

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

*Quarterly Issues and Programs Report  
for the period of October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021*

**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 fourth quarter of 2021.*

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

# MINORITY CONCERNS

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/09/21

Length: 00:01:44

## **Black Louisiana farmers' land leases are vanishing. Some say racist policies are to blame**

Across the country, Black farmers represent only 1.4% of the more than 3 million farmers in the U.S, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Since the 1920s, the number of black farmers has dropped from nearly a million to around 50,000.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/12/21

Length: 00:01:40

## **HBCU celebrates road expansion over two decades in the making**

A private historically black college in Mississippi is celebrating the completion of a road project that began 22 years ago.

Program: Fresh Air

Air Date: 10/19/21

Length: 00:43:21

## **Billy Porter makes peace with himself: 'I set myself free, honey. No more secrets'**

Actor Billy Porter grew up in Pittsburgh, immersed in the Pentecostal church and convinced that he would be damned for being gay.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 11/17/21

Length: 00:05:11

## **Four centuries of Black American history are told in new Kronos Quartet performance**

It started with an acceptance speech: Nikky Finney, a poet and professor from South Carolina, won the National Book Award in 2011 for her poetry collection "Head Off & Split".

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/22/21

Length: 00:01:39

## **Transgender Mississippians hold memorial service for those killed in gender violence**

Members of Mississippi's trans community and allies are remembering those who have been killed because of their sexual identity. Trans Mississippians are sharing their experiences and how they are honoring those who have died.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 11/25/21

Length: 00:07:22

## **What we should take away from the verdicts in Ahmaud Arbery killing**

A Georgia jury has convicted three white men of murdering Ahmaud Arbery, a 25-year-old Black man killed while jogging last year.

# EDUCATION

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/07/21

Length: 00:01:42

## **Child care organization frustrated with pace of implementing American Rescue Plan grants**

An organization of Mississippi child care providers says frustration is mounting over the lack of information about coronavirus federal relief grants.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 10/19/21

Length: 00:03:40

## **Study abroad is coming back. But with more hurdles**

U.S. colleges are restarting study abroad programs after a year of cancellations brought by the pandemic. But the virus and travel restrictions have added new hurdles to an already complex process.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/25/21

Length: 00:04:51

## **Is there still hope for HBCUs as negotiations continue over Democrat's spending bill?**

Earlier this year President Biden promised tens of billions of dollars to revitalize the infrastructure and research capabilities of historically Black colleges and universities.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/26/21

Length: 00:01:47

## **College Board approves federal vaccination mandate to retain funding**

Mississippi College Board votes to follow the COVID-19 federal vaccination mandate and require employees be vaccinated with millions of dollars in federal contracts at stake.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/03/21

Length: 00:01:47

## **Two universities working to encourage schools and more daycares to test water for lead**

Officials at two Mississippi universities are working to raise awareness about a federal grant program to test lead in water at schools and daycare centers.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/04/21

Length: 00:01:37

## **Experts, educators and officials gather to strategize solutions to growing teacher shortage**

Recruiting and retaining teachers is a growing challenge in Mississippi. Some educators say it's not just lower pay but a lack of support that's driving them out of the classroom.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 11/11/21

Length: 00:02:46

**Texas schools can require masks again after a judge overrules state's ban**

A federal judge on Wednesday blocked an order by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott that banned mask mandates in public schools. The ruling could have implications for other states with similar bans in place.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/23/21

Length: 00:01:32

**Experts say teacher pay and benefits must be improved to alleviate staffing shortages**

Experts are warning the shortage of educators in Mississippi could worsen if lawmakers do not provide better pay and benefits. A new study identifies what compensation can help job retention and growth in the state's education field.

# ECONOMY

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 10/11/21  
Length: 00:04:25

## **A surge in the cost of flood insurance could make housing unaffordable for many**

Millions of homeowners with federal flood insurance are seeing their rates spike, in some cases by thousands of dollars.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 10/18/21  
Length: 00:01:10

## **As southern workers quit in record number, restaurants struggle to meet demands**

Southerners are putting their bosses on notice — two weeks notice, specifically.

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 10/14/21  
Length: 00:04:01

## **You don't need a bachelor's degree to land a high-paying job**

A new study from Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce finds a growing number of people without a bachelor's degree are now out-earning those with one.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 11/09/21  
Length: 00:03:51

## **Rising food and labor costs brought on by COVID-19 have restaurants juggling menus, profits**

Mississippi restaurateurs talk about shortages, labor costs and the expense of doing business in the changing economy.

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 11/26/21  
Length: 00:04:20

## **Making sense of Americans' current spending habit**

Today's unofficial but traditional start to the holiday shopping season spotlights a contradiction of sorts.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 12/20/21  
Length: 00:01:30

## **New welding program could help incarcerated Mississippians gain employment after release**

A new program for Mississippi inmates is helping to train, certify and employ welders. Experts say this program could help those in prisons re-enter society after finishing their sentences.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 12/27/21

Length: 00:01:31

**How Mississippians can overcome holiday debt**

Most Americans spent hundreds of dollars this month for the holidays, and now many are in debt with credit card providers. A financial expert shares how people can reduce their debt for the new year.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 12/30/21

Length: 00:03:58

**Millions of workers left jobs this year, shifting the balance of power with employers 2021**

saw continuing disruption to the labor market and a shift in the balance of power between workers and their bosses. Employers desperate to hire have to pay more to get the workforce they need.

# **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND POLITICS**

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/04/21

Length: 00:01:44

## **State agencies increase budget requests, share vision for improving operations with legislators**

A larger digital footprint and turning a prison into an addiction unit are among the items in Mississippi state agency budget requests.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/11/21

Length: 00:01:42

## **Mississippians rally for lawmakers to legalize medical marijuana**

Mississippians across the state are lifting their voices in support of legalizing medical marijuana. Rallies were held in 6 cities this weekend calling on the governor to hold a special session so lawmakers can pass a cannabis bill.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/16/21

Length: 00:01:38

## **Investing in education, phasing out state income tax, top gov.'s budget agenda**

Education and eliminating Mississippi's income tax is at the top of Governor Tate Reeves' budget agenda for the upcoming fiscal year.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 10/25/21

Length: 00:06:53

## **Biden balances vaccinating Americans and donating vaccines globally**

The U.S. delivered the 200 millionth dose of COVID-19 vaccines worldwide, part of a 1.1 billion dose pledge.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 10/29/21

Length: 00:03:41

## **Biden continues the tradition of U.S. presidents meeting with the pope**

President Biden is beginning his European trip by meeting with Pope Francis at the Vatican. These two leaders know each other quite well, and share many of the same concerns.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 11/08/21

Length: 00:03:37

## **The Justice Department has charged 2 hackers for major ransomware attacks**

The Justice Department has announced charges against two foreign-born hackers who were involved in major ransomware attacks. They allegedly targeted hospitals, schools and local governments in Texas.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 12/13/21

Length: 00:03:30

**Jan. 6 panel report shows Mark Meadows' role in trying to overturn election**

The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection is moving forward to hold former Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows in contempt of Congress after he stopped cooperating with them.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 12/16/21

Length: 00:01:52

**State congressional redistricting proposal leads to ethics complaint by civil rights groups**

Mississippians will be heading to the polls in less than five weeks to cast their ballots.

## **HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE**

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 10/05/21

Length: 00:01:39

### **How leading physicians want to improve healthcare access in Mississippi**

Mississippi's medical leaders want to expand access to healthcare in the state for all residents. They say this could save lives and build towards a healthier state.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 10/12/21

Length: 00:03:00

### **Vaccination is key to winning the battle against COVID, former CDC official says**

NPR's A Martínez speaks with Dr. Ali Khan, dean of the college of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, about the promising developments that could help further combat COVID-19.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/01/21

Length: 00:03:44

### **How outreach helped Gulf States outpace national COVID vaccine rate for Black residents**

Black people in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana are taking the COVID-19 vaccine at higher rates than Black people across the United States

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/04/21

Length: 00:04:01

### **Why Black teens are getting vaccinated at higher rates than white teens across the South**

Overall vaccination rates still lag across Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama. When it comes to uptake among 12 to 17 year olds, some national studies show that white teenagers are getting vaccinated more than Black teenagers are.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 11/16/21

Length: 00:03:50

### **Pfizer says it will share the rights to its COVID-19 pill**

Pfizer says it is willing to share rights to its COVID-19 pill, Paxlovid. It's an oral antiviral drug that can be taken outside the hospital, which could be a help to low income countries.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/18/21

Length: 00:00:52

### **Gulf South health care systems are failing to equally serve people of color, study says**

Health care systems across the United States are failing to equitably serve people of color.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 12/03/21

Length: 00:01:28

**AIDS resource centers reach out to communities to help curb state's HIV epidemic**

Mississippi has some of the highest HIV AIDS rates in the nation, with more than 2,300 new cases diagnosed between 2015 and 2019 according to the Department of Health. Experts say the lack of access to treatment and testing continues to be a concern.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 12/29/21

Length: 00:01:44

**Mississippi experts searching for ways to reduce lethality of opioids**

The coronavirus pandemic has caused the national overdose death rate from opioids to surge according to addiction experts. And a group of doctors in Mississippi are searching for ways to understand the addictive properties of these drugs and prevent deaths.

# **CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 10/06/21  
Length: 00:03:21

## **Hearing about Facebook was billed as focusing on protecting kids online**

It's grabbed a lot of headlines, but the evidence on social media and teen mental health — including that Facebook and Instagram research — is far from a smoking gun.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 10/08/21  
Length: 00:01:26

## **Parents whose children have special needs learn about rights to educational services**

Parents of children with disabilities are learning how to navigate Mississippi's public education system and ensure kids receive the services they need.

Program: All Things Considered  
Air Date: 10/21/21  
Length: 00:04:14

## **Black children make up more than half of the incidents of police using force on kids**

More than a year and a half after nationwide racial justice and law enforcement protests came with renewed calls to scale back police use of force, new reporting offers a look at how often such force is affecting children.

Program: Morning Edition  
Air Date: 10/25/21  
Length: 00:07:09

## **50 years ago, The Electric Company used comedy to boost kids' reading skills**

When The Electric Company debuted in October 1971, television hadn't seen anything quite like it.

Program: Morning Edition  
Air Date: 11/03/21  
Length: 00:04:15

## **Children ages 5-11 are eligible for Pfizer's low-dose COVID-19 vaccine**

The CDC is recommending the vaccine for this age group. Shots could start as soon as Thursday — although the campaign will take a few days to get into full swing.

Program: Local News Segment  
Air Date: 11/05/21  
Length: 00:01:24

## **Parents seek coronavirus vaccinations for children in Mississippi**

Parents in Mississippi are taking their children to get a coronavirus vaccine now that emergency use authorization has been granted for younger age groups. Parents are sharing what this could mean for their families.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/08/21

Length: 00:01:49

**First kids ages 5-11 to get COVID shot looking forward to sleepovers, 'feeling safe'**

As providers begin rolling out the low-dose Pfizer vaccine for younger children, appointments and waitlists are already filling up.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 11/17/21

Length: 00:03:48

**'King Richard' tells how a father raised his tennis icon daughters, Venus and Serena P**

King Richard tells how Richard Williams doggedly pursued professional tennis careers for his daughters, Venus and Serena. His methods may have kept them from the burnout that ends many careers.

# **ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 10/05/21

Length: 00:03:36

## **Student athletes have an easier time accessing mental health care on campus**

One group of college student, athletes, routinely get more access to mental health services as an effort to care for the whole athlete.

Program: All Things Considered

Air Date: 10/29/21

Length: 00:07:57

## **Where do China, India and Brazil stand on climate pledges?**

20 nations are responsible for 80% of the world's carbon emissions. Ahead of the COP26 climate summit, we look at what China, India and Brazil — three of the world's biggest emitters — are doing.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 11/05/21

Length: 00:04:21

## **100 nations pledge to end deforestation by 2030. Environmentalists are skeptical**

At the U.N. climate conference, roughly 100 governments have signed a pledge to end deforestation by 2030. And in the U.K., efforts are already underway to reforest large parts of the country.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 11/19/21

Length: 00:01:50

## **Yazoo Pump veto by EPA has supporters applauding, critics frustrated**

Preserving Wetlands in the south Mississippi Delta and controlling backwater flooding are at the heart of the controversy over Yazoo Pumps.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 12/03/20

Length: 00:03:53

## **On Twitter and TikTok, Biden Grandchildren May Offer Viral View Of White House Life**

In the days of counting that followed election night, there was plenty of stress in the Biden and Harris families. And the whole world could follow along.

Program: Morning Edition

Air Date: 12/04/20

Length: 00:01:36

## **Chinese Moon Probe To Return Lunar Samples Back To Earth**

A Chinese probe has blasted off from the surface of the moon, carrying the first moon rock samples collected in over 40 years.

Program: Local News Segment

Air Date: 12/20/21

Length: 00:01:39

**Gulf States will get \$100M to expand internet access. Here's what they're prioritizing**

As Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi are gearing up to receive at least \$100 million each to expand high speed internet access as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a new report from Pew Trust examined how individual states fund their broadband projects.