



State of Georgia Military Economic Impact Report

Georgia Chamber of Commerce Hub Chamber Council

The state of Georgia hosts nine military installations, making military operations one of the most central components of Georgia’s economy. Moreover, this makes the Department of Defense one of the largest employers in the state, providing over 150,000 jobs directly, and indirectly employing a third of a million Georgians as of 2019. Additionally, many active-duty personnel retire in Georgia, which is home to nearly 630,000 veterans⁵ engaged local communities and the workforce. Nearly one in ten Georgians are associated with military, which is nearly twice the national average.

As of 2020, Federal Defense Spending in Georgia reached upwards of \$15.8 billion in federal spending¹ in the state. **The current total estimated impact of military operation on Georgia is approximately \$22 billion annually**, which accounts for approximately 2.5% of Georgia’s overall GDP^{2,4}, but an *estimated average of 30% of the GDP of each local community in which each installation is situated.*

As of September 2021, Georgia hosts nearly 70,000 active-duty personnel. Approximately 53,000 Army, 9,000 Airforce, 1,000 Marine Corps, 6,000 Navy and 500 Coast Guard service men and women⁶. With an additional 27,000 in reserves and almost 35,000 in military civilians, Georgia hosts the 6th most total military personnel in the country³.

Military Installation	Estimated Economic Impact *(\$2021)	Estimated Percentage of Local GDP
Albany Marine Corps Logistics Base ⁷	\$1.77 Billion	28.15%
Dobbins Airforce Base ⁸	\$192 Million	.81%
Fort Benning ⁹	\$4.75 Billion	25.40%
Fort Gordon ¹⁰	\$2.7 Billion	8.13%
Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield ¹¹	\$4.99 Billion	89.11%
Kings Bay Naval Submarine Bay ¹²	\$1.24 Billion	25.35%
Moody Airforce Base ¹³	\$459 Million	6.55%
Warner Robins Airforce Base ¹⁴	\$5.46 Billion	55.71%

*All estimates have been converted into March 2021 dollars inflation using the [BLS Inflation Calculator](#) given the most recently published reports.

Prioritizing military friendly policies and legislation is vital to long-term economic prosperity in our Hub communities and for the state as a whole.

Please see below for report sources

¹[DoD Release: Defense Spending by State FY 2020](#)

²[Metro Atlanta CEO: "Military Spending a Dominant Force in Georgia's Economy"](#)

³[Georgia Department of Economic Development: Military Presence in Georgia](#)

⁴[Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation: Defense Spending by State FY 2020, Georgia](#)

⁵[Housing Assistance Council: Supporting Veterans in Georgia](#)

⁶[2021 Military Active-Duty, Civilians by State, Georgia](#)

⁷[Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission Defense Report](#)

⁸[Dobbins Air Reserve Base Economic Impact Report](#)

⁹[Amazing Columbus Georgia: Amazing Military, Fort Benning](#)

¹⁰[CSRA Alliance for Fort Gordon: Economic Impact](#)

¹¹Center for Business Analytics and Economic Research, Georgia Southern University, "Economic Impact and Contribution Analysis Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield" May 2021.

¹²[The Brunswick News: King's Bay Impact \\$1.1 Billion to Local Economy](#)

¹³Moody Airforce Base Comptroller Report provided by John Eunice, GS-14 USAF ACC 23 CES/CD

¹⁴[2021 Robins Airforce Base Economic Impact Statement](#)