



Education and Workforce Development Stats

Significant Strengths in Education and Workforce Development

- Metro Atlanta has the second largest Black population with a bachelor's degree or higher
- Atlanta is home to the nation's top ranked HBCU (Spelman College)
- Home to the oldest and largest contiguous consortium of African American higher education institutions, the Atlanta University Center Consortium
 - AUC's combined student population: 8,883 students.
- Georgia State University confers more bachelor's degrees to Black students than any other public or nonprofit university in the U.S.
- Georgia Institute of Technology graduates the second-most Black engineers of any public or nonprofit university in the nation

Additional Education Stats

- According to [Towncharts](#), 26% of Black Atlanta residents ages 25+ have a Bachelor's degree or higher
 - Similarly, 32% are high school graduates or have their GED
 - 16% have less than a high school diploma
 - 27% have some college or associate's degree
- According to [Black Teacher Collaborative](#) there are currently 7,618,512 Black students in America, making up 15.03% of all students in the U.S.
 - In Georgia, there are 646,675 Black students, making up 39.5% of all students in the state
 - Georgia has the second highest number of Black students in the U.S., trailing after Texas, which has 686,252 Black students
- According to [Black Teacher Collaborative](#), there are currently 254,252 Black teachers in America, making up 8.95% of all teachers in the U.S.
 - In Georgia, there are 28,935 Black teachers, making up 24.6% of all teachers in the state
 - Georgia has the second highest number of Black teachers in the U.S., trailing after Texas, which has 35,837 Black teachers
- According to the [2020 State of Education in Metro Atlanta Annual Report](#) (Metro Atlanta Specific)
 - 32% of Black students are proficient or above grade level in reading at the end of third grade
 - 30% of Black students are proficient in Math by the end of eighth grade
 - 78% of Black students graduate high school in four years
 - 69% of Black students enroll in a postsecondary institution within 16 months of graduation
- According to [NBSA](#) (National Scale)
 - In 2018, nearly one-third of Black students lived in poverty (32%) compared to 10% of white students in families living in poverty



- In 2018, 90% of Black students had home internet access. However, this percentage was lower than their peers who were Asian (98%) and White (96%)
- In 2017-18, only 7% of public school teachers and 11% of public school principals were Black. Yet, more than 15% of Black students attended public schools.
- The National Report Card ([NAEP](#)) shows that from 1992 through 2019, the average reading and math scores for Black fourth, eighth, and 12th graders had always been lower than those of their white peers.
- Nationwide, the overall dropout rate decreased from 9.7% in 2006 to 5.3% in 2018. During this time, the dropout rate for Black students decreased from 11.5% to 6.4%.
- 22% of Black 18- to 24-year-olds were neither enrolled in school nor working, which was much higher than the percentage of all U.S. 18- to 24-year-olds youth (14%).
- In school year 2017–18, the national adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) for public high school students was 85%. However, the ACGR for Black students was 79%, below the U.S. average.
- From 2000 to 2018, college enrollment rates among 18- to 24-year-olds increased for those who were Black (from 31% to 37%).

Additional Workforce Development Stats

- According to the [AJC](#), as of 2019, the unemployment rate for African Americans was at 6%
 - In 2017, Metro Atlanta’s unemployment rate for Black residents was 11.5% compared to the 2.5% unemployment rate for white residents
 - This was the second highest disparity in the nation, following Washington D.C.
 - The U.S. Black jobless rate of 6.0% in 2019 was nearly double the overall unemployment rate of 3.7%, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
 - African Americans are less likely to have jobs than Hispanics (4.3%), whites (3.3%) and Asians (2.1%).
 - In 2018, more than one in five Black teenagers were unemployed, almost double that of whites.
 - In 2016, the median wealth for an African American household in the U.S. was one-tenth that of whites – \$17,100 compared with \$170,810, according to the Pew Research Center.F
 - Even African American households with a college degree had only \$68,200 in wealth compared with \$398,170 for white households.
- According to a 2020 article by the [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#), the disparities in income have widened despite the fact that Atlanta is considered the “Black Mecca.”
 - As of 2020, the median household income for a white family in the city is \$83,722, compared to \$28,105 for a Black family, according to a report from the AWBI. That’s nearly a 3-to-1 ratio.
 - In 2017, average weekly earnings for non-Hispanic Black employees were 68% of the metro area average, while non-Hispanic white workers earned 122% of the weekly average.



- Research indicates that if certain measures are put into place around community wealth building strategies and closing the racial wealth gap, that it could increase GDP in Atlanta by \$76.5 million.
- While African Americans make up nearly 52% of Atlanta's population, Black representation among high-income jobs is lacking. In the top three highest-paying careers in the city, Black employees made up less than 25% of workers in the first quarter of 2020. (Source: ACR using JobsEQ)