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. Vince Hommeril has served as Consul General since September 2019.

Business France, France’s trade and investment arm, is co-located with the Consulate General.

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.

Ambassador of France to the United States, Philippe Étienne visited Governor Kemp in February 2020.

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.

Academics
The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 84 study abroad programs in France in a variety of disciplines. As of Fall 2020, 227 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 11th annual France-Atlanta event series took place from Oct. 1 - Nov. 10, 2020 and was held in a virtual format due to the pandemic.

Arts, Culture and Tourism
Atlanta hosts an annual Francophonie Festival that features film, dance, music and cultural events from the French-speaking world.

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.

In 2021, The French piano virtuoso Jean-Yves Thibaudet returns to play music by the acclaimed Hollywood composer Aaron Zigman.

In 2019, more than 40,000 visitors traveled from France to Georgia spending more than $49.5 million. Between 2012 to 2017, French tourism increased by 25%.
International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2020, Georgia exports to France totaled $645.1 million. France is the 16th largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to France include aircraft, helicopters, tall oil, motor vehicles, and insecticides.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to France: tall oil, kraft paper, and acrylic polymers.

IMPORTS: In 2020, Georgia imports from France totaled $1.87 billion. France ranks 13th among Georgia’s importer nations.

Top imports from France to Georgia include medicaments, gas turbines, immunological products, alcohol, and vitamins.

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 23,300 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. 2020 international connectivity was limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restrictions ease, the airport expects a return to pre-COVID connections.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah The Port of Savannah offers six direct weekly container ship services to France, calling the ports of Le Havre, Fos and Dunkirk.

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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