

STATE OF LOUISIANA

➔ Overall

Strong job market expected in 2nd Quarter 2011
Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, March 2011

2010 personal income up 3.1% (U.S. up 3.0%)
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, March 2011

#4 for 2010 Entrepreneurial Activity, with a rate of 460 of every 100,000 state residents (U.S. 340 of every 100,000)
Kauffman Index, March 2011

16.3% increase in net loans & leases and 26.7% asset growth since beginning of recession (U.S. down 8.4% & up 2.2% respectively)
FDIC data (4th Quarter 2007 to 4th Quarter 2010), December 2010

5th real GDP growth rate for 2009 at 2.5% (U.S. down 2.1%)
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, November 2010

9th in 2010 "Top State Business Climate Rankings;" most improved
Site Selection, November 2010

"Most Improved State for Business" in the U.S.
Pollina Corporate Real Estate, Inc., August 2010

Overall best U.S. export performer for 2009
U.S. Chamber of Commerce, May 2010

➔ Economic Development

#1 best performing state economic development agency for 2010
Site Selection's Competitiveness Awards, May 2011

#3 for Business Investment; Most Top Micropolitans (14 honored)
Site Selection's 2010 Governor's Cup, March 2011

Tied with North Carolina & Michigan for most projects honored.
Top 15 Corporate Investment: Nucor Corp.
Top 15 Community Impact: Blade Dynamics, Ltd. & DG Foods
Trade & Industry Development's 2011 CiCi Awards, March 2011

2010 "State of the Year"
Business Facilities, December 2010

Top 10 in Economic Growth Potential; FastStart program nation's #1 state workforce training solutions program
Business Facilities, July/August 2010

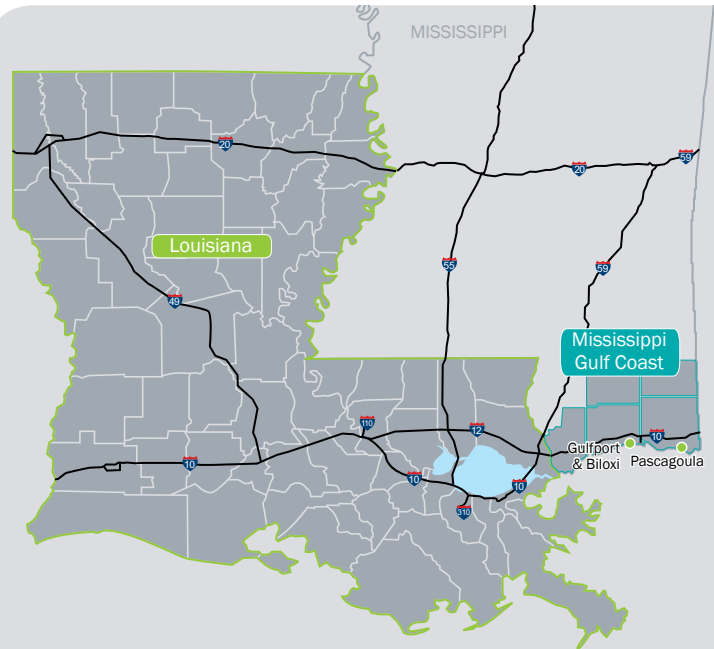
Co-State of the Year (3rd time & honorable mention in last 4 years)
Southern Business & Development, Spring 2010

➔ Education

One of only 15 states meeting 3 or more critical benchmarks in aligning education efforts with college/employer expectations.
Achieve (non-profit national education reform group), February 2011

Top 10 for Charter School Laws
National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, January 2011

3rd for 2011 Standards, Assessments & Accountability in education
Education Week, January 2011



MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

➔ State of Mississippi

6th state in the U.S. for construction job growth in the 12 months ending February 2011 with 2,700 additional jobs
Associated General Contractors of America, March 2011

Respectable job market expected in 2nd Quarter 2011
Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, March 2011

2010 personal income tax up 3.1% (U.S. up 3.0%)
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, March 2011

➔ Gulfport-Biloxi Metro Hancock, Harrison & Stone Counties

Top 15 metro for fewest 4th Qtr. small business bankruptcy filings (9)
Equifax, March 2011

Gulfport-Biloxi metro 2nd for fastest wage growth in U.S. (7.2%)
MSN's CareerBuilder.com, February 2010

➔ Pascagoula Metro Jackson & George Counties

Pascagoula 2nd of 366 metros for 2009 real GDP growth of 15%
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, February 2011

26th of 179 smallest metros due to job, income & high-tech GDP growth on the 2010 Best Performing Cities Index
Milken Institute, October 2010

Pascagoula among the "100 Best Communities for Young People"
America's Promise Alliance, September 2010

Pascagoula 21st of 234 "Best Small-Sized Cities for Job Growth"
NewGeography.com, April 2010