

Legislative Branch

1. The Legislature is made up of two bodies: **The House of Representatives and the Senate.**
2. The purpose of the Legislature: **To create bills (ideas for laws), vote on bills, serve on committees, and discuss bills, offer amendments to laws, pass bills in the House and Senate.**
3. How many senators are in the State Legislature? **52.**
 - a. How long is a Senator's term? **Four years.**
 - b. How many people does a Senator represent? **Districts are drawn based on population meaning each Senator represents roughly 57,000 people.**
 - c. Who oversees the Senate? **The Lieutenant Governor, who is also the President of the Senate.**
4. How many Representatives are in the State Legislature? **122.**
 - a. How long is a Representative's term? **Four years.**
 - b. How many people does a Representative represent? **Based off the population, each representative represents roughly more than 24,000 people.**
 - c. Who oversees the House? **The Speaker of the House.**
5. When does the Legislature meet: **The Legislature has Session every year. Session begins on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January. They meet from January through March (90 days), except for the first year in a new term, which is a longer Session and continues through April and into May (125 days).**

State Government Info Sheet

Executive Branch

1. The leader of the Executive Branch at the state level: **The Governor of Mississippi.**
2. What does the Governor do? **Promote policies for education, health, public safety, infrastructure, the economy, etc.**
 - a. What are the Governor's powers? **The Governor signs bills into laws; the Governor may also veto the bills passed by the Legislature. The Governor may also appoint people to be in charge of state agencies. The Governor can call for a Special Session of the Legislature.**
3. How long is the Governor's term? **Four years.**
 - a. How many terms can a Governor serve? **Two terms.**
 - b. Where is the Governor's Office? **The Governor has three offices: His main office is in the Walter Sillers building on High Street, in Jackson; his second office is in The Governor's Mansion; and his third, and ceremonial, office is on the third floor of the Mississippi State Capitol.**
4. Where does the Governor live? **The Governor's Mansion.**

Judicial Branch

1. What is the chief body of the Judicial Branch in Mississippi? **The Mississippi Supreme Court.**
2. What is the job of the Supreme Court? **The Mississippi Supreme Court is considered a last resort among state courts. Decisions made by the lower courts in the state may be appealed to the Supreme Court.**
3. What are the judges on the Court called? **Justices.**
 - a. How many justices does the Court have? **9.**
 - b. How long do the justices serve on the Court? **They serve 8-year-long terms.**
4. Who selects the justices? **The nine justices are elected from the three Supreme Court districts.**
5. Who is the head of the Court? **The Chief Justice.**
 - a. How is the Chief Justice chosen? **The Chief Justice is whomever has served the longest continuous term on the court.**
 - b. What are presiding justices? **The presiding justices are the two justices who have served the longest after the Chief Justice.**
6. Where does the Supreme Court meet? **The Court meets at the Carroll Gartin Justice Building in Jackson, MS.**
 - a. When do they meet? **The Court meets twice a year: after the first Monday in March and after the first Monday in September.**