Georgia Posts Strong Payroll Growth in August

Nonfarm employers added 20,800 jobs in August, and payrolls are now 1.9% higher over the past year. The unemployment rate held steady at 3.6%, down from 3.9% five months ago.

**Strongest Monthly Job Gain Since October 2017**
- Professional & business services added 5,300 jobs, with the bulk of the gain in administrative services, which added 4,500 jobs. Education & health and leisure & hospitality added 3,500 and 4,000 jobs, respectively. The service sector remains strong.
- Industries more exposed to slowing global trade underperformed. Manufacturing shed 300 jobs and transportation, warehousing & utilities lost 900 jobs.

**Broad-Based Growth**
- Thirteen of Georgia’s 14 metro areas added jobs in August on a seasonally adjusted basis, with Savannah the lone exception. Atlanta added 5,200 jobs, and has accounted for 60% of all the jobs created in Georgia over the past year.
- Employment growth outpaced labor force growth in August, but the unemployment rate held at 3.6%. The Atlanta rate fell to 3.5%, while Augusta and Savannah’s rates fell to 4.0% and 3.4%.

Georgia vs. U.S. Unemployment Rate
Seasonally Adjusted

Unemployment Rate: Aug @ 3.6%
United States: Aug @ 3.7%

Georgia Nonfarm Employment
3-Month Moving Averages

Nonfarm: Yr/Yr Pct. Change: Aug @ 1.7%
United States: Aug @ 1.4%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor and Wells Fargo Securities