

Experience Metro Athens

A Region of Low Costs, High Economic Growth and Superior Access to Major Markets

WHY ATHENS FOR BUSINESS

- Lower business costs than Georgia and the U.S.
- Population growth exceeding the nation.
- Ranked "Best Cities for Jobs," by *Forbes* 4.09.
- Ranked No. 1 for Campus Life by *Businessweek*, 9.13.10.
- Ranked "Most Vibrant Cities for Young Professionals," featured on Today's Show 3.1.2010.
- Plentiful real estate opportunities for business, access to a local pipeline of talent as well as large regional pool via metro Atlanta.



A Combination of Energetic Business Leadership, Innovation & Creativity Coming Out of the Universities Lead this Unique Region

Athens critical mass of 34,000+ college students contribute to an energy and "cool factor" that is felt throughout the region from small family-friendly pubs to a vibrant entrepreneurial environment that attracts venture capitalists to the region. Businesses find a low cost of living and high quality of life that offers the benefits of small town environment with proximity to major markets such as Atlanta and its infrastructure advantages. Accessibility to Atlanta's airport -- the busiest airport in the world and 2.7 million+ labor force benefits companies having large workforce requirements. Medical research coming out of UGA and local incubators, a critical mass of hospitals and companies create a synergy of discovery.

Top Athens Region Employers

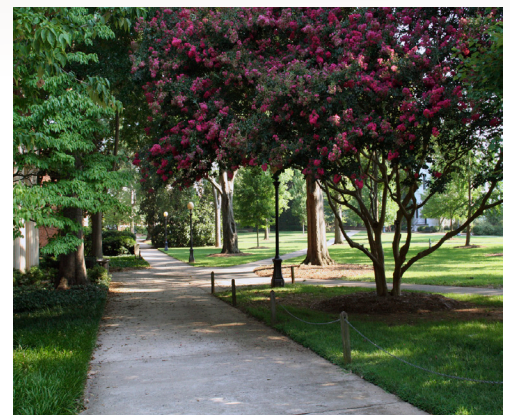
University of Georgia	10,000
Pilgrims Pride Regional HQ Mfg.*	2,256
Athens Regional Medical Center	2,200
St Mary's Health Care System	1,200
Baldor Electric Co	525
DialAmerica Marketing Inc	500
Haband Co Inc/Call Center	400
McLane Co Southeast	400
Merial Ltd	400
Power Partners Inc	400
Carrier Transcold South	385
Complex Carbohydrate Research Center	310

Source: Business Wise, 10.2011 Note: (*includes 2 locations)

Major Athens Locations Bring More than 500 New Jobs Since 2007

New Locations and Expansions in Metro Athens Since 2007

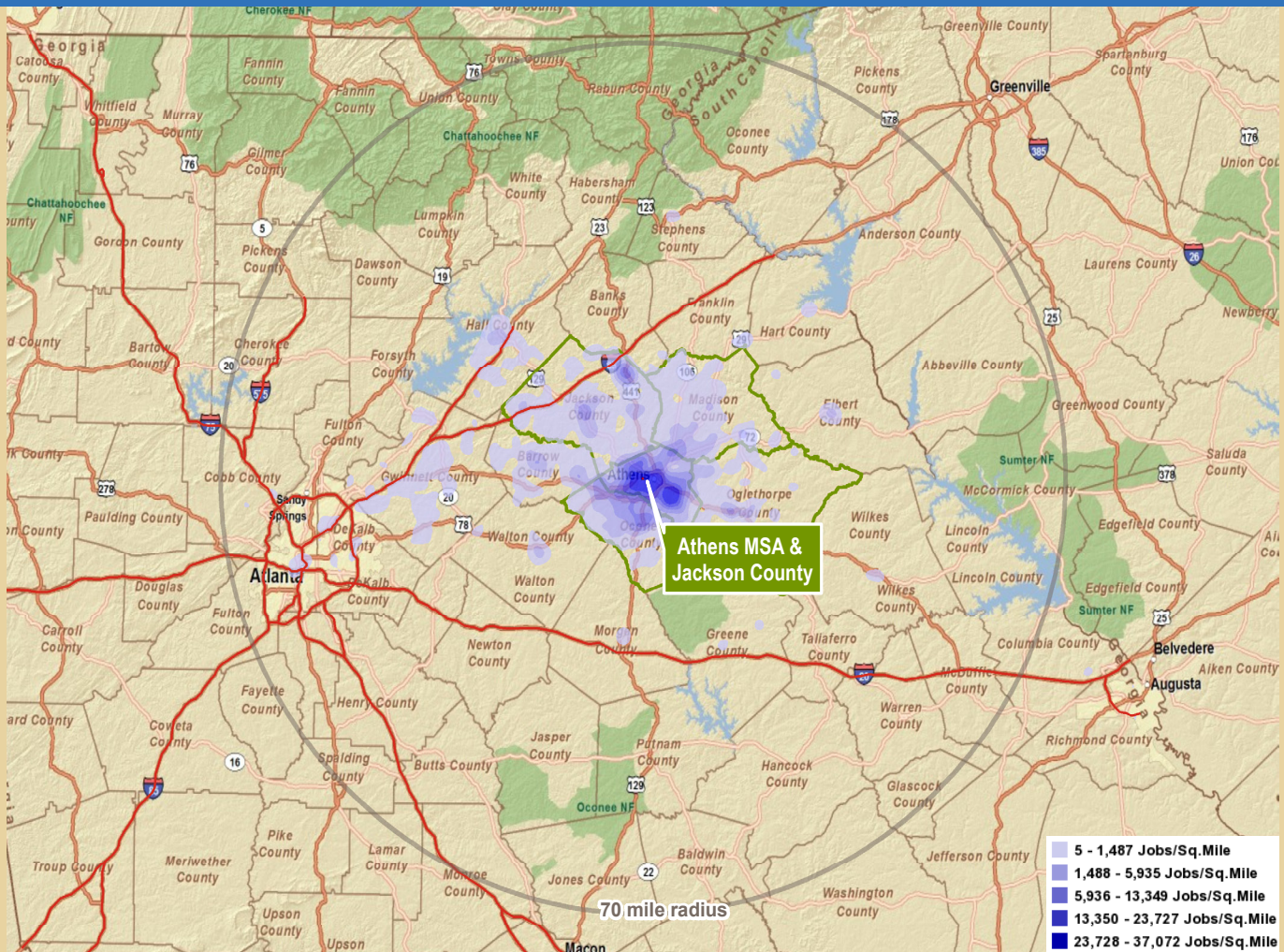
Company	Product or Service	Employees	Location	Year
SKAPS	Plastic drainage products	100	Clarke	2010
SKAPS	Plastic drainage products	100	Clarke	2007
McCann Aerospace Machining	Precision machine parts	50	Clarke	2009
McLane Co. Southeast	Cold supply chain solutions	40	Clarke	2008



Athens's Businesses Draw Work Force From 70+ Miles

Athens Economic Snapshot

Clarke, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe, and Jackson Counties



Where workers live who are employed in Athens MSA/Jackson County

Source: Labor Shed, On the Map 5, U.S. Census Bureau (October 2011)

Primary Jobs= 59,472

ATHENS' LABOR SHED ANALYSIS 2009	Share	LABOR SHED cont...	Share	LABOR SHED cont...	Share
<i>Jobs in Places (Cities, CDPs, etc.) Where Workers Live</i>		<i>Jobs in Counties Where Workers Live</i>		<i>Jobs in States Where Workers Live</i>	
Athens-Clarke County unified government (balance), GA	36.2%	Clarke County, GA	36.8%	Georgia	98.1%
Atlanta city, GA	1.0%	Oconee County, GA	9.2%	South Carolina	0.6%
Watkinsville city, GA	0.9%	Madison County, GA	7.0%	North Carolina	0.3%
Winder city, GA	0.7%	Jackson County, GA	4.3%	Alabama	0.2%
Augusta-Richmond County consolidated government (balance), GA	0.6%	Gwinnett County, GA	4.1%	Tennessee	0.2%
Monroe city, GA	0.5%	Oglethorpe County, GA	3.9%		
Winterville city, GA	0.5%	Barrow County, GA	2.9%		
Commerce city, GA	0.5%	Fulton County, GA	2.3%		
Jefferson city, GA	0.4%	DeKalb County, GA	2.1%		

Athens Offers Low Cost & High Growth Opportunities

Athens Economic Snapshot

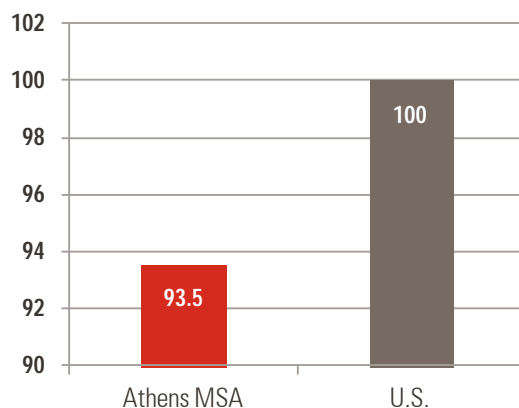
Clarke, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe, and Jackson Counties

Regional Strengths:

- Low business and living costs.
- Proximity to the more expensive Atlanta metro area.
- Stabilizing presence of the University of Georgia.

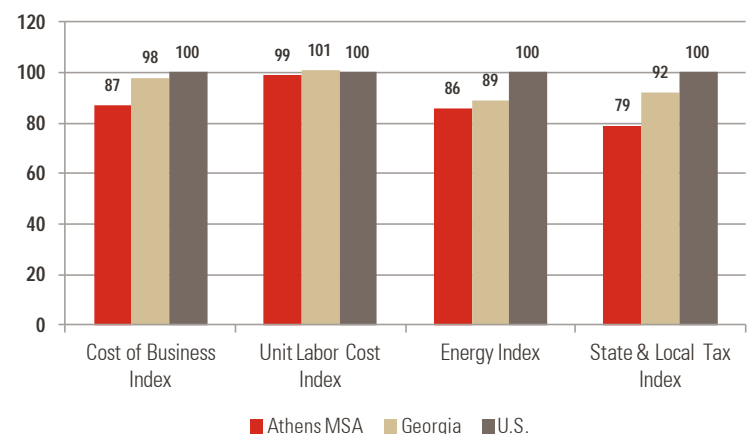
Source: *Precis METRO, Moody's Economy, July 2011*

Cost of Living Index



Source: *Moody's Economy, Cost of Living Index, 2011*

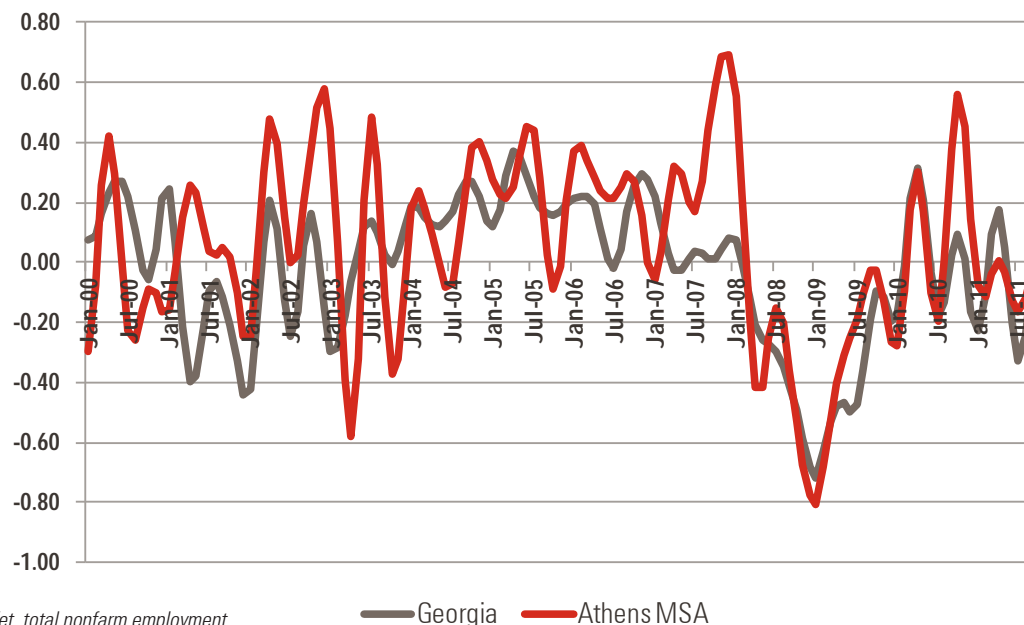
Cost of Doing Business Index



Source: *Moody's Economy, Cost of Business Index, April 2011*

Athens is a Leader in Employment Growth

Athens vs. Georgia



Source: *Moody's Data Buffet, total nonfarm employment*

Accessibility via Atlanta

Metro Atlanta's accessibility to major domestic and international markets is one of the key reasons so many corporations call Georgia home. Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport offers unsurpassed non-stop access to 150 domestic and 65 international destinations. The airport is also the most traveled in the world. Atlanta is home to the world's second largest air carrier, Delta Air Lines.



World's Most Efficient Airport
(2011)

World's Most Traveled Airport
(2010)

World's Most Active Airport
(2010)

**#2 Most International
Non-Stop Flight Markets**
(Among U.S. Airports)

Source: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, 2011; Air Transport Research Society (ATRS), 2011; Airports Council International (ACI), 2011

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTACTS

The Athens's Economic Development's full-service team is ready to serve you with all of your location needs, partnering with state, county, local and utility officials to streamline your relocation or expansion.

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Matt Forshee



Matt leads the efforts of the Athens-Clarke County Economic Development Foundation, serving as its President/CEO. He has a background in market-

ing and site planning coupled with stints as the leader of economic development programs in metro Atlanta and rural Georgia communities. In 2009, Matt was a co-recipient of the "Project of Year" award from GEDA for helping recruiting NCR to Georgia. Matt began work in Athens in April 2010.

Rusty Haygood



Rusty Haygood is a graduate of UGA with a bachelors degree in political science and a masters in public administration. While in college, he completed internships on

Capitol Hill and the City of Riverdale. He spent six years with the Middle Georgia RDC, serving as Director of Public Administration at the time of his departure. Rusty is now the Economic Development Director for Oconee County.

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