



## 2021 Georgia Occupational Health Indicators: Demographic and Summary Tables

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), in association with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), recommends that states conduct surveillance of 25 occupational health indicators across five main categories: health effects, exposures, hazards, interventions, and socioeconomic impact. Demographic information and the recommended indicators for Georgia and the U.S. in 2021 are reported below. These serve as indicators of the state’s occupational health status and can be used to track trends and guide prevention and intervention efforts.

*Nearly five million people aged 16 years and older comprise Georgia's civilian workforce. The top three industries employing Georgia residents in 2021 were: Education and Health Services, Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Professional and Business Services.*

**Table 1. Georgia and U.S. General Employment Demographics, 2021**

	Georgia	U.S.
<b>Employed Persons, 16 Years and Older</b>	4,978,000	152,581,000
<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>	
<b>Civilian Workforce, Unemployed</b>	4%	5%
<b>Civilian Workforce, Self-Employed</b>	6%	7%
<b>Civilian Workforce, Part-Time</b>	14%	17%
<b>Civilian Employment by Number of Hours Worked</b>		
0 to 39 hours	26%	31%
40 hours	51%	47%
41+ hours	23%	22%
<b>Civilian Employment by Sex</b>		
Males	52%	53%
Females	48%	47%
<b>Civilian Employment by Age Group</b>		
16 to 17 years	1%	1%
18 to 64 years	94%	92%
65+ years	5%	7%
<b>Civilian Employment by Race</b>		
White	60%	78%
Black	32%	12%
Other	8%	10%
<b>Civilian Employment by Hispanic Origin</b>	12%	18%

**Table 2. Georgia and U.S. General Employment Demographics, by Industry and Occupation, 2021**

	Georgia	U.S.
<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>	
<b>Civilian Employment by Industry</b>		
Mining and logging	0.1%	0.4%
Construction	8%	7%
Manufacturing: Durable Goods	6%	6%
Manufacturing: Nondurable Goods	5%	4%
* <b>Wholesale and Retail Trade</b>	<b>13%</b>	13%
Transportation and Utilities	8%	6%
Information	2%	2%
Financial Activities	7%	7%
* <b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>13%</b>	13%
* <b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>20%</b>	23%
Leisure and Hospitality	8%	8%
Other Services	4%	5%
Public Administration	5%	5%
Agriculture and Related Industries	2%	2%
<b>Civilian Employment by Occupation</b>		
* <b>Management, Business and Financial Operations</b>	<b>19%</b>	18%
* <b>Professional and Related Occupations</b>	<b>22%</b>	24%
* <b>Service Occupations</b>	<b>15%</b>	16%
Sales and Related Occupations	10%	9%
Office and Administrative Support	11%	10%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	1%	0.7%
Construction and Extraction	6%	5%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	3%	3%
Production Occupations	6%	5%
Transportation and Material Moving	8%	7%

\* = top three industries and occupations among employed civilians

**Table 3. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 1 - 8, 2021**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
	<b>Number, Rate, or %</b>	
<b>Indicator 1: Non-Fatal Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Reported by Employers</b>		
1.1 Estimated Annual Total Number of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses	N/A	2,607,900
1.2 Estimated Annual Total Work-Related Injuries and Illness Incidence Rate (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	2,700
1.3 Estimated Annual Total Number of Cases Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	1,062,700
1.4 Estimated Annual Total Incidence Rate for Cases Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	1,100
1.5 Estimated Annual Total Number of Cases Involving More Than 10 Days Away from Work	N/A	969,250
<b>Indicator 2: Work-Related Hospitalizations</b>		
2.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Hospitalizations	1,499	N/A
2.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	30.1	N/A
<b>Indicator 3: Fatal Work-Related Injuries</b>		
3.1 Annual Number of Fatal Work-Related Injuries	187	5,190
3.2 Annual Fatality Rate (per 100,000 FTEs†)	3.8	3.6
<b>Indicator 4: Work-Related Amputations with Days Away from Work Reported by Employers</b>		
4.1 Estimated Annual Number of Work-Related Amputations Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	10,840
4.2 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of Work-Related Amputations Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	5.0
<b>Indicator 5: State Workers' Compensation Claims for Amputations with Lost Work-Time</b>		
5.1 Annual Number of Amputation Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in the State Workers' Compensation System	252	N/A
5.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Amputation Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System (per 100,000 covered workers)	5.9	N/A
<b>Indicator 6: Hospitalizations for Work-Related Burns</b>		
6.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Burn Hospitalizations	81	N/A
6.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Burn Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	1.6	N/A
<b>Indicator 7: Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs) with Days Away from Work Reported by Employers</b>		
7.1 Estimated Annual Number of All MSDs Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	502,380
7.2 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of All MSDs Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	253
7.3 Estimated Annual Number of MSDs of the Neck, Shoulder & Upper Extremities Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	166,980
7.4 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of MSDs of Neck, Shoulder, and Upper Extremities Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	84
7.5 Estimated Annual Number of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	6,670
7.6 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome cases Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	3
7.7 Estimated Annual Number of MSDs of the Back Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	186,550
7.8 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of MSDs of the Back Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	94
<b>Indicator 8: State Workers' Compensation Claims for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome with Lost Work-Time</b>		
8.1 Annual Number of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System	363	N/A
8.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System (per 100,000 covered workers)	8.5	N/A

N/A = Data not available; †FTEs = Full-Time Equivalents

**Table 4. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 9 – 11, 2021**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
	<b>Number, Rate, or %</b>	
<b>Indicator 9: Hospitalizations from or with Pneumoconiosis<sup>~</sup></b>		
9.1.1 Annual Number of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	95	N/A
9.1.2 Annual Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	10.9	N/A
9.1.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	10.3	N/A
9.2.1 Annual Number of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	20	N/A
9.2.2 Annual Rate of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.3	N/A
9.2.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.9	N/A
9.3.1 Annual Number of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges	52	N/A
9.3.2 Annual Rate of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	6.0	N/A
9.3.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	6.0	N/A
9.4.1 Annual Number of Silicosis Hospital Discharges	9	N/A
9.4.2 Annual Rate of Silicosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.0	N/A
9.4.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Silicosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	0.8	N/A
9.5.1 Annual Number of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	15	N/A
9.5.2 Annual Rate of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.7	N/A
9.5.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.8	N/A
<b>Indicator 10: Mortality from or with Pneumoconiosis<sup>~</sup></b>		
10.1.1 Annual Number of Total Pneumoconiosis Deaths	14	1,704
10.1.2 Annual Total Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.6	6.3
10.1.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Total Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.6	5.5
10.2.1 Annual Number of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Deaths	<5	459
10.2.2 Annual Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	1.7
10.2.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	1.4
10.3.1 Annual Number of Asbestosis Deaths	12	968
10.3.2 Annual Asbestosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.4	3.6
10.3.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Asbestosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.4	3.1
10.4.1 Annual Number of Silicosis Deaths	0	101
10.4.2 Annual Silicosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.4
10.4.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Silicosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.3
10.5.1 Annual Number of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Deaths	<5	190
10.5.2 Annual Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.7
10.5.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.5
<b>Indicator 11: Acute Work-Related Pesticide-Associated Illness and Injury Reported to Poison Control Centers</b>		
11.1 Annual Number of Reported Work-Related Pesticide Poisoning Cases	118	N/A
11.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Reported Work-Related Pesticide Poisoning Cases (per 100,000 workers)	2.4	N/A

<sup>~</sup>Rates not calculated for indicators with <5 cases; N/A = Data not available; Pneumoconiosis is a class of non-malignant lung disease that includes asbestosis, coal workers' pneumoconiosis, and silicosis.

**Table 5. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 12 – 17, 2021**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
	<b>Number, Rate, or %</b>	
<b>Indicator 12: Incidence of Malignant Mesothelioma, Ages 15 and Older</b>		
12.1 Annual Number of Incident Mesothelioma Cases	57	N/A
12.2 Annual Mesothelioma Incidence Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	6.5	N/A
12.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Mesothelioma Incidence Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	6.0	N/A
<b>Indicator 13: Elevated Blood Lead Levels (BLL) Among Adults</b>		
13.1.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 10$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ )	980	14,923
13.1.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 10$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ) (per 100,000 workers)	19.7	12.9
13.1.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 10$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ )	484	N/A
13.1.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 10$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ) (per 100,000 workers)	9.7	N/A
13.2.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 25$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ )	220	2,124
13.2.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 25$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ) (per 100,000 workers)	4.4	1.9
13.2.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 25$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ )	143	N/A
13.2.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 25$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ) (per 100,000 workers)	2.9	N/A
13.3.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 40$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ )	20	N/A
13.3.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 40$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ) (per 100,000 workers)	0.4	N/A
13.3.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 40$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ )	18	N/A
13.3.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels ( $\geq 40$ $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ) (per 100,000 workers)	0.4	N/A
<b>Indicator 14: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries at High Risk~ for Occupational Morbidity</b>		
14.1 Number of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industries	213,955	7,001,108
14.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk NAICS Industries	5%	6%
<b>Indicator 15: Percentage of Workers Employed in Occupations at High Risk for Occupational Morbidity</b>		
15.1 Average Number of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk Bureau of the Census Occupations	x	x
15.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk Bureau of the Census Occupations	x	x
<b>Indicator 16: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries and Occupations at High Risk~ for Occupational Mortality</b>		
16.1 Average Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Industries	x	x
16.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Industries	x	x
16.3 Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Occupations	x	x
16.4 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Occupations	x	x
<b>Indicator 17: Occupational Safety and Health Professionals</b>		
17.1 Rate of Board-Certified Occupational Medicine Physicians (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.2 Rate of American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.3 Rate of Board-Certified Occupational Health Nurses (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.4 Rate of American Association of Occupational Health (AAOH) Nurse Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.5 Rate of Board-Certified Industrial Hygienists (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.6 Rate of American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.7 Rate of Board-Certified Safety Health Professionals (BCSP) (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.8 Rate of American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x

x = Data no longer collected

**Table 6. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 18 – 25, 2021**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
	<b>Number, Rate or %</b>	
<b>Indicator 18: OSHA Enforcement Activities</b>		
18.1 Annual Number of Establishments Inspected by OSHA in all OSHA-covered Sectors	1,139	57,595
18.2 Number of OSHA-Covered Establishments that are Eligible for OSHA Inspection (Excluding Farms and Mines)	325,550	10,504,259
18.3 Percentage of OSHA-Covered Establishments Eligible for Inspection that were Inspected by OSHA	0.4%	0.5%
18.4 Annual Number of Employees Whose Work Areas were Inspected by OSHA	53,263	3,050,250
18.5 Number of OSHA-Covered Employees (Excluding Farmers and Miners)	3,924,463	121,507,288
18.6 Percentage of OSHA-Covered Employees Eligible for Inspection Whose Work Areas were Inspected by OSHA	1%	3%
<b>Indicator 19: Workers' Compensation Awards</b>		
19.1 Total Amount of Workers' Compensation Benefits Paid	\$1,436,127,000	\$60,039,347
19.2 Average Amount of Workers' Compensation Benefits Paid (per covered worker)	\$335.23	\$428.00
<b>Indicator 20: Work-Related Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations</b>		
20.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Surgical Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations	N/A	N/A
20.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Surgical Low Back Disorder Hospitalization (per 100,000 worker)	N/A	N/A
20.3 Annual Number of Work-Related Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations	N/A	N/A
20.4 Annual Rate of Work-Related Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations (per 100,000 worker)	N/A	N/A
<b>Indicator 21: Asthma Among Adults Caused or Made Worse by Work</b>		
21.1 Weighted estimate of the number of ever-employed adults with current asthma who report that their asthma was caused or made worse by exposures at work	325,841	7,453,334
21.2 Estimated proportion of ever-employed adults with current asthma who report that their asthma was caused or made worse by exposures at work	52%	47%
<b>Indicator 22: Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations<sup>†</sup></b>		
22.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations	178	N/A
22.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	3.6	N/A
<b>Indicator 23: Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Hospital Care Personnel</b>		
23.1 Pooled Proportion of Hospital Care Personnel Influenza Vaccination Coverage in Acute Care Hospitals (2016-2017 influenza season)	83%	86%
<b>Indicator 24: Occupational Heat-Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits</b>		
24.1 Annual Number of Emergency Department Visits for Occupational Heat-Related Illness	129	N/A
24.2 Annual Rate of Emergency Department Visits for Occupational Heat-Related Illness (per 100,000 workers)	2.6	N/A
<b>Indicator 25: Hospitalizations for or with Occupational Eye Injuries</b>		
25.1 Annual Number of Inpatient Hospitalizations for or with Occupational Eye Injuries	34	N/A
25.2 Annual Rate of Inpatient Hospitalizations for Occupational Eye Injuries (per 100,000 workers)	0.7	N/A

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH INDICATORS in GEORGIA, 2021

### Key Findings:

- Nearly 5 million non-institutionalized civilian persons aged 16 years and older were employed in Georgia during 2021
- The top three industries employing Georgia residents in 2021 were: Education and Health Services, Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Professional and Business Services.
- Georgia spent \$1.4 billion in workers' compensation costs in 2021 for work-related injuries, illnesses, medical expenses, and lost wages.
- Employment in some industries may put members of Georgia's workforce at higher risk for work-related injuries or illnesses.
  - About 214,000 (5%) of all private sector non-farm wage workers in Georgia are employed in industries at high risk for occupational morbidity.
- There were 1,499 work-related hospitalizations and 187 fatal work-related injuries in Georgia during 2021.
- There were 980 reported cases of elevated blood lead levels  $\geq 10$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  among adults in Georgia during 2021, including 484 new cases.
- The rate of adults in Georgia with elevated blood lead levels  $\geq 10$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  (19.7 per 1000,000) was higher than the national rate (12.9 per 100,000)
- Over half (52%; 325,841) of Georgia adults with asthma reported that their asthma was made worse or caused by exposures at their workplace.
- There were 95 hospitalizations due to pneumoconiosis in Georgia during 2021, including 52 due to asbestosis, 20 due to coal workers' pneumoconiosis, and 9 due to silicosis.
- There were 118 reported work-related pesticide poisonings in Georgia in 2021.
- During 2021, Georgia had 129 emergency department visits due to occupational heat-related illness.

For more information about the Georgia Occupational Health Surveillance Program visit: [dph.georgia.gov/georgia-occupational-health-and-safety-surveillance-program](https://dph.georgia.gov/georgia-occupational-health-and-safety-surveillance-program)

### **References:**

1. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Occupational Health Indicators: A Guide for Tracking Occupational Health Conditions and Their Determinants. Analysis of 2021 OHI Data. August 2024.
2. National Academy of Social Insurance. Workers' Compensation Benefits, Coverage, and Costs, 2021.