

St. Francis County

St. Francis County had a total population of 28,258 in 2010, making it the 23rd most populous county in the state. It experienced a 3.7 percent decrease in population from 2000. With a land area of 633.8 square miles, St. Francis County's population density decreased from 46.3 persons per square mile in 2000 to 44.6 persons per square mile in 2010. The racial composition of the county was 44.2 percent White, 51.9 percent Black or African American, and 3.9 percent Other. Of the people living in St. Francis County, 4.1 percent were Hispanic or Latino, which can be of any race. The population age 18 and over accounted for 76.4 percent of the total population. There were a total of 10,903 housing units, of which 88.2 percent were occupied. The county seat of St. Francis County is Forrest City. It had a 2010 population of 15,371, which reflects a growth of 4.0 percent since 2000.

1. Children and Youth Will Excel Academically

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Grade 4 Math, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*				
Forrest City	55.0		80.0	
Hughes	78.0		80.0	
Palestine/Wheatley	70.0		80.0	
Grade 4 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*				
Forrest City	49.0		77.0	
Hughes	78.0		77.0	
Palestine/Wheatley	64.0		77.0	
Grade 8 Math, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*				
Forrest City	31.0		63.0	
Hughes	25.0		63.0	
Palestine/Wheatley	45.0		63.0	
Grade 8 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*				
Forrest City	47.0		76.0	
Hughes	44.0		76.0	
Palestine/Wheatley	73.0		76.0	
Grade 11 Literacy, Proficient or Advanced, 2010*				
Forrest City	33.0		60.0	
Hughes	26.0		60.0	
Palestine/Wheatley	40.0		60.0	
Graduation Rate, 2009*				
Forrest City	75.5		NA	
Hughes	75.3		NA	
Palestine/Wheatley	70.6		NA	
Remediation Rate, 2009	82.8		55.8	

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

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population of High School Graduates and GED's, 2005-2009	6,493	37.5	660,625	35.4
Population with Associate's Degree, 2005-2009	942	5.4	104,844	5.6
Population with Bachelor's Degree, 2005-2009	1,059	6.1	235,419	12.6
Population with Graduate or Professional Degree, 2005-2009	565	3.3	117,979	6.3

3. Families Will Be Stable and Nurturing

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Rate/1000	Rate/1000	Rate/1000	Rate/1000
Births to Teens, Age 11-17, 2009	24.6		13.3	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Children in Single Parent Families, 2005-2009				
Children in Married Couple Families	3,019	42.5	453,987	65.6
Children in Male/Female HH, No Spouse Present Families	4,084	57.5	237,923	34.4
Total Population Living in Poverty, 2009	7,498	31.8	519,026	18.5
Children Living in Poverty, 2009	2,842	42.7	185,268	26.6
Population Age 65 and Over Below Poverty, 2005-2009	810	28.2	47,570	12.6

* - Data only available at School District Level.

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

St. Francis County

4. People Will Be Healthy

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Percent of all births		Percent of all births	
Low Birth Weight Babies, 2009	12.8		8.9	
	Rate/1000 births		Rate/1000 births	
Infant Mortality Rate, 2009	15.77		8.49	
	Percent PWS		Percent PWS	
Fluoridated Water, 2008	78.4		65.3	
	Percent		Percent	
Overweight/Obese Adults, 2008	67.6		65.7	
Overweight/Obese School Age, 2009-2010 (Grades K,2,4,6,8,10)	45.1		38.0	
Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment Student Survey, 2009				
Any Drug - Lifetime Use (Grades 6,8,10,12 Combined)	23.9		30.0	
Current Cigarette Smokers, 2008	30.5		22.3	
Physical Activity/Inactivity				
No Exercise in Past 30 Days, 2008	46.5		29.7	
Meeting Physical Activity Recommendation, 2007	35.8		45.9	

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

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Median Household Income (dollars), 2009	28,880		37,888	
Monthly Housing Costs (dollars), 2005-2009				
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - Houses With a Mortgage	750		953	
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - Houses Without a Mortgage	308		304	
Median Gross Rent	519		600	
Home Ownership, 2005-2009				
Owner Occupied Housing Units	5,877	60.4	749,491	67.5
Renter Occupied Housing Units	3,852	39.6	360,144	32.5
Unemployment Rate, 2009		9.7		7.3

6. Communities Will Be Safe

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Number		Number	
Violent Offense Convictions	23		2,866	
Offense Convictions Against Children and Impaired Adults	0		164	
Property Offense Convictions	59		7,407	
Public Offense Convictions	7		1,520	
Drug Offense Convictions	88		6,597	
Other Offense Convictions	2		705	
Total Convictions	179		19,259	

7. People Will Be Engaged in Their Community

	St. Francis County		Arkansas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Voter Participation, 2010		42.0		47.6
Charitable Giving - Itemized Contributions Reported (\$Millions), 2006	7.1		1,192.7	

* - Data only available at School District Level.

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