Lowndes County by the Numbers

How Do We Compare with Peer and Aspirant Communities?

2019 Report

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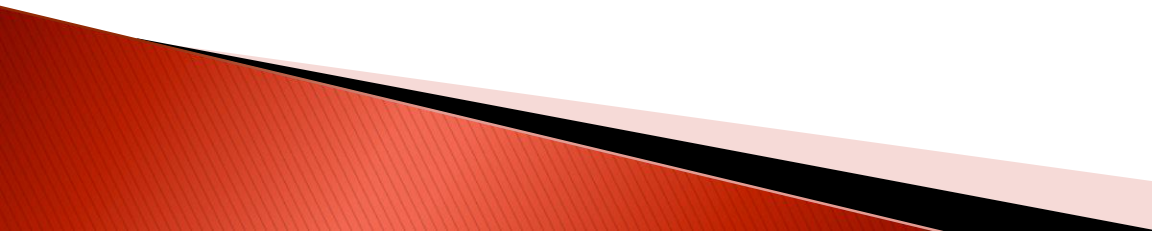
Purpose of the report

- Use benchmarks to assess economic performance against peer and aspirant communities

- Provide an objective foundation for developing strategic planning and growth strategies

Peer and Aspirant Communities

City	County	State
Dothan	Houston	AL
Opelika	Lee	AL
Decatur	Morgan	AL
Athens	Clarke	GA
Rome	Floyd	GA
Perry	Houston	GA
Valdosta	Lowndes	GA
Bowling Green	Warren	KY
Monroe	Ouachita	LA
Alexandria	Rapides	LA
Hattiesburg	Forrest	MS
Nashville	Nash	NC
Goldsboro	Wayne	NC
Florence	Florence	SC
Clarksville	Montgomery	TN

Identify Benchmarks

People Indicators
- Educational Attainment
- Population Growth
- Poverty Rate
- Old Age Dependency

Job Indicators
- Private Jobs
- Knowledge Jobs
- Unemployment rate
- Median Income
- Average Weekly Wage

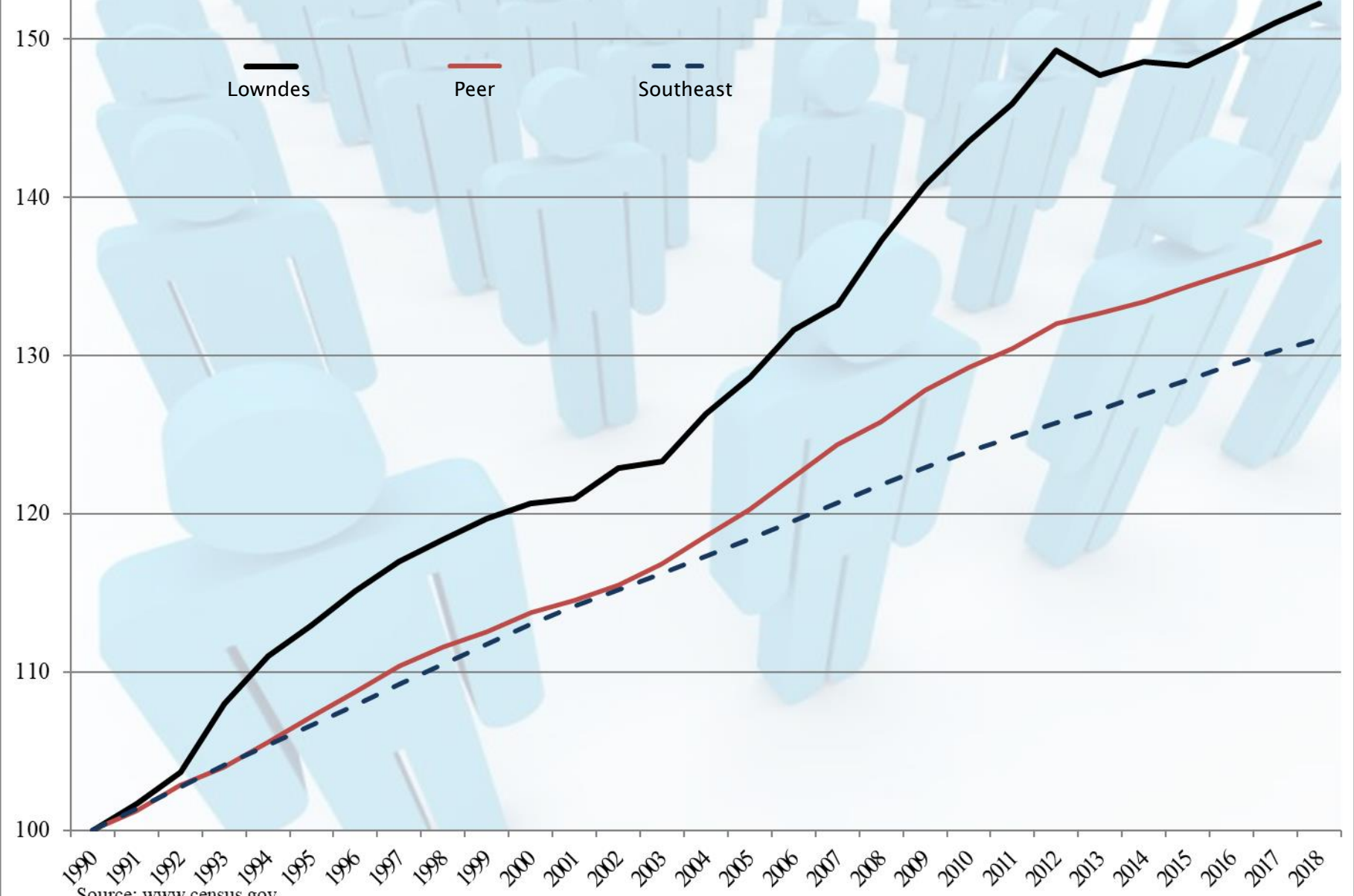**Desired Outcomes**
- Economic Growth
- Economic Prosperity

People Indicators

People Indicators

- Educational Attainment
- Population Growth
- Poverty Rate
- Old Age Dependency

▶ reflect the demographic foundations of the communities

▶ measure how well-prepared the people in the community are for work.

Population growth (1990=100)

Lowndes   Peer   Southeast

Source: www.census.gov

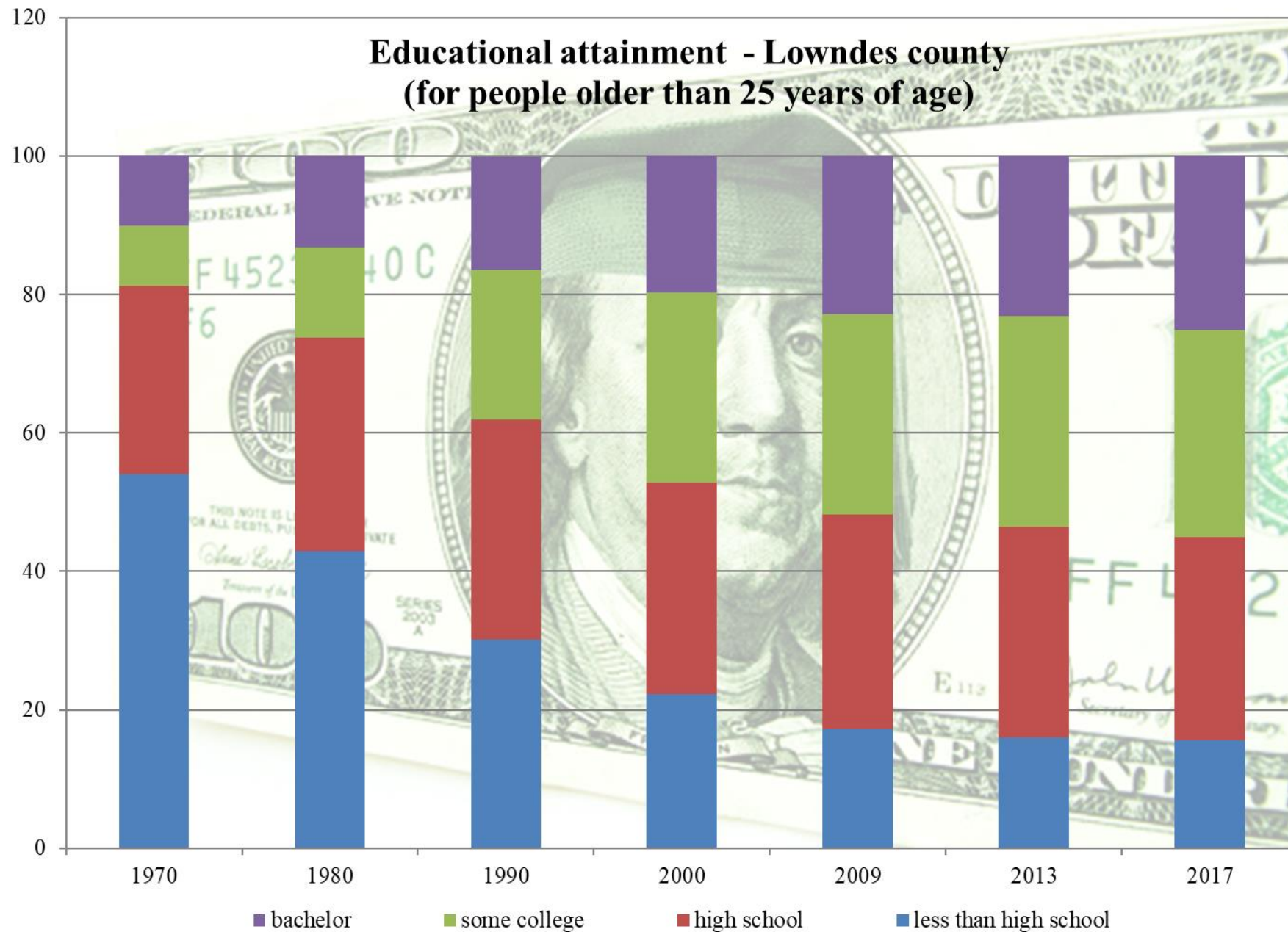| Rank	county	state	Population growth (2010-2018)
1	Montgomery	TN	18.9%
2	Lee	AL	16.4%
3	Warren	KY	14.8%
6	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**6.0%**
	Average		5.2%
14	Rapides	LA	-0.9%
15	Nash	NC	-1.9%
Source: www.census.gov			

Lowndes Rank
2011 5th
2014 5th
2018 6th

Educational attainment - Lowndes county
(for people older than 25 years of age)

Source: www.census.gov

Rank	County	state	High school diploma or higher (2013-2017)
1	Montgomery	TN	91.8%
2	Houston	GA	90.7%
3	Lee	AL	90.0%
	Average		86.0%
11	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**84.4%**
14	Morgan	AL	82.6%
15	Floyd	GA	80.6%
Source: www.census.gov			

Lowndes Rank
2011 8th
2014 6th
2018 11th

Although Lowndes rank unchanged but rank

improved

Rank	County	State	Bachelor degree or more (2013-2017)
1	Clarke	GA	41.3%
2	Lee	AL	34.9%
3	Warren	KY	30.4%
	Average		25.3%
7	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**25.2%**
14	Rapides	LA	20.1%
15	Wayne	NC	19.7%
Source: www.census.gov			

Lowndes Rank

2011 7th

2014 7th

2017 8th

Percent increased over time

Percentage of population living below the federal poverty line (1989-2017)

Source:http://www.census.gov//did/www/saipe/
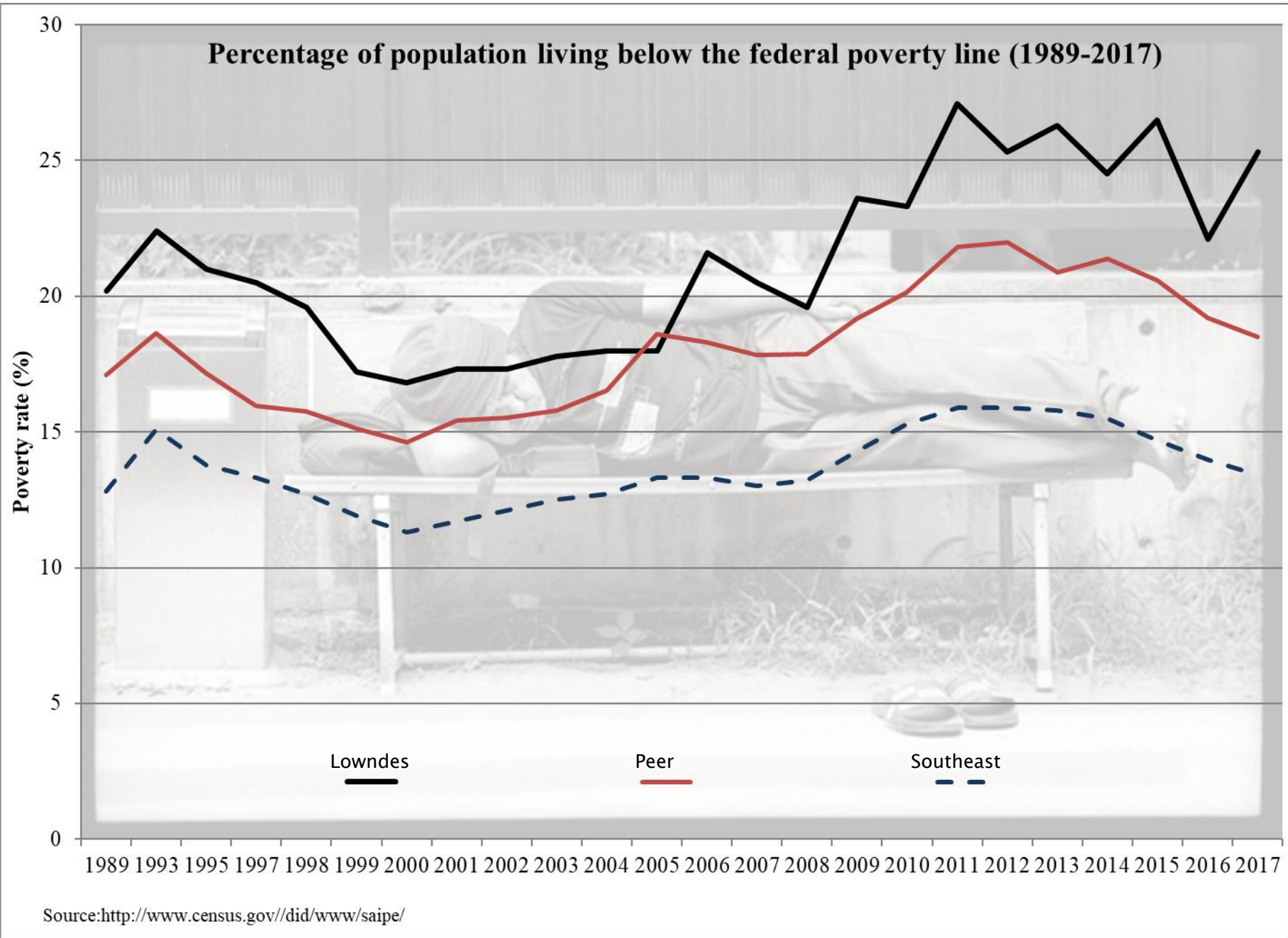
Rank	county	state	Poverty rate (2017)
1	Montgomery	TN	12.8%
2	Houston	GA	13.0%
3	Morgan	AL	14.8%
	Average		18.9%
14	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**25.3%**
15	Clarke	GA	26.6%

Lowndes Rank
2011 14th
2014 13th
2018 12th

Old age dependency
- the share of population over 65 to those over 25

Lowndes county — peer counties
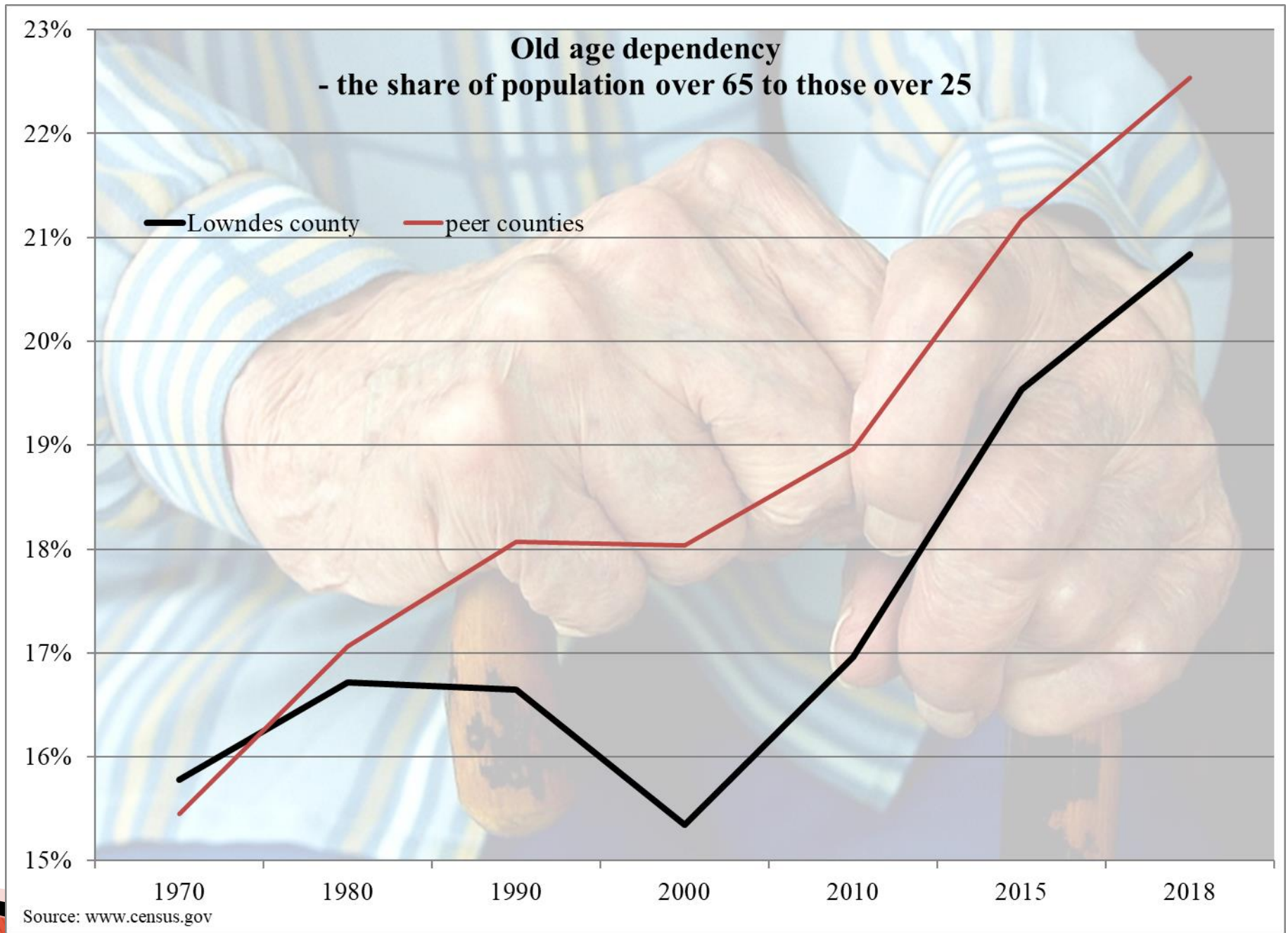
Source: www.census.gov

Rank	County	State	Old age dependency (2018)
1	Montgomery	TN	14.9%
2	Clarke	GA	19.3%
5	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**20.8%**
	Average		22.4%
14	Houston	AL	25.7%
15	Nash	NC	26.7%
Source: www.census.gov			

Lowndes Rank
2011 3rd
2014 5th
2018 5th

**People Indicator** rank for the Lowndes County community declined for the first time since the 2011 report.

People Indicators				
Rank	City	County	State	Previous Rank
1	Clarksville	Montgomery	TN	1
2	Perry	Houston	GA	2
3	Opelika	Lee	AL	3
4	Bowling Green	Warren	KY	4
5	Athens	Clarke	GA	5
6	Hattiesburg	Forrest	MS	10
7	**Valdosta**	**Lowndes**	**GA**	6
8	Dothan	Houston	AL	9
9	Monroe	Ouachita	LA	7
10	Alexandria	Rapides	LA	12
11	Florence	Florence	SC	8
12	Decatur	Morgan	AL	13
13	Rome	Floyd	GA	11
14	Nashville	Nash	NC	15
15	Goldsboro	Wayne	NC	14

Job Indicators

Job Indicators

- Private Jobs
- Knowledge Jobs
- Unemployment rate
- Median Income
- Average Weekly Wage

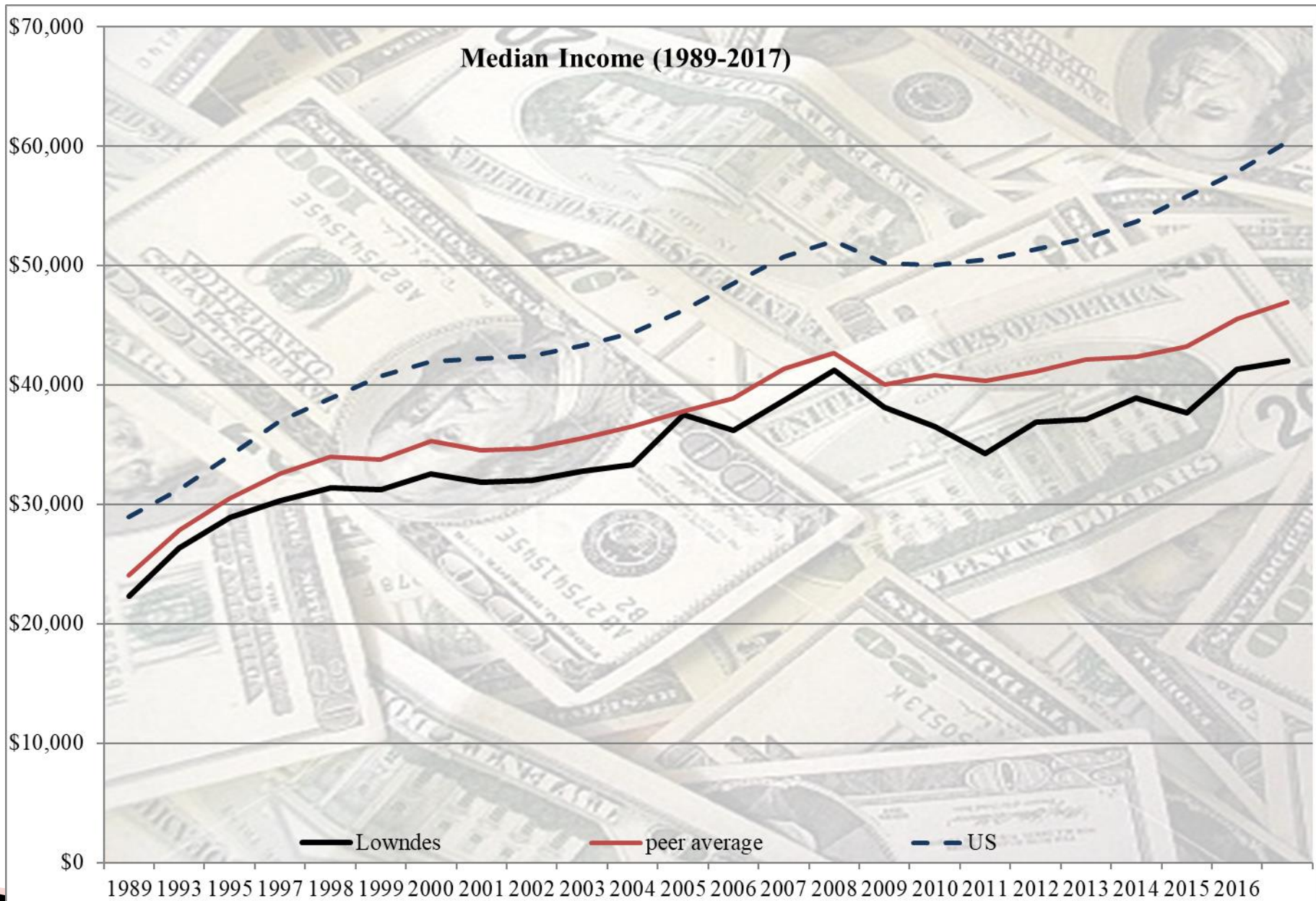Indicators that reflect the workforce foundations of the communities.

Number of private employees

Source: http://www.bls.gov/cew/

Lowndes —— peer average
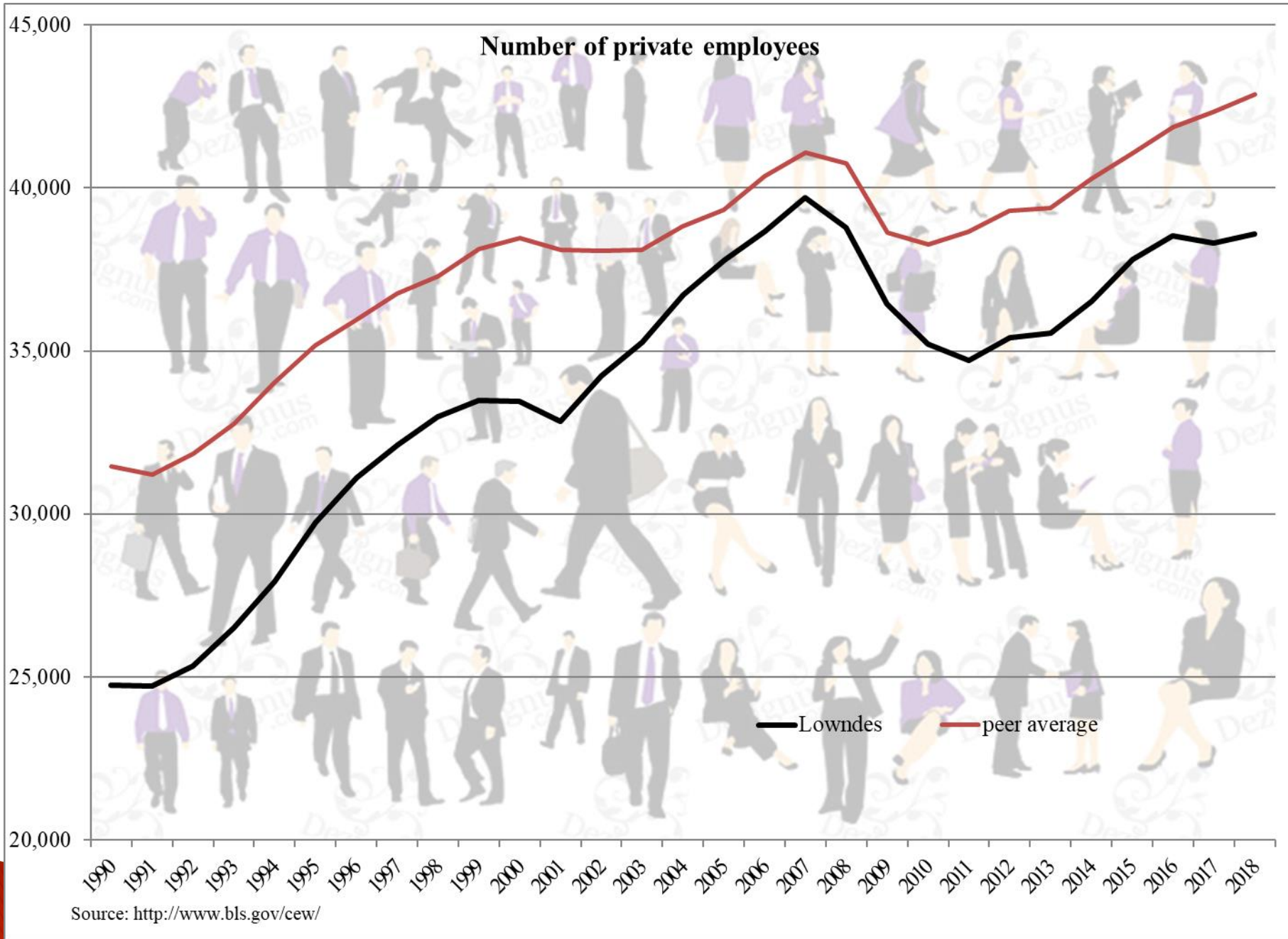
Lowndes Rank
2011 8th
2014 10th
2018 10th

Median Income (1989-2017)

Source:http://www.census.gov//did/www/saipe/

Rank	county	state	Median household income (2017)
1	Houston	GA	$59,291
2	Montgomery	TN	$57,431
3	Lee	AL	$51,372
	Average		$46,589
12	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**$42,019**
14	Clarke	GA	$39,901
15	Forrest	MS	$39,394

Lowndes Rank
2011 11th $38,143
2014 12th $36,920
2018 12th $41,331

Average private sector REAL weekly wages (in 1990 $)

Lowndes   Peer   Southeast

Source: http://www.bls.gov/cew/ and http:www.bls.gov
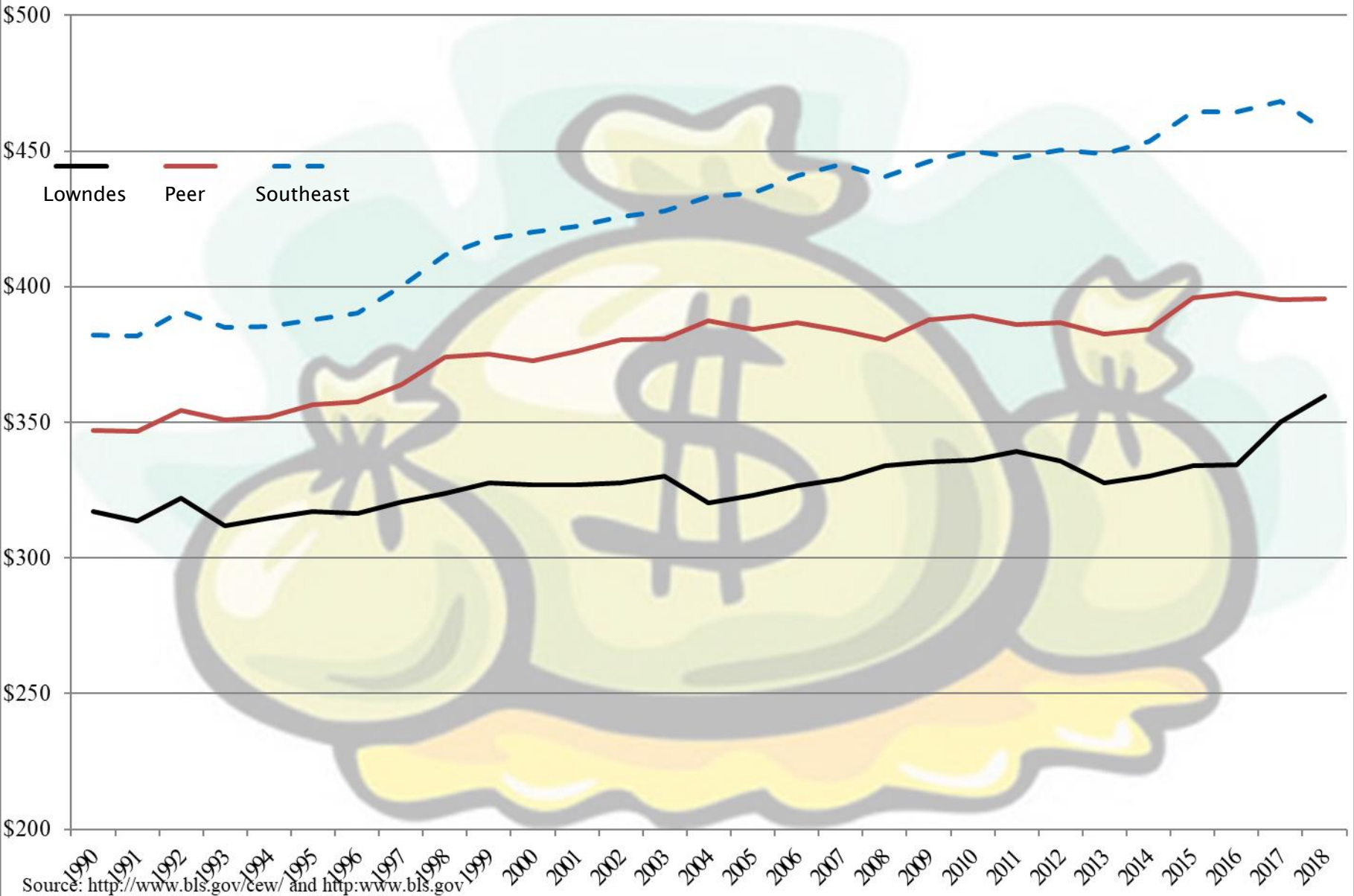
Rank	County	State	Average Weekly Wage (2018)
1	Morgan	AL	$876
2	Floyd	GA	$817
3	Warren	KY	$816
	Average		$755
13	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**$691**
14	Houston	GA	$681
15	Lee	AL	$662
Source: www.bls.gov/cew			

Lowndes Rank

2011 15th
2014 14th
2018 14th

Share of knowledge-based sectors in the private sector (based on employment)

Source: http://www.bls.gov/cew/
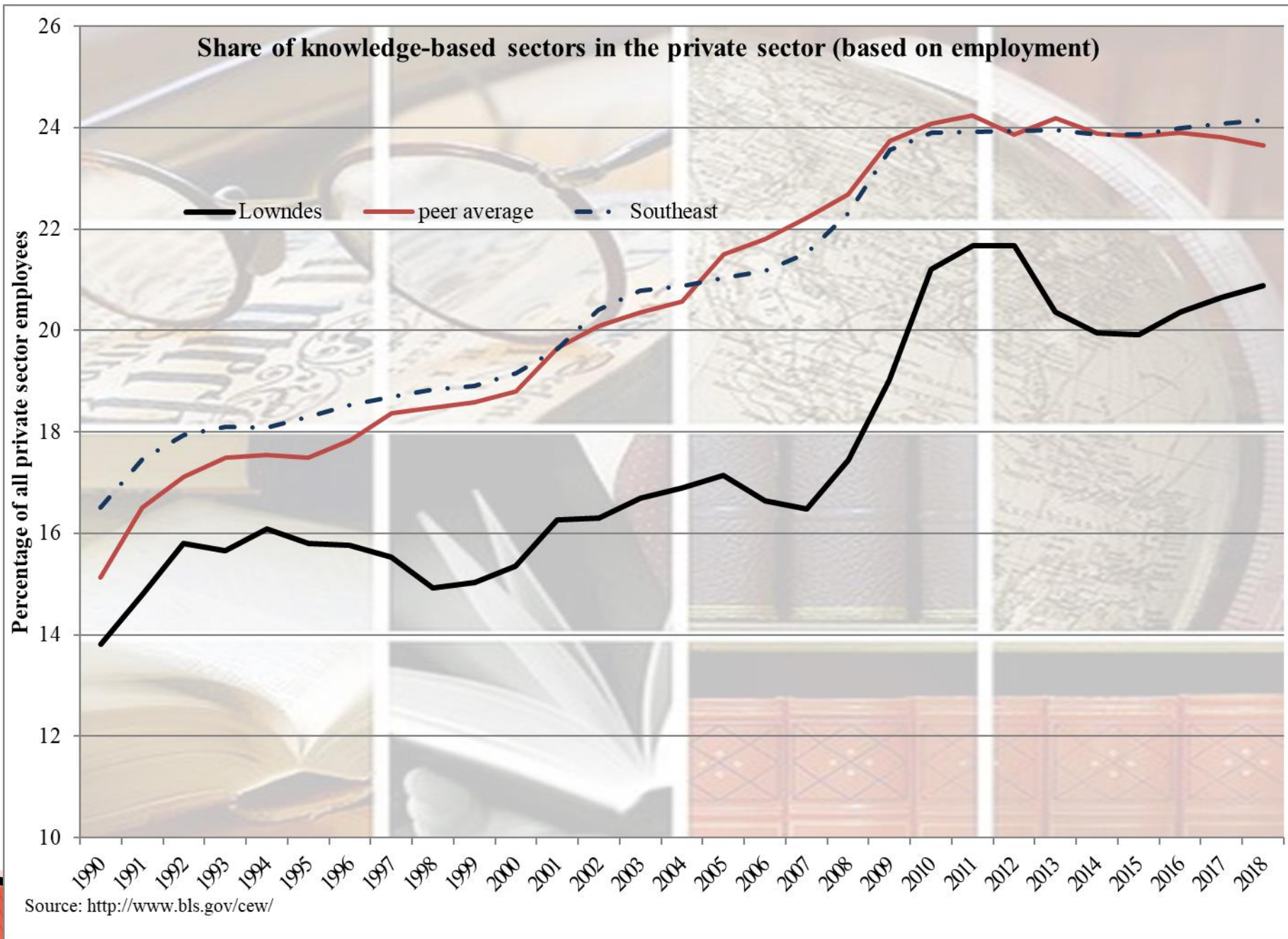
Rank	County	State	Share of knowledge-based jobs (2018)
1	Ouachita	LA	33.3%
2	Rapides	LA	32.4%
3	Florence	SC	26.9%
	Average		23.5%
12	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**20.9%**
14	Morgan	AL	15.8%
15	Lee	AL	14.2%

Source: www.bls.gov/cew

Lowndes Rank
2011 13th 19.0%
2014 13th 20.4%
2018 12th 20.7%

Average weekly wage in the knowledge-based sectors

Source: http://www.bls.gov/cew/
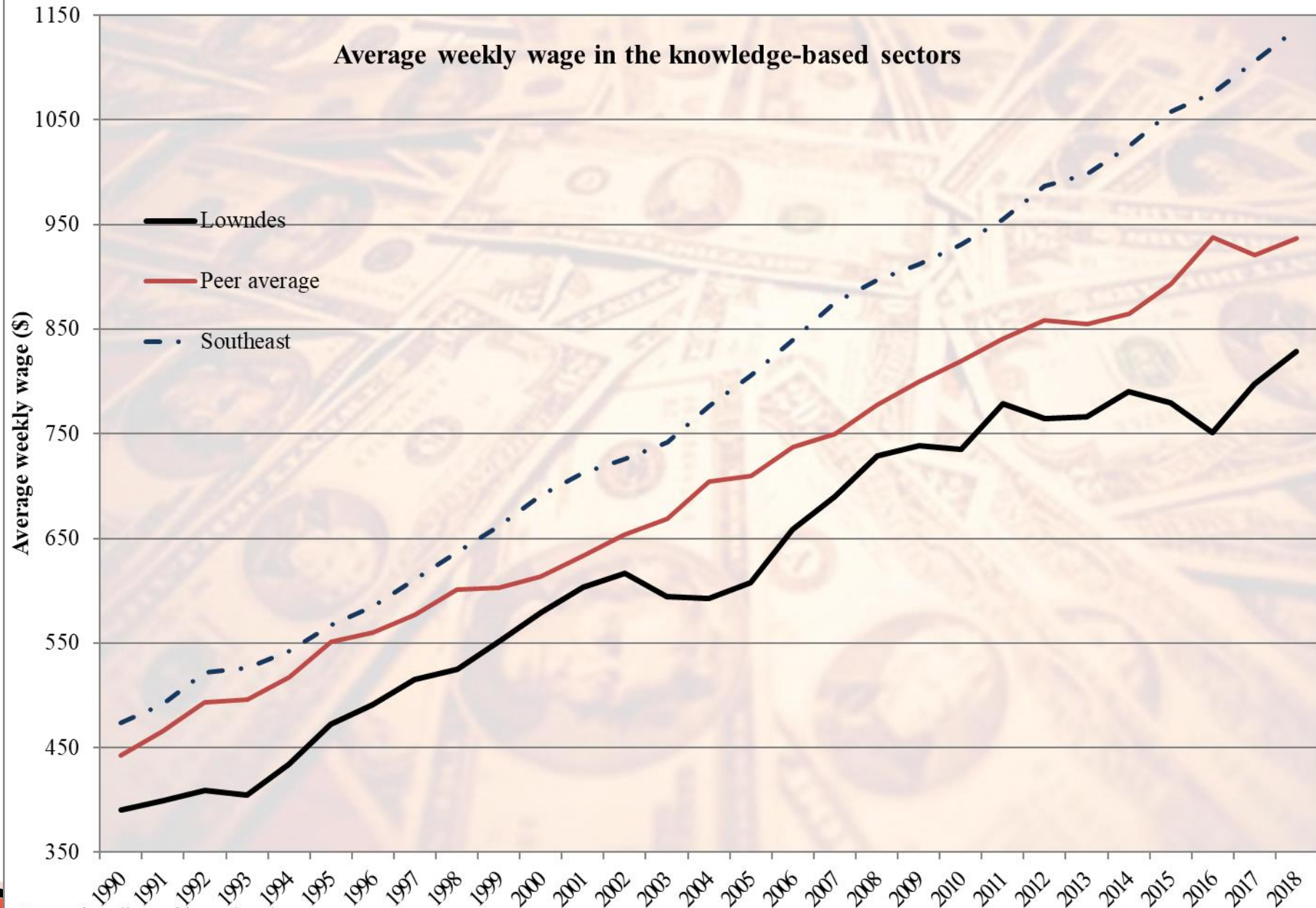
Rank	County	State	Knowledge sector average weekly wage (2018)
1	Forrest	MS	$1,128
2	Houston	AL	$1,081
3	Clarke	GA	$1,045
	Average		$930
14	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**$829**
15	Wayne	NC	$779
Source: www.bls.gov/cew			

Lowndes Rank
2011 11th $739
2014 13th $767
2018 14th $797

Yearly average unemployment rate (1990-2017)

Source: www.bls.gov

Legend: Lowndes county unemployment — peer unemployment average — US average unemployment
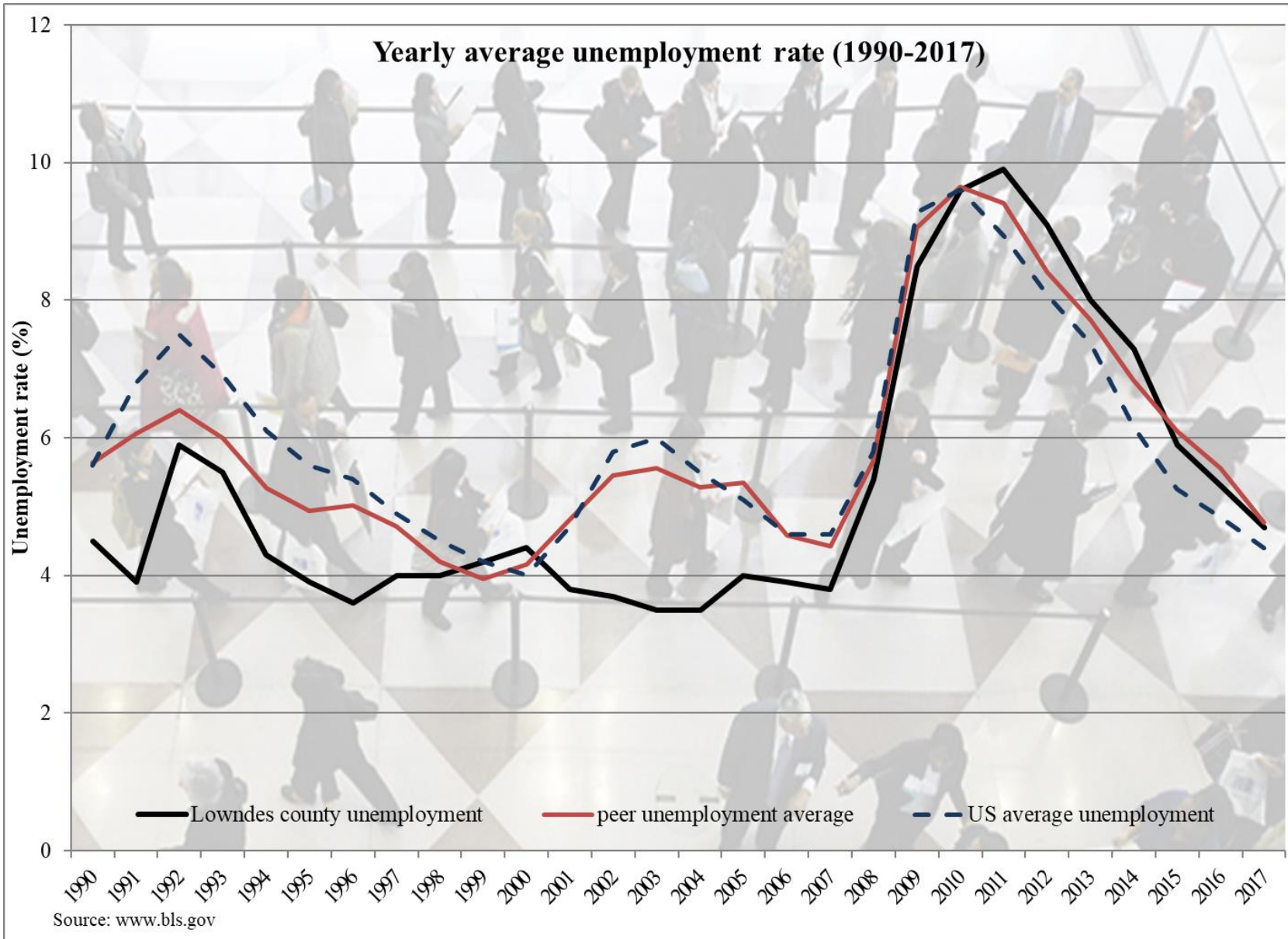
Rank	County	State	Unemployment rate (2018)
1	Morgan	AL	3.5%
2	Lee	AL	3.6%
3	Warren	KY	3.7%
9	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**4.1%**
	Average		4.2%
14	Ouachita	LA	5.2%
15	Rapides	LA	5.3%
Source: www.bls.gov			

Lowndes Rank
2011 6th   8.1%
2014 10th   8.0%
2018 7   4.7%

Jobs Indicator rank for Lowndes County remains unchanged since the 2014 report.

Job Indicators				
Rank	City	County	State	Previous Rank
1	Bowling Green	Warren	KY	1
2	Rome	Floyd	GA	7
3	Dothan	Houston	AL	8
3	Decatur	Morgan	AL	2
5	Athens	Clarke	GA	5
5	Florence	Florence	SC	3
7	Perry	Houston	GA	11
7	Clarksville	Montgomery	TN	5
9	Monroe	Ouachita	LA	4
9	Hattiesburg	Forrest	MS	15
11	Alexandria	Rapides	LA	9
12	Opelika	Lee	AL	9
13	Nashville	Nash	NC	12
14	Goldsboro	Wayne	NC	15
15	**Valdosta**	**Lowndes**	**GA**	15

Overall Rankings

Rank 2019	City	County	State	Rank 2018	Rank 2015	Rank 2011
1	Bowling Green	Warren	KY	1	1	2
2	Clarksville	Montgomery	TN	2	5	5
3	Perry	Houston	GA	7	3	1
4	Athens	Clarke	GA	3	2	3
5	Dothan	Houston	AL	9	6	7
6	Opelika	Lee	AL	6	6	10
6	Decatur	Morgan	AL	8	8	12
8	Rome	Floyd	GA	10	13	13
8	Hattiesburg	Forrest	MS	13	11	9
10	Florence	Florence	SC	5	9	8
11	Monroe	Ouachita	LA	4	4	6
12	Alexandria	Rapides	LA	12	10	4
13	**Valdosta**	**Lowndes**	**GA**	**11**	**12**	**11**
14	Nashville	Nash	NC	14	15	14
15	Goldsboro	Wayne	NC	15	14	15

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