

- There are **601,987** registered establishments in Georgia (SOS: 10/3/16)
- According to the GA Dept. of Labor 298,415 business establishments represented Georgia employment in Q1 2016; of those:
  - 99.8% are categorized as small (fewer than 500 employees)
  - 97.6% employed fewer than 100
  - 94.6% employed fewer than 50
  - 77.7% employed fewer than 10

### Georgia Rankings

- **GA ranks #1 (third year running) in US for best state for business (Area Development 9/16)**
- Best Large Cities in GA to Start a Business: Atlanta #24, Augusta #64, Columbus #67 (wallethub 5/16)
- GA ranks #5 in US for greatest number of women-owned firms, Metro Atlanta ranks #5. GA ranks #2 in growth in number of women-owned firms and #7 in growth in economic clout of women-owned firms (*American Express OPEN 5/16*)
- GA ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in US for top states for aerospace manufacturing attractiveness (*PWC 7/16*)
- Georgia Tech (#15) and University of Georgia (#17) rank in the top 25 public colleges in US (*Forbes 7/16*)
- GA scores an “A” for small business friendliness (*Thumbtack 6/16*)
- GA ranks #11 in US as a top exporting state (*Trade & Economic Analysis 6/16*)
- GA ranks #1 (third year running) in US for best state for business (*Site Selection 1/15*)
- GA ranks #9 in US as the most entrepreneurial state with #1 biggest average of SBA loans and #5 highest growth in number of SBA loans (*NerdWallet 10/15*)
- GA ranks #11 (up from #16) for best state for business for costs relating to labor, energy and taxes, labor supply, regulatory environment, economic climate, growth prospects & quality of life (*Forbes 10/15*)
- GA ranks #1 for Distribution & Supply Chain Hubs, Labor Climate, Incentive Programs, Cooperative State Government and Most Favorable Regulatory Environment (*Area Development Q3 2015*)

### Other

- **Decatur ranks #11 for Best Cities for Entrepreneurs (BusinessClimate.com 9/16)**
- Sandy Springs wins Yelp’s first ever Bizzie Award celebrating the most customer-friendly small businesses and communities in America (*Yelp Inc 8/16*)
- Atlanta ranks 9<sup>th</sup> among the top 50 technology meccas in the US. (*CBRE 7/16*)
- Atlanta ranks #1 for most mobile-friendly city in US (*NerdWallet 7/16*)
- Atlanta gets an “A” for small business friendliness in these categories: overall friendliness, ease in starting a business, regulations, health & safety, employment, labor & training, tax code, licensing, environmental, zoning (*Thumbtack 6/16*)
- Atlanta ranked as the fourth-best tech hub in US (*InfoWorld 6/16*)
- Atlanta is the #9 best city in US for recent college graduates (*NerdWallet 3/16*)
- Atlanta’s women-owned businesses grew 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest in US from 2007 to 2012 (*Center for an Urban Future 3/16*)
- Three Georgia cities rank amongst the most educated places in the US: Atlanta (25), Cumming (41) and Marietta (42) (*DegreeQuery.com 2/16*)
- Atlanta ranks as best city in US for web developers to move to (*SpareFoot.com 1/16*)
- Atlanta ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in US as best city to launch a startup (*DataFox 1/16*)
- Atlanta is #1 in US for engineering jobs
- Atlanta is #2 best city in US for millennials (*Money.com 10/15*)
- Alpharetta ranks #1 in US for best city for women entrepreneurs; Peachtree City ranks #9 (*GoodCall LLC 8/15*)
- Metro Atlanta ranks #1 for number of black-owned businesses (*NerdWallet 8/15*)

- Metro Atlanta ranks #2 for job growth; #4 for jobs added. Fastest growing employment sectors: leisure & hospitality, construction, professional & business services (*ARC 8/15*)
- Atlanta is #5 strongest market in US for tenant demand for office space (*DTZ 8/15*)