

MURC Snapshot

October 2021

Prior to Pandemic, Poverty Levels in Some Cities Were Slowly Improving

Sheryl Bacon, MPA

Despite Mississippi's ranking as one of the states with the highest poverty levels in the country¹ with a rate of 20.3%², poverty levels were gradually improving for some cities. **Figure 1** depicts those larger Mississippi cities in which the percentage of persons living below the poverty line decreased at rates between 3% and 10%. **Figure 2** depicts those larger Mississippi cities in which the percentage of persons living below the poverty line saw increases ranging between 0.5% to 3.1%. The values illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 were determined by calculating the difference in percentages reported in 2019 and 2015 American Community Survey data.

Figure 1

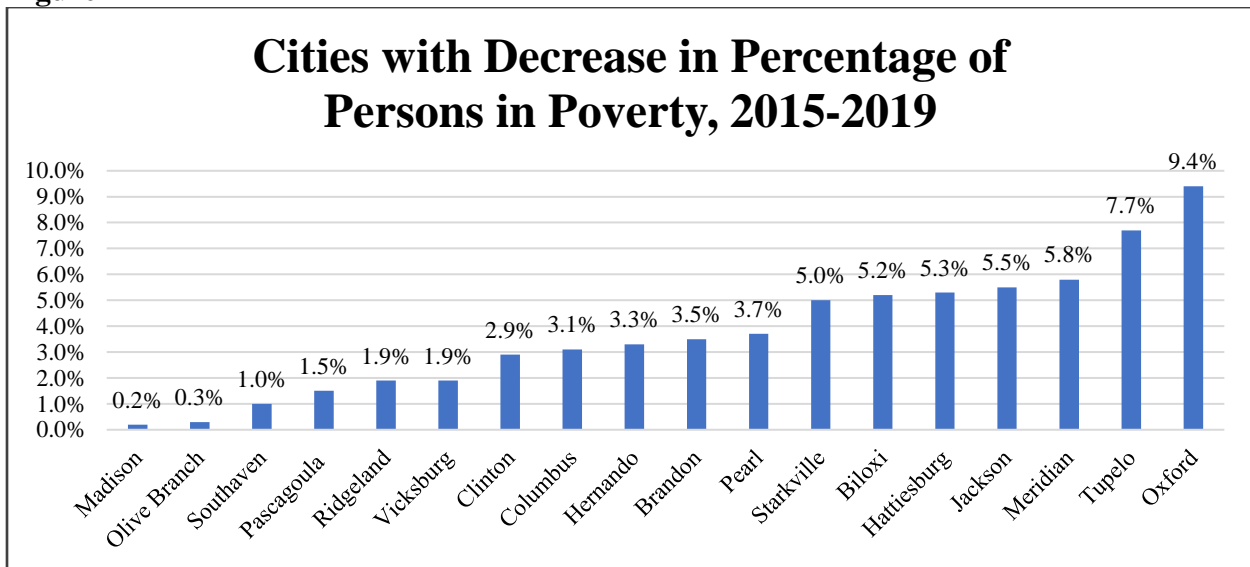
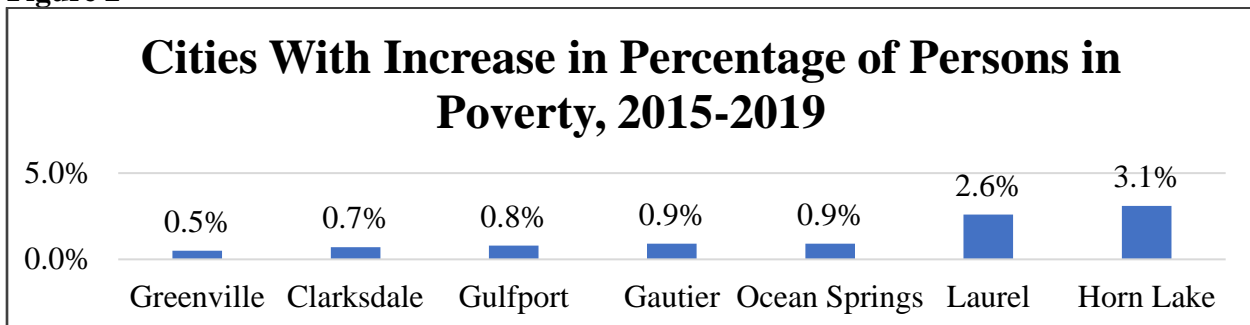


Figure 2



¹ Center for American Progress. (n.d.). Mississippi Report 2020. Retrieved from Talk Poverty: <https://talkpoverty.org/state-year-report/mississippi-2020-report/>

² <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?t=Poverty&g=0400000US28&tid=ACSST5Y2019.S1701>