24% of Georgia’s offenders receive mental health treatment.
- Only two out of five (40%) of Georgia’s inmates have earned a General Education Diploma (GED) or its equivalent.

Source: Georgia Department of Corrections

- All states utilize drug courts and 31 states utilize mental health courts to treat offenders and reduce recidivism.
- In FY 2010, 63% of the 10,018 parolees participating in treatment successfully completed their program.
- The number of county jails over capacity decreased from 42 in June 2009 to 35 in June 2010.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

- In June 2010, there were 41,650 inmates in county jails; an increase of 3.2% compared to June 2009.
- Nearly one-quarter (24%) of county jails were over capacity in June 2010.
- The number of county jail inmates sentenced to state institutions increased by 20.6% from 5,006 in June 2009 to 6,038 in June 2010.

Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs
• Paroled offenders are released prior to serving their entire sentence based on their likelihood of re-offending.

• In FY 2010, more than two out of three (69%) Georgia parolees successfully completed their supervision.

• Since 2005, there has been a steady decline in the average monthly number of parole revocations, from 307 to 229.

• Georgia has the 14th highest parole population in the United States with 326 parolees per 100,000 adult residents.

• The average age of Georgia parolees is 39 years, 38.8 for men and 39.5 for women.

• Between FY 1997 and FY 2008, Georgia’s inmate population increased at a much faster rate (48.4%), compared to the parole (12.4%) or probation (12.5%) populations.

• In an effort to reduce recidivism, Georgia has adopted a system-wide offender risk and needs assessment tool that will be used at all stages of the offender’s movement through the system.

---

**Georgia Parolees by Crime Type, July 2010**

- **Property Crimes**: 27.4%
- **Drug Possessions**: 18.9%
- **Drug Sales/Trafficking**: 22.3%
- **Violent Crimes**: 22%
- **DUI/Habitual Traffic Violations**: 0.4%
- **Other Crimes**: 7.8%
- **Sex Crimes**: 1.6%
- **Property Crimes**: 27.4%

Source: Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles

---

**Parole, Probation and Inmate Populations**

- The parole employment eligible population includes parolees who are not absconders, in jail, or exempt from employment due to disability.

- Discretionary parole decisions can enhance public safety by ensuring that dangerous offenders remain incarcerated and by providing the necessary structure and assistance to select offenders who seek to become law-abiding citizens.

---

**Inmate, Probation and Parolee Populations: Georgia, FY 1997-FY 2008**

Source: Georgia Department of Corrections and Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles
Reconviction and Parole Completion Rates

- Georgia’s three year felony reconviction rate remained fairly stable from 2004 to 2007, while the return to prison rate decreased from 2004 to 2007.
- The three year return to prison rate is defined as the percentage of offenders who return to prison for either new offenses or for technical violations of their release.
- The 3 year felony reconviction rate is defined as the percentage of offenders who are convicted of a new felony resulting in either prison or probation within 3 years of release from prison.

Source: Georgia Department of Corrections

- The state parolee employment rate for eligible parolees is 84%. Numerous studies indicate that for every day a parolee is employed there is a 1% decrease in the chance they will be re-arrested.
- In response to revisions by the Bureau of Justice Statistics standards, the calculation of the parole completion rate in does not include parolees in jail or who absconded at the end of supervision.

Source: Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles

- Completion rates for parolees were higher in Georgia (66%) compared to the nation as a whole (45%) in FY 2009.
- The completion rate in Georgia has increased from 61% to 66% since 2003, when the Bureau of Justice Statistics revised standards for calculating the completion rate.
- Nation-wide, the average parole completion rate has remained fairly stable at approximately 45% for most of the decade.

Source: Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles
In FY 2009, the Georgia Department of Corrections operated:
- 49 Probation circuit offices
- 3 Probation Residential Substance Abuse Treatment centers
- 12 Day reporting centers
- 6 Pre-release centers
- 15 Transitional centers
- 32 State prisons
- 3 Private prisons by contract
- 23 County correctional institutes
- 1 Inmate boot camp

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Daily Cost by Offender Placement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$16.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$38.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$36.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$48.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$45.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Georgia Department of Corrections

The average cost per Georgia offender in state prison is $16,502 per year compared to $445.00 for regular probation supervision and $1,434.00 for intensive probation supervision.

Incarceration costs vary depending upon the level of security needed to maintain the prisoner. The cost per offender for close security prisons or higher is $22,079 per year while the cost per offender for medium security prisons or lower is $15,115 per year.

In contrast to incarceration, intensive probation costs approximately $1,434 per offender, per year.

Juvenile arrest rates reflect differences in law-abiding behavior, police behavior, and/or community standards.

Georgia’s 2008 juvenile violent crime index (278) was lower than the national average (306 per 100,000 juveniles).

Georgia had the 4th highest juvenile violent crime index among the southeastern states in 2008; below Florida (471), Tennessee (318), and North Carolina (305), while exceeding rates in South Carolina (192) and Alabama (176).

Number of Juvenile Arrests: Georgia, 2000-2009

Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
Juvenile Admissions by Offense

- Juvenile offenders under Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) supervision most frequently enter the system due to a property offense (22%), status offense (20%), or public order offense (16%).
- Status offenses are crimes defined as criminal due to the offender's age, such as truancy and curfew violations.
- In FY 2010, 12,593 youth were served in Regional Youth Detention Centers (RYDCs), a 9% decrease from the previous year. On average, youth spent nearly 2 days longer in RYDC compared to 2009.

Notes: VOP/VOAC/VOAP are violations of probation/supervision. Percentages do not sum to 100

Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

- In 2009, nearly one out of twelve Georgia high school students (8.2%) reported being threatened with a weapon on school property during the previous year, similar to the national average of 7.7%.
- In FY 2010, Youth Development Campus (YDC) admissions declined sharply from FY 2009. This was primarily due to a shift in YDC admissions policy which, with only rare exceptions, allows only youth committed to the department as Designated Felons or youth sentenced as adults to be admitted to a YDC. These offenders have much longer lengths of stay, and therefore many fewer can be admitted each year.

Long-Term Juvenile Youth Development Campus Placements by Offense: Georgia FY 2010

- Although status offenses and traffic violations account for more than one-quarter of total juvenile system admissions, they represent only 2% of long-term Youth Development Campus placements.
- Nearly half of youth admitted to YDCs in FY 2010 were committed to the Department for Violent and/or Sexual offenses. Three in ten were committed for Property offenses.

Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

A Safer Georgia
Juvenile Placements and Seat Belt Use

- The majority of youth offenders entering the juvenile justice system are placed in community programs (83%).
- The remainder of juvenile offenders are distributed among non-secure residential settings (5%), YDC (5%), and RYDC (7%).
- Youth awaiting trial or placement elsewhere may be held in Regional Youth Development Centers. Committed youth may be placed in a Youth Development Campus.

### Juvenile Dispositions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Handled Within Department</th>
<th>Referred to Juvenile Court</th>
<th>Referred to Welfare Department</th>
<th>Referred to Other Police Department</th>
<th>Referred to Adult/Criminal Court</th>
<th>Total Dispositions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>9,133</td>
<td>30,161</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>4,233</td>
<td>45,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>7,539</td>
<td>23,273</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>4,834</td>
<td>36,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>7,565</td>
<td>29,479</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>9,609</td>
<td>47,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>33,084</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>12,971</td>
<td>54,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>7,493</td>
<td>28,586</td>
<td>855</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>10,203</td>
<td>47,443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Georgia Uniform Crime Reporting Program

A greater proportion of Georgians wear seatbelts compared to the nation as a whole.

Georgia recorded an increase in the percentage of residents who use seatbelts between 1998 and 2008, from 74% to 90%.

The use of lap/shoulder seat belts reduces the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passengers by 45%.

In 2007, Georgia qualified for U.S. DOT Section 406 grant funding due to consecutive three year safety belt usage.

### Safety Belt Usage: The United States and Georgia, 1998-2008

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Georgia’s state highway injury rate has fluctuated considerably over the past decade due to changes in driving behavior, changes in motor vehicle design, and other physical factors.

The injury rate in Georgia declined from 260 per 100,000 licensed drivers in 1997 to 192 in 2003, after increasing dramatically in 2004 it again declined to 175.9 in 2008.

The injury rate on Georgia’s highways and roads decreased from 1997 to 2008 a total of 32%.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that approximately one-quarter of reported motor vehicle crashes are due to driver inattention.

According to NHTSA, nearly 6,000 people died in 2008 in crashes involving a distracted driver, and more than half a million were injured. Younger, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes.

Georgia’s traffic fatality rate per 100,000 population has remained above the national average since 1997. In 2008 Georgia’s rate was 15.4 per 100,000 population compared to 13.7 nationally.

The traffic fatality rate declined from 1997 to 2008 both nationally and in Georgia. Georgia’s fatality rate declined by 27% during this period, compared to a 13% decrease nation-wide.

Georgia included distracted driving in the State Highway Strategic Plan in 2009.
In 2008, 1,493 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes in Georgia.

Two out of three fatal crashes (60%) and 58% of injury crashes in 2008 occurred on state routes, which comprise only 15% of all public roads in the state.

The highest traffic fatality rates among Georgia counties were recorded in Warren, Webster, Miller and Wheeler counties in 2008. A number of Atlanta metropolitan counties are among those with the lowest fatality rates among the state’s counties, including Cherokee, Cobb, DeKalb, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Rockdale.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15-20 year olds in the United States.

In 2008, 97 young Georgian drivers died in crashes. In the same year, 52 passengers of young drivers were also killed.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, per mile driven, teen drivers are four times more likely than older drivers to crash.

Note: Passengers include those who were traveling in the vehicle with the young driver at the time of the crash and all others are other occupants of other vehicles and non-occupants (pedestrians etc.)
Georgia’s ranking on the Camelot Index’s prudent government measure improved from 19th in 2003 to 2nd in 2009.

(Federal Funds Information for States, State Policy Reports)

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**Economic Freedom and Fiscal Policy Rankings**

*2009 Freedom in the United States Report Rankings*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Freedom Ranking</th>
<th>Fiscal Policy Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>State:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Score:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. South Dakota</td>
<td>0.385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. New Hampshire</td>
<td>0.345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Colorado</td>
<td>0.337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. North Dakota</td>
<td>0.315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Idaho</td>
<td>0.257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Georgia</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.253</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Texas</td>
<td>0.225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Tennessee</td>
<td>0.225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Missouri</td>
<td>0.210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Alabama</td>
<td>0.200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **State:**               | **Score:**            |
| 1. New Hampshire         | 0.28                  |
| 2. South Dakota          | 0.26                  |
| 3. Tennessee             | 0.25                  |
| 4. Texas                 | 0.22                  |
| 5. Colorado              | 0.21                  |
| 6. Missouri              | 0.19                  |
| 7. North Dakota          | 0.15                  |
| 8. Montana               | 0.13                  |
| **Georgia**              | **0.13**              |
| 10. Idaho                | 0.12                  |

- According to the 2009 Freedom in the 50 United States report published by the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, Georgia ranks 6th in Economic Freedom and 9th in Fiscal Policies.


- Georgia is the highest ranking southeastern state in the Mercatus Center’s economic freedom rankings and the second highest ranking southeastern state in the fiscal policy rankings.

- Georgia’s ranking on the Camelot Index’s prudent government measure has improved from 19th in 2003 to 2nd in 2009.

Source: Mercatus Center, George Mason University

Camelot Index Criteria

Four criteria are used to determine a state’s “Prudent Government” score.

1. State and local taxes as a percentage of personal income.
2. The state solvency index that deducts state and local debt and unfunded pension liabilities from assets.
3. Structural surpluses and deficits, which compares anticipated revenue growth to what is necessary to maintain current levels of service.
4. Bond ratings.

Source: Federal Funds Information for States (FFIS), State Policy Reports; The 2008 Camelot Index.
• Since 1980, state fund revenues have increased from $2.8 billion to $17.0 billion in FY 2010.

• Fiscal year 2009 revenues declined –9.9% compared to the previous year.


• The state aggressively funded the revenue short fall reserve in FY 2006 and FY 2007, which helped to cushion the impact of the latest revenue decline.

Source: Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, Budget In Brief, Amended FY 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011

• The state sales tax is set at 4%. Local governments may assess additional sales tax with the approval of its voters.

• On average, for every dollar spent on a lottery ticket, 26 cents funds the Pre-K and HOPE programs and 63 cents goes to lottery prizes.

• Georgia has a diversified tax base with nearly 29% of revenues coming from sales tax and almost 45% coming from income tax.

• Motor fuel tax is 7.5 cents per gallon plus 4% sales tax on every gallon of gas.

• The state constitution stipulates that motor fuel funds can only be used for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.

Source: Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, FY 2010 Budget In Brief
Georgia ranks 8th in state economic outlook rankings in the 2009 American Legislative Exchange Council’s State Economic Competitiveness Index, the highest of any southeastern state.

Georgia is 1 of 7 states with a triple-A bond rating from all three major bond rating agencies.

Approximately 58% of the state funds budget is for education, from Pre-K to college to HOPE scholarships and grants.

Healthy Georgia is 19% of state expenditures which includes both health care programs such as Medicaid and the State Health Benefit Plan, as well as human service programs, such as mental health services, child protective services, foster care, and welfare assistance.

**Bond Ratings**
Fiscal Year 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Agency</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moody Investor Services</td>
<td>Aaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard and Poors</td>
<td>AAA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitch’s Investor’s Service</td>
<td>AAA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The state has maintained its triple-A bond rating from all three rating agencies for over 20 years.

The better a state’s bond rating, the lower the interest it must pay for borrowing.

Source: Rating Agencies
• Georgia’s net outstanding debt increased 22% between FY 2006 and FY 2010, while debt as a percent of personal income ratio increased only slightly.

• The ratio debt service as a percent of prior year receipts declined slightly during this period.

• The debt management plan guides the State in determining the proper level of bonds that can be sold to meet these needs without jeopardizing its triple-A rating.

• Georgia continues to be one of 8 states currently rated triple-A by each of the 3 major rating agencies.

• Georgia is close to the triple-A average in all categories.

Historical Debt Ratios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year Ended June 30</th>
<th>Debt Outstanding ($millions)</th>
<th>Debt as % of Personal Income</th>
<th>$ Debt per Capita</th>
<th>Debt as % of Estimated Full Value</th>
<th>Debt Service as % of Prior Year Receipts</th>
<th>% of Debt Retired in 5 Years</th>
<th>% of Debt Retired in 10 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>7,524.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>8,259.5</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>8,441.1</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>9,115.5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>939</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>9,150.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Official Statements for State of Georgia General Obligation Bonds

Debt Ratio Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Triple-A Average</th>
<th>Planning Level</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service to Prior Year Receipts</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service to current Year Receipts</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt to Personal Income</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>3.50%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt per Capita</td>
<td>$1,158</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$932</td>
<td>$938</td>
<td>$921</td>
<td>$905</td>
<td>$886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt to Actual Value</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Peak debt ratios shown in bold. Based on debt outstanding at the end of the year.

*Georgia’s constitutional debt limit is for both general obligation and guaranteed revenue debt; the highest aggregate annual debt service requirements, including proposed debt, for the current year or any subsequent year, cannot exceed 10 percent of the prior year’s total treasury receipts. In addition, 10 percent is the standard used by rating agency analysts as a warning level that should not be exceeded, as a greater percentage could place too heavy a fixed-cost burden on the budget, thereby limiting fiscal flexibility.

Comparison of Debt Ratios for Triple-A States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Net Tax-Supported Debt Per Capita (1)</th>
<th>Ranking Among 50 States (1)</th>
<th>Net Tax-Supported Debt as a % of 2005 Personal Income (1)</th>
<th>Ranking Among 50 States (1)</th>
<th>Percent FY2006 Debt Service to Prior Year Revenues (2)</th>
<th>Debt to Full Value (3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>$1,120</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>2,489</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa*</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>1,608</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>0.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple-A Median</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple-A Average</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-State Median</td>
<td>936</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-State Average</td>
<td>1,297</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Rating agencies have noted increased borrowing in response to population growth, but ratios have remained very moderate.

Source: Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission, State Debt Management Plan
In 2004 Governor Perdue set a goal and challenged state agencies to complete the CAFR in 6 months or less.

The amount of time to compile the CAFR has decreased from 18 months in FY 2003 to 6 months in 2009, representing a 67% decrease.

Georgia created a State Accounting Office on July 1, 2005 to establish statewide standards and practices and align responsibility for the state’s financial reports and the accounting system.

CAFR stands for Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and is a standard annual financial report prepared by most governments that includes basic information about the state, the auditor’s report, financial statements and a statistical section.

The number of qualifications to the CARF have ranged from a high of 10 in 1998 to 0 in 2007.


There were no qualifications to the CAFRs between 2007 and 2009.

Note: The Department of Audits and Accounts gave an unqualified opinion of the FY 2007-FY 2009 CAFRs, meaning that no qualifications were issued. The goal of the State is to achieve an unqualified opinion on the CAFR.
The goal of the Department of Audits and Accounts is for 80% of its recommendations to be implemented within 24 months of the release of the report. The department has met or exceeded this goal.

The Department of Audits has 316 employees. The major offices and divisions include: Administrative, Education Audit, Healthcare Audits, Information Systems Audit and Assurance Services, Information Technology, Nonprofit and Local Government Audits, Performance Audit Operations, the Sales Ratio, and State Government Division.

Benefit payments paid to Employee’s Retirement System (ERS) retirees and beneficiaries increased by $92.7 million, (8.1%) from $1.15 billion in 2008 to $1.24 billion in 2009. This increase was the result of increases in the number of retirees and beneficiaries receiving benefits across all plans and post-retirement cost-of-living increases in benefits as well as a contingent liability involving retroactive benefit payments (2009 ERS Auditors Report).

There are more than 71,000 active members in the Employee’s Retirement System.

The net assets of the Employees Retirement System (ERS) decreased by nearly $3.0 billion, (18.5%), from $16.1 billion on June 30, 2008 to $13.2 billion on June 30, 2009. The decline was primarily due to declining equities markets in 2009 (2009 ERS Annual Report).

The Teachers Retirement System (TRS) is the largest public retirement system in the State of Georgia and the 28th largest retirement system in the United States, the System pays out $2.7 billion in benefits per year (Source: 2008 TRS CAFR).
State Personnel

- Over 73% of state employees have been employed with the state 5 years or less.
- 21% of state employees have 6 to 10 years of employment with the state.
- 48% of state employees are age 45 or older.
- The state positions with the highest turnover are Juvenile Correctional Officer 1 and Social Services Specialist.

The State workforce is aging; 48% of the workforce is currently over the age of 45; yet over 62% of the workforce has less than 10 years of tenure with the State.

The average tenure of State employees based on reported service date is 9 years.

State government is an “at-will” employer meaning either party may end the employment relationship at any time for no reason at all, without incurring a penalty. The state eliminated its civil service system in 1996.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pay Grade</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay Grades 5-10</td>
<td>$14,600</td>
<td>$38,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay Grades 11 to 13</td>
<td>$24,300</td>
<td>$51,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay Grades 14-18</td>
<td>$32,400</td>
<td>$82,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay Grades 19-27</td>
<td>$52,100</td>
<td>$195,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Over 73% of state employees are in pay grade 13 and below.
- The state personnel administration issues an annual report and regular analytical reports on the state’s workforce. These reports can be found at www.spa.ga.gov.
• Voluntary turnover includes resignations and employees departing for professional and personal reasons.

• The percentage of retirements increased from 12% to 17% from 2007 to 2010.

• Involuntary turnovers include dismissals, releases, and reductions in force.

• Annual turnover in the state of Georgia is near 13%, while annual turnover in the private sector is 48.7%.

• 6% of turnover is comprised of interagency transfers (internal).

Three agencies have an average tenure of 7 years or less. These agencies include: Public Defender Standards, State Road and Tollway Authority, and the State Financing and Investment Commission.

Faster, Friendlier, and Easier has been the slogan of a sustained effort to improve customer service in the state. Significant progress is being made to improve state services. For example, State call centers have improved speed to answer from 5 minutes to nearly 2 minutes. Furthermore, of the call centers, 60% are meeting the goal of answering within 1 minute. See below for additional results.

A 2009 survey measured public opinion of state customer service of various services. The statewide customer service quality score was 76% or very good.

The state has over 31 service specific call centers 11 of which are outsourced. The state created a statewide call center (1-800-Georgia) to connect Georgians to the right government service on their first call.

State call centers receive over 1,000,000 calls per month.

1-800-Georgia has a 98% customer satisfaction rating.

Georgia’s national ranking among the 50 states for its ability to collect and distribute child support has improved dramatically from 47th in FY 2006 to 30th in FY 2009.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Today</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issuance of Driver Licenses</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>to 8 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid Applications</td>
<td>3.5 months</td>
<td>to 1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Support</td>
<td>14 weeks</td>
<td>to Same-day service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PeachCare for Kids/Medicaid Approval</td>
<td>15 weeks</td>
<td>to 15 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Titles</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
<td>to 5 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption Records</td>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>to 3 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: State Personnel Administration Enterprise Workforce Report, Fiscal Year 2010
There were 2,465 fewer workers compensation claims in FY 2009 compared to FY 2005. 57% of all claims come from three state agencies: Board of Regents (21%), Department of Corrections (19%), and Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (17%).

The cost of claims has risen due to inflation in medical costs, increase in utilization of medical treatments, severity of injuries, and an increase in rehabilitation services and costs.

Note: To reduce long-term exposure, approximately 240 permanent total disability cases were settled in FY 2008, increasing the lump sum indemnity paid out during the year.

Property Claims increased from FY 2005 to FY 2008, and decreased from FY 2008 to FY 2009. The cost of claims increased from $3.7 million to $32 million in FY 2008 due to the storms (tornadoes) in March and May of 2008.

56% of all claims in FY 2009 came from two agencies: Board of Regents (44%) and the Department of Corrections (12%).

Auto liability claims decreased by 362 claims from FY 2005 to FY 2009.

The cost of auto liability claims has fluctuated between $8 million and $4.7 million over the past four years while at the same time the number of claims has decreased.

The agencies that have the most auto liability claims are: Board of Regents (24%), Community Service Boards (15%), Transportation (13%), Public Safety (9%), and Corrections (8%).
• The average age of a vehicle in the state fleet is approximately 10 years.

• Largest (Top 10) Fleet Agencies are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Vehicles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>4,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>1,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>1,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>1,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health</td>
<td>985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Forestry</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Investigation</td>
<td>456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Agriculture</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Ports Auth.</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Administrative Services

• The number of vehicles in the state fleet has decreased 5.4% from 19,538 in June 2004 to 18,415 in June 2010.

• The state operates the fourth largest state government fleet with over 20,000 on-road passenger vehicles.

• The average mileage of a vehicle in the state fleet is approximately 110,000 miles.

• The percent of the state fleet with over 135,000 miles has increased from 24.4% of the fleet in FY 2006 to 28.4% in FY 2010. This percentage is likely to increase due to limited funding for replacement vehicles.

• The number of vehicles with over 200,000 miles increased 48% from 937 in FY 2006 to 1,391 in FY 2010.

Source: Department of Administrative Services
• Electricity consumption at all GBA operated facilities has decreased 24.8 million kilowatt hours or nearly 26% from FY 2006 to FY 2010.

• The cost of electricity for all GBA operated facilities decreased by $675,184 from FY 2007 to FY 2010.

• GBA manages space totaling approximately 7.6 million gross square feet.

• GBA provides access control and security to state facilities for over 13,000 state employees and contractors.

The Georgia Building Authority (GBA) operates 67 buildings and various other structures which include the state capitol building, surrounding office buildings, and the Governor’s Mansion. It also operates or manages 19 parking facilities, 4 parks or plazas, 6 confederate cemeteries and 2 warehouse complexes.

State treasury proceeds generated from State Properties Commission leases and property sales for FY 2010 totaled $14.5 million.

A state property officer (SPO) was established in 2006 with responsibility for the State Properties Commission, Georgia Building Authority, and Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission (GSFIC) to oversee all of the states’ real estate and facilities.

A new state construction manual was issued in 2007. This is the first update since 1954.

GSFIC managed construction projects completed on time increased from 60% in FY 2007 to 88% in FY 2009.
For seven years, the private-sector Commission for A New Georgia has served as state government’s “real world consultant” in the mission to make Georgia the best-managed state in America. CEOs, business leaders and management experts have analyzed a broad range of state functions and recommended changes that are enabling government to work better and cost less.

All 24 CNG task forces have been catalysts for transformation in key operational areas. Streamlined processes, best practices, and new technologies have produced validated results in efficiency, effectiveness, accountability and cost-savings.

On a higher level, CNG-related projects have created the platform for enterprise-wide systems for managing assets, costs, risks and service delivery. Major initiatives in leadership-building and customer service are embedding a culture of service and performance in the government workforce.

The Governor’s Office of Implementation initiates and organizes administration and agency action on CNG recommendations. Since 2004, inter-agency teams have processed recommendations of all 24 task forces.
SOURCES
A GROWING GEORGIA

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/
- Energy Information Administration, http://www.eia.doe.gov/
- Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, http://health.state.ga.us/
- Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Family and Children's Services, http://dhs.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS/
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, http://www.gaepd.org/
- Georgia Department of Transportation, Aviation Programs, http://tomcat2.dot.state.ga.us/Aviation/Aviation_Planning/system_plan.cfm
- Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, http://www.grta.org/
- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Department of Aviation, http://www.atlanta-airport.com/
- University of Georgia, Georgia Statistics System, http://www.georgiastats.uga.edu/

A HEALTHIER GEORGIA

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease and Health Promotion, Diabetes Data and Trends, http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/DDTSTRS/
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Immunization Survey, http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stats-surv/imz-coverage.htm#nis
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research (WONDER), http://wonder.cdc.gov/
- Georgia Board of Physicians Workforce, http://gbpw.georgia.gov/portal/site/GBPW/
- Georgia Department of Community Health, http://dch.georgia.gov/02/dch/home/0,2467,31446711,00.html;jsessionid=395ECAA72709379E11E81A4AED157A76
- Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health, Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS), http://oasis.state.ga.us/
- Georgia Health Policy Center, http://aysps.gsu.edu/ghpc/761.html
HEALTHIER (continued)

- National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, [http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/)
- United Health Foundation, America’s Health Rankings, [http://www.americashealthrankings.org/StateRanking.aspx](http://www.americashealthrankings.org/StateRanking.aspx)

AN EDUCATED GEORGIA

- Department of Early Care and Learning, [http://decal.ga.gov](http://decal.ga.gov)
- Georgia Board of Regents, [http://www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu)
- Georgia Governor’s Office of Student Achievement, [http://www.gaosa.org/](http://www.gaosa.org/)
- Southern Regional Education Board, [http://www.sreb.org](http://www.sreb.org)
- U.S. Census Bureau, [http://www.census.gov/](http://www.census.gov/)

A SAFER GEORGIA

- Department of Human Resources, Division of Family & Children Services, [http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS/](http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS/)
- Georgia Bureau of Investigation, [http://gbi.georgia.gov/02/gbi/home/0,2615,67862954,00.html](http://gbi.georgia.gov/02/gbi/home/0,2615,67862954,00.html)
- Georgia Department of Community Affairs, [http://www.dca.state.ga.us/](http://www.dca.state.ga.us/)
- Georgia Department of Corrections, [http://www.dcor.state.ga.us/](http://www.dcor.state.ga.us/)
- Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles, [http://www.pap.state.ga.us/opencms/opencms/](http://www.pap.state.ga.us/opencms/opencms/)
- Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, [http://opb.georgia.gov/](http://opb.georgia.gov/)

BEST MANAGED STATE

- Georgia Department of Administrative Services. [http://doas.ga.gov/Pages/Home.aspx](http://doas.ga.gov/Pages/Home.aspx)
- Governor’s Office of Customer Service.
- Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget; [http://opb.georgia.gov/](http://opb.georgia.gov/)