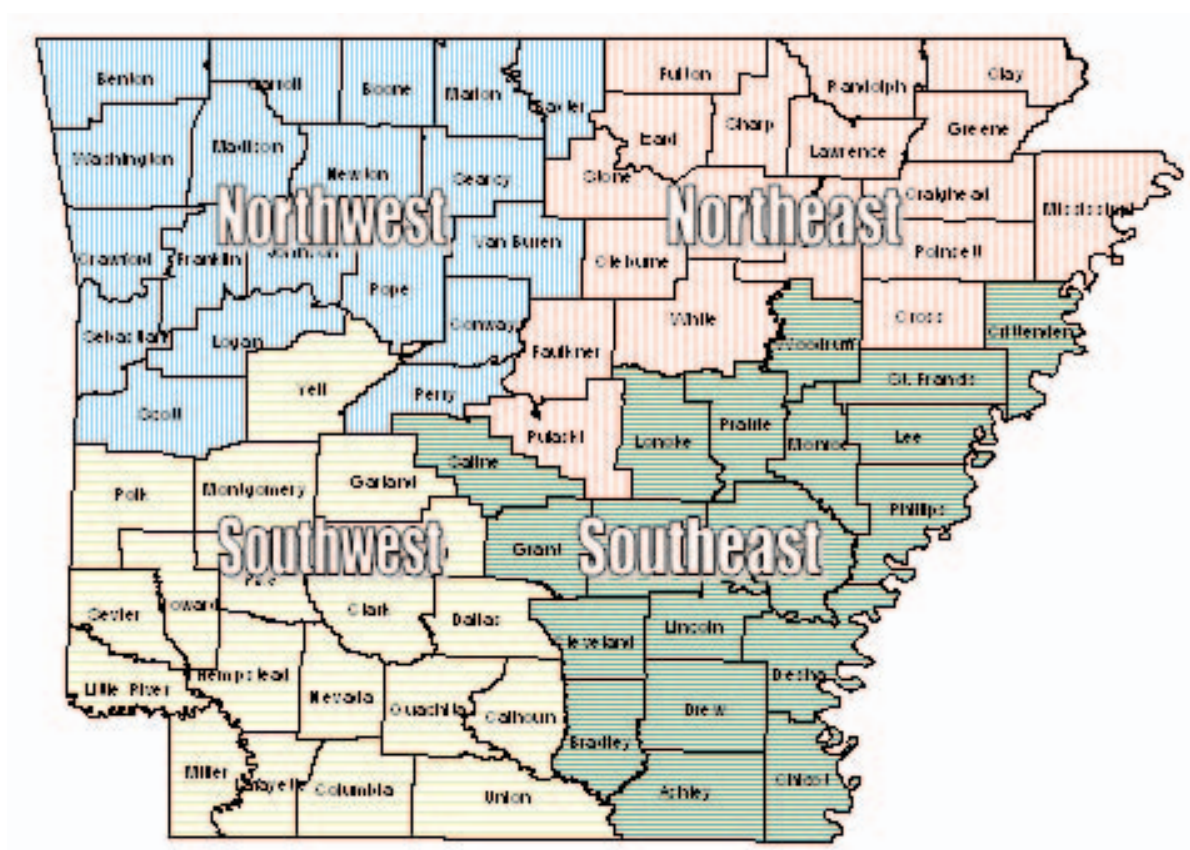


# The Changing Structure of Arkansas' Economy: A Shift-Share Analysis



*Biswaranjan Das and Daniel V. Rainey*

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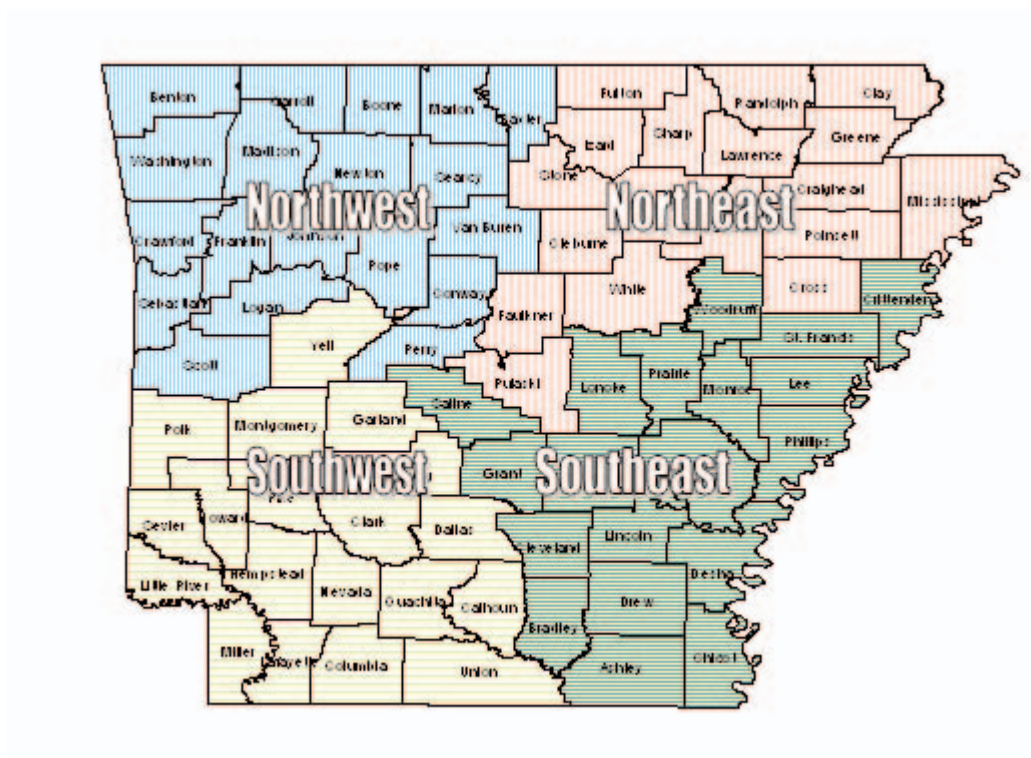
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## CONTENTS

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<b>Abstract .....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Shift-Share Analysis .....	1
National Share.....	2
Regional Share.....	2
Industry Mix .....	2
Shift-Share Analysis for Arkansas .....	2
Statewide Findings.....	2
Manufacturing .....	3
Services .....	3
Retail Trade .....	3
Farm.....	6
Comparative Advantage of Arkansas Counties (1990-2000) .....	6
Conclusion .....	7
Explanation of County Analyses and Tables .....	11
<b>Countywide Findings.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Arkansas County.....	14
Ashley County.....	15
Baxter County .....	16
Benton County.....	17
Boone County .....	18
Bradley County .....	19
Carroll County.....	21
Chicot County.....	22
Clark County.....	23
Clay County .....	24
Cleburne County .....	25
Cleveland County .....	26
Columbia County .....	27
Conway County .....	28
Craighead County.....	29
Crawford County.....	30
Crittenden County.....	31
Cross County .....	32
Dallas County.....	33
Desha County .....	34
Drew County.....	35
Faulkner County.....	36
Franklin County.....	37
Fulton County.....	38
Garland County .....	39
Grant County.....	40
Greene County.....	41
Hempstead County.....	42

Hot Spring County .....	43
Howard County .....	44
Independence County .....	45
Izard County .....	46
Jackson County .....	47
Jefferson County .....	48
Johnson County .....	49
Lafayette County.....	50
Lawrence County .....	51
Lee County .....	52
Lincoln County .....	53
Little River County .....	54
Logan County .....	55
Lonoke County .....	56
Madison County.....	57
Marion County .....	58
Miller County.....	59
Mississippi County .....	60
Monroe County .....	61
Montgomery County.....	62
Nevada County .....	63
Newton County .....	64
Ouachita County .....	65
Perry County.....	66
Phillips County .....	67
Pike County.....	68
Poinsett County .....	69
Polk County .....	70
Pope County.....	71
Prairie County.....	72
Pulaski County.....	73
Randolph County .....	74
Saline County.....	75
Scott County .....	76
Searcy County .....	77
Sebastian County .....	78
Sevier County.....	79
Sharp County.....	80
St. Francis .....	81
Stone County .....	82
Union County .....	83
Van Buren County .....	84
Washington County.....	85
White County.....	86
Woodruff County .....	87
Yell County.....	88
References .....	89

### Abstract

The state of Arkansas enjoys the advantages of its unique central location in the nation, excellent natural surroundings, low cost of living, and one of the best business climates in the southern United States. It is home to several of the largest corporations in the world. Over the period 1980-2000, there was tremendous growth in the state's economy. However, the growth was confined to specific regions that led to several socio-economic issues adversely affecting the state. To better understand the components and variations in economic growth, a county-wise shift-share analysis was conducted. Employment, a good indicator of economic growth, was used to analyze the changes in the local economic structure of the 75 counties in the state. Findings suggest that while services and retail trade continue to grow, manufacturing and the state/local government continue to be important employers for the state. Farm employment continues to decline, although farm-related manufacturing and services are becoming more important. This report provides a sectoral analysis of employment changes within the counties and is a potential point of reference for both government and industry engaged in community-level policy making and investment.

# The Changing Structure of Arkansas' Economy: A Shift-Share Analysis

Biswaranjan Das<sup>1</sup> and Daniel V. Rainey<sup>2</sup>

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## Introduction

The 'Natural State' of Arkansas enjoys the advantages of its central location in the nation, excellent natural surroundings, low cost of living, and is among the best business climates in the southern United States (SBD, 2002). It offers attractive rural and urban quality of life. It is home to some of the major companies in the world including Wal-mart, Tyson Foods Inc., J B Hunt Transport Inc., and several others. The state per-capita personal income\* has grown steadily from \$15,837 in 1980 to \$22,000 in 2000, yet was below the 2000 national average of \$30,000 (REIS, 2001). In 2000, the manufacturing; services; finance; insurance and real estate (FIRE); retail and wholesale trade sectors and government were the major contributors to the Gross State Product (GSP), with their shares being approximately 21, 18, 14, 14, and 13 percent respectively (REIS, 2001). For the same year, services, manufacturing and retail trade were the major employers in the state providing approximately 25, 17 and 17 percent of total employment (REIS, 2001). Farm employment in the state in the year 2000 was about 4 percent of total employment.

Although there was significant employment and income growth in the state during the twenty-year period from 1980-2000 when real per capita disposable income and employment grew about 40 and 46 percent respectively (REIS, 2001), the nature of economic progress was spatially uneven. Some regions of the state experienced and continue to enjoy higher levels of economic prosperity compared to others. Especially, north-east and northwest Arkansas registered significantly higher economic growth relative to the other two regions of the state.

This skewed economic growth resulted in a widening of the economic disparity among the regions, affecting the overall well being of its residents. There is a

growing concern among government agencies, academia and the public at large about Arkansas' continuing trend of regionalized economic growth. The main objective of this report is to conduct a shift-share analysis for the state of Arkansas and its 75 counties. This will help to better discern the changes in employment growth, economic composition, and the inherent local strengths and weaknesses of each region. Understanding the dynamics of the local economies can assist state and local decision makers and businesses in framing goal-oriented socio-economic policies and making wise investment decisions targeting specific regions.

## Shift-Share Analysis

Shift-share analysis is a technique employed to decompose the components of regional employment growth. The analysis identifies the important differences among local and national economic sectors' compositions of employment growth. It provides a dynamic account of total regional employment attributable to a given regional economy, i.e., a mix of faster and slower than average growing industries and the competitive natures of local industries. Shift-share analysis helps the researcher answer questions like: Compared to other regions, does the community seem highly competitive in any particular industries? Does this information support popular perceptions of local economic competitiveness? Does the analysis uncover surprising areas of economic strength? Are observed differences in growth rates due to differences in employment mix found at the local level as opposed to those observed in the larger economy? Or are differences due to the competitive advantage or disadvantage that the specific local economy has relative to the larger economy (Shields, 2003).

The analysis is conducted using employment data for the various sectors at two points in time. Additionally, data on overall and sector-specific employ-

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\* adjusted for inflation



ment growth rates for the same two time periods are used for analyzing changes in the local economy. Like other analytical economic tools, the shift-share technique is only a descriptive tool that should be used in combination with other analyses to provide a summary of a region's key potential growth industries. The results can be used to target investment for specific industries/sectors that enjoy a comparative advantage in a particular region. The components of regional growth that include national share, regional (local) shift and industry mix are discussed below.

### National Share

National Share (NS) of the regional employment growth attributable to the overall national employment growth. The NS tells us how much regional employment likely grew in each sector if all grew at the overall national employment growth rates. This approximates the change that can be expected in the regional economy due to the influence of the national economy. This means that if the nation as a whole is experiencing employment growth, it likely will have a positive effect on the regional economy. The NS is calculated by multiplying base-year employment in sector  $i$  ( $Emp_i^t$ ) X the national employment growth rate ( $G_i^N$ ) represented in equation 1.0. This can be a positive or negative value depending on the performance of the national economy.

$$NS_i = Emp_i^t * G^N \quad 1.0$$

### Regional Share

Regional Share (RS) is the share of regional employment growth that indicates the extent to which regional factors have contributed to the growth or decline in employment in any particular county sector. Typically, in every region some sectors fare much better than others. This is mainly due to the comparative advantage of a sector, which may be due to the available natural resources, labor situation, or linked industries. The RS helps the analyst to identify sectors that are economically competitive. For a particular sector, the RS is calculated by multiplying the base-year regional employment in sector  $i$  ( $Emp_i^t$ ) X the difference between sector  $i$ 's regional employment growth ( $G_i^R$ ) and the national employment growth rate ( $G_i^N$ ) represented in equation 1.1. It is positive if  $G_i^R$  is larger than  $G_i^N$  and negative otherwise.

$$RS_i = Emp_i^t * (G_i^R - G_i^N) \quad 1.1$$

### Industry Mix

The industry mix (IM) indicates the share of employment growth attributable to the region's mix of industries and approximates change in the regional/county industry attributable to the growth or decline of the industry nationally. IM illustrates the fact that nationally, some sectors grow faster or slower than others. It is positive when  $G_i^N$  is higher than  $G^N$  and negative otherwise. For any particular sector, it is calculated as the product of the employment of sector  $i$  in the base year ( $Emp_i^t$ ) and the difference between the sector's national employment growth ( $G_i^N$ ) and the overall national employment growth rate ( $G^N$ ) represented in equation 1.2.

$$IM_i = Emp_i^t * (G_i^N - G^N) \quad 1.2$$

### Shift-Share Analysis for Arkansas

A shift-share analysis was conducted for the state of Arkansas and each of the 75 counties in the state. The county was chosen as the unit of analysis as this can better assist state/local policy makers and private entrepreneurs to understand a particular region and facilitate efficient decision making. Choosing a cluster of counties (referred to as a region) may understate or overstate, as a result of averaging, the actual changes that take place within a county. Employment data for the United States and Arkansas from the Regional Economic Information System (REIS, 2001), Bureau of Economic Analysis, 1969-2001 were used for this analysis. The analysis was done using Microsoft Excel. ARCVIEW (ESRI) was used to present geographic illustration of the findings. Employment data for 1980, 1990, and 2000 were used in the analysis.

### Statewide Findings

Although the study covered the period from 1980 through 2000, the major findings are reported for the period 1990-2000. During this period (1990-2000), the state's agricultural, forestry, and fishing (AFF) employment grew at a combined 70 percent, followed by services, transportation/public utilities (TPU), retail trade, state/local government, and manufacturing employment that grew by approximately 41, 29, 27, 12 and 12 percent, respectively. In terms of actual jobs, services added approximately 112,000 jobs statewide during the decade. Retail trade, state/local government, construction, and TPU, added approximately 60,000, 31,000, 27,000, and 21,000 jobs, respectively. Total state employment increased by approximately 25 percent during the 1990s. Specifically, construction, and FIRE jobs



increased significantly in the 90s. For the state, all the sectors except farming and the military had positive regional share which meant those latter sectors had a comparative advantage primarily due to their employment growth being higher than their national counterparts. The overall IM was negative primarily due to the dominance of slow-growth industries, manufacturing being the most notable. Results for the state of Arkansas are summarized in Table 1.

Several common as well as novel factors contributed to the changing economic structure in the state and its counties. The economic structure of a region describes the composition of various sectors and industries that contribute to that region's economy. Manufacturing, services, retail trade, and farming sectors are discussed first. Next, a summary of the findings for each individual county is presented. The results are discussed regionwide, i.e., the state was divided into four parts: northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest, as shown in Figure 1.

### **Manufacturing**

The manufacturing sector's share of total Arkansas employment declined from approximately 20 percent in 1990 to 17 percent in 2000 (Figures 3 and 4). This was not unique to Arkansas; rather it was a national trend—the share of the US manufacturing sector declined from 14 to 11 percent during 1990 and 2000, respectively. This was a direct consequence of an increase in labor productivity from (1) improvements in technology and (2) outsourcing of manufacturing jobs to developing nations due to the latter's comparative advantage in abundant labor available at lower wages and overhead. Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the changes in employment in manufacturing and four other major sectors for the United States and Arkansas, respectively.

Following the 1982 recession, labor productivity in the United States grew very rapidly. This is supported by the history that although employment in U.S. manufacturing declined on an annual average basis for the past twenty years, production output continued to grow. By 2001, the average worker in the United States produced one-third more than in 1981 (Orazem, 2004). Analysts have identified investments in new information technologies as playing a crucial role in accelerating productivity growth over 1980-2000. The new IT sector led to a shift in labor demand toward more highly skilled workers, transformed the workplace, and raised productivity and wages for those using these technologies on the job. Organizational efficiencies and other factors also contributed to increased productivity.

Outsourcing of manufacturing jobs to developing countries that offer relatively cheap labor also led to the

gradual decline in manufacturing employment in the U.S. "Outsourcing" refers to employment and production shifted to lower-cost foreign countries (offshore outsourcing) to produce goods formerly produced in the United States. With world market structures becoming more free-trade oriented, American labor and overhead are relatively expensive in comparison with developing and mid-developed economies, thus affecting the profitability of U.S.-based businesses. To retain competitive edge and share in the world market, U.S. industries are cutting costs primarily by moving their manufacturing facilities to developing countries like China, India, and Mexico.

### **Services**

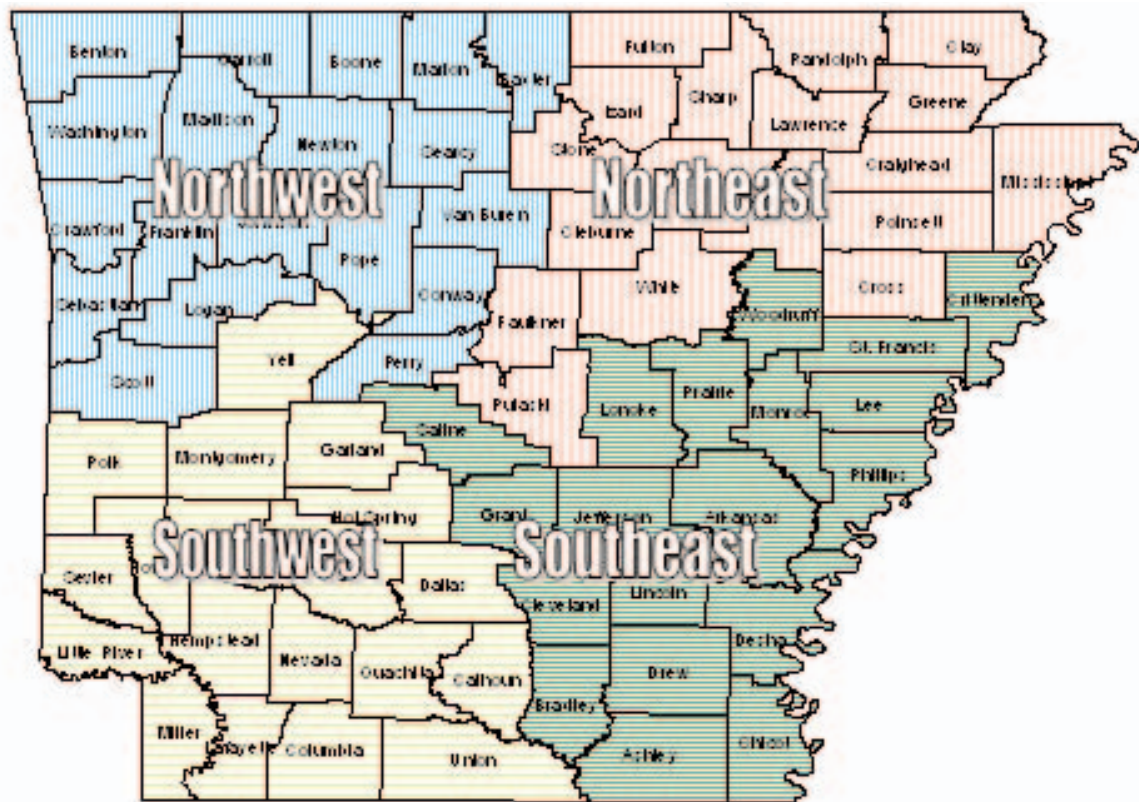
The decline in U.S. manufacturing-employment growth has been accompanied by a gradual increase in U.S. service-sector employment (Figures 3 and 4). Services, as defined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), include lodging, personal services, business services, automotive repair, motion pictures, amusement, health, legal, educational, social, museum, engineering, accounting, research, management, etc. Services accounted for approximately 25.2 percent of total employment in 2000 with distributive trades, real estate, transport, finance, healthcare, and business services being the most important (REIS, 2001). The impact of new technology was also felt in the services sector, especially in the delivery of many services over the Internet (Economist, 2004). Studies have demonstrated that, as the economy grows, the contribution of the service sector will continue to dominate in the future. Increasing incomes combined with changing lifestyles have resulted in increased demand for personal, financial, real-estate, healthcare, and entertainment services. In Arkansas, with economic growth fuelled by Wal-Mart Corporation, Tyson Foods Inc., JB Hunt Transport Inc., and other industries, especially the northwest region of the state experienced relatively higher economic growth that resulted in a surge in demand for services, housing, transportation, public utilities, etc.

### **Retail Trade**

Employment share of retail trade in Arkansas increased from approximately 16 percent in 1990 to 17 percent of the total state employment in 2000 (Figures 3 and 4). The growth of this sector was directly linked to the state's population growth. With the exception of the delta region in eastern Arkansas, over the past two decades, there was a steady increase in the population of the state. Especially, the northwest region of the state was among the demographically fastest growing regions

**Table 1. Results of Shift-Share analysis for the state of Arkansas**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	87,604	66,809	63,539	4.2	-3,270	-23.7	-4.9	13,348	-2,359	-14,259
AFF	7,990	13,551	21,458	1.4	7,907	69.6	58.3	2,707	1,490	3,710
Mining	9,336	7,627	6,207	0.4	-1,420	-18.3	-18.6	1,524	493	-3,437
Construction	57,159	61,914	89,169	5.9	27,255	8.3	44.0	12,370	7,962	6,923
Manufacturing	214,776	240,009	259,795	17.2	19,786	11.7	8.2	47,953	26,968	-55,135
TPU	51,294	65,973	86,394	5.7	20,421	28.6	31.0	13,181	3,409	3,831
Wholesale trade	42,520	47,074	57,549	3.8	10,475	10.7	22.3	9,405	4,369	-3,299
Retail trade	153,223	194,803	254,436	16.9	59,633	27.1	30.6	38,921	21,669	-957
FIRE	56,271	62,303	83,097	5.5	20,794	10.7	33.4	12,448	6,288	2,058
Services	189,875	268,560	380,823	25.2	112,263	41.4	41.8	53,657	10,061	48,545
Federal, civilian	20,961	22,640	22,188	1.5	-452	8.0	-2.0	4,523	1,936	-6,911
Military	23,859	25,955	18,689	1.2	-7,266	8.8	-28.0	5,186	-1,116	-11,335
State and local	120,319	134,516	165,238	11.0	30,722	11.8	22.8	26,876	8,407	-4,561
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,035,187</b>	<b>1,211,734</b>	<b>1,508,582</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>296,848</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>242,099</b>	<b>89,577</b>	<b>-34,828</b>

**Figure 1. Four regions of the state of Arkansas**

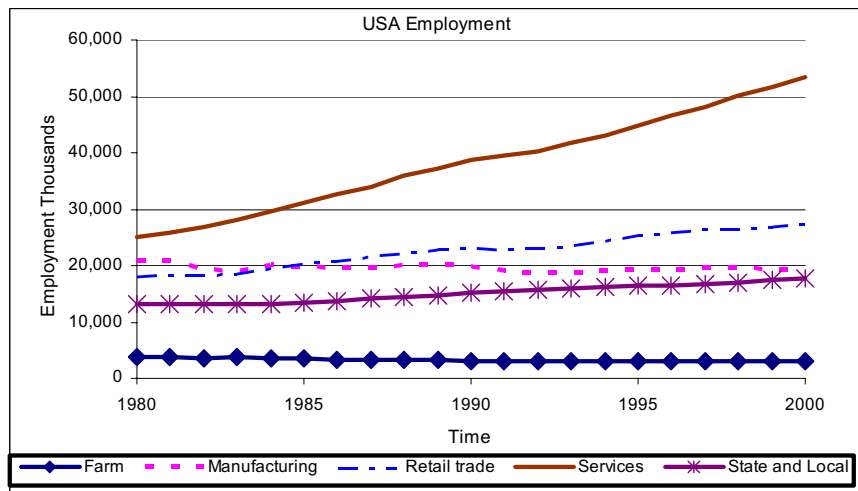


Figure 2. Employment in United States for selected sectors (1980-2000)

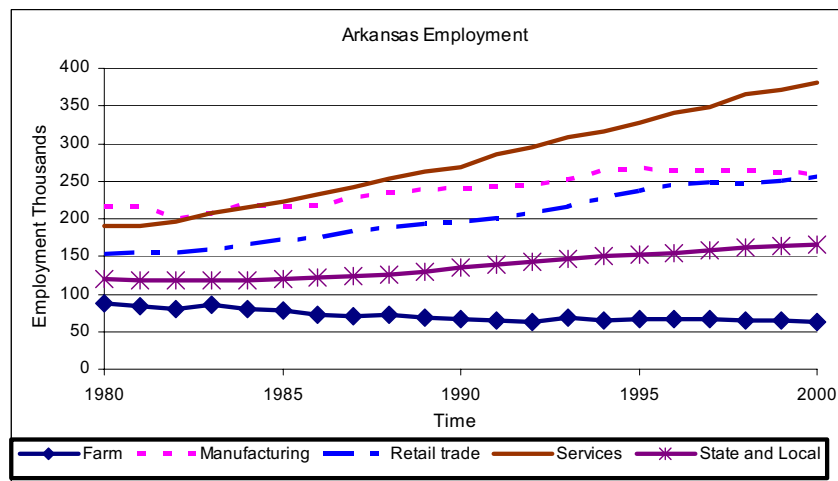


Figure 3. Employment in Arkansas for selected sectors (1980-2000)

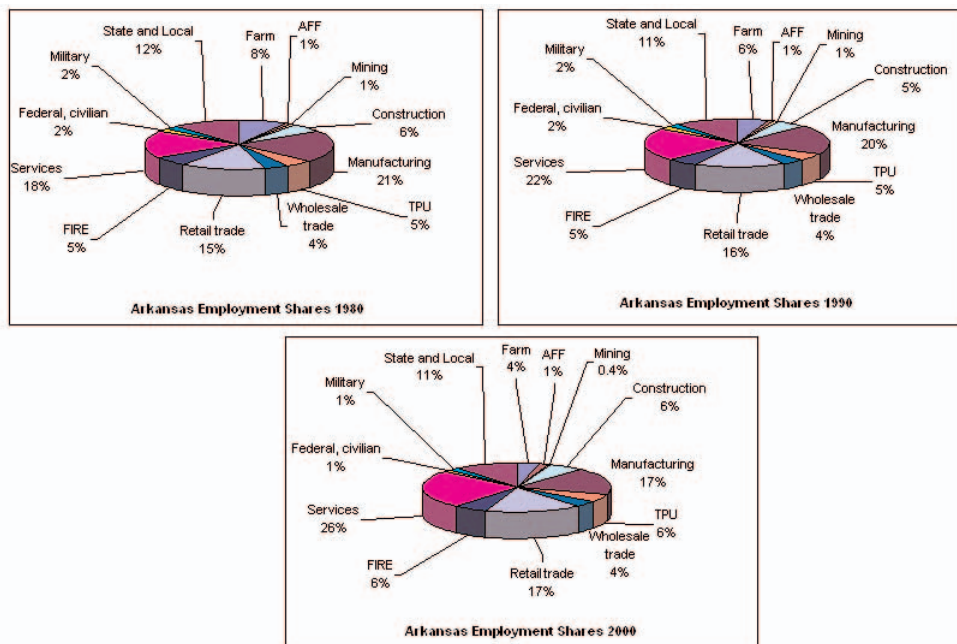


Figure 4. Employment shares for selected years for the state of Arkansas

Note: Although there has been a decline in farm employment during 1980-2000, agriculture-related industries in the manufacturing sector—especially food processing, wood processing, paper mills, farm machinery, and chemical industries—have registered significant employment growth during this period. Similarly, agriculture-related finance, insurance, and transportation services too have generated additional employment in the state.

in the nation. This contributed to the increased demand for consumer goods leading to a rise in the retail/wholesale trade industry. Population growth in the state was fuelled partly by the rise of the poultry processing industry. Further, with increasing income levels in the state, there was a surge in service-related activities that had a ripple effect on retail trade. High consumer spending during the past decades was also important for employment growth in the retail trade sector. Studies reveal that consumer spending (as opposed to governmental spending) occurs primarily in retail enterprises. The American consumer's urge to spend during the past two decades was mostly fueled by higher equity and housing prices, otherwise known as the wealth effect. Specifically, valuations in both U.S. housing and the stock market increased very quickly during the 90's, fueling a record-setting frenzy in consumer spending. Further, the availability of relatively cheap imported goods because of a high exchange rate also contributed to the rise in employment in the retail trade industries.

### Farm

Arkansas' farm employment share declined from approximately 6 percent in 1990 to 4 percent of the total state employment in 2000. Over the past several decades, there has been a significant movement away from a labor-intensive to a capital-intensive form of farming. Mechanization of agricultural practices made farming more efficient and less dependent on human labor, i.e. the productivity of labor increased leading to higher production levels with relatively less labor. High-yielding varieties of seeds made it possible to have higher yields with standard labor inputs. Further, the introduction of water-efficient irrigation technologies that aid optimal water application to crops enhanced the yields of major crops. Technological advances have had a profound impact on livestock farming and have increased productivity and made practices more efficient and less dependent on human labor.

Combined with the development of newer and advanced technologies, information technology supported the 'industrialization' of American agriculture. Traditional agriculture was gradually consolidated into agribusiness, i.e. large corporations that revolutionized traditional farming practices via large-scale mechanization. In terms of agricultural output, the small- and medium-sized farms' contributions could not keep pace with the economies of scale of larger farms. U.S. farms in 1987 with sales of \$100,000 - \$249,999 per year controlled 28 percent of the market whereas farms with sales of \$1,000,000 or more (209 farms) controlled just 17 percent of total sales. The market changed by 1997

and was dominated by farms with more than \$1,000,000 in sales with 31 percent of the market, while farms with sales between \$100,000 and \$249,999 dropped to 4th in total sales with only 10 percent of market share. Two percent of the farms (those above \$1,000,000 in sales) controlled 31% of farm wealth in 1997 while the 73 percent of farms who had sales of less than \$50,000 a year controlled just 5 percent of all generated farm wealth (APPP, 1999).

Similarly, over the past two decades, Arkansas farm sizes increased while the number of farms declined. Fewer people dominate Arkansas agriculture with 60 percent of all farm sales in 1997 controlled by the largest 7 percent of farms. During the period 1987-1997, there were 12 percent fewer poultry farmers while the average size of a poultry operation increased by 58 percent. There are 25 percent fewer rice farms, but the average size has increased 78 percent. There are 30 percent fewer cotton farmers, but the size of remaining cotton farms increased 160 percent. There are less than half as many hog farms, but the average size of hog farms has increased 385 percent. Corporate-owned farms have grown 31 percent while independently owned family farms have dropped 9 percent (APPP, 1999). Further, during the 1990s, the access to the internet opened up several new frontiers for agricultural producers that earlier were inaccessible. Online trading in futures markets, price calculators, and other Web-based marketing assistance made a significant impact on labor productivity. As a result, agricultural output levels increased and employment in the sector declined.

### Comparative Advantage of Arkansas Counties (1990-2000)

A county in Arkansas had a comparative advantage in a sector if the regional share was positive, i.e. the local employment growth in a sector was greater than the employment growth of its national counterpart. Table 2 summarizes the Arkansas counties that had an overall comparative advantage during 1990-2000 as well as those with comparative advantage in manufacturing, retail trade, services, and farming.

As depicted in Figure 5, counties in the northwest, northeast, and southwest regions—where 36 of the 44 advantaged counties are located—had comparative advantage in manufacturing. This comparative advantage was due to the presence of major industries involved in poultry processing, paper products, and light electronics in these regions. All the large manufacturing employers of the state, including Tyson Foods, Inc., Pilgrims Pride Corporation, Georgia-Pacific Corporation, International Paper Company, and Whirl-



pool Corporation had plants or facilities in these regions.

As illustrated in Figure 6, among all the major sectors, retail trade had higher job growth, with 47 of 75 counties registering higher job growth during 1990-2000 relative to the U.S. retail trade industry. A majority of counties in the northwest, northeast, and southwest regions had comparative advantage in retail trade. Interestingly, a majority of the counties that had comparative advantage in manufacturing also had it in retail/wholesale trade; this was partly because, due to an increase in manufacturing employment, there was additional demand for more goods and services from a larger labor force with increasing incomes. In 1990-2000, the northwest and northeast together accounted for 65 percent of the state population; this reinforces why retail trade in large number of counties in these two regions performed well.

Services that added the maximum number of jobs in the state during 1990-2000 contributed to comparative advantage in 42 counties, 26 of which were in the northeast and northwest regions. Noticeably, 15 of the 19 northwest counties enjoyed a comparative advantage in services mainly due to population and income increases in the region resulting from economic growth tied to the growth of poultry-processing and retail-trade industries. Counties with comparative advantage in services during 1990-2000 are illustrated in Figure 7.

Twenty-seven counties in the state—17 of which were in the northeast and southeast regions—had a comparative advantage in farming and Figure 8 depicts these counties. The geography of these two regions consists of the Mississippi Alluvial Plain or Delta. The Arkansas, Mississippi, Ouachita, and White Rivers traverse the region and make it ideal for growing crops such as rice and wheat. Soybeans, cotton and aquaculture are also concentrated in the eastern Delta region of Arkansas. Together, these two regions account for Arkansas' high rankings nationally in crop production; it ranks first in rice, third in catfish, ninth in soybeans, and thirteenth in wheat production. Southeastern Arkansas has a great deal of potential for the development of agricultural biotechnology industries. The region is home to several biotechnology research laboratories including the Rice Germplasm Evaluation and Enhancement Research Center, the University of Arkansas Rice Research Extension Center, and the Stuttgart Aquaculture Research Center. In addition, the National Center for Toxicological Research and the Arkansas Regional Laboratory are located in Jefferson County (ADED, 2005). The major agricultural activity in the northeast and northwest regions include poultry farming and wood production, the latter used mostly by

the paper industry that has a strong presence in both the regions.

Finally, as shown in Figure 9, 44 counties in the state—29 of which were in the northwest and northeast—had an 'overall' comparative advantage. Overall comparative advantage means that the total employment growth in the 44 counties was higher during 1990-2000 than the aggregate national employment growth over the same decade. Especially in the northwest, 18 of the region's total 19 counties had higher employment growth than the national job-growth rate mainly due to the growth in retail trade and services. In the northwest, the presence of retail giant Wal-Mart, poultry-processing leader Tyson Foods, Inc., and trucking industry leader JB Hunt Transport, Inc., was the catalyst for economic growth fueling regional development. However, the southeast failed to catch up with the rest of the state and the absence of any significant manufacturing activity in the southeast adversely affected this region's economy, thus farming continued to be the major growth engine for southeastern Arkansas.

The employment growth in Arkansas' counties during 1990-2000 is illustrated in Figure 10. During this period, there was a net employment decline in six counties. Employment grew by less than 15 percent in 25 of the 75 counties. Job growth in 22 counties was between 15 and 30 percent, and it was between 30 and 40 percent in 13 counties. Benton, Washington, Crawford, Johnson, Faulkner, Cleburne, Sharp, Baxter and Marion counties had job growth of over 40 percent, and these 9 counties were in the northeast and northwest regions of the state. While most of the low-growth counties were concentrated in the southern and eastern parts of the state, a majority of the high-growth counties were in the northern and western parts of the state.

### Conclusion

This study conducted a shift-share analysis of each of the 75 counties of the state of Arkansas. Findings suggest that the past two decades have marked a steady growth in the state's employment. Particularly encouraging is the economic performance of the northwest region of the state. Not only did employment rise, income levels also saw a dramatic increase during the 1990s. Services and retail trade are becoming increasingly important to the state economy. Manufacturing remains a major employer in the state yet continues its slow decline due to increased globalization of the world economy and 'outsourcing' of manufacturing jobs. Agriculture remains vital for the state economy, although direct employment in this sector has been on the decline. Agricultural industries in the manufacturing

**Table 2. Arkansas Counties having comparative advantage in selected sectors**

Region	Manufacturing	Retail Trade	Services	Farm	Overall
Arkansas	44	47	42	27	44
Northeast	10	13	11	9	11
Northwest	15	16	15	5	18
Southwest	11	10	8	5	9
Southeast	8	8	8	8	6



**Figure 5. Arkansas counties (shaded) with comparative advantage in manufacturing**

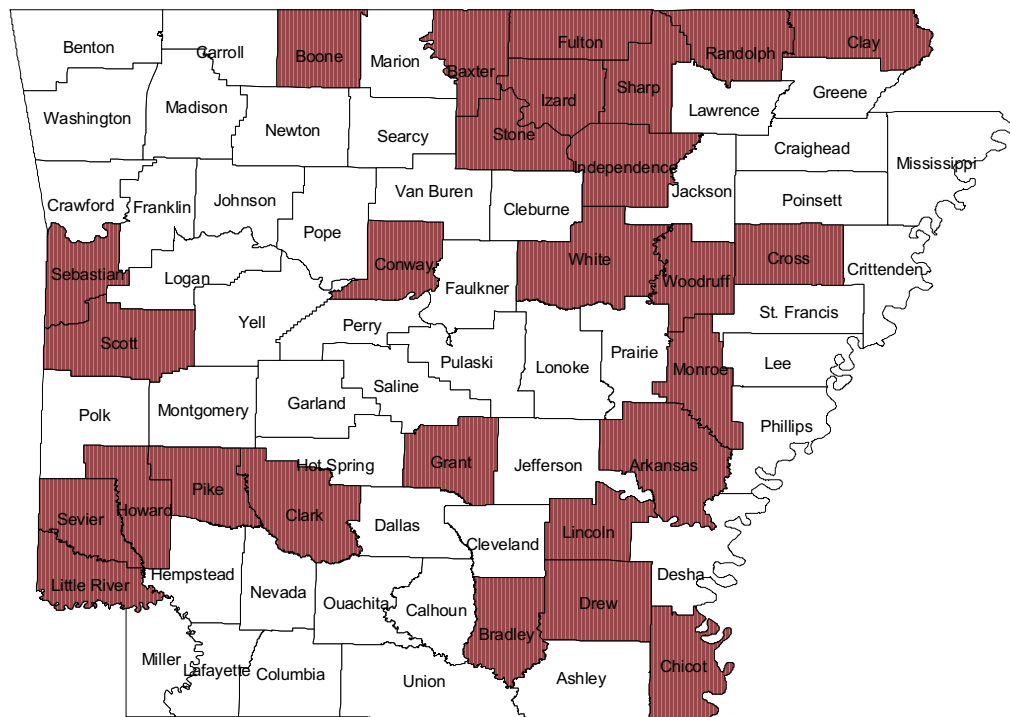




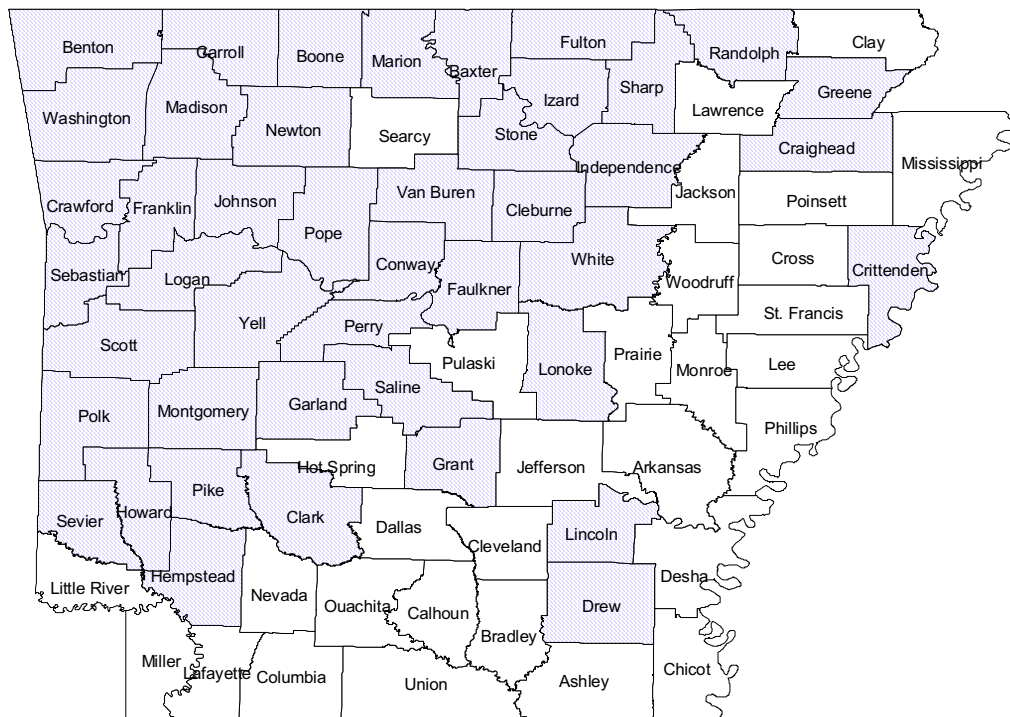
**Figure 6. Arkansas counties (shaded) with comparative advantage in retail trade**



**Figure 7. Arkansas counties (shaded) with comparative advantage in services**



**Figure 8. Arkansas counties (shaded) with comparative advantage in farming**



**Figure 9. Arkansas counties (shaded) with overall comparative advantage**

sector especially—e.g., food processing, wood processing, paper mills, farm machinery, chemical industries—and agriculture-related finance, insurance, and transportation services are growing to be important employers in the state. Further, based on the findings, most of the relatively economically disadvantaged counties in

the state are in the rural areas.

To better adapt and equip for the ever-changing economic future, the state needs to focus on development of human capital as well as improve quality of life in rural communities around the state. In the year 2002, the Milken Institute, a nationally reputable research organiza-

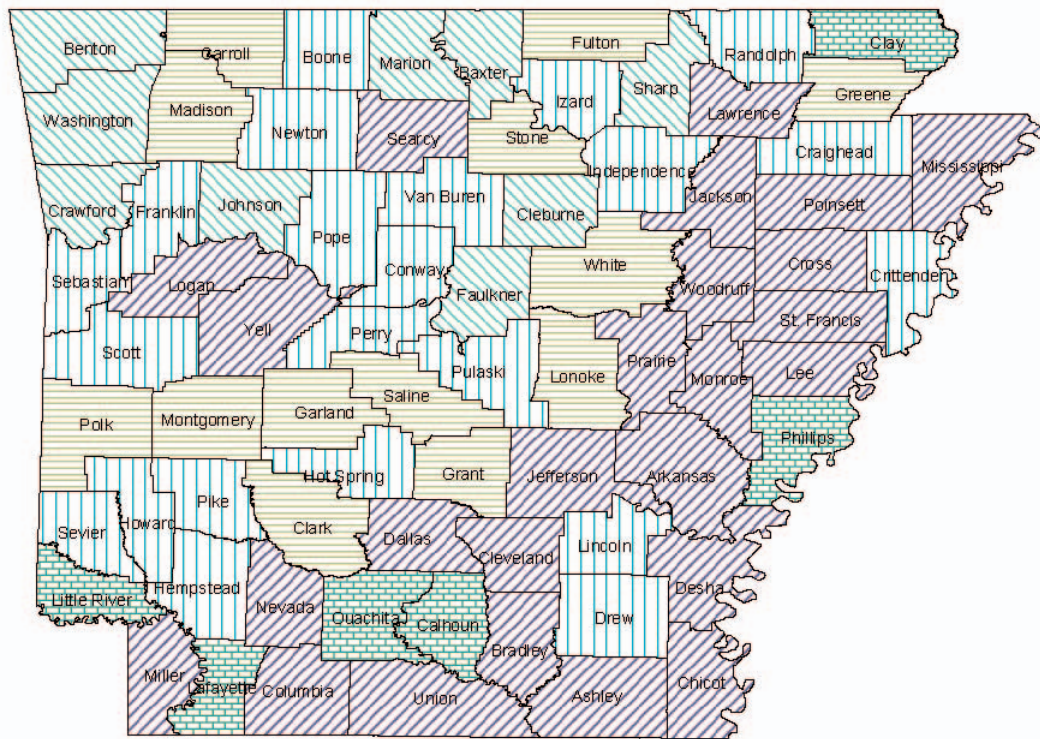
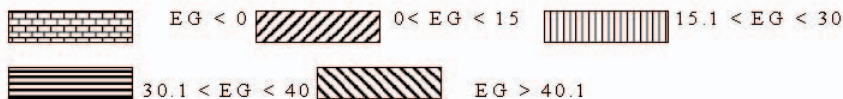


Figure 10. Employment growth in Arkansas counties during 1990-2000

Employment Growth (EG) in percentages



tion, created an index that encompasses a comprehensive national inventory of technology and science assets; this index provides states with a benchmark, monitors their science and technology progress, and can be leveraged to promote investments for economic development. Arkansas ranked 49th in science and technology assets among the 50 states on this index (DeVol et al, 2002).

Beginning in the early 1990s, information technology and 'knowledge' became the primary wealth-creating assets. Technological developments in the 20th century have transformed the majority of wealth-creating work from labor- and capital-based to "knowledge-based." The main focus for a better future therefore should be to encourage higher education for more Arkansans.

### Explanation of County Analyses and Tables

The individual county results are presented in the following section. Although the analysis was conducted with employment data from 1980 through 2000, the tables decompose the employment growth for the period 1990-2000. County population is reported for the

year 2000. Information on major industries in each county in terms of income earnings is also reported for 2000.

In the 'Industry' column, AFF refers to Agricultural services, Forestry, and Fishing; TPU refers to Transportation and Public Utilities; and FIRE refers to Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate. Columns labeled 'Emp 1980' 'Emp 1990' and 'Emp 2000' represent the actual employment numbers for those years in the state. Columns 'Reg Share %' refer to the employment share by industry for the year 2000. 'Reg Change Emp 1990-2000' represents the change in employment during 1990-2000. 'Reg Change (%) 1980-90' and 'Reg Chg (%) 1990-2000' represent the percentage change in local employment during the captioned periods. The last three columns represent the national share (NS), regional share (RS), and industry mix (IM) that are discussed in the first few pages. The report presents percentages rounded off to the first decimal.

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# Countywide Findings

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## Arkansas County

The population of Arkansas County, the oldest county in the southeastern part of the state, was 20,749 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rich, flat, delta farmland. The largest industries in this county were nondurable goods manufacturing, durable goods manufacturing, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was wholesale trade (REIS, 2001).

Compared to a loss of 417 jobs (-3.31 percent) during 1980-1990, the county economy added 1,303 jobs during 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by approximately 11 percent. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, government, and farm sectors were the five leading sectors accounting for approximately 75 percent of total county employment. Overall, the county employment benefited more from the growth in national sectors than from the growth of local industries. During 1990-2000, the total RS was negative, mainly due to the lower performance by the services, retail trade, TPU, and construction industries. Among the major sectors of the county's economy, the manufacturing and AFF sectors had higher employment growth relative to their national counterparts owing to which

their RS was greater than the NS. Employment growth was relatively high in the manufacturing, services, TPU, and state/local government sectors, which added 784, 224, 178, and 200 jobs, respectively. During this period, farm-sector employment increased by 3 to 6 percent. The total IM was negative, mainly due to the county's manufacturing and farm sectors, meaning that the county had a mix of slow-growing industries. For the services sector, the IM was positive because nationally, services employment grew faster than overall national employment growth. Compared to 1980-1990, the county experienced higher employment growth in manufacturing, AFF, and state/local government, and slower employment growth in the TPU and retail trade sectors during 1990-2000.

Rice Germplasm Evaluation and Enhancement Research Center, the University of Arkansas Rice Research Extension Center, the Stuttgart Aquaculture Research Center, and other institutes and corporations are active in research and training in the county.

**Table 3. Shift-Share results for Arkansas County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,952	1,158	1,200	8.9	42	-40.7	3.6	231	58	-247
AFF	164	213	391	2.9	178	29.9	83.6	43	77	58
Mining	5	6	19	0.1	13	20.0	216.7	1	15	-3
Construction	713	575	578	4.3	3	-19.4	0.5	115	-176	64
Manufacturing	2,931	2,565	3,349	24.8	784	-12.5	30.6	512	861	-589
TPU	613	971	775	5.7	-196	58.4	-20.2	194	-446	56
Wholesale trade	710	684	736	5.5	52	-3.7	7.6	137	-37	-48
Retail trade	1,642	1,827	1,804	13.4	-23	11.3	-1.3	365	-379	-9
FIRE	468	587	606	4.5	19	25.4	3.2	117	-118	19
Services	1,900	2,250	2,474	18.3	224	18.4	10.0	450	-632	407
Federal, civilian	153	159	215	1.6	56	3.9	35.2	32	73	-49
Military	152	156	107	0.8	-49	2.6	-31.4	31	-12	-68
State and local	1,207	1,042	1,242	9.2	200	-13.7	19.2	208	27	-35
Total	12,610	12,193	13,496	100	1,303	-3.3	10.7	2,436	-690	-443

## Ashley County

The population of Ashley County in Southeast Arkansas was 24,209 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is coastal plain, level to rolling cropland, and pine-forested hills. A quarter of the county's land is devoted to agriculture. The county owns equipment that compacts paper and yard waste into small cubes, which are then sold to Georgia-Pacific Corporation for use as fuel. Georgia-Pacific owns 45% of the land in the county and harvests resources for the manufacture of hardwood veneer, plywood, paper, and chemicals (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing durable goods manufacturing and construction. The slowest growing industry was construction, and the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

During 1990-2000, the local economy added 899 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 8 percent, compared to 1,441 jobs (14 percent increase) during 1980-1990. In the year 2000, manufacturing, services, retail trade, construction, and government were the five leading sectors accounting for approximately 75 percent of total county employment. Ashley County's employment growth during 1990-2000 was primarily due to the growth in the national economy. The RS was negative mainly due to

the slow growth of manufacturing and services employment. Especially the manufacturing sector, which previously had a 30 percent share of total employment, lost 880 jobs during this period and thus was largely responsible for the overall poor performance of the county's economy during 1990-2000. However, the RS was higher than the NS in the construction, TPU, and AFF sectors, meaning that these sectors had a higher employment growth rate than their national counterparts. The construction sector performed much better than any other sector, adding 646 jobs, mostly due to the local county advantage. Similarly, the AFF sector also added 223 jobs, mostly due to the county's industries performing better than the national AFF sector. The TPU sector added 316 jobs, i.e. 35 percent of the additional jobs during the decade. The services and state/local government sectors added 207 and 181 jobs, respectively. The overall IM was negative, mainly due the loss of manufacturing jobs and this further means that the county had a mix of slow-growth industries. During this period, the farm-sector employment declined by 8 percent. Relative to the 80s, construction and TPU employment increased significantly during the 90s.

**Table 4. Shift-Share results for Ashley County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	848	640	586	4.6	-54	-24.5	-8.4	128	-45	-137
AFF	101	214	437	3.4	223	111.9	104.2	43	122	59
Mining	12	19	41	0.3	22	58.3	115.8	4	27	-9
Construction	694	758	1,404	11.0	646	9.2	85.2	151	410	85
Manufacturing	4,142	4,740	3,860	30.2	-880	14.4	-18.6	947	-738	-1,089
TPU	345	255	571	4.5	316	-26.1	123.9	51	250	15
Wholesale trade	284	201	250	2.0	49	-29.2	24.4	40	23	-14
Retail trade	1,231	1,433	1,582	12.4	149	16.4	10.4	286	-130	-7
FIRE	335	436	511	4.0	75	30.1	17.2	87	-27	14
Services	1,300	1,886	2,093	16.4	207	45.1	11.0	377	-511	341
Federal, civilian	93	89	104	0.8	15	-4.3	16.9	18	24	-27
Military	167	176	126	1.0	-50	5.4	-28.4	35	-8	-77
State and local	888	1,034	1,215	9.5	181	16.4	17.5	207	9	-35
Total	10,440	11,881	12,780	100	899	13.8	7.6	2,374	-594	-881



## Baxter County

The population of Baxter County (bordering Missouri) in Northwest Arkansas was 38,386 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Much of the county's growth and more than half its tax dollars can be traced to tourism and retirement. Tourists often return to take up residence. Other resources include a technical campus of Arkansas State University and a regional medical center located in Mountain Home. The county has large water sports-based economy based on the White River, North Fork River, Lake Norfork, Bull Shoals Lake, and the Buffalo National River (AAC, 2005). The largest industries in the county were services, durable goods manufacturing, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was retail trade and the fastest was state and local government (REIS, 2001).

The county economy added 3,148 and 6,052 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, respectively; i.e. employment increased by approximately 28 and 42 percent, respectively. In 2000, services, retail trade, and manufacturing accounted for approximately 69 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment growth during the decade was primarily due to growth in the local economy. The RS was higher than the NS in the mining, construction, TPU, wholesale trade, retail trade,

services, and local/state government sectors, meaning Baxter County employment grew at a higher rate than the counterpart sectors' nationwide employment.

During this period, services gained 2,726 jobs, or 45 percent of the total jobs added during this period, and the retail trade, construction, and state/local government sectors added 1,096, 537, and 500 jobs, respectively. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by approximately 8 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the manufacturing and farm sectors' local employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth.

Employment in the county construction and government sectors was significantly higher in the 90s than in the 80s. Major employers in the county include Baxter County Regional Hospital, Baxter Healthcare Corporation and Wal-Mart, Inc.

**Table 5. Shift-Share results for Baxter County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	600	507	546	2.7	39	-15.5	7.7	101	46	-108
AFF	35	141	200	1.0	59	302.9	41.8	28	-8	39
Mining	25	144	190	0.9	46	476.0	31.9	29	82	-65
Construction	646	865	1,402	6.8	537	33.9	62.1	173	267	97
Manufacturing	3,500	3,410	3,657	17.8	247	-2.6	7.2	681	349	-783
TPU	285	403	617	3.0	214	41.4	53.1	81	110	23
Wholesale trade	192	273	421	2.0	148	42.2	54.2	55	113	-19
Retail trade	1,810	2,622	3,718	18.0	1,096	44.9	41.8	524	585	-13
FIRE	927	853	1,297	6.3	444	-8.0	52.1	170	245	28
Services	1,897	4,015	6,741	32.7	2,726	111.6	67.9	802	1,198	726
Federal, civilian	195	167	189	0.9	22	-14.4	13.2	33	40	-51
Military	173	227	201	1.0	-26	31.2	-11.5	45	28	-99
State and local	1,115	921	1,421	6.9	500	-17.4	54.3	184	347	-31
Total	11,400	14,548	20,600	100	6,052	27.6	41.6	2,907	3,403	-257

## Benton County

The population of Benton County in Northwest Arkansas was 153,406 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county, historically a fruit-growing center, has a diversified economy that includes agriculture, especially dairy and poultry. From the corporate headquarters of Wal-Mart (the fastest growing retail chain in America), Little Debbie bakeries, Cooper Communities, and Bella Vista retirement community to light manufacturing, business is booming in Benton County. Benton County's natural resources are as varied as its economy. Beaver Lake offers fishing and water recreation. Orchards and pastures, museums and art galleries, dogwood tours in the fall, arts and crafts fairs, country music, symphony concerts, and a community theater are all popular with locals as well as visitors (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were retail trade, services, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing were durable goods manufacturing and the fastest growing was retail trade (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the county's economy added 19,831 and 36,519 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 53 and 63.8 percent, respectively. In 2000, retail trade, services, and manufacturing were the three leading sectors accounting for approximately 67 percent

of total employment. Overall, employment growth during 1990-2000 was primarily due to the county's sectors growing at a faster rate than their national counterparts. The growth of the county's economy was fueled by the service and retail trade sectors, which produced a multiplier effect on the rest of the county's economy. This resulted in additional employment in construction, retail trade, and TPU as well as in more state/local government jobs. While 10,469 jobs were created in the services sector, 11,729, 3,194, and 2697 more jobs were added in the retail trade, construction, and state/local government sectors, respectively. Further during this period, farm-sector employment declined by 6.2 percent. The total IM was negative mainly due to the county's manufacturing sector's performance. Employment growth in most of the sectors was higher during 1990-2000 than in 1980-1990.

Major employers in the county include Wal-Mart, Inc., Tyson Foods, Inc., J B Hunt Transport Inc., McKee Foods Corp., Arvest Bank Group, Peterson Farms, Simmons Foods, St. Mary's Hospital, Glad Products Company, and Franklin Electric Company. This county is now ranked among the fastest growing counties in the nation and is fuelling the economic growth of the Northwest Arkansas region.

**Table 6. Shift-Share results for Benton County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	3,446	3,346	3,139	3.3	-207	-2.9	-6.2	669	-161	-714
AFF	253	678	1,066	1.1	388	168.0	57.2	135	67	186
Mining	69	96	219	0.2	123	39.1	128.1	19	147	-43
Construction	2,122	2,631	5,825	6.2	3,194	24.0	121.4	526	2,374	294
Manufacturing	10,630	15,680	17,440	18.6	1,760	47.5	11.2	3,133	2,229	-3,602
TPU	1,392	3,492	5,534	5.9	2,042	150.9	58.5	698	1,142	203
Wholesale trade	892	1,143	2,618	2.8	1,475	28.1	129.0	228	1,327	-80
Retail trade	6,574	12,936	24,665	26.3	11,729	96.8	90.7	2,585	9,208	-64
FIRE	2,666	3,005	5,638	6.0	2,633	12.7	87.6	600	1,933	99
Services	6,446	10,143	20,612	22.0	10,469	57.4	103.2	2,027	6,609	1,833
Federal, civilian	299	348	471	0.5	123	16.4	35.3	70	160	-106
Military	492	711	804	0.9	93	44.5	13.1	142	261	-311
State and local	2,166	3,069	5,766	6.1	2,697	41.7	87.9	613	2,188	-104
Total	37,447	57,278	93,797	100	36,519	53.0	63.8	11,444	27,484	-2,409

## Boone County

The population of Boone County (bordering Missouri) in Northwest Arkansas was 33,948 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Harrison, the county seat, has been rated by Rand McNally's as one of the Top 10 most ideal retirement spots in the country for climate and terrain, housing, affordability, low crime, health-care facilities, and recreational opportunities. The landscape of the county is the flat-topped mountains and rugged terrain of the Ozark Mountains. Boone County depends on cattle and timber as its economic base (AAC, 2005). The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was wholesale trade; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

Compared to 3,264 jobs added during 1980-1990, county employment increased by 24.5 percent (4,118 jobs) during 1990-2000. Based on the employment shares in year 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, state/local government, and TPU sectors accounted for about 71 percent of total employment. Overall for Boone County, the employment growth during 1990-2000 can be partially attributed to the growth

in the national economy. Although the RS for the total county employment change was positive, more jobs were added due to performance of analogues to the national sectors. Sectors that had RS higher than NS included construction, TPU and FIRE. Noticeably the TPU sector gained 1,040 jobs, or about 25 percent of the total jobs added during this period, primarily due to the presence of the trucking-motor freight company, Fed-Ex Freight East, in the county. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased by 6.4 percent. The retail trade, services, and construction sectors added 859, 733, and 698 jobs, respectively, during this period. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the manufacturing and farm sectors' local employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. This also meant that the county had a mix of slow-growth industries. The net employment growth rate remained at the same level during the two decades.

Major employers in the county include Fed-Ex Freight East, Claridge Products & Equipment, Millbrook Distribution Service, North Arkansas College, Alltel Arkansas, Inc., Wabash Wood Products, Flexsteel Industries., Inc., North Arkansas Regional Medical Center, Pace Industries, and Wal-Mart, Inc.

**Table 7. Shift-Share results for Boone County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,400	1,299	1,382	6.7	83	-7.2	6.4	260	101	-277
AFF	73	120	210	1.0	90	64.4	75.0	24	33	33
Mining	27	26	17	0.1	-9	-3.7	-34.6	5	-2	-12
Construction	792	652	1,350	6.5	698	-17.7	107.1	130	495	73
Manufacturing	2,496	3,081	3,116	15.0	35	23.4	1.1	616	127	-708
TPU	527	833	1,873	9.0	1,040	58.1	124.8	166	825	48
Wholesale trade	933	1,625	1,440	6.9	-185	74.2	-11.4	325	-396	-114
Retail trade	2,103	2,593	3,452	16.7	859	23.3	33.1	518	354	-13
FIRE	714	614	1,100	5.3	486	-14.0	79.2	123	343	20
Services	2,245	3,150	3,883	18.7	733	40.3	23.3	629	-466	569
Federal, civilian	165	219	231	1.1	12	32.7	5.5	44	35	-67
Military	165	205	177	0.9	-28	24.2	-13.7	41	21	-90
State and local	1,706	2,193	2,497	12.0	304	28.5	13.9	438	-60	-74
Total	13,346	16,610	20,728	100	4,118	24.5	24.8	3,319	1,410	-610

## Bradley County

The population of Bradley County in Southeast Arkansas was 12,600 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Pine timber is the mainstay of the economy with Potlatch Corp. owning 300,000 acres and being the largest taxpayer (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was state and local government and the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

There was a marginal improvement in employment growth during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000. Compared to the 2.6 percent decline in employment during the 80s, the county's economy recorded a 3.3 percent increase in employment during the 90s, i.e. the county added 173 jobs. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, state/local government, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 69 percent of total county employment. The employment growth in Bradley County during 1990-2000 can be mostly attributed to the growth in the national economy. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the region lost jobs due to the county economy not growing at a higher rate than the national economy. Only the AFF sector—which

added 299 jobs during the decade—had a RS higher than the NS. For all the other major sectors, the RS was negative, indicating slow employment growth in the county. The services sector too had a noticeable gain in employment, adding 350 jobs over the decade. The manufacturing and state/local government sectors lost 503 and 112 jobs, respectively. The AFF and the services sector made gains that offset the losses in the manufacturing sector to an extent. During this period, the county's farm-sector employment increased marginally by 0.7 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the decline of the manufacturing sector, which meant that the county had a mix of slow-growth industries.

Relative to the 80s, there was a marked shift towards more service-oriented jobs and fewer manufacturing jobs during the 90s.

**Table 8. Shift-Share results for Bradley County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	515	290	292	5.3	2	-43.7	0.7	58	6	-62
AFF	110	91	390	7.1	299	-17.3	328.6	18	256	25
Mining	6	9	15	0.3	6	150.0	66.7	2	8	-4
Construction	180	218	271	4.9	53	21.1	24.3	44	-15	24
Manufacturing	1,944	1,713	1,210	22.0	-503	-11.9	-29.4	342	-452	-394
TPU	116	148	130	2.4	-18	27.6	-12.2	30	-56	9
Wholesale trade	161	209	230	4.2	21	29.8	10.0	42	-6	-15
Retail trade	671	612	646	11.8	34	-8.8	5.6	122	-85	-3
FIRE	167	197	252	4.6	55	18.0	27.9	39	9	7
Services	759	853	1,203	21.9	350	12.4	41.0	170	25	154
Federal, civilian	52	45	47	0.9	2	-13.5	4.4	9	7	-14
Military	87	85	69	1.3	-16	-2.3	-18.8	17	4	-37
State and local	697	847	735	13.4	-112	21.5	-13.2	169	-253	-29
Total	5,465	5,317	5,490	100	173	-2.6	3.3	1,062	-551	-338

## Calhoun County

The population of Calhoun County in Southwest Arkansas was 5,744 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economic base of this county is timber, sand, and gravel. The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, nondurable goods manufacturing, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing, and the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

During 1990-2000, the local economy lost 599 jobs, i.e. employment declined by 13.4 percent. However, the earlier decade marked a 71.3 percent increase in employment. The employment decline during 1990-2000 can be primarily attributed to the decline of the manufacturing sector, which had a 53 percent share of the total employment in the county. Based on the employment shares in year 2000, the manufacturing, state/local government, and services sectors accounted for over 75 percent of total employment. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, mainly due to the slow employment growth in manufacturing, services, and state/local government. The RS was higher than the NS only for those sectors that did not have any signifi-

cant share in county employment. For all the other major sectors, including manufacturing, services and state/local government, RS was negative, indicating the declining employment in Calhoun County. During 1990-2000, the manufacturing sector lost 705 jobs and farm-sector employment declined by 14.7 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the manufacturing sector's county employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. The total IM was negative, meaning that the county economy was tilted towards slower growth industries. Relative to the 80s almost all the county's sectors lost jobs during the 90s.

**Table 9. Shift-Share results for Calhoun County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	191	129	110	2.8	-19	-32.5	-14.7	26	-17	-28
AFF	12	10	30	0.8	20	-16.7	200.0	2	15	3
Mining	59	70	100	2.6	30	18.6	42.9	14	48	-32
Construction	74	68	144	3.7	76	-8.1	111.8	14	55	8
Manufacturing	1,057	2,758	2,053	53.0	-705	160.9	-25.6	551	-622	-634
TPU	185	182	225	5.8	43	-1.6	23.6	36	-4	11
Wholesale trade	21	61	25	0.6	-36	190.5	-59.0	12	-44	-4
Retail trade	167	160	133	3.4	-27	-4.2	-16.9	32	-58	-1
FIRE	37	65	100	2.6	35	75.7	53.8	13	20	2
Services	248	290	294	7.6	4	16.9	1.4	58	-106	52
Federal, civilian	26	24	18	0.5	-6	-7.7	-25.0	5	-3	-7
Military	38	42	30	0.8	-12	10.5	-28.6	8	-2	-18
State and local	495	613	611	15.8	-2	23.8	-0.3	122	-104	-21
Total	2,610	4,472	3,873	100	-599	71.3	-13.4	894	-824	-669

## Carroll County

The population of Carroll County in Northwest Arkansas was 25,357 in 2000 (US Census, 2005). Poultry growing and processing are dominant economic activities with tourism and beef production close behind. Some of the most spectacular scenery in the Ozarks is found here. Forests, meadows, limestone bluffs, and springs are breathtaking (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing; services, and farming. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

Although during 1990-2000 the local economy added 3,672 jobs, i.e. a marginal increase from 1980-1990 when it added 3,342 jobs, the growth rate declined from 44.3 to 33.7 percent over the two decades. In year 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and farm sectors accounted for over 76 percent of total county employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to growth in the services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors. Although the manufacturing sector had the highest employment share, growth was higher in the services sector where

1,143 jobs were added during 1990-2000. The manufacturing sector added 873 jobs. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the national share mainly due to the high employment growth in manufacturing, retail trade, FIRE, and services. Sectors that had RS higher than the NS included manufacturing, retail trade, construction, and FIRE. Other sectors that contributed to the county's employment growth included retail trade, construction, FIRE, TPU, and state/local government, which added 769, 295, 272, 143, and 117 jobs, respectively. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 4.4 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the performance of the national manufacturing and farm sectors, which meant that there was a mix of low-growth industries in the county. The employment growth for manufacturing, retail trade, and services declined in the 90s, leading to the overall decline in employment growth. Tyson Foods, Inc., in Berryville (the county seat) is a major employer in the county.

**Table 10. Shift-Share results for Carroll County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,385	1,329	1,270	8.7	-59	-4.0	-4.4	266	-41	-284
AFF	189	182	238	1.6	56	-3.7	30.8	36	-30	50
Mining	10	19	40	0.3	21	90.0	110.5	4	26	-9
Construction	439	478	773	5.3	295	8.9	61.7	96	146	53
Manufacturing	1,409	2,927	3,800	26.1	873	107.7	29.8	585	961	-672
TPU	250	328	471	3.2	143	31.2	43.6	66	58	19
Wholesale trade	178	115	135	0.9	20	-35.4	17.4	23	5	-8
Retail trade	1,112	1,800	2,569	17.7	769	61.9	42.7	360	418	-9
FIRE	440	372	644	4.4	272	-15.5	73.1	74	185	12
Services	1,356	2,307	3,450	23.7	1,143	70.1	49.5	461	265	417
Federal, civilian	104	110	135	0.9	25	5.8	22.7	22	37	-34
Military	102	135	132	0.9	-3	32.4	-2.2	27	29	-59
State and local	565	779	896	6.2	117	37.9	15.0	156	-12	-26
Total	7,539	10,881	14,553	100	3,672	44.3	33.7	2,174	2,047	-549



## Chicot County

The population of Chicot County in Southeast Arkansas was 14,117 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Chicot County is well known for its rich, fertile soil that in places reaches a depth of 1,200 feet (world average is seven inches). Agriculture is strong: cotton, rice, and soybeans are the big three commodities with catfish farming and processing another important industry capable of yielding up to 170,000 pounds of value-added product a day (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state/local government, farming, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

In contrast to a 12 percent employment decline during 1980-1990, the local economy added 772 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 13.7 percent, during 1990-2000. Based on the employment shares in year 2000, the state/local government, services, manufacturing, retail trade, and farm sectors accounted for 79 percent of total employment. Overall for Chicot County, the employment increase during the decade 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, and local government sectors, which added 377, 186,

and 198 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative due to job losses in manufacturing, retail trade, AFF, and FIRE. Construction was the only exception where the RS was higher than the NS. Increases in local employment in most of the important sectors can be attributed to the relatively better performance of the national economy during 1990-2000. Although agriculture was very important to the county economy during this period, farm-sector employment increased by 3.1 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to nation's manufacturing and farm employment growing slower than the overall national employment growth, which also indicates that the county had a dominance of slow-growth industries.

Relative to their performance during 1980-1990, there was a marked improvement in the farm, construction, retail trade, and services sectors' employment growth during the 1990s.

**Table 11. Shift-Share results for Chicot County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,232	871	898	14.0	27	-29.3	3.1	174	39	-186
AFF	222	177	161	2.5	-16	-20.3	-9.0	35	-100	48
Mining	5	8	15	0.2	7	60.0	87.5	2	9	-4
Construction	372	126	312	4.9	186	-66.1	147.6	25	147	14
Manufacturing	929	1,070	1,019	15.9	-51	15.2	-4.8	214	-19	-246
TPU	165	154	165	2.6	11	-6.7	7.1	31	-29	9
Wholesale trade	257	286	260	4.1	-26	11.3	-9.1	57	-63	-20
Retail trade	868	741	824	12.9	83	-14.6	11.2	148	-61	-4
FIRE	220	262	282	4.4	20	19.1	7.6	52	-41	9
Services	852	779	1,156	18.1	377	-8.6	48.4	156	81	141
Federal, civilian	59	60	56	0.9	-4	1.7	-6.7	12	2	-18
Military	112	113	73	1.1	-40	0.9	-35.4	23	-13	-49
State and local	1,081	980	1,178	18.4	198	-9.3	20.2	196	35	-33
Total	6,374	5,627	6,399	100	772	-11.7	13.7	1,124	-13	-339

## Clark County

The population of Clark County in Southwest Arkansas was 23,546 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Agriculture, manufacturing, and tourism comprise the county's economic base. DeGray Lake, located in the northern part of the county, along with DeGray State Park attracts visitors from far and near and offers a wide variety of recreational activities. More than a half-million people visit the park annually. Two universities, Ouachita Baptist and Henderson State, are located in Arkadelphia, which is the county seat (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

Compared to a 0.6 percent employment growth during 1980-90, county employment increased by 34.3 percent and added 3,501 jobs during 1990-2000. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for over 80 percent of total county employment. The county's employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to growth in the services, manufacturing, and retail

trade sectors. The manufacturing and services sectors, which had almost identical employment shares, added 1,146 and 1,132 jobs, respectively, during the decade. The RS for the total county employment change was positive, but lower than the NS, mainly due to high employment growth in county manufacturing, retail trade, services, and FIRE. The manufacturing sector in particular added more jobs, mostly due to local competitiveness. During this period, farm-sector employment increased marginally by 1.5 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to performance of the national manufacturing and farm sectors.

Compared to the 1980s, significant improvement was observed in the performance of the county's services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors in the 1990s. Other sectors that performed better in the 90s included construction, wholesale trade, and FIRE. Major employers in the county include Petit Jean Poultry, Henderson State University, Scroll Technologies, International Paper Company, Ouachita Baptist University, and Wal-Mart, Inc.

**Table 12. Shift-Share results for Clark County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	672	471	478	3.5	7	-29.9	1.5	94	13	-101
AFF	75	85	141	1.0	56	13.3	65.9	17	16	23
Mining	35	18	6	0.0	-12	-48.6	-66.7	4	-7	-8
Construction	365	263	360	2.6	97	-27.9	36.9	53	15	29
Manufacturing	2,604	2,023	3,169	23.1	1,146	-22.3	56.6	404	1,207	-465
TPU	302	534	637	4.6	103	76.8	19.3	107	-35	31
Wholesale trade	230	183	216	1.6	33	-20.4	18.0	37	9	-13
Retail trade	1,613	1,875	2,401	17.5	526	16.2	28.1	375	161	-9
FIRE	413	398	595	4.3	197	-3.6	49.5	80	104	13
Services	1,717	2,162	3,294	24.0	1,132	25.9	52.4	432	309	391
Federal, civilian	140	121	125	0.9	4	-13.6	3.3	24	17	-37
Military	160	163	122	0.9	-41	1.9	-25.2	33	-2	-71
State and local	1,831	1,925	2,178	15.9	253	5.1	13.1	385	-66	-65
Total	10,157	10,221	13,722	100	3,501	0.6	34.3	2,042	1,740	-281

## Clay County

The population of Clay County in Northeast Arkansas was 17,609 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Clay County is unique in that it is surrounded on two sides by Missouri and two sides by Arkansas. The economy revolves around general farming and livestock husbandry. Rice is the major crop, followed by cotton, soybeans, corn, hay, and milo. Light industry is scattered countywide. Two rivers, the Cashe and the Black, offer many recreational sports such as duck hunting, fishing, horseback riding along trails, hiking, and picnicking (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state/local government, and farming. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

During 1990-2000, the county economy gained 514 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 6.1 percent. This was identical to employment during 1980-1990. Based on employment shares in 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, farm, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 79 percent of total county employment. Overall for Clay County, the employment increase during the 1990s can be attributed mainly to the increas-

ing employment in the manufacturing, construction, and state/local government sectors, which added 207, 124, and 147 jobs, respectively, during the decade. Marmon Holdings, Inc., engaged in metal and wood store fixtures, case goods and merchandising accessories, provided additional employment in the manufacturing sector. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, reflecting that the county lost more jobs due to the relatively poor performance of the retail and wholesale trade and services sectors. However, the manufacturing sector performed much better in comparison to its national counterpart. All the other major sectors performed poorly at the county level, which led to job losses. During this period, farm-sector employment declined marginally by 3 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to performance of the national manufacturing and farm sectors and indicated the mix of slow-growth industries in the county.

**Table 13. Shift-Share results for Clay County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,558	1,068	1,034	11.6	-34	-31.5	-3.2	213	-19	-228
AFF	227	105	150	1.7	45	-53.7	42.9	21	-5	29
Mining	22	18	5	0.1	-13	-77.3	-72.2	4	-8	-8
Construction	290	289	413	4.6	124	-0.3	42.9	58	34	32
Manufacturing	1,662	2,679	2,886	32.3	207	61.2	7.7	535	287	-615
TPU	273	352	349	3.9	-3	28.9	-0.9	70	-94	20
Wholesale trade	477	527	428	4.8	-99	10.5	-18.8	105	-167	-37
Retail trade	1,081	1,004	1,056	11.8	52	-7.1	5.2	201	-144	-5
FIRE	280	292	350	3.9	58	4.3	19.9	58	-10	10
Services	1,094	1,103	1,180	13.2	77	0.8	7.0	220	-343	199
Federal, civilian	83	80	72	0.8	-8	-3.6	-10.0	16	0	-24
Military	129	130	91	1.0	-39	0.8	-30.0	26	-8	-57
State and local	742	769	916	10.3	147	3.6	19.1	154	19	-26
Total	7,918	8,416	8,930	100	514	6.1	6.1	1,682	-457	-710

## Cleburne County

The population of Cleburne County in Northeast Arkansas was 24,046 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The Greers Ferry hydroelectric dam, a 40,000-acre reservoir, made way for a recreational boom that has steadily continued since 1963. Thousands of visitors visit this area each year. Fishing, boating and hunting in the area are big. Industrial development, cattle/poultry farming, and tourism make up the economic base of the county. Fishing tournaments, conventions, reunions, and craft shows provide family entertainment for local citizens as well as many visitors (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was construction; the fastest growing was retail trade (REIS, 2001).

Compared to a 35.2 percent increase in employment during 1980-1990, during 1990-2000, the local economy added 3,482 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 41.9 percent. Based on the employment shares in 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and construction sectors accounted for over 68 percent of total employment. Overall for Cleburne County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the

growth of the services, TPU, retail trade, and construction sectors adding 1,118, 396, 779, and 503 jobs, respectively. Superior Industries International, Inc., manufacturing aluminum road wheels and plating, automotive accessories, and trailer hitch balls in Heber Springs, is a major employer in the county. Tourism contributed significantly to the local economy and is visible in employment gains made by the services, retail trade, and TPU sectors. The RS for the total county employment change was positive and higher than the corresponding NS due to county construction, TPU, retail trade, and services having higher employment growth. All the major sectors had RS higher than NS. Other sectors that generated more employment included FIRE and state/local government, which each added 423 and 204 jobs, respectively, during this period. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 3.3 percent. The overall IM was negative, which meant that the county had an industrial composition tilted toward slower growing industries. Relative to the 1980s, employment growth was significantly higher in the state/local government and FIRE and lower in the manufacturing sector during the 90s.

**Table 14. Shift-Share results for Cleburne County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	906	787	761	6.4	-26	-13.1	-3.3	157	-15	-168
AFF	19	115	150	1.3	35	505.3	30.4	23	-19	31
Mining	58	15	20	0.2	5	-74.1	33.3	3	9	-7
Construction	436	637	1,140	9.7	503	46.1	79.0	127	305	71
Manufacturing	977	1,849	1,834	15.5	-15	89.3	-0.8	369	40	-425
TPU	167	331	727	6.2	396	98.2	119.6	66	311	19
Wholesale trade	140	198	262	2.2	64	41.4	32.3	40	38	-14
Retail trade	1,007	1,333	2,112	17.9	779	32.4	58.4	266	519	-7
FIRE	532	397	820	6.9	423	-25.4	106.5	79	331	13
Services	1,102	1,814	2,932	24.8	1,118	64.6	61.6	362	428	328
Federal, civilian	124	113	125	1.1	12	-8.9	10.6	23	24	-34
Military	106	141	125	1.1	-16	33.0	-11.3	28	17	-62
State and local	578	589	793	6.7	204	1.9	34.6	118	106	-20
Total	6,152	8,319	11,801	100	3,482	35.2	41.9	1,662	2,093	-273

## Cleveland County

The population of Cleveland County in Southeast Arkansas was 8,571 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Timber is the leading industry in the county. The county has extended its economic base to produce tomatoes, broiler chicks, and cattle. Rison (the county seat) is at the center of an estimated 15- by 6-mile iron deposit containing as much as 42 percent magnetite (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farm, state/local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was transportation and public utilities; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

Compared to 144 jobs (8.61 percent) added during 1980-1990, during 1990-2000, the local economy added 248 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 13.7 percent. Based on the employment shares in 2000, the services, state/local government, farm, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors accounted for nearly 71 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, wholesale trade, agriculture, forestry, and fishing, and local/state government sectors. Employment growth took place primarily due to the growth in the national economy. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the local region lost jobs due to the major national sectors growing at a faster rate than their regional counterparts. Since it is a low-

population county, the state/local government sector adding 72 more jobs was noticeable. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 8.8 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to a concentration of slow-growth industries.

Although some of the county's sectors performed better during the 90s, the effect they had on overall employment was not substantial and thus employment growth remained at about the same level over the study's two decades.

**Table 15. Shift-Share results for Cleveland County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	386	329	300	14.5	-29	-14.8	-8.8	66	-25	-70
AFF	10	58	108	5.2	50	480.0	86.2	12	23	16
Mining	5	7	20	1.0	13	40.0	185.7	1	15	-3
Construction	80	108	137	6.6	29	35.0	26.9	22	-5	12
Manufacturing	285	265	250	12.1	-15	-7.0	-5.7	53	-7	-61
TPU	58	167	136	6.6	-31	187.9	-18.6	33	-74	10
Wholesale trade	60	43	98	4.7	55	-28.3	127.9	9	49	-3
Retail trade	138	169	175	8.5	6	22.5	3.6	34	-27	-1
FIRE	50	21	35	1.7	14	-58.0	66.7	4	9	1
Services	234	281	375	18.2	94	20.1	33.5	56	-13	51
Federal, civilian	24	20	22	1.1	2	-16.7	10.0	4	4	-6
Military	50	56	44	2.1	-12	12.0	-21.4	11	1	-24
State and local	292	292	364	17.6	72	0.0	24.7	58	24	-10
Total	1,672	1,816	2,064	100	248	8.6	13.7	363	-25	-89

## Columbia County

The population of Columbia County in Southwest Arkansas was 25,603 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Columbia County has rolling hills with good land for farming (cotton is a cash crop) and forests for timbering. Cattle and poultry are raised throughout the county and pine-tree harvesting is common. Industry provides most jobs in the county. Southern Arkansas University is located in the county and Logoly State Park is situated on 368 acres of forested coastal plain with 11 natural springs, a visitor center, and amphitheater. Lake Columbia, the newest reservoir, is separated into zones, some for fishing, some for pleasure boating, and some with multiple facilities available for recreation (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state/local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was mining; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

Compared to the 8.5 percent employment growth during 1980-1990, during 1990-2000 the local economy added 795 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 6.2 percent. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade and state/local government sectors accounted for over 71 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, wholesale trade, and construction sectors, which added 308, 140, 135, and

296 jobs, respectively. Although the manufacturing sector had the highest employment share, with Aluminum Company of America, Inc. having a facility in Magnolia and Weyerhaeuser Company having a facility in Danville, the sector lost 228 jobs mostly due to relatively slow employment growth at the regional level. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the local region lost jobs due to low employment growth in manufacturing, retail trade, services, and state/local government. Sectors that had RS higher than NS included construction, agriculture, forestry, and fishing. The county lost jobs due to the manufacturing, mining, and farm sectors losing 228, 180, and 86 jobs, respectively. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 15.4 percent. The overall IM was negative due to the national manufacturing, mining, and farm sectors' employment growth being considerably lower than overall national employment growth.

There was no significant change in overall employment growth during the two decades. Major employers in the county include Alumax; Albemarle Corporation; American Fuel Cell & Coated Fabrics Co. (AMFUEL); Wal-Mart Inc.; Magnolia Hospital; and SMI Steel-Arkansas.

**Table 16. Shift-Share results for Columbia County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	721	558	472	3.5	-86	-22.6	-15.4	111	-78	-119
AFF	84	133	276	2.0	143	58.3	107.5	27	80	36
Mining	1,391	797	617	4.5	-180	-42.7	-22.6	159	20	-359
Construction	546	405	701	5.2	296	-25.8	73.1	81	170	45
Manufacturing	2,555	3,356	3,128	23.0	-228	31.4	-6.8	671	-128	-771
TPU	374	538	617	4.5	79	43.9	14.7	107	-60	31
Wholesale trade	254	238	373	2.7	135	-6.3	56.7	48	104	-17
Retail trade	1,755	1,958	2,098	15.4	140	11.6	7.2	391	-242	-10
FIRE	359	580	657	4.8	77	61.6	13.3	116	-58	19
Services	2,062	2,294	2,602	19.1	308	11.3	13.4	458	-565	415
Federal, civilian	72	69	63	0.5	-6	-4.2	-8.7	14	1	-21
Military	175	190	133	1.0	-57	8.6	-30.0	38	-12	-83
State and local	1,457	1,698	1,872	13.8	174	16.5	10.2	339	-108	-58
Total	11,805	12,814	13,609	100	795	8.5	6.2	2,560	-875	-890



## Conway County

The population of Conway County in Northwest Arkansas was 20,336 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county lies in the Ozark foothills with world-renowned Petit Jean Mountain as a breathtaking landmark. The Rockefeller Museum of Automobiles is a great tourist attraction. Elsewhere, the Arkansas River, Lake Overcup, and Cadron Creek provide floating and excellent fishing, which attracts not only local citizens but tourists as well. Conway County is the home of Winrock Farms, the agricultural enterprise founded on Petit Jean Mountain by Governor Winthrop Rockefeller (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing, services, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was transportation and public utilities (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-90, the local economy added 337 jobs; employment increased by 1,666 jobs during 1990-2000 (an increase of approximately 19 percent). Based on the employment shares in 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, construction, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for over 71 percent of total county employment. Overall for Conway County, the

employment increase during the 90s can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, state/local government, and retail trade sectors. The increase in employment was due to the services, retail trade, state/local government, and construction sectors adding 928, 422, 305, and 497 jobs, respectively, during the decade. During the same period, the manufacturing sector lost 1,008 jobs. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but much lower than the NS mainly due to performance of the construction, transportation, public utilities, and wholesale trade sectors. During this period, farm-sector employment remained almost stagnant. The overall IM was negative due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' negative employment growth and also because the county IM was tilted toward slower growth industries.

Relative to the 80s, employment growth was higher in the 90s mostly due to the higher employment growth in retail trade and services.

**Table 17. Shift-Share results for Conway County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,068	946	948	9.1	2	-11.4	0.2	189	15	-202
AFF	38	124	150	1.4	26	226.3	21.0	25	-33	34
Mining	10	5	20	0.2	15	-50.0	300.0	1	16	-2
Construction	273	653	1,150	11.0	497	139.2	76.1	130	294	73
Manufacturing	3,000	2,010	1,002	9.6	-1,008	-33.0	-50.1	402	-948	-462
TPU	277	286	594	5.7	308	3.2	107.7	57	234	17
Wholesale trade	243	259	472	4.5	213	6.6	82.2	52	179	-18
Retail trade	1,150	1,286	1,708	16.3	422	11.8	32.8	257	171	-6
FIRE	310	414	400	3.8	-14	33.5	-3.4	83	-110	14
Services	1,205	1,723	2,651	25.3	928	43.0	53.9	344	272	311
Federal, civilian	82	78	83	0.8	5	-4.9	6.4	16	13	-24
Military	122	139	106	1.0	-33	13.9	-23.7	28	0	-61
State and local	686	878	1,183	11.3	305	28.0	34.7	175	159	-30
Total	8,464	8,801	10,467	100	1,666	4.0	18.9	1,758	264	-356

## Craighead County

The population of Craighead County in Northeast Arkansas was 82,148 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Arkansas State University, which continues to grow and is the county's largest employer, is located in Jonesboro. Craighead County's industry is strong and well diversified. Some of the county's most important products are bricks, chemicals, clothing and shoes, concrete products, dairy products, feed and fertilizer, electric motors, furniture, lumber, wood products, and food products (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was transportation and public utilities; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

Although employment growth was almost constant during the two decades at about 31 percent, 8,544 jobs and 12,337 jobs were added during the 80s and 90s, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and state/local government sectors accounted for over 75 percent of total county employment. Overall, the employment increase during the 90s can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, manufacturing,

construction, and state/local government sectors, which added 4,019, 2,538, 1,539, 1,104, and 1,250 jobs, respectively. The county is home to International Paper Company, Conagra, Inc., Riceland Foods, and Danaher Corporation, with all having facilities in Jonesboro. The manufacturing sector performed much better than any other sectors and had a RS higher than the NS. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS mainly due to the higher employment growth in the nation's manufacturing and retail trade sectors. The county economy benefited hugely due to the presence of a major educational institution. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 5.9 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the concentration of slow-growing industries. St. Bernard's Hospital, Inc.; Wal-Mart (three locations); Hytrol Conveyor Company, Inc.; Quebecor World USA, Inc.; Frito-Lay, Inc.; Wolverine World Wide, Inc. (two locations); Nestle USA-Prepared Foods Division, Inc.; and Northeast Arkansas Medical Center are some of the major employers in the county.

**Table 18. Shift-Share results for Craighead County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	2,095	1,360	1,279	2.5	-81	-35.1	-6.0	272	-62	-290
AFF	151	407	800	1.5	393	169.5	96.6	81	200	111
Mining	77	41	30	0.1	-11	-46.8	-26.8	8	-1	-18
Construction	1,717	2,225	3,329	6.4	1,104	29.6	49.6	445	411	249
Manufacturing	6,646	7,517	9,056	17.5	1,539	13.1	20.5	1,502	1,764	-1,727
TPU	1,395	2,015	2,497	4.8	482	44.4	23.9	403	-38	117
Wholesale trade	1,234	1,533	1,977	3.8	444	24.2	29.0	306	245	-107
Retail trade	5,164	6,926	9,464	18.3	2,538	34.1	36.6	1,384	1,188	-34
FIRE	1,707	2,043	2,657	5.1	614	19.7	30.1	408	138	67
Services	6,242	10,594	14,613	28.3	4,019	69.7	37.9	2,117	-13	1,915
Federal, civilian	344	423	538	1.0	115	23.0	27.2	85	160	-129
Military	409	501	432	0.8	-69	22.5	-13.8	100	50	-219
State and local	4,119	4,559	5,809	11.2	1,250	10.7	27.4	911	494	-155
Total	31,300	40,144	51,651	100	12,337	28.3	30.7	8,021	4,536	-220

## Crawford County

The population of Crawford County in Northwest Arkansas was 53,247 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The main economic base of the county is agriculture (soybeans, fruit, and vegetables) and affiliated industries, beef cattle, and poultry. Tourism is growing steadily around the county's lakes, rivers, mountains, valleys, and scenic views (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were transportation and public utilities, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was retail trade; the fastest growing was transportation and public utilities (REIS, 2001).

Although there was no significant difference in the county's employment growth rates during the 80s and 90s, which were 46 and 43 percent, respectively, about 5,100 jobs and 7,300 jobs were added, respectively, during the 80s and 90s. Based on the employment shares in 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and TPU sectors accounted for over 70 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, retail trade, construction, TPU, and state/local government sectors, which added 1,346, 560,

1,082, 926, 2,274, and 593 jobs, respectively. Major industries in the county include Tyson Foods, Inc., and Simmons Foods, Inc., both in Van Buren. In spite of having the largest employment share, the manufacturing sector did not perform as well as the other sectors. Noticeable was the growth of the TPU sector with a 174 percent increase in employment over the decade. The RS for the total county employment change was positive and higher than the national share mainly due to the construction, TPU, wholesale/retail trade, and state/local government sectors. Other important sectors that had the RS higher than the NS included construction, retail trade, and state/local government. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 7.6 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing, farm, and military employment growth rates being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth rate.

USA Truck, Inc.; Simmons Foods, Inc.; (multiple locations), Wal-Mart, Inc. (multiple locations); and Allen Canning, Inc. (multiple locations) are some of the major employers in the county.

**Table 19. Shift-Share results for Crawford County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,241	1,062	981	4.2	-81	-14.4	-7.6	212	-67	-227
AFF	37	135	191	0.8	56	264.9	41.5	27	-8	37
Mining	71	134	125	0.5	-9	88.7	-6.7	27	25	-60
Construction	728	980	1,906	8.2	926	34.6	94.5	196	621	110
Manufacturing	2,107	4,004	4,564	19.7	560	90.0	14.0	800	680	-920
TPU	861	1,313	3,587	15.5	2,274	52.5	173.2	262	1,935	76
Wholesale trade	538	540	789	3.4	249	0.4	46.1	108	179	-38
Retail trade	1,733	2,643	3,725	16.1	1,082	52.5	40.9	528	567	-13
FIRE	535	677	964	4.2	287	26.5	42.4	135	129	22
Services	1,974	3,061	4,407	19.0	1,346	55.1	44.0	612	181	553
Federal, civilian	88	98	132	0.6	34	11.4	34.7	20	44	-30
Military	232	309	277	1.2	-32	33.2	-10.4	62	41	-135
State and local	952	1,277	1,870	8.1	593	34.1	46.4	255	381	-43
Total	11,097	16,233	23,202	100	7,285	46.3	44.9	3,243	4,709	-667

## Crittenden County

The population of Crittenden County in Southeast Arkansas was 50,866 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The Mississippi River, two interstates, and three major railroads provide transportation options, with Memphis just across the river. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing, the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

Compared to 1,492 jobs added during 1980-90, the county's economy added 3,781 jobs (increase of 20.2 percent) during 1990-2000. In 2000, the services, retail trade, state/local government, TPU, and manufacturing sectors accounted for nearly 80 percent of total employment. Overall for Crittenden County, the employment increase during the 90s can be attributed to the growth of the services, TPU, retail trade, construction, and state/local government sectors, which added 1,363, 1,044, 873, 320, and 611 jobs, respectively. Although the services sector added the maximum jobs, it had a negative RS, meaning that job growth was mainly due to the analogous national sector performing better. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the national share mainly due to the TPU

and state/local government sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 21.7 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the performance of the national manufacturing, farm, and state/local government sectors, with countywide employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. Relative to the 80s, services, retail trade, state/local government and TPU grew at a faster rate in the 90s. County manufacturing employment, however, declined.

Major employers in the county include Weyerhaeuser Company, Crittenden Memorial Hospital, Wal-Mart, Schneider National Carrier, Watkins Motor Lines, Southland Racing Corporation, and Mid-South Community College.

**Table 20. Shift-Share results for Crittenden County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,803	983	770	3.4	-213	-45.5	-21.7	196	-200	-210
AFF	104	186	280	1.2	94	78.8	50.5	37	6	51
Mining	30	6	20	0.1	14	-80.0	233.3	1	16	-3
Construction	919	894	1,214	5.4	320	-2.7	35.8	179	41	100
Manufacturing	1,902	2,548	2,071	9.2	-477	34.0	-18.7	509	-401	-585
TPU	793	1,282	2,326	10.3	1,044	61.7	81.4	256	713	74
Wholesale trade	773	699	864	3.8	165	-9.6	23.6	140	74	-49
Retail trade	3,507	3,881	4,754	21.1	873	10.7	22.5	775	117	-19
FIRE	973	929	999	4.4	70	-4.5	7.5	186	-146	31
Services	3,927	4,756	6,119	27.2	1,363	21.1	28.7	950	-447	860
Federal, civilian	151	125	138	0.6	13	-17.2	10.4	25	26	-38
Military	314	362	266	1.2	-96	15.3	-26.5	72	-10	-158
State and local	2,051	2,088	2,699	12.0	611	1.8	29.3	417	265	-71
Total	17,247	18,739	22,520	100	3,781	8.7	20.2	3,744	54	-17

## Cross County

The population of Cross County in Northeast Arkansas was 19,526 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Agriculture and related enterprises are of major importance to the county with rice bringing in more than half the county's revenues. Soybeans and cotton are other main crops while peaches and other fruit crops are predominant on Crowley's Ridge. Village Creek State Park, almost 7,000 acres on Crowley's Ridge, has two fishing lakes, hiking trails, campsites, picnic sites, playgrounds, and many recreational areas and is a popular tourist destination. Tourism also contributes to the Cross County economy (AAC, 2005). Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

The local economy added 825 jobs, i.e. employment increased by approximately 10 percent during 1990-2000, a major improvement over the negative employment growth during 1980-1990. Based on employment shares in year 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for over 73 percent of total employment. Overall for Cross County, the employment increase during 1990-

2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, and TPU sectors, which added 658, 168, and 146 jobs, respectively. The total RS for the total county employment change was negative, mainly due to the slow growth of the manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors. During this period, farm-sector employment remained almost stagnant. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' employment growth being negative. The IM for the services sector was positive, reflecting the growth of this sector across the nation.

Compared to the 80s, the farm, construction, wholesale trade, and services sectors had significantly higher employment growth in the 90s. However, employment growth declined in AFF, manufacturing, TPU, and FIRE.

**Table 21. Shift-Share results for Cross County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,592	994	993	11.2	-1	-37.6	-0.1	199	13	-212
AFF	81	123	172	1.9	49	51.9	39.8	25	-9	34
Mining	5	6	7	0.1	1	20.0	16.7	1	3	-3
Construction	319	300	468	5.3	168	-6.0	56.0	60	75	34
Manufacturing	1,885	1,743	1,367	15.4	-376	-7.5	-21.6	348	-324	-400
TPU	306	470	616	6.9	146	53.6	31.1	94	25	27
Wholesale trade	335	337	422	4.8	85	0.6	25.2	67	41	-24
Retail trade	1,065	1,266	1,342	15.1	76	18.9	6.0	253	-171	-6
FIRE	319	422	514	5.8	92	32.3	21.8	84	-6	14
Services	1,047	1,116	1,774	20.0	658	6.6	59.0	223	233	202
Federal, civilian	87	87	77	0.9	-10	0.0	-11.5	17	-1	-27
Military	129	139	101	1.1	-38	7.8	-27.3	28	-5	-61
State and local	954	1,047	1,022	11.5	-25	9.7	-2.4	209	-199	-36
Total	8,124	8,050	8,875	100	825	-0.9	10.2	1,608	-326	-458

## Dallas County

The population of Dallas County in Southwest Arkansas was 9,210 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The world's first (southern U.S.) pine-plywood plant was built in Fordyce and timber resources still drive the county's economy. Georgia-Pacific Corp. is the county's largest employer. Tri-County Lake, where Dallas, Calhoun, and Cleveland counties meet, offers water recreation and tourism (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

There was no significant change in employment growth over the 1980-1990 and 1990-2000. During 1990-2000, the local economy added 533 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 12 percent. In year 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sector accounted for over 80 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment increase during this decade can be attributed to the growth of the services sectors that added 374 jobs, i.e. 70 percent of the total jobs. The county is home to Georgia-Pacific Corp.,

a major paper company with facilities in Fordyce. The total RS for the county employment change was negative due to the local manufacturing and retail trade sectors' employment growth being slower than their national counterparts. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 9.7 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the manufacturing sector's negative employment growth during 1990-2000. The IM for the services sector, however, was positive.

The construction, FIRE, and state/local government sectors had higher employment growth in the 90s. Similarly, the AFF, manufacturing, retail trade, and services sectors had higher employment growth in the 80s.

**Table 22. Shift-Share results for Dallas County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	183	145	131	2.6	-14	-20.8	-9.7	29	-12	-31
AFF	17	47	109	2.2	62	176.5	131.9	9	40	13
Mining	10	6	7	0.1	1	-40.0	16.7	1	3	-3
Construction	187	158	227	4.5	69	-15.5	43.7	32	20	18
Manufacturing	1,557	1,626	1,527	30.6	-99	4.4	-6.1	325	-50	-374
TPU	221	200	199	4.0	-1	-9.5	-0.5	40	-53	12
Wholesale trade	83	81	109	2.2	28	-2.4	34.6	16	17	-6
Retail trade	597	705	716	14.3	11	18.1	1.6	141	-126	-3
FIRE	132	118	181	3.6	63	-10.6	53.4	24	36	4
Services	507	837	1,211	24.3	374	65.1	44.7	167	55	151
Federal, civilian	33	32	40	0.8	8	-3.0	25.0	6	11	-10
Military	66	69	48	1.0	-21	4.5	-30.4	14	-5	-30
State and local	500	436	488	9.8	52	-12.8	11.9	87	-20	-15
Total	4,093	4,460	4,993	100	533	9.0	12.0	891	-84	-274



## Desha County

The population of Desha County in Southeast Arkansas was 15,341 in 2000 (US Census, 2005). It lies at the confluence of three of North America's major rivers: the White, the Arkansas and the Mississippi, which provide the county with waterway connections from New Orleans, La., to Tulsa, Okla. Railways, waterways, and rich agricultural resources have made Desha County a major grain shipping and storage center (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state/local government, farming, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

During 1990-2000, the local economy added 575 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 7.8 percent. This helped to offset the employment losses that the county incurred during the 80s when it lost 700 jobs. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for over 75 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment increase during this decade can be attributed to the growth of the construction, services, and manufacturing sectors, which added 288, 183, and 106 jobs, respectively.

Potlatch, a large forest products company, has a facility in McGhee and is a major employer in the county. During the 90s, the construction sector performed much better than any other sector and grew by 167 percent, resulting in a RS higher than the analogous national share. The RS for the total county was, however, negative, mainly due to the slow employment growth of the TPU, retail trade, services, and state/local government sectors. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 5.6 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth.

The construction sector boomed in the 90s while other sectors showed improved performance, compared to the earlier decade.

**Table 23. Shift-Share results for Desha County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,462	899	849	10.7	-50	-38.5	-5.6	180	-38	-192
AFF	114	208	300	3.8	92	82.5	44.2	42	-7	57
Mining	23	21	6	0.1	-15	-8.7	-71.4	4	-10	-9
Construction	314	172	460	5.8	288	-45.2	167.4	34	234	19
Manufacturing	1,492	1,394	1,500	18.8	106	-6.6	7.6	279	148	-320
TPU	421	405	348	4.4	-57	-3.8	-14.1	81	-161	24
Wholesale trade	280	238	270	3.4	32	-15.0	13.4	48	1	-17
Retail trade	1,471	1,213	1,185	14.9	-28	-17.5	-2.3	242	-264	-6
FIRE	326	392	372	4.7	-20	20.2	-5.1	78	-111	13
Services	1,115	1,217	1,400	17.6	183	9.1	15.0	243	-280	220
Federal, civilian	77	97	115	1.4	18	26.0	18.6	19	28	-30
Military	124	121	80	1.0	-41	-2.4	-33.9	24	-12	-53
State and local	881	1,015	1,082	13.6	67	15.2	6.6	203	-101	-34
Total	8,100	7,392	7,967	100	575	-8.7	7.8	1,477	-573	-328

## Drew County

The population of Drew County in Southeast Arkansas was 18,723 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Drew County is rich, flat, delta farmland in the eastern half and rolling hills in the western half. The economic base for the county is the timber industry; manufacturing of boats, carpets, furniture; and other service industries. A branch of the University of Arkansas is located in Monticello. Bayou Bartholomew, the longest bayou in the world, runs the length of the eastern side of the county. Hunting and fishing in the area offer several recreational options (AAC, 2005). Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

During 1990-2000, the county economy bounced back from the previous decade, when there was no job growth, by adding 2,025 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 25.7 percent. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for over 76 percent of total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, and

state/local government sectors, which added 798, 582, and 229 jobs, respectively. In spite of having the largest employment share, the county's manufacturing sector performed poorly and lost 234 jobs. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the national share due to the relatively higher national employment growth in retail trade, services, and wholesale trade. Sectors that had RS higher than the NS included retail trade, wholesale trade, and services. During this period, farm-sector employment declined marginally by 1.2 percent. The overall IM was negative due to the national manufacturing- and farm-employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth, which further meant that the county had a mix of slower growth industries. The IM for the services sector, however, was positive.

All the major sectors, including construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, and services, had higher employment growth during 1990-2000. However, compared to the 80s, job growth in the manufacturing sector declined in the 90s.

**Table 24. Shift-Share results for Drew County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	733	498	492	5.0	-6	-32.1	-1.2	100	1	-106
AFF	262	191	280	2.8	89	-27.1	46.6	38	-1	52
Mining	5	7	7	0.1	0	40.0	0.0	1	2	-3
Construction	250	192	327	3.3	135	-23.2	70.3	38	75	21
Manufacturing	2,466	2,482	2,248	22.7	-234	0.6	-9.4	496	-160	-570
TPU	151	168	286	2.9	118	11.3	70.2	34	75	10
Wholesale trade	158	150	343	3.5	193	-5.1	128.7	30	174	-11
Retail trade	1,098	1,150	1,732	17.5	582	4.7	50.6	230	358	-6
FIRE	220	281	427	4.3	146	27.7	52.0	56	81	9
Services	1,106	1,100	1,898	19.2	798	-0.5	72.5	220	379	199
Federal, civilian	77	85	88	0.9	3	10.4	3.5	17	12	-26
Military	116	125	97	1.0	-28	7.8	-22.4	25	2	-55
State and local	1,273	1,451	1,680	17.0	229	14.0	15.8	290	-12	-49
Total	7,915	7,880	9,905	100	2,025	-0.4	25.7	1,574	984	-534

## Faulkner County

The population of Faulkner County in Northeast Arkansas was 86,014 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Its proximity to Little Rock and to major transportation routes makes it attractive for industry such as light manufacturing. Three institutions of higher learning are located in Conway: Hendrix College, Central Baptist College, and the University of Central Arkansas. Conway is also home to the Arkansas Educational Television Network (AAC, 2005). Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

The employment growth (47 percent) during 1980-1990 continued into the next decade when the local economy added 16,964 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 59.4 percent during 1990-2000. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and state/local government sectors accounted for almost 76 percent of total county employment. Overall, the employment increase during this decade can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, construction, and manufacturing sectors, which added 7,010, 3,185, 2,037, and 1,341 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment

change was positive and higher than the NS mainly due to the county's high employment growth in construction, manufacturing, wholesale/retail trade, FIRE, and services. All the important sectors had RS higher than the NS, which indicates the excellent performance of all the county's sectors. During this period, farm-sector employment declined marginally by 1.4 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing, farming, and state/local government employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. The IM for the services sector was positive.

Acxiom Corporation, IC Corporation (formerly Amtram), Conway Regional Medical Center (multiple facilities), Wal-Mart (two locations), Navistar International Corporation, Virco Manufacturing Corporation, Kimberly Clark Corporation, and International Paper Company (2 locations) are some of the leading employers in the county.

**Table 25. Shift-Share results for Faulkner County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,556	1,254	1,236	2.7	-18	-19.4	-1.4	251	-1	-268
AFF	60	192	311	0.7	119	220.0	62.0	38	28	53
Mining	50	41	69	0.2	28	-18.0	68.3	8	38	-18
Construction	1,328	2,179	4,216	9.3	2,037	64.1	93.5	435	1,358	244
Manufacturing	4,769	6,392	7,733	17.0	1,341	34.0	21.0	1,277	1,532	-1,468
TPU	574	727	1,256	2.8	529	26.7	72.8	145	342	42
Wholesale trade	458	579	1,120	2.5	541	26.4	93.4	116	466	-41
Retail trade	2,770	4,766	7,951	17.5	3,185	72.1	66.8	952	2,256	-23
FIRE	675	1,027	2,165	4.8	1,138	52.1	110.8	205	899	34
Services	3,206	6,526	13,536	29.7	7,010	103.6	107.4	1,304	4,526	1,180
Federal, civilian	156	164	224	0.5	60	5.1	36.6	33	77	-50
Military	303	441	457	1.0	16	45.5	3.6	88	120	-193
State and local	3,571	4,284	5,262	11.6	978	20.0	22.8	856	267	-145
Total	19,476	28,572	45,536	100	16,964	46.7	59.4	5,709	11,910	-655

## Franklin County

The population of Franklin County in Northwest Arkansas was 17,771 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county lays claim to the first oil strike in Arkansas and sits on vast fields of coal, clay, iron, shale, and other minerals; however, agriculture is its main economic base. Production and processing of poultry account for most of the county's jobs. Swiss-German immigrants of a century ago recognized the tops of Franklin's mountains as a place to grow wine grapes, thus Altus has grown to be the winemaking capital of Arkansas (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farm, state/local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing, the fastest growing was military (REIS, 2001).

Compared to a 5 percent (256 jobs) employment growth during 1980-1990, the local economy added 1,519 jobs during 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 26.4 percent. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, farming, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 73 percent of total employment. Overall for Franklin County, the employment increase during the 90s was due to the growth of the services,

retail trade, and manufacturing sectors, which added 475, 182, and 279 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS due to the relatively higher national employment growth in the farming, retail trade, services, and state/local government sectors. Manufacturing was the only major sector that had the RS higher than the NS. During this period, farm-sector employment declined marginally by 4.7 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the low national manufacturing and farm employment growth. The IM for the services sector was positive. Significant employment growth was observed in the mining, construction, manufacturing, services, FIRE, and wholesale trade sectors during the 90s compared to the 80s. Cargill, Inc., and Baldor Electric Company have facilities in Ozark and are among the county's major employers.

**Table 26. Shift-Share results for Franklin County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,135	976	930	12.8	-46	-14.0	-4.7	195	-33	-208
AFF	20	110	85	1.2	-25	450.0	-22.7	22	-77	30
Mining	83	45	107	1.5	62	-45.8	137.8	9	73	-20
Construction	303	293	441	6.1	148	-3.3	50.5	59	57	33
Manufacturing	1,129	949	1,228	16.9	279	-15.9	29.4	190	307	-218
TPU	299	358	467	6.4	109	19.7	30.4	72	17	21
Wholesale trade	61	60	103	1.4	43	-1.6	71.7	12	35	-4
Retail trade	631	774	956	13.1	182	22.7	23.5	155	31	-4
FIRE	188	210	369	5.1	159	11.7	75.7	42	110	7
Services	759	860	1,335	18.4	475	13.3	55.2	172	148	155
Federal, civilian	192	186	166	2.3	-20	-3.1	-10.8	37	0	-57
Military	106	159	242	3.3	83	50.0	52.2	32	121	-69
State and local	592	774	844	11.6	70	30.7	9.0	155	-58	-26
Total	5,498	5,754	7,273	100	1,519	4.7	26.4	1,150	730	-361

## Fulton County

The population of Fulton County in Northeast Arkansas was 11,642 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The well-known Mammoth Spring, one of the largest single-outlet springs in North America, is located in the county. Many recreational activities can be found around this area. Lake Norfolk and Horseshoe Bend also provide water sports. Nearly half of the land area of the county is in pastureland. Beef cattle, poultry farming, and feed production are leading agricultural activities (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state/local government, services, and TPU. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was construction; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

The county's economy added 115 and 1,339 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 3.4 and 38.1 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, farm, retail trade, state/local government, and construction sectors accounted for about 74 percent of total employment. The employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, FIRE, and retail trade sectors, which added 527, 274, 236, and 166 jobs,

respectively. In spite of having the largest employment share during 1990-2000, the manufacturing sector performed poorly and lost 234 jobs. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS mainly due to the comparative advantage the local construction, FIRE, and services sectors enjoyed. Sectors that had RS higher than the NS included retail trade and services. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment was unchanged. The overall IM was negative due to a mix of slow-growth industries. The IM for the services sector was positive.

Compared to the 80s, service-sector employment growth was significantly higher during the 90s, which had a multiplier effect on the construction, state/local government, and FIRE sectors.

**Table 27. Shift-Share results for Fulton County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,052	844	844	17.4	0	-19.8	0.0	169	12	-180
AFF	18	43	55	1.1	12	138.9	27.9	9	-8	12
Mining	15	6	7	0.1	1	-60.0	16.7	1	3	-3
Construction	201	184	458	9.4	274	-8.5	148.9	37	217	21
Manufacturing	340	455	400	8.2	-55	33.8	-12.1	91	-41	-105
TPU	140	174	246	5.1	72	24.3	41.4	35	27	10
Wholesale trade	61	63	85	1.8	22	3.3	34.9	13	14	-4
Retail trade	330	455	621	12.8	166	37.9	36.5	91	77	-2
FIRE	169	131	367	7.6	236	-22.5	180.2	26	205	4
Services	482	605	1,132	23.3	527	25.5	87.1	121	297	109
Federal, civilian	41	36	43	0.9	7	-12.2	19.4	7	11	-11
Military	63	73	61	1.3	-12	15.9	-16.4	15	5	-32
State and local	485	443	532	11.0	89	-8.7	20.1	89	16	-15
Total	3,397	3,512	4,851	100	1,339	3.4	38.1	702	833	-196

## Garland County

The population of Garland County in Southwest Arkansas was 88,068 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Hot Springs, the county seat, has drawn visitors to the area for over a century. Recreation and tourism have always been mainstays of the county's economy, along with livestock production and logging. One of the largest quartz crystal mining operations in North America is located in Garland County. The famous Oaklawn Park offers thoroughbred horse racing from February through April. Three lakes—Ouachita, Catherine, and Hamilton—offer a full range of water sports and recreational facilities. New construction of homes and businesses are on the rise in Hot Springs (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, retail trade, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

The county's economy added 4197 and 11,953 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 13.2 and 33.2 percent. In 2000, the services, retail trade, construction, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 74 percent of total

county employment. Overall for Garland County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, and retail trade sectors, which added 3,293, 1,956, and 2,835 jobs, respectively. The RS was positive due to the high growth of the retail trade, wholesale trade, FIRE, and construction sectors. Important sectors that had RS higher than NS included construction and wholesale trade. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 3.5 percent. The overall IM was positive mainly due to the national services sector performing very well, indicating that the county's IM was tilted towards faster growing industries. Relative to their growth rates during the 80s, employment growth in the retail trade, construction, and government sectors was higher in the 90s.

Major employers in the county include St. Joseph's Mercy Health Center, Wal-Mart, Inc., National Park Medical Center, Weyerhaeuser Company, Aluminum Company of America, Inc., Superior Senior Care, and Munro and Company.

**Table 28. Shift-Share results for Garland County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	596	455	439	0.9	-16	-23.7	-3.5	91	-10	-97
AFF	418	417	637	1.3	220	-0.2	52.8	83	23	114
Mining	467	497	323	0.7	-174	6.4	-35.0	99	-49	-224
Construction	2,390	2,699	4,655	9.7	1,956	12.9	72.5	539	1,115	302
Manufacturing	4,376	3,758	4,228	8.8	470	-14.1	12.5	751	582	-863
TPU	1,285	1,049	1,336	2.8	287	-18.4	27.4	210	17	61
Wholesale trade	847	1,210	1,741	3.6	531	42.9	43.9	242	374	-85
Retail trade	5,688	7,271	10,106	21.1	2,835	27.8	39.0	1,453	1,418	-36
FIRE	2,540	2,381	3,609	7.5	1,228	-6.3	51.6	476	674	79
Services	9,088	12,306	16,229	33.8	3,923	35.4	31.9	2,459	-760	2,224
Federal, civilian	536	548	620	1.3	72	2.2	13.1	109	130	-167
Military	449	533	465	1.0	-68	18.7	-12.8	106	58	-233
State and local	3,138	2,891	3,580	7.5	689	-7.9	23.8	578	209	-98
Total	31,818	36,015	47,968	100	11,953	13.2	33.2	7,196	3,780	977



## Grant County

The population of Grant County in Southeast Arkansas was 16,464 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Grant County is a large, rural county of rolling, pine-covered hills, predominantly owned by big timber companies. The Saline River winds through Grant County and into the Ouachita River in southern Arkansas. Fishing and hunting are extremely popular (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state/local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

There was no significant difference in employment growth in the county's economy during 1980-90 and 1990-2000, when the sectors added 1,072 and 1,620 jobs, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 29.6 and 34.5 percent, respectively. In year 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, state/local government, and construction sectors accounted for about 74 percent of the total county employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, and retail trade sectors, which added 488, 266, and 290 jobs, respectively.

The RS for the total county employment change was positive and higher than the NS mainly due to the high employment growth of the construction, manufacturing, retail trade, FIRE, and services sectors. Important sectors that had RS higher than the NS included retail trade and construction. During this period, farm-sector employment was unchanged. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. The IM for the services sector was positive.

Major employers in the county included International Paper Company and Kohler Company, with the latter manufacturing plumbing fixtures and household sinks in facilities in Leola and Sheridan, respectively.

**Table 29. Shift-Share results for Grant County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	303	234	247	3.9	13	-22.8	5.6	47	16	-50
AFF	20	40	48	0.8	8	100.0	20.0	8	-11	11
Mining	18	40	50	0.8	10	122.2	25.0	8	20	-18
Construction	119	262	528	8.4	266	120.2	101.5	52	184	29
Manufacturing	1,097	1,434	1,593	25.2	159	30.7	11.1	287	202	-329
TPU	206	332	268	4.2	-64	61.2	-19.3	66	-150	19
Wholesale trade	140	74	168	2.7	94	-47.1	127.0	15	84	-5
Retail trade	511	660	950	15.0	290	29.2	43.9	132	161	-3
FIRE	115	152	343	5.4	191	32.2	125.7	30	156	5
Services	441	678	1,166	18.5	488	53.7	72.0	135	230	123
Federal, civilian	45	39	44	0.7	5	-13.3	12.8	8	9	-12
Military	82	101	86	1.4	-15	23.2	-14.9	20	9	-44
State and local	528	651	826	13.1	175	23.3	26.9	130	67	-22
Total	3,625	4,697	6,317	100	1,620	29.6	34.5	938	978	-297

## Greene County

The population of Greene County in Northeast Arkansas was 37,331 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Agriculture has replaced timber as the principal activity with top crops being rice, soybeans, and small grains. The St. Francis River, which forms the county's eastern border with Missouri, and the Cache River, along the western border, offer fishing and hunting. This is a very popular area for residents as well as many tourists (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

Relative to 1,730 additional jobs during 1980-1990, there was a more than two-fold increase in job growth with the county's economy adding 4,768 jobs during 1990-2000. From 13.2 percent in the 80s, employment increased by 32 percent during the 90s. The manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 79 percent of the total county employment in 1990-2000. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, and retail trade

sectors, which added 1,639, 1,355, and 722 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS mainly due to the job increases in the manufacturing and services. Important sectors that had the RS higher than the NS included manufacturing, services, and wholesale trade. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 6.2 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the low national manufacturing, and farm employment. This was also due to the presence of slow-growth industries in the county.

Emerson Electric Company, Monroe Auto Equipment Company; Arkansas Methodist Hospital; L.A. Darling Company (Darling Store Fixtures); American Railcar, Inc. (2 locations); Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company; and Wal-Mart Inc., are among the major employers in the county.

**Table 30. Shift-Share results for Greene County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,513	1,091	1,023	5.2	-68	-27.9	-6.2	218	-53	-233
AFF	204	110	200	1.0	90	-46.1	81.8	22	38	30
Mining	14	25	15	0.1	-10	78.6	-40.0	5	-4	-11
Construction	509	672	817	4.2	145	32.0	21.6	134	-64	75
Manufacturing	3,940	5,089	6,444	32.8	1,355	29.2	26.6	1,017	1,507	-1,169
TPU	305	300	431	2.2	131	-1.6	43.7	60	54	17
Wholesale trade	409	456	636	3.2	180	11.5	39.5	91	121	-32
Retail trade	2,045	2,380	3,102	15.8	722	16.4	30.3	476	258	-12
FIRE	505	552	770	3.9	218	9.3	39.5	110	89	18
Services	2,407	2,689	4,328	22.0	1,639	11.7	61.0	537	616	486
Federal, civilian	98	99	108	0.5	9	1.0	9.1	20	19	-30
Military	193	230	195	1.0	-35	19.2	-15.2	46	19	-100
State and local	1,006	1,184	1,576	8.0	392	17.7	33.1	237	196	-40
Total	13,148	14,877	19,645	100	4,768	13.2	32.0	2,972	2,796	-1,001

## Hempstead County

The population of Hempstead County in Southwest Arkansas was 23,587 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economy is noted for food processing, poultry and egg, beef cattle, soybeans, and fruit production (AAC, 2005). The largest industries in 1998 were nondurable goods manufacturing, services, and farming. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

Compared to the negative employment growth during 1980-1990, during 1990-2000, 2,896 jobs were added to the county economy, i.e. employment increased by 29.6 percent. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 76 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, for Greene County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the manufacturing and services sectors, which added 1,340 and 849 jobs, respectively. Two of the country's largest poultry processing giants, Tyson Foods, Inc., and Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, have facilities in Hope that have hugely benefited the county economy. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but

lower than the NS, mainly due to the high employment growth rate of the county's manufacturing industry that had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 10.8 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth.

Relative to 1980-1990, all the major sectors of the county's economy had significant employment growth during 1990-2000.

**Table 31. Shift-Share results for Hempstead County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,718	1,138	1,015	8.0	-123	-33.8	-10.8	227	-107	-243
AFF	200	185	152	1.2	-33	-7.5	-17.8	37	-121	51
Mining	48	7	8	0.1	1	-85.4	14.3	1	3	-3
Construction	474	315	428	3.4	113	-33.5	35.9	63	15	35
Manufacturing	2,536	2,687	4,027	31.7	1,340	6.0	49.9	537	1,420	-617
TPU	389	407	491	3.9	84	4.6	20.6	81	-21	24
Wholesale trade	449	263	275	2.2	12	-41.4	4.6	53	-22	-18
Retail trade	1,231	1,316	1,605	12.7	289	6.9	22.0	263	33	-6
FIRE	290	326	390	3.1	64	12.4	19.6	65	-12	11
Services	1,368	1,714	2,563	20.2	849	25.3	49.5	342	197	310
Federal, civilian	94	109	113	0.9	4	16.0	3.7	22	15	-33
Military	148	156	122	1.0	-34	5.4	-21.8	31	3	-68
State and local	1,201	1,166	1,496	11.8	330	-2.9	28.3	233	137	-40
Total	10,146	9,789	12,685	100	2,896	-3.5	29.6	1,956	1,539	-599

## Hot Spring County

The population of Hot Spring County in Southwest Arkansas was 30,353 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Hot Spring County's economic base is beef and dairy cattle production and cultivation of hay, soybeans, and rice. Industrial development includes lumber mills, brick plants, metals, and small industry. Many residents currently commute out of the county for work. The county has many varieties (65) of valuable minerals including the nation's greatest concentrations of novaculite and vanadium and magnet ore, the latter two of which are in the roadbed of U.S. Highway 270 (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state/local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was transportation and public utilities (REIS, 2001).

Compared to the 500 jobs added during 1980-1990, the county economy added 1,630 jobs during 1990-2000. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 72 percent of the total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attrib-

uted to the growth of the services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors, which added 814, 507, and 306 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the county's economic sectors grew at a slower rate than their national counterparts. Construction and TPU had RS lower than NS. Sectors that had RS higher than NS included manufacturing, AFF, and FIRE. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 8.3 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. Relative to the 80s, employment growth was significantly higher in the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and mining sectors during the 90s. However, employment declined in the TPU and wholesale trade sectors.

Major employers in the county include HSC Medical Center, Precision Industries, Pactiv Corporation, Kohler Company, Ouachita Technical College, and General Cable.

**Table 32. Shift-Share results for Hot Springs County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	622	529	485	4.3	-44	-15.0	-8.3	106	-37	-113
AFF	38	101	270	2.4	169	165.8	167.3	20	121	28
Mining	138	37	121	1.1	84	-73.2	227.0	7	93	-17
Construction	825	947	826	7.3	-121	14.8	-12.8	189	-416	106
Manufacturing	2,577	2,119	2,626	23.3	507	-17.8	23.9	423	570	-487
TPU	400	887	494	4.4	-393	121.8	-44.3	177	-622	52
Wholesale trade	162	196	166	1.5	-30	21.0	-15.3	39	-55	-14
Retail trade	1,299	1,389	1,695	15.0	306	6.9	22.0	278	35	-7
FIRE	404	326	545	4.8	219	-19.3	67.2	65	143	11
Services	1,377	1,643	2,457	21.8	814	19.3	49.5	328	189	297
Federal, civilian	68	79	88	0.8	9	16.2	11.4	16	17	-24
Military	168	188	158	1.4	-30	11.9	-16.0	38	15	-82
State and local	1,071	1,214	1,354	12.0	140	13.4	11.5	243	-61	-41
Total	9,149	9,655	11,285	100	1,630	5.5	16.9	1,929	-8	-292

## Howard County

The population of Howard County in Southwest Arkansas was 14,300 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Farming was the main source of income; the major crops were cotton, corn, peaches, and cattle. Howard County has several large industries that provide employment to approximately 50 percent of its work force (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, nondurable goods manufacturing, and farming. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

Employment growth remained fixed at about 16 to 17 percent over the two decades. During 1990-2000, the local economy added 1,629 jobs. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 72 percent of the total county employment. Overall for Howard County, the employment increase during the 90s can be attributed to the growth of the manufacturing and services sectors, which added 842 and 310 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS, mainly due to the major sectors' employment growing at a slower rate than their national counterparts. During

this period, farm-sector employment declined by about 1 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. The IM for the services sector was positive.

The major employers in the county include Frigidaire Home Products, James Hardy Gypsum, Jan-Eze Planting, Mission Plastics, Pilgrims Pride, Tyson Foods, Inc., Weyerhaeuser Company, and Oxbodies.

**Table 33. Shift-Share results for Howard County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,039	848	840	7.7	-8	-18.4	-0.9	169	4	-181
AFF	110	208	275	2.5	67	89.1	32.2	42	-32	57
Mining	5	7	8	0.1	1	-30.0	14.3	1	3	-3
Construction	184	169	202	1.8	33	-8.2	19.5	34	-20	19
Manufacturing	3,597	4,327	5,169	47.1	842	20.3	19.5	865	971	-994
TPU	284	399	436	4.0	37	40.5	9.3	80	-66	23
Wholesale trade	100	150	151	1.4	1	20.0	0.7	30	-18	-11
Retail trade	866	933	1,119	10.2	186	7.7	19.9	186	4	-5
FIRE	225	222	269	2.5	47	-1.3	21.2	44	-5	7
Services	882	1,281	1,591	14.5	310	45.2	24.2	256	-177	232
Federal, civilian	73	73	80	0.7	7	0.0	9.6	15	15	-22
Military	84	98	74	0.7	-24	16.7	-24.5	20	-1	-43
State and local	565	621	751	6.8	130	9.9	20.9	124	27	-21
Total	7,909	9,336	10,965	100	1,629	16.1	17.4	1,865	705	-942

## Independence County

The population of Independence County in Northeast Arkansas was 34,233 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Agriculture is the economic base of the county, primarily cattle and poultry production and processing. The largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was state/local government; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

While 2,461 jobs were added during 1980-1990, the county economy added 3,620 jobs during 1990-2000. Employment growth was 15.5 and 19.8 percent, respectively. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 73 percent of the total county employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 1,325, 835, 901, and 409 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS mainly due to the manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors' slower

employment growth relative to their national counterparts. Manufacturing was the only important sector that had the RS higher than the NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased by about 4.7 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. Relative to the 80s, only retail-trade employment growth was higher in the 90s.

Major employers in the county include Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, Emerson Electric Company, Townsends of Arkansas, White River Medical Center, GDX Automotive, Eastman Chemical Company, Wal-Mart Inc., and Professional Dental Technologies.

**Table 34. Shift-Share results for Independence County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,537	1,239	1,297	5.9	58	-19.4	4.7	248	75	-264
AFF	115	175	216	1.0	41	52.2	23.4	35	-42	48
Mining	57	77	64	0.3	-13	35.1	-16.9	15	6	-35
Construction	1,566	788	1,006	4.6	218	-49.7	27.7	157	-28	88
Manufacturing	4,365	5,076	5,911	27.0	835	16.3	16.4	1,014	987	-1,166
TPU	841	1,829	1,479	6.7	-350	117.5	-19.1	365	-822	106
Wholesale trade	599	569	655	3.0	86	-5.0	15.1	114	12	-40
Retail trade	1,898	2,369	3,270	14.9	901	24.8	38.0	473	439	-12
FIRE	658	675	829	3.8	154	2.6	22.8	135	-3	22
Services	2,832	3,762	5,087	23.2	1,325	32.8	35.2	752	-107	680
Federal, civilian	183	197	200	0.9	3	7.7	1.5	39	24	-60
Military	193	225	178	0.8	-47	16.6	-20.9	45	6	-98
State and local	998	1,322	1,731	7.9	409	32.5	30.9	264	190	-45
Total	15,842	18,303	21,923	100	3,620	15.5	19.8	3,657	739	-775



## Izard County

The population of Izard County in Northeast Arkansas was 13,249 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The Ozark hill country is good for raising cattle and timber, and silica sand is found in the rivers. Small manufacturing has boosted the county's economy. The White River forms the county's southwestern border and provides recreation and fishing. A world-famous trout fishing river, the White, brings cold water from the depths of Bull Shoals and Norfork lakes, gradually warming near Batesville (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state and local government, durable goods manufacturing, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was construction; the fastest growing was farming (REIS, 2001).

The employment growth declined from 26.2 percent to 16.8 percent during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, respectively. While 990 jobs were added during the 80s, the county's economy added 802 jobs during the 90s. In 2000, the services, state/local government, farming, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 79 percent of the total employment. Overall for Izard County, the employment increase during the decade can be attributed to the growth of the services,

FIRE, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 214, 227, 218, and 317 jobs, respectively. The RS was positive but lower than the NS mainly due to manufacturing, TPU, and services employment growing slower than their national counterparts. State/local government, FIRE, and retail trade were the only important sectors that had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm-sector employment increased by 3 percent. The overall IM was negative due to a mix of slow growing industries, with the manufacturing and farm sectors being the notable ones.

Relative to 1980-90, employment growth was lower in the manufacturing, TPU, retail trade, services, and AFF sectors.

**Table 35. Shift-Share results for Izard County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	868	794	818	14.7	24	-8.5	3.0	159	35	-169
AFF	32	50	65	1.2	15	56.3	30.0	10	-9	14
Mining	45	47	60	1.1	13	4.4	27.7	9	25	-21
Construction	211	236	283	5.1	47	11.8	19.9	47	-27	26
Manufacturing	583	913	808	14.5	-105	56.6	-11.5	182	-78	-210
TPU	102	384	197	3.5	-187	276.5	-48.7	77	-286	22
Wholesale trade	15	17	52	0.9	35	13.3	205.9	3	33	-1
Retail trade	364	537	755	13.6	218	47.5	40.6	107	113	-3
FIRE	347	196	423	7.6	227	-43.5	115.8	39	181	6
Services	685	900	1,114	20.0	214	31.4	23.8	180	-129	163
Federal, civilian	46	47	45	0.8	-2	2.2	-4.3	9	3	-14
Military	68	83	69	1.2	-14	22.1	-16.9	17	6	-36
State and local	412	564	881	15.8	317	36.9	56.2	113	223	-19
Total	3,778	4,768	5,570	100	802	26.2	16.8	953	92	-242

## Jackson County

The population of Jackson County in Northeast Arkansas was 18,418 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economy of the county is agricultural, chiefly rice, soybeans, corn, milo, beef cattle, and catfish. Other industries, e.g. aluminum, wood products, manufactured goods, and food processing, are active (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and farming. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was retail trade; the fastest growing was farm (REIS, 2001).

The county economy lost 733 and added 526 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000 respectively, i.e. employment growth was minus 8.1 and 6.4 percent, respectively. Based on the employment shares in year 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 77 percent of the total county employment. Overall the county employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed largely to the growth of the services sector, which added 802 jobs. The RS for the total county employment change was negative due to the slow employment growth in the manufacturing and retail trade sectors. None of the important sectors had RS

higher than NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 12.2 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. The IM for the county's services sector was positive. The county IM was tilted towards slow-growth industries.

Compared to the growth during the 80s, services was the only sector that added significantly more jobs in the 90s.

**Table 36. Shift-Share results for Jackson County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,357	895	786	8.9	-109	-34.0	-12.2	179	-97	-191
AFF	95	144	200	2.3	56	51.6	38.9	29	-12	39
Mining	15	7	20	0.2	13	-53.3	185.7	1	15	-3
Construction	423	392	457	5.2	65	-7.3	16.6	78	-57	44
Manufacturing	1,657	1,528	1,087	12.4	-441	-7.8	-28.9	305	-395	-351
TPU	362	435	488	5.5	53	20.2	12.2	87	-59	25
Wholesale trade	330	275	326	3.7	51	-16.7	18.5	55	15	-19
Retail trade	1,452	1,408	1,338	15.2	-70	-3.0	-5.0	281	-344	-7
FIRE	494	366	360	4.1	-6	-25.9	-1.6	73	-91	12
Services	1,884	1,796	2,598	29.5	802	-4.7	44.7	359	119	325
Federal, civilian	77	69	62	0.7	-7	-10.4	-10.1	14	0	-21
Military	136	137	95	1.1	-42	0.7	-30.7	27	-10	-60
State and local	719	816	977	11.1	161	13.5	19.7	163	26	-28
Total	9,001	8,268	8,794	100	526	-8.1	6.4	1,652	-891	-235

## Jefferson County

The population of Jefferson County in Southeast Arkansas was 84,278 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Jefferson County is known for the fertile quality of its soil and has always been one of the leading cotton producers in the state. Its economic development is strongly tied to railroads and the Arkansas River. Its largest employers are International Paper Company, Jefferson Regional Medical Center, and the Pine Bluff Arsenal. The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and two units of the state prison system make state government a heavy contributor to the economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, state and local government, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was state/local government; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

There was no significant difference in employment growth over the two decades. During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, 678 and 1,783 jobs were added, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 1.6 and 4.2 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 75 percent of total employment. Overall, the

employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the services, manufacturing, and state/local government sectors, which added 1,474, 1,939, and 789 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative due to job losses in manufacturing and retail trade. Manufacturing was the only county sector that had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 1.4 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to national manufacturing and government employment growth being considerably lower than overall national employment growth.

Major employers in the county include Tyson Foods, Inc.; Jefferson Regional Medical Center; International Paper Company; Arkansas Department of Corrections (multiple locations); Pine Bluff Arsenal Department-Army; University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff; Central Moloney, Inc.; National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR); Raytheon Demilitarization Company; Wal-Mart, Inc. (two locations); and Stephen LaFrance Holdings, Inc. (multiple locations).

**Table 37. Shift-Share results for Jefferson County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,764	965	951	2.2	-14	-45.3	-1.5	193	-1	-206
AFF	150	321	511	1.2	190	114.0	59.2	64	38	88
Mining	50	63	8	0.0	-55	26.0	-87.3	13	-39	-28
Construction	3,792	2,646	1,717	3.9	-929	-30.2	-35.1	529	-1,754	296
Manufacturing	6,259	6,499	8,438	19.2	1,939	3.8	29.8	1,299	2,133	-1,493
TPU	4,307	2,654	2,100	4.8	-554	-38.4	-20.9	530	-1,238	154
Wholesale trade	1,480	1,637	1,422	3.2	-215	10.6	-13.1	327	-427	-115
Retail trade	6,298	6,977	6,873	15.6	-104	10.8	-1.5	1,394	-1,464	-34
FIRE	2,024	1,925	1,849	4.2	-76	-4.9	-3.9	385	-524	64
Services	7,933	10,012	11,486	26.1	1,474	26.2	14.7	2,000	-2,336	1,810
Federal, civilian	1,877	2,149	1,727	3.9	-422	14.5	-19.6	429	-195	-656
Military	678	729	489	1.1	-240	7.5	-32.9	146	-67	-318
State and local	4,939	5,652	6,441	14.6	789	14.4	14.0	1,129	-149	-192
Total	41,551	42,229	44,012	100	1,783	1.6	4.2	8,437	-6,023	-631

## Johnson County

The population of Johnson County in Northwest Arkansas was 22,781 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Clarksville is the county seat, which was the location for the state's first school for deaf children in 1851 and the same site of today's University of the Ozarks. Little and Big Piney Creeks in the northeast corner and White Rock in the northwest offer hunting, fishing, canoeing, hiking, and camping. The southern half of the county is river valley farm country where peaches, cattle, vegetables, soybeans, and grains are grown. Diversified industry is scattered throughout the county (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing, retail trade, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

The local economy added 3,946 jobs during 1990-2000, significantly higher than the 873 jobs added during 1980-1990. Employment growth was 13.4 and 53.3 percent respectively, during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000. In 2000, manufacturing, retail trade, and services accounted for over 70 percent of the total county employment. The employment increase during 1990-

2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade and manufacturing sectors, which added 913, 1,240, and 997 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive and higher than the national share primarily due to the job growth in manufacturing, retail trade, and services. All the important sectors had RS higher than NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 5.4 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than overall national employment growth. The IM for the services sector was positive. Tyson Foods, Inc., and Baldor Electric Company have facilities in Clarksville and are the major employers in the county.

Relative to the 80s, employment growth was significantly higher in the manufacturing, retail trade, and services sectors. As a result of this, the construction industry also boomed during the 90s.

**Table 38. Shift-Share results for Johnson County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	893	777	735	6.5	-42	-13.0	-5.4	155	-31	-166
AFF	15	60	122	1.1	62	300.0	103.3	12	34	16
Mining	90	46	32	0.3	-14	-48.9	-30.4	9	-2	-21
Construction	220	219	520	4.6	301	-0.5	137.4	44	233	24
Manufacturing	2,242	2,355	3,352	29.5	997	5.0	42.3	471	1,067	-541
TPU	103	122	215	1.9	93	18.4	76.2	24	62	7
Wholesale trade	47	84	123	1.1	39	78.7	46.4	17	28	-6
Retail trade	823	1,188	2,428	21.4	1,240	44.3	104.4	237	1,008	-6
FIRE	191	210	500	4.4	290	9.9	138.1	42	241	7
Services	1,015	1,267	2,180	19.2	913	24.8	72.1	253	431	229
Federal, civilian	96	116	120	1.1	4	20.8	3.4	23	16	-35
Military	110	132	118	1.0	-14	20.0	-10.6	26	17	-58
State and local	685	827	904	8.0	77	20.7	9.3	165	-60	-28
Total	6,530	7,403	11,349	100	3,946	13.4	53.3	1,479	3,043	-576

## Lafayette County

The population of Lafayette County in Southwest Arkansas was 8,559 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The terrain is rolling hills, largely forested. Much of the land today is owned by large timber companies, which manage trees for harvest and re-growth. Lake Erling is included in the Lafayette County Wildlife Management Area and is jointly managed by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and International Paper Company for public use. Poultry is big in the northwestern portion of the county while truck farms in the northeast send tons of fresh vegetables to larger markets (AAC, 2005). The largest industries in 1998 were farm, durable goods manufacturing, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing from 1997 to 1998 was farming; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

Although the employment loss was slowed to some extent, the local economy lost 7 jobs during 1990-2000, significantly less than the 394 jobs lost during 1980-1990. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, state/local government, farm, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 75 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the decline in employment during the two

decades of study was due to most sectors performing poorly. That the RS for the total county employment change was negative further indicates the low employment growth of the county's economy. None of the major sectors had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 13.1 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the county's manufacturing, farm, and state/local government sectors' employment growth being considerably lower than the overall national employment growth. The IM for the services sector was positive.

**Table 39. Shift-Share results for Lafayette County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	534	421	366	11.9	-55	-21.2	-13.1	84	-49	-90
AFF	181	93	94	3.1	1	-48.6	1.1	19	-43	25
Mining	152	117	75	2.4	-42	-23.0	-35.9	23	-13	-53
Construction	251	130	185	6.0	55	-48.2	42.3	26	14	15
Manufacturing	559	632	494	16.1	-138	13.1	-21.8	126	-119	-145
TPU	198	171	186	6.1	15	-13.6	8.8	34	-29	10
Wholesale trade	51	19	18	0.6	-1	-62.7	-5.3	4	-3	-1
Retail trade	405	326	305	9.9	-21	-19.5	-6.4	65	-85	-2
FIRE	107	112	130	4.2	18	4.7	16.1	22	-8	4
Services	468	489	667	21.7	178	4.5	36.4	98	-8	88
Federal, civilian	39	35	42	1.4	7	-10.3	20.0	7	11	-11
Military	64	69	44	1.4	-25	7.8	-36.2	14	-9	-30
State and local	461	462	463	15.1	1	0.2	0.2	92	-76	-16
Total	3,470	3,076	3,069	100	-7	-11.4	-0.2	615	-416	-205

## Lawrence County

The population of Lawrence County in Northeast Arkansas was 17,774 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economy is made up of agriculture, with rice, soybeans, and milo as leading crops. Cattle, poultry, and light manufacturing also contribute to the economy. Three highways make it convenient to ship in and out of the county (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state/local government, and farm. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

The local economy added 254 and 818 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 3.5 and 10.7 percent during the two decades, respectively. The services, manufacturing, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 75 percent of the total county's employment in 2000. The county's employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, state/local government, and retail trade sectors, which added 377, 263, and 136 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the county's sectors performed poorly.

Only the state/local government sector had RS higher than NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 8.5 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to national manufacturing and farm employment growth being considerably lower than overall national employment growth. Surprisingly, the IM for the services sector was also negative.

Relative to their performance in the 80s, the services sector performed better in the 90s. However, employment growth in manufacturing and retail trade was lower in the 90s.

**Table 40. Shift-Share results for Lawrence County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,401	1,032	944	11.2	-88	-26.3	-8.5	206	-74	-220
AFF	66	106	211	2.5	105	60.6	99.1	21	55	29
Mining	15	75	80	0.9	5	400.0	6.7	15	24	-34
Construction	351	300	425	5.0	125	-14.5	41.7	60	32	34
Manufacturing	1,408	1,665	1,359	16.1	-306	18.3	-18.4	333	-256	-382
TPU	316	400	508	6.0	108	26.6	27.0	80	5	23
Wholesale trade	245	268	333	3.9	65	9.4	24.3	54	30	-19
Retail trade	944	1,129	1,265	15.0	136	19.6	12.0	226	-84	-6
FIRE	242	291	357	4.2	66	20.2	22.7	58	-2	10
Services	1,309	1,200	1,577	18.7	377	-8.3	31.4	240	-80	217
Federal, civilian	102	90	85	1.0	-5	-11.8	-5.6	18	4	-27
Military	151	125	92	1.1	-33	-17.2	-26.4	25	-3	-55
State and local	811	934	1,197	14.2	263	15.2	28.2	187	108	-32
Total	7,361	7,615	8,433	100	818	3.5	10.7	1,521	-241	-462



## Lee County

The population of Lee County in Southeastern Arkansas was 12,580 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economy is mainly agricultural; rich cotton and other typical delta crops are grown here. The Crowley's Ridge area grows fruit crops and pecan trees. Processing agricultural products and light manufacturing have helped the economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state and local government, farming, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

The local economy recovered from the earlier decade, when it lost 1,118 jobs, adding 488 jobs during 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 13.3 percent during the 90s. Based on the employment shares in year 2000, the state/local government, services, farming, retail trade, and manufacturing sectors accounted for over 80 percent of the county's total employment. Overall for Lee County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services and state/local government sectors, which added 263 and 230 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, primarily due to the

decline in the farming and retail trade sectors. Only the AFF sector had RS higher than NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 19 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing, farming, and state/local government sectors' county-level employment growth being considerably lower than overall national employment growth. The negative IM further showed that the county's IM was tilted towards slower growth industries.

Compared to growth in the 80s, employment increased significantly in the services and state/local government sectors, which had a positive effect on the construction sector during the 90s.

**Table 41. Shift-Share results for Lee County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,512	814	659	15.8	-155	-46.2	-19.0	163	-144	-174
AFF	102	75	150	3.6	75	-26.5	100.0	15	39	21
Mining	5	7	8	0.2	1	40.0	14.3	1	3	-3
Construction	115	86	140	3.4	54	-25.2	62.8	17	27	10
Manufacturing	341	456	469	11.3	13	33.7	2.9	91	27	-105
TPU	149	99	150	3.6	51	-33.6	51.5	20	25	6
Wholesale trade	110	122	92	2.2	-30	10.9	-24.6	24	-46	-9
Retail trade	561	469	503	12.1	34	-16.4	7.2	94	-57	-2
FIRE	165	151	151	3.6	0	-8.5	0.0	30	-35	5
Services	769	546	809	19.4	263	-29.0	48.2	109	55	99
Federal, civilian	86	86	65	1.6	-21	0.0	-24.4	17	-12	-26
Military	98	94	67	1.6	-27	-4.1	-28.7	19	-5	-41
State and local	784	674	904	21.7	230	-14.0	34.1	135	118	-23
Total	4,797	3,679	4,167	100	488	-23.3	13.3	735	-4	-243

## Lincoln County

The population of Lincoln County in Southeast Arkansas was 14,492 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). In the western part of the county, timber, poultry, tomatoes, cattle, and swine are produced and, to the east, rice, cotton and beans. Cane Creek State Park provides quality recreational opportunities. Small manufacturing gives a great boost to the economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state/local government, farming, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was state/local government (REIS, 2001).

There was a five-fold increase in employment during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000. During 1980-1990, the local economy added 185 jobs; that increased to 965 jobs during 1990-2000. Employment growth was 5 and 25 percent, respectively, during the 80s and the 90s. In 2000, the state/local government, manufacturing, services, farming and retail trade sectors accounted for about 72 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, farming and state/local government sectors, which added 187,

120, 98, and 268 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS mainly due to higher employment growth in manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government. However, none of the major sectors had RS higher than the national share (NS). During this period, farm-sector employment increased by 15.6 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the county having a mix of slow-growth industries.

While services and retail trade had higher employment growth in the 90s than in the 80s, the manufacturing and state/local government sectors had lower employment growth during the same decades.

**Table 42. Shift-Share results for Lincoln County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	971	630	728	15.0	98	-35.1	15.6	126	107	-134
AFF	48	108	198	4.1	90	125.0	83.3	22	39	30
Mining	21	11	20	0.4	9	-47.6	81.8	2	12	-5
Construction	155	130	198	4.1	68	-16.1	52.3	26	27	15
Manufacturing	579	699	748	15.5	49	20.7	7.0	140	70	-161
TPU	190	177	268	5.5	91	-6.8	51.4	35	45	10
Wholesale trade	70	70	60	1.2	-10	0.0	-14.3	14	-19	-5
Retail trade	346	306	426	8.8	120	-11.6	39.2	61	60	-2
FIRE	71	79	104	2.1	25	11.3	31.6	16	7	3
Services	464	550	737	15.2	187	18.5	34.0	110	-22	99
Federal, civilian	38	44	38	0.8	-6	15.8	-13.6	9	-1	-13
Military	84	99	75	1.5	-24	17.9	-24.2	20	-1	-43
State and local	653	972	1,240	25.6	268	48.9	27.6	194	107	-33
Total	3,690	3,875	4,840	100	965	5.0	24.9	774	430	-240

## Little River County

The population of Little River County in Southwest Arkansas was 13,628 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economy of the county is primarily dependent upon timber industries that process a large variety of hardwoods and rapid-growth pine timber. Agricultural activities center on ranching, pecans, soybeans, peanuts, and rice. Georgia-Pacific produces paper at a high rate, rolling off more than 45 miles of paper sheets as wide as some of Little River's streets (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing, TPU, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

In contrast to the period 1980-1990, when the county economy added 1,991 jobs, there were 789 fewer jobs during 1990-2000. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, state/local government, retail trade, and farm sectors accounted for about 72 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the decline in county employment during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the poor performance of the construction sector, which lost 1,695 jobs. During this decade, the services and TPU sectors

added 289 and 458 jobs, respectively. However, the employment growth in all sectors was not able to offset the decline in the county's construction sector employment. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, primarily due to the job loss in the construction industry. TPU was the only major sector that had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm employment increased by 4.9 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing, farm, and state/local government sectors' county-level employment growth being considerably lower than overall national employment growth. The IM for the county's services sector was, however, positive.

Except for the manufacturing and construction sectors, all other major sectors performed better in the 90s than in the 80s.

**Table 43. Shift-Share results for Little River County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	624	491	515	7.9	24	-21.3	4.9	98	31	-105
AFF	25	53	85	1.3	32	112.0	60.4	11	7	15
Mining	20	31	32	0.5	1	55.0	3.2	6	9	-14
Construction	353	2,180	485	7.4	-1,695	517.6	-77.8	436	-2,374	244
Manufacturing	1,889	1,813	1,731	26.5	-82	-4.0	-4.5	362	-28	-416
TPU	211	354	812	12.4	458	67.8	129.4	71	367	21
Wholesale trade	40	72	79	1.2	7	80.0	9.7	14	-2	-5
Retail trade	635	711	784	12.0	73	12.0	10.3	142	-66	-3
FIRE	125	183	232	3.5	49	46.4	26.8	37	6	6
Services	622	580	869	13.3	289	-6.8	49.8	116	68	105
Federal, civilian	62	59	64	1.0	5	-4.8	8.5	12	11	-18
Military	88	101	71	1.1	-30	14.8	-29.7	20	-6	-44
State and local	648	705	785	12.0	80	8.8	11.3	141	-37	-24
Total	5,342	7,333	6,544	100	-789	37.3	-10.8	1,465	-2,014	-240

## Logan County

The population of Logan County in Northwest Arkansas was 22,486 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, farming, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

Compared to the 1,195 jobs added during 1980-1990, the local economy added 1,171 jobs during 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 16.7 and 14.1 percent, respectively. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 80 percent of the county's total employment. Overall for Logan County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services and retail-trade sectors, which added 498 and 220 jobs, respectively. Mining, AFF, and FIRE had RS higher than NS. During this period, the farm employment declined by 6 percent. The overall IM was negative due to a low-growth industry mix. Especially, the national manufacturing, farm and the state/local government sectors' employment growth was considerably lower than overall national employment

growth. The county IM for the services sector was positive. Tyson Foods, Inc. and Cargill Inc., both poultry industry giants, have their facilities in Paris and Booneville, respectively, and are among the major employers in the county.

There was no change in the local economic structure, with employment growth remaining constant across most sectors. However, the 90s saw the gradual decline of manufacturing activities in the county.

**Table 44. Shift-Share results for Logan County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,354	1,145	1,076	11.3	-69	-15.4	-6.0	229	-53	-244
AFF	84	140	250	2.6	110	66.7	78.6	28	44	38
Mining	77	51	85	0.9	34	-33.8	66.7	10	47	-23
Construction	384	342	429	4.5	87	-10.9	25.4	68	-20	38
Manufacturing	1,518	2,258	2,310	24.3	52	48.7	2.3	451	120	-519
TPU	199	216	254	2.7	38	8.5	17.6	43	-18	13
Wholesale trade	134	129	134	1.4	5	-3.7	3.9	26	-12	-9
Retail trade	849	1,132	1,352	14.2	220	33.3	19.4	226	-1	-6
FIRE	300	307	469	4.9	162	2.3	52.8	61	91	10
Services	1,111	1,172	1,670	17.6	498	5.5	42.5	234	52	212
Federal, civilian	140	159	162	1.7	3	13.6	1.9	32	20	-49
Military	127	149	117	1.2	-32	17.3	-21.5	30	3	-65
State and local	859	1,131	1,194	12.6	63	31.7	5.6	226	-125	-38
Total	7,136	8,331	9,502	100	1,171	16.7	14.1	1,665	148	-642

## Lonoke County

The population of Lonoke County in Southeast Arkansas was 52,828 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county is still a primarily agricultural county. The largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the county economy added 1,700 and 5,101 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 15 and 39.2 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, state/local government, manufacturing, and construction sectors accounted for about 74 percent of total county employment. Overall, for Lonoke County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, retail trade and state/local government sectors, which added 1,869, 787, 1,363, and 617 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS due to the better economic performance of the county economy. Major sectors that contributed to the job growth included construction, retail trade, services, FIRE, TPU, and whole-

sale trade. During this latest decade, farm-sector employment declined by 4.7 percent. The overall IM was negative, primarily due to the presence of slow-growth industries in the county.

There was significantly higher employment growth in retail trade, services, and construction in the 90s compared to the 80s. Major employers in the county include, among others, Remington Arms Company and Wal-Mart, Inc. (2 locations).

**Table 45. Shift-Share results for Lonoke County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	2,368	1,601	1,525	8.4	-76	-32.4	-4.7	320	-54	-342
AFF	151	275	346	1.9	71	82.1	25.8	55	-59	75
Mining	10	21	19	0.1	-2	110.0	-9.5	4	3	-9
Construction	611	856	1,643	9.1	787	40.1	91.9	171	520	96
Manufacturing	2,291	2,278	1,823	10.1	-455	-0.6	-20.0	455	-387	-523
TPU	268	457	705	3.9	248	70.5	54.3	91	130	27
Wholesale trade	475	423	593	3.3	170	-10.9	40.2	85	115	-30
Retail trade	1,376	2,085	3,448	19.0	1,363	51.5	65.4	417	957	-10
FIRE	590	655	1,155	6.4	500	11.0	76.3	131	347	22
Services	1,705	2,512	4,381	24.2	1,869	47.3	74.4	502	913	454
Federal, civilian	99	109	127	0.7	18	10.1	16.5	22	29	-33
Military	217	285	276	1.5	-9	31.3	-3.2	57	59	-124
State and local	1,139	1,442	2,059	11.4	617	26.6	42.8	288	378	-49
Total	11,300	12,999	18,100	100	5,101	15.0	39.2	2,597	2,952	-448

## Madison County

The population of Madison County in Northwest Arkansas was 14,243 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Poultry and cattle are raised on farms throughout the county. Some residents commute to more industrialized neighboring counties for work. Butterball Turkey Co. and Labarge Electronics are the two major industries in Huntsville (the county seat). St. Paul has no considerable industry currently but used to be the hub of major railroads years ago. When the timber industry left, the railroads left with them (AAC, 2005). The largest county industries were farming, nondurable goods manufacturing, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was TPU; the fastest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

The county economy grew two-fold over 1980-1990 and 1990-2000 and added 614 and 1,436 jobs, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 15.3 and 31 percent. Based on the employment shares in 2000, the farming, services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 80 percent of the total county employment. Overall for Madison County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be

largely attributed to the growth of the services, construction, manufacturing and retail trade sectors, which added 424, 185, 180, and 246 jobs, respectively. The total RS was positive and closer to the NS, which meant that the county's economy also contributed significantly to county employment growth. All the major sectors had RS higher than NS, including construction and wholesale trade. During this period, county farm employment declined by 3 percent. In spite of the services sector performing better in the county, the overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national services sector performing very well.

Except for manufacturing, all the major sectors showed higher employment growth in the 90s relative to their 80s rates. ConAgra, Inc., engaged in poultry processing, has a facility in Madison County and is among the county's major employers.

**Table 46. Shift-Share results for Madison County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,519	1,437	1,394	23.0	-43	-5.4	-3.0	287	-23	-307
AFF	71	109	155	2.6	46	53.5	42.2	22	-6	30
Mining	5	7	15	0.2	8	40.0	114.3	1	10	-3
Construction	157	175	360	5.9	185	11.5	105.7	35	130	20
Manufacturing	633	852	1,032	17.0	180	34.6	21.1	170	205	-196
TPU	77	145	237	3.9	92	88.3	63.4	29	55	8
Wholesale trade	70	64	102	1.7	38	-8.6	59.4	13	30	-4
Retail trade	362	455	701	11.6	246	25.7	54.1	91	157	-2
FIRE	143	102	262	4.3	160	-28.7	156.9	20	136	3
Services	468	711	1,135	18.7	424	51.9	59.6	142	153	129
Federal, civilian	55	58	62	1.0	4	5.5	6.9	12	10	-18
Military	71	85	74	1.2	-11	19.7	-12.9	17	9	-37
State and local	384	429	536	8.8	107	11.7	24.9	86	36	-15
Total	4,015	4,629	6,065	100	1,436	15.3	31.0	925	903	-392



## Marion County

The population of Marion County in Northwest Arkansas was 16,140 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). One-third of the county is river-lake systems that offer many recreational activities. Ranger Boat and Flippin Bass Boat Manufacturers are located in the county. Part of the Buffalo River runs through the county and features camping, hiking, canoeing, hunting, and fishing. The Lower Buffalo Wilderness Area is the state's largest wilderness area. Bull Shoals Lake has 19 parks scattered around its 1,000 mile shoreline (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was retail trade (REIS, 2001).

The local economy added 1,342 and 2,016 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 40.5 and 43 percent, respectively. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 72 percent of total employment. Overall for Marion County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the manufacturing, services, con-

struction, retail trade, and the FIRE sectors, which added 813, 322, 231, 294, and 232 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive and higher than the NS due to the manufacturing, construction, retail trade, and FIRE sectors performing better than their national counterparts. During 1990-2000, county farm-sector employment declined by 12.7 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors performing below the national average employment growth rate. However, the IM for the services sector was positive, indicating that the national services sector performed well.

Compared to the 80s, services, retail trade, and manufacturing employment declined whereas FIRE, wholesale trade, construction, and mining employment increased in the 90s.

**Table 47. Shift-Share results for Marion County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	699	630	550	8.2	-80	-9.9	-12.7	126	-71	-134
AFF	18	49	70	1.0	21	172.2	42.9	10	-2	13
Mining	10	6	17	0.3	11	-140.0	183.3	1	13	-3
Construction	167	198	429	6.4	231	18.6	116.7	40	169	22
Manufacturing	619	1,237	2,050	30.6	813	99.8	65.7	247	850	-284
TPU	99	133	189	2.8	56	34.3	42.1	27	22	8
Wholesale trade	25	31	80	1.2	49	76.0	158.1	6	45	-2
Retail trade	272	585	879	13.1	294	115.1	50.3	117	180	-3
FIRE	256	175	407	6.1	232	-31.6	132.6	35	191	6
Services	750	1,012	1,334	19.9	322	34.9	31.8	202	-63	183
Federal, civilian	33	54	47	0.7	-7	63.6	-13.0	11	-1	-16
Military	72	86	84	1.3	-2	19.4	-2.3	17	18	-38
State and local	327	490	566	8.4	76	49.8	15.5	98	-5	-17
Total	3,312	4,686	6,702	100	2,016	40.5	43.0	936	1,345	-265

## Miller County

The population of Miller County in Southwest Arkansas bordering Texas was 40,443 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county has a strong industrial-community manufacturing area, along with the Red River Army Depot in Texarkana. The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing; services, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

Relative to the 32 percent employment growth during 1980-1990, the county economy slowed down in the 90s and added 2,500 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 14 percent. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, state/local government, and construction sectors accounted for about 77 percent of total county employment. This decline in rate of employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed largely to a slowdown in the services sector, which added 55 jobs during the decade. Other sectors that experienced slowdown included TPU and retail trade. During the 90s the TPU, construction, retail trade, and state/local government sectors added 560, 722, 372, and 393, jobs, respectively.

The RS for the total county employment change was negative, primarily due to negligible employment growth in the services industry. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 3.5 percent.

Relative to the 80s, the most significant decline in employment during the 90s was in the services industry, resulting in the overall county adding fewer jobs. Major employers in the county are Cooper Tire and Rubber, Wal-Mart, Inc., Smith-Blair, Inc., and Tyson Foods, Inc.

**Table 48. Shift-Share results for Miller County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	842	672	637	3.1	-35	-20.2	-5.2	134	-26	-143
AFF	52	102	271	1.3	169	96.2	165.7	20	121	28
Mining	80	76	56	0.3	-20	-5.0	-26.3	15	-1	-34
Construction	948	965	1,687	8.3	722	1.8	74.8	193	421	108
Manufacturing	2,727	2,861	2,991	14.7	130	4.9	4.5	572	216	-657
TPU	519	988	1,548	7.6	560	90.4	56.7	197	305	57
Wholesale trade	590	669	939	4.6	270	13.4	40.4	134	183	-47
Retail trade	2,621	3,200	3,572	17.6	372	22.1	11.6	639	-252	-16
FIRE	642	870	816	4.0	-54	35.5	-6.2	174	-257	29
Services	2,948	5,547	5,602	27.5	55	88.2	1.0	1,108	-2,056	1,003
Federal, civilian	93	70	76	0.4	6	-24.7	8.6	14	13	-21
Military	240	279	211	1.0	-68	16.3	-24.4	56	-2	-122
State and local	1,396	1,553	1,946	9.6	393	11.2	25.3	310	135	-53
Total	13,028	17,852	20,352	100	2,500	31.9	14.0	3,567	-1,198	131

## Mississippi County

The population of Mississippi County in Northeast Arkansas was 51,979 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Mississippi County is flat, fertile, Delta farmland. The economy's base is diversified farming and light manufacturing. Cotton Boll Vocational and Technical School and Mississippi County Community College offer a variety of educational opportunities. Mississippi County Community College was the first solar-powered college in the nation (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

The farm sector declined substantially during 1980-1990 that led to the overall decline in county employment. Similarly, employment during 1990-2000 was affected by reduction in military recruitment. During 1990-2000, the county economy added 11 jobs, i.e. employment growth remained almost stagnant. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 75 percent of the total county employment. Although the major sec-

tors performed well, a 92-percent loss of jobs in the military over the 10-year period pushed the employment change towards stagnation. While the services and manufacturing sectors added 2,060 and 1,064 jobs, the military sector lost over 3,000 jobs. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, mainly due to the decline in military employment and relatively slow growth in county employment in the retail trade and federal/civilian sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 8.3 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national military, farm, and manufacturing sectors not performing very well.

Major employers in the county include, among others, American Greetings Corporation, Maverick Tube Corporation, Nucor-Yamato Corporation, Baptist Memorial Hospital, and Wal-Mart, Inc. (multiple locations).

**Table 49. Shift-Share results for Mississippi County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	2,969	1,682	1,543	5.5	-139	-43.3	-8.3	336	-116	-359
AFF	335	610	670	2.4	60	82.1	9.8	122	-229	167
Mining	12	23	7	0.0	-16	91.7	-69.6	5	-10	-10
Construction	949	936	1,300	4.6	364	-1.4	38.9	187	72	105
Manufacturing	7,390	7,432	8,496	30.3	1,064	0.6	14.3	1,485	1,286	-1,707
TPU	722	765	1,058	3.8	293	6.0	38.3	153	96	44
Wholesale trade	799	937	912	3.3	-25	17.3	-2.7	187	-147	-66
Retail trade	3,731	3,658	3,718	13.3	60	-2.0	1.6	731	-653	-18
FIRE	954	1,006	1,128	4.0	122	5.5	12.1	201	-112	33
Services	3,615	3,440	5,500	19.6	2,060	-4.8	59.9	687	751	622
Federal, civilian	796	801	161	0.6	-640	0.6	-79.9	160	-556	-245
Military	2,974	3,320	270	1.0	-3,050	11.6	-91.9	663	-2,263	-1,450
State and local	3,334	3,400	3,258	11.6	-142	2.0	-4.2	679	-706	-115
Total	28,580	28,010	28,021	100	11	-2.0	0.0	5,596	-2,586	-2,999

## Monroe County

The population of Monroe County in Southeast Arkansas was 10,254 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape is rich, flat, delta farmland. The economy revolves around agriculture, soybeans, cotton, rice, and wheat, with some small-scale manufacturing. U.S. Interstate 40 passes through the county (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, services, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

Relative to 1980-1990 when the county economy lost 515 jobs, it recovered during 1990-2000 when the county economy added 68 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 1.5 percent. In year 2000, the services, retail trade, farm, state/local government, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 73 percent of the county's total employment. This job growth was not significant primarily due to job losses in the manufacturing and retail trade sectors offsetting the employment growth in all the other sectors. During 1990-2000, while the services, state/local government, and AFF sectors added 248, 48, and 68 jobs, respectively, the manufacturing and

retail trade sectors lost 462 and 65 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, mainly due to the manufacturing sector employment declining about 56 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national military, farm, and manufacturing sectors not performing very well. Most of the major sectors had RS higher than the NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased marginally by 4 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' low employment growth.

The services and construction sectors' employment increased significantly in the 90s compared to the 80s. During the 90s, the manufacturing and retail trade sectors' employment declined.

**Table 50. Shift-Share results for Monroe County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,076	593	613	13.3	20	-44.9	3.4	118	28	-127
AFF	55	122	190	4.1	68	121.8	55.7	24	10	33
Mining	5	7	8	0.2	1	40.0	14.3	1	3	-3
Construction	123	88	160	3.5	72	-28.5	81.8	18	45	10
Manufacturing	789	826	364	7.9	-462	4.7	-55.9	165	-437	-190
TPU	152	183	245	5.3	62	20.4	33.9	37	15	11
Wholesale trade	214	203	254	5.5	51	-5.1	25.1	41	25	-14
Retail trade	882	900	835	18.1	-65	2.0	-7.2	180	-240	-4
FIRE	213	247	299	6.5	52	16.0	21.1	49	-6	8
Services	805	721	969	21.0	248	-10.4	34.4	144	-26	130
Federal, civilian	56	53	55	1.2	2	-5.4	3.8	11	8	-16
Military	88	82	53	1.1	-29	-6.8	-35.4	16	-10	-36
State and local	605	523	571	12.4	48	-13.6	9.2	104	-39	-18
Total	5,063	4,548	4,616	100	68	-10.2	1.5	909	-625	-216

## Montgomery County

The population of Montgomery County in Southwest Arkansas was 9,245 in year 2000 (US Census, 2000). Sixty-three percent of the county is national forestland with the federal government being a stable employer. Cattle, swine, and poultry production, along with mining and tourism, fuel the economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, state/local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

There was significant employment growth during 1990-2000, with the local economy adding 1,064 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 39.50 percent. This was an eight-fold increase over the previous decade when the county's employment grew by 5.3 percent. In 2000, the services, farm, state/local government, manufacturing, construction, and retail trade sectors accounted for over 81 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the services and manufacturing sectors, which added 343 and 303 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive and

higher than the NS, meaning that the county's economic sectors added more jobs due to their better performance relative to analogous national sectors. Major county sectors that had RS higher than NS were manufacturing and services. During 1990-2000, county farm-sector employment declined by 9.8 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm employments being lower than the average national employment.

The jump in county employment in the 90s was due to the construction and FIRE sectors, which had over 200 and 100 percent employment growth, respectively.

**Table 51. Shift-Share results for Montgomery County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	566	574	518	13.8	-56	1.4	-9.8	115	-48	-123
AFF	20	47	60	1.6	13	135.0	27.7	9	-9	13
Mining	100	45	70	1.9	25	-55.0	55.6	9	36	-20
Construction	117	128	431	11.5	303	9.4	236.7	26	263	14
Manufacturing	532	450	453	12.1	3	-15.4	0.7	90	16	-103
TPU	86	67	134	3.6	67	-22.1	100.0	13	50	4
Wholesale trade	72	47	67	1.8	20	-34.7	42.6	9	14	-3
Retail trade	223	287	384	10.2	97	28.7	33.8	57	41	-1
FIRE	101	89	241	6.4	152	-11.9	170.8	18	131	3
Services	290	463	806	21.4	343	59.7	74.1	93	167	84
Federal, civilian	97	91	80	2.1	-11	-6.2	-12.1	18	-1	-28
Military	49	56	48	1.3	-8	14.3	-14.3	11	5	-24
State and local	306	350	466	12.4	116	14.4	33.1	70	58	-12
Total	2,559	2,694	3,758	100	1,064	5.3	39.5	538	723	-197

## Nevada County

The population of Nevada County in Southwest Arkansas was 9,955 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Nevada County is rolling hills, largely forested. Nevada County's timber industry is its main economic resource, with poultry and outdoor sports contributing their share. Festivals celebrating the timber and poultry industries are held each year (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing, farming, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was TPU; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

Compared to the county's negative employment growth during 1980-1990, during 1990-2000 the local economy added 42 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 1.2 percent. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, state/local government, farm, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 74 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the services sector, which added 175 jobs. During the same decade, the state/local government and construction sectors lost 63 and 60 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county

employment change was negative, mainly due to the construction, state/local government, retail trade, and TPU sectors performing below their national counterparts. All the major sectors had the RS lower than NS. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 8.2 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors performing below the national average employment growth. The service sector IM, however, was positive. Potlatch, a company manufacturing forest products with its facilities in Prescott, is a major employer in the county.

**Table 52. Shift-Share results for Nevada County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	651	485	445	12.5	-40	-25.5	-8.2	97	-33	-104
AFF	54	48	70	2.0	22	-11.1	45.8	10	-1	13
Mining	20	7	17	0.5	10	-65.0	142.9	1	12	-3
Construction	164	175	115	3.2	-60	6.7	-34.3	35	-115	20
Manufacturing	959	718	749	21.1	31	-25.1	4.3	143	52	-165
TPU	168	263	255	7.2	-8	56.5	-3.0	53	-76	15
Wholesale trade	64	62	51	1.4	-11	-3.1	-17.7	12	-19	-4
Retail trade	497	411	417	11.8	6	-17.3	1.5	82	-74	-2
FIRE	124	79	84	2.4	5	-36.3	6.3	16	-13	3
Services	524	542	717	20.2	175	3.4	32.3	108	-31	98
Federal, civilian	53	45	41	1.2	-4	-15.1	-8.9	9	1	-14
Military	70	73	52	1.5	-21	4.3	-28.8	15	-4	-32
State and local	611	596	533	15.0	-63	-2.5	-10.6	119	-162	-20
Total	3,959	3,504	3,546	100	42	-11.5	1.2	700	-463	-195



## Newton County

The population of Newton County in Northwest Arkansas was 8,608 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscapes of Newton County are the rugged and mountainous Ozarks. Travel writers have selected scenic Highway 7 as one of the top 10 scenic drives in the nation. The elevation ranges from 700 feet to 2,561 feet above sea level. The Ozark/St. Francis National Forest provides wilderness hiking, backpacking, camping, and hunting (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was services; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the local economy added 424 and 474 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 21.9 and 20.1 percent, respectively. In 2000, the farm, services, state/local government, retail trade, manufacturing, and construction sectors accounted for about 85 percent of the county's total employment. In spite of the 5 percent decline in farming employment over 1990-2000, farming still had the largest share of the county's total employment growth. Overall, the employment

increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 124, 108, and 121 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS due to high job growth in retail trade, services, and government. Major sectors that had RS higher than NS included TPU and retail trade. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national farm and manufacturing sectors performing at a lower level relative to the average national employment growth. The IM for the county's services sector was, however, positive.

While manufacturing and construction employment declined in the 90s from their levels in the 80s, additional employment was created in the services and retail trade sectors.

**Table 53. Shift-Share results for Newton County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	674	604	577	20.3	-27	-10.4	-4.5	121	-19	-129
AFF	5	45	48	1.7	3	800.0	6.7	9	-18	12
Mining	1	6	6	0.2	0	600.0	0.0	1	2	-3
Construction	93	159	227	8.0	68	71.0	42.8	32	18	18
Manufacturing	92	302	273	9.6	-29	228.3	-9.6	60	-20	-69
TPU	36	66	131	4.6	65	83.3	98.5	13	48	4
Wholesale trade	13	40	50	1.8	10	207.7	25.0	8	5	-3
Retail trade	159	168	276	9.7	108	5.7	64.3	34	75	-1
FIRE	72	55	95	3.3	40	-23.6	72.7	11	27	2
Services	398	446	570	20.1	124	12.1	27.8	89	-46	81
Federal, civilian	67	70	71	2.5	1	4.5	1.4	14	8	-21
Military	49	55	45	1.6	-10	12.2	-18.2	11	3	-24
State and local	280	347	468	16.5	121	23.9	34.9	69	63	-12
Total	1,938	2,363	2,837	100	474	21.9	20.1	472	147	-145

## Ouachita County

The population of Ouachita County in Southwest Arkansas was 28,790 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county's economy is about half timber and half manufacturing, with some tourism. The largest industries were services, state/local government, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

The county's employment did not grow over the two decades of the study. During 1980-1990, it was stagnant and during 1990-2000, it declined by 738 jobs, i.e. employment declined by 6.3 percent. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 74 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the decline in employment during 1990-2000 was due to manufacturing and state/local government, which lost 1,297 and 219 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative due to the slow employment growth of the manufacturing, retail trade, and government sectors. During 1990-2000, county farm-sector employment declined by 2.2 percent. The

overall IM was negative meaning the county predominantly had slow-growth industries. General Dynamics Armament & Technical Products, Ouachita County Medical Center, Lockheed Martin Missile & Fire Control, Arquest, Inc., Armtec Countermeasures, Atlantic Research Corporation, and Southern Arkansas University-Tech are some of the major employers in the county.

**Table 54. Shift-Share results for Ouachita County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	335	227	222	2.0	-5	-32.2	-2.2	45	-2	-48
AFF	72	73	210	1.9	137	1.4	187.7	15	102	20
Mining	420	313	213	1.9	-100	-25.5	-31.9	63	-21	-141
Construction	665	404	428	3.9	24	-39.2	5.9	81	-102	45
Manufacturing	3,305	3,110	1,813	16.6	-1,297	-5.9	-41.7	621	-1,204	-714
TPU	491	586	501	4.6	-85	19.3	-14.5	117	-236	34
Wholesale trade	308	372	455	4.2	83	20.8	22.3	74	35	-26
Retail trade	1,830	2,188	2,059	18.8	-129	19.6	-5.9	437	-555	-11
FIRE	363	418	536	4.9	118	15.2	28.2	84	21	14
Services	2,041	1,969	2,748	25.1	779	-3.5	39.6	393	30	356
Federal, civilian	125	111	138	1.3	27	-11.2	24.3	22	39	-34
Military	192	220	149	1.4	-71	14.6	-32.3	44	-19	-96
State and local	1,504	1,679	1,460	13.4	-219	11.6	-13.0	335	-498	-57
Total	11,651	11,670	10,932	100	-738	0.2	-6.3	2,332	-2,411	-659

## Perry County

The population of Perry County in Northwest Arkansas was 10,209 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Cattle, hog, and poultry production and rice, soybeans, and small manufacturing make up the economy. The Heifer Project International Learning and Livestock Center is a privately financed, nonprofit group located on 1,200 acres in the county and has for over 55 years continuously provided livestock and training to low-income farmers in developing nations who, in turn, can pass on their newly acquired skills and the livestock's offspring to other needy families. Residents commute to surrounding counties for employment (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, state/local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

Compared to the county's 34.5 percent employment growth during the 80s, employment slowed down during the 1990s when the local economy added 466 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 20 percent. In 2000, the services, farm, state/local government, construction, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 76 percent of the

county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, and retail trade sectors, which added 197, 105, and 119 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive due to the higher employment growth in the retail trade and FIRE sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 4.4 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national farm-sector employment performing below the national average employment.

Relative to the employment growth in the 80s, during the 90s it was significantly higher in the retail trade sector only and lower in most other sectors.

**Table 55. Shift-Share results for Perry County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	523	475	454	16.2	-21	-9.2	-4.4	95	-15	-101
AFF	35	65	78	2.8	13	85.7	20.0	13	-18	18
Mining	12	11	22	0.8	11	-8.3	100.0	2	14	-5
Construction	138	226	331	11.8	105	63.8	46.5	45	35	25
Manufacturing	150	203	138	4.9	-65	35.3	-32.0	41	-59	-47
TPU	50	159	110	3.9	-49	218.0	-30.8	32	-90	9
Wholesale trade	15	19	33	1.2	14	26.7	73.7	4	12	-1
Retail trade	147	187	306	10.9	119	27.2	63.6	37	83	-1
FIRE	45	61	166	5.9	105	35.6	172.1	12	91	2
Services	269	449	646	23.1	197	66.9	43.9	90	26	81
Federal, civilian	66	57	49	1.8	-8	-13.6	-14.0	11	-2	-17
Military	46	57	53	1.9	-4	23.9	-7.0	11	10	-25
State and local	238	364	413	14.8	49	52.9	13.5	73	-11	-12
Total	1,734	2,333	2,799	100	466	34.5	20.0	466	74	-74

## Phillips County

The population of Phillips County in Southeast Arkansas was 26,445 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Phillips County is rich, flat, delta farmland. The Mississippi River forms the eastern boundary. Agriculture and agricultural chemicals have formed the basis of Phillips County's economy along with sporting and recreation on its many lakes and waterways (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, state/local government, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was wholesale trade (REIS, 2001).

Although the employment loss slowed down during 1990-2000 relative to 1980-90, the local economy still lost 316 jobs during the 90s, i.e. employment declined by 2.8 percent. In 2000, the services, state/local government, retail trade, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 75 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the decline in rate of employment increase during the decade can be attributed to the decline in the farm, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors' employment; these sectors lost 174, 531, and 238 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change

was negative due to the job losses in the manufacturing and retail trade sectors and the slow employment growth in the services sector. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 17 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national farm and manufacturing sectors' employment growth being lower than the average national employment growth.

Compared to the 80s, the wholesale trade, construction, and services industries had increased employment opportunities in Phillips County in 1990-2000.

**Table 56. Shift-Share results for Phillips County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,640	1,025	851	7.8	-174	-37.5	-17.0	205	-160	-219
AFF	83	242	330	3.0	88	191.6	36.4	48	-27	66
Mining	5	7	7	0.1	0	40.0	0.0	1	2	-3
Construction	740	417	450	4.1	33	-43.6	7.9	83	-97	47
Manufacturing	2,074	1,660	1,129	10.4	-531	-20.0	-32.0	332	-481	-381
TPU	645	478	441	4.1	-37	-25.9	-7.7	96	-160	28
Wholesale trade	510	489	674	6.2	185	-4.1	37.8	98	122	-34
Retail trade	2,028	1,849	1,611	14.8	-238	-8.8	-12.9	369	-598	-9
FIRE	508	460	481	4.4	21	-9.4	4.6	92	-86	15
Services	2,853	2,426	2,728	25.1	302	-15.0	12.4	485	-621	439
Federal, civilian	124	103	99	0.9	-4	-16.9	-3.9	21	7	-31
Military	219	208	138	1.3	-70	-5.0	-33.7	42	-21	-91
State and local	1,667	1,815	1,924	17.7	109	8.9	6.0	363	-192	-62
Total	13,096	11,179	10,863	100	-316	-14.6	-2.8	2,234	-2,313	-236

## Pike County

The population of Pike County in Southwest Arkansas was 11,303 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rugged terrain in the northern half and rolling hills in the south. The economic base of Pike County is commercial forests and small family farms. At one time Pike County had the largest peach orchard in the United States and perhaps in the world. The Crater of Diamonds, an 886-acre natural park south of Murfreesboro, is the only diamond mine in North America open to the public. If you find a diamond, you keep the diamond. This brings hundreds of tourists to this area each year (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farm, durable goods manufacturing, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

The county economy added 141 and 709 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 3.5 and 17.2 percent, respectively. The manufacturing, retail trade, state/local government, services and farm sectors accounted for about 71 percent of the total county employment in 2000. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the

growth of the retail trade, FIRE, state/local government, and AFF sectors, which added 161, 212, 130, and 110 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the national share due to some of the county sectors performing better than their national counterparts. Especially, RS was higher than the NS for the FIRE, AFF, and mining sectors. During this period, farm-employment increased by 6.5 percent. The overall IM was negative mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' employment growth being below the average national employment growth. The IM for the services sector, however, was positive.

Relative to job growth in the 80s, Pike County employment growth in the AFF, construction, retail trade, FIRE, and government sectors was higher in the 90s.

**Table 57. Shift-Share results for Pike County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	589	536	571	11.8	35	-9.0	6.5	107	42	-114
AFF	65	79	189	3.9	110	21.5	139.2	16	73	22
Mining	17	53	85	1.8	32	211.8	60.4	11	45	-24
Construction	234	138	193	4.0	55	-41.0	39.9	28	12	15
Manufacturing	964	996	915	19.0	-81	3.3	-8.1	199	-51	-229
TPU	240	232	247	5.1	15	-3.3	6.5	46	-45	13
Wholesale trade	80	121	147	3.0	26	51.3	21.5	24	10	-8
Retail trade	518	552	713	14.8	161	6.6	29.2	110	53	-3
FIRE	153	149	361	7.5	212	-2.6	142.3	30	177	5
Services	507	573	620	12.8	47	13.0	8.2	114	-171	104
Federal, civilian	125	109	90	1.9	-19	-12.8	-17.4	22	-8	-33
Military	65	73	59	1.2	-14	12.3	-19.2	15	3	-32
State and local	421	508	638	13.2	130	20.7	25.6	101	46	-17
Total	3,978	4,119	4,828	100	709	3.5	17.2	823	188	-302

## Poinsett County

The population of Poinsett County in Northeast Arkansas was 25,614 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rich, flat, delta farmland in the east and west and rolling hills in the center of the county. Crowley's Ridge splits the county. East of the ridge is cotton and soybeans and west of the ridge is rice. Along the ridge are beef and dairy cattle. The economic base of the county is agricultural (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, farming, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was services (REIS, 2001).

The county recovered from the employment losses during 1980-90 and added 265 jobs during 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 2.5 percent. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 75 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during the decade can be attributed to the growth of the services, FIRE and TPU sectors, which added 237, 127, and 105 jobs, respectively. The manufacturing sector lost 425 jobs during the same decade. The

RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the county lost jobs due to the regional sectors' employment growing at a slower rate than their national counterparts. None of the county's major sectors had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 3.5 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' employment growth being below the average national employment growth. The IM for the county's services sector was positive.

Relative to job levels in the 80s, the services and FIRE sectors' employment growth during the 90s was noticeable. Riceland Foods, Inc., producing rice and value-added rice products, and American Greetings Corporation with facilities in Waldenburg and Harrisburg (the county seat), respectively, are the major employers in the county.

**Table 58. Shift-Share results for Poinsett County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	2,035	1,327	1,281	12.5	-46	-34.8	-3.5	265	-28	-283
AFF	181	259	356	3.5	97	43.1	37.5	52	-26	71
Mining	10	20	30	0.3	10	100.0	50.0	4	15	-9
Construction	311	342	370	3.6	28	10.0	8.2	68	-79	38
Manufacturing	3,356	2,598	2,173	21.3	-425	-22.6	-16.4	519	-347	-597
TPU	392	464	569	5.6	105	18.4	22.6	93	-15	27
Wholesale trade	460	483	495	4.8	12	5.0	2.5	97	-51	-34
Retail trade	1,411	1,384	1,358	13.3	-26	-1.9	-1.9	277	-296	-7
FIRE	461	447	574	5.6	127	-3.0	28.4	89	23	15
Services	1,217	1,257	1,494	14.6	237	3.3	18.9	251	-241	227
Federal, civilian	86	89	90	0.9	1	3.5	1.1	18	10	-27
Military	169	178	133	1.3	-45	5.3	-25.3	36	-3	-78
State and local	1,000	1,120	1,291	12.6	171	12.0	15.3	224	-15	-38
Total	11,089	9,968	10,214	100	246	-10.1	2.5	1,992	-1,051	-695



## Polk County

The population of Polk County in Southwest Arkansas was 20,229 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Long, narrow ridges of folded rock, large fertile valleys, and mountains covered with oak and pine trees make up the landscape of the county. Nearly half of Polk County lies in the Ouachita National Forest. The economic base is lumber and wood products, tree farming, cattle, and poultry. Some light manufacturing and service industries contribute to the economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, durable goods manufacturing, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, employment growth more than doubled; the county's economy added 1,073 and 2,846 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 15.6 and 35.9 percent, respectively. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 76 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during the decade can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors, which added 819, 536, and 563 jobs, respective-

ly. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS due to the faster employment growth of manufacturing, TPU, retail trade, and services. RS was higher than NS for the manufacturing, retail trade, services, and FIRE sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 5.1 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' employment growth being lower than the average national employment growth rate.

There was significant growth in the manufacturing, retail trade, services, and state/local government sectors during the 90s compared to the 80s. Major employers in the county include Tyson Foods, Inc., Wal-Mart Inc., and Emerson Electric Company, the last of which manufactures fractional-powerhouse motors and electric and varidrive motors.

**Table 59. Shift-Share results for Polk County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,064	980	930	8.6	-50	-7.9	-5.1	196	-37	-209
AFF	60	168	229	2.1	61	180.0	36.3	34	-19	46
Mining	25	28	22	0.2	-6	12.0	-21.4	6	1	-13
Construction	338	425	522	4.8	97	25.7	22.8	85	-35	48
Manufacturing	1,882	2,104	2,640	24.5	536	11.8	25.5	420	599	-483
TPU	272	417	713	6.6	296	53.3	71.0	83	188	24
Wholesale trade	139	172	223	2.1	51	23.7	29.7	34	29	-12
Retail trade	887	1,066	1,629	15.1	563	20.2	52.8	213	355	-5
FIRE	292	313	545	5.1	232	7.2	74.1	63	159	10
Services	1,003	1,227	2,046	19.0	819	22.3	66.7	245	352	222
Federal, civilian	112	99	114	1.1	15	-11.6	15.2	20	25	-30
Military	107	125	105	1.0	-20	16.8	-16.0	25	10	-55
State and local	683	813	1,065	9.9	252	19.0	31.0	162	117	-28
Total	6,864	7,937	10,783	100	2,846	15.6	35.9	1,586	1,745	-485

## Pope County

The population of Pope County in Northwest Arkansas was 54,469 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The largest industries were TPU, services, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

Employment growth slowed during 1990-2000 relative to 1980-1990. The county economy added 7,589 and 6,952 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 42.5 and 27.3 percent, respectively. The services, retail trade, manufacturing, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 69 percent of the county's total employment in 2000. The county's employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 1,953, 1,915, and 820 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS due to some county sectors performing better than their national counterparts. Especially, RS was higher than NS for retail trade and wholesale trade. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 9.1 percent. The overall IM was negative,

mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' employment growth being lower than the average national employment growth rate. The county's services sector IM was, however, positive. The decline in overall employment growth during the 90s was mostly due to the slowdown in the services, construction, and manufacturing sectors.

Major employers in the county include among others ConAgra, Arkansas Nuclear One, St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, Arkansas Tech University, Wal-Mart Inc., and poultry-based companies including Tyson Foods, Inc., ConAgra, Inc., and Cargill, Inc.

**Table 60. Shift-Share results for Pope County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,386	1,277	1,161	3.6	-116	-7.9	-9.1	255	-99	-273
AFF	165	535	867	2.7	332	224.2	62.1	107	79	146
Mining	75	66	75	0.2	9	-12.0	13.6	13	26	-30
Construction	1,254	1,809	2,297	7.1	488	44.3	27.0	361	-76	202
Manufacturing	3,553	4,994	5,379	16.6	385	40.6	7.7	998	534	-1,147
TPU	1,235	2,344	2,905	9.0	561	89.8	23.9	468	-43	136
Wholesale trade	634	717	1,017	3.1	300	13.1	41.8	143	207	-50
Retail trade	2,829	4,063	5,978	18.5	1,915	43.6	47.1	812	1,123	-20
FIRE	761	950	1,315	4.1	365	24.8	38.4	190	144	31
Services	3,346	5,627	7,580	23.4	1,953	68.2	34.7	1,124	-188	1,017
Federal, civilian	389	357	344	1.1	-13	-8.2	-3.6	71	25	-109
Military	259	338	291	0.9	-47	30.5	-13.9	68	33	-148
State and local	1,950	2,348	3,168	9.8	820	20.4	34.9	469	430	-80
Total	17,836	25,425	32,377	100	6,952	42.5	27.3	5,080	2,195	-323

## Prairie County

The population of Prairie County in Southeast Arkansas was 9,539 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The county lies on a spread of level land between the lower White and Arkansas rivers that has been known as the Grand Prairie since as early as 1819. The county is mostly rich, flat, delta farmland, with rolling hills in the extreme northwest corner. The economic base of the county is agriculture, e.g. cotton, rice, soybeans, wheat, and catfish, along with agriculture-related commerce and some industry (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, state/local government, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

The county's economy performed better during 1990-2000 and added 104 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 3 percent. In 1980-1990, the county economy lost 73 jobs. In 2000, the farm, services, retail trade, state/local government, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 76 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was marginal and can be attributed to the growth of the services and the decline of the manufacturing sectors, which added and lost 235 and 254 jobs,

respectively. Other sectors that made an impact included the construction and farm sectors, which added 82 and lost 53 jobs, respectively. The total RS for the county employment change was negative due to the decline in employment in the manufacturing and retail trade sectors that were major contributors to the economy. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 6.5 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors' employment performing below the average national employment growth.

Relative to the 80s, Prairie County sectors that had improved employment growth in the 90s included construction, FIRE, services, and state/local government.

**Table 61. Shift-Share results for Prairie County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,210	821	768	21.6	-53	-32.1	-6.5	164	-42	-175
AFF	42	101	133	3.7	32	140.5	31.7	20	-16	28
Mining	5	0	0	0.0	0	-100.0	0.0	0	0	0
Construction	133	69	151	4.3	82	-48.1	118.8	14	60	8
Manufacturing	164	546	292	8.2	-254	232.9	-46.5	109	-238	-125
TPU	163	179	182	5.1	3	9.8	1.7	36	-43	10
Wholesale trade	148	136	129	3.6	-7	-8.1	-5.1	27	-25	-10
Retail trade	518	512	495	14.0	-17	-1.2	-3.3	102	-117	-3
FIRE	99	106	168	4.7	62	7.1	58.5	21	37	4
Services	566	475	710	20.0	235	-16.1	49.5	95	54	86
Federal, civilian	50	52	53	1.5	1	4.0	1.9	10	6	-16
Military	64	69	53	1.5	-16	7.8	-23.2	14	0	-30
State and local	355	378	414	11.7	36	6.5	9.5	76	-27	-13
Total	3,517	3,444	3,548	100	104	-2.1	3.0	688	-348	-236

## Pulaski County

The population of Pulaski County in Northeast Arkansas, the most populous county in the state, was 361,474 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economic base is largely government and support services. Metropolitan Pulaski County offers many educational and cultural opportunities such as the Arkansas Arts Center, the Museum of Science and History, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the Clinton Presidential Library, and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, state/local government, and TPU. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was federal civilian government; the fastest growing was wholesale trade (REIS, 2001).

In spite of a decline in employment growth, the county added more jobs in the 90s than in the 80s. During 1980-90 and 1990-2000, the local economy added 44,344 and 47,859 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 21.2 and 18.9 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, state/local government, FIRE, TPU, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 84 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the county employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the services, retail trade, state/local gov-

ernment, TPU, and FIRE sectors, which added 21,048, 5,877, 8,174, 6,943, and 3,183 jobs, respectively. The total RS for the county employment change was negative, primarily due to low employment growth in the retail trade, services, and FIRE sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 11.8 percent. The overall IM was positive, mainly due to the national services sector performing better, meaning that the county had a mix of faster growing industries. Construction, TPU, and state/local government sectors had lower employment growth rates during the 80s relative to their growth rates during the 90s. Services and retail trade had lower employment growth during the 90s relative to their growth rates during the 80s.

Major employers in the county included, among others, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock Air Force Base, Alltel Corporation, Pulaski Special School District, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Veteran's Hospital, St. Vincent Infirmary Medical Center, Wal-Mart, Dillard's, University of Arkansas, Union Pacific Railroad Company, Southwestern Bell Company, Arkansas Democrat Gazette, and Georgia-Pacific Corporation.

**Table 62. Shift-Share results for Pulaski County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	932	621	548	0.2	-73	-33.4	-11.8	124	-65	-133
AFF	734	1,387	2,482	0.8	1,095	89.0	78.9	277	438	380
Mining	649	653	570	0.2	-83	0.6	-12.7	130	81	-294
Construction	11,613	12,065	14,923	5.0	2,858	3.9	23.7	2,411	-902	1,349
Manufacturing	27,101	22,865	21,935	7.3	-930	-15.6	-4.1	4,568	-246	-5,253
TPU	14,913	16,373	23,316	7.7	6,943	9.8	42.4	3,271	2,721	951
Wholesale trade	13,994	16,725	18,635	6.2	1,910	19.5	11.4	3,342	-260	-1,172
Retail trade	31,709	41,200	47,077	15.6	5,877	29.9	14.3	8,232	-2,152	-203
FIRE	17,302	20,951	24,134	8.0	3,183	21.1	15.2	4,186	-1,695	692
Services	45,448	72,397	93,445	31.0	21,048	59.3	29.1	14,465	-6,503	13,086
Federal, civilian	8,084	9,393	9,202	3.1	-191	16.2	-2.0	1,877	800	-2,867
Military	8,714	8,341	6,389	2.1	-1,952	-4.3	-23.4	1,667	24	-3,643
State and local	28,054	30,610	38,784	12.9	8,174	9.1	26.7	6,116	3,096	-1,038
Total	209,247	253,581	301,440	100	47,859	21.2	18.9	50,665	-4,662	1,855

## Randolph County

The population of Randolph County in Northeast Arkansas was 18,195 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is Ozark Mountain foothills with rich, delta farmland in the extreme southeast. It is said that Randolph County stands with one foot in the hills and one in the rich soil of the delta. The economic base of the county is agricultural with soybeans and grains the principal crops in the delta and cattle ranching in the hill country. Small manufacturers have also added to the economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state/local government. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was retail trade (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the county's economy added 380 and 1,805 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 5.7 and 25.5 percent, respectively. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, farm, and state/local government sectors accounted for over 81 percent of the county's total employment. The county employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, and

state/local government sectors, which added 942, 401, and 286 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS, mostly due to the increased employment in the county's services, retail trade, state/local government, and FIRE sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased by 9 percent. The overall county IM was negative, owing to an industry mix being tilted towards slow-growth industries.

Relative to the 80s, Randolph County employment growth was higher in the retail and wholesale trade, FIRE, services, and state/local government sectors. During the same period, manufacturing employment declined.

**Table 63. Shift-Share results for Randolph County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,232	886	966	10.9	80	-28.1	9.0	177	92	-189
AFF	14	60	95	1.1	35	328.6	58.3	12	7	16
Mining	5	0	0	0.0	0	-100.0	0.0	0	0	0
Construction	175	393	460	5.2	67	124.6	17.0	79	-55	44
Manufacturing	2,109	2,282	2,000	22.5	-282	8.2	-12.4	456	-214	-524
TPU	233	246	285	3.2	39	5.6	15.9	49	-24	14
Wholesale trade	214	151	244	2.7	93	-29.4	61.6	30	73	-11
Retail trade	888	935	1,336	15.1	401	5.3	42.9	187	219	-5
FIRE	197	249	416	4.7	167	26.4	67.1	50	109	8
Services	862	1,035	1,977	22.3	942	20.1	91.0	207	548	187
Federal, civilian	50	48	50	0.6	2	-4.0	4.2	10	7	-15
Military	105	119	94	1.1	-25	13.3	-21.0	24	3	-52
State and local	607	667	953	10.7	286	9.9	42.9	133	175	-23
Total	6,691	7,071	8,876	100	1,805	5.7	25.5	1,413	940	-548

## Saline County

The population of Saline County in Southeast Arkansas was 83,529 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Saline County is hilly terrain in the north and rolling hills in the south. At one time Arkansas accounted for 97% of the nation's production of bauxite, used to make aluminum, and most of that came from Saline County. Ups and downs in the aluminum industry have caused more diversification in recent years and small manufacturing and service companies have added to the county's economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, state/local government, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was non-durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was retail trade (REIS, 2001).

Between 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, there was a two-fold increase in county employment. The local economy added 2,851 and 6,895 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 19.3 and 39.2 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, state/local government, manufacturing, and construction sectors accounted for about 84 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the county employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attrib-

uted to the growth of the services, construction, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 2,584, 924, 1,823, and 770 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS due to the county's services, retail trade, and construction sectors performing better than their national counterparts. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 20.8 percent. The overall IM was negative due to the industry composition being tilted towards slower growth industries, especially manufacturing. Construction, FIRE, and state/local government had higher employment growth in the 90s relative to their growth during the 80s. However, services and retail trade had lower employment in the 90s.

Major employers in the county included among others, Wal-Mart, Inc., (2 locations), the State of Arkansas, Saline Memorial Hospital, Landers Jeep/Eagle/Chrysler (multiple locations), and Rineco Chemical Industries.

**Table 64. Shift-Share results for Saline County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	508	466	369	1.5	-97	-8.3	-20.8	93	-91	-99
AFF	70	142	230	0.9	88	102.9	62.0	28	21	39
Mining	249	98	37	0.2	-61	-60.6	-62.2	20	-36	-44
Construction	1,087	1,429	2,353	9.6	924	31.5	64.7	286	479	160
Manufacturing	4,024	2,585	2,569	10.5	-16	-35.8	-0.6	516	61	-594
TPU	319	667	754	3.1	87	109.1	13.0	133	-85	39
Wholesale trade	250	506	705	2.9	199	102.4	39.3	101	133	-35
Retail trade	2,111	3,468	5,291	21.6	1,823	64.3	52.6	693	1,147	-17
FIRE	642	679	1,269	5.2	590	5.8	86.9	136	432	22
Services	2,281	3,890	6,474	26.4	2,584	70.5	66.4	777	1,104	703
Federal, civilian	76	90	123	0.5	33	18.4	36.7	18	42	-27
Military	337	465	436	1.8	-29	38.0	-6.2	93	81	-203
State and local	2,786	3,106	3,876	15.8	770	11.5	24.8	621	255	-105
Total	14,740	17,591	24,486	100	6,895	19.3	39.2	3,515	3,543	-163



## Scott County

The population of Scott County in Northwest Arkansas was 10,996 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Scott County is rugged terrain to rolling terrain in the extreme northwest. The economic base of the county is timber with 82% of the land area in timber, of which 62% is U.S. Forest Service-owned and 20 percent is privately owned. Livestock and poultry production along with food processing also contribute to the economic base (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, nondurable goods manufacturing, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was farming (REIS, 2001).

The local economy added 858 and 1,130 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 25 and 26.3 percent, respectively. In 2000, the manufacturing, farm, services, and retail trade sectors accounted for about 72 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the manufacturing, services, TPU, and retail trade sectors, which added 420, 214, 98, and 94 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county

employment change was positive but lower than the NS mainly due to the county manufacturing-sector employment growing faster than its national counterpart. Significantly during 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased by 4.2 percent and added 154 jobs. The overall county IM was negative due to the IM having slow-growth industries. However, the IM of the services sector was positive.

Relative to their growth in the 80s, employment growth in the TPU and FIRE sectors was higher in the 90s. Most other sectors had lower growth during the 90s. Tyson Foods, Inc., has a facility in Waldron and is the major employer for the county.

**Table 65. Shift-Share results for Scott County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	835	771	803	14.8	32	-7.7	4.2	154	43	-165
AFF	55	171	229	4.2	58	210.9	33.9	34	-23	47
Mining	11	7	28	0.5	21	-36.4	300.0	1	23	-3
Construction	113	163	213	3.9	50	44.2	30.7	33	-1	18
Manufacturing	786	1,280	1,700	31.3	420	62.8	32.8	256	458	-294
TPU	93	106	204	3.8	98	14.0	92.5	21	71	6
Wholesale trade	55	86	134	2.5	48	56.4	55.8	17	37	-6
Retail trade	421	556	650	12.0	94	32.1	16.9	111	-14	-3
FIRE	112	129	186	3.4	57	15.2	44.2	26	27	4
Services	343	533	747	13.8	214	55.4	40.2	106	11	96
Federal, civilian	138	94	82	1.5	-12	-31.9	-12.8	19	-2	-29
Military	61	74	57	1.1	-17	21.3	-23.0	15	1	-32
State and local	414	325	392	7.2	67	-21.5	20.6	65	13	-11
Total	3,437	4,295	5,425	100	1,130	25.0	26.3	858	643	-371

## Searcy County

The population of Searcy County in Northwest Arkansas was 8,261 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of Searcy County is rugged Ozark Mountains. The largest industries were state/local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the local economy added 274 and 319 jobs, i.e. employment increased by approximately 8.9 and 9.5 percent, respectively. The services, farm, retail trade, state/local government, construction, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 85 percent of the county's total employment in 2000. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the services, construction, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 203, 209, 119, and 132 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, meaning that the Northwest region sectors did not contribute to any job growth in the county; most county employment growth took place due to the overall national economy performing better. Major sectors that

had RS higher than NS included construction and state/local government. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 13.3 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the county having a mix of industries that had slower growth, with manufacturing and farming being the two prominent ones.

Compared with the growth in the 80's, the construction, T.P.U. and services sectors boomed in the 90's. On the contrary, the manufacturing and farm sectors lost jobs during the 90's.

**Table 66. Shift-Share results for Searcy County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	814	766	664	18.1	-102	-5.9	-13.3	153	-92	-163
AFF	58	178	131	3.6	-47	206.9	-26.4	36	-131	49
Mining	5	7	7	0.2	0	40.0	0.0	1	2	-3
Construction	200	212	421	11.5	209	6.0	98.6	42	143	24
Manufacturing	565	605	347	9.5	-258	7.1	-42.6	121	-240	-139
TPU	60	77	126	3.4	49	28.3	63.6	15	29	4
Wholesale trade	80	93	105	2.9	12	16.3	12.9	19	0	-7
Retail trade	312	374	493	13.4	119	19.9	31.8	75	46	-2
FIRE	137	91	92	2.5	1	-33.6	1.1	18	-20	3
Services	467	507	710	19.4	203	8.6	40.0	101	10	92
Federal, civilian	41	36	50	1.4	14	-12.2	38.9	7	18	-11
Military	55	56	43	1.2	-13	1.8	-23.2	11	0	-24
State and local	279	345	477	13.0	132	23.7	38.3	69	75	-12
Total	3,073	3,347	3,666	100	319	8.9	9.5	669	-160	-190

## Sebastian County

The population of Sebastian County in Northwest Arkansas was 115,071 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economic base is strong and diversified with manufacturing, service industries, timber, and agriculture (beef, dairy, spinach, turnip greens). A strong Asian-American community brings a variety of cultural traditions, businesses, and restaurants. The University of Arkansas at Fort Smith offers diverse professional degrees. County seat Fort Smith's arts center, community theater, and symphony further enrich the cultural life of the area (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was TPU; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the county's economy added 13,672 and 16,461 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 22.7 and 22.3 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors accounted for over 72 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors, which added 8,365, 2,424, and 2,749 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower

than the NS mainly due to the county's manufacturing and services sectors' higher job growth performance, which was above that of their national counterparts. During 1990-2000, county employment increased by 5.5 percent. Due to a tilt towards slow-growth industries, the overall IM was negative. The IM for the services sector was, however, positive.

Major employers in the county include Whirlpool Corporation; OK Foods, Inc. (two locations); Sparks Regional Medical Center (multiple locations); St. Edwards Mercy Medical Center (multiple locations); Wal-Mart Inc (multiple locations); Baldor Electric Company (multiple locations); Rheem Manufacturing Company, Inc.; Twin Rivers Foods, Inc. (multiple locations); Riverside Furniture Corporation (multiple locations); University of Arkansas at Fort Smith; Beverly Enterprises, Inc. (multiple locations); Arkansas Best Corporation (multiple locations); Cooper Clinic, PA (multiple locations); Gerber Products Company; The Trane Company (two locations); Southern Steel & Wire Company, Inc.; MacSteel-Arkansas Division of Quanex Corporation; Georgia Pacific Corporation; Air Systems, Inc.; Hickory Springs Manufacturing Company (multiple locations); Tyson Foods, Inc.; and Weyerhaeuser company.

**Table 67. Shift-Share results for Sebastian County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,004	829	875	1.0	46	-17.4	5.5	166	57	-177
AFF	131	280	550	0.6	270	113.7	96.4	56	137	77
Mining	1,101	1,462	1,110	1.2	-352	32.8	-24.1	292	15	-659
Construction	2,932	3,054	4,330	4.8	1,276	4.2	41.8	610	324	341
Manufacturing	18,185	21,146	23,570	26.1	2,424	16.3	11.5	4,225	3,057	-4,858
TPU	2,679	3,782	3,798	4.2	16	41.2	0.4	756	-959	220
Wholesale trade	2,952	2,755	3,126	3.5	371	-6.7	13.5	550	14	-193
Retail trade	9,143	11,474	14,223	15.7	2,749	25.5	24.0	2,293	513	-56
FIRE	3,104	3,771	4,334	4.8	563	21.5	14.9	753	-315	125
Services	13,716	19,142	27,507	30.5	8,365	39.6	43.7	3,825	1,080	3,460
Federal, civilian	1,481	1,486	1,138	1.3	-348	0.3	-23.4	297	-191	-454
Military	622	733	604	0.7	-129	17.8	-17.6	146	45	-320
State and local	3,135	3,943	5,153	5.7	1,210	25.8	30.7	788	556	-134
Total	60,185	73,857	90,318	100	16,461	22.7	22.3	14,757	4,333	-2,628

## Sevier County

The population of Sevier County in Southwest Arkansas was 15,757 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rugged terrain in the extreme north and rolling hills in the south. The economic base of the county is timber, poultry processing plants, livestock production (e.g. cattle, poultry, and swine), and some light manufacturing. Sevier County is also known as the *Land of the Lakes* because it sits in the midst of a complex of reservoirs in both Arkansas and Oklahoma. Sevier County residents have access to several water-based recreations (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were farming, nondurable goods manufacturing, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the county's economy added 439 and 1,373 jobs, respectively i.e. employment increased threefold, from 7.6 percent in the 80s to 22.1 percent during the 90s. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, retail trade, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 82 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the manufacturing, services, and state/local government sectors, which added 740, 171, and 293 jobs, respective-

ly. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS, meaning that some jobs in the county were added due to the local sectors performing better. Sectors that had RS higher than NS included manufacturing and state/local government. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased by 5 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing sector performing below the national average employment growth.

Relative to the 80s, sectors that had higher employment growth in the 90s included manufacturing, wholesale trade, FIRE, services, and state/local government. Pilgrims Pride Corporation, a poultry-based company with a facility in DeQueen, is among the major employers in the county.

**Table 68. Shift-Share results for Sevier County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	738	705	740	9.7	35	-4.5	5.0	141	45	-150
AFF	214	188	198	2.6	10	-12.1	5.3	38	-79	51
Mining	5	35	25	0.3	-10	600.0	-28.6	7	-1	-16
Construction	185	210	240	3.2	30	13.5	14.3	42	-35	23
Manufacturing	1,483	1,853	2,593	34.1	740	24.9	39.9	370	795	-426
TPU	243	302	300	3.9	-2	24.3	-0.7	60	-80	18
Wholesale trade	163	144	214	2.8	70	-11.7	48.6	29	51	-10
Retail trade	791	876	895	11.8	19	10.7	2.2	175	-152	-4
FIRE	199	175	220	2.9	45	-12.1	25.7	35	4	6
Services	1,136	965	1,136	15.0	171	-15.1	17.7	193	-196	174
Federal, civilian	83	101	90	1.2	-11	21.7	-10.9	20	0	-31
Military	88	99	82	1.1	-17	12.5	-17.2	20	6	-43
State and local	456	570	863	11.4	293	25.0	51.4	114	198	-19
Total	5,784	6,223	7,596	100	1,373	7.6	22.1	1,243	557	-427

## Sharp County

The population of Sharp County in Northeast Arkansas was 17,119 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economic base of the county is agriculture: cattle, broilers, hay, watermelons, and some light manufacturing and tourism. Some residents commute to nearby Batesville to work (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, state/local government, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was TPU; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

There was a two-fold increase in employment from 1980-90 through 1990-2000. The local economy added 832 and 2,043 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 20.7 and 42.1 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, state/local government, farm, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 75 percent of the total county's employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and TPU sectors, which added 523, 593, 240, and 179 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS due to the high employment growth of the manufacturing, retail

trade, TPU, and farm sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment grew by 19 percent and added 117 jobs. The overall IM was positive, mainly due to the national services sector performing very well.

Relative to the job growth in the 80s, farm, retail trade, and FIRE sectors performed better in the 90s. However, the growth rate declined marginally in the manufacturing, services, and state/local government sectors.

**Table 69. Shift-Share results for Sharp County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	693	615	732	10.6	117	-11.3	19.0	123	125	-131
AFF	30	50	78	1.1	28	66.7	56.0	10	4	14
Mining	5	7	17	0.2	10	40.0	142.9	1	12	-3
Construction	276	303	377	5.5	74	9.8	24.4	61	-20	34
Manufacturing	123	255	495	7.2	240	107.3	94.1	51	248	-59
TPU	158	323	502	7.3	179	104.4	55.4	65	96	19
Wholesale trade	95	93	94	1.4	1	-2.1	1.1	19	-11	-7
Retail trade	712	837	1,430	20.8	593	17.6	70.8	167	430	-4
FIRE	518	346	489	7.1	143	-33.2	41.3	69	62	11
Services	752	1,173	1,696	24.6	523	56.0	44.6	234	77	212
Federal, civilian	52	57	65	0.9	8	9.6	14.0	11	14	-17
Military	92	102	89	1.3	-13	10.9	-12.7	20	11	-45
State and local	509	686	826	12.0	140	34.8	20.4	137	26	-23
Total	4,015	4,847	6,890	100	2,043	20.7	42.1	968	1,074	1

## St. Francis

The population of St. Francis County in Southeast Arkansas was 29,329 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rich, flat farmland in the eastern and western halves and rolling hills in the center. St. Francis County, dependent on rural agriculture, now has light manufacturing to boost its economy (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were state/local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was retail trade; the fastest growing was federal/civilian government (REIS, 2001).

The county economy recovered from the loss of jobs during 1980-1990 and added 1276 jobs, i.e. employment increased by approximately 11 percent during 1990-2000. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for 70 percent of the total employment. Overall, in St. Francis County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the growth of the services, manufacturing, and federal/civilian sectors, which added 324, 464, and 326 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, mostly due to the relatively slow growth of the retail trade, services, and state/local

government sectors. Major sectors that had RS higher than the NS included manufacturing and federal/civilian. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 14.9 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing sector performing below the national average employment growth. The mix of slow-growing industries also resulted in a negative IM.

Relative to the 80s, there was significant employment growth in manufacturing, wholesale trade, services, and federal/civilian jobs. Major employers in the county include, among others: Sanyo Manufacturing Corporation, Boar's Head Provisions Company, Inc., Wal-Mart Inc., and Baptist Memorial Hospital.

**Table 70. Shift-Share results for St. Francis County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,495	828	705	5.7	-123	-44.6	-14.9	165	-112	-177
AFF	110	151	250	2.0	99	37.3	65.6	30	27	41
Mining	40	14	20	0.2	6	-65.0	42.9	3	10	-6
Construction	444	505	516	4.2	11	13.7	2.2	101	-146	56
Manufacturing	4,081	1,764	2,228	18.0	464	-56.8	26.3	352	517	-405
TPU	518	514	508	4.1	-6	-0.8	-1.2	103	-139	30
Wholesale trade	577	467	630	5.1	163	-19.1	34.9	93	102	-33
Retail trade	1,837	1,897	2,072	16.7	175	3.3	9.2	379	-195	-9
FIRE	512	530	494	4.0	-36	3.5	-6.8	106	-159	18
Services	2,129	2,182	2,506	20.2	324	2.5	14.8	436	-506	394
Federal, civilian	128	114	440	3.6	326	-10.9	286.0	23	338	-35
Military	194	205	152	1.2	-53	5.7	-25.9	41	-4	-90
State and local	1,749	1,934	1,860	15.0	-74	10.6	-3.8	386	-395	-66
Total	13,814	11,105	12,381	100	1,276	-19.6	11.5	2,219	-662	-281



## Stone County

The population of Stone County in Northeast Arkansas was 11,499 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rugged Ozark Mountains. Stone County is known for two major assets: its mountainous beauty and the culture of its mountain folk. The economic base is poultry, livestock, wood products, and light manufacturing along with tourism (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, farming, and services. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

There was a marginal increase in the county's employment growth in the 90s relative to the 80s. The local economy added 969 and 1,520 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by approximately 32 and 38 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, farm, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 79 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, state/local government, and retail trade sectors, which

added 383, 216, 173, and 306 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the national share, mostly due to the high employment growth in the manufacturing, retail trade, FIRE, and state/local government sectors. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased marginally by 1.5 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the presence of slow-growing industries in the county like the manufacturing and farm sectors, in which employment growth was below the average national employment growth.

Relative to the 80s, while employment growth in the farm, FIRE, state/local government, and services sectors increased, it declined in mining, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and the military.

**Table 71. Shift-Share results for Stone County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	713	686	696	12.6	10	-3.8	1.5	137	19	-146
AFF	29	58	122	2.2	64	100.0	110.3	12	37	16
Mining	5	7	7	0.1	0	40.0	0.0	1	2	-3
Construction	145	235	381	6.9	146	62.1	62.1	47	73	26
Manufacturing	369	631	847	15.3	216	71.0	34.2	126	235	-145
TPU	77	110	160	2.9	50	42.9	45.5	22	22	6
Wholesale trade	24	62	92	1.7	30	158.3	48.4	12	22	-4
Retail trade	425	692	998	18.1	306	62.8	44.2	138	171	-3
FIRE	112	104	265	4.8	161	-7.1	154.8	21	137	3
Services	626	823	1,206	21.8	383	31.5	46.5	164	70	149
Federal, civilian	130	84	76	1.4	-8	-35.4	-9.5	17	1	-26
Military	57	71	60	1.1	-11	24.6	-15.5	14	6	-31
State and local	326	444	617	11.2	173	36.2	39.0	89	99	-15
Total	3,038	4,007	5,527	100	1,520	31.9	37.9	801	893	-173

## Union County

The population of Union County in Southwest Arkansas was 45,629 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was construction; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

During 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, the local economy added 580 and 2,607 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 2.3 and 10.3, percent respectively. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 72 percent of the county's total employment. Overall for Union County, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, manufacturing, state/local government, construction, and retail trade sectors, which added 1,417, 683, 293, 484, and 279 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was negative, mainly due to services, retail trade, mining, and TPU having lower regional employment. Manufacturing was the only major sector that had RS higher than NS. During this period, farm-sector

employment declined by 28.8 percent. The overall IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and mining sectors performing below the average national employment growth.

Major employers in the county included, among others, ConAgra Poultry Company (multiple locations); Medical Center of Southern Arkansas; Great Lakes Chemical Corporation (two locations); Cooper Standard Automotive; Wal-Mart, Inc.; Prescolite Moldcast, Inc.; Lion Oil Company; Teris, LLC; Murphy Oil Corporation; Pilgrim's Pride Corporation; Georgia-Pacific Corporation; and Cooper Tire and Rubber Company.

**Table 72. Shift-Share results for Union County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	570	420	299	1.1	-121	-26.3	-28.8	84	-115	-90
AFF	79	208	287	1.0	79	163.3	38.0	42	-20	57
Mining	2,850	1,856	977	3.5	-879	-34.9	-47.4	371	-413	-836
Construction	1,710	1,657	2,141	7.7	484	-3.1	29.2	331	-32	185
Manufacturing	5,616	5,827	6,510	23.3	683	3.8	11.7	1,164	857	-1,339
TPU	1,209	1,541	1,535	5.5	-6	27.5	-0.4	308	-403	89
Wholesale trade	809	698	902	3.2	204	-13.7	29.2	139	113	-49
Retail trade	3,503	3,732	4,011	14.4	279	6.5	7.5	746	-448	-18
FIRE	989	1,067	1,336	4.8	269	7.9	25.2	213	21	35
Services	4,454	5,491	6,908	24.8	1,417	23.3	25.8	1,097	-673	993
Federal, civilian	246	217	222	0.8	5	-11.8	2.3	43	28	-66
Military	309	338	238	0.9	-100	9.4	-29.6	68	-20	-148
State and local	2,359	2,231	2,524	9.0	293	-5.4	13.1	446	-77	-76
Total	24,703	25,283	27,890	100	2,607	2.3	10.3	5,052	-1,183	-1,262

## Van Buren County

The population of Van Buren County in Northwest Arkansas was 16,629 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The economic base is small industry, cattle farming, and tourism (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, state/local government, and retail trade. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was durable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was farming (REIS, 2001).

There was a decline in employment from 1980-1990 through 1990-2000. The local economy added 1,245 and 947 jobs, i.e. employment increased by approximately 33 and 19 percent during the 80s and 90s, respectively. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, state/local government, and farm sectors accounted for about 76 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, retail trade, and state/local government sectors, which added 430, 274, and 214 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS, mainly due to state/local government experiencing high employment growth. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 5.6 percent. The overall

IM was negative, mainly due to the national manufacturing and mining sectors performing below the average national employment growth. It also meant that the county had a mix of slow-growth industries. The IM was, however, positive for the services sector.

Relative to the 80s, the decline in employment in the 90s was mainly due to the slower employment growth in the manufacturing, retail trade, and services sectors. Pilgrim's Pride Corporation has a facility in Clinton and is a major employer for the county.

**Table 73. Shift-Share results for Van Buren County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	717	648	612	10.2	-36	-9.6	-5.6	129	-27	-138
AFF	44	104	170	2.8	66	136.4	63.5	21	17	28
Mining	20	6	7	0.1	1	-70.0	16.7	1	3	-3
Construction	200	294	369	6.2	75	47.0	25.5	59	-17	33
Manufacturing	475	613	702	11.7	89	29.1	14.5	122	107	-141
TPU	194	260	371	6.2	111	34.0	42.7	52	44	15
Wholesale trade	39	63	75	1.3	12	61.5	19.0	13	4	-4
Retail trade	476	760	1,034	17.2	274	59.7	36.1	152	126	-4
FIRE	503	594	311	5.2	-283	18.1	-47.6	119	-421	20
Services	645	1,093	1,523	25.4	430	69.5	39.3	218	14	198
Federal, civilian	56	56	67	1.1	11	0.0	19.6	11	17	-17
Military	84	101	84	1.4	-17	20.2	-16.8	20	7	-44
State and local	352	458	672	11.2	214	30.1	46.7	92	138	-16
Total	3,805	5,050	5,997	100	947	32.7	18.8	1,009	11	-73

## Washington County

The population of Washington County in Northwest Arkansas was 157,715 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Washington is the second most populous county in Arkansas and one of the fastest growing. Essentially an urbanized county, Washington boasts a rich cultural life and amenities connected with metropolitan areas. The county still leads the state in dollar value of agricultural products produced annually, especially poultry and beef cattle. The economy is well balanced among agriculture, retail, service establishments, industry, and public institutions. The largest industries were services, state/local government, and nondurable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was state/local government; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

The county's economy added 18,997 and 31,396 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by approximately 36 and 44 percent, respectively. In 2000, the services, manufacturing, retail trade, and state/local government sectors accounted for about 73 percent of the total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 was due to the

growth of the services, retail trade, manufacturing, construction, and state/local government sectors, which added 10,320, 6,585, 4,823, 2,863, and 2,054 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS, mainly due to the high employment growth in the manufacturing, retail trade, and services sectors. During this period, farm-sector employment declined by 17.2 percent. The overall IM was negative because the county had a mix of slow-growth industries. Relative to the 80s, there was significantly higher employment growth in the construction, wholesale/retail trade, FIRE, and state/local government sectors.

The University of Arkansas is the largest single employer in the region. Other employers in the county include Tyson Foods, Inc., Superior Industries International, Inc., Cargill, Inc., George's Processing, Inc., Aluminum Company of America, Inc., Little Rock Newspapers, and Danaher Corporation.

**Table 74. Shift-Share results for Washington County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	3,917	3,642	3,014	2.9	-628	-7.0	-17.2	728	-578	-777
AFF	200	769	938	0.9	169	284.5	22.0	154	-195	211
Mining	160	84	71	0.1	-13	-47.5	-15.5	17	8	-38
Construction	2,745	3,212	6,075	5.9	2,863	17.0	89.1	642	1,862	359
Manufacturing	8,611	13,970	18,793	18.3	4,823	62.2	34.5	2,791	5,241	-3,209
TPU	3,258	5,438	6,619	6.4	1,181	66.9	21.7	1,087	-221	316
Wholesale trade	2,554	2,472	4,171	4.1	1,699	-3.2	68.7	494	1,378	-173
Retail trade	8,609	11,944	18,529	18.0	6,585	38.7	55.1	2,386	4,257	-59
FIRE	2,893	2,966	5,128	5.0	2,162	2.5	72.9	593	1,471	98
Services	8,538	14,693	25,013	24.3	10,320	72.1	70.2	2,936	4,728	2,656
Federal, civilian	941	1,078	1,270	1.2	192	14.6	17.8	215	306	-329
Military	678	853	842	0.8	-11	25.8	-1.3	170	191	-373
State and local	9,258	10,238	12,292	12.0	2,054	10.6	20.1	2,046	356	-347
Total	52,362	71,359	102,755	100	31,396	36.3	44.0	14,258	18,804	-1,666

## White County

The population of White County in Northeast Arkansas was 67,165 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rolling hills north and west, respectively, of the foothills of the Ozarks and Ouachitas, and rich, flat, delta farmland in the southeast. The economic base of the county is diversified with row crops like milo, wheat, soybeans, rice, blueberries, table grapes, livestock, poultry, and coastal Bermudagrass hay plus a wide range of manufacturing and service industries, including a Wal-Mart Distribution Center. Harding University at Searcy (the county seat), Arkansas State University at Beebe, and Foothills Vo-Tech School at Searcy draw hundreds of students from all parts of the country. White County has many varied recreational opportunities (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were services, retail trade, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was TPU; the fastest growing was construction (REIS, 2001).

The local economy added 4,959 and 9,505 jobs during 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, respectively, i.e. employment increased by 25.6 and 39 percent. In 2000, the services, retail trade, manufacturing, and state/local govern-

ment sectors accounted for about 74 percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during the decade can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, FIRE and retail trade sectors, which added 3,449, 1,119, 654, and 2,574 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was higher than the NS, meaning that the local region added more jobs due to the services, construction, and retail-trade sectors experiencing high employment growth. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased by 6.5 percent. The overall IM was negative due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors having employment growth below the average national employment growth.

Major employers in the county included among others, Wal-Mart, Inc. (multiple locations); White County Medical Center; Harding University; Land O'Frost of Arkansas, Inc.; Maytag Corporation; Central Arkansas Hospital; Arkansas State University-Beebe; and Kohler Company.

**Table 75. Shift-Share results for White County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	2,470	1,852	1,973	5.8	121	-25.0	6.5	370	146	-395
AFF	100	188	279	0.8	91	88.0	48.4	38	2	51
Mining	54	57	52	0.2	-5	5.6	-8.8	11	9	-26
Construction	1,033	1,364	2,483	7.3	1,119	32.0	82.0	273	694	153
Manufacturing	3,402	4,625	5,108	15.1	483	35.9	10.4	924	621	-1,062
TPU	891	1,455	1,873	5.5	418	63.3	28.7	291	43	84
Wholesale trade	581	691	921	2.7	230	18.9	33.3	138	140	-48
Retail trade	3,333	4,741	7,315	21.6	2,574	42.2	54.3	947	1,650	-23
FIRE	943	824	1,478	4.4	654	-12.6	79.4	165	462	27
Services	3,985	5,372	8,821	26.1	3,449	34.8	64.2	1,073	1,405	971
Federal, civilian	183	180	209	0.6	29	-1.6	16.1	36	48	-55
Military	322	396	354	1.0	-42	23.0	-10.6	79	52	-173
State and local	2,100	2,611	2,995	8.8	384	24.3	14.7	522	-49	-89
Total	19,397	24,356	33,861	100	9,505	25.6	39.0	4,866	5,224	-585

## Woodruff County

The population of Woodruff County in Southeast Arkansas was 8,741 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). Woodruff County's rich, level land is well suited to rice, cotton, soybean, and other grain farming and to the mechanization that has changed the shape of eastern Arkansas agriculture. Additionally, some light industry is located in Augusta (the county seat), McCrory, and Cotton Plant (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were wholesale trade, farming, and durable goods manufacturing. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was nondurable goods manufacturing; the fastest growing was TPU (REIS, 2001).

The local economy recovered from a decade of job loss during 1980-1990 and added 214 jobs during 1990-2000, i.e. employment increased by 5.5 percent. The farm, wholesale trade, services, state/local government, and manufacturing sectors accounted for about 73 percent of the total county employment in 2000. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services and wholesale trade sectors, which added 158 and 152 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was

negative, mainly due to the job losses in the manufacturing sector. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment increased marginally by 1.7 percent. The overall IM was negative due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors having employment growth below the average national employment growth.

Most of the job growth during the 90s took place in Woodruff County's services and wholesale trade sectors. Other sectors that also had improved employment included AFF, construction, and TPU.

**Table 76. Shift-Share results for Woodruff County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,106	664	675	16.5	11	-40.0	1.7	133	20	-142
AFF	72	70	133	3.3	63	-2.8	90.0	14	30	19
Mining	5	7	7	0.2	0	40.0	0.0	1	2	-3
Construction	90	125	182	4.4	57	38.9	45.6	25	18	14
Manufacturing	635	798	504	12.3	-294	25.7	-36.8	159	-270	-183
TPU	128	149	194	4.7	45	16.4	30.2	30	7	9
Wholesale trade	683	500	652	15.9	152	-26.8	30.4	100	87	-35
Retail trade	472	374	382	9.3	8	-20.8	2.1	75	-65	-2
FIRE	150	148	124	3.0	-24	-1.3	-16.2	30	-58	5
Services	523	424	582	14.2	158	-18.9	37.3	85	-3	77
Federal, civilian	54	51	52	1.3	1	-5.6	2.0	10	6	-16
Military	70	68	45	1.1	-23	-2.9	-33.8	14	-7	-30
State and local	582	500	560	13.7	60	-14.1	12.0	100	-23	-17
Total	4,570	3,878	4,092	100	214	-15.1	5.5	775	-257	-304



## Yell County

The population of Yell County in Southwest Arkansas was 21,139 in 2000 (US Census, 2000). The landscape of the county is rolling farmlands, forested ridges, and isolated mountains and lakes with rugged terrain in the south. The economic base of Yell County is well balanced. Leading industries are connected with production of poultry, hogs, and beef cattle, and the county also has some small manufacturing. Tourism and recreational activities are very popular in this area, which is full of lakes. Recreation and tourism have always been mainstays of the county's economy, along with livestock production and logging (AAC, 2005). The largest industries were nondurable goods manufacturing, state/local government, and farming. Of the industries that accounted for at least 5 percent of earnings, the slowest growing was farming; the fastest growing was durable goods manufacturing (REIS, 2001).

The county economy slowed during 1990-2000 relative to the period 1980-1990. The county added 1,015 jobs, i.e. employment increased by 11.3 percent in the 90s compared to 31.7 percent during the 80s. In 2000, the manufacturing, services, state/local government, retail trade, and farm sectors accounted for about 77

percent of the county's total employment. Overall, the employment increase during 1990-2000 can be attributed to the growth of the services, construction, state/local government, and retail trade sectors, which added 333, 323, 259, and 292 jobs, respectively. The RS for the total county employment change was positive but lower than the NS due to some of the industries growing faster than their national counterparts. Especially, sectors having RS higher than the NS included construction and wholesale trade. During 1990-2000, farm-sector employment declined by 19.6 percent. The overall IM was negative due to the national manufacturing and farm sectors having employment growth below the average national employment growth.

The slowdown in the 90s was due to the farm, TPU, manufacturing, and military sectors generating fewer jobs. Major employers in the county include Tyson Foods, Inc. and Petit Jean Poultry.

**Table 77. Shift-Share results for Yell County**

Industry	Emp 1980	Emp 1990	Emp 2000	Reg Share %	Reg change	Reg chg 1980-1990 %	Reg chg 1990-2000 %	Nat Share	Reg Share	Ind Mix
Farm	1,376	1,223	983	9.8	-240	-11.1	-19.6	244	-223	-261
AFF	45	225	317	3.2	92	400.0	40.9	45	-15	62
Mining	37	29	32	0.3	3	-21.6	10.3	6	10	-13
Construction	266	367	690	6.9	323	38.0	88.0	73	209	41
Manufacturing	1,757	3,199	3,049	30.5	-150	82.1	-4.7	639	-54	-735
TPU	263	403	376	3.8	-27	53.2	-6.7	81	-131	23
Wholesale trade	161	133	110	1.1	-23	-17.4	-17.3	27	-40	-9
Retail trade	687	764	1,056	10.5	292	11.2	38.2	153	143	-4
FIRE	212	267	457	4.6	190	25.9	71.2	53	128	9
Services	913	1,160	1,493	14.9	333	27.1	28.7	232	-108	210
Federal, civilian	215	194	175	1.7	-19	-9.8	-9.8	39	1	-59
Military	107	128	110	1.1	-18	19.6	-14.1	26	12	-56
State and local	791	904	1,163	11.6	259	14.3	28.7	181	109	-31
Total	6,830	8,996	10,011	100	1,015	31.7	11.3	1,797	41	-823

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