Economic Recovery + Resilience Strategic Plan SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

BACKGROUND

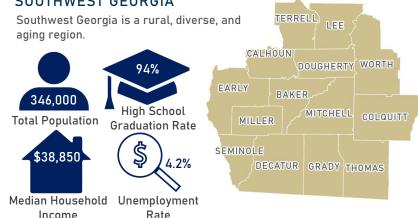
Southwest Georgia is a 14-county region with a rich history, a strong sense of community, and a diverse agricultural base. The region has faced various challenges, including being hit by Hurricanes Irma and Michael, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Damages from Hurricane Michael were catastrophic with over \$84 million in infrastructure and housing damages reported to FEMA. Hurricane Michael also had devastating impacts on the region's agriculture industry, a cornerstone of the state's economy. Using CARES Act funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), Georgia Tech's Center for Economic Development Research produced an Economic Recovery + Resilience Strategic Plan to catalyze economic recovery and growth for the Southwest Georgia region.

ECONOMIC RESILIENCY PLANNING

Southwest Georgia Economic Recovery +

- 1. **Community Profile**
- 2. Stakeholder Interviews
- 3. **Target Industry Sector Analysis**
- 4. Historic Impact of Manufacturing
- 5. Economic Resilience Strategy
- **Downtown Development Tools** 6.
- 7. Natural Disaster Risk and Best Practices

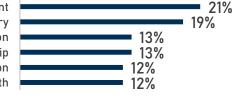
SOUTHWEST GEORGIA



OPPORTUNITIES

60 internal stakeholders ranked the most important opportunities for SWGA in the future.

Infrastructure & Development Building on Existing Industry Industry Attraction Leadership Education General Growth



FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Georgia Tech developed a fiveyear strategic plan consisting of 75 policy action items organized under six goal areas.



TOP FIVE EMPLOYERS BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

INDUSTRY SECTOR	2020 JOBS
GOVERNMENT	32,460
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	16,804
RETAIL TRADE	15,969
MANUFACTURING	15,250

TARGET INDUSTRIES

SWURC

Southwest Georgia Regional Commissio

PLANNING



For any questions or inquiries please contact:

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Housing

Improvements

Leiah Hopkins Georgia Tech Center for Economic Development Research www.cedr.gatech.edu

Health and

Community

Services



Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute Center for Economic **Development Research**