

GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

Prepared by the Mississippi Development Authority
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(601) 359-3449/www.mississippi.org

POPULATION

Population:	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Gulfport	64,045	64,529	71,127	70,894	70,708
Harrison County	165,229	175,869	189,601	192,393	204,164

Most populated cities in Harrison County:

City	2005 Population
Gulfport	70,894
Biloxi	50,410
Long Beach	16,904
D'Iberville	8,155
Pass Christian	6,459

Age breakdown of county population, 2004:

0 to 17	20.4 %	40 to 49	15.8 %
18 to 21	7.2 %	50 to 64	15.5 %
22 to 29	12.6 %	65 and over	11.9 %
30 to 39	16.6 %		

Median age of county population, 2004: 34.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Census of Population, 1990 and 2000; 2005 and 2010 Population Estimates, Demographics Now.

LOCATION

Distance to selected cities from Gulfport:

Area	Distance	
Atlanta, Georgia	389 miles	627 kilometers
Chicago, Illinois	880 miles	1,419 kilometers
Dallas, Texas	538 miles	868 kilometers
Jackson, Mississippi	157 miles	253 kilometers
Memphis, Tennessee	360 miles	581 kilometers
New Orleans, Louisiana	73 miles	118 kilometers

Source: Official Mississippi Highway Map; unpublished data collected by MDA.

LABOR UNIONS

Information on labor union activity in Mississippi can be obtained by calling MDA at 601-359-3449.

WAGES

Annual Average, 2004*:

Manufacturing

Harrison County	\$685/week	\$17.13/hour
Mississippi	\$639/week	\$15.98/hour
United States	\$920/week	\$23.00/hour

Services

Harrison County	\$478/week	\$11.95/hour
Mississippi	\$508/week	\$12.70/hour
United States	\$724/week	\$18.10/hour

*All rates include management personnel.

Source: County data-Mississippi Department of Employment Security, U.S. data-U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2004 Annual Average.

LABOR FORCE

Annual Average, 2004:

	Harrison County	Commuting Area*
Labor Force	94,310	207,260
Male Percentage	52%	
Female Percentage	48%	
Total Employment	87,620	192,230
Manufacturing	4,270	
Services & Misc.	63,037	
Total Unemployed	4,770	10,880
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.2%
U.S.	5.5%	
Mississippi	6.2%	

*Commuting area includes all contiguous counties in Mississippi and neighboring states.

Source: Mississippi Department of Employment Security 2004, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

RETAIL SALES

Gross Retail Sales (in millions):

	1995	2000	2004
Gulfport	\$ 899	\$ 1,380	\$ 1,514
Harrison County	\$ 2090	\$ 3160	\$ 3473

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, Annual Report, Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1995; 2000, 2004.

INCOME

Per Capita Personal Income:

	1995	2000	2003
Harrison County	\$18,629	\$24,157	\$26,673

Earnings, Harrison County:

Earnings by Place of Work, 2003 \$4,062,778,000

Sources of Earnings by Place of Work, 2003:

Manufacturing	5.4%
Services-Other	21.6%
Wholesale Trade	1.9%
Retail Trade	7.1%
Government	39.7%
Construction	3.7%
Finance & Insurance	3.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	6.1%
Healthcare & Social Assistance	6.7%
Educational Services	0.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	13.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2003.

ASSESSED VALUE

Grand Total Ad Valorem Assessment (in millions):

	1995	2000	2004
Harrison County	\$ 886	\$1,519	\$1,647

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2004.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Banks based in Gulfport	1
Banks with one or more branches in Gulfport	8

Source: Mississippi Banker's Association, Mississippi Bank Directory, 2005-2006 Edition.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways in Gulfport:

MS 53
US 49,
I-10

Railroads in Gulfport:

CSX System, Kansas City Southern

Air Travel in Gulfport:

Nearest Commercial Airport and its location:

Gulfport-Biloxi International, Gulfport

Distance (miles)	Local
Length of runway	9,000 feet/2,744 meters
Number of daily outgoing flights	28
Major airlines serving the airport:	
Air Trans, Continental Express, Delta/ASA, Northwest, Southeast	

Nearest general aviation airport and its location:

Gulfport-Biloxi Internation, Gulfport

Distance (miles)	Local
Length of runway	9,000 feet/2,744 meters

Common carriers operating in Gulfport area 20

Gulfport's nearest full-service port:

Port of Gulfport

Post Office Box 40
Gulfport, MS 39502
228-865-4300

Distance from Gulfport	Local
Name of waterway	Gulf of Mexico
Channel depth	36 feet/11 meters

Source: Mississippi Department of Transportation; Mississippi Port Authorities; unpublished data collected by MDA, 2005.

HEALTH CARE

Hospitals in Harrison County	6
Number of beds	997

Source: Mississippi Department of Health, Directory of Mississippi Health Facilities, 2004.

EDUCATION

For detailed information on education in Harrison County and Mississippi, request an Education Profile. Education Profiles are prepared for all Mississippi counties and may be obtained by calling 601-359-3593, or online at www.mississippi.org.

UTILITIES AND SERVICES

Electricity distributor(s) in Gulfport:

Mississippi Power Company

Water/sewage service in Gulfport:

Utility name	City of Gulfport
Source	Wells
System capacity	20,000,000 gallons per day 75,758 kiloliters per day
Average consumption	7,500,000 gallons per day 28,409 kiloliters per day
Peak consumption	11,000,000 gallons per day 41,667 kiloliters per day
Storage capacity	3,050,000 gallons 11,553 kiloliters
Sanitary sewer capacity	30,300,000 gallons 114,773 kiloliters
Sewer treatment type	Trickling filter & activated sludge
Percent of community served	99%
Present load	23%

Natural gas distributor(s) in Gulfport:

Entex

Source: Unpublished data collected by MDA, 2001.

COUNTY FEATURES

County Seat(s) Gulfport, Biloxi

Land area 584 square miles/1,513 square kilometers

County land area in commercial forests 68 %

National Parks/Historic Landmarks:

Beauvoir

DeSoto National Forest

Gulf Islands National Seashore

State Parks:

None

Tourism related information Call 1-800-WARMEST

Source: Mississippi Elected Officials Directory; Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning; unpublished data collected by MDA.

LARGEST MANUFACTURERS IN HARRISON COUNTY

Manufacturing	Employees	Type of Business
Northrop Grumman Ship Systems/Avondale	800	Fiberglass marine products, n.e.c.
Du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., E.I.	514	Titanium dioxide (white pigment) for paint and plastics industry
Oreck Manufacturing Co.	500	Oreck and Regina vacuum cleaners
Triton Systems of Delaware, Inc.	400	Electronic digital financial terminals
Gulf Coast Pre-Stress, Inc.	163	Prestressed concrete bridge beams

Source: Mississippi Manufacturers' Database, MDA, March 2006.

FIRE INSURANCE RATING

Gulfport

Class 4

Source: Mississippi State Rating Bureau, August 2002.

COST OF HOUSING

Average Selling Price of Homes, 2004:

Jackson	\$199,485
Gulfport	\$189,900
Hattiesburg	\$204,780
Tupelo	\$192,228

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living, 2004.

PROPERTY TAX

General county millage 21.76

Property tax- Counties and municipalities levy a property tax on real and personal tangible property. Most property is assessed at 15% of true value. Motor vehicles and utilities (excluding railroads) are assessed at 30% and owner-occupied residential properties are assessed at 10% of true value.

To calculate annual property tax:

$$\text{Tax} = (V \times A \times M) / 1000$$

V = property value (\$), A = assessment percentage (%),
M = millage rate

Example: Home value \$100,449 millage rate 21.76
 $(\$100,449 \times 10\% \times 21.76) / 1,000 = \218.58

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2004-2005.

