

HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

Prepared by the Mississippi Development Authority
 March 23, 2006

(601) 359-3449/www.mississippi.org

POPULATION

Population:	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Hattiesburg	45,335	47,229	44,779	45,693	46,525
Forrest County	68,323	72,236	72,604	74,469	87,263

Most populated cities in Forrest County:

City	2005 Population
Hattiesburg	45,693
Petal	7,919

Age breakdown of county population, 2004:

0 to 17	18.9 %	40 to 49	13.3 %
18 to 21	11.8 %	50 to 64	13.5 %
22 to 29	16.0 %	65 and over	12.2 %
30 to 39	14.2 %		

Median age of county population, 2004: 30.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Census of Population, 1990 and 2000; 2005 and 2010 Population Estimates, Demographics Now.

LOCATION

Distance to selected cities from Hattiesburg:

Area	Distance	
Atlanta, Georgia	384 miles	619 kilometers
Chicago, Illinois	813 miles	1,311 kilometers
Dallas, Texas	470 miles	758 kilometers
Jackson, Mississippi	88 miles	142 kilometers
Memphis, Tennessee	291 miles	469 kilometers
New Orleans, Louisiana	115 miles	185 kilometers

Source: Official Mississippi Highway Map; unpublished data collected by MDA.

LABOR UNIONS

Information on labor union activity in Mississippi can be obtained by calling MDA at 601-359-3449.

WAGES

Annual Average, 2004*:

Manufacturing

Forrest County	\$661/week	\$16.53/hour
Mississippi	\$639/week	\$15.98/hour
United States	\$920/week	\$23.00/hour

Services

Forrest County	\$522/week	\$13.05/hour
Mississippi	\$508/week	\$12.70/hour
United States	\$724/week	\$18.10/hour

*All rates include management personnel.

Source: County data-Mississippi Department of Employment Security, U.S. data-U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2004 Annual Average.

LABOR FORCE

Annual Average, 2004:

	Forrest County	Commuting Area*
Labor Force	35,970	133,319
Male Percentage	51%	
Female Percentage	49%	
Total Employment	33,900	123,160
Manufacturing	2,391	
Services & Misc.	20,310	
Total Unemployed	1,960	6,770
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	5.1%
U.S.	5.5%	
Mississippi	6.2%	

*Commuting area includes all contiguous counties in Mississippi and neighboring states.

Source: Mississippi Department of Employment Security 2004, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

RETAIL SALES

Gross Retail Sales (in millions):

	1995	2000	2004
Hattiesburg	\$ 808	\$ 1,196	\$ 1,484
Forrest County	\$ 844	\$ 998	\$ 1120

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, Annual Report, Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1995; 2000, 2004.

INCOME

Per Capita Personal Income:

	1995	2000	2003
Forrest County	\$17,656	\$22,093	\$24,803

Earnings, Forrest County:

Earnings by Place of Work, 2003 \$1,367,168,000

Sources of Earnings by Place of Work, 2003:

Manufacturing	8.1%
Services-Other	13.6%
Wholesale Trade	3.7%
Retail Trade	8.8%
Government	35.7%
Construction	3.8%
Finance & Insurance	5.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	5.1%
Healthcare & Social Assistance	14.0%
Educational Services	0.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	2.8%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2003.

ASSESSED VALUE

Grand Total Ad Valorem Assessment (in millions):

	1995	2000	2004
Forrest County	\$ 269	\$ 380	\$ 435

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2004.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Banks based in Hattiesburg	2
Banks with one or more branches in	12

Source: Mississippi Banker's Association, Mississippi Bank Directory, 2005-2006 Edition.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways in Hattiesburg:

MS 42
US 11,
I-59

Railroads in Hattiesburg:

Canadian National, Kansas City Southern, Norfolk & Southern

Air Travel in Hattiesburg:

Nearest Commercial Airport and its location:

Hattiesburg-Laurel Regional, Moselle

Distance (miles)	14
Length of runway	6,500 feet/1,982 meters
Number of daily outgoing flights	2
Major airlines serving the airport:	
Northwest Airlink	

Nearest general aviation airport and its location:

Bobby L. Chain, Hattiesburg

Distance (miles)	Local
Length of runway	6,219 feet/1,896 meters

Common carriers operating in Hattiesburg 15

Hattiesburg's nearest full-service port:

Port of Gulfport

Post Office Box 40
Gulfport, MS 39502
228-865-4300

Distance from Hattiesburg	69 miles/111 kilometers
Name of waterway	Gulf of Mexico
Channel depth	36 feet/11 meters

Source: Mississippi Department of Transportation; Mississippi Port Authorities; unpublished data collected by MDA, 2005.

HEALTH CARE

Hospitals in Forrest County	2
Number of beds	545

Source: Mississippi Department of Health, Directory of Mississippi Health Facilities, 2004.

EDUCATION

For detailed information on education in Forrest County and Mississippi, request an Education Profile. Education Profiles are prepared for all Mississippi counties and may be obtained by calling 601-359-3593, or online at www.mississippi.org.

UTILITIES AND SERVICES

Electricity distributor(s) in Hattiesburg:

Mississippi Power Company

Water/sewage service in Hattiesburg:

Utility name	City of Hattiesburg
Source	Wells
System capacity	18,000,000 gallons per day 68,182 kiloliters per day
Average consumption	8,000,000 gallons per day 30,303 kiloliters per day
Peak consumption	10,500,000 gallons per day 39,773 kiloliters per day
Storage capacity	13,500,000 gallons 51,136 kiloliters
Sanitary sewer capacity	22,000,000 gallons 83,333 kiloliters
Sewer treatment type	Lagoons
Percent of community served	92%
Present load	50%

Natural gas distributor(s) in Hattiesburg:

Willmut Gas and Oil Company

Source: Unpublished data collected by MDA, 2001.

COUNTY FEATURES

County Seat(s)	Hattiesburg
Land area	470 square miles/1,218 square kilometers
County land area in commercial forests	73 %
National Parks/Historic Landmarks:	
DeSoto National Forest	

State Parks:

Paul B. Johnson

Tourism related information

Call 1-800-WARMEST

Source: Mississippi Elected Officials Directory; Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning; unpublished data collected by MDA.

LARGEST MANUFACTURERS IN FORREST COUNTY

Manufacturing	Employees	Type of Business
Marshall Durbin Food Corp.-Hattiesburg	811	Fresh and frozen poultry (whole and parts)
Dairy Fresh Corp.	280	Homogenized milk
York International, Engineered Systems Group	277	Custom-made commercial air conditioning equipment
Kohler Engines, Inc.	235	Single-cylinder, air-cooled, gas-powered, 4-cycle, vertical shaft engines, 6-10 hp
Barkley Filing Systems	220	File folders, file guides and index cards

Source: Mississippi Manufacturers' Database, MDA, March 2006.

FIRE INSURANCE RATING

Hattiesburg

Class 4

Source: Mississippi State Rating Bureau, August 2002.

COST OF HOUSING

Average Selling Price of Homes, 2004:

Jackson	\$199,485
Gulfport	\$189,900
Hattiesburg	\$204,780
Tupelo	\$192,228

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living, 2004.

PROPERTY TAX

General county millage 32.00

Property tax- Counties and municipalities levy a property tax on real and personal tangible property. Most property is assessed at 15% of true value. Motor vehicles and utilities (excluding railroads) are assessed at 30% and owner-occupied residential properties are assessed at 10% of true value.

To calculate annual property tax:

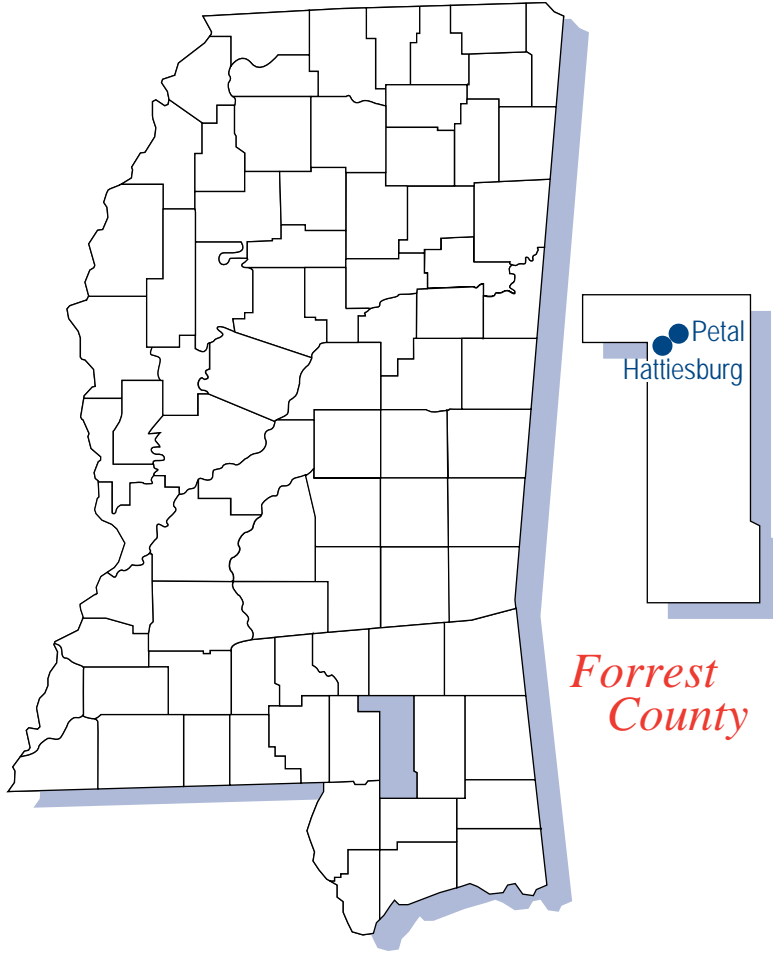
$$\text{Tax} = (\text{V} \times \text{A} \times \text{M}) / 1000$$

V = property value (\$), A = assessment percentage (%),
M = millage rate

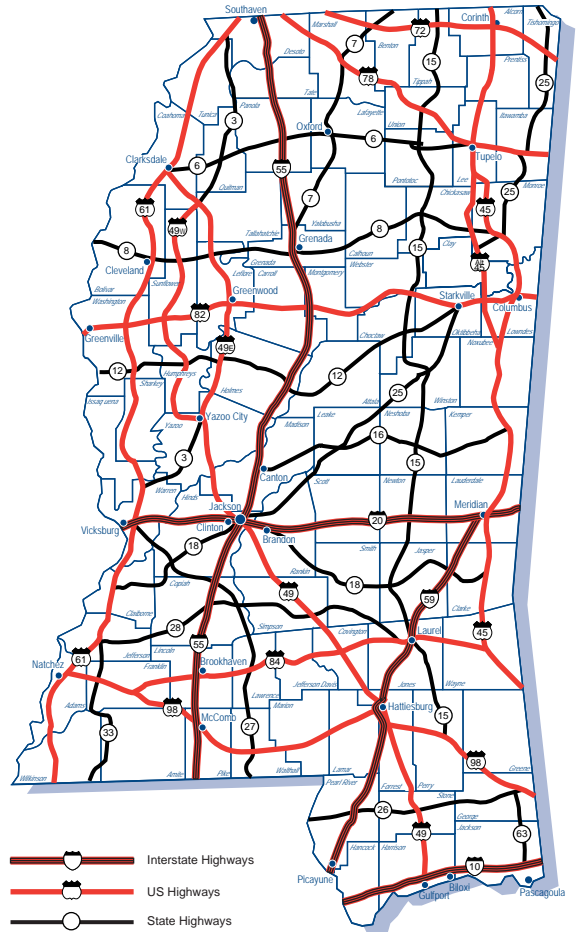
Example: Home value \$96,226 millage rate 32.00
 $(\$96,226 \times 10\% \times 32.00) / 1,000 = \307.92

Source: Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2004-2005.

County Location



Federal/State Highways



Regional Map

