



GEORGIA - CANADA COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

Atlanta is home to the Canadian Consulate General, one of 16 Canadian diplomatic offices in the U.S. In addition to Georgia, the consulate serves Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. The office, established in 1973, promotes business development, investment, tourism, culture and information exchange between Canada and the Southeastern U.S. Ambassador Louise Blais currently serves as Acting Consul General.

Georgia is also home to the Québec Government Office, which promotes economic and political ties between Québec and 11 southeastern states. The office was established in 1978.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in Canada since 1981 facilitating trade and investment. Based in Montreal, Ludovic Ortuno and his team currently represents Georgia in this market.

Georgia is a founding member of the Southeastern United States-Canadian Provinces (SEUS-CP) Alliance designed to present opportunities for businesses to enhance commercial exchanges, promote two-way trade and encourage technological and scientific exchanges between and among six southeastern states and six Canadian provinces. Georgia hosted the inaugural SEUS-CP Conference in Savannah in 2008, and will host again in 2022.

Georgia and the province of Québec are members of the Regional Leaders Summit (RLS), a strategic alliance of seven international regions from five continents fostering the exchange of best practices on

topics of mutual interest. Other members include Upper Austria, Austria; São Paulo, Brazil; Shandong, China; Bavaria, Germany; and Western Cape, South Africa. Québec hosted the 2018 RLS in Québec City.

Academics

The University System of Georgia (USG) offers five study abroad programs to Canada in language and business. As of Fall 2020, 665 Canadian students were enrolled in USG schools. Emory University also provides study abroad programs to Canada, including a Global Internship Program in Toronto.

Arts, Culture and Tourism

Saskatoon native Keaton Leier is a member of the Atlanta Ballet Company.

Canadian pianist Marc-André Hamelin visited Georgia in 2017 to perform with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Canadian musical groups Le Vent du Nord and De Temps Antan performed at the 2017 Savannah Music Festival.

Elm Street Cultural Arts Center in Woodstock, Georgia has hosted Canadian jazz artist Liala Biali and Canadian folk artist Ian Sherwood. The True Colors Theatre Company in Atlanta is collaborating with Soulpepper in Toronto on their new play development program "The Drinking Gourd: Black Writers at Work."

Canada is consistently the top inbound international market for Georgia tourism. In 2019, 418,800 Canadians traveled to Georgia, spending more than \$119.7 million.

International Trade

The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) was signed in 2018 as a successor to NAFTA and took effect in 2020. The USMCA maintains NAFTA's tariff-free market access for goods traded between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. Main changes are contained in new chapters of the agreement, including: good regulatory practices, digital trade, labor and environment (designed to address global environmental challenges). Other notable changes include modifications to the Certificate of Origin and the implementation of higher de minimis thresholds.

EXPORTS: In 2020, Georgia exports to Canada totaled **\$5.14 billion**. Canada is the largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Canada include motor vehicles, aircraft, carpets and floor textiles, tractors, and bulldozers.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Canada: carpets, poultry, peanut products, and chemical woodpulp.

IMPORTS: In 2020, Georgia imports from Canada totaled **\$4.32 billion**. Canada ranks **7th** among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Canada to Georgia include aircraft, gas turbines, sawn wood, baked food products, and polymers of ethylene.

Capital Investment There are at least **87** Georgia companies with operation in Canada, including but not limited to:

- Acuity Brands
- Arby's
- Cajun Operating Company
- Cox Enterprises
- Halyard Health
- Marble Slab Creamery
- Simmons Bedding Company
- Teavana Holdings
- The Home Depot

There are at least **325 Canadian** facilities operating in Georgia. These Canadian-affiliated companies currently employ more than **33,000 Georgians**.

Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers multiple daily direct flights from Atlanta to Montréal and Toronto. Delta Air Lines also partners with WestJet to offer direct flights from Atlanta to Calgary with connecting flights to additional Canadian cities, such as Vancouver. Air Canada offers direct flights from Savannah to Toronto. 2020 international connectivity was limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restrictions ease, the airport expects a return to pre-COVID connections and travel.

The Port of Savannah offers direct weekly container ship service to three ports of call in Canada: St. John, Montreal and Corner Brook..

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.

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