



## 2. \_\_\_\_\_ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Introduction _____	2-2
Economic Base _____	2-2
Employment by Sector _____	2-2
Earnings by Sector _____	2-10
Average Weekly Wages Paid _____	2-12
Personal Income by Type _____	2-15
Major Economic Activities _____	2-18
Special or Unique Economic Activities _____	2-19
Labor Force _____	2-26
Employment by Occupation _____	2-26
Employment Status _____	2-28
Unemployment Rates _____	2-29
Commuting Patterns _____	2-31
Local Economic Development Resources _____	2-32
Local Development Agencies _____	2-32
Economic Development Programs or Tools _____	2-35
Education and Training Opportunities _____	2-38





## 2.0.0.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Introduction

Fulton County has one of the strongest economies in Georgia. It is both stable and diverse. The County's stable economy helps workers, educators, investors, businesses, and the government, anticipate future economic conditions.

Fulton County and the Atlanta Region are expected to continue to grow and recent publications appear to support this continued growth. In 2004, *Inc.* Magazine ranked the Atlanta Region as the number one place to locate a business and it is rated as one of the best places for small business. *Places Rated Almanac's* ranks the Atlanta area as the 33<sup>rd</sup> best metro area (of 354) in the United States and Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. lists the Atlanta region as second in the nation in job growth. The high educational attainment levels (84.0% of the population 25 years and over are high school graduates and 41.4% are college graduates) in the 2000 Census ranked Fulton 21<sup>st</sup> highest in the nation.

The Atlanta metropolitan area has a gross metropolitan product of 177.9 billion dollars (2002 figures from Global Insight) ranking it eighth in the nation. It is 32nd in the list of Gross Products of Countries and Metro Areas. It is above Indonesia, Denmark and Turkey, but just below Saudi Arabia (191.0 billion) and Poland.

The Economic Development Element includes a range of information including history and forecasts of job types in Fulton County by industry type (such as agriculture, trade, and construction), earnings, weekly wages, unemployment rates, and economic development efforts. The goal of this element is to understand weaknesses and seek ways to mitigate problems which may arise, as well as to analyze strengths and seek ways to take advantage of economic resources.

### 2.1.0.0. Economic Base

Economic diversity is critical for a large dynamic economy if it is to withstand downturns and recessions in specific industries while offering a range of opportunities for job seekers and entrepreneurs. Fortunately, Fulton County has a growing and diverse economy with a wide range of industries, with both small and large businesses. This section focuses on the diversity of businesses in Fulton County (including its 10 municipalities) and makes comparisons to the State of Georgia (Tables 2-1 & 2-2).

#### 2.1.1.0. Employment by Sector

##### 2.1.1.1. Inventory

Fulton County is one of the major employment centers in the 10 county Atlanta Region. While Fulton County has approximately 25% of the region's population, it has 36% of the jobs. In addition, the county has 17% of the jobs within the state of Georgia. The number of jobs in Fulton County increased from 591,989 jobs in 1980 to 715,509 in 1990, a 17.2% increase, and to





899,556 in 2000, a 25.7% increase. The increase in the number of jobs has fueled the population growth in Fulton County and in surrounding counties.

Between 1980 and 1990, farm, manufacturing, wholesale trade and federal military government sectors lost 12,070 jobs. Between 1990 and 2000 farm, mining, federal civilian and military government sectors lost 13,381 jobs. In contrast, between 1980 and 1990, all other sectors of the economy added 135,590 jobs with agricultural services (+1,256 or 85%), services (78,887 or 54%), transportation, communications and utilities (TCU) (+20,410 or 37%), finance, insurance and real estate (FIRE) (17,016 or 27%) sectors leading in job creation. Between 1990 and 2000, 187,428 jobs were added with agricultural services (1,472 or 54%), services (113,858 or 51%) FIRE (18,832 or 23%) and retail trade (21,689 or 22%) showing the largest increases (Table 2-1). According to the 2003 American Community Survey, there was been a net loss of 23,479 jobs between 2000 and 2003. The retail (-15,213) construction (-13,723), information (-9,006) and FIRE (-2,565) sectors led in job loss.

**Table 2-1: 1980-2000 Fulton County Employment by Sector <sup>1</sup>**

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	% Change 1980-1990	% Change 1990-2000
Farm	580	553	421	331	321	-27.4%	-23.75%
Agricultural Services	1,467	2,317	2,725	3,236	4,197	85.75%	54.02%
Mining	651	1,066	798	589	480	22.58%	-39.85%
Construction	22,858	28,146	24,240	22,856	28,327	6.05%	16.86%
Manufacturing	56,576	57,486	52,771	57,227	56,244	-6.73%	6.58%

<sup>1</sup> The top growing industries in Fulton County are expected to include services and retail trade. According to the Census Bureau, retail includes: store retailers which operate fixed point-of-sale locations, located and designed to attract a high volume of walk-in customers. In addition to retailing merchandise, some types of store retailers are also engaged in the provision of after-sales services, such as repair and installation. As a general rule, establishments engaged in retailing merchandise and providing after-sales services are in this classification. Also included are establishments engaged in the direct sale (non-store) of products, such as home heating oil dealers and home delivery newspaper routes.

Also included in this classification are non-store retailers which, like store retailers, are organized to serve the general public, but their retailing methods differ. The establishments of this sub-sector reach customers and market merchandise with methods such as the broadcasting of "infomercials," the broadcasting and publishing of direct-response advertising, the publishing of paper and electronic catalogs, door-to-door solicitation, in-home demonstration, selling from portable stalls (street vendors, except food), and distribution through vending machines.

The Services sector includes establishments primarily engaged in providing a wide variety of services for individuals, business and government establishments, and other organizations. These include hotels and other lodging places as well as food services; personal services such as hair, dry cleaning and laundries; business services such as printing, copying, photography, and office cleaning; repairs such as automotive and mechanical; amusement services such as movies and theaters; health care provision (doctors, dentists, etc.); legal services; engineering, architecture, survey, laboratory and other professional and technical jobs, scientific services; educational institutions including testing and tutoring services; membership organizations such as museums, zoological organizations, etc.; and other miscellaneous services.

Transportation, Communications, and Utilities are defined as Transportation - air, bus and rail passenger service; Communications - radio and television broadcasting, paging and beeper services, leasing telephone lines or other methods of telephone transmission, such as optical fiber lines and microwave or satellite facilities, and reselling the use of such methods to others; and Utilities - electric, gas, and sanitary services, except railroad transportation and the U.S. Postal Service.

FIRE is defined as businesses which provide financial, insurance, and real estate services.





Table 2-1: 1980-2000 Fulton County Employment by Sector <sup>1</sup>

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	% Change 1980-1990	% Change 1990-2000
TCU	53,757	58,594	74,167	73,652	87,784	37.97%	18.36%
Wholesale Trade	68,230	71,742	60,825	53,815	61,794	-10.85%	1.59%
Retail Trade	86,975	95,264	96,300	103,596	117,989	10.72%	22.52%
FIRE	62,553	69,892	79,569	81,176	98,401	27.2%	23.67%
Services	143,865	181,720	222,752	269,921	336,610	54.83%	51.11%
Fed Civilian Govt	23,169	20,885	25,037	25,107	22,546	8.06%	-9.95%
Fed Military Govt	5,663	5,145	4,962	5,011	4,490	-12.38%	-9.51%
State & Local Govt	65,645	61,367	70,942	73,827	80,373	8.07%	13.29%
Total	591,989	654,177	715,509	770,344	899,556	17.26%	25.72%

Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

The number of jobs in Georgia increased by 34% (943,300 jobs) between 1980 and 1990 and by 32% between 1990 and 2000 (1,169,360 jobs). Between 1980 and 1990, farming (22,273 jobs or -23%) and the federal military government sectors (1,550 or -2%) lost jobs. The sectors which gained the most jobs were agricultural (15,055 or 92%), services (373,756 or 74%), construction (73,109 or 53%), retail trade (198,981 or 49%) and TCU (63,760 or 42%). From 1990 to 2000, farming and mining lost jobs. During the same time, agricultural (23,342 or 74%), services (514,863 or 59%) and FIRE (100,976 or 41%) sectors gained jobs (Table 2-2).

Table 2-2: 1980-2000 State of Georgia Employment by Sector

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	% Change 1980-1990	% Change 1990-2000
Farm	96,559	82,370	74,286	68,780	67,356	-23%	-9%
Agricultural	16,432	24,574	31,487	44,659	54,829	92%	74%
Mining	8,808	10,241	10,590	9,408	9,522	20%	-10%
Construction	139,233	196,913	212,342	236,159	296,572	53%	40%
Manufacturing	528,812	565,278	572,477	603,394	613,992	8%	7%
TCU	152,583	177,746	216,343	241,886	296,267	42%	37%
Wholesale Trade	174,084	214,310	228,213	242,508	276,326	31%	21%
Retail Trade	407,627	520,232	606,608	724,946	816,701	49%	35%
FIRE	199,887	225,090	244,947	269,183	345,923	23%	41%
Services	502,841	664,476	876,597	1,125,360	1,391,460	74%	59%
Fed Civilian Govt	84,599	92,561	102,981	98,336	92,262	22%	-10%
Fed Military Govt	92,295	98,319	90,745	94,733	93,789	-2%	3%
State & Local Govt	343,553	352,189	422,991	469,941	504,969	23%	19%
Total	2,747,310	3,224,300	3,690,610	4,229,290	4,859,970	34%	32%

Source: Woods and Poole - DCA

Fulton County mirrors the State of Georgia in many ways: jobs involving federal military and civilian, and manufacturing are declining in Fulton County and the State of Georgia. Service, retail trade, TCU and FIRE jobs have increased dramatically throughout Georgia and Fulton County; however, it is a larger percentage of the workforce in Fulton County.





The comparison of employment by sector between Georgia and Fulton County shows that in 2000 both had a high concentration of jobs in services (37% for Fulton County and 29% for Georgia), retail trade (13% for Fulton County and 17% for Georgia) and in state and local government (9% in Fulton County and 10% in Georgia). In contrast, the FIRE and TCU sectors have a stronger role in Fulton County's employment than in Georgia's, while manufacturing is an important sector in Georgia's employment (Table 2-3).

Between 2000 and 2025, the services sector is forecasted to continue to grow in Georgia's and Fulton County's economy. By 2025, services will account for 40% of Fulton County's employment and 33% of Georgia's employment. Retail trade is also forecasted to continue to grow. Farm, mining, construction, manufacturing, wholesale, federal military and civilian government will continue to decline in both Fulton and in Georgia, while FIRE will start declining. TCU will decline in Fulton County and grow in Georgia, while the state and local government sector will grow in Fulton and decline in Georgia.

**Table 2-3: Employment by Sector comparison between Fulton County and Georgia**

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>Farm</b>										
Fulton	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Georgia	3.5%	2.6%	2.0%	1.6%	1.4%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%
<b>Agricultural</b>										
Fulton	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Georgia	0.6%	0.8%	0.9%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
<b>Mining</b>										
Fulton	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Georgia	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
<b>Construction</b>										
Fulton	3.9%	4.3%	3.4%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%
Georgia	5.1%	6.1%	5.8%	5.6%	6.1%	6.1%	5.9%	5.8%	5.7%	5.5%
<b>Manufacturing</b>										
Fulton	9.6%	8.8%	7.4%	7.4%	6.3%	6.1%	6.0%	5.8%	5.6%	5.3%
Georgia	19.2%	17.5%	15.5%	14.3%	12.6%	12.1%	11.6%	11.0%	10.5%	10.0%
<b>Transportation, Communications and Utilities</b>										
Fulton	9.1%	9.0%	10.4%	9.6%	9.8%	9.3%	8.9%	8.5%	8.1%	7.8%
Georgia	5.6%	5.5%	5.9%	5.7%	6.1%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.1%	6.0%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>										
Fulton	11.5%	11.0%	8.5%	7.0%	6.9%	6.8%	6.7%	6.6%	6.5%	6.4%
Georgia	6.3%	6.6%	6.2%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%
<b>Retail Trade</b>										
Fulton	14.7%	14.6%	13.5%	13.4%	13.1%	13.9%	14.3%	14.4%	14.5%	14.5%
Georgia	14.8%	16.1%	16.4%	17.1%	16.8%	17.1%	17.3%	17.5%	17.7%	17.8%
<b>Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate</b>										
Fulton	10.6%	10.7%	11.1%	10.5%	10.9%	10.6%	10.3%	10.0%	9.7%	9.4%
Georgia	7.3%	7.0%	6.6%	6.4%	7.1%	7.1%	7.0%	6.9%	6.8%	6.8%
<b>Services</b>										
Fulton	24.3%	27.8%	31.1%	35.0%	37.4%	37.2%	37.6%	38.3%	39.2%	40.3%
Georgia	18.3%	20.6%	23.8%	26.6%	28.6%	29.3%	30.1%	31.1%	32.2%	33.4%
<b>Federal Civilian Government</b>										
Fulton	3.9%	3.2%	3.5%	3.3%	2.5%	2.3%	2.1%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%
Georgia	3.1%	2.9%	2.8%	2.3%	1.9%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%





**Table 2-3: Employment by Sector comparison between Fulton County and Georgia**

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>Federal Military Government</b>										
Fulton	1.0%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
Georgia	3.4%	3.0%	2.5%	2.2%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%
<b>State and Local Government</b>										
Fulton	11.1%	9.4%	9.9%	9.6%	8.9%	9.7%	10.2%	10.6%	10.8%	10.9%
Georgia	12.5%	10.9%	11.5%	11.1%	10.4%	10.4%	10.4%	10.3%	10.2%	10.1%

Source: DCA Web Site, Woods and Poole

**Table 2-4: Employment by Sector: Fulton County 2005-2025 Forecasts**

Sector	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	Change 2000-2010	%Change 2010-2025
Farm	321	315	308	300	293	287	-4.05%	-6.82%
Agricultural	4,197	4,316	4,512	4,733	4,966	5,208	7.51%	15.43%
Mining	480	499	513	527	541	556	6.88%	8.38%
Construction	28,327	28,678	29,074	29,506	29,977	30,488	2.64%	4.86%
Manufacturing	56,244	56,894	57,563	58,112	58,593	59,058	2.35%	2.60%
TCU	87,784	86,409	85,457	85,270	85,797	87,095	-2.65%	1.92%
Wholesale Trade	61,794	63,348	64,552	66,107	68,229	71,123	4.46%	10.18%
Retail Trade	117,989	129,154	137,449	144,723	152,255	160,882	16.49%	17.05%
FIRE	98,401	98,533	99,112	100,330	102,222	104,895	0.72%	5.83%
Services	336,610	346,127	362,526	384,897	413,228	448,117	7.70%	23.61%
Fed Civ Govt	22,546	21,071	19,977	19,244	18,837	18,737	-11.39%	-6.21%
Fed Mil Govt	4,490	4,559	4,615	4,655	4,678	4,684	2.78%	1.50%
State-Local Govt	80,373	90,378	98,567	106,171	113,785	121,799	22.64%	23.57%
Total	899,556	930,281	964,225	1,004,580	1,053,400	1,112,930	7.19%	15.42%

Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Employment in Fulton County is forecasted to continue to grow by 182,649 jobs between 2005 and 2025. The rate of growth is expected to slow to 7% from 2000-2010 and then increase to 15% from 2010-2025. Between 2000 and 2010, services (25,916), retail trade (19,460 jobs), and state and local government (18,194 jobs) are the sectors that are forecasted to add the most jobs. Between 2010 and 2025, services (85,591), retail trade (23,433) and state and local government (23,232) will be the sectors leading in job creation.

In contrast, employment in Georgia is forecasted to grow at 16% (763,680 jobs) between 2000 and 2010 and 22% (1,266,700 jobs) between 2010 and 2025 to 6,890,350 jobs. Services, retail, wholesale agricultural services and TCU sectors will have the fastest growth between 2000 and 2025. Farming and the federal civilian government are expected to decline (Tables 2-4 & 2-5).

In Fulton County, services, state and local government, retail trade, and FIRE are forecasted to be the top economic sectors by 2025. In Georgia, services, retail trade, local government and manufacturing are forecasted to be the top economic sectors by 2025.





Table 2-5: Employment by Sector - Georgia 2005-2025 Forecasts

Sector	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	Change 2000-2010	%Change 2010-2025
Farm	67,356	64,877	62,438	60,240	58,297	56,584	-7.30%	-9.38%
Agriculture	54,829	60,079	65,359	70,538	75,465	80,033	19.21%	22.45%
Mining	9,522	9,645	9,813	10,047	10,324	10,653	3.06%	8.56%
Construction	296,572	316,876	333,895	349,870	365,279	380,526	12.58%	13.97%
Manufacturing	613,992	632,106	649,864	665,184	677,683	687,263	5.84%	5.75%
TCU	296,267	322,804	347,846	371,521	392,902	411,295	17.41%	18.24%
Wholesale Trade	276,326	300,312	322,310	344,504	367,022	389,992	16.64%	21.00%
Retail Trade	816,701	893,996	973,979	1,055,500	1,138,660	1,223,640	19.26%	25.63%
FIRE	345,923	369,137	392,407	416,440	440,943	465,714	13.44%	18.68%
Services	1,391,460	1,532,290	1,692,630	1,873,380	2,074,950	2,298,230	21.64%	35.78%
Fed Civilian Govt	92,262	91,889	91,883	92,089	92,439	92,936	-0.41%	1.15%
Fed Military Govt	93,789	95,235	96,403	97,224	97,709	97,839	2.79%	1.49%
State-Local Govt	504,969	546,388	584,820	622,628	659,644	695,636	15.81%	18.95%
Total	4,859,970	5,235,630	5,623,650	6,029,160	6,451,320	6,890,350	15.71%	22.52%

Source: Georgia Plan Builder, Woods and Poole, Georgia Department of Community Affairs

The six top growth industries in Fulton County and in Georgia are summarized in the Table 2-6.

Table 2-6: Growing Industries in Fulton County

SIC #	Industry Name	2000	Forecast 2010	Change
7300	Business services, Total	119,766	157,039	37,273
8700	Engineering and Management Services Total	34,141	62,826	28,685
9300	Local Government, Excluding Education & Hospitals	36,100	52,832	16,732
8000	Health Services	47,975	63,590	15,615
4500	Transportation by Air, Total	26,811	37,180	10,369
9200	State Government, Excluding education and Hospitals	23,638	31,771	8,133
<b>Fastest Growing Industries in the State of Georgia</b>				
7360	Personnel Supply Services	139,419	232,406	92,987
8700	Engineering and Management Services, Total	89,910	174,651	84,741
8010	Offices & Clinics of Medical Doctors	55,377	96,854	41,477
8740	Management and Public Relations	32,461	65,104	32,643
8720	Accounting, Auditing & Bookkeeping	21,948	47,451	25,503
8350	Child Day Care Services	27,046	46,616	19,570

Source: Georgia Department of Labor Web Site

The number of full and part-time jobs in each City within Fulton County and in each planning area is shown in Table 2-7. This forecast was generated by the Department of Environment and Community Development using data obtained from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, census tract level data generated by ARC, and Fulton County forecasts county-wide. The forecasts are lower than those by Woods and Poole shown in Table 2-4.





**Table 2-7: Total Full-Time and Part-Time Jobs By Place of Work, 2000 to 2030 (BEA Series based)**

Planning Area or City/Town		2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	Change 05-25	% Change 05-25
Incorporated Cities:									
Alpharetta	All in Fulton County	47,085	56,150	63,408	68,808	72,593	72,905	16,755	29.84%
City of Atlanta	in Fulton County	531,368	554,853	560,653	575,164	578,044	565,394	10,541	1.90%
	in DeKalb County	11,356	11,858	11,982	12,292	12,353	12,083	225	1.90%
	Total Atlanta	542,724	566,711	572,635	587,455	590,397	577,477	10,766	1.90%
College Park	in Fulton County	10,724	11,821	12,540	13,254	13,677	13,682	1,861	15.75%
	in Clayton County	904	996	1,057	1,117	1,153	1,153	157	15.75%
	Total College Park	11,627	12,817	13,597	14,371	14,830	14,835	2,018	15.75%
East Point	in Fulton County	17,601	18,353	18,521	19,898	20,820	21,339	2,986	16.27%
Fairburn	in Fulton County	4,572	5,297	5,851	6,533	7,051	7,601	2,304	43.50%
Hapeville	in Fulton County	34,122	35,602	35,948	36,342	36,033	34,523	-1,080	-3.03%
Mountain Park	in Fulton County	60	84	105	133	157	179	95	112.99%
	in Cherokee County	1	2	2	3	3	4	2	112.99%
	Total Mountain Park	62	86	107	136	160	183	97	112.99%
Palmetto	in Fulton County	561	848	1,107	1,430	1,707	2,090	1,242	146.44%
	in Coweta County	105	158	207	267	318	390	232	146.44%
	Total Palmetto	665	1,006	1,314	1,697	2,025	2,479	1,473	146.44%
Roswell	in Fulton County	45,485	51,597	56,053	61,187	64,864	66,350	14,754	28.59%
Union City	in Fulton County	7,419	8,121	8,563	9,391	9,992	10,575	2,454	30.22%
Planning Areas:									
North		41,390	53,447	64,045	72,965	79,470	84,553	31,106	58.20%
Northeast		34,403	43,908	52,216	59,295	64,421	68,139	24,231	55.19%
Northwest		6,987	9,538	11,829	13,670	15,048	16,414	6,876	72.10%
Sandy Springs		137,480	141,286	145,092	151,509	148,163	161,861	20,575	14.56%
South		17,050	20,949	24,279	29,008	32,705	37,231	16,282	77.72%
Southwest		19,893	21,132	21,804	23,307	24,121	25,574	4,442	21.02%
Total Unincorporated Fulton County		215,813	192,905	203,004	217,495	220,037	241,081	48,176	24.97%
Total Cities in Fulton County		698,996	742,727	762,752	792,140	804,937	794,638	51,911	6.99%
All of Fulton County		914,809	979,541	1,017,958	1,068,929	1,089,396	1,103,858	124,317	12.69%

Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis, E&CD, ARC

Fulton County led the region in employment growth and has the region's largest concentration of employment centers. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of Fulton County's jobs are within the City of Atlanta where major employment centers are located in such areas as Buckhead, Midtown and Downtown. In North Fulton, numerous office parks are located in the cities of Alpharetta and Roswell along Georgia 400. In south Fulton, major employment centers include Fulton Industrial, Hapeville's Ford plant and Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. Approximately 20% of Fulton County's jobs are located within the unincorporated areas, with 64% of those jobs being located within Sandy Springs in the Perimeter area (Table 2-7).





### 2.1.1.2. Assessment

The number of jobs in the Atlanta Region increased by 34% during the 1990s; Fulton County in comparison saw a 26% employment increase. Although the county's employment growth lagged compared to the region, it was responsible for approximately 30% of the region's growth. Moreover, Fulton County led the 10 county Atlanta Region in job growth and has the largest concentration of employment. Many of the Region's major employment centers are located in Fulton County.

Industries such as retail, FIRE, and services experienced most of the employment growth within the county. However, based on the growth rates of these industries at both the state and Atlanta Regional level, much of Fulton County's industry growth can be attributed to industry wide growth rather than to specific local activity.

The county's declining industries include the construction, manufacturing and federal government sectors. The Pentagon announced that Fort McPherson is on the list of military bases to be closed. This may result in further decreases in federal jobs. In most cases, the local industry decline can be attributed to the rapid growth and development occurring in many of the surrounding counties of the growing Atlanta Region. The decline in manufacturing and increases in the services sector mirrors trends in the rest of country. The approval of NAFTA and the increase of manufacturing in Asia and particularly China have led to loss of manufacturing jobs in the US. Moreover, the mild recession in the early 2000s and the bust of the dot.com companies, such as IXL, have also led to job losses in Fulton County.

Over the next 20 years, Fulton County is forecasted to add approximately 182,649 jobs to its economy. Many of those jobs are forecasted for the retail and services industry. Industry diversification is important to any local economy if it is to protect itself from market fluctuations. Fulton County has approximately 51% of its employment invested in both the services and retail industry sectors. A strategy for industry diversification should be developed to minimize potential risks to the local economy.

In an effort to strengthen and diversify the economy, the Economic Development Department works to retain existing businesses, assist in the expansion of local businesses and in the relocation of businesses to Fulton County. The TCU sector should be encouraged to develop. Although the sector's local employment growth has slowed in recent years, it continues to remain as an area of specialization for the county and the region. In addition, transportation logistics is a growing industry in which the county could continue to benefit due to its proximity to three major interstates and the world's busiest airport, and accessibility to rail. Within the service sector, bio-sciences and bio-technology, computer software/services, and telecommunications will be encouraged to grow. This will be accomplished by encouraging existing businesses to expand and attracting international companies and corporate headquarters.

Economic Development strategies are targeted to geographic areas of Fulton County. In North Fulton, the Economic Development Department is examining ways to retain existing corporate headquarters, to continue attracting telecommunications businesses, and technology oriented companies.





In the Fulton Industrial Business District in unincorporated Southwest Fulton and in other industrial districts, the Economic Development Department is working with its partners to retain and attract manufacturing businesses, particularly suppliers of existing businesses, micro-electronic manufacturing and refrigerated storage. This will be accomplished in part by encouraging the conversion of older industrial spaces, the expansion of existing businesses into older facilities.

Fulton County is also working to develop the South Fulton Parkway as an employment center, with an emphasis on bio-science, nano-technology and research parks. The Economic Development department is working to attract office space and research facilities.

Although retail is a large industry in Fulton County, some areas are underserved. The Economic Development Department is working on the retention and redevelopment of retail along Old National Highway and at Shannon Mall. In addition, efforts are being made to expand retail in other areas of South and Southwest Fulton. Promoting mixed use developments and developing a business plan for Old National Highway are two strategies to be used.

Fulton County's strategies are consistent with the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce efforts to develop new businesses in target industry clusters that include corporate headquarters, biosciences, transportation logistics, telecommunications, and computer software & services.

### **2.1.2.0 Earnings by Sector**

#### **2.1.2.1. Inventory**

The earnings by sector shows the percentage of the total wages, salaries and other earned income paid to those working in the 13 economic sectors in both Fulton County and in Georgia. The services sector accounts for a growing percentage of Fulton County's earnings. This sector experienced the greatest amount of growth from 19% in 1980 to 30% in 1990 and 35% in 2005. Percentage of earnings in financial, insurance and real estate (FIRE) increased from 9% in 1980 to 11.6% in 1990 to 12% in 2000. Transportation, communications and utilities (TCU) had modest increases from 14% in 1980 to 15% in 2000. Although wholesale trade (9% in 2000), manufacturing (7.9% in 2000), retail trade (5.78%) and state and local government (7.54%) sectors have strong earnings, they declined between 1980 and 2000 (Table 2-8).

Trends in Georgia mirror those of Fulton County. In Georgia, the service sector also experienced the strongest growth increasing from 15.6% in 1980 to 22% in 1990 and to 26.7% in 2000. FIRE grew from 5.4% in 1980 to 6.4% in 1990 and to 7.5% in 2000. TCU experienced modest growth from 9.3% in 1980 to 9.9% in 2000. Manufacturing and wholesale trade, at both the state and local government, have had significant earnings. However, earnings in these sectors have and are forecasted to continue declining.

The service industry is projected to be the sector with the greatest single earnings. It is forecasted to grow from 35% in 2000 to over 40% in 2025. In Georgia, the service sector accounted for 27% of earnings in 2000 and it is expected to grow to almost 34% by 2025. In the United States, the service industry is expected to grow from 29% in 2000 to 37% in 2025. By 2025 in Fulton County, TCU (13%), FIRE (12%), state and local governments (9%), wholesale trade (8%) and manufacturing (7%) will be sectors with strong earnings; however, between 2000 and 2025 they





are forecasted to drop. By 2025 in Georgia, manufacturing (12%), TCU (10%), state and local government (10%), retail trade (9%), and wholesale (8%) will be the sectors with the strongest earnings, however, these sectors will also decrease over the next 20 years. By 2025 in the United States, the service sector is expected to contribute 37% of earnings followed by manufacturing (13%), state and local governments (11%) and Financial, Insurance and Real Estate (FIRE) at 10%.

**Table 2-8: Fulton County, Georgia & Nation Earnings by Sector (%) in 1996 dollars**

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>Farm</b>										
Fulton	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Georgia	0.16%	1.27%	1.36%	1.40%	0.98%	0.93%	0.89%	0.85%	0.82%	0.79%
U.S.	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Agriculture</b>										
Fulton	0.12%	0.18%	0.21%	0.20%	0.23%	0.23%	0.24%	0.24%	0.24%	0.24%
Georgia	0.37%	0.41%	0.46%	0.53%	0.59%	0.60%	0.61%	0.62%	0.62%	0.62%
U.S.	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Mining</b>										
Fulton	0.34%	0.19%	0.04%	0.05%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%
Georgia	0.65%	0.48%	0.36%	0.29%	0.27%	0.25%	0.22%	0.21%	0.19%	0.18%
U.S.	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Construction</b>										
Fulton	4.23%	4.50%	3.49%	2.84%	3.12%	3.01%	2.90%	2.78%	2.65%	2.51%
Georgia	5.66%	6.57%	5.82%	5.39%	6.00%	5.86%	5.67%	5.46%	5.26%	5.06%
U.S.	6%	6%	6%	5%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%
<b>Manufacturing</b>										
Fulton	11.42%	10.36%	8.66%	9.50%	7.91%	7.86%	7.76%	7.60%	7.38%	7.10%
Georgia	22.54%	20.03%	17.51%	16.84%	14.86%	14.45%	14.05%	13.59%	13.08%	12.53%
U.S.	24%	21%	19%	18%	16%	15%	15%	14%	13%	13%
<b>TCU</b>										
Fulton	14.06%	12.91%	12.81%	14.62%	14.99%	14.49%	13.99%	13.53%	13.07%	12.62%
Georgia	9.33%	8.85%	8.75%	9.43%	9.89%	9.99%	10.01%	9.96%	9.84%	9.63%
U.S.	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>										
Fulton	14.68%	13.69%	10.89%	8.68%	9.17%	8.90%	8.56%	8.24%	7.94%	7.67%
Georgia	8.87%	9.04%	8.86%	8.17%	8.44%	8.36%	8.21%	8.05%	7.88%	7.71%
U.S.	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%
<b>Retail Trade</b>										
Fulton	9.51%	9.15%	7.10%	6.33%	5.78%	5.97%	5.99%	5.93%	5.82%	5.71%
Georgia	10.33%	10.64%	9.17%	9.08%	8.99%	8.97%	8.93%	8.87%	8.80%	8.71%
U.S.	10%	10%	9%	9%	9%	9%	8%	8%	8%	8%
<b>FIRE</b>										
Fulton	9.23%	10.22%	11.61%	11.74%	12.54%	12.54%	12.50%	12.41%	12.27%	12.09%
Georgia	5.44%	5.59%	6.43%	6.86%	7.57%	7.66%	7.73%	7.78%	7.81%	7.82%
U.S.	6%	6%	7%	8%	9%	9%	9%	10%	10%	10%
<b>Services</b>										
Fulton	19.57%	23.69%	29.79%	32.13%	34.68%	35.27%	36.32%	37.63%	39.10%	40.69%
Georgia	15.63%	17.36%	21.95%	24.33%	26.77%	27.78%	29.02%	30.44%	32.02%	33.73%
U.S.	18%	21%	25%	27%	29%	31%	32%	34%	35%	37%
<b>Federal –Civilian</b>										
Fulton	6.48%	5.19%	5.12%	4.97%	3.61%	3.25%	2.95%	2.71%	2.52%	2.36%
Georgia	5.64%	5.11%	4.66%	4.17%	3.39%	3.11%	2.87%	2.67%	2.49%	2.33%
U.S.	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%





**Table 2-8: Fulton County, Georgia & Nation Earnings by Sector (%) in 1996 dollars**

Sector	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>Federal-Military</b>										
Fulton	0.70%	0.82%	0.64%	0.55%	0.39%	0.38%	0.38%	0.36%	0.35%	0.33%
Georgia	3.72%	3.68%	2.69%	2.49%	2.06%	1.94%	1.83%	1.72%	1.62%	1.53%
U.S.	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>State and Local Govt</b>										
Fulton	9.63%	9.07%	9.62%	8.39%	7.54%	8.07%	8.38%	8.55%	8.64%	8.66%
Georgia	11.67%	10.97%	11.97%	11.01%	10.18%	10.10%	9.95%	9.78%	9.58%	9.37%
U.S.	11%	12%	12%	12%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%

Source: Woods and Poole – DCA

**2.1.2.2. Assessment**

Fulton County shows the service sector generating a significant portion of the earnings within its economy. Similar to the employment, to minimize the impact of market fluctuations, the County should diversify its economy by encouraging the TCU sector as referenced in section 2.1.1.2. and by retaining manufacturing and promoting diverse employment opportunities.

The manufacturing sector will experience only slight declines in earnings over the next 20 years. Its employment declines are more pronounced than its earnings decline. Increases in manufacturing productivity generally result in declining employment while employee wages increase.

Although employment within the retail industry is forecasted to increase, the earnings from the retail sector is forecasted to decline. With the decline in retail earnings, the average wage for employees within the retail sector can expect to decline as well.

**2.1.3.0. Average Weekly Wages Paid**

**2.1.3.1. Inventory**

In this section, the average weekly wages paid in 12 economic sectors for Georgia and Fulton County for 1990, 1995 and 1999 are discussed. The weekly wage summary provides a measure of average earning levels per worker for each economic sector. Overall, weekly wages for all employment sectors were higher in Fulton County than in Georgia. The weekly wages in both grew between 1990 and 1999. Fulton County's weekly wages grew 22% from \$529 to \$647 between 1990 and 1995 and grew 29% from \$647 to \$834 between 1995 and 1999. In 2003, the average weekly wage in Fulton County was \$960, an increase of 12% from 1999. In the State of Georgia, wages grew by 20% between 1990 and 1995 and by 24% between 1995 and 1999 (Table 2-9).

**Table 2-9: Current and Historic Weekly Wages Paid in Fulton County and Georgia**

Sector	1990	1995	1999	1990-1995 % Change	1995-1999 % Change
<b>Agriculture, Forestry &amp; Fishing</b>					
Fulton	\$342	\$352	\$505	3%	43%
Georgia	\$276	\$322	\$390	17%	21%





Table 2-9: Current and Historic Weekly Wages Paid in Fulton County and Georgia					
Sector	1990	1995	1999	1990-1995 % Change	1995-1999 % Change
<b>Mining</b>					
Fulton	\$405	\$600	\$910	48%	52%
Georgia	\$589	\$734	\$866	25%	18%
<b>Construction</b>					
Fulton	\$513	\$625	\$792	22%	27%
Georgia	\$434	\$508	\$623	17%	23%
<b>Manufacturing</b>					
Fulton	\$588	\$782	\$1006	33%	29%
Georgia	\$450	\$555	\$684	23%	23%
<b>Transportation, Communications and Utilities</b>					
Fulton	\$645	\$847	\$1111	31%	31%
Georgia	\$603	\$737	\$895	22%	21%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>					
Fulton	\$691	\$828	\$1141	20%	38%
Georgia	\$603	\$729	\$932	21%	28%
<b>Retail Trade</b>					
Fulton	\$288	\$319	\$382	11%	20%
Georgia	\$236	\$275	\$335	17%	22%
<b>Finance, Insurance and Real Estate</b>					
Fulton	\$679	\$869	\$1185	28%	36%
Georgia	\$544	\$693	\$900	27%	30%
<b>Services</b>					
Fulton	\$490	\$607	\$784	24%	29%
Georgia	\$414	\$501	\$611	21%	22%
<b>Federal Government</b>					
Fulton	NA	NA	NA		
Georgia	\$543	\$666	\$808	23%	21%
<b>State Government</b>					
Fulton	NA	\$569	\$694		22%
Georgia	\$451	\$493	\$579	9%	17%
<b>Local Government</b>					
Fulton	NA	NA	NA		
Georgia	\$387	\$440	\$523	14%	19%
<b>All industries</b>					
Fulton	\$529	\$647	\$834	22%	29%
Georgia	\$424	\$509	\$629	20%	24%

Source: U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics

The highest wages in 1999 for both Fulton County and the State of Georgia were in FIRE (Fulton \$1,185 and Georgia \$900) wholesale (Fulton \$1,141 and Georgia \$932) and TCU (Fulton \$1,111 and Georgia \$895) sectors. Manufacturing had high weekly wages in Fulton County (\$1,006) and mining had strong wages in Georgia (\$866).

The weekly wages in the services sector (\$784 in Fulton and \$611 in Georgia), the sector with the highest employment in both Fulton County and Georgia, were below the average for all industries. The largest increases in weekly wages between 1990 and 1999 in both Fulton County and Georgia were in the FIRE, manufacturing, TCU, wholesale and mining sectors. Weekly wages in the federal government showed strong gains in Georgia as well. Overall, wages in Fulton County in both 2001 and 2002 were at least one-third greater than wages for the State of Georgia.





According to the Georgia Department of Labor, the TCU sector had the highest weekly wages in Fulton and in Georgia in 2001 and 2002. This was followed by management, information, financial and wholesale trade. Accommodation and food services, leisure and hospitality were the sectors with the lowest weekly wages (Table 2-10). However, leisure and hospitality, wages are almost 50% higher in Fulton County than throughout the State of Georgia.

Table 2-10: Weekly Wage Comparisons in dollars, Georgia and Fulton County: 2001 and 2002				
Year	2001		2002	
	Georgia	Fulton	Georgia	Fulton
<b>Industry</b>				
Total, All Occupations	\$676	\$918	\$687	\$935
Goods Producing Occupations	\$696	\$1,012	\$707	\$1,021
Construction	\$686	\$900	\$693	\$909
Wholesale Trade	\$1,021	\$1,207	\$1,019	\$1,226
Retail Trade	\$433	\$506	\$440	\$518
Transportation	\$807	Na	\$824	\$998
Utilities	\$1,235	Na	\$1,292	\$1,654
Information	\$1,101	\$1,286	\$1,098	\$1,303
Financial	\$944	\$1,309	\$975	\$1,323
Real Estate	\$669	\$861	\$697	\$870
Professional & Business	\$799	\$1,028	\$806	\$1,033
Management	\$1,122	\$1,361	\$1,153	\$1,352
Administration & Waste Mgt	\$473	\$559	\$485	\$574
Education - Local Govt.	\$571	\$700	\$598	\$740
Education – Private	\$644	\$772	\$667	\$801
Education – State	\$582	\$767	\$610	\$795
Education – Federal	\$1,050	\$375	\$1,139	\$491
Health Care and Social Assistance				
Private	\$654	\$797	\$678	\$835
Local	\$558	\$670	\$586	\$695
State	\$505	\$587	\$527	Na
Federal	\$1,036	\$375	\$1,122	\$491
Leisure & Hospitality	\$288	\$436	\$293	\$450
Accommodation, Food Services	\$257	\$369	\$259	\$375
Other Services	\$451	\$536	\$466	\$564
Public Administration – local	\$568	\$686	\$584	\$716
Public Administration - State	\$633	\$762	\$654	\$799
Public Administration - Federal	\$914	\$1,107	\$984	\$1,185
Unclassified	\$745	\$1,025	\$724	\$988
Source: Georgia Department of Labor. Note: The employment sectors have changed.				

### 2.1.3.2. Assessment

Overall, Fulton County continues to see job growth, while the average wage earned for all economic sectors continues to increase as well. Between 1990 and 1999, County wages increased faster than the number of jobs added to the economy. The increasing wages compared to jobs generated is a general indication of improving prosperity. The industries showing the greatest





earning increases in comparison to jobs generated include manufacturing, construction, and FIRE. Industries such as TCU, retail, and services have shown slight increases.

Based upon the industry earnings, employment figures and wages paid, a significant portion of Fulton County’s workers (54%) are employed in industries that pay less than the average weekly wages. With the 20 year employment forecast for industries such as retail (14%), services (40%), state and local government (10%) the County must strive to balance the number of generated jobs with the wages earned within these industries. That is, to not only employ workers, but to also attract companies from industries that provide adequate incomes.

The disparity between wages and housing costs demonstrates the need to encourage affordable housing. Housing costs that are too prohibitive can be a deterrent to employers searching to locate their companies in cities where the cost of living is comparable to their current employee salaries. The Department of Environment & Community Development is working to create an inclusionary zoning policy as a tool to promote affordable housing that will close the gap between disparate employee wages and housing cost.

**2.1.4.0 Personal Income by Type**

**2.1.4.1. Inventory**

The following section provides an inventory of personal income. Personal income is generally comprised of three components. The first component is gross earnings by place of work, which includes earned income such as wages and salaries, other labor incomes, and proprietor incomes (business owner’s income). The second component is the residential adjustment to earnings, which accounts for income generated by those who live outside Fulton County but commute into the County for work. And the final component is unearned income which accounts for such things as dividends, interest, rents, and transfer payments.

In Fulton County, total personal income increased from \$11,902,900,000 in 1980 to \$20,005,900,000 in 1990 (a 68% increase) and to \$33,287,300,000 in 2000 (a 66% increase). Income is projected to grow at a much slower rate over the next 20 years, 18% between 2000 and 2010 and 32% between 2010 and 2025. The highest increases in income were in dividends, interest and rents (127% between 1980 and 1990 and 45% between 1990 and 2000) and in proprietor’s income (95% between 1980 and 1990 and 115% between 1990 and 2000). The residential adjustment (those who work in Fulton County but live outside of the County) increased by 20% between 1980-1990 and by 41% between 1990 and 2000 (Table 2-11). This means that the number of those that work in Fulton County but do not live in Fulton County increased.

**Table 2-11: Personal Income by Type in Fulton County from 1980 to 2000 (1996 \$)**

<b>Income</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Wages & Salaries	\$15,307,900	\$18,293,400	\$21,207,400	\$24,307,700	\$33,287,300
Other labor Income	\$1,875,440	\$2,253,520	\$2,731,200	\$3,250,080	\$3,549,400
Proprietor’s Income	\$1,088,910	\$1,360,440	\$2,126,510	\$3,068,430	\$4,576,620
Dividends, interest & rent	\$1,993,510	\$3,087,500	\$4,535,080	\$5,177,860	\$6,552,660
Transfer Payments to persons	\$1,319,480	\$1,426,390	\$1,621,550	\$2,277,630	\$2,325,570
- Social Ins. Contributions	\$832,262	\$1,196,910	\$1,519,670	\$1,815,990	\$2,511,400





**Table 2-11: Personal Income by Type in Fulton County from 1980 to 2000 (1996 \$)**

Income	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000
Residence Adjustment	-8,850,130	-9,682,850	-10,696,200	-11,365,900	-15,109,300
Total	\$11,902,900	\$15,541,500	\$20,005,900	\$33,899,900	\$33,287,300

Source: Woods & Poole. Figures in \$1000s. Residential adjustment refers to people who earn their income in Fulton County but live in another County or who work in the State of Georgia but live in another State.

The proportion of income from wages and salaries, other labor income and proprietor’s income is forecasted to decrease over the next 20 years, while income from dividends, interests and rents is forecasted to increase. Social Security contributions are forecasted to increase. After a decline in the residential adjustment, it is forecasted to increase slightly, which means that an increasing number of Fulton County’s workers will be commuting from other jurisdictions. Wages are expected to remain higher in Fulton County than in the state. This reflects the higher cost of living and the types of jobs in the Atlanta Region.

**Table 2-12: Personal Income by Type in Fulton County from 2005 to 2025 (1996 \$)**

Income	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Wages & Salaries	\$36,795,700	\$39,948,700	\$43,555,900	\$47,739,800	\$48,608,700
Other labor Income	\$3,800,920	\$4,072,000	\$4,380,680	\$4,737,080	\$5,153,660
Proprietor’s Income	\$4,898,460	\$5,266,460	\$5,685,590	\$6,167,480	\$6,728,380
Dividends, interest & rent	\$7,166,410	\$7,815,380	\$8,498,030	\$9,212,060	\$9,954,630
Transfer Payments to persons	\$2,593,510	\$2,899,380	\$3,247,410	\$3,643,940	\$4,096,340
- Social Ins. Contributions	\$2,835,680	\$3,203,430	\$3,617,150	\$4,086,360	\$4,623,070
Residence Adjustment	-16,760,300	-18,528,800	-20,512,100	-22,764,900	-25,354,200
Total	\$35,659,100	\$38,269,700	\$41,238,300	\$44,649,100	\$48,608,700

Source: Woods & Poole. Figures in \$1000s. Residential adjustment refers to people who earn their income in Fulton County but live in another County or who work in the State of Georgia but live in another State.

The majority of personal income in Fulton County and in Georgia comes from wages and salaries. This is followed by incomes such as dividends, interest and rent and then by other labor income (Table 2-13).

**Table 2-13: Personal Income by Type from 1980 to 2025 in Fulton and Georgia (in 1996 \$)**

Income	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Wages & Salaries										
Fulton	128.6%	117.7%	106.0%	97.6%	101.8%	103.2%	104.4%	105.6%	106.9%	108.3%
Georgia	64.1%	62.1%	60.4%	59.0%	61.2%	61.1%	61.0%	60.9%	60.9%	60.9%
Other labor Income										
Fulton	15.8%	14.5%	13.6%	13.0%	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%
Georgia	8.4%	8.7%	8.7%	8.6%	6.8%	6.7%	6.6%	6.5%	6.4%	6.3%
Proprietor’s Income										
Fulton	9.1%	8.7%	10.6%	10.3%	13.7%	13.7%	13.7%	13.8%	13.8%	13.8%
Georgia	6.5%	6.9%	7.1%	7.9%	8.6%	8.5%	8.4%	8.3%	8.2%	8.2%
Dividends, interest & rent										





**Table 2-13: Personal Income by Type from 1980 to 2025 in Fulton and Georgia (in 1996 \$)**

Income	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Fulton	16.7%	19.9%	22.7%	20.8%	19.7%	20.1%	20.4%	20.6%	20.6%	20.5%
Georgia	13.0%	15.8%	17.3%	16.3%	16.8%	16.7%	16.7%	16.6%	16.5%	16.3%
Transfer Payments to persons										
Fulton	11.1%	9.2%	8.1%	9.1%	6.9%	7.3%	7.6%	7.9%	8.1%	8.4%
Georgia	11.7%	10.7%	10.9%	12.6%	11.1%	11.2%	11.4%	11.6%	11.9%	12.2%
-Social Ins. Contributions										
Fulton	6.9%	7.7%	7.6%	7.3%	7.5%	7.9%	8.4%	8.7%	9.1%	9.5%
Georgia	3.5%	4.1%	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%	4.7%	4.8%	5.0%	5.2%	5.3%
Residence Adjustment										
Fulton	-74.3%	-62.3%	-53.5%	-45.6%	-45.4%	-47.0%	-48.4%	-49.7%	-50.9%	-52.2%
Georgia	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%	1.21%	1.35%

Source: Woods and Poole, Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Residential adjustment refers to people who earn their income in Fulton County but live in another County or who work in the State of Georgia but live in another State.

### 2.1.4.2. Assessment

Fulton County will continue to experience slight increases in the wages and salaries generated by its workers over the next 20 years. The County workforce and residents earn a significant portion of their personal income, approximately 35.3%, from unearned activities such as dividends, interest, and rent, transfer payments, and social security. Currently, dividends, interest, and rent income is 20% and it is forecasted to remain at that level for the next 20 years. This high-level of unearned income is often a measure of accumulated wealth. In addition, it is an indication of funds potentially available for investments in small businesses.

The County's transfer payments show an increase of 1% between 2005 and 2025. Transfer payments largely include such payments as social security retirement, government pensions, welfare, disability, and unemployment compensation. With the county's growing population, the number of jobs generated over the next 20 years, and the low unemployment rate, the slight increase in transfer payments indicates no real decline in the county's overall prosperity from such things as unemployment and welfare. As a result, no significant increase in County services associated with welfare and disability are expected. The transfer payments, in fact, may indicate the presence of social security retirements and pensions. Furthermore, older age groups are often responsible for a larger share of the income generated from dividends, rents, and interest. As a result, the increasing income generated from dividends, rents, and interest, combined with transfer payments may indicate a growing senior population. With an increasing senior population, County services, healthcare services and housing should reflect that growing demand.

As the leading county in the Atlanta Region in employment generation, affordable housing is a major factor of the commuting patterns of Fulton County's workers. As of 2005, approximately 47% of the total personal income generated in Fulton County is made by nonresidents as measured by the residential adjustment. In 20 years, it is forecasted to be 52%. Commuting patterns of Fulton County workers indicates a need for an affordable housing or workforce housing policy. Policies such as these could assist Fulton County with retaining more of its income that is currently





being lost to other counties in the region that are less expensive, but cannot currently offer the same employment opportunities.

#### **2.1.5.0. Major Economic Activities**

##### **2.1.5.1. Inventory**

The Economic Development Department, in partnership with local chambers of commerce, is working on a variety of economic development activities. The major economic activities in 2004 and 2005, as reported by the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution are listed below. Over the last several years there have been announcements of expansions as well as lay-offs. Some of these are:

- The Pentagon announced that Fort McPherson is on the list of military bases to be closed.
- Air Tran Airways announced the construction of a 76,000 sq ft maintenance hangar facility at Hartsfield Jackson Airport.
- Alteon Training will open a 52,000 sq ft operations and aviation training center in College Park that provides services to airlines.
- Atlanta Symphony unveiled the design of its new Symphony Hall, scheduled to open at the end of the decade.
- Corautus Genetics, a gene transfer therapy company relocated its headquarters from California to Atlanta. Their offices are located at Advanced Technology Development Center at Technology Square.
- Georgia Aquarium, a 5 million gallon and 400,000 sq ft facility will open at the end of 2005.
- Cingular purchased ATT wireless.
- DelMonte announced that it would locate a warehouse and distribution center in South Fulton.
- Delta announced a major restructuring and elimination of jobs.
- Hughes Supply Company announced that it would locate its Southeast Regional Distribution Center in Fulton County.
- Inhibitex, a biopharmaceutical company, announced plans to build its headquarters in North Fulton.
- Newell Rubermaid, a Fortune 200 corporation, relocated its corporate headquarters from Illinois to Fulton County. Up to 250 employees will be located at its current Sandy Springs location.
- Novelis, aluminum rolled products, announced that it would located its headquarters in the City of Atlanta.
- Rayovac Corporation (aka Spectrum Brands Inc), maker of consumer products, relocated its world headquarters from Wisconsin to the Perimeter business district in Fulton County.
- Rusken Packaging Inc. will open a 66,000 sq ft manufacturing facility in the Fulton Industrial Business District.
- PSI Group announced that it would open a distribution center in South Fulton.
- Prime Source will open a 42,000 sq ft manufacturing plant in the Fulton Industrial Business District.
- SBC and ATT merged; this may lead to the elimination of jobs.
- Wachovia merged with SouthTrust bank and relocated its Wachovia Southern Banking Group to Atlanta.





- Ford announced that its Hapeville Plant will be closed.
- UPS announced the purchase of Overnite.

#### 2.1.5.2. Assessment

The central location in the Southeastern US, affordable cost of living, low cost of operating a business, strong business climate, and educated workforce are strengths of the Atlanta Region and Fulton County that attract US and international companies and also encourage expansion of existing companies. Many factors influencing the relocation and expansion of businesses within Fulton County are corporation mergers, outsourcing of high tech jobs, loss of manufacturing jobs, escalating home values, and the lack of workforce and affordable housing.

Even though there has been an overall decline in manufacturing, warehousing and distribution, there were several expansions in 2004. To encourage and promote this, the 2025 Land Use Map will continue to indicate areas that are appropriate for industrial and business park type uses, particularly in areas such as Fulton Industrial and Oakley Industrial.

In South Fulton, the Department of Economic Development is working to develop a business plan for Old National. The plan would identify ways to attract retail to the retail spaces that are currently vacant. In addition, it would identify ways to retain the businesses that are currently located within the corridor. With Old National's proximity to the airport, an aviation park or aviation related businesses would be encouraged.

And finally, Class A Office space will be essential to economic development in South Fulton. Companies interested in locating to southern metro Atlanta can quickly relocate and be operational in areas that offer existing Class A office space. The Department of Economic Development will be working to encourage Class A office space in an effort to attract corporate headquarters to South Fulton.

#### 2.1.6.0. Special or Unique Economic Activities

##### 2.1.6.1. Inventory

Fulton County has a diverse economy and the transportation network has been a key factor in the County's growth. The location of government offices, major employment centers, corporate headquarters, meeting and convention spaces, numerous educational and non-profit institutions, arts and cultural institutions, sports facilities, and retail centers make Fulton County a growing and thriving community.

1. Government: Federal Government: The largest concentration of Federal government operations outside of Washington, DC is located in Atlanta. The Atlanta Metro Area is the regional headquarters for the US Government. These include the Sixth District Federal Reserve Bank, Fourth District of the Federal Home Loan Bank, as well as regional offices of every major department of the executive branch. The new federal center in downtown Atlanta consolidates many of these government agencies.





**State Government:** As the State Capitol, Atlanta is home to the Georgia General Assembly and other state offices. Atlanta has the largest concentration of state employment activities and facilities in Georgia.

**Local Government:** Fulton County government, the 10 municipalities in Fulton County, the Fulton County Public Schools, as well as, the Atlanta Public Schools make up the bulk of local government employment. The Fulton County Public Schools employ 9,900 employees and Fulton County Government has 6,000 employees.

2. **Education:** Many top colleges and universities are located in Fulton County, including Georgia State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Spelman College, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, Clark Atlanta and Morris Brown College, American Intercontinental University, Art Institute of Atlanta, and the Atlanta College of Art. Other technical and private educational institutions are also located in Fulton County.

Atlanta offers current and future members of the technology community opportunities to retool among the 43 colleges and universities, and 9 technical institutions. Furthermore, Atlanta ranks second nationally in the production of engineering and related technology graduates and fourth in computer science degrees, according to a study by the Atlanta Regional Consortium for Higher Education (ARCHS). With such a large concentration of colleges, universities and technical schools, and even private training programs, numerous resources are available for continuing education, executive training for employees, and research and development opportunities. According to a recent Philadelphia Inquirer analysis, the top five places for college-educated people are Washington, D.C. (where 38 percent of adults have bachelor's degrees), San Francisco (37 percent), Atlanta (36 percent), Minneapolis (35 percent) and Boston (35 percent).

Metro Atlanta's economy also benefits from Georgia being a national leader in providing state-funded training programs and incentives that produce technology talent. These programs include the Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP), Quick Start and Georgia Globe (Global Learning online for Business and Education). The state's HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) scholarship program has increased enrollment in state colleges in Georgia and in Fulton County.

3. **Transportation:** Transportation was the catalysts for the creation of Fulton County and several of its cities. It also continues to be an important element in the County's and the Region's economic engine. The transportation system in Atlanta, according to the ARC, "makes it possible for people to commute long distances to work, contributing to the diversity of housing choices in the region."

**Surface Transportation:** Atlanta is one of five cities in the United States served by three interstate multi-state highway systems running east-west (I-20); northwest to south-east (I-75); and northeast to southwest (I-85) and around the core of the region, aka as the perimeter (I-285). According to the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, over 80% of the U.S. commercial and consumer market can be reached within two truckload delivery days from Atlanta.





**Air Transportation:** Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, covering 4,700 acres, is the busiest in the world and served approximately 79 million passengers in 2003 and 83 million passengers and 862,230 metric tons of freight in 2004. Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport serves 24 airlines with 200 destinations worldwide with 2,400 daily flights. The airport is tenth in the nation and 22<sup>nd</sup> in the world in air cargo volumes. The airport is one of the largest employment centers in Georgia and it has an estimated annual regional economic impact of \$16.8 billion.

The 900 acre Brown Field Airport, operated by Fulton County since 1950, serves corporate jets and accommodates any landing at any time. It is the third busiest airport in Georgia and serves as a “primary reliever” airport to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. Flight schools operate out of Brown Field Airport. The airport accommodates 131,000 operations each year. (An operation is defined as either one aircraft take-off or one aircraft landing.) The airport generates \$74 million yearly in economic activity.

**Rail Transportation:** Georgia is sixth in the nation in ground transportation with over 4,700 rail miles statewide. Major rail hubs for CSX and Norfolk Southern are located in Fulton County.

**Public Transportation:** Fulton County along with DeKalb County supports the state’s largest public transportation system, the Metropolitan Atlanta Regional Transportation Authority (MARTA). It has 38 rail stations and 375 bus and van routes.

4. **Corporate Headquarters:** Fulton County is the location of many corporate headquarters (Table 2-14). A brief description of each of these companies is provided below.

<b>Table 2-14: Fortune 500 Companies &amp; Rank with Corporate Headquarters in Fulton County</b>	
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Company</b>
42	United Parcel Service
80	BellSouth
91	Coca-Cola
94	Georgia-Pacific
112	Coca-Cola Enterprises
150	Delta Air Lines
178	Southern Company
261	Newell Rubbermaid
272	SunTrust Banks
314	Mirant
318	Cox Communications
Source: Fortune Magazine web site, List published April 5, 2004	





United Parcel Service (UPS), headquartered in Sandy Springs, is the world's largest package delivery company and a global leader in supply chain services, offering an extensive range of options for synchronizing the movement of goods, information and funds. UPS serves more than 200 countries and territories worldwide and operates the largest franchise shipping chain, *The UPS Store*.

Atlanta is home for BellSouth. The company began offering phone service in Atlanta in 1882. In addition to phone service, Bell South's business range from providing scanners at grocery stores to point-of-sale-terminals in places such as department stores and hardware stores.

Coca Cola was created in Atlanta in 1886 by pharmacist John S Pemberton. Coca-Cola' is the most recognized trademark, recognized by 94% of the world's population and is the most widely recognized word after "OK". The 'Coca-Cola' company has more than 1,200 bottling plants around the world. Coca Cola Enterprises is a subsidiary of Coca Cola Company.

The Georgia Pacific Corporation was founded in 1927 in Augusta, GA., as the Georgia Hardwood Lumber Co., a wholesaler of hardwood lumber. In 1982, the Company moved its headquarters from Portland, OR to Atlanta. The Georgia-Pacific Corporation has grown through expansion and acquisitions to become one of the world's leading manufacturers and marketers of tissue, packaging, paper, building products and related chemicals. Georgia-Pacific employs some 55,000 people at more than 300 locations in North America and Europe. Consumer products include paper towels, paper napkins, bath and facial tissue, disposable plates, cups, utensils and other foodservice products, and office printing and copying papers. Building products include plywood, oriented strand board, gypsum wallboard and related installation materials, lumber, particleboard, medium density fiberboard, hardboard and related chemicals.

Delta is a Delaware corporation headquartered in Hapeville, Georgia. Delta traces its roots back to 1924, when Huff Daland Dusters was founded as the world's first aerial crop dusting organization. In 1928, the company became Delta Air Service. In 1941, the company moved its headquarters to Atlanta. Delta Air Lines, Inc. provides air transportation for passengers and freight throughout the United States and around the world. As of January 31, 2005 Delta announced a major schedule change at its Super Hub at Atlanta's Hartsfield Jackson International Airport. The new schedule includes 1,042 daily non-stop flights to 217 domestic and international destinations from Atlanta. This includes service every 60-90 minutes to the top 37 cities served from Atlanta. Delta also serves 55 international cities in 36 countries. Delta Airlines recently closed its Dallas/Fort Worth hub, which added 72 flights per day to its Atlanta Super Hub. It is estimated that Delta will eliminate 7,000 jobs or 10% of it's workforce in the next 18 months as part of a turnaround plan aimed at saving the airline from having to file for bankruptcy protection.

The Southern Company, a holding company for Alabama Power, Georgia Power, Gulf Power, and Mississippi Power, has been headquartered in Atlanta since 1950. Southern Company's service territory in the Southeast encompasses more than 120,000 square miles, spanning parts of four states — most of Alabama and Georgia, the panhandle of Florida, and 23 counties in southeastern Mississippi. Southern Company provides electricity (retail and wholesale), fiber optic networks, wireless services and natural gas.





Newell Manufacturing Company recently relocated its corporate headquarters to Sandy Springs. Newell Rubbermaid produces products and brands within five groups - Cleaning & Organization, Home & Family, Home Fashions, Office Products and Tools & Hardware.

SunTrust Banks, Inc., headquartered in Atlanta, is one of the nation's largest commercial banking organizations. As of June 30, 2004, SunTrust had total assets of \$128.1 billion and total deposits of \$85.5 billion. The company operates through an extensive distribution network primarily in Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia and the District of Columbia and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. SunTrust's primary businesses include deposit, credit, trust and investment services. Through various subsidiaries, the company provides credit cards, mortgage banking, insurance, brokerage and capital markets services.

The Mirant Company, a spin off of the Southern Company, owns or controls some 14,000 megawatts (MW) of generating capacity in the U.S.. The company's risk management and marketing activities are located in Sandy Springs. The company is currently in bankruptcy.

Cox Enterprises, Inc. is a multi-service broadband communications company with approximately 6.7 million total customers, including 6.4 million basic cable subscribers. As the nation's third-largest cable television provider, Cox offers analog cable television, advanced digital video service, an array of other communications and entertainment services, including local and long distance telephone, high-speed internet access, and commercial voice and data services. The company is majority-owned by Atlanta-based media company Cox Enterprises, Inc. The company wholly owns and operates cable systems throughout the United States. Cox Enterprises' annual revenues exceed \$8 billion, with extensive interests in newspapers (Atlanta Journal Constitution), television, radio, internet sites and automobile auctions.

The Metro Atlanta Chamber is focused on attracting companies in numerous industry clusters. In 2004, approximately 32 companies with 100 or more employees expanded or relocated in the metro area, and several other companies with less than 100 employees did the same.

New headquarters relocations include Cooper Wiring Devices, a division of Cooper Lighting, which is relocating from the state of New York, bringing 115 new jobs; the Netherlands-based Hagemeyer North America, a wholesaler electrical parts distributor, which relocated its headquarters from South Carolina, bringing 250 jobs; and Acuity Specialty Products Group, which consolidated its headquarters in Atlanta resulting in 100 new jobs. Other recently relocated headquarters include Newell Rubbermaid and Novellis.

5. Conventions and Meetings: Conventions and meeting are an important component of Fulton County's economy. Several facilities are located in Fulton County; these include the Georgia World Congress Center, with 950,000 square feet, the Inforum, the Atlanta Market Center in the City of Atlanta, and the Georgia International Convention Center, with a 40,000 sq ft ballroom, in College Park.



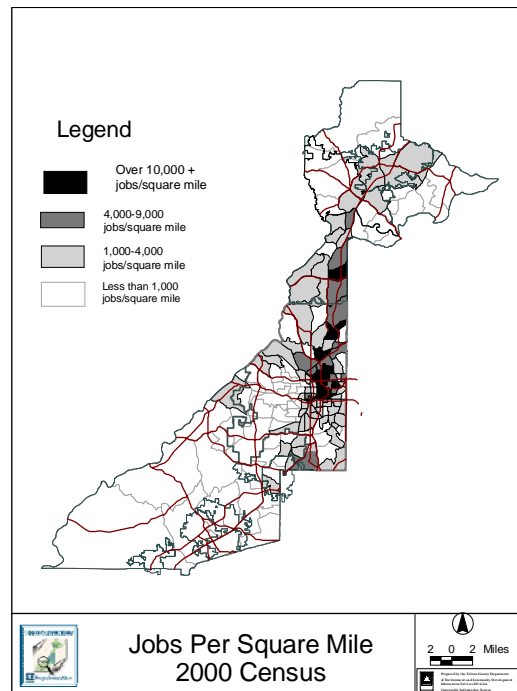


6. Professional Sports: Fulton County is home to the Braves (baseball), Hawks (basketball), Falcons (football), Thrasher (hockey) and the Georgia Force (arena football) professional sports teams which offer leisure as well as world wide recognition. Professional sports facilities in Fulton County include the Georgia Dome, Turner Field, Phillips Arena, Georgia World Congress Center, OMNI Coliseum, Wolf Creek Shooting Complex, Georgia Tech Aquatic Center, the Dick Lane Velodrome and Wills Park Equestrian Center. Many major sporting events are hosted in Fulton County such as the Peachtree Road Race, the Georgia Games, SEC Football championship, the Peach Bowl, the Tour de Georgia and PGA tours and on occasions national championships such as the Super Bowl are held in Fulton County.
7. Research and Development: Many of the educational institutions in Fulton County also conduct research and development. Much research and development is occurring through the Manufacturing Research Center, the Microelectronic Research Center, Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) and Georgia Center for Advanced Telecommunications Technology (GCATT), all associated with Georgia Institute of Technology. Businesses and universities are further included through the collaborative partnerships of the Georgia Biomedical Partnership, a non-profit consortium linking Atlanta's biomedical and research entities, the Georgia Cancer Coalition (GCC) which is a statewide network of people and organizations – doctors, hospitals, government agencies, public health centers, universities, businesses, non-profit organizations to create new initiatives, develop new treatment options, conduct research, provide education and encourage cancer prevention.
8. Telecommunications: Metropolitan Atlanta has the world's largest toll free dialing area. Fulton County is home to Bell South, Scientific Atlanta, and Cox Communications, Cable News Network (CNN), Turner Broadcasting System (TBS) as well numerous cable news and television stations.
9. Health Care: Numerous hospitals, medical centers, hospices, nursing homes and convalescent centers are located in Fulton County. Some of the hospitals in Fulton County include Atlanta Medical Center, Children's Health Care of Atlanta, Georgia Poison Control, Grady Health System, Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital, Emory Crawford Long Hospital, North Fulton Regional, Northside, Piedmont, St. Joseph, Shepherd Spinal Center and South Fulton Medical Center.
10. Warehousing and Distribution: Due to the extensive railroad network, air transportation and interstate access, Fulton County has a large concentration of warehousing and distribution facilities. Fulton Industrial Boulevard, along the Chattahoochee River in SW Fulton has a large concentration of these facilities. Approximately 30,000 employees work for the 1,000 companies located in 50 million square feet of space along Fulton Industrial Boulevard. Plus, the Georgia Tech Logistics Institute is one of the leading logistics industry research centers in the world.
11. Retail: Several regional malls, Lenox, Phipps Plaza, Greenbrier, Shannon and North Point are located in Fulton County.





12. Arts and Culture: Georgia and the Atlanta Region’s major art and cultural institutions, such as the Woodruff Arts Center and the Fox Theatre, are located in Fulton County. Moreover, many attractions such as the Zoo, the Botanical Gardens and the World of Coke are located in Fulton County. Many cultural institutions and attractions are funded by the Fulton County Arts Council, the largest source of funding for the arts in Georgia.
13. Major Employment Centers: The Atlanta region’s main employment centers are located throughout Fulton County in Downtown Atlanta, Midtown, Buckhead, Perimeter, GA 400 corridor Hartsfield-Jackson Airport and the Fulton Industrial Boulevard District. Map 2-1 shows the location of census tracts with high employment.



Map 2-1: Jobs per Census Tracts

14. Center for Non-profits: Many non-profits from local ones such as the Woodruff Foundation, the Atlanta Food Bank and Hands on Atlanta to large international such as Care International, the Boys and Girls Club and the Carter Center are located in Fulton County.

### 2.1.6.2. Assessment

The diversity of Fulton County’s economy has resulted in many special and unique economic activities. They are all expected to continue to play a defining role in the County’s economy. Tourism will continue to be a major source of economic development not only for Fulton County but for the Atlanta region as well. As the convention industry grows within the Atlanta Region, Fulton





County can maintain its advantage over surrounding counties and states because of its close proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson airport and accessibility to MARTA.

Sports will remain a major attraction for Fulton County. With the City of Atlanta being home to four professional sports teams, the facilities are in place to not only accommodate the professional sporting events, but the large collegiate and non-sporting events as well. Professional and collegiate sporting events draw visitors that spend millions in hotel accommodations and other retail services.

Fulton County's new aquarium, within the city of Atlanta, will be an added family attraction that will draw visitors from around and outside of the state of Georgia. Located near Centennial Olympic Park, the aquarium will also be located adjacent to the newly relocated World of Coke museum. The combined attractions will make a significant impact to Fulton County's economy.

As the economy in the Atlanta Region continues to thrive, the location of government agencies, corporate headquarters, major employment centers, non-profits, will play an important role in Fulton County's economy.

**2.2.0.0. Labor Force**

**2.2.1.0. Employment by Occupation**

**2.2.1.1. Inventory**

Employment by occupation includes the jobs held by residents in a geographic area. Table 2-15 shows the number of jobs and the percentage in 13 employment categories in 1990 and 2000 held by Fulton County residents. The number of jobs held by Fulton County residents increased by 22% from 320,149 in 1990 to 392,627 in 2000. In 1990, the largest categories of employment in Fulton County were clerical and administrative support (17%) executive, administrative and managerial (16%), followed by professional and technical specialty (15%) and sales. In 2000, professional and technical specialty became the largest category that Fulton County residents had jobs in with 22.7%, followed by executive, administrative and managerial with 20.8%. Clerical and administrative support dropped to 13.9% while sales dropped slightly to 13.7%.

<b>Table 2-15: Fulton County Employment by Occupation in 1990 and 2000</b>				
<b>Category</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1990 Percent</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2000 Percent</b>
Executive, Administrative & Managerial	53,051	16.5%	81,784	20.8%
Professional and technical specialty	48,573	15.2%	89,212	22.7%
Technicians and related support	11,919	3.7%	NA	NA
Sales Occupations	46,191	14.4%	54,007	13.7%
Administrative Support, including clerical	54,893	17.1%	54,813	13.9%
Private Household Service	2,496	0.8%	NA	NA
Protective Service	5,167	1.6%	NA	NA
Service Occupations, other	36,825	11.5%	50,372	12.8%
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	3,240	1.0%	640	0.2%
Precision Production, Craft and Repair	21,255	6.6%	15,628	4.0%
Machine Operators, Assemblers, Inspectors	12,899	4.0%	23,508	6.0%
Transportation and Material Moving	11,323	3.5%	20,014	5.1%





**Table 2-15: Fulton County Employment by Occupation in 1990 and 2000**

Category	1990	1990 Percent	2000	2000 Percent
Handlers, Equipment Cleaners, Laborers	12,317	3.8%	NA	NA
Total employed over the age of 16 years	320,149	100%	392,627	100%

Source: US Bureau of Census, Georgia Plan Builder

In 1990, Clerical and Administrative Support was the occupation with the highest employment in the US (16.3%), Georgia (16%) and Fulton County (17.5%). This was followed by executive, administrative and managerial jobs (US-12.3%, Georgia-12.3% and Fulton-16.5%) and professional and technical specialty (US-14.1%, Georgia-12.4% and Fulton-15.23%). In 2000, professional and technical specialty became the occupation with the highest percentage of jobs held by its residents (US-20.2%, Georgia-18.7% and Fulton-22.7%). This was followed by clerical and administrative support (US-15.4%, Georgia-15.1% and Fulton-13.9%) and by executive, administrative and managerial (US-13.4%, Georgia-14% and Fulton-20.8%). The percentage of residents with jobs in service occupations, machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors and transportation and material moving increased while the percentage of residents with jobs in sales, precision production and farming, fishing and forestry declined (Table 2-16).

**Table 2-16: US, Georgia and Fulton County Employment by Occupation**

Category	1990			2000		
	US	GA	Fulton	US	GA	Fulton
Executive, Administrative and Managerial (not Farm)	12.3%	12.3%	16.5%	13.4%	14.0%	20.8%
Professional and Technical Specialty	14.1%	12.4%	15.2%	20.2%	18.7%	22.7%
Technicians & Related Support	3.7%	3.6%	3.7%	NA	NA	NA
Sales	11.8%	12.3%	14.4%	11.2%	11.6%	13.7%
Clerical and Administrative Support	16.3%	16.0%	17.1%	15.4%	15.1%	13.9%
Private Household Services	0.45%	0.5%	0.8%	NA	NA	NA
Protective Services	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%	NA	NA	NA
Service Occupations (not Protective & Household)	11.0%	9.8%	11.5%	12.0%	11.6%	12.8%
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	2.5%	2.2%	1.0%	0.7%	0.6%	0.2%
Precision Production, Craft, and Repair	11.3%	11.9%	6.6%	8.5%	9.0%	4.0%
Machine Operators, Assemblers & Inspectors	6.8%	8.5%	4.0%	9.4%	10.8%	6.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	4.1%	4.6%	3.5%	6.1%	6.6%	5.1%
Handlers, Equipment Cleaners, Helpers & Laborers	3.9%	4.3%	3.8%	NA	NA	NA

Source: US Bureau of Census- Georgia Plan Builder

**2.2.1.2. Assessment**

Based on the county's population and educational attainment, Fulton County employs an array of professional and skilled employees. In comparison to rest of the Atlanta Region, Fulton County residents have the highest percentage of educational attainment with 41% of its residents having Bachelors degree or higher. Maintaining an educated and skilled labor force will be essential to attracting a diverse range of employers. The increase in service and professional jobs held by Fulton County residents mirrors the employment trends discussed in the Employment by Sector section.





## 2.2.2.0. Employment Status

### 2.2.2.1. Inventory

This section examines the employment status of the total labor force, the civilian labor force, the military labor force and the labor force participation by sex for Fulton County, Georgia and the US. Between 1990 and 2000, Fulton County's labor force increased by 25% from 1990 in 344,956 to 431,553 in 2000. In 2000, 67.7% of the population was in the labor force, a slight reduction from 1990. An increase in the civilian labor force was balanced by a small decrease in armed forces. However, employed civilians decreased from 62.9% in 1990 to 61.6% in 2000. The unemployment rate increased from 4.64% in 1990 to 6.0% in 2000. The male labor force decreased from 75.4% to 75.2% and the female labor force also decreased from 61.1% in 1990 to 60.7% in 2000. Male unemployment was higher than female labor force unemployment (Table 2-17). According to the 2003 American Community Survey, the number of people in the labor force was 428,193, a decline from the 2000 figure.

<b>Table 2-17: Fulton County Labor Force Participation in 1990 – 2000</b>				
<b>Category</b>	<b>1990</b>		<b>2000</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
In Labor Force	344,956	67.8%	431,553	67.7%
Civilian Labor Force	343,768	67.6%	430,872	67.6%
Civilian Employed	320,149	62.5%	392,627	61.6%
Civilian Unemployed	23,619	4.6%	38,245	6.0%
In Armed Forces	1,188	0.23%	681	0.1%
Not in Labor Force	163,638	37.2%	205,464	32.2%
Total	508,594	100%	637,017	100%
Males				
In Labor Force	179,749	75.4%	232,858	75.2%
Civilian Labor Force	178,793	75.0%	232,343	75.0%
Civilian Employed	166,991	70.0%	211,687	68.3%
Civilian Unemployed	11,802	4.9%	20,656	6.7%
In Armed Forces	956	0.4%	515	0.2%
Not in Labor Force	58,637	24.6%	76,832	24.8%
Total Males	238,386	100%	309,690	100%
Females				
In Labor Force	165,207	61.1%	198,695	60.7%
Civilian Labor Force	164,975	61.0%	198,529	60.6%
Civilian Employed	153,158	56.7%	180,940	55.3%
Civilian Unemployed	11,817	4.4%	17,589	5.4%
In Armed Forces	232	0.1%	166	0.0%
Not in Labor Force	105,001	38.9%	128,632	39.3%
Total Females	270,208		327,327	

Source: US Bureau of Census – Georgia Plan Builder

In the US, Georgia and Fulton County, the percent of the population in the labor force decreased slightly between 1990 and 2000. However, the decline was sharper in the US and Georgia than in Fulton County. In 2000, Fulton County had a higher percentage of its population in the civilian labor force (67.6%) than the US (63.4%) and Georgia (65%) and conversely a smaller percentage of its labor force in the armed forces (US-0.5%, Georgia-1.0%, and Fulton-0.1%). The percent of





employed civilians decreased in the US, Georgia and Fulton County. The percentage of the population not in the labor force increased in the US and in Georgia and remained unchanged in Fulton County. Similarly, the male civilian labor force decreased slightly in the US and Georgia and remained unchanged in Fulton County. In 2000, Fulton County had a higher percentage of the female population in the labor force (60.7%) than the US (57.5% and Georgia (55.6%). However, between 1990 and 2000, the percentage of females in the labor force decreased in Fulton County from 61.1% in 1990 to 60.7% in 2000 and increased in US and Georgia (Table 2-18).

Category	1990			2000		
	US	Georgia	Fulton	US	Georgia	Fulton
In Labor Force	65.3%	67.9%	67.8%	63.9%	66.0%	67.7%
Civilian Labor Force	64.4%	66.4%	67.6%	63.4%	65.0%	67.6%
Civilian Employed	60.3%	62.6%	62.9%	59.7%	61.4%	61.6%
Civilian Unemployed	4.0%	3.8%	4.6%	3.7%	3.6%	6.00%
In Armed Forces	0.9%	1.5%	0.2%	0.5%	1.0%	0.1%
Not In Labor Force	34.7%	32.1%	32.2%	36.0%	33.9%	32.2%
Male Civilian Labor Force	72.8%	73.9%	75%	69.8%	71.2%	75%
Male Civilian Unemployed	4.6%	3.80	4.9%	3.9%	3.5%	6.6%
Female in Labor Force	56.8%	55.8%	61.1%	57.5%	55.6%	60.7%
Female Civilian Unemployed	3.5%	3.8%	4.3%	3.3%	3.6%	5.4%

Source: US Bureau of Census- Georgia Plan Builder

### 2.2.2.2 Assessment

Fulton County has a higher percentage of the population in the labor force than the US and Georgia. This may be due to the large number of jobs in the County. The number of jobs has been a magnet for population growth. When the number of jobs decreases, those relocating to Fulton County for job related reasons may also decrease. The higher percentage of females in the Fulton County labor force compared to the State and the US may be because Fulton County has a higher percentage of its population that is college educated and because the County has a diverse job base that is able to offer employment opportunities to women. In addition, the higher cost of living may require women to enter and stay in the labor force.

The percentage of the labor force in the armed services may decrease when Fort McPherson is closed and may increase in Georgia when the recommendations of the Base Realignment Commission are implemented.

### 2.2.3.0. Unemployment Rates

#### 2.2.3.1. Inventory

Fulton County's labor force is defined as persons employed over the age of 16 years old. The number of employed residents has consistently increased from 1990 to the latest current information available in March 2005 from the Georgia Department of Labor. The number of unemployed and the employment rate decreased from a high 25,215 people and a rate of 7.4% in 1992 until 2000 when 15,117 were unemployed and the unemployment rate was 3.7%. With a





recession and the loss of jobs, in technology, retail trade and construction, the number of unemployed increased to 29,332 and the unemployment rate increased to 6.7% in 2003. With the improvement in the economy in 2004, the unemployment rate fell to 5.5% (Table 2-19).

Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
1990	341,032	321,756	19,276	5.7%
1995	363,188	343,427	19,761	5.4%
2000	410,281	395,164	15,117	3.7%
2003	436,798	407,466	29,332	6.7%
2004	433,218	409,309	23,909	5.5%
2005	427,044	402,932	24,112	5.6%

Source: Georgia DOL, DCA

Georgia, Fulton County and the other counties in the Atlanta Region have experienced a lower unemployment rate than the US since 1994. However, Fulton County had the highest unemployment rate in the ten county region between 1994 and 2000. Since 2003, Clayton County had the highest unemployment rate in the Atlanta Region while Fayette County had the lowest unemployment rate (Table 2-20).

Government	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2003	2004	2005*
US	6.1%	5.6%	5.4%	4.9%	4.5%	4.2%	4.0%	6.3%	5.6%	5.2%
Georgia	5.2%	4.9%	4.6%	4.5%	4.2%	4.0%	3.7%	5.4%	4.6%	5.0%
<b>Fulton</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
Dekalb	5.4%	4.9%	4.4%	4.5%	4.1%	3.9%	3.6%	6.5%	5.5%	5.5%
Cobb	4.2%	3.6%	3.0%	3.0%	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%	4.7%	4.1%	4.3%
Clayton	5.6%	5.1%	4.5%	4.1%	3.8%	3.5%	3.6%	6.9%	5.8%	5.8%
Gwinnett	3.7%	3.2%	2.8%	2.6%	2.5%	2.4%	2.3%	4.6%	3.6%	4.2%
Rockdale	3.8%	3.4%	3.1%	3.2%	2.9%	2.5%	2.6%	5.0%	4.4%	5.3%
Henry	3.7%	3.4%	2.8%	2.6%	2.3%	2.0%	2.1%	4.9%	4.3%	4.5%
Douglas	4.0%	3.6%	3.2%	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%	2.7%	5.3%	4.7%	5.0%
Cherokee	3.4%	3.5%	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	4.6%	3.7%	3.8%
Fayette	2.9%	2.6%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	1.8%	1.9%	3.5%	2.9%	3.9%

Source: Georgia Department of Labor \*As of March 2005

### 2.2.3.2. Assessment

Fulton County is the leading employment generator within the Atlanta region. In more recent years, the County still continues to experience a slightly higher unemployment rate relative to both the state and the U.S. One explanation for the unemployment rates is the job growth is continuously being exceeded by an even stronger growth in the size of the labor force. Fulton County's population is continuing to grow and therefore the size of the labor force is increasing as well.

One trend also influencing unemployment rates, within specific industries, is companies outsourcing their human resources overseas. The availability of inexpensive labor, in Asia and





Central America, has caused layoffs in recent years within the technology and manufacturing industries. The Department of Economic Development is working to retain the existing technology industry within Fulton County.

Another factor that may be contributing to the unemployment rate is the portion of the labor force with low skills and education. Fulton County is working to address unemployment/underemployment for many of its residents through the department of Human Service's Workforce Development. The Department of Economic Development is also working to encourage private industries to develop training and re-training programs for high school drop outs.

**2.2.4.0. Commuting Patterns**

**2.2.4.1. Inventory**

The number of jobs in Fulton County increased by 25% between 1990 and 2000 to 715,509 jobs. Due to the location of major employment centers, Fulton County has more jobs than the other counties in the Atlanta Region. As a result, many of the Fulton County residents in the labor force are able to find employment within the County. In 1990 and in 2000, approximately 70% of Fulton County's resident labor force worked in the County (Table 2-21). Most of the residents that worked outside of the county, worked in an adjacent county. Thirty-seven percent of those working in Fulton County live in Fulton County.

Category	1990		2000	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in County of Residence	221,309	70.9%	265,870	69.9%
Worked outside county of Residence	90,740	29.1%	114,471	30.1%
Total	312,049	100%	380,341	100%

Source: US Bureau of Census

The concentration and diversity of jobs in Fulton County attracts residents from surrounding counties. The majority (68%) of those employed in Fulton County live in surrounding counties. Many that are employed in Fulton County reside in DeKalb (17%), Cobb (13%) and Gwinnett (8%) counties (Table 2-22). Even though the percentages of the total workforce do not seem like large numbers (e.g. 2% from Douglas County and 6% from Clayton County), the actual numbers – 14,253 workers from Douglas County and 40,271 workers from Clayton County are large enough to create congestion on the interstates and state roads which lead from one county to another.

County	Employees	
	Number	% of Total
Fulton	265,870	37%
DeKalb	121,921	17%
Cobb	92,014	13%
Gwinnett	57,737	8%





**Table 2-22: County of Residence of Persons Working in Fulton County, 2000**

County	Employees	
	Number	% of Total
Clayton	40,271	6%
Cherokee	17,494	2%
Forsyth	15,251	2%
Fayette	14,745	2%
Douglas	14,253	2%
Henry	14,157	2%
Coweta	8,855	1%
Paulding	7,432	1%
Rockdale	4,792	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>674,792</b>	<b>94%</b>

Source: US Census Bureau

These figures do not include visitors who live outside the region, people who work in other counties and travel to conduct business with Fulton County companies, or people traveling to Fulton County for entertainment, medical care, education, worship, and other purposes.

**2.2.4.2. Assessment**

As the region’s leading employment generator, Fulton County draws it workers from all of the surrounding counties. While Fulton County has the benefit of being served by three interstate highways, traffic congestion is a problem that is adversely impacting the quality of life of the county’s residents and workers. With the Region’s 20 year population forecast and many of the jobs being located within Fulton County, worker commute times and distances can only be expected to increase.

Transportation options will be essential to economic development in Fulton County and the Atlanta Region. Transit-Oriented Development and promoting housing near employment centers will play a larger role in the development of the county as worker commute times lengthen. Companies that consider locating to the Atlanta Region may be deterred by lengthy commute times for their employees. Fulton County provides accessibility to MARTA throughout all of its major job centers except in North Fulton. In addition, several transportation management associations working with the Atlanta Regional Commission are working to promote alternatives to driving alone as a means of reducing traffic congestion.

**2.3.0.0. Local Economic Development Resources**

**2.3.1.0. Local Development Agencies**

**2.3.1.1. Inventory**

1. Fulton County: The mission of the Economic Development Department is to market and promote Fulton County through comprehensive programs designed to promote the location of new and expanding business. Marketing, Financial Services and Business Services are the three divisions of the Economic Development Department. The services provided are designed to





encourage residential, commercial and industrial growth in Fulton County, thereby creating jobs and expanding the tax base.

- a. **Marketing:** The Marketing Division works to attract new industrial, commercial, retail and residential business. Demographic information, print advertising and client presentations are provided regarding the quality of life enjoyed by the residents of Fulton County and those who work here. The staff arranges tours of potential sites and buildings, facilitates the permitting process with Environment and Community Development, and arranges presentations from government, utility and banking personnel about doing business in Fulton County. The Marketing Division also cultivates relationships with statewide development agencies in order to keep Fulton County as a good candidate for business location.
- b. **Financial Services:** The mission of the Financial Services Division is to provide new or expanding businesses with financing for real estate, machinery, equipment, and working capital through the programs listed below. The division also provides review and makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) on tax allocation districts (TADs) and community improvement districts (CIDs).
  1. Through the Development Authority of Fulton County, eligible companies (projects in excess of \$10 million) may access taxable revenue bond financing.
  2. Small and medium-sized businesses with a good track record and promising growth can qualify for low down payment, below-market fixed rates, and longer terms than conventional financing with the county's revolving loan program. The Economic Development Department works directly with prospective borrowers and lenders to tailor financing packages that meet program guidelines and the credit capacity of the business.
  3. The FCBI (Fulton County Business Incubator) provides affordable office space, shared services, and business support in an atmosphere that greatly increases the chances of success for 13 emerging companies.
- c. **Business Services:** The Business Services Division is responsible for retention and expansion of businesses within Fulton County, working closely with community based business organizations, agencies and the private sector. This division provides assistance in locating commercial real estate, monitoring quality of life conditions, supporting community development programs and addressing business issues and concerns. These issues and concerns include crime prevention, beautification, signage compliance, zoning violations, and transportation assessments. The division works closely with the Code Enforcement Division of the Environment and Community Development Department to assist with compliance issues. Economic Development staff responds to any inquiries and provides continuous service when a company becomes part of the Fulton County community.





- d. International Affairs: Fulton County's unique location offers businesses access to "The Americas" and the world through the County's international infrastructure, multilingual workforce and pro-business environment. Fulton County has a major concentration of Consular Corps and international representative offices, including a representative office in Munich, Germany. Fulton County's international team works closely with economic development partners to foster bilateral trade and investment, and raise the County's international business profile
- e. Special Projects: To harness long and short term business development projects and to promote aggressive economic development program in Fulton County, the Special Projects Division implements the Fulton County Economic Development Comprehensive Plan. The program concentrates on: marketing potential business opportunities, coordinating projects, initiating programs that support and create viable live-work centers, attracting target industries, and developing traditional and non-traditional workforce opportunities.

2. Chambers of Commerce: Several Chambers of Commerce operate in Fulton County. The Greater North Fulton Chamber of Commerce includes the area north of the City of Atlanta (Sandy Springs, Alpharetta, Mountain Park, and Roswell and unincorporated North Fulton). The South Fulton Chamber of Commerce includes unincorporated South Fulton and the Cities of College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Union City and Palmetto. The Airport Area Chamber of Commerce serves the area around Hartsfield-Jackson Airport and the Metro Area Atlanta Chamber of Commerce serves the Atlanta Region. The Chambers provide many services, including strategic planning, recruitment, networking, business promotion, newsletters, coordination and participation in local government activities, involving members through committee and events and provision of assistance in advertising and job promotion.

The Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce provides numerous economic development services in the Atlanta Region. Over the past several years, the Metro Chamber has formed public/private initiatives that address regional issues such as transportation, water resources and growth. Their work has led to the formation of the Georgia Regional Transportation Alliance and the North Georgia Water Quality Resource. More recently, the Metro Growth Quality Task Force studied population growth, housing, land use and transportation.

3. Local Business Associations: Business owners have been forming organizations to act in their common interests to maintain and enhance the economic health of an area. Organizations in Fulton County include the Sandy Springs Business Association, the Cascade Merchants Association, the Old National Merchants Association, the Fulton Industrial Business Association, and organizations in the Cities of Fairburn and Union City.

#### **2.3.1.2. Assessment**

The Department of Economic Development is working to encourage small business development. Start-up venture financing companies and the creation of a banking center will be used to assist new businesses with funding. In addition, training programs for small business entrepreneurs will be used as a tool to improve the success rate of small firms. The Fulton County business incubator





is currently used to support small business. The incubator will also be expanded to encourage such businesses as micro-electronics, nano-technology, and other professional services.

The Economic Development Department will continue to collaborate and provide funding to community based organizations and chambers of commerce that work to encourage economic and employment development, particularly in areas where traditional support is limited. Moreover, the Development Authority will continue to work and support companies with the issuance of bonds.

### **2.3.2.0. Economic Development Programs or Tools**

#### **2.3.2.1. Inventory**

1. Fulton County: The Fulton County Department of Economic Development provides building and site location assistance; financing for commercial and industrial projects; taxable and tax-exempt financing; creative business financing; long term, fixed-rate loans with low down payments; business retention and expansion services; import/export services; area site tours; project management assistance; liaison with other County departments on development projects; and information and research services.

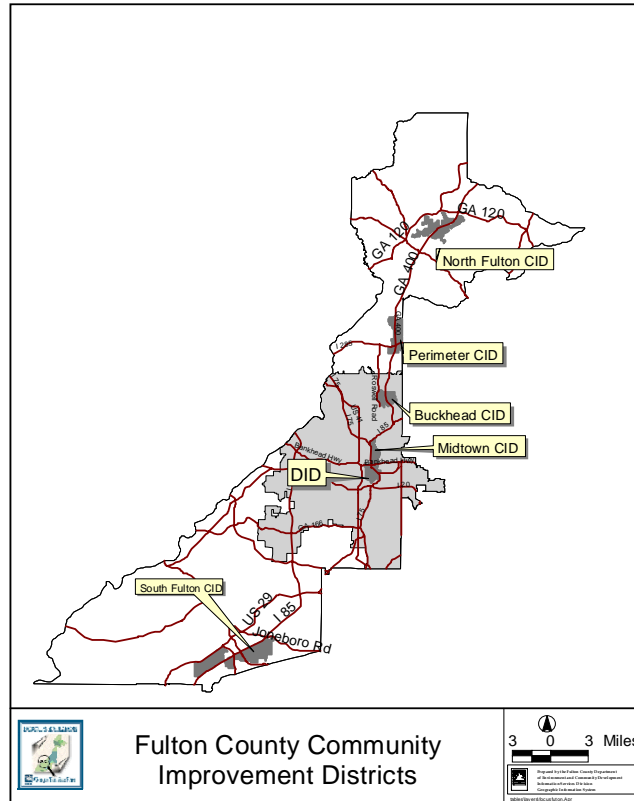
Development Authority of Fulton County: Created in 1973, the Development Authority has issued over \$2 billion in both taxable and tax-exempt bonds. The bonds provided financing for more than 190 businesses that were relocating to, or expanding existing facilities in, the County. These relocations and expansions created or retained more than 335,000 jobs in Fulton County. Since 1990 alone, the Development Authority issued over a \$1 billion in taxable and tax-exempt bonds. Under the auspices of the Development Authority – and the Policy for Development Incentives created by the County Board of Commissioners – financing is provided for firms that range from small companies and major corporations to cultural and educational institutions.

Joint Development Authority of Metropolitan Atlanta: This Authority works to address economic development as a region. Participating in the Joint Development Authority of Metropolitan Atlanta are Clayton, DeKalb, Rockdale and Fulton counties. Thus, the combined population of the Joint Authority's participating counties represents approximately 25% of the population of Georgia. By participating in the alliance, the member counties enable each company that is located within its jurisdiction to take advantage of a \$1,000-per-job state tax credit. The Joint Authority's Board of Directors meets quarterly – in January, April, July and October.

2. Community Improvement District (CID): Community Improvement Districts (Map 2-2) are a self-taxing area, self governing group, where private property owners vote to assess themselves additional property taxes in order to address critical issues such as traffic and safety. It takes the agreement of a simple majority of the commercial property owners within the district to create a CID. In addition, it is required that this simple majority of owners represent at least 75% of the taxable value of the commercial property owners located within the proposed CID boundary. There are several CID's in unincorporated Fulton County, one in Sandy Springs and the other in South Fulton and several within Fulton



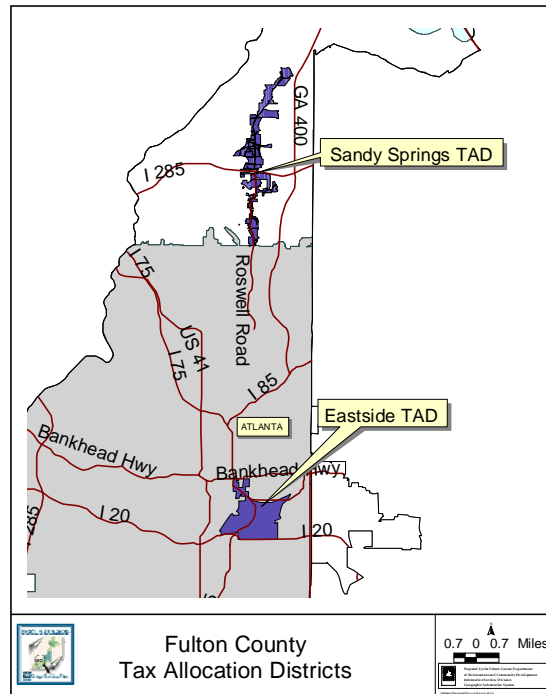
County's municipalities. These CIDs have provided funding for transportation studies and projects.



Map 2-2: Fulton County Community Improvement Districts

3. **Community Development Block Grant Program:** The Community Development division of the Environment and Community Development Department administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in Fulton County outside the City of Atlanta. The County's CDBG funds are used to address a variety of housing, infrastructure, economic development and public service needs in the county. CDBG programs are used for neighborhood revitalization, development of affordable housing, economic development, infrastructure improvements, public facilities and public services.
  
4. **Tax Allocation District (TAD):** This is a tool used to pay for infrastructure and other improvements in underdeveloped or blighted areas in order to stimulate economic development and to enhance the surrounding neighborhoods. As properties within the TAD

are redeveloped and improved, the property values increase. The local jurisdiction receives increased tax revenues to make improvements in the TAD without raising taxes or dipping into the jurisdiction’s current tax revenues. The Sandy Springs TAD is the only one in unincorporated Fulton County (Map 2-3). There are several TADs in the City of Atlanta and in East Point .



Map 2-3: Tax Allocation Districts

5. The Enterprise Zone Employment Act of 1997: In this program, the Board of Commissioners may designate areas in need of revitalization as Enterprise Zones. The program provides certain tax exemptions to qualifying businesses that create new jobs as a result of location, expansion, or facility modernization in underdeveloped areas.
6. Transportation Management Associations (TMA): Fulton County has several TMA’s which create transportation options for geographic areas with large employment concentrations. These are listed in the Transportation Element of this plan.

**2.3.2.2. Assessment**

The Board of Commission approves the abatement of taxes in tax allocation districts in an effort to



promote redevelopment and revitalization. Fulton County's forecasted growth and development within Sandy Springs should allow the funding from this TAD to aid in the necessary upgrades to infrastructure in Sandy Springs.

Because Fulton County would like to encourage more development of small businesses, the Economic Development Department would like to increase the use of the Community Development Block Grant Funding for the revolving loan program. Increasing the loan program may improve the success rate of small business, as well as minimize the financial burden assumed by many small business owners.

### **2.3.3.0. Education and Training Opportunities**

#### **2.3.3.1. Inventory**

The following agencies educate and train Fulton County's workforce.

1. Private Assistance: There are many social service agencies which provide job training and job finding assistance to people as well as help in taking their GED.
2. Atlanta Regional Workforce Board: The Atlanta Regional Commission coordinates the local regional workforce board which provides job training and job seeking resources to Atlanta Region residents, including Fulton County residents.
3. Vocational and Technical Schools: Numerous vocation and technical schools in the Metro Atlanta area, such as Atlanta Area Tech, teach students skills in the areas of computers; nursing and medical assistance; legal; business and office administration; massage; skin, nail and hair care; court reporting; broadcasting; aviation maintenance; truck driving; carpentry; writing; photography; art; graphic design; fashion design; modeling; merchandising; construction; real estate; psychology; foreign languages; accounting; culinary arts; appliance repair; bartending; and circus arts.
4. Fulton County Human Services Department: The Fulton County Workforce Preparation Employment Service offers a variety of services through four "one-stop" career centers and 22 electronic access network sites strategically located throughout Fulton County. Employment and training services, as well as associated supportive services are provided to area youth, adults and dislocated workers.

Through these facilities, and in collaboration with numerous state and local agencies and organizations, employers and job seekers alike have access to free individualized services that link current labor market and financial information, employment readiness, skill upgrade and support services to a single unified system.

5. Electronic Access Network: The Georgia Department of Labor has developed an automated system that supports the delivery of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) services and meets WIA reporting and performance accountability requirements. These automated systems are part of Georgia's One Stop Career Network and are known in Fulton County as the Electronic





Access Network Sites. Services provided include Outreach and Recruitment Assistance, Labor Market Information, Unemployment Insurance Information, Hiring Incentive Information, Tax Credit Information, Job Ready Candidates for Vacancies, Job Training Resources, Space For Interviewing Candidates, Rapid Response Information, Training Information

6. Youth Services: The Youth Services Program (provided by the Human Services Department) is designed to provide assistance to youth in obtaining vocational training and unsubsidized employment. The program targets in-school, out of school and at-risk youth. These services are provided through collaborations with existing providers. Where gaps in service exist, services are purchased through community providers.

### **2.3.3.2 Assessment**

A skilled and educated workforce is essential to attracting and retaining business to Fulton County. While a significant percentage of the county's residents are highly educated, many opportunities are available for citizens who require additional skills and training. The Economic Development Department is working to match employers with well suited employees. In South Fulton, one effort to encourage this match is to attract a local state and/or private college campus. The capacity and skilled building created by having a college located in South Fulton could potentially attract corporate headquarters and offices to that area of the county.