## takeaways from: 2021 STATE OF SCIENCE SURVEY

## What is the most pressing need in your field that the General Assembly should address?



Based on overall weighted ranking of 7 items

#1: K-12 STEM curriculum

#2: a) Infrastructure & resources for research parks, university/business partnerships, and tech transfers

b) R&D funding

c) Continuing education

#3: Grants for tech transfers to underserved communities

#4: Training for science communication

#5: Grants encouraging inter-institution cooperation

## Policy areas where Georgia performs well

About 1/5 say: Voting\* and Employment Less than 1/10 say: any other specific policy choice offered About 1/2 say: none of the choices offered

## Policy areas where Georgia performs poorly

Almost **3/4** say: Healthcare & Healthcare Access, Science More than 1/2 say: Environment, Voting\*, Civil Rights, Criminal Justice

\*Before passage of SB202: The "Election Integrity Act of 2021"

Taken together, this survey indicates the desire for greater cooperation between scientists and policy makers. Respondents want to see improvements in K-12 education and healthcare access, but, more importantly, they want to make Georgia comfortable for all Georgians so that everyone can access growth opportunities.

#### **TOP 5 REASONS TO LEAVE:**

- Lack of a scientific tradition/culture
- Discrimination
- Discomfort with science policy
- Discomfort with social policy
- COVID-19 response

#### LOWEST IMPACT ON STAYING:

- New facility development
- New science & tech jobs
- Improved working conditions



of respondents seriously considered moving out of Georgia

GEORGIA

Local Science

Engagement Network

AAAS

### 79 respondents from 29 counties

Likely respondent is:

- Female, 35-64, white
- Participates in academia/education
- Earns less than \$75,000 annually
- From DeKalb, or perhaps Cobb or Fulton county
- No ADA-qualifying disability
  - Identifies as Democrat



Compared to the national STEM average population, this survey reflects **more Black** but fewer Latinx and Asian respondents

https://sciencelookup.org/knowledge-base1/ 2020-21-ga-state-of-science-survey/

SOURCE: This survey was conducted late 2020-early 2021 from people self-identified via employment or study in science, technology, engineering, math, or healthcare. It does not attempt any statistical analysis and instead presents only a sampling of opinions. Images from Vecteezy.com

# Social policy Science & technology policy

**GEORGIA'S STRENGTHS** 

Public university system

Growth opportunities

**Regional significance** 

(State parks, beaches, green spaces)

Environment

Culture

Economy

Other

K-12 education

Economic policy