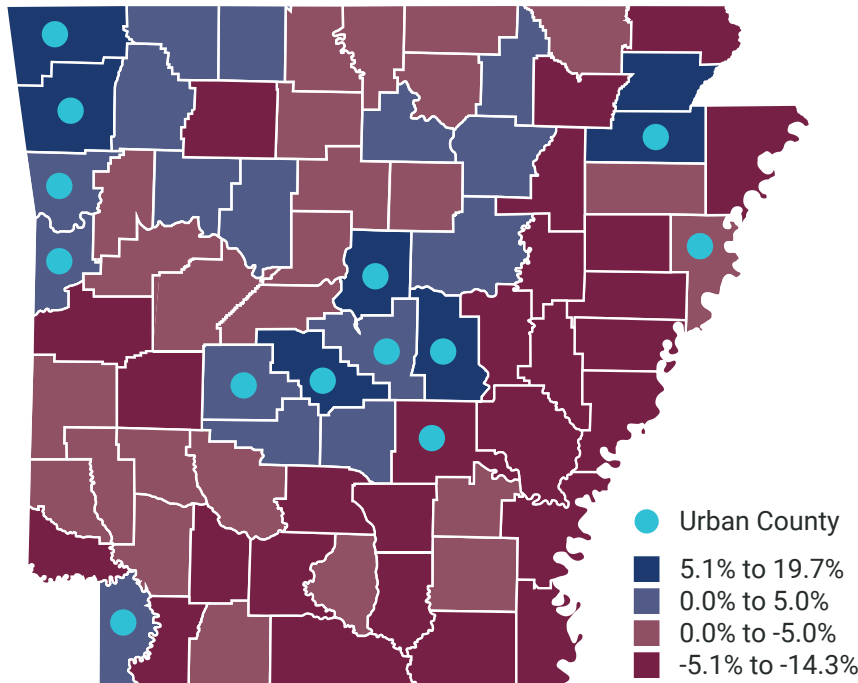


ARKANSAS'S SHIFTING RURAL-URBAN DIVIDE

MAY 2020

The Declining Rural Population¹

% of Population Change by County, 2010–2017



41.2% of Arkansans lived in rural counties in 2017.



Arkansas, like other rural states, is experiencing significant shifts in its rural-urban divide.

From 2010 to 2017:

- **2.5% decrease** in population in rural counties.
- **52 of 75** counties had decreases in population; nearly all (50) were rural counties.

Out-migration was the primary reason for the population decreases in rural counties.



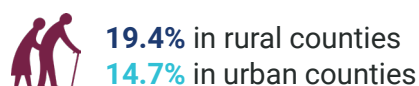
The Rural Population

Rural Arkansas counties have an older population and a greater % of seniors age 65+.

Median Age (Years), 2017

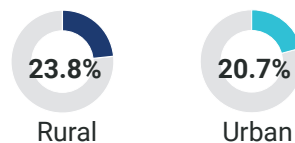


% of Population Age 65+, 2017



Arkansans living in rural counties report poorer health.

% of Adults Age 18+ Who Have Poor or Fair Health, 2017²



% of Adults Age 18+ Who Are Obese, 2016

Rural	37.1%
Urban	35.0%

Arkansans in rural counties experience more social and economic stress.

Child Food Insecurity %, 2016



Overall Poverty %, 2016



Adapted from NIHCM Foundation's *Rural Health in America: How Shifting Populations Leave People Behind* infographic.

^{1,2} Visit <https://achi.net/library/rural-health-population/> for references.