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Social Research Report Series 96-2

Social and Economic Change in the Mississippi Delta: An Update of *Portrait* Data

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May 1996

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F O R E W O R D

This manuscript by Larry Doolittle and Jerry Davis, *Social and Economic Change in the Mississippi Delta*, is an excellent addition to the growing collection of Delta Project reports commissioned by the Social Science Research Center at Mississippi State University (MSU). The origins of this series can be traced to discussions by Mississippi leaders who felt that a fundamental social and economic assessment or audit was needed to support the future development of the Delta region. Delta Council Presidents Charlie Capps and John Dillard, Council Executive Director Chip Morgan and MSU Vice President for Agriculture Rodney Foil collectively provided the vision and the organizational priority for the establishment of the Delta Project Studies.

The first publication in this series was a nineteen chapter report, *A Social and Economic Portrait of the Mississippi Delta* (eds. Arthur G. Cosby, Mitchell W. Bracken, T. David Mason and Eunice R. McCulloch - 1992). This *Portrait* utilized the insights of twenty-five scholars on the present circumstances and the future prospects for the Delta. As part of that enterprise, the *Portrait* provided substantial demographic and other statistical data about the region. In this current report, Doolittle and Davis make the very valuable contribution of updating the statistical information presented in the *Portrait* and in so doing provide the basis for an assessment of change in major social and economic indicators. Their analysis of change results in a complex mix of outcomes that describe a region that has made substantial improvement in many important social and economic factors, yet continues to trail both the state and nation in these same factors.

The authors are to be congratulated for bringing together a concise and readable document that captures critical information on the status of the Delta. Its value to us lies along a number of dimensions. First, it extends the utility of the original *Portrait* report by providing an updated account of social and economic change that was anticipated in that earlier work. Second, it provides information that enables comparisons over time as well as comparisons between geographic regions which serve as useful and valid benchmarks for measuring and interpreting the social and economic conditions of the region. Third, the report establishes the precedent for periodic updating of social and economic indicators for the Mississippi Delta. These three aspects of this report add substantially to our understanding of an important region of our country and set the stage for additional important research.

Arthur G. Cosby
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Social and Economic Change in the Mississippi Delta: An Update of *Portrait* Data*

Larry Doolittle and Jerry Davis**

INTRODUCTION

The 1992 publication, *A Social and Economic Portrait of the Mississippi Delta*,¹ was the culmination of five years of planning and hard work by a group of people dedicated to the belief that the Delta's greatest resource is its people. The *Portrait*, as it has come to be known, was a scholarly assessment of the social and economic status of Delta people circa 1987-1989. The 19 articles comprising its content were prepared by acknowledged scholars in academic disciplines dealing with the human condition—sociology, psychology, economics, history, political science, and education. Their data-based descriptions of the region's social and economic conditions in the late 1980's provide valuable insights into problem areas most in need of improvement, while, at the same time, they serve as benchmarks against which changes can be measured.

In this paper, we attempt to determine if changes in social and economic conditions are occurring and, if they are, their direction and magnitude. While the period since the *Portrait* assessments is brief in the life span of social and economic change, two phenomena during the

period provided the incentive for re-assessing conditions in the Delta now: the availability of more recent data, particularly the 1990 Census of the Population; and a number of recent developmental activities with goals of improving social and economic conditions in the region. Our examination of recent data is not as comprehensive as that in the *Portrait*; we had neither the inclination nor the resources to duplicate the earlier effort. Our strategy was to examine attributes of the Delta population that generally are thought of as "indicators" of social and economic well-being. Consequently, we look at what has occurred in the Delta since the late 1980's primarily in terms of income, education, poverty, employment, health, and perceptions.

DEMOGRAPHY OF THE DELTA

Chapter 4 of the *Portrait*, authored by John Saunders, described the Delta's population on the basis of 1980 census data, census estimates for 1990, and other projections. Saunders' presentation placed 17 Delta counties into two groups: "core" counties and "peripheral" counties; DeSoto County was excluded altogether. We chose to present our updated demographic characterization of the Delta county-by-county and to include DeSoto. The data is presented here such that anyone who desires to compare "core" counties and "peripheral" counties, or to omit certain counties, can easily do so.

Population Change, 1980-1990

The population decline in the Delta that began in the 1940's continued through the 1980's (see Table 1). It appears that this decline was particularly pronounced among the black population which lost nearly six percent of its

* Support for this research was provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, under a special grant entitled "Social and Economic Development of the Mississippi Delta," Project No. MIS-4335.

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¹ Cosby, Arthur G., Mitchell W. Brackin, T. David Mason, and Eunice R. McCulloch, editors. *Social Science Research Center, Mississippi State University*, December 1992, 325p.

number during the decade of the 80's. However, if the white population gain in DeSoto County is disregarded, the remaining 17 counties lost over nine percent of their white population as well. Among these 17 counties, only Panola and Tate experienced gains in both white and total populations. Carroll County had a modest increase in its white population, but lost total population because of a much greater decrease in its black population. Panola and Holmes were the only counties experiencing black population gains. Delta-wide, the black population percentage decreased from 51.7 to 50.6 of the total between 1980 and 1990.

Population loss to migration exceeded 65,000 in the Delta between 1980 and 1990—up from 44,000 during the preceding decade (see Table 2). The 1980-1990 loss represents more than twelve percent of the 1980 population; at the same time, the remainder of the state lost only four percent of its population to migration. The Delta-wide loss was reflected in every county except DeSoto. Percentage-wise, Coahoma, Humphreys, Issaquena, Quitman, Sharkey, and Tunica each experienced a net loss that exceeded 20 percent of their 1980 populations. Percentage losses in Carroll, Panola, and Tate were below the Delta average of 12 percent.

While not shown in Table 2, other sources reveal that about 52,500 of the Delta's 65,000 population loss to migration was in the nonwhite population.² By 1990, the Delta had lost 20 percent of its 1980 nonwhite population to migration while the white migration loss was just above five percent. Differences between the net migration numbers in Table 2 and total population changes in Table 1 are natural increases (or decreases) in population as determined by births and deaths. In the Delta, the natural increase between 1980 and 1990 was 45,918—the algebraic difference between the total population decline of 19,143 and the migration loss of 65,061.

² Howell, Frank M., Paige L. Tompkins, J. Gipson Wells, and Jarryl B. Ritchie, *Social and Economic Characteristics of Mississippi Counties, 1990*, Mississippi State University, Social Science Research Center, Social Research Report Series 95-1, June 1995.

Dependency

The ratio of the number of persons under age 15 and over age 64 to the remainder of the total population is called the "dependency ratio." These ratios, expressed as percentages, appear in Table 3 for each Delta county for both 1980 and 1990. The general trend during that ten-year period was downward, particularly among the black population. Delta-wide, in 1990 there were nine fewer "dependents" for every 100 "contributors" among the black population. However, the black dependency ratio was still considerably higher than the white ratio, and the black ratio was considerably higher in the Delta than it was in the state as a whole.

Educational Attainment

The Delta's population was better educated in 1990 than it was in 1980 (see Table 4). The percentage of the population who had completed high school rose 17 points during the decade, while the percentage who had completed college rose 2.6 points. These increases compare favorably with the increases statewide.

High school completion rates improved more in the black population than in the white population (see Table 5). Delta-wide, 40 percent of black adults had completed high school by 1990—up from less than 25 percent just ten years earlier. The percentages rose in all counties, and in Panola, Tate, and Tunica counties, the increases were in the 20 percentage point range. On the down side, in 1990 Delta blacks still lagged far behind whites in completing high school. As the third column in Table 5 shows, for every 100 whites who had completed high school in 1990, only 55 blacks had done so. Furthermore, in spite of their gains in education during the 1980's, Delta blacks still lagged behind the total black population of the state.

Income Levels

Both per capita and household incomes rose in the Delta during the 1980's, but the gap between the Delta and the state widened for both individuals and households (see Figure 1).

Still, a few Delta counties improved their income positions relative to the statewide average: Leflore, Tate, and Washington went from below average to above average in per capita incomes during the decade (see Table 6). Other counties showing above average gains in either per capita or household income, or both, were Carroll, DeSoto, Tunica, Humphreys, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, and Tallahatchie. Warren and DeSoto were the only counties with per capita incomes

above \$10,000 and household incomes above \$20,000 in 1990.

Infant Mortality

By 1990-1994, the 1981-85 infant mortality rates reported by Saunders had declined dramatically (see Figure 2). It is particularly encouraging that the nonwhite mortality rate in

Figure 1: Per Capita Income and Median Household Income in Mississippi and in the Delta, 1980 and 1990

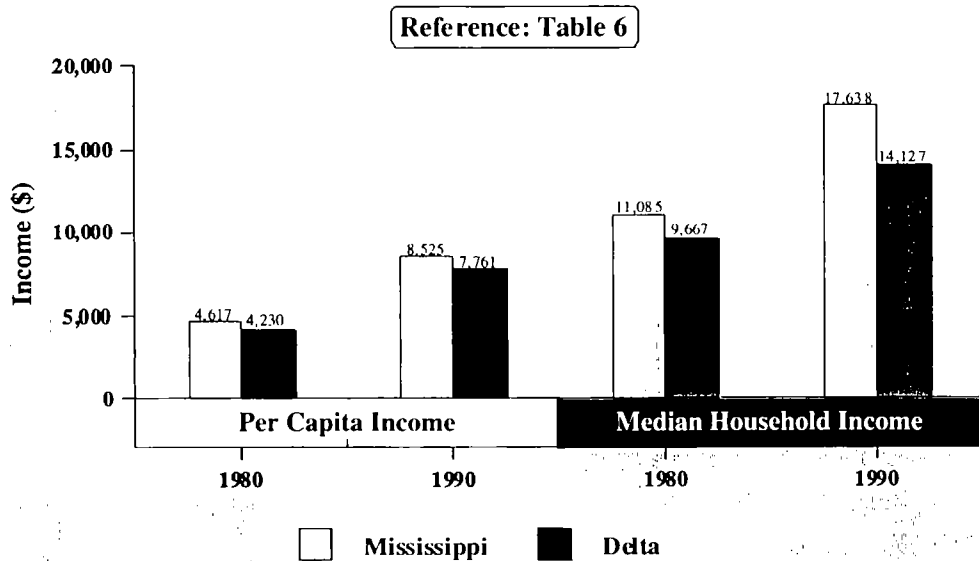
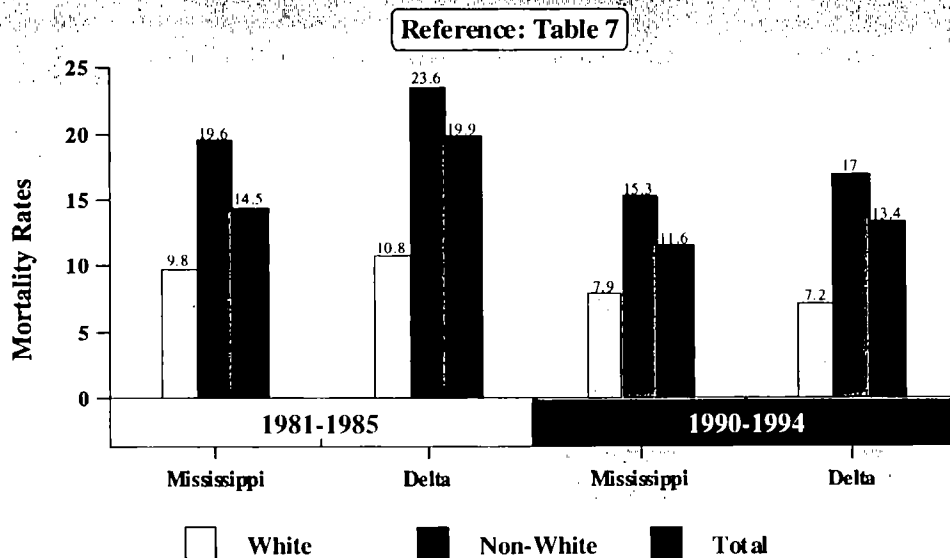


Figure 2: Infant Mortality Rates by Race in Mississippi and in the Delta, 1981-85 and 1990-1994



the Delta declined from an average of 23.6 in 1981-85 to 17.0 in 1990-94. In the so-called "core counties," the decline was even more pronounced—from 29.2 to 17.0 (see Table 7). In 1990-94, infant mortality in the Delta, for both whites and nonwhites, compared favorably with mortality statewide.

PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES

A periodic telephone survey, known as the Mississippi Poll, was the basis for Shaffer's Chapter 5, "Perceptions and Attitudes of Mississippi Delta Residents." The most recent poll was conducted in 1994, six years after the poll upon which Shaffer's report was based. Although the contents of the two polls were not identical, there was considerable overlap in the items comprising the survey forms.

Personal Satisfaction

Deltans apparently were more satisfied with where they lived in 1994 than they were in 1988. Asked if they planned to remain in the same community for the next five years, only 17 percent responded "no" in 1994, down from 25 percent in 1988. The percentage of blacks expecting to relocate dropped from 35 percent to 26 percent between the two polls, while the white percentage dropped from 18 percent to only 13 percent.

It was reported earlier that both personal and family income levels had risen in the Delta over the past several years, and that rise was reflected in Deltans' level of financial satisfaction. In 1988, 25 percent of all Delta residents were dissatisfied with their financial situation; in 1994, only 18 percent reported dissatisfaction. As one would expect, a larger percentage of blacks than whites were dissatisfied at both polling times. In fact, the proportion of dissatisfied blacks remained at one-fourth in both polls.

Trust in public officials in the Delta was less in 1994 than in 1988. In 1988, 17 percent of respondents reported that they "rarely trust" officials; in 1994, 26 percent placed themselves in that category. Trust declined among both

blacks and whites by the same margin—nine percentage points.

Both the 1988 and the 1994 polls contained a series of questions concerning respondents' preferences for government spending. Specifically, the respondents were asked if they thought that state and local governments should be spending more, less, or about the same on the programs listed in Table 8. In general, support for more government spending was greater in 1994 than in 1988. Only three programs lost support in 1994—those for the poor, those for streets and highways, and those for industrial growth and development. Support for more spending increased for public schools (9 percentage points), tourism promotion (18 points), child day-care facilities (8 points), and jail and prison facilities (15 points). Support for other programs remained virtually unchanged.

For most programs, larger percentages of blacks than whites favored increased government spending in both polls. Exceptions in 1994 were in industrial growth/development and encouraging tourism. In 1994, black support for more spending was higher than in 1988 for public schools and health care and hospitals; support was appreciably lower in 1994 for programs for the poor, streets and highways, and industrial growth and development. Among whites, support for programs for the poor, streets and highways, and health care and hospitals declined between the two polls while support increased for public schools and child day-care facilities. The widest disparities in support between blacks and whites were in environmental programs (19 percentage points), programs for the poor (38 points), public schools (20 points), public colleges and universities (25 points), health care and hospitals (38 points), and child day-care facilities (34 points), with support among blacks higher in all cases.

Politics

Politically, there was a moderate shift in party identification between 1988 and 1994. According to poll results, nine percent fewer Deltans identified with the Democratic party in 1994 than in 1988 (59 percent and 50 percent, respectively). However, Republican party identification also declined (by two percentage

points) with the net result an 11 percentage point increase in respondents who identified themselves as independent. Nearly all of the Democratic party loss was in the white population. However, a slightly higher percentage of blacks identified themselves as independent in 1994 than did so in 1988.

The ideological shift in the Delta between 1988 and 1994 was greater than the shift in political party identification. In 1988, 26 percent of Deltans identified themselves as "liberal," while 42 percent thought of themselves as "conservative." In 1994, these percentages were 15 percent liberal and 55 percent conservative. The percentage identifying themselves as moderates was virtually the same in both polls.

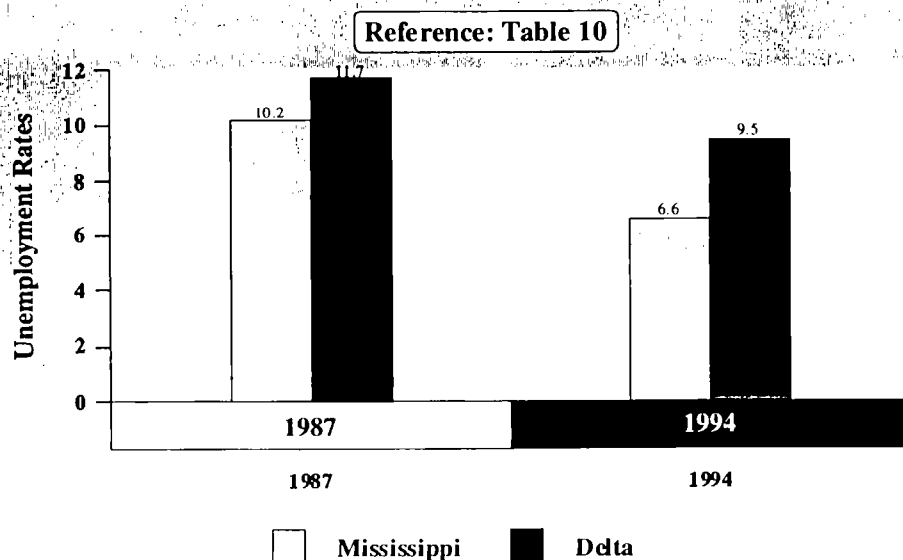
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In Chapter 8, Campbell, Gilbert, and Grimes profiled the Delta's labor force as it appeared in 1987. We have updated their data to either 1993 or 1994.³

For analytical purposes, the labor force is defined as all non-institutionalized persons over the age of 16 who are employed or actively seeking employment. In spite of a shrinking population, the size of the labor force in the Delta increased by almost 12,000 between 1987 and 1994 (see Table 9). Although DeSoto County contributed 4,000 to this number, nearly all Delta counties experienced at least modest increases. The percentage of the population that belongs to the labor force also increased Delta-wide and in most counties, with the most spectacular increase in Tunica County—almost certainly an effect of the advent of the gaming industry in that county.

Table 10 shows the 1987 and 1994 labor force numbers broken down into their two components: those employed and those unemployed but actively seeking employment. There were nearly 26,000 more people employed in the Delta in 1994 than in 1987, and every county except Sunflower shared in the region-wide gain. There was an attendant decrease in the number of unemployed persons in the Delta and, consequently, a drop in the unemployment rate, from 11.7 in 1987 to 9.5 in 1994 (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Unemployment Rates in Mississippi and in the Delta, 1987 and 1994



³ At the time of this writing, 1994 labor force data by race and gender were not available.

Humphreys, Sunflower, and Tallahatchie counties experienced higher unemployment rates in 1994 than in 1987 (see Table 10). The largest reductions were in Sharkey County (9.8 percentage points) and Tunica County (7.8 percentage points).

The improvement in the Delta's labor situation was shared by both the white and nonwhite populations (see Tables 11 and 12). The size of the nonwhite labor force increased by well over 3,000 between 1987 and 1993, and no single county accounted for a major share of the growth, although Tunica County did add more than 800 to its labor force (see Table 11). Also, the number of Delta counties wherein the nonwhite population attachment to the labor force exceeded the state average increased from two to six between 1987 and 1993 (Table 12, last column). In 1993, the number of unemployed nonwhites had declined by 21 percent from its 1987 level, and the unemployment rate was down in every Delta county for an average decline of more than five percentage points (see Table 12).

The position of females in the Delta labor force also improved between 1987 and 1993. While the number of males in the labor force declined by almost 2,900 during the period, the number of females increased by nearly 13,000—a 14.5 percent gain (see Table 13). Consequently, the female population attachment to the labor force stood at 39.2 percent in 1993—six percentage points higher than in 1987 and only nine points below the figure for males. These positive changes held true in every Delta county. As a result, the female unemployment rate was 10.6 percent in 1993—a 4.6 percentage point drop from 1987 (see Table 14). While this rate was still well above the rates for both Delta males and females statewide, Delta females did close these gaps between 1987 and 1993.

In spite of all the favorable changes in Delta labor force characteristics, in 1993 the region

still lagged behind the remainder of the state on all counts. Moreover, the gaps that existed in 1987 had narrowed very little if any by 1993. At the county level, several units experienced dramatic declines in unemployment rates. Still, in 1993 only two counties had rates that were lower than the statewide average (Carroll and DeSoto)—the same number that were below the state average in 1987.

As Campbell et al. pointed out, several studies have documented a strong association between a population's attachment to the labor force and educational attainment. Although education in the Delta was discussed in a previous section, 1980 and 1990 educational attainment data are presented in Table 15 in an expanded format. Delta-wide, the educational attainment of the adult population aged 25 and over had improved during the 1980-1990 period in every category except graduate school. Furthermore, gains in the Delta exceeded those statewide in percentages completing some high school, graduating high school, completing some college, and graduating college (see Figure 4). Improvements were not confined to one or two counties, either: the percentage of high school graduates in the population increased in 14 of the 18 Delta counties, and the college graduate percentage increased in all counties but one (Holmes), where it decreased only 0.4 points.

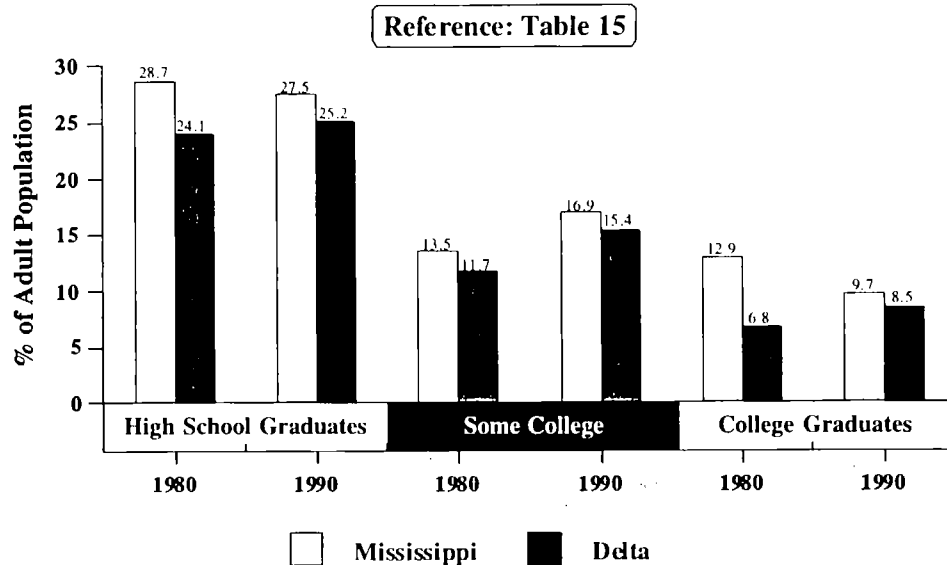
MEDICAID RECIPIENTS

In their chapter on "Public Health Care Funding in the Mississippi Delta," McCulloch and Wiseman examined several aspects of the Delta's health care system.⁴ However, a great deal of the data they presented came from unpublished sources or required a considerable amount of computation. Consequently, we present here only an update of data pertaining to the Medicaid program in 1993.

The number of persons in the Delta eligible for Medicaid increased by more than 14,000 between 1989 and 1993, or by almost 11 percent (see Table 16). Nearly half of this increase came from just three counties: Leflore, Warren, and Washington. Population percentages eligible for Medicaid also were up in 1993, and the rise in the Delta was greater than in the remainder of the

⁴ A more detailed and recent analysis of health care in the Delta is contained in William M. Wiseman, Gertrude Moeller-Kato, and Charles Menifield, *Health in the Mississippi Delta: Prevention and Policy*, Mississippi State University, Social Science Research Center, Social Research Report Series 93.3, April 1993. 48 p.

Figure 4: Formal Educational Attainment of Adults Aged 25 and over in Mississippi and in the Delta, 1980 and 1990



state. The percentage increased in every Delta county except Sharkey, where it was unchanged from 1989. Average per county payments to recipients increased in the Delta and statewide, but the 1993 Delta average was about \$375,000 below the state while in 1989 the Delta average was nearly \$200,000 above the state.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY

In his chapter on "At-Risk Youth," Story examined several problems unique to young people. The one that is perhaps most indicative of other social problems is teenage pregnancy. In Table 17, Story's 1983-87 data are updated through 1994.

Average pregnancy rates in each Delta county for 1983-87 and 1988-94 are shown in Table 18. Rates for both periods and for both blacks and whites were lowest in Carroll County. The highest rates for white teens since 1988 were recorded in Panola, Quitman, Humphreys and Leflore counties, in that order. Rates for black teens were highest in Tallahatchie, Yazoo, Coahoma, Leflore, Sunflower, Quitman, and

Washington counties. Issaquena County had the largest increase among whites between the two periods; the largest increase among blacks was in DeSoto County. Considerable decreases between periods occurred in Tate County for whites and in Sharkey County for blacks.

As indicated by the averages at the bottom of Table 18, there was little change in Delta pregnancy rates between 1983-87 and 1988-94. However, while the Delta was holding its own, the rest of the state was experiencing increases among both white and nonwhite teens. Although the data are not presented here, the recent national trend has been an increasing rate among white teens and a slight decline among nonwhites; the Delta trend is similar.

AVERAGE WEEKLY SALARIES

The 1989 average weekly salaries reported by Lemay in Chapter 14 are updated to 1994 in Table 19. Employees in the Delta and statewide saw their salaries increase by about 30 percent over the four-year period. However, Delta employees were still \$55.00 per week below the

state average in 1994, up from \$51.00 in 1989. DeSoto was the only county wherein the average salary exceeded the statewide average, both in 1989 and in 1994, although Warren County came close. The largest real dollar and percentage increase was in Tunica County—\$144.00 and 67 percent, respectively. On the other end of the spectrum, average salaries in Sharkey County increased by only \$59.00.

POVERTY

The percentage of the Delta's population living below the poverty level remained virtually the same between 1980 and 1990 (see Table 20). Since the statewide poverty rate declined by about one-and-one-half percentage points during the decade, the gap between the Delta and the state was somewhat wider in 1990 than it was in 1980: 8.4 percentage points and 6.8 points, respectively. Poverty rates rose or remained constant in 13 of the Delta's 18 counties, and DeSoto was the only county with a substantial decline. DeSoto, Tate, and Warren were the only counties with rates below the statewide average in 1990. However, while rates in DeSoto and Tate counties decreased during the decade, the rate in Warren County increased by 3.7 percentage points.

The poverty rate among the Delta's black population stood at 54.9 percent in 1990, which was nearly two percentage points above the 1980 rate (see Table 21). The Delta rate remained about ten percentage points above the state average during the decade. In 1990, over half of the Delta's black population was living in poverty in all but three Delta counties—DeSoto, Tate, and Warren. DeSoto, Humphreys, Quitman, Tate and Yazoo counties had lower rates in 1990 than in 1980.

Poverty figures for Delta families portray a situation similar to that for individuals (see Table 22). However, the statewide rate increased slightly more than the Delta rate between 1980 and 1990. Family rates declined or were unchanged in Carroll, DeSoto, Panola, Tallahatchie, and Tate counties. The largest

increases were in Issaquena County (about 15 percentage points) and Coahoma, Holmes, and Tunica counties (about 6 percentage points each).

In 1990, the highest poverty rates statewide and in the Delta were among families headed by females (see Table 23). The 1990 Delta rate was nine percentage points higher than the 1980 rate while statewide there was a 10.8 percentage point increase. In the Delta, the actual number of female-headed families below the poverty level increased almost 54 percent during the decade, a trend that even DeSoto County did not avoid. Still, the rates of increase in both the number of female-headed families and the number of those families below the poverty level were lower in the Delta than in the remainder of the state. As a consequence, in 1980 the Delta contained about 44 percent of the state's female-headed, below poverty families; by 1990, that percentage had fallen to about 38.

Both the young and the elderly in the Delta fared somewhat better in 1990 than in 1980. The poverty rate among those under 18 years of age declined slightly in the Delta while the statewide rate increased three percentage points (see Table 24). However, the rate increased in at least twelve Delta counties (1980 data for one county were not available) and ended the decade above 50 percent in eleven counties. The elderly in the Delta are in a better situation than the youth. While the number of persons aged 65 and older increased slightly between 1980 and 1990, the number living below the poverty level decreased by seven percent (see Table 25). Consequently, the percent of the elderly below the poverty level decreased by three percentage points. Although the statewide decrease was 4.7 percentage points, Delta elderly were closer to the remainder of the state than any other population group.

Table 26 shows the percentage of Delta residents whose income was below 150 percent of the poverty level in 1980 and 1990. In comparison with the remainder of the state, the Delta actually did better in this category than in the percentage below the poverty level per se (see Table 20). For example, the Delta closed the gap on the remainder of the state by 3.5 percentage points between 1980 and 1990.⁵ Also, the actual number of persons below 150 percent of poverty decreased by 15.9 percent in

⁵ Calculated from data contained in Table 23.

the Delta between 1980 and 1990. Corresponding decreases in the state and in the non-Delta part of the state were 7.6 percent and 4.7 percent, respectively.

DISCUSSION

The data examined in this report, when compared with data in the *Portrait*, clearly show that social and economic change is occurring in the Delta. Moreover, most of the change is for the better: income levels are up, educational attainment is higher, labor force participation is greater, poverty levels are down, and most other indicators generally are favorable. Furthermore, many of the trends are shared by whites and nonwhites, by males and females, by young and old, and by the individual counties comprising the Delta region.

Among the more encouraging changes that have occurred in the Delta over the past few years are higher levels of education—particularly among blacks—and an improved economic situation as indicated by income and employment data. To the extent that education is the key to economic opportunity, the Delta adult population made gains in the eighties that should improve their chances for higher paying jobs in the future. Although other factors, such as migration, may have contributed to the increase in the percentages of high school and college graduates, Deltans entered the nineties closer to the statewide average than they were a decade earlier. In fact, education was one of the very few areas in which the Delta gained on the remainder of the state.

All data pertaining to income and employment indicated an improving economic situation for Delta residents. Employment figures are especially encouraging, as the size of the labor force increased and the unemployment rate dropped. Although the Delta did not close the gap with the remainder of the state, the fact that the region effectively kept pace with statewide trends is significant.

Within the Delta region, counties along the Interstate 55 corridor south of Memphis seemed to fare best. DeSoto County is, for all practical purposes, a part of the Memphis metropolitan

area, but Tate, Panola, and perhaps even Carroll counties appeared to benefit from their location along the interstate. (The larger communities in Carroll County are connected to I-55 by U.S. Highway 82, which is four-laned at that point.) Another county seemingly well-positioned for economic growth is Tunica, where the impact of its three-year-old gaming industry began to become apparent in the 1993 and 1994 employment data. Between the late 1980's and the early 1990's, this county rose from near the bottom to near the top among Delta counties in low unemployment, participation in the labor force, and average weekly employee salaries.

The across-the-board decline in infant mortality rates was one of the most gratifying findings of this analysis. This area is one of the very few in which the Delta was considerably behind the rest of the state in the mid-eighties, but nearly equal with the state by the mid-nineties. Obviously, there has been improvement in both pre-natal and post-natal care; hopefully, expectant mothers and parents of infants have shown a greater propensity to take advantage of that care.

Analysis of teenage pregnancy produced inconclusive results. Annual teen pregnancy rates are quite erratic at all levels—county, Delta, and state. Regardless of whether the rates are rising, falling, or doing neither, they signal a continuing social and economic problem. Among nonwhite teens, pregnancy rates consistently ran at least twice those for white teens; in some years in certain counties, nonwhite rates were four times higher. As noted earlier, the phenomenon of "children having children" is a national ill that gives rise to countless other conditions that adversely affect quality of life.

Results of the two surveys of the population produced some mixed indications. In general, both black and white Deltans seemed more satisfied with their residential and financial statuses in the later poll. However, when it came to the role of government in funding several different programs, there were wide differences between the racial groups. There were only two programs for which a smaller proportion of blacks than whites favored an increase in government support: industrial growth and development and promoting tourism. What is curious is that these are the only two programs

among the eleven specified that are likely to result directly in more jobs—a result that potentially could benefit more blacks than whites. However, the different preferences for government spending are consistent with the political orientation expressed by blacks and whites, the former being much more likely to be liberal Democrats than the latter.

CONCLUSIONS

This comparison of current social and economic conditions in the Delta with those that prevailed when the *Portrait* was prepared leave little doubt that improvements have occurred in many areas. It seems safe to say that most Deltans are better off in the 1990's than they were in the 1980's, and they appear to be aware of it. Some recent events in the Delta⁶ should bolster ongoing efforts to further improve social and economic conditions.

A Delta citizen recently remarked that when the Delta overtakes the rest of the state, Mississippi will no longer be fiftieth. Indeed, the Delta's sobriquet has often been "the poorest region in the poorest state in the nation." The cogent question for any analyst of change in the Delta, then, is, "Is the Delta gaining on the rest of the state?" Most of the evidence indicates that the region did no better than hold its own vis-a-vis the state during the period in question, which was a period of general economic prosperity in Mississippi. However, the fact that the Delta kept pace during this period is significant in that it indicates that now, perhaps, the region is capable of competing with other areas in Mississippi for industrial growth and the jobs that go along with it. Such has not been the case in the recent past, so one can optimistically speculate that the Delta's struggle to diversify its long-standing agricultural base may be beginning to show positive results. Certainly the situation merits frequent analysis and assessment.

⁶ Designation of a Rural Empowerment Zone in the Delta in 1994 and a major grant awarded to Delta State University for community development in 1995 are two such events.

Table 1. Changes in Mississippi Delta Population between 1980 and 1990, by County and by Race.

County		1980 Population	1990 Population	Change	Percent Change
Bolivar	Total	45,965	41,875	-4,090	-8.9
	White	16,986	15,166	-1,820	-10.7
	Black	28,567	26,430	-2,137	-7.5
Carroll	Total	9,776	9,237	-539	-5.5
	White	5,332	5,571	239	4.5
	Black	4,425	3,657	-768	-17.4
Coahoma	Total	36,918	31,665	-5,253	-14.2
	White	13,074	10,984	-2,090	-16.0
	Black	23,631	20,511	-3,120	-13.2
DeSoto	Total	53,930	67,910	13,980	25.9
	White	44,203	58,901	14,698	33.3
	Black	9,596	8,684	-912	-9.5
Holmes	Total	22,970	21,604	-1,366	-5.9
	White	6,577	5,176	-1,401	-21.3
	Black	16,339	16,386	47	0.3
Humphreys	Total	13,931	12,134	-1,797	-12.9
	White	4,718	3,856	-862	-18.3
	Black	9,145	8,260	-885	-9.7
Issaquena	Total	2,513	1,909	-604	-24.0
	White	1,107	833	-274	-23.0
	Black	1,397	1,076	-321	-24.8
Leflore	Total	41,525	37,341	-4,184	-10.1
	White	16,724	14,431	-2,293	-13.7
	Black	24,553	22,684	-1,869	-7.6
Panola	Total	28,164	29,996	1,832	6.5
	White	14,312	15,366	1,054	5.7
	Black	13,785	14,542	757	5.5
Quitman	Total	12,636	10,490	-2,146	-17.0
	White	5,530	4,249	-1,281	-23.2
	Black	7,074	6,134	-940	-13.3
Sharkey	Total	7,964	7,066	-898	-11.3
	White	2,700	2,352	-348	-12.9
	Black	5,229	4,691	-538	-10.3

Table 1. (Continued)

County		1980 Population	1990 Population	Change	Percent Change
Sunflower	Total	34,844	32,867	-1,977	-5.7
	White	13,052	11,614	-1,438	-11.0
	Black	21,611	21,079	-942	-2.5
Tallahatchie	Total	17,157	15,210	-1,947	-11.3
	White	7,252	6,269	-938	-13.6
	Black	9,823	8,881	-942	-9.6
Tate	Total	20,119	21,432	1,313	6.5
	White	12,339	13,975	1,636	13.3
	Black	7,735	7,418	-317	-4.1
Tunica	Total	9,652	8,164	-1,488	-15.4
	White	2,566	1,991	-575	-22.4
	Black	7,050	6,155	-895	-12.7
Warren	Total	51,627	47,880	-3,747	-7.3
	White	31,878	28,827	-3,051	-9.6
	Black	19,301	18,620	-681	-3.5
Washington	Total	72,344	67,935	-4,409	-6.1
	White	31,619	28,194	-3,425	-10.8
	Black	40,216	39,296	-920	-2.3
Yazoo	Total	27,349	25,506	-1,843	-6.7
	White	13,197	11,983	-1,214	-9.2
	Black	14,051	13,431	-620	-4.4
Delta	Total	509,384	490,221	-19,143	-3.6
	White	243,466	239,738	-3,728	-1.5
	Black	263,528	247,935	-15,593	-5.9
Mississippi	Total	2,520,638	2,573,216	52,578	2.1
	White	1,615,190	1,632,884	28,652	1.1
	Black	887,206	915,858	17,694	3.2

Source: U. S. Census of Population 1980 and 1990.

Table 2. Net Migration in the Mississippi Delta from 1970 to 1980 and from 1980 to 1990, by County.

County	Net Migration	
	1970-1980	1980-1990
Bolivar	-8,995	-8,756
Carroll	-59	-870
Coahoma	-7,473	-8,666
DeSoto	12,700	8,776
Holmes	-2,242	-3,728
Humphreys	-2,054	-3,272
Issaquena	-373	-842
Leflore	-4,860	-7,445
Panola	-2,125	-579
Quitman	-5,065	-3,114
Sharkey	2,284	-1,774
Sunflower	-6,445	-5,539
Tallahatchie	-3,875	-3,487
Tate	-300	-190
Tunica	-3,582	-2,489
Warren	2,300	-7,492
Washington	-7,390	-11,675
Yazoo	-1,972	-3,919
Delta	-44,094	-65,061
Mississippi	85,000	-144,096

Source: United States Census of Population 1970, 1980, and 1990.

Table 3. Dependency Ratios in the Mississippi Delta, by Race and by County, 1987 and 1993.

County		Dependency Ratios¹	
		1987	1993
Bolivar	White	52.5	52.1
	Black	91.1	79.8
Carroll	White	61.3	55.8
	Black	76.2	76.4
Coahoma	White	54.1	61.3
	Black	95.6	82.7
DeSoto	White	NA	44.9
	Black	NA	72.2
Holmes	White	55.8	67.4
	Black	87.1	80.3
Humphreys	White	58.4	58.1
	Black	92.5	83.8
Issaquena	White	54.4	51.2
	Black	81.9	77.0
Leflore	White	81.6	61.2
	Black	88.1	76.1
Panola	White	58.7	57.8
	Black	86.1	74.4
Quitman	White	58.6	64.4
	Black	95.3	82.1
Sharkey	White	61.6	62.4
	Black	88.1	79.9
Sunflower	White	53.6	53.7
	Black	76.7	71.3
Tallahatchie	White	60.6	62.0
	Black	92.1	78.1
Tate	White	51.3	51.0
	Black	74.1	68.1
Tunica	White	60.7	58.9
	Black	96.3	83.7
Warren	White	52.7	53.2
	Black	79.8	75.6
Washington	White	52.3	57.1
	Black	98.5	76.9
Yazoo	White	57.4	61.0
	Black	82.3	84.8
Delta	White	55.5	53.7
	Black	88.7	79.7
Mississippi	White	55.0	52.5
	Black	77.0	68.5

Source: United States Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

¹The dependency ratio is the number of persons under 15 and over 64 for every 100 persons aged 15-64.

Table 4. Percentage of Mississippi Delta Adult Population Aged 25 and Older Who Completed High School and Who Completed College, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Percent Completing High School ¹		Percent Completing College	
	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	45.8	54.9	10.2	15.2
Carroll	40.3	54.0	7.3	10.3
Coahoma	43.8	54.0	12.1	14.7
DeSoto	NA	61.6	NA	9.5
Holmes	39.6	48.0	10.3	9.7
Humphreys	38.7	46.4	9.1	10.4
Issaquena	37.9	43.7	5.7	5.6
Leflore	44.7	55.3	13.2	15.7
Panola	40.9	54.3	7.7	8.7
Quitman	36.5	45.5	8.2	8.8
Sharkey	42.2	51.3	13.3	12.4
Sunflower	41.1	49.2	11.3	12.4
Tallahatchie	6.9	48.2	8.6	7.9
Tate	49.7	61.0	9.2	11.7
Tunica	30.8	45.7	6.5	8.5
Warren	59.5	67.6	15.7	19.1
Washington	50.0	58.8	12.5	14.3
Yazoo	46.5	53.4	11.5	12.0
Delta	40.9	57.8	10.1	12.7
Mississippi	43.8	64.3	12.3	14.7

Source: United States Census of Population 1980 and 1990.

¹Includes those who completed college.

Table 5. Percentage of Persons 25 Years Old or Older in the Mississippi Delta Who Completed High School, by Race and by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Percent Completing High School					
	Whites		Blacks		Blacks as Percent of Whites	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	67.4	72.1	27.8	41.7	41.2	57.8
Carroll	50.6	65.7	23.9	31.0	47.2	47.2
Coahoma	63.8	73.3	26.2	39.2	39.8	53.5
DeSoto	NA	75.6	NA	38.0	NA	50.3
Holmes	64.4	68.2	25.2	38.8	39.1	56.9
Humphreys	NA	62.3	23.1	35.5	NA	57.0
Issaquena	NA	60.2	20.1	25.9	NA	43.0
Leflore	64.0	71.2	24.5	41.4	38.3	58.1
Panola	54.7	64.0	20.7	39.8	37.8	62.2
Quitman	51.3	58.4	19.4	33.1	37.8	56.7
Sharkey	61.5	70.6	26.4	37.5	42.9	53.1
Sunflower	62.6	65.4	22.1	36.8	35.3	56.3
Tallahatchie	53.0	65.2	18.6	30.2	35.1	46.3
Tate	62.1	68.9	22.8	41.9	36.7	60.8
Tunica	NA	69.3	14.8	34.2	NA	49.4
Warren	72.8	78.6	33.2	46.4	45.6	59.0
Washington	67.4	72.6	31.8	45.4	47.2	62.5
Yazoo	63.8	68.4	24.7	35.3	38.7	51.6
Delta	61.4	71.6	23.8	39.8	38.1	55.6
Mississippi	60.9	71.7	32.7	47.3	53.7	66.0

Source: United States Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

Table 6. Per Capita Income and Median Household Income in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Per Capita Income (\$)		Median Household Income (\$)	
	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	3,938	6,889	9,119	14,020
Carroll	4,146	8,241	9,679	16,639
Coahoma	4,091	7,197	8,943	13,780
DeSoto	5,942	12,509	18,529	31,756
Holmes	3,253	5,969	7,050	9,809
Humphreys	3,861	7,201	7,966	12,696
Issaquena	4,414	6,412	9,451	13,005
Leflore	4,289	9,003	9,574	15,219
Panola	4,122	7,537	9,655	17,286
Quitman	3,759	6,450	8,163	13,730
Sharkey	3,751	6,032	8,377	13,304
Sunflower	3,784	7,067	9,659	14,431
Tallahatchie	3,709	6,180	7,892	13,593
Tate	4,491	9,212	12,178	22,207
Tunica	3,292	6,449	6,697	10,965
Warren	6,260	10,861	15,902	22,804
Washington	4,548	8,704	10,669	17,492
Yazoo	4,496	7,786	9,895	14,234
Delta	4,230	7,761	9,667	14,127
Mississippi	4,617	8,525	11,085	17,638

Source: United States Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

Table 7. Infant Mortality Rates in the Delta and in Mississippi, by Race, 1981-1985 and 1990-1994.

Area	Mortality Rates ¹	
	1981-1985	1990-1994
Mississippi		
Total	14.5	11.6
White	9.8	7.9
Nonwhite	19.6	15.3
Delta		
Total	19.9	13.4
White	10.8	7.2
Nonwhite	23.6	17.0
Core Counties²		
Total	20.4	14.7
White	9.8	6.8
Nonwhite	29.2	17.0
Periphery Counties³		
Total	18.2	11.8
White	12.1	7.5
Nonwhite	23.2	16.9

Source: *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1987. Maternal and Infant Health Reference Manual, Mississippi, 1981-1985, 2 Vols. Vital Statistics Mississippi, 1990-1994.*

¹The number of deaths of children under one year of age per every thousand live births.

²The core counties are Bolivar, Coahoma, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tunica, and Washington.

³The periphery counties are Carroll, DeSoto, Holmes, Panola, Tate, Warren, and Yazoo.

Table 8. Percentage of Delta Residents Favoring More Government Spending on Specified Programs, by Race, 1988 and 1994.

Program Areas	Percentage Favoring More Spending					
	1988			1994		
	White	Black	Total	White	Black	Total
Environmental Programs	NA	NA	57	51	70	57
Programs for the Poor	47	90	65	42	80	58
Public Schools	71	87	78	77	97	87
Streets and Highways	73	86	78	68	71	70
Police Forces	NA	NA	61	70	74	70
Public Colleges and Universities	63	88	74	64	89	76
Health Care and Hospitals	65	86	74	57	95	76
Industrial Growth and Development	73	81	76	75	66	72
Encouraging Tourism	NA	NA	43	63	56	61
Child Day-Care Facilities	38	83	59	50	84	67
Jail and Prison Facilities	NA	NA	49	62	67	64

Source: The Mississippi Poll, 1988 and 1994.

Table 9. Total Population, Size of Labor Force, and Percent of Population in Labor Force in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1987 and 1994.

County	Total Population		Size of Labor Force		Labor Force as Percent of Population	
	1987	1994	1987	1994	1987	1994
Bolivar	43,500	41,517	15,390	19,230	35.4	46.3
Carroll	9,800	9,773	2,990	4,310	30.5	44.1
Coahoma	34,800	31,454	11,970	12,660	34.4	40.2
DeSoto	65,300	79,993	34,740	38,940	53.2	48.7
Holmes	22,400	21,036	7,010	7,980	31.3	37.9
Humphreys	13,500	11,716	4,780	5,520	35.4	47.1
Issaquena	2,200	1,732	780	940	35.5	54.3
Leflore	39,100	37,463	16,030	16,480	41.0	44.0
Panola	30,000	31,945	11,660	13,530	38.9	42.4
Quitman	11,100	10,131	3,410	3,840	30.7	37.9
Sharkey	7,200	6,952	2,880	3,390	40.0	48.8
Sunflower	36,300	36,013	14,420	12,060	39.7	33.5
Tallahatchie	16,100	14,701	5,420	5,700	33.7	38.8
Tate	21,800	22,229	9,280	10,650	42.6	47.9
Tunica	9,000	8,295	2,680	5,080	29.8	61.2
Warren	50,700	49,034	23,320	27,310	46.0	55.7
Washington	70,400	66,741	28,960	29,440	41.1	44.1
Yazoo	26,700	25,354	9,760	10,090	36.6	39.8
Delta	509,900	506,079	205,480	227,150	40.3	44.9
Mississippi	2,646,200	2,669,110	1,151,000	1,255,000	43.5	47.0

Source: *Mississippi Statistical Abstract* 1988, *Mississippi Employment Security Commission*, September 1995, *United States Census of Population*, 1980 and 1990.

Table 10. Size of Labor Force, Number Employed, Number Unemployed, and Unemployment Rate in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1987 and 1994.

County	Labor Force		Number Employed		Number Unemployed		Unemployment Rate ¹	
	1987	1994	1987	1994	1987	1994	1987	1994
Bolivar	15,390	19,230	13,470	17,400	1,920	1,830	12.5	9.5
Carroll	2,990	4,310	2,650	4,010	340	300	11.4	7.0
Coahoma	11,970	12,660	10,160	11,120	1,810	1,540	15.1	12.2
DeSoto	34,740	38,940	32,640	37,160	210	1,780	6.0	4.6
Holmes	7,010	7,980	5,700	7,010	1,310	970	18.7	12.2
Humphreys	4,780	5,520	4,040	4,370	740	1,150	15.5	20.8
Issaquena	780	940	630	780	150	160	19.2	17.0
Leflore	16,030	16,480	13,830	14,770	2,200	1,710	13.7	10.4
Panola	11,660	13,530	10,180	12,290	1,480	1,240	12.7	9.2
Quitman	3,410	3,840	2,790	3,340	620	500	18.2	15.0
Sharkey	2,880	3,390	2,010	2,700	870	690	30.2	20.4
Sunflower	14,420	12,060	12,650	10,480	1,770	1,580	12.3	13.1
Tallahatchie	5,420	5,700	4,680	4,860	740	840	13.7	14.7
Tate	9,280	10,650	8,400	9,980	880	670	9.5	6.5
Tunica	2,680	5,080	2,190	4,540	490	540	18.3	10.5
Warren	23,320	27,310	20,360	25,430	2,960	1,880	12.7	6.9
Washington	28,960	29,440	24,690	26,250	4,270	3,190	14.7	10.8
Yazoo	9,760	10,090	8,580	9,110	1,180	980	12.1	9.7
Delta	205,480	227,150	179,650	205,600	23,940	21,550	11.7	9.5
Mississippi	1,151,000	1,255,000	103,400	1,172,000	117,000	88,000	10.2	6.6

Source: Mississippi Statistical Abstract (1988) and Mississippi Employment Security Commission (September 1995).

¹ The Unemployment Rate is the number unemployed divided by the number in the labor force.

Table 11. Total Population, Size of the Labor Force and Percent of Population in Labor Force in the Mississippi Delta, by Race and by County, 1987 and 1993.

County		Total Population		Labor Force		Labor Force as Percent of Population	
		1987	1993	1987	1993	1987	1993
Bolivar	White	16,380	15,130	7,200	8,590	44.0	56.8
	Nonwhite	27,830	26,390	8,190	9,550	29.4	36.2
Carroll	White	5,150	5,600	1,830	2,860	35.5	51.1
	Nonwhite	4,270	3,700	1,160	1,170	27.2	31.6
Coahoma	White	12,510	10,820	5,500	5,660	44.0	52.3
	Nonwhite	22,700	20,320	6,470	6,310	28.5	31.1
DeSoto	White	51,890	65,140	31,310	34,670	60.3	53.2
	Nonwhite	11,540	10,010	4,430	3,850	38.4	38.5
Holmes	White	6,670	5,080	2,600	2,500	39.0	49.2
	Nonwhite	16,530	16,130	4,410	4,760	26.7	29.5
Humphreys	White	4,740	3,770	2,130	1,970	44.9	52.3
	Nonwhite	9,100	8,090	2,650	3,390	29.1	41.9
Issaquena	White	950	810	430	490	45.3	60.5
	Nonwhite	1,190	1,040	350	480	29.4	46.2
Leflore	White	1,681	14,450	7,990	7,660	47.5	53.0
	Nonwhite	24,980	22,720	8,040	7,920	32.2	34.9
Panola	White	15,210	16,140	6,630	7,370	43.6	45.7
	Nonwhite	14,680	15,350	5,030	5,550	34.3	36.2
Quitman	White	4,780	3,990	1,760	2,090	36.8	52.4
	Nonwhite	6,150	5,850	1,650	2,060	26.8	35.2
Sharkey	White	2,670	2,300	1,100	1,440	41.2	62.6
	Nonwhite	NA	4,650	NA	1,920	NA	41.3
Sunflower	White	14,140	11,880	6,840	5,360	48.4	45.1
	Nonwhite	23,510	21,760	7,580	6,940	32.2	31.9
Tallahatchie	White	6,780	6,020	2,690	2,940	39.7	48.8
	Nonwhite	9,240	8,620	2,730	3,050	29.5	35.4
Tate	White	13,300	14,280	6,200	7,040	46.6	49.3
	Nonwhite	8,480	7,670	3,080	3,150	36.3	40.8
Tunica	White	2,420	1,930	960	1,320	39.7	68.4
	Nonwhite	6,590	5,970	1,720	2,560	26.1	42.9
Warren	White	31,820	28,980	15,430	15,790	48.5	54.5
	Nonwhite	19,740	19,070	7,890	7,780	40.0	40.8
Washington	White	31,000	27,550	15,100	13,670	48.7	49.6
	Nonwhite	40,190	38,540	13,860	13,850	34.5	35.9
Yazoo	White	12,980	11,790	5,570	5,520	42.9	46.8
	Nonwhite	13,850	13,370	4,190	4,330	30.3	32.4
Delta	White	250,200	245,680	121,270	127,120	48.5	51.7
	Nonwhite	265,690	249,250	85,210	88,600	32.1	35.5
Mississippi	White	1,708,770	1,688,870	798,440	841,800	46.7	51.6
	Nonwhite	937,450	960,120	352,560	370,200	37.6	39.4

Source: Mississippi Statistical Abstract (1988) and Mississippi Employment Security Commission (September, 1994).

Table 12. Number Employed, Number Unemployed, and Unemployment Rate in the Mississippi Delta, by Race and by County, 1987 and 1993.

County		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment Rate ¹	
		1987	1993	1987	1993	1987	1993
Bolivar	White	6,190	8,370	290	220	4.0	2.6
	Nonwhite	6,560	8,000	1,630	1,550	19.9	16.2
Carroll	White	1,700	2,770	130	90	7.1	3.1
	Nonwhite	950	1,010	210	160	18.1	13.7
Coahoma	White	5,260	5,440	240	220	4.4	3.9
	Nonwhite	4,900	5,110	1,570	1,200	24.3	19.0
DeSoto	White	28,790	33,450	1,520	1,220	5.0	3.5
	Nonwhite	3,850	3,450	580	400	13.1	10.4
Holmes	White	2,440	2,440	160	60	6.2	2.4
	Nonwhite	3,260	3,990	1,150	770	26.1	16.2
Humphreys	White	2,070	1,880	60	90	2.8	4.6
	Nonwhite	1,970	2,770	680	620	25.7	18.3
Issaquena	White	380	450	50	40	11.6	8.2
	Nonwhite	250	370	100	110	28.6	22.9
Leflore	White	7,610	7,350	380	310	4.8	4.0
	Nonwhite	6,220	6,570	1,820	1,350	22.6	17.0
Panola	White	6,110	6,990	520	380	7.8	5.2
	Nonwhite	4,070	4,760	960	790	19.1	14.2
Quitman	White	1,590	6,990	170	70	9.7	3.3
	Nonwhite	1,200	1,650	450	410	27.3	19.9
Sharkey	White	970	1,370	130	70	11.8	4.9
	Nonwhite	NA	1,500	NA	420	NA	21.9
Sunflower	White	6,560	5,140	280	220	4.1	4.1
	Nonwhite	6,090	5,590	1,490	1,350	19.7	19.5
Tallahatchie	White	2,450	2,780	240	160	8.9	5.4
	Nonwhite	2,230	2,530	500	520	18.3	17.0
Tate	White	5,790	6,730	410	310	6.6	4.4
	Nonwhite	2,610	2,750	470	380	15.3	12.2
Tunica	White	920	1,300	40	20	4.2	1.5
	Nonwhite	1,270	2,200	450	340	26.2	13.3
Warren	White	14,150	15,150	1,280	640	8.3	4.1
	Nonwhite	6,210	6,680	1,680	1,100	21.3	14.1
Washington	White	13,880	13,270	1,220	400	8.1	2.9
	Nonwhite	10,810	11,390	3,050	2,460	22.0	17.8
Yazoo	White	5,320	5,290	250	230	4.5	4.2
	Nonwhite	3,260	3,690	930	640	22.2	14.8
Delta	White	112,900	122,410	7,370	4,750	6.1	3.7
	Nonwhite	66,750	73,110	18,460	14,570	21.7	16.4
Mississippi	White	743,450	809,600	54,990	32,200	6.9	3.8
	Nonwhite	290,550	325,400	62,010	44,800	17.6	12.1

Source: Mississippi Statistical Abstract (1988) and Mississippi Employment Security Commission (September 1994).

¹The Unemployment Rate is the number unemployed divided by the number in the labor force.

Table 13. Total Population, Size of Labor Force, and Percent of Population in Labor Force in the Mississippi Delta, by Gender and by County, 1987 and 1993.

County		Population		Labor Force		Labor Force as Percent of Population	
		1987	1993	1987	1993	1987	1993
Bolivar	Male	20,730	19,110	8,280	9,030	39.9	47.3
	Female	23,480	22,410	7,110	9,110	30.3	40.7
Carroll	Male	4,530	4,460	1,750	2,250	38.6	50.4
	Female	4,890	4,840	1,240	1,780	25.4	36.8
Coahoma	Male	16,480	14,170	6,700	6,180	40.7	43.6
	Female	18,730	16,970	5,270	5,790	28.1	34.1
DeSoto	Male	31,330	37,000	20,980	21,460	67.0	58.0
	Female	32,100	38,150	13,760	17,060	42.9	44.7
Holmes	Male	10,950	9,800	3,750	3,680	34.2	37.6
	Female	12,350	11,410	3,260	3,580	26.4	31.4
Humphreys	Male	6,550	5,530	2,630	2,770	40.2	50.1
	Female	7,290	6,330	2,150	2,590	29.5	40.9
Issaquena	Male	1,040	900	500	590	48.1	65.6
	Female	1,100	950	280	380	25.5	40.0
Leflore	Male	19,430	17,210	3,430	7,750	43.4	45.0
	Female	22,360	19,960	7,600	7,830	34.0	39.2
Panola	Male	14,440	14,920	6,760	6,890	46.8	46.2
	Female	15,450	16,570	4,900	6,030	31.7	36.4
Quitman	Male	5,250	4,580	1,960	2,120	37.3	46.3
	Female	5,680	5,260	1,450	2,030	25.5	38.6
Sharkey	Male	3,720	3,210	1,710	1,830	46.0	57.0
	Female	4,070	3,740	1,170	1,530	28.7	40.9
Sunflower	Male	18,830	16,870	8,000	6,220	42.5	36.9
	Female	18,820	16,770	6,420	6,080	34.1	36.3
Tallahatchie	Male	7,610	6,900	3,150	3,240	41.0	47.0
	Female	8,410	7,740	2,270	2,750	27.0	35.5
Tate	Male	10,540	10,570	5,330	5,500	51.0	52.0
	Female	11,240	11,380	3,950	4,670	35.0	41.0

Table 13. (Continued)

County		Population		Labor Force		Labor Force as Percent of Population	
		1987	1993	1987	1993	1987	1993
Tunica	Male	4,300	3,690	1,680	2,010	39.0	54.5
	Female	4,710	4,210	1,000	1,870	21.0	44.4
Warren	Male	24,540	22,690	13,320	12,550	54.0	55.3
	Female	27,020	25,360	10,000	11,020	37.0	43.5
Washington	Male	33,460	30,900	15,800	14,060	47.0	45.5
	Female	37,730	35,210	13,160	13,460	35.0	38.2
Yazoo	Male	12,720	11,770	5,560	5,270	44.0	44.8
	Female	14,110	13,390	4,200	4,580	30.0	34.2
Delta	Male	246,450	234,280	116,290	113,400	47.0	48.4
	Female	269,540	260,650	89,190	102,140	33.0	39.2
Mississippi	Male	1,275,710	1,229,659	648,840	644,500	51.0	52.4
	Female	1,370,510	1,343,557	502,160	567,500	37.0	42.2

Source: Mississippi Statistical Abstract (1988) and Mississippi Employment Security Commission (September, 1994).

Table 14. Number Employed, Number Unemployed, and Unemployment Rate in the Mississippi Delta, by Gender and by County, 1987 and 1993.

County		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment Rate ¹	
		1987	1993	1987	1993	1987	1993
Bolivar	Male	7,340	8,260	940	770	11.4	8.5
	Female	6,130	8,110	980	1,000	13.8	11.0
Carroll	Male	1,590	2,120	160	130	9.1	5.8
	Female	1,060	1,660	180	120	14.5	6.7
Coahoma	Male	5,850	5,510	850	670	12.7	10.8
	Female	4,310	5,040	960	750	18.2	13.0
DeSoto	Male	19,910	20,640	1,070	820	5.1	3.8
	Female	12,760	16,260	1,030	800	7.5	4.7
Holmes	Male	3,090	3,270	660	410	17.6	11.1
	Female	2,610	3,160	650	420	19.9	11.7
Humphreys	Male	2,270	2,540	360	230	13.7	8.3
	Female	1,770	2,110	380	480	17.7	18.5
Issaquena	Male	400	490	100	100	20.0	16.9
	Female	230	330	50	50	17.9	13.2
Leflore	Male	7,550	7,120	880	630	10.4	8.1
	Female	6,280	6,800	1,320	1,030	17.4	13.2
Panola	Male	6,000	6,390	760	500	11.2	7.3
	Female	4,180	5,360	720	670	14.7	11.1
Quitman	Male	1,630	1,910	330	210	16.8	9.9
	Female	1,160	1,760	290	270	10.0	13.3
Sharkey	Male	1,170	1,560	540	270	31.6	14.8
	Female	840	1,310	330	220	28.2	14.4
Sunflower	Male	7,120	5,600	880	620	11.0	10.0
	Female	5,530	5,130	890	950	13.9	15.6
Tallahatchie	Male	2,730	2,920	360	320	11.4	9.9
	Female	1,890	2,390	380	360	16.7	13.1
Tate	Male	4,910	5,210	420	290	7.9	5.3
	Female	3,490	4,270	460	400	11.6	8.6
Tunica	Male	1,410	1,870	270	140	16.1	7.0
	Female	780	1,650	220	220	22.0	11.8
Warren	Male	11,850	11,690	1,470	860	11.0	6.9
	Female	8,510	10,140	1,490	880	14.9	8.0
Washington	Male	10,040	12,890	1,800	1,170	11.4	8.3
	Female	10,690	11,770	2,470	1,690	18.8	12.6
Yazoo	Male	5,110	4,900	450	370	8.1	7.0
	Female	3,470	4,080	730	500	17.4	10.9
Delta	Male	103,990	104,890	12,300	8,510	10.6	7.5
	Female	75,690	91,330	13,530	10,810	15.2	10.6
Mississippi	Male	588,350	608,700	60,490	35,800	9.3	5.6
	Female	445,650	526,300	56,510	41,200	11.3	7.3

Source: Mississippi Statistical Abstract (1988) and Mississippi Employment Security Commission (September 1994).

¹The Unemployment Rate is the number of unemployed divided by the number in the labor force.

Table 15. Formal Educational Attainment of Adults Aged 25 Years and Older in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Educational Attainment											
	Less than Nine Years		Some High School		High School Graduate		Some College		College Degree		Graduate School	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	32.1	24.1	15.9	21.0	19.9	20.4	11.7	15.6	7.5	9.8	6.6	5.4
Carroll	32.9	23.1	19.6	22.9	24.9	28.6	8.1	11.6	4.6	6.8	2.7	3.5
Coahoma	34.5	24.1	15.5	21.9	19.5	18.2	12.2	15.2	7.5	11.1	4.5	3.6
DeSoto	17.5	11.0	20.2	17.8	37.5	35.9	12.8	20.8	4.8	6.7	2.8	2.8
Holmes	34.0	25.7	17.4	26.3	19.4	21.6	9.9	12.4	6.6	6.2	3.7	3.5
Humphreys	38.1	28.9	15.7	24.8	18.3	20.2	11.3	11.7	6.3	6.6	2.8	3.8
Issaquena	36.5	30.8	17.7	25.6	25.4	22.7	6.8	11.7	4.0	4.2	1.7	1.5
Leflore	30.4	21.5	18.9	21.2	20.5	21.8	11.0	14.3	7.6	10.3	5.5	5.4
Panola	30.6	21.8	21.2	23.8	23.5	28.3	9.7	12.6	5.2	5.7	2.5	3.0
Quitman	37.3	29.2	18.2	25.3	19.0	19.6	9.3	12.3	6.2	6.6	2.0	2.4
Sharkey	32.5	27.1	17.7	21.6	19.9	26.1	9.1	11.4	9.6	9.8	3.8	2.6
Sunflower	34.0	26.0	16.6	24.8	18.5	19.6	11.4	13.5	7.0	8.6	4.3	3.8
Tallahatchie	34.3	28.9	19.8	22.9	20.3	24.8	8.0	12.6	5.6	5.8	2.9	2.1
Tate	25.0	17.4	20.0	21.6	27.0	28.6	13.5	15.2	5.2	7.5	4.0	4.2
Tunica	44.1	29.8	15.2	24.3	15.4	23.9	8.9	10.5	4.3	6.2	2.2	2.4
Warren	19.3	13.6	16.4	18.7	29.0	24.0	14.8	19.0	9.2	12.0	6.5	7.0
Washington	27.0	20.1	17.5	21.2	25.1	25.4	12.4	14.7	7.3	9.3	5.2	5.0
Yazoo	28.4	21.4	18.0	25.2	23.4	23.9	11.6	13.8	6.8	8.2	4.7	3.7
Delta	28.7	20.6	17.8	21.6	24.1	25.2	11.7	15.4	6.8	8.5	4.5	4.2
Mississippi	26.6	15.6	18.3	20.1	28.7	27.5	13.5	16.9	12.9	9.7	NA	5.1

Source: United States Bureau of Census, 1980 and 1990.

Table 16. Number of Persons in the Mississippi Delta Eligible for Medicaid, Percent of Total Population, and Medicaid Payments to Recipients, by County, 1989 and 1993.

County	No. Eligible		Percent of Total Population		Payments to Recipients (\$)	
	1989	1993	1989	1993	1989	1993
Bolivar	14,918	15,256	35.2	36.4	12,974,148	21,877,464
Carroll	1,666	1,796	17.2	19.4	1,269,988	2,264,303
Coahoma	12,221	13,025	35.9	41.1	12,642,212	22,704,933
DeSoto	4,936	6,646	7.0	9.8	3,782,878	9,691,358
Holmes	9,310	9,779	41.2	45.3	6,202,897	11,931,125
Humphreys	4,011	4,566	29.9	37.6	3,051,457	5,807,471
Issaquena	594	636	27.0	33.3	276,104	591,951
Leflore	10,966	12,987	28.7	34.8	11,110,896	20,934,913
Panola	6,878	8,061	22.6	26.9	6,859,345	12,564,787
Quitman	3,947	4,181	36.2	39.9	3,831,708	6,615,721
Sharkey	2,853	2,799	39.6	39.6	2,377,783	4,149,889
Sunflower	9,992	11,053	28.0	33.6	7,120,503	14,584,955
Tallahatchie	5,286	5,412	31.5	35.6	3,938,387	6,625,298
Tate	3,641	3,967	16.5	18.5	3,499,917	6,965,877
Tunica	3,716	3,702	41.8	45.4	2,193,933	3,740,810
Warren	8,567	10,604	17.2	22.2	7,521,025	17,527,228
Washington	19,274	21,787	27.7	32.1	13,442,314	26,037,592
Yazoo	7,555	8,259	28.9	32.4	6,196,237	11,489,323
Delta (Average)	7,241	8,029	25.5	29.5	6,016,211	11,450,278
State (Average)	5,525	6,709	19.8	22.0	5,821,240	11,826,802

Source: Mississippi Division of Medicaid *Annual Report*, 1989 and 1993.

Table 17. Teen Pregnancy Rates in the Mississippi Delta, by Race, by County, and by Year, 1983 through 1994.

County		Pregnancy Rates ¹											
		1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Bolivar	White	48.7	49.6	28.6	36.5	48.5	44.3	40.2	32.0	35.3	32.8	24.6	23.0
	Nonwhite	82.8	94.4	57.1	80.9	94.5	95.5	94.7	83.7	82.0	65.8	76.0	67.1
Carroll	White	18.4	18.4	23.6	21.0	33.4	12.7	27.7	20.2	20.2	27.8	20.2	22.7
	Nonwhite	37.6	39.8	55.6	39.8	66.9	47.1	60.2	60.9	40.6	48.2	50.8	48.2
Coahoma	White	42.1	34.7	40.9	26.0	42.1	28.5	27.6	36.6	42.7	44.2	22.9	38.1
	Nonwhite	100.4	95.7	94.0	84.9	88.3	87.2	91.4	73.9	89.8	80.8	88.6	91.6
DeSoto	White	29.7	33.2	37.3	37.9	39.9	37.1	45.0	41.2	41.2	43.2	38.2	31.3
	Nonwhite	56.0	68.5	48.8	45.6	49.8	44.7	61.8	63.8	90.7	76.1	78.4	76.1
Holmes	White	40.6	43.5	63.8	34.8	37.7	34.9	31.9	22.2	33.2	22.2	33.2	24.9
	Nonwhite	79.8	87.3	74.7	74.1	88.0	74.6	82.7	74.8	74.3	71.4	71.4	70.3
Humphreys	White	52.9	50.1	41.8	33.4	51.4	37.7	32.9	62.5	58.3	50.0	25.0	25.0
	Nonwhite	79.8	96.1	85.1	79.1	78.8	73.8	68.7	61.6	88.9	74.1	63.8	60.4
Issaquena	White	20.4	30.2	10.2	10.2	31.3	21.3	21.5	62.5	46.9	15.6	31.1	31.2
	Nonwhite	98.4	123.0	65.6	32.8	33.3	33.6	25.4	45.4	72.7	63.6	54.8	81.8
Leflore	White	56.8	48.3	57.8	40.7	34.0	32.5	41.9	47.6	48.7	31.0	35.4	25.5
	Nonwhite	88.0	73.9	88.5	73.5	71.5	72.5	82.9	82.3	81.5	93.2	87.6	96.0
Panola	White	35.6	47.1	43.3	44.2	57.0	55.6	56.2	54.9	44.0	52.9	45.0	59.9
	Nonwhite	86.5	73.8	78.5	71.1	77.7	69.9	82.6	69.2	75.3	85.0	86.8	73.5
Quitman	White	54.4	49.2	54.4	36.3	49.5	45.2	37.9	67.9	45.3	67.9	34.0	18.9
	Nonwhite	89.5	70.3	83.2	80.3	99.6	84.2	83.7	87.9	103.9	86.6	77.2	73.2
Sharkey	White	56.7	25.8	36.1	41.2	15.4	10.2	25.4	31.8	12.7	63.7	12.7	63.7
	Nonwhite	99.0	109.1	104.0	88.9	85.4	76.4	81.5	70.0	83.6	63.4	68.2	75.1
Sunflower	White	37.5	26.9	27.0	22.3	25.3	31.5	25.7	39.1	45.0	47.7	31.8	36.7
	Nonwhite	88.8	100.5	107.3	89.3	86.5	92.3	100.8	93.0	41.4	87.0	78.7	77.4
Tallahatchie	White	25.4	37.4	21.6	23.6	36.6	58.0	40.1	72.5	45.2	24.2	16.9	48.3
	Nonwhite	103.3	107.4	89.2	92.2	93.9	119.7	114.0	84.3	91.7	97.2	91.3	77.4

Table 17. (Continued)

County		Pregnancy Rates ¹											
		1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Tate	White	36.1	38.3	55.7	40.4	57.4	40.0	68.5	29.8	50.7	33.4	30.6	26.2
	Nonwhite	69.1	51.2	71.7	39.7	52.0	73.4	88.4	64.5	80.4	57.3	45.4	59.7
Tunica	White	19.4	24.3	53.4	29.1	25.3	15.5	21.2	53.0	50.0	22.7	30.3	7.6
	Nonwhite	107.3	89.8	76.1	89.7	78.2	101.8	103.7	89.1	93.1	75.8	58.5	75.8
Warren	White	33.8	30.3	27.1	20.4	29.3	27.8	31.6	37.6	48.1	29.1	37.6	37.1
	Nonwhite	80.7	75.1	63.0	61.5	62.1	59.9	57.9	68.4	65.0	76.9	78.4	79.9
Washington	White	35.9	38.6	48.5	34.1	30.3	34.0	36.9	46.0	44.4	30.8	40.4	31.3
	Nonwhite	71.3	84.1	83.2	75.8	74.3	70.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yazoo	White	41.3	41.3	44.6	37.9	23.5	24.7	37.1	49.4	40.3	27.3	39.0	41.6
	Nonwhite	89.1	80.4	97.3	78.3	70.2	87.4	91.4	84.5	90.8	88.7	97.2	85.2
Delta	White	35.3	37.1	40.4	33.6	36.2	35.1	39.5	41.9	41.4	37.3	34.7	33.3
	Nonwhite	79.0	82.3	83.8	76.4	76.3	77.6	75.3	79.1	82.4	75.2	76.0	79.8
Mississippi	White	83.1	35.9	36.1	33.0	33.2	34.3	36.4	39.0	39.2	36.0	34.2	34.0
	Nonwhite	71.5	71.3	69.5	65.4	66.4	69.0	74.4	69.3	70.7	69.8	70.6	69.3

Source: Vital Statistics, Mississippi State Department of Health, 1987 and 1993.

¹Pregnancy Rate = Live Births + Fetal Deaths + Induced Terminations per 1,000 female population ages 10-19.

Table 18. Average Teen Pregnancy Rates in the Mississippi Delta, by Race and by County, 1983-1987 and 1988-1994.

County		1983-1987	1988-1994
Bolivar	White	40.2	31.9
	Nonwhite	81.5	79.4
Carroll	White	20.8	24.4
	Nonwhite	45.7	46.1
Coahoma	White	33.5	35.2
	Nonwhite	83.6	85.2
DeSoto	White	36.0	39.2
	Nonwhite	46.7	68.7
Holmes	White	35.0	30.3
	Nonwhite	74.4	72.2
Humphreys	White	44.1	47.4
	Nonwhite	80.3	72.2
Issaquena	White	20.8	38.1
	Nonwhite	58.9	54.5
Leflore	White	44.4	45.6
	Nonwhite	72.3	83.5
Panola	White	39.7	53.8
	Nonwhite	68.2	70.0
Quitman	White	45.4	51.0
	Nonwhite	77.0	81.9
Sharkey	White	35.8	37.5
	Nonwhite	91.4	76.3
Sunflower	White	26.5	39.0
	Nonwhite	87.4	82.4
Tallahatchie	White	26.5	42.6
	Nonwhite	86.4	89.4
Tate	White	40.4	34.5
	Nonwhite	50.2	60.9
Tunica	White	30.8	36.7
	Nonwhite	79.4	75.9
Warren	White	27.4	36.9
	Nonwhite	67.6	68.8
Washington	White	35.6	41.2
	Nonwhite	76.3	80.8
Yazoo	White	36.5	37.8
	Nonwhite	77.2	87.2
Delta	White	36.9	38.2
	Nonwhite	78.7	78.5
Mississippi	White	33.9	37.0
	Nonwhite	63.4	68.0

Table 19. Average Employee Weekly Salary in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1989 and 1993.

County	Average Weekly Salary (\$)	
	1989	1994
Bolivar	272	347
Carroll	221	290
Coahoma	267	363
DeSoto	315	398
Holmes	225	303
Humphreys	225	306
Issaquena	192	254
Leflore	265	347
Panola	268	346
Quitman	213	293
Sharkey	219	278
Sunflower	264	339
Tallahatchie	197	276
Tate	266	330
Tunica	215	359
Warren	300	370
Washington	286	367
Yazoo	293	368
Delta	250	330
Mississippi	301	385

Source: *Mississippi Statistical Abstract 1989* (Mississippi State University Division of Research, College of Business and Industry), Mississippi Employment Security Commission, August, 1995.

Table 20. Total Population and Number and Percentage Below the Poverty Level in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Population		Number Persons Below Poverty		Percent of Persons Below Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	45,965	41,875	17,996	17,158	39.2	41.0
Carroll	9,776	9,237	2,918	2,623	29.8	28.4
Coahoma	36,918	31,665	14,700	13,997	39.8	44.2
DeSoto	53,930	67,910	8,351	7,296	15.5	10.7
Holmes	22,970	21,604	10,525	11,266	45.8	52.1
Humphreys	13,931	12,134	6,186	5,479	44.4	45.2
Issaquena	2,513	1,909	918	939	36.5	49.2
Leflore	41,525	37,341	13,713	13,987	33.0	37.5
Panola	28,164	29,996	9,608	10,031	34.1	33.4
Quitman	12,636	10,490	5,212	4,315	41.2	41.1
Sharkey	7,964	7,066	3,484	3,305	43.7	46.8
Sunflower	34,844	32,867	12,688	12,302	36.4	37.3
Tallahatchie	17,157	15,210	7,437	6,328	43.3	41.6
Tate	20,119	21,432	4,903	4,632	24.4	21.6
Tunica	9,652	8,164	5,088	4,597	52.7	56.3
Warren	51,627	47,880	9,491	10,604	18.4	22.1
Washington	72,344	67,935	23,761	22,671	32.8	33.4
Yazoo	27,349	25,506	9,826	9,861	35.9	38.7
Delta (average)	28,299	27,236	9,267	8,966	32.7	32.9
State (average)	30,739	31,381	7,964	7,695	25.9	24.5

Source: U. S. Census of Population 1980 and 1990.

Table 21. Total Black Population and Number and Percent Below the Poverty Level in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Black Population		Number Below Poverty		Percent Below Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	28,567	26,430	16,233	15,290	56.8	57.9
Carroll	4,425	3,657	2,094	1,935	47.3	52.9
Coahoma	23,631	20,511	13,460	12,676	57.0	61.8
DeSoto	9,596	8,684	4,837	3,457	50.4	39.8
Holmes	16,339	16,386	9,731	10,663	59.6	65.1
Humphreys	9,145	8,260	5,630	4,938	61.6	59.8
Issaquena	1,397	1,076	766	720	54.8	66.9
Leflore	24,553	22,684	12,059	12,217	49.1	53.9
Panola	13,785	14,542	7,043	7,739	51.1	53.2
Quitman	7,074	6,134	4,240	3,420	59.9	55.8
Sharkey	5,229	4,691	2,896	3,046	55.4	64.9
Sunflower	21,611	21,079	11,281	11,073	52.2	52.5
Tallahatchie	9,823	8,881	5,624	5,113	57.3	57.8
Tate	7,735	7,418	3,481	2,983	45.0	40.2
Tunica	7,050	6,155	4,707	4,316	66.8	70.1
Warren	19,301	18,620	7,696	8,584	39.9	46.1
Washington	40,216	39,296	19,632	19,896	48.8	50.6
Yazoo	14,051	13,431	8,537	8,013	60.8	59.7
Delta(average)	14,640	13,774	7,775	7,560	53.1	54.9
Mississippi (average)	10,819	11,169	4,791	5,031	44.3	45.0

Source: U. S. Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

Table 22. Total Number of Families and Number and Percent Below the Poverty Level in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Number of Families		Number of Families Below Poverty		Percent of Families Below Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	10,395	9,910	3,304	3,504	31.8	35.4
Carroll	2,536	2,539	634	605	25.0	23.8
Coahoma	8,530	7,542	2,606	2,760	30.6	36.6
DeSoto	14,411	19,492	1,750	1,632	12.1	8.4
Holmes	5,322	5,224	2,081	2,377	39.1	45.5
Humphreys	3,313	2,887	1,162	1,105	35.1	38.3
Issaquena	593	494	165	212	27.8	42.9
Leflore	9,532	8,985	2,577	2,828	27.0	31.5
Panola	7,135	7,684	1,966	1,971	27.6	25.7
Quitman	3,104	2,550	958	863	30.9	33.8
Sharkey	1,767	1,608	653	625	37.0	38.9
Sunflower	7,610	7,104	2,281	2,453	30.0	34.7
Tallahatchie	4,179	3,726	1,438	1,284	34.4	34.4
Tate	4,948	5,667	1,027	954	20.8	16.8
Tunica	2,084	1,899	933	959	44.8	50.5
Warren	13,134	12,790	1,827	2,342	13.9	18.3
Washington	17,435	16,789	4,580	4,681	26.3	27.9
Yazoo	6,912	6,441	1,908	2,046	27.6	31.8
Delta (Average)	6,830	6,852	1,785	1,845	26.1	26.9
Mississippi (Average)	7,837	8,283	1,476	1,671	18.8	20.2

Source: U. S. Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

Table 23. Total Number of Female Headed Families, Number of Female Headed Families Below Poverty, and the Percentage Below Poverty in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Number of Female Headed Families		Number of Female Headed Families Below Poverty		Percent Below Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	2,586	3,514	1,588	2,281	61.4	64.9
Carroll	366	409	148	223	40.4	54.5
Coahoma	2,179	2,712	1,138	1,786	52.2	65.9
DeSoto	1,593	2,563	539	737	33.8	28.8
Holmes	1,387	2,100	856	1,500	61.7	71.4
Humphreys	779	959	557	648	71.5	67.6
Issaquena	84	97	46	72	54.8	74.2
Leflore	2,293	3,019	1,086	1,846	47.4	61.2
Panola	1,263	1,627	636	839	50.4	51.8
Quitman	593	688	312	476	52.6	69.2
Sharkey	363	530	211	375	58.1	70.8
Sunflower	1,582	2,297	883	1,423	55.8	62.0
Tallahatchie	839	1,012	467	646	55.7	63.8
Tate	750	977	328	455	43.7	46.8
Tunica	491	625	255	495	51.9	79.2
Warren	2,312	2,884	863	1,564	37.3	54.2
Washington	4,208	4,914	2,156	2,984	51.2	60.7
Yazoo	1,390	1,871	799	1,219	57.5	65.2
Delta (average)	1,393	1,822	707	1,087	50.7	59.7
Mississippi (average)	1,265	1,729	504	874	39.8	50.6

Source: U. S. Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

Table 24. Total Number of Children and Percent Below the Poverty Level in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Number of Children ¹		Percent of Children Below Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	17,289	14,156	52.3	54.3
Carroll	3,083	2,640	35.5	37.3
Coahoma	13,357	10,819	52.6	46.1
DeSoto	19,383	19,625	19.9	13.9
Holmes	NA	7,653	NA	67.8
Humphreys	5,388	4,374	56.5	57.9
Issaquena	947	622	45.3	61.9
Leflore	14,101	12,119	45.9	52.9
Panola	9,839	9,618	43.0	44.9
Quitman	4,743	3,519	53.4	51.5
Sharkey	3,043	2,601	52.8	57.8
Sunflower	12,229	10,531	51.0	53.7
Tallahatchie	6,348	5,042	55.3	53.5
Tate	6,395	6,298	31.4	30.5
Tunica	3,907	3,100	63.8	66.2
Warren	16,786	14,294	24.3	29.2
Washington	26,429	23,294	42.6	44.5
Yazoo	9,381	8,321	49.8	52.1
Delta (average)	9,790	8,813	45.6	44.7
State (average)	9,326	9,114	30.4	33.3

Source: U. S. Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

¹Population under 18 years of age.

Table 25. Number of Elderly and Number and Percent Below the Poverty Level in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Number of Elderly ¹		Number Below Poverty		Percent Below Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	5,538	5,190	2,239	1,949	40.4	37.6
Carroll	1,440	1,402	583	519	40.5	37.0
Coahoma	4,825	4,496	1,966	1,839	40.7	40.9
DeSoto	3,713	5,612	1,108	1,128	29.8	20.1
Holmes	3,408	3,085	1,560	1,307	45.8	42.4
Humphreys	1,828	1,551	776	638	42.5	41.1
Issaquena	275	247	121	144	44.0	58.3
Leflore	5,245	5,231	1,849	1,810	35.3	34.6
Panola	3,897	3,960	1,582	1,402	40.6	35.4
Quitman	1,796	1,650	739	691	41.1	41.9
Sharkey	935	854	383	341	41.0	39.9
Sunflower	4,228	4,122	1,651	1,691	39.0	41.0
Tallahatchie	2,382	2,185	946	892	39.7	40.8
Tate	2,328	2,554	729	711	31.3	27.8
Tunica	1,250	976	576	423	46.1	43.3
Warren	5,810	6,197	1,585	1,649	27.3	26.6
Washington	8,119	8,139	2,939	2,586	36.2	31.8
Yazoo	3,822	3,770	1,271	1,253	33.3	33.2
Delta	60,839	61,221	22,603	20,973	37.2	34.3
Mississippi	289,338	321,245	95,035	90,243	32.8	28.1

Source: U. S. Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

¹Population 65 years of age or older.

Table 26. Total Population and Percent Below 150 Percent of the Poverty Level in the Mississippi Delta, by County, 1980 and 1990.

County	Population		Percent of Population Below 150% of Poverty	
	1980	1990	1980	1990
Bolivar	45,965	41,876	56.0	54.3
Carroll	9,776	9,238	48.2	47.1
Coahoma	36,918	31,666	56.5	56.7
DeSoto	53,930	67,911	24.3	19.9
Holmes	22,970	21,605	61.9	66.8
Humphreys	13,931	12,135	60.0	60.1
Issaquena	2,513	1,910	54.0	58.8
Leflore	41,525	37,342	51.0	50.8
Panola	28,164	29,997	49.6	45.6
Quitman	12,636	10,494	58.7	57.7
Sharkey	7,964	7,067	64.8	61.1
Sunflower	34,844	32,868	56.0	50.0
Tallahatchie	17,157	15,211	60.4	58.2
Tate	20,119	21,433	40.8	33.9
Tunica	9,652	8,165	70.9	70.9
Warren	51,627	47,881	28.3	33.6
Washington	72,344	67,936	48.2	46.5
Yazoo	27,349	25,507	51.8	53.3
Delta	509,384	490,221	52.3	45.7
Mississippi	2,520,638	2,573,216	41.2	37.3

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1980 and 1990.

The Social Science Research Center (SSRC) has over 45 years experience analyzing economic and social issues in Mississippi, the southeastern region and the nation. Some 45 research fellows, cooperating faculty and research associates, supported by an administrative staff and graduate and undergraduate research assistants annually conduct around 20-25 sponsored and numerous unsponsored research projects. The SSRC is a university-level, multi-disciplinary research unit, organized with university-wide responsibilities under supervision of the Vice President for Research. The SSRC has administrative responsibilities, for certain programs, to the Director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES). The Center also serves as the administrative home of the National Black Graduate Student Association and has had administrative responsibility for the conduct of the Mississippi Alcohol Safety Education Program since its inception as an offshoot of an SSRC research project in 1972. Total expenditures for research and development activities in the Center exceed three million dollars a year. The Center has a strong tradition of research, development and evaluation projects in the areas of social and economic development, the family and children, community development, alcohol safety and substance abuse, race relations, information-age societal monitoring, natural resources, gaming, social services, and crime, delinquency and justice.

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May 18, 1999

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President
United States Of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500-0005

Dear President Clinton:

I write this letter to renew the requests for you to visit the state of Mississippi. Early this year, Congressman Shows and I made a request for you to do an education event in our districts. Unfortunately, scheduling the event prior to the close of this session of school was not possible.

You stated in your recent speech at the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights annual dinner and, it has been reported in several news articles, that you are planning to visit several states in promotion of your "New Markets" initiative. The Mississippi Delta has been specifically mentioned as an area you plan to visit. Therefore, you can understand my interest in having you include the area I represent as your "Mississippi Delta" site to visit. I would hope that you will take this opportunity to visit the Second Congressional district specifically as my constituents have been your strongest supporters in Mississippi.

I would like to discuss this request with you immediately as I'm certain the time frame for finalizing the scheduling of your various stops is very limited. Please contact me to discuss this further, or have a member of your staff contact my Administrative Assistant, Ms. Marsha McCraven. I look forward to hearing from you and finally having you visit the state of Mississippi and my district.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress

BGT:mm

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U.S. Department of
Transportation

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Assistant Secretary

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

P. 1/7

Date: June 17, 1999

To: Lisa Green 456-2223

From: Marianne Smith

Please review
a sap and share with
Lynn Cutler / others as
appropriate.

—
Miss
Delta
—



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

3/19/99

MEMORANDUM TO: William J. Clinton
President of the United States

FROM: Rodney E. Slater *RES*

SUBJECT: Lower Mississippi Delta Initiative

During the past decade, you have led efforts at both the State and Federal levels to better the living conditions of the residents of the Lower Mississippi Delta Region. The vision you articulated in the 1990 report "Realizing the Dream... Fulfilling the Promise" resulted in a new emphasis by Federal agencies as well as State governments to provide resources to the Delta region. A recent trip to Arkansas served as a reminder not only of how much has been accomplished in the Delta region but also how much work remains to be done.

In late February, while in east Arkansas to make two Department of Transportation announcements that reflect and reaffirm your vision of the Delta Region's tremendous potential, we had the opportunity to provide the Delta Region the Federal recognition it both richly deserves and desperately needs. In Marianna (Lee County) Congressman Berry and I announced \$450,000 in Federal-aid funds for a study to determine the feasibility of an Interstate quality road between Pine Bluff and Memphis, generally following the existing US Highway 79. The event, which was attended by municipal, county and state government officials and local business representatives from the nine surrounding counties, was a gathering of many long-time friends and supporters. All who were gathered share a vision for the future of the region and an understanding as to the benefits of what such a highway would mean to their lives.

During the same trip, the Administration's commitment to the region was further celebrated at ASU in Jonesboro. Senator Lincoln, Congressman Berry and I were joined by a crowd of over 500 of your long-time friends and supporters for the "Thanks a Million Celebration" on the occasion of the formal dedication of the Crowley's Ridge Parkway as one of 53 National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads. (The Parkway traverses eight counties: Clay, Greene, Craighead, Poinsett, Cross, St. Francis, Lee and Phillips.) Arkansas has been recognized by the Federal Highway Administration as a model for the manner in which it developed and implemented a strategic plan that resulted in the designation. The fruits of this cooperative effort were awards totaling

\$1,036,524 in fiscal year 1999 discretionary funds to undertake three projects along Crowley's Ridge. The tremendous potential of these funds is reflected by the economic and workforce development opportunities for which they will be used. This Federal investment will provide for development of educational and promotional material for the Parkway and a visitor/interpretive center in Pigott, as well as establishment of a student internship and service learning program in association with the management and development of a hiking/biking trail and an African-American tour along the Parkway.

The accomplishments this Administration has achieved in the Delta Region have been significant, and a visionary and vigilant Department of Transportation has been in the forefront of this effort with Federal funding and technical assistance. We have sponsored new highways such as the Great River Road, transit systems, port projects and improved intermodal planning. In the six years following the submission of the report to then-President Bush, over 365,000 new jobs were created in the Delta region. At the same time, we have worked with many other Federal agencies that have made significant contributions in their own areas. However, whether the need is for education, housing or community development, transportation is the tie that binds because transportation investments can have a significant impact on creating employment and giving access to opportunity.

Ten (10) Federal agencies have collaborated in a new partnership to refocus our effort on the Delta region and to ensure our active engagement in meeting the objectives of the 1990 Commission report. We must redouble our focus and commitment if your vision as first expressed is to become a reality for the entire Delta Region. These agencies are committed to the principles that first brought the Delta Commission together almost 10 years ago. Now is the time to further energize the effort you began in 1990 as we prepare to enter the new century and the new millennium. It is time to prepare for a new Delta initiative – one that will take us to a new level. Your support and encouragement will ensure the enthusiastic involvement of your entire Administration, thereby building upon the accomplishments already realized to accelerate our progress toward a brighter and more fulfilling life for the people of the Mississippi Delta region. This memorandum describes some of the accomplishments of the past decade, some unfinished tasks and some important proposals for future action.

Background

In 1988, Congress enacted legislation proposed by Senator Dale Bumpers establishing the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission, a bipartisan commission to study and make recommendations regarding economic needs, problems and opportunities in, and to develop a 10-year economic development plan for, the Delta region. The Commission, which you chaired, made recommendations on developing human capital, natural and physical resources, private enterprise and the environment. In 1990, the Commission submitted to then-President Bush an aggressive, ambitious plan for the development of the region that included some 400 recommendations, 55 of which were in transportation.

Five years later, during my tenure as Federal Highway Administrator, an update to the report with respect to transportation actions was prepared. Through that update, our major finding was that improved transportation—the connection to the rest of the nation and the world—meant more jobs and greater opportunity.

On April 16, 1998, a Partnership Agreement was entered among community leaders and organizations in the Delta region Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities and Champion Communities to work cooperatively to achieve sustainable economic and human development to raise the quality of life in the Lower Mississippi Delta. Vice President Gore, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman and I witnessed the signing of the Southern Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community Forum Partnership Agreement in New Orleans.

In July 1998, "The Delta: Beyond 2000" conference was convened in Memphis. The result of this conference was that ten Federal agencies (DOT, USDA, Commerce, HUD, HHS, DOL, Education, DOI, SBA and EPA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that established a framework for cooperation between the participating agencies on economic revitalization in the Delta region. The participating agencies agreed to work together through a Federal Working Group Task Force with State and local leaders to develop a thorough assessment and plan of action and to provide appropriate assistance when and where needed in the Delta region, subject to statutory and budgetary limitations (see attached MOU). This interim assessment and plan will be completed within 10 in the spring of 1999, and a final report will be completed in the spring of 2000.

Actions growing out of these agreements have proceeded in the interim, and the resources and commitments are in place to continue working toward the goals laid out by the Commission into the next millennium.

The Impact of Federal Resources

There are many examples of the way in which Federal resources have been targeted at and tailored for applications in the Delta. (The interim assessment will provide more complete information.)

Spending authority provided by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), as well as the President's budgets have made available to the states in the Delta region substantial amounts of transportation funds that can and have been used to support the economic development goals of the region. With the stimulus of these funds and through the participation and cooperation of State and local transportation authorities, substantial improvements in the transportation system have been realized; and others are well along in the programming process.

In the three States--Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi—that have the largest share of their counties in the Delta region, Federal transportation expenditures were more than \$1.2 billion in FY 1998 and are projected to increase to \$1.5 billion in FY2000.

By FY2000, the annual level of spending for Federal transportation programs in these three states is estimated to increase by nearly 40 percent over the FY 1995 level.

Since 1990, upgrading of more than 700 miles of highways and numerous bridges in the region has been completed and a great deal more is in the pipeline;

The airports at Memphis and Belleville, IL have been expanded, and airport planning studies for Tunica, MS, and a new regional facility in New Orleans are in progress.

Under the leadership of DOT's Maritime Administration in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee, Federal, state and industry representatives have joined together to assure that maritime assets are integrated into intermodal transportation plans. Work on harbor improvements and river navigation projects has been completed in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee.

The Federal Transit Administration is playing an important role in light rail and intermodal terminal projects in Memphis and transit improvements in Little Rock, New Orleans and Baton Rouge, as well as providing support for elderly and handicapped and rural transit in locations across the Delta region.

The Administration's Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities (EZ/EC) program is a powerful initiative designed to create solutions to community problems of endemic poverty, high unemployment and general distress.

The EZ/EC Round I communities included eight rural and six urban EZs and ECs in the seven Mississippi Delta states. In 1997, Congress authorized USDA to designate an additional five Empowerment Zones, one of which is in the Delta.

In each community, EZ/EC Title XX Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds leveraged much larger funding from Federal, state, local, private sector and non-profit sector sources. The total amount Delta communities drew down from EZ/EC Title XX SSBG funds was approximately \$10.2 million; however, the total funding leveraged by these funds amounted to roughly ten times as much, or about \$107.4 million.

In response to the 1990 Commission report stressing the importance of education, the US Department of Education is working in cooperation with state and local officials to improve math and sciences education in the Delta. For example, through the Southeastern Regional Vision for Education (SERVE) the Delta Technology Partnership was created with two high schools to support the integration of technology into their

curriculum, in addition to installation of the equipment and needed training for both students and staff.

Another outgrowth of the 1990 Delta Commission report is the emphasis on the vital need for Delta residents to have access to an effective health care system. One report recommendation stressed the importance of prenatal health care through the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, Medicaid, and food stamps. In response, Congress and Federal agencies have worked to reconcile differences in eligibility requirements. For example, a person who participates in the Food Stamp, Temporary Assistance Program for Needy Families (TANF), or Medicaid Program automatically meets the income eligibility requirement for the WIC program.

Protecting the environment while growing the economy of the Delta region has also been an emphasis of the Federal and state governments. Since 1990, the Fish and Wildlife Service has restored about 22,000 acres of wetlands on National Wildlife Refuges in the Lower Mississippi Valley. The Environmental Protection Agency has expended approximately \$250 million for the construction of approximately 854 projects aimed at protecting and restoring all Louisiana's coast.

Closing

You have provided strong and continuing leadership to move the Administration's efforts targeted at the Lower Mississippi Delta region to a higher level. We have only begun to fulfill the potential of the Delta region and to realize the promise that was outlined in the 1990 report of the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission. Recently I have had an opportunity to discuss the needs of the Delta Region with John Podesta, Bruce Reed, Gene Sperling and Lynn Cutler in order to further the Administration's efforts in the Delta. I commit to you that the Department of Transportation will work aggressively with other Federal and State agencies to focus their resources on continuing improvements in the economic condition of the Delta region.

The initiatives and incentives you proposed in your State of the Union Address and FY 2000 budget will give us the tools we need to move from strength to strength—to build upon our successes to date and reenergize the Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiative. This is our mutual goal with the private sector. Your proposed New Markets Initiative, including the targeted tax credits and loan guarantees, America's Private Investment Companies, Small Business Investment Companies, and New Market Venture Capital, will encourage private sector capital and bring jobs and economic development to the greatest untapped urban, rural and farm markets. DOT is joined by nine Federal agencies to help you turn this proposal into reality for the citizens of the Lower Mississippi Delta Region.

During my intermodal tour in April, I will travel through both Appalachia and the Delta, consistent with the recent visit to Appalachia by Secretary Cuomo. During this trip, we would like to announce, with your approval, the creation of a group of strong and diverse

Leaders who will help us to combine the resources of the Federal participants, draw on the talents and pride of the people of the Delta region, and compound that synergy with the goals available in the private sector. Persons of the stature of former U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers and Mike Espy should be appointed to lead this bi-partisan group. Further, because of the diverse ethnic backgrounds of the region's residents and the historically strained relations among the races, this group would provide an opportunity to address our vision of One America and advance that initiative as well. In order to achieve our mutual goals for the Delta region and further the efforts of this initiative, we must engage businessmen, community and business leaders to advance your agenda. Those leaders can help to promote new industry investments, sustainable economic development, environmental protection consistent with economic growth, improved health care and education, and access to quality essential services for all residents of the Delta region. There is so much potential for private sector involvement: Federal Express, Entergy, Kellogg, Tysons Foods, and others, can and should be enlisted to advance your agenda and create a stronger workforce and atmosphere in order to expand existing and promote new industry in the region. For example, large corporations rely on small businesses for many goods and services. The Federal government is positioned to play a role in creating demand for the products of Delta region businesses by first challenging large corporations headquartered in the Delta to look to their own backyards for the goods and services they need, thereby encouraging the growth of small business that could, eventually, expand to serving larger markets.

Finally, we should continue, in the spirit of the Vice President's reinventing government initiative, to coordinate the Federal agency efforts and educate and promote the maximum utilization of existing services in the region to those who are in a position to take advantage of such resources. Every agency has regional, division, or satellite offices that can take government to the people through educational workshops and information sharing, thus creating a user-friendly, mutually-beneficial relationship among Federal, state and local leaders. The Administration's legacy should ensure long-term partnerships between local communities with the Federal government's support.

Q & A s for Carl

Laura A. Graham
06/26/99 07:43:14 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc: Barbara B. Hunt/WHO/EOP@EOP
Subject: Clarksdale Housing Moratorium - Update

This is what the Mayor of Clarksdale and the State Rep. have told us. Since we are proposing that Potus visit a low-income house on this stop, please check with people you know on the ground there to verify this information. Leg is checking with Rep. Thompson. Obviously we should not visit a house in the SE area, but assuming the Mayor's version is accurate, it sounds like we could continue with our housing stop, but please advise on your thoughts by Monday afternoon. Thanks.

There is a moratorium on low income multi-family dwellings for the Southeast section of the city only. He and the State Rep. for that district, claim that this area includes 3000 residents who live in gov't assisted low income housing and 1000 residents who do not. A developer wanted to construct a 5th low income housing unit in this area. The more well-to-do residents of this area protested this to the board of commissioners, who in turn voted unianimously to issue the moratorium. The city is now being sued by the developer. Residents on both sides of the issue are predominantly African American. They both claim that this is not an issue city wide b/c the moratorium is only limiting construction in the SE area. The developer is welcomed to build anywhere else.

Message Sent To:

Anne E. McGuire/WHO/EOP@EOP
Stephanie A. Cutter/WHO/EOP@EOP
Orson C. Porter/WHO/EOP@EOP
Elizabeth R. Newman/WHO/EOP@EOP
Lisa Green/OPD/EOP@EOP
Janelle E. Erickson/WHO/EOP@EOP
Marjorie Tarmey/WHO/EOP@EOP
Lynn G. Cutler/WHO/EOP@EOP
Adrienne C. Lavalley/WHO/EOP@EOP

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	From Minyon Moore; RE: phone number [partial] (1 page)	06/30/1999	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Policy Development
Lisa Green
OA/Box Number: 20590

FOLDER TITLE:

Mississippi [2]

2012-0043-S
ms234

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

add to message

[001]

Minyon Moore
06/30/99 06:18:03 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Henry Espy

I rec'd a call from Henry Espy indicating that the Clarksdale community does not feel apart of the President's visit and that there is increasing restlessness on the part of the leaders about what is happening. I informed him that the plans were still evolving and that we want to make sure we handle the community in the appropriate and respectful way. He further mentioned that we should consider having the President speak with a group of children from the Coahoma Opportunities Program Center. Can someone please call Henry and include him in this process.

601 621-1414

P6(b)(6)

THANKS!

Message Sent To:

Laura A. Graham/WHO/EOP@EOP
Tanya L. Lombard/WHO/EOP@EOP
Maria Echaveste/WHO/EOP@EOP
Lisa Green/OPD/EOP@EOP
Jonathan A. Kaplan/OPD/EOP@EOP
Lynn G. Cutler/WHO/EOP@EOP

- Specialty Plastics Company

Made-to-order which just added second plant next door; defense contractor that produces tents, backpacks

- Jackson County Court House, Mckee KY

-discussion with local and natl business reps (Natl: Ashland Oil, EcoLab, IBM)

Annaheim, CA

Tbd

Los Angeles

Labor

- Maxine Waters Employment Preparation Center

Tour computer lab and/or auto mechanics training facility; born as a result of the 1965 Watts riots

- Locke High School

LA Metro Transit Authority donated 16 mutlimedia computers to support a School-To Work project to Transportation Careers Academy; more than 600 students have completed program

- Youth Opportunities Unlimited Alternative School
Proposed site to announce the Youth Opportunity Movement

- St. Francis Career Center

Ha strained 463 people in vocational, nursing, allied health and certified Nurse Assistant/Home health care. Program was the recipient of Presidential Award from the CA Career Education Association in Feb 199, nominated for the Employer of the year Award in Aug 1998 by the City of LA and received Outstanding Employer of the Year from City of LA in 1995.

Clarksdale, MS

Ag

- Aaron E. Henry Community Health Center

African-American owned health center that provides family and pediatric physician services, mid-level practitioners, social services, Medicaid eligibility, WIC, school based clinic services, prenatal care, lab, pharmacy, patient education, HIV/AIDS education activities

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS FUND

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Lisa Green FROM: Maurice Jones
ORGANIZATION: NEC DATE: 6/15/99
FAX NUMBER: 456-2223 TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 18
PHONE NUMBER: 456-2803 PHONE NUMBER: 622-8444

☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION

NOTES/COMMENTS:

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2012-0043-S

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NORTH WEST, SUITE 200 SOUTH
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
TELEPHONE: (202) 622-8662
FACSIMILE: (202) 622-7754

delivered

456-2223 Jan

The Enterprise Corporation of the Delta and New Markets in the Delta

Background

The Enterprise Corporation of the Delta (ECD) is a private, not-for-profit community development financial institution that seeks to produce and stimulate measurable improvements in the economy of the impoverished delta regions of Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, and in lives of area residents.

ECD has established a strong track record of providing financing and management assistance to Delta firms and retaining and creating jobs. ECD works in close tandem with the region's banks, educational institutions, public agencies, non-profits and other related entities.

ECD's board is composed of some of the region's most prominent business and civic leaders. Notably this includes the chairman of Wal-Mart, the past chairman of the US Chamber of Commerce and a former Governor. ECD's staff represents vast experience in financing, business, and community development.

The Delta

The Delta is one of the most economically distressed regions in the United States. Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi consistently rank among the lowest in the nation on most socioeconomic indicators, and the Delta generally ranks at the bottom of such indicators for each of the three states.

Characteristics of the Delta compared with the United States as a whole include:

	<u>Delta</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Percent Age 25+ Not a High School	44.3%	24.8%
Percent Change in Population – 1990-	2.2%	5.1%
Percent African American – 1990	34.4%	12.1%
Percent Living Below Poverty Level –	27.9%	13.1%
Median Household Income – 1990	\$16,583	\$30,056

In conjunction with Bain & Company, ECD analyzed the total dollar amount of commercial loans and venture capital in the Delta, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and the United States, compared with the size of the economy (e.g., gross revenues) for each area. This analysis identified a commercial financing gap in excess of \$1 billion in the Delta compared with commercial financing provided in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. The gap is \$2.45 billion when the Delta is compared with the United States as a whole.

Poor education, out-migration and scarcity of resources serve as a few of the major barriers to business development in the Delta. Heavily influenced by the historical dominance of plantation agriculture, low wages, limited training opportunities and inequalities persist and limit the social and economic development of the Region and its approximately 1.6 million residents.

Companies in the Delta report a similar absence of high-quality technical assistance. Studies consistently document that emerging companies consider non-financial assistance of comparable importance to capital availability. Traditional assistance providers typically do not locate in and do not target the Delta, for some of the same reasons that apply to banks. State economic development efforts focus on industrial recruiting in more populous areas. Similarly, high-quality private assistance providers are almost nonexistent in the region.

ECD Products & Services

- Business Financing - debt, venture capital, municipal bonds, joint ventures, loan participations
- Technical Assistance – Extensive use of private engineering, accounting, marketing, general management consultants; Partnerships with public business assistance programs; Delta-wide entrepreneurial training partnership with six universities and community colleges and others
- Delta Reinvestment Fund - loan administration and secondary market services for revolving loan funds and bank CRA programs

Partnerships

ECD has established strong partnerships with:

- *Corporations* – Wal-Mart, Entergy, Blue Cross/Blue Shield are among several corporations that provide funding and other support to ECD.
- *Banks* – Seventeen banks have invested in ECD's affiliate, ECD Investments, LLC. ECD regularly participates on projects with banks and other finance providers.
- *Foundations* – ECD receives funding from several national and regional foundations and often advises these groups in the area of business/community/ rural development.
- *State and local government* – ECD initiated an agreement with the state economic development agencies for Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi that has resulted in increased use of state business development resources in the Delta.
- *Educational Institutions* – Six universities and community colleges administer the FastTrac entrepreneurial training program for ECD throughout the Delta.
- *Enterprise Communities* – ECD was a founder of the Southern Enterprise Communities Forum, a regional collaborative that includes Enterprise Communities in several mid-south states (Vice President Gore signed as a witness to the collaborative agreement)

ECD works with several federal agencies:

- *USDA* – ECD is a Business and Industry Guaranteed Lender
- *Treasury* – ECD was one of the first recipients of CDFI funding and is an aggressive user of the Bank Enterprise Awards program.
- *Commerce* – ECD spearheaded an agreement between ECD, NIST and the NIST-funded manufacturing extension programs in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi that increases technical assistance to Delta businesses. Also, ECD's Delta

Reinvestment Fund project seeks to provide secondary market and loan administration support to EDA-funded loan funds in our region.

- *SBA* – ECD anticipates approval as a SBA 7A lender within the coming weeks.

ECD Impact Summary (*through 3/30/99*)

- Businesses Assisted - 693
- Minority-owned – 292
- Female-owned - 345
- Financing Commitments
- ECD - \$21 million
- Leveraged from other sources - \$35 million
- Jobs Affected - 5,993
- Annual Sales Impact - \$ 221million

ECD is undertaking an ambitious five-year plan to build on its success. ECD's plans aim to increase the Delta's job growth rate from 3% to 4% over the next five years.

Successful implementation of this plan requires significant resources. To accomplish this growth ECD formed ECD Investments, LLC (ECDI) as a for-profit affiliate company to raise investment capital from private sources. To date 17 banks have invested in ECDI. (15 took advantage of the CDFI Fund's Bank Enterprise Awards program). Recently, ECDI created a class of investments designed to appeal to individual and institutional investors. Initial investors in this vehicle include Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield and John Palmer, Chairman of SkyTel. While this support is promising, as with most distressed areas and communities, ECD needs to import capital from outside its home region. The New Markets initiatives proposed by President Clinton would provide a significant boost to these efforts.

Seedco

Partnerships for Community Development

Facsimile Transmission

To: Lisa Green Date: June 24, 1999
Company: National Economic Council Fax #: (202) 456-2223
From: Roland Anglin
Copy to:
Re: The President's New Markets Initiative

☐	For Your Approval	☐	For Your Info	☐	For Your Review/Comment
☐	Please Advise	☐	As Requested	☐	As Discussed
☐	Please Call Upon Receipt	☐	For Your Files	☐	_____

Message: _____

Number of Pages Sent: 7 including this sheet.

If you did not receive all of the pages listed above, please call (212) 473-0255.

Thank You. *Donella*

Seedco

Partnerships for Community Development

To: Lisa Green
 From: Roland Anglin *RVA*
 Date: June 24, 1999
 Subject: New Markets Initiative

Thank you for inviting the Structured Employment Economic Development Corporation (Seedco) to the briefing on the President's New Markets Initiative. As requested, please find enclosed some of the innovative and exciting projects in which Seedco is currently involved. I am aware that the sites for the President's visit have been chosen, but you were clear that additional recommendations were welcomed to base similar trips by various cabinet secretaries. If any of our projects interest you, please let me know. We would be happy to provide more information. At the briefing, you mentioned that we should indicate if our president, William Grinker, or our board chair, Larry Sills (President of Standard Motor Products), would be interested in participating in the trip. I am sure that space is filling up, but please consider either Bill Grinker or Larry Sills as participants on the trip. We have a unique development perspective and practice that links anchor institutions (hospitals and educational institutions) to the process of economic development and minority business creation. This perspective would add much to the President's welcomed focus on the potential for private sector opportunities in distressed areas. Again, thanks. I will touch base soon.

Boston, MA

In partnership with Northeastern University, Seedco is pursuing several innovative economic development projects in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston. Highest in priority is the proposal to develop an industrial cluster project which will site five minority-owned business-to-business service businesses (such as toner cartridge remanufacturing, bottled water, legal document copying and storage, moving, and courier businesses) in a light industrial complex in the Roxbury neighborhood within walking distance of the residential area. One of the obvious reasons for co-locating these businesses in the neighborhood is to facilitate job creation for local residents with low skills and poor work histories. Beyond that, Northeastern University and Seedco are committed to assisting the five selected minority-owned businesses in packaging their services and selling them to the large Fortune 500 companies located in the downtown area. It is anticipated that this innovative approach will create more than 500 jobs for area residents. As such, this project promotes asset building not only among the area's residents but also among the entrepreneurs who will be community leaders and stand out as models of success for this low asset community's youth. We are also in the preliminary stage of discussing workforce development, youth entrepreneurship, and employer assisted housing initiatives with this site.

New York, NY

Seedco is in the midst of taking on several interesting and dynamic economic development projects in New York City. Among them are two welfare-to-work initiatives which are already being held up as national models. NSP (Neighborhood Strategies Project) Works is a coalition of three community-based workforce development providers facilitated by Seedco and its

affiliate, the Non-Profit Assistance Corporation, that received a \$5 million Round 1 Department of Labor competitive grant to administer an innovative model in workforce development which has already enrolled 600 participants, primarily immigrants with limited English speaking ability.

Based on the success of NSP Works, Seedco/N-PAC will officially launch another workforce development initiative this fall called **EarnFair**. Under this initiative, Seedco has partnered with LISC and eleven community-based workforce development providers to establish a limited liability corporation that will own and operate an employee leasing/temporary staffing business. The business will provide low skill/entry level employees for business clients while providing people coming off of welfare with a subsidized, transitional employment experience for up to two years with fully supported case management activities. Integral to the success of this initiative will be the buy-in of large businesses in the New York area to commit to leasing twenty to twenty-five **EarnFair** employees at a time. Thus far serious expressions of interest have been made by the Coalition of Nonprofit Prepaid Provider Health Plans of New York State on behalf of its 14 member businesses and the Great Harbor Design Center. Another aspect of this project is first-ever proposed syndication of welfare-to-work tax credits as a means of providing the necessary equity that the company will require.

Another innovative project that Seedco recently financed is a \$500,000 working capital loan to the Greenpoint Manufacturing and Design Center (GMDC) in support of the pre-development costs associated with a five-phase, mixed-use \$100 million redevelopment project in Brooklyn along the East River waterfront. Upon completion, the Greenpoint Terminal Market will employ more than 1,200 people and provide more than 600 housing units for the neighborhood. The Market will cater to providing light industrial space for woodworkers/craftspeople in phase 1 and the food preparation/packaging industries in phase 2, two niche industries which have a special interest in being in the New York area to serve the core clientele yet are increasingly being pushed out of Manhattan due to the ever-increasing cost of real estate. In addition, phase 3 will provide affordable office space for nonprofit social service providers who are seeking to serve this immigrant Hispanic and Polish community.

In addition to the aforementioned programs, Seedco has strong partnerships with many of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Details of two of our joint initiatives follow.

Jackson, MS

The Jackson State University/Seedco partnership has created one of the most comprehensive community development programs in the country. It links business development, homeownership opportunities and social services through several innovative projects.

The partnership has produced a variety of housing opportunities for its neighborhood residents. These projects include transitional housing units with supportive services for low-income families and homeownership opportunities for families and individuals to increase their wealth-building efforts. It also has a number of successful social service initiatives including an after school program for at-risk children from kindergarten to twelfth grade, a program to enhance

community based leadership in neighborhood groups, and GED preparation classes and job training and job readiness training programs for local residents.

Most significantly, the partnership has led to several economic development initiatives in one of the poorest communities in the nation. These projects include the establishment of a Commercial Revolving Loan Fund, capitalized at \$500,000 to provide financing to small, African American-owned neighborhood businesses and the creation of a for-profit manufacturing business, West Jackson Apparel, in partnership with the New Lake Church. This business manufactures choir robes and custom draperies and provides jobs for former welfare recipients.

Another major effort is the ongoing plans to redevelop a commercial corridor. These plans were prepared by the Urban Land Institute and commissioned by Jackson State University and call for the development of a major retail center, classes for entrepreneurial training and business creation opportunities for neighborhood residents. It will also guide the further implementation of the comprehensive neighborhood redevelopment efforts undertaken by the university and the community.

Charlotte, NC

In 1995, Seedco, in partnership with the Northwest Corridor Community Development Corporation, based at Johnson C. Smith University, facilitated the area's first commercial development project in twenty-five years. The project consisted of a 55,000 square foot shopping center with a major grocer retailer. The commercial project replaced a blighted strip mall and allowed for a community of 15,000 to have a local market instead of traveling five miles or more outside of their neighborhood to purchase quality groceries. Since that development, more private investments have been attracted to the area, including Biddle Point Medical Clinic, which replaced a dilapidated and vacant furniture store, a fresh Seafood market, and a daycare facility.

Currently, the Pride Campaign is transitioning into a revised "vision concept" for the two-mile business corridor. The business corridor is linked to Charlotte's center city core and the University/Community plan to enhance that linkage with the Vision Concept Plan for attracting new businesses and catalyzing existing businesses to improve their facades. A private lender has awarded a \$2 million low interest loan to support existing businesses and relocate new businesses to this vibrant and historical African American commercial corridor.

SUGGESTED SCRIPT FOR WATERFIELD CABINET COMPANY ROUNDTABLE

NINE BUSINESS PEOPLE AND SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

Question for BILL BYNUM, President and CEO, Enterprise Corporation of the Delta

Mr. Bynum, your work has been instrumental in providing opportunities for communities and individuals in the Delta. Tell us how ECD was created and how it has made a difference in rural areas.

Bynum's Likely Points

Mr. Bynum will describe the startup of ECD in 1994 and talk about the role that the CDFI Fund played in providing capital to ECD during its start up phase, with more than \$4.5 million in grants to date. He will then identify Anita Brooks and Ephron Lewis as business owners who have benefited from financing through ECD.

Question for ANITA BROOKS, President, Computer's Inc.

Can you please discuss your experiences in trying to secure financing to purchase Computers, Inc.?

Brooks' Likely Points

Ms. Brooks will likely discuss the importance of ECD in assisting her acquisition of Computers, Inc when traditional financing avenues failed.

Question for EPHRON LEWIS, Executive Vice President, Lewis & Sons Rice Processing

Mr. Lewis, can you please explain the role that ECD funding played in the development of your corporation?

Lewis' Likely Points

Mr. Lewis will discuss ECD's role in providing startup capital and technical assistance to his business.

Question for BEVERLY MURROW, Owner of Four McDonalds Stores in Arkansas

Ms. Murrow, you and your husband operate a very successful franchise business that employs several hundred people? Can you tell us about your experience in obtaining financing when you purchased your initial stores?

Murrow's Likely Points

Murrow will describe her difficulty and the challenges she faced in securing financing. She will also talk about her successful banking relationships with Southshore Bank of Chicago and Southern Development.

Question for CORA PORTER, Assistant Plant Manager, Waterfield, Inc.
(Shelley Rice, co-owner of Waterfield will be seated in the secondary roundtable)

Ms. Porter, we just finished a wonderful tour of this facility and it is clear that Waterfield is a thriving business. What has your experience been here as an employee at Waterfield?

Porter's Likely Points

Ms. Porter worked her way up and has had several positions with Waterfield and its predecessor company, prior to her current position as Assistant Plant Manager. She will talk about her experience as a single mother of five children. She may also talk about the experiences of some of her staff who have moved from welfare-to-work.

How has ECD been a part of the growth that Waterfield has experienced?

Mr. Rice's Likely Points

Mr. Rice will talk about the \$300,000 loan that ECD provided to the company that enabled them to purchase new equipment required to bring on a new product line.

At this point, **YOU** may want to comment on the tremendous success ECD has experienced in providing access to capital in areas that have not traditionally had access to capital. You may then want to discuss how the government is doing its part by providing financial and technical assistance, which CDFIs can use to leverage investments from private companies. Here today are several companies that are making investments in CDFIs.

Question for BOB CABE, Executive Vice President, Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield:

Mr. Cabe, why did your company invest in the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta? What benefits has your company realized in return?

Cabe's Likely Points:

Mr. Cabe will talk about his company's involvement as a corporate investor in ECD. He will also describe how their investment generated sound returns. Mr. Cabe is also on the board of the

Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation which was one of the early investors in ECD when it began operations in 1994. He may also talk about this early investment.

Question for CATHY BESSANT, President for Community Development, Bank of America

Ms. Bessant, the stories we have heard today make it clear that community development banking is good business? How do CDFIs help banks do business in underserved markets?

Bessant's Likely Points:

Ms. Bessant will likely emphasize Bank of America's long-standing commitment to underserved communities. She will also announce the Bank's \$100 million commitment to support Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).

Question for WAYNE LEONARD, CEO, Entergy

Mr. Leonard, it's obvious that your company's TeamCity economic development program has benefited the communities you serve. How has the program been of benefit to Entergy?

Leonard's Likely Points

Entergy funded the Foundation for the Mid South which helped to create ECD. [As you know, during your tenure as Governor, you signed the original compact creating the Foundation, and the First Lady was on its Board in the early 1990s].

Entergy investments through a special program known as TeamCity have also helped to develop 750 new jobs in the Delta. The company partners with local communities to build leadership skills, train industrial recruitment teams, provide infrastructure grants, and market speculative buildings. Entergy has worked with 26 cities and counties in Mississippi, including Clarksdale and five other Delta counties.

Question for JACK HAUGSLAND, Executive Vice President and COO, Greyhound

Mr. Haugsland, while CDFIs and programs like TeamCity are helping to bring capital and job training to the Delta, transportation infrastructure is also very important to the economic success of the Delta?

Haugsland's Likely Points

Mr. Haugsland will discuss Greyhound and FEDEX's partnership that will provide job access services and training. The partnership will address the significant labor demands in the transportation and distribution industries in Memphis. Mr. Haugsland is also likely to mention the Department of Labor's discussions with Greyhound about new bus services – specifically to permit unemployed Clarksdale residents to access jobs in Memphis.

SECONDARY ROUNDTABLE

Jimmy Scott, President of Scott Construction
Gary Gensler, Undersecretary for Domestic Finance

Stewart Springfield, Walton Foundation

~~Blake Hanger~~

~~Blake Hangerland~~, Chief Operating Officer ~~Greyhound~~

David Bronczek, Chief Operating Officer FedEx

Harry Walker, Trust Mark

Vivian Presley, President of Coahoma Community College

Sybil Hampton, Rockefeller Foundation

Rocky Morris, Delta Laundry

AI From DLC

Robert Jackson, Quitman County Development Organization

Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-MS)

Rev. Jesse Jackson

Dick Huber, Aetna

Rep. Paul Kanjorski (D-PA)

Rep. Clyburn (D-SC)

Secretary Herman

Secretary Alvarez

Lt. Governor Ronnie Musgrove

Secretary Glickman

Bruce Morrison, Federal Housing Finance Board



Jeffrey A. Shesol
07/02/99 10:15:29 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP, Lowell A. Weiss/WHO/EOP@EOP
Subject: draft talking points -- Clarksdale, MS -- comments to Jeff Shesol 6-2796

Draft 07/01/99 4:00pm
Jeff Shesol

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
TALKING POINTS FOR BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE
WATERFIELD CABINET COMPANY
CLARKSDALE, MISSISSIPPI
July 6, 1999**

- **Acknowledgments:** Secs. Slater, who worked with me on the Delta Commission; Sec. Herman; SBA Admin. Alvarez; Reps. Bennie Thompson, Ronnie Shows, James Clyburn; Rev. Jesse Jackson; panelists TBD; employees of Waterfield & people of Clarksdale
- **Thank you for inviting me so close to home and even closer to the Crossroads, the Home of the Blues.**
- **Since 1967, when Robert Kennedy came here to Clarksdale, lives in the Delta have been steadily improving.** Still, as Robert Kennedy so often said, we can do better. And as he said that same year: "We must turn the power and resources of our private enterprise system to the underdeveloped nation within our midst." That is what we are doing on this tour; and that is much of what I mean when I say this should be a season of progress for America.
- **Today, the American economy is expanding as never before.** Because our growth has been so strong and sustained, its benefits have flowed to millions of people once cut off from the economic mainstream. African-American and Hispanic unemployment are the lowest on record. Wages are rising. In the past six years, our rising tide has lifted more than a million children out of poverty.
- **Still, there are too many places in America where opportunity is too scarce.** In the Delta, the poverty rate is 1½ times the national average; and here in Coahoma [Co-a-homa] County, it's 2½ times greater. The typical resident of this region earns only \$17,000 a year. That's up nearly \$3,000 since 1993; though compared to the nation as a whole, it's still only 67 cents on the dollar. And this morning, we saw the shut-down storefronts that tell the story as powerfully as any statistic.

- **But I see more than poverty here; I see great promise.** The success of businesses like Waterfield signals a brighter future not just for Clarksdale, but for the whole of this vast region I call home. On this factory floor, and in the paychecks and pride these workers bring home, we feel the power of private investment and of a strong public commitment to create jobs, attract capital, and expand opportunity.
- **As Governor, when I chaired the Delta Commission with Govs. Mabus and Roemer, I said that government and business had to work together in a new way – as partners for progress.** That was the only way, as I said back in 1988, “to make the millions of people who live in the Delta area full partners in America for the first time in history.” That is the approach I have pursued as President. And that is the approach that is working – through EZs and ECs, a stronger CRA, and CDFIs.
- **The Enterprise Corporation of the Delta (ECD), a private, tax-exempt business development group, is one of those CDFIs, and a real success story.** Since 1994, ECD has given financial or technical assistance to more than 600 companies – like Delta Laundry and Computers, Inc. here in Clarksdale. Overall, ECD has helped generate more than 5,000 jobs and \$200m in annual sales. Bill Bynum, thanks for coming today. As CEO and President of ECD, you’re doing great and vital work.
- **Today, on behalf of the corporations represented here, I am pleased to announce \$14m in new private investments in ECD.** And today, across America, other companies are announcing more than \$60m in new investments in CDFIs. With these new resources and the power of private enterprise, the Delta and places like it can truly become centers of commerce – and of hope.

Message Sent To:

Maria Echaveste/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Leslie Bernstein/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Melissa G. Green/OPD/EOP@EOP
 Jonathan A. Kaplan/OPD/EOP@EOP
 Minyon Moore/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Bob J. Nash/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Laura K. Demeo/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Lisa Green/OPD/EOP@EOP
 Patrick M. Dorton/OPD/EOP@EOP
 Richard L. Siewert/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Julia M. Payne/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Janet Murguia/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Loretta M. Ucelli/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Stephanie A. Cutter/WHO/EOP@EOP
 Ann C. Hertelendy/WHO/EOP@EOP

MISSISSIPPI DELTA

Requested Seats: FULL MANIFEST FROM KENTUCKY TO MEMPHIS

Requested Seats: FULL MANIFEST ON HELIO TO AND FROM CLARKSDALE

SITE CONTACT: DON GRAVES, CEO COORDINATOR

Confirmed Attendees

1.	Dick Huber, Aetna	WH	MI
2.	Bob Cabe, Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield	DOT	MI
3	Craig Lynch, (Jack Haugslund,) Greyhound (T)	DOT	MI
4.	Al From, DLC	WH	MI
5.	Wayne Leonard, Entergy	TR	MI
6.	Cathy Bassant, Bank America	WH	MI
7.	David Broszek, FDX	WH	LOC
8.	Bill Bynum, ECD	WH	LOC
9.	Chester Davenport, Georgetown Partners	WH	MI

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

There will be a roundtable discussion on SBICs & Investment in the Delta

Bob Cabe, Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield

Craig Lynch, Greyhound

Wayne Leonard, Entergy

David Broszek, FDX

Available to the press

Bob Cabe, Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield

Wayne Leonard, Entergy

Local businessmen are being invited by Treasury to participate in roundtable discussion

JUL 02 '99 02:42PM

P. 1/2

Briefing points for President Clinton — Entergy's role in economic development in the Mississippi Delta

Foundation for the Mid South/Enterprise Corporation of the Delta

- ❖ Entergy provided initial funding to establish the Foundation for the Mid South and a later independent spin-off, the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta. (President Clinton, as Governor of Arkansas, signed the original compact creating the Foundation, and Hilary Clinton was on the Board in the early 1990s.)
- ❖ The Foundation is dedicated to improving social and educational conditions and increasing philanthropy in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.
- ❖ The Enterprise Corporation of the Delta provides capital and technical assistance to businesses in the Delta regions of the three states.
- ❖ Entergy's investments in FMS and ECD totals more than \$3 million. From this seed money, the two organizations have raised \$55 million.
- ❖ One-fourth of the funds raised by the FMS comes from sources within the region. Three-fourths comes from sources outside the region, including the Ford Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation.

TeamCity Program

- ❖ Entergy's involvement in economic development dates to the early years of its member companies. In Mississippi, an early industrial location was the Baxter Travenol plant in Cleveland in 1951. This plant currently employs 1,100.
- ❖ TeamCity is Entergy's flagship economic development program in which Entergy partners with local communities to build leadership skills, train industrial recruitment teams, provide infrastructure grants, and market speculative buildings. Entergy's economic development professionals work with local leaders to perform a community assessment identifying strengths and weaknesses, set goals, and create a plan for future growth.
- ❖ In Mississippi, Entergy has certified 26 cities and counties; six of these are in the Delta. An additional five communities are under consideration. Three of these are in the Delta.

Post-It® Fax Note 7671		Date	7-2	# of pages	2
To	Anna Parker		From	Judy Ferguson	
Co./Dept	Entergy		Co.		
Phone #			Phone #	601-669-2327	
Fax #	202-530-7350		Fax #		

- ❖ Clarksdale was certified as a TeamCity in 1996. A reassessment showed the city has made important progress towards its goals, and it was recertified in 1999.
- ❖ Entergy's TeamCity activities in Clarksdale include
 - Rejuvenating the Leadership Development Program
 - Starting a Downtown Development Program
 - Training the Industrial Prospect Team
 - Assisting the Chamber and Industrial Boards in developing common goals
 - Providing \$7,000 in economic and community development grants in 1997 and 1998.
- ❖ Clarksdale participated in Entergy sponsored Trade Shows in Chicago in 1997, 1998, and 1999.
- ❖ Entergy has brought two industrial prospects to Coahoma County for site visits in the last month.
- ❖ Several Delta towns have benefited from Entergy's assistance in industrial recruitment. For example,
 - In 1998, Entergy assisted the Delta council in locating Royal Vendors in Bolivar County. This drink vending machine manufacturer is expanding an existing facility and will employ 300 people.
 - In Sunflower County Entergy assisted in the location of a Dollar General Stores Distribution Center in 1997. This center now provides jobs for 423 people.
- ❖ Statistics for 1998 show that 750 new jobs were announced in the Mississippi Delta as a result of Entergy's economic development efforts.

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1776 Eye Street, N.W.
Suite 275
Washington, DC 20006
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Fax: (202) 530-7350

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

Please deliver the following materials as soon as possible.

Date: July 2, 1999

To: Jay Dunn
The White House
(202) 456-6218

From: Ann Pride

Pages: 4, including this cover sheet

Message: See attached.

FAX

Date

7/2/99

Number of pages including cover sheet

3

TO: Ann Pride

FROM:

Phil Miracle

Communications Dept.

Entergy Corp

639 Loyola Avenue

New Orleans, LA 70113

Phone

202-530-7300

Fax Phone

202-530-7350

Phone

504/576-4287

Fax Phone

504/576-4269

CC:

REMARKS:

Urgent



For your review



Reply ASAP



Please Comment

Corporate Contributions Mississippi Delta Region

Entergy Mississippi 1999 Contributions Budget

\$1 million

Approximately 120 non-profit organizations receive funding annually which include the following:

- Jackson Chamber of Commerce
- Jackson State University
- Belhaven College

Entergy Corporation

Additional support is provided to the region by Entergy Corporation, which includes the following:

Foundation for the Mid South

**\$1 million pledged over 4 years
(1995-1999)**

The overall purpose of the Foundation for the Mid South is to provide a private, long-term, regional, and philanthropic response to the issues facing the Mid South. By increasing the capacity of local communities to offer all their citizens economic opportunity, effective education, and quality services for families and children, we will enhance the quality of life in the three states of Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Enterprise corporation of the Delta

**\$500,000 over 4 years
(1995-1999)**

ECD's mission is to improve the quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents of the Delta regions of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. ECD fulfills its mission by:

- Providing market-driven financial and technical assistance to Delta firms entrepreneurs.
- By forging Strategic partnerships with key actors from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, and
- By otherwise promoting the development of the region's human economic assets

Economic Development Grants to Clarksdale/Coahoma County

1997:

Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber (Leadership Development Grant) \$1,000
Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber (Team City Grant) \$750
For Tourism Development
Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber (Industrial Park Marketing) \$1,250

1998:

Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber (Leadership Clarksdale) \$500
Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber (Mississippi Marble & Granite) \$1,500
For Infrastructure
Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber (New Product Development) \$1,000

Trade Show Participation by Clarksdale

CMM International Trade Show Chicago, IL 1997
National Manufacturing Week McCormick Place in Chicago 1998
MetalForm Expo Rosemont, IL 1999

AGENDA
MISSISSIPPI DELTA REGION
WORKING GROUP/TASK FORCE
Meeting of July 21, 1999

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Purpose of the Meeting
3. Organizational Issues
 -
 - Representatives to the Task Force
 - Contacts
 - Meeting and Conference Call Dates/Times
 - Department/Agency Participation
4. Work of the Task Force
 - Conclusion and Distribution of the Interim Report
 - Outreach to Stakeholders
 - Listening Sessions - *September*
 - Development of the Final Report, with Recommendations and Strategies - *end of October*
 - Fall Conference - *2nd of November*
5. Views and Comments

7/98 (4)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING and URBAN DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by and between the Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of Health and Human Services; Department of Labor; Department of Education; Department of the Interior; Department of Transportation; the Small Business Administration; and the Environmental Protection Agency (collectively, "participating agencies").

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a general framework for cooperation between the participating agencies on economic revitalization initiatives in the Delta region. The participating agencies propose to work together to coordinate and support a broad-based governmentwide review and assessment of the Delta state region. This effort will build upon the work of President Clinton and Vice President Gore to strengthen rural communities for the 21st Century.

In particular, the participating agencies desire to work together in providing a review and update of the Delta Initiatives: "Realizing The Dream - Fulfilling The Future." This 1990 report listed 400 recommendations and 68 goals. The participating agencies will establish the parameters of the assessment. They will work separately and together with State and local entities in

developing channels for accessing research. The participating agencies will coordinate an appropriate final report response and mechanism or medium for response.

This collaborative effort will promote the continued revitalization of the seven state Delta Region as discussed in the 1990 report. The Lower Mississippi Delta Region of the United States is an area flanking the lower Mississippi River, including parts of seven states: Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. This Delta region has long been considered one of the poorest regions in the Nation.

In addition, the purpose of this collaboration is to provide assistance in furthering the implementation of the 1990 Delta Initiative recommendations.

II. BACKGROUND

In 1988, Congress established the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission -- providing for a bipartisan commission to study and make recommendations regarding economic needs, problems and opportunities in the Delta region, and to develop a 10-year regional economic development plan.

The Commission completed its work in 1990 and produced a final report, which was submitted to then-President George W. Bush under the signature of the Commission's Chairman, then-Governor Bill Clinton. The Report was an aggressive, ambitious plan for the development of a large and integrally important region of our Nation. The report focused on transportation; human capital development (education, job training, health and housing); natural and physical assets (agriculture and natural resources); private enterprise (entrepreneurial development, technology development and tourism); and the environment.

In 1995, the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater commissioned the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to update the 1990 report with regard to the transportation element. A most important finding of the update was that the improved transportation facilities of the region had led to the creation of more jobs and more opportunity. In fact, there was a gain of 252,000 jobs from 1990 to 1995 and job growth in the Delta region has outperformed the rest of the Nation on a percentage basis since 1990.

III. APPLICABLE LAWS

All assistance provided under this MOU and subsequent interagency agreements shall be in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations. All contract work undertaken by the parties in furtherance of this MOU shall be performed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

IV. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND MUTUAL BENEFITS

The participating agencies are dedicated to providing assistance for the sustainable development of American communities. The complexity of the Delta's needs warrants a continued effort of examination and action. Solutions require participation at every level of government.

These agencies recognize the Delta region is rich with natural resources and physical assets. The Delta is positioned to help the Nation as a whole increase its competitiveness in a global economy.

V. THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AGREE TO:

Work together with State and local leaders at developing a thorough assessment and plan of action to the extent authorized by law, and continue throughout the process of review to provide appropriate assistance when and where needed in the Delta region to the extent appropriations are available.

VI. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

Each agency will develop and be responsible for its own portion of the review process.

The participating agencies will form a Working Group Task Force and meet as needed to coordinate activities and share information, and to help each agency more effectively perform its mission.

The formulation of a final review and presentation will be determined by this task force.

Each agency understands that the intention of this MOU is to foster cooperation and streamlining among the participating agencies.

Specific work projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, or property between the parties to this MOU will require the execution of separate agreements or contracts, contingent upon the availability of funds as appropriated by Congress. Each subsequent agreement or arrangement involving the transfer of funds, services, or property between the parties to this MOU must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations, including those statutes and regulations applicable to procurement activities.

This MOU in no way restricts the participating agencies from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies.

Nothing in this MOU shall obligate the participating agencies to expend appropriations or to enter into any contract or other obligation.

This MOU may be modified or amended upon written request of any party and the concurrence of the others. Participation in this MOU may be terminated with a 60-day written notice of any party.

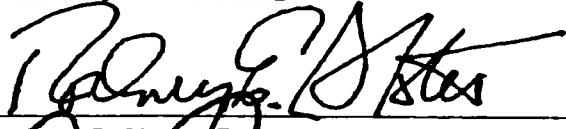
Additional agencies may be added to this MOU.

Unless terminated under the terms of section VI, this MOU will remain in full force and in effect until January 1, 2001.

VII. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS

To provide for consistent and effective communication between the participating agencies, each of the participating agencies shall appoint a representative to discuss and consider activities that may be pursued under this MOU.

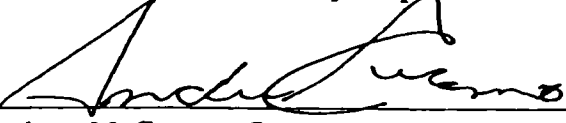
VIII. SIGNATORIES



Rodney E. Slater, Secretary, Department of Transportation



Dan R. Glickman, Secretary, Department of Agriculture



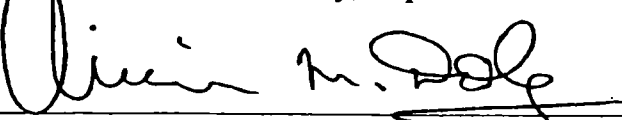
Andrew M. Cuomo, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development



Richard W. Riley, Secretary, Department of Education



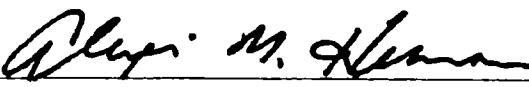
Donna E. Shalala, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services



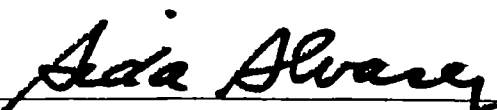
William M. Daley, Secretary, Department of Commerce

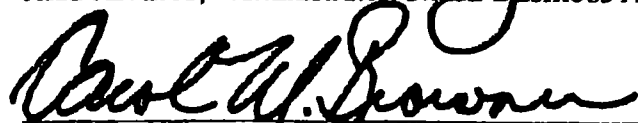


Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, Department of the Interior

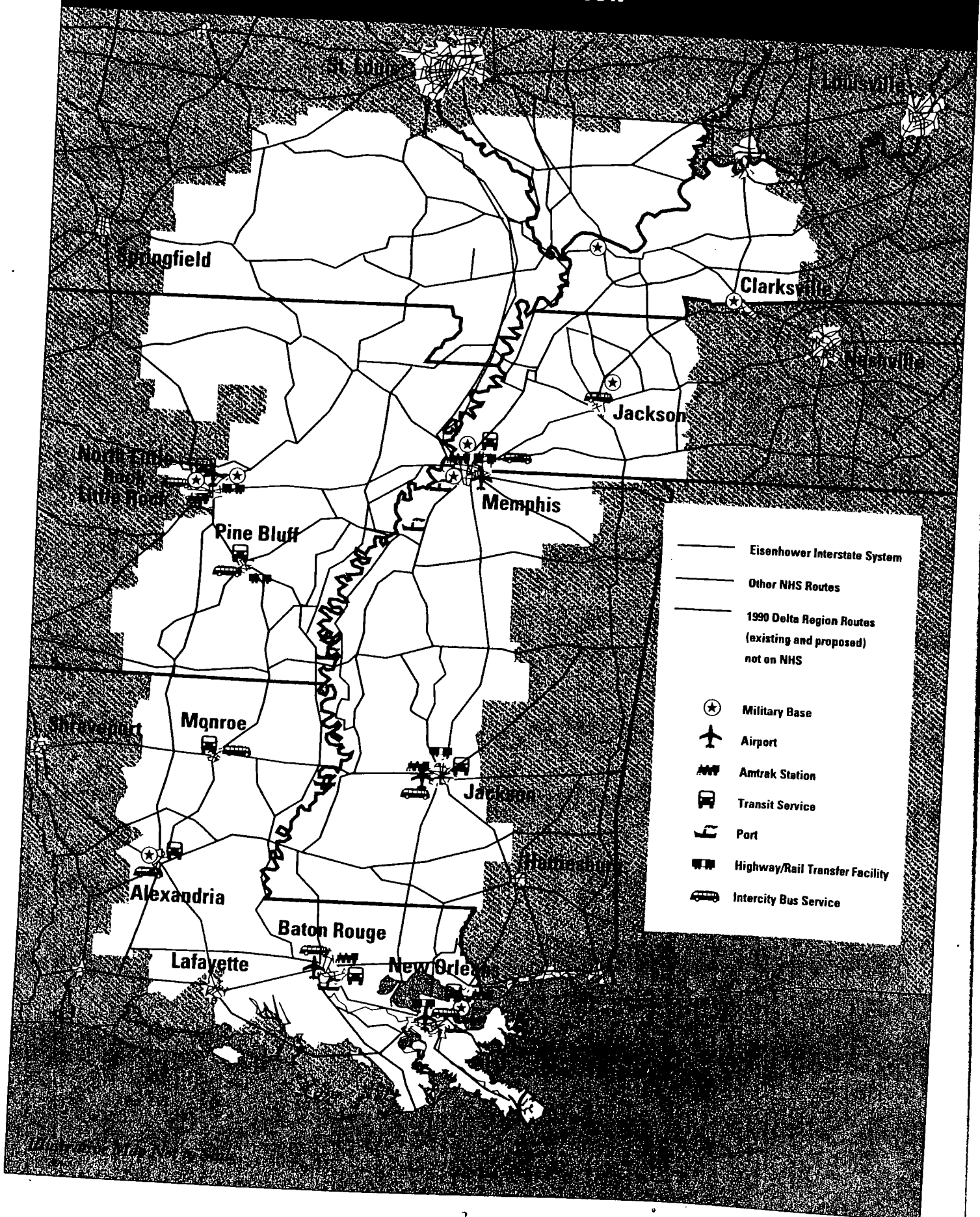


Alexis M. Herman, Secretary, Department of Labor


Aida Alvarez, Administrator, Small Business Administration


Carol M. Browner, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency

THE DELTA REGION



LOWER MISSISSIPPI DELTA COUNTIES AND PARISHES

ARKANSAS	ILLINOIS	KENTUCKY	LOUISIANA	MISSISSIPPI	MISSOURI	TENNESSEE
Arkansas	Alexander	Ballard	Acadia	Adams	Bollinger	Benton
Ashley	Franklin	Caldwell	Allen	Amite	Butler	Carroll
Baxter	Gallatin	Calloway	Ascension	Attala	Cape Girardeau	Chester
Bradley	Hamilton	Carlisle	Assumption	Benton	Carter	Crockett
Calhoun	Hardin	Christian	Avoyelles	Bolivar	Crawford	Decatur
Chicot	Jackson	Crittenden	Caldwell	Carroll	Dent	Dyer
Clay	Johnson	Fulton	Catahoula	Claiborne	Douglas	Fayette
Cleveland	Massac	Graves	Concordia	Coahoma	Dunklin	Gibson
Craighead	Perry	Henderson	East Baton Rouge	Copiah	Howell	Hardeman
Crittenden	Pope	Hickman	East Carroll	Covington	Iron	Hardin
Cross	Pulaski	Hopkins	East Feliciana	DeSoto	Madison	Haywood
Dallas	Randolph	Livingston	Evangeline	Franklin	Mississippi	Henderson
Desha	Saline	Lyon	Franklin	Grenada	New Madrid	Henry
Drew	Union	Marshall	Grant	Hinds	Oregon	Lake
Fulton	White	McCracken	Iberville	Holmes	Ozark	Lauderdale
Grant	Williamson	McLean	Jackson	Humphreys	Pemiscot	McNairy
Greene	TOTAL	Muhlenberg	Jefferson	Issaquena	Perry	Greene
Independence	COUNTIES	Todd	La Salle	Jefferson	Phelps	Obion
Izard	16	Trigg	Lincoln	Jefferson Davis	Reynolds	Shelby
Jackson		Union	Madison	Lafayette	Ripley	Tipton
Jefferson		Webster	Morehouse	Lawrence	St. Genevieve	Weakley
Lawrence		TOTAL	Orleans	LeFlore	St. Francois	TOTAL
Lee		COUNTIES	Ouachita	Lincoln	Scott	COUNTIES
Lincoln		21	Pointe Coupee	Madison	Shannon	21
Lonoke			Rapides	Marion	Stoddard	
Marion			Richland	Marshall	Texas	
Mississippi			St. Bernard	Montgomery	Washington	
Monroe			St. Charles	Panola	Wayne	
Ouachita			St. Helena	Pike	Wright	
Phillips			St. James	Quitman	TOTAL	
Poinsett			St. John the Baptist	Rankin	COUNTIES	
Prairie			St. Landry	Sharkey	29	
Pulaski			Tangipahoa	Simpson		
Randolph			Tensas	Sunflower		
St. Francis			Union	Tallahatchie		
Searcy			Washington	Tate		
Sharp			West Baton Rouge	Tippah		
Stone			West Carroll	Tunica	GRAND	
Union			West Feliciana	Union	TOTAL	
Van Buren			Winn	Walthall	214	
White			TOTAL	Warren		
Woodruff			PARISHES	Washington		
TOTAL			40	Wilkinson		
COUNTIES				Yalobusha		
42				Yazoo		
				TOTAL		
				COUNTIES		
				45		

Delta New Markets Roundtable

President Clinton could lead a roundtable discussion with corporate CEO's and others that:

- have invested in "New Markets" in the Delta;
- have a significant business presence in the region; or
- can otherwise speak to the importance of New Market investments in the Delta.

Delta Fundy Computers Inc. Waterfield

Participant List (draft)

Company	Name	
America Online	Jim	Barksdale
Bank of America	Hugh	McColl
Bank One	John	McCoy
Blue Cross & Blue Shield	Robert	Shoptaw
Dollar General	Cal	Turner
Entergy	Wayne	Turner
Enterprise Corporation of the Delta	Bill	Bynum
Enterprise Corporation of the Delta	Billy	Percy
Federal Express	Frederick	Smith
Ford Foundation	Susan	Berresford
Hibernia National Bank	Steve	Hansel
Lewis & Son Rice Processing	Ephron	Lewis
MacArthur Foundation	Adele	Simmons
McDonalds Restaurant (Pine Bluff)	Curtis	Morrow
Mississippi Chemical	Chuck	Dunn
Mississippi Board of Community Colleges	George	Walker
Morgan Stanley	Dick	Fisher
Pew Charitable Trusts	Rebecca	Rimel
Sara Lee	John	Bryant
Scott Trucking	Tom	Scott
Simmons First National Bank	Thomas	May
SkyTel	John	Palmer
Terry Manufacturing	Roy	Terry
Trustmark National Bank	Richard	Hickson
Wal-Mart \$5 million	Rob	Walton
Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation	Sybil	Hampton
WorldCom	Bernie	Ebbers

Slater to moderate

*Cathy Bussant
Bob Cabe, President
Wayne Brand*

President

*Benny
w/ as all time
owner*

not using

Stuart Springfield

See attached spreadsheet for contact information.

*Delta Hubel
Craig Lynch, Grayhound
President*

Jackson - 8 CEOs