



# ALABAMA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 2025

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**ALABAMA**<sup>®</sup>

*Culverhouse*  
College of Business  
Center for Business and Economic Research

# ALABAMA METROPOLITAN AREAS

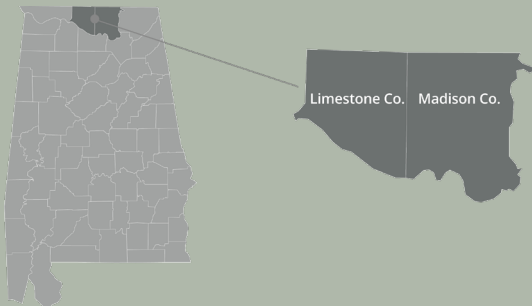
## HUNTSVILLE

### OUTLOOK HIGHLIGHTS

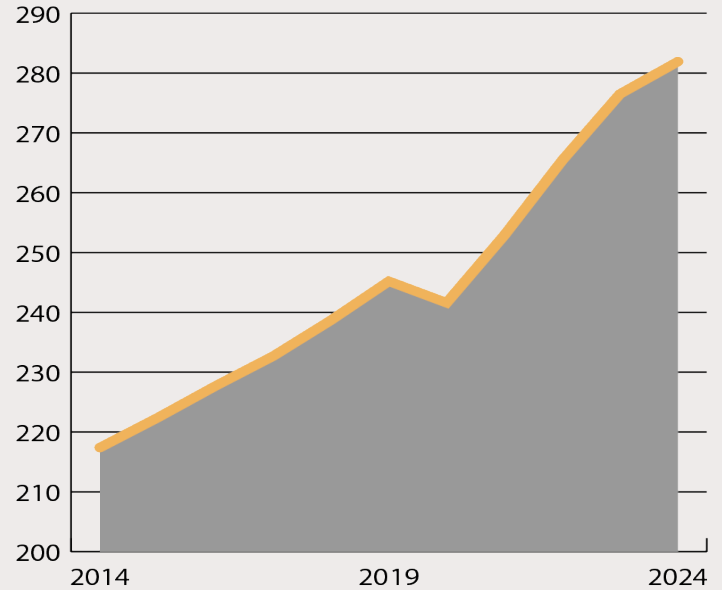
Toyota Alabama is investing \$282 million to expand their Huntsville plant to include lines for new drivetrain products, creating 350 new jobs. This brings the company's total investment in Huntsville to \$1.7 billion. Raytheon's \$115-million expansion of its Redstone Raytheon Missile Integration Facility is expected to be completed in 2025, increasing the factory's space by 50 percent and adding 185 new jobs. Special Aerospace Services is expanding, building a new \$12.8-million multi-use manufacturing facility in Cummings Research Park that will create up to 60 new jobs when completed in late 2025. SpaceFactory, a company that specializes in space and terrestrial construction technology, is investing \$2 million to relocate its headquarters to Huntsville, creating over 25 new jobs when completed in summer 2025. Construction has begun on Phase 1 of Front Row, a \$375-million, 11-acre mixed-use development in downtown Huntsville that will have 545 residential units; 36,000 sq.ft. of office space; 47,000 sq.ft. of retail space; and a public green space. Retail space will be available in late 2025 and apartments in 2026. Total Quality Logistics, an Ohio-based freight brokerage firm, has expanded their Alabama footprint with a Huntsville office that will create 100 jobs once at full operations. DC Blox, a digital infrastructure provider, has announced plans to expand its presence in Huntsville with a new large scale data center that will have a capacity of 5MW. The new \$7.5-million, 27,350-sq.ft. West Huntsville Recreation Center on Martin Road is expected to open by the end of 2025. In addition to the athletic space, the space will include multipurpose rooms for community use and could become the first public Wi-Fi center in the district. Shape Corp, a Michigan-based Tier 1 automotive supplier, has completed construction of their \$74-million facility in Tanner, which will create 100 jobs by mid-2025.

### GDP AND EMPLOYMENT FORECAST

Huntsville metro GDP grew by 6.0 percent to reach \$36.1 billion in 2023, accounting for 14.7 percent of the state's total GDP. CBER is optimistic about the MSA's outlook for 2025, with GDP expected to grow by 2.8 percent and nonfarm employment by 2.1 percent.



### HUNTSVILLE NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (THOUSANDS)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

ECONOMIC INDICATORS	MOST RECENT DATA	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR*	METRO RANK
Real GDP 2023 (millions of 2017 \$)	\$36,100	6.0%	2
GDP Forecast 2025 (percent increase)	2.8		2
Exports 2023 (millions)	\$1,762	13.1%	4
Civilian Labor Force, October 2024	264,882	2.4%	2
Nonfarm Employment, October 2024	284,800	1.9%	2
Nonfarm Employment Forecast 2024 (percent change)	2.1		2
Available Labor Pool (Unemployed + Underemployed), October 2024	67,364	4.8%	2
Unemployment Rate, October 2024	2.7%	0.5	1
Underemployment Rate, October 2024	23.4%	-0.2	10
Employment - Manufacturing, October 2024	35,400	0.9%	2
Employment - Service Providing Industries, October 2024	238,300	1.9%	2
Per Capita Income 2023	\$64,089	5.6%	2
Average Annual Wage 2023	\$67,120	5.2%	1
Median Family Income FY2024	\$113,600	5.0%	1
Single Family Residential Building Permits, Jan. - Sep. 2024	3,108	3.5%	1
Total Homes Sold, Jan. - Sep. 2024	7,150	6.0%	2
Population Estimate 2023	527,254	2.5%	2
Population Projection 2040	589,682		2

Additional details and data available on pp. 54-59.

\* Changes in unemployment rate and underemployment rate are presented in percentage points.