



2015 YEAR IN REVIEW: MISSISSIPPI

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through December 2015**
Last updated on January 26th; January 2016 data will be released on March 14th*

JOBS

- In 2015, private-sector employment in Mississippi grew by 10,300 jobs, an average of 860 jobs per month. This represents an improvement over the 440 jobs per month added in 2014. In December, Mississippi businesses added 2,600 jobs.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms in 2015 were: construction at 3.3 percent (1,500 jobs), leisure and hospitality at 2.9 percent (3,700 jobs) and manufacturing at 1.9 percent (2,600 jobs).
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Mississippi businesses have added 54,200 jobs (an increase of 6.5 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 13.1 percent over this time.



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The Mississippi unemployment rate fell by 0.8 percentage point in 2015 and was 6.4 percent in December. The rate is 4.4 percentage points below its recent peak of 10.8 percent in March 2010.
- Unemployment in Mississippi was 1.4 percentage points above the national rate of 5.0 percent in December. The rate was up 0.4 percentage point from November.
- There were 82,700 state residents unemployed in December, down 5,000 from one year prior.

EARNINGS

- Adjusting for inflation, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Mississippi rose by 2.8 percent in 2015. Nationally, these earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).
- In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers were \$19.90. The average workweek was 34.6 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$688.54.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Mississippi	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	In 2015	10,300	2.6 million
	Since Feb. 2010	54,200	14.1 million
Unemployment Rate	December 2015	6.4%	5.0%
	December 2014	7.2%	5.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	10.8%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2014 \$)	2014	\$35,500	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$42,600	\$57,400
Poverty Rate	2014	22.1%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	22.6%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	3.9%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	6.0%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2014	14.5%	11.7%
	2013	17.1%	14.5%

Note: full 2015 data are not yet available for many indicators on this page; they will be included in future reports

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Mississippi increased slightly (by less than 0.1 percent) in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Mississippi GDP growth has averaged 0.5 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.8 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Mississippi increased by 3.1 percent from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015. They are up 10.2 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011.
- In November 2015, builders in Mississippi broke ground on 6,390 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 6,686 units. That marks an increase of 21.2 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Mississippi, goods exports totaled \$870 million in November and \$10.6 billion over the past year, up 0.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 62.6 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Mississippi economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Mississippi-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Mississippi office: <http://mdes.ms.gov/information-center/labor-market-information/>