



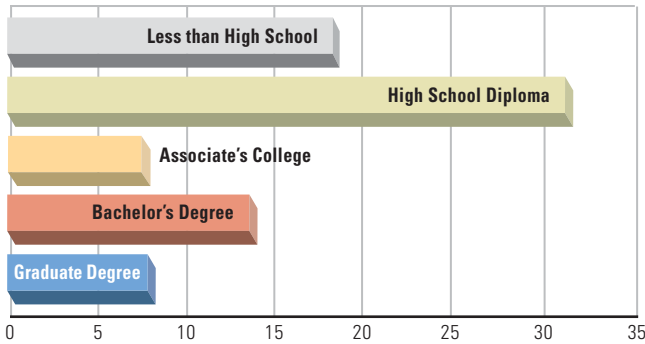
ALABAMA

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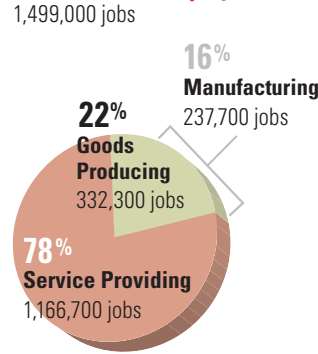
For the first time in Alabama, we are bringing together economic development groups on both the state and local levels, as well as our four-year and two-year institutions at one table. — Gov. Robert Bentley, regarding the creation of the Alabama Economic Development Alliance

Governor: Robert Bentley (R) **www.ado.alabama.gov**
Population 2011: 4,816,403 **Population growth forecast 2011-2015:** 3.35% **Median household income:** \$47,557

Work Force Education by Percentage



Private Sector Employment¹



Property tax rank²: **9**
Top corporate tax rate³: **6.5**
Unemployment insurance burden rank by least percent of taxable wages⁴: **34**
Worker's comp rank by lowest index⁵: **10**
Industrial power prices (per million BTU)⁶: **\$17.47**
Ranked by low price⁷: **20**

Median hourly wage for production occupations⁸: **\$13.58**
Right-to-work state? **YES**

Legislative Update

- Gov. Robert Bentley announced the creation of the Alabama Economic Development Alliance, charged with more effectively utilizing the job creation and workforce assets of the state and creating a statewide economic development strategic plan.
- The Full Employment Act of 2011 was passed, aimed at helping small businesses hire employees. It provides a one-time tax credit to small businesses who hire additional employees. Businesses with 50 or fewer

employees will receive a one-time income tax credit equal to \$1,000 per new job paying more than \$10 per hour. The Full Employment Act of 2011 is an enhanced version of the Reemployment Act of 2010.

- A law was passed providing small businesses with fewer than 25 employees a tax deduction in order to provide health insurance. The law allows qualifying employers and employees to deduct an additional 50 percent of the amount expended for health insurance premiums.

¹—Data are not seasonally adjusted October 2011 preliminary estimates from the Current Employment Statistics State and Area Program of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. ²—May 2010, Bureau of Labor Statistics. ³—Tax Foundation.

⁴ & ⁵—U.S. Dept. of Labor Employment and Training Administration. ⁶ & ⁷—U.S. Energy Information Administration. ⁸—U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics