



## Mississippi Department of Employment Security

Haley Barbour  
Governor

Tommy Dale Favre  
Executive Director

November 14, 2007

As required in the planning instructions of the TEGL 3-06, The Mississippi Department of Employment Security is submitting its Annual Report of Activities for the Program Year 2006 Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

Ms. Tommy Dale Favre  
Executive Director  
MS Department of Employment Security

Mr. George Schloegel, Chairman  
State Workforce Investment Board

*Increasing Employment in Mississippi*

**Mississippi  
Annual Performance Report  
ETA One Stop LMI Grant  
PY 2006 (7/1/06 – 6/30/07)**

**Accomplishments**

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**(1) Continue to populate the Workforce Information Database with state and local data**

Mississippi has continued to update the Workforce Information database with required data sets as established by the Analyst Resource Center. The database is available on the Labor Market Information section of the MDES agency website. We are using the most current version of the database to ensure consistency with other states and constantly work to update the system with current information or revised data as it becomes available.

**(2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections**

Long-term occupational projections for 2004 –2014 were created and are available on the agency's website. Long-term occupational projections were created for the State of Mississippi, four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, four Workforce Investment areas, and thirteen Community College Districts. We feel that the additional areas provide greater flexibility and more local data for users.

Industry occupational projections for 2004 –2014 were also published during PY 2006. Industry projections were published for the State of Mississippi, four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, four Workforce Investment areas, and thirteen Community College Districts, and are available on the agency's website.

Short-term occupational projections were created and provided to the national consortia as required and have been published on their site. In addition we are currently in the process of adding the short-term occupational series to the MDES website.

**(3) Publish an annual economic analysis report for the Governor and the SWIB**

This year is the initial phase of this report and we will look for ways to improve and add additional economic series that will add benefit to this annual publication. It has been prepared and is currently in the review process with dissemination scheduled within one month.

**(4) Post products, information and reports on the Internet**

All publications produced by the Labor Market Information Department are available on the MDES website with the exception of two tri-fold publications. Due to the design of the publications we feel that it is best to continue to create and mail or to provide these two publications through exhibits where agency personnel are present.

**(5) Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards**

During PY 2006 a Labor Market Information staff member was able to present data to an audience of persons from the local workforce investment areas. An overview of the available data and contact information was provided. We have continued to produce occupational projections,

industry employment projections, labor force statistics, and occupational wage estimates for each of the workforce investment areas within Mississippi and will continue to provide requested information for inclusion in the annual plans for the state and local boards.

#### **(6) Conduct special studies and economic analyses**

In addition to the wide variety of publications that the Labor Market Information Department is required to publish, the following items were produced during PY 2006.

During PY 06 the Labor Market Information Department partnered with another department within MDES to help produce a "Directions" publication that was provided to all school districts within Mississippi and also provided to all local WIN Job Centers in the state. The goal of this publication is to assist individuals and students with career choices in a user-friendly format. The LMI Department provided occupational projections and current wages along with funding to create the publication.

Partnered with a local publishing company to provide an annual magazine to all 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in Mississippi. The LMI Department provided funding along with industry specific data and the top jobs in the state based on average wages paid and projected openings. This publication is geared toward students and provides a wide range of data related to career and education planning.

Created an annual "Occupations in Demand" publication series that has been provided to all WIN Job Centers and School Districts within the State. The publication provides the top jobs in a region based on average wages paid. In addition occupations are analyzed by educational requirements where the top jobs are provided based on the average wages paid and the projected annual openings in the area. The Occupation in Demand series is updated annually for the State and each of the Workforce Investment Areas in Mississippi.

Partnered with other department within MDES to provide data for various presentations along with an overview publication of the various publications produced by the Labor Market Information Department. This is considered a valuable form of outreach and should increase use of data that is produced.

We are also currently producing an annual publication for one of the WIRED regions in Mississippi that will contain a variety of economic statistics relating to that region and the individual counties comprising the area. Amounts published for the area will include labor force statistics, occupational wage estimates, occupational projections, historical and projected population amounts, state tax collections, industry employment and various other economic indicators that should provide users with valuable information that describes the economic makeup of the region.

#### **Customer Consultation**

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During PY 2006 the Labor Market Information Department began tracking the various requests for data. An electronic log is maintained to document the various customer types that request data, what was requested, and how it was resolved. This has proven to be a valuable resource to assist us in identifying areas where communication or outreach needs to be improved. It also has proven to be useful in documenting the wide variety of customers and the frequency of the requests. In addition we have met directly with several customers requesting data and have identified areas where data can be consolidated to provide better reports and information that will be more user-friendly and useful to various groups.

We have continued to monitor usage of website publications. For PY 2006 Labor Market Information publications received approximately 147,000 hits on the MDES website and averaged a little over 12,000 hits per month.

### **Recommendations for Improvements or Changes to the Deliverables**

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The Mississippi Labor Market Information Department has no recommendations at this time.