



“ReSkill Mississippi is an effort to utilize CARES Act funds to not only get Mississippians back to work, but to get them skills training that will help them work in even better jobs than they may have had before COVID-19.”

— Gov. Tate Reeves, August 5, 2020, on the launch of the ReSkill Mississippi initiative (ReSkillMS) to ease the economic burden and uncertainty the pandemic has created for the state's workforce

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Mississippi

Pop. (2020): 3,056,560

Median household income (2020): \$44,622

Credit Rating: AA/Stable

Pop. growth 2020–2025: 0.16%

Median age (2020): 38

Right-to-work state: Yes

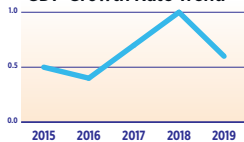
Legislative Update

- SB 2725 authorizes the cultivation, processing, and transportation of hemp containing no more than 0.3 percent THC. All growers and processors of hemp will have to obtain a license from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. If a hemp grower violates the state plan by growing hemp that contains a THC concentration exceeding 0.3 percent, they will be prosecuted by the attorney general's office.
- The COVID-19 outbreak has taken a major toll on Mississippi's economy as 99.3 percent of the state's businesses are considered small businesses. SB 2772 took \$300 million of the \$1.25 billion in CARES Act money and pledged it to the state's small businesses. During the final portion of the session, legislators clawed back around \$60 million in unspent Back to Business dollars.

GDP

36th

GDP Growth Rate Trend



2019 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$115,971



32nd

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2020–2021: -1



34th

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: 438,422



14th

Number of NCRCs: 136,187 | Percent Improvement 2019–2020: 11.39%



20th

2020 Workers' Comp Index Rate: 1.54



8th

Industrial power cost per kWh: \$5.64



21st

Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2004-2019: 103.4%

Pandemic Response & Recovery



Jackson, Mississippi
Photo: Getty Images

• ReSkillMS

ReSkillMS is a program designed to help individuals adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic find jobs with better wages and also help support employers who want to hire and train new employees on the job. The program encourages employers to hire employees immediately and train them on the job. ReSkillMS was created to provide workforce training that helps Mississippians find job opportunities quickly with higher pay than their pre-COVID occupation. The program also helps employers ready to fill skilled positions with the workforce they need by training individuals on the job. Follow the link here to learn more about the resources that are available www.reskillms.com.

• Mississippi Small Business Development Center

If your business has been adversely impacted by COVID-19, visit the Mississippi Small Business Development Center for assistance. Areas of interest including funding/liquidity, taxation changes, employment law changes, adjusting your business plan, counseling to

navigate the changes and resources, and advice on health and safety are available. The Mississippi Small Business Development Center is an accredited member of America's Small Business Development Centers and is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration through The University of Mississippi.

• Economic Development

Organizations Getting Creative

As they always do, local economic development and professional organizations have risen to the challenge and have gotten creative to reach small businesses in need. For example, several have either hosted or scheduled webinars and conference calls that include federal and state agency leaders, accountants, lawyers and tax experts sharing tips and tools on navigating through the pandemic. Reach out to your local Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development organization to keep updated on locally hosted web events and visit the Mississippi Economic Council and Mississippi Economic Development Council.

OPPORTUNITY AMPLIFIED

WE KNOW THAT DIVERSITY ISN'T JUST A BUSINESS VALUE.

IT'S A PATH TO BETTER IDEAS.

Mississippi offers a perfect combination of quality of life and quality of minds. Thanks to our strong research universities and record-setting improvements in K-12 education, we are ensuring a talented and diverse pipeline of knowledge economy workers who are prepared to solve your toughest challenges and amplify your greatest opportunities.

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TO LEARN MORE.



U.S. ARMY ENGINEER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(ERDC) WOMEN OF COLOR STEM AWARD RECIPIENTS. FROM LEFT
TO RIGHT: DR. REENA PATEL, LULU EDWARDS, BARBARA PILATE,
AND VICTORIA MOORE (NOT PICTURED).
DOD SUPERCOMPUTING RESOURCE CENTER
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI

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