Our 12 Certified Retirement Cities offer a variety of lifestyles. You can choose from quaint towns or more metropolitan areas. A number of them are home to universities, and all are served by community colleges. History lives in antebellum architecture, and retired veterans enjoy privileges at the five major military installations in our state. No matter what terrain you choose - rolling hills, flatlands, lush forested areas or the Gulf Coast - a mild, four-season climate lets you enjoy the outdoors and all Mississippi has to offer year-round.

**CERTIFIED RETIREMENT CITIES**

- Aberdeen
- Brandon
- Clinton
- Hattiesburg
- Madison
- Natchez
- Oxford
- Picayune
- Southaven
- Starkville
- Tupelo
- Vicksburg

**MISSISSIPPI RANKS**

#1

**COST OF LIVING**

CNBC, 2019

- Example idea of a home valued at $384,500
- 2750 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, approximate cost of Taxes with Homestead Exemption:
  - County: $1035
  - City: $2025

Actual tax amounts may vary.

**REAL PURCHASING POWER IS**

34%

**GREATER**

IN MISSISSIPPI THAN ANY OTHER STATE

The Tax Foundation, 2018
WHY CHOOSE Mississippi?

- Rich history, extraordinary culture, outstanding cuisine
- Excellent medical care
- Average annual temperature 75 degrees
- Affordable housing
- Low property taxes
- No state income tax on retirement income
- Low cost of living
- Continuing education at local colleges/universities

HOW TAXES APPLY TO RETIREES

**Homestead Property**
- Assessed at 10% of true value
- Local tax rate applied to assessed value to determine the tax due annually

**Homestead Exemption**
- Under age 65 and not Disabled: $73,510 Home Credit of $300
- Age 65 and over or Disabled: Tax exempt up to $75,000 true value; Any value over $75,000 is taxed as other property
- Example:
  - $100,000 (True Value)
  - $75,000 (Exemptions)
  - $25,000 (Taxable Value)

**Motor Vehicles**
- Sales tax on automobiles and light trucks (10,000 lbs or less): 5%
- Example:
  - $20,000 (Vehicle's True Value)
  - $10,000 (Assessed Value)
  - $6,000 (Tax Rate - 300 x .010)
  - $600 (Tax Due)

Sales Tax

**Item Taxed Rate**
- Most tangible personal property - 7%
- Examples: groceries, clothing, appliances, and furniture
- Motor vehicles - 5%
- Certain services - 7%
- Examples: auto repair, plumbing, electrical, heating
- Exemptions - Residential water, gas and electricity, prescription drugs, payments made by Medicare and Medicaid, health care services, motor fuels (subject to 18 cents excise tax per gallon). No additional sales tax added by municipalities or counties except on hotels, motels, restaurants, and ½ of 1% tax in Tupelo.

**Income Tax**

**Rates**
- 3% on first $5,000 in taxable income
- 4% on next $5,000 in taxable income
- 5% on taxable income over $10,000

**Exemptions**
- Single: $6,000/year
- Married (Joint or Combined): $12,000/year
- Dependents: $1,500/year
- Age 65 and Over: $1,500/year

**Deductions**
- Single: $2,300/year
- Married (Joint or Combined): $4,600/year

**Itemized**
- Same as IRS reduced by state income tax claimed

**Exclusions From Taxable Income**
- Social Security benefits
- Retirement income (pensions, IRAs, 401Ks, government deferred compensation)
- Gains on the sale of stock in MS Corporations
- Interest income from U.S. or State of MS obligations

**Estate, Gift, and Inheritance Tax**
- On estates of decedents who die after January 1, 2000, Mississippi Estate Tax is the amount of credit allowed on the Federal Estate Tax Return for State estate taxes paid.
- Mississippi has no gift tax or inheritance tax.

**Motor Vehicles**
- Sales tax on automobiles and light trucks (10,000 lbs or less): 5%
- Example:
  - $300 tax credit ($6,000 x 0.500) = 300
  - $300 ad valorem tax due