

TOP LOCATION DECISION FACTORS

in ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TOP LOCATION DECISION FACTORS	RANKINGS				
	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Labor Costs	1	2	1	2	2
Highway Accessibility	2	1	2	4	5
Corporate Tax Rate	3	6	6	7	6
State & Local Incentives	4	4	4	1	4
Availability of Telecommunications Services	5	•	•	•	•
Tax Exemption	6	8	8	6	3
Occupancy / Construction Costs	7	7	7	5	8
Availability of Skilled Labor	8	3	3	3	1
Energy Availability & Costs	9	10	5	8	•
Availability of High Speed Internet	10	5	10	•	•

• = Not in top ten factors for year shown. Source: Area Development Magazine, Corporate Site Selectors Survey, 2002 to 2006.

2006 BARTOW BRIEF

- Actions from leaders on county and city levels resulted in a lowering of Property Tax Millage Rates throughout Bartow in 2006, making Bartow County's cost of doing business even more attractive.
- Overall Cost of Doing Business Index in Bartow is 91.1 (100=National Average; overall CODB Index includes labor costs, real estate costs, state/local taxes and utilities). (Source: CH2M Hill Lockwood-Greene, Community Assessment for Bartow County, May 2006)
- Actions from leaders in Bartow County and Adairsville increased Freeport Tax Exemption status on manufacturing inventories from 20% to 40% in 2006, which has already resulted in retention of some manufacturers, and has prepared the way for possible expansions in the future.
- The "overall cost of doing business, including labor costs, is approximately 9% lower than the national average. ...Manufacturing labor costs are generally 5-6% less than the national average, while warehouse and distribution labor costs are slightly lower." (Source: CH2M Hill Lockwood-Greene, Community Assessment for Bartow County, May 2006)
- North Metro Technical College broke ground on a new 56,000 square foot Allied Health building, and attained accreditation with the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to award associate degrees.
- Georgia Highlands College and North Metro Technical College have been working closely together to provide a seamless education for students.
- Bartow County, as part of the Atlanta Metropolitan Statistical Area, is pleased to share in the following. A study released November 2006, confirms that Atlanta leads the nation in attracting highly educated 25 to 34 year olds, known as the "young and the restless," the most coveted demographic in the country. Metro Atlanta registered the fastest market share growth of the top 50 metropolitan areas in the country in the last decade, indicating the area is attracting more of the nation's share than any other top 50 region. (Source: Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, February 2007)
- Progress made on over 20 Georgia Department of Transportation projects and many more local road improvements, including these more noteworthy projects: I-75 Repaving through Bartow, US 411 Repaving, Widening of GA 133/Old Alabama Road Project (the Cartersville Bypass), US 411 Connector Project, and Hwy 20 Connector project.
- Local incentives have proven competitive for existing industry expansions and recruitment of new industries. The policy is tied to quality capital investment, quality job creation (as defined by wages and benefits), environmental stewardship and good corporate citizenship.