



Food & Fiber Accessibility.

Market Area

Southwest Mississippi gives you Food and Fiber **Accessibility**. The area is in a prime regional location — within a

day's trucking (500 miles) of 36 Metropolitan Statistical Areas — which allows us easy access to an enviable



market area. The Southwest Mississippi Partnership can put your business in a strategic location to serve the food and fiber market.

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Infrastructure

Southwest Mississippi is especially well equipped to handle the growing needs of the food and fiber industry due to the excellent infrastructure that serves the current poultry processing base. Resources ranging from trucking companies to cold storage facilities to packaging firms, along with an abundance of carbon dioxide for freezing, makes the area a prime location for the food and fiber industry.



Southwest Mississippi offers a unique shipping advantage with service at two Mississippi River ports and direct access to the Port of New Orleans via interstate or rail.

The nearby Port of Gulfport is more than two days steaming time closer to South America than comparable ports along the east coast. Shipping fruits and vegetables from South America is just as cost effective as shipping from Texas or

California. And the Port of Gulfport has the ability to offload much quicker than most other port facilities.

Land and air transportation systems are equally prepared to serve the food and fiber industry. Canadian National and Gloster Southern railroads serve many of our industrial sites. Three general aviation airports service the region, and three international airports can be reached in less than a ninety-minute drive.

Situated between Interstates 10 and 20 with Interstate 55 bisecting the ten-county region, Southwest Mississippi is also crisscrossed by three major four-lane U.S. highways.

Workforce

Our people are among our best assets. A right-to-work state, Mississippi has only a minimal union presence and almost no work stoppage. We rank 32nd among all states in terms of unionization. Our labor costs are 38% lower than the national average and employers see very little annual turnover (only about 2.5%). We have

Incentives

The many local and State incentives we offer are a big draw for companies seeking to locate or expand their food and fiber industry business in Southwest Mississippi.

Companies may qualify to receive tax abatements on the purchase of raw materials, packaging materials, construction materials, machinery, and equipment. We also offer tax credits based on payroll as well as



grant and loan programs and infrastructure improvement incentives.

Customized workforce training is available through university and community college campuses located throughout the region. To help you put your workforce in place, we can handle job postings, potential employee screening/testing, and on-the-job training programs.

And to expedite environmental permitting, we offer "one-stop-shopping" through the MS Department of Environmental Quality.

Our pro-business incentives make site selection simple.



a workforce of 75,000 and the unemployment rate averages 8%.

To learn more about how the Southwest Mississippi Partnership can help you find the **Accessibility** you need, call or click: 1.888.528.2390 ♦ www.southwestmississippi.com

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Existing Food & Fiber Industries

A&W Catfish Farm
 Agreaux Organics, Inc.
 All Star Beverage
 Bayou Country Aqua Farms, Inc.
 Brookhaven Milling Co.
 Brown Bottling Co.
 Cheryl & Linda's Peppers
 Continental Carbonic Products, Inc.
 Coon's Mill Farms
 Cora's Cake-in-a-Jar

Dr. Cheese
 Dutch Ann Foods, Inc.
 Eastern Block, Inc.
 EPCO Carbon Dioxide Products
 Greenleaf Agri-Products
 H&K Milling
 Jones Custom Processing
 King Packing Co.
 Lee's Pig Skins Co.
 Magnolia Honey Jelly

Natchez Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
 Old South Winery
 Passbach Meats, Inc.
 Premier Manufacturing Group, Inc.
 Premier Marketing Group, LLC
 Sanderson Farms, Inc.-Summit
 Sanderson Farms, Inc-Fernwood
 Southern Holy Smokes
 Turbo Ice Co.
 White Apple Farms

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PO Box 1750 ♦ Natchez, Mississippi 39121 USA

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SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI PARTNERSHIP



Available Properties

Southwest Mississippi has properties available throughout the ten-county area ranging from 10 to 600 acres ready for you to break ground or move into an existing facility. Our available properties have easy access to transportation infrastructure and have either on-site or adjacent utilities.



For info on any of our available sites or buildings, call or click:
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