



GEORGIA - COLOMBIA COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

The Consulate General of Colombia is located in Atlanta and has jurisdiction over Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Colombia has maintained a consular presence in Georgia since 1968. Ms. Adriana Arias Castiblanco has served as Consul General since August 2022.

Georgia has had representation in Colombia since 2013, making it the first U.S. state to open a trade office in Colombia. Georgia is currently the only continental U.S. state to have full time international representation in the Colombian market.

The Colombian trade office ProColombia has a full-time representative in Atlanta, Hernando Galindo Enriquez. His office promotes exports from Colombia and the Southeastern United States and Georgia's investment relationship with Colombia.

The Colombian Ambassador to the U.S., His Excellency Francisco Santos Calderón, visited Governor Brian Kemp in November 2019.

The Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was founded in Atlanta in 1984.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2022, 399 Colombian 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 Colombia in international business and language. As of Fall 2020, more than 387 Colombian students were enrolled in USG schools.

Arts and Culture

Each year more than 15,000 people gather to celebrate Colombian culture, music and history at the Colombian Independence Day festival in Atlanta.

Miguel Angel Montoya, a native of Colombia, is a member of the Atlanta Ballet Company. In fall 2021, The Hudgens Center in Duluth, Georgia featured the work of Catalina Gomez-Beuth, born in Medellin, Colombia. The artist is working simultaneously on several series and the exhibition will be an origami display.

International Trade

Colombia and the United States signed a free trade agreement in 2006 to encourage trade between the countries. The agreement went into effect on May 15, 2012, allowing 80% of U.S. exports of consumer and industrial products to Colombia to be duty free with remaining tariffs phased out over 10 years.

EXPORTS: In 2021, Georgia exports to Colombia totaled **\$427.3 million**. Colombia is the 25th largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Colombia include civilian aircraft, poultry, insecticides, chemical woodpulp, and prepared or preserved poultry.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Colombia: kaolin, poultry, and insecticides.

IMPORTS: In 2021, Georgia imports from Colombia totaled **\$319 million**. Colombia ranks 36th among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Colombia to Georgia include coffee, petroleum oils, vinyl chloride polymers, and coal.

Capital Investment

There are at least **13** Georgia companies with operations in Colombia, including but not limited to:

- Arris Group
- Chart Industries
- Delta Air Lines
- NCR Corporation
- Travelport
- Turner Broadcasting System
- UPS Supply Chain Solutions

There are at least **30 Colombian facilities operating in Georgia**. These Colombian-affiliated facilities employ more than **400 Georgians**.

Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers daily direct flights from Atlanta to Bogotá, Colombia. In 2022, there will be an estimated 365 flights between Colombia and Georgia with over 81,000 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 offers five direct weekly container ship services to Colombia, calling the ports of Cartagena, Turbo, Baranquilla, and Santa Marta.

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.

GDEcD's International Representatives in Colombia

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