

# **UA Division of Agriculture Rural Development / Local Government Programs**

**Joint Legislative Committee on Agriculture,  
Forestry and Economic Development  
May 24, 2018**

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# University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

Cooperative Extension  
Service

Three Extension Districts

County Extension Offices  
(All 75 Counties)

Arkansas Agricultural  
Experiment Station

Regional Research &  
Extension Centers (5)

Branch Stations (8)



# Cooperative Extension Service

## Four Program Areas

Agriculture & Natural  
Resources

Family & Consumer  
Sciences

Community & Economic  
Development

4-H Youth Development



# Community & Economic Development

The mission of Community and Economic Development (CED) is to strengthen Arkansas communities and businesses through research-based education.





# CED Program Areas

Business

- provide education and technical assistance to strengthen Arkansas businesses - APAC.

Communities  
& Regions

- assist Arkansas communities and regions in building local capacity to improve their social and economic well-being and create vibrant and resilient communities.

Leadership

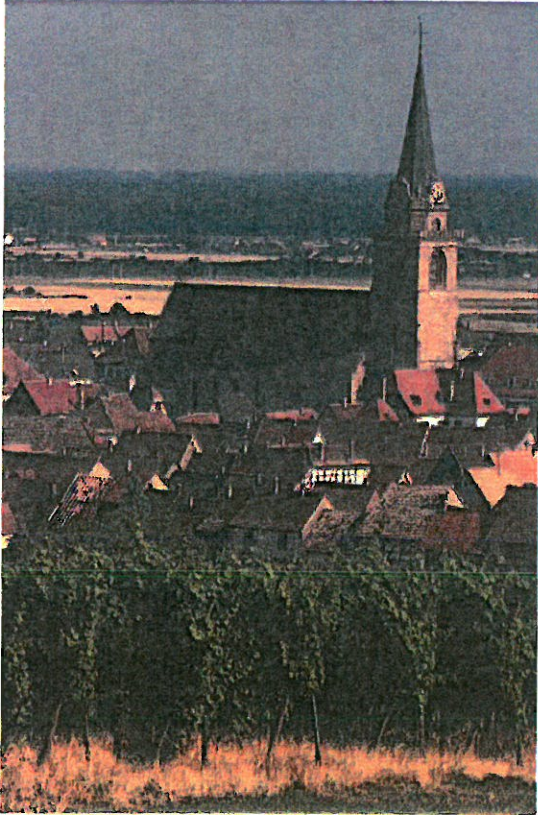
- help identify and train active and effective youth and adult leaders for community, county and statewide leadership roles.

Public Policy

- provide timely, credible, unbiased and research-based information and education about public issues.



# Community

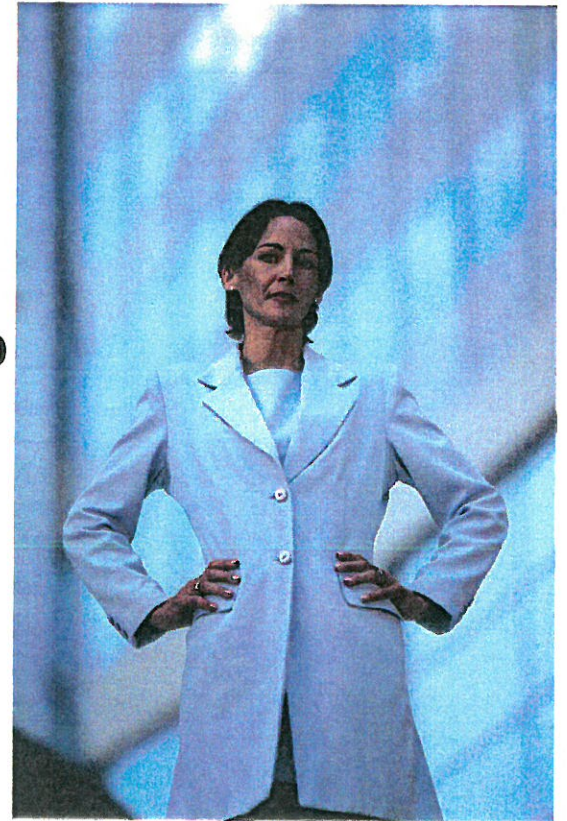


- Assist communities in using Asset Based Mapping for strategic planning
  - Breakthrough Solutions Program
- Assist communities identify opportunities and implement economic development strategies
- Work with local officials to understand long-term financial trends and develop strategies to provide infrastructure and services
- Educate the general public on local government issues



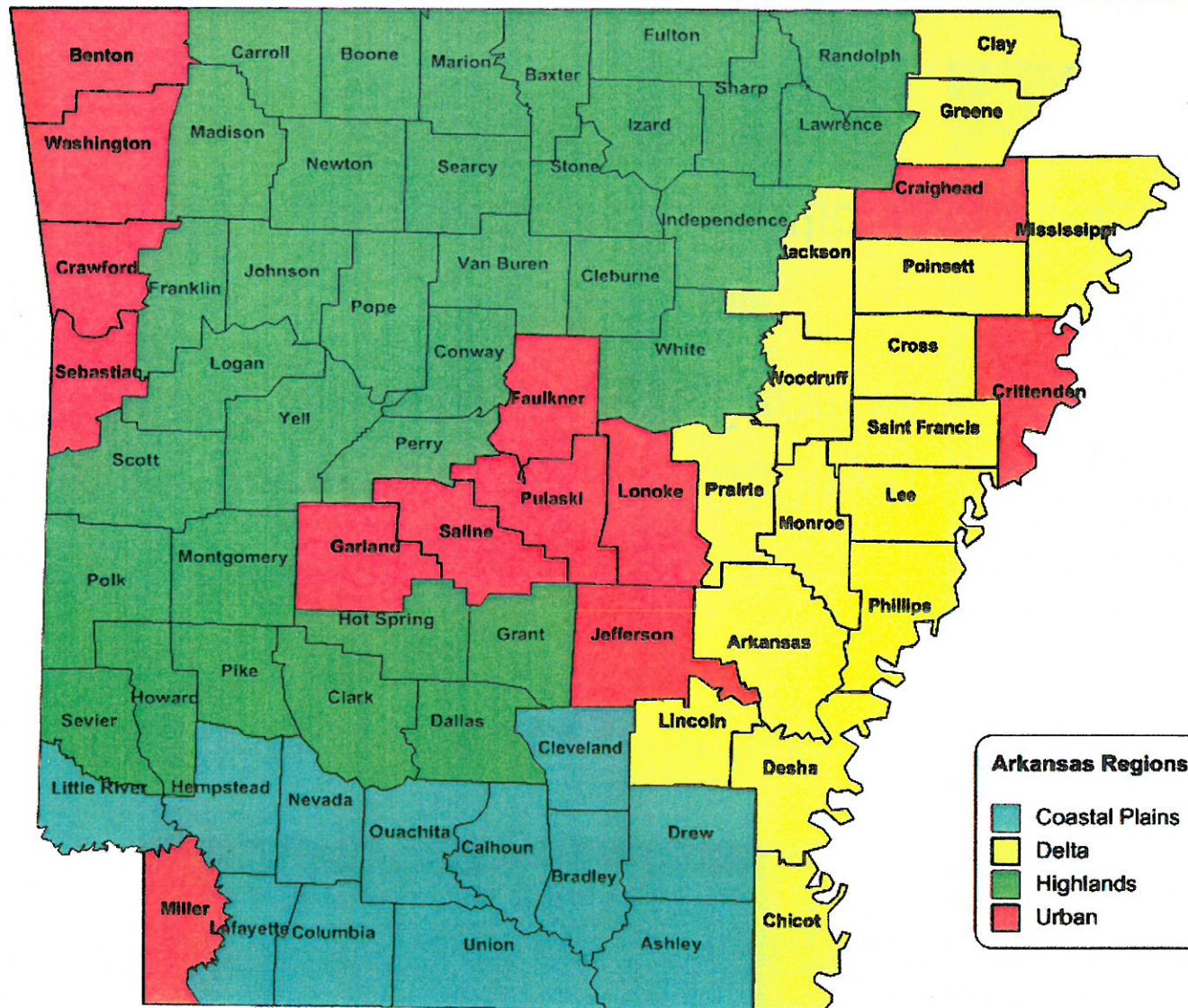
# Why Rural Development / Local Government Programs?

- Exodus of businesses and people from rural areas of Arkansas
- Results in declining tax base and ability to provide needed infrastructure & Services
- Current need for investments in public infrastructure to promote economic development





# Arkansas Regions



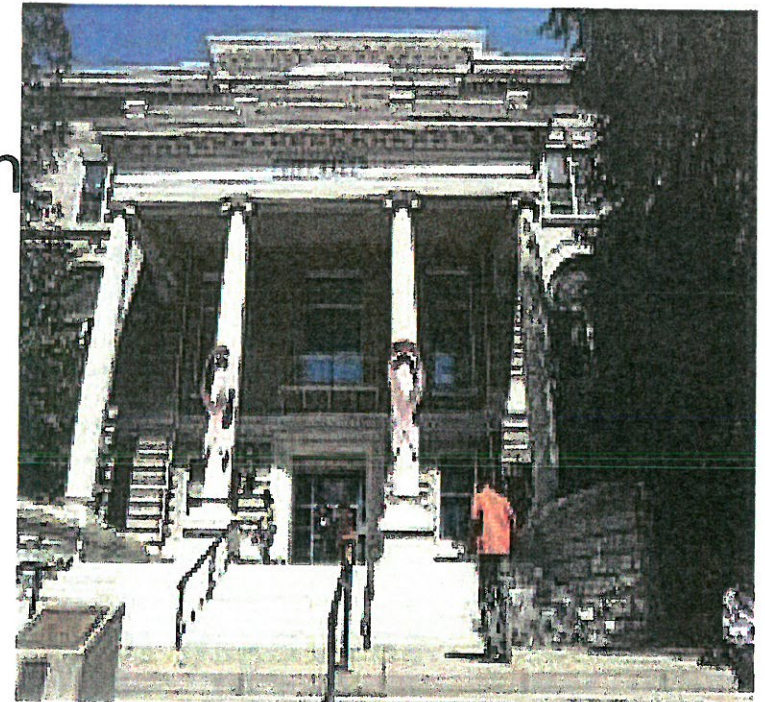
**Arkansas Regions**

- Coastal Plains
- Delta
- Highlands
- Urban



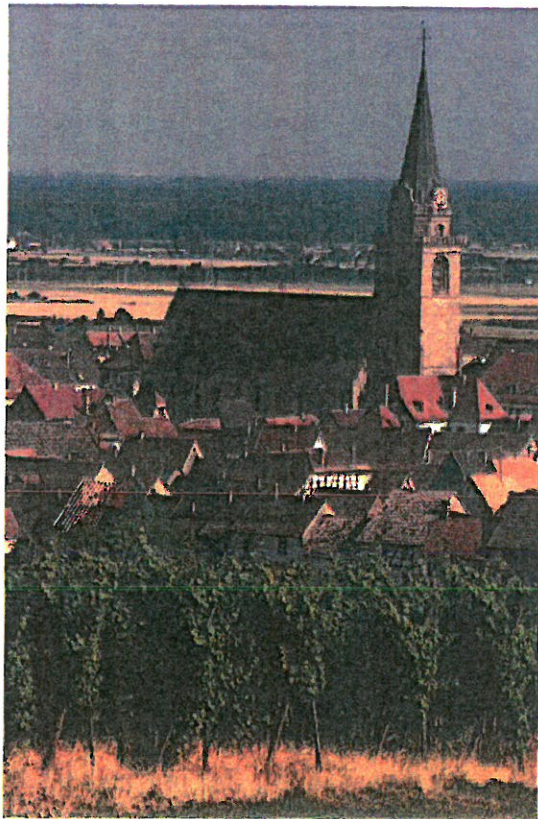
# Rural Development Issues

- Structural Change
  - Changing Economic Base
- Competition versus Collaboration
- Workforce
- Infrastructure
- Amenities

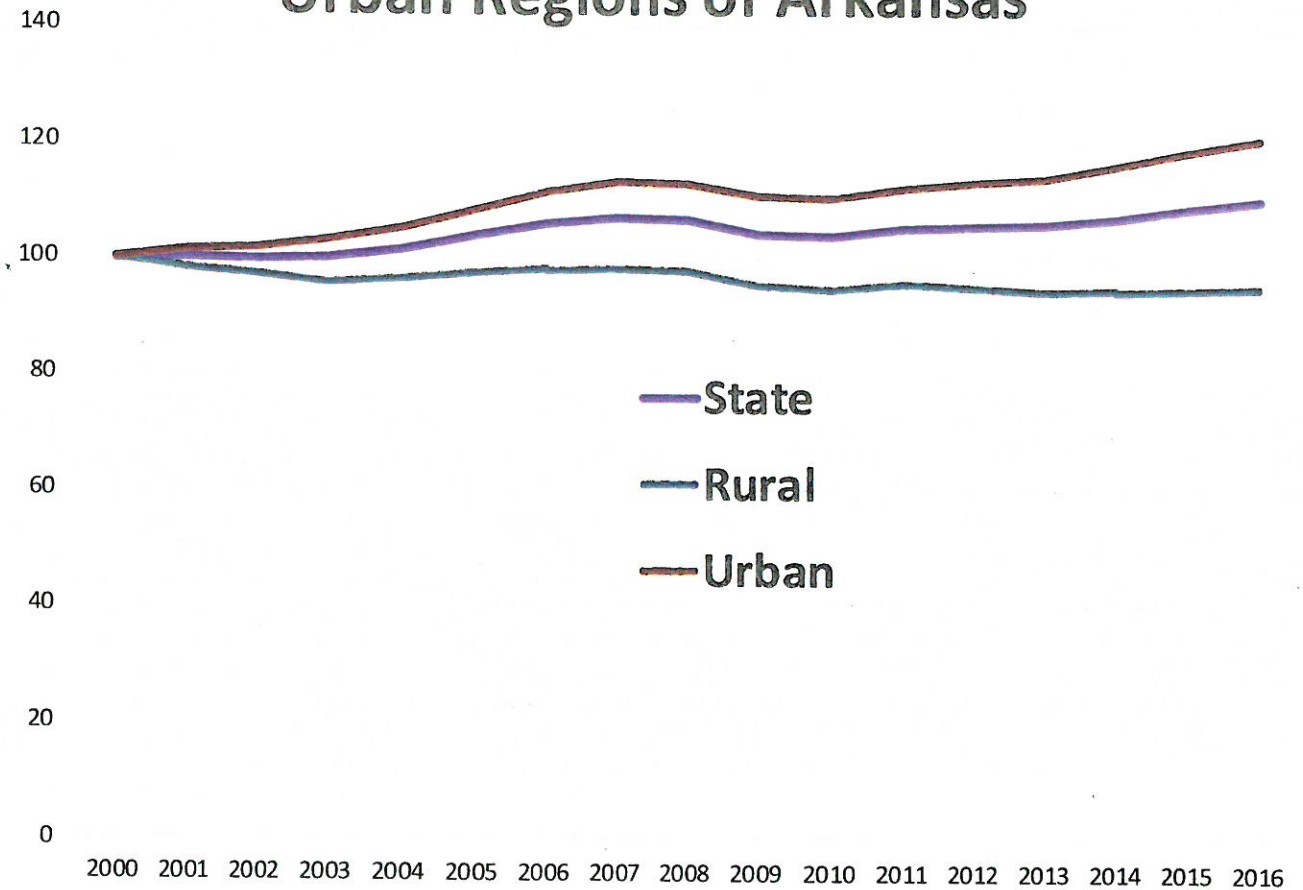




# Community



## Employment Index in Rural And Urban Regions of Arkansas

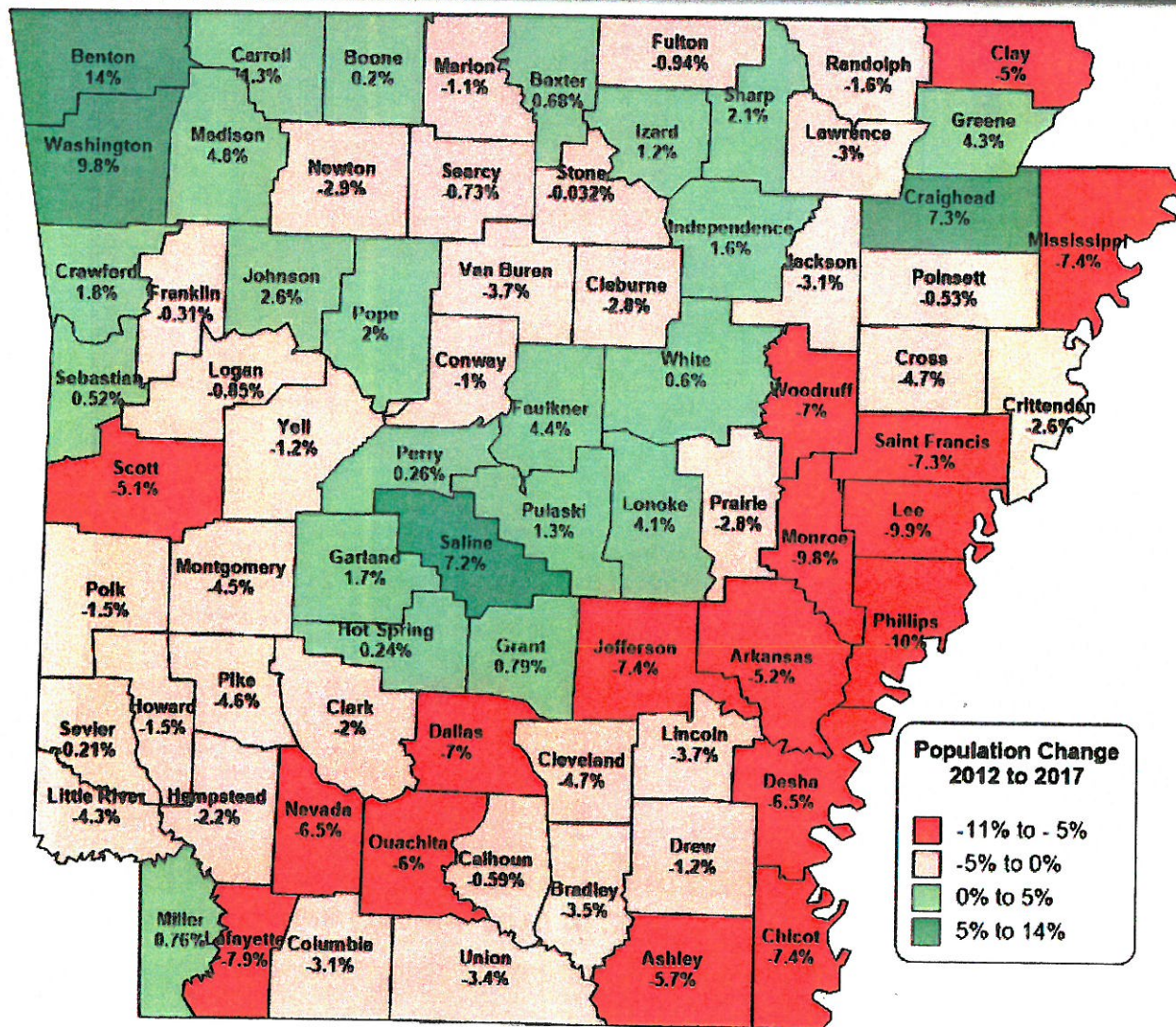








# Population Change 2012 to 2017

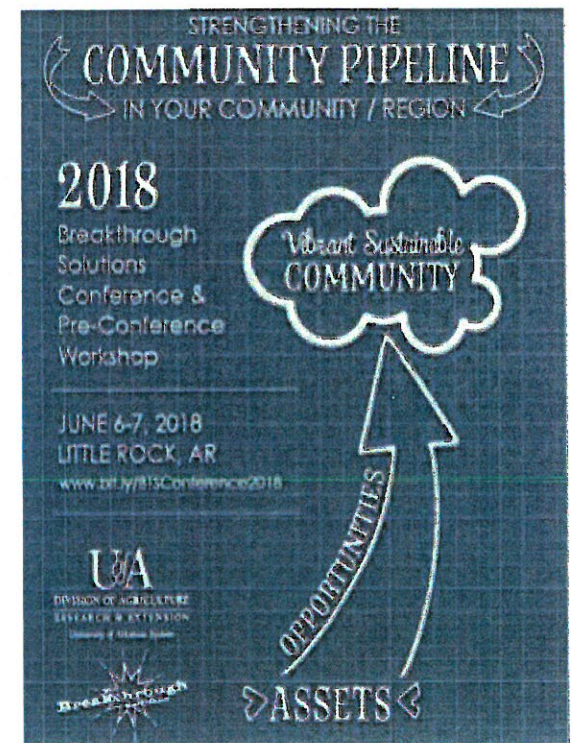


Source: Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.



# Rural Development Programs

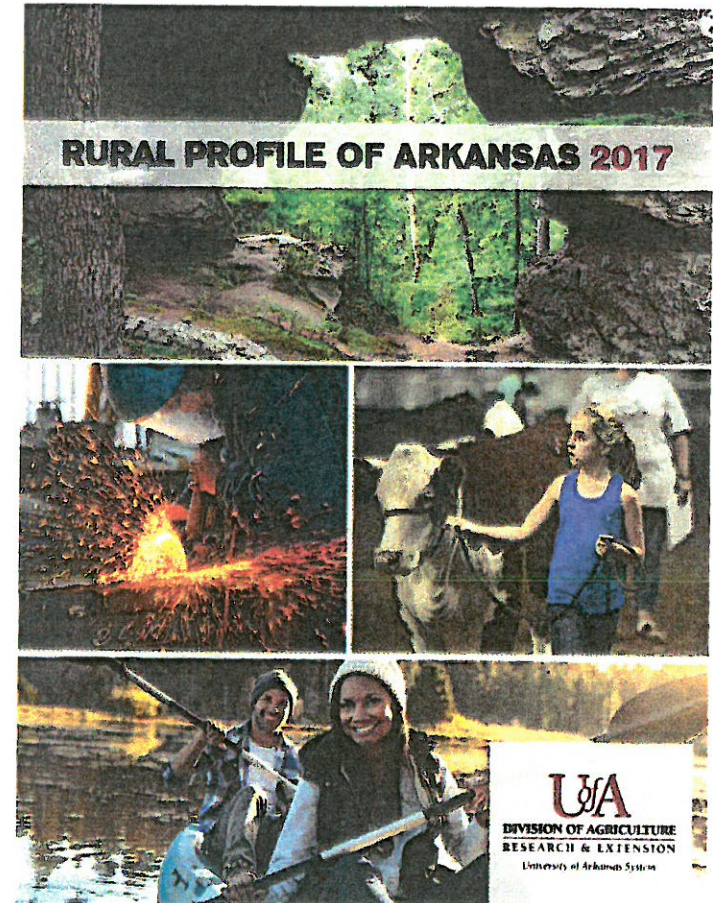
- **Breakthrough Solutions**
- **Stronger Economies Together (SET)**
- **Arkansas Community Economic Development Alliance (ACEDA)**





# Rural Development Resources

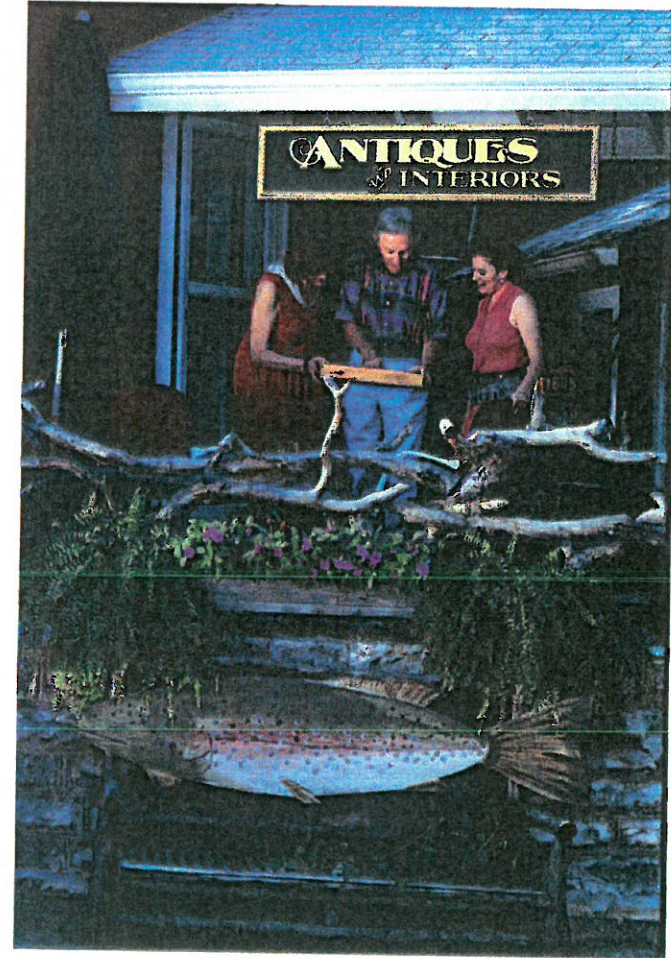
- Rural Profile of Arkansas
  - [www.uaex.edu/ruralprofile](http://www.uaex.edu/ruralprofile)
- Economic Modeling
  - Economic & Fiscal Impact
  - Regional Trade Potential
- Identify Economic Opportunities
  - [www.uaex.edu/economicdevelopment](http://www.uaex.edu/economicdevelopment)





# Rural Development Resources

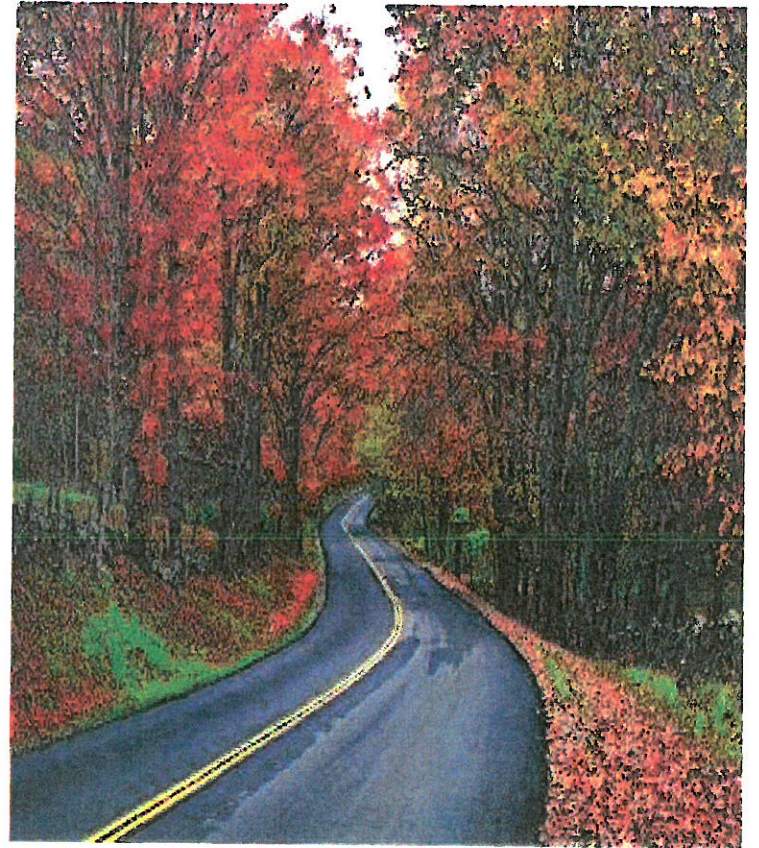
- Retail Trade Potential
- Retiree In-migration
- Agritourism





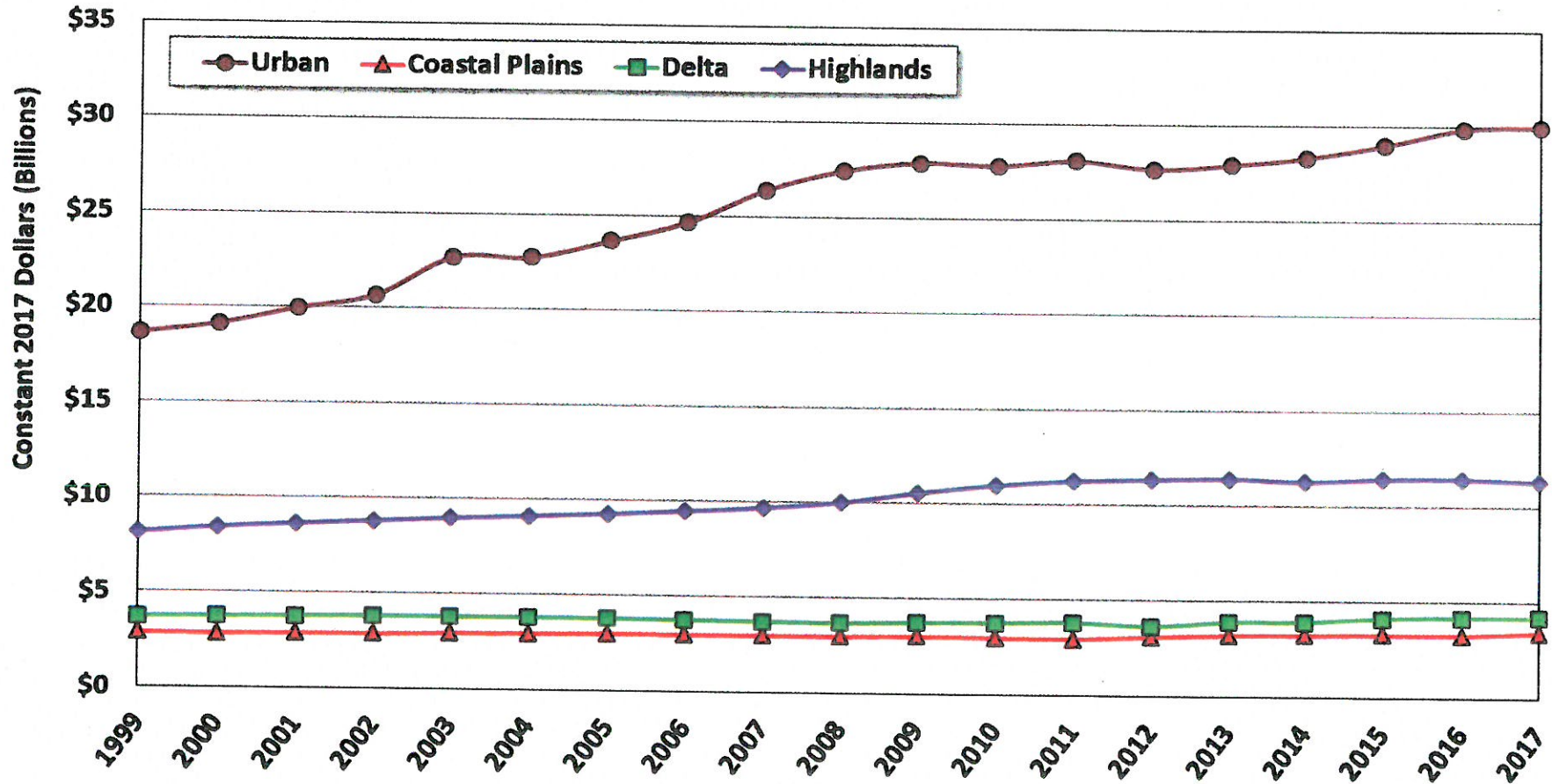
# Local Government Issues

- Infrastructure
- Roads
- Funding
  - Local Tax Base
  - Intergovernmental Revenue



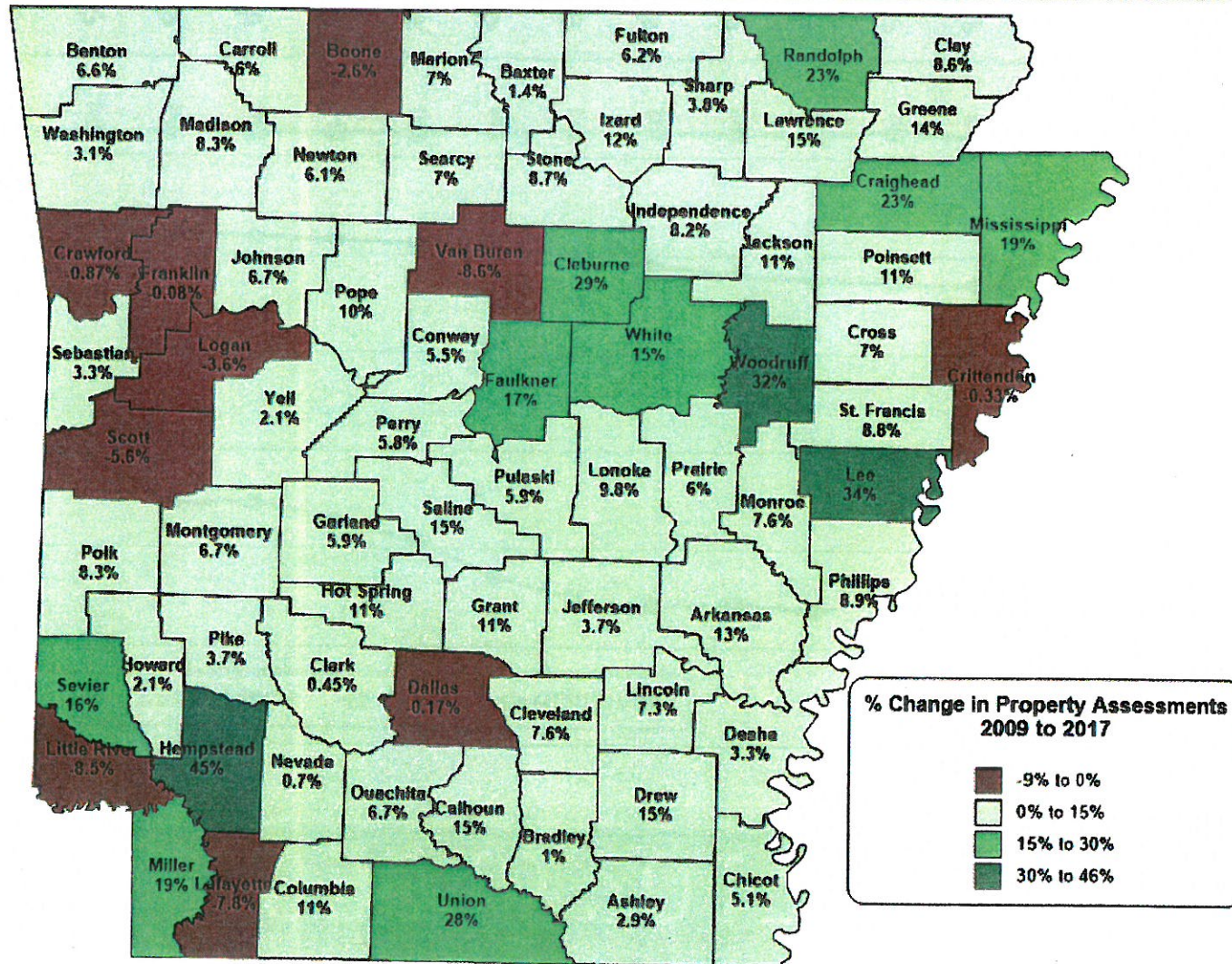


# Property Assessments Change 1999 to 2017



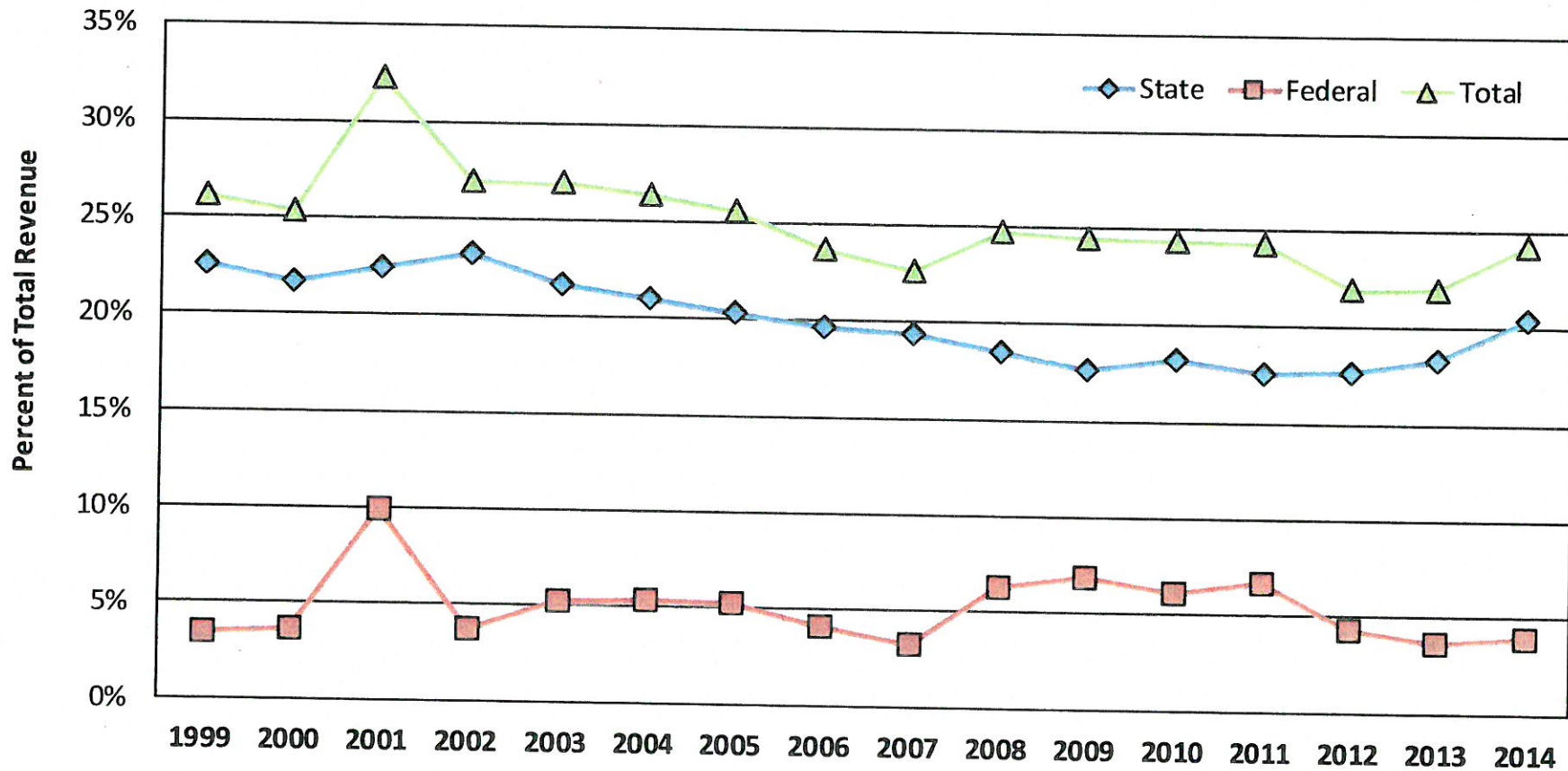


# Property Assessment Change 2009 to 2017





# Share of County Government Revenue from State & Federal Governments



Source: Computed from audited financial statements, Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Audit.



# Local Government Programs

- **County Government Online Course**
- **Understanding Trends in County Government Finance**
- **Property Assessment / Taxation**
  - **Webinar Series with Assessment Coordination Dept. & Public Service Commission**





# Local Government Resources

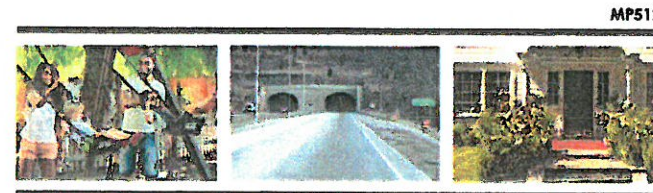
- Property Tax Publications / Calculator
  - [www.uaex.edu/propertytaxes](http://www.uaex.edu/propertytaxes)
  - [www.uaex.edu/taxcalculator](http://www.uaex.edu/taxcalculator)
- County Finance Database
- County Finance PowerPoint  
(For each county)
  - [www.uaex.edu/govfinance](http://www.uaex.edu/govfinance)

## Overview and Trends of Arkansas County Finances 1999-2015



# Local Government Resources

- County Finance Publications
  - [www.uaex.edu/govfinance](http://www.uaex.edu/govfinance)
  - Revenue / Spending Trends
  - Property & Sales Tax Revenue
  - Intergovernmental Transfers
  - Interlocal agreements



## REVENUE TRENDS of County Governments in Arkansas

1999-2015





# How To Reach Us

Community and Economic Development  
2301 South University Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72204-4940

501-671-2072/Fax 501-671-2046

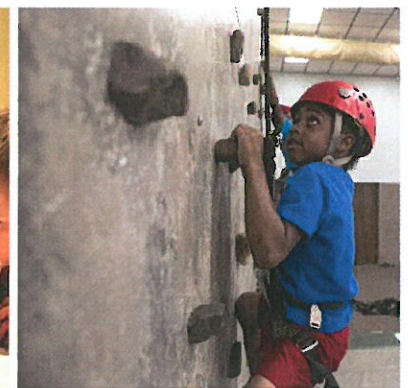
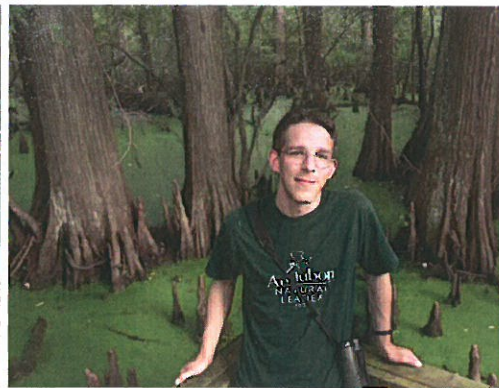
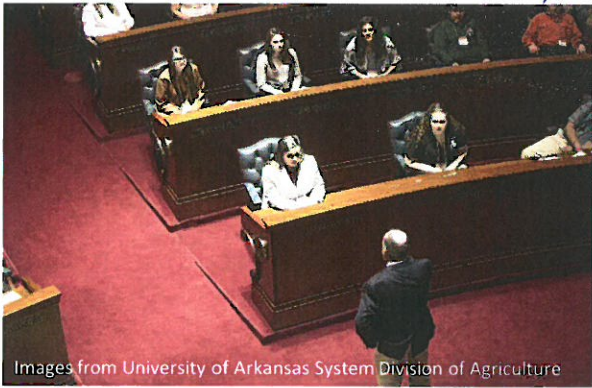
<http://www.arcommunities.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/UACommunityDevelopment>

...or any County Extension Office







Images from University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture

# Local Government Program Resources

## Property Tax Publications and Calculator

- Administration of Arkansas' Property Tax
- Arkansas Property Tax: A Local Tax Supporting Local Services
- Arkansas' Uniform System of Real Property Assessments
- Arkansas Property Tax: Revenue, Assessments & Rates (by county)
- 2017 Arkansas Property Tax Calculator

## Courses available at Learn.uaex.edu

- Introduction to County Government – Part I
- Introduction to County Government – Part II

## County Government Revenue & Expenditure Publications and PowerPoints

- Revenue Trends of County Governments in Arkansas, 1999-2014
- Spending Trends of County Governments in Arkansas, 1999-2014
- State and Federal Revenue Received by County Governments in Arkansas, 1999-2014
- Property Tax Revenue Trends of County Governments in Arkansas, 1999-2014
- Sales Tax Revenue Trends of County Governments in Arkansas, 1999-2014
- Overview and Trends of County Government Finances by County (PDF & PPT Versions Available)
- \*Note: Fact sheets are also available for the above publications

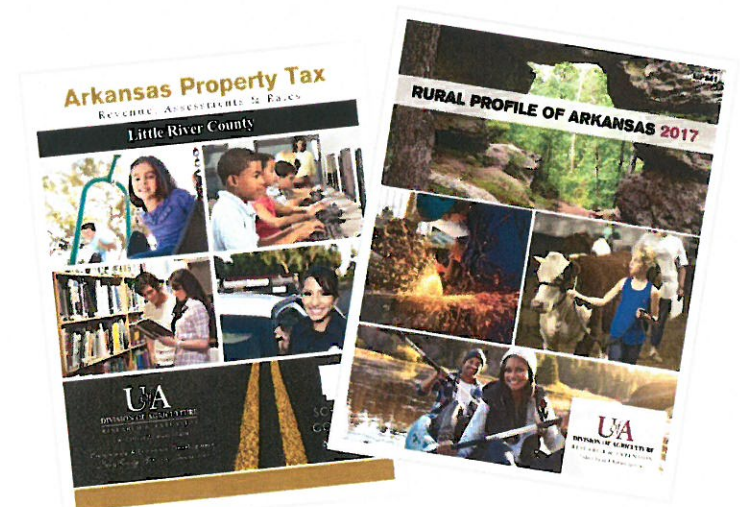
## State and County Profiles

- Rural Profile of Arkansas 2017
- County Profiles 2013

## Other Resources

- Interlocal Agreements Fact Sheet

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture, and County Governments Cooperating.  
The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.



## Connect

- [www.uaex.edu/localgov](http://www.uaex.edu/localgov)
- [www.uaex.edu/business-communities](http://www.uaex.edu/business-communities)
- [www.uaex.edu/business-communities/ced-blog](http://www.uaex.edu/business-communities/ced-blog)

## Contact

For more information contact your local county extension agent

or

Wayne Miller at [wmiller@uaex.edu](mailto:wmiller@uaex.edu) or (501) 671-2085