

The data referenced in this report is obtained from the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.

### Employment remains stable on Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The overall unemployment rate on the Mississippi Gulf Coast remained stable in June relative to May, increasing only slightly in a month where unemployment rates traditionally rise after schools close and the summer season begins. Notably, compared to previous years, the rate at which unemployment rates increased along the Mississippi Gulf Coast was significantly less than the traditional jump. When compared to pre-Katrina levels, total establishment reported jobs were down by 6,350 (4%) in June. The Leisure and Hospitality industry is down more than 6,800 jobs when compared to 2005. June represents the seventh consecutive month where a year over year loss in total establishment jobs has occurred, but the gap in losses is narrowing.

The tables and chart below contain data from June 2009 for the Mississippi Gulf Coast and also historical data for the month of June.

Table 1: Top three changes in reported establishment jobs when comparing June 2009 to June 2005.

	Added jobs		Lost Jobs
Construction	2,980	Retail Trade	-1,370
Waste Mgt.	1,200	Healthcare	-1,550
Government	1,420	Leisure and Hosp.	-6,800

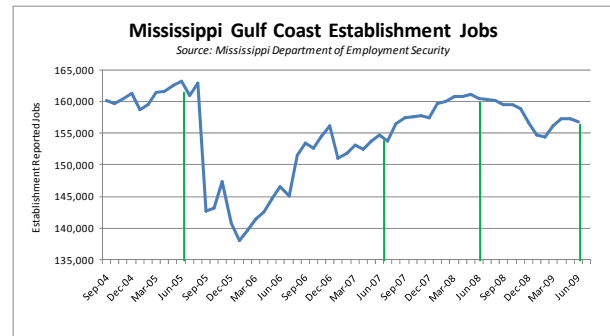


Table 2: June 2009 Unemployment Rates (unadjusted)

	MS Coast	Hancock	Harrison	Jackson	Mississippi	U.S. Average
Labor Force	163,190	18,160	85,240	59,790	1,313,100	155,921,000
Employed	149,950	16,680	78,640	54,630	1,184,100	140,826,000
Unemployed	13,240	1,480	6,600	5,160	129,000	15,095,000
Rate	8.1%	8.1%	7.7%	8.6%	9.8%	9.7%
Prior Month Rate	7.9%	8.4%	7.5%	8.4%	9.7%	9.7%
Establishment Jobs	156,880	14,190	90,130	52,560	1,120,400	NA
Prior YR Establishment Jobs	160,490	13,910	92,440	54,140	1,152,700	NA

Table 3: Historic June Employment levels for combined three coastal counties

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Labor Force	163,190	170,760	167,380	160,530	180,040	176,290
Employed	149,950	159,410	157,750	145,440	167,540	165,530
Unemployed	13,240	11,350	9,630	15,090	12,500	10,760
Rate	8.1%	6.6%	5.8%	9.4%	6.9%	6.1%
Establishment Jobs	156,880	160,490	154,740	146,580	163,230	159,810

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