

GEORGIA RANKINGS 2016

BUSINESS

- **#1 State for Doing Business (for the third consecutive year).**
Source: Area Development, "Top States for Doing Business 2016," Q3 2016
- **#1 State for Business Climate (for the fourth consecutive year).**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#1 State for Business Climate as measured by the Number of Facility Locations and Expansion Projects in 2016 (January – August).**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#1 State for Cooperative and Responsive State Government.**
Source: Area Development, "Top States for Doing Business 2016," Q3 2016
- **#1 State for Regulatory Friendliness.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016
- **#1 State for Licensing Requirements.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016
- **#1 State for Health & Safety Regulations.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016
- **#2 State for Favorable Regulatory Environment.**
Source: Area Development, "Top States for Doing Business 2016," Q3 2016
- **#2 State for Speed of Permitting.**
Source: Area Development, "Top States for Doing Business 2016," Q3 2016
- **#2 State for Ease of Starting a Small Business.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016
- **#2 State in the South Atlantic Region based on the Number of Corporate Investment Projects in 2015.**
Source: Site Selection, March 2016
- **#2 State in the South Atlantic Region based on the Number of Corporate Investment Projects Per Capita in 2015.**
Source: Site Selection, March 2016
- **#3 State for Business Incentive Programs.**
Source: Area Development, "Top States for Doing Business 2016," Q3 2016
- **#3 State for Business Climate as measured by Survey of Corporate Site Selectors.**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#3 State for Economic Growth Potential.**
Source: Business Facilities, "12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings," July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#3 State for Environmental Rules.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016
- **#3 State for Zoning Regulations.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016
- **#4 State for Small Business Friendliness.**
Source: Thumbtack, "2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey," June 15, 2016



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- **#4 State for Business Climate.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#4 State for Most Improved Economic Development Policies.**
Source: Area Development, “Top States for Doing Business 2016,” Q3 2016
- **#4 State for Access to Capital & Project Funding.**
Source: Area Development, “Top States for Doing Business 2016,” Q3 2016
- **#4 State for Business Climate as measured by Facility Locations and Expansion Projects per Capita in 2016 (January – August).**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#5 State for Cost of Doing Business.**
Source: Area Development, “Top States for Doing Business 2016,” Q3 2016
- **#5 U.S. State Destination for Foreign Investment by Jobs Created in 2015.**
Source: IBM Global Business Services, “Global Location Trends 2016 Report,” August 2016
- **#5 State for Business as measured by Regulatory Environment.**
Source: Forbes, “Best States For Business,” November 2016
- **#6 U.S. State Destination for Foreign Investment by Jobs per Million Inhabitants.**
Source: IBM Global Business Services, “Global Location Trends 2016 Report,” August 2016
- **#6 State for Inc. 5000 Headquarters (Fast-Growing Companies).**
Source: Inc., 2016 Inc. 5000
- **#6 State for Business as measured by Access to Capital.**
Source: CNBC, July 12, 2016
- **#6 State for FDI Projects.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#6 State for Credit Quality.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#7 State for Business Climate as measured by Competitiveness.**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#7 State for Business.**
Source: Forbes, “Best States For Business,” November 2016
- **#7 State based on the Number of Corporate Investment Projects.**
Source: Site Selection, March 2016
- **#8 State for Business.**
Source: CNBC, July 12, 2016
- **#8 State for Business.**
Source: Chief Executive, “2016 Best & Worst States for Business,” May 9, 2016
- **#8 State with the Most FORTUNE 500 Headquarters (tied with Michigan).**
Source: Metro Atlanta Chamber/Georgia Power analysis of 2016 FORTUNE 500 list, FORTUNE, June 15, 2016.
- **#9 State for Business as measured by the Economy.**
Source: CNBC, July 12, 2016
- **#10 State for Business as measured by Growth Prospects.**
Source: Forbes, “Best States For Business,” November 2016

QUALITY OF LIFE

- **One of the “Best of the World” Destinations to Visit in 2017.**
Source: National Geographic Traveler, December 2016/January 2017
- **#7 State for a Quality Living Environment.**
Source: Chief Executive, “The 10 Best States for a Quality Living Environment,” May 9, 2016
- **#10 Best State to Retire Rich.**
Source: GoBankingRates, “Best and Worst States to Retire Rich,” June 20, 2016



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JOB GROWTH

- **#7 State for Job Creation by Number of Jobs Added from April 2011 – April 2016.**
Source: Site Selection Group, “Highest Job Creating States and Industries Over the Last Five Years,” June 23, 2016
- **#8 State for Job Growth.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#8 State for Call Center Job Creation.**
Source: Site Selection Group, “Top 20 States for New Call Center Projects in Last 5 Years,” May 23, 2016
- **#9 State for STEM Jobs.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016

WORKFORCE

- **#1 State for Leading Workforce Development Programs.**
Source: Area Development, “Top States for Doing Business 2016,” Q3 2016
- **#1 State for Employment, Labor & Hiring.**
Source: Thumbtack, “2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey,” June 15, 2016
- **#2 State for Competitive Labor Costs.**
Source: Area Development, “Top States for Doing Business 2016,” Q3 2016
- **#2 State for Workforce Training Leaders.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#7 State for Workforce.**
Source: CNBC, July 12, 2016
- **#9 State with the Highest Quality Workforce.**
Source: Chief Executive, “The 10 Best States for Workforce Quality,” May 11, 2016
- **#9 State for Ease of Hiring a New Employee.**
Source: Thumbtack, “2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey,” June 15, 2016

INDUSTRY

- **#3 Worldwide Location for Film Production.**
Source: Film L.A. Inc., “2015 Feature Film Study,” June 2016
- **#3 State for Aerospace Manufacturing Attractiveness.**
Source: PwC, “2016 Aerospace Manufacturing Attractiveness Rankings,” July 2016
- **#6 State for Manufacturing.**
Source: Site Selection Group, “Best States for Manufacturing,” October 24, 2016
- **#8 State for New Call Center Projects.**
Source: Site Selection Group, “Top 20 States for New Call Center Projects in Last 5 Years,” May 23, 2016
- **#9 State for Automotive Manufacturing Strength.**
Source: Business Facilities, “12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings,” July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016



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TECHNOLOGY

- **#4 State for Computer, Peripheral, and Software Wholesalers Sector Employment (2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#5 State for Telecommunications Services Sector Employment (2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#5 State for Software Publishers Sector Employment (2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#5 State for Tech Occupation Gender Ratios (2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#7 State for Numeric Change of Tech Establishments (2014 – 2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#8 State for Venture Capital Funding (2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#8 State for Numeric Change of Tech Employment (2014 – 2015).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#9 State for Tech Gross State Product as a Percent of Total State Product (2013).**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016
- **#9 State for Tech Occupation Job Openings (4Q 2015) as Percentage of Total Number of Tech Occupation Jobs.**
Source: CompTIA, "Cyberstates 2016: The definitive state-by-state analysis of the U.S. tech industry," February 2016

INFRASTRUCTURE

- **#4 State for Infrastructure.**
Source: CNBC, July 12, 2016
- **#4 State for Infrastructure for U.S. Distribution.**
Source: Site Selection Group, "City and State Infrastructure Rankings for US Distribution," September 26, 2016
- **#5 State for Lowest Industrial Electricity Rates.**
Source: Business Facilities, "12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings," July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#6 State for Solar Power Installation (2015).**
Source: Business Facilities, "12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings," July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#6 State for Infrastructure.**
Source: Business Facilities, "12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings," July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#7 State for Infrastructure Upgrades.**
Source: Business Facilities, "12th Annual Rankings Report: State Rankings," July/August 2016 Issue, August 3, 2016
- **#8 State for Solar Electric Capacity Installed During 2015.**
Source: Environment America Research & Policy Center and Frontier Group, "Lighting the Way 4: The Top States that Helped Drive America's Solar Energy Boom in 2015," July 2016



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TAXES

- **#1 State for Tax Code and Tax Regulations.**
Source: Thumbtack, “2016 Thumbtack Small Business Friendliness Survey,” June 15, 2016
- **#3 State for Mature Firm Tax Index.**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#6 State for Corporate Tax Environment.**
Source: Area Development, “Top States for Doing Business 2016,” Q3 2016
- **#6 State for New Firm Tax Index.**
Source: Site Selection, November 3, 2016
- **#7 Tax-Friendly State for Retirees.**
Source: Kiplinger, “State-by-State Guide to Taxes on Retirees,” October, 2016
- **#10 State for Corporate Tax Rate.**
Source: The Tax Foundation, “2017 State Business Tax Climate Index,” September 28, 2016

PEOPLE

- **#1 State for Growth of African-American Women-Owned Firms, 2002 – 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#1 State for Growth of Latina-Owned Firms, 2002 – 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#2 State for Growth in Number of Women-Owned Firms, 2007-2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#2 State for Growth in Economic Clout of Women-Owned Firms, 2007-2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#2 State for Growth of Asian-American Women-Owned Firms, 2002 – 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#2 State for Growth of Native-American/Alaskan Native Women-Owned Firms, 2002 – 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#5 State for Absolute Domestic Migration, Cumulative 2005 – 2014.**
Source: American Legislative Exchange Council, “Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index,” April 2016
- **#5 State for Number of Women-Owned Firms in 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#5 State for Net Number of New Women-Owned Firms per Day, 2007 – 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#7 State for Growth in Combined Economic Clout of Women-Owned Firms in 2016.**
Source: American Express OPEN, “2016 State of Women-Owned Business Report”
- **#7 State for Numeric Growth of Population from 2015 to 2016.**
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, State Population Estimates, December 20, 2016
- **#8 Most Populous State, 2016.**
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, State Population Estimates, December 20, 2016



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