

# NEWTON, MISSISSIPPI

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

## POPULATION

Population:	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Newton	3,709	3,789	3,699	3,526	3,442
Newton County	20,339	21,141	21,838	22,165	24,418

### Most populated cities in Newton County:

City	2005 Population
Newton	3,526
Decatur	1,319
Hickory	480
Lake	367
Chunky	363

### Age breakdown of county population, 2004:

0 to 17	20.5 %	40 to 49	14.3 %
18 to 21	8.1 %	50 to 64	16.4 %
22 to 29	10.9 %	65 and over	16.1 %
30 to 39	13.7 %		

Median age of county population, 2004: 35.8

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 Newton:

Area	Distance	
Atlanta, Georgia	331 miles	534 kilometers
Chicago, Illinois	747 miles	1,205 kilometers
Dallas, Texas	451 miles	727 kilometers
Jackson, Mississippi	62 miles	100 kilometers
Memphis, Tennessee	216 miles	348 kilometers
New Orleans, Louisiana	205 miles	331 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Source: Official Mississippi Highway Map; unpublished data collected by MDA.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

Newton County	\$583/week	\$14.58/hour
Mississippi	\$639/week	\$15.98/hour
United States	\$920/week	\$23.00/hour

#### Services

Newton County	\$381/week	\$9.53/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:

	Newton County	Commuting Area*
Labor Force	9,760	109,590
Male Percentage	52%	
Female Percentage	48%	
Total Employment	9,540	102,050
Manufacturing	1,654	
Services & Misc.	2,473	
Total Unemployed	540	6,810
Unemployment Rate	5.4%	6.2%
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
Newton	\$ 49	\$ 60	\$ 77
Newton County	\$ 120	\$ 123	\$ 139

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

## INCOME

### Per Capita Personal Income:

	1995	2000	2003
Newton County	\$15,813	\$19,299	\$22,003

### Earnings, Newton County:

Earnings by Place of Work, 2003 \$202,293,000

### Sources of Earnings by Place of Work, 2003:

Manufacturing	32.3%
Services-Other	7.9%
Wholesale Trade	0.4%
Retail Trade	7.9%
Government	33.4%
Construction	2.1%
Finance & Insurance	1.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	2.2%
Healthcare & Social Assistance	0.0%
Educational Services	0.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	1.5%

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

## ASSESSED VALUE

### Grand Total Ad Valorem Assessment (in millions):

	1995	2000	2004
Newton County	\$ 67	\$ 86	\$ 99

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2004.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

<b>Banks based in Newton</b>	1
<b>Banks with one or more branches in Newton</b>	3

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

## TRANSPORTATION

### Highways in Newton:

MS 15  
US 80  
I-20

### Railroads in Newton:

Kansas City Southern, Mississippi Southern

### Air Travel in Newton:

Nearest Commercial Airport and its location:

Meridian Regional, Meridian

Distance (miles)	26
Length of runway	10,004 feet/3,050 meters
Number of daily outgoing flights	3
Major airlines serving the airport:	
	Atlantic Southeast, Northwest Airlinck

Nearest general aviation airport and its location:

James H. Easom Field, Newton

Distance (miles)	Local
Length of runway	3,000 feet/915 meters

**Common carriers operating in Newton area** 20

### Newton's nearest full-service port:

Port of Vicksburg

Post Office Box 709  
Vicksburg, MS 39180  
601-636-1012

Distance from Newton	108 miles/174 kilometers
Name of waterway	Mississippi River
Channel depth	9 feet/3 meters

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

## HEALTH CARE

<b>Hospitals in Newton County</b>	1
<b>Number of beds</b>	49

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

## EDUCATION

For detailed information on education in Newton 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](http://www.mississippi.org).

## UTILITIES AND SERVICES

### Electricity distributor(s) in Newton:

Mississippi Power Company

### Water/sewage service in Newton:

Utility name	City of Newton
Source	Wells
System capacity	1,500,000 gallons per day 5,682 kiloliters per day
Average consumption	700,000 gallons per day 2,652 kiloliters per day
Peak consumption	1,000,000 gallons per day 3,788 kiloliters per day
Storage capacity	400,000 gallons 1,515 kiloliters
Sanitary sewer capacity	1,188,000 gallons 4,500 kiloliters
Sewer treatment type	Aerated lagoon
Percent of community served	99%
Present load	60%

### Natural gas distributor(s) in Newton:

Entex

Source: Unpublished data collected by MDA, 2001.

## COUNTY FEATURES

<b>County Seat(s)</b>	Decatur
<b>Land area</b>	580 square miles/1,501 square kilometers
<b>County land area in commercial forests</b>	68 %
<b>National Parks/Historic Landmarks:</b>	
Bienville National Forest	

### 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 NEWTON COUNTY

Manufacturing	Employees	Type of Business
La-Z-Boy South	944	Upholstered reclining/rocking chairs
Peavey Electronics Corp.-Decatur	400	Tape recorders and console mixing systems
ESCO Corp.	325	Steel castings/mining, construction, and forestry markets
La-Z-Boy Plywood Plant No. 21	200	Softwood (pine) plywood milling for La-Z-Boy furniture
Tri-C Wood Products, Inc.	65	Hardwood flooring

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

## FIRE INSURANCE RATING

Newton

Class 7

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** 30.68

**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:

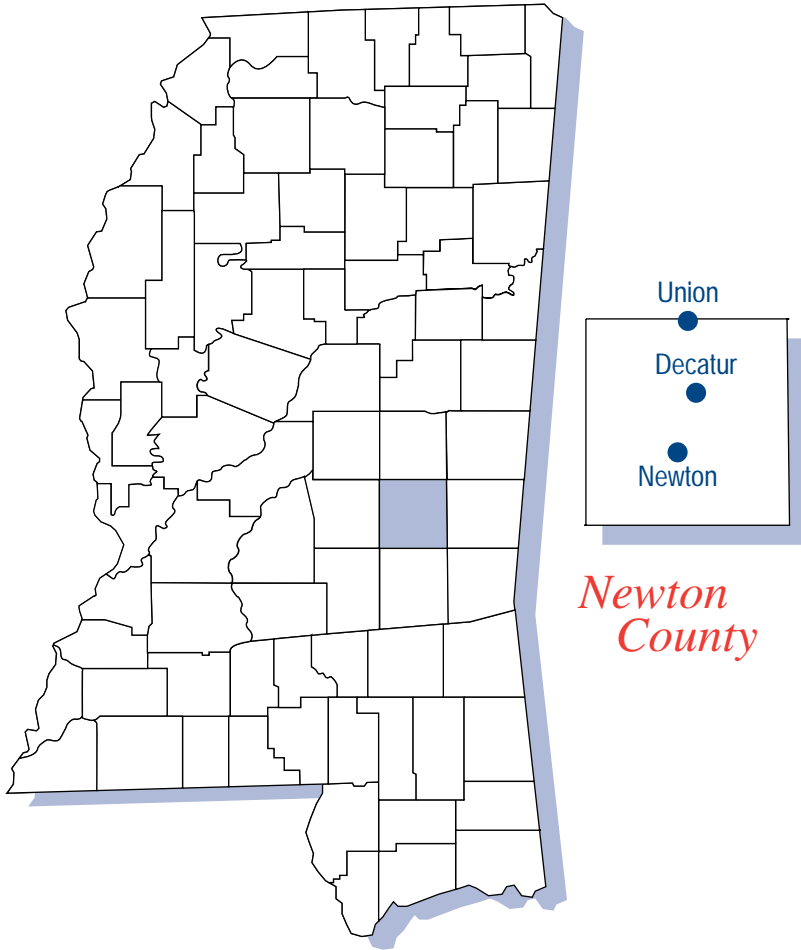
$$\text{Tax} = (V \times A \times M) / 1000$$

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

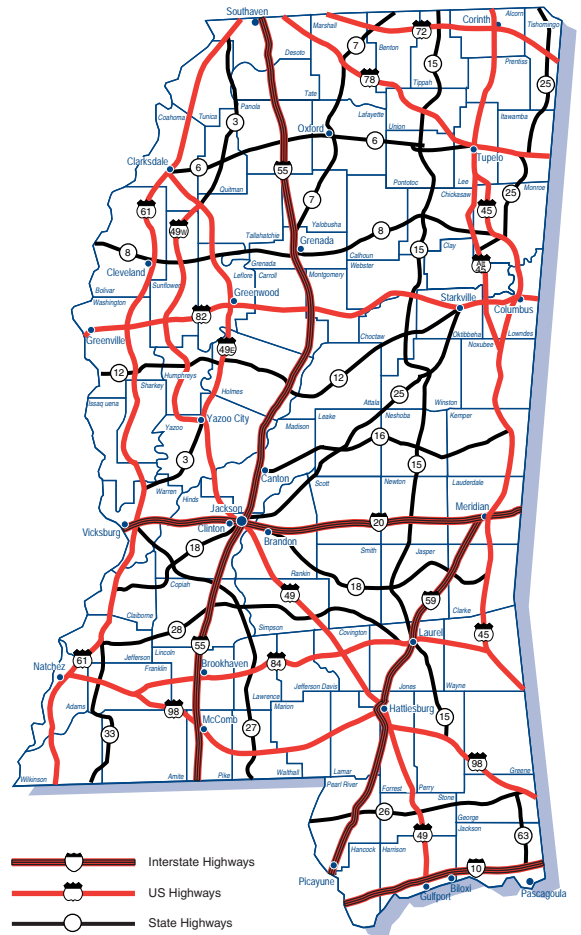
Example: Home value \$90,219 millage rate 30.68  
 $(\$90,219 \times 10\% \times 30.68) / 1,000 = \$276.79$

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2004-2005.

# County Location



# Federal/State Highways



# Regional Map

