

# export

## GEORGIA-COSTA RICA CONNECTION

### GOVERNMENT & COMMERCE

Georgia is home to a Consulate General of the Republic of Costa Rica led by Consul General Manuel Dobles. The consulate, located in Atlanta, has jurisdiction over Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Also, The Honorary Consulate of Costa Rica is located in Decatur. Mr. Dimitiros G. Hondroulis serves as the Honorary Consul General.

### TRADE RELATIONSHIP

#### TRADE BALANCE

In 2010, the trade surplus between Georgia and Costa Rica equaled \$115.2 million.

#### EXPORTS

In 2010, Georgia exports to Costa Rica totaled over **\$156 million**, which was a **27.5%** increase over 2009.

Georgia ranks **8<sup>th</sup>** among the U.S. states exporting to Costa Rica, up from the **9<sup>th</sup>** position in 2009.

RANK	STATE	2010	% OF TOTAL	% CHANGE OVER '09
	_States	5,185,475,810	100	10.34
1	Texas	1,066,392,443	20.56	7.67
2	Florida	898,512,875	17.33	15.98
3	Oregon	505,330,217	9.75	-25.55
4	Louisiana	379,496,249	7.32	-1.03
5	California	340,669,692	6.57	27.74
	Unspecified	244,322,373	4.71	36.11
6	Massachusetts	159,306,939	3.07	-17.02
7	Illinois	157,358,617	3.03	22.7
8	Georgia	156,249,110	3.01	27.51
9	North Carolina	120,485,244	2.32	-5.47



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Top exports from Georgia to Costa Rica include:

- paper and paperboard
- mineral fuel
- machinery
- chemical products
- vehicles

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Costa Rica:

- paper and paperboard
- electric generating sets
- electric capacitors
- textile floor coverings
- live animals
- lifting machines (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- air conditioning machines (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- special purpose motor vehicles (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- optic fibers (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- TV receivers (3<sup>rd</sup>)
- insecticides (3<sup>rd</sup>)
- x-rays (3<sup>rd</sup>)

## IMPORTS

In 2010, Georgia's imports from Costa Rica totaled close to **\$41 million** (up 56.5% over 2009). The country is 65<sup>th</sup> among Georgia's top import markets.

Top imports from Costa Rica include: rubber; woven articles of apparel and clothing; stone, plaster, cement; fish and seafood; and electrical machinery.

## CAPITAL INVESTMENT

There are more than 5 Georgia companies with operations in Costa Rica.

- Cajun Operating Company
- Delta Air Lines Inc.
- Hooters of America Inc.
- Spectrum brands Inc.
- UPS Supply Chain Solutions
- YKK Corporation of America

## TRANSPORTATION

Delta offers daily direct flights to Liberia and San Jose, Costa Rica.

Container ports in Costa Rica include Puerto de Caldera, Puerto Limon, and Puerto Moin.



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## COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, over 597,000 Georgians primarily speak Spanish at home, and 7.4% of Georgians identify themselves as Hispanic or of Latino origin.

The University System of Georgia boasted 45 Costa Rican students enrolled in the Fall 2007 semester. In 2006, 217 degrees in Spanish were awarded and over 18,000 college students took a course in Spanish in the fall of that year, increasing from just fewer than 9,000 in 1996. The University System of Georgia offers 18 study abroad programs to Costa Rica.

The University of Georgia has a 160 acre satellite campus in San Luis de Monteverde, Costa Rica, where it offers classes in a variety of fields ranging from ecology to business. In May of 2009, 12 students went to Costa Rica to present research projects as part of an international undergraduate research symposium.

Georgia Institute of Technology opened its newest trade-chain Innovation and Productivity (TIP) Center in Costa Rica in March 2009. Their goal is to utilize research, innovation, and education to increase trade across borders and make existing trade more productive.

