Georgia now has more soundstage space than NYC, only 2nd behind LA in the US

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ATLANTA — The Hollywood of the South is living up to its name once again, as a new study shows Georgia now has more soundstage space than New York City, and is second only to Los Angeles in the United States.

That's according to FilmLA Research, a non-profit research group out of Los Angeles.

Georgia now has 3 million square feet of soundstage space. Los Angeles came in first with 6.2 million square feet. New York City has 2.8 million square feet.

Globally, Georgia has the fifth-most square footage in the world and continues to grow.

"All of these competitive jurisdictions have plans to expand existing infrastructure by several million square feet. This could enhance their attractiveness to film producers, especially for jurisdictions that offer generous tax incentives and other perks," FilmLA said.

This year, Georgia is seeing major growth in soundstages with the planned opening of at least three new studios: Electric Owl Studios near the Indian Creek MARTA station, Assembly Studios in Doraville, and Lionsgate Studios Atlanta in Douglasville.

Athena Studios in Athens, with 82,000 square feet in soundstages, recently opened and Trilith Studios in Fayetteville is adding eight more soundstages on top of its existing 24, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

Just this week, Lionsgate announced that it would be the lead tenant at a brand-new film and TV complex in Douglas County expected to open later this year.

The 500,000-square-foot, full-service entertainment complex will have 12 sound stages, office and support space, a restaurant, and parking for 400 cars and 100 trucks.

"When the pandemic struck, we worked hard in Georgia to communicate with our partners in the Georgia film, TV, and streaming industries. Together, we forged a safe and appropriate path to allow the film industry to return to operations and deliver Georgia Made productions to eager consumers all around the world. Because of this partnership approach and the resiliency of our state's film and television infrastructure, we are once again enjoying incredible growth and investment from industry leaders like Lionsgate and Great Point Studios. These projects will support hardworking Georgians and ensure that we are a top producer of television shows and feature films for years to come," Gov. Brian Kemp said about the development.