The damages to the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) natural resources due to the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill (GOMOS) will take some time to be cleaned up, and the restoration period to get the resources back to their original pre-GOMOS status is still indefinite. In the meantime, the production of goods and services by economic sectors located in the GOM states will be adversely affected, leading to possible reduction in the levels of economic activity, employment and personal income, and tax revenues. The closures of significant portions of federal and state GOM waters to commercial and recreational fishing and closures of beach resources to human uses due to the GOMOS altered the recreation and consumption decisions of residents and tourists in affected communities.

In order to understand the magnitude of the potential economic impacts of the GOMOS to the Unemployment Situation in the coastal counties, multi-year baseline unemployment information is being compiled from various secondary sources.

Fig. 1. Monthly unemployment rates in Harrison County, Mississippi, Jan. 2011-Apr. 2011. Source of raw data: Economic Modeling Specialists Inc.

Fig. 2. Monthly unemployment rates in Hancock County, Mississippi, Jan. 2011-Apr. 2011. Source of raw data: Economic Modeling Specialists Inc.

Fig. 3. Monthly unemployment rates in Jackson County, Mississippi, Jan. 2011-Apr. 2011. Source of raw data: Economic Modeling Specialists Inc.

Literature Cited:
