

Sevier Co.

2026 VOLUME II

Arkansas

**WORK
LIVE
LEARN
PLAY**



From Lakeside Escapes to Booming Business Opportunities:

Sevier County Serves Up Adventure, Flavor, and a Future You'll Want to Be Part Of



Sevier County is a hidden gem where the good life isn't just a vacation—it's a way of life. Whether you're casting a line into the serene waters of DeQueen, Gillham, or Dierks Lake, floating down the Cossatot River, or taking in the scent of pine on a morning hike, the county's outdoor recreation options are second to none.

But Sevier County isn't just for weekend wanderers—it's a rising star in economic development. With a welcoming business climate, affordable land, and a strong workforce, it's where ideas take root and businesses grow—big and small. Entrepreneurs find support, manufacturers find skilled labor, and workers discover the work-life balance they've been craving.

And let's not forget the flavor. With a cultural blend as rich as its soil, Sevier County is home to some of the best Authentic Mexican and Country Southern cuisine in the region. From family-owned taquerias to down-home diners, you'll find meals that feel like memories in the making.

So whether you're looking for your next adventure, your next big break, or your next unforgettable meal—Sevier County is the place to be. We're growing, we're thriving, and we're ready to welcome you.

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

POWERED BY PEOPLE

POSITIONED FOR PROGRESS



SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

DEMOGRAPHIC

SNAPSHOT

SEVIER COUNTY POPULATION

16K

60%

Under the age of 45

35%

Hispanic/Latino

17K

DAYTIME
POPULATION

Sevier County's labor strength is driven by a working-age majority, a strong pipeline of future workers, and a median age younger than the state and national average.

MEDIAN AGE

36.3

SEVIER COUNTY

38.5

ARKANSAS

40.2

UNITED STATES

POPULATION BY AREA

SEVIER COUNTY

16,039

DE QUEEN
10,534

BEN LOMOND

65

LOCKESBURG

2,517

GILLHAM
913

HORATIO
2,066

SEVIER COUNTY ETHNICITY

White	53.4%
Black	3.9%
Hispanic	35%
Asian	0.3%
Other	7.4%

2.74 AVG. HOUSEHOLD SIZE
ARKANSAS: 2.5
US: 2.6

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
\$51,600
ARKANSAS: \$60,600
US: \$79,600



73% LIVE IN FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WORKFORCE PROFILE

9180

WORKFORCE POPULATION
(AGE 18-64)

AGE
5-17

20%



AGE
18-64

58% WORKING AGE POPULATION

AGE
65+

17%

SEVIER COUNTY
31.2%
ARE BILINGUAL
(ENGLISH/SPANISH)

EDUCATION (AGE 25+)

HIGH SCHOOL
DIPLOMA
(ONLY)

33%

ASSOC. DEGREE
OR COLLEGE
TRAINING

29%

BACHELOR'S OR
GRADUATE
DEGREE

11%

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

TOP 5 OCCUPATIONS

1 PRODUCTION & TRANSPORTATION **25.3%**

2 CONSTRUCTION **17.2%**

3 PROFESSIONAL SPECIALTY **12%**

4 MANAGER / EXECUTIVE **9.9%**

5 SALES **7.5%**

SEVIER COUNTY
2.89%
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

ARKANSAS: 3.5%
US: 4.1%

34.6%
WHITE COLLAR

65%
BLUE COLLAR

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WORKFORCE PROFILE

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

LABOR SHED

INSIGHT



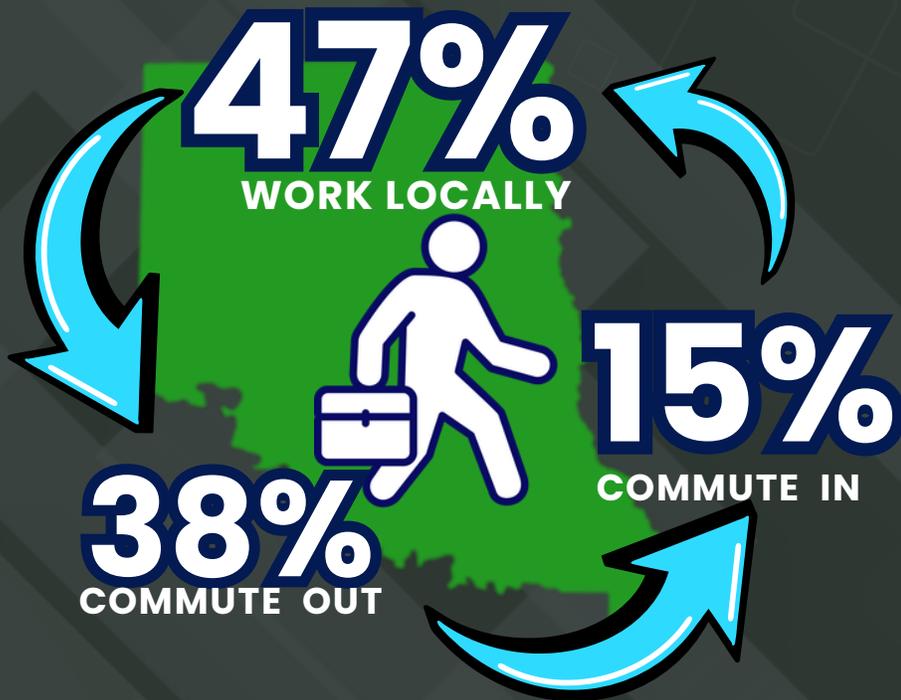
7.2K

EMPLOYED IN SEVIER COUNTY

45K

POTENTIAL WORKERS
WITHIN 50 MIN
DRIVE TIME

WORKFORCE FLOW



AVG. COMMUTE
26
MINUTES

43%
OF INBOUND COMMUTERS
TRAVEL 10 - 30 MILES
TO WORK IN SEVIER CO.

Sevier County functions as a regional labor market with proven commuting patterns, industrial skill alignment, and scalable capacity.

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS
STRATEGICALLY LOCATED
REGIONALLY CONNECTED

ONE HOUR ACCESS TO
3 STATES

10 MINUTES TO OKLAHOMA
30 MINUTES TO TEXAS
60 MINUTES TO LOUISIANA



CLASS I & III
RAIL



MAX FREIGHT EFFICIENCY

SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

LOCAL LEARNING

LASTING IMPACT



SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

K-12 EDUCATION

ENROLLMENT 2,365

TOP 5 BEST PLACES TO TEACH IN ARKANSAS



TOP 10 BEST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN ARKANSAS



TOP 10 DISTRICTS WITH THE BEST TEACHERS IN ARKANSAS



ENROLLMENT 658



13:1

STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO

95%

GRADUATION RATE

ARKANSAS: 89%
US: 88%

COUNTY AVG

AVERAGE ACT

23

ARKANSAS: 19%
US: 19%

COUNTY AVG

9:1

STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO

REGIONAL EDUCATION NETWORK

WORKFORCE PIPELINE ON DEMAND

Sevier County's labor shed is supported by a regional education system that delivers job-ready talent today and scalable workforce capacity for tomorrow

★ UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS – COSSATOT	De Queen, Lockesburg, Nashville, Ashdown
UA HOPE-TEXARKANA	Hope & Texarkana, AR
UA RICH MOUNTAIN	Mena, AR
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – TEXARKANA	Texarkana, TX
TEXARKANA COLLEGE	Texarkana, TX
KIAMICHI TECHNICAL CENTER	Idabel, OK

NEARLY
6,000
REGIONAL GRADUATES
EACH YEAR

Easy access to higher education in the region strengthens long term talent availability

★ = Located in Sevier County, Arkansas

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

COSSATOT

HIGH VALUE, LOW COST EDUCATION

High-quality programs, strong outcomes, & industry-aligned training, delivered at an affordable cost.

**TOP 3
GRADUATION
RATE IN
ARKANSAS**

CORE INDUSTRY SKILLS READY

- Industrial Electricity • Welding • PLCs
- Mechanical Systems • Motor Controls
- Pneumatics • Hydraulics • Safety

25+ CAREER & TECHNICAL PATHWAYS

Built to support manufacturing, utilities, logistics, healthcare, and industrial operations.

TOP WORKFORCE & CAREER PROGRAMS

High Demand Technical & Career Pathways

- Welding Technology
- Industrial & Mechanical Systems
- Heavy Equipment & Diesel Technology
- Industrial Maintenance
- Cybersecurity
- Automotive Technology

Healthcare

- Healthcare & Allied Health
- Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Nursing Assistant
- Medical Coding & Billing
- Phlebotomy Technician

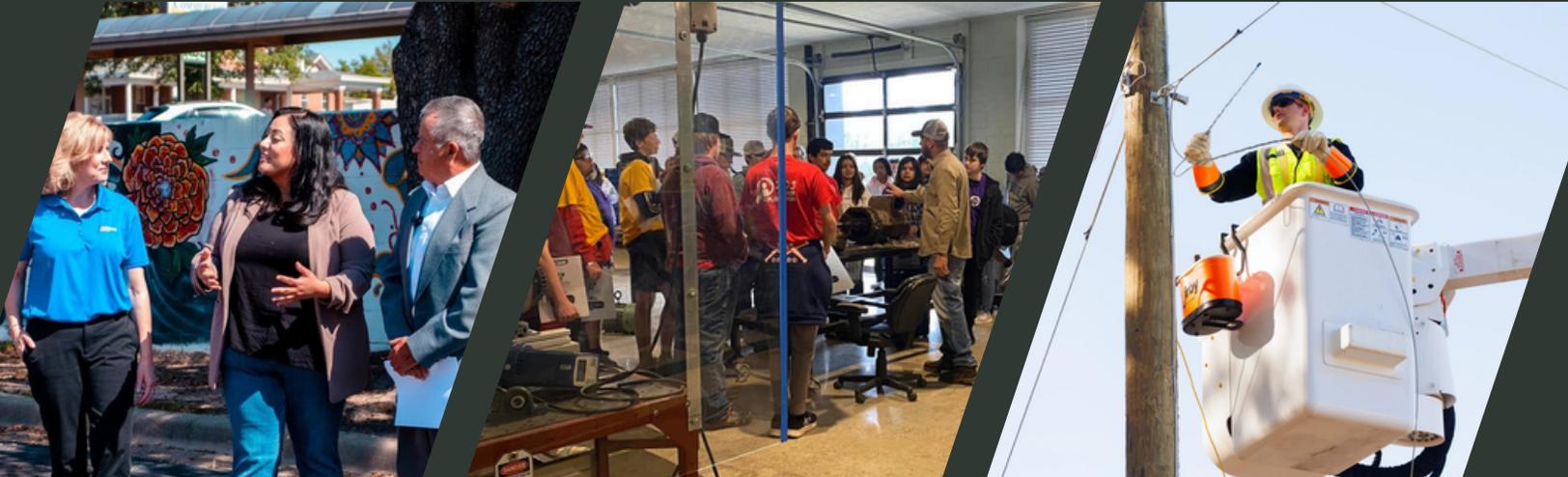
Infrastructure & Utilities

- Arkansas Trucking Academy (CDL)
- Arkansas Fiber Academy (Aerial Lineman)
- Fiber Network Engineer



EMPLOYER-DRIVEN TRAINING

BUILT FOR INDUSTRY REALITY



In Sevier County, economic development and UA Cossatot operate as a unified workforce strategy. Industry aligned professional and technical programs connect high school and post secondary training, creating a seamless pipeline from classroom to jobsite that reduces onboarding time and supports scalable business growth.



SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

INTENTIONAL GROWTH | REAL OUTCOMES

OPPORTUNITY ZONE COMMUNITY

Capital efficient investment potential for qualifying projects & long term growth

WORKFORCE READY BY DESIGN

ACT Work Ready Community credentials aligned with employer demand

AWARD WINNING LEADERSHIP

City of De Queen recognized as an Arkansas Trendsetter City for tourism & development

WELCOMING COMMUNITY ADVANTAGE

Rural Welcoming Initiative participation supports talent attraction & retention

**A community prepared to support
investment from day one...**

**FINANCIALLY, OPERATIONALLY,
& LONG TERM**

BUILD OR EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS

AFFORDABLE

**PRIME
INDUSTRIAL LAND**

**35+
ACRES**

AVAILABLE

\$10,000 per Lot

DE QUEEN BUSINESS PARK

- Industrial-Zoned Land
- Highway Access
- Established Utility Access
- Prime Location
- Incentives Available



**CONTACT US TODAY
FOR MORE DETAILS:**

870-584-1184

buildseviercounty.org



VISITSEVIERAR.ORG

EXPERIENCE

SEVIER
COUNTY



NATURE

&

Adventure

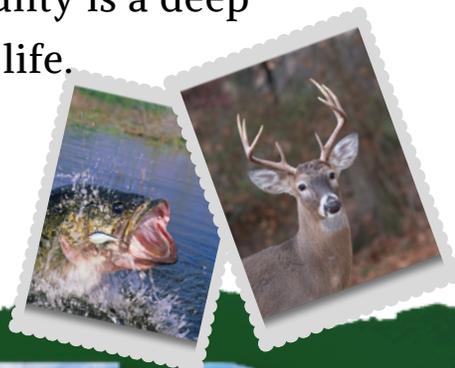
IN EVERY DIRECTION

De Queen Lake

Gillham Lake

Dierks Lake

A natural playground that draws outdoor lovers, sportsmen, and adventure seekers year-round. Whether you're casting a line, spotting eagles, or pitching a tent under the stars, these waters and woodlands offer more than just a weekend getaway. Sevier County is a deep breath of fresh air and a taste of the good life.



TRI LAKES



Built for Work

Designed for Life

FISHING

Sevier County is a fisherman's retreat where calm waters and abundant fish combine with scenic settings. De Queen Lake draws anglers for bass, crappie, catfish, and bream. Gillham Lake offers quieter shorelines and productive casts, while the Cossatot River provides scenic river fishing for trout, bass, and bream amid shaded bluffs and quiet pools. Whether you're on a boat or the bank, Sevier County's waters deliver variety, space, and unforgettable fishing days.



BEST FOR:

- Bass, crappie, catfish, and bream
- Boat or shore fishing
- Family outings and competitive angling

BEST SEASONS

- Spring & Fall: Peak bass and crappie action
- Summer: Early morning and evening fishing
- Winter: Cool quiet days on the water



HUNTING & BIRD WATCHING

Sevier County offers a quiet, authentic escape for hunters and bird watchers alike. De Queen Lake attracts waterfowl and migratory birds, while the Ouachita National Forest provides expansive public land for deer, turkey, small game, and diverse bird species. River corridors like the Cossatot River round out the experience, offering prime habitat for eagles, songbirds, and other native wildlife amid open space and unspoiled beauty.

- BEST SEASONS:**
- Fall–Winter: Deer hunting, waterfowl, eagle viewing
 - Spring: Turkey season and peak bird migration
 - Year–Round: Bird watching across forests, lakes, and river corridors

KAYAKING & CANOEING



Kayaking in Sevier County offers a mix of calm waters and scenic river runs suited for both beginners and seasoned paddlers. The Cossatot River is the county's signature paddle, known for clear water, forested banks, and stretches that range from peaceful floats to more adventurous runs after rainfall. For a more relaxed experience, De Queen Lake and Gillham Lake offer smooth, open water paddling ideal for families, wildlife viewing, and slow afternoons on the water. Together, these spots make Sevier County a go-to destination for kayakers who value natural beauty, quiet surroundings, and variety on the water.

BEST FOR:

- Kayaking & canoeing
- Scenic floats and wildlife viewing
- Beginners to experienced paddlers

BEST SEASONS:

- Spring: Higher water levels and cooler temperatures
- Summer: Calm lake paddling and evening floats
- Fall: Crisp air, fall color, and peaceful conditions

Sevier County's hike and bike trails offer a prime outdoor experience set against lakes, forests, and wide-open natural terrain. De Queen Lake Trails feature newly opened IMBA-certified mountain bike trails alongside scenic multi-use paths, delivering flowing singletrack, elevation changes, and lake views for riders, hikers, and trail runners alike. Just beyond the lake, access to the Ouachita National Forest expands the experience with miles of hiking and backcountry routes through rolling hills, hardwood forests, & quiet natural corridors. The trails position Sevier County as a place for outdoor adventure that feels expansive, immersive, and refreshingly uncrowded.

HIKING & BIKE TRAILS



BEST SEASONS:

- Spring–Fall: Ideal weather and lush scenery
- Summer: Lake activities and evening campfires
- Year–Round: Quiet getaways and nature-focused stays

BEST FOR:

- Tent & RV camping
- Families and casual campers
- Fishing, paddling, and lakeside relaxation

CAMPING



Camping in Sevier County ranges from lakeside views to shaded park escapes, each with its own quiet charm. De Queen Lake is a favorite for campers who enjoy wide water views, fishing access, and peaceful evenings under open skies, while nearby Gillham Lake provides a more secluded, nature-forward experience surrounded by forested hills and wildlife. For smaller-scale, relaxed stays, the Horatio Pond Creek area offers calm waterfront camping, and Paraclifta Park delivers a shaded, family-friendly option close to town amenities. Together, these camping areas showcase Sevier County's easygoing outdoor lifestyle.

WHAT IS FRIENDS

FRIENDS is an acronym for Funding Retention and Increasing Efforts for Notable Economic Development in Sevier County.

The FRIENDS foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization established in June of 2020 that is dedicated to fostering sustainable economic growth and community development in Sevier County, Arkansas. Through collaboration with local partners and stakeholders, we aim to enhance the region's economic landscape by supporting initiatives that retain businesses, attract investment, and improve the quality of life for all residents.



READY TO CONNECT

OPPORTUNITY STARTS HERE



CONNECT WITH US:

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De Queen, AR 71832



READY

F O R S U C C E S S



**DE QUEEN • HORATIO • LOCKESBURG •
GILLHAM • BEN LOMOND**

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