

Alabama Enterprise Zone Program

2021 Annual Report



Kay Ivey, Governor

Kenneth W. Boswell, Director
Alabama Department of Economic and
Community Affairs

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALABAMA

KENNETH W. BOSWELL
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Kay Ivey
Governor

FROM: Kenneth W. Boswell
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth W. Boswell" with a stylized flourish at the end.

DATE: February 14, 2022

RE: Alabama Enterprise Zone Program 2021 Annual Report

Please find attached the 2021 Alabama Enterprise Zone Annual Report for your review. The Alabama Enterprise Zone Act (No. 87-573) was signed into law on July 22, 1987. The purpose of this act is to stimulate business and industrial growth in depressed areas of the state. In accordance with legislative requirements, this report shows the response of the business communities regarding the program benefits during the 2021 calendar year, as well as cumulative and administrative activities.

Should you have any questions pertaining to this report or the Alabama Enterprise Zone Program, do not hesitate to contact Shabbir Olia, Division Chief, Community and Economic Development, at (334) 242-5468.

KWB:SAO:km
Attachment

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I. Introduction

From 1987 to September 2016, the Alabama Enterprise Zone Program (Act No. 87-573) had been an economic development/jobs creation program made available to three (3) cities, and twenty-five (25) counties located throughout the State. The program provides for either State tax credits or tax exemptions to eligible businesses located within these zones. The available credit/exemption is dependent upon the company's capital investments, individuals employed, or training provided by the company to its employees. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) coordinates administration, marketing, outreach, certification, and public relations for the program. Additionally, the ADECA is required to provide a detailed annual report to the Alabama Legislature. This report provides an analysis of the program and information about job creation, capital investment within the zones, amount of tax dollars forfeited, and costs to the State per job created within the zones during the program year. Alabama's Enterprise Zones were located in the following cities and counties through September 30, 2016:

City of Birmingham	Lawrence County
City of Montgomery	Lowndes County
City of Prichard	Macon County
Barbour County	Mobile County
Bullock County	Monroe County
Butler County	Perry County
Cherokee County	Pickens County
Clarke County	Pike County
Clay County	Randolph County
Covington County	Russell County
Dallas County	Sumter County
Escambia County	Talladega County
Etowah County	Tallapoosa County
Jackson County	Wilcox County

As of October 1, 2016, the definition of an Enterprise Zone changed. The Alabama Jobs Act, #2016-321, states the definition of an Enterprise Zone should be that as described by Section 40-18-376.1(a), Code of Alabama, 1975. The Alabama Incentives Modernization Act, Act #2019-392, amended Section 40-18-376.1(a) to describe an Enterprise Zone as any targeted or jumpstart county.

A targeted county means any Alabama county that has a population of 50,000 or less. A jumpstart county means any Alabama county: 1) that does not qualify as a targeted county; 2) that has experienced negative population growth over the last five years; and 3) contains no more than two Opportunity Zones as they existed on June 1, 2019.

Notwithstanding any other agreement or law to the contrary, any eligible businesses that received an approved application from the department prior to October 1, 2016, shall continue to receive those exemptions for the period of time specified in those agreements.

As determined by the Jobs Act, the following forty-five (45) counties qualified as Enterprise Zones in 2021:

Barbour County	Hale County
Bibb County	Henry County
Bullock County	Jackson County
Butler County	Lamar County
Chambers County	Lawrence County
Cherokee County	Lowndes County
Chilton County	Macon County
Choctaw County	Marengo County
Clarke County	Marion County
Clay County	Monroe County
Cleburne County	Perry County
Conecuh County	Pickens County
Coosa County	Pike County
Covington County	Randolph County
Crenshaw County	Russell County
Dale County	Sumter County
Dallas County	Talladega County
Escambia County	Tallapoosa County
Etowah County	Walker County
Fayette County	Washington County
Franklin County	Wilcox County
Geneva County	Winston County
Greene County	

There are no longer designated areas within the counties that qualify as an Enterprise Zone. With the passage of the Jobs Act, the entire county is an Enterprise Zone. See lists on pages 3 and 4.

II. 2021 Alabama Enterprise Zone Program Activities

In 2021, the ADECA received several requests for information about the program and tax incentives. Unfortunately, none of these requests translated to applications or endorsements. Therefore, there was no new activity in the Enterprise Zones for 2021. Most of the requests received were from tax firms seeking location verification to claim tax credits for industries located within the Enterprise Zones.

III. Economic Impact of Alabama's Enterprise Zone Program

Companies located in Alabama's Enterprise Zones have produced the following economic impacts because of their business activities during the 2021 calendar year.

Total Capital Investment in 2021: 0
Number of Taxpayers Claiming the Credit: 0
Taxes Exempted Through the Program in 2021: \$0

Based on records to date, there have been no tax-exempted benefits claimed through Section 5 during the 2021 calendar year.

V. Conclusion

There was no participation in the Alabama Enterprise Zone Program during the 2021 calendar year, thus limiting progress toward achieving the legislative goals of revitalizing distressed areas and increasing employment of area residents. It was expected that the recent changes in legislation together with the ADECA's assistance would help to improve the economic growth in these counties. So far, that has not been the case.