



## Mississippi Department of Employment Security

Haley Barbour  
Governor

Jim Lott  
Deputy Executive Director  
Chief Operating Officer

Tommye Dale Favre  
Executive Director

Mike Marsh  
Deputy Executive Director  
Chief Fiscal Officer

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October 4, 2005

As required in the planning instructions of the TEG 1-04, The Mississippi Department of Employment Security is submitting its Annual Report of Activities for the Program Year 2004 Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

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Ms. Tommye Dale Favre  
Executive Director  
MS Department of Employment Security

Handwritten signature of Mr. George Schloegel in cursive script.

Mr. George Schloegel, Chairman  
State Workforce Investment Board

*Increasing Employment in Mississippi*

**Mississippi  
Annual Performance Report  
ETA One Stop LMI Grant  
PY 2004 (7/1/04 – 6/30/05)**

**Accomplishments**

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**(1) Continue to populate the ALMIS database with state data.**

Mississippi has continued to update the ALMIS database with required data sets as established by the ALMIS database consortium. Two staff attended the national ALMIS database consortium meeting during PY 2004.

Met planned outcomes for this item.

**(2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections**

Long-term occupational projections were created and are available on the agency's website. Long-term occupational projections were created for the State of Mississippi, four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, four Workforce Investment areas, and thirteen Community College Districts.

Industry projections were also published during PY 2004. Industry projections were produced for the State of Mississippi, four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, four Workforce Investment areas, and thirteen Community College Districts, and are available on the agency's website.

The occupational and industry projections were presented by staff during PY2004 at several training sessions.

Short-term occupational projections were created and provided to the national consortia as required and have been published on their site.

Met planned outcomes and did hire an additional staff person to assist with the projections programs during the program year.

**(3) Provide occupational and career information products for public use**

During PY 2004 the "Occupations in Demand" publications were provided. The publication breaks down occupational projections by educational requirements and provides wages as an additional source. A variety of tables are provided along with explanations of terms and sources. Provided in hard copy and on the agency website, copies were provided to all local One Stop locations in Mississippi and to all school districts in Mississippi. Occupations in Demand publications have been created for the State of Mississippi and each of the four workforce investment areas. These have also been provided on the agency's website.

The Occupational wage estimates published for Mississippi have been enhanced with entry and experienced amounts using the Estimated Delivery System (EDS). The EDS system has allowed the production of occupational wage estimates and employment for the four Workforce Investment Areas in Mississippi. The publications are provided for each of the areas above in two formats, one shows all occupations in the area listed in SOC code and the second format allows unfamiliar users to select occupational groups to narrow down their choice. A link to the Standard Occupational Coding system is also provided to assist users.

Partnered with several workforce development agencies, state agencies and colleges & universities to sponsor a publication that will be submitted to all high school students from the 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The LMI department provided occupational projection and wage data to be published in the magazine. The goal of the magazine is to provide educational and occupational information that will allow students to plan for their future career.

Met planned deliverables for this item.

**(4) Provide public electronic access to the ALMIS employer database**

The ALMIS employer database for Mississippi is available on the agency's website at <http://mdes.ms.gov>. In the Analysts and Research section, individuals are able to select "employer data". Their next option is to select the area; either statewide, by county, MSA or WIA area. The next options force individuals to select specific industries of interest with the final product a list of employers for the area and industry selected. Individuals are provided with the location, phone number and description of the business.

Met planned deliverables for this item.

**(5) Provide information and support to state and local Workforce Investment Boards and provide other special demand information products and services**

A wide variety of requests from many types of customers were received and satisfied during PY 2004. The LMI Department was asked to create a large amount of data that was needed for the State WIA Board to create their annual plan. The LMI Department has also continued to publish a variety of publications to meet various customer needs, including an Affirmative Action publication, Mississippi Business Population statistics, Historical Data, Quick Reference sheets, LMI Guide, Annual Labor Force Reports, Annual Average publications and a wide variety of maps that provide a customer friendly approach to the presentation of data.

Met planned deliverables for this item.

**(6) Improve and deploy electronic state workforce information delivery systems**

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security recently launched a new website. The LMI section of the site was organized to allow individuals unfamiliar with Labor Market Information a user-friendly site. Contact information regarding questions for LMI data are provided. The overall design of the site will be changed in the future to meet workforce needs for employers, job seekers and other interested parties who are not familiar with the LMI data produced.

Met planned deliverables for this item.

#### (7) Support state workforce information training activities

During PY 2004 LMI staff attended training sessions for the ALMIS database, GIS software mapping application training, the LMI Forum, and several computer skill classes

In addition, LMI staff presented overviews of Labor Market Information programs and products to a variety of customer groups including Vocational Education counselors, Community College/Adult Education staff, MDES staff and Local One Stop staff. Outreach will continue to be a major goal for the upcoming year.

For PY 2004 the overall expenditures planned for the One Stop LMI grant were \$478,715; actual expenditures during PY 2004 were \$494,684. This difference occurred because we are currently charging to prior program year allocations.

#### **Customer Satisfaction Assessment**

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During early PY 2004 Mississippi continued to use a web-based approach to customer satisfaction. A survey was provided in the LMI section of the agency website. The questions in the survey were designed to capture information about what users needed but could not find the various types of groups that use and access LMI data, and their assessment of our site and the data provided. The web based approach was used because of its cost and because the Internet is our primary method of dissemination of data. However, the agency website was changed and we were unable to continue the use of this survey. During PY 2004 our method of customer satisfaction resulted from conversations and request from various customers; ranging from data that is available to the presentation of amounts on the agency website. We will look at alternative methods of capturing customer satisfaction during the upcoming program year.

#### **Recommendations for improvements or changes to the suite of core products**

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Mississippi has no recommendations.