

Northwest Georgia

Regional Population and Economic Assessment

Included in the *Digital Region 1* plan as appendix 6

Prepared by:

Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

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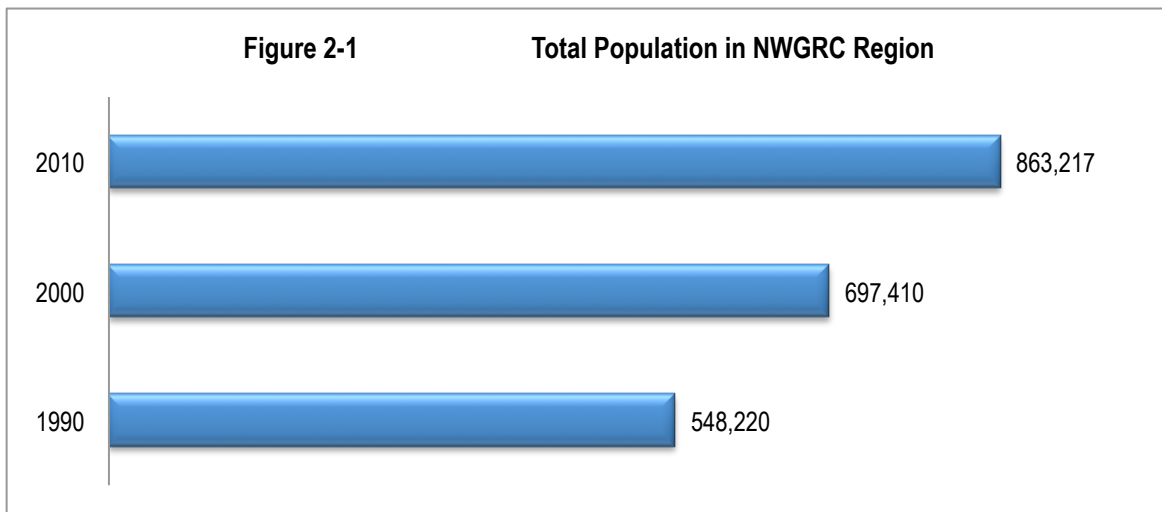
Rome, Georgia 30162-1798

January 2013

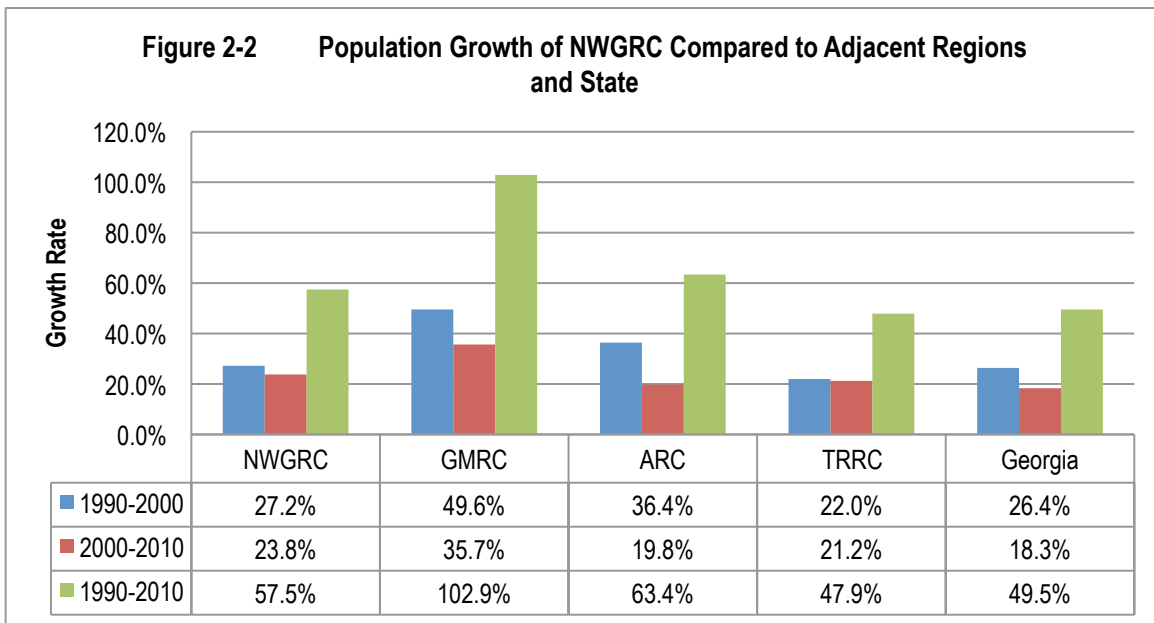
POPULATION

Total Population

As shown in Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2, the total population of the NWGRC region reached 863,217 in 2010, a 23.8% increase from 2000. The region's growth rate from 2000 to 2010 trailed that of the GMRC region, but exceeded that of the ARC and TRRC regions and the state.

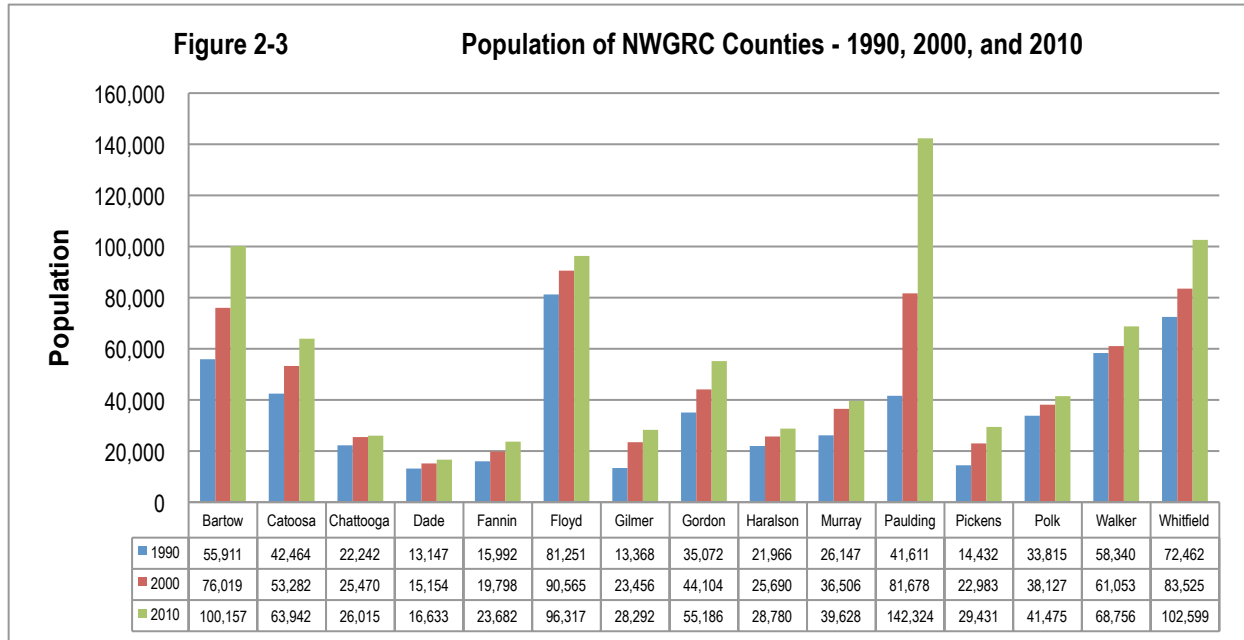


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 STF 1; Census 2000 SF 1; Census 2010 SF 1

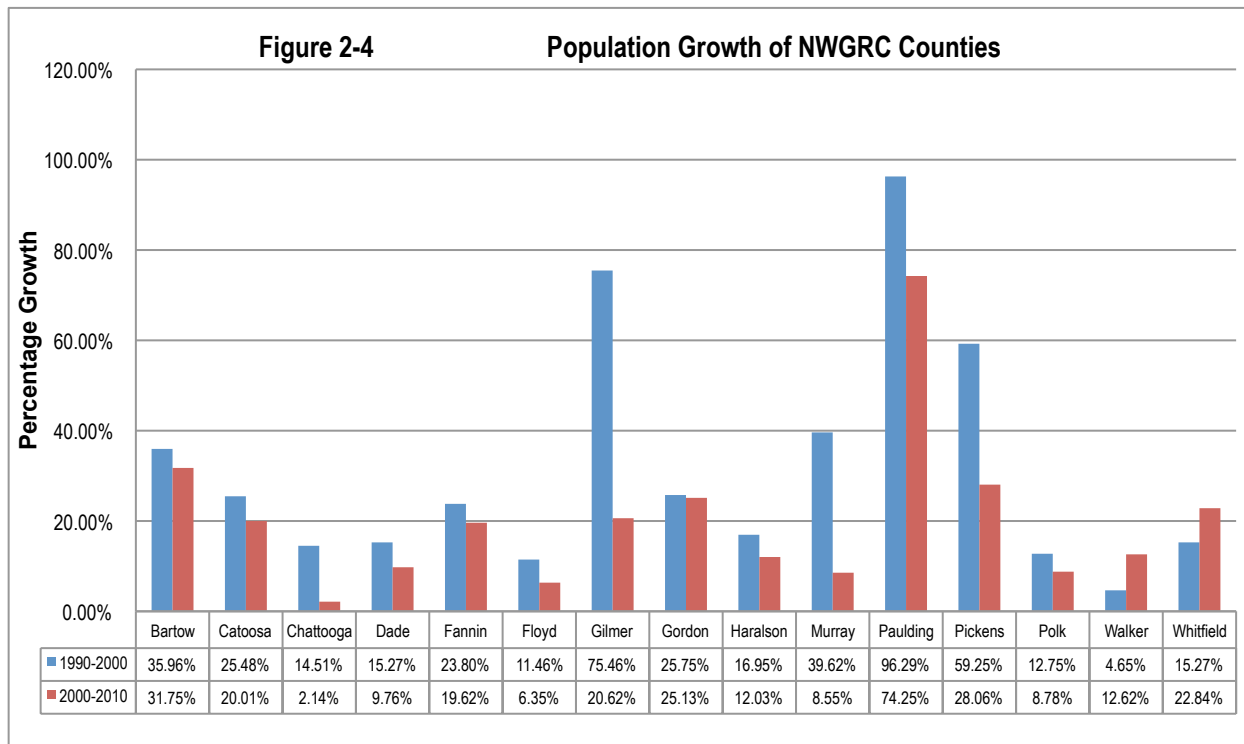


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 STF 1; Census 2000 SF 1; Census 2010 SF 1

Figure 2-3 and Figure 2-4 show the total populations and growth rates, respectively, of the region's counties. Paulding remained the region's fastest growing county from 2000 to 2010. Walker and Whitfield were the region's only counties with higher growth rates for 2000 to 2010 than for 1990 to 2000.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 STF 1; Census 2000 SF 1; Census 2010 SF 1



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 STF 1; Census 2000 SF 1; Census 2010 SF 1

Population Projections

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) is charged in state law (OCGA 45-12-171) with the responsibility for preparing, maintaining, and furnishing official demographic data for the state, including population projections. The state population projections are used for a variety of state planning purposes such as transportation planning, certificate of need, library funding, and water planning. The population projections produced by OPB are residential population projections, which provide a foundation for assessing future infrastructure and service needs. Residential population projections are defined as a projection of the population as it would be counted by a future decennial census, meaning a projection of the number of people living in homes, apartments, and group quarters (e.g. prisons, dormitories, and nursing homes).

In January 2013, the OPB released updates of the state and county population projections for the years 2012 through 2030, replacing the population projections published in March 2010. This latest series of projections was generated using data from the 2010 Census information and was prepared using the standard cohort component demographic methodology, which relies on historical fertility, migration and age data. The 2012 projections series provides annualized projections by county for the years 2012 through 2020, as well as projections in five-year increments by county for 2015 through 2030. Generally, the OPB 2012 projections series predicts a year 2030 NWGRC region population 15.4% lower and a state population 10.4% lower than the previous projections. Table 2-1, below, provides the OPB projections for 2012-2030. The projections for 2035 are by the NWGRC and continue the trends established by the OPB five-year-increment projections.

Table 2-1 Population Projections for the NWGRC Region – 2012-2035

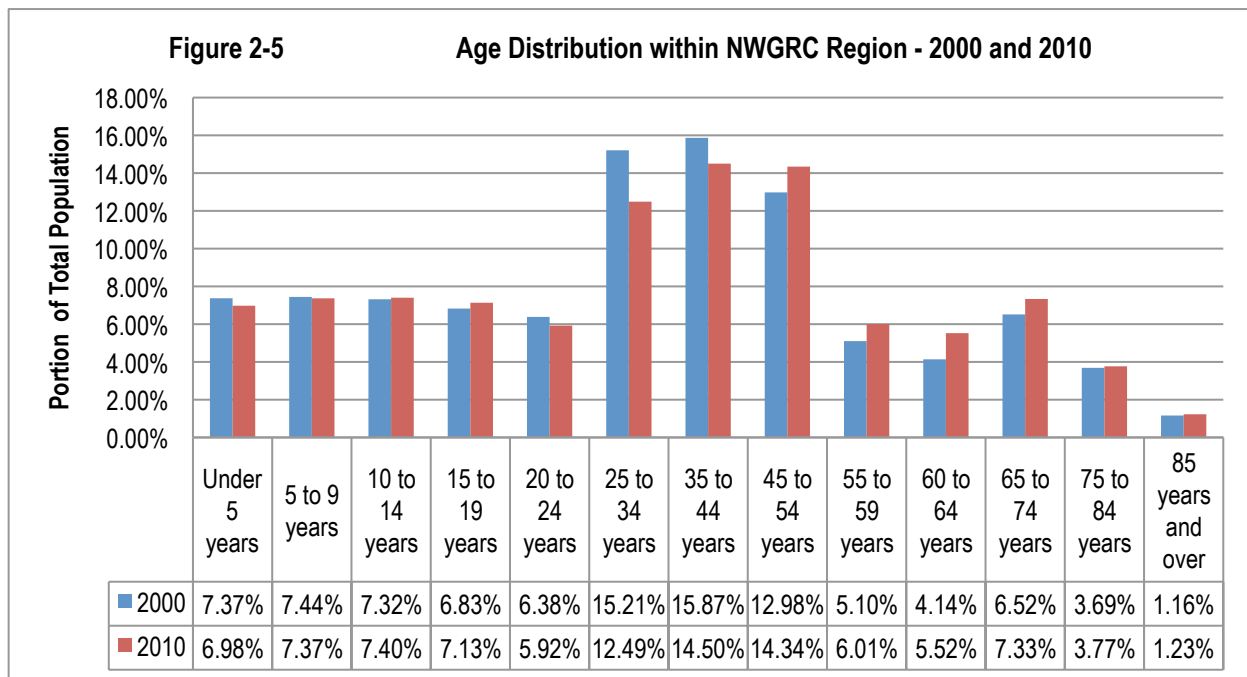
County	2012	2013	2014	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035 ¹
Bartow	104,190	106,196	108,201	110,206	120,673	131,882	143,751	156,185
Catoosa	65,631	66,475	67,318	68,161	72,180	76,104	79,849	83,384
Chattooga	26,300	26,440	26,579	26,719	27,263	27,666	27,894	27,972
Dade	16,869	16,979	17,088	17,197	17,726	18,208	18,628	18,973
Fannin	24,152	24,385	24,617	24,850	26,348	28,190	30,361	32,805
Floyd	97,474	98,032	98,589	99,147	101,600	103,731	105,454	106,825
Gilmer	28,847	29,131	29,414	29,697	30,946	32,016	32,900	33,565
Gordon	56,759	57,571	58,384	59,196	63,371	67,681	72,031	76,367
Haralson	29,324	29,606	29,888	30,170	31,494	32,734	33,817	34,720
Murray	40,389	40,754	41,119	41,484	43,093	44,487	45,589	46,446
Paulding	151,912	156,709	161,505	166,301	192,981	223,974	259,834	301,511
Pickens	30,093	30,414	30,734	31,055	32,523	33,829	34,966	35,928
Polk	42,240	42,625	43,009	43,393	45,099	46,715	48,256	49,694
Walker	69,599	70,050	70,501	70,952	72,878	74,489	75,717	76,580
Whitfield	105,240	106,569	107,897	109,225	116,186	123,691	131,572	140,072
NWGRC	889,019	901,936	914,843	927,753	994,361	1,065,397	1,140,619	1,221,027

¹ 2035 projections by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, January 2013

Source: Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, 2012 Population Projections Series, January 2013; NWGRC

Age Distribution

Age distribution affects a variety of needs and services as the region plans for the future. Changes in age groups made up of 5-to-19-year-olds (school age) impact services aimed at children (e.g., schools, parks and recreation, social services, etc.). Changes in those age groups made up of 65-year-olds and above impact social services for seniors and the health care industry. As shown in Figure 2-5, the share of the population made up by 5-to-19-year-olds increased modestly from 21.59% in 2000 to 21.90% in 2010. Meanwhile, the region’s 65-year-old and above population increased its share of total population from 11.37% in 2000 to 12.33% in 2010. The share of the region’s population made up of senior citizen age groups (65 years old and older) appears likely to continue to increase over the planning period.

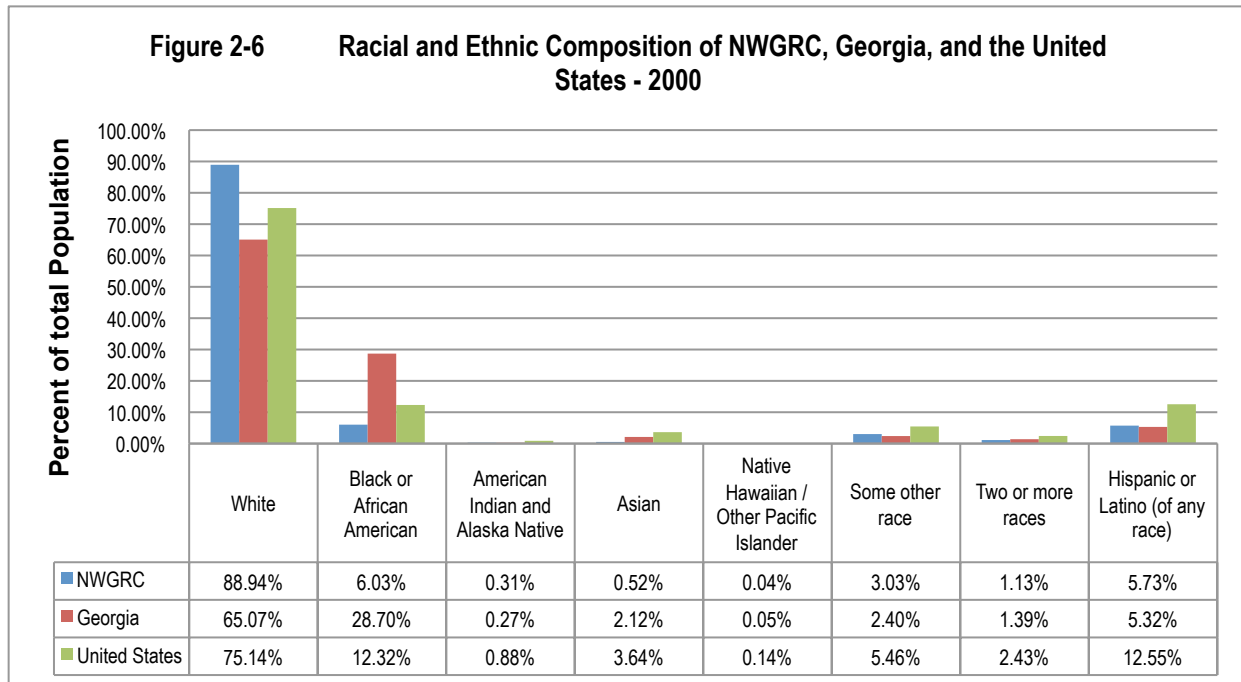


Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF 1; Census 2010 SF 1

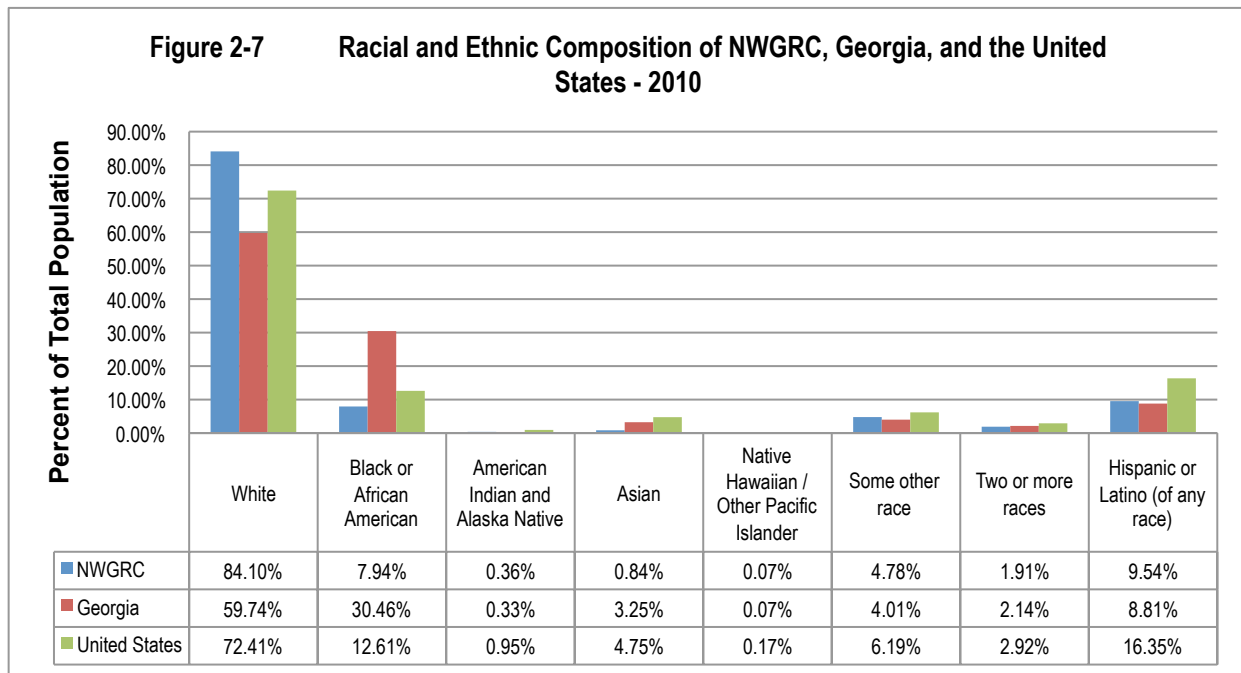
Race and Ethnicity

As shown in Figure 2-6 and Figure 2-7, the *white* race represented 84.10% of the region’s population in 2010, a decline from 88.94% in 2000. The region’s 2010 *white* share was considerably higher than that for the state (59.74%) and nation (72.41%). The region’s *black or African American* share of total population increased from 6.03% in 2000 to 7.94% in 2010. The region’s 2010 *black or African American* share was considerably lower than that for the state (30.46%) and nation (12.61%). As compared to 2000, each non-white racial group had an increased share of the region’s total population in 2010.

The U.S. Census Bureau does not include *Hispanic* as a race. The census accounts for this population under ethnicity. Consequently, persons of *Hispanic or Latino* origin comprise portions of more than one racial group. The region's *Hispanic or Latino* population accounted for 9.54% of the total in 2010, up from 5.73% in 2000. The 2010 share was higher than that of the state (8.81%) but lower than that of the nation (16.35%).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF 1

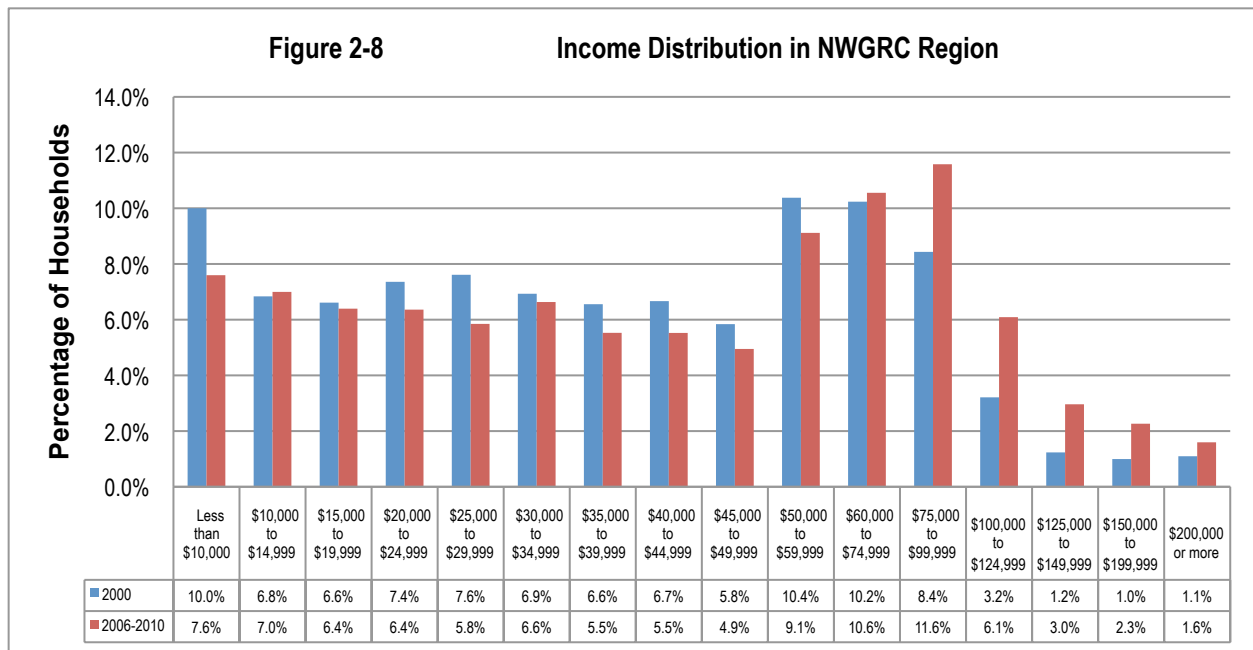


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 SF 1

Income

Income Distribution

As shown in Figure 2-8, and as would be expected, household income distribution changes from 1999 to 2006-2010 shifted a larger share of the region’s total households into higher income brackets. For 2006-2010, all but one income bracket below \$60,000 showed a decline in the share of the region’s total households, while all income brackets over \$60,000 showed an increase in the share of the region’s households. Almost one-fourth (24.6%) of the region’s households had an income of \$75,000 or more in 2006-2010, while 7.6% had an income of less than \$10,000. In 1999 the region’s median household income fell within the \$35,000 to \$39,999 bracket (an estimated \$38,560); while in 2006-2010, the region’s median household income fell within the \$40,000 to \$44,999 bracket (an estimated \$44,272).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF 3; 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Income Levels

Table 2-2 presents per capita income, median household income, and mean household income for the region’s counties, the region, and the state. Per capita income is the mean income computed for every man, woman, and child in a geographic area. It is the total income of all people 15 years old and over in a geographic area divided by the total population in that area. Household income is the sum of money income received in the calendar year by all household members 15 years old and over, including household members not related to the householder, people living alone, and other nonfamily household members. Median household income is the

amount that divides the household income distribution into two equal groups, half having income below that amount and half having income above that amount.

As can be seen in Table 2-2, the region's income levels consistently fall well below those of the state as a whole. For 2006-2010, only Pickens County had per capita income above that of the state; only Pickens and Paulding Counties had median household income above that of the state; and only Paulding County had mean household greater than that of the state.

Table 2-2 Per Capita, Median Household, and Mean Household Income Levels in the NWGRC Region

Area	Per Capita Income		Median Household Income		Mean Household Income	
	1999	2006-2010 ¹	1999	2006-2010 ¹	1999	2006-2010 ¹
Bartow	\$18,989	\$22,241	\$43,660	\$49,216	\$52,539	\$61,298
Catoosa	\$18,009	\$22,563	\$39,998	\$46,544	\$46,485	\$58,140
Chattooga	\$14,508	\$15,158	\$30,664	\$32,419	\$37,601	\$40,738
Dade	\$16,127	\$20,168	\$35,259	\$39,760	\$42,980	\$52,397
Fannin	\$16,269	\$21,103	\$30,612	\$34,145	\$37,948	\$47,451
Floyd	\$17,808	\$20,640	\$35,615	\$41,066	\$46,495	\$54,549
Gilmer	\$17,147	\$20,439	\$35,140	\$36,741	\$44,049	\$49,838
Gordon	\$17,586	\$18,285	\$38,831	\$40,916	\$47,719	\$49,152
Haralson	\$15,823	\$19,033	\$31,656	\$38,996	\$40,903	\$50,615
Murray	\$16,230	\$16,925	\$36,996	\$38,226	\$44,159	\$46,349
Paulding	\$19,974	\$23,450	\$52,151	\$62,348	\$57,448	\$67,654
Pickens	\$19,774	\$25,892	\$41,387	\$49,945	\$50,170	\$65,987
Polk	\$15,617	\$18,214	\$32,328	\$38,646	\$41,727	\$48,058
Walker	\$15,867	\$19,440	\$32,406	\$38,723	\$40,350	\$49,721
Whitfield	\$18,515	\$19,780	\$39,377	\$42,345	\$52,181	\$56,590
NWGRC	\$17,673	\$20,729	\$38,560²	\$44,272²	\$47,251	\$55,777
Georgia	\$21,154	\$25,134	\$42,433	\$49,347	\$56,612	\$66,620

¹ 2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates are in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars.

² NWGRC estimates based on household income distribution data

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF 3; 2006-2010 American Community Survey

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) produces per capita personal income (PCPI) estimates on an annual basis for every region, state, metropolitan statistical area, and county in the United States. PCPI is calculated as the personal income of the residents of a given area divided by the resident population of the area. In computing PCPI, BEA uses the Census Bureau's annual mid-year population estimates.

Table 2-3 provides the 2000 and 2010 PCPI for the region's counties, the region, the state, and the nation. As can be seen, the region's PCPI falls well below that of the state and nation in 2000 and 2010. For 2010, only Pickens County had a PCPI that exceeded that of the state.

Table 2-3 Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI)

Area	2000	2010
Bartow	\$26,574	\$26,922
Catoosa	\$22,691	\$28,446
Chattooga	\$18,350	\$23,205
Dade	\$21,162	\$26,374
Fannin	\$21,769	\$28,195
Floyd	\$23,707	\$32,331
Gilmer	\$20,274	\$28,469
Gordon	\$22,336	\$27,970
Haralson	\$21,384	\$28,273
Murray	\$20,160	\$24,568
Paulding	\$24,262	\$34,152
Pickens	\$26,966	\$35,425
Polk	\$19,097	\$25,740
Walker	\$22,028	\$26,506
Whitfield	\$25,618	\$28,588
NWGRC	\$23,170	\$29,199
Georgia	\$28,541	\$34,747
United States	\$30,319	\$39,937

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Poverty Levels

The U.S. Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program provides annual estimates of income and poverty statistics for all school districts, counties, and states. Table 2-4 presents these poverty statistics for 2000 and 2010 for the region's counties, the region, and the state. Following disturbing state and national trends, the percentage of the region's residents considered below the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds increased from 10.9% in 2000 to 16.3% in 2010. Four of the region's counties—Chattooga, Haralson, Polk, and Whitfield—had poverty levels for people of all ages greater than 20%, while only Paulding County had a poverty level for people of all ages under 10%.

The estimate of the region's people of all ages in poverty increased from 77,550 in 2000 to 138,568 in 2010. This increase of 78.7% compared to a 68.7% increase for the state as a whole. The region's population under 18 years of age in poverty increased from an estimated 30,384 in 2000 to an estimated 51,130 in 2010. This increase of 68.3% in the region's number of children in poverty compared to a 58.9% increase for the state. Despite these significant increases, the region's poverty levels in 2010 remained below those of the state.

Table 2-4 Poverty Levels in NWGRC Counties, NWGRC Region, and State

Area	Estimate of people of all ages in poverty		Estimated percent of people of all ages in poverty		Estimate of people age 0-17 in poverty		Estimated percent of people age 0-17 in poverty		Estimate of related children age 5-17 in families in poverty		Estimated percent of related children age 5-17 in families in poverty	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
Bartow	7,494	14,369	9.5	14.5	3,214	5,765	14.5	21.9	2,079	4,051	13.3	20.9
Catoosa	5,219	9,039	9.6	14.3	1,935	3,228	13.8	20.6	1,281	2,124	12.5	18.5
Chattooga	3,464	4,922	14.3	20.5	1,160	1,648	19.8	28.8	789	1,109	19.1	26.7
Dade	1,733	2,535	11.8	16.3	515	781	14.3	22.3	353	537	13.0	20.6
Fannin	2,843	4,262	14.0	18.2	923	1,252	21.8	28.2	616	905	20.0	27.3
Floyd	11,670	17,634	13.3	19.1	4,401	5,971	19.7	26.3	2,880	4,136	18.2	25.3
Gilmer	3,185	4,454	13.2	15.9	1,209	1,755	20.7	28.8	791	1,185	19.6	26.5
Gordon	5,006	10,045	11.1	18.5	1,930	3,804	16.3	26.3	1,275	2,470	15.4	23.7
Haralson	3,802	5,868	14.7	20.7	1,476	2,030	21.9	28.7	988	1,373	20.4	26.2
Murray	4,228	7,491	11.3	19.1	1,825	2,849	17.5	27.2	1,213	1,900	16.6	24.9
Paulding	5,143	12,468	5.8	8.8	2,256	5,175	8.3	12.2	1,487	3,376	7.9	10.8
Pickens	2,402	3,939	9.9	13.6	962	1,456	16.9	22.4	651	995	16.0	20.9
Polk	5,226	9,065	13.8	22.1	2,056	3,381	20.7	31.3	1,410	2,208	20.3	29.3
Walker	7,339	11,970	12.1	17.8	2,785	4,121	18.4	25.9	1,844	2,862	16.7	24.3
Whitfield	8,796	20,507	10.3	20.2	3,737	7,914	15.8	27.4	2,473	4,976	15.4	23.9
NWGRC	77,550	138,568	10.9	16.3	30,384	51,130	16.1	23.1	20,130	34,207	15.1	21.2
Georgia	1,006,329	1,698,004	12.3	18.0	386,095	613,581	17.5	25.0	252,326	406,975	16.1	23.0

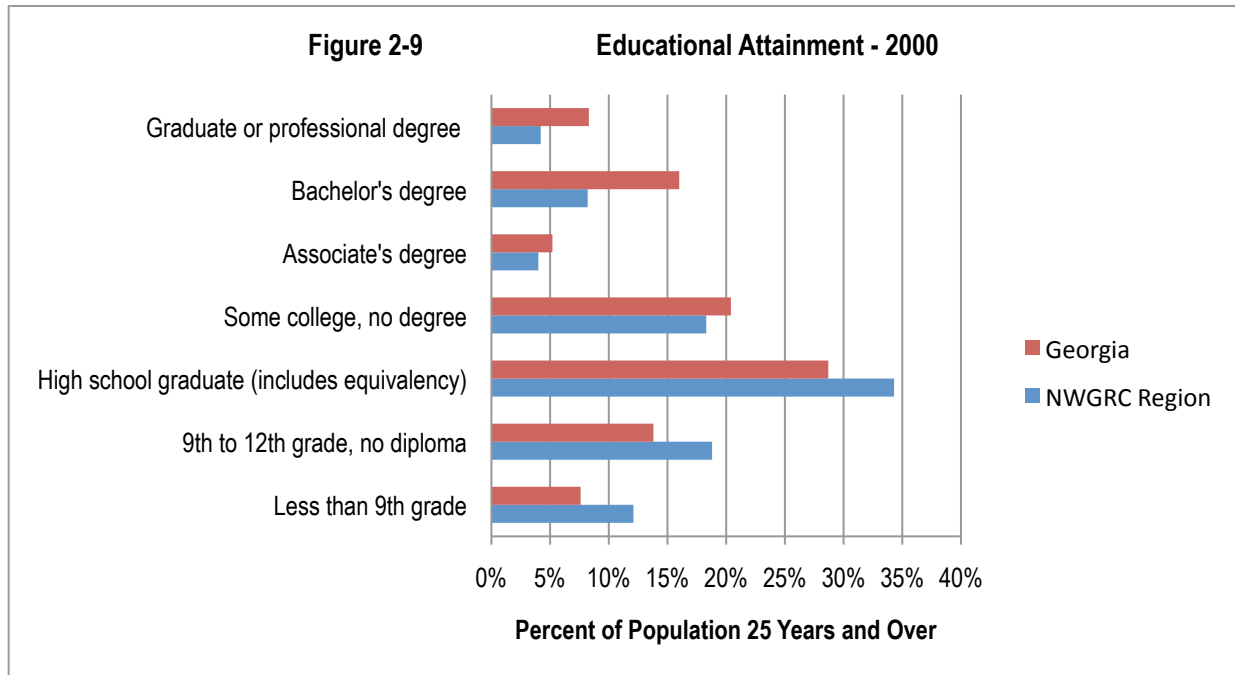
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Estimates Branch, Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

Educational Attainment

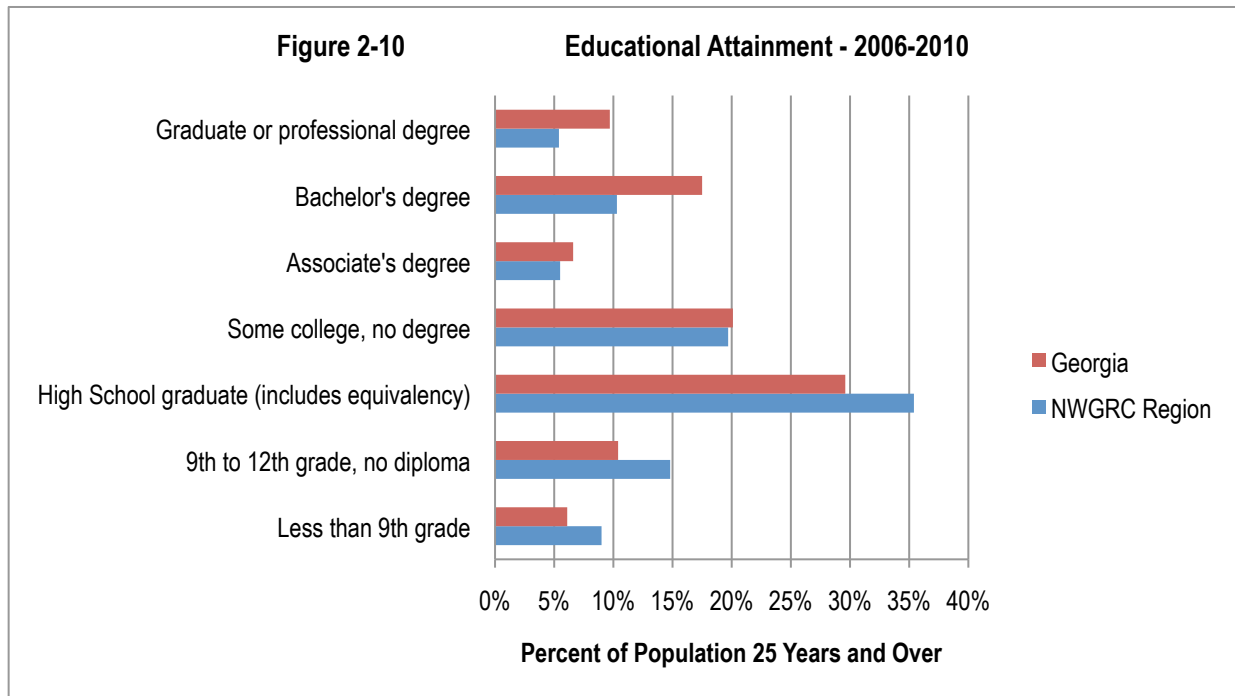
Educational attainment rates for the NWGRC region compared to rates for the State of Georgia are provided in Figures 2-9 and 2-10. While significant improvements in educational attainment in the region occurred from 2000 to 2006-2010, the percentage of the region's residents 25 years old and over with an educational attainment of less than a high school graduate (23.8%) remained considerably higher than the percentage for the state (16.5%). At the other end of the educational attainment spectrum, the 2006-2010 percentage of the region's residents 25 years old and over with an educational attainment of bachelor's degree or higher (15.7%) remained much below the state's percentage (27.2%).

The percentage of the region's residents 25 years old and over with an educational attainment of high school graduate (including equivalency) or higher increased from 69.1% in 2000 to 76.2% in 2006-2010. In the meantime, Georgia's educational attainment rate for high school (including equivalency) or higher increased from 78.6% in 2000 to 83.5% in 2006-2010. Although educational attainment rates in the NWGRC region have improved in recent years,

similar improvements throughout the state have resulted in only minimal progress in reducing the educational attainment gap between the NWGRC region and the state as a whole.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF 3



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Base

Table 3-1 compares the NWGRC region's 2010 average monthly employment by industry sector to that of the state and nation. Private sector jobs accounted for 82.2% of total jobs in the region. The region's share of private sector jobs was the same as the state's share and just less than the nation's share (83.1%). What distinguishes the region from the state and nation is its share of goods producing jobs versus service providing jobs. Goods producing jobs accounted for 28.4% of the region's total employment, versus 13.9% for the state and 14.7% for the nation. Service providing jobs accounted for 53.6% of the region's total employment, versus 68.0% of the state's and 68.3% of the nation's total employment.

Table 3-1 Comparison of Average Monthly Employment by Sector in 2010 – Region, State, and Nation

NAICS Sector	NWGRC		State of Georgia	United States
	Number	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total
Goods Producing	68,206	28.4	13.9	14.7
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,017	0.4	0.7	0.9
Mining	478	0.2	0.1	0.5
Construction	7,119	3.0	4.0	4.3
Manufacturing	59,592	24.8	9.1	9.0
Service Providing	128,800	53.6	68.0	68.3
Wholesale Trade	8,855	3.7	5.2	4.3
Retail Trade	30,606	12.7	11.5	11.3
Transportation and warehousing	8,917	3.7	4.0	3.1
Utilities	1,319	0.5	0.5	0.4
Information	3,217	1.3	2.7	2.1
Finance and insurance	4,826	2.0	3.9	4.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	1,709	0.7	1.5	1.5
Professional, scientific/tech services	6,758	2.8	5.8	5.8
Management of companies/enterprises	1,142	0.5	1.4	1.5
Administrative & Waste Services	9,257	3.9	6.8	5.8
Educational services	1,949	0.8	1.7	1.9
Health care and social assistance	24,343	10.1	10.5	12.7
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,679	0.7	1.0	1.5
Accommodation and food services	19,597	8.2	8.9	8.7
Other services (except government)	4,626	1.9	2.5	3.4
Unclassified	395	0.2	0.3	0.1
Total - Private Sector	197,401	82.2	82.2	83.1
Total - Government	42,700	17.8	17.8	16.9
Federal	1,779	0.7	2.9	2.3
State	6,835	2.8	3.9	3.6
Local	34,086	14.2	11.1	11.0

Total - All Industries	240,101	100.0	100.0	100.0
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Source: Georgia Department of Labor (region and state); U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (nation)

For goods producing jobs in the private sector, *manufacturing* accounted for 24.8% of all jobs in the region, a much greater share than the state's 9.1% and the nation's 9.0%. *Construction* jobs, however, accounted for only 3.0% of the region's employment, a somewhat smaller share than the state's 4.0% and the nation's 4.3%. For service providing jobs in the private sector, both the state and nation had a greater share of employment than did the NWGRC region for all sectors except *retail trade, transportation and warehousing, and utilities*. Retail trade, for example, accounted for 12.7% of the region's employment, a somewhat greater share of total employment than the state's 11.5% and the nation's 11.3%. In the government sector, local government jobs accounted for a higher percentage of total employment and state and federal government jobs, a lower percentage of total employment in the region than in the state and nation.

Table 3-2 provides the NWGRC region's employment distribution by NAICS sector for the third quarter of 2011. The industry sectors in Table 3-2 display both private and government sector data.

Table 3-2 Industry Employment Distribution for NWGRC Region for 3rd Quarter, 2011

Rank	Industry Sector	Establishments	Employees	
			Number	Percent
1	Manufacturing (31-33)	1,148	60,034	25.0%
2	Retail Trade (44 & 45)	2,564	30,849	12.8%
3	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,292	26,391	11.0%
4	Education Services	433	24,526	10.2%
5	Accommodation and Food Services	1,176	20,309	8.5%
6	Public Administration	329	12,886	5.4%
7	Transportation and Warehousing (48 & 49)	565	11,145	4.6%
8	Admin., Support, Waste Mgmt, Remediation	740	9,889	4.1%
9	Wholesale Trade	983	9,482	3.9%
10	Professional, Scientific & Technical Svc	1,215	7,230	3.0%
11	Construction	1,537	7,034	2.9%
12	Other Services (except Public Admin.)	1,055	5,016	2.1%
13	Finance and Insurance	748	4,687	2.0%
14	Information	185	3,334	1.4%
15	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	149	1,955	0.8%
16	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	525	1,781	0.7%
17	Utilities	30	1,305	0.5%
18	Management of Companies and Enterprises	58	1,000	0.4%
19	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	118	935	0.4%
20	Mining	24	489	0.2%
-	All Industries	14,874	240,277	100.0%

Source: Labor Market Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program

Labor Force

Employment Status

Table 3-3 provides the employment status within the NWGRC region from 2000 through 2010. Table 3-4 compares the NWGRC region's employment status with that of adjacent regions, the state, and nation for 2011. Figure 3-1 charts the NWGRC region's unemployment rate trends from 2000 to 2011. As can be seen, the NWGRC region's unemployment rate remained under 5.0% for 2000 through 2007, began a rapid rise in 2008 to a peak of 10.9% in 2009, and then declined to 10.8% in 2010 and 10.2% in 2011. The NWGRC region's unemployment rate of 10.2% in 2011 was slightly lower than that of the TRRC region (10.6%) but was higher than that of the ARC region (9.6%), the GMRC region (8.6%), the state (9.8%), and the nation (8.9%).

Table 3-3 Employment Status within NWGRC Region – 2000-2010

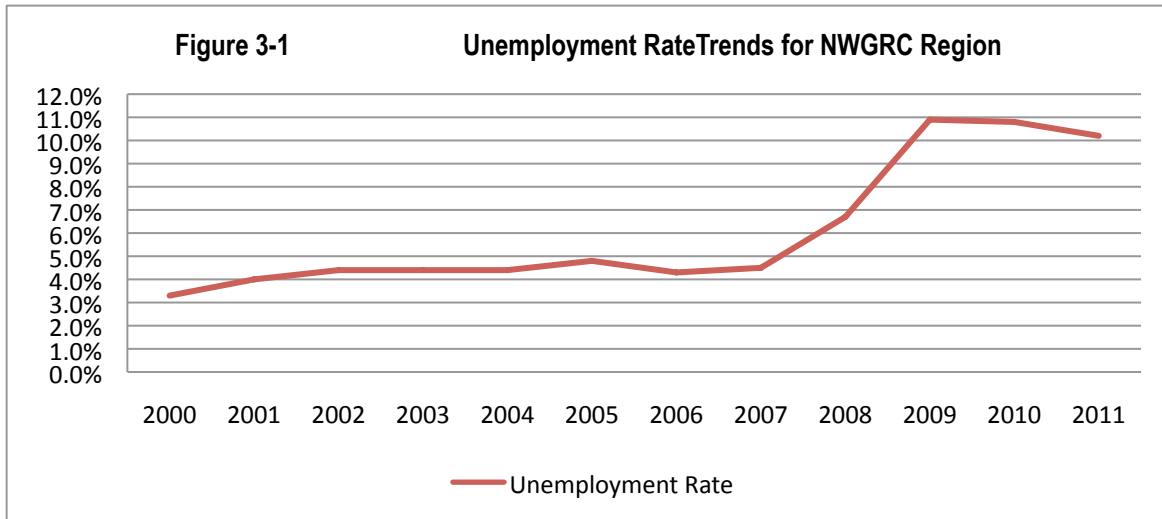
Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2000	362,491	350,372	12,119	3.3%
2001	367,624	352,857	14,767	4.0%
2002	377,993	361,198	16,795	4.4%
2003	385,005	368,124	16,881	4.4%
2004	392,914	375,561	17,353	4.4%
2005	407,250	387,541	19,709	4.8%
2006	415,436	397,400	18,036	4.3%
2007	416,065	397,236	18,829	4.5%
2008	418,207	390,215	27,992	6.7%
2009	410,343	365,609	44,734	10.9%
2010	403,555	360,063	43,492	10.8%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 3-4 Employment Status within NWGRC Region, Adjacent Regions, State, and Nation - 2011

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
NWGRC	412,726	370,566	42,160	10.2%
GMRC	303,654	277,639	26,015	8.6%
ARC	2,121,524	1,917,610	203,914	9.6%
TRRC	230,147	205,641	24,506	10.6%
Georgia	4,725,104	4,262,175	462,929	9.8%
United States	153,617,000	139,869,000	13,747,000	8.9%

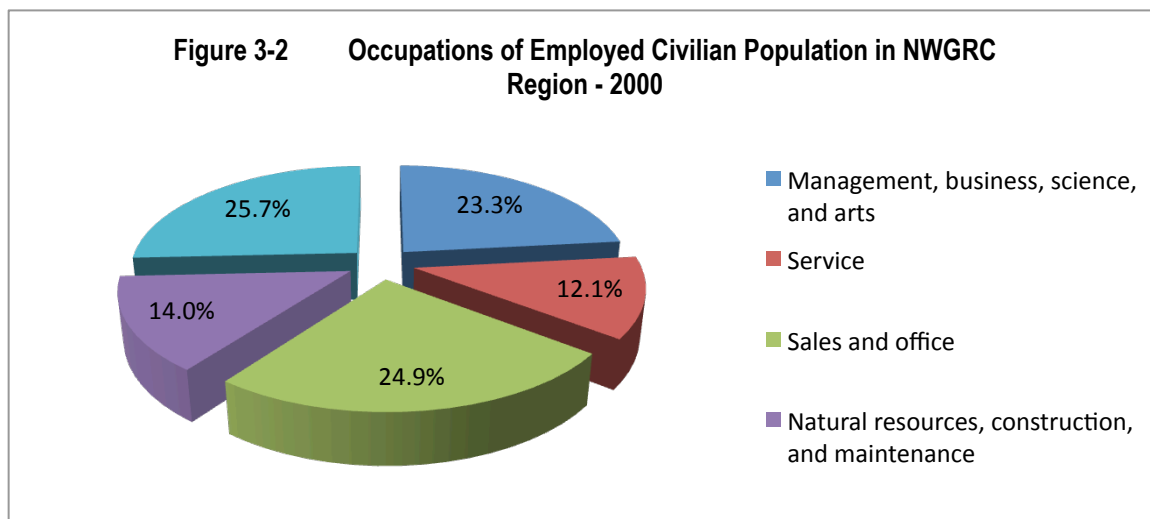
Source: Georgia Department of Labor; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



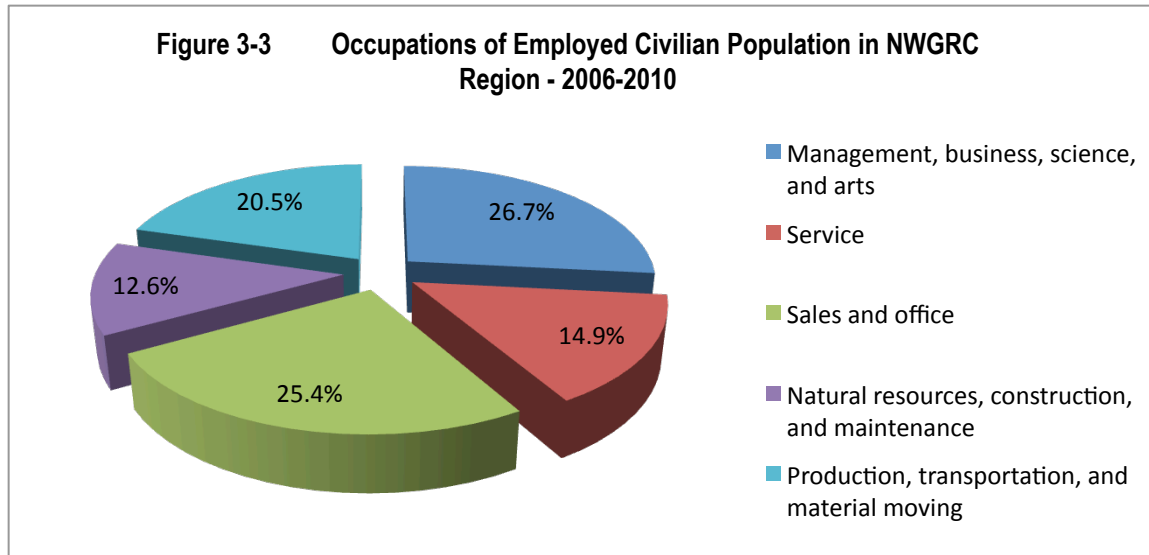
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Occupations

Figures 3-2 and 3-3 show the shares of the region’s employed civilian population in five occupational categories for 2000 and 2006-2010, respectively. In 2000, the *production, transportation and material moving* occupations had the greatest share, followed by the *sales and office* and *management, business, science and arts* categories. The smallest share of the region’s employed civilian population was in the *service* category. For 2006-2010 compared to 2000, the *management, business, science and arts* and *service* categories gained in share of the region’s employed civilian population, while the *natural resources, construction and maintenance* and *production, transportation and material moving* categories lost in share. In 2006-2010, *management, business, science and arts* occupations had the greatest share of the region’s employed civilian population, followed by *sales and office* occupations. *Natural resources, construction and maintenance* occupations had the smallest share.



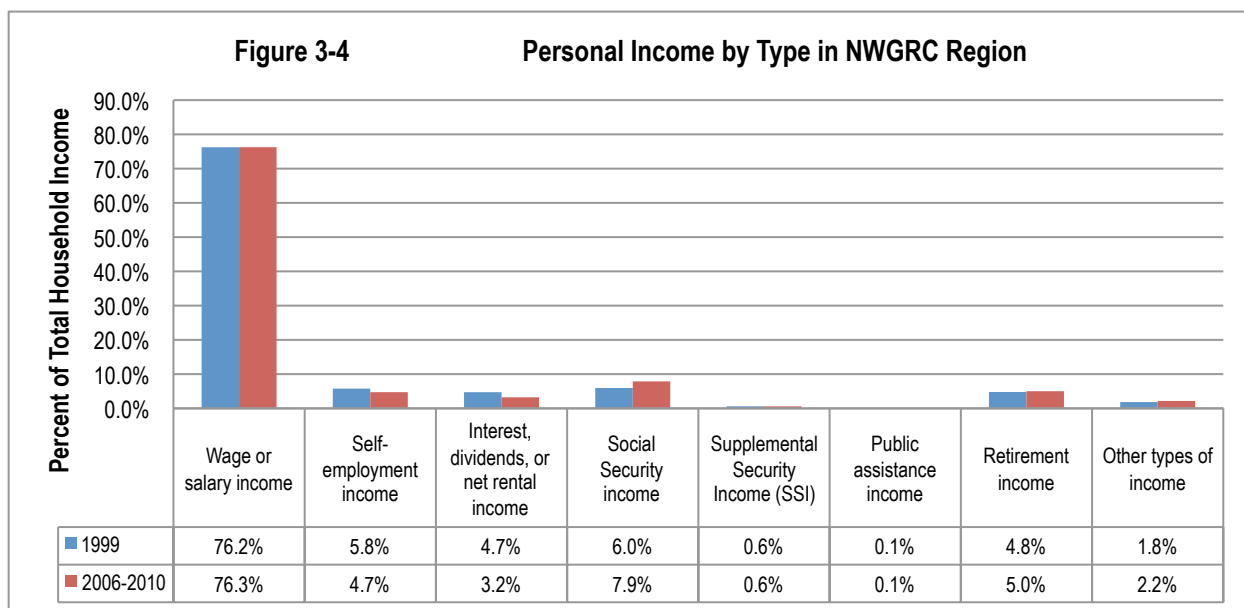
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2006-2010

Personal Income

As shown in Figure 3-4, the region’s households received 76.3% of their personal income from *wage and salary income* in 2006-2010, basically unchanged from 1999. In 2006-2010, the regions households received 4.7% of their personal income from *self-employment* and 3.2% from *interest, dividends or net rental*, down from 5.8% and 4.7%, respectively, in 1999. Reflecting the retirement-age population’s growing share of total population, the region’s households received 7.9% of their personal income from *Social Security* benefits and 5.0% from *retirement* benefits, up from 6.0% and 4.8%, respectively, in 1999.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3; 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Wages

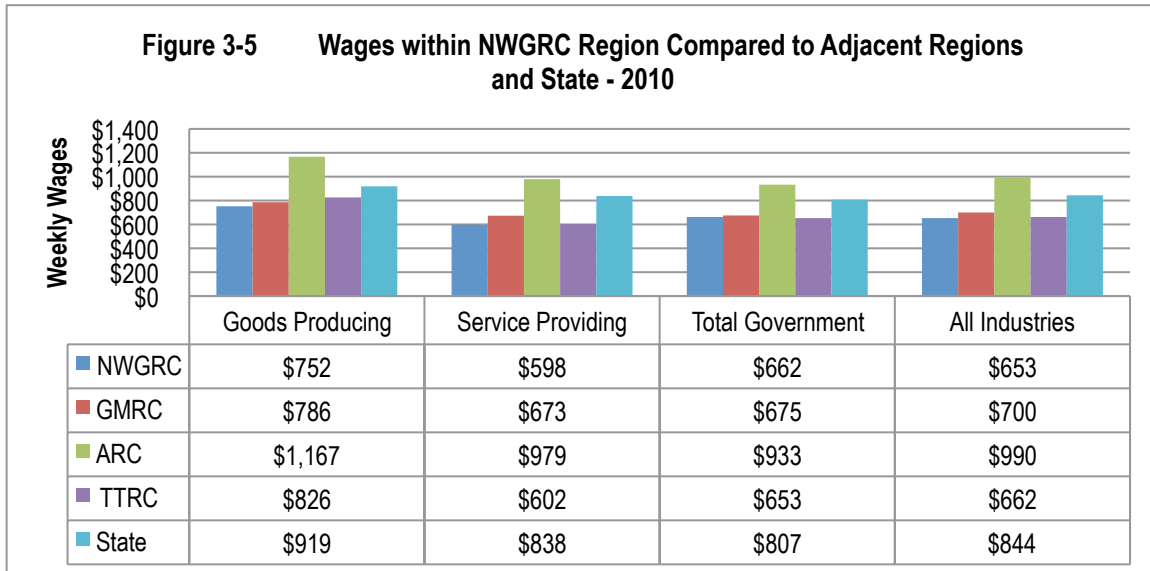
As shown in Table 3-5, jobs with the highest weekly wages in the NWGRC region are in the *utilities; management of companies and enterprises; mining; professional, scientific and technical services; wholesale trade; and finance and insurance* sectors. The lowest paying jobs are in the *accommodation and food services; arts, entertainment and recreation; retail trade; administrative, support, and waste management services; other services (except government); and real estate and rental and leasing* sectors. In 2010, the average weekly wages for jobs in the NWGRC region were lower than the ARC region in every sector and were lower than the state in all but one sector—*agriculture, forestry, and fishing*. For all industries, the NWGRC region's average weekly wages were only 66.0% of wages in the ARC region and 77.4% of wages in the state as a whole. Wages in the NWGRC region compare more favorably with wages in the GMRC and TRRC regions but still trail these regions in a majority of industry sectors and in average weekly wages for all industries. The NWGRC region's weekly wages for all industries were 93.3% of wages in the GMRC region and 98.6% of wages in the TRRC region.

Table 3-5 Weekly Wages by Industry for NWGRC Region, Adjacent Regions, and State - 2010

NAICS Sector	NWGRC	GMRC	ARC	TRRC	State of Georgia	NWGRC as a % of:			
						GMRC	ARC	TRRC	State
Goods-Producing	\$752	\$786	\$1,167	\$826	\$919	95.7%	64.4%	91.0%	81.8%
Agriculture, forestry, & fishing	\$551	\$749	\$970	\$608	\$523	73.6%	56.8%	90.6%	105.4%
Mining	\$924	\$987	\$1,226	\$890	\$1,042	93.6%	75.4%	103.8%	88.7%
Construction	\$710	\$795	\$1,008	\$798	\$876	89.3%	70.4%	89.0%	81.1%
Manufacturing	\$760	\$784	\$1,281	\$837	\$965	96.9%	59.3%	90.8%	78.8%
Service-Providing	\$598	\$673	\$979	\$602	\$838	88.9%	61.1%	99.3%	71.4%
Utilities	\$1,345	\$1,154	\$1,589	\$1,298	\$1,415	116.6%	84.6%	103.6%	95.1%
Wholesale trade	\$824	\$1,082	\$1,377	\$802	\$1,269	76.2%	59.8%	102.7%	64.9%
Retail trade	\$448	\$474	\$546	\$486	\$501	94.5%	82.1%	92.2%	89.4%
Transportation and warehousing	\$665	\$770	\$1,031	\$738	\$928	86.4%	64.5%	90.1%	71.7%
Information	\$780	\$922	\$1,627	\$823	\$1,432	84.6%	47.9%	94.8%	54.5%
Finance and insurance	\$820	\$940	\$1,607	\$867	\$1,357	87.2%	51.0%	94.6%	60.4%
Real estate and rental and leasing	\$542	\$601	\$991	\$563	\$857	90.2%	54.7%	96.3%	63.2%
Professional, scientific/tech services	\$922	\$1,071	\$1,525	\$830	\$1,361	86.1%	60.5%	111.1%	67.7%
Management: companies/enterprises	\$1,284	\$1,244	\$1,817	\$1,581	\$1,642	103.2%	70.7%	81.2%	78.2%
Administrative and waste services	\$493	\$544	\$696	\$490	\$636	90.6%	70.8%	100.6%	77.5%
Educational services	\$694	\$501	\$988	\$484	\$873	138.5%	70.2%	143.4%	79.5%
Health care and social assistance	\$789	\$770	\$905	\$743	\$839	102.5%	87.2%	106.2%	94.0%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	\$335	\$1,719	\$654	\$393	\$617	19.5%	51.2%	85.2%	54.3%
Accommodation and food services	\$257	\$267	\$361	\$242	\$315	96.3%	71.2%	106.2%	81.6%
Other services (except government)	\$521	\$495	\$629	\$512	\$577	105.3%	82.8%	101.8%	90.3%
Unclassified	\$579	\$797	\$1,015	\$587	\$938	72.6%	57.0%	98.6%	61.7%
Total - Private Sector	\$651	\$705	\$999	\$664	\$853	92.3%	65.2%	98.0%	76.3%
Total - Government	\$662	\$675	\$933	\$653	\$807	98.1%	71.0%	101.4%	82.0%
ALL INDUSTRIES	\$653	\$700	\$990	\$662	\$844	93.3%	66.0%	98.6%	77.4%

Source: Georgia Department of Labor

Figure 3-5 provides a quick comparison of the NWGRC region’s average weekly wages with those of adjacent regions and the state in four categories: goods producing, service providing, all government, and all industries. In the total government category, the NWGRC region’s average weekly wages slightly exceed that of the TRRC region but trail average weekly wages for the other two adjacent regions and the state. In the other three categories, the NWGRC region’s average weekly wages trail all three adjacent regions and the state as a whole.



Source: Georgia Department of Labor

Commuting Patterns

Table 3-6 shows worker flow patterns for the NWGRC region’s counties and the region for 2000. As can be seen, 144,509 employed residents of the region, 44.85% of the total, worked outside their county of residence; and 90,657 employed residents, or 28.14% of the total, worked outside the region. Paulding County had the most employed residents working outside the NWGRC region, followed by Catoosa, Bartow, and Walker Counties. Chattooga and Murray Counties had the fewest employed residents working outside the region. Table 3-6 also shows that 87,693 workers employed in the NWGRC region, or 33.04% of the total, resided outside their county of employment, and 33,841 workers employed in the region, or 12.75% of the total, resided outside the region. Bartow County had the greatest number of workers that resided outside the region, followed by Whitfield, Paulding, and Floyd. Gilmer, Chattooga, and Gordon Counties had the fewest workers that resided outside the region.

Net inflow/outflow is calculated by subtracting the employed residents of an area from the number of workers employed in the area. A positive result is a net inflow and a negative result is a net outflow. For a county, net inflow/outflow also can be calculated by subtracting the employed residents of the county that worked outside the county from the workers employed in the county that resided outside the county. Likewise, net inflow/outflow for the region can be calculated by subtracting the employed residents of the region that worked outside the region

from the workers employed in the region that resided outside the region. As a whole, the NWGRC region had a net outflow of 56,816 workers in 2000. Thirteen of the region's counties also had a net outflow of workers. Paulding County had the greatest net outflow at 25,933 workers. Only Whitfield and Floyd Counties had a net inflow of workers in 2000. Whitfield had a net inflow of 17,802 workers and Floyd had a net inflow of 1,908 workers.

Table 3-6 Worker Flow Patterns for NWGRC Counties and Region – 2000

Area	Employed Residents of Area	Worker Outflow		Workers Employed in Area	Worker Inflow	
		Worked Outside County of Residence	Worked Outside NWGRC Region		Resided Outside County of Employment	Resided Outside NWGRC Region
Bartow	35,953	15,261	12,216	32,491	11,799	6,473
Catoosa	26,710	19,543	13,148	13,255	6,088	2,637
Chattooga	10,497	3,789	406	8,447	1,739	761
Dade	6,983	4,620	3,602	3,617	1,254	1,142
Fannin	8,105	3,268	1,980	6,380	1,543	1,233
Floyd	39,622	7,182	2,153	41,530	9,090	3,227
Gilmer	10,213	3,889	1,903	8,032	1,708	467
Gordon	22,017	6,845	1,184	21,388	6,216	816
Haralson	11,040	6,011	5,234	7,107	2,078	1,662
Murray	17,441	9,505	646	13,589	5,653	1,508
Paulding	40,830	30,736	29,638	14,897	4,803	3,538
Pickens	11,116	5,798	5,118	8,491	3,173	1,941
Polk	15,552	6,970	2,020	11,637	3,055	1,263
Walker	27,223	15,979	9,855	17,823	6,579	2,270
Whitfield	38,909	5,113	1,554	56,711	22,915	4,903
NWGRC Region	322,211	144,509	90,657	265,395	87,693	33,841

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 County-to-County Worker Flow Files

Table 3-7 shows the place of work for workers residing in the NWGRC region. Of the 322,211 employed residents of the region in 2000, 71.86% worked in the region—55.15% worked in their county of residence and 16.71% worked in another NWGRC county. The remaining 28.14% of the region's employed residents worked outside of the region—18.77% of employed residents worked in another Georgia region, 9.35% worked in another state, and 0.02% worked in another country. More than two-thirds of the region's employed residents working in another Georgia region resided in Paulding and Bartow Counties; and as would be expected, Catoosa, Walker, and Dade Counties had the greatest numbers of employed residents working in another state.

Table 3-8 shows the place of residence for workers employed in the NWGRC region. Of the 265,395 workers employed in the NWGRC region in 2000, 87.25% resided in the region—66.96% resided in their county of employment and 20.29% resided in another NWGRC county. The remaining 12.75% of the workers employed in the region resided outside of the region—6.07% of the workers employed in the region resided in another Georgia region and 6.68% resided in another state. Bartow, Paulding, Pickens, and Haralson Counties had the greatest numbers of workers residing in another Georgia region; and Whitfield, Catoosa, Floyd, and Walker Counties had the greatest numbers of workers residing in another state.

Table 3-7 Place of Work for Workers Residing in NWGRC Region

Area	Place of Work					Total Employed Residents of Area
	County of Residence	Another NWGRC County	Another Georgia Region	Another State	Another Country	
Bartow	20,692	3,045	11,869	334	13	35,953
Catoosa	7,167	6,395	306	12,834	8	26,710
Chattooga	6,708	3,383	141	265	-	10,497
Dade	2,363	1,018	97	3,505	-	6,983
Fannin	4,837	1,288	1,289	681	10	8,105
Floyd	32,440	5,029	1,877	273	3	39,622
Gilmer	6,324	1,986	1,735	163	5	10,213
Gordon	15,172	5,661	994	165	25	22,017
Haralson	5,029	777	5,133	101	-	11,040
Murray	7,936	8,859	154	492	-	17,441
Paulding	10,094	1,098	29,203	435	-	40,830
Pickens	5,318	680	5,055	60	3	11,116
Polk	8,582	4,950	1,932	88	-	15,552
Walker	11,244	6,124	274	9,578	3	27,223
Whitfield	33,796	3,559	409	1,138	7	38,909
NWGRC Region	177,702	53,852	60,468	30,112	77	322,211

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 County-to-County Worker Flow Files

Table 3-8 Place of Residence for Workers Employed in NWGRC Region

Area	Place of Residence				Total Employment within Area
	County of Employment	Another NWGRC County	Another Georgia Region	Another State	
Bartow	20,692	5,326	5,963	510	32,491
Catoosa	7,167	3,451	82	2,555	13,255
Chattooga	6,708	978	22	739	8,447
Dade	2,363	112	33	1,109	3,617
Fannin	4,837	310	494	739	6,380
Floyd	32,440	5,863	913	2,314	41,530
Gilmer	6,324	1,241	292	175	8,032
Gordon	15,172	5,400	438	378	21,388
Haralson	5,029	416	1,058	604	7,107
Murray	7,936	4,145	117	1,391	13,589
Paulding	10,094	1,265	3,476	62	14,897
Pickens	5,318	1,232	1,823	118	8,491
Polk	8,582	1,792	824	439	11,637
Walker	11,244	4,309	129	2,141	17,823
Whitfield	33,796	18,012	436	4,467	56,711
NWGRC Region	177,702	53,852	16,100	17,741	265,395

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 County-to-County Worker Flow Files