

January 2026

Workforce Outcomes for Pearl River Community College Graduates



SLDS

Statewide Longitudinal
Data System

Prepared by Mississippi State University's NSPARC

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ABOUT MISSISSIPPI'S SLDS

Mississippi's Statewide 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.

PREPARED BY MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY'S NSPARC

The National Strategic Planning & Analysis Research Center (NSPARC) at Mississippi State University is a nationally recognized research center that supports data-driven decision-making across workforce development, education, economic development, and public policy. With over two decades of experience, NSPARC specializes in integrating and analyzing data from multiple sources to address complex challenges faced by state agencies, policymakers, educational institutions, and private-sector partners.

NSPARC's interdisciplinary team—including experts in sociology, economics, computer engineering, and public policy, along with professionals in data analytics and machine learning—produces research that is practical, actionable, and impactful. The center's collaborative approach and cross-domain expertise enable it to generate insights that help stakeholders design and implement solutions with real-world relevance.

To learn more, contact NSPARC at nsparc@nsparc.msstate.edu or 662-325-9242.

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REQUEST

Pearl River Community College (PRCC) has requested summary information on the workforce outcomes of their graduates. This report provides the following information for PRCC graduates from academic year (AY)¹ 2014 to AY 2023:

1. Total number of graduates
2. The number and percent employed in Mississippi within one, three, and five years of graduation, along with their median annual earnings
3. For those graduates employed in Mississippi, the percent working in each county within one, three, and five years of graduation

METHODOLOGY

DATA

Data for this study come from Mississippi's State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS), which includes administrative records from more than 25 state agencies. Data from the following SLDS data contributors were used:

Mississippi Community Colleges – Data on community college graduates are contributed to the SLDS by Mississippi's 15 community colleges and the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB). These data include information on enrollment, county of residence, academic major, and graduation.

Mississippi Department of Employment Security – Employer wage records are contributed to the SLDS by the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES). Employer wage records are collected from Mississippi employers that participate in the state's covered employment system. Data fields include information on quarterly earnings, company of employment, industry of employment, and county location of employer.

¹ The Academic Year (AY) in this report is defined as summer, fall, and spring semesters. For example, AY 2014 covers Summer 2013, Fall 2013, and Spring 2014.

INDICATORS

Number of Graduates – The number of PRCC graduates who earned an Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Applied Science (AAS), or Career/Technical Certificate from AY 2014 through AY 2023.

Employment – The number and percent of PRCC graduates who did not re-enroll in a Mississippi public postsecondary institution within one year of graduation, and were employed by a Mississippi covered employer within one, three, and five years of graduation.

Median Annual Earnings – The median annualized earnings of PRCC graduates who did not re-enroll in a Mississippi public postsecondary institution within one year of graduation, and were employed by Mississippi covered employers within one, three, and five years of graduation. Wage records in the second quarter at one, three, and five years after graduation were multiplied by four to create the annualized earnings for each observation window, and the median of these earnings are reported.

Employment Location – For PRCC graduates who did not re-enroll in a Mississippi public postsecondary institution within one year of graduation and were employed in the state, the percent employed in each county in Mississippi within one, three, and five years of graduation.

DATA SUPPRESSION

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 accompanying percent was replaced with the “---” symbol.

RESULTS

TABLE 1. POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OF PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES WITHIN ONE YEAR OF GRADUATION

| Cohort | Number of Graduates | Enrolled in MS Community Colleges | | Enrolled in MS Public Universities | | Not Enrolled in MS Postsecondary Institutions | |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|------|---|------|
| | | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| 2014 | 889 | 114 | 12.8 | 192 | 21.6 | 583 | 65.6 |
| 2015 | 871 | 94 | 10.8 | 170 | 19.5 | 607 | 69.7 |
| 2016 | 954 | 116 | 12.2 | 213 | 22.3 | 625 | 65.5 |
| 2017 | 919 | 115 | 12.5 | 192 | 20.9 | 612 | 66.6 |
| 2018 | 1,063 | 124 | 11.7 | 233 | 21.9 | 706 | 66.4 |
| 2019 | 1,051 | 109 | 10.4 | 238 | 22.7 | 704 | 67.0 |
| 2020 | 1,077 | 135 | 12.5 | 244 | 22.7 | 698 | 64.8 |
| 2021 | 1,203 | 144 | 12.0 | 271 | 22.5 | 788 | 65.5 |
| 2022 | 1,169 | 164 | 14.0 | 269 | 23.0 | 736 | 63.0 |
| 2023 | 1,224 | 153 | 12.5 | 265 | 21.7 | 806 | 65.9 |

TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OF PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES WITHIN ONE YEAR OF GRADUATION

| Cohort | Number of Graduates | Number of Graduates Not Enrolled in MS Postsecondary Institutions | Employed | | | |
|--------|---------------------|---|----------|------|----------------------------|---|
| | | | # | % | Median Annualized Earnings | Median Annualized Earnings (2025 Dollars) |
| 2014 | 889 | 583 | 445 | 76.3 | \$26,106 | \$35,403 |
| 2015 | 871 | 607 | 434 | 71.5 | \$24,352 | \$32,872 |
| 2016 | 954 | 625 | 478 | 76.5 | \$25,102 | \$33,285 |
| 2017 | 919 | 612 | 447 | 73.0 | \$25,492 | \$33,101 |
| 2018 | 1,063 | 706 | 510 | 72.2 | \$24,818 | \$31,531 |
| 2019 | 1,051 | 704 | 521 | 74.0 | \$25,898 | \$32,248 |
| 2020 | 1,077 | 698 | 500 | 71.6 | \$24,470 | \$30,096 |
| 2021 | 1,203 | 788 | 576 | 73.1 | \$29,242 | \$33,711 |
| 2022 | 1,169 | 736 | 540 | 73.4 | \$31,801 | \$34,230 |
| 2023 | 1,224 | 806 | 589 | 73.1 | \$33,692 | \$35,126 |

TABLE 3. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OF PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES WITHIN THREE YEARS OF GRADUATION

| Cohort | Number of Graduates | Number of Graduates Not Enrolled in MS Postsecondary Institutions | Employed | | | |
|--------|---------------------|---|----------|------|----------------------------|---|
| | | | # | % | Median Annualized Earnings | Median Annualized Earnings (2025 Dollars) |
| 2014 | 889 | 583 | 404 | 69.3 | \$30,410 | \$41,240 |
| 2015 | 871 | 607 | 404 | 66.6 | \$33,643 | \$45,413 |
| 2016 | 954 | 625 | 425 | 68.0 | \$30,384 | \$40,288 |
| 2017 | 919 | 612 | 405 | 66.2 | \$30,134 | \$39,128 |
| 2018 | 1,063 | 706 | 464 | 65.7 | \$32,107 | \$40,792 |
| 2019 | 1,051 | 704 | 468 | 66.5 | \$34,977 | \$43,552 |
| 2020 | 1,077 | 698 | 456 | 65.3 | \$35,813 | \$44,047 |
| 2021 | 1,203 | 788 | 509 | 64.6 | \$38,714 | \$44,630 |
| 2022 | 1,169 | 736 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2023 | 1,224 | 806 | --- | --- | --- | --- |

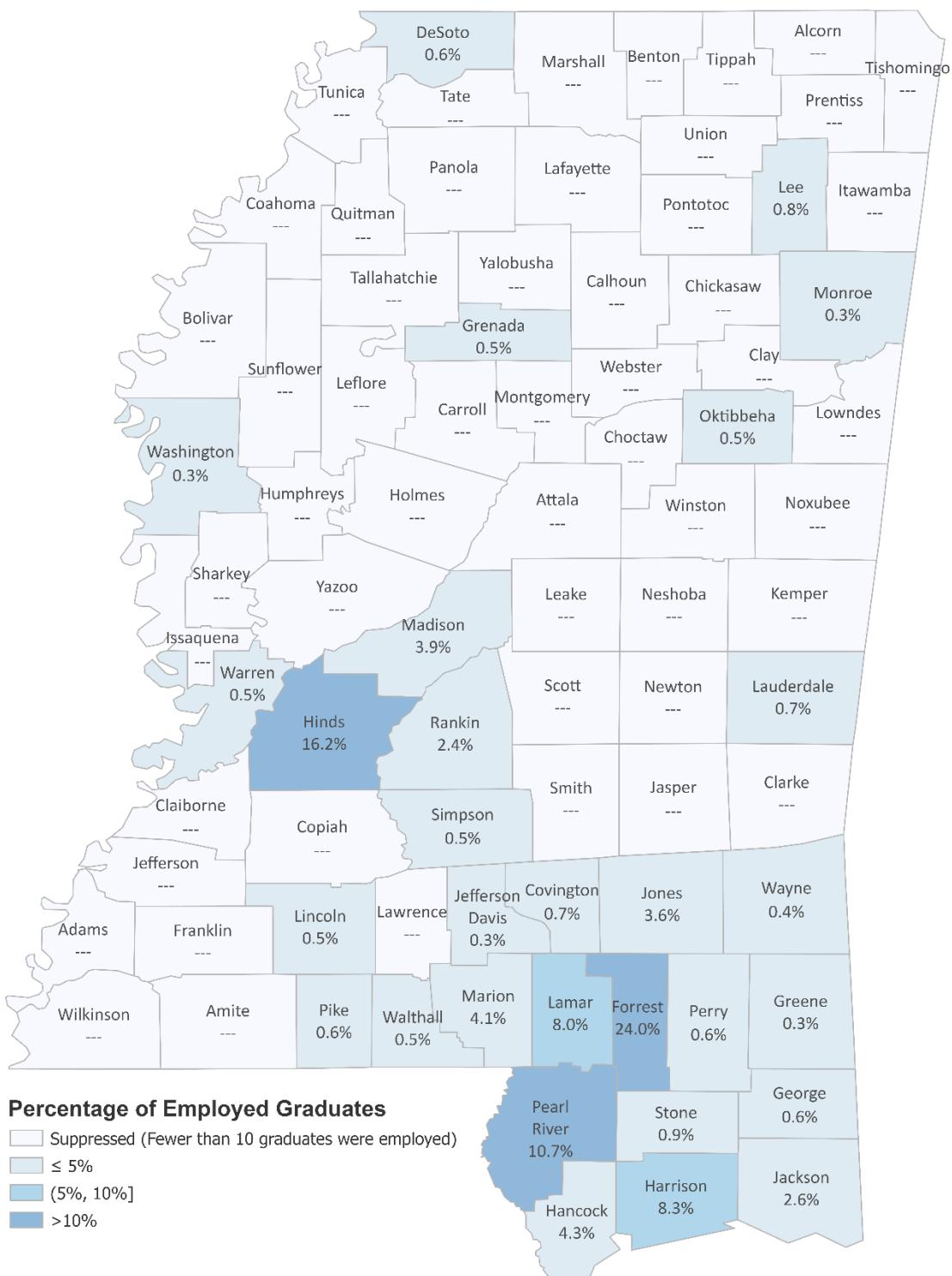
Note: “---” indicates not enough years of data available to measure outcome.

TABLE 4. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OF PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES WITHIN FIVE YEARS OF GRADUATION

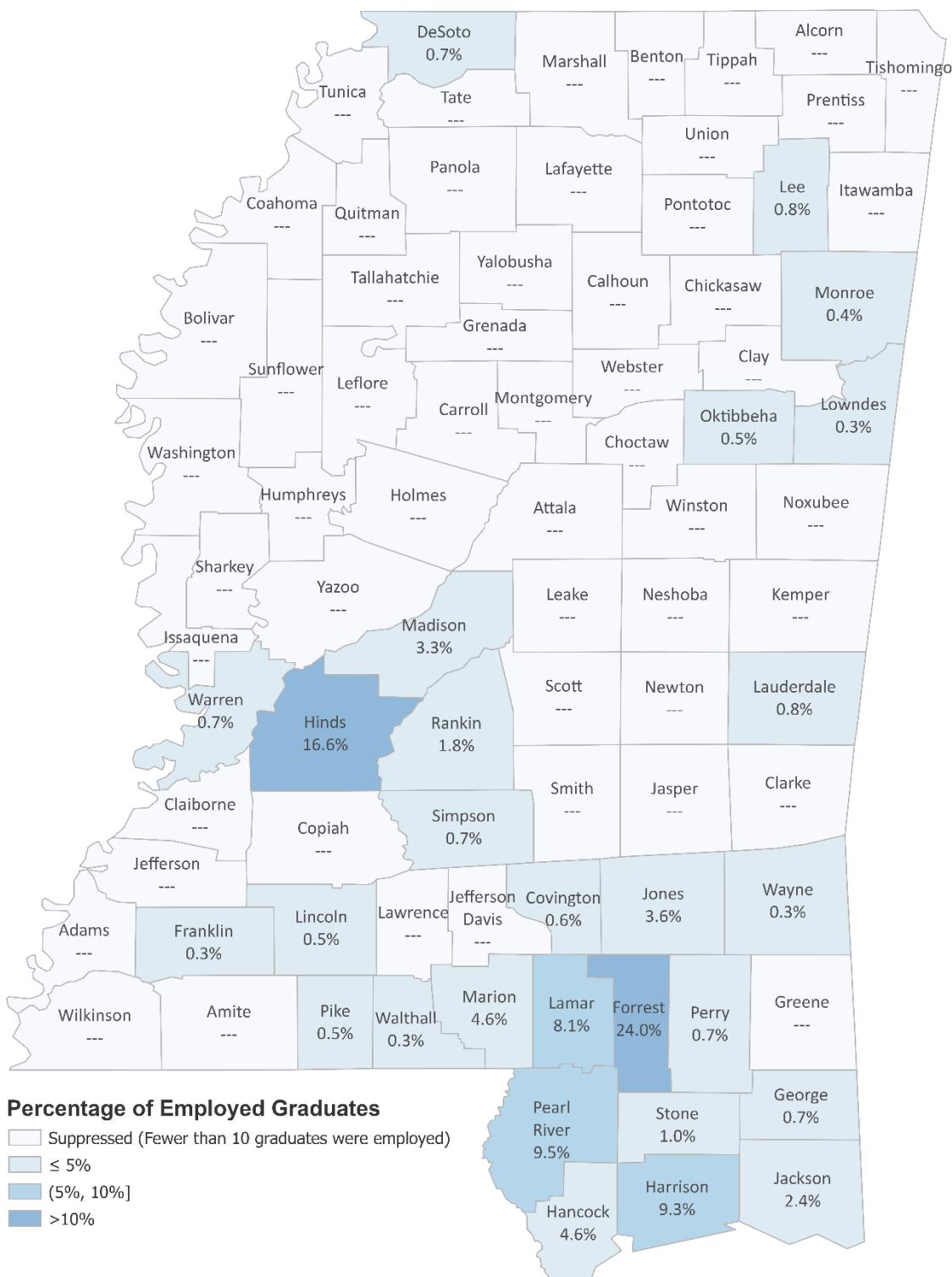
| Cohort | Number of Graduates | Number of Graduates Not Enrolled in MS Postsecondary Institutions | Employed | | | |
|--------|---------------------|---|----------|------|----------------------------|---|
| | | | # | % | Median Annualized Earnings | Median Annualized Earnings (2025 Dollars) |
| 2014 | 889 | 583 | 389 | 66.7 | \$36,150 | \$49,025 |
| 2015 | 871 | 607 | 394 | 64.9 | \$35,476 | \$47,887 |
| 2016 | 954 | 625 | 402 | 64.3 | \$34,361 | \$45,562 |
| 2017 | 919 | 612 | 386 | 63.1 | \$37,408 | \$48,573 |
| 2018 | 1,063 | 706 | 442 | 62.6 | \$37,413 | \$47,533 |
| 2019 | 1,051 | 704 | 419 | 59.5 | \$41,348 | \$51,485 |
| 2020 | 1,077 | 698 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2021 | 1,203 | 788 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2022 | 1,169 | 736 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2023 | 1,224 | 806 | --- | --- | --- | --- |

Note: “---” indicates not enough years of data available to measure outcome.

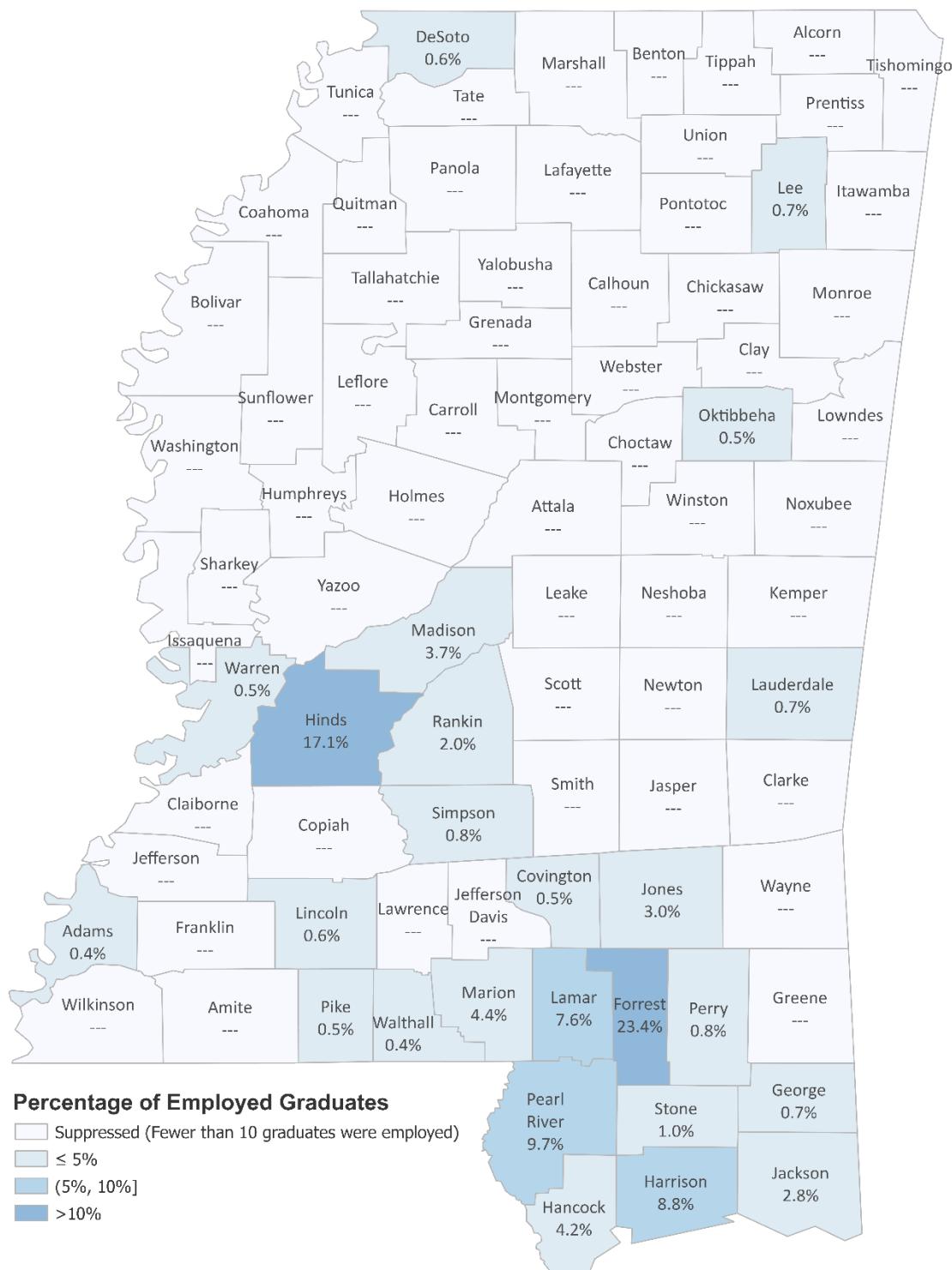
**FIGURE 1: PERCENT OF GRADUATES WORKING IN EACH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY
WITHIN ONE YEAR OF GRADUATION**



**FIGURE 2: PERCENT OF GRADUATES WORKING IN EACH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY
WITHIN THREE YEARS OF GRADUATION**



**FIGURE 3: PERCENT OF GRADUATES WORKING IN EACH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY
WITHIN FIVE YEARS OF GRADUATION**





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