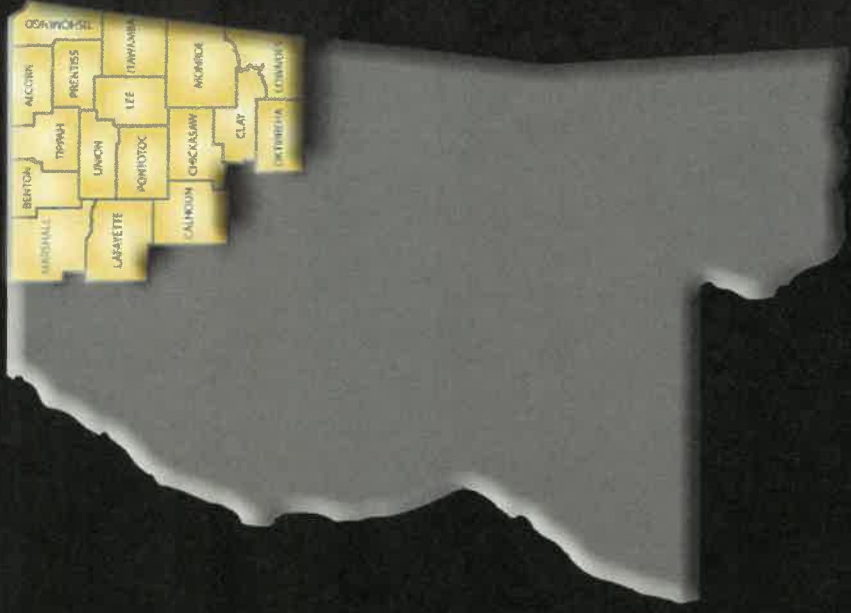


The State of Columbus and Lowndes County 2022



COMMISSION

ON THE FUTURE OF NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI
CREATE FOUNDATION



Today's Agenda

- A Snapshot of Key Data
- A List of Strengths/Assets
- A Concern Revisited

Per Capita Income 2020

United States

\$59,150

Lowndes County

44,152

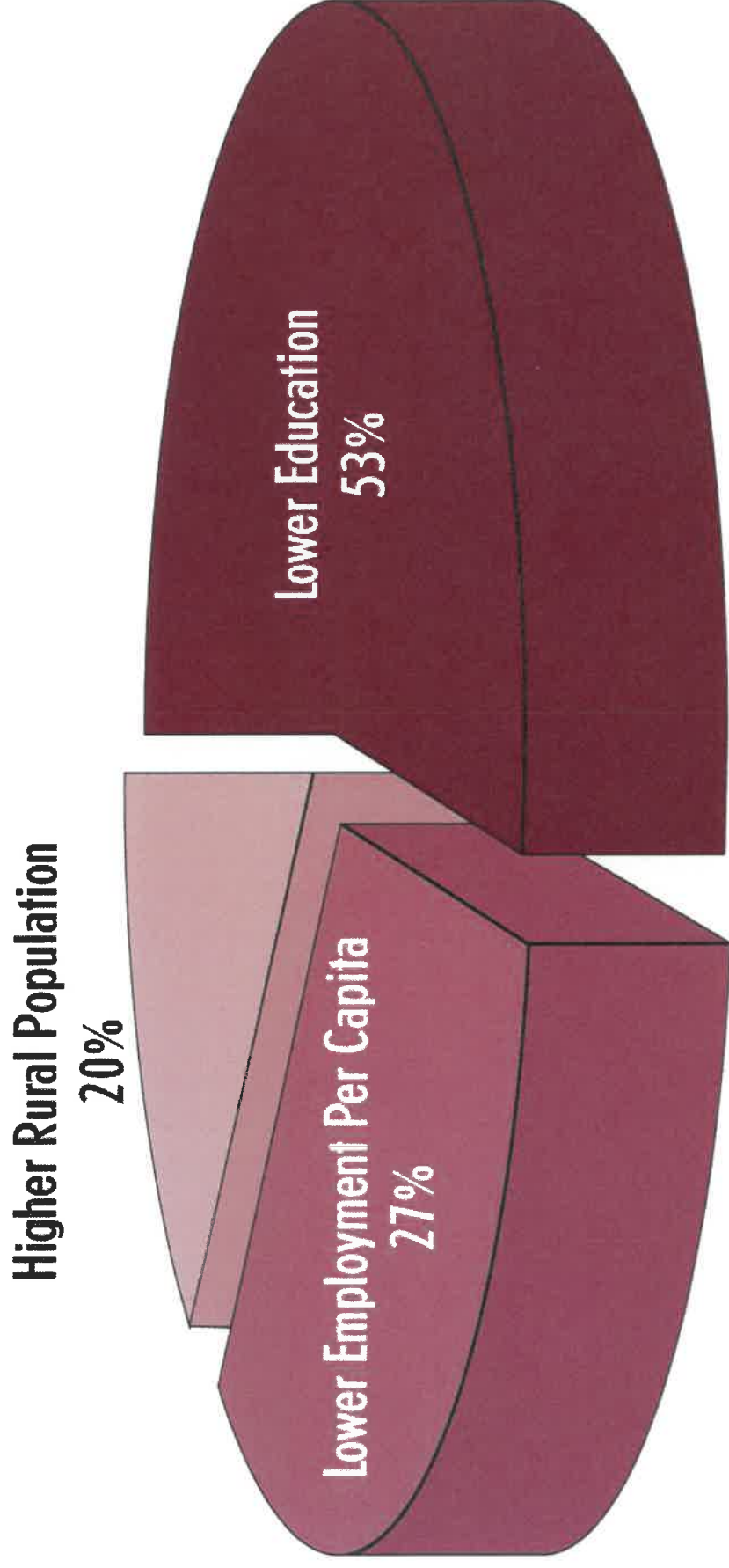
Mississippi

42,129

Source: MDES/Bureau of Economic Analysis

Mississippi's Economic Gap

The Education Gap Explains Most of the Gap in Per Capita Income



Source: SEF Commissioned Study

Median Household Income

2020

United States \$67,340

Lowndes County 47,860

Mississippi 47,368

Columbus 34,551

Poverty 2020

Lowndes

16.5%

Mississippi

18.7

United States

11.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau/Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

EMPLOYMENT

December 2021

Employed – Lowndes 23,330

Unemployed – Lowndes 1,460

Unemployment Rate 5.9%

Mississippi 5.6%

Source: Mississippi Department of Employment Security

COMMUTERS

Lowndes County

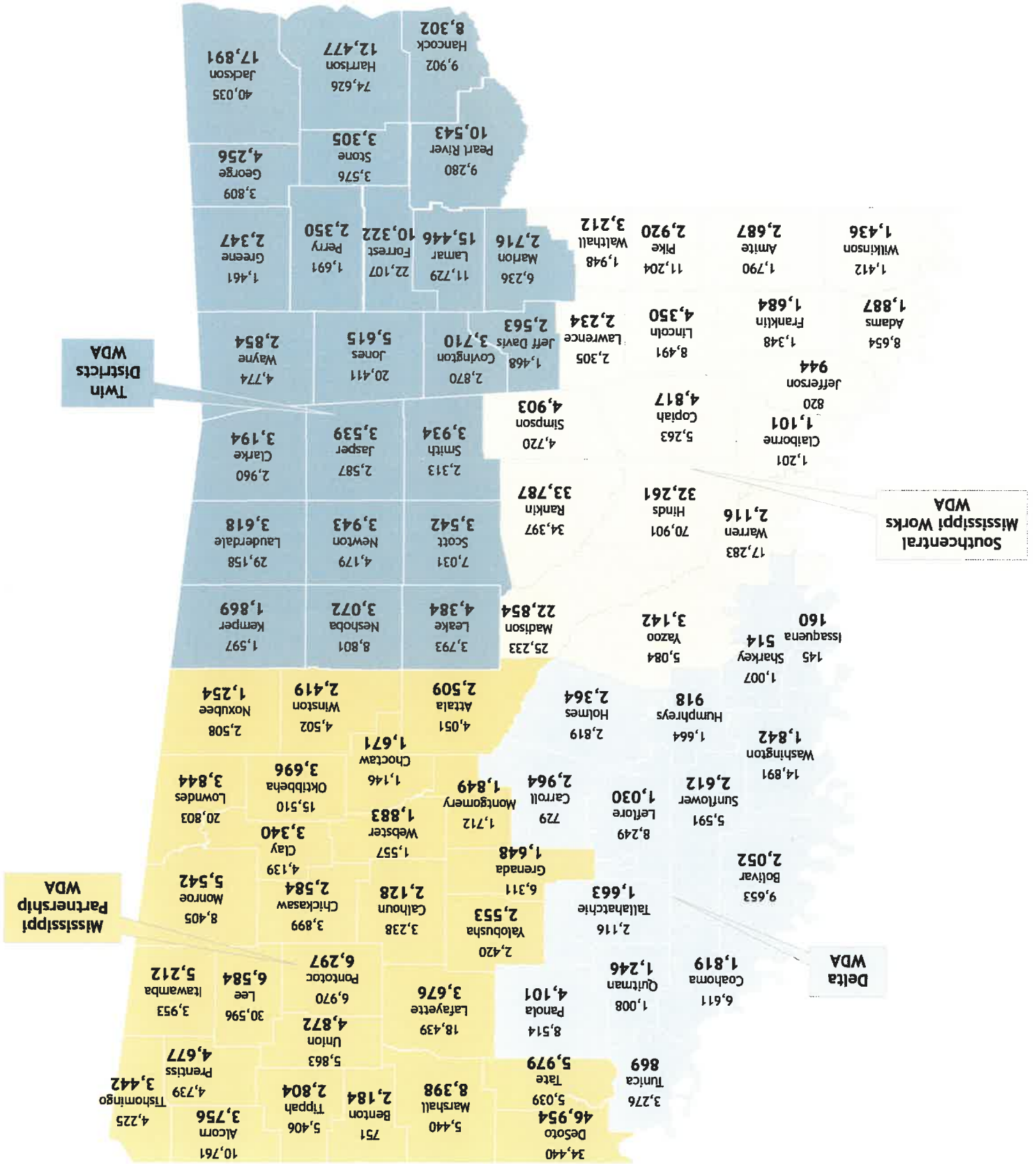
2015

- 20,803 Workers living and working within the county
- 6,530 Workers commuting into the county
- 3,844 Workers commuting outside the county

○ Source: Mississippi Department of Employment Security

Commuters Out

Top number represents workers living and working within the county
 Bottom number represents workers commuting outside the county



Workers Living & Working in Counties	Incoming Workers	Outgoing Workers	Incoming/Outgoing Net
Alcorn	10,761	4,188	432
Benton	751	347	1,837
Calhoun	3,238	741	1,387
Chickasaw	3,899	2,250	334
Clay	4,139	1,947	1,393
Itawamba	3,953	2,198	3,014
Lafayette	18,439	4,848	1,172
Lee	30,596	20,297	13,713
Lowndes	20,803	6,530	2,686
Marshall	5,440	2,493	5,905
Monroe	8,405	2,502	3,040
Oktoberbeha	15,510	4,669	973
Pontotoc	6,970	3,631	2,666
Prentiss	4,739	2,401	2,276
Tipshah	5,406	1,525	1,279
Tishomingo	4,225	1,770	1,672
Union	5,863	4,806	66
Total	153,137	67,143	73,036

Educational Attainment

Adults 25+

2020

	<u>Lowndes</u>	<u>State</u>
Less than 9 th Grade	4.3%	4.7%
Between 9 th and 12 th Grade	9.4	10.1
High School Completion Only	31.8	30.2
Some College, No Degree	21.2	22.2
Associate's Degree	10.0	10.4
Bachelor's Degree	14.5	13.8
Graduate or Professional Degree	<u>8.8</u>	<u>8.6</u>
	100.0	100.0

Public Schools

	<u>Columbus</u>	<u>Lowndes</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>
Chronic Absentees (2019)	13.1%	10.5%	13.0 %
Dropouts (2021)	12.3	7.3	8.5
Graduates (2021)	83.5	91.0	88.4

Source: Mississippi Department of Education

Free/Reduced Lunches 2019-2020

Columbus	95+% (7 tied for highest)
Lowndes	59.0 (4/32)
Mississippi	74.9

Source: Mississippi Department of Education

Average Expenditure Per Pupil 2020-2021

Columbus \$12,804

Lowndes 12,528

Mississippi 12,107

Source: Mississippi Department of Education

Health Outcomes*

Lowndes ranks 16 out of 82 counties

*Morbidity (Quality of Life) - 50%

Mortality (Length of Life) - 50%

Source: University of Wisconsin (Robert Wood Johnson)

Strengths/Assets 2022

- **Columbus AFB**
- **Industrial Development**
- **Downtown Revitalization**
- **Beautiful Historic Homes**

Strengths/Assets

- **The River**
- **Highways**
- **GTR Airport**
- **Healthcare Resources**
- **Adult Educational Attainment**

Strengths/Assets

- Communiversality
- EMCC
- The “W”
- MSU
- ❖ Academic Offerings
- ❖ Research/Outreach
- ❖ SEC Sports

Question

So why haven't Columbus and Lowndes County grown in population since 2000?

	<u>Columbus</u>	<u>Lowndes</u>
2000	26,052	61,586
2020	<u>24,084</u>	<u>58,879</u>
Loss	(1,968)	(2,707)

Source: U. S. Census

Population 2010-2020

Lowndes	(1.51)%
Region	(0.10)
State	(0.20)
United States	7.35

Source: U.S. Census

Population of Columbus

1950	17,172
1960	24,771
1970	25,795
1980	27,383
1990	23,799
2000	26,052
2010	23,640
2020	24,084

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Population of Lowndes

1950	37,852
1960	46,639
1970	49,700
1980	57,304
1990	59,308
2000	61,586
2010	59,779
2020	58,879

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Significant Data Improvements

2018 - 2020

Lowndes County

- Median Household Income up 16.1%
- Poverty down from 21.2% to 16.5%
- Lowndes County Graduation Rates up from 89.8% to 91.0%