

*Millsaps College/Chism Strategies State of the State Survey  
January 2019  
Summary of Findings*

<b>Q01: Do you believe Mississippi is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?</b>	
	%
1 Right direction	36.0%
2 Wrong direction	42.3%
3 Unsure	21.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q02: Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney?</b>	
	%
1 Approve	30.7%
2 Disapprove	21.2%
3 Not enough info	48.1%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q03: Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson?</b>	
	%
1 Approve	32.9%
2 Disapprove	19.8%
3 Not enough info	47.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q04: Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of State Treasurer Lynn Fitch?</b>	
	%
1 Approve	41.8%
2 Disapprove	22.8%
3 Not enough info	35.4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q05: Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann?</b>	
	%
1 Approve	50.2%
2 Disapprove	19.9%
3 Not enough info	29.9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q06: Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of United States Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith?</b>	
	%
1 Approve	37.5%
2 Disapprove	49.7%
3 Not enough info	12.8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q07: Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the Mississippi State Legislature?</b>	
	%
1 Approve	23.8%
2 Disapprove	45.9%
3 Unsure	30.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q08: What should be the top priority for Mississippi's elected leaders working in Jackson?</b>	
	%
1 Reducing the size of state government	10.5%
2 Fixing our state's roads and bridges	27.7%
3 Giving tax incentives and grants for companies that promise to create jobs	8.3%
4 Making healthcare more accessible and affordable	17.6%
5 More funding for public schools	21.3%
6 More funding for universities and community colleges	2.6%
7 Protecting traditional family values	7.6%
8 Some other issue not mentioned here	3.8%
9 Do not know	0.6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q09:** Thinking about the entire state, how would you describe the level of funding for our public schools?

	%
1 Too high	9.9%
2 Too low	64.6%
3 About right	19.5%
4 Do not know	6.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q10:** Some state leaders have offered support for a pay raise for Mississippi public school teachers of about 3% over two years. This would cost the state an additional \$50 million each year. Do you support or oppose this action?

	%
1 Support	75.7%
2 Oppose	14.0%
3 Unsure	10.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q11:** Experts have concluded that Mississippi's Public Employees Retirement System needs an additional \$75 million a year in funding to cover future employee pensions. The state can cover these costs, or the system can be changed so that benefits for new hires are significantly less than those retirees and current state employees. Which option do you prefer?

	%
1 Fund additional costs with no changes to benefits plan	54.4%
2 Change benefits plan so new state employees have lower pensions	23.9%
3 Unsure	21.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q12:** Mississippi is one of 14 states that has not expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. States that have expanded Medicaid have seen increased insurance coverage for low-income, uninsured citizens and greater financial stability for rural and small-town hospitals. Would you support or oppose expanding Medicaid in Mississippi?

	%
1 Support	60.1%
2 Oppose	28.7%
3 Unsure	11.2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q13:** The Mississippi Public Service Commission recently reported that the state ranks 49th in the nation in access to high speed internet connectivity as only cable and phone companies can provide high speed internet services in Mississippi. Would you support or oppose allowing rural electric cooperatives in Mississippi to provide high speed internet access to customers?

	%
1 Support	83.0%
2 Oppose	6.1%
3 Unsure	10.9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q14:** In the election of 2020, voters may have the opportunity to approve a new law that would allow qualified patients with debilitating medical conditions, as certified by Mississippi licensed physicians, to use medical marijuana. The process would be regulated by the State Health Department. Would you support or oppose such a law in Mississippi?

	%
1 Support	66.8%
2 Oppose	23.9%
3 Unsure	9.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q15:** The Mississippi Attorney General's office recently announced a lawsuit against three of the nation's largest opioid manufacturers for violating consumer protection laws. If successful, the suit would reduce the amount of opioids coming into the state and being sold illegally while requiring opioid manufacturers to reimburse Mississippi for costs associated with combating addiction. Do you support or oppose this lawsuit against opioid manufacturers?

	%
1 Support	69.4%
2 Oppose	15.5%
3 Unsure	15.2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q16:** Would you support or oppose legislation allowing eligible Mississippi voters to participate in early voting at their county Circuit Clerk's offices 14 days before an election?

	%
1 Support	71.0%
2 Oppose	21.2%
3 Unsure	7.8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q17:** Age

	%
1 18 to 34	10.6%
2 35 to 44	21.4%
3 45 to 54	20.0%
4 55 to 64	23.0%
5 65 or older	22.8%
6 Refused	2.2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q18:** Race

	%
1 African American	33.0%
2 Asian American	0.2%
3 Non-Hispanic white	65.0%
4 Hispanic or Latino	0.2%
5 Other	1.2%
6 Refused	0.4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Q19:** Gender

	%
1 Male	45.0%
2 Female	53.7%
3 Non-binary	1.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q20: Education</b>	
	<b>%</b>
1 Less than a high school education	3.2%
2 High school graduate	13.3%
3 Attended college but did not graduate	20.0%
4 Graduated from two-year college	15.6%
5 Graduated from four-year college	25.5%
6 Obtained an advanced degree	22.2%
7 Refused	0.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Q21: Party</b>	
	<b>%</b>
1 Strong Republican	32.3%
2 Lean Republican	16.7%
3 Neither Democrat nor Republican	16.2%
4 Lean Democrat	12.0%
5 Strong Democrat	20.8%
6 Refused	1.9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>