



2018

REFLECTIONS

An In-Depth Look at Mississippi's Economy

MDES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Helping Mississippians Get Jobs

2018
Reflections

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Introduction

This publication is designed as an aid to state and local Workforce Development Boards in understanding some of the changes in the economy of Mississippi. Numerous ways to measure economic activity exist, but in many cases the data are not available below state and national levels. By focusing on five common measures available at sub-state levels, it is hoped that some light can be shed on what is occurring down to the lowest possible geographies.

Data is provided where possible at the following levels: Statewide, County, Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and Workforce Development Area (WDA). The five areas of focus include: population, labor force, employment by industry, per capita income and sales tax revenues. The general approach is 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. The Mississippi Department of Employment Security (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 (LMI) 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 Department of Revenue annual reports.

A number of other data sets and publications that might be of further use to Workforce Development Board staff are produced periodically by the LMI Department. These can be accessed at our website – mdes.ms.gov. Inquiries regarding the data and analysis found in this publication should be directed to lmi-info@mdes.ms.gov.



Population

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 2010 Census has grown 0.6% compared to 6.0% nationally.

Looking at the state internally, similar trends and patterns can be discerned. Seventy-two percent of Mississippi's counties lost population between 2014 and 2018 according to Census Bureau estimates. Of the fifty-nine counties with negative population change, twelve posted unemployment rates lower than the statewide average in 2018. Conversely, among the twenty-three counties with increases in population, only eight (Franklin, George, Hancock, Jackson, Stone, Tate, Yalobusha, and Yazoo Counties) had jobless rates higher than the state average of 4.8%.

There also appeared to be a correlation between the overall size of a county's population and its tendency to gain or lose citizens. Of the fifty-nine counties losing population, forty-nine of them had less than 35,000 residents. 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 equal more jobs, which in turn

equal more people.

Counties with the largest decrease (negative net change) in population were Hinds, Lauderdale, and Washington Counties. The largest increases (positive net change) were in DeSoto, Harrison, Rankin, and Madison Counties.

Among the Metropolitan Statistical Areas, the Gulfport-Biloxi-Pascagoula MSA posted the best ranking of first in net population change and percent change. All three coastal counties showed an increase of population since 2014. The Hattiesburg MSA ranked second in net change and in percent change. The Jackson MSA ranked lowest in net change and in percent change.

Comparing the Workforce Development Areas yields similar findings. Twin Districts ranked highest in population, and second in both net change and percent change. MS Partnership posted the highest rankings in net change and percent change. Both Twin Districts WDA and MS Partnership WDA had population increases each year from 2014 to 2018. Southcentral MS Works ranked third in all categories, and the Delta WDA ranked last in all three categories.

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 out-migration to other states and to metropolitan areas within the state.

Total Population

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 to 2018		RANK		
						Net Chg	Pct Chg	POP 2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
MISSISSIPPI	2,990,623	2,988,693	2,988,298	2,989,663	2,986,530	(4,093)	(0.1%)	XXX	XXX	XXX
Adams	32,072	31,570	31,563	31,337	31,192	(880)	(2.7%)	27	71	57
Alcorn	37,250	37,273	37,249	37,203	36,925	(325)	(0.9%)	20	46	29
Amite	12,598	12,546	12,426	12,444	12,326	(272)	(2.2%)	64	41	51
Attala	18,825	18,673	18,559	18,482	18,365	(460)	(2.4%)	51	54	53
Benton	8,296	8,157	8,253	8,286	8,271	(25)	(0.3%)	76	24	24
Bolivar	33,822	33,279	32,631	31,895	31,333	(2,489)	(7.4%)	26	79	79
Calhoun	14,702	14,639	14,555	14,525	14,436	(266)	(1.8%)	59	39	46
Carroll	10,233	10,201	10,182	10,117	9,911	(322)	(3.1%)	71	45	58
Chickasaw	17,402	17,401	17,233	17,189	17,171	(231)	(1.3%)	54	36	39
Choctaw	8,386	8,370	8,298	8,272	8,278	(108)	(1.3%)	75	28	37
Claiborne	9,168	9,214	9,163	9,053	9,002	(166)	(1.8%)	73	32	47
Clarke	16,279	16,029	15,904	15,823	15,604	(675)	(4.1%)	57	64	64
Clay	20,138	20,004	19,853	19,658	19,386	(752)	(3.7%)	48	68	62
Coahoma	24,843	24,509	23,843	23,185	22,628	(2,215)	(8.9%)	42	78	82
Copiah	28,980	28,869	28,663	28,548	28,543	(437)	(1.5%)	32	53	42
Covington	19,151	19,238	19,168	19,045	18,853	(298)	(1.6%)	49	43	44
DeSoto	170,773	173,265	175,709	178,914	182,001	11,228	6.6%	3	1	1
Forrest	75,895	75,705	75,687	75,263	75,036	(859)	(1.1%)	9	70	34
Franklin	7,778	7,732	7,709	7,779	7,788	10	0.1%	78	23	21
George	23,315	23,373	23,638	23,973	24,250	935	4.0%	39	10	5
Greene	14,342	13,545	13,559	13,538	13,586	(756)	(5.3%)	61	69	73
Grenada	21,605	21,452	21,224	21,056	21,055	(550)	(2.5%)	45	60	54
Hancock	45,973	46,292	46,646	47,020	47,334	1,361	3.0%	16	8	10
Harrison	198,344	200,671	202,531	204,933	206,650	8,306	4.2%	2	2	4
Hinds	245,278	244,241	242,232	240,033	237,085	(8,193)	(3.3%)	1	82	60
Holmes	18,515	18,371	18,019	17,849	17,622	(893)	(4.8%)	53	73	67
Humphreys	8,795	8,705	8,589	8,349	8,257	(538)	(6.1%)	77	59	77
Issaquena	1,387	1,337	1,326	1,341	1,308	(79)	(5.7%)	82	25	74
Itawamba	23,399	23,548	23,422	23,512	23,517	118	0.5%	40	18	18
Jackson	141,439	141,381	141,603	142,369	143,277	1,838	1.3%	5	7	14
Jasper	16,531	16,548	16,581	16,556	16,428	(103)	(0.6%)	55	27	26
Jefferson	7,579	7,501	7,311	7,233	7,106	(473)	(6.2%)	79	55	78
Jefferson Davis	11,825	11,643	11,450	11,321	11,234	(591)	(5.0%)	66	62	70
Jones	68,405	68,630	68,462	68,312	68,461	56	0.1%	10	20	23
Kemper	10,230	10,116	10,043	10,119	10,027	(203)	(2.0%)	68	34	49
Lafayette	52,030	52,743	53,492	54,237	54,793	2,763	5.3%	14	5	2
Lamar	60,089	60,881	61,272	61,426	62,447	2,358	3.9%	11	6	6
Lauderdale	79,266	78,336	77,366	76,330	75,317	(3,949)	(5.0%)	8	80	69
Lawrence	12,602	12,672	12,792	12,631	12,455	(147)	(1.2%)	62	30	35
Leake	23,179	22,779	22,795	22,832	22,763	(416)	(1.8%)	41	51	45
Lee	84,761	84,743	84,834	85,034	85,202	441	0.5%	7	16	17
Leflore	30,716	30,261	29,799	29,324	28,919	(1,797)	(5.9%)	29	77	75
Lincoln	34,739	34,524	34,373	34,320	34,205	(534)	(1.5%)	23	58	43
Lowndes	59,813	59,695	59,558	59,189	58,930	(883)	(1.5%)	12	72	41
Madison	100,860	102,475	103,892	104,632	105,630	4,770	4.7%	6	4	3
Marion	25,682	25,411	25,100	25,103	24,715	(967)	(3.8%)	38	74	63

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

Total Population

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 to 2018		RANK		
						Net Chg	Pct Chg	POP 2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Marshall	36,173	35,892	35,786	35,635	35,451	(722)	(2.0%)	22	66	50
Monroe	36,062	35,827	35,897	35,852	35,564	(498)	(1.4%)	21	56	40
Montgomery	10,361	10,194	10,236	10,175	10,023	(338)	(3.3%)	69	47	59
Neshoba	29,444	29,463	29,455	29,393	29,125	(319)	(1.1%)	28	44	33
Newton	21,714	21,574	21,467	21,424	21,443	(271)	(1.2%)	44	40	36
Noxubee	11,063	10,935	10,876	10,732	10,535	(528)	(4.8%)	67	57	66
Oktibbeha	49,081	49,516	49,532	49,675	49,599	518	1.1%	15	12	15
Panola	34,455	34,199	34,241	34,141	34,178	(277)	(0.8%)	24	42	28
Pearl River	55,134	54,947	55,037	55,239	55,387	253	0.5%	13	17	19
Perry	12,051	12,069	12,057	12,030	11,931	(120)	(1.0%)	65	29	32
Pike	39,957	39,927	39,638	39,602	39,563	(394)	(1.0%)	19	49	31
Pontotoc	30,795	30,857	31,452	31,640	31,833	1,038	3.4%	25	9	9
Prentiss	25,408	25,441	25,395	25,241	25,315	(93)	(0.4%)	37	26	25
Quitman	7,691	7,514	7,368	7,236	7,051	(640)	(8.3%)	80	63	81
Rankin	148,425	149,429	151,527	152,919	153,902	5,477	3.7%	4	3	7
Scott	28,552	28,446	28,359	28,429	28,287	(265)	(0.9%)	33	38	30
Sharkey	4,613	4,567	4,516	4,423	4,377	(236)	(5.1%)	81	37	71
Simpson	27,508	27,166	26,991	26,942	26,758	(750)	(2.7%)	35	67	56
Smith	16,212	16,077	15,945	16,081	16,002	(210)	(1.3%)	56	35	38
Stone	18,086	18,269	18,180	18,624	18,717	631	3.5%	50	11	8
Sunflower	27,407	26,879	26,495	26,146	25,735	(1,672)	(6.1%)	36	75	76
Tallahatchie	14,705	14,599	14,367	14,145	13,987	(718)	(4.9%)	60	65	68
Tate	28,253	28,471	28,322	28,660	28,759	506	1.8%	30	13	11
Tippah	21,969	22,005	22,041	21,942	21,995	26	0.1%	43	22	22
Tishomingo	19,427	19,483	19,448	19,577	19,454	27	0.1%	47	21	20
Tunica	10,495	10,267	10,144	10,002	9,944	(551)	(5.3%)	70	61	72
Union	28,149	28,285	28,274	28,466	28,606	457	1.6%	31	14	12
Walthall	14,850	14,607	14,561	14,523	14,465	(385)	(2.6%)	58	48	55
Warren	47,944	47,507	46,996	46,752	46,176	(1,768)	(3.7%)	17	76	61
Washington	49,012	47,965	47,186	46,202	45,063	(3,949)	(8.1%)	18	81	80
Wayne	20,453	20,491	20,451	20,416	20,298	(155)	(0.8%)	46	31	27
Webster	9,983	9,863	9,749	9,757	9,788	(195)	(2.0%)	72	33	48
Wilkinson	9,187	9,090	9,024	8,858	8,792	(395)	(4.3%)	74	50	65
Winston	18,601	18,446	18,336	18,242	18,165	(436)	(2.3%)	52	52	52
Yalobusha	12,308	12,463	12,467	12,474	12,392	84	0.7%	63	19	16
Yazoo	27,805	27,415	27,925	28,478	28,248	443	1.6%	34	15	13

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	385,756	388,344	390,780	394,322	397,261	11,505	3.0%	2	1	1
Hattiesburg	148,035	148,655	149,016	148,719	149,414	1,379	0.9%	3	2	2
Jackson	578,856	579,595	581,230	581,552	580,166	1,310	0.2%	1	3	3

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	276,689	272,653	268,706	264,355	260,313	(16,376)	(5.9%)	4	4	4
MS Partnership	875,013	877,641	880,050	883,625	885,809	10,796	1.2%	2	1	1
SC MS Works	807,330	806,485	806,786	806,084	803,236	(4,094)	(0.5%)	3	3	3
Twin Districts	1,031,591	1,031,914	1,032,756	1,035,599	1,037,172	5,581	0.5%	1	2	2

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

Population Demographics

	POPULATION		% FEMALE		% MALE		% WHITE		% BLACK		% OTHER		% HISPANIC	
	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018
MISSISSIPPI	2,990,623	2,986,530	51.4	51.5	48.6	48.5	59.6	59.1	37.5	37.8	2.8	3.1	3.0	3.4
Adams	32,072	31,192	49.1	47.9	50.9	52.1	44.6	44.8	53.4	53.2	2.0	2.1	8.7	11.3
Alcorn	37,250	36,925	51.1	51.2	48.9	48.8	85.9	85.6	12.4	12.4	1.7	2.1	2.9	3.4
Amite	12,598	12,326	51.5	51.6	48.5	48.4	57.7	58.1	41.2	40.6	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.4
Attala	18,825	18,365	52.6	52.6	47.4	47.4	55.8	55.2	42.9	43.3	1.4	1.5	1.9	2.1
Benton	8,296	8,271	50.1	50.4	49.9	49.6	62.1	62.7	36.2	35.4	1.7	1.9	2.5	2.8
Bolivar	33,822	31,333	53.2	53.5	46.8	46.5	33.6	34.1	64.7	64.1	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.2
Calhoun	14,702	14,436	52.2	51.9	47.8	48.1	70.4	69.8	28.1	28.5	1.5	1.7	5.6	6.2
Carroll	10,233	9,911	49.4	49.4	50.6	50.6	64.9	65.5	33.7	32.9	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.7
Chickasaw	17,402	17,171	51.4	50.9	48.6	49.1	54.3	52.9	43.7	44.4	1.9	2.7	4.2	5.3
Choctaw	8,386	8,278	51.5	51.1	48.5	48.9	69.2	67.9	29.2	30.0	1.6	2.1	1.5	1.6
Claiborne	9,168	9,002	52.6	52.6	47.4	47.4	13.2	12.0	85.3	86.1	1.6	2.0	1.4	1.4
Clarke	16,279	15,604	52.4	53.2	47.6	46.8	64.5	64.0	34.3	34.6	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.1
Clay	20,138	19,386	53.0	53.2	47.0	46.8	40.1	39.7	58.7	58.9	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.6
Coahoma	24,843	22,628	54.0	53.7	46.0	46.3	22.6	21.5	76.0	77.0	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7
Copiah	28,980	28,543	51.9	51.9	48.1	48.1	46.8	46.4	51.6	51.8	1.6	1.8	2.9	3.6
Covington	19,151	18,853	51.1	51.3	48.9	48.7	62.7	62.1	35.9	36.1	1.4	1.8	2.4	2.4
DeSoto	170,773	182,001	51.5	51.8	48.5	48.2	72.2	67.7	24.6	29.0	3.2	3.3	4.8	5.1
Forrest	75,895	75,036	52.2	52.5	47.8	47.5	59.7	59.2	37.4	37.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.9
Franklin	7,778	7,788	51.4	50.8	48.6	49.2	63.9	63.5	34.9	34.8	1.2	1.7	1.0	1.1
George	23,315	24,250	49.4	49.4	50.6	50.6	90.0	89.7	8.1	7.9	2.0	2.4	2.5	3.2
Greene	14,342	13,586	40.6	42.2	59.4	57.8	71.9	73.1	26.9	25.5	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.3
Grenada	21,605	21,055	52.4	52.4	47.6	47.6	56.1	55.4	42.3	42.7	1.6	1.9	1.2	1.4
Hancock	45,973	47,334	51.1	51.1	48.9	48.9	88.2	87.9	8.0	8.2	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.0
Harrison	198,344	206,650	50.6	51.0	49.4	49.0	69.7	68.1	24.1	25.7	6.2	6.2	5.3	5.6
Hinds	245,278	237,085	53.2	53.3	46.8	46.7	26.8	25.5	71.3	72.7	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.6
Holmes	18,515	17,622	52.3	52.2	47.7	47.8	16.1	16.2	82.8	82.5	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.1
Humphreys	8,795	8,257	52.7	52.9	47.3	47.1	22.7	22.4	75.7	75.8	1.6	1.8	2.7	3.7
Issaquena	1,387	1,308	40.8	40.8	59.2	59.2	35.6	35.4	63.1	63.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.7
Itawamba	23,399	23,517	50.8	50.7	49.2	49.3	92.1	91.1	6.5	7.0	1.5	1.9	1.4	1.6
Jackson	141,439	143,277	50.8	50.8	49.2	49.2	73.5	73.3	21.8	21.8	4.7	4.9	5.5	7.0
Jasper	16,531	16,428	51.5	51.6	48.5	48.4	46.1	45.3	52.8	53.5	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4
Jefferson	7,579	7,106	50.1	50.9	49.9	49.1	13.3	13.6	86.0	85.2	0.8	1.2	0.7	1.0
Jefferson Davis	11,825	11,234	52.5	52.7	47.5	47.3	38.4	38.5	60.3	60.0	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.6
Jones	68,405	68,461	51.4	51.4	48.6	48.6	68.8	68.2	29.2	29.6	2.0	2.2	4.2	4.5
Kemper	10,230	10,027	50.0	49.9	50.0	50.1	34.9	34.3	60.7	61.0	4.4	4.6	0.9	0.9
Lafayette	52,030	54,793	51.0	51.5	49.0	48.5	72.4	72.7	23.9	23.5	3.8	3.8	2.4	2.8
Lamar	60,089	62,447	51.9	52.0	48.1	48.0	77.2	75.9	20.0	20.8	2.9	3.3	2.5	2.7
Lauderdale	79,266	75,317	51.6	51.5	48.4	48.5	55.0	53.6	42.9	44.1	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.2
Lawrence	12,602	12,455	51.3	51.5	48.7	48.5	67.4	66.2	31.1	32.2	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.1
Leake	23,179	22,763	47.9	48.4	52.1	51.6	50.1	49.5	41.8	42.2	8.0	8.2	4.2	4.7
Lee	84,761	85,202	52.1	52.2	47.9	47.8	69.1	67.2	28.7	30.3	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.7
Leflore	30,716	28,919	53.4	53.4	46.6	46.6	24.8	23.5	73.5	74.7	1.7	1.8	2.6	2.8
Lincoln	34,739	34,205	52.2	52.4	47.8	47.6	68.0	68.1	30.6	30.3	1.4	1.7	1.1	1.1
Lowndes	59,813	58,930	52.2	52.4	47.8	47.6	54.0	52.8	43.8	44.8	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.1
Madison	100,860	105,630	52.0	52.1	48.0	47.9	58.2	57.6	38.1	38.3	3.6	4.1	2.8	3.1
Marion	25,682	24,715	51.8	51.7	48.2	48.3	66.2	66.4	32.1	31.7	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.8

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

Population Demographics

	POPULATION		% FEMALE		% MALE		% WHITE		% BLACK		% OTHER		% HISPANIC	
	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018
Marshall	36,173	35,451	50.5	50.4	49.5	49.6	50.6	50.7	47.9	47.5	1.5	1.8	3.3	3.9
Monroe	36,062	35,564	52.3	52.4	47.7	47.6	67.9	68.0	30.8	30.5	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.3
Montgomery	10,361	10,023	52.5	52.3	47.5	47.7	53.4	53.2	45.3	45.0	1.3	1.8	1.2	1.4
Neshoba	29,444	29,125	52.3	52.4	47.7	47.6	60.5	59.3	20.8	21.3	18.7	19.4	2.0	2.1
Newton	21,714	21,443	51.8	52.2	48.2	47.8	62.9	61.6	30.4	31.0	6.7	7.3	1.7	2.0
Noxubee	11,063	10,535	52.3	52.8	47.7	47.2	26.9	26.5	71.8	72.1	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4
Oktibbeha	49,081	49,599	49.9	50.1	50.1	49.9	58.2	57.8	37.2	37.6	4.6	4.7	1.6	1.7
Panola	34,455	34,178	51.8	51.9	48.2	48.1	48.6	48.6	49.9	49.9	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.5
Pearl River	55,134	55,387	50.6	50.8	49.4	49.2	84.6	84.4	12.5	12.5	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.2
Perry	12,051	11,931	51.3	51.1	48.7	48.9	78.4	78.7	19.8	19.2	1.8	2.1	1.5	1.6
Pike	39,957	39,563	52.6	52.9	47.4	47.1	45.4	44.4	52.8	53.5	1.8	2.1	1.5	2.0
Pontotoc	30,795	31,833	50.6	51.1	49.4	48.9	82.5	82.2	15.4	15.3	2.1	2.5	6.2	7.0
Prentiss	25,408	25,315	50.9	51.0	49.1	49.0	84.4	83.6	13.9	14.5	1.7	1.9	1.3	1.5
Quitman	7,691	7,051	52.2	53.5	47.8	46.5	28.9	26.7	69.5	71.3	1.7	1.9	1.1	1.7
Rankin	148,425	153,902	51.7	51.9	48.3	48.1	77.5	75.9	19.9	21.2	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.8
Scott	28,552	28,287	51.3	50.9	48.7	49.1	58.7	58.4	38.3	38.4	2.9	3.2	10.8	11.5
Sharkey	4,613	4,377	53.0	52.2	47.0	47.8	28.0	27.5	70.7	70.8	1.3	1.6	1.8	2.2
Simpson	27,508	26,758	51.3	51.5	48.7	48.5	62.8	62.8	35.5	35.2	1.7	2.0	1.8	1.8
Smith	16,212	16,002	51.8	51.9	48.2	48.1	75.7	75.0	23.3	23.9	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.7
Stone	18,086	18,717	49.8	49.5	50.2	50.5	78.3	77.8	19.6	19.9	2.1	2.4	1.8	2.2
Sunflower	27,407	25,735	47.2	46.6	52.8	53.4	25.1	24.7	73.7	73.9	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.9
Tallahatchie	14,705	13,987	44.8	44.4	55.2	55.6	40.7	40.4	57.0	57.0	2.3	2.6	6.4	7.0
Tate	28,253	28,759	51.6	51.8	48.4	48.2	67.0	66.9	31.2	31.2	1.9	2.0	2.5	3.0
Tippah	21,969	21,995	50.9	51.3	49.1	48.7	81.4	80.7	16.5	17.0	2.1	2.3	4.6	4.8
Tishomingo	19,427	19,454	51.6	51.4	48.4	48.6	96.0	95.8	2.6	2.6	1.4	1.5	2.8	3.6
Tunica	10,495	9,944	52.7	53.2	47.3	46.8	21.3	20.2	76.7	77.5	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.5
Union	28,149	28,606	51.1	51.0	48.9	49.0	82.6	81.5	14.8	15.3	2.6	3.2	4.3	4.3
Walthall	14,850	14,465	51.9	51.8	48.1	48.2	54.1	54.1	43.8	43.5	2.1	2.4	1.9	2.1
Warren	47,944	46,176	52.3	52.4	47.7	47.6	49.5	48.5	48.4	49.2	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.4
Washington	49,012	45,063	53.1	53.6	46.9	46.4	26.5	25.9	71.8	72.4	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.7
Wayne	20,453	20,298	51.9	52.0	48.1	48.0	59.3	58.4	39.4	40.0	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.6
Webster	9,983	9,788	50.9	51.2	49.1	48.8	79.0	79.2	19.4	19.2	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4
Wilkinson	9,187	8,792	46.9	46.4	53.1	53.6	28.1	28.3	71.0	70.6	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.9
Winston	18,601	18,165	51.3	51.2	48.7	48.8	51.2	50.6	46.5	46.8	2.3	2.5	1.1	1.3
Yalobusha	12,308	12,392	52.1	52.1	47.9	47.9	59.6	59.4	38.8	38.7	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.8
Yazoo	27,805	28,248	44.7	42.4	55.3	57.6	40.7	40.4	57.4	57.5	1.8	2.1	5.6	7.5

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	385,756	397,261	50.7	50.9	49.3	49.1	73.3	72.3	21.4	22.2	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.9
Hattiesburg	148,035	149,414	52.0	52.2	48.0	47.8	68.3	67.8	28.9	29.2	2.8	3.0	2.7	2.7
Jackson	578,856	580,166	52.1	52.0	47.9	48.0	48.7	48.2	49.0	49.3	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.6

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	276,689	260,313	51.7	51.8	48.3	48.2	30.7	30.5	67.7	67.8	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.3
MS Partnership	875,013	885,809	51.5	51.6	48.5	48.4	68.2	67.0	29.4	30.4	2.4	2.6	3.0	3.3
SC MS Works	807,330	803,236	51.9	51.9	48.1	48.1	48.9	48.5	48.9	49.2	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.7
Twin Districts	1,031,591	1,037,172	51.0	51.1	49.0	48.9	68.5	67.9	27.5	27.8	4.1	4.3	3.7	4.1

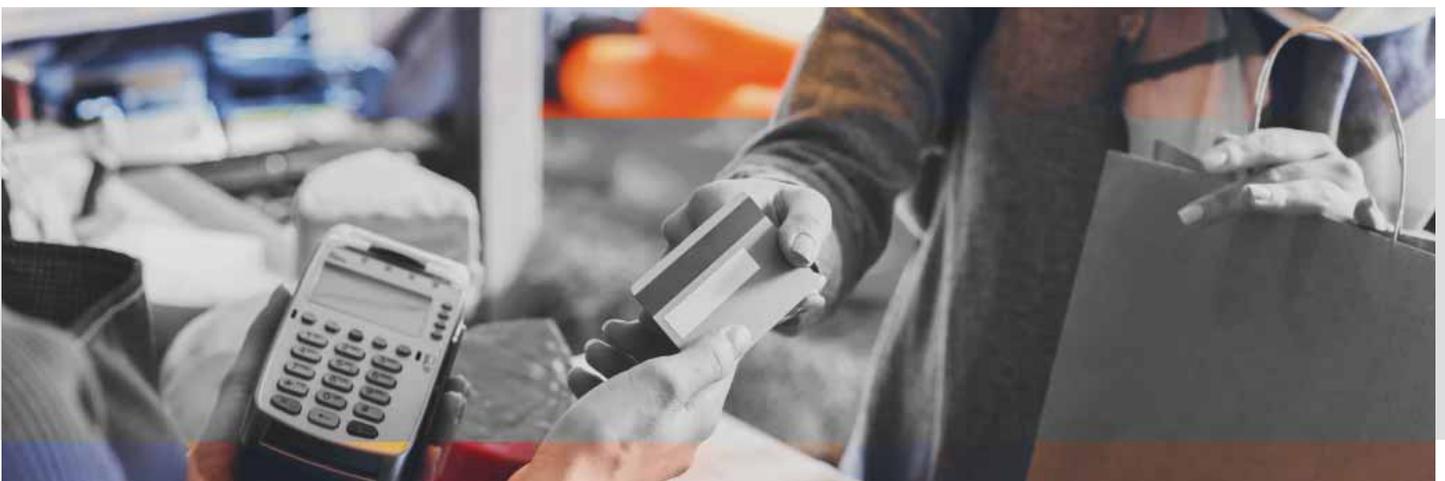
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

Labor Market

Mississippi's unemployment rate had a steady decrease from 2014 to 2018. In 2018, the average annual rate for the state dropped to 4.8%, the lowest in history. An analysis of the unemployment rate at the county level reveals that only Jefferson County is facing a double-digit unemployment rate; with twenty-eight counties recording rates equal to, or lower than the average annual rate of 4.8%.

There was also a direct correlation between the unemployment rate and the unemployment benefits paid. An analysis of the regular unemployment benefits paid in the state for the period 2014 through 2018 indicates an overwhelming 54.9% decrease. All eighty-two counties showed a decrease in the amount of unemployment benefits paid for the five year period.

The unemployment rate in all four of the WDAs tracked the same direction as the state from 2014 to 2018. The gap between the Delta WDA's jobless rate and the statewide figure narrowed over the past five years. In the Delta, population losses have been mirrored by a similarly shrinking labor force. Since 2016, the MS Partnership WDA had the lowest unemployment rate. The increase in employed individuals (31,700) in the MS Partnership WDA from 2014 to 2018 can be related to increases in the population and the number of jobs in the area. Pockets of very high unemployment remain in some of the Southcentral MS Works' most rural counties, but the dominant size of the Jackson MSA was actually the driving force of the area's rate. The unemployment rate for the Twin Districts WDA tracked closely to the state average rate each year.



Civilian Labor Force

Annual Averages

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Adams	Civilian Labor Force	11,630	11,430	11,270	11,210	11,200	(430)	(3.7%)
	Unemployed	970	910	930	820	700	(270)	(27.8%)
	Rate	8.3	8.0	8.3	7.3	6.3	(2.1)	XXX
	Employed	10,660	10,520	10,340	10,390	10,500	(160)	(1.5%)
Alcorn	Civilian Labor Force	15,160	15,750	15,840	16,000	16,130	970	6.4%
	Unemployed	1,000	890	820	710	670	(330)	(33.0%)
	Rate	6.6	5.7	5.2	4.4	4.2	(2.4)	XXX
	Employed	14,160	14,860	15,020	15,290	15,460	1,300	9.2%
Amite	Civilian Labor Force	4,460	4,520	4,520	4,530	4,470	10	0.2%
	Unemployed	360	340	330	310	270	(90)	(25.0%)
	Rate	8.1	7.5	7.3	6.8	6.0	(2.0)	XXX
	Employed	4,100	4,180	4,190	4,220	4,200	100	2.4%
Attala	Civilian Labor Force	7,050	6,990	7,030	6,950	6,930	(120)	(1.7%)
	Unemployed	610	530	470	420	390	(220)	(36.1%)
	Rate	8.7	7.6	6.7	6.0	5.6	(3.0)	XXX
	Employed	6,440	6,460	6,560	6,530	6,540	100	1.6%
Benton	Civilian Labor Force	2,990	2,990	3,060	3,060	3,080	90	3.0%
	Unemployed	280	240	210	170	170	(110)	(39.3%)
	Rate	9.4	8.0	6.9	5.6	5.5	(3.8)	XXX
	Employed	2,710	2,750	2,850	2,890	2,910	200	7.4%
Bolivar	Civilian Labor Force	13,340	13,400	13,420	12,980	12,480	(860)	(6.4%)
	Unemployed	1,270	1,050	970	830	770	(500)	(39.4%)
	Rate	9.5	7.8	7.2	6.4	6.2	(3.4)	XXX
	Employed	12,070	12,350	12,450	12,150	11,710	(360)	(3.0%)
Calhoun	Civilian Labor Force	6,260	6,150	6,190	6,100	5,980	(280)	(4.5%)
	Unemployed	470	380	330	260	260	(210)	(44.7%)
	Rate	7.5	6.2	5.3	4.3	4.3	(3.2)	XXX
	Employed	5,790	5,770	5,860	5,840	5,720	(70)	(1.2%)
Carroll	Civilian Labor Force	3,420	3,460	3,570	3,640	3,600	180	5.3%
	Unemployed	320	280	260	210	200	(120)	(37.5%)
	Rate	9.4	8.1	7.3	5.8	5.6	(3.8)	XXX
	Employed	3,100	3,180	3,310	3,430	3,400	300	9.7%
Chickasaw	Civilian Labor Force	7,220	7,160	7,110	7,090	7,040	(180)	(2.5%)
	Unemployed	700	550	470	370	350	(350)	(50.0%)
	Rate	9.7	7.7	6.6	5.2	5.0	(4.7)	XXX
	Employed	6,520	6,610	6,640	6,720	6,690	170	2.6%
Choctaw	Civilian Labor Force	3,580	3,710	3,730	3,670	3,790	210	5.9%
	Unemployed	290	230	210	180	180	(110)	(37.9%)
	Rate	8.1	6.2	5.6	4.9	4.7	(3.4)	XXX
	Employed	3,290	3,480	3,520	3,490	3,610	320	9.7%
Claiborne	Civilian Labor Force	3,110	3,120	3,100	3,010	2,950	(160)	(5.1%)
	Unemployed	450	390	350	300	270	(180)	(40.0%)
	Rate	14.5	12.5	11.3	10.0	9.2	(5.3)	XXX
	Employed	2,660	2,730	2,750	2,710	2,680	20	0.8%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Civilian Labor Force

Annual Averages

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Clarke	Civilian Labor Force	6,280	6,090	6,090	6,100	5,940	(340)	(5.4%)
	Unemployed	560	480	410	370	330	(230)	(41.1%)
	Rate	8.9	7.9	6.7	6.1	5.6	(3.4)	XXX
	Employed	5,720	5,610	5,680	5,730	5,610	(110)	(1.9%)
Clay	Civilian Labor Force	8,000	8,030	8,030	7,850	7,830	(170)	(2.1%)
	Unemployed	1,060	770	650	530	470	(590)	(55.7%)
	Rate	13.3	9.6	8.1	6.8	6.0	(7.2)	XXX
	Employed	6,940	7,260	7,380	7,320	7,360	420	6.1%
Coahoma	Civilian Labor Force	9,570	9,460	9,230	8,910	8,680	(890)	(9.3%)
	Unemployed	1,120	950	800	650	590	(530)	(47.3%)
	Rate	11.7	10.0	8.7	7.3	6.8	(4.9)	XXX
	Employed	8,450	8,510	8,430	8,260	8,090	(360)	(4.3%)
Copiah	Civilian Labor Force	11,190	11,270	11,300	11,340	11,260	70	0.6%
	Unemployed	990	810	740	650	620	(370)	(37.4%)
	Rate	8.8	7.2	6.5	5.7	5.5	(3.3)	XXX
	Employed	10,200	10,460	10,560	10,690	10,640	440	4.3%
Covington	Civilian Labor Force	7,860	7,980	8,170	8,270	8,290	430	5.5%
	Unemployed	520	470	440	390	360	(160)	(30.8%)
	Rate	6.6	5.9	5.4	4.7	4.3	(2.3)	XXX
	Employed	7,340	7,510	7,730	7,880	7,930	590	8.0%
DeSoto	Civilian Labor Force	81,500	84,660	87,410	89,310	89,990	8,490	10.4%
	Unemployed	4,340	4,050	3,670	3,420	3,390	(950)	(21.9%)
	Rate	5.3	4.8	4.2	3.8	3.8	(1.6)	XXX
	Employed	77,160	80,610	83,740	85,890	86,600	9,440	12.2%
Forrest	Civilian Labor Force	32,340	32,880	33,430	33,700	33,770	1,430	4.4%
	Unemployed	2,390	2,060	1,910	1,630	1,500	(890)	(37.2%)
	Rate	7.4	6.3	5.7	4.8	4.4	(2.9)	XXX
	Employed	29,950	30,820	31,520	32,070	32,270	2,320	7.7%
Franklin	Civilian Labor Force	2,910	2,930	2,860	2,830	2,770	(140)	(4.8%)
	Unemployed	240	220	210	200	170	(70)	(29.2%)
	Rate	8.2	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.1	(2.1)	XXX
	Employed	2,670	2,710	2,650	2,630	2,600	(70)	(2.6%)
George	Civilian Labor Force	8,940	8,860	8,830	8,940	8,900	(40)	(0.4%)
	Unemployed	740	660	650	640	570	(170)	(23.0%)
	Rate	8.3	7.4	7.4	7.2	6.4	(1.9)	XXX
	Employed	8,200	8,200	8,180	8,300	8,330	130	1.6%
Greene	Civilian Labor Force	4,400	4,340	4,290	4,370	4,290	(110)	(2.5%)
	Unemployed	390	330	310	330	260	(130)	(33.3%)
	Rate	8.9	7.6	7.2	7.6	6.1	(2.8)	XXX
	Employed	4,010	4,010	3,980	4,040	4,030	20	0.5%
Grenada	Civilian Labor Force	9,310	9,490	9,620	9,670	9,590	280	3.0%
	Unemployed	670	560	490	450	410	(260)	(38.8%)
	Rate	7.2	5.9	5.1	4.7	4.3	(2.9)	XXX
	Employed	8,640	8,930	9,130	9,220	9,180	540	6.3%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Hancock	Civilian Labor Force	18,510	18,700	18,900	18,860	18,840	330	1.8%
	Unemployed	1,330	1,210	1,150	1,050	940	(390)	(29.3%)
	Rate	7.2	6.5	6.1	5.6	5.0	(2.2)	XXX
	Employed	17,180	17,490	17,750	17,810	17,900	720	4.2%
Harrison	Civilian Labor Force	84,930	85,750	86,860	86,710	86,590	1,660	2.0%
	Unemployed	5,690	5,080	4,780	4,210	3,920	(1,770)	(31.1%)
	Rate	6.7	5.9	5.5	4.9	4.5	(2.2)	XXX
	Employed	79,240	80,670	82,080	82,500	82,670	3,430	4.3%
Hinds	Civilian Labor Force	108,310	109,340	110,160	110,010	109,300	990	0.9%
	Unemployed	7,830	6,570	5,980	5,330	5,040	(2,790)	(35.6%)
	Rate	7.2	6.0	5.4	4.8	4.6	(2.6)	XXX
	Employed	100,480	102,770	104,180	104,680	104,260	3,780	3.8%
Holmes	Civilian Labor Force	6,150	6,130	5,990	5,830	5,710	(440)	(7.2%)
	Unemployed	920	740	660	550	510	(410)	(44.6%)
	Rate	15.0	12.1	11.0	9.4	8.9	(6.0)	XXX
	Employed	5,230	5,390	5,330	5,280	5,200	(30)	(0.6%)
Humphreys	Civilian Labor Force	2,570	2,470	2,380	2,310	2,300	(270)	(10.5%)
	Unemployed	410	310	270	210	190	(220)	(53.7%)
	Rate	16.0	12.6	11.3	9.1	8.3	(7.7)	XXX
	Employed	2,160	2,160	2,110	2,100	2,110	(50)	(2.3%)
Issaquena	Civilian Labor Force	430	420	410	400	370	(60)	(14.0%)
	Unemployed	70	70	60	50	30	(40)	(57.1%)
	Rate	16.3	16.7	14.6	12.5	8.1	(8.2)	XXX
	Employed	360	350	350	350	340	(20)	(5.6%)
Itawamba	Civilian Labor Force	9,920	10,220	10,420	10,390	10,300	380	3.8%
	Unemployed	710	580	530	440	420	(290)	(40.8%)
	Rate	7.2	5.7	5.1	4.2	4.1	(3.1)	XXX
	Employed	9,210	9,640	9,890	9,950	9,880	670	7.3%
Jackson	Civilian Labor Force	59,200	59,040	59,190	58,920	58,730	(470)	(0.8%)
	Unemployed	4,710	4,140	3,880	3,480	3,250	(1,460)	(31.0%)
	Rate	8.0	7.0	6.6	5.9	5.5	(2.4)	XXX
	Employed	54,490	54,900	55,310	55,440	55,480	990	1.8%
Jasper	Civilian Labor Force	6,450	6,370	6,210	6,120	6,110	(340)	(5.3%)
	Unemployed	550	500	480	400	360	(190)	(34.5%)
	Rate	8.5	7.8	7.7	6.5	5.9	(2.6)	XXX
	Employed	5,900	5,870	5,730	5,720	5,750	(150)	(2.5%)
Jefferson	Civilian Labor Force	2,410	2,280	2,230	2,090	2,000	(410)	(17.0%)
	Unemployed	390	340	330	310	270	(120)	(30.8%)
	Rate	16.2	14.9	14.8	14.8	13.5	(2.7)	XXX
	Employed	2,020	1,940	1,900	1,780	1,730	(290)	(14.4%)
Jefferson Davis	Civilian Labor Force	4,130	4,130	4,180	4,220	4,120	(10)	(0.2%)
	Unemployed	420	360	340	290	280	(140)	(33.3%)
	Rate	10.2	8.7	8.1	6.9	6.8	(3.4)	XXX
	Employed	3,710	3,770	3,840	3,930	3,840	130	3.5%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Civilian Labor Force
Annual Averages**

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Jones	Civilian Labor Force	26,720	26,580	25,840	25,570	25,610	(1,110)	(4.2%)
	Unemployed	1,650	1,590	1,580	1,320	1,220	(430)	(26.1%)
	Rate	6.2	6.0	6.1	5.2	4.8	(1.4)	XXX
	Employed	25,070	24,990	24,260	24,250	24,390	(680)	(2.7%)
Kemper	Civilian Labor Force	3,760	3,580	3,560	3,560	3,460	(300)	(8.0%)
	Unemployed	480	370	310	280	260	(220)	(45.8%)
	Rate	12.8	10.3	8.7	7.9	7.5	(5.3)	XXX
	Employed	3,280	3,210	3,250	3,280	3,200	(80)	(2.4%)
Lafayette	Civilian Labor Force	23,320	24,470	26,030	27,360	28,220	4,900	21.0%
	Unemployed	1,490	1,330	1,270	1,150	1,100	(390)	(26.2%)
	Rate	6.4	5.4	4.9	4.2	3.9	(2.5)	XXX
	Employed	21,830	23,140	24,760	26,210	27,120	5,290	24.2%
Lamar	Civilian Labor Force	27,830	28,940	29,650	30,390	30,510	2,680	9.6%
	Unemployed	1,420	1,390	1,340	1,160	1,110	(310)	(21.8%)
	Rate	5.1	4.8	4.5	3.8	3.6	(1.5)	XXX
	Employed	26,410	27,550	28,310	29,230	29,400	2,990	11.3%
Lauderdale	Civilian Labor Force	32,630	31,700	31,830	31,470	30,550	(2,080)	(6.4%)
	Unemployed	2,440	2,070	1,870	1,700	1,540	(900)	(36.9%)
	Rate	7.5	6.5	5.9	5.4	5.0	(2.4)	XXX
	Employed	30,190	29,630	29,960	29,770	29,010	(1,180)	(3.9%)
Lawrence	Civilian Labor Force	4,530	4,750	4,680	4,650	4,610	80	1.8%
	Unemployed	370	340	330	310	280	(90)	(24.3%)
	Rate	8.2	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.1	(2.1)	XXX
	Employed	4,160	4,410	4,350	4,340	4,330	170	4.1%
Leake	Civilian Labor Force	7,850	7,910	7,770	7,710	7,930	80	1.0%
	Unemployed	560	490	470	440	390	(170)	(30.4%)
	Rate	7.1	6.2	6.0	5.7	4.9	(2.2)	XXX
	Employed	7,290	7,420	7,300	7,270	7,540	250	3.4%
Lee	Civilian Labor Force	38,900	39,910	40,870	40,660	40,300	1,400	3.6%
	Unemployed	2,790	2,210	1,980	1,660	1,570	(1,220)	(43.7%)
	Rate	7.2	5.5	4.8	4.1	3.9	(3.3)	XXX
	Employed	36,110	37,700	38,890	39,000	38,730	2,620	7.3%
Leflore	Civilian Labor Force	10,570	10,500	10,350	10,450	10,250	(320)	(3.0%)
	Unemployed	1,330	1,130	940	760	690	(640)	(48.1%)
	Rate	12.6	10.8	9.1	7.3	6.7	(5.9)	XXX
	Employed	9,240	9,370	9,410	9,690	9,560	320	3.5%
Lincoln	Civilian Labor Force	13,770	14,240	14,440	14,580	14,660	890	6.5%
	Unemployed	910	860	820	760	690	(220)	(24.2%)
	Rate	6.6	6.0	5.7	5.2	4.7	(1.9)	XXX
	Employed	12,860	13,380	13,620	13,820	13,970	1,110	8.6%
Lowndes	Civilian Labor Force	25,310	25,150	25,550	25,410	25,330	20	0.1%
	Unemployed	2,200	1,760	1,560	1,360	1,220	(980)	(44.5%)
	Rate	8.7	7.0	6.1	5.4	4.8	(3.9)	XXX
	Employed	23,110	23,390	23,990	24,050	24,110	1,000	4.3%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Civilian Labor Force

Annual Averages

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Madison	Civilian Labor Force	49,860	51,710	53,450	53,610	53,300	3,440	6.9%
	Unemployed	2,610	2,360	2,300	2,080	1,950	(660)	(25.3%)
	Rate	5.2	4.6	4.3	3.9	3.7	(1.6)	XXX
	Employed	47,250	49,350	51,150	51,530	51,350	4,100	8.7%
Marion	Civilian Labor Force	9,910	10,020	10,280	10,260	10,130	220	2.2%
	Unemployed	810	730	670	560	520	(290)	(35.8%)
	Rate	8.2	7.3	6.5	5.5	5.1	(3.0)	XXX
	Employed	9,100	9,290	9,610	9,700	9,610	510	5.6%
Marshall	Civilian Labor Force	14,390	14,460	14,580	14,490	14,590	200	1.4%
	Unemployed	1,250	1,040	880	750	730	(520)	(41.6%)
	Rate	8.7	7.2	6.0	5.2	5.0	(3.7)	XXX
	Employed	13,140	13,420	13,700	13,740	13,860	720	5.5%
Monroe	Civilian Labor Force	15,480	15,500	15,660	15,450	15,360	(120)	(0.8%)
	Unemployed	1,550	1,140	980	810	760	(790)	(51.0%)
	Rate	10.0	7.4	6.3	5.2	4.9	(5.1)	XXX
	Employed	13,930	14,360	14,680	14,640	14,600	670	4.8%
Montgomery	Civilian Labor Force	4,210	4,200	4,240	4,180	4,040	(170)	(4.0%)
	Unemployed	390	320	270	210	210	(180)	(46.2%)
	Rate	9.3	7.6	6.4	5.0	5.2	(4.1)	XXX
	Employed	3,820	3,880	3,970	3,970	3,830	10	0.3%
Neshoba	Civilian Labor Force	10,800	10,640	10,730	10,550	10,310	(490)	(4.5%)
	Unemployed	730	650	620	540	510	(220)	(30.1%)
	Rate	6.8	6.1	5.8	5.1	4.9	(1.8)	XXX
	Employed	10,070	9,990	10,110	10,010	9,800	(270)	(2.7%)
Newton	Civilian Labor Force	8,800	8,730	8,660	8,530	8,420	(380)	(4.3%)
	Unemployed	590	530	510	450	410	(180)	(30.5%)
	Rate	6.7	6.1	5.9	5.3	4.9	(1.8)	XXX
	Employed	8,210	8,200	8,150	8,080	8,010	(200)	(2.4%)
Noxubee	Civilian Labor Force	4,010	3,960	3,970	3,920	3,850	(160)	(4.0%)
	Unemployed	500	390	330	290	260	(240)	(48.0%)
	Rate	12.5	9.8	8.3	7.4	6.8	(5.7)	XXX
	Employed	3,510	3,570	3,640	3,630	3,590	80	2.3%
Oktoberbeha	Civilian Labor Force	22,120	22,520	23,090	22,200	22,520	400	1.8%
	Unemployed	1,580	1,370	1,250	1,110	1,060	(520)	(32.9%)
	Rate	7.1	6.1	5.4	5.0	4.7	(2.4)	XXX
	Employed	20,540	21,150	21,840	21,090	21,460	920	4.5%
Panola	Civilian Labor Force	13,430	13,460	13,200	13,110	12,970	(460)	(3.4%)
	Unemployed	1,410	1,170	970	880	770	(640)	(45.4%)
	Rate	10.5	8.7	7.3	6.7	5.9	(4.6)	XXX
	Employed	12,020	12,290	12,230	12,230	12,200	180	1.5%
Pearl River	Civilian Labor Force	22,380	22,900	23,260	23,280	23,320	940	4.2%
	Unemployed	1,500	1,410	1,390	1,240	1,100	(400)	(26.7%)
	Rate	6.7	6.2	6.0	5.3	4.7	(2.0)	XXX
	Employed	20,880	21,490	21,870	22,040	22,220	1,340	6.4%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Civilian Labor Force
Annual Averages

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Perry	Civilian Labor Force	4,220	4,320	4,360	4,360	4,360	140	3.3%
	Unemployed	390	340	310	280	260	(130)	(33.3%)
	Rate	9.2	7.9	7.1	6.4	6.0	(3.3)	XXX
	Employed	3,830	3,980	4,050	4,080	4,100	270	7.0%
Pike	Civilian Labor Force	14,570	14,710	14,690	14,690	14,570	0	0.0%
	Unemployed	1,200	1,070	990	890	830	(370)	(30.8%)
	Rate	8.2	7.3	6.7	6.1	5.7	(2.5)	XXX
	Employed	13,370	13,640	13,700	13,800	13,740	370	2.8%
Pontotoc	Civilian Labor Force	13,510	13,890	14,460	14,500	14,420	910	6.7%
	Unemployed	910	770	680	570	560	(350)	(38.5%)
	Rate	6.7	5.5	4.7	3.9	3.9	(2.9)	XXX
	Employed	12,600	13,120	13,780	13,930	13,860	1,260	10.0%
Prentiss	Civilian Labor Force	10,880	11,010	11,080	11,160	11,210	330	3.0%
	Unemployed	810	670	600	510	490	(320)	(39.5%)
	Rate	7.4	6.1	5.4	4.6	4.4	(3.1)	XXX
	Employed	10,070	10,340	10,480	10,650	10,720	650	6.5%
Quitman	Civilian Labor Force	2,760	2,690	2,630	2,490	2,440	(320)	(11.6%)
	Unemployed	360	290	260	220	190	(170)	(47.2%)
	Rate	13.0	10.8	9.9	8.8	7.8	(5.3)	XXX
	Employed	2,400	2,400	2,370	2,270	2,250	(150)	(6.3%)
Rankin	Civilian Labor Force	71,120	73,090	75,050	76,600	76,150	5,030	7.1%
	Unemployed	3,290	3,020	2,960	2,740	2,600	(690)	(21.0%)
	Rate	4.6	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.4	(1.2)	XXX
	Employed	67,830	70,070	72,090	73,860	73,550	5,720	8.4%
Scott	Civilian Labor Force	12,700	13,010	13,280	13,370	13,160	460	3.6%
	Unemployed	700	630	610	540	520	(180)	(25.7%)
	Rate	5.5	4.8	4.6	4.0	4.0	(1.6)	XXX
	Employed	12,000	12,380	12,670	12,830	12,640	640	5.3%
Sharkey	Civilian Labor Force	1,780	1,730	1,720	1,700	1,690	(90)	(5.1%)
	Unemployed	200	170	150	130	120	(80)	(40.0%)
	Rate	11.2	9.8	8.7	7.6	7.1	(4.1)	XXX
	Employed	1,580	1,560	1,570	1,570	1,570	(10)	(0.6%)
Simpson	Civilian Labor Force	10,780	10,910	10,950	11,020	10,930	150	1.4%
	Unemployed	690	640	590	540	490	(200)	(29.0%)
	Rate	6.4	5.9	5.4	4.9	4.5	(1.9)	XXX
	Employed	10,090	10,270	10,360	10,480	10,440	350	3.5%
Smith	Civilian Labor Force	6,740	6,760	6,750	6,740	6,760	20	0.3%
	Unemployed	390	360	360	320	300	(90)	(23.1%)
	Rate	5.8	5.3	5.3	4.7	4.4	(1.3)	XXX
	Employed	6,350	6,400	6,390	6,420	6,460	110	1.7%
Stone	Civilian Labor Force	6,350	6,420	6,510	6,640	6,790	440	6.9%
	Unemployed	540	480	440	400	370	(170)	(31.5%)
	Rate	8.5	7.5	6.8	6.0	5.4	(3.1)	XXX
	Employed	5,810	5,940	6,070	6,240	6,420	610	10.5%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages

							2014 TO 2018	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Sunflower	Civilian Labor Force	8,670	8,490	8,350	8,050	7,840	(830)	(9.6%)
	Unemployed	1,080	890	770	670	610	(470)	(43.5%)
	Rate	12.5	10.5	9.2	8.3	7.8	(4.7)	XXX
	Employed	7,590	7,600	7,580	7,380	7,230	(360)	(4.7%)
Tallahatchie	Civilian Labor Force	5,850	5,820	5,750	5,620	5,400	(450)	(7.7%)
	Unemployed	540	440	390	300	290	(250)	(46.3%)
	Rate	9.2	7.6	6.8	5.3	5.4	(3.9)	XXX
	Employed	5,310	5,380	5,360	5,320	5,110	(200)	(3.8%)
Tate	Civilian Labor Force	11,800	12,020	12,100	12,190	12,260	460	3.9%
	Unemployed	1,000	850	710	620	600	(400)	(40.0%)
	Rate	8.5	7.1	5.9	5.1	4.9	(3.6)	XXX
	Employed	10,800	11,170	11,390	11,570	11,660	860	8.0%
Tippah	Civilian Labor Force	8,740	9,450	9,410	9,460	9,440	700	8.0%
	Unemployed	720	600	520	430	410	(310)	(43.1%)
	Rate	8.2	6.3	5.5	4.5	4.3	(3.9)	XXX
	Employed	8,020	8,850	8,890	9,030	9,030	1,010	12.6%
Tishomingo	Civilian Labor Force	7,600	8,020	8,260	8,310	8,460	860	11.3%
	Unemployed	580	510	450	420	390	(190)	(32.8%)
	Rate	7.6	6.4	5.4	5.1	4.6	(3.0)	XXX
	Employed	7,020	7,510	7,810	7,890	8,070	1,050	15.0%
Tunica	Civilian Labor Force	4,770	4,660	4,620	4,490	4,480	(290)	(6.1%)
	Unemployed	560	430	330	270	240	(320)	(57.1%)
	Rate	11.7	9.2	7.1	6.0	5.4	(6.4)	XXX
	Employed	4,210	4,230	4,290	4,220	4,240	30	0.7%
Union	Civilian Labor Force	12,880	13,230	13,680	13,970	14,030	1,150	8.9%
	Unemployed	790	670	600	510	490	(300)	(38.0%)
	Rate	6.1	5.1	4.4	3.7	3.5	(2.6)	XXX
	Employed	12,090	12,560	13,080	13,460	13,540	1,450	12.0%
Walthall	Civilian Labor Force	5,170	5,150	5,050	5,020	5,030	(140)	(2.7%)
	Unemployed	490	410	390	340	330	(160)	(32.7%)
	Rate	9.5	8.0	7.7	6.8	6.6	(2.9)	XXX
	Employed	4,680	4,740	4,660	4,680	4,700	20	0.4%
Warren	Civilian Labor Force	20,980	20,910	20,830	20,730	20,400	(580)	(2.8%)
	Unemployed	1,600	1,390	1,310	1,180	1,110	(490)	(30.6%)
	Rate	7.6	6.6	6.3	5.7	5.4	(2.2)	XXX
	Employed	19,380	19,520	19,520	19,550	19,290	(90)	(0.5%)
Washington	Civilian Labor Force	18,400	18,060	17,790	17,210	16,730	(1,670)	(9.1%)
	Unemployed	2,300	1,850	1,600	1,280	1,180	(1,120)	(48.7%)
	Rate	12.5	10.2	9.0	7.4	7.1	(5.4)	XXX
	Employed	16,100	16,210	16,190	15,930	15,550	(550)	(3.4%)
Wayne	Civilian Labor Force	7,750	7,630	7,550	7,520	7,500	(250)	(3.2%)
	Unemployed	680	600	550	470	400	(280)	(41.2%)
	Rate	8.8	7.9	7.3	6.3	5.3	(3.4)	XXX
	Employed	7,070	7,030	7,000	7,050	7,100	30	0.4%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Civilian Labor Force
Annual Averages**

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 TO 2018	
							Net Chg	Pct Chg
Webster	Civilian Labor Force	3,970	3,940	3,910	3,860	3,900	(70)	(1.8%)
	Unemployed	340	280	240	210	190	(150)	(44.1%)
	Rate	8.6	7.1	6.1	5.4	4.9	(3.7)	XXX
	Employed	3,630	3,660	3,670	3,650	3,710	80	2.2%
Wilkinson	Civilian Labor Force	2,840	2,880	2,840	2,820	2,770	(70)	(2.5%)
	Unemployed	320	300	290	250	240	(80)	(25.0%)
	Rate	11.3	10.4	10.2	8.9	8.7	(2.6)	XXX
	Employed	2,520	2,580	2,550	2,570	2,530	10	0.4%
Winston	Civilian Labor Force	7,160	7,090	7,110	7,240	7,400	240	3.4%
	Unemployed	710	580	500	440	410	(300)	(42.3%)
	Rate	9.9	8.2	7.0	6.1	5.5	(4.4)	XXX
	Employed	6,450	6,510	6,610	6,800	6,990	540	8.4%
Yalobusha	Civilian Labor Force	4,930	4,930	4,900	5,050	5,110	180	3.7%
	Unemployed	450	350	310	280	250	(200)	(44.4%)
	Rate	9.1	7.1	6.3	5.5	4.9	(4.2)	XXX
	Employed	4,480	4,580	4,590	4,770	4,860	380	8.5%
Yazoo	Civilian Labor Force	9,290	9,210	9,260	9,150	9,070	(220)	(2.4%)
	Unemployed	920	750	680	560	500	(420)	(45.7%)
	Rate	9.9	8.1	7.3	6.1	5.5	(4.4)	XXX
	Employed	8,370	8,460	8,580	8,590	8,570	200	2.4%

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	Civilian Labor Force	162,640	163,470	164,950	164,490	164,150	1,510	0.9%
	Unemployed	11,740	10,420	9,810	8,740	8,100	(3,640)	(31.0%)
	Rate	7.2	6.4	5.9	5.3	4.9	(2.3)	XXX
	Employed	150,900	153,050	155,140	155,750	156,050	5,150	3.4%
Hattiesburg	Civilian Labor Force	64,390	66,130	67,440	68,440	68,630	4,240	6.6%
	Unemployed	4,200	3,790	3,560	3,070	2,860	(1,340)	(31.9%)
	Rate	6.5	5.7	5.3	4.5	4.2	(2.4)	XXX
	Employed	60,190	62,340	63,880	65,370	65,770	5,580	9.3%
Jackson	Civilian Labor Force	260,550	265,530	270,150	271,710	270,000	9,450	3.6%
	Unemployed	16,320	14,150	13,240	11,880	11,190	(5,130)	(31.4%)
	Rate	6.3	5.3	4.9	4.4	4.1	(2.1)	XXX
	Employed	244,230	251,380	256,910	259,830	258,810	14,580	6.0%

Comparative Labor Force Data

Annual Averages

						2014 TO 2018	
UNITED STATES	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Civilian Labor Force	155,922,000	157,130,000	159,187,000	160,320,000	162,075,000	6,153,000	3.9%
Unemployed	9,617,000	8,296,000	7,751,000	6,982,000	6,314,000	(3,303,000)	(34.3%)
Unemployment Rate	6.2%	5.3%	4.9%	4.4%	3.9%	(2.3)	XXX
Employed	146,305,000	148,834,000	151,436,000	153,337,000	155,761,000	9,456,000	6.5%

						2014 TO 2018	
MISSISSIPPI	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Civilian Labor Force	1,250,100	1,265,300	1,279,500	1,280,600	1,275,700	25,600	2.0%
Unemployed	93,800	81,000	74,300	65,300	60,700	(33,100)	(35.3%)
Unemployment Rate	7.5%	6.4%	5.8%	5.1%	4.8%	(2.7)	XXX
Employed	1,156,300	1,184,300	1,205,200	1,215,300	1,215,000	58,700	5.1%

Workforce Development Areas

						2014 TO 2018	
DELTA	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Civilian Labor Force	101,700	100,740	99,390	97,160	94,930	(6,770)	(6.7%)
Unemployed	11,890	9,760	8,420	6,990	6,370	(5,520)	(46.4%)
Unemployment Rate	11.7%	9.7%	8.5%	7.2%	6.7%	(5.0)	XXX
Employed	89,810	90,980	90,970	90,170	88,560	(1,250)	(1.4%)

						2014 TO 2018	
MS PARTNERSHIP	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Civilian Labor Force	380,200	388,890	397,340	399,450	401,110	20,910	5.5%
Unemployed	28,200	23,620	20,990	18,270	17,410	(10,790)	(38.3%)
Unemployment Rate	7.4%	6.1%	5.3%	4.6%	4.3%	(3.1)	XXX
Employed	352,000	365,270	376,350	381,190	383,700	31,700	9.0%

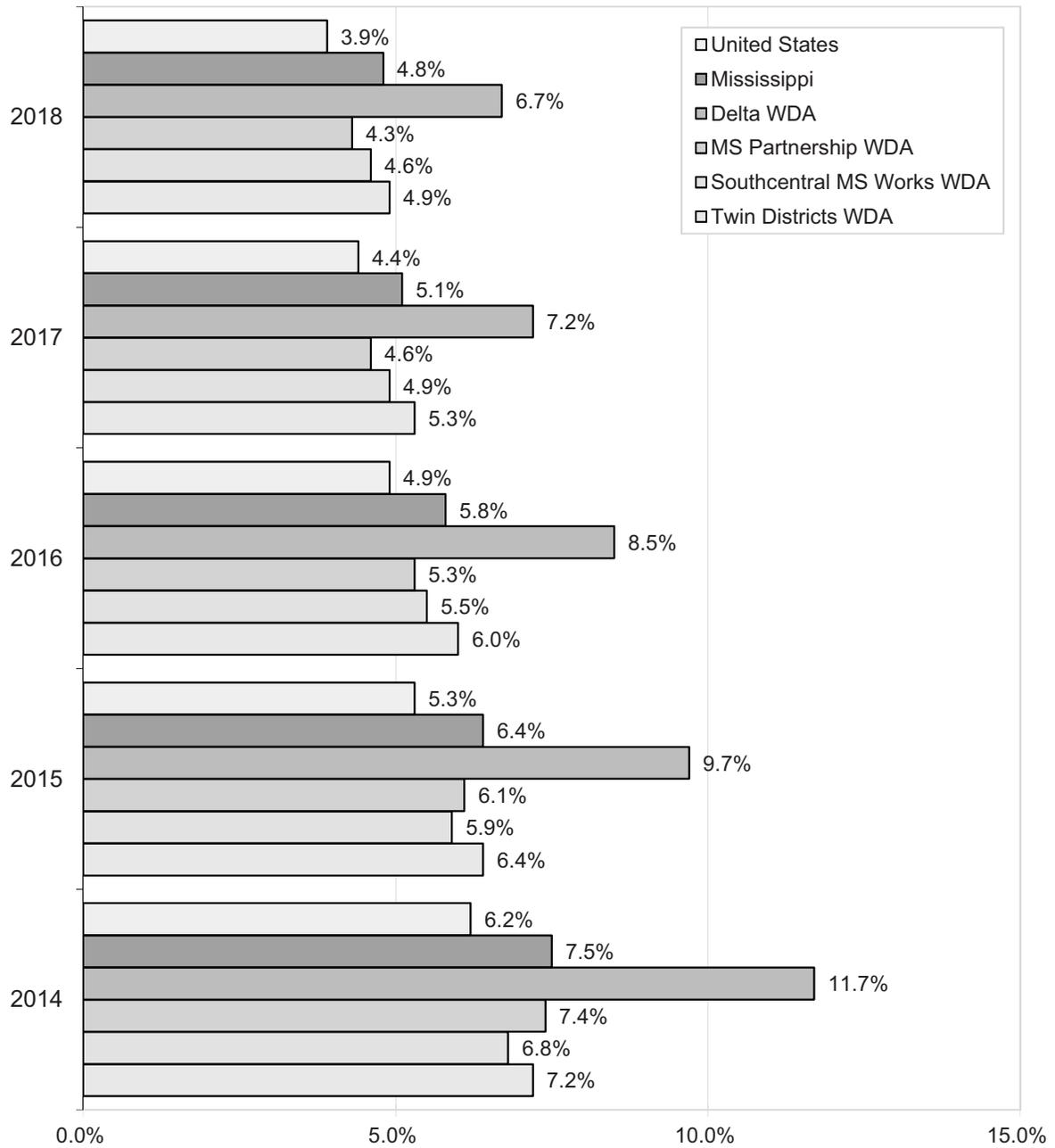
						2014 TO 2018	
SC MS WORKS	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Civilian Labor Force	346,920	352,480	356,670	357,870	355,440	8,520	2.5%
Unemployed	23,620	20,740	19,530	17,540	16,340	(7,280)	(30.8%)
Unemployment Rate	6.8%	5.9%	5.5%	4.9%	4.6%	(2.2)	XXX
Employed	323,300	331,740	337,140	340,320	339,100	15,800	4.9%

						2014 TO 2018	
TWIN DISTRICTS	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Civilian Labor Force	421,440	423,230	426,140	426,170	424,330	2,890	0.7%
Unemployed	30,160	26,910	25,360	22,520	20,650	(9,510)	(31.5%)
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	6.4%	6.0%	5.3%	4.9%	(2.3)	XXX
Employed	391,270	396,330	400,780	403,660	403,680	12,410	3.2%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Rate Comparison

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data



Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits Paid

						2014 TO 2018	
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
MISSISSIPPI	142,205,886	99,170,123	91,958,118	79,516,011	64,173,259	(78,032,627)	(54.9%)
Adams	1,222,497	1,256,225	1,445,940	888,237	741,773	(480,724)	(39.3%)
Alcorn	1,135,728	744,848	752,775	614,164	461,011	(674,717)	(59.4%)
Amite	380,244	342,920	282,958	244,889	213,299	(166,945)	(43.9%)
Attala	963,145	641,855	514,913	526,808	364,919	(598,226)	(62.1%)
Benton	318,863	216,419	178,608	161,006	187,781	(131,082)	(41.1%)
Bolivar	2,196,211	1,471,034	1,568,534	1,469,419	1,242,823	(953,388)	(43.4%)
Calhoun	651,135	377,066	304,123	242,187	218,409	(432,726)	(66.5%)
Carroll	445,763	278,989	284,908	192,713	172,713	(273,050)	(61.3%)
Chickasaw	1,290,282	723,263	627,395	428,725	423,713	(866,569)	(67.2%)
Choctaw	442,782	245,805	211,299	188,984	185,715	(257,067)	(58.1%)
Claiborne	674,046	589,188	516,131	427,477	372,215	(301,831)	(44.8%)
Clarke	752,804	609,015	451,876	437,213	263,929	(488,875)	(64.9%)
Clay	1,837,288	1,187,407	1,122,090	939,306	729,296	(1,107,992)	(60.3%)
Coahoma	2,302,898	1,619,356	1,413,426	1,141,739	1,062,538	(1,240,360)	(53.9%)
Copiah	1,207,716	832,729	775,710	657,935	691,060	(516,656)	(42.8%)
Covington	582,234	483,603	422,953	435,586	278,327	(303,907)	(52.2%)
DeSoto	3,912,654	2,232,902	1,780,991	1,690,129	1,555,247	(2,357,407)	(60.3%)
Forrest	3,229,836	2,153,037	2,140,945	1,655,094	1,320,192	(1,909,644)	(59.1%)
Franklin	256,577	198,016	170,739	186,143	140,302	(116,275)	(45.3%)
George	1,142,282	766,058	763,394	585,363	500,207	(642,075)	(56.2%)
Greene	548,891	357,523	350,814	312,620	170,804	(378,087)	(68.9%)
Grenada	857,726	626,490	540,353	540,302	404,498	(453,228)	(52.8%)
Hancock	1,586,816	1,003,283	1,074,124	814,536	585,695	(1,001,121)	(63.1%)
Harrison	7,953,075	5,953,428	5,448,198	4,543,221	3,557,860	(4,395,215)	(55.3%)
Hinds	10,112,257	7,521,684	6,973,435	7,461,070	5,986,223	(4,126,034)	(40.8%)
Holmes	1,845,972	1,337,406	1,291,487	996,460	921,644	(924,328)	(50.1%)
Humphreys	683,527	586,488	505,721	385,229	318,606	(364,921)	(53.4%)
Issaquena	103,738	108,656	79,839	81,427	52,439	(51,299)	(49.5%)
Itawamba	1,046,193	546,194	459,042	333,575	279,796	(766,397)	(73.3%)
Jackson	7,634,759	5,726,296	5,301,581	4,252,409	3,904,318	(3,730,441)	(48.9%)
Jasper	765,787	745,330	726,218	412,371	257,581	(508,206)	(66.4%)
Jefferson	512,944	483,046	518,959	338,832	320,059	(192,885)	(37.6%)
Jefferson Davis	611,697	527,470	606,358	400,350	426,977	(184,720)	(30.2%)
Jones	1,738,768	1,782,902	1,962,962	1,038,036	758,484	(980,284)	(56.4%)
Kemper	967,902	477,902	412,679	415,633	316,488	(651,414)	(67.3%)
Lafayette	1,478,037	991,241	937,180	918,957	646,920	(831,117)	(56.2%)
Lamar	1,632,394	1,424,151	1,219,319	884,005	837,644	(794,750)	(48.7%)
Lauderdale	3,248,387	2,351,525	2,196,884	2,483,655	1,647,916	(1,600,471)	(49.3%)
Lawrence	467,330	333,274	321,316	268,742	195,222	(272,108)	(58.2%)
Leake	558,425	470,263	588,027	518,024	310,318	(248,107)	(44.4%)
Lee	5,112,735	2,431,694	2,422,865	1,811,577	1,635,622	(3,477,113)	(68.0%)
Leflore	2,502,145	2,019,320	1,604,463	1,350,341	1,184,490	(1,317,655)	(52.7%)
Lincoln	902,452	801,419	660,848	617,317	445,006	(457,446)	(50.7%)
Lowndes	3,555,175	2,012,056	2,055,907	1,904,796	1,365,888	(2,189,287)	(61.6%)
Madison	3,438,041	2,584,245	2,599,810	2,557,424	1,888,735	(1,549,306)	(45.1%)
Marion	1,126,676	772,467	731,465	531,947	570,255	(556,421)	(49.4%)

Note: County data will not add to state totals because out-of-state amounts are included in the state totals.

Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits Paid

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 TO 2018	
						Net Chg	Pct Chg
Marshall	1,377,923	926,886	797,524	650,746	552,909	(825,014)	(59.9%)
Monroe	2,699,155	1,450,223	1,410,731	1,017,983	931,780	(1,767,375)	(65.5%)
Montgomery	548,804	492,775	367,681	238,480	272,925	(275,879)	(50.3%)
Neshoba	800,642	548,548	544,833	418,267	346,587	(454,055)	(56.7%)
Newton	685,602	521,211	536,496	477,218	271,711	(413,891)	(60.4%)
Noxubee	906,251	487,965	438,338	438,328	334,207	(572,044)	(63.1%)
Oktibbeha	1,684,934	1,222,228	1,046,115	946,857	828,778	(856,156)	(50.8%)
Panola	2,395,541	1,501,265	1,308,859	1,699,750	938,820	(1,456,721)	(60.8%)
Pearl River	1,289,483	905,136	1,159,998	854,017	542,745	(746,738)	(57.9%)
Perry	527,437	352,189	234,784	175,025	144,170	(383,267)	(72.7%)
Pike	1,190,245	937,018	893,800	748,619	670,256	(519,989)	(43.7%)
Pontotoc	1,637,250	783,412	597,628	434,857	448,222	(1,189,028)	(72.6%)
Prentiss	1,231,666	720,071	709,334	520,109	461,362	(770,304)	(62.5%)
Quitman	774,546	507,473	472,902	458,528	288,299	(486,247)	(62.8%)
Rankin	3,608,363	2,505,392	2,648,813	2,763,289	1,993,285	(1,615,078)	(44.8%)
Scott	709,540	593,837	653,895	543,600	386,259	(323,281)	(45.6%)
Sharkey	343,948	271,707	266,955	240,549	226,278	(117,670)	(34.2%)
Simpson	755,118	683,010	514,578	480,527	367,782	(387,336)	(51.3%)
Smith	423,535	342,229	367,121	302,041	194,844	(228,691)	(54.0%)
Stone	668,481	407,043	437,434	289,353	238,423	(430,058)	(64.3%)
Sunflower	2,036,813	1,509,842	1,440,982	1,275,814	1,151,237	(885,576)	(43.5%)
Tallahatchie	971,431	855,659	690,727	565,063	551,841	(419,590)	(43.2%)
Tate	1,655,846	778,309	560,980	589,256	472,007	(1,183,839)	(71.5%)
Tippah	1,003,863	619,334	517,782	346,918	353,671	(650,192)	(64.8%)
Tishomingo	705,624	529,011	438,156	432,678	324,026	(381,598)	(54.1%)
Tunica	1,452,798	700,890	522,921	493,648	386,262	(1,066,536)	(73.4%)
Union	1,070,838	651,585	559,079	392,747	405,184	(665,654)	(62.2%)
Walthall	611,342	403,154	362,522	262,904	377,840	(233,502)	(38.2%)
Warren	2,029,805	1,764,085	1,779,739	1,687,262	1,479,092	(550,713)	(27.1%)
Washington	3,490,087	2,576,982	2,300,664	2,220,878	2,011,363	(1,478,724)	(42.4%)
Wayne	832,137	782,080	757,329	454,095	333,984	(498,153)	(59.9%)
Webster	452,899	354,521	231,958	188,468	149,849	(303,050)	(66.9%)
Wilkinson	229,920	226,371	234,420	209,758	197,553	(32,367)	(14.1%)
Winston	1,203,604	802,745	634,735	600,759	438,492	(765,112)	(63.6%)
Yalobusha	816,458	380,818	368,580	415,155	296,328	(520,130)	(63.7%)
Yazoo	1,526,114	1,153,841	1,067,786	825,821	631,084	(895,030)	(58.6%)

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	17,174,650	12,683,007	11,823,903	9,610,166	8,047,873	(9,126,777)	(53.1%)
Hattiesburg	5,389,667	3,929,377	3,595,048	2,714,124	2,302,006	(3,087,661)	(57.3%)
Jackson	20,647,609	15,280,901	14,580,132	14,746,066	11,558,169	(9,089,440)	(44.0%)

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	21,545,418	15,345,067	13,752,388	12,571,558	10,509,353	(11,036,065)	(51.2%)
MS Partnership	39,596,858	23,177,123	20,586,162	17,513,857	14,728,555	(24,868,303)	(62.8%)
SC MS Works	29,125,011	22,615,617	21,767,504	20,626,246	16,710,786	(12,414,225)	(42.6%)
Twin Districts	40,017,590	30,056,526	29,089,687	23,233,679	18,165,718	(21,851,872)	(54.6%)

Note: County data will not add to state totals because out-of-state amounts are included in the state totals.

Industry Trends

Mississippi's average monthly covered employment (employment covered under the Mississippi Employment Security law), tallied by place of work, posted a gain of 28,377 from 2014 to 2018. The Trade, Transportation & Utilities and Leisure & Hospitality sectors were the two main industry sectors that led the way in job gains during this period. Additionally, large gains were also made in the Professional & Business Services sector and the Education & Health Services sector during the five-year period.

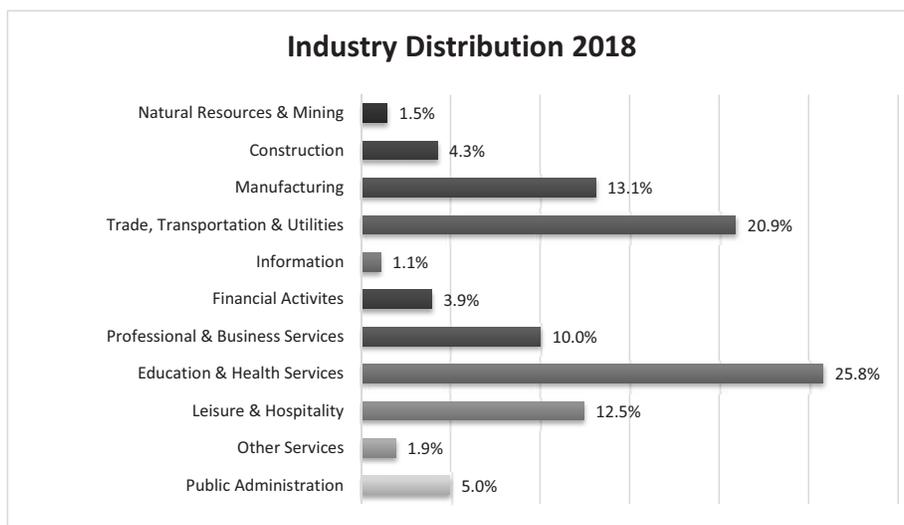
Covered employment in the Delta WDA was reflective of its population and labor force trends, posting a net loss of 4,558 jobs from 2014 to 2018. Declining employment was evident across the spectrum with most industry sectors showing negative change. The majority of the losses occurred in the Leisure & Hospitality sector, with a drop of 1,951 jobs.

In the Mississippi Partnership WDA, covered employment posted a large gain of 27,274 jobs from 2014 to 2018. The economy remained viable by adding jobs in most industry sectors. The largest employment increase was recorded in the

Trade, Transportation & Utilities sector, which added 8,570 jobs. An additional 4,398 jobs were added to the payrolls in the Professional & Business Services sector. Significant gains were also made in the Leisure & Hospitality category with a 12.9% increase in the five-year period.

The Southcentral Mississippi Works WDA showed a covered employment increase of 9,166 jobs from 2014 to 2018. A few sectors in the region had employment trends that were quite positive. The Manufacturing; Trade, Transportation & Utilities; Professional & Business Services; Education & Health Services; and Leisure & Hospitality sectors each had increases of over 2,000 jobs.

The Twin Districts WDA experienced an increase of 5,021 jobs from 2014 to 2018. The greatest loss for the area occurred in the Construction sector with a major loss of over 2,482 jobs. The area gained over 5,000 new jobs in the Leisure & Hospitality sector which reflects a gain of 10.3%. Also, the Trade, Transportation & Utilities; and Education & Health Services sectors had large increases.



Mississippi Covered Employment

Data based on place of work	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 TO 2018	
	Avg Mo	Net Chg	Pct Chg				
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	1,077,258	1,089,114	1,100,264	1,103,206	1,105,635	28,377	2.6%
Natural Resources & Mining	19,411	17,906	16,935	16,361	16,233	(3,178)	(16.4%)
Agric., Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	13,109	12,815	13,058	12,273	12,235	(874)	(6.7%)
Mining	6,302	5,091	3,877	4,088	3,998	(2,304)	(36.6%)
Construction	52,743	49,211	47,793	46,733	47,187	(5,556)	(10.5%)
Manufacturing	139,627	141,847	143,263	144,136	144,926	5,299	3.8%
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	220,708	225,686	230,576	232,042	231,415	10,707	4.9%
Wholesale Trade	34,105	34,523	34,356	34,767	34,161	56	0.2%
Retail Trade	135,878	138,276	140,923	140,529	138,399	2,521	1.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	41,616	43,722	46,031	47,366	49,636	8,020	19.3%
Utilities	9,109	9,165	9,266	9,380	9,219	110	1.2%
Information	14,611	14,978	13,509	12,882	12,243	(2,368)	(16.2%)
Financial Activities	43,443	43,574	43,759	43,701	43,620	177	0.4%
Finance & Insurance	31,179	31,299	31,449	31,354	31,287	108	0.3%
Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	12,264	12,275	12,310	12,347	12,333	69	0.6%
Professional & Business Services	102,680	105,931	108,985	108,783	110,848	8,168	8.0%
Professional & Technical Services	31,563	31,383	31,321	31,669	31,890	327	1.0%
Management of Companies & Enter.	10,650	10,601	11,044	11,011	11,482	832	7.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	60,467	63,947	66,620	66,103	67,476	7,009	11.6%
Education & Health Services	277,272	280,359	283,055	284,865	285,363	8,091	2.9%
Educational Services	111,436	111,606	111,739	110,637	109,727	(1,709)	(1.5%)
Health Care & Social Assistance	165,836	168,753	171,316	174,228	175,636	9,800	5.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	128,606	131,989	136,065	137,489	137,690	9,084	7.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	12,124	12,220	12,298	10,523	10,495	(1,629)	(13.4%)
Accommodation & Food Services	116,482	119,769	123,767	126,966	127,195	10,713	9.2%
Other Services	22,026	22,028	21,492	21,328	21,368	(658)	(3.0%)
Public Administration	56,130	55,606	54,834	54,887	54,743	(1,387)	(2.5%)

Delta WDA Covered Employment

Data based on place of work	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 to 2018	
	Avg Mo	Net Chg	Pct Chg				
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	92,265	91,269	90,787	89,635	87,707	(4,558)	(4.9%)
Natural Resources & Mining	4,257	3,949	3,917	3,804	3,703	(554)	(13.0%)
Construction	2,690	2,757	2,847	2,765	2,676	(14)	(0.5%)
Manufacturing	9,010	9,059	8,970	9,108	9,068	58	0.6%
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	17,787	17,895	17,816	17,558	17,059	(728)	(4.1%)
Information	795	786	829	772	695	(100)	(12.6%)
Financial Activities	3,130	3,145	3,066	2,994	2,935	(195)	(6.2%)
Professional & Business Services	5,550	5,699	5,895	5,877	5,700	150	2.7%
Education & Health Services	25,882	25,939	25,860	25,632	25,277	(605)	(2.3%)
Leisure & Hospitality	14,442	13,532	13,312	12,940	12,491	(1,951)	(13.5%)
Other Services	2,049	2,056	1,999	2,015	2,039	(10)	(0.5%)
Public Administration	6,673	6,451	6,277	6,170	6,065	(608)	(9.1%)

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Mississippi Partnership WDA Covered Employment

Data based on place of work	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 to 2018	
	Avg Mo	Net Chg	Pct Chg				
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	289,100	297,932	308,998	312,251	316,374	27,274	9.4%
Natural Resources & Mining	2,934	2,869	2,977	2,931	2,969	35	1.2%
Construction	10,003	10,056	10,201	10,286	10,663	660	6.6%
Manufacturing	54,870	56,756	58,230	58,739	59,218	4,348	7.9%
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	63,739	66,257	70,109	71,448	72,309	8,570	13.4%
Information	3,268	3,271	3,367	3,314	3,264	(4)	(0.1%)
Financial Activities	9,159	9,225	9,672	9,819	9,979	820	9.0%
Professional & Business Services	24,406	26,211	27,756	26,960	28,804	4,398	18.0%
Education & Health Services	73,359	74,151	75,882	76,800	77,234	3,875	5.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	31,084	32,836	34,225	35,188	35,094	4,010	12.9%
Other Services	4,956	5,109	5,303	5,350	5,328	372	7.5%
Public Administration	11,324	11,192	11,275	11,416	11,512	188	1.7%

Southcentral Mississippi Works WDA Covered Employment

Data based on place of work	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 to 2018	
	Avg Mo	Net Chg	Pct Chg				
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	311,768	317,606	321,041	321,865	320,934	9,166	2.9%
Natural Resources & Mining	4,013	4,387	4,027	3,739	3,720	(293)	(7.3%)
Construction	13,579	13,031	13,222	12,932	12,527	(1,052)	(7.7%)
Manufacturing	26,273	27,294	28,207	28,632	29,084	2,811	10.7%
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	64,203	65,442	66,583	67,394	66,936	2,733	4.3%
Information	6,152	6,447	5,148	4,804	4,466	(1,686)	(27.4%)
Financial Activities	16,398	16,703	17,083	16,790	16,783	385	2.3%
Professional & Business Services	32,120	32,828	34,728	34,454	34,660	2,540	7.9%
Education & Health Services	88,813	90,124	90,927	91,328	91,258	2,445	2.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	33,284	34,415	34,697	35,229	35,306	2,022	6.1%
Other Services	7,155	7,218	7,231	7,005	6,906	(249)	(3.5%)
Public Administration	19,779	19,718	19,187	19,558	19,289	(490)	(2.5%)

Twin Districts WDA Covered Employment

Data based on place of work	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 to 2018	
	Avg Mo	Net Chg	Pct Chg				
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	342,691	343,669	346,617	346,958	347,712	5,021	1.5%
Natural Resources & Mining	6,825	6,240	5,644	5,266	5,241	(1,584)	(23.2%)
Construction	19,970	18,419	17,502	16,573	17,488	(2,482)	(12.4%)
Manufacturing	49,064	48,340	47,814	47,633	47,536	(1,528)	(3.1%)
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	64,814	66,201	67,861	67,733	67,065	2,251	3.5%
Information	3,629	3,643	3,535	3,336	3,054	(575)	(15.8%)
Financial Activities	12,546	12,384	12,489	12,507	12,279	(267)	(2.1%)
Professional & Business Services	26,861	27,609	27,815	28,572	28,355	1,494	5.6%
Education & Health Services	87,152	87,669	88,083	88,745	89,195	2,043	2.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	49,228	50,659	53,346	53,694	54,290	5,062	10.3%
Other Services	6,302	6,286	6,398	6,397	6,587	285	4.5%
Public Administration	16,299	16,220	16,132	16,503	16,621	322	2.0%

SOURCE: MS Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Total Covered Employment (Data based on place of work)

	2014 Avg Mo	2015 Avg Mo	2016 Avg Mo	2017 Avg Mo	2018 Avg Mo	2014 TO 2018	
						Net Chg	Pct Chg
MISSISSIPPI	1,077,258	1,089,114	1,100,264	1,103,206	1,105,635	28,377	2.6%
Adams	10,788	10,586	10,370	10,356	10,530	(258)	(2.4%)
Alcorn	13,201	13,743	13,853	14,015	14,164	963	7.3%
Amite	1,738	1,719	1,743	1,737	1,781	43	2.5%
Attala	4,472	4,423	4,515	4,489	4,497	25	0.6%
Benton	1,268	863	926	941	916	(352)	(27.8%)
Bolivar	11,514	11,697	11,790	11,451	11,016	(498)	(4.3%)
Calhoun	3,267	3,164	3,215	3,192	3,175	(92)	(2.8%)
Carroll	1,085	1,101	1,103	1,135	1,127	42	3.9%
Chickasaw	5,494	5,397	5,304	5,377	5,372	(122)	(2.2%)
Choctaw	1,892	2,090	2,092	2,049	2,160	268	14.2%
Claiborne	3,290	3,416	3,379	3,406	3,431	141	4.3%
Clarke	2,929	2,928	2,889	2,845	2,863	(66)	(2.3%)
Clay	4,951	5,201	5,276	5,201	5,265	314	6.3%
Coahoma	8,221	8,139	8,016	7,804	7,612	(609)	(7.4%)
Copiah	7,003	6,956	7,115	7,068	6,899	(104)	(1.5%)
Covington	4,979	5,047	5,243	5,360	5,386	407	8.2%
DeSoto	51,301	53,841	58,275	60,161	62,307	11,006	21.5%
Forrest	36,986	37,415	38,182	39,202	39,839	2,853	7.7%
Franklin	1,621	1,633	1,565	1,532	1,503	(118)	(7.3%)
George	4,957	4,875	4,786	4,867	4,890	(67)	(1.4%)
Greene	1,973	1,946	1,905	1,930	1,909	(64)	(3.2%)
Grenada	9,948	10,186	10,421	10,432	10,443	495	5.0%
Hancock	11,065	11,205	11,101	11,149	11,360	295	2.7%
Harrison	76,805	77,584	79,237	79,742	79,980	3,175	4.1%
Hinds	114,436	115,658	116,498	116,814	115,680	1,244	1.1%
Holmes	3,585	3,664	3,557	3,479	3,417	(168)	(4.7%)
Humphreys	2,305	2,262	2,193	2,205	2,253	(52)	(2.3%)
Issaquena	201	196	195	200	187	(14)	(7.0%)
Itawamba	5,998	6,312	6,243	6,165	6,027	29	0.5%
Jackson	48,277	48,349	48,397	47,501	47,464	(813)	(1.7%)
Jasper	3,878	3,799	3,765	3,886	3,960	82	2.1%
Jefferson	1,334	1,231	1,184	1,058	1,017	(317)	(23.8%)
Jefferson Davis	1,593	1,592	1,619	1,660	1,573	(20)	(1.3%)
Jones	28,152	28,044	26,986	26,582	26,871	(1,281)	(4.6%)
Kemper	3,678	2,621	2,770	2,340	2,184	(1,494)	(40.6%)
Lafayette	19,956	21,005	22,537	23,279	24,003	4,047	20.3%
Lamar	17,887	18,428	18,903	19,120	19,126	1,239	6.9%
Lauderdale	32,571	32,518	32,776	32,824	32,085	(486)	(1.5%)
Lawrence	2,366	2,532	2,429	2,383	2,382	16	0.7%
Leake	4,946	4,967	4,805	4,752	5,064	118	2.4%
Lee	49,798	51,254	53,390	53,530	53,282	3,484	7.0%
Leflore	13,914	13,997	14,208	14,603	14,442	528	3.8%
Lincoln	11,146	11,554	11,752	11,891	12,084	938	8.4%
Lowndes	23,721	23,802	24,360	24,165	24,229	508	2.1%
Madison	49,985	52,187	54,719	55,237	55,190	5,205	10.4%
Marion	7,566	7,672	7,982	7,979	7,878	312	4.1%

*Data based on place of work.

Local Area Highlights - Covered Employment

COUNTY	RANK		COMMENTS
	Net Chg	Pct Chg	
MISSISSIPPI	XXX	XXX	
Adams	67	59	Decrease in Natural Resources & Mining
Alcorn	13	14	Increase in Professional & Business Services
Amite	38	33	No large changes; small changes in various sectors
Attala	41	42	No large changes; small changes in various sectors
Benton	69	81	Large decrease in Trade, Transportation & Utilities
Bolivar	75	65	Decreases in Educational & Health Services; and Trade, Transportation & Utilities
Calhoun	57	60	Decrease in Manufacturing; increase in Natural Resources & Mining
Carroll	39	30	No large changes; small changes in various sectors
Chickasaw	62	55	Large decrease in Manufacturing
Choctaw	30	5	Large increase Educational & Health Services
Claiborne	34	25	Significant increase in Leisure & Hospitality; significant decrease in Construction
Clarke	53	56	No large changes; small changes in various sectors
Clay	26	19	Large increase in Manufacturing
Coahoma	76	77	Large decreases in Educational & Health Services and in Trade, Transp. & Utilities
Copiah	58	50	Increase in Manufacturing; large decrease in Professional & Business Services
Covington	24	12	Increases in Trade, Transportation & Utilities; Manufacturing and Construction
DeSoto	1	2	Large significant increases in Trade, Transp. & Utilities and in Prof. & Business Services
Forrest	7	13	Significant increase in Professional & Business Services
Franklin	60	76	Decrease in Manufacturing
George	55	48	Decrease in Construction; increase in Leisure & Hospitality
Greene	52	61	Decrease in Public Administration
Grenada	22	22	Increases in Professional & Business Services and in Trade, Transportation & Utilities
Hancock	28	32	Increases in Leisure & Hospitality and in Professional & Business Services
Harrison	6	26	Increases in Leisure & Hospitality and Educ. & Health Svcs.; decrease in Manufacturing
Hinds	9	38	Increases in Professional & Business Services and in Manufacturing
Holmes	63	68	Decrease in Professional & Business Services
Humphreys	51	57	No significant changes; small changes in various sectors
Issaquena	46	75	Decrease in Natural Resources & Mining
Itawamba	40	43	Large increase in Manufacturing
Jackson	78	53	Decreases in Manufacturing and Construction
Jasper	37	36	Increases in Construction and Manufacturing
Jefferson	68	80	Significant decrease in Leisure & Hospitality; large decrease in Educational & Health Srvc
Jefferson Davis	47	47	Large increase in Manufacturing
Jones	80	66	Significant decrease in Natural Resources & Mining
Kemper	81	82	Large significant decrease in Construction
Lafayette	3	3	Large increase in Leisure & Hospitality and increases in almost every sector
Lamar	11	16	Increases in almost all sectors
Lauderdale	74	51	Decreases in Manufacturing and in Educational & Health Services
Lawrence	44	41	No large changes; small changes in various sectors
Leake	35	34	Increase in Manufacturing
Lee	5	15	Increases in almost all sectors
Leflore	20	31	Large increase in Manufacturing
Lincoln	14	11	Increases in Trade, Transportation & Utilities and in Leisure & Hospitality
Lowndes	21	35	Increases in Leisure & Hospitality and in Educational & Health Services
Madison	2	9	Large gains in Manufacturing and in Education & Health Services
Marion	27	27	Increases in Construction and in Other Services

*Data based on place of work.

Total Covered Employment (Data based on place of work)

	2014 Avg Mo	2015 Avg Mo	2016 Avg Mo	2017 Avg Mo	2018 Avg Mo	2014 TO 2018	
						Net Chg	Pct Chg
Marshall	5,809	6,035	6,263	6,561	7,067	1,258	21.7%
Monroe	9,409	9,569	9,682	9,564	9,557	148	1.6%
Montgomery	2,487	2,490	2,549	2,489	2,317	(170)	(6.8%)
Neshoba	12,398	12,182	12,293	12,143	11,915	(483)	(3.9%)
Newton	5,862	5,773	5,619	5,492	5,477	(385)	(6.6%)
Noxubee	2,446	2,466	2,510	2,504	2,470	24	1.0%
Oktibbeha	18,981	19,401	20,022	19,923	20,194	1,213	6.4%
Panola	10,632	10,718	10,505	10,395	10,258	(374)	(3.5%)
Pearl River	9,694	9,931	10,139	10,138	10,315	621	6.4%
Perry	1,991	2,026	2,050	2,050	2,079	88	4.4%
Pike	14,526	14,678	14,672	14,747	14,677	151	1.0%
Pontotoc	11,781	12,350	12,590	12,442	12,465	684	5.8%
Prentiss	7,129	7,178	7,174	7,284	7,412	283	4.0%
Quitman	1,140	1,107	1,068	956	942	(198)	(17.4%)
Rankin	58,192	60,706	61,403	61,325	61,773	3,581	6.2%
Scott	12,936	13,242	13,542	13,657	13,494	558	4.3%
Sharkey	1,198	1,161	1,169	1,180	1,176	(22)	(1.8%)
Simpson	7,226	6,858	6,840	6,977	7,106	(120)	(1.7%)
Smith	2,743	2,712	2,718	2,707	2,734	(9)	(0.3%)
Stone	3,921	3,987	4,074	4,163	4,342	421	10.7%
Sunflower	8,611	8,465	8,426	8,303	8,186	(425)	(4.9%)
Tallahatchie	3,028	3,022	2,996	2,962	2,834	(194)	(6.4%)
Tate	5,275	5,381	5,437	5,455	5,488	213	4.0%
Tippah	5,857	6,551	6,476	6,502	6,499	642	11.0%
Tishomingo	5,440	5,800	6,088	6,105	6,307	867	15.9%
Tunica	9,794	8,734	8,605	8,344	8,007	(1,787)	(18.2%)
Union	9,835	10,093	10,549	10,956	11,079	1,244	12.6%
Walthall	2,497	2,494	2,372	2,360	2,393	(104)	(4.2%)
Warren	18,292	18,083	17,962	17,615	17,285	(1,007)	(5.5%)
Washington	17,039	17,006	16,958	16,617	16,252	(787)	(4.6%)
Wayne	4,904	4,827	4,838	4,872	4,924	20	0.4%
Webster	1,953	1,920	1,880	1,898	1,924	(29)	(1.5%)
Wilkinson	1,711	1,728	1,667	1,677	1,620	(91)	(5.3%)
Winston	4,519	4,529	4,606	4,755	4,906	387	8.6%
Yalobusha	2,915	2,890	2,766	2,820	2,849	(66)	(2.3%)
Yazoo	5,618	5,588	5,374	5,683	5,582	(36)	(0.6%)

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	136,147	137,138	138,735	138,391	138,804	2,657	2.0%
Hattiesburg	56,864	57,868	59,134	60,372	61,044	4,180	7.4%
Jackson	242,460	247,952	251,949	253,103	252,231	9,771	4.0%

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	92,265	91,269	90,787	89,635	87,707	(4,558)	(4.9%)
MS Partnership	289,100	297,932	308,998	312,251	316,374	27,274	9.4%
SC MS Works	311,768	317,606	321,041	321,865	320,934	9,166	2.9%
Twin Districts	342,691	343,669	346,617	346,958	347,712	5,021	1.5%

*Data based on place of work.

Local Area Highlights - Covered Employment

COUNTY	RANK		COMMENTS
	Net Chg	Pct Chg	
Marshall	8	1	Increases in Trade, Transportation & Utilities; and in Manufacturing
Monroe	33	37	Increase in Manufacturing
Montgomery	64	74	Decrease in Educational & Health Services
Neshoba	73	63	Decrease in Construction
Newton	71	73	Decrease in Educational & Health Services
Noxubee	42	40	No significant changes; small changes in various sectors
Oktibbeha	12	18	Increase in Leisure & Hospitality
Panola	70	62	Decrease in Manufacturing
Pearl River	18	17	Increase in Trade, Transportation & Utilities
Perry	36	23	No significant changes; small changes in various sectors
Pike	32	39	Increases in Manufacturing, Prof. & Business Svcs. and in Trade, Transp., & Utilities
Pontotoc	16	21	Large increases in Manufacturing and in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities
Prentiss	29	29	Increase in Professional & Business Services
Quitman	66	78	Decrease in Educational & Health Services
Rankin	4	20	Increases in Trade, Transportation & Utilities and in Leisure & Hospitality
Scott	19	24	Increases in Manufacturing and in Professional & Business Services
Sharkey	48	54	No large changes; small changes in various sectors
Simpson	61	52	Decrease in Professional & Business Services
Smith	45	45	No significant changes; small changes in various sectors
Stone	23	8	Increases in Educational & Health Services and in Leisure & Hospitality
Sunflower	72	69	Decrease in Public Administration
Tallahatchie	65	72	Decrease in Professional & Business Services
Tate	31	28	Increase in Manufacturing
Tippah	17	7	Increases in Trade, Transportation & Utilities; and in Educational & Health Services
Tishomingo	15	4	Increase in Manufacturing
Tunica	82	79	Large decrease in Leisure & Hospitality
Union	10	6	Increases across most sectors
Walthall	59	64	Decreases across most sectors
Warren	79	71	Decreases in Manufacturing and in Educational & Health Services
Washington	77	67	Decrease in Trade, Transportation & Utilities
Wayne	43	44	Decrease in Construction; increase in Manufacturing
Webster	49	49	No significant changes
Wilkinson	56	70	No significant changes
Winston	25	10	Increase in Manufacturing; decrease in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities
Yalobusha	54	58	Decrease in Professional & Business Services
Yazoo	50	46	Increase in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities; decrease in Financial Activities

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	3	3	Decrease in Manufacturing; increase in Leisure & Hospitality
Hattiesburg	2	1	Increase in Professional & Business Services
Jackson	1	2	Increases in Manufacturing and in Educational & Health Services

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	4	4	Large decrease in Leisure & Hospitality
MS Partnership	1	1	Increases in almost every sector
SC MS Works	2	2	Increases in Manufacturing and in Trade, Transport, & Utilities
Twin Districts	3	3	Decrease in Construction; increase in Leisure & Hospitality

*Data based on place of work.

Per Capita Income

Long used as a measure of overall economic health for a particular area, Per Capita Income (PCI) 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. The PCI for Mississippi is about seventy percent of the national figure. This ratio has held 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 Madison

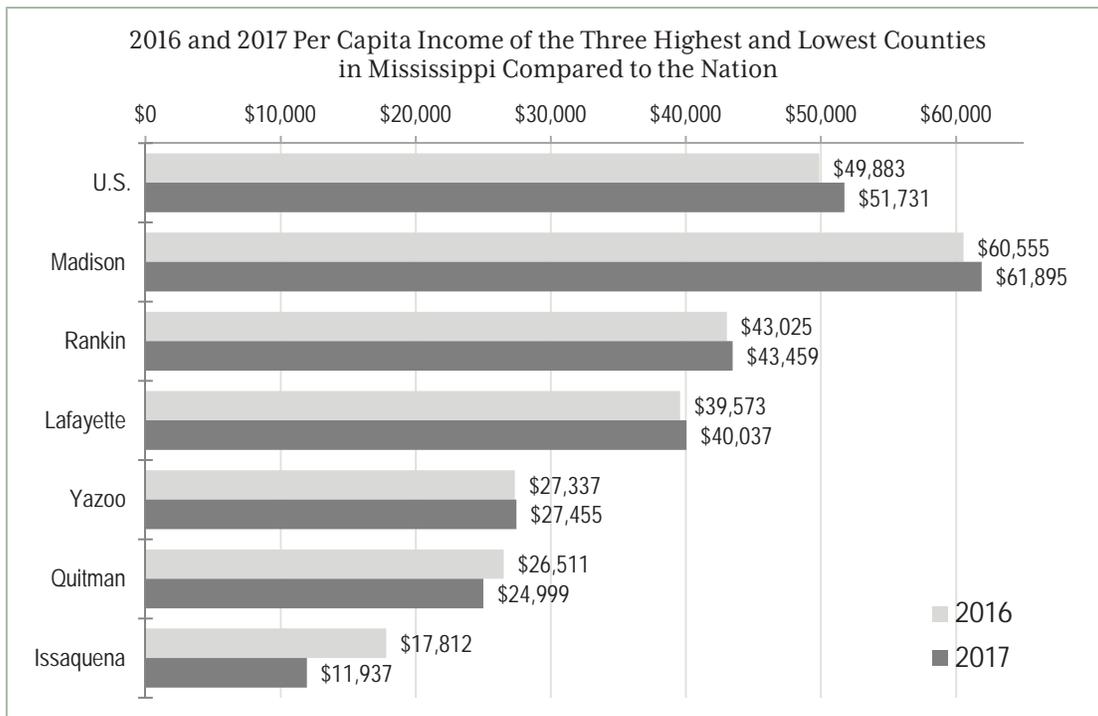
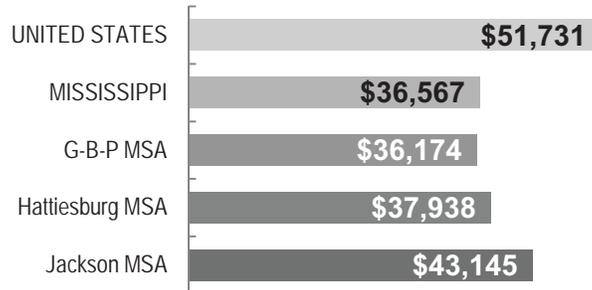
County exceeded the 2017 national per capita income level of \$51,731. Some counties exhibited mixed signals when the data were analyzed. For example, Harrison and Jackson Counties ranked around fifty for net change and in the fifties for percent change over the five year period while maintaining their standing in the top twenty PCI in the state. Benton County had the seventy-third highest PCI but ranked sixteenth in net growth and eighth in percent increase. Lafayette County ranked third for PCI, and first in both net growth and percent increase. The least populated county, Issaquena, ranked last in all categories.

Among the Metropolitan Statistical Areas, the Jackson MSA ranked first in income level, second in net growth and in percent increase. Hattiesburg was second highest PCI and first in net increase percent growth. Gulfport-Biloxi-Pascagoula had the lowest PCI among the three and was third in the other two categories.

The Southcentral MS WDA was first in income, but second in net increase and percent growth. Twin Districts came in third in every category. Mississippi Partnership posted the second highest PCI, but was first in net change and percent change. The Delta WDA recorded the lowest PCI, net increase, and percent change.



2017 Per Capita Income Comparison



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce - Bureau of Economic Analysis

Per Capita Income

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013 to 2017		RANK		
						Net Chg	Pct Chg	PCI 2017	Net Chg	Pct Chg
MISSISSIPPI	33,839	34,610	35,097	35,778	36,567	2,728	8.1%	XXX	XXX	XXX
Adams	32,892	33,882	32,977	32,466	33,099	207	0.6%	40	73	73
Alcorn	30,922	31,691	32,676	33,439	34,644	3,722	12.0%	30	10	11
Amite	28,367	30,032	30,167	30,581	31,542	3,175	11.2%	58	18	14
Attala	31,058	31,001	31,510	32,265	33,002	1,944	6.3%	42	52	46
Benton	25,773	26,798	28,032	28,359	29,022	3,249	12.6%	73	16	8
Bolivar	33,530	32,597	33,580	35,584	36,131	2,601	7.8%	18	35	37
Calhoun	28,499	28,027	29,350	30,719	31,576	3,077	10.8%	57	21	16
Carroll	33,575	32,171	33,669	34,976	35,649	2,074	6.2%	21	45	51
Chickasaw	29,910	30,606	30,737	31,382	32,817	2,907	9.7%	44	29	27
Choctaw	28,477	28,669	30,030	31,054	31,461	2,984	10.5%	60	24	21
Claiborne	29,115	28,335	29,963	29,447	29,657	542	1.9%	68	71	71
Clarke	34,932	35,775	34,901	35,090	35,815	883	2.5%	20	67	67
Clay	35,208	34,708	34,645	35,076	35,998	790	2.2%	19	68	69
Coahoma	33,871	30,940	31,812	34,158	34,125	254	0.7%	32	72	72
Copiah	30,395	30,851	31,207	31,448	32,140	1,745	5.7%	51	56	54
Covington	31,501	33,215	32,028	31,296	33,449	1,948	6.2%	36	51	50
DeSoto	34,955	35,616	37,028	38,386	39,461	4,506	12.9%	5	5	6
Forrest	34,182	35,823	36,429	37,056	38,141	3,959	11.6%	9	7	12
Franklin	31,026	32,309	33,368	33,158	33,209	2,183	7.0%	37	43	43
George	30,453	31,596	32,045	31,577	31,850	1,397	4.6%	53	62	63
Greene	25,804	26,477	28,395	28,141	28,556	2,752	10.7%	76	31	18
Grenada	30,958	31,524	32,709	34,255	35,122	4,164	13.5%	25	6	5
Hancock	32,546	33,878	32,914	33,531	34,580	2,034	6.2%	31	48	47
Harrison	34,358	35,166	35,492	35,963	36,350	1,992	5.8%	16	49	53
Hinds	36,672	38,073	38,149	38,112	38,758	2,086	5.7%	7	44	55
Holmes	26,418	25,041	25,848	27,970	27,715	1,297	4.9%	79	63	60
Humphreys	30,783	26,675	27,016	28,200	27,775	(3,008)	(9.8%)	78	78	79
Issaquena	23,355	14,165	13,239	17,812	11,937	(11,418)	(48.9%)	82	82	82
Itawamba	30,032	31,083	31,733	32,011	33,116	3,084	10.3%	39	20	23
Jackson	34,494	34,905	35,429	35,890	36,449	1,955	5.7%	15	50	57
Jasper	33,327	34,899	34,254	33,594	35,220	1,893	5.7%	23	53	56
Jefferson	30,860	30,059	30,246	30,819	31,628	768	2.5%	56	69	68
Jefferson Davis	26,366	26,830	27,398	27,900	29,287	2,921	11.1%	70	26	15
Jones	34,883	37,697	36,675	36,094	37,501	2,618	7.5%	11	34	38
Kemper	27,803	27,295	27,518	28,143	29,224	1,421	5.1%	71	61	58
Lafayette	33,729	35,324	37,349	39,573	40,037	6,308	18.7%	3	1	1
Lamar	34,414	36,028	37,697	38,295	39,076	4,662	13.5%	6	4	4
Lauderdale	34,373	34,860	35,304	36,998	37,796	3,423	10.0%	10	15	26
Lawrence	31,795	32,277	32,223	31,061	32,468	673	2.1%	48	70	70
Leake	27,499	29,713	28,274	27,723	29,289	1,790	6.5%	69	54	45
Lee	34,848	36,541	37,539	38,838	39,882	5,034	14.4%	4	3	2
Leflore	32,907	31,412	31,928	34,130	35,241	2,334	7.1%	22	39	42
Lincoln	34,276	35,541	35,886	36,110	37,087	2,811	8.2%	12	30	36
Lowndes	35,348	35,152	35,451	36,039	37,061	1,713	4.8%	13	57	62
Madison	56,284	58,613	59,118	60,555	61,895	5,611	10.0%	1	2	25
Marion	29,439	29,307	30,279	29,970	32,535	3,096	10.5%	45	19	20

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Per Capita Income

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013 to 2017		RANK		
						Net Chg	Pct Chg	PCI 2017	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Marshall	28,291	28,782	29,958	30,557	31,238	2,947	10.4%	61	25	22
Monroe	30,138	31,220	32,110	32,253	33,047	2,909	9.7%	41	28	29
Montgomery	29,411	30,027	31,568	32,336	33,194	3,783	12.9%	38	9	7
Neshoba	33,875	34,476	33,586	33,674	34,943	1,068	3.2%	27	66	66
Newton	31,698	33,438	32,964	32,951	33,989	2,291	7.2%	33	42	40
Noxubee	34,514	30,875	30,912	31,565	32,862	(1,652)	(4.8%)	43	77	77
Oktibbeha	29,866	30,813	31,287	32,309	32,464	2,598	8.7%	49	36	32
Panola	30,690	30,069	30,974	31,468	32,246	1,556	5.1%	50	60	59
Pearl River	32,437	33,092	34,333	34,480	35,164	2,727	8.4%	24	32	35
Perry	28,235	28,712	29,378	30,074	30,856	2,621	9.3%	63	33	30
Pike	28,875	30,105	30,027	30,012	30,641	1,766	6.1%	65	55	52
Pontotoc	28,612	29,280	30,519	30,883	31,672	3,060	10.7%	55	22	17
Prentiss	26,842	27,779	28,684	29,294	30,084	3,242	12.1%	67	17	10
Quitman	28,034	23,483	23,890	26,511	24,999	(3,035)	(10.8%)	81	79	80
Rankin	40,035	41,955	42,652	43,025	43,459	3,424	8.6%	2	14	34
Scott	27,418	29,630	28,762	28,804	30,336	2,918	10.6%	66	27	19
Sharkey	34,619	26,085	26,725	28,295	27,895	(6,724)	(19.4%)	77	81	81
Simpson	32,928	34,453	33,704	33,665	34,969	2,041	6.2%	26	47	48
Smith	32,332	34,571	32,469	31,637	33,550	1,218	3.8%	35	65	65
Stone	29,488	30,443	30,369	30,885	30,731	1,243	4.2%	64	64	64
Sunflower	27,363	26,526	26,425	28,868	29,057	1,694	6.2%	72	58	49
Tallahatchie	29,585	26,425	25,818	27,243	28,695	(890)	(3.0%)	75	76	76
Tate	31,304	31,231	32,448	33,995	34,873	3,569	11.4%	28	11	13
Tippah	28,980	29,547	30,542	31,447	32,520	3,540	12.2%	46	12	9
Tishomingo	28,126	29,161	30,237	31,344	31,981	3,855	13.7%	52	8	3
Tunica	34,939	29,688	29,776	33,658	31,814	(3,125)	(8.9%)	54	80	78
Union	28,967	29,310	30,078	30,823	31,512	2,545	8.8%	59	37	31
Walthall	28,932	29,699	30,125	29,581	31,006	2,074	7.2%	62	46	41
Warren	35,013	35,349	36,428	37,602	38,525	3,512	10.0%	8	13	24
Washington	33,801	33,586	34,036	35,349	36,248	2,447	7.2%	17	38	39
Wayne	32,477	34,646	32,067	31,255	32,511	34	0.1%	47	74	74
Webster	34,176	31,782	34,540	36,390	36,500	2,324	6.8%	14	40	44
Wilkinson	26,546	27,380	27,854	27,813	28,850	2,304	8.7%	74	41	33
Winston	30,882	32,292	32,022	32,368	33,875	2,993	9.7%	34	23	28
Yalobusha	33,235	33,417	34,217	34,426	34,863	1,628	4.9%	29	59	61
Yazoo	27,548	25,718	26,582	27,337	27,455	(93)	(0.3%)	80	75	75

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	34,192	34,917	35,162	35,646	36,174	1,982	5.8%	3	3	3
Hattiesburg	33,791	35,327	36,375	36,999	37,938	4,146	12.3%	2	1	1
Jackson	39,973	41,520	41,918	42,373	43,145	3,172	7.9%	1	2	2

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	31,663	29,973	30,517	32,322	32,702	1,039	3.3%	4	4	4
MS Partnership	32,028	32,674	33,698	34,719	35,616	3,588	11.2%	2	1	1
SC MS Works	37,631	38,980	39,364	39,735	40,539	2,908	7.7%	1	2	2
Twin Districts	33,028	34,144	34,278	34,593	35,481	2,452	7.4%	3	3	3

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Sales Tax Collections

Another way to gauge the economic health of an area is sales tax collections. Since almost all goods and services are subject to the state sales tax, it is a good indication of consumer spending. Increases in consumer spending indicate increased earnings and reflect 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, data may be skewed in favor of the more urban areas.

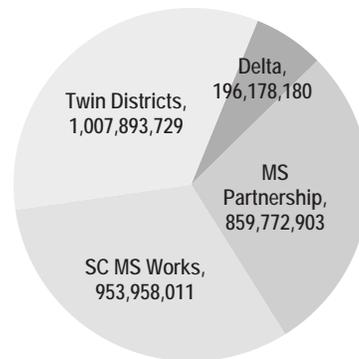
A quick review of the accompanying chart reveals some interesting tendencies. Twenty-five counties registered declines in tax collections between FY 2014 and 2018. Hinds County collected the most sales tax in FY 2018, was fifty-first in net increase, and fifty-seventh in percent growth. DeSoto and Harrison Counties ranked first and second highest in net change. Even though Franklin was seventy-first in sales tax collections, the county, at 38.8%, had the second highest percent change since 2014. Lafayette County moved up to claim the highest place with a 41.8% increase. Twenty-six counties posted a sales tax revenue increase of at least ten percent in the 2014-2018 time period.

Of the three Metropolitan Statistical Areas in Mississippi, Jackson ranked first in sales tax collections, and second in net change and third in percent change. The Gulfport-Biloxi-Pascagoula MSA sales tax revenue increased by 17.3%, the

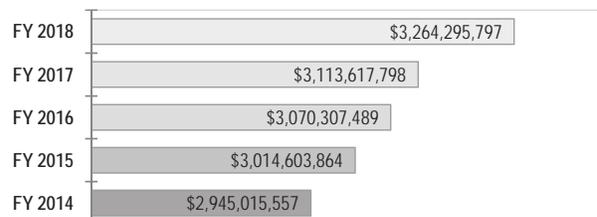
largest in net change and percent change. The Hattiesburg MSA ranked third in both sales tax collections and net change for the five-year period.

In the WDAs, Twin Districts was first in revenue but second in growth and percent increase. Southcentral MS Works was second in sales tax collections and third in both net change and percent change. The Mississippi Partnership area was third in revenue but posted a strong first place in net change and first in percent change with a 19.7% increase. The Delta is by far the least populous of the Workforce Development Areas and was at a distinct disadvantage, finishing last in the rankings. Seven of the twenty-five counties which lost sales tax revenues over the time frame were located in the Delta WDA.

Sales Tax Collected 2018
Workforce Development Areas



Sales Tax Collected 2013-2017
Mississippi



Sales Tax Collected

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	2014 to 2018		RANK		
						Net Chg	Pct Chg	Tax 2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
MISSISSIPPI	2,945,015,557	3,014,603,864	3,070,307,489	3,113,617,798	3,264,295,797	319,280,240	10.8%	XXX	XXX	XXX
Adams	36,145,003	36,630,937	35,110,395	34,220,719	34,339,584	(1,805,419)	(5.0%)	22	78	70
Alcorn	34,513,300	35,913,029	37,153,787	37,093,613	37,009,911	2,496,611	7.2%	21	21	39
Amite	4,627,781	4,730,874	3,802,848	3,681,484	3,594,194	(1,033,587)	(22.3%)	69	75	81
Attala	12,279,339	12,546,353	12,884,855	13,141,214	13,222,513	943,174	7.7%	45	37	36
Benton	1,718,328	1,423,208	2,043,633	1,654,120	1,722,921	4,593	0.3%	81	57	55
Bolivar	25,423,565	25,626,887	27,027,917	26,773,903	27,589,946	2,166,381	8.5%	26	24	31
Calhoun	6,266,778	6,902,129	6,723,046	6,856,310	6,824,954	558,176	8.9%	56	40	30
Carroll	1,740,912	1,762,085	1,900,212	1,953,933	1,887,703	146,791	8.4%	79	52	32
Chickasaw	9,038,347	8,970,938	9,394,895	9,406,021	9,538,758	500,411	5.5%	54	42	46
Choctaw	2,329,620	3,088,699	2,634,908	2,316,456	2,599,814	270,194	11.6%	76	48	25
Claiborne	2,763,937	2,713,117	3,052,463	2,923,213	2,707,827	(56,110)	(2.0%)	74	59	60
Clarke	6,682,411	6,278,635	5,433,086	5,415,815	5,445,826	(1,236,585)	(18.5%)	59	76	78
Clay	14,954,689	16,060,574	14,851,766	14,865,820	14,839,632	(115,057)	(0.8%)	38	61	58
Coahoma	17,772,301	17,230,918	16,764,967	16,961,401	16,936,467	(835,834)	(4.7%)	35	72	69
Copiah	13,389,130	13,881,645	14,387,772	13,750,163	14,188,880	799,750	6.0%	40	38	44
Covington	11,457,229	11,653,543	12,073,261	12,806,924	13,225,123	1,767,894	15.4%	44	27	21
DeSoto	171,017,942	177,309,629	193,831,265	202,953,289	223,074,200	52,056,258	30.4%	4	1	4
Forrest	86,102,578	87,138,941	87,404,474	89,453,331	92,037,186	5,934,608	6.9%	8	14	41
Franklin	2,456,523	2,525,411	2,767,088	2,938,208	3,409,892	953,369	38.8%	71	36	2
George	15,772,504	19,052,086	15,930,708	16,324,067	16,942,100	1,169,596	7.4%	34	33	38
Greene	2,929,482	2,502,354	2,991,898	2,918,106	3,157,232	227,750	7.8%	73	50	35
Grenada	24,862,178	25,803,369	26,443,955	26,923,105	27,808,921	2,946,743	11.9%	25	20	23
Hancock	30,610,203	32,592,972	33,374,129	32,103,172	39,478,712	8,868,509	29.0%	20	9	5
Harrison	252,160,296	265,229,114	274,841,918	276,504,793	301,407,641	49,247,345	19.5%	2	2	11
Hinds	303,480,185	306,051,017	304,994,900	297,413,648	303,701,549	221,364	0.1%	1	51	57
Holmes	5,889,154	5,825,027	6,113,179	7,227,351	6,434,844	545,690	9.3%	58	41	29
Humphreys	3,452,451	3,493,223	3,509,822	3,325,306	3,230,835	(221,616)	(6.4%)	72	65	71
Issaquena	281,241	503,483	134,562	495,195	244,940	(36,301)	(12.9%)	82	58	77
Itawamba	10,248,868	10,716,698	11,177,437	12,281,206	12,124,040	1,875,172	18.3%	47	26	13
Jackson	96,456,376	99,854,189	96,647,246	100,350,924	103,760,314	7,303,938	7.6%	7	13	37
Jasper	8,731,022	8,799,359	6,983,872	6,639,119	6,984,644	(1,746,378)	(20.0%)	55	77	79
Jefferson	2,029,997	2,153,796	2,317,449	2,107,977	2,065,133	35,136	1.7%	78	55	54
Jefferson Davis	3,424,944	3,475,883	3,983,871	3,693,163	3,563,504	138,560	4.0%	70	53	50
Jones	80,001,146	77,018,902	66,180,596	66,403,581	70,720,426	(9,280,720)	(11.6%)	12	81	76
Kemper	13,151,965	7,103,017	5,235,995	3,773,836	2,614,842	(10,537,123)	(80.1%)	75	82	82
Lafayette	54,405,046	58,809,345	67,758,908	75,039,116	77,137,767	22,732,721	41.8%	11	5	1
Lamar	75,729,866	80,155,516	83,137,261	84,099,042	90,891,265	15,161,399	20.0%	10	7	10
Lauderdale	95,910,179	93,515,942	93,374,277	92,299,857	91,702,306	(4,207,873)	(4.4%)	9	80	68
Lawrence	3,838,166	4,202,771	4,237,749	4,159,779	4,087,253	249,087	6.5%	66	49	42
Leake	10,571,759	10,961,333	11,381,108	11,616,318	11,594,437	1,022,678	9.7%	50	34	27
Lee	123,008,530	130,214,443	141,040,499	146,317,747	154,324,147	31,315,617	25.5%	6	4	6
Leflore	29,435,460	29,597,104	29,306,297	30,861,867	31,171,451	1,735,991	5.9%	24	28	45
Lincoln	36,731,308	37,861,994	38,750,738	38,881,965	44,777,861	8,046,553	21.9%	17	11	8
Lowndes	63,171,691	66,444,026	67,852,892	69,286,511	67,202,779	4,031,088	6.4%	13	15	43
Madison	138,356,075	138,932,596	147,812,533	151,191,889	160,952,904	22,596,829	16.3%	5	6	17

Sales Tax Collected

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	2014 to 2018		RANK		
						Net Chg	Pct Chg	Tax 2018	Net Chg	Pct Chg
Marion	22,677,054	22,694,519	21,741,302	21,360,460	21,794,000	(883,054)	(3.9%)	29	73	66
Marshall	16,133,075	17,611,113	15,773,620	16,845,981	16,609,527	476,452	3.0%	36	43	52
Monroe	19,042,833	19,628,703	20,383,102	20,863,026	19,999,811	956,978	5.0%	31	35	47
Montgomery	6,439,036	6,611,087	6,471,173	6,972,739	6,712,089	273,053	4.2%	57	47	48
Neshoba	23,218,805	24,196,644	24,840,419	25,743,651	25,619,259	2,400,454	10.3%	27	22	26
Newton	9,259,670	9,723,502	10,186,953	10,035,804	9,642,433	382,763	4.1%	53	45	49
Noxubee	5,002,653	4,843,549	4,871,473	4,713,393	4,577,482	(425,171)	(8.5%)	61	69	75
Oktibbeha	41,024,136	44,669,915	48,766,665	47,195,802	48,593,104	7,568,968	18.5%	15	12	12
Panola	29,627,796	30,123,234	31,707,735	32,706,425	33,077,688	3,449,892	11.6%	23	17	24
Pearl River	31,308,296	33,742,368	35,132,441	36,058,887	42,401,809	11,093,513	35.4%	19	8	3
Perry	3,522,368	3,774,567	4,186,413	4,011,032	4,093,309	570,941	16.2%	65	39	18
Pike	42,288,774	43,939,984	44,706,706	44,642,639	45,733,433	3,444,659	8.1%	16	18	34
Pontotoc	16,309,957	17,706,392	19,982,729	19,824,811	20,138,021	3,828,064	23.5%	30	16	7
Prentiss	14,379,850	13,193,038	12,965,199	13,478,315	13,874,776	(505,074)	(3.5%)	41	71	65
Quitman	1,968,615	1,957,039	1,838,860	2,660,880	1,833,204	(135,411)	(6.9%)	80	62	72
Rankin	208,359,753	214,916,733	224,674,767	228,890,515	240,678,806	32,319,053	15.5%	3	3	20
Scott	17,886,140	18,237,618	18,325,244	18,250,213	19,144,872	1,258,732	7.0%	32	32	40
Sharkey	2,642,708	2,508,944	2,374,313	2,364,453	2,528,004	(114,704)	(4.3%)	77	60	67
Simpson	15,669,214	16,515,804	16,464,639	16,964,668	16,979,130	1,309,916	8.4%	33	31	33
Smith	5,895,829	5,744,977	5,083,686	4,999,262	5,409,603	(486,226)	(8.2%)	60	70	74
Stone	10,483,590	10,778,139	11,551,861	11,774,608	12,045,149	1,561,559	14.9%	48	30	22
Sunflower	13,190,075	13,482,824	13,663,084	13,606,992	13,620,721	430,646	3.3%	42	44	51
Tallahatchie	3,731,288	3,649,761	3,646,021	3,588,732	3,739,331	8,043	0.2%	67	56	56
Tate	14,279,684	14,625,824	14,864,886	15,716,040	16,586,622	2,306,938	16.2%	37	23	19
Tippah	9,695,235	10,452,820	11,201,449	11,181,065	11,752,120	2,056,885	21.2%	49	25	9
Tishomingo	8,973,803	9,304,424	10,259,932	10,356,636	10,606,209	1,632,406	18.2%	52	29	14
Tunica	13,679,657	12,085,733	10,692,343	10,550,034	10,764,762	(2,914,895)	(21.3%)	51	79	80
Union	18,849,759	19,395,867	20,888,059	20,737,991	22,186,426	3,336,667	17.7%	28	19	15
Walthall	4,608,876	4,620,976	4,608,326	4,601,310	4,472,869	(136,007)	(3.0%)	62	63	64
Warren	47,095,011	47,306,996	48,456,244	49,934,895	55,180,363	8,085,352	17.2%	14	10	16
Washington	44,078,980	44,929,850	44,504,612	43,621,287	43,118,284	(960,696)	(2.2%)	18	74	62
Wayne	14,532,601	14,657,172	13,722,666	13,476,252	14,217,737	(314,864)	(2.2%)	39	67	61
Webster	3,777,927	3,844,015	3,889,954	3,867,553	4,141,338	363,411	9.6%	64	46	28
Wilkinson	3,925,928	4,276,953	3,691,694	3,528,660	3,641,612	(284,316)	(7.2%)	68	66	73
Winston	12,278,580	13,085,824	13,558,207	13,246,610	12,124,078	(154,502)	(1.3%)	46	64	59
Yalobusha	4,345,360	4,553,391	4,237,528	4,501,566	4,440,943	95,583	2.2%	63	54	53
Yazoo	13,806,077	13,177,409	13,253,409	13,349,065	13,446,721	(359,356)	(2.6%)	43	68	63

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	379,226,875	397,676,275	404,863,293	408,958,889	444,646,667	65,419,792	17.3%	2	1	1
Hattiesburg	165,354,812	171,069,024	174,728,148	177,563,405	187,021,760	21,666,948	13.1%	3	3	2
Jackson	693,060,434	703,475,204	721,588,020	721,559,948	749,947,990	56,887,556	8.2%	1	2	3

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	192,914,203	192,776,112	193,183,924	196,697,759	196,178,180	3,263,977	1.7%	4	4	4
MS Partnership	718,346,544	753,728,402	801,905,822	827,636,056	859,772,903	141,426,359	19.7%	3	1	1
SC MS Works	879,571,738	894,439,013	913,089,720	913,180,797	953,958,011	74,386,273	8.5%	2	3	3
Twin Districts	928,476,313	948,881,292	943,744,685	950,112,217	1,007,893,729	79,417,416	8.6%	1	2	2

SOURCE: Mississippi Department of Revenue

Economic Stability



A common statistical procedure used as a means of comparative measurement is indexing. Five separate indexes from the economic indicators highlighted in this publication were developed. By using the state as a base of 1.000, each county, MSA, and WDA was “indexed” in relation to 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 Covered Employment Growth. The state total for 2018 was divided by the total for 2014. This yielded a growth factor of 1.0263. 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 .965, the resulting index would be .965 divided by 1.0263, or .940. 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, MSAs and WDAs 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 indexes yielded few surprises. Madison and Rankin Counties as part of the top five were expected, given their high covered employment growth and high per capita income. The biggest surprise, Choctaw County, saw the largest improvement from last year’s issue, with an index change of 4.643 to 4.968. The change in Choctaw County was due to their increases in sales tax collections and covered employment.

Oktibbeha and Covington Counties could be considered the “average” counties in terms of economic stability. Their composite index was very near the statewide base of 5.000. Among the metropolitan areas, Jackson came out on top with an above-average index in four of the five categories. The Hattiesburg MSA, at number two, had an average or above-average index in all categories. MS Partnership scored highest among the WDAs, with Southcentral MS Works a very close second. The Delta WDA was a distant fourth.

Index of Economic Stability

	Five Year Covered Employment Growth	Labor Force Employed 2018	Per Capita Income 2017	Five Year Total Population Growth	Five Year Sales Tax Growth	Composite Index	Rank
MISSISSIPPI	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	5.000	XXX
Adams	0.951	0.984	0.905	0.974	0.857	4.672	60
Alcorn	1.045	1.006	0.947	0.993	0.967	4.959	25
Amite	0.998	0.987	0.863	0.980	0.701	4.528	73
Attala	0.980	0.991	0.903	0.977	0.971	4.822	41
Benton	0.704	0.992	0.794	0.998	0.905	4.392	77
Bolivar	0.932	0.985	0.988	0.928	0.979	4.812	42
Calhoun	0.947	1.004	0.864	0.983	0.983	4.781	48
Carroll	1.012	0.992	0.975	0.970	0.978	4.927	30
Chickasaw	0.953	0.998	0.897	0.988	0.952	4.788	47
Choctaw	1.112	1.000	0.860	0.988	1.007	4.968	23
Claiborne	1.016	0.954	0.811	0.983	0.884	4.648	62
Clarke	0.952	0.992	0.979	0.960	0.735	4.619	66
Clay	1.036	0.987	0.984	0.964	0.895	4.867	35
Coahoma	0.902	0.979	0.933	0.912	0.860	4.586	69
Copiah	0.960	0.992	0.879	0.986	0.956	4.773	50
Covington	1.054	1.004	0.915	0.986	1.041	5.000	19
DeSoto	1.183	1.010	1.079	1.067	1.177	5.517	3
Forrest	1.049	1.003	1.043	0.990	0.964	5.050	16
Franklin	0.903	0.986	0.908	1.003	1.252	5.052	15
George	0.961	0.983	0.871	1.042	0.969	4.826	40
Greene	0.943	0.986	0.781	0.949	0.972	4.631	65
Grenada	1.023	1.005	0.960	0.976	1.009	4.973	22
Hancock	1.000	0.998	0.946	1.031	1.164	5.138	9
Harrison	1.015	1.002	0.994	1.043	1.078	5.133	10
Hinds	0.985	1.002	1.060	0.968	0.903	4.917	31
Holmes	0.929	0.956	0.758	0.953	0.986	4.582	70
Humphreys	0.952	0.963	0.760	0.940	0.844	4.460	76
Issaquena	0.906	0.965	0.326	0.944	0.786	3.928	81
Itawamba	0.979	1.007	0.906	1.006	1.067	4.965	24
Jackson	0.958	0.992	0.997	1.014	0.971	4.931	28
Jasper	0.995	0.988	0.963	0.995	0.722	4.663	61
Jefferson	0.743	0.908	0.865	0.939	0.918	4.373	78
Jefferson Davis	0.962	0.979	0.801	0.951	0.939	4.632	64
Jones	0.930	1.000	1.026	1.002	0.798	4.755	53
Kemper	0.579	0.971	0.799	0.981	0.179	3.510	82
Lafayette	1.172	1.009	1.095	1.055	1.279	5.610	2
Lamar	1.042	1.012	1.069	1.041	1.083	5.246	6
Lauderdale	0.960	0.997	1.034	0.951	0.863	4.805	46
Lawrence	0.981	0.986	0.888	0.990	0.961	4.805	45
Leake	0.998	0.998	0.801	0.983	0.989	4.770	51
Lee	1.043	1.009	1.091	1.007	1.132	5.281	5
Leflore	1.011	0.979	0.964	0.943	0.955	4.853	36
Lincoln	1.056	1.001	1.014	0.986	1.100	5.157	8
Lowndes	0.995	0.999	1.014	0.987	0.960	4.954	26
Madison	1.076	1.012	1.693	1.049	1.050	5.878	1
Marion	1.015	0.996	0.890	0.964	0.867	4.731	55

Index of Economic Stability

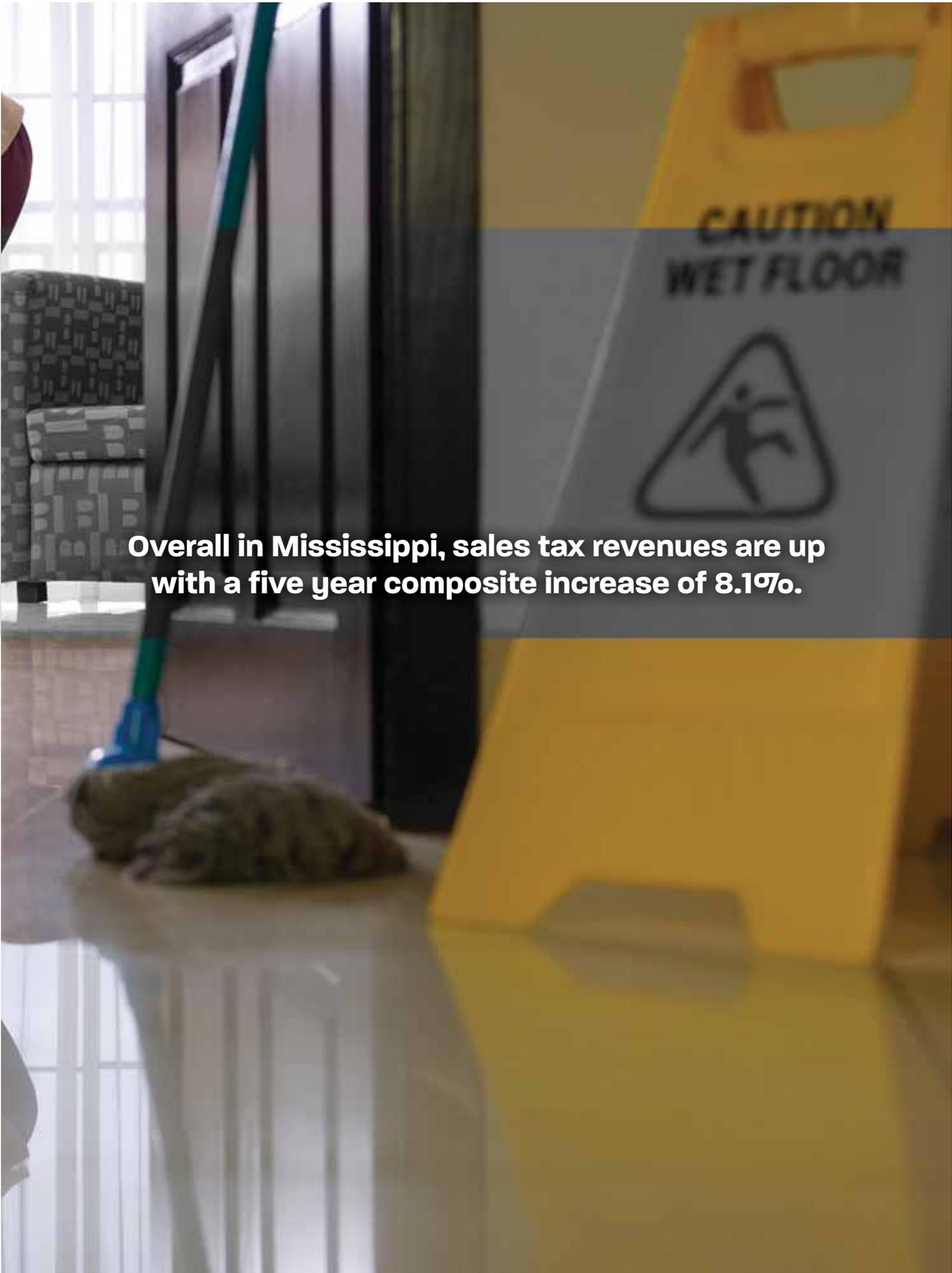
	Five Year Covered Employment Growth	Labor Force Employed 2018	Per Capita Income 2017	Five Year Total Population Growth	Five Year Sales Tax Growth	Composite Index	Rank
Marshall	1.185	0.997	0.854	0.981	0.929	4.947	27
Monroe	0.990	0.998	0.904	0.988	0.948	4.826	39
Montgomery	0.908	0.995	0.908	0.969	0.940	4.720	56
Neshoba	0.936	0.998	0.956	0.991	0.995	4.876	33
Newton	0.910	0.999	0.929	0.989	0.939	4.767	52
Noxubee	0.984	0.979	0.899	0.954	0.826	4.641	63
Oktibbeha	1.037	1.001	0.888	1.012	1.069	5.006	18
Panola	0.940	0.988	0.882	0.993	1.007	4.810	44
Pearl River	1.037	1.000	0.962	1.006	1.222	5.227	7
Perry	1.017	0.987	0.844	0.991	1.048	4.888	32
Pike	0.984	0.990	0.838	0.991	0.976	4.780	49
Pontotoc	1.031	1.009	0.866	1.035	1.114	5.055	13
Prentiss	1.013	1.004	0.823	0.998	0.871	4.708	58
Quitman	0.805	0.968	0.684	0.918	0.840	4.215	80
Rankin	1.034	1.014	1.188	1.038	1.042	5.317	4
Scott	1.016	1.008	0.830	0.992	0.966	4.812	43
Sharkey	0.956	0.975	0.763	0.950	0.863	4.508	74
Simpson	0.958	1.003	0.956	0.974	0.978	4.869	34
Smith	0.971	1.003	0.917	0.988	0.828	4.708	57
Stone	1.079	0.993	0.840	1.036	1.037	4.985	21
Sunflower	0.926	0.968	0.795	0.940	0.932	4.561	71
Tallahatchie	0.912	0.994	0.785	0.952	0.904	4.547	72
Tate	1.014	0.999	0.954	1.019	1.048	5.033	17
Tippah	1.081	1.004	0.889	1.003	1.094	5.071	12
Tishomingo	1.130	1.002	0.875	1.003	1.066	5.075	11
Tunica	0.797	0.994	0.870	0.949	0.710	4.319	79
Union	1.098	1.013	0.862	1.018	1.062	5.052	14
Walthall	0.934	0.981	0.848	0.975	0.876	4.614	67
Warren	0.921	0.993	1.054	0.964	1.057	4.989	20
Washington	0.929	0.976	0.991	0.921	0.883	4.700	59
Wayne	0.978	0.994	0.889	0.994	0.883	4.738	54
Webster	0.960	0.999	0.998	0.982	0.989	4.928	29
Wilkinson	0.923	0.959	0.789	0.958	0.837	4.466	75
Winston	1.058	0.992	0.926	0.978	0.891	4.845	37
Yalobusha	0.952	0.999	0.953	1.008	0.922	4.835	38
Yazoo	0.968	0.992	0.751	1.017	0.879	4.607	68

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

G-B-P	0.993	0.998	0.989	1.031	1.058	5.070	3
Hattiesburg	1.046	1.006	1.037	1.011	1.020	5.121	2
Jackson	1.014	1.006	1.180	1.004	0.976	5.180	1

Workforce Development Areas

Delta	0.926	0.980	0.894	0.942	0.917	4.660	4
MS Partnership	1.066	1.004	0.974	1.014	1.080	5.138	1
SC MS Works	1.003	1.002	1.109	0.996	0.978	5.088	2
Twin Districts	0.989	0.999	0.970	1.007	0.979	4.944	3



Overall in Mississippi, sales tax revenues are up with a five year composite increase of 8.1%.

Summary and Conclusions



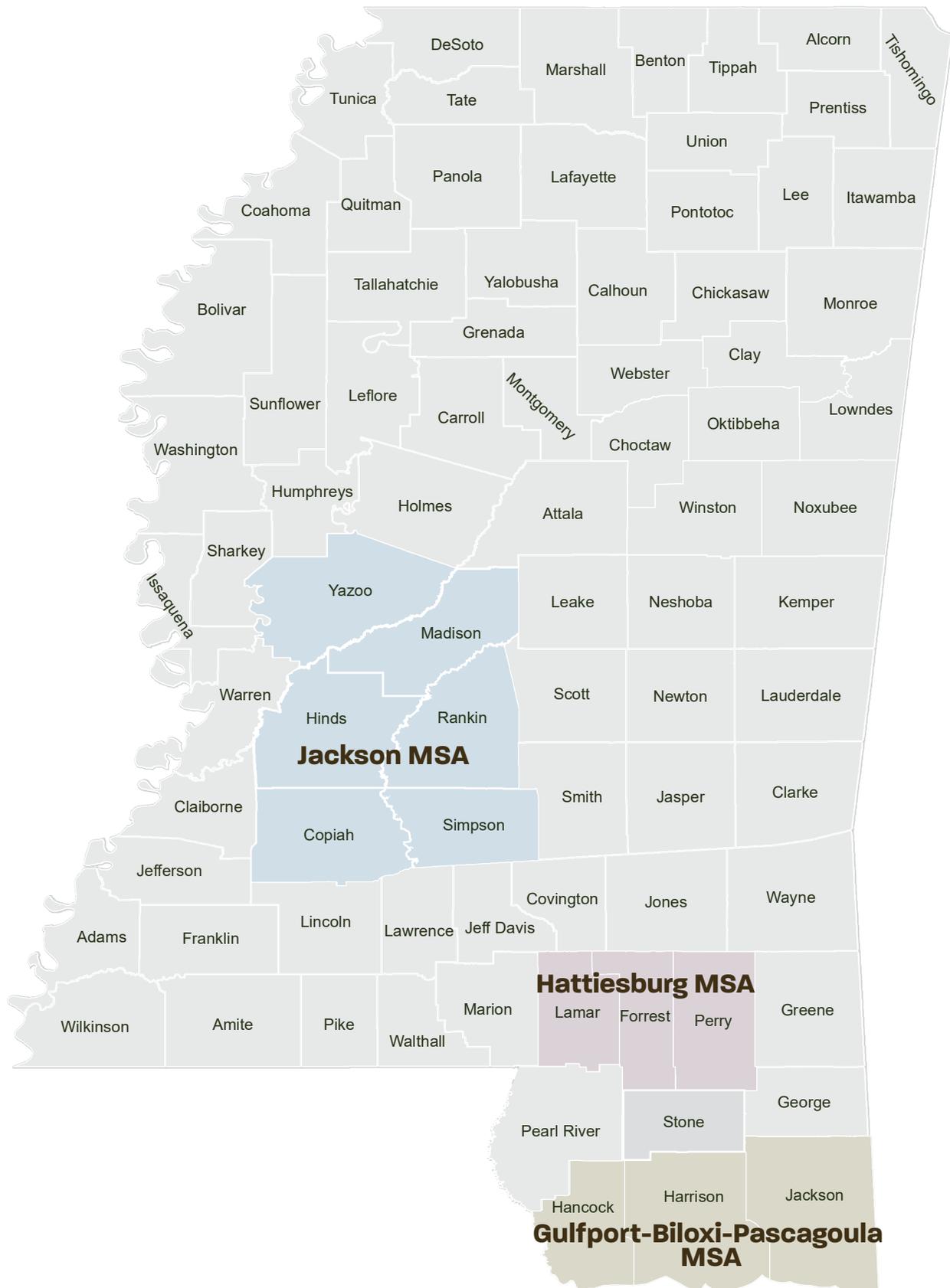
Current economic trends in Mississippi certainly indicate that the state is headed in a positive economic direction. A good sign that the economy is getting better is the fact that state sales tax collections have shown an increase from 2014 to 2018. Overall in Mississippi, sales tax revenues are up with a five year composite increase of 10.8%. The Per Capita Income increased by 10% or greater in twenty-six of our eighty-two counties for the time period 2013 through 2017.

Payments of Regular Unemployment Benefits have decreased by over 50% since 2014. The unemployment rate statewide is at 4.8% which reflects a decrease of 2.7 percentage points since 2014. The 4.8 percent average unemployment rate is a record low for Mississippi. Job growth has increased with a notable positive change in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities. The manufacturing sector has increased in the Mississippi Partnership WDA and Southcentral Mississippi Works WDA. An increase in the Leisure & Hospitality sector indicates a positive outlook for jobs.

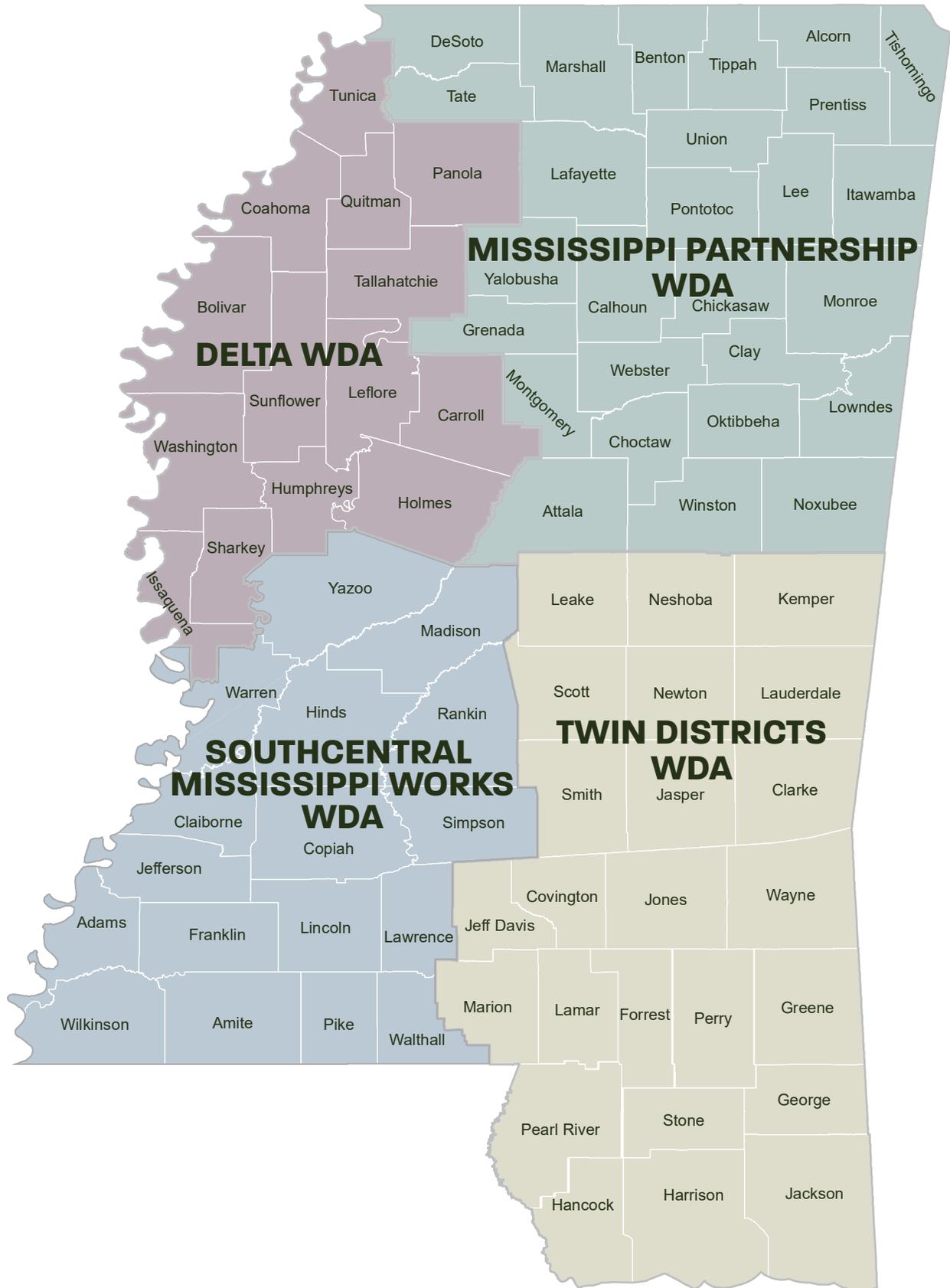
Smaller, less populous, rural counties were more likely to show a decrease in employed persons following the national trend. When looking at population and labor force changes, the continuing trend is a decline in rural areas matched with increases in urban areas. The number of individuals in the Mississippi labor force showed steady increases from 2014 to 2017. The state's labor force decreased from 2017 to 2018 due to a large decrease in the number of unemployed Mississippians.

When the data are evaluated only considering the last year, the state's economy seems bright. Sales tax collections statewide are up with substantial growth noted in several areas of the state. The growth of the manufacturing sector and the closely related transportation and warehousing industry are positive economic indications for growth. Unemployment is down to the lowest rate ever. The continued positive movement in these economic indicators will mean more growth in the Mississippi economy.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas



Workforce Development Areas



Glossary

Civilian Labor Force — that proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population that is employed or actively seeking employment. The labor force is the sum of the number of employed and unemployed.

Civilian Noninstitutional Population — included are persons 16 years of age and older residing in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who are not inmates of institutions (for example, penal and mental facilities, homes for the aged), and who are not on active duty in the Armed Forces.

Covered Employment — the number of workers for firms registered under the Mississippi Employment Security Law who earned wages during the pay period including the twelfth of the month. State and local government is included but not federal government.

Employed — all persons who during the reference week, (a) did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family, and (b) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor management dispute, job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off, or were seeking other jobs. Persons are counted only once even if they hold multiple jobs.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) — the general concept of an MSA is one of a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus. These are defined by the Office of Management and Budget as a standard for Federal agencies in the preparation and publication of statistics relating to metropolitan areas.

Unemployed — all persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed. Persons that are classified as unemployed have not necessarily filed or would be eligible for unemployment benefits.

Unemployment Rate — the unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

Workforce Development Areas (WDAs) — these are state designated areas in which an appointed Workforce Development Board is charged with designing and managing a system that provides convenient access to services and program information for employers, jobseekers, and others in need of assistance. Multiple agencies and groups partner together to provide the services. Each board is employer led and demand driven. The state is divided into four such areas.

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