



“We have prioritized advanced manufacturing in aerospace and aviation, and I appreciate the investment by GE Aviation in this new Huntsville operation.”

— Gov. Robert Bentley, announcing on Oct. 27 the company’s \$200-million, 300-job investment in adjacent factories in Huntsville

Gov. Robert Bentley (R)

Alabama Dept. of Commerce

401 Adams Ave., 6th floor
Montgomery, AL 36130
Greg Canfield, Secretary of Commerce
334-242-0400

madeinalabama.com

Alabama

Pop. (2014): 4,907,303
Median household income: \$42,278
Credit Rating: AA/Stable

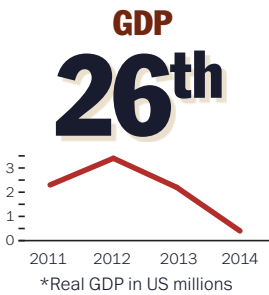
Pop. growth 2013–2018: 3%
Median age: 38.6
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- The Alabama Jobs Act of 2015 creates two credits for qualifying projects: a jobs credit in the amount of up to 3 percent of the previous year’s annual wages of eligible employees, and a capital-investment credit in the amount of up to 1.5 percent of qualified capital investment.
- The Alabama Veterans and Targeted Counties Act provides enhanced incentives under the Alabama Jobs Act for qualifying projects located in rural counties or that created jobs for veterans. The act also establishes the Accelerate Alabama Fund, which can fund a loan of up to \$2 million per project in targeted counties.
- The Alabama Reinvestment and Abatements Act expands the list of projects that may qualify for sales, property, and mortgage recording tax abatements under the Tax Incentive Reform Act of 1992 (TIRA) by allowing a number of new industry sectors to qualify.
- The School Choice and Student Opportunity Act authorizes the creation of public charter schools in Alabama.
- Innovator Liability Reform overturns a state Supreme Court decision that allowed brand-name manufacturers to be held liable for products made by generics manufacturers.

Rankings that Matter

Business Tax Climate	29
Legal Climate	46
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure	24 (\$816,249)
ACT Career Readiness Certificates	22 (40,337)
Lowest Electric Power Cost	22 (9.86)
Fiscal Solvency	13
College Attainment	43 (33.6%)



Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015

Company	City	County	Type	New/ Expansion	Product	Investment (\$ millions)	Employment
Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, Inc.	Vance	Tuscaloosa	MF	E	Sport Utility Vehicles	1,300	300
Google Inc.	Stevenson	Jackson	DT	N	Data Center	600	75
Kamtek Inc.	Birmingham	Jefferson	MF	E	Stamped Parts	450	
U.S. Steel	Birmingham	JEFFERSON	MF	E	Steel	230	
SMP Automotive Systems Alabama, Inc.	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	MF	N	Auto Parts	150	650
Hexcel	Decatur	Morgan	MF	E	Acrylic Fiber	145	20
Polaris Industries	Huntsville	Madison	MF	N	All-Terrain Vehicles	142	400
Georgia-Pacific LLC	Perdue Hill	Monroe	MF	E	Paper Products	110	
Yorozu North America, Inc.	Jasper	Walker	MF	N	Auto Stamping	100	300
Kamtek Inc.	Birmingham	Jefferson	MF	N	Auto Parts	80	354

DT = Data Center MF = Manufacturing OF = Office HQ = Headquarters RD = Research & Development DW = Distribution/Warehouse

Did You Know?

Gov. Bentley in December said he would support a gas tax increase in 2016 if a bill came to his desk to sign. Foreign direct investment in Alabama topped \$1 billion in 2014, with Japan the leading source for investment and job creation. The Alabama Technology Network, the state’s version of the national Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) network, is one of only eight MEPs nationwide to operate across a statewide network of locations.





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