

## Shoals Economic Development Authority

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## Workforce

The Shoals has a skilled workforce to meet the needs of existing industry and new companies considering The Shoals.

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### Availability

Florence-Muscle Shoals MA  
Total Civilian Labor Force (June 2010): 67,574  
Unemployment Rate (June 2010): 9.9%  
Population (2009 Estimate): 144,238

### The Shoals Labor Market

(Eight counties: Colbert, Lauderdale, Franklin, Lawrence, and Limestone Counties in Alabama; Tishomingo County in Mississippi; and, Lawrence and Wayne Counties in Tennessee)

Labor Market (June 2010): 163,796

Population (2009 Estimate): 364,861

(Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations; Tennessee Department of Labor; Mississippi Department of Employment Security; U.S. Census Bureau)

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### Employment Statistics

(June 2010)

<b>Total Non-Agricultural Employment:</b>	<b>54,800</b>
<b><u>Goods Producing</u></b>	10,300
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	3,300
Manufacturing	7,000
<b><u>Service Producing</u></b>	44,500

Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	11,000
Wholesale Trade	2,400
Retail Trade	7,600
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	1,000
Information	600
Financial Activity	2,200
Professional & Business Services	4,800
Education & Health Services	5,200
Leisure & Hospitality	5,800
Other Services	3,300
Government	11,600
Federal	1,400
State & Local	10,200

(Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations)

**Travel Time to Work**  
(2008)

Total Population by Travel Time to Work	61,862
Less than 15 minutes	20,199
15 to 29 minutes	24,332
30 to 44 minutes	9,880
45 to 59 minutes	3,616
60 or more minutes	3,835
Average Travel Time in Minutes	25.19

**Employed Persons 16 years and Over by Occupation**  
Florence-Muscle Shoals MA (2008)

Population 16+ by Occupation	63,883
Management, Business, Financial	9.38%
Professional and Related Occupations	16.27%
Sales and Office	25.73%
Services	13.84%
Farming Forestry & Fishing	0.64%
Construction/Extraction/Maintenance	12.02%
Production/Transportation/Material Moving	22.12%

**Percent of Industry Type to Number of Manufacturers**

Metal/Industrial Machinery	39%
Fabricating	13%

Textiles	12%
Cabinets/Millwork	11%
Paper/Printing	7%
Food	6%
Chemical	6%
Furniture/Shelving	3%
Automotive	3%

(Source: Business Information Solutions)

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### **Unemployment Rate History** (Florence-Muscle Shoals MA)

2009 Average	10.1%
2008 Average	5.2%
2007 Average	3.9%
2006 Average	3.8%
2005 Average	4.5%
2004 Average	6.0%
2003 Average	6.7%
2002 Average	8.1%
2001 Average	6.3%
2000 Average	4.7%
1999 Average	5.9%
1998 Average	6.4%

(Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations)

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### **Worker's Compensation**

All companies that employ five or more people within the State of Alabama are required to have workers' compensation insurance. Within the State of Alabama, financially strong companies may be self-insured.

[Alabama Department of Industrial Relations](#)

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### **Wages and Benefits**

The Shoals (Florence-Muscle Shoals Metropolitan Area)

[2009 Wage Survey for Florence-Muscle Shoals MSA](#)

Wages for Sample Occupations:

Occupational Title	Job Code	Est. Emp.	Mean Wage	Entry Wage	Exp. Wage
Industrial Production Managers	11-3051	40	39.91	27.74	45.99
Sales Managers	11-2022	40	46.16	21.37	58.56
General & Operations Managers	11-1021	790	40.26	21.93	49.43
Industrial Engineers	17-2112	30	29.31	21.85	33.03
Chemical Technicians	19-4031	10	10.90	9.55	11.57
Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll & Timekeeping	43-4161	20	16.67	11.83	19.08
Shipping, Receiving, & Traffic Clerks	43-5071	290	12.45	9.68	13.83
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	49-9043	NA	17.01	13.06	18.98
Team Assemblers	51-2092	1020	9.58	7.91	10.42
Machinists	51-4041	190	19.70	15.22	21.93
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	51-4121	150	12.95	10.86	13.99
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	51-9061	110	11.47	8.35	13.03
Helpers--Production Workers	51-9198	370	9.77	8.33	10.48
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	53-7062	1,260	10.37	6.84	12.13

(Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Occupational Employment and Wages)

Bureau of Labor Statistics Wage Information

[May 2007 Metropolitan Area Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates](#)

(Bureau of Labor Statistics)

[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

[Overview of BLS Statistics on Wages, Earnings, and Benefits](#)

(Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Income Data

[Alabama State Data Center—Income, Poverty, and Employment](#)

**Other Sources**

[Salary.com](#)

[America's Job Bank--Compare Wages by Metro Area](#)

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