



The American Rescue Plan's Impact on Arkansas on Two-Year Anniversary

- **Powered a Strong Recovery with Arkansas unemployment falling to 3.4%:** Arkansas's unemployment rate has fallen from 4.9% in January 2021 to 3.4% in December 2022, as the state added 58,000 jobs and now has more jobs than it did pre-Covid.
- **Led to record 79,000 new Small Business Applications in Arkansas:** In 2021 and 2022, Arkansans applied to start 79,000 new businesses, the highest 2-year total on record.
- **ARP Provided Direct Pandemic Recovery Funds to All 555 Arkansas towns, cities, and counties** – avoiding cuts and investing in public safety, housing, workforce development, and other critical areas.
- **Provided Vital Education Funding to over 230 School Districts in Arkansas to support academic recovery and student mental health and reopen safely:** More than 230 school districts in Arkansas were provided funding to support academic recovery and student mental health and reopen safely.
- **1,670 Child Care Programs in Arkansas Received Support to Help Keep Their Doors Open, impacting up to 153,000 children.**
- **Working Family Tax Relief through the Expanded Child Tax Credit for 378K Arkansas families with 639K children:** In Arkansas, the American Rescue Plan's historic Child Tax Credit benefited an estimated 378,000 families with 639,000 children.
- **Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit for 183K workers in Arkansas:** The American Rescue Plan's expanded EITC provided up to \$1,500 of tax relief to an estimated 183,000 Arkansas workers without dependent children.
- **Saved 88,000 Arkansans an average of \$872 per year on their health care:** In 2022, 88,000 Arkansans saved an average of \$872 on their health premiums from the American Rescue Plan. With the Inflation Reduction Act's extension of these savings, a record 100,000 Arkansans signed up for quality, affordable care in the 2023 ACA open enrollment period.
- **Emergency Rental Assistance to Thousands of Hard-Pressed Renters in Arkansas:** In Arkansas, state and local governments made 59,000 payments to help families meet their ongoing rent and utilities costs and 44,000 payments to help families address past due rent and utility bills.
- **124,000 Arkansas College Students received direct financial relief through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Program in 2021 alone:** In 2021, 70 Arkansas colleges and universities made direct financial assistance payments to 124,000 college students to help them stay enrolled and cover their bills.
- **35,000 more Arkansas homes and businesses will receive affordable, high-speed internet** through the American Rescue Plan's Capital Project Fund.
- **American Rescue Plan's Emergency Connectivity Fund is addressing the homework gap for 28,000 Arkansas students:** providing about 122,000 connected devices (including hotspots) for students.
- **507 Arkansas Restaurants received vital relief** through the American Rescue Plan's Restaurant Revitalization Fund.