

Welcome to The Friendly City

LONG BEACH MISSISSIPPI





For more than 500 years, the Friendship Oak, located on The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach, has weathered all Mother Nature has thrown at it.

A survivor of countless storms and hurricanes, it is a symbol of the strength and resiliency of our city and people.

The Friendship Oak, which dates from 1487, was a sapling when Columbus sailed into the Caribbean and was fully grown by Napoleon's reign.

THE FRIENDLY CITY IN EVERY WAY

Long Beach was incorporated in 1905 and many of its current residents are descendants of the original settlers.

This commitment to community is a reflection of the high quality of life that exists in our town. We are proud of the history of Long Beach and enthusiastic about what it has to offer in the way of opportunity and growth.



Long Beach offers all that larger cities might – industrial, commercial and retail – while maintaining our small town charm. At the heart of the town is a newly constructed city hall, surrounded by the library, charming shops and welcoming restaurants. Our city is also home to numerous churches and banks.

Being business friendly is extremely important to us too. We have a strong partnership that exists among our local businesses, non-profit organizations, schools and the community they serve. Business resources are plentiful, and we're here to be a partner in your success.

JUST A SHORT DRIVE FROM LONG BEACH

While Long Beach offers everything you could want or need, you'll be pleasantly surprised that it's just a short and easy drive to:

GULFPORT-BILOXI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT 10 miles

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE 15 miles

GULFPORT SEABEE BASE 3 miles

PORT OF GULFPORT 4 miles

BILOXI CASINOS 16 miles

STENNIS SPACE CENTER 22 miles

NEW ORLEANS, LA 72 miles

MOBILE, AL 79 miles

JACKSON, MS 162 miles

BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 13 miles

BILOXI, MS 16 miles

OCEAN SPRINGS, MS 21 miles



EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT LONG BEACH

SAFE Named among the Top 10 Safest Cities in Mississippi by Movoto

BEAUTIFUL Listed as one of CNN's Top 22 Can't Miss Beaches in the U.S.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY Named among the Best Towns in Mississippi for Young Families due to great public schools, affordability, growth and prosperity by Nerdwallet.com

SIMPLY THE BEST IN MS Number 1 among the 10 Best Places in Mississippi by Movoto based on amenities, quality of life, crime, tax rates, weather, unemployment and commute time



A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



Long Beach has a long-standing tradition of excellence in education. The city is served by the Long Beach School District which operates five campuses. We're also home to The University of Southern Mississippi and close to numerous other colleges.

The University of Southern Mississippi provides unparalleled education and resources for the people of South Mississippi. Through its 52-acre beachfront campus and other teaching and research sites along the Gulf Coast, Southern Miss offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs in more than 50 distinct academic fields.

Also convenient to Long Beach is Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College which is the state's leading provider of quality workforce training.

With an 'A' rating from the MS Department of Education and two Blue Ribbon schools, Long Beach School District provides a solid foundation for our students.



“The Friendly City” is not just a nickname for Long Beach; it’s our motto and our mission. To us, being friendly is more than saying “hi” to passersby. It means embracing new business, while supporting the existing. It means coming together as a community and always working as one for the betterment of our town, as well as the entire Coast.

OVERVIEW

Located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Long Beach is a small town with a lot to offer. Here, businesses will discover a welcoming environment with resources and partners to contribute to their success, and families will be impressed by the outstanding quality of life.

Existing business in Long Beach is a diverse mix of large and small, high-tech and handmade. Since the 1980s, **Long Beach Industrial Park (LBIP)** has been a mainstay in the economy, attracting sophisticated manufacturers. Throughout downtown and the entire city, restaurants, shops and other small businesses are thriving, supported by a tight-knit community that understands the importance of shopping local.

Another major player in the economy, as well as the quality of life, is **The University of Southern Mississippi**. Located on the city’s beachfront, Southern Miss offers four-year degrees, allowing residents to continue the quality education offered by the city’s public schools.

Minutes away from Southern Miss is **Long Beach Harbor**, providing first-class amenities, direct access to the Mississippi Sound and some of the most amazing scenery along the Gulf Coast. It’s just one of many public facilities throughout the city dedicated to creating quality experiences for residents and visitors.

Long Beach’s proximity to Gulfport and Biloxi broadens the city’s appeal. It’s just a short drive to the **Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport**, great shopping, attractions and other amenities.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

The City of Long Beach is governed by the Mayor and seven Aldermen including one at-large. Elections for Mayor and Aldermen are held every four years.

CITY SERVICES

Water, Sewer, Fire, Police

POPULATION

15,626

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010; Esri forecasts for 2015)

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$51,222

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010; Esri forecasts for 2015)

AVERAGE DISCRETIONARY INCOME

\$21,731

(Source: The Conference Board, South Central United States)



BUSINESS/PRIVILEGE TAX LICENSE

If the property is located inside city limits and zoning is suitable, a city business license, also known as a Privilege License, must be purchased.

If the property is not located inside the City of Long Beach city limits, contact the Harrison County Courthouse.



"Harrison County has been home to Triton Systems for nearly 40 years. Over time we established additional offices in Georgia, Tennessee and California, but ultimately consolidated all those locations back home to Long Beach where we benefit from a world-class workforce and a business-friendly culture." - Brian Goff, VP/CAO, Triton Systems

AVERAGE COST OF REAL ESTATE

Commercial	\$5 - \$13 per square foot (lease space)
Residential	\$144,000



COMMERCIAL TAX BREAKDOWN *Tax/\$1,000 True Value*

	City	County	School	Total
Long Beach	\$7.35	\$5.42	\$9.06	\$21.83
County (unincorporated)		\$5.48	\$9.06	\$14.54

For residential tax value, use two-thirds of the above amounts.



TAX ABATEMENT INCENTIVES

- A tax abatement is available for projects where the improvements are over \$500,000.
- A city and county tax abatement is available for capital improvements to property in designated zones. Only the value of the improvements is eligible for the abatement.
- The tax abatement expiration date is December 31, 2017.
- The developer still has to pay school taxes.

Top right image of downtown Long Beach courtesy of Randy Wilson/
Mississippi Main Street Association

UNEMPLOYMENT

Long Beach 6%
(2015 annual average; Homefacts)

Harrison County 6.1%
(2015 annual average; Mississippi Department of Employment Security)

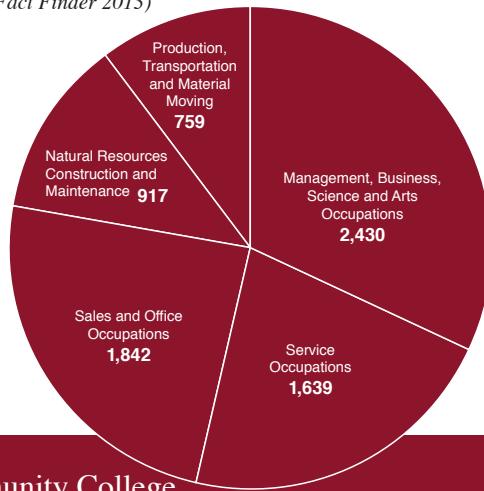
Gulfport-Biloxi-Pascagoula 6.5%
(2015 annual average; U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics)

State of Mississippi 6.5%
(2015 annual average; Mississippi Department of Employment Security)



EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION Civilian Employed Population 16+

(U.S. Census Bureau American Fact Finder 2013)



“Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College provides a wide variety of high quality training to companies and individuals along the Gulf Coast. As the state’s leading workforce training provider, quality, customer service and value are key to all training projects. The college stands ready to assist all of our district’s counties, cities, citizens, businesses and industry partners in the development and maintenance of a work-ready community.” - Jason V. Pugh, Ph.D., Exec. VP, Teaching & Learning, MGCCC

WORKFORCE RESOURCES

Major employers in Harrison County praise the area’s workforce for quality skills, job dedication and low turnover rates, characteristics that can be attributed in part to the great education and workforce opportunities available, including:

- Workforce Investment Network (WIN) - convenient, one-stop employment and training services for employers and job seekers
- MS Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC) - one- and two-year degrees; campus in Long Beach; continuing education programs and a workforce development department
- The University of Southern Mississippi - bachelor's, master's, specialist's and doctoral degrees
- Tulane University School of Continuing Studies - four-year and two-year associate degrees, as well as certificates
- William Carey University - undergraduate and graduate programs in a number of areas
- Keesler (Air Force Base) Medical Center - allows civilian physicians to complete their residency training

BUSINESS RESOURCES

Business resources are also abundant in Long Beach and the surrounding area. They include:

- Harrison County Development Commission - the one-stop for economic development inquiries in Harrison County and the Mississippi Gulf Coast
- The Innovation Center - a small business incubator in Biloxi encouraging the development of small start-up businesses
- Long Beach/MS Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce - hosts events and programs to support Community & Economic Development, Education & Workforce Development, Military & Public Affairs, and Small Business Development
- Coast Young Professionals - an extension of the Chamber dedicated to developing young leaders
- Small Business Administration - provides support services for start-up and existing small businesses

OVERVIEW

Long Beach is one of five cities within Harrison County, which is one of the three Mississippi counties located on the Gulf of Mexico. To the east is highly industrialized Jackson County; to the west is Hancock County and John C. Stennis Space Center. Harrison County's central position is largely responsible for its diversity of industry. Aerospace, advanced materials, shipbuilding, geospatial and marine science are the primary industry sectors along the I-10 corridor that runs through all three counties and beyond. Tourism, casino gaming and military are also strengths for Harrison County.

DATA FOR CITY OF LONG BEACH

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010;
Esri forecasts for 2015, except for disposable income)

Population 15,626

Median Age 40.3

Ethnicity 12,902 White

1,653 Black

592 Hispanic

479 Other

Households 6,109

Total Housing Units 6,109

Median Household Income \$51,222

Per Capita Income \$24,811

Avg Household Income \$63,331

Disposable Income (Calculated) \$43,186

(Source: Secretary of State, State of Mississippi, Y'All Business)

Avg Discretionary Income \$21,731

(Source: The Conference Board, South Central United States)

DATA FOR HARRISON COUNTY

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010;
Esri forecasts for 2015)

Population 201,551

Median Age 36.3

Ethnicity 135,345 White

48,556 Black

11,212 Hispanic

6,438 Other

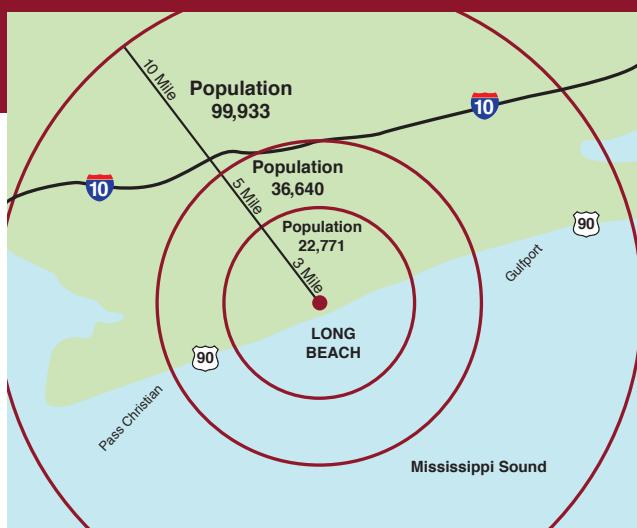
Median Household Income \$40,782

Per Capita Income \$21,297

Avg Household Income \$54,632

Long Beach is located in Harrison County, the most populous of the six counties in South Mississippi, the largest county in Mississippi by assessment and the only county in the state over \$2 billion.

To the immediate east of Long Beach is Gulfport, the second most populous city in the entire state.



CLIMATE

	Avg Low	Avg High	Avg Precip
January	42°	60°	5.5"
April	58°	76°	4.8"
July	74°	90°	7.3"
October	60°	79°	3.4"

Source: National Weather Service Slidell, LA

HEALTHCARE

Memorial Hospital at Gulfport is a public, not-for-profit health system, located just minutes from Long Beach. The acute care hospital is licensed for 445 beds and has a medical staff of more than 300 physicians. Facilities include a neonatal intensive care unit, cancer center, trauma center and behavioral health. Memorial Hospital operates four clinics within Long Beach: internal medicine, walk-in clinic, neurology and pediatrics. There are also numerous other hospitals and healthcare facilities located throughout Harrison County.

CULTURE & RECREATION

Parks & Public Facilities

- Long Beach Harbor offering 234 fixed boat slips and countless amenities; adjacent yacht club and restaurants
- Long Beach Town Green at the heart of town
- Long Beach Splash Pad
- The Friendship Oak

Festivals & Events

- Cruisin' the Coast, a weeklong car festival
- Mardi Gras parades & festivities
- Family festivals at Town Green and other venues
- Long Beach Farmers Market

The City of Long Beach is consistently recognized for its exceptional quality of life.

Its accolades include one of the “Top Ten Places in Mississippi” by Movoto, one of the “50 Small Towns to Move To” and one of “The Best Towns in Mississippi for Young Families” by NerdWallet.

EDUCATION

Long Beach School District Public Schools

‘A’ Rated System of Excellence (MS Dept of Education)

#1 on the Coast & #2 in the State (MS Dept of Education)

Harper McCaughan Elementary

Thomas L. Reeves Elementary

W. J. Quarles Elementary

Long Beach Middle School

2009 National Blue Ribbon School, U.S. Dept of Education

Long Beach High School

2007 National Blue Ribbon School, U.S. Dept of Education

Private Schools in Harrison County

Coast Episcopal, PK-6, Long Beach

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic, PK-6, Long Beach

St. James Catholic School, PK-6, Gulfport

St. Patrick Catholic High School, 7-12, Biloxi

Higher Learning in Long Beach

The University of Southern Mississippi

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College,

West Harrison County Center

Attractions

- Great shopping & dining in Long Beach and across the Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Beautiful white sand beaches
- Ecotourism adventures including Wolf River
- Deep sea fishing
- First-class casino resorts in neighboring towns
- Championship golf courses across the Coast
- Museums & cultural facilities in nearby cities

Long Beach is a Certified Hometown Mississippi Retirement City and home to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.



LONG BEACH, MISSISSIPPI *The Friendly City*

www.CityofLongBeachMS.com

QUALITY
OF LIFE

MILITARY

The military installations of South Mississippi are an integral part of local life, contributing significantly to the economy, employment opportunities, community and non-profit involvement, and cultural diversity.



TRANSPORTATION

The Gulfport/Biloxi International Airport is located approximately 10 miles from the City of Long Beach and offers commercial service, a 40,000 square foot cargo facility and Million Air Fixed Base Operator (FBO). Also just a short distance from Long Beach is the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport, a container, bulk and break-bulk seaport. There are also several other smaller airports and ports in the area.



Highway Map



Location Map

LONG BEACH, MISSISSIPPI *The Friendly City*

www.CityofLongBeachMS.com

The City of Long Beach is located within the transportation nerve center of Mississippi and the central Gulf Coast region. It's where highways, rails, airports and ports converge to give South Mississippi a reach north, south, east and west to both domestic and foreign locations. Long Beach is also at the center of a strong military network, with eight installations in the area.



LONG BEACH CITY HALL

201 Jeff Davis Avenue
Long Beach, MS 39560
228.863.1556

LONG BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

11975 Seaway Road
Gulfport, MS 39503
228.604.0014

HARRISON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

12281 Intraplex Parkway
Gulfport, MS 39503
228.896.5020

Photo Credits

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Inside: Friendship Oak image courtesy of Alex North;
Harper McCaughan Town Green fountain image courtesy of Randy Wilson/
Mississippi Main Street Association
Harper McCaughan Elementary School image courtesy of L. Biggs