

# **Public Radio Stations of Mississippi Public Broadcasting**

*Quarterly Issues and Programs Report  
for the period of July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023*

**MINORITY CONCERNS**

**EDUCATION**

**ECONOMY**

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND POLITICS**

**HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE**

**CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**

**ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

*The licensee of the eight-station public radio network,  
the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television,  
has determined that these issues were of importance to the  
citizens of Mississippi during the third quarter of 2023.*

*The following list contains the most significant programming addressing those issues.*

# MINORITY CONCERNS

Program: Weekend Edition Sunday

Air Date: 07/02/23

Length: 00:06:34

## **Affirmative action divided Asian Americans and other people of color. Here's how**

In 2015 Edward Blum, the conservative activist behind the push to end affirmative action, stood in front of a group of a dozen or so mostly Chinese Americans in a conference room in Houston.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/14/23

Length: 00:05:12

## **Elder Black farmers in Mississippi seek a new generation to continue their legacy**

Throughout the U.S., Black farmers make up a very small — and aging — portion of the farming population. This issue is felt harder in Mississippi where, as older farmers are dying out, most new farmers planting their roots are the first to do so in their families.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 07/25/23

Length: 00:03:27

## **Cultivating the next generation of Black farmers in Mississippi**

Black farmers make up a small, aging part of the farming population. Some worry traditions may die with them.

Program: Weekend Edition Saturday

Air Date: 08/19/23

Length: 00:04:59

## **What happened when a writer stumbled upon a famous Puerto Rican astrologer's capes**

Walter Mercado enchanted viewers with his astrological readings and flamboyant capes for decades on Spanish-language television.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/14/23

Length: 00:01:34

## **Welding instills sense of purpose, self-sufficiency at Mississippi women's prison**

Sparks fly and generators hum in a metal work garage at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County. Ten women are practicing the trade they've just become certified in: welding.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 09/21/23

Length: 00:05:04

## **Q&A: Author of 'Rocket Men' details how Black quarterbacks helped move the NFL forward**

2023 marked the first time in NFL history that two Black starting quarterbacks faced off in the Super Bowl in February. Two weeks ago, nearly half of the league's 32 teams were led by a Black quarterback in the opening week of the new football season.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/22/23

Length: 00:01:34

**LGBTQ service members recall how ‘Don’t Ask Don’t Tell’ repeal changed the military**

The LGBTQ community is recognizing the anniversary of the repeal of an anti-gay military policy this week.

# EDUCATION

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 07/19/23

Length: 00:04:36

## **In New Jersey, climate change education is rolled into all sorts of school subjects**

New Jersey was the first state in the country to mandate climate change be taught across all grade levels and in most subjects.

Program: Weekend Edition Sunday

Air Date: 07/23/23

Length: 00:03:37

## **High school students built solar-powered vehicles for an annual competition**

High School science students faced many difficulties in this year's Solar Car Challenge, a competition to build and drive solar-powered vehicles.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 08/02/23

Length: 00:01:51

## **How coaches keep student athletes safe under extreme heat**

As parts of Mississippi remain under an excessive heat warning, high school coaches are using technology to keep student athletes safe.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 08/02/23

Length: 00:01:21

## **New tool shows pandemic learning loss and recovery**

The Mississippi Department of Education has launched an online tool that shows how student test scores across the state have recovered since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 08/14/23

Length: 00:04:21

## **Young women get proactive before heading to HBCUs in states with abortion Bans**

As some young women head to HBCUs in states where abortion is restricted or banned, they're getting education and birth control to help safeguard their reproductive health during college.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 08/20/23

Length: 00:04:10

## **Parents in Maui are grappling with where to send their kids as the school year Begins**

According to Maui County, over 3,000 students have been displaced from their schools by the devastating wildfires in West Maui. With the school year just starting, parents are unsure what to do.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/07/22

Length: 00:01:34

**Report: Mississippi teachers still struggle with basic expenses despite pay raise**

A new report suggests that inflation has negated a historic teacher pay raise approved by lawmakers in 2022.

# ECONOMY

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 07/07/23  
Length: 00:03:27

## **Online-only neobanks in Mexico are eager to win over new customers**

Many adults in Mexico don't have any kind of bank account, and a lot of those people are young and tech savvy. Financial tech startups see this as a big opportunity for online-only banks.

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 07/12/23  
Length: 00:03:32

## **Bank of America agrees to pay \$250 million for illegal fees, fake accounts**

Bank of America, the nation's second largest bank, has been ordered to pay more than \$100 million to customers for double charging insufficient fund fees, withholding reward bonuses and opening accounts without customers' knowledge or permission.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 07/20/23  
Length: 00:02:43

## **Netflix shows steady growth amid writers and actors strikes**

Mississippi has the highest rate of gun deaths in the nation, and a new report finds this costs the state nearly \$10 billion annually.

Program: Morning Edition  
Air Date: 08/29/23  
Length: 00:06:54

## **She paid her husband's hospital bill. A year after his death, they wanted more money**

This year's back-to-school shopping season lands as the U.S. sees the highest inflation in four decades. How will high prices affect spending?

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 09/07/23  
Length: 00:05:09

## **She looked for help after her power bill doubled. But aid for utilities often falls short**

About one out of every three people in the South struggles to pay their power bills, according to the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA).

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 09/13/23  
Length: 00:04:22

## **A 'catastrophic' loss: Severe heat puts a heavy strain on rural farmers in the Gulf South**

Jason Franklin gets no days off during the farming season — even when temperatures soar into the triple digits.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/26/23

Length: 00:01:29

**Auto workers picket outside Brandon GM plant**

Starbucks workers in Lafayette could become the second group to unionize one of the coffee giant's stores in Louisiana after asking in early July to hold an election.

# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND POLITICS

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/06/23

Length: 00:01:44

## **Mississippi Democrats in flux after chair's emails lead to resignation**

State Democrats will soon see a change in leadership after turbulence within the party was made public last week.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/07/23

Length: 00:01:40

## **Supreme Court set to decide constitutionality of House Bill 1020**

The Mississippi Supreme Court is set to decide the constitutionality of House Bill 1020, the controversial new law that sets up a new court system within Jackson.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/07/23

Length: 00:01:39

## **Want to vote in the Mississippi primary? Register by Monday**

Mississippians who want to vote in the upcoming primary election have only a few days to register to vote if they haven't already.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/13/23

Length: 00:01:37

## **Mississippi farmers to benefit from federal funds, want more support from the state**

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce is offering Mississippians an opportunity to ask questions about a new federal program that will supply grants to farmers.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 08/08/23

Length: 00:07:28

## **If Republicans win the White House in 2024, climate policy will likely change**

If Republicans recapture the White House in 2024, some conservatives will be ready with a climate policy plan.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/12/23

Length: 00:03:23

## **Mississippi gets \$12 million in federal funds to fortify power grid**

Mississippi will be receiving roughly \$12 million from the federal government to help improve the state's power grid.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 09/20/23

Length: 00:01:37

**Mississippi's indigent defense system is broken. Here's how public defenders want to fix it.**

Mississippi's criminal justice system is failing poor defendants, but the leader of the state's public defender office has solutions.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/25/23

Length: 00:01:31

**Critics say Reeves' hospital plan doesn't help patients**

Governor Tate Reeves says he has a plan to address the state's hospital crisis, but some advocates for health care access are criticizing the plan as being good for hospitals, but not patients.

**HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE**

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/11/23

Length: 00:01:35

### **Alzheimer's drug Leqembi is granted full FDA approval**

The Food and Drug Administration gave a drug for Alzheimer's full approval on Thursday, the first time the agency has done so in two decades.

Program: Local New Segment

Air Date: 07/13/23

Length: 00:01:26

### **Mississippi makes syphilis testing during pregnancy mandatory**

Merit Health River Region hospital in Vicksburg has closed its behavioral health unit, continuing a trend of hospitals in the state cutting mental health services.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 08/04/23

Length: 00:02:38

### **High temperatures — even overnight — have raised public health concerns**

In Phoenix, scorching daytime temperatures have led to hot nights, which pose a health risk for the city's unsheltered residents.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 08/14/23

Length: 00:04:21

### **Young women get proactive before heading to HBCUs in states with abortion bans**

As some young women head to HBCUs in states where abortion is restricted or banned, they're getting education and birth control to help safeguard their reproductive health during college.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 08/29/23

Length: 00:03:42

### **Hawaii officials will study longer term health consequences of Lahaina fire Disaster**

More than three weeks after the deadly wildfires on Maui, what health support are survivors needing, and how are they getting it at a community level?

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/06/23

Length: 00:01:44

### **Mississippi pharmacies can dispense naloxone without a prescription. Less than half actually do**

Amid sharp increases in opioid overdoses across the country in recent years, the accessibility of overdose-reversing medications such as naloxone at Mississippi pharmacies remains an issue.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/15/23

Length: 00:01:37

## **Experts urge Mississippians to get new vaccines amid rising cases of RSV, COVID-19**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has cleared new vaccines ahead of the fall season, and professionals are urging Mississippians to take part as respiratory illness cases are on the rise.

# **CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/11/23

Length: 00:03:59

## **In rural Mississippi, Baby University is helping parents with ‘more than diapers’**

Baby University is a free, eight-week program in Clarksdale, Mississippi that teaches moms healthier ways to care for their babies, from birth until they're three years old.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/14/23

Length: 00:01:24

## **Advocates hope over-the-counter birth control pill fills health care gaps in Mississippi**

Federal regulators have approved the first birth control pill that can be bought without a prescription. Activists in the state are hopeful for the impact it could have in Mississippi.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/18/23

Length: 00:01:38

## **Mississippi now allows religious exemptions for childhood vaccinations**

Mississippi has started letting people receive religious exemptions from state-mandated vaccinations that children must receive before attending day care or school.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 07/19/23

Length: 00:01:37

## **Lifeguard shortage in the state has experts urging families to keep their children safe**

Public pools in the state are facing a lifeguard shortage. Some have remained closed this summer, while others have reported hiring more lifeguards in the middle of the season to maintain adequate staffing.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 08/03/23

Length: 00:03:39

## **A family caught up in Missouri's fight over transgender issues moves out of state**

One Missouri family talks about their decision to move to Colorado, before laws restricting transgender health care and youth sports go into effect at the end of the month.

Program: Weekend Edition Sunday

Air Date: 08/27/23

Length: 00:03:56

## **A Texas restaurant holds its last family-friendly drag show before new law goes into effect**

A Texas law that bans drag shows where minors are present goes into effect on September 1st.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 09/18/23

Length: 00:01:35

**WIC funding on the line amid federal budget talks**

The deadline for federal lawmakers to reach an agreement on a budget is nearing, and an aid program that feeds women and children may have to begin turning applicants away.

# **ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Program: Morning Edition  
Air Date: 07/20/23  
Length: 00:04:10

## **Mayor in South Carolina discusses efforts to help people cope with intense heat**

Across the country - and, in fact, the world - people have been battling extreme heat. It's been going on for weeks.

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 08/02/23  
Length: 00:04:25

## **New federal laws have money for climate projects - if communities can actually get it**

Two landmark laws aim to send tens of billions of dollars to help communities protect themselves from climate change.

Program: Morning Edition  
Air Date: 08/08/23  
Length: 00:03:34

## **Biden is creating a new national monument near the Grand Canyon**

President Biden designated a new national monument near the Grand Canyon on Tuesday.

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 08/30/23  
Length: 00:04:21

## **How agencies will decide who gets funds for those facing pollution and health issues**

The White House wants to direct more funding communities dealing with high levels of pollution and health problems.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 09/08/23  
Length: 00:04:52

## **In fight to remove divisive Claiborne Expressway, activists turn to new strategy — an EPA study.**

Hunter's Field is wedged directly beneath the I-10 Claiborne Expressway in the city's 7th Ward — sandwiched between the elevated highways.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 09/19/23  
Length: 00:01:43

## **As Mississippi River reaches 'low stage', southern ports are starting to see the impacts**

The low water level of the Mississippi River continues to create obstacles for farmers and shipping companies across the United States.