

**Selected Economic Variables for the Mississippi Development Authority/Tourism
Division Coastal Region (Emphasis on Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)**

	<u>January-May 2006</u>	<u>January-May 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Enplanements (Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport)	161,284	178,016	10.4 %
	<u>January-April 2006</u>	<u>January-April 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Gross Gaming Revenues (Coastal Region of the Mississippi Gaming Commission)	\$246.1 million	\$441.8 million	79.5 %
	<u>June 2006</u>	<u>June 2007</u>	<u>Change</u>
State-Licensed Casinos (see Gross Gaming Revenues)	5	10	100.0 %
	<u>April 2006</u>	<u>April 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Total Hotel/Motel Rooms (Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)	6,000	10,533	75.6 %
	<u>FY 2006</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Estimated Direct Tourism Employment# (Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)	15,000	25,000	66.7 %

The 15,000 = actual estimates for FY 2006, based on tri-county quarterly data; the 25,000 (FY 2007) are projected. These figures do not = the Leisure & Hospitality Sector jobs; a portion of Leisure & Hospitality jobs are not directly related to Tourism—local activity. Some direct Tourism jobs are in Retail, Transportation, among other sectors.

	<u>July 1, 2005</u>	<u>July 1, 2006</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Population Estimates@ (Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)	375,304	342,873	-8.6 %

@ Hancock County's population decreased from 46,546 (2005) to 40,421 (2006), or by - 13.2 %; Harrison County—193,187 (2005) to 171,875 (2006), or by - 11.0%; and Jackson County—135,571 (2005) to 130,577 (2006), or by - 3.7 %.

	<u>July 1, 2005</u>	<u>July 1, 2006</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Population Estimates+ (+Includes 15 counties in The	754,015	732,418	-2.9 %

Coastal Region, of the Mississippi Development Authority/Tourism Division. They are: Covington, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Stone and Wayne.)

Welcome Center Registrants

	<u>January - May 2006</u>	<u>January- May 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Hancock County	105,314	118,693	12.7 %
Jackson County	86,513	110,235	27.4 %

Quarterly Operating Performance, Mississippi Gulf Coast Casino Hotels

	<u>January – March 2006</u>	<u>January – March 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Occupancy Percent	88.8	86.6	- 2.5 %
Room Rate	\$97.01	\$71.37	-26.4 %
Revenue/Available Room	\$86.14	\$61.81	-28.2 %

Note: The Mississippi Gaming Commission conducts quarterly surveys with the help of state-licensed casino Chief Financial Officers. The January – March 2006 data are based on 1,922 casino hotel rooms; January – March 2007 data are based on **5,084** casino hotel rooms. Revenue/Available Room= REVPAR.

Operating Performance, Mississippi Gulf Coast Hotels/Motels

	<u>January-April 2006</u>	<u>January-April 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Occupancy Percent	92.1	66.9	-27.4 %
Room Rate	\$94.39	\$77.88	-17.5 %
Revenue/Available Room	\$86.93	\$52.10	-40.1 %

Note: Operating performance data through April 2007 are based on a sample of 3,430 rooms, but exclude state-licensed casino hotel rooms. Data through April 2006 were based on a sample of 2,416 rooms. They only include hotel/motel rooms in Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties.

Harrison County Room Tax Revenues, based on the 5.0 % Special Lodging Tax

	<u>January-April 2006</u>	<u>January-April 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Tax Revenues	\$1,514,150	\$1,765,368	16.6 %

Hancock County Room Tax Revenues, based on the 2.0 % Special Lodging Tax

	<u>January-April 2006</u>	<u>January-April 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
Tax Revenues	\$10,738	\$43,520	305.3 %

**Nonfarm Employment Data by Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
Gulfport-Biloxi MSA (Hancock, Harrison & Stone Counties)**

	<u>April 2006[^]</u>	<u>April 2007^{&}</u>	Rate of Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	96,300	106,800	10.9 %
Leisure & Hospitality	15,300	21,400	39.9 %
Retail Trade	13,000	13,900	6.9 %

**Nonfarm Employment Data by Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
Pascagoula MSA (George & Jackson Counties)**

	<u>April 2006[^]</u>	<u>April 2007^{&}</u>	Rate of Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	55,200	54,600	-1.1 %
Leisure & Hospitality	NA	NA	NA
Retail Trade	6,300	6,200	-1.6%

**Nonfarm Employment Data by Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
Hattiesburg MSA (Forrest, Lamar & Perry Counties)**

	<u>April 2006[^]</u>	<u>April 2007^{&}</u>	Rate of Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	60,200	61,000	1.3 %
Leisure & Hospitality	6,900	7,300	5.8 %
Retail Trade	9,500	9,500	None

[^]Revised data.

[&]Preliminary data.

Sources: Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport; Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information; Mississippi Development Authority/Tourism Division; Mississippi Gaming Commission; Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB); Mississippi Hotel & Lodging Association; Smith Travel Research, Hendersonville, Tennessee; Mississippi State Tax Commission, U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, 2007.

This update was completed by the Mississippi Development Authority/Tourism Division, Research Unit, June 13, 2007. Subsequent updates are planned.