

Benton County

Benton County had a total population of 221,339 in 2010, making it the 2nd most populous county in the state. It experienced a 44.3 percent increase in population from 2000. With a land area of 846.0 square miles, Benton County's population density increased from 181.3 persons per square mile in 2000 to 261.6 persons per square mile in 2010. The racial composition of the county was 82.6 percent White, 1.3 percent Black or African American, and 16.1 percent Other. Of the people living in Benton County, 15.5 percent were Hispanic or Latino, which can be of any race. The population age 18 and over accounted for 72.1 percent of the total population. There were a total of 93,084 housing units, of which 88.2 percent were occupied. The county seat of Benton County is Bentonville. It had a 2010 population of 35,301, which reflects a growth of 78.9 percent since 2000.

1. Children and Youth Will Excel Academically

	Benton County	Arkansas
	Percent	Percent
Grade 4 Math, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Bentonville	92.0	80.0
Decatur	75.0	80.0
Gentry	70.0	80.0
Gravette	79.0	80.0
Rogers	88.0	80.0
Siloam Springs	87.0	80.0
Pea Ridge	85.0	80.0
Grade 4 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Bentonville	89.0	77.0
Decatur	79.0	77.0
Gentry	65.0	77.0
Gravette	77.0	77.0
Rogers	84.0	77.0
Siloam Springs	74.0	77.0
Pea Ridge	79.0	77.0
Grade 8 Math, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Bentonville	89.0	63.0
Decatur	45.0	63.0
Gentry	65.0	63.0
Gravette	73.0	63.0
Rogers	68.0	63.0
Siloam Springs	73.0	63.0
Pea Ridge	89.0	63.0
Grade 8 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Bentonville	91.0	76.0
Decatur	64.0	76.0
Gentry	81.0	76.0
Gravette	85.0	76.0
Rogers	86.0	76.0
Siloam Springs	82.0	76.0
Pea Ridge	93.0	76.0
Grade 11 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Bentonville	82.0	60.0
Decatur	37.0	60.0
Gentry	66.0	60.0
Gravette	67.0	60.0
Rogers	65.0	60.0
Siloam Springs	66.0	60.0
Pea Ridge	78.0	60.0
Graduation Rate, 2009*		
Bentonville	91.3	NA
Decatur	79.2	NA
Gentry	82.0	NA
Gravette	89.0	NA
Rogers	85.3	NA
Siloam Springs	93.0	NA
Pea Ridge	85.7	NA
Remediation Rate, 2009	49.3	55.8

* - Data only available at School District Level.

NA - Graduation rate for Arkansas is not comparable to school district rate.

Benton County

2. People Will Have Education and Training Needed to Compete in Today's Economy

	Benton County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population of High School Graduates and GED's, 2005-2009	42,163	31.2	660,625	35.4
Population with Associate's Degree, 2005-2009	7,983	5.9	104,844	5.6
Population with Bachelor's Degree, 2005-2009	23,540	17.4	235,419	12.6
Population with Graduate or Professional Degree, 2005-2009	10,125	7.5	117,979	6.3

3. Families Will Be Stable and Nurturing

	Benton County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Births to Teens, Age 11-17, 2009		Rate/1000		Rate/1000
		8.1		13.3
Children in Single Parent Families, 2005-2009				
Children in Married Couple Families	41,981	74.3	453,987	65.6
Children in Male/Female HH, No Spouse Present Families	14,495	25.7	237,923	34.4
Total Population Living in Poverty, 2009	29,049	13.1	519,026	18.5
Children Living in Poverty, 2009	10,983	18.1	185,268	26.6
Population Age 65 and Over Below Poverty, 2005-2009	1,884	7.7	47,570	12.6

4. People Will Be Healthy

	Benton County		Arkansas	
	Percent of all births	Rate/1000 births	Percent of all births	Rate/1000 births
Low Birth Weight Babies, 2009	7.3		8.9	
Infant Mortality Rate, 2009		6.49		8.49
Fluoridated Water, 2008	99.3		65.3	
Overweight/Obese Adults, 2008	64.5		65.7	
Overweight/Obese School Age, 2009-2010 (Grades K,2,4,6,8,10)	32.4		38.0	
Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment Student Survey, 2009				
Any Drug - Lifetime Use (Grades 6,8,10,12 Combined)	27.8		30.0	
Current Cigarette Smokers, 2008	17.2		22.3	
Physical Activity/Inactivity				
No Exercise in Past 30 Days, 2008	26.9		29.7	
Meeting Physical Activity Recommendation, 2007	51.3		45.9	

5. People Will Have the Economic Means to Sustain a Quality Standard of Living

	Benton County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Median Household Income (dollars), 2009	49,226		37,888	
Monthly Housing Costs (dollars), 2005-2009				
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - Houses With a Mortgage	1163		953	
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - Houses Without a Mortgage	326		304	
Median Gross Rent	710		600	
Home Ownership, 2005-2009				
Owner Occupied Housing Units	52,387	70.9	749,491	67.5
Renter Occupied Housing Units	21,490	29.1	360,144	32.5
Unemployment Rate, 2009		5.9		7.3

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Benton County (continued)

6. Communities Will Be Safe

	Benton County		Arkansas	
	Number		Number	
Violent Offense Convictions	116		2,866	
Offense Convictions Against Children and Impaired Adults	11		164	
Property Offense Convictions	340		7,407	
Public Offense Convictions	62		1,520	
Drug Offense Convictions	246		6,597	
Other Offense Convictions	30		705	
Total Convictions	805		19,259	

7. People Will Be Engaged in Their Community

	Benton County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Voter Participation, 2010		50.3		47.6
Charitable Giving - Itemized Contributions Reported (\$Millions), 2006	117.8		1,192.7	

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