



ALABAMA

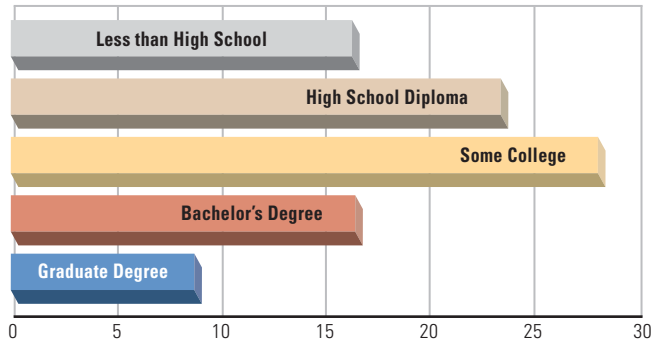
Alabama Development Office
401 Adams Avenue, 6th Floor
Montgomery, AL 36130
Neal Wade, Director
334-242-0400



Governor: Bob Riley (R) ado.state.al.us

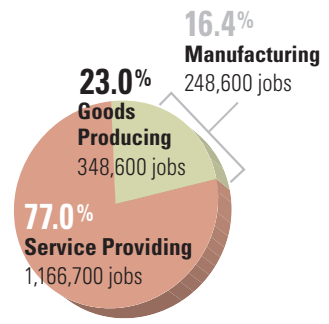
Population 2009: 4,645,002 **Population growth forecast 2009-2013: 3.59%** **Median household income: \$44,284**

Work Force Education by Percentage



Private Sector Employment

1,515,300 jobs



Employment by Majority-Owned U.S. Affiliates of Foreign Firms in 2007: **80,500**
Percent of Total State Employment: **4.8**

Median Hourly Wage for Production Occupations: **\$12.76**
Right-to-work state? **YES**

U.S. Recovery Act Highlight: Alabama Dept. of Economic and Community Affairs
\$135.9 million

Legislative Update

• A new bill signed in 2008 aims to help small businesses and their employees afford the cost of health insurance. The plan allows business owners with fewer than 25 employees to deduct 150 percent of the amount they pay for employee health insurance premiums from their state income taxes. The plan also allows employees of small businesses earning \$50,000 or less annually to deduct 150 percent of what

they pay for health insurance from state income taxes.
• The Alternative and Renewable Energy Act of 2008, among other measures, provides tax credits and abatements for various energy-related expenditures.
• A new law creates the Shortline Railroad Infrastructure Rehabilitation Fund, which allows the DOT to make grants and no-cost loans for rehab of Class III shortline railroads in the state.