



City of Brunswick

Economic Development Annual Report



Economic Development Annual Report

OCTOBER 14

Economic & Community Development Department

Authored by: Travis R. Stegall

Designed by: The Brunswick DDA

2018-2019

Summary

City of Brunswick, GA

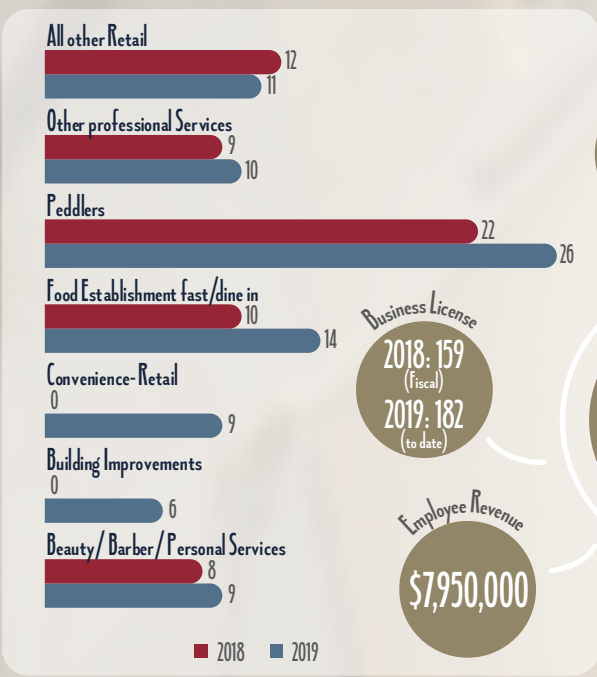
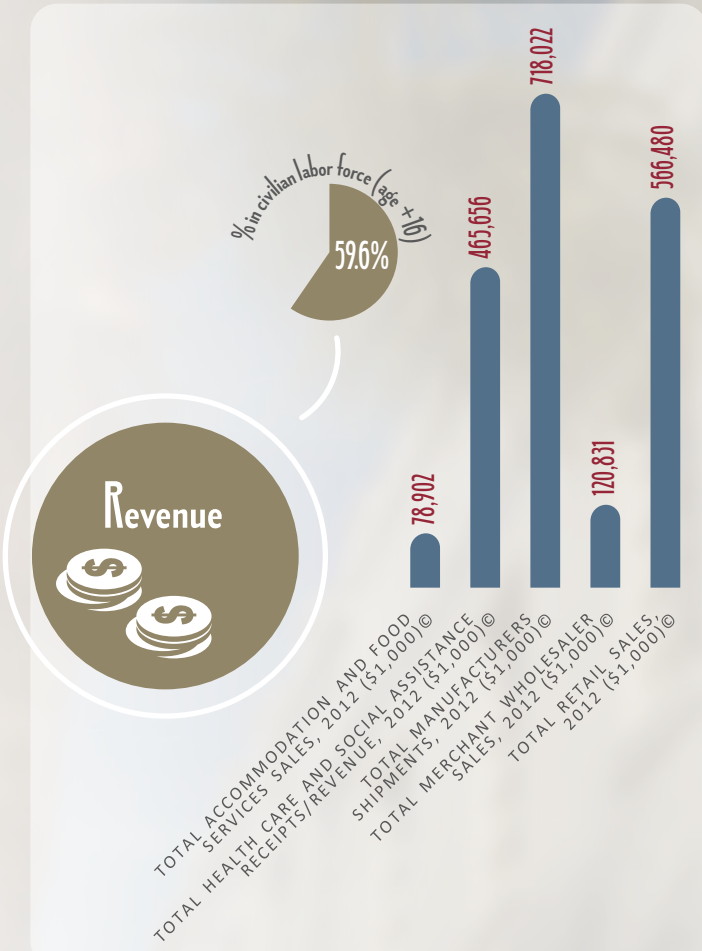
The City of Brunswick Department of Economic and Community Development provides technical assistance, creative financing and educational opportunities that will ensure a vibrant economic future for not only our city but for the region. Our mission is to provide assistance to businesses expanding within or relocating to

the City of Brunswick: including financing, workforce solutions and technical assistance that will encourage investment in the community to enhance the lives of our citizens. Today Brunswick flourishes as a coastal city. With its deep-water terminal at Mayor's Point, Colonel's Island and Marine Point, as well as shrimp boats that travel up and down the coast, Brunswick provides a coastal haven for all that live and visit here. The Port of Brunswick forms a vital part of the city's economy. It is recognized as one of the most productive ports on the East Coast and is the number 1 for new auto imports the U.S.. Tourism is the single largest industry in the city and county. Brunswick and the Golden Isles are a year-round resort community. The islands' beaches, resorts, shops, and historic sites attract visitors from around the world annually. Additionally, the headquarters facility of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is located five miles north of the central business district of the city. Brunswick is also home to the College of Coastal Georgia.



Demographics

City of Brunswick, GA



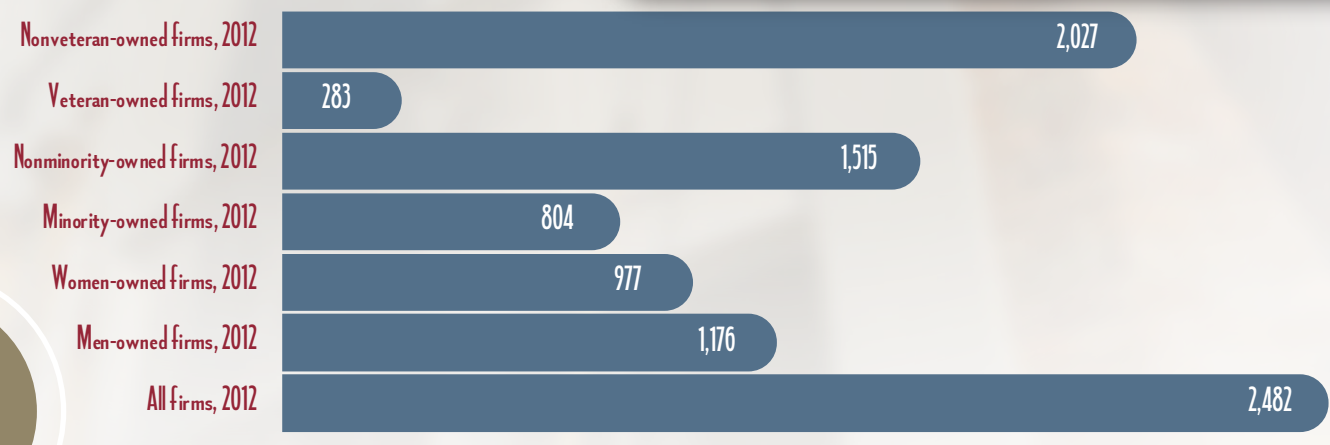
Employee Growth
2019
318

Business License
2018: 159 (fiscal)
2019: 182 (to date)

Top Ranking Businesses

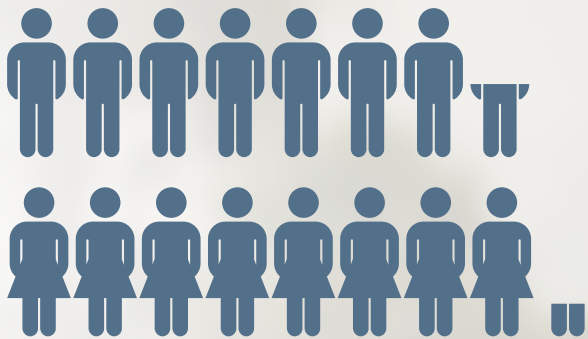
Employee Revenue
\$7,950,000

Brunswick Thrives on the ideas and creativity of its citizens and business owners. Over the last year we've seen a growth in our small business sector of micro manufacturers, retail, and processing.



Population

City of Brunswick, GA

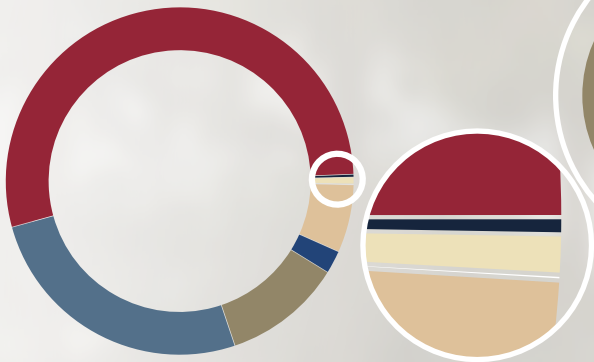


Male
7,486

Female
8,222

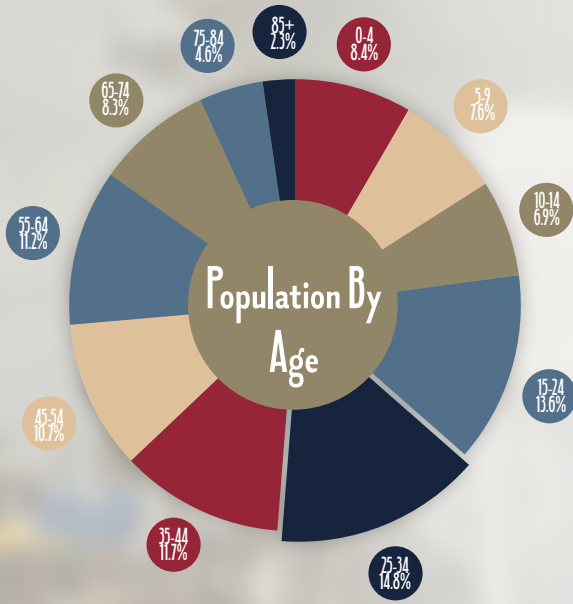


Population by race/ethnicity



- Black Alone 60.3%
- White Alone 29.1%
- Hispanic Origin 12.4%
- Some Other Race Alone 7.1%
- Two or More Races 2.4%
- Asian Alone 0.7%
- American Indian Alone 0.3%
- Pacific Islander Alone 0.1%

Population By Age



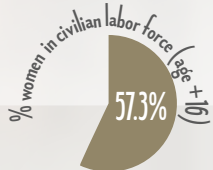
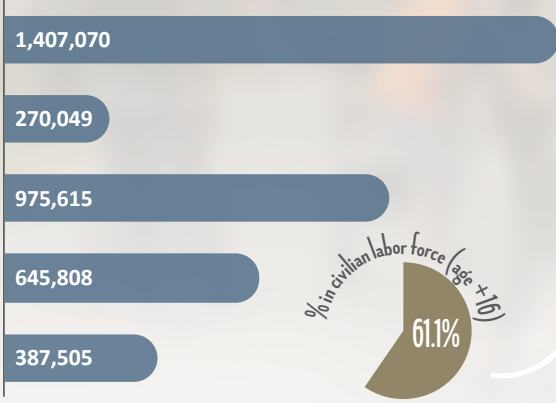
TOTAL RETAIL SALES, 2012 (\$1,000)(C) 1,407,070

TOTAL MERCHANT WHOLESALER SALES, 2012 (\$1,000)(C) 270,049

TOTAL MANUFACTURERS SHIPMENTS, 2012 (\$1,000)(C) 975,615

TOTAL HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIPTS/REVENUE, 2012 645,808

TOTAL ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES SALES, 2012 (\$1,000)(C) 387,505

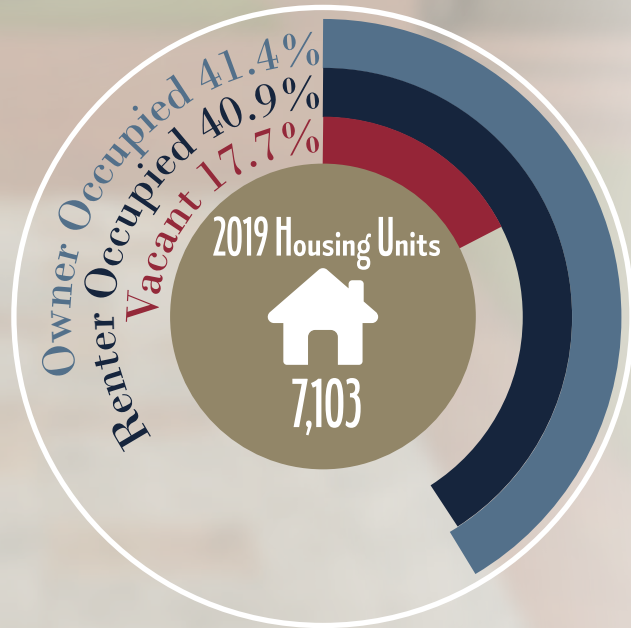
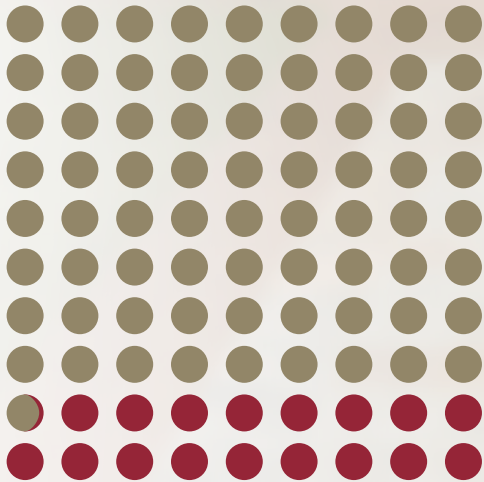


Income & Housing

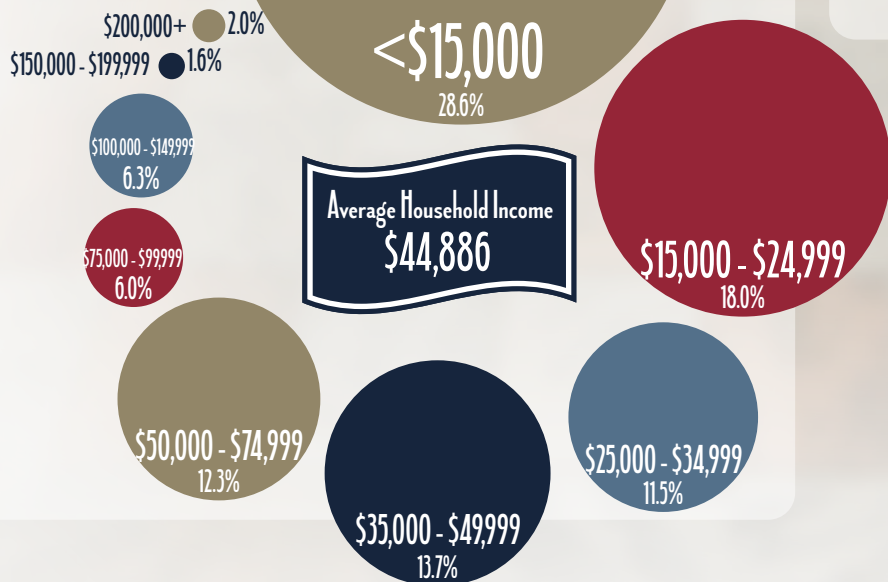
City of Brunswick, GA



19.1% Persons in Poverty



2019 Households by Income



Income in 2016 dollars, 2012-2016



Success Stories

City of Brunswick, GA



Reid's Apothecary: Reid's Apothecary is a fine casual dining establishment, located in downtown Brunswick. Serving thoughtful plates, and handcrafted cocktails. At Reid's Apothecary we pride ourselves in giving you a daily dose of fresh, local remedies to nourish your mind, body and soul.
1618 Newcastle Street,
Brunswick, Georgia
912-289-2679

Success Stories

City of Brunswick, GA



Plantlife Cafe: Our mission and goal is to promote a healthier quality of living through making widely available organic products. We offer a healthier way of eating some of your favorite foods. We offer vegan and vegetarian dishes, as well. It's more than a café, it's an experience.

3300 Norwich Street
Brunswick, Georgia
912-275-7014

Silver Bluff: Many different people call Brunswick and the Golden Isles home, and our goal is to bring everyone together at our beer garden tables. In the spirit of bringing people together, our name refers to a time when the Golden Isles came together, quite literally. During the Pleistocene Epoch (the last Ice Age), St. Simons, Jekyll, and Brunswick were a single landmass. Geologists have long referred to this formation as the Silver Bluff.

1325 Newcastle St.
Brunswick, Georgia
social@silverbluff.com
678-612-4223



Incentives

City of Brunswick, GA

The City of Brunswick does a tremendous job attracting businesses to Georgia. Several organizations that report on economic development and the site selection industry consistently rank Georgia as the “Number 1 State for Business.” Companies that are new to the City of Brunswick will benefit from the Jobs Tax Credit. Existing industries have access to the Investment Tax Credit, Research and Development Tax Credit, Port Tax Credit, and Retraining Tax Credit. New and expanding companies will both benefit by taking advantage of the sales and use tax exemptions, Georgia Department of Labor programs, and training from Quick Start.

TAD

A TAD, sometimes called a TIF (tax increment financing) is a financing incentive tool in which bonds are issued to pay for infrastructure and other improvements in a designated area.

OPPORTUNITY ZONE

the maximum Job Tax Credit allowed under law - \$3,500 per job created
the lowest job creation threshold of any job tax credit program - 2 jobs
use of Job Tax Credits against 100 percent of Georgia income tax liability and withholding tax
provides for businesses of any nature to qualify, not just a defined "business enterprise"

PORT INCENTIVE

The port tax credit bonus rewards new or expanding Georgia companies that increase imports or exports through a Georgia port by at least 10 percent over the previous or base year.

To be eligible for the port tax credit bonus:

- o Companies must first meet the requirements of either the job tax credit or investment tax credit programs.
- o Base year port traffic must be at least 75 net tons; or five containers; or 10 TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units). If base year traffic is lower, then these minimums become the base upon which traffic increases are calculated.

The port tax credit bonus is calculated as follows according to which program it is used with:

1. Job Tax Credit: An addition of \$1,250 (per job) to the job tax credit, which can be taken for five years to reduce or eliminate Georgia corporate income tax liability.

2. Investment Tax Credit: An adjustment in the calculation of the investment tax credit, where the amount is based on the equivalent of a Tier 1 location. (5% of the qualified investment expenses or 8% for recycling, pollution control and defense conversion.)

The port tax credit bonus may offset up to 50% of the company's corporate income tax liability. Unused credits may be carried forward for 10 years – but port traffic must remain above the qualifying threshold, and the company must continue to meet requirements for either the Job Tax Credit or the Investment Tax Credit.

Note: The port tax credit bonus cannot be used with Georgia's quality jobs tax credit program.

THE PORT TAX CREDIT BONUS FOR JOB TAX CREDITS AT A GLANCE:

Suppose a company creates 50 jobs in a Tier 1 county and increases its port traffic by at least 10 percent over the previous year. That activity would yield a tax credit of more than \$1.3 million over five years:

$$\begin{aligned} \$4,000 \text{ job tax credit} + \$1,250 \text{ port tax credit bonus} &= \\ &= \$5,250 \text{ total credit per job} \\ 50 \text{ jobs} \times \$5,250 &= \$262,500 \times 5 \text{ years} = \$1,312,500 \end{aligned}$$

Tax Credits

City of Brunswick, GA

JOB TAX CREDIT

Tax credit of \$750 to \$4,000 per job, per year for the first five years of each qualifying job that is created during a five-year window after the project qualifies

The exact value of each Job Tax Credit depends on where the jobs are created

Download the map and credit table.

Companies must engage in a qualifying industry, such as

- o Manufacturing
- o Warehousing and Distribution
- o Processing
- o Telecommunications
- o Tourism
- o R&D Facilities
- o Biomedical Manufacturing

Requirements:

- Jobs must be net new jobs to Georgia
- Project must create the required minimum number of qualifying jobs for the Tier or special zone where it is located (see map and credit table)
- Jobs must be full-time
- Jobs must pay more than the average wage of the county with the lowest average wage in the state (\$480 per week as of June 2017)
- New employees must be offered health insurance benefits consistent with what is offered to existing employees

FILM TAX CREDIT

Film, television and digital entertainment tax credits of up to 30 percent create significant cost savings for companies producing feature films, television series, music videos and commercials, as well as interactive games and animation.

Georgia's Entertainment Industry Investment Act provides a 20 percent tax credit for companies that spend \$500,000 or more on production and post-production in Georgia, either in a single production or on multiple projects.

The state grants an additional 10 percent tax credit if the finished project includes a promotional logo provided by the state. If a company has little or no Georgia tax liability, it can transfer or sell its tax credits.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT

Georgia offers an incentive to new and existing business entities performing qualified research and development in Georgia. Companies may claim a 10 percent tax credit of increased R&D expenses subject to a base amount calculation.

Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Machinery and Equipment

Georgia allows manufacturers and distribution centers sales tax exemption on the acquisition of equipment that is integral to the manufacturing process as well as primary material handling equipment. In most counties in Georgia, this incentive offers a savings of 7% of the purchase price of manufacturing, material handling, and pollution control equipment. As of January of 2013, the sales tax on energy for manufacturers is being phased out and will completely exempt in 2016.

Grants & Funding

City of Brunswick, GA

GEORGIA'S QUICK START TRAINING INCENTIVE

Workforce training in Georgia is provided through several initiatives, but the state's signature program is Georgia Quick Start. Quick Start is a free program customized for companies in numerous industries. Quick Start has updated the skill sets of nearly 1 million employees at 6,200 companies.

Quick Start helps companies maintain a competitive advantage by preparing workers for skill sets needed tomorrow as well as today.

FOREIGN TRADE ZONE DESIGNATION

Several existing industries in Brunswick and Glynn County enjoy the benefits of a Foreign Trade Zone. The Brunswick and Glynn County Development Authority is one of three Foreign Trade Zone Administrators in Georgia. Foreign Trade Zones are a huge benefit for companies that import and export.

- A Quick Start training regimen is shaped for the skills that a company is looking to develop in its employees
- Training is conducted in classrooms, mobile labs or onsite at the company
- Quick Start is provided at no charge by the Technical College System of Georgia
- The program is versatile: Quick Start has prepared workers to assemble intricate aircraft components, grow bacteria for vaccines, manufacture plastic and metal products and field inquiries from customers, by phone or online

GRANTS, INCENTIVES, & FUNDING

Façade Grant

The Brunswick Downtown Development Authority (DDA), created this grant program to encourage meaningful exterior improvements and promote economic development in the DDA district. This reimbursement matching grant is intended to preserve and restore historic properties and encourage projects that are compatible with Downtown's historic character. Limits are \$500 on signage & \$1000 on building elements per address. Large development projects are subject to a \$5,000 maximum. Grants are limited to a 12-month period for one business mailing address and one business for signs. Funds for these projects are generally available from August to January each year.

Jump Start Grant

The Jump Start Grant program is a joint project of the Brunswick DDA and the City of Brunswick. The program is a reimbursement grant available to business start-ups based in the DDA district that have not yet begun trading. Grant covers up to 100% of eligible costs to a maximum grant of \$2,000. The project must result in new job creations, and can include the proprietors' job(s).

Enterprise Zone Incentives

Specific areas of the City (Including Downton) are designated "Enterprise Zones." These zones allow the City Commission, on a case by case basis to provide incentives to qualifying business and service enterprises. These incentives can include: City property tax abatement; exemption from various fees including occupation taxes, permitting fees, and rezoning fees.

SHARE THE FUTURE FUND

New aerospace, manufacturing or distribution businesses locating in Glynn County and creating a minimum of 15 jobs may be eligible for discretionary funds that can be used to assist with payment of local site development permit fees or other expenses as approved by the Brunswick & Glynn County Development Authority.

Spotlight

City of Brunswick, GA

Our future growth and economic success will be based on well-built partnerships. Private–public partnerships give City of Brunswick businesses a competitive advantage. Dozens of development agencies region collaborate on an ongoing basis to create partnerships that guarantee the future health and strength of City of Brunswick’s economy and the companies that drive it. The result is innovative programs that accelerate industry growth, help educate diverse workforces and connect business leaders, while creating thousands of new jobs and hundreds of new businesses.

PARTNERSHIPS

\Five Star Credit Union	White House SBA Office of Advocacy’s Region 4
United Community Bank	City of Brunswick Downtown Development Authority
Brunswick Glynn County Development Authority	Bank OZK
Brunswick/Glynn Chamber of Commerce	New Castle Lending
White House SBA Office of Advocacy’s Region 4	University of Georgia Small Business Development Center

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Par Marine	Gulfstream
King & Prince Seafood	Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC)
Georgia Ports Authority	Rich Products
International Longshoreman	Westin Hotel
Coast Guards	Jekyll Island Convention Center
City Of Brunswick Government	King And Prince Hotel
Glynn County Government	Jekyll Island Club
Glynn County School System	College Of Coastal Georgia
Brunswick Cellulose	Coastal Pines Technical College
Pinova Solutions	Map International

Logistics

City of Brunswick, GA

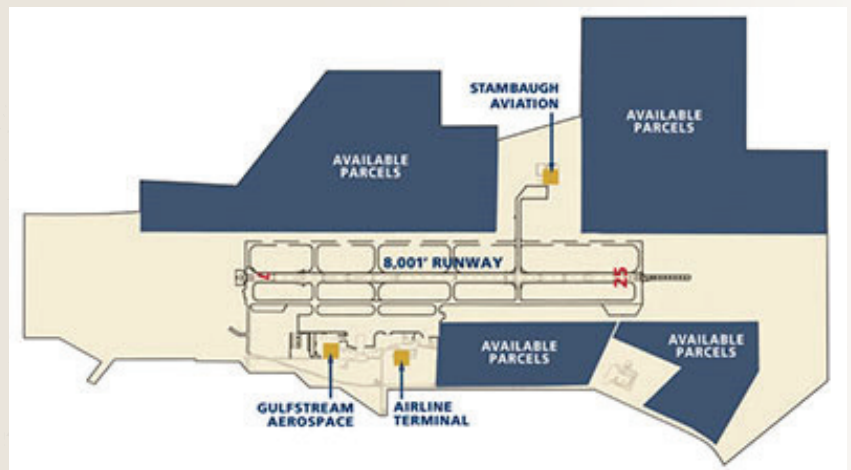
BRUNSWICK GOLDEN ISLES AIRPORT

The Brunswick Golden Isles Airport offers 2,000 acres of prime land for aviation businesses to grow their operations. Premier sites are available on airport property, offering easy access to the 33,500-square-foot terminal and the 8,001-foot runway.

THE PERFECT LOCATION

The infrastructure around the airport has been built to perfectly support the aviation industry. There are two technical training institutions and three established industrial parks surrounding the airport property. Interstate 95 is less than 5 minutes away and the Port of Brunswick is a 15 minute

The Brunswick Golden Isles Airport is located on the mainland and offers three daily 37 minute flights to Atlanta (ATL) through DELTA. The runway is 8,000 ft and once served as the runway for a Navy Base. The runway can handle just about any type of aircraft which is one of the reasons why Gulfstream Aerospace has located their finishing facility in the Golden Isles.



INTERSTATE 95 AND HIGHWAY ACCESS

Brunswick and the Golden Isles is easily accessible via Interstate 95, an East Coast artery of commerce from Maine to Miami, and U.S. 17, a scenic route of incomparable beauty. U.S. 341/Golden Isles Parkway, U.S. 25, U.S. 82/GA 520 offer businesses direct access to all areas of Georgia. Additionally, Brunswick and the Golden Isles are serviced by eight local motor freight terminals and numerous motor freight carriers.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN AND CSX RAIL ACCESS

Glynn County is served by two Class I railroads, CSX and Norfolk Southern, in addition to one short line, the Colonel's Island Railroad, owned and operated by Rail Link. AMTRAK passenger service is available about an hour's drive away in Jesup, GA.

Works Cited

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