MP511

Rural Profile of Arkansas

2013

UofA
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

Dear Fellow Arkansans,

The Rural Profile of Arkansas - 2013 is The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture's ongoing contribution to greater understanding of the social, demographic and economic conditions in rural and urban regions of the state. This Profile, in one form or the other, has been providing information for over 20 years and has served as a valued source of data and information for elected leaders in the state as well as for local government stakeholders and public servants.

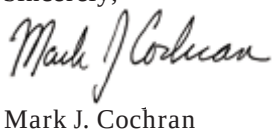
As with earlier Rural Profiles, the 2013 version takes a careful look at important trends in Arkansas' social, demographic and economic structure. In this version, special attention is given to demographic and economic changes that will affect the social and economic environment and open new opportunities for collaboration and development of the state.

While the focus of the Rural Profile is on "rural" Arkansas, conditions vary throughout the state. To provide insight into how circumstances differ three distinct regions – the Delta, the Coastal Plains and the Highlands – are considered. Rural and urban areas are compared.

The Profile is designed to be a tool for leaders in planning and directing policies and programs for the present and for the future. Should you have any questions on how to use the data in this Profile, please contact the Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service agents in your county. They are a valuable resource to you and your community.

We look forward to continuing our service to the State of Arkansas by providing an analysis of some of the important issues facing Arkansans living in rural and urban regions of the state.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Cochran
Vice President for Agriculture
Division of Agriculture
University of Arkansas

Rural Profile of Arkansas 2013

Social & Economic Trends Affecting Rural Arkansas

Table of Contents

Summary Highlights

Population

- While Arkansas' population grew 9.1 percent from 2000 to 2010, nearly all of the growth occurred in urban areas and some rural counties in the Highlands.
- The Delta and Coastal Plains continue to lose population, losing 7 percent and 6.6 percent of their people, respectively – a combined loss of approximately 39,000 people over this ten-year period.
- Although migration drove population increases in the early 2000s, the migration rates have begun to taper off. Rural counties experienced net outmigration, resulting in population loss.
- Rural areas continue to have older populations than urban areas and higher dependency ratios. The dependency ratio in rural areas was 67.6 per 100 persons compared to 60.3 per 100 for urban areas in 2010.
- Elderly people 75 years and over made up 7.5 percent of the rural population and 6.4 percent of the state's total population, presenting unique challenges for rural areas where health services are already strained in some counties.
- Arkansas' Hispanic population increased from 87,000 in 2000 to over 186,000 in 2010.
- The Hispanic population grew to 5 percent of total population in rural counties, primarily in the western half of the state. Six rural counties had a Hispanic population of 10 percent or more in 2010.
- Although the 1990s and first half of this decade saw tremendous increases in the Hispanic populations across the state, the rapid increase seems to be slowing since 2005.

Economy

- Employment in Arkansas grew a modest 3.5 percent from 2000 to 2010. This was slower than the nearly 5 percent employment growth in the U.S. economy during this period.
- Urban counties fared better than rural counties. While the state gained 52,329 jobs, urban areas gained 83,691, while rural counties lost 31,362 jobs during this ten-year period.
- All three rural areas had a net loss of jobs during this ten-year period. The Highlands lost only 1 percent of their jobs compared to 10 percent in the Coastal Plains and 10.9 percent in the Delta.
- Arkansas lost nearly 63,000 manufacturing jobs from 2001 to 2010, which has greatly affected the economic base of rural areas. The state lost 29 percent of its manufacturing employment over this time period compared to a 28 percent loss nationwide.
- All three rural regions had a net loss of manufacturing jobs during this eight-year period. Jobs in other sectors were not created in sufficient quantity to replace the lost manufacturing jobs in the rural areas.
- Rural areas had lower earnings per job than urban areas, and the gap widened slightly. Rural areas had average earnings per job of only 81 percent of the average urban earnings in 2010, compared to 83 percent in 2000.
- In 2010, nearly one-fourth of the jobs in rural areas were either in farming, forestry or manufacturing compared to about one-tenth in urban areas.
- With the historically dominant industries of manufacturing and agriculture in rural areas in decline, the structure and economic base of rural Arkansas are changing.

Poverty and Social and Economic Stress

- Beginning with 2005, the estimated poverty rates across the state increased, especially in rural areas. Pockets of extreme poverty remain throughout the state, and 16 counties in the state had a poverty rate 25 percent or greater.
- Arkansas had the 7th highest poverty rate (18.7 percent) in the country. Poverty in the rural Delta and Coastal Plains remained substantially higher than poverty in urban counties.
- The state poverty rate for children under 18 was 27.3 percent, sixth in the nation. The Delta had a child poverty rate that exceeded one in three. Eight rural counties had a child poverty rate higher than 40 percent.
- Housing foreclosures have affected urban areas more than rural areas of the state. The statewide foreclosure rate for November 2012 was 4,405 housing units per foreclosure. This compares to a rate of 4,628 for rural areas and 3,650 for urban areas.
- Statewide nearly one in five Arkansans received food stamps in 2010. Rural areas exceeded the statewide rate, with the Coastal Plains and Delta having a rate of 27 percent and 29 percent, respectively. Urban areas had only 13 percent of the population receiving food stamps.
- In rural areas, almost one in three persons were eligible for Medicaid (30.7 percent), and that number rises to over 36 percent for the Delta. Sixty-five of 75 counties had over one-half of their child population eligible to receive ARKids First.
- Access to food is clearly a more serious problem for rural areas than for urban areas. Nearly one-third of low-income rural Arkansans (30.2 percent) were more than one mile from a large grocery store, and 5 percent were more than 10 miles from such a store. The rate in urban areas was much lower at 17 percent more than 1 mile and 0.5 percent more than 10 miles.

Health

- Arkansas' infant mortality and child obesity rates were higher than the national average, important indicators of the overall health of the population.
- In Arkansas, there were 7.6 deaths per 1,000 live births compared to the national average of 6.7 deaths, placing Arkansas' infant mortality rate (IMR) eleventh highest in the nation. The rural regions have a range of IMRs from a low of 7.2 in the Highlands to a high of 8.2 in the Delta.
- The National Center for Health Statistics data for 2009-2010 showed that 69 percent of adults aged 20 and over were overweight or obese. About the same percentage of Arkansas adults (67 percent) were overweight or obese.
- Over 40 percent of Arkansas children are overweight or obese. The Delta had the highest rate at 44 percent.
- Rural Arkansas averaged just 64 primary care physicians per 100,000 people compared to 106 physicians per 100,000 people in urban Arkansas.
- One in five (20.2 percent) adult Arkansans lacked health insurance, with rural areas having higher rates (23 percent) than urban areas (18 percent).

Summary Highlights

Education

- Public school enrollment declined nearly 7 percent in the Coastal Plains and 5 percent in the Delta. The Highlands were virtually unchanged, and urban counties grew 3 percent. Both growing and shrinking school districts face major challenges.
- There was disparity between rural and urban enrollment rates in the free or reduced lunch program, with a 67 percent enrollment rate in rural areas as opposed to a 57 percent enrollment rate in urban areas. Among the rural regions, the Delta had an enrollment rate of nearly 77 percent.
- In 2010, Arkansas ranked 44th nationally in the percentage of adults with high school diplomas and 49th in the percentage of people with college degrees. Just 79 percent of rural Arkansans had high school diplomas compared to nearly 85 percent of urban Arkansans. Only 13 percent of rural adults had college degrees compared to 24 percent of urban Arkansans and 30 percent nationally.

Social Vulnerability and Drought

- Within the state, there was disparity in the level of social vulnerability between rural and urban counties. Rural counties had a SoVI™ score of 1.17 compared with a SoVI™ score of -1.45 for urban counties, meaning that, on average, rural counties are more vulnerable than urban ones (lower score is less vulnerable).
- Because of geographic isolation and limited resources, rural areas tend to be more vulnerable to the negative outcomes of natural disasters.
- Much of the state remains in severe or extreme drought.

Local Government

- A high percentage of Arkansans reside in unincorporated areas (33 percent) and small towns (22 percent), placing an unusually heavy burden on local governments in rural areas with declining local tax bases.
- The ability to generate local revenue from the property tax varied greatly. Per capita property assessments ranged from $7,724 to $32,461 in 2011. Exacerbating this situation was a declining property tax base in 17 counties, most of which are in the rural Delta and Coastal Plains.
- Beginning in 2001, the sales tax has generated more local revenue for county governments than is generated by the property tax. In 2009, 45 of Arkansas's 75 counties generated more revenue from the sales tax than from the property tax.
- While the sales tax provides another option to generate local government revenue, the ability to generate revenue from the sales tax also varied greatly among counties. Per capita retail sales ranged from $2,150 in a rural county to $19,112 in an urban county in 2011.
- Average per capita retail sales were substantially lower in rural areas ($9,714) compared to urban counties ($15,219) in 2011.

What Is Rural?

Arkansas is diverse. This diversity extends to the landscape…from the Delta region to the Coastal Plains and the Highlands. And it extends to the citizens themselves. The demographic composition varies between regions with different mixes of Whites, African Americans, Latinos and a host of other ethnicities ranging from the Karen to Marshall Islanders to Turkish and any number of other subpopulations.

This Rural Profile of Arkansas presents a data-driven portrait of social, demographic and economic characteristics of regions of the state. The goal is straightforward: to provide information and data that allow insight into the differences and similarities within the state. In painting this picture of Arkansas, we use a classification scheme to delineate rural versus urban areas and different rural regions of the state.

We are keenly aware that the idea of "rural" is not one that is easily expressed and that researchers, policymakers and government agencies often use different definitions (*c.f.* Farmer 2008). While acknowledging the difficulty of capturing the gradations and nuances of the concept of "rural," the U.S. Census Bureau provides measurement guidelines that allow a standardized use of data and information about people and places outside of urban and metropolitan areas. Those guidelines are provided in Appendix A as they were developed in 2003 (see also Moon and Farmer, 2008). In this profile we use the words "rural" and "nonmetropolitan" and "urban" and "metropolitan" interchangeably. Populations residing in counties with large cities are classified as metropolitan, and those counties are grouped into a category termed "urban." Additionally, we use the 1999 Census designation of nonmetropolitan and metropolitan rather than the 2003 Core-Based Statistical Area. Because our concern is primarily with differences and similarities across regions in the state, we believe the dichotomous approach provides a clearer picture as to the rural and urban character of the regions.

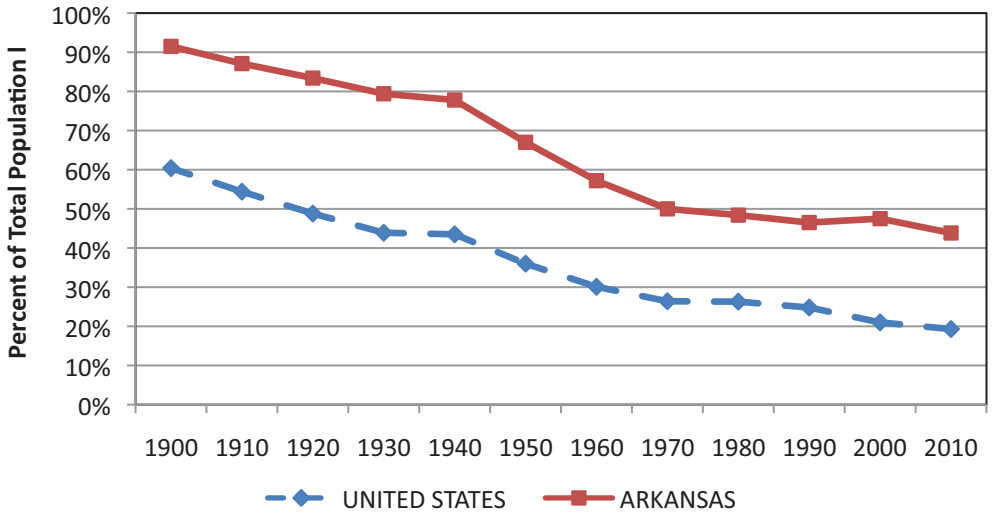
> The goal of the Rural Profile of Arkansas is to provide information and data that allow insight into the differences and similarities within the state.

The Concept of "Rural" and How to Measure It

No matter how you view it, Arkansas is a very rural state. When using the county-based metropolitan / nonmetropolitan definitions, 62 of Arkansas' 75 counties were classified as nonmetropolitan in the 2010 census, and 44 percent of Arkansans lived in a nonmetropolitan county. This compares with only 16 percent of people living in nonmetropolitan counties in the nation.

As can be seen in the graph (Figure 1), Arkansas has had a greater percentage of rural people than the nation throughout the last

Figure 1. Rural Population, 1900-2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

century. Only 19 percent of the population was identified as rural in the 2010 national census compared with 44 percent of Arkansans. Beginning in 1900, nearly 91 percent of Arkansans lived in rural areas compared to only about 60 percent of the United States population. The percentage of people living in rural areas declined dramatically between 1900 and 2010 for both Arkansas and the United States.

American Community Survey Data

Population estimate data used in this publication are the most current available data and are the official population counts available from the Census Bureau. However, new population data has been provided in the Census 2010, which provides a count of the number of people in the United States. The American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing data collection project run by the U.S. Census Bureau. This data provides details on demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics of the U.S. population. ACS data replaces the so-called "long form" data used by the Census Bureau in earlier years.

The percentage of people living in rural areas declined dramatically between 1900 and 2010 for both Arkansas and the United States.

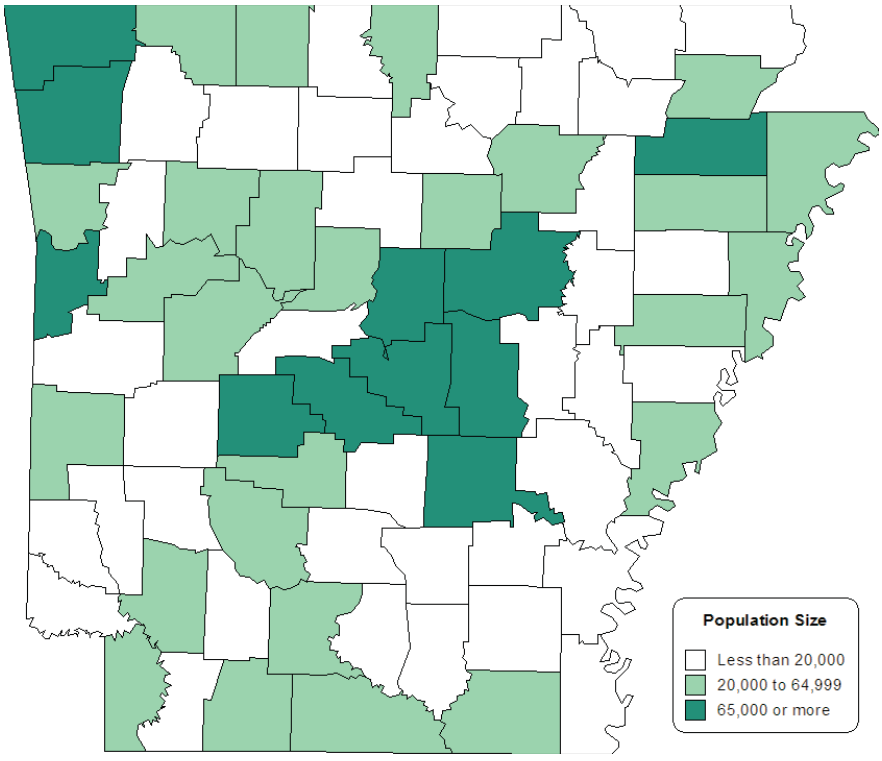
The ACS data are generated from a sample of the population rather than from the entire population. The ACS collects and releases data in three ways. Each year, ACS data comes out for cities with a population of 65,000 or more and for states and the country. The ACS releases information about cities and towns with at least 20,000 people on a rolling three-year basis. The ACS data becomes available on a rolling five-year basis for the entire country, including places that are smaller than 20,000 population. The ACS data are provided with margins of error, similar to polling data often seen on TV news programs. The margin of error information enables statisticians to calculate whether actual change has taken place over time or if differences in data are due to random differences in sampling.

Measures of Urban and Rural

In the current Profile, we adopt the long-established categorization of counties as metropolitan and nonmetropolitan. However, it is valuable to recognize that other classifications exist and are variously used. One such classification scheme allocates counties to three groups. The categories are based on the population cutoffs for the American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the Census Bureau.The darkest category in Figure 2 shows counties with a population of 65,000 or greater. The Census Bureau produced annual data for all states and cities or counties with a population of 65,000 or more. These are considered "urban" areas with sufficient population size for annual sampling.

The next category is for counties with a population of at least 20,000 persons but less than 65,000. These counties fall into the three-year cycle for the ACS and are generally counties adjacent to

Figure 2. Population Size



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

the largest cities in the state or are micropolitan areas (large towns but not big cities).

The last category could be considered "rural" or small communities. This is the category of counties with less than 20,000 persons. Just over half the state of Arkansas (38 counties) falls into this smallest population category. The map (Figure 2) helps demonstrate just how "rural" Arkansas remains. Because Arkansas has many communities (and half its counties) that fall below 20,000 in population, the detailed data from the Census Bureau will be available for all counties and communities only in these five-year estimates. Much of the detailed data in this Profile come from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey estimate data.

Regions of Arkansas

This publication focuses on issues facing rural Arkansas and on the differences between rural and urban areas and among rural regions of the state. Therefore, a classification scheme is used to delineate rural versus urban areas and different rural regions of the state. The three rural regions of Arkansas are the Coastal Plains, the Delta and the Highlands. This approach combines nonmetropolitan counties that have similar economic activity, history, physical setting, settlement patterns and culture and facilitates comparison with the metropolitan counties. A map with all the county names and the regions can be found on the back cover.

Farmer, F. L 2008. "The Definition of Rural" in G. Goreham (ed.). *The Encyclopedia of Rural America. The Land and the People* (2nd edition). Millerton, New York: Grey House Publishing.

Moon, Z., and Frank L. Farmer. 2008. "The Measurement of Rural" in G. Goreham (ed.). *The Encyclopedia of Rural America. The Land and the People* (2nd edition). Millerton, New York: Grey House Publishing.

Population Change

From 2000 to 2010, the state population grew 9.1 percent (22nd nationally), which was slightly less than the national growth of 9.7 percent. This increase added over 240,000 people to the state population. Urban areas grew the most with a 16.9 percent increase compared to a slight population gain in rural areas of 0.3 percent.

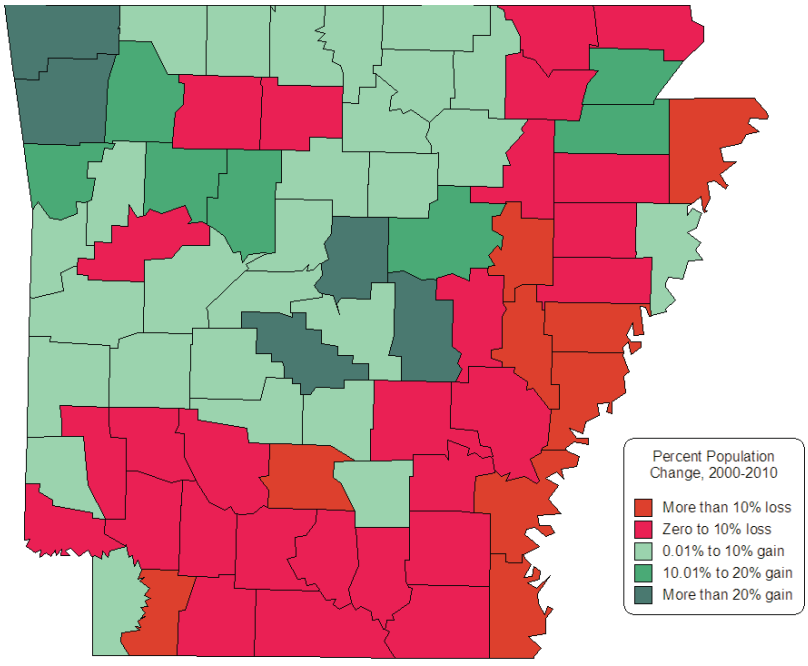
The situation in rural areas was mixed, with the Highlands experiencing a population increase that was offset by larger losses in the Coastal Plains and Delta regions. The Delta recorded a population loss of 7 percent or nearly 24,000 people. The Coastal Plains lost nearly 15,000 people, a 6.6 percent decline. The Highlands, on the other hand, experienced a 6 percent gain or the addition of about 43,000 people to the region.

The map in Figure 3 shows the variation in population growth of counties within the state from 2000 to 2010. Twelve counties experienced a growth rate greater than 10 percent. Of these counties, seven were urban. Benton County experienced dramatic growth with a 44 percent increase in population from 2000 to 2010. The urban counties of Faulkner, Lonoke, Washington and Saline all experienced growth approaching 30 percent. Four of the five rural counties experiencing greater than 10 percent growth were in the Highlands (Johnson, Madison, Pope and White) and one (Greene) was in the Delta.

> Of the 36 Arkansas counties that experienced a population loss, 35 were rural counties.

Thirty-six of the 75 counties in the state experienced a population loss. Of these 36 counties, 35 were rural counties. The one urban county that lost population was Jefferson. Fifteen of the rural counties losing population were in the Delta and 11 in the Coastal Plains. Every county but one (Cleveland) in the Coastal Plains and all but one county in the Delta (Greene) lost population. Lee, Phillips and Monroe counties in the Delta lost more than 17 percent of their respective populations while an additional six rural counties (four in the Delta) lost between 10 percent and 15 percent of their population between 2000 and 2010. Dallas County in the Highlands was the exception to that region's patterns, experiencing a significant population loss of 12 percent.

Figure 3. Percent Population Change, 2000-2010



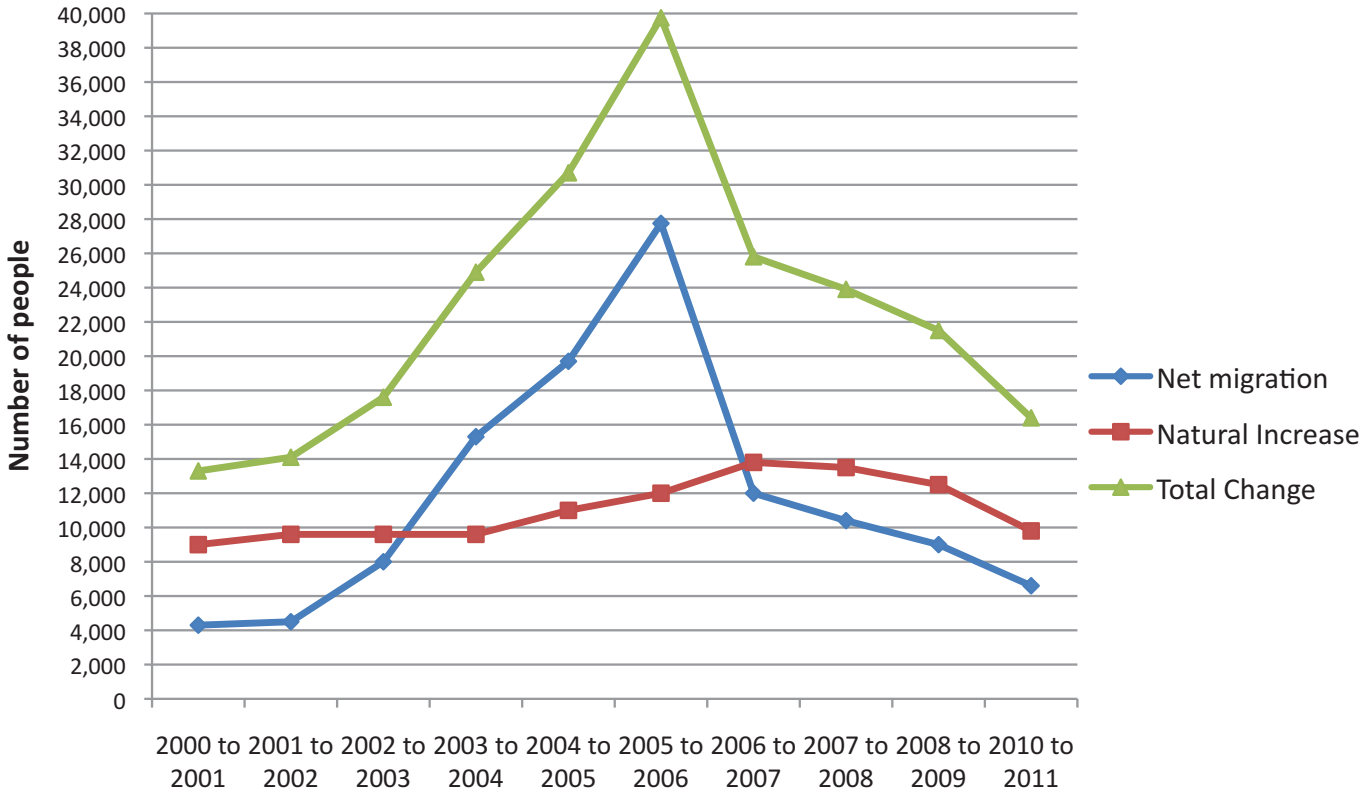
Source: 2000 and 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Components of Population Change

Populations can grow or decline in two ways: from natural increase/decrease (the difference of births over deaths) and from migration. Figures 4 and 5 show the separate effects of each of these elements of population change for the state and for rural and urban counties. It is strikingly clear that the nature of population change has altered over the last decade and varies between rural and urban regions.

For urban counties, the contribution of natural increase has decreased slightly to 5.7 per 1,000 population in 2011. The rate for urban counties peaked between 2006 and 2007 at 8.05 and then dropped slightly. The picture is dif-

Figure 4. State Total Population Components of Change, 2000 to 2011



Source: Population Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

The 2009-2010 data point is not included. The graph shows only data from the intercensal population estimates and does not include the actual 2010 Census count data.

ferent for rural areas. Although all rural regions saw a positive natural increase (more births than deaths) over the ten-year period, the rates were less than in the urban areas. The Highlands had a rate of 0, meaning births equaled deaths. The Delta had a natural increase of 0.36 and the Coastal Plains 0.37. However, these regional rates mask geographic clusters of counties with natural decreases (more deaths than births). As the map in Figure 6 shows, the largest of these clusters was in the Highlands, a result of significantly older populations than is found across most of the other regions of the state. About half (36) of the counties in the state showed a natural decrease. Of these, all but one (Garland) were rural and 19 were in the Highlands.

The graphs (Figures 4 and 5) clearly illustrate that population growth in the early 2000s was driven mostly by migration. However, as can also be seen in the line graphs, after peaking in 2005-2006 period, the net migration rates have fallen substantially.

A glance at the county map (Figure 7) shows most rural counties experienced outmigration. When considered from a regional perspective, the Coastal Plains has experienced the highest outmigration rate, losing six people for every 1,000 population. This is compared to the state's overall gain of 2.3 inmigrants for every 1,000 population. The Delta also experienced outmigration, losing five people per 1,000 population. The regional exception was the Highlands, which added one person for every 1,000 population.

Urban areas experienced nearly twice the statewide migration growth, adding over five people for every 1,000 population. The map in Figure 7 showing county net migration rates illustrates the exodus of persons from the Delta and the Coastal Plains and the inflow into the urban areas of the state and a few Highlands counties. Of the ten

counties with the highest rate of outmigration, two were urban (Jefferson and Crittenden) and the rest were rural.

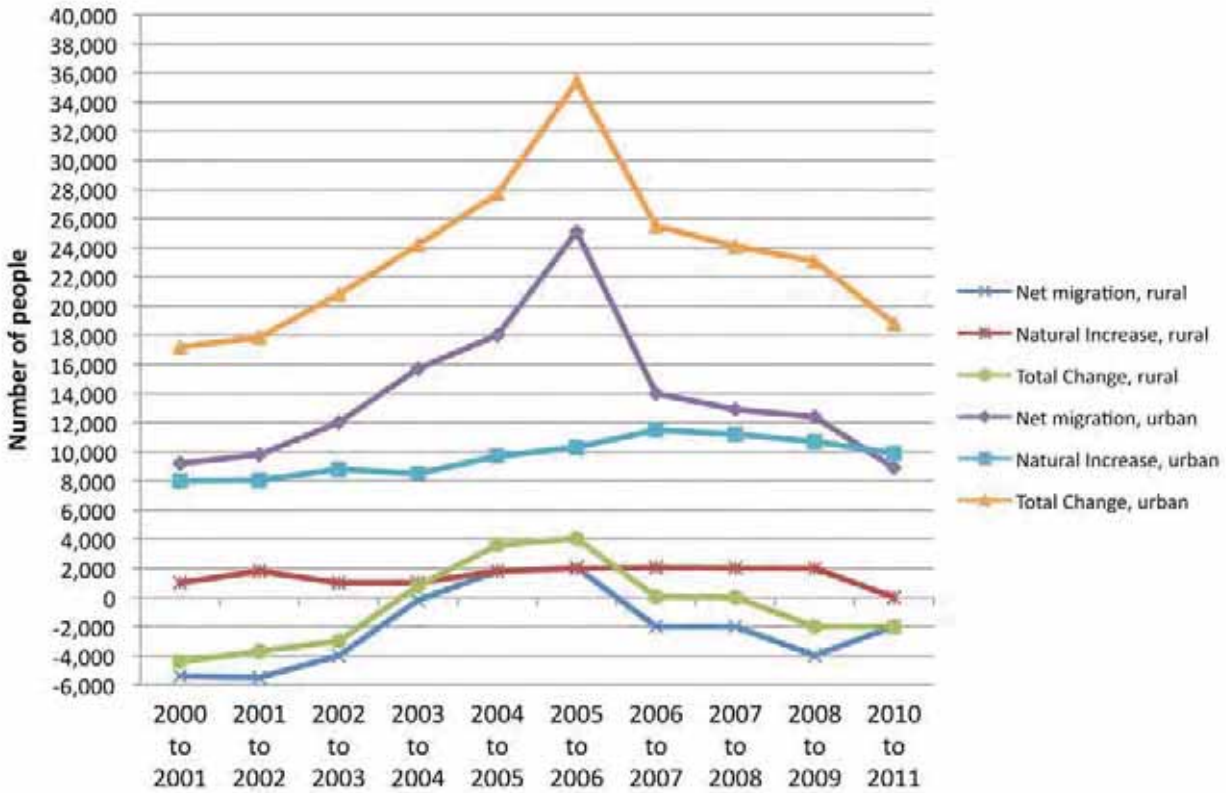
Dependency Ratio and Median Age

The dependency ratio calculates how many dependent-age people (17 years old and younger or 65 years old and older) there are for every 100 working-age people (ages 18 through 64). The entire state of Arkansas had 63.4 dependent-age people per 100 working-age people compared to 58.9 per 100 nationally. The county dependency ratios ranged from a low of 46.7 per 100 in Lincoln County to a high of 85.8 per 100 in Baxter County. As seen in Figure 8, dependency ratios varied between rural and urban areas with rural counties having substantially higher ratios (67.6 per 100 vs. 60.3, respectively). Of the rural regions, the Highlands had the highest dependency ratio of 68.7 per 100. Thirty counties have a dependency ratio that exceeds 70 persons per 100 population. Of those, all but one were rural, and the majority were in the Highlands.

> The median age in the U.S. was 37.2 in 2010. Arkansas had an older population, with a state median age of 39.8.

Median age is the age that divides a population into two equal groups in which one-half are younger and one-half are older. It summarizes the age distribution of a population. The median age in the U.S. was 37.2 in 2010. Arkansas had an older population, with a state median age of 39.8. Older still were the rural populations with a median age of 40.3. Urban areas in the state were younger at 35.7. The Highlands, home to a number of retirement communities and aging-in-place communities, had the highest median age at 41.6.

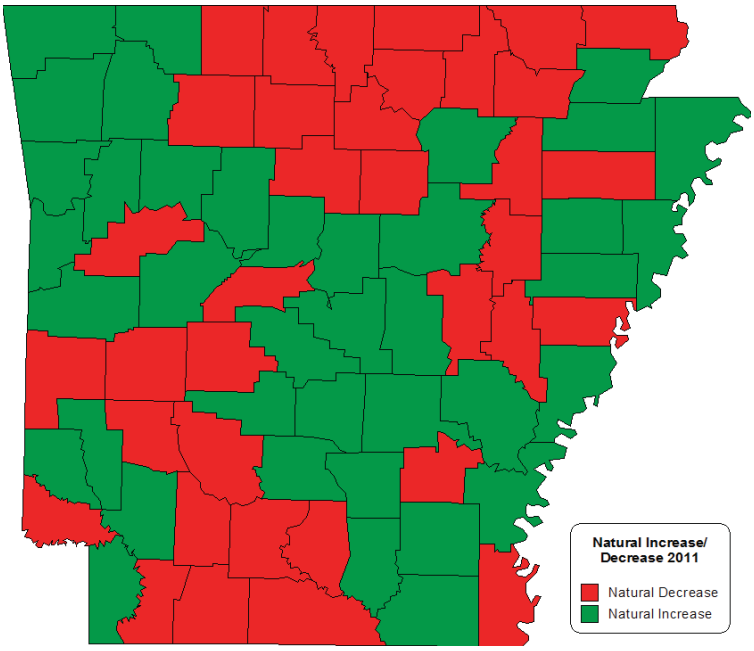
Figure 5. Urban and Rural Populations Components of Change, 2000 to 2011



Source: Population Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

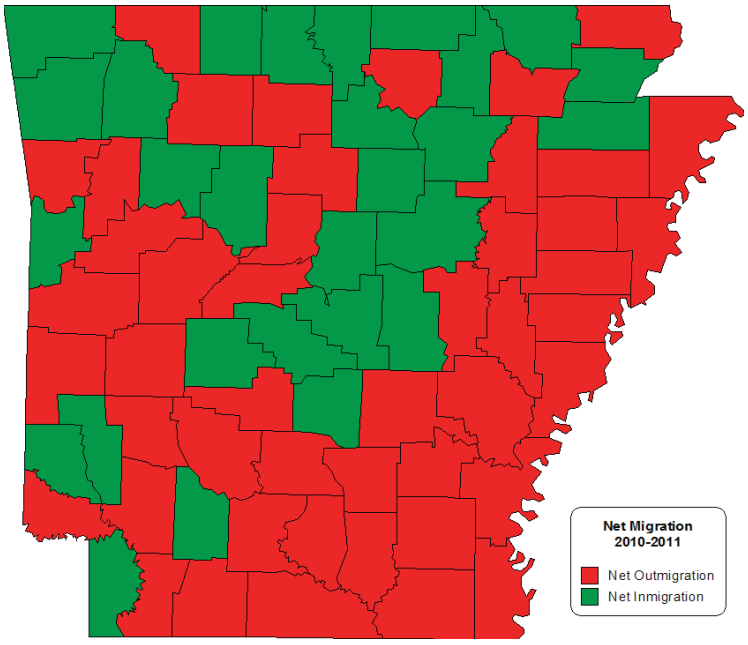
The 2009-2010 data point is not included. The graph shows only data from the intercensal population estimates and does not include the actual 2010 Census count data.

Figure 6. Natural Increase/Decrease, 2011



Source: Population Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 7. Net Migration, 2010-2011



Source: Population Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

Age and Gender

The population pyramids in Figures 9 through 15 show the distribution of males and females by age in Arkansas. The left side of the pyramid shows the percentage of males in each of the five-year age brackets and the right side shows females. The pyramid shows the familiar "bulge" created by the "baby boom" population, as well as the greater life expectancy of women, a pattern that mirrors the national data.

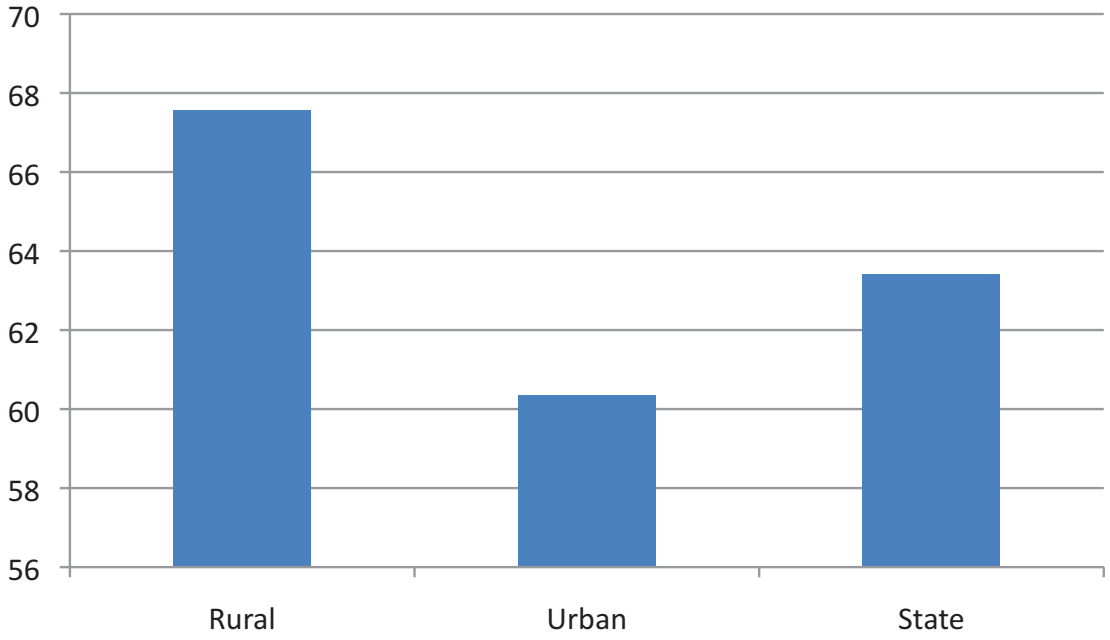
Splitting the total population into rural and urban components underscores differences in the state's population structure. The older population in rural areas is clearly seen in the "bulge" through the mid-forties to sixties, the narrower "waist" reflects the out-migration of working age adults and the smaller proportion of children. In contrast, urban populations are generally younger and have a larger percentage of working age and children. All the pyramids reflect the greater life expectancy of women, especially in the very old age brackets (75 and older).

> Urban populations are generally younger and have a larger percentage of children and working age adults.

The juxtaposition of different race and ethnic subpopulations demonstrates some of the important underlying population dynamics. The White population was slightly older, a result of both aging in place and the growth of retirement communities. The Black population also shows aging in place but had a greater percentage of young adults of childbearing age and more children. The population pyramids for the Other Races population (largely comprised of Asian and Native American persons) and the Hispanic population provide insight into how the age and gender structure of these populations differed. Specifically, the larger "base" of the pyramids indicates a very

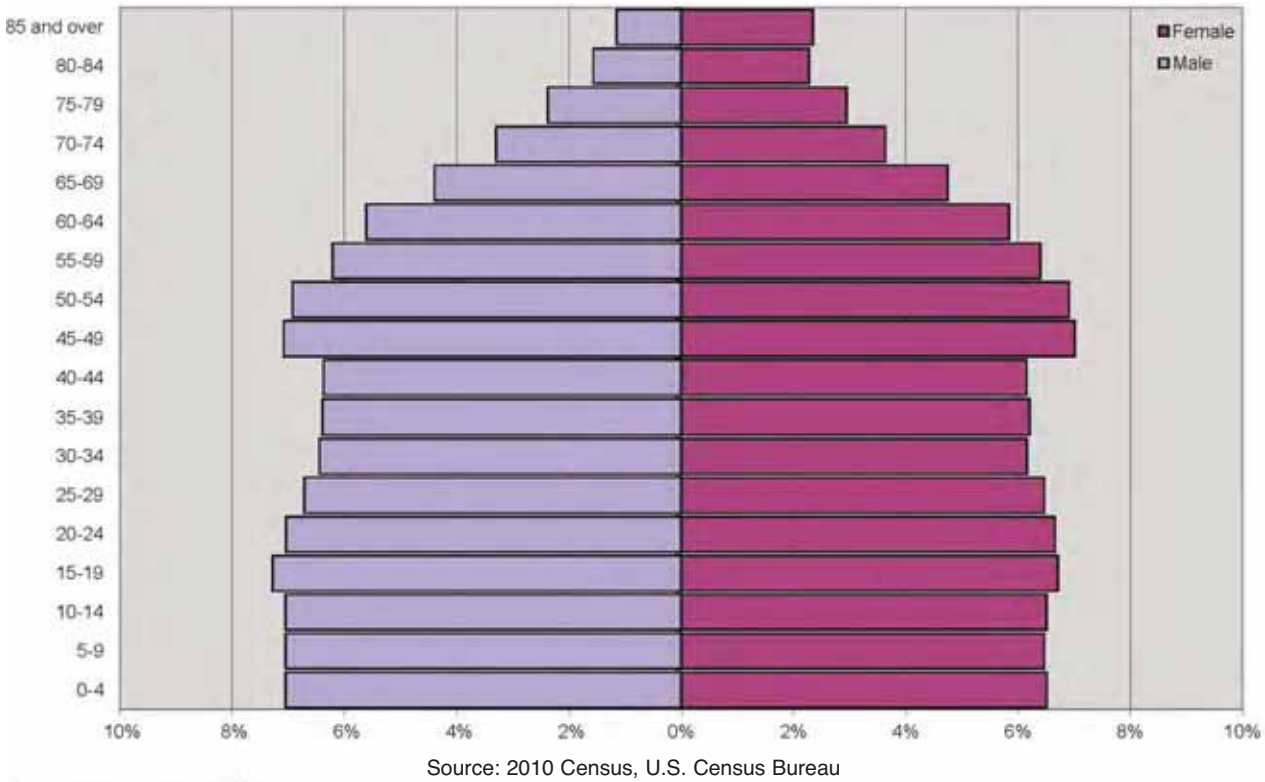
Population

Figure 8. Dependency Ratio, 2010



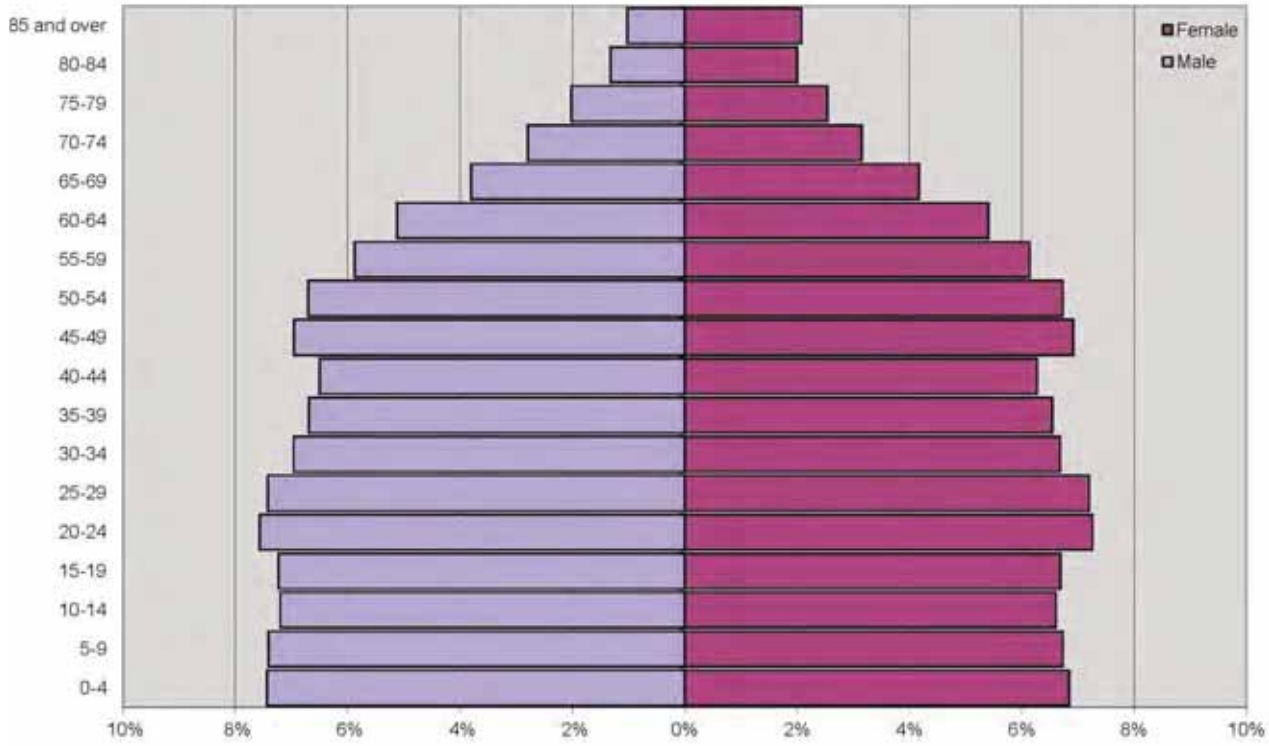
Source: 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 9. Total Population, State, 2010



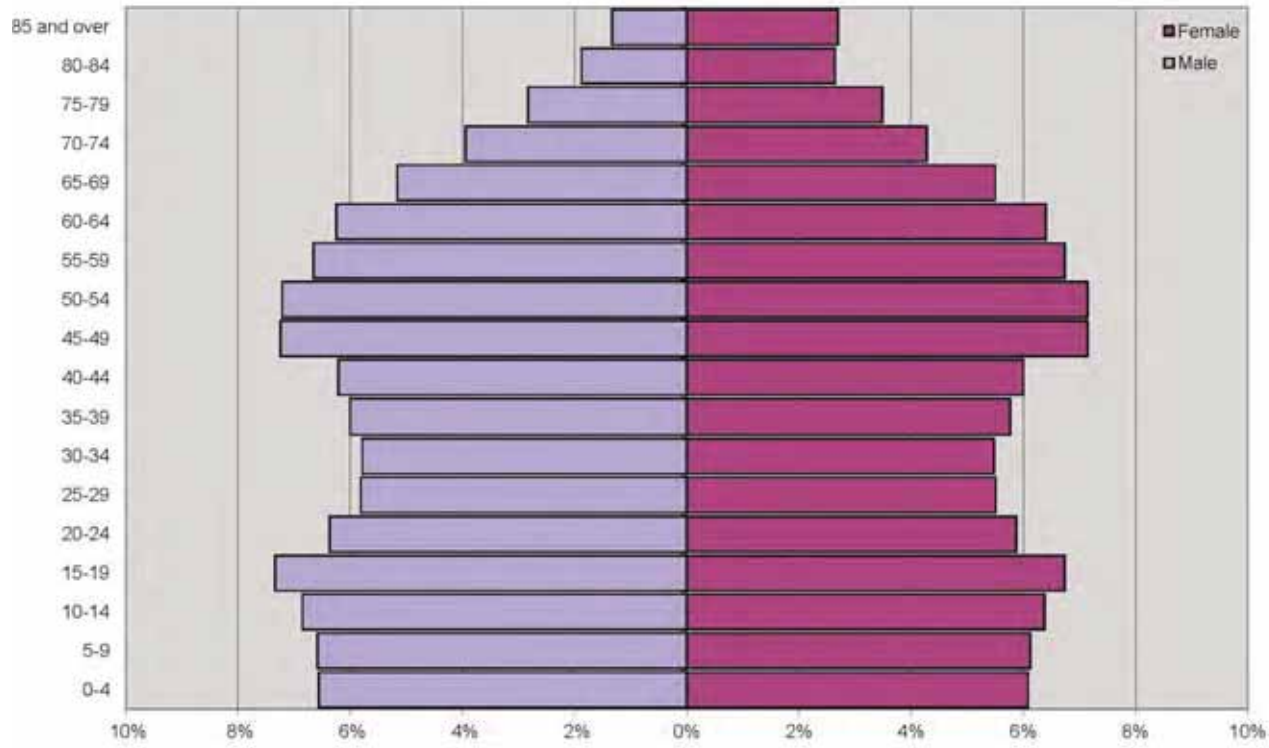
Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 10. Total Population, Urban, 2010



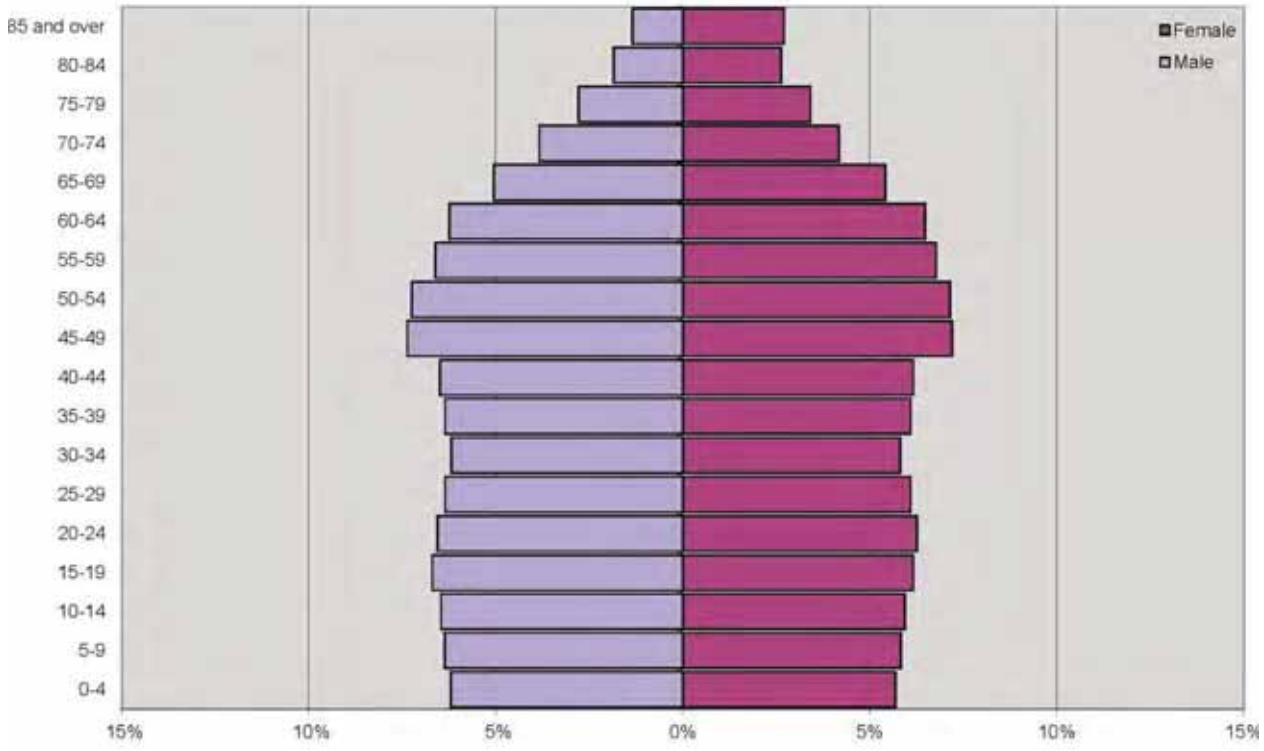
Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 11. Total Population, Rural, 2010



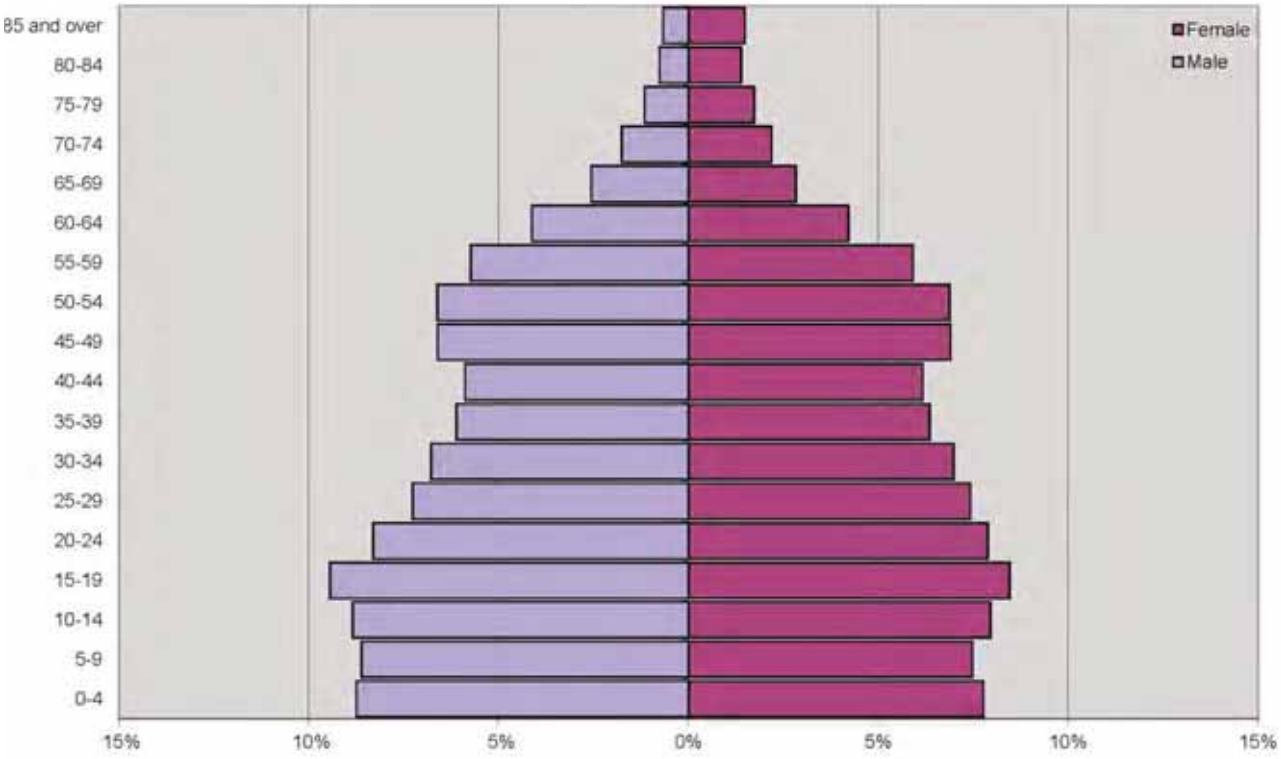
Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 12. White Population, 2010



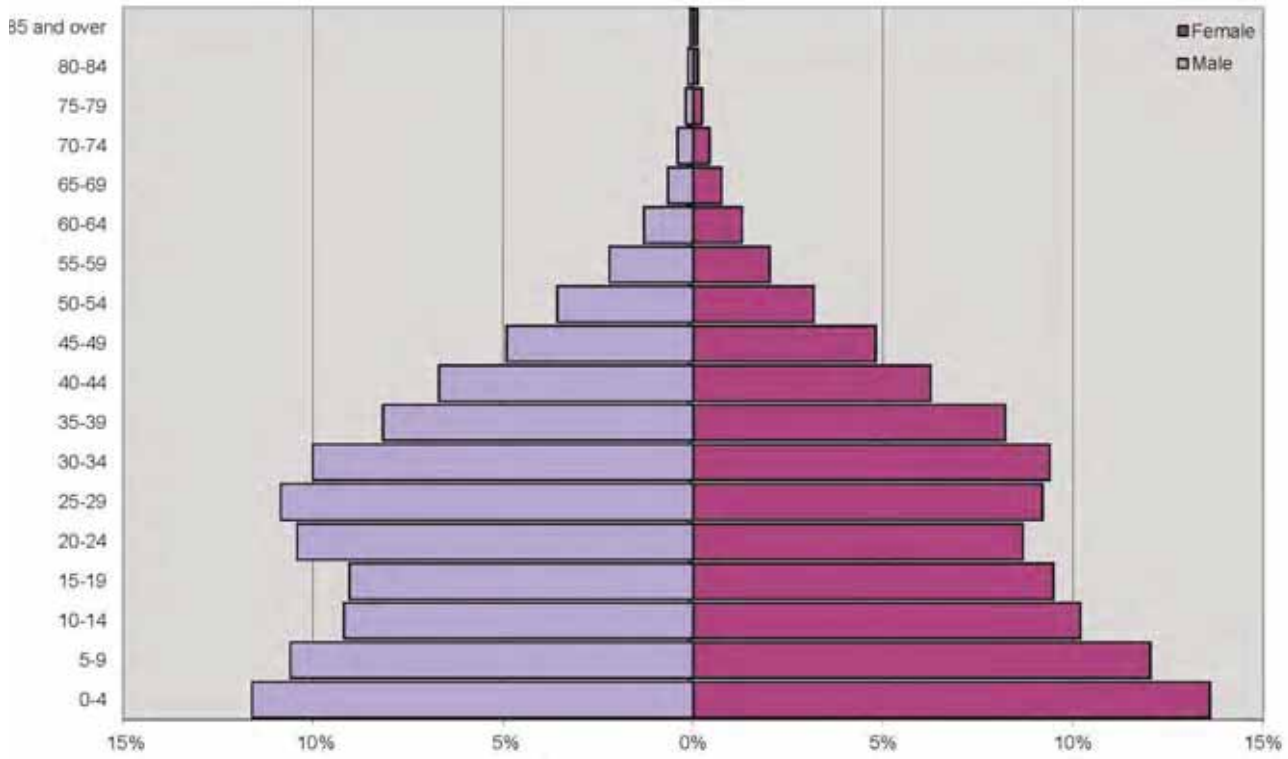
Source: 2010 Census Data, 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 13. Black Population, 2010



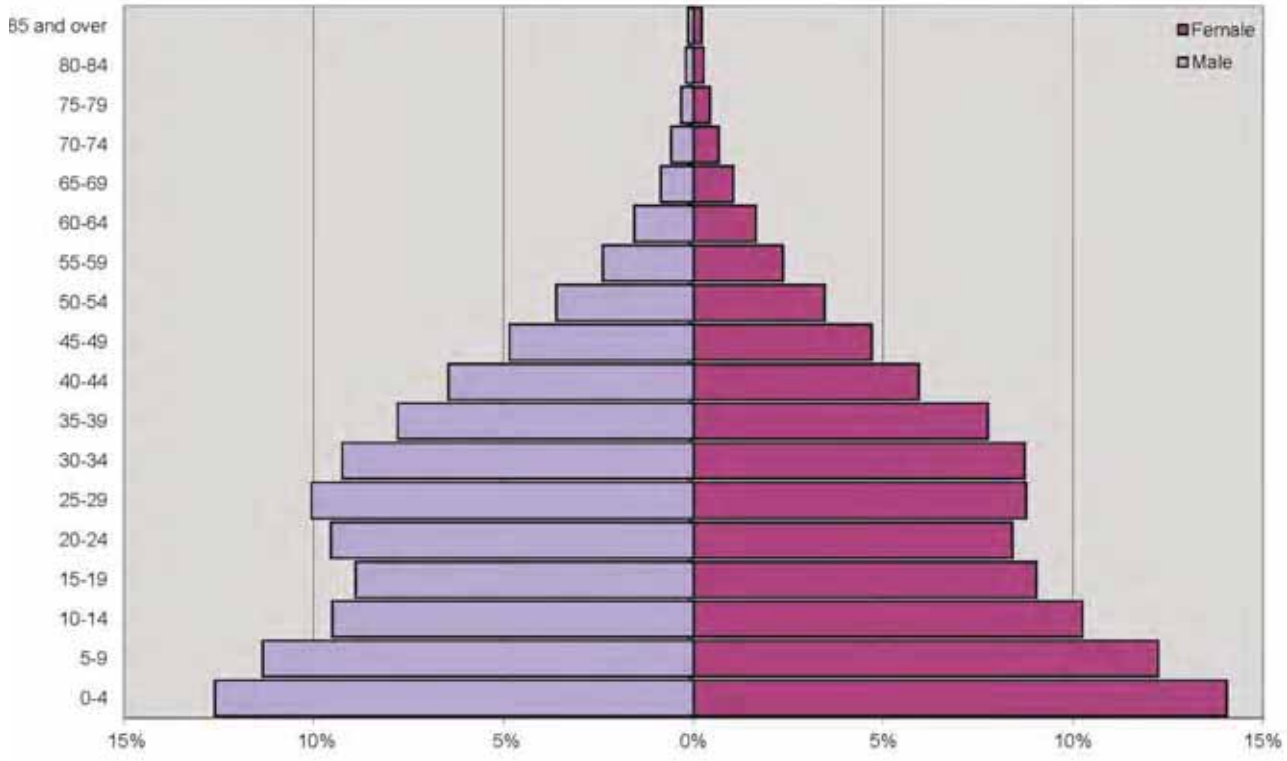
Source: 2010 Census Data, 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 14. Other Population, 2010



Source: 2010 Census Data, 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 15. Hispanic Population, 2010



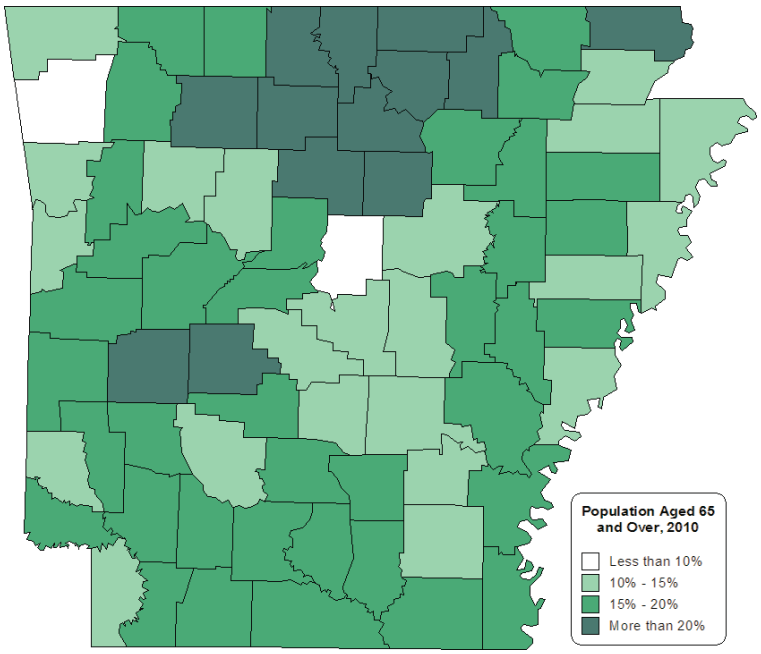
Source: 2010 Census Data, 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

much younger population and more males in the 20 to 30 year age range. This is typical of trends seen in migrant populations.

Population Age 65 and Older

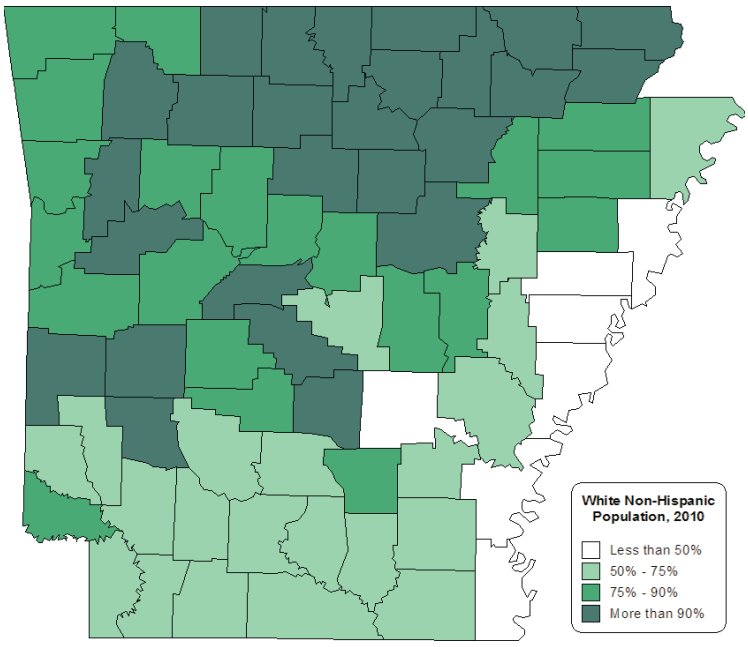
The map (Figure 16) shows the distribution of the elderly population in Arkansas in the year 2010. The percentage of population aged 65 and older ranged from a high of 28.1 percent in Baxter County to a low of 9.7 percent in Washington County. The five counties with the lowest percentage of elderly were all urban counties: Pulaski (12.0 percent), Lonoke (11.2 percent), Crittenden (10.8 percent), Faulkner (10.0 percent) and Washington (9.7 percent). Rural counties had a greater percentage of people 65 and over (17.1 percent) compared to the younger urban counties (11.9 percent). The Highlands had the highest percentage of any region at 17.8 percent. Of the rural regions, the Delta had the smallest percentage of persons 65 and older at 15.1 percent. Similar patterns are evident when looking at the percentage of the very elderly, which are persons 75 and older. Five counties in the state had more than 10 percent of their population aged 75 and over, and all of these counties were in the Highlands (Baxter, Cleburne, Izard, Sharp, and Van Buren).

Figure 16. Population Aged 65 and Over, 2010



Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 17. White Non-Hispanic Population, 2010

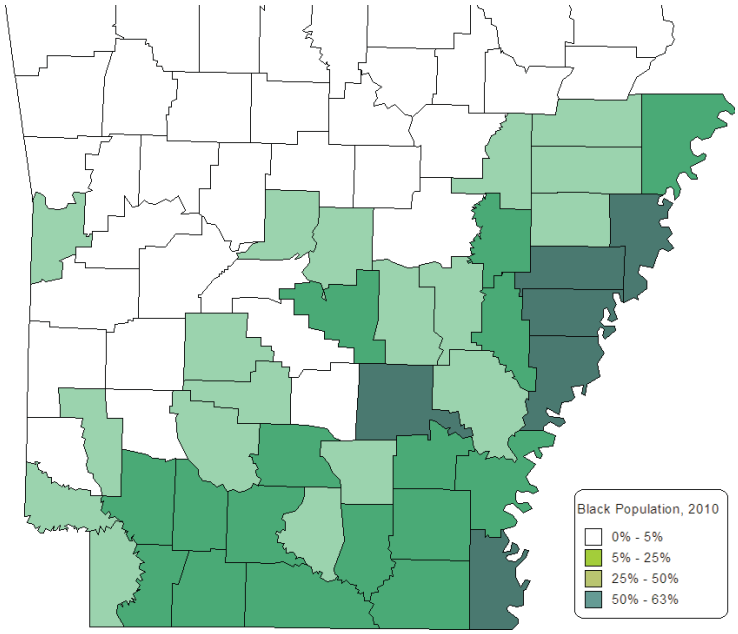


Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Race and Ethnic Diversity

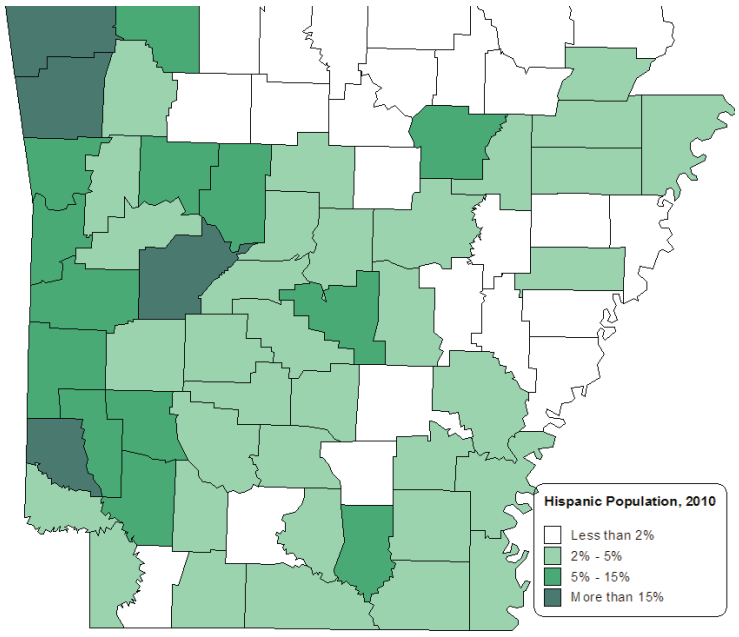
It is vitally important to recognize that all of the race and ethnic categories are based on self-identification. "Hispanic" is an ethnic category; a person identifying as ethnically "Hispanic" may self-identify as any "race." Using four categories of race/ethnicity including White, Black, Hispanic and Other Races, the maps (Figures 17-20) show the proportion of the population in each category. Some very clear patterns emerge from these maps. Only seven counties in Arkansas did not have

Figure 18. Black Population, 2010



Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 19. Hispanic Population, 2010



Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

a majority White non-Hispanic population. Five of those seven counties are located in the Delta region and the other two are urban counties (Jefferson and Crittenden) located on the fringe of the rural Delta. The majority of the Highlands counties each have a White non-Hispanic population exceeding 90 percent.

The Hispanic population was largely concentrated in the northwest counties and along the western edge of the state. However, the Hispanic population grew in the Delta and Coastal Plains as well. Statewide the Hispanic population grew to 6 percent of the total. Urban counties had a 7.9 percent Hispanic population compared to 4.4 percent in rural counties. Among the rural regions, the

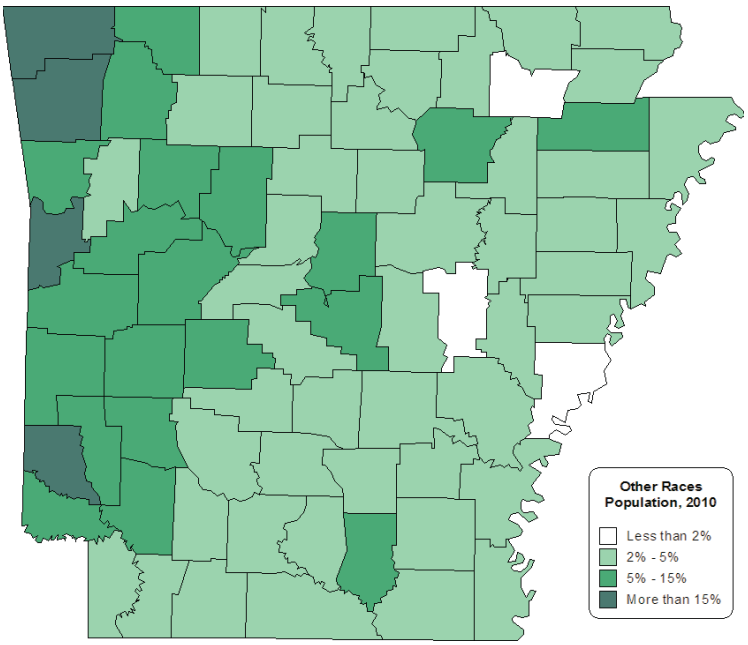
The Hispanic population was largely concentrated in the northwest counties and along the western edge of the state.

Highlands had the greatest concentration of Hispanics at 5 percent while the Delta had only slightly less than 3 percent. However, greater variation existed among counties than between regions. Nearly one-third of Sevier County's population was Hispanic (30.6 percent) compared to Fulton and Lawrence counties with slightly less than 1 percent. Nine counties had more than 10 percent of their populations Hispanic. Three of these are urban (Benton, Sebastian and Washington counties), and of the six rural counties, all but one (Bradley) were in the western half of the state.

The category "other races" presented here captures a wide range of individuals that identify themselves in the Census as not identifying as White or Black or African American. It may include such peoples as Hmong, Turkish, Vietnamese, Indian, Native American, etc. The five highest

concentrations of "other races" were primarily in western counties (Benton, Sebastian, Sevier and Washington). Ten counties had greater than 10 percent in the Other Races category. Seven of the ten were rural counties, and most of those were in the Highlands. Urban areas had 9.5 percent in this category and rural areas about half that rate (5 percent). Of the rural regions, the Highlands had the highest percentage with nearly 6 percent, while the Delta had slightly more than 3 percent. Overall, the state had 7.6 percent in the Other Races category.

Figure 20. Other Races Population, 2010



Source: 2010 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

Employment

Employment in Arkansas grew only 3.5 percent from 2000 to 2010, according to information released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Employment declined in the early part of the decade in all but the urban areas (Figure 21). However, between 2002 and 2007, employment increased approximately 7 percent in the state due primarily to growth in the Highlands and Urban areas (Figure 22). From 2007 to 2010, statewide employment declined by 2.5 percent.

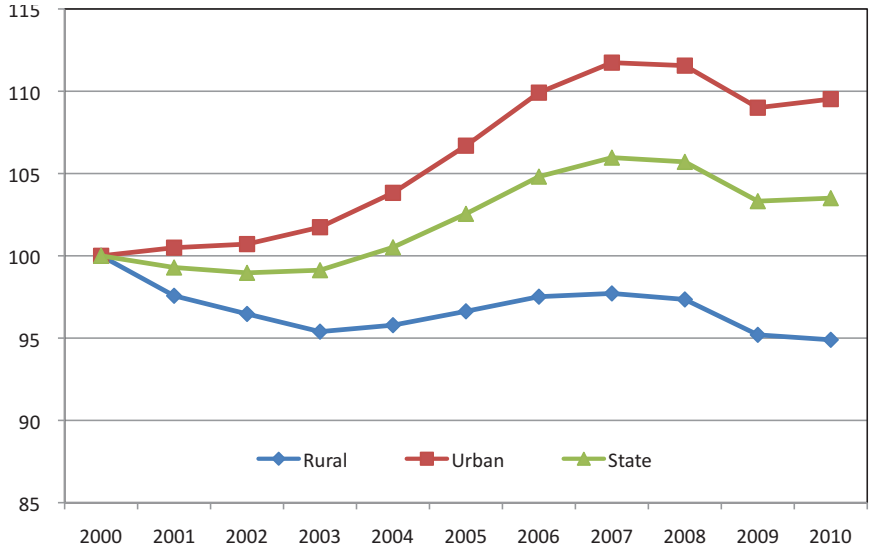
The statewide growth during the decade masks the employment decline experienced by the rural regions of the state, especially in the Delta and Coastal Plains during this period. The Delta lost 11 percent of its jobs from 2000 to 2010, and the Coastal Plains saw a decrease of 10 percent. Urban areas fared substantially better with an employment increase of 9.5 percent during this period.

Forty-seven counties, 45 of which were rural, experienced a decline in employment between 2000 and 2010.

These regional averages hide a great deal of variation in employment gains and losses within both rural and urban regions from 2000 to 2010 (Figure 23). In urban counties of the state, Benton County experienced employment growth of 33 percent compared to a loss of six percent of the jobs in Sebastian County. Forty-seven counties, 45 of which were rural, experienced a decline in employment during this ten-year period. Twenty-three rural counties experienced a decline in employment of 10 percent or more, with employment in Clay County declining 29 percent. Only one rural county (Perry) had employment growth of 10 percent or greater. Only one county in the Delta and two in the Coastal Plains had slight employment growth during this period.

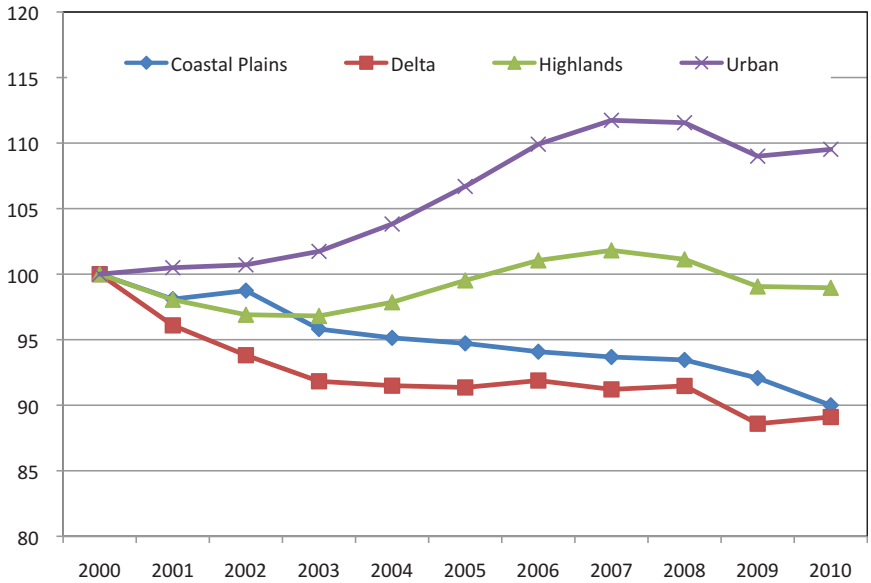
Many rural counties in the Delta and Coastal Plains and some in the Highlands experienced job

Figure 21. Rural and Urban Trends in Total Employment: 2000-2010



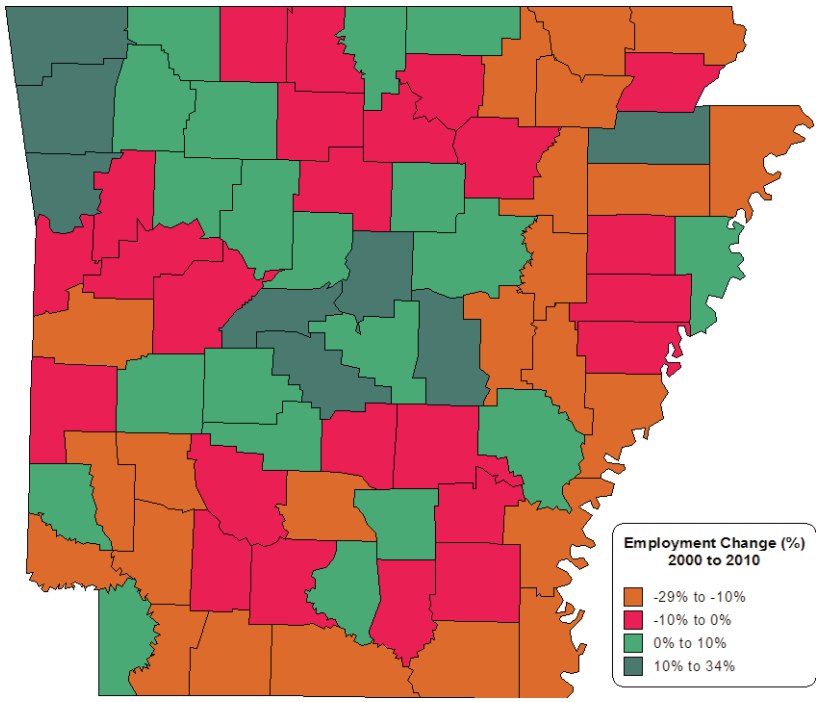
Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, November 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 22. Arkansas Regional Trends in Total Employment: 2000-2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, November 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 23. Employment Change (Percent), 2000-2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, November 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

losses even before the onset of the economic recession. This is in contrast to most urban areas, which experienced employment growth from 2000 to 2007, but lost jobs from 2008 to 2010.

Many urban counties experienced high employment growth from 2000 to 2010, despite the decline from 2008 to 2010. Employment grew by over 10 percent in seven of the 13 urban counties with a high of 33 percent in Benton County. Two urban counties, Sebastian and Jefferson, lost employment during this period.

The economic recession affected employment in rural and urban areas somewhat differently. The urban counties as a group lost 2 percent of their jobs from 2007 to 2010, whereas the rural counties lost nearly 3 percent. The recession also affected rural regions differently. The Delta lost only 2.3 percent of their jobs as compared to 2.8 percent in the Highlands and 3.9 percent in the Coastal Plains.

This loss of employment opportunities due to the economic recession resulted in a dramatic increase in unemployment rates. Between 2000 and 2010, rural and urban areas both saw an increase in unemployment rates of approximately 4 percent; statewide the unemployment rate in 2000 was just over 4 percent, but by 2010, the rate had nearly doubled to 7.9 percent. In rural areas, the unemployment rate went from approximately 5 percent to over 9 percent during this period. The Delta region had the highest unemployment rate in 2000 and 2010, going from 6 percent to nearly 11 percent.

Of the 19 counties in the state with unemployment rates of 10 percent or higher in 2010, 11 were in the rural Delta. Arkansas County had the highest unemployment rate of almost 17 percent in 2010. Unemployment rates have declined somewhat since 2010.

Employment Changes by Industry

Although there was an increase in the number of people employed in Arkansas from 2001[3] to 2010, both rural and urban areas lost farming and manufacturing jobs (Figure 24). The urban areas gained service, government and finance jobs to more than offset the decline in manufacturing. However, the Delta and Coastal Plains, although gaining some service jobs, did not replace their lost manufacturing jobs (Figure 25). The state lost nearly 69,000 manufacturing jobs between 2001 and 2010. While some of the lost manufacturing jobs are the result of outsourcing and may show up as gains in the service sector, many manufacturing plants have downsized or moved their operations outside the U.S.

> When basic or export industries downsize or leave the area, it has a broader effect that reduces employment in the supplying, wholesale and retail trade and service industries.

[3]Beginning in 2001, the Bureau of Economic Analysis changed from the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) for employment by industry data. For consistency, we use the NAICS classification scheme and analyze employment by industry from 2001 to 2010.

Of those lost manufacturing jobs, over 37,000 (54 percent) were lost from rural areas of the state. The Highlands region alone lost over 20,000 manufacturing jobs between 2001 and 2010.

When basic or export industries downsize or leave the area, it has a broader effect that reduces employment in the supplying, wholesale and retail trade and service industries. This broader effect, combined with the dominance of increasingly capital-intensive, natural resource-based industries, has resulted in fewer employment opportunities for people living in rural areas. The Coastal Plains and Delta regions have already experienced a decline in employment in the construction and trade industries because of declining employment in their manufacturing industry.

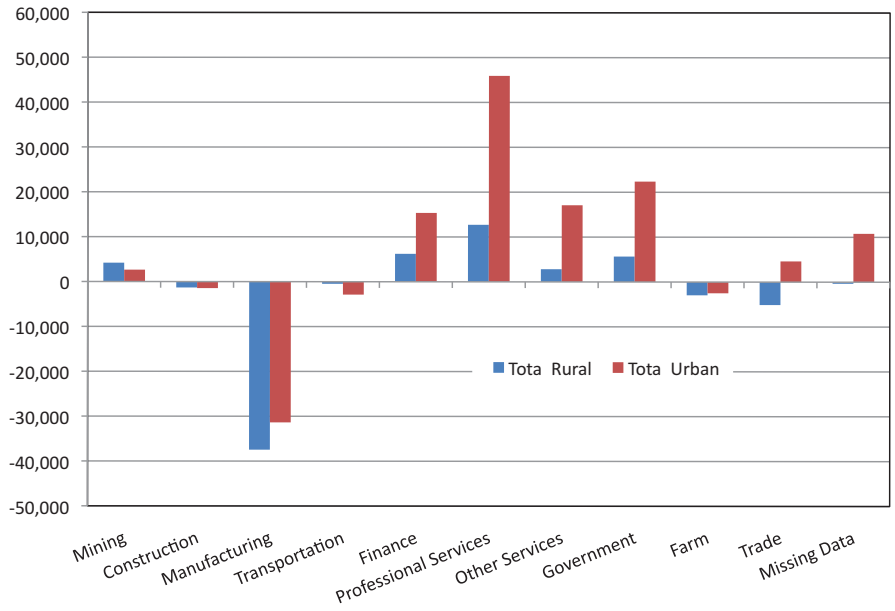
Rural areas can no longer depend on recruiting manufacturing firms to provide jobs for their residents. Therefore, rural areas will need to be entrepreneurial to develop and expand industries that utilize and add value to their natural resources to stem job losses.

Employment by Major Industry Sector

Diversity in types of jobs and sources of income is vital to the success of Arkansas' economy. While the natural resources and manufacturing sectors are critical to the state's economy, the service sector provided the largest share of employment in both urban and rural areas.

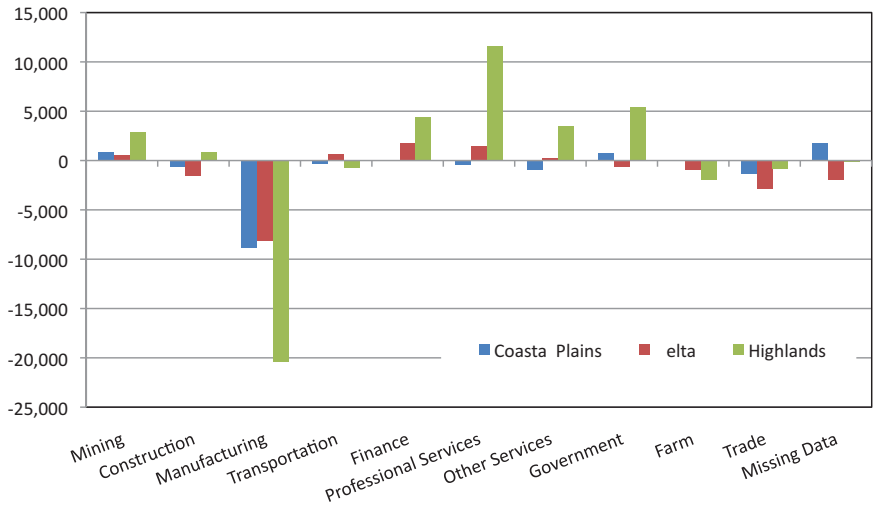
The major structural difference between rural and urban economies is that the manufacturing and natural resource sectors provided a larger share of the rural region's employment while services played a less important role in rural areas compared to urban areas (Figure 26). In 2010, nearly 29 percent of the jobs in rural areas were in farming, forestry, mining, construction or manufacturing, compared to just about 17 percent in the urban areas. Forty-seven percent of the

Figure 24. Employment Change in Urban and Rural Regions by Industry: 2001-2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 25. Employment Change in Rural Regions by Industry: 2001-2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

jobs in urban areas were in professional, finance, insurance and real estate (F.I.R.E.) and other service industries, compared with 29 percent in rural areas.

In 2010, rural employment was highest in the professional and other service industries with 22 percent of total employment. Government jobs provided about 15 percent of total rural employment, manufacturing about 14 percent and retail and trade jobs accounted for 13 percent.

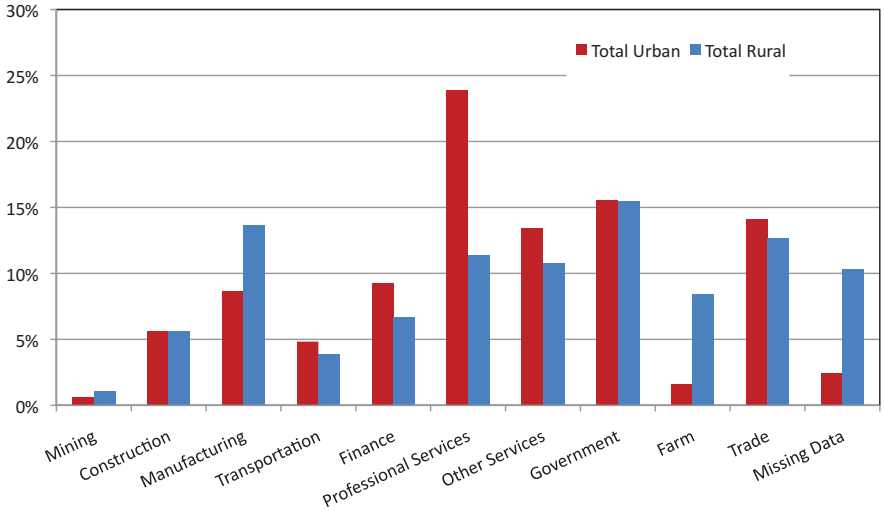
These data, which include all of rural Arkansas, mask regional variations in employment by sector. Manufacturing and government jobs provided a larger share of jobs in the Delta and the Coastal Plains (32 percent) than in the Highlands (27 percent) (Figure 27). The Highlands region was more dependent on the service sector (professional and other), which provided one-fourth of all the jobs compared to only 20 percent in the Delta and Coastal Plains. Farming and trade provided a larger share of employment in the Delta compared to the Coastal Plains and Highlands.

> Jobs connected to oil and natural gas were in the top 10 fastest-growing industries in the state.

With employment in the historically dominant industries of manufacturing and agriculture in rural areas declining, the structure and economic base of rural Arkansas has changed. These new realities suggest a need to identify and invest in economic enterprises that utilize local resources and diversify the economic base.

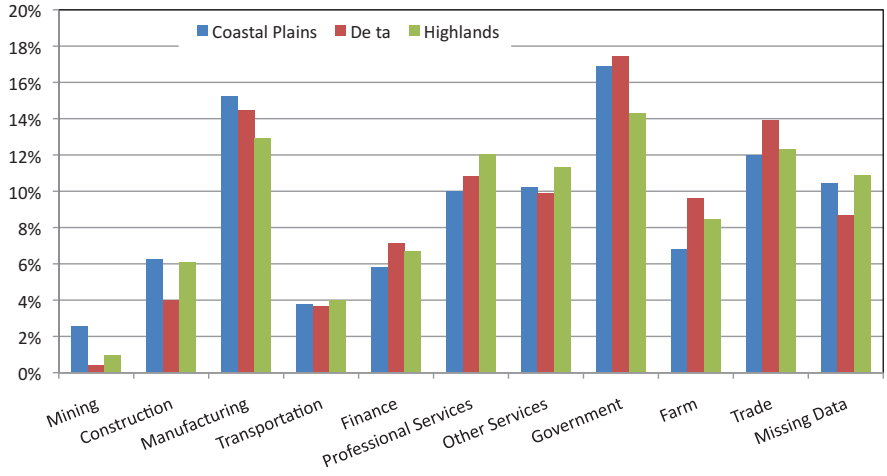
Recent investments in the natural gas industry had significant impacts on employment for counties in the Fayetteville Shale geological region. Jobs connected to oil and natural gas were in the top 10 fastest-growing industries in the state. Industries in decline were dominated by those associated with manufacturing. Additionally, the dramatic declines in new home and commercial construction associated with the bursting of the real estate market bubble resulted in a loss of jobs in these sectors in parts of the state.

Figure 26. Rural and Urban Employment by Industry, 2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 27. Rural Regions Employment by Industry, 2010

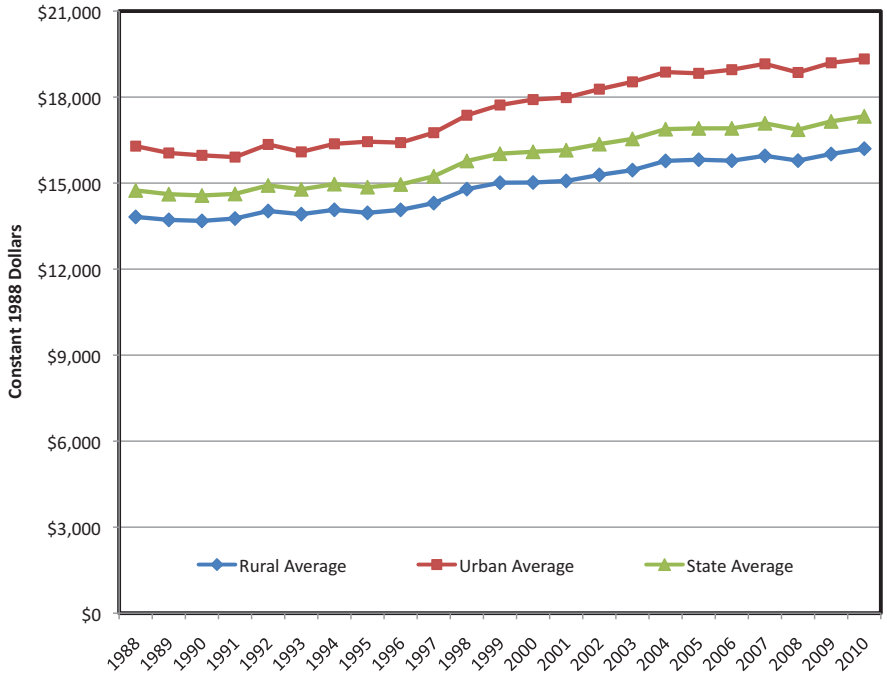


Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Earnings Per Job

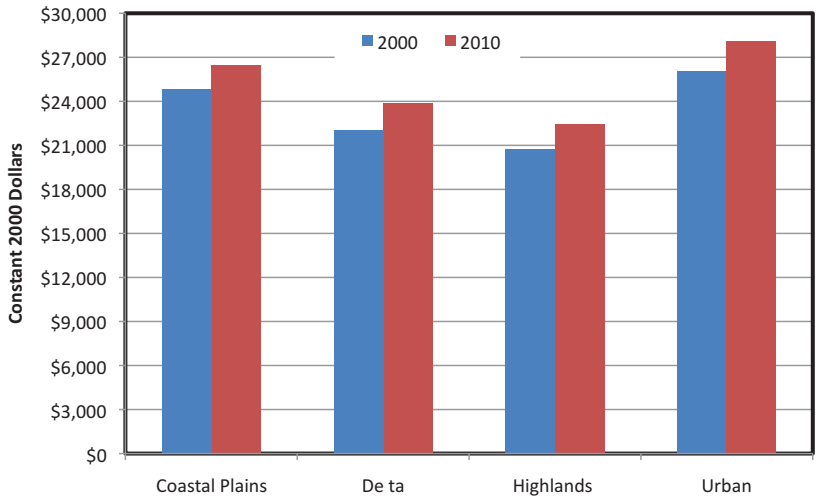
The average earnings per job continued to increase between 2000 and 2010 with a statewide increase of about 8 percent (Figure 28). Although the average earnings increased statewide, four counties saw a decrease in the average earnings per job and another 19 counties had an increase of less than 5 percent.

Figure 28. Rural and Urban Average Earnings Per Job, 1988-2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 29. Rural Regions Average Earnings Per Job, 2000 and 2010



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

The persistent gap between rural and urban areas was evident in average earnings per job. Rural areas had considerably lower earnings per job than urban areas (Figure 29). The gap between the rural and urban areas of the state widened between 2000 and 2010. Rural areas had an average wage per job of only $21,865 in 2000 compared to an urban average of $26,075 in 2000, a 19 percent difference. The percentage gap remained constant at 19 percent in 2010 with an average wage per job of $29,863 for rural areas and $35,631 for urban areas. However, the absolute gap increased from $4,210 in 2000 to $5,768 in 2010. Average earnings per job increased about eight percent for both rural and urban areas between 2000 and 2010.

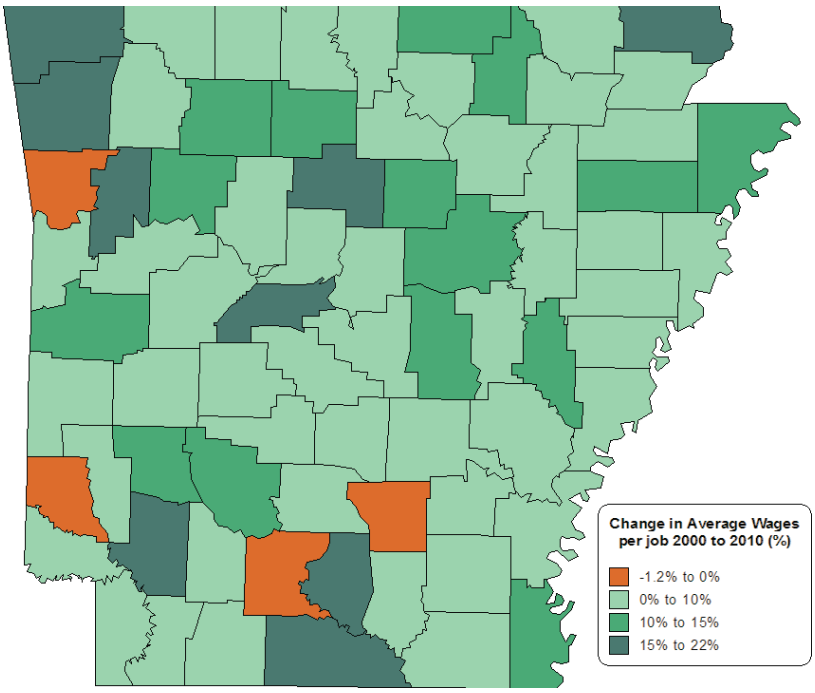
Earnings per job varied between the three rural regions of the state. The Coastal Plains had the highest average wage per job in 2010 at $33,533. However, this region saw the slowest growth (6.5 percent) in average earnings per job between 2000 and 2010. The Highlands had the lowest average wage per job at $28,408 but experienced a growth of 8.2 percent between 2000 and 2010. The Delta had average earnings per job of $30,201 in 2010, and its growth was 8.3 percent during this period.

> The disparity in earnings per job between rural and urban areas remained great, with urban residents earning on average 19 percent more than rural residents.

The differences in earnings per job were much greater among counties than between regions (Figure 30). Of the rural counties, Little River County had the highest average earnings per job at $44,324 in 2010 and Searcy County had the lowest at $23,136, a difference of more than $21,000.

Overall, both rural and urban regions had similar increases in the average wage per job between 2000 and 2010. Although earnings per job increased at nearly the same rate, the disparity in earnings per job between rural and urban areas remained great, with urban residents earning on average 19 percent more than rural residents.

Figure 30. Change in Average Wages Per Job, 2000-2010 (%)



Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS) database, July 2012, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

Median Household Income

While earnings per job showed some increase in the past decade, median household incomes declined. Several possible explanations exist. The median household income figures are derived from samples which, if small, can lead to large errors in the estimates. Alternatively, total earnings and household income could be increasing with a declining median household income. This could occur if new households in the region received low incomes, if some households previously above the median household income had declining incomes or if high-income households left the region or state.

Since median household incomes are estimates, only an overview of the data will be presented without drawing conclusions. The median household income declined about 10 percent in rural and 8 percent in urban areas of the state between 2000 and 2010. The Coastal Plains

The median household income declined about 10 percent in rural and 8 percent in urban areas of the state between 2000 and 2010.

experienced the largest decline in median household income over these ten years of 13.4 percent compared to 10.4 percent and 8.4 percent for the Delta and Highlands, respectively. Only three counties, all of them rural, had an increase in median household income (Perry, Grant and Montgomery). The other 72 counties had declining median household incomes ranging from no growth to a decline of approximately 28 percent in Chicot County. Twenty-five counties, six of them urban, experienced a decline of between 10 percent and 28 percent. While not definitive, this estimated decline in median household income is a trend to watch, as it would indicate that a growing number of households are becoming less well off.

Poverty

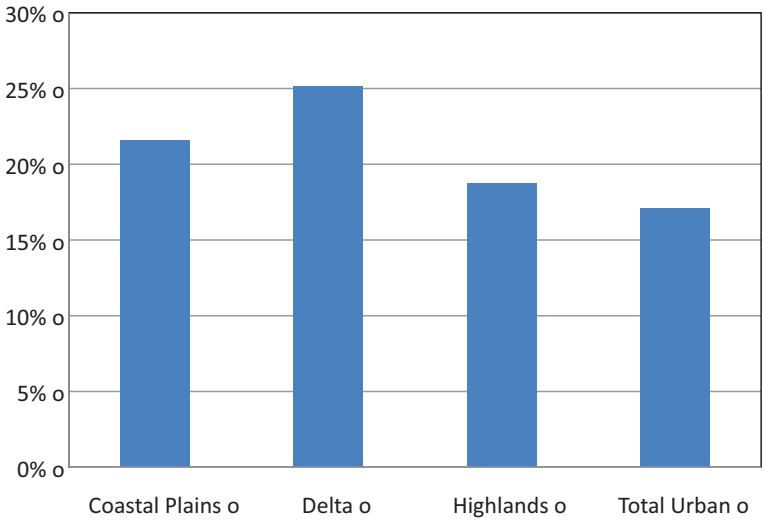
With a 2010 poverty rate[4] of nearly 19 percent (18.7), Arkansas had the seventh highest percentage of persons in poverty in the nation. While this ranking for the state is high, many rural areas of Arkansas had higher poverty rates than the overall state level. Poverty rates in the rural Delta and Coastal Plains, both over 20 percent, were substantially higher than in urban areas. People living in the Highlands (18.7 percent) were also more likely to be in poverty than people living in urban Arkansas (17.1 percent) (Figure 31).

Pockets of more extreme poverty existed throughout the state. Sixteen counties in the state had a poverty rate 25 percent or greater. Of these, only one (Crittenden) is an urban county. Eleven of the 15 rural counties with poverty rates greater than 25 percent were in the Delta, three in the Coastal Plains and one in the Highlands. Of the 24 counties with poverty rates between 20 percent and 25 percent, all but five are rural counties and 14 of them are in the Highlands (Figure 32).

Arkansas ranked sixth highest in the nation for child poverty at 27.3 percent, compared to a national rate of 21.6 percent.

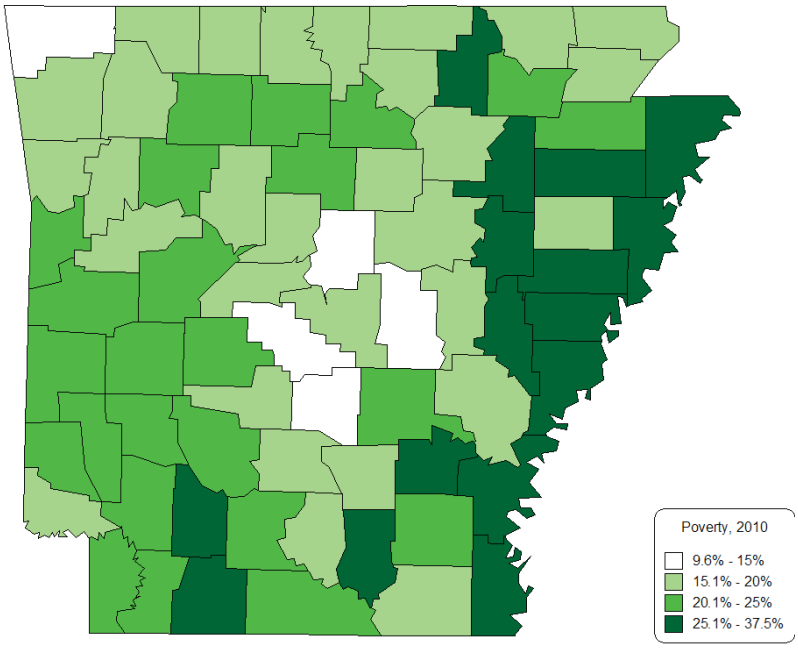
Even more striking are the figures for poverty rates of children (Figure 33). Arkansas ranked sixth highest in the nation for child poverty at 27.3 percent, compared to a national rate of 21.6 percent. Rural regions again had child poverty rates that were considerably higher than the urban region with the Delta counties at 36.6 percent and the Coastal Plains approaching one-third (32.5 percent). Phillips County, in the Delta region, had the highest child poverty rate in the state with over half (51.8 percent) of children

Figure 31. Percent Persons in Poverty, 2010



Source: Small Area Income and Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

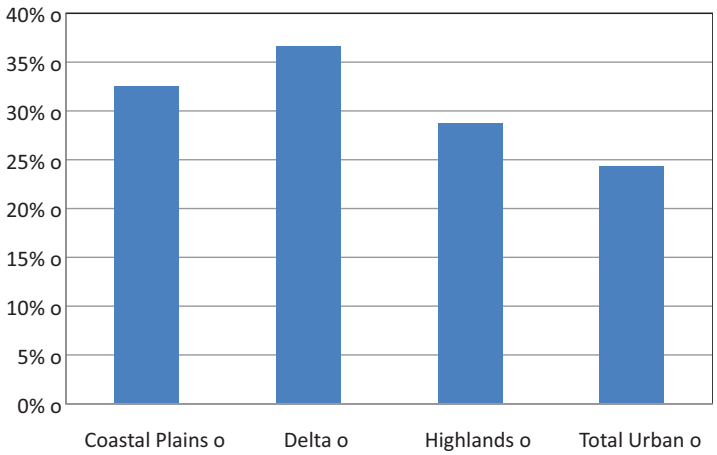
Figure 32. Poverty, 2010



Source: Small Area Income and Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

[4]These poverty rates are based on the federal income thresholds, which are based on the size of the family and the number of related children under 18. The 2010 income threshold for a family of four with two children under 18 is $22,113, a figure that is 57 percent of the state's' estimated median household income.

Figure 33. Percent Children in Poverty, 2010



Source: Small Area Income and Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau

under 18 living in poverty. Nine counties in the state had child poverty rates exceeding 40 percent, and all but one (Crittenden) are rural counties. Thirty counties, 40 percent of the counties in the state, had child poverty rates greater than one in three (33 percent). Only three of these counties are urban. Of the 27 rural counties with high child poverty rates, 11 are in the Highlands, ten in the Delta and six in the Coastal Plains. A higher percentage of Delta counties had high child poverty rates (63 percent) as compared to Coastal Plains counties (50 percent) and Highlands counties (32 percent).

Other indicators of poverty and social and economic distress lend insight into how many families, particularly in rural areas, are struggling.

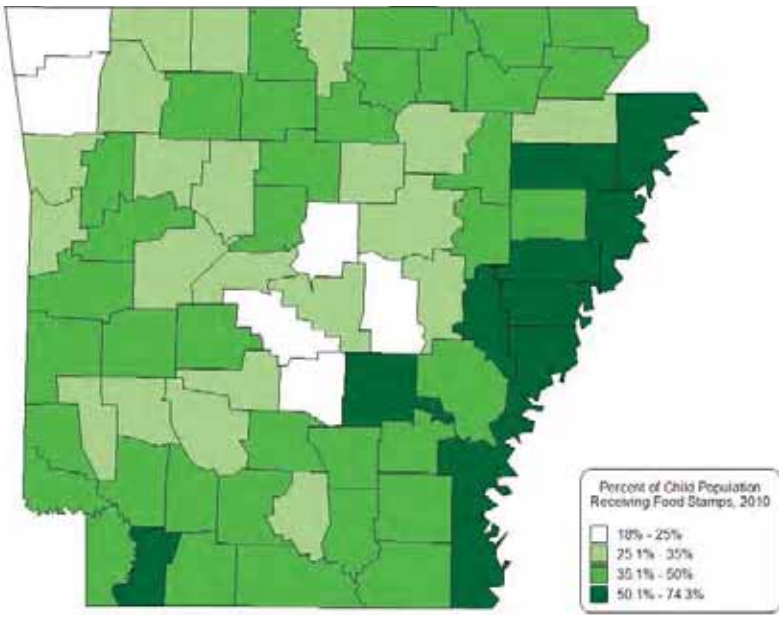
Social and Economic Stress

Indications of social and economic stress were found when looking at patterns of social support services provided by state agencies. Information from the Department of Human Services on the number of people receiving food stamps, eligibility for Medicaid and ARKids First provided insights on financial stress. Other indicators of social and economic stress are food accessibility and housing foreclosure rates.

Statewide nearly one in five Arkansans received food stamps in 2010 (Figure 34). The concentration of food stamp recipients was generally higher in rural areas and especially so among children. Rural areas exceeded the statewide rate, with the Coastal Plains and Delta having rates of 27 percent and 29 percent, respectively. Urban areas had only 13 percent of their population receiving food stamps. When considered by age groups, more than half of the children in the Delta received food stamps compared to 22 percent in urban areas and 34 percent statewide. For working age adults, the Delta again had the greatest percentage receiving food stamps with nearly one in four (24.6 percent) compared to 10.3 percent in urban areas and 17 percent statewide. Elderly adults (over 65) receiving food stamps were also concentrated in the Delta and other rural areas compared to urban areas.

Statewide nearly one in five Arkansans received food stamps in 2010.

Figure 34. Percent of Child Population Receiving Food Stamps, 2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, Annual Statistical Report, 2010

Overall, 30.7 percent of Arkansas' population was eligible for Medicaid in 2010. In rural areas, 31.6 percent of the population was eligible for Medicaid, and that number rises to over 36 percent for the Delta. In Phillips County in the Delta, more than half the population qualifies for Medicaid.

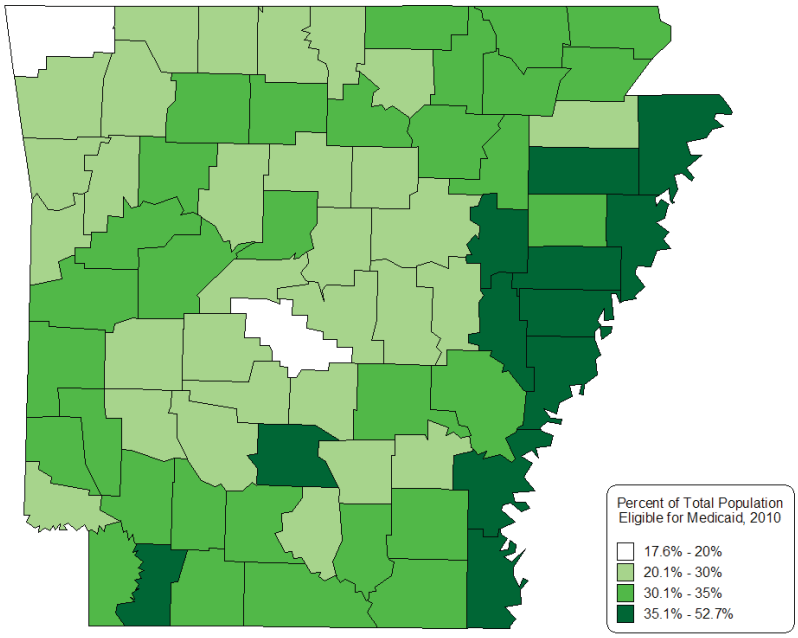
Twenty-four counties, nearly one-third of the state, had a Medicaid eligibility rate that exceeded one in three. Of those twenty-four counties, all but one (Crittenden County) are located in rural regions. People living in urban areas were eligible for Medicaid at a rate of slightly more than one in four (25.9 percent). Figure 35 shows that many Delta counties had a large share of their populations that were Medicaid eligible.

Over half of the children in Arkansas were eligible for ARKids First in 2010, although there was a substantial difference between rural and urban areas of the state. In 65 of the 75 counties in the state, over half of their child populations were eligible to receive ARKids First insurance. The child eligibility rate was 58 percent in rural areas of the state and only 37 percent in urban areas.

Twenty-four counties, nearly one-third of the state, had a Medicaid eligibility rate that exceeded one in three.

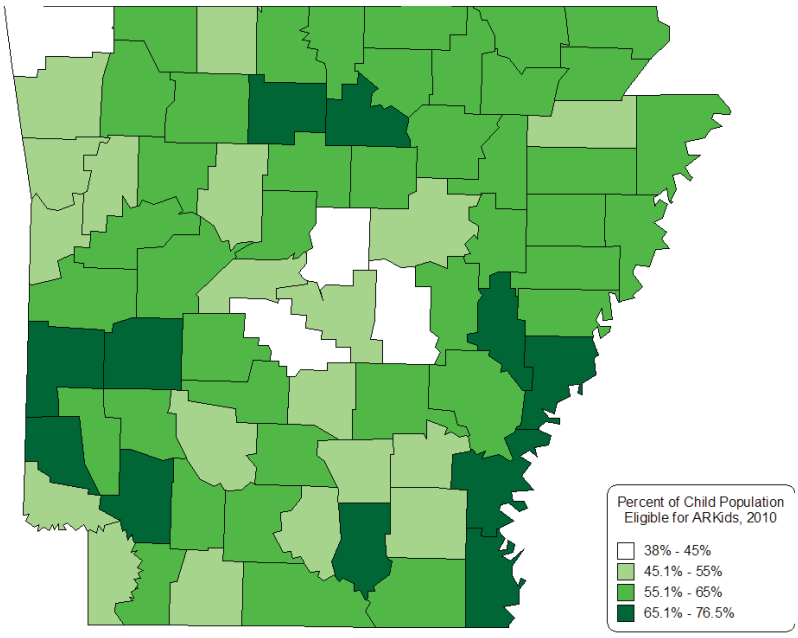
Of the rural regions, the Delta had the highest child eligibility rate of 61 percent compared to 59 percent for the Highlands and 56.5 percent for the Coastal Plains. Eleven counties, all in rural regions, had an eligibility rate of at least two-thirds (66 percent or greater). Chicot County in the Delta had the state's highest rate, with slightly more than three of four (76.5 percent) children eligible for ARKids. Figure 36 shows the high percentage of children eligible for ARKids in rural counties in 2010.

Figure 35. Percent of Total Population Eligible for Medicaid, 2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, Annual Statistical Report, 2010

Figure 36. Percent of Child Population Eligible for ARKids, 2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, Annual Statistical Report, 2010

Poverty and Economic Stress

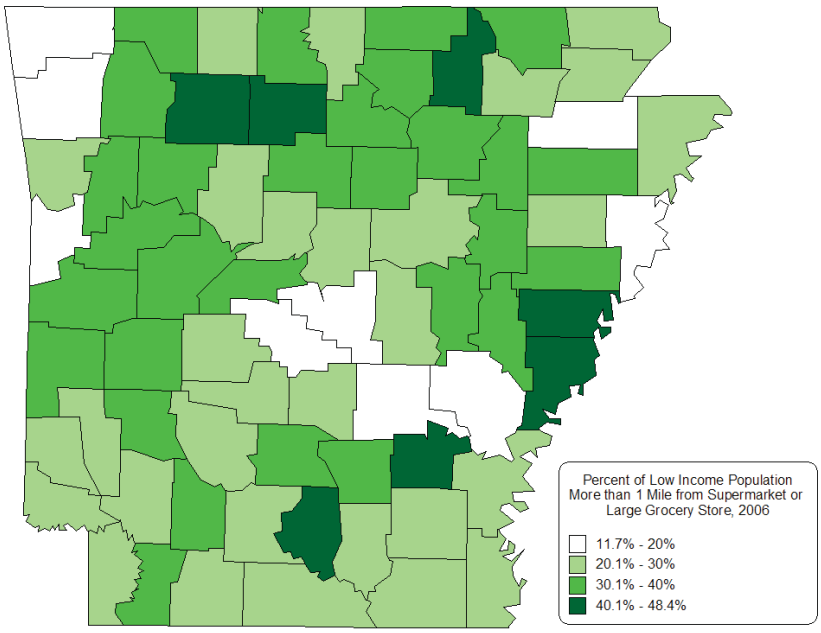
Another measure of stress for households is food accessibility. Rural communities in particular may have few or no supermarkets or large grocery stores. These communities may be served only by fast food restaurants or convenience stores with limited foodstuffs. Distance to grocery stores, particularly larger stores or discount chains, may be a substantial hurdle for rural residents and especially those rural populations with limited transportation options.

The data[5] presented in Table 5 (Appendix B) as well as the maps of the counties (Figures 37 and 38) show the percentage of a county's population which is low income and more than 1 mile from a store and the percentage that is low income and more than 10 miles from a store. Access to food was clearly a more serious problem for rural than for urban areas.

> Distance to grocery stores may be a substantial hurdle for rural residents and especially those rural populations with limited transportation options.

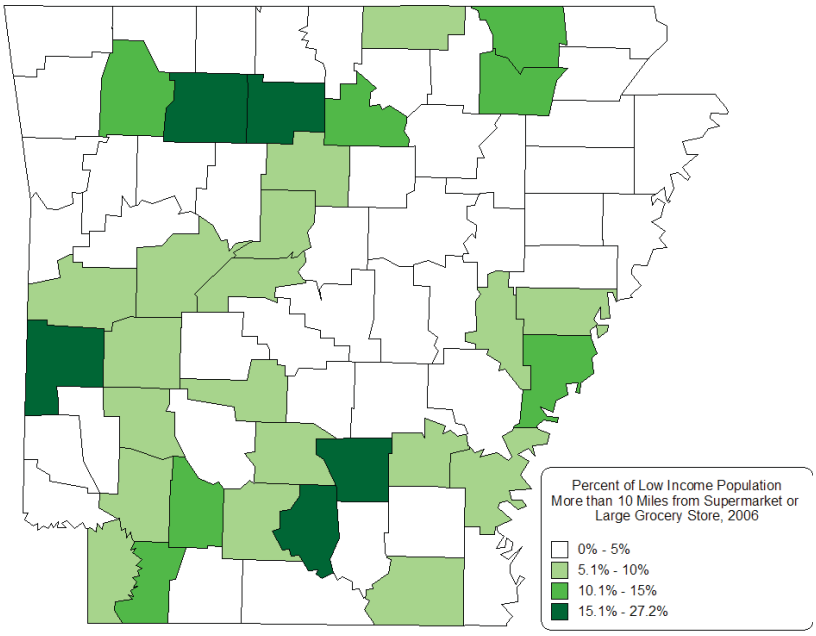
Nearly one-third of low-income rural Arkansans (30.2 percent) were more than one mile from a large grocery store and 5 percent were more than 10 miles from such a store. The percentage of people with low income and more than one mile from a large grocery store was much lower in urban areas

Figure 37. Percent of Low-Income Population More Than One Mile From Supermarket or Large Grocery Store, 2006



Source: Economic Research Service (ERS), USDA, Food Environment Atlas

Figure 38. Percent of Low-Income Population More Than Ten Miles From Supermarket or Large Grocery Store, 2006



Source: Economic Research Service (ERS), USDA, Food Environment Atlas

[5] *Low access to food* is measured by both income and distance to a large supermarket or grocery store. *Low income* is defined as having a poverty rate of at least 20 percent or the median family income is 80 percent or less of the state median family income; *distance* is defined as being more than 1 mile from a supermarket or large grocery store for urban areas and more than 10 miles distance for rural areas.

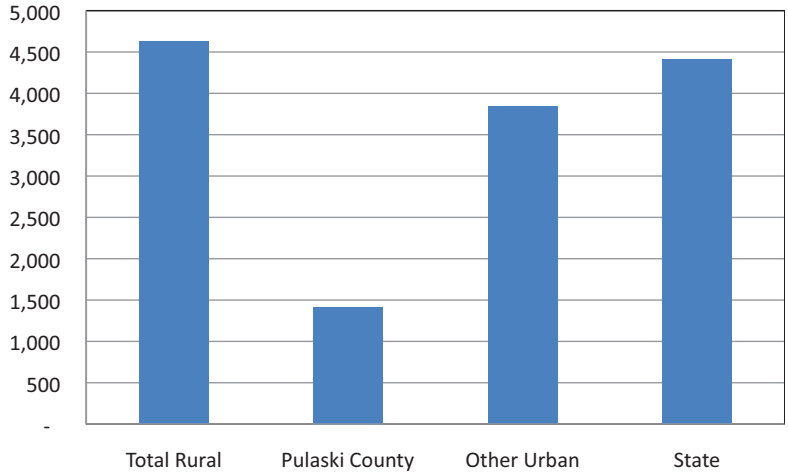
(17 percent), and only 0.5 percent lived more than 10 miles.

Searcy and Newton counties in the Highlands had nearly half of their low-income persons more than one mile from a large grocery store at 48 percent and 46 percent, respectively, and nearly one in five who were more than 10 miles from a store.

Calhoun and Cleveland counties in the Coastal Plains had more than 25 percent of their low-income population residing more than 10 miles from a large grocery store. The Coastal Plains had the highest rate of low-income persons more than 10 miles from a store with 6.6 percent, while Pulaski County had a rate of 0 percent.

Housing foreclosure rates are yet another indicator of stress. Data for November 2012 provided some insight into the financial problems facing homeowners. Perhaps the most widely accepted measure for foreclosure rates is to compare the number of housing units in an area for each foreclosure. Accordingly, the greater the number of housing units per foreclosure the less financial stress there is for households in the area. Statewide the foreclosure rate for November 2012 was 4,405 housing units per foreclosure. As can be seen in Figure 39, the foreclosure rate for rural areas of the state was slightly lower. Overall, the foreclosure rates in the state were lower than they were during the height of the housing crisis.

Figure 39. Number of Housing Units Per One Foreclosure During November 2012



Source: RealtyTrac

Health

Infant mortality rates and obesity levels are used as broad measures of the health of Arkansans. Availability of health care is measured by physicians per 100,000 people. In addition to availability of care, two other factors related to poor health outcomes are considered: lack of health insurance and lack of a regular doctor.

Infant Mortality

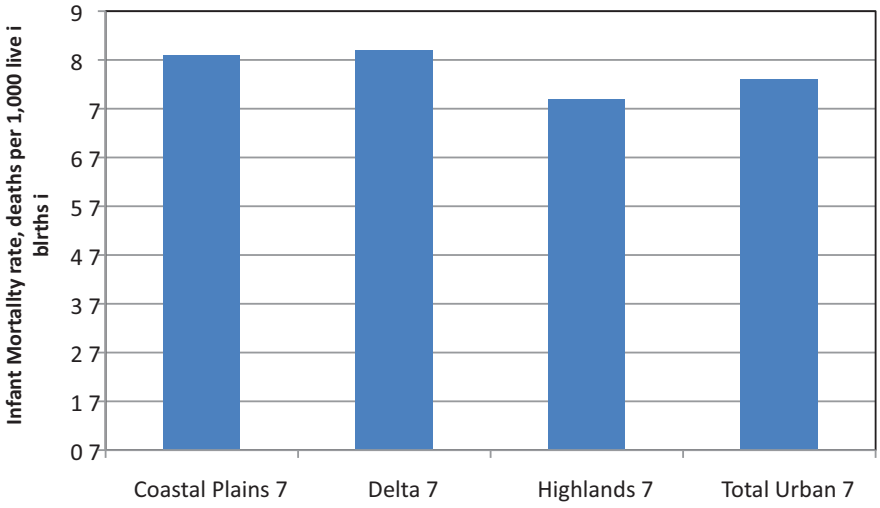
The five-year infant mortality rate[6] for Arkansas for the combined years between 2006 and 2010 was 7.6 deaths per 1,000 live births. The U.S. rate in 2008 was 6.6 deaths per 1,000 live births. Nationally, in 2008, Arkansas ranked eleventh highest among all the states.

> The rural regions have a range of infant mortality rates from a low of 7.2 deaths per 1,000 live births to a high of 8.2 in the Delta.

While the state's urban and rural infant mortality rates were not different (at 7.6), there is very notable variation between rural regions and among counties (Figure 40). The rural regions have a range of IMRs from a low of 7.2 in the Highlands to a high of 8.2 in the Delta.

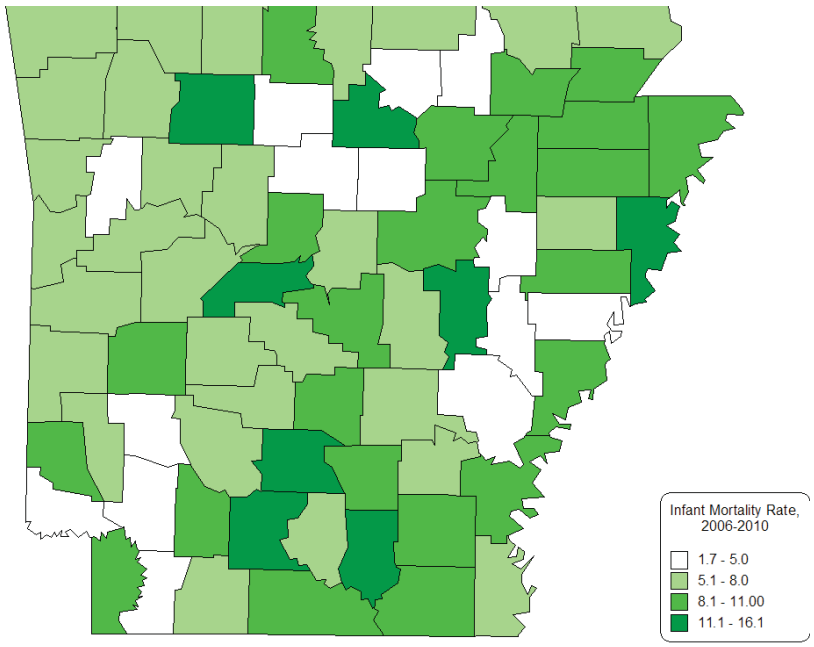
Counties display even more variation in the five-year average, ranging from a low of 1.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in Lee County to a high of 16.1 in Perry County. Eleven counties had IMRs of greater than 10.0, nine of which are rural counties (Figure 41).

Figure 40. Infant Mortality Rate, 2006-2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

Figure 41. Infant Mortality Rate, 2006-2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

Obesity

Obesity can also be used as a measure of population health status. An individual is considered overweight with a body mass index (BMI) of 25 to 30. Obesity is defined as a BMI of 30 or more. Sixty-seven percent of the adult population in Arkansas was either overweight or obese. According to data from the National Center for Health

[6]Infant Mortality Rates tend to be somewhat "unstable," meaning they will sometimes have large changes between time periods. Because the number of births in some counties is relatively small in number and the infant deaths even smaller, a change of one or two deaths can sometimes result in a large change in the IMR.

Statistics for 2009-10, this percentage is on par with the nation (68.8 percent). Every county in the state had over 50 percent of their adult population classified as overweight or obese. The highest rate was in Sevier County with nearly nine out of ten adults (86.6 percent) having a BMI of 25 or more. The lowest rate of 52.9 percent was in Pope County. Regionally the Coastal Plains and Delta had higher percentages of overweight and obese adults at approximately 71 percent (Figure 42).

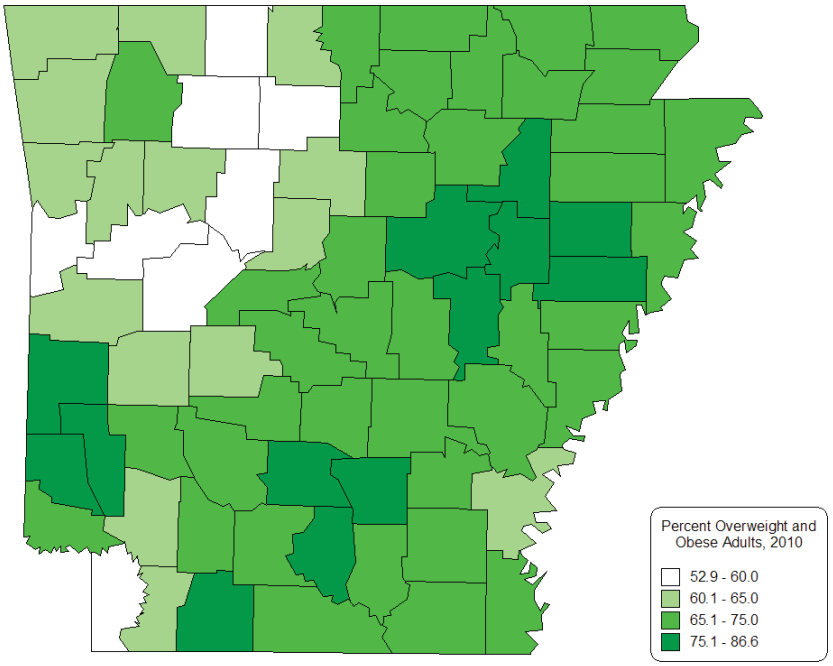
Every county in the state had over 50 percent of their adult population classified as overweight or obese.

When children between the ages of two and 19 are considered, slightly over 40 percent were either overweight or obese. The urban counties have a slightly lower rate than the rural counties. Among the rural regions, the Highlands have the lowest rates of overweight or obese children at 39 percent, while the Delta has the highest at 44 percent. These are both slightly higher than the urban rate of 37 percent. Madison County had the lowest rate of overweight or obese children at 31 percent, while Lee County had the highest at just over 49 percent (Figure 43).

Health Care Availability and Access

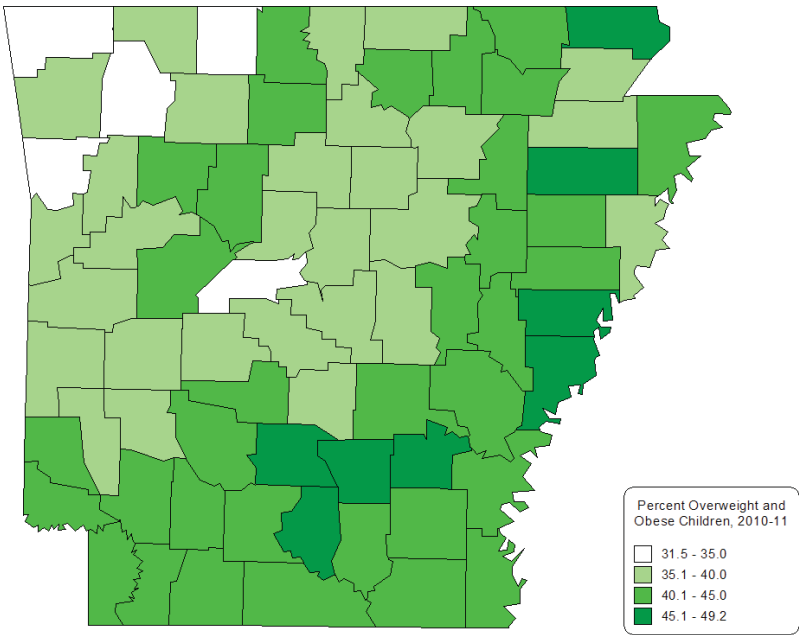
Rural residents face more challenges accessing health care services than do urban residents. This is due in part to rural areas having less availability of health care services. Overall, in 2011, the state had 106 primary care physicians per 100,000 people. However, this number masked substantial variations in rural and urban availability. The rural areas had 64 primary care physicians per 100,000 as compared to 139 per 100,000 for urban areas. These numbers also mask the regional variation in rural areas (Figure 44).

Figure 42. Percent Overweight and Obese Adults, 2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

Figure 43. Percent Overweight and Obese Children, 2010-2011



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

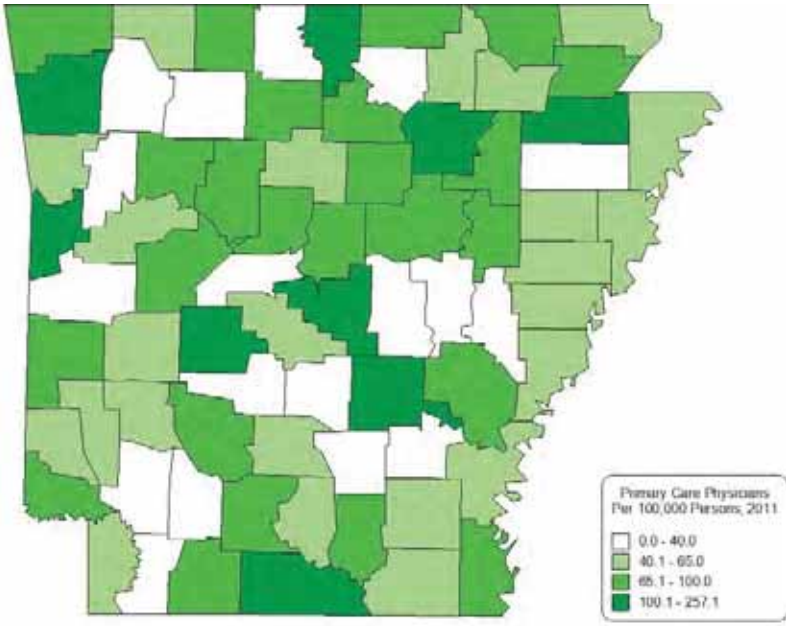
When comparing rural regions, the Delta had the lowest number of primary care physicians per 100,000 at 52. The Coastal Plains had 70 per 100,000 and the Highlands had 68 per 100,000. Again, these numbers mask even greater variability between rural counties. Five rural counties had less than 20 primary care physicians per 100,000 including Cleveland County, which had no primary care physicians in 2011. Only three rural counties had more than 100 primary care physicians per 100,000 with Independence County having the highest number at 131 per 100,000 (Figure 45).

Five rural counties had less than 20 primary care physicians per 100,000, including Cleveland County, which had no primary care physicians in 2011.

Two other indicators of health care access are health insurance coverage and having a regular doctor. Persons without health insurance coverage often do not seek medical care until a condition becomes serious or requires a visit to an emergency clinic. Persons without a regular doctor often have inconsistent medical attention and might receive conflicting treatment or prescriptions because the practitioner may not have complete or accurate patient information.

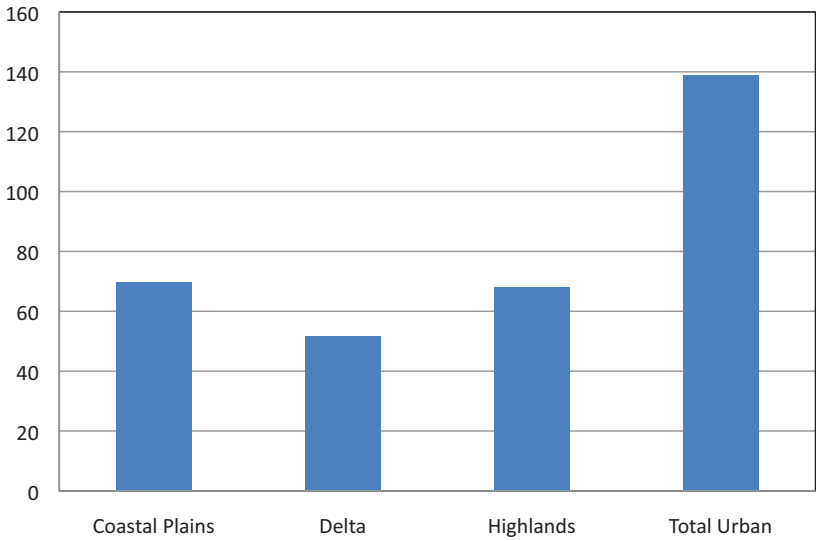
In 2010 slightly more than one in five (20.2 percent) adult Arkansans lacked health insurance. Rural areas had higher rates of uninsured adults (23 percent) than urban areas (18 percent). Among the rural regions, 23 percent of adults in the Coastal Plains were uninsured compared with 21 percent in the Delta and 24 percent in the Highlands. Greater variation can be seen among counties. Of the counties with the highest number of uninsured adults, nine out of ten are rural. Miller County had the highest rate of uninsured adults at 42 percent. However, three of the five counties with the lowest percentages of uninsured adults were also rural. Clay County had the lowest rate of uninsured adults at 9 percent (Figure 46).

Figure 44. Primary Care Physicians Per 100,000 Persons, 2011



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

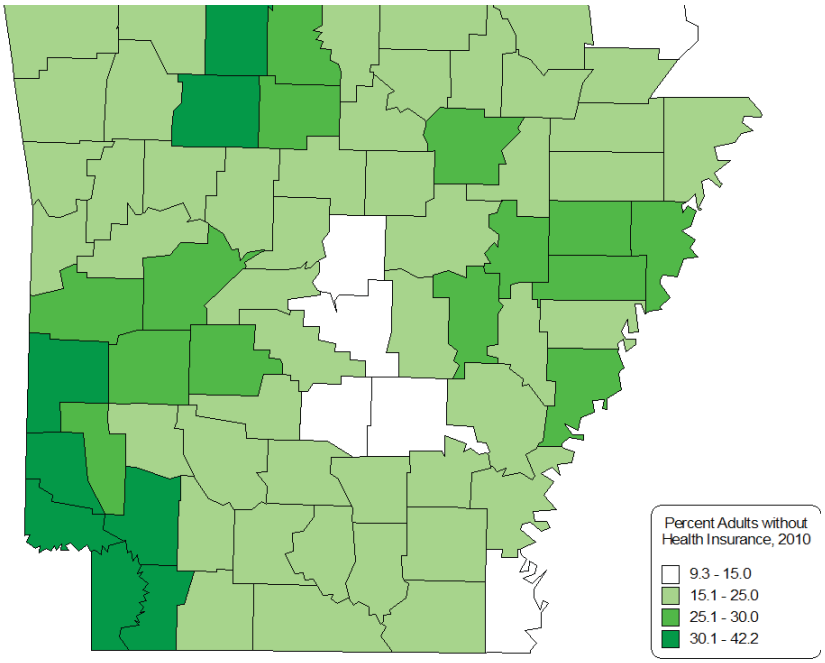
Figure 45. Primary Care Physicians Per 100,000 Persons by Regions, 2011



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

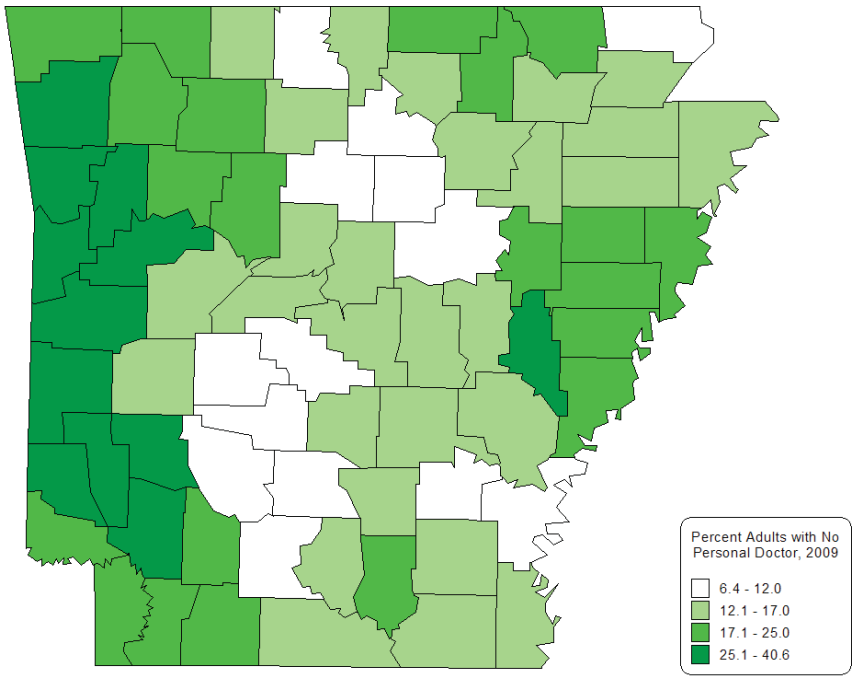
Approximately 18 percent of adults in Arkansas had no personal doctor. In this measure of health care availability, rural counties fared slightly better than urban counties. The percent of adults with no personal doctor in rural areas was 17 percent, whereas in urban areas it was almost 19 percent. Among the rural regions, the Delta had the lowest rate at 16 percent and the Coastal Plains had the highest rate at just over 17 percent. Counties ranged from a low of just over 6 percent in Hot Spring County to a high of just over 40 percent in Howard County. Twenty counties, sixteen of which are rural, reported 20 percent or more of adults do not have a regular source of health care. Ten of the twenty counties are located in the Highlands (Figure 47).

Figure 46. Percent Adults Without Health Insurance, 2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

Figure 47. Percent Adults With No Personal Doctor, 2009



Source: Arkansas Department of Health

Education in Arkansas

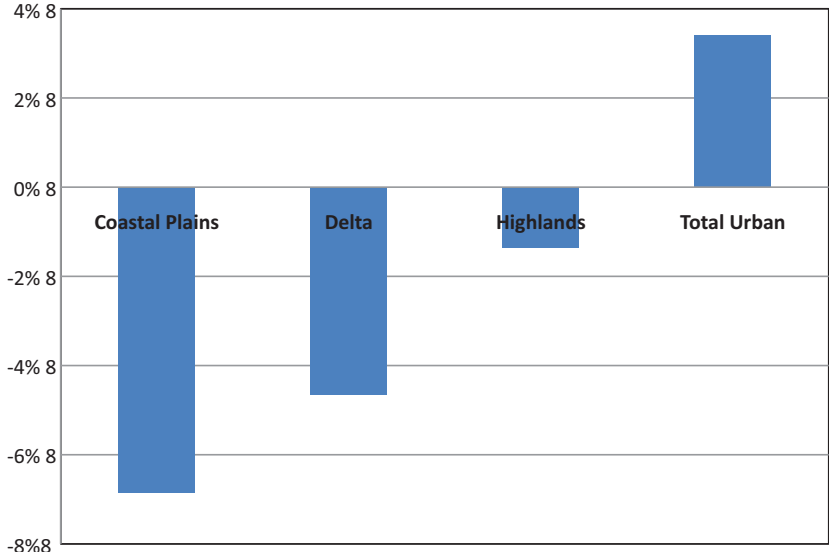
The social and economic value of a well-educated population cannot be overstated. Investment in education provides benefits for individuals, communities and the state. Some of these benefits include a more skilled, versatile and employable workforce, lower poverty rates and the ability to participate in civil society. These benefits make it important that both children and adults in Arkansas have access to a high-quality education.

Public School Enrollment, K-12

While enrollment in Arkansas public schools increased by 0.7 percent between the 2009-10 and 2011-12 school years, change in enrollment varied greatly between rural and urban areas. Rural areas of the state lost 3 percent of their public school enrollment while urban areas increased enrollment 3 percent (Figure 48). Enrollment declined in all rural regions, with the Coastal Plains seeing a 7 percent decline, followed by the Delta with a 5 percent decline and the Highlands with only a slight decline. Although enrollment increased on average in urban areas, it decreased in Crittenden, Jefferson and Crawford counties. Of the ten urban counties where public school enrollment increased, five grew over 5 percent.

Declining enrollment trends in rural regions reflect the more general trends of outmigration and changing age structures of the Delta and Coastal Plains and the growth and change of population in Arkansas' urban areas. As smaller school districts continue to shrink, they are being consolidated into larger districts.

Figure 48. Percent Change in Public School Enrollment, 2009-2010 to 2011-2012



Source: Arkansas Department of Education

Declining enrollment trends in rural regions reflect the more general trends of outmigration and changing age structures of the Delta and Coastal Plains and the growth and change of population in Arkansas' urban areas.

Sometimes this results in rural children being bused long distances to attend school in larger districts. Consolidation of smaller, rural schools can cause further strain on rural communities as the jobs associated with the schools are either lost or transferred to larger districts.

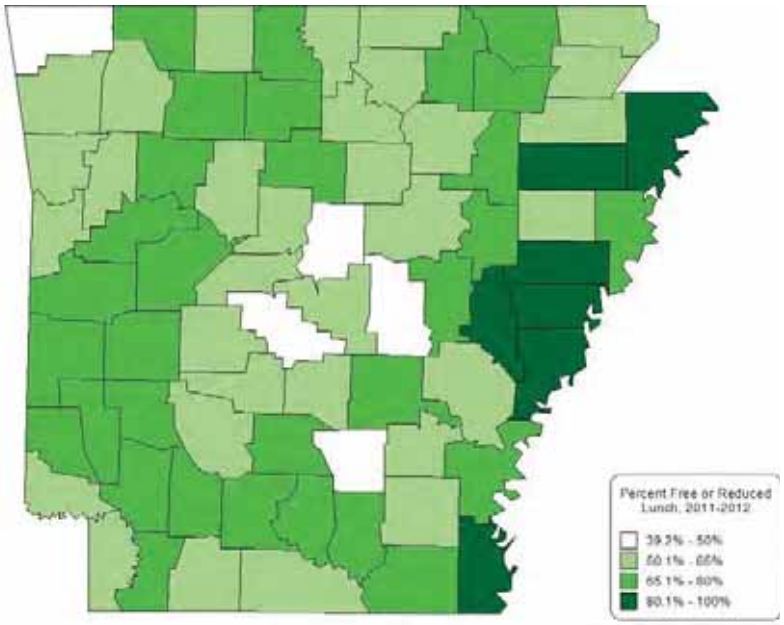
Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Participation

To ensure that every child enrolled in public school has lunch, the National School Lunch Program provides meals for eligible children for free or at a reduced cost[7]. Almost 60 percent of public schoolchildren in Arkansas participated in the school lunch program during the 2011-2012 year.

There was disparity between rural and urban enrollment rates in the free or reduced-price lunch program, with 67 percent participating in rural areas compared to 57 percent in urban areas. Among the rural regions, the Delta had an enrollment rate of nearly 77 percent, whereas the Coastal Plains and Highlands had rates that exceed 65 percent.

[7]Children from families with incomes below 130 percent of the poverty level are eligible for free meals. Those with incomes between 130 percent and 185 percent of the poverty level are eligible for reduced-price meals.

Figure 49. Percent Free or Reduced Lunch, 2011-2012



Source: Arkansas Department of Education

Within regions, there was also great variation among counties. In the Delta, Greene County had the lowest participation rate of 59 percent, while Lee and Chicot counties had 100 percent participation. The Coastal Plains ranged from 49 percent in Cleveland County to 79 percent in Lafayette County. The Highlands ranged from 51 percent in Grant County to 77 percent in Polk County (Figure 49).

Overall, there has been a slight increase in the number and percentage of students participating in the free and reduced-price lunch program from 2009-10 to 2011-12. In the latest year, 1,089 more students received free or reduced-price lunch. A decline in rural areas of 12,815 participating students was offset by an increase of 13,904 students participating in urban areas. The percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price lunches increased from 59.7 percent to 61 percent.

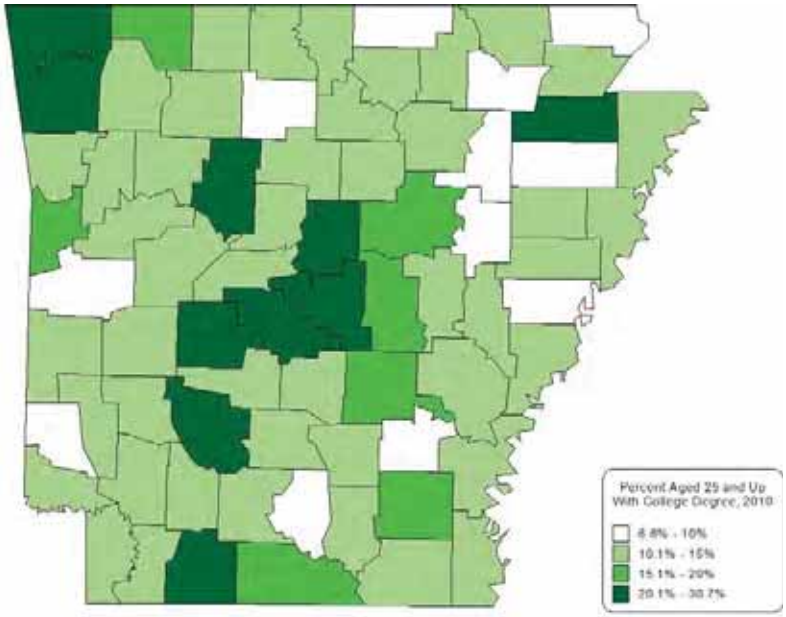
Educational Attainment

Arkansans are less likely to have completed high school or college compared to the rest of the U.S. population. While there has been a general trend upward in educational attainment in Arkansas, the state still ranked 44th nationally in 2010 in the percentage of adults age 25 and older with high school diplomas and 49th in the percentage of people with college degrees.

Rural Arkansans were less likely to have either a high school diploma or college degree than urban Arkansans. Nearly 85 percent of urban residents in the state had a high school diploma compared to 79 percent of rural residents. Only 13 percent of rural residents had college degrees compared to 24 percent of urban residents. Rural Arkansas is even further behind when compared to the nation. Nationwide nearly 30 percent of adults in 2010 had a

Arkansans are less likely to have completed high school or college compared to the rest of the U.S. population.

Figure 50. Percent Aged 25 and Up With College Degree, 2010

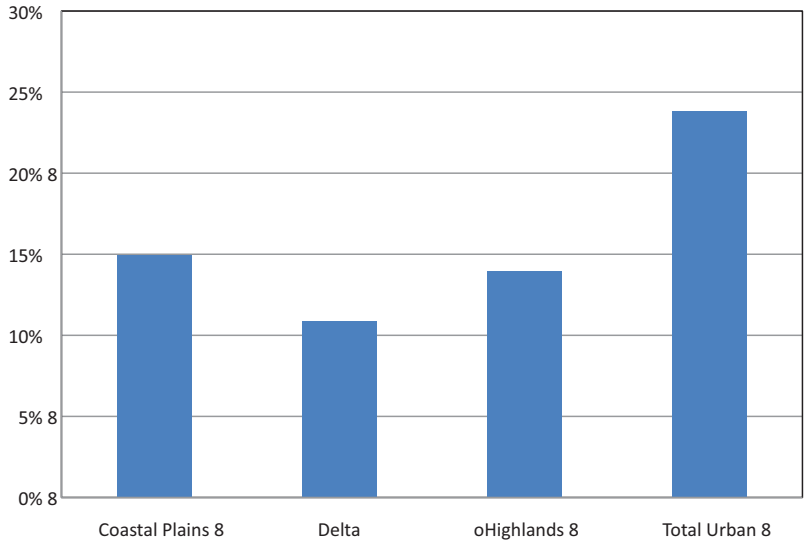


Source: Arkansas Department of Education

college degree compared with only 13 percent in rural Arkansas (Figure 50).

Educational attainment varied among rural regions. Just 75 percent of adults over 25 years of age had a high school diploma and 11 percent were college graduates in the Delta. Eighty percent of the Coastal Plains and Highlands residents had a high school diploma. Only 14 percent of Highlands' adults and 15 percent of those in the Coastal Plains have earned a college degree (Figure 51).

Figure 51. Percent Population Aged 25 and Up With College Degree, 2010



Source: Arkansas Department of Education

Social Vulnerability and Drought

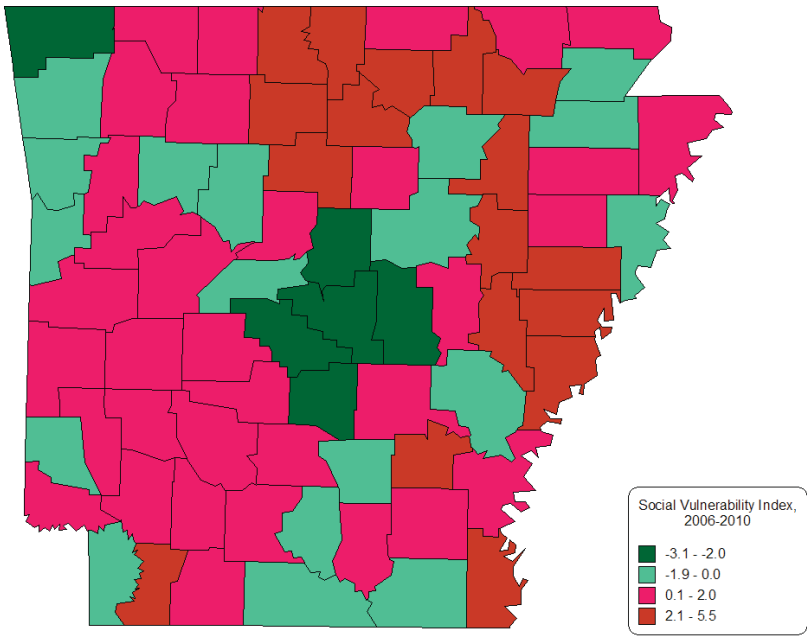
Arkansas' unique and varied ecology makes the state vulnerable to many natural disasters including floods and tornados as well as ice, hail and windstorms. The impacts of these natural disasters are far reaching and place stress on the social, economic, environmental and governmental fabric of the state. While natural disasters can and do affect everyone, the impacts are often most strongly felt by low-income, elderly and other disadvantaged populations. Awareness of vulnerability to disasters at the local level is crucial in preparing for and responding to natural disasters.

It is recognized that the underlying dimensions that dictate social vulnerability of a local area are (1) poverty, (2) a disproportionately high number of children and elderly, (3) a densely built environment and poorly built homes, (4) single-sector economic dependence, (5) ethnically and racially marginalized populations, (6) a high percentage of lower wage service jobs and (7) a high dependence on infrastructure. Researchers have combined these measures into a Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI™)[8]. Because of geographic isolation and limited resources, rural areas tend to be more vulnerable to the negative outcomes of disasters. Some of these negative outcomes include the lack of capital to evacuate, a lack of economic resources for preparing response and recovery activities and challenges in seeking assistance after a disaster due to imited language skills or a lack of education.

In the United States, the SoVI™ county scores ranged from a low of -10.7 (very low social vulnerability) to a high of 12.8 (very high social vulnerability) with a median score of -0.03[9] as computed for the five-year period 2006-2010. As a state, Arkansas had a mean SoVI™ score of 0.72 which indicates the state was slightly more vulnerable than most of the country. Within the state, there was disparity in the level of social vulnerability between rural and urban counties. Rural counties had a SoVI™ score of 1.17 compared with a SoVI™ score of -1.45 for urban counties, meaning that, on average, rural counties were more vulnerable than urban ones. Between rural regions, the scores varied from a high of 2.22 in the Delta to a low of 0.37 in the Coastal Plains and 0.96 in the Highlands. Among rural counties, the SoVI™ scores ranged from a low of –2.79 (Grant) to a high of 5.49 (Chicot). Seven counties, six of them urban, ranked in the bottom 20 percent of the nation, indicating low social vulnerability. Eighteen counties, all rural and half in the Delta, ranked in the top 20 percent nationally of socially vulnerable counties (Figure 52 and Figure 53).

These measures of vulnerability are important when assessing the risk for

Figure 52. Social Vulnerability Index, 2006-2010



Source: Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute, University of South Carolina

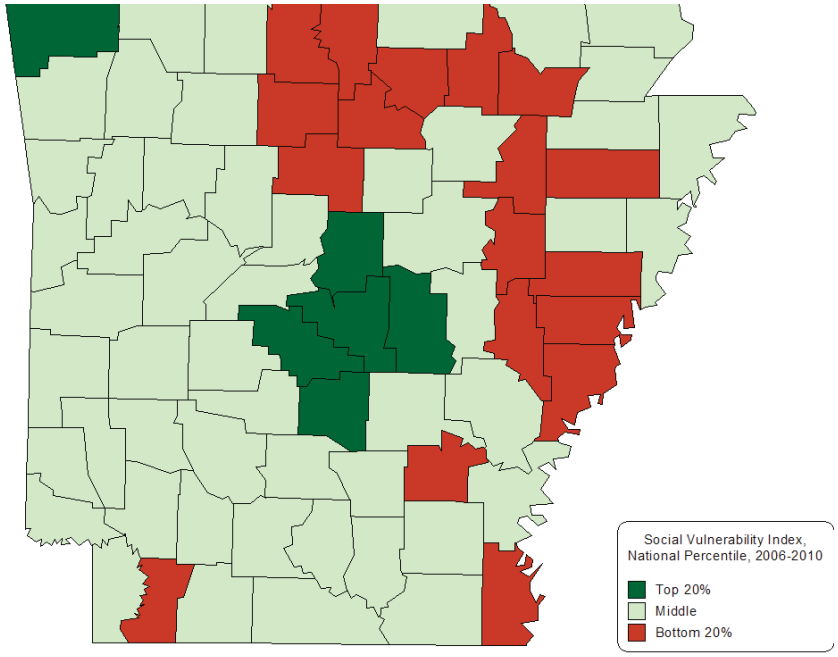
[8]Cutter, Susan L. 1996. Vulnerability to environmental hazards. Progress in Human Geography 20(4):529-39.

[9]The SoVI™ index is scored so that lower numbers are less vulnerable and higher numbers indicate greater social vulnerability. Negative numbers, then, indicate less vulnerability than positive numbers.

Social and Environmental Vulnerability

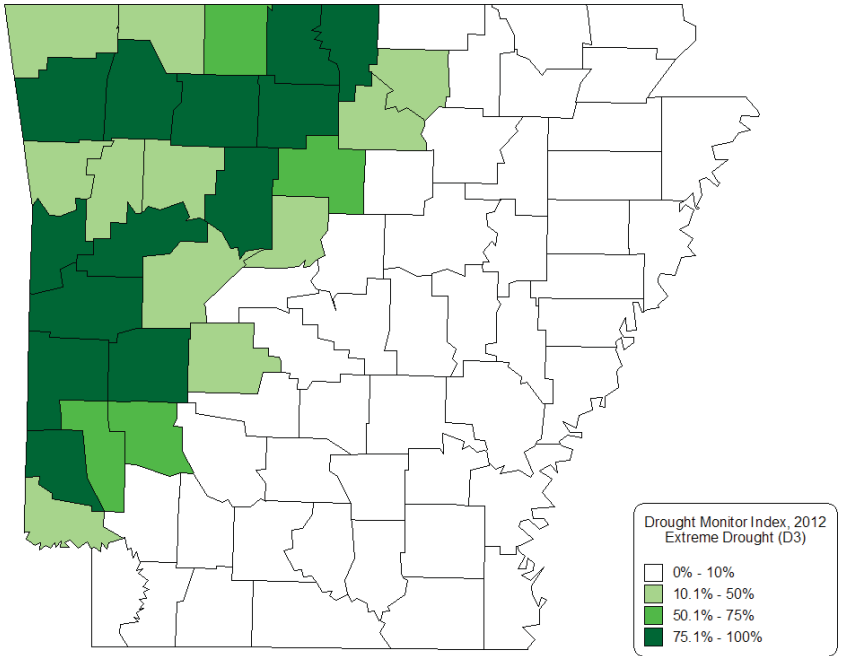
Arkansans in the face of natural disasters, including drought. In mid-July of 2012, every county in Arkansas was classified as "extremely dry" and more than half the counties had some land classified as "exceptional drought." By November 2012, some rains had alleviated the worst of the drought, but as can be seen in Figure 54, much of the state remains in severe or extreme drought. As would be expected, a greater percentage of rural areas suffer from drought conditions than do urban areas, and the map makes clear the impact is geographically concentrated in the north and western areas of the state. Because of the importance of agriculture to the state, the impacts of the drought will be felt statewide.

Figure 53. Social Vulnerability Index, National Percentile, 2006-2010



Source: Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute, University of South Carolina

Figure 54. Drought Monitor Index, 2012, Extreme Drought (D3)



Source: Drought Monitor Data, National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Local Government

Arkansas is a relatively rural and small-town state, with 75 county governments, 240 school districts and 541 incorporated towns and cities in 2010. Most of these towns and cities are very small. Nearly 33 percent of the population lives in the unincorporated areas and is dependent upon county governments for basic governmental services. Another 22 percent of the population resides in the 502 towns with less than 10,000 inhabitants. The remaining 45 percent of Arkansans live in the 39 places with a population of 10,000 or greater. More than three of four Arkansans (77 percent) lived in rural areas or in towns with less than 50,000 people in 2010.

The large number of persons living in unincorporated areas and in small towns places an unusually heavy burden on local governments. By necessity, these local government offices are usually managed by people with limited financial and institutional resources. However, this situation also provides extensive opportunities for involvement in local affairs.

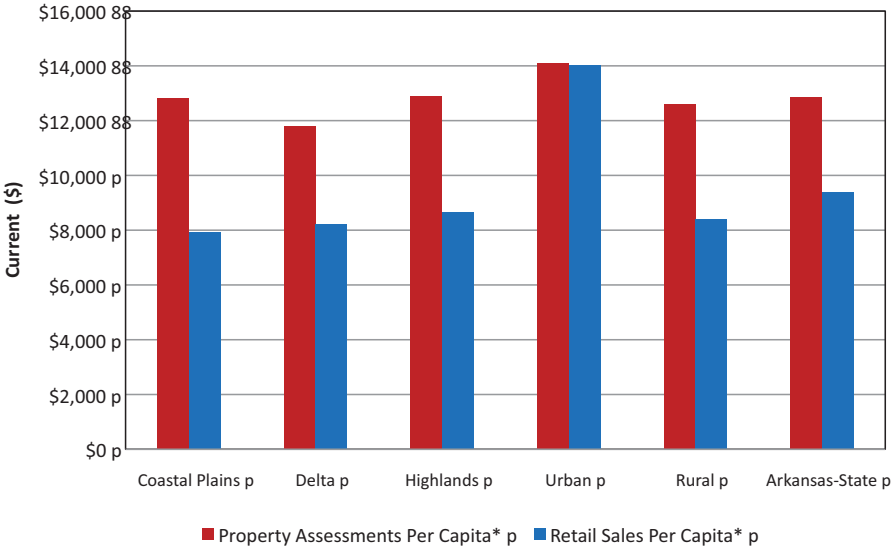
The recent economic recession exacerbates the loss of jobs and population in rural areas and makes it difficult for many county governments to generate enough revenue to provide the services and infrastructure demanded by businesses and residents. With the loss of manufacturing jobs and out-migration of people, many rural areas in Arkansas face a declining tax base from which to generate revenue. Out-migration combined with the already sparse population in many rural areas leaves fewer businesses and people to share the infrastructure and service costs. Local governments also have responsibilities given to them by higher levels of government. Some responsibilities that have been passed to local governments include enforcement and collection of child support payments, new regulations for disposing of solid waste and responsibility for meeting new jail standards and providing expanded incarceration facilities.

The ability to generate revenue from local sources is primarily dependent on the property and sales tax base, which are the two largest sources of local revenue for county governments. The ability to raise revenue from these sources varied greatly among the 75 counties, and for many rural counties their local tax base was becoming smaller. Using per capita assessed value of property as an indicator of the potential to raise property tax revenue, we find that there were differences among and within regions in 2011 (Figure 55). Urban areas ($15,459) had substantially greater capacity than rural areas ($13,066) to generate revenue from the property tax. Of the rural regions, the Highlands ($13,752) and the Coastal Plains ($13,007) had the highest assessed value per capita, while the Delta ($11,424) had the lowest.

However, the greatest variation in 2011 per capita assessed value was among counties, ranging from $7,725 in Lincoln County to $32,641 in Van Buren County (Figure 56). Per capita property assessments increased dramatically in counties with natural gas extraction. Three rural counties which benefited from natural gas extraction were Conway, Cleburne and Van Buren. These three counties had the highest per capita property assessments in the state in 2011.

The assessed value of property increased in some counties and decreased in others, thus exacerbating the difference

Figure 55. Property Assessments and Retail Sales Per Capita, 2011



*Average of counties in region

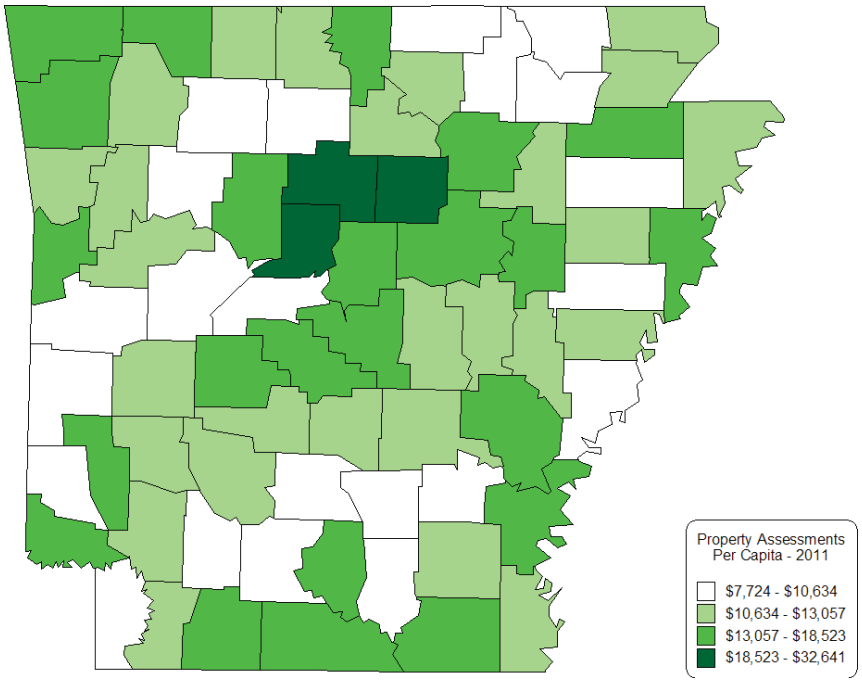
Source: Property assessments from the Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department, retail sales from Woods and Poole, and population data from the Census Bureau.

among counties from 2000 to 2011. The rural Delta and Coastal Plains experienced only slight increases in property assessments during this period. In contrast, property assessments increased 33 percent in the Highlands and 47 percent in the Urban region (Figure 57). The difference among counties was even greater (Figure 58), ranging from a decline of 17 percent in Little River County to an increase of 261 percent in Van Buren County. Seventeen counties, most of which are in the Delta and Coastal Plains, experienced a decline in their property assessments, reducing their ability to generate local revenue from the property tax.

The property tax effort as measured by county government millage varied only slightly among regions but varied substantially among counties. There was no major difference in average county millage between the rural and urban areas of the state. However, the Delta region had the highest average county millage (8.16) followed by the Coastal Plains (7.51). The Highlands had the lowest average county government millage of the four regions (7.13). What is most striking is that the Delta had the lowest capacity but the highest effort (millage) to generate revenue from the property tax.

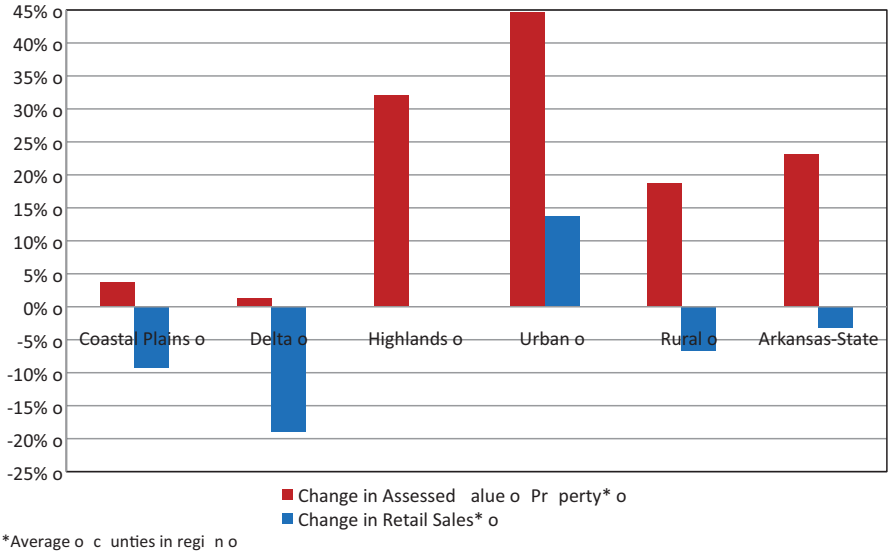
While the potential to raise property tax revenue varied greatly among counties, Arkansas raised less revenue per capita from property tax than most states. In fiscal year 2009, Arkansas ranked 49th in total property tax revenue collected per capita ($549). For the same fiscal year, the nation's average was $1,388. The trend in Arkansas is to raise more revenue from the sales tax. Beginning in 2001, the sales tax generated more revenue for county governments in Arkansas than did the property tax. In 2009, property tax revenue accounted for approximately 21 percent of county government revenue, declining from 23 percent in 1999.

Figure 56. Property Assessments Per Capita, 2011



Source: Property assessments from the Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department and population data from the Census Bureau

Figure 57. Change in Assessed Value of Property and Retail Sales, 2000-2011



*Average o c unties in regi n o

Source: Property assessments from the Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department and population data from the Census Bureau

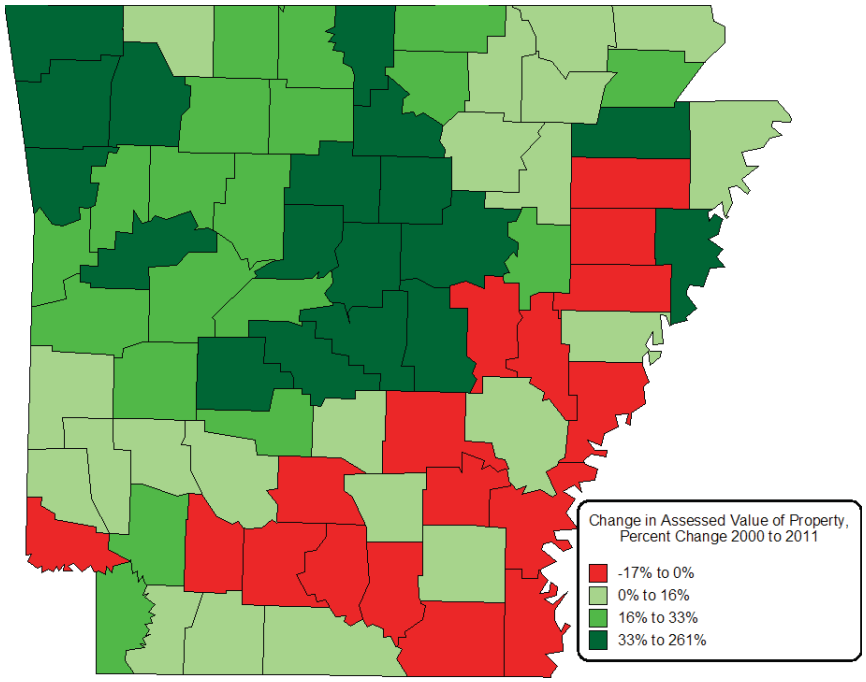
In contrast, the sales tax generated approximately 19 percent of county government revenue in 1999 and increased to 22 percent by 2009.

Forty-five of Arkansas' 75 county governments generated more revenue from the sales tax than the property tax in 2009. Although using the sales tax base increases the ability of local governments to generate revenue, many of the same counties that are experiencing a decline in the property tax base are also experiencing a decline in their sales tax base. Because of the growing disparity in local tax base, there is a widening gap in the ability of local governments to generate revenue to pay for local infrastructure and services.

The sales tax base, as measured by per capita retail sales, varied greatly among regions of the state (Figure 55).The rural regions of the state had considerably lower per capita retail sales ($9,714) than urban areas ($15,219) (Figure 57). The three rural regions did not vary greatly in their average per capita retail sales. However, there was great variation in per capita retail sales among counties, ranging from $2,150 to $19,112 as illustrated in Figure 59.

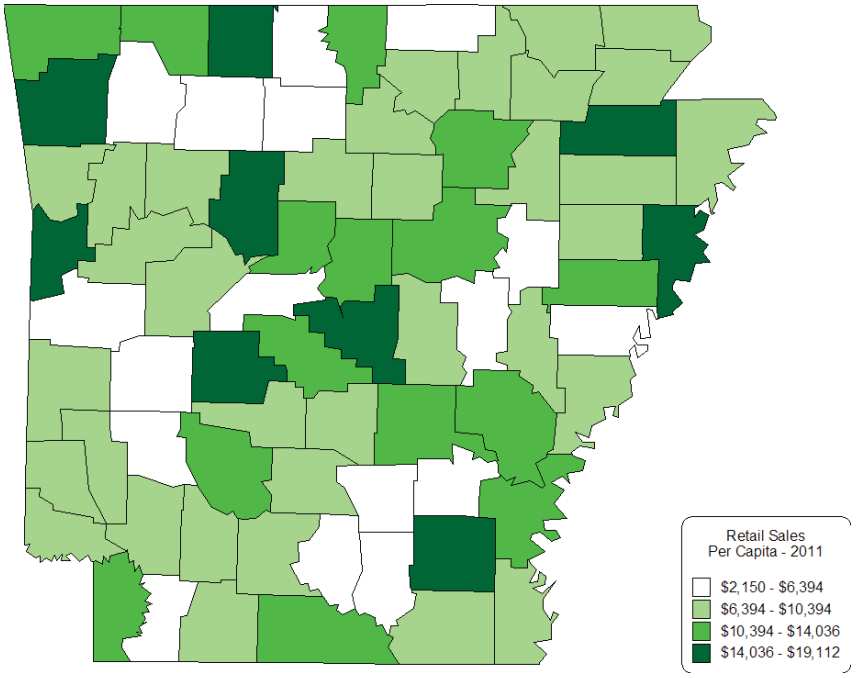
Not only was there a large difference in per capita retail sales between rural and urban regions of the state, but the difference was getting larger in the Delta. From 2000 to 2011, per capita retail sales sales declined by 10 percent in the Delta compared to a decline of only 4 percent in urban areas. Total retail sales increased in the state by 5.5 percent, but declined in two of the three rural regions between 2000 and 2011. Retail sales increased 11 percent in urban areas and declined 17 percent in the Delta and 10 percent in the

Figure 58. Change in Assessed Value of Property, Percent Change, 2000 to 2011



Source: Assessments 2000 to 2011, Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department.

Figure 59. Retail Sales Per Capita, 2011

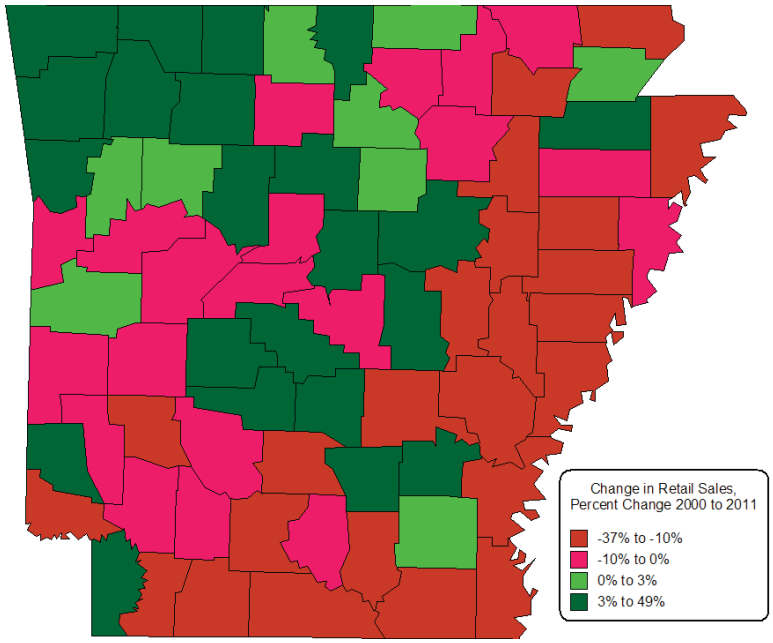


Source: 2012 Arkansas State Profile, Woods and Poole Economics, and 2011 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

Coastal Plains. Forty-four counties experienced a decline in retail sales, 41 of which were in rural Arkansas (Figure 60). Only 14 counties experienced a 10 percent or greater increase in retail sales and only five of these are rural counties. Therefore, the difference in the retail sales tax base was growing.

There was a growing disparity in the ability of rural and urban counties to generate revenue from local sources. As the property and sales tax bases of many rural counties decline, their ability to generate revenue to pay for infrastructure and services diminishes. This suggests a need for new ways to provide for the infrastructure and service needs of businesses and residents of rural communities.

Figure 60. Change in Retail Sales, Percent Change, 2000-2011



Source: 2012 Arkansas State Profile, Woods and Poole Economics.

Appendix A. The Measurement of Metropolitan, Micropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Areas

In 2000, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised and replaced the 1990 Metropolitan Area (MA) standards with the Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) standards, effective in 2003.

Most of the criteria for the central counties of metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) were retained with the new standards, plus urban clusters can now be used for identifying MSAs. Most of the previous criteria for outlying counties – population density, total county population, percent urban and urban growth rates – were dropped with the new CBSA standards. Outlying counties are now added to a metropolitan statistical area if 25 percent or more of their workers commute to a neighboring central county, or if 25 percent or more of the workforce in an outlying county commutes from a central county.

The OMB also added a new area classification called the "micropolitan statistical area" that subdivides the non-metropolitan category. Non-metropolitan counties are classified as "micropolitan" if they have an urban cluster of 10,000 to 49,999 persons. As with metropolitan areas, adjacent counties are added to the micropolitan area on the basis of 25 percent commuting ties.

In 2003, the OMB released a list of the newly defined metropolitan and micropolitan counties based on the 2000 CBSA standards. In applying the OMB's new standards in Arkansas, eight counties changed from non-metropolitan status to metropolitan status. Eighteen new micropolitan counties were also defined.

The definition of urban and rural counties in this publication is based on the long-standing metropolitan and non-metropolitan definitions, with on-going review of changes in population, density, commuting patterns and density. We also use a more broad definition of "rural" to include similar history, physical setting, settlement patterns, culture and economic activity as well.

We provide the CBSA definitions here for those who may encounter them in other research or publications.

Appendix B. Table 1. Population

County Name	Population 2000	Population 2010	% Population Change 2000-2010	Natural Increase/ Decrease Per 1,000 Population 2010-2011	Net Migration Rate Per 1,000 Population 2010-2011	Aged 19 and Under 2010	Aged 65 and Over 2010	Aged 75 and Over 2010	Median Age 2010	Dependency Rate Per 100 Population 2010
Arkansas	20,743	19,019	-8.3	1.5	-6.9	23.3	16.4	7.7	42.0	65.7
Ashley	24,207	21,853	-9.7	1.8	-8.7	24.4	16.2	6.7	38.6	68.4
Baxter	38,382	41,513	8.2	-7.3	7.6	18.1	28.1	12.7	50.1	85.8
Benton	153,343	221,339	44.3	7.7	12.8	27.9	12.2	5.5	34.4	67.0
Boone	33,948	36,903	8.7	-1.2	4.8	23.3	18.1	8.1	40.6	70.5
Bradley	12,600	11,508	-8.7	0.3	-1.9	23.3	17.7	8.5	40.1	69.6
Calhoun	5,744	5,368	-6.5	-1.3	-34.4	20.5	17.2	7.5	40.4	60.6
Carroll	25,361	27,446	8.2	1.4	-2.1	22.5	18.7	7.7	43.7	70.1
Chicot	14,117	11,800	-16.4	-0.9	-5.6	23.1	18.2	8.7	41.9	70.3
Clark	23,546	22,995	-2.3	-0.6	-3.8	19.5	14.8	7.2	33.1	52.2
Clay	17,609	16,083	-8.7	-5.5	-6.4	22.3	20.0	9.0	43.0	73.4
Cleburne	24,046	25,970	8.0	-3.7	0.1	19.9	23.6	10.2	46.0	76.8
Cleveland	8,571	8,689	1.4	0.2	-3.0	24.8	16.3	6.8	39.1	69.6
Columbia	25,607	24,552	-4.1	-0.3	-3.6	22.8	16.0	7.7	36.9	63.4
Conway	20,336	21,273	4.6	3.9	-4.0	24.2	16.9	7.7	39.6	69.7
Craighead	82,148	96,443	17.4	5.7	10.7	25.0	12.2	5.5	33.3	59.2
Crawford	53,247	61,948	16.3	3.2	-4.0	26.4	13.3	5.3	37.3	65.8
Crittenden	50,866	50,902	0.1	6.5	-14.4	29.1	10.8	4.4	33.3	66.3
Cross	19,526	17,870	-8.5	0.9	-3.9	25.1	15.4	6.8	38.4	68.3
Dallas	9,210	8,116	-11.9	0.7	-3.1	23.6	18.2	8.7	41.7	71.6
Desha	15,341	13,008	-15.2	0.1	-17.6	26.0	15.1	6.5	38.3	69.8
Drew	18,724	18,509	-1.1	2.5	-5.1	23.6	14.8	6.7	36.8	62.2
Faulkner	86,012	113,237	31.7	7.1	13.0	24.5	10.0	4.3	31.5	52.7
Franklin	17,773	18,125	2.0	1.4	-5.9	24.4	16.6	7.5	41.4	69.6
Fulton	11,642	12,245	5.2	-6.3	10.6	21.2	22.4	9.4	46.7	77.3
Garland	88,068	96,024	9.0	-1.5	10.7	20.9	20.9	9.6	44.0	72.0
Grant	16,464	17,853	8.4	1.8	3.5	24.2	14.5	5.7	39.2	63.1
Greene	37,331	42,090	12.7	1.9	11.0	25.2	14.3	6.2	37.3	65.3
Hempstead	23,585	22,609	-4.1	4.2	-6.3	26.0	15.0	6.5	37.1	69.5
Hot Spring	30,353	32,923	8.5	1.1	-2.7	23.3	15.7	6.9	39.6	64.0
Howard	14,300	13,789	-3.6	4.0	0.9	26.3	15.3	7.0	38.8	71.0
Independence	34,233	36,647	7.1	2.0	1.8	24.0	15.6	7.1	38.7	65.6
Izard	13,253	13,696	3.3	-5.5	-13.0	19.2	23.6	10.2	47.0	74.6
Jackson	18,419	17,997	-2.3	-1.8	-4.0	20.7	15.9	6.9	40.0	57.8
Jefferson	84,284	77,435	-8.1	2.3	-16.4	23.8	13.2	6.0	36.5	58.8
Johnson	22,781	25,540	12.1	3.9	2.7	24.8	14.7	6.5	37.1	65.2
Lafayette	8,555	7,645	-10.6	-3.4	-12.7	23.2	19.4	7.9	42.7	74.3
Lawrence	17,774	17,415	-2.0	-5.3	-8.8	22.9	18.1	8.2	39.7	69.7
Lee	12,580	10,424	-17.1	-2.9	-6.5	20.7	15.4	7.2	40.1	56.6
Lincoln	14,493	14,134	-2.5	-2.3	-4.3	19.4	12.4	5.8	36.2	46.7
Little River	13,628	13,171	-3.4	-1.1	-9.7	23.8	17.1	7.0	41.2	69.3
Logan	22,486	22,353	-0.6	-1.3	-0.7	24.6	17.2	7.5	41.3	71.7
Lonoke	52,831	68,356	29.4	4.6	5.4	27.5	11.2	4.5	35.3	63.1
Madison	14,243	15,717	10.3	2.9	1.5	24.2	15.6	6.5	38.5	66.1
Marion	16,140	16,653	3.2	-6.7	3.1	17.9	23.8	8.9	48.7	71.6
Miller	40,441	43,462	7.5	4.7	0.6	24.3	13.8	5.9	37.2	61.4
Mississippi	51,979	46,480	-10.6	3.1	-11.0	28.2	12.2	5.4	34.6	67.9
Monroe	10,254	8,149	-20.5	-2.5	-3.2	22.6	18.9	8.8	43.2	70.9

Appendix B. Table 1. Population

County Name	Population 2000	Population 2010	% Population Change 2000-2010	Natural Increase/ Decrease Per 1,000 Population 2010-2011	Net Migration Rate Per 1,000 Population 2010-2011	Aged 19 and Under 2010	Aged 65 and Over 2010	Aged 75 and Over 2010	Median Age 2010	Dependency Rate Per 100 Population 2010
Montgomery	9,240	9,487	2.7	-5.2	-0.3	21.1	22.4	9.5	46.0	76.9
Nevada	9,955	8,997	-9.6	-0.4	4.2	23.7	17.7	7.9	39.9	70.5
Newton	8,608	8,330	-3.2	-5.1	-4.0	20.8	20.4	8.2	44.8	70.2
Ouachita	28,790	26,120	-9.3	-1.0	-8.6	23.5	17.0	8.2	42.0	68.3
Perry	10,207	10,445	2.3	-0.9	-4.8	23.0	16.7	7.2	41.2	65.9
Phillips	26,445	21,757	-17.7	2.4	-13.2	28.1	15.0	6.5	36.0	75.6
Pike	11,303	11,291	-0.1	-2.0	-1.2	24.7	17.4	7.3	39.1	72.6
Poinsett	25,614	24,583	-4.0	-0.8	-0.7	24.2	15.9	6.6	39.3	67.0
Polk	20,229	20,662	2.1	-1.6	-0.9	23.8	19.5	8.2	43.2	76.4
Pope	54,469	61,754	13.4	4.6	2.8	23.1	13.1	5.7	35.1	56.7
Prairie	9,539	8,715	-8.6	-3.2	-7.7	21.5	19.7	8.4	43.5	70.2
Pulaski	361,469	382,748	5.9	6.2	0.9	24.1	12.0	5.5	35.7	56.4
Randolph	18,195	17,969	-1.2	-2.4	5.1	23.2	18.7	8.8	42.0	72.2
St. Francis	29,329	28,258	-3.7	2.2	-9.3	23.6	12.2	5.2	36.8	55.8
Saline	83,531	107,118	28.2	3.3	13.9	24.4	14.8	5.9	38.6	64.5
Scott	10,995	11,233	2.2	2.1	-2.7	25.7	17.0	6.8	41.0	74.6
Searcy	8,261	8,195	-0.8	-4.7	-14.1	20.4	21.3	9.8	45.2	71.6
Sebastian	115,077	125,744	9.3	5.0	5.1	25.4	13.1	5.9	36.5	62.6
Sevier	15,757	17,058	8.3	7.4	1.2	29.5	12.6	5.6	34.2	72.8
Sharp	17,119	17,264	0.8	-3.2	10.3	21.5	23.9	10.7	46.1	83.4
Stone	11,499	12,394	7.8	-2.6	16.1	20.6	22.8	9.3	46.5	76.7
Union	45,629	41,639	-8.7	-0.6	-2.0	24.2	15.6	7.4	39.8	65.9
Van Buren	16,192	17,295	6.8	-5.2	-7.4	20.5	22.7	10.6	46.1	75.9
Washington	157,769	203,065	28.7	9.5	7.4	25.4	9.7	4.3	30.6	53.9
White	67,162	77,076	14.8	3.0	7.7	23.9	14.1	6.2	36.1	61.3
Woodruff	8,740	7,260	-16.9	-1.1	-3.7	23.0	17.8	8.1	42.9	69.0
Yell	21,139	22,185	4.9	4.1	-10.7	26.3	15.4	6.9	37.9	71.5
Rural:										
Coastal Plains	225,595	210,660	-6.6	0.4	-5.9	23.9	16.3	7.4	39.6	67.1
Delta	332,059	307,627	-7.4	0.4	-5.0	24.4	15.1	6.6	39.6	65.2
Highlands	706,646	749,810	6.1	0.0	1.0	22.9	17.8	7.8	41.6	68.7
Total Rural	1,264,300	1,268,097	0.3	0.1	-1.6	23.4	16.9	7.5	40.3	67.6
Urban:										
Pulaski County	361,469	382,748	5.9	6.2	0.9	24.1	12.0	5.5	35.7	56.4
Other Urban	1,047,617	1,265,073	20.8	5.5	6.4	25.5	12.6	5.5	39.9	61.6
Total Urban	1,409,086	1,647,821	16.9	5.7	5.2	25.2	12.5	5.5	35.7	60.3
State	2,673,386	2,915,918	9.1	3.3	2.3	24.4	14.4	6.4	39.8	63.4

Source: 2000 and 2010 Census of Population and Housing; American Community Survey, 2006-2010, U.S. Census Bureau

Appendix B. Table 2. Population by Race and Ethnic Origin, 2010

	White Alone		Black Alone		Other Races		Hispanic	
County Name	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.
Arkansas	13,659	71.8	4,661	24.5	699	3.7	513	2.7
Ashley	15,143	69.3	5,640	25.8	1,070	4.9	1,069	4.9
Baxter	40,231	96.9	67	0.2	1,215	2.9	688	1.7
Benton	182,817	82.6	2,814	1.3	35,708	16.1	34,283	15.5
Boone	35,624	96.5	72	0.2	1,207	3.3	674	1.8
Bradley	6,934	60.3	3,173	27.6	1,401	12.2	1,516	13.2
Calhoun	4,001	74.5	1,192	22.2	175	3.3	152	2.8
Carroll	24,593	89.6	103	0.4	2,750	10.0	3,489	12.7
Chicot	4,864	41.2	6,381	54.1	555	4.7	542	4.6
Clark	16,518	71.8	5,413	23.5	1,064	4.6	926	4.0
Clay	15,682	97.5	56	0.3	345	2.1	217	1.3
Cleburne	25,130	96.8	72	0.3	768	3.0	517	2.0
Cleveland	7,452	85.8	1,059	12.2	178	2.0	145	1.7
Columbia	14,696	59.9	9,059	36.9	797	3.2	533	2.2
Conway	17,917	84.2	2,385	11.2	971	4.6	757	3.6
Craighead	78,323	81.2	12,640	13.1	5,480	5.7	4,277	4.4
Crawford	55,194	89.1	725	1.2	6,029	9.7	3,760	6.1
Crittenden	23,446	46.1	26,051	51.2	1,405	2.8	1,014	2.0
Cross	13,495	75.5	3,972	22.2	403	2.3	266	1.5
Dallas	4,476	55.2	3,400	41.9	240	3.0	188	2.3
Desha	6,230	47.9	6,216	47.8	562	4.3	578	4.4
Drew	12,739	68.8	5,144	27.8	626	3.4	454	2.5
Faulkner	95,420	84.3	11,568	10.2	6,249	5.5	4,435	3.9
Franklin	17,221	95.0	130	0.7	774	4.3	371	2.0
Fulton	11,857	96.8	40	0.3	348	2.8	97	0.8
Garland	82,964	86.4	7,615	7.9	5,445	5.7	4,622	4.8
Grant	16,940	94.9	390	2.2	523	2.9	392	2.2
Greene	40,578	96.4	233	0.6	1,279	3.0	901	2.1
Hempstead	13,431	59.4	6,646	29.4	2,532	11.2	2,713	12.0
Hot Spring	28,179	85.6	3,568	10.8	1,176	3.6	919	2.8
Howard	9,894	71.8	2,846	20.6	1,049	7.6	1,349	9.8
Independence	33,688	91.9	722	2.0	2,237	6.1	2,139	5.8
Izard	13,118	95.8	175	1.3	403	2.9	208	1.5
Jackson	14,363	79.8	3,000	16.7	634	3.5	436	2.4
Jefferson	32,507	42.0	42,639	55.1	2,289	3.0	1,219	1.6
Johnson	22,280	87.2	364	1.4	2,896	11.3	3,094	12.1
Lafayette	4,642	60.7	2,845	37.2	158	2.1	131	1.7
Lawrence	16,952	97.3	137	0.8	326	1.9	158	0.9
Lee	4,381	42.0	5,761	55.3	282	2.7	168	1.6
Lincoln	9,407	66.6	4,223	29.9	504	3.6	452	3.2
Little River	9,948	75.5	2,519	19.1	704	5.3	357	2.7
Logan	20,844	93.2	297	1.3	1,212	5.4	510	2.3
Lonoke	61,353	89.8	4,075	6.0	2,928	4.3	2,246	3.3
Madison	14,711	93.6	28	0.2	978	6.2	759	4.8
Marion	16,146	97.0	30	0.2	477	2.9	287	1.7

Appendix B. Table 2. Population by Race and Ethnic Origin, 2010

County Name	White Alone		Black Alone		Other Races		Hispanic	
	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.
Miller	31,134	71.6	10,667	24.5	1,661	3.8	1,038	2.4
Mississippi	28,653	61.6	15,817	34.0	2,010	4.3	1,695	3.6
Monroe	4,584	56.3	3,330	40.9	235	2.9	132	1.6
Montgomery	8,958	94.4	22	0.2	507	5.3	361	3.8
Nevada	5,933	65.9	2,764	30.7	300	3.3	220	2.4
Newton	8,001	96.1	9	0.1	320	3.8	141	1.7
Ouachita	14,883	57.0	10,468	40.1	769	2.9	408	1.6
Perry	9,939	95.2	196	1.9	310	3.0	247	2.4
Phillips	7,618	35.0	13,719	63.1	420	1.9	287	1.3
Pike	10,163	90.0	330	2.9	798	7.1	727	6.4
Poinsett	22,089	89.9	1,775	7.2	719	2.9	543	2.2
Polk	19,144	92.7	65	0.3	1,453	7.0	1,190	5.8
Pope	55,273	89.5	1,784	2.9	4,697	7.6	4,168	6.7
Prairie	7,529	86.4	1,064	12.2	122	1.4	81	0.9
Pulaski	220,051	57.5	133,858	35.0	28,839	7.5	22,168	5.8
Randolph	17,339	96.5	128	0.7	502	2.8	283	1.6
St. Francis	12,502	44.2	14,667	51.9	1,089	3.9	1,149	4.1
Saline	96,978	90.5	4,994	4.7	5,146	4.8	4,087	3.8
Scott	9,880	88.0	53	0.5	1,300	11.6	782	7.0
Searcy	7,867	96.0	12	0.1	316	3.9	121	1.5
Sebastian	96,344	76.6	8,019	6.4	21,381	17.0	15,445	12.3
Sevier	11,949	70.0	734	4.3	4,375	25.6	5,220	30.6
Sharp	16,582	96.0	93	0.5	589	3.4	290	1.7
Stone	11,995	96.8	11	0.1	388	3.1	157	1.3
Union	26,276	63.1	13,721	33.0	1,642	3.9	1,460	3.5
Van Buren	16,598	96.0	68	0.4	629	3.6	475	2.7
Washington	162,253	79.9	6,006	3.0	34,806	17.1	31,458	15.5
White	70,425	91.4	3,074	4.0	3,577	4.6	2,879	3.7
Woodruff	5,075	69.9	1,994	27.5	191	2.6	87	1.2
Yell	19,226	86.7	307	1.4	2,652	12.0	4,230	19.1
Rural:								
Coastal Plains	136,078	64.6	64,230	30.5	10,352	4.9	9,158	4.3
Delta	210,709	68.5	86,869	28.2	10,049	3.3	8,047	2.6
Highlands	679,658	90.6	27,125	3.6	43,027	5.7	38,793	5.2
Total Rural	1,026,445	80.9	178,224	14.1	63,428	5.0	55,998	4.4
Urban:								
Pulaski County	220,051	57.5	133,858	35.0	28,839	7.5	22,168	5.8
Other Urban	998,733	78.9	137,813	10.9	128,527	10.2	107,884	8.5
Total Urban	1,218,784	74.0	271,671	16.5	157,366	9.5	130,052	7.9
State	2,245,229	77.0	449,895	15.4	220,794	7.6	186,050	6.4

Source: 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Census Bureau

Appendix B. Table 3. Percent Employed by Major Industry Sector

County	Total Employment	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and Public Utilities	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Information	Professional Services	Other Services	Government and Government Enterprises	Farm and Farm Services	Trade	Missing
Arkansas	13,143	0.8%	3.9%	26.0%	6.0%	5.9%	11.9%	9.2%	10.4%	8.8%	13.4%	3.6%
Ashley	10,786	0.9%	8.1%	24.0%	3.0%	5.4%	14.1%	10.7%	13.0%	8.9%	9.4%	2.4%
Baxter	21,145	0.0%	7.2%	10.1%	1.7%	10.3%	22.2%	15.7%	9.8%	2.9%	14.1%	6.1%
Benton	124,551	0.0%	5.4%	9.8%	7.3%	8.6%	15.4%	12.8%	8.0%	2.0%	13.5%	17.3%
Boone	20,468	0.0%	5.8%	8.7%	8.6%	8.6%	16.8%	12.5%	16.9%	6.3%	14.7%	1.0%
Bradley	5,085	0.0%	5.8%	12.6%	2.3%	6.4%	15.6%	6.3%	17.6%	5.1%	11.4%	16.9%
Calhoun	3,789	0.0%	2.7%	54.1%	4.6%	0.0%	2.1%	3.8%	8.8%	2.5%	0.3%	21.1%
Carroll	14,536	0.3%	5.8%	22.6%	0.0%	7.5%	4.3%	18.1%	8.9%	9.6%	12.7%	10.2%
Chicot	5,106	0.5%	5.5%	6.1%	2.3%	6.7%	1.9%	5.6%	22.2%	16.7%	10.6%	21.9%
Clark	12,978	0.8%	2.7%	15.1%	2.6%	5.3%	3.2%	14.0%	21.4%	5.8%	11.2%	17.8%
Clay	6,351	0.0%	5.2%	11.4%	0.0%	5.7%	10.1%	7.2%	17.0%	15.6%	15.0%	12.8%
Cleburne	12,753	2.4%	9.7%	9.8%	4.5%	9.9%	8.6%	15.8%	8.6%	8.1%	14.2%	8.4%
Cleveland	2,112	0.0%	5.3%	5.4%	5.0%	0.0%	9.1%	7.7%	21.6%	20.4%	0.0%	25.5%
Columbia	12,046	6.4%	4.3%	16.8%	3.0%	6.7%	2.5%	12.3%	17.2%	4.4%	13.1%	13.2%
Conway	11,175	1.6%	9.6%	8.6%	6.6%	5.8%	19.8%	10.8%	14.5%	10.1%	12.6%	0.0%
Craighead	56,995	0.0%	5.4%	10.7%	2.9%	7.8%	27.3%	13.5%	14.6%	1.7%	15.1%	1.0%
Crawford	27,863	1.3%	8.3%	16.7%	14.7%	6.0%	13.3%	11.7%	9.3%	4.2%	12.0%	2.7%
Crittenden	22,523	0.0%	4.1%	7.6%	10.5%	7.0%	21.8%	16.8%	14.3%	2.4%	14.6%	1.0%
Cross	8,098	1.2%	4.6%	8.4%	5.4%	8.5%	3.1%	12.7%	15.1%	9.6%	15.5%	15.9%
Dallas	4,229	0.0%	4.2%	15.8%	3.9%	5.3%	2.6%	5.9%	12.0%	9.6%	10.4%	30.2%
Desha	6,791	1.5%	3.5%	12.3%	4.3%	6.7%	2.0%	11.5%	16.3%	12.0%	10.4%	19.4%
Drew	9,034	0.3%	3.2%	9.4%	1.6%	6.3%	5.6%	11.7%	25.1%	10.1%	14.4%	12.3%
Faulkner	55,117	2.5%	8.0%	6.6%	2.3%	7.4%	28.2%	12.8%	14.6%	2.4%	13.6%	1.6%
Franklin	6,968	0.0%	4.5%	12.9%	5.9%	7.9%	2.5%	5.4%	16.1%	11.8%	10.9%	22.2%
Fulton	4,967	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	9.5%	17.8%	10.7%	15.2%	14.1%	9.7%	19.6%
Garland	51,226	0.7%	7.2%	4.2%	1.6%	9.7%	27.9%	20.7%	10.6%	1.4%	16.0%	0.0%
Grant	6,249	0.0%	8.4%	14.3%	2.6%	6.8%	2.8%	7.2%	16.2%	4.2%	12.7%	24.7%
Greene	18,615	0.6%	4.3%	23.9%	2.4%	6.0%	16.9%	11.3%	12.2%	5.7%	13.7%	2.9%
Hempstead	11,281	0.0%	12.5%	14.6%	3.3%	4.2%	1.4%	11.2%	17.1%	9.0%	11.9%	14.6%
Hot Spring	11,725	1.4%	7.1%	11.6%	4.7%	6.2%	18.4%	12.0%	18.3%	7.1%	10.5%	2.8%
Howard	8,791	0.0%	3.4%	37.6%	4.0%	3.8%	2.5%	4.8%	10.6%	7.7%	9.8%	16.0%
Independence	21,354	1.3%	4.8%	18.0%	4.9%	6.4%	19.2%	12.2%	12.4%	5.4%	12.6%	2.7%
Izard	5,314	0.0%	5.6%	4.1%	3.9%	8.3%	18.3%	3.2%	22.2%	11.9%	10.4%	12.2%
Jackson	7,854	0.0%	3.8%	11.4%	3.1%	6.5%	5.1%	11.4%	21.0%	7.9%	14.6%	15.2%
Jefferson	40,683	0.0%	5.4%	13.2%	3.7%	5.5%	4.0%	10.6%	24.3%	1.5%	12.5%	19.3%
Johnson	11,672	0.9%	3.6%	25.4%	0.0%	5.1%	1.7%	9.7%	11.4%	6.1%	13.0%	23.1%
Lafayette	2,441	4.5%	5.2%	1.9%	0.0%	7.3%	2.5%	11.7%	17.6%	19.0%	7.8%	22.4%
Lawrence	6,990	1.7%	5.8%	6.8%	5.6%	5.3%	3.1%	5.2%	20.7%	11.8%	13.8%	20.2%
Lee	3,847	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%	2.5%	3.6%	23.3%	12.0%	10.1%	40.9%
Lincoln	4,609	0.0%	4.4%	7.9%	0.0%	3.6%	11.0%	5.2%	29.6%	16.7%	6.7%	14.8%
Little River	5,849	0.0%	8.4%	24.0%	4.9%	3.9%	3.6%	0.0%	17.8%	8.8%	9.8%	18.9%
Logan	8,504	2.5%	6.1%	13.5%	2.9%	6.5%	12.8%	10.8%	19.0%	12.1%	11.3%	2.4%
Lonoke	21,569	0.0%	8.9%	6.8%	2.7%	9.0%	18.3%	15.0%	15.3%	5.7%	16.5%	1.9%
Madison	6,572	0.0%	6.6%	17.3%	0.0%	6.3%	13.2%	6.3%	11.4%	19.8%	9.6%	9.6%
Marion	6,381	0.0%	6.3%	20.4%	0.0%	11.5%	11.4%	12.1%	11.6%	7.4%	11.8%	7.6%

Appendix B. Table 3. Percent Employed by Major Industry Sector

County	Total Employment	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and Public Utilities	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Information	Professional Services	Other Services	Government and Government Enterprises	Farm and Farm Services	Trade	Missing
Miller	20,335	0.7%	8.9%	11.9%	8.1%	7.0%	15.6%	15.2%	12.2%	4.0%	9.9%	6.6%
Mississippi	23,466	0.3%	4.2%	22.7%	4.3%	9.8%	6.7%	10.6%	14.8%	5.7%	11.8%	9.1%
Monroe	3,497	0.0%	3.3%	3.3%	7.1%	8.8%	3.7%	6.3%	17.1%	13.5%	17.2%	19.6%
Montgomery	3,856	0.0%	9.4%	3.8%	0.0%	6.3%	2.0%	8.7%	16.4%	12.2%	11.0%	30.3%
Nevada	3,522	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	8.0%	3.6%	15.1%	7.5%	16.3%	13.7%	9.7%	23.4%
Newton	3,013	3.4%	0.0%	2.4%	5.0%	4.3%	2.8%	11.7%	18.2%	19.9%	8.3%	24.1%
Ouachita	9,988	1.8%	4.2%	9.0%	5.7%	5.6%	3.2%	11.5%	23.0%	4.1%	15.2%	16.7%
Perry	3,126	0.0%	9.9%	2.0%	0.0%	2.2%	8.4%	7.1%	16.8%	14.7%	9.4%	29.6%
Phillips	9,239	1.1%	2.5%	4.0%	4.7%	5.6%	23.0%	10.8%	21.3%	9.5%	15.2%	2.2%
Pike	4,095	0.0%	2.9%	7.9%	3.4%	0.9%	0.8%	13.5%	18.7%	12.7%	16.1%	23.2%
Poinsett	8,103	0.0%	5.2%	8.4%	4.6%	7.9%	11.4%	12.0%	18.0%	8.4%	16.7%	7.6%
Polk	9,764	0.0%	6.0%	12.4%	4.6%	6.4%	16.7%	11.7%	14.1%	10.3%	12.5%	5.4%
Pope	33,950	0.5%	6.7%	13.3%	4.7%	5.4%	21.6%	12.4%	13.8%	5.7%	11.2%	4.7%
Prairie	3,073	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	5.3%	6.0%	8.9%	0.0%	14.1%	26.5%	8.0%	29.2%
Pulaski	308,839	0.3%	4.3%	4.4%	4.0%	11.8%	28.6%	12.6%	20.1%	0.3%	13.8%	0.0%
Randolph	7,782	0.0%	5.6%	10.3%	0.0%	5.3%	20.3%	10.2%	17.0%	10.6%	12.7%	8.1%
St. Francis	11,118	0.9%	3.1%	6.4%	3.2%	6.1%	19.8%	12.3%	22.2%	4.4%	18.4%	3.0%
Saline	29,711	0.0%	10.2%	4.3%	1.7%	8.4%	21.6%	17.4%	17.6%	1.2%	17.0%	0.5%
Scott	4,601	0.0%	4.4%	25.8%	0.0%	4.4%	2.1%	5.5%	13.1%	13.4%	10.7%	20.7%
Searcy	3,672	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	0.0%	6.2%	11.8%	5.7%	15.3%	15.8%	11.0%	27.8%
Sebastian	84,491	2.7%	4.6%	17.4%	3.4%	7.5%	26.9%	11.9%	10.2%	1.2%	14.2%	0.0%
Sevier	7,759	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	4.0%	1.1%	9.8%	16.8%	8.3%	11.0%	45.6%
Sharp	5,697	0.0%	3.3%	4.7%	5.2%	7.0%	3.1%	6.4%	17.5%	12.8%	16.0%	24.0%
Stone	5,373	0.0%	8.3%	6.7%	2.3%	7.5%	2.2%	5.8%	13.6%	10.4%	16.0%	27.2%
Union	23,708	5.0%	6.4%	11.9%	4.3%	7.8%	22.0%	12.5%	12.6%	2.8%	14.6%	0.0%
Van Buren	5,906	0.0%	8.3%	1.4%	7.6%	8.9%	18.9%	15.0%	14.5%	9.4%	14.0%	1.9%
Washington	118,617	0.2%	5.3%	11.4%	6.0%	8.2%	23.4%	13.5%	15.5%	2.7%	13.8%	0.0%
White	36,742	4.5%	7.3%	6.8%	7.4%	6.5%	7.5%	13.4%	11.6%	6.7%	12.9%	15.5%
Woodruff	3,149	0.8%	3.5%	11.1%	0.0%	4.5%	11.8%	4.6%	19.6%	18.2%	13.4%	12.6%
Yell	9,269	0.0%	5.8%	24.4%	2.3%	5.0%	14.3%	4.2%	16.2%	11.1%	7.2%	9.4%
Rural:												
Coastal Plains	99,641	2.5%	6.2%	15.1%	3.8%	5.7%	10.0%	10.3%	16.7%	6.8%	11.9%	11.0%
Delta	136,059	0.7%	3.9%	14.1%	3.6%	6.9%	10.6%	9.8%	17.0%	9.4%	13.6%	10.5%
Highlands	347,376	1.0%	5.9%	12.6%	3.9%	6.6%	11.9%	11.2%	14.2%	8.4%	12.2%	12.0%
Total Rural	583,076	1.2%	5.5%	13.4%	3.8%	6.5%	11.3%	10.7%	15.3%	8.3%	12.5%	11.5%
Urban:												
Pulaski County	308,839	0.3%	4.3%	4.4%	4.0%	11.8%	28.6%	12.6%	20.1%	0.3%	13.8%	0.0%
Other Urban	653,681	0.7%	6.2%	10.6%	5.1%	7.9%	21.2%	13.8%	13.1%	2.2%	14.0%	5.2%
Total Urban	962,520	0.6%	5.6%	8.6%	4.7%	9.1%	23.6%	13.4%	15.3%	1.6%	13.9%	3.5%
State	1,545,596	0.8%	5.5%	10.4%	4.4%	8.2%	19.0%	12.4%	15.3%	4.1%	13.4%	6.5%

Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

Appendix B: Table 4. Wage and Salary Earnings and Household Income

County	% Employment Change (2000-2010)	Average Earnings (2010)		Median Household Income	
		2010 ($)	% Change 2000 to 2010	2006-2010 ($)	% Change 2000 to 2006-2010
Arkansas	1.0%	33,429	6.8%	36,341	-9.0%
Ashley	-14.7%	37,965	0.4%	33,007	-20.9%
Baxter	3.1%	30,973	7.4%	34,534	-9.7%
Benton	33.5%	46,968	17.4%	50,377	-4.7%
Boone	-1.6%	32,807	8.5%	36,839	-6.9%
Bradley	-4.8%	28,376	0.2%	26,207	-19.6%
Calhoun	0.2%	43,792	17.3%	32,148	-14.1%
Carroll	0.5%	26,511	7.2%	32,978	-8.8%
Chicot	-16.7%	27,872	11.6%	20,543	-28.2%
Clark	-3.9%	29,436	11.3%	31,409	-15.6%
Clay	-28.7%	27,816	16.0%	29,282	-13.8%
Cleburne	6.7%	29,590	12.1%	36,405	-10.0%
Cleveland	4.2%	23,951	-0.3%	35,063	-18.1%
Columbia	-10.4%	32,679	5.2%	35,258	-4.1%
Conway	7.2%	32,193	2.9%	33,554	-16.8%
Craighead	10.1%	33,467	5.4%	39,431	-9.8%
Crawford	17.3%	31,093	-1.2%	38,942	-10.0%
Crittenden	2.9%	32,217	7.4%	32,323	-15.4%
Cross	-6.4%	30,981	9.1%	36,036	-4.0%
Dallas	-14.3%	28,865	2.1%	28,233	-18.0%
Desha	-10.2%	30,821	1.6%	27,072	-16.0%
Drew	-6.7%	28,218	3.5%	32,061	-14.1%
Faulkner	21.5%	36,538	7.2%	44,600	-10.5%
Franklin	-5.0%	33,276	18.2%	30,991	-21.2%
Fulton	1.2%	25,216	11.3%	30,771	-7.1%
Garland	7.5%	30,685	2.7%	36,454	-10.9%
Grant	-1.2%	29,683	2.5%	51,238	4.9%
Greene	-4.7%	32,099	8.6%	38,012	-5.7%
Hempstead	-10.3%	33,997	21.4%	35,518	-1.9%
Hot Spring	3.9%	31,509	4.7%	36,095	-11.1%
Howard	-19.0%	29,509	7.6%	33,180	-10.9%
Independence	-1.8%	31,618	5.0%	34,798	-16.4%
Izard	-4.8%	26,851	3.5%	32,269	-2.8%
Jackson	-11.5%	31,307	9.7%	28,680	-13.4%
Jefferson	-5.3%	37,155	9.1%	35,265	-11.2%
Johnson	2.3%	28,940	10.1%	30,953	-14.9%
Lafayette	-16.5%	28,035	2.3%	26,491	-17.7%
Lawrence	-16.3%	27,504	8.3%	29,119	-18.0%
Lee	-5.3%	29,551	9.7%	26,283	-4.1%
Lincoln	-1.9%	29,021	4.6%	34,876	-5.4%
Little River	-11.1%	44,324	3.2%	32,884	-14.1%
Logan	-9.0%	29,462	8.7%	35,716	-3.0%
Lonoke	22.5%	29,926	10.3%	50,295	-2.5%
Madison	7.5%	27,698	5.6%	36,667	-0.5%
Marion	-5.0%	26,732	8.9%	31,772	-7.8%

Appendix B: Table 4. Wage and Salary Earnings and Household Income

County	% Employment Change (2000-2010)	Average Earnings (2010)		Median Household Income	
		2010 ($)	% Change 2000 to 2010	2006-2010 ($)	% Change 2000 to 2006-2010
Miller	0.8%	34,411	6.5%	39,090	-1.7%
Mississippi	-13.4%	37,299	12.6%	32,940	-8.3%
Monroe	-20.1%	26,383	11.0%	29,607	-1.4%
Montgomery	3.2%	24,703	4.3%	36,095	0.2%
Nevada	-0.3%	29,680	0.2%	32,969	-6.6%
Newton	1.3%	23,539	13.6%	28,166	-12.9%
Ouachita	-7.0%	29,992	-0.4%	30,167	-18.8%
Perry	12.3%	29,536	17.9%	44,921	12.3%
Phillips	-10.6%	29,186	5.7%	26,336	-8.7%
Pike	-13.2%	26,990	12.3%	33,024	-8.8%
Poinsett	-18.5%	29,492	10.5%	31,894	-8.5%
Polk	-9.8%	26,396	6.5%	33,274	-0.1%
Pope	5.6%	33,497	0.8%	38,511	-9.2%
Prairie	-11.8%	27,841	6.7%	32,176	-16.9%
Pulaski	3.6%	43,328	8.9%	44,370	-8.6%
Randolph	-10.3%	25,648	1.7%	28,427	-20.7%
St. Francis	-8.5%	31,572	9.5%	27,016	-18.8%
Saline	22.5%	31,211	0.8%	51,082	-7.3%
Scott	-15.3%	26,920	14.2%	33,969	-1.4%
Searcy	-1.3%	23,136	10.7%	27,071	-3.6%
Sebastian	-5.9%	36,954	7.3%	39,131	-11.7%
Sevier	3.6%	26,609	-0.2%	34,090	-10.5%
Sharp	-17.0%	24,893	11.6%	29,589	-7.1%
Stone	-2.2%	24,387	8.1%	27,167	-9.5%
Union	-13.6%	41,388	21.6%	35,732	-10.3%
Van Buren	-0.8%	30,059	19.0%	30,531	-11.0%
Washington	16.0%	39,251	17.8%	43,317	-3.9%
White	9.2%	33,684	12.7%	38,417	-7.7%
Woodruff	-18.7%	28,538	0.2%	27,880	-5.3%
Yell	-7.5%	27,511	8.6%	36,398	-1.2%
	3.5%				
Rural:					
Coastal Plains	-10.0%	33,533	6.5%	32,292	-13.4%
Delta	-10.9%	30,201	8.3%	30,311	-10.4%
Highlands	-1.0%	28,408	8.2%	33,740	-8.4%
Total Rural	-5.1%	29,863	7.9%	32,575	-9.9%
Urban:					
Pulaski County	3.6%	43,328	8.9%	44,370	-8.6%
Other Urban	12.6%	34,990	7.8%	41,692	-8.1%
Total Urban	9.5%	35,631	7.9%	41,898	-8.1%
State	3.5%	35,953	7.9%	40,134	-9.5%

Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and 2006-2010 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau.

Appendix B. Table 5. Poverty, Social and Economic Distress

County Name	Percent Persons Below Poverty, 2010		Number of housing units per one foreclosure, November 2012	Food Stamp Recipients, 2010, Percent of Population Category				% of Population Eligible for Medicaid, 2010	% of Population Under 19 Eligible for ARKids First, 2010	% of Low Income Population > 1 Mile to Store, 2006	% of Low Income Population > 10 Miles to Store, 2006
	All persons	Persons under 18 (children)		% under 19	% 20-65	% Over 65	%Total				
Arkansas	18.6	28.3	3,145	43.8%	21.3%	7.1%	24.7%	32.0%	62.6%	18.0%	4.6%
Ashley	19.4	31.8	3,379	48.2%	25.8%	7.8%	28.9%	35.0%	65.0%	26.2%	7.5%
Baxter	15.7	27.2	4,516	34.1%	16.5%	2.4%	16.1%	22.9%	56.8%	28.0%	0.8%
Benton	10.2	13.9	980	18.0%	8.3%	2.0%	10.4%	18.3%	41.1%	17.4%	0.2%
Boone	16.0	26.3	8,414	31.9%	15.8%	3.9%	17.8%	25.8%	51.6%	27.5%	4.8%
Bradley	28.5	43.4	1,953	49.6%	27.3%	10.0%	30.0%	33.8%	68.0%	26.9%	3.7%
Calhoun	15.6	22.6	2,897	29.4%	14.0%	4.7%	16.1%	26.1%	52.8%	40.9%	27.2%
Carroll	16.4	26.5	4,520	30.9%	13.4%	3.7%	15.9%	24.4%	62.8%	30.7%	1.9%
Chicot	30.7	44.1	NA	64.2%	33.6%	15.5%	38.1%	44.0%	76.5%	25.8%	0.3%
Clark	22.2	28.4	3,462	32.9%	17.2%	5.0%	19.6%	26.3%	46.7%	24.8%	2.9%
Clay	18.3	28.6	NA	35.3%	16.6%	3.2%	18.6%	31.3%	62.3%	27.0%	2.2%
Cleburne	18.6	29.1	3,165	29.3%	14.2%	3.2%	15.0%	25.5%	59.5%	30.6%	3.0%
Cleveland	15.5	22.7	4,064	40.0%	19.9%	6.8%	23.2%	26.8%	49.6%	36.5%	26.4%
Columbia	25.6	35.5	2,319	45.8%	26.0%	7.6%	28.5%	33.9%	51.9%	27.2%	2.9%
Conway	18.2	26.4	9,720	40.5%	21.7%	6.2%	24.1%	32.0%	56.8%	28.7%	7.4%
Craighead	21.1	27.3	2,701	32.7%	14.5%	2.3%	18.3%	28.8%	49.9%	19.4%	0.5%
Crawford	15.8	24.2	1,536	32.1%	15.8%	4.3%	19.0%	28.2%	53.1%	29.2%	1.9%
Crittenden	30.3	45.9	1,791	55.3%	26.8%	5.5%	33.6%	38.8%	61.2%	19.5%	2.0%
Cross	19.6	29.5	1,963	39.4%	19.4%	4.3%	22.6%	32.1%	58.5%	29.2%	4.2%
Dallas	19.4	33.5	NA	43.7%	24.4%	6.2%	26.1%	35.2%	57.5%	30.6%	6.6%
Desha	28.0	41.7	NA	55.2%	30.2%	11.7%	34.6%	39.3%	66.2%	24.3%	5.3%
Drew	20.9	30.0	1,682	42.1%	25.7%	7.5%	27.6%	30.3%	52.7%	28.5%	4.4%
Faulkner	14.8	17.4	3,107	21.9%	10.2%	3.2%	12.8%	20.2%	38.7%	20.9%	0.6%
Franklin	17.2	26.6	4,011	35.1%	19.3%	5.8%	21.4%	28.9%	54.4%	30.4%	1.7%
Fulton	18.9	31.2	NA	40.0%	20.9%	4.6%	21.7%	33.8%	57.7%	39.8%	5.6%
Garland	21.7	38.0	2,660	36.6%	17.5%	2.8%	18.9%	25.9%	62.7%	23.2%	0.5%
Grant	11.9	18.5	7,758	24.9%	12.7%	3.8%	14.6%	22.0%	46.1%	24.2%	4.7%
Greene	17.0	25.7	2,237	37.2%	19.4%	4.0%	22.2%	30.5%	55.9%	26.3%	2.7%
Hempstead	21.8	33.2	10,419	41.9%	21.2%	7.0%	25.0%	34.9%	66.5%	24.5%	5.5%
Hot Spring	15.3	26.4	7,166	33.0%	16.7%	3.9%	18.9%	27.3%	55.9%	25.6%	6.6%
Howard	21.0	30.5	6,238	32.5%	16.9%	6.3%	19.8%	32.2%	61.3%	24.8%	3.1%
Independence	18.2	27.2	NA	32.0%	15.6%	3.7%	18.1%	30.7%	55.1%	31.0%	4.5%
Izard	18.6	32.2	7,232	38.7%	17.9%	3.2%	18.9%	28.0%	58.4%	37.7%	2.6%
Jackson	25.8	35.9	7,601	49.6%	20.3%	5.7%	24.7%	34.0%	63.0%	32.0%	1.4%
Jefferson	22.7	34.1	2,358	51.2%	26.0%	7.4%	30.4%	32.7%	55.9%	15.3%	0.5%
Johnson	21.9	31.3	NA	34.4%	18.0%	5.0%	20.7%	32.2%	62.1%	34.5%	3.3%
Lafayette	23.2	35.8	4,353	50.1%	27.5%	11.6%	30.3%	35.7%	59.2%	35.5%	10.4%
Lawrence	22.4	35.2	8,000	40.1%	20.3%	5.6%	22.8%	34.7%	57.6%	29.6%	14.8%
Lee	37.5	46.1	NA	65.8%	30.6%	17.4%	36.8%	39.5%	60.1%	41.1%	7.6%
Lincoln	28.5	32.7	4,860	45.7%	16.7%	10.4%	22.3%	25.9%	54.6%	43.1%	6.4%
Little River	17.8	26.0	6,460	36.5%	18.1%	7.1%	21.1%	29.1%	52.4%	28.6%	0.2%
Logan	17.1	28.2	4,011	41.0%	22.4%	6.4%	24.7%	32.7%	60.4%	30.5%	2.8%
Lonoke	12.4	17.5	2,476	22.0%	10.8%	3.9%	13.4%	22.2%	41.3%	22.1%	0.7%
Madison	19.3	29.7	2,494	34.2%	16.7%	5.5%	19.6%	26.6%	58.0%	39.6%	13.1%
Marion	19.5	36.4	4,677	44.8%	20.0%	4.2%	21.2%	25.6%	63.3%	32.3%	3.7%

Appendix B. Table 5. Poverty, Social and Economic Distress

County Name	Percent Persons Below Poverty, 2010		Number of housing units per one foreclosure, November 2012	Food Stamp Recipients, 2010, Percent of Population Category				% of Population Eligible for Medicaid, 2010	% of Population Under 19 Eligible for ARKids First, 2010	% of Low Income Population > 1 Mile to Store, 2006	% of Low Income Population > 10 Miles to Store, 2006
	All persons	Persons under 18 (children)		% under 19	% 20-65	% Over 65	%Total				
Miller	20.1	30.9	19,281	41.0%	19.0%	5.8%	23.1%	30.2%	54.7%	21.3%	5.2%
Mississippi	25.0	36.2	3,410	52.8%	24.2%	6.5%	30.9%	39.1%	58.4%	22.1%	1.6%
Monroe	26.6	36.9	NA	55.0%	30.1%	14.3%	33.4%	39.7%	68.6%	33.4%	5.8%
Montgomery	22.2	35.2	NA	36.6%	17.8%	4.4%	19.2%	29.3%	65.6%	38.4%	8.9%
Nevada	25.2	38.4	4,563	45.3%	20.1%	8.4%	24.7%	33.5%	62.2%	34.1%	10.1%
Newton	23.3	37.1	NA	38.9%	22.1%	9.6%	23.4%	30.1%	61.3%	46.8%	19.9%
Ouachita	20.3	31.2	3,280	47.3%	24.2%	6.5%	27.2%	33.4%	59.2%	28.8%	9.7%
Perry	16.8	26.6	4,907	32.8%	17.8%	4.2%	19.4%	25.3%	51.7%	34.5%	5.7%
Phillips	36.0	51.8	NA	74.3%	42.1%	15.9%	48.2%	52.7%	68.8%	42.2%	14.4%
Pike	21.2	32.3	2,790	32.1%	16.2%	4.5%	18.5%	29.5%	58.7%	36.5%	9.8%
Poinsett	27.1	39.0	NA	53.7%	26.6%	7.3%	30.9%	37.2%	64.8%	32.4%	3.3%
Polk	22.8	36.0	2,501	38.7%	21.3%	5.1%	22.7%	31.5%	65.5%	38.0%	17.3%
Pope	17.7	24.8	1,965	27.0%	14.1%	3.8%	16.4%	26.9%	50.3%	23.9%	1.3%
Prairie	18.3	29.2	4,503	33.6%	17.2%	5.9%	18.9%	29.2%	55.4%	32.3%	2.0%
Pulaski	17.1	25.3	1,416	33.3%	15.5%	3.1%	20.2%	27.0%	51.6%	13.7%	0.0%
Randolph	19.2	31.4	NA	37.2%	20.6%	6.0%	22.1%	31.7%	61.2%	33.9%	12.1%
St. Francis	32.7	47.0	5,452	63.1%	27.0%	11.1%	34.5%	40.2%	58.2%	36.0%	2.2%
Saline	9.6	14.5	1,867	20.6%	9.6%	1.8%	11.4%	17.6%	38.0%	17.9%	0.2%
Scott	22.5	36.2	5,193	46.4%	24.2%	6.9%	27.5%	33.6%	62.8%	33.8%	7.7%
Searcy	23.7	42.0	NA	38.9%	20.1%	7.4%	21.6%	33.8%	70.5%	48.4%	19.2%
Sebastian	20.5	30.9	4,968	32.8%	15.7%	4.0%	19.0%	26.9%	53.2%	11.7%	0.1%
Sevier	23.5	31.8	NA	36.6%	20.3%	6.0%	23.8%	33.1%	66.7%	27.7%	4.9%
Sharp	25.1	39.3	1,964	40.2%	20.9%	3.9%	21.4%	30.3%	61.6%	40.1%	2.9%
Stone	22.4	37.5	NA	36.6%	18.9%	6.1%	20.0%	30.7%	66.7%	39.6%	11.0%
Union	21.6	33.0	4,913	47.0%	23.4%	5.3%	26.8%	31.5%	61.5%	27.7%	2.5%
Van Buren	20.9	33.2	5,173	38.9%	20.6%	4.6%	21.1%	27.4%	60.3%	39.7%	7.4%
Washington	19.6	24.7	2,311	24.0%	10.5%	3.0%	13.8%	21.3%	47.4%	14.5%	0.4%
White	16.7	22.3	5,415	28.8%	14.6%	4.4%	17.1%	24.2%	47.0%	27.5%	2.1%
Woodruff	25.9	43.4	NA	49.5%	29.5%	15.2%	32.0%	36.3%	62.4%	37.5%	3.8%
Yell	20.3	30.2	4,876	31.6%	15.7%	5.4%	18.7%	30.3%	62.5%	30.2%	5.2%
Rural:											
Coastal Plains	21.6	32.5	4,190	44.8%	23.5%	7.2%	26.6%	32.0%	59.3%	28.6%	6.6%
Delta	25.1	36.6	4,146	51.2%	24.6%	8.5%	29.4%	36.4%	61.2%	29.9%	4.0%
Highlands	18.7	28.8	5,007	33.8%	17.3%	4.5%	19.3%	29.3%	56.5%	30.9%	5.4%
Total Rural	20.7	31.4	4,628	40.0%	20.2%	5.8%	23.0%	31.6%	58.1%	30.2%	5.2%
Urban:											
Pulaski County	17.1	25.3	1,416	33.3%	15.5%	3.1%	20.2%	27.0%	51.6%	13.7%	0.0%
Other Urban	17.0	24.1	3,836	28.6%	13.5%	3.3%	16.5%	25.9%	47.7%	18.2%	0.7%
Total Urban	17.1	24.3	3,650	22.3%	10.3%	2.6%	12.7%	25.9%	37.3%	17.1%	0.5%
State	18.7	27.3	4,405	34.0%	16.6%	4.6%	19.8%	30.7%	52.6%	23.3%	2.7%

Source: Small Area Income and Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau; 2010 Annual Statistical Report, Arkansas Department of Human Services; Food Environment Atlas, Economic Research Service, USDA.

Appendix B. Table 6. Infant Mortality Rates, Primary Care Physicians, Health Coverage and Obesity

County	Infant Mortality, 2006-2010 Deaths Per 1,000 Live Births*	Primary Care Physicians Per 100,000 Population	% of Adult Population Without Health Insurance Coverage*	% of Adult Population With No Personal Doctor*	% of Adult Population Overweight or Obese (BMI >=25)*	Children and Adolescents Who Are**				
						Under-weight	Healthy Weight	Over-weight	Obese	Overweight or Obese
Arkansas	3.2	84.1	21.6	12.2	71.2	2.4	56.0	16.6	25.0	41.6
Ashley	9.5	59.5	16.5	16.0	71.9	2.2	56.9	17.9	23.1	40.9
Baxter	6.7	125.3	21.3	13.4	66.3	2.1	60.7	18.1	19.2	37.2
Benton	6.5	81.3	18.1	24.3	62.4	2.6	64.2	16.1	17.0	33.2
Boone	6.0	94.8	37.3	13.9	59.7	2.1	63.0	16.4	18.6	35.0
Bradley	11.9	78.2	22.3	19.3	72.4	1.4	53.7	17.6	27.2	44.9
Calhoun	7.8	55.9	24.3	15.7	75.2	NA	54.7	18.2	27.1	45.3
Carroll	7.3	58.3	23.4	20.6	61.4	2.8	57.2	18.3	21.6	39.9
Chicot	7.5	67.8	14.5	14.4	66.4	1.9	55.8	16.5	25.8	42.3
Clark	5.8	73.9	18.7	9.0	69.2	1.4	55.3	17.1	26.3	43.4
Clay	7.6	43.5	9.3	10.3	66.2	1.3	53.3	17.1	28.3	45.4
Cleburne	4.4	65.5	21.3	10.0	75.0	1.8	62.5	17.6	18.2	35.8
Cleveland	9.8	-	19.3	15.5	77.4	2.6	52.0	18.3	27.1	45.4
Columbia	5.6	73.3	21.8	18.0	75.5	1.8	56.5	19.6	22.2	41.8
Conway	8.4	70.5	17.9	14.4	62.5	3.2	57.8	16.0	23.0	39.0
Craighead	8.1	176.3	20.0	13.3	67.8	2.0	58.7	17.4	21.9	39.2
Crawford	5.8	54.9	17.1	28.7	64.0	2.7	64.1	16.0	17.2	33.2
Crittenden	13.5	60.9	25.3	18.3	73.8	1.7	58.4	17.2	22.8	40.0
Cross	6.9	50.4	27.4	19.1	81.0	NA	56.8	14.8	28.4	43.2
Dallas	15.6	49.3	17.2	8.1	75.2	2.0	52.8	22.6	22.6	45.2
Desha	9.7	46.1	22.3	7.9	60.7	2.4	54.6	18.6	24.4	43.0
Drew	10.6	54.0	18.5	15.1	67.6	1.9	56.9	18.2	23.0	41.2
Faulkner	6.9	79.5	14.8	13.9	69.8	2.4	62.5	16.6	18.5	35.1
Franklin	4.4	33.1	17.0	27.2	63.0	3.1	58.7	16.7	21.6	38.3
Fulton	5.1	81.7	18.3	17.8	69.3	NA	61.1	16.9	22.0	38.9
Garland	7.9	128.1	25.5	10.7	64.8	2.4	61.6	16.9	19.1	36.0
Grant	8.7	33.6	14.8	13.1	71.8	2.1	60.5	17.2	20.1	37.3
Greene	9.0	73.7	16.7	12.8	66.9	2.2	58.2	17.3	22.4	39.6
Hempstead	4.0	31.0	35.2	26.9	63.7	1.3	54.7	16.5	27.4	43.9
Hot Spring	5.7	36.4	19.9	6.4	69.9	1.4	58.5	16.3	23.8	40.1
Howard	7.8	50.8	26.5	40.6	78.1	1.9	58.3	17.4	22.4	39.8
Independence	8.6	131.0	27.3	12.8	74.5	1.6	58.7	16.6	23.1	39.7
Izard	4.8	14.6	19.7	13.3	68.3	1.8	55.5	17.5	25.2	42.7
Jackson	9.0	83.3	24.6	15.1	75.5	1.9	55.8	16.4	25.9	42.3
Jefferson	7.2	111.1	15.0	14.6	68.9	1.5	57.7	17.7	23.1	40.8
Johnson	6.7	70.5	22.0	20.0	60.2	1.9	55.8	17.8	24.5	42.3
Lafayette	4.6	26.2	35.8	21.1	61.6	2.5	57.4	18.6	21.5	40.1
Lawrence	8.1	63.2	22.6	15.3	70.3	1.8	57.1	18.6	22.6	41.1
Lee	1.7	57.6	23.1	22.3	70.9	NA	50.8	18.7	30.5	49.2
Lincoln	6.0	21.2	18.4	11.4	69.8	2.1	52.8	18.3	26.8	45.2
Little River	2.5	75.9	42.2	18.3	65.7	4.9	53.0	17.5	24.6	42.1
Logan	5.8	53.7	22.3	25.8	53.1	1.6	61.4	16.7	20.3	37.1
Lonoke	6.3	27.8	15.8	14.0	69.3	2.3	61.8	16.8	19.1	35.9
Madison	7.1	38.2	18.8	24.4	65.5	3.6	64.9	16.0	15.5	31.5
Marion	10.8	24.0	28.7	11.2	62.2	1.7	58.2	19.2	21.0	40.1

Appendix B. Table 6. Infant Mortality Rates, Primary Care Physicians, Health Coverage and Obesity

County	Infant Mortality, 2006-2010 Deaths Per 1,000 Live Births*	Primary Care Physicians Per 100,000 Population 2009	% of Adult Population without Health Insurance Coverage*	% of Adult Population with No Personal Doctor*	% of Adult Population Overweight or Obese (BMI >=25)*	Children and Adolescents Who Are**				
						Under-weight	Healthy Weight	Over-weight	Obese	Overweight or Obese
Miller	8.5	48.3	42.2	18.0	54.0	1.8	58.1	18.0	22.1	40.1
Mississippi	8.5	40.9	20.2	14.7	67.4	2.5	54.8	17.6	25.1	42.7
Monroe	3.6	36.8	24.4	28.5	73.6	1.9	53.8	15.5	28.9	44.3
Montgomery	8.1	63.2	25.9	16.7	64.2	1.5	58.7	16.4	23.3	39.7
Nevada	8.2	33.3	24.6	17.3	70.7	1.9	56.3	21.2	20.6	41.8
Newton	14.7	24.0	30.3	19.8	58.1	1.5	59.3	19.0	20.2	39.2
Ouachita	11.3	76.6	20.7	12.0	72.6	1.4	55.7	18.7	24.2	42.9
Perry	16.1	19.1	17.8	14.0	67.7	1.9	63.4	16.7	18.0	34.7
Phillips	9.2	64.3	25.3	19.4	65.9	1.2	51.9	18.9	28.0	46.9
Pike	3.3	44.3	23.7	30.6	66.9	2.8	59.9	17.9	19.4	37.3
Poinsett	9.6	12.2	22.6	15.5	71.6	2.1	50.9	18.1	28.9	47.0
Polk	5.6	67.8	31.2	35.1	82.3	2.6	60.4	18.0	19.0	37.0
Pope	6.5	82.6	24.2	18.1	52.9	1.6	57.7	17.6	23.1	40.7
Prairie	14.5	22.9	27.3	16.8	75.9	1.1	56.2	18.5	24.2	42.7
Pulaski	8.4	257.1	14.0	14.2	68.8	1.9	60.6	17.2	20.3	37.5
Randolph	7.5	66.8	21.2	17.8	71.7	1.9	56.7	17.2	24.2	41.4
St. Francis	10.7	42.5	25.2	24.7	78.6	1.6	56.4	18.6	23.5	42.1
Saline	7.9	60.7	17.8	11.6	69.6	2.5	62.3	17.0	18.3	35.3
Scott	5.6	17.8	25.5	31.2	61.1	1.7	62.2	17.4	18.7	36.1
Searcy	4.8	85.4	28.7	15.1	56.8	1.5	55.8	16.2	26.5	42.7
Sebastian	6.1	172.6	17.6	32.2	57.3	2.8	61.2	17.1	19.0	36.0
Sevier	9.0	52.8	37.5	34.8	86.6	1.8	54.4	19.0	24.8	43.8
Sharp	4.3	46.3	24.3	18.6	72.9	0.8	56.0	20.0	23.2	43.2
Stone	11.2	80.7	24.5	8.6	67.9	1.9	62.2	15.9	20.1	35.9
Union	8.8	124.9	18.2	15.9	73.5	1.4	57.8	16.9	23.9	40.8
Van Buren	4.9	46.3	21.3	11.1	62.9	3.9	58.5	17.0	20.7	37.6
Washington	6.9	131.5	17.7	26.1	64.2	2.3	62.2	17.2	18.4	35.5
White	8.4	79.1	21.0	11.3	76.7	2.3	58.2	18.5	21.0	39.6
Woodruff	4.4	68.9	26.8	21.5	81.2	1.1	54.5	21.6	22.9	44.5
Yell	7.5	67.6	28.7	16.9	55.0	1.2	56.9	17.3	24.6	41.9
Rural:										
Coastal Plains	8.1	69.8	23.4	17.4	71.0	2.1	55.5	18.3	24.3	42.6
Delta	8.2	51.7	21.2	16.0	70.7	1.8	54.5	17.7	26.2	43.9
Highlands	7.2	68.0	23.6	16.8	66.9	2.0	58.8	17.6	21.7	39.3
Total Rural	7.6	64.3	23.0	16.7	68.5	2.0	57.0	17.7	23.4	41.1
Urban:										
Pulaski County	14.5	257.1	14.0	14.2	68.8	1.9	60.6	17.2	20.3	37.5
Other Urban	7.3	103.0	19.2	20.0	65.1	2.2	61.1	17.0	19.7	36.7
Total Urban	7.6	138.8	18.0	18.6	65.9	2.2	61.0	17.0	19.7	36.8
State	7.6	106.4	20.2	17.8	67.1	2.0	57.7	17.6	22.7	40.3

* Provisional data, subject to change by the Arkansas Department of Health
** Estimate data

Source: Arkansas Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Arkansas Department of Health, Health Professions Manpower Assessment, 2007; http://www.achi.net/ChildObDocs/120224%20State%20Report%20v2%20kl.pdf, Assessment of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity in Arkansas, Year Eight (Fall 2010-Spring 2011)

Appendix B. Table 7. Educational Attainment and Enrollment in Public Schools

County Name	% Persons Age 25+ With		Enrollment on Free or Reduced Lunch, 2011-12			Enrolled in Public School, 2011-12								
	H.S. Degree 2010	College Degree 2010	% Public School Total	% Kindergarten and First Grade	% Pre-K	Total Students Enrolled	% Total Enrollment Change, 2009-2010 to 2011-2012	% 2 or More Race Students	% Asian Students	% Black Students	% Hispanic Students	% Native American / Native Alaskan Students	% Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander Students	% White Students
Arkansas	79.4%	14.3%	63.3%	70.4%	79.2%	3,055	-6.7%	1.2%	0.6%	31.9%	3.4%	0.1%	0.1%	62.7%
Ashley	81.1%	13.7%	69.3%	74.3%	87.1%	3,719	-3.9%	0.7%	0.2%	29.8%	7.9%	0.1%	0.0%	61.3%
Baxter	83.7%	14.5%	58.4%	61.5%	79.6%	5,084	-1.2%	2.3%	0.5%	0.3%	3.0%	0.2%	0.2%	93.5%
Benton	84.2%	25.9%	47.6%	51.4%	84.4%	39,490	7.1%	2.5%	3.5%	1.8%	23.3%	2.2%	0.4%	66.2%
Boone	83.8%	14.5%	56.4%	64.7%	74.5%	6,143	-1.0%	1.2%	0.7%	0.4%	2.0%	0.8%	0.1%	94.9%
Bradley	69.4%	12.7%	75.7%	77.9%	65.0%	2,013	2.1%	0.9%	0.0%	29.1%	22.7%	0.3%	0.0%	47.1%
Calhoun	77.8%	6.6%	72.8%	70.1%	50.0%	529	-14.6%	0.0%	0.0%	27.8%	5.3%	0.4%	0.0%	66.5%
Carroll	79.0%	17.4%	67.3%	78.1%	83.8%	3,847	2.3%	0.4%	1.1%	0.4%	27.3%	0.3%	0.8%	69.7%
Chicot	69.3%	12.6%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	1,494	-9.3%	0.8%	0.1%	77.6%	9.2%	0.0%	0.1%	12.2%
Clark	83.1%	21.7%	60.8%	64.5%	71.9%	2,742	1.2%	1.2%	0.9%	32.2%	9.6%	0.3%	0.1%	55.7%
Clay	73.1%	8.8%	62.9%	70.6%	55.0%	2,469	-7.7%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	2.0%	0.1%	0.0%	97.0%
Cleburne	79.1%	13.8%	56.6%	66.0%	58.5%	3,355	2.1%	0.9%	0.2%	0.4%	3.1%	0.4%	0.1%	94.8%
Cleveland	85.9%	14.0%	48.8%	57.1%	0.0%	1,384	-4.8%	1.5%	0.0%	16.4%	2.0%	0.2%	0.0%	79.8%
Columbia	83.7%	20.8%	63.5%	68.9%	93.3%	3,350	-4.6%	0.5%	0.6%	45.6%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%	49.9%
Conway	82.7%	13.8%	61.6%	70.6%	68.9%	3,121	-3.0%	3.0%	0.6%	13.6%	5.5%	0.7%	0.1%	76.4%
Craighead	83.3%	23.1%	55.8%	60.8%	54.4%	16,948	5.8%	1.8%	1.0%	20.9%	3.2%	0.2%	0.1%	72.6%
Crawford	77.4%	13.0%	62.2%	68.1%	94.0%	11,232	-0.6%	4.6%	1.6%	1.8%	9.9%	1.7%	0.1%	80.2%
Crittenden	76.3%	14.2%	69.7%	72.4%	94.6%	10,370	-5.5%	0.7%	0.6%	65.8%	2.1%	0.1%	0.0%	30.8%
Cross	76.1%	12.6%	61.8%	66.7%	85.8%	3,446	-0.1%	0.7%	0.7%	26.3%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	70.5%
Dallas	80.3%	12.4%	69.9%	83.6%	0.0%	863	-14.4%	0.0%	0.5%	56.5%	2.7%	0.1%	0.0%	40.2%
Desha	72.5%	13.6%	79.8%	83.6%	76.3%	2,609	-2.8%	0.8%	0.3%	56.7%	5.9%	0.1%	0.0%	36.3%
Drew	80.6%	19.4%	62.4%	67.1%	79.0%	3,047	-0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	30.7%	3.9%	0.1%	0.1%	64.4%
Faulkner	87.4%	26.4%	45.6%	53.9%	77.0%	18,157	5.7%	0.9%	1.0%	15.2%	5.3%	0.5%	0.1%	76.9%
Franklin	82.6%	11.6%	55.4%	64.6%	85.0%	3,225	-0.2%	0.9%	1.9%	0.7%	2.9%	1.0%	0.2%	92.4%
Fulton	79.4%	9.7%	64.2%	71.9%	70.3%	1,627	4.4%	2.5%	0.1%	0.4%	2.2%	0.4%	0.0%	94.4%
Garland	85.0%	20.2%	61.6%	67.8%	67.9%	14,565	3.3%	4.5%	0.9%	12.7%	9.6%	0.6%	0.3%	71.5%
Grant	84.8%	14.7%	51.0%	55.2%	81.8%	4,746	1.8%	0.1%	1.3%	2.4%	3.1%	0.4%	0.1%	92.6%
Greene	80.9%	12.0%	58.9%	68.0%	51.0%	7,100	2.4%	1.3%	0.2%	1.1%	3.7%	0.1%	0.1%	93.6%
Hempstead	80.7%	14.7%	77.7%	84.4%	94.2%	3,560	-2.4%	1.2%	0.5%	36.0%	21.8%	0.4%	0.1%	40.0%
Hot Spring	81.3%	12.5%	60.9%	68.8%	56.1%	5,263	-0.2%	1.7%	0.3%	13.0%	4.5%	0.7%	0.1%	79.7%
Howard	78.1%	12.4%	68.8%	70.2%	87.9%	2,993	2.5%	1.4%	0.6%	24.7%	16.2%	0.7%	0.2%	56.2%
Independence	82.4%	14.7%	57.8%	65.7%	69.2%	5,890	2.8%	1.3%	1.4%	3.0%	8.7%	0.4%	0.2%	85.0%
Izard	81.6%	12.3%	64.0%	67.4%	53.3%	1,784	-3.0%	1.3%	0.3%	0.6%	1.6%	0.4%	0.1%	95.7%
Jackson	72.3%	7.0%	70.2%	73.3%	77.2%	2,162	-3.0%	1.5%	0.2%	25.3%	3.9%	0.2%	0.0%	68.8%
Jefferson	81.6%	16.5%	72.5%	81.5%	92.2%	11,979	-5.3%	1.2%	0.9%	69.4%	1.5%	0.1%	0.2%	26.7%
Johnson	76.4%	14.8%	73.2%	76.6%	100.0%	4,383	2.9%	0.9%	2.3%	2.2%	20.9%	0.4%	0.3%	73.0%
Lafayette	77.9%	13.3%	79.4%	83.1%	66.7%	360	-236.7%	0.0%	0.3%	39.2%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	58.3%
Lawrence	74.8%	9.2%	67.0%	74.1%	76.0%	3,059	0.0%	1.2%	0.2%	0.3%	1.2%	0.3%	0.1%	96.7%
Lee	69.3%	8.5%	100.0%	100.0%	90.7%	920	-21.3%	0.0%	0.8%	88.8%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	8.4%
Lincoln	73.2%	8.6%	62.5%	72.2%	74.5%	1,607	-4.9%	1.8%	0.1%	21.9%	6.1%	0.4%	0.0%	69.6%
Little River	81.2%	11.9%	62.2%	69.5%	0.0%	1,993	-5.6%	3.0%	0.7%	25.8%	3.4%	1.1%	0.0%	66.0%
Logan	76.7%	11.7%	67.9%	78.4%	64.9%	3,377	-3.1%	2.0%	2.6%	1.1%	2.2%	1.2%	0.0%	91.0%
Lonoke	85.8%	16.6%	41.8%	47.8%	50.6%	13,443	1.5%	0.7%	1.4%	7.2%	4.5%	0.5%	0.2%	85.5%
Madison	75.8%	13.4%	60.5%	67.5%	100.0%	2,267	-3.2%	1.0%	0.6%	0.2%	9.0%	1.1%	0.9%	87.2%
Marion	85.1%	14.8%	69.8%	75.9%	82.0%	1,584	-6.4%	0.8%	0.2%	0.3%	1.3%	0.9%	0.3%	96.3%

Appendix B. Table 7. Educational Attainment and Enrollment in Public Schools

County Name	% Persons Age 25+ With		Enrollment on Free or Reduced Lunch, 2011-12			Enrolled in Public School, 2011-12								
	H.S. Degree 2010	College Degree 2010	% Public School Total	% Kindergarten and First Grade	% Pre-K	Total Students Enrolled	% Total Enrollment Change, 2009-2010 to 2011-2012	% 2 or More Race Students	% Asian Students	% Black Students	% Hispanic Students	% Native American / Native Alaskan Students	% Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander Students	% White Students
Miller	83.0%	12.7%	61.4%	71.6%	63.3%	6,414	1.3%	2.6%	0.3%	33.1%	3.1%	0.3%	0.2%	60.4%
Mississippi	75.6%	11.0%	83.2%	86.6%	79.6%	8,035	-9.3%	0.9%	0.5%	47.2%	3.9%	0.1%	0.0%	47.5%
Monroe	68.6%	12.3%	93.3%	94.4%	95.5%	1,138	-8.6%	3.6%	0.4%	55.2%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%	37.6%
Montgomery	82.2%	10.1%	72.2%	78.8%	92.1%	575	-88.7%	1.0%	0.9%	0.5%	17.0%	0.0%	0.2%	80.3%
Nevada	78.3%	10.7%	76.0%	80.6%	14.3%	1,459	4.7%	1.3%	0.9%	37.2%	4.6%	0.3%	0.1%	55.6%
Newton	78.0%	12.2%	73.4%	78.8%	90.4%	1,260	-0.9%	2.3%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	1.2%	0.3%	95.0%
Ouachita	81.8%	13.2%	70.6%	76.7%	84.8%	4,357	-1.2%	2.6%	0.4%	49.9%	2.4%	0.0%	0.1%	44.5%
Perry	81.6%	10.5%	54.8%	56.8%	40.0%	1,617	-4.5%	1.1%	0.2%	2.4%	3.0%	0.6%	0.0%	92.8%
Phillips	70.9%	12.1%	88.3%	88.6%	96.5%	4,098	-1.2%	0.7%	0.6%	80.9%	1.2%	0.1%	0.0%	16.5%
Pike	77.2%	12.4%	66.7%	70.9%	77.8%	2,015	-14.5%	1.6%	0.4%	2.2%	10.6%	0.8%	0.0%	84.3%
Poinsett	72.8%	8.8%	80.2%	82.9%	78.3%	4,227	-3.8%	0.8%	0.1%	11.0%	4.5%	0.1%	0.0%	83.4%
Polk	80.4%	10.0%	77.3%	83.2%	91.5%	3,679	-2.4%	1.8%	0.6%	0.6%	10.0%	2.2%	0.1%	84.6%
Pope	81.9%	20.1%	55.9%	64.0%	93.5%	9,665	-0.8%	2.1%	1.1%	3.9%	11.1%	0.7%	0.1%	81.1%
Prairie	78.0%	11.5%	70.3%	76.4%	90.7%	1,219	-2.9%	0.3%	0.4%	18.6%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%	79.7%
Pulaski	88.2%	30.7%	64.6%	70.6%	77.0%	55,317	1.5%	1.3%	2.3%	55.6%	8.3%	0.4%	0.1%	32.1%
Randolph	77.8%	11.1%	69.0%	73.4%	74.7%	2,315	0.6%	2.2%	0.2%	0.7%	2.4%	0.3%	0.3%	93.9%
St. Francis	73.3%	10.5%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	3,993	-8.7%	0.4%	0.3%	72.5%	1.4%	0.3%	0.0%	25.2%
Saline	87.6%	22.6%	39.2%	46.4%	74.1%	15,987	7.8%	1.4%	1.2%	8.7%	6.6%	0.3%	0.1%	81.8%
Scott	73.7%	9.0%	72.3%	77.9%	78.8%	1,565	-5.5%	1.2%	3.6%	0.7%	12.4%	2.7%	0.2%	79.2%
Searcy	72.7%	9.2%	74.6%	81.9%	100.0%	1,549	-4.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	1.9%	1.4%	0.5%	95.7%
Sebastian	81.0%	17.9%	63.2%	71.0%	87.0%	20,369	1.1%	4.9%	4.8%	8.1%	21.5%	1.9%	0.1%	58.7%
Sevier	68.8%	9.3%	73.2%	76.7%	20.0%	3,248	-2.9%	0.6%	0.4%	3.4%	51.0%	2.1%	0.3%	42.1%
Sharp	80.4%	12.5%	70.7%	75.5%	55.0%	2,892	-12.1%	0.4%	0.3%	0.8%	2.4%	0.2%	0.1%	95.7%
Stone	75.8%	10.4%	60.2%	75.2%	97.9%	1,704	0.9%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	1.9%	0.5%	0.1%	96.5%
Union	81.3%	16.1%	60.7%	66.8%	71.5%	6,896	-11.6%	1.3%	0.6%	41.7%	4.8%	0.1%	0.0%	51.3%
Van Buren	81.0%	13.2%	68.2%	72.2%	69.6%	2,231	-4.4%	1.7%	0.2%	0.6%	2.7%	0.6%	0.0%	94.1%
Washington	81.7%	27.4%	56.7%	62.4%	91.3%	38,053	7.0%	2.4%	2.2%	3.8%	27.1%	0.8%	5.3%	58.5%
White	81.8%	17.3%	56.1%	63.5%	66.3%	12,764	1.6%	3.0%	0.5%	5.5%	6.0%	0.4%	0.0%	84.6%
Woodruff	73.1%	9.0%	75.4%	78.6%	95.6%	1,092	-4.4%	3.8%	0.0%	32.5%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	62.4%
Yell	70.2%	10.3%	72.6%	76.7%	89.7%	4,149	-2.7%	1.4%	2.0%	1.3%	29.7%	0.4%	0.0%	65.2%
Rural:														
Coastal Plains	80.6%	15.0%	67.1%	72.8%	82.5%	32,667	-6.9%	1.3%	0.5%	36.9%	7.3%	0.2%	0.0%	53.8%
Delta	74.6%	10.9%	76.5%	81.0%	81.2%	48,664	-4.7%	1.0%	0.3%	37.0%	3.4%	0.1%	0.0%	58.2%
Highlands	80.1%	14.0%	62.7%	69.3%	75.4%	116,581	-1.4%	1.5%	0.9%	4.5%	9.1%	0.7%	0.2%	83.2%
Total Rural	78.8%	13.4%	66.8%	72.7%	78.4%	197,912	-3.1%	1.4%	0.7%	17.8%	7.4%	0.5%	0.1%	72.2%
Urban:														
Pulaski County	88.2%	30.7%	64.6%	70.6%	77.0%	55,317	1.5%	1.3%	2.3%	55.6%	8.3%	0.4%	0.1%	32.1%
Other Urban	83.3%	21.7%	54.7%	60.8%	76.6%	217,007	3.9%	2.4%	2.0%	14.6%	13.9%	1.0%	1.1%	64.9%
Total Urban	84.5%	23.8%	56.7%	62.9%	76.8%	272,324	3.4%	2.2%	2.1%	23.0%	12.8%	0.9%	0.9%	58.2%
State	81.9%	19.1%	61.0%	67.0%	77.6%	470,236	0.7%	1.8%	1.5%	20.8%	10.5%	0.7%	0.6%	64.1%

Source: Arkansas Department of Education and U.S. Census Bureau

Appendix B. Table 8. Disasters and Social Vulnerability

	SOVI™, 2006-2010	National Percentile of SoVI, 1% Being Least Vulnerable, 99% Most Vulnerable	State Ranking, SOVI, 1 Being Least Vulnerable and 75 Being Most Vulnerable	Drought Severe (D2), % of County Land Area	Drought Extreme (D3), % of County Land Area
Arkansas	-0.683	37.42%	14	0	0
Ashley	-0.559	39.83%	17	0	0
Baxter	2.293	83.04%	61	100	75.92
Benton	-3.115	10.28%	1	100	14.81
Boone	0.043	51.67%	27	100	74.03
Bradley	0.230	55.33%	31	0	0
Calhoun	-0.847	34.49%	9	0	0
Carroll	1.434	74.23%	53	100	33.69
Chicot	5.492	97.36%	75	0	0
Clark	1.435	74.26%	54	32.32	2.53
Clay	1.241	71.65%	50	0	0
Cleburne	0.770	64.94%	40	99.89	0
Cleveland	-0.484	40.88%	19	0	0
Columbia	0.633	62.90%	36	0	0
Conway	0.179	54.22%	29	79.08	19.23
Craighead	-0.806	35.16%	11	0	0
Crawford	-1.261	28.16%	8	100	14.1
Crittenden	-0.702	37.13%	13	0	0
Cross	1.113	70.06%	48	0	0
Dallas	0.640	63.12%	39	0	0
Desha	0.845	66.18%	44	0	0
Drew	0.638	62.97%	37	0	0
Faulkner	-3.038	10.75%	3	39.59	0
Franklin	1.265	71.87%	51	100	34.29
Fulton	1.655	76.87%	57	99.4	2.93
Garland	1.086	69.77%	47	79.49	41.69
Grant	-2.794	12.54%	5	0	0
Greene	-0.500	40.63%	18	0	0
Hempstead	0.039	51.51%	25	20.16	0
Hot Spring	0.187	54.50%	30	18.07	3.26
Howard	0.158	53.77%	28	100	63.4
Independence	-0.311	44.19%	21	14.78	0
Izard	3.662	92.78%	72	100	16.14
Jackson	2.806	87.24%	65	0	0
Jefferson	0.323	57.21%	32	0	0
Johnson	-0.569	39.48%	16	100	24.36
Lafayette	2.211	82.21%	60	0	0
Lawrence	2.622	85.75%	64	0	0
Lee	5.333	97.17%	74	0	0
Lincoln	3.612	92.43%	71	0	0
Little River	1.161	70.70%	49	86.51	16.14
Logan	0.573	61.85%	35	100	91.1
Lonoke	-2.826	12.06%	4	0	0
Madison	0.043	51.64%	26	100	88.84
Marion	2.329	83.39%	62	100	89.5

Appendix B. Table 8. Disasters and Social Vulnerability

	SOVI™, 2006-2010	National Percentile of SoVI, 1% Being Least Vulnerable, 99% Most Vulnerable	State Ranking, SOVI, 1 Being Least Vulnerable and 75 Being Most Vulnerable	Drought Severe (D2), % of County Land Area	Drought Extreme (D3), % of County Land Area
Miller	-0.337	43.46%	20	0	0
Mississippi	0.421	58.73%	33	0	0
Monroe	2.473	84.51%	63	0	0
Montgomery	1.323	72.41%	52	100	100
Nevada	0.639	63.06%	38	0	0
Newton	1.560	75.85%	56	100	91.52
Ouachita	0.834	66.05%	43	0	0
Perry	-0.162	47.31%	22	63.85	0
Phillips	3.063	88.96%	67	0	0
Pike	0.490	60.29%	34	96.86	52.88
Poinsett	1.962	80.21%	58	0	0
Polk	0.772	65.00%	41	100	100
Pope	-0.621	38.50%	15	100	89.34
Prairie	1.539	75.63%	55	0	0
Pulaski	-2.426	15.88%	6	0	0
Randolph	0.966	67.96%	45	13.16	0
St. Francis	3.155	89.82%	68	0	0
Saline	-3.044	10.66%	2	12.24	0
Scott	1.061	69.20%	46	100	97.68
Searcy	2.992	88.32%	66	100	100
Sebastian	-0.707	36.91%	12	100	99.77
Sevier	-0.162	47.34%	23	100	80.59
Sharp	2.165	81.61%	59	52.41	0
Stone	3.533	91.92%	70	100	43.21
Union	-0.062	49.35%	24	0	0
Van Buren	3.173	90.01%	69	100	61.12
Washington	-1.980	20.20%	7	100	81.65
White	-0.811	35.09%	10	10.7	0
Woodruff	3.717	93.00%	73	0	0
Yell	0.805	65.61%	42	100	12.85
Rural:	**Average Value**	**Average Value**	**Average Value**	**Average Value**	**Average Value**
Coastal Plains	0.369	56.6%	32.3	8.89	1.35
Delta	2.224	76.9%	54.8	0.00	0.00
Highlands	0.962	64.4%	41.8	75.90	42.60
Total Rural	1.173	66.1%	43.3	43.34	23.62
Urban:					
Pulaski County	-2.426	15.9%	6.0	0.00	0.00
Other Urban	-1.367	31.0%	13.3	44.28	21.00
Total Urban	-1.449	29.8%	12.8	40.87	19.39
State	0.718	59.8%	38.0	42.91	22.89

*SOVI™ = Social Vulnerability Index. Social vulnerability is represented as the social, economic, demographic, and housing characteristics that influence a community's ability to respond to, cope with, recover from, and adapt to environmental hazards.

Sources: http://webra.cas.sc.edu/hvri/products/sovi2010_data.aspx
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/dmshps_archive.htm

Appendix B. Table 9. Property Tax Assessments

County	Property Assessments 2011 (Current$)	Property Assessments Per Capita (2011)	Change in Assessed Value of Property, 2000-2011	Retail Sales 2011 (Current $)	Retail Sales Per Capita 2011 (Current $)	Change in Retail Sales, 2000-2011	Millage 2011
Arkansas	303,615,884	16,071	4.3%	260,305,245	13,779	-13.3%	9.15
Ashley	334,299,255	15,411	-3.4%	166,894,220	7,694	-15.8%	6.85
Baxter	686,665,421	16,532	33.4%	565,868,135	13,624	12.9%	6.50
Benton	4,214,948,120	18,523	72.0%	2,842,879,503	12,493	48.4%	8.30
Boone	482,131,350	13,013	19.4%	635,377,859	17,149	6.4%	5.60
Bradley	115,451,118	10,055	-1.4%	73,410,620	6,394	-20.4%	9.40
Calhoun	91,309,950	17,751	-1.0%	17,977,988	3,495	-9.9%	8.30
Carroll	425,073,027	15,450	12.0%	327,550,635	11,906	7.0%	10.00
Chicot	131,114,574	11,186	-3.1%	78,804,137	6,723	-28.4%	10.00
Clark	275,840,868	12,068	3.7%	271,197,513	11,864	-3.3%	5.30
Clay	183,007,839	11,524	1.3%	109,571,014	6,900	-23.1%	10.00
Cleburne	598,504,714	23,107	78.0%	234,075,502	9,037	1.3%	5.10
Cleveland	84,447,662	9,738	12.8%	18,649,304	2,151	7.1%	9.30
Columbia	345,936,822	14,177	7.9%	206,374,911	8,458	-14.2%	8.00
Conway	519,362,780	24,418	130.1%	234,636,748	11,031	-2.1%	8.80
Craighead	1,380,672,856	14,043	38.5%	1,620,075,165	16,478	11.3%	7.10
Crawford	680,983,871	10,994	48.7%	501,068,515	8,089	10.4%	6.30
Crittenden	672,255,647	13,305	34.7%	807,868,805	15,989	-1.0%	5.60
Cross	211,707,128	11,906	-1.6%	173,146,539	9,738	-11.1%	9.50
Dallas	81,264,810	10,067	-15.9%	83,871,068	10,390	-13.9%	8.30
Desha	185,428,018	14,529	-15.6%	155,660,850	12,196	-25.3%	7.40
Drew	200,105,433	10,836	10.2%	283,931,971	15,375	2.7%	6.10
Faulkner	1,630,309,823	14,013	78.8%	1,306,777,010	11,232	26.0%	8.30
Franklin	235,622,529	13,056	19.0%	127,253,864	7,051	1.4%	9.40
Fulton	125,855,552	10,235	27.8%	41,207,971	3,351	2.8%	6.00
Garland	1,702,535,915	17,530	51.4%	1,684,987,275	17,349	10.8%	3.60
Grant	195,447,827	10,865	11.8%	126,529,325	7,034	15.6%	9.00
Greene	491,176,964	11,498	30.5%	426,732,567	9,989	2.3%	4.93
Hempstead	266,479,744	11,822	29.7%	204,645,211	9,079	-6.5%	5.20
Hot Spring	353,975,190	10,765	17.9%	262,789,722	7,992	5.3%	9.00
Howard	184,964,278	13,320	2.5%	144,319,828	10,393	-1.3%	5.60
Independence	503,268,232	13,653	2.2%	456,650,318	12,388	-1.6%	7.60
Izard	148,338,688	11,054	23.9%	107,958,644	8,045	-3.1%	7.70
Jackson	198,057,860	11,086	0.7%	154,625,450	8,655	-25.0%	7.40
Jefferson	835,408,765	10,957	-1.9%	937,693,027	12,298	-14.3%	8.70
Johnson	252,708,225	9,817	15.7%	245,057,279	9,520	2.2%	9.30
Lafayette	92,775,394	12,344	8.2%	31,765,990	4,226	-10.8%	9.00
Lawrence	169,501,995	9,867	0.0%	139,993,160	8,150	-17.4%	9.00
Lee	111,410,845	10,789	13.3%	39,647,613	3,840	-27.6%	8.40
Lincoln	108,192,776	7,725	-7.0%	68,110,240	4,863	6.1%	9.00
Little River	229,878,581	17,688	-16.8%	103,630,767	7,974	-11.9%	4.70
Logan	262,506,332	11,777	33.3%	179,915,348	8,072	-4.9%	7.90
Lonoke	839,223,799	12,103	64.6%	650,195,214	9,377	31.5%	6.40
Madison	171,191,628	10,851	41.6%	92,416,750	5,858	12.8%	9.00
Marion	201,178,623	12,139	22.1%	81,577,704	4,922	2.5%	8.90

Appendix B. Table 9. Property Tax Assessments

County	Property Assessments 2011 (Current$)	Property Assessments Per Capita (2011)	Change in Assessed Value of Property, 2000-2011	Retail Sales 2011 (Current $)	Retail Sales Per Capita 2011 (Current $)	Change in Retail Sales, 2000-2011	Millage 2011
Miller	441,052,006	10,079	15.6%	524,436,391	11,985	10.1%	5.90
Mississippi	548,569,778	11,934	5.0%	414,640,395	9,021	-21.2%	6.10
Monroe	99,588,771	12,333	-4.0%	70,399,975	8,718	-36.8%	8.40
Montgomery	111,073,528	11,775	16.9%	31,734,541	3,364	-7.1%	8.30
Nevada	88,399,223	9,804	-9.3%	62,667,130	6,950	-5.0%	8.30
Newton	78,618,094	9,513	29.1%	33,427,953	4,045	5.1%	5.00
Ouachita	230,919,280	8,923	-5.6%	259,689,569	10,034	-14.4%	8.20
Perry	95,634,172	9,191	20.9%	29,166,603	2,803	-6.1%	7.90
Phillips	209,578,413	9,774	-11.3%	196,740,606	9,175	-25.0%	10.70
Pike	127,255,559	11,303	12.7%	70,197,975	6,235	-24.9%	4.30
Poinsett	246,445,864	10,053	-2.5%	180,279,432	7,354	-6.9%	5.25
Polk	219,156,172	10,633	15.2%	191,103,963	9,272	-4.1%	5.40
Pope	1,034,764,574	16,601	23.0%	1,010,481,922	16,212	12.5%	4.50
Prairie	110,736,147	12,849	-8.9%	34,085,964	3,955	-30.9%	9.00
Pulaski	6,960,187,348	18,018	39.9%	7,382,665,482	19,111	-1.0%	9.30
Randolph	178,750,184	9,921	11.6%	147,539,730	8,189	-4.1%	4.00
St. Francis	229,757,244	8,214	-8.4%	317,320,008	11,345	-17.9%	7.20
Saline	1,512,283,143	13,808	53.7%	1,537,304,815	14,036	17.8%	9.70
Scott	100,599,529	8,925	22.4%	69,687,533	6,182	2.1%	6.10
Searcy	80,373,445	10,002	30.6%	45,336,268	5,642	-8.6%	9.90
Sebastian	1,873,627,544	14,738	23.9%	2,137,474,219	16,814	-1.3%	8.25
Sevier	148,567,362	8,591	8.1%	156,805,113	9,068	5.2%	7.30
Sharp	181,016,754	10,415	11.6%	159,351,279	9,169	-6.4%	5.85
Stone	144,356,915	11,454	44.3%	110,819,300	8,793	2.4%	5.60
Union	640,160,232	15,453	13.6%	543,561,060	13,121	-11.8%	6.80
Van Buren	557,601,871	32,641	260.8%	160,289,913	9,383	10.9%	7.30
Washington	3,097,372,684	14,926	61.3%	3,506,959,486	16,899	28.9%	6.00
White	1,194,551,119	15,282	79.2%	890,735,922	11,395	6.8%	4.10
Woodruff	124,713,810	17,252	28.8%	39,277,482	5,433	-20.4%	8.10
Yell	206,745,595	9,372	25.4%	144,301,684	6,541	-1.6%	9.00
Rural:							
Coastal Plains	2,720,162,694	13,001	4.4%	1,973,198,740	9,431	-10.4%	**7.51**
Delta	3,493,101,915	11,424	2.3%	2,719,347,517	8,893	-17.0%	**8.16**
Highlands	10,332,466,942	13,752	33.7%	7,609,227,074	10,127	3.2%	**7.13**
Total Rural	16,545,731,551	13,066	20.4%	12,301,773,330	9,714	-4.3%	**7.47**
Urban:							
Pulaski County	6,960,187,348	18,018	39.9%	7,382,665,482	19,111	-1.0%	**9.30**
Other Urban	18,880,674,173	14,689	49.8%	18,057,719,425	14,049	16.8%	**7.01**
Total Urban	25,840,861,521	15,459	47.0%	25,440,384,907	15,219	11.0%	**7.19**
State	42,386,593,072	14,427	35.3%	37,742,158,237	12,846	5.5%	**7.42**

Source: Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department and Woods and Poole Economics.

Project Team

Project Directors

Dr. Frank L. Farmer, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, School of Human Environmental Sciences

Dr. Wayne P. Miller, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service

Data Management/Writing

Dr. Zola K. Moon, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, School of Human Environmental Sciences

Vuko Karov, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service

Thai Nguyen, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service

Publication Editing, Design & Layout

Laura Goforth, Associate Designer/Editor, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service

Cover Design

Chris Meux, Design Specialist, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service

Printed by

University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Printing Services, Little Rock

Additional Copies

This publication is available at http://www.arcommunities.org/econ_dev/economic_profiles/default.htm. This Rural Profile can also be accessed under "Publications" at **http:/ruralsoc.uark.edu**. Additional printed copies of this publication may be obtained from the Cooperative Extension Service office in your county or from:

Frank L. Farmer, Professor
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture
Agricultural Experiment Station
HOEC 118
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701
(479) 575-2358
flfarmer@uark.edu

– OR –

Wayne Miller, Professor
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service
2301 S. University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 671-2072
wmiller@uada.edu

University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture
Social and Economic Reports on Rural Arkansas

An Empirical Examination of Characteristics of Mexican Migrants to Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Areas of the United States
Frank L. Farmer, Zola K. Moon. 2009. *Rural Sociology*, Vol. 79, No. 2.

Understanding Community Demographics
Frank L. Farmer, Zola K. Moon, Wayne P. Miller. University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Publication No. MP470. 2007.

Growth and Change in Arkansas Hispanic Populations
Frank L. Farmer, Zola K. Moon, Wayne P. Miller. University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Publication No. MP470. 2007.

Hispanic Immigrants to Rural Areas: Empirical Comparisons of Entrepreneurial Readiness
Frank L. Farmer, Zola K. Moon. University of Arkansas Rural Sociology Working Paper 2008-0010. 2008.

An Empirical Examination of Mexican Migrants to Rural America and Small Farm Ownership and Experience
Frank L. Farmer, Zola K. Moon. University of Arkansas Rural Sociology Working Paper 2008-0020. 2008.

An Interactive Analysis of Hispanic Population Growth, Change and Structure in the Southern United States
Zola K. Moon, Frank L. Farmer. University of Arkansas Rural Sociology electronic file found at http://ruralsoc.uark.edu. 2008.

Arkansas' Retirement-Age Migration: A Statewide Overview
Wayne P. Miller, Katy Elliott. University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Publication FSCDM2. 2006.

Arkansas' Retirement-Age Migration: A Regional Analysis
Wayne P. Miller, Katy Elliott. University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Publication FSCDM5. 2006.

County Profiles 2006
Wayne P. Miller, Ben Olson. University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service.

The Definition of Rural
Frank L. Farmer. *The Encyclopedia of Rural America: The Land and the People. (2nd Edition).* 2008.

The Measurement of Rural
Zola K. Moon, Frank L. Farmer. *The Encyclopedia of Rural America: The Land and the People. (2nd Edition).* 2008.

Making Sense of Racial Population Change as Reported in the 2000 Census
Todd Hodgson, Wayne P. Miller and Frank L. Farmer. Cooperative Extension Service, Publication FSCDN1. 2002.

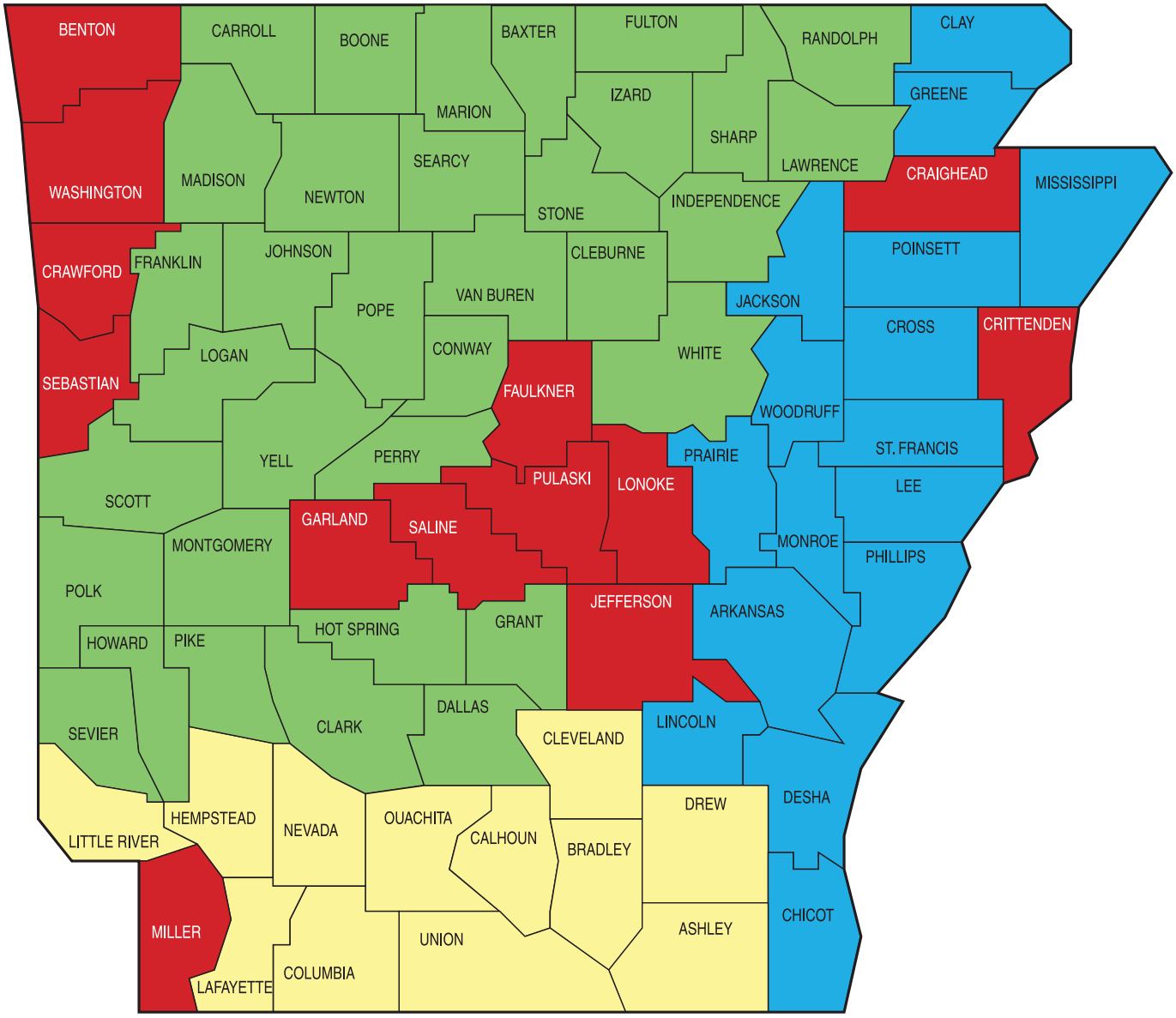
Measuring Rural Arkansas: The Affect of New Metropolitan Standards on Rural Studies in the State
Todd W. Hodgson, Frank L .Farmer. Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, Rural Sociology Working Paper #1. 2003.

Rural Family Profile of Arkansas 2005
Frank L. Farmer, Wayne P. Miller, Todd Hodgson, Sandra Miller. Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station / Cooperative Extension Service.

The Impact of Revised Federal Metropolitan Standards on Measuring Rural Populations in Arkansas
Todd W. Hodgson, Frank L. Farmer. Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, Rural Sociology Working Paper #2.

Additional reports, maps, tables, graphs, and presentations that pertain to rural Arkansas can be found at: http://ruralsoc.uark.edu AND http://www.arcommunities.org

Arkansas Regions and Counties



United States Department of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, and County Governments Cooperating

MP511-PD-1-13N