



GWINNETT COUNTY  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

75 Langley Drive | Lawrenceville, GA 30046-6935  
(O) 770.822.7000 | (F) 770.822.7097  
www.gwinnettcounty.com

Charlotte J. Nash, Chairman  
Jace W. Brooks, District 1  
Ben Ku, District 2  
Tommy Hunter, District 3  
Marlene M. Fosque, District 4

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**Official**  
**Gwinnett Legislative Delegation**  
**Annual Pre-Session Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, December 3, 2020 – 7:30 AM

**Present:** Charlotte J. Nash, Marlene M. Fosque

**Via teleconference:** Jace Brooks, Ben Ku

**Absent:** Tommy Hunter

Representatives from Gwinnett County Public Schools, Gwinnett County Government, Georgia Gwinnett College, Gwinnett Technical College, View Point Health, and the Gwinnett County Health Department made presentations to the Gwinnett Legislative Delegation on their services and future needs. No official action taken.



Gwinnett  
Legislative Delegation  
**Annual Pre-Session Meeting**  
*for the 2021 General Assembly*

Gwinnett Legislative Delegation  
**Annual Pre-Session Meeting**  
Thursday, December 3, 2020

Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center – Auditorium  
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, Georgia



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## Agenda

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 7:30am            | Breakfast begins   |
| 8:05am – 8:15am   | Welcome<br><i>Opening Remarks: Charlotte J. Nash, Chairman – Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners</i>  |
| 8:15am – 8:55am   | Gwinnett County Public Schools<br><i>Speaker: J. Alvin Wilbanks, Superintendent</i>  |
| 8:55am – 9:35am   | Gwinnett County Government<br><i>Speakers: Charlotte J. Nash, Chairman<br/>Marlene M. Fosque, District 4 Commissioner and Vice Chair</i>                             |
| 9:35am – 9:50am   | Break  |
| 9:50am – 10:10am  | Georgia Gwinnett College<br><i>Speaker: Dr. Jann L. Joseph, President</i>  |
| 10:10am – 10:30am | Gwinnett Technical College<br><i>Speaker: Dr. D. Glen Cannon, President</i>  |
| 10:30am – 10:50am | View Point Health<br><i>Speaker: Jennifer Hibbard, CEO</i>   |
| 10:50am – 11:10am | Gwinnett County Health Department<br><i>Speaker: Dr. Audrey Arona, MD, CEO/District Health Director,<br/>Gwinnett, Newton and Rockdale County Health Departments</i> |
| 11:10am – 11:30am | Comments/Questions from Members of the Gwinnett Delegation   |
-

## GOVERNANCE/LOCAL CONTROL

Gwinnett County Public Schools opposes any legislation that usurps the authority of the Gwinnett County Board of Education to govern our public schools. It is through the local board's governance and control that a school system is able to meet the educational needs and expectations of the community.

Therefore, GCPS urges the General Assembly to protect and reaffirm the Constitutional authority of the duly elected Gwinnett County Board of Education to provide educational services at the local level through its system of public schools. To that end, legislators are asked to:

- Maintain local school board control over such things as instructional resources, local revenue sources, student discipline, curriculum, school-year calendar, etc.
- Sustain Title 20 flexibility for Strategic Waivers School Systems
- Maintain through FY2022 all waivers granted to local education agencies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as provided by State Board of Education rules.
- Support the implementation of innovative assessment options at the local, State, and/or federal levels
- Ensure sovereign immunity of local boards of education
- Allow local school systems operational control over social issues that impact school climate and instruction.

Questions regarding the 2021 Legislative Priorities may be directed to:

Jorge Gomez  
Executive Director for Administration and Policy  
678-301-6005, [Jorge.Gomez@gcpsk12.org](mailto:Jorge.Gomez@gcpsk12.org)

David McCleskey  
Governmental Liaison and Community Ombudsman  
678-301-6005, [David.McCleskey@gcpsk12.org](mailto:David.McCleskey@gcpsk12.org)

## VISION

Gwinnett County Public Schools will become a system of world-class schools where students acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and careers.

## MISSION

The mission of Gwinnett County Public Schools is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.

## STRATEGIC GOALS

Gwinnett County Public Schools will...

- Ensure a world-class education for all students by focusing on teaching and learning the Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum.
- Ensure a safe, secure, and orderly environment for all.
- Optimize student achievement through responsible stewardship of its financial resources and the proactive pursuit of all resources necessary to meet current and future demands.
- Recruit, employ, develop, and retain a workforce that achieves the mission and goals of the organization.
- Support instructional and operational needs with technological systems and processes that support effective performance and desired results.
- Provide and manage the system's facilities and operations in an exemplary manner as determined by programmatic needs and best management practices.
- Apply continuous quality improvement strategies and principles as the way the organization does business.



437 Old Peachtree Road, NW  
Suwanee, GA 30024  
678-301-6000  
[www.gcpsk12.org](http://www.gcpsk12.org)

# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## 2021

### GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Louise Radloff <i>2020 Chairman, District V</i>	Carole C. Boyce <i>2020 Vice Chairman, District I</i>
Steven B. Knudsen <i>District II</i>	Everton Blair, Jr. <i>District IV</i>
Dr. Mary Kay Murphy <i>District III</i>	J. Alvin Wilbanks <i>CEO/Superintendent</i>
Karen Watkins <i>District I (effective Jan. 2021)</i>	Dr. Tarece Johnson <i>District V (effective Jan. 2021)</i>

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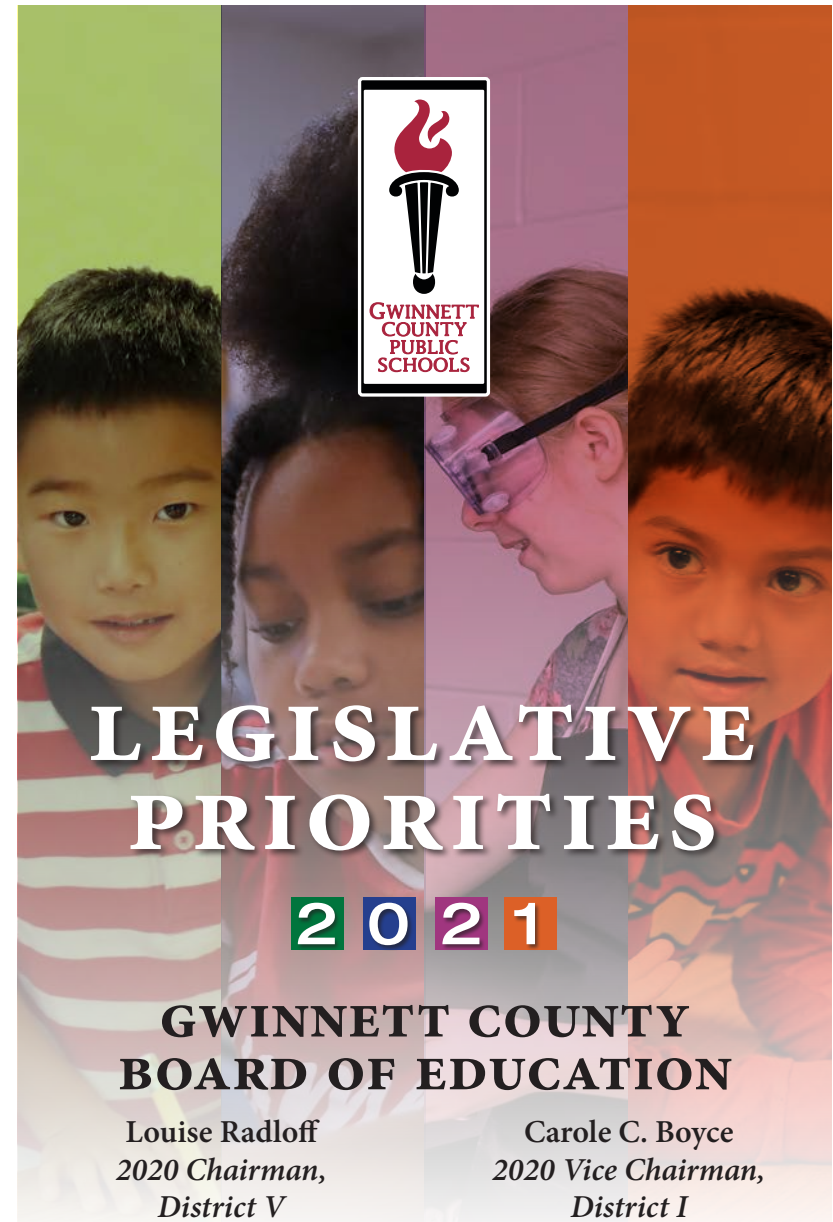
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# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2021

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The Gwinnett County Board of Education annually adopts Legislative Priorities that support the vision, mission, goals, and strategic direction of Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS). The **2021 Legislative Priorities** are organized into four categories. The Board asks the Gwinnett County Legislative Delegation to support the Legislative Priorities in the 2021 session of the Georgia General Assembly, and ensure that no legislation is introduced that would impede the Board’s ability to govern the school system.

## FUNDING

The Gwinnett County Board of Education will continue its responsible stewardship of funds provided to support teaching and learning. Any reduction in funding, through the loss of local and/or State dollars, jeopardizes our ability to provide students the quality and effective education our community demands and expects, and challenges us to maintain a sound financial position and our AAA bond ratings.

**State Funding Formula** — GCPS urges the General Assembly to:

- When amending the FY2021 budget at mid-term, hold school districts harmless in terms of formula funding if enrollment has declined as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- When amending the FY2021 budget and developing the FY2022 budget, provide funding to support the increased needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic (costs associated with virtual learning, PPE, student services, and personnel).
- For the FY2022 budget, fully fund the Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula and oppose any “amended formula adjustment” that would result in decreased funding for K-12 public education. In FY2021, the 10% amended formula adjustment meant a loss in state funding of \$100 million for Gwinnett County Public Schools.
- For the FY2022 budget, continue fully funding Equalization Grant under current formula (provides financial assistance to school systems ranking below the statewide average of per pupil tax wealth, O.C.G.A 20-2-165).

**Health Insurance** — GCPS supports a comprehensive review of the State’s health benefit plan and urges the General Assembly

to consider all possible solutions and cost-saving measures. For example, the State currently provides no funding for classified employees who elect health insurance coverage. This cost for GCPS will be \$65.3 million in FY2021.

**Early Learning** — Preparing children to enter school ready to learn is a critical need in Georgia. Evidence shows that the early learning need is even greater among economically disadvantaged students, and high-quality early learning programs can permanently change the trajectory of these students. Lottery funding supports Pre-K programs for a limited number of students, but more early learning opportunities are needed. GCPS urges the State to review the research on the impact of early learning programs, especially in economically disadvantaged communities, and provide the fiscal resources needed to implement effective programs and practices.

**Transportation** — GCPS urges the General Assembly to fund pupil transportation at a level that eliminates the gap between State-allotted funding and the actual costs to local districts. In FY2021 Gwinnett County Public Schools will receive \$5.8 million in State transportation funding through the current formula. The district’s budget will be \$93 million, meaning the State will contribute only 6.24% toward GCPS’ transportation costs.

**Retirement** — GCPS urges the General Assembly to sustain the current Teachers Retirement System of Georgia, recognizing that it is a compelling incentive for recruiting and retaining quality educators.

## FISCAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

GCPS urges the General Assembly to sustain the improvements made in these areas:

- Support continued funding for the Governor’s School Leadership Academy
- Support the recruitment and retention of mathematics and science teachers by maintaining the funding for endorsement supplements for teachers in these critical-need areas
- Provide funding to hire and train school counselors and social workers so students will have greater access to services that address academic preparation, college and post-secondary planning, career readiness, and social-emotional support
- Support the recommendations of the “Vision for Public Education in Georgia” project
- Expand funding for APEX school mental health services.

## CONTINUING POSITIONS

GCPS urges the Legislature to support the following long-standing positions of the Gwinnett County Board of Education:

- Encourage legislation that promotes a safe and secure learning environment through a focus on facilities, staffing, students, parents, and technology as means to maximize school safety
- Resist efforts to provide contracts for classified employees
- Protect public education funding by opposing vouchers and/or tuition tax credits
- Require impact statements for any new legislation before enactment.

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# SHORTFALLS IN STATE FUNDING K-12

The QBE formula does not fully fund many mandates.

## 1. Transportation:

Requests	Year	GCPS' Total Cost	State Funds	GCPS' Funds	State %	Local %
Transportation (State-mandated serv. only, est.)	2021	\$92,914,000	\$5,798,000	\$87,116,000	6.24%	93.76%
	2020	\$88,322,000	\$5,695,000	\$82,627,000	6.45%	93.55%
	2019	\$88,091,000	\$5,668,000	\$82,423,000	6.43%	93.57%

## 2. Safe and secure learning environment: No funding through QBE formula

Requests	Year	GCPS' Total Cost	State Funds	GCPS' Funds	State %	Local %
Safety and Security Dept.	2021	\$10,553,000		\$10,553,000		100.00%
	2020	\$10,118,000	\$0	\$10,118,000	0%	100.00%
	2019	\$9,533,000		\$9,533,000		100.00%

- FY2019 initial state appropriations provided \$16 mil. in bond funding for school safety improvements— of which GCPS will receive \$1.2 mil.
- FY2019 amended state budget included \$69 mil. for School Safety Grants— in which GCPS allocation was \$4.1 mil.

## 3. Health Insurance: The QBE formula does not provide any funding for the classified employees who elect health insurance coverage (only provides funding for the certificated employees, who elect coverage).

Requests	Year	GCPS' Total Cost	State Funds	GCPS' Funds	State %	Local %
Health Insurance (classified employees)	2021	\$65,375,000		\$65,375,000		100.00%
	2020	\$72,735,000	\$0	\$72,735,000	0%	100.00%
	2019	\$66,465,000		\$66,465,000		100.00%

## 4. Maintenance and Operations: The QBE formula provides funding of \$298 per FTE

Requests	Year	GCPS' Total Cost	State Funds	GCPS' Funds	State %	Local %
Maintenance and Operations	2021	\$132,797,000	\$55,698,000	\$77,099,000	41.94%	58.06%
	2020	\$129,914,000	\$55,754,000	\$74,160,000	42.92%	57.08%
	2019	\$122,532,000	\$55,253,000	\$67,279,000	45.09%	54.91%

## 5. Sick and personal Leave: The QBE formula provides funding of \$150 per teacher

Requests	Year	GCPS' Total Cost	State Funds	GCPS' Funds	State %	Local %
Sick and Personal Leave	2021	\$11,866,000	\$1,949,000	\$9,917,000	16.43%	83.57%
	2020	\$9,013,000	\$1,949,000	\$7,064,000	21.62%	78.38%
	2019	\$11,757,000	\$1,911,000	\$9,846,000	16.25%	83.75%

Prior year figures are based on actual costs. Current year figures reflect FY2021 budget projections.





Gwinnett  
Legislative Delegation  
**Annual Pre-Session Meeting**  
*for the 2021 General Assembly*

# Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)

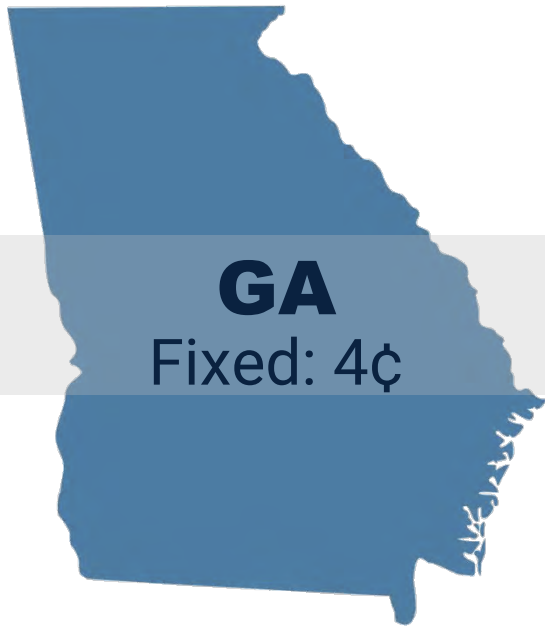


Gwinnett



# 6¢ Sales Tax

## Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax



# Transportation

- Citizens Project Selection Committee
- Allocate funding among the project categories
- Develop and apply criteria needed to select projects
- Prioritize projects
- Provide findings and decisions to the Board of Commissioners as a formal recommendation for action
- Communicate with constituent groups throughout the process

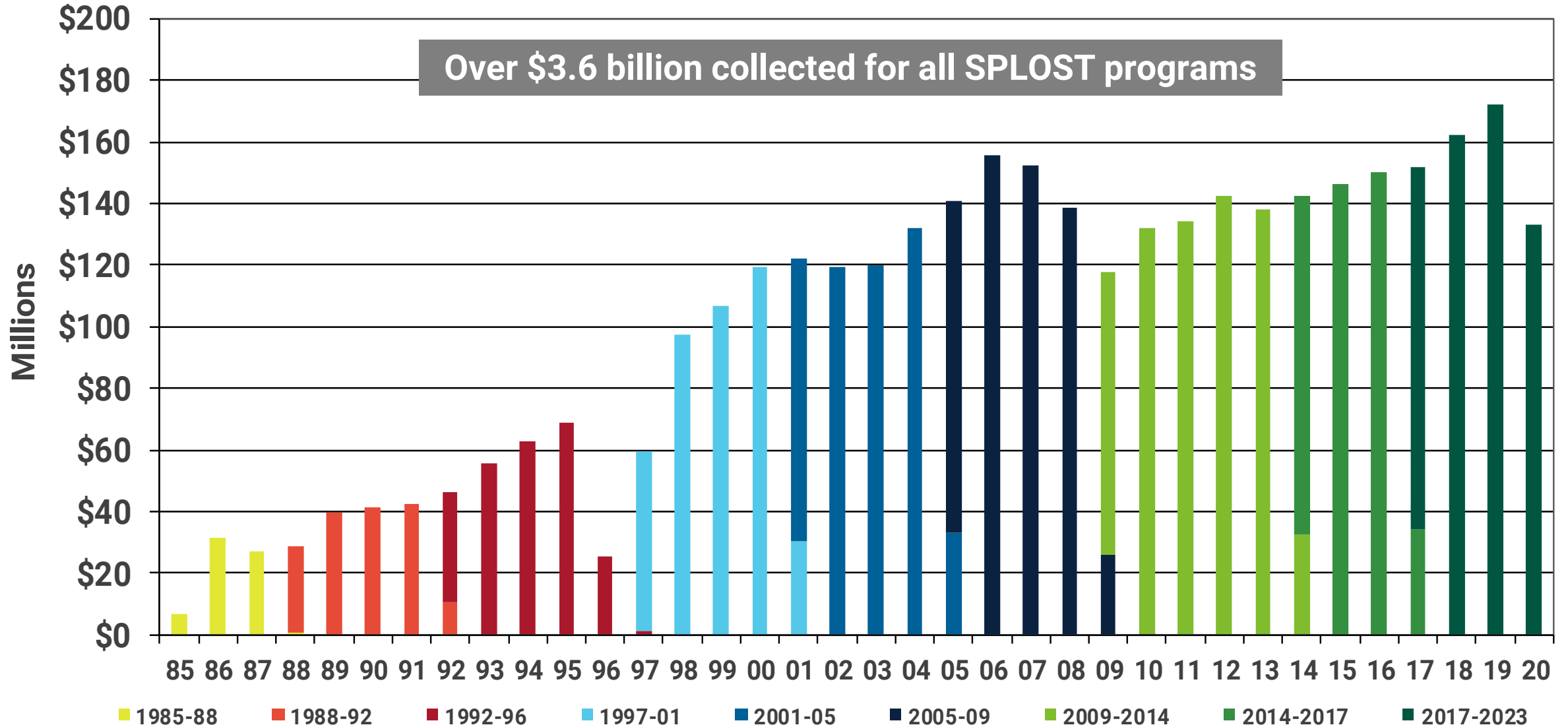
# Recreational Facilities & Equipment

- Community input meetings are held throughout the County
- Citizens are provided the opportunity to provide written and verbal recommendations
- The Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Master Plan serves as the County's guide for park development
- Currently, Parks & Recreation is in the process of updating Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)
- The Gwinnett County Recreation Authority serves as the citizens-steering committee for the CIP Update
- The Recreation Authority submits their recommendations to the Board of Commissioners

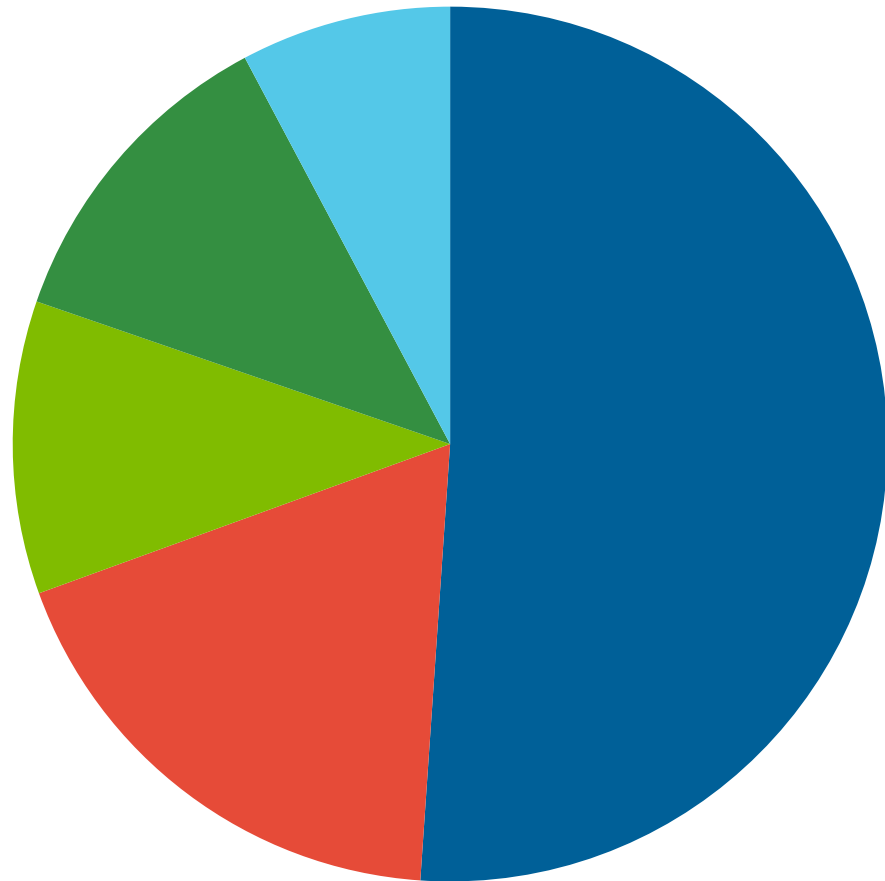
# Citizen Review Committee

- Established with 2005 SPLOST
- Citizen Review Committee
- Joint Technical Committee
- Annual Meeting
- Review Annual Audit

# SPLOST Collections



# SPLOST Program Allocations



■ Roads, Streets, and Bridges - 51%

■ Recreational Facilities - 18%

■ Public Safety Facilities and Equipment - 11%

■ City Projects - 12%

■ Other - 8%



# 1985

SPLOST  
Program:  
\$65.7 Million





# 1988

SPLOST Program:  
\$162.7 Million



# 1992

SPLOST  
Program:  
\$249.1 Million





# 1997

SPLOST Program:  
\$414.8 Million





# 2001

SPLOST Program:  
\$496.1 Million





# 2005

SPLOST Program:  
\$581.5 Million





# 2009

SPLOST Program:  
\$671.4 Million





# 2014

SPLOST Program:  
\$440.3 Million

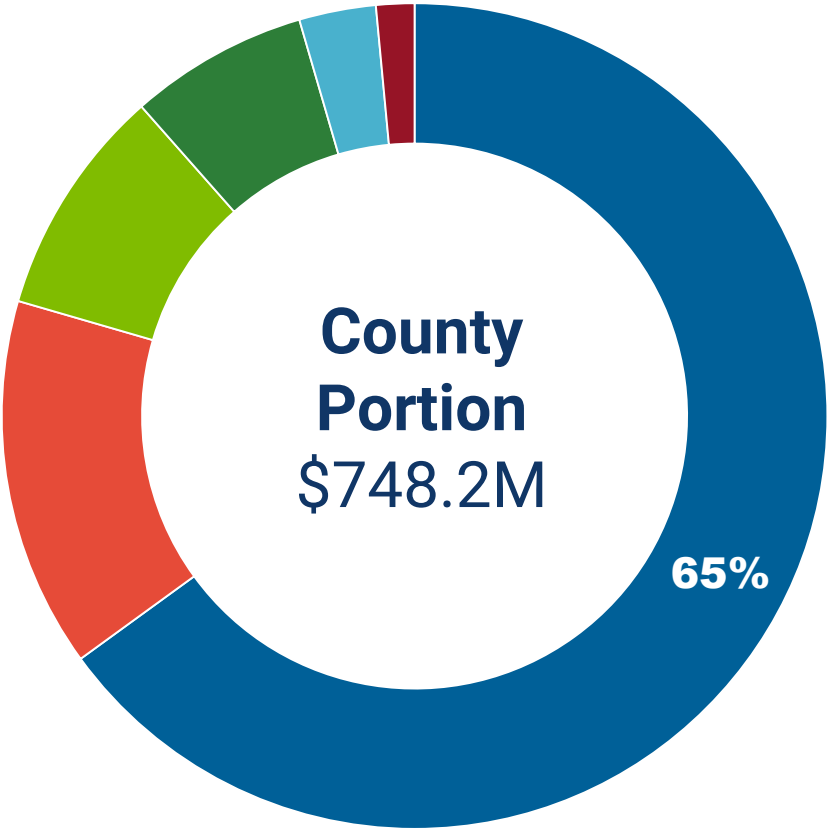




# 2017 SPLOST Program: \$950M



Cities receive: 21.24%



- Roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks
- Recreational facilities and equipment
- Civic Center expansion
- Public safety facilities and equipment
- Relocation/renovation of library facilities and equipment
- Senior service facilities and equipment

# Safe & Healthy Community

## Fire Apparatus Replacements

- \$2.72 Million: 2017 SPLOST Funds
- In 2020, remounted 4 ambulances and 1 emergency replacement



# Safe & Healthy Community

## Fire Station No. 13

- \$7.3 million project:  
2017 SPLOST funds
- 10,000 sq. ft facility
- Anticipated completion  
date: Spring 2022



# Mobility & Access

- SR 316 Limited Access:  
Harbins Road
- \$39.2 Million Project:  
2017 SPLOST Funds





# Livability & Comfort

## **GJAC Expansion**

- \$83 Million Project: 2009 SPLOST Funds
- Security node and bridge- Dec 2020
- Courthouse Building open 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2021

# Livability & Comfort

## Norcross Branch Library

- \$12.2 Million project: 2009 & 2014 SPLOST Funds
- 22,000 sq. ft
- Opening Summer 2021



# Livability & Comfort

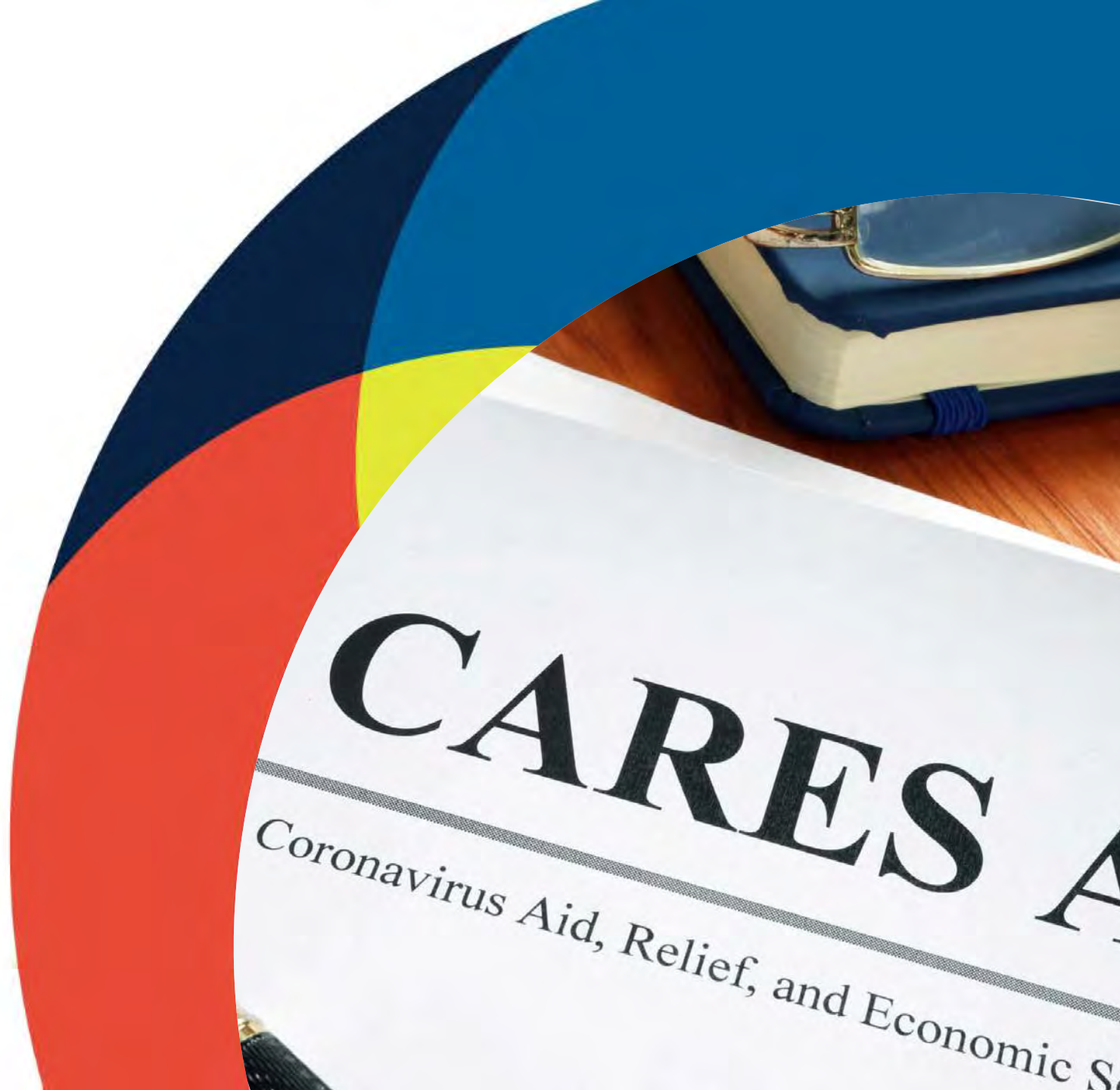
## Duluth Branch Library

- \$5.1 Million project:  
2009 & 2014 SPLOST
- 22,000 sq. ft
- Opening Summer 2021



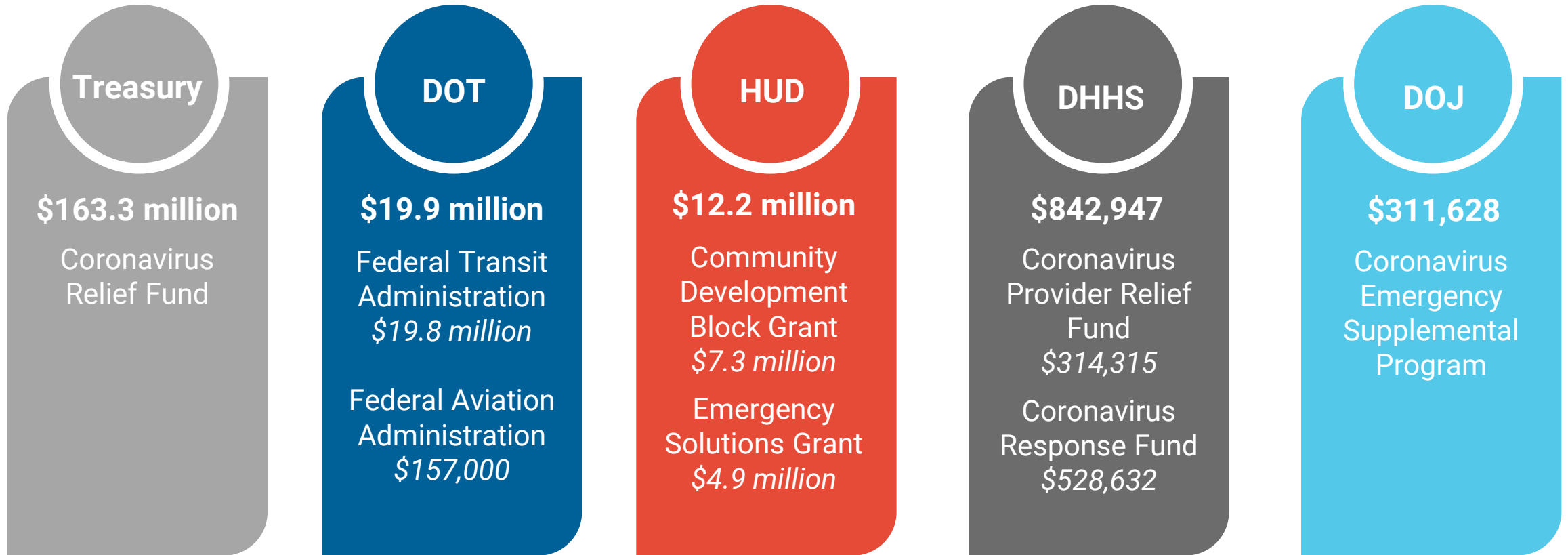
# CARES Act Allocations

Addressing COVID-19  
needs within our  
community





# CARES Act Allocations: \$196.7 million



# Addressing COVID-19 Needs

## Housing & Utility Assistance

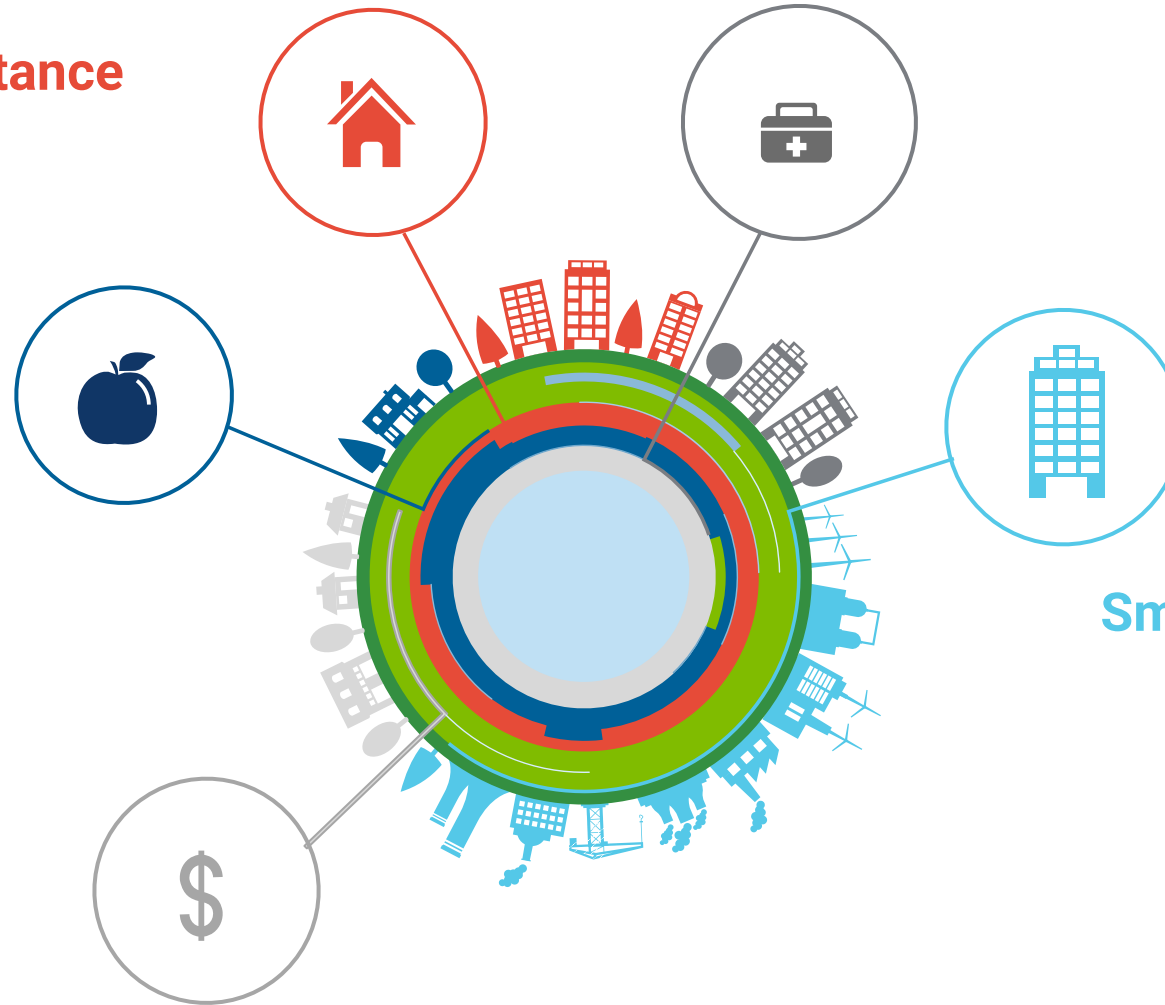
Over \$21.1 million defined for housing and utility assistance

## Food Assistance

Nearly \$7 million allocated to the provision of emergency food assistance

## Municipalities

\$25 million shared with Gwinnett municipalities to support their COVID-19 costs



## Nonprofit Services

Over \$13.1 million aligned to support nonprofits and increase services to those most in need

## Small Business Assistance

Over \$35 million designated to assist small businesses with grants and loans

# Project RESET

*An Eviction Intervention Program*



Gwinnett



**HomeFirst**

— GWINNETT —



Gwinnett





# Small Business Assistance Program

## Our Purpose

To provide small businesses with direct financial assistance that supports reopening safely and profitably while stimulating local economic recovery.

# Nonprofit Funding Opportunity

- CARES Act funding totaling \$23,940,000 has been awarded to 145 nonprofit and faith-based partners
- In 2021 applications will release for the remaining \$11,624,180



# Comments or Questions

From Gwinnett Delegation





# GWINNETT LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION ANNUAL PRE-SESSION MEETING

DECEMBER 3, 2020

JANN L. JOSEPH, PRESIDENT

# ENROLLMENT AND DEMOGRAPHICS

- FALL 2020 ENROLLMENT – 11,627
- GENDER – FEMALE 59%, MALE 41%
- RACE/ETHNICITY
  - Black/African American – 33%
  - White – 27%
  - Hispanic – 25%
  - Asian – 11%
  - Two or More Races – 4%
  - Unknown/Undeclared – <1%
  - Pacific Islander – <1%
  - Native American – <1%





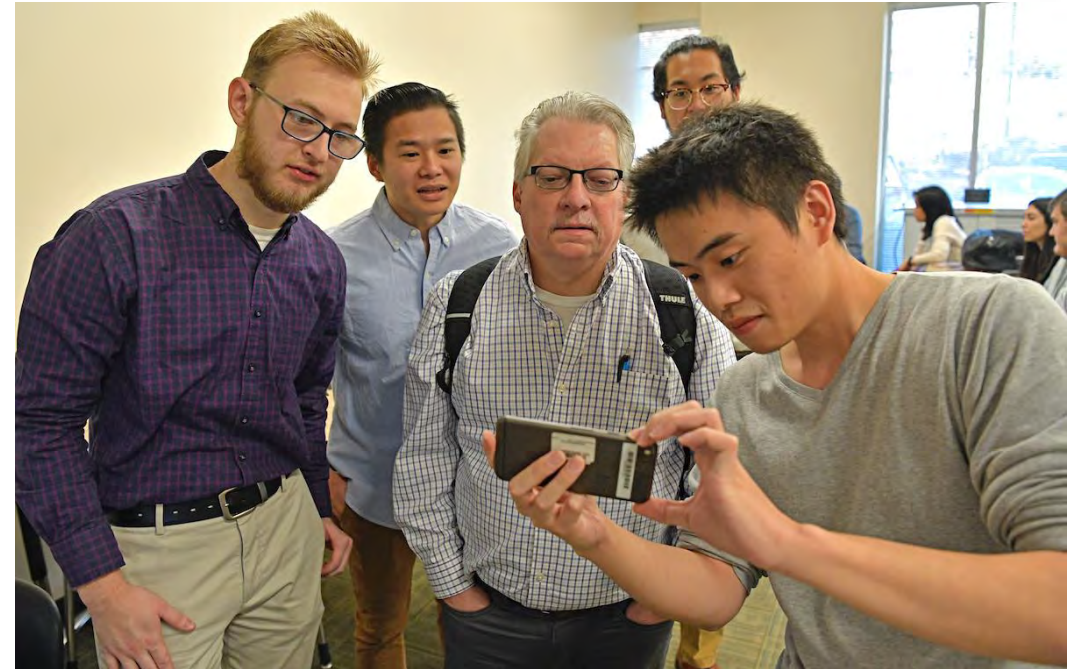
# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT MODEL

19 – Programs of study

45+ – Concentrations of study

20 – Average class size

18:1 – Student : teacher ratio



# ECONOMIC IMPACT

- FY2019 – \$520M
- Cumulative impact to date – \$4.3B
- Jobs on campus – 725
- Resulting jobs on campus – 3,225
- 8,000+ alumni



# GGC DEGREES ALIGN WITH REGIONAL NEEDS

## School of Business

Bachelor of Business Administration

## School of Education

Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

Bachelor of Science, Middle Grades Education

Bachelor of Science, Special Education

## School of Health Sciences

Bachelor of Science, Health science

Bachelor of Science, Nursing

## School of Liberal Arts

Bachelor of Science, Cinema and Media Arts Production

Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice/Criminology

Bachelor of Arts, English

Bachelor of Arts, History

Bachelor of Arts, Human Development and Aging Services

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

Bachelor of Science, Psychology

## School of Science and Technology

Bachelor of Science, Biology

Bachelor of Science, Chemistry

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science

Bachelor of Science, Exercise Science

Bachelor of Science, Information Technology

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics



# FOCUSING ON STUDENT SUCCESS

## Retention, Progression and Graduation



Elease Dillard  
'15, Biology



Tyler Walsh  
'11, Business

# LOOKING AHEAD TO ENGAGE OUR STUDENTS

New Leadership  
New Initiatives



QUESTIONS?



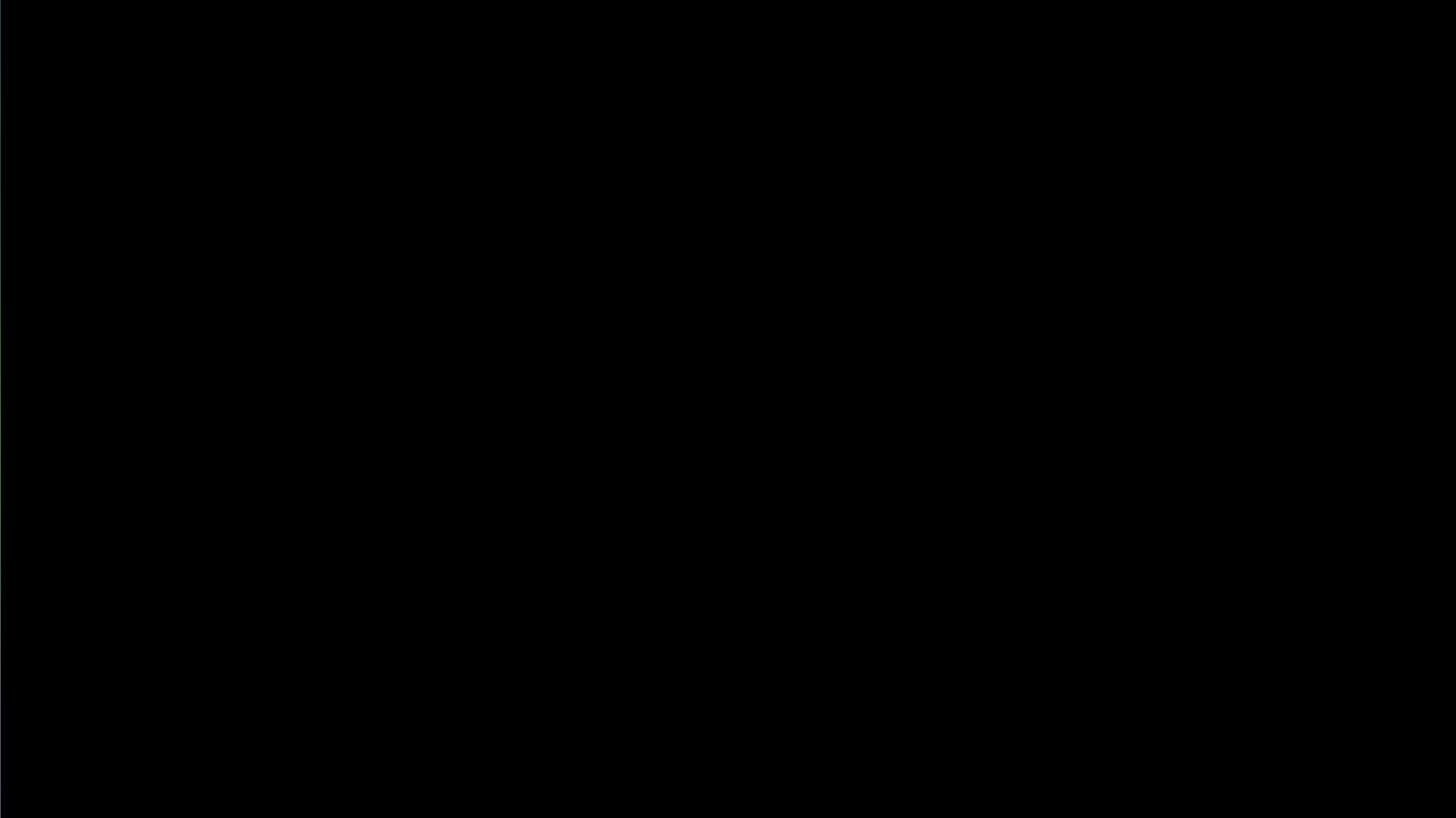
# Gwinnett Technical College



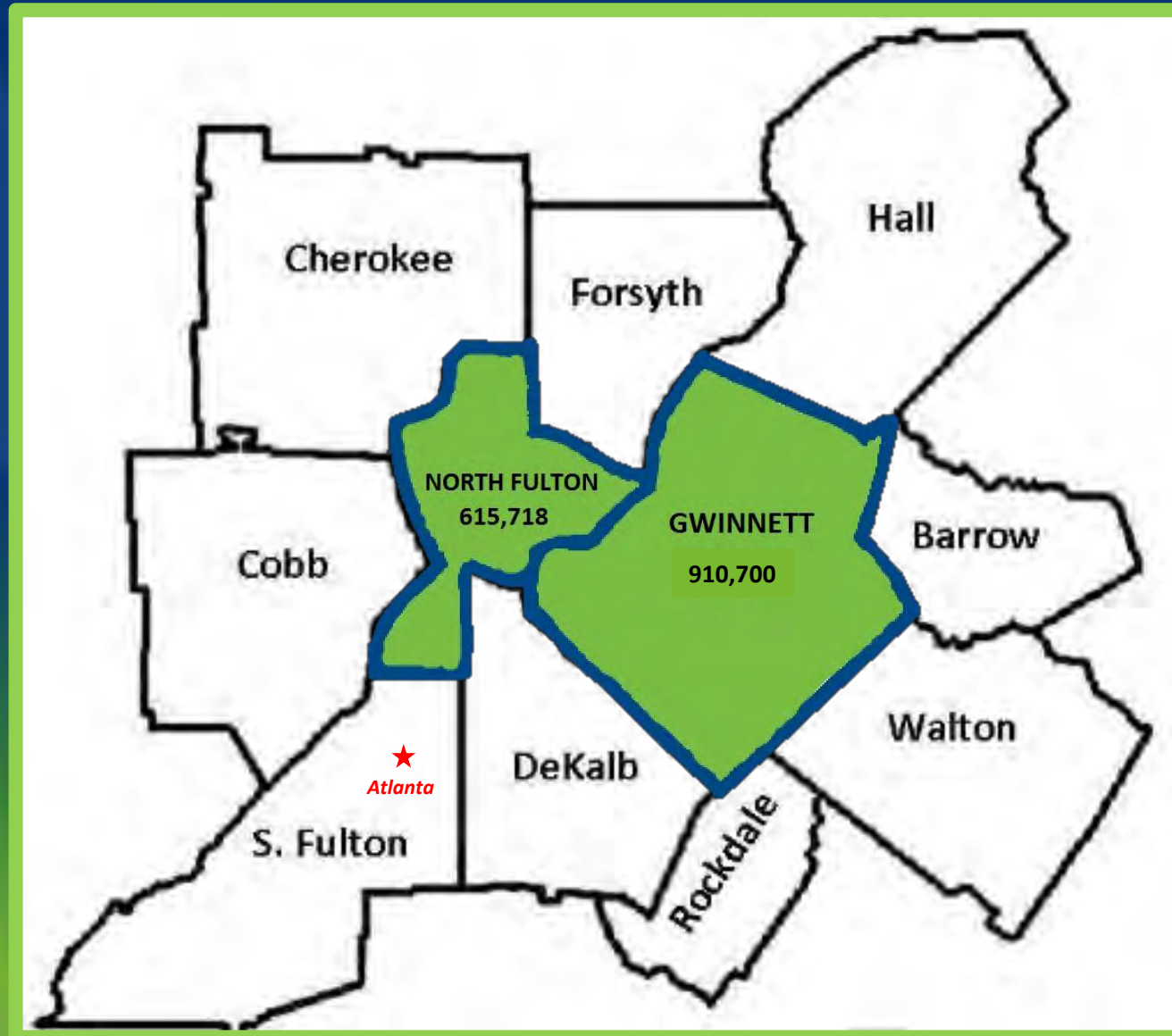
**EDUCATION THAT WORKS!**

# Gwinnett Technical College Healthcare Heroes



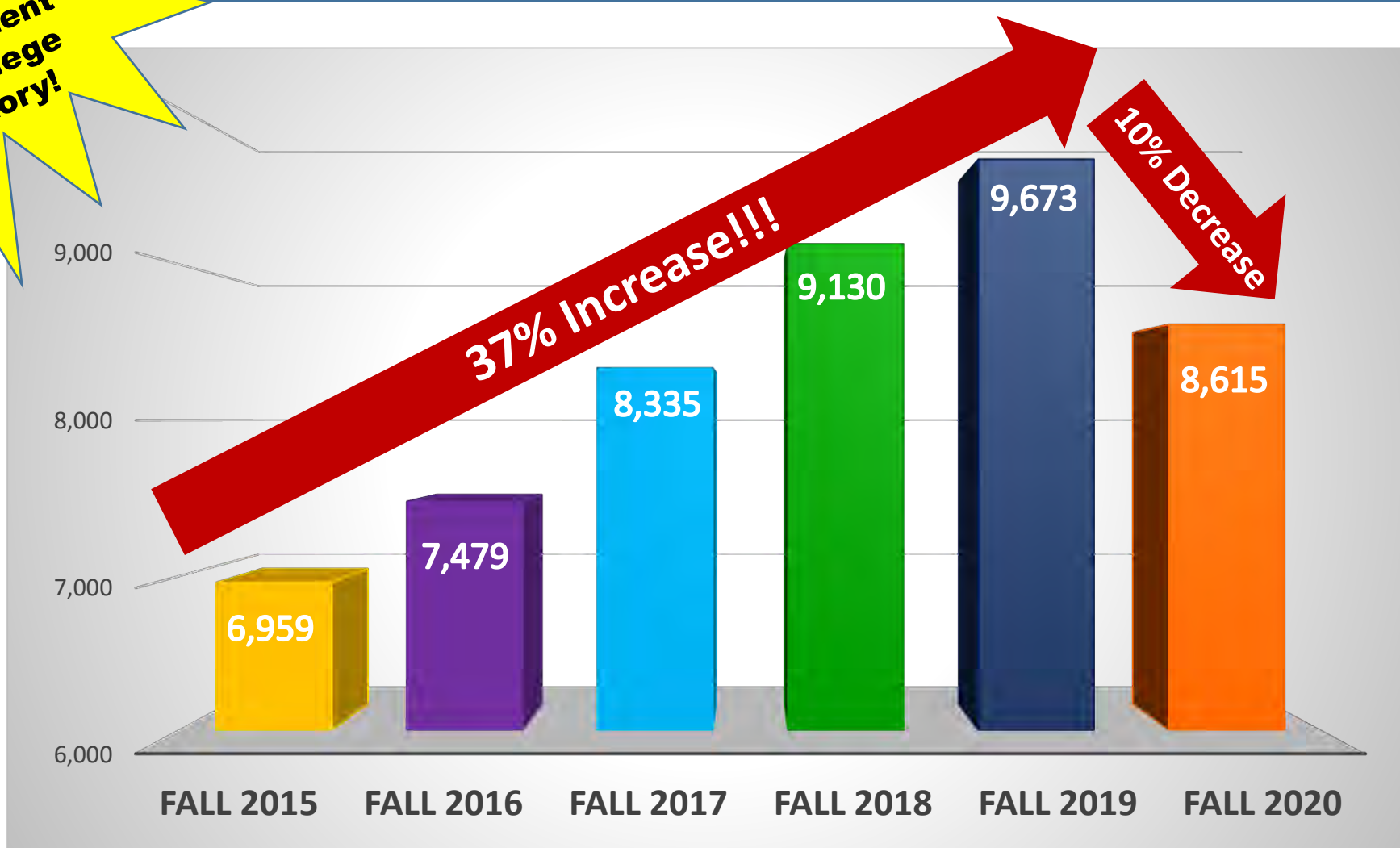


# Gwinnett Tech Service Area



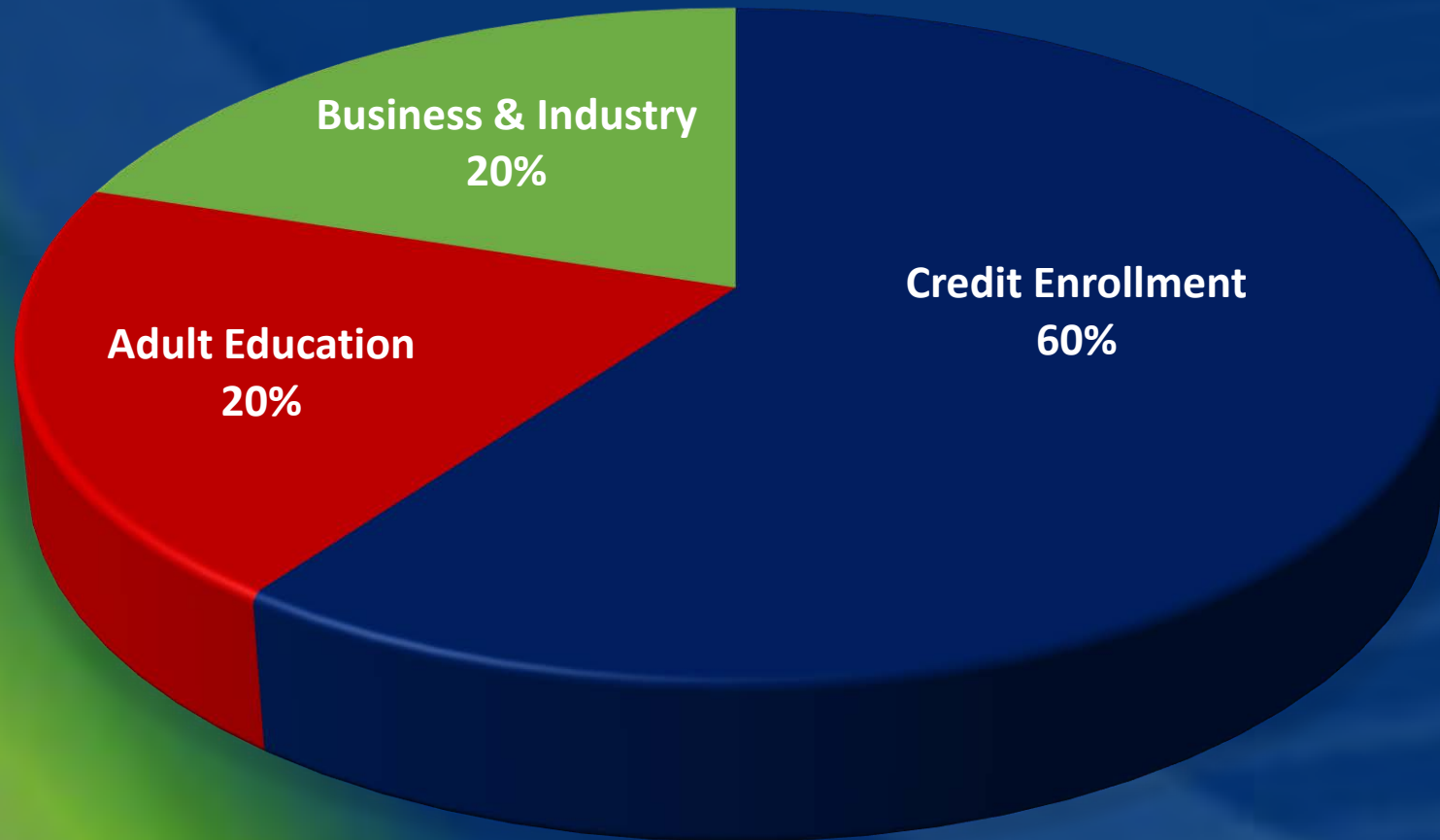
# Record Enrollment Growth

**\*9,600  
Highest  
Enrollment  
in College  
History!**

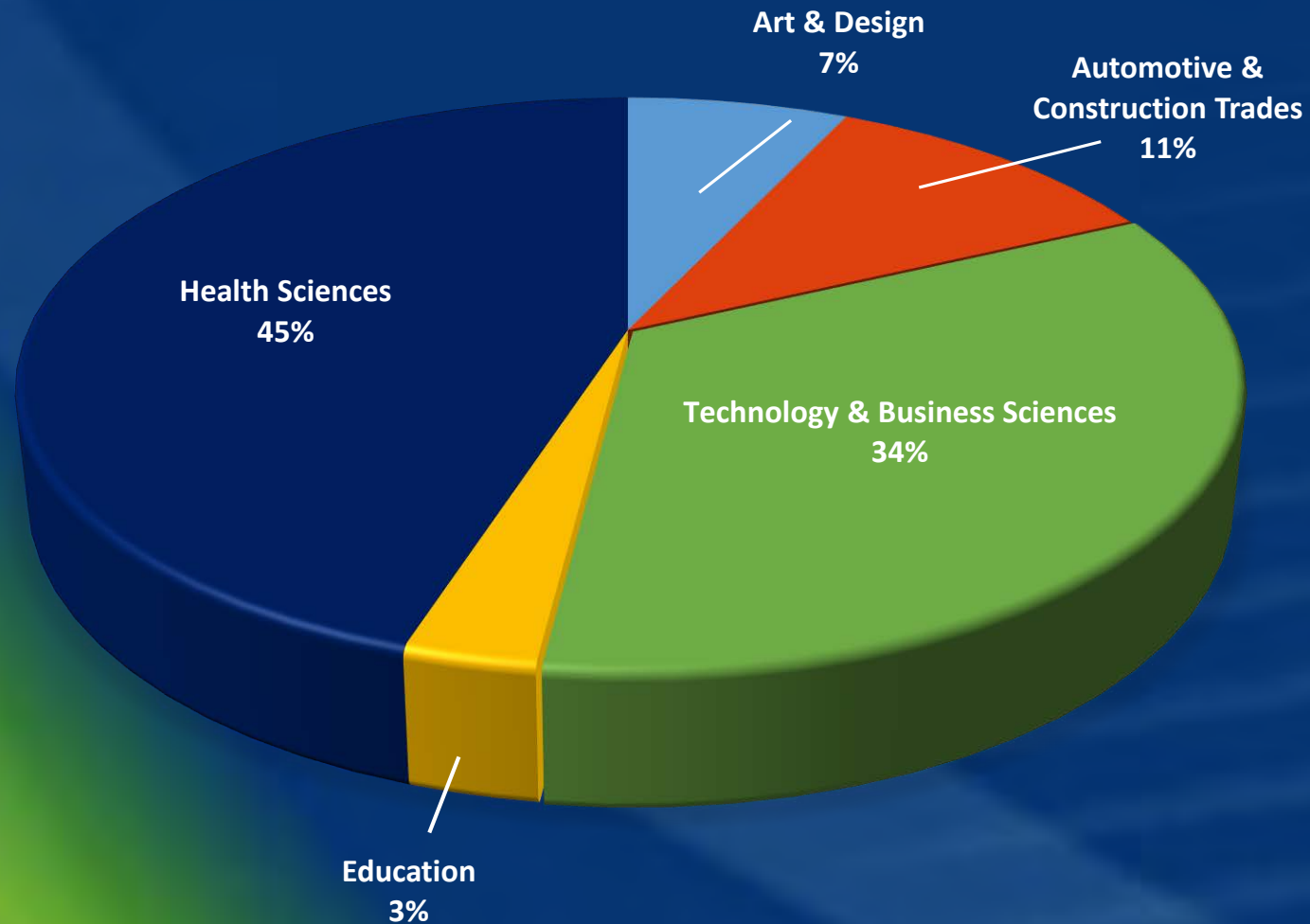


# FY20 Enrollment by Mission

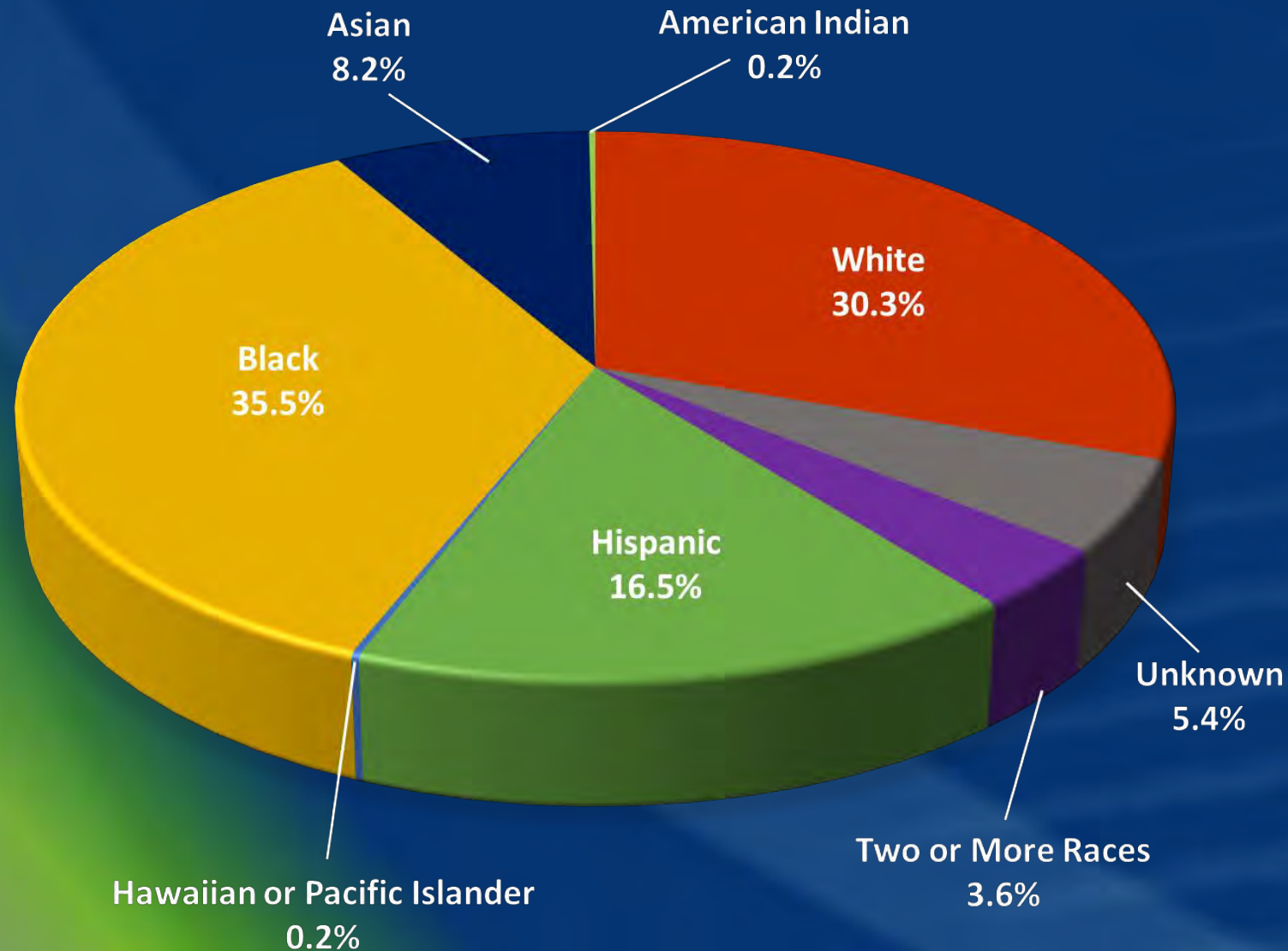
> 23,000



# Students by Program



# Enrollment by Ethnicity



# Gwinnett Technical College Student Ambassador Program





# *Smart People Doing Smart Stuff!*

- ❖ Open Educational Resources (OER)
- ❖ Remedial Education Corequisite Model
- ❖ STEM Tutoring Center
- ❖ Advisement/Registration System
- ❖ GBIT/TEAMS Programs

## Over 30 Health Science Programs

- ADN – Registered Nurse
- Bioscience
- \*Cardiovascular Tech – Invasive
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Clinical Research Professional
- \*Computed Tomography
- Dental Assisting
- \*Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- \*Echocardiography Technology
- EMS/EMT/EMR
- \*Health Information Management Technology
- \*Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- Medical Assisting
- \*Paramedic
- \*Radiologic Technology
- \*Respiratory Care
- \*Surgical Tech
- \*Veterinary Tech

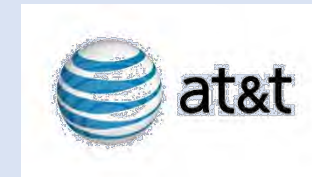
**\*100% Licensure/Certification Pass Rate on 1<sup>st</sup> Attempt**



# Information Technology Programs



AWS Cloud Computing Specialist  
Business Technology  
Computer Programming/Coding  
Cyber Security  
Engineering Technology  
Game Development  
Health Information Technology  
Networking Specialist  
PC Repair  
Website Development



# One College



# Two Campuses

# Mercedes-Benz USA



**BUILDING FUTURE TECHNICIANS**



# Veterans Services #2 in the Nation



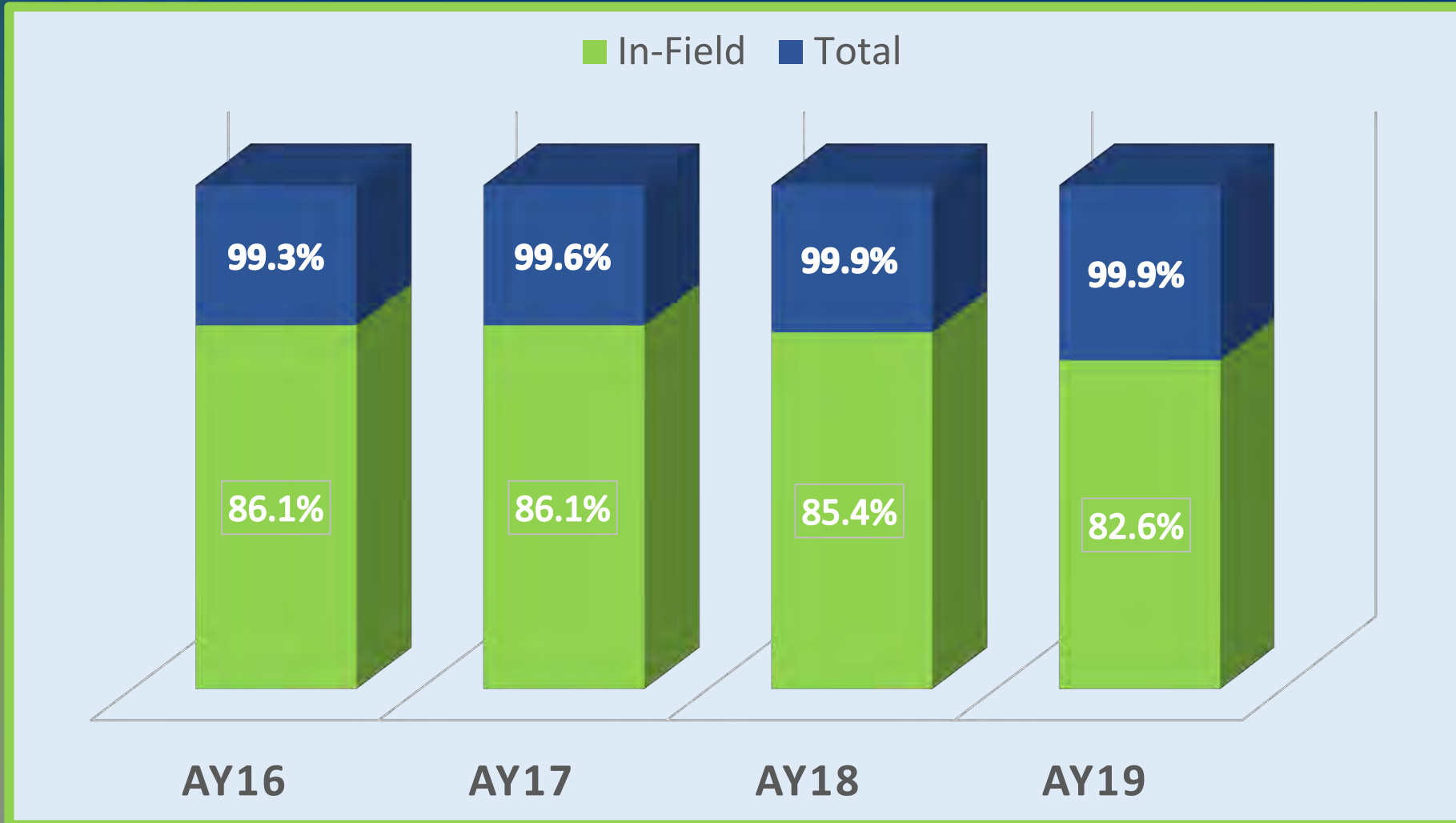



Gwinnett Tech's  
**LAUNCH**  
**POINTE**

**Clyde Strickland Center  
for Career Experience**



# Job Placement



		<b>a</b> Employee's social security number 123-45-6789		OMB No. 1545-0008		Safe, accurate, FAST! Use				Visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov/efile		
<b>b</b> Employer identification number (EIN) 11-2233445				<b>1</b> Wages, tips, other compensation 85,500.00		<b>2</b> Federal income tax withheld 6,835.00						
<b>c</b> Employer's name, address, and ZIP code  Sample Company Name. Sample company address, CA 45678				<b>3</b> Social security wages 50,000.00		<b>4</b> Social security tax withheld 3,100.00						
				<b>5</b> Medicare wages and tips 50,000.00		<b>6</b> Medicare tax withheld 725.00						
				<b>7</b> Social security tips		<b>8</b> Allocated tips						
<b>d</b> Control number				<b>9</b>		<b>10</b> Dependent care benefits						
<b>e</b> Employee's first name and initial Brandon		Last name Doe		Suff.		<b>11</b> Nonqualified plans		<b>12a</b> See instructions for box 12 D   1500.00				
Sample employee address, CA 56789				<b>13</b> Statutory employee <input type="checkbox"/>		Retirement plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Third-party sick pay <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>12b</b> DD   1000.00		
				<b>14</b> Other		<b>12c</b> P   4,800.00						
						<b>12d</b>						
<b>f</b> Employee's address and ZIP code												
<b>15</b> State GA		Employer's state ID number 1235		<b>16</b> State wages, tips, etc. 50,000		<b>17</b> State income tax 1,535		<b>18</b> Local wages, tips, etc. 50,000		<b>19</b> Local income tax 750		
										<b>20</b> Locality name MU		

Form **W-2** Wage and Tax Statement **2019**  
**Copy B—To Be Filed With Employee's FEDERAL Tax Return.**  
This information is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service

**BUILDING B VIEW FROM QUAD**



# Gwinnett Technical College



**EDUCATION THAT WORKS!**



## *Board of Directors*

*appointed by County Commissioners of Gwinnett, Rockdale and Newton Counties*

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Lynette Howard  
Dr. Clay Hunter (pending)  
Louise Radloff  
elected official (pending)*

### *Rockdale County:*

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Bernie Marinelli, Chair  
Shayne Nolden  
Commissioner Doreen Williams*

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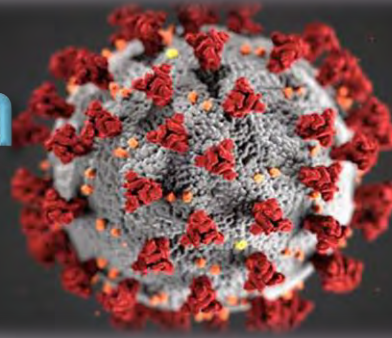
*Jennifer Hibbard, CEO  
Derek Singleton, CFO*

# COVID Response

- ▣ February Education and Prevention
- ▣ Telehealth Waiver
  - Approved March 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Implemented March 23<sup>rd</sup>
- ▣ March 27<sup>th</sup> first COVID positive client
- ▣ Personal Protective Equipment Stock
  - April 1st
- ▣ Binax Rapid Test
  - 1,000
  - Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>



# View Point Health COVID Tracking



# COVID Impact on Mental Health

- ▣ Anxiety

8.1%  25.5%

- ▣ Depression

6.5%  24.3%

- ▣ Suicidal Ideation

4.3%  10.7%

- ▣ 1 in 10 reported starting or increasing substance use

- ▣ 25% reported symptoms of Trauma and Stressor Related Disorder (TSRD)



# Gwinnett

## Overdose Spike

- ▣ March = 3
- ▣ April = 12
- ▣ May = 10
- ▣ June = 14
- ▣ July = 8

*Data is not mature: still 30 drug related deaths yet to be certified as of mid-November.*

## Death by Suicide

- ▣ Decreased compared to previous year
- ▣ 69 by mid-November
- ▣ 109 total in 2019

## Death by Homicide

- ▣ Increased compared to previous year
- ▣ 49 by mid-November
- ▣ 37 total in 2019

# Comprehensive Service Array



## Core Services

5 Outpatient Centers

Therapy and Psychiatric Care

678-209-2411



## Community

Prevention  
Early Intervention  
School Based  
Re-Entry & Courts  
Care Coordination  
Intensive Community Treatment  
Autism Services



## Specialty Services

Day Programs  
Residential  
Supported Employment

Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities



## Acute Services

Temporary Observation

Adult and Adolescent Crisis Stabilization Units

Autism Crisis Unit

# Core Services

- ▣ Outpatient Centers remain open
- ▣ Telehealth services implemented
- ▣ Centralized Scheduling Department transitioned to working from home with a cloud based phone system



# Community Based Services

- ▣ All services remained open and accessible
- ▣ School based services transitioned to telehealth
- ▣ Community partnerships to improve access to resources including:
  - Housing
  - Food
  - Rental Assistance
- ▣ Clinical support for Department of Public Health for COVID testing



# Specialty Services

- ▣ Large group day programming was suspended.
- ▣ Implemented Telehealth services
- ▣ Sheltering in Place for group homes
- ▣ Supporting clients in residential services
- ▣ 28-day Substance Use Residential programming remained open with extra screening protocols.



# Acute Services

- ▣ Adult and Adolescent Crisis Units remain open.
- ▣ COVID and budget cuts have decreased our capacity.
- ▣ The majority of COVID cases among clients and staff have occurred at crisis units.



- ▣ Amid the pandemic we were still able to complete the Autism CSU which will open in a couple of weeks.



## 501c3 in support of View Point Health

**\$209,000.00**

*Direct support to clients*

- ▣ United Way COVID Relief
- ▣ Gwinnett County CARES Act
  - Home First Gwinnett
- ▣ Healthcare Foundation of GA
- ▣ Kares for Kids





# VPH COVID Relief

## RELIEF

- ▣ CARES Act \$748,208
- ▣ Appendix K Retainer \$334,837.96

## GRANTS

- ▣ FCC Telehealth up to \$315,672 reimbursement
- ▣ DBHDD COVID response \$106,685
- ▣ Suicide Prevention \$159,999



**Coronavirus Aid,  
Relief,  
and Economic  
Security  
(CARES) Act**

# Impact of FY21 BUDGET Cuts

Total = <\$3,184,627.00>

## Adolescent Crisis Unit

- ▣ <\$2,449,847.00>
- ▣ Decreased beds from 27 - 16

## Adult MH Residential

- ▣ <\$131,809.00>

## Housing Outreach Coordinator

- ▣ <\$62,588.00>

## Case Management

- ▣ <\$19,200.00>

## APEX – School Based Services

- ▣ <\$217,846.00>

## Youth Clubhouses

- ▣ MH <\$64,650.00>
- ▣ SA <\$125,000.00>

## Supported Employment

- ▣ <\$78,720.00> (-16 slots)

## Developmental Disability

- Family Support
- ▣ <\$34,997.00>

# Restoration of Core Funding

Core funding increase to meet demand for services was restored.

- ▣ Additional **\$1,260,833** annually
- ▣ The maximum reimbursement limit for Adult Mental Health core services **INCREASED** by \$105,069 per month.
- ▣ No additional funds for Adult Substance Use core services.
  - CAPPED at \$575,000 annually
  - COVID has impacted our service volume due to restricting large group services.



# Fiscal Responsibility

- ▣ Since our inception as a Community Service Board we consistently receive the highest opinion on the annual financial audit.
  
- ▣ Implemented new financial tools to manage future Cash Flow
  - 13-weeks Cash Flow
  - Pro forma financial statements
  - Programmatic Budget with Billing Targets



*Compassion*

IN ACTION

# Early Intervention

- ▣ Online screening tools
- ▣ Reach out early! Don't wait for a crisis.
- ▣ Telehealth for mental health is widely available
- ▣ Self-care resources



# Advocacy

- ▣ **DBHDD Appropriations**
- ▣ **Telehealth**
- ▣ **Mental Health Parity**

# How can you access us?

Georgia Crisis & Access Line (GCAL) 24/7/365  
1-800-715-4225

Call or walk in to any of our sites  
Central intake: 678-209-2411

[www.myviewpointhealth.org](http://www.myviewpointhealth.org)



Would you like to take a tour?

**Jennifer S. Hibbard, LPC**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**678-209-2376**

**[Jennifer.Hibbard@vphealth.org](mailto:Jennifer.Hibbard@vphealth.org)**





## The CSB Network offers services in all 159 counties of Georgia

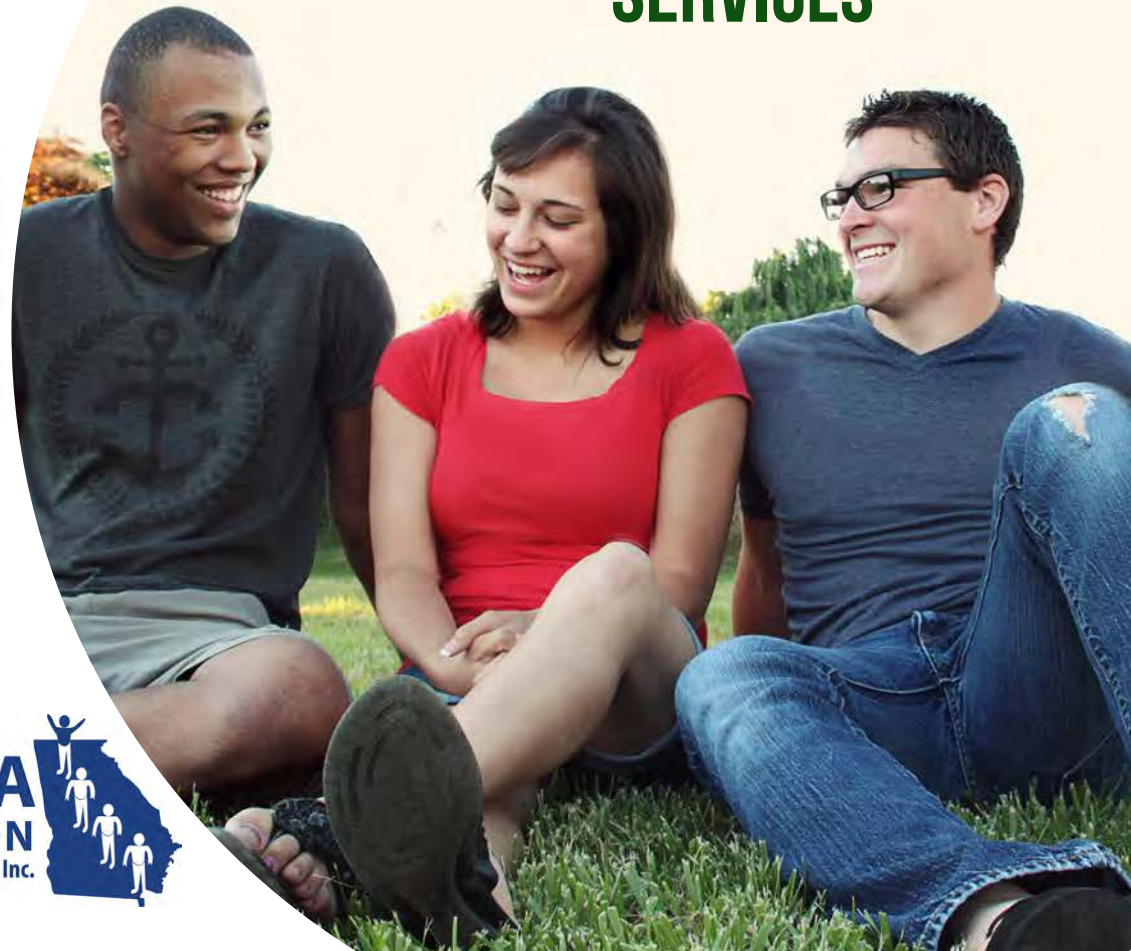
Community Service Boards (CSBs) are created in OCGA § 37-2-6 *et seq.* as public corporations and instrumentalities of the state to provide services for mental illness, developmental disabilities, and addictive diseases. There are 23 CSBs across Georgia with Boards of Directors appointed by the governing authorities of the counties within the CSB area

For more information about GACSB or to locate a CSB in your area:

3150 Golf Ridge Blvd. Suite 202  
Douglasville, Georgia 30135

[www.gacsb.org](http://www.gacsb.org)

(912) 704-1729



# GEORGIA'S PUBLIC SAFETY NET FOR MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES



Every year, CSBs help thousands of Georgians on a path to recovery

In the State Fiscal Year of 2018, CSBs served over 29,000 children and adolescents and over 144,000 adults with mental health issues and/or addictive diseases



CSBs support the Mission of the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) by providing easy access to high quality care

## Providing Care Across the State



CSBs are funded by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to serve eligible persons with serious mental illness and/or addictive diseases who have no (or insufficient) insurance and no other means to pay for treatment. CSBs also serve persons with insurance, especially in areas where CSBs may be the only provider of mental health and addictive disease services

## Continuum of Care

CSBs provide a range of treatment and support services depending on clients' needs

### **Core outpatient Services:**

- Case Management
- Counseling
- Crisis Services
- Medication

### **Specialty Services:**

- Crisis Stabilization Units
- Day Programs
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- Supported Employment
- Supported Housing
- Treatment Courts

CSBs also collaborate with other organizations to better serve their communities

## Mental Health, Substance Use, and Suicidal Ideation During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, June 24–30, 2020

Mark É. Czeisler<sup>1,2</sup>; Rashon I. Lane MA<sup>3</sup>; Emiko Petrosky, MD<sup>3</sup>; Joshua F. Wiley, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Aleta Christensen, MPH<sup>3</sup>; Rashid Njai, PhD<sup>3</sup>; Matthew D. Weaver, PhD<sup>1,4,5</sup>; Rebecca Robbins, PhD<sup>4,5</sup>; Elise R. Facer-Childs, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Laura K. Barger, PhD<sup>4,5</sup>; Charles A. Czeisler, MD, PhD<sup>1,4,5</sup>; Mark E. Howard, MBBS, PhD<sup>1,2,6</sup>; Shantha M.W. Rajaratnam, PhD<sup>1,4,5</sup>

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has been associated with mental health challenges related to the morbidity and mortality caused by the disease and to mitigation activities, including the impact of physical distancing and stay-at-home orders.\* Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder increased considerably in the United States during April–June of 2020, compared with the same period in 2019 (1,2). To assess mental health, substance use, and suicidal ideation during the pandemic, representative panel surveys were conducted among adults aged ≥18 years across the United States during June 24–30, 2020. Overall, 40.9% of respondents reported at least one adverse mental or behavioral health condition, including symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder (30.9%), symptoms of a trauma- and stressor-related disorder (TSRD) related to the pandemic<sup>†</sup> (26.3%), and having started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 (13.3%). The percentage of respondents who reported having seriously considered suicide in the 30 days before completing the survey (10.7%) was significantly higher among respondents aged 18–24 years (25.5%), minority racial/ethnic groups (Hispanic respondents [18.6%], non-Hispanic black [black] respondents [15.1%]), self-reported unpaid caregivers for adults<sup>§</sup> (30.7%), and essential workers<sup>¶</sup> (21.7%).

\* <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.22.20076141v1>.

<sup>†</sup> Disorders classified as TSRDs in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM–5) include posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), acute stress disorder (ASD), and adjustment disorders (ADs), among others.

<sup>§</sup> Unpaid adult caregiver status was self-reported. The definition of an unpaid caregiver for adults was a person who had provided unpaid care to a relative or friend aged ≥18 years to help them take care of themselves at any time in the last 3 months. Examples provided included helping with personal needs, household chores, health care tasks, managing a person's finances, taking them to a doctor's appointment, arranging for outside services, and visiting regularly to see how they are doing.

<sup>¶</sup> Essential worker status was self-reported. The comparison was between employed respondents (n = 3,431) who identified as essential versus nonessential. For this analysis, students who were not separately employed as essential workers were considered nonessential workers.

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- 1064 Top Food Category Contributors to Sodium and Potassium Intake — United States, 2015–2016
- 1070 Serious Adverse Health Events, Including Death, Associated with Ingesting Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers Containing Methanol — Arizona and New Mexico, May–June 2020
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- 1099 Notes from the Field: Seroprevalence Estimates of SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Convenience Sample — Oregon, May 11–June 15, 2020
- 1101 Notes from the Field: Emergency Visits for Complications of Injecting Transmucosal Buprenorphine Products — United States, 2016–2018
- 1103 Notes from the Field: Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis Among Workers at Two Food Processing Facilities — Ohio, 2018–2019
- 1106 QuickStats

Continuing Education examination available at [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr\\_continuingEducation.html](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_continuingEducation.html)



Community-level intervention and prevention efforts, including health communication strategies, designed to reach these groups could help address various mental health conditions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

During June 24–30, 2020, a total of 5,412 (54.7%) of 9,896 eligible invited adults\*\* completed web-based surveys†† administered by Qualtrics.§§ The Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee of Monash University (Melbourne, Australia) reviewed and approved the study protocol on human

\*\* A minimum age of 18 years and residence within the United States as of April 2–8, 2020, were required for eligibility for the longitudinal cohort to complete a survey during June 24–30, 2020. Residence was reassessed during June 24–30, 2020, and one respondent who had moved from the United States was excluded from the analysis. A minimum age of 18 years and residence within the United States were required for eligibility for newly recruited respondents included in the cross-sectional analysis. For both the longitudinal cohort and newly recruited respondents, respondents were required to provide informed consent before enrollment into the study. All surveys underwent data quality screening procedures including algorithmic and keystroke analysis for attention patterns, click-through behavior, duplicate responses, machine responses, and inattentiveness. Country-specific geolocation verification via IP address mapping was used to ensure respondents were from the United States. Respondents who failed an attention or speed check, along with any responses identified by the data-scrubbing algorithms, were excluded from analysis.

†† The surveys contained 101 items for first-time respondents and 86 items for respondents who also participated in later surveys, with the 15 additional items for first-time respondents consisting of questions on demographics. The survey instruments included a combination of individual questions, validated questionnaires, and COVID-19-specific questionnaires, which were used to assess respondent attitudes, behaviors, and beliefs related to COVID-19 and its mitigation, as well as the social and behavioral health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

§§ <https://www.qualtrics.com/>.

subjects research. Respondents were informed of the study purposes and provided electronic consent before commencement, and investigators received anonymized responses. Participants included 3,683 (68.1%) first-time respondents and 1,729 (31.9%) respondents who had completed a related survey during April 2–8, May 5–12, 2020, or both intervals; 1,497 (27.7%) respondents participated during all three intervals (2,3). Quota sampling and survey weighting were employed to improve cohort representativeness of the U.S. population by gender, age, and race/ethnicity.¶¶ Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder were assessed using the four-item Patient Health Questionnaire\*\*\* (4), and symptoms of a COVID-19–related TSRD were assessed using the six-item Impact of Event Scale††† (5). Respondents also reported

¶¶ Survey weighting was implemented according to the 2010 U.S. Census with respondents who reported gender, age, and race/ethnicity. Respondents who reported a gender of “Other,” or who did not report race/ethnicity were assigned a weight of one.

\*\*\* Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder were assessed via the four-item Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-4). Those who scored  $\geq 3$  out of 6 on the Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD-2) and Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-2) subscales were considered symptomatic for these respective disorders. This instrument was included in the April, May, and June surveys.

††† Symptoms of a TSRD attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic were assessed via the six-item Impact of Event Scale (IES-6) to screen for overlapping symptoms of PTSD, ASD, and ADs. For this survey, the COVID-19 pandemic was specified as the traumatic exposure to record peri- and posttraumatic symptoms associated with the range of stressors introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who scored  $\geq 1.75$  out of 4 were considered symptomatic. This instrument was included in the May and June surveys only.

The *MMWR* series of publications is published by the Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Atlanta, GA 30329-4027.

**Suggested citation:** [Author names; first three, then et al., if more than six.] [Report title]. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:[inclusive page numbers].

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whether they had started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 or seriously considered suicide in the 30 days preceding the survey.<sup>§§§</sup>

Analyses were stratified by gender, age, race/ethnicity, employment status, essential worker status, unpaid adult caregiver status, rural-urban residence classification,<sup>¶¶¶</sup> whether the respondent knew someone who had positive test results for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, or who had died from COVID-19, and whether the respondent was receiving treatment for diagnosed anxiety, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) at the time of the survey. Comparisons within subgroups were evaluated using Poisson regressions with robust standard errors to calculate prevalence ratios, 95% confidence intervals (CIs), and p-values to evaluate statistical significance ( $\alpha = 0.005$  to account for multiple comparisons). Among the 1,497 respondents who completed all three surveys, longitudinal analyses of the odds of incidence<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> of symptoms of adverse mental or behavioral health conditions by essential worker and unpaid adult caregiver status were conducted on unweighted responses using logistic regressions to calculate unadjusted and adjusted<sup>††††</sup> odds ratios (ORs), 95% CI, and p-values ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ). The statsmodels package in Python (version 3.7.8; Python Software Foundation) was used to conduct all analyses.

Overall, 40.9% of 5,470 respondents who completed surveys during June reported an adverse mental or behavioral health condition, including those who reported symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder (30.9%), those with TSRD symptoms related to COVID-19 (26.3%), those who reported having

started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 (13.3%), and those who reported having seriously considered suicide in the preceding 30 days (10.7%) (Table 1). At least one adverse mental or behavioral health symptom was reported by more than one half of respondents who were aged 18–24 years (74.9%) and 25–44 years (51.9%), of Hispanic ethnicity (52.1%), and who held less than a high school diploma (66.2%), as well as those who were essential workers (54.0%), unpaid caregivers for adults (66.6%), and who reported treatment for diagnosed anxiety (72.7%), depression (68.8%), or PTSD (88.0%) at the time of the survey.

Prevalences of symptoms of adverse mental or behavioral health conditions varied significantly among subgroups (Table 2). Suicidal ideation was more prevalent among males than among females. Symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder, COVID-19–related TSRD, initiation of or increase in substance use to cope with COVID-19–associated stress, and serious suicidal ideation in the previous 30 days were most commonly reported by persons aged 18–24 years; prevalence decreased progressively with age. Hispanic respondents reported higher prevalences of symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder, COVID-19–related TSRD, increased substance use, and suicidal ideation than did non-Hispanic whites (whites) or non-Hispanic Asian (Asian) respondents. Black respondents reported increased substance use and past 30-day serious consideration of suicide in the previous 30 days more commonly than did white and Asian respondents. Respondents who reported treatment for diagnosed anxiety, depression, or PTSD at the time of the survey reported higher prevalences of symptoms of adverse mental and behavioral health conditions compared with those who did not. Symptoms of a COVID-19–related TSRD, increased substance use, and suicidal ideation were more prevalent among employed than unemployed respondents, and among essential workers than nonessential workers. Adverse conditions also were more prevalent among unpaid caregivers for adults than among those who were not, with particularly large differences in increased substance use (32.9% versus 6.3%) and suicidal ideation (30.7% versus 3.6%) in this group.

Longitudinal analysis of responses of 1,497 persons who completed all three surveys revealed that unpaid caregivers for adults had a significantly higher odds of incidence of adverse mental health conditions compared with others (Table 3). Among those who did not report having started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 in May, unpaid caregivers for adults had 3.33 times the odds of reporting this behavior in June (adjusted OR 95% CI = 1.75–6.31;  $p < 0.001$ ). Similarly, among those who did not report having seriously considered suicide in the previous 30 days in May, unpaid caregivers for adults had 3.03 times the odds of reporting suicidal ideation in June (adjusted OR 95% CI = 1.20–7.63;  $p = 0.019$ ).

<sup>§§§</sup> For this survey, substance use was defined as use of “alcohol, legal or illegal drugs, or prescription drugs that are taken in a way not recommended by your doctor.” Questions regarding substance use and suicidal ideation were included in the May and June surveys only. Participants were informed that responses were deidentified and that direct support could not be provided to those who reported substance use behavior or suicidal ideation. Regarding substance use, respondents were provided the following: “This survey is anonymous so we cannot provide direct support. If you would like crisis support please contact the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Helpline, 1-800-662-HELP (4357), (also known as the Treatment Referral Routing Service) or TTY: 1-800-487-4889. This is a confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year, information service, in English and Spanish, for persons and family members facing mental and/or substance use disorders.” Regarding suicidal ideation, respondents were provided the following: “This survey is anonymous so we cannot provide direct support. If you would like crisis support please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-TALK (8255, or chat line) for help for themselves or others.”

<sup>¶¶¶</sup> Rural-urban classification was determined by using self-reported ZIP codes according to the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy definition of rurality. <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/datafiles.html>.

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> Odds of incidence was defined as the odds of the presence of an adverse mental or behavioral health outcome reported during a later survey after previously having reported the absence of that outcome (e.g., having reported symptoms of anxiety disorder during June 24–30, 2020, after not having reported symptoms of anxiety disorder during April 2–8, 2020).

<sup>††††</sup> Adjusted for gender, employment status, and essential worker status or unpaid adult caregiver status.

TABLE 1. Respondent characteristics and prevalence of adverse mental health outcomes, increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 pandemic, and suicidal ideation — United States, June 24–30, 2020

Characteristic	All respondents who completed surveys during June 24–30, 2020 weighted* no. (%)	Weighted %*						
		Conditions				COVID-19–related TSRD <sup>§</sup>	Started or increased substance use to cope with pandemic-related stress or emotions <sup>  </sup>	Seriously considered suicide in past 30 days
Anxiety disorder <sup>†</sup>	Depressive disorder <sup>†</sup>	Anxiety or depressive disorder <sup>†</sup>						
<b>All respondents</b>	<b>5,470 (100)</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>40.9</b>
<b>Gender</b>								
Female	2,784 (50.9)	26.3	23.9	31.5	24.7	12.2	8.9	41.4
Male	2,676 (48.9)	24.7	24.8	30.4	27.9	14.4	12.6	40.5
Other	10 (0.2)	20.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	10.0	0.0	30.0
<b>Age group (yrs)</b>								
18–24	731 (13.4)	49.1	52.3	62.9	46.0	24.7	25.5	74.9
25–44	1,911 (34.9)	35.3	32.5	40.4	36.0	19.5	16.0	51.9
45–64	1,895 (34.6)	16.1	14.4	20.3	17.2	7.7	3.8	29.5
≥65	933 (17.1)	6.2	5.8	8.1	9.2	3.0	2.0	15.1
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>								
White, non-Hispanic	3,453 (63.1)	24.0	22.9	29.2	23.3	10.6	7.9	37.8
Black, non-Hispanic	663 (12.1)	23.4	24.6	30.2	30.4	18.4	15.1	44.2
Asian, non-Hispanic	256 (4.7)	14.1	14.2	18.0	22.1	6.7	6.6	31.9
Other race or multiple races, non-Hispanic**	164 (3.0)	27.8	29.3	33.2	28.3	11.0	9.8	43.8
Hispanic, any race(s)	885 (16.2)	35.5	31.3	40.8	35.1	21.9	18.6	52.1
Unknown	50 (0.9)	38.0	34.0	44.0	34.0	18.0	26.0	48.0
<b>2019 Household income (USD)</b>								
<25,000	741 (13.6)	30.6	30.8	36.6	29.9	12.5	9.9	45.4
25,000–49,999	1,123 (20.5)	26.0	25.6	33.2	27.2	13.5	10.1	43.9
50,999–99,999	1,775 (32.5)	27.1	24.8	31.6	26.4	12.6	11.4	40.3
100,999–199,999	1,301 (23.8)	23.1	20.8	27.7	24.2	15.5	11.7	37.8
≥200,000	282 (5.2)	17.4	17.0	20.6	23.1	14.8	11.6	35.1
Unknown	247 (4.5)	19.6	23.1	27.2	24.9	6.2	3.9	41.5
<b>Education</b>								
Less than high school diploma	78 (1.4)	44.5	51.4	57.5	44.5	22.1	30.0	66.2
High school diploma	943 (17.2)	31.5	32.8	38.4	32.1	15.3	13.1	48.0
Some college	1,455 (26.6)	25.2	23.4	31.7	22.8	10.9	8.6	39.9
Bachelor's degree	1,888 (34.5)	24.7	22.5	28.7	26.4	14.2	10.7	40.6
Professional degree	1,074 (19.6)	20.9	19.5	25.4	24.5	12.6	10.0	35.2
Unknown	33 (0.6)	25.2	23.2	28.2	23.2	10.5	5.5	28.2
<b>Employment status<sup>††</sup></b>								
Employed	3,431 (62.7)	30.1	29.1	36.4	32.1	17.9	15.0	47.8
Essential	1,785 (32.6)	35.5	33.6	42.4	38.5	24.7	21.7	54.0
Nonessential	1,646 (30.1)	24.1	24.1	29.9	25.2	10.5	7.8	41.0
Unemployed	761 (13.9)	32.0	29.4	37.8	25.0	7.7	4.7	45.9
Retired	1,278 (23.4)	9.6	8.7	12.1	11.3	4.2	2.5	19.6
<b>Unpaid adult caregiver status<sup>§§</sup></b>								
Yes	1,435 (26.2)	47.6	45.2	56.1	48.4	32.9	30.7	66.6
No	4,035 (73.8)	17.7	16.9	22.0	18.4	6.3	3.6	31.8
<b>Region<sup>¶¶</sup></b>								
Northeast	1,193 (21.8)	23.9	23.9	29.9	22.8	12.8	10.2	37.1
Midwest	1,015 (18.6)	22.7	21.1	27.5	24.4	9.0	7.5	36.1
South	1,921 (35.1)	27.9	26.5	33.4	29.1	15.4	12.5	44.4
West	1,340 (24.5)	25.8	24.2	30.9	26.7	14.0	10.9	43
<b>Rural-urban classification<sup>***</sup></b>								
Rural	599 (10.9)	26.0	22.5	29.3	25.4	11.5	10.2	38.3
Urban	4,871 (89.1)	25.5	24.6	31.1	26.4	13.5	10.7	41.2

See table footnotes on the next page.

**TABLE 1. (Continued) Respondent characteristics and prevalence of adverse mental health outcomes, increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 pandemic, and suicidal ideation — United States, June 24–30, 2020**

Characteristic	All respondents who completed surveys during June 24–30, 2020 weighted* no. (%)	Weighted %*						
		Conditions			COVID-19–related TSRD <sup>§</sup>	Started or increased substance use to cope with pandemic-related stress or emotions <sup>¶</sup>	Seriously considered suicide in past 30 days	≥1 adverse mental or behavioral health symptom
Anxiety disorder <sup>†</sup>	Depressive disorder <sup>†</sup>	Anxiety or depressive disorder <sup>†</sup>						
<b>Know someone who had positive test results for SARS-CoV-2</b>								
Yes	1,109 (20.3)	23.8	21.9	29.6	21.5	12.9	7.5	39.2
No	4,361 (79.7)	26.0	25.0	31.3	27.5	13.4	11.5	41.3
<b>Knew someone who died from COVID-19</b>								
Yes	428 (7.8)	25.8	20.6	30.6	28.1	11.3	7.6	40.1
No	5,042 (92.2)	25.5	24.7	31.0	26.1	13.4	10.9	41
<b>Receiving treatment for previously diagnosed condition</b>								
<b>Anxiety</b>								
Yes	536 (9.8)	59.6	52.0	66.0	51.9	26.6	23.6	72.7
No	4,934 (90.2)	21.8	21.3	27.1	23.5	11.8	9.3	37.5
<b>Depression</b>								
Yes	540 (9.9)	52.5	50.6	60.8	45.5	25.2	22.1	68.8
No	4,930 (90.1)	22.6	21.5	27.7	24.2	12.0	9.4	37.9
<b>Posttraumatic stress disorder</b>								
Yes	251 (4.6)	72.3	69.1	78.7	69.4	43.8	44.8	88
No	5,219 (95.4)	23.3	22.2	28.6	24.2	11.8	9.0	38.7

**Abbreviations:** COVID-19 = coronavirus disease 2019; TSRD = trauma- or stress-related disorder.

\* Survey weighting was employed to improve the cross-sectional June cohort representativeness of the U.S. population by gender, age, and race/ethnicity according to the 2010 U.S. Census with respondents in which gender, age, and race/ethnicity were reported. Respondents who reported a gender of “Other” or who did not report race/ethnicity were assigned a weight of one.

<sup>†</sup> Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder were assessed via the four-item Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-4). Those who scored ≥3 out of 6 on the Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD-2) and Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-2) subscales were considered symptomatic for each disorder, respectively.

<sup>§</sup> Disorders classified as TSRDs in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5) include posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), acute stress disorder (ASD), and adjustment disorders (ADs), among others. Symptoms of a TSRD precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic were assessed via the six-item Impact of Event Scale (IES-6) to screen for overlapping symptoms of PTSD, ASD, and ADs. For this survey, the COVID-19 pandemic was specified as the traumatic exposure to record peri- and posttraumatic symptoms associated with the range of stressors introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who scored ≥1.75 out of 4 were considered symptomatic.

<sup>¶</sup> 104 respondents selected “Prefer not to answer.”

\*\* The Other race or multiple races, non-Hispanic category includes respondents who identified as not being Hispanic and as more than one race or as American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or “Other.”

<sup>††</sup> Essential worker status was self-reported. The comparison was between employed respondents (n = 3,431) who identified as essential vs. nonessential. For this analysis, students who were not separately employed as essential workers were considered nonessential workers.

<sup>§§</sup> Unpaid adult caregiver status was self-reported. The definition of an unpaid caregiver for adults was a person who had provided unpaid care to a relative or friend aged ≥18 years to help them take care of themselves at any time in the last three months. Examples provided included helping with personal needs, household chores, health care tasks, managing a person’s finances, taking them to a doctor’s appointment, arranging for outside services, and visiting regularly to see how they are doing.

<sup>¶¶</sup> Region classification was determined by using the U.S. Census Bureau’s Census Regions and Divisions of the United States. [https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us\\_regdiv.pdf](https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us_regdiv.pdf).

\*\*\* Rural-urban classification was determined by using self-reported ZIP codes according to the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy definition of rurality. <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/datafiles.html>.

## Discussion

Elevated levels of adverse mental health conditions, substance use, and suicidal ideation were reported by adults in the United States in June 2020. The prevalence of symptoms of anxiety disorder was approximately three times those reported in the second quarter of 2019 (25.5% versus 8.1%), and prevalence of depressive disorder was approximately four times that reported in the second quarter of 2019 (24.3% versus 6.5%) (2). However, given the methodological differences and potential unknown biases in survey designs, this analysis might not be directly comparable with data reported on anxiety and depression disorders in 2019 (2). Approximately one quarter of respondents

reported symptoms of a TSRD related to the pandemic, and approximately one in 10 reported that they started or increased substance use because of COVID-19. Suicidal ideation was also elevated; approximately twice as many respondents reported serious consideration of suicide in the previous 30 days than did adults in the United States in 2018, referring to the previous 12 months (10.7% versus 4.3%) (6).

Mental health conditions are disproportionately affecting specific populations, especially young adults, Hispanic persons, black persons, essential workers, unpaid caregivers for adults, and those receiving treatment for preexisting psychiatric conditions. Unpaid caregivers for adults, many of whom are currently providing critical aid to persons at increased risk



**TABLE 2. Comparison of symptoms of adverse mental health outcomes among all respondents who completed surveys (N = 5,470), by respondent characteristic\* — United States, June 24–30, 2020**

Characteristic	Prevalence ratio <sup>¶</sup> (95% CI <sup>¶</sup> )			
	Symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder <sup>†</sup>	Symptoms of a TSRD related to COVID-19 <sup>§</sup>	Started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19	Serious consideration of suicide in past 30 days
<b>Gender</b>				
Female vs. male	1.04 (0.96–1.12)	0.88 (0.81–0.97)	0.85 (0.75–0.98)	0.70 (0.60–0.82)**
<b>Age group (yrs)</b>				
18–24 vs. 25–44	1.56 (1.44–1.68)**	1.28 (1.16–1.41)**	1.31 (1.12–1.53)**	1.59 (1.35–1.87)**
18–24 vs. 45–64	3.10 (2.79–3.44)**	2.67 (2.35–3.03)**	3.35 (2.75–4.10)**	6.66 (5.15–8.61)**
18–24 vs. ≥65	7.73 (6.19–9.66)**	5.01 (4.04–6.22)**	8.77 (5.95–12.93)**	12.51 (7.88–19.86)**
25–44 vs. 45–64	1.99 (1.79–2.21)**	2.09 (1.86–2.35)**	2.56 (2.14–3.07)**	4.18 (3.26–5.36)**
25–44 vs. ≥65	4.96 (3.97–6.20)**	3.93 (3.18–4.85)**	6.70 (4.59–9.78)**	7.86 (4.98–12.41)**
45–64 vs. ≥65	2.49 (1.98–3.15)**	1.88 (1.50–2.35)**	2.62 (1.76–3.9)**	1.88 (1.14–3.10)
<b>Race/Ethnicity<sup>††</sup></b>				
Hispanic vs. non-Hispanic black	1.35 (1.18–1.56)**	1.15 (1.00–1.33)	1.19 (0.97–1.46)	1.23 (0.98–1.55)
Hispanic vs. non-Hispanic Asian	2.27 (1.73–2.98)**	1.59 (1.24–2.04)**	3.29 (2.05–5.28)**	2.82 (1.74–4.57)**
Hispanic vs. non-Hispanic other race or multiple races	1.23 (0.98–1.55)	1.24 (0.96–1.61)	1.99 (1.27–3.13)**	1.89 (1.16–3.06)
Hispanic vs. non-Hispanic white	1.40 (1.27–1.54)**	1.50 (1.35–1.68)**	2.09 (1.79–2.45)**	2.35 (1.96–2.80)**
Non-Hispanic black vs. non-Hispanic Asian	1.68 (1.26–2.23)**	1.38 (1.07–1.78)	2.75 (1.70–4.47)**	2.29 (1.39–3.76)**
Non-Hispanic black vs. non-Hispanic other race or multiple races	0.91 (0.71–1.16)	1.08 (0.82–1.41)	1.67 (1.05–2.65)	1.53 (0.93–2.52)
Non-Hispanic black vs. non-Hispanic white	1.03 (0.91–1.17)	1.30 (1.14–1.48)**	1.75 (1.45–2.11)**	1.90 (1.54–2.36)**
Non-Hispanic Asian vs. non-Hispanic other race or multiple races	0.54 (0.39–0.76)**	0.78 (0.56–1.09)	0.61 (0.32–1.14)	0.67 (0.35–1.29)
Non-Hispanic Asian vs. non-Hispanic white	0.62 (0.47–0.80)**	0.95 (0.74–1.20)	0.64 (0.40–1.02)	0.83 (0.52–1.34)
Non-Hispanic other race or multiple races vs. non-Hispanic white	1.14 (0.91–1.42)	1.21 (0.94–1.56)	1.05 (0.67–1.64)	1.24 (0.77–2)

See table footnotes on the next page.

for severe illness from COVID-19, had a higher incidence of adverse mental and behavioral health conditions compared with others. Although unpaid caregivers of children were not evaluated in this study, approximately 39% of unpaid caregivers for adults shared a household with children (compared with 27% of other respondents). Caregiver workload, especially in multigenerational caregivers, should be considered for future assessment of mental health, given the findings of this report and hardships potentially faced by caregivers.

The findings in this report are subject to at least four limitations. First, a diagnostic evaluation for anxiety disorder or depressive disorder was not conducted; however, clinically validated screening instruments were used to assess symptoms. Second, the trauma- and stressor-related symptoms assessed were common to multiple TSRDs, precluding distinction among them; however, the findings highlight the importance of including COVID-19–specific trauma measures to gain insights into peri- and posttraumatic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (7). Third, substance use behavior was self-reported; therefore, responses might be subject to recall, response, and social desirability biases. Finally, given that the web-based survey might not be fully representative of the United States population, findings might have limited

generalizability. However, standardized quality and data inclusion screening procedures, including algorithmic analysis of click-through behavior, removal of duplicate responses and scrubbing methods for web-based panel quality were applied. Further the prevalence of symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder were largely consistent with findings from the Household Pulse Survey during June (1).

Markedly elevated prevalences of reported adverse mental and behavioral health conditions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic highlight the broad impact of the pandemic and the need to prevent and treat these conditions. Identification of populations at increased risk for psychological distress and unhealthy coping can inform policies to address health inequity, including increasing access to resources for clinical diagnoses and treatment options. Expanded use of telehealth, an effective means of delivering treatment for mental health conditions, including depression, substance use disorder, and suicidal ideation (8), might reduce COVID-19-related mental health consequences. Future studies should identify drivers of adverse mental and behavioral health during the COVID-19 pandemic and whether factors such as social isolation, absence of school structure, unemployment and other financial worries, and various forms of violence (e.g., physical,

TABLE 2. (Continued) Comparison of symptoms of adverse mental health outcomes among all respondents who completed surveys (N = 5,470), by respondent characteristic\* — United States, June 24–30, 2020

Characteristic	Prevalence ratio <sup>¶</sup> (95% CI <sup>¶</sup> )			
	Symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder <sup>†</sup>	Symptoms of a TSRD related to COVID-19 <sup>§</sup>	Started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19	Serious consideration of suicide in past 30 days
<b>Employment status</b>				
Employed vs. unemployed	0.96 (0.87–1.07)	1.28 (1.12–1.46)**	2.30 (1.78–2.98)**	3.21 (2.31–4.47)**
Employed vs. retired	3.01 (2.58–3.51)**	2.84 (2.42–3.34)**	4.30 (3.28–5.63)**	5.97 (4.20–8.47)**
Unemployed vs. retired	3.12 (2.63–3.71)**	2.21 (1.82–2.69)**	1.87 (1.30–2.67)**	1.86 (1.16–2.96)
<b>Essential vs. nonessential worker<sup>§§</sup></b>	1.42 (1.30–1.56)**	1.52 (1.38–1.69)**	2.36 (2.00–2.77)**	2.76 (2.29–3.33)**
<b>Unpaid caregiver for adults vs. not<sup>¶¶</sup></b>	2.55 (2.37–2.75)**	2.63 (2.42–2.86)**	5.28 (4.59–6.07)**	8.64 (7.23–10.33)**
<b>Rural vs. urban residence<sup>***</sup></b>	0.94 (0.82–1.07)	0.96 (0.83–1.11)	0.84 (0.67–1.06)	0.95 (0.74–1.22)
<b>Knows someone with positive SARS-CoV-2 test result vs. not</b>	0.95 (0.86–1.05)	0.78 (0.69–0.88)**	0.96 (0.81–1.14)	0.65 (0.52–0.81)**
<b>Knew someone who died from COVID-19 vs. not</b>	0.99 (0.85–1.15)	1.08 (0.92–1.26)	0.84 (0.64–1.11)	0.69 (0.49–0.97)
<b>Receiving treatment for anxiety vs. not</b>	2.43 (2.26–2.63)**	2.21 (2.01–2.43)**	2.27 (1.94–2.66)**	2.54 (2.13–3.03)**
<b>Receiving treatment for depression vs. not</b>	2.20 (2.03–2.39)**	1.88 (1.70–2.09)**	2.13 (1.81–2.51)**	2.35 (1.96–2.82)**
<b>Receiving treatment for PTSD vs. not</b>	2.75 (2.55–2.97)**	2.87 (2.61–3.16)**	3.78 (3.23–4.42)**	4.95 (4.21–5.83)**

**Abbreviations:** CI = confidence interval; COVID-19 = coronavirus disease 2019; PTSD = posttraumatic stress disorder; TSRD = trauma- or stress-related disorder.

\* Number of respondents for characteristics: gender (female = 2,784, male = 2,676), age group in years (18–24 = 731; 25–44 = 1,911; 45–64 = 1,895; ≥65 = 933), race/ethnicity (non-Hispanic white = 3453, non-Hispanic black = 663, non-Hispanic Asian = 256, non-Hispanic other race or multiple races = 164, Hispanic = 885).

<sup>†</sup> Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder were assessed via the four-item Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-4). Those who scored ≥3 out of 6 on the Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD-2) and Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-2) subscales were considered to have symptoms of these disorders.

<sup>§</sup> Disorders classified as TSRDs in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5) include PTSD, acute stress disorder (ASD), and adjustment disorders (ADs), among others. Symptoms of a TSRD precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic were assessed via the six-item Impact of Event Scale (IES-6) to screen for overlapping symptoms of PTSD, ASD, and ADs. For this survey, the COVID-19 pandemic was specified as the traumatic exposure to record peri- and posttraumatic symptoms associated with the range of stressors introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic. Persons who scored ≥1.75 out of 4 were considered to be symptomatic.

<sup>¶</sup> Comparisons within subgroups were evaluated on weighted responses via Poisson regressions used to calculate a prevalence ratio, 95% CI, and p-value (not shown). Statistical significance was evaluated at a threshold of  $\alpha = 0.005$  to account for multiple comparisons. In the calculation of prevalence ratios for started or increased substance use, respondents who selected "Prefer not to answer" (n = 104) were excluded.

\*\* P-value is statistically significant ( $p < 0.005$ ).

<sup>††</sup> Respondents identified as a single race unless otherwise specified. The non-Hispanic, other race or multiple races category includes respondents who identified as not Hispanic and as more than one race or as American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or 'Other'.

<sup>§§</sup> Essential worker status was self-reported. The comparison was between employed respondents (n = 3,431) who identified as essential vs. nonessential. For this analysis, students who were not separately employed as essential workers were considered nonessential workers.

<sup>¶¶</sup> Unpaid adult caregiver status was self-reported. The definition of an unpaid caregiver for adults was having provided unpaid care to a relative or friend aged ≥18 years to help them take care of themselves at any time in the last three months. Examples provided included helping with personal needs, household chores, health care tasks, managing a person's finances, taking them to a doctor's appointment, arranging for outside services, and visiting regularly to see how they are doing.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Rural-urban classification was determined by using self-reported ZIP codes according to the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy definition of rurality. <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/datafiles.html>.

emotional, mental, or sexual abuse) serve as additional stressors. Community-level intervention and prevention efforts should include strengthening economic supports to reduce financial strain, addressing stress from experienced racial discrimination, promoting social connectedness, and supporting persons at risk for suicide (9). Communication strategies should focus on promotion of health services<sup>§§§§,¶¶¶¶,\*\*\*\*\*</sup> and culturally and

linguistically tailored prevention messaging regarding practices to improve emotional well-being. Development and implementation of COVID-19–specific screening instruments for early identification of COVID-19–related TSRD symptoms would allow for early clinical interventions that might prevent progression from acute to chronic TSRDs. To reduce potential harms of increased substance use related to COVID-19, resources, including social support, comprehensive treatment options, and harm reduction services, are essential and should remain accessible. Periodic assessment of mental health, substance use, and suicidal ideation should evaluate the prevalence of psychological distress over time. Addressing mental health disparities and preparing support systems to mitigate mental health consequences as the pandemic evolves will continue to be needed urgently.

<sup>§§§§</sup> Disaster Distress Helpline (<https://www.samhsa.gov/disaster-preparedness>): 1-800-985-5990 (press 2 for Spanish), or text TalkWithUs for English or Hablanos for Spanish to 66746. Spanish speakers from Puerto Rico can text Hablanos to 1-787-339-2663.

<sup>¶¶¶¶</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Helpline (also known as the Treatment Referral Routing Service) for persons and families facing mental disorders, substance use disorders, or both: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline>, 1-800-662-HELP, or TTY 1-800-487-4889.

<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup> National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>): 1-800-273-TALK for English, 1-888-628-9454 for Spanish, or Lifeline Crisis Chat (<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/>).

**TABLE 3. Odds of incidence\* of symptoms of adverse mental health, substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19 pandemic, and suicidal ideation in the third survey wave, by essential worker status and unpaid adult caregiver status among respondents who completed monthly surveys from April through June (N = 1,497) — United States, April 2–8, May 5–12, and June 24–30, 2020**

Symptom or behavior	Essential worker <sup>†</sup> vs. all other employment statuses (nonessential worker, unemployed, retired)				Unpaid caregiver for adults <sup>§</sup> vs. not unpaid caregiver			
	Unadjusted		Adjusted <sup>¶</sup>		Unadjusted		Adjusted <sup>**</sup>	
	OR (95% CI) <sup>††</sup>	p-value <sup>††</sup>	OR (95% CI) <sup>††</sup>	p-value <sup>††</sup>	OR (95% CI) <sup>††</sup>	p-value <sup>††</sup>	OR (95% CI) <sup>††</sup>	p-value <sup>††</sup>
Symptoms of anxiety disorder <sup>§§</sup>	1.92 (1.29–2.87)	0.001	1.63 (0.99–2.69)	0.056	1.97 (1.25–3.11)	0.004	1.81 (1.14–2.87)	0.012
Symptoms of depressive disorder <sup>§§</sup>	1.49 (1.00–2.22)	0.052	1.13 (0.70–1.82)	0.606	2.29 (1.50–3.50)	<0.001	2.22 (1.45–3.41)	<0.001
Symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder <sup>§§</sup>	1.67 (1.14–2.46)	0.008	1.26 (0.79–2.00)	0.326	1.84 (1.19–2.85)	0.006	1.73 (1.11–2.70)	0.015
Symptoms of a TSRD related to COVID-19 <sup>¶¶</sup>	1.55 (0.86–2.81)	0.146	1.27 (0.63–2.56)	0.512	1.88 (0.99–3.56)	0.054	1.79 (0.94–3.42)	0.076
Started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19	2.36 (1.26–4.42)	0.007	2.04 (0.92–4.48)	0.078	3.51 (1.86–6.61)	<0.001	3.33 (1.75–6.31)	<0.001
Serious consideration of suicide in previous 30 days	0.93 (0.31–2.78)	0.895	0.53 (0.16–1.70)	0.285	3.00 (1.20–7.52)	0.019	3.03 (1.20–7.63)	0.019

**Abbreviations:** CI = confidence interval, COVID-19 = coronavirus disease 2019, OR = odds ratio, TSRD = trauma- and stressor-related disorder.

\* For outcomes assessed via the four-item Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-4), odds of incidence were marked by the presence of symptoms during May 5–12 or June 24–30, 2020, after the absence of symptoms during April 2–8, 2020. Respondent pools for prospective analysis of odds of incidence (did not screen positive for symptoms during April 2–8): anxiety disorder (n = 1,236), depressive disorder (n = 1,301) and anxiety disorder or depressive disorder (n = 1,190). For symptoms of a TSRD precipitated by COVID-19, started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19, and serious suicidal ideation in the previous 30 days, odds of incidence were marked by the presence of an outcome during June 24–30, 2020, after the absence of that outcome during May 5–12, 2020. Respondent pools for prospective analysis of odds of incidence (did not report symptoms or behavior during May 5–12): symptoms of a TSRD (n = 1,206), started or increased substance use (n = 1,408), and suicidal ideation (n = 1,456).

<sup>†</sup> Essential worker status was self-reported. For Table 3, essential worker status was determined by identification as an essential worker during the June 24–30 survey. Essential workers were compared with all other respondents, not just employed respondents (i.e., essential workers vs. all other employment statuses [nonessential worker, unemployed, and retired], not essential vs. nonessential workers).

<sup>§</sup> Unpaid adult caregiver status was self-reported. The definition of an unpaid caregiver for adults was having provided unpaid care to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves at any time in the last three months. Examples provided included helping with personal needs, household chores, health care tasks, managing a person's finances, taking them to a doctor's appointment, arranging for outside services, and visiting regularly to see how they are doing.

<sup>¶</sup> Adjusted for gender, employment status, and unpaid adult caregiver status.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Adjusted for gender, employment status, and essential worker status.

<sup>††</sup> Respondents who completed surveys from all three waves (April, May, June) were eligible to be included in an unweighted longitudinal analysis. Comparisons within subgroups were evaluated via logit-linked Binomial regressions used to calculate unadjusted and adjusted odds ratios, 95% confidence intervals, and p-values. Statistical significance was evaluated at a threshold of  $\alpha = 0.05$ . In the calculation of odds ratios for started or increased substance use, respondents who selected "Prefer not to answer" (n = 11) were excluded.

<sup>§§</sup> Symptoms of anxiety disorder and depressive disorder were assessed via the PHQ-4. Those who scored  $\geq 3$  out of 6 on the two-item Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD-2) and two-item Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-2) subscales were considered symptomatic for each disorder, respectively.

<sup>¶¶</sup> Disorders classified as TSRDs in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5) include posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), acute stress disorder (ASD), and adjustment disorders (ADs), among others. Symptoms of a TSRD precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic were assessed via the six-item Impact of Event Scale (IES-6) to screen for overlapping symptoms of PTSD, ASD, and ADs. For this survey, the COVID-19 pandemic was specified as the traumatic exposure to record peri- and posttraumatic symptoms associated with the range of potential stressors introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who scored  $\geq 1.75$  out of 4 were considered symptomatic.

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<sup>1</sup>Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia; <sup>2</sup>Austin Health, Melbourne, Australia; <sup>3</sup>CDC COVID-19 Response Team; <sup>4</sup>Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts; <sup>5</sup>Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; <sup>6</sup>University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia.

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**Summary****What is already known about this topic?**

Communities have faced mental health challenges related to COVID-19—associated morbidity, mortality, and mitigation activities.

**What is added by this report?**

During June 24–30, 2020, U.S. adults reported considerably elevated adverse mental health conditions associated with COVID-19. Younger adults, racial/ethnic minorities, essential workers, and unpaid adult caregivers reported having experienced disproportionately worse mental health outcomes, increased substance use, and elevated suicidal ideation.

**What are the implications for public health practice?**

The public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic should increase intervention and prevention efforts to address associated mental health conditions. Community-level efforts, including health communication strategies, should prioritize young adults, racial/ethnic minorities, essential workers, and unpaid adult caregivers.

administration of the survey in June. No other potential conflicts of interest were disclosed.

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# Self-Care

## In a Covid-19 World



With the recent emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic, the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and **World Health Organization (WHO)** have offered guidelines to minimize the spread of this extremely infectious virus. You may feel scared when you hear unfamiliar terms recommended to you such as quarantine or social distancing. Please understand that while these feelings of fear are normal, you should try to avoid panic. Continue complying with the recommended isolation precautions, along with other basic measures such as:

- Washing your hands often and using hand sanitizer
- Sneezing/coughing into your elbow or a tissue
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Cleaning and sanitizing surfaces
- Staying home if sick and keeping away from others who may be sick

In this time of uncertainty, we here at View Point Health want to ensure you have access to the most helpful resources available. If you find that you are struggling with feelings of worry or anxiety, please consider engaging in self-care or other healthy behaviors which will help mitigate the distress you may be feeling. Some self-care tips to consider:

- Exercise
- Stick to normal routines as much as possible
- Eat healthy foods
- Enjoy hobbies or other calming activities like reading, playing board/video games or watching movies with your family, listening to music, etc
- Do deep breathing exercises, meditate, or pray
- Begin a journal
- Use Skype, FaceTime, or other video conferencing technology to check-in with family and friends

If the above self-care tips are not helpful, you may need additional assistance. Overwhelming sadness or anxiety, intense anger or extreme stress/irritability, eating or sleeping too much or too little, inability to normally function, among others, may be signs that you should reach out for help. Individuals served may contact their View Point Health Provider and ask about remote assessments via Zoom. Suicidal thoughts should be reported to the **Georgia Crisis & Access Line (GCAL)** or the **National Suicide Prevention Hotline** right away - these resources are available to you 24/7. **In the event of a medical or psychological emergency, please call 911.**

In addition to the above tips, educating yourself is a good place to start combating any fear you may be experiencing. Visit the **CDC** and **WHO** websites, or other reputable informational sources, for more information.

We understand this is a challenging time for all of us. Please know that the measures you take will help bring this pandemic to an end.

*We can all get through this together... We believe in recovery!*

## Resources:

### **View Point Health**

175 Gwinnett Drive  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
[myviewpointhealth.org](http://myviewpointhealth.org)  
(678)209-2411

### **Georgia Crisis & Access Line (GCAL)**

1-800-715-4225

### **National Suicide Prevention Hotline**

1-800-273 TALK (8255)

### **MentalHealth.gov**

### **National Alliance on Mental Illness**

[nami.org](http://nami.org)

### **Georgia Department of Public Health**

Covid-19 hotline 844-442-2681  
[dph.georgia.gov](http://dph.georgia.gov)

### **State of Georgia**

[georgia.gov](http://georgia.gov)

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

[cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)

### **World Health Organization (WHO)**

[who.int](http://who.int)

Sponsored by:



Georgia Department of  
Behavioral Health and  
Developmental Disabilities  
Office of Behavioral Health Prevention

# GWINNETT

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**Audrey Arona, MD**  
CEO and Health Director



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# GWINNETT

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



# Gwinnett County Board of Health

## Board Chair

Louise Radloff

## Board Vice-chair

Mike Mason  
Mayor, Peachtree Corners

## County Commission Chair

Charlotte J. Nash

## Superintendent

### Gwinnett County Public Schools

Alvin Wilbanks

## Public Health Consumer

Alan Bier, MD

## Appointee by Governing Authority

James Smith, MD

## Consumer Representative

Joy Monroe

## Our vision

**A healthy, protected  
and prepared community**

## Our mission

**To protect and improve the  
health of our community by  
monitoring and preventing disease;  
promoting health and well-being;  
and preparing for disasters**

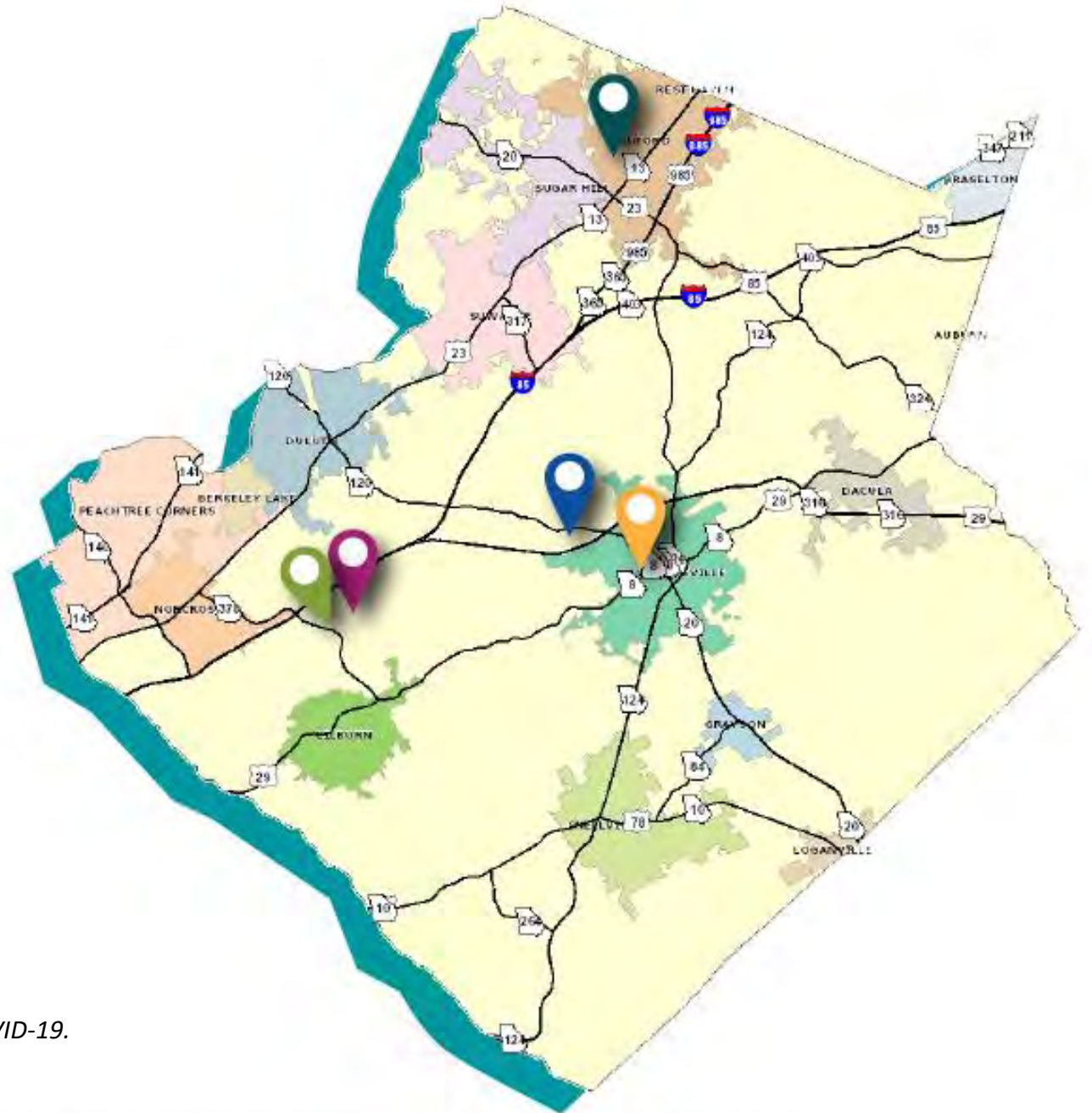


# GWINNETT LOCATIONS

- District Office**  
2570 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
770-339-4280  
Hours M-F 8a-5p
- Adolescent Health Program**  
Meadowcreek High School  
4455 Steve Reynolds Boulevard  
Norcross, GA 30093  
Follows GCPS schedule
- Buford Health Center**  
2755 Sawnee Avenue  
Buford, GA 30518  
770-614-2401  
Hours M-F 8a-5p
- Norcross Health Center**  
5030 Georgia Belle Court  
Norcross, GA 30093  
770-638-5700  
Hours M-F 8a-5p

- Lawrenceville Health Center**  
455 Grayson Highway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
770-339-4283  
Hours M-F 8a-5p
- Preventive Health Center**  
455 Grayson Highway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
678-442-6880  
Hours M-F 8a-5p
- Gwinnett Environmental Health**  
455 Grayson Highway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
770-963-5132  
Hours M-F 8a-5p

*Hours listed are hours during COVID-19.*



# HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

Our health department services touch every person who resides in, works in or visits our county. Our teams work every day, often behind the scenes, to keep *everyone* safe.



# Emergency Preparedness

## COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

**We were prepared and will be for the future.**

- ✓ **COVID-19 Testing** Nearly 100,000 people tested since April.
- ✓ **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Distribution**  
We were the Northeast Georgia distribution hub for PPE.
- ✓ **Emerging Pathogen Updates**  
Epidemiologists provide weekly updates via email and web.
- ✓ **Weekly Partner Calls**  
We hold weekly calls with Gwinnett Municipal Association, community businesses and education partners.
- ✓ **Planning** Mega-testing site at Infinite Energy Center
- ✓ **Massive restructuring of our organization**
- ✓ **Incredible growth in our workforce**

**Hours of Overtime 20,376 MRC Volunteer Hours 2200+**





Georgia Governor Brian Kemp

"A model for  
the state  
and nation."

- CDC CRAFT



CDC Covid Response Assistance Field Team (CRAFT)



US Surgeon General Jerome Adams, MD

# Emergency Preparedness COVID-19 VACCINATION PLANNING

**We're ready to vaccinate our community.**

## ✓ Distribution

We are locating sites to support mass vaccination when the vaccine becomes more widely available.

## ✓ Storage

Our Health Department has secured the appropriate freezers to support the extreme low temperatures required by the vaccine makers.

## ✓ Survey

We launched a community-wide survey to learn more about attitudes, beliefs and barriers regarding the vaccine.



**Testing continues throughout vaccination phase of pandemic.**



# COVID-19 WHERE WE ARE TODAY

as 12/1/20 at 9 AM



## WORLDWIDE

63,384,168  
Confirmed Cases

1,470,971  
Deaths



## GEORGIA

422,133  
Confirmed Cases

8,778  
Deaths

34,824  
Hospitalizations

## UNITED STATES



13,546,787  
Confirmed Cases

268,129  
Deaths

## GWINNETT

36,754  
Confirmed Cases

494  
Deaths

3,136  
Hospitalizations

## 14 Day Case Rate

**Georgia** 285 per 100,000 | 7.8% Positivity

**Gwinnett** 290 per 100,000 | 8.4% Positivity

# Epidemiology

## COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

### COVID-19 Positive Individuals

As of Tuesday 12/1 at 9:00 AM

**36,754** Confirmed

### Outbreaks

Data as of Tuesday 12/1 at 9:00 AM

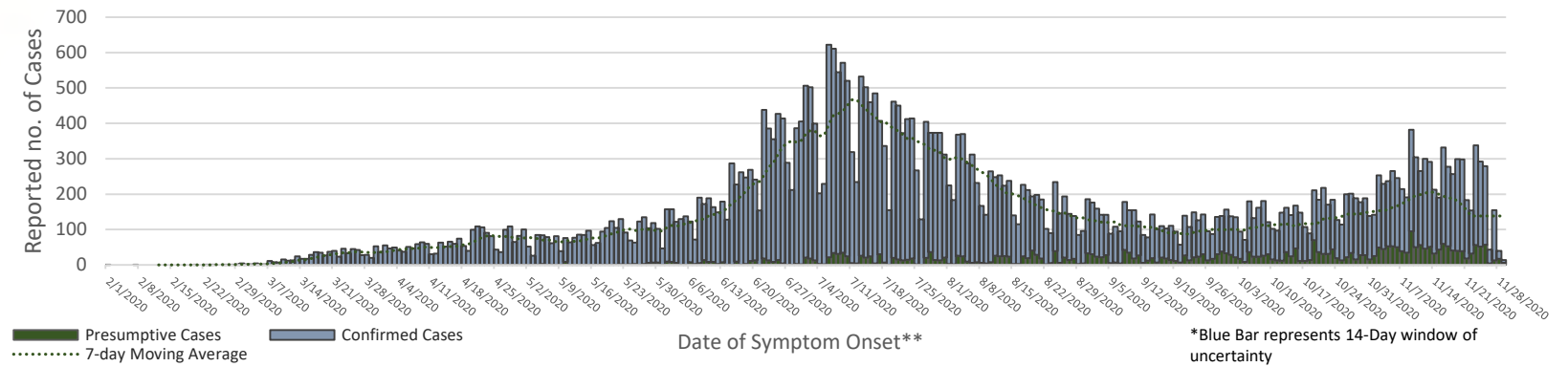
**253** reported outbreaks

- ✓ **COVID-19 Case Investigation**  
Individuals that test positive with COVID-19 are contacted to provide education and identify contacts.
- ✓ **Emerging Pathogen Updates**  
Our epidemiologists provide LOCAL weekly updates via email and web.
- ✓ **Weekly Partner Calls**  
We hold weekly calls with Gwinnett Municipal Association, faith partners, community businesses and education partners.
- ✓ **Incredible growth in our workforce**  
Staff grew from 4 epidemiologists to 200+.

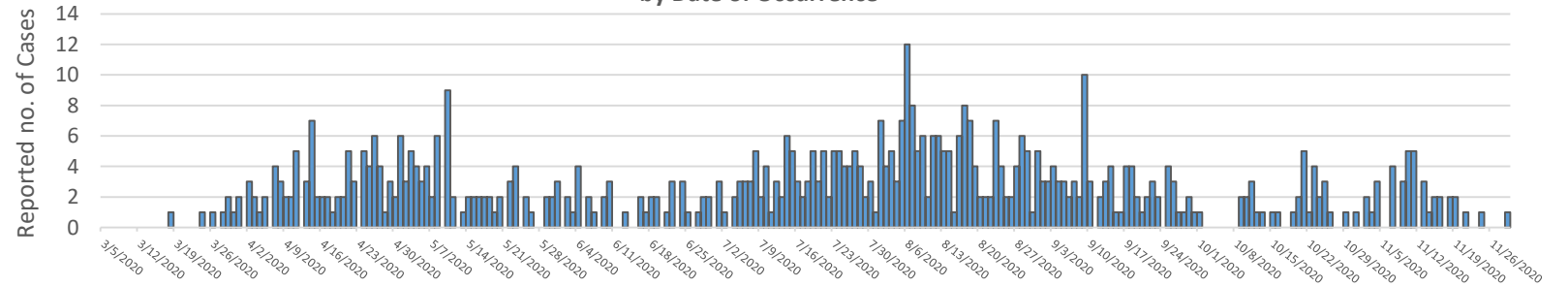
# COVID-19 WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

as 11/30/2020 9 AM

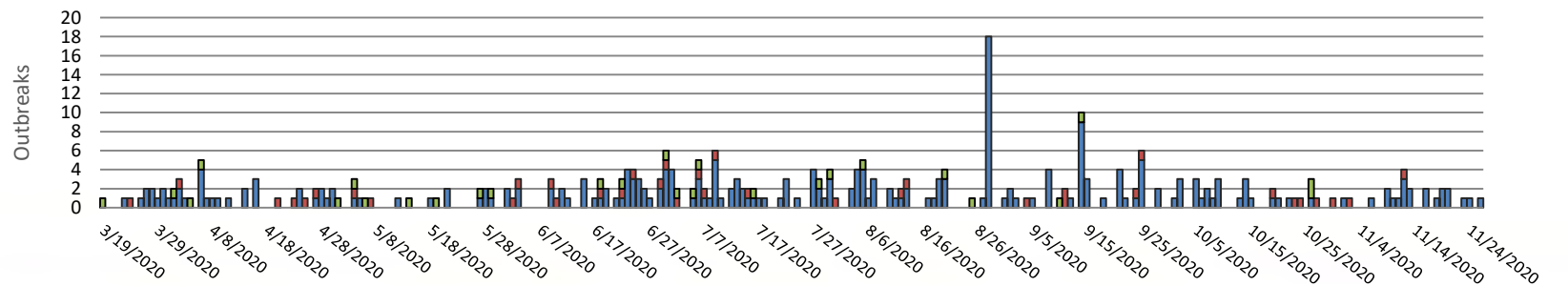
Reported COVID-19 Cases in residents of Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties, as of 11/30/2020<sup>†</sup>



Reported Deaths Among COVID-19 Cases in residents of Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties, by Date of Occurrence<sup>†</sup>



Number of Outbreaks Per County Over Time, Gwinnett, Newton and Rockdale Counties, as of 11/30/2020





# Epidemiology

## WHAT WE DO VS. WHAT WE DO DURING A PANDEMIC

- ✓ **Provide disease education and prevention information** to the community
- ✓ **Report disease occurrences** to GA Department of Public Health
- ✓ **Investigate reported disease cases and outbreaks**
- ✓ **Implement disease control** in facilities that experience outbreaks



- ✓ **Case investigation for tens of thousands of disease cases**
- ✓ **Provide education and guidance to positive cases.**
- ✓ **Provide weekly calls to our partners to keep our community informed.**
- ✓ **Gather massive amounts of data weekly for emerging pathogen reports distributed to interested medical and community partners.**
- ✓ **Manage hundreds of new staff.**



- ✓ **Provide disease education and prevention information** to the community
- ✓ **Report disease occurrences** to GA Department of Public Health
- ✓ **Investigate reported disease cases and outbreaks**
- ✓ **Implement disease control** in facilities that experience outbreaks

# Epidemiology

## FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST 84 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Your health department monitors individuals with reportable diseases to ensure they have the education and treatment they need to prevent widespread infection in Gwinnett.

We're Gwinnett's first line of defense against over 5,000 non-COVID-19 notifiable disease cases.

### ENDING THE EPIDEMIC

**HIV** Gwinnett is one of 48 counties in the U.S. with highest rate of HIV+ infections. Goal: Reduce number of new HIV diagnoses 90% in 10 years.

**PrEP** We now offer Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis in our health centers to help protect against HIV infections.

Due to COVID-19, general notifiable disease numbers are down for 2020. Post-COVID-19, the health department expects these numbers to expand.

In addition, due to unused facilities, our county is at an increased risk of other illnesses, like Legionnaires' disease.

We have ongoing transmission in Gwinnett of multiple non-COVID-19 reportable diseases:

Tuberculosis

HIV/AIDS

Hepatitis A

Syphilis

Perinatal Hepatitis B

Chlamydia

Gonorrhea

# Environmental Health

The Health Department is responsible for inspecting

- ✓ **1,000+** Public, neighborhood and apartment complex Pools
- ✓ **2,635** Restaurant facilities
  - In 2020, the county added **62** new restaurants and had **126** changes in ownership
- ✓ **100+** tourist accommodations (Hotels/Motels)
- ✓ **1,425** Septic applications in 2020
- ✓ County **doubled** body art establishments

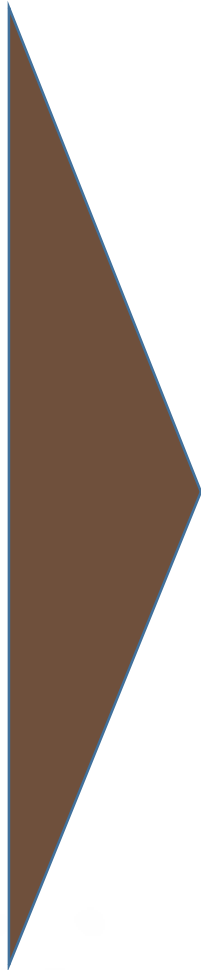
We do this with **24** inspectors.

# Environmental Health

WHAT WE DO VS. WHAT WE DO DURING A PANDEMIC

## Inspections for:

- ✓ Restaurants
- ✓ Pools
- ✓ Septic
- ✓ Tattoo establishments



- ✓ COVID-19 test site management
- ✓ Call center management
- ✓ Provide operation guidance to restaurants



## Prioritizing continued inspections for:

- ✓ Restaurants
- ✓ Pools
- ✓ Septic
- ✓ Tattoo establishments

# Clinics and Services

## WHAT WE DO VS. WHAT WE DO DURING A PANDEMIC

### Even during COVID-19, we continued to provide services.

- Immunizations
- WIC
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screenings
- Child Health
- Dental Care
- Family Planning
- STD Testing and Treatment
- International Travel Clinic
- Pregnancy Case Management
- Children First

✓ We fill in the gaps for individuals and families who don't have access to healthcare and preventive services.



WIC serves over 63,000 people in Gwinnett.

The Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) is critical infrastructure that protects the health and well-being of our nation.

WIC services have remained operational during the pandemic at all our locations for our clients to receive their vouchers. We also hosted socially-distanced farmers' markets during the summer.

# CONTACT US

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**GWINNETT**  
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT





Comments/Questions  
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