

US in the WORLD

CONNECTING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO ENSURE A HEALTHY PLANET

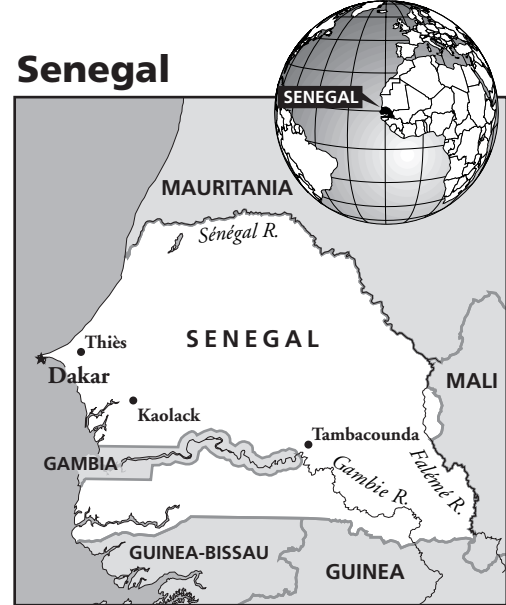
Georgia



Georgia
Area: 58,910 sq. miles
Population: 7.5 million

Senegal
Area: 75,955 sq. miles
Population: 8.8 million

Senegal



Largest metropolitan areas by population (1996):
Atlanta (3,541,230), Augusta-Aiken (Ga., S.C.) (453,612),
Macon (312,689)

Largest urban area by population (1995):
Dakar (1,708,000)

The peanut industry is prominent in two regions of similar size on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean: Georgia and Senegal. In 1997, Georgia's peanut production, harvested on about 13 percent of the state's arable land, accounted for 42 percent of U.S.-grown peanuts. In Senegal, peanuts are harvested on about 40 percent of the country's arable land and have provided between 12 percent and 29 percent of yearly export earnings in the last two decades. Today, these two regions are challenged to adequately manage population growth and its effects on the environment to ensure that peanuts and other important economic resources are not unduly threatened.

Largely low-lying, Senegal is vulnerable to capricious weather patterns. The northern section of the country forms part of the Sahel, a transition

zone between the Sahara Desert to the north and the wetter regions to the south. Droughts were prevalent in the country during the 1970s and 1980s, and in recent years open, semi-arid, and wooded savannas in the northern and central regions have lost woody cover. In contrast, Georgia's varied landscape, reflected in five distinct ecological zones, supports a rich biological diversity, including rare remnants of longleaf pine forest, granite outcrops, and mountain bog habitats.

Even though Senegal and Georgia share comparable population densities, future growth will likely place more strain on resources in Senegal. According to current projections, the Senegalese population will almost double by the year 2025, whereas Georgia is projected to increase by one-third. Conversely, the gap in population distribution—43 percent of

Senegalese live in urban areas compared to 63 percent of Georgians—is likely to close as natural resource depletion exacerbates rural to urban migration in Senegal. This increasing urbanization will bring additional demands for fuel, primarily charcoal. Charcoal production already accounts for the clearing of between 18,000 and 33,000 hectares of forests per year—between 11 percent and 20 percent of the country's total estimated deforestation.

Other environmental concerns in Senegal include wildlife poaching, soil erosion, desertification, overgrazing, and overfishing. In the midst of growing unemployment, more and more Senegalese are turning to fishing as a source of income. Years of drought, however, have caused water salinity to rise, reducing the number of shrimp

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Demographic and Health Trends

- Georgia added 1 million persons from 1990 to 1997—the fourth highest numerical population increase in the country. This translates into a 16 percent population gain for the “Empire State of the South.”
- Nearly three-fifths of Georgia’s population growth in the 1990s has been the result of net migration, with the bulk of the state’s new migrants coming from elsewhere in the United States.

- The area around Atlanta remains the hub of Georgia’s growth, with outlying counties having the fastest growth rates. In fact, three counties on the outskirts of Atlanta’s metro area—Forsyth, Henry, and Paulding—all grew at least 66 percent between 1990 and 1997, ranking among the 10 fastest growing counties in the country.

Natural Resources and Wildlife Issues

- According to a recently released study, the Atlanta metropolitan area is the 10th most congested urban area in the country. Efforts to alleviate the problem further have been put on hold while local officials try to meet a 1999 federal deadline for reducing ground-level ozone levels.
- In 1994, the Savannah River shipping channel was deepened from 38 feet to 42 feet in an effort to bolster Georgia’s shipping industry, which supports an estimated 60,000 jobs statewide. Plans to deepen the channel an additional 2 to 8 feet have been met with opposition by environmentalists because of the poten-

tial risk of saltwater damage to freshwater marshes and fish populations.

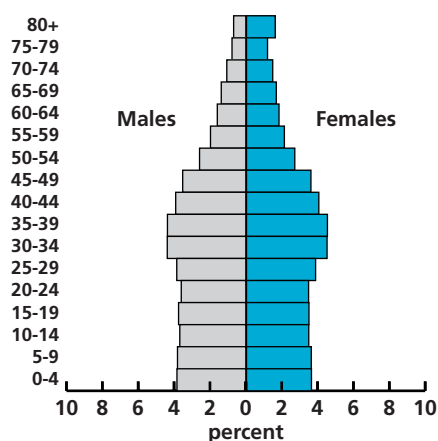
- Invasive, non-native plants and animals such as Chinese privet, Japanese honeysuckle, fire ants, feral pigs, and Asiatic clams threaten the natural biological diversity of Georgia.
- Georgia’s endangered and threatened animals include the bald eagle, the peregrine falcon, the wood stork, four species of darter, and two species of bats. The hairy rattleweed and the large-flowered skullcap are among the state’s endangered and threatened plants.

Socioeconomic Factors

- Georgia’s total gross state product, the market value of the state’s goods and services, was \$183 billion in 1994. This was 76 percent higher than the 1982 total when adjusted for inflation—the third highest increase in the country and nearly twice the national increase of 43 percent over the same period.

- Despite Georgia’s recent economic growth, 13.8 percent of the state’s residents lived in poverty from 1995 to 1997. This is just about the same as the national poverty rate of 13.6 percent.

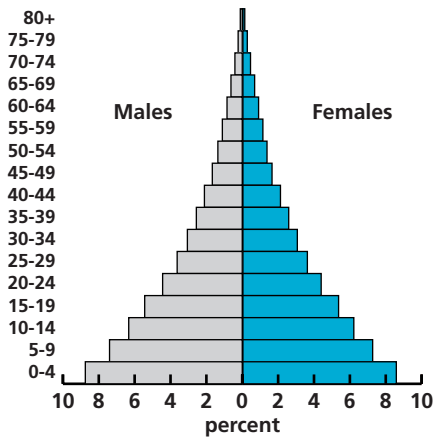
POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX



GEORGIA FACTS

Population, 1997: 7.5 million
Projected population, 2025: 9.9 million
Annual growth rate: 2.1%
Doubling time (at current rate): 33 years
Average number of children per woman: 2.1
Infant deaths per 1,000 live births: 9.4
Life expectancy: 70 (male), 77 (female)
Persons per square mile: 129
Percent urban: 63
Endangered/threatened animals: 26 species
Endangered/threatened plants: 22 species
Percent of land protected: 2
Wetlands loss, 1780-1980: 23%
Daily water use per capita: 808 gallons
Water use for domestic purposes: 22%
Water use for agriculture: 13%
Water use for industry: 12%
Water use for energy production: 53%
Cropland per capita: 1.4 acres
Energy use per capita: 60.1 barrels of oil equiv.
Persons per motor vehicle: 1.2
Adults who are high school graduates: 77%
Elected officials who are women: 16%
Labor force in agriculture: 3%
Labor force in industry: 20%
Labor force in services: 77%
Gross State Product, 1994: \$25,915 per capita

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX



SENEGAL FACTS

Population, 1997: 8.8 million
Projected population, 2025: 16.9 million
Annual growth rate: 3.4%
Doubling time (at current rate): 21 years
Average number of children per woman: 6.0
Infant deaths per 1,000 live births: 68
Life expectancy: 48 (male), 50 (female)
Persons per square mile: 118
Percent urban: 43
Threatened animals: 26 species
Threatened plants: 32 species
Percent of land protected: 11.1
Wetlands loss, through 1980s: n.a.
Percent with access to safe water: 52
Percent with adequate sanitation: 58
Daily water use per capita: 146 gallons
Water use for domestic purposes: 5%
Water use for agriculture: 92%
Water use for industry: 3%
Cropland per capita: 0.8 acres
Energy use per capita: 0.8 barrels of oil equiv.
Persons per motor vehicle: 58
Percent of girls in secondary school: 11
Percent of boys in secondary school: 21
Women as % of national legislature: 12
Labor force in agriculture: 76%
Labor force in industry: 7%
Labor force in services: n.a.
GDP per capita, 1995: US\$586

Demographic and Health Trends

- Life expectancy for the Senegalese increased from 36 years at mid-century to nearly 50 years at the close of the century. This increase contributes to the country's population growth. Although Senegalese women are having fewer children (six on average, down from seven during most of the past 50 years), this fertility decrease is much too small to compensate for extended life expectancy.
- Senegal's high fertility produces a population with a very high proportion in the youngest ages, as shown in the pyramid. This age structure will perpetuate continued growth as these youth enter their childbearing years.
- One in five children in Senegal is moderately or severely underweight. Child deaths have declined 64 percent in Senegal since 1960 but remain 11 times higher than the U.S. rate.
- The rate of HIV infection (about 1.4 percent), though slowly increasing, remains one of the lowest in all of Africa. General AIDS awareness in Senegal is high, with 85 percent of men and 80 percent of women knowing at least one mode by which HIV is transmitted. The country boasts the most advanced AIDS laboratory in west Africa where, in collaboration with Harvard University, researchers discovered the HIV-II strain.

Natural Resources and Wildlife Issues

- In 1995 Senegal retained 28 square miles of forest; that is, land with 10 percent or higher tree crown cover. No large, ecologically intact, and relatively undisturbed natural forests remain in Senegal.
- Water availability per capita was virtually equal for the United States and Senegal in 1950. Per capita availability in Senegal today is one-half that of the United States overall.
- Fifty-seven percent of Senegal's energy comes from traditional fuels such as fuelwood, charcoal, and animal and vegetable waste. Per capita use of commercial forms of energy in Senegal is 1.6 percent of per capita use in the United States.
- The red-fronted gazelle, lion, African elephant, chimpanzee, marbled teal, and lesser kestrel are threatened in Senegal.

Socioeconomic Factors

- In sub-Saharan Africa as a whole, 57 percent of adults are literate. However, one-third of adults in Senegal are literate—43 percent of men and 23 percent of women. Both rates have increased by 12 percent since 1980.
- Agriculture's contribution to gross domestic product has remained virtually the same since 1980 at 20 percent, and industry's share has declined from 25 percent to 18 percent. Tourism has become a more important sector of the economy in the past two decades and is now a major source of foreign exchange.

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and fish caught in rivers and decreasing productivity for floodable grazing areas, especially on the Sénégal River. The building of anti-salt dams has helped alleviate the problem but has blocked fish migratory routes, affected seasonal water changes, and prevented the progression of soft water downstream in certain regions. In addition, in order to benefit from the huge fees that industrial fishing vessels pay, the government has been encouraging industrial fisherman from Asia, Canada, and Europe to fish in the country's waters.

Environmental issues in Georgia include wetland loss, air pollution, and the safe handling and recycling of nuclear products. Georgia's natural areas are at risk from residential development, pine plantations, and land-use conversion to agricultural farms. Unlike the situation in Senegal, fishing in Georgia is more of a recreational activity. It is the most popular wildlife-related activity in the state, enjoyed by more than 1.15 million anglers who spend some \$500 million yearly and who generate an estimated 14,700 jobs, having a total economic impact of more than \$900 million. The state's streams and impoundments are threatened, however, by increasing levels of sedimentation from land development

and pollution from agricultural runoff, as well as storm drainage from residential areas and commercial shopping areas.

Responding to Challenges

In Georgia, efforts are being made at many levels to improve the environment. The Environmental Protection Agency is working with state representatives to inventory greenhouse gas emissions and to develop reasonable strategies for reducing emission levels. At the community level, the Energy Star program helps consumers recognize energy efficient food products and houses through labeling and advertising. Some companies participate in a federal program called Pollution Prevention Partners, which rewards continuous pollution prevention performance and environmental improvement. At the community level, the Altamaha River Bioserve works closely with landowners and local citizens to promote various conservation opportunities.

In Senegal, the U.S. Agency for International Development is working through a university consortium to collaborate with 50 of Senegal's 320 *communautés rurales*—administrative units corresponding roughly to a county—to improve natural resources

People in Georgia and Senegal, along with all other living creatures, need clean and healthy air, water, and land, and a stable climate. But as people strive to meet these fundamental needs and improve their lives, they make demands on Earth's resources—and leave footprints. No species demands as much and leaves as many footprints as humans do. The number of people on the planet has a direct impact on the environment and how resources are used. But the level of consumption and the ways in which natural resources are used also directly affect the health of the planet—locally, regionally, globally.

No matter where one lives, the activities of *all* humans will ultimately determine the well-being of *all* humans.

management and local governance. In these efforts it is working with Africare, a U.S.-based nongovernmental organization, to establish enterprise-based community cooperatives headed primarily by women. This program works with some of the 163 U.S. Peace Corps volunteers who serve in rural areas. ■

DEFINITIONS: **Doubling Time:** The number of years it will take for a population to double, assuming a *constant* rate of natural increase. **Average Number of Children Per Woman:** Known as the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) or the average number of children a woman would have in her lifetime, assuming that birth rates remained constant throughout her childbearing years. **Endangered Species:** Any species in danger of extinction throughout all, or a significant portion of its habitat. **Threatened Species:** Any species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all, or a significant portion of its habitat. **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** The value of all goods and services produced within a nation in a given year. **Gross State Product (GSP):** The value of all goods and services produced within a state. It is the state counterpart of the nation's GDP.

SOURCES: Major sources are International Labour Organization; National Center for Health Statistics; UNICEF; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Department of Agriculture; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Geological Survey; The World Conservation Union (IUCN); and World Resources Institute. For a complete list of sources, contact PRB.

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FACT SHEETS PRODUCED BY:

PRB Population Reference Bureau, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20009; Phone: 202-483-1100; Fax: 202-328-3937; Website: <http://www.prb.org>

National Audubon Society, Population and Habitat Campaign; Phone: 303-442-2600; Web site: <http://www.earthnet.net/~popnet>

Population Coalition of local Leagues of Women Voters, Phone: 909-625-5717; Website: <http://www.popco.org>