

Georgia Council for International Visitors

Connecting Georgians to the World Since 1962

GCIV fosters professional, cultural and educational experiences that connect Georgia citizens and international leaders to cultivate positive global change. Our vision is to be the Georgia organization that allows every citizen the opportunity to be more globally engaged through people to people connections. Founded in 1962, GCIV is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that implements professional international exchange programs across Georgia, including the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed professional visits to the U.S. for current and emerging foreign leaders. U.S. ambassadors consistently rank the IVLP as the most effective in a long list of public diplomacy tools.

2022 International Visitor Programs



FY 2022 IVLP Totals
33 programs | 262 visitors

FY 2022 Fee-for-Service Totals
1 program | 21 visitors

590+ IVLP participants have gone on to serve as heads of state or government.

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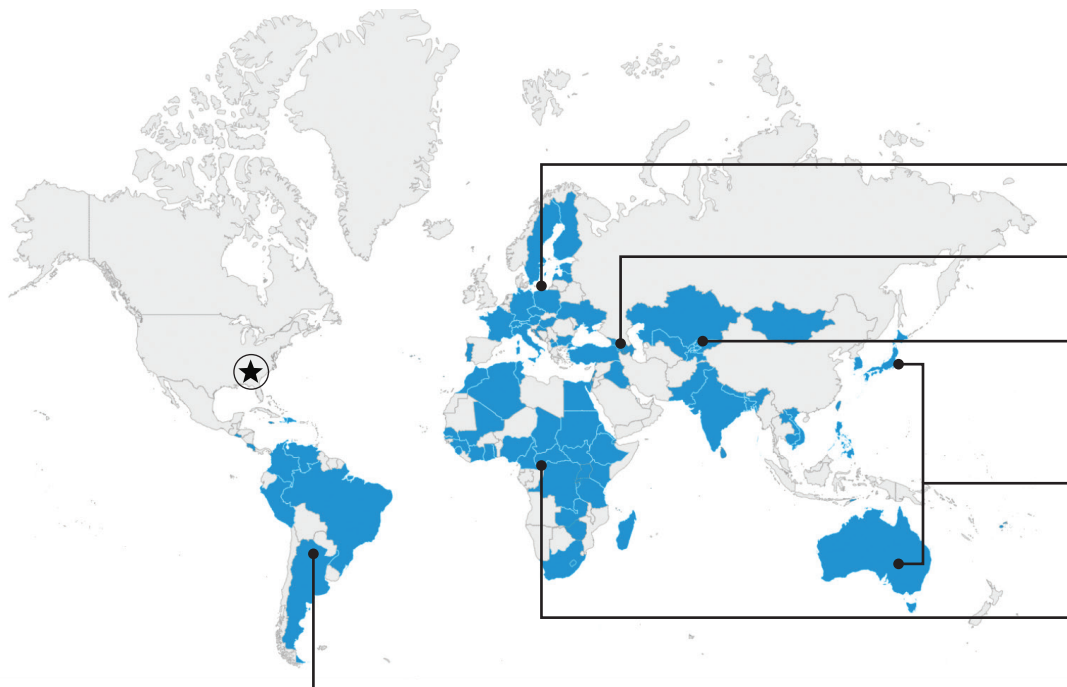
John Woodward, Metro Atlanta Chamber

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GCIV hosted **283**
international visitors
primarily in-person
from **90 countries and**
territories to the state
of Georgia in fiscal
year 2022.



| Country | Number of Virtual Visitors | Number of In-Person Visitors |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Algeria | | 2 |
| Argentina | | 18 |
| Armenia | | 5 |
| Australia | | 1 |
| Austria | | 3 |
| Azerbaijan | | 5 |
| Bahrain | | 5 |
| Bangladesh | | 1 |
| Brazil | | 20 |
| Bulgaria | | 1 |
| Burundi | 1 | |
| Cambodia | | 1 |
| Cameroon | 1 | 3 |
| Central African Republic | | 1 |
| Chad | 2 | 1 |
| Colombia | | 2 |
| Comoros | | 1 |
| Costa Rica | | 1 |
| Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) | 1 | 3 |
| Croatia | | 1 |
| Czech Republic | | 2 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | | 1 |
| Djibouti | 1 | 1 |
| Dominican Republic | | 1 |
| Egypt | | 2 |
| El Salvador | | 1 |
| Eritrea | 1 | |
| Estonia | | 1 |

| Country | Number of Virtual Visitors | Number of In-Person Visitors |
|------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ethiopia | | 1 |
| Fiji | | 1 |
| Finland | | 1 |
| France | | 1 |
| Gambia | | 1 |
| Georgia | | 1 |
| Germany | | 2 |
| Ghana | | 1 |
| Guinea | 1 | 2 |
| Haiti | | 1 |
| Hungary | | 5 |
| India | | 9 |
| Iraq | | 18 |
| Israel | | 6 |
| Italy | | 1 |
| Jamaica | | 2 |
| Japan | 1 | |
| Kazakhstan | | 1 |
| Kenya | | 1 |
| Kosovo | | 7 |
| Kyrgyzstan | | 4 |
| Laos | | 1 |
| Latvia | | 1 |
| Lebanon | | 1 |
| Lesotho | | 1 |
| Madagascar | 2 | 1 |
| Mali | | 1 |
| Mongolia | | 1 |
| Morocco | | 3 |
| Nepal | | 2 |
| Nigeria | | 2 |

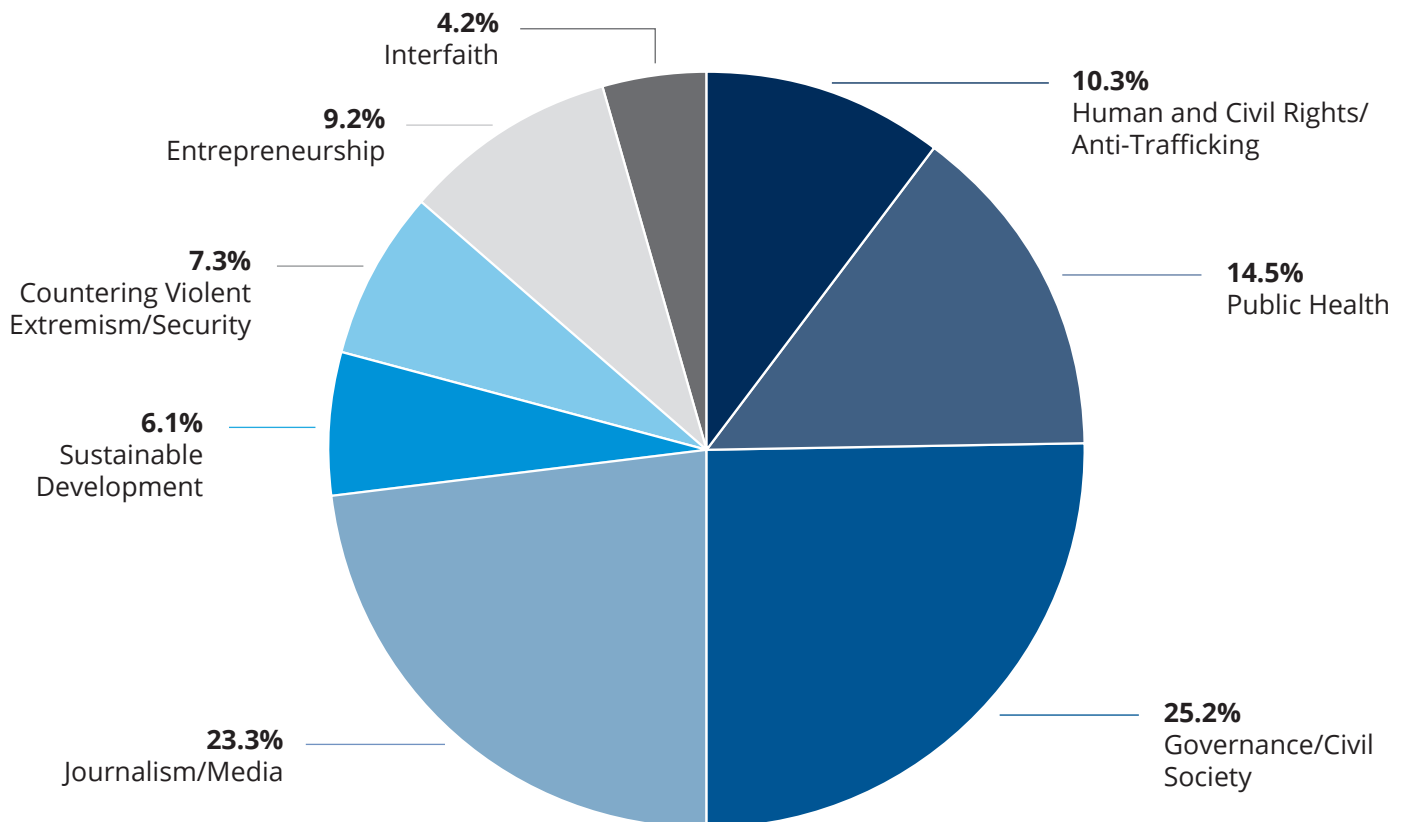
| Country | Number of Virtual Visitors | Number of In-Person Visitors |
|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| North Macedonia | | 1 |
| Pakistan | | 15 |
| Peru | | 2 |
| Philippines | | 1 |
| Poland | | 8 |
| Portugal | 3 | |
| Rwanda | | 2 |
| Senegal | 2 | |
| Seychelles | | 1 |
| Sierra Leone | | 1 |
| South Africa | | 2 |
| South Korea | | 2 |
| South Sudan | 1 | 1 |
| Sri Lanka | | 8 |
| Sudan | | 1 |
| Sweden | | 1 |
| Switzerland | | 4 |
| Taiwan | | 5 |
| Tajikistan | | 1 |
| Tanzania | | 1 |
| Timor-Leste | | 1 |
| Togo | 1 | 1 |
| Tunisia | | 5 |
| Turkey | | 1 |
| Uganda | | 1 |
| Ukraine | | 4 |
| Uzbekistan | | 4 |
| Venezuela | | 1 |
| Vietnam | | 1 |
| Zambia | 1 | 1 |
| Zimbabwe | 1 | 1 |

International Visitors by World Region

| | |
|----|---|
| 53 | Europe |
| 38 | Near East (Middle East & Northern Africa) |
| 45 | South & Central Asia |
| 15 | East Asia & Pacific |
| 62 | Africa |
| 49 | Western Hemisphere |



2022 IVLP Visitors by Professional Focus



FY 2022 Exchange Programs



January 26

[Japan](#)

Nuclear Power

February 25

[Portugal](#)

Revisiting Secure Insect Research Facilities

March 12-16

[Pakistan](#)

Expanding the Democratic Space for Media Freedom

March 21-26

[Poland](#)

Best Practices in Improving Air Quality

March 24

[Africa](#)

Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists: 21st Century Approaches to Print and Radio Journalism

May 4

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

Smart Ports

May 26 - June 1

[Azerbaijan](#)

Developing Social Entrepreneurship

June 7-11

[Brazil](#)

Dismantling Racial and Social Injustice

June 11-15

[Argentina](#)

Political, Social, Economic Issues in the United States

June 14-18

[Regional Europe Program](#)

21st Century Changemakers: Disinformation and Election Security

June 15-20

[Regional Program](#)

Combating Infectious Disease

June 18 - July 2

[Kosovo](#)

Improving the Probation System and Rule of Law

June 22-25

[Brazil](#)

Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Journalism

June 28 - July 2

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

21st Century Changemakers: Engaging Youth in the Battle Against Disinformation

July 9-13

[Bahrain](#)

U.S. Social Media Engagement

July 11-16

[Sri Lanka](#)

Media in a Democracy

July 12-16

[India](#)

Combating Trafficking in Persons

July 14-16

[Regional Europe Program](#)

Deterrence Today, Disarmament Tomorrow

July 14-20

[Regional Middle East Program](#)

Disability Rights - Equal Access for All

July 17-24

[Taiwan](#)

Global Health Challenges and Security

July 26-30

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

Women and Entrepreneurship

July 27-30

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

Combating Infectious Disease

August 10-13

[Iraq](#)

Countering Terrorism Through the Criminal Justice System

August 13-18

[Armenia](#)

Responses to Refugees and Migration Issues

August 31 - September 5

[Uzbekistan](#)

Antimicrobial Resistance - A Global Health Crisis

September 14-18

[Israel](#)

U.S. Local and State Government

October 18-21

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program

November 1-5

[Iraq](#)

Young Leaders: Building a Responsive Democratic Government

November 4-10

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists: Media Responsibility in an Age of Disinformation for the Indo-Pacific

November 12-16

[Ukraine](#)

Advocacy of Democratic Principles

November 19-26

[Kyrgyzstan](#)

Investigating and Prosecuting Human Rights Violations

November 25-26

[Regional Europe Program](#)

Interfaith Dialogue and Religious Freedom Issues

November 29 - December 3

[Hungary](#)

Local Government Management

December 9-14

[Pakistan and India](#)

Youth and Civic Engagement - Youth Activism

95 professional exchange meetings

120 volunteer professional resources

17 volunteer dinner hospitality experiences



Professional meetings involve the sharing of best practices between emerging leaders from around the world and their counterparts in the state of Georgia.

Dinner hospitality gives international exchange participants the opportunity to share a meal in an American home, meet everyday citizens and learn about the culture of the United States. Virtual home hospitality is similar to a casual coffee chat and an amazing way to learn about the world. In-person and virtual hosts can be as creative as they want, but the international visitors seek to get to know hosts to acquire a better understanding of the culture of the United States. International visitors frequently rate dinner or home hospitality as the experience that most clearly demonstrated true America as well as the highlight of their exchange program.

Community Programs

Great Decisions

GCIV serves as the statewide coordinator for the Foreign Policy Association (FPA)'s Great Decisions program. In this role, GCIV helps coordinate discussion groups and lecture series that give participants the opportunity to expand their understanding of world affairs. Topics change annually and are based on the FPA's non-partisan briefing book. 2022 included a bonus ninth topic. Nearly 200 people participated in the virtual 2022 Dunwoody Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lecture Series with speakers coordinated by the Atlanta Global Studies Center.

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| Topic | Speaker |
|---|---|
| Russia and the U.S. | Dr. Adam Stulberg, Georgia Institute of Technology |
| Outer Space | Dr. Mariel Borowitz, Georgia Institute of Technology |
| Climate Change | Dr. Jairo Garcia, Georgia Institute of Technology |
| Demographic Change, Family Change, and National Competitiveness: The Case of China | Dr. Ashton Verdery |
| Myanmar's Never-ending Crisis | Dr. Jangai Jap, University of Georgia |
| The Quad Alliance | Dr. Bibek Chand, University of North Georgia |
| Industrial Policy | Dr. John McIntyre, Georgia Institute of Technology |
| Drug Policy in Latin America | Dr. Alex Berg |
| Biden's Agenda | Joseph Bankoff, Georgia Institute of Technology |

International Women Associates (IWA)

Formed in 1978, IWA brings together 100+ women from countries around the world and North Americans who have lived abroad or have interest in international affairs to build friendships and cultural enrichment. Monthly cultural and educational programs enhance the personal and professional growth of IWA members. Previously, meetings were often held in personal homes. IWA presently meets September to May at outdoor restaurants or patios.

IWA brings together 100+ women from countries around the world and Atlantans who lived abroad or have an interest in international affairs.

International Consular Ball

Atlanta's international community gathered in-person once again for the 39th International Consular Ball on Saturday, September 17, 2022 at Flourish Atlanta.

GCIV's largest single fundraising event for the year, the annual gala is the premier diplomatic event in Atlanta honoring the 70+ members of Georgia Consular Corps for their role in promoting international ties in business, education, science and culture. Residing in Georgia, the Consular Corps, which include both career and honoraries, represent foreign governments across the southeastern U.S.

The 39th Annual Consular Ball (originally scheduled for 2020) was chaired by Vanessa Ibarra, Executive Director, Mayor's Office of International and Immigrant Affairs, City of Atlanta and themed Lights, Camera, Action: Atlanta Showtime!

The 61st Mayor of the City of Atlanta, Andre Dickens, and the Dean of the Georgia Consular Corps and Consul General of Mexico in Atlanta, Javier Díaz de León, both gave remarks in addition to welcome remarks by Ambassador Charles Rivkin, who previously served as Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and now heads the Motion Picture Association and a keynote by Frank Patterson, President & CEO of Trilith Studios, the Georgia-based home of the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

Emceed by Emmy Award-winning news anchor/reporter at WSB-TV Channel 2 Jorge Estevez, the evening featured exciting live performances by Ojeda Penn Jazz Trio, Atlanta Drum Academy, Atlanta Irish Dance, Melissa Youngblood, Dance Canvas and Lunar Krew (K-POP dance group) followed by an open dance floor with tunes provided by DJ Salah Ananse.

The 39th Annual Consular Ball silent auction was a tremendous success. Proceeds from the Consular Ball enable the continuation and expansion of GCIV's vital work to bring the world to Georgia through international exchange programs and honor the Georgia Consular Corps for their role in building and promoting international ties. All of these efforts contribute to a more peaceful and prosperous world.



Georgia Represented at Expo 2020 Dubai

GCIV supported its nationwide network, Global Ties U.S., in promoting two opportunities for Georgia citizens to apply to be part of the USA Pavilion at the six-month long Expo 2020 Dubai which ended March 31, 2022. This was the first World Expo held in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region.

Four of the 75 selected Youth Ambassadors from amongst nearly 700 applicants around the U.S. were from Georgia. The Youth Ambassadors between the ages of 18-29 selected by the U.S. Department of State hailed from 37 states, represented 78 U.S. universities and colleges, including the Georgia Institute of Technology, Spelman College and the University of Georgia, and spoke 24 languages.

In addition, The Tap Rebels from Georgia were one of the 275+ cultural performers from across the country who showcased their talent.

Exchange program alumni include:

120

Pulitzer Prize
Winners

85

Nobel Prize
Winners

64

Representatives
to the United
Nations

*Alumni of Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) programs.

International Visitor Leadership Program Highlights



Conservationist Farwiza Farhan featured on the cover of TIME 100 Next magazine for her effort to protect, conserve and restore the Leuser Ecosystem in Sumatra, Indonesia visited Georgia in 2014 on an International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) focused on Advancing Civic Engagement and

Leadership. The IVLP truly connects Georgians to the next generation of global leaders and changemakers.

The design of the University of Lisbon's VIASEF (In Vivo Arthropod Security Facility) drew from best practices learned during the faculty participation in a 2017 International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) tour which included Atlanta, Georgia. The Portuguese visitors toured the Georgia-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and met with representatives during their 2017 international exchange, and then virtually debuted the research center to CDC representatives in 2022. Another excellent example of how international exchanges create building blocks and bridges for further collaboration.

gciv
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