

Economic Snapshot of the Northwest Region

Area	Population 2009	Forecasted Population 2014	Annual Rate 2009-2014	Labor Force (December 09)	Employment (December 09)	UE Rate (December 09)
Region	850,671	915,089	1.47%	399,530	355,194	11.1%
Dalton MSA	139,226	147,655	1.18%	63,614	55,572	12.6%
Rome MSA	96,620	98,854	0.46%	49,079	43,834	10.7%

Georgia	9,932,949	10,860,806	1.80%	4,712,852	4,239,629	10.0%
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Source: Georgia Department of Labor, ESRI, BLS, Moody's Economy.com, Georgia Community & Economic Development

Major Recent Plant Locations & Expansions		
Company	City	New Jobs
Nordic Cold Storage LLC	Rockmart	40
CA Cabinets LLC	Jasper	70
White Label TURF	Calhoun	125
Engineered Fabrics Corporation	Rockmart	300
YANMAR America Corp	Adairsville	40
Lexington	Jasper	40
Gill Industries	Trenton	30
Decostar Industries	Villa Rica	75
Eleison	Jasper	75
Printed Specialties Inc.	Carrollton	20
IVC Group	Dalton	115
Shaw	Calhoun	200

Top Region Employers	
Shaw Industries Inc- Whitfield	3,442
Mohawk Industries Inc- Whitfield	3,050
Southwire Co	2,200
Floyd Medical Center	2,100
Tanner Medical Center	1,800
Roper Corp	1,500
Shaw Industries Inc- Walker	1,500
Hamilton Medical Center	1,500
Hutcheson Medical Center	1,400
Redmond Regional Medical Center	1,300
Mohawk Industries Inc- Murray	1,270

Major Recent Plant Closings & Layoffs		
Company	City	Employees Affected
Shaw Industries	Ringgold	821
Trinity North American Freight	Cartersville	659
Pilgrim's Pride	Dalton	277
Carlisle Tire & Wheel Co.	Heflin	175
Kobelco Construction Machinery	Calhoun	144
Advanced Steel Technology	Rome	121

Regional Strengths
Highly affordable housing
Competitive tax burden
Low cost of doing business
Close proximity to Atlanta
Access to Interstates 75 & 20
Expanding population base
Nonunionized workforce

Weaknesses
Low educational attainment
Below-avg per capita income
Low industrial diversity

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