



# DISTRIBUTION & WAREHOUSING

**MISSISSIPPI'S** transportation infrastructure provides an insurmountable advantage to the warehousing and distribution industry. The multi-modal connectivity and well-integrated infrastructure serve businesses in all capacities whether by land, air, rail, or sea.

**Road and Air** Mississippi is in the heart of one of the fastest growing regions in the nation and is within a day's drive of much of United States' population. The state offers distributors a number of location options, including an abundance of land available in industrial and technology parks, as well as locations in close proximity to major airports, particularly in the Memphis metropolitan area. Mississippi's roadways offer exceptional divided four-lane highway infrastructure, six Interstates, and 14 federal highways. The state's divided four-lane highway system is ranked #8 in the U.S. (2014) and serves as a prime location for storing and moving goods throughout the central United States.

**Rail and Port** The Mississippi Advantage for warehousing and distribution extends beyond that of roadways and airports. The state's superb rail and port infrastructures provide access to worldwide distribution. The railways in Mississippi (five Class-I and 24 Class-III rail systems) have access to 25,000 miles of track stretching from both coasts of Canada through the central U.S. to the Gulf Coast, Texas, and Mexico. Three Mississippi ports are positioned directly on the Gulf of Mexico, two of which are deep water accessible. The Port of Pascagoula was named one of the top 20 ports in the nation for foreign cargo volume. Four Foreign Trade Zones located along the Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi River, and northern state border, respectively.

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Community College Training Programs By Industry

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MISSISSIPPI IS WITHIN  
**ONE DAY'S DRIVE**  
OF  
**55%** OF U.S. BUSINESSES & MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS

MISSISSIPPI RANKS  
**#8**  
FOR PERFORMANCE OF STATE  
**HIGHWAY SYSTEM**  
21st Annual Highway Report, 2014

MISSISSIPPI IS A  
**TOP 10**  
FOREIGN-TRADE  
ZONE ACTIVITY STATE  
**4 FTZ'S** LOCATED IN

MISSISSIPPI RANKS  
**TOP 10**  
STATES FOR  
DOING BUSINESS  
Area Development Magazine, 2014

**ROADS** SIX INTERSTATES  
14 FEDERAL HIGHWAYS  
**RAIL** 30 RAIL CAR PROVIDERS  
FIVE CLASS I RAILROADS  
**PORTS** 15 PORTS  
TWO DEEPWATER PORTS  
**AIR** 80 AIRPORTS  
TWO INTERNATIONAL

## Distribution & Warehousing Success in Mississippi:



WILLIAMS-SONOMA



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major universities throughout the state offer ABET-accredited undergraduate degree programs in 16 different engineering fields.



### WORKFORCE

Mississippi's skilled workforce is its greatest treasure. Mississippians have a "can-do" attitude and are driven by pride to do things right. Robust workforce training programs offered throughout the state equip Mississippi's people with the necessary skills to get the job done. A right-to-work state, Mississippi's affordable cost of living, low overall cost of doing business, and tax and financing incentives make it an attractive economic option for companies of all sizes—from start-ups to established multinational corporations.

An enterprise is only as good as its people—that's why more industry leaders are choosing a Mississippi location to compete in today's global marketplace.



### INCENTIVES

The State of Mississippi offers a variety of grant, loan, and tax incentive programs designed to assist businesses creating jobs and making capital investments in the state. For a full list of distribution and warehousing business incentive programs available from the state, visit [the incentives page](#).

“THE EXPANSION OF THIS FACILITY HAS ENABLED US TO CREATE HUNDREDS OF NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE LOCAL ECONOMY, THEREBY MAKING OLIVE BRANCH THE LARGEST DISTRIBUTION AND FULFILLMENT OPERATION IN OUR PORTFOLIO.”

Dean Miller, Chief Operating Officer  
Williams-Sonoma, Inc.

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MISSISSIPPI'S  
TRANSPORTATION  
INFRASTRUCTURE



### ROADS

DIVIDED FOUR-LANE  
HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE,  
SIX INTERSTATES,  
& 14 FEDERAL HIGHWAYS

### RAIL

30 RAIL CAR PROVIDERS,  
INCLUDING FIVE  
CLASS 1 RAILROADS,  
(2,500 MILES OF TRACK)

### PORTS

15 PORTS (2 DEEPWATER)  
ALONG THE GULF OF MEXICO,  
MISSISSIPPI RIVER,  
& TENNESSEE-TOMBIGBEE WATERWAY

### AIR

7 COMMERCIAL  
AIRPORTS  
(INCLUDING TWO  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS)