Cautiously optimistic, but heavy on the caution, one of the top economic forecasters in the South takes a look into his crystal ball.

Georgia should add 65 thousand new jobs next year, but what happens on the other side of the globe could change that, says Dr. Rajeev Dhawan at Georgia State University.

"The global economy is slowing down because the emerging markets are slowing down, and they're depending on China," said Dhawan.

Stir in a debt crisis in Europe, the fiscal cliff the Congressional Budget Office is warning about, and a confrontation with Iran, and that puts the caution in the optimism.