



GEORGIA - TAIWAN CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO), located in Atlanta, offers commercial, informational and cultural services to the southeastern United States. Elliott Wang has served as Director General of TECO since July 2020.

In October 2011, TECO hosted Taiwan's 100 year birthday celebration in Atlanta. TECO also helped coordinate a Taiwan buyers' mission to Atlanta in 2011, organized by the Agricultural Trade Office at the American Institute in Taiwan. The mission included nine major Taiwanese agricultural companies looking to import a variety of Georgia produce.

Atlanta is home to the Atlanta Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, the Southeast Chapter of the U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce is located in Norcross, Georgia.

Four Georgia cities have sister city agreements with Taiwan: Atlanta – Taipei, Brunswick – Ilan, Columbus – Taichung and Macon – Kaohsiung City.

The city of Macon has especially strong ties to Taiwan. The wife and sisters-in-law of Sun Yatsen, the "father" of Taiwan, all attended Wesleyan College in Macon in the early 1900s.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2022, 319 Taiwanese 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 at least seven study abroad programs to Taiwan in programs such as athletic training and kinesiology.

The UGA Center for Food Safety collaborates with Taiwan's National Center for Food Safety Education and Research for joint training and research exchanges.

There is an exchange program between Lowndes County Schools of Valdosta, Georgia and Chia-Yi City Schools of Taiwan. This has led to numerous other exchanges with Georgia, showcasing musical talent of Taiwanese students and engineering competitions.

The Georgia Institute of Technology offers a faculty-led study abroad program focused on nontraditional security challenges across three Southeast Asian states including Taiwan.

There are five active Taiwanese Student Associations in Georgia at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory University, University of Georgia, and Georgia State 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, 882 Taiwanese visitors spent \$2.87 million in the state of Georgia.

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's Assistant Concertmaster, Jun-Ching Lin, is originally from Taiwan.

As part of the annual Savannah Music Festival, Taiwan-born pianist Wu Han performed the complete cycle of the Beethoven Piano Trios in 2016.

In 2017, the Atlanta Ballet performance Gennadi's Choice featured the dancer Peng-Yu Chen, a native of Taiwan.

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2021, Georgia exports to Taiwan totaled **\$621.3 million**. Taiwan is the **16th** largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Taiwan include civilian aircraft, tanks, poultry, computers, and kaolin.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Taiwan: kaolin and poultry.

IMPORTS: In 2021, Georgia imports from Taiwan totaled **\$3.3 billion**. Taiwan ranks **12th** among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Taiwan to Georgia include semiconductor storage devices, parts for office machines, automatic data processing machines, parts for motor vehicles, and electric tools.

Investment

There are at least **14** Georgia companies with operations in Taiwan, including but not limited to:

- American Megatrends
- Crawford & Company
- InComm
- NCR Corporation
- UPS
- UPS Supply Chain Solutions

There are at least **14 Taiwanese facilities operating in Georgia**. These Taiwanese-affiliated companies employ 264 Georgians.

A major Taiwanese investment in Georgia is Maxxis, located in Newnan, Georgia. The tire and wheel assembly company has several facilities in the state. Maxxis has been operating in Georgia since 1997.

Transportation

Delta Air Lines provides daily one-stop connecting flights from Atlanta to Taipei via Minneapolis-St. Paul, Detroit, New York, and Tokyo, Japan.

There are three international cargo flights per week between Taipei, Taiwan, and Atlanta.

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 Taiwan. GPA provides four regular shipping services to the Port of Kaohsiung.

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.

*Information valid as of July 2022