

Quote for Governor Ronnie Musgrove, 050703:

"Under my leadership, Mississippi's investment in education is paying off. This is another national report that shows that we are putting our children first."

"As Governor, I've worked with the legislature to ensure that every classroom is a place where our children can learn 21st century skills. Next year's report, which will be based on 2003 data with all classrooms having an Internet accessible classroom, will be even more favorable."

"We know that technology will continue to play an integral role in the education of our children. Our students are on a competitive learning field with students in other states. By making education a top priority, Mississippi's children graduate ready for the workforce and college."

Cathy, here are some of the highlights:

Access to technology

- 15% of MS's instructional computers are Windows 2000 or NT. The national average is 13%. (i.e, faster, more advanced computers)
- In high minority schools, MS averaged 6.4 students per instructional multimedia computers, while the national average was 6.6. (i.e, fewer students per multimedia computer)
- MS averaged 10.3 students per instructional multimedia computers located in classrooms, while the national average was 10.8 (i.e., fewer students per multimedia computer)
- Statewide, 94% of MS schools had Internet access, which equaled the national average. However, 95% of MS's high-minority schools had access, while the national average was only 92%.
- Statewide, 92% of MS schools had Internet access from 1 or more classrooms, while the national average was 90%.
- Statewide, of MS schools with Internet access, 79% connect through a T1, T3, digital satellite, or cable modem. The national average was 76%.
- Of MS's high-poverty schools with Internet access, 80% connect through a T1, T3, digital satellite, or cable modem. The national average was 73%.

- Likewise, of MS's high-minority schools with Internet access, 83% connect through a T1, T3, digital satellite, or cable modem. The national average was 75%.

Capacity to Use Technology

- 50% of MS's schools had a full-time district or school-level technology coordinator. The national average was 33%.
- 64% of MS's schools had a full-time district or school-level computer maintenance/technical support person. The national average was 49%.
- 74% of teachers in MS's high-poverty schools had participated in professional development on the use of computers for instruction in the last 12 months. The national average was 66%.

Use of Technology

- 78% of MS's schools had at least half of their teachers using the Internet for instruction. The national average was 73%.
- 76% of MS's high-poverty schools had at least half of their teachers using the Internet for instruction. The national average was 68%.
- 75% of MS's high-minority schools had at least half of their teachers using the Internet for instruction. The national average was 65%.