

Mississippi County

Mississippi County had a total population of 46,480 in 2010, making it the 15th most populous county in the state. It experienced a 10.6 percent decrease in population from 2000. With a land area of 898.3 square miles, Mississippi County’s population density decreased from 57.9 persons per square mile in 2000 to 51.7 persons per square mile in 2010. The racial composition of the county was 61.6 percent White, 34.0 percent Black or African American, and 4.4 percent Other. Of the people living in Mississippi County, 3.6 percent were Hispanic or Latino, which can be of any race. The population age 18 and over accounted for 71.8 percent of the total population. There were a total of 20,459 housing units, of which 86.7 percent were occupied. The county seats of Mississippi County are Blytheville, with a 2010 population of 15,620 and Osceola, with a 2010 population of 7,757. Both experienced a population decline between 2000 and 2010, -14.5 percent and -12.6 percent, respectively.

1. Children and Youth Will Excel Academically

	Mississippi County	Arkansas
	Percent	Percent
Grade 4 Math, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Armored	90.0	80.0
Blytheville	69.0	80.0
South Mississippi County	78.0	80.0
Gosnell	86.0	80.0
Manila	80.0	80.0
Osceola	57.0	80.0
Grade 4 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Armored	90.0	77.0
Blytheville	63.0	77.0
South Mississippi County	72.0	77.0
Gosnell	83.0	77.0
Manila	81.0	77.0
Osceola	60.0	77.0
Grade 8 Math, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Armored	73.0	63.0
Blytheville	40.0	63.0
South Mississippi County	58.0	63.0
Gosnell	52.0	63.0
Manila	48.0	63.0
Osceola	30.0	63.0
Grade 8 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Armored	81.0	76.0
Blytheville	54.0	76.0
South Mississippi County	74.0	76.0
Gosnell	78.0	76.0
Manila	66.0	76.0
Osceola	49.0	76.0
Grade 11 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*		
Armored	59.0	60.0
Blytheville	29.0	60.0
South Mississippi County	51.0	60.0
Gosnell	66.0	60.0
Manila	76.0	60.0
Osceola	37.0	60.0
Graduation Rate, 2009*		
Armored	91.8	NA
Blytheville	71.9	NA
South Mississippi County	77.6	NA
Gosnell	74.5	NA
Manila	93.1	NA
Osceola	66.5	NA
Remediation Rate, 2009	75.1	55.8

* - Data only available at School District Level.

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

Mississippi County

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

	Mississippi County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population of High School Graduates and GED's, 2005-2009	11,053	37.7	660,625	35.4
Population with Associate's Degree, 2005-2009	1,735	5.9	104,844	5.6
Population with Bachelor's Degree, 2005-2009	2,367	8.1	235,419	12.6
Population with Graduate or Professional Degree, 2005-2009	836	2.9	117,979	6.3

3. Families Will Be Stable and Nurturing

	Mississippi County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Births to Teens, Age 11-17, 2009		17.5		13.3
Children in Single Parent Families, 2005-2009				
Children in Married Couple Families	6,302	48.2	453,987	65.6
Children in Male/Female HH, No Spouse Present Families	6,775	51.8	237,923	34.4
Total Population Living in Poverty, 2009	10,675	23.4	519,026	18.5
Children Living in Poverty, 2009	4,328	33.2	185,268	26.6
Population Age 65 and Over Below Poverty, 2005-2009	1,062	18.9	47,570	12.6

4. People Will Be Healthy

	Mississippi County		Arkansas	
	Percent of all births	Rate/1000 births	Percent PWS	Percent
Low Birth Weight Babies, 2009	11.9		8.9	
Infant Mortality Rate, 2009		10.72		8.49
Fluoridated Water, 2008		71.0		65.3
Overweight/Obese Adults, 2008		69.1		65.7
Overweight/Obese School Age, 2009-2010 (Grades K,2,4,6,8,10)		44.3		38.0
Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment Student Survey, 2009				
Any Drug - Lifetime Use (Grades 6,8,10,12 Combined)		28.4		30.0
Current Cigarette Smokers, 2008		20.8		22.3
Physical Activity/Inactivity				
No Exercise in Past 30 Days, 2008		36.4		29.7
Meeting Physical Activity Recommendation, 2007		38.7		45.9

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

	Mississippi County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Median Household Income (dollars), 2009	33,660		37,888	
Monthly Housing Costs (dollars), 2005-2009				
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - Houses With a Mortgage	822		953	
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - Houses Without a Mortgage	306		304	
Median Gross Rent	550		600	
Home Ownership, 2005-2009				
Owner Occupied Housing Units	11,079	59.4	749,491	67.5
Renter Occupied Housing Units	7,560	40.6	360,144	32.5
Unemployment Rate, 2009		13.1		7.3

* - Data only available at School District Level.

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

Mississippi County (continued)

6. Communities Will Be Safe

	Mississippi County		Arkansas	
	Number		Number	
Violent Offense Convictions	75		2,866	
Offense Convictions Against Children and Impaired Adults	2		164	
Property Offense Convictions	162		7,407	
Public Offense Convictions	43		1,520	
Drug Offense Convictions	134		6,597	
Other Offense Convictions	10		705	
Total Convictions	426		19,259	

7. People Will Be Engaged in Their Community

	Mississippi County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Voter Participation, 2010		47.9		47.6
Charitable Giving - Itemized Contributions Reported (\$Millions), 2006	13.1		1,192.7	

* - Data only available at School District Level.

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