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# Healthcare-Related Postsecondary Outcomes and Public Assistance Receipt in the Delta Region



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING  
& ANALYSIS RESEARCH CENTER

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October 2023

## **ABOUT MISSISSIPPI'S SLDS**

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Mississippi's State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) is one of the most comprehensive systems in the country and includes administrative records from more than 25 education, workforce, and human service agencies in the state. The SLDS allows for the alignment of multiple sources of de-identified administrative data over time to evaluate educational or workforce strategies in terms of real outcomes, such as entrance into employment, wages, and skill gains.

## **ABOUT NSPARC**

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NSPARC is a university research center at Mississippi State University and is a trusted and reliable source for high-quality research and analysis. We specialize in use-inspired research, data analytics, and software architecture and development. Our research emphasizes workforce and economic development, but the diversity of expertise on our team means we cover a broad range of topics in education, economics, health, human services, and corrections.

Unique experience with administrative records and longitudinal data systems, matched with our ability to apply the latest methodological and machine learning approaches allows us to draw meaningful insights from data to address challenges faced by policymakers, employers, economic developers, and state agencies.

For more information, contact NSPARC at [nsparc@nsparc.msstate.edu](mailto:nsparc@nsparc.msstate.edu) or 662-325-9242.

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# Healthcare-Related Postsecondary Outcomes, and Public Assistance Receipt in the Delta Region

## OVERVIEW

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This research brief, requested by the Delta Council, provides information on the postsecondary enrollment, graduation, and employment of Delta residents that enroll in healthcare related majors at Mississippi community colleges and public universities.

Information is also provided on the number of Delta residents receiving public assistance through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs, and the number receiving unemployment insurance (UI) assistance.

For this brief, the Mississippi Delta region includes the following 16 Mississippi counties: Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery, Sharkey, Sunflower, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Washington, Yalobusha.

## DATA AND INDICATORS

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### DATA

The data in this brief were made available by the continued funding of Mississippi's State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) through the state legislature. Data from the following sources were used:

***Mississippi Community College Data*** – Data pertaining to community college enrollment and graduation come from the administrative records of Mississippi's 15 community colleges and the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB). These data include information on the enrollment, county of residence, academic major, and graduation of approximately 73,000 students each year.

***Mississippi Public University Data*** – Data pertaining to 4-year public university enrollment and graduation come from the administrative records of Mississippi's eight public universities and the Institutions for Higher Learning (IHL). These data include information on the enrollment, county of residence, academic major, and graduation of approximately 81,000 students each year.

**Mississippi Employment and Wage Records** – Data on employment status and county of employment come from the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES). These data were collected from Mississippi employers that participate in the state’s Covered Employment system. Data fields include information on quarterly earnings, company of employment, employer location, and the employer’s industry classification code.

**Mississippi Unemployment Insurance Data** – Data on unemployment insurance (UI) receipt come from the administrative records of the MDES UI program. Data fields include information on length of receipt, county of residence and employment history.

**Mississippi Public Assistance Data** – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefit records come from the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS). These data provide information on the benefits received by individuals, county of residence, and the period when benefits were received.

## INDICATORS

Using these data, the following indicators were measured:

**Postsecondary Enrollment** – The number of students from the Mississippi Delta region who enrolled in a healthcare-related program at a Mississippi community college or Mississippi public university from AY 2018-AY 2022.

**Total Graduates** – The number of students from the Delta region who graduated from a Mississippi community college or Mississippi public university with a healthcare-related degree from AY 2018-AY 2022.

**Graduates not Re-enrolled** –The number of graduates (from AY 2018-AY 2022) who did not continue pursuing additional postsecondary education at one of Mississippi’s public community colleges or universities within a year of graduating from a healthcare-related degree program. These graduates are utilized as the foundation for this report’s workforce measurements, because including re-enrolled full-time or part-time students would skew the measurement of a cohort’s overall employment and earnings.

**Employed Graduates** –The number and percent of graduates who did not re-enroll and who are employed within one year of graduation by a Mississippi employer that participates in the state’s Covered Employment system.

**Public Assistance** – The annual number of individuals residing in the Mississippi Delta region who received public assistance through the SNAP or TANF programs, or received UI, from Calendar Year (CY) 2019 to CY 2023.

In accordance with SLDS Rules and Regulations, numeric values less than 10 were suppressed along with the accompanying percentages. These suppressed values were replaced with the “<10” symbol, and the accompany percent was replaced with the “---” symbol.

## RESULTS

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The following tables provide the results of the analysis.

- Table 1 provides the annual number of Delta residents (from AY 2018-AY 2022) who enrolled in a healthcare-related program at a Mississippi community college or public university. Results are provided for each included year in total and disaggregated by community college and public university enrollment.
- Table 2 provides the annual number of Delta residents (from AY 2018-AY 2022) who graduated with a healthcare related degree from a Mississippi community college or public university. Results are provided for each included year in total and disaggregated by community college and public university graduates.
- Table 3 provides the annual number and percent of Delta residents (from AY 2018-AY 2022) who graduated from a Mississippi community college or public university and found employment (1) within the Delta region or (2) in other regions of Mississippi within a year of graduating. Results are provided in total and disaggregated by community college and public university graduates.
- Table 4 provides the total (five-year summary) number of Delta residents who enrolled and graduated from a Mississippi community college from AY 2018-AY 2022, disaggregated by detailed degree program.
- Table 5 provides the total (five-year summary) number and percent of Delta residents who graduated from a Mississippi community college from AY 2018-AY 2022 and found employment (1) within the Delta region, or (2) within other regions of Mississippi, disaggregated by detailed degree program.
- Table 6 provides the total (five-year summary) number of Delta residents who enrolled and graduated from a Mississippi public university from AY 2018-AY 2022, disaggregated by detailed degree program.
- Table 7 provides the total (five-year summary) number and percent of Delta residents who graduated from a Mississippi public university from AY 2018-AY 2022 and found employment (1) within the Delta region, or (2) within other regions of Mississippi, disaggregated by detailed degree program.
- Table 8 provides the annual number of Delta residents that received public assistance through the SNAP and TANF programs, or received UI, at any point in calendar years 2019-2023.

**TABLE 1: POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OF DELTA RESIDENTS IN HEALTHCARE-RELATED MAJORS**

	AY 2018	AY 2019	AY 2020	AY 2021	AY 2022	5-Year Total
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>1,034</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>5,098</b>
<i>Mississippi Community College</i>	835	516	896	783	687	3,717
<i>Mississippi Public University</i>	266	293	294	251	277	1,381

Note: Measured for Mississippi community college and public university students who were from the Mississippi Delta region and enrolled in a “health professions and related programs” degree program (CIP 51).

Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.

**TABLE 2: POSTSECONDARY GRADUATES OF DELTA RESIDENTS WITH HEALTHCARE-RELATED DEGREES**

	AY 2018	AY 2019	AY 2020	AY 2021	AY 2022	5-Year Total
<b>Total Graduates</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>3,096</b>
<i>Mississippi Community College</i>	432	344	368	356	429	1,929
<i>Mississippi Public University</i>	240	224	251	231	221	1,167

Note: Measured for Mississippi community college and public university students who were from the Mississippi Delta region and graduated with a “health professions and related programs” degree (CIP 51).

Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.

**TABLE 3: EMPLOYMENT DELTA RESIDENTS WITH HEALTHCARE-RELATED DEGREES**

	AY 2018	AY 2019	AY 2020	AY 2021	AY 2022	5-Year Total
<b>Graduates not Re-Enrolled</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>2,248</b>
<i>Mississippi Community College</i>	284	229	222	239	273	1,247
<i>Mississippi Public University</i>	211	187	219	194	190	1,001
<b>Employed Graduates</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>1,951</b>
<i>Mississippi Community College</i>	261	214	195	218	238	1,126
<i>In Delta</i>	142	122	105	106	124	599
<i>Other MS Region</i>	119	92	90	112	114	527
<i>Mississippi Public University</i>	175	160	175	163	152	825
<i>In Delta</i>	73	76	70	59	45	323
<i>Other MS Region</i>	102	84	105	104	107	502
<b>Percent Employed</b>	<b>88.1%</b>	<b>89.9%</b>	<b>83.9%</b>	<b>88.0%</b>	<b>84.2%</b>	<b>86.8%</b>
<i>Mississippi Community College</i>	91.9%	93.4%	87.8%	91.2%	87.2%	90.3%
<i>In Delta</i>	50.0%	53.3%	47.3%	44.4%	45.4%	48.0%
<i>Other MS Region</i>	41.9%	40.2%	40.5%	46.9%	41.8%	42.3%
<i>Mississippi Public University</i>	82.9%	85.6%	79.9%	84.0%	80.0%	82.4%
<i>In Delta</i>	34.6%	40.6%	32.0%	30.4%	23.7%	32.3%
<i>Other MS Region</i>	48.3%	44.9%	47.9%	53.6%	56.3%	50.1%

Notes: Measured for Mississippi community college and public university graduates from the Mississippi Delta region, who graduated with a healthcare-related major (CIP 51) and were employed in the Mississippi Delta region within one year of graduation. The sum of the percent employed in the Delta region and outside of the Delta region may not add up to the total percent employed due to rounding.

Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.



**TABLE 4: NUMBER OF DELTA RESIDENTS ENROLLING AND GRADUATING FROM MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGES, BY DEGREE PROGRAM (SUMMARY TOTAL--2018-2022)**

Major	Enrollment	Graduates
Allied Health and Medical Assisting Services	62	75
Allied Health Diagnostic, Intervention, and Treatment Professions	311	222
Clinical/Medical Laboratory Science/Research and Allied Professions	75	52
Dental Support Services and Allied Professions	67	36
Health and Medical Administrative Services	275	129
Health/Medical Preparatory Programs	1,803	239
Practical Nursing, Vocational Nursing and Nursing Assistants	507	569
Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research	365	584
Other Health Professions and Related Programs	252	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>1,929</b>

Note: Measured for Mississippi community college graduates with a healthcare-related major (CIP 51.) who were from the Mississippi Delta region from AY 2018 to AY 2022.

Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.

**TABLE 5: EMPLOYMENT OF DELTA RESIDENTS WITH HEALTHCARE-RELATED MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEGREES (SUMMARY TOTAL--2018-2022)**

Major	Graduates not Re-enrolled	Employed Graduates			Percent Employed		
		In Delta	Other MS Region	Total	In Delta	Other MS Region	Total
Allied Health and Medical Assisting Services	74	20	44	64	27.0%	59.5%	86.5%
Allied Health Diagnostic, Intervention, and Treatment Professions	180	95	70	165	52.8%	38.9%	91.7%
Clinical/Medical Laboratory Science/Research and Allied Professions	37	26	10	36	70.3%	27.0%	97.3%
Dental Support Services and Allied Professions	32	13	15	28	40.6%	46.9%	87.5%
Health and Medical Administrative Services	86	32	37	69	37.2%	43.0%	80.2%
Health/Medical Preparatory Programs	91	27	41	68	29.7%	45.1%	74.7%
Practical Nursing, Vocational Nursing and Nursing Assistants	337	189	136	325	56.1%	40.4%	96.4%
Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research	404	196	171	367	48.5%	42.3%	90.8%
Other Health Professions and Related Programs	<10	<10	<10	<10	---	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>48.0%</b>	<b>42.3%</b>	<b>90.3%</b>

Notes: Measured for Mississippi community college graduates with a healthcare-related major (CIP 51.) who were from the Mississippi Delta region from AY 2018 to AY 2022. The sum of the percent employed in the Delta region and outside of the Delta region may not add up to the total percent employed due to rounding.

<10 indicates that the number is suppressed because it is less than 10.

--- indicates that the value is suppressed because an associated number is less than 10.

Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.

**TABLE 6: NUMBER OF DELTA RESIDENTS ENROLLING AND GRADUATING FROM MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES, BY DEGREE PROGRAM (SUMMARY TOTAL--2018-2022)**

Major	Enrollment	Graduates
Allied Health and Diagnostic Professions	25	34
Communication Disorders Sciences and Services.	127	122
Dentistry and Dental Support Services and Allied Professions.	17	19
Health and Medical Administrative Services.	108	52
Mental, Social, and Rehabilitation Health Professions	56	56
Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Administration.	43	48
Public Health.	177	67
Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research	570	677
Other Health Professions and Related Programs	258	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,167</b>

Note: Measured for Mississippi public university graduates with a healthcare-related major (CIP 51.) who were from the Mississippi Delta region from AY 2018 to AY 2022.  
Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.

**TABLE 7: EMPLOYMENT OF DELTA RESIDENTS WITH HEALTHCARE-RELATED MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITY DEGREES (SUMMARY TOTAL--2018-2022)**

Major	Graduates not Re-enrolled	Employed Graduates			Percent Employed		
		In Delta	Other MS Region	Total	In Delta	Other MS Region	Total
Allied Health and Diagnostic Professions	25	<10	---	19	---	---	76.0%
Communication Disorders Sciences and Services.	90	26	36	62	28.9%	40.0%	68.9%
Dentistry and Dental Support Services and Allied Professions.	16	<10	<10	11	---	---	68.8%
Health and Medical Administrative Services.	44	15	20	35	34.1%	45.5%	79.5%
Mental, Social, and Rehabilitation Health Professions	55	<10	---	45	---	---	81.8%
Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Administration.	25	<10	---	17	16.0%	52.0%	68.0%
Public Health.	52	13	25	38	25.0%	48.1%	73.1%
Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research	625	241	326	567	38.6%	52.2%	90.7%
Other Health Professions and Related Programs	69	<10	---	31	---	---	44.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>825</b>	<b>32.3%</b>	<b>50.1%</b>	<b>82.4%</b>

Notes: Measured for Mississippi public university graduates with a healthcare-related major (CIP 51.) who were from the Mississippi Delta region from AY 2018 to AY 2022. The sum of the percent employed in the Delta region and outside of the Delta region may not add up to the total percent employed due to rounding.  
<10 indicates that the number is suppressed because it is less than 10.  
--- indicates that the value is suppressed because an associated number is less than 10.  
Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.





**TABLE 8: SNAP, TANF, AND UI RECEIPT IN THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA REGION**

	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2023	5-Year Average
SNAP	83,716	81,320	76,773	74,502	70,962	77,455
TANF	4,542	3,217	1,921	2,189	1,967	2,767
UI	3,507	32,193	34,442	4,293	3,239	15,535

*Note: Measured for individuals who lived in the Mississippi Delta region.*

*Source: Mississippi State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), 2023.*

