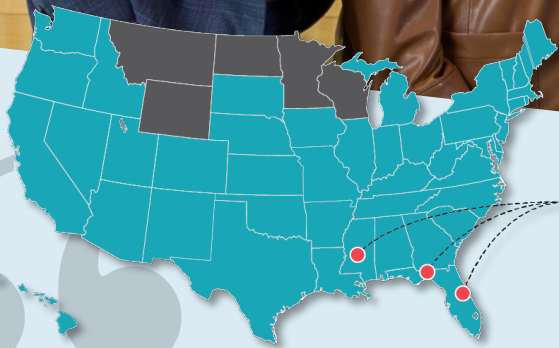




Mississippi's Current Economic Development Landscape

Gray Swoope, President/CEO
VisionFirst Advisors

September 14, 2023



44

**STATES REPRESENTED
IN OUR PORTFOLIO**

6

**FORTUNE 500
COMPANIES REPRESENTED**

3

**VISIONFIRST
OFFICE LOCATIONS**

**Strategy starts
with a vision first.**

SHAMELESS PLUG



 Gray



THE AEROSPACE ALLIANCE

Launched in 2009



Mississippi has played a pivotal role in the aviation and aerospace industry for decades. From research institutions to military facilities to private companies, the state has made a broad range of influence in the industry. The state is also home to NASA's largest rocket testing facility, Stennis Space Center. A key factor in the Aviation & Aerospace Industry experiencing such growth and success in the state is a talented, skilled and productive workforce. Mississippi's robust talent pipeline ensures workforce demands are met and companies are provided the talent they need.



MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi spurs innovation by partnering with companies advancing the future of aerospace. As one of the top states for employment growth in the sector, companies can find the workforce and training programs they need to take flight. Aerospace leaders here enjoy proximity to several federal installations including two Air Force bases, a Naval Air Station and NASA's Stennis Space Center. Mississippi is the stealth fighter of aerospace with a strong history of success.

— LAURA HIPPI, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AN ALREADY GROWING INDUSTRY – EXPECTING EVEN MORE GROWTH

4.0%

5 YEAR HISTORIC GROWTH

Mississippi has experienced a 4.0% growth rate in the Aviation & Aerospace Industry over the last 5 years, compared to 0.6% in the nation.

1.0%

5 YEAR HISTORIC GROWTH

Mississippi has experienced a 1.0% growth rate for aerospace engineers over the last 5 years, compared to the -0.9% in the nation

10%

10 YEAR GROWTH

Mississippi has experienced a 10% increase in the growth of Aviation, Space & Aerospace establishments from 2011 to 2021.



TALENT PIPELINE

12 Schools (including Mississippi State University, University of Mississippi and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College) are awarding more than 1,600+ engineering degrees & certificates annually.



500+
Aerospace Engineering



300+
Mechanical Engineering



150+
Electrical & Electronics Engineering

Founded in 1935, Mississippi State University's aerospace engineering program is one of the most established in the nation. Aerospace engineers are primarily focused on the design, fabrication, testing, and analysis of aircraft and spacecraft.

Biloxi, Mississippi is home of the Air Force's 81st Training Wing and one of the Air Force's largest technical schools, where more than 2.2 million students have graduated since 1942. Some 20,000-25,000 students go through the system annually.

Mississippi is home of the nation's largest rocket engine test complex at the John C. Stennis Space Center. Stennis employs approximately 5,000 people.

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW //



5,500+

Aerospace-Related Employees (Direct & Supply Chain Employment)



\$82,001

Average Wage in the Aviation, Space & Aerospace Industry




\$0.7B GDP

in the Aviation, Space & Aerospace Industry Sector

COMPANIES THAT HAVE A PRESENCE IN MISSISSIPPI

(Airbus / Lockheed Martin / NASA / Raytheon / Relativity Space)

[AEROSPACEALLIANCE.COM/TAG/MISSISSIPPI/](https://aerospacealliance.com/tag/mississippi/)

A high-angle, close-up shot of a red running track. The track is marked with white lane lines and a diagonal white line. The text "How are we doing?" is overlaid in the lower-left quadrant of the image.

How are we doing?



BUSINESS FACILITIES®

July/August 2023 Issue

BEST BUSINESS CLIMATE

- 1 Texas
- 2 North Carolina
- 3 Virginia
- 4 Utah
- 5 Tennessee
- 6 Colorado
- 7 Washington
- 8 Nevada
- 9 Georgia
- 10 Florida

CUSTOMIZED WORKFORCE TRAINING

- 1 Virginia
- 2 Louisiana
- 3 Alabama
- 4 Texas
- 5 Missouri
- 6 Georgia
- 7 Tennessee
- 8 North Carolina
- 9 South Carolina
- 10 Michigan



BUSINESS FACILITIES®

July/August 2023 Issue

MANUFACTURING JOBS (% OF WORKFORCE)

- 1 Indiana
- 2 Wisconsin
- 3 Iowa
- 4 Michigan
- 5 Kentucky
- 6 Alabama
- 7 Arkansas
- 8 Mississippi ←
- 9 Ohio
- 10 Kansas
- 11 South Carolina
- 12 Tennessee
- 13 Minnesota
- 14 North Carolina
- 15 South Dakota

MANUFACTURING OUTPUT (% OF GDP)

- 1 Indiana
- 2 Louisiana
- 3 Wisconsin
- 4 Michigan
- 5 Kentucky
- 6 Alabama
- 7 Iowa
- 8 Ohio
- 9 North Carolina
- 10 Mississippi ←
- 11 Kansas
- 12 Tennessee
- 13 South Carolina
- 14 Arkansas
- 15 Oregon

AEROSPACE/DEFENSE

- 1 Washington
- 2 California
- 3 Texas
- 4 Connecticut
- 5 Arizona
- 6 Kansas
- 7 Alabama
- 8 Georgia & Ohio
- 9 Florida
- 10 North Carolina

~~First~~ Second Impression

We've already done our homework on you.



LABOR PARTICIPATION

	2019	2023
Alabama	57.6%	57.0%
Arkansas	57.8%	57.6%
Mississippi	56.0%	54.9%
South Carolina	57.5%	56.5%
Tennessee	61.8%	60.0%
West Virginia	54.6%	54.7%
USA	63.2%	62.8%

49th





Why aren't people working?

Where have they gone??????????



Innovate

Immigrate

**i.e., grow your
workforce**

Evaporate

LABOR OPPORTUNITIES

LABEL	USA	MS
Age 16 to19	39.3%	32.9%
Age 45 to 54	81.4%	74.1%
Age 55 to 59	73.6%	64.8%
RACE – White Alone	61.7%	56.7%
RACE – Black or African American	62.3%	55.8%
SEX - Male	82.3%	73.8%
SEX - Female	73.7%	68.7%
Below poverty level	47.2%	41.1%
EDUCATION – Less than high school graduate	60.8%	48.5%

TALENT STRATEGY

- AccelerateMS
- Locally Driven
- Do your P.A.R.T.
- Pipeline
- Attract and Retain
- Continuous Training

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

- Prepare
- Pursue
- Collaborate
- Rural
- Airports
- Innovation & Technology

ASSET DEVELOPMENT

- Creative Solutions
- Alabama
- SpaceFlorida
- Regional
- Workforce

Novelis announces \$2.5 billion aluminum plant in Baldwin County

Low-carbon recycling and rolling plant picks 3,000-acre mega site, expects 1,000 jobs

By **Business Alabama Staff** - May 11, 2022



Rendering of the Novelis plant in Bay Minette.

[Homepage](#) > [News & Information](#) > [Posts](#) > [Pensacola International Airport Wins Commercial Service Airport Project of the Year Award for Project Titan](#)

PENSACOLA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WINS COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORT PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR PROJECT TITAN



MOVING FORWARD



- Hire a consultant!

oil/ Mini-MODULE
AM 414

MOVING FORWARD



- Talent
- Alignment
- Assets
- Collaborate

oil/ Mini-MODULE
AM 414



VISIONFIRST ADVISORS

STRATEGY | ACTION | RESULTS

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