



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. Mr. James Hill has served as Consul General since March 2022.

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. David Bruce Weiner serves as the current delegate.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in Canada since 1981 facilitating trade and investment. Ludovic Ortuno has represented Georgia in this market since 2020.

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 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

In the Fall semester of 2022, over 1000 Canadian 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 the past, the University System of Georgia (USG) offered 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

COVID-19 severely impacted the tourism industry in Georgia, but international visitation is expected to reach past numbers soon. In 2021, 55,266 Canadian visitors spent \$14.28 million in the state of Georgia. Canada is consistently the top inbound international market for Georgia 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.

Atlanta-based “Bent Frequency” music ensemble is co-directed by Canadian native Jan Berry Baker.

In August 2022, the Museum of Arts and Sciences hosts an international full dome film festival featuring multimedia artwork and artistic experiences from 14 countries, including Belgium.

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 2021, Georgia exports to Canada totaled **\$6.2 billion**. Canada is the #1 export market for Georgia.

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

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

IMPORTS: In 2021, Georgia imports from Canada totaled **\$4.98 billion**. Canada ranks 6th among Georgia’s importer nations.

Top imports from Canada to Georgia include sawn wood, turbojets, canola oil, ethylene polymers, and baked goods.

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.

In 2022, there will be an estimated 4,151 flights between Canada and Georgia with 491,271 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 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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