



Mississippi  
Economic Policy  
Center  
A HOPE Initiative

# **2010 MEPC Policy Conference**

## **Creating Equitable Solutions for Mississippi's Working Families**

October 22, 2010

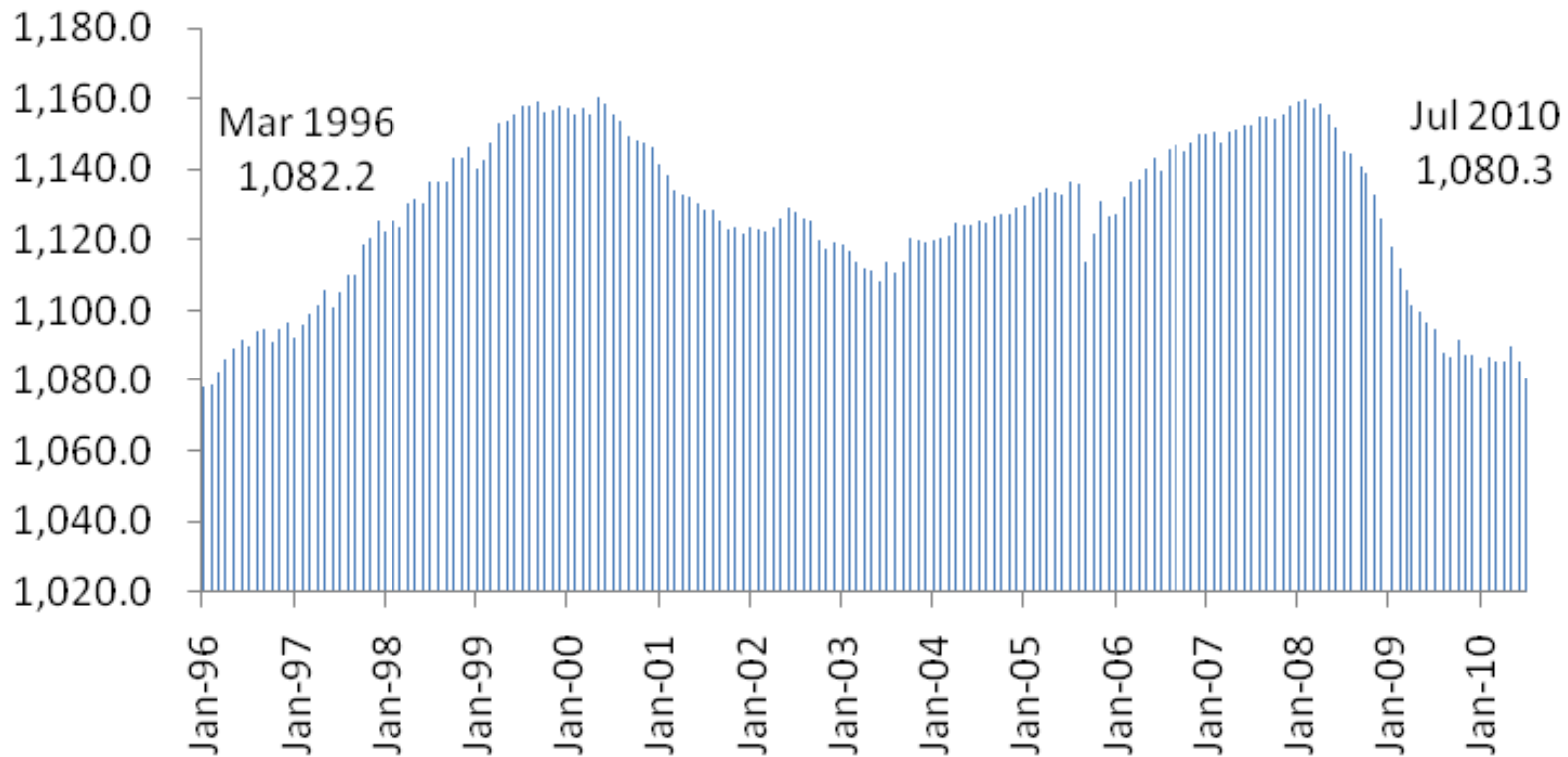
**[www.mepconline.org](http://www.mepconline.org)**

# Mississippi has Lost over 70,000 Jobs since Start of '07 Recession



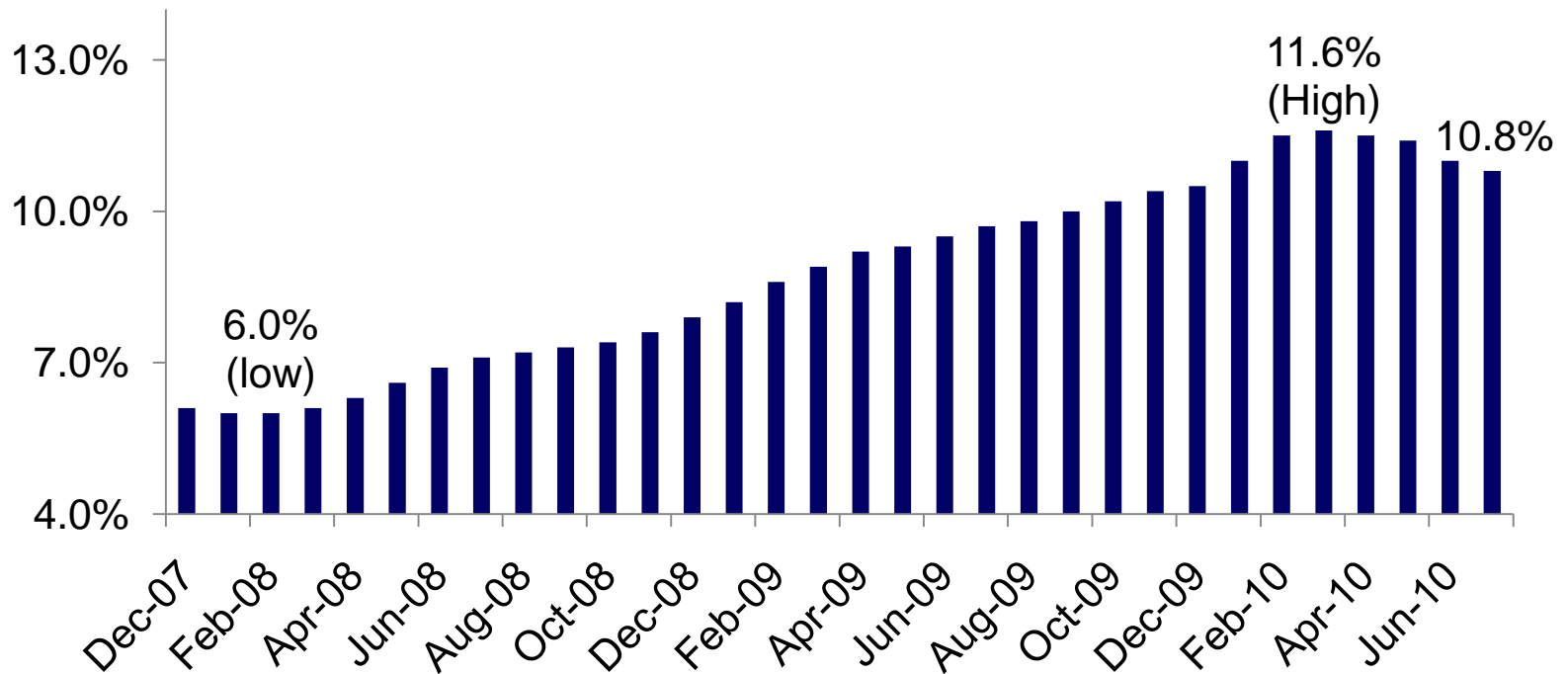
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## Current Number of Jobs at 1996 Levels

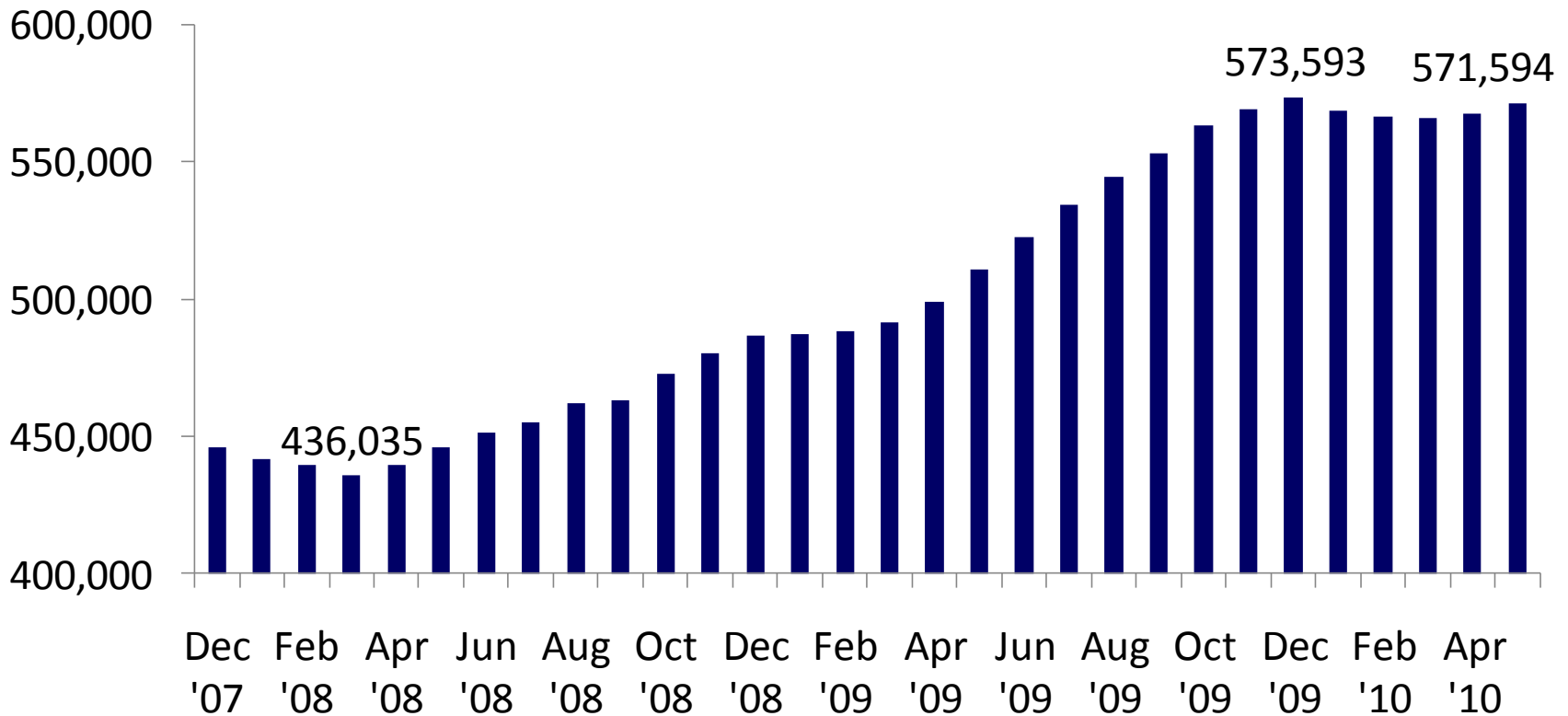


Source: Economic Policy Institute Analysis of data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Mississippi Unemployment Rate since Start of the Recession

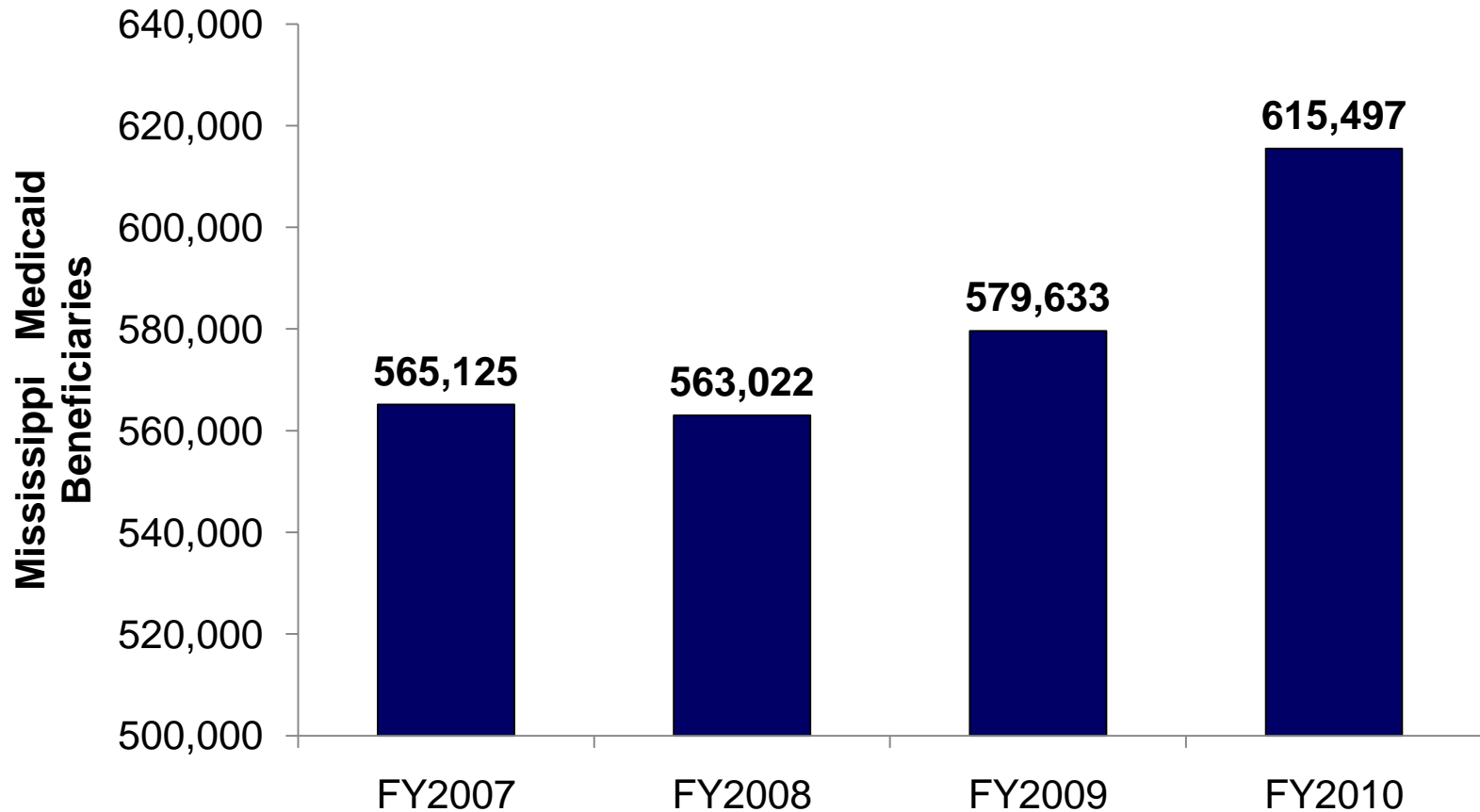


# Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Use Increases with Job Loss





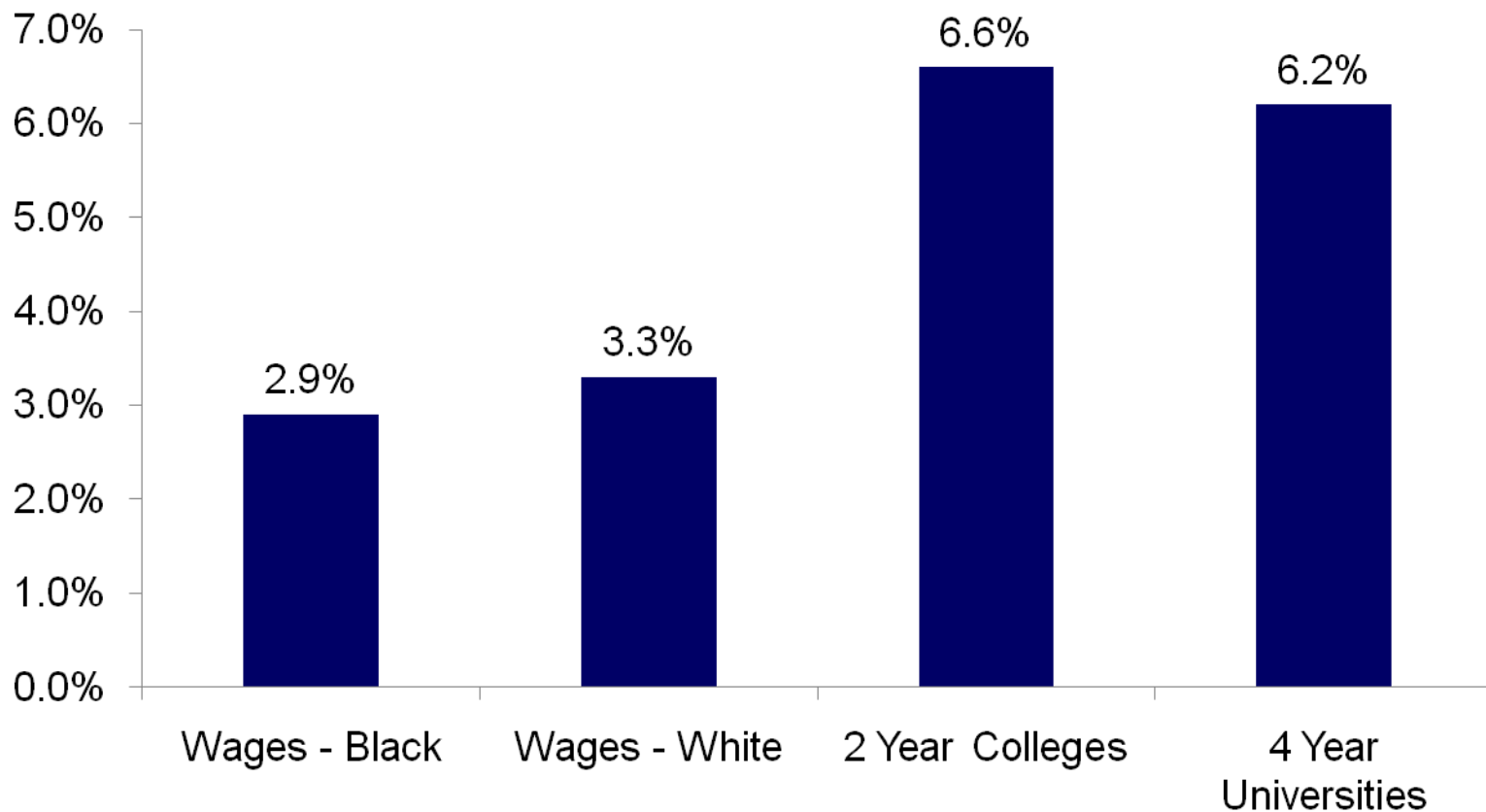
## Medicaid Enrollment Increasing with Job Loss





# Tuitions at State Schools have Grown Faster than Wages

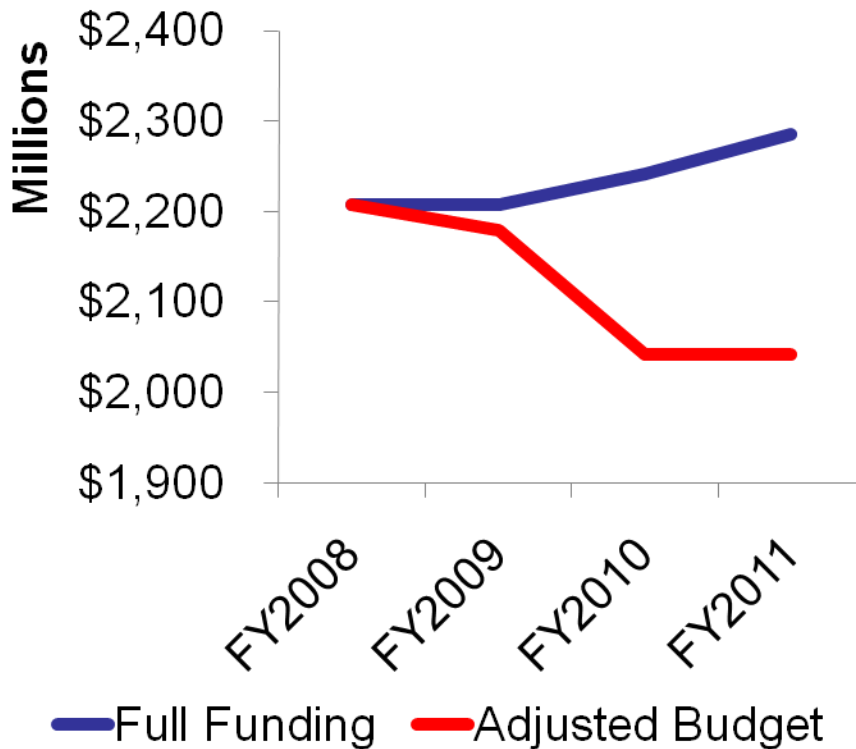
Tuition Growth Rates 1999-2008



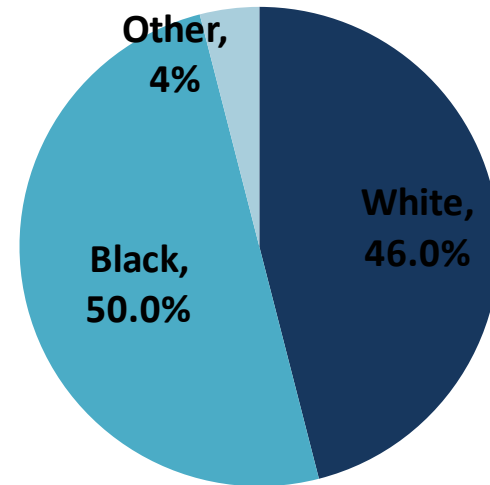


# MAEP Funding Threatened with Deeper Cuts

## Mississippi Adequate Education Program



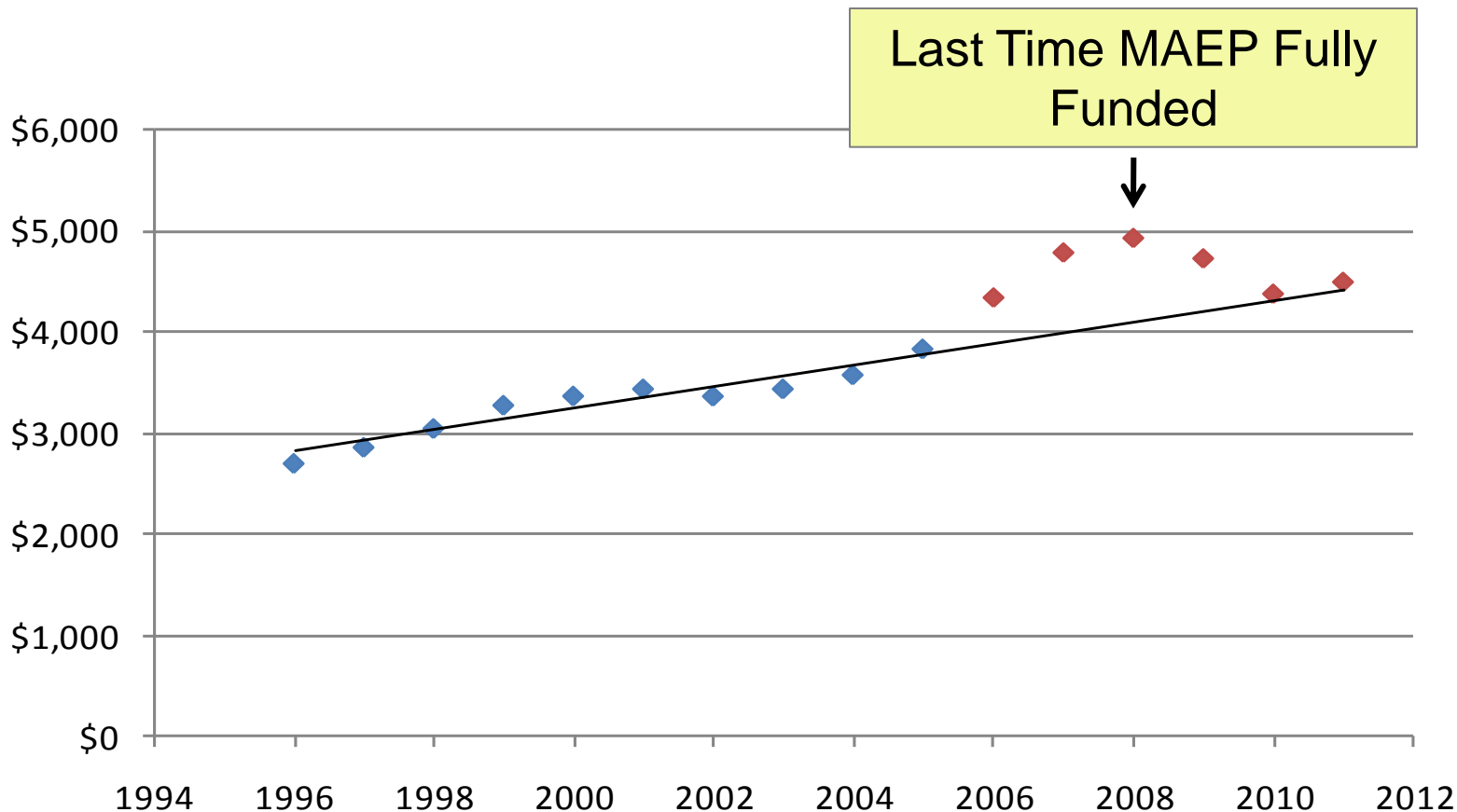
## K-12 Enrollment





# Short Term and Long Term Concerns

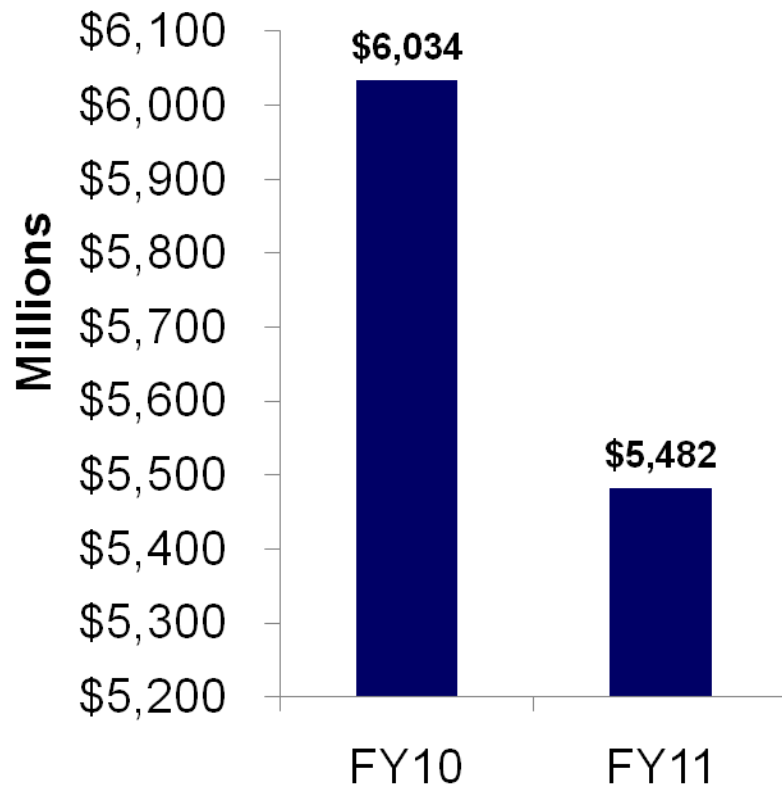
## MS General Fund Revenue Trends Before and After Katrina



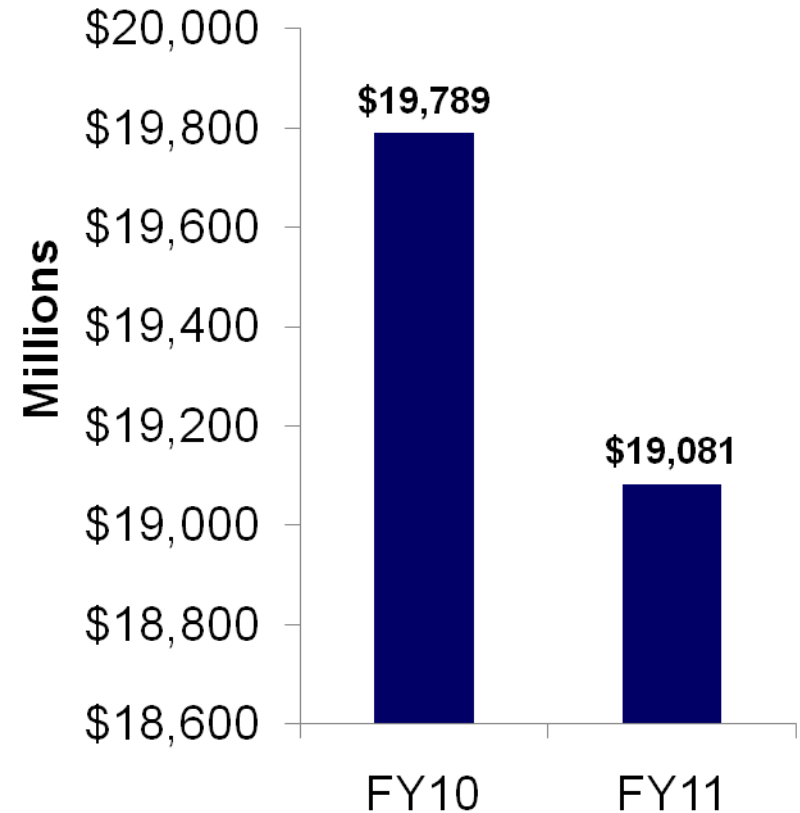


## State Appropriations Declined over Last Two Years

### State Support



### Total Budget





# Anecdotes from Budget Hearings

- The MDHS state that underfunding in 2012 budget could result in being out of Compliance with Olivia Y settlement to protect children in foster care
- Of 650 authorized positions, only 527 Highway Trooper positions are filled, in some instances compromising response time to incidents in rural areas
- Class sizes have been increasing. For example, Mississippi has a kindergarten classroom with 34 children.
- Department of Mental Health may need to close some treatment facilities if budget is not funded

# Contact Information



[www.hopecu.org](http://www.hopecu.org)

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