

About The Hub Communities

The Hub Chamber Council advocates and develops policy to support increased investment and job creation in regional job hubs across the state of Georgia and outside of Metro Atlanta. It is a joint effort between the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the 11 Hub chambers of commerce. Hub Chambers are those which are located in a Georgia Hub Community: a metropolitan area outside of Metro Atlanta which serves as a job hub for its region of the state as well as centers of workforce development, education, defense, and economic development.

The Hub Chamber Council includes leadership of the chambers of commerce of Albany, Athens, Augusta, Brunswick, Columbus, Dalton, Macon, Rome, Savannah, Valdosta and Warner Robins.

Workforce, Housing and Economic Development

Georgia	12.7%	694,945
Hub Regions	8.56%	92,231
Albany	4.72%	3,025
Augusta	8.02%	21,557
Athens	12.36%	12,772
Brunswick	12.12%	5,823
Columbus	6.18%	9,354
Dalton	1.49%	1,019
Macon	5.59%	5,992
Rome	7.51%	3,221
Savannah	12.87%	27,352
Valdosta	7.72%	5,141
Warner Robins	10.63%	8,911

2030 Projected Job Growth by Hub Region

The Hub Council seeks to continue to bolster the workforce talent pipeline in partnership with all educational levels and the business community. The Hub regions host 40% of the state's higher education institutions, including 21 TCSG, 10 USG and 8 Private universities.

However, the average person in a Hub region must spend 35% of their income on living costs, five percentage points more than is considered affordable. Hub regions host some of the state's biggest economic events, development projects and industries that continue to fuel their growing economies but cannot do so without the workforce base and housing supply to support this growth.

Infrastructure and Healthcare

Hub communities bolster supply chain logistics across the state; their ports, regional airports and highways connect Georgians, and facilitate our national and international markets. The Ports of Savannah is the single largest container terminal in North America, and the Port of Brunswick is one of the fastest growing auto ports in North America. Additionally, Hub communities host one of only three inland port facilities in the state, move the most regional air cargo, and support primary national freight mobility highways. Support and expansion of the infrastructure network that operates inside of hub communities is critical to the economic wellbeing of the state.

Healthcare infrastructure maintains the health and security of Georgia's workforce and plays a critical role in developing future healthcare workforce talent. The three largest hospitals outside of Metro Atlanta are located in Hub communities, along with nearly half of the state's level 1-3 trauma centers. Continued operation of these facilities supports the health and productivity of the Hub communities and the Georgians that call them home.

Defense

Georgia is home to 11 defense installations, nine of which are housed in a Hub communities. These installations are central components of their communities, supporting both active duty and veteran populations and families. The average county in Georgia has a veteran population of 8%, while the average Hub county has a veteran population of almost 10%. The Hub defense installations contribute an estimated \$22 billion dollars annually to the Georgia economy. The Hub Council supports the statewide coordination of Georgia's defense installations, and incentives and policies which ensure the security and stability of current and future defense operations and communities in the state.

Power of Partnership

Hub communities drive Georgia's statewide economy, connecting every corner of the state. The Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the Hub chambers of commerce recognize the importance of coordinated statewide advocacy efforts. Through joint partnership and action, greater economic growth can be achieved not only for individual communities but for the state as a whole.

The Hub Chamber Council looks forward to pursuing active strategies to develop Georgia's economy and workforce, support statewide economic development, support Georgia businesses and strengthen our communities.

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Chair and President & CEO
Albany Area Chamber of Commerce

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