



- There are 647,888 registered businesses in Georgia (SOS: 10/1/11)
- 97.5% categorized as small by the Federal Gov't. (< 500 employees) compared to 99.7% nationally
- 95% employ fewer than 50
- 78.8% employ fewer than 10
- 87% employ 5 and under (AEO / US Census)

Georgia Rankings

- GA ranks: # 2 in U.S. as a site selection location of choice; #1 for workforce as a factor in consultants' decisions; #2 for infrastructure; tied at #4 for economic recovery; #1 for both labor availability and workforce development programs; among top five states in 10 of the publication's 12 categories. (*Area Development* 9/11)
- GA's economic outlook ranks 11th among 50 states (*American Legislative Exchange Council* 8/11)
- GA ranks 4th in US for Best State for Business: #2 Transportation, #4 Workforce, #13 Access to Capital (*CNBC* 6/11)
- GA wins Silver Shovel Award for innovation in economic development (*Area Development* 6/11)
- GA ranks #5 in US for Best Business Climate (*Site Selection* 6/11)
- GA ranks #5 in US (up from #7) for Best State for Business (*Chief Executive* 5/11)
- GA ranks #12 in US for dollar value of exports (\$28.7B) @ 20.8% increase from '09-'10 (*GDEcD* 5/11)
- GA ranks #18 (up from #21) for best Business Tax Index for Entrepreneurship & Small Business (*SBE Council* 4/11)
- GA ranks #1 in US for fastest growth of women-owned businesses (*American Express OPEN* 4/11)
- GA ranks 20th in US for Small Business Survival Index Policy Environment for Entrepreneurship (*SBE Council* 12/10)
- GA ranks #1 in US in Entrepreneurial Activity: 0.50% entrepreneurs per % of population (*Kauffman/ITIF* 11/10)
- GA ranks #5 best state for business: #1 in workforce development - #3 in labor - #1 in labor/workforce development - #3 in shovel-ready - #2 most attractive metro for business (Atlanta) (*Area Development* '10)
- GA ranks #2 workforce training leaders (*Business Facilities* '10)
- GA ranks #19 overall in the New Economy Index (*Kauffman/ITIF* 11/10)
- GA ranks #8 in US for best state for business, careers & regulatory environment (*Forbes* 10/10)
- GA leads the nation over the last decade for having the largest positive change in entrepreneurial activity. Atlanta/Marietta/Sandy Springs ranks 4th (*Kauffman* 8/10)
- GA ranks #2 in US for highest number of black-owned businesses at 20.4% (*US Census* 7/10);
- GA ranks 6th Best State for Business in US citing legislation that attracts businesses & jobs (*Forbes* 5/10)
- GA ranks in top 3 in US for number of franchisors (>100) headquartered in GA – (*IFA* 1/09)

Miscellaneous

- Metro Atlanta ranks in Top 10 in US for best regions for clean jobs (*Brookings Institution* 7/11)
- Atlanta ranks 5th among major cities in foreign direct investment (*Global Atlanta* 6/11)
- GA ranks 6th in US for most tax-friendly states for retirees (*Kiplinger's* 6/11)
- Atlanta ranks 48/385 US metros w/25% population between ages 18-34 w/bachelor's degree/higher (*On Numbers* 6/11)
- Metro Atlanta ranks #1 in US in minority-run firms; #2 in self-employed minorities; #2 as entrepreneurial region; #1 in increasing household incomes & affordable housing. Black-owned businesses grew 99% between '02-'07 (*Forbes* 3/11)
- Atlanta ranks #2 in US as most socially networked city behind Washington DC (*Men's Health* 3/11)
- Atlanta ranks #6 in US for jobs in 2010 (*JobSerf Employment Index* 1/11)
- Nine Metro Atlanta companies on Inc. 500's fastest growing companies (*Inc. Magazine* 8/10)
- Atlanta in Top 10 startup-friendly cities (*Entrepreneur Magazine* 8/10)
- Atlanta ranks 4th best city for college grads (*Bloomberg BusinessWeek* 7/10)
- 14 Fortune 500 companies and 32 Fortune 1000 companies are home to GA
- Atlanta ranks 9th best US city for young professionals (*Forbes* 6/10)
- ATDC ranks in Top 10 in US for best technology incubators (*Forbes* 4/10)
- The top-performing 1% of firms in any given year generate roughly 40% of all new jobs; gazelle firms (ages 3-5 yrs.) comprise less than 1% of all companies yet generate roughly 10% of all new jobs (*Kauffman* 3/10)
- 14% of *Inc. 500's* fastest growing companies in the U.S. started with less than \$1000