



# ARKANSAS USA

## GEOGRAPHY

Arkansas is near the geographic and population centers of the United States. Its borders adjoin Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri, and Oklahoma with the Mississippi River forming the state's eastern border.

It is located on the same latitude as Osaka, Japan and North Africa.

### Land Surface

34,036,717 acres

**East**~Alluvial valleys of the Arkansas and Mississippi rivers, with agricultural land dominated by cotton, rice and soybeans

**North and West**~Mountainous or coastal plains

**South**~Wildlife refuges and timberlands

Source: *Arkansas Forestry Commission*

### Climate

Temperate with four seasons, long summers and short winters.

### Temperature

Annual maximum 72.9°F  
Annual minimum 52.5°F

### Humidity

Annual relative at noon for Arkansas 49%

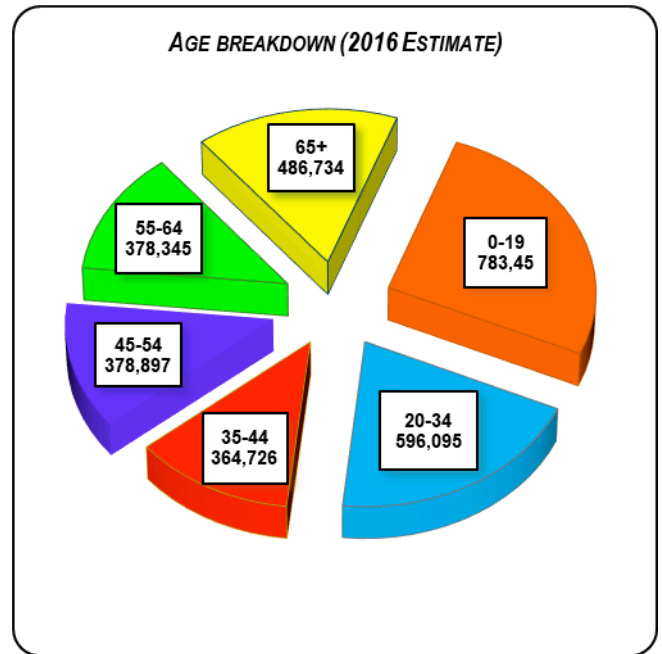
### Precipitation

Total annual for Arkansas 50.6 inches

Source: [www.srh.noaa.gov](http://www.srh.noaa.gov)

## POPULATION

<b>Arkansas (2010 Census)</b>	<b>2,915,919</b>
<b>Arkansas (2017 Estimate)</b>	<b>3,004,279</b>
<b>Arkansas (2020 Projection)</b>	<b>3,286,837</b>
<b>United States (2010 Census)</b>	<b>308,745,538</b>
<b>United States (2016 Estimate)</b>	<b>323,127,513</b>
<b>United States (2020 Projection)</b>	<b>334,503,458</b>



### Major Urban Centers Population (2016 Estimate)

Pine Bluff, AR MSA	91,962
Hot Springs, AR MSA	97,477
Jonesboro, AR MSA	129,858
Texarkana, TX-AR MSA	150,098
Fort Smith, AR-OK MSA	281,227
Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO MSA	525,032
Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway, AR MSA	734,622
Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA	1,342,842

Source: *U. S. Census Bureau*

## NATURAL RESOURCES

### Environmental Regulation

Consistent with other states. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality issues air, water, and solid waste permits.

## **Water**

Arkansas has over 283,000 hectares (699,293 acres) of surface water. Over 800 billion liters of high quality ground water are contained in aquifers capable of yielding over 2,000 liters per minute.

Source: Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (Water Division)

## **Timber**

Forests cover 18.8 million acres or more than half of the state. Pine woods make up 41%, and the rest is mixed hardwoods, mostly oak.

Timber growing, harvesting, management, transporting, and processing are major industries in Arkansas.

Source: Arkansas Forestry Commission

## **Minerals**

**Commercial Production**—Bromine (#1 in world), cement rock, clay, gypsum, novaculite, quartz crystals, stone, sand and gravel.

Source: Arkansas Geological Survey

## **Oil**

### **Crude Oil**

Total Production	5,467 thousand barrels (2016)
Reserves	40 million barrels (2016)

### **Natural Gas**

Total Production	823,223 million cubic feet (2016)
Reserves	7,420 billion cubic feet (2016)

### **Coal**

Total Production	49 thousand short tons (2016)
Number of Mines	3 (2016)

Source: U. S. Energy Information Administration

## **BUSINESS CLIMATE**

### **Market**

40% of the U.S. population is within one day's drive of Arkansas. Major market centers in the region include: Memphis, Chicago, Atlanta, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, New Orleans, and St. Louis.

## **Fortune 500**

There are more than 95 Fortune 500 firms with more than 2,500 operations in Arkansas. Six of the firms, Walmart Stores, Inc., Tyson Foods, Inc., Murphy USA, J. B. Hunt Transport Services, Dillard's, Inc., and Windstream Holdings are headquartered here. ArcBest and Murphy Oil Corporation also headquartered here are part of the Fortune 1000.

Source: Arkansas Economic Development Commission

## **Gross Domestic Product**

(Millions of current dollars)	2016
<b>Total Gross Domestic Product</b>	<b>\$120,689</b>
Services	25.0%
Finance/insurance/ real estate	15.0%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.5%
Manufacturing	14.4%
Government	13.1%
Transportation/warehousing	4.2%
Agriculture/forestry/fishing/hunting/mining	3.9%
Construction	3.9%
Information	3.6%
Utilities	2.4%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

## **RETAIL SALES**

(Top 5 Retail Sectors)	2017
<b>Total Retail Sales</b>	<b>\$41,410,164,662</b>
Motor Vehicles & Parts Dealers	9,098,225,626
General Merchandise	8,075,344,988
Gasoline Stations	5,580,866,072
Food and Beverage Stores	4,876,003,064
Food Services & Drinking Places	3,585,240,011

Source: Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)

## **Principal Industries**

Manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, transportation, information, business services and tourism.

## **Principal Manufactured Goods**

Food and Kindred Products, Lumber and Wood Products, Paper and Pulp, Electronic Equipment, Rubber and Plastic Products, Machinery, Transportation Equipment, Chemicals, and Fabricated and Primary Metals.

Source: Arkansas Economic Development Commission

## Industrial Manufacturing Structure 2016

Industry	Number of Establishments
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	519
Wood Product Manufacturing	320
Food Manufacturing	278
Printing/Related Support Activities	239
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	231
Machinery Manufacturing	210
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	173
Furniture/Related Products Manufacturing	159
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	143
Plastic/Rubber Products Manufacturing	128
Chemical Manufacturing	120
Primary Metal Manufacturing	76
Paper Manufacturing	73
Electrical Equipment/Appliances	58
Computer/Electronic Product Manufacturing	57
Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing	53
Textile Product Mills	47
Petroleum/Coal Products Manufacturing	19
Apparel Manufacturing	17
Leather/Allied Products Manufacturing	15

Source: Arkansas Covered Employment & Earnings

## Principal Agricultural Products 2017

Rice (#1 in nation)	82.6 million hundredweight
Cotton (#4 in nation)	1.10 million bales
Poultry (#3 in nation)	(2016) 1,009,400 birds
Soybeans (#11 in nation)	179 million bushels
Wheat	(2016) 6.21 million bushels

Source: USDA-Arkansas Field Office

## Tourism

Tourists spent more than \$7.2 billion in Arkansas in 2015; the Ozark and Ouachita Mountain Regions and the Buffalo National River are popular recreational areas. The Crater of Diamonds State Park near Murfreesboro is the only diamond producing site in the world open to the public.

Source: Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism

## TRANSPORTATION

### Highways

Interstate (4 or 5 lanes)	948 kilometers (589.40 miles)
NHS*(4 or more lanes)	853 kilometers (530.50 miles)
NHS*(2 lanes)	2,482.40 kilometers (1,542.82 miles)

\*National Highway System

Source: U.S. Highway & Transportation Administration

### Truck and Motor Freight

Some of the nation's leading trucking companies are headquartered in Arkansas. These include ABF Freight System, J. B. Hunt Transport, Maverick Transportation P.A.M. Transport, and USA Truck.

Source: Little Rock Chamber of Commerce

### Railroads

Of the twenty-five railroad companies in the state, three are Class I (Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Kansas City Southern and Union Pacific) and 22 are short line.

Class I	3,045.84 kilometers (1,893 miles)
Short line	1,433.62 kilometers (891 miles)

Source: Arkansas Business

### Airports

The state has approximately 100 public use airports. Commercial service is provided by six airlines at the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport and by five airlines NWARA near Bentonville. Commuter service is also available at El Dorado, Fort Smith, Harrison, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Mountain Home, Pine Bluff and Texarkana.

Source: Source: [www.fly-lit.com](http://www.fly-lit.com) (Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport), [www.flyxna.com](http://www.flyxna.com) and [www.airnav.com](http://www.airnav.com)

### Waterways

Arkansas has one of the largest inventories of navigable waterways in the nation with 1,099 kilometers (more than 1,000 miles) along five rivers. A navigable river is within 65 miles of every county in the state.

Nine cities have public terminals:

**Mississippi River**~Osceola, West Memphis, Helena-West Helena, and Yellow Bend near McGehee.

**Arkansas River**~Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Fort Smith

**Ouachita River**~Camden and Crossett

Source: Arkansas Waterways Association

## EMPLOYMENT

### Labor Force

(In thousands)

	2015	2016	2017
<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>1,330,099</b>	<b>1,342,691</b>	<b>1,354,265</b>
Employment	1,260,615	1,288,994	1,304,434
Unemployment	69,484	53,697	49,831
Unemployment Rate	5.2	4.0	3.7
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs</b>	<b>1,209,300</b>	<b>1,227,500</b>	NA
Mining, Logging & Construct.	57,200	57,600	NA
Manufacturing	155,200	154,800	NA
Trade, Trans./Utilities	250,900	252,200	NA
Information	13,500	13,600	NA
Financial Activities	49,900	51,200	NA
Prof. /Business Serv.	138,700	142,500	NA
Education/Health Serv.	175,100	181,400	NA
Leisure/Hospitality	111,700	115,400	NA
Other Services	44,600	43,700	NA
Government	212,700	212,400	NA

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

### Income and Wages

(Current dollars)

2016

Earnings & Income	Arkansas	USA
Average Hourly Earnings	\$19.79	\$26.09
Per Capita Personal Income	\$39,345	\$49,571

## PERSONAL INCOME BY SOURCE

(Thousands of dollars)

2016

Earnings by Industry	
Farm earnings	1,844,532
Nonfarm earnings	73,765,438
Forestry, fishing, related activities	645,782
Mining	474,184
Construction	4,249,612
Manufacturing	9,573,223
Wholesale Trade	3,892,576
Retail Trade	5,258,211
Transportation and warehousing	3,646,891
Finance, and Insurance	3,080,754
Government and government enterprises	13,115,414
Dividends, Interest, Rent	23317,760
Transfer Receipts	28,078,601
<b>TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME</b>	<b>117,572,045</b>

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

## Employment Distribution

2016

Trade, Transportation & Utilities	21.2%
Government	15.1%
Education & Health Services	15.1%
Manufacturing	13.2%
Professional & Business Services	12.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	9.8%
Construction	4.2%
Financial Activities	4.2%
Natural Resources & Mining	1.4%
Other Services	2.1%
Information	1.1%

Source: Arkansas Covered Employment & Earnings

## EDUCATION

Four-year Public Universities	11
Two-year Public Colleges	22
Independent Colleges and Universities	13
Technical Institutes/Vocational-Technical Schools	3

Source: Arkansas Department of Higher Education and Arkansas Department of Career Education

## Financing Available

- Municipal and County Industrial Revenue Bonds
- General Obligation Bonds
- State Loan/Guarantee Programs
- Development Finance Corporations
- Diamond State Ventures (Venture Capital)

## Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ)

Foreign Trade Zones are located at the Little Rock Port and West Memphis Port. Active Little Rock subzones are located in De Queen, El Dorado and Nashville.

## Labor Laws

Right-to-work law forbids compulsory union membership for employment. Minimum wage is set by state and federal laws.

Source: Arkansas Economic Development Commission