



GEORGIA - CHINA COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

Georgia is under the jurisdiction of the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC. His Excellency Qin Gang has served as Ambassador to the United States since July 2021.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in China since 2007. Its office promotes investment, trade, and cultural activities between Georgia and China.

Georgia-based organizations such as the National Association of Chinese-Americans (NACA), Chinese Business Association of Atlanta (CBAA), and U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) help foster business connections between Georgians and Chinese professionals.

Georgia has three sister city agreements with China: Brunswick-Ganzhou, Hinesville-Yichun, and Savannah-Jiujiang. Two Georgian cities have friendship-city relationships: Sandy Springs-Taicang and Tifton-Linyi.

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

In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of U.S.-China diplomatic normalization in 2019, The National Association of Chinese-Americans (NACA), in conjunction with The Carter Center, hosted a

celebration at Fernbank Natural History Museum. The event includes a special appearance by former President Jimmy Carter, who presided over the normalization of relations between the U.S. and China in 1979.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2022, 5,679 Chinese students will be enrolled in USG schools. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Georgia's private colleges and universities hosted an additional 3,000 Chinese students every year.

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 46 study abroad programs to China in a variety of academic disciplines.

The UGA College of Public Health partners with the Jiangsu Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Shanghai Pudong New Area Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to provide fieldwork opportunities and to conduct joint public health research. UGA is also a U.S. partner in a new Chinese-government funded International Joint Research Laboratory for Lipid Nutrition at Jiangnan University.

Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) has a permanent campus in Hong Kong, and Georgia Tech maintains a campus in Shenzhen.

Emory University provides faculty-led study abroad to Nanjing and Beijing as well as an exchange program with Hong Kong Baptist University.

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, 4,847 Chinese visitors spent nearly \$24 million in the state of Georgia.

The U.S.-China Tourism Leadership Summit was held in Atlanta in September 2017, attended by both Former Governor Nathan Deal and Former Mayor Kasim Reed.

The Georgia-based Chinese American Cultural Performing Group (CACPG) annually celebrates the Mid-Autumn Festival with its Atlanta August Moon Chinese Cultural Gala Performance.

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra musicians Zhenwei Shi (Principal Viola), Yiyin Li (Viola), and Sissi Yuqing Zhang (First Violin) are from China.

In 2014, Georgia was the only U.S. state invited to showcase a garden at the 2014 Qingdao International Horticultural Exposition.

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2021, Georgia exports to China totaled **\$4.2 billion**. China is the 2nd largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to China include motor vehicles, chemical woodpulp, civilian aircraft, poultry, and wood in the rough.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to China: kraft paper, chemical woodpulp, poultry, and kaolin.

IMPORTS: In 2021, Georgia imports from China totaled **\$23.6 billion**. China ranks 1st among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from China to Georgia include plastic floor coverings, computers, toys, seats and chairs, and furniture.

Capital Investment

There are at least **63** Georgia companies with operations in China, including but not limited to:

- Avanos Medical
- Chart Industries
- The Coca-Cola Company
- Delta Air Lines

*Information valid as of July 2022

- Exide Technologies
- Georgia-Pacific
- NCR Corporation
- Novelis
- Porex Corporation
- Troutman Sanders
- UPS

There are several major Chinese facilities operating in Georgia, including SANY America Inc, Hisense USA, SELF Electronics, Huali Floors, Linhai Powersports, and Royal Gourmet.

Transportation

Delta Air Lines offers a non-stop flight to Shanghai. Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport signed an MOU with Shanghai Airport Authority in 2018.

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 eight port cities in China. The GPA offers regular shipping services from the port of Savannah to the ports of Ningbo, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shekou, Xiamen, Xingang/Tianjin, and Yantian. The Port of Brunswick also offers direct service for Roll-on/Roll-off cargo to China, calling the ports of Guangzhou, Shanghai, Tianjin, Xinsha, and Yantai. GPA's China representative for the Port of Savannah is Captain Charles You.

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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