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Work Area Profiles for the City of Starkville, MS: 2019-2023

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PREFACE

The John C. Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development was established at Mississippi State University on February 9, 1976 in honor of United States Senator John C. Stennis. Our mission is to enhance the capacities of state and local officials to deal effectively with today's challenges regarding many issues. The Stennis Institute delivers a wide array of services and technical assistance to municipalities, counties, and government agencies, responding to the ever changing political and economic environment.

The Stennis Institute performs a threefold mission: (1) to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of Mississippi state and local government through basic and applied research, training, technical assistance, and service; (2) to provide technical assistance and research for both rural development in Mississippi and regional activities in the Southeast; and (3) to promote civic education and citizen involvement in the political process.

Through Stennis' affiliation with Mississippi State University, an 1878 Land-Grant institution, and the university's various departments and resources, the Stennis Institute consistently seeks to provide meaningful research and programs that are both academic and applicable to real world issues faced by state and local government.



Dr. Joseph "Dallas" Breen

Executive Director & Assistant Research Professor



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Background

The city of Starkville is located in Northeast Mississippi and is the county seat of Oktibbeha County. The city has a population of approximately 25,754 according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2025 population estimate.¹ Starkville is home to Mississippi State University, which is located to the east of the city and serves as an important educational and economic center for the area.

Starkville has access to several major transportation routes, including U.S. Highway 82, Mississippi Highway 12, Mississippi Highway 25, and Mississippi Highway 182. U.S. Highway 82 provides an important east-west connection through the area, while Highway 25 provides regional access north and south. Highway 12 is Starkville's primary way of travel that provides direct access to Mississippi State University.

Oktibbeha County is located in Northeast Mississippi and has a population of approximately 51,896 people. The county covers approximately 458 square miles and includes Starkville as its principal population and employment center.²

Core Insights

- There were approximately 13,891 total jobs in 2023 in Starkville.³
- Approximately 32.0% of people employed in the city of Starkville earn more than \$3,333 per month in 2023.⁴
- By NAICS Industry Sector, Accommodation and Food Services (21.8%), Health Care and Social Assistance (18.3%), and Retail Trade (13.7%) are the largest industries. Cumulatively, they total approximately 53.8% of workers' industries.⁵
- By NAICS industry Sector, approximately 4.1% of workers in Starkville are employed in Public Administration, representing 571 jobs.⁶
- Manufacturing and Management of Companies and Enterprises both experienced notable declines in employment from 2019 to 2023. Manufacturing employment decreased by approximately 41.6%, while Management of Companies and Enterprises decreased by approximately 72.2%.
- Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation experienced significant growth, with employment increasing by approximately 56.8% from 2019 to 2023.

¹ United States Census Bureau, "QuickFacts: Starkville city, Mississippi," United States Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/starkvillecitymississippi,US/PST045225>

² United States Census Bureau, "QuickFacts: Starkville city, Mississippi," United States Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/oktibbehacountymississippi,US/PST045225>

³ United States Census Bureau, "OnTheMap," United States Census Bureau, <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

⁴ United States Census Bureau, "OnTheMap," United States Census Bureau, <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

⁵ United States Census Bureau, "OnTheMap," United States Census Bureau, <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

⁶ United States Census Bureau, "OnTheMap," United States Census Bureau, <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

Data

OnTheMap is a web-based mapping and reporting tool provided by the U.S. Census Bureau that shows where workers are employed and where they live.⁷ The employment data available through OnTheMap comes from the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) partnership between state governments and the U.S. Census Bureau and is provided through the LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES). OnTheMap was used for this profile because it provides detailed and reliable publicly available workforce data that can be analyzed for specific geographic areas, including employment, earnings, and industry characteristics.⁸

⁷ United States Census Bureau, “OnTheMap,” United States Census Bureau, <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

⁸ United States Census Bureau, “Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics,” United States Census Bureau, <https://lehd.ces.census.gov/>.

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Work Area Profile Analysis
Workers: Employed in Starkville city, MS
Showing: Employment locations

Total All Jobs										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Total All Jobs	13,891	100.0%	13,332	100.0%	13,399	100.0%	13,108	100.0%	14,100	100.0%
Jobs by Worker Age										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Age 29 or younger	4,983	35.9%	4,800	36.0%	4,719	35.2%	4,376	33.4%	5,111	36.2%
Age 30 to 54	6,466	46.5%	6,278	47.1%	6,316	47.1%	6,380	48.7%	6,592	46.8%
Age 55 or older	2,442	17.6%	2,254	16.9%	2,364	17.6%	2,352	17.9%	2,397	17.0%
Jobs by Earnings										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
\$1,250 per month or less	4,323	31.1%	4,283	32.1%	4,372	32.6%	4,654	35.5%	5,046	35.8%
\$1,251 to \$3,333 per month	5,121	36.9%	4,959	37.2%	5,109	38.1%	4,986	38.0%	5,682	40.3%
More than \$3,333 per month	4,447	32.0%	4,090	30.7%	3,918	29.2%	3,468	26.5%	3,372	23.9%
Jobs by NAICS Industry Sector										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	2	0.0%	3	0.0%	4	0.0%	3	0.0%	5	0.0%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Utilities	55	0.4%	42	0.3%	48	0.4%	49	0.4%	54	0.4%
Construction	251	1.8%	234	1.8%	264	2.0%	221	1.7%	235	1.7%
Manufacturing	666	4.8%	673	5.0%	891	6.6%	1,049	8.0%	1,141	8.1%
Wholesale Trade	413	3.0%	391	2.9%	419	3.1%	393	3.0%	386	2.7%
Retail Trade	1,906	13.7%	1,947	14.6%	2,047	15.3%	1,967	15.0%	1,946	13.8%

Transportation and Warehousing	19	0.1%	9	0.1%	9	0.1%	13	0.1%	15	0.1%
Information	221	1.6%	178	1.3%	145	1.1%	113	0.9%	160	1.1%
Finance and Insurance	542	3.9%	363	2.7%	327	2.4%	285	2.2%	309	2.2%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	261	1.9%	261	2.0%	254	1.9%	283	2.2%	267	1.9%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	506	3.6%	532	4.0%	489	3.6%	454	3.5%	428	3.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	15	0.1%	8	0.1%	8	0.1%	40	0.3%	54	0.4%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,310	9.4%	827	6.2%	1,000	7.5%	1,220	9.3%	1,334	9.5%
Educational Services	1,079	7.8%	1,026	7.7%	1,037	7.7%	984	7.5%	958	6.8%
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,538	18.3%	2,382	17.9%	2,402	17.9%	2,486	19.0%	2,609	18.5%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	149	1.1%	115	0.9%	106	0.8%	99	0.8%	95	0.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	3,030	21.8%	3,263	24.5%	2,862	21.4%	2,349	17.9%	3,031	21.5%
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	357	2.6%	390	2.9%	368	2.7%	359	2.7%	328	2.3%
Public Administration	571	4.1%	688	5.2%	719	5.4%	741	5.7%	745	5.3%
Jobs by Worker Race										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
White Alone	7,681	55.3%	7,516	56.4%	7,533	56.2%	6,873	52.4%	7,328	52.0%
Black or African American Alone	5,875	42.3%	5,482	41.1%	5,535	41.3%	5,949	45.4%	6,490	46.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native Alone	37	0.3%	37	0.3%	40	0.3%	30	0.2%	37	0.3%
Asian Alone	153	1.1%	163	1.2%	163	1.2%	139	1.1%	137	1.0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Alone	12	0.1%	7	0.1%	6	0.0%	6	0.0%	5	0.0%
Two or More Race Groups	133	1.0%	127	1.0%	122	0.9%	111	0.8%	103	0.7%
Jobs by Worker Ethnicity										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Not Hispanic or Latino	13,601	97.9%	13,038	97.8%	13,165	98.3%	12,924	98.6%	13,889	98.5%
Hispanic or Latino	290	2.1%	294	2.2%	234	1.7%	184	1.4%	211	1.5%
Jobs by Worker Educational Attainment										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Less than high school	1,354	9.7%	1,292	9.7%	1,334	10.0%	1,274	9.7%	1,359	9.6%

High school or equivalent, no college	2,659	19.1%	2,493	18.7%	2,558	19.1%	2,590	19.8%	2,827	20.0%
Some college or Associate degree	2,876	20.7%	2,826	21.2%	2,910	21.7%	2,845	21.7%	2,866	20.3%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	2,019	14.5%	1,921	14.4%	1,878	14.0%	2,023	15.4%	1,937	13.7%
Educational attainment not available (workers aged 29 or younger)	4,983	35.9%	4,800	36.0%	4,719	35.2%	4,376	33.4%	5,111	36.2%
Jobs by Worker Sex										
	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Male	5,590	40.2%	5,489	41.2%	5,628	42.0%	5,553	42.4%	5,806	41.2%
Female	8,301	59.8%	7,843	58.8%	7,771	58.0%	7,555	57.6%	8,294	58.8%

Source: <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>

<i>Analysis Type</i>	<i>Area Profile</i>
<i>Selection area as</i>	<i>Work</i>
<i>Year(s)</i>	<i>2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019</i>
<i>Job Type</i>	<i>All Jobs</i>
<i>Labor Market Segment</i>	<i>All Workers</i>
<i>Selection Area</i>	<i>Starkville city, MS from Places (Cities, CDPs, etc.)</i>
<i>Selected Census Blocks</i>	<i>504</i>
<i>Analysis Generation Date</i>	<i>08/25/2026 11:11 - OnTheMap 6.26.1</i>
<i>Code Revision</i>	<i>8e0435a3cbc6e8c298add78764d42126c9686cc9</i>
<i>LODES Data Vintage</i>	<i>8.4 (20251202_1657)</i>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2002-2023).

- 1. Race, Ethnicity, Educational Attainment, and Sex statistics are beta release results and are not available before 2009.*
- 2. Educational Attainment is only produced for workers aged 30 and over.*
- 3. Firm Age and Firm Size statistics are beta release results for All Private jobs and are not available before 2011.*