The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region announces the availability of a new study report, *Socioeconomic Baseline Study for the Gulf of Mexico, Final Report: Description of the Dataset, 1930-1990*. This report describes a database that can be used as a source of information for the socioeconomic impact of offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico on the region, and in particular the coastal areas. The database was developed from census data collected from 1930 to 1990. This database represents a consolidated source of information for the five states along the Gulf Coast. The dataset is classified and organized into the following modules: demography, vital statistics, civilian employment, establishments, income and poverty status, and government finance and employment. Researchers will be able to use this dataset to identify counties and parishes whose employment structures were strongly affected by oil and natural gas extraction activities, examine how this impact has changed over the period 1930-1990, and analyze the socioeconomic impact of oil and natural gas extraction for the period 1930-1990.

This report is available only in compact disc format. The disc is available from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of $15.00 by referencing OCS Study MMS 2002-054. You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

MMS is the federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas, and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf in federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for and disburses mineral revenues from federal and Indian leases. These revenues totaled nearly $10 billion in 2001 and more than $120 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Annually, nearly $1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the acquisition and development of state and federal park and recreation lands.

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MMS's Website Address: [http://www.mms.gov](http://www.mms.gov)

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