

## Poor Decisions By A Poor State

A recent report puts the finances of Mississippi in perspective. It may be useful to keep the following facts—we can't even pay our own bills—in mind when making expenditures for luxuries like the [renovation of](#) Reed Green Coliseum.

States compete with each other in order to attract businesses, for example, or to attract students to their universities. However, given the major demographic, economic, political, and geographical differences between different states, some carry unique burdens while others have unique advantages.

Because of differences like these, as well as differences in policy and fiscal decisions, states depend on support from the federal government to vastly different degrees. In a recent report, [WalletHub looked at which states](#) leaned most heavily on Uncle Sam for support.

Mississippi is heavily assisted with federal dollars. So much so that WalletHub's calculations place them at the top of the list for the most dependent on Washington for subsistence. Mississippi suffers from some serious [socio-economic issues](#), including having the highest poverty rate and one of the lowest income rates in the country.

These are problems that have plagued the state for a long time, and there doesn't appear to be any hope for change in the near future. There are a few things that capture federal funding that add to the state's total, including several military bases, but the major issue appears to be the lack of jobs and opportunity suffered by the state's citizens.

Read more at the [Ten States Most Dependent on the Federal Government](#).