The photograph on the cover is of a Dove Field at Crockford-Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area taken by the Wildlife Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources.
Dear Fellow Georgians:

Transparency in government is the foundation of a vibrant democracy. Ensuring citizens have access to accurate and current information about their state and its government has been a guiding principle for Governor Deal throughout his administration. In keeping with this commitment, the Office of Planning and Budget produces the Georgia in Perspective report as a compendium of detailed information on Georgia’s economy, its people, governmental activities, and performance in six policy areas.

This report is presented by policy area: Growing Georgia, Mobile Georgia, Healthy Georgia, Educated Georgia, Safer Georgia, and Responsible and Efficient Government. Reflecting the information by policy area should give the reader a better picture of Georgia’s overall performance and standing in a particular service sector.

It is my hope that the information provided in this report will not only provide greater transparency to citizens seeking information about our state, but also help decision makers make the best possible resource allocation and policy decisions and determine if current policies are having the desired effect. As our state grows and welcomes new Georgians, we must ensure that our policies and practices continue to support and promote that growth to keep Georgia the best state in the nation in which to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

Teresa MacCartney, Director
Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget
Editor’s Note:

Georgia in Perspective is a compilation of data from a wide range of sources, including federal and state agencies as well as private and non-profit organizations. The Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget has attempted to present the most currently available annual data in this report. However, the most current year for which data are available at publication time for Georgia in Perspective varies considerably. For example, national data from federal agencies frequently have a two year lag time between occurrence of events being tracked and publication of data, due to the amount of time required to compile and publish national summary data for 50 states. Georgia state agency data are generally available for the most recently completed fiscal year; however, for some types of data the compilation time is greater for such reasons as fiscal closeout.
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Growing Georgia</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Growth and Change, Demographics, Income, Job Growth, Housing, Exports, Quality of Life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mobile Georgia</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Infrastructure, Public Transit, Airport, Railroads, Bridge Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Healthy Georgia</strong></td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Status, Child Safety, Assistance Programs, Insurance, Physician Access, Mental Health Services in Communities, Vaccinations, Birth Statistics, Diseases, Trauma Network</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educated Georgia</strong></td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Attainment, National Assessments, Graduation, SAT/ACT Scores, Special Education, Teacher Salaries, Technical Colleges, Universities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safe Georgia</strong></td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Investigations, Adult Corrections, Juvenile Crime and Justice, Reconvictions, Pardons and Paroles, Highway Safety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Responsible and Efficient Government</strong></td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sources</strong></td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"Strategic economic growth in Georgia can be traced back to the state's vast range of competitive resources that keeps Georgia on the top of minds for businesses here and around the world. From our talented workforce, comprehensive incentives and other business assets, Georgia take intentional steps to make certain businesses in our state can compete in the global market place."

Georgia Department of Economic Development
Georgia’s population was relatively stable during the first half of the last century, followed by a period of rapid population growth.

During the 1960s, Georgia’s population grew by 16.4% followed by growth rates of approximately 19% during each of the succeeding two decades.

The fastest pace of growth occurred in Georgia during the decade between 1990 and 2000, ranking it 6th in population growth among the 50 states. Growth increased by 26.4%, twice the national average rate of 13.2%.

The overall growth rate in Georgia between 2010 and 2017 was 7.4%.

From 2010 to 2017, the year-to-year growth rate was 1% or above.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Between 2009 and 2017, Georgia's population growth remained steady between 1.0% and 1.2%.

Between 2009 and 2017, the national population growth remained constant at 0.7%, except for 2010 and 2015.

**Other Statistical Data:**

- In 2017, Georgia was ranked the 8th most populous state in the nation and the 2nd most populous southeastern state after Florida. Between 2016 and 2017, Georgia added 115,759 new residents. Georgia ranked 6th in the nation for the largest numeric population increase and 14th for the largest population growth rate.

- The City of Atlanta ranked 10th among the cities for the largest numeric population increase. The city increased by 13,323 residents between 2016 and 2017.
During the last decade, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida registered annual growth rates at 1.5% or above. Alabama and Tennessee experienced the slowest growth rates in the region.

During the last decade, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida experienced the highest growth rates in the region.

In the current decade, Florida and South Carolina experienced the highest growth rates in the region followed by Georgia and North Carolina at 1.1%.

The average annual population growth rates between 2010 and 2017 among the southeastern states ranged from 1.7% in Florida to 0.3% in Alabama.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau
Population change occurs as a result of natural increase (births - deaths) and net migration (in-migration - out-migration).

Overall, between 2000 and 2009, natural increase accounted for 45% of the state's population growth. Between 2010 and 2017, the overall driving force was also natural increase, accounting for 54% of the population increase.

Migration represented more than half of the population growth in 4 of the 6 southeast states (Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Tennessee) between 2010 and 2017. Natural increase was the major contributor to growth in only 2 of the region's states (Alabama and Georgia).
• In 2017, Georgia had the 10th youngest population among the 50 states, with a median age of 36.7 years, and about one-quarter of the population (24.1%) was under the age of 18.
• Georgia's older population continues to increase. Residents who are over the age of 65 account for 13.5% of the total population, an increase of 26.6% since 2010.
• The U.S. Census Bureau reports that by 2035, the population of those aged 65 and older will increase to 78.0 million people nationwide and will outnumber those under the age of 18 (76.4 million).
• According to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 4 out of 5 seniors in the United States have 1 chronic health condition and half have 2 or more conditions. The conditions that most frequently limit activity among older Americans include arthritis, hypertension, heart disease, diabetes and respiratory diseases.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Demographics

Georgia's Population by Race

- The population of Whites in Georgia decreased slightly from 59.6% in 2005 to 54.0% in 2016.
- The population of blacks increased slightly from 28.9% in 2005 to 30.7% in 2016.
- The number of persons indicating that they were two or more races experienced the fastest growth between 2005 and 2016, increasing 95,798 to 180,061 (an 88.0% increase).
- The Hispanic population increased from 7.1% in 2005 to 9.2% in 2016, and the Asian population increased from 2.7% to 3.7% during the same period.

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

Poverty Rate: United States and Georgia, 2010 - 2016

- The poverty rate measures the percentage of people in families with income below the thresholds specified by the federal government. The thresholds vary by family size.
- In 2016, Georgia's poverty rate of 16.0% ranked 10th highest among the 50 states and higher than the national rate of 14.0%.
- Between 2012 and 2016, the poverty rate declined both nationally and in Georgia. In Georgia, the poverty rate decreased by 16.7%, from 19.2% in 2012 to 16.0% in 2016. Nationally, the poverty rate decreased by 11.9%, from 15.9% in 2012 to 14.0% in 2016.
- 15 of Georgia's 159 counties had poverty rates above 30% in 2016: Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dougherty, Early, Hancock, Jenkins, Macon, Randolph, Stewart, Telfair, Terrell, Turner, Wheeler, and Wilcox.
Due to changing economic conditions, per capita income in Georgia experienced a temporary decline between 2007 and 2009, and the national per capita income also experienced a decline between 2008 and 2009.

Despite the temporary dip, Georgia experienced an overall 24.8% increase in per capita income between 2006 and 2017, from $34,665 to $43,270. Nationally, income increased at a faster pace during this period (32.1%).

Other Statistical Data:
- Although Georgia's per capita income lags behind the national average, the state has the 15th lowest cost of living among the 50 states.
- In 2016, per capita income among Georgia's counties varied considerably, from $16,267 in Wheeler County to $74,095 in Fulton County.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts
Per Capita Real Gross Domestic Product: United States and Georgia, 2006 - 2017

- Per capita gross domestic product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a state per resident.
- In 2006, Georgia's per capita real GDP ($47,013) was close to the national average ($48,880).
- Georgia continues to lag behind the national GDP. In 2017, Georgia's per capita real GDP ($45,925) was 10.5% lower than the national average ($51,337).
- Nationally, per capita GDP increased by 5% between 2006 and 2017, while in Georgia, per capita GDP decreased by 2.3% during the same period. As a result, there was a widening gap in GDP between Georgia and the nation as a whole.
- GDP declined steeply between 2008 and 2009, both nationally and in Georgia, in response to the economic recession, which was followed by a period of stabilization.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts
Median Household Income: United States and Georgia, 2006 - 2016

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

- Median income in Georgia has fluctuated over the past decade. It increased between 2006 and 2008, but declined during the economic downturn. However, between 2011 and 2016, Georgia's median income increased by 16.4%, from $46,007 to $53,559.

- Although Georgia ranks 30th for median household income among the states, the state's median household income of $53,559 is the highest among southeast states.

- 52.4% of Georgia's population falls within the prime workforce age range (25-64 years).
As a result of the “Great Recession” (December 2007 to June 2009), Georgia’s unemployed labor force grew from 248,000 individuals in January 2008 to a high of 503,000 individuals in December 2009.

During the same time, the unemployment rate more than doubled from 5.1% to 10.5%.

Georgia’s unemployment rate continued to grow well into 2010, reaching 10.6% in four separate months.

In December 2017, Georgia’s unemployment rate declined to 4.5% while seeing an increase its overall labor force from 4.9 million in January 2008 to 5.1 million in December 2017.
Job Growth

Non-Agricultural Jobs: Georgia, 2008 - 2017

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Georgia Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics (CES) Not Seasonally Adjusted (Yearly Average)

- As a result of the Great Recession, the number of jobs in Georgia continued to decline well into 2010; however, from 2010 and 2017, the number of non-agricultural jobs increased by over 15.3% or an estimated 592,000 jobs.

- Georgia's growth from 2010 to 2017 was attributed to growth across multiple sectors including Manufacturing.

- Georgia was ranked by Forbes Magazine as the sixth best state for business in 2017 due to the state's regulatory environment, economic climate, and labor supply.

- In 2018, Site Selection Magazine announced Georgia as the Number 1 State for Business for the fifth year in a row.

- Also in 2018, Area Development Magazine announced Georgia as the Number 1 State for Business for fifth year in a row.
Georgia's employment sectors are categorized into 11 major industries, with Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, Professional and Business Services, and the Government sector making up over 50 percent of Georgia's jobs.

From 2008 to 2017, Georgia's Mining and Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing sectors saw an overall decline in jobs. Most of the overall decline can be attributed to a two year period from 2008 to 2010 where the state lost nearly 120,000 jobs in all three sectors combined.

Since 2010, the Construction and Manufacturing sectors have seen job growth of 23% and 15%, respectively and Mining and Logging has increased a little over 2%.

Since 2008, the Professional and Business Services, Education and Health, and Leisure and Hospitality sectors have seen job growth exceeding 20%.

The Government sector in Georgia has decreased steadily since 2008. In 2008, government sector jobs which include local, state, and federal was estimated at 711,000. In 2010, the number stood at a little under 700,000 and in 2017 there were nearly 688,000 jobs.
Georgia cultivates strong tourism through convention and conference business, coastal tourism, and the world’s busiest airport.

With the Leisure and Hospitality sector showing job growth of 21% since 2008 and 28% since 2010, direct tourism expenditures are driving the industry.

Travel industry spending directly supported an estimated 478,000 of the state's Leisure and Hospitality sector jobs in 2017.

Direct tourism expenditures in Georgia have steadily increased by 52.6% from 2012 to 2017.

Tourism generated $3.3 billion in tax revenue for state and local governments in 2017.

In 2016, $17.2 billion in wages and salaries were generated in Georgia from the travel industry.

In 2017, domestic travelers accounted for $26.5 billion in spending, and international travelers generated $3.1 billion.
Homeownership rates are the number of owner-occupied housing units divided by the total occupied housing units.

Georgia's homeownership rate has declined from 67.2% in 2010 to 62.8% in 2016. The national homeownership rate also declined between 2010 and 2016, from 66.2% to 63.6%.

Between 2010 and 2016, the national and state homeownership rates were very close. From 2010 to 2013, the state rate was slightly higher than the national rate, and from 2014-2016, the national rate was slightly higher.

New single unit residential construction in Georgia increased from 14,779 units in 2010 to 40,311 in 2017.
Median Housing Values: United States and Georgia, 2005 - 2016

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

- Median housing values have fluctuated nationally and in Georgia between 2005 and 2016.
- Housing value peaks occurred in 2008 before declining to a low value in 2013 in Georgia. Since 2013, housing values have been increasing.
- Median housing values in Georgia have been below national levels during the last decade; the gap between median housing values in Georgia and in the nation continue to widen.
- In 2016, median rent in Georgia's counties ranged from $413 in Clay County to $1272 in Chattahoochee County.
Value of Agricultural Sector Production: Georgia, 2010-2017

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

- Value of agricultural sector production is the gross value of the commodities and services produced in Georgia.
- The value of agricultural sector production includes two major production categories: Crop and Animals and Products.
- The value of Animals and Products production consistently makes up more than 50% of total production.
- In 2017, Animal and Product production comprised an estimated 58% of all value.
- Georgia's top four agricultural commodities in 2017 were:
  - Broilers
  - Cotton
  - Peanuts
  - Eggs
Exports

Value of Exports: Georgia, 2008-2017

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Trade Statistics Express

- The value of Georgia's exports steadily increased after the recession from $23.7 billion in 2009 to a high of $39.4 billion in 2014.

- Georgia's top 5 exports in 2017:
  - Transportation equipment
  - Machinery (except electrical)
  - Chemicals
  - Paper
  - Computers and electronic products

- Georgia's top trade partners are Canada, Mexico, China, Germany, Singapore, Japan, United Kingdom, India, and Netherlands. The state exported more than $1 billion worth of products to each of these countries in 2017. Georgia exported to 215 destinations in 2017 and is ranked 12th in the nation in terms of export value.

Growing Georgia
Georgia in Perspective

24
Georgia exported to over 215 countries, totaling over $37 billion in 2017; however, 12 countries make up more than 62.5% or $23 billion of the total export value.

In 2017, Georgia exported over $6.3 billion in products or 16.8% of total exports to Canada.

Geographic regions include Africa (3%), Asia (34%), Australia (2%), Europe (23%), North America (27%) and South/Central America (11%).


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Economic Indicators Division
• Four main fuel types contribute to Georgia’s total energy consumption: coal, petroleum, natural gas, and electricity fuels such as nuclear, hydro-power and wood biomass.

• The average amount of energy consumed by each Georgian decreased by 14.0% between 2010 and 2016.

• Georgia ranked 33rd among the states for per capita total energy consumption in 2016.

• Georgia is a leading state in the production of lumber and pulpwood, which contribute feedstock for biomass electricity generation. In 2016, Georgia ranked 2nd in the nation in net electricity generation from biomass.

• Between 2010 and 2016, Georgia's electric power generation from renewable sources increased by 22.3%.

• Since 2009, electricity generated by natural gas has gained an increasing share of Georgia's energy portfolio, reducing the state's reliability on coal-fired electricity.
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. Water quality standards define the goals for a body of water by designating its uses and setting criteria to protect those uses, including limits that define acceptable amounts of specific pollutants.

Georgia has an estimated 70,150 total miles of rivers and streams.

The total number of rivers assessed in Georgia increased 44.2% between 2000 and 2016, from 9,996 to 14,415.

The proportion of river miles assessed that met standards remained stable at 40.2% in 2000 and 40.8% in 2016.
Despite fluctuations over the past decade, ozone levels have decreased from 0.084 parts per million of volume of air in 2006 to 0.068 in 2016.

The number of days the Air Quality Index exceeded 100 in the Atlanta metropolitan area has also fluctuated over the past decade, from a high of 84 in 2007 to a low of 11 in 2013.

Sources that contribute to ozone levels include both mobile (automobiles and trucks) and stationary (industrial and other) sources.

Added emphasis on vanpools, carpools, telework, and public transit through the Clean Air Campaign and the Georgia Commute Options program(s) have worked to reduce mobile-source emissions.
Particulate Matter (PM-2.5) Concentration Levels: Georgia, 2006 - 2016

- Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM-2.5) is a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air. Fine particles can be emitted directly from smoke or formed in the atmosphere from emissions from industrial, and mobile sources. Fine particulate matter is less than 2.5 microns in diameter.
- The Environmental Protection Agency re-designated the Atlanta Metro Area to "attainment" (from "non-attainment") for the 1997 PM-2.5 NAAQS on February 24, 2016. This was the last remaining "non-attainment" area in Georgia for PM-2.5. No areas of Georgia are currently in "non-attainment" status for PM-2.5.
- PM-2.5 concentrations declined in Georgia by 41% between 2006 and 2016, from 14.69 to 8.72.

Source: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division
Developing and maintaining Georgia's transportation infrastructure to move people and products in a 21st Century economy.

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Infrastructure</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transit</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airports</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroads</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interstate and Bridge Maintenance</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transportation Infrastructure

Currently, Georgia has about 11,000 logistics providers.

The Georgia logistics industry is predicted to create 9,500 new jobs each year.

Georgia jobs in the logistics industry are predicted to grow a rate of 18% compared to the national average of 13%.

On the state and national level, there is a projected large shortage of skilled workers for logistics-related jobs.
123 Georgia counties offered some form of transit service to citizens in 2017.

Urban transit systems comprise the majority of Georgia's transit activity, with approximately 148 million passenger trips annually.

The largest transit system in Georgia is the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, also known as MARTA, which currently operates 48 miles of rail transit lines along with bus service in the City of Atlanta and its immediate surrounding areas.

The state of Georgia offers the Xpress system through the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, which provides bus rapid transit services to 12 metro Atlanta counties.
Miles traveled by state transit systems have remained relatively stagnant since 2008.

The Metropolitan Atlanta Transit Authority (MARTA) comprises the largest share of passenger miles in the state, with a high point in 2009 with 818 million passenger miles serviced. MARTA serviced approximately 744 million miles in 2016.

Other transit systems outside of MARTA service a large amount of commuter miles including Cobb County Transit (CCT), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), Gwinnett County Transit (GCT), and Chatham Area Transit (CAT).

Rideshare services such as vRide, Inc. and Enterprise Rideshare have become more prevalent, comprising approximately 37 million miles traveled in 2016.
Peak morning hours are from 6 AM to 10 AM, while peak evening hours are from 3 PM to 7 PM.

Population growth in Atlanta has caused commute times and congestion to increase across the metro area.

Since the passing of HB 170 (2015 Legislative Session), heavy emphasis on new roadwork projects such as the Interstate 75 Northwest Corridor, the Georgia 400 interchange, and other projects has increased congestion in the various areas of the state resulting in increased travel times.

With the long-term goal of providing congestion relief, current and future projects will continue to increase travel times in the short-term.

Large projects, along with increased access to consumer choice through the State's Peach Pass program and other lanes such as the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, are designed to mitigate congestion in metro Atlanta's general purpose lanes.
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport: Total Passengers, 2006 - 2016

- Hartsfield-Jackson International has been the world's busiest airport for 19 years in a row and the world's most efficient airport for 15 years in a row.
- The airport hosts 18 passenger airlines which carried 104 million passengers in 2016.
- ATLNext, a 20-year capital improvement program, began in 2016 and is estimated to cost $6 billion.
- In March 2017, ATL initiated TruckPass to enhance customer service and promote air cargo growth.
- Hartsfield-Jackson has three main air cargo complexes, which maintain more than 1.3 million square feet of air cargo handling.
- In 2016, Atlanta's airport handled 648,595 metric tons of cargo, a 3.6% increase from 2015.

Source: Georgia Department of Transportation, Airports Council International
Airports

Number of Airports Meeting State Recommendation for Runway Length, by Airport Type: Georgia, FY 2011 - FY 2017

- Airports in Georgia are classified among three tier levels that reflect their role within the state airport system.
- Tier One "Local" airports must have a runway length of 4,000 feet and can accommodate all single-engine and smaller twin-engine aircraft.
- Tier Two "Business" airports must have a runway length of 5,000 feet and can accommodate all single and twin-engine aircraft, along with most corporate/business aircraft.
- Tier Three "Regional" airports must have a runway length of 5,500 feet and can accommodate nearly all aircraft, including commercial and business aircraft.
- The number of Georgia airports meeting recommended runway length increased from 85 in FY 2012 to 89 in FY 2016. The number dropped to 84 in FY 2017.
- According to a study by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), the economic impact of Georgia's airports include $62.6 billion in overall economic output in 2011, including 471,000 jobs with an annual payroll of $17.8 billion.

Source: Georgia Department of Transportation
Georgia operates a robust freight rail system with approximately 5,000 miles of track, transporting 196 million tons of freight annually.

The majority of rail mileage in the state is owned by CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railway, which mainly operate Mainline track miles. The state of Georgia and other entities comprise the ownership of the remaining mileage, which consists of mostly Shortline rail systems.

The state of Georgia owns approximately 14% of route mileage in Georgia, comprising roughly 600 track miles. Operations on state-owned tracks are managed by private entities.

Since 2013, the state of Georgia has appropriated over $34 million in state funding dedicated toward improving state-owned rail track mileage, with over 280 miles of track rehabilitated statewide.
Interstate and Bridge Maintenance

Percentage of Georgia's Interstates and Bridges Meeting Maintenance Standards: FY 2010 - FY 2017

Source: Georgia Department of Transportation, FY 2019 Performance Measure Report

- There are 15 interstates in Georgia, covering over 1,200 miles.
- Over 500 miles of interstates are located in rural areas, and over 600 miles are located in urban areas, and the remainder covers small urban areas, around 110 miles.
- There are approximately 14,700 bridge structures across the state of Georgia, with over 6,600 bridges being state-owned.
Ensuring access to care and encouraging active lifestyles.

Contents

Health Status 40
Child Safety 44
Assistance Programs 48
Insurance 50
Physician Access 52
Mental Health Services in Communities 54
Vaccinations 55
Birth Statistics 57
Diseases 59
Trauma Network 69
Georgia Index of Health Compared to Nationally Ranked States, 2007 - 2017

Source: United Health Foundation, America’s Health Rankings

- America’s Health Rankings® combine measures on personal behaviors, clinical care, community and environment, and health policy into a composite score of a state’s health.
- The composite score indicates the percentage a state is above or below the national norm in overall health. For example, a score of -0.2 means the state is 20% below the national average.
- Georgia continues to rank below the national average on health factors; in 2017, Georgia ranked 41st in the nation.
- Georgia’s strengths include:
  - low occurrence of binge drinking
  - low percentage of drug deaths
  - high percentage of meningococcal immunization among adolescents
- Georgia’s weaknesses include:
  - high percentage of population without health insurance
  - high rate of children in poverty
  - high mortality rate for infants
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the proportion of adults in the United States who rate their health as good or better was 90.1% in 2017.

Environmental factors impacting health include housing, access to food, income distribution, transportation means, racial disparities, and physical conditions such as air quality.

Lifestyle factors include smoking, obesity, stress, nutrition, blood pressure, and alcohol and drug use.

Health care factors include insurance status, prenatal care, immunizations, and dental care.

According to the CDC, lifestyle choices have the greatest impact on a person’s health.
Since 2011, the number of dentists in Georgia per 10,000 residents has remained constant at 4.7 dentists per 10,000 residents. The state of Georgia continues to fall below the national average of 6.0 to 6.1 dentists per 10,000 residents.

The Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University is the only dental school in Georgia. In 2016, 74 students graduated from Georgia's dental school.

Georgia is among 21 states receiving CDC funding to enhance the infrastructure and capacity of the state’s oral health programs.

CDC funding through the State Oral Disease Prevention Program and the State Chronic Disease and Oral Health Programs ended September 2018.
In 2017, there were 4,693 dentists practicing in Georgia.

As indicated in the map above, there were 23 counties in Georgia that had no dentists: Atkinson, Baker, Banks, Brooks, Chattahoochee, Clay, Crawford, Echols, Hancock, Heard, Jenkins, Long, Marion, Montgomery, Oglethorpe, Pulaski, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Taliaferro, Twiggs, Warren, and Webster.

36% of counties in Georgia have 2 or less dentists.
In Georgia, people who work with children and families are required to report suspected abuse to the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Some of the mandated reporters include physicians, hospital personnel, dentists, psychologists, podiatrists, nurses, professional counselors, school teachers, and child welfare staff.

The largest number of child abuse and neglect reports are received from Georgia's schools followed by law enforcement.

Between FY 2012 and FY 2016, the number of child abuse and neglect reports has increased by 63.5%, from 70,512 to 115,311.
Child Safety

Child Protective Cases Investigated by Determination: Georgia, 2017

- Less than one-fourth of the 35,593 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect in Georgia investigated by DFCS in 2017 were substantiated (22.5%).
- There were 6,738 Family Preservation cases opened in 2017. Of these, only 2,734 were preceded by a substantial investigation.
- The maltreatment rate per 1,000 children in Georgia increased from 7.4 in 2011 to 9.1 in 2016.
- Neglect is the most frequent type of maltreatment identified in Georgia. In 2017, 63% of Georgia's substantiated cases involved this type of maltreatment.
- Almost 2 out of 5 of Georgia's maltreatment victims (38.5%) are under the age of 4 years.
- In 2017, nearly 8 out of 10 (78%) perpetrators of substantiated abuse and neglect were parents, followed by non-biological parents (8%) and relatives (5%).

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

Healthy Georgia
Georgia in Perspective
• Active Child Protective Services (CPS) cases include the number of CPS investigations and Family Preservation cases being handled by DFCS.

• Substantiated Family Preservation cases of abuse and neglect are opened by DFCS for ongoing CPS action when the level of risk for recurring maltreatment is high or moderate.

• The monthly number of CPS cases in Georgia has fluctuated considerably with a low of 7,357 in July 2011 and a high of 17,237 in March 2016.
Monthly Number of Children in DFCS Custody: Georgia,  
July 2012 - June 2017

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

- The monthly number of children that were in DFCS custody in Georgia increased by 70.5% from 7,953 in July 2012 to 13,561 in June 2017.
- During FY 2017, there was an average of 13,162 children in DFCS legal custody.
- One-third of children in DFCS custody (33.3%) in FY 2017 were under the age of 4 years.
- In 2017, approximately half (53%) of children placed in foster care were placed with their siblings, and 13% of these children were placed in institutions.
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: Georgia, Monthly Caseload
FY 2012 - FY 2016

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

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a monthly cash and work opportunities assistance program for low income families.
- The TANF Program has four purposes:
  - Help needy families so children can be nurtured in their home
  - Reduce reliance of needy parents by encouraging marriage, work, and job preparation
  - Prevent out-of-wedlock pregnancies
  - Promote the preservation and formation of two-parent families
- The number of TANF cases decreased by 36% from 19,256 at the beginning of FY 2012 to 12,408 at the end of FY 2016.
- At $280, Georgia’s monthly TANF benefit ranked 9th lowest among states for a single-parent family of three in July 2017.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Georgia, Monthly Caseload
FY 2012 - FY 2016

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

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, provides food and nutrition assistance to eligible families. Households are eligible if total resources, such as checking accounts, savings accounts, and saving bonds are less than $2,250 and they meet the income limits for their household size. In addition, households with a member 60 years or older or disabled have a higher resource limit of $3,500.

- Between FY 2012 and FY 2016, the number of SNAP cases fluctuated between a high of 918,712 cases in FY 2013 to a low of 778,913 in FY 2014. There was an overall decrease of 5% during this time period.

- According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the average amount a Georgia family received in SNAP assistance in FY 2016 was $277 per month, while the national average was $255 per month.
Employers are the primary sponsor of health insurance in the state of Georgia and the United States. In 2016, the state and national percentage of employer-sponsored health insurance was 49%.

The average family premium per enrolled employee for employer-based health insurance in Georgia has grown at a faster rate than the national average. Between 2013 and 2016, the average family premium in Georgia went from $14,762 to $18,252, while the national average family premium went from $16,029 to $17,710.

In 2016, approximately 1.3 million (12.3%) Georgians were uninsured, with Georgia ranking 4th highest in the nation for the percentage of total population uninsured.
Insurance

Average Monthly Medicaid and PeachCare Enrollment: Georgia
FY 2011 - FY 2017

- Medicaid is a joint state and federal partnership that provides medical assistance to persons who are aged, blind, disabled, or low-income. Nationally, Medicaid accounted for 17% of health care spending in 2016.
- Average monthly Medicaid enrollment in Georgia increased 18.7% between FY 2011 and FY 2017, from 1,509,951 to 1,792,439.
- PeachCare is Georgia’s State Children’s Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP) and provides medical and dental coverage for qualified low-income Georgia children.
- PeachCare average monthly enrollment decreased by 9.7% between FY 2011 and FY 2017, from 199,345 to 180,083.
- PeachCare enrollment includes S-CHIP as well as Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Grant Extension Aid Categories.

Source: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, National Health Expenditures Data, Department of Community Health
Physician Access

Physicians per 100,000 Population: Georgia, 2000 - 2015

Source: Georgia Board for Physician Workforce

- Georgia ranked 39th in the nation with respect to the number of physicians per capita in 2015, an increase from 40th in 2008, according to the American Medical Association.
- The number of physicians per 100,000 residents increased by 9.4% from 192 in 2000 to 210 in 2015, and the number of primary care physicians increased by about 6.0%, from 83 to 88.
- Health Professional Shortage Areas are designated by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration as having a shortage of primary medical care. There are 241 primary care health professional shortage areas in Georgia.
- The state dedicated $3.2 million in funding to the Georgia Undergraduate Medical Education program and $17.2 million to the Georgia Graduate Medical Education program in FY 2018.
Physician Access

Emergency Room Visit Rate Per 100,000 by County of Residence:
Georgia, 2016

Source: Georgia Department of Public Health

- In 2016, there were 3,952,553 visits to emergency rooms across the state of Georgia.
- Medicaid paid for more than a quarter (27.7%) of these visits.
- Other major sources of payment for emergency room visits include self-pay (23.7%), private insurance (23.5%), and Medicare (17.3%). The other 7.8% comes from all other payors.
Mental Health Services in Communities

Mental Health Utilization Rates: Georgia, 2008 - 2017

Between 2012 and 2017, the hospital and community utilization rates declined. The total utilization rate decreased by 25%, from 17.75 to 13.29.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities provided housing vouchers for 2,471 people with mental illness in FY 2017.

In FY 2017, 119,857 adult mental health individuals were served in the community.

Source: SAMHSA Center for Mental Health Services, Uniform Reporting System, Mental Health National Outcome Measures, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
• Children attending day care or school are required to be vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella, *Haemophilus influenzae* type B, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, varicella, pneumonia, pertussis, and meningococcal disease.

• To overcome barriers to vaccination, Georgia’s public health departments:
  - Remind parents when their children’s vaccinations are due
  - Offer extended clinic hours, including the Georgia School-Based Flu Program
  - Provide vaccinations on a walk-in basis
  - Distribute educational materials on immunization

• In 2016, Georgia ranked 7th (tied with Alabama) nationally for the percentage of children 19-35 months of age who received the Combined 7-vaccine series. The seven vaccines include DTaP, Polio, MMR, Hib. full series, Hep. B, Varicella, and PCV.

• Georgia ranks 2nd (tied with Alabama) among the six southeastern states for the percentage of children who received the 7-vaccine series.
Infections caused by pneumococci are a major cause of death and disease globally.

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 can cause ear infection, sinusitis, or recurrent bronchitis.

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

58.3% of elderly Georgians were vaccinated against pneumococcal disease in 2016.

In 2016, Georgia ranked 27th nationally for percentage of adults 65 years and older who had a flu shot in the past year.
Birth Statistics

Teen Birth Rate: United States and Georgia, 2007 - 2016

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics

- In 2016, Georgia tied for 17th in the nation for the rate of teen births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years.
- Georgia's teen birth rate is consistently higher than the national rate. In 2016, Georgia's rate was 23.6 compared to the national rate of 20.3.
- The teen birth rate steadily declined both nationally and in Georgia between 2007 and 2016.
- Children born to teen mothers are more likely to have increased health and behavioral problems as well as poor school performance (Child Trends 2012).
Birth Statistics

Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birth Weight:
United States and Georgia, 2008 - 2016

- Low birth weight babies weigh less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces, and very low birth weight infants weigh less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces.
- In 2016, the leading cause of death among infants was birth defects followed by low birth weight and pre-term birth. Babies born at low birth weight face an increased risk of physical and developmental health problems.
- Between 2008 and 2016, Georgia's low birth weight rate fluctuated between 9.4% and 9.8%. During that time, the state's rate remained above the national rate.
- The following counties in Georgia had the highest percentage of babies born with low birth weight in 2016: Dooly (19.5%), Clay (18.9%), Macon (18.9%), Miller (18.5%), Stewart (18.2%), and Talbot (17.8%). Counties with the lowest rates were Oconee (3.7%), Oglethorpe (4.5%), Atkinson (5.0%), Gilmer (5.3%), Pike (5.3%), and Rabun (5.9%).
- In 2011, Georgia implemented a Planning for Healthy Babies Medicaid waiver which is intended to improve birth outcomes.
- Educating expectant mothers about smoking cessation during pregnancy, prenatal care, health nutrition, and appropriate weight gain can help deter low birth weight.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics
Diseases

Prevalence of Obesity Among Adults: United States and Georgia, 2011 - 2016

- The Department of Public Health (DPH) defines obesity as having a body mass index (BMI) of 30.0 or greater. Being overweight is characterized as having a BMI of 25.0 to 29.9.
- Many factors, including poor diet and physical inactivity, have contributed to the rise in both adult and youth obesity.
- Between 2011 and 2016, the percentage of Georgia's adults who were obese increased by 11.7%, from 28.1% to 31.4%.
- The percentage of obese adults in Georgia continues to remain above the national average. In 2016, 31.4% of adults in Georgia were obese compared to the national average of 29.9%.
- Obesity increases the risk of many diseases and health conditions, including hypertension, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, osteoarthritis, dyslipidemia, and some cancers.
- In 2016, Georgia ranked 20th (tied with Alaska) in the nation for the prevalence of obesity among adults.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Prevalence and Trends Data
• Approximately 1.35 million adults in Georgia smoke cigarettes.
• The percentages of smokers have fluctuated over the past decade. Georgia's percentages ranged from a high of 21.2% in 2011 to a low of 17.4% in 2014. The national percentages ranged from a high of 22.1% in 2005 to a low of 17.1% in 2016.
• DPH estimates that smoking accounts for $1.8 billion in yearly healthcare costs in Georgia.
• Adult smokers lose an average of 17.6 years of life compared to adult non-smokers, and 1 out of 6 Georgians die annually from smoking-related illnesses.
• Tobacco use during pregnancy can cause premature births, sudden infant death, stillbirths, fetal brain changes, and nervous system development issues.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System, Prevalence and Trends Data
Diseases

Percentage of Adults Diagnosed with Diabetes:
United States and Georgia, 2006 - 2015

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Diabetes Surveillance System

- Diabetes is a disease with serious complications and can lead to premature death; however, those living with the disease can control the disease and reduce its negative impacts through proper nutrition, regular physical activity, and well-managed treatment plans. It is also the leading cause of blindness and kidney failure.
- In 2015, 11.3% of Georgia adults were diabetic compared to 10.0% nationwide.
- From 2006 to 2015, the percentage of adult Georgians with diabetes increased from 7.5% to 11.3%.
- The Medical Expenditure Panel Survey estimates the national expenditures for the treatment of diabetes exceeded $91.3 billion in 2014; 15.8% of the cost was paid for by Medicaid.
Diseases

Five year, Age-Adjusted Major Cardiovascular Disease Death Rate:
Georgia, 2012-2016

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

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.

In 2016, 29.8% of deaths (24,241) were caused by a major cardiovascular disease in 2016.

From 2012 to 2016, the three counties with the highest rates of cardiovascular deaths were Jeff Davis at 439.3, Clinch at 375.2, and Macon at 370.2.

Source: Georgia Department of Public Health
Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women and one of the leading causes of cancer deaths among women of all races.

Mammograms screen for breast cancer and allow for early detection. It is estimated that such screenings increase the breast cancer survival rate by approximately 20%.

Mammograms are recommended annually for women ages 45-54 and biennially for women ages 55 and older.

The percentage of women 40 years and older who have had a mammogram in the previous two years in Georgia declined between 2006 and 2016, from 78.6% to 73.9%. However, in 2016, Georgia women were screened at a slightly higher rate (73.9%) compared to the nation as a whole (72.5%).

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System, Prevalence and Trends Data
Pap tests primarily detect cervical cancer, and like mammograms, early detection improves survival rates.

Nationwide, in 2014, 75.2% of women 18 years and older had a Pap test within the last three years.

Georgia ranked 6th among the 50 states with respect to the percentage of women having a Pap test within three years in 2014 (79.2%).

* Percentage of Women 21 and Older

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Prevalence and Trends
Diseases

Percentage of Adults 50 Years and Older Who Have Had a Sigmoidoscopy or Colonoscopy: United States and Georgia, 2006 2016

* In 2016, the data criteria changed for percentage of adults who have a had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Prevalence and Trends

- In Georgia, cancer is the second leading cause of all deaths; heart disease is the leading cause.
- 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, which prevents the onset of cancer or allow for earlier, aggressive treatment.
- In men, colorectal cancer is the third most common type of cancer death after lung and prostate cancers.
- Between 2006 and 2016, the percentage of adults 50 years and older who had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy in Georgia increased from 57.0% to 61.0% and nationally, from 57.1% to 65.6%.
- Among cancers that affect men and women, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States (CDC).
Cancer mortality rates in Georgia mostly declined between 2006 and 2014, from 184.9 to 166.2 per 100,000 residents. Men in Georgia have a higher cancer mortality rate population (205.9 per 100,000) than women (138.5 per 100,000).

- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among Georgians (45.4 per 100,000 population), followed by female breast cancer (22.6 per 100,000) and male prostate cancer (22.1 per 100,000).

- The Medical Expenditure Panel Survey estimates the medical expenses for cancer nationwide in 2014 at $87.8 billion.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Health Statistics, CDC WONDER
The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) affects the immune system, and the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is the advanced stage of HIV.

In 2015, there were 25,843 known Georgians living with AIDS. Of individuals with AIDS, 75% were male and 25% were female. The majority of people living with the disease were between the ages of 45-54.

The age-adjusted mortality rates for individuals with HIV/AIDS has declined during the last decade nationally and in Georgia. In Georgia, the rate declined from 7.2 to 3.2 per 100,000 residents and nationally, the rate declined from 4.0 to 1.8 per 100,000.

Effective drug treatments and therapies are prolonging the lives of those living with AIDS.

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

Pneumonia Mortality Age-Adjusted Rate Per 100,000:
United States and Georgia, 2006 - 2016

- 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.
- Between 2006 and 2016, the age-adjusted pneumonia death rate per 100,000 residents in Georgia declined 29.2%, from 19.5 to 13.8. Nationally, the percentage of pneumonia deaths declined 26.9%, from 17.5 to 12.8.
- Between 2012 and 2016, 5,896 Georgia residents aged 60 and older died of pneumonia. The highest death rates for this condition were recorded in Stewart, Clinch, Upson, Miller, and Spalding counties.
- Flu and pneumonia together are the 8th leading cause of death in the United States.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC WONDER
• Trauma continues to be a public health concern, resulting in national expenditures of over $400 billion to cover costs associated with trauma care.

• The Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission uses super speeder fines to maintain a trauma center network, coordinate the efficient use of existing trauma center facilities, and direct patients to the best available facility for treatment of traumatic injury.

• From 2008 through 2017, the number of designated trauma centers across the state of Georgia grew from 13 to 29, and the number of designated Level I trauma centers increased from four to six, to include a specialty pediatric Level I trauma center, located at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta- Egleston hospital.

• A Level I trauma facility is the highest level of trauma center designation and offers the most comprehensive trauma care, from prevention through rehabilitation. Level I facilities also have the major responsibility of leading trauma education, research, and planning.
Developing life, college, and work-ready students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Attainment</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Assessments</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT/ACT Scores</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Salaries</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Colleges</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Educated Georgia
Georgia in Perspective

The percentage of Georgians 25 years and older who have completed high school has increased significantly, from 40.6% in the 1970s to 85.8% in 2016.

Georgia lagged behind the nation as a whole with respect to high school completion by the age of 25 years. During the 1970s and 1980s, the discrepancy was at least 10%. Since the 1990s, however, the gap has gradually decreased.

Georgia invests a significant portion of the state's annual budget in educating its citizens. Education represents more than half of the state's total budget.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
Education is a crucial element in sustaining and growing the economy of the state. Georgia has made significant investments in education and training in strategic industries and high demand professions, such as health professions with service cancelable loans and other incentive programs.

- The proportion of Georgians 25 years and older completing college tripled between 1970 and 2016, from 9.2% to 29.4%.
- The percentage of adult Georgians completing a college education has remained close to the national average.
- Georgia was the first state in the nation to have a completion plan for every public higher education institution. The plans detailed how the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia will attain the state's goal of adding 250,000 postsecondary graduates to Georgia's rolls by 2020.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
Education is a key to earnings, with median income increasing with each level of education completed.

A college graduate with a bachelor's degree in Georgia earns, on average, $23,624 more per year compared to a high school graduate.

Earnings for Georgia's college graduates ($50,340) are comparable to the national average ($51,094). However, earnings for Georgia's adults completing a graduate or professional degree ($61,703) are significantly lower than the national average ($67,832). In 2011, the national average was 5.6% higher than Georgia's average. In 2016, the national average was 9.9% higher.

Median earnings for adults with less than a high school education have increased over the last 5 years. Between 2011 and 2016, these earnings in Georgia increased 17.4%, from $17,318 to $20,339.

Median earnings for Georgia's college graduates increased 4.0% between 2011 and 2016 and increased by 1.3% for adults completing a graduate or professional degree.
Education prepares adults for labor force participation. The American Community Survey data confirms that the higher the level of education, the more employable an adult becomes.

Less educated working age adults between the ages of 25 to 64 years are more likely to be unemployed compared to college graduates.

1 out of 10 adults in Georgia and 1 out of 9 adults nationwide who had not completed high school were unemployed in 2016.

In Georgia, unemployment rates are lower for high school graduates (6.0%) and adults completing some college (5.1%) compared to high school drop outs (9.9%).

Adults with a college degree or higher are most likely to be employed; only 1 out of 37 adults with college degrees were unemployed both nationally and in Georgia in 2016.
Georgia was the first state to establish a universal Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) program for four year olds, which is supported with lottery funds. The Georgia Pre-K program is available in public schools, Head Start agencies, private child care centers, faith-based organizations, military facilities, and state colleges and universities.

Since 2010, Pre-K enrollment in Georgia has fluctuated with a high of 82,868 in 2011 and a low of 80,430 in 2014.

As of December 2017, the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning estimates that Georgia's Pre-K program served 57.8% of the 4-year-old population in Georgia.

Source: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
K-12 Public School Enrollment: Georgia, Fall 2007 - Fall 2017

- Georgia's 181 public school districts enrolled more than 1.7 million K-12 students in Fall 2017.
- Between Fall 2007 and Fall 2017, K-12 public school enrollment increased by about 111,000, a 6.9% increase.
- Approximately 1 out of 14 public school students are kindergarten students (7.3%), 2 out of 5 attend elementary school (39.0%), 1 out of 4 are middle school students (23.3%), and approximately 1 out of 3 attend high school (30.3%).

Source: Georgia Department of Education
• Georgia's public school population has become increasingly diverse. In Fall 2017, 60.4% of students were racial or ethnic minorities compared to 54.3% in Fall 2008.

• Between Fall 2008 and Fall 2017, the Hispanic public school student population increased at the fastest pace from 10.0% to 15.6%.

• The percentage of Black students enrolled in Georgia's public schools has decreased slightly from 37.7% to 36.7% during the last decade.

• The Other population includes Asian, American Indian, Pacific Islander, and multi-racial students. Between Fall 2008 and Fall 2017, this population of students increased slightly from 6.6% to 8.1%.

• Georgia's White public school student population decreased between Fall 2008 and Fall 2017, from 45.7% to 39.6%.
One out of 11 of Georgia's children attend a private school or are home schooled.

The number of Georgia students home schooled or attending private schools increased 10.8% between FY 2011 and FY 2018.

The number of Georgia students home schooled increased 56% between FY 2011 and FY 2018, from 42,474 to 66,149.

Private school enrollment in Georgia decreased by 7.0% between FY 2011 and FY 2018, from 107,509 to 99,989.

About 50% more Georgia students attend private school than are home schooled.

Note:

Home School Reporting transitioned to the Georgia Department of Education during the 2013 school year.
The No Child Left Behind Act required states to participate in the biennial National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) tests for 4th and 8th grade reading and mathematics in order to provide a national comparison of student academic progress.

The National Center for Education Statistics administers NAEP to elementary and secondary students in various subjects. Three of the 10 total subject areas are reported at the state level including mathematics. Both private and public school children are assessed, but only public school data is available for state comparisons.

Fourth grade math scores in Georgia have steadily increased between 2005 and 2013, from 234 to 240. However, between 2013 and 2015, the 4th grade average math score decreased by four points, from 240 to 236.

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card
NAEP measures 4th grade student reading performance. Students respond to questions that assess comprehension of literary and informational text.

In 2011, 2013, and 2015, Georgia exceeded the national average in 4th grade student reading performance.

Since 2005, reading scores for 4th graders have increased 4%, from 214 to 222.

In 2015, 1 out of 3 (32%) of Georgia's 4th grade students were reading below basic level, and 2 out of 3 (68%) were reading at or above basic level.

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card
Eighth Grade NAEP Mathematics Scores: United States and Georgia, 2005 - 2015

- Eighth grade mathematics scores in Georgia have continuously improved over the past decade.
- In 2015, 8th grade students in Georgia scored 7 points higher in mathematics compared to the 2005 NAEP scores.
- Eighth grade mathematics students in Georgia lag behind the national average by 2 points, with a score of 279.

Source: National Center on Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress, Nation's Report Card
Eighth grade reading scores in Georgia have steadily increased between 2005 and 2013, from 257 to 265. However, between 2013 and 2015, the 8th grade average reading score decreased by three points, from 265 to 262.

On average, 8th grade reading scores in Georgia have lagged by two points behind national reading scores. In 2013, 8th grade students scored only one point below the national average in reading.
In 2012, the U.S. Department of Education published graduation rates based on the 2008 formula meeting federal education regulations that permits uniformity across states. The formula tracks the percentage of 9th grade students who graduate within 4 years.

Nationally, Georgia ranks 44th in high school graduation among all states.

Among the southeastern states, graduation rates in 2016 ranged from a low of 79.4% in Georgia to a high of 88.5% in Tennessee.

**Other Statistical Data:**

In Georgia, Asian/Pacific Islander and White students have the highest graduation rates at 87.8% and 83.1% respectively.
Graduation

Total Dropout Rate in Grades 9-12: Georgia, FY 2008 - FY 2017

Source: Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement

- 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.
- Georgia's dropout rate has remained relatively stable during the last decade. It has fluctuated between 3.6% to 3.8%.
- The National Dropout Prevention Center has identified best practices for reducing the number of students dropping out of school. These best practices include use of incentives and sanctions, family involvement, and creation of a supportive environment for students.
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 new SAT was introduced in March 2016. Students taking the new SAT are tested in mathematics and evidence-based reading and writing for a composite score of 1,600. In Georgia, the graduating class of 2017 had a mean score of 535 in evidence-based reading and writing and 515 in mathematics.

In 2017, 63,805 of Georgia's high school seniors took the new SAT Test.
The ACT is a standardized test that colleges use comparably to the SAT to determine admittance. The ACT assesses students' general educational development and ability to complete college-level work.

The ACT tests four subjects which include 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.

In FY 2016, 39,416 of Georgia's graduating seniors took the ACT representing 39% of all graduates.

Between FY 2010 and FY 2016, the average composite ACT score for Georgia has fluctuated slightly with a high of 20.9 in FY 2013 and a low of 20.3 in FY 2016. Average ACT scores among Georgia's students were slightly below the national average of 20.8 in FY 2016.
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) assures access to quality education for children with disabilities. In Georgia, 1 in 8 public school children received special education services.

Nationally, during the 2015-2016 school year, 6.7 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 visually impaired and deaf and hard-of-hearing students: the Georgia Academy for the Blind in Macon, Bibb County; the Georgia School for the Deaf in Cave Spring, Floyd County; and the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf in Clarkston, DeKalb County.

Among Georgia's school systems, in FY 2018, the percentage of students served in special education ranges from 7.3% (Chickamauga City) and 7.4% (Echols County) to 19.2% (Baker County) and 19.3% (Meriwether County).
The average public school teacher salary in Georgia was $54,190 during the 2015-2016 school year, while the national average was $58,353.

Georgia is competitive among the six southeastern states with respect to public school teacher salaries. Georgia's average teacher salary is almost $5,000 higher compared to Florida, which recorded the second highest salary in the region.

Source: National Education Association
Average Salaries of Full-Time Faculty at Public Two-Year and Four-Year Colleges: Southeastern States, FY 2016

- Average salaries for full-time faculty at public two-year colleges among the southeastern states ranges from $56,812 in Florida to $42,461 in Georgia.
- Between FY 2011 and FY 2016, the average salary for faculty at Georgia's two-year colleges dropped 11.5%, from $47,972 to $42,461.
- Georgia's public two-year college faculty members are paid $14,300 less than their peers in Florida and $4,900 less than faculty in North Carolina.
- Average salaries for full-time faculty at public four-year colleges in the southeast range from a high of $85,768 in Florida to a low of $70,945 in Georgia.
- Between FY 2011 and FY 2016, the average salary for faculty at Georgia's four-year colleges and universities dropped 2.5%, from $72,774 to $70,945.
- Georgia's public four-year college and university faculty members are paid $14,800 less than their peers in Florida and $4,500 less than faculty in Tennessee.

Source: Southern Regional Education Board
Technical Colleges

*Early, Miller, Seminole & Decatur Counties operated by Southern Regional Technical College effective January 1, 2018. Pending SACS approval.

Source: Technical College System of Georgia
Technical College System of Georgia: Total Credit Enrollment, Academic Year (AY) 2006 - AY 2017

Source: Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Data, Planning, and Research (DPR), Scorecard

- The Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) provides student-centered, high quality, and affordable technical, academic, adult education and training. This system 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.
- Between AY 2010 and AY 2016, TCSG enrollment declined by 32.3%, from 197,059 to 133,455. Between AY 2016 and AY 2017, the enrollment increased by 0.9%, from 133,455 to 134,630.

Note:

- Student enrollment includes students enrolled in technical education programs at some University System of Georgia two-year colleges.
In 2016, more than 1 out of 3 Technical College System students continued their education following completion of a course of study.

Almost two-thirds (65%) of Technical College System award recipients were employed in the field or a related field in 2016.

1 out of 8 (13%) Technical College System award recipients were employed out of their field in 2016.
• The Technical College System of Georgia oversees the state’s adult education efforts.

• Adult education provides adult learners with the opportunity to study for and earn a General Educational Development (GED) diploma. Students completing a GED are able to attend college or enter the labor force. The curriculum for adult basic education focuses on reading, writing, and math skills.

• 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. The goal of the program is a fully literate Georgia.

• The number of Adult Basic Education graduates has fluctuated over the past decade from a high of 33,123 in 2009 to a low of 22,186 in 2015.
In 2017, TCGS awarded 10,128 GED diplomas.

The passage rate for Adult Basic Education students intending to obtain a GED has fluctuated over the past decade from a high of 88.9% in 2016 to a low of 66.4% in 2011.

However, the proportion of adult Georgians without a high school education declined from 21.4% in 2000 to 14.2% in 2016.
Technical Colleges

Earnings of Technical College HOPE Career Grant Graduates Before and After Graduation: FY 2015 Graduates

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

- The Technical College System of Georgia has developed educational programs to ensure Georgia businesses have a trained workforce in strategic industries. The customized training assists companies which are starting up or utilizing new technologies or business processes.
- In AY 2017, more than 30,000 students enrolled in HOPE Career Grant programs, formerly referred to as Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant programs.
- Students in Technical College programs increase their earnings following graduation. Students training for practical nursing increased their earnings by 50% after completing their studies. Students training for diesel equipment technology increased their earnings by 32%. Students training to be an electrical line worker increased their earnings by 33% after completing their studies.
- Students completing training for industrial maintenance earn the highest incomes following graduation ($38,550).
Universities

USG Institution Map

Dalton State College
University of North Georgia
Georgia Highlands College
Kennesaw State University
Georgia Gwinnett College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia State University
Atlanta Metropolitan State College
University of West Georgia
Clayton State University
Gordon State College
Middle Georgia State University
Columbus State University
Fort Valley State University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Albany State University
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
South Georgia State College
College of Coastal Georgia
Valdosta State University

Source: University System of Georgia

Educated Georgia
Georgia in Perspective
Georgia's public colleges and universities operate under the University System of Georgia (USG). The system consists of research universities, comprehensive universities, state universities, state colleges.

USG is responsible for providing higher education to Georgia residents in order to create a more educated Georgia through instruction, research, and public service.

Enrollment in the University System of Georgia has steadily increased over the last five years.

Between Fall 2005 and Fall 2017, the enrollment increased from 253,552 to 325,203 students, which is about a 28% increase.

Source: University System of Georgia Board of Regents, Research and Policy Analysis
The number of minority students attending USG colleges and universities increased by 12% between 2012 and 2017, from 144,450 to 162,089. Minority enrollment increased from 45.9% to 49.8% of total students between 2012 and 2017.

The growth in Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Multiracial students has caused the percentage of Black students to decline from 27.5% in 2012 to 26.7% in 2017.

The percentage of Asian/Pacific Islander students enrolled in the USG system increased from 7.1% in 2012 to 9.0% in 2017.

In 2012, Hispanics represented 5.7% of students enrolled in the USG system. This percentage increased to 8.4% in 2017.

Other Statistical Data:
- Females comprised more than half (56.0%) of the student population enrolled in the University System of Georgia in Fall 2017.
The University System of Georgia attracts students from around the globe. In Fall 2017, international students comprised 7.9% of students in the University System of Georgia. This is 25,588 of more than 325,000 students. About 1 out of 3 international students (32.6%) are from the East Asia and Pacific region. About one-fifth of international students are from South/Latin America and the Caribbean, and an additional one-fifth are from South Asia. The number of non-citizen students enrolled in the University System of Georgia increased by 655 students (2.6%) between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017.
• Four out of five students entering a University System of Georgia college or university return the following fall.
• First-year retention rates for university students in Georgia have mostly increased between Fall 2011 to Fall 2017.
• For the Fall 2016 Cohort, the retention rate was 75.8% for degree seeking, full-time freshmen who entered a USG institution and returned to the same institution the following year.
• The retention rate for incoming freshmen returning to any USG institution was 81.7% in Fall 2017.
Six-Year Graduation Rates for Freshman Attending Four-Year Institutions: Fall 2008 - Fall 2017

- The proportion of Georgia's university students completing their degree peaked in Fall 2013.
- 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 2011, 49.9% graduated within six years from the same institution and 58.0% graduated from an institution within the system.

Source: University System of Georgia Board of Regents
There are four research universities within the University System of Georgia: University of Georgia, Augusta University, Georgia State University, and Georgia Institute of Technology.

Between FY 2012 and FY 2017, USG's institutions used almost $7.2 billion dollars for research expenditures.

Overall, research expenditures increased by 31% between FY 2012 and FY 2017.

In FY 2017, research funding increased by $150 million compared to the previous year.

The research awards received by the USG institutions encompass a wide range of topics, such as national security, astronomy, and advances in medicine.

Source: University System of Georgia Board of Regents
Research within the University System of Georgia spans many subject areas and is primarily concentrated in the four research universities. For FY 2017, 97.6% of the research expenditures were made by the four research universities. Non-sponsored research accounted for 42.8% of USG's research expenses while the federal government funded 42.0% of USG's research expenses. State and local government provided funding for 3.4% of USG's research expenses. Private entities funded 11.8% of USG research expenses.
• Median tuition and fees at Georgia's universities and colleges ($7,117) was more affordable than three other southeast region states in FY 2016. Such costs in Georgia are lower than South Carolina ($10,735), Alabama ($9,358) and Tennessee ($8,356).

• Tuition in Georgia as a percentage of median household income (14.0%) was very close to the national average (14.2%) in FY 2016.

• The percentage of family income required to pay college tuition and fees at Georgia's colleges and universities increased between FY 2009 and FY 2016, from 9.0% to 14.0%.
HOPE Program: Students and Dollars, FY 2013 - FY 2017

Source: Georgia Student Finance Commission: Scholarships and Grants database

- HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally), Georgia's scholarship and grant program, provides financial assistance at public and private colleges, universities, and public technical colleges.
- HOPE scholarships and grants are available to Georgia residents meeting certain academic requirements. The amount of the award is based upon a per hour rate at the institution the student attends.
- Between FY 2013 and FY 2017, the amount of money awarded for HOPE scholarships and grants increased by 26%, from $503 million to $634 million, while the number of students receiving HOPE scholarships and grants decreased by 10%, from 193,594 to 174,415.
- Between 1993 and 2017, 1,741,471 students received HOPE awards, which include the HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, HOPE Grant, Zell Miller Grant, HOPE Career Grant, and HOPE GED Grant.
Disbursements of Georgia’s HOPE Scholarships and Grants to Georgia’s Educational Institutions: 1993 - 2017

- Between 1993 and 2017, the Georgia Lottery Corporation provided $9.4 billion to Georgia colleges and universities through the HOPE scholarships and grants program.
- Almost 7 out of 10 HOPE scholarships and grants have been disbursed to students attending University System of Georgia institutions.
- Approximately 21% of scholarships and grants were disbursed to Technical College System of Georgia institutions, while the remaining 9.8% of scholarships went to students attending private colleges and universities.

Source: Georgia Student Finance Commission Scholarships and Grants database
**Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Investigations</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Corrections</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Crime and Justice</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconvictions</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pardons and Paroles</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highway Safety</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In FY 2017, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes Unit (CEACCU) accounted for 30% of all cases opened (2,997). CEACCU support encompasses forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, and prevention and community education.

Between FY 2012 and FY 2017, GBI seized over $452 million of contraband. Examples of contraband are illegal narcotics, currency, weapons, etc.

GBI investigated 490 Officer Involved Use of Force cases between FY 2012 and FY 2017. GBI is requested to investigate these cases when an officer’s use of force results in death or serious injury.
Criminal Investigations

GBI Investigative Hours Expended: FY 2017

- Other Investigations: 21.9%
- Background Investigations: 1.4%
- Polygraph: 3.1%
- Bomb Disposal Services: 3.4%
- Crime against Property: 9.7%
- Crime Scence / Evidence Processing: 12.8%
- Narcotics: 13.6%
- Crimes against persons: 34.1%

Source: Georgia Bureau of Investigation

- The GBI Investigative Division expended over 342,735 hours investigating crimes in FY 2017.
- Approximately 1 out of 3 of GBI investigative hours was spent on crimes against persons.
- The other investigations category includes such cases as public corruption, technology assistance, and civil security.
- Crime scenes, evidence processing, property crimes, and bomb disposal accounted for about 1 out of 4 (25.9%) of GBI total investigative hours in FY 2017.
- A small portion of GBI's investigative hours in FY 2017 (3.1%) were spent on polygraphs.
- Georgia’s violent crime rate (398 per 100,000 residents) is near the national figure (397).
- Among selected southeastern states, Georgia had the second lowest violent crime rate in 2016. North Carolina had the lowest rate in the region at 372 per 100,000 residents while Tennessee had the highest with 633.
- Georgia had the second highest property crime rate among the southeastern states at 3,005 per 100,000 residents. Florida ranked lowest in the region with a rate of 2,687, and South Carolina was highest at 3,244.
• The Violent Crime Rate is composed of four offenses, which are murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. These offenses involve force or threat of force. In the nation in 2016, 45.6% of violent crimes were cleared by arrest or exceptional means.

• Georgia’s rate of reported violent crime was at or below the national average from 2009 to 2016.

• Georgia’s violent crime rate continued its decline by 27.1% from 2007 through 2013. However, the rate has followed the national trend and risen approximately 10.5% since 2013.

• In 2016, aggravated assault was the most frequently reported violent crime in Georgia, with a rate of 230.4 per 100,000 residents. Robbery was second, with a rate of 117.1 per 100,000 residents.
Overall, property crime rates have declined both nationally and in Georgia over the past ten years.

The property crime rate, per 100,000 residents, has declined by 22.9% in Georgia over the last 10 years. Nationally, the 10-year trend showed that property crime offenses decreased 25.2% in 2016 when compared with the 2007 estimate.

Georgia’s property crime rate continues to exceed the national average despite an overall decline since 2000.

In 2016, larceny-theft was the most frequently reported non-violent crime in Georgia, with a rate of 2080.8 per 100,000 residents, followed by burglary at 596.1, and motor vehicle theft at 255.7.
Among the top six states for cargo theft in the United States, Georgia dropped to the bottom position in 2016.

In 2016, there were 0.38 cargo thefts per 100,000 residents reported in Georgia compared to the U.S. average of 0.28. Many states do not experience cargo theft, which skews the national figure.

The national average has maintained a steady decrease between 2012 and 2016, while Georgia showed a sharp decline after 2015.
The Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform identified that nearly 60% of prison admissions in 2011 were property and drug offenders. Due to the success of criminal justice reform efforts, only 28.1% of adult prisoners were property and drug offenders in FY 2017.

Because the proportion of property and drug offenders has fallen, the proportion of violent and sex crime offenders has grown to roughly 67% of adult prisoners in FY 2017.

There were 54,847 adult offenders under the supervision of the Georgia Department of Corrections at the end of FY 2017.

The average age of offenders at the end of FY 2017 was approximately 38 years.

At the end of FY 2017, 42.49% of adult offenders had at least a high school diploma or GED certificate.
Average Percentage of Time Served by Type of Crime:
Georgia, FY 2013 - FY 2017*

- The average percentage of time served by Georgia's inmates varies by type of crime committed.
- In FY 2017, violent offenders served the greatest percentage of their sentence (38.2%) followed by sex offenders (37.9%).
- Drug sales offenders typically serve the smallest percentage of their sentences. In FY 2017, they served 22.3% of their sentences on average.

*Data only includes new commitments.
Source: Georgia Department of Corrections
Georgia's incarceration rate has remained above the national average since 2006. In 2016, the state's incarceration rate (512 prisoners per 100,000 residents) ranked 10th highest in the nation.

Between 2006 and 2016, Georgia's incarceration rate decreased by 8.2%, from 558 prisoners per 100,000 residents to 512 prisoners per 100,000 residents.

Between 2006 and 2016, the national incarceration rate decreased by 10.2%, from 501 prisoners per 100,000 residents to 450 prisoners per 100,000 residents.

Georgia has reinvested money saved through criminal justice reform into accountability courts, Residential Substance Abuse Treatment facilities and programs, the reentry initiative, and vocational and on-the-job training. As of June 2018, Georgia has 149 state-funded accountability courts.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics
Between 2006 and 2017, the number of juvenile arrests declined by 35.5%, from 51,188 to 33,002.

Juveniles were most frequently arrested in 2017 for larceny (17%), other assaults (16%), and drugs (10%).

Among the drug arrests, in 2017, 529 arrests involved sales or manufacture of drugs and 2,438 arrests were possession charges.

Disorderly conduct accounted for 8% of arrests among juveniles in 2017.
Juvenile Crime and Justice

Department of Juvenile Justice Admissions by Offense: Georgia, FY 2017

- Juvenile offenders under Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) supervision most frequently enter the system due to property offenses (23.4%), violent offenses (19.7%), public order offenses (15.9%), or status offenses (15.4%).
- In FY 2017, there were 9,273 admissions to secure detention at Regional Youth Detention Centers (RYDC), a 35% decrease from FY 2011.
- The average length of stay is 33.6 days in FY 2017.
- Public order crime involves acts that interfere with the operations of society and the ability of people to function efficiently. Status offenses are crimes defined as criminal due to the offender’s age, such as truancy and curfew violations. VOP is a violation of parole, VOAC is a violation of aftercare, VOAP is a violation of alternative plan.

Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
Juvenile Justice Placements: FY 2017

- A Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC) provides temporary, secure care, and supervision to youth charged with offenses and awaiting placement or treatment in a community program or long-term facility.
- A Youth Development Campus (YDC) provides secure care, supervision, and treatment services to youth committed for long-term programs.
- Between FY 2011 and FY 2017, the average daily population served by DJJ declined by 23%, from 15,991 to 12,309.
- The majority of Georgia’s youth offenders entering the juvenile justice system are placed in community settings (72.9%). Juvenile offenders are also distributed among non-secure residential settings (4.7%), YDCs (2.7%), and RYDCs (19.7%).
- The average length of stay for youth committed to a DJJ facility varies based on the type of placement. On average, youth in a community setting stay 158 days, in a residential setting 146 days, in RYDC awaiting YDC placement 119 days, and in YDC 234 days.

Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
Almost half of the youth (47.0%) admitted to YDC in FY 2017 were committed to the department due to a violent offense. An additional 1 out of 7 (14.2%) youth offenders were admitted to a YDC because they committed a violent sexual offense.

Approximately 1 out of 4 youth admitted to a YDC in FY 2017 committed a property offense.

Drug offenses represent a very small proportion of offenses for which youth are placed in a YDC (0.8%).

DJJ operates the state's 181st school district, which served 4,670 students in FY 2017 and provides youth with the ability to earn a high school diploma while in custody.
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 three-year felony reconviction rate is the percentage of offenders who are convicted of a new felony resulting in either prison or probation within 3 years of release.

The three-year return to prison rate in Georgia declined by 23.7% between FY 2004 to FY 2013, from 32.5% to 24.8%, with a slight increase between FY 2013 to FY 2014, from 24.8% to 26.1%.

Georgia's three-year felony reconviction rate has remained fairly stable over the past decade, from a high of 28.4% in FY 2006 to a low of 26.4% in FY 2009.
Reconvictions

Inmate, Probation, and Parolee Populations: Georgia, FY 2008 - FY 2017

- At the end of FY 2017, there were 214,489 probationers, 54,847 inmates, and 22,737 parolees in Georgia.
- Between FY 2008 and FY 2017, the inmate population has fluctuated with a high of 57,570 in FY 2012 and a low of 52,401 in FY 2010.
- Over the past five years, the parole population decreased by 9.1%, from 25,020 to 22,737, and the probation population increased by 30.7%, from 164,051 to 214,489.

Other Statistical Data:
- Discretionary parole, where release is determined by a parole board, maintains public safety by ensuring that only offenders who will seek to become law-abiding citizens are allowed release.
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 2016, Georgia tied with New York for the 16th highest parole population in the United States with 285 parolees per 100,000 adult residents.
There are 144 counties with jails in Georgia, which housed 39,046 inmates in September 2017.

In September 2017, the majority (64.6%) of county jail inmates were awaiting trial, 14.1% of inmates were sentenced to county jails, and 6.1% were state sentenced inmates housed at county facilities.

Between 2012 and 2017, the county jail population increased by less than 1%.

The number of state sentenced inmates housed in county jails decreased by 31% from 3,520 in September 2012 to 2,439 in September 2017.

The number of county jails over capacity decreased from 32 in September 2012 to 29 in September 2017.
In FY 2017, over half of all parolees were initially convicted of property or violent crimes.

The percentage of parolees initially convicted of violent crimes has decreased from 26.4% in FY 2013 to 25.2% in FY 2017.

The percentage of parolees convicted of drug possessions increased from 15.4% of parolees in FY 2013 to 17.0% in FY 2017, but the percentage of parolees convicted of drug sales/trafficking decreased during the same time period.

In FY 2013, 20.3% of parolees were convicted of drug sales/trafficking, but only 18.3% of parolees were convicted of the same in FY 2017.

The percentage of parolees convicted of driving under the influence or of habitual traffic violations has remained low; this population made up 0.4% of parolees in FY 2013 and 0.3% of parolees in FY 2017.
Parole supervision begins when an offender is released from prison into the community prior to serving his/her entire sentence.

Successful completion of parole supervision requires an offender to show success in re-integrating into the community via employment, stable residence, program completion, etc.

Between FY 2013 and FY 2017, the successful parole completion rate in Georgia decreased from 74% to 71% while the national average has mostly remained constant at 62%.

Successful parole completion excludes offenders who are revoked, absconded, or in jail at the time of discharge from parole.

Source: Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles
Pardons and Paroles

State Daily Cost by Offender Placement: FY 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offender Placement</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Community Supervision (new category)</td>
<td>$1.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Community Supervision (new category)</td>
<td>$3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Reporting Centers</td>
<td>$16.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Centers</td>
<td>$43.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detention Centers</td>
<td>$58.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Prisons</td>
<td>$61.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia Department of Community Supervision

- In FY 2017, the Georgia Department of Corrections operated:
  - (12) Probation Residential Substance Abuse Treatment centers
  - (13) Transitional centers
  - (33) State prisons
  - (4) Private prisons by contract
  - (21) County correctional institutes
  - (7) Probation Detention Centers

- Currently, the Georgia Department of Community Supervision operates:
  - (83) Community supervision field offices
  - (32) Day reporting centers

- The average annual cost per Georgia offender in state prison is $23,938 compared to $708 for community supervision.
  - The average daily cost per Georgia offender (State, Federal, & Other) is $65.58 compared to $61.20 (State).

- Incarceration costs can be different because of the security level needed to maintain the prisoner and can vary from $38,272 per year for close security prisons to $19,460 per year for medium security prisons.
Over the last six years, the State of Georgia has adopted an introspective approach to identify factors driving prison population growth and constraining improved public safety outcomes. A commitment to evidence-based policies and programs has helped make Georgia a national leader in adopting bipartisan, comprehensive criminal justice reforms that preserve public safety, hold offenders accountable, and conserve taxpayer dollars.

Since 2012, the Georgia State Legislature passed numerous pieces of legislation to implement recommendations from the Criminal Justice Reform Council. These bills amended state law to focus prison bed utilization for serious adult offenders. Additionally, the legislation created a grant program for accountability courts that provides treatment for drug offenders and other offenders with a mental health diagnosis as an underlying factor for their crime as opposed to incarceration.

Adult Offender Reform (House Bill 1176) included revised sentence ranges for specific types of offenses to correspond with value, degree, or severity of the offense, the implementation of effective community-based sanctions, probation and community supervision reform, and a performance measurement system focused on public safety outcomes.

The state’s multifaceted approach contained within Senate Bill 365 focused on the reentry of citizens by codifying the concept of Program Treatment Certificates (PTCs), which are issued to offenders who have completed programs related to drug addiction, recidivist behavior, or work training. Reentering individuals who have these certificates have advantages in searching for housing and employment.
Highway Safety

Motor Vehicle Fatality Rate: Georgia Counties

GEORGIA AVERAGE MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITY RATES by COUNTY 2013 - 2017

- In 2016, motor vehicle crashes killed 1,554 people in Georgia. 1 out of 4 of these crashes involved an alcohol-impaired driver.
- Counties with the highest motor vehicle fatalities rates in 2016 were Warren, Jenkins, Twiggs, Webster, and Early counties.
- Metropolitan Atlanta counties with low fatality rates include Cherokee, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Fayette, and Cobb.
- Rural areas of the state have higher fatality rates per 100 million vehicle miles driven (1.98) compared to urban areas (0.97).
- In 2016, 232 Georgian pedestrians were among those killed in motor vehicle accidents.

Source: Georgia Department of Transportation, National Highway Safety Travel Administration
Fatalities in Crashes Involving Young Drivers (Under Age 21): 2015

- In 2015, 180 people under 21 died due to a motor vehicle accident.
- Of these 180 people, 89 were passengers, 77 were young drivers, and 14 were non-occupants (pedestrians or bicyclists).
- There were 197 fatalities in crashes involving young drivers in 2010.
- Georgia ranks 4th in the nation in fatal vehicle crashes involving young drivers.

Source: Governor's Office of Highway Safety, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
The rate of motor vehicle fatalities has decreased in both the United States and Georgia for a number of years, but that trend reversed in 2015 and 2016.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Spending</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Management</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Employment</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Management</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Operations</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Georgia has a diversified tax base with nearly one-quarter of revenues (23.4%) coming from sales and use tax revenues and about half (50.4%) from individual and corporate income taxes.

The motor fuel tax is projected to represent 6.9% of total state revenue in FY 2019.

In 2015, the general assembly passed HB 170, Transportation Funding Act, which changed the way fuel is taxed in Georgia, especially the excise tax. Through this legislation, the general assembly set a base excise tax of 29 cents per gallon for diesel fuel and 26 cents per gallon for all other fuel types.

The rates are adjusted each year. For 2018, the base excise tax is 30 cents per gallon for diesel fuel and 26.8 cents per gallon for all other fuel types.

The Georgia Lottery Corporation is also anticipated to represent 4.6% of state revenue in FY 2019.

On average, for every dollar spent on a lottery ticket, 25 cents funds the Pre-K and HOPE programs.

Additional sources of revenue include interest, fees, and sales (6.4%), other taxes (7.7%), and Tobacco Settlement funds (0.6%).

Source: Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, Budget in Brief
Between FY 2008 and FY 2018, total state revenues have increased by 29% from $19.8 billion to $25.6 billion.

In FY 2018, the state reported $25.6 billion in total treasury receipts.

Source: State Accounting Office, Georgia Revenues and Reserves Report FY 2018
State Spending

Revenue Shortfall Reserve: FY 2006 - FY 2017

Source: Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget

- Georgia’s Revenue Shortfall Reserve was created in 1976 to serve as a savings account or "Rainy Day" fund. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, shortfall reserve funds enabled states to meet increased service demand in the face of declining revenues during the recent recession.

- In 2010, the Shortfall Reserve cap was increased from 10% to 15% of previous year net revenue collections in order to increase Georgia’s savings capacity.

- Reserve sources include state net revenues and agency surpluses. 4% of the net revenue of the preceding fiscal year must remain in the fund. The Governor is authorized to release reserve funds beyond that amount.

- Between FY 2009 and FY 2017, the revenue shortfall reserve has increased drastically from $104 million to $2.3 billion
State Spending

Appropriations by State Priority Policy Area: FY 2019

- **Educated Georgia**: 53.91%
- **Healthy Georgia**: 21.54%
- **Safe Georgia**: 7.94%
- **Mobile Georgia**: 7.31%
- **Growing Georgia**: 1.21%
- **Debt Management**: 4.83%
- **Responsible and Efficient Government**: 3.26%

Source: Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

- Education is Georgia's highest priority. More than half of the state budget is dedicated to Pre-K to college education.
- Healthy Georgia funds Medicaid and the State Health Benefit Plan, mental health services, and child protective services.
- Safe Georgia funds adult and juvenile corrections, probation, parole, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.
- Mobile Georgia funds transportation services.
- Responsible and Efficient Government programs include administrative functions, such as building maintenance, contract management, and IT services.
- Growing Georgia funds economic development.
State Spending

2016 Freedom in the United States Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECONOMIC FREEDOM</th>
<th>REGULATORY POLICY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>State</strong></td>
<td><strong>Score</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 South Dakota</td>
<td>0.35</td>
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<td>2 Idaho</td>
<td>0.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Oklahoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 New Hampshire</td>
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<td>6 Florida</td>
<td>0.22</td>
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<td>7 North Dakota</td>
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<td>11 Indiana</td>
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<td>13 Utah</td>
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<td>14 Missouri</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Virginia</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Cato Institute

- Freedom in the 50 United States is an annual index of personal and economic freedom published by Cato Institute. Note: Mercatus Center no longer publishes it.
- The Freedom in the 50 States report ranks states in four main areas, which include Fiscal Policy, Regulatory Policy, Economic Freedom, and Personal Freedom.
- In 2016, Georgia ranked 12th in Economic Freedom and 14th in Regulatory Policy.
- Georgia is the 4th highest ranking southeastern state in the Cato Institute's Economic Freedom ranking and the 3rd highest in the Regulatory Policy ranking.
The Camelot Index is a composite measure of states in the areas of economic vitality, society, health, education, crime, and government.

Five criteria are used to determine the 2018 Camelot Prudent Government scores:

1. State and local taxes as a percent of personal income
2. State solvency
3. Pension funding
4. Bond ratings
5. State and local capital spending as a percent of state gross domestic product

(Howard & Olson, 2018, pp. 8-9)

Between 2013 and 2016, Georgia ranked among the top 10 Prudent Government States.

However, Georgia's ranking dropped to 16th and 21st in 2017 and 2018, respectively.
Financial Management

Georgia's Bond Ratings: 2017

Moody Investor Services       AAA  (since 1974)
Standard and Poor's           AAA  (since 1997)
Fitch's Investor's Service    AAA  (since 1993)

FY 2018 - FY 2022 Debt Management Plan Debt Ratio Targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Levels</th>
<th>Without GARVEEs*</th>
<th>With GARVEEs*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debt per Capita</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service to Prior Year Revenues</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt to Personal Income</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: GARVEE bonds are tax-exempt debt instrument financing mechanisms backed by annual federal appropriations for federal-aid transportation projects.

Source: Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission, Debt Management Plan

- Rating agencies scrutinize states in several areas to judge a state’s fiscal health. The better a state’s bond rating, the lower the interest it must pay on the bonds it issues.
- Rating agency analysts use a 10% debt service level as the standard warning level for states approaching limited fiscal flexibility. They also consider other metrics to measure debt burden such as debt per capita and debt as a percentage of personal income.
- Georgia has maintained its AAA bond rating from all three rating agencies every year since 1997.
- Currently, Georgia is 1 of 12 states with a AAA bond rating from all three major bond rating agencies. The other states are Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Delaware, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.
- Georgia has implemented a formal debt management plan (DMP) to help the State fund ongoing spending priorities. Georgia’s DMP sets target levels in three areas: Debt Per Capita, Debt Service to Revenues, and Debt to Personal Income.
Historic and Projected Annual Debt Service as Percentage of Prior Year Receipts, FY 2013 - FY 2022

Source: Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission, Debt Management Plan

- To restrict over-borrowing, Georgia’s constitution sets a debt limit at 10% of the prior year's total treasury receipts, and the state’s DMP sets 7% as the planning level for debt.
- Debt service to prior year revenues measures the percentage of revenue dedicated to debt service. Steadily increasing revenue and moderate borrowing at low interest rates keep this measure within target levels.
- Between FY 2013 and FY 2017, the debt service to revenues ratio dropped from 6.7% to 5.5%. The debt service to revenues ratio is projected to continue decreasing through FY 2022.
- By FY 2022, the debt service to revenues ratio is projected to drop to 5.2%.
Debt per capita measures the state debt burden per state resident. Net tax-supported debt per capita is calculated as the total tax-supported debt divided by the population of the state.

The debt per capita planning level was raised in 2007 from $1,000 to $1,200 due to rising infrastructure costs.

Figures for the FY 2013 through FY 2017 represent the actual debt per capita. Figures for FY 2018 to FY 2022 reflect projected debt per capita.

Georgia has kept the debt per capita below the target mark.

Net tax-supported debt items are debt items supported by the state’s tax revenues. Items which are paid by tax revenues are pledged to that payment, such as motor fuel tax pledged to certain State Road and Tollway Authority bonds, which are considered tax-supported debt.
Debt as a percent of personal income measures the debt burden to Georgians’ personal incomes. It is calculated as the amount of tax-supported debt divided by the total personal income of the state’s population.

Between FY 2013 and FY 2017, the debt as a percentage of personal income decreased slightly.

The state's planning level for debt as a percentage of personal income has remained at 3.5%. From FY 2013 to FY 2017, the state debt ratio decreased from 2.4% to 2.1%.

In FY 2018 to FY 2022, the Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission anticipates that the debt as a percentage of personal income will decrease even further, from 2.0% to 1.8%.

Source: Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission, Debt Management Plan
The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is a standard annual financial report prepared by most governments. The CAFR includes basic information about the state, the auditor’s report, financial statements, and a statistical section.

While the state budget presents the projected expectations and plan of use for state funds over a year, the state CAFR reports the historical use and financial condition of state government.

The Budgetary Compliance Report (BCR) shows state agency financial compliance with state amended appropriations act(s) by fiscal year.

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 accounting system.

Source: State Accounting Office and Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, Performance Measures Report

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

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• 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 accounting system.
The Georgia Department of Audits provides accountability over operations by conducting financial audits and federal compliance audits of all state agencies. Agencies who receive a financial statement or federal compliance audit finding are expected to resolve the issue identified. Agencies are expected to submit a corrective action plan on each finding they receive.

Annually, the Department of Audits and Accounts performs procedures to determine the extent to which prior-year findings are resolved. While agencies are expected to take action to address findings in a timely manner, it is not always possible to fully resolve a finding within a year.

The number of single audit findings for Georgia state government agencies fluctuated between FY 2013 and FY 2017, with a high of 66 in FY 2014 and a low of 44 in FY 2017.

The vast majority of audit findings requiring corrective action have been acted upon. In FY 2016, 94% of findings were fully or partially resolved within one year.

Note:

DOAA has not released 2017 data at the time of this publication.
Funding Ratio Based on Actuarial Value of Assets for Retirement Systems

- **Legislative Retirement System**: 118.3% (2010) → 128.1% (2017)
- **Public School Employees Retirement System**: 84.2% (2010) → 83.6% (2017)
- **Teachers Retirement System**: 74.2% (2010) → 85.7% (2017)
- **Georgia Judicial Retirement System**: 113.7% (2010) → 107.9% (2017)
- **Georgia Military Pension Fund**: 31.8% (2010) → 50.6% (2017)
- **Employees' Retirement System**: 74.7% (2010) → 80.1% (2017)

Source: Employees' Retirement System and Teachers Retirement System

- The actuarial funding ratio for Georgia’s state retirement systems increased for two of the systems and decreased for four of the systems between 2010 and 2017.
- Benefits paid to Employees’ Retirement System (ERS) retirees and beneficiaries increased 21.6% between 2010 and 2017, from $1.11 billion to $1.35 billion.
- There were approximately 49,500 retired members and beneficiaries in ERS in 2017, a 28.2% increase since 2010.
- The actuarial value of assets for ERS increased by 0.8%, from $13.0 billion in 2010 to $13.1 billion in 2017.
- Benefits paid to Teachers Retirement System (TRS) retirees and beneficiaries increased 58.4% between 2010 and 2017, from $2.86 billion to $4.53 billion.
- There were approximately 122,700 retired members and beneficiaries in TRS in 2017, a 41.0% increase since 2010.
- The actuarial value of assets for TRS increased 30.6%, from $54.5 billion in 2010 to $71.2 billion in 2017.
- Funds over 100% mean actuarial assets are greater than actuarial liabilities.
Since 2015, the Baby Boomer generation has declined in the workforce from approximately 33% to 28%, while the Millennial generation has grown from 24% to 29%, replacing the 5% lost by "boomers" departing the workforce.

Nearly 59% of all hires in state government in FY 2017 came from the Millennial category.

The average age of state employees in 2017 was 44 years.

Georgia state government is an “at will” employer, meaning that either party may end the employment relationship at any time for any reason, except an unlawful reason, without incurring a penalty. The state eliminated its civil service system in 1996.

The average tenure of state employees is approximately 9 years. In FY 2017, more than 1 out of 2 of Georgia's state employees (50.8%) were employed with the state 5 years or less. An additional 1 out of 6 employees (15.6%) were with the state between 6 and 10 years.
State Employment

State Workforce Profile, Executive Branch: FY 2014 - 2017

Source: Georgia Department of Administrative Services, FY 2017 Workforce Report

- State employment since FY 2014 has been steady at around 60,000 full-time Executive Branch employees.
- Since FY 2010, the state enterprise workforce (inclusive of state authorities, technical colleges, and judicial and legislative branch employees) was reduced from 75,200 employees to 67,771 in FY 2017, a reduction of approximately 9.9%.
- Average salaries realized an increase in FY 2017 due to statewide pay raises awarded to state law enforcement officers, which is also the largest state workforce job family.
- The percent of minorities in the executive branch of government annually exceeds 50%. In FY 2017, it was nearly 56%.
- The average number of years for executive branch employees was 8.8 years in FY 2017, which was down from 9.2 from the previous two fiscal years.
State Employment

Employee Turnover: Georgia, FY 2017

- In FY 2017, there were 11,224 total separations among state employees. Almost two thirds of these separations were voluntary (61.1%). Approximately one in seven separations were due to retirement.
- Involuntary turnover includes reasons such as failure to meet terms of employment, dismissal, release, and reductions in workforce. There were 1,545 such terminations in FY 2017 or 13.8% of total separations.
- Between FY 2012 and FY 2017, voluntary separations increased from 57% to 61%.
- The overall turnover rate among state employees was 19.5% in FY 2017.

Source: Georgia Department of Administrative Services, FY 2017 Workforce Report
Risk Management

Risk Management: FY 2007 - FY 2017

Source: Georgia Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) - Excludes Unemployment Insurance claims

- The DOAS’ Risk Management Services (RMS) manages the self-insured programs that include unemployment insurance, auto physical damage, workers compensation, property, general liability, cyber, and auto liability claims. Claims exclude unemployment insurance claims.

- The Workers’ Compensation (WC) program, which provides benefits to employees for compensable work injury or illness is the state's largest insurance program, making up over 63 percent of all claims. Incurred claims for the program have exceed $1 billion since 2007.

- General Liability is the second largest risk program. The program functions include coverage determination, investigations, liability assessment, case assessment and claim evaluation, settlement negotiation, litigation management and claim resolution. Incurred claims have exceeded $300 million since 2007.

- Risk services also included property, which protects state-owned assets from damage from various hazards and the automobile property damage program protects state-owned or leased vehicles.
The Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission (GSFIC)’s Construction Division managed 122 total projects in FY 2017 with a budget of $1,410,599,376.

59% of GSFIC managed projects are attributed to 3 educational agencies: the Board of Regents (27%), the Technical College System of Georgia (23%), and the Department of Education (9%). The remaining projects support the Department of Transportation (10%), the Soil and Water Conservation Commission (7%), and other agencies (24%).

Source: Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission, Annual Report, 2017
## Technology

**Georgia Information Technology Investments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2015</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>$194,391,806</td>
<td>$196,234,783</td>
<td>$207,659,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network</td>
<td>$60,574,433</td>
<td>$55,690,939</td>
<td>$60,943,899</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application</td>
<td>$367,663,506</td>
<td>$411,804,706</td>
<td>$412,943,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other IT Costs</td>
<td>$15,761,930</td>
<td>$19,495,087</td>
<td>$18,608,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total IT Investment</strong></td>
<td><strong>$638,391,674</strong></td>
<td><strong>$683,225,516</strong></td>
<td><strong>$700,156,026</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Georgia Technology Authority, Annual State Information Technology Report, 2017*

- The state spent more than $700 million on technology in FY 2017 compared to $683 million in FY 2016.
- The Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) manages the delivery of IT infrastructure services to 86 Executive Branch agencies and managed network services to 1,255 state and local government entities.
The State's Critical Project Review Panel oversees high-impact, high-cost technology investments to help ensure successful outcomes.

In 2017, the Office of Planning and Budget, Georgia Technology Authority, and the Department of Administrative Services enacted the Large IT Project Executive Decision-Making Board policy. The Large IT Project Executive Decision-Making Board oversees large IT Projects that cost at least $10 million over 5 years or that are identified as significant to the state.

Projects reviewed in the initial year of the Large IT Project Executive Decision-Making Board included large-scale IT modernization projects at the Department of Community Health, the Department of Public Health, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Disciplined portfolio and project management, coupled with oversight by the Critical Review Panel and project assurance, saved the state up to $102 million through cost avoidance in FY 2017.
The Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) produces monthly enterprise portfolio scorecard reports.

Continually tracking the health of the state’s major IT projects helps identify potential problems and immediately take corrective actions to mitigate the risk of a failed project.

Georgia's project delivery effectiveness compares favorably with other governmental entities and the private sector.

In FY 2017, Georgia completed 100% of state IT projects on time and on budget. According to the Standish Group's 2016 CHAOS Report, approximately 1 in 4 (24%) government IT projects and more than 1 in 3 (36%) of all industry IT projects were completed on time and on budget.
### Digital States Survey Performance Grade:
Southeastern States, 2014 and 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Georgia</strong></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: The Government Technology, Center for Digital Government, Digital States Survey*

- The Center for Digital Government’s Digital States Performance Institute (DSPI) identifies and promotes best and emerging practices in the public sector IT community. The Digital States Survey assesses state use of information and communications technology.

- The Digital States Survey uses criteria such as an approach consistent with state priorities, return on investment, improvement, innovative solutions, and effective collaboration.

- Georgia ranked highest among the southeastern states and was among 10 states in the nation who scored an A or A- in 2016.

- Georgia won 1st place in the "Enterprise ICT" category of the survey. ICT stands for information and communication technology.

- States graded as an "A" are trending sharply up, measure results, and operate efficiently.
Technology

State of Georgia: Broadband Speed & Access

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speed Tier</th>
<th>Served</th>
<th>Unserved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Mbps*</td>
<td>3,826,700</td>
<td>262,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10+ Mbps</td>
<td>3,724,336</td>
<td>364,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25+ Mbps</td>
<td>3,451,200</td>
<td>638,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Mbps stands for megabits per second.

Source: Georgia Technology Authority

- Broadband allows users to access the Internet and Internet-related services at significantly higher speeds than those available through “dial-up” Internet access services. Broadband speeds vary significantly depending on the particular type and level of service available.

- Broadband is an enabling technology for state services. Education, telemedicine, and public safety are all greatly enhanced by broadband technology.

- The fastest advertised broadband Internet speeds tend to be in urban areas.

- Between 2015 and 2026, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is predicted to give $510 million from the Connect America Fund (CAF) program to eight service providers in Georgia. This money will assist these broadband service providers in expanding broadband into unserved areas of Georgia. The providers accepting the money have to provide speeds of a minimum of 10 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up to the funded locations. FCC predicts that funding will help approximately 175,000 unserved locations.

Responsible and Efficient Government
Georgia in Perspective
In 2017, the Georgia.gov platform had more than 22 million users, which is a 62% increase from 2012, and almost 140 million page views.

Between 2012 and 2017, the number of sessions more than doubled from 24.8 to 54.30 million, and the number of mobile sessions drastically increased from 3.44 million to 25.6 million.

A session is defined as one individual visitor who arrives at your web site and proceeds to browse. A session counts all visitors, no matter how many times the same visitor may have been to the site.
Sources

For more information on the 2018 Georgia in Perspective data sources, please contact the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Growing Georgia

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- Georgia Department of Economic Development
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Mobile Georgia

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- Georgia Center of Innovation for Logistics
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Healthy Georgia

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Safe Georgia

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