



## ARKANSAS

### In Brief

"The Democratic Party controlled Arkansas politics from the late 1800's until the 1960's. From 1874 until 1966, no Republican was elected governor of the state nor elected to a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, from the 1870's until 1996, no Republican was elected to the U.S. Senate from Arkansas. However, the Republican Party has gained strength in the state since the 1960's. In the 1968 presidential election, American Independent Party candidate George C. Wallace carried Arkansas. It was the first time in a hundred years that the state did not support a Democratic presidential candidate. In 1972, Richard M. Nixon became the first Republican presidential candidate since 1868 to win Arkansas's electoral votes. "

*Resource: World Book 2008*

Capital: Little Rock  
 Area: 53, 179 sq mi  
 Population: 2, 810, 872  
*Resource: World Almanac 2008*

As one of the 24 states holding "Super Tuesday" presidential primary and caucus sites on Feb. 5, Arkansas' 2007 population of 2.8 million includes a higher percentage of the non-Hispanic white-alone population, a higher percentage of blacks, and a lower percentage of Hispanics than the nation as a whole, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. About 59 percent of Arkansas' voting-age citizens cast a ballot in the 2004 general election, lower than the national rate of 64 percent.

More information at: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html>

Selected Characteristics	Arkansas	U.S.
Median age	36.8	36.4
Women	51.0%	50.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	76.4%	66.4%
Black alone	15.7%	12.8%
Hispanic or Latino	5.0%	14.8%
Median household income	\$36,599	\$48,451
Foreign born	3.8%	12.5%
Persons below poverty	17.3%	13.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher (age 25+)	18.2%	27.0%
Median home value	\$93,900	\$185,200

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Total Population Estimates (2007), State Population Estimates by Characteristics (2006), American Community Survey (2006).

## More Resources

<b>Government Information</b>
<p>The Official Web site for the State Arkansas <a href="http://www.state.ar.us/">http://www.state.ar.us/</a></p> <p>Governor of Arkansas <a href="http://www.governor.arkansas.gov/">http://www.governor.arkansas.gov/</a></p> <p>Arkansas - Elected Officials in U.S. Senate <a href="http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/senators/one_item_and_teasers/arkansas.htm">http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/senators/one_item_and_teasers/arkansas.htm</a></p> <p>Arkansas - Elected Officials in U.S. House of Representatives <a href="http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW_by_State.shtml#ar">http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW_by_State.shtml#ar</a></p>
<b>Elections 2008</b>
<p>Politics 1: Arkansas Directory <a href="http://www.politicsone.com/ar.htm">http://www.politicsone.com/ar.htm</a></p> <p>The Green Papers: Arkansas 2008 General Elections General <a href="http://www.thegreenpapers.com/G08/AR.phtml">http://www.thegreenpapers.com/G08/AR.phtml</a></p> <p>Secretary of State - Arkansas <a href="http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/elections.html">http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/elections.html</a></p>
<b>Statistics</b>
<p>Arkansas - Quick Facts from the US Census Bureau <a href="http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/05000.html">http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/05000.html</a></p>
<b>Media</b>
<p>Local newspapers <a href="http://www.newslink.org/arnews.html">http://www.newslink.org/arnews.html</a></p> <p>Local radio stations <a href="http://www.newslink.org/arradi.html">http://www.newslink.org/arradi.html</a></p>
<b>General Information</b>
<p>Infoplease Arkansas <a href="http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0108184.html">http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0108184.html</a></p> <p>50states.com - Arkansas <a href="http://www.50states.com/arkansas.htm">http://www.50states.com/arkansas.htm</a></p>

Please find more information at  
<http://usa.usembassy.de/classroom/electionproject2008/index>