



## GEORGIA - BRAZIL COUNTRY CONNECTION

### Government and Commerce

Based in Atlanta, the Consulate General of Brazil serves the Southeastern states of Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama. Brazil first established a consular presence in Georgia in 1899. Ambassador Luis Claudio Villafane Gomes Santos has served as Consul General since August 2022.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in Brazil since 1995. Since then, the office has assisted hundreds of Georgia companies with export requests, promoted Georgia as a tourism destination for Brazilian visitors and supported Brazilian companies with foreign direct investment requests. José Madeira has represented Georgia in this market since 2010.

Georgia and the state of São Paulo 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; Québec, Canada; Shandong, China; Bavaria, Germany; and Western Cape, South Africa. Georgia hosted the 2014 Regional Leaders Summit in Atlanta.

Atlanta is also home to the Brazilian-American Chamber of Commerce of the Southeast.

Georgia has one sister city agreement with Brazil: Atlanta – Rio de Janeiro.

### Academics

In the Fall semester of 2022, 476 Brazilian students will be enrolled in USG schools.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected study abroad programs around the world, but these programs are expected to return to former participation levels soon.

In previous years, the University System of Georgia (USG) offered nine study abroad programs to Brazil in disciplines such as public health, communications, education, leadership, business and agriculture

Georgia's leading public universities host Brazilian students through the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program, a one-year, non-degree study abroad program formerly known as Science Without Borders.

Emory University provides a faculty-led study abroad program to Brazil as well as an exchange program with Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro.

### Arts, Culture and Tourism

COVID-19 severely impacted the tourism industry in Georgia, but international visitation is expected to reach past numbers soon. In 2021, 7,751 Brazilian visitors spent more than \$20.56 million in the state of Georgia.

In February 2017, the Rialto Center for the Arts in Atlanta featured Brazil's Baléfolclórico da Bahia.

Four members of the Atlanta Ballet Company are native Brazilians: Jessica Assef, Nadyne Bispo, Guilherme Maciel, and Anderson Souza.

World-renowned Brazilian percussionist Rafael Pereira is an alumni of Georgia State University. Based in Atlanta, Pereira recorded more than 70 albums in eight years.

Savannah-based Benedetto®, makers of archtop guitars since 1968, counts lauded Brazilian guitarists and composers Chico Pinheiro and Romero Lubambo among its family of artist endorsers.

## International Trade

**EXPORTS:** In 2021, Georgia exports to Brazil totaled **\$743.9 million**. Brazil is the 15th largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Brazil include civilian aircraft, insecticides and fungicides, gas turbines, medicaments, and medical instruments.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Brazil: kaolin and electrical capacitors.

**IMPORTS:** In 2021, Georgia imports from Brazil totaled **\$1.6 billion**. Brazil ranks 21st among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Brazil to Georgia include revolvers and pistols, chemical woodpulp, tractors, sugar, and construction vehicles.

## Capital Investment

There are at least **37** Georgia companies with operations in Brazil, including but not limited to:

- AGCO Corporation
- Delta Air Lines
- Equifax
- Global Payments
- InComm
- Novelis
- The Coca-Cola Company
- UPS

A significant Brazilian investment in Georgia is JBS Foods, which owns brands like Pilgrim's Pride and Gold Kist, and employs more than 5,000 Georgians.

There are more than 40 Brazilian facilities employing more than **12,000 people** in Georgia. These companies are from diverse industries such as technology, life sciences, machinery, defense and aerospace. These companies include: Group Guidoni, WEG, Gerdau, Cielo/Merchant e-Solutions, Colombo North America, CZM USA Corp, Embraer, Eucatex of North America, Forquimica and Schulz of America.

## Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport provides daily non-stop flights from Atlanta to São Paulo and Rio

de Janeiro. In 2022, there will be an estimated 385 flights between Georgia and Brazil carrying 107,956 passengers.

International connectivity has been limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restrictions ease, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport expects a return to pre-COVID connections.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah has an established relationship with Brazil. GPA offers direct weekly container ship service to seven ports of call in Brazil, including Suape, Salvador, and Rio de Janeiro.

## 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).

## GDEcD's International Representatives in Brazil

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