



Updated Fall 2021

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.

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

POPULATION

Arkansas (2010 Census) 2,915,919

Arkansas (2020 Census) 3,011,524

United States (2010 Census) 308,745,538

United States (2020 Census) 331,449,281

MAJOR URBAN CENTERS POPULATION

Pine Bluff, AR MSA 86,278

Hot Springs, AR MSA 99,789

Jonesboro, AR MSA 135,528

Texarkana, TX-AR MSA 148,838

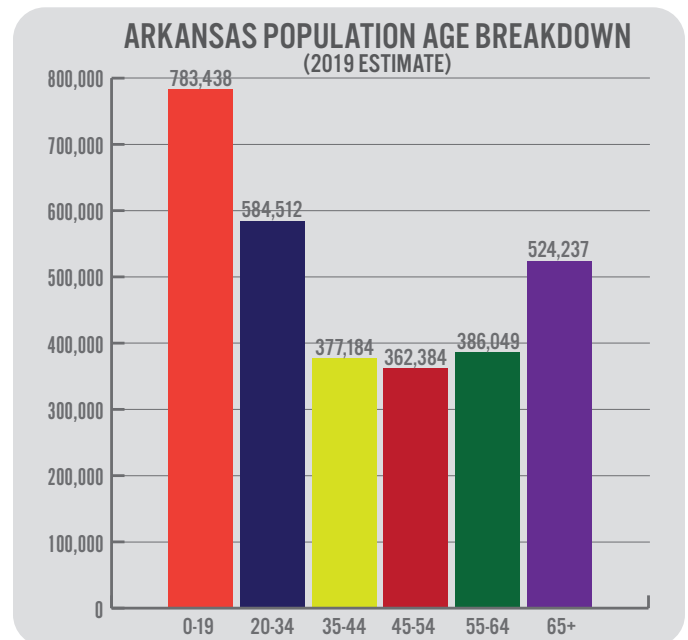
Fort Smith, AR-OK MSA 250,734

Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO MSA... 548,634

Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway, AR MSA ... 746,564

Memphis, TN-MS-AR MSA 1,348,678

Source: U. S. Census Bureau





NATURAL RESOURCES

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

FOSSIL FUELS

Crude Oil

Total Production 4,143 thousand barrels (2020)

Reserves 33 million barrels (2019)

Natural Gas

Total Production 524,705 million cubic feet (2019)

Reserves 5,834 billion cubic feet (2019)

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.

TOURISM

Tourists spent more than \$7.68 billion in Arkansas in 2019; 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

FORTUNE 500

There are approximately 145 Fortune 500 firms with more than 3,200 operations in Arkansas. Four of the firms, Walmart Stores, Inc., Tyson Foods, Inc., Murphy USA, and J. B. Hunt Transport Services, are headquartered here. ArcBest also headquartered here is part of the Fortune 1000.

Source: Arkansas Economic Development Commission

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



BUSINESS CLIMATE

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

(Millions of current dollars) - 2020

Total Gross Domestic Product.....	\$129,074
Services	29%
Finance/insurance/ real estate	17%
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	15%
Manufacturing.....	14%
Government	13%
Construction.....	4%
Transportation/warehousing	4%
Utilities.....	3%
Agriculture/forestry/fishing/hunting/mining.....	2%
Information.....	2%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

RETAIL SALES

(Top 5 Retail Sectors) - 2017

Total Retail Sales.....	\$41,410,164,662
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)

INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING STRUCTURE - 2020

Industry	Number of Establishments
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	428
Food Manufacturing	356
Wood Product Manufacturing.....	373
Printing/Related Support Activities.....	250
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing.....	36
Machinery Manufacturing	161
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	199
Furniture/Related Products Manufacturing	153
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	116
Chemical Manufacturing.....	68
Plastic/Rubber Products Manufacturing.....	96
Paper Manufacturing	72
Primary Metal Manufacturing.....	90
Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing	63
Electrical Equipment/Appliances	39
Computer/Electronic Product Manufacturing.....	44
Textile Product Mills.....	50
Petroleum/Coal Products Manufacturing.....	23
Apparel Manufacturing.....	14
Leather/Allied Products Manufacturing	8

Source: Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Arkansas Covered Employment & Earnings

TOP AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES 2020

Rice (#1 in nation).....	108 million hundredweight
Cotton (#3 in nation).....	1.30 million bales
Poultry (#3 in nation).....	1,049,700 birds
Soybeans (#11 in nation).....	139 million bushels
Wheat.....	4.1 thousand bushels

Source: USDA - Arkansas Field Office



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 PAM. 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 six airlines Northwest Arkansas National Airport 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 (Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport), www.flyxna.com and 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)	2018	2019	2020
Labor Force	1,351,496	1,362,642	1,379,313
Employment.....	1,301,459	1,314,290	1,312,142
Unemployment	50,037	48,352	67,171
Unemployment Rate.....	3.7	3.5	4.9
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	1,261,900	1,276,400	1,257,500
Mining, Logging & Construct.....	56,600	58,900	59,700
Manufacturing	160,500	162,400	156,700
Trade, Trans./Utilities.....	251,500	252,100	253,700
Information.....	11,200	11,300	11,500
Financial Activities.....	46,900	62,500	63,600
Prof. /Business Serv.....	146,200	145,400	142,500
Education/Health Serv.....	191,200	193,600	187,900
Leisure/Hospitality	118,600	119,900	111,600
Other Services	53,400	59,700	65,100
Government	212,200	211,200	205,200

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics and Arkansas Dept. of Workforce Services

INCOME

(Current dollars)	2020	
Income	Arkansas	USA
Per Capita Personal Income	\$47,109	\$59,729

PERSONAL INCOME BY SOURCE

(Thousands of dollars)	2020
Farm earnings.....	787,059
Nonfarm earnings.....	81,592,793
Forestry, fishing, related activities	601,142
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction.....	298,103
Construction	5,200,982
Manufacturing	10,412,362
Wholesale Trade.....	4,196,606
Retail Trade	5,692,179
Transportation and warehousing	4,354,536
Finance, and Insurance.....	3,446,175
Government and government enterprises.....	13,372,539
Dividends, Interest, Rent	32,022,400
Transfer Receipts	39,104,315
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME	142,764,790

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

EMPLOYMENT DISTRIBUTION

	2020
Trade, Transportation & Utilities.....	21%
Government	16%
Education & Health Services	15%
Manufacturing.....	13%
Professional & Business Services	12%
Leisure & Hospitality	9%
Construction.....	5%
Financial Activities.....	4%
Natural Resources & Mining.....	2%
Other Services.....	1%

Source: Arkansas Covered Employment & Earnings



EDUCATION

Four-year Public Universities	11
Secondary Area Technical Centers	27
Two-year Public Colleges.....	22
Independent Colleges and Universities	14

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

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

Arkansas is a Right-to-Work state.

Source: Arkansas Economic Development Commission