

[How big do black bears get in Mississippi?](#) August 27, 2024

The Clarion-Ledger

... How many bears are in Mississippi? The short answer is, we don't know. Bears were once a popular game animal in Mississippi and a source of meat. By the early 1900s the population was estimated to be less than 12 bears [according to the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks] due to unregulated hunting and habitat loss...

[Mississippi's bear population is growing and here's what that means](#) December 10,

2024 The Clarion-Ledger

... the earliest record of black bears in the state are fossilized remains dating back 12,000 years ... By the 1930s, the black bear population was estimated to be about 12. In 1932, bear hunting was banned in Mississippi... For many years, MDWFP gave an estimate of 150 bears in Mississippi, but that number is outdated ..