

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT BATESVILLE

INDEPENDENCE HALL



The University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville (UACCB) has been recognized as a leader in education, both locally and nationally. UACCB has been recognized three times by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges. As a major area employer with approximately 245 employees, UACCB adds \$6.9 million in earnings to the local economy.

For the last 25 years, the institution has been a member of the University of Arkansas system, building on the strong foundation of educational excellence that is the U of A network.

UACCB embraces a practical approach to education providing a diverse offering of associate degrees and technical certifications, constantly adapting to the most in-demand career opportunities of the leading industries in the community and across the state. The college has partnerships with all major four-year institutions in the state, providing a seamless and accessible path to a bachelor's degree through numerous transfer opportunities.

The college recently purchased a 100,000 square foot building sitting on 55 acres located near the main campus. It plans to use the space to expand the college's offerings in workforce education, heavy and compact equipment, and CDL licensing training with space for future programs.

Associate degrees include agriculture business, agriculture technology, business, criminal justice, elementary education, general education, health professions, pre-engineering, registered nursing and STEM. Some of the certifications available through UACCB include certified nursing assistant, practical nursing, welding, machinist, carpentry, masonry, drywall installation and finishing, and cosmetology.

As UACCB prepares for the future, its goal remains to provide students with a combination of academic knowledge, technical competencies and professional skills to support our community in economic development and growth.

ECONOMIC

REPORT



BATESVILLE & INDEPENDENCE COUNTY



2023

**BATESVILLE &
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY**



**2023
ECONOMIC
REPORT**



COURTESY OF



FIRST COMMUNITY BANK

Where community comes first.





Independence County isn't just a fantastic tourist destination; it's also an exceptional place to call home. This welcoming community attracts people from around the globe with its breathtaking natural beauty and secure neighborhoods.

Here, you'll find the very best that Arkansas has to offer. Our top-tier school systems, healthcare services, and appealing neighborhoods exemplify the quality of life here. Abundant outdoor recreational opportunities, including hiking and fishing, beckon you to enjoy our pristine river or to simply unwind amidst nature.

Nestled in the scenic Ozark Mountains, Independence County is home to nearly 38,000 residents and offers world-class fishing along the renowned White River.

Our thriving downtown is brimming with enjoyable experiences, and the summer months bring a particularly rich tapestry of entertainment and cultural events.

Batesville and Independence County showcase a robust business climate, a diverse economy, a skilled workforce, and ample opportunities for growth. Local employers are experiencing rapid growth, thanks to their ability to attract both existing customers and newcomers.

Don't just take our word for it—come and immerse yourself in the unique blend of experiences that Independence County has to offer. Explore the stunning natural beauty, enjoy the secure and friendly communities, and dive into the diverse cultural events that enrich our area. Whether you're seeking adventure in the great outdoors or looking to be a part of our thriving business landscape, Independence County has something special for everyone. Come and discover it firsthand!

Dale Cole

Chairman, President & CEO
First Community Bancshares, Inc.

Chairman & CEO
First Community Bank

Boris Dover

Executive Vice President
First Community Bancshares, Inc.

President & COO
First Community Bank



BATESVILLE & INDEPENDENCE COUNTY

Set against the backdrop of the Ozark hills, Batesville offers a peaceful small-town vibe with a rich cultural scene. As Arkansas's oldest city, it has been acclaimed by USA Today as the "Best City to Live in Arkansas." Batesville's strategic location near the intersection of Interstate 40 and Interstate 55 makes it an ideal stop for travelers exploring the region.

Batesville, Arkansas, is situated in the northeastern part of the state, approximately 94 miles north of the capital, Little Rock, and about 121 miles west of Memphis, Tennessee. Nestled in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains, Batesville is a picturesque town with a rich history and a vibrant community. The White River runs east and west of the city, offering scenic views and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Batesville enjoys a temperate climate, with mild winters and warm summers, making it an ideal location for outdoor activities year-round.

Independence County, where Batesville is located, is home to a strong manufacturing sector. The county boasts several prominent manufacturing companies that contribute significantly to the local economy. These companies specialize in a range of industries, including the manufacturing of automotive parts and custom chemicals, as well as food processing. This sector is known for its innovation and high-quality products, making it a key player in the region's economy.

Intimidator, Inc., a division of The Toro Company, produces globally recognized products like Spartan® Mowers, Intimidator® UTVs, eNVy® Neighborhood Vehicle, Bad Dawg Accessories, and Ground Hog Max Disc Plow. As one of the largest employers in town, Intimidator, Inc., received the "Best Industry" award from the *Batesville Daily Guard* in 2020.

For 75 years, LaCroix Precision Optics has been a leading manufacturer of custom precision optics, known for its

customer-centric approach. Operating from a 46,250-square-foot facility in Batesville, Arkansas, they offer custom optics, coatings, assemblies, and design support. Utilizing both traditional and advanced CNC processing methods, they ensure the highest quality for their customers. LaCroix Precision Optics is certified to ISO 9001:2015 standards and is ITAR registered and compliant.

Lifepius International, a leading manufacturer and global distributor of nutritional supplements, calls Batesville home. They recently announced a substantial \$24 million expansion of their manufacturing facilities, poised to create 150 new jobs within five years.

Bad Boy Mowers is the brand that revolutionized the zero-turn lawn mower game. It was the first to market zero-turn mowers to rural landowners and homeowners, not just commercial users, with a simple promise of a better mower at a better price. Bad Boy quickly became the fastest-selling mower in America, expanding its engineering expertise into other categories such as tractors, the Bandit UTV, and the E-Series of 80-volt handheld tools. Known for sporty design, uncompromising power, relentless innovation, and a signature attitude, Bad Boy's slogan is "Power. Performance. Attitude."

Flowers Baking Co. of Batesville, LLC is the largest commercial bakery in Arkansas, employing a significant workforce and supplying quality baked goods to a five-state region. Serving major retail and foodservice customers like Walmart, Kroger, Burger King, and Chick-fil-A, the bakery operates over 160 sales routes. In 2022, the company received the U.S. Department of Energy's Better Practice award for innovative energy management, resulting in substantial energy and cost savings. Flowers Baking Co. of Batesville also boasts the EPA's Energy Star certification every



INTIMIDATOR, INC., A DIVISION OF TORO



LACROIX
PRECISION OPTICS

BATESVILLE IS LOCATED IN INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR.

- **94 MILES** NORTH OF LITTLE ROCK
- **121 MILES** WEST OF MEMPHIS



BAD BOY MOWERS, INC.

year since 2018, distinguishing it as the sole industrial plant in Arkansas with this recognition.

To the south along Highway 167, a growing commercial area is home to businesses such as Mark Martin Automotive, Mark Martin Powersports, the Scott and Stanley Wood family of automotive dealerships, Independence County Off Road, and the local airport.

Batesville Regional Airport (BVX) is located three miles south of the central business district. It is a city-owned, public-use general aviation airport spanning 375 acres. The airport has two runways, one of which offers multiple instrument approaches.

Independent Stave Company's Batesville Mill is a prominent manufacturing facility with a workforce of 68 dedicated individuals. Operating on a two-shift basis to meet the dynamic demands of the bourbon industry, the mill

purchases and receives white oak logs daily, crafting barrel staves and heading. The company takes pride in its active role within the Independence County community and looks forward to future opportunities. A family-owned cooperator reaching customers in more than 40 countries, Independent Stave Company was founded by the Boswell family and continues to embrace its core values of family, innovation, community, and hard work.

Independence County benefits from a robust financial sector, with seven financial institutions serving its residents. Overall deposits in the county have seen significant growth, reflecting the region's economic vitality. First Community Bank, with assets of \$2.75 billion as of December 31, 2023, holds a substantial market share in Independence County, cementing its role as a financial cornerstone of the community.



FLOWERS BAKING COMPANY



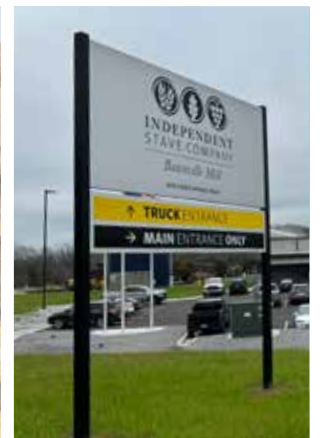
FUTUREFUEL CHEMICAL COMPANY



BATESVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT



INDEPENDENT STAVE COMPANY



WHITE RIVER HEALTH



Pictured:

Left: White River Health was one of eight organizations across the state recognized at the 29th Arkansas Governor's Quality Awards Celebration. White River Health received the Achievement Award, the third-level award. This award highlights high-performing organizations in Arkansas.

Center: Thanks to our amazing sponsors, White River Health Foundation raised more than \$124K at the Annual WRH Foundation Golf Classic. The funds raised at the Golf Classic will benefit the WRH Oncology and Infusion Center expansion.

Right: In November 2023, White River Health held a grand opening for the new home of White River Health Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine on Harrison Street.



White River Health (WRH) focuses on initiatives and strategies that create positive and lasting impacts on individual health, community well-being, and economic development.

With a mission centered on healthcare, WRH operates 37 clinics and two hospitals across North Central Arkansas. WRH addresses diverse healthcare needs by providing comprehensive services to patients. In 2023, WRH experienced growth that led to a new building for White River Health Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine. This expansion, doubling the working space, reflects WRH's commitment to enhancing accessibility and quality. In line with that commitment are plans to expand the WRH Oncology and Infusion Center to create a beautiful, more comfortable healing environment for patients and their families during their treatment journeys. WRH welcomes anyone who may be interested in joining the Capital Campaign that supports this project.

In 2022, WRH adopted the tagline of Caring Beyond Healthcare, which signifies a commitment to next-level care inside the facility walls and in its communities through education and outreach. WRH hosted or assisted with hosting over 70 community events in 2023. These events focused on providing health resources and education, important screenings, and raising money for needs in local schools. Additionally, WRH's support extends beyond events to sponsorships for various local community programs.

As a leading employer in the region, WRH serves as an economic driver in the community. More than 1,700 employees work in WRH facilities throughout the service area. Through its Graduate Medical Education program, collaborations with healthcare programs at local educational institutions, and involvement in career fairs, job fairs, and recruitment events, WRH offers employment opportunities that give individuals the option to stay in our region.

WRH's commitment to providing quality healthcare and creating healthier communities is manifested through its dedication to clinical care, community outreach, and economic development. WRH takes pride in being a catalyst for positive change that improves the health and well-being of the community.

White River

HEALTH

Caring Beyond Healthcare



THIS 2023 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC REPORT DEMONSTRATES THE FISCAL STRENGTH OF BATESVILLE & INDEPENDENCE COUNTY AS IT REFLECTS OUR PROGRESS, ACHIEVEMENTS & PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

Welcome to Independence County - a scenic oasis in the heart of Arkansas! Established in 1820, this historic destination offers a wealth of experiences for all who visit.

NATURE'S PLAYGROUND

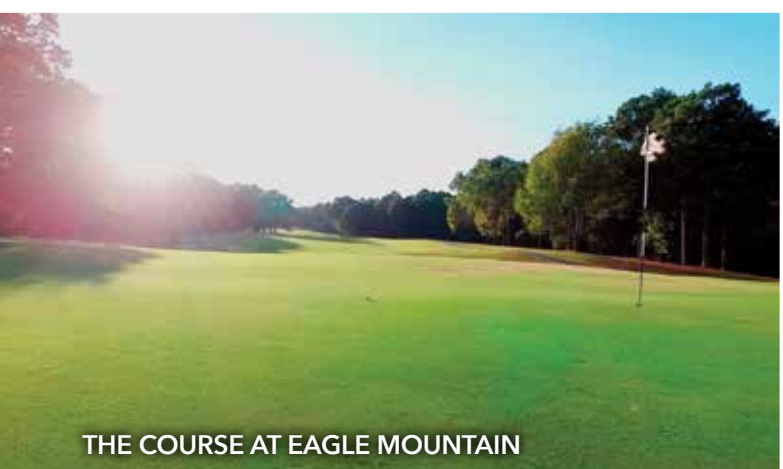
The White River meanders gracefully through Independence County, surrounded by lush forests, rugged rocks, and rolling hillsides. Fishing enthusiasts flock here for world-class trout fishing, while outdoor enthusiasts revel in hiking, canoeing, kayaking, and more.



DOWNTOWN BATESVILLE

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BATESVILLE

Main Street Batesville is a vibrant tapestry of unique merchants, notable architecture, and a diverse dining scene. Wander through charming, historic homes and treasure-filled antique shops, and you'll find that this town is alive with cultural vibrancy. Entertainment options abound for those seeking memorable experiences.



THE COURSE AT EAGLE MOUNTAIN

RECREATION FOR ALL

Whether you're a fitness fanatic or a nature lover, Independence County has something for you. The Batesville Community Center and Aquatics Park offers state-of-the-art fitness facilities, swimming pools, and more. Tee off at the golf courses catering to both casual and avid players or explore numerous recreational areas for walking, hiking, and biking.



BATESVILLE MOTOR SPEEDWAY

REV UP YOUR ENGINES

For NASCAR enthusiasts, the Locust Grove dirt track, the Batesville Motor Speedway, is a must-visit destination. Friday nights, from March through September, come alive with roaring engines and thrilling races.

OFF-ROAD ADVENTURES

Adventure-seekers can head to The Greasy Bend Off-road Park in Rosie, Arkansas. Spanning over 1200 acres along the White River, it's a thrilling playground for ATV and UTV enthusiasts, with mud, sand, and bluffs to conquer.

GRAVEL ROUTE BIKE RIDING

Batesville and the surrounding area are a haven for gravel route bike riding enthusiasts. With its scenic backroads and rolling hills, Independence County offers an ideal landscape for this popular pastime. Cyclists can explore miles of gravel routes, taking in the breathtaking natural beauty and enjoying the peacefulness of the countryside.



WHITE RIVER WONDERLAND

FESTIVE DELIGHTS

During the holiday season, don't miss Batesville's White River Wonderland at Riverside Park. Earning the city top billing as the "Christmas Capitol of Arkansas," this enchanting Christmas lights drive-through boasts two million lights, seasonal music, a Ferris wheel, and delectable concessions.

MANUFACTURING COMPANIES

COMPANY	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	BUSINESS TYPE
Peco Foods Inc.	1,442	Poultry Processing
Bad Boy	1,060	Lawn Mowers/Tractors
Ozark Mountain Poultry	936	Poultry Processing
Custom Craft Poultry	550	Poultry Processing
FutureFuel Chemical Co.	480	Chemicals/Alternative Fuels
Intimidator Inc./Toro	335	MTVs/Lawn Mowers
Atlas Asphalt/White River Materials	200	Asphalt/Highway Construction
Flowers Baking Co. of Batesville	182	Bread
Lifepius International	134	Nutritional Products
LaCroix Precision Optics	116	Precision Optical Lenses
Arkansas Lime Co.	78	Lime & Limestone
Independent Stave Company	68	Oak Barrel Staves
TWH Enterprises LLC	37	Manufacturing & Fabricating
Midwest Lime Co.	25	Limestone

NON-MANUFACTURING COMPANIES

COMPANY	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	BUSINESS TYPE
White River Health	1,290	Health Care
First Community Bank	571	Financial Institution
White River Area Agency on Aging	563	Human Services
Batesville Public Schools	518	Education
Walmart Supercenter	383	Retail
Network of Community Options	320	Human Services
Southside Public Schools	295	Education
Arkansas State Highway Department	275	Road/Transportation
UACCB	245	Education
Independence County	217	County Services
Citizens Bank	206	Financial Institution
Lyon College	190	Education
Colton's Steak House & Grill/Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers/Popeyes	160	Restaurant
Wood-Lawn Nursing Home	156	Health Care
Sonic Drive-In	137	Restaurant
City of Batesville	133	City Services
The Home Depot	113	Building Supplies
Mountain Meadows Health & Rehab Center	99	Health Care
Vital Link	87	Health Care
Access Arkansas Processing Center	86	Human Services
Northcentral Arkansas Development Council	85	Development Services
Bill Davis Trucking/Chimney Rock Cattle	81	Transportation/Cattle
Myers-Davis Life Coaching, Inc.	79	Life Coaching
McDonald's	75	Restaurant
Wade's Heating Air Conditioning & Electric	65	Refrigeration Service & Repair
The River Waterfront Steak & Grill	54	Restaurant
Wood Family Dealerships	49	New & Used Car Dealer
Mark Martin Ford/Kia	45	New & Used Car Dealer
Pepsi Beverages Co.	32	Beverage
White River Planning and Development District	31	Economic Development Services
Shawn Smith Plumbing	30	Business & Residential Plumbing Services
FARCO	28	General Contractor
Bryant's Pharmacy and Health Care Center	27	Pharmacy/Home Health Care
Kallsnick Inc.	23	Food Wholesaler
Arkansas Sheriffs' Youth Ranches	20	Nonprofit

THE PRIMARY CROPS GROWN IN INDEPENDENCE COUNTY ARE CORN, RICE, MILO, SOYBEANS AND WHEAT. CATTLE & POULTRY ARE THE MAIN LIVESTOCK RAISED IN THE AREA.

Sources: Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation and U.S. Department of Agriculture

CROPS, CATTLE & POULTRY

YEAR	ALL CROPS	ALL LIVESTOCK	OTHER FARM INCOME	TOTAL
2018	\$20,742,961	\$75,141,600	\$9,788,000	\$105,672,561
2019	\$20,083,448	\$58,396,600	\$9,788,000	\$88,268,048
2020	\$27,245,551	\$58,879,100	\$9,810,000	\$95,934,651
2021	\$29,091,489	\$79,862,509	\$11,701,963	\$122,269,890
2022	\$36,380,000	\$109,979,032	\$12,246,929	\$158,605,961

Sources: Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation and U.S. Department of Agriculture



The Association of Arkansas Counties underscores that agriculture reigns as the county's leading industry, with particular emphasis on beef and poultry production and processing.

Poultry processing operations in Batesville serve as significant employers, not only for the town but also for the broader state of Arkansas.

Peco Foods, counted among the largest poultry producers in the United States and ranking among the top five poultry companies operating in Arkansas. Peco Foods has a significant presence in Independence County, employing 1,211 workers across its two facilities. Together, these plants churn out an impressive 36.5 million pounds of chicken every week.

Ozark Mountain Poultry (OMP) provides employment to over 1,000 local residents. Since its establishment in 1984, the Batesville complex has consistently produced more than 5 million pounds of chicken annually, with a focus on antibiotic-free and non-GMO poultry products at an affordable price point for consumers.

Custom Craft Poultry (CCP) offers unique products that are not readily available from larger processing plants. Their approach blends handcrafted and machine processes to craft distinctive goods that cater to various consumer preferences. Their recent expansion has positioned CCP as a key player in the market, providing high-quality, unique products to a broader consumer base. Their focus on customer satisfaction is reflected in their ability to create custom products tailored to meet specific client needs. With a state-of-the-art facility and a team of experienced professionals, CCP continues to set the standard for excellence in the poultry processing industry.

TIMBER REMOVAL BY TONS

2023

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY
ARKANSAS

Source: Arkansas Forestry Commission

PINE

56,355
19,166,814

HARDWOOD

27,905
2,654,144

VEHICLES REGISTERED IN INDEPENDENCE COUNTY

TYPE OF VEHICLE

PERSONAL VEHICLES

2019

43,872

2020

44,352

2021

76,453

2022

65,235

2023

76,768

Source: Department of Finance and Administration

Established in 1974, the Independence County Senior Citizens Program operates four centers in Batesville, Oil Trough, Newark, and Cushman, with Batesville as headquarters. Services include meals, transportation, wellness activities, and social events. In 2023, the program served approximately 350 seniors, delivering 23,713 meals, serving 7,744 on-site meals, and providing 7,501 rides. The program aims to increase awareness of aging issues, enhance transportation, and offer health promotion and social activities. The highly anticipated new senior center in Batesville is currently under construction and will allow for expanded offerings.



CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SENIOR CENTER IN BATESVILLE

PER CAPITA INCOME IN ARKANSAS

COUNTY	2019	2020	2021	2022
INDEPENDENCE	\$36,476	\$38,266	\$42,120	\$44,216
SHARP	\$34,403	\$35,612	\$41,025	\$43,728
CLEBURNE	\$38,942	\$41,656	\$45,289	\$48,466
WHITE	\$37,082	\$39,598	\$42,743	\$43,574
LONOKE	\$40,749	\$43,537	\$46,388	\$48,433
IZARD	\$30,923	\$32,606	\$34,986	\$34,660
CRITTENDEN	\$39,041	\$41,474	\$45,416	\$44,072
PULASKI	\$51,927	\$55,563	\$58,583	\$61,575
CRAIGHEAD	\$38,669	\$40,728	\$45,160	\$46,373
WASHINGTON	\$41,643	\$43,817	\$47,836	\$48,785
JEFFERSON	\$36,586	\$39,443	\$42,076	\$40,786
POINSETT	\$35,558	\$37,307	\$41,551	\$42,536

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

RETAIL SALES FOR INDEPENDENCE COUNTY

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL RETAIL SALES (IN MILLIONS)	\$611	\$667	\$669	\$788	\$929

Source: Independence County Treasurer's Office

LOCAL POPULATION

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
BATESVILLE	8,263	9,187	9,445	10,248	10,706
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY	30,147	31,192	34,233	36,647	37,825

Source: Arkansas Department of Economic Development

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
ARKANSAS	3.5%	6.1%	4.0%	3.6%	3.7%
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY	4.0%	5.8%	3.9%	2.9%	2.9%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



BATESVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER & AQUATICS PARK

BANKING DEPOSITS IN INDEPENDENCE COUNTY

YEAR	DEPOSITS
2016	\$834,260,000
2017	\$877,464,000
2018	\$919,496,000
2019	\$987,741,000
2020	\$1,141,767,000
2021	\$1,170,164,000
2022	\$1,214,676,000
2023	\$1,343,725,000

Source: FDIC as of June 30 of each year



INDEPENDENCE COUNTY LIBRARY



OLD INDEPENDENCE REGIONAL MUSEUM

HISTORY COMES ALIVE

Independence County is steeped in history, with architectural gems and historical sites that captivate visitors year-round. Discover the oldest water-powered gristmill in the state at Spring Mill, lovingly restored to its former glory and now a splendid event venue.

The Old Independence Regional Museum (OIRM) focuses on over 200 years of the rich history of Independence County. With a gift shop, 10,000 square feet of interactive exhibits, and a robust archive of books and documents open to the general public for research purposes and school field trips, OIRM has been a favorite local site for 25 years.

In 2023, OIRM was chosen by the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street as one of only six museums in the United States to showcase its FOOD exhibit, titled "A Taste of Community." This exhibit blends the Smithsonian's outstanding photos and text with local stories, pictures, and hundreds of artifacts from our local community, showcasing the history of food in the region.

LOCAL EDUCATION

Education thrives in Independence County, with four exceptional school districts: Batesville with 3,123 students, Cedar Ridge with 630 students, Midland with 468 students, and Southside with 2,250 students.

The Batesville School District is home to seven schools, each committed to putting students first and providing customized learning experiences for every individual. From infancy through graduation, the district prioritizes the growth and success of each student, supported by a strong sense of community. Sulphur Rock has expanded its preschool offerings, meeting a crucial need for childcare while enhancing early education opportunities. Recent accolades, including the prestigious District of the Year title from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the receipt of Home Visiting Awards through the Investing in the Power of Families Grant, underscore the district's unwavering dedication to educational excellence with students at the forefront.

The Cedar Ridge School District in Newark, Arkansas, serves students from preschool to twelfth grade across 270 square miles, including Charlotte, Cord, Magness, Newark, Oil Trough, and Thida. Despite changes from annexation and consolidation, the district receives strong community support, providing unique learning opportunities. Recent improvements include a new Early Childhood Center, campus upgrades, and 1:1 technology. Students also benefit from partnerships with Arkansas State University - Newport and University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville for concurrent and dual credit courses.

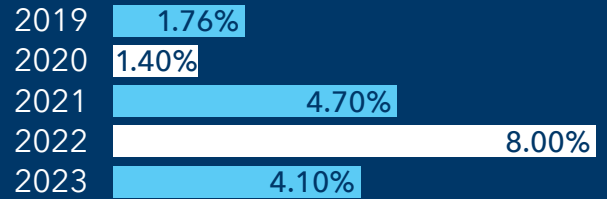
Located on Highway 167 between Batesville and Bald Knob, the Midland School District offers exceptional education with growing numbers and academic achievements. The district's preschool program, starting from six weeks old until kindergarten readiness, includes an infant room, a wobbler room, and a 64-capacity preschool. Midland Elementary's outstanding teachers have led students to top scores in math and reading in kindergarten in the North Central Cooperative for two consecutive years. The high school has raised its state letter grade over the past year, continuing to enhance teaching and learning.

The Southside School District, consists of four schools: Southside High School, Southside Middle School, Southside Elementary School, and Southside Charter School. The district is dedicated to providing a quality education that prepares students for future successes, offering a variety of programs and services to meet the needs of its diverse student population. Known for its above-average test scores, the district continues to rise in academic achievement. The high school operates as a conversion charter school. Currently, the district is in the construction phase of the fourth and final phase of the new high school project, which includes a new cafeteria dining space, band facility, art room, sports arena, family and consumer science/agriculture facility, and other career and technical spaces.

Additionally, Batesville offers three distinguished private schools—Montessori Christian Academy, Presbyterian Day School, and Batesville Montessori School—providing families with quality educational options.

NATIONAL INFLATION

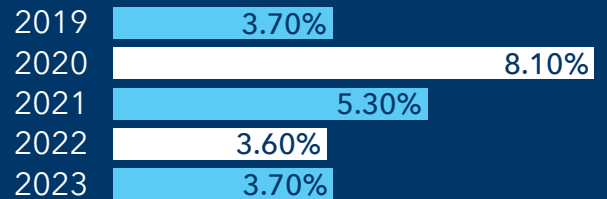
YEAR INFLATION



Source: First Community Financial Services

NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

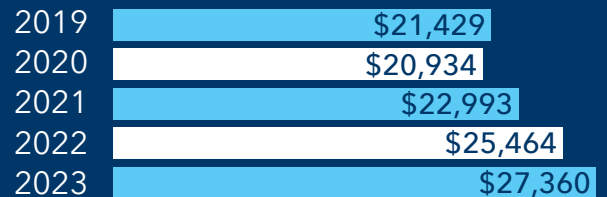
YEAR UNEMPLOYMENT



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Bureau of the Census, 2010 Census of Population

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

YEAR NATIONAL GDP (IN BILLIONS)



Source: National Income and Product Account Table, Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov)



BATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CHARTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

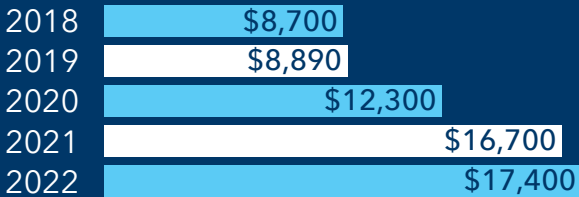
TRAVEL-GENERATED JOBS

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY



TRAVEL-GENERATED PAYROLL

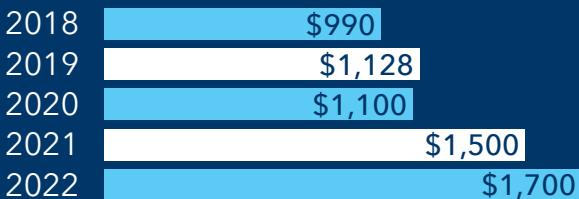
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY



IN THOUSANDS

COUNTY TAX RECEIPTS

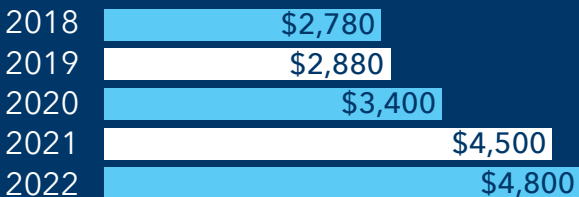
FOR TOURISM IN INDEPENDENCE COUNTY



IN THOUSANDS Source: Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

STATE TAX RECEIPTS

FOR TOURISM IN INDEPENDENCE COUNTY



IN THOUSANDS



MAXFIELD PARK



JAMESTOWN CRAG

MORE AREA RECREATION

Experience Maxfield Park in downtown Batesville, where you can enjoy picturesque views of Poke Bayou, a fantastic playground, sculptural artwork, public restrooms, and even live music! Furthermore, just minutes away from town lies Jamestown Crag, a privately owned sport climbing spot. This impressive crag, comprised of Atoka sandstone, offers a multitude of outstanding sport climbing routes, making it a must-visit for outdoor enthusiasts. You can also bring your four-legged friends to play at the Sara Low Memorial Dog Park down by Riverside Park.



SARA LOW MEMORIAL DOG PARK

TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURES

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY	\$44,330,000	\$45,410,000	\$52,000,000	\$70,800,000	\$75,664,000

LYON COLLEGE

LYON BUSINESS
& ECONOMICS BUILDING



Lyon College is the oldest college in Arkansas to have its original charter, with 2023-2024 marking the 151st year that Lyon has been making an impact. A selective, independent teaching and learning community affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Lyon College offers both a challenging undergraduate curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and select graduate programs.

Lyon provides excellent academics, an outstanding outdoor adventure program, study abroad opportunities, and much more. Approximately 600 students from over 32 states and 18 countries attend Lyon. They can tailor their education, selecting from 24 majors as well as pre-professional and even an individualized "design-your-own" major option.

In April 2022, Lyon College announced plans for proposed veterinary and dental schools located in Little Rock, Arkansas. The schools will be part of the new Lyon College Institute of Health Sciences, with a proposed opening date of 2025. Lyon College also has a collaboration with White River Health in Batesville to offer a Registered Nursing to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

With 22 percent of students being the first in their families to attend college and nearly 35 percent coming from low-income families, Lyon College works tirelessly to make sure a student's finances are the least of their worries. Ninety-nine percent of students at Lyon receive scholarships and financial aid, and with the Lyon Pledge and Backyard Access Plan, there are more options available than ever before.

And since Lyon College is the first college in Arkansas to boast a pet-friendly campus, students don't have to leave their furry, scaled or feathered friends at home. Lyon even has an on-campus pet park and an annual pet blessing event to make sure pets are just as involved as students.