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2023 Annual Community Assessment Update

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Mission and Philosophy

Our Mission

The mission of Families and Children Together, Inc is
To Empower Children and Families

The FACT, Inc Philosophy

We believe that from birth, all children need early childhood development experiences that support their unique characteristics and provide love, warmth, and positive learning experiences. All families need encouragement and support from their community to achieve their own goals and provide a safe and nurturing environment for their young children.

In a rural area, we are largely limited to data via the latest U.S. Census Report. We have listed the current county data to which we provide services. Some county information wasn't available. The most current report on demographics was created in 2020-2022 and it provided estimates for our populations. We also looked at the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Arkansas Department of Human Services, and the new Aspire Arkansas Project—a new program created to provide life statistics on individual counties in Arkansas.

2023 County Census Report for FACT-Inc Service Area		
County	Population	Growth Rate
Calhoun	N/A	N/A
Columbia	22,276	-175
Dallas	5993	-2.65
Hempstead	19,303	-254
Lafayette	N/A	N/A
Nevada	N/A	N/A
Ouachita	21,754	-295
Union	37,140	-1.62

Publicly Funded Preschool Programs by County

Source: <https://dhs.arkansas.gov/dccece/cclas/facilitysearch.aspx>

Calhoun County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Approved Capacity	Full or Half-day
Hampton ABC School	870.798.2742	Hampton	71744	24	Full
Hampton Early Head Start Center	870.798.3004	Hampton	71744	17	Full
Hampton Head Start Center	870.798.3004	Hampton	71744	40	Full

Columbia County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Approved Capacity	Full or Half-Day
Central Baptist Wee Care	870.234.1014	Magnolia	71753	137	Full
Columbia Christian School Early Childhood Education Center	870.234.6600	Magnolia	71753	104	Full

Cornerstone Childcare Center LLC	870.234.7442	Magnolia	71753	116	Full
Emerson Head Start Center	870.696.6001	Emerson	71740	20	Full
First United Methodist CDC	870.234.8554	Magnolia	71753	145	Full
Kids Academy	870.234.4778	Magnolia	71753	94	Full
Magnolia Child Development Center	870.626.5026	Magnolia	71753	59	Full
Magnolia Early Head Start Center	870.234.3447	Magnolia	71753	52	Full
Magnolia Head Start Center	870.901.7100	Magnolia	71753	36	Full
Magnolia Specialized Services Child Enrichment Center	870.234.6118	Magnolia	71753	129	Full
McNeil Head Start	870.695.3900	McNeil	71752	20	Full
Southwest Arkansas Community Development Corporation	870.234.3700	Magnolia	71754	65	Full
Taylor ABC Center	870.694.6018	Taylor	71861	20	Full
The Growing Tree	870.234.4634	Magnolia	71753	45	Full
UAMS Kids First Magnolia	870.234.1597	Magnolia	71753	81	Full
Walker Pre-Kindergarten Center	870.234.5654	Magnolia	71753	162	Full

Dallas County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Approved Capacity	Full or Half-Day
First Step Inc.	870.352.7975	Fordyce	71742	272	Full
Fordyce Head Start	870.352.3333	Fordyce	71742	113	Full
Kids R Us Childcare & Learning Center	870.352.8870	Fordyce	71742	16	Full
Kids and Families Lounge and Learn Center Incorp	870.352.8888	Fordyce	71742	31	Full
Fordyce Elementary Preschool	870.352.3302	Fordyce	71742	22	Full

Hempstead County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Approved Capacity	Full or Half-Day
Blevins Arkansas Better Chance	870.874.2283	Blevins	71825	34	Full
Blevins Head Start	870.874.2206	Blevins	71825	20	Full
Garrett Memorial Christian School	870.777.3256	Hope	71801	61	Full
Granny's Babies Child-Care Center	870.722.5247	Hope	71801	58	Full
Hope Head Start	870.777.8540	Hope	71801	80	Full
Hope Methodist Church Preschool	870.777.8816	Hope	71801	58	Full
Hope Public School ABC Pre-K	870.722.2705	Hope	71801	160	Full
JumpStart Learning Center	870.292.8434	Hope	71801	16	Full
Little Kings & Queens Learning Academy	870.474.5027	Hope	71801	48	Full
Making Rainbows-Hope	870.777.4501	Hope	71801	116	Full
Spring Hill Preschool	870.722.7420	Hope	71801	24	Full

Lafayette County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Enrolled Capacity	Full or Half-Day
Bradley Head Start	870.894.6153	Bradley	71826	15	Full
Lafayette 3-5	870.703.0861	Lewisville	71845	43	Full
Lafayette County Head Start	870.921.5401	Lewisville	71845	39	Full
Making Rainbows-Lewisville	870.921.5933	Lewisville	71845	57	Full

Nevada County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Enrolled Capacity	Full or Half-Day
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Bright Beginnings	870.887.6675	Prescott	71857	107	Full
Granny's Babies Child-Care Center	870.887.2980	Prescott	71857	85	Full
Nevada Head Start	870.871.1334	Rosston	71858	20	Full
Prescott Elementary School	870-406-2906	Prescott	71857	48	Full
PNC, Inc	870.887.6674	Prescott	71857	36	Full

Ouachita County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Enrolled Capacity	Full or Half-Day
Bearden ABC Center	870.687.2020	Bearden	71720	23	Full
Bearden Early/ Head Start Center	870.687.2955	Bearden	71720	31	Full
Bright Beginning Learning Center	870.665.9582	Camden	71711	77	Full
Camden Fairview ABC Preschool	870.836.6876	Camden	71701	88	Full
Camden Head Start, Early Head Start, and ABC	870.836.5227	Camden	71701	90	Full
Child Haven	870.231.3770	Camden	71701	16	Full
Gossett's Tiny Tots	870.837.1163	Camden	71701	10	Full
Hale's Day Care	870.786.5444	Stephens	71764	10	Full
Miss Sues Day Care	870.390.0775	Camden	71701	10	Full
Mother's Helper Day Care	870.947.0106	Camden	71701	10	Full
Noah's Ark Day Care	870.574.2280	Camden	71701	16	Full
Ouachita Child Enrichment ABC	870.836.8508	Camden	71701	110	Full
Ouachita Child Enrichment Center	870.836.2690	Camden	71701	69	Full
Ouachita Child Enrichment Center	870.836.0400	Camden	71701	118	Full
Planting-A-Seed Foundation	870-807-3086	Camden	71701	95	Full
SAU Tech Preschool	870.574.4500	Camden	71701	20	Full

Stephanie Grandy's Day Care	870.687.1544	Bearden	71720	16	Full
The Gingerbread House	870.866.1615	Camden	71701	10	Full
TOTATI Inc., DBA The Learning Tree	870.231.6630	Camden	71701	32	Full
We Are the Future Day Care	870.818.0627	Camden	71701	16	Full

Union County

Facility Name	Site Phone	City	Zip	Enrolled Capacity	Full or Half-Day
Beacon Church Ministries, Inc. Noah's Ark Christian DC	870.863.4889	El Dorado	71730	123	Full
Bright Beginnings Learning Center	870.310.8097	El Dorado	71730	46	Full
East Main Kindergarten	870.862.8311	El Dorado	71730	53	Full
Fairview Head Start/Early Head Start Center	870.310.0692	El Dorado	71730	128	Full
First Baptist Child Learning Center	870.863.4330	El Dorado	71730	117	Full
First United Methodist Kindergarten of El Dorado, Inc.	870.862.2570	El Dorado	71730	98	Full
Happy Hearts Learning Academy	870.639.8022	El Dorado	71730	45	Full
Junction City ABC Center	870.924.5615	Junction City	71749	24	Full
Junction City Head Start Center	870.862.4545	Junction City	71749	43	Full
Learning Nest Preschool Inc	870.639.1610	El Dorado	71730	56	Full
Little Blessings Day Care	870.864.0684	El Dorado	71730	10	Full
Morning Star Head Start Center	870.862.2755	El Dorado	71730	124	Full
Parkers Chapel ABC Preschool	870.862.9767	El Dorado	71730	61	Full
Parkers Chapel Preschool	870.862.4641	El Dorado	71730	117	Full
Retta Brown Preschool	870.836.1600	El Dorado	71730	69	Full
Smackover Preschool	870.546.1011	Norphlet	71759	106	Full

South Arkansas Developmental Center for Children and Families	870.881.4607	El Dorado	71730	82	Full
South Arkansas Developmental Center for Children and Families	870.863.8194	El Dorado	71730	74	Full
Strong ABC Center	870.797.2416	Strong	71765	20	Full
Strong Head Start Center	870.797.7378	Strong	71765	41	Full
Success Learning Academy	870.639.1351	El Dorado	71730	55	Full
Teddy and Friends Childcare Center	870.862.6399	El Dorado	71730	59	Full
Victory Childcare Center	870.639.3941	El Dorado	71730	61	Full
Westside Christian Day Care	870.863.4263	El Dorado	71730	251	Full
West Woods ABC Preschool	870.875.1714	El Dorado	71730	100	Full
West Woods Head Start	870-875.1714	El Dorado	71730	40	Full

Labor Market for Arkansas in FACT, INC serviced counties

In December 2023 Arkansas ranked 25 with an unemployment rate of 3.4%. The U.S. Unemployment Rate ranks at 3.7% as of December 2023.

Unemployment Rate Rankings for Arkansas Counties October 2023 Not Seasonally Adjusted, Preliminary Estimates		
County	Rate	Rank
Dallas	4.4	53
Calhoun	3.5	16
Columbia	3.9	31
Hempstead	3.4	11
Lafayette	5.2	64
Nevada	3.8	30
Ouachita	4.2	48
Union	5.0	63

Five counties saw a *decrease* in the rate of unemployment. Lafayette County has the highest rates. Standard Lithium has purchased 118 acres of land in Lafayette County with plans to build the highest capacity lithium extraction plant in Lafayette and Columbia County. Union County has the 2nd highest rates with the closing of El Dorado Paper Bag Production Company located in Union County. Three Dollar General stores opened in El Dorado, Arkansas, located in Union County.

The median income for Union County continues to show its need for our programs with an average of \$50,202. The data for all our counties functions below the median rate in both Arkansas and the United States. The median income for the State of Arkansas is \$55,432, which is the second lowest in the United States. The United States median is \$74,580.

Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Fact, Inc. Service Area

Location	Data Type	Year 2022
Arkansas	Number	199,175
Calhoun	Number	245
Columbia	Number	2,005
Dallas	Number	470
Hempstead	Number	1,699
Lafayette	Number	515
Ouachita	Number	1,821
Union	Number	2,978

<https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/customreports/219,226,232,241,249,262,264,282/any>

Last Updated November 2023

Children in Single-Parent Families

Location	Data Type	Year 2022
Arkansas	Number	238,475
	Percent	36.8%
Calhoun	Number	172
	Percent	21.1%
Columbia	Number	2,126
	Percent	47.3%
Dallas	Number	509
	Percent	51.4%
Hempstead	Number	2,346
	Percent	50.6%
Lafayette	Number	422
	Percent	43.0%
Ouachita	Number	2,205
	Percent	48.3%
Nevada	Number	1,105
	Percent	65.9%
Union	Number	3,471
	Percent	40.1%

<https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/customreports/219,226,232,241,249,262,264,282/any>

Last updated December 2023

With the percentage of single parent households and the unemployment rate for each county that FACT, Inc. provides services, the agency's preschool programs are essential for furthering the

education of our most vulnerable citizens. In addition to providing education to break the cycle of poverty, the full day programs are vital for providing families with time to be in the workforce.

Homelessness

The total homeless population for Arkansas in 2023 after research was found to be 1,855 individuals, according to [Homeless Population By State In The US For 2023 \(homesnacks.com\)](https://www.homesnacks.com/).

Homelessness Statistics for Arkansas

- **Sheltered Homeless: 1,287** people were counted as sheltered homeless, an increase from the previous year’s count of **1,163**.
- **Unsheltered Homeless: 1,322** people were counted as unsheltered homeless, reflecting an increase of **26** from 2022.

[Arkansas sees 6.1 percent increase in homeless population, according to annual report | Magnolia Banner News](#)

FACT-Inc Service Counties Homeless Statistics					
County Name	Shelter	Doubled-up	Unsheltered	Hotels/Motels	Unaccompanied Youth
Calhoun	1	84	7	1	0
Columbia	5	39	0	2	0
Dallas	0	8	0	0	0
Hempstead	11	265	1	13	0
Lafayette	5	42	2	0	0
Nevada	0	143	0	0	0
Ouachita	2	51	0	3	0
Union	8	256	7	2	0

Source: <https://adedata.arkansas.gov/statewide/ReportList/Counties/HomelessByType.aspx?page=7>

With no home, food can be a limited commodity and that’s where our programs step in to provide stability for the children and aid the family in finding resources.

Education

How does Education affect poverty? For starters it can end it. Access to high-quality primary education and supporting child well-being is a globally recognized solution to the cycle of poverty. This is, in part, because it also addresses many of the other issues that keep communities vulnerable.

Education is often referred to as the great equalizer: It can open the door to jobs, resources, and skills that help a person not only survive, but thrive. In fact, according to UNESCO, if all students in low-income countries had just basic reading skills (nothing else), an estimated 171 million people could escape extreme poverty. If all adults completed secondary education, we could cut the global poverty rate by more than half.

At its core, a quality education supports a child's development of social, emotional, cognitive, and communication skills. Children who attend school also gain knowledge and skills, often at a higher level than those who aren't in the classroom. They can then use these skills to earn higher incomes and build successful lives. Source: <https://concernusa.org/news/how-does-education-affect-poverty/>

The education category examines the strength of a community's education system and the education level of its residents through measures of participation, infrastructure, and achievement.

Calhoun County

Overall Education Score: 32

High School Graduation Rate: 95.0%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 20.9%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$11,929

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/calhoun-county#education>

Educational Achievement

Score: 36

Metric	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	42.0	47.1	41.0	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	95.0	89.4	89.9	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	19.8	30.6	22.7	31.3
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	37.9	9.3	14.1	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$11,929	\$13,452	\$14,266	\$12,110
Youth Within 5 Miles of a Public School	49.5%	80.4%	73.7%	83.9%

Columbia County

Overall Education Score: 47

High School Graduation Rate: 90.7%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 24.7%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$12,915

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/columbia-county>

Educational Achievement

Score: 41

Metric	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	45.9	47.1	43.9	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	90.7	89.4	89.0	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	24.7	30.6	27.8	31.3

Education Infrastructure

Score: 40

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	21.2	9.3	8.8	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$12,915	\$13,452	\$12,310	\$12,110
Youth Within 5 Miles of a Public School	68.3%	80.4%	86.0%	83.9%

Dallas County
Overall Education Score: 51

High School Graduation Rate: 95.2%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 18.6%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$15,496

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/dallas-county#education>

Educational Achievement				
Score: 39				
Metric %	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	40.9	47.1	41.0	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	95.2	89.4	89.9	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	18.6	30.6	22.7	31.3
Educational Infrastructure				
Score: 55				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	27.9	9.3	17.2	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$15,496	\$13,452	\$12,123	\$12,110
Youth Within 5 Miles of a Public School	76.7%	80.4%	70.1%	83.9%

Hempstead County

Overall Education Score: 33

High School Graduation Rate: 82.6%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 25.6%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$11,561

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/hempstead-county>

Educational Achievement

Score: 26

Metric %	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	35.0	47.1	41.0	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	82.6	89.4	89.9	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	25.6	30.6	22.7	31.3

Educational Infrastructure

Score: 33

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	9.2	9.3	17.2	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$11,561	\$13,452	\$12,123	\$12,110
Youth Within 5 Miles of a Public School	76.7%	80.4%	70.1%	83.9%

Lafayette County

Overall Education Score: 53

High School Graduation Rate: 95.0%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 19.8%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$13,152

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/lafayette-county>

Educational Achievement

Score: 41

Metric %	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	42.0	47.1	41.0	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	95.0	89.4	89.9	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	19.8	30.6	22.7	31.3

Educational Infrastructure

Score: 54

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	29.9	9.3	17.2	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$13,152	\$13,452	\$12,123	\$12,110
Youth Within 5 Miles of a Public School	81.5%	80.4%	70.1%	83.9%

Nevada County

Overall Education Score: 20

High School Graduation Rate: 87.6%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 20.4%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$10,981

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/nevada-county>

Educational Achievement

Score: 25

Metric %	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	29.1	47.1	41.0	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	87.6	89.4	89.9	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	20.4	30.6	22.7	31.3

Educational Infrastructure

Score: 30

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	37.9	9.3	14.1	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$11,929	\$13,452	\$14,266	\$12,110
Youth Within 5 Miles of a Public School	49.5%	80.4%	73.7%	83.9%

Ouachita County

Overall Education Score: 51

High School Graduation Rate: 89.8%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 20.9%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$11,385

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/ouachita-county>

Educational Achievement

Score: 31

Metric %	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	35.3	47.1	43.9	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	89.8	89.4	89.0	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	20.9	30.6	27.8	31.3

Educational Infrastructure

Score: 44

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	21.2	9.3	8.8	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$11,385	\$13,452	\$12,310	\$12,110

Youth Within 5 miles of a Public School	81.35	80.4%	86.0%	83.9%
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Union County
Overall Education Score:53

High School Graduation Rate: 91.5%

National Median: 89.4%

Population With Advanced Degree: 30.1%

National Median: 30.6%

Per-Pupil Expenditures: \$11,175

National Median: \$13,452

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/union-county>

Educational Achievement

Score: 44

Metric %	County %	U.S. %	Peer Group %	State %
Children Meeting Standards in Grade 4 R/LA	41.1	47.1	43.9	44.9
High School Graduation Rate	91.5	89.4	89.0	87.7
Population With Advanced Degree	30.1	30.6	27.8	31.3

Educational Infrastructure

Score: 46

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Head Start Facilities /100k	25.6	9.3	8.8	5.4
Per-Pupil Expenditures	\$11,175	\$13,452	\$12,310	\$12,110
Youth within 5 miles of a public school	80.9%	80.4%	86.0%	83.9%

Population Health by Fact, Inc. Service Area

Calhoun County

Population Health

Overall Population Health Score: 40

Population With No Health Insurance: 9.6%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 23.3%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 73.0 Years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

Access to Care Score: 41				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	0.0	1.9	1.7	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	9.6%	11.0%	10.4%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	1.12	0.97	0.93	1.22

**Columbia County
Population Health**

Overall population Health Score: 47

Population With No Health Insurance: 9.7%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 24.4%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 75.5 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/columbia-county				
Access to Care Score: 55				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	3.0	1.9	2.3	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	9.7%	11.0%	11.7%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	1.51	0.97	1.00	1.22

**Dallas County
Population Health
Overall Population Health Score: 44**

Population With No Health Insurance: 8.8%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 23.5%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 75.4 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/dallas-county>

Access to Care
Score: 46

Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability / 1k	3.6	1.9	1.7	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	8.8%	11.0%	13.2%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability / 1k	0.62	0.97	0.81	1.22

Hempstead County
Population Health
Overall Population Health Score: 44

Population With No Health Insurance: 12.6%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 22.4%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 75.9 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/hempstead-county				
Access to Care Score: 41				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	3.7	1.9	1.7	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	12.6%	11.0%	13.2%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	0.71	0.97	0.81	1.22

**Lafayette County
Population Health**

Overall Population Health Score: 35

Population With No Health Insurance: 12.0%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 26.0%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 76.0 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/lafayette-county				
Access to Care Score: 28				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	0.0	1.9	1.7	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	12.0%	11.0%	13.2%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	0.52	0.97	0.81	1.22

**Nevada County
Population Health**

Overall Population Health Score: 42

Population With No Health Insurance: 8.5%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 23.0%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 75.6 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/nevada-county>

Access to Care Score: 28				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	0.0	1.9	1.7	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	8.5%	11.0%	13.2%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	0.67	0.97	0.81	1.22

Ouachita County, Arkansas
Population Health
Overall Population Health Score: 41

Population With No Health Insurance: 8.6%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 24.2%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 73.6 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/ouachita-county				
Access to Care Score: 49				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	4.2	1.9	2.3	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	8.6%	11.0%	11.7%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	0.69	0.97	1.00	1.22

**Union County Arkansas
Population Health
Overall Population Health Score: 44**

Population With No Health Insurance: 9.2%

National Median: 11.0%

Smoking Rate: 21.4%

National Median: 20.0%

Life Expectancy: 72.7 years

National Median: 77.5 years

Ranking Details

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/arkansas/union-county				
Access to Care Score: 58				
Metric	County	U.S.	Peer Group	State
Hospital Bed Availability /1k	3.9	1.9	2.3	5.0
Population With No Health Insurance	9.2%	11.0%	11.7%	10.8%
Primary Care Doctor Availability /1k	1.47	0.97	1.00	1.22

Economic Shifts

November 13, 2023- Smackover, AR- The Exxon Mobil Corporation (NYSE: XOM) announced plans to become a leading producer of lithium, a key component of electric vehicle (EV) batteries. Work has begun for the company's first phase of North America lithium production in southwest Arkansas, an area known to hold significant lithium deposits. The product offer will be branded as Mobil™ Lithium, building on the rich history of deep technical partnership between Mobil and the automotive industry. In early 2023, ExxonMobil acquired the rights to 120,000 gross acres of the Smackover formation in southern Arkansas – considered one of the most prolific lithium resources of its type in North America. Lithium is essential to the production of lithium-ion batteries, which are used in electric vehicles, consumer electronics, energy storage systems and other clean energy technologies. Demand for lithium is expected to quadruple by 2030, and virtually all lithium today is produced outside of North America.

https://corporate.exxonmobil.com/news/news-releases/2023/1113_exxonmobil-drilling-first-lithium-well-in-arkansas

May 26, 2023- El Dorado, AR-El Dorado Paper Bag Manufacturing Company will close by the end of the year, according to a representative with ProAmPac, the Cincinnati, Ohio-based company that purchased El Dorado Packaging in 2021.

The representative added that the company plans to assist current El Dorado Paper Bag Manufacturing Company employees as plant prepares to close.

"We are thankful for the contribution and commitment of our El Dorado team, and will respectfully support them through this transition, including providing a severance package and career planning assistance, such as resume building, on-site job fairs and access to local workforce service providers," the representative said in the email.

El Dorado Packaging, before it was purchased by ProAmPac in 2021, owned the El Dorado facility along with facilities in Nebraska and Minnesota, according to a press release that announced the acquisition. Few details were offered by the company related to the closing of the El Dorado facility, which employs from 85 to 100 people. ProAmPac focuses on manufacturing packaging products and owns facilities in the U.S., the U.K., Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland and southeast Asia, according to their website.

<https://www.eldoradonews.com/news/2023/may/26/el-dorado-paper-bag-manufacturing-co-to-close/>