Government and Commerce
Atlanta is home to the Consulate General of France, which serves six southern U.S. states. France has maintained a consular presence in Georgia since 1820. Louis de Corail has served as Consul General since August 2016. Business France, France’s trade and investment arm, is co-located with the Consulate General. An Honorary Consulate is located in Savannah, Georgia, where Mr. Jean-Yves Vendeville serves as Honorary Consul.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in Europe since 1973. Since that time the office has assisted hundreds of European firms locating in Georgia and Georgia companies exporting to Europe.

The French American Chamber of Commerce (FACC) has an office in Atlanta. Jacques Marcotte serves as FACC President. The FACC hosts the annual Crystal Peach Awards which recognizes significant inbound and outbound investments between France and the Southeastern U.S.

Atlanta is also home to Alliance Française d’Atlanta, a non-profit organization committed to the study of French language and culture between Americans and French speakers.

Three Georgia cities have sister city agreements with France: Macon - Mâcon; Atlanta – Toulouse; and Augusta - Biarritz.

Academics
The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 61 study abroad programs in France in a variety of disciplines. As of Fall 2018, 295 French students were enrolled in USG schools.

The Georgia Institute of Technology has maintained an international campus in Metz, France since 1990. More than 5,000 students have studied at GT-Lorraine. The Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) also maintains a full-time campus in Lacoste, France.

Georgia Tech partners with the French Consulate General to present “France-Atlanta”, an annual series of events that foster cooperation in the scientific, business, cultural and humanitarian domains. The 8th annual France-Atlanta took place from Oct. 9-Nov. 3, 2017.

Arts, Culture and Tourism
Atlanta also hosts an annual Francophonie Festival that features film, dance, music and cultural events from the French-speaking world. The 2019 festival took place in March.

Georgia is home to Théâtre du Rêve, the only professional Francophone theater company in the U.S. The company celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2016. France is a key traditional tourism market for the state, marked by long lengths of stay and strong visitor spending. In 2018, more than 34,200 visitors traveled from France to Georgia spending more than $51.2 million. Between 2012 to 2017, French tourism increased by 25%.

International Trade
EXPORTS: In 2019, Georgia exports to France totaled $691.2 million, a 13% increase over the previous year. France is the 14th largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to France include civilian aircraft, powered aircraft, motor vehicles, insecticides and herbicides and tractors.
Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to France: insecticides and herbicides, tall oil and Kraft paper and paperboard.

**IMPORTS:** In 2019, Georgia imports from France totaled **$2.6 billion.** France ranks 9th among Georgia’s importer nations.

Top imports to Georgia from France include powered aircraft, medicaments, immunological products, turbojets and parts and parts of airplanes or helicopters.

**Capital Investment**
At least **45** Georgia companies have operations in France, including but not limited to:
- Cryolife
- Exide Technologies
- Georgia-Pacific
- Halyard Health
- King & Spalding
- Mohawk Industries
- Vernay Laboratories
- Zep

There are approximately **200 French facilities operating in Georgia.** These French-affiliated companies employ more than 9,000 Georgians.

One of the largest French investments in Georgia, based on total employment is Imerys. Located in Georgia since 1986, Imerys processes industrial minerals such as kaolinic clay.

**Transportation**
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers multiple daily direct flights between Atlanta and Paris. The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah has an established relationship with France. GPA offers regular container services to Le Havre and one to Dunkirk. The Port of Brunswick offers weekly shipping service to Le Havre.

**About GDEcD**
The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects. For more information, visit [www.georgia.org](http://www.georgia.org).

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