

Peace, Prosperity, and Peril

Chapter Preview

Georgia character word: Pride

Terms: telecommute, email, Reaganomics, Quality Basic Education, per capita income, downsizing, bankruptcy, HOPE scholarship program, infrastructure, terrorism, al-Qaeda, Georgia Regional Transportation Authority

People: George Busbee, Joe Frank Harris, Mack Mattingly, Cynthia McKinney, Newt Gingrich, Sam Nunn, Zell Miller, Roy Barnes, Sonny Perdue

Places: Iraq, Centennial Olympic Park, Afghanistan

Section 1 The 1980s

Section 2 The 1990s

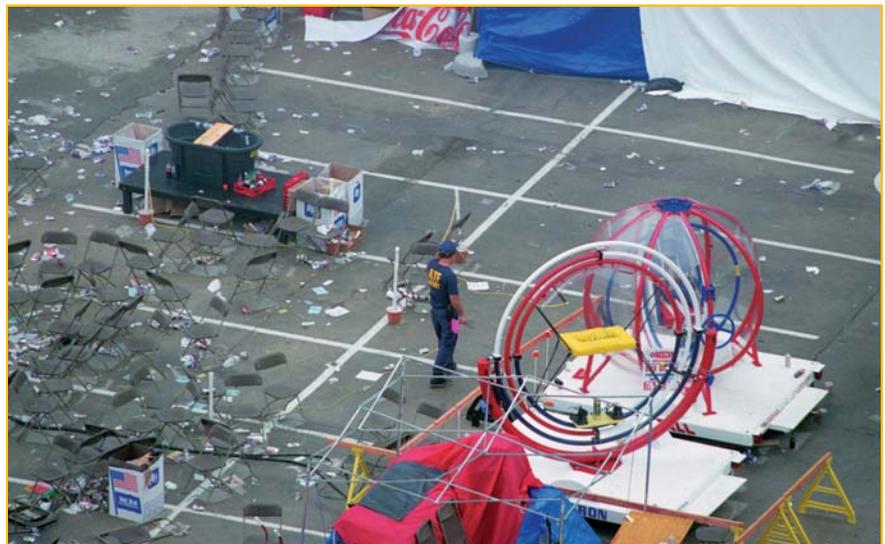
Section 3 Terrorism at Home and Abroad

Section 4 Georgia in a New Century

Opposite page: Stephen Kipkorir of Kenya leads the 1500 metre finals at the 1996 Olympics. **Right:** An ATF agent examines the sight of the Centennial Park bombing.

The final decades of the twentieth century and the arrival of the new millennium were periods of sharp contrasts in Georgia and the United States. The economies of the nation and the state struggled through the 1980s, often called the “Decade of Greed,” only to give rise to an era of prosperity and surplus budgets in the 1990s. As a new millennium began, the free-spending, good times waned and both state and nation grappled once more with budget shortages and difficult financial decisions. Many problems that had been building through the end of the twentieth century came to the forefront as the twentieth-first century began.

As the Cold War with the Soviet Union drew to a close, Americans and Georgians focused their attention on international terrorism. We faced, and continue to face, rising threats to the security of our citizens both abroad and at home. Terrorism spread to include 2001’s direct attack on the United States.





Signs of the Times

1980-2005

Population: 5,463,087 in 1980 and 8,186,453 in 2000

Life Expectancy: In the 1980s, males could expect to live 69.9 years, females 77.6 years. At the end of the century, that had risen to 73.1 years and 79.1 years, respectively.

Costs of Living: In the 1980s, a new home cost \$76,400, a first-class stamp cost \$0.15, a gallon of regular gas was \$1.25, a dozen eggs cost \$0.91, and a gallon of milk was \$2.16. The minimum wage in 1980 was \$3.10; in 2000, it was \$5.15.

Art/Architecture: Outstanding artists of the period included Wayne Thiebaud, Christo, Keith Haring, Andy Warhol, Annie Liebowitz, William Eggleston, and Maya Lin. Famous architectural highlights included Trump Tower in New York, the High Museum in Atlanta, Union Station in Washington, and the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in St. Petersburg. There was an emphasis on making offices and homes energy efficient.

Fads/Fashions: Fast food restaurants such as McDonald's, Burger King, Hardee's, and Taco Bell grew in popularity. Favored candies included Skittles and Sweetarts. Cabbage Patch dolls became collectibles. Coca Cola introduced the New Coke, but sales plummeted. Leading clothing designers were Anne Klein, Perry Ellis, Donna Karan, Calvin Klein, Liz Claiborne, DKNY, Tommy Hilfiger. Dress down Fridays and casual Fridays became popular at work.

Music: MTV was born, and the CD revolutionized the music industry. Pop, rock, New Wave, punk, country, rap, and hip hop were all popular. Artists included L. L. Cool J., Talking Heads, David Bowie, Garth Brooks, George Strait, Willie Nelson, Mariah Carey, Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen, U2, and Britney Spears. Musicals were big including *Cats*, *Les Miserables*, and *The Producers*.

Literature: Online bookstores such as Amazon.com debuted. Diet books, self-improvement books, and self-help titles became best-sellers. Popular writers included John Grisham, Stephen King, Scott Turow, Michael Crichton, Tom Clancy, Danielle Steele, Tom Wolfe, and Alice Walker. Nonfiction best-sellers included *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, *The Beverly Hills Diet*, and *Iacocca: An Autobiography*.

Religion: The National Council of Churches of Christ issued new Bibles using gender-free terms such as *humankind* and *humanity* rather than *mankind*.

Leisure Time: Video games became very popular. Team sports were popular in school especially football, basketball, baseball, and soccer. Favorite television programs included "Cheers," "Sixty Minutes," "Seinfeld," "Touched by an Angel," "Friends," "Frasier," "Survivor," "American Idol," "NYPD Blue," "CSI," "West Wing," and "Law and Order." Movies of the period were *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Cocoon*, *On Golden Pond*, *Tootsie*, *Dances with Wolves*, *Silence of the Lambs*, *Schindler's List*, *Forrest Gump* (filmed in Georgia), *Braveheart*, and *Titanic*.

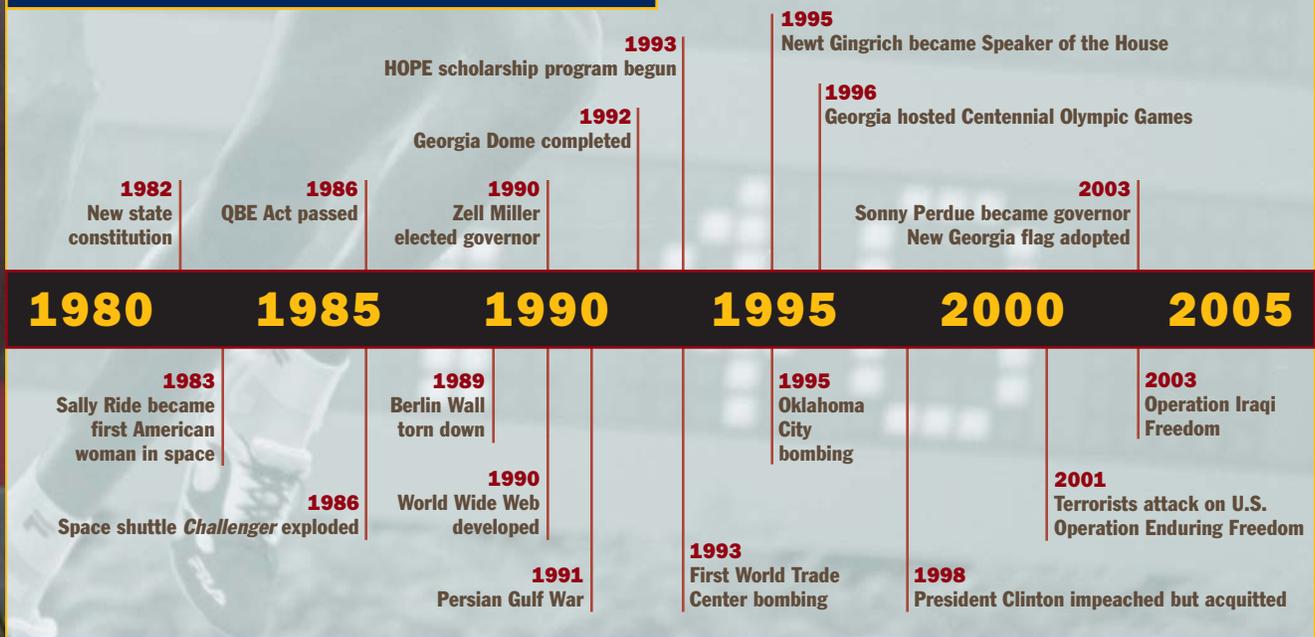
Education: Statewide and national testing to measure student achievement spread throughout the educational systems of country, as did efforts to hold schools and teachers accountable. Federal and state "No Child Left Behind" legislation passed to provide educational accountability, eliminate social promotions, provide remedial resources for children unable to meet criteria for promotions.

Transportation: Discount airfares were popular. Minivans and RV's made travel and camping out popular.

Science/Inventions: Americans began using personal computers at offices and homes. The first reusable space shuttle, *Columbia*, was launched. VCR sales rose 72 percent in one year to become the fastest selling home appliance in history. Americans began trading on the stock market over the Internet.



Figure 42 Timeline: 1980–2005



Section 1

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the end of the Cold War,
- Georgia's governors in the 1980s,
- the “two Georgias” debate, and

• **vocabulary terms:**

telecommute, email, Reaganomics, Quality Basic Education, and per capita income.



Above: Rural residents often have few choices for their television viewing and usually cannot receive cable television programs at all. A satellite TV dish can pick up television signals from satellites. That gives dish users many more choices.

The 1980s

The 1980s was the age of the personal computer. As small computers became more affordable, they became standard equipment in offices as well as homes. Adding personal computers in the home allowed people to **telecommute**, to work at home while keeping in touch with

the office through the computer. **Email** (sending messages electronically on the computer) became standard as the World Wide Web was developed in 1990.

Schools began to purchase computers for use in classrooms. The children of the decade became the first generation of Americans to grow up using computers as comfortably and naturally as their parents had used such common household appliances as dishwashers and toasters.

Personal computers were only a small part of the technology leaps of the period. Computers soon replaced cash registers and adding machines and led to the widespread use of automatic teller machines (ATMs). Computers were joined by other devices made possible by the use of transistors and microchips—fiber optics, fax machines, scanners, cellular telephones, and the Internet.

The children of the 1980s also grew up in front of television sets. During the decade, the rapid expansion in cable channels meant that two or three networks no longer had a hold on television programming. The growth in satellite dishes and cable services led to new television networks for specific, small audiences. There were channels that appealed only to men, only to women, only to children, only to animal lovers, only to shoppers, only to golfers. Channels appeared for doctors, for schools, for lawyers, for ministers. Homes received hundreds of channels, some from international sites. And the children of the 1980s watched plenty of television. It is estimated that the average American spent over thirty hours a week in front of the television set.

The End of the Cold War

The 1980s saw President Carter defeated in his bid for a second term as the nation turned to 69-year-old Ronald Reagan, a former actor and governor of California. Reagan was called the “Great Communicator” for his ease in using television to strike a positive cord with citizens throughout the nation.

Reagan, who served from 1981 to 1989, is remembered most for two aspects of his presidency. The first was an economic policy known as **Reaganomics**, which defined the 1980s. The major features of his policy included supply-side economics, tax cuts, heavy defense spending, limited government, reductions in government workers, and limited regulations on industry and growth.

Did You Know?

“**Snail mail**” is the term used to describe the postal service.

Spotlight on the Economy

Reaganomics

President Reagan believed in limiting the role of the federal government. As a part of that policy, he reduced federal spending on domestic programs and reduced the number of government employees. He also moved to deregulate industries such as the airlines and savings and loan associations by reducing government controls.

Reagan's **supply-side economics** was based on a theory that lowered taxes would lead to an expansion of the economy as business and industry, and even individuals, invested the money they saved on taxes in the economy. Reagan's massive tax cuts, which were a part of the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, cut income taxes by 25 percent over a three-year period and cut capital gains taxes. Putting more money in the pockets of individuals and corporations was supposed to result in an expanding economy that would be stronger and healthier. But inflation still gripped the nation and the Federal Reserve Board had to raise interest rates, making it harder for banks, businesses, and industries to borrow money.

Reagan also believed that the nation's security depended upon a strong defense. He increased military spending in unprecedented amounts as he continued America's Cold War with the Soviet Union. While Reagan reduced domestic spending, he could not control Congress, which continued to fund social programs. Between Congress's spending on domestic issues and Reagan's spending on national defense, the nation spent far more than it took in. The federal deficit was almost \$200 billion by the end of Reagan's first term.

In 1982, the nation entered a severe recession. Over 10 percent of the nation's work force was unemployed. In 1983, that recession slowed as the Federal Reserve Board cut interest rates to make borrowing easier. Armed with



Above: Ronald Reagan was one of the most popular presidents of the twentieth century. He had a remarkable ability to connect with millions of people across the country.

borrowing power and with the extra income from the tax cuts, citizens began to spend more and the economy improved. Businesses began to earn a profit again, and unemployed workers were hired back into their jobs. By the end of Reagan's tenure as president, unemployment had dropped to 5.5 percent, the lowest in over a decade. But, the national debt continued to rise as Reagan and Congress spent money they did not have.

Near the close of Reagan's presidency, in October 1987, the stock market lost over 500 points in one day. While the crash did not cause another "Great Depression," it did signal that the American economy was in trouble. The government, America's businesses and industry, and individual citizens were all spending more than they were making and were borrowing too much. Reaganomics had provided a good time for almost a full decade, but economic problems were looming in the nation's future.

The second aspect of his presidency was Reagan's transition from the tough, defense-minded Cold Warrior to an international peacemaker. In that role, he worked with the Soviet Union's Mikhail Gorbachev to end the Cold War, which had dominated American foreign policy since the close of World War II.

The end of the Cold War led to the tearing down of the wall that had split Germany in two since 1961. It was a symbol of the closed society of the communist-ruled Soviet Union. In 1989, crowds of German citizens literally tore down the wall that divided Berlin into East and West.

At the same time, the people in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, and East Germany overthrew their communist governments and demanded free elections. By 1991, the Soviet Union had collapsed as its satellite republics declared their independence.

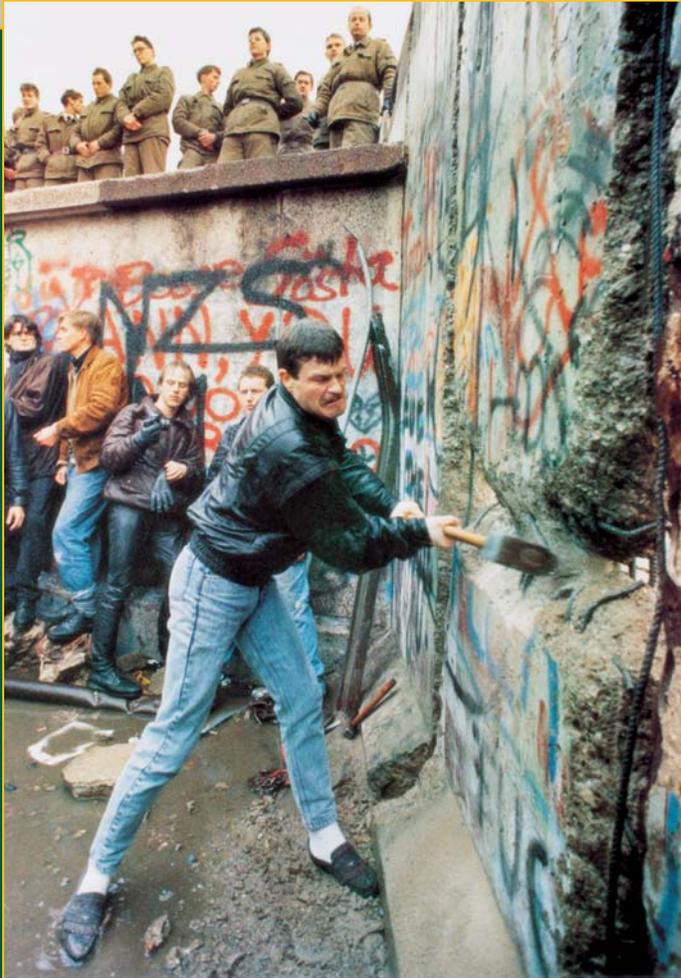
Georgia During the 1980s

For most of the 1980s, two men led the state of Georgia—George Busbee and Joe Frank Harris. Both took office on plans for economic development and educational improvements, and both leaders delivered on their commitments to the voters.

George Busbee

Serving as Georgia's governor from 1975 through 1983, George Busbee had promised Georgians a businesslike approach to government and improvements in education. Busbee, a native of Vienna, focused on bringing new industries to the state. Each year from 1978 through 1983, Busbee brought over \$1 billion in new and expanded industrial development to Georgia. Many of his economic expansions were the result of his efforts to have foreign companies invest in Georgia. Under his leadership, international facilities in the state jumped from 350 in 1978 to 1,255 in 1988. That expansion continued in the 1990s. Today, Georgia is known as a global business center. There are over 1,600 internationally owned facilities in Georgia, representing 39 different countries. Over 53 nations have consular, trade, or chamber of commerce offices in Georgia, and there are 10 international banks based in the state.

Busbee is also credited with expanding the Department of Industry and Trade and for opening state information offices in Canada, Europe, and the Far East. He provided



Above: For almost thirty years, the Berlin Wall was a symbol of the Cold War. In November 1989, East and West German citizens tore the wall down.

Did You Know?

As of September 2002, there were nearly **125,500** employees working in international facilities in Georgia.

support to upgrade the state's ports and highway system, which helped the state's economy by allowing business expansions, increased imports and exports, and commerce.

Joe Frank Harris

Governor Joe Frank Harris served from 1983 to 1991 and had to deal with a slowing economy and the need for increased taxes. He too worked to ensure Georgia's economic growth, and he brought over 850,000 new jobs into the state.

In addition to the growth in jobs and investments, Harris provided leadership for the financing and construction of the Georgia Dome stadium in Atlanta and expansions of the World Congress Center. The domed stadium was located next to the Georgia World Congress Center, a convention hall and exhibition center, which had opened in 1976.

The grand opening of the Georgia Dome was held in 1992; today, it serves as home to the Atlanta Falcons.

The Georgia Dome, the Georgia World Congress Center, and Centennial Olympic Park are owned by the state of Georgia and are operated by the Georgia World Congress Center Authority. Together the three facilities make up one of the largest convention, sports, and entertainment complexes in the world and annually draw hundreds of thousands of tourists and conventioners to the state. The complex has hosted the Centennial Olympic Games, two Super Bowls, an NCAA Final Four in basketball, and a long list of concerts, conventions, and special events. All of these events bring millions of dollars into Georgia's economy each year.

Educational Improvements

Both Governor Busbee and Governor Harris worked to improve education in Georgia. Governor Busbee raised teacher salaries and established a statewide half-day kindergarten program. Governor Harris extended that kindergarten program to a full-day program. In addition, Harris organized business leaders, educators, legislators, and citizens to develop a legislative program called **Quality Basic Education** (QBE). That program standardized curriculum for all schools in the state, equalized funding for all 187 of the state's school systems, implemented statewide testing of students, and required accountability performance testing for the certification of public school teachers.

In addition, Harris had a unique opportunity to exercise one of the most important informal powers of governor—the power to make appointments. During his two terms, Governor Harris appointed all fifteen members of the



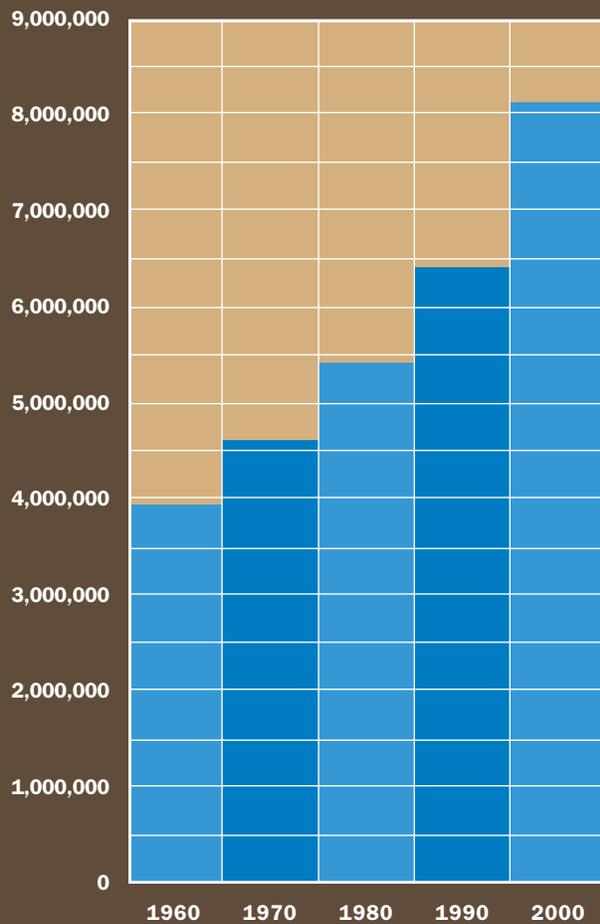
Above: Joe Frank Harris served nine terms in the Georgia House of Representatives before being elected governor in 1982.

Did You Know?

When it was completed in 1992, the Georgia Dome had the largest cable-supported fabric roof in the world.

Georgia Board of Regents (the group that controls the University System of Georgia and all public colleges and universities), all ten members of the Board of Education (the group that controls the public elementary, middle, and high schools of the state), and the State School Superintendent (the chief executive officer of the public schools). Such an opportunity will not likely happen again. Just through appointments alone, Governor Harris's influence on education was unparalleled.

Figure 43
Georgia's Population Explosion



Georgia Gets a New Constitution

During the 1980s, Georgia also got a new state constitution. Governor Busbee recognized that the state had one of the longest and most complicated constitutions in the nation. It was over 600,000 words long. The U.S. Constitution contains only 1,800 words, quite a bit shorter and much easier to understand than Georgia's document.

The governor organized a commission of citizens, business leaders, educators, and government experts to draft a new constitution. The process took over five years, but the state's constitution was approved by the voters in 1982. It is the constitution under which Georgia operates today.

The Two-Georgia Debate Begins

During the 1980s, Georgia experienced a decade of economic growth. Georgia's population has expanded rapidly since the 1960s. Individuals and businesses moving into Georgia were attracted by the state's mild climate, low taxes, low fuel costs, abundant land, and a nonunionized labor force willing to work for lower salaries than workers in other parts of the country.

This pattern of population "in-migration" reversed a trend that saw Georgia losing population or remaining stagnant since the end of the Civil

War. People had moved out of Georgia seeking more job opportunities, more educational opportunities for their children, and a higher standard of living. States like Georgia, with an economy based mainly on agriculture, energy, or heavy manufacturing, lost their most talented and educated young workers. In the 1960s, as the state's economy diversified and as air conditioning made life in the hot South more comfortable, more people moved into our state. The descendants of African American citizens who had fled Georgia after the Civil War also began to return to the state as decades of racial injustice and discrimination were replaced by moderation, by integrated schools, and by improved economic opportunities with a higher standard of living. Georgia is now one of the fastest growing states in the nation.

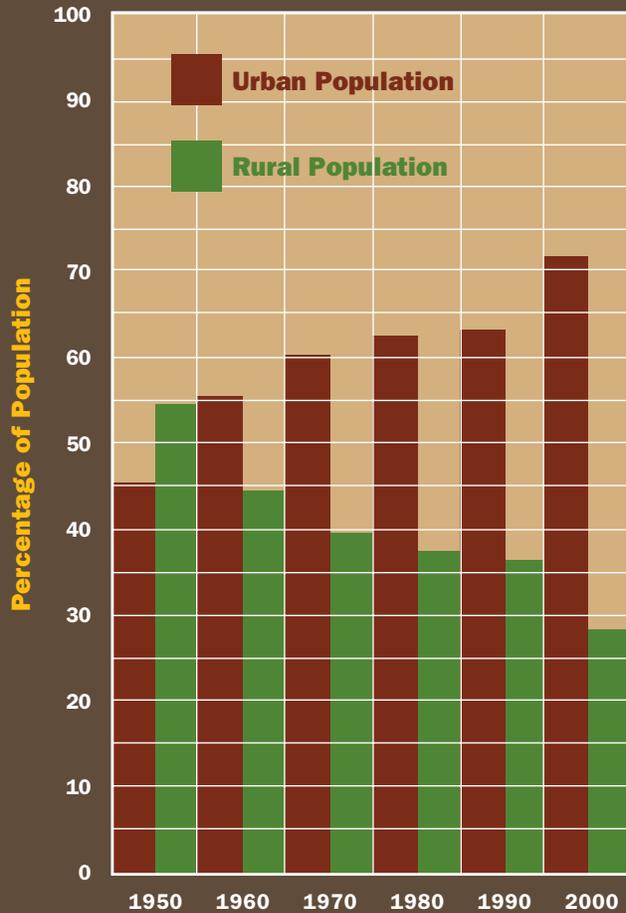
Population growth brings more jobs and opportunities. It also produces new tax sources that increase revenues needed for basic services. However, Georgia's population growth has not spread evenly across the state. One part of the state expanded and prospered, while the other did not. One part of the state increased in political power as the voter rolls grew, while the other part of the state lost political power as the numbers of its voters declined. One part of the state gained jobs and employment opportunities, while the other part lost jobs and employment opportunities dwindled. Soon, it appeared that there were really two Georgias. One was prosperous and expanding, making Georgia the fourth fastest-growing state in the country. The other Georgia was suffering from unemployment, a declining population, and diminishing influence and power.

At first, Georgia's rapid growth was in the city of Atlanta. But as the capital city expanded to become one of America's premier cities, the rural areas of the state began to receive less of the state's resources. Highway growth, business developments, educational opportunities, and industry focused on Atlanta. Georgia had the second fastest-growing **per capita income** (the total income of all people in an area divided by the total population of the area) in the Southeast over the past twenty years. But 139 of the 159 counties still had per capita income levels below the average for the Southeastern region, and over one million Georgians lived below the national poverty level. As fast as Atlanta grew, rural Georgia suffered. The two-Georgia conflict was Atlanta versus the rest of the state.

Atlanta's growth soon spread into the suburbs and then into the surrounding counties until the entire metropolitan area, which now includes forty-two counties, shared in the growth and prosperity. But large pockets of rural Georgia continued to decline. Their schools became less effective just as their citizens needed more technological training. Their job opportunities

faltered as plants and mills closed, farms shut down, unemployment rates rose, and fewer dollars were available for essential services. Young people in these communities finished high school and fled to the cities. Suddenly the two-Georgia conflict was not just Atlanta versus

Figure 44
Urban and Rural Georgia



Did You Know?

Georgia's **per capita income** in 2002 was **\$28,703.**



Above: One part of the two-Georgias debate has been the unequal educational opportunities available in urban and rural areas. The Blairsville campus of the North Georgia Technical College is part of the effort to bring more colleges to rural areas.

the rest of the state. It became the rural counties versus the metropolitan counties.

Today, the result of these population changes can be seen in the percentages of Georgia's residents who live in urban and rural areas. Just over 50 percent of Georgia's population lives in the Metropolitan Atlanta area, and just over 70 percent of the state's total population lives in an urban area. In contrast, just before the population migration began in the 1960s, only 45 percent of Georgia's citizens lived in urban areas, and the dominant industry was agriculture.

Are there two Georgias? Are the economies of the rural and the urban sections of the state so different that we have become two states? What has been done to pull all of Georgia together into one prosperous state?

Rural development programs, expanded highway and rail services into rural areas, expansion of the University System's community and technical colleges, improvements in the state's elementary and secondary schools, and the efforts of rural communities to improve their own economy have done much to eliminate the charge that there are two Georgias. Still, there is much more to do. Of the rural counties in Georgia, fifty continue to be classified by the Georgia Rural Development Council as lagging or declining in 2000. Only fifty Georgia counties were classified as developing or rapidly developing.

Georgia has begun a 25-year program to spend \$1.6 billion to bring rural Georgia up to par with the more affluent urban and suburban areas. But even economic developments cannot quiet the argument about two Georgias. In 2004, for example, the issues of unfair differences between rural and urban Georgia focus on more than just population growth, jobs, and development. They also include inner city declines, educational equity, and water resources.

It's Your Turn

- 1. What was the strongest area of economic growth for Georgia during the 1980s? How will that impact Georgia's future?**
- 2. What is the World Congress Center?**
- 3. What was the massive reorganization of education and educational funding led by Governor Joe Frank Harris?**
- 4. When was Georgia's current state constitution ratified? Which governor led the charge to streamline the state constitution?**
- 5. What was the original basis for the "two Georgias" argument?**

The 1990s

In 1988, the voters selected George Herbert Walker Bush of Texas to be the nation's forty-first president. President Bush took over a nation in the midst of a recession.

One way companies tried to deal with the recession was through **downsizing**. Businesses downsized by firing or laying off workers to cut costs, maintain profits, and stay competitive with other businesses. Those cuts, however, put millions of Americans out of work, and unemployment skyrocketed again. As many as 10 million workers were unemployed in 1992, and businesses struggled to stay afloat and competitive.

The unemployment of the early 1990s hit everyone. Managers and middle-managers, corporate leaders, planners, and professionals alike faced sudden unemployment at a time when many families were in debt from the borrow-and-spend practices of the 1980s. People lost their homes and cars, and personal bankruptcies rose. (**Bankruptcy** occurs when people or businesses cannot pay their debts and seek the help of the courts to manage their affairs.) Generations of workers who did not remember the hard lessons of the Great Depression quickly found out why their parents and grandparents had been so frugal.

The Persian Gulf War

President Bush also had to deal with an international crisis. In August 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait, hoping to seize Kuwait's oil and gain a port on the Persian Gulf. The United Nations demanded that Iraq withdraw.

The United States joined a coalition of twenty-six nations to free Kuwait. *Operation Desert Shield* was the name given to a five-month build-up of military forces in Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf region. President Bush and other world leaders hoped that Iraq would leave Kuwait; they set a deadline of January 15, 1991, for Saddam Hussein to withdraw his troops.

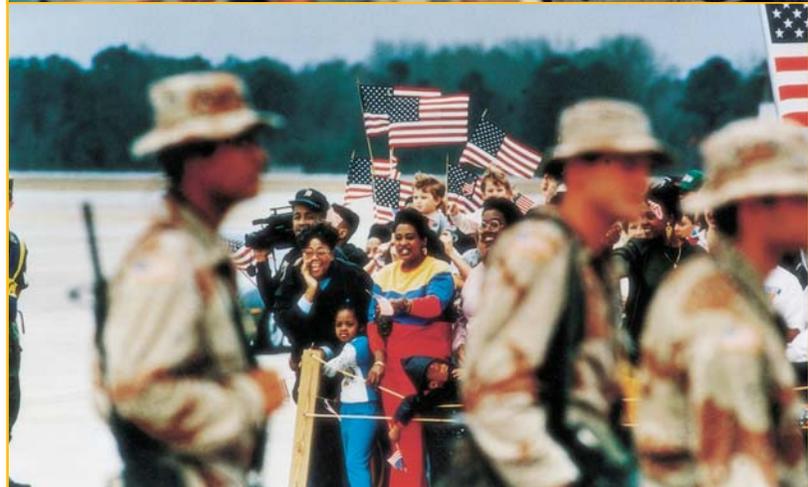
He refused, and *Operation Desert Storm* began on January 16, 1991. The allies

Section Preview

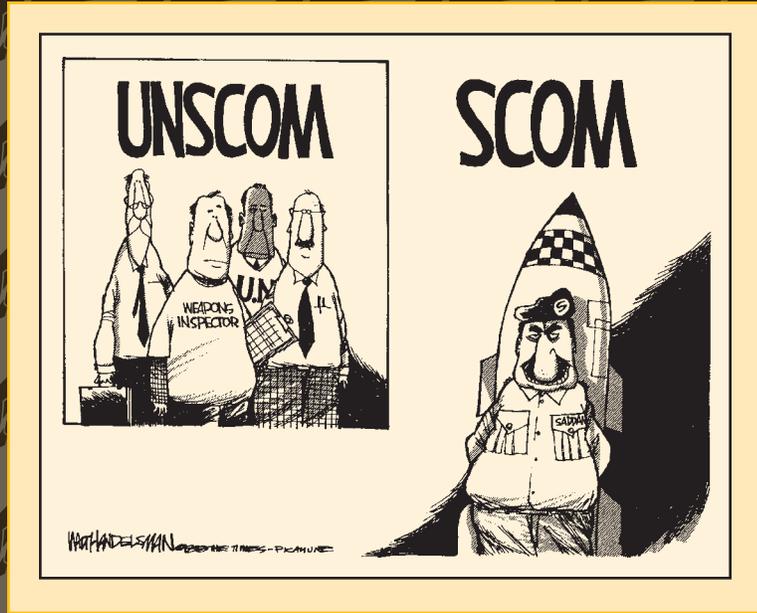
As you read, look for:

- the economic problems of the early 1990s,
- the Persian Gulf War,
- the 1996 Olympic Games, and
- **vocabulary terms:** downsizing, bankruptcy, HOPE scholarship program, and infrastructure.

Below: These humvees are carrying troops to the Persian Gulf War. **Bottom:** Georgia families greet troops returning from the Gulf War.



The Art of Politics



After the Persian Gulf War, the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) was established to identify and destroy Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction. The Iraqi leader was less than cooperative. What do you think cartoonist Walt Handelsman was trying to say here?

bombed Iraq for one month before ground troops landed under the leadership of General Norman Schwarzkopf. In one hundred hours, the US-led troops freed the Kuwaiti people and pushed Iraq back across its borders. On March 3, Iraq accepted the terms of a cease fire, and the fighting ended.

Left behind was an ecological disaster. Retreating Iraqi troops had blown up and set fire to oil wells across the country. Over 10 million barrels of oil had been released into the Persian Gulf, polluting the water for years. Marine wildlife was devastated, particularly birds.

Political Changes in a Conservative South

During the 1980s and 1990s, politics underwent a major shift in many southern states, including Georgia. While most citizens continued to elect Democrats to statewide offices, they were more conservative in national politics and tended to favor Republicans in national elections. This led to the election of more Republicans to the U.S. Congress from Georgia and, eventually,

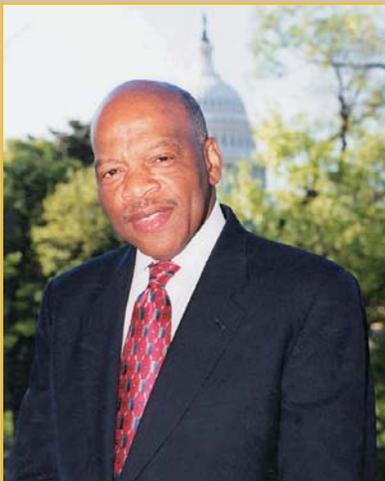
to the establishment of a real two-party system in the state for the first time since the Bourbon Redeemers over one hundred years ago.

In 1980, Mack Mattingly of St. Simons Island was the first Republican elected to the U.S. Senate from Georgia since Reconstruction. In the 1992 elections, Republicans won most of Georgia's congressional elections, although Atlanta Democrat Cynthia McKinney became the first African American woman from Georgia elected to Congress.

John Lewis

The senior member of Georgia's congressional delegation is John Lewis of Atlanta. Democrat Lewis was first elected to represent Georgia's Fifth Congressional District in the House of Representatives in November 1986.

Lewis was one of the civil rights leaders who worked with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the 1960s. He was a "freedom rider" who volunteered to help fight segregation at bus terminals across the South. He also was one of the founders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and organized sit-ins and other activities during the civil rights movement. Lewis helped plan, and was a keynote speaker for, the famous 1963 March on Washington. He also took part in the march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma in March 1965.



Above: John Lewis has been at the forefront of progressive social and political causes for more than forty years.

From that background, Lewis won election to the Atlanta City Council in 1981. He resigned from the council to run for office in 1986.

Lewis has been a member of the House Budget Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, and the Subcommittee on Health. Lewis has also served as senior chief deputy to the Democratic whip (the party leader in Congress).

Newt Gingrich

In 1994, Republicans gained a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time in forty years, and Georgian Newt Gingrich was elected Speaker of the House. In the 1994 campaign, Gingrich designed a “Contract with America,” a list of the actions Republicans would take once they became the majority party in the House. The document was given much of the credit for the party’s success.

As the Republican House and the Democratic White House battled, Gingrich fought to reduce government spending while President Bill Clinton fought to save or increase government social programs. The government became deadlocked and could not agree on a budget in 1995; for a short while, the government was shut down completely. Voters and the party, rightly or wrongly, blamed Gingrich for the shutdown.

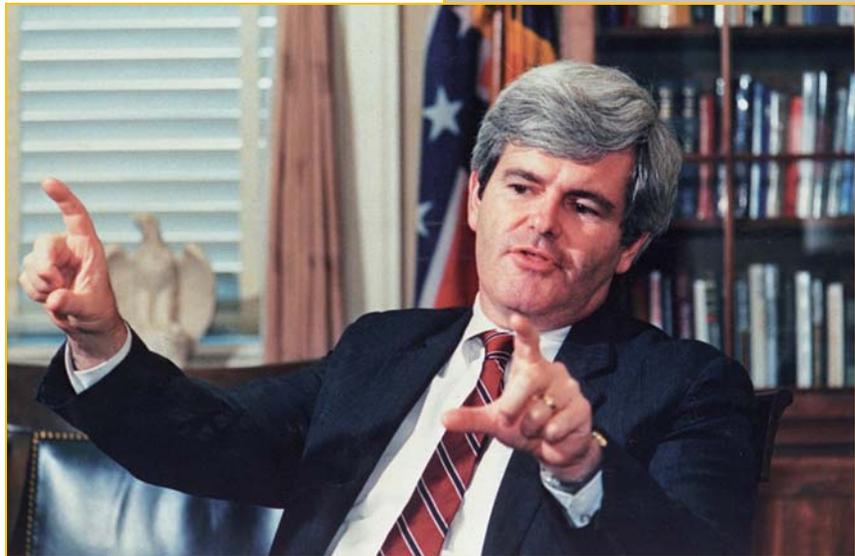
In 1996, the Republican party had expected to sweep the elections, but it did not happen. Instead, there was a disappointing turn-out of Republican voters, and the party held Gingrich somewhat responsible for the losses. In January 1997, Gingrich was again selected Speaker of the House. However, in November 1998 he resigned his speakership and resigned from his seat in Congress.

Sam Nunn

The most influential Georgia congressional leader of the era was Democratic Senator Sam Nunn, a native of Perry, who served in the U.S. Senate from 1972 to 1996. Nunn’s career in the Senate included the chairmanship of the Senate

Armed Services Committee from 1987 until 1996. Nunn was considered by many to be the nation’s most influential civilian expert on military affairs.

Nunn also chaired the Senate Subcommittee on Investigations and served on the Governmental Affairs Committee and the Select Committee on Intelligence. He also served on



Top: New Gingrich was the chief architect of the Republican “Contract with America” and a key player in the Republican party’s regaining control of Congress after forty years. **Above:** Sam Nunn represented Georgia for twenty-four years in the U.S. Senate, where he became an expert on military affairs.

Did You Know?

Gingrich was first elected to represent Georgia’s **Sixth Congressional District** in the House of Representatives in **1978**.

numerous subcommittees, including Government Information and Regulation, Small Business, Urban and Minority-Owned Business Development, and Rural Economy and Family Farming.

Since his retirement from the Senate in 1996, Nunn has been a partner in King and Spalding Law Firm in Atlanta, where he focuses on international and corporate issues. He is also a distinguished professor for the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech.



Above: Zell Miller has been a popular politician. He easily won four elections for lieutenant governor and two elections for governor.

Zell Miller

Zell Miller, a native of Young Harris, served four consecutive terms as Georgia's lieutenant governor, beginning in 1974. He was first elected Georgia's governor in 1990. He served until 1999, almost the whole of the decade. During his two terms in office, Governor Miller addressed the rise in crime with tougher sentencing guidelines for criminals and "boot-camp" style prisons for non-violent offenders. He worked with the legislature to pass tougher ethics laws. He was the first governor to establish a policy to preserve Georgia's wild areas as public lands.

But Governor Miller will probably be most remembered for his impact on education in the state. He implemented a lottery designed to support a statewide pre-kindergarten program, the purchase of computers for schools and colleges, and the **HOPE scholarship program**.

The HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) scholarship program provides money for tuition, fees, and books for Georgia high school students who graduate with a B average in core curriculum classes and who choose to attend one of Georgia's public colleges or universities. In addition, scholarships of up to \$3,000

may be awarded to eligible students attending a private Georgia college or university. The PROMISE teacher scholarship program provides tuition assistance to undergraduate students who plan to become teachers in Georgia's public schools. The HOPE scholarship program, begun in 1993, has provided over \$2 billion in assistance to over 700,000 college students. The program, which the *Los Angeles Times* called "the most far-reaching scholarship problem in the nation" has been copied by other states.

Governor Miller's HOPE program provided a pre-kindergarten program for four-year-olds, which began in 1993. That program has received more than \$2 billion and has served over 560,000 children throughout the state.

The lottery monies are also used for technology grants to Georgia's schools and colleges. Since 1993, over \$1.8 billion has been spent on technology advancements in education.

Governor Miller also promoted the economic development of the north Georgia mountains. One major accomplishment was the completion of the Appalachian Developmental Highway, known as the Zell Miller Mountain Parkway. The highway runs from Atlanta's metropolitan area through the mountains of north Georgia and opened the area for tourism as well as business and industry.

Following his term as governor, Miller was appointed to complete the U.S. Senate term of Senator Paul Coverdell, who died in 2000. Miller chose not to run for re-election in 2004.

Georgia Hosts the Olympics

The games of the XXVI Olympiad were held in Atlanta in 1996. The Summer Olympics brought over 10,000 athletes representing 197 countries to Georgia, where more than 90,000 volunteers helped produce an outstanding world event. Sites for the Olympic competitions were not just in Atlanta. Athens, Columbus, Jonesboro, and Savannah also hosted competitions for certain sports.

The Olympics brought four long-term benefits to the state. First, millions of dollars were spent to create world-class competition facilities such as the \$189 million Olympic Stadium, the 1,400-acre Georgia Horse Park, the \$17 million Wolf Creek Shooting Range complex, a Stone Mountain tennis facility, and the \$10 million Lake Lanier Rowing Center. In addition, Georgia Tech and Georgia State University received new residence facilities, as well as renovated competition sites.

Below: More than 5,500 people, excluding athletes, took part in the Opening Ceremony of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games at Atlanta's Olympic Stadium. The flags of the various participating countries can be seen at the top of this photograph.



Did You Know?

A record **fifty-three nations** won **gold medals** at the 1996 Summer Olympics.



Above: Lake Lanier was the venue (site) for the rowing competition. This is the Italian rowing team.

Second, the Olympics brought international recognition to Atlanta. Millions of visitors came to see the Games, and millions more watched on television. Atlanta and the state of Georgia received tremendous media coverage as one of the world's leading business centers.

Third, the Olympics brought volunteer programs, educational and training programs, and employment opportunities to thousands of Georgia's citizens. Fourth, the economic impact of the Olympic Games brought millions of dollars into Georgia's economy.

There were some moments at the Games when Georgia was not seen at its best. A bombing at Centennial Olympic Park on July 29, 1996, killed Alice Hawthorne of Albany and wounded 117, striking a note of fear into athletes and spectators alike. Severe traffic congestion in the Metropolitan Atlanta area made travel from one venue (event site) to another very difficult, and the world's press criticized the Olympic planners for their lack of **infrastructure** (basic facilities such as roads, bridges, and ports) to make transportation work smoothly. There were criticisms of the street vendors and salespersons who seemed to be on every corner. There was even criticism of the overly commercial advertising, particularly by Coca Cola, one of the major sponsors of the events. Nevertheless, the Olympic Games did show off Georgia like no other event ever has.

Southern hospitality, with volunteers working to make sure things ran correctly, was in full bloom. While transportation around the areas was difficult, once visitors arrived at a venue, the competition was unparalleled and excellent. While Atlanta's streets may have been congested, visitors got to see our state's diversity, our graciousness, and our own version of "southern hospitality."

It's Your Turn

1. What does the term *downsizing* mean?
2. The war against Iraq was a result of its invasion of what nation?
3. Who was the first African American woman elected from Georgia to the U.S. Congress?
4. What does HOPE mean? Where does the HOPE money come from?
5. Who led the establishment of the HOPE program?

Section 3

Terrorism at Home and Abroad

In the 1990s, terrorism against the United States increased. **Terrorism** is acts of violence aimed at demoralizing or intimidating others.

In 1993, a bomb exploded in the parking garage under the World Trade Center in New York City. The explosion killed six people and injured more than a thousand people. In May 1994, four foreign terrorists were tried and convicted of the bombing. In 1995, the man thought to be the “mastermind” behind the bombing was tried and convicted.

In 1995, a bomb inside a van exploded outside the Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City. One hundred sixty-eight people were killed. Two Americans were later arrested, tried, and convicted in federal court for the terrorist act.

In 1998, U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were severely damaged by truck bombs that exploded outside the buildings. Over two hundred people were killed, and thousands were injured. The attacks were linked to **al-Qaeda**, an extremist group of Islamist terrorists led by Osama bin Laden. A number of men were convicted of the bombings.

In addition, there have been attacks on military facilities in Beirut (1983) and Saudi Arabia (1996) and on the guided missile destroyer U.S.S. *Cole* (2000).

In 2001, Republican George W. Bush became president in an election marked by charges of voting irregularities and challenges to election results. Bush was the son of former President George H. W. Bush. It was President George W. Bush who led the country during the worst terrorist attack ever on American soil.

“The Day That Changed America”

It was 8:45 a.m. on September 11, 2001. Millions of Americans were finishing breakfast, driving their children to school, dressing for or heading to work, and either listening to the radio or watching morning news shows. One minute later, at 8:46 a.m., our world changed.

News reports said that an American Airlines plane filled with passengers had flown into the North Tower of New York City’s World Trade Center. Fire and thick smoke poured out of the top floors of the building. People were shocked by what they thought was a terrible accident. Minutes later,

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the events of September 11, 2001,
- the United States’s reaction to 9/11, and
- **vocabulary terms:** terrorism and al-Qaeda.

Below: On April 19, 1995, a truck bomb exploded at the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.



Did You Know?

The expression “Let’s Roll” was used by **Todd Beamer** as he urged on his fellow passengers on **United Flight 93** in their takeover of the plane that had been **hijacked** by **terrorists**.

Below: After the terrorist attack on **September 11, 2001**, the **World Trade Center** in **New York** was reduced to **twisted steel**.

cameras caught a second passenger jet as it flew into the South Tower at 9:03. Instantly, any idea of an accident was forgotten. The United States had been attacked, and it was not over yet.

As stunned Americans watched the World Trade Center burning, American Airlines Flight 77 bound for Los Angeles was hijacked. It left Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C., crossed the Potomac River, and crashed into the Pentagon, the symbol of the nation’s military establishment. One hundred twenty-four people were killed on the ground, and seventy-six were injured. All of the passengers and crew members of Flight 77 were killed.

At 9:59 a.m., as millions were glued to their television sets, the South Tower of the World Trade Center collapsed, killing those occupants still in the building as well as those firefighters, police officers, Port Authority officers, and rescue personnel who had been trying to save those trapped inside. Twenty-nine minutes later, at 10:28 a.m., the North Tower fell. A total of 2,774 people were killed, and over 2,000 were injured. At about 5:30 p.m., a third tower in the World Trade Center Complex collapsed, and the next day, another building within the complex collapsed.

Most of the thirty-seven passengers on United Flight 93 were businessmen who left Newark International Airport at 8:41 a.m. By 9:35, with the Twin Towers and the Pentagon in flames, a thickly accented voice came over the Flight 93 intercom, “This is your captain. There is a bomb on board. We



are returning to the airport.” In the passenger cabin, three men had taken control. When several passengers called spouses and friends to tell them they were being hijacked, the passengers learned of the other events of the morning. Realizing that their hijacked plane was about to be used as a weapon, a number of the passengers rushed the hijackers and the cockpit. There was silence for a few minutes, then the telephones went dead. The airplane crashed in a rural area in southwestern Pennsylvania, killing all aboard. No one knows the intended target of the hijackers; possibilities include the Capitol, the White House, or even Camp David, the presidential retreat. Whatever the terrorists had planned, the brave men and women aboard Flight 93 stopped yet another devastating attack on that day.

Operation Enduring Freedom

Right after September 11, President Bush declared a national emergency and called upon Congress to give him war powers. The United States determined that al-Qaeda was responsible for the September 11 attack. Al-Qaeda was based in Afghanistan, where the terrorist organization was protected by the political and religious Taliban. U.S. government leaders gave the Taliban an ultimatum to close terrorist training camps and hand over al-Qaeda leaders. The Taliban government refused.

President Bush led a coalition of seventy nations in an attack on Osama bin Laden’s camps in Afghanistan. The operation was called “Enduring Freedom” and began on October 7, 2001. On December 22, 2001, America’s military leaders met in Kabul for a ceremony marking the inauguration of the Afghan interim government, only seventy-eight days after the beginning of combat operations. By the end of March 2002, the Taliban had been removed from power and the al-Qaeda network in Afghanistan had been destroyed. Osama bin Laden, however, had escaped and continued to direct antiterrorist activities.

America’s war on terrorism involved more than just military operations. One step in the war on terrorism was the creation of the Department of Homeland Security. Homeland Security is responsible for our nation’s overall safety. Its specific role is still evolving and includes everything from



Map 46 Afghanistan

Map Skill: What country lies to the east of Afghanistan?

Top: Georgians in the National Guard and Reserves answered the call to serve in Afghanistan.

maintaining all of our borders to protecting all of our nation's critical installations. By 2004, this cabinet-level organization had a budget of \$41 billion and 170,000 employees. U.S. officials have also worked with other nations to seize financial assets of groups like al-Qaeda and to disrupt their international fundraising activities.



Map 47 Iraq

Map Skill: Name Iraq's neighbors.

Top: U.S. Marines drive past a mosque near the southern Iraq city of Basrah.

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Following the attacks on September 11, 2001, the United States became more concerned about nations that might have weapons of mass destruction that could be used by terrorists throughout the world. One such nation was Iraq.

In September 2002, President Bush addressed the United Nations about the danger posed by Iraq and that country's violations of UN resolutions. In November 2002, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1441 warning Iraq that it faced "serious consequences" if it continued to violate the various UN resolutions.

On March 19, 2003, President Bush addressed the nation to explain that our nation was at war once again. In discussing what was called "Operation Iraqi Freedom," President Bush said,

My fellow citizens, at this hour, American and coalition forces are in the early stages of military operations to disarm Iraq, to free its people and to defend the world from grave danger. . . . Our nation enters this conflict reluctantly—yet, our purpose is sure. The people of the United States and

our friends and allies will not live at the mercy of an outlaw regime that threatens the peace with weapons of mass murder. We will meet that threat now, with our Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Marines, so that we do not have to meet it later with armies of fire fighters and police and doctors on the streets of our cities.

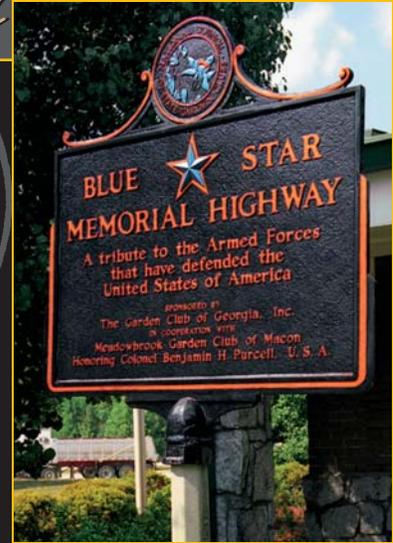
On May 1, 2003, President Bush declared the combat phase of the war with Iraq ended, although the Iraqis still needed our help to regain control of their country. Iraq's dictator, Saddam Hussein, was finally captured by U.S. troops in December 2003.

Among the Georgians who have lost their lives during the war with Iraq was 19-year-old, Columbia-born Army Pfc. Diego Fernando Rincon. Rincon

By the Side of the Road

Throughout our state are a number of Blue Star Memorial Highway markers. The blue star has been used as a symbol for heroism since 400 B.C. During World War I and World War II, American women formed the Blue Star Mothers to support their husbands and sons away at war. In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs had the idea of a ribbon of highways across the United States, known as the Blue Star Memorial Highways, to honor all of those who served in the armed services. The first Blue Star Highway was a six-mile stretch in New Jersey. In 1981, it was decided that these stretches of highways should receive Blue Star markers. In 1994, the words "A tribute to the Armed Forces of America" were added to the markers.

There are quite a few Blue Star markers in Georgia. The one shown here is located in Bibb County on I-475 at the rest area just north of Exit 5.



and his family moved to the United States in 1989 to escape terrorism in Colombia. Rincon lived in Conyers, where he had been a 2001 graduate of Salem High School. He was killed in Iraq when a bomber dressed as a taxi driver detonated a suicide bomb at an army roadblock. Several days before his burial, President Bush granted citizenship to this young man posthumously so that he could be buried as an American citizen. He was already an American hero.

A Touch of Home

On April 7, 2003, news reporters were watching the men of the 3rd Battalion Infantry Division from Fort Benning, Georgia, raise a flag in front of one of Saddam Hussein's palaces in downtown Baghdad. The reporters kept trying to identify the flag, thinking at first that it must be an American flag, then realizing that it was not. Finally, one of the reporters shouted out, "It's a Georgia Bulldog. It's a Georgia Bulldog flag!"

Sure enough. The men had raised a 2003 SEC championship flag for the Georgia Bulldogs over the palace. Officers later explained that the soldiers were asked not to raise American flags over Iraq territory because the Iraqi people were not a conquered people; their dictator had just been deposed.

It's Your Turn

1. How has September 11, 2001 affected you?
2. What terrorist group and what leader were given credit for the September 11 attack?
3. What Iraqi leader was deposed by U.S. forces in 2003?
4. In your opinion, was America's involvement in Iraq justified? Why or why not?

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the state flag issue,
- the development of a two-party system in Georgia,
- challenges facing Georgians, and
- **vocabulary terms:** Georgia Regional Transportation Authority.

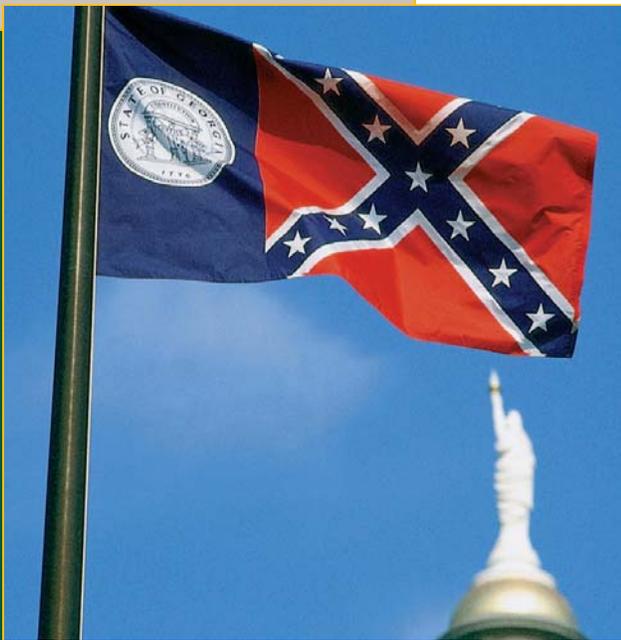
Section 4

Georgia in a New Century

At the start of a new millennium, Georgians faced some old problems and some new challenges.

Roy E. Barnes

In 1998, Georgians sent Democrat Roy E. Barnes to the Governor's Mansion. Barnes, a native of Mableton and a graduate of the University of Georgia, had served in the Georgia legislature for twenty-four years. His campaign for the governor's seat in 1998 was the costliest in the state's history, as Democrats fought to hang onto a governorship that they had held for 125 years. His term was marked by efforts to change the state flag, transportation projects such as the Northern Arc, and education reform.



Above: The state flag from 1956 to 2001, seen here flying in front of the state Capitol, included a representation of the Confederate battle flag.

The State Flag Issue

In 1956, Georgia's state flag was changed to incorporate the St. Andrew's cross, a Confederate battle emblem. The flag has long been a subject of controversy and division within the state. African Americans were offended by references to the slavery in the state's past. Many modern leaders were offended by the image of a state caught up in its past instead of its future. The use of the Confederate symbol was damaging Georgia's tourist industry, costing the state millions in lost convention and exhibition dollars, and portraying a negative "old-fashioned southern" impression of Georgia to the world's businesses. Other southern states that had used the battle symbol as a part of their flags found their tourism and resort industries damaged as conventions were cancelled and boycotts scheduled. The state that had hosted Super Bowls and the Olympics wanted to project a more modern image to the world.

Civic leaders, businessmen and developers, leaders of the hospitality industry, the powerful Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau, the legislative Black Caucus, and developers called on Governor Barnes to change the flag. Atlanta architect Cecil Alexander designed a new flag that featured the state seal in the center. Below the seal, a banner showed small images of Georgia's first three state flags and the first and the current images of the U.S. flag. The motto "In God We Trust" appeared below the banner.

The flag was introduced shortly after the 2001 legislative session got underway. With almost no time for discussion and dissent, the flag passed the house on January 24, 2001, and the Senate on January 30. On January 31,



Governor Barnes signed the bill authorizing the new flag into law. Most Georgians saw the new flag in the next day's newspapers and on TV news reports and were shocked at the speed of the change. The equally swift reaction could have been predicted.

Those citizens who saw the 1956 flag as a memorial to the Confederate war dead and the proud heritage of a people and a region were outraged that it had been changed. Others who saw the 1956 flag as a symbol of racism were glad for the change but upset that the 2001 flag still contained any Confederate emblem. The 2001 flag had few supporters. Critics even remarked that it would be too difficult for elementary school children to draw.

In the 2000 election, Barnes's Republican opponent, Sonny Perdue, made the changes in the flag a major campaign issue. Those who were offended that the flag had been changed voted against Barnes, and he was not re-elected. Newly elected Governor Sonny Perdue signed a new state flag into law on May 8, 2003. Georgia was to have its third state flag in under thirty months.

Georgia's 2003 flag was based on the first national flag of the Confederacy. It is a field of three horizontal bars, two red and one white. In the upper left corner is a square blue section containing Georgia's coat of arms and the words "In God We Trust." Surrounding the coat of arms is a circle of thirteen white stars representing the original thirteen states. In March 2004, the people of Georgia voted 3-1 in favor of keeping the 2003 flag as the state flag.

While changing Georgia's state flag may well have cost Barnes the re-election, he was honored by the John F. Kennedy Foundation with a Profiles in Courage Award in May 2003.

Top: The current flag was introduced in 2003 and approved by the state's voters in 2004. **Above:** The state flag from 2001 to 2003 included depictions of three of Georgia's previous flags. Many Georgians did not like this flag.



Focus on the Environment

Global Warming

Many of the world's scientists believe that emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases function like the glass in a greenhouse to trap heat within the Earth's atmosphere. This trapped heat leads to a process called *global warming*. These scientists (and not all scientists agree with the global warming theory) argue that over a period of time, the global warming of Earth's atmosphere will cause glaciers to melt, sea levels to rise, land surface boundaries to change, and the world's ecosystems to change drastically. What can be done to reduce global warming?



Almost all energy experts and scientists can agree on one step that would improve the United States's production of greenhouse gases—improving the fuel economy of motor vehicles. Technology is available to improve the fuel economy of cars and trucks, and environmental leaders argue that such technology would not be too costly and would greatly reduce emissions of carbon monoxide. However, such changes would cause major shifts in America's automotive and oil industries and would certainly require that Americans give up their fuel-guzzling, fast and sleek cars.

Scientists argue that the nation should move away from a dependence on fossil fuels such as oil, coal, and natural gas and find other sources of energy. They urge us to begin to rely on renewable energy resources such as solar power. Alternative energy sources, however, have both advantages and disadvantages.

Global warming would, according to climate specialists, be a worldwide catastrophe. Are they correct? And, can we do more in our own country? Use your research skills to learn more about global warming and the controversy over what steps to take in Georgia, in the United States, and in the world.

Highway Issues

Governor Barnes had to deal with the staggering air pollution and traffic congestion caused by urban sprawl, particularly in the Metropolitan Atlanta area. He also had to confront environmental groups who believed that development was consuming about 50 acres of green space each day. Most immediately, he had to reverse the suspension of federal funds for highway projects in the thirteen-county metropolitan area because of Georgia's failure to meet federal Clean Air standards.

Working with the General Assembly, Barnes created the **Georgia Regional Transportation Authority** (GRTA) in 1999. GRTA was charged with combating air pollution, traffic congestion, and poorly planned development in the metropolitan region. It worked with the counties in the metropolitan area that were not meeting federal ozone standards—Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale counties. As it succeeded in its task, GRTA was designed to give Georgia access to billions in federal highway funds that had been frozen.

The transportation plan developed by GRTA was approved, and highway funds were released for Georgia's metropolitan area road building projects. However, one part of the GRTA transportation

plan faced a great deal of opposition. The so-called Northern Arc was a \$2 billion, 59-mile freeway through four counties in the northern tier of Metropolitan Atlanta.

Finally, as his term drew to a close, Governor Barnes was forced to put the Northern Arc plans on hold because of the opposition. His successor, Sonny Perdue, had campaigned against the Northern Arc claiming that it would not be a part of his transportation plans at all.

Education Reform Issues

Despite the educational improvements and increased spending under Governors Busbee, Harris, and Miller, Georgia's schools were still ranked at or near the bottom on most national comparisons. Scholastic Aptitude Tests for college admissions showed that Georgia's high school graduates were not prepared to compete with the young people of other states. Business leaders in Georgia complained that graduates could not do the jobs created by our technologically advanced, information-age economy. Continuing problems with school drop-outs and social promotions had led to only minimal gains in student achievement even as education funding had risen.

Under Governor Barnes's leadership, school construction and renovation increased. By the opening day of school in 2002, the size of kindergarten and primary grade classes had been reduced, pre-kindergarten had spread throughout Georgia, and nurses had been added in every school system. The state had even funded counselors and technology specialists. Millions of federal and state dollars had been poured into innovative reading programs. Early intervention programs provided assistance for those who could not keep up. Additional funds had been provided for after-school programs and summer programs.

Despite those actions, student achievement was not sufficient. Governor Barnes focused on the poor quality of the state's schools. He worked with the General Assembly to create the Office of Educational Accountability in 2001. He called for more testing of Georgia's students. He wanted grade promotions based on student achievement and standardized testing. He proposed performance ratings for Georgia's schools and state takeover of failing schools.

However, Governor Barnes was not re-elected in 2002, and many of his suggestions were not implemented by his successor.

Figure 45 Building Blocks for Educational Reform

In testifying before a national Committee on Education and the Workforce in February 2001, Governor Barnes described four building blocks for educational reform:

1. Great teaching;
2. Leadership that is committed to serving the best interests of children;
3. Willingness to use innovation rather than defending the status quo;
4. Accountability . . . Absolute standards must be used in order to measure the success of educational reform.

Below: Governor Barnes visiting an elementary school class.



American Spotlight

Oprah Winfrey

Few Americans have had more of an impact than Oprah Gail Winfrey. Winfrey is an icon among television celebrities and one of the world's most recognized and respected women. Born January 29, 1954, in Kosciusko, Mississippi, she overcame many personal obstacles to become a millionaire businesswoman, an accomplished actress, a television and movie production company owner, a syndicated talk show hostess, and a major philanthropist.

After graduating from Tennessee State University with a degree in speech communications and theater, Winfrey knew that she wanted to enter broadcasting. She served as a reporter and co-anchor of a Baltimore television news broadcast in the late 1970s. From Baltimore, she went to Chicago, where she was the anchor of "A.M. Chicago," a morning talk show. There she found the television format that suited her personality perfectly. Within a year, the show was renamed the "Oprah Winfrey Show" and was expanded to a full hour. In 1985, her show was syndicated to over 120 American cities and rose to the top of the charts, where it has remained ever since. Her television audience now includes over 15 million viewers daily in our country and millions more in 132 other countries of the world.

By 1996, she was one of the world's highest paid entertainers according to *Forbes* magazine. She also began a lifestyle magazine for women called *O, The Oprah Winfrey Magazine*. Winfrey started her own motion picture and television production company, Harpo, Inc.

Winfrey has collected numerous Emmys for having television's best talk show, an Academy Award nomination for her acting in *The Color Purple*, Performer of the Year awards, Woman of the Year Achievement awards, People's



Above: In 1999, Winfrey received a National Book Foundation award.

Choice awards, and Horatio Alger awards. Since 1998, she has consistently been named one of the most powerful people in show business.

However, she may be best remembered for the social and philanthropic causes she has championed. One of her most successful projects is Oprah's Book Club. The books she features are often literary novels that do not attract large audiences but that do offer an uplifting spirit and message for the readers. Another successful project is Oprah's Angel Network, started in 1997, which raises money for college scholarships and funds to reward people for using their lives to help others. On her show, Oprah established the world's "largest piggy bank," and viewers all

over the country sent in more than \$1 million to send disadvantaged children to college. Winfrey matched the money raised dollar for dollar. She is involved with the Habitat for Humanity program, which builds houses for needy Americans, and with A Better Chance program, which funds scholarships for inner-city youths to attend college preparatory schools. She had attacked the AIDs epidemic in Africa through her Angel Network. Because of her international stature, Winfrey was chosen to co-host a memorial service held at Yankee Stadium in New York for the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Her personal philosophy has been to use her celebrity status as a force for good in the world. She said, in an interview in *Redbook* magazine, "My prayer to God every morning on my knees is that the power that is in the universe should use my life as a vessel, or a vehicle, for its work." You will have to agree, when you examine the causes Oprah Winfrey champions and the accomplishments she has attained, that her prayer is being answered.

Georgia Elects a Republican Governor

In November 2002, Perry native Sonny Perdue was elected Georgia's first Republican governor in 130 years. In that same election, the Democratic party maintained control of the General Assembly, but voters chose Republicans for the U.S. Senate seat and the majority of representatives for the U.S. House. Georgia had a two-party system for the first time since before the Civil War.

Challenges for the Future

There are three issues that continue to demand the attention of Georgia politicians and citizens—water resources, the differences between urban and rural Georgia, and Georgia's tremendous growth in population.

Water resources are limited in the state as development and population growth, especially in the Metropolitan Atlanta and north Georgia areas, have increased usage. Farmers in south Georgia complain that Metropolitan Atlanta uses too much water and pollutes the rivers feeding the southern agricultural area. Saltwater has seeped into the coastal water basins. Both Florida and Alabama have tried for years to reach an agreement with Georgia on reducing our state's water consumption; they continue to threaten court action if agreements cannot be reached. Federal officials have threatened the state with the loss of federal funds if more is not done to correct pollution in the state's streams, lakes, and rivers. Planning the future of this essential resource is an ongoing concern.

The continued growth in northern Georgia has served only to divide the rural, southern sections of the state from the rest of Georgia. Inequities between the two areas occur not only in population, services, businesses and industries, but also in education. Even though state leaders have tried to equalize education funding throughout the state, the areas of economic growth and prosperity have greater tax bases to support local school costs. Finding ways to lessen the burden on rural county property owners without sacrificing urban schools is an ongoing challenge.



Above: Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue (center) and Senator Saxby Chambliss (left) appeared with President Bush on one of his trips to our state.

Figure 46 Key Issues, 2004

Some of the key issues facing Governor Perdue and the General Assembly include:

- Saving the HOPE scholarship program when scholarship expenditures are about to exceed lottery revenues
- Developing legislation to protect children
- Reforming ethics legislation
- Resolving whether public displays of the ten commandments are legal
- Helping Atlanta fund infrastructure needs such as replacing an aging sewer system
- Dealing with the outcome of the 2004 vote on the state flag
- Dealing with state and local spending on education



Top: There are many users of Georgia's water resources. Government must find a way to balance the needs of industry, agriculture, cities and towns, individuals, and environmentalists. **Above:** One of the problems caused by the tremendous growth in the Atlanta area has been traffic congestion.

Finally, the state's leaders must find a way to handle Georgia's tremendous population growth. Georgia is the tenth most populous state, with over 8 million residents. The 2000 census showed a population increase of 26 percent. But Georgia must also find ways to preserve some green space in the state's environment, to protect coastal marsh areas threatened by over-development, and to provide the infrastructure to serve the rising population. How Georgia's leaders and citizens handle these problems will determine much about our state's future.

A Final Note

The character word for the chapter is **pride**. To have pride is to have a sense of your own worth or to be satisfied with your achievements. For example, you can be proud of a good grade on a test for which you studied hard. You might be proud of something that makes you you—your heritage, your family, your school, your church, or the town in which you live.

Make a list of five things for which you are proud. Now, think of ten years from now. What other traits or

accomplishments would you like to be proud of? For example, you might be proud of graduating from college or technical school or be proud of being a caring spouse.

You decide. Put your two lists in a "time capsule" and keep them safe. Every three years, open the capsule and see how you are doing.

It's Your Turn

1. How do you feel about Georgia's state flag? What would you have done differently if you had been in charge?
2. Describe at least two key issues Governor Barnes faced during his term.
3. Explain at least four of the issues facing Governor Perdue.

Chapter Summary

- The Cold War ended in the early 1990s with the collapse of the Soviet Union.
- Georgia's population has grown steadily since the 1960s.
- Under Governor George Busbee, Georgia improved its educational system, expanded economic development, and revised its constitution.
- Voters approved the state's tenth constitution in 1982, and it took effect in 1983.
- Governor Joe Frank Harris expanded economic and educational improvements in the state, including the Quality Basic Education Act.
- The World Congress Center, the Georgia Dome, and Centennial Olympic Park make up one of the world's largest convention, sports, and entertainment centers.
- The two-Georgia argument dividing rural and urban areas began in the early 1980s and continues today despite state efforts to pour economic development funds into rural counties.
- The U.S. was involved in Operation Desert Storm (the Persian Gulf War) after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.
- Georgia political leaders in the 1990s included Newt Gingrich, John Lewis, Sam Nunn, and Zell Miller.
- Under Zell Miller, Georgia established a state lottery and used the funds for scholarships, technology programs in schools, and a statewide pre-kindergarten program.
- Atlanta hosted the Summer Olympics in 1996.
- The World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon were the targets of international terrorism on September 11, 2001.
- After September 11, 2001, the United States was involved in two wars —Operation Enduring Freedom against Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom with Iraq.
- Georgia leaders removed the Confederate battle emblem from the state's flag, and controversy ensued. The state has had three flags in a period of about thirty months.
- Education improvements featuring accountability were a focus of Governor Roy Barnes as the 1990s ended.
- In 2002, Republican Sonny Perdue was the first Republican elected governor of Georgia since Reconstruction.
- By 2002, Georgia had a viable two-party political system.



Above: Governor Sonny Perdue was the first Republican elected to that office in more than 125 years.

Chapter Review

Reviewing People, Places, and Terms



Use each of the following terms to write a factual statement about Georgia history.

1. Roy Barnes
2. Georgia Dome
3. Newt Gingrich
4. HOPE scholarship program
5. Zell Miller
6. per capita income
7. Quality Basic Education
8. terrorism
9. XXVI Olympiad

Understanding the Facts



1. What were the key features of Reaganomics?
2. Describe the “two-Georgia” controversy.
3. What was the “shift” that took place in Georgia politics in the 1980s and 1990s?
4. Give three examples of infrastructure.
5. How are the funds from Georgia’s state lottery used?
6. Name at least three issues that have arisen because of Georgia’s tremendous population growth between 1980 and today.
7. What pressures led Governor Barnes to change Georgia’s state flag?

Developing Critical Thinking



1. How did the development of the personal computer affect our lives?
2. What are some of the changes in our lives that have resulted from September 11, 2001?
3. There were different opinions about Operation Iraqi Freedom. Some thought there should have been more time for diplomatic negotiations. Why do you think President Bush ordered troops to Iraq?
4. Georgia’s flag controversy will not go away easily. Governor Barnes changed the flag, Governor Perdue changed it again, and in 2004 voters went to the polls to choose between those two flag choices. Should Georgia’s flag be a subject of voter approval? What are the arguments for and against the use of Confederate heritage symbols as a part of current state symbols, such as the flag?
5. Of the issues facing Georgia since 2000, which concerns most directly impact you?

Checking It Out



1. In 1981, an assassination attempt was made on President Reagan’s life. But during his term in office, two other world leaders and friends of the United States were victims of successful assassination attempts. Use your research skills to find out who these two leaders were and what happened to them. Share the information with the class.

- The distribution of Georgia's population changed drastically in the last half of the twentieth century. Now, over 50 percent of the state lives in the metro-Atlanta area, and over 60 percent of the population lives in urban areas. In the mid-1800s, over 70 percent of the population lived in rural areas. Use your research skills to study the census data and prepare a graph of Georgia's population changes by area—rural, urban, suburban, and metropolitan.
- Research the HOPE program that will be available for you to use when you are ready for college. What steps were taken in 2004 and 2005 to ensure that there would be enough funds to meet students' needs? Are these steps working, and what other steps must be taken in your opinion to save HOPE?
- Use your research skills to investigate Georgia's water problems. Why do we need agreements with Alabama and Florida? Why are our rivers, streams, and lakes still so polluted? Why is water usage an issue between northern and southern Georgia? Prepare a report on the issues and the resources available. Who has to give up levels of water usage? Who should pay for pollution clean up? Why do we have to have an interstate agreement?
- Research the use of the blue star as a symbol for heroism in history.



Writing Across the Curriculum

- Politics is now a two-party affair in our state as both Republicans and Democrats field candidates for local and state offices and in national congressional races. Select one party or the other and prepare a campaign brochure outlining the improvements or changes called for in Georgia by that party.
- Write a journal entry describing what you were doing or what you thought when you heard about the events of September 11, 2001.



Exploring Technology

- Have Georgia's schools improved after two and a half decades of emphasis on educational reforms? Use your Internet research skills to track increases in student achievement and decreases in school drop-outs. How does the pattern look when you chart it on paper? Prepare that chart to share with your classmates. Do different regions of the state produce similar or dissimilar results in student achievement? Prepare that chart to show your classmates. What explanations can you find to match the results of your charts?



Applying Your Skills

- "Wherever the highways are built, the businesses will follow" has long been a saying in Georgia politics. Examine a map and trace Georgia's major multilane and limited-access highways. Compare that with the patterns of growth in Georgia counties during the past ten years. Is that old saying true? Do the highways match the growth areas?
- The federal census figures of Georgia's population are listed below. Prepare a chart that shows the percentage of increase for each decade.

1960	3,943,116
1970	4,589,575
1980	5,462,982
1990	6,478,216
2000	8,186,453