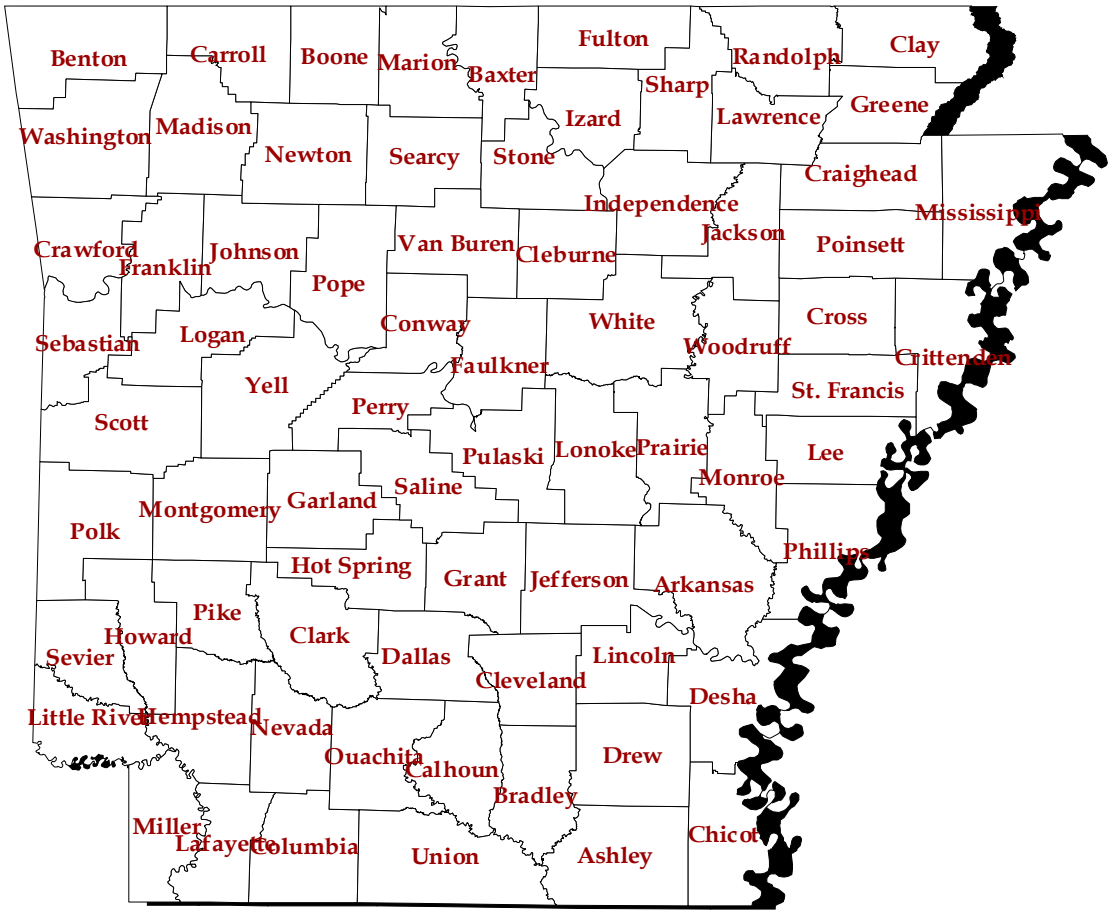
CP71

County Profile 2013

Van Buren County

UofA
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

VAN BUREN COUNTY PROFILE
2013



Wayne Miller, Professor
Thai Nguyen, Intern

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

Community & Economic Development
Strengthening Arkansas Communities

Foreword & Acknowledgments

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service is pleased to release these updated county profiles in hopes that these publications may serve as a useful tool for local officials, community leaders and economic development professionals.

This publication provides a comparison and overview of the demographic, economic and social trends in Arkansas counties. The information is presented in graphs and maps to allow the reader to quickly grasp current trends and conditions and gain insight into local and regional contexts. We encourage leaders and decision makers to use this publication in conjunction with their knowledge of the local geography, culture and political environment to make wise decisions for Arkansas' future.

The state agencies providing data and assistance for this publication include the State Data Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, the Arkansas Department of Education, and the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services. We thank the many individuals at these departments and organizations for their quick response to our requests for information.

Several departments and individuals of the University of Arkansas worked in collaboration to publish these county profiles. Wayne Miller, Community and Economic Development, coordinated the project. Thai Nguyen compiled the data and developed graphs and charts. Vuko Karov developed the maps and checked the data for accuracy. Chris Meux designed the cover, and Donna Rinke published the profiles on the Cooperative Extension website. Their many hours of effort are greatly appreciated.

We hope you find this publication useful as you plan for the future of your communities.

Tony E. Windham, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Agriculture-Extension
and Director, Cooperative Extension Service

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(For Local Staff Chair See Inside Backcover)

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Internet Sources of Information

Population
- Bureau of Census – 2010 Census http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/
- Bureau of Census .....www.census.gov
- Bureau of Economic Analysis.....www.bea.gov/bea/regional/data.htm
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.....http://factfinder2.census.gov/

Education
- Arkansas Department of Education, ADE Data Center .....http://adedata.arkansas.gov/
- Arkansas Public School Computer Network.....http://www.apscn.org/reports/reports.htm
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.....http://factfinder2.census.gov/

Employment
- Arkansas Department of Workforce Services .....www.arkansas.gov/esd/
- Discover Arkansas, Labor Market Information .....www.discoverarkansas.net/cgi/dataanalysis/
- Bureau of Economic Analysis.....www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/data.htm
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.....http://factfinder2.census.gov/
- Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc ..... www.implan.com

Income
- Bureau of Economic Analysis.....www.bea.gov/bea/regional/data.htm
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.....http://factfinder2.census.gov/
- Discover Arkansas, Labor Market Information .....www.discoverarkansas.net/cgi/dataanalysis/
- Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. ..... www.implan.com

Retail Sales
- Woods & Poole, 2011 ..... www.woodsandpoole.com

Poverty
- Arkansas Department of Education, ADE Data Center .....http://adedata.arkansas.gov/
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.....http://factfinder2.census.gov/
- Arkansas Department of Human Services .....http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/

Health
- Arkansas Department of Health .....www.healthyarkansas.com/data/data.html
- Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families.....http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/

Households
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.....http://factfinder2.census.gov/

Agriculture
- National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS).....www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/
- Bureau of Economic Analysis.....www.bea.gov/bea/regional/data.htm

Forestry
U.S. Forest Service.....http://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/php/tpo_2009/tpo_rpa_int1.php
U.S. Forest Service, Southern Forest Inventory & Analysis .....http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/

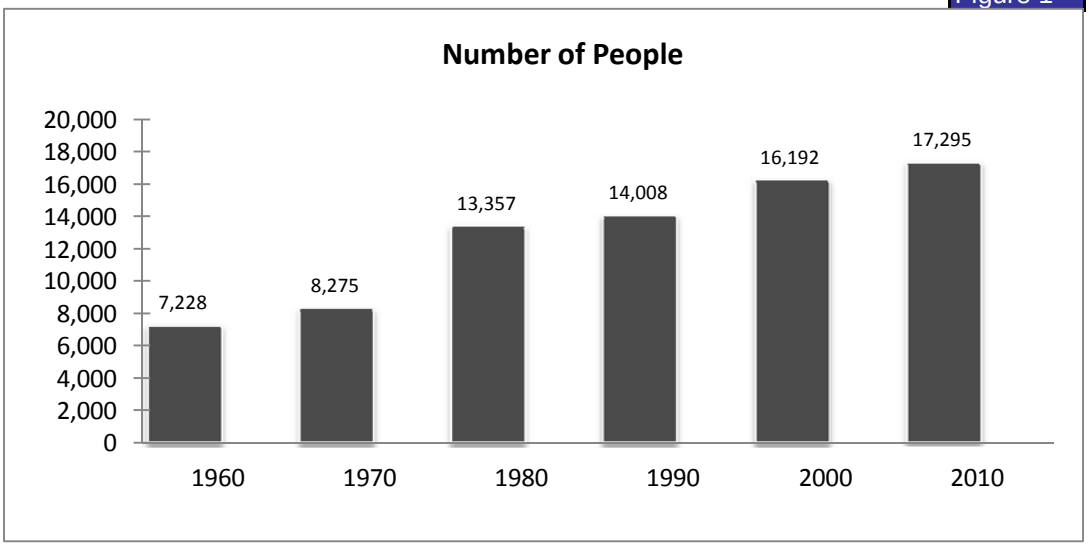
Property Assessments
- Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department .....www.arkansas.gov/acd/

Transportation
- Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department.....www.arkansashighways.com

Population, 1960-2010

Van Buren County

Figure 1



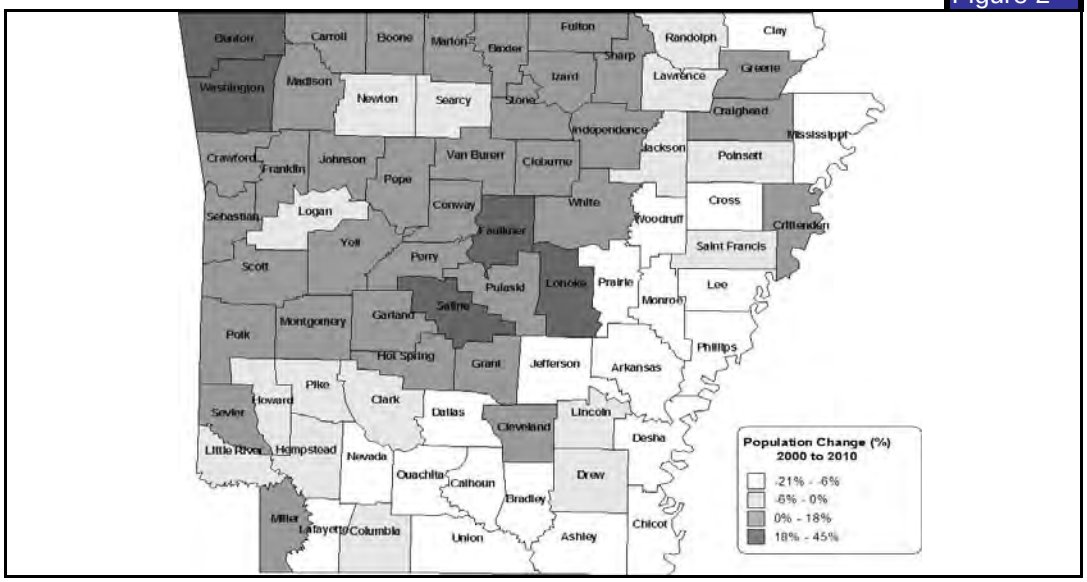
Source: 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

The population of Van Buren County increased substantially from 7,228 in 1960 to 17,295 in 2010.

Population Change, 2000 to 2010

The Natural State

Figure 2



Source: July 2000 & July 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Bureau of Census

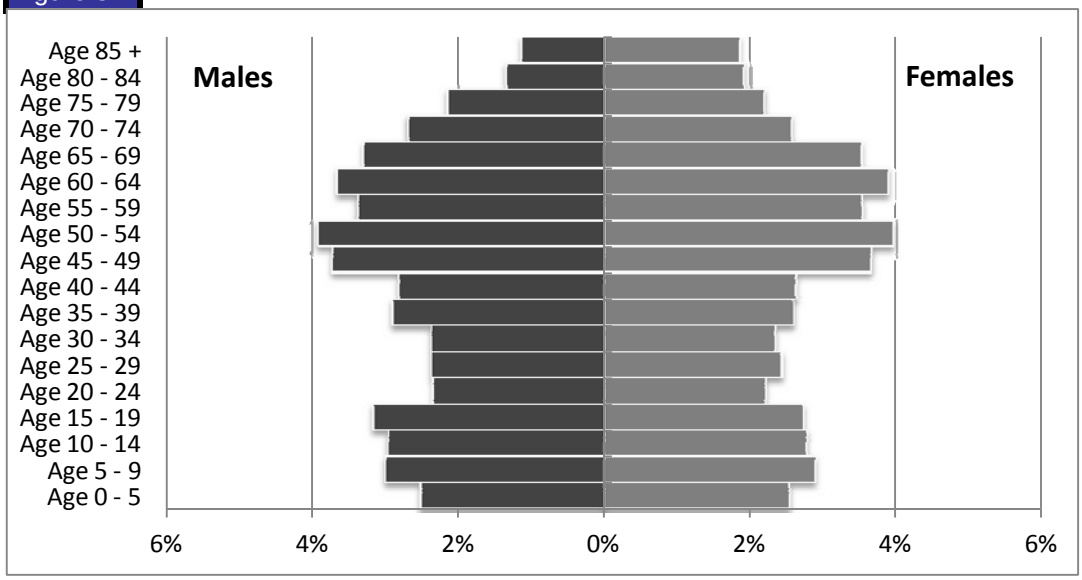
Population grew most rapidly in Northwest & Central Arkansas counties and declined in some East and South Arkansas counties between 2000 and 2010.

Population

Percent of Total County Population by Age and Gender, 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 3



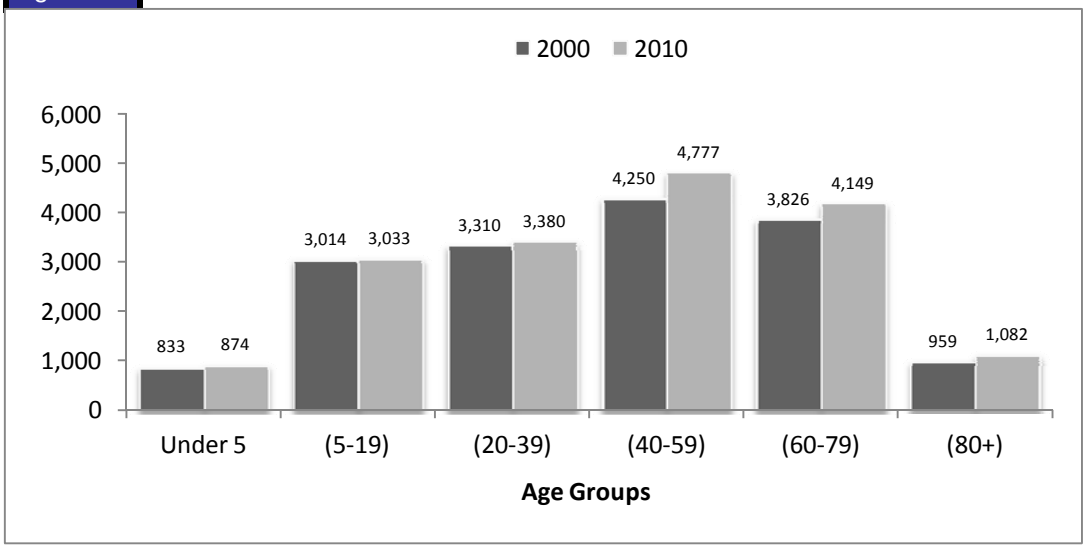
Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 2010 Census Summary File 1

There were more people living in Van Buren County between the ages of 45 and 69 than in any other age groups in 2010.

Population by Age, 2000 & 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 4



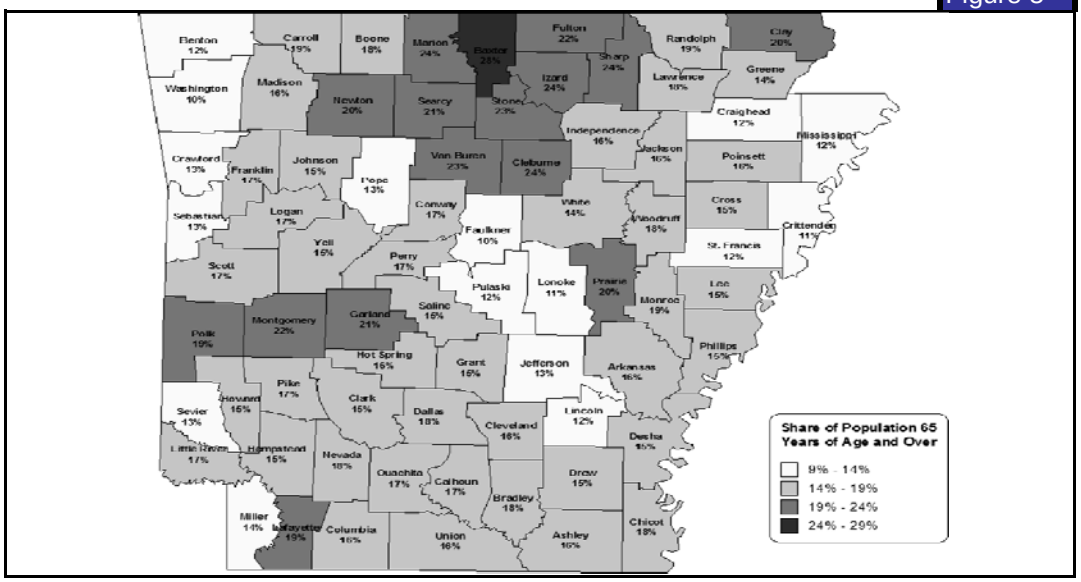
Source: 2000 & 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

The population in all age groups in Van Buren County increased between 2000 and 2010.

Population 65 and Older, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 5



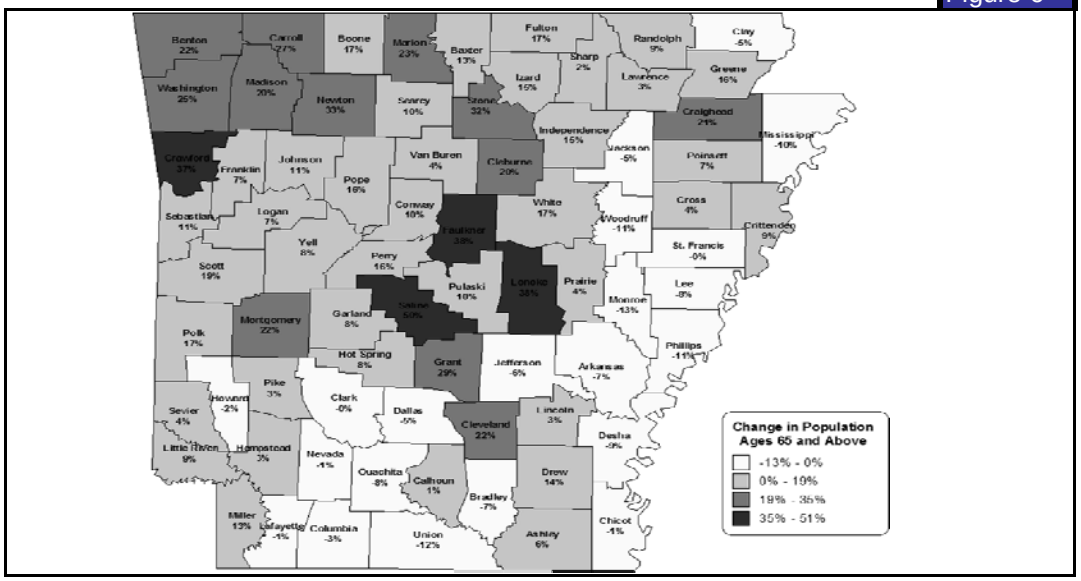
Source: July 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

Counties in Northcentral Arkansas had the highest proportion of people aged 65 and older in 2010.

Population Change of People 65 & Older, 2000 to 2010

The Natural State

Figure 6



Source: 2000 & 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

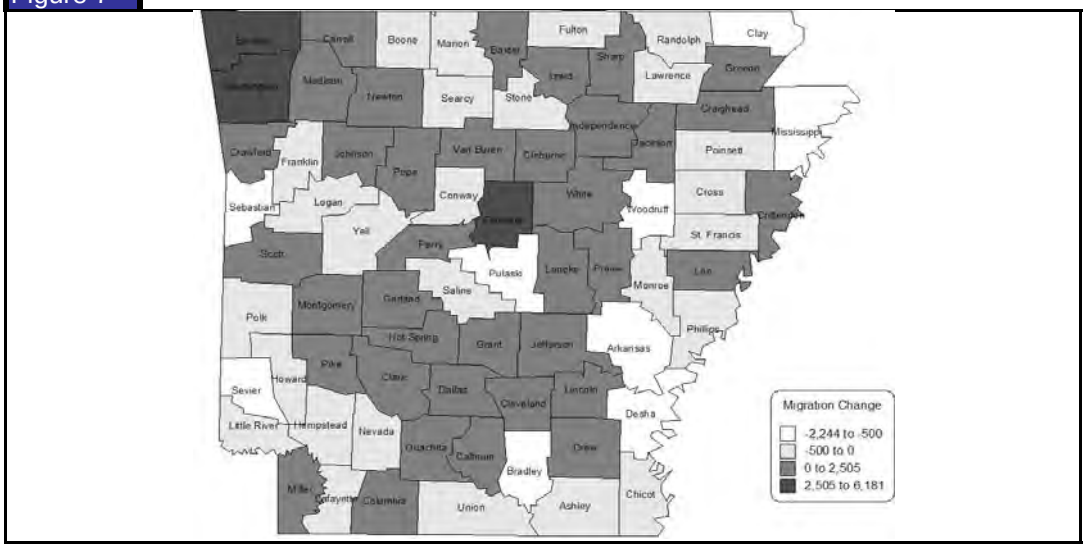
The elderly population as a proportion of the total population grew most rapidly in Central and Northwest Arkansas from 2000 to 2010.

Population

Net Domestic Migration of People, 2005-2009*

The Natural State

Figure 7



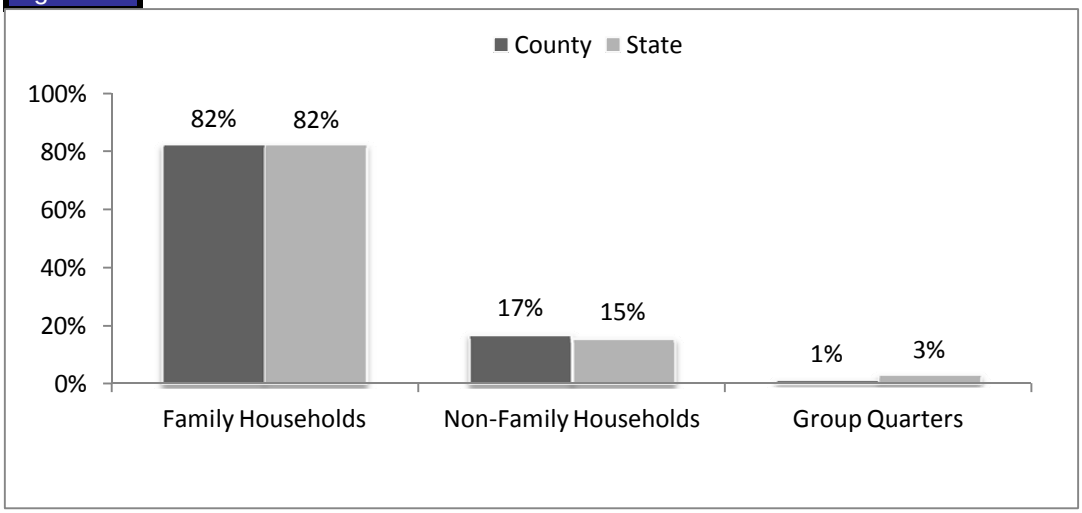
Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

Central & Northwest Arkansas had the highest domestic in-migration of people between 2005 and 2009, while Arkansas, Bradley, Clay, Desha, Mississippi, Pulaski, Sebastian, Sevier and Woodruff counties had the largest domestic out-migration of people during this period.

Population by Household Type, 2005-2009*

Van Buren County & State

Figure 8



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

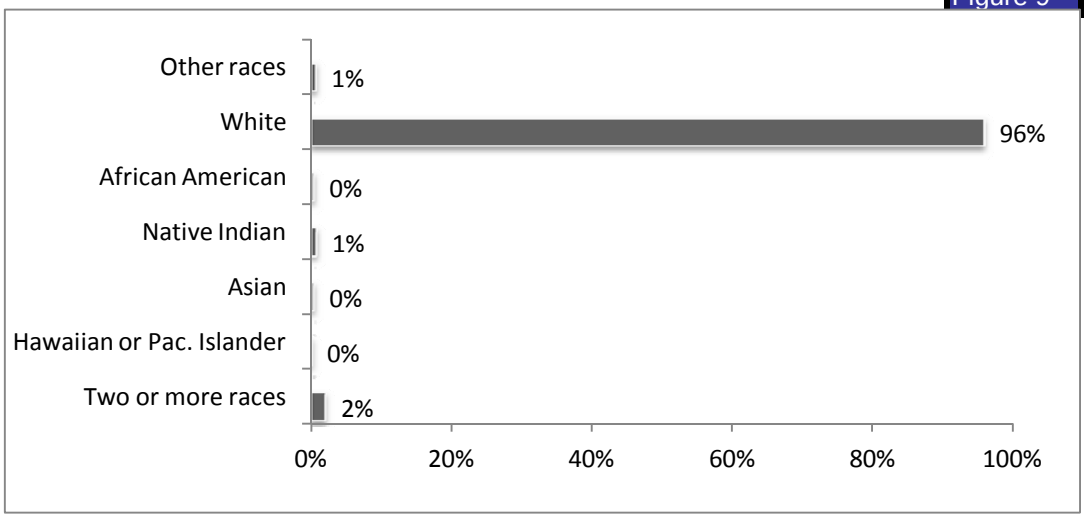
Most of the people (82%) in Van Buren County lived in family households. The proportion of people living in each household type in Van Buren County was about the same as it was for the state.

*Note: The data were from the five-year sample (2005-2009) collected by the American Community Survey. Since this is sample data, the margin of error for counties with small populations may be large.

Population by Race, 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 9



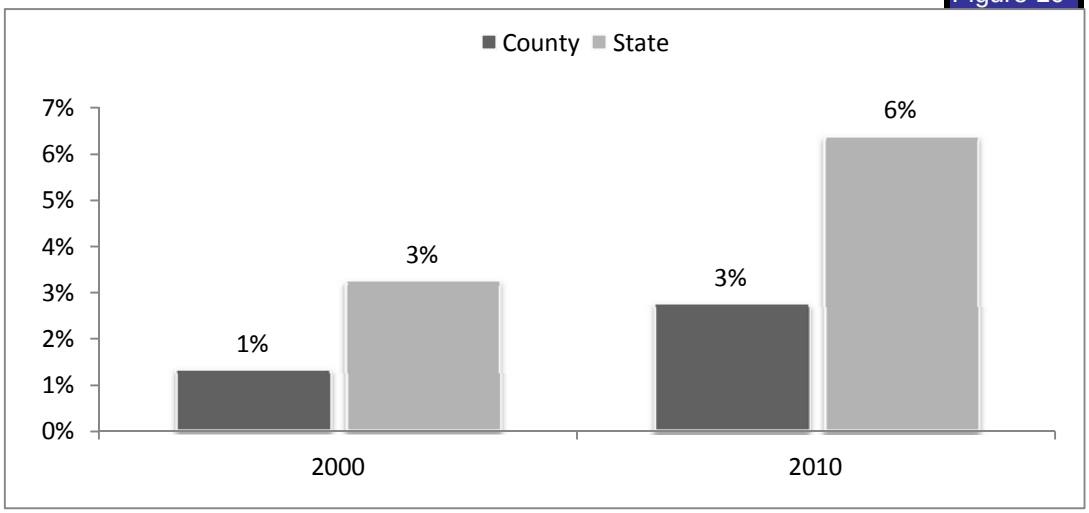
Source: 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

Ninety-six percent of the people living in Van Buren County were Caucasian. Minorities represented about four percent of the population.

Population of Hispanic Origin, State and County for 2000 & 2010

Van Buren County & State

Figure 10



Source: 2000 & 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

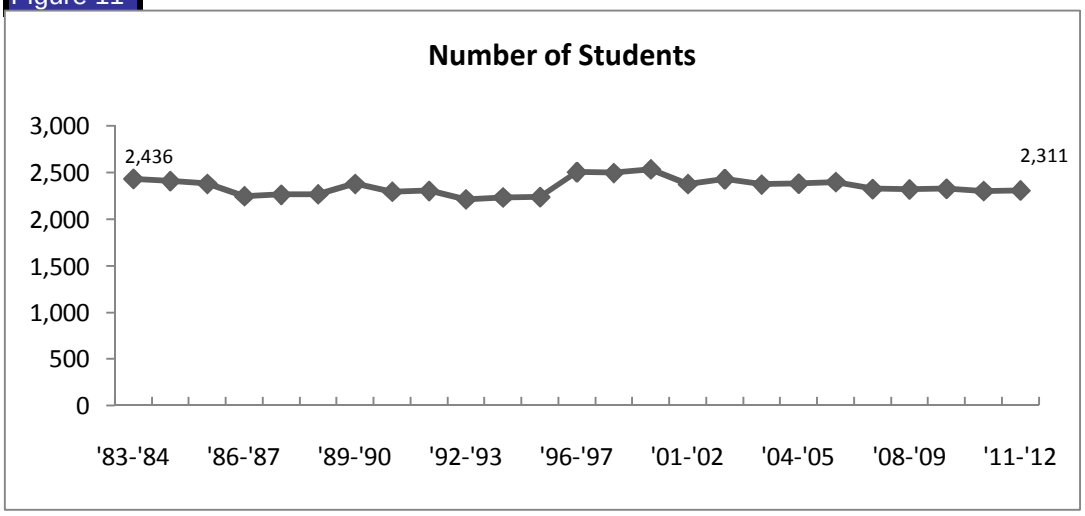
The proportion of Hispanic people living in Van Buren County increased from a little over one percent in 2000 to nearly three percent in 2010 and remained below the state average between 2000 and 2010. The Hispanic population may be of any race: white, black or any other combination of races.

Education

Public School Enrollment, 1983-1984 to 2011-2012

Van Buren County

Figure 11



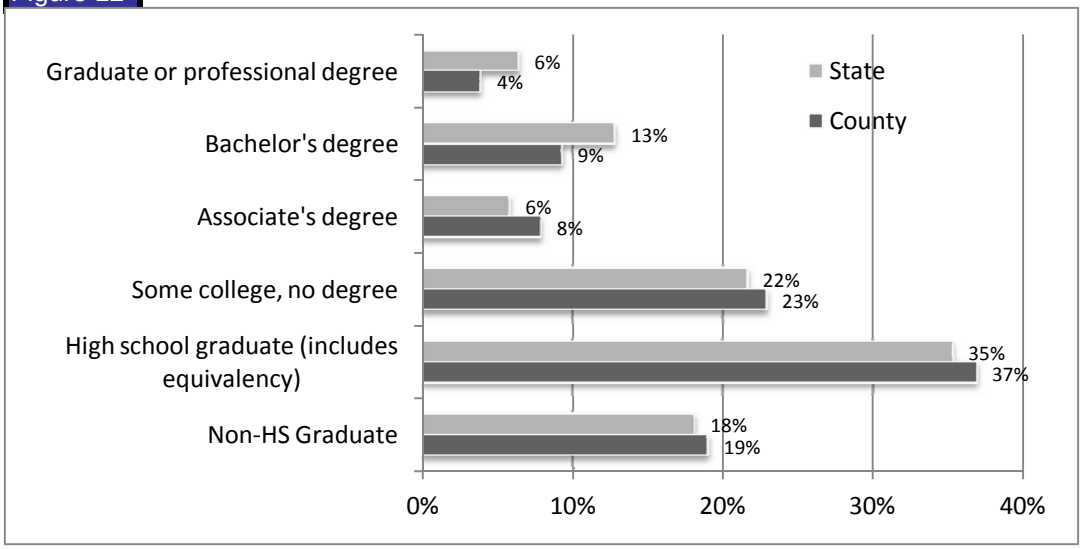
Source: Arkansas Department of Education (http://adedata.arkansas.gov/statewide/Counties/Enrollment.aspx)

Public school enrollment in Van Buren County did not change greatly between 1983-1984 and 2011-2012. Enrollment decreased slightly from 2,436 in 1983-1984 to 2,311 in 2011-2012.

Educational Attainment, 2005-2009*

Van Buren County & State

Figure 12



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

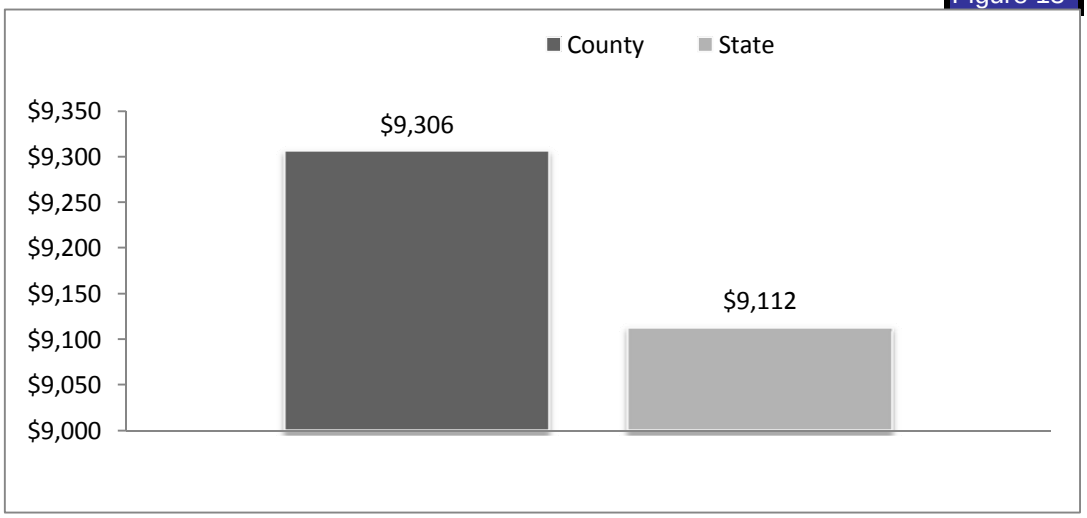
Van Buren County had a slightly larger percentage of people who did not complete high school and a smaller percentage of people who had bachelors and professional degrees as compared to the State average in the five-year period 2005-2009.

*Note: The data were from the five-year sample (2005-2009) collected by the American Community Survey. Since this is sample data, the margin of error for counties with small populations may be large.

Education Expenditure Per Child, County & State 2011-2012

Van Buren County

Figure 13



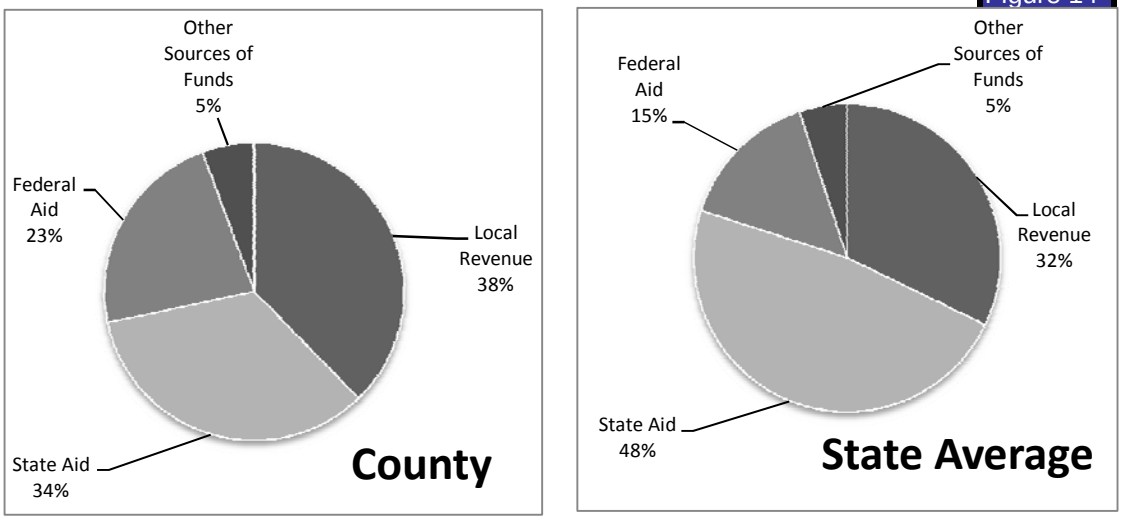
Source: Arkansas Public School Computer Network (www.apscn.org/reports/hld/asr/asr.htm), Arkansas Department of Education

Schools in Van Buren County spent $9,306 per child in the 2011-2012 school year as compared to an average expenditure of $9,112 statewide.

Education Revenue By Source, County & State 2009-2010

Van Buren County & State

Figure 14



Source: Arkansas Public School Computer Network (www.apscn.org/reports/hld/asr/asr.htm), Arkansas Department of Education

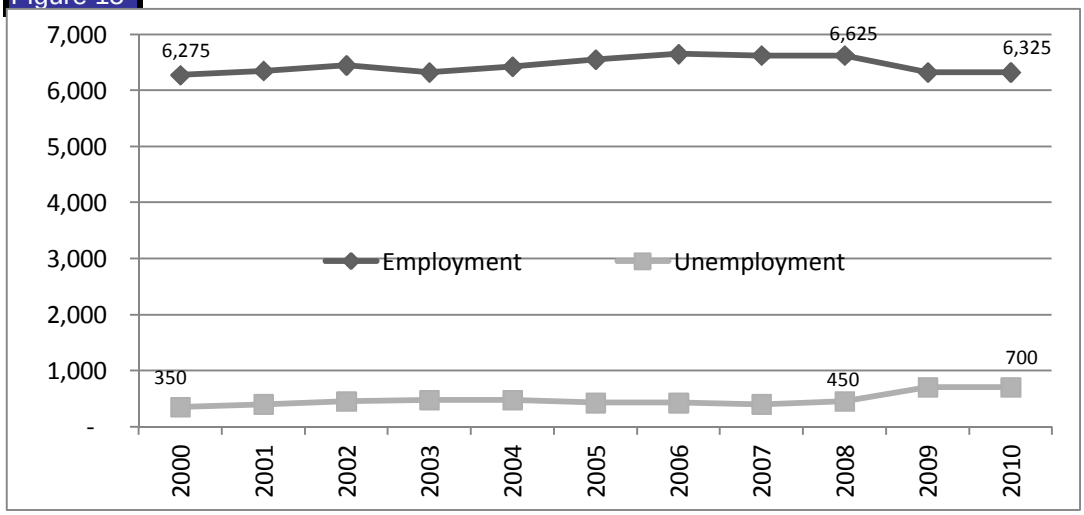
Van Buren County schools raised slightly more of their revenue from federal aid and local sources than did the average of all Arkansas public schools in the 2009-2010 school year.

Employment

Labor Force, 2000 to 2010

Van Buren County & State

Figure 15



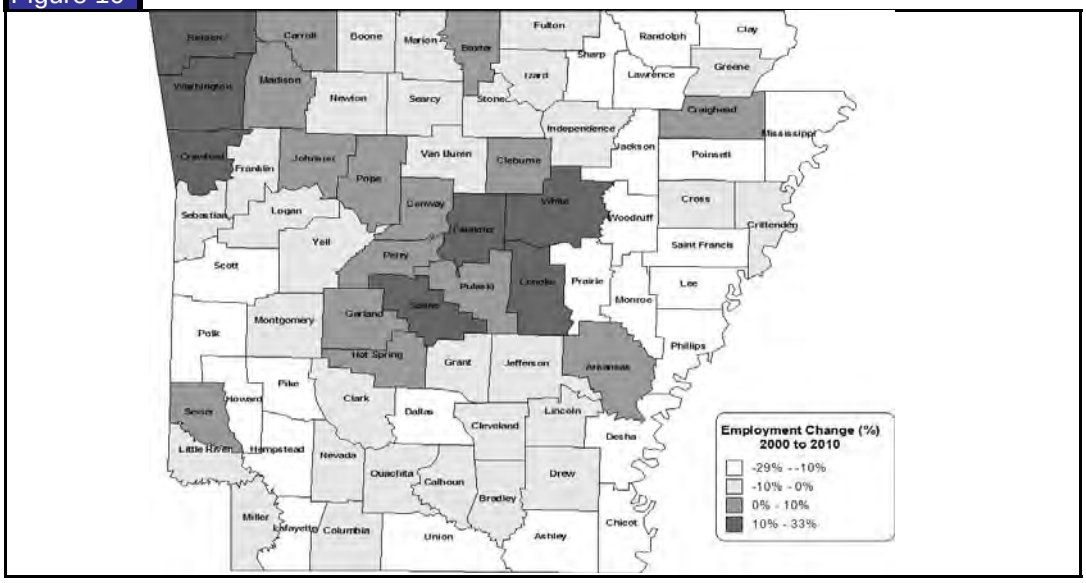
Source: Labor Market Information, Arkansas Employment Security Department

Van Buren County employment decreased and unemployment increased since 2008.

Change in Employment, 2000 to 2010

The Natural State

Figure 16



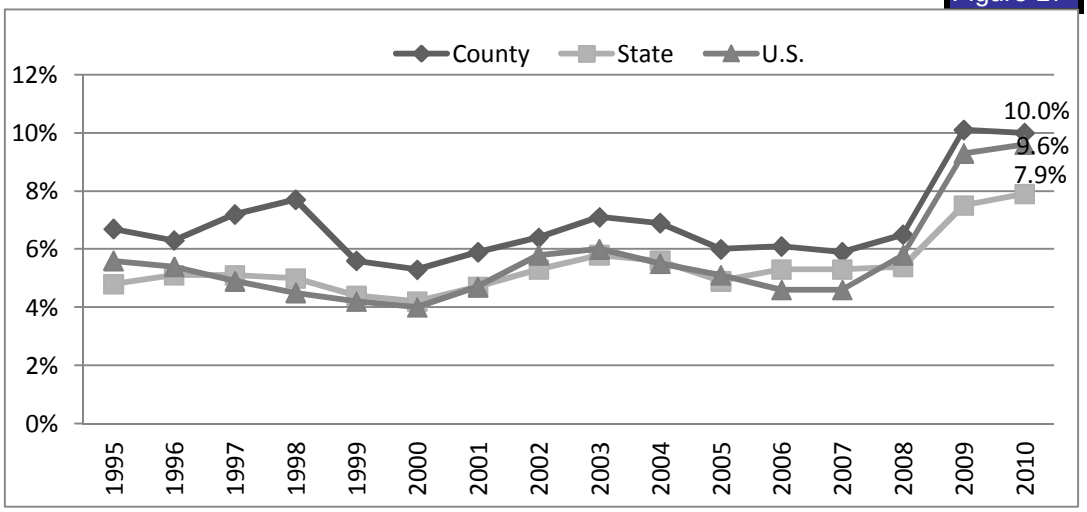
Source: Regional Economic Information System (REIS), Bureau of Economic Analysis

Employment growth was highest in Central & Northwest Arkansas between 2000 and 2010.

Unemployment Rates, 1995 to 2010

Van Buren County, State & United States

Figure 17



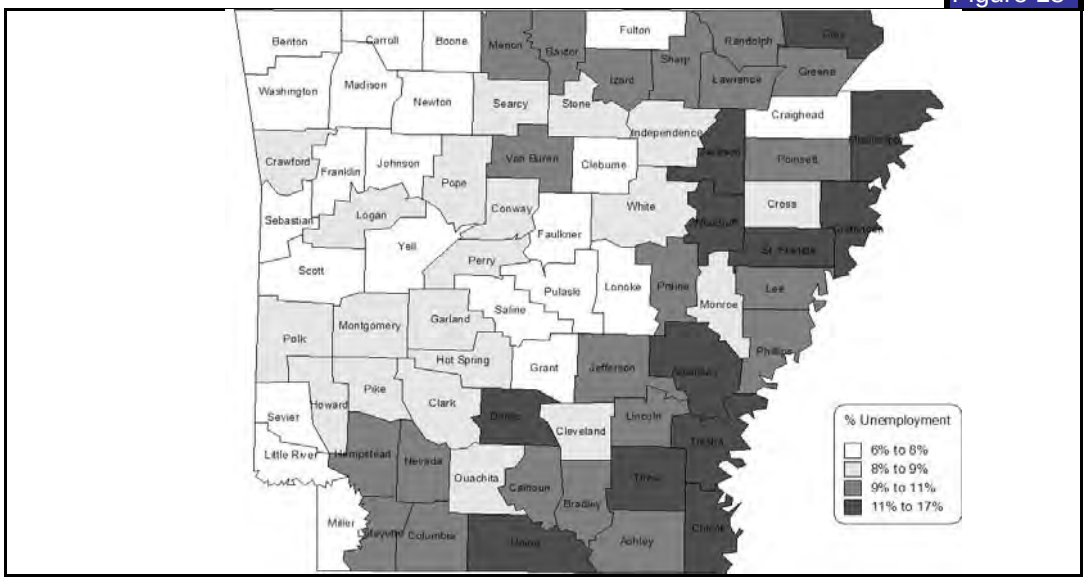
Source: Labor Market Information, Arkansas Employment Security Department

The unemployment rate in Van Buren County increased substantially since 2007 and was slightly higher than the national average in 2009 and 2010.

Unemployment Rates, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 18



Source: Labor Market Information, Arkansas Employment Security Department

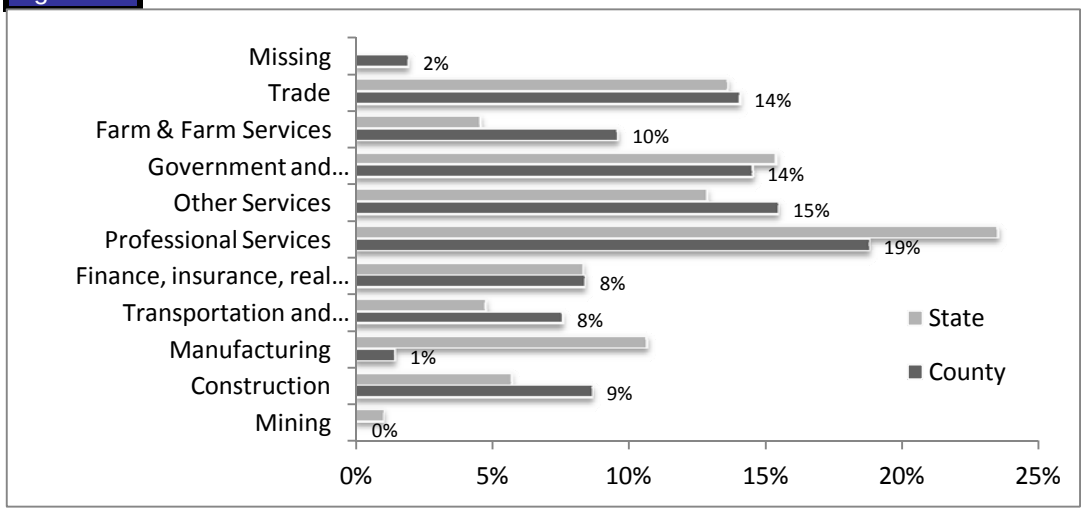
In general, Northwest, Central, and Western Arkansas counties had the lowest unemployment rates while Delta and Coastal Plain counties had the highest rates in 2010.

Employment

Jobs by Sector, 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 19



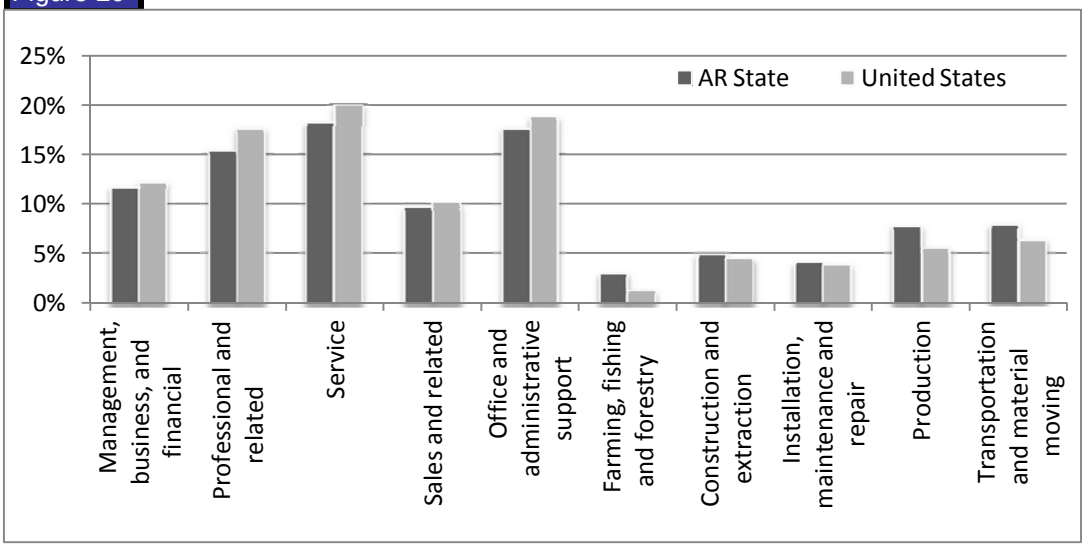
Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis (REIS)

A larger proportion of jobs in Van Buren County were other services (15%), trade (14%), farm & farm services (10%), and construction (9%) in 2010 as compared to the state average. There were considerable missing data due to non-disclosure of confidential information.

Workforce by Occupation, 2010

The Natural State & the Nation

Figure 20



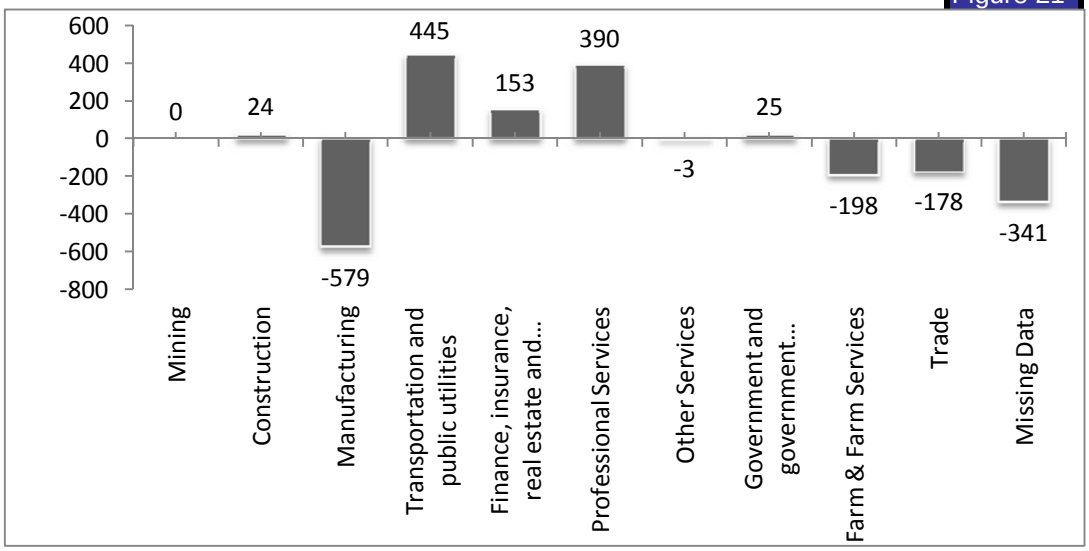
Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

More people were employed in service occupations in Arkansas and in the United States than in any other occupation in 2010.

Changes in Jobs by Sector, 2001 to 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 21



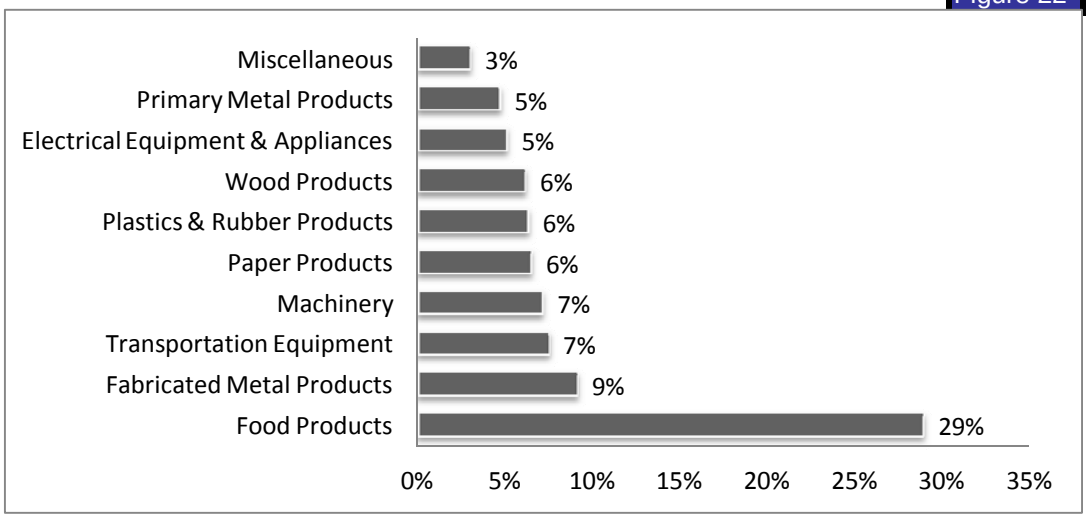
Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis (REIS)

The manufacturing sector lost more jobs while the transportation & public utilities sector gained more jobs between 2001 and 2010 than any other sectors in Van Buren County. There were considerable missing data due to non-disclosure of confidential information.

Jobs in Top 10 Manufacturing Sectors, 2010

Arkansas State

Figure 22



Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

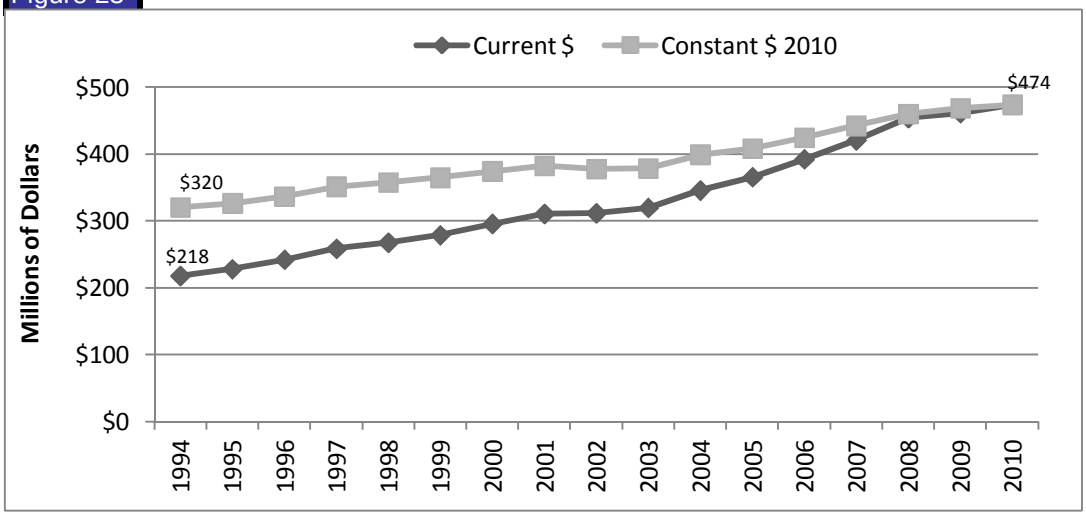
Nearly 30 percent of the jobs in the manufacturing sector in 2010 in Arkansas were in the food processing industries.

Income

Total Personal Income, 1994 to 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 23



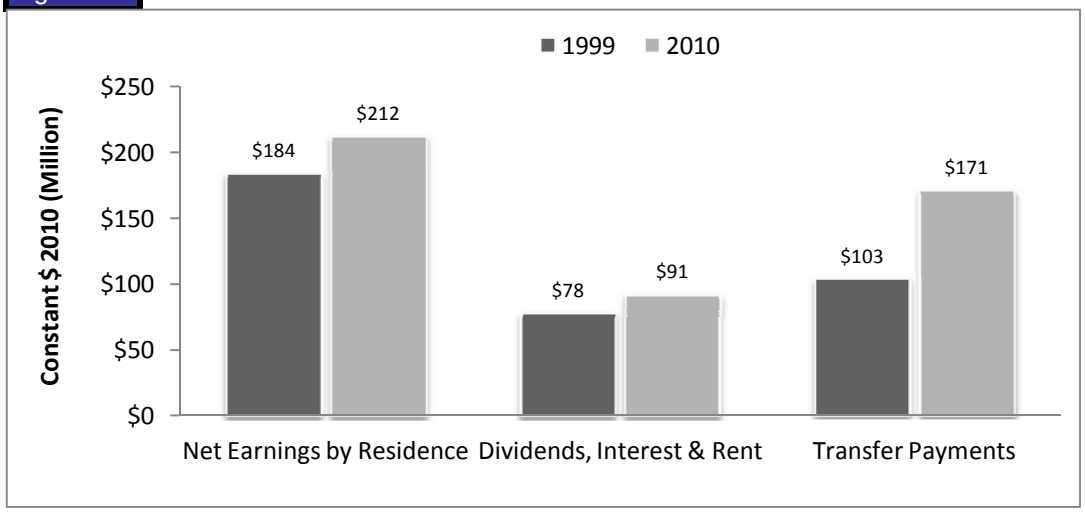
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Total personal income in Van Buren County, in constant dollars, increased from $320 million in 1994 to $474 million in 2010.

Income by Source, 1999 & 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 24



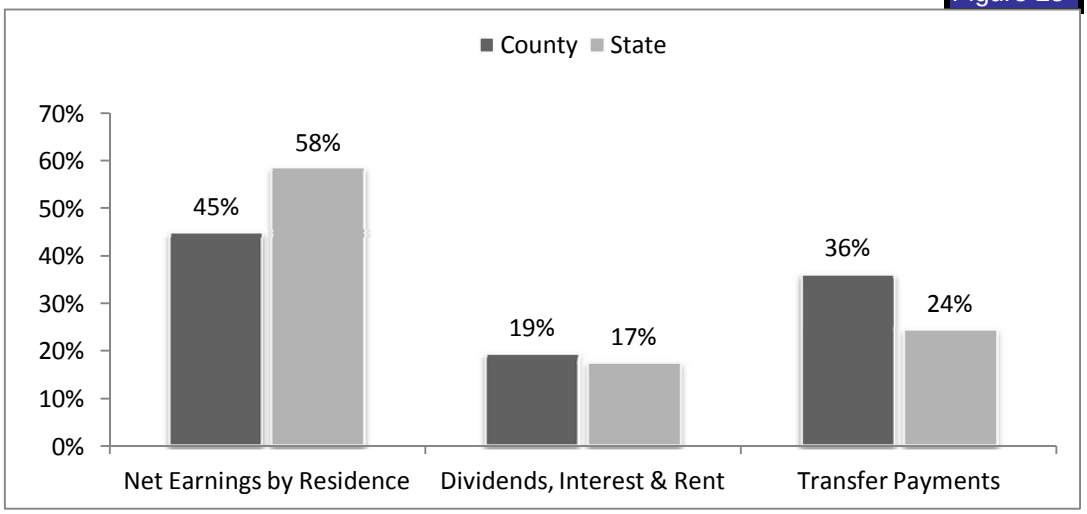
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Income from all three categories (net earnings; dividends, interest & rent; and transfer payments) in Van Buren County increased between 1999 and 2010.

Income by Source, County and State 2010

Van Buren County & State

Figure 25



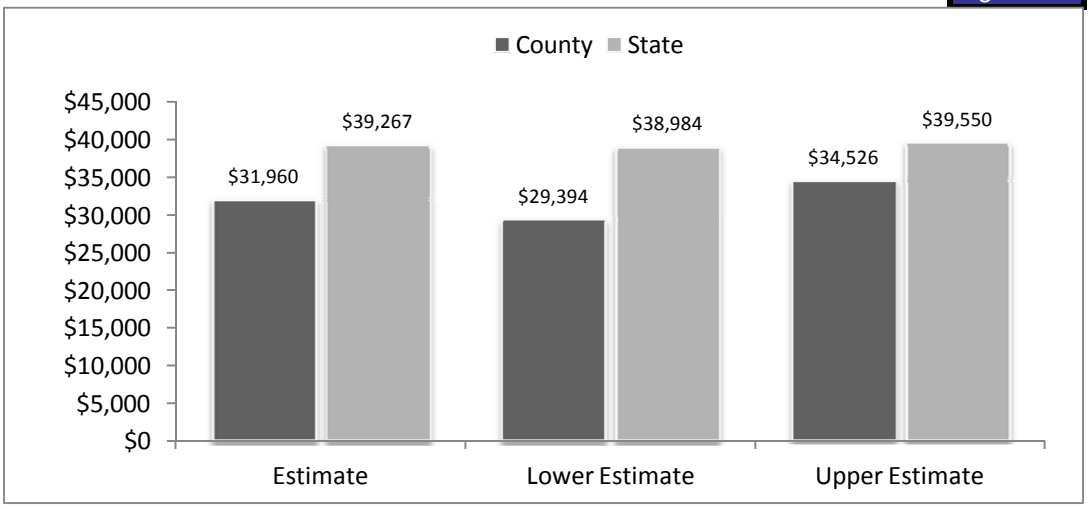
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Van Buren County residents received a smaller share of income from net earnings, and a larger share from dividends, interest & rent and transfer payments than the average for all Arkansas residents in 2010.

Median Household Income, 2005-2009*

Van Buren County & State

Figure 26



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

Median household income in 2005-2009 was lower in Van Buren County than the state average.

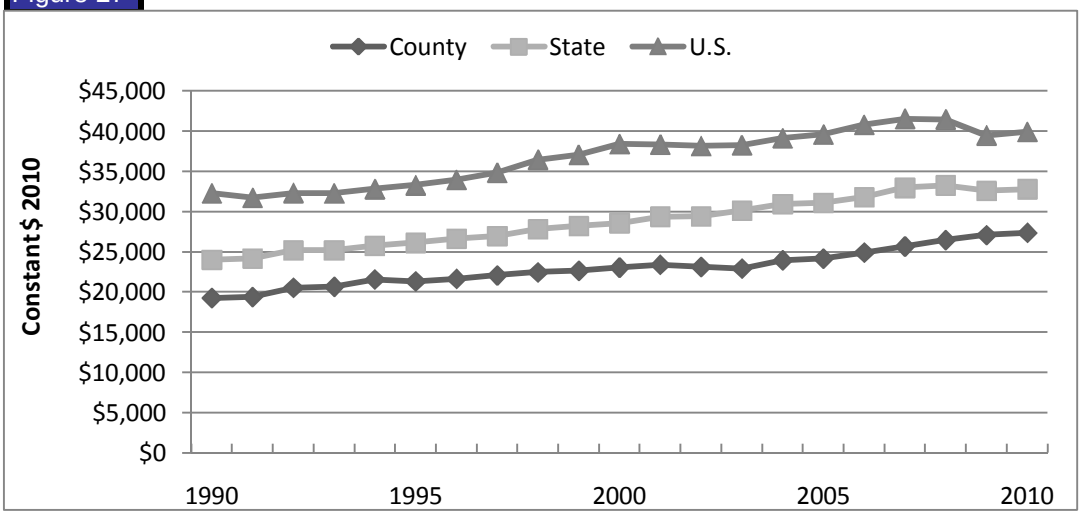
*Note: The data were from the five-year sample (2005-2009) collected by the American Community Survey. Since this is sample data, the margin of error for counties with small populations may be large.

Income

Per Capita Income, 1990 to 2010

Van Buren County, State & United States

Figure 27



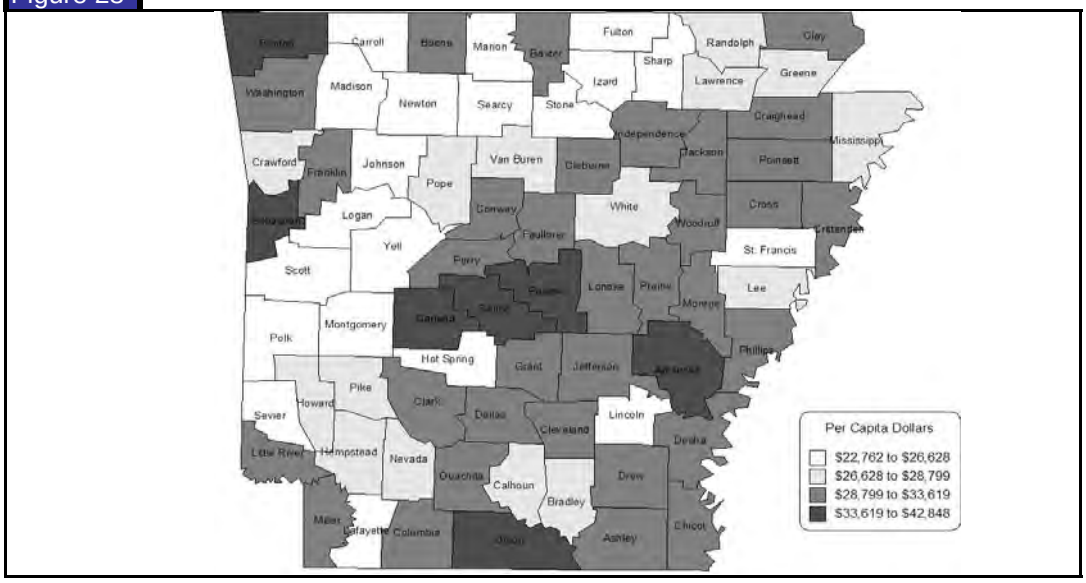
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Van Buren County per capita income was below both the state and national averages from 1990 to 2010

Per Capita Income, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 28



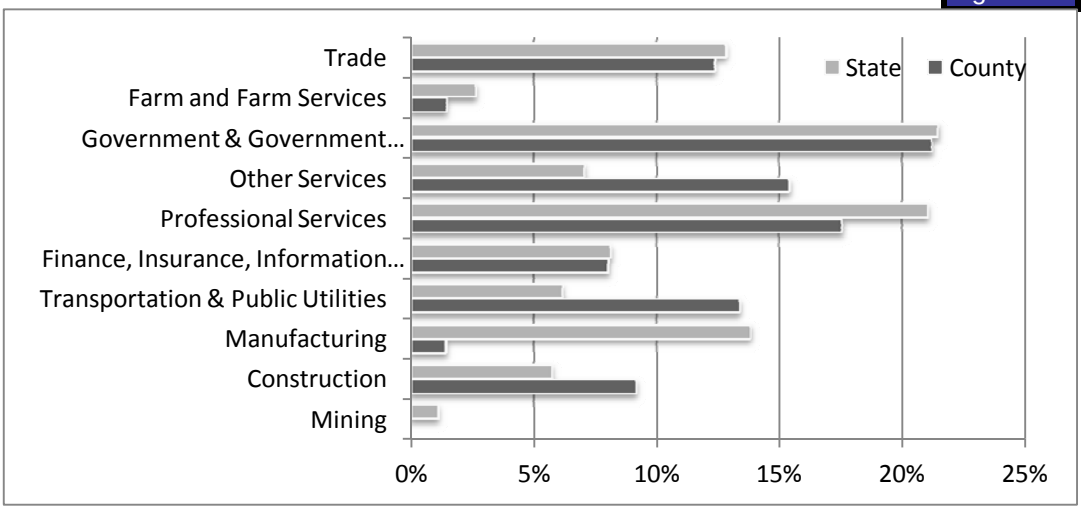
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

Per capita incomes were highest in Central & Northwest Arkansas and lowest in some West & Northcentral counties in 2010.

Earnings by Sector, 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 29



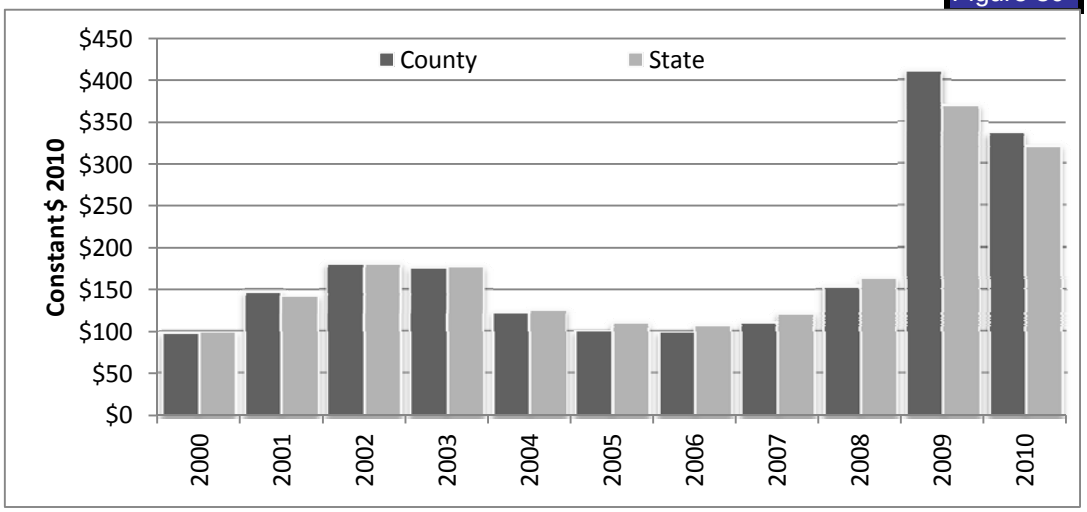
Source: Regional Economic Profiles, Bureau of Economic Analysis

The other services and transportation & public utilities sectors accounted for about about 30% of total earnings in Van Buren County in 2010, and comprised a larger share of total earnings as compared to the state as a whole.

Per Capita Unemployment Insurance Benefits, 2000 to 2010

Van Buren County & State

Figure 30



Source: Regional Economic Profiles, Bureau of Economic Analysis

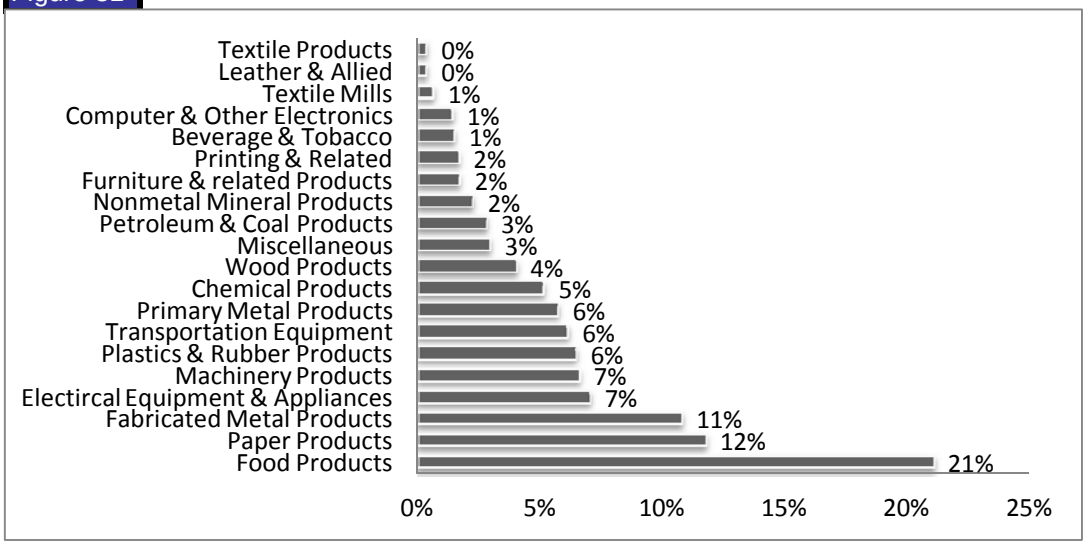
Van Buren County residents received per capita unemployment insurance benefits that about the same as the state average from 2003 to 2008, and were somewhat higher than the state average from 2009 to 2010.

Income

Value Added of Manufacturing Sectors, 2010

Arkansas State

Figure 31



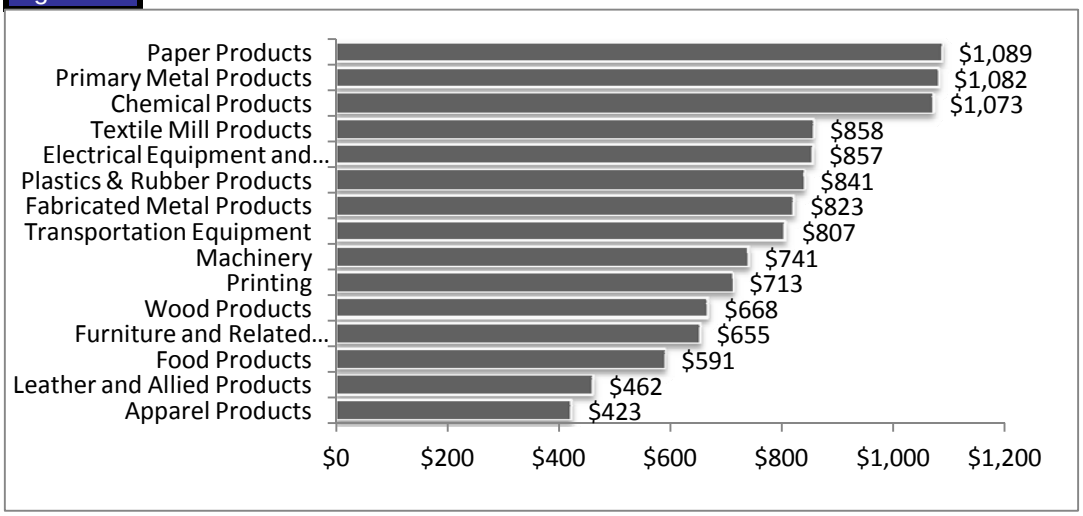
Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

Most of the value added in the manufacturing sector in Arkansas came from food, paper and fabricated metal products in 2010.

Average Weekly Earnings, 2010

Arkansas State

Figure 32



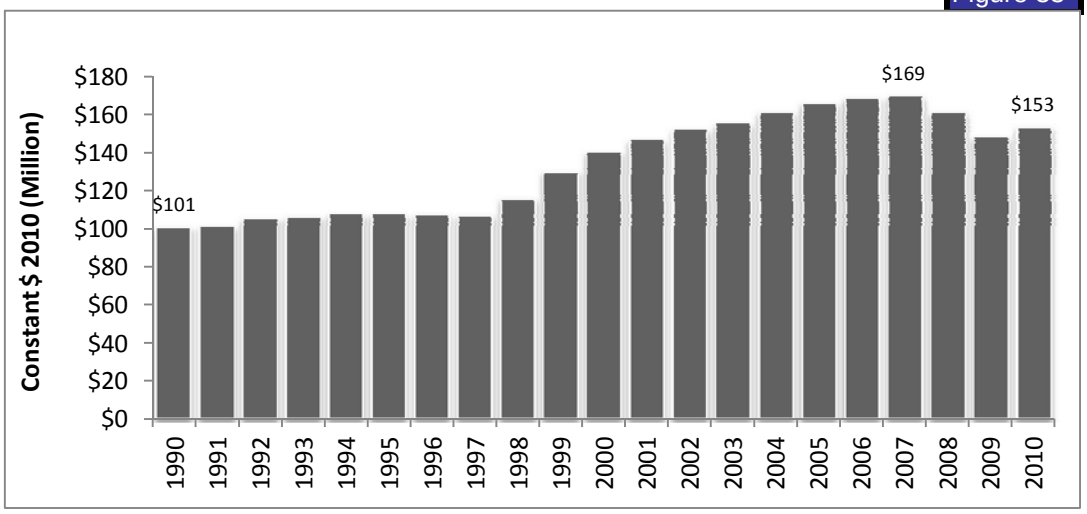
Source: Labor Market Information, Arkansas Employment Security Department

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing sector ranged from a high of $1,089 in the paper products industry to a low of $423 in the apparel industry in 2010.

Total Retail Sales, 1990 to 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 33



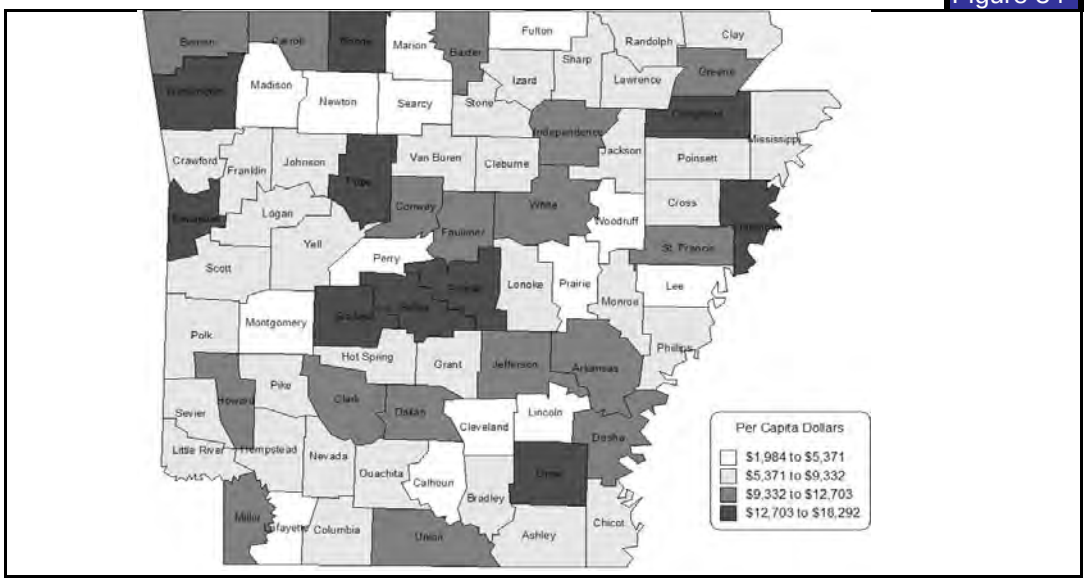
Source: Woods & Poole, 2011.

Van Buren County retail sales increased from $101 million in 1990 to a high of $169 million in 2007, followed by a decline to $153 million in 2010.

Retail Sales Per Capita, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 34



Source: Woods & Poole, 2011; 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

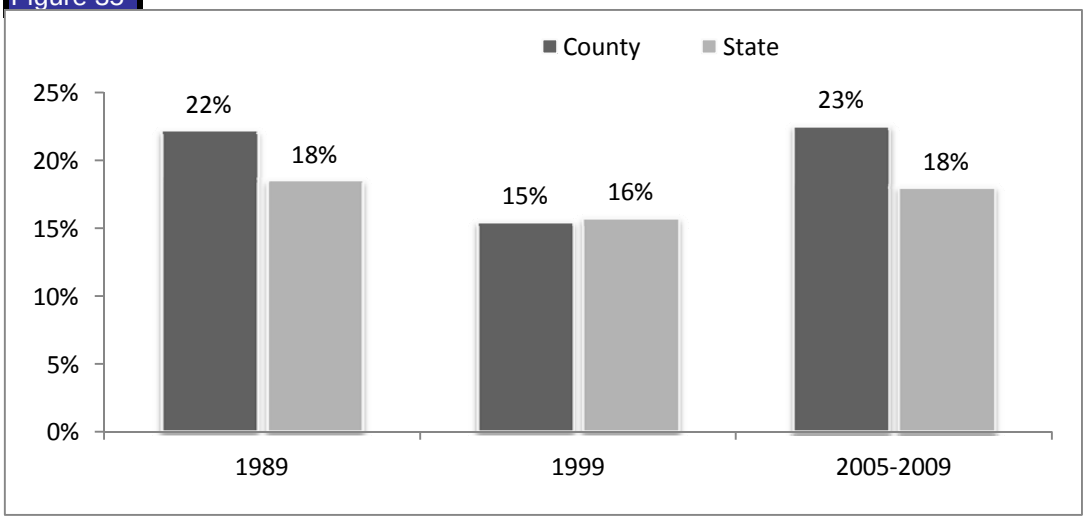
Retail sales per capita were highest in counties that are regional trade centers in 2010.

Poverty

Persons Below Poverty Level, 1989, 1999 & 2005-2009*

Van Buren County & State

Figure 35



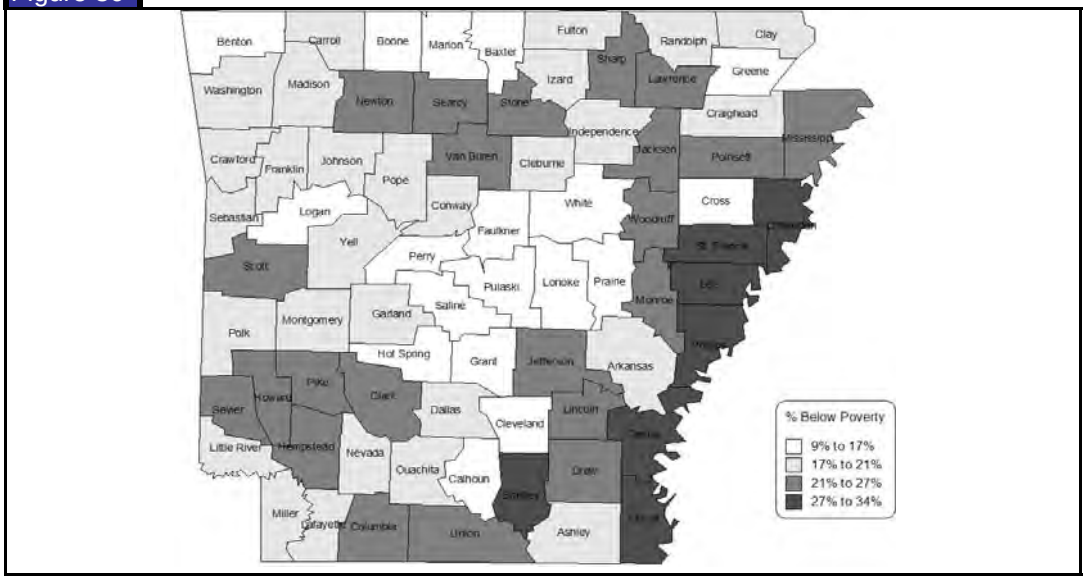
Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

The estimated poverty level in Van Buren County was higher than the state average in 1989 and in 2005-2009.

Estimated People Below Poverty Level, 2005-2009*

The Natural State

Figure 36



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

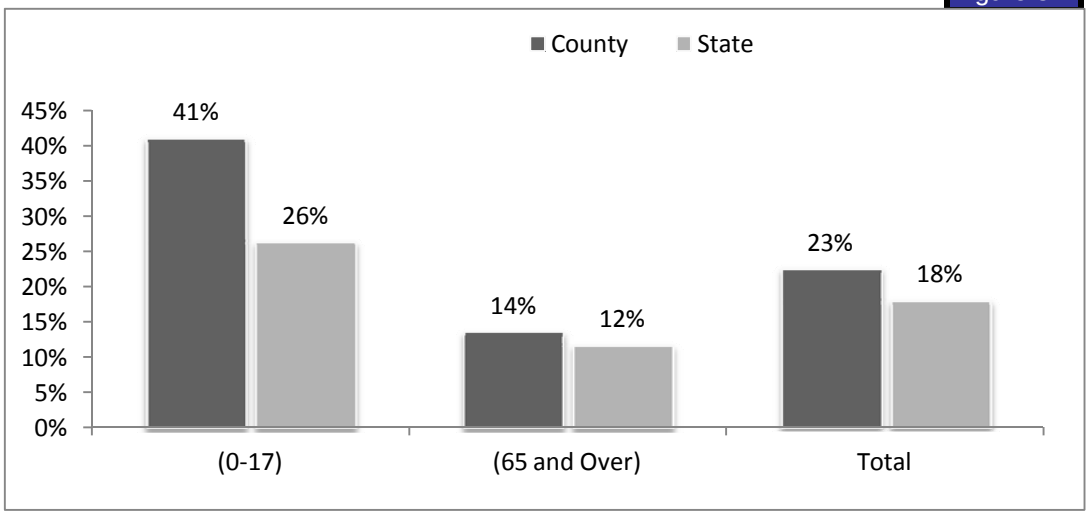
The estimated poverty level was highest in the Delta with many counties having a poverty level over twenty-one percent in the five-year period from 2005 to 2009..

*Note: The data were from the five-year sample (2005-2009) collected by the American Community Survey. Since this is sample data, the margin of error for counties with small populations may be large.

Age Groups & Estimated Poverty, 2005-2009*

Van Buren County & State

Figure 37



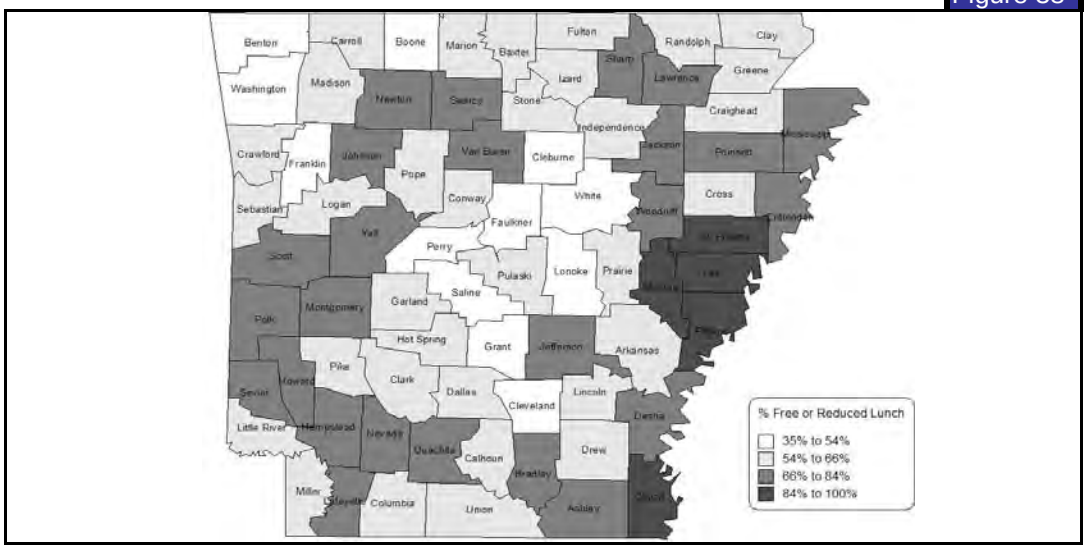
Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American Community Survey

A larger proportion of children lived in poverty than for the population as a whole in the five-year period, 2005-2009. There was a larger proportion of young and elderly people living in poverty in Van Buren County than the state average.

Proportion of Students Receiving Free or Reduced Price Lunch, 2009-2010

The Natural State

Figure 38



Source: Arkansas Department of Education

There was a wide range in the proportion of students who received free and reduced price school lunches across the seventy-five counties in the 2009-2010 school year. Participation rates ranged from thirty-five percent to one-hundred percent with a higher percentage of youth in the Delta Region counties receiving free and reduced price lunches.

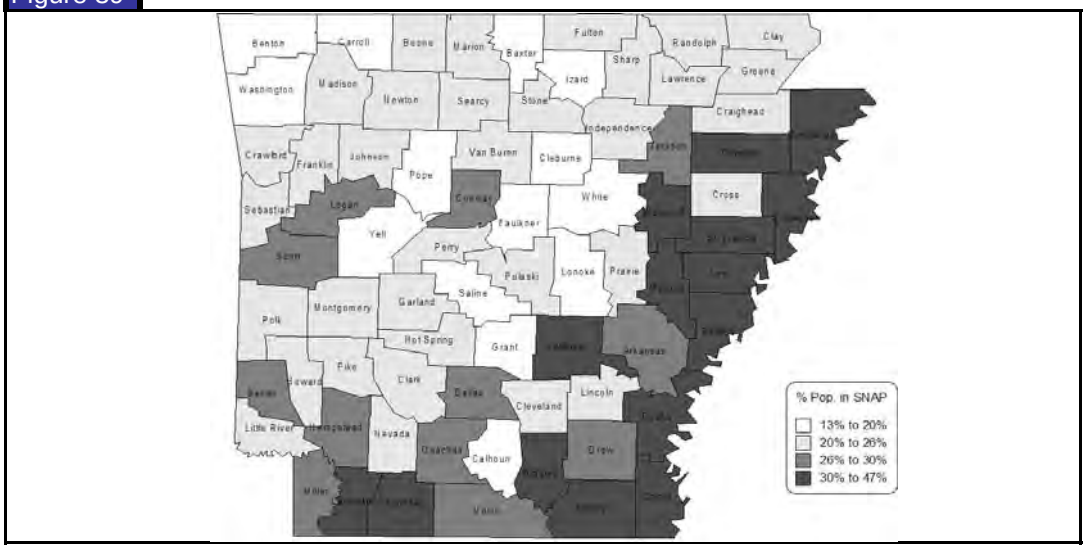
*Note: The data were from the five-year sample (2005-2009) collected by the American Community Survey. Since this is sample data, the margin of error for counties with small populations may be large.

Poverty

Proportion of Population Participating in the Supplemented Nutrition Assistance Program, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 39



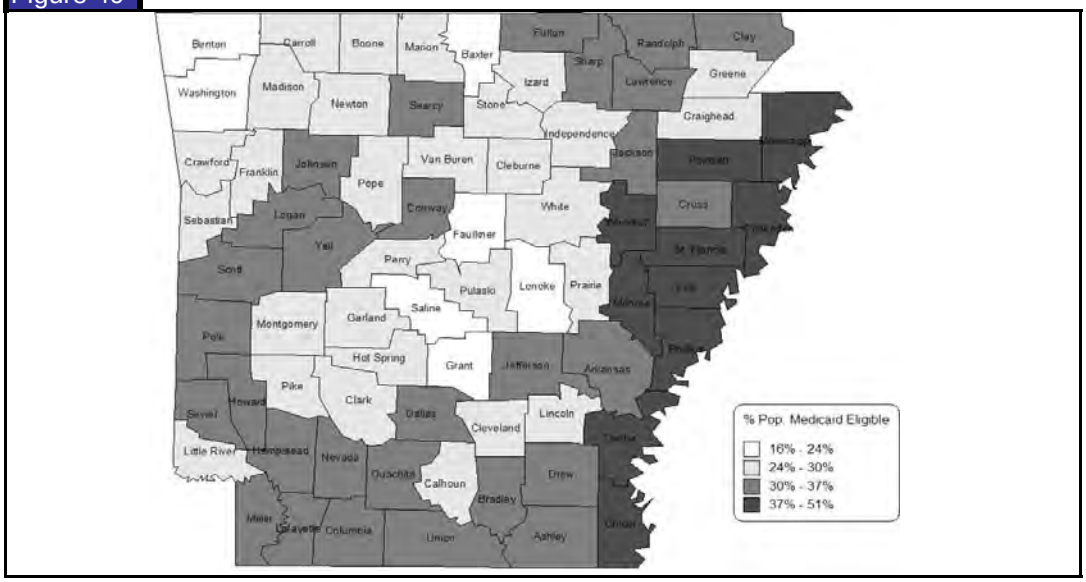
Source: 2010 Statistical Report, Arkansas Department of Human Services

A larger proportion of people living in the Delta counties and Columbia, Jefferson and Lafayette counties participated in the Supplemented Nutrition Assistance Program when compared to people in other parts of the state in 2010.

Proportion of Population Medicaid Eligible, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 40



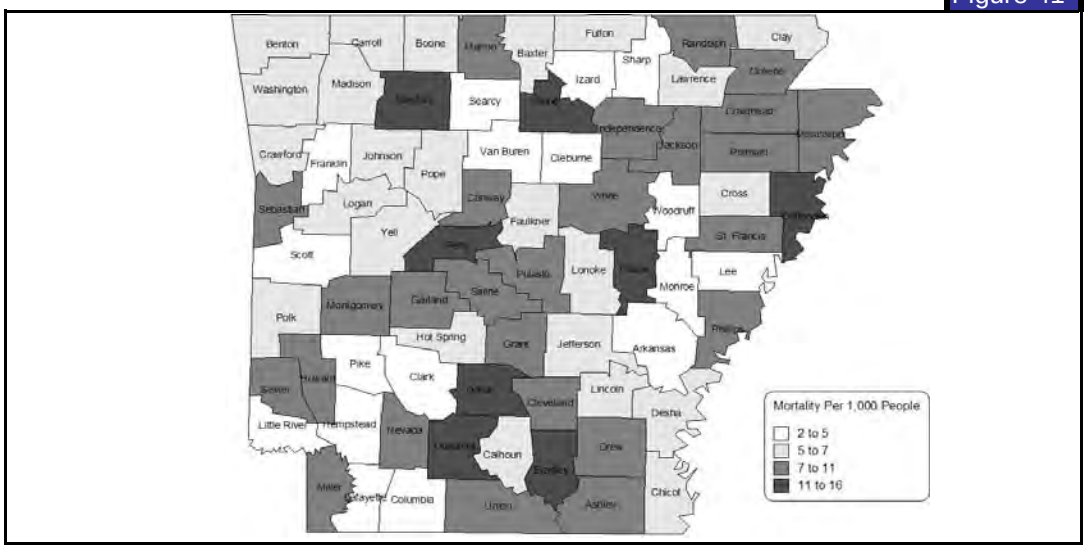
Source: 2010 Statistical Report, Arkansas Department of Human Services

A substantial percentage of the population (between 30% and 51%) was eligible for Medicaid in thirty-six counties in 2010, primarily located in the Eastern and Southern parts of the state.

Infant Mortality Rate, 2006-2010

The Natural State

Figure 41



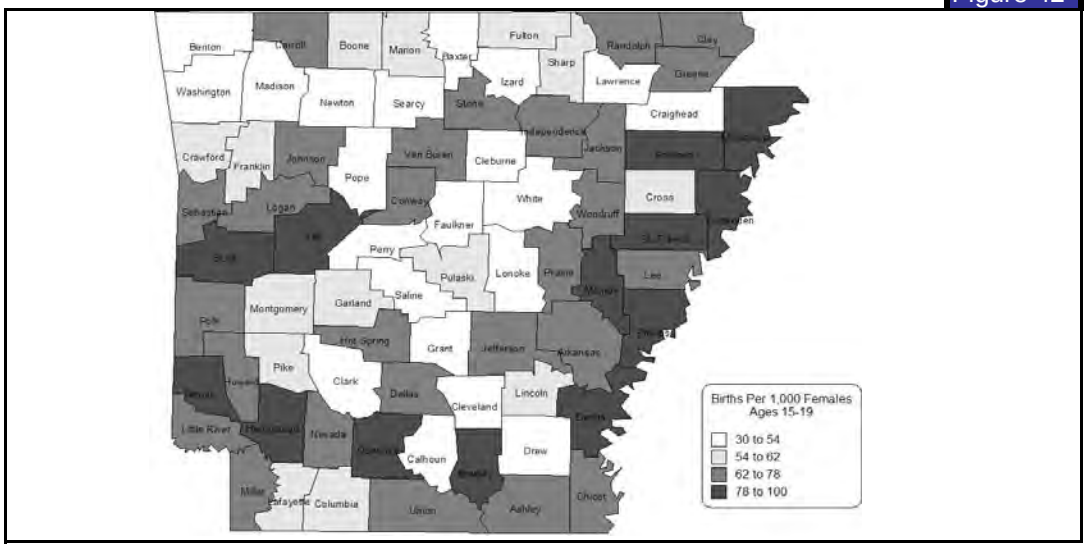
Source: Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families

The infant mortality rate was highest in the Bradley, Crittenden, Dallas, Newton, Ouachita, Perry, Prairie, and Stone counties in the five-year period from 2006 to 2010.

Teen Fertility Rate, 2006-2010

The Natural State

Figure 42



Source: Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families

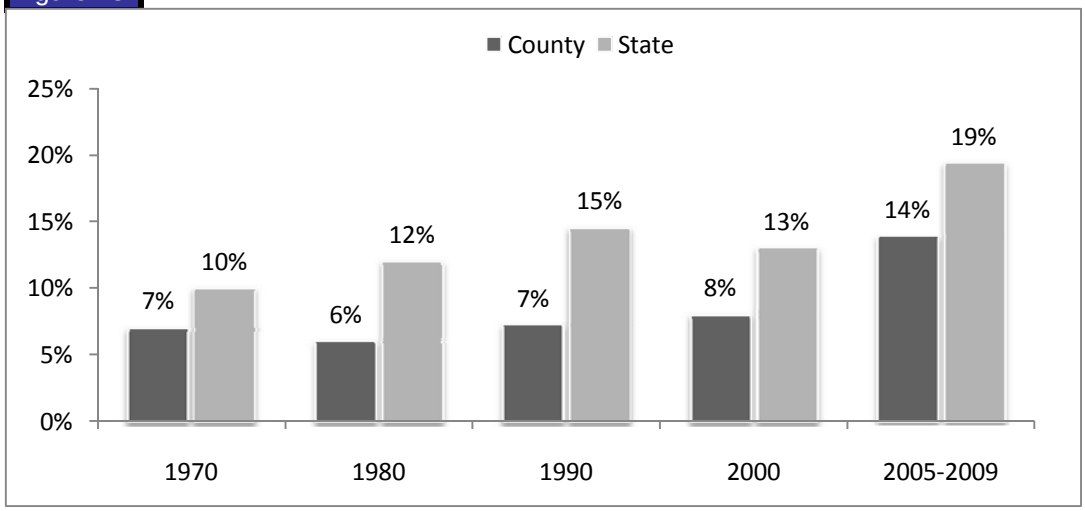
The teen fertility rate varied from County to County and was highest in some Delta and Coastal Plain counties in the five-year period from 2006 to 2010. Counties with the highest teen fertility rates included Bradley, Crittenden, Desha, Hempstead, Mississippi, Monroe, Ouachita, Phillips, Poinsett, St. Francis, Scott, Sevier, and Yell counties.

Households

Female Headed Families, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 & 2005-2009*

Van Buren County & State

Figure 43



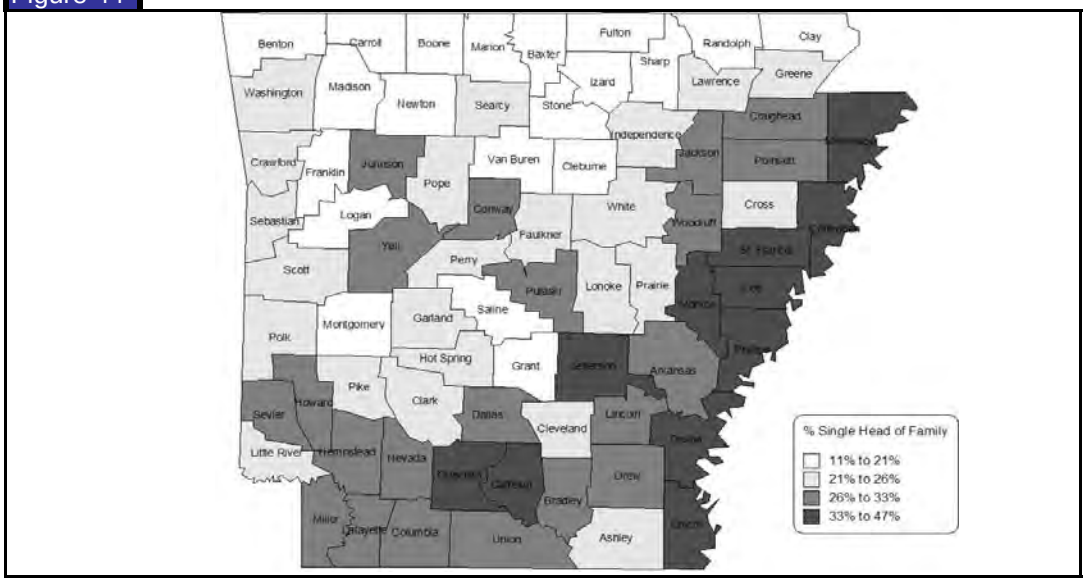
Source: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 Census of Population & 2010 American Community Survey, U.S. Bureau of Census

Female headed families as a proportion of total families in Van Buren County increased from seven percent in 1970 to fourteen percent in 2005-2009 and remained below the state average.

Single Head of Family, 2005-2009*

The Natural State

Figure 44



Source: American Community Survey, U.S Bureau of Census

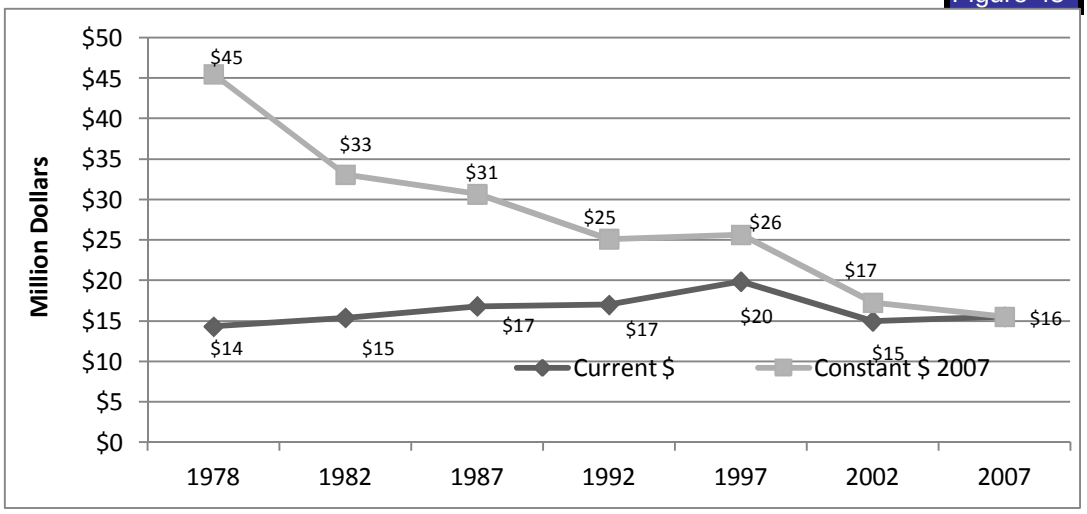
The Delta counties and the Coastal Plains counties had the highest proportion of families with only a single parent present in 2010.

*Note: The data were from the five-year sample (2005-2009) collected by the American Community Survey. Since this is sample data, the margin of error for counties with small populations may be large.

Market Value of Agriculture Products Sold, 1978 to 2007

Van Buren County

Figure 45



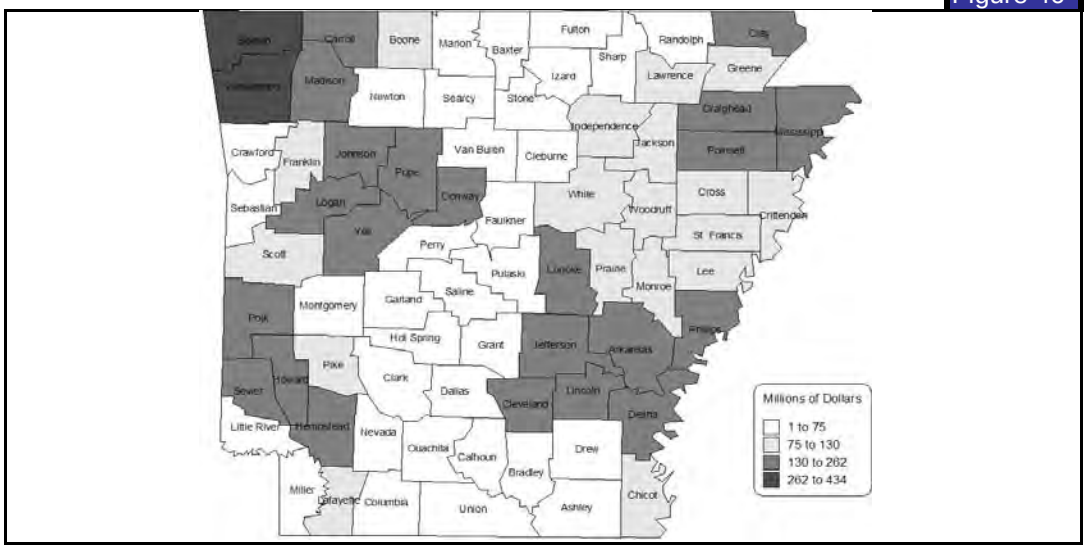
Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistical Service

The market value (in constant dollars) of agricultural products sold in Van Buren County decreased from a high of $45 million in 1978 to $16 million in 2007.

Market Value of Agriculture Products Sold, 2007

The Natural State

Figure 46



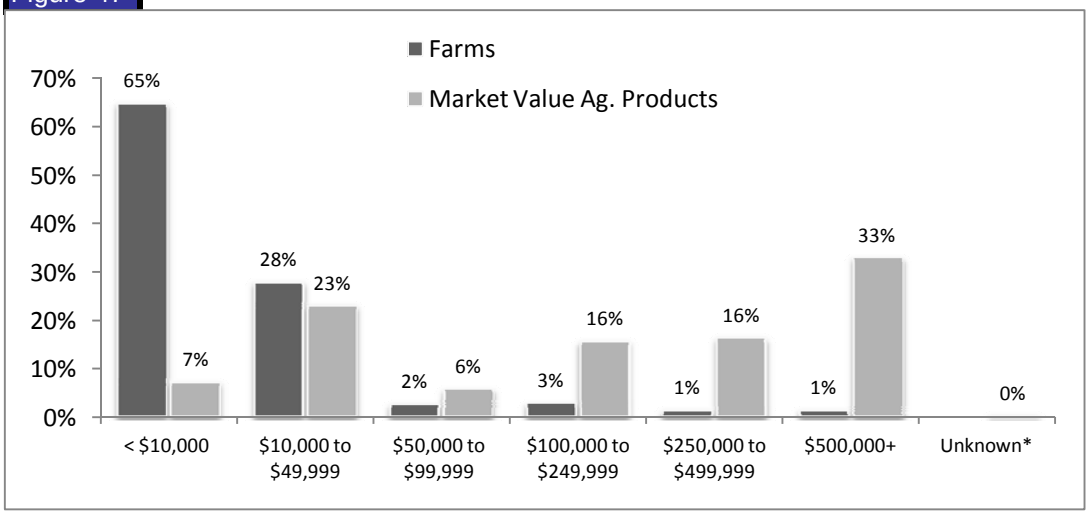
Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistical Service

The two counties with the highest market value of agricultural production were in Northwest Arkansas. However, many Delta and Highlands counties also ranked high in terms of the market value of agricultural production in 2007.

Agriculture

Farms & Farm Sales by Size, 2007
Van Buren County

Figure 47

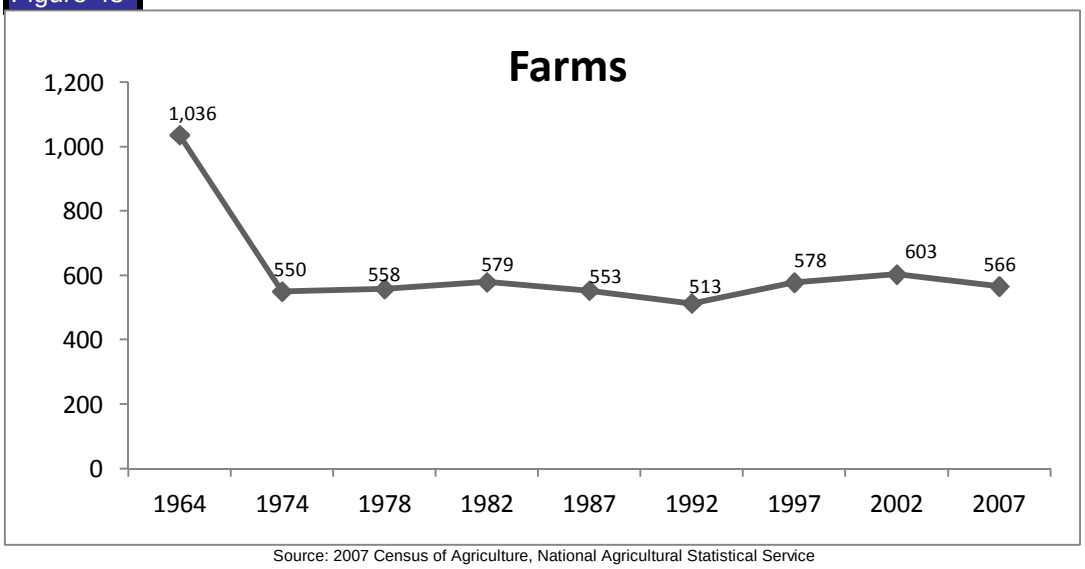


Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistical Service

Sixty-five percent of the farms in Van Buren County had sales of less than $10,000 in 2007. These farms accounted for about seven percent of total farm sales. One percent of the farms had sales of $500,000 or more and these farms accounted for thirty-three percent of total sales.

Number of Farms, 1964 to 2007
Van Buren County

Figure 48



Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistical Service

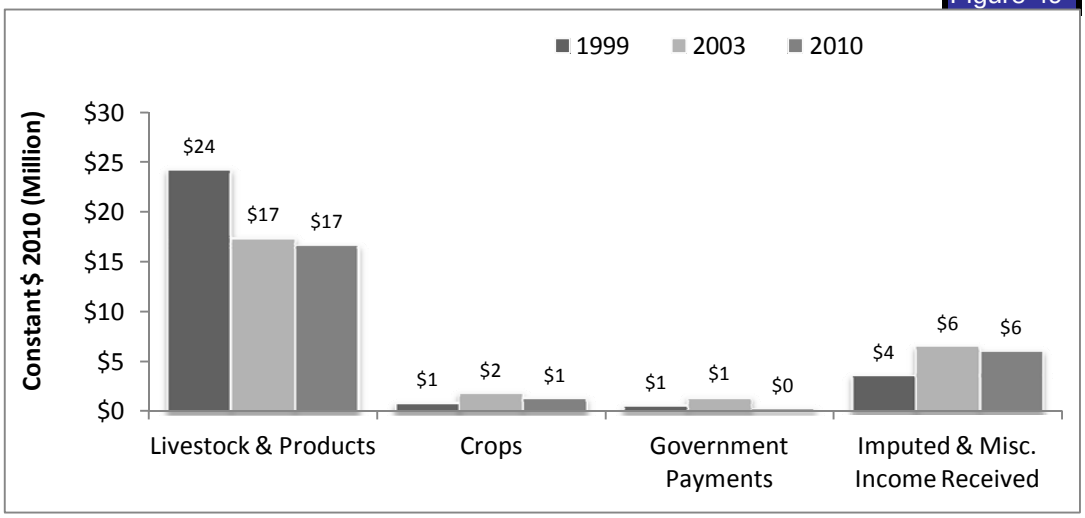
The number of farms in Van Buren County declined from 1,036 in 1964 to 566 in 2007.

*Note: Due to the lack of available data, the unknown column was added for the missing data

Source of Farm Income, County 1999, 2003 & 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 49



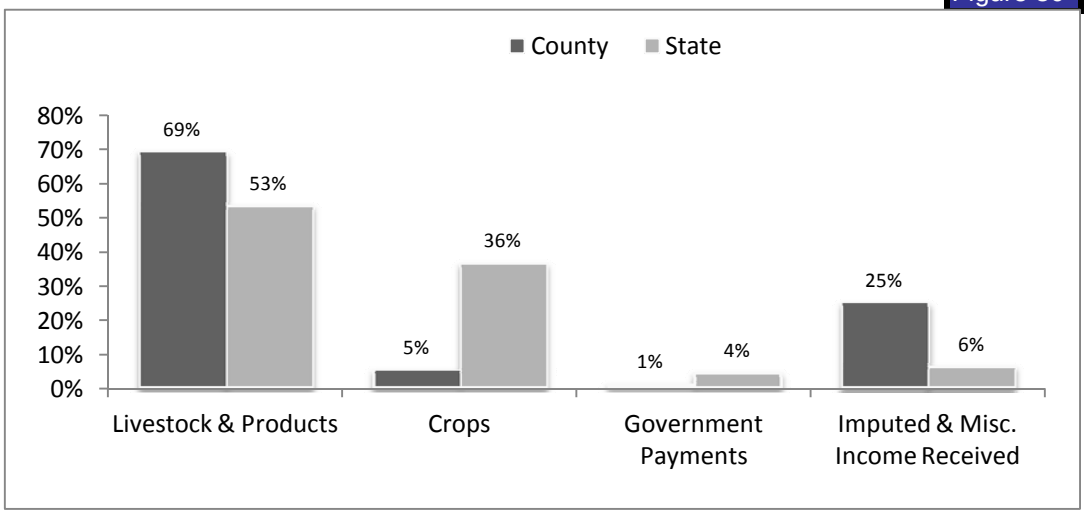
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Livestock & products sales were the major sources of farm income for Van Buren County farmers, decreasing slightly between 1999 and 2010.

Source of Farm Income, County & State 2010

Van Buren County & State

Figure 50



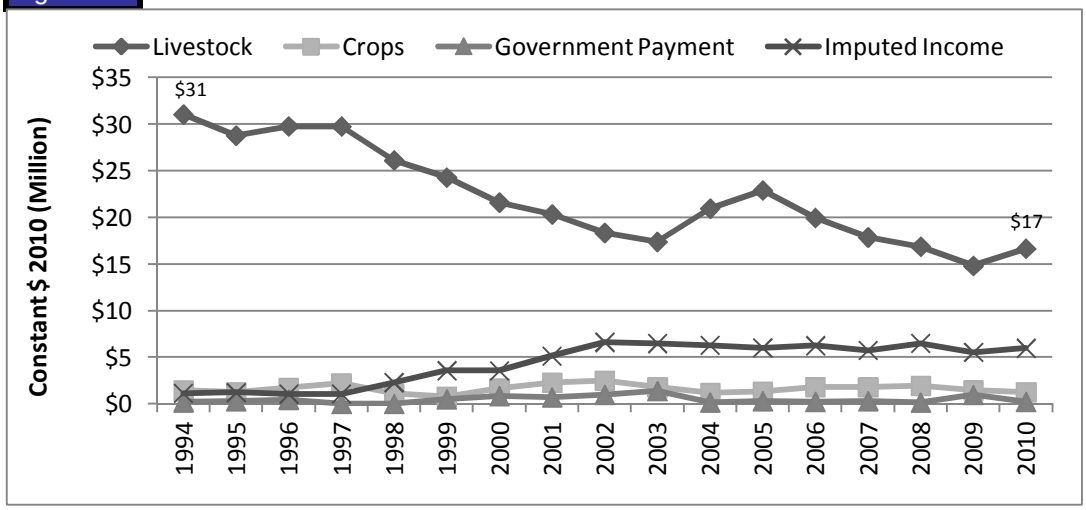
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Van Buren County farmers received a larger proportion of farm income from livestock & products when compared to all Arkansas farmers in 2010.

Farm Income, 1994 to 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 51



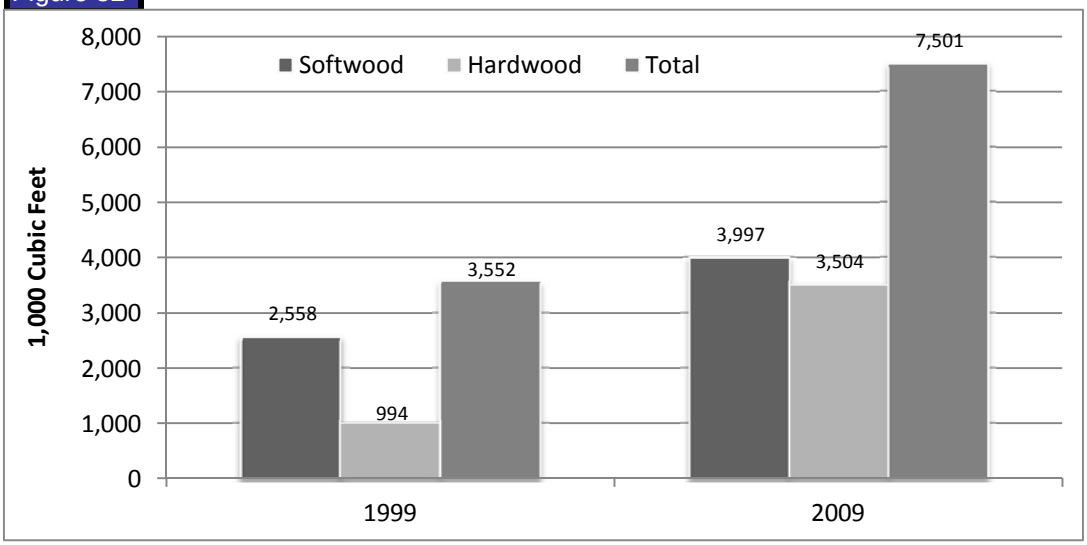
Source: Regional Economic Information System, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Farm income from livestock & products sales in Van Buren County declined from $31 million in 1994 to $17 million in 2010.

Timber Output, 1999 & 2009

Van Buren County

Figure 52



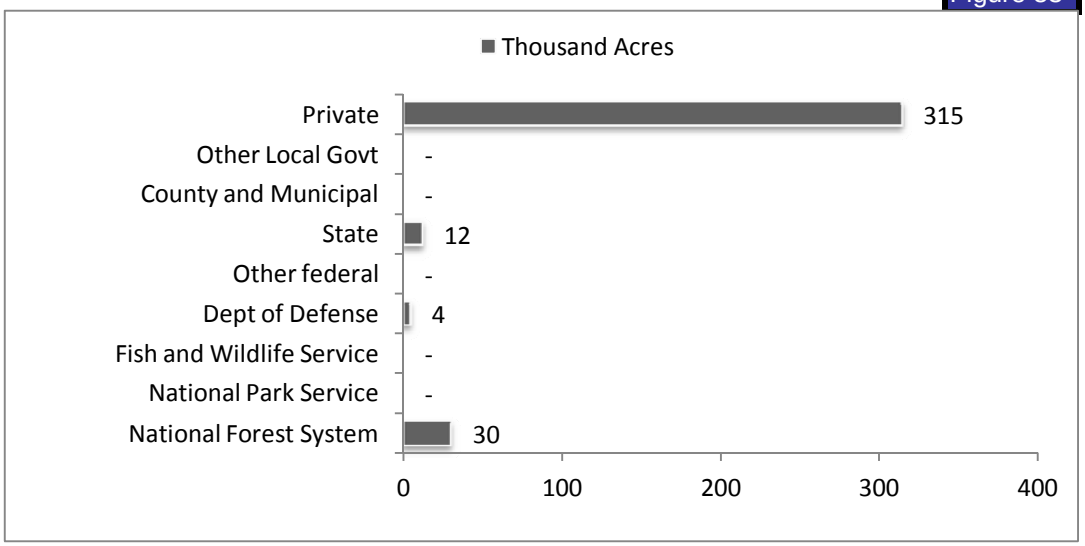
Source: U.S. Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis National Program

Total Timber output of Van Buren County (both in softwood and hardwood) increased between 1999 and 2009.

Area of Timberland by Ownership Class, 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 53



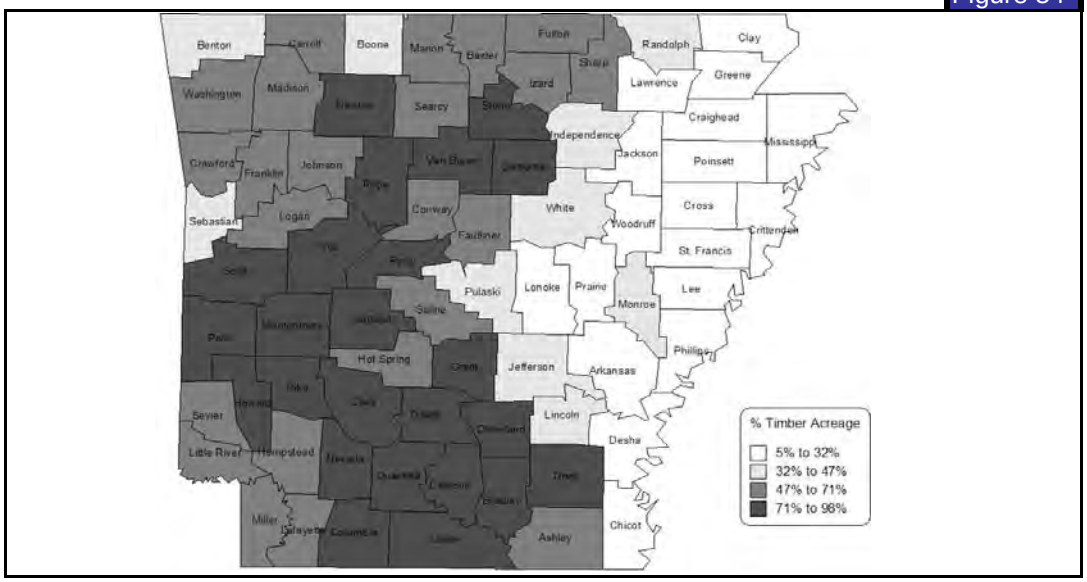
Source: Southern Forest Inventory & Analysis, Southern Research Station, U.S. Forest Service, USDA.

The total timber acreage in Van Buren County was 361,000 acres in 2010. Farmers/ranchers and private individuals owned a large share (about 87%) of the timberland in Van Buren County.

Percent of Land in Forest By County, 2010

Van Buren County

Figure 54



Source: Southern Forest Inventory & Analysis, Southern Research Station, U.S. Forest Service, USDA.

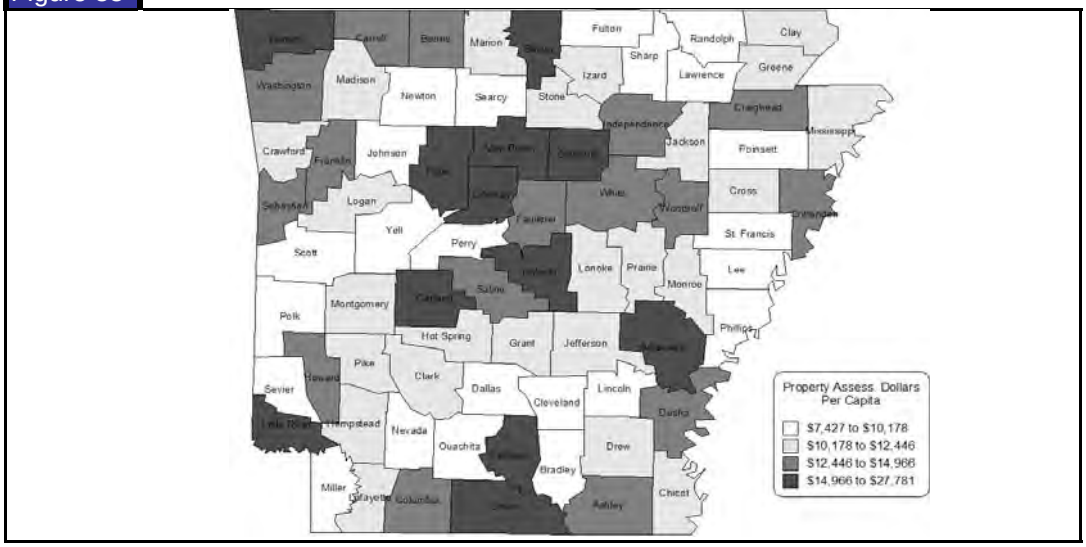
Over seventy-five percent of the land area in many Coastal Plain and Ouachita Highland counties qualified as timber acreage in 2010.

Property Assessment & Roads

Property Assessments Per Person, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 55



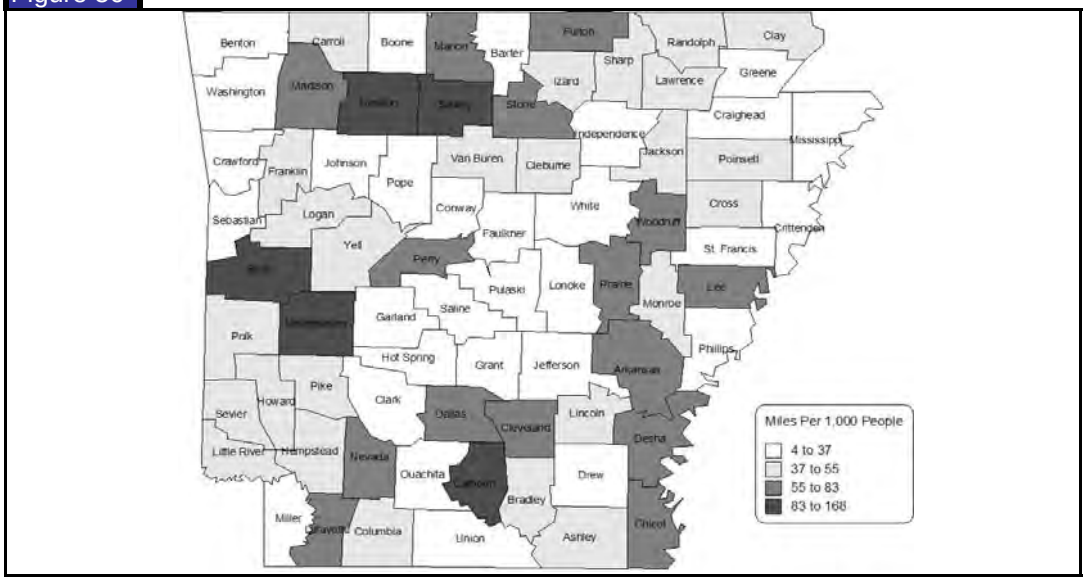
Source: Arkansas Assessment Coordination Department, Little Rock, Arkansas; 2010 Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of Census

The average property assessments per person in 2010 varied greatly among Arkansas counties, from $7,427 to $27,781.

Miles of County Roads Per Person, 2010

The Natural State

Figure 56



Source: Road and Street Report, Arkansas State Highway Commission

In general, sparsely populated counties had more miles of County roads to maintain per person than more densely populated counties in 2010.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES Includes establishments primarily engaged in performing soil preparation services, crop services, veterinary and other animal services, farm labor and management services, and landscape and horticultural services, for others on a contract or fee basis.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE The sum of all employed and unemployed persons 16 years of age or older. Members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

"CONSTANT $" Figures adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index, 1982-1984 = 100.

"CURRENT $" Figures not adjusted for inflation.

CONSTRUCTION Includes general building contractors (residential, operative, and nonresidential); heavy construction contractors (highway, street, etc.); and special trade contractors (plumbing, heating, air conditioning, painting, paper hanging, electrical, masonry, stonework, roofing, sheet metal, concrete, and miscellaneous special trade contractors).

DELIVERED VALUE OF HARVESTED TIMBER The value of harvested timber delivered to the first processing point. The value includes the value of the timber (stumpage value), the cost of harvesting, and the cost of transporting the timber to the first processing point.

EARNINGS Earnings include wages and salaries, other labor income, and proprietors' income by place of work.

EMPLOYMENT An estimate of the number of persons, on a place-of-residence basis, who worked anytime for pay or profit or worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid family worker during the week of reference (the week including the 12th of the month). Also included are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, and persons involved in labor-management disputes.

FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS Includes a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. The number of family households always equals the number of families; however, a family household may also include non-relatives living with the family. Families are classified by type as either a married-couple family or other family which is further classified into "male householder" (a family with a male householder and no wife present) or "female householder" (a family with a female householder and no husband present).

FARMING Includes businesses whose primary source of revenue is from crop and livestock production.

FEMALE HEADED FAMILIES A family with a female householder and no husband present.

FINANCIAL SERVICES Financial, insurance, and real estate services.

GOVERNMENT Employees of city, county, state and federal governments.

IMPUTED & MISC. INCOME RECEIVED Consists of imputed income, such as gross rental value of dwellings and value of home consumption, and other farm related income components, such as machine hire and custom work income, rental income, and income from forest products.

INCOME Total income is the algebraic sum of the amount reported separately for wage or salary income; non-farm net self-employment income; farm net self-employment income; interest, dividend, net royalty or rental income; social security or railroad retirement income; public assistance or welfare income and all other income.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE The number of infant deaths (under one year of age) per 1,000 live births.

JOBS The number of full-time and part-time jobs in a geographic area.

MANUFACTURING Includes manufacturing industries dealing with food and kindred products; textile mill products; apparel products; lumber and wood products; furniture and fixtures; paper and allied products; printing and publishing; chemicals; petroleum and coal; rubber and miscellaneous plastics; leather; stone, clay and glass; primary metal industries; fabricated metal products; machinery; electrical and electronic equipment; transportation equipment; instruments; and miscellaneous industries.

Glossary

MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD The gross market value before taxes and production expenses of all agricultural products sold or removed from place regardless of who received payment. It includes sales by the operator as well as the value of any shares received by partners, landlords, contractors, or others associated with the operation. It does not include payment received for participation in federal farm programs nor does it include income from farm-related sources such as agricultural services, or income from non-farm sources.

MINING Includes extraction of oil and gas, non-metallic minerals, sand and gravel.

NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION The difference between domestic in-migration to an area and domestic out-migration from the area during the period.

PER CAPITA INCOME The per capita income is the total personal income divided by the total population of the area studied. The per capita income measure should be used with care. In the short run, it may temporarily vary from the result of unusual conditions (bumper crops, a major construction project or a catastrophe). In the long run, it may misrepresent the economic well-being of the general population because of the presence of a large institutional population (college, prison). While per capita income reflects average income per person, it does not accurately reflect family unit spendable income.

PERSONAL INCOME The total income received by residents of an area, including earnings, transfer payments, and interest, dividends and rent.

POVERTY LEVEL An individual or household is considered to be living below the poverty level when their income is below an income threshold established by the Bureau of Census. The income cutoffs used by the Bureau of Census to determine the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals consist of a set of 48 thresholds arranged in a two-dimensional matrix consisting of family size cross-classified by presence and number of family members under 18 years old.

RETAIL SALES Includes sales from general merchandise stores; department stores; variety stores; food, bakery and dairy stores; automotive dealers; gasoline stations; eating and drinking establishments; and other retail trade establishments.

SINGLE HEAD OF FAMILY Single head of a family with no spouse present.

SERVICES Includes a variety of items ranging from hotels to attorneys. Included in this category are hotels and other lodging places; personal services (laundry, photographic studios, beauty shops, shoe repair, funeral services); business services (advertising, mailing, news syndicates, personnel supply services, computer services); auto repair services and garages (retail, parking, repair); miscellaneous repair services (electrical, etc.); amusement and recreation services (orchestra, dance halls, etc.); health services (physicians, dentists, nursing care facilities, hospitals, medical labs, outpatient care); legal services; educational services; social services (job training, individual and family services, day care); membership organizations (business, professional, labor, civic, social, etc.); engineering and architectural services; and other similar services.

STUMPAGE VALUE OF HARVESTED TIMBER The value of timber harvested going to the landowner.

TEEN FERTILITY RATE is the birth rate for women 15 to 19 years of age. It is the number of live births per 1000 women 15-19 years of age.

TRADE Includes wholesale and retail trade.

TRANSPORTATION Includes railroads; trucking service and warehousing; other transportation services (bus, air, and U.S. postal service); communication systems (radio, T.V., etc.); and utilities and sanitary services.

UNEMPLOYMENT An estimate of the number of persons who, for the entire week of reference (the week including the 12th of the month), did not work at all, were able to work, and available for work, and (1) were looking for work, or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new job.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE The number of unemployed workers as a percentage of the civilian labor force.

Local Cooperative Extension Office

Van Buren County Staff Chair

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Address: 1414 Hwy 65 South, Suite 137,

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Phone: 501-745-7117 (office)

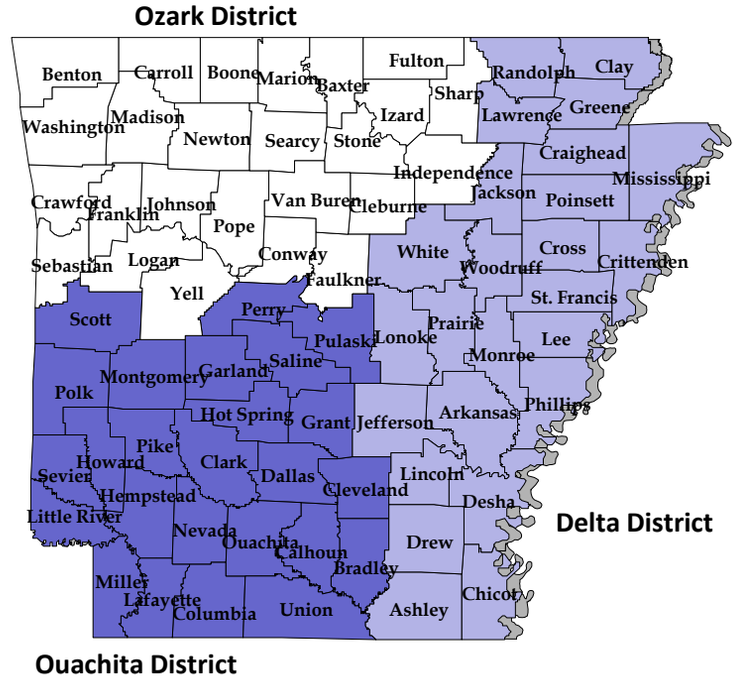
Fax: 501-745-7116

or

Email: dgriffin@uaex.edu

District

Ozark District



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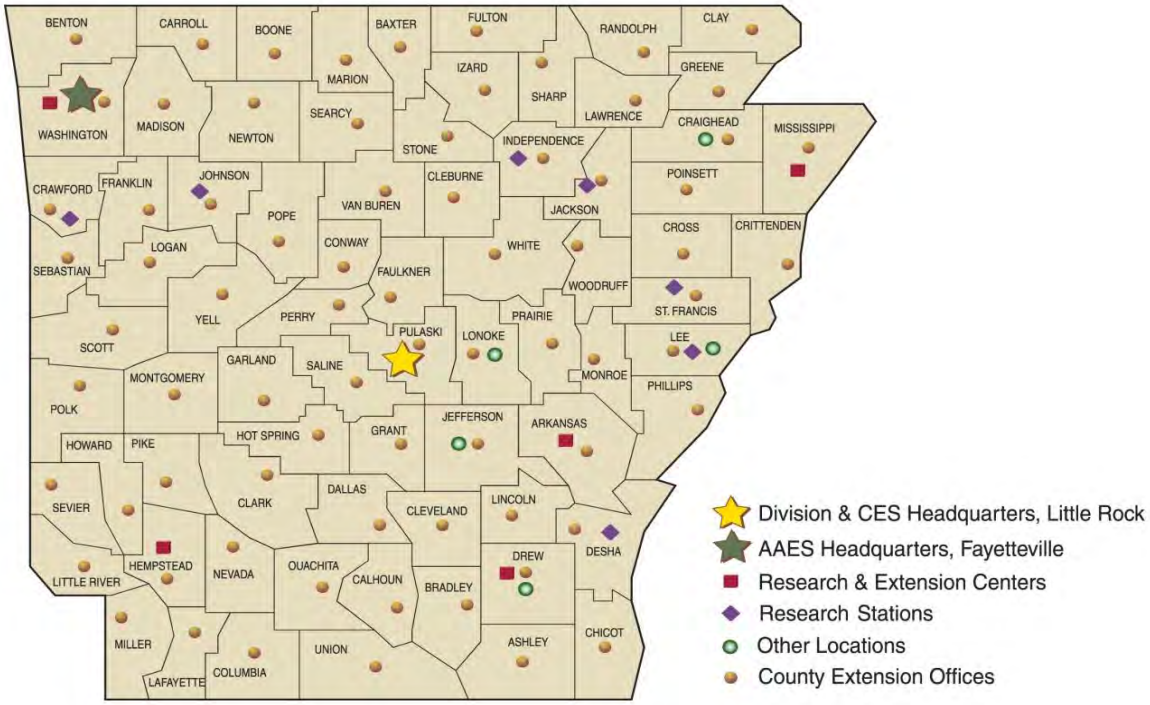
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

Community & Economic Development
Strengthening Arkansas Communities

Arkansas Is Our Campus



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