



# *Reflections*

## **An In-Depth Look at Mississippi's Economy 2007**



**Labor Market Information Department  
Mississippi Department of Employment Security**

**Increasing Employment in Mississippi**

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## Introduction

This publication was designed as an aid to state and local Workforce Investment Boards in understanding some of the things going on in the economy of Mississippi. Hundreds of ways to measure economic activity exist, but in many cases the data are not available below state and national levels. By focusing on six common measures available at substate levels, it is hoped that some light can be shed on what is occurring down to the lowest possible geographies. The six focal areas include: Population, Labor Force, Employment by Industry, Occupations, Per Capita Income and Sales Tax Revenues. The general approach was to look at both long and short term trends in order to gain a sense of where the state has been and where it might be headed. MDES staff made every attempt to be as objective and thorough as possible within the limits of our resources.

Most of the data sets contained in this publication were generated internally by the Labor Market Information Department of MDES, but there were exceptions. The population data came from official U.S. Census Bureau tables. The per capita income tables were extracted from data generated by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The sales tax collection figures were derived from Mississippi State Tax Commission annual reports.

A number of other data sets and publications that might be of further use to Workforce Investment Board staff are produced periodically by the LMI Department. These can be accessed at our web site --

<http://mdes.ms.gov>. Inquiries regarding the data and analysis found in this publication should be

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## POPULATION TRENDS

Population changes are often a reflection of what is going on in the economy of a particular area. The simple fact is that adults migrate toward places that offer job opportunities and away from places where opportunities are less plentiful. There is often a direct correlation between population shifts and economic status. As a whole, Mississippi's population since the 2000 Census has grown at less than half the national rate. An unemployment rate considerably higher than the national figure during the years since 2000 could be construed as a contributing factor to this slow growth. The problem was exacerbated by the numerous relocations to other areas by people displaced following Hurricane Katrina. In the years from 2002 through 2005, the state's population increased by roughly one half a percent each year. The change from 2005 to 2006 was only a tenth of a percent, almost entirely due to storm displacements.

Looking at the state internally, similar trends and patterns can be discerned. Over half of Mississippi's counties lost population between 2002 and 2006 according to Census Bureau estimates. Of the forty-three counties with negative population growth, only four posted an unemployment rate lower than the statewide average. Conversely, among the ten counties with the highest net increase in population, only one (George) had a jobless rate higher than the state. That anomaly could be attributed to its proximity to neighboring Jackson County. Numerous people from that county who lost homes and jobs to Katrina relocated to George County as the next closest option.

There also appeared to be a correlation between the overall size of a county's population and its tendency to gain or lose citizens. The average county in Mississippi has roughly 35,000 residents. Of the forty-three counties losing population, thirty-three of them were smaller than the average. The least populous counties were more likely to lose population than were the larger ones. Again, this could have economic undertones, since the more populous counties are also home to greater numbers and varieties of businesses. More businesses equals more jobs which in turn equals more people.

Demographic shifts in the population between 2000 and 2005 were far more subtle and less wide spread. The percentage of males, blacks and hispanics all increased slightly over the time period. Whites, females and other races saw their percentages drop just a bit. The largest increase in African-American population occurred in Desoto County, with Hinds and Coahoma also posting significant increases. Carroll County recorded the largest increase in the percentage of white residents, followed closely by Scott and Benton Counties. The Hispanic population, which can be of any race, increased most dramatically in Jones County, with Pontotoc, George and Scott not far behind.

The key to attracting new residents to Mississippi is to create job opportunities, particularly in the less populous counties. These have been hard hit by the general erosion of manufacturing jobs across the state and nation. Replacing these lost jobs with new ones may be the only way to stem the outmigration to other states and to metropolitan areas within the state.

## TOTAL POPULATION - 2002-2006

Area name	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 to 2006		RANK
						Net Change	Pct Change	Pct Change
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,863,091</b>	<b>2,874,171</b>	<b>2,892,668</b>	<b>2,908,496</b>	<b>2,910,540</b>	<b>47,449</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>XXX</b>
Adams	33,424	33,081	32,305	32,059	32,626	-798	-2.4%	62
Alcorn	34,773	34,844	35,097	35,211	35,589	816	2.3%	23
Amite	13,500	13,516	13,386	13,395	13,466	-34	-0.3%	44
Attala	19,665	19,628	19,527	19,502	19,644	-21	-0.1%	41
Benton	7,854	7,801	7,779	7,803	7,873	19	0.2%	35
Bolivar	39,394	39,150	38,838	38,342	38,352	-1,042	-2.6%	67
Calhoun	14,871	14,843	14,739	14,600	14,647	-224	-1.5%	57
Carroll	10,589	10,550	10,504	10,405	10,326	-263	-2.5%	64
Chickasaw	19,312	19,204	19,184	19,052	18,998	-314	-1.6%	58
Choctaw	9,703	9,661	9,552	9,499	9,401	-302	-3.1%	70
Claiborne	11,616	11,400	11,412	11,496	11,487	-129	-1.1%	54
Clarke	17,799	17,647	17,631	17,547	17,631	-168	-0.9%	51
Clay	21,831	21,440	21,447	21,131	21,210	-621	-2.8%	69
Coahoma	29,846	29,355	29,064	28,654	28,420	-1,426	-4.8%	74
Copiah	28,747	28,954	28,998	28,932	29,223	476	1.7%	28
Covington	19,726	20,085	20,153	20,107	20,447	721	3.7%	16
DeSoto	118,619	124,285	130,531	136,668	144,706	26,087	22.0%	1
Forrest	73,309	74,051	74,269	74,915	76,372	3,063	4.2%	15
Franklin	8,276	8,317	8,395	8,293	8,269	-7	-0.1%	40
George	20,034	20,487	20,711	21,171	21,828	1,794	9.0%	7
Greene	13,221	13,301	13,123	13,145	13,103	-118	-0.9%	50
Grenada	22,930	22,727	22,681	22,689	22,861	-69	-0.3%	45
Hancock	44,607	45,166	45,821	46,546	40,421	-4,186	-9.4%	80
Harrison	189,996	189,189	192,129	193,187	171,875	-18,121	-9.5%	81
Hinds	248,429	247,965	248,731	248,124	249,012	583	0.2%	36
Holmes	21,426	21,160	21,119	20,921	20,866	-560	-2.6%	66
Humphreys	10,755	10,634	10,563	10,401	10,393	-362	-3.4%	71
Issaquena	2,127	2,053	1,974	1,899	1,805	-322	-15.1%	82
Itawamba	22,961	23,154	23,126	23,285	23,352	391	1.7%	27
Jackson	132,895	133,435	134,935	135,571	130,577	-2,318	-1.7%	60
Jasper	18,220	18,106	18,066	17,964	18,197	-23	-0.1%	42
Jefferson	9,667	9,470	9,464	9,329	9,194	-473	-4.9%	76
Jefferson Davis	13,545	13,346	13,104	13,059	13,184	-361	-2.7%	68
Jones	65,028	65,117	65,559	66,103	66,715	1,687	2.6%	21
Kemper	10,498	10,429	10,346	10,214	10,108	-390	-3.7%	72
Lafayette	39,147	40,050	40,178	40,262	40,865	1,718	4.4%	13
Lamar	41,125	41,857	43,166	44,429	46,240	5,115	12.4%	3
Lauderdale	77,531	77,546	77,203	76,935	76,724	-807	-1.0%	53
Lawrence	13,402	13,452	13,436	13,405	13,457	55	0.4%	34
Leake	21,687	22,002	22,326	22,528	22,769	1,082	5.0%	10
Lee	76,939	77,507	77,961	78,495	79,714	2,775	3.6%	17
Leflore	36,685	36,216	36,253	35,938	35,752	-933	-2.5%	65
Lincoln	33,530	33,498	33,634	33,832	34,404	874	2.6%	20
Lowndes	60,813	60,416	60,171	59,703	59,773	-1,040	-1.7%	59
Madison	77,762	79,614	81,696	84,169	87,419	9,657	12.4%	4
Marion	25,199	25,196	25,213	25,274	25,730	531	2.1%	24
Marshall	35,177	35,446	35,310	35,582	35,853	676	1.9%	25

## TOTAL POPULATION - 2002-2006

Area name	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 to 2006		RANK
						Net Change	Pct Change	Pct Change
Monroe	37,846	37,833	37,821	37,540	37,572	-274	-0.7%	49
Montgomery	11,928	11,860	11,709	11,722	11,754	-174	-1.5%	56
Neshoba	28,763	29,158	29,551	29,889	30,125	1,362	4.7%	11
Newton	21,883	22,035	22,091	22,218	22,413	530	2.4%	22
Noxubee	12,352	12,232	12,183	12,118	12,051	-301	-2.4%	63
Oktibbeha	41,897	41,444	41,070	41,288	41,633	-264	-0.6%	48
Panola	34,850	35,014	35,251	35,217	35,427	577	1.7%	29
Pearl River	50,381	50,837	51,719	52,458	57,099	6,718	13.3%	2
Perry	12,252	12,216	12,194	12,058	12,132	-120	-1.0%	52
Pike	38,872	38,908	39,014	39,204	40,240	1,368	3.5%	18
Pontotoc	27,108	27,655	28,009	28,389	28,887	1,779	6.6%	9
Prentiss	25,561	25,598	25,565	25,657	25,615	54	0.2%	37
Quitman	9,939	9,666	9,664	9,476	9,289	-650	-6.5%	78
Rankin	121,584	124,714	128,416	131,521	135,830	14,246	11.7%	5
Scott	28,262	28,458	28,534	28,627	28,790	528	1.9%	26
Sharkey	6,288	6,189	6,024	5,967	5,851	-437	-6.9%	79
Simpson	27,684	27,519	27,543	27,934	27,972	288	1.0%	31
Smith	15,942	15,822	15,857	15,920	15,970	28	0.2%	39
Stone	14,108	14,241	14,458	14,883	15,608	1,500	10.6%	6
Sunflower	33,771	33,459	32,436	31,885	31,833	-1,938	-5.7%	77
Tallahatchie	14,471	14,333	14,203	14,069	13,798	-673	-4.7%	73
Tate	25,572	25,822	26,191	26,423	26,723	1,151	4.5%	12
Tippah	20,960	20,975	20,954	21,192	21,248	288	1.4%	30
Tishomingo	19,076	18,991	19,009	19,090	19,112	36	0.2%	38
Tunica	9,670	9,953	10,004	10,231	10,419	749	7.7%	8
Union	25,874	26,105	26,339	26,757	27,008	1,134	4.4%	14
Walthall	15,096	15,159	15,174	15,271	15,543	447	3.0%	19
Warren	49,077	48,858	49,001	48,745	49,308	231	0.5%	33
Washington	60,918	59,932	59,186	58,762	58,007	-2,911	-4.8%	75
Wayne	21,171	21,119	21,101	21,109	21,087	-84	-0.4%	47
Webster	10,269	10,127	10,110	10,031	10,041	-228	-2.2%	61
Wilkinson	10,271	10,276	10,209	10,134	10,239	-32	-0.3%	46
Winston	19,954	19,864	19,830	19,759	19,708	-246	-1.2%	55
Yalobusha	13,286	13,292	13,266	13,363	13,401	115	0.9%	32
Yazoo	27,965	28,156	28,172	27,818	27,929	-36	-0.1%	43

### Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Gulfport-Biloxi, MS (MSA)	248,711	248,596	252,408	254,616	227,904	-20,807	-8.4%	4
Hattiesburg, MS (MSA)	126,686	128,124	129,629	131,402	134,744	8,058	6.4%	1
Jackson, MS (MSA)	504,206	508,766	515,384	520,680	529,456	25,250	5.0%	2
Pascagoula, MS (MSA)	152,929	153,922	155,646	156,742	152,405	-524	-0.3%	3

### WIA Areas

Delta	320,729	317,664	315,083	312,167	310,538	-10,191	-3.2%	4
Mississippi Partnership	796,278	802,804	809,339	816,811	829,239	32,961	4.1%	1
Southcentral MS Works	768,902	772,857	778,986	783,661	795,618	26,716	3.5%	2
Twin Districts	977,182	980,846	989,260	995,857	975,145	-2,037	-0.2%	3

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS - 2002 vs 2005

	POPULATION		PERCENT FEMALE		PERCENT MALE		PERCENT WHITE		PERCENT BLACK		PERCENT OTHER		PERCENT HISPANIC	
	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005
	<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>	<b>2,844,658</b>	<b>2,908,496</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Adams	34,340	32,059	53.8	53.7	46.2	46.3	46.0	43.5	52.2	55.7	1.8	0.8	0.7	0.9
Alcorn	34,558	35,211	51.8	51.0	48.2	49.0	87.3	87.7	11.1	11.4	1.6	0.9	1.1	1.8
Amite	13,599	13,395	52.1	51.4	47.9	48.6	56.2	57.6	43.1	42	0.7	0.4	0.5	1.5
Attala	19,661	19,502	52.7	52.2	47.3	47.8	58.2	58.6	40.6	40.6	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.6
Benton	8,026	7,803	50.8	51.8	49.2	48.2	62.2	64.5	36.9	34.7	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.2
Bolivar	40,633	38,342	53.3	53.0	46.7	47.0	33.2	33.5	65.6	65.7	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.2
Calhoun	15,069	14,600	52.9	52.0	47.1	48.0	69.2	70.4	28.7	28.9	2.1	0.7	2.4	3.5
Carroll	10,769	10,405	49.3	49.9	50.7	50.1	62.4	65.5	36.2	34.3	1.4	0.2	1.0	1.0
Chickasaw	19,440	19,052	51.4	51.8	48.6	48.2	56.6	57.7	42.0	41.6	1.5	0.7	2.0	2.9
Choctaw	9,758	9,499	51.9	51.9	48.1	48.1	68.0	68.0	30.9	31.4	1.0	0.6	1.0	0.9
Claiborne	11,831	11,496	53.9	53.2	46.1	46.8	15.3	15.2	84.3	84.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.9
Clarke	17,955	17,547	52.4	51.6	47.6	48.4	64.5	66.0	34.7	33.7	0.9	0.3	1.0	0.7
Clay	21,979	21,131	52.9	53.2	47.1	46.8	42.8	42.4	56.1	57.2	1.1	0.4	1.0	1.0
Coahoma	30,622	28,654	54.2	53.9	45.8	46.1	29.5	25.6	69.5	73.3	1.0	1.1	0.7	1.2
Copiah	28,757	28,932	51.9	51.8	48.1	48.2	47.6	48.6	51.3	50.7	1.1	0.7	0.6	1.4
Covington	19,407	20,107	51.8	52.3	48.2	47.7	63.4	63.1	35.4	36.2	1.2	0.7	1.2	1.0
DeSoto	107,199	136,668	50.8	50.1	49.2	49.9	86.0	81.0	11.3	17	2.7	2.0	2.3	3.4
Forrest	72,604	74,915	52.6	52.5	47.4	47.5	64.1	63.3	33.6	34.5	2.3	2.2	1.2	1.4
Franklin	8,448	8,293	52.0	51.7	48.0	48.3	63.2	63.3	35.7	36.2	1.1	0.5	1.1	0.6
George	19,144	21,171	49.9	49.0	50.1	51.0	89.1	89.7	9.6	9.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	2.5
Greene	13,299	13,145	43.9	42.1	56.1	57.9	72.8	73.0	26.2	26.5	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.8
Grenada	23,263	22,689	53.5	52.9	46.5	47.1	57.9	57.1	40.6	42	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.7
Hancock	42,967	46,546	50.5	50.3	49.5	49.7	90.3	90.6	6.9	7	2.7	2.4	1.3	2.3
Harrison	189,601	193,187	50.2	50.4	49.8	49.6	73.0	72.3	20.9	22.6	6.1	5.1	2.5	2.7
Hinds	250,800	248,124	53.0	52.7	47.0	47.3	37.4	33.3	61.0	65.2	1.6	1.5	0.7	0.9
Holmes	21,609	20,921	53.3	52.8	46.7	47.2	20.4	18.7	78.8	80.7	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.9
Humphreys	11,206	10,401	53.0	53.1	47.0	46.9	27.0	25.9	71.6	73.6	1.4	0.5	1.1	2.1
Issaquena	2,274	1,899	47.1	46.1	52.9	53.9	36.1	37.3	63.5	62.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.5
Itawamba	22,770	23,285	51.2	51.3	48.8	48.7	92.5	92.8	6.5	6.6	1.0	0.6	1.1	1.1
Jackson	131,420	135,571	50.5	50.3	49.5	49.7	75.3	74.9	20.6	21.8	4.2	3.3	2.0	2.5
Jasper	18,149	17,964	52.2	52.0	47.8	48.0	46.3	47.0	52.6	52.5	1.2	0.5	0.8	0.8
Jefferson	9,740	9,329	49.9	49.9	50.1	50.1	13.3	13.7	86.1	86	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.7
Jefferson Davis	13,962	13,059	52.9	52.7	47.1	47.3	41.7	41.6	57.0	57.8	1.3	0.6	0.9	1.0
Jones	64,958	66,103	51.8	51.0	48.2	49.0	71.0	71.4	26.5	27.4	2.5	1.2	2.0	3.6
Kemper	10,453	10,214	52.7	50.6	47.3	49.4	39.5	38.8	58.0	58.8	2.6	2.4	0.3	1.0
Lafayette	38,744	40,262	50.6	50.9	49.4	49.1	72.0	73.3	25.1	24.1	2.9	2.6	1.3	1.3
Lamar	39,070	44,429	51.7	51.1	48.3	48.9	85.4	84.2	12.8	14.2	1.8	1.6	0.7	1.5
Lauderdale	78,161	76,935	52.3	52.2	47.7	47.8	59.9	57.9	38.8	40.6	1.3	1.5	0.7	1.2
Lawrence	13,258	13,405	52.2	52.2	47.8	47.8	66.5	67.5	32.5	31.8	1.0	0.7	1.0	0.9
Leake	20,940	22,528	50.8	49.5	49.2	50.5	56.3	55.8	37.9	38.9	5.9	5.3	1.9	3.0
Lee	75,755	78,495	52.0	51.8	48.0	48.2	73.5	72.7	24.4	25.8	2.1	1.5	1.3	1.3
Leflore	37,947	35,938	52.0	52.2	48.0	47.8	29.9	28.5	68.2	70.6	1.9	0.9	1.5	2.2
Lincoln	33,166	33,832	52.2	51.8	47.8	48.2	69.4	69.1	29.0	30.2	1.6	0.7	1.0	0.7
Lowndes	61,586	59,703	52.9	52.5	47.1	47.5	56.4	55.3	41.5	42.9	2.1	1.8	1.1	1.2
Madison	74,674	84,169	52.7	52.3	47.3	47.7	60.0	59.8	38.1	38	2.0	2.2	0.6	1.3
Marion	25,595	25,274	51.4	51.2	48.6	48.8	67.1	66.7	31.7	32.4	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.7
Marshall	34,993	35,582	50.7	50.5	49.3	49.5	48.1	49.6	50.6	49.6	1.3	0.8	0.7	1.5



## POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS - 2002 vs 2005

	POPULATION		PERCENT FEMALE		PERCENT MALE		PERCENT WHITE		PERCENT BLACK		PERCENT OTHER		PERCENT HISPANIC	
	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005
	Monroe	38,014	37,540	52.9	52.7	47.1	47.3	68.2	68.4	30.5	31	1.2	0.6	1.2
Montgomery	12,189	11,722	53.7	52.9	46.3	47.1	54.1	53.7	45.1	45.8	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.9
Neshoba	28,684	29,889	52.9	52.0	47.1	48.0	66.0	63.6	19.8	20.5	14.1	15.9	0.6	1.5
Newton	21,838	22,218	52.6	51.6	47.4	48.4	65.4	65.2	30.9	30.1	3.7	4.7	0.8	1.2
Noxubee	12,548	12,118	52.6	52.3	47.4	47.7	29.6	28.9	69.0	70.4	1.4	0.7	1.1	1.4
Oktibbeha	42,902	41,288	50.0	49.3	50.0	50.7	58.9	60.2	37.3	36.2	3.8	3.6	0.8	1.1
Panola	34,274	35,217	52.2	51.7	47.8	48.3	50.4	51.4	48.0	48	1.5	0.6	1.3	1.4
Pearl River	48,621	52,458	51.6	51.2	48.4	48.8	85.4	85.8	12.4	12.3	2.3	1.9	1.5	1.6
Perry	12,138	12,058	50.5	51.2	49.5	48.8	76.3	76.0	22.6	23.2	1.1	0.8	0.7	1.2
Pike	38,940	39,204	53.3	52.7	46.7	47.3	51.5	49.6	47.4	49.4	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7
Pontotoc	26,726	28,389	51.5	51.0	48.5	49.0	84.1	84.7	14.1	14.6	1.7	0.7	1.3	2.8
Prentiss	25,556	25,657	51.4	51.0	48.6	49.0	86.2	85.1	12.6	14	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.7
Quitman	10,117	9,476	53.3	52.6	46.7	47.4	30.5	30.5	68.6	69	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6
Rankin	115,327	131,521	50.9	51.0	49.1	49.0	81.0	79.8	16.9	18.6	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.7
Scott	28,423	28,627	51.1	50.4	48.9	49.6	57.0	59.9	38.6	38.7	4.4	1.4	5.7	6.9
Sharkey	6,580	5,967	52.4	52.9	47.6	47.1	29.0	29.8	70.0	69.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.5
Simpson	27,639	27,934	50.9	51.3	49.1	48.7	64.1	64.6	34.4	34.7	1.5	0.7	1.1	1.5
Smith	16,182	15,920	51.0	50.9	49.0	49.1	76.2	76.4	22.5	23.2	1.3	0.4	1.0	0.8
Stone	13,622	14,883	50.4	49.7	49.6	50.3	79.8	79.1	18.2	20.0	2.0	0.9	1.8	1.6
Sunflower	34,369	31,885	46.3	46.0	53.7	54.0	28.5	26.9	70.1	72.3	1.4	0.8	1.1	1.7
Tallahatchie	14,903	14,069	52.9	53.5	47.1	46.5	39.6	38.8	59.6	60.5	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.0
Tate	25,370	26,423	52.0	51.1	48.0	48.9	67.6	68.8	31.4	30.5	1.0	0.7	0.4	1.3
Tippah	20,826	21,192	51.5	51.7	48.5	48.3	81.7	82.0	15.7	17.0	2.7	1.0	2.5	3.3
Tishomingo	19,163	19,090	51.4	51.6	48.6	48.4	95.5	95.9	3.1	3.6	1.3	0.5	1.5	2.6
Tunica	9,227	10,231	52.1	52.9	47.9	47.1	27.0	25.8	70.7	73.4	2.3	0.8	2.4	2.8
Union	25,362	26,757	51.3	51.1	48.7	48.9	83.2	83.8	14.3	15.1	2.5	1.1	2.0	2.6
Walthall	15,156	15,271	52.2	52.0	47.8	48.0	54.6	55.1	44.5	44.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.3
Warren	49,644	48,745	53.1	53.0	46.9	47.0	55.1	52.5	42.9	46.0	1.9	1.5	1.1	1.2
Washington	62,977	58,762	53.1	53.4	46.9	46.6	33.9	31.7	64.5	67.2	1.5	1.1	0.8	1.1
Wayne	21,216	21,109	52.2	52.3	47.8	47.7	61.2	61.4	38.1	38.2	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.7
Webster	10,294	10,031	51.5	51.3	48.5	48.7	77.7	79.8	21.5	19.8	0.8	0.4	1.3	1.9
Wilkinson	10,312	10,134	48.1	47.2	51.9	52.8	31.3	29.8	68.2	69.9	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
Winston	20,160	19,759	52.1	51.5	47.9	48.5	56.0	54.7	42.3	44.2	1.8	1.1	1.9	1.6
Yalobusha	13,051	13,363	51.9	52.4	48.1	47.6	60.2	60.2	38.8	39.2	0.9	0.6	0.5	1.0
Yazoo	28,149	27,818	49.2	48.4	50.8	51.6	45.1	44.2	53.6	54.9	1.2	0.9	4.8	5.2

### MSA's

Gulfport-Biloxi	246,190	254,616	50.3	50.3	49.7	49.7	76.4	76.3	18.3	19.6	5.3	4.1	2.3	2.6
Hattiesburg	123,812	131,402	52.1	51.9	47.9	48.1	72.0	71.8	25.9	26.7	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.4
Jackson	497,197	520,680	52.3	52.1	47.7	47.9	53.0	52.0	45.3	46.8	1.7	1.2	0.9	1.2
Pascagoula	150,564	156,742	50.4	50.1	49.6	49.9	77.0	77.1	19.2	20.1	3.8	2.8	1.9	2.5

### WIA Areas

Delta	327,507	312,167	52.1	52.1	47.9	47.9	33.8	33.1	64.8	66.9	1.4	0.0	1.0	1.4
Mississippi Partnership	784,962	816,811	51.7	51.3	48.3	48.7	70.4	70.7	27.7	28.3	1.9	1.0	1.3	1.9
Southcentral MS Works	763,780	783,661	52.3	52.0	47.7	48.0	52.2	51.4	46.2	47.7	1.6	0.9	1.0	1.3
Twin Districts	968,409	995,857	51.2	50.9	48.8	49.1	70.6	70.7	25.9	26.6	3.5	2.7	1.6	2.1

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

## **LABOR FORCE TRENDS**

## Comparative Labor Force Data Annual Averages 2002 - 2006

### MISSISSIPPI

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

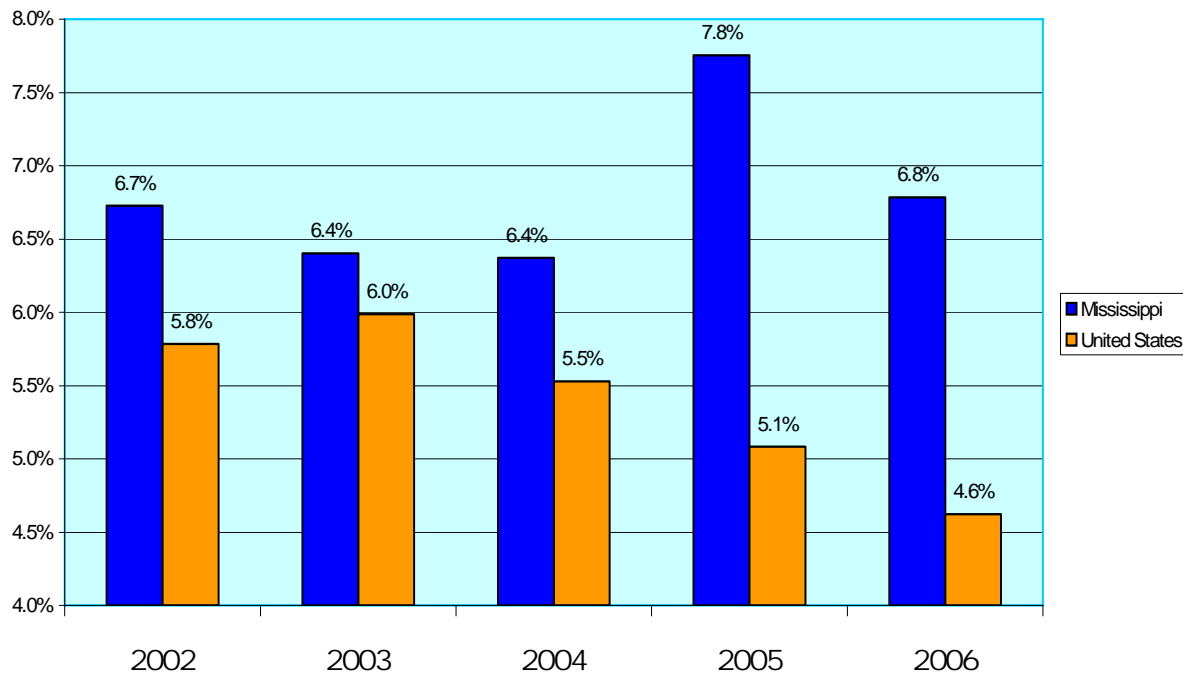
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
					NET CHG	PCT CHG
1,302,200	1,312,600	1,318,200	1,329,600	1,307,400	5,200	0.4%
87,600	84,030	83,990	103,100	88,700	1,100	1.3%
6.7%	6.4%	6.4%	7.8%	6.8%	0.1%	xxx
1,214,600	1,228,500	1,234,200	1,226,500	1,218,700	4,100	0.3%

### UNITED STATES

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
					NET CHG	PCT CHG
144,863,000	146,510,000	147,401,000	149,320,000	151,428,000	6,565,000	4.5%
8,378,000	8,774,000	8,149,000	7,591,000	7,001,000	-1,377,000	-16.4%
5.8%	6.0%	5.5%	5.1%	4.6%	-1.2%	xxx
136,485,000	137,736,000	139,252,000	141,730,000	144,427,000	7,942,000	5.8%

### Unemployment Rate



The above chart and graph dramatically illustrate the tremendous economic impact that Hurricane Katrina had on Mississippi's economy. Significant job gains between 2002 and 2003 helped to narrow the gap between the state and national jobless rates. While the nation continued its push toward lower unemployment in 2004, the jobless rate for Mississippi showed little change. The state's economic woes continued on into 2005 with the out of work percentage hovering around 7 percent through the first eight months -- then Katrina hit and made matters that much worse. Jobs lost to the storm began to come back in 2006, allowing the rate to drop back almost to the level of five years ago. Early indications for 2007 indicate continued progress being made in the long struggle to regain what Katrina took away. As the coast continues to recover and new industry comes to other areas of the state, the wide gap between state and national unemployment rates should begin to narrow considerably.

## Mississippi Labor Force Data Monthly vs Moving Average \*

### Monthly Data

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	1,327,100	1,302,700	1,302,300	1,313,400	1,319,200	1,326,500	1,305,700	1,310,500	1,323,600	1,316,300	1,309,200	1,326,900
Unemployed	99,300	88,100	80,800	80,400	82,900	83,600	87,400	89,000	90,700	84,200	77,900	91,000
Unemployment Rate	7.5%	6.8%	6.2%	6.1%	6.3%	6.3%	6.7%	6.8%	6.8%	6.4%	6.0%	6.9%
Employed	1,227,800	1,214,600	1,221,500	1,233,000	1,236,300	1,242,900	1,218,300	1,221,500	1,232,900	1,232,100	1,231,300	1,235,900

### Moving Average\*

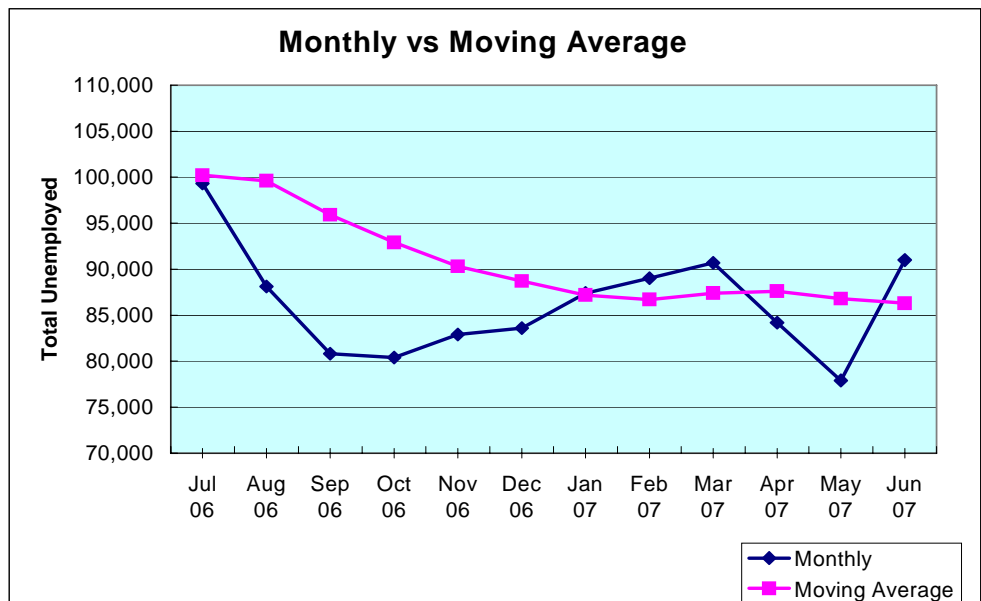
Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	1,312,300	1,309,700	1,307,700	1,306,700	1,306,400	1,307,400	1,308,200	1,309,400	1,312,300	1,314,300	1,314,700	1,315,300
Unemployed	100,200	99,600	95,900	92,900	90,300	88,700	87,200	86,700	87,400	87,600	86,800	86,300
Unemployment Rate	7.6%	7.6%	7.3%	7.1%	6.9%	6.8%	6.7%	6.6%	6.7%	6.7%	6.6%	6.6%
Employed	1,212,100	1,210,100	1,211,800	1,213,800	1,216,100	1,218,700	1,221,000	1,222,700	1,224,900	1,226,700	1,227,900	1,229,000

\*MOVING AVERAGE - The simple average of the data set over the previous twelve-month period

### Why a Moving Average?

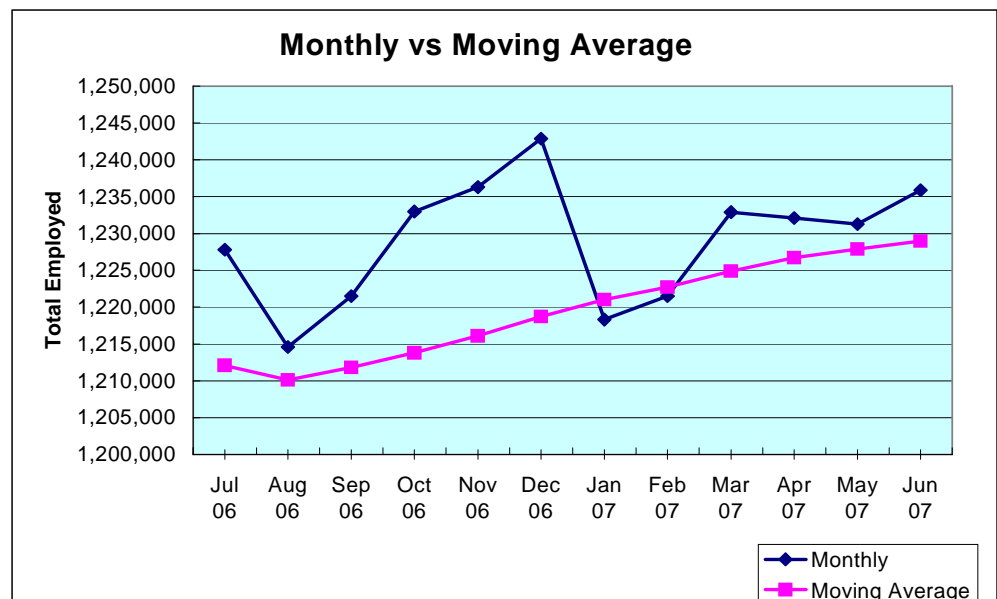
As the charts clearly indicate the month to month levels of unemployed or employed persons tend to show a lot of movement. Seasonal influences and other factors cause the levels to go up and down in an often erratic manner. This clouds the ability to see exactly what is going on in the long term. By utilizing the technique of calculating a "moving" average of the most recent twelve month period, much of the month to month movement is filtered out and the long-term trend of the data series becomes much more apparent.



Looking at the top chart it is easy to see the effects of job recovery following the devastation wrought in 2005 by Hurricane Katrina.

The monthly total of people without jobs continued to drop from July through October as jobs lost to the storm continued to rebound. From October on, the numbers reverted to a more "normal" pattern. The plot line for the moving average allows us to see the long term trend more clearly, dropping slowly over the first six months then leveling off through June 2007.

The lower chart is almost a direct corollary to the other one, showing a corresponding rise in the moving average plot line for employed persons.



## Comparative Labor Force Data Annual Averages 2002 - 2006

### MISSISSIPPI

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

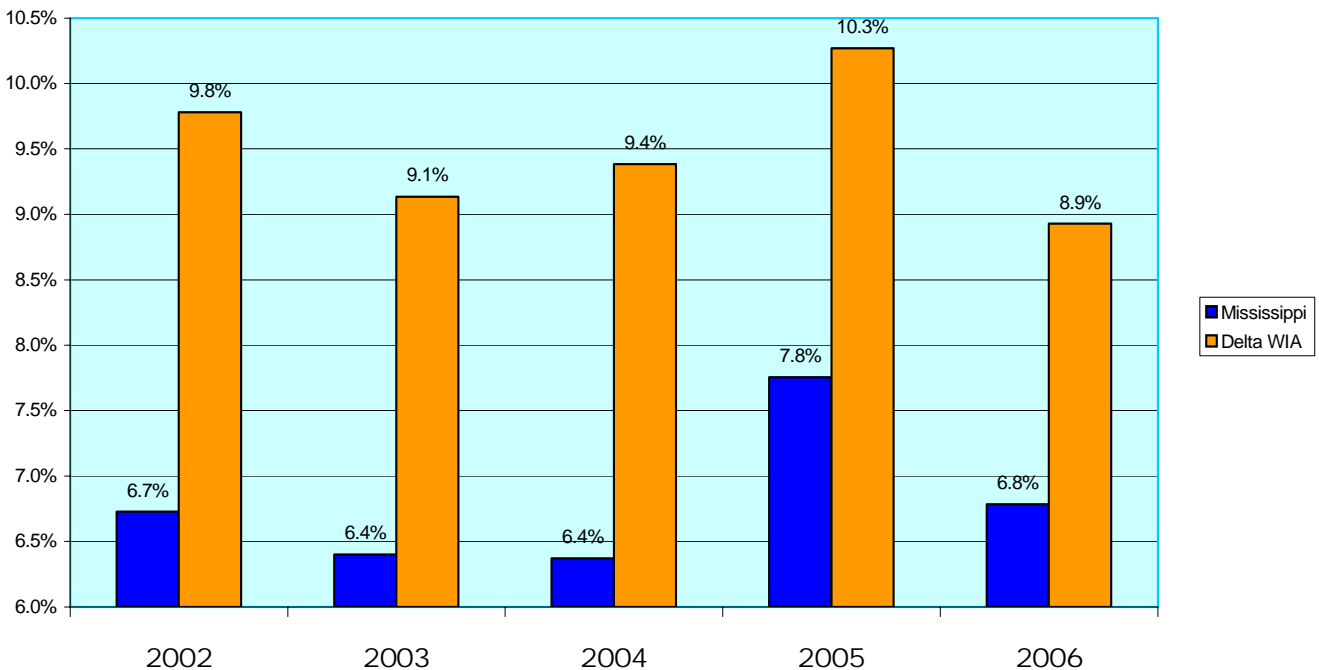
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
Civilian Labor Force	1,302,200	1,312,600	1,318,200	1,329,600	1,307,400	5,200	0.4%
Unemployed	87,600	84,030	83,990	103,100	88,700	1,100	1.3%
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	6.4%	6.4%	7.8%	6.8%	0.1%	xxx
Employed	1,214,600	1,228,500	1,234,200	1,226,500	1,218,700	4,100	0.3%

### DELTA WIA

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
Civilian Labor Force	127,800	128,710	125,750	125,420	123,870	-3,930	-3.1%
Unemployed	12,500	11,760	11,800	12,880	11,060	-1,440	-11.5%
Unemployment Rate	9.8%	9.1%	9.4%	10.3%	8.9%	-0.9%	xxx
Employed	115,310	116,950	113,950	112,540	112,810	-2,500	-2.2%

### Unemployment Rate



The above chart and graph dramatically illustrate the economic problems that continue to plague the Delta WIA region. Population losses have been mirrored by a similarly shrinking labor force. The loss of manufacturing jobs and the continued dependence on agriculture have curtailed the area's ability to hold on to its workers. People are simply fleeing the region to head for areas of the state and nation where job opportunities are more plentiful. The gap between the Delta's jobless rate and the statewide figure has declined very little over the past five years. The area was not heavily impacted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, but still saw its jobless rate soar to 10.3 percent. If the area is to remain economically viable, it must find ways to attract new industry. Skilled trades are not in abundance in the region, therefore it could be at a disadvantage when competing for "high-tech" industries. There are other growth industries such as transportation and warehousing that might be a better fit for the region. Assessing the area's strengths and weaknesses should be a first step in deciding what types of new businesses should be targeted.

## Delta WIA Labor Force Data Monthly vs Moving Average \*

### Monthly Data

**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	125,890	122,430	125,000	125,460	125,690	124,710	123,350	124,900	124,680	122,770	121,170	121,260
Unemployed	12,460	10,860	9,270	9,470	10,690	11,450	13,190	13,120	12,000	10,460	9,730	11,650
Unemployment Rate	9.9%	8.9%	7.4%	7.5%	8.5%	9.2%	10.7%	10.5%	9.6%	8.5%	8.0%	9.6%
Employed	113,430	111,570	115,730	115,990	115,000	113,260	110,160	111,780	112,680	112,310	111,440	109,610

### Moving Average\*

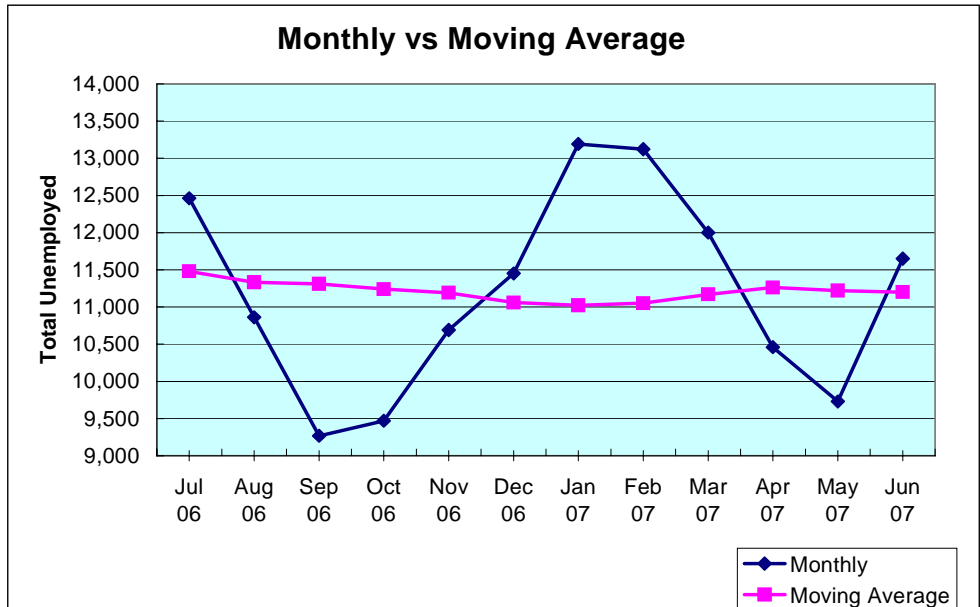
**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employment**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	124,060	123,700	123,740	123,710	123,860	123,870	123,930	124,060	124,250	124,280	124,150	123,950
Unemployed	11,480	11,330	11,310	11,240	11,190	11,060	11,020	11,050	11,170	11,260	11,220	11,200
Unemployment Rate	9.3%	9.2%	9.1%	9.1%	9.0%	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%	9.0%	9.1%	9.0%	9.0%
Employment	112,580	112,370	112,430	112,470	112,670	112,810	112,910	113,010	113,080	113,020	112,930	112,750

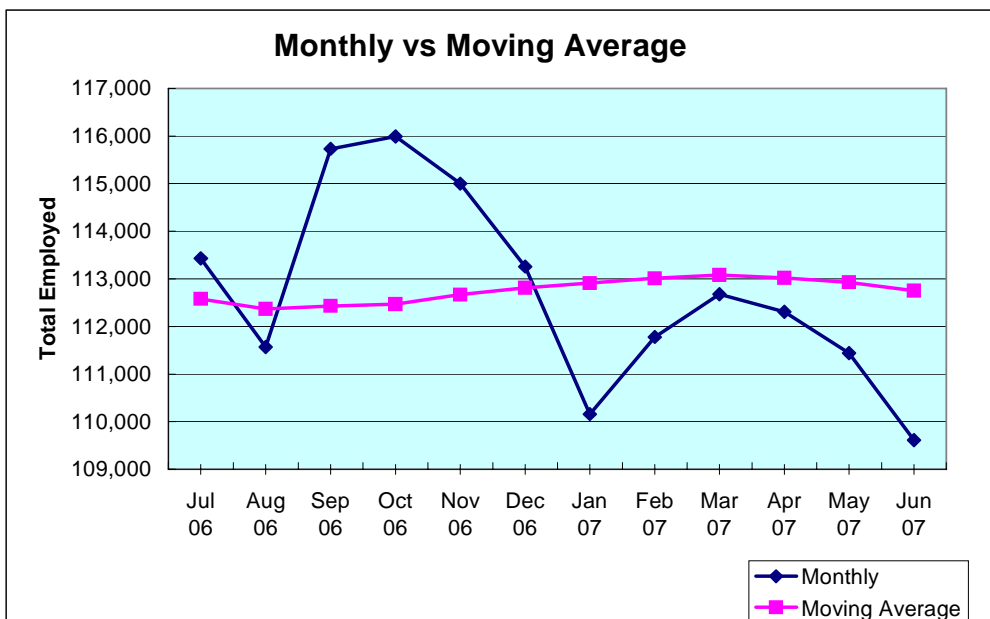
\*MOVING AVERAGE - The simple arithmetic average of the data set over the previous twelve-month period

### Why a Moving Average?

As the charts clearly indicate the month to month levels of unemployed or employed persons tend to show a lot of movement. Seasonal influences and other factors cause the levels to go up and down in an often erratic manner. This clouds the ability to see exactly what is going on in the long term. By utilizing the technique of calculating a "moving" average of the most recent twelve month period, much of the month to month movement is filtered out and the long-term trend of the data series becomes much more apparent.



The two charts indicate an amazingly stable pattern in the workforce for the Delta Workforce Investment Area. This area of the state is very prone to seasonal shifts in its labor force. Yet the moving average plot lines for both the unemployed and employed total employed are virtually flat. Other than a slight downward trend in unemployed and a corresponding upward tilt in the number of employed, there were virtually no significant shifts in either data series over the time period cited. What that indicates is that the labor force for this area showed no discernible pattern of growth or decline during FY 2007



## Comparative Labor Force Data Annual Averages 2002 - 2006

### MISSISSIPPI

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

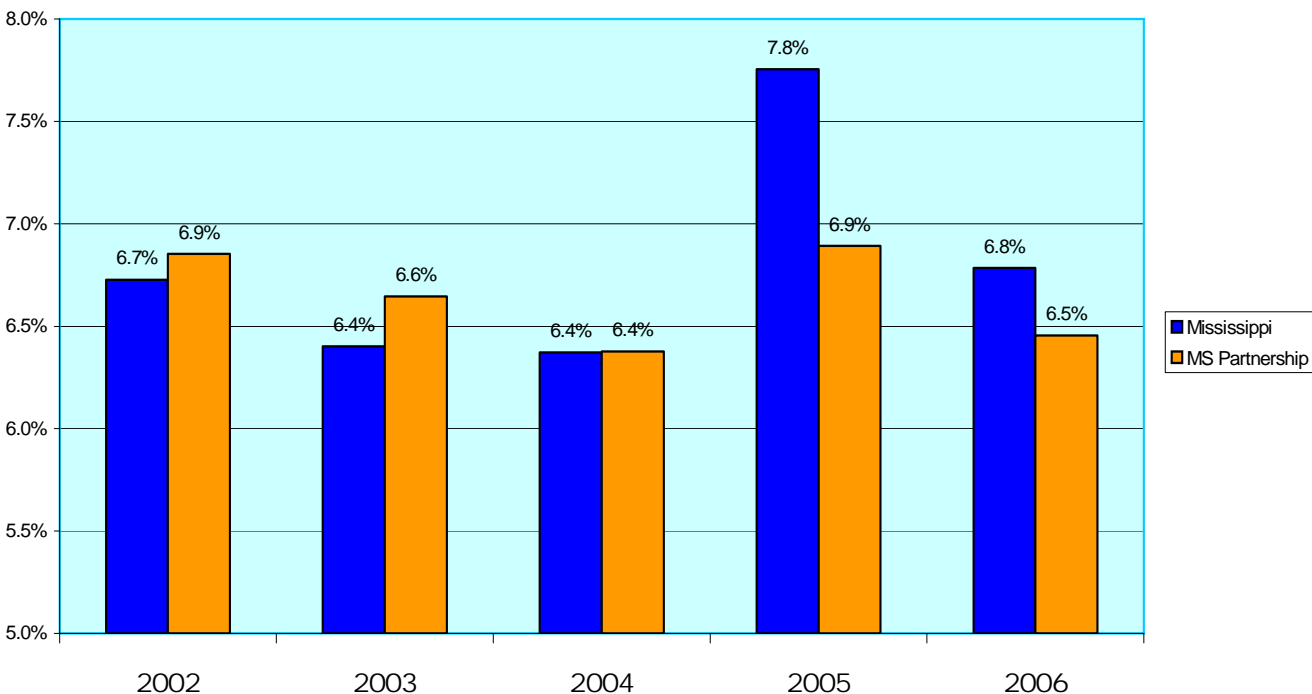
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
					NET CHG	PCT CHG
1,302,200	1,312,600	1,318,200	1,329,600	1,307,400	5,200	0.4%
87,600	84,030	83,990	103,100	88,700	1,100	1.3%
6.7%	6.4%	6.4%	7.8%	6.8%	0.1%	xxx
1,214,600	1,228,500	1,234,200	1,226,500	1,218,700	4,100	0.3%

### MISSISSIPPI PARTNERSHIP

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
					NET CHG	PCT CHG
371,590	371,890	373,880	378,860	376,540	4,950	1.3%
25,470	24,710	23,840	26,110	24,300	-1,170	-4.6%
6.9%	6.6%	6.4%	6.9%	6.5%	-0.4%	xxx
346,120	347,170	350,050	352,750	352,240	6,120	1.8%

**Unemployment Rate**



The above chart and graph validate the Mississippi Partnership WIA region as a microcosm of the state as a whole. Its jobless rate and other key factors have tracked very closely to statewide levels over the past five years. In terms of labor force growth the region has actually outpaced the state to some degree, showing more employment growth and a larger dropoff in joblessness. The area has been able to replace lost manufacturing jobs with other types of businesses, keeping its workers at home and productive. It has seen its unemployment rate go from slightly above the statewide level to slightly below it in 2006. Some key manufacturing losses so far in 2007 may keep the areas's jobless figures at or near the level for 2006. However, these losses are due to be negated by the arrival of some very large manufacturing facilities over the next couple of years. Once these new jobs materialize, the Mississippi Partnership WIA can expect to continue its five year trend toward more economic stability.

## Mississippi Partnership WIA Labor Force Data Monthly vs Moving Average \*

### Monthly Data

**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	383,450	374,880	375,530	378,170	380,030	382,410	375,260	379,280	382,210	381,260	380,610	383,070
Unemployed	27,650	25,280	24,330	24,200	24,840	24,460	25,050	26,360	26,030	25,800	25,170	27,610
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	6.7%	6.5%	6.4%	6.5%	6.4%	6.7%	7.0%	6.8%	6.8%	6.6%	7.2%
Employed	355,800	349,600	351,200	353,970	355,190	357,950	350,210	352,920	356,180	355,460	355,440	355,460

### Moving Average\*

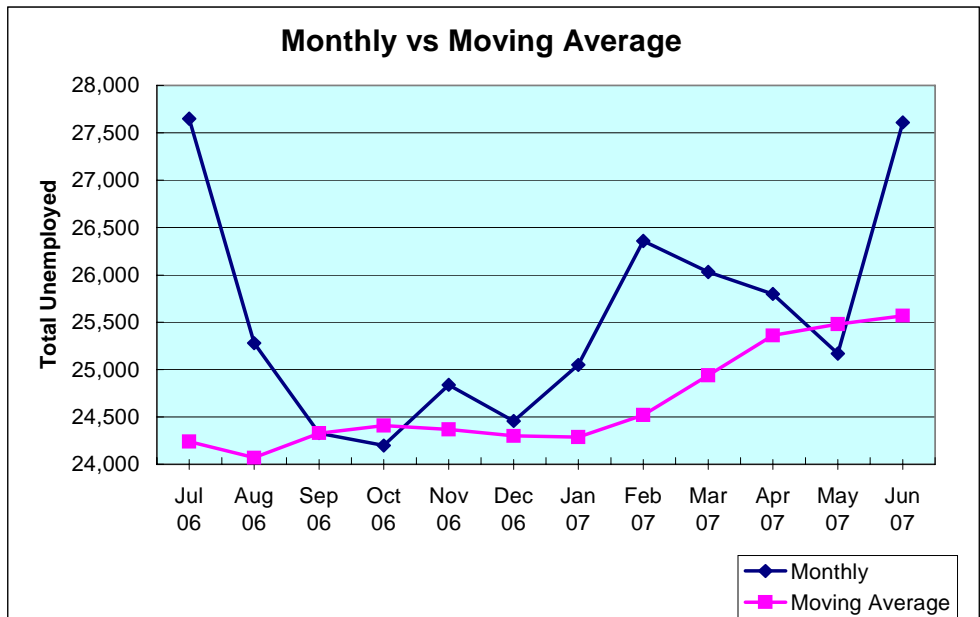
**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	375,840	375,360	375,580	375,890	376,230	376,540	376,870	377,320	378,200	378,980	379,350	379,690
Unemployed	24,240	24,070	24,330	24,410	24,370	24,300	24,290	24,520	24,940	25,360	25,480	25,570
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	6.4%	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%	6.4%	6.5%	6.6%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%
Employed	351,600	351,290	351,250	351,480	351,860	352,240	352,580	352,800	353,260	353,620	353,870	354,120

\*MOVING AVERAGE - The simple arithmetic average of the data set over the previous twelve-month period

### Why a Moving Average?

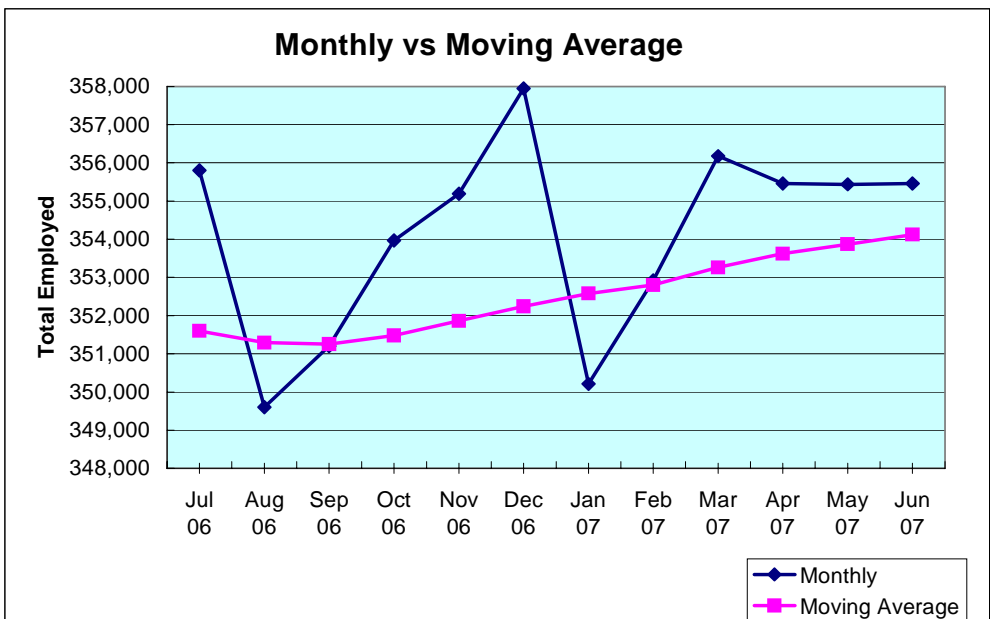
As the charts clearly indicate the month to month levels of unemployed or employed persons tend to show a lot of movement. Seasonal influences and other factors cause the levels to go up and down in an often erratic manner. This clouds the ability to see exactly what is going on in the long term. By utilizing the technique of calculating a "moving" average of the most recent twelve month period, much of the month to month movement is filtered out and the long-term trend of the data series becomes much more apparent.



At first glance, a comparison of the moving average plot lines for the two data series appears to be contradictory. Both showed little movement in the first six months, but began to rise over the latter half of the period.

The area experienced some major layoff and plant closings in early 2007 which led to the upward spike in unemployed.

Other parts of the area were able to attract new business and showed positive job growth, which caused the moving average for total employment to rise steadily. Sometimes there are mismatches between the skills of those laid off and the available jobs. When that happens, it is possible to see long term growth in both the employed and unemployed sectors of the labor force.





## Comparative Labor Force Data Annual Averages 2002 - 2006

### MISSISSIPPI

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

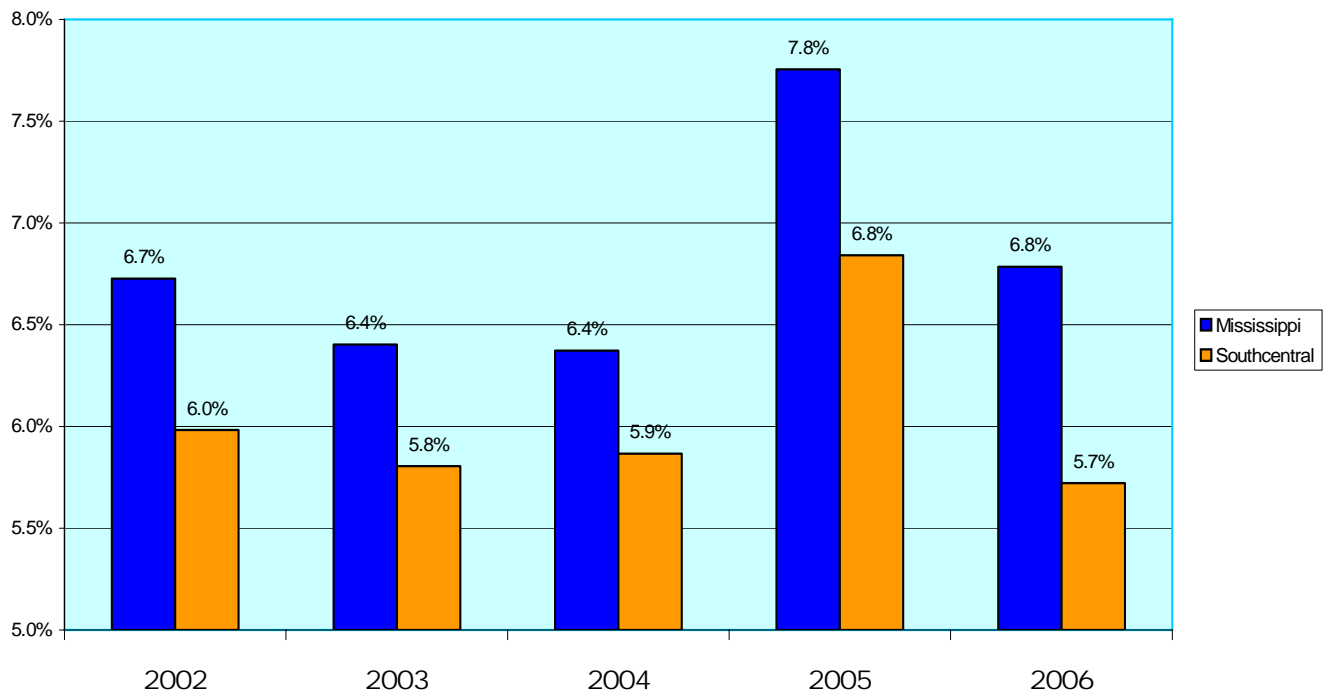
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
Civilian Labor Force	1,302,200	1,312,600	1,318,200	1,329,600	1,307,400	5,200	0.4%
Unemployed	87,600	84,030	83,990	103,100	88,700	1,100	1.3%
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	6.4%	6.4%	7.8%	6.8%	0.1%	xxx
Employed	1,214,600	1,228,500	1,234,200	1,226,500	1,218,700	4,100	0.3%

### SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
Civilian Labor Force	360,850	366,100	371,390	372,050	368,250	7,400	2.1%
Unemployed	21,590	21,250	21,790	25,450	21,070	-520	-2.4%
Unemployment Rate	6.0%	5.8%	5.9%	6.8%	5.7%	-0.3%	xxx
Employed	339,260	344,850	349,600	346,600	347,170	7,910	2.3%

### Unemployment Rate



The above chart and graph indicate just how well the Southcentral Mississippi Works WIA region is doing economically when contrasted with the state as a whole. Over the past five years the area has consistently outperformed the state in terms of labor force growth and reduced joblessness. Some of the southernmost counties in the region were affected by storm damage from Katrina in 2005 which led to a one-year upward spike in the unemployment rate. By 2006 the area had fully recovered and saw its rate drop to a five year low at 5.7 percent. There remain pockets of very high unemployment in some of the regions most rural counties, but solid growth in the counties surrounding the capital city of Jackson have offset losses in other areas. The sheer size of the Jackson Metropolitan area causes it to dominate the region economically. That makes it easy to overlook some of the problems that plague the less populous counties in the southern part of the region. More job opportunities are needed throughout the region if it is to retain its economic viability.

## Southcentral Mississippi Works WIA Labor Force Data Monthly vs Moving Average \*

### Monthly Data

**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	375,230	366,880	364,430	367,840	370,200	372,580	368,100	367,570	372,250	371,460	369,100	376,290
Unemployed	24,770	21,640	19,730	19,740	20,260	20,460	21,760	22,290	23,570	21,640	19,520	23,550
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	5.9%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%	5.5%	5.9%	6.1%	6.3%	5.8%	5.3%	6.3%
Employed	350,460	345,240	344,700	348,100	349,940	352,120	346,340	345,280	348,680	349,820	349,580	352,740

### Moving Average\*

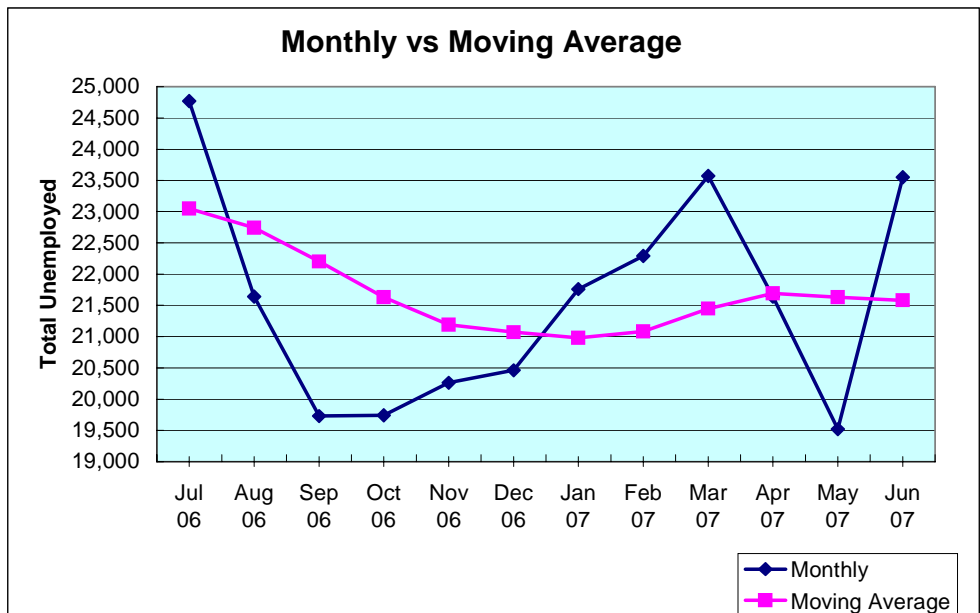
**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	368,990	368,550	368,260	368,040	368,070	368,240	368,500	368,660	369,300	369,850	370,010	370,160
Unemployed	23,050	22,740	22,200	21,630	21,190	21,070	20,980	21,080	21,450	21,690	21,630	21,580
Unemployment Rate	6.2%	6.2%	6.0%	5.9%	5.8%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.8%	5.9%	5.8%	5.8%
Employed	345,940	345,810	346,060	346,410	346,880	347,170	347,520	347,580	347,850	348,160	348,380	348,580

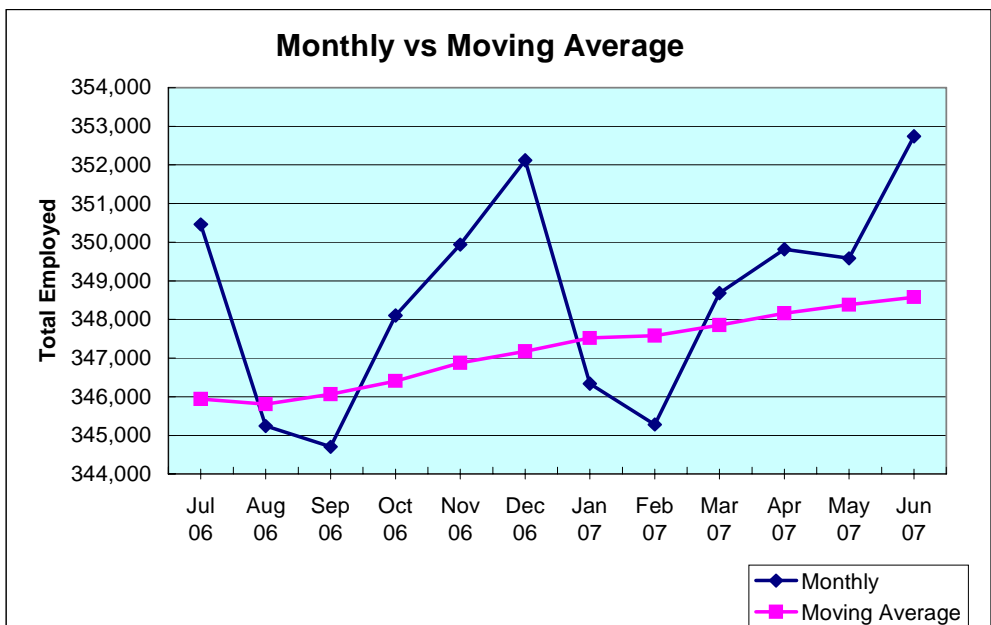
\*MOVING AVERAGE - The simple arithmetic average of the data set over the previous twelve-month period

### Why a Moving Average?

As the charts clearly indicate the month to month levels of unemployed or employed persons tend to show a lot of movement. Seasonal influences and other factors cause the levels to go up and down in an often erratic manner. This clouds the ability to see exactly what is going on in the long term. By utilizing the technique of calculating a "moving" average of the most recent twelve month period, much of the month to month movement is filtered out and the long-term trend of the data series becomes much more apparent.



A comparison of the two charts indicates some very positive things are going on in the Southcentral Mississippi area. The moving average plot line for unemployed shows a definite downward trend, especially during the latter half of 2006. The lower chart shows sustained growth over the entire period for total employed. These are signs that the economy is moving in the right direction. Jobs are being created, providing new opportunities for those who are out of work and for those just entering the local work force. Sustained, long-term growth bodes well for the health of the local economy. It is often a key factor that prospective employers consider when choosing to locate in an area.



## Comparative Labor Force Data Annual Averages 2002 - 2006

### MISSISSIPPI

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

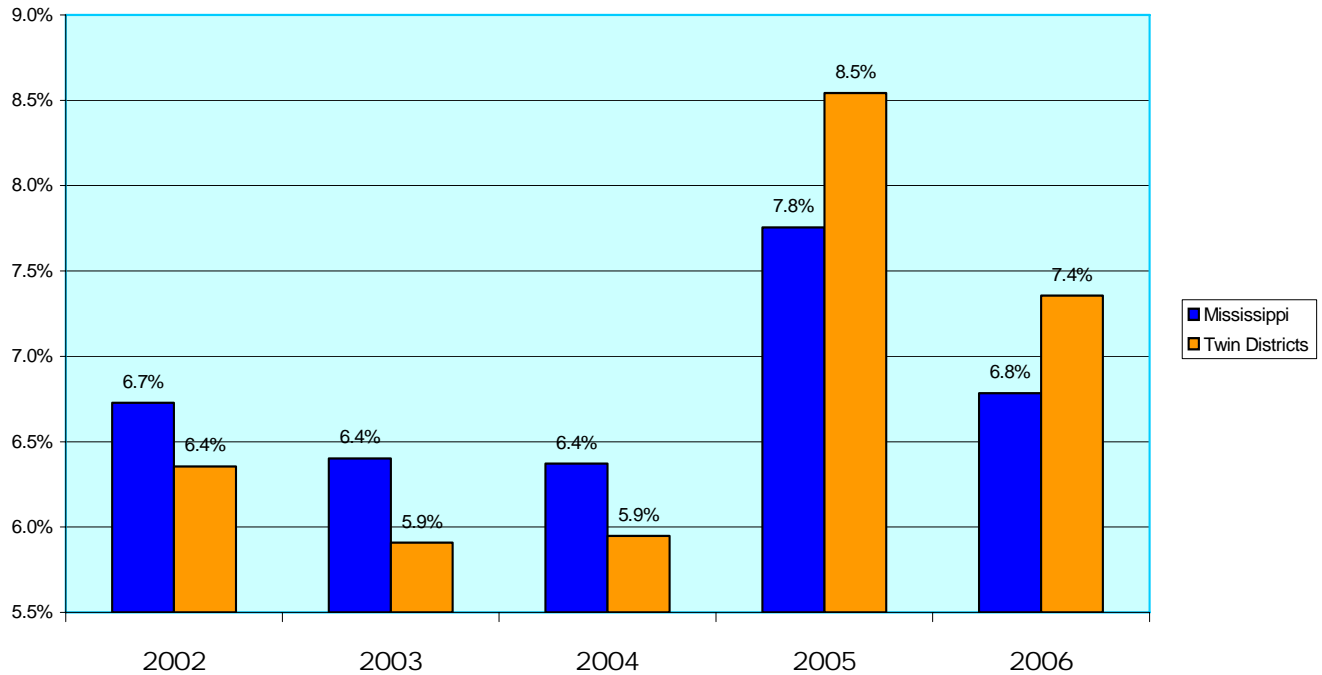
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
					NET CHG	PCT CHG
1,302,200	1,312,600	1,318,200	1,329,600	1,307,400	5,200	0.4%
87,600	84,030	83,990	103,100	88,700	1,100	1.3%
6.7%	6.4%	6.4%	7.8%	6.8%	0.1%	xxx
1,214,600	1,228,500	1,234,200	1,226,500	1,218,700	4,100	0.3%

### TWIN DISTRICTS

Civilian Labor Force  
Unemployed  
Unemployment Rate  
Employed

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
					NET CHG	PCT CHG
442,080	445,950	447,220	453,390	438,770	-3,310	-0.7%
28,090	26,350	26,600	38,730	32,280	4,190	14.9%
6.4%	5.9%	5.9%	8.5%	7.4%	1.0%	xxx
414,000	419,600	420,620	414,660	406,480	-7,520	-1.8%

### Unemployment Rate



The above chart and graph show just how well the Twin Districts WIA region was doing economically until a lady named Katrina came calling. The area was outperforming the state in terms of labor force growth and joblessness from 2002 through 2004. The successes continued on into 2005 until disaster struck. In a matter of days the region's economy was turned upside down, with thousands of homes and businesses destroyed. The accompanying job losses left many residents without a home or a job. Recovery efforts began immediately and by early 2006 the jobs were starting to come back. New jobs were created to handle the massive cleanup and reconstruction required. As businesses began to reopen they faced worker shortages, mainly because the workers had no place to live. By the end of 2006 the region was still about 20,000 jobs below the pre-Katrina levels, but unemployment percentages had dropped dramatically. A smaller, leaner and meaner workforce emerged from the rubble. As the infrastructure slowly gets rebuilt, housing becomes more available and dislocated residents are able to return, the region should be able to regain its earlier economic prowess.

## Twin Districts WIA Labor Force Data Monthly vs Moving Average \*

### Monthly Data

**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	442,610	438,540	437,390	441,980	443,290	446,800	438,990	438,910	444,530	440,830	438,400	446,390
Unemployed	34,440	30,300	27,500	26,990	27,120	27,190	27,410	27,290	29,080	26,310	23,520	28,230
Unemployment Rate	7.8%	6.9%	6.3%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%	6.2%	6.2%	6.5%	6.0%	5.4%	6.3%
Employed	408,170	408,240	409,890	414,990	416,170	419,610	411,580	411,620	415,450	414,520	414,880	418,160

### Moving Average\*

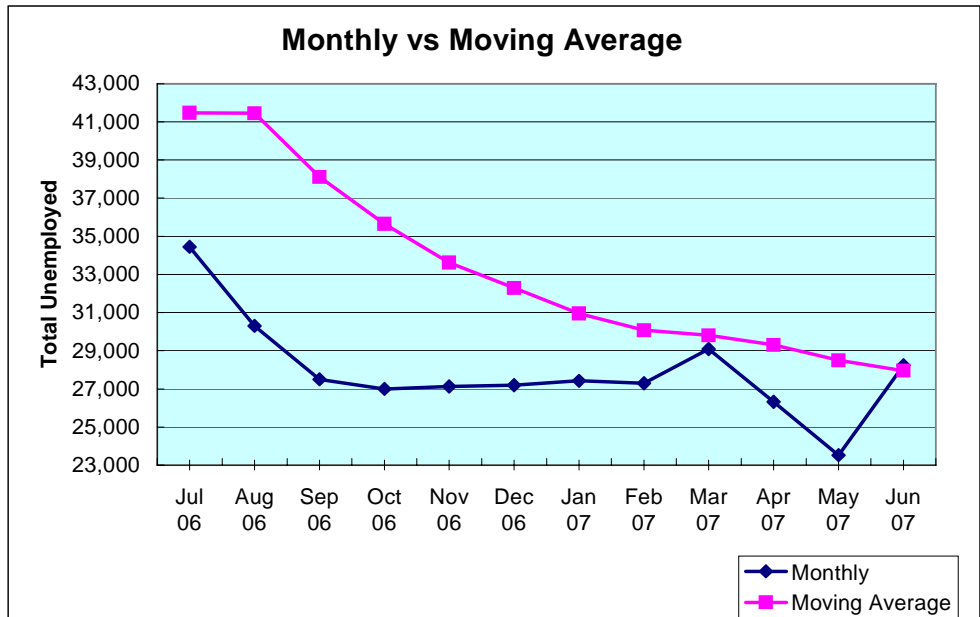
**Civilian Labor Force**  
**Unemployed**  
**Unemployment Rate**  
**Employed**

	Jul 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07
Civilian Labor Force	443,520	442,130	440,200	439,160	438,350	438,760	438,990	439,380	440,560	441,190	441,280	441,560
Unemployed	41,470	41,440	38,110	35,640	33,610	32,280	30,940	30,070	29,800	29,300	28,490	27,950
Unemployment Rate	9.4%	9.4%	8.7%	8.1%	7.7%	7.4%	7.0%	6.8%	6.8%	6.6%	6.5%	6.3%
Employed	402,050	400,690	402,090	403,520	404,740	406,480	408,050	409,310	410,760	411,890	412,790	413,610

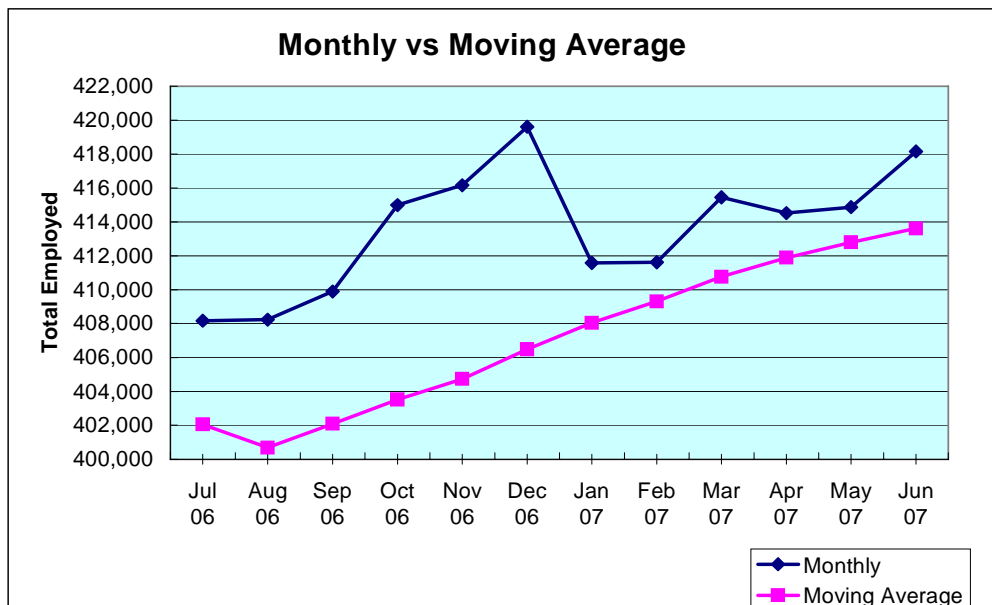
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### Why a Moving Average?

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The moving average trend lines on both charts validate the rapid recovery that has occurred along the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Data points for July and August included the months immediately following the storm when job losses were most significant. As time went on, more and more recovery took place as indicated by the rapid drop in the jobless figure from September through June. A corresponding increase in the trend line for total employed validates the trend still further. Though the labor force has shrunk because of storm related relocations, those who remain in the Twin Districts area are finding ample job opportunities. As they move from the ranks of the unemployed into jobs, the entire economy benefits.



**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>ADAMS</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	14,060	13,750	13,400	13,540	13,210	-850	-6.0%
Unemployed	1,050	1,180	1,040	1,270	930	-120	-11.4%
Rate	7.5	8.6	7.8	9.4	7.0	-0.4	xxx
Employed	13,010	12,570	12,360	12,270	12,280	-730	-5.6%
<b>ALCORN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	16,180	16,000	15,980	16,150	15,860	-320	-2.0%
Unemployed	1,300	1,200	1,100	1,180	1,170	-130	-10.0%
Rate	8.0	7.5	6.9	7.3	7.4	-0.7	xxx
Employed	14,880	14,800	14,880	14,970	14,690	-190	-1.3%
<b>AMITE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,290	5,410	5,240	5,320	5,340	50	0.9%
Unemployed	360	470	360	460	330	-30	-8.3%
Rate	6.8	8.7	6.9	8.6	6.2	-0.6	xxx
Employed	4,930	4,940	4,880	4,860	5,010	80	1.6%
<b>ATTALA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,870	8,570	7,880	7,740	7,530	-1,340	-15.1%
Unemployed	660	680	640	660	600	-60	-9.1%
Rate	7.4	7.9	8.1	8.5	8.0	0.5	xxx
Employed	8,210	7,890	7,240	7,080	6,930	-1,280	-15.6%
<b>BENTON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	3,020	2,980	2,920	3,020	2,970	-50	-1.7%
Unemployed	340	320	280	310	280	-60	-17.6%
Rate	11.3	10.7	9.6	10.3	9.4	-1.8	xxx
Employed	2,680	2,660	2,640	2,710	2,690	10	0.4%
<b>BOLIVAR</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	16,050	15,900	15,690	15,690	15,820	-230	-1.4%
Unemployed	1,620	1,290	1,330	1,490	1,350	-270	-16.7%
Rate	10.1	8.1	8.5	9.5	8.5	-1.6	xxx
Employed	14,430	14,610	14,360	14,200	14,470	40	0.3%
<b>CALHOUN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	6,660	6,630	6,470	6,390	6,330	-330	-5.0%
Unemployed	520	500	460	470	500	-20	-3.8%
Rate	7.8	7.5	7.1	7.4	7.9	0.1	xxx
Employed	6,140	6,130	6,010	5,920	5,830	-310	-5.0%
<b>CARROLL</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,080	5,090	4,830	4,860	4,860	-220	-4.3%
Unemployed	360	310	300	350	300	-60	-16.7%
Rate	7.1	6.1	6.2	7.2	6.2	-0.9	xxx
Employed	4,720	4,780	4,530	4,510	4,560	-160	-3.4%
<b>CHICKASAW</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,120	7,980	7,900	7,850	7,790	-330	-4.1%
Unemployed	800	710	660	740	700	-100	-12.5%
Rate	9.9	8.9	8.4	9.4	9.0	-0.9	xxx
Employed	7,320	7,270	7,240	7,110	7,090	-230	-3.1%
<b>CHOCTAW</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	3,710	3,650	3,680	3,650	3,510	-200	-5.4%
Unemployed	450	400	310	290	270	-180	-40.0%
Rate	12.1	11.0	8.4	7.9	7.7	-4.4	xxx
Employed	3,260	3,250	3,370	3,360	3,240	-20	-0.6%
<b>CLAIBORNE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,140	4,000	3,890	3,800	3,700	-440	-10.6%
Unemployed	410	430	420	460	400	-10	-2.4%
Rate	9.9	10.8	10.8	12.1	10.8	0.9	xxx
Employed	3,730	3,570	3,470	3,340	3,300	-430	-11.5%

**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>CLARKE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	7,750	7,380	7,310	7,290	7,170	-580	-7.5%
Unemployed	1,080	700	580	580	450	-630	-58.3%
Rate	13.9	9.5	7.9	8.0	6.3	-7.7	xxx
Employed	6,670	6,680	6,730	6,710	6,720	50	0.7%
<b>CLAY</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	9,650	9,040	8,900	8,650	8,280	-1,370	-14.2%
Unemployed	910	890	850	950	920	10	1.1%
Rate	9.4	9.8	9.6	11.0	11.1	1.7	xxx
Employed	8,740	8,150	8,050	7,700	7,360	-1,380	-15.8%
<b>COAHOMA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	11,700	11,720	11,300	11,250	10,690	-1,010	-8.6%
Unemployed	1,050	990	1,050	1,210	1,050	0	0.0%
Rate	9.0	8.4	9.3	10.8	9.8	0.8	xxx
Employed	10,650	10,730	10,250	10,040	9,640	-1,010	-9.5%
<b>COPIAH</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	12,250	12,400	12,660	12,620	12,440	190	1.6%
Unemployed	880	790	890	1,050	870	-10	-1.1%
Rate	7.2	6.4	7.0	8.3	7.0	-0.2	xxx
Employed	11,370	11,610	11,770	11,570	11,570	200	1.8%
<b>COVINGTON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,490	8,750	8,920	8,880	8,730	240	2.8%
Unemployed	510	490	510	620	510	0	0.0%
Rate	6.0	5.6	5.7	7.0	5.8	-0.2	xxx
Employed	7,980	8,260	8,410	8,260	8,220	240	3.0%
<b>DESOTO</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	62,760	66,060	68,890	72,080	71,800	9,040	14.4%
Unemployed	2,330	2,470	2,580	3,100	2,990	660	28.3%
Rate	3.7	3.7	3.7	4.3	4.2	0.5	xxx
Employed	60,430	63,590	66,310	68,980	68,810	8,380	13.9%
<b>FORREST</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	35,190	35,470	35,540	35,970	36,970	1,780	5.1%
Unemployed	2,020	1,890	2,010	2,330	1,940	-80	-4.0%
Rate	5.7	5.3	5.7	6.5	5.2	-0.5	xxx
Employed	33,170	33,580	33,530	33,640	35,030	1,860	5.6%
<b>FRANKLIN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	3,330	3,170	3,100	3,150	3,220	-110	-3.3%
Unemployed	290	280	250	280	220	-70	-24.1%
Rate	8.7	8.8	8.1	8.9	6.8	-1.9	xxx
Employed	3,040	2,890	2,850	2,870	3,000	-40	-1.3%
<b>GEORGE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,300	8,590	8,550	8,650	8,440	140	1.7%
Unemployed	780	880	790	800	830	50	6.4%
Rate	9.4	10.2	9.2	9.2	9.8	0.4	xxx
Employed	7,520	7,710	7,760	7,850	7,610	90	1.2%
<b>GREENE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,900	4,990	4,820	4,820	5,040	140	2.9%
Unemployed	450	470	460	460	390	-60	-13.3%
Rate	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.5	7.7	-1.4	xxx
Employed	4,450	4,520	4,360	4,360	4,650	200	4.5%
<b>GRENADA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	9,970	10,030	10,160	10,280	9,940	-30	-0.3%
Unemployed	680	620	660	780	650	-30	-4.4%
Rate	6.8	6.2	6.5	7.6	6.5	-0.3	xxx
Employed	9,290	9,410	9,500	9,500	9,290	0	0.0%

**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>HANCOCK</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	20,010	20,600	20,790	21,190	19,060	-950	-4.7%
Unemployed	1,090	1,060	1,080	2,320	1,940	850	78.0%
Rate	5.4	5.1	5.2	10.9	10.2	4.7	xxx
Employed	18,920	19,540	19,710	18,870	17,120	-1,800	-9.5%
<b>HARRISON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	90,560	91,540	92,640	93,440	84,570	-5,990	-6.6%
Unemployed	4,940	4,550	4,830	10,240	9,070	4,130	83.6%
Rate	5.5	5.0	5.2	11.0	10.7	5.3	xxx
Employed	85,620	86,990	87,810	83,200	75,500	-10,120	-11.8%
<b>HINDS</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	121,310	122,490	124,540	123,220	121,980	670	0.6%
Unemployed	7,080	6,850	7,140	8,280	7,020	-60	-0.8%
Rate	5.8	5.6	5.7	6.7	5.8	-0.1	xxx
Employed	114,230	115,640	117,400	114,940	114,960	730	0.6%
<b>HOLMES</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	7,000	6,910	6,900	7,130	7,270	270	3.9%
Unemployed	840	790	780	870	770	-70	-8.3%
Rate	12.0	11.4	11.3	12.2	10.6	-1.4	xxx
Employed	6,160	6,120	6,120	6,260	6,500	340	5.5%
<b>HUMPHREYS</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,510	4,640	4,420	4,350	4,290	-220	-4.9%
Unemployed	460	400	400	450	400	-60	-13.0%
Rate	10.2	8.6	9.0	10.3	9.3	-0.9	xxx
Employed	4,050	4,240	4,020	3,900	3,890	-160	-4.0%
<b>ISSAQUENA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	850	850	800	770	750	-100	-11.8%
Unemployed	100	90	80	90	80	-20	-20.0%
Rate	11.8	10.6	10.0	11.7	10.7	-1.1	xxx
Employed	750	760	720	680	670	-80	-10.7%
<b>ITAWAMBA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	10,640	10,490	10,520	10,630	10,560	-80	-0.8%
Unemployed	660	670	640	710	670	10	1.5%
Rate	6.2	6.4	6.1	6.7	6.3	0.1	xxx
Employed	9,980	9,820	9,880	9,920	9,890	-90	-0.9%
<b>JACKSON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	60,260	60,210	60,340	62,740	59,510	-750	-1.2%
Unemployed	4,190	3,820	3,620	6,330	4,840	650	15.5%
Rate	7.0	6.3	6.0	10.1	8.1	1.2	xxx
Employed	56,070	56,390	56,720	56,410	54,670	-1,400	-2.5%
<b>JASPER</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	7,290	7,230	7,350	7,490	7,700	410	5.6%
Unemployed	600	540	600	610	460	-140	-23.3%
Rate	8.2	7.5	8.2	8.1	6.0	-2.3	xxx
Employed	6,690	6,690	6,750	6,880	7,240	550	8.2%
<b>JEFFERSON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	2,960	2,940	2,890	2,850	2,750	-210	-7.1%
Unemployed	360	390	390	430	360	0	0.0%
Rate	12.2	13.3	13.5	15.1	13.1	0.9	xxx
Employed	2,600	2,550	2,500	2,420	2,390	-210	-8.1%
<b>JEFFERSON DAVIS</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,300	5,380	5,390	5,490	5,240	-60	-1.1%
Unemployed	420	420	430	510	410	-10	-2.4%
Rate	7.9	7.8	8.0	9.3	7.8	-0.1	xxx
Employed	4,880	4,960	4,960	4,980	4,830	-50	-1.0%

**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>JONES</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	28,770	28,930	29,400	30,360	31,540	2,770	9.6%
Unemployed	1,610	1,580	1,570	1,810	1,500	-110	-6.8%
Rate	5.6	5.5	5.3	6.0	4.8	-0.8	xxx
Employed	27,160	27,350	27,830	28,550	30,040	2,880	10.6%
<b>KEMPER</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,340	4,330	4,300	4,280	4,220	-120	-2.8%
Unemployed	420	400	380	410	350	-70	-16.7%
Rate	9.7	9.2	8.8	9.6	8.3	-1.4	xxx
Employed	3,920	3,930	3,920	3,870	3,870	-50	-1.3%
<b>LAFAYETTE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	20,200	20,430	20,670	21,510	22,550	2,350	11.6%
Unemployed	1,000	1,160	1,110	1,150	1,050	50	5.0%
Rate	5.0	5.7	5.4	5.3	4.7	-0.3	xxx
Employed	19,200	19,270	19,560	20,360	21,500	2,300	12.0%
<b>LAMAR</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	20,740	21,080	21,680	22,510	23,130	2,390	11.5%
Unemployed	940	890	950	1,240	980	40	4.3%
Rate	4.5	4.2	4.4	5.5	4.2	-0.3	xxx
Employed	19,800	20,190	20,730	21,270	22,150	2,350	11.9%
<b>LAUDERDALE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	33,370	33,850	33,900	33,940	33,620	250	0.7%
Unemployed	2,220	2,360	2,310	2,490	2,160	-60	-2.7%
Rate	6.7	7.0	6.8	7.3	6.4	-0.2	xxx
Employed	31,150	31,490	31,590	31,450	31,460	310	1.0%
<b>LAWRENCE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,350	5,450	5,290	5,180	5,200	-150	-2.8%
Unemployed	390	370	370	440	400	10	2.6%
Rate	7.3	6.8	7.0	8.5	7.7	0.4	xxx
Employed	4,960	5,080	4,920	4,740	4,800	-160	-3.2%
<b>LEAKE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	10,110	9,590	8,870	8,650	8,410	-1,700	-16.8%
Unemployed	640	570	600	660	570	-70	-10.9%
Rate	6.3	5.9	6.8	7.6	6.8	0.4	xxx
Employed	9,470	9,020	8,270	7,990	7,840	-1,630	-17.2%
<b>LEE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	38,710	38,070	38,440	38,890	38,560	-150	-0.4%
Unemployed	2,360	2,330	2,240	2,520	2,310	-50	-2.1%
Rate	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.5	6.0	-0.1	xxx
Employed	36,350	35,740	36,200	36,370	36,250	-100	-0.3%
<b>LEFLORE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	14,520	14,660	13,870	14,030	13,980	-540	-3.7%
Unemployed	1,440	1,540	1,320	1,410	1,230	-210	-14.6%
Rate	9.9	10.5	9.5	10.0	8.8	-1.1	xxx
Employed	13,080	13,120	12,550	12,620	12,750	-330	-2.5%
<b>LINCOLN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	14,370	14,530	14,460	14,690	14,530	160	1.1%
Unemployed	1,040	920	930	1,120	880	-160	-15.4%
Rate	7.2	6.3	6.4	7.6	6.1	-1.2	xxx
Employed	13,330	13,610	13,530	13,570	13,650	320	2.4%
<b>LOWNDES</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	26,480	25,950	25,820	25,750	26,290	-190	-0.7%
Unemployed	2,220	1,920	1,780	2,010	1,780	-440	-19.8%
Rate	8.4	7.4	6.9	7.8	6.8	-1.6	xxx
Employed	24,260	24,030	24,040	23,740	24,510	250	1.0%



**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>MADISON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	40,660	42,090	43,850	44,430	44,140	3,480	8.6%
Unemployed	1,980	1,940	2,170	2,370	2,070	90	4.5%
Rate	4.9	4.6	4.9	5.3	4.7	-0.2	xxx
Employed	38,680	40,150	41,680	42,060	42,070	3,390	8.8%
<b>MARION</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	10,370	10,680	10,530	10,430	10,380	10	0.1%
Unemployed	630	650	730	890	680	50	7.9%
Rate	6.1	6.1	6.9	8.5	6.6	0.5	xxx
Employed	9,740	10,030	9,800	9,540	9,700	-40	-0.4%
<b>MARSHALL</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	15,370	15,560	15,360	15,510	15,290	-80	-0.5%
Unemployed	1,250	1,270	1,220	1,380	1,190	-60	-4.8%
Rate	8.1	8.2	7.9	8.9	7.8	-0.3	xxx
Employed	14,120	14,290	14,140	14,130	14,100	-20	-0.1%
<b>MONROE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	16,850	17,020	17,300	17,370	16,800	-50	-0.3%
Unemployed	1,400	1,390	1,350	1,450	1,500	100	7.1%
Rate	8.3	8.2	7.8	8.3	8.9	0.6	xxx
Employed	15,450	15,630	15,950	15,920	15,300	-150	-1.0%
<b>MONTGOMERY</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,030	5,040	4,960	4,860	4,690	-340	-6.8%
Unemployed	570	470	400	400	430	-140	-24.6%
Rate	11.3	9.3	8.1	8.2	9.2	-2.2	xxx
Employed	4,460	4,570	4,560	4,460	4,260	-200	-4.5%
<b>NESHOBA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	14,440	14,750	14,730	14,900	14,640	200	1.4%
Unemployed	960	790	880	920	730	-230	-24.0%
Rate	6.6	5.4	6.0	6.2	5.0	-1.7	xxx
Employed	13,480	13,960	13,850	13,980	13,910	430	3.2%
<b>NEWTON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	9,790	9,770	9,850	9,830	9,610	-180	-1.8%
Unemployed	670	560	570	640	560	-110	-16.4%
Rate	6.8	5.7	5.8	6.5	5.8	-1.0	xxx
Employed	9,120	9,210	9,280	9,190	9,050	-70	-0.8%
<b>NOXUBEE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,600	4,560	4,510	4,250	4,310	-290	-6.3%
Unemployed	450	440	560	540	490	40	8.9%
Rate	9.8	9.6	12.4	12.7	11.4	1.6	xxx
Employed	4,150	4,120	3,950	3,710	3,820	-330	-8.0%
<b>OKTIBBEHA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	20,280	20,220	20,000	20,390	20,270	-10	0.0%
Unemployed	1,170	1,170	1,170	1,280	1,150	-20	-1.7%
Rate	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.3	5.7	-0.1	xxx
Employed	19,110	19,050	18,830	19,110	19,120	10	0.1%
<b>PANOLA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	14,660	14,800	14,780	14,940	15,170	510	3.5%
Unemployed	1,240	1,340	1,390	1,340	1,180	-60	-4.8%
Rate	8.5	9.1	9.4	9.0	7.8	-0.7	xxx
Employed	13,420	13,460	13,390	13,600	13,990	570	4.2%
<b>PEARL RIVER</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	21,580	21,470	21,540	21,550	20,330	-1,250	-5.8%
Unemployed	1,190	1,170	1,230	2,030	1,340	150	12.6%
Rate	5.5	5.4	5.7	9.4	6.6	1.1	xxx
Employed	20,390	20,300	20,310	19,520	18,990	-1,400	-6.9%

**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>PERRY</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,210	5,210	5,190	5,180	5,290	80	1.5%
Unemployed	380	390	390	440	350	-30	-7.9%
Rate	7.3	7.5	7.5	8.5	6.6	-0.7	xxx
Employed	4,830	4,820	4,800	4,740	4,940	110	2.3%
<b>PIKE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	15,380	15,240	15,330	15,670	15,730	350	2.3%
Unemployed	1,180	1,010	1,120	1,420	1,040	-140	-11.9%
Rate	7.7	6.6	7.3	9.1	6.6	-1.1	xxx
Employed	14,200	14,230	14,210	14,250	14,690	490	3.5%
<b>PONTOTOC</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	13,220	13,150	13,310	13,490	13,410	190	1.4%
Unemployed	770	760	710	830	800	30	3.9%
Rate	5.8	5.8	5.3	6.2	6.0	0.1	xxx
Employed	12,450	12,390	12,600	12,660	12,610	160	1.3%
<b>PRETISS</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	12,150	12,200	11,930	11,540	11,340	-810	-6.7%
Unemployed	760	780	890	920	820	60	7.9%
Rate	6.3	6.4	7.5	8.0	7.2	1.0	xxx
Employed	11,390	11,420	11,040	10,620	10,520	-870	-7.6%
<b>QUITMAN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,100	4,200	4,060	4,000	3,960	-140	-3.4%
Unemployed	350	360	410	390	340	-10	-2.9%
Rate	8.5	8.6	10.1	9.8	8.6	0.0	xxx
Employed	3,750	3,840	3,650	3,610	3,620	-130	-3.5%
<b>RANKIN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	66,110	68,650	71,440	72,290	71,870	5,760	8.7%
Unemployed	2,830	2,860	2,940	3,400	2,970	140	4.9%
Rate	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.7	4.1	-0.1	xxx
Employed	63,280	65,790	68,500	68,890	68,900	5,620	8.9%
<b>SCOTT</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	12,660	13,170	13,090	13,390	13,500	840	6.6%
Unemployed	800	730	690	770	740	-60	-7.5%
Rate	6.3	5.5	5.3	5.8	5.5	-0.8	xxx
Employed	11,860	12,440	12,400	12,620	12,760	900	7.6%
<b>SHARKEY</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	2,660	2,720	2,660	2,600	2,500	-160	-6.0%
Unemployed	270	250	290	300	250	-20	-7.4%
Rate	10.2	9.2	10.9	11.5	10.0	-0.2	xxx
Employed	2,390	2,470	2,370	2,300	2,250	-140	-5.9%
<b>SIMPSON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	11,860	11,940	12,030	12,080	11,990	130	1.1%
Unemployed	680	670	640	760	670	-10	-1.5%
Rate	5.7	5.6	5.3	6.3	5.6	-0.1	xxx
Employed	11,180	11,270	11,390	11,320	11,320	140	1.3%
<b>SMITH</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	7,340	7,400	6,960	6,910	6,870	-470	-6.4%
Unemployed	400	360	380	430	380	-20	-5.0%
Rate	5.4	4.9	5.5	6.2	5.5	0.1	xxx
Employed	6,940	7,040	6,580	6,480	6,490	-450	-6.5%
<b>STONE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	6,700	6,910	6,970	6,890	6,310	-390	-5.8%
Unemployed	380	390	400	540	550	170	44.7%
Rate	5.7	5.6	5.7	7.8	8.7	3.0	xxx
Employed	6,320	6,520	6,570	6,350	5,760	-560	-8.9%

**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>SUNFLOWER</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	11,750	11,570	11,220	11,320	11,470	-280	-2.4%
Unemployed	1,260	1,090	1,040	1,190	1,070	-190	-15.1%
Rate	10.7	9.4	9.3	10.5	9.3	-1.4	xxx
Employed	10,490	10,480	10,180	10,130	10,400	-90	-0.9%
<b>TALLAHATCHIE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,800	6,390	6,520	6,500	6,230	430	7.4%
Unemployed	560	580	630	610	480	-80	-14.3%
Rate	9.7	9.1	9.7	9.4	7.7	-2.0	xxx
Employed	5,240	5,810	5,890	5,890	5,750	510	9.7%
<b>TATE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	11,570	11,800	11,890	12,000	11,960	390	3.4%
Unemployed	650	730	730	810	800	150	23.1%
Rate	5.6	6.2	6.1	6.8	6.7	1.1	xxx
Employed	10,920	11,070	11,160	11,190	11,160	240	2.2%
<b>TIPPAH</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	9,330	9,310	9,530	9,660	9,600	270	2.9%
Unemployed	720	760	680	690	660	-60	-8.3%
Rate	7.7	8.2	7.1	7.1	6.9	-0.8	xxx
Employed	8,610	8,550	8,850	8,970	8,940	330	3.8%
<b>TISHOMINGO</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,750	8,300	8,180	8,190	8,220	-530	-6.1%
Unemployed	870	780	670	730	610	-260	-29.9%
Rate	9.9	9.4	8.2	8.9	7.4	-2.5	xxx
Employed	7,880	7,520	7,510	7,460	7,610	-270	-3.4%
<b>TUNICA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	4,170	4,500	4,410	4,550	4,420	250	6.0%
Unemployed	300	490	400	480	360	60	20.0%
Rate	7.2	10.9	9.1	10.5	8.1	1.0	xxx
Employed	3,870	4,010	4,010	4,070	4,060	190	4.9%
<b>UNION</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	11,960	11,800	11,780	12,030	11,820	-140	-1.2%
Unemployed	790	780	750	800	710	-80	-10.1%
Rate	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.7	6.0	-0.6	xxx
Employed	11,170	11,020	11,030	11,230	11,110	-60	-0.5%
<b>WALTHALL</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	6,000	5,900	5,820	5,960	5,820	-180	-3.0%
Unemployed	460	420	410	560	390	-70	-15.2%
Rate	7.7	7.1	7.0	9.4	6.7	-1.0	xxx
Employed	5,540	5,480	5,410	5,400	5,430	-110	-2.0%
<b>WARREN</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	23,540	23,480	23,340	23,250	22,730	-810	-3.4%
Unemployed	1,490	1,450	1,450	1,660	1,350	-140	-9.4%
Rate	6.3	6.2	6.2	7.1	5.9	-0.4	xxx
Employed	22,050	22,030	21,890	21,590	21,380	-670	-3.0%
<b>WASHINGTON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	24,940	24,780	24,300	23,430	22,460	-2,480	-9.9%
Unemployed	2,640	2,250	2,380	2,690	2,200	-440	-16.7%
Rate	10.6	9.1	9.8	11.5	9.8	-0.8	xxx
Employed	22,300	22,530	21,920	20,740	20,260	-2,040	-9.1%
<b>WAYNE</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,660	8,700	8,570	8,650	8,490	-170	-2.0%
Unemployed	790	710	610	670	540	-250	-31.6%
Rate	9.1	8.2	7.1	7.7	6.4	-2.8	xxx
Employed	7,870	7,990	7,960	7,980	7,950	80	1.0%

**Civilian Labor Force  
Annual Averages**

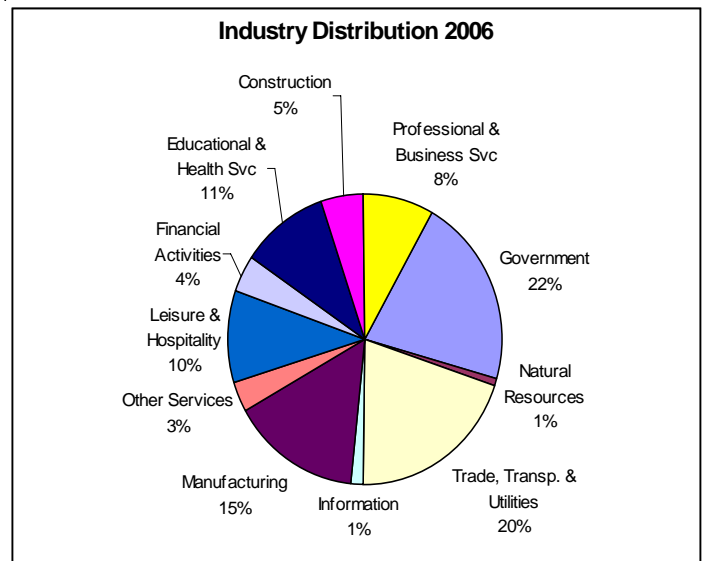
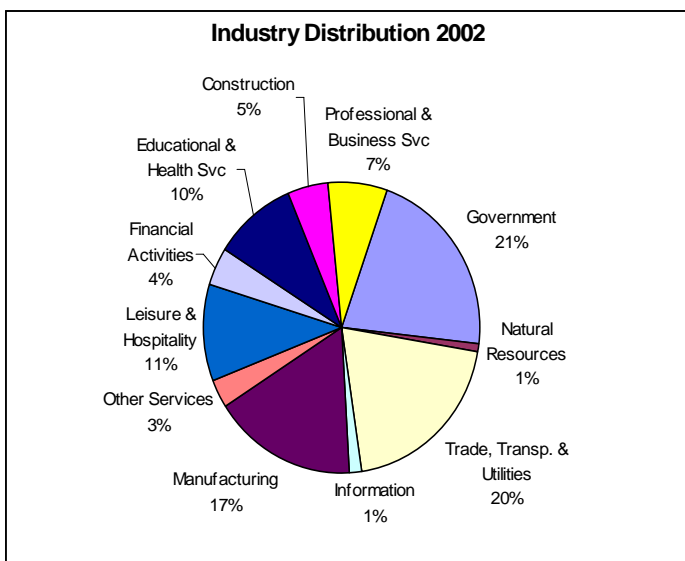
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
						NET CHG	PCT CHG
<b>WEBSTER</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	3,830	3,510	3,500	3,590	3,500	-330	-8.6%
Unemployed	630	410	300	300	290	-340	-54.0%
Rate	16.4	11.7	8.6	8.4	8.3	-8.2	xxx
Employed	3,200	3,100	3,200	3,290	3,210	10	0.3%
<b>WILKINSON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	3,410	3,780	3,710	3,760	3,540	130	3.8%
Unemployed	310	360	330	470	290	-20	-6.5%
Rate	9.1	9.5	8.9	12.5	8.2	-0.9	xxx
Employed	3,100	3,420	3,380	3,290	3,250	150	4.8%
<b>WINSTON</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	8,030	7,900	7,930	8,070	7,960	-70	-0.9%
Unemployed	800	640	620	630	560	-240	-30.0%
Rate	10.0	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.0	-2.9	xxx
Employed	7,230	7,260	7,310	7,440	7,400	170	2.4%
<b>YALOBUSHA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	5,650	5,670	5,530	5,340	5,430	-220	-3.9%
Unemployed	400	480	500	490	410	10	2.5%
Rate	7.1	8.5	9.0	9.2	7.6	0.5	xxx
Employed	5,250	5,190	5,030	4,850	5,020	-230	-4.4%
<b>YAZOO</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	10,820	10,890	10,390	10,260	10,070	-750	-6.9%
Unemployed	800	870	920	1,030	890	90	11.3%
Rate	7.4	8.0	8.9	10.0	8.8	1.4	xxx
Employed	10,020	10,020	9,470	9,230	9,180	-840	-8.4%
<b>GULFPORT- BILOXI MSA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	117,270	119,050	120,390	121,510	109,940	-7,330	-6.3%
Unemployed	6,420	6,000	6,310	13,100	11,560	5,140	80.1%
Rate	5.5	5.0	5.2	10.8	10.5	5.0	xxx
Employed	110,860	113,050	114,080	108,410	98,380	-12,480	-11.3%
<b>HATTIESBURG MSA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	61,130	61,760	62,420	63,660	65,390	4,260	7.0%
Unemployed	3,340	3,170	3,360	4,010	3,270	-70	-2.1%
Rate	5.5	5.1	5.4	6.3	5.0	-0.5	xxx
Employed	57,790	58,590	59,050	59,650	62,120	4,330	7.5%
<b>JACKSON MSA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	252,190	257,570	264,520	264,620	262,410	10,220	4.1%
Unemployed	13,450	13,110	13,780	15,850	13,600	150	1.1%
Rate	5.3	5.1	5.2	6.0	5.2	-0.2	xxx
Employed	238,740	244,450	250,740	248,770	248,810	10,070	4.2%
<b>PASCAGOULA MSA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	68,600	68,800	68,900	71,400	67,900	-700	-1.0%
Unemployed	4,960	4,700	4,410	7,130	5,670	710	14.3%
Rate	7.2	6.8	6.4	10.0	8.4	1.1	xxx
Employed	63,600	64,100	64,500	64,300	62,300	-1,300	-2.0%

Source: MDES Labor Market Information

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

Mississippi's total nonfarm employment, tallied by place of work, managed to post a gain of 18,600 jobs over the last five years. This was accomplished despite the continuing erosion of manufacturing jobs, which posted a net loss of 12,200 over the same time period. The losses in manufacturing affected virtually every subsector, with Nondurable Goods accounting for the lion's share. The lone exception occurred in Transportation Equipment which posted an increase of 5,200 jobs. Those gains were directly related to the opening of a large automobile manufacturing facility in the state. Every other subcategory in Manufacturing reported negative growth with Food Manufacturing taking the largest hit. Two non-manufacturing industry groups also reported significant job losses over the past five years. Information, which includes newspapers, television, radio, and telecommunications companies, posted a decline of 2,400 jobs. Most of the drop could be attributed to telecommunications businesses. Mergers, consolidations, and extreme competitiveness among companies may have caused some of the jobs to be lost. The other large dropoff in employment took place in the field of Leisure and Hospitality, which could be traced directly to businesses destroyed or damaged along the Gulf Coast during Katrina.

Three main industry groups led the way in job gains across Mississippi. Professional and Business Services saw its employment soar by 16,100 over the five year span, far and away the largest gain by any sector. The subsector of Administrative Support & Waste Management accounted for over half the total gain, largely due to the tremendous number of workers needed to clean up and dispose of debris following the 2005 hurricane. Also posting significant job gains was the Educational and Health Services industry group. That industry grew by 9,900 workers, with 8,600 of those being in the subgroup of Health Care and Social Assistance. As the 'baby boomer' generation reaches senior citizen status, employment in this industry is likely to keep growing at a rapid pace. Trade, Transportation and Utilities was still another industry group that saw positive job growth, gaining 5,800 jobs since 2002. Within that group, Retail Trade and Transportation and Warehousing were the main job gainers.



## Mississippi Nonfarm Employment (Place of Work)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006	
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>1,123,600</b>	<b>1,114,900</b>	<b>1,124,500</b>	<b>1,130,200</b>	<b>1,142,200</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>883,500</b>	<b>874,100</b>	<b>882,400</b>	<b>889,400</b>	<b>902,100</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>2.1</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	<b>250,700</b>	<b>238,300</b>	<b>237,600</b>	<b>239,200</b>	<b>242,900</b>	<b>(7,800)</b>	<b>(3.1)</b>
<b>Service Providing</b>	<b>872,900</b>	<b>876,600</b>	<b>887,000</b>	<b>891,000</b>	<b>899,500</b>	<b>26,600</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>53,900</b>	<b>50,600</b>	<b>49,100</b>	<b>52,200</b>	<b>57,700</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>187,900</b>	<b>179,000</b>	<b>179,600</b>	<b>178,300</b>	<b>175,700</b>	<b>(12,200)</b>	<b>(6.5)</b>
Durable Goods	118,200	113,100	116,600	117,000	116,700	(1,500)	(1.3)
Wood Product Manufacturing	14,700	13,100	13,100	13,500	14,400	(300)	(2.0)
Fabricated Metals	12,900	11,600	11,000	10,900	11,200	(1,700)	(13.2)
Machinery Manufacturing	12,900	12,200	12,100	12,400	12,700	(200)	(1.6)
Electrical Equipment & Appliances	10,500	9,100	9,100	9,800	10,400	(100)	(1.0)
Transportation Equipment	22,700	24,600	28,700	29,000	27,900	5,200	22.9
Furniture & Related	28,400	27,500	27,800	27,300	26,300	(2,100)	(7.4)
Nondurable Goods	69,800	65,800	63,000	61,300	59,000	(10,800)	(15.5)
Food Manufacturing	28,400	27,700	26,700	26,700	25,800	(2,600)	(9.2)
Paper Manufacturing	6,900	6,200	5,700	5,500	5,200	(1,700)	(24.6)
Plastics & Rubber	9,500	9,300	9,200	9,000	8,800	(700)	(7.4)
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>221,100</b>	<b>219,300</b>	<b>220,500</b>	<b>221,400</b>	<b>226,900</b>	<b>5,800</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Wholesale Trade	35,000	34,900	34,900	35,300	36,400	1,400	4.0
Retail Trade	140,400	138,700	138,900	139,000	142,900	2,500	1.8
Food & Beverage Stores	20,800	19,600	19,000	18,500	18,400	(2,400)	(11.5)
General Merchandise	38,200	37,900	38,400	38,100	38,400	200	0.5
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	45,700	45,800	46,700	47,000	47,500	1,800	3.9
Utilities	8,100	8,000	8,000	7,800	7,800	(300)	(3.7)
Transportation & Warehousing	37,600	37,800	38,800	39,200	39,700	2,100	5.6
<b>Information</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>15,100</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>(2,400)</b>	<b>(14.9)</b>
Telecommunications	8,800	7,900	7,500	7,300	6,900	(1,900)	(21.6)
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>45,700</b>	<b>45,900</b>	<b>46,000</b>	<b>46,300</b>	<b>46,300</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Finance & Insurance	34,000	34,100	34,100	34,300	34,300	300	0.9
Real Estate & Rental	11,700	11,800	11,900	12,000	11,900	200	1.7
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>77,700</b>	<b>78,900</b>	<b>82,500</b>	<b>87,700</b>	<b>93,800</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>20.7</b>
Prof., Scient., Technical Services	27,700	28,700	29,900	32,100	34,000	6,300	22.7
Management of Companies	10,400	10,500	9,600	9,600	9,500	(900)	(8.7)
Admin Support & Waste Management	39,600	39,700	43,000	46,000	50,300	10,700	27.0
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>112,900</b>	<b>115,800</b>	<b>119,100</b>	<b>120,600</b>	<b>122,800</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>8.8</b>
Education Services	14,500	14,500	15,500	15,900	15,800	1,300	9.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	98,400	101,300	103,500	104,700	107,000	8,600	8.7
Hospitals	29,500	29,500	29,000	28,900	29,500	0	0.0
Nursing & Resident Care	19,200	20,000	21,100	21,700	22,100	2,900	15.1
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>122,000</b>	<b>123,300</b>	<b>124,700</b>	<b>122,800</b>	<b>118,800</b>	<b>(3,200)</b>	<b>(2.6)</b>
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	13,600	13,300	13,200	12,200	11,100	(2,500)	(18.4)
Amusements, Gambling, Recreation	12,500	12,300	12,200	11,400	10,100	(2,400)	(19.2)
Accommodation & Food Services	108,400	109,900	111,500	110,500	107,700	(700)	(0.6)
Accommodation	38,200	37,500	36,700	35,100	29,700	(8,500)	(22.3)
Food Services & Drinking	70,200	72,400	74,700	75,400	78,100	7,900	11.3
<b>Other Services (Private)</b>	<b>37,300</b>	<b>37,600</b>	<b>37,500</b>	<b>37,200</b>	<b>37,000</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(0.8)</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>240,100</b>	<b>240,800</b>	<b>242,100</b>	<b>240,800</b>	<b>240,300</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Federal	25,800	25,800	25,500	25,600	26,200	400	1.6
State	62,100	61,300	61,200	58,900	58,300	(3,800)	(6.1)
State Education	22,500	21,300	20,900	20,800	20,700	(1,800)	(8.0)
Local	152,300	153,700	155,500	156,300	155,800	3,500	2.3
Local Education	82,000	82,400	83,100	83,600	83,800	1,800	2.2

## **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT DELTA W.I.A.**

Nonfarm employment in the Delta WIA region was reflective of its population and labor force trends, posting a net loss of 3,690 jobs over the past five years. Declining employment was evident all across the spectrum with virtually every major industry group showing negative growth. Manufacturing jobs were a major contributor to the decline, posting a net loss of 2,170 jobs since 2002. The rate of decline in the area was more pronounced than in any of the other WIA regions. Jobs in Natural Resources, which in this area means mainly agriculture, registered a drop of 20.6 percent over the five year period. Another 2,200 jobs have been lost in the Accommodation and Food Services industry sector. There were a few bright spots in the overall picture, however. Health Care and Social Assistance managed a gain of 1,930 jobs since 2002, a direct reflection on improvements made in providing adequate health care and increased efforts to meet the social services needs of its citizens. Transportation and Warehousing also showed some job growth and might be an industry for local officials to concentrate on when seeking new business for the region. Jobs in this arena often share similar skill sets with jobs in manufacturing, which would make the transition easier for persons who have been laid off from factory jobs. Employment in the field of Administration, Support and Waste Management posted a 24.6 percent increase over 2002. New ventures in the gaming industry helped Arts, Entertainment and Recreation employment to increase slightly over the five year period, helping to improve conditions in the northern parts of the region.

## **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT MISSISSIPPI PARTNERSHIP W.I.A.**

Nonfarm employment in the Mississippi Partnership WIA region survived a near ten percent drop in manufacturing jobs to post a net gain of 8,570 when comparing 2002 to 2006. Losses in manufacturing and a handful of other industry sectors were more than offset by gains in other areas. The area has long had the heaviest concentration of manufacturing jobs in the state, but some 7,850 of these have departed over the past five years. Much smaller job losses have occurred in Construction, Management of Companies, Utilities, Mining and Natural Resources. So how has the region been able to compensate for these losses? The economy remained viable by diversifying, adding jobs in numerous other industry groups. The largest single employment increases were recorded in Accommodation and Food Services which added 3,860 jobs. An additional 3,530 workers were added to the payrolls in the field of Administration, Support and Waste Management. Significant job gains were also noted in Health Care and Social Assistance. Further diversification was achieved by adding 1,650 jobs in Professional, Scientific and Technical Services. Public Education and Transportation and Warehousing industry sectors also posted gains, netting an additional 3,490 jobs between them. All this points to a very definite trend in the Mississippi Partnership area. It is moving away from its long dependence on manufacturing jobs toward a more service-oriented economy. That does not mean that local developers have abandoned the past entirely, as evidenced by the fact of a recently announced economic coup which will bring a major automobile manufacturing facility to the region in the next couple of years.

**DELTA W.I.A.  
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 to 2006	
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg
<b>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>116,640</b>	<b>115,160</b>	<b>113,250</b>	<b>112,690</b>	<b>112,950</b>	<b>(3,690)</b>	<b>(3.2)</b>
Manufacturing	15,560	14,340	13,130	13,360	13,390	(2,170)	(13.9)
Natural Resources	6,160	6,410	5,990	5,900	4,890	(1,270)	(20.6)
Mining	210	170	120	120	130	(80)	(38.1)
Utilities	510	440	410	420	420	(90)	(17.6)
Construction	3,060	2,880	2,930	2,870	2,870	(190)	(6.2)
Wholesale Trade	4,340	4,290	4,290	4,250	4,310	(30)	(0.7)
Retail Trade	13,480	12,760	12,340	12,440	12,890	(590)	(4.4)
Transportation & Warehousing	2,680	3,280	3,590	3,330	3,540	860	32.1
Information	1,090	1,070	1,040	1,050	1,080	(10)	(0.9)
Finance and Insurance	2,400	2,420	2,450	2,510	2,520	120	5.0
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	1,060	900	880	890	880	(180)	(17.0)
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	1,880	1,790	1,840	1,860	1,830	(50)	(2.7)
Management of Companies	710	690	620	630	600	(110)	(15.5)
Administration, Support, Waste Management	2,280	2,510	2,970	2,780	2,840	560	24.6
Educational Services (Private)	860	870	860	860	860	0	0.0
Health Care and Social Assistance	9,490	10,040	10,370	10,500	11,420	1,930	20.3
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	2,390	2,340	2,370	2,460	2,590	200	8.4
Accommodation and Food Services	19,870	18,770	18,420	17,910	17,670	(2,200)	(11.1)
Other Services (Private)	2,320	2,330	2,400	2,400	2,530	210	9.1
Government	26,320	26,870	26,240	26,150	25,710	(610)	(2.3)
Public Education	12,370	12,930	12,710	12,590	12,280	(90)	(0.7)

**MISSISSIPPI PARTNERSHIP W.I.A.  
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 to 2006	
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg
<b>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>296,770</b>	<b>293,120</b>	<b>294,490</b>	<b>299,040</b>	<b>305,340</b>	<b>8,570</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Manufacturing	79,770	75,030	74,420	73,780	71,920	(7,850)	(9.8)
Natural Resources	2,380	2,530	2,490	2,460	2,350	(30)	(1.3)
Mining	820	880	810	740	710	(110)	(13.4)
Utilities	1,740	1,570	1,460	1,450	1,470	(270)	(15.5)
Construction	14,390	13,560	12,790	13,190	13,510	(880)	(6.1)
Wholesale Trade	8,360	8,370	8,740	9,030	9,290	930	11.1
Retail Trade	37,990	37,590	37,540	37,730	38,720	730	1.9
Transportation & Warehousing	10,710	11,070	11,280	11,850	12,290	1,580	14.8
Information	2,800	2,740	2,720	2,770	2,810	10	0.4
Finance and Insurance	6,840	6,800	6,730	6,860	7,190	350	5.1
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	2,590	2,590	2,610	2,730	2,770	180	6.9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5,090	5,220	5,760	6,320	6,740	1,650	32.4
Management of Companies	2,580	2,420	2,410	1,990	2,020	(560)	(21.7)
Administration, Support, Waste Management	11,310	10,260	11,130	12,340	14,840	3,530	31.2
Educational Services (Private)	1,670	1,730	1,710	1,820	1,900	230	13.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	26,370	27,150	27,470	28,380	29,110	2,740	10.4
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	1,780	1,680	1,850	1,920	2,020	240	13.5
Accommodation and Food Services	20,240	20,910	21,660	22,760	24,100	3,860	19.1
Other Services (Private)	5,680	5,790	5,700	5,730	5,700	20	0.4
Government	53,680	55,220	55,230	55,190	55,900	2,220	4.1
Public Education	31,290	32,950	32,640	32,660	33,200	1,910	6.1



## **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT SOUTHCENTRAL MISSISSIPPI WORKS W.I.A.**

The Southcentral Mississippi Works region managed to swim against the tide over the past five years by recording a 4.2 percent increase in total nonfarm employment. It's growth rate outpaced the state and all other regions. The area was the only one to show an actual increase in manufacturing jobs. It was not immune to losing manufacturing jobs as it did record some plant closures. However, these losses were negated by the opening of a large automobile manufacturing facility. Job losses were noted in only three industry sectors and only one of those was significant. The Information industry posted a loss of 2,160 jobs over the five year span. That was largely due to severe cutbacks that occurred in one single telecommunications firm when it was bought out by a rival business. Natural Resources lost about 280 jobs, with another 50 losses coming in the Management of Companies industry sector. The rest of the employment trends in the region were quite positive. Accommodation and Food Services was the biggest gainer, adding 2,760 jobs. Another 2,520 workers were added in the Administration, Support and Waste Management field. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services grew by 19.3 percent, adding 2,310 jobs to the local economy. Health Care and Social Assistance added still another 2,450 workers. Gains in all other industry sectors were steady and contributed to the overall economic health of the region. Major construction projects and the addition of more and more retail businesses speak volumes about the confidence that investors have in the area's economy. The foreseeable future for this region looks very bright indeed.

## **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT TWIN DISTRICTS W.I.A.**

Despite heavy job losses in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Twin Districts area managed to post some minimal gains in nonfarm employment over the past five years. Two industry sectors were particularly hard hit by the storm. A cursory look at employment in the Arts, Entertainment and Recreation sector would indicate it to be the hardest hit, losing 5,270 jobs between 2002 and 2006. However, a closer look reveals most of those were lost between 2003 and 2004 due to a realignment of industries. At that time, casinos which also operated a hotel were shifted from this sector over to Accommodation and Food Services. The two industry groups should be looked at together, in which case they lost a combined 8,250 jobs. Other Services and Transportation and Warehousing also recorded significant job losses, but these were not all attributable to the storm. As in most other areas, Manufacturing jobs continued to decline with a net loss of 2,350 over the five year span. Counties in the area other than those on the coast may have actually benefited from the storm as people relocated within the region. That brought increased business to those areas. Two particular industry group saw employment rise as a direct result of Katrina. Construction jobs increased by 2,970 as the massive job of rebuilding the destroyed homes and businesses began. Administration, Support and Waste Management posted nearly a fifty percent gain in employment as the even larger task of debris removal began in earnest in 2006. Smaller gains were registered in other industry groups such as Utilities and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services. These also benefited at least partially from the rebuilding process along the coast. Recording a net gain of 1,590 jobs since 2002 is a remarkable achievement under the circumstances.

**SOUTHCENTRAL MISSISSIPPI WORKS W.I.A.  
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 to 2006	
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg
<b>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>336,480</b>	<b>338,280</b>	<b>343,210</b>	<b>344,020</b>	<b>350,700</b>	<b>14,220</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Manufacturing	34,150	34,130	35,730	35,100	34,860	710	2.1
Natural Resources	2,770	2,710	2,670	2,530	2,490	(280)	(10.1)
Mining	1,060	1,010	1,120	1,210	1,410	350	33.0
Utilities	2,030	2,500	2,500	2,430	2,420	390	19.2
Construction	16,190	15,690	15,420	16,060	17,430	1,240	7.7
Wholesale Trade	14,590	14,660	14,430	14,500	14,630	40	0.3
Retail Trade	41,030	41,210	41,140	41,570	42,960	1,930	4.7
Transportation & Warehousing	13,220	12,780	13,240	13,120	13,530	310	2.3
Information	7,600	6,810	6,190	5,770	5,440	(2,160)	(28.4)
Finance and Insurance	14,990	14,770	14,600	14,850	15,180	190	1.3
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	4,340	4,400	4,450	4,470	4,490	150	3.5
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	11,990	12,250	12,530	13,950	14,300	2,310	19.3
Management of Companies	4,440	4,430	4,200	4,370	4,390	(50)	(1.1)
Administration, Support, Waste Management	13,240	13,660	15,440	15,180	15,760	2,520	19.0
Educational Services (Private)	7,110	7,090	7,470	7,680	7,770	660	9.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	33,050	34,100	34,910	34,990	35,500	2,450	7.4
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	3,140	3,390	3,470	3,360	3,440	300	9.6
Accommodation and Food Services	26,160	26,490	27,000	27,800	28,920	2,760	10.6
Other Services (Private)	12,250	12,350	12,070	12,100	12,390	140	1.1
Government	73,130	73,870	74,620	72,980	73,390	260	0.4
Public Education	27,900	28,230	28,480	28,510	28,620	720	2.6

**TWIN DISTRICTS W.I.A.  
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 to 2006	
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg
<b>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>371,110</b>	<b>372,120</b>	<b>373,870</b>	<b>373,940</b>	<b>372,700</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Manufacturing	58,550	56,430	56,260	56,160	56,200	(2,350)	(4.0)
Natural Resources	4,280	4,130	4,230	4,290	4,300	20	0.5
Mining	2,200	2,230	2,280	2,380	2,720	520	23.6
Utilities	3,710	3,480	3,750	3,750	3,640	(70)	(1.9)
Construction	20,020	18,640	17,890	19,930	22,990	2,970	14.8
Wholesale Trade	7,540	7,630	7,760	7,760	8,410	870	11.5
Retail Trade	48,010	48,450	48,200	47,540	49,550	1,540	3.2
Transportation & Warehousing	9,770	9,400	9,210	9,230	8,790	(980)	(10.0)
Information	4,770	4,740	4,830	5,050	4,880	110	2.3
Finance and Insurance	9,640	9,870	10,020	10,010	10,230	590	6.1
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	3,630	3,810	3,840	3,860	3,860	230	6.3
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	9,250	9,600	10,140	10,350	11,020	1,770	19.1
Management of Companies	3,050	3,150	2,900	2,820	2,920	(130)	(4.3)
Administration, Support, Waste Management	12,150	13,080	12,880	15,480	18,100	5,950	49.0
Educational Services (Private)	1,510	1,590	1,740	1,800	1,720	210	13.9
Health Care and Social Assistance	31,150	31,740	32,290	32,680	31,010	(140)	(0.4)
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	6,400	5,670	1,190	1,160	1,130	(5,270)	(82.3)
Accommodation and Food Services	41,770	43,730	49,060	46,140	38,790	(2,980)	(7.1)
Other Services (Private)	8,970	8,650	8,420	8,010	7,680	(1,290)	(14.4)
Government	84,740	86,100	86,980	85,540	84,760	20	0.0
Public Education	31,930	32,330	32,370	32,350	31,520	(410)	(1.3)

## Local Area Highlights - Non Farm Employment

COUNTY			COMMENTS
Adams	61st in pct growth	72nd in net	Sizeable loss in Manufacturing
Alcorn	40th in pct growth	33rd in net	Large loss in Mfg.; large gain in Admin. Support & Waste Mgt.
Amite	58th in pct growth	53rd in net	Very little change across industries
Attala	81st in pct growth	76th in net	Extremely large drop in Construction
Benton	49th in pct growth	47th in net	Moderate gain in Transportation. & Warehousing
Bolivar	33rd in pct growth	23rd in net	Moderate drop in Mfg.; large gain in Health Care & Soc. Asst.
Calhoun	62nd in pct growth	60th in net	Moderate loss in Manufacturing.
Carroll	46th in pct growth	46th in net	Medium sized increase in Manufacturing
Chickasaw	54th in pct growth	57th in net	Minimal change across all industries
Choctaw	41st in pct growth	44th in net	Very little change across industries
Claiborne	78th in pct growth	69th in net	Moderate decline in Utilities
Clarke	79th in pct growth	67th in net	Large drop in Construction
Clay	80th in pct growth	75th in net	Extremely large drop in Manufacturing
Coahoma	73rd in pct growth	73rd in net	Moderate drops in Retail Trade; Accom. & Food Svc.
Copiah	24th in pct growth	24th in net	Medium sized increase in Transportation & Warehousing
Covington	32nd in pct growth	34th in net	Minimal changes across all industries
DeSoto	2nd in pct growth	2nd in net	Very large gains in Retail Trade, Accom. & Food Svc.
Forrest	22nd in pct growth	7th in net	Significant increase in Accom. & Food Services
Franklin	16th in pct growth	35th in net	Small gain in Manufacturing
George	13th in pct growth	22nd in net	Moderate increase in Admin. Support & Waste Mgt.
Greene	15th in pct growth	31st in net	Small gains in Natural Resources, Government
Grenada	35th in pct growth	29th in net	Losses in Mfg., Transp. & Whse; gain in Adm. Spt & WM
Hancock	77th in pct growth	79th in net	Huge losses in Retail Trade, Health Care & Soc. Asst.
Harrison	71st in pct growth	82nd in net	Large drop in Utilities, Mfg.; big rise in Adm. Spt. & WM
Hinds	56th in pct growth	81st in net	Big losses in Mfg., Information; gains in Prof. & Sci Svc
Holmes	3rd in pct growth	15th in net	Signifcant gain in Manufacturing
Humphreys	65th in pct growth	61st in net	Moderate drop in Natural Res.; gain in Health Care & S.A.
Issaquena	28th in pct growth	45th in net	Virtually no changes across industries
Itawamba	8th in pct growth	16th in net	Medium sized gains in Manufacturing, Construction
Jackson	36th in pct growth	14th in net	Large drop in Construction; big rise in Adm. Spt & WM
Jasper	29th in pct growth	32nd in net	Moderate gain in Natural Resources
Jefferson	63rd in pct growth	51st in net	Very little change across industries
Jefferson Davis	60th in pct growth	55th in net	Minimal loss in Mfg.; small rise in Retail Trade
Jones	9th in pct growth	4th in net	Very large increase in Manufacturing
Kemper	38th in pct growth	43rd in net	Moderate increase in Manufacturing
Lafayette	7th in pct growth	6th in net	Large rise in Accom. & Food Svc., Education
Lamar	4th in pct growth	5th in net	Big increases in Retail Trade, Accom & Food Services
Lauderdale	27th in pct growth	9th in net	Medium drop in Mfg.; big gains in Adm. Spt, Health Care
Lawrence	48th in pct growth	48th in net	Minimal changes across all industries
Leake	82nd in pct growth	77th in net	Very large decline in Manufacturing
Lee	53rd in pct growth	74th in net	Huge drop in Manufacturing; gains in Trade, Prof. & Sci. Svc.
Leflore	50th in pct growth	59th in net	Significant drop in Mfg.; modest rise in Wholesale Trade
Lincoln	26th in pct growth	20th in net	Medium loss in Transp & Whse; Large gain in Retail Trade
Lowndes	30th in pct growth	12th in net	Big drop in Mfg., Trade; gains in Adm. Spt, Accom. & Food Svc.
Madison	1st in pct growth	1st in net	Extremely large increase in Manufacturing
Marion	44th in pct growth	40th in net	Big drops in Mfg., Const.; medium gain in Retail Trade
Marshall	66th in pct growth	68th in net	Large declines in Manufacturing, Transp. & Warehousing

## Total Nonfarm Employed ( Place of Work )

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006		RANK
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg	Pct Chg
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,123,600</b>	<b>1,114,900</b>	<b>1,124,500</b>	<b>1,130,200</b>	<b>1,142,400</b>	<b>18,800</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>xxx</b>
Adams	13,520	12,600	12,310	12,250	12,560	(960)	-7.1%	61
Alcorn	13,800	13,560	13,720	14,000	13,960	160	1.2%	40
Amite	2,360	1,960	1,880	1,940	2,230	(130)	-5.5%	58
Attala	7,140	6,540	5,650	5,570	5,460	(1,680)	-23.5%	81
Benton	1,320	1,250	1,230	1,320	1,310	(10)	-0.8%	49
Bolivar	12,700	12,710	12,650	12,760	13,100	400	3.1%	33
Calhoun	3,920	3,820	3,780	3,740	3,620	(300)	-7.7%	62
Carroll	1,220	1,190	1,140	1,220	1,220	0	0.0%	46
Chickasaw	6,720	6,580	6,590	6,500	6,550	(170)	-2.5%	54
Choctaw	2,010	1,990	2,190	2,170	2,030	20	1.0%	41
Claiborne	4,200	3,880	3,680	3,530	3,510	(690)	-16.4%	78
Clarke	3,630	2,930	3,020	2,920	3,010	(620)	-17.1%	79
Clay	8,390	7,870	7,720	7,340	6,940	(1,450)	-17.3%	80
Coahoma	10,590	10,450	10,010	9,890	9,410	(1,180)	-11.1%	73
Copiah	7,800	7,870	7,980	7,990	8,180	380	4.9%	24
Covington	4,950	5,120	5,360	5,210	5,110	160	3.2%	32
DeSoto	36,380	37,510	39,460	41,930	45,010	8,630	23.7%	2
Forrest	38,140	38,020	37,790	38,610	40,590	2,450	6.4%	22
Franklin	1,720	1,680	1,710	1,760	1,860	140	8.1%	16
George	4,160	4,170	4,350	4,640	4,620	460	11.1%	13
Greene	2,060	2,060	1,990	2,000	2,230	170	8.3%	15
Grenada	10,950	10,980	11,150	11,280	11,160	210	1.9%	35
Hancock	14,420	14,290	14,560	13,480	12,080	(2,340)	-16.2%	77
Harrison	93,770	94,970	95,270	91,560	84,140	(9,630)	-10.3%	71
Hinds	147,400	144,540	141,550	138,950	141,280	(6,120)	-4.2%	56
Holmes	3,660	3,890	4,010	4,240	4,520	860	23.5%	3
Humphreys	3,570	3,490	3,470	3,400	3,260	(310)	-8.7%	65
Issaquena	240	250	300	290	250	10	4.2%	28
Itawamba	5,350	5,340	5,550	5,890	6,170	820	15.3%	8
Jackson	49,810	49,580	49,520	50,430	50,760	950	1.9%	36
Jasper	4,400	4,240	4,190	4,240	4,570	170	3.9%	29
Jefferson	1,220	1,190	1,170	1,130	1,120	(100)	-8.2%	63
Jefferson Davis	2,250	2,240	2,220	2,270	2,100	(150)	-6.7%	60
Jones	27,850	27,790	28,620	29,890	32,010	4,160	14.9%	9
Kemper	1,850	1,760	1,880	1,910	1,880	30	1.6%	38
Lafayette	16,920	16,960	17,080	18,040	19,520	2,600	15.4%	7
Lamar	13,900	14,190	14,770	15,310	16,790	2,890	20.8%	4
Lauderdale	36,450	37,020	37,080	37,420	38,030	1,580	4.3%	27
Lawrence	2,830	2,970	2,870	2,730	2,810	(20)	-0.7%	48
Leake	7,620	6,900	6,230	5,970	5,810	(1,810)	-23.8%	82
Lee	54,070	52,280	51,950	52,350	52,830	(1,240)	-2.3%	53
Leflore	16,440	16,290	15,670	15,930	16,220	(220)	-1.3%	50
Lincoln	12,170	12,220	12,240	12,570	12,730	560	4.6%	26
Lowndes	25,990	25,550	25,520	25,490	26,980	990	3.8%	30
Madison	32,440	37,680	43,950	44,940	46,030	13,590	41.9%	1
Marion	8,010	8,180	7,980	7,850	8,060	50	0.6%	44
Marshall	7,230	6,920	6,630	6,760	6,600	(630)	-8.7%	66

### Local Area Highlights - Non Farm Employment

COUNTY			COMMENTS
Monroe	43rd in pct growth	38th in net	Moderate drop in Mfg.; modest rise in Transp. & Warehousing
Montgomery	57th in pct growth	54th in net	Minimal changes across all industries
Neshoba	20th in pct growth	13th in net	Medium loss in Mfg.; large gains in Construction, Retail Trade
Newton	51st in pct growth	50th in net	Moderate decline in Manufacturing
Noxubee	67th in pct growth	62nd in net	Moderate decline in Manufacturing
Oktibbeha	39th in pct growth	27th in net	Medium drop in Govt.; big gain in Accom. & Food Services
Panola	19th in pct growth	17th in net	Small drop in Mfg.; large rises in Health Care, Retail Trade
Pearl River	31st in pct growth	25th in net	Sizeable increases in Retail Trade, Accom. & Food Services
Perry	34th in pct growth	39th in net	Minimal changes, small drop in Manufacturing
Pike	21st in pct growth	11th in net	Big increases in Retail Trade, Accom. & Food Services
Pontotoc	6th in pct growth	8th in net	Very large gain in Manufacturing
Prentiss	70th in pct growth	71st in net	Big drop in Mfg.; moderate rise in Accom. & Food Services
Quitman	59th in pct growth	52nd in net	Very small changes across all industries
Rankin	10th in pct growth	3rd in net	Modest drop in Mfg.; huge gains in Trade, Accom. & Food Svc.
Scott	11th in pct growth	10th in net	Large increases in Manufacturing, Construction
Sharkey	69th in pct growth	56th in net	Moderate decline in Natural Resources
Simpson	14th in pct growth	18th in net	Medium drop in Trade; big gains in Health Care & Soc. Asst.
Smith	74th in pct growth	65th in net	Big declines in Manufacturing, Construction
Stone	5th in pct growth	19th in net	Significant gains in Accom. & Food Svc., Retail Trade
Sunflower	37th in pct growth	30th in net	Drops in Trade, Govt.; gains in Transportation, Health Care
Tallahatchie	12th in pct growth	26th in net	Big rise in Admin. Support & Waste Management
Tate	68th in pct growth	66th in net	Medium declines in Manufacturing, Retail Trade
Tippah	18th in pct growth	21st in net	Moderate gains in Manufacturing, Adm. Support & Waste Mgt.
Tishomingo	55th in pct growth	58th in net	Medium sized drops in Construction, Manufacturing
Tunica	76th in pct growth	80th in net	Large drops in Manufacturing, Accom. & Food Services
Union	45th in pct growth	41st in net	Moderate fall in Manufacturing; modest gain Health Care
Walthall	47th in pct growth	49th in net	Virtually no changes across industries
Warren	52nd in pct growth	64th in net	Big drop in Accommodation & Food Services
Washington	64th in pct growth	78th in net	Sizeable drops in Manufacturing., Admin Spt & Waste Mgt.
Wayne	42nd in pct growth	42nd in net	Almost no changes across the board
Webster	25th in pct growth	37th in net	Moderate gains in Manufacturing, Health Care & Soc. Asst.
Wilkinson	17th in pct growth	36th in net	Big increase in Admin. Support & Waste Management
Winston	23rd in pct growth	28th in net	Medium gains in Manufacturing, Wholesale Trade
Yalobusha	72nd in pct growth	63rd in net	Large drops in Manufacturing, Retail Trade
Yazoo	75th in pct growth	70th in net	Large drops in Manufacturing, Retail Trade

#### MSA's

Gulfport-Biloxi	4th in pct growth	4th in net	Huge drops in Accom. & Food Svc., Health Care & Soc Asst.
Hattiesburg	1st in pct growth	2nd in net	Large gains in Retail Trade, Accommodation & Food Services
Jackson	2nd in pct growth	1st in net	Sizeable gains in Mfg., Accom. & Food Svc., drop in Information
Pascagoula	3rd in pct growth	3rd in net	Moderate drops in Mfg., Trade; big gain in Adm. Spt & WM

#### WIA Areas

Delta	4th in pct growth	4th in net	Drops in Mfg., Accom. & Food Svc.; gains in Health Care
MS Partnership	2nd in pct growth	2nd in net	Decline in Mfg.; big gains in Adm. Support, Accom. & Food
Southcentral MS	1st in pct growth	1st in net	Moderate drop in Information; gains in Health Care, Adm. Support
Twin Districts	3rd in pct growth	3rd in net	Large drops in Mfg., Leisure & Hospitality; gain in Adm. Spt & WM

### Total Nonfarm Employed ( Place of Work )

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002 TO 2006		RANK
	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Ann Avg	Net Chg	Pct Chg	Pct Chg
Monroe	10,870	11,030	11,320	11,420	10,940	70	0.6%	43
Montgomery	2,900	2,970	3,000	2,920	2,760	(140)	-4.8%	57
Neshoba	14,300	14,750	14,730	15,180	15,290	990	6.9%	20
Newton	6,650	6,550	6,720	6,680	6,560	(90)	-1.4%	51
Noxubee	3,520	3,420	3,320	3,130	3,200	(320)	-9.1%	67
Oktibbeha	20,450	20,950	20,290	20,360	20,760	310	1.5%	39
Panola	10,820	10,590	10,670	11,030	11,580	760	7.0%	19
Pearl River	9,900	9,960	9,960	9,970	10,270	370	3.7%	31
Perry	2,550	2,480	2,530	2,500	2,620	70	2.7%	34
Pike	15,540	15,610	15,730	15,950	16,550	1,010	6.5%	21
Pontotoc	10,480	10,500	11,570	11,970	12,230	1,750	16.7%	6
Prentiss	8,970	8,930	8,470	8,050	8,090	(880)	-9.8%	70
Quitman	1,950	1,940	1,870	1,850	1,840	(110)	-5.6%	59
Rankin	51,570	52,130	54,640	56,690	58,380	6,810	13.2%	10
Scott	11,440	11,830	12,130	12,630	12,910	1,470	12.8%	11
Sharkey	1,540	1,520	1,500	1,480	1,390	(150)	-9.7%	69
Simpson	7,240	7,450	7,750	8,080	7,970	730	10.1%	14
Smith	3,870	3,790	3,460	3,420	3,410	(460)	-11.9%	74
Stone	3,740	3,890	4,090	4,270	4,460	720	19.3%	5
Sunflower	11,050	10,810	10,710	10,860	11,230	180	1.6%	37
Tallahatchie	2,650	2,880	3,060	3,130	2,990	340	12.8%	12
Tate	6,450	6,310	6,170	6,020	5,840	(610)	-9.5%	68
Tippah	7,180	7,050	7,410	7,560	7,690	510	7.1%	18
Tishomingo	6,300	5,890	5,820	5,810	6,130	(170)	-2.7%	55
Tunica	18,020	16,990	16,370	15,840	15,590	(2,430)	-13.5%	76
Union	8,870	8,680	8,600	8,870	8,910	40	0.5%	45
Walthall	3,010	2,920	2,930	2,970	2,990	(20)	-0.7%	47
Warren	25,060	24,740	24,590	24,530	24,670	(390)	-1.6%	52
Washington	22,340	22,210	21,920	20,890	20,450	(1,890)	-8.5%	64
Wayne	5,530	5,520	5,610	5,700	5,570	40	0.7%	42
Webster	2,150	1,970	2,190	2,330	2,250	100	4.7%	25
Wilkinson	1,810	2,010	2,100	2,020	1,950	140	7.7%	17
Winston	5,280	5,210	5,320	5,530	5,550	270	5.1%	23
Yalobusha	3,370	3,240	3,040	2,840	3,000	(370)	-11.0%	72
Yazoo	6,840	6,650	6,190	6,060	5,990	(850)	-12.4%	75

#### MSA's

Gulfport-Biloxi, MS (MSA)	111,930	113,120	113,930	109,290	100,640	(11,290)	-10.1%	4
Hattiesburg, MS (MSA)	54,560	54,700	55,070	56,640	59,980	5,420	9.9%	1
Jackson, MS (MSA)	246,340	249,960	255,860	256,660	261,800	15,460	6.3%	2
Pascagoula, MS (MSA)	53,960	53,760	53,860	55,070	55,360	1,400	2.6%	3

#### WIA Areas

Delta	116,640	115,160	113,250	112,690	112,950	(3,690)	-3.2%	4
Mississippi Partnership	296,770	293,120	294,490	299,040	305,340	8,570	2.9%	2
Southcentral MS Works	336,480	338,280	343,210	344,020	350,700	14,220	4.2%	1
Twin Districts	371,110	372,120	373,870	373,940	372,700	1,590	0.4%	3

## LOCATION QUOTIENTS

The Location Quotient is still another tool that gives us a different perspective on employment by industry for the various areas. The LQ is a measure of relative concentration that tells us how concentrated a particular industry is in relation to the state as a whole. The mathematics involved are simple. First, the total employment for a selected industry group is divided by the total nonfarm employment for a particular county or other labor market area. If the industry employment total was 3,000 and the total nonfarm for the county was 9,000, the local factor would be 3,000 divided by 9,000, or .333. If the corresponding numbers for the state were 100,000 and 900,000, the state factor would be 100,000 divided by 900,000 or .111. Dividing the local factor of .333 by the state factor of .111, yields a location quotient of 3.00. What that shows is that particular industry is three times more concentrated in the county than it is in the state. Economists often use Location Quotients to determine whether goods or services are exported or imported into a particular area. For labor force analysis they have a different use.

Location quotients are an excellent way to determine just how vulnerable a particular area might be to outside influences or external economic shocks. For example, a county with a particularly high concentration of oil and gas extraction industries could be affected by changes in crude oil prices set by OPEC. An area with a high LQ for construction employment would likely be affected by changes in interest rates. A dropoff in housing starts might affect an area with a high proportion of carpet mills or lumber and wood manufacturing. These are but a few examples of how a local economy could be affected by outside events. Knowing which industries could be hurt or helped by such phenomena would help local planners and officials be better prepared to deal with the changes.

Locations quotients should not be viewed as either negative or positive. A high LQ is not always good and a low LQ is not always a bad thing. They just provide another way of looking at the industry structure in a particular area. It allows us to see how different a local industry mix is from the state as a whole. LQ's will work for any area or combination of areas, as long as the smaller area is a part of the larger area it is measured against. Counties within a WIA region could be measured versus the region. States could be compared to the nation or to a region within the nation. LQ's will work for any combination of industries. They can even be applied to other things such as occupations.

In the following tables, the Location Quotient for each county, MSA and WIA area are tabulated for eleven major industry groups. In each case, the highest and lowest LQ's for each industry are highlighted in yellow.

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING

ADAMS	3.83
ALCORN	0.23
AMITE	4.89
ATTALA	1.64
BENTON	2.45
BOLIVAR	2.35
CALHOUN	5.49
CARROLL	5.25
CHICKASAW	1.08
CHOCTAW	11.05
CLAIBORNE	0.73
CLARKE	5.96
CLAY	0.83
COAHOMA	3.07
COPIAH	1.25
COVINGTON	0.75
DESOTO	0.19
FORREST	0.28
FRANKLIN	3.79
GEORGE	1.25
GREENE	8.62
GRENADA	0.63
HANCOCK	0.21
HARRISON	0.02
HINDS	0.13
HOLMES	2.55
HUMPHREYS	10.62
ISSAQUENA	12.82
ITAWAMBA	1.56
JACKSON	0.05
JASPER	6.31
JEFFERSON	3.43
JEFFERSON DAVIS	3.66
JONES	4.55
KEMPER	2.05
LAFAYETTE	0.16
LAMAR	0.76
LAUDERDALE	0.24
LAWRENCE	3.65
LEAKE	3.09
LEE	0.08
LEFLORE	2.77
LINCOLN	2.82
LOWNDES	0.40
MADISON	0.18

MARION	2.23
MARSHALL	0.10
MONROE	0.88
MONTGOMERY	1.39
NESHOBA	1.34
NEWTON	2.05
NOXUBEE	2.00
OKTIBBEHA	0.06
PANOLA	0.72
PEARL RIVER	0.19
PERRY	2.94
PIKE	1.70
PONTOTOC	0.47
PRENTISS	0.48
QUITMAN	6.27
RANKIN	0.20
SCOTT	4.17
SHARKEY	12.91
SIMPSON	0.97
SMITH	1.88
STONE	4.31
SUNFLOWER	3.88
TALLAHATCHIE	4.07
TATE	0.88
TIPPAH	3.08
TISHOMINGO	0.73
TUNICA	1.56
UNION	0.43
WALTHALL	0.21
WARREN	0.47
WASHINGTON	2.19
WAYNE	3.68
WEBSTER	1.99
WILKINSON	1.97
WINSTON	1.27
YALOBUSHA	1.28
YAZOO	4.82
DELTA	2.85
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.64
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	0.71
TWIN DISTRICTS	1.21
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	0.23
HATTIESBURG MSA	0.53
JACKSON MSA	0.22
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.16



## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - CONSTRUCTION

ADAMS	2.11
ALCORN	0.64
AMITE	0.63
ATTALA	1.43
BENTON	0.91
BOLIVAR	0.46
CALHOUN	0.11
CARROLL	1.96
CHICKASAW	0.40
CHOCTAW	0.79
CLAIBORNE	0.91
CLARKE	0.33
CLAY	0.52
COAHOMA	0.51
COPIAH	0.76
COVINGTON	1.68
DESOTO	1.42
FORREST	0.76
FRANKLIN	0.97
GEORGE	0.99
GREENE	0.54
GRENADA	0.48
HANCOCK	1.44
HARRISON	1.50
HINDS	0.75
HOLMES	0.22
HUMPHREYS	0.31
ISSAQUENA	1.60
ITAWAMBA	3.14
JACKSON	1.31
JASPER	1.22
JEFFERSON	0.36
JEFFERSON DAVIS	2.09
JONES	0.92
KEMPER	0.32
LAFAYETTE	0.84
LAMAR	1.31
LAUDERDALE	0.88
LAWRENCE	0.78
LEAKE	0.41
LEE	0.60
LEFLORE	1.02
LINCOLN	1.32
LOWNDES	1.24
MADISON	1.02

MARION	1.81
MARSHALL	1.57
MONROE	1.11
MONTGOMERY	0.65
NESHOBA	3.05
NEWTON	0.40
NOXUBEE	0.44
OKTIBBEHA	0.38
PANOLA	0.71
PEARL RIVER	1.07
PERRY	0.53
PIKE	0.74
PONTOTOC	0.29
PRENTISS	0.74
QUITMAN	0.11
RANKIN	1.62
SCOTT	0.91
SHARKEY	0.29
SIMPSON	0.90
SMITH	0.70
STONE	0.67
SUNFLOWER	0.28
TALLAHATCHIE	0.60
TATE	0.48
TIPPAH	0.67
TISHOMINGO	0.85
TUNICA	0.08
UNION	0.67
WALTHALL	1.34
WARREN	0.66
WASHINGTON	0.49
WAYNE	1.97
WEBSTER	1.24
WILKINSON	0.10
WINSTON	0.90
YALOBUSHA	1.33
YAZOO	0.23
DELTA	0.51
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.88
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	0.99
TWIN DISTRICTS	1.23
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	1.46
HATTIESBURG MSA	0.90
JACKSON MSA	1.00
PASCAGOULA MSA	1.28

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - MANUFACTURING

ADAMS	0.30
ALCORN	1.70
AMITE	2.17
ATTALA	1.30
BENTON	1.40
BOLIVAR	0.79
CALHOUN	2.12
CARROLL	1.18
CHICKASAW	3.27
CHOCTAW	0.94
CLAIBORNE	0.47
CLARKE	1.26
CLAY	2.41
COAHOMA	0.59
COPIAH	1.79
COVINGTON	1.82
DESOTO	0.85
FORREST	0.43
FRANKLIN	0.67
GEORGE	0.33
GREENE	0.24
GRENADA	1.89
HANCOCK	0.66
HARRISON	0.32
HINDS	0.28
HOLMES	1.33
HUMPHREYS	1.77
ISSAQUENA	0.00
ITAWAMBA	1.75
JACKSON	1.90
JASPER	2.18
JEFFERSON	0.00
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.06
JONES	1.79
KEMPER	1.78
LAFAYETTE	0.64
LAMAR	0.47
LAUDERDALE	0.66
LAWRENCE	1.87
LEAKE	2.01
LEE	1.73
LEFLORE	1.17
LINCOLN	0.59
LOWNDES	0.91
MADISON	1.29

MARION	0.82
MARSHALL	0.82
MONROE	2.05
MONTGOMERY	0.55
NESHOBA	0.39
NEWTON	1.52
NOXUBEE	2.70
OKTIBBEHA	0.52
PANOLA	1.23
PEARL RIVER	0.46
PERRY	2.15
PIKE	1.22
PONTOTOC	3.98
PRENTISS	2.28
QUITMAN	0.78
RANKIN	0.53
SCOTT	2.91
SHARKEY	0.09
SIMPSON	0.21
SMITH	2.52
STONE	1.04
SUNFLOWER	0.75
TALLAHATCHIE	0.28
TATE	0.91
TIPPAH	2.60
TISHOMINGO	2.54
TUNICA	0.08
UNION	1.90
WALTHALL	1.47
WARREN	1.18
WASHINGTON	0.65
WAYNE	1.05
WEBSTER	1.34
WILKINSON	0.47
WINSTON	2.01
YALOBUSHA	1.57
YAZOO	0.70
DELTA	0.78
MS PARTNERSHIP	1.54
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	0.65
TWIN DISTRICTS	0.99
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	0.39
HATTIESBURG MSA	0.52
JACKSON MSA	0.56
PASCAGOULA MSA	1.76

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES

ADAMS	1.20
ALCORN	1.09
AMITE	0.82
ATTALA	0.99
BENTON	1.32
BOLIVAR	1.20
CALHOUN	0.98
CARROLL	0.75
CHICKASAW	0.88
CHOCTAW	0.62
CLAIBORNE	1.29
CLARKE	0.86
CLAY	0.95
COAHOMA	0.78
COPIAH	0.96
COVINGTON	0.94
DESOTO	1.54
FORREST	0.96
FRANKLIN	0.87
GEORGE	1.48
GREENE	0.64
GRENADA	0.88
HANCOCK	0.61
HARRISON	1.00
HINDS	0.87
HOLMES	0.97
HUMPHREYS	0.54
ISSAQUENA	0.81
ITAWAMBA	0.81
JACKSON	0.71
JASPER	0.61
JEFFERSON	0.95
JEFFERSON DAVIS	1.14
JONES	0.84
KEMPER	0.67
LAFAYETTE	0.71
LAMAR	1.50
LAUDERDALE	1.19
LAWRENCE	0.74
LEAKE	0.93
LEE	1.04
LEFLORE	1.03
LINCOLN	1.77
LOWNDES	1.16
MADISON	1.05

MARION	1.25
MARSHALL	1.18
MONROE	1.05
MONTGOMERY	1.31
NESHOBA	0.71
NEWTON	0.79
NOXUBEE	0.79
OKTIBBEHA	0.57
PANOLA	1.31
PEARL RIVER	1.42
PERRY	0.70
PIKE	1.27
PONTOTOC	0.64
PRENTISS	0.70
QUITMAN	0.77
RANKIN	1.49
SCOTT	0.73
SHARKEY	0.99
SIMPSON	1.02
SMITH	0.80
STONE	0.99
SUNFLOWER	1.08
TALLAHATCHIE	0.80
TATE	0.91
TIPPAH	0.73
TISHOMINGO	0.96
TUNICA	0.20
UNION	1.26
WALTHALL	1.04
WARREN	0.79
WASHINGTON	1.22
WAYNE	1.23
WEBSTER	0.81
WILKINSON	0.91
WINSTON	1.12
YALOBUSHA	0.91
YAZOO	0.93
DELTA	0.95
MS PARTNERSHIP	1.03
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.07
TWIN DISTRICTS	0.96
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	0.96
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.10
JACKSON MSA	1.05
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.77

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - INFORMATION

ADAMS	0.87
ALCORN	0.66
AMITE	0.00
ATTALA	0.77
BENTON	0.00
BOLIVAR	0.77
CALHOUN	1.16
CARROLL	0.00
CHICKASAW	0.13
CHOCTAW	1.24
CLAIBORNE	0.48
CLARKE	0.28
CLAY	0.36
COAHOMA	0.63
COPIAH	0.41
COVINGTON	0.33
DESOTO	0.37
FORREST	1.18
FRANKLIN	8.58
GEORGE	0.73
GREENE	0.38
GRENADA	0.60
HANCOCK	0.42
HARRISON	1.37
HINDS	1.76
HOLMES	0.37
HUMPHREYS	0.77
ISSAQUENA	0.00
ITAWAMBA	0.41
JACKSON	1.85
JASPER	2.76
JEFFERSON	0.00
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.80
JONES	0.87
KEMPER	0.45
LAFAYETTE	1.12
LAMAR	0.65
LAUDERDALE	1.26
LAWRENCE	1.20
LEAKE	0.29
LEE	0.97
LEFLORE	1.04
LINCOLN	0.86
LOWNDES	1.06
MADISON	1.61

MARION	0.52
MARSHALL	0.38
MONROE	0.54
MONTGOMERY	1.22
NESHOBA	0.60
NEWTON	0.38
NOXUBEE	0.26
OKTIBBEHA	0.73
PANOLA	0.58
PEARL RIVER	1.06
PERRY	0.64
PIKE	0.81
PONTOTOC	0.21
PRENTISS	1.04
QUITMAN	0.46
RANKIN	0.68
SCOTT	0.33
SHARKEY	0.60
SIMPSON	0.53
SMITH	0.25
STONE	0.38
SUNFLOWER	0.30
TALLAHATCHIE	0.28
TATE	4.46
TIPPAH	0.76
TISHOMINGO	0.55
TUNICA	0.11
UNION	0.75
WALTHALL	0.84
WARREN	0.99
WASHINGTON	1.85
WAYNE	0.60
WEBSTER	0.00
WILKINSON	0.43
WINSTON	0.76
YALOBUSHA	0.28
YAZOO	0.56
DELTA	0.80
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.77
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.31
TWIN DISTRICTS	1.10
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	1.21
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.01
JACKSON MSA	1.41
PASCAGOULA MSA	1.76

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

ADAMS	1.07
ALCORN	0.94
AMITE	0.56
ATTALA	0.77
BENTON	0.38
BOLIVAR	0.78
CALHOUN	0.62
CARROLL	0.41
CHICKASAW	0.53
CHOCTAW	0.49
CLAIBORNE	0.42
CLARKE	0.91
CLAY	0.68
COAHOMA	0.92
COPIAH	0.64
COVINGTON	0.63
DESOTO	0.87
FORREST	1.19
FRANKLIN	1.07
GEORGE	1.24
GREENE	0.45
GRENADA	0.78
HANCOCK	0.62
HARRISON	1.04
HINDS	1.51
HOLMES	0.93
HUMPHREYS	1.22
ISSAQUENA	0.00
ITAWAMBA	0.44
JACKSON	0.84
JASPER	0.76
JEFFERSON	0.44
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.59
JONES	0.78
KEMPER	0.66
LAFAYETTE	1.02
LAMAR	1.32
LAUDERDALE	1.06
LAWRENCE	0.53
LEAKE	1.03
LEE	1.01
LEFLORE	0.69
LINCOLN	0.86
LOWNDES	0.80
MADISON	2.05

MARION	1.26
MARSHALL	1.05
MONROE	0.70
MONTGOMERY	0.81
NESHOBA	0.47
NEWTON	0.57
NOXUBEE	0.78
OKTIBBEHA	0.54
PANOLA	1.05
PEARL RIVER	1.14
PERRY	0.66
PIKE	0.91
PONTOTOC	0.51
PRENTISS	0.77
QUITMAN	1.75
RANKIN	1.62
SCOTT	0.50
SHARKEY	1.07
SIMPSON	1.00
SMITH	0.51
STONE	1.11
SUNFLOWER	0.68
TALLAHATCHIE	0.58
TATE	1.02
TIPPAH	0.71
TISHOMINGO	0.73
TUNICA	0.24
UNION	0.64
WALTHALL	0.75
WARREN	0.64
WASHINGTON	0.79
WAYNE	0.80
WEBSTER	0.55
WILKINSON	0.89
WINSTON	0.67
YALOBUSHA	0.83
YAZOO	1.16
DELTA	0.75
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.81
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.39
TWIN DISTRICTS	0.94
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	0.99
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.20
JACKSON MSA	1.58
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.87

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES

ADAMS	0.55
ALCORN	0.95
AMITE	0.44
ATTALA	0.81
BENTON	0.37
BOLIVAR	0.48
CALHOUN	0.14
CARROLL	0.40
CHICKASAW	0.21
CHOCTAW	0.18
CLAIBORNE	0.24
CLARKE	0.16
CLAY	0.55
COAHOMA	0.51
COPIAH	0.24
COVINGTON	0.46
DESOTO	1.09
FORREST	1.34
FRANKLIN	0.46
GEORGE	0.74
GREENE	0.22
GRENADA	1.42
HANCOCK	2.77
HARRISON	1.28
HINDS	1.63
HOLMES	0.57
HUMPHREYS	0.38
ISSAQUENA	0.00
ITAWAMBA	0.34
JACKSON	1.25
JASPER	0.43
JEFFERSON	0.44
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.06
JONES	0.61
KEMPER	0.20
LAFAYETTE	1.04
LAMAR	0.85
LAUDERDALE	1.40
LAWRENCE	0.26
LEAKE	0.63
LEE	1.34
LEFLORE	0.63
LINCOLN	0.55
LOWNDES	1.58
MADISON	1.57

MARION	0.75
MARSHALL	0.71
MONROE	0.26
MONTGOMERY	0.58
NESHOBA	0.24
NEWTON	0.32
NOXUBEE	0.12
OKTIBBEHA	1.12
PANOLA	0.87
PEARL RIVER	0.55
PERRY	0.19
PIKE	0.55
PONTOTOC	0.49
PRENTISS	0.73
QUITMAN	0.40
RANKIN	0.99
SCOTT	0.55
SHARKEY	0.26
SIMPSON	0.46
SMITH	0.83
STONE	0.58
SUNFLOWER	0.26
TALLAHATCHIE	2.38
TATE	0.29
TIPPAH	0.88
TISHOMINGO	0.28
TUNICA	0.09
UNION	0.39
WALTHALL	0.25
WARREN	0.92
WASHINGTON	0.82
WAYNE	0.55
WEBSTER	0.33
WILKINSON	2.52
WINSTON	0.55
YALOBUSHA	0.86
YAZOO	0.25
DELTA	0.57
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.95
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.21
TWIN DISTRICTS	1.05
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	1.43
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.15
JACKSON MSA	1.40
PASCAGOULA MSA	1.21

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES

ADAMS	0.98
ALCORN	0.73
AMITE	1.09
ATTALA	0.64
BENTON	0.79
BOLIVAR	1.55
CALHOUN	0.52
CARROLL	1.08
CHICKASAW	0.54
CHOCTAW	1.57
CLAIBORNE	1.04
CLARKE	1.34
CLAY	1.00
COAHOMA	1.89
COPIAH	0.92
COVINGTON	0.42
DESOTO	0.82
FORREST	1.09
FRANKLIN	0.71
GEORGE	0.67
GREENE	0.59
GRENADA	0.73
HANCOCK	0.43
HARRISON	0.75
HINDS	1.36
HOLMES	1.02
HUMPHREYS	1.21
ISSAQUENA	1.12
ITAWAMBA	0.76
JACKSON	0.56
JASPER	0.41
JEFFERSON	1.09
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.85
JONES	0.36
KEMPER	0.85
LAFAYETTE	1.01
LAMAR	1.28
LAUDERDALE	1.66
LAWRENCE	0.67
LEAKE	0.94
LEE	1.30
LEFLORE	0.87
LINCOLN	1.19
LOWNDES	1.06
MADISON	0.81

MARION	0.94
MARSHALL	1.70
MONROE	1.25
MONTGOMERY	1.26
NESHOBA	0.29
NEWTON	1.09
NOXUBEE	0.47
OKTIBBEHA	0.59
PANOLA	1.12
PEARL RIVER	0.78
PERRY	1.04
PIKE	0.75
PONTOTOC	0.47
PRENTISS	0.85
QUITMAN	1.94
RANKIN	0.96
SCOTT	0.66
SHARKEY	1.15
SIMPSON	2.63
SMITH	0.69
STONE	0.97
SUNFLOWER	1.05
TALLAHATCHIE	0.81
TATE	1.22
TIPPAH	0.63
TISHOMINGO	0.95
TUNICA	0.14
UNION	1.13
WALTHALL	0.78
WARREN	1.20
WASHINGTON	0.91
WAYNE	0.57
WEBSTER	2.08
WILKINSON	0.96
WINSTON	0.95
YALOBUSHA	0.53
YAZOO	1.16
DELTA	1.02
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.95
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.16
TWIN DISTRICTS	0.82
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	0.72
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.14
JACKSON MSA	1.20
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.57

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - LEISURE & HOSPITALITY

ADAMS	1.47
ALCORN	0.78
AMITE	0.13
ATTALA	0.80
BENTON	0.00
BOLIVAR	0.79
CALHOUN	0.37
CARROLL	0.08
CHICKASAW	0.38
CHOCTAW	0.33
CLAIBORNE	0.28
CLARKE	0.39
CLAY	0.61
COAHOMA	1.40
COPIAH	0.54
COVINGTON	0.74
DESOTO	1.33
FORREST	1.07
FRANKLIN	0.26
GEORGE	0.78
GREENE	0.22
GRENADA	0.83
HANCOCK	0.99
HARRISON	1.87
HINDS	0.79
HOLMES	0.34
HUMPHREYS	0.42
ISSAQUENA	0.00
ITAWAMBA	0.53
JACKSON	0.78
JASPER	0.19
JEFFERSON	0.09
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.65
JONES	0.70
KEMPER	0.36
LAFAYETTE	1.25
LAMAR	1.41
LAUDERDALE	0.84
LAWRENCE	0.41
LEAKE	0.52
LEE	0.76
LEFLORE	0.67
LINCOLN	0.82
LOWNDES	0.78
MADISON	1.02

MARION	0.68
MARSHALL	0.48
MONROE	0.55
MONTGOMERY	0.67
NESHOBA	0.47
NEWTON	0.58
NOXUBEE	0.30
OKTIBBEHA	1.30
PANOLA	0.70
PEARL RIVER	1.08
PERRY	0.41
PIKE	0.85
PONTOTOC	0.32
PRENTISS	0.69
QUITMAN	0.37
RANKIN	0.87
SCOTT	0.38
SHARKEY	0.28
SIMPSON	0.74
SMITH	0.23
STONE	0.78
SUNFLOWER	0.44
TALLAHATCHIE	0.39
TATE	0.80
TIPPAH	0.38
TISHOMINGO	0.49
TUNICA	7.92
UNION	0.79
WALTHALL	0.62
WARREN	1.70
WASHINGTON	0.98
WAYNE	0.68
WEBSTER	0.34
WILKINSON	0.40
WINSTON	0.59
YALOBUSHA	0.26
YAZOO	0.60
DELTA	1.74
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.83
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	0.88
TWIN DISTRICTS	1.04
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	1.71
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.14
JACKSON MSA	0.84
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.78



## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - OTHER SERVICES

ADAMS	0.97
ALCORN	0.60
AMITE	0.70
ATTALA	0.86
BENTON	1.43
BOLIVAR	0.64
CALHOUN	0.43
CARROLL	0.26
CHICKASAW	0.33
CHOCTAW	0.46
CLAIBORNE	0.27
CLARKE	0.41
CLAY	0.67
COAHOMA	0.76
COPIAH	0.88
COVINGTON	0.67
DESOTO	0.60
FORREST	0.84
FRANKLIN	0.33
GEORGE	0.67
GREENE	0.70
GRENADA	0.39
HANCOCK	0.39
HARRISON	0.71
HINDS	1.51
HOLMES	1.17
HUMPHREYS	0.48
ISSAQUENA	0.00
ITAWAMBA	0.30
JACKSON	0.66
JASPER	0.27
JEFFERSON	0.00
JEFFERSON DAVIS	0.45
JONES	0.66
KEMPER	0.33
LAFAYETTE	0.48
LAMAR	0.69
LAUDERDALE	0.75
LAWRENCE	0.67
LEAKE	0.27
LEE	0.70
LEFLORE	0.69
LINCOLN	0.76
LOWNDES	1.06
MADISON	0.96

MARION	0.66
MARSHALL	0.47
MONROE	0.34
MONTGOMERY	0.90
NESHOBA	0.24
NEWTON	0.90
NOXUBEE	0.39
OKTIBBEHA	0.42
PANOLA	0.24
PEARL RIVER	0.76
PERRY	0.48
PIKE	0.58
PONTOTOC	0.20
PRENTISS	0.42
QUITMAN	0.68
RANKIN	0.99
SCOTT	0.34
SHARKEY	0.90
SIMPSON	1.21
SMITH	0.27
STONE	0.28
SUNFLOWER	0.86
TALLAHATCHIE	1.25
TATE	0.75
TIPPAH	0.32
TISHOMINGO	0.46
TUNICA	0.12
UNION	0.42
WALTHALL	0.83
WARREN	0.44
WASHINGTON	1.17
WAYNE	0.39
WEBSTER	0.83
WILKINSON	0.48
WINSTON	0.67
YALOBUSHA	0.31
YAZOO	0.62
DELTA	0.70
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.58
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.10
TWIN DISTRICTS	0.64
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	0.65
HATTIESBURG MSA	0.78
JACKSON MSA	1.27
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.66

## 2006 LOCATION QUOTIENT - GOVERNMENT

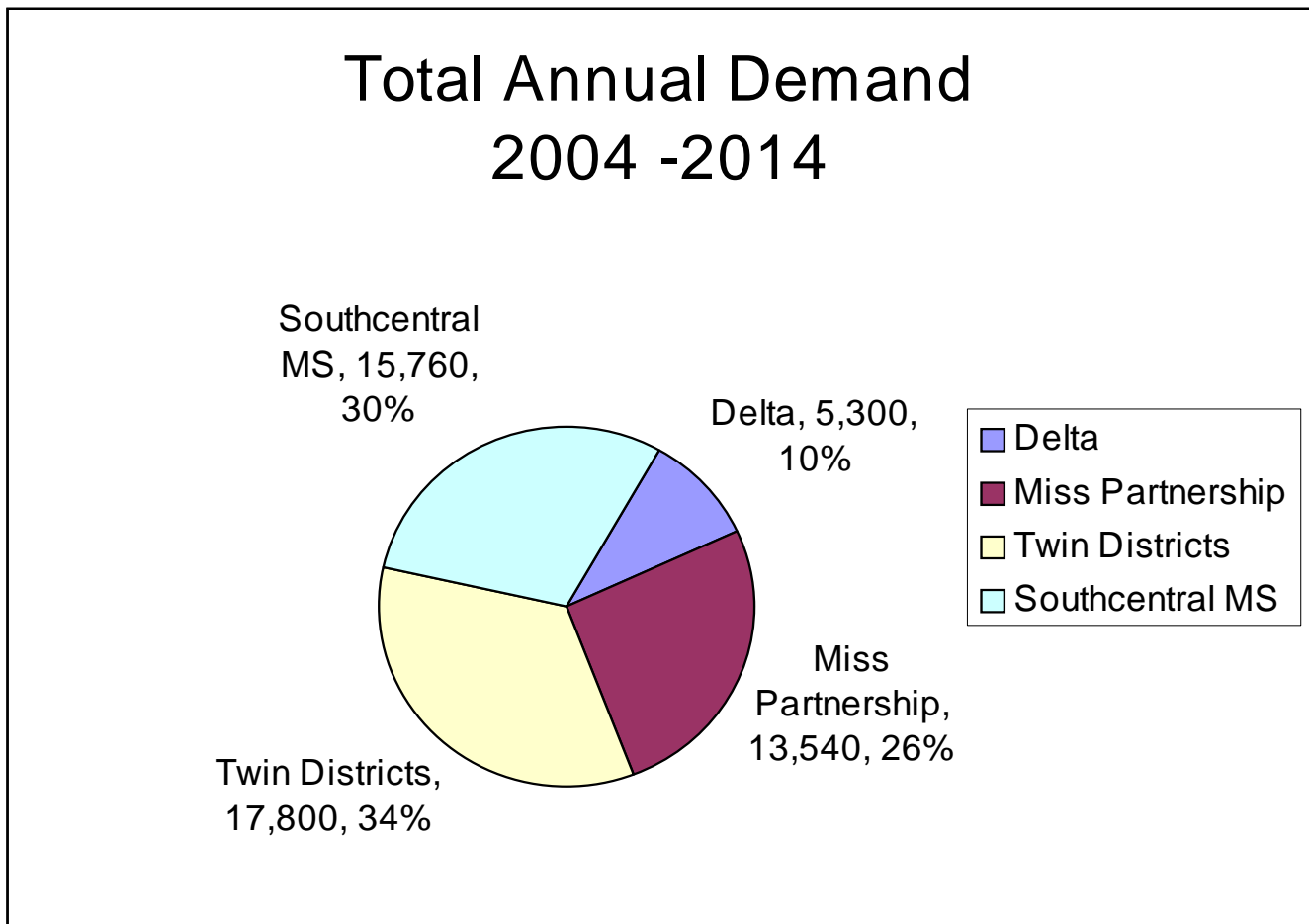
ADAMS	0.80
ALCORN	0.91
AMITE	0.90
ATTALA	1.08
BENTON	1.28
BOLIVAR	1.14
CALHOUN	1.12
CARROLL	1.49
CHICKASAW	0.68
CHOCTAW	1.23
CLAIBORNE	2.05
CLARKE	1.34
CLAY	0.66
COAHOMA	1.08
COPIAH	1.19
COVINGTON	1.11
DESOTO	0.58
FORREST	1.33
FRANKLIN	1.54
GEORGE	1.42
GREENE	2.53
GRENADA	0.83
HANCOCK	1.38
HARRISON	1.05
HINDS	1.23
HOLMES	1.37
HUMPHREYS	0.79
ISSAQUENA	2.11
ITAWAMBA	0.93
JACKSON	0.89
JASPER	1.04
JEFFERSON	2.69
JEFFERSON DAVIS	1.89
JONES	1.06
KEMPER	1.73
LAFAYETTE	1.56
LAMAR	0.57
LAUDERDALE	0.76
LAWRENCE	1.35
LEAKE	0.88
LEE	0.47
LEFLORE	1.19
LINCOLN	0.61
LOWNDES	0.77
MADISON	0.43

MARION	0.92
MARSHALL	1.01
MONROE	0.74
MONTGOMERY	1.34
NESHOBA	2.36
NEWTON	1.45
NOXUBEE	1.15
OKTIBBEHA	2.18
PANOLA	0.90
PEARL RIVER	1.30
PERRY	1.17
PIKE	1.07
PONTOTOC	0.44
PRENTISS	0.92
QUITMAN	1.20
RANKIN	0.78
SCOTT	0.53
SHARKEY	1.55
SIMPSON	1.08
SMITH	0.94
STONE	1.22
SUNFLOWER	1.73
TALLAHATCHIE	1.52
TATE	1.39
TIPPAH	0.73
TISHOMINGO	0.69
TUNICA	0.31
UNION	0.67
WALTHALL	1.28
WARREN	0.93
WASHINGTON	1.18
WAYNE	1.02
WEBSTER	1.00
WILKINSON	1.47
WINSTON	0.69
YALOBUSHA	1.40
YAZOO	1.65
DELTA	1.09
MS PARTNERSHIP	0.88
SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS	1.00
TWIN DISTRICTS	1.09
GULFPORT BILOXI MSA	1.10
HATTIESBURG MSA	1.11
JACKSON MSA	0.98
PASCAGOULA MSA	0.93

## OCCUPATIONAL TRENDS

Utilizing data collected via the Occupational Employment Statistics annual survey of businesses across the state, MDES staff produce an estimate of projected annual demand for each occupation over a ten year period. Over a three year base period, virtually all employers are requested to participate in the survey. More than 800 occupations are included in the annual survey. The following pages summarize the demand for twenty two major occupational clusters for the state and across the various WIA regions. The wage data included in the tables is a weighted estimate of expected earnings gathered during the base period, which in this case covers the years 2004 through 2006.

The occupational and industry mix is different for each region. This has a direct bearing on the projected demand, resulting in some significant differences when comparing one area to another. The same principles hold true when comparing wages since these are also influenced to some degree by the law of supply and demand. The chart below is reflective of each WIA region's share of the projected annual demand across all occupations.



## Summary of Occupational Demand Mississippi - 2004 through 2014

SOC CODE	Occupational Sector	Annual Demand	Percent of Total	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
	Total, All Occupations	52,310	100.0%	\$7.00	\$14,570	\$13.99	\$29,100
11-0000	Management	2,520	4.8%	\$15.01	\$31,220	\$30.86	\$64,200
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations	1,050	2.0%	\$12.92	\$26,870	\$21.67	\$45,080
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical	440	0.8%	\$12.43	\$25,850	\$22.38	\$46,540
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering	720	1.4%	\$14.50	\$30,160	\$24.54	\$51,040
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science	290	0.6%	\$12.68	\$26,380	\$23.21	\$48,280
21-0000	Community & Social Services	850	1.6%	\$10.12	\$21,040	\$15.32	\$31,870
23-0000	Legal	280	0.5%	\$12.14	\$25,260	\$29.10	\$60,530
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library	2,990	5.7%	\$8.30	\$17,270	\$16.07	\$33,430
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	520	1.0%	\$7.68	\$15,970	\$15.27	\$31,760
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	3,270	6.3%	\$11.69	\$24,320	\$23.64	\$49,170
31-0000	Healthcare Support	1,610	3.1%	\$6.86	\$14,270	\$8.86	\$18,430
33-0000	Protective Service	1,450	2.8%	\$7.27	\$15,120	\$11.85	\$24,650
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related	5,150	9.8%	\$5.92	\$12,310	\$7.25	\$15,070
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	1,900	3.6%	\$5.97	\$12,410	\$8.56	\$17,800
39-0000	Personal Care & Service	2,000	3.8%	\$5.96	\$12,390	\$8.84	\$18,400
41-0000	Sales & Related	6,670	12.8%	\$6.15	\$12,800	\$11.21	\$23,310
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support	6,350	12.1%	\$7.74	\$16,110	\$11.92	\$24,800
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	700	1.3%	\$6.54	\$13,600	\$10.72	\$22,290
47-0000	Construction & Extraction	2,420	4.6%	\$8.89	\$18,500	\$13.40	\$27,880
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	2,100	4.0%	\$9.30	\$19,350	\$15.32	\$31,870
51-0000	Production	5,210	10.0%	\$7.85	\$16,320	\$12.33	\$25,650
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving	3,840	7.3%	\$7.10	\$14,770	\$12.17	\$25,320

Projections indicate an annual demand for more than 52,300 new and replacement workers over the next several years. The demand should vary widely across the various occupational sectors. Two sectors, Sales & Related and Office & Administrative Support, lead the way accounting for roughly one-fourth of all needed workers. In an ideal world, the jobs most in demand would also pay the best. In the real world that is not the case. Starting wages for jobs in Sales & Related are expected to be about twelve percent less than the average for all occupations. Jobs in Office & Administrative Support offer a bit more hope to new workers, paying about ten percent above the norm. This can be attributed to two main factors -- a preponderance of part-time positions and the relatively low skill levels required to perform jobs in these categories. Jobs in the Production category and in Food Preparation & Serving should account for about one-fifth of total demand, but again the starting wages for these jobs are generally on the low side. Jobs in the broad field of Management may offer the best combination of demand versus starting salary. Demand for these should be somewhat above average but the beginning wages would be more than double the overall mean. The trade-off is that these jobs usually require a lot more experience or training. The same could be said for jobs in the field of Healthcare Practitioners. The demand for these is substantial and the wages are well above average but more advanced preparation would be required. Prospective workers across Mississippi face a situation where ample job opportunities should exist, but those that pay well will require more education.

## Summary of Occupational Demand Delta W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014

SOC CODE	Occupational Sector	Annual Demand	Percent of Total	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
	<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$6.56</b>	<b>\$13,650</b>	<b>\$12.40</b>	<b>\$25,800</b>
11-0000	Management	260	4.9%	\$12.85	\$26,720	\$28.32	\$58,910
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations	80	1.5%	\$12.75	\$26,530	\$20.26	\$42,140
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical	20	0.4%	\$11.16	\$23,210	\$19.65	\$40,870
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering	30	0.6%	\$14.48	\$30,130	\$23.52	\$48,930
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science	30	0.6%	\$9.91	\$20,620	\$17.80	\$37,020
21-0000	Community & Social Services	70	1.3%	\$10.02	\$20,830	\$15.43	\$32,100
23-0000	Legal	30	0.6%	\$11.27	\$23,440	\$26.48	\$55,080
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library	360	6.8%	\$8.39	\$17,440	\$15.18	\$31,570
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	40	0.8%	\$7.38	\$15,350	\$14.76	\$30,700
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	260	4.9%	\$11.67	\$24,270	\$22.22	\$46,220
31-0000	Healthcare Support	170	3.2%	\$6.34	\$13,180	\$8.14	\$16,930
33-0000	Protective Service	170	3.2%	\$7.60	\$15,810	\$10.99	\$22,860
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related	600	11.3%	\$5.94	\$12,350	\$7.47	\$15,530
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	280	5.3%	\$5.95	\$12,380	\$8.32	\$17,310
39-0000	Personal Care & Service	400	7.5%	\$5.96	\$12,400	\$8.47	\$17,620
41-0000	Sales & Related	570	10.8%	\$6.00	\$12,490	\$10.39	\$21,610
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support	650	12.3%	\$7.51	\$15,620	\$11.34	\$23,590
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	150	2.8%	\$6.07	\$12,630	\$8.26	\$17,180
47-0000	Construction & Extraction	160	3.0%	\$7.65	\$15,900	\$11.47	\$23,850
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	180	3.4%	\$8.24	\$17,140	\$13.36	\$27,780
51-0000	Production	440	8.3%	\$6.96	\$14,470	\$11.01	\$22,890
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving	380	7.2%	\$6.44	\$13,390	\$10.76	\$22,380

Projections for the Delta WIA indicate an annual demand for about 5,300 new and replacement workers over the next several years. Some demand exists in all occupational sectors, but certain categories will account for the lion's share of needed workers. More than a third of total demand will come from either Food Preparation & Serving, Sales & Related, or Office & Administrative Support occupations. Many jobs in the first two categories are part-time and require few skills, therefore the starting wages tend to be below average. The latter category offers a bit more to the starting worker, with beginning wages averaging about fourteen percent above the norm. Four other occupational groups feature higher than average demand and starting wages. These would include Management; Education, Training & Library; Health Practitioners & Technical; and Production occupations. Jobs in the broad field of Management may offer the best combination of demand versus starting salary. Demand for these should be somewhat above average with beginning wages nearly double the overall mean. The trade-off is that these jobs usually require a lot more experience or training. The same could be said for jobs in the field of Healthcare Practitioners and Education. The demand for these is substantial and the wages are well above average but more advanced preparation would be required. Jobs in the field of Production could offer decent starting wages without the need for as much advance preparation. Prospective workers across the Delta WIA should face a situation where ample job opportunities should exist, but those that pay well will require more education and/or experience.

**Summary of Occupational Demand**  
**Mississippi Partnership W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014**

SOC CODE	Occupational Sector	Annual Demand	Percent of Total	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
	<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>13,540</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$7.26</b>	<b>\$15,100</b>	<b>\$13.69</b>	<b>\$28,470</b>
11-0000	Management	610	4.5%	\$15.42	\$32,080	\$30.07	\$62,550
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations	190	1.4%	\$12.04	\$25,040	\$19.04	\$39,600
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical	70	0.5%	\$9.74	\$20,260	\$18.14	\$37,720
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering	110	0.8%	\$13.51	\$28,110	\$22.84	\$47,510
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science	60	0.4%	\$12.51	\$26,010	\$20.10	\$41,810
21-0000	Community & Social Services	80	0.6%	\$10.95	\$22,780	\$15.62	\$32,490
23-0000	Legal	60	0.4%	\$11.23	\$23,370	\$22.94	\$47,710
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library	950	7.0%	\$7.95	\$16,530	\$16.09	\$33,470
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	130	1.0%	\$7.85	\$16,330	\$14.85	\$30,890
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	720	5.3%	\$11.63	\$24,180	\$24.41	\$50,770
31-0000	Healthcare Support	330	2.4%	\$6.73	\$14,000	\$8.71	\$18,110
33-0000	Protective Service	240	1.8%	\$7.72	\$16,050	\$11.91	\$24,760
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,250	9.2%	\$5.92	\$12,320	\$7.29	\$15,160
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	430	3.2%	\$6.12	\$12,720	\$8.60	\$17,890
39-0000	Personal Care & Service	350	2.6%	\$5.96	\$12,400	\$8.60	\$17,880
41-0000	Sales & Related	1,720	12.7%	\$6.08	\$12,650	\$10.74	\$22,330
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support	1,590	11.7%	\$7.75	\$16,120	\$11.85	\$24,650
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	170	1.3%	\$7.18	\$14,930	\$11.20	\$23,300
47-0000	Construction & Extraction	650	4.8%	\$8.94	\$18,600	\$12.96	\$26,950
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	530	3.9%	\$9.43	\$19,610	\$14.91	\$31,020
51-0000	Production	2,160	16.0%	\$8.23	\$17,130	\$12.05	\$25,070
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving	1,180	8.7%	\$7.71	\$16,040	\$12.25	\$25,490

Projections for the Mississippi Partnership WIA indicate an annual demand for about 13,540 new and replacement workers over the next several years. While demand will be spread across all occupational sectors, certain categories will account for a disproportionate share of needed workers. More than forty percent of total demand will come from either Production, Sales & Related, or Office & Administrative Support occupations. Production occupations alone should account for one in six new workers, with starting wages about thirteen percent higher than average. Demand for workers in Sales & Related will also be high, but beginning wages tend to be on the low side. Many of these will be part-time, but require little or no training. Office & Administrative Support jobs should also be plentiful, with starting wages just above average. Jobs in the broad field of Management may offer the best combination of demand versus starting salary. Demand for these should be about average but with beginning wages more than double the overall mean. The trade-off is that these jobs usually require a lot more experience or training. The same could be said for jobs in the fields of Healthcare Practitioners and Education, Training & Library. The demand for these is substantial and the wages are well above average, but more advanced preparation would be required. Jobs in the field of Construction & Extraction could offer decent starting wages without the need for as much experience or training. Prospective workers across the Mississippi Partnership area should face a situation where ample job opportunities exist, but those that pay well will require more education and/or experience.

## Summary of Occupational Demand Southcentral Mississippi Works W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014

SOC CODE	Occupational Sector	Annual Demand	Percent of Total	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
	<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>15,760</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$7.20</b>	<b>\$14,970</b>	<b>\$14.94</b>	<b>\$31,080</b>
11-0000	Management	870	5.5%	\$15.72	\$32,690	\$33.17	\$68,990
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations	440	2.8%	\$14.11	\$29,360	\$24.04	\$50,000
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical	200	1.3%	\$15.19	\$31,600	\$25.09	\$52,190
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering	170	1.1%	\$14.56	\$30,290	\$25.45	\$52,940
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science	100	0.6%	\$13.40	\$27,870	\$24.59	\$51,150
21-0000	Community & Social Services	180	1.1%	\$9.47	\$19,700	\$15.32	\$31,870
23-0000	Legal	140	0.9%	\$14.32	\$29,780	\$32.74	\$68,090
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library	880	5.6%	\$8.65	\$18,000	\$15.82	\$32,910
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	230	1.5%	\$7.63	\$15,880	\$15.60	\$32,440
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,130	7.2%	\$11.87	\$24,690	\$23.69	\$49,270
31-0000	Healthcare Support	590	3.7%	\$7.09	\$14,750	\$8.98	\$18,670
33-0000	Protective Service	350	2.2%	\$6.48	\$13,480	\$11.47	\$23,860
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,390	8.8%	\$5.92	\$12,320	\$7.19	\$14,950
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	560	3.6%	\$5.92	\$12,320	\$8.64	\$17,970
39-0000	Personal Care & Service	520	3.3%	\$5.95	\$12,380	\$8.77	\$18,240
41-0000	Sales & Related	2,110	13.4%	\$6.31	\$13,120	\$12.39	\$25,780
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support	2,220	14.1%	\$8.13	\$16,900	\$12.48	\$25,960
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	140	0.9%	\$7.81	\$16,250	\$12.21	\$25,400
47-0000	Construction & Extraction	660	4.2%	\$8.80	\$18,300	\$13.33	\$27,720
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	610	3.9%	\$9.34	\$19,430	\$15.59	\$32,420
51-0000	Production	1,090	6.9%	\$7.78	\$16,180	\$12.66	\$26,330
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving	1,200	7.6%	\$7.12	\$14,810	\$12.77	\$26,570

Projected data for the Southcentral Mississippi Works area reveal an annual demand for about 15,760 new and replacement workers over the next several years. Certain occupational groups will account for a disproportionate share of the needed workers. Office & Administrative Support occupations top the list with an annual need of 2,220 new workers. Beginning wages for these jobs average about thirteen percent higher than the average for all occupations. Demand for Sales & Related jobs will be almost as high, but wages in that sector are on the low side. Food Preparation & Serving workers will also be very much in demand, but most of those jobs pay well below average. Job opportunities in Transportation & Material Moving should also be plentiful, but starting wages are a bit subpar. Healthcare Practitioners & Technical occupations will also be much in demand and feature wages well above average. The downside is that these jobs usually require a lot more experience or training. The same could be said for jobs in the broad fields of Management and Education, Training & Library. Demand for each of these is almost 900 a year. Starting pay for Management should average \$15.72 per hour, tops among all occupational sectors. Pay for Education, Training, & Library would be considerably less at \$8.65 per hour, mainly because it includes many jobs that do not require as much training. Prospective workers across the Southcentral Mississippi Works area can expect to find ample job opportunities exist, but those that pay well will require considerably more education and/or experience.

## Summary of Occupational Demand Twin Districts W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014

SOC CODE	Occupational Sector	Annual Demand	Percent of Total	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage	
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual
	<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>17,800</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$6.91</b>	<b>\$14,370</b>	<b>\$13.97</b>	<b>\$29,060</b>
11-0000	Management	860	4.8%	\$14.67	\$30,500	\$29.83	\$62,050
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations	390	2.2%	\$12.44	\$25,870	\$21.13	\$43,950
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical	120	0.7%	\$13.50	\$28,080	\$23.43	\$48,740
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering	300	1.7%	\$15.09	\$31,380	\$24.75	\$51,480
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science	100	0.6%	\$14.19	\$29,520	\$26.79	\$55,730
21-0000	Community & Social Services	170	1.0%	\$10.14	\$21,090	\$15.06	\$31,320
23-0000	Legal	110	0.6%	\$10.88	\$22,640	\$28.75	\$59,800
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library	920	5.2%	\$8.34	\$17,350	\$16.55	\$34,430
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	140	0.8%	\$7.62	\$15,840	\$15.43	\$32,090
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,120	6.3%	\$11.70	\$24,330	\$23.51	\$48,900
31-0000	Healthcare Support	510	2.9%	\$6.84	\$14,230	\$9.02	\$18,770
33-0000	Protective Service	500	2.8%	\$7.77	\$16,170	\$12.40	\$25,780
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,970	11.1%	\$5.91	\$12,280	\$7.20	\$14,970
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	650	3.7%	\$6.05	\$12,580	\$8.49	\$17,650
39-0000	Personal Care & Service	760	4.3%	\$5.95	\$12,370	\$9.19	\$19,120
41-0000	Sales & Related	2,330	13.1%	\$6.15	\$12,800	\$10.71	\$22,270
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support	2,190	12.3%	\$7.54	\$15,680	\$11.67	\$24,270
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	230	1.3%	\$6.98	\$14,510	\$11.20	\$23,300
47-0000	Construction & Extraction	1,010	5.7%	\$9.09	\$18,910	\$13.90	\$28,910
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	690	3.9%	\$9.49	\$19,740	\$15.61	\$32,470
51-0000	Production	1,610	9.0%	\$7.70	\$16,020	\$12.89	\$26,820
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving	1,120	6.3%	\$6.84	\$14,230	\$11.17	\$23,240

Projected data for the Twin Districts area indicate an annual demand for about 17,800 new and replacement workers over the next several years. The area will account for one out of every three new workers needed statewide. Sales & Related occupations will lead the way with an annual need of 2,330 workers. However, most of these will be jobs requiring few skills and little experience. Many will be part-time and starting wages will be quite low. Office & Administrative occupations will require almost as many new employees and wages will be somewhat higher. The third largest need will be for Food Preparation & Serving workers, but beginning wages there will be even less than for Sales & Related. Production occupations will also be plentiful and should pay above average wages for beginning workers. Many will require little or no formal training. Construction & Extraction occupations offer still another alternative, featuring decent pay and more opportunities for learning as you go. For those willing to invest more time in advanced preparation, Healthcare Practitioners & Technical jobs offer higher than average starting salaries. The same could be said for jobs in the broad fields of Management and Education, Training & Library. Demand for workers in each of these should be above average and starting salaries can be quite good. Prospective workers across the Southcentral Mississippi Works area can expect to find ample job opportunities exist, but must keep in mind that those that pay well will require considerably more preparation in order to be job ready.



## Determining the “*Hottest*” Occupations

A variety of methods could have been used to ascertain which occupations might prove to be the most attractive to job seekers. It was assumed that any person seeking work in a particular occupation would want to ensure that there was at least moderate demand for workers in that field and that it should pay a reasonable wage. A simple index was devised to measure these factors. As a first step, any occupation with below average demand or not paying average or above wages was eliminated. To arrive at the “Hot Factor” used for ranking the remaining occupations, the annual demand for that occupation was divided by the overall average for all occupations. Next the annual overall wage and starting wage for each occupation was divided by the average for all occupations. The three “indexes” derived from these calculations were then added together to obtain the “Hot Factor”. Generally speaking, any occupation with above average demand and above average wages would be a candidate for inclusion in this list. Higher wages might offset lower demand or vice versa, but the end result should still yield a reasonable approximation of the most desirable occupations.

### A Word About Job Zones

#### **Job Zone One: Little or No Preparation Needed**

No previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few days to a few months of training.

#### **Job Zone Two: Some Preparation Needed**

Some previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience may be helpful in these occupations, but usually is not needed. Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few months to one year of working with experienced employees.

#### **Job Zone Three: Medium Preparation Needed**

Previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is required for these occupations. Employees in these occupations usually need one or two years of formal or informal training. Associate degrees are common.

#### **Job Zone Four: Considerable Preparation Needed**

A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Employees in these occupations usually need several years of experience, on-the-job training, and/or formal training. Many of these occupations require a bachelor’s degree,.

#### **Job Zone Five: Extensive Preparation Needed**

Extensive skill, knowledge, and experience are needed for these occupations. Many require more than five years of experience. Most employees in these occupations will already have the required skills, knowledge, work-related experience, and/or training. These occupations often involve coordinating, training, supervising, or managing the activities of others to accomplish goals. A bachelor’s degree is the usual minimum formal education required for these occupations, but a significant number of them require post graduate studies and/or advanced degrees.

**Source: U.S. Department of Labor - O\*Net System**

**The 25 "Hottest" Jobs  
Mississippi - 2004 through 2014**

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor	Job Zone
1	29-1111 Registered Nurses	1,440	\$35,720	\$48,460	<b>23.32</b>	4
2	53-3032 Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	830	\$21,410	\$32,890	<b>13.67</b>	2
3	11-1021 General & Operations Managers	620	\$36,360	\$68,910	<b>13.13</b>	4
4	29-1062 Family & General Practitioners	90	\$93,270	\$158,470	<b>13.05</b>	5
5	11-1011 Chief Executives	270	\$48,740	\$108,220	<b>10.66</b>	5
6	41-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Retail Sales Workers	600	\$19,510	\$29,930	<b>10.37</b>	2
7	43-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Office & Administrative Support Workers	480	\$25,590	\$39,020	<b>9.50</b>	3
8	25-2021 Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	480	\$25,990	\$36,260	<b>9.43</b>	4
9	25-2031 Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	460	\$25,570	\$36,160	<b>9.13</b>	4
10	41-4012 Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	420	\$26,130	\$43,240	<b>8.88</b>	2
11	29-1051 Pharmacists	110	\$58,740	\$82,440	<b>8.33</b>	5
12	51-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Production & Operating Workers	340	\$26,500	\$40,960	<b>7.76</b>	3
13	21-2011 Clergy	370	\$22,440	\$31,780	<b>7.57</b>	5
14	23-1011 Lawyers	170	\$35,520	\$82,350	<b>7.53</b>	5
15	13-2011 Accountants & Auditors	240	\$31,070	\$50,360	<b>7.06</b>	4
16	51-4121 Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	320	\$23,790	\$31,950	<b>7.00</b>	2
17	11-9032 Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	100	\$47,590	\$60,190	<b>6.67</b>	5
18	47-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	230	\$29,300	\$42,330	<b>6.53</b>	4
19	11-9111 Medical & Health Services Managers	100	\$42,460	\$66,040	<b>6.52</b>	5
20	11-3031 Financial Managers	110	\$38,870	\$63,200	<b>6.31</b>	5
21	49-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	200	\$29,710	\$44,910	<b>6.25</b>	4
22	11-9021 Construction Managers	140	\$34,740	\$52,820	<b>6.07</b>	4
23	11-2022 Sales Managers	90	\$37,120	\$66,140	<b>6.02</b>	4
24	47-2111 Electricians	220	\$26,930	\$35,750	<b>6.01</b>	3
25	25-2022 Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	210	\$26,990	\$36,700	<b>5.91</b>	4

A quick review of the above chart indicates that the most desirable jobs in the state over the next few years will require a good deal of advanced preparation. Eighteen of the twenty-five "hottest" jobs fall in job zones 4 and 5, which means most will require at least a bachelor's degree and/or significant experience. Nine occupations on the list deal with some type of management or supervision. Four of them are health related occupations, including the overall number one Registered Nurse. For those unwilling or unable to obtain a college degree, the best options appear to be as First Line Supervisors in an office or factory setting. Another option would be in the skilled trades as an Electrician. Only a handful of the top jobs can be obtained with little or no advanced training. These would include the number two overall of Tractor Trailer Truck Driver, plus a diverse list ranging from Welder to Sales Representative. Opportunities to land a good job will be there, provided the job seeker is adequately prepared.

**The 25 "Hottest" Jobs  
Delta W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014**

	<b>SOC Code</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Annual Demand</b>	<b>Average Starting Wage</b>	<b>Average Annual Wage</b>	<b>"Hot" Factor</b>	<b>Job Zone</b>
1	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	190	\$12,580	\$20,210	<b>15.28</b>	2
2	29-1111	Registered Nurses	120	\$36,370	\$49,100	<b>13.14</b>	4
3	11-1021	General & Operations Managers	60	\$34,270	\$70,190	<b>9.52</b>	4
4	11-1011	Chief Executives	20	\$52,890	\$108,020	<b>9.49</b>	5
5	53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers	110	\$12,350	\$17,220	<b>9.43</b>	1
6	51-2092	Team Assemblers	90	\$16,390	\$22,560	<b>8.50</b>	1
7	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	80	\$20,960	\$27,600	<b>8.32</b>	2
8	25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	60	\$28,770	\$35,810	<b>7.78</b>	4
9	25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	60	\$26,490	\$35,110	<b>7.59</b>	4
10	29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	60	\$24,200	\$30,810	<b>7.25</b>	3
11	49-9042	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	70	\$15,610	\$23,040	<b>7.04</b>	2
12	43-1011	First-Line Supervisors, Office & Administrative Support Workers	50	\$26,090	\$37,410	<b>6.93</b>	3
13	43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	60	\$19,130	\$26,000	<b>6.69</b>	3
14	23-1011	Lawyers	20	\$25,290	\$77,300	<b>6.28</b>	5
15	43-4081	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	60	\$14,310	\$17,350	<b>6.01</b>	2
16	13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	20	\$32,560	\$50,990	<b>5.79</b>	4
17	33-3012	Correctional Officers & Jailers	50	\$18,040	\$20,080	<b>5.67</b>	2
18	41-1011	First-Line Supervisors, Retail Sales Workers	40	\$20,260	\$32,630	<b>5.61</b>	2
19	43-6014	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	50	\$15,950	\$21,390	<b>5.57</b>	2
20	41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	30	\$22,990	\$43,270	<b>5.50</b>	2
21	51-1011	First-Line Supervisors, Production & Operating Workers	30	\$24,980	\$39,120	<b>5.49</b>	3
22	43-3071	Tellers	50	\$15,380	\$19,830	<b>5.47</b>	2
23	33-3051	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	40	\$19,160	\$25,880	<b>5.26</b>	3
24	43-5081	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	50	\$13,350	\$17,600	<b>5.23</b>	2
25	43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	40	\$18,440	\$24,620	<b>5.16</b>	2

A cursory review of the above chart indicates that about half of the "hottest" jobs in the Delta WIA region will require at least some advance preparation. Seven titles on the list fall into job zones 4 and 5, meaning a bachelor's degree or higher is a likely prerequisite. Five more occupations on the list are in job zone 3, usually requiring some sort of formal training or a lengthy apprenticeship. Another four deal with some type of management or supervisory positions which may require extensive experience. For those unwilling or unable to obtain formal training, job opportunities will still be plentiful. However, wage expectations for such jobs will be much less than those in the higher job zones. The list itself is quite varied, moreso than perhaps any other region. About half could be considered "blue collar" and half "white collar" occupations. Overall demand is lower than in other regions, mainly because the area's workforce is much smaller than its peers. Competition for the better paying jobs may be stiff, but opportunities will be there in a variety of occupational fields.

**The 25 "Hottest" Jobs**  
**Mississippi Partnership W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014**

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor	Job Zone
1	29-1111 Registered Nurses	330	\$35,310	\$47,160	14.99	4
2	53-3032 Truck Drivers, Heavy, Tractor-Trailer	260	\$21,570	\$34,670	11.31	2
3	11-1021 General & Operations Managers	160	\$37,050	\$68,580	10.20	4
4	11-1011 Chief Executives	60	\$46,340	\$94,370	8.38	5
5	25-2021 Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	160	\$22,810	\$33,160	8.01	4
6	29-1051 Pharmacists	20	\$64,020	\$86,100	7.93	5
7	25-2031 Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	150	\$24,060	\$34,800	7.82	4
8	51-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Production & Operating Workers	140	\$26,360	\$38,980	7.78	3
9	41-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Retail Sales Workers	160	\$18,460	\$29,620	7.60	2
10	43-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Office & Administrative Support Workers	130	\$25,640	\$39,630	7.42	3
11	41-4012 Sales Representatives, Wholesale, Manufacturing	110	\$23,660	\$42,700	6.73	2
12	11-9032 Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	30	\$46,840	\$60,150	6.21	5
13	25-2022 Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	90	\$28,400	\$36,040	6.15	4
14	47-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	70	\$30,220	\$42,440	5.83	4
15	11-9111 Medical & Health Services Managers	20	\$42,670	\$61,530	5.65	5
16	11-3051 Industrial Production Managers	20	\$39,880	\$63,470	5.54	4
17	11-3031 Financial Managers	30	\$36,940	\$58,680	5.51	5
18	49-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Mechanics, Installers & Repairers	60	\$28,450	\$43,590	5.42	4
19	23-1011 Lawyers	30	\$31,450	\$62,710	5.29	5
20	11-2022 Sales Managers	20	\$32,760	\$64,700	5.11	4
21	51-4121 Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	70	\$23,650	\$28,850	4.91	2
22	41-1012 First-Line Supervisors, Non-Retail Sales Workers	20	\$31,190	\$57,370	4.75	3
23	13-2011 Accountants & Auditors	40	\$28,810	\$42,170	4.72	4
24	43-5052 Postal Service Mail Carriers	40	\$29,390	\$40,780	4.71	1
25	11-9021 Construction Managers	30	\$31,650	\$44,980	4.68	4

As indicated in the above chart, the most desirable jobs in the Mississippi Partnership area over the next few years will require at least some advanced preparation. Seventeen of the twenty-five "hottest" jobs fall in job zones 4 and 5, which means most will require at least a bachelor's degree and/or significant experience. Fourteen occupations on the list deal with some type of management or supervision. Three of them are health related occupations including the overall number one, Registered Nurse. For those unable to obtain a college degree, the best options appear to be as Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers or as a supervisor in an office or factory setting. Another option would be in the skilled trades as a Welder/Cutter. Only a handful of the top jobs can be obtained with little or no advanced training. These would include such things as Sales Representative or Mail Carrier. Opportunities to land a good job will be there, provided the job seeker is adequately prepared.

**The 25 "Hottest" Jobs**  
**Southcentral Mississippi Works W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014**

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor	Job Zone
1	29-1111 Registered Nurses	530	\$36,540	\$49,500	23.66	4
2	53-3032 Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	290	\$22,330	\$34,460	13.34	2
3	11-1021 General & Operations Managers	220	\$37,350	\$73,670	13.01	4
4	29-1062 Family & General Practitioners	40	\$79,610	\$148,590	11.58	5
5	11-1011 Chief Executives	90	\$60,850	\$124,580	11.41	5
6	41-4012 Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	180	\$27,270	\$42,440	9.85	2
7	23-1011 Lawyers	80	\$51,100	\$94,350	9.41	5
8	43-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Office & Administrative Support Workers	170	\$26,150	\$39,800	9.32	3
9	41-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Retail Sales Workers	180	\$20,260	\$31,850	9.04	2
10	13-2011 Accountants & Auditors	130	\$33,990	\$56,090	8.89	4
11	25-2031 Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	140	\$26,810	\$35,760	8.13	4
12	25-2021 Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	130	\$26,360	\$34,600	7.69	4
13	29-1051 Pharmacists	30	\$54,210	\$77,530	7.23	5
14	11-3031 Financial Managers	40	\$44,620	\$70,640	6.73	5
15	15-1031 Computer Software Engineers, Applications	40	\$44,180	\$64,210	6.50	4
16	11-9111 Medical & Health Services Managers	30	\$45,910	\$69,790	6.42	5
17	11-2022 Sales Managers	30	\$42,800	\$72,910	6.32	4
18	51-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Production & Operating Workers	80	\$27,050	\$44,030	6.19	3
19	11-9021 Construction Managers	50	\$35,880	\$60,170	6.18	4
20	11-9032 Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	30	\$45,740	\$57,470	6.02	5
21	41-3021 Insurance Sales Agents	70	\$27,300	\$46,290	5.91	3
22	49-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	60	\$30,730	\$46,360	5.77	4
23	15-1051 Computer Systems Analysts	30	\$41,040	\$56,430	5.67	4
24	47-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	60	\$29,050	\$43,940	5.58	4
25	43-6011 Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	80	\$22,350	\$31,610	5.47	4

A quick glance at the above chart reveals that the most desirable jobs in the Southcentral Mississippi area over the next few years will require a good deal of advance preparation. Nineteen of the twenty-five "hottest" jobs fall in job zones 4 and 5, which means most will require at least a bachelor's degree or lengthy experience. Eleven occupations on the list deal with some type of management or supervision. Four of them are health related occupations including the overall number one, Registered Nurse. For those who lack formal training, the best options appear to be as a Tractor Trailer Truck Driver or Sales Representative. Another option would be as a supervisor in the office, production or construction trades. Only a handful of the top jobs can be obtained with little or no advanced training. The occupations on this list are fairly diverse, allowing multiple pathways to a solid career. Opportunities to land a good job will be there, but competition for those with the best combination of demand and salary will likely be stiff.

**The 25 "Hottest" Jobs  
Twin Districts W.I.A. - 2004 through 2014**

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor	Job Zone
1	29-1111 Registered Nurses	530	\$35,110	\$48,160	27.14	4
2	11-1021 General & Operations Managers	210	\$34,810	\$63,200	13.73	4
3	29-1062 Family & General Practitioners	30	\$87,070	\$148,340	12.47	5
4	53-3032 Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	220	\$20,010	\$29,470	11.97	2
5	51-4121 Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	200	\$26,940	\$35,330	11.79	2
6	11-1011 Chief Executives	90	\$42,680	\$103,910	10.46	5
7	25-2021 Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	160	\$27,680	\$40,000	10.26	4
8	43-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Office & Administrative Support Workers	150	\$24,700	\$37,810	9.54	3
9	25-2031 Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	130	\$25,820	\$38,420	8.77	4
10	41-4012 Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	120	\$26,930	\$43,640	8.59	2
11	47-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	100	\$29,470	\$41,910	7.84	4
12	23-1011 Lawyers	70	\$27,980	\$78,500	7.69	5
13	13-2011 Accountants & Auditors	90	\$30,210	\$48,170	7.67	4
14	51-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Production & Operating Workers	100	\$26,690	\$41,610	7.64	3
15	47-2111 Electricians	100	\$28,000	\$36,790	7.56	3
16	47-2152 Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	110	\$22,910	\$33,330	7.52	3
17	11-9199 Managers, All Other	30	\$49,070	\$74,340	7.28	3
18	11-9021 Construction Managers	60	\$36,650	\$50,830	6.91	4
19	11-9032 Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	30	\$49,560	\$61,780	6.88	5
20	11-9111 Medical & Health Services Managers	40	\$39,510	\$66,140	6.76	5
21	13-1199 Business Operations Specialists, All Other	60	\$30,450	\$52,000	6.52	3
22	49-1011 First-Line Supervisors, Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	60	\$30,500	\$44,900	6.28	4
23	11-2022 Sales Managers	30	\$37,100	\$61,290	6.00	4
24	43-6011 Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	80	\$21,440	\$29,340	5.98	4
25	25-2022 Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	60	\$27,500	\$40,870	5.93	4

Even a cursory look at the above chart reveals that many of the jobs with the best combination of demand and salary will require extensive training or experience. Sixteen of the "hottest" jobs fall in job zones 4 and 5, most of which require a college degree or lengthy experience. Eleven occupations on the list deal with some type of management or supervision. Three of them are in health related fields including the overall number one, Registered Nurse. For the jobseeker lacking a degree or much experience, the best options appear to be as a Truck Driver or Welder/Cutter. First Line Supervisors in the office, factory or construction trades will also be much in demand. The remaining occupations on the list are rather diverse, offering many pathways to success. However, the likelihood of a jobseeker landing a really good job increases dramatically according to the level of education and training. More education equals more money and a brighter future.



## Per Capita Income

Per capita income has long been used as a measure of overall economic health for a particular area. It is derived simply by dividing the total personal income for a given area by the total population for that same area. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is charged with tabulating this data on a quarterly and annual basis for the states and counties across the nation. As with any other data set, it is not a perfect statistic. Some biases always exist and should be noted. For example, a county or state with a particularly high concentration of children or senior citizens can have its per capita income skewed downward since these groups would be included in the population but would make little or no contribution to the total income. The reverse would be true if an area had an unusually low number of children or seniors. For the most part, though, it is a reliable measure and worthy of review.

Historically, Mississippi has had one of the lowest per capita income levels of any state. On average, the PCI for Mississippi is about three-quarters of the national figure. This ratio has held very steady over the past several years. The accompanying chart reveals that there are wide discrepancies in the level of income among the various counties and regions of the state. Only one county, Madison, exceeded the national per capita income level in 2005. Six counties had a PCI less than half the national figure of \$36,276. Some counties exhibited mixed signals when the data was analyzed. For example, Desoto County had the third highest PCI in 2005 but ranked 73rd in net growth over the last five years and 79th in percent growth. Issaquena, on the other hand, had the third lowest PCI in 2005, but ranked fourth in net growth and first in percent growth. All things considered, Lafayette County may have fared best, ranking seventh in income level, second in net growth and sixth in percent increase. Clarke County may have presented the bleakest picture, ranking next to last in PCI, dead last in net growth and next to last in percent growth.

Among the Metropolitan Statistical Areas, the Jackson MSA posted the best numbers. It ranked first in income level, first in net growth and first in percent increase. Gulfport-Biloxi had the second highest PCI but was third in net increase and last in percent growth. Pascagoula was third in income, last in net change and third in percent growth. Hattiesburg had the lowest PCI among the four, but was second in the other two categories. Comparing the WIA areas yields similar findings. Southcentral MS was first in income and in net increase, but second in percent growth. Mississippi Partnership posted the second highest PCI, but was second in net and third in percent change. Twin Districts came in last in net and percent growth, but had the third highest income level. Delta WIA recorded the lowest PCI but was third in net increase and first in percent of change.



## PER CAPITA INCOME- 2001-2005

Area name	2001 to 2005				RANK		
	2001	2005	Net Change	Pct Change	PCI 2005	Net Change	Pct Change
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>\$21,967</b>	<b>\$25,051</b>	<b>\$3,084</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>XXX</b>	<b>XXX</b>	<b>XXX</b>
Adams	\$21,434	\$24,713	\$3,279	15.3%	18	28	36
Alcorn	\$20,455	\$22,901	\$2,446	12.0%	32	53	64
Amite	\$18,922	\$21,433	\$2,511	13.3%	47	51	53
Attala	\$18,534	\$20,820	\$2,286	12.3%	54	62	62
Benton	\$16,098	\$18,463	\$2,365	14.7%	75	57	40
Bolivar	\$17,744	\$20,570	\$2,826	15.9%	57	41	32
Calhoun	\$21,286	\$24,551	\$3,265	15.3%	19	29	34
Carroll	\$19,245	\$22,375	\$3,130	16.3%	36	35	30
Chickasaw	\$18,964	\$21,789	\$2,825	14.9%	43	42	39
Choctaw	\$15,718	\$18,694	\$2,976	18.9%	73	39	16
Claiborne	\$15,651	\$17,603	\$1,952	12.5%	78	72	60
Clarke	\$18,727	\$19,705	\$978	5.2%	67	82	81
Clay	\$20,467	\$22,388	\$1,921	9.4%	35	74	75
Coahoma	\$21,074	\$23,892	\$2,818	13.4%	25	43	52
Copiah	\$18,227	\$20,368	\$2,141	11.7%	59	69	66
Covington	\$18,009	\$21,156	\$3,147	17.5%	51	34	24
DeSoto	\$27,686	\$29,623	\$1,937	7.0%	3	73	79
Forrest	\$23,085	\$24,868	\$1,783	7.7%	17	77	78
Franklin	\$16,767	\$19,021	\$2,254	13.4%	71	63	51
George	\$19,024	\$20,550	\$1,526	8.0%	58	75	77
Greene	\$14,745	\$17,195	\$2,450	16.6%	81	52	29
Grenada	\$20,595	\$23,752	\$3,157	15.3%	28	32	35
Hancock	\$22,680	\$23,795	\$1,115	4.9%	27	81	82
Harrison	\$24,586	\$27,014	\$2,428	9.9%	8	55	72
Hinds	\$26,006	\$29,680	\$3,674	14.1%	2	15	46
Holmes	\$14,395	\$18,395	\$4,000	27.8%	76	9	2
Humphreys	\$17,627	\$19,863	\$2,236	12.7%	65	65	58
Issaquena	\$12,835	\$17,464	\$4,629	36.1%	79	4	1
Itawamba	\$20,667	\$24,348	\$3,681	17.8%	22	14	23
Jackson	\$23,185	\$25,629	\$2,444	10.5%	14	54	70
Jasper	\$17,918	\$21,263	\$3,345	18.7%	48	24	20
Jefferson	\$13,018	\$15,271	\$2,253	17.3%	82	64	26
Jefferson Davis	\$16,577	\$20,179	\$3,602	21.7%	61	20	7
Jones	\$22,267	\$25,990	\$3,723	16.7%	12	13	28
Kemper	\$17,555	\$19,381	\$1,826	10.4%	70	78	71
Lafayette	\$22,344	\$27,361	\$5,017	22.5%	7	2	6
Lamar	\$21,653	\$26,007	\$4,354	20.1%	11	6	10
Lauderdale	\$23,276	\$26,578	\$3,302	14.2%	10	27	45
Lawrence	\$20,996	\$24,398	\$3,402	16.2%	21	22	31
Leake	\$19,884	\$22,241	\$2,357	11.9%	39	58	65
Lee	\$26,134	\$28,685	\$2,551	9.8%	6	49	73
Leflore	\$18,613	\$22,244	\$3,631	19.5%	38	17	13
Lincoln	\$21,261	\$23,592	\$2,331	11.0%	30	61	67
Lowndes	\$21,734	\$25,039	\$3,305	15.2%	15	26	37
Madison	\$32,513	\$38,307	\$5,794	17.8%	1	1	22
Marion	\$18,885	\$21,641	\$2,756	14.6%	44	45	41
Marshall	\$18,373	\$21,525	\$3,152	17.2%	46	33	27

## PER CAPITA INCOME- 2001-2005

Area name	2001 to 2005				RANK		
	2001	2005	Net Change	Pct Change	PCI 2005	Net Change	Pct Change
Monroe	\$19,854	\$23,644	\$3,790	19.1%	29	12	14
Montgomery	\$19,418	\$22,149	\$2,731	14.1%	40	46	47
Neshoba	\$23,094	\$26,704	\$3,610	15.6%	9	18	33
Newton	\$20,782	\$23,890	\$3,108	15.0%	26	37	38
Noxubee	\$17,116	\$18,950	\$1,834	10.7%	72	76	68
Oktibbeha	\$20,639	\$24,520	\$3,881	18.8%	20	11	18
Panola	\$18,255	\$20,908	\$2,653	14.5%	53	47	42
Pearl River	\$18,389	\$20,776	\$2,387	13.0%	56	56	56
Perry	\$16,487	\$18,661	\$2,174	13.2%	74	67	54
Pike	\$19,359	\$21,886	\$2,527	13.1%	41	50	55
Pontotoc	\$19,178	\$23,283	\$4,105	21.4%	31	8	9
Prentiss	\$17,286	\$19,492	\$2,206	12.8%	69	66	57
Quitman	\$16,847	\$20,058	\$3,211	19.1%	63	31	15
Rankin	\$27,006	\$29,564	\$2,558	9.5%	5	48	74
Scott	\$19,015	\$22,608	\$3,593	18.9%	34	21	17
Sharkey	\$16,611	\$20,218	\$3,607	21.7%	60	19	8
Simpson	\$20,378	\$25,006	\$4,628	22.7%	16	5	5
Smith	\$21,466	\$25,721	\$4,255	19.8%	13	7	11
Stone	\$19,172	\$23,924	\$4,752	24.8%	24	3	3
Sunflower	\$15,736	\$17,879	\$2,143	13.6%	77	68	50
Tallahatchie	\$16,821	\$20,809	\$3,988	23.7%	55	10	4
Tate	\$21,332	\$24,319	\$2,987	14.0%	23	38	49
Tippah	\$19,530	\$22,321	\$2,791	14.3%	37	44	44
Tishomingo	\$18,351	\$19,953	\$1,602	8.7%	64	79	76
Tunica	\$18,473	\$19,656	\$1,183	6.4%	68	80	80
Union	\$19,827	\$22,675	\$2,848	14.4%	33	40	43
Walthall	\$16,503	\$19,750	\$3,247	19.7%	66	30	12
Warren	\$25,959	\$29,601	\$3,642	14.0%	4	16	48
Washington	\$18,892	\$21,237	\$2,345	12.4%	49	59	61
Wayne	\$17,838	\$20,951	\$3,113	17.5%	52	36	25
Webster	\$18,141	\$20,084	\$1,943	10.7%	62	70	69
Wilkinson	\$15,467	\$17,424	\$1,957	12.7%	80	71	59
Winston	\$17,876	\$21,220	\$3,344	18.7%	50	25	19
Yalobusha	\$19,530	\$21,868	\$2,338	12.0%	42	60	63
Yazoo	\$18,259	\$21,630	\$3,371	18.5%	45	23	21

### MSA's

Gulfport-Biloxi	\$23,938	\$26,245	\$2,307	9.6%	2	3	4
Hattiesburg	\$21,984	\$24,683	\$2,699	12.3%	4	2	2
Jackson	\$26,480	\$30,277	\$3,797	14.3%	1	1	1
Pascagoula	\$22,652	\$24,943	\$2,291	10.1%	3	4	3

### WIA Areas

Delta	\$17,935	\$20,787	\$2,852	15.9%	4	3	1
Mississippi Partnership	\$21,569	\$24,627	\$3,058	14.2%	2	2	3
Southcentral MS Works	\$24,320	\$27,885	\$3,565	14.7%	1	1	2
Twin Districts	\$21,780	\$24,506	\$2,726	12.5%	3	4	4



## Sales Tax Collections

Sales tax collections are still another way to gauge an area's economic health. Since almost all goods and services are subject to the state sales tax, it is a pretty good indication of consumer spending. Increased consumer spending indicates increased earnings and reflects confidence in the current economic situation. It should be noted, however, that inherent biases may exist when comparing data between counties. The more populous cities and counties are generally home to a larger number of businesses. Residents of less populous areas often purchase goods and services in neighboring counties. Since the tax collections are tallied at the point of sale, that may skew the data in favor of the more urban areas.

A quick review of the accompanying chart reveals some interesting tendencies. Ten counties registered a decline in tax collections between FY 2002 and 2006. Some counties exhibited mixed signals when the data were analyzed. For example, Hinds County collected the most sales tax in FY 2006, but was fifth in net increase over 2002 and forty-sixth in percent growth. Stone County, on the other hand, was fortieth in collections but seventeenth in net change and first in percentage change. The huge increases could well be related to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina in neighboring counties to the south. Since so many businesses were destroyed or damaged in the coastal counties, people had to move northward to find places to purchase such things as food, clothing and building materials. George and Pearl River Counties also posted significant increases for the same reasons. Desoto and Rankin Counties may have recorded the best overall numbers. Desoto was fourth in collections, third in net growth and sixth in percent change. Rankin ranked third, second and eighth in the same categories. Issaquena may have fared worst of all. It posted a whopping 51.0 percent loss in tax collections between FY 2002 and 2006, ranking it at or near the bottom in all categories. Benton County didn't do much better, also ranking near the bottom across the board.

Among the four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Jackson was tops in collections and net growth but last in percent change. Pascagoula was just the opposite, coming in first in percent growth but last in the other two rankings. A lot more consistency was noted when comparing the four WIA areas. Twin Districts was first in all three rankings, but may have benefited from increased spending related to rebuilding the coastal region following the storm. Southcentral MS was second in all categories and was closest to the overall state average for percentage growth. The Mississippi Partnership area was close behind, finishing third across the board. The Delta WIA is by far the least populous of the WIA regions and was at a distinct disadvantage, finishing last in the rankings. Five of the ten counties which lost sales tax revenues over the time frame were located in the region.

## SALES TAX COLLECTED FY 2002 - FY 2006

			2002 to 2006		RANK		
	FY 2002	FY 2006	Net Change	Pct Change	Tax 2006	Net Change	Pct Change
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>\$2,199,917,532</b>	<b>\$2,807,349,648</b>	<b>\$607,432,116</b>	<b>27.6%</b>	<b>XXX</b>	<b>XXX</b>	<b>XXX</b>
Adams	\$29,407,798	\$35,926,814	\$6,519,016	22.2%	18	18	31
Alcorn	\$27,251,312	\$30,880,392	\$3,629,080	13.3%	21	26	47
Amite	\$2,807,282	\$3,013,160	\$205,878	7.3%	72	64	62
Attala	\$11,629,477	\$11,524,043	-\$105,434	-0.9%	45	74	73
Benton	\$1,461,271	\$1,266,472	-\$194,799	-13.3%	81	76	80
Bolivar	\$20,137,930	\$21,875,984	\$1,738,054	8.6%	28	42	60
Calhoun	\$4,947,665	\$5,459,091	\$511,426	10.3%	58	58	54
Carroll	\$1,642,346	\$1,643,667	\$1,321	0.1%	80	72	72
Chickasaw	\$7,800,436	\$8,748,231	\$947,795	12.2%	53	50	48
Choctaw	\$3,151,878	\$2,398,111	-\$753,767	-23.9%	74	80	81
Claiborne	\$2,652,340	\$3,041,777	\$389,437	14.7%	71	59	45
Clarke	\$5,011,601	\$4,791,418	-\$220,183	-4.4%	61	77	77
Clay	\$9,656,938	\$11,416,028	\$1,759,090	18.2%	46	41	36
Coahoma	\$18,639,146	\$17,866,521	-\$772,625	-4.1%	31	81	76
Copiah	\$10,333,910	\$12,041,190	\$1,707,280	16.5%	42	43	41
Covington	\$6,929,533	\$10,507,911	\$3,578,378	51.6%	49	27	9
DeSoto	\$94,382,787	\$149,155,525	\$54,772,738	58.0%	4	3	6
Forrest	\$63,582,856	\$92,549,545	\$28,966,689	45.6%	8	6	12
Franklin	\$1,725,062	\$1,901,617	\$176,555	10.2%	78	65	55
George	\$8,090,868	\$13,946,341	\$5,855,473	72.4%	37	20	3
Greene	\$1,997,057	\$2,974,669	\$977,612	49.0%	73	49	11
Grenada	\$20,492,313	\$23,806,642	\$3,314,329	16.2%	25	29	42
Hancock	\$25,366,919	\$25,439,931	\$73,012	0.3%	24	67	70
Harrison	\$202,538,820	\$284,552,847	\$82,014,027	40.5%	2	1	14
Hinds	\$261,676,170	\$296,681,673	\$35,005,503	13.4%	1	5	46
Holmes	\$5,817,156	\$5,886,918	\$69,762	1.2%	57	68	67
Humphreys	\$3,843,246	\$4,062,397	\$219,151	5.7%	64	62	64
Issaquena	\$518,852	\$254,032	-\$264,820	-51.0%	82	78	82
Itawamba	\$7,934,272	\$9,743,454	\$1,809,182	22.8%	51	40	29
Jackson	\$74,656,574	\$118,103,542	\$43,446,968	58.2%	5	4	5
Jasper	\$5,854,863	\$7,897,381	\$2,042,518	34.9%	55	38	18
Jefferson	\$1,416,387	\$1,667,148	\$250,761	17.7%	79	61	38
Jefferson Davis	\$3,676,422	\$4,757,851	\$1,081,429	29.4%	62	46	22
Jones	\$52,305,406	\$71,877,718	\$19,572,312	37.4%	11	9	15
Kemper	\$2,293,117	\$2,142,325	-\$150,792	-6.6%	77	75	78
Lafayette	\$27,678,327	\$37,986,810	\$10,308,483	37.2%	17	13	16
Lamar	\$47,994,727	\$75,201,394	\$27,206,667	56.7%	10	8	7
Lauderdale	\$73,075,784	\$89,495,662	\$16,419,878	22.5%	9	11	30
Lawrence	\$3,207,467	\$3,783,963	\$576,496	18.0%	66	57	37
Leake	\$9,812,989	\$10,700,130	\$887,141	9.0%	48	52	58
Lee	\$95,195,436	\$109,827,580	\$14,632,144	15.4%	6	12	43
Leflore	\$24,543,008	\$28,267,142	\$3,724,134	15.2%	22	25	44
Lincoln	\$26,403,344	\$34,749,807	\$8,346,463	31.6%	19	15	19
Lowndes	\$54,122,962	\$60,196,150	\$6,073,188	11.2%	12	19	53
Madison	\$79,453,478	\$108,339,020	\$28,885,542	36.4%	7	7	17
Marion	\$15,748,912	\$23,742,081	\$7,993,169	50.8%	26	16	10
Marshall	\$10,208,598	\$13,261,267	\$3,052,669	29.9%	38	30	20

## SALES TAX COLLECTED FY 2002 - FY 2006

			2002 to 2006		RANK		
	FY 2002	FY 2006	Net Change	Pct Change	Tax 2006	Net Change	Pct Change
Monroe	\$16,518,868	\$18,461,521	\$1,942,653	11.8%	29	39	51
Montgomery	\$5,610,409	\$6,274,280	\$663,871	11.8%	56	55	50
Neshoba	\$19,638,106	\$23,405,978	\$3,767,872	19.2%	27	24	35
Newton	\$7,736,390	\$9,866,637	\$2,130,247	27.5%	50	35	24
Noxubee	\$3,886,735	\$3,962,503	\$75,768	1.9%	65	66	66
Oktibbeha	\$27,144,440	\$32,933,397	\$5,788,957	21.3%	20	21	32
Panola	\$21,268,751	\$26,821,193	\$5,552,442	26.1%	23	22	25
Pearl River	\$23,302,676	\$40,825,866	\$17,523,190	75.2%	16	10	2
Perry	\$2,532,893	\$3,650,632	\$1,117,739	44.1%	67	44	13
Pike	\$32,774,311	\$41,218,329	\$8,444,018	25.8%	15	14	26
Pontotoc	\$9,960,551	\$12,923,684	\$2,963,133	29.7%	39	31	21
Prentiss	\$10,603,185	\$11,619,234	\$1,016,049	9.6%	44	48	57
Quitman	\$2,231,656	\$2,142,864	-\$88,792	-4.0%	76	73	75
Rankin	\$111,988,403	\$174,848,512	\$62,860,109	56.1%	3	2	8
Scott	\$12,769,662	\$15,392,763	\$2,623,101	20.5%	34	32	33
Sharkey	\$2,149,665	\$2,365,610	\$215,945	10.0%	75	63	56
Simpson	\$13,445,124	\$16,870,417	\$3,425,293	25.5%	32	28	27
Smith	\$2,986,336	\$5,039,949	\$2,053,613	68.8%	59	37	4
Stone	\$5,508,115	\$12,448,410	\$6,940,295	126.0%	40	17	1
Sunflower	\$11,055,211	\$11,996,062	\$940,851	8.5%	43	51	61
Tallahatchie	\$3,053,809	\$3,058,077	\$4,268	0.1%	70	71	71
Tate	\$13,321,896	\$14,161,798	\$839,902	6.3%	36	53	63
Tippah	\$8,590,050	\$8,621,634	\$31,584	0.4%	54	69	69
Tishomingo	\$8,194,589	\$8,913,561	\$718,972	8.8%	52	54	59
Tunica	\$18,296,862	\$17,877,293	-\$419,569	-2.3%	30	79	74
Union	\$12,960,130	\$15,139,279	\$2,179,149	16.8%	35	34	40
Walthall	\$3,813,145	\$4,900,122	\$1,086,977	28.5%	60	45	23
Warren	\$41,844,461	\$46,885,357	\$5,040,896	12.0%	13	23	49
Washington	\$44,115,566	\$45,196,111	\$1,080,545	2.4%	14	47	65
Wayne	\$12,884,739	\$15,432,713	\$2,547,974	19.8%	33	33	34
Webster	\$3,426,892	\$3,451,209	\$24,317	0.7%	68	70	68
Wilkinson	\$2,918,717	\$3,252,492	\$333,775	11.4%	69	60	52
Winston	\$8,640,387	\$10,745,323	\$2,104,936	24.4%	47	36	28
Yalobusha	\$3,506,006	\$4,104,125	\$598,119	17.1%	63	56	39
Yazoo	\$13,947,218	\$12,367,568	-\$1,579,650	-11.3%	41	82	79

### MSA's

Gulfport-Biloxi	233,413,854	322,441,188	\$89,027,334	38.1%	2	2	3
Hattiesburg	114,110,476	171,401,571	\$57,291,095	50.2%	3	3	2
Jackson	476,897,085	608,780,812	\$131,883,727	27.7%	1	1	4
Pascagoula	82,747,442	132,049,883	\$49,302,441	59.6%	4	4	1

### WIA Areas

Delta	\$177,313,204	\$189,313,871	\$12,000,667	6.8%	4	4	4
Mississippi Partnership	\$508,277,810	\$626,981,344	\$118,703,534	23.4%	3	3	3
Southcentral MS Works	\$639,814,617	\$801,488,966	\$161,674,349	25.3%	2	2	2
Twin Districts	\$686,295,365	\$964,743,694	\$278,448,329	40.6%	1	1	1



## Index of Economic Stability

Having looked at various economic indicators, the question remained of how to put it all in perspective. Indexing is a common statistical procedure that has been used for decades as a means of comparative measurement. It was decided to develop five separate indexes from the economic indicators highlighted in this publication. Using the state as a base of 1.000, each county, MSA, and WIA area was “indexed” vis a vis the state base for each series selected. In some cases the latest available data were used and in others a five year growth rate was used. This allowed for a mixture of long term trends and current data. The method used and rationale for selecting each series indexed follows.

The first data set selected was Nonfarm Employment Growth. The state total for 2006 was divided by the total for 2002. This yielded a growth factor of 1.0167. A similar factor was developed for each area. The local factor was divided by the state factor to obtain the index. For example, if the growth factor for a particular area was .995 the resulting index would be .995 divided by 1.0167 or .979. The same methodology was utilized for Population Growth and Sales Tax Growth. One of the current data series chosen was Labor Force Percent Employed. Percent employed was selected instead of the more commonly reported percent unemployed because the larger numbers produced less volatility in the index. Also, since lower is better when looking at percent unemployed, the ratio would have to be reversed to produce the desired effect of measuring it versus the state. The other current series selected was Per Capita Income. In this case the area's PCI was divided by the statewide figure to obtain the index. The five separate indexes were then summed into a composite index. The counties, MSA's and WIA areas were then ranked according to this composite score. Hopefully, this composite index takes into account the strengths and weaknesses of each entity and produces a method by which valid comparisons can be made between areas.

Looking at the ten counties with the highest composite index yielded one or two surprises. Madison County as the overall number one was not unexpected, given its phenomenal growth in nonfarm employment and the state's highest per capita income. Stone County as number two was a different story. Benefiting from efforts to rebuild the coast after Katrina, it rode huge increases in nonfarm employment and sales tax revenues to gain the bridesmaid spot. For similar reasons, Pearl River and George Counties also made the top ten list as evacuees from the storm helped boost business and population. The others among the elite were not surprising, boasting solid scores in all categories.

Lincoln, Hinds and Scott Counties could be considered the “average” counties in terms of economic stability. In each case, their composite index was very near the statewide base of 5.000. Among the metropolitan areas, Hattiesburg came out on top with an above-average index in four of the five categories. The Jackson MSA was a very close second, posting indexes above 1.000 across the board. Southcentral Mississippi Works scored highest among the WIA areas with per capita income as its strongest indicator. Twin Districts and Mississippi Partnership were close behind with indexes very near the statewide base. Delta WIA was a distant fourth, with particularly low scores on income and sales tax collections.



## Index of Economic Stability

	Five Year Nonfarm Employment Growth	Labor Force Percent Employed 2006	Per Capita Income 2005	Five Year Total Population Growth	Five Year Sales Tax Growth	Composite Index	Rank
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>xxx</b>
Madison	1.396	1.022	1.529	1.106	1.069	6.122	1
Stone	1.173	0.979	0.955	1.088	1.771	5.966	2
DeSoto	1.217	1.028	1.183	1.200	1.238	5.866	3
Rankin	1.113	1.028	1.180	1.099	1.223	5.644	4
Lamar	1.188	1.027	1.038	1.106	1.228	5.587	5
Lafayette	1.135	1.023	1.092	1.027	1.075	5.352	6
Pearl River	1.020	1.002	0.829	1.115	1.373	5.339	7
George	1.092	0.967	0.820	1.072	1.351	5.302	8
Jones	1.130	1.022	1.037	1.009	1.077	5.276	9
Forrest	1.047	1.016	0.993	1.025	1.141	5.221	10
Jackson	1.002	0.985	1.023	0.967	1.240	5.217	11
Smith	0.867	1.013	1.027	0.985	1.323	5.215	12
Pontotoc	1.148	1.009	0.929	1.048	1.017	5.151	13
Neshoba	1.052	1.019	1.066	1.030	0.934	5.101	14
Covington	1.015	1.010	0.845	1.020	1.188	5.078	15
Itawamba	1.134	1.005	0.972	1.000	0.962	5.074	16
Simpson	1.083	1.013	0.998	0.994	0.983	5.071	17
Marion	0.990	1.002	0.864	1.004	1.181	5.042	18
Lee	0.961	1.008	1.145	1.019	0.904	5.038	19
Warren	0.968	1.009	1.182	0.988	0.878	5.025	20
Lauderdale	1.026	1.004	1.061	0.973	0.960	5.024	21
Lincoln	1.029	1.008	0.942	1.009	1.031	5.019	22
Hinds	0.943	1.011	1.185	0.986	0.888	5.013	23
Scott	1.110	1.014	0.902	1.002	0.945	4.973	24
Newton	0.970	1.010	0.954	1.008	0.999	4.941	25
Pike	1.047	1.002	0.874	1.018	0.986	4.927	26
Jasper	1.022	1.009	0.849	0.982	1.057	4.918	27
Oktibbeha	0.998	1.012	0.979	0.977	0.951	4.917	28
Harrison	0.883	0.958	1.078	0.890	1.101	4.909	29
Greene	1.065	0.990	0.686	0.975	1.167	4.883	30
Panola	1.053	0.989	0.835	1.000	0.988	4.865	31
Perry	1.011	1.002	0.745	0.974	1.129	4.861	32
Lowndes	1.021	1.000	1.000	0.967	0.872	4.859	33
Lawrence	0.977	0.990	0.974	0.988	0.924	4.853	34
Grenada	1.002	1.003	0.948	0.981	0.910	4.844	35
Union	0.988	1.008	0.905	1.027	0.915	4.844	36
Winston	1.034	0.997	0.847	0.972	0.975	4.824	37
Adams	0.914	0.997	0.987	0.960	0.957	4.815	38
Alcorn	0.995	0.994	0.914	1.007	0.888	4.797	39
Walthall	0.977	1.001	0.788	1.013	1.007	4.786	40
Marshall	0.898	0.989	0.859	1.003	1.018	4.767	41
Monroe	0.990	0.977	0.944	0.977	0.876	4.763	42
Copiah	1.031	0.998	0.813	1.000	0.913	4.755	43
Wayne	0.991	1.005	0.836	0.980	0.939	4.750	44
Tippah	1.053	0.999	0.891	0.997	0.787	4.727	45
Tate	0.891	1.001	0.971	1.028	0.833	4.723	46

## Index of Economic Stability

	Five Year Nonfarm Employment Growth	Labor Force Percent Employed 2006	Per Capita Income 2005	Five Year Total Population Growth	Five Year Sales Tax Growth	Composite Index	Rank
Calhoun	0.908	0.988	0.980	0.969	0.865	4.710	47
Leflore	0.970	0.978	0.888	0.959	0.903	4.698	48
Jefferson Davis	0.918	0.989	0.806	0.957	1.014	4.684	49
Franklin	1.064	0.999	0.759	0.983	0.864	4.669	50
Holmes	1.215	0.959	0.734	0.958	0.793	4.659	51
Tallahatchie	1.110	0.990	0.831	0.938	0.785	4.653	52
Chickasaw	0.959	0.976	0.870	0.968	0.879	4.651	53
Yalobusha	0.876	0.992	0.873	0.992	0.917	4.650	54
Montgomery	0.936	0.974	0.884	0.969	0.876	4.640	55
Carroll	0.984	1.007	0.893	0.959	0.784	4.627	56
Bolivar	1.015	0.981	0.821	0.958	0.851	4.626	57
Amite	0.929	1.006	0.856	0.981	0.841	4.614	58
Wilkinson	1.060	0.985	0.696	0.981	0.873	4.594	59
Tishomingo	0.957	0.993	0.796	0.986	0.852	4.585	60
Webster	1.029	0.984	0.802	0.962	0.789	4.566	61
Clay	0.814	0.954	0.894	0.956	0.926	4.543	62
Leake	0.750	1.000	0.888	1.033	0.854	4.525	63
Prentiss	0.887	0.995	0.778	0.986	0.859	4.505	64
Coahoma	0.874	0.967	0.954	0.937	0.751	4.483	65
Sunflower	1.000	0.973	0.714	0.927	0.850	4.463	66
Washington	0.900	0.968	0.848	0.937	0.803	4.455	67
Tunica	0.851	0.985	0.785	1.060	0.766	4.446	68
Humphreys	0.898	0.973	0.793	0.951	0.828	4.443	69
Sharkey	0.888	0.965	0.807	0.915	0.862	4.438	70
Kemper	0.999	0.984	0.774	0.947	0.732	4.436	71
Hancock	0.824	0.964	0.950	0.891	0.786	4.415	72
Quitman	0.928	0.981	0.801	0.919	0.752	4.381	73
Yazoo	0.861	0.978	0.863	0.982	0.695	4.380	74
Noxubee	0.894	0.951	0.756	0.960	0.799	4.360	75
Claiborne	0.822	0.957	0.703	0.973	0.899	4.353	76
Benton	0.976	0.972	0.737	0.986	0.679	4.350	77
Clarke	0.816	1.005	0.787	0.974	0.749	4.331	78
Attala	0.752	0.987	0.831	0.983	0.777	4.330	79
Jefferson	0.903	0.932	0.610	0.936	0.922	4.303	80
Choctaw	0.993	0.990	0.746	0.953	0.596	4.279	81
Issaquena	1.025	0.958	0.697	0.835	0.384	3.898	82

### MSA's

Hattiesburg	1.081	1.019	0.985	1.046	1.177	5.309	1
Jackson	1.045	1.017	1.209	1.033	1.000	5.304	2
Pascagoula	1.009	0.984	0.996	0.980	1.251	5.220	3
Gulfport-Biloxi	0.884	0.960	1.048	0.901	1.083	4.876	4

### WIA Areas

Southcentral MS Works	1.025	1.011	1.113	1.018	0.982	5.149	1
Twin Districts	0.988	0.994	0.978	0.982	1.102	5.043	2
Mississippi Partnership	1.012	1.004	0.983	1.024	0.967	4.990	3
Delta	0.952	0.977	0.830	0.952	0.837	4.548	4

## Summary and Conclusions

To be brutally honest, there are some disturbing economic trends taking place across the Magnolia State. Population and labor force growth rates lag well behind the national pace. Per capita income is still considerably below the national average. Job growth has been stymied somewhat by natural disasters and a sluggish national economy. There are also some positive signs, such as the healthy increase in sales tax revenues over the past few years. The impending location of a second automobile manufacturing facility within the state is a sign of confidence from the business community that Mississippi is still a viable place to do business. In fairness, it must also be noted that storm damage to businesses in the coastal counties may have skewed the trends downward. Take away the population and job losses caused by the hurricane and the picture is markedly brighter,

A review of employment by industry sector also reveals some long-term trends. Goods producing industries continue to decrease in employment, while service providing businesses are adding jobs at a rapid pace. Numerous manufacturing facilities have closed, with many opting to relocate offshore. This was particularly true for nondurable goods products such as apparel and packaged foods. Durable goods manufacturing was less affected, mainly due to the addition of several thousand jobs in the area of transportation equipment. There were regional differences also. The Delta region lost jobs across almost all sectors while the Southcentral Mississippi are posted gains in almost all industry groups. Mississippi Partnership saw heavy job losses in goods producing industries but had positive growth in most other sectors. Take away the Katrina-related losses and the Twin Districts would have shown above average job growth.

Another trend emerges when looking at population and labor force changes for the various local areas. Generally speaking, the less populous rural counties are losing jobs and people while their more urbanized counterparts are experiencing solid and sometimes phenomenal growth. The aforementioned decline in manufacturing jobs is partly to blame as many of the manufacturing facilities which have closed or downsized were located in the smaller counties. The job losses have pushed residents to relocate to the larger cities where jobs were more plentiful. Also, the service providing industries which have been adding jobs are more often located in the urban areas.

Trending all the data over the past five years leads to a somewhat bleak outlook. However, there is evidence of positive change when data for the most recent two years is analyzed. To quote from the recently released *Mississippi Economic Review and Outlook, June 2007*, "Mississippi's economy is expected to outpace the rest of the nation in 2007...total payroll employment, building permits, general fund revenues, retail sales and gaming revenue... from April 2006 to March 2007, all outperformed the 2005-06 period, and for the most part are trending upwards."\* In short, the state's economy is moving in the right direction. As the Gulf Coast rebuilds and new industry continues to come to other parts of the state, Mississippi should start to see changes for the better. The rural counties, particularly those in the Delta region, may continue to face an uphill battle, but the prognosis for most other parts of Mississippi is definitely slanted toward a healthier economy.

\*As cited, page 10