

ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

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Mississippi Leading Index,	2
November 2021	

Mississippi Coincident Index, November 2021

National Trends 5

8

Mississippi Employment Trends

Change in Real GDP by
State in the Third Quarter of 2021

A Publication of the University Research Center, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

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State Economist

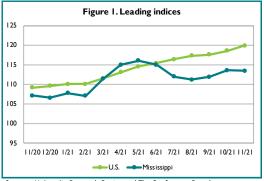
3825 Ridgewood Road Jackson, MS 39211 cmiller@mississippi.edu www.mississippi.edu/urc igure I indicates in November the value of the Mississippi Leading Index (MLI) decreased 0.1 percent. The value of the MLI for the month was 6.0 percent higher compared to one year earlier.

As seen in Figure 2 the value of the Mississippi Coincident Index (MCI) rose 0.5 percent in November. Compared to one year ago the value for the month was up 3.5 percent.

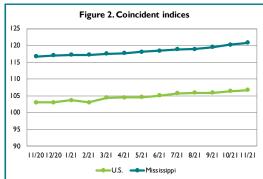
U.S. real GDP increased 2.3 percent at a seasonally-adjusted, annualized rate in the third quarter of 2021 according to the latest estimate of the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The third estimate by BEA was 0.2 percentage point higher compared to its second estimate. The slightly higher third estimate resulted from upward revisions to consumer spending on services, private inventory investment, state and local government

spending, and nonresidential fixed investment. These upward revisions were partially offset by downward revisions to federal government spending and net exports.

The performance of the Mississippi economy was mixed in November. The biggest positive was the continued improvement of the state's manufacturing sector as evidenced by the increase in the Mississippi Manufacturing Employment Intensity Index. Initial unemployment claims and building permits made small improvements in November. However, income tax withholdings fell slightly for the month while total employment also slipped slightly in November. The continued rise in inflation remains a challenge to the state's economy. The December data will provide the first indication of the economic effects of the fifth wave of COVID-19 cases to hit the state.



Sources: University Research Center and The Conference Board



Sources: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and The Conference Board

Notes: The Mississippi Coincident Index is constructed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and re-indexed to 2007. The Index is based on changes in nonfarm employment, the unemployment rate, average manufacturing workweek length, and wage and salary disbursements. The Mississippi Leading Index is constructed by the Mississippi University Research Center. The U.S. Indices are from The Conference Board. All series are indexed to a base year of 2007.

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MISSISSIPPI LEADING INDEX, NOVEMBER 2021

n November the value of the Mississippi Leading Index of Economic Indicators (MLI) edged lower by 0.1 percent as seen in Figure 3, the first decrease since August. The value of the MLI was 6.0 percent higher for the month compared to one year earlier. Over the last six months the value of the MLI fell 2.2 percent.

As in the previous month five of the seven components of the MLI increased in value in November. However, the decreases in the values of the ISM Manufacturing Index and income tax withholdings more than offset the increases in the other components. Each component is discussed below in order of largest to smallest contribution.

In November the value of the **Mississippi Manufactur-**ing Employment Intensity Index increased 1.5 percent as seen in Figure 4, its third consecutive monthly increase. The value for the month was 5.9 percent higher compared to one year earlier. Manufacturing employment in the state increased 0.7 percent for the month and the average weekly hours of production employees in November increased 0.8 percent.

In November the value of **Mississippi residential build-ing permits** (three-month moving average) increased for the third consecutive month. Figure 5 indicates the value rose 2.3 percent for the month; compared to one year earlier the value was down 2.4 percent. The number of units in the state also rose 2.3 percent in November. Compared to one year earlier the number of units in the state for the month was 2.3 percent lower. The number of privately-owned housing units authorized by building permits in the U.S. in November rose 3.6 percent from the revised October rate. Compared to one year earlier the number of units in the U.S. for the month was up 0.9 percent.

U.S. retail sales increased in value by 0.3 percent in November as seen in Figure 6, the fourth consecutive monthly increase. Compared to one year earlier the value of sales for the month was up 18.2 percent. Sales excluding automobiles were up 0.3 percent as well. Gasoline Stations had the largest increase in sales among all segments for the month. A relatively large decrease in the sales of Electronics and Appliances occurred in November, the largest among all segments. Sales by General Merchandisers also declined and Motor Vehicles sales fell slightly.

Figure 7 indicates the number of seasonally-adjusted initial unemployment claims in Mississippi decreased 1.8

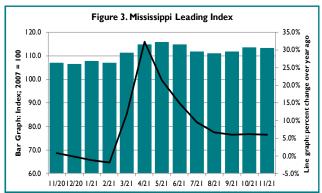
percent in November. Compared to one year earlier the value for the month was down 63.0 percent. In contrast, the number of seasonally-adjusted continued unemployment claims in Mississippi climbed 28.3 percent in November as seen in Figure 16 on page 6, the largest monthly increase since May 2020. Nevertheless, the number of continued unemployment claims in Mississippi for the month was 82.2 percent lower compared to one year earlier. In November the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in Mississippi decreased 0.5 percentage point to 5.0 percent as seen in Figure 17 on page 6, its lowest level since October 2018. Compared to one year earlier the rate was down 1.7 percentage points for the month.

For the first time in six months the value of the **University of Michigan Index of Consumer Expectations** (three-month moving average) increased in November. Figure 8 indicates the value for the month edged up 0.1 percent. Compared to one year earlier the value in November was 11.0 percent lower. The slight easing of gasoline prices, as well as an optimistic outlook for further declines, was likely responsible for the improvement in expectations in the most recent survey. Both short-term (one-year) inflation expectations and long-term (five-year) inflation expectations slipped in the most recent survey. Potential hurdles for rising consumer expectations include continued higher inflation rates and the rise in COVID-19 cases due to the Omicron variant.

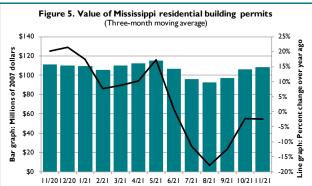
The value of Mississippi income tax withholdings (three-month moving average) slipped 0.8 percent in November as seen in Figure 9, the second consecutive monthly decrease. The value of withholdings in November was up 0.5 percent compared to one year earlier. Over the last six months the value of income tax withholdings in Mississippi increased 1.3 percent.

As seen in Figure 10 the value of the **ISM Index of U.S. Manufacturing Activity** fell 3.9 percent in December to its lowest level since July. Compared to one year earlier the value for the month was down 3.3 percent. The only component that increased in value for the month was Employment. However, most of the decrease in the Index was due to the drop in the Supplier Deliveries component. The decline in this component indicates delivery times were faster in December, a signal supply chain difficulties have improved. Notably, the prices paid index decreased considerably for the month. Commodities with lower prices reported in December included aluminum, oil, and natural gas.

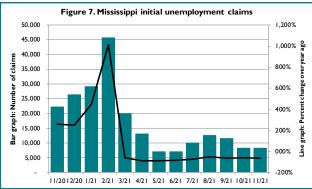
MISSISSIPPI LEADING INDEX AND COMPONENTS, IN FIGURES



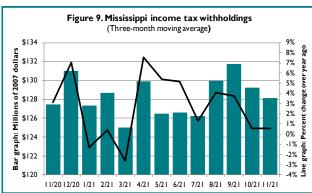
Source: University Research Center



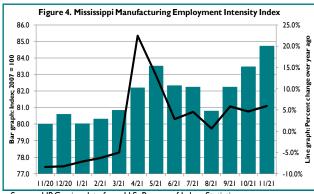
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Department of Labor; seasonally adjusted



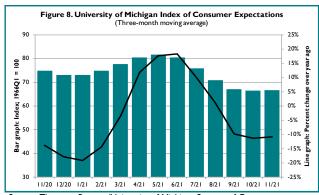
Source: Mississippi Department of Revenue; seasonally adjusted



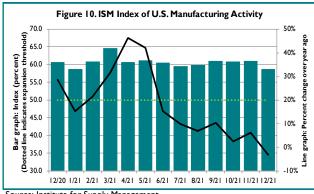
Source: URC using data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census



Source: Thomson Reuters/University of Michigan Surveys of Consumers

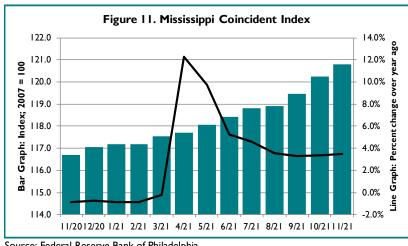


Source: Institute for Supply Management

MISSISSIPPI COINCIDENT INDEX, NOVEMBER 2021

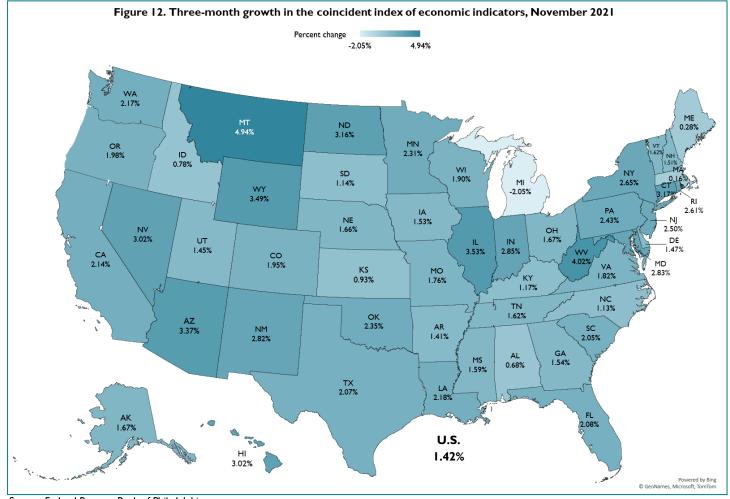
he Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia reported the value of the Mississippi Coincident Index of Economic Indicators (MCI) rose 0.5 percent in November as Figure 11 indicates. Compared to one year earlier the value of the MCI in November was up 3.5 percent.

As seen in Figure 12 the values of the coincident indices in forty-nine states increased in November compared to August. The values of the coincident indices increased more than 3.0 percent over the last three months in nine states. The value of the coincident index in Montana rose 4.9 percent, the largest increase among all states compared to three months earlier. In fifteen states the values of coincident indices increased



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

between 2.0 percent and 3.0 percent in November compared to August. In twenty-five states including Mississippi the values of the coincident index rose less than 2.0 percent over the last three months. As in October, in November the only state where the value of the coincident index decreased over the last three months was Michigan.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

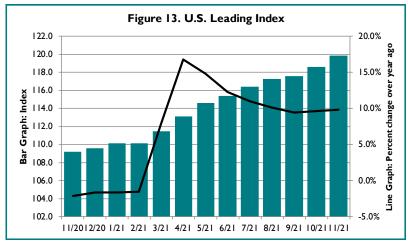
NATIONAL TRENDS

The Conference Board reported the value of the U.S. Leading Economic Index (LEI) increased 1.1 percent in November as seen in Figure 13. The value of the LEI was up 9.8 percent for the month compared to one year earlier. In October eight of the ten components of the LEI made positive contributions. Average weekly initial claims for unemployment insurance made the largest contribution. Over the last six months the value of the LEI increased 4.6 percent.

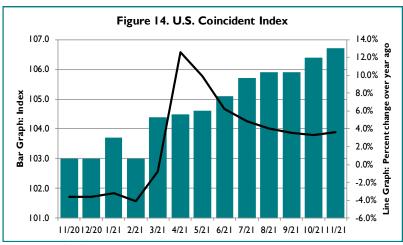
Figure 14 indicates The Conference Board reported the value of the U.S. Coincident Economic Index (CEI) increased 0.5 percent in November. The value of the CEI for the month was up 3.6 percent compared to one year earlier. In November all four components of the CEI made positive contributions. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls made the largest contribution. The value of the CEI increased 2.0 percent over the last six months.

The value of the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB) Small Business Optimism Index edged up 0.2 percent in November, its first increase since August. As seen in Figure 15, the value of the Index for the month was 3.0 percent lower compared to one year earlier. Only four of the ten components increased for the month while two were unchanged. The "current inventory" component had the largest increase among all components in October. The "current job openings" component decreased slightly for the second consecutive month but remained historically high. Notably, the "expect economy to improve" component fell for the fifth consecutive month.

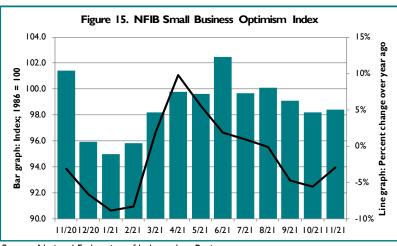
The December meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) marked a major shift in the Federal Reserve's approach to rising inflation. First, the central bank announced it will decrease its monthly purchases of financial assets by \$30 billion. This amount is twice the monthly reduction that began in November and means the Fed's monthly purchases of \$120 billion in financial assets will end in March rather than June. Furthermore, a majority of FOMC members projected three rate increases of 0.25 basis points this year, a considerable change from September when about half of the members thought a rate increase would not happen before 2023.



Source: The Conference Board

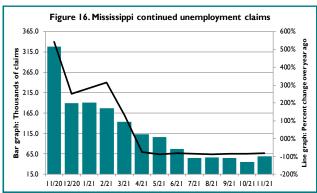


Source: The Conference Board

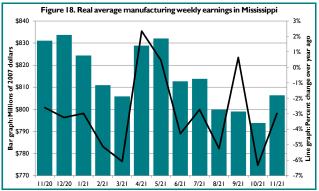


Source: National Federation of Independent Businesses

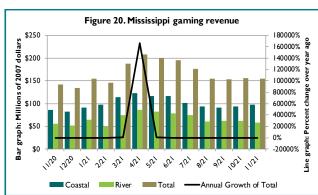
MISCELLANEOUS ECONOMIC INDICATORS, IN FIGURES



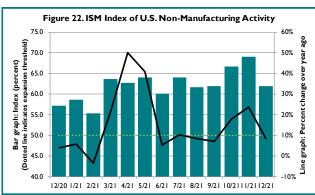
Source: U.S. Department of Labor; seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; non-seasonally adjusted



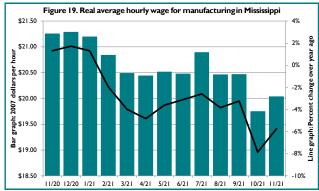
Source: Mississippi Department of Revenue; seasonally adjusted



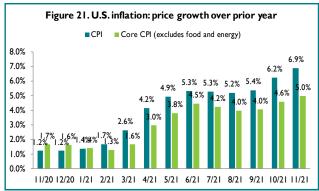
Source: Institute for Supply Management



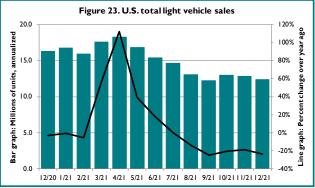
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; seasonally adjusted at annual rates

TABLE I. SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Indicator	November October				hange from
mulcator	2021	2021	2020 Oc	tober 2021 Nove	ember 2020
U.S. Leading Economic Index 2007 = 100. Source: The Conference Board	119.9	118.6	109.2	▲ 1.1%	▲9.8 %
U.S. Coincident Economic Index 2007 = 100. Source: The Conference Board	106.7	106.4	103.0	▲0.3%	▲3.6 %
Mississippi Leading Index 2007 = 100. Source: University Research Center	113.5	113.6	107.1	▼0.1%	▲6.0%
Mississippi Coincident Index 2007 = 100. Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia	120.8	120.2	116.7	▲0.5%	▲ 3.5%
Mississippi initial unemployment claims Seasonally adjusted. Source: U.S. Department of Labor	8,281	8,437	22,385	▼1.8%	▼63.0%
Value of Mississippi residential building permits Three-month moving average; seasonally adjusted; millions of 2007 dollars. Source: Bureau of the Census	108.7	106.3	111.4	▲2.3%	▼2.4% ■ 0.5% ■ 11.0% ■ 3.3% ■ 18.2%
Mississippi income tax withholdings Three-month moving average; seasonally adjusted; millions of 2007 dollars. Source: Mississippi Department of Revenue	128.1	129.2	127.5	▼0.8%	▲ 0.5%
Mississippi Manufacturing Employment Intensity Index 2007 = 100. Source: URC using data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	84.7	83.5	80.0	▲ 1.5%	▲ 5.9%
University of Michigan Index of Consumer Expectations Three-month moving average; index 1966Q1 = 100.	66.6	66.5	74.8	▲0.1%	▼ 11.0%
Source: Thomson Reuters/University of Michigan Surveys of Consumers ISM Index of U.S. Manufacturing Activity Advanced one month. Source: Institute for Supply Management	58.7	61.1	60.7	▼3.9%	▼3.3%
U.S. retail sales Current dollars, in billions. Source: Bureau of the Census	639.8	638.2	542.6	▲0.3%	ا 18.2% ▲
U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI) U.S. Core CPI (excludes food and energy) 2007 = 100. Source: URC using data from Bureau of Labor Statistics	134.5 134.4	133.5 133.7	125.8 128.0	▲0.8% ▲0.5%	▲6.9% ▲5.0%
Mississippi unemployment rate Percentage point change. Seasonally-adjusted. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	5.0%	5.5%	6.7%	▼0.5	▼1.7
Mississippi continued unemployment claims Seasonally adjusted. Source: U.S. Department of Labor	58,527	45,608	329,032	▲28.3%	▼82.2%
ISM Index of U.S. Non-Manufacturing Activity Advanced one month. Source: Institute for Supply Management	62.0	69.1	57.2	▼10.3%	▲8.4%
U.S. mortgage rates Percentage point change. Seasonally adjusted; 30-year conventional. Source: Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	3.06%	3.05%	2.76%	▲0.01	▲8.4% \$\frac{2}{5}\$
Mississippi average hourly wage for manufacturing Seasonally adjusted; 2007 dollars. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	20.04	19.75	21.26	▲ 1.5%	▼5.7% ▼3.0%
Mississippi average weekly earnings for manufacturing Seasonally adjusted; 2007 dollars. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	806.41	793.82	831.11	▲1.6 %	▼3.0%
NFIB Small Business Optimism Index 1986 = 100. Source: National Federation of Independent Businesses	98.4	98.2	101.4	▲0.2%	▼3.0%
U.S. total light vehicle sales Millions of units seasonally adjusted at annual rates. Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	12.43	12.90	16.31	▼3.6%	▼23.8%
Gaming revenue	155.30	156.33	142.5	▼0.7%	▲9.0%
Coastal counties River counties	97.04 58.26	94.18 62.14	86.7 55.8	▲ 3.0% ▼6.2%	▲ 12.0% ▲ 4.4%
Seasonally adjusted; millions of 2007 dollars. Source: Mississippi Department of Re	venue				

MISSISSIPPI EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

In November total nonfarm employment in Mississippi fell by 900 jobs according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a 0.1 percent decrease. Employment for October was revised up by 200 jobs. Total nonfarm employment in Mississippi in November compared to one year ago was 23,600 jobs higher, a 2.1 percent increase. The state has added 19,900 jobs in 2021 through November.

BLS reported total nonfarm employment increased in sixteen states in November and was essentially unchanged in thirty-four states and the District of Columbia. The largest job increase occurred in Texas, which added 75,100 jobs, followed by the 51,100 jobs added in Florida and the 45,700 jobs added in California. The largest percentage increase in employment among all states of 0.8 percent occurred in North Dakota, followed by 0.6 percent increases in Florida, Montana, New Jersey, and Texas.

Employment was higher in forty-nine states and the District of Columbia in November compared to one year earlier and was essentially unchanged in Wyoming. California added 821,800 jobs over the last twelve months, the largest increase in employment among all states, followed by Texas, which added 698,700 jobs, and Florida,

which added 485,600 jobs. Employment in Hawaii rose 8.4 percent over the last twelve months, the largest percentage increase among all states.

Government added 1,400 jobs in November, the most among all sectors in Mississippi; 60 percent of these jobs were in state government. Manufacturing added 1,000 jobs in November, the next largest increase among all sectors. The largest percentage increase in employment for the month among all sectors was the 6.5 percent gain in Arts and Entertainment. The largest decrease in employment among all sectors for the month occurred in Accommodation and Food Services, which lost 2,000 jobs. The sector also had largest percentage decrease in employment for the month among all sectors of 1.7 percent.

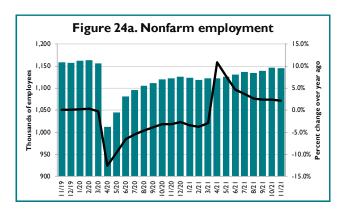
Once again the largest increase in employment over the last twelve months as of November occurred in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, which added 8,000 jobs. The largest percentage increase again occurred in Arts and Entertainment, as employment in the sector in October compared to one year earlier was 11.2 percent higher. The only sector with a decrease in employment over the last twelve months as of November was Government, which lost 1,200 jobs, a 0.5 percent decline.

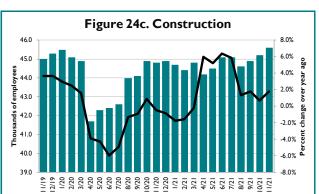
Table 2. Change in Mississippi employment by industry, November 2021

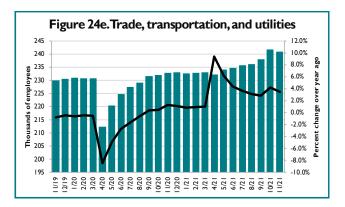
	Relative share of total ^a	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	Octol	ige from per 2021 Percent	Novem	ige from per 2020 Percent
Total Nonfarm	100.0%	1,145,800	1,146,700	1,122,200	▼900	▼0.1%	▲ 23,600	▲ 2.1%
Mining and Logging	0.5%	5,700	5,700	5,600	∢ ▶0	∢⊳ 0.0%	▲ 100	▲ 1.8%
Construction	4.0%	45,600	45,200	44,800	▲ 400	▲0.9%	▲800	▲ 1.8%
Manufacturing	12.6%	144,300	143,300	141,700	▲ 1,000	▲0.7%	▲ 2,600	▲ 1.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	20.8%	240,900	241,800	232,900	▼900	▼0.4%	▲8,000	▲ 3.4%
Retail Trade	11.8%	135,200	135,600	134,500	▼ 400	▼0.3%	▲ 700	▲0.5%
Information	0.8%	9,600	9,600	9,300	∢ ▶0	◄► 0.0%	▲300	▲ 3.2%
Financial Activities	3.8%	42,800	43,400	42,000	▼600	▼ 1.4%	▲800	▲ 1.9%
Services	36.8%	423,400	425,600	411,200	▼ 2,200	▼0.5%	▲ 12,200	▲ 3.0%
Professional & Business Services	9.7%	112,000	113,500	108,700	▼ 1,500	▼ 1.3%	▲ 3,300	▲ 3.0%
Educational Services	1.0%	11,900	11,900	11,100	∢ ▶0	◄► 0.0%	▲800	▲ 7.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	11.4%	131,400	130,700	127,900	▲ 700	▲0.5%	▲ 3,500	▲ 2.7%
Arts and Entertainment	0.8%	9,900	9,300	8,900	▲ 600	▲ 6.5%	▲ 1,000	▲ 11.2%
Accommodation and Food Services	10.3%	116,500	118,500	114,100	▼ 2,000	▼ 1.7%	▲ 2,400	▲ 2.1%
Other Services	3.6%	41,700	41,700	40,500	∢ ▶0	◄▶ 0.0%	▲ 1,200	▲ 3.0%
Government	20.7%	233,500	232,100	234,700	▲ 1,400	▲0.6%	▼ 1,200	▼0.5%

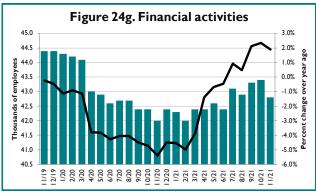
^aRelative shares are for the most recent twelve-month average. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

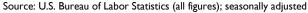
MISSISSIPPI EMPLOYMENT TRENDS BY SECTOR, IN FIGURES

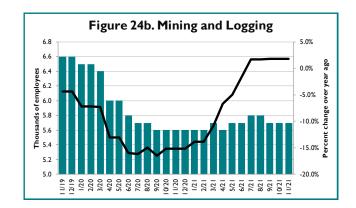


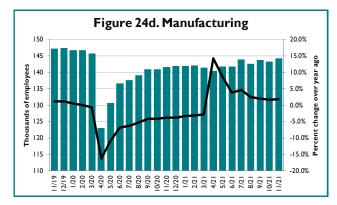


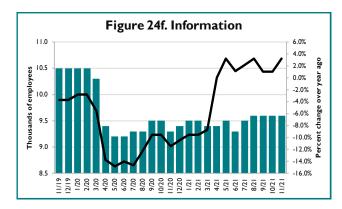


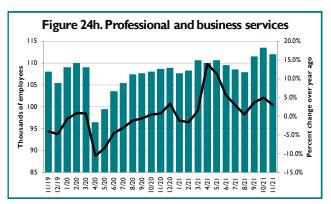




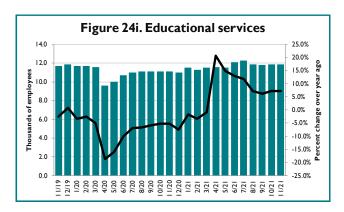


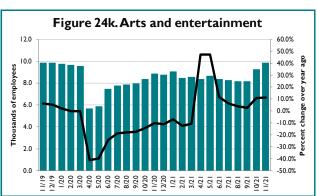


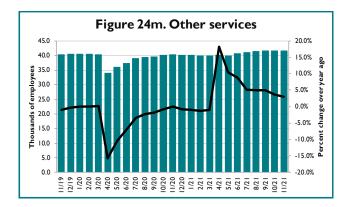


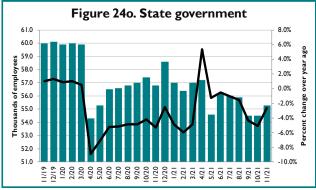


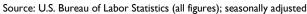
MISSISSIPPI EMPLOYMENT TRENDS BY SECTOR, IN FIGURES (CONTINUED)

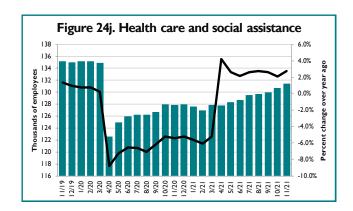


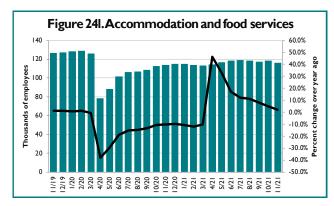


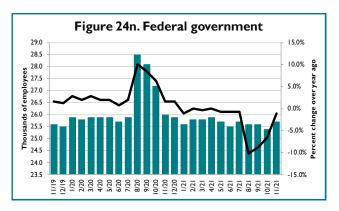


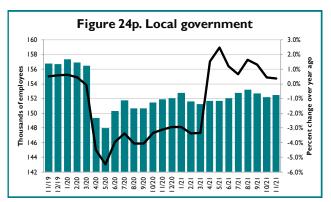












CHANGE IN REAL GDP BY STATE IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2021

n December annualized estimates of the change in real gross domestic product (GDP) by state for the third quarter of 2021 were released by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). (An annualized estimate is the actual change multiplied by four.) As noted on page I the change in U.S. real GDP in the third quarter of 2021 was an increase of 2.3 percent according to BEA's third estimate. Real GDP expanded in thirty-seven states and the District of Columbia in the third quarter and contracted in thirteen states according to BEA. Real GDP in Mississippi increased at an annualized rate of 0.2 percent in the third quarter, which ranked thirty-seventh among all states. The changes in first quarter and second quarter real GDP in Mississippi remained annualized increases of 2.0 percent and 4.5 percent, respectively.

The contributions by sector to the 0.2 percent increase in the state's real GDP in the third quarter of 2021 are listed in Table 3 below from largest to smallest. (BEA only includes the changes in major industries in its preliminary estimates.) The Transportation and Warehousing sector made the largest contribution among all sectors to the total increase. Growth in this sector is not unexpected as the transportation sector has added a number of jobs during the present recovery. The next largest contribution was made by the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting sector, which added 0.57 percentage point to the change in real GDP. The contribution of the Finance, Insurance, Real Estate,

Rental, and Leasing sector closely followed, which equaled 0.52 percentage point. This next largest contribution came from the Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services sector, which added 0.38 percentage point to the total increase. The Accommodation and Food Services sector, which experienced some of the largest reductions in output in 2020, made the next largest contribution of 0.35 percentage point. The positive contributions from all other sectors were each less than 0.3 percentage point.

The largest negative contribution to the change in real GDP in the third quarter was made by the Retail Trade sector, which reduced real GDP by 1.23 percentage points. Retail Trade was a negative contributor to real GDP in all fifty states and the District of Columbia in the third quarter. Similarly, Utilities, Wholesale Trade, Construction, and Mining all reduced real GDP in Mississippi in the third quarter and also in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. No-

Table 3. Contributions to percent change in Mississippi real GDP by sector, third quarter 2021

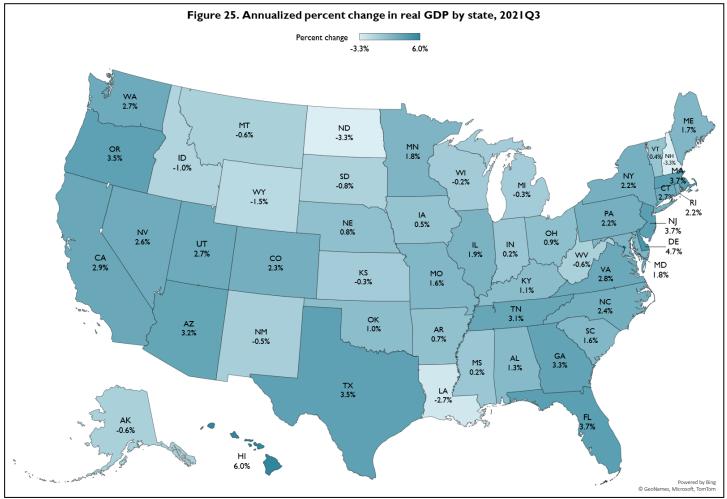
Sector	Percentage points
Transportation and warehousing	0.63
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	0.57
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	0.52
Professional, scientific, and technical services	0.38
Accommodation and food services	0.35
Administrative and support and waste management	0.28
Health care and social assistance	0.26
Other services	0.15
Information	0.12
Management of companies and enterprises	0.09
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	0.09
Educational services	0.03
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	-0.10
Government and government enterprises	-0.29
Construction	-0.36
Manufacturing	-0.39
Wholesale trade	-0.42
Utilities	-0.44
Retail trade	-1.23
Total	0.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

CHANGE IN REAL GDP BY STATE INTHETHIRD QUARTER OF 2021, CONTINUED

tably, the two largest sectors of the Mississippi economy in terms of real GDP, Government and Manufacturing, made negative contributions in the third quarter. Government was a positive contributor in forty-seven states and the District of Columbia in the third quarter according to BEA, mainly due to increases in state and local government. Manufacturing was a positive contributor to the change in real GDP in the third quarter in fourteen states.

The annualized change in real GDP in the third quarter of 2021 by state as reported by BEA is depicted in Figure 25 below. A total of eleven states had increases of 3.0 percent or more in third quarter. The largest increase occurred in Hawaii, where real GDP grew at an annualized rate of 6.0 percent in the third quarter. The Accommodation and Food Services sector was the largest contributor to this increase. In the Southeast, states with increases in real GDP of 3.0 percent or more included Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Texas. Among the thirteen states where real GDP contracted in the third quarter, the largest decreases occurred in New Hampshire and North Dakota. Real GDP in both states decreased at annualized rates of 3.3 percent. In New Hampshire the largest negative contributor was Government while in North Dakota the largest negative contributor was Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting. Louisiana was the only state in the Southeast where real GDP contracted in the third quarter. Real GDP for the state fell 2.7 percent at an annualized rate, primarily due to a decrease in Nondurable Goods Manufacturing.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.