

Australia's relationship with

# MISSISSIPPI

## KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 2.98 million ([2019](#))
- **Major Cities:** Jackson (capital and largest), Gulfport, Southaven, Hattiesburg, Biloxi
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$116 billion ([2019](#))
- **GDP Growth:** 2.5% ([2019](#))
- **% College Educated:** 22% ([2019](#))
- **Median Household Income:** \$45,081 ([2019](#))
- **Key Industries:** Agriculture, Fishing, Forestry, Tourism & Entertainment, Mining, Manufacturing
- **Known for:** River boat cruises, fried catfish, top cotton producer in pre-Civil War era, birthplace of blues music, home to Elvis Presley, BB King, Muddy Waters, nick named "The Magnolia State". The Natchez Trace, a route once used by Native Americans, stretches for 444 miles from Natchez MS to Nashville, TN.
- **National Rankings: ([out of 50 states](#))**  
Economy: 48th  
Healthcare: 50th  
Infrastructure: 45th  
Education: 46th  
Fiscal Stability: 44th  
[State size by area:](#) 32nd  
[State size by population:](#) 34th  
[Population density:](#) 35nd

## ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

- **Two-Way Trade:** US\$202 Million ([2019](#))
- **Australia's Exports to Mississippi:** US\$44 Million ([2019](#))
- **Mississippi's Exports to Australia:** US\$158 Million ([2019](#))
- **Priority Sectors for the Australia-Mississippi economic relationship:**  
Medical Devices & Equipment, Textile Articles, Chemicals

## PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- Inside the **Clarksdale, MS** tourist bureau hangs an Australian flag and a clock bearing the



current time in **Melbourne**. In 2008, Clarksdale City Council named the southernmost city in Mississippi, Melbourne.

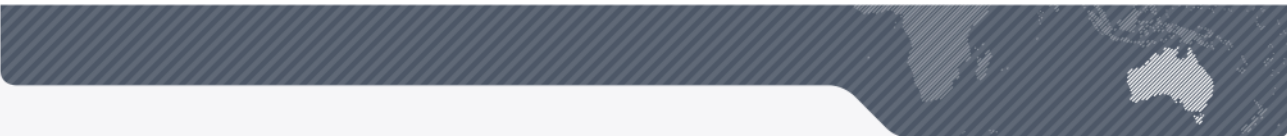
- **Sister Cities:** None
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Mississippi is managed by the **Consulate General in Washington DC**

## POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** [Tate Reeves \(R\)](#), next election - 2024
- **2020 Presidential Outcome:** Trump 57.5%
- **Senators:** Roger Wicker (R), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R)
- **House:** 3 Republicans, 1 Democrat

## AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

- **Cell Aquaculture:** Through a joint venture with Delta Aquaculture in Liberty, Cell Aquaculture grows, harvests and distributes barramundi for the US market.
- **Pratt Industries:** America's 5<sup>th</sup> largest corrugated packaging company and the world's largest privately-held 100% recycled paper and packaging company.
- **Boral Bricks:** International building products and construction materials group.
- **Sims Metal Management:** The world's leading publicly listed metal recycler with operations in the buying, processing and selling of ferrous and non-ferrous recycled metals.
- **Sonic Healthcare:** The world's third largest pathology/laboratory medicine company with operations in eight countries. It is also a leading provider of general practice, radiology, occupational medicine and corporate medical services.
- **NuFarm:** An Australian farm chemical and seed company invested \$20 million in a distribution facility.



## GLOBAL BUSINESS

- **Nissan North America Inc.:** Global Japanese car manufacturing company with an innovation hub in Mississippi for automotive manufacturing, creating more than 6,500 jobs.
- **Tyson Food Inc.:** American multinational corporation in the food industry. The company is the world's second largest processor and marketer of chicken, beef and pork after JBS S.A. and annually exports the largest percentage of beef out of the U.S.
- **Sanderson Farms:** Third largest poultry producer in the U.S. and produces 9.38 million chickens per week. It is the only Fortune 1000 company headquartered in Mississippi and one of the four companies which largely control the poultry farming industry in the U.S.
- **Ashley Furniture Homestore:** Designs and crafts timeless styles that are comfortable, livable and affordable.
- **Howard Industries:** Leading manufacturer of electrical transmission and distribution equipment used by commercial and industrial companies worldwide. Products include distribution transformers, power transformers, voltage regulators, switching/sectionalising cabinets, junction boxes and transformer components.

## SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

- **Entrepreneurship Ranking:** 48<sup>th</sup> (based on new firm births as a share of total businesses in the state, rank out of 51)
  - **Tech Jobs Ranking:** 53<sup>rd</sup> (based on share of engineers and computer scientists in the workforce, rank out of 51)
  - **BERD Intensity Ranking:** 49<sup>th</sup> (based on business expenditure on R&D per dollar of state output, rank out of 51)
  - **New Economy Index Ranking:** 50<sup>th</sup> (based on composite index that reports on the innovation-driven economy, rank out of 51)
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