SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH INITIATIVE: REGIONAL ASSET MAP

PREPARED FOR: **MAHER & MAHER AND THE JEFFERSON COUNTY ALLIANCE**

BY: **EMSI**

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ABOUT EMSI

EMSI provides economic data, analysis, and consulting services to workforce, education, and economic development professionals throughout the nation. Since 1995, EMSI has delivered high quality, cost-effective services that promote economic growth, institutional change, and intelligent use of human, physical, and financial resources.

DISCLAIMER & IDENTIFIER

This study was prepared under contract with the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District, with financial support from the Office of Economic Adjustment, Department of Defense. The content reflects the views of the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of Economic Adjustment.

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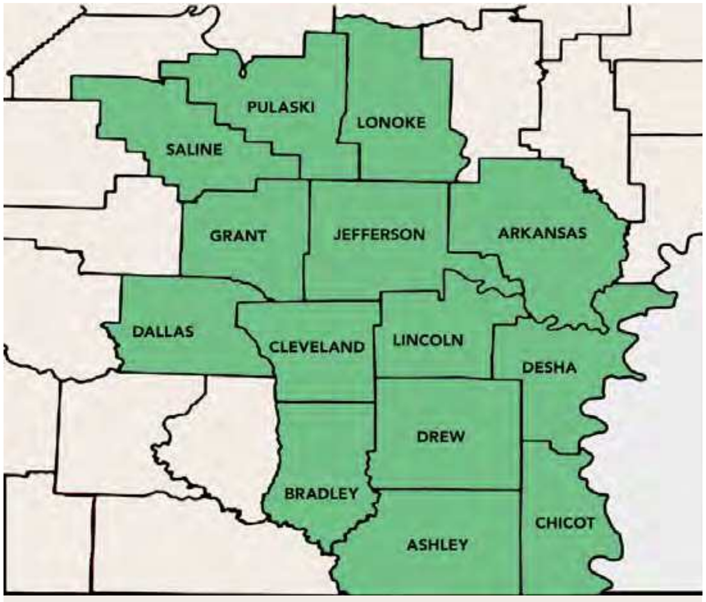
INTRODUCTION



There are several interconnected definitions for an "asset map." Some people define an asset map as an inventory of the strengths and resources of a region; this inventory could either be comprehensive or partial. In other definitions, an asset map is treated more as a byproduct of the process of "asset mapping," which requires regional stakeholders to consider all of the assets that exist in their communities and actively participate in collecting this information. The key for the second definition is that the action of asset mapping produces both a tangible asset map and a network of regional stakeholders who can team up to solve problems and plan for the future. This asset map is of the first variety—*i.e.*, an inventory of the region's strengths and resources. Since this is the first attempt at developing a regional identity and vision for southeastern Arkansas, it makes the most sense to start at this level. Naturally, during the asset mapping process many more tangible and intangible assets within the communities that make up this region will be uncovered and can be added to this inventory.

EMSI has created this report in order to serve as the first step in helping regional stakeholders develop an asset mapping network that can further identify positive community characteristics and create the foundation for future development. This report will provide leaders and decision-makers with an inventory of key resources that can be used in the development of such an account.

The 14-county region that this study focuses on includes the counties of Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln, Lonoke, Saline, and the southern portion of Pulaski County. The inclusion of Pulaski County was limited to the area south of I-30, which skirts the southern portion of Little Rock. Limiting Pulaski County in this way was necessary in order to prevent the economic data from being obscured by the influence of Little Rock. In some places, where an analysis of the entire 14-county region would be overwhelming, we have focused on the Pine Bluff Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Jefferson, Lincoln, and Cleveland Counties. The following are just some of the questions that will be addressed:

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

- What industry sectors are driving employment and earnings?
- Which areas are experiencing the greatest economic growth?
- Which counties employ a strong workforce, especially in production, business, and healthcare occupations?
- How do county unemployment rates compare to each other, the state, and the nation?

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

- How quickly is the region growing in comparison to the state of Arkansas?
- Which counties are experiencing population growth, especially among the young to mid-career-age cohorts?
- Which areas have the highest concentration of residents with college degrees?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT METRICS

- What is the overall productivity of the region, and how much is it growing in comparison to state and national averages?
- To what extent are entrepreneurs driving economic growth?
- Which businesses are employing the greatest number of workers?

EDUCATIONAL METRICS

- Which areas have postsecondary educational institutions?
- Which areas have a large number of completers in the region's key occupational areas?

QUALITY OF LIFE METRICS

- How attractive is the region in terms of earnings, travel-to-work time, and recreational opportunities?
- How expensive is it to live in the region?

SWOT ANALYSIS

This sustainable growth initiative represents an unprecedented effort to bring the assets of this region together in order to work collectively toward a common economic development goal. The 14 counties that comprise this region are, in reality, already very connected. In fact, their selection into this group was based on their geographic and economic interconnectedness— factors such as a common labor pool, similar economic drivers, transportation lines, and mutual educational institutions. Each city and county, working on its own, does not possess sufficient assets to significantly effect broad economic change but, by working in tandem with the others in the surrounding area, a stronger economic force can be forged. This asset map is one of the resources that will help the residents of southeast Arkansas understand the region's interconnectedness and help develop a regional vision.

Southeast Arkansas is facing an unprecedented economic challenge. With unemployment rates already at historic highs, the end of the Pine Bluff Arsenal's chemical weapons storage and demilitarization mission, will leave 1,100 more residents without work. The adverse effects of this closure will extend far beyond the manufacturing sector and into portions of the economy that are reliant on the PBA, such as chemical manufacturing, transportation, and those industries that provide basic services to residents of the region (*e.g.*, accounting services, construction, and restaurants). In addition, this region has long lagged behind national benchmarks in certain key knowledge-based industries, such as professional and technical services and information. Knowing the challenges that lie ahead, now is the time for strategic planning that will prevent higher unemployment rates, the hemorrhaging of talent due to out-migration, and further contraction of private sector industry.

One on the most helpful ways to approach an economic development initiative is by utilizing a SWOT analysis, which helps to classify regional issues into the following four categories: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. Since the Southeast Arkansas Strategic Growth Initiative is at a very early stage in its development, this SWOT analysis should not be taken as a comprehensive investigation. This short list can and should be built upon as the initiative moves forward.

STRENGTHS

- Southeast Arkansas has a number of strong industry sectors, including healthcare and social assistance; government; and manufacturing.
- There is the potential for cluster development in particular industry sectors such as advanced healthcare treatment; chemical product manufacturing; and machinery equipment manufacturing.
- There is a considerable presence of private research companies that are projected to experience continued growth in the coming years.
- Unemployment rates for 2009 and early 2010 are lower than both the state and national averages.
- Considering multiple statistics, Southeast Arkansas is generally a desirable place to live.
- Residents enjoy a shorter-than-average travel-to-work time, better-than-average quality of water and air, affordable housing, and a reasonable cost of living.

WEAKNESSES

- Manufacturing and services are typically two of the largest contributing sectors to the economic base in any region. In Southeast Arkansas, these sectors contributed a below-average proportion of jobs and earnings to the economy.
- Government and the residents' outside income are driving the regional economy in terms of jobs and earnings contributions. The economy needs to be driven more by in-region private sector employment than it is currently.
- Between 2004 and 2008, most counties in the region experienced net out-migration. Jefferson County lost a net total of 3,900 people due to migration. Chicot and Desha also lost a significant proportion of their residents.
- Jefferson County struggles to maintain a strong entrepreneurial base. Only 49% of the businesses in Jefferson County have fewer than five employees. This is much lower than certain high-growth counties such as Pulaski and Lonoke.
- Southeast Arkansas lags behind the national average in terms of certain quality of life metrics such as median hourly earnings, recreational amenities, and poverty rates.

OPPORTUNITIES

- The Early Career population group is projected to grow by 3% in the region, which is greater than the state average. The increase in this age group is especially large in Saline and Lonoke Counties.
- The Southeast Arkansas, excluding Pulaski County, produced $8.6 billion in gross regional product in 2007 and grew at grew 4.3% per year between 2002 and 2007.
- A large number of public and private educational institutions in the area appear to be producing an adequate supply of graduates in fields such as healthcare, business, and education. Southeast Arkansas could use more graduates in engineering, computer sciences, and other similar fields.
- Public and private entities in the region, excluding Pulaski County, have been awarded over $196 million in stimulus funds, which is equivalent to $389 per working age individual.
- The professional and technical industry sector offers the greatest opportunity for entrepreneurial and small business growth. This sector has the lowest jobs per establishment ratio within the region. By implication, there are many opportunities for new business creation and business expansion.

THREATS

- Sustaining the population of the Pine Bluff MSA depends largely on employment in the manufacturing sector. Currently, most residents who work in manufacturing are able to find work within the Pine Bluff MSA, but most of the residents with jobs in other sectors are out-commuters. Further losses in the manufacturing sector could cause substantial distress to the regional economy.
- Southeast Arkansas has remarkably low employment in the information sector (66% lower than the national average). Limited telecommunications availability is creating a barrier to economic development for the region.
- Only four of the fourteen counties in Southeast Arkansas are projected to see a population increase of 2% or greater over the next five years. All of these counties are either north or west of Jefferson County.
- Southern Arkansas (and Pine Bluff in particular), does not have a strong national reputation. Several recent reports by nationally recognized sources have ranked Pine Bluff as one of the most dangerous and most impoverished metropolitan areas in the United States. Turning this image around will be key to a successful growth initiative. [1]

1 America's Most Impoverished Cities." *Forbes*, October 12, 2009. http://www.forbes.com/2009/10/12/most-impoverished-cities-business-beltway-poverty-cities.html" & "Morgan Quitno Awards, "11th Annual America's Safest (and Most Dangerous) Cities." http://www.morgan-quitno.com/cit05pop.htm#METRO (accessed 05/07/2010).

KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT METRICS

Economic Base: Economic base analysis is built upon the national Input-Output table, or "A Matrix," which is published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). EMSI combines the industry "use" and "make" matrices with other economic data published by the BEA to arrive at regional transaction estimates.

Unemployment: The source for regional and state rates is the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Local Area Unemployment Statistics (Local Area Unemployment Statistics). The source for national rates is labor force statistics from the Current Population Survey. Regional rates are obtained by summing the annual average labor force and unemployment numbers for every county in the region and dividing the unemployment figure by the labor force figure. The February 2010 figures are not seasonally adjusted.

Commuters: The source for this data is the US Census Bureau, LED OnTheMap Origin-Destination Database. This data reflects survey information gathered in the second quarter of 2008.

Residents' Income Account: This data is derived from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Gross Regional Product: This data is derived from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

In/Out-Migration: Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Division, County-to-County Migration Data.

INDUSTRY DATA

NAICS Code and Name: The standard numerical code and name of industries. These codes are used in all state and federal industry data collection.

2010 Jobs: The total number of jobs, full- and part-time, in an industry. Includes both payroll workers and proprietors, as well as estimates in place of non-disclosed (or "suppressed") data points in published data. Estimated 2010 job totals are based off of the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data through the 2rd quarter of 2009, and are moved forward to March 2010 using Current Employment Statistics (CES) data. Projections to 2015 are based on historical trends and published state and federal 10-year projections. Note that estimated 2010 job numbers are seasonally adjusted averages of monthly figures from January through March 2009. Unlike growth numbers given for future years, they are neither a full annual average nor a projection.

5-Year Growth: Change in total jobs over the given time frame.

Percent Change: Total change divided by start year jobs.

EPW (Earnings Per Worker): Total industry earnings (earnings of all businesses in the industry) divided by the number of jobs in the industry. This is not equivalent to the industry's "average worker wages." For worker wages, see occupational earnings.

OCCUPATION DATA

SOC Code and Title: The standard numerical code and occupation title used in state and federal data collection.

2010 Jobs: Total number of jobs in an occupational category. Estimated 2010 occupation totals are based off of regionalized staffing patterns developed using Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) data for 2009, which are then applied to estimated 2010 industry totals. In future years, this number is a projection based on both historical trends and on published state and federal ten-year projections.

5-Year Growth: Total change in jobs over the given timeframe.

Percent Change: Total change divided by start year jobs.

Hourly Earnings/EPW: The median hourly earnings of all regional workers in the occupation.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS DATA

Population: 2010 population data are based primarily on Census Bureau Annual Estimates (see 5-Year Growth).

5-Year Growth: Demographic projections are constructed by trending historical Census Bureau Annual Estimates, birth rates, death rates, migration patterns, and job growth.

Percent Change: Total change divided by start year population.

Educational Attainment: Educational attainment data from the decennial census and the annual Current Population Statistics—both from the U.S. Census Bureau—are combined with EMSI demographics data to create past, current, and projected educational attainment data by gender, race, and ethnicity for all residents age 25 and up. For each county, the educational attainment by gender is projected out into the future. This is done by looking at the decennial census data from 1990 and 2000. In this assessment, people with multiple degrees are only counted once according to their highest level of educational attainment. People who have received a postsecondary certificate are not counted among those with college degrees.

COLLEGIATE PROGRAM DATA

Completions: Number of students to complete a program in the 2008-2009 academic year. These numbers are reported by individual institutions and come directly from the federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) database. Since many of the schools in this region are located in Pulaski County, EMSI has taken a fractional number of completers from these colleges.

MISCELLANEOUS

Location Quotient (LQ): The relative concentration of the industry, occupation, or demographic in the region—in other words, a measure of the region's specialization in the selected component. LQ is defined as the percent share of the component in the regional economy divided by the percent share of the same component in the national economy. High-LQ components tend to indicate regional specialties or strengths that are unique to the region.

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ECONOMIC BASE

Economic base analysis uses a mathematical model to determine which groups of industries, or sectors, are most fundamental to a region's economy. The nature of these industries is determined by whether they bring money into a region or simply circulate existing dollars that are already present in the region. Groups of industries that bring in external dollars are called "basic," while industries that do not are called "non-basic." Basic industries generally export products and services to non-regional purchasers. Basic industries are important because growth or decline in these areas results in large ripple effects across the economy. Industries such as manufacturing, which includes the Pine Bluff Arsenal, fall into the basic category.

EMSI's model calculates how much of each sector's jobs and earnings rely on exports. It then uses multiplier effects to determine what level of commerce occurs between basic industries and other non-basic industries in the region. In so doing, the model arrives at an estimate of how much local commerce can be ultimately attributed to the export of goods and services by each basic industry group.

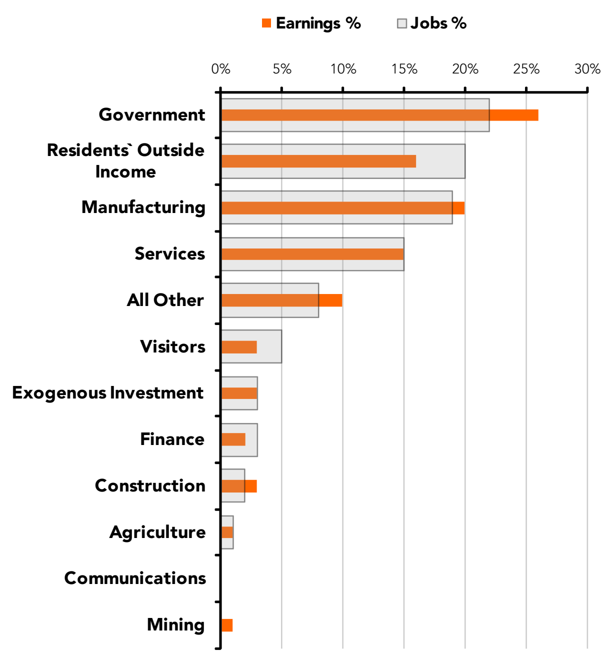
The table below entitled Jobs and Earnings Distribution by Sector apportions economic activity among twelve industry sectors. The table displays the title of the sector, the number of jobs it creates, and the amount of earnings it creates. It also indicates the amount of jobs and earnings that it produces as a percentage of all jobs and earnings in the region, and finally the earnings per worker (EPW) of workers that owe their employment to that basic category.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC BASE

Economic base data for Southeast Arkansas reveal that the regional economy is primarily driven by government and residents' outside income, with below average contributions from manufacturing and services. Government is ultimately responsible for 58,000 jobs and over $2.7 million in earnings (or 22% of the jobs and 26% of the earnings in the region, respectively). It is notable that the government sector is contributing a larger proportion of regional earnings than jobs. This indicates that government jobs are some of the highest paying in the region, and the spending of these wages in the region creates ripple effects that contribute widely to the regional economy.

JOBS AND EARNINGS DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR

Sector	Jobs	Earnings (Million $)	Jobs %	Earnings %	EPW (Thousand $)
Government	58,077	$2,789.0	22%	26%	$48
Residents` Outside Income	51,772	$1,713.0	20%	16%	$33
Manufacturing	48,382	$2,168.2	19%	20%	$45
Services	39,688	$1,564.7	15%	15%	$39
All Other	20,539	$1,042.8	8%	10%	$51
Visitors	12,684	$356.4	5%	3%	$28
Exogenous Investment	8,404	$339.1	3%	3%	$40
Finance	6,937	$259.1	3%	2%	$37
Construction	6,140	$296.3	2%	3%	$48
Agriculture	3,576	$148.0	1%	1%	$41
Communications	1,141	$44.0	0%	0%	$39
Mining	1,111	$55.6	0%	1%	$50



Residents' outside income is responsible for an unusually large share of jobs and earnings in this region. This category accounts for 51,000 jobs and $1.7 million in earnings (or 20% of the jobs and 16% of the earnings in the region, respectively). The residents' outside income category includes labor and non-labor income that residents accrue from outside the region. The magnitude of this figure in Southeast Arkansas is likely due to a combination of a high number of out-commuters, who are bringing back wages earned outside of the region, and a high amount of transfer payments in the form of welfare, unemployment, military benefits, student loans, *etc.*

Manufacturing and services are typically some of the largest contributing sectors to the economic base in any region. In this area, manufacturing is responsible for 19% of all jobs and 20% of all earnings, and the services sector is responsible for 15% of the region's jobs and earnings.

The "All Other" category, which is accountable for 8% of regional jobs and 10% of regional earnings, is composed of a number of sectors that do not have particularly large impacts individually, including transportation, wholesale, retail and utilities, among others.

Government and residents' outside income are the most critical sectors in terms of jobs and earnings contributions. This somewhat hinders the economic development potential of the region because neither of these sectors is driven by in-region private sector employment. The region needs to emphasize and support private businesses from all sectors in order to overcome this hurdle.

INDUSTRY CHARACTERISTICS

An understanding of industry characteristics and trends is critical to developing a regional growth strategy. The most competitive regions learn to build on their existing industrial base by supporting businesses that comprise local industry clusters. With a well-organized regional plan, a region can also further develop by recruiting new industries for which the region can provide the requisite workforce.

The following industry profiles contain information on the employment, concentration, and projected growth of some of the most critical industry sectors within the region. This information can serve as the starting point for developing a regional growth strategy where one does not exist, or provide valuable benchmark data to areas that already have an established growth strategy.

The "Employment by County" tables are ranked in descending order according to 2010 jobs. This is done in order to emphasize which geographic areas currently have the greatest presence of those industries. Meanwhile, the "Growth by County" tables and the "Detailed Industry Breakdown" tables are ranked in descending order according to five-year growth in order to highlight the areas and industries with the greatest growth potential.

Most detailed industry breakdowns are provided at the 6-digit industry level, except the following sectors for which data are available at the 4-digit level: construction; manufacturing; wholesale transportation & warehousing; and retail trade.

Some county names are omitted from the maps on these pages. Please refer to page 3 of the document to find the names for all of the counties.

- The largest-employing sectors in the region are government; healthcare & social assistance; wholesale, transportation & warehousing; and retail trade.

- The highest-paying industries with greater than 5,000 workers are wholesale, transportation & warehousing; government; and manufacturing, which all pay greater than $53,000 per worker annually.

- Government; healthcare & social assistance; and professional & technical services are expected to have significant growth over the next five years. Projections indicate that these sectors will add 3,500, 2,300, and 1,000 new jobs, respectively.

- Two industry sectors in this region are much more highly concentrated than the national average: agriculture & natural resources, and healthcare & social assistance. Agriculture & natural resources has more than twice as many workers as the national average for a region of this size. Healthcare & social assistance has 45% more workers than the national average for a region of this size.

- Certain industries within Southeast Arkansas are projected to perform very well in the coming years, including general medical and surgical hospitals; specialized freight trucking; footwear manufacturing; and residential plumbing and HVAC contractors, among others.

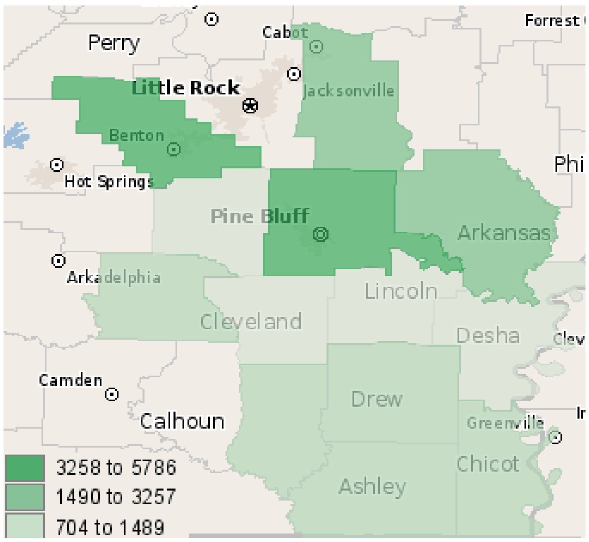
- Most of the counties in the region are projected to see modest job growth of between 3% and 8%. However, Jefferson County and the group of counties in the far southeastern corner, Chicot, Desha, and Ashley, are projected to see job growth of 2% or lower.

- The counties surrounding Pulaski are anticipated to have the greatest job growth over the next five years. The cities of Benton (Saline County) and Cabot (Lonoke County), in particular, are anticipated to have 12% to 13% more jobs within five years. There is also modest growth of 5% or greater in certain cities in the lower half of the region, including Stuttgart, Warren, Fordyce, and Monticello.

GOVERNMENT

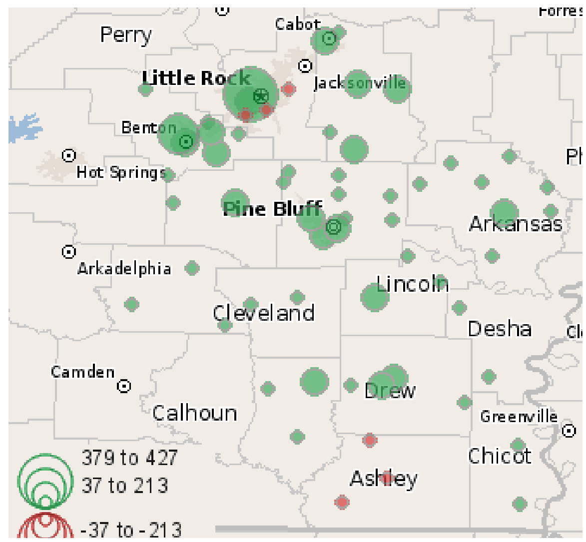
The public administration sector consists of establishments of federal, state, and local government agencies that administer, oversee, and manage public programs. Government establishments in the public administration sector oversee governmental programs and activities that are not performed by private establishments. Some organizations specialize in certain industries but are funded by the state or local government, which makes it so they will show up as government employment. These include state-funded medical centers and public schools.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	22,733	2.03
Jefferson	5,786	1.28
Saline	3,734	1.11
Lonoke	2,014	0.81
Arkansas	1,497	1.00
Drew	1,045	1.06
Dallas	959	1.97
Ashley	878	0.77
Chicot	789	1.39
Bradley	724	1.24
Desha	684	0.97
Grant	656	0.90
Lincoln	433	0.85
Cleveland	166	0.70
Southeast Arkansas	42,098	1.45
State of Arkansas	179,638	1.03

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	5,052	5,657	605	12%
Southern Pulaski	14,801	15,368	567	4%
Lonoke	3,187	3,543	356	11%
Jefferson	10,159	10,407	248	2%
Drew	2,251	2,414	163	7%
Grant	1,025	1,113	88	9%
Lincoln	1,545	1,626	81	5%
Arkansas	1,456	1,532	76	5%
Bradley	947	1,010	63	7%
Cleveland	453	492	39	9%
Chicot	1,174	1,208	34	3%
Dallas	552	564	12	2%
Desha	1,080	1,086	6	1%
Ashley	1,404	1,384	(20)	(1%)
Southeast Arkansas	45,086	47,404	2,318	5%
State of Arkansas	234,250	249,435	15,185	6%
Nation	24,285,488	25,270,425	984,937	4%

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- The strong concentration of government jobs in Lincoln and Jefferson Counties is due to the presence of Arkansas Department of Corrections personnel, while the concentration in Drew County is due to the presence of the University of Arkansas-Monticello.
- Growth in the public sector is equal with the regional total of 5%. Certain high population counties such as Saline and Lonoke are projected to see exceptional growth, whereas counties with population decline (*e.g.*, Jefferson, Desha, and Chicot) are expected to see slow growth in the public sector.

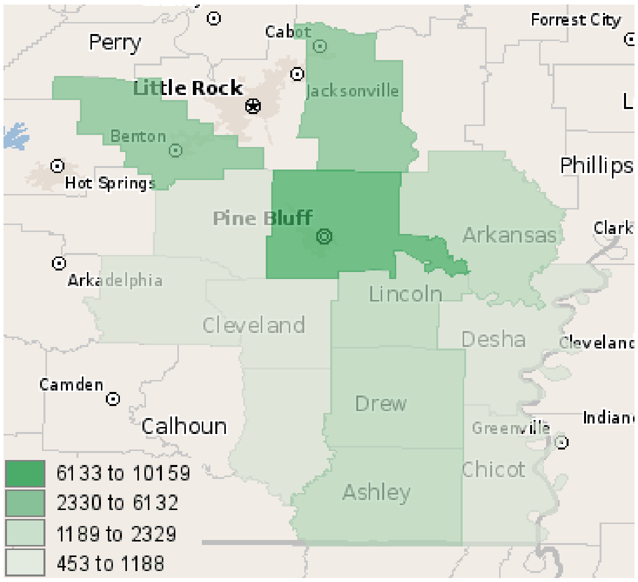
DETAILED GOVERNMENT INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
930000	Local government	20,791	22,020	1,229	6%	0.96	$45,947
920000	State government	16,400	17,379	979	6%	2.07	$48,869
911000	Federal government, civilian, except postal service	4,302	4,447	145	3%	1.32	$102,522
912000	Federal government, military	3,592	3,556	(36)	(1%)	1.16	$60,173

HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

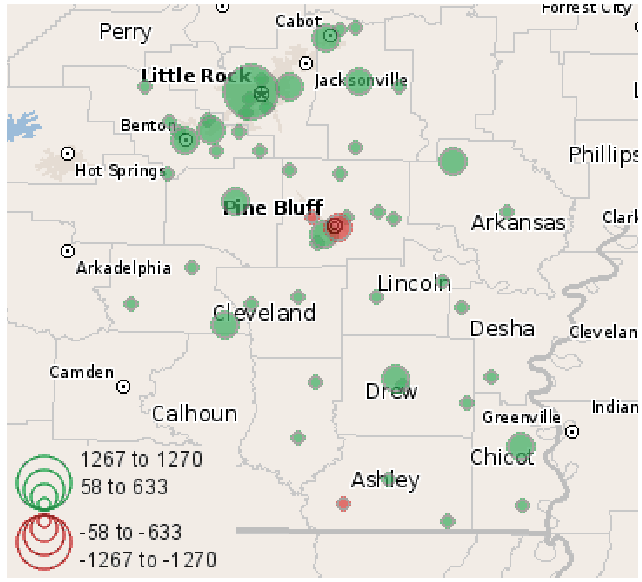
This sector comprises establishments that are primarily concerned with providing medical and social assistance to individuals, in both inpatient and outpatient settings. The sector includes both healthcare and social assistance because it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between the boundaries of these two activities.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	14,801	1.07
Jefferson	10,159	1.82
Saline	5,052	1.21
Lonoke	3,187	1.04
Drew	2,251	1.84
Lincoln	1,545	2.45
Arkansas	1,456	0.79
Ashley	1,404	1.00
Chicot	1,174	1.67
Desha	1,080	1.24
Grant	1,025	1.14
Bradley	947	1.31
Dallas	552	0.92
Cleveland	453	1.55
Southeast Arkansas	45,086	1.26
State of Arkansas	234,250	1.09

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Southern Pulaski	22,733	24,312	1,579	7%
Saline	3,734	4,534	800	21%
Lonoke	2,014	2,373	359	18%
Arkansas	1,497	1,683	186	12%
Grant	656	804	148	23%
Jefferson	5,786	5,905	119	2%
Chicot	789	888	99	13%
Dallas	959	1,031	72	8%
Drew	1,045	1,110	65	6%
Bradley	724	780	56	8%
Desha	684	717	33	5%
Cleveland	166	190	24	14%
Lincoln	433	453	20	5%
Ashley	878	883	5	1%
Southeast Arkansas	42,098	45,663	3,565	8%
State of Arkansas	179,638	200,435	20,797	12%
Nation	19,624,235	22,016,641	2,392,406	12%

HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL ASSISTANCE INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- With the presence of hospitals and healthcare education institutions such as the Arkansas Cancer Research Center, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Medical Center, the Arkansas Children's Hospital, and the Jefferson Regional Medical Center, there is potential for the development of a strong healthcare cluster within the region.
- The general medical and surgical hospitals industry accounts for the largest employment and the largest projected growth within the healthcare sector. There is stronger percentage growth, however, in other industries such as physicians' and dentists' offices, nursing care facilities, and psychiatric hospitals.

DETAILED HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL ASSISTANCE INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

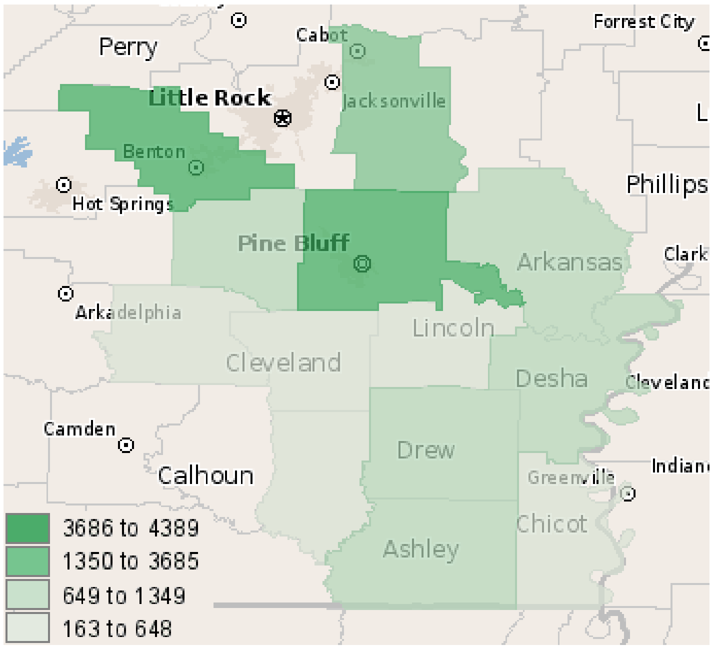
NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	12,436	13,354	918	7%	1.88	$48,568
621111	Offices of physicians, except mental health	7,157	7,810	653	9%	1.85	$88,208
623110	Nursing care facilities	5,356	5,888	532	10%	2.09	$25,478
624410	Child day care services	3,012	3,227	215	7%	1.07	$15,062
624120	Services for the elderly and disabled	2,804	2,963	159	6%	2.35	$17,632
621610	Home health care services	1,288	1,376	88	7%	0.60	$23,324
621210	Offices of dentists	1,102	1,216	114	10%	0.81	$54,235
622210	Psychiatric and substance abuse hospitals	1,010	1,178	168	17%	6.72	$34,844
624310	Vocational rehabilitation services	987	1,086	99	10%	1.76	$23,471
621340	Offices of specialty therapists	924	1,077	153	17%	1.60	$38,161
623990	Other residential care facilities	714	867	153	21%	2.69	$36,147
622310	Other hospitals	527	663	136	26%	1.79	$54,056
623210	Residential mental retardation facilities	435	531	96	22%	0.75	$21,305
621991	Blood and organ banks	389	366	(23)	(6%)	2.80	$51,962
621420	Outpatient mental health centers	375	267	(108)	(29%)	1.40	$39,003
623312	Homes for the elderly	352	463	111	32%	0.66	$20,891
624190	Other individual and family services	316	279	(37)	(12%)	0.44	$33,258
621511	Medical laboratories	306	327	21	7%	1.15	$55,393
621320	Offices of optometrists	304	323	19	6%	1.56	$38,776
621399	Offices of miscellaneous health practitioners	261	300	39	15%	0.52	$43,456
624110	Child and youth services	234	204	(30)	(13%)	0.65	$27,464
621493	Freestanding emergency medical centers	190	224	34	18%	1.30	$50,352
623220	Residential mental and substance abuse care	177	172	(5)	(3%)	0.61	$30,946
621310	Offices of chiropractors	159	158	(1)	(1%)	0.65	$33,384
624221	Temporary shelters	154	163	9	6%	1.53	$18,831
621492	Kidney dialysis centers	145	161	16	11%	0.98	$52,214
621112	Offices of mental health physicians	137	155	18	13%	0.83	$61,367
621512	Diagnostic imaging centers	129	161	32	25%	1.04	$76,211

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
621910	Ambulance services	127	94	(33)	(26%)	0.45	$32,378
621330	Offices of mental health practitioners	125	141	16	13%	0.38	$31,010
624210	Community food services	87	69	(18)	(21%)	1.67	$31,747
621498	All other outpatient care centers	81	107	26	32%	0.51	$76,172
624230	Emergency and other relief services	81	84	3	4%	1.58	$25,783

RETAIL TRADE

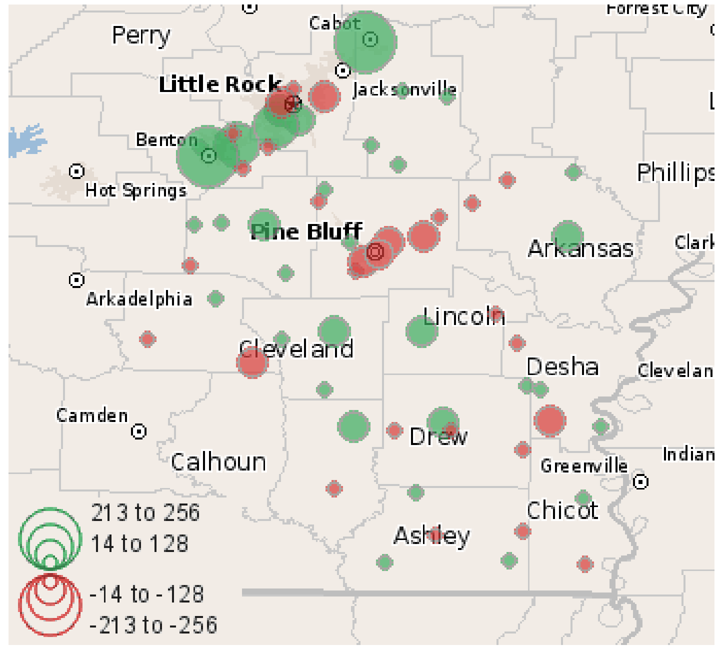
The retail trade sector comprises establishments engaged in retailing merchandise, generally without transformation, and rendering services incidental to the sale of merchandise.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	10,370	1.54
Saline	4,389	1.41
Jefferson	3,925	0.94
Lonoke	2,744	1.19
Arkansas	1,286	0.93
Drew	1,065	1.16
Ashley	1,017	0.97
Grant	698	1.04
Desha	650	1.00
Bradley	464	0.86
Chicot	461	0.87
Dallas	417	0.93
Lincoln	266	0.56
Cleveland	163	0.74
Southeast Arkansas	27,915	0.96
State of Arkansas	161,465	1.00

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	4,389	4,829	440	10%
Lonoke	2,744	3,024	280	10%
Grant	698	800	102	15%
Lincoln	266	311	45	17%
Southern Pulaski	10,370	10,406	36	0%
Bradley	464	496	32	7%
Drew	1,065	1,088	23	2%
Cleveland	163	184	21	13%
Arkansas	1,286	1,302	16	1%
Ashley	1,017	1,026	9	1%
Chicot	461	459	(2)	0%
Desha	650	613	(37)	(6%)
Dallas	417	368	(49)	(12%)
Jefferson	3,925	3,702	(223)	(6%)
Southeast Arkansas	27,915	28,608	693	2%
State of Arkansas	161,465	168,831	7,366	5%
Nation	18,190,406	18,811,964	621,558	3%

RETAIL INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- The majority of the region's retail jobs are centered in the high population counties. Projections indicate that there will be a shift in retail jobs away from Jefferson County to the north, particularly into Saline and Lonoke Counties.

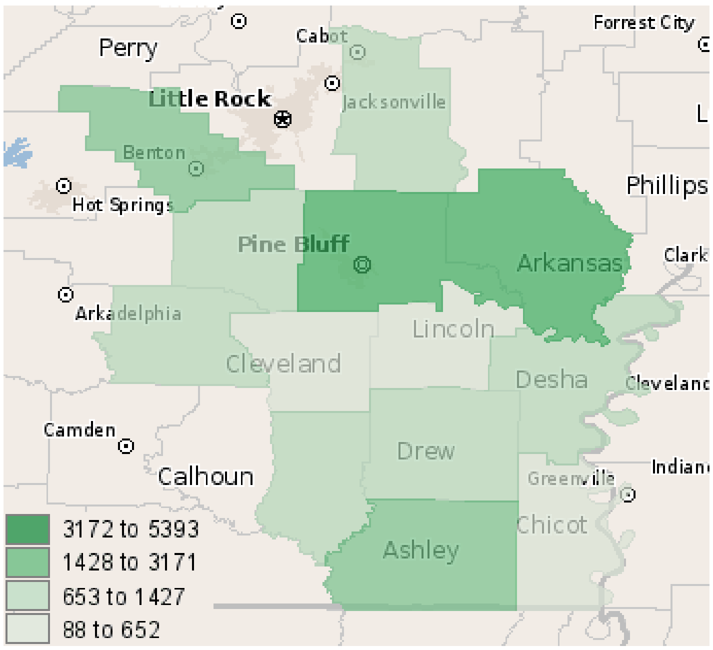
DETAILED RETAIL INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
4529	Other general merchandise stores	5,687	6,686	999	18%	2.39	$23,645
4451	Grocery stores	2,997	3,087	90	3%	0.80	$23,180
4471	Gasoline stations	2,102	1,847	(255)	(12%)	1.66	$25,665
4411	Automobile dealers	2,025	1,889	(136)	(7%)	1.19	$59,757
4461	Health and personal care stores	1,968	2,108	140	7%	1.09	$34,028
4481	Clothing stores	1,666	1,738	72	4%	0.90	$16,413
4441	Building material and supplies dealers	1,627	1,795	168	10%	0.98	$33,575
4521	Department stores	1,519	1,054	(465)	(31%)	0.67	$20,418
4413	Auto parts, accessories, and tire stores	1,244	1,202	(42)	(3%)	1.61	$32,463
4543	Direct selling establishments	1,180	1,125	(55)	(5%)	0.65	$11,881
4539	Other miscellaneous store retailers	1,073	1,181	108	10%	1.08	$24,466
4511	Sporting goods and musical instrument stores	593	597	4	1%	0.70	$22,822
4431	Electronics and appliance stores	482	490	8	2%	0.57	$37,236
4532	Office supplies, stationery, and gift stores	473	475	2	0%	0.65	$16,957
4533	Used merchandise stores	458	484	26	6%	1.09	$15,796
4421	Furniture stores	373	366	(7)	(2%)	0.96	$36,712
4422	Home furnishings stores	367	389	22	6%	0.85	$28,923
4412	Other motor vehicle dealers	338	337	(1)	0%	1.17	$45,072
4453	Beer, wine, and liquor stores	254	234	(20)	(8%)	1.12	$41,734
4482	Shoe stores	250	262	12	5%	0.88	$17,706
4442	Lawn and garden equipment and supplies stores	229	246	17	7%	1.00	$41,357
4531	Florists	208	216	8	4%	0.98	$18,952
4512	Book, periodical, and music stores	194	195	1	1%	0.64	$10,141
4483	Jewelry, luggage, and leather goods stores	189	188	(1)	(1%)	0.59	$33,144
4452	Specialty food stores	185	180	(5)	(3%)	0.46	$32,962
4542	Vending machine operators	146	140	(6)	(4%)	1.20	$22,693
4541	Electronic shopping and mail-order houses	86	100	14	16%	0.15	$19,785

MANUFACTURING

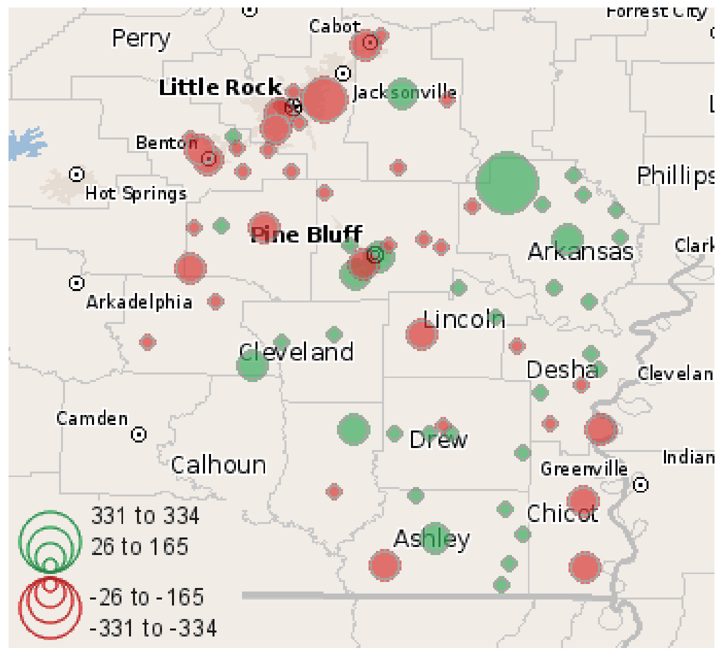
The manufacturing sector comprises establishments engaged in the mechanical, physical, or chemical transformation of materials, substances, or components into new products.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	5,567	0.79
Jefferson	5,393	1.90
Arkansas	3,330	3.54
Ashley	2,304	3.23
Saline	1,661	0.78
Lonoke	1,274	0.82
Grant	897	1.96
Dallas	881	2.88
Bradley	747	2.03
Drew	706	1.14
Desha	704	1.60
Chicot	307	0.86
Lincoln	277	0.86
Cleveland	88	0.59
Southeast Arkansas	24,136	1.32
State of Arkansas	167,740	1.53

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	3,330	3,781	451	14%
Dallas	881	1,000	119	14%
Jefferson	5,393	5,510	117	2%
Ashley	2,304	2,374	70	3%
Lonoke	1,274	1,301	27	2%
Bradley	747	772	25	3%
Cleveland	88	92	4	5%
Drew	706	704	(2)	0%
Chicot	307	232	(75)	(24%)
Desha	704	626	(78)	(11%)
Saline	1,661	1,525	(136)	(8%)
Grant	897	750	(147)	(16%)
Lincoln	277	119	(158)	(57%)
Southern Pulaski	5,567	5,018	(549)	(10%)
Southeast Arkansas	24,136	23,804	(332)	(1%)
State of Arkansas	167,740	169,441	1,701	1%
Nation	12,343,643	11,864,224	(479,419)	(4%)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- There are a number of promising niche manufacturing businesses within the region. For instance, chemical product and preparation; footwear; and HVAC and commercial refrigeration machinery are all projected to grow over 34% over the next five years. The growth in these industries could help to offset the decline in jobs at the Pine Bluff Arsenal.
- Manufacturing businesses have a strong foothold in nearly all the counties in Southeast Arkansas, but not all of them are anticipated to offer increasing job opportunities. Arkansas and Dallas Counties, in particular, show the greatest potential for growth, whereas Pulaski, Lincoln, and Grant Counties are anticipated to see precipitous drops in employment.

DETAILED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
3221	Pulp, paper, and paperboard mills	2,485	2,276	(209)	(8%)	15.44	$93,665
3116	Animal slaughtering and processing	2,268	2,385	117	5%	3.00	$37,233
3329	Other fabricated metal product manufacturing	1,631	1,599	(32)	(2%)	4.35	$46,449
3112	Grain and oilseed milling	1,357	1,295	(62)	(5%)	14.92	$50,375
3222	Converted paper product manufacturing	1,268	1,198	(70)	(6%)	3.05	$53,437
3334	HVAC and commercial refrigeration equipment	1,010	1,132	122	12%	5.11	$47,079
3212	Plywood and engineered wood product mfg.	930	913	(17)	(2%)	7.79	$55,429
3323	Architectural and structural metals mfg.	911	777	(134)	(15%)	1.67	$57,944
3219	Other wood product manufacturing	896	921	25	3%	2.56	$36,958
3211	Sawmills and wood preservation	829	619	(210)	(25%)	6.22	$47,843
3231	Printing and related support activities	618	605	(13)	(2%)	0.74	$48,136
3261	Plastics product manufacturing	572	569	(3)	(1%)	0.74	$50,015
3256	Soap, cleaning compound, and toiletry mfg.	541	352	(189)	(35%)	3.40	$63,900
3336	Turbine and power transmission equipment mfg.	502	579	77	15%	3.54	$71,879
3162	Footwear manufacturing	496	665	169	34%	24.19	$29,014
3353	Electrical equipment manufacturing	472	428	(44)	(9%)	2.22	$45,069
3363	Motor vehicle parts manufacturing	469	587	118	25%	0.76	$33,806
3399	Other miscellaneous manufacturing	405	561	156	39%	0.68	$38,421
3339	Other general purpose machinery manufacturing	399	356	(43)	(11%)	1.11	$58,214
3331	Ag., construction, and mining machinery mfg.	382	425	43	11%	1.17	$36,255
3251	Basic chemical manufacturing	339	407	68	20%	1.61	$91,574
3121	Beverage manufacturing	325	286	(39)	(12%)	1.20	$61,048
3115	Dairy product manufacturing	303	298	(5)	(2%)	1.55	$47,606
3149	Other textile product mills	298	215	(83)	(28%)	3.52	$57,013
3371	Household and institutional furniture mfg.	292	307	15	5%	0.75	$37,964
3344	Semiconductor and electronic component mfg.	262	250	(12)	(5%)	0.49	$51,932
3366	Ship and boat building	260	281	21	8%	1.30	$35,357
3327	Machine shops and threaded product mfg.	233	205	(28)	(12%)	0.48	$41,615
3151	Apparel knitting mills	218	55	(163)	(75%)	7.13	$29,815

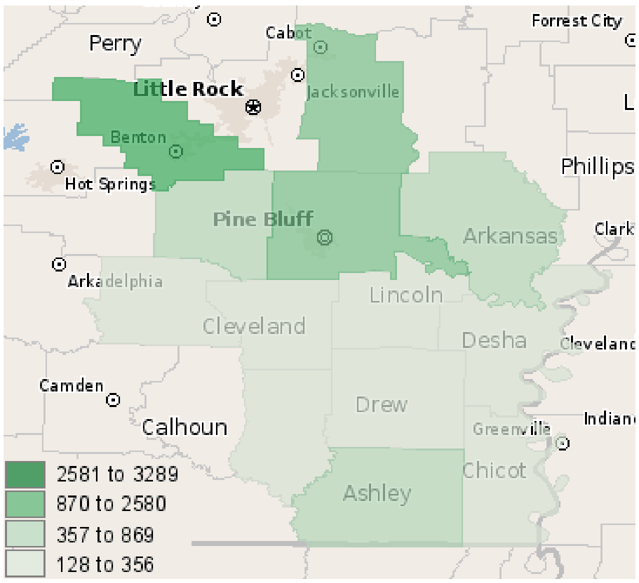
DETAILED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN (CONT.)

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
3152	Cut and sew apparel manufacturing	198	133	(65)	(33%)	0.89	$18,848
3391	Medical equipment and supplies manufacturing	190	215	25	13%	0.40	$62,360
3372	Office furniture and fixtures manufacturing	189	194	5	3%	1.15	$56,913
3119	Other food manufacturing	162	149	(13)	(8%)	0.60	$57,948
3313	Alumina and aluminum production	161	82	(79)	(49%)	1.96	$71,182
3312	Steel product mfg. from purchased steel	159	118	(41)	(26%)	2.07	$56,458
3335	Metalworking machinery manufacturing	153	192	39	25%	0.63	$57,466
3111	Animal food manufacturing	145	156	11	8%	1.81	$59,061
3273	Cement and concrete product manufacturing	142	123	(19)	(13%)	0.47	$46,448
3259	Other chemical product and preparation mfg.	132	361	229	173%	0.96	$76,297
3117	Seafood product preparation and packaging	129	69	(60)	(47%)	2.20	$31,679
3118	Bakeries and tortilla manufacturing	120	110	(10)	(8%)	0.27	$31,899
3333	Commercial and service industry machinery	118	117	(1)	(1%)	0.83	$49,860
3279	Other nonmetallic mineral products	95	100	5	5%	0.89	$32,778
3241	Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	94	67	(27)	(29%)	0.57	$92,055
3159	Accessories and other apparel manufacturing	92	103	11	12%	3.93	$19,983
3252	Resin, rubber, and artificial fibers mfg.	88	148	60	68%	0.63	$55,958
3262	Rubber product manufacturing	84	107	23	27%	0.45	$60,371
3253	Agricultural chemical manufacturing	79	156	77	97%	1.45	$59,981
3362	Motor vehicle body and trailer manufacturing	68	66	(2)	(3%)	0.42	$89,700
3379	Other furniture-related product manufacturing	68	73	5	7%	1.18	$31,006
3326	Spring and wire product manufacturing	51	31	(20)	(39%)	0.79	$45,579

CONSTRUCTION

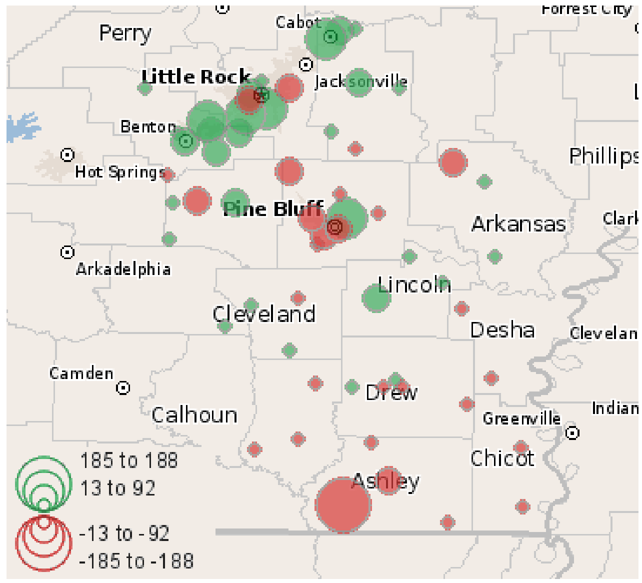
The construction sector comprises establishments primarily engaged in the construction of buildings or engineering projects (*e.g.*, highways and utility systems). Establishments primarily engaged in the preparation of sites for new construction and subdividing land for sale as building sites also are included in this sector. This sector includes employment for both contractors and subcontractors.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	4,467	0.78
Saline	3,289	1.90
Lonoke	2,304	1.81
Jefferson	2,151	0.93
Ashley	802	1.37
Grant	599	1.60
Arkansas	570	0.74
Bradley	339	1.13
Drew	278	0.55
Lincoln	251	0.96
Desha	235	0.65
Chicot	210	0.72
Dallas	157	0.63
Cleveland	128	1.06
Southeast Arkansas	15,780	1.06
State of Arkansas	100,285	1.12

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	3,289	3,573	284	9%
Southern Pulaski	4,467	4,706	239	5%
Lonoke	2,304	2,542	238	10%
Grant	599	642	43	7%
Lincoln	251	290	39	16%
Dallas	157	167	10	6%
Cleveland	128	130	2	2%
Drew	278	278	0	0%
Bradley	339	333	(6)	(2%)
Arkansas	570	561	(9)	(2%)
Desha	235	224	(11)	(5%)
Chicot	210	195	(15)	(7%)
Jefferson	2,151	2,134	(17)	(1%)
Ashley	802	590	(212)	(26%)
Southeast Arkansas	15,780	16,365	585	4%
State of Arkansas	100,285	108,675	8,390	8%
Nation	10,103,516	11,294,358	1,190,842	12%

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- Prior to the recession, the construction industry was booming in Pulaski, Saline, and Lonoke Counties, and even Bradley County, to a lesser extent. Since 2007, these counties have all seen an extreme drop in construction activity. More recently, the federal stimulus package has helped many construction laborers get back to work in all counties across the region. When the housing industry rebounds, increased construction employment will likely occur in the same areas that were booming prior to the recession.

DETAILED CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

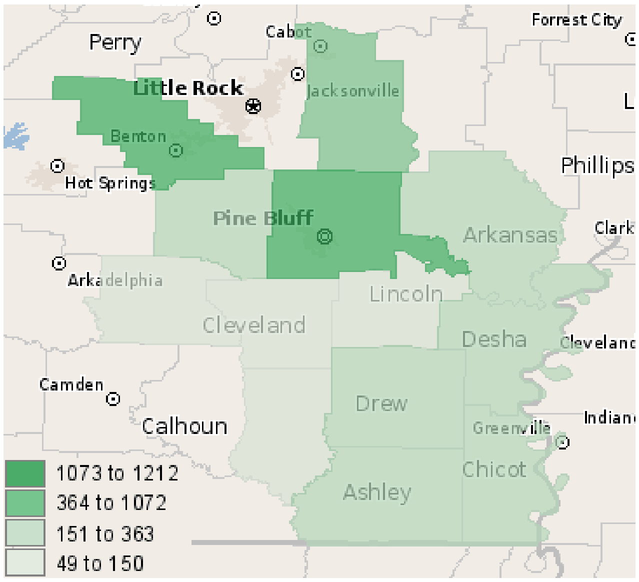
NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
238221	Residential plumbing and HVAC contractors	1,255	1,448	193	15%	1.61	$40,702
236210	Industrial building construction	1,205	1,378	173	14%	4.13	$52,340
237990	Other heavy construction	1,070	1,201	131	12%	3.89	$66,696
238212	Nonresidential electrical contractors	910	934	24	3%	0.89	$44,632
238912	Nonresidential site preparation contractors	900	1,003	103	11%	1.31	$35,308
236115	New single-family general contractors	842	835	(7)	(1%)	0.77	$62,214
237310	Highway, street, and bridge construction	720	836	116	16%	1.44	$43,504
238222	Nonresidential plumbing and HVAC contractors	670	680	10	1%	0.75	$48,332
236220	Commercial building construction	657	586	(71)	(11%)	0.65	$49,937
238122	Nonresidential structural steel & precast concrete contractors	627	577	(50)	(8%)	3.83	$80,761
237130	Power and communication system construction	568	439	(129)	(23%)	2.56	$53,803
238211	Residential electrical contractors	472	564	92	19%	0.95	$37,516
238322	Nonresidential painting contractors	463	460	(3)	(1%)	1.58	$39,327
238142	Nonresidential masonry contractors	427	376	(51)	(12%)	2.06	$42,201
238351	Residential finish carpentry contractors	398	474	76	19%	1.12	$27,673
238992	All other nonresidential trade contractors	366	306	(60)	(16%)	0.72	$36,401
236118	Residential remodelers	353	375	22	6%	0.50	$64,787
238312	Nonresidential drywall contractors	336	278	(58)	(17%)	0.62	$42,196
238162	Nonresidential roofing contractors	297	279	(18)	(6%)	1.42	$47,331
237110	Water and sewer system construction	274	281	7	3%	0.95	$38,938
238341	Residential tile and terrazzo contractors	255	318	63	25%	2.01	$25,530
238911	Residential site preparation contractors	254	296	42	17%	0.64	$31,898
238311	Residential drywall contractors	251	314	63	25%	0.69	$30,512
238111	Residential poured foundation contractors	199	243	44	22%	0.99	$31,775
238152	Nonresidential glass and glazing contractors	183	191	8	4%	2.12	$39,686
238991	All other residential trade contractors	175	173	(2)	(1%)	0.38	$41,772
238321	Residential painting contractors	166	132	(34)	(20%)	0.45	$26,439
237210	Land subdivision	158	188	30	19%	0.84	$63,563

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
238141	Residential masonry contractors	125	117	(8)	(6%)	0.64	$29,368
238112	Nonresidential poured foundation contractors	123	85	(38)	(31%)	0.57	$36,129
238292	Other nonresidential building equipment contractors	113	74	(39)	(35%)	0.61	$43,209
238291	Other residential building equipment contractors	106	130	24	23%	3.35	$34,434
238392	Other nonresidential finishing contractors	105	105	0	0%	0.74	$29,338
238192	Other nonresidential exterior contractors	99	109	10	10%	1.38	$32,389
238331	Residential flooring contractors	91	101	10	11%	0.59	$28,628
238161	Residential roofing contractors	73	63	(10)	(14%)	0.47	$33,830
238332	Nonresidential flooring contractors	66	46	(20)	(30%)	0.77	$41,721
238151	Residential glass and glazing contractors	61	68	7	11%	1.41	$39,134
238352	Nonresidential finish carpentry contractors	59	32	(27)	(46%)	0.47	$32,131
238171	Residential siding contractors	57	45	(12)	(21%)	0.82	$36,617

PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES

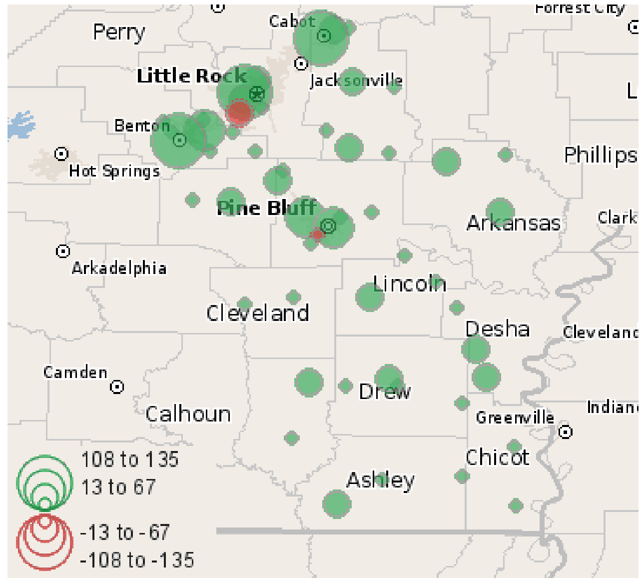
The professional, scientific, & technical services sector comprises establishments that require a high degree of expertise and training. Activities performed by workers in this sector include, but are not limited to, the following: legal representation; accounting services; architectural, engineering, and design services; computer services; advertising services; and other professional, scientific, and technical services.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Jefferson	1,212	0.42
Saline	1,138	0.53
Lonoke	868	0.55
Arkansas	288	0.30
Ashley	247	0.34
Drew	192	0.30
Grant	188	0.40
Desha	156	0.35
Chicot	151	0.41
Bradley	99	0.27
Dallas	74	0.24
Lincoln	70	0.21
Cleveland	49	0.32
Southern Pulaski	3,235	0.45
Southeast Arkansas	7,967	0.43
State of Arkansas	64,984	0.58

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	1,138	1,408	270	24%
Lonoke	868	1,082	214	25%
Jefferson	1,212	1,389	177	15%
Southern Pulaski	3,235	3,342	107	3%
Arkansas	288	339	51	18%
Desha	156	200	44	28%
Ashley	247	288	41	17%
Grant	188	215	27	14%
Drew	192	216	24	13%
Bradley	99	119	20	20%
Chicot	151	170	19	13%
Lincoln	70	86	16	23%
Cleveland	49	61	12	24%
Dallas	74	75	1	1%
Southeast Arkansas	7,967	8,990	1,023	13%
State of Arkansas	64,984	75,119	10,135	16%
Nation	12,551,699	14,325,563	1,773,864	14%

PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- Every county in the region is anticipated to experience growth in professional and technical services. This signifies that the region is moving toward a more knowledge-based economy. There are many promising opportunities for bachelor's and master's degree holders with large, growing companies in the region.
- The professional and technical industry sector offers the greatest opportunity for entrepreneurial and small business growth. This sector has the lowest jobs-per-establishment ratio within the region at roughly eight workers per establishment. By implication, there are many opportunities for new job creation and business expansion.

DETAILED PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

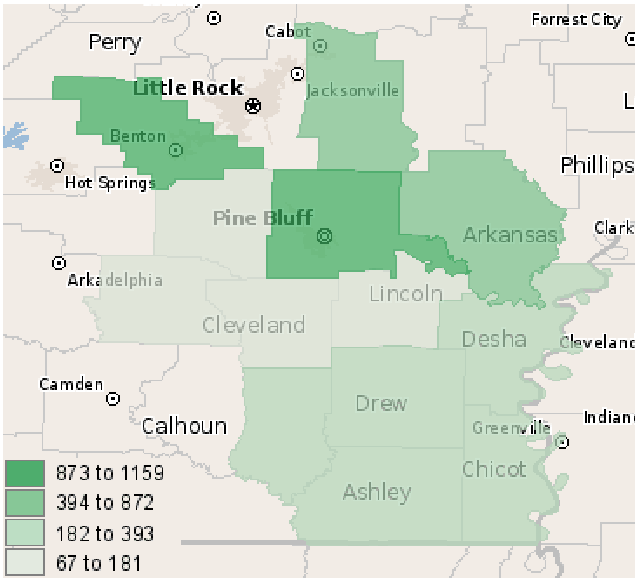
NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
541990	All other professional and technical services	1,020	885	(135)	(13%)	0.64	$34,527
541110	Offices of lawyers	725	883	158	22%	0.34	$45,585
541219	Other accounting services	485	523	38	8%	0.58	$20,864
541710	Physical, engineering and biological research	484	592	108	22%	0.52	$61,483
541330	Engineering services	452	462	10	2%	0.29	$62,125
541213	Tax preparation services	388	446	58	15%	1.07	$15,454
541940	Veterinary services	365	418	53	15%	0.74	$31,331
541614	Process and logistics consulting services	311	388	77	25%	1.12	$41,224
541613	Marketing consulting services	306	447	141	46%	0.64	$29,689
541611	Administrative management consulting services	300	353	53	18%	0.26	$38,925
541620	Environmental consulting services	290	332	42	14%	1.19	$46,057
541211	Offices of certified public accountants	286	281	(5)	(2%)	0.40	$50,852
541512	Computer systems design services	283	333	50	18%	0.21	$53,669
541380	Testing laboratories	251	282	31	12%	1.11	$52,573
541921	Photography studios, portrait	224	238	14	6%	0.73	$18,511
541690	Other technical consulting services	214	307	93	43%	0.45	$41,545
541511	Custom computer programming services	165	200	35	21%	0.13	$52,874
541430	Graphic design services	159	192	33	21%	0.49	$34,431
541930	Translation and interpretation services	139	165	26	19%	1.17	$19,256
541850	Display advertising	130	149	19	15%	1.61	$36,660
541320	Landscape architectural services	114	122	8	7%	0.91	$33,117
541191	Title abstract and settlement offices	113	151	38	34%	1.04	$36,228
541310	Architectural services	98	110	12	12%	0.25	$75,454
541370	Other surveying and mapping services	94	96	2	2%	0.97	$33,583
541910	Marketing research and public opinion polling	91	99	8	9%	0.42	$19,464

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
541810	Advertising agencies	86	111	25	29%	0.22	$36,478
541410	Interior design services	52	64	12	23%	0.27	$15,411
541513	Computer facilities management services	52	56	4	8%	0.48	$58,343
541890	Other services related to advertising	48	52	4	8%	0.32	$29,440
541519	Other computer related services	45	52	7	16%	0.21	$39,573
541340	Drafting services	41	40	(1)	(2%)	0.63	$16,514
541350	Building inspection services	37	50	13	35%	0.64	$27,037

FINANCE & INSURANCE

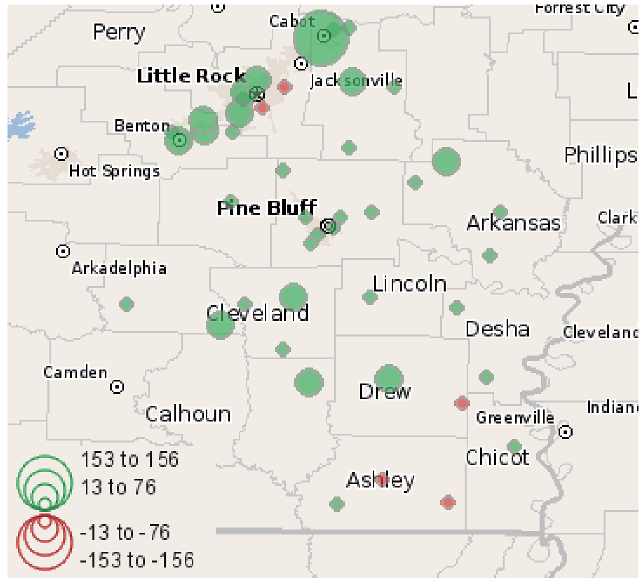
The finance & insurance sector comprises establishments primarily engaged in processing or facilitating financial transactions. This sector includes industries that specialize in financial intermediation, underwriting insurance and annuities, and providing specialized services for facilitating financial activity.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	1,754	0.35
Jefferson	1,159	0.57
Saline	1,046	0.69
Lonoke	862	0.77
Arkansas	426	0.63
Drew	295	0.66
Ashley	295	0.58
Bradley	199	0.76
Chicot	195	0.76
Desha	194	0.61
Grant	177	0.54
Dallas	133	0.60
Lincoln	81	0.35
Cleveland	67	0.63
Southeast Arkansas	6,883	0.53
State of Arkansas	52,995	0.67

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Lonoke	862	1,041	179	21%
Saline	1,046	1,187	141	13%
Southern Pulaski	1,754	1,855	101	6%
Jefferson	1,159	1,201	42	4%
Arkansas	426	459	33	8%
Bradley	199	222	23	12%
Cleveland	67	86	19	28%
Dallas	133	150	17	13%
Drew	295	310	15	5%
Grant	177	188	11	6%
Desha	194	204	10	5%
Lincoln	81	86	5	6%
Ashley	295	299	4	1%
Chicot	195	197	2	1%
Southeast Arkansas	6,883	7,485	602	9%
State of Arkansas	52,995	57,919	4,924	9%
Nation	8,862,445	9,714,902	852,457	10%

FINANCE & INSURANCE INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- The concentration of jobs in finance and insurance is considerably below what would be expected for a region of this size. There are 47% fewer jobs in finance and insurance in Southeast Arkansas than the national average–only slightly behind the state of Arkansas, which has 33% fewer jobs than the national average. Though the region currently lags in this industry sector, growth in other sectors will necessarily lead to greater growth in finance and insurance.

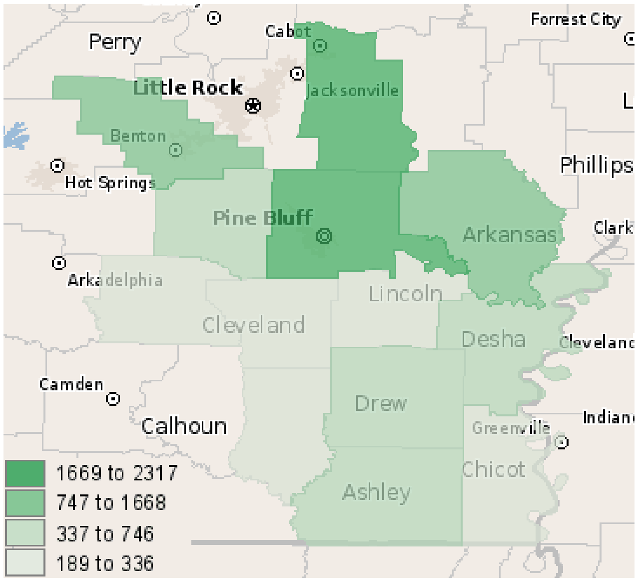
DETAILED FINANCE & INSURANCE INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
522110	Commercial banking	2,231	2,297	66	3%	1.11	$47,877
524210	Insurance agencies and brokerages	1,449	1,561	112	8%	0.82	$41,439
523920	Portfolio management	464	605	141	30%	0.43	$11,690
523930	Investment advice	432	554	122	28%	0.37	$7,677
524292	Third party administration of insurance funds	366	430	64	17%	1.04	$42,054
524126	Direct property and casualty insurers	203	189	(14)	(7%)	0.28	$75,132
524291	Claims adjusting	197	225	28	14%	1.36	$49,602
522130	Credit unions	175	186	11	6%	0.50	$36,096
525920	Trusts, estates, and agency accounts	149	203	54	36%	2.13	$37,076
522320	Financial transaction processing and clearing	128	172	44	34%	0.53	$37,644
524113	Direct life insurance carriers	122	110	(12)	(10%)	0.28	$69,260
522292	Real estate credit	118	94	(24)	(20%)	0.35	$64,245
523120	Securities brokerage	114	135	21	18%	0.19	$59,323
524114	Direct health and medical insurance carriers	109	113	4	4%	0.19	$74,425
524127	Direct title insurance carriers	73	70	(3)	(4%)	0.81	$36,261
523910	Miscellaneous intermediation	61	63	2	3%	0.25	$6,596
522210	Credit card issuing	54	55	1	2%	0.34	$58,418
522390	Other credit intermediation activities	44	39	(5)	(11%)	0.22	$25,600
522120	Savings institutions	43	18	(25)	(58%)	0.15	$52,423
524298	All other insurance related activities	43	41	(2)	(5%)	0.30	$19,833
522220	Sales financing	42	39	(3)	(7%)	0.27	$88,699
523110	Investment banking and securities dealing	41	49	8	20%	0.12	$92,990
522298	All other nondepository credit intermediation	37	27	(10)	(27%)	0.40	$49,903
522190	Other depository credit intermediation	36	38	2	6%	1.47	$63,652
525190	Other insurance funds	36	43	7	19%	0.29	$39,488
522310	Mortgage and nonmortgage loan brokers	33	31	(2)	(6%)	0.17	$35,566

WHOLESALE, TRANSPORTATION, & WAREHOUSING

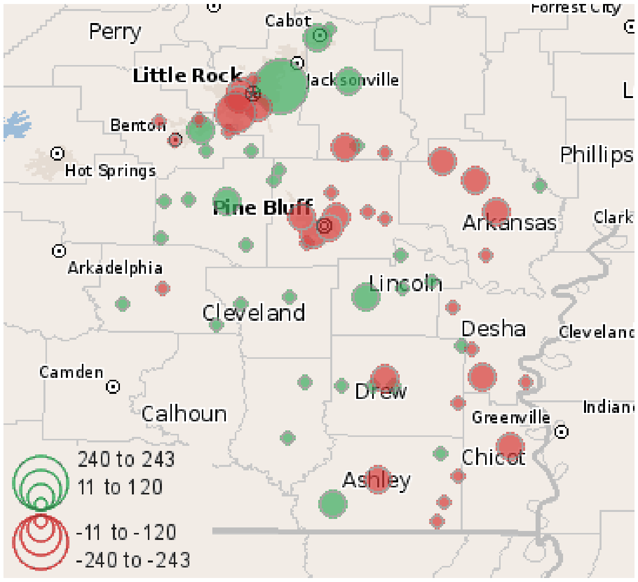
This sector is composed of two separate industry sectors in the standard NAICS system. Wholesale trade, and transportation & warehousing are typically in different categories, but they have been combined here because they share many similarities in terms of labor requirements. Wholesale trade comprises establishments that sell merchandise at the wholesale, rather than retail, level. Transportation & warehousing consists of establishments that assist in storing and moving of goods for wholesale, retail, or direct delivery.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	16,012	1.42
Jefferson	2,317	0.79
Lonoke	1,766	1.09
Saline	1,542	0.70
Arkansas	1,053	1.08
Grant	556	1.17
Ashley	518	0.70
Drew	461	0.71
Desha	413	0.90
Chicot	252	0.68
Lincoln	224	0.67
Bradley	217	0.57
Cleveland	203	1.32
Dallas	189	0.60
Southeast Arkansas	25,723	1.48
State of Arkansas	126,895	1.11

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Lonoke	1,766	1,835	69	4%
Grant	556	608	52	9%
Lincoln	224	264	40	18%
Cleveland	203	219	16	8%
Bradley	217	229	12	6%
Saline	1,542	1,547	5	0%
Dallas	189	193	4	2%
Drew	461	462	1	0%
Ashley	518	504	(14)	(3%)
Desha	413	390	(23)	(6%)
Chicot	252	217	(35)	(14%)
Arkansas	1,053	973	(80)	(8%)
Jefferson	2,317	2,166	(151)	(7%)
Southern Pulaski	16,012	15,928	(84)	(1%)
Southeast Arkansas	25,723	25,535	(188)	(1%)
State of Arkansas	126,895	134,579	7,684	6%
Nation	12,807,198	13,379,765	572,567	4%

WHOLESALE, TRANSPORTATION, & WAREHOUSING INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- The wholesale, transportation & warehousing industry accounts for a substantial number of jobs in Southeast Arkansas. Projections indicate a decline in this industry in the coming years, particularly in Jefferson and Arkansas Counties. But the fate of wholesale, transportation & warehousing jobs is often tied to the success of manufacturing industries, so if manufacturing employment increases, this sector likely will as well.

DETAILED WHOLESALE, TRANSPORTATION, & WAREHOUSING INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

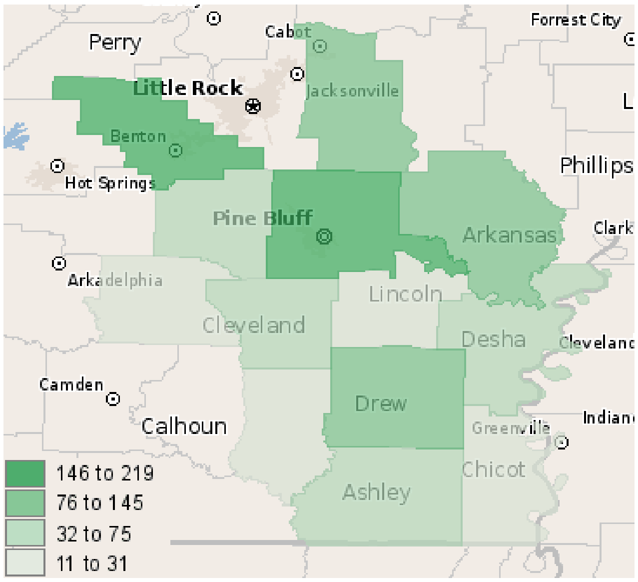
NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
4841	General freight trucking	4,826	4,828	2	0%	2.09	$53,040
4921	Couriers	1,941	1,900	(41)	(2%)	1.70	$37,993
4238	Machinery and supply merchant wholesalers	1,884	1,641	(243)	(13%)	1.88	$56,673
4244	Grocery and related product wholesalers	1,883	1,872	(11)	(1%)	1.67	$57,624
4251	Electronic markets and agents and brokers	1,672	1,568	(104)	(6%)	1.19	$88,166
4821	Rail transportation	1,538	1,555	17	1%	4.21	$86,910
4842	Specialized freight trucking	1,239	1,494	255	21%	1.81	$56,451
4236	Electric goods merchant wholesalers	1,042	1,127	85	8%	2.05	$60,322
4911	Postal service	1,023	933	(90)	(9%)	0.98	$74,667
4231	Motor vehicle and parts merchant wholesalers	898	877	(21)	(2%)	1.79	$56,171
4249	Misc. nondurable goods merchant wholesalers	821	748	(73)	(9%)	1.26	$48,251
4242	Druggists' goods merchant wholesalers	778	861	83	11%	2.47	$48,895
4931	Warehousing and storage	651	658	7	1%	0.61	$32,861
4237	Hardware and plumbing merchant wholesalers	583	571	(12)	(2%)	1.60	$57,971
4239	Misc. durable goods merchant wholesalers	511	471	(40)	(8%)	0.80	$53,002
4234	Commercial equip. merchant wholesalers	463	453	(10)	(2%)	0.49	$64,505
4881	Support activities for air transportation	461	521	60	13%	1.73	$53,802
4248	Alcoholic beverage merchant wholesalers	453	470	17	4%	1.78	$52,995
4233	Lumber and const. supply merchant wholesalers	326	309	(17)	(5%)	0.96	$48,123
4241	Paper and paper product merchant wholesalers	300	275	(25)	(8%)	1.43	$43,195
4247	Petroleum merchant wholesalers	274	295	21	8%	1.87	$48,532
4854	School and employee bus transportation	273	299	26	10%	0.97	$21,143
4862	Pipeline transportation of natural gas	262	226	(36)	(14%)	6.86	$62,750
4885	Freight transportation arrangement	196	176	(20)	(10%)	0.67	$81,785
4235	Metal and mineral merchant wholesalers	185	166	(19)	(10%)	0.99	$65,498
4922	Local messengers and local delivery	179	198	19	11%	1.80	$20,018
4884	Support activities for road transportation	162	171	9	6%	1.17	$36,252
4859	Other ground passenger transportation	134	137	3	2%	0.82	$18,887
4245	Farm product raw material merch. whls.	126	126	0	0%	1.09	$61,424

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
4246	Chemical merchant wholesalers	117	114	(3)	(3%)	0.60	$57,236
4882	Support activities for rail transportation	107	126	19	18%	2.76	$48,841
4889	Other support activities for transportation	84	94	10	12%	1.90	$45,403
4883	Support activities for water transportation	81	62	(19)	(23%)	0.54	$62,774
4243	Apparel and piece goods merchant wholesalers	61	60	(1)	(2%)	0.24	$36,241
4232	Furniture and furnishing merchant wholesalers	53	49	(4)	(8%)	0.29	$51,861

INFORMATION

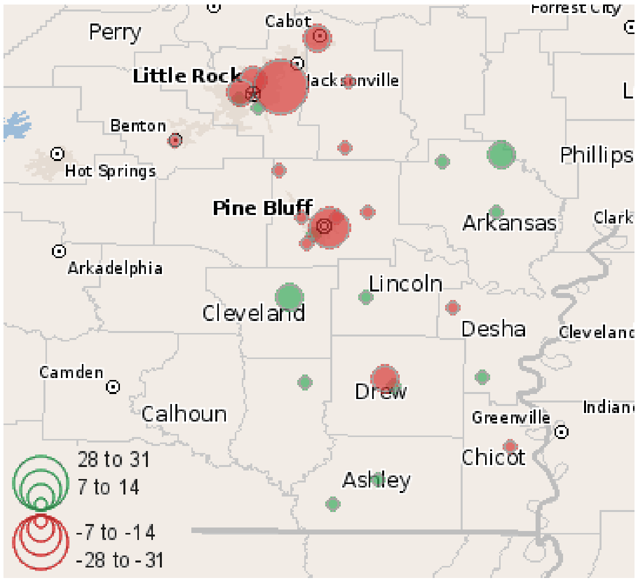
The information sector comprises establishments engaged in producing and distributing information and cultural products. The main components of this sector include the following: publishing industries, including software; motion picture and sound recording industries; broadcasting industries; telecommunications industries; internet service providers; data processing industries; and various information services industries.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Southern Pulaski	725	0.37
Saline	219	0.38
Jefferson	167	0.21
Lonoke	143	0.33
Arkansas	122	0.47
Drew	79	0.46
Ashley	60	0.31
Grant	45	0.36
Desha	42	0.35
Cleveland	35	0.87
Dallas	29	0.34
Bradley	19	0.19
Chicot	16	0.16
Lincoln	11	0.12
Southeast Arkansas	1,712	0.34
State of Arkansas	20,363	0.68

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	122	135	13	11%
Cleveland	35	43	8	23%
Bradley	19	24	5	26%
Ashley	60	63	3	5%
Lincoln	11	13	2	18%
Desha	42	44	2	5%
Chicot	16	16	0	0%
Grant	45	45	0	0%
Dallas	29	28	(1)	(3%)
Drew	79	76	(3)	(4%)
Saline	219	208	(11)	(5%)
Lonoke	143	128	(15)	(10%)
Jefferson	167	137	(30)	(18%)
Southern Pulaski	725	690	(35)	(5%)
Southeast Arkansas	1,712	1,650	(62)	(4%)
State of Arkansas	20,363	21,155	792	4%
Nation	3,392,748	3,535,430	142,682	4%

INFORMATION INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- In the information age, access to telecommunications services such as cellular phones and broadband internet is vital to economic development. Southeast Arkansas has remarkably low employment in the information sector (66% lower than the national average). With such limited employment, poor telecommunications availability is likely to be a barrier to economic development for the region. Greater investment in this industry sector could potentially lead to the attraction of new businesses, and greater innovation by existing businesses.

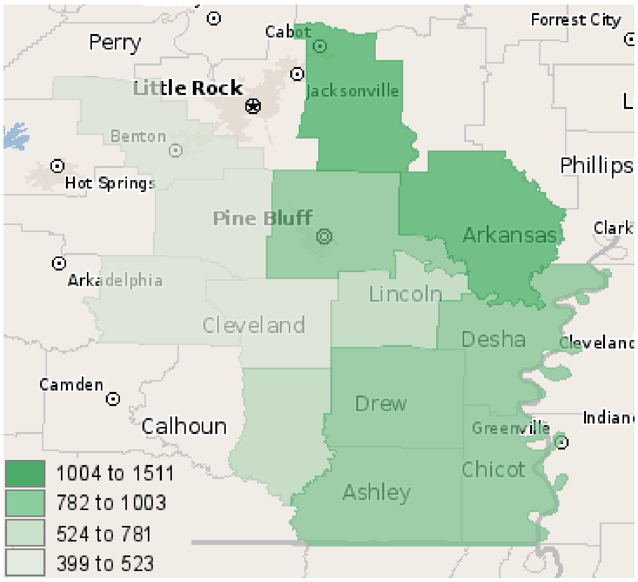
DETAILED INFORMATION INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
517110	Wired telecommunications carriers	282	240	(42)	(15%)	0.39	$98,111
511110	Newspaper publishers	251	249	(2)	(1%)	0.51	$24,934
517510	Cable and other program distribution	223	210	(13)	(6%)	0.91	$47,629
512131	Motion picture theaters, except drive-ins	177	187	10	6%	0.75	$9,677
517212	Cellular and other wireless carriers	113	122	9	8%	0.37	$54,749
515112	Radio stations	109	95	(14)	(13%)	0.83	$44,006
511210	Software publishers	69	65	(4)	(6%)	0.15	$65,631
512110	Motion picture and video production	69	75	6	9%	0.20	$56,456
511191	Greeting card publishers	64	72	8	13%	3.76	$29,485
515120	Television broadcasting	61	75	14	23%	0.30	$58,059
511199	All other publishers	46	29	(17)	(37%)	2.01	$58,141
518111	Internet service providers	45	48	3	7%	0.35	$50,859
517310	Telecommunications resellers	39	27	(12)	(31%)	0.20	$49,221
518210	Data processing and related services	37	47	10	27%	0.08	$16,881

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

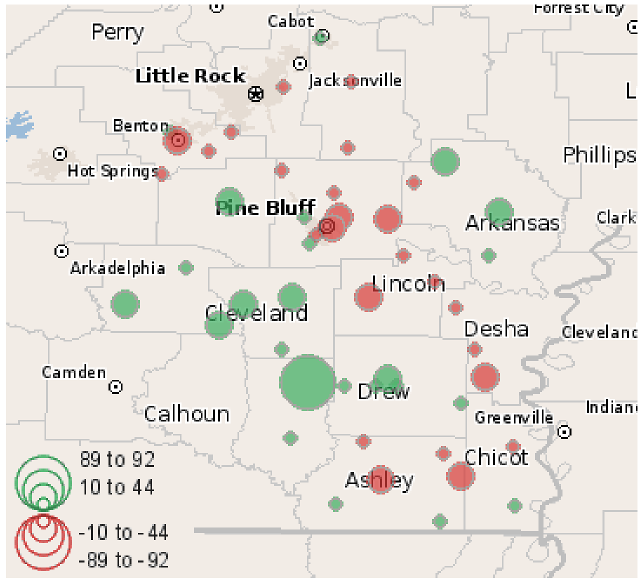
The agriculture, forestry, fishing, & hunting sector comprises establishments primarily engaged in growing crops, raising animals, harvesting timber, and harvesting fish and other animals from farms, ranches, or natural habitats.

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	2010 LQ
Lonoke	1,511	3.51
Arkansas	1,259	4.84
Jefferson	928	1.18
Chicot	869	8.77
Desha	856	7.02
Drew	817	4.76
Ashley	785	3.98
Lincoln	743	8.38
Bradley	684	6.73
Saline	442	0.75
Cleveland	441	10.72
Grant	436	3.45
Dallas	399	4.72
Southern Pulaski	47	0.02
Southeast Arkansas	10,217	2.03
State of Arkansas	68,548	2.26

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Bradley	684	779	95	14%
Dallas	399	441	42	11%
Arkansas	1,259	1,290	31	2%
Drew	817	844	27	3%
Cleveland	441	465	24	5%
Grant	436	449	13	3%
Southern Pulaski	47	46	(1)	(2%)
Lonoke	1,511	1,508	(3)	0%
Chicot	869	865	(4)	0%
Saline	442	424	(18)	(4%)
Lincoln	743	720	(23)	(3%)
Ashley	785	736	(49)	(6%)
Desha	856	805	(51)	(6%)
Jefferson	928	868	(60)	(6%)
Southeast Arkansas	10,217	10,240	23	0%
State of Arkansas	68,548	67,321	(1,227)	(2%)
Nation	3,413,122	3,332,602	(80,520)	(2%)

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- The agriculture and natural resources sector forms the bedrock of the economy in the rural parts of Southeast Arkansas. This sector ranks among the top five in employment for eight of the fourteen counties in the region. Although earnings are relatively low and there is very little new job growth, this sector is critical to the rural counties within the region.

DETAILED AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN

NAICS Code	Title	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ	Current EPW
11A000	Crop and animal production	6,770	6,480	(290)	(4%)	1.78	$25,436
113310	Logging	1,335	1,459	124	9%	8.47	$56,236
115115	Farm labor contractors and crew leaders	481	483	2	0%	1.17	$19,934
115112	Soil preparation, planting, and cultivating	354	374	20	6%	5.46	$61,046
115310	Support activities for forestry	317	403	86	27%	5.80	$37,283
115111	Cotton ginning	265	236	(29)	(11%)	13.60	$37,113
113110	Timber tract operations	175	227	52	30%	15.31	$75,558
115114	Other postharvest crop activities	133	147	14	11%	0.84	$87,342
115210	Support activities for animal production	131	124	(7)	(5%)	0.81	$32,717
114210	Hunting and trapping	96	94	(2)	(2%)	4.15	$48,814
114111	Finfish fishing	88	107	19	22%	1.41	$15,255
115116	Farm management services	73	107	34	47%	2.34	$54,690

OCCUPATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The occupational data that are contained in this section are different from the industry data contained in the section on industry characteristics. Occupational data are organized by grouping occupations together that share similar skills and work activities, rather than by the objective of the host industry. Typically, occupational data are much more helpful when studying specific employment prospects for workforce development initiatives. For instance, this section shows demand and earnings for occupations such as those of registered nurses specifically, rather than general industry-level demand that would occur at hospitals and physicians' offices.

A competent workforce is the foundation of a thriving economy. When businesses consider potential sites, their first consideration is whether the region can supply their workforce needs. Because of this, it is vitally important for regions to know their workforce strengths and how to market them to potential industries. It is equally important that residents be aware of potential job opportunities that exist in their region. Therefore, these data have the twofold purpose of serving the interests of economic developers as well as jobseekers.

The "Employment by County" tables are ranked in descending order according to 2010 jobs in order to emphasize which geographic areas currently have the greatest presence of those occupations. The "Growth by County" tables are ranked in descending order according to five-year growth in order to highlight the areas and occupations with the greatest growth potential. The "Detailed Occupational Breakdown" tables are ranked in descending order according to annual openings, which is a sum of new and replacement openings that are anticipated to be available each year. The tables are ranked according to this column in order to point out which occupations have the greatest overall labor needs.

Some county names are omitted from the maps on these pages. Please refer to page 3 of the document to find the names for all of the counties.

HIGHLIGHTS

• The region has a strong base of healthcare practitioners and technical occupations, particularly in Pulaski and Jefferson Counties. Within the region, these occupations pay roughly an average of $27 per hour and are projected to grow 10% over the next five years.

• There is a high proportion of production workers throughout the region. Their occupations pay an average of $13 per hour and are projected to continue growing in eight of the fourteen counties in the region, including Arkansas, Ashley and Jefferson. Finding re-employment for displaced production workers is key to maintaining the region's competitive advantage in the manufacturing industry.

• Workers with training in education are in high demand across the region. Between 2010 and 2015, there is an anticipated need for more than 1,100 new education workers, plus 1,500 more replacement workers.

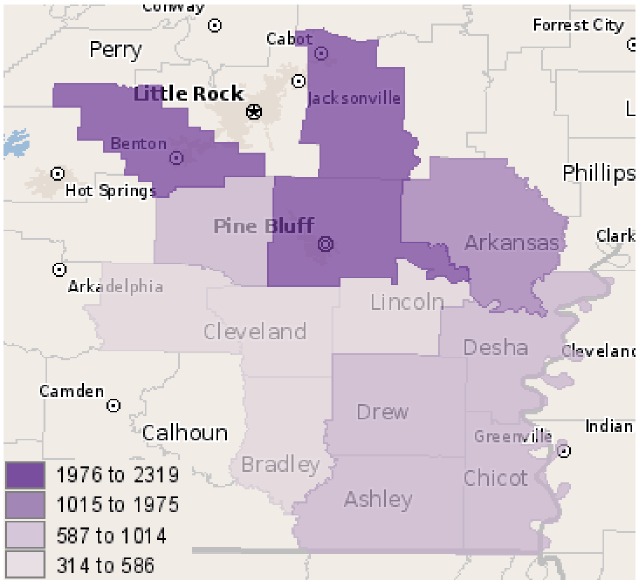
• Southeast Arkansas offers job opportunities in a variety of business occupations, such as jobs for accountants, business operation specialists, and management analysts. Each of these occupational categories is projected have more than 30 openings per year over the next five years. Currently, most of this growth is occuring in areas surrounding Little Rock, but a well organized regional growth initiative could help bring similar jobs to other counties within the region.

• A number of specialized career and technical workers such as computer support specialists, pharmacy technicians, nursing aides and automotive service technicians are in high demand in every part of Southeast Arkansas. This represents an opportunity for two-year colleges to train workers for high-growth employment opportunities.

• Wages in Southeast Arkansas average out to be roughly $15 per hour, which is nearly equal to the state average. The counties of Pulaski, Jefferson, and Ashley provide the highest average earnings within the region.

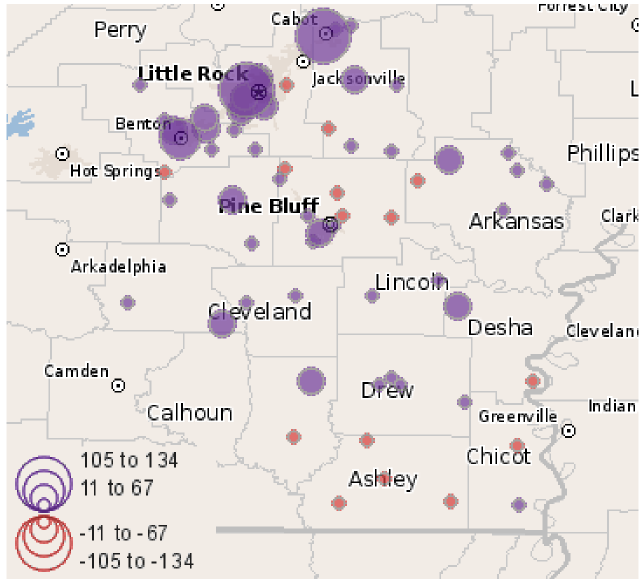
MANAGEMENT

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	4,682	$30.35
Lonoke	2,319	$13.18
Jefferson	2,268	$21.16
Saline	2,031	$17.21
Arkansas	1,284	$16.17
Ashley	815	$18.26
Drew	798	$14.59
Desha	685	$13.43
Chicot	677	$13.22
Grant	615	$13.27
Lincoln	562	$13.26
Bradley	477	$14.64
Cleveland	346	$10.25
Dallas	314	$14.26
Southeast Arkansas	17,873	$19.68
State of Arkansas	131,469	$18.11

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	2,031	2,225	194	10%
Southern Pulaski	4,682	4,876	194	4%
Lonoke	2,319	2,484	165	7%
Grant	615	658	43	7%
Arkansas	1,284	1,314	30	2%
Drew	798	814	16	2%
Dallas	314	330	16	5%
Jefferson	2,268	2,284	16	1%
Bradley	477	489	12	3%
Desha	685	696	11	2%
Cleveland	346	353	7	2%
Lincoln	562	568	6	1%
Chicot	677	680	3	0%
Ashley	815	803	(12)	(1%)
Southeast Arkansas	17,873	18,574	701	4%
State of Arkansas	131,469	138,052	6,583	5%
Nation	13,193,246	14,182,013	988,767	7%

MANAGEMENT OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

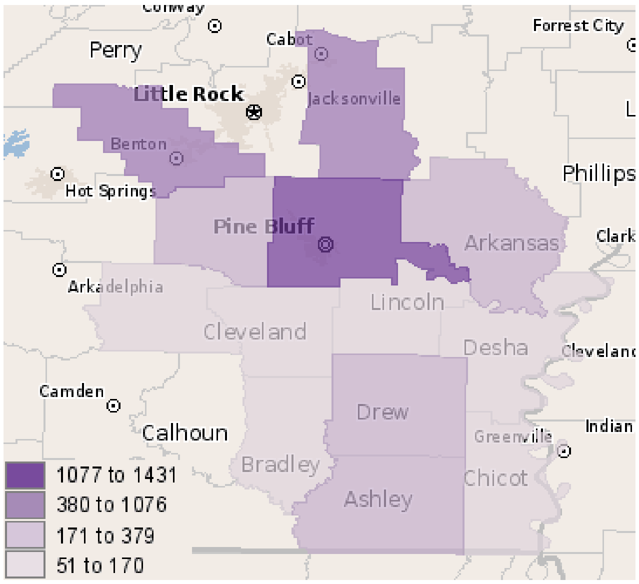
- There are many management jobs available to workers with either long-term on-the-job training or a bachelor's degree with some work experience. These jobs pay considerably higher than the regional average ($19.68 per hour compared to $14.93 per hour) and are needed in every industry sector.

DETAILS OF MANAGEMENT OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
11-9199	Managers, all other	1,949	2,125	176	9%	84	$16.70
11-1021	General and operations managers	2,107	2,100	(7)	0%	61	$32.31
11-9141	Property, real estate, and community association managers	1,048	1,264	216	21%	60	$8.16
11-1011	Chief executives	1,406	1,509	103	7%	59	$23.17
11-9051	Food service managers	761	855	94	12%	33	$15.21
11-9011	Farm, ranch, and other agricultural managers	1,318	1,297	(21)	(2%)	27	$12.96
11-9012	Farmers and ranchers	3,478	3,321	(157)	(5%)	22	$7.82
11-9111	Medical and health services managers	665	707	42	6%	21	$30.84
11-3031	Financial managers	631	676	45	7%	20	$24.79
11-9021	Construction managers	991	1,042	51	5%	18	$17.72
11-9032	Education administrators, elementary and secondary school	434	459	25	6%	18	$41.64
11-3011	Administrative services managers	525	558	33	6%	17	$26.74
11-2022	Sales managers	353	373	20	6%	11	$37.59
11-9151	Social and community service managers	296	317	21	7%	11	$17.55
11-3051	Industrial production managers	214	210	(4)	(2%)	8	$38.36
11-1031	Legislators	198	201	3	2%	6	$12.46
11-9081	Lodging managers	140	156	16	11%	6	$12.04
11-9033	Education administrators, postsecondary	155	160	5	3%	6	$31.46
11-9031	Education administrators, preschool and child care center/program	131	137	6	5%	5	$13.12
11-2021	Marketing managers	131	140	9	7%	5	$25.54
11-3021	Computer and information systems managers	150	161	11	7%	5	$35.17
11-3071	Transportation, storage, and distribution managers	143	139	(4)	(3%)	4	$26.74

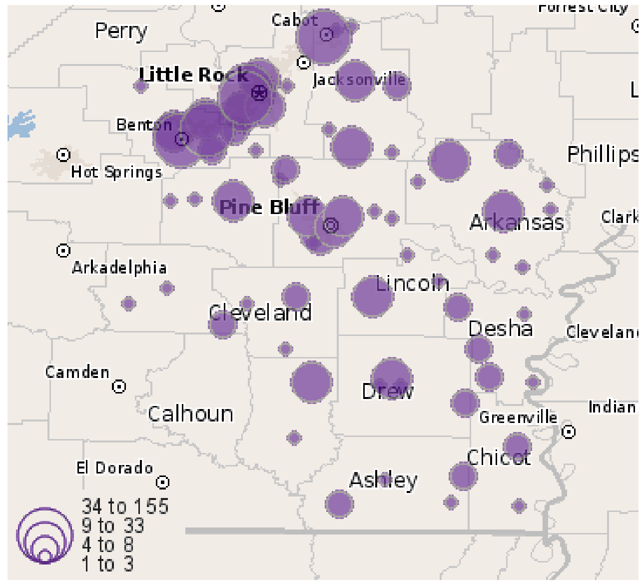
BUSINESS & FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	3,630	$21.55
Jefferson	1,431	$19.17
Saline	1,027	$12.97
Lonoke	771	$12.22
Arkansas	368	$15.24
Ashley	257	$14.30
Drew	248	$14.64
Grant	176	$12.61
Desha	156	$13.67
Chicot	150	$13.67
Bradley	115	$14.06
Lincoln	115	$14.94
Dallas	73	$13.31
Cleveland	51	$11.79
Southeast Arkansas	8,568	$17.81
State of Arkansas	58,400	$18.39

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Southern Pulaski	3,630	3,872	242	7%
Saline	1,027	1,199	172	17%
Lonoke	771	927	156	20%
Jefferson	1,431	1,539	108	8%
Arkansas	368	411	43	12%
Drew	248	273	25	10%
Desha	156	178	22	14%
Grant	176	197	21	12%
Chicot	150	166	16	11%
Bradley	115	130	15	13%
Ashley	257	269	12	5%
Lincoln	115	126	11	10%
Cleveland	51	60	9	18%
Dallas	73	81	8	11%
Southeast Arkansas	8,568	9,428	860	10%
State of Arkansas	58,400	66,332	7,932	14%
Nation	9,169,735	10,285,623	1,115,888	12%

BUSINESS & FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

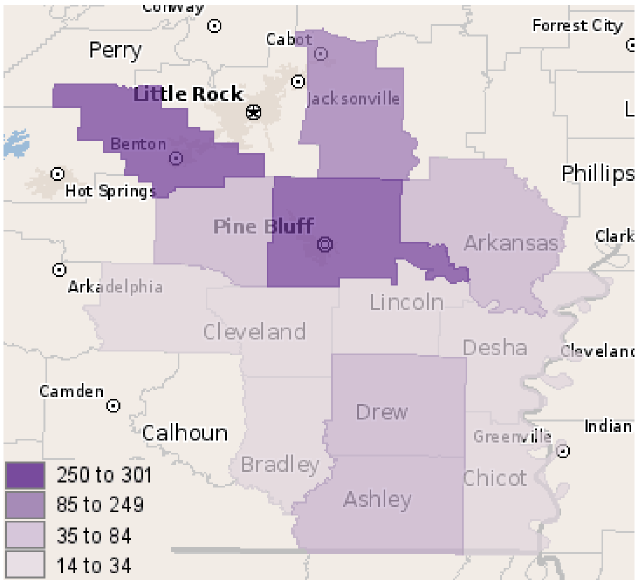
- Jobs in business and financial operations are in high demand within the region, (10% projected growth over the next five years.) There are twelve occupations in this group that will have 10 or more annual openings.

DETAILS OF BUSINESS & FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
13-2011	Accountants and auditors	1,461	1,588	127	9%	50	$16.08
13-1199	Business operation specialists, all other	1,323	1,395	72	5%	43	$24.18
13-2052	Personal financial advisors	558	708	150	27%	35	$9.18
13-1111	Management analysts	839	935	96	11%	33	$16.20
13-2021	Appraisers and assessors of real estate	415	495	80	19%	23	$9.29
13-1073	Training and development specialists	399	443	44	11%	19	$17.11
13-2051	Financial analysts	216	264	48	22%	13	$13.37
13-1023	Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, and farm products	299	321	22	7%	12	$20.53
13-1079	Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists, all other	276	297	21	8%	11	$17.75
13-1071	Employment, recruitment, and placement specialists	246	271	25	10%	11	$14.27
13-1041	Compliance officers, except agriculture, construction, health and safety, and transportation	287	327	40	14%	11	$19.31
13-1031	Claims adjusters, examiners, and investigators	262	282	20	8%	10	$20.80
13-2081	Tax examiners, collectors, and revenue agents	191	203	12	6%	9	$18.16
13-1051	Cost estimators	213	233	20	9%	9	$22.42
13-1022	Wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products	269	269	0	0%	7	$21.84
13-1072	Compensation, benefits, and job analysis specialists	134	151	17	13%	7	$17.40
13-2072	Loan officers	349	363	14	4%	7	$22.91

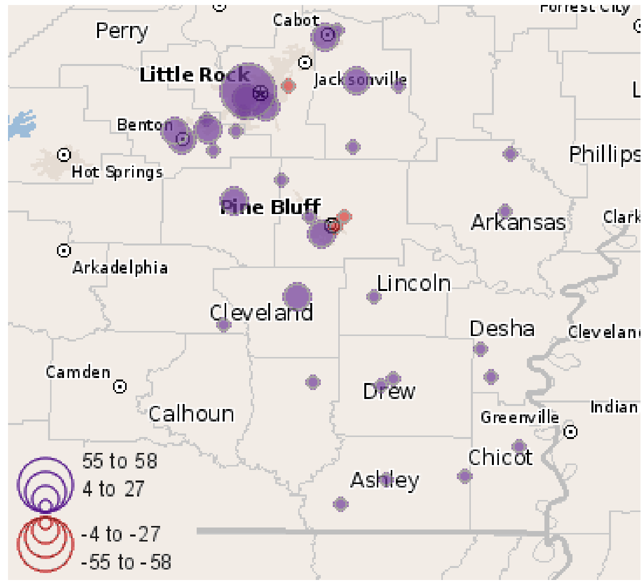
COMPUTERS & INFORMATION OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	1,308	$26.57
Jefferson	301	$21.08
Saline	292	$17.20
Lonoke	158	$15.63
Arkansas	66	$16.89
Grant	65	$17.86
Ashley	48	$16.10
Drew	44	$15.73
Lincoln	29	$15.31
Desha	26	$16.29
Chicot	21	$14.91
Bradley	20	$16.55
Cleveland	18	$12.48
Dallas	14	$13.56
Southeast Arkansas	2,410	$22.51
State of Arkansas	22,905	$24.93

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Southern Pulaski	1,308	1,373	65	5%
Saline	292	337	45	15%
Lonoke	158	180	22	14%
Grant	65	71	6	9%
Jefferson	301	306	5	2%
Ashley	48	53	5	10%
Cleveland	18	22	4	22%
Desha	26	29	3	12%
Arkansas	66	69	3	5%
Drew	44	47	3	7%
Lincoln	29	31	2	7%
Chicot	21	23	2	10%
Dallas	14	15	1	7%
Bradley	20	21	1	5%
Southeast Arkansas	2,410	2,577	167	7%
State of Arkansas	22,905	26,682	3,777	16%
Nation	3,825,974	4,258,607	432,633	11%

COMPUTERS & INFORMATION OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

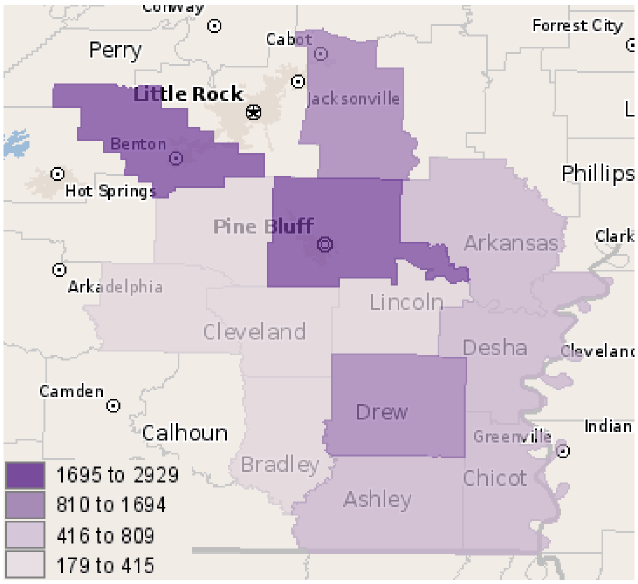
- Generally speaking, computers and information occupations are in low demand within the region. With the exception of Southern Pulaski, Saline, and Lonoke Counties, there is little demand for such workers in the region. If greater investment were appplied the information industry, not only would it increase the access to information for resident's of Southeast Arkansas, but would also open up a host of high-tech job opportunities.

DETAILS OF COMPUTERS & INFORMATION OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
15-1041	Computer support specialists	465	479	14	3%	16	$15.68
15-1051	Computer systems analysts	324	355	31	10%	13	$24.68
15-1081	Network systems and data communications analysts	188	216	28	15%	9	$16.25
15-1021	Computer programmers	404	398	(6)	(1%)	8	$25.16
15-2041	Statisticians	175	188	13	7%	8	$25.53
15-1071	Network and computer systems administrators	216	234	18	8%	7	$23.50
15-1031	Computer software engineers, applications	175	198	23	13%	6	$27.30
15-1099	Computer specialists, all other	150	159	9	6%	5	$25.46

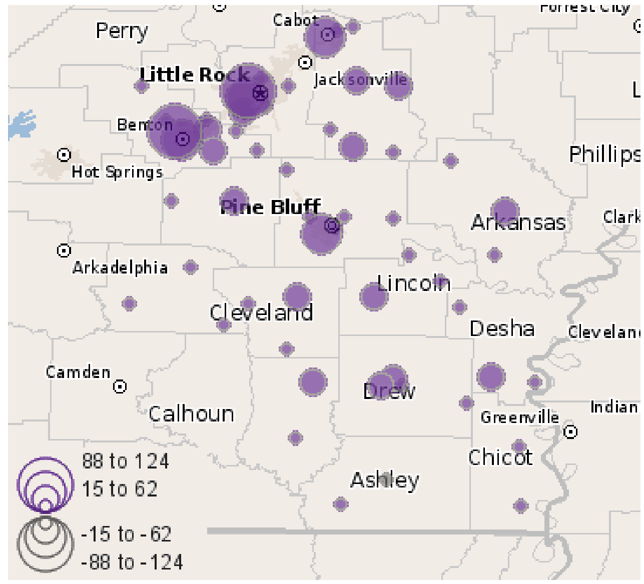
EDUCATION OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	3,780	$25.13
Jefferson	2,929	$22.58
Saline	1,755	$21.24
Lonoke	1,261	$18.47
Drew	833	$21.97
Ashley	578	$20.89
Arkansas	575	$19.28
Desha	563	$19.62
Chicot	469	$20.74
Lincoln	382	$24.39
Grant	371	$19.09
Bradley	364	$20.62
Dallas	262	$18.98
Cleveland	179	$20.22
Southeast Arkansas	14,301	$22.13
State of Arkansas	84,968	$21.87

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Southern Pulaski	3,780	4,041	261	7%
Saline	1,755	2,001	246	14%
Lonoke	1,261	1,450	189	15%
Jefferson	2,929	3,037	108	4%
Drew	833	909	76	9%
Desha	563	616	53	9%
Grant	371	414	43	12%
Arkansas	575	610	35	6%
Bradley	364	397	33	9%
Lincoln	382	407	25	7%
Chicot	469	491	22	5%
Cleveland	179	201	22	12%
Dallas	262	275	13	5%
Ashley	578	585	7	1%
Southeast Arkansas	14,301	15,434	1,133	8%
State of Arkansas	84,968	93,506	8,538	10%
Nation	10,234,331	11,025,073	790,742	8%

EDUCATION OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

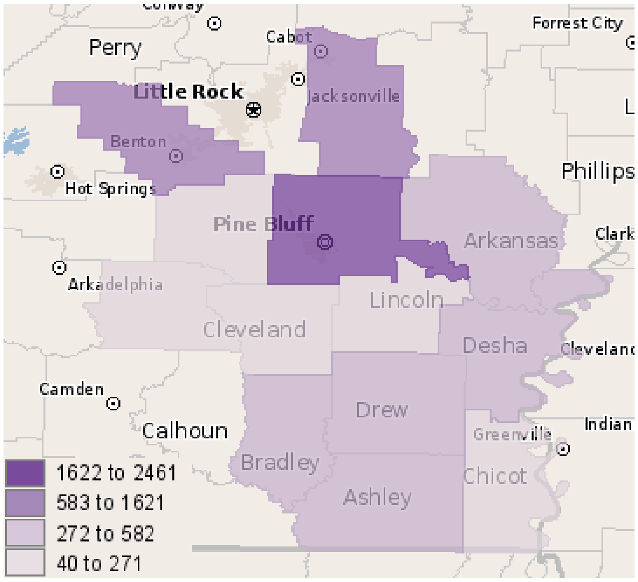
- Workers with training in education are in high demand across the region. Between 2010 and 2015, there is an anticipated need for more than 1,100 new education workers, plus 1,500 more replacement workers.

DETAILS OF EDUCATION OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
25-2021	Elementary school teachers, except special education	2,143	2,330	187	9%	85	$25.06
25-2031	Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	1,993	2,114	121	6%	81	$27.51
25-1099	Postsecondary teachers	2,066	2,240	174	8%	70	$32.19
25-9041	Teacher assistants	2,127	2,237	110	5%	66	$10.55
25-2022	Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	1,128	1,225	97	9%	44	$26.38
25-3099	Teachers and instructors, all other	1,083	1,184	101	9%	36	$20.44
25-2011	Preschool teachers, except special education	884	956	72	8%	32	$9.33
25-3021	Self-enrichment education teachers	475	545	70	15%	21	$9.56
25-2012	Kindergarten teachers, except special education	438	475	37	8%	16	$24.51
25-2041	Special education teachers, preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school	271	298	27	10%	12	$24.31
25-3011	Adult literacy, remedial education, and GED teachers and instructors	309	342	33	11%	11	$13.65
25-4031	Library technicians	182	194	12	7%	10	$11.26
25-2043	Special education teachers, secondary school	240	261	21	9%	10	$28.32
25-4021	Librarians	278	291	13	5%	10	$23.06
25-2032	Vocational education teachers, secondary school	199	209	10	5%	8	$28.19
25-2042	Special education teachers, middle school	145	160	15	10%	7	$28.36
25-9031	Instructional coordinators	142	160	18	13%	7	$24.00

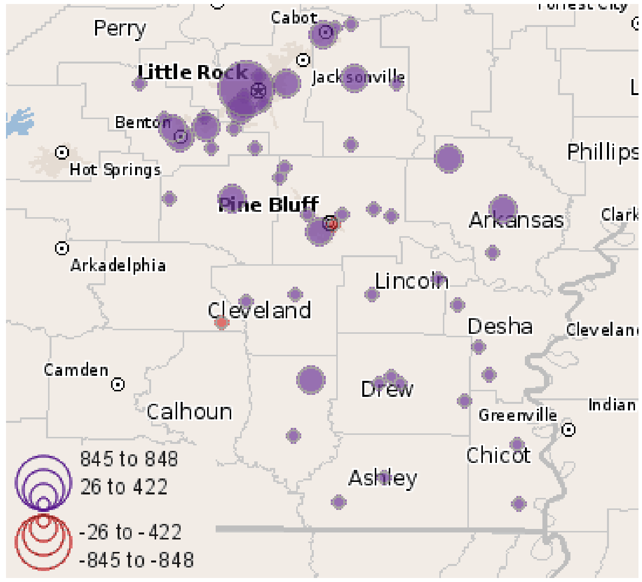
HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONER OCCUPATIONS*

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	12,131	$30.35
Jefferson	2,461	$24.19
Saline	1,619	$20.99
Lonoke	784	$20.36
Arkansas	533	$22.91
Drew	350	$23.87
Ashley	350	$25.56
Bradley	298	$22.82
Desha	278	$24.38
Grant	241	$18.07
Chicot	234	$24.16
Dallas	230	$15.74
Lincoln	164	$18.37
Cleveland	40	$11.86
Southeast Arkansas	19,713	$27.28
State of Arkansas	80,390	$26.89

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Southern Pulaski	12,131	13,171	1,040	9%
Saline	1,619	1,936	317	20%
Lonoke	784	935	151	19%
Jefferson	2,461	2,570	109	4%
Arkansas	533	614	81	15%
Grant	241	297	56	23%
Bradley	298	335	37	12%
Chicot	234	264	30	13%
Drew	350	376	26	7%
Desha	278	293	15	5%
Ashley	350	360	10	3%
Lincoln	164	172	8	5%
Cleveland	40	47	7	18%
Dallas	230	217	(13)	(6%)
Southeast Arkansas	19,713	21,587	1,874	10%
State of Arkansas	80,390	89,558	9,168	11%
Nation	8,252,097	9,152,511	900,414	11%

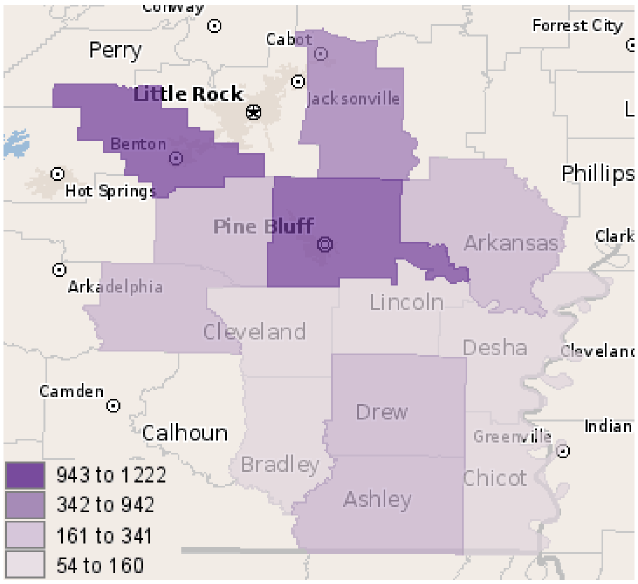
* Occupations included in the healthcare support workers category generally require less technical training and expertise than those in the healthcare practitioners and technical workers category. Many occupations in the healthcare support workers category require either on-the-job training or short-term professional and technical training rather than an advanced degree.

DETAILS OF HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONER OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
29-1111	Registered nurses	6,037	6,767	730	12%	248	$26.26
29-2061	Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	2,737	2,962	225	8%	129	$16.25
29-1069	Physicians and surgeons	2,556	2,753	197	8%	83	$55.90
29-2052	Pharmacy technicians	680	769	89	13%	34	$10.92
29-1051	Pharmacists	663	724	61	9%	27	$44.07
29-1126	Respiratory therapists	391	442	51	13%	17	$23.22
29-2055	Surgical technologists	351	394	43	12%	17	$14.57
29-2011	Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	533	560	27	5%	15	$23.47
29-1123	Physical therapists	439	488	49	11%	15	$29.66
29-1127	Speech-language pathologists	384	423	39	10%	15	$25.02
29-2071	Medical records and health information technicians	387	419	32	8%	14	$13.03
29-2034	Radiologic technologists and technicians	457	492	35	8%	13	$21.00
29-2021	Dental hygienists	265	297	32	12%	12	$30.19
29-1122	Occupational therapists	301	330	29	10%	11	$28.88
29-2099	Healthcare technologists and technicians, all other	311	334	23	7%	11	$14.00
29-2012	Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	280	295	15	5%	8	$14.86
29-2053	Psychiatric technicians	265	273	8	3%	8	$9.71
29-2081	Opticians, dispensing	245	258	13	5%	7	$11.53
29-1031	Dietitians and nutritionists	173	181	8	5%	7	$19.23
29-1041	Optometrists	138	151	13	9%	7	$34.52
29-1021	Dentists, general	175	185	10	6%	7	$82.06
29-2031	Cardiovascular technologists and technicians	158	176	18	11%	6	$19.36
29-1199	Health diagnosing and treating practitioners, all other	148	163	15	10%	6	$25.71
29-2032	Diagnostic medical sonographers	193	207	14	7%	6	$21.97
29-1129	Therapists, all other	124	138	14	11%	5	$17.02
29-2051	Dietetic technicians	134	144	10	7%	5	$9.52
29-9099	Healthcare practitioners and technical workers, all other	113	121	8	7%	5	$13.92
29-9011	Occupational health and safety specialists	108	115	7	6%	5	$27.61
29-1131	Veterinarians	121	134	13	11%	5	$22.27

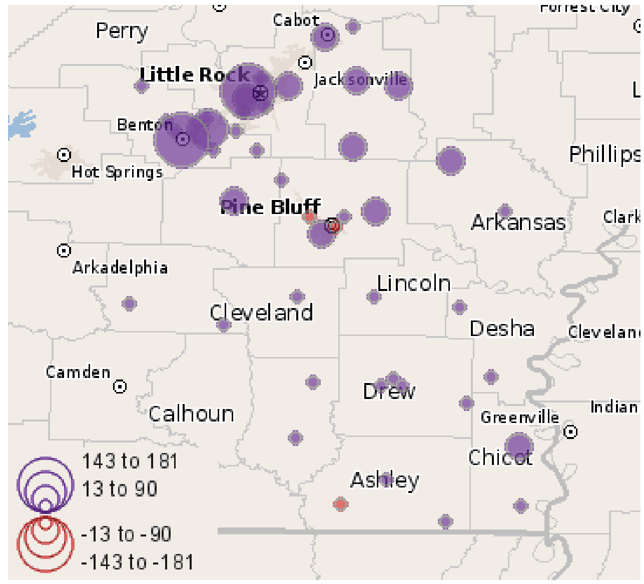
HEALTHCARE SUPPORT OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	4,071	$11.71
Jefferson	1,222	$10.15
Saline	996	$7.94
Lonoke	611	$8.20
Arkansas	251	$7.92
Dallas	218	$7.49
Drew	200	$10.02
Grant	172	$7.88
Ashley	161	$9.98
Chicot	157	$7.54
Lincoln	140	$9.42
Bradley	131	$8.84
Desha	130	$9.04
Cleveland	54	$7.49
Southeast Arkansas	8,514	$10.20
State of Arkansas	38,794	$10.09

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	996	1,273	277	28%
Southern Pulaski	4,071	4,312	241	6%
Lonoke	611	748	137	22%
Jefferson	1,222	1,276	54	4%
Grant	172	216	44	26%
Arkansas	251	281	30	12%
Chicot	157	183	26	17%
Drew	200	215	15	8%
Lincoln	140	152	12	9%
Desha	130	138	8	6%
Cleveland	54	61	7	13%
Bradley	131	136	5	4%
Dallas	218	223	5	2%
Ashley	161	153	(8)	(5%)
Southeast Arkansas	8,514	9,367	853	10%
State of Arkansas	38,794	43,670	4,876	13%
Nation	4,438,503	5,080,685	642,182	14%

HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONER AND HEALTHCARE SUPPORT OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

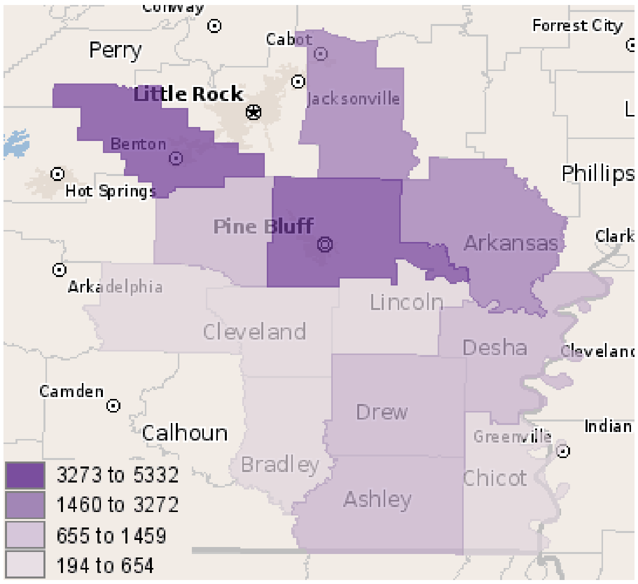
- There is great demand for both healthcare practitioners and healthcare support workers in the region. With job openings for workers with low, middle, and high levels of experience, there is great potential for the development of career pathways. It would be prudent to have regional training programs each of the occupations shown in these detailed tables.

DETAILS OF HEALTHCARE SUPPORT OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
31-1012	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	4,677	5,123	446	10%	134	$9.63
31-1011	Home health aides	1,307	1,498	191	15%	51	$8.35
31-9092	Medical assistants	605	674	69	11%	20	$12.17
31-9091	Dental assistants	402	454	52	13%	18	$12.80
31-9099	Healthcare support workers, all other	349	377	28	8%	9	$12.54
31-1013	Psychiatric aides	220	237	17	8%	6	$10.38
31-9096	Veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers	159	179	20	13%	6	$8.83
31-2022	Physical therapist aides	127	143	16	13%	5	$8.97
31-9094	Medical transcriptionists	224	233	9	4%	4	$13.38

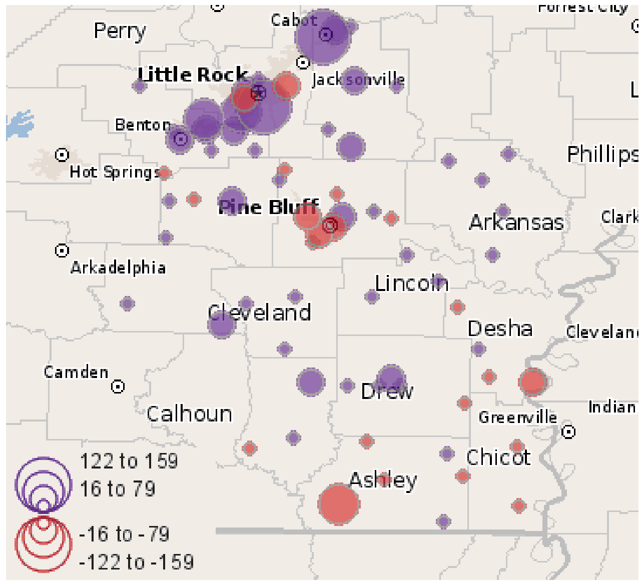
OFFICE & SALES OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	7,934	$18.18
Jefferson	4,098	$15.95
Saline	3,656	$15.51
Lonoke	2,596	$14.94
Ashley	1,239	$17.76
Arkansas	1,102	$15.12
Grant	745	$14.11
Drew	583	$13.51
Bradley	487	$13.33
Desha	486	$15.36
Lincoln	413	$12.62
Chicot	314	$13.79
Dallas	286	$12.47
Cleveland	207	$13.38
Southeast Arkansas	24,146	$16.23
State of Arkansas	148,092	14.51

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	3,656	3,921	265	7%
Lonoke	2,596	2,859	263	10%
Southern Pulaski	7,934	8,122	188	2%
Grant	745	802	57	8%
Arkansas	1,102	1,138	36	3%
Drew	583	609	26	4%
Cleveland	207	231	24	12%
Dallas	286	309	23	8%
Lincoln	413	434	21	5%
Bradley	487	508	21	4%
Chicot	314	306	(8)	(3%)
Desha	486	457	(29)	(6%)
Jefferson	4,098	4,060	(38)	(1%)
Ashley	1,239	1,119	(120)	(10%)
Southeast Arkansas	24,146	24,875	729	3%
State of Arkansas	148,092	158,790	10,698	7%
Nation	14,710,132	15,914,893	1,204,761	8%

OFFICE & SALES OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

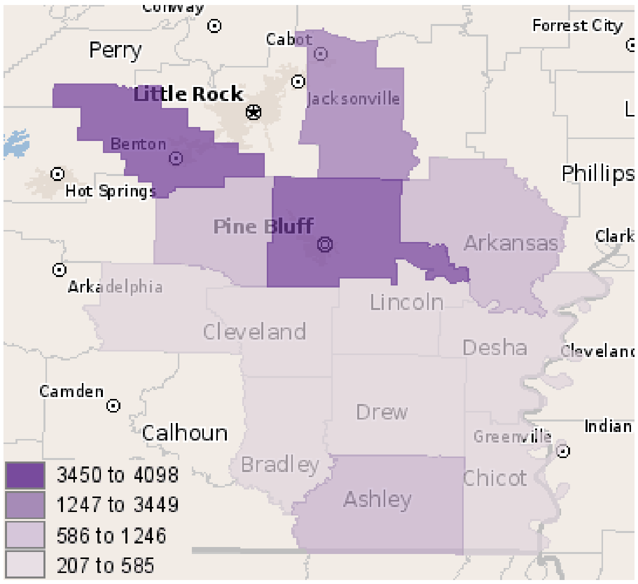
- Office and sales job openings are growing in the region's northern counties and most of the central counties, but they are declining in most of the southern counties (*e.g.*, Ashley, Desha, Chicot, and Jefferson). The workers who lose their jobs in these regions could face the option of migrating to the Little Rock area or remaining in their home counties and transitioning to a new career.

DETAILS OF OFFICE & SALES OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
43-4051	Customer service representatives	2,319	2,493	174	8%	106	$12.87
43-5081	Stock clerks and order fillers	3,032	3,117	85	3%	87	$9.00
43-1011	First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	2,582	2,718	136	5%	85	$16.83
43-9061	Office clerks, general	3,715	3,887	172	5%	84	$9.40
43-3031	Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	3,549	3,694	145	4%	71	$12.79
43-4171	Receptionists and information clerks	1,701	1,776	75	4%	60	$9.95
43-6014	Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	3,261	3,311	50	2%	54	$10.78
43-3071	Tellers	959	986	27	3%	44	$10.02
43-6011	Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	1,611	1,714	103	6%	42	$13.77
43-4111	Interviewers, except eligibility and loan	842	924	82	10%	36	$10.38
43-6013	Medical secretaries	942	1,025	83	9%	29	$12.39
43-5071	Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	1,068	1,011	(57)	(5%)	27	$11.63
43-5021	Couriers and messengers	628	687	59	9%	26	$8.78
43-3021	Billing and posting clerks and machine operators	816	846	30	4%	19	$12.10
43-3011	Bill and account collectors	583	621	38	7%	18	$12.18
43-5052	Postal service mail carriers	489	474	(15)	(3%)	15	$22.29
43-4199	Information and record clerks, all other	485	450	(35)	(7%)	14	$14.23
43-6012	Legal secretaries	291	335	44	15%	13	$12.76
43-4081	Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks	331	331	0	0%	11	$8.18
43-5061	Production, planning, and expediting clerks	354	357	3	1%	9	$16.47
43-4071	File clerks	320	287	(33)	(10%)	8	$9.30
43-4151	Order clerks	264	218	(46)	(17%)	8	$10.67
43-4161	Human resources assistants, except payroll and timekeeping	265	255	(10)	(4%)	8	$13.85
43-4031	Court, municipal, and license clerks	184	195	11	6%	7	$11.22
43-5031	Police, fire, and ambulance dispatchers	180	199	19	11%	7	$11.47
43-3051	Payroll and timekeeping clerks	296	282	(14)	(5%)	7	$13.68
43-9199	Office and administrative support workers, all other	285	277	(8)	(3%)	7	$11.62
43-5032	Dispatchers, except police, fire, and ambulance	285	274	(11)	(4%)	6	$14.44
43-9021	Data entry keyers	293	283	(10)	(3%)	6	$10.45
43-4131	Loan interviewers and clerks	189	193	4	2%	5	$14.00
43-5111	Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, recordkeeping	150	140	(10)	(7%)	5	$11.50
43-2011	Switchboard operators, including answering service	236	220	(16)	(7%)	5	$11.00

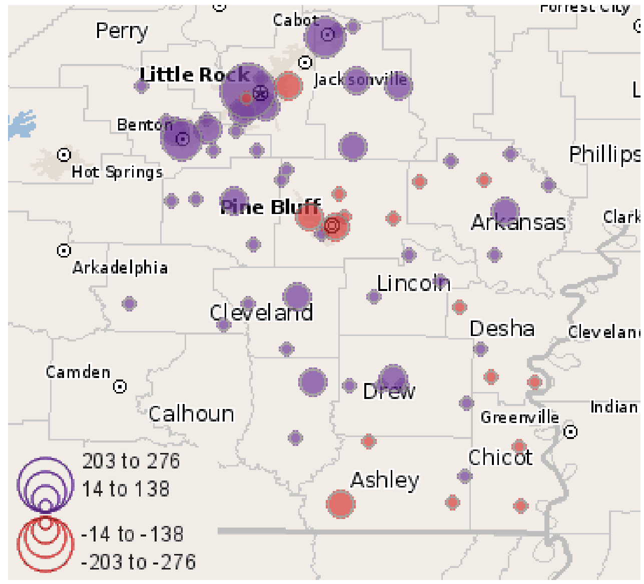
CONSTRUCTION & INSTALLATION OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	15,811	$13.64
Jefferson	5,332	$11.46
Saline	3,731	$10.01
Lonoke	2,471	$9.98
Arkansas	1,557	$11.46
Ashley	1,107	$11.41
Drew	1,084	$10.33
Grant	724	$9.31
Desha	700	$10.70
Chicot	590	$10.46
Bradley	586	$10.23
Lincoln	499	$9.90
Dallas	410	$9.86
Cleveland	194	$9.64
Southeast Arkansas	34,796	$12.00
State of Arkansas	208,234	$12.12

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Saline	3,731	4,132	401	11%
Lonoke	2,471	2,748	277	11%
Southern Pulaski	15,811	16,075	264	2%
Grant	724	785	61	8%
Bradley	586	622	36	6%
Arkansas	1,557	1,589	32	2%
Drew	1,084	1,114	30	3%
Cleveland	194	216	22	11%
Lincoln	499	505	6	1%
Dallas	410	415	5	1%
Desha	700	697	(3)	0%
Chicot	590	587	(3)	(1%)
Ashley	1,107	1,081	(26)	(2%)
Jefferson	5,332	5,230	(102)	(2%)
Southeast Arkansas	34,796	35,796	1,000	3%
State of Arkansas	208,234	222,107	13,873	7%
Nation	25,008,384	26,336,334	1,327,950	5%

CONSTRUCTION & INSTALLATION OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

- The recession has taken its toll on the construction industry in Southeast Arkansas. As the recovery continues, many of these jobs will return, particularly in areas such as Saline, Lonoke, and Southern Pulaski. Construction jobs generally follow population growth. As all counties in the region successfully retain individuals and add new job opportunities, construction jobs will follow.

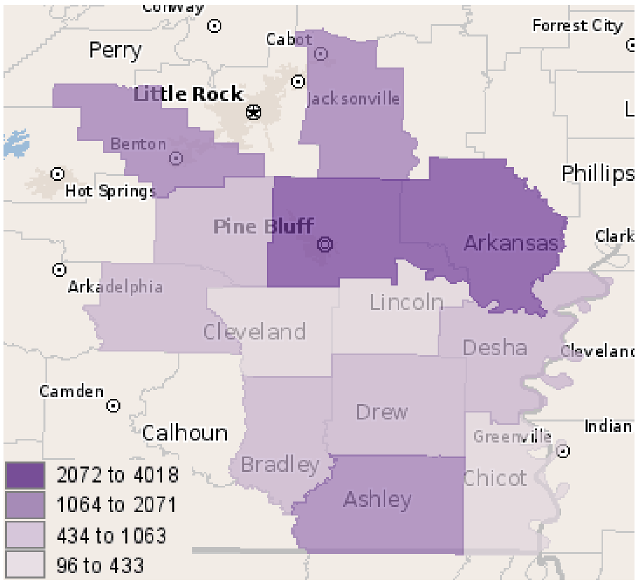
DETAILS OF CONSTRUCTION & INSTALLATION OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
49-9042	Maintenance and repair workers, general	2,102	2,188	86	4%	49	$13.87
47-1011	First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers	1,491	1,578	87	6%	46	$19.91
47-2031	Carpenters	1,968	2,042	74	4%	39	$16.67
47-2061	Construction laborers	1,637	1,741	104	6%	32	$13.48
47-2111	Electricians	908	951	43	5%	30	$17.78
49-3023	Automotive service technicians and mechanics	1,384	1,403	19	1%	30	$16.41
49-1011	First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	919	917	(2)	0%	24	$21.72
47-2152	Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	771	809	38	5%	23	$18.07
47-2073	Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	731	777	46	6%	22	$13.78
49-9041	Industrial machinery mechanics	884	916	32	4%	19	$19.12
49-3031	Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists	689	695	6	1%	17	$18.04
49-9021	Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers	498	543	45	9%	17	$17.64
49-9098	Helpers--Installation, maintenance, and repair workers	310	313	3	1%	15	$9.82
49-9051	Electrical power-line installers and repairers	374	338	(36)	(10%)	14	$22.87
47-2141	Painters, construction and maintenance	716	723	7	1%	14	$16.12
47-2051	Cement masons and concrete finishers	313	320	7	2%	9	$14.39
47-4051	Highway maintenance workers	214	225	11	5%	8	$12.06
47-2021	Brickmasons and blockmasons	299	300	1	0%	8	$18.25
47-2211	Sheet metal workers	321	320	(1)	0%	8	$16.23
49-3021	Automotive body and related repairers	291	284	(7)	(2%)	8	$17.23
47-4071	Septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaners	119	137	18	15%	7	$13.70
47-4011	Construction and building inspectors	179	191	12	7%	6	$17.86
49-9062	Medical equipment repairers	108	123	15	14%	6	$18.26
47-4099	Construction and related workers, all other	168	166	(2)	(1%)	6	$14.29
47-2121	Glaziers	146	147	1	1%	5	$15.44
47-2151	Pipelayers	174	184	10	6%	5	$14.75
47-5013	Service unit operators, oil, gas, and mining	41	65	24	59%	5	$16.87
49-3042	Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines	230	235	5	2%	5	$16.65

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
49-9099	Installation, maintenance, and repair workers, all other	227	236	9	4%	5	$16.21
47-3013	Helpers, electricians	172	179	7	4%	5	$12.10
47-3012	Helpers, carpenters	148	156	8	5%	5	$11.42
47-5051	Rock splitters, quarry	93	106	13	14%	4	$13.45
49-2098	Security and fire alarm systems installers	167	174	7	4%	4	$13.71
49-3093	Tire repairers and changers	198	192	(6)	(3%)	4	$9.40
49-9044	Millwrights	206	194	(12)	(6%)	4	$21.69
47-2221	Structural iron and steel workers	213	216	3	1%	4	$16.24
47-3015	Helpers, pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	154	158	4	3%	4	$11.92

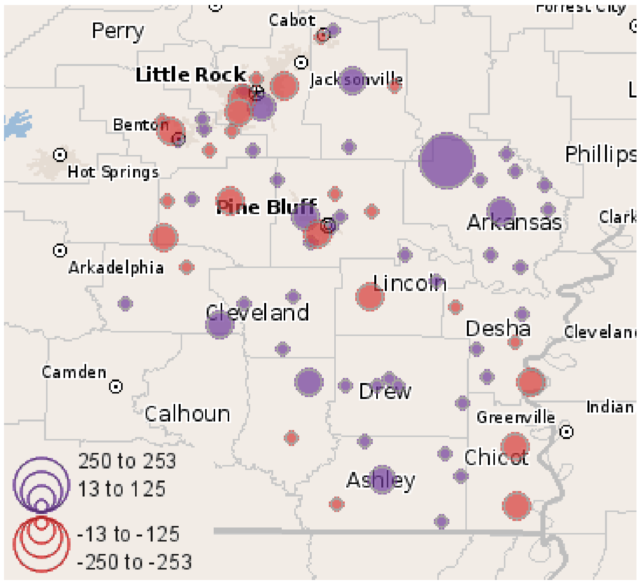
PRODUCTION OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	4,622	$14.37
Jefferson	4,018	$14.31
Arkansas	2,417	$11.48
Ashley	1,465	$17.17
Saline	1,344	$14.28
Lonoke	1,114	$12.37
Drew	637	$9.33
Grant	591	$9.51
Bradley	555	$11.00
Dallas	550	$11.42
Desha	526	$15.77
Chicot	308	$8.27
Lincoln	209	$10.50
Cleveland	96	$11.01
Southeast Arkansas	18,452	$13.43
State of Arkansas	130,936	$12.86

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	2,417	2,762	345	14%
Dallas	550	631	81	15%
Ashley	1,465	1,528	63	4%
Lonoke	1,114	1,171	57	5%
Bradley	555	605	50	9%
Jefferson	4,018	4,041	23	1%
Drew	637	658	21	3%
Cleveland	96	108	12	13%
Saline	1,344	1,323	(21)	(2%)
Desha	526	490	(36)	(7%)
Chicot	308	252	(56)	(18%)
Grant	591	528	(63)	(11%)
Lincoln	209	137	(72)	(34%)
Southern Pulaski	4,622	4,399	(223)	(5%)
Southeast Arkansas	18,452	18,633	181	1%
State of Arkansas	130,936	134,378	3,442	3%
Nation	9,442,245	9,375,690	(66,555)	(1%)

PRODUCTION OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

- As was mentioned in the industry characteristics section, manufacturing jobs are projected to decline in most areas, but the growth in Arkansas, Dallas, and Desha Counties, among other counties, will offer opportunities for some of these displaced workers.
- It should also be noted that although many manufacturing businesses are downsizing, there is still a high number of openings available because of retiring workers. For instance, despite the fact that the occupation is declining, 21 openings for welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers are projected for each year between 2010 and 2015.

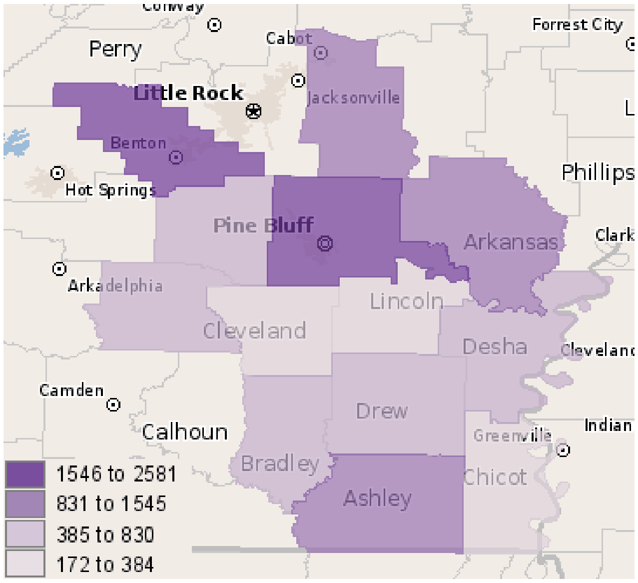
DETAILS OF PRODUCTION OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
51-2092	Team assemblers	2,321	2,447	126	5%	77	$11.55
51-9198	Helpers--Production workers	1,704	1,655	(49)	(3%)	30	$12.29
51-4121	Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	674	666	(8)	(1%)	21	$14.11
51-2099	Assemblers and fabricators, all other	631	661	30	5%	20	$13.18
51-9111	Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	848	822	(26)	(3%)	15	$12.01
51-1011	First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	1,041	1,029	(12)	(1%)	14	$21.26
51-9061	Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	802	793	(9)	(1%)	14	$13.35
51-8031	Water and liquid waste treatment plant and system operators	278	311	33	12%	12	$14.50
51-9199	Production workers, all other	494	497	3	1%	12	$14.24
51-6011	Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	451	470	19	4%	12	$8.02
51-3022	Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	233	252	19	8%	11	$8.98
51-4031	Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	520	471	(49)	(9%)	11	$13.17
51-8091	Chemical plant and system operators	77	110	33	43%	8	$22.36
51-9023	Mixing and blending machine setters, operators, and tenders	253	270	17	7%	8	$14.60
51-4072	Molding, coremaking, and casting machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	213	229	16	8%	8	$13.31
51-7042	Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing	243	253	10	4%	7	$11.96
51-9041	Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders	189	204	15	8%	7	$14.48
51-9196	Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders	320	299	(21)	(7%)	7	$14.96
51-6042	Shoe machine operators and tenders	85	115	30	35%	7	$9.91
51-7011	Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters	188	201	13	7%	7	$12.54
51-3021	Butchers and meat cutters	163	170	7	4%	7	$12.63
51-9121	Coating, painting, and spraying machine setters, operators, and tenders	207	205	(2)	(1%)	6	$13.43

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
51-9083	Ophthalmic laboratory technicians	145	158	13	9%	5	$11.39
51-4041	Machinists	374	375	1	0%	5	$16.14
51-7041	Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, wood	264	251	(13)	(5%)	5	$13.48
51-4122	Welding, soldering, and brazing machine setters, operators, and tenders	137	140	3	2%	5	$14.86
51-9032	Cutting and slicing machine setters, operators, and tenders	169	175	6	4%	5	$14.28
51-2041	Structural metal fabricators and fitters	219	208	(11)	(5%)	5	$13.21
51-2091	Fiberglass laminators and fabricators	108	118	10	9%	4	$11.26
51-3011	Bakers	136	141	5	4%	4	$8.95
51-4011	Computer-controlled machine tool operators, metal and plastic	95	108	13	14%	4	$16.68
51-5023	Printing machine operators	203	201	(2)	(1%)	4	$13.41

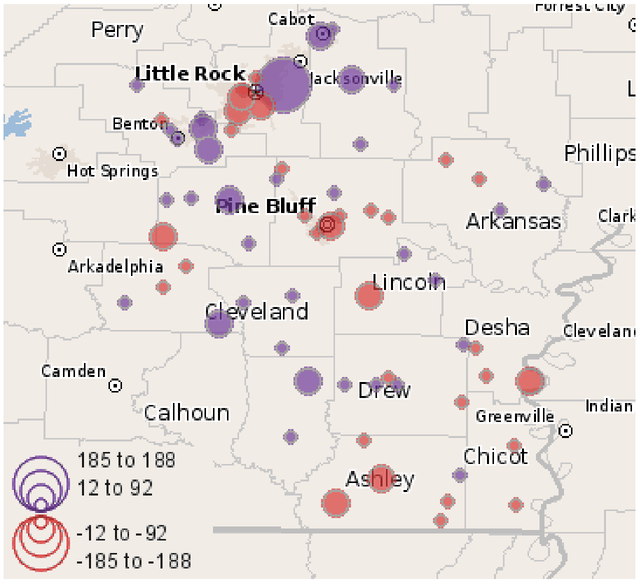
TRANSPORTATION & MATERIAL MOVING OCCUPATIONS

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Jobs	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	10,338	$13.50
Jefferson	2,581	$12.16
Saline	1,734	$12.27
Lonoke	1,413	$12.36
Arkansas	1,141	$13.61
Ashley	861	$14.34
Drew	580	$10.95
Grant	538	$10.88
Desha	438	$12.52
Dallas	430	$12.21
Bradley	392	$11.85
Chicot	265	$11.43
Lincoln	261	$11.42
Cleveland	172	$11.60
Southeast Arkansas	21,144	$12.92
State of Arkansas	124,828	$14.02

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Lonoke	1,413	1,533	120	8%
Saline	1,734	1,786	52	3%
Bradley	392	415	23	6%
Cleveland	172	191	19	11%
Dallas	430	446	16	4%
Drew	580	588	8	1%
Grant	538	543	5	1%
Arkansas	1,141	1,145	4	0%
Southern Pulaski	10,338	10,341	3	0%
Lincoln	261	247	(14)	(5%)
Chicot	265	247	(18)	(7%)
Desha	438	415	(23)	(5%)
Ashley	861	813	(48)	(6%)
Jefferson	2,581	2,507	(74)	(3%)
Southeast Arkansas	21,144	21,217	73	0%
State of Arkansas	124,828	132,832	8,004	6%
Nation	10,313,844	10,744,453	430,609	4%

TRANSPORTATION & MATERIAL MOVING OCCUPATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

- Demand exists for various types of truck drivers in the region, but otherwise most occupations in this category are projected to experience some decline. However, if the manufacturing and construction industries enlarge in coming years, greater employment in transportation & material moving will be required also.

DETAILS OF TRANSPORTATION & MATERIAL MOVING OCCUPATIONS

SOC Code	Description	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	Change	% Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
53-3032	Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	5,749	6,008	259	5%	154	$15.51
53-7062	Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	4,608	4,430	(178)	(4%)	150	$9.68
53-3033	Truck drivers, light or delivery services	1,896	1,911	15	1%	37	$13.32
53-7051	Industrial truck and tractor operators	1,204	1,185	(19)	(2%)	36	$12.88
53-3031	Driver/sales workers	1,254	1,298	44	4%	31	$12.31
53-3022	Bus drivers, school	1,387	1,412	25	2%	29	$9.52
53-7081	Refuse and recyclable material collectors	395	442	47	12%	21	$11.23
53-7064	Packers and packagers, hand	1,094	1,040	(54)	(5%)	19	$8.29
53-7061	Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	342	345	3	1%	13	$10.67
53-6031	Service station attendants	229	217	(12)	(5%)	10	$10.02
53-1031	First-line supervisors/managers of transportation and material-moving machine and vehicle operators	489	473	(16)	(3%)	9	$21.32
53-7032	Excavating and loading machine and dragline operators	189	203	14	7%	8	$13.10
53-2012	Commercial pilots	165	176	11	7%	8	$36.99
53-1021	First-line supervisors/managers of helpers, laborers, and material movers, hand	374	367	(7)	(2%)	7	$17.16
53-7011	Conveyor operators and tenders	205	184	(21)	(10%)	6	$12.98
53-7063	Machine feeders and offbearers	458	399	(59)	(13%)	5	$11.31

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

The following section focuses on the demographic characteristics of Southeast Arkansas. This information is separated into different "cohorts," or groups, based on population characteristics such as age, race/ethnicity, and gender. Separating individuals into these cohorts allows us to assess the relative size and growth projections of different population segments. There is also an assessment of total population, which includes individuals regardless of age, race/ethnicity, and gender. There are six age groups that are based on various stages of life and career. The population of the region has been divided into eight different race/ethnicity cohorts, which are the same categories as those utilized by the US Census Bureau.

The size and growth of these population segments can have a substantial effect on the future of a region's economy. The population and projected growth of the Early Career (ages 25-34) and Mid Career (35-44) cohorts are the best indicators of future human capital because these individuals are at the prime age to complete their education and begin a career that will span well into the future. The Late Career (45-64) group contains individuals who have years of experience, which makes them some of the most productive members of the workforce. The size of this segment is also a harbinger of a future dilemma, because when these workers retire, they will leave a large number of vacant positions that younger workers will need to fill. Population according to race/ethnicity is of critical importance when determining the racial composition of the region in the future. Because race/ethnicity groups tend to have similar education and cultural backgrounds, these population shifts will have an effect on workforce training needs of the region in the future.

The population summary tables are ranked in several different ways to reflect the easiest and most common ways to look at the data. Any information that is organized in a linear or hierarchical fashion has been displayed as such. For instance, the "Population by Age" table and the "Adult Population with College Degree" tables are both ranked in ascending order. The first is according to age, and the latter is according to educational attainment level. The "Population by Race/Ethnicity" table, on the other hand, is ranked in descending order according to five-year growth. Much like the data tables in the industry and occupational characteristics sections, the "Population by County" tables are ranked in descending order according to 2010 jobs and the growth by county tables are ranked in descending order according to five-year growth.

The last component of this section is an analysis of the adult population with college degrees. This reveals the proportion of the adult population in the region that possesses associate's, bachelor's, and postgraduate degrees. This will help give some indication of the overall competency of the existing workforce. Projections of these data will give some insight into the future competitiveness of the region for both low educational needs industries (*e.g.*, manufacturing and transportation) and high educational needs industries (*e.g.*, biotechnology and professional services).

Some county names are omitted from the maps on these pages. Please refer to page 3 of the document to find the names for all of the counties.

METHODOLOGY

Population numbers are EMSI 2010 estimates. For more information regarding 2010 estimated population numbers, educational attainment data, and related methodology, please see *Appendix: About the Data.*

HIGHLIGHTS:

• The region's most populous areas—Southern Pulaski and Saline—contain 43% of the area's population. These same counties are projected to contribute 81% of the region's overall growth over the next five years. The counties in the Pine Bluff MSA make up about 20% of the overall population, but they are contributing to a 12% overall decline in population.

• Only four of the fourteen counties in Southeast Arkansas are projected to see a population increase of 2% or greater over the next five years. All of these counties are either north or west of Jefferson County.

• About 76% of the working age population resides in counties where the working age population is anticipated to decline over the next five years. The only counties where this is not the case are Lonoke, Saline, and Grant.

• The Early Career population group is projected to grow by 3% in the region, which is greater than the state average but lower than the national average. The increase in this age group is especially large in Saline and Lonoke Counties.

• The Retirement Age population group (65 years and older) has a location quotient of 1.04 in the region, which means that there are only 4% more people at the retirement age in Southeast Arkansas than the national average. Therefore, this region will have less difficulty replacing retired and retiring workers than many other parts of the country. However, counties such as Arkansas, Bradley, and Chicot have an unusually high proportion of retirement-aged individuals.

• The Late Career cohort is projected to remain stable over the next five years (zero percent growth), which is unusual compared to state and national averages of 1% and 2% growth, respectively.

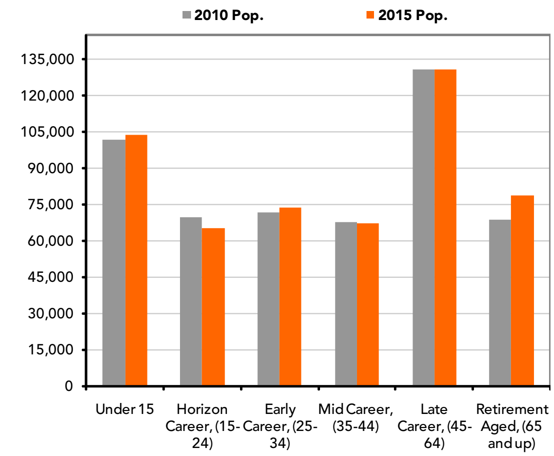
• Southeast Arkansas has a 0.86 location quotient for adults with college degrees. This means that the proportion of adults in the region with college degrees is 14% lower than the national average. However, when Pulaski County is excluded from this calculation, this proportion falls to 37% below the national average. On a positive note, the region is projected to see a 4% increase in degree-holding individuals.

• Although white, non-Hispanic, and black are the largest race/ethnicity groups in the region, the Hispanic and all other races categories are quickly rising. The Hispanic race/ethnicity group is expected to grow by 1,600 individuals over the next five years.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS SUMMARY

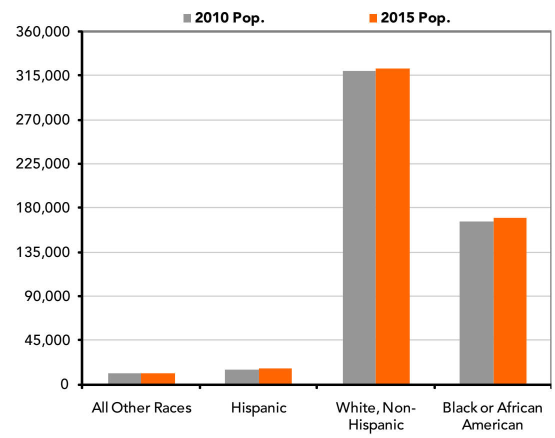
POPULATION BY AGE COHORT

Age	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ
Under 15	102,054	103,673	1,619	2%	1.00
Horizon Career, (15-24)	69,675	65,529	(4,146)	(6%)	0.99
Early Career, (25-34)	71,855	74,016	2,161	3%	1.03
Mid Career, (35-44)	68,019	67,207	(812)	(1%)	0.99
Late Career, (45-64)	130,725	130,680	(45)	0%	0.98
Retirement (65 and up)	69,032	78,750	9,718	14%	1.04



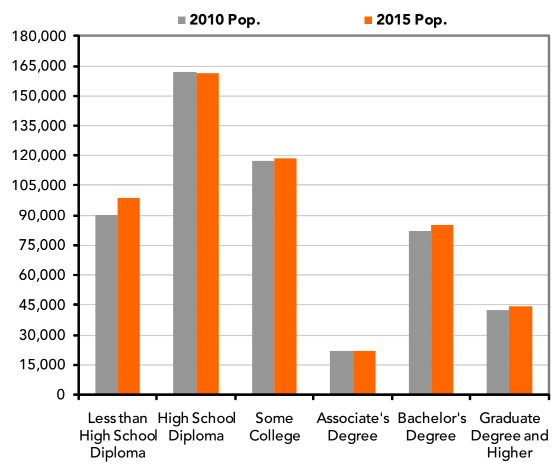
POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY COHORT

Age	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ
Black or African American	166,236	169,459	3,223	2%	2.66
White, Non-Hispanic	319,419	322,072	2,653	1%	0.97
White Hispanic	12,975	14,428	1,453	11%	0.17
Two or more races	5,517	6,046	529	10%	0.61
Asian	3,418	3,733	315	9%	0.15
Non-White Hispanic	1,901	2,086	185	10%	0.35
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,779	1,902	123	7%	0.45
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	118	124	6	5%	0.16



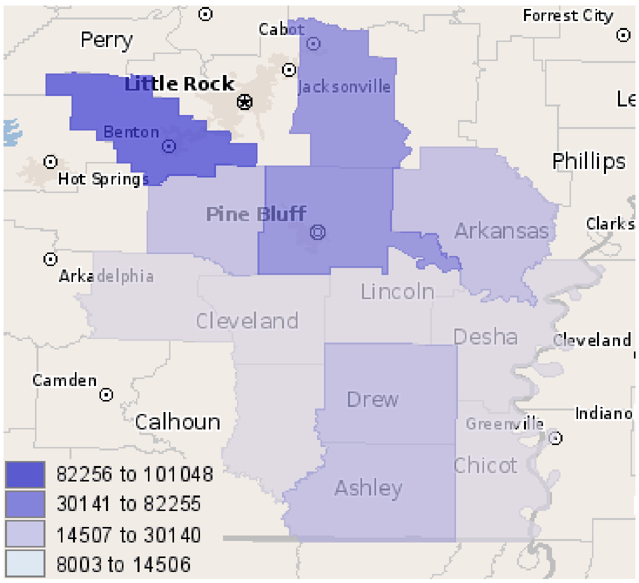
ADULT POPULATION WITH COLLEGE DEGREES

Age	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth	2010 LQ
Less than High School Diploma	90,095	99,024	8,929	10%	1.02
High School Diploma	161,696	161,408	(288)	0%	1.12
Some College	117,647	118,666	1,019	1%	1.04
Associate's Degree	21,920	22,013	93	0%	0.67
Bachelor's Degree	81,826	85,125	3,299	4%	0.94
Graduate Degree and Higher	42,628	44,484	1,856	4%	0.85



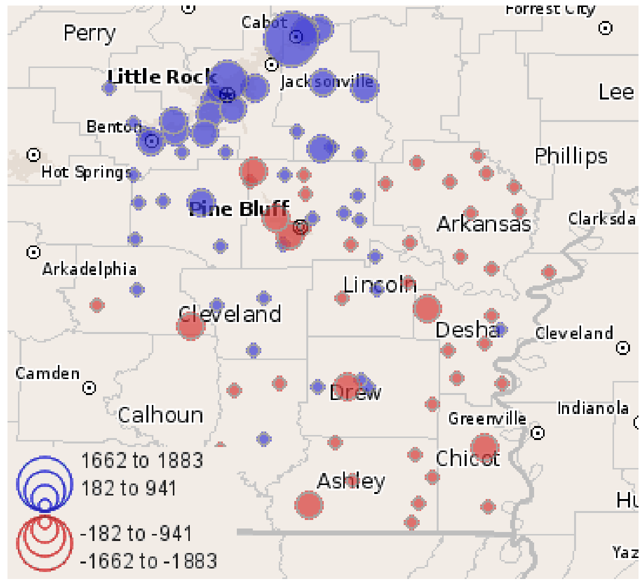
TOTAL POPULATION

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.
Arkansas	19,089
Ashley	21,971
Bradley	11,857
Chicot	11,718
Cleveland	8,762
Dallas	8,003
Desha	13,336
Drew	18,797
Grant	18,002
Jefferson	77,934
Lincoln	13,533
Lonoke	67,785
Saline	101,048
Southern Pulaski	119,528
Southeast Arkansas	511,363
State of Arkansas	2,906,406

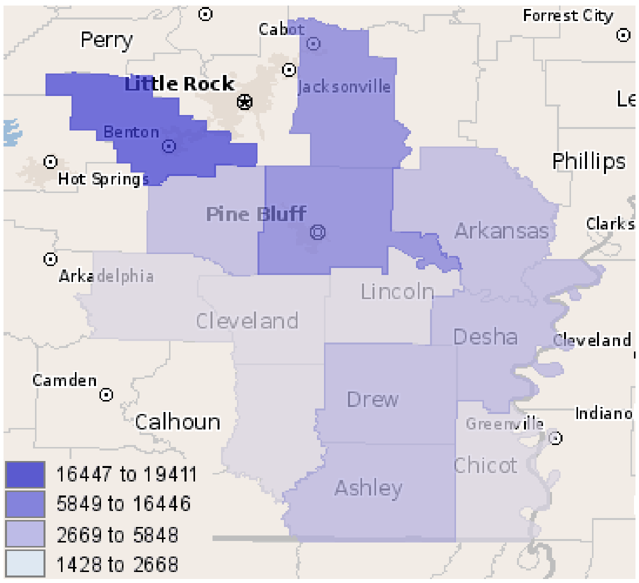
GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	19,089	18,830	(259)	(1%)
Ashley	21,971	21,527	(444)	(2%)
Bradley	11,857	11,747	(110)	(1%)
Chicot	11,718	11,254	(464)	(4%)
Cleveland	8,762	8,874	112	1%
Dallas	8,003	7,777	(226)	(3%)
Desha	13,336	12,981	(355)	(3%)
Drew	18,797	18,940	143	1%
Grant	18,002	18,448	446	2%
Jefferson	77,934	76,979	(955)	(1%)
Lincoln	13,533	13,383	(150)	(1%)
Lonoke	67,785	71,584	3,799	6%
Saline	101,048	105,405	4,357	4%
Southern Pulaski	119,528	122,121	2,593	2%
Southeast Arkansas	511,363	519,850	8,487	2%
State of Arkansas	2,906,406	2,976,721	70,315	2%
Nation	310,116,767	319,065,627	8,948,860	3%

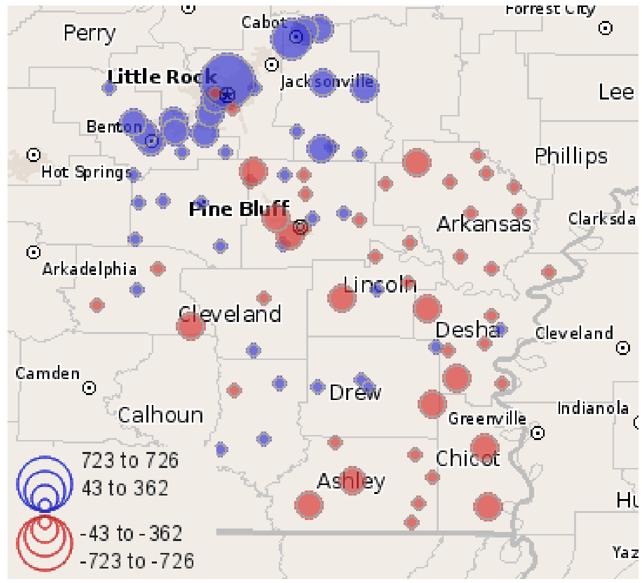
YOUNG (UNDER 15)

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.	2010 LQ
Arkansas	3,612	0.95
Ashley	4,056	0.92
Bradley	2,195	0.93
Chicot	2,176	0.93
Cleveland	1,658	0.95
Dallas	1,428	0.89
Desha	2,753	1.03
Drew	3,601	0.96
Grant	3,333	0.93
Jefferson	15,248	0.98
Lincoln	1,876	0.69
Lonoke	14,683	1.08
Saline	19,411	0.96
Southern Pulaski	26,024	1.09
Southeast Arkansas	102,054	1.00
State of Arkansas	594,223	1.02

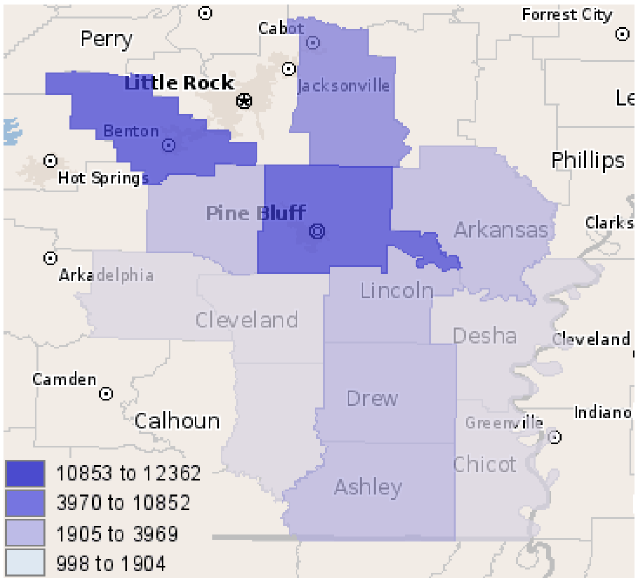
GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	3,612	3,507	(105)	(3%)
Ashley	4,056	3,776	(280)	(7%)
Bradley	2,195	2,250	55	3%
Chicot	2,176	2,003	(173)	(8%)
Cleveland	1,658	1,648	(10)	(1%)
Dallas	1,428	1,349	(79)	(6%)
Desha	2,753	2,629	(124)	(5%)
Drew	3,601	3,646	45	1%
Grant	3,333	3,391	58	2%
Jefferson	15,248	14,862	(386)	(3%)
Lincoln	1,876	1,794	(82)	(4%)
Lonoke	14,683	16,052	1,369	9%
Saline	19,411	20,610	1,199	6%
Southern Pulaski	26,024	26,156	132	1%
Southeast Arkansas	102,054	103,673	1,619	2%
State of Arkansas	594,223	612,624	18,401	3%
Nation	61,956,589	63,811,389	1,854,800	3%

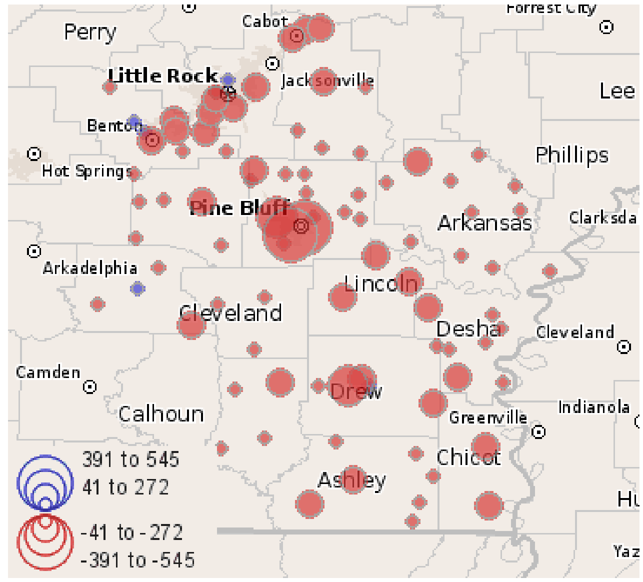
HORIZON CAREER (15-24)

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.	2010 LQ
Arkansas	2,187	0.83
Ashley	2,772	0.91
Bradley	1,507	0.92
Chicot	1,567	0.97
Cleveland	1,036	0.85
Dallas	998	0.90
Desha	1,674	0.91
Drew	3,165	1.22
Grant	2,086	0.84
Jefferson	11,638	1.08
Lincoln	2,058	1.10
Lonoke	8,561	0.91
Saline	12,362	0.88
Southern Pulaski	18,064	1.09
Southeast Arkansas	69,675	0.99
State of Arkansas	382,293	0.95

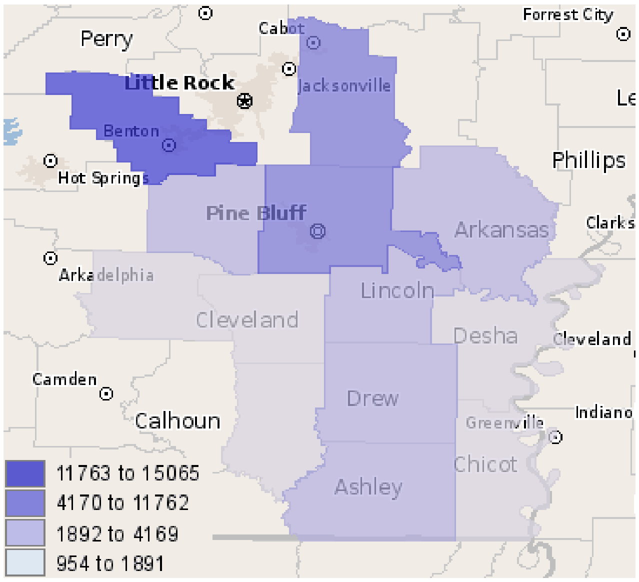
GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	2,187	2,043	(144)	(7%)
Ashley	2,772	2,496	(276)	(10%)
Bradley	1,507	1,374	(133)	(9%)
Chicot	1,567	1,369	(198)	(13%)
Cleveland	1,036	999	(37)	(4%)
Dallas	998	859	(139)	(14%)
Desha	1,674	1,416	(258)	(15%)
Drew	3,165	2,988	(177)	(6%)
Grant	2,086	1,970	(116)	(6%)
Jefferson	11,638	10,234	(1,404)	(12%)
Lincoln	2,058	1,757	(301)	(15%)
Lonoke	8,561	8,122	(439)	(5%)
Saline	12,362	12,125	(237)	(2%)
Southern Pulaski	18,064	17,777	(287)	(2%)
Southeast Arkansas	69,675	65,529	(4,146)	(6%)
State of Arkansas	382,293	377,660	(4,633)	(1%)
Nation	42,886,326	41,499,840	(1,386,486)	(3%)

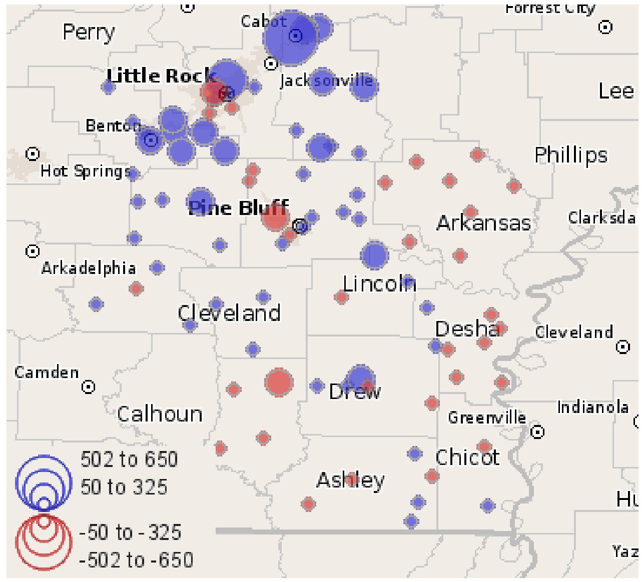
EARLY CAREER (25-34)

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.	2010 LQ
Arkansas	2,323	0.90
Ashley	2,509	0.84
Bradley	1,556	0.97
Chicot	1,314	0.83
Cleveland	1,126	0.95
Dallas	954	0.88
Desha	1,441	0.80
Drew	2,499	0.98
Grant	2,795	1.14
Jefferson	9,531	0.90
Lincoln	2,403	1.31
Lonoke	10,692	1.16
Saline	15,065	1.10
Southern Pulaski	17,647	1.09
Southeast Arkansas	71,855	1.03
State of Arkansas	388,655	0.98

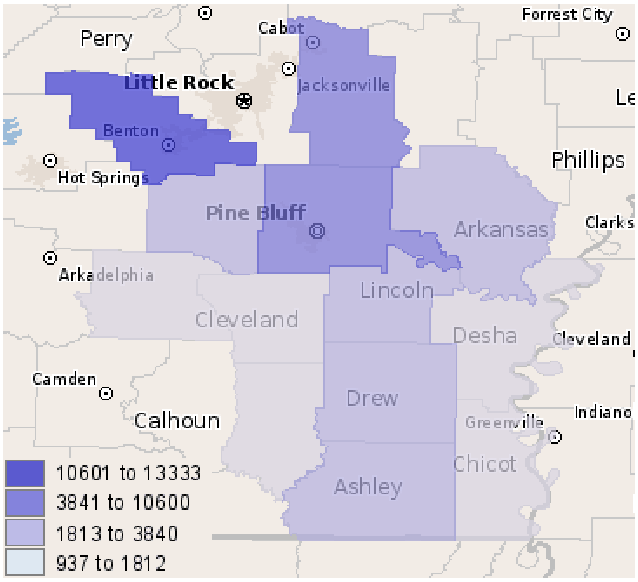
GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	2,323	2,235	(88)	(4%)
Ashley	2,509	2,495	(14)	(1%)
Bradley	1,556	1,426	(130)	(8%)
Chicot	1,314	1,267	(47)	(4%)
Cleveland	1,126	1,155	29	3%
Dallas	954	941	(13)	(1%)
Desha	1,441	1,426	(15)	(1%)
Drew	2,499	2,562	63	3%
Grant	2,795	2,892	97	3%
Jefferson	9,531	9,443	(88)	(1%)
Lincoln	2,403	2,460	57	2%
Lonoke	10,692	11,779	1,087	10%
Saline	15,065	16,365	1,300	9%
Southern Pulaski	17,647	17,570	(77)	0%
Southeast Arkansas	71,855	74,016	2,161	3%
State of Arkansas	388,655	388,322	(333)	(0%)
Nation	42,120,395	44,168,371	2,047,976	5%

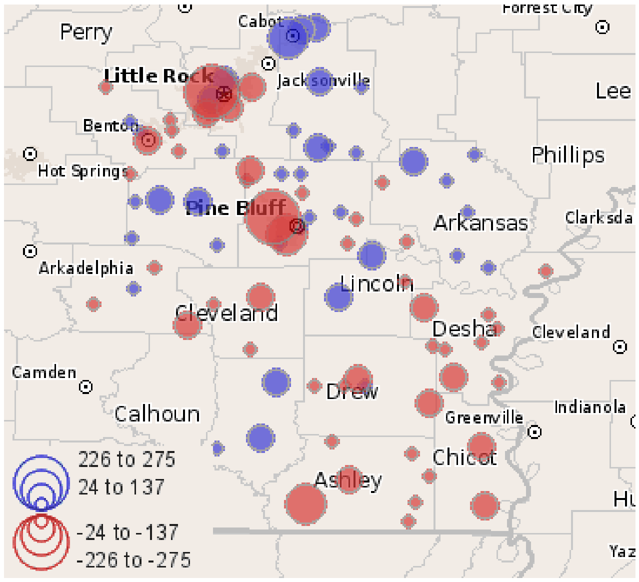
MID CAREER (35-44)

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.	2010 LQ
Arkansas	2,196	0.85
Ashley	2,958	1.00
Bradley	1,409	0.88
Chicot	1,367	0.87
Cleveland	1,113	0.94
Dallas	937	0.87
Desha	1,475	0.82
Drew	2,126	0.84
Grant	2,433	1.00
Jefferson	9,389	0.90
Lincoln	2,113	1.16
Lonoke	9,081	1.00
Saline	13,333	0.98
Southern Pulaski	18,089	1.12
Southeast Arkansas	68,019	0.99
State of Arkansas	369,086	0.94

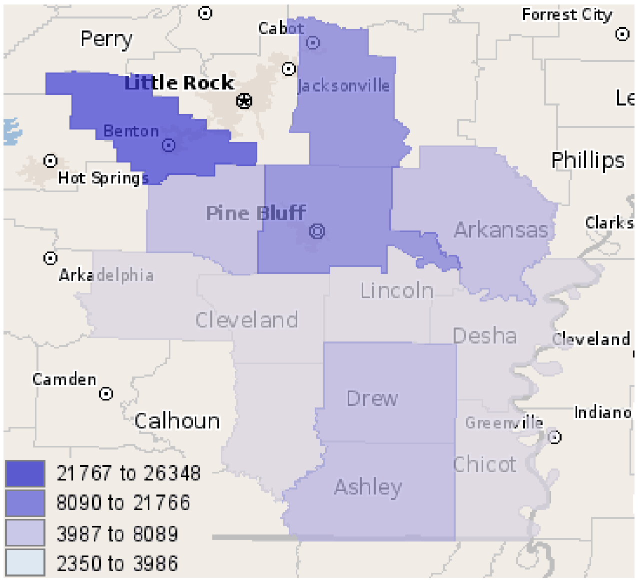
GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	2,196	2,263	67	3%
Ashley	2,958	2,676	(282)	(10%)
Bradley	1,409	1,468	59	4%
Chicot	1,367	1,251	(116)	(8%)
Cleveland	1,113	1,034	(79)	(7%)
Dallas	937	902	(35)	(4%)
Desha	1,475	1,341	(134)	(9%)
Drew	2,126	2,078	(48)	(2%)
Grant	2,433	2,592	159	7%
Jefferson	9,389	8,992	(397)	(4%)
Lincoln	2,113	2,182	69	3%
Lonoke	9,081	9,401	320	4%
Saline	13,333	13,352	19	0%
Southern Pulaski	18,089	17,675	(414)	(2%)
Southeast Arkansas	68,019	67,207	(812)	(1%)
State of Arkansas	369,086	370,754	1,668	0%
Nation	41,725,499	40,584,726	(1,140,773)	(3%)

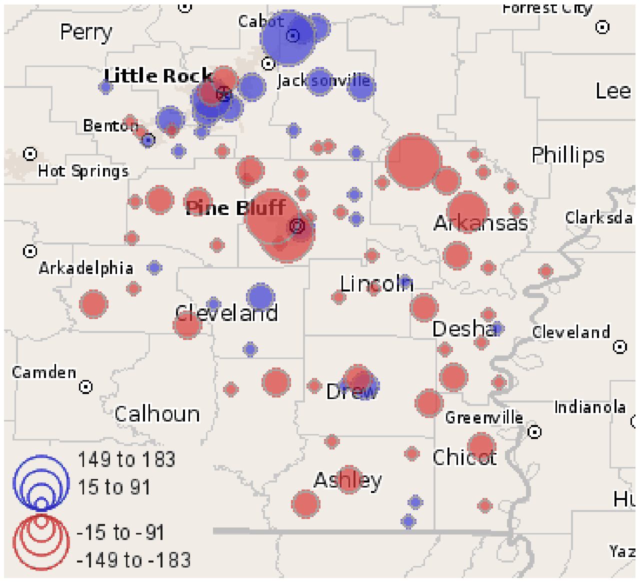
LATE CAREER (45-64)

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.	2010 LQ
Arkansas	5,527	1.11
Ashley	6,256	1.09
Bradley	3,076	0.99
Chicot	3,234	1.06
Cleveland	2,383	1.04
Dallas	2,350	1.12
Desha	3,931	1.13
Drew	4,873	0.99
Grant	4,951	1.05
Jefferson	21,687	1.07
Lincoln	3,291	0.93
Lonoke	17,264	0.98
Saline	26,348	1.00
Southern Pulaski	25,554	0.82
Southeast Arkansas	130,725	0.98
State of Arkansas	750,608	0.99

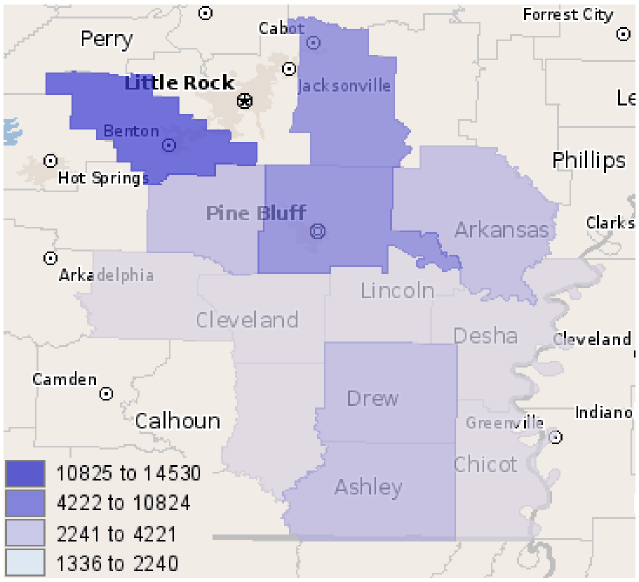
GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Arkansas	5,527	5,220	(307)	(6%)
Ashley	6,256	6,206	(50)	(1%)
Bradley	3,076	3,054	(22)	(1%)
Chicot	3,234	3,164	(70)	(2%)
Cleveland	2,383	2,429	46	2%
Dallas	2,350	2,261	(89)	(4%)
Desha	3,931	3,898	(33)	(1%)
Drew	4,873	4,891	18	0%
Grant	4,951	4,871	(80)	(2%)
Jefferson	21,687	21,502	(185)	(1%)
Lincoln	3,291	3,274	(17)	(1%)
Lonoke	17,264	17,646	382	2%
Saline	26,348	26,428	80	0%
Southern Pulaski	25,554	25,836	282	1%
Southeast Arkansas	130,725	130,680	(45)	0%
State of Arkansas	750,608	755,967	5,359	1%
Nation	80,980,015	82,765,244	1,785,229	2%

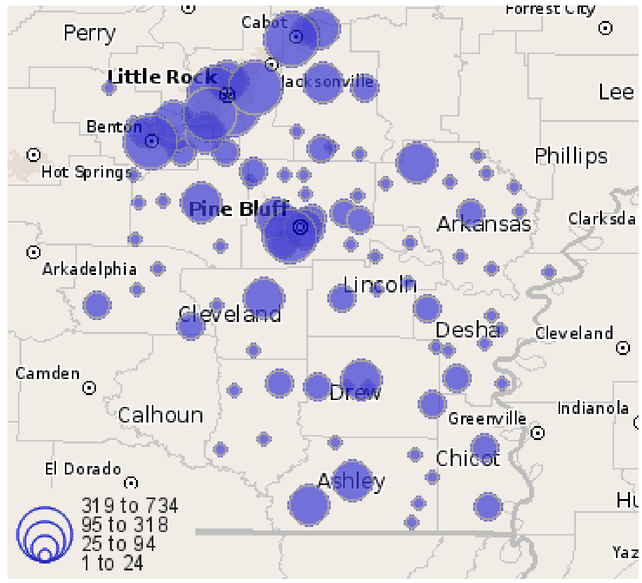
RETIREMENT AGED (65 AND UP)

EMPLOYMENT



County	2010 Pop.	2010 LQ
Arkansas	3,245	1.30
Ashley	3,419	1.19
Bradley	2,114	1.37
Chicot	2,059	1.35
Cleveland	1,446	1.27
Dallas	1,336	1.28
Desha	2,061	1.19
Drew	2,533	1.03
Grant	2,404	1.02
Jefferson	10,440	1.03
Lincoln	1,792	1.02
Lonoke	7,503	0.85
Saline	14,530	1.10
Southern Pulaski	14,150	0.91
Southeast Arkansas	69,032	1.04
State of Arkansas	421,542	1.11

GROWTH



County	2010 Pop.	2015 Pop.	5-Year Growth	% Growth
Southern Pulaski	14,150	17,107	2,957	21%
Saline	14,530	16,524	1,994	14%
Jefferson	10,440	11,947	1,507	14%
Lonoke	7,503	8,583	1,080	14%
Ashley	3,419	3,878	459	13%
Grant	2,404	2,732	328	14%
Arkansas	3,245	3,563	318	10%
Drew	2,533	2,775	242	10%
Desha	2,061	2,271	210	10%
Cleveland	1,446	1,609	163	11%
Chicot	2,059	2,201	142	7%
Dallas	1,336	1,466	130	10%
Lincoln	1,792	1,917	125	7%
Bradley	2,114	2,177	63	3%
Southeast Arkansas	69,032	78,750	9,718	14%
State of Arkansas	421,542	471,395	49,853	12%
Nation	40,447,942	46,236,057	5,788,115	14%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Unemployment rates are a measure of the percentage of people in the workforce that are unemployed and searching for a job. Higher rates of unemployment indicate less favorable economic conditions for jobseekers. Please note that the data for 2000 though 2009 are seasonally adjusted annual averages, but the numbers in the final column, "Feb. 2010," represent non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for February 2010.[1] Therefore, they cannot be directly compared to unemployment rates from previous years, which are yearly averages. It is also important to understand that unemployment rates in this region are often slightly higher in February than at later points in the year due in part to decreased employment in agriculture and construction during winter months.

The counties in the county-by-county unemployment rates table are ranked in ascending order according to average annual unemployment rates. Therefore, the counties which regularly have the lowest unemployment appear at the top.

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

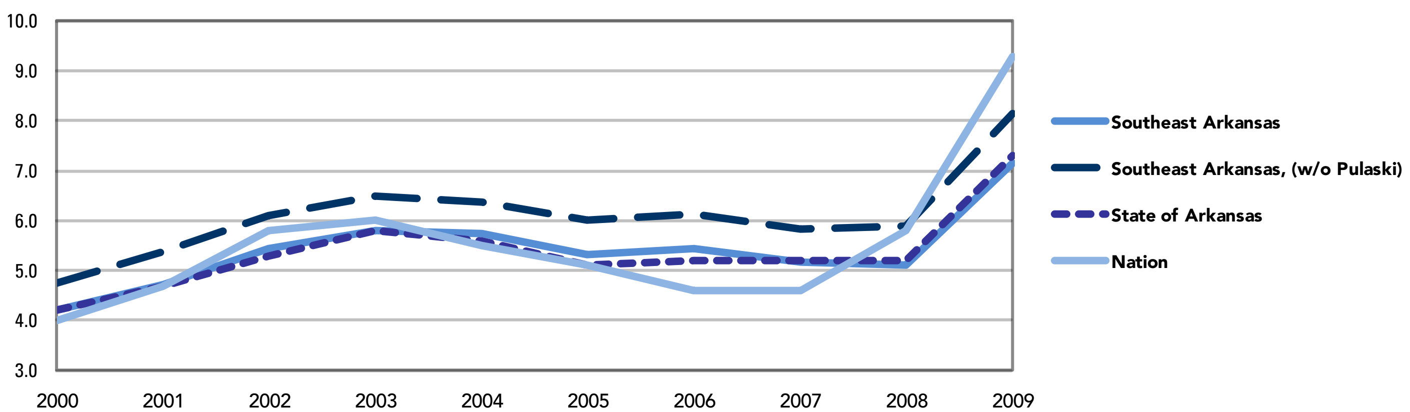
For the past 10 years, the state of Arkansas has been nearly equal with the nation in annual unemployment rates. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rates have ranged between 4.2% and 7.3% over that period of time. The unemployment rates of Southeast Arkansas vary greatly depending on whether or not Pulaski County is included in the analysis. Southeast Arkansas including Pulaski County has been within plus or minus one percentage point of the state over this period of time. When Pulaski County is removed from this consideration, the unemployment rates have been considerably higher in Southeast Arkansas than the state and nation with the exception of 2009. The rates range between 4.7% and 8.2% over this period of time, which is on average 0.6 percentage points higher than the state and 0.7 percentage point higher than the nation. However, with the tumultuous economic changes of 2009, the national annual average inceased beyond the state of Arkansas and Southeast Arkansas, both with and without Pulaski.

Within Southeast Arkansas, the counties with the highest unemployment rates have been Chicot, Desha and Ashley, which have had annual average unemployment rates between 7.9% and 9.0%. The counties with the lowest unemployment rates have been Saline, Lonoke, Pulaski, and Grant, which have all been under 5%. Jefferson County sits in the middle of the pack with an average annual unemployment rate of 7.4%.

The most recent county-level unemployment data paint a very different picture for the counties in Southeast Arkansas. Some of the most economically significant counties have seen the greatest increase in unemployment. Saline, Lonoke, Pulaski, and Jefferson have all seen dramatic increases in unemployment. On the other hand, a number of smaller counties (*e.g.*, Desha, Chicot, and Lincoln) have seen either a decrease in unemployment or a very small change. This could be explained in part by the fact that many of these counties are dominated by self-employed agricultural workers who cannot collect unemployment funds.

Though lower unemployment rates are generally an encouraging sign, some economists have observed that regions which declined the fastest during recessions will also be the fastest to recover, whereas those which experienced a delayed recession may remain in that position for longer. Southeast Arkansas' resilience during the latest recession therefore may signal a longer, slower climb out of it.

The 2009 annual unemployment for Southeast Arkansas was 7.1%, which was lower than both the state and the nation. As of February 2010, the unemployment rate was 8.4%, which was also lower than the state and nation.



1 Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, http://data.bls.gov/lau/.

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 2000–2008

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Feb-10
Southeast Arkansas	4.2	4.7	5.5	5.8	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.1	7.1	8.4
Southeast Arkansas, (w/o Pulaski)	4.7	5.4	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.0	6.1	5.8	5.9	8.2	9.0
State of Arkansas	4.2	4.7	5.3	5.8	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	7.3	8.5
Nation	4	4.7	5.8	6	5.5	5.1	4.6	4.6	5.8	9.3	10.6

COUNTY-BY-COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 2000–2008

Counties	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Feb-10
Saline	3.2	3.5	4.3	4.8	4.6	4.2	4.4	4	4.1	6.1	18.1
Lonoke	3.3	3.7	4.3	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	5.8	11.1
Pulaski	3.7	4.1	4.8	5.2	5.1	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.4	6.2	10.1
Grant	3.9	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.4	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.9	6.6	12.3
Cleveland	4.9	5.4	5.8	6.1	6.6	5.7	6.1	5.5	5.5	7.4	8.7
Dallas	5.5	6.6	8	7.8	7.4	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.8	9.6	10.7
Bradley	6.4	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.6	7.7	7	5.8	6.9	9.1	13.8
Arkansas	4.5	4.4	6.1	5.5	5.9	6.8	7.6	8.4	9.2	14.7	7.1
Jefferson	5.7	6.6	7.6	7.9	7.7	7.4	7.8	7.2	7.2	9.2	12.3
Lincoln	6.1	6.9	7.4	8	7.6	7.4	8	7.5	7.6	9.3	7.2
Drew	5.9	8.2	7.8	7.8	7.8	8.2	8	7.1	7.4	10.3	11.9
Ashley	5.8	7.2	7.7	9.3	9.3	8.1	7.5	7.8	7.2	9.9	10.6
Desha	8.1	8.3	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.4	9.1	9.5	8.1	10.7	6.9
Chicot	7.3	8.4	9.7	10.4	10.8	9.7	8.4	7.9	7.7	10.4	7.3

COMMUTER DATA

Examining commuter data is a good way to determine the economic strengths and sustainability of a region. Generally speaking, an area with a high proportion of commuters offers more attractive jobs than its surrounding region. On the other hand, if in-commuting statistics are unusually high, it is possible that people are choosing not to live in the area that they are commuting to because it does not offer the quality of life and amenities that they value. Conversely, if an area has unusually high number of out-commuters, it is usually an indication of a lack of jobs, which could be due to the rural nature of the county or the fact that that county is serving as a bed-room community for a larger nearby municipality.

In the following tables, EMSI has displayed commuter data first for the entire fourteen-county region, and then for the Pine Bluff Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Jefferson, Lincoln, and Cleveland counties. Data on the Pine Bluff MSA also include more detailed analysis of the labor and commuter sheds for three specific job categories: goods producing; services; and trade, transportation & utilities.[1]

REGIONAL COMMUTER DATA

In total, roughly 63% of the working age residents of Southeast Arkansas, including Pulaski, work in the region. The majority of the out-commuters are traveling to surrounding counties such as Faulkner and Garland. The region is also attracting its fair share of in-commuters from outside of the fourteen-county region–149,000, or 42%, of the total workforce. Likewise, the majority of these workers are coming from surrounding counties.

The Pine Bluff MSA is a more precise indicator of the economic sustainability of Jefferson County and its immediate area. In total, 58% percent of working-age residents of the Pine Bluff MSA also work in the MSA, which means, by extension, that 42% out-commute. This proportion of out-migrators is neither impressively high nor exceptionally low. The region retains most of its workers, but still loses a considerable amount from out-migration. On the flip side of the out-commuter issue, the Pine Bluff MSA also receives a healthy number of in-commuting workers from other counties. Roughly 12,200, or 38%, of the area's workforce commutes from other counties outside of the MSA. Since the total number of out-commuters (14,800) is somewhat close to the number of in-commuters (12,200), the MSA is relatively stable and offers enough job opportunities to satisfy most of its own workforce and a good deal of its surrounding counties.

There are a great deal of residents who out-commute from their home counties for work on a daily basis. In six of the fourteen counties in Southeast Arkansas, more than half of workers go outside their home county for jobs. In addition, all but two of the counties have 30% or more of their workforce commuting to another county. This does not necessarily indicate a problem when transportation lines are strong enough to enable workers to go from one place to another, as is the case for workers traveling from Saline and Lonoke Counties into Little Rock, or Grant and Lincoln Counties into Pine Bluff. Yet this can be a cause for concern for counties such as Chicot, Dallas, Bradley and Desha, which are more than an hour away from any metro area. Without strong economies of their own, and being a considerable distance from most job opportunities, these regions are more susceptible to economic shocks such as major job losses.

1 LED OnTheMap Origin-Destination Database, US Census Bureau, http://lehdmap4.did.census.gov/themap4/

DETAILED COMMUTER SHEDS & LABOR SHEDS

COMMUTER SHED REPORT

This table shows the number and percentage of residents who live and work in each county, and the number and percentage that out-commute. It is ranked by the counties with the highest number of out-commuters.

	Live and Work in the Same Place		Out-commuters,	
	Region	Count	Percent	Count
Cleveland	443	17%	2,093	83%
Saline	10,868	24%	34,857	76%
Lonoke	6,575	25%	20,128	75%
Grant	1,870	30%	4,400	70%
Lincoln	950	33%	1,954	67%
Chicot	2,031	50%	2,009	50%
Dallas	1,301	51%	1,256	49%
Bradley	2,327	54%	2,010	46%
Desha	2,442	54%	2,071	46%
Drew	3,940	56%	3,093	44%
Jefferson	18,686	63%	10,794	37%
Ashley	5,109	66%	2,618	34%
Arkansas	6,207	73%	2,287	27%
Pulaski	142,877	82%	30,630	18%
Southeast Arkansas, (with Pulaski)	**205,626**	**63%**	**120,200**	**37%**
Southeast Arkansas, (w/out Pulaski)	**62,749**	**41%**	**89,570**	**59%**
Pine Bluff MSA	**20,079**	**58%**	**14,841**	**42%**

LABOR SHED REPORT

This table shows the number and percentage of workers who live in the same county where they work, and the number and percentage of the workforce that in-commutes. It is ranked by the counties with the highest number of in-commuters.

	Live and Work in the Same Place		In-Commuters,	
Region	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Cleveland	443	41%	630	59%
Dallas	1,301	42%	1,785	58%
Grant	1,870	49%	1,939	51%
Lincoln	950	51%	902	49%
Saline	10,868	52%	9,967	48%
Lonoke	6,575	52%	5,996	48%
Desha	2,442	57%	1,875	43%
Pulaski	142,877	58%	103,692	42%
Chicot	2,031	59%	1,403	41%
Arkansas	6,207	60%	4,221	40%
Drew	3,940	60%	2,646	40%
Bradley	2,327	62%	1,446	38%
Jefferson	18,686	64%	10,677	36%
Ashley	5,109	67%	2,543	33%
Southeast Arkansas, (with Pulaski)	**205,626**	**58%**	**149,722**	**42%**
Southeast Arkansas, (w/out Pulaski)	**62,749**	**58%**	**46,030**	**42%**
Pine Bluff MSA	**20,079**	**62%**	**12,209**	**38%**

TOP COUNTIES RECEIVING OUT-COMMUTERS

This panel shows the number of residents who work outside of the region and which counties that they live in.

County	Workers	Percent of Workforce
Faulkner	6,173	2%
Garland	3,726	1%
White	3,190	1%
Washington	3,179	1%
Benton	3,065	1%
Sevier	2,530	1%
Craighead	1,999	1%
Pope	1,872	1%
Union	1,358	0%
Hot Spring	1,181	0%

TOP COUNTIES CONTRIBUTING IN-COMMUTERS

This panel shows the workers who commute into the region and which counties they come from.

County	Workers	Percent of Workforce
Faulkner	15,409	7%
White	6,237	3%
Garland	6,208	3%
Washington	3,919	2%
Benton	3,766	2%
Hot Spring	3,246	2%
Sevier	2,307	1%
Pope	1,944	1%
Craighead	1,709	1%
Union	1,501	1%

PINE BLUFF MSA, LABOR & COMMUTER SHEDS ACCORDING TO JOB CATEGORY

COMMUTER SHED REPORT

This panel shows the number of residents who work within the region and which counties that they live in.

	Goods Producing		Services		Trade, Trans. & Util	
County	Workers	Percent of Workforce	Workers	Percent of Workforce	Workers	Percent of Workforce
Jefferson County	4,918	61%	2,516	18%	2,878	42%
Lincoln County	392	5%	439	3%	151	2%
Cleveland County	140	2%	129	1%	119	2%
Pine Bluff MSA	5,450	68%	3,084	22%	3,148	46%

LABOR SHED REPORT

This panel shows the number of regional workers who live within the region and which counties they come from.

	Goods Producing		Services		Trade, Trans. & Util	
County	Workers	Percent of Workforce	Workers	Percent of Workforce	Workers	Percent of Workforce
Jefferson County	4,543	57%	7,923	65%	2,691	43%
Lincoln County	500	6%	625	5%	236	4%
Cleveland County	407	5%	489	4%	221	4%
Pine Bluff MSA	5,450	68%	9,037	74%	3,148	50%

Manufacturing is clearly the most critical industry sector in maintaining the economic stability of the region. In the Pine Bluff MSA, the majority of people who are employed in services and trade, transportation and utilities industries work outside of the MSA. On the other hand, 68% of residents who work in manufacturing are employed in the region. Therefore, the retention of manufacturing jobs in the Pine Bluff MSA is essential to retaining the existing population base.

The previous set of tables examine the commuter and labor sheds of the Pine Bluff MSA based on the host industry of the workers. As referenced in the narrative above, about 42% of Pine Bluff MSA residents out-commute for work on a daily basis. However, as indicated in this set of tables, the transaction of workers is by no means even across industry sectors. Of Pine Bluff MSA residents who work in goods-producing industries, a notably large proportion (68%) also work in the region. The trend is almost opposite in the other two industry groups—services; and trade, transportation, & utilities. Only a small proportion of residents who work in services (22%) and transportation & utilities (46%) actually work in the MSA. This is a startling statistic and reveals just how dependent Southeast Arkansas is on manufacturing industries.

The retention of manufacturing jobs in the Pine Bluff MSA is essential to retaining the existing population base. Without these industries, it is likely that many more than the current 42% would be out-commuting on a daily basis, and therefore these workers would have stronger incentive to relocate to another region that offers better economic opportunities.

RESIDENTS' INCOME ACCOUNT

The residents' income accounts shown below provide an accurate estimate of how much income the area's residents are bringing in due to labor (which are general wages or salary from a working position), and other non-labor sources (such as property income and transfer payments). These tables also indicate how much money is leaving the region due to the property income of absentee land owners and in-commuting workers (it is assumed that people who work in the region but live outside the region will spend the majority of their income elsewhere). The pie chart has two color schemes to illustrate the basic distinction of whether the income is coming from inside or outside of the region. Orange signifies income which is earned within the region. These factors include inside earnings and inside property income. Blue indicates that the income was earned outside of the region. These factors include outside property income, transfer payments, and out-commuter income (it is assumed that people who live in the region but work elsewhere will spend the majority of their income in the region).[1]

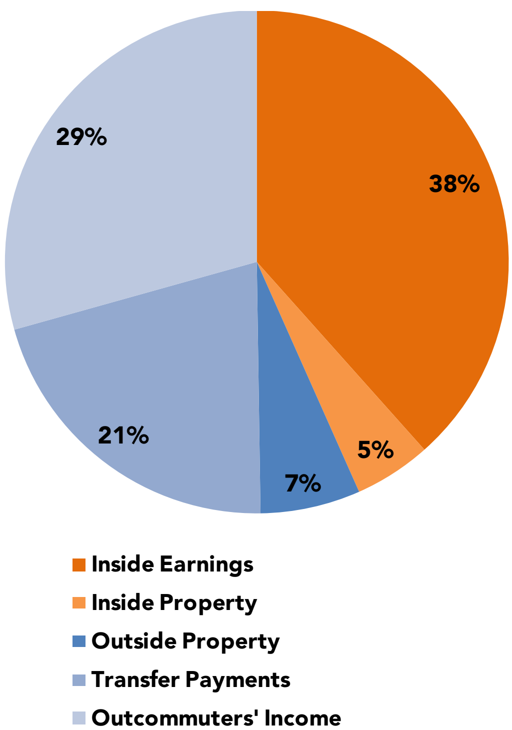
We have provided this information at the following two geographic levels: the Pine Bluff MSA, which includes Jefferson, Lincoln, and Cleveland Counties; and Jefferson County.

REGIONAL RESIDENTS' INCOME ACCOUNT

The residents of Southeast Arkansas create more than $12.1 billion in earnings annually. About $5.2 billion, or 43%, of this is due to residents' inside income in the form of earnings and residents' inside property income; another $777 million, or 7%, is due to outside property income; a full $2.5 billion, or 21%, comes from transfer payments; and $3.5 billion, or 29%, is due to workers who earn wages outside of the county and bring it back home with them. The pie graph illustrates what has previously been mentioned in the both the economic base analysis and the commuter data—that an unusual proportion of the earnings in Southeast Arkansas is coming from transfer payments and out-commuters. These two factors account for 50% of the income of area residents.

SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS (EXCLUDING PULASKI COUNTY) RESIDENTS' INCOME ACCOUNT, (IN THOUSANDS $)

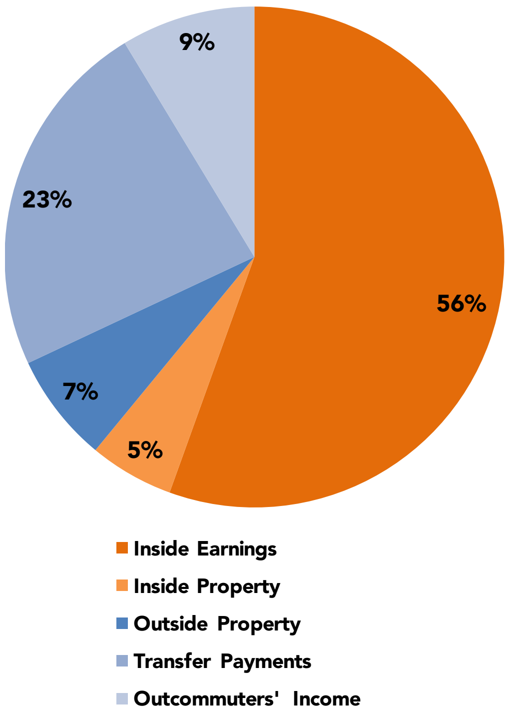
Inside Income	
Labor Income	
Earnings created in the area	$5,763,756
In-commuter earnings	($1,113,888)
Residents' inside earnings	$4,649,868
Property Income	
Property income created in the area	$2,018,752
Claims of absentee owners	($1,422,032)
Residents' inside property income	$596,721
Residents' total inside income	$5,246,588
Outside Income	
Outside property income	$777,440
Transfer payments	$2,528,382
Out-commuters' income	$3,551,346
Residents' total outside income	$6,857,169
Total Income	
Residents' total income	$12,103,757



1 Local Area Personal Income and Employment, Bureau of Economic Analysis, http://www.bea.gov/regional/sqpi/

JEFFERSON COUNTY, RESIDENTS' INCOME ACCOUNT

Inside Income	
Labor Income	
Earnings created in Jefferson County	$1,730,756
In-commuter earnings	($405,350)
Residents' inside earnings	$1,325,406
Property Income	
Property income created in Jefferson County	$604,043
Claims of absentee owners	($473,608)
Residents' inside property income	$130,436
Residents' total inside income	$1,455,842
Outside Income	
Outside property income	$168,572
Transfer payments	$556,609
Out-commuters' income	$207,136
Residents' total outside income	$932,318
Total Income	
Residents' total income	$2,388,159



In Jefferson County, the total annual income of all residents is greater than $2.3 billion. Of that amount, $1.4 billion, or 61%, is derived from labor and property income. The greatest difference between Jefferson County and Southeast Arkansas is that a much smaller proportion of Jefferson County's income is coming from out-commuters. In Jefferson County, only $207 million, or 9%, of income comes from out-commuters, compared to 29% for Southeast Arkansas. This is a sign that Jefferson County is retaining its workforce better than Southeast Arkansas as a whole and that, outside of Pulaski County, Jefferson County is the main magnet for workers in the southeastern portion of the state.

Jefferson County needs a stronger private sector in order to experience economic growth. Only about 61% of all income is due to people who earn income inside of the county.

MIGRATION DATA

REGIONAL MIGRATION

This section provides an examination of the patterns of human migration into and out of the region in its recent history. Migration data indicate how individuals have responded to economic circumstances in the past, which, if the status quo is maintained, can be used as an estimate of population trends into the future. This analysis also has the benefit of showing where in-migrating individuals are coming from and where out-migrating individuals are going. [1]

The first few tables focus on the movement of individuals into and out of the region as a whole. The final row in the 2004–2008 regional migration table, labeled "Percent of Population," indicates how much of an impact migration has had on the overall population of the region. Except for very high growth areas, this number typically remains below 1%. Higher figures in this row indicate that migration has a significant impact on population growth. Lower figures and negative figures indicate that migration is either not contributing to population growth or leading to population decline.

2004–2008 REGIONAL MIGRATION

The population growth in Southeast Arkansas was slow between 2004 and 2008, growing by 2%, or 8,400 individuals. Between 2004 and 2008, there was a net increase of 2,585 migrants, so a surprisingly high proportion of this population growth was due to in-migration. The region also has a high turnover rate for new migrants, as on an average year about 6.6% of the overall population moves in, and about 6.4% of the overall regional population moves away.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total
In-Migration	23,258	24,375	26,853	25,846	26,086	126,418
Out-Migration	23,646	24,244	25,463	25,231	25,249	123,833
Net Migration	(388)	131	1,390	615	837	2,585
Percent of Population	(0.05%)	0.02%	0.18%	0.08%	0.11%	--

TOP MIGRATORY REGIONS 2004–2008

Three other Arkansas counties—Faulkner, White, and Garland—are involved in the greatest amount of transaction with Southeast Arkansas. It is not surprising that these three counties have the highest number of both in-migrants and out-migrants because they are relatively high-growth counties that are clustered around the Pulaski County area.

IN-MIGRATION

The in-migration table shows the counties from which the region is gaining its population.

County	2004-2008 In-Migrators
Faulkner, AR	7,776
White, AR	3,705
Garland, AR	3,080

OUT-MIGRATION

The out-migration table shows the counties into which the region is losing its population.

County	2004-2008 Out-Migrators
Faulkner, AR	10,025
White, AR	4,605
Garland, AR	3,481

1 Internal Revenue Service, SOI Tax Stats- County-to-County Migration Data. 2004–2006, http://www.irs.gov/taxstats/indtaxstats/article/0,,id=96816,00.html

COUNTY-BY-COUNTY MIGRATION

This county-by-county migration table shows the total number of in-migrants, out-migrants, and net migration in 2004, 2008 and as a total of all years, 2004 through 2008. This table is ranked in descending order according to net migration between 2004 and 2008. Over this time period, most counties in the region experienced net out-migration, with the exception of Saline, Lonoke, Grant, and Cleveland. Outside of Pulaski County, the county with the most dramatic out-migration and in-migration was Jefferson County.

Between 2004 and 2008, most counties in the region experienced net out-migration, with the exception of Saline, Lonoke, Grant, and Cleveland. Jefferson County lost a net total of 3,900 people due to migration. Chicot and Desha also lost a significant portion of their population to out-migration

	2004			2008			Total		
County	**In**	**Out**	**Net**	**In**	**Out**	**Net**	**In**	**Out**	**Net**
Saline	4,894	3,738	1,156	6,546	4,910	1,636	30,144	21,373	8,771
Lonoke	5,621	3,813	1,808	5,616	4,352	1,264	27,358	19,860	7,498
Grant	1,037	1,025	12	1,297	1,142	155	5,415	4,939	476
Cleveland	536	464	72	533	638	(105)	2,540	2,509	31
Drew	891	971	(80)	920	935	(15)	4,625	4,850	(225)
Lincoln	361	451	(90)	455	581	(126)	2,324	2,681	(357)
Dallas	360	366	(6)	348	405	(57)	1,714	2,115	(401)
Bradley	418	496	(78)	466	571	(105)	2,167	2,622	(455)
Arkansas	743	730	13	735	850	(115)	3,590	4,127	(537)
Ashley	712	842	(130)	808	816	(8)	3,583	4,299	(716)
Chicot	570	718	(148)	440	694	(254)	2,455	3,297	(842)
Desha	631	807	(176)	591	745	(154)	2,854	3,807	(953)
Jefferson	2,721	3,430	(709)	2,951	3,594	(643)	13,737	17,665	(3,928)
Pulaski	16,760	18,702	(1,942)	18,501	19,135	(634)	88,737	94,422	(5,685)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT METRICS

GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT

Gross Regional Product (GRP) is a measure of a region's economic output in terms of production and earnings. This measure is similar to that used to measure Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at the national level and Gross State Product (GSP). These data are valuable as an indication of total economic activity in the region that is not due to governmental investments. EMSI uses a "value added" GRP methodology, which means that our calculation includes the sum of worker compensation, gross operational surpluses, taxes on production and imports, less government subsidies. The GRP for each year is shown in 2007 dollars, adjusted for inflation. [2]

To provide a feel for the changes in GRP over time, we have shown the change in GRP between 2002 and 2007. Along with this is a bar graph that depicts the percentage change in GRP for each geographic region during this period of time. Also provided is the estimated GRP for each of the fourteen counties in the region from 2002 and 2007, along with the monetary and percentage changes between these periods of time. The intermediate years, 2003-2006, have been excluded in consideration of space. In this table, GRP has been split into three subsidiary categories—wages, taxes, and profits. The order of counties is ranked in descending order from the most GRP growth to the least. All numbers in the following tables and graphs are in millions of dollars. For example, the figure $7,108 in the table below actually represents $7.108 billion.

REGIONAL GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT

The GRP Southeast Arkansas including Pulaski County and the GRP of the region excluding Pulaski Country grew at about the same rate from 2002 to 2004. After this point, the region including Pulaski County saw a dramatic increase over the region excluding Pulaski County that lasted all the way to 2007. By the end of 2007, Southeast Arkansas including Pulaski is about equal in overall growth to the state of Arkansas. All three of these regions, however, grew at a slower rate than the GNP over this same period of time.

In terms of county-level GRP, Pulaski and Jefferson Counties top the list for increased GRP with $6.09 billion and $371 million, respectively. In terms of percentage growth, the most growth came in Cleveland, Lonoke, Grand, and Pulaski, which all exceeded the GNP growth between 2002 and 2007. Ashley, Chicot, and Desha Counties, on the other hand, made very little progress with GRP growth of less than 10%. Jefferson County also registered a modest 17.2% growth rate, or 3.4% annual growth.

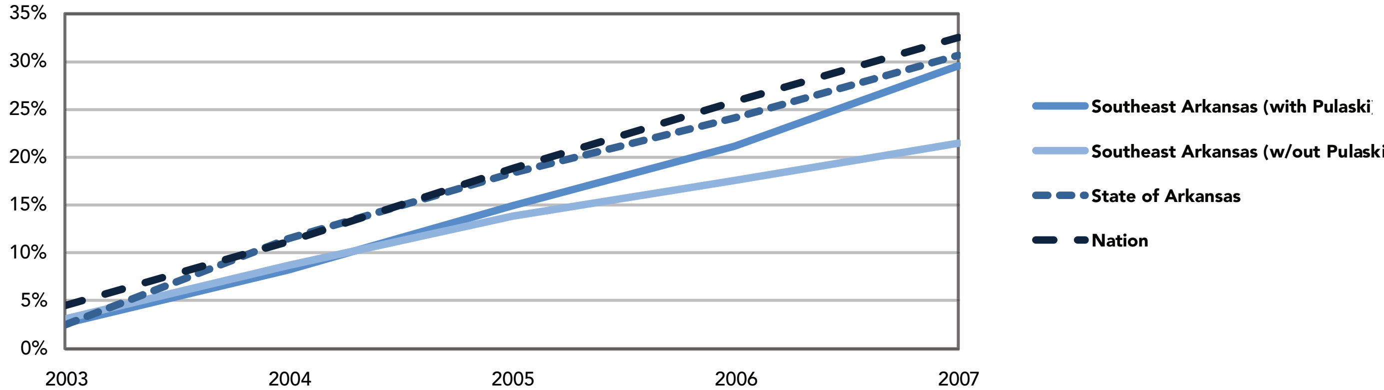
The gross regional product for Southeast Arkansas, excluding Pulaksi County, grew 4.3% per year between 2002 and 2007, which is less than the state and nation. Jefferson County saw a less than impressive 3.4% annual growth.

REAL GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT, WITH AND WITHOUT PULASKI COUNTY (IN MILLIONS OF $)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total Growth	Percent Growth	Annual Percent Growth
Southeast Arkansas (with Pulaski)	25,776	26,460	27,885	29,616	31,225	33,392	7,616	30%	5.9%
Southeast Arkansas (w/out Pulaski)	7,108	7,332	7,725	8,091	8,360	8,630	1,522	21%	4.3%
State of Arkansas	**73,357**	**75,148**	**81,762**	**86,815**	**91,012**	**95,837**	**22,480**	**31%**	**6.1%**
Nation	**10,390,503**	**10,859,285**	**11,554,783**	**12,350,988**	**13,070,536**	**13,764,725**	**3,374,221**	**32%**	**6.5%**

2 Gross Domestic Product by State and MSA, Bureau of Economic Analysis, http://www.bea.gov/regional/gsp/

PERCENT CHANGE IN REAL GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT, 2003-2007



REAL GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT BY COUNTY, 2002-2007

	2002				2007				Growth		
Region	Earnings	Profits	Taxes	GRP	Earnings	Profits	Taxes	GRP	Total Growth	% Growth	Annual Percent Growth
Pulaski	11,724	5,765	1,180	18,668	15,749	7,555	1,457	24,762	6,094	33%	6.5%
Jefferson	1,451	581	121	2,153	1,671	716	138	2,524	371	17%	3.4%
Saline	763	303	85	1,151	980	394	98	1,472	322	28%	5.6%
Lonoke	448	222	39	709	642	312	54	1,007	298	42%	8.4%
Arkansas	381	170	37	588	473	226	41	741	152	26%	5.2%
Grant	144	67	11	223	183	98	14	295	73	33%	6.5%
Drew	229	77	22	328	272	99	26	397	68	21%	4.2%
Dallas	117	39	9	165	137	64	11	212	47	29%	5.7%
Bradley	141	48	10	198	170	62	12	244	46	23%	4.6%
Lincoln	116	67	9	192	140	78	11	229	37	19%	3.9%
Cleveland	48	23	3	74	63	39	5	107	33	45%	9.1%
Desha	234	104	21	358	241	127	23	390	32	9%	1.8%
Ashley	502	229	42	773	481	275	47	803	30	4%	0.8%
Chicot	131	56	10	197	138	62	10	209	12	6%	1.2%
Southeast Arkansas (with Pulaski)	16,427	7,750	1,599	25,776	21,340	10,106	1,946	33,392	7,616	30%	5.9%
Southeast Arkansas (w/out Pulaski)	4,704	1,985	420	7,108	5,591	2,550	489	8,630	1,522	21%	4.3%
State of Arkansas	47,281	21,575	4,501	73,357	60,280	29,760	5,797	95,837	22,480	31%	6.1%
Nation	6,843,487	2,852,292	694,724	10,390,503	8,854,965	4,036,202	873,558	13,764,725	3,374,221	32%	6.5%

AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDING

The American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, better known as the stimulus package or recovery act, was enacted in February of 2009 by the US Congress as a method for encouraging activity for the stagnant American economy. Since that time, stimulus funds have helped many Americans retain their jobs or find new jobs. Some of these funds were directly allocated to state and local government to prevent cutbacks, but much of it was awarded to both public and private entities in the form of loans, grants, and contracts.[3]

In the following maps, tables, and graphs, EMSI has outlined the level of investment that has occurred in each county within the fourteen-county region. The map shows how much each county received in millions of dollars. The table shows these data with breakouts showing how much was allocated for loans, grants, and contracts. The table is ranked in descending order according to the greatest number of awards received per county. However, the furthest column on the right is particularly interesting because it indicates how much funding has been received relative to the population of that county. The "$ per capita" figure is simply a ratio of dollars of funding awarded in the county to the number of people of working age in that county (calculated as all individuals ages 15-64).

Many of the projects that have been awarded are intended to either prevent job loss or spur new job development. Grants given to school districts, such as Pine Bluff #3, are utilizing funds for building renovations and the extension of learning programs, which will preserve jobs for teachers and improve student learning. Other awards (*e.g.*, those to the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department) are going toward infrastructure development, which will improve the state highway systems and provide work for construction laborers.

The "Top Projects" table shows the individual entities that have received the greatest awards. Also included in this table is the award type, the local amount, the zip codes where the money was invested, and the agency that awarded the funds.

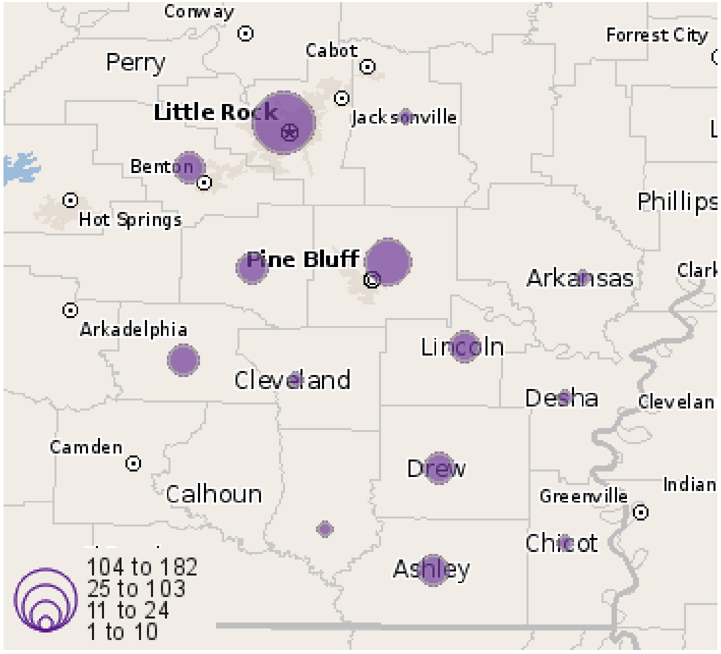
3 Please note as of May 2010, only about half of the money that has been allocated in the state of Arkansas has been spent. To find out the status of any of the projects listed here, go to http://recovery.arkansas.gov. Source of all data: Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, www.recovery.gov

REGIONAL ARRA

All of the counties in this region have received, or will be receiving, a considerable influx of money due to the stimulus package, ranging from $1.7 million in Cleveland County to $155.4 million in Pulaski County. Most of this investment has been administered in the form of grants, but an unusually high number of contract awards have been administered in Jefferson County.

When the data are examined on a per capita basis, it seems that Dallas, Lincoln, Grant, and Jefferson received the greatest benefits on a per-person basis. However, this number should not be taken too literally because many funds distributed at the local level go toward infrastructure projects such as highway construction, which are intended to benefit all Arkansas residents.

TOTAL AWARDS PER COUNTY (IN MILLIONS OF $)



Public and private entities in the region, excluding Pulaski County, have been awarded over $196 million in stimulus funds, which is equivalent to $389 per working-age individual.

County	Loans	Grants	Contracts	Total Awards	$ per capita
Pulaski	--	$149,103,889	$6,261,799	$155,365,687	$618
Jefferson	$400,000	$43,183,224	$10,042,676	$53,625,899	$1,026
Saline	--	$24,183,703	--	$24,183,703	$360
Dallas	--	$21,536,211	$28,604	$21,564,815	$4,116
Lincoln	--	$19,486,956	--	$19,486,956	$1,975
Grant	--	$19,063,474	--	$19,063,474	$1,554
Drew	--	$9,388,050	$2,524,951	$11,913,001	$941
Ashley	--	$9,861,307	$1,861,423	$11,722,730	$809
Lonoke	--	$8,702,503	$871,897	$9,574,400	$210
Desha	--	$6,935,078	$690,258	$7,625,335	$895
Bradley	--	$6,615,730	--	$6,615,730	$876
Chicot	--	$2,384,720	$3,023,777	$5,408,497	$723
Arkansas	--	$4,423,753	--	$4,423,753	$362
Cleveland	--	$1,659,045	$61,685	$1,720,730	$304
Southeast Arkansas, (w/Pulaski)	$400,000	$326,527,642	$25,367,069	$352,294,711	$688
Southeast Arkansas, (w/o Pulaski)	$400,000	$177,423,753	$19,105,271	$196,929,024	$389
State of Arkansas	$23,571,000	$1,368,920,165	$148,227,486	$1,540,718,651	$815

TOP PROJECTS[4]

Recipient	Award Type	Local Amount	Zip code(s)	Agency
Arkansas Department of Highway and Transportation	Grants	$161,494,830	Multiple	Department of Transportation
University of Arkansas System	Grants	$31,210,500	Multiple	Multiple
Central Arkansas Development Council	Grants	$11,306,549	Multiple	Multiple
Pine Bluff School District #3	Grants	$8,230,560	71601	Department of Education
Nicholson Construction Company	Contracts	$4,549,722	71611	Department of the Army
Dollarway School District #4	Grants	$4,422,123	71602	Multiple
Cabot School District #4	Grants	$4,223,957	72023	Department of Education
Arkansas Department of Correction	Grants	$4,000,000	71611	Department of Education
Metroplan	Grants	$3,976,056	72015	Department of Transportation
Arkansas Department of State Police	Grants	$3,967,869	72209	Department of Justice
Watson Chapel School District #24	Grants	$3,823,716	71603	Multiple
VEDC, Inc.	Contracts	$3,640,000	72205	Department of Veterans Affairs
Arkansas Forestry Commission	Grants	$3,600,000	72204	Department of Agriculture
Arkansas School for the Deaf	Grants	$3,500,000	72205	Department of Education
Arkansas Department of Education	Grants	$3,500,000	72205	Department of Education

4 Local amount is the amount of money awarded locally to that project. In some cases, the overall award is larger than the local amount, but a portion of the funds are being awarded to an entity, such as a subcontractor not located in the region. The designation "multiple," which occurs in the zip code(s) column, can signify one of several possibilities. In some cases, the sums shown in this table are an aggregate of multiple awards that were granted to the same entity at different locations within Southeast Arkansas (*e.g.*, the Department of Transportation). In other cases, a single project can occur at multiple locations throughout the state (*e.g.*, the Arkansas Department of Education).

ENTREPRENEURIAL BUSINESSES

The most critical factor for a strong local economy is having a core of healthy businesses. No regional strategy or outside funding will succeed without the efforts of individuals who work for employers in the region. In particular, the subset of businesses with fewer than 20 employees typically has the greatest stake in the progress of the region. The Kauffman Foundation, in a recent study, found that firms with 1 to 4 employees have accounted for about 20% of new job growth in America over the last 30 years.[5] In the following maps and tables, EMSI will display what proportion of businesses in each county are in the small businesses range, that is, 1-4 employees (Very Small Businesses) and 5-19 employees (Medium-Small Businesses), respectively. In the table below, the counties in the region are ranked according to total proportion of businesses that are Very Small or Medium-Small.[6]

REGIONAL ENTREPRENEURIAL BUSINESSES

There is a clear relationship between the proportion of entrepreneurial businesses and overall economic growth. This is evidenced in the higher-than-average proportion of very small businesses in high growth counties such as Pulaski, Lonoke, and Arkansas. However, high levels of entrepreneurship do not always lead to economic growth, as can be seen in counties such as Desha and Bradley. This crude measurement of entrepreneurship is also influenced by factors such as the population density of the county and the presence of large keystone employers.

In general, it is safe to say that more urban counties with higher levels of entrepreneurial activity (*e.g.*, Pulaski and Lonoke) are likely to also experience greater economic growth, and urban counties with low entrepreneurial activity (*e.g.*, Jefferson) are likely to experience less economic growth.

Jefferson County struggles to maintain a strong entrepreneurial culture. Only 49% of the businesses in Jefferson County have fewer than five employees. This is much lower than the high-growth counties such as Pulaski and Lonoke. If the region is to thrive economically, there needs to be a greater investment in small business development.

SIZE AND PROPORTION OF SMALL BUSINESSES

Region	Avg. Number Very Small Businesses	Proportion of Very Small Businesses	Avg. Number Med.-Small Businesses	Proportion of Med.-Small Businesses
Pulaski	6,246	58%	324	20%
Desha	221	57%	81	21%
Lincoln	97	57%	34	20%
Lonoke	600	57%	227	22%
Bradley	167	57%	61	21%
Arkansas	313	55%	114	20%
Grant	150	54%	70	25%
Dallas	130	54%	49	20%
Cleveland	50	53%	22	23%
Drew	230	51%	100	22%
Saline	985	51%	2,385	19%
Chicot	127	51%	59	24%
Ashley	231	49%	102	22%
Jefferson	777	49%	377	24%
Southeast Arkansas	**10,322**	**52%**	**4,003**	**20%**
State of Arkansas	**35,161**	**53%**	**13,714**	**21%**
Nation	**4,117,752**	**55%**	**1,426,960**	**19%**

5 Business Dynamics Statistics Briefing: "Jobs Created from Business Startups in the United States." January 2009. John Haltiwanger, Ron Jarmin, and Javier Miranda. http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/BDS_Jobs_Created_011209b.pdf

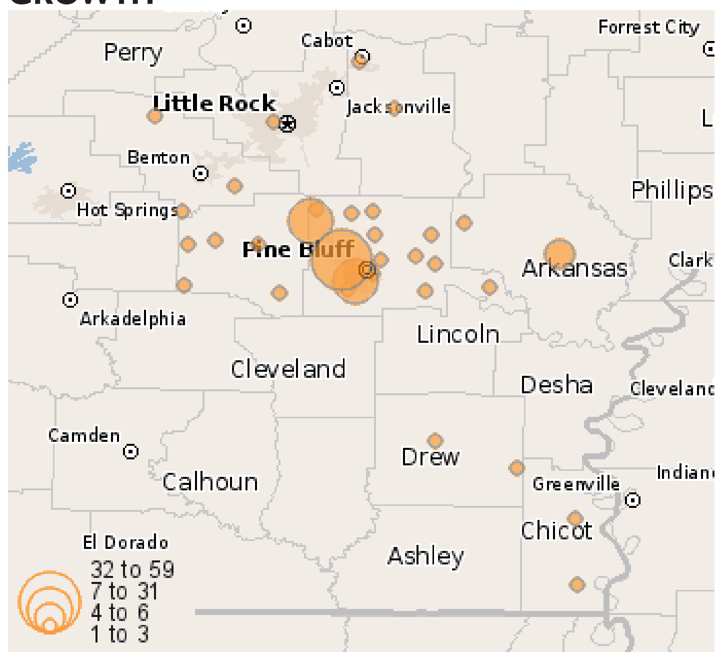
6 2007 County Business Patterns, US Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov/econ/cbp/index.html

PRIVATE RESEARCH FUNDING

One measure of a region's innovative capacity is the level of privately funded scientific research. These jobs are not only higher paying than the regional average, but they also offer the potential for new technological advancements that could lead to even greater economic benefits such as new business development and job growth.[7] These tables and maps measure the presence and growth potential of companies involved in physical, engineering, and biological research (NAICS code 54171) and social sciences research and development (541720).

EMPLOYMENT

GROWTH



County	2010 Jobs	2015 Jobs	5-Year Growth	% Growth	Current EPW	2010 LQ
Jefferson	290	388	98	34%	$70,666	1.82
Arkansas	16	22	6	38%	$70,425	0.31
Southern Pulaski	170	172	2	1%	$47,415	1.18
Southeast Arkansas	**489**	**597**	**108**	**22%**	**$61,067**	**0.89**
State of Arkansas	**1,365**	**1,604**	**239**	**18%**	**$56,165**	**0.22**
Nation	**694,456**	**787,280**	**928,254**	**13%**	**$103,188**	**--**

There are a multitude of influential businesses research businesses in this region, including Terracon Consultants Inc.; GBMC & Associates; and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. The research from these firms could potentially lead to major employment developments. Still, it is difficult to draw direct correlations between research and development (R&D) and economic growth because often the benefits of R&D don't come to the region where the research was originally conducted.

7 The Arkansas Research Alliance contains further information on the state-wide strategy for scientific research, as well as data on the number of jobs and amount of spending that are dedicated to research within the state. http://www.aralliance.org/research/battelle-study.

TECHNOLOGY INDICATORS-PATENTS

Innovation capital measures the ability for a region to create opportunities for technological growth and change. Historically, patent data has been used as a proxy measurement of innovative activities. Though some criticism against the validity of patent data has occurred, past literature has validated using patents as an indicator of technological change by linking them with the actual number of innovations.[8] The following counties are not included in these tables because the residents did not produce any patents over the given years: Bradley, Cleveland, Dallas, Drew, and Lincoln.

Pulaski County is the only area in Southeast Arkansas that shows a consistent pattern of patent generation. When Pulaski is excluded from the region, the production of patents in the remaining counties is very small and inconsistent. Both Southeast Arkansas and the state of Arkansas lag far behind the national average in patents per 1,000 people.

	Patents		
Region	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**
Pulaski	75	66	33
Jefferson	3	8	2
Grant	--	1	2
Ashley	--	1	1
Lonoke	--	3	1
Arkansas	3	3	--
Chicot	--	3	--
Desha	--	2	--
Saline	--	2	--
Southeast Arkansas (w/ Pulaski)	81	89	39
Southeast Arkansas (w/o Pulaski)	6	23	6
State of Arkansas	203	240	109

	Patents per 1,000 people		
Region	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**
Grant	--	0.57	1.15
Pulaski	2.03	1.77	0.88
Ashley	--	0.44	0.45
Jefferson	0.37	1.00	0.25
Lonoke	--	0.49	0.16
Arkansas	1.51	1.53	--
Chicot	--	2.40	--
Desha	--	1.42	--
Saline	--	0.22	--
Southeast Arkansas (w/ Pulaski)	1.08	1.18	0.51
Southeast Arkansas (w/o Pulaski)	0.16	0.60	0.16
State of Arkansas	0.73	0.86	0.39
Nation	6.85	8.58	7.90

8 Acs, Z.J., Anselin, & Varga, A. (2002). "Patents and innovation counts as measures of regional production of new knowledge." *Research Policy*, 31. 1069-1085.
Jaffe, A. (1986). Technological opportunity and spillover of R&D: Evidence from firms' patents, profits, and market value. *American Economic Review*, 76, 984-1001.
Acs, Z.J., & Audretsch, D.B. (1991). *Innovation and Technological Change*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
Source for all data: USPTO Patent Full-Text and Image Database, United States Patent and Trademark Office, http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search/index.jsp#heading-1

LARGEST REGIONAL BUSINESSES

This list of major local private businesses is included to provide the next step of analysis for stakeholders who encourage investment and expansion in particular industries. These lists display the major employers in the following three geographic areas: Jefferson County, Pulaski County, and all other counties in Southeast Arkansas. The businesses have been divided into classes according to the number of employees.

primary NAICS code, the description or title of that NAICS code, and the business's name.[9] Please also note that the numbers shown for the Pine Bluff Arsenal reflect the employment level prior to the 2010-2013 layoffs.

LARGEST BUSINESSES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Primary NAICS Code	Description	Business Name
Greater than 1,500		
311615	Poultry processing	Tyson Foods, Inc.
Between 1,500 and 1,000		
322121	Paper, except newsprint, mills	International Paper Co.
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Jefferson Regional Medical Ctr.
332993	Ammunition, except small arms, manufacturing	Pine Bluff Arsenal Dept-Army
Between 1,000 and 500		
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	University-Arkansas Pine Bluff
334416	Electronic coils, transformers, and inductors	Central Moloney Inc.
519120	Libraries and archives	National Center-Toxicological
551111	Offices of bank holding companies	Simmons First National Corp.
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-mart
Between 500 and 250		
522110	Commercial banking	Simmons First National Bank
336399	All other motor vehicle parts manufacturing	Stant Manufacturing Inc.
331111	Iron and steel mills	Arcelor Mittal Pine Bluff
541430	Graphic design services	Mid America Packaging Inc.
446110	Pharmacies and drug stores	Saj Distributors
446110	Pharmacies and drug stores	USA Drug

9 These data come directly from the Nielsen Claritas Business-Facts database. The employment estimates have not been performed by EMSI. In some cases, an industry can have multiple locations wihin the same geographic region. This could be due to several factors. Occasionally, a business will have several different industry classifications in the same area. For example, a major regional hospital could have several different industry classifications to include the breadth of all of its operations—general hospital, kidney dialysis center, outpatient care, *etc.* In other cases, particularly in the retail and transportation industries, a single business could have multiple locations within the same region, which work independently with their own employees.

Primary NAICS Code	Description	Business Name
Between 250 and 100		
491110	Postal service	US Post Office
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	SE Arkansas Technical College
424210	Druggists' goods merchant wholesalers	Stephen L La France Pharmacy
332996	Fabricated pipe and pipe fitting mfg.	Wheeling Machine Products Inc.
322211	Corrugated and solid fiber box manufacturing	Delta Natural Kraft
445110	Supermarkets and other grocery stores	Budget Saver
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Dillard Department Store
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Sears Roebuck
236220	Commercial building construction	Varco-Pruden Buildings
221122	Electric power distribution	Entergy Corp.
522110	Commercial banking	Pine Bluff National Bank
444110	Home centers	Lowe's
623312	Homes for the elderly	Davis Life Care Ctr.
424110	Printing and writing paper merch. whls.	Hood Packaging Corp.
621910	Ambulance services	Emergency Ambulance Svc.
611110	Elementary and secondary schools	Ares Co-op
812331	Linen supply	Aramark Uniform Svc.
621610	Home health care services	Area Agency On Aging Of SE AR
236115	New single-family general contractors	Duncan Home Improvement
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	J C Penney Co., Inc.
611110	Elementary and secondary schools	Jack Robey Junior High School
611110	Elementary and secondary schools	Pine Bluff High School
611110	Elementary and secondary schools	Pine Bluff Public Schools
623110	Nursing care facilities	White Hall Nursing & Rehab Ctr.

LARGEST BUSINESSES IN PULASKI COUNTY

Primary NAICS Code	Description	Business Name
Greater than 5,000		
622310	Other hospitals	Arkansas Cancer Research Ctr.
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	UAMS Medical Ctr.
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	University-Arkansas Medical Sciences
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	University Arkansas Medical
813319	Other social advocacy organizations	Baptist Health
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Baptist Health Medical Ctr.
Between 5,000 and 1,500		
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Mc Clellan V A Medical Ctr.
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Towbin V A Healthcare Ctr.
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	St. Vincent Health System
517210	Paging	Verizon Wireless

Primary NAICS Code	Description	Business Name
446199	All other health and personal care stores	Arkansas Children's Hospital
518210	Data processing and related services	Fidelity Information Svc.
518210	Data processing and related services	Acxiom Corp.
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Dillard Department Store
492110	Couriers	UPS
518210	Data processing and related services	Acxiom Corp.
721214	Recreational and vacation camps	Joseph T Robinson Camp
Between 1,500 and 1,000		
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	University of Arkansas-Little Rock
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Baptist Medical Ctr.
524210	Insurance agencies and brokerages	Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shld
517110	Wired telecommunications carriers	AT&T
334417	Electronic connector manufacturing	Molex Inc.
624190	Other individual and family services	Pathfinder Outreach Svc.
425120	Wholesale trade agents and brokers	State Highway & Transportation
Between 1,000 and 500		
541870	Advertising material distribution services	Target Distribution Ctr.
484230	Other specialized trucking, long-distance	A B F Freight System Inc.
561311	Employment placement agencies	Labor Ready Inc.
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	Pulaski Technical College
525110	Pension funds	Stephens Capital Management
511110	Newspaper publishers	Arkansas Democrat-Gazette Inc.
424410	General line grocery merchant wholesalers	Affiliated Foods Southwest Inc.
561611	Investigation services	K O Investigations
522110	Commercial banking	Regions Bank
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-mart Discount Cities
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	State Hospital
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-mart Discount Cities
423450	Medical equipment merchant wholesalers	ADT Medical Alert
522130	Credit unions	Arkansas Democrat-Gazette FCU
511140	Directory and mailing list publishers	AT&T Advertising & Publishing
522130	Credit unions	Bumper To Bumper/Crow-Brlngm
722110	Full-service restaurants	Capriccio Grill
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Dillard Department Store
561422	Telemarketing bureaus	Heritage Co.
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	North Metro Medical Ctr.
443112	Radio, TV, and other electronics stores	Perfect 10
425120	Wholesale trade agents and brokers	PFG- Little Rock
452910	Warehouse clubs and supercenters	Sam's Wholesale Club
523910	Miscellaneous intermediation	Stephens Inc.

LARGEST BUSINESSES IN REMAINING COUNTIES

Primary NAICS Code	Description	Business Name
Greater than 1,000		
333415	AC, refrigeration, and forced air heating	Lennox Industries Inc.
332992	Small arms ammunition manufacturing	Remington Arms Co. Inc.
Between 1,000 and 500		
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Saline Memorial Hospital
423510	Metal merchant wholesalers	Almatis Inc.
316214	Women's nonathletic footwear manufacturing	Belleville Shoe South Inc.
623110	Nursing care facilities	Arkansas Health Ctr.
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	University Of Arkansas at Monticello
Between 500 and 250		
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-Mart Discount Cities
424110	Printing and writing paper merch. whls.	Potlatch Corp.
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-Mart Discount Cities
321918	Other millwork, including flooring	Armstrong Wood Products
444190	Other building material dealers	Georgia-Pacific Corp.
493130	Farm product warehousing and storage	Producers Rice Mill Inc.
315291	Infants' cut and sew apparel manufacturing	SFKM
622110	General medical and surgical hospitals	Stuttgart Regional Medical Ctr.
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-mart Discount Cities
325998	Other miscellaneous chemical product mfg.	Rineco
322224	Uncoated paper and multiwall bag mfg.	Bemis Paper Packaging
453310	Used merchandise stores	Blue Suede Shoes Antique Mall
327420	Gypsum product manufacturing	Coorstek
315999	All other accessory and apparel manufacturing	Eudora Garment Corp.
813930	Labor unions and similar labor organizations	IAM
811121	Automotive body and interior repair	Landers Auto Body
424110	Printing and writing paper merch. whls.	Potlatch Corp.
622210	Psychiatric and substance abuse hospitals	Rivendell Behavioral Health
452111	Department stores (except discount department stores)	Wal-mart Discount Cities
611310	Colleges, universities, and professional schools	University-Arkansas Monticello
624110	Child and youth services	Alexander Youth Svc. Ctr.
622210	Psychiatric and substance abuse hospitals	Birch Tree Communities Inc.
441310	Automotive parts and accessories stores	Landers Jeep Eagle Chrysler

EDUCATIONAL METRICS

EDUCATIONAL OUTPUT

A preceding section on occupational characteristics assessed the strengths of the current workforce. This section assesses the characteristics and strengths of the emerging workforce. Generally, businesses value close proximity to postsecondary institutions, but the value of these institutions is dependent on their ability to provide a trained workforce for the types of workers that businesses employ. It is therefore very important that regional stakeholders consider what programs should be offered at local colleges in order serve the needs of regional businesses.

For the colleges located in central or northern Pulaski County, we have netted out a portion of the overall graduates from our analysis, assuming that students from these colleges are less likely to end up in Southeast Arkansas. Colleges in this category include the following: ITT Technical Institute-Little Rock, Philander Smith College, Pulaski Technical College, Remington College-Little Rock Campus, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, as well as other privately operated career and religious colleges. For these colleges, we assumed that 20% of the total graduates are likely to consider living in Southeast Arkansas. We employed a more specific percentage for the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) because it is among the largest educational institutions in the state and has a statewide mission. Since roughly 14% of Arkansas' population resides in Southeast Arkansas, we determined that roughly the same percentage of graduates from UALR are likely to consider settling in Southeast Arkansas.

These data are quantified by tracking postsecondary completers at regional educational institutions, which are derived from the National Center for Education Statistics. This analysis includes data from the majority of public and private higher education institutions in the region, and a colleges that are located just outside of the region in central and northern Pulaski County. Some of colleges included in this analysis are the following: The Jefferson School of Nursing, Southeast Arkansas College, University of Arkansas at Monticello, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Eastern College of Health Vocations.

PROGRAM COMPLETIONS BY PROGRAM & EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

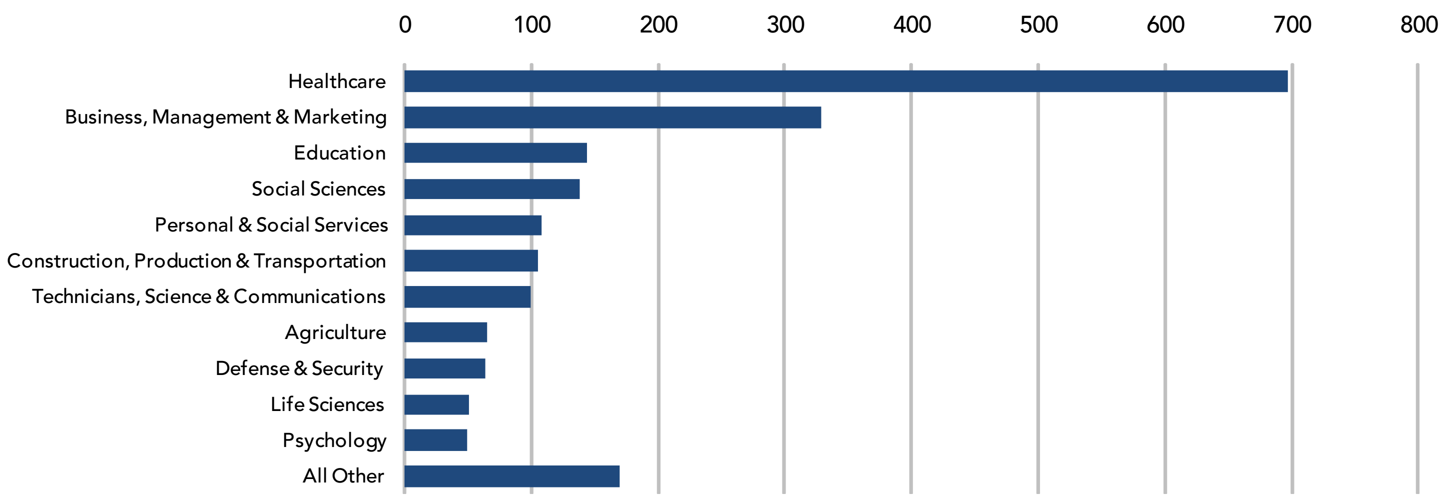
The following bar chart and table display the distribution of educational completers from 20 categories. Ideally, the completion figures would match up well with the type of job openings that exist in the region. When the programs being offered at local colleges do not fit the demands of the local labor market, it could lead to a number of adverse effects for the region. Training individuals for the wrong jobs could result in out-migration to places where appropriate job opportunities exist, or—if these individuals remain in the region—they might need to accept a job for which they are overqualified. Additionally, not training talent for the right types of jobs could result in the need for in-migration of trained workers. This can be expensive for employers, and in a worst-case scenario could encourage a company's decision to relocate.

	2008 Completions			
Program Field	**A.A.'s & Certificates**	**B.A.'s**	**M.A's & PhD's**	**Total**
Healthcare	547	81	69	697
Business, Management & Marketing	109	196	24	329
Education	5	60	79	144
Social Sciences	58	81	0	138
Personal & Social Services	29	64	16	109
Construction, Production & Transportation	105	0	0	105
Technicians, Science & Communications	65	35	0	100
Agriculture	1	52	13	66
Defense & Security	18	46	1	64
Life Sciences	0	46	5	51
Psychology	0	50	1	50
Computer & Information Sciences	30	12	0	42
Architecture, Law, Library and Interdisciplinary	5	7	18	30
Languages & Literature	1	26	2	30
Humanities	2	15	1	18
Communications	0	13	1	14
Visual & Performing Arts	0	13	1	14
Physical Sciences	0	8	3	11
Mathematics	0	9	1	10
Engineering	0	1	0	1
	975	**815**	**234**	**2,024**

According to the latest completion statistics, Southeast Arkansas appears to be producing an adequate number of two-year and four-year college graduates in fields such as healthcare; business, management & marketing; education; and social sciences. Conversely, there could be a future shortfall in professions such as engineering; communications; and computer & information sciences.

Southeast Arkansas appears to be producing an adequate number of two-year and four-year college graduates in fields such as healthcare; business, management & marketing; education; and social sciences. Conversely, there could be a future shortfall in professions such as engineering; and communications. In addition, despite relatively low demand, the region is not producing enough graduates in computer & information sciences.

2009 REGIONAL COMPLETERS BY CATEGORY



QUALITY OF LIFE METRICS

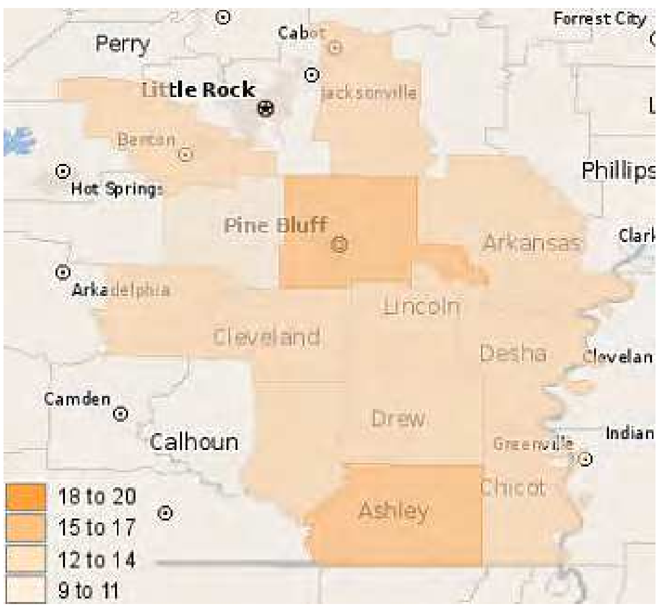
2010 MEDIAN HOURLY EARNINGS

Data on median hourly earnings serve as an indicator of the overall quality of jobs within each county. Median earnings are a double-edged sword for workforce development because the goal is to direct individuals into high and sustainable wage jobs, yet on the other hand, having low median earnings figures can make a region attractive to businesses looking to relocate or expand their operations. The comparison of the region to the state and to the nation provides a measurement benchmark.

REGIONAL 2010 MEDIAN HOURLY EARNINGS

Within Southeast Arkansas, the Southern Pulaski area offers the highest median hourly earnings ($17.52). Jefferson and Ashley counties offer the second highest earnings at $14.75 and $14.72, respectively. The remaining counties in the region offer earnings lower than the state median level. Grant County offers the lowest median hourly earnings at $11.48 per hour. None of the counties in the region is as high as the national median of $17.61 per hour.

EARNINGS



County	Median Hourly Earnings
Southern Pulaski	$17.52
Jefferson	$14.75
Ashley	$14.72
Desha	$13.17
Bradley	$13.13
Arkansas	$13.08
Drew	$13.00
Lincoln	$12.94
Saline	$12.82
Chicot	$12.49
Dallas	$11.90
Lonoke	$11.84
Cleveland	$11.83
Grant	$11.48
Southeast Arkansas	$13.27
State of Arkansas	$14.51
Nation	$17.61

According to most statistics, Southeast Arkansas is generally a desirable place to live. Most counties in the region have a shorter-than-average travel-to-work time, better-than-average quality of water and air, affordable housing, and a reasonable cost of living. However, the region lags behind the national average in terms of median hourly earnings, recreational amenities, and poverty rates.

MEDIAN TRAVEL-TO-WORK TIME

Travel-to-work time is a good indicator or how desirable and feasible it is to live in a particular county. Unusually high commute times could be an indicator either of excessive freeway congestion in an urban setting or a lack of local jobs in a rural setting. [10]

REGIONAL MEDIAN TRAVEL-TO-WORK TIME

The counties with the highest median travel-to-work time are either very rural (*e.g.*, Cleveland, Lincoln, and Grant) or adjacent to a larger metropolitan area such as Lonoke and Saline. This simply indicates that individuals in more rural counties and individuals that live on the outskirts of large cities typically have longer commutes to reach their jobs. Considering these conditions, Southeast Arkansas compares well to the state and national median travel times.

Region	Time
Cleveland	31.7
Grant	31.5
Lonoke	27.5
Saline	27
Lincoln	25.9
Dallas	23.5
Bradley	23.2
Jefferson	21.6
Pulaski	20.8
Drew	20.2
Chicot	19.4
Desha	18.9
Ashley	18.5
Arkansas	16.5
State of Arkansas	21.9
Nation	25.5

10 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, US Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html.

RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

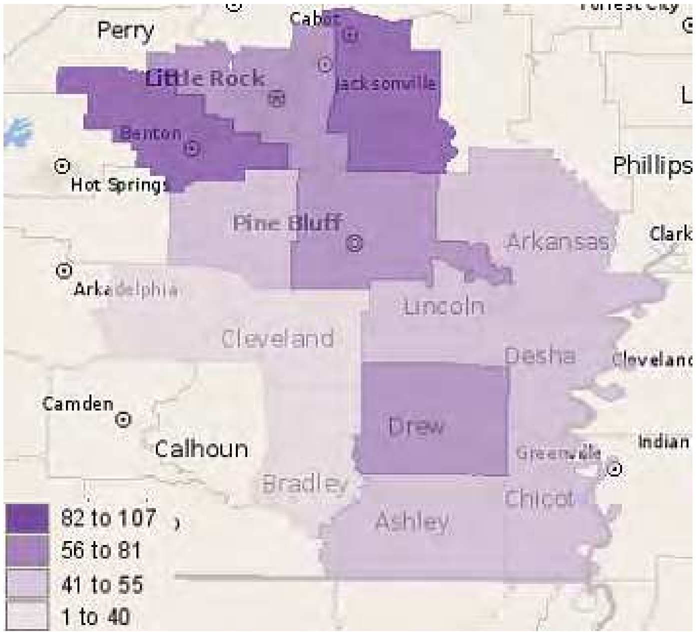
The number and variety of recreational amenities in the region are an important quality of life indicator. Having recreational opportunities in the form of restaurants, arts, and recreation tend to lead to a more engaged and contented population. Recreational amenities also make the region more attractive to people and businesses outside the region that are considering relocation.

In the following tables, we consider employment as a proxy for recreational opportunities. The two sectors considered are accommodation & food services, and arts, entertainment & recreation. The table displays not only the number of jobs in these sectors, but also the number of jobs per 1,000 workers. Generally, the higher this number, the more recreation opportunities exist in the county and region. The counties with the highest concentration of recreational workers are at the top of the table.

REGIONAL RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

The concentration of recreation amenities reveals that there are a higher number of recreation opportunities in areas near Little Rock and Pine Bluff than in more rural areas. Saline County is the only county in the region that has a concentration of recreational workers higher than the national average. If a lack of recreational opportunities is extreme enough, it could create an impediment to economic development, but it is hard to tell at what point this would become problematic for a region.

RECREATIONAL WORKERS PER 1,000 WORKERS



	Accommodation & Food Services		Arts, Entertainment & Recreation		All Arts, Recreation & Accommodation Srvs.	
County	**2010 Jobs**	**Jobs per 1,000**	**2010 Jobs**	**Jobs per 1,000**	**2010 Jobs**	**Jobs per 1,000**
Saline	2,679	87.91	488	16.01	3,167	103.92
Lonoke	1,689	75.37	357	15.93	2,046	91.31
Pulaski	20,431	65.80	4,341	13.98	24,772	79.79
Drew	628	70.34	79	8.85	707	79.19
Jefferson	2,089	51.19	257	6.30	2,346	57.49
Desha	308	48.57	34	5.36	342	53.93
Grant	278	42.29	69	10.50	347	52.79
Ashley	457	44.59	37	3.61	494	48.20
Arkansas	522	38.59	79	5.84	601	44.43
Lincoln	182	39.49	12	2.60	194	42.09
Chicot	189	36.71	26	5.05	215	41.76
Bradley	193	36.55	7	1.33	200	37.87
Dallas	126	28.62	13	2.95	139	31.58
Cleveland	23	10.77	13	6.09	36	16.85
Southeast Arkansas	29,794	63.21	5,812	12.33	35,606	75.54
State of Arkansas	100,018	63.42	19,268	12.22	119,286	75.64
Nation	12,233,814	68.94	3,856,834	21.73	16,090,648	90.68

HOUSING INFORMATION

Affordable housing is critical to maintaining a high standard of living for residents of a region. Additional factors that are considered in this table include median home age, home appreciation between 2006 and 2007, and the proportion of homes that are owned, rented, and vacant. The table below is ranked according to median home cost. The counties with the lowest cost homes appear at the top and the counties with the highest cost homes appear at the bottom. Nine counties—Arkansas, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Grant, and Lincoln—are not included in this analysis because timely data are not available for that geographic specificity.[11]

REGIONAL HOUSING INFORMATION

Southeast Arkansas offers some exceptionally low housing prices. Every county for which data are available is far lower than the national median price. In fact, the only county that comes close is Pulaski, which is still $61,000 lower than the national median. The regional vacancy rate is lower than the national median for all counties, and there appear to be plenty of opportunities for both home purchase and home rentals.

County	Median Home Age	Median Home Cost	Home Appreciation	Homes Owned	Homes Vacant	Homes Rented
Ashley	32	$65,400	(3.0%)	67%	12%	21%
Jefferson	32	$73,100	(4.8%)	60%	11%	30%
Lonoke	19	$116,800	(2.8%)	71%	7%	22%
Saline	19	$122,900	(2.8%)	76%	6%	18%
Pulaski	31	$131,400	(2.8%)	56%	8%	36%
State of Arkansas	28	$99,600	(4.3%)	63%	11%	8%
Nation	27	$192,400	(4.6%)	64%	14%	21%

11 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, US Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FACTORS

Environmental health is important in several respects. Areas with strong environmental health are safer for their residents, have more long-term sustainability, and are generally nicer places to live. In this series of tables and charts, we have displayed the air quality, water quality, and superfund site presence in terms of indices developed by the EPA.[12] In each case, higher values are better than lower values. The counties in the table below are ranked according to overall environmental health, with the most healthy counties appearing at the top of the list.

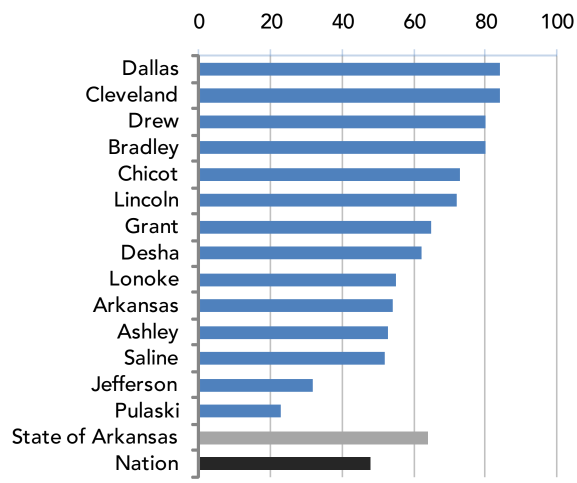
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Southeast Arkansas generally has excellent environmental health compared to the national average, with the exception of Jefferson County, which scores low on two of the three metrics. Regarding air quality, Jefferson and Pulaski have alarmingly poor scores, but the remaining counties score very well. In terms of water quality, Drew, Bradley, and Chicot Counties appear to have some reason for concern. The only county with a very high concentration of superfund sites is Jefferson.

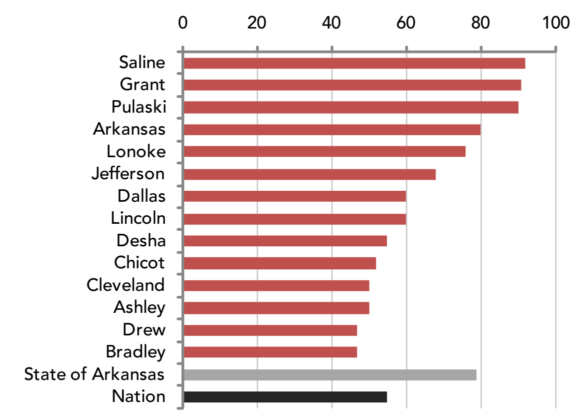
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

County	Air Quality Index	Water Quality Index	Superfund Site Index
Grant	65	91	100
Dallas	84	60	99
Drew	80	47	100
Arkansas	54	80	99
Cleveland	84	50	99
Lincoln	72	60	99
Jefferson	32	68	100
Chicot	73	52	98
Saline	52	92	98
Ashley	53	50	100
Bradley	80	47	99
Lonoke	55	76	97
Desha	62	55	98
Pulaski	23	90	17
State of Arkansas	64	79	91
Nation	48	55	71

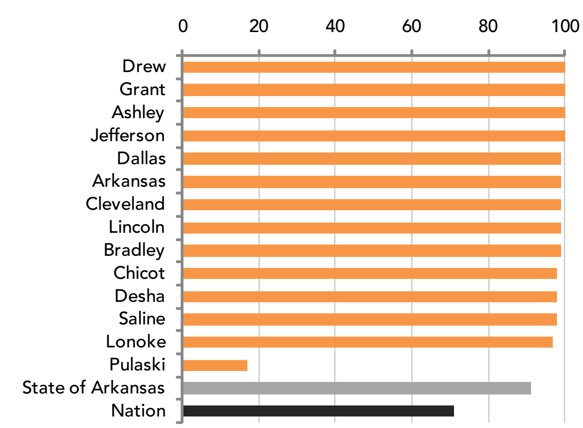
AIR QUALITY INDEX



WATER QUALITY INDEX



SUPERFUND SITE INDEX



12 Environmental Protection Agency, accessed via Sperling's Best Places, http://www.bestplaces.net/

INCOME & POVERTY RATES

The table below contains data on median family income rates and the percentage of families at or below the poverty rate.[13] As with the median income statistics that are displayed earlier in the report, there are two sides of the story for income rates. High income is good for residents, but exceedingly high wages can turn off potential business opportunities. In any case, one of the chief goals of workforce development is to help individuals avoid living in poverty. In this case, we have put income rates alongside poverty rates to display how counties with higher median income rates generally have lower poverty rates as well.

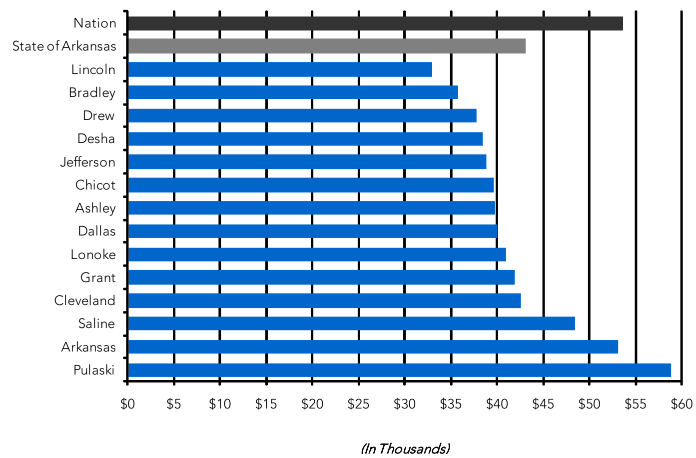
REGIONAL INCOME & POVERTY RATES

The per capita personal income in Arkansas is about $10,500 lower than the national average. This trend holds across most of the counties in the region that have income rates between $5,000 and $20,000 lower than the national average. This trend holds across most of the counties in the region that have income rates between $1,000 and $27,000 lower than the national median. Likewise, Arkansas has a higher-than-average proportion of citizens living at or below the poverty level. Of the fourteen counties in the region, only two do not have poverty levels higher than the national average. Considering both of these factors, the only counties in this region which appear to offer consistent livable wages to all citizens are Saline, Lonoke, Pulaski, and Grant.

However, determining an accurate poverty level is difficult because most measurements, including this one, do not take into account the cost of living within the region. Therefore, this information should not be utilized without the information in the following section on cost of living.

Region	2008 Per Capita Personal Income	Families below Poverty Level
Pulaski	58,834	17%
Arkansas	53,107	20%
Saline	48,361	10%
Cleveland	42,572	20%
Grant	41,881	12%
Lonoke	40,897	12%
Dallas	40,052	21%
Ashley	39,757	18%
Chicot	39,653	30%
Jefferson	38,777	21%
Desha	38,374	29%
Drew	37,797	20%
Bradley	35,766	24%
Lincoln	32,952	29%
State of Arkansas	43,068	17%
Nation	53,628	13%

MEDIAN PER CAPITA INCOME



13 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), US Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov//did/www/saipe/

COST OF LIVING INDEX

It is important to view cost of living data in conjunction with income levels. In some cases, the severity of poverty rates can be overestimated because they are not modified based on the regional cost of living. The cost of living displayed in the table to the right is calculated based on an index in which 100 is equal to the national average. Figures that are less than 100 indicate that it is possible to maintain the same quality of life for less expense.[14] Furthermore, the cost of living index is scaled in such a way that the difference between the regional cost of living and the national cost of living represents the percentage difference. A score of 75, therefore, indicates that it is 25% less expensive to live in that region than the national average.

COST OF LIVING

The cost of living measurements are virtually an inverse to the income and poverty rankings in the previous section. This indicates that the places with the lowest income levels are also have the lowest average cost of living. Southeast Arkansas offers very affordable cost of living, ranging from the most affordable place, Bradley County, which is 30% less expensive than the national average, to the most expensive, Saline County, which is still 20% less expensive than the national average.

County	Cost of Living Index
Arkansas	76
Ashley	74
Bradley	70
Chicot	72
Cleveland	74
Dallas	76
Desha	72
Drew	76
Grant	78
Jefferson	75
Lincoln	73
Lonoke	77
Saline	80
Pulaski	79
State of Arkansas	76
Nation	100

14 Consumer Price Index, Bureau of Labor Statistics, http://www.bls.gov/cpi/

APPENDIX: ABOUT THE DATA

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