

Job Growth in Mississippi January 2000 to May 2003

Background:

MDA report of job losses. The numbers provided by MDA show a gross loss of 44,897 jobs. (29,588 from business closures and 15,309 from layoffs) These are based on WARN Notices from companies who plan a closure or lay off. These are incomplete, in that not every company that closes or lays off submits these forms. In addition, some companies who submit the forms do not end up eliminating jobs. Also, these numbers do not reflect any new jobs that have been created.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Data. The data used for the bullet points below is from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This data is compiled by the MESC through a monthly survey of 4,000 employers out of approximately 60,000 statewide. These surveys have not included Nissan or any of its suppliers except one small one. (MESC will include Nissan and other suppliers in the coming months.) This is the same process that is used all across the nation. While this data is not 100% accurate it is statistically significant. These numbers are net employment numbers and not gross. In addition, it appears that this is the same data that is being used by H.B.

Total Non-Farm Jobs in Mississippi

- From January of 2000 to May of 2003 there has been a decrease of 15,700 jobs.
- From January of 2002 (the lowest point during this time frame) till May of 2003 there has been a **17,400 increase** in total jobs.

Manufacturing Jobs

- From January of 2000 to May of 2003 there has been a **decrease of 46,200** manufacturing jobs.
- 18,500 of those are from industries that **have typically been hardest hit by NAFTA** (Timber, Furniture, Food Processing, Apparel, Paper, Chemical and Plastics and Rubber.)
- The **Apparel industry** lost 7,000 jobs or **53%** during this time frame.
- There were also modest losses in Motor Vehicle Manufacturing, Ship and Boat Building, Computers and Electronics. However, none of these numbers reflect Nissan, Northrup Grumman or Howard.
- The **average wage** for a Manufacturing job has **risen by 7.1%** since January of 2001.

Focus on Better Jobs

- There has been an **increase of 10,600** jobs in the **Health Care industry**.
- Increase in **Education** on the local level.
- Increase in **Construction** Jobs.
- **Decrease in state government jobs.**
- 50% decrease in Gambling employment.

Employment and Unemployment

- In light of the national recession where America has lost 3.1 million private-sector jobs since January 2001 combined with the devastation of the September 11 attacks, of course, Mississippi has lost some jobs. [Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov]
- However to the contrary, Mississippi has had a net increase of more than 17,400 jobs since January 2002. [Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov]
- We are on the right track. The Advantage Mississippi Initiative and our hard working folks at the Mississippi Development Authority are marketing our incentives both inside and outside our borders to increase not only the number of jobs for Mississippians but also the quality of jobs.
- Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning said most recently in June 2003 "Mississippi is doing a better job than the rest of the nation this year in creating employment." ["Mississippi Economic Outlook: Upswing Awaits National Recovery." *Mississippi Economic Review and Outlook*, June 2003, p. 8.]