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HIBBS INSTITUTE

Miller County

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*Note This report was originally produced by Chmura Economics & Analytics Economics, an economic consulting company contracted by the Hibbs Institute.

Demographic Profile

The population in Miller County, Arkansas was 43,515 per American Community Survey data for 2016-2020. The region has a civilian labor force of 18,530 with a participation rate of 53.4%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Miller County, Arkansas, 16.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 34.3% in the nation. The median household income in Miller County, Arkansas is \$45,391 and the median house value is \$113,400.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Miller County, Arkansas	Texas	USA	Miller County, Arkansas	Texas	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	43,515	28,635,442	326,569,308
Male	49.2%	49.7%	49.2%	21,389	14,221,720	160,818,530
Female	50.8%	50.3%	50.8%	22,126	14,413,722	165,750,778
Median Age ²	—	—	—	39.7	34.8	38.2
Under 18 Years	23.7%	25.8%	22.4%	10,325	7,381,482	73,296,738
18 to 24 Years	8.2%	9.8%	9.3%	3,577	2,804,109	30,435,736
25 to 34 Years	13.3%	14.7%	13.9%	5,790	4,210,488	45,485,165
35 to 44 Years	12.4%	13.6%	12.7%	5,400	3,888,044	41,346,677
45 to 54 Years	12.7%	12.4%	12.7%	5,540	3,542,967	41,540,736
55 to 64 Years	13.1%	11.2%	12.9%	5,686	3,214,983	42,101,439
65 to 74 Years	9.9%	7.6%	9.4%	4,288	2,166,863	30,547,950
75 Years and Over	6.7%	5.0%	6.7%	2,909	1,426,506	21,814,867
Race: White	69.6%	69.2%	70.4%	30,304	19,805,623	229,960,813
Race: Black or African American	25.0%	12.1%	12.6%	10,893	3,464,424	41,227,384
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.3%	0.5%	0.8%	576	137,921	2,688,614
Race: Asian	0.3%	4.9%	5.6%	126	1,415,664	18,421,637
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	42	25,328	611,404
Race: Some Other Race	1.7%	6.2%	5.1%	720	1,788,398	16,783,914
Race: Two or More Races	2.0%	7.0%	5.2%	854	1,998,084	16,875,542
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	3.4%	39.4%	18.2%	1,499	11,294,257	59,361,020
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	43,177	29,360,759	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.1%	1.5%	0.6%	-39	411,886	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	69.1	111.0	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	53.4%	64.7%	63.2%	18,530	14,214,242	164,759,496
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	71.1%	81.0%	82.4%	11,874	9,378,835	105,137,520
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%	26	94,824	1,143,342
Veterans, Age 18-64	6.2%	4.7%	4.5%	1,607	832,547	8,920,267
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	60.1%	78.5%	76.8%	966	653,740	6,853,673
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$45,391	\$63,826	\$64,994
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$23,828	\$32,177	\$35,384
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	19.7	26.6	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.5%	1.3%	4.6%	87	166,825	7,044,886
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	12.7%	14.6%	10.5%	2,842	2,171,844	17,929,220
High School Graduate	35.7%	24.4%	25.4%	8,001	3,627,667	43,289,555
Some College, No Degree	27.1%	21.6%	20.5%	6,064	3,213,443	34,959,338
Associate's Degree	7.7%	7.8%	9.3%	1,732	1,163,242	15,776,790
Bachelor's Degree	11.0%	20.8%	21.6%	2,473	3,089,698	36,888,244
Postgraduate Degree	5.8%	10.7%	12.7%	1,304	1,590,588	21,630,870

About This Report

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Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Miller County, Arkansas	Texas	USA	Miller County, Arkansas	Texas	USA
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	19,576	11,112,975	138,432,751
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$113,400	\$187,200	\$229,800
Homeowner Vacancy	1.7%	1.4%	1.4%	189	87,068	1,129,755
Rental Vacancy	11.0%	7.8%	5.8%	692	319,748	2,704,553
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	34.2%	37.7%	35.6%	5,561	3,737,262	43,552,843
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	8.4%	5.2%	8.5%	1,371	518,950	10,344,521
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	17.7%	14.2%	12.8%	7,470	3,984,260	40,910,326
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	12.8%	11.5%	11.4%	2,082	1,137,919	13,892,407
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	667	414,927	4,358,865
Disconnected Youth ³	1.9%	2.9%	2.5%	50	46,974	433,164
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	53.1%	34.3%	34.0%	4,921	2,407,343	23,628,508
Uninsured	8.9%	17.3%	8.7%	3,760	4,877,069	28,058,903
With a Disability, Age 18-64	17.9%	9.5%	10.3%	4,482	1,635,809	20,231,217
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	30.7%	46.3%	43.2%	1,377	757,894	8,740,236
Foreign Born	1.9%	16.8%	13.5%	833	4,822,952	44,125,628
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	0.7%	13.3%	8.2%	277	3,531,850	25,312,024

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2016-2020, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

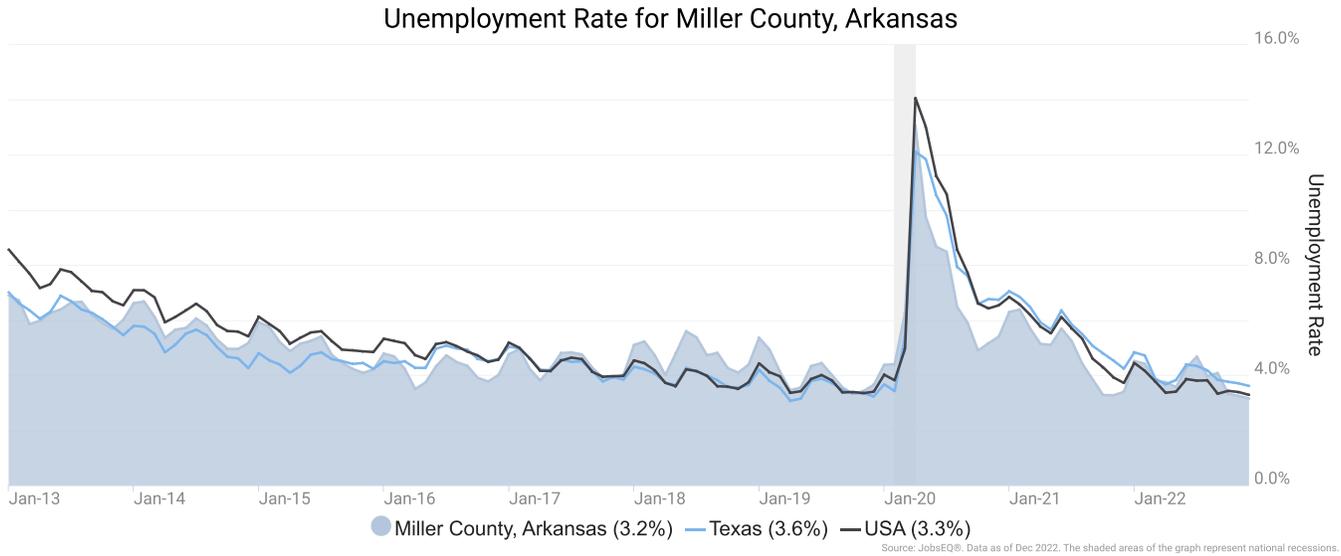
4. Census Population Estimate for 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010.

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Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Miller County, Arkansas was 3.2% as of December 2022. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 3.3%. One year earlier, in December 2021, the unemployment rate in Miller County, Arkansas was 3.4%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through December 2022.

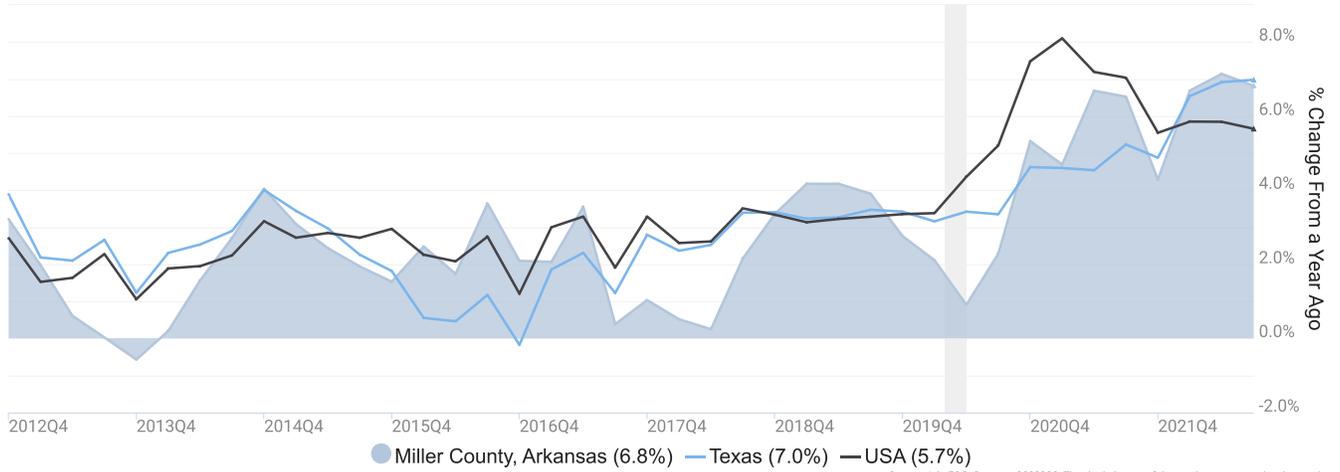
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Wage Trends

The average worker in Miller County, Arkansas earned annual wages of \$46,225 as of 2022Q3. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.8% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$68,132 in the nation as of 2022Q3.

Average Annual Wages for Miller County, Arkansas



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2022Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2022Q3.

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Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 10.1% lower in Miller County, Arkansas than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index	
		(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Miller County, Arkansas	\$46,225	89.9	\$51,407
Texas	\$66,740	94.4	\$70,724
USA	\$68,132	100.0	\$68,132

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2022Q3

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2022Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

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Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Miller County, Arkansas is Production Occupations, employing 1,815 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (1,639 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (1,244). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Production Occupations (LQ = 2.35), Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (1.37), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations (1.37).

Occupation groups in Miller County, Arkansas with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$99,800), Management Occupations (\$85,500), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$78,500). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.1% among Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations to 6.6% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Miller County, Arkansas is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +0.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+4 jobs) and Healthcare Support Occupations (+3). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (231 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (216).

Miller County, Arkansas, 2022Q3¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	1-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
51-0000	Production	1,815	\$43,800	2.35	71	4.3%	28	-80	-0.9%	182	69	128	-15	-0.8%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	1,639	\$40,300	1.37	93	5.0%	116	-629	-6.3%	210	82	134	-5	-0.3%
41-0000	Sales and Related	1,244	\$39,800	0.97	85	4.6%	97	-37	-0.6%	150	74	92	-16	-1.3%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,231	\$27,100	1.14	127	6.6%	48	-30	-0.5%	234	106	125	4	0.3%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	1,217	\$38,000	0.72	65	3.3%	48	-161	-2.5%	126	63	79	-16	-1.3%
11-0000	Management	840	\$85,500	0.90	19	1.8%	44	13	0.3%	69	27	44	-3	-0.3%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	834	\$42,700	1.35	48	5.2%	17	56	1.4%	76	28	52	-4	-0.5%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	724	\$51,700	1.37	21	2.4%	40	22	0.6%	66	26	42	-2	-0.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	723	\$48,300	0.99	20	2.3%	32	13	0.4%	61	31	32	-2	-0.3%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	554	\$30,100	1.23	35	4.8%	17	94	3.8%	70	33	40	-3	-0.5%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	506	\$28,200	0.84	33	3.8%	12	54	2.3%	75	34	38	3	0.7%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	462	\$66,500	0.53	12	2.0%	27	43	2.0%	39	14	27	-2	-0.4%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	423	\$76,200	0.54	9	1.1%	104	12	0.6%	26	13	13	0	-0.1%
33-0000	Protective Service	322	\$46,500	1.10	6	1.6%	16	-19	-1.1%	28	13	18	-3	-1.1%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	275	\$28,900	0.83	24	6.4%	4	25	1.9%	48	20	28	0	0.2%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	245	\$48,200	1.02	4	1.7%	28	-6	-0.5%	25	10	14	1	0.4%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	155	\$76,800	0.33	3	1.4%	20	31	4.5%	10	3	7	0	-0.3%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	136	\$52,200	0.57	4	4.2%	3	-9	-1.3%	14	6	8	0	-0.3%

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Miller County, Arkansas, 2022Q3¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	118	\$78,500	0.53	1	1.4%	21	5	0.9%	8	3	5	-1	-0.5%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	77	\$34,100	0.88	6	6.2%	n/a	-20	-4.5%	11	4	8	-1	-1.3%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	63	\$72,100	0.52	1	2.2%	4	3	0.9%	6	1	5	0	-0.5%
23-0000	Legal	52	\$99,800	0.45	1	1.4%	n/a	-2	-0.9%	3	2	2	0	-0.3%
Total - All Occupations		13,656	\$45,700	1.00	688	3.9%	726	-623	-0.9%	1,538	662	942	-65	-0.5%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2022Q3 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2022Q2, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2022Q3. Wages by occupation are as of 2022 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

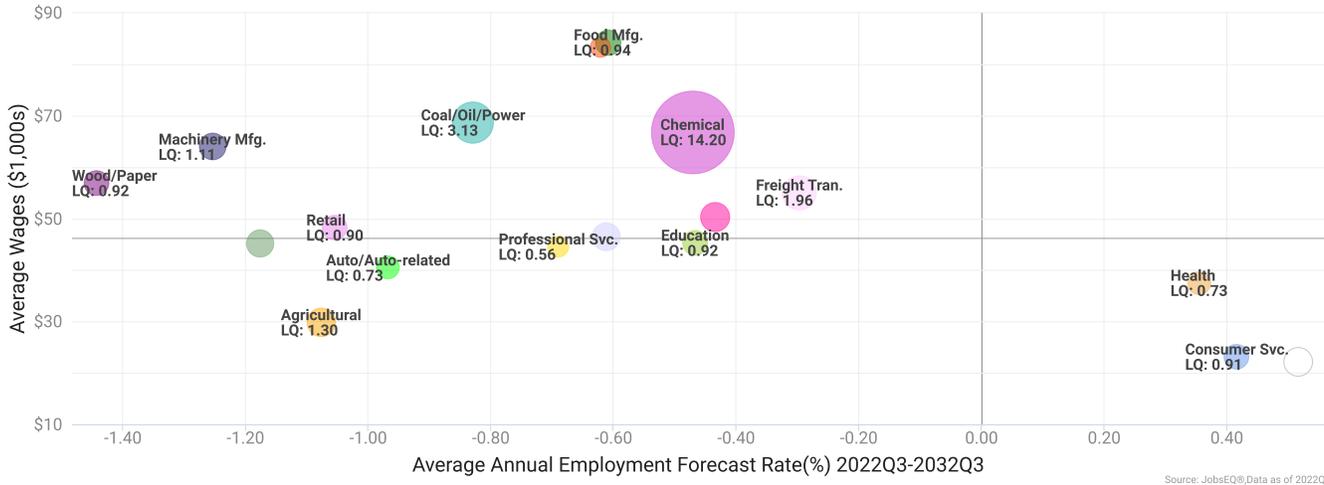
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Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Miller County, Arkansas with the highest relative concentration is Chemical with a location quotient of 14.20. This cluster employs 1,798 workers in the region with an average wage of \$66,787. Employment in the Chemical cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.5% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Miller County, Arkansas as of 2022Q3



Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2022Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2022Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

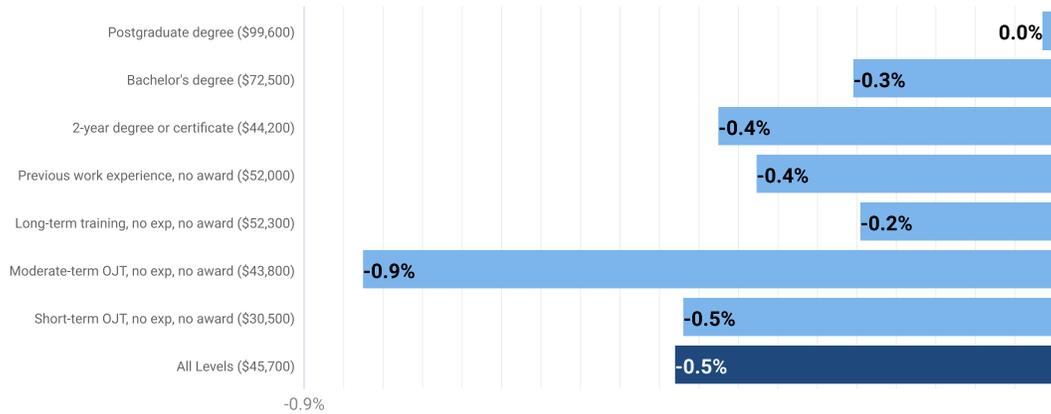
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Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Miller County, Arkansas is projected to contract 0.5% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to contract 0.0% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are expected to contract 0.3% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.4% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2022Q3

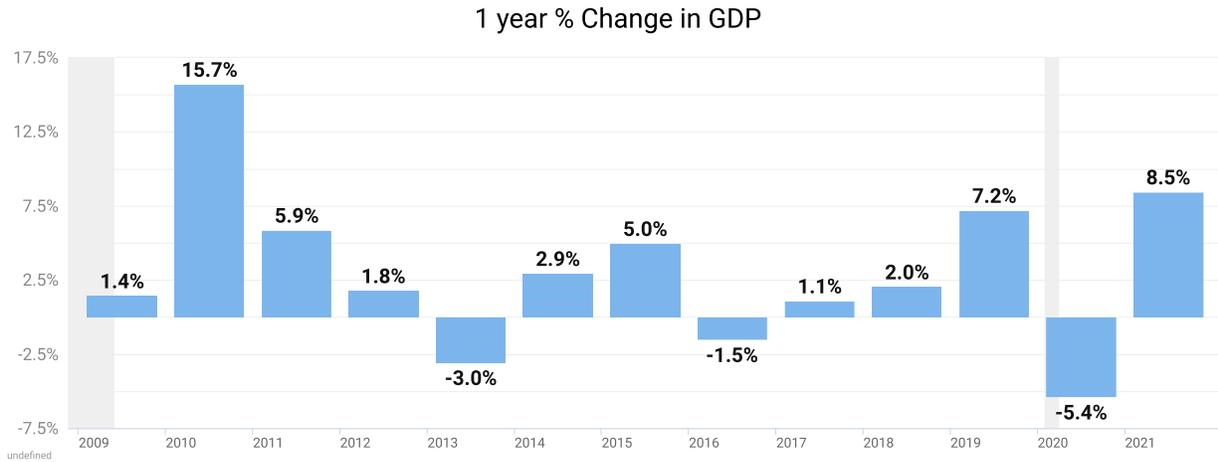
Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2022Q3. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

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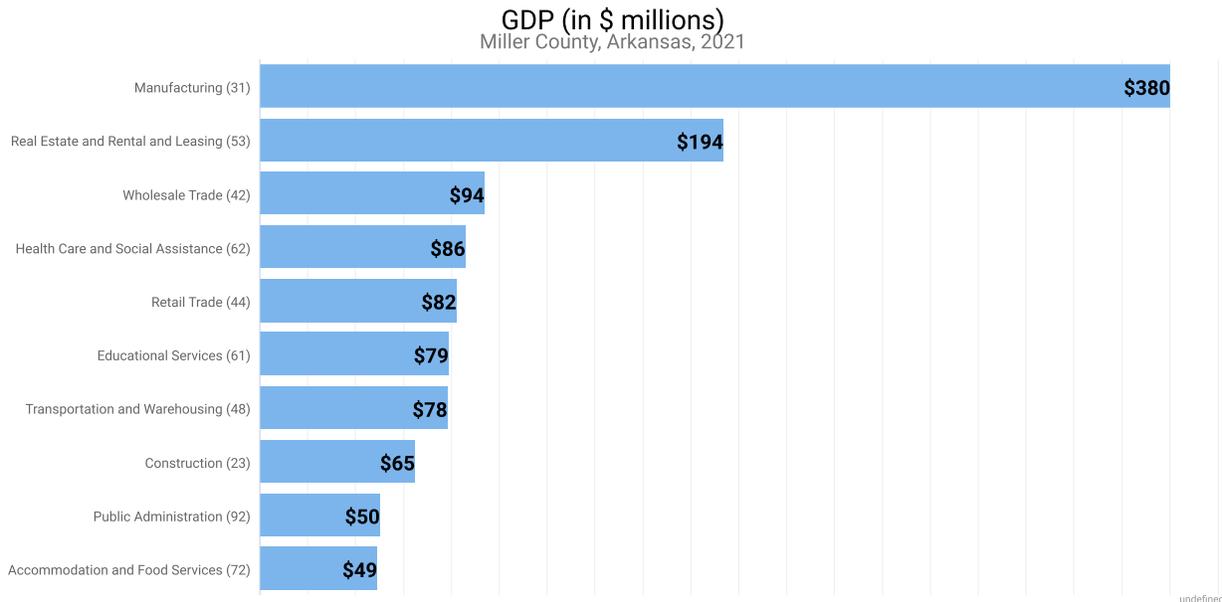
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2021, nominal GDP in Miller County, Arkansas expanded 8.5%. This follows a contraction of 5.4% in 2020. As of 2021, total GDP in Miller County, Arkansas was \$1,420,380,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2021.

Of the sectors in Miller County, Arkansas, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2021, \$380,443,000. The next-largest contributions came from Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$193,647,000); Wholesale Trade (\$93,874,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$85,908,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2021.

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