



Atlanta Regional Commission  
regional impact + local relevance

# ARC 2019 ANNUAL REPORT – **DEKALB COUNTY**



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

**August 2019**

ARC works closely with local governments and community partners in DeKalb County to improve quality of life and secure future success. This report measures progress in DeKalb in the three long-range goals of the Atlanta Region's Plan: providing **World-Class Infrastructure**, fostering **Healthy, Livable Communities**, and developing a **Competitive Economy**.



## WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

ARC works with its regional partners to develop and maintain world-class infrastructure, including a transportation network that improves mobility, and a sustainable supply of clean water.



### Improving Mobility in DeKalb

**A \$383.5 million** in federal and state transportation funds allocated by ARC to the county. Projects include: **Improved intersections at Lavista Road and Briarcliff Road** and **Panola Road and I-20**; and a **2-mile extension of the South River Trail**.

**3.4 million** fewer miles traveled by the **4,263 DeKalb residents** who participated in the **Georgia Commute Options** program, saving them **\$2 million** in fuel and vehicle maintenance costs.



### Securing a Sustainable Future

The Metro Water District held its seventh annual **Water Drop Dash 5k Race and Family Water Festival**.



The **City of Decatur** was recertified at the Platinum level and the **City of Chamblee** upgraded to the Gold level of the Green Communities program.

**Green Communities** staff met with the **City of Tucker** to help develop a strategy for achieving certification.

## BY THE NUMBERS: DEKALB COMMUTING

**53%**



of employed DeKalb residents work outside of DeKalb County

**377,780** 

Total workers living in DeKalb

**21.8 million** 

Average daily vehicle miles traveled

# HEALTHY, LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

ARC works to foster vibrant, walkable communities and supports healthy living and aging by offering a range of services for older people and individuals with disabilities.



## Improving Quality of Life for DeKalb Residents of All Ages & Abilities

**\$4.1 million** in state and federal funds to **DeKalb Senior Services** for direct services provided exclusively to DeKalb residents, including **congregate and home-delivered meals, in-home support services, transportation, and case management.**

ARC's **RSVP Volunteer Program** clocked **4,597 volunteer hours** and reached **19,524 individuals.**



## Making DeKalb an Even Better Place to Live, Work, and Play

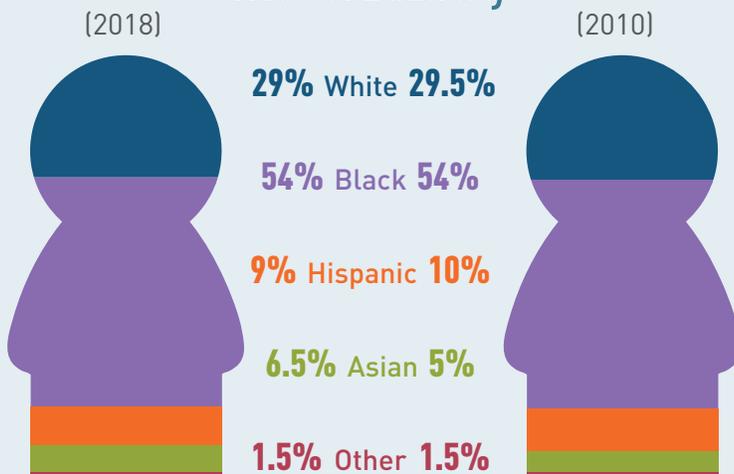
**\$80,000** **Livable Centers Initiative** grant awarded to **Tucker-Northlake CID** to focus on **recreating the historic grid** in downtown Tucker by prioritizing segments necessary to complete the grid, examining possible funding strategies, and addressing potential zoning issues.

# BY THE NUMBERS: DEKALB POPULATION

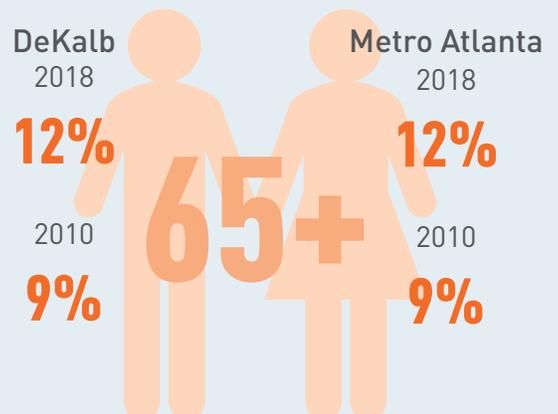
## ARC Population Estimates (2015-2019)



## Race & Ethnicity



## Percent of Population 65+



Source: ARC analysis of data from U.S. Census

# COMPETITIVE ECONOMY



ARC works with its regional partners to ensure our economy remains thriving and competitive.

## Planning for a Stronger, More Competitive Economy

ARC's CATLYST program is a 5-year effort designed to improve regional competitiveness and collaboration throughout the 10-county region and the City of Atlanta. Through the hard work of volunteer project teams and ARC staff, CATLYST will ensure that metro Atlanta has good jobs, a well-trained workforce, and the regional collaboration needed to invigorate economic growth. CATLYST has launched three work programs:

- **Ramping up Regional Marketing Alliance** – CATLYST continues to convene the Atlanta Regional Marketing Alliance and support the group's efforts to make an even greater economic impact across the region. Through the work of this collaborative group, two regional marketing events were held and the Metro Atlanta Opportunity Zone Prospectus was created ([www.metroatlantaOZ.com](http://www.metroatlantaOZ.com)).
- **Analyzing Root Causes of Disconnected and Displaced Workers** – Through a collaborative effort, CATLYST is supporting a team in exploring the barriers that prevent people from finding meaningful employment and identifying approaches to ease the pathways to good jobs.
- **Identifying Effective Affordable Housing Strategies** – CATLYST continues to support a multi-disciplinary team in creating a regional strategy designed to increase the availability of quality, affordable housing. For more information and the latest updates on the strategy, visit [AtlantaRegionalHousing.org](http://AtlantaRegionalHousing.org).

## Cultivating Leaders to Meet the Region's Challenges



**41** DeKalb County residents took part in **ARC leadership programs**, including Regional Leadership Institute (RLI), Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta (ALMA), Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC), and Leadership Involvement Networking Knowledge (LINK) trip.

## BY THE NUMBERS: DEKALB ECONOMY

### Median Household Income (2017)

**\$ 61,827**

DeKalb

**\$65,381**

Atlanta region



### DeKalb Jobs

(2019)

**334,066**

(2010)

**307,429**

### Poverty Rate (2017)

↓ **15%** in DeKalb live below poverty level

↓ **14%** in metro Atlanta live below poverty level

Source: ARC analysis of data from U.S. Census



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