



2018 Logistics Services Report

Logistics central to creating wealth in Gainesville-Hall County MSA

Gainesville-Hall County, Georgia – August 24, 2018: The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Georgia Center of Innovation for Logistics, has released an updated study of the growing Logistics Services Industry for the Gainesville-Hall County Metropolitan Area. The report underscores the impact of **4,800 direct jobs supported by 80 logistics service businesses**. The Chamber conducted a similar report in 2015, and the current study highlights a growth in the number of logistics service firms from 65 to 80 with a significant increase in employment from some 1,900 employees in 2015 to just over 4,800 in 2018.

“Gainesville-Hall County has developed into a growth center for expertise in freight brokerage, third-party-logistics (3PL), cold-chain logistics and transportation services for freight,” reports Tim Evans, Vice President of Economic Development for the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce. Many firms noted in the Chamber’s study have expanded in recent years, including Lanier Cold Storage, Mansfield Oil, Performance Foodservice, XPO Logistics, Syfan Logistics, Eskimo, Simpson Trucking & Grading, Tribe Transportation and Hollis Transport. One firm, Adams Transfer & Storage, recently celebrated a milestone of 115 years of business in Gainesville-Hall County.

The recent employment growth at logistics service providers in Gainesville-Hall County underscores the increasing need for specialized workforce development programs for logistics. Nationally, there is an acute shortage of commercial truck drivers as a result of industry growth, retirements and the new scheduling requirements of Electronic Logging Devices. On October 19, 2018, Lanier Technical College will dedicate its new Hall County, Georgia campus that includes a new commercial truck driving program and course. The new campus will offer training and specialized skills needed by logistics service providers and other businesses.

Dr. Ray Perren, President of Lanier Technical College stated, “The new home for Lanier Technical College in Hall County will allow us to offer a commercial truck driving program on campus for the first time and a new diesel technology program designed to support the logistics industry. The new facility will also allow us to expand on successful programs in material handling and ammonia refrigeration technologies used in cold-chain logistics.”

Evans noted, “Gainesville-Hall County is known for creating new wealth through manufacturing, and the I-85 corridor is a growing center for large distribution and e-fulfillment facilities. Logistics is an integral part of the value chain for manufacturing and distribution. Our logistics service providers have built a reputation of moving inventory and products very efficiently.”

Logistics service providers in Gainesville-Hall County have a strong concentration of logistic service consumers in the region’s manufacturing and distribution sectors. And, Georgia’s importance in trade

routes and the international transportation network allows local logistics service providers to compete on a global scale. In the July 2018 issue of *Inbound Logistics*, the magazine named Gainesville-Hall County-based Syfan Logistics a “Top 100 3PL” in the Nation for the fifth year in a row.

Tatsumi Intermodal of Japan operates its North American third party and export logistics business from Gainesville-Hall County. Arrik Williams, Business Expansion Manager of Tatsumi said, “Tatsumi has had four major expansions since we located our North American business in Gainesville-Hall County in 2001. Recently, we completed a new 112,000 square foot facility expansion that provides us another 200,000 square feet of future business growth. The business relationships and logistics innovations developed in Georgia have helped us provide better customer service and grow the business.”

“Georgia is central to supply chain strategies as the hub of the Southeast US and gateway to North America,” said Matt Markham, Director for the Center of Innovation for Logistics. “Long term infrastructure investments in our airports, road, rail and ocean terminals connect Georgia’s logistics ecosystem to key trade routes and increase delivery reliability for Georgia businesses.”

A 2018 Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce survey of 54 Hall County businesses found 63% of respondents regularly import or export cargo, with some manufacturers importing as many as 100 cargo containers per month. Hall County is also a major exporter of finished goods from agricultural equipment, transportation equipment and poultry products with some individual businesses exporting more than 1,000 cargo containers per month. Currently, cargo is moved by truck 250 miles or more to and from regional container port facilities, including the Port of Savannah. Recent infrastructure investments in the Georgia Ports Authority’s Mason Mega Rail Terminal at the Port of Savannah are making it possible to move more cargo by rail to and from inland port terminals like the new Appalachian Regional Port in Murray County, Georgia.

The overwhelming majority of Gainesville-Hall County’s logistics service firms and their employment are located along the corridor of I-985 and the Norfolk Southern Rail Line, or along the CSX Gainesville Midland route. Earlier this year, the Gainesville-Hall County MPO released a regional freight study with stakeholder input from businesses and logistics service providers, and concluded with recommendations for short and long-term improvements in regional freight transportation infrastructure.

Many of Hall County’s logistics service providers will participate in upcoming industry events, like the upcoming Greater Hall Chamber’s 2018 Fall Job Fair & Career Expo at the Gainesville Civic Center on October 13 and the 2018 Industry Appreciation Luncheon on November 13 at the Chattahoochee Country Club. The 2019 Annual Transportation Forum will be held March 7, 2019 at the University of North Georgia Gainesville Campus.

Link here for the complete list of [2018 Greater Hall Chamber Logistics Service Providers](#)

Link here for the [2018 Map of Logistics Service Providers by Employment](#)

Link here for information the [Greater Hall Chamber Job Fair & Career Expo](#)

Link here for the [Greater Hall Chamber Industry Appreciation Luncheon reservations](#)

Link here for the [2018 Regional Freight Study](#)

Link here for information on [Tatsumi Intermodal](#)

About the Gainesville-Hall County Economic Development Council

The Gainesville-Hall County Economic Development Council is a public-private partnership of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce, Hall County and the Cities of Gainesville, Flowery Branch, Lula and Oakwood. The Economic Development Council provides one-stop marketing and economic development services to support the community's efforts in existing industry retention, workforce development, small business development, business recruitment and retail development.

www.greaterhallchamber.com

About the Georgia Center of Innovation for Logistics

The Center of Innovation for Logistics is the leading statewide resource for fueling logistics industry growth and global competitiveness. The Center provides the technical industry expertise, collaborative research, and partnerships needed to help the industry connect, compete and grow globally.

www.georgialogistics.com



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