

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency
Georgia Industries for the Blind Fact Sheet

What We Do

Georgia Industries for the Blind (GIB) provides jobs in manufacturing, packaging and services for individuals who are blind. The authorizing legislation for GIB was Georgia House Bill 114 in 1937. GIB works under the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act first enacted in 1938, which provided for federal government purchase of products from companies employing people who are blind. Georgia's first plant was established in 1949 in Bainbridge. Today there are three manufacturing facilities (Albany, Bainbridge and Griffin), and two service sites (Bainbridge and Robins Air Force Base).

Services We Provide

Unique to Georgia government, GIB is a not-for-profit organization that operates as a business and generates revenues that make it self-supporting. GIB receives no funding from state or federal sources.

While the total number of employees in the GIB labor force fluctuates because of contractual commitments, the organization typically employs roughly 150 employees, 80 of whom are blind.

A diverse product line includes pillows, plastic cutlery, laundry bags, safety vests, safety flags, screen-printing, binders, file folders, and card guides. Service projects include, contact centers and box reclamation.

Annual sales over the past three years have averaged \$10 million, with the majority coming from federal government contracts with the General Services Administration and the Department of Defense. Other customers include state of Georgia departments, several agencies from other states, various civic organizations and some commercial markets.

Key Contacts

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