



GEORGIA - IRELAND COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

The Consulate General of Ireland in Atlanta, which opened in 2010, is the official representation of the Irish Government to the Southeastern United States. Mr. Frank Groome has served as the Consul General since August 2024.

The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in the UK and Ireland since 2002. Kilian Cawley leads the state's economic development efforts in this market on FDI and Conor Griffiths covers Trade.

IDA Ireland, an Irish government agency responsible for securing international investment also had an office in Atlanta, where John McGeown serves as VP of Industrial Technology and Lifesciences.

Minister of State for Financial Services Michael D'Arcy visited Georgia in March 2018 and met with Former Governor Nathan Deal to discuss and expand upon the economic ties between Georgia and Ireland. Minister D'Arcy also attended the St. Patrick's Day celebrations held in Savannah.

Commissioner Pat Wilson led an economic development mission to Ireland in August 2024.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2024, 50 Irish students will be enrolled in USG schools.

The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 32 study abroad programs to Ireland in a variety of studies, such as business, engineering, humanities and journalism.

Georgia Southern University is home to the Center for Irish Research and Training and provides one of the largest U.S. summer study programs in Ireland.

Emory University provides multiple study abroad programs to Ireland as well as exchanges with Trinity College, University College in Dublin and the National University of Ireland in Galway.

The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets opened the 2016 and 2024 college football seasons in Dublin, Ireland in the Aer Lingus College Football Classic.

Arts, Culture and Tourism

In 2023, 3,200 Irish visitors spent nearly \$4.3 million in the state of Georgia.

Savannah, Georgia is home to the third-largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the world, attracting up to 400,000 visitors every year.

Arís is Atlanta's own Irish theatre company presenting an annual season repertoire based on Irish literary traditions, mythology, and storytelling.

In 2021, Gateway Performance Productions in partnership with the Little 5 Points Center for Art and Community in Atlanta, GA presented *We Have Risen* commemorating Ireland's Journey to liberty in drama, dance and song with a historical African American Dimension - originally commissioned by the Irish government through the Consulate General of Ireland in 2016.

In 2021 the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra presented Celtic Thunder Ireland, a brand-new revue show that revisits their most popular Irish and Celtic songs of the past decade and celebrates the influence of Irish and Celtic music around the world.

IrishFest Atlanta was launched in 2013 to promote Ireland's culture through traditional music, song, dance and language.

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2023, Georgia exports to Ireland totaled \$200 million. Ireland is the 41st largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Ireland include civilian aircraft, medical appliances, albumins, pumps for liquids, and automatic data processing machines.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Ireland: Chemical wood pulp of dissolving grades, rosin and resin acids, and aluminum scrap.

IMPORTS: In 2023, Georgia imports from Ireland totaled \$5.33 billion. Ireland ranks 8th among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Ireland to Georgia include human and animal blood, mixtures of odoriferous substances, pharmaceutical goods, medical appliances, and exports of articles imported for repairs.

Capital Investment

At least **27 Georgia companies have operations in Ireland**, including but not limited to:

- AGCO Corporation
- Arris Group
- Elavon
- Equifax
- Exide Technologies
- Georgia-Pacific
- Invesco
- Graphic Packing Corporation
- Mohawk Industries
- Travelport
- UPS

There are at least 130 Irish facilities operating in Georgia. These companies employ more than 10,400 Georgians.

Transportation

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport offers daily direct flights from Atlanta to Dublin. The United States operates border pre-clearance facilities in Shannon and Dublin. In 2024, the airport expects 283 flights between Atlanta and Dublin carrying 75,000 passengers.

About GDEcD

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects. For more information, visit www.georgia.org.

GDEcD's International Representatives in Ireland

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