

Labor Force Activity by County

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Labor Market Information

January 2024



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

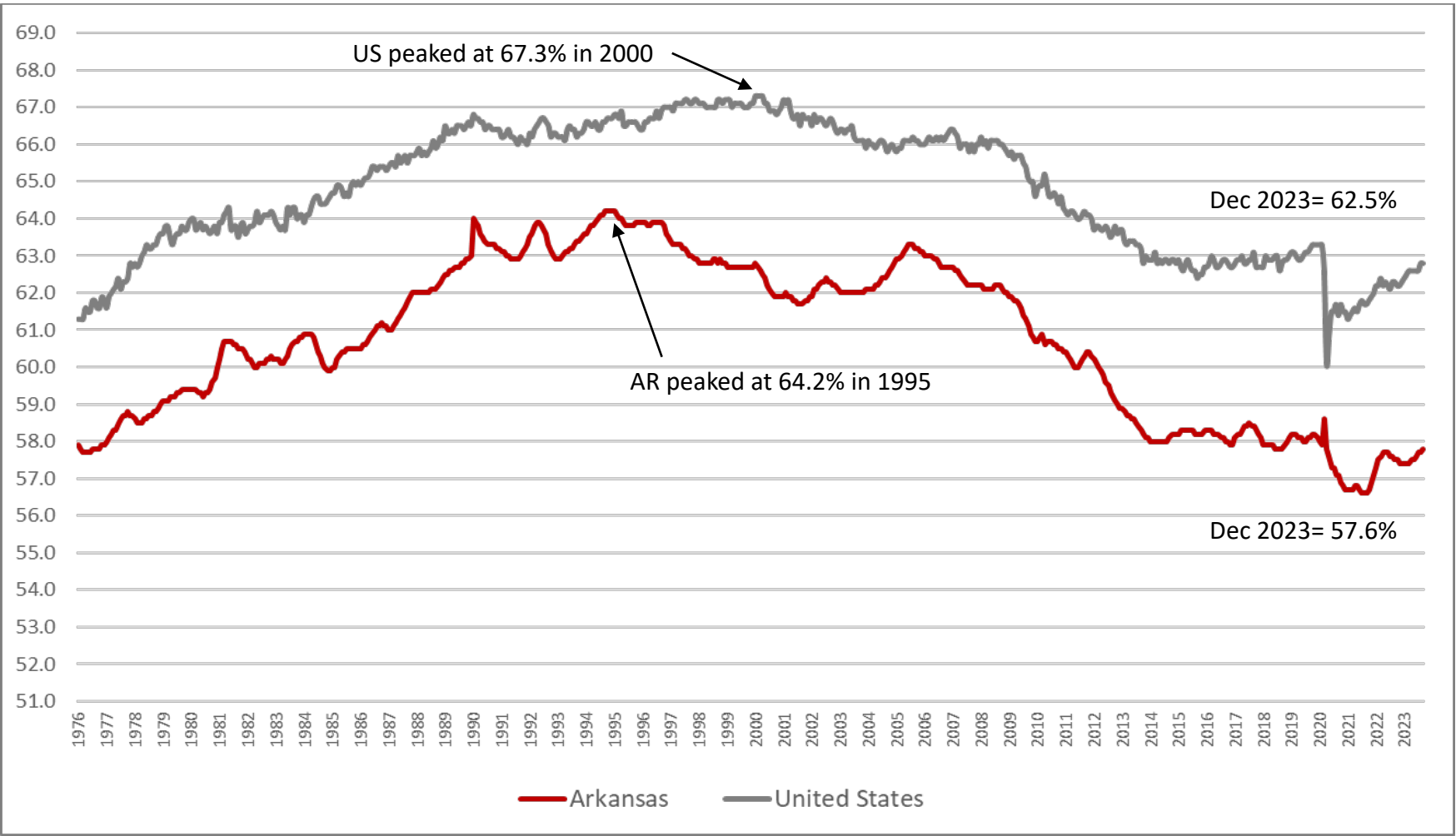
Understanding Labor Force Participation Rates

- ❑ The Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is the percentage of the civilian non-institutionalized population (aged 16+) that is either working or actively looking for work.
- ❑ Represents the amount of labor resources available for the production of goods and services
- ❑ LFPRs are only officially calculated at the US and Statewide levels

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



Labor Force Participation Rates (Seasonally Adjusted) January 1976 – December 2023

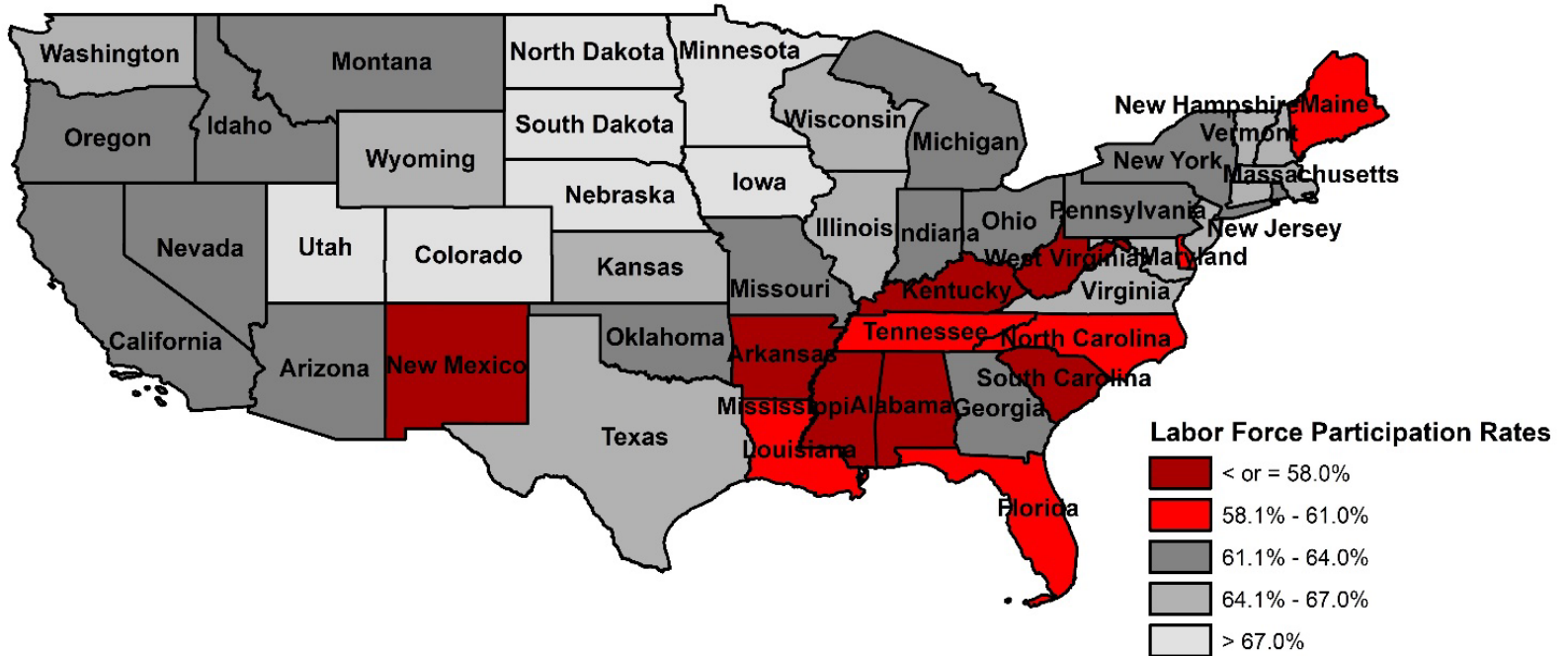


Regional Trends

- ❑ LFPR trends can be seen at the regional level
- ❑ States in the Southern Region of the US have the lowest average LFPR of 61.3%
- ❑ The Midwest Region of the US has the highest average LFPR of 64.4%
- ❑ In December 2023, Arkansas had the 7th lowest LFPR at 57.6%
 - Only border State with a lower rate is Mississippi at 53.8%

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Force Participation Rates by State (Seasonally Adjusted) December 2023



Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



Impacts on Labor Force Participation Rates

- ❑ Researchers from various fields and governmental agencies have conducted studies on declining LFPRs and have isolated 6 potential causes:
 - Slowing Population Growth
 - Aging Population
 - Decline of Men in the Labor Force
 - Number of Disabled Out of the Labor Force
 - High Incarceration Rates and Drug Addiction
 - Access to Childcare

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

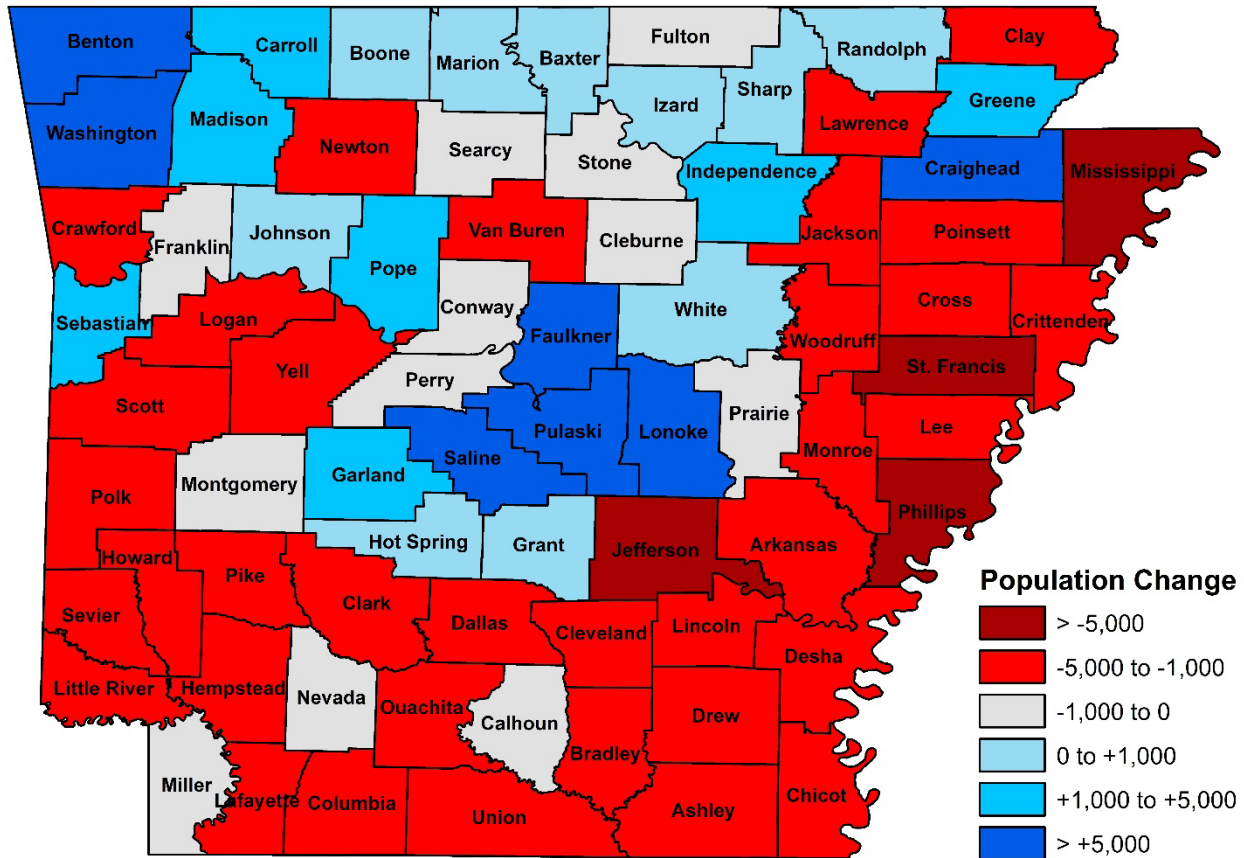
Slowing Population Growth

- ❑ Population growth is declining within most developed countries, including the US
 - In Arkansas, death rates exceeded birth rates in 2020, 2021, and 2022
 - Population growth is now coming from domestic and international migration

- ❑ Between 2012 and 2022, Arkansas' total population increased by 92,721
 - 51 Arkansas counties had population declines over the last decade
 - 24 Arkansas counties had population increases over the last decade

See Pages 5 – 7 of handout for more detail

Population Change 2012 - 2022



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

**Population Change (Ranked)
2012 - 2022**

County	Pop Change	County	Pop Change
Jefferson	-9,902	Woodruff	-1,003
Mississippi	-6,027	Franklin	-950
Phillips	-5,500	Cleburne	-901
St. Francis	-5,255	Montgomery	-898
Columbia	-3,937	Miller	-767
Ouachita	-3,288	Nevada	-711
Crittenden	-2,992	Calhoun	-600
Ashley	-2,793	Prairie	-442
Union	-2,779	Conway	-421
Hempstead	-2,511	Perry	-358
Arkansas	-2,005	Searcy	-266
Yell	-1,691	Fulton	-118
Lee	-1,672	Stone	-87
Dallas	-1,650	Hot Spring	118
Desha	-1,637	Izard	134
Clark	-1,581	Sharp	144
Chicot	-1,525	Grant	170
Poinsett	-1,509	Marion	193
Clay	-1,444	Johnson	371
Logan	-1,405	Baxter	414
Monroe	-1,358	Randolph	627
Lafayette	-1,341	Boone	630
Van Buren	-1,323	White	748
Drew	-1,306	Carroll	1,041
Scott	-1,299	Madison	1,063
Lincoln	-1,226	Independence	1,338
Polk	-1,151	Pope	1,622
Little River	-1,151	Sebastian	2,389
Cleveland	-1,137	Greene	3,730
Cross	-1,128	Garland	3,772
Jackson	-1,101	Lonoke	6,018
Crawford	-1,077	Faulkner	10,881
Sevier	-1,065	Craighead	14,329
Pike	-1,056	Pulaski	15,137
Lawrence	-1,056	Saline	16,490
Bradley	-1,049	Washington	43,274
Newton	-1,043	Benton	64,500
Howard	-1,011		

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Aging Population

- ❑ The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that the country's aging population will have lasting impacts on the Labor Force

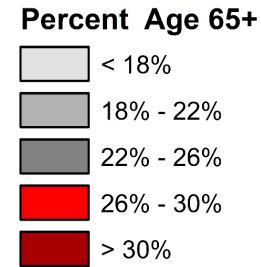
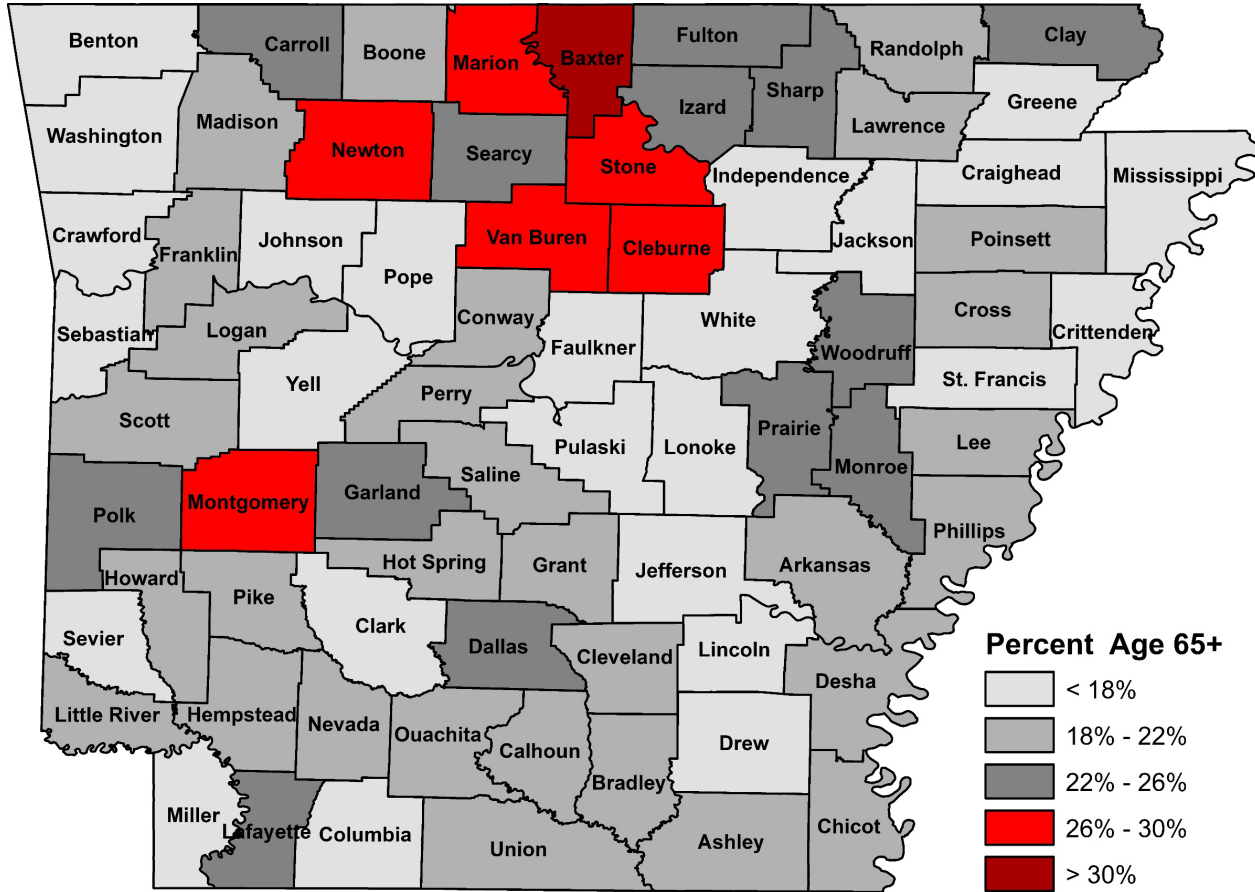
- ❑ The largest generation- Baby Boomers- are all now between the ages of 59 – 77 and are slowly aging out of the Labor Force
 - In 2022, 17% of the US population was Age 65+

 - In 2022, 18% of Arkansas' population was Age 65+

 - In 2022, the percent of residents Age 65+ ranged from a low of 12% in Washington County to a high of 31% in Baxter County

See Pages 8 – 10 of handout for more detail

Percent of Population Age 65+ 2022



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

**Percent of Population Age 65+ (Ranked)
2022**

County	Percent Age 65+	County	Percent Age 65+
Baxter	31%	Conway	19%
Marion	29%	Desha	19%
Cleburne	27%	Hot Spring	19%
Stone	27%	Lawrence	19%
Montgomery	27%	Bradley	18%
Van Buren	27%	Cross	18%
Newton	27%	Union	18%
Fulton	26%	Hempstead	18%
Izard	25%	Poinsett	18%
Sharp	25%	Saline	18%
Searcy	25%	Grant	18%
Dallas	25%	Howard	18%
Lafayette	24%	Drew	18%
Garland	24%	Jackson	18%
Woodruff	24%	Jefferson	18%
Prairie	24%	Yell	18%
Monroe	23%	Independence	17%
Carroll	23%	St. Francis	17%
Polk	23%	Columbia	17%
Clay	22%	Crawford	17%
Calhoun	21%	Johnson	17%
Chicot	21%	Miller	17%
Ashley	21%	Sebastian	17%
Little River	21%	White	16%
Nevada	21%	Greene	16%
Boone	21%	Pulaski	16%
Cleveland	21%	Clark	16%
Scott	21%	Pope	16%
Ouachita	21%	Mississippi	15%
Pike	21%	Lincoln	15%
Perry	20%	Crittenden	15%
Logan	20%	Lonoke	14%
Franklin	20%	Sevier	14%
Arkansas	20%	Craighead	14%
Randolph	20%	Benton	14%
Lee	20%	Faulkner	13%
Phillips	20%	Washington	12%
Madison	20%		

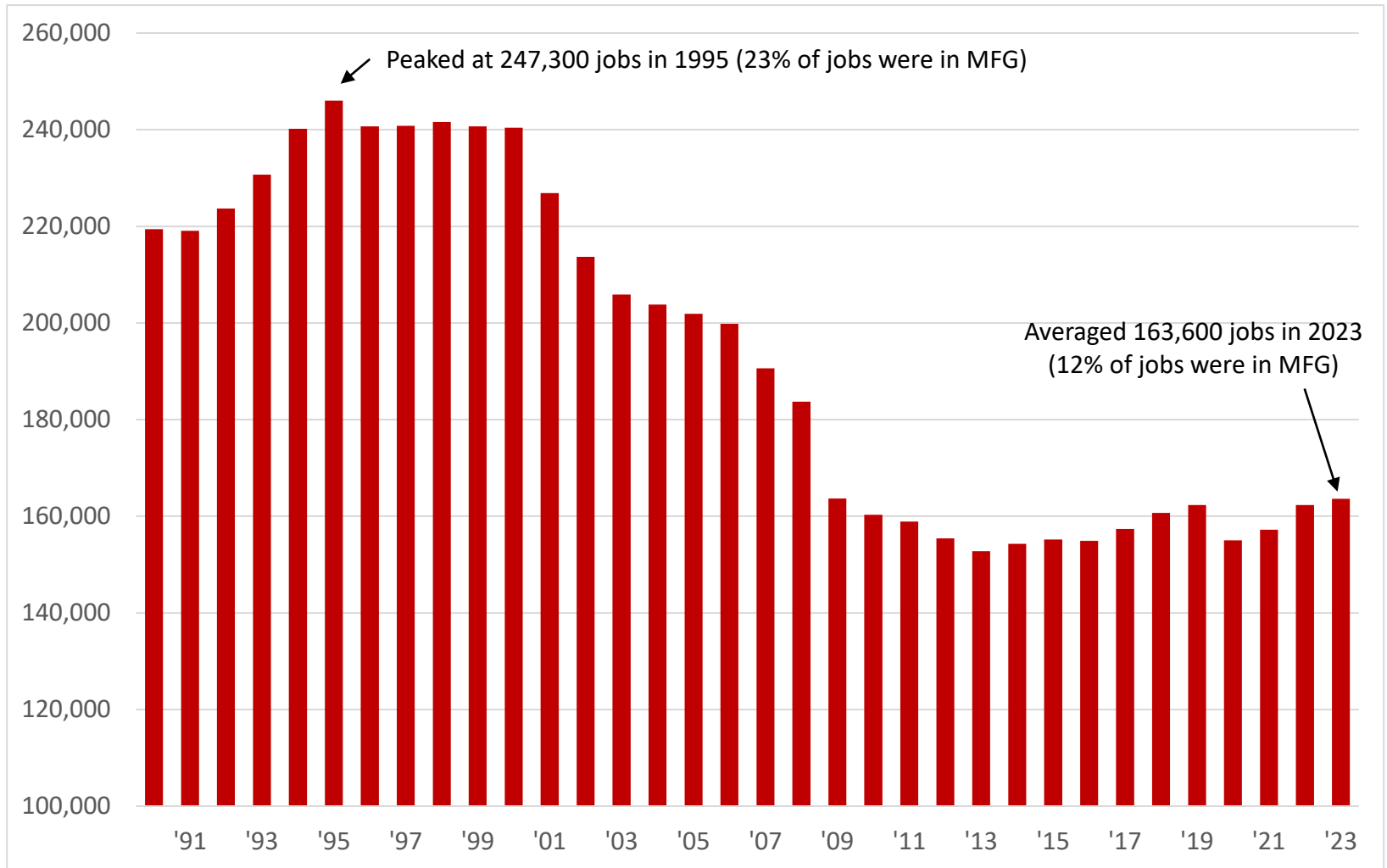
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Decline of Men in the Work Force

- ❑ For the last 6 decades, the US has seen a slow decline of men aged 25-54 participating in the labor force
- ❑ In the 1950s, 97% of men aged 25-54 were in the labor force in the US
- ❑ In 2022, 88% of men aged 25-54 were in the labor force in the US (73% in AR)
- ❑ The decline of men's LFPR has been attributed to several factors:
 - Loss of employment opportunities due to technological advancements and globalization
 - Decline in the number of manufacturing jobs
 - Increased availability of lower paying and less desirable jobs, particularly for those with lower levels of educational attainment

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Manufacturing Jobs in Arkansas 1990 – 2023 (Annual Average)



Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics

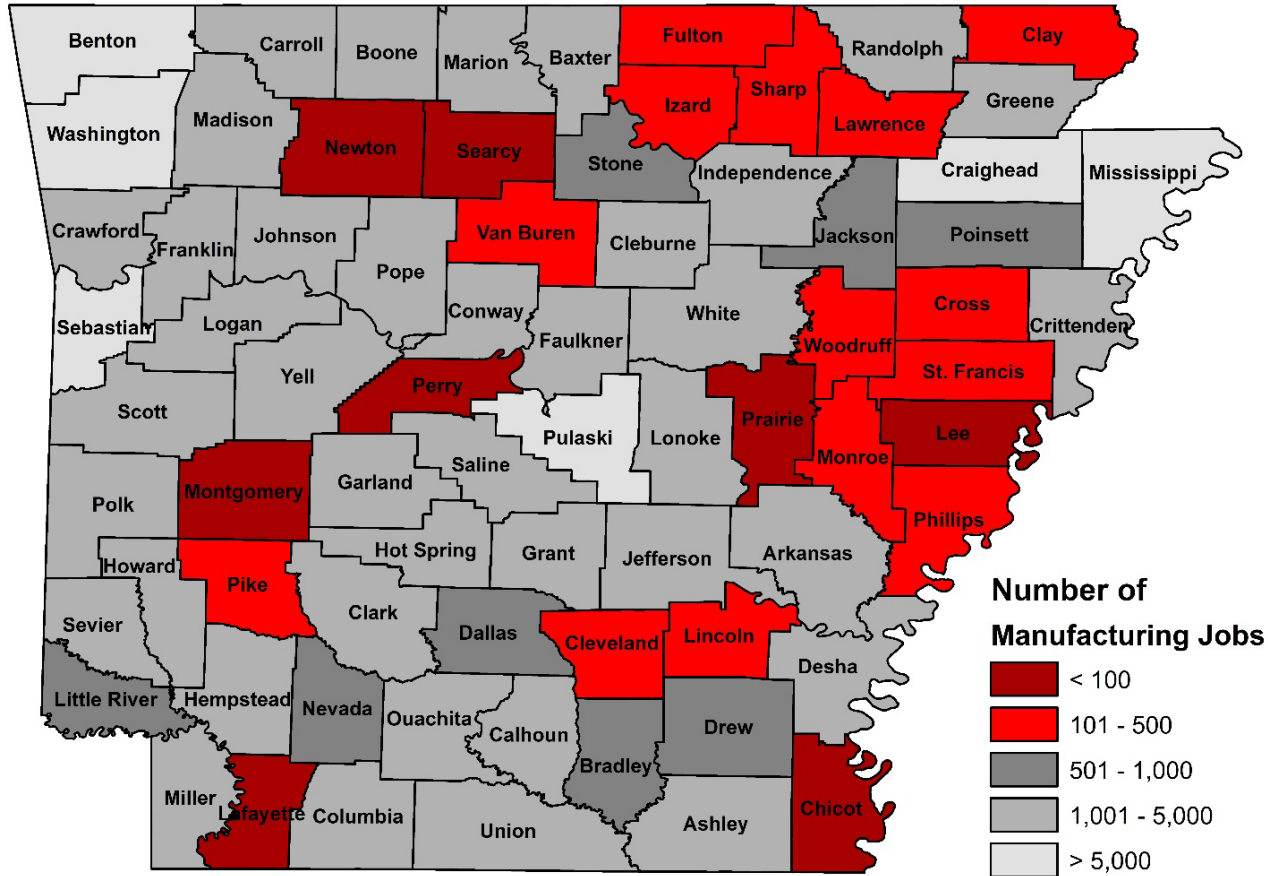


- Manufacturing jobs in Arkansas are clustered around more populated areas, with counties in the Central and the Northwestern part of the State generally having more manufacturing jobs
 - In 2022, the largest number of manufacturing jobs were located in Washington, Benton, and Pulaski counties
 - These 3 counties also had the largest number of manufacturing jobs in 2012, though gains and losses have not been equal across counties

See Pages 11 - 15 of handout for more detail

Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Manufacturing Jobs 2022 (Annual Average)



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Manufacturing Jobs Ranked by 2022 Total

County	Jobs in 2012	Jobs in 2022	Change in Jobs	% Change in Jobs	County	Jobs in 2012	Jobs in 2022	Change in Jobs	% Change in Jobs
Chicot	288	<5	N/A	-9500%	Madison	1,153	1,275	122	10%
Lee	<5	6	N/A	67%	Polk	1,235	1,286	51	4%
Perry	41	28	-13	-46%	Sevier	1,436	1,291	-145	-11%
Lafayette	28	33	5	15%	Grant	998	1,399	401	29%
Montgomery	114	36	-78	-217%	Ouachita	548	1,429	881	62%
Newton	49	36	-13	-36%	Saline	1,344	1,465	121	8%
Prairie	13	83	70	84%	Marion	1,534	1,547	13	1%
Searcy	177	96	-81	-84%	Randolph	578	1,589	1,011	64%
Cleveland	92	119	27	23%	Hot Spring	1,423	1,607	184	11%
Fulton	143	120	-23	-19%	Lonoke	1,467	1,617	150	9%
Monroe	127	128	1	1%	Boone	1,801	1,741	-60	-3%
Izard	270	161	-109	-68%	Columbia	1,883	1,878	-5	0%
Clay	375	164	-211	-129%	Crittenden	1,471	1,921	450	23%
Van Buren	68	217	149	69%	Calhoun	1,851	2,033	182	9%
Woodruff	278	217	-61	-28%	Hempstead	1,782	2,270	488	21%
Sharp	140	252	112	44%	Yell	2,457	2,364	-93	-4%
Lawrence	461	276	-185	-67%	Johnson	3,144	2,365	-779	-33%
St. Francis	682	283	-399	-141%	Miller	2,366	2,430	64	3%
Cross	699	307	-392	-128%	White	2,341	2,436	95	4%
Lincoln	324	348	24	7%	Garland	2,175	2,463	288	12%
Phillips	368	413	45	11%	Baxter	2,212	2,600	388	15%
Pike	204	443	239	54%	Howard	3,742	2,954	-788	-27%
Dallas	539	520	-19	-4%	Union	2,957	2,969	12	0%
Nevada	627	605	-22	-4%	Faulkner	3,233	2,992	-241	-8%
Stone	174	627	453	72%	Pope	4,431	3,688	-743	-20%
Poinsett	664	794	130	16%	Carroll	3,524	3,774	250	7%
Bradley	491	913	422	46%	Independence	3,066	3,790	724	19%
Little River	1,268	971	-297	-31%	Arkansas	3,533	3,812	279	7%
Drew	746	974	228	23%	Jefferson	5,521	4,119	-1,402	-34%
Jackson	906	996	90	9%	Greene	4,922	4,802	-120	-2%
Franklin	867	1,038	171	16%	Crawford	4,309	4,881	572	12%
Clark	1,426	1,061	-365	-34%	Mississippi	6,931	6,439	-492	-8%
Conway	865	1,061	196	18%	Craighead	6,071	8,142	2,071	25%
Desha	833	1,070	237	22%	Sebastian	12,264	11,854	-410	-3%
Logan	1,256	1,138	-118	-10%	Pulaski	12,897	12,246	-651	-5%
Ashley	2,063	1,143	-920	-80%	Benton	10,476	13,135	2,659	20%
Scott	1,239	1,270	31	2%	Washington	12,129	14,270	2,141	15%
Cleburne	1,213	1,275	62	5%					

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Bureau of Labor Statistics

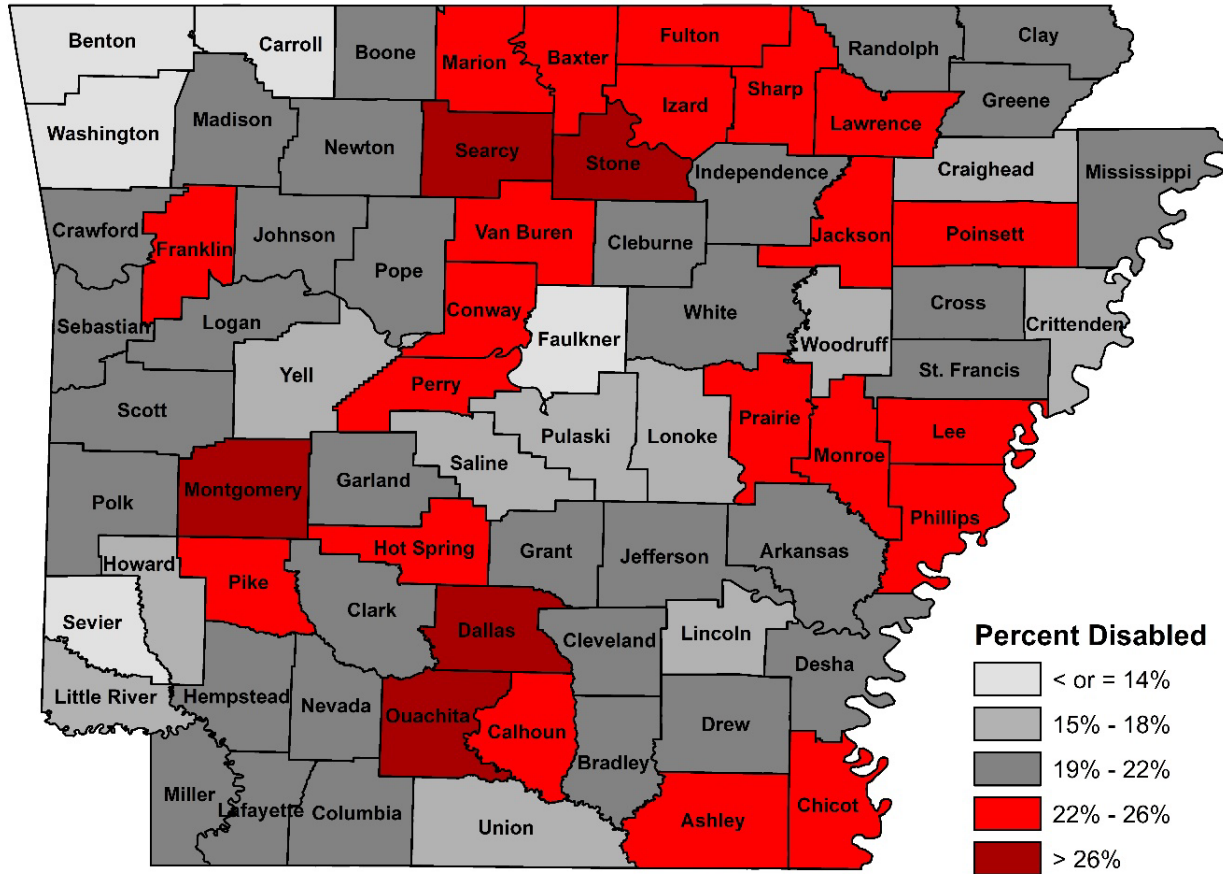
Number of Disabled

- ❑ Research suggests that an increase in the number of individuals on Social Security Disability Insurance and those who self-identify* as being disabled has had a negative impact on LFPR:
 - In 2022, 13% of the US civilian population self-identified as being disabled (all ages)
 - In 2022, 18% of Arkansas' civilian population identified as being disabled (all ages)
 - Approximately 73% of Arkansans Age 16+ that identify as being disabled reported that their disability is keeping them out of the Labor Force
 - In 2022, the percent of Arkansans that self-identify as being disabled ranged from a low of 10% in Benton County to a high of 28% in Stone and Dallas counties

*Note that this data is self reported to the US Census Bureau and that not all persons that consider themselves to be disabled are eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance. This survey only includes civilian, non-institutionalized individuals.

See Pages 16 - 18 of handout for more detail

Percent of Population Self-Identified as Disabled 2022 (All Ages)



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

**Percent Self-Identified as Disabled (Ranked)
2022 (All Ages)**

County	Percent Self-Identified as Disabled	County	Percent Self-Identified as Disabled
Dallas	28%	Mississippi	21%
Stone	28%	Johnson	21%
Montgomery	27%	Clay	20%
Ouachita	27%	Desha	20%
Searcy	27%	Scott	20%
Van Buren	26%	Hempstead	20%
Izard	26%	Greene	20%
Baxter	26%	Boone	20%
Marion	25%	Bradley	20%
Lee	25%	Madison	20%
Hot Spring	25%	Independence	20%
Monroe	25%	Grant	20%
Calhoun	25%	Newton	19%
Conway	24%	Miller	19%
Chicot	24%	Jefferson	19%
Sharp	24%	Cross	19%
Franklin	24%	Crawford	19%
Pike	24%	Drew	19%
Fulton	24%	Pope	19%
Poinsett	24%	Columbia	19%
Perry	24%	White	19%
Lawrence	23%	Craighead	18%
Prairie	23%	Howard	18%
Jackson	23%	Little River	18%
Ashley	23%	Yell	18%
Phillips	23%	Woodruff	18%
Cleveland	22%	Lincoln	18%
Nevada	22%	Crittenden	18%
Randolph	22%	Union	16%
Garland	22%	Lonoke	16%
Logan	22%	Saline	16%
Cleburne	22%	Pulaski	16%
Polk	22%	Faulkner	14%
Lafayette	22%	Sevier	14%
Clark	21%	Carroll	14%
Sebastian	21%	Washington	11%
Arkansas	21%	Benton	10%
St. Francis	21%		

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

High Incarceration Rates

- ❑ Researchers have established a link between high incarceration rates and decreased LFPR
- ❑ Individuals with criminal records find it harder to find employment and are less likely to participate in the Labor Force
- ❑ Arkansas has a high number of incarcerated individuals compared to other States
 - In 2021, a total of 17,002 adults were incarcerated in Arkansas in state and federal prisons (not including city and county jails)
 - Arkansas had the 4th highest incarceration rate of any state in 2021:
 - Mississippi = 586 prisoners per 100,000 residents
 - Louisiana = 581 prisoners per 100,000 residents
 - Oklahoma = 561 prisoners per 100,000 residents
 - **Arkansas = 532 prisoners per 100,000 residents**
 - US Total = 315 prisoners per 100,000 residents

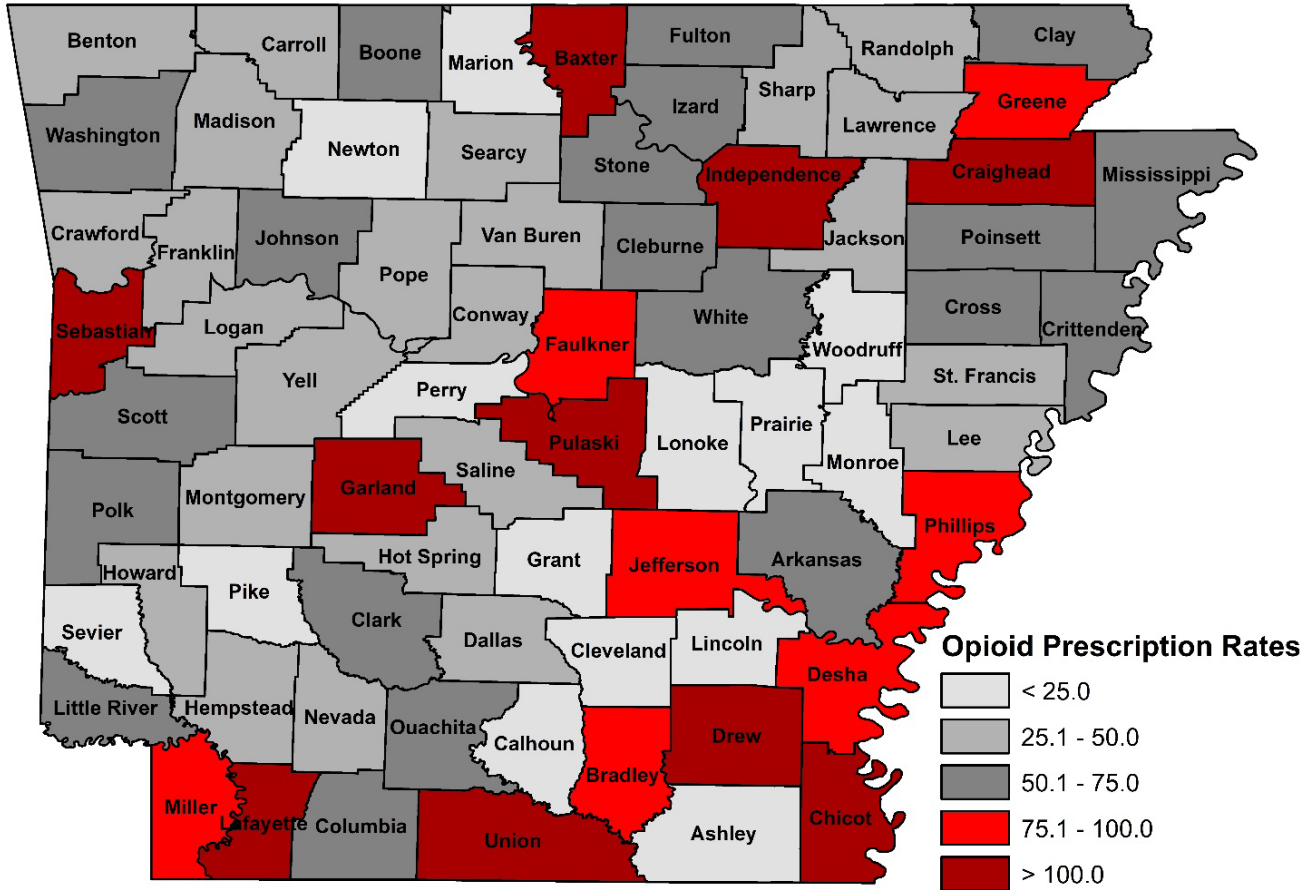
Source: US Bureau of Justice Statistics

Addiction and Drug Abuse

- ❑ Similarly, research shows that individuals that struggle with drug addiction and abuse are also less likely to be active in the Labor Force
 - No exact figure exists for the number of people addicted to drugs
 - Data is based on the number of overdoses and legal prescriptions (2022)
 - In the US, 39.5 opioid prescriptions were written per 100 people
 - In Arkansas, 72.2 opioid prescriptions were written per 100 people
 - Arkansas had the 2nd highest number of opioid prescriptions written per 100 compared to other states in 2022

See Pages 19 - 22 of handout for more detail

Opioid Prescription Rates (per 100 people) 2022



Source: US Center for Disease Control

Opioid Prescriptions per 100 People (Ranked) 2022

County	Opioid Prescription Rate	County	Opioid Prescription Rate
Baxter	164.1	St. Francis	48.3
Craighead	142.4	Sharp	45.1
Independence	133.3	Dallas	44.4
Garland	128.6	Hempstead	43.2
Pulaski	126.6	Jackson	43.2
Union	116.5	Lee	43.1
Sebastian	114.3	Howard	41.3
Lafayette	108.9	Lawrence	41.1
Drew	108.0	Benton	36.9
Chicot	103.7	Saline	35.1
Jefferson	95.6	Pope	35.0
Desha	88.5	Montgomery	33.7
Phillips	83.1	Nevada	32.7
Bradley	82.3	Hot Spring	31.7
Faulkner	82.1	Carroll	30.9
Miller	79.7	Yell	30.7
Greene	75.7	Logan	30.2
Arkansas	73.0	Conway	29.7
Cross	67.8	Van Buren	29.5
Stone	67.0	Randolph	27.6
Fulton	64.7	Madison	26.4
Clay	64.3	Franklin	26.1
Ouachita	64.2	Searcy	25.3
Washington	63.0	Ashley	24.4
Izard	62.7	Grant	19.4
Scott	61.5	Woodruff	17.4
Clark	60.8	Calhoun	17.3
Poinsett	59.4	Lonoke	15.8
Boone	58.9	Lincoln	10.5
Crittenden	58.4	Pike	10.0
Cleburne	57.7	Marion	9.3
Polk	55.4	Monroe	8.3
Mississippi	55.2	Cleveland	7.4
Columbia	53.8	Sevier	5.4
White	53.6	Perry	4.1
Little River	50.4	Prairie	1.1
Johnson	50.3	Newton	0.8
Crawford	49.2		

Source: US Center for Disease Control



Access to Childcare

- ❑ The link between access to affordable childcare and the LFPRs of women have been studied since the early 1990s

- ❑ While birth rates are declining, roughly 38% of Arkansas households have dependent children under the age of 18
 - In 2012, there were 195,397 children under the age of 5 in Arkansas
 - In 2022, there were 177,765 children under the age of 5 in Arkansas
 - There are roughly 17,632 fewer children under the age of 5 than there was a decade ago

See Pages 23 - 27 of handout for more detail

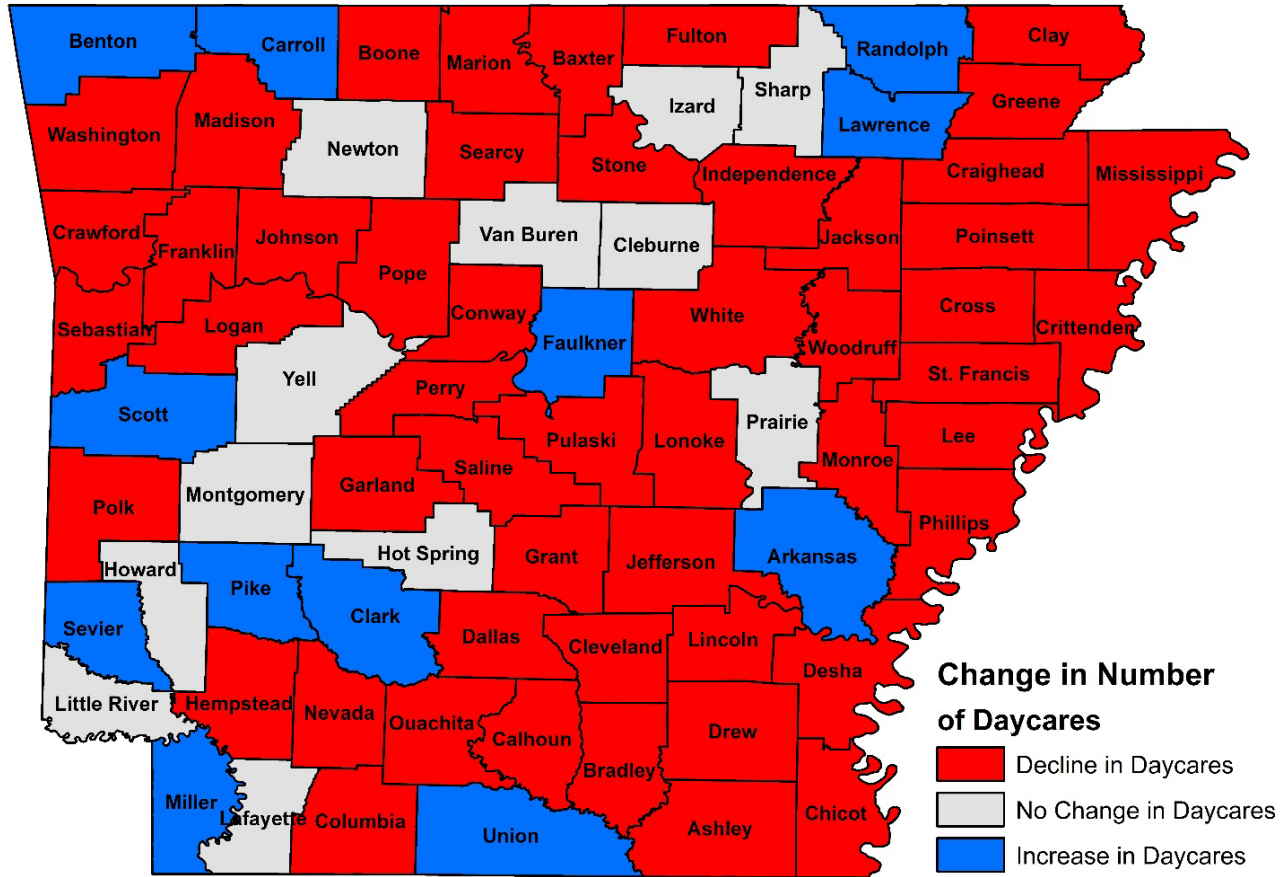
Source: US Census Bureau

- ❑ In Arkansas, the number of child daycare centers is declining
 - In 2012, there were an average of 982 daycare centers in Arkansas employing 9,762 workers
 - In 2022, the number of daycare centers in Arkansas had declined to 796 but the number of workers rose to 10,819
 - There are 186 fewer daycares
 - There are 1,057 more daycare workers

- ❑ Counties in Arkansas have been disproportional impacted by this decline
 - In 2022, the number of daycares ranged from 0 in IZARD County to as many as 105 daycares in Pulaski County
 - 52 counties have fewer daycares; 12 counties have the same number; 11 counties have more daycares than a decade ago

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Arkansas Labor Market Information

Change in the Number of Daycare Centers 2012 vs 2022



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Arkansas Labor Market Information

**Daycare Centers
Ranked by 2022 Totals**

County	Daycare in 2022	Change in Daycares (2012-2022)	Children Under Age 5	County	Daycare in 2022	Change in Daycares (2012-2022)	Children Under Age 5
Izard	0	0	555	Chicot	5	-1	578
Lee	<3	-5	483	Franklin	5	-1	899
Woodruff	<3	-5	364	Lawrence	5	2	955
Monroe	<3	-3	453	Saline	6	-8	7,013
Cleveland	<3	-2	300	St. Francis	6	-8	1,408
Searcy	<3	-1	377	Hempstead	6	-3	1,124
Bradley	<3	-1	651	Boone	6	-1	2,119
Calhoun	<3	-1	187	Madison	6	-1	1,059
Fulton	<3	-1	622	Hot Spring	6	0	1,528
Grant	<3	-1	932	Carroll	6	2	1,487
Lincoln	<3	-1	549	Cross	7	-6	1,060
Marion	<3	-1	722	Sharp	7	0	897
Nevada	<3	-1	462	Arkansas	7	1	1,047
Perry	<3	-1	479	Baxter	8	-4	1,758
Stone	<3	-1	631	Ouachita	8	-2	1,237
Montgomery	<3	0	392	Miller	8	1	2,574
Prairie	<3	0	404	Yell	9	0	1,254
Van Buren	<3	0	694	Randolph	9	1	1,138
Scott	<3	-2	499	Phillips	10	-7	1,146
Polk	3	-4	1,100	White	11	-2	4,398
Dallas	3	-2	326	Clark	11	3	1,077
Desha	3	-2	717	Columbia	12	-3	1,383
Independence	3	-2	2,380	Crawford	13	-9	3,669
Cleburne	3	0	1,078	Union	13	2	2,312
Lafayette	3	0	234	Greene	14	-7	2,861
Newton	3	0	322	Crittenden	17	-18	3,534
Sevier	3	1	1,156	Lonoke	19	-4	4,549
Pike	3	3	499	Garland	20	-6	5,220
Jackson	4	-10	854	Pope	21	-9	3,877
Conway	4	-4	1,151	Mississippi	25	-5	2,800
Howard	4	0	856	Sebastian	26	-4	8,136
Little River	4	0	676	Jefferson	30	-4	3,981
Poinsett	5	-8	1,488	Craighead	31	-16	7,468
Johnson	5	-4	1,717	Faulkner	34	4	7,241
Logan	5	-4	1,250	Washington	58	-4	15,702
Drew	5	-3	1,006	Benton	71	9	19,215
Ashley	5	-2	1,149	Pulaski	105	-45	25,148
Clay	5	-2	757				



Labor Force Activity by County

- ❑ At this time, the Bureau of Labor Statistics only calculates and publishes Labor Force Participation Rates at the national and statewide levels
- ❑ Arkansas' Labor Market Information staff has created an in-house method of calculating a comparable data set at the county level
- ❑ This data set is referred to as 'Active in the Labor Force' because it is not an official calculation of LFPRs
 - 'Active in the Labor Force' is calculated using a combination of county level employment data and population data collected by the US Census Bureau
 - This data should only be used as a guide for estimating how much of a county's civilian population Age 16+ is 'Active in the Labor Force' (meaning either employed or unemployed but actively looking for work)
 - Arkansas County does not currently have an 'Active in the Labor Force' estimate due to pending employment revisions

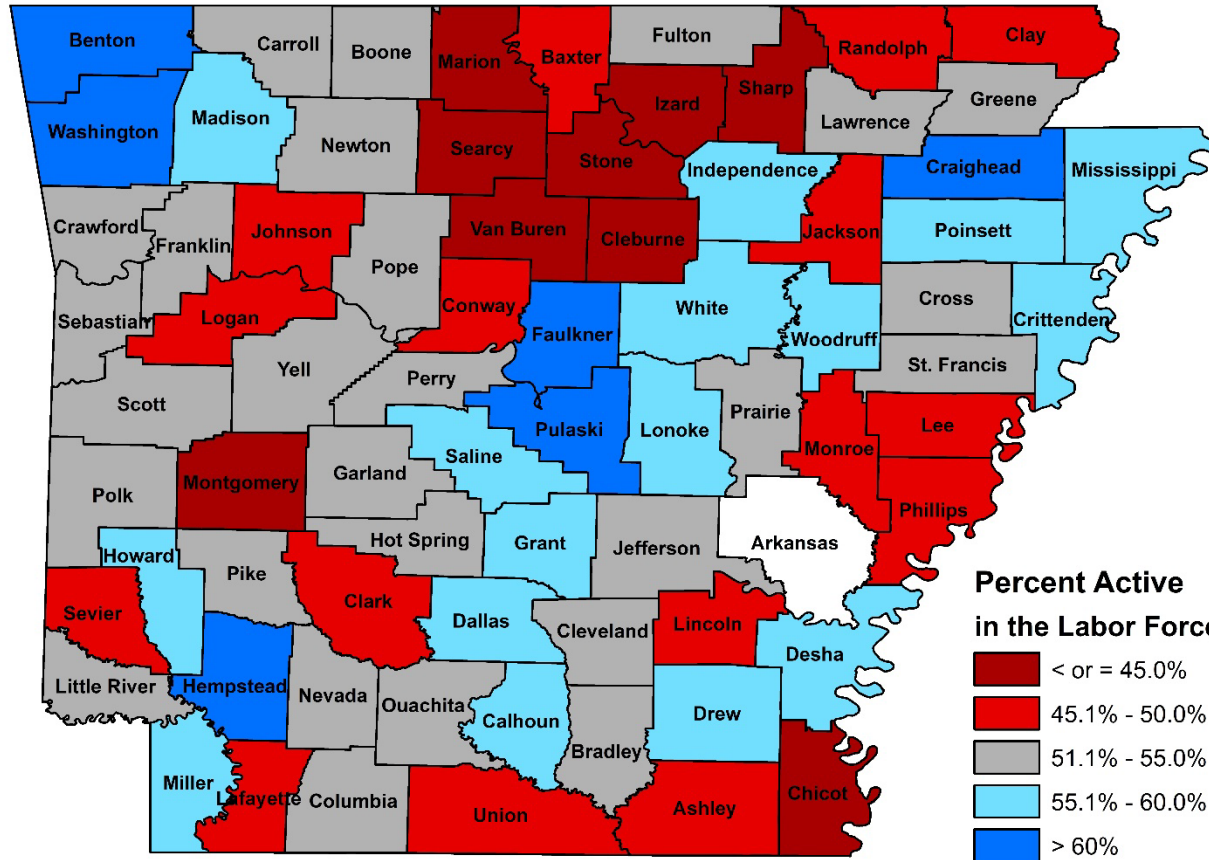
Source: Labor Market Information, ADWS

**This is not an official Labor Force Participation Rate endorsed or produced
by the Bureau of Labor Statistics**

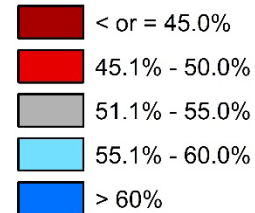
- ❑ Arkansas' official Labor Force Participation Rate for 2022 was 57.5%
 - The comparable 'Active in the Labor Force' rates ranged from a low of 40% in Montgomery County to a high of 67% in Craighead County
 - In 2022, 60 of Arkansas' 75 counties had lower 'Active in the Labor Force' rates than the state average LFPR

See Pages 28 - 32 of handout for more detail

Percent of Civilian Population 'Active in the Labor Force' (Age 16+) 2022



Percent Active in the Labor Force



Source: Labor Market Information, ADWS

Labor Force Activity (2022)
Ranked by Percent 'Active in the Labor Force' (Age 16+)

County	Civilian Labor Force/Active in Labor Force	Percent Active in Labor Force	Total Inactive in Labor Force	County	Civilian Labor Force/Active in Labor Force	Percent Active in Labor Force	Total Inactive in Labor Force
Montgomery	2,865	40%	4,219	St. Francis	7,592	54%	6,581
Chicot	2,987	41%	4,274	Cross	6,978	54%	5,965
Izard	4,502	41%	6,378	Lawrence	6,841	54%	5,887
Sharp	5,842	41%	8,558	Franklin	7,450	54%	6,248
Cleburne	8,986	43%	11,838	Hot Spring	13,839	54%	11,637
Marion	6,305	44%	7,982	Carroll	12,552	54%	10,544
Van Buren	5,960	45%	7,266	Greene	19,800	54%	16,561
Searcy	2,875	45%	3,574	Ouachita	9,656	55%	7,799
Stone	4,590	45%	5,695	Scott	4,230	55%	3,518
Ashley	6,779	46%	7,825	Little River	5,205	55%	4,224
Lafayette	2,319	46%	2,705	Crawford	26,319	55%	21,469
Sevier	5,438	47%	6,159	Newton	3,204	55%	2,672
Baxter	16,572	47%	18,854	Prairie	3,546	55%	2,925
Phillips	5,609	48%	6,107	Pope	27,695	55%	22,902
Lee	2,568	48%	2,742	Sebastian	55,312	55%	45,563
Clay	5,446	48%	6,012	Mississippi	16,376	56%	12,912
Jackson	5,513	48%	5,987	Drew	7,445	56%	5,866
Logan	8,303	49%	8,793	White	34,288	56%	27,362
Lincoln	3,710	49%	3,924	Independence	16,589	56%	12,843
Union	14,840	50%	14,558	Dallas	2,737	57%	2,085
Clark	8,532	50%	8,534	Poinsett	9,990	57%	7,461
Monroe	2,556	50%	2,595	Howard	5,399	57%	4,149
Conway	8,411	50%	8,251	Madison	7,803	57%	5,961
Johnson	10,101	50%	10,088	Miller	18,764	58%	13,633
Randolph	7,248	50%	7,242	Grant	8,468	58%	6,085
Columbia	8,832	51%	8,612	Crittenden	20,626	59%	14,300
Yell	7,941	51%	7,714	Desha	4,969	59%	3,410
Polk	7,870	51%	7,576	Woodruff	2,806	59%	1,975
Cleveland	3,093	51%	2,926	Calhoun	2,372	59%	1,619
Pike	4,081	51%	3,979	Lonoke	34,281	59%	24,177
Fulton	5,017	51%	4,882	Saline	60,040	60%	40,806
Bradley	4,093	52%	3,736	Pulaski	189,654	61%	121,885
Perry	4,229	52%	3,864	Faulkner	63,157	62%	38,177
Boone	15,896	52%	14,452	Hempstead	9,356	63%	5,552
Garland	42,272	52%	39,579	Benton	151,719	65%	82,360
Jefferson	25,654	53%	22,545	Washington	134,071	66%	67,645
Nevada	3,443	53%	2,997	Craighead	57,622	67%	28,891

Source: Labor Market Information, ADWS



Recap on Labor Force Participation

- ❑ Slowing Population Growth – Arkansas’ population growth coming from domestic/international migration as natural growth declines
- ❑ Aging Population- Arkansas’ population is aging while birth rates decline
- ❑ Decline of Men in the Workforce – fewer manufacturing jobs and a decline of higher paying jobs for those with lower education levels
- ❑ Number of Disabled- low levels of labor force participation among the disabled population
- ❑ High Incarceration Rates/Drug Addiction- high incarceration rates creates a smaller labor force population and those formerly incarcerated or with drug addiction are less likely to participate in the Labor Force
- ❑ Access to Childcare- a lack of access to affordable childcare is a barrier to labor force participation, particularly for women

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Questions/Comments?

