



Ben Hill

County



Area Labor Profile

Updated: May 2026

Labor Force Activity

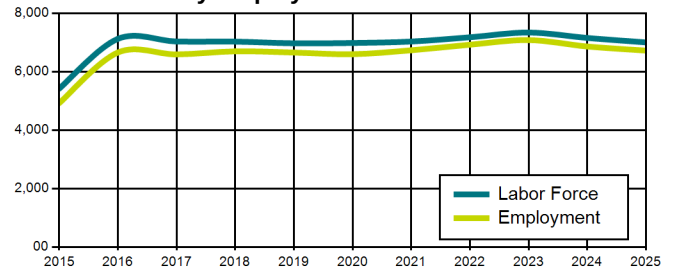
March 2026

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
Ben Hill	6,936	6,674	262	3.8%
Coffee	18,380	17,685	695	3.8%
Irwin	4,106	3,968	138	3.4%
Telfair	3,158	3,000	158	5.0%
Turner	3,646	3,509	137	3.8%
Wilcox	3,001	2,905	96	3.2%
Ben Hill Area	39,227	37,741	1,486	3.8%
Georgia	5,485,632	5,302,196	183,436	3.3%
United States	170,102,000	162,764,000	7,337,000	4.3%

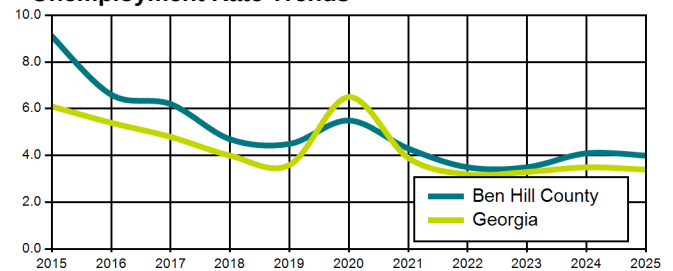
Note: This series reflects the latest information available. Labor Force includes residents of the county who are employed or actively seeking employment.

Source: Georgia Department of Labor; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Ben Hill County Employment Trends



Unemployment Rate Trends

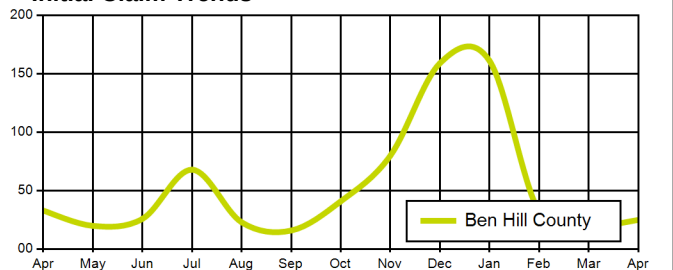


Initial Claims Activity

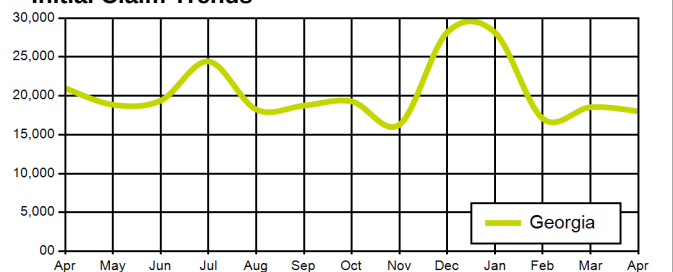
	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	Total
Ben Hill	25	20	32	77
Coffee	116	136	115	367
Irwin	8	19	22	49
Telfair	13	10	16	39
Turner	14	14	8	36
Wilcox	7	5	8	20
Ben Hill Area	183	204	201	588

Source: Georgia Department of Labor; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Initial Claim Trends



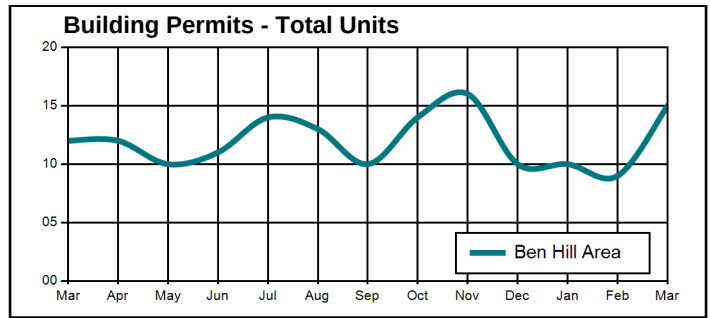
Initial Claim Trends



Building Permit Construction Activity

	Ben Hill Area			
	March 2026	February 2026	January 2026	Total
Totals	15	9	10	34
Family residential	12	9	10	31
Multi family resident	3	0	0	3

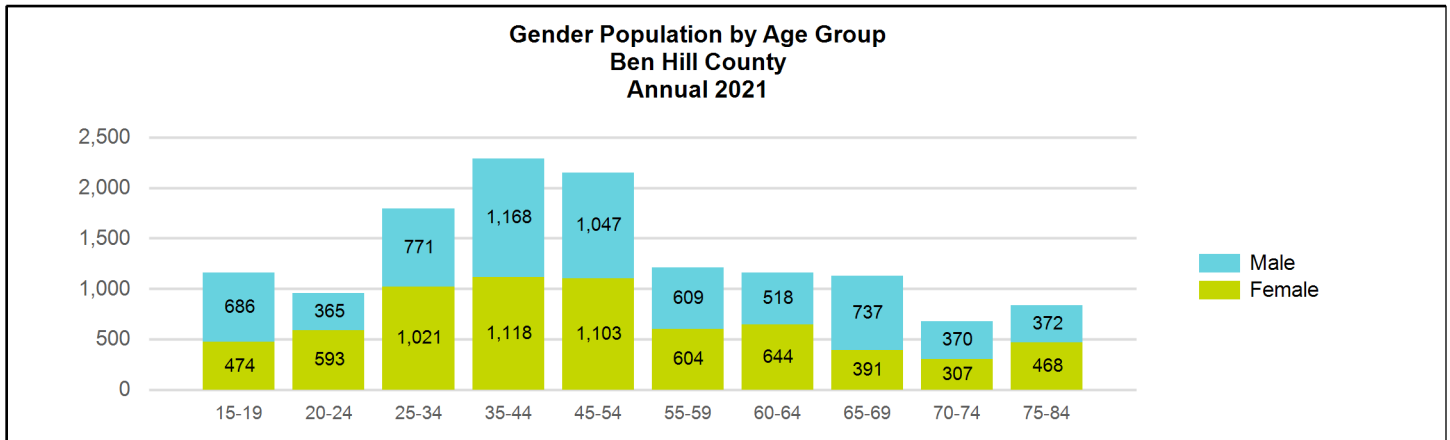
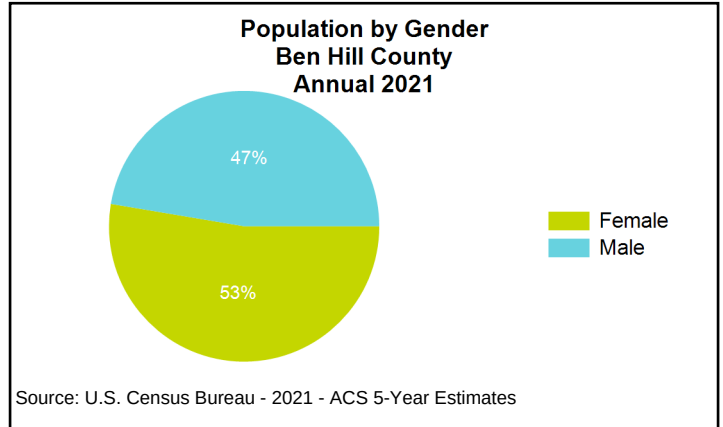
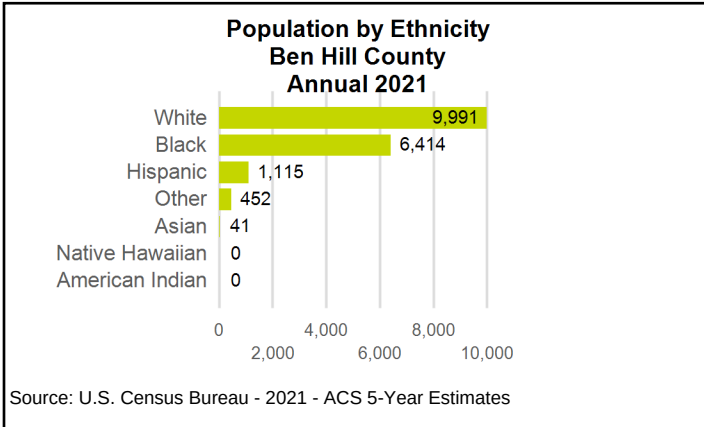
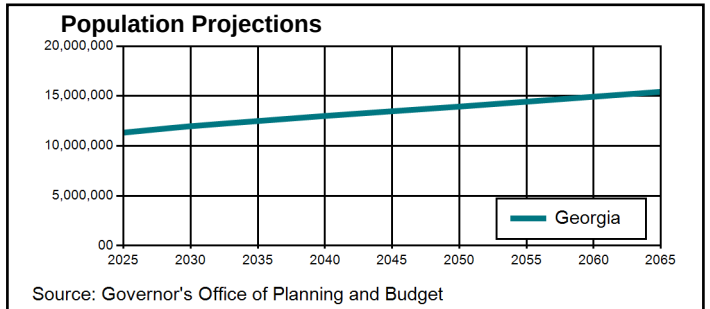
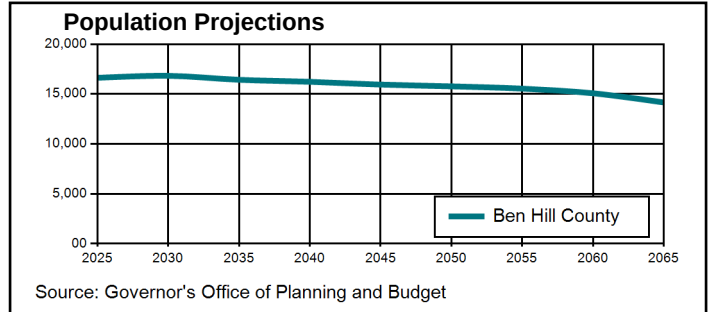
Source: U.S. Census Bureau.



Population Activity

	Annual 2024	Annual 2023	Difference
Ben Hill	16,945	17,128	-183
Coffee	43,851	43,317	534
Irwin	9,155	9,120	35
Telfair	11,000	10,920	80
Turner	9,023	8,909	114
Wilcox	8,904	8,779	125
Ben Hill Area	98,878	98,173	705
Georgia	11,180,878	11,029,227	151,651
United States	340,110,988	334,914,895	5,196,093

Source: Georgia Department of Labor; U.S. Census Bureau.



Industry Mix - 4th Quarter of 2025

INDUSTRY	Ben Hill				Ben Hill Area			
	NUMBER OF FIRMS	EMPLOYMENT NUMBER	PERCENT	WEEKLY WAGE	NUMBER OF FIRMS	EMPLOYMENT NUMBER	PERCENT	WEEKLY WAGE
Goods-Producing	62	2,021	36.1	1,135	347	8,079	26.4	1,111
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	14	*	*	*	114	1,168	3.8	1,079
Construction	15	58	1.0	1,370	113	1,081	3.5	1,250
Manufacturing	33	1,646	29.4	1,128	120	5,830	19.1	1,093
Food	2	*	*	*	11	*	*	*
Beverage and Tobacco Product	2	*	*	*	4	399	1.3	1,143
Wood Product	7	454	8.1	1,160	23	1,347	4.4	1,043
Paper	1	*	*	*	2	*	*	*
Printing and Related Support Activities	1	*	*	*	4	14	0.0	925
Chemical	3	*	*	*	11	361	1.2	1,630
Plastics and Rubber Products	2	*	*	*	5	67	0.2	921
Nonmetallic Mineral Product	1	*	*	*	6	56	0.2	1,151
Fabricated Metal Product	3	39	0.7	1,259	16	312	1.0	1,031
Machinery	3	*	*	*	6	106	0.3	918
Transportation Equipment	6	422	7.5	969	24	1,386	4.5	1,072
Miscellaneous	2	*	*	*	5	*	*	*
Textile Product Mills	0	0	0.0	0	1	*	*	*
Primary Metal	0	0	0.0	0	2	*	*	*
Service-Providing	266	2,588	46.2	843	1,442	16,333	53.4	952
Utilities	0	0	0.0	0	5	115	0.4	1,666
Wholesale Trade	20	138	2.5	1,683	90	1,083	3.5	1,979
Retail Trade	82	712	12.7	613	425	3,891	12.7	689
Transportation and Warehousing	9	208	3.7	947	69	1,974	6.5	1,205
Information	4	30	0.5	1,161	18	99	0.3	1,049
Finance and Insurance	20	100	1.8	1,670	115	609	2.0	1,437
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	13	19	0.3	542	57	141	0.5	938
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	14	62	1.1	1,288	107	534	1.7	1,314
Management of Companies and Enterprises	0	0	0.0	0	6	73	0.2	1,317
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	18	347	6.2	918	63	1,530	5.0	840
Educational Services	1	*	*	*	10	48	0.2	617
Health Care and Social Assistance	28	544	9.7	985	187	3,528	11.5	1,047
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2	*	*	*	16	81	0.3	444
Accommodation and Food Services	36	325	5.8	306	158	2,216	7.2	387
Other Services (except Public Administration)	19	84	1.5	687	116	411	1.3	840
Unclassified - industry not assigned	16	12	0.2	999	93	68	0.2	937
Total - Private Sector	344	4,621	82.5	971	1,882	24,480	80.0	1,004
Total - Government	20	982	17.5	848	173	6,121	20.0	859
Federal Government	1	26	0.5	1,174	33	211	0.7	1,267
State Government	9	95	1.7	980	59	1,458	4.8	971
Local Government	10	861	15.4	824	81	4,452	14.6	803
ALL INDUSTRIES	364	5,601	100.0	950	2,055	30,599	100.0	976
ALL INDUSTRIES - Georgia					398,516	4,921,092		1,440

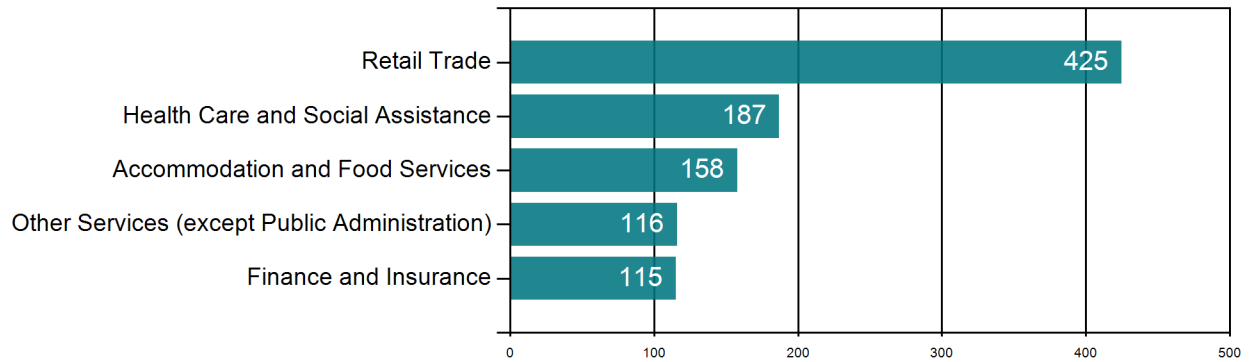
Note: *Denotes confidential data relating to individual employers and cannot be released. These data use the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) categories. Average weekly wage is derived by dividing gross payroll dollars paid to all employees - both hourly and salaried - by the average number of employees who had earnings; average earnings are then divided by the number of weeks in a reporting period to obtain weekly figures. Figures in other columns may not sum accurately due to rounding. All figures are 4th Quarter of 2025.

Source: Georgia Department of Labor. These data represent jobs that are covered by unemployment insurance laws.

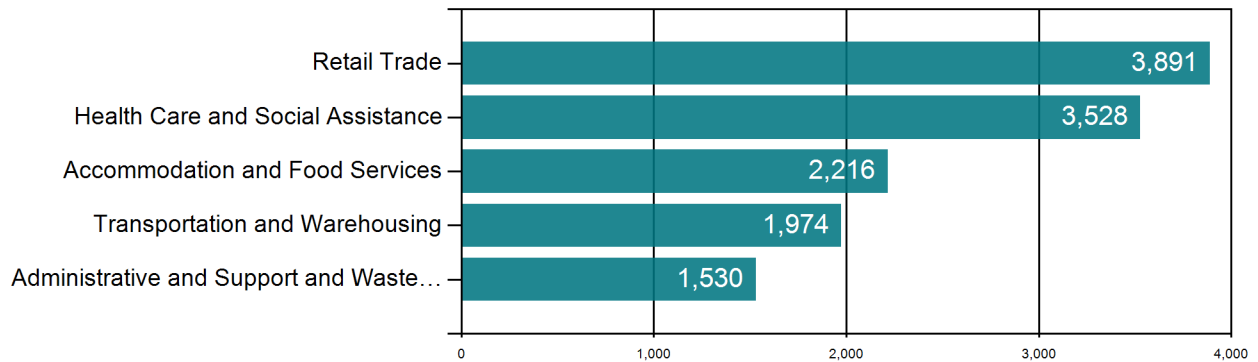
Top Industries - 4th Quarter of 2025

Ben Hill Area

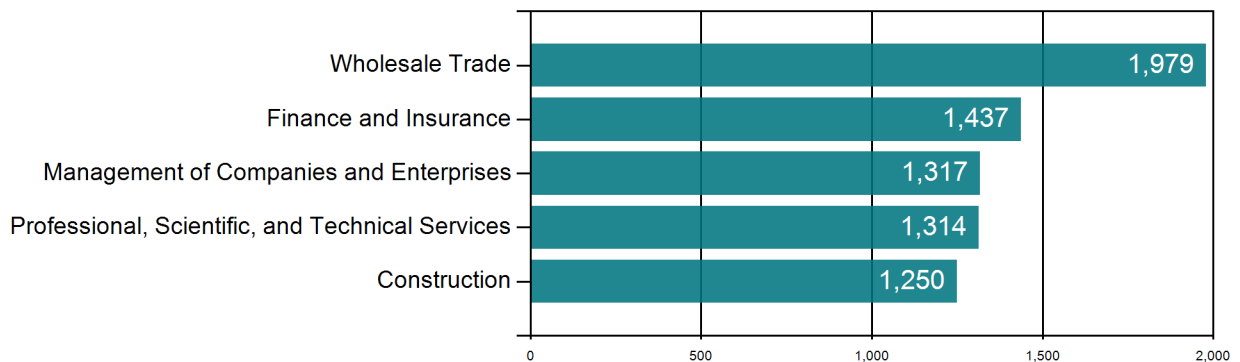
Top Industries by Firms



Top Industries by Employment



Top Industries by Weekly Wages



Source: Georgia Department of Labor. These data represent jobs that are covered by unemployment insurance laws.

Technical College Certificate Graduates - 2024

PROGRAMS	TOTAL GRADUATES			PERCENT CHANGE	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-2023	2023-2024
Welding Technology/Welder	833	831	875	-0.2	5.3
Nursing Assistant/Aide and Patient Care Assistant/Aide	224	230	504	2.7	119.1
Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General	295	393	495	33.2	26.0
Truck and Bus Driver/Commercial Vehicle Operator and Instructor	316	402	356	27.2	-11.4
Child Care Provider/Assistant	106	153	222	44.3	45.1
Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	171	90	154	-47.4	71.1
Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping	138	126	131	-8.7	4.0
Business Administration and Management, General	103	131	108	27.2	-17.6
Computer Installation and Repair Technology/Technician	74	71	102	-4.1	43.7
Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic)	84	118	93	40.5	-21.2

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

Note: Please visit TCSG website for any college configuration changes.

Technical College Diploma Graduates - 2024

PROGRAMS	TOTAL GRADUATES			PERCENT CHANGE	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-2023	2023-2024
Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General	101	157	168	55.4	7.0
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training	157	155	164	-1.3	5.8
Welding Technology/Welder	79	57	58	-27.8	1.8
Business Administration and Management, General	54	58	48	7.4	-17.2
Early Childhood Education and Teaching	56	44	39	-21.4	-11.4
Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping	27	38	32	40.7	-15.8
Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	35	21	29	-40.0	38.1
Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic)	39	23	27	-41.0	17.4
Electrician	17	30	22	76.5	-26.7
Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance Technology	23	24	21	4.3	-12.5

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

Note: Please visit TCSG website for any college configuration changes.

Technical College Degree Graduates - 2024

PROGRAMS	TOTAL GRADUATES			PERCENT CHANGE	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-2023	2023-2024
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	80	114	88	42.5	-22.8
Business Administration and Management, General	69	79	59	14.5	-25.3
Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiographer	38	43	52	13.2	20.9
Early Childhood Education and Teaching	59	43	45	-27.1	4.7
Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping	21	29	39	38.1	34.5
Criminal Justice/Safety Studies	27	19	25	-29.6	31.6
Social Work, Other	21	19	23	-9.5	21.1
Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist	14	19	18	35.7	-5.3
Data Processing and Data Processing Technology/Technician	13	12	17	-7.7	41.7
Network and System Administration/Administrator	17	11	16	-35.3	45.5

Source: Technical College System of Georgia

Note: Please visit TCSG website for any college configuration changes.

Top Ten Largest Employers - 2025*

Ben Hill County

American Blanching Company, Inc.
Colony Bank
Covered Wagon Trailers, LLC
Dorminy Medical Center
Eagle Railcar Services
Gilman Building Products
Modern Dispersions South, Inc.
Polar Corp
Southern Veneer Products
Walmart

*Note: Represents employment covered by unemployment insurance excluding all government agencies except correctional institutions, state and local hospitals, state colleges and universities. Data shown for the Fourth Quarter of 2025. Employers are listed alphabetically by area, not by the number of employees.

Source: Georgia Department of Labor

Ben Hill Area

American Blanching Company, Inc.
Coffee Correctional Facility
Coffee Regional Medical Center, Inc.
Dorminy Medical Center
Georgia Department of Corrections
Pcc Airfoils, Inc.
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
Polar Corporation
Walmart
Walmart

COUNTY

Ben Hill
Coffee
Coffee
Ben Hill
Telfair
Coffee
Coffee
Ben Hill
Coffee
Ben Hill

Education of the Labor Force

Ben Hill Area

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

	PERCENT OF TOTAL	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+
Elementary	7.0%	1.8%	5.2%	7.8%	6.9%	10.6%
Some High School	14.6%	18.2%	15.1%	12.9%	15.1%	12.7%
High School Grad/GED	41.0%	41.8%	38.8%	39.5%	41.0%	43.7%
Some College	18.7%	31.9%	19.1%	15.4%	17.5%	15.8%
College Grad 2 Yr	7.4%	3.3%	12.2%	9.4%	6.2%	5.8%
College Grad 4 Yr	7.2%	3.0%	6.9%	10.9%	8.0%	5.5%
Post Graduate Studies	4.2%	0.0%	2.7%	4.1%	5.3%	6.0%
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Totals are based on the portion of the labor force between ages 18 - 65+. Some College category represents workers with some

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates.

Georgia Department of Labor Location(s)

Career Center(s)

310 South Tift Avenue
Tifton, GA 31794

Phone: (229) 386 - 3322

Fax: (229) 386 - 7188

For copies of Area Labor Profiles, please visit our website at: <http://dol.georgia.gov> or contact Workforce Statistics Division, Georgia Department of Labor, 148 Andrew Young International Blvd N.E. Atlanta, GA. 30303-1751. Phone: 404-232-3875; Fax: 404-232-3888 or Email us at workforce_info@gdol.ga.gov

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