



ARKANSAS

Arkansas ED Commission
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Little Rock, AR 72201

Grant Tennille, Interim Exec. Director
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“Research is ongoing across the country, including right here in Arkansas, to make renewable energy more cost-effective. Seven of our universities are advancing cutting-edge technologies in the fields of solar, wind and bio-based energy right now. Known as the ASSET Initiative, this research collaboration has already made strides toward producing cheaper, more effective solar cells.”

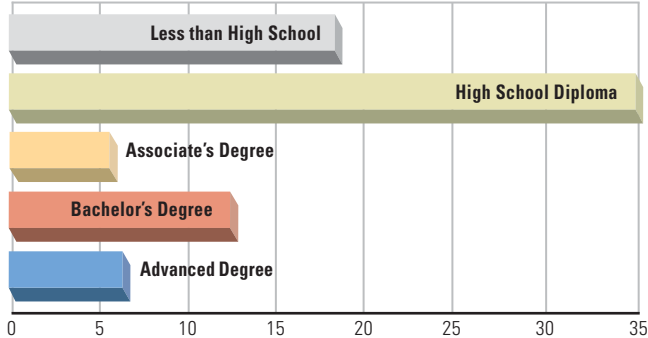
— Gov. Mike Beebe

Governor: Mike Beebe (D)

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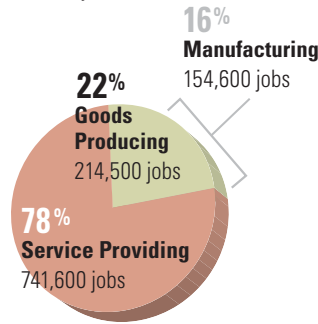
Population 2011: 2,935,258 **Population growth forecast 2011-2015:** 4.11% **Median household income:** \$44,634

Work Force Education by Percentage



Private Sector Employment

956,100 jobs



Property tax rank: **21**

Top corporate tax rate: **6.5**

Unemployment insurance burden rank by least percent of taxable wages: **32**

Worker's comp rank by lowest index: **49**

Industrial power prices (per million BTU): **\$16.88**

Ranked by low price: **17**

Median hourly wage for production occupations: **\$12.64**

Right-to-work state? **YES**

Legislative Update

- The Acceleration Fund was created within the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority (ASTA) to assist various programs and efforts aimed at creating high-paying, technology oriented jobs.
- Effective July 1, 2011, the sales tax on energy used in manufacturing was reduced to 2.625 percent, with a \$27-million annual cap on revenue loss from this benefit. In addition, there is a graduated reduction on the sales

tax on natural gas used in combined cycle gas turbines used to generate electricity.

- The Local Sales and Use Tax Economic Development Project Funding Act authorizes the levy of a local sales tax to fund economic development projects if preconditions are met.