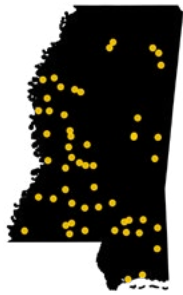


Mississippi



As climate change produces more extremely hot days across the country, many schools are struggling to cope with overheated classrooms and inadequate cooling systems—if they have them at all. This ongoing increase in the number of hot days during the academic year is forcing schools to install air conditioning or upgrade their equipment to a higher cooling capacity.

Hotter Days, Higher Costs: The Cooling Crisis in America's Classrooms analyzed localized heat trends during the school year from 1970 to 2025 using a widely used and publicly available ensemble of climate models. Our analysis identified a threshold of 32 days above 80 degrees Fahrenheit during the school year as the point at which air conditioning is needed, based on engineering protocols, peer-reviewed studies examining the relationship between heat and learning, and actual practice in school systems across the country. For every school district, we used climate model output to tally the number of days above the 80°F threshold during the school year in 1970 and 2025.

The result: billions of dollars in school cooling costs that are directly attributable to climate change.

THE IMPACT ON MISSISSIPPI

For some schools in Mississippi that required cooling systems before 1970, the increasing number of extremely hot days has already and will continue to overwhelm the cooling capacity of these systems. To upgrade these systems, Mississippi will need to spend \$1,077,000 on 190 schools by 2025, impacting 106,400 students across 62 school districts in Mississippi.

This increase in hot days will mean schools have to spend an additional \$8,677,000 every year to operate these systems, which will impact 475,480 students.

THE IMPACT ON THE U.S.

Numerous studies have found that hot temperatures reduce a student's ability to learn.

Nationally, the bill totals over \$40 billion to install or upgrade air conditioning in schools that serve a third of the country's public school students. That's equivalent to the amount that public schools spend each year on all capital improvements, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

Who's going to pay for this? As it stands, taxpayers have been on the hook. The total bill is enormous, particularly for schools feeling the pinch from increased spending on security and health-safety measures, and burgeoning technology demands. Taxpayers, teachers, and students aren't to blame for rising temperatures. Oil and gas executives have known nearly half a century that their products were causing climate change, and intentionally misled the public about the dangers.

Schoolchildren understand that when you make a mess, it's your responsibility to clean it up. It's time to hold oil and gas executives accountable for the damage they've caused.



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See our full report for more data at coolingcrisis.org

The Cost of Cooling Mississippi's Schools

TOP 10 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, RANKED BY EQUIPMENT COST

RANK	SCHOOL DISTRICT	TOTAL EQUIPMENT	ANNUAL OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE	# OF STUDENTS IMPACTED	INCREASE IN HEAT DAYS (TOTAL HEAT DAYS)
1	Jackson Public School District	\$101,442	\$419,709	23,935	⬆️ 22 _{/121}
2	Hinds County School District	\$86,875	\$132,877	5,797	⬆️ 23 _{/123}
3	Rankin County School District	\$69,321	\$331,981	19,206	⬆️ 22 _{/122}
4	Madison County School District	\$61,040	\$251,462	13,302	⬆️ 21 _{/119}
5	Hazlehurst City School District	\$57,668	\$30,558	1,496	⬆️ 26 _{/129}
6	Harrison County School District	\$57,175	\$263,873	15,010	⬆️ 16 _{/117}
7	Copiah County School District	\$51,424	\$70,093	2,535	⬆️ 25 _{/124}
8	Lawrence County School District	\$40,517	\$53,682	2,082	⬆️ 25 _{/127}
9	South Pike School District	\$36,466	\$38,193	1,735	⬆️ 20 _{/128}
10	Vicksburg Warren School District	\$29,514	\$128,290	7,775	⬆️ 25 _{/126}

TOP 10 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, RANKED BY OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE COST

RANK	SCHOOL DISTRICT	TOTAL EQUIPMENT	ANNUAL OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE	# OF STUDENTS IMPACTED	INCREASE IN HEAT DAYS (TOTAL HEAT DAYS)
1	DeSoto County School District	\$0	\$613,448	34,392	⬆️ 18 _{/94}
2	Jackson Public School District	\$101,442	\$419,709	23,935	⬆️ 22 _{/121}
3	Rankin County School District	\$69,321	\$331,981	19,206	⬆️ 22 _{/122}
4	Harrison County School District	\$57,175	\$263,873	15,010	⬆️ 16 _{/117}
5	Madison County School District	\$61,040	\$251,462	13,302	⬆️ 21 _{/119}
6	Lamar County School District	\$8,806	\$179,444	10,624	⬆️ 18 _{/127}
7	Jackson County School District	\$0	\$139,739	9,209	⬆️ 15 _{/118}
8	Tupelo Public School District	\$29,058	\$133,735	6,994	⬆️ 16 _{/104}
9	Hinds County School District	\$86,875	\$132,877	5,797	⬆️ 23 _{/123}
10	Jones County School District	\$0	\$129,617	8,701	⬆️ 18 _{/121}

Total equipment is the combined estimated HVAC installation and upgrade costs from 1970–2025. Annual Operation & Maintenance is the estimated costs of operating and maintaining the HVAC systems. Heat days are the number of days 80° or warmer between September 1 and June 15. The increase in heat days was estimated between 1970–2025.

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