



**“Y’all, momentum is on our side, and I want Alabama to be every company’s first choice for their location.”**

— Gov. Kay Ivey, from a speech to the Economic Development Association of Alabama, August 6, 2018

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# Alabama

**Pop. (2018):** 4,968,383

**Median household income:** \$47,060

**Credit Rating:** AA/Stable

**Pop. growth 2018–2023:** 0.42%

**Median age:** 39

**Right-to-work state:** Yes

## Legislative Update

- Site selectors are exempted from registering as lobbyists with the state Ethics Commission under the Alabama Jobs Enhancement Act, which passed in March. Supporters of the legislation argued that requiring site selectors to register with the government and disclose their confidential clients would chase away potential projects.
- Gov. Ivey signed a bill allowing counties to abate ad valorem taxes for large economic development projects, provided the property is used for a project that qualifies for incentives under the Alabama Jobs Act.
- Lawmakers allocated \$216 million more for spending on education in 2019. The \$6.63 billion education bill is Alabama’s largest education budget in 10 years.



**39<sup>th</sup>**

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2018-2019: -2



**23<sup>rd</sup>**

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: \$1,005,133



**11<sup>th</sup>**

Number of NCRs: **163,589** | Percent Improvement 2017-2018: **22.9%**



**22<sup>nd</sup>**

2018 Workers' Comp Index Rate: **1.65**



**17<sup>th</sup>**

Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **6.31**



**14<sup>th</sup>**

Fiscal Condition Index Rank

**GDP**  
**27<sup>th</sup>**



**2017 GDP**  
(in millions of current US\$)  
**\$192,663.2**

## Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2018

| COMPANY                            | CITY       | COUNTY     | TYPE  | NEW/<br>EXPANDED | PRODUCT                     | INVESTMENT<br>(US\$ M) | EMP   |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Mazda Toyota Manufacturing, U.S.A. | Huntsville | Madison    | MF/DW | N                | Automotive                  | 1,600                  | 4,000 |
| Daimler AG                         | Tuscaloosa | Tuscaloosa | MF    | E                | Electronics                 | 1,000                  |       |
| Facebook                           | Huntsville | Madison    | DT    | N                | IT & Comm.                  | 750                    | 100   |
| Hyundai Motor Co.                  | Montgomery | Montgomery | MF    | N                | Automotive                  | 388                    | 50    |
| Amazon.Com                         | Bessemer   | Jefferson  | DW    | N                | Transport & Logistics       | 325                    | 1,500 |
| Airbus Group                       | Mobile     | Mobile     | MF    | E                | Aerospace                   | 300                    | 400   |
| DC Blox                            | Birmingham | Jefferson  | OF/DT | N                | IT & Comm.                  | 163                    | 20    |
| Samvardhana Motherson              |            |            |       |                  |                             |                        |       |
| Peguform Barcelona Slu             | Tuscaloosa | Tuscaloosa | MF    | N                | Automotive                  | 150                    | 1,000 |
| Haier US Appliance Solutions       | Decatur    | Morgan     | MF    | E                | Electronics                 | 115                    | 255   |
| John Soules Foods                  | Valley     | Chambers   | MF    | N                | Food & Beverage             | 110                    | 510   |
| Rex Lumber                         | Troy       | Pike       | MF    | N                | Wood Products               | 110                    | 110   |
| Kimberly-Clark Corp.               | Mobile     | Mobile     | MF    | E                | Paper, Printing & Packaging | 100                    |       |

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

## Did You Know?

With a strong showing in the corporate executive survey portion of Site Selection’s 2018 Top State Business Climate Rankings in November, Alabama recorded an overall 8th-place finish, tying with Indiana, one spot below Virginia.

Alabama exports totaled a record \$21.7 billion in 2017, powered by rising overseas shipments of products such as automobiles, aircraft components, chemicals, paper and minerals.

The University of Alabama’s Culverhouse College of Business projects that Alabama’s economy will grow by approximately 2 percent in 2019, slightly below the 2.2 percent growth in 2018.

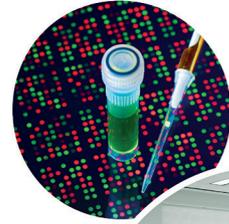
Shipt, a Birmingham-based tech firm acquired by Target in 2017, is dramatically expanding its Alabama operations, and plans to hire 881 Birmingham-based workers at an average salary of more than \$48,000.



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