

# PASSPORT TO GEORGIA

*A Statistical Journey*



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development**

## Georgia firsts

- 
- 1735 The first U.S. agricultural experiment farm is established in Savannah.
- 
- 1785 Georgia is the first state to charter a state-supported university, the University of Georgia.
- 
- 1787 Georgia becomes the fourth state to ratify the U.S. constitution. It officially became a state the following year.
- 
- 1793 The cotton gin was invented by Eli Whitney near Savannah.
- 
- 1836 Georgia Female College becomes the first college for women, located in Macon. It later changed its name to Wesleyan College.
- 
- 1874 Georgia is the first state to establish a state department of agriculture.
- 
- 1886 Coca-Cola was invented by John S. Pemberton, an Atlanta pharmacist.
- 
- 1912 Juliette Gordon-Lowe founded the first troop of American Girl Guides in Savannah. The name changed to Girl Scouts the following year.
- 
- 1934 The Masters Tournament begins at the Augusta National Golf Club.
- 
- 1964 Martin Luther King Jr. becomes the first Georgian to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.
- 
- 1976 James Earl "Jimmy" Carter is the first Georgian to be elected President of the United States.
- 
- 1996 Atlanta hosts the summer Olympics.
-

## Georgia quick facts

Statehood ..... Jan. 2, 1788

Capital ..... Atlanta

Number of counties ..... 159

State motto ..... "Wisdom, justice, moderation"

State song ..... "Georgia on My Mind"

Total area ..... 59,425 square miles

Highest elevation ..... Brasstown Bald Mountain (4,784 feet)

Longest river ..... Chattahoochee (430 miles)

Largest lake ..... Clarks Hill Lake (78,200 acres)

## Government

159 counties

5,364,606 registered voters (as of 11/01/12)

3,897,839 votes for 2012 presidential election

45.5% democrat

53.3% republican

72.2% voter turnout

## State symbols and designations

|                    |                            |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Amphibian .....    | American green tree frog   |
| Bird .....         | Brown thrasher             |
| Butterfly .....    | Tiger swallowtail          |
| Crop.....          | Cotton                     |
| Fish .....         | Large mouth bass           |
| Flower .....       | Cherokee rose              |
| Fossil .....       | Shark tooth                |
| Fruit .....        | Peach                      |
| Gem .....          | Quartz                     |
| Insect.....        | Honey bee                  |
| Marine mammal..... | North Atlantic right whale |
| Mineral.....       | Staurolite                 |
| Prepared food..... | Grits                      |
| Reptile.....       | Gopher tortoise            |
| Seashell.....      | Knobbed whelk              |
| Tree.....          | Southern live oak          |
| Vegetable.....     | Vidalia sweet onion        |
| Wildflower.....    | Azalea                     |

## Georgia county rankings

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Clarke.....     | Smallest county in land area: 121.3 square miles                  |
| Ware.....       | Largest county in land area: 903 square miles                     |
| Wilkes.....     | First county created: Feb. 5, 1777                                |
| Peach.....      | Last county created: Nov. 4, 1904                                 |
| Fulton.....     | Highest population: 977,773*                                      |
| Taliaferro..... | Smallest population: 1,352*                                       |
| Cobb.....       | Most FY13 HOPE Scholarship recipients: 109,683                    |
| Charlton.....   | Highest percent of teachers with advanced degrees,<br>2011: 87.5% |
| Oconee.....     | Lowest rate of teen pregnancy, 2011: 8.2/1,000                    |
| Echols.....     | Highest percent worked outside the county: 84.6%+                 |
| Paulding.....   | Highest mean travel time to work: 38.1 minutes*                   |
| Clinch.....     | Highest percent of forest land: 96.9%+                            |
| Early.....      | Highest peanut value: \$45 million+                               |
| Colquitt.....   | Highest cotton value: \$65 million+                               |
| Bacon.....      | Highest blueberry value: \$91 million+                            |
| Macon.....      | Highest peach value: \$9 million+                                 |
| Dougherty.....  | Highest pecan value: \$37 million+                                |
| Franklin.....   | Highest broiler value: \$328 million+                             |
| Morgan.....     | Highest beef cow value: \$9 million+                              |
| Toombs.....     | Highest onion value: \$67 million+                                |

*\*2011 figures, + 2012 figures*

# Top 20 agricultural commodities

*From the 2012 Farm Gate Value Report*

|                               |                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| #1 Broilers, \$4.7 billion    | #11 Pecans, \$249 million            |
| #2 Cotton, \$1.3 billion      | #12 Blueberries, \$229 million       |
| #3 Peanuts, \$892 million     | #13 Breeder pullets, \$225 million   |
| #4 Eggs, \$793 million        | #14 Agritourism, \$194 million       |
| #5 Beef, \$538 million        | #15 Pork, \$171 million              |
| #6 Timber, \$523 million      | #16 Onions, \$163 million            |
| #7 Corn, \$507 million        | #17 Watermelon, \$160 million        |
| #8 Horses, \$342 million      | #18 Container nursery, \$142 million |
| #9 Dairy, \$338 million       | #19 Hay, \$130 million               |
| #10 Greenhouse, \$259 million | #20 Soybeans, \$127 million          |

## Farm facts

42,257 farms making up 9.6 million acres of farmland

Average size of farm: 228 acres

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Total farm production expenses .....      | \$7.5 billion |
| Average production expenses per farm..... | \$177,213     |
| Net farm income .....                     | \$2.1 billion |
| Average net income per farm.....          | \$50,379      |

*From Ag Census 2012*

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Total Georgia Farm Gate Value (2012)..... | \$13.9 billion |
| Total cash receipts and other income..... | \$10.1 billion |

Source: BEA

# Crime

## Arrests, 2011

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Total arrests.....       | 368,926 |
| DUI arrests.....         | 32,425  |
| For violent crimes.....  | 12,223  |
| For property crimes..... | 94,224  |
| Age 17 and under.....    | 17.5%   |

Juvenile court commitments, FY 2013 ..... 2,057

|                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Total state prison inmates, 2013..... | 54,494 |
| Female.....                           | 6.6%   |
| Male.....                             | 93.4%  |
| White.....                            | 33.6%  |
| Non-white.....                        | 66.4%  |
| Violent/Sex Crimes.....               | 63.7%  |
| Property Crimes.....                  | 19.4%  |
| Drug/DUI.....                         | 12.3%  |

Total active probationers, 2013..... 153,938

## Economics

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Deposits in financial institutions, 2013 ..... | \$187.6 billion                    |
| Personal bankruptcy filings, 2012 .....        | 6.7/1000 people                    |
| Median household income, 2012 .....            | \$45,886                           |
| Total personal income, 2011 .....              | \$353 billion                      |
| Per capita.....                                | \$35,979                           |
| Total personal transfer receipts, 2011 .....   | \$62 billion                       |
| Per capita.....                                | \$6,417                            |
| Total persons in poverty, 2011 .....           | 1,836,715<br>(19.2% of population) |
| Lottery sales, FY 2013.....                    | \$3.9 billion                      |
| Per capita.....                                | \$394                              |



# Education

## 2012–2013 public schools

21 independent city school systems

159 county school systems

15 state chartered special schools

2,273 schools total

1,657,507 enrolled students

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| White.....                            | 43.5% |
| Black.....                            | 36.9% |
| Hispanic.....                         | 12.7% |
| Asian.....                            | 3.5%  |
| Eligible for free/reduced lunch ..... | 59.6% |
| In special education.....             | 10.6% |
| Limited English proficiency.....      | 5.3%  |

108,377 teachers

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| % with advanced degrees..... | 68.6     |
| Average salary.....          | \$53,163 |

## 2011–2012 private and public pre-K programs

3,877 sites with 82,868 slots

\$272 million in lottery funding

\$3,282 funder cost per child

Number of home study students, 2011–2012 ..... 40,979

Number of private school students, 2011–2012..... 108,565

## Education (cont.)

### Public library systems, FY 2012

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Total number of libraries .....   | 386        |
| Number of registered patrons..... | 4,564,784  |
| Total material circulated.....    | 43,408,492 |
| Per capita.....                   | 4.2        |

### Higher education/technical education

1,654,630 HOPE Scholarships awarded, 1993–2013

31 University System colleges

45 Private college/universities

24 technical colleges

### Educational attainment, 2007–2011

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Persons age 25 and older total ..... | 6,152,481 |
| Completing less than 9th grade.....  | 5.9%      |
| High school graduates .....          | 29.4%     |
| Associate degree .....               | 6.6%      |
| Bachelor's degree.....               | 17.7%     |
| Graduate or professional degree..... | 9.8%      |
| High school diploma or higher .....  | 84%       |
| Bachelor's degree or higher .....    | 27.5%     |

## Housing, households and families

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Average household size, 2012 .....                  | 2.68      |
| Total housing units, 2012 .....                     | 4,107,482 |
| 0.5% change from 2010 to 2012                       |           |
| Total housing units, 2007–2011 .....                | 4,063,024 |
| Owner occupied .....                                | 66.8%     |
| Renter occupied .....                               | 33.2%     |
| <br>  |           |
| Total family households, 2007-2012 .....            | 2,389,321 |
| Average family size .....                           | 3.25      |
| Married couples .....                               | 71.2%     |
| Married couples with own children <18 .....         | 31.5%     |
| Female head, no husband with own children <18 ..... | 12.9%     |
| Male head, no wife with own children <18 .....      | 3%        |
| <br>  |           |
| Non-family households .....                         | 1,101,433 |
| Male householder age 65+ living alone .....         | 6.4%      |
| Female householder age 65+ living alone .....       | 17.4%     |

# Labor

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Total civilian labor force, 2012 ..... | 4,806,103 |
| Employed.....                          | 91%       |
| Unemployed .....                       | 9%        |
| Unemployment insurance claims.....     | 401,438   |
| Monthly average.....                   | 50,119    |

## Commuters, 2007–2011

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Worked outside county of residence..... | 38.5%      |
| Worked outside state.....               | 2.8%       |
| Work at home .....                      | 4.6%       |
| Carpool.....                            | 11.1%      |
| Drove alone to work.....                | 78.8%      |
| Average travel time to work.....        | 27 minutes |

## 10 fastest growing occupations, 2012–2022

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Biomedical Engineers.....                  | 5.1% |
| Marriage and Family Therapists.....        | 4.5% |
| Home Health Aides.....                     | 4.4% |
| Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.....       | 4.0% |
| Medial Scientists .....                    | 3.9% |
| Personal and Home Care Aides.....          | 3.8% |
| Mental Health Counselors.....              | 3.5% |
| Helpers—Carpenters .....                   | 3.5% |
| Curators.....                              | 3.4% |
| Shoe & Leather Workers and Repairers ..... | 3.3% |

Source: GA Department of Labor

## Natural resources

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Water withdrawals in millions of gallons per day, total (2005)..... | 5,471.5                                     |
| Ground water.....   | 1,180.04                                    |
| Surface water.....  | 4,291.43                                    |
| For public supply.....  | 1,179.85                                    |
| For thermoelectric.....   | 2,720.83                                    |
| For irrigation/livestock.....                                       | 818.52                                      |
| For commercial/industrial.....                                      | 752.29                                      |
| Per capita use gallons per day.....                                 | 157.9                                       |
| 2012 Toxic release inventory number of facilities.....              | 642   |
| Total releases in pounds.....                                       | 65 million                                  |
| Forestland, 2012.....   | 24.8 million acres<br>(65.1% land use area) |
| Timberland for commercial use, 2012.....                            | 24.3 million acres                          |
| Wildlife associated recreation by persons 16+ (2011)*               |   |
| Sportsmen (hunters and anglers).....                                | 1,221,000<br>\$2.7 billion spent            |
| Wildlife-watching.....  | 2,393,000<br>\$1.8 billion spent            |

*\*Source: 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreations, US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Census Bureau*

# Population

## Population by selected age group, 2012

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| <5.....  | 675,032 (6.8%)    |
| <20..... | 2,778,233 (28%)   |
| 18+..... | 7,529,820 (4.9%)  |
| 65+..... | 1,139,699 (11.5%) |
| 85+..... | 123,483 (1.2%)    |

## Largest municipalities, 2012 estimate

|               |         |                    |        |
|---------------|---------|--------------------|--------|
| Atlanta.....  | 443,775 | Sandy Springs..... | 99,416 |
| Augusta.....  | 198,413 | Roswell.....       | 93,692 |
| Columbus..... | 197,872 | Macon.....         | 91,234 |
| Savannah..... | 142,022 | Johns Creek.....   | 82,306 |
| Athens.....   | 118,999 | Albany.....        | 77,431 |

## Population

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1960.....           | 3,943,116  |
| 1970.....           | 4,589,575  |
| 1980.....           | 5,463,105  |
| 1990.....           | 6,478,149  |
| 2000.....           | 8,186,453  |
| 2010.....           | 9,714,748  |
| 2012.....           | 9,919,945  |
| Projected 2015..... | 10,509,376 |
| Projected 2020..... | 11,326,787 |

## Percent Change

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| 1960–1970..... | 16.4% |
| 1970–1980..... | 19.0% |
| 1980–1990..... | 18.6% |
| 1990–2000..... | 26.4% |
| 2000–2010..... | 18.3% |

## Population (cont.)

### Distribution by race (one race alone), 2012 estimate

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Black.....                                  | 3,091,904 (31.2%) |
| Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race).....   | 909,902 (9.3%)    |
| White.....                                  | 6,231,978 (62.8%) |
| Asian.....                                  | 351,734 (3.5%)    |
| American Indian.....                        | 50,539 (0.51%)    |
| Native Hawaiian/other Pacific islander..... | 11,061(0.01%)     |

### Selected population facts, 2010

|                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Urban.....                       | 75.1%                            |
| Rural.....                       | 24.9%                            |
| Born in GA.....                  | 53.5%                            |
| Born in other US state.....      | 32.7%                            |
| Foreign-born.....                | 9.7%                             |
| Veteran population, 2013.....    | 774,464                          |
| Female.....                      | 13.8%                            |
| Age 65+.....                     | 37.1%                            |
| VA expenditures, FY12 total..... | \$3.9 billion<br>(32.1% Medical) |

Source: 2012 Census

## Public assistance

### 2012 recipients monthly average

#### Food stamps

|                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Households .....                | 860,085             |
|                                 | (19% of population) |
| Total annual benefits paid..... | \$3.0 billion       |

#### TANF

|                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Households .....                | 18,772                |
|                                 | (0.36% of population) |
| Total annual benefits paid..... | \$55 million          |

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| SSI total recipients..... | 247,951       |
| Total payments.....       | \$135 million |

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| OASDI total recipients..... | 1,582,070       |
| Total payments.....         | \$1.795 billion |

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Child abuse cases- investigated ..... | 13,066              |
|                                       | 42.8% substantiated |

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Child maltreatment victims..... | 19,035         |
|                                 | rate: 6.9/1000 |



# Transportation

## Daily vehicle miles traveled, 2012

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Rural.....           | 94 million  |
| Small urban.....     | 19 million  |
| Urbanized.....       | 26 million  |
| Large urbanized..... | 150 million |
| Total.....           | 291 million |

## 2012 total road mileage:

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 121,458.3 miles          | 17,966.9 state route miles |
| 23.9% unpaved            | 85,737.9 county roads      |
| 1,248.3 interstate miles | 17,753.6 city streets      |

## Registered motor vehicles, 2007–2011

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Total.....          | 8,785,922 |
| Passenger cars..... | 64%       |
| Trucks.....         | 21.1%     |
| Trailers.....       | 12.2%     |
| Motorcycles.....    | 2.3%      |
| Buses.....          | 0.47%     |

## 2011 fatalities in crashes

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| 1,223 total                        |
| 277 with alcohol impairment        |
| 220 involving speeding             |
| 13,545 deer related crashes (2006) |

*From GA DOT CASI Report*

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Public general aviation airports, 2013..... | 106 |
|---|-----|

## Vital stats, 2011

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Live births.....                       | 132,239 total |
| White.....                             | 64,960 (49%)  |
| Black.....                             | 43,907 (33%)  |
| Hispanic origin.....                   | 18,338 (14%)  |
| Teen pregnancy.....                    | 17,378 total  |
| White.....                             | 6,227 (36%)   |
| Black.....                             | 8,483 (49%)   |
| Hispanic origin.....                   | 2,514 (14%)   |
| Low weight births.....                 | 12,419 total  |
| White.....                             | 4,780 (38%)   |
| Black.....                             | 5,912 (48%)   |
| Hispanic origin.....                   | 1,166 (9%)    |
| Live births to unwed mothers.....      | 59,613 total  |
| White.....                             | 18,304 (31%)  |
| Black.....                             | 31,484 (53%)  |
| Hispanic origin.....                   | 9,702 (16%)   |
| Live births to unwed teen mothers..... | 11,490 total  |
| White.....                             | 3,972 (35%)   |
| Black.....                             | 5,920 (52%)   |
| Hispanic origin.....                   | 1,602 (14%)   |
| Induced terminations of pregnancy..... | 29,558 total  |
| White.....                             | 6,695 (23%)   |
| Black.....                             | 16,331 (55%)  |
| Hispanic origin.....                   | 4,824 (16%)   |

## Vital stats, 2011 (cont.)

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Infant death .....   | 904 total    |
| Deaths.....          | 70,775 total |
| White.....           | 51,180 (72%) |
| Black.....           | 18,786 (27%) |
| Hispanic origin..... | 896 (1.27%)  |

### Total deaths by selected causes

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Cardiovascular diseases.....                    | 20,797 |
| Neoplasms (cancer) .....                        | 15,492 |
| Diseases of the respiratory system.....         | 6,915  |
| Diseases of the nervous system .....            | 3,726  |
| Endocrine, nutritional, metabolic diseases..... | 3,002  |
| Mental, behavioral disorders.....               | 4,062  |
| Reproductive, urinary system diseases .....     | 1,998  |
| Infectious, parasitic diseases.....             | 2,414  |
| External causes .....                           | 5,522  |
| Deaths from all other causes.....               | 6,847  |



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