

Regional Data Snapshot

Population, Economy & Education Features

SET Civic Forum

Northeast Arkansas Economic Development Association



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01 overview

**Northeast Arkansas Economic
Development Association, AR**

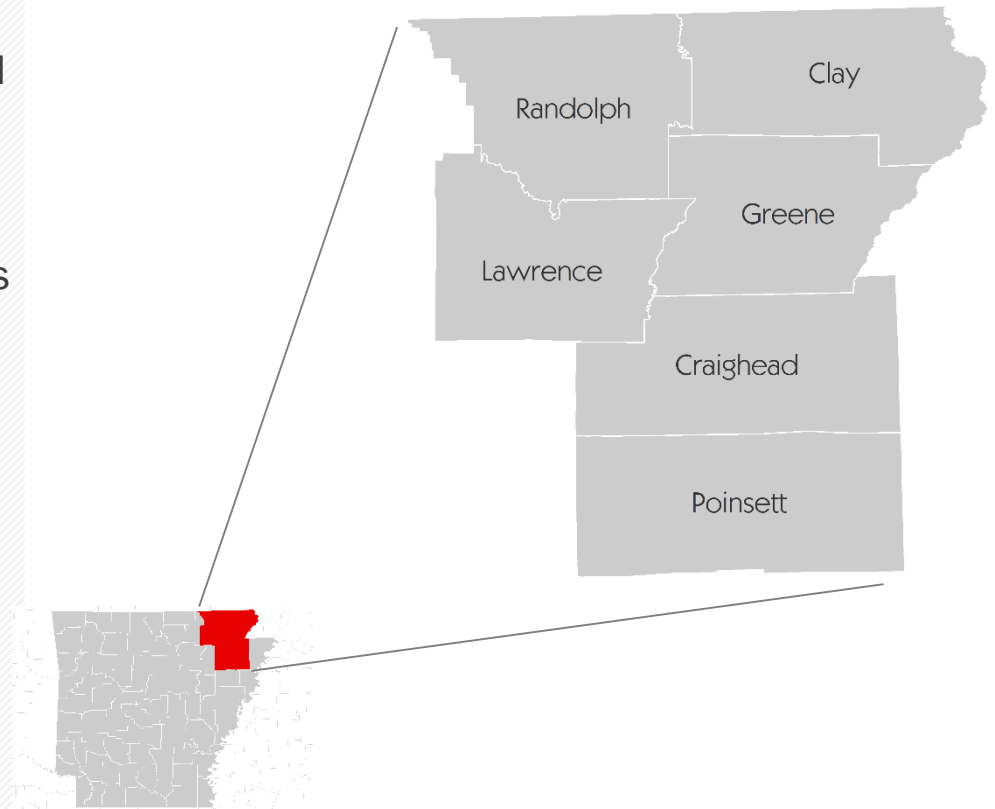
What is a regional snapshot?

Overview

Northeast AR Economic Development Association

The Northeast Arkansas Economic Development Association is comprised of 6 Arkansas counties. The region does not have an interstate, but I-55 passes near southeast of Poinsett County. The region is served by various U.S. Highways including U-49, U-62, U-63, and U-67. Major railroads include BNSF and UP. Black River is the major navigable waterway in the region.

- Clay
- Craighead
- Greene
- Lawrence
- Poinsett
- Randolph



Overview

What is a regional snapshot?

What is the snapshot?

This snapshot is a demographic and economic assessment of the Northeast Arkansas Economic Development Association (NAEDA) in Arkansas. Using county-level data to form the region, PCRCD analyzed a number of indicators to gauge the overall economic performance of the NAEDA in comparison to the rest of the state.

What is its purpose?

The snapshot is intended to inform the region's leaders, organizations and residents of the key attributes of the region's population and economy. In particular, it takes stock of the region's important assets and challenges. With such data in hand, regional leaders and organizations are in a better position to invest in the mix of strategies that will spur the growth of the economy and provide a higher quality of life for residents of the region.

What are its focus areas?

PCRCD secured and analyzed recent data from both public and private sources to generate the snapshot. In order to build a more comprehensive picture of the region, the report presents information under three key categories.

- Demography
- Human Capital
- Labor Force

When appropriate or relevant, the report compares information on the region with data on the remainder of the state. By so doing, the region is better able to determine how well it is performing relative to the state on a variety of important metrics.

02 demography

Population change

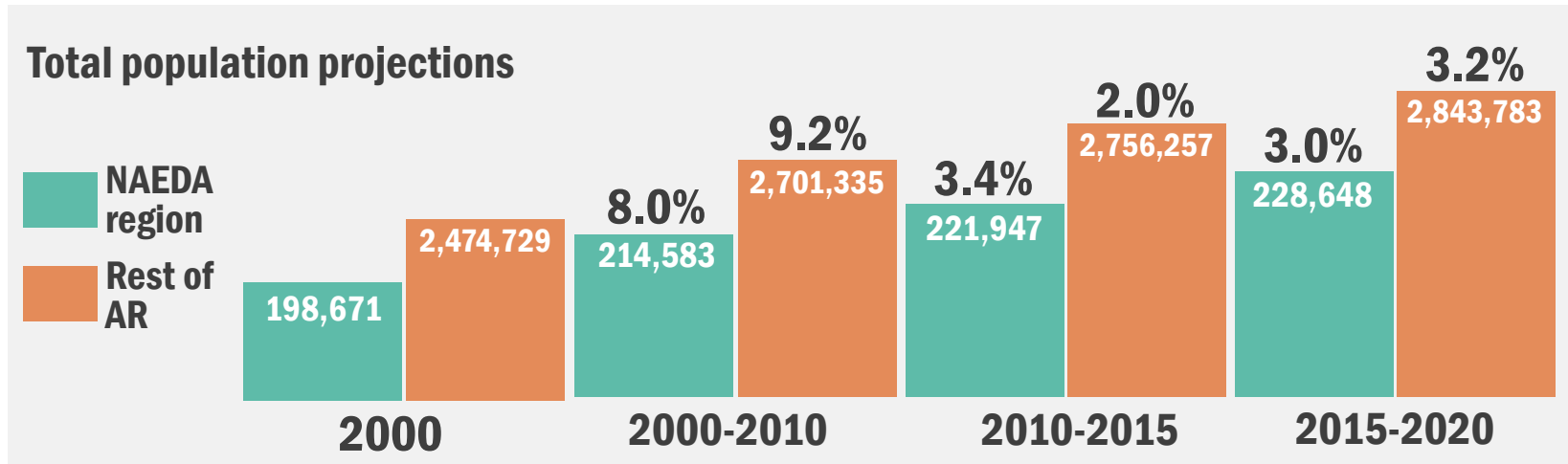
Age structure

Race/Ethnicity

Income and poverty

Demography

Population Change



Questions:

- How does the region's population trend compare to that of the state?
- What may be some of the elements driving the trends in the region? In the state?
- What strengths or challenges might these trends present?

Demography

Components of Population Change

	2000-2015
Total Change	21,824
Natural Increase	8,450
International Migration	2,622
Domestic Migration**	7,320

Questions:

- Which component contributes most to the population change?
- To what extent is net international migration or net domestic migration factors in fueling population change in the region?
- What are the implications of these trends for the region?

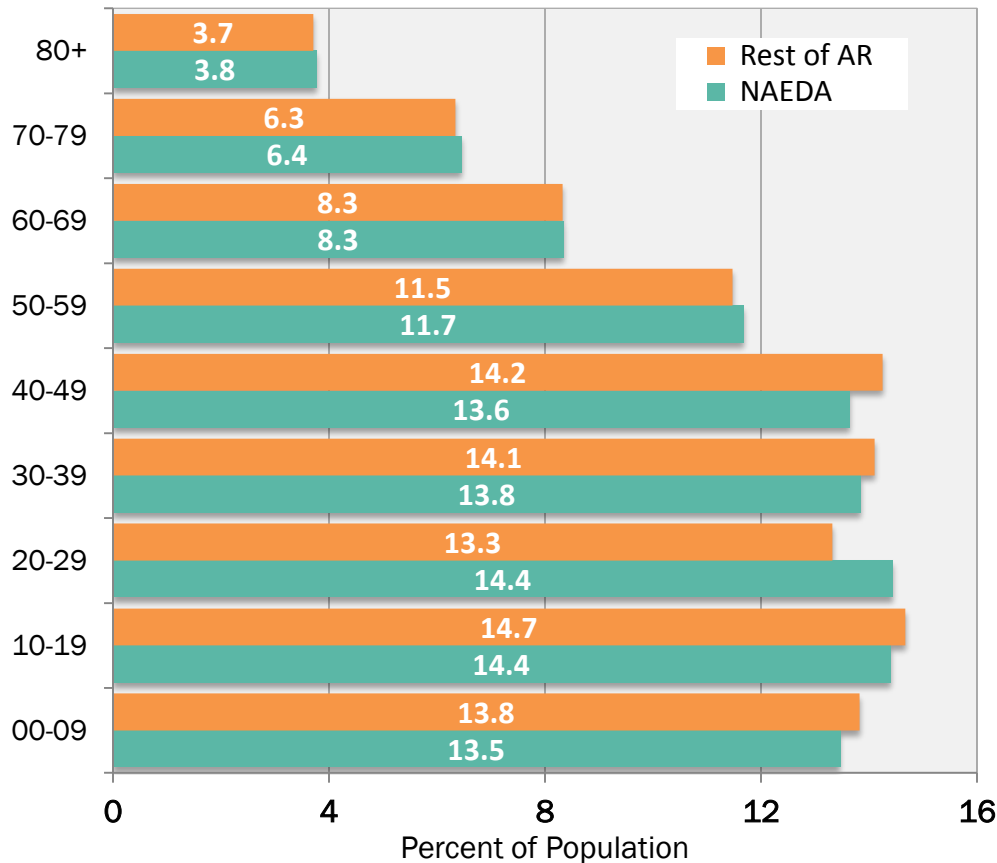
* Note: 2000-2010 components of population change are estimated based on 2000 Census population while 2010-2015 components of population change are based on 2010 Census population. The total change estimated from components of population change might not match with the census numbers because of the residuals.

** Domestic migration is estimated by analyzing the year-by-year IRS U.S. migration database from 2000 to 2015 accounting for the internal migration within the region. Please note that within a region in-and-out migration cancels each other.

Demography

Population Age Structure, 2000

A visual presentation of the age distribution of the population (in percent)

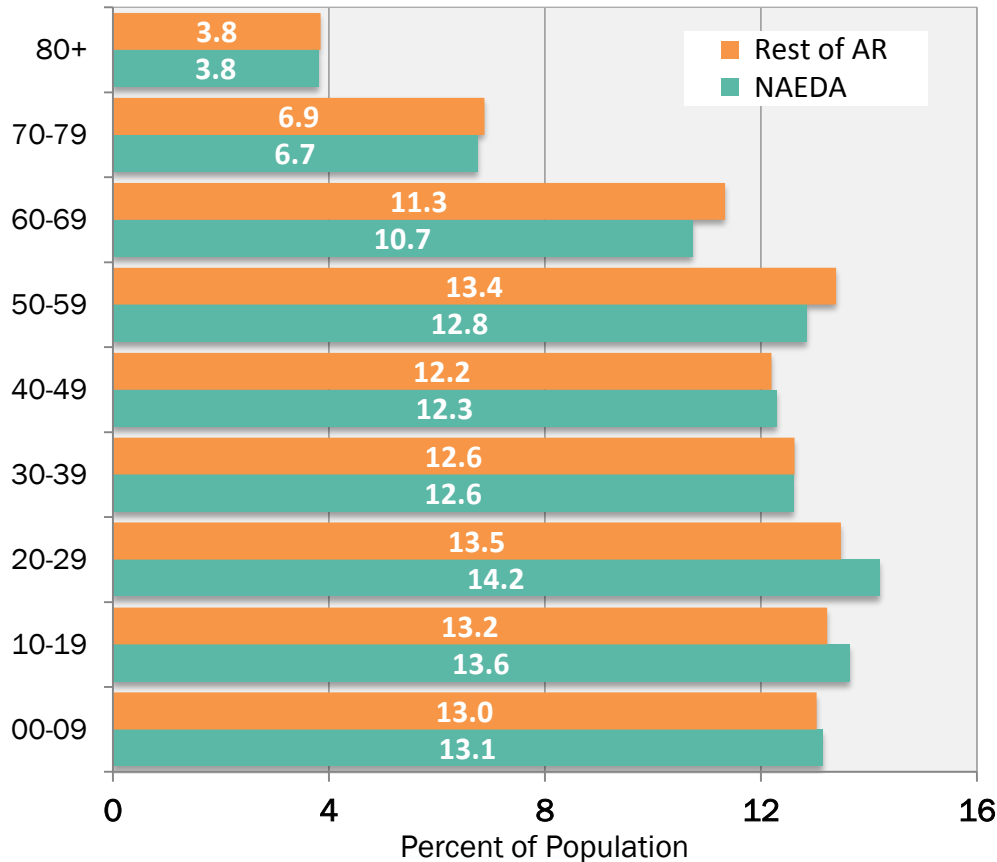


Notice the age distribution of the population in 2000 and compare it to information contained in the next slide.

Demography

Population Age Structure, 2015

A visual presentation of the age distribution of the population (in percent)

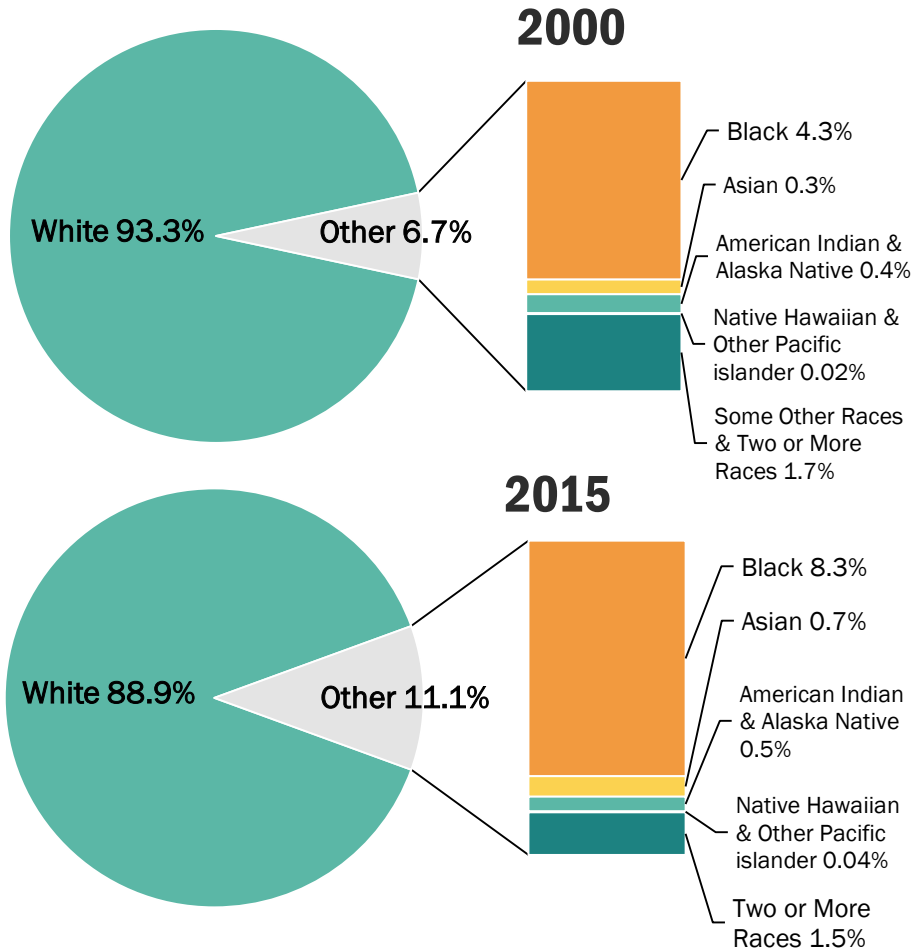


Questions:

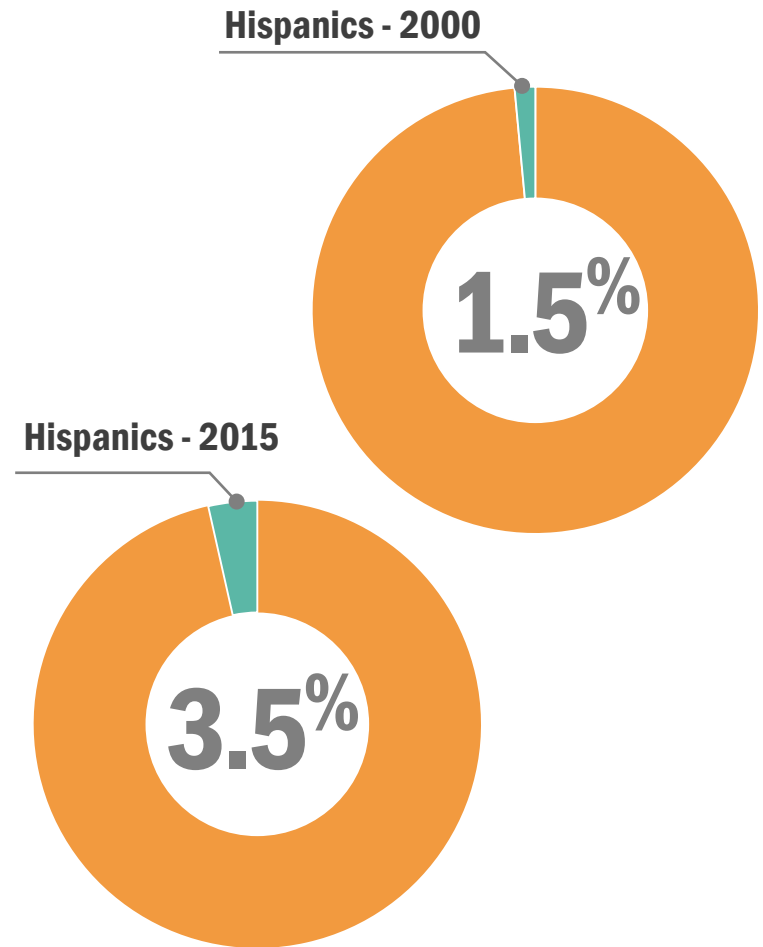
- Is the region experiencing an aging of its population? How does this compare to the rest of the state?
- Is there a sizable number of people of prime working age (20-49 years) in the region?
- Is the youth population (under 20 years old) growing or declining?
- What are the implications of the region's age structure on its economic development efforts?

Demography

Race



Ethnicity



Demography

Income and Poverty

	2005	2010	2015
Total Population in Poverty	19.0%	20.7%	18.7%
Minors (Age 0-17) in Poverty	27.3%	29.3%	26.8%
Real Median Household Income* (\$ 2015)	\$39,266	\$38,749	\$40,030

Questions:

- Is the poverty rate for individuals in the region getting better or worse?
- Is poverty for minors in the region lower or higher than the overall poverty rate for all individuals? Why?
- Has real median income (adjusted for inflation) improved or worsened over the 2005 to 2015 time period? What may be reasons for these changes?

section 02

* Note: Regional Median Household income is the population-weighted average of median household income values across SIDC counties.

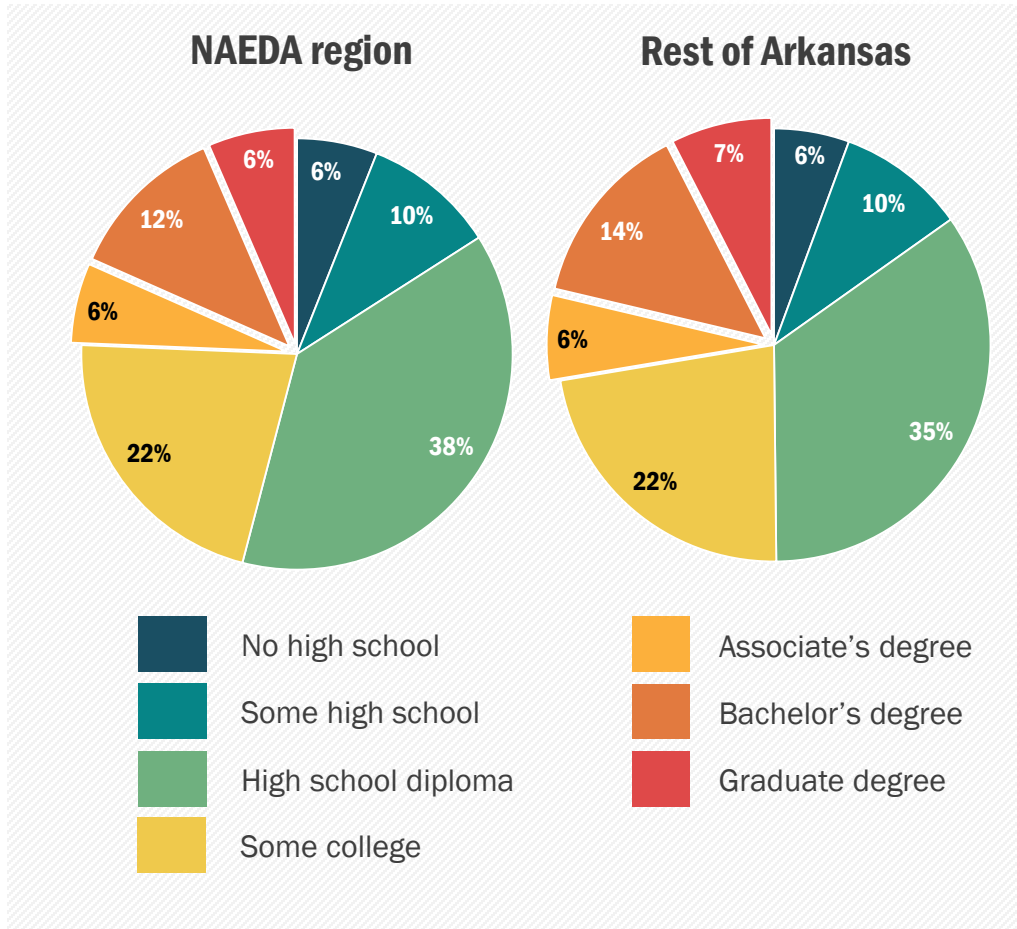
Source: U.S. Census Bureau – Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

03 human capital

Educational attainment

Patents

Educational Attainment, 2015



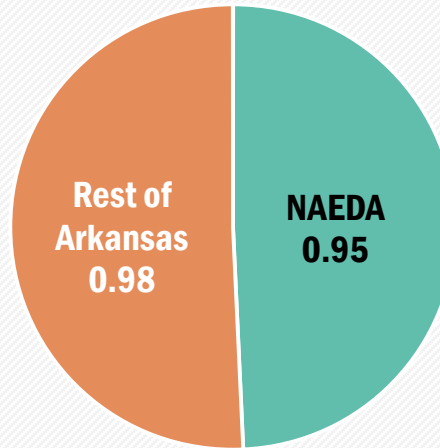
Questions:

- What proportion of the adult population in the region has a high school education only?
- How many are college graduates (associate's, bachelors degree or higher)?
- How does the educational profile of the region compare to that of the rest of the state?
- What are the implications of the educational profile of the region in terms of the region's economic opportunities or workforce challenges?

Patents

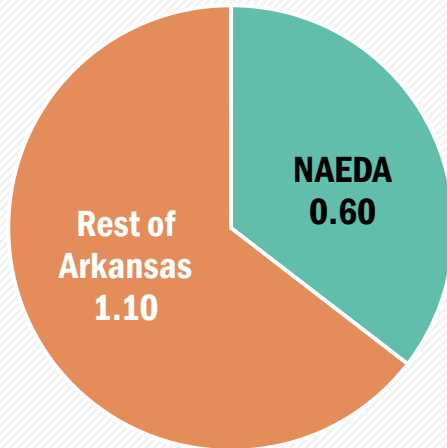
Patents per 10,000 Jobs 2001-2015

From 2001 to 2015, NAEDA counties were issued patents at a rate of 0.95 per 10,000 jobs, while the remaining Arkansas counties garnered 0.98 patents per 10,000 jobs.



Patents per 10,000 residents 2001-2015

From 2001 to 2015, 0.60 patents per 10,000 residents were issued in NAEDA counties. The rest of Arkansas amassed 1.10 patents per 10,000 residents.



Patenting trends are an important indicator of innovation in a region.

Commercializing this innovation can lead to long-term growth for regional economies.

Questions:

- How does the region's patent rate compare to that of the rest of the state?
- How have rates changed over time?
- What might these data suggest for the future of the region?

04 labor force

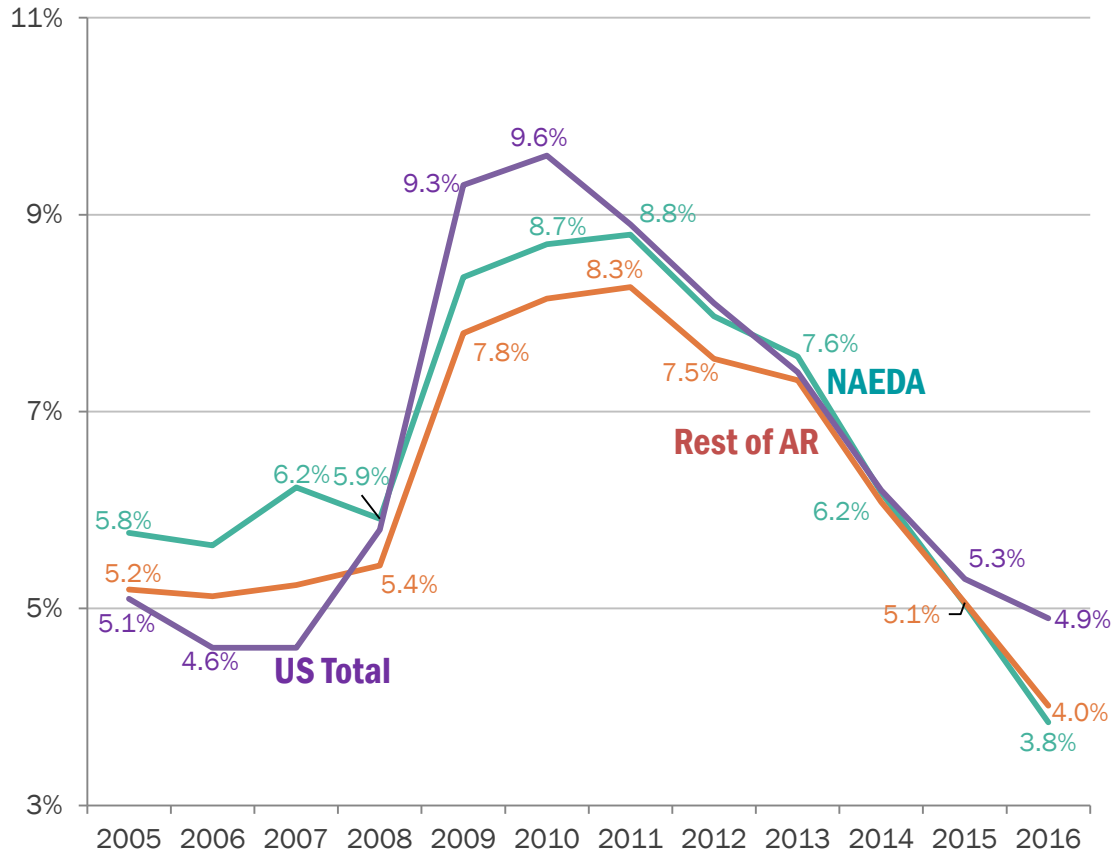
Unemployment rates

Earnings per worker

**Source of labor for the
region**

Labor force

Unemployment Rates



Questions:

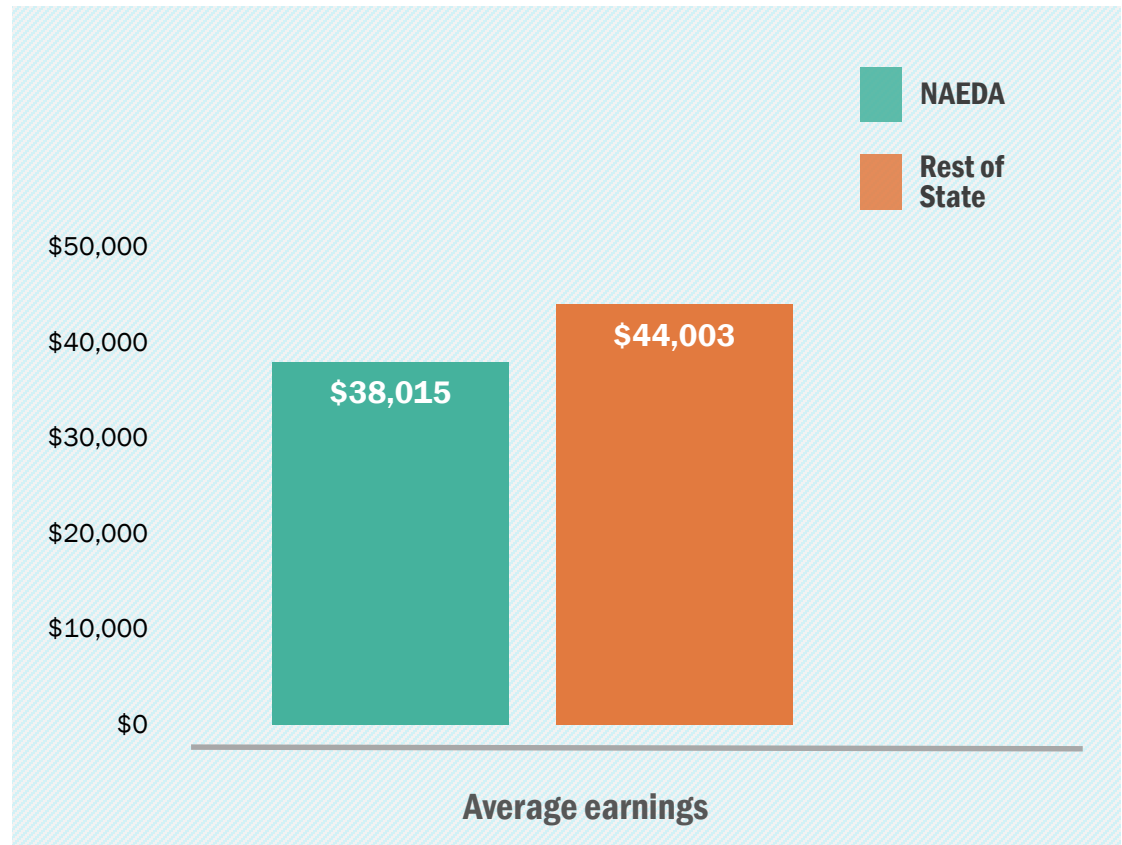
- How does the region's unemployment rate compare to the rest of the state and nation?
- How well has the region's unemployment rate improved since the 2007-2009 Great Recession? How does that compare to the state and national trends?
- What might this suggest for the region's economic future?

Labor force

Earnings per Worker in 2015

Questions:

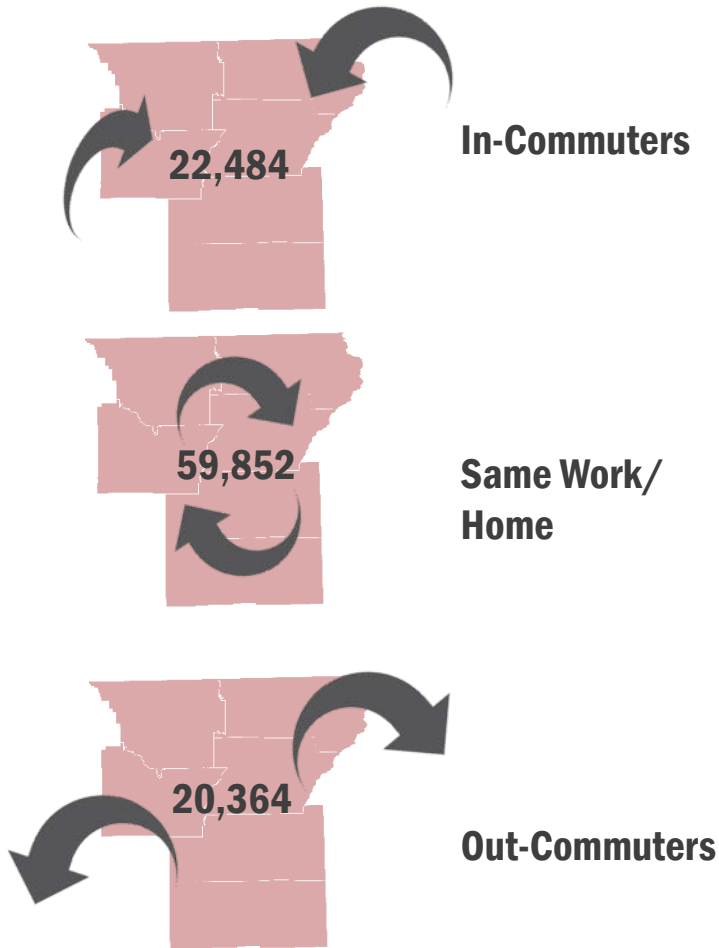
- How does the region's average earnings compare to that of the rest of the state?
- What might be some driving factors for the differences?
- Do these represent potential strengths or challenges for the region?



NOTE: Earnings include wages, salaries, supplements and earnings from partnerships and proprietorships

Labor force

Journey to Work



	2014 Count	Proportion
Employed in NAEDA	82,336	100.0%
Both employed and living in the region	59,852	72.7%
Employed in the region but living outside	22,484	27.3%
Living in NAEDA	80,216	100.0%
Both living and employed in the region	59,852	74.6%
Living in the region but employed outside	20,364	25.4%

Questions:

- How many people employed in the region actually reside outside the region? How many who live in the region commute to jobs outside the region?
- What might be done to reduce the flow of labor to jobs located outside the region?

Report Contributors

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The Purdue Center for Regional Development (PCRD) seeks to pioneer new ideas and strategies that contribute to regional collaboration, innovation and prosperity.

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