

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

	<u>July 2006 -- June 2007</u>	<u>July 2007 -- June 2008</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>Enplanements</b> (Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport)	422,811	490,036	15.9 %
	<u>July 2006 - June 2007</u>	<u>July 2007 - June 2008</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>Gross Gaming Revenues</b> (Coastal Region of the Mississippi Gaming Commission)	\$1.19 billion	\$1.31 billion	10.2 %
	<u>July 2007</u>	<u>July 2008</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>State-Licensed Casinos</b> (Biloxi, Gulfport, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County)	11	11	none
	<u>June 2007</u>	<u>June 2008</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>Total Hotel/Motel Rooms</b> (Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)	11,000	12,400	12.7 %
	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>Estimated Direct Tourism Employment#</b> (Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)	25,730	27,500	6.9 %
# The 25,730 = actual published data for FY 2007, based on tri-county quarterly data; the 27,500 (FY 2008) are estimated. 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. FY 2007 = July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007; FY 2008 = July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.			
	<u>July 1, 2006</u>	<u>July 1, 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>Population Estimates@</b> (Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties)	340,219	345,890	1.7 %
@ Hancock County's population increased from 38,892 (2006) to 39,687 (2007), or by 2.0 %; Harrison County—173,218 (2006) to 176,105 (2007), or by 1.7%; and Jackson County—128,109 (2006) to 130,098 (2007), or by 1.6 %.			
	<u>July 1, 2006</u>	<u>July 1, 2007</u>	<u>Rate of Change</u>
<b>Population Estimates+</b> (+Includes 15 counties in The 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.)	727,918	738,678	1.5 %

**Welcome Center Registrants**

	<b><u>July 2006 - June 2007</u></b>	<b><u>July 2007 - June 2008</u></b>	<b><u>Rate of Change</u></b>
<b>Hancock County</b>	295,177	300,771	1.9 %
<b>Jackson County</b>	266,993	293,040	9.8 %

**Operating Performance, Mississippi Gulf Coast State-Licensed Casino Hotels**

	<b><u>January – March 2007</u></b>	<b><u>January - March 2008</u></b>	<b><u>Rate of Change</u></b>
<b>Occupancy Percent</b>	86.6	84.7	-2.2 %
<b>Room Rate</b>	\$71.37	\$75.00	5.1 %
<b>Revenue/Available Room</b>	\$61.81	\$63.53	2.8 %

Note: The Mississippi Gaming Commission conducts quarterly surveys with the help of state-licensed casino Chief Financial Officers. The 2007 quarterly data were based on quarterly averages of 5,084 casino hotel rooms; 2008 quarterly data were based on quarterly averages of 5,563 casino hotel rooms. Revenue/Available Room= REVPAR.

**Operating Performance, Mississippi Gulf Coast Non-Casino Hotels/Motels**

	<b><u>January-June 2007</u></b>	<b><u>January-June 2008</u></b>	<b><u>Rate of Change</u></b>
<b>Occupancy Percent</b>	67.6	70.1	3.7 %
<b>Room Rate</b>	\$78.40	\$80.13	2.2 %
<b>Revenue/Available Room</b>	\$53.01	\$56.15	5.9 %

Note: Operating performance data through June 2007 were based on a sample of 3,515 rooms, but **exclude** state-licensed casino hotel rooms. Data through June 2008 were based on a sample of 3,916 rooms and **exclude** state-licensed casino hotel 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**

	<b><u>July 2006 - May 2007</u></b>	<b><u>July 2007 - May 2008</u></b>	<b><u>Rate of Change</u></b>
<b>Tax Revenues</b>	\$4,554,825	\$5,743,563	26.1 %

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

	<b><u>July 2006 - May 2007</u></b>	<b><u>July 2007 - May 2008</u></b>	<b><u>Rate of Change</u></b>
<b>Tax Revenues</b>	\$115,610	\$140,221	21.3 %

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

	<u>May 2007<sup>^</sup></u>	<u>May 2008<sup>^</sup></u>	<b>Rate of Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	107,600	111,700	3.8 %
Leisure & Hospitality	21,400	24,200	13.1 %
Retail Trade	14,100	14,000	-0.7 %

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

	<u>May 2007<sup>^</sup></u>	<u>May 2008<sup>^</sup></u>	<b>Rate of Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	55,300	59,000	6.7 %
Leisure & Hospitality	NA	NA	NA
Retail Trade	6,300	6,300	none

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

	<u>May 2007<sup>^</sup></u>	<u>May 2008<sup>^</sup></u>	<b>Rate of Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	60,700	61,100	0.7 %
Leisure & Hospitality	7,200	7,700	6.9 %
Retail Trade	9,400	9,700	3.2 %

<sup>^</sup>Revised 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, 2008.

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