

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

2021

Year in Review



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ORGANIZATION PROFILE

Through strong partnerships, infrastructure investment, and strategic incentives, we strive to help businesses achieve excellence. We pride ourselves on maintaining a hands-on approach for all projects, no matter how big or small.



ANNUAL PRIORITIES OF WORK

- Business Retention, Relocation, & Expansion
- Workforce Development
- Special Projects
- Organizational Development

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

- Chuck Jones, Chairman
- Jim Higdon, Vice Chairman
- Henry Davis, Secretary
- Wyman Walden, Treasurer
- Donna Minnich
- John Gaston
- Robb Nichols
- Jim Curtis
- Clarence Stowers

Rebecca Mincey, Executive Director
706.482.2648
rebecca.shirley@lumpkincounty.gov

WE'RE SOCIAL!

picklumpkincounty.org
Facebook: @PickLumpkinGA
Instagram: @PickLumpkinGA

OUR MISSION

Enriching local employment, the county tax base, and business opportunity while honoring the history, natural beauty, and character of Lumpkin County.

Get accurate and up-to-date research on doing business in Lumpkin County, Georgia. Whether you're relocating, expanding, or starting with a new business idea, we are here to help you get the facts!

JUST THE FACTS



33,610

POPULATION ESTIMATE

The projected 2025 population of Lumpkin County is 35,539, which is a 18.6% increase between years 2010-2025.

16,363

COUNTY LABOR DRAW

170,684

REGIONAL LABOR DRAW

\$55,800

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

3.66%

UNEMPLOYMENT AVERAGE

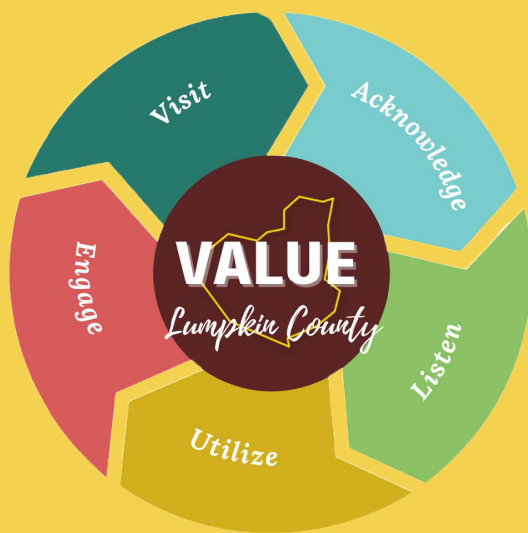
Average unemployment between years 2017-2021 in Lumpkin County.

- Located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains with rich history, diverse culture, and unique lifestyle characteristics
- Lumpkin County sits at the northern end of GA Highway 400; a limited access highway that is a straight shot to Atlanta
- State Corporate Income Tax: 5.75%
- Below national average union membership rate
- Established workforce pipelines
- Up-to-date labor profile reports for prospects
- Competitive real estate and wages
- 100% Freeport Exemption in Lumpkin County (*tax exemption on inventory of goods in the process of being manufactured*)
- One stop shop of Lumpkin County economic development services for streamlined permitting
- Industrial Revenue Bond financing for eligible projects
- Designated "Broadband Ready Community" and "Gigabit Site Designation"
- Opportunities through Georgia Department of Economic Development:
 - Jobs Tax Credits for businesses creating at least 15 new jobs
 - High Paying Jobs Creation Tax Credits for new jobs 110% of Lumpkin County's average wage
 - Jobs Tax Credits for MEGA Projects relocating manufacturing to Lumpkin County
 - Georgia Sales and Use Tax Exemptions for expenditures in manufacturing operations, equipment, repairing machinery, raw materials, pollution control equipment
 - Investment Tax Credits for existing businesses in Georgia

V.A.L.U.E.

The Development Authority of Lumpkin County supports an agenda that enriches local employment, the county tax base, and business opportunities while honoring the community's history, natural beauty, and character.

The V.A.L.U.E. Program is the Authority's premier service model for business retention, relocation, and expansion.



TOP EMPLOYERS

- University of North Georgia
- Lumpkin County School System
- Lumpkin County Government
- JTKET North America Corp. *Koyo Bearings*
- Mount Sinai Wellness Center
- Wal-Mart
- U.S. Army Ranger Camp Frank D. Merrill
- RefrigiWear
- Wahoo Docks & Decks
- StruXure Outdoor
- Northeast Georgia Medical Center

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Hosted Manufacturers of the Year Presentations
- Conducted business site visits
- Participation in Lumpkin County Planning "Plan Review Committee" Meetings
- Developed Lumpkin County prospect report
- Responded to inquiries for data, statistics, available properties, etc.

PROJECTS DURING 4TH QUARTER 2020 TO SEPTEMBER 2021

25
PROSPECT ENGAGEMENTS

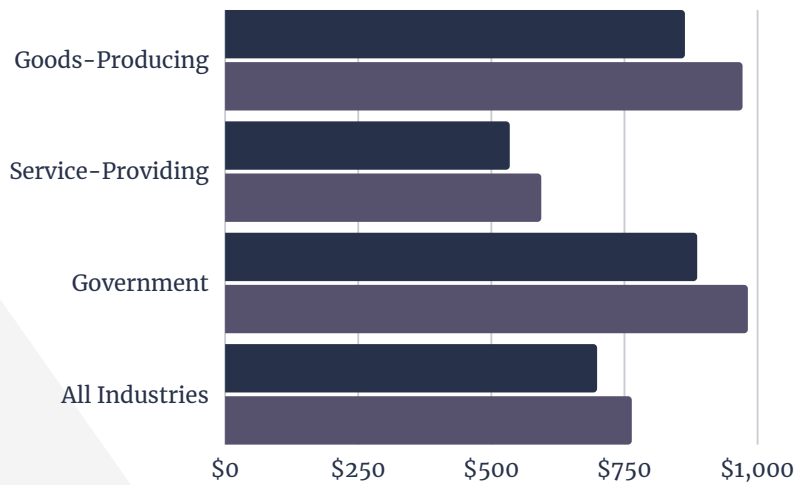
10
PROJECT ASSISTANCE

88/216
NEW/RETAINED JOBS

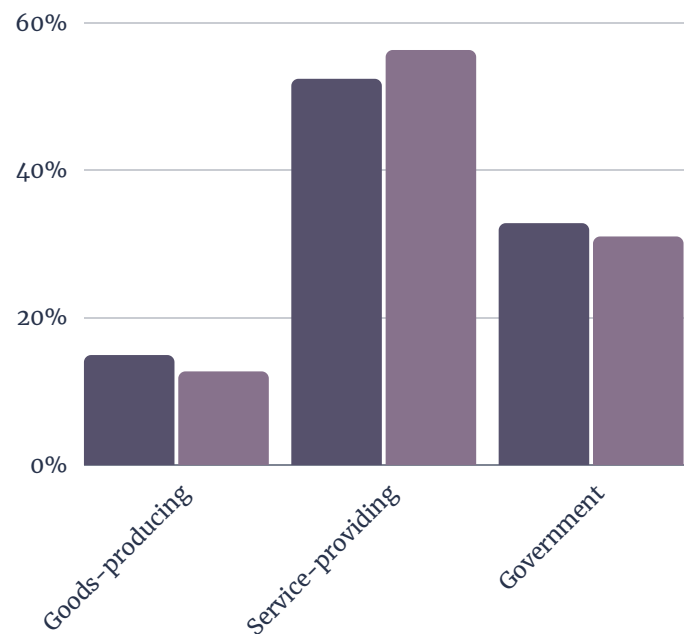
\$16 mil
ECONOMIC INVESTMENT

Workforce development is economic development! The availability and reliability of a skilled, ready, and willing workforce is a top priority for the Development Authority of Lumpkin County.

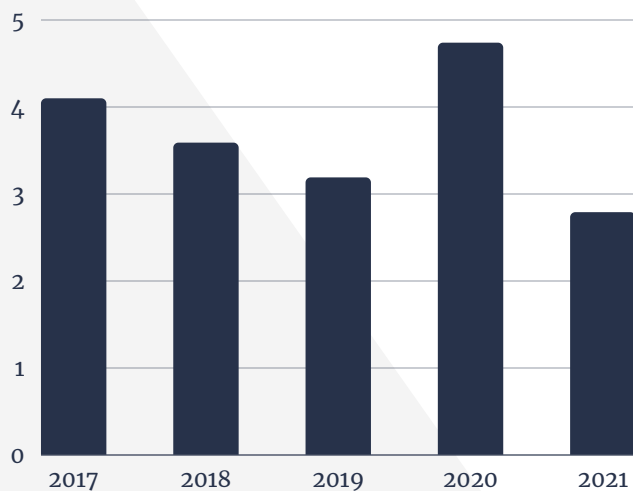
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE TRENDS (2018/2021)



LUMPKIN COUNTY EMPLOYMENT MIX (2018 /2021)



AVERAGE ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS



12%

Increase Average Weekly Manufacturing Wages (2018/2021)

59%

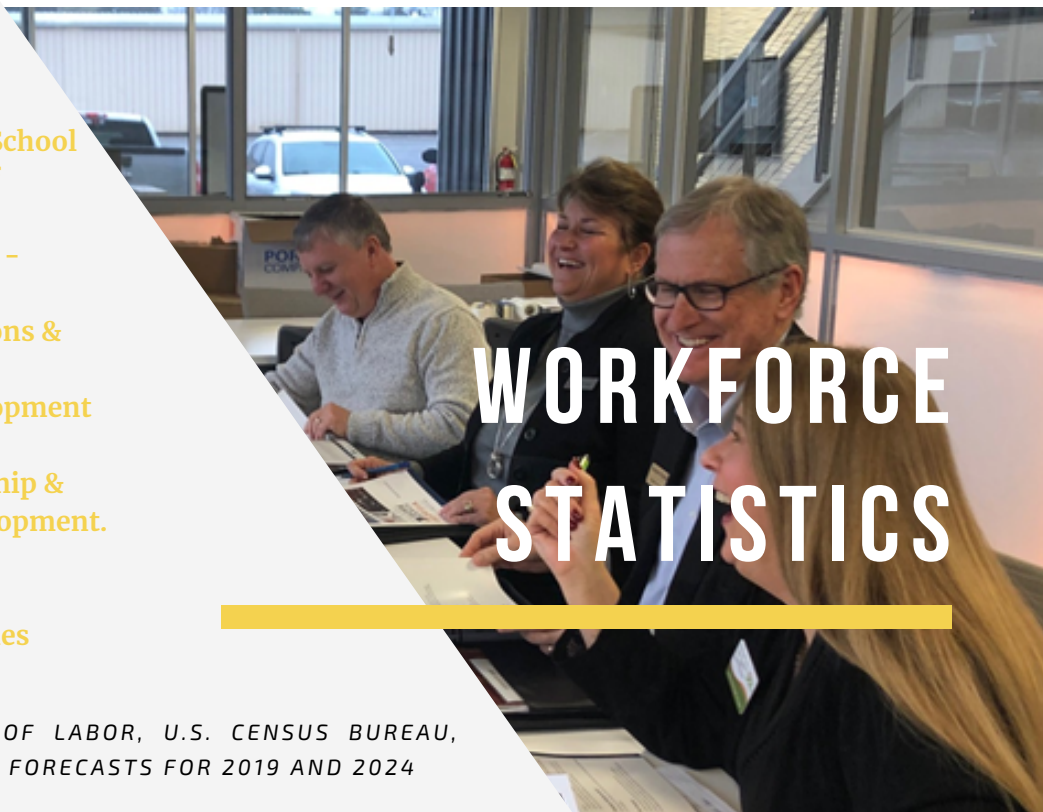
Increase in Health Care & Social Assistance Jobs (2018/2021)

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Serving on Lumpkin County High School College & Career Academy Board of Directors
- Hosted Manufacturing Roundtable - Apprenticeships 101
- Participated in UNG Communications & Marketing Internship Program
- Serve on regional workforce development "Employability Skills" committee
- Assisting UNG with Entrepreneurship & STEM outreach and program development.
- Produced Work-Based Learning Documentary Films
- Marketed employment opportunities through website and social media

SOURCE: GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, CENSUS 2010 SUMMARY FILE, ESRI FORECASTS FOR 2019 AND 2024

**WORKFORCE
STATISTICS**



SPECIAL PROJECTS



YAHOOOLA CREEK RESERVOIR

In partnership with Yahooola Outdoors, the Development Authority of Lumpkin County is working to enhance the Yahooola Creek Reservoir property. This project was identified as a result of public input in the development of the Yahooola Creek Reservoir Master Plan adopted by the Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners in 2021.

BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Development Authority of Lumpkin County is seeking to secure State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds grant dollars to assist in providing needed broadband access to many local homes and businesses.

- Broadband Ready Community Designation
- Broadband Ready Site Designation



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We engage with our local businesses, civic groups, county government, and other organizations in order to provide community members with the information and data to support a strong business climate and quality of life in Lumpkin County.

- Dahlonga-Lumpkin County Newcomers
- Leadership Lumpkin Economic Development Day
- Lumpkin County State of the Economy
- Planned local visit with Governor Kemp



OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Website redesign of picklumpkincounty.org
- Assistance with water & sewer Economic Development Administration grant funding
- Completion of 2022 Annual Universal Service Fund (USF) Survey for natural gas infrastructure
- Serving on Lumpkin County Comprehensive Plan Committee
- Executive Director recognized as a Georgia Certified Economic Developer
- Quarterly newsletters distributed
- Relocation to Lumpkin County Planning & Development Services (one stop shop)
- Collaboration with University of Georgia Civil Engineering Project Management Class

50

Professional
Development Hours

320

Volunteer Hours