

# County Highlights

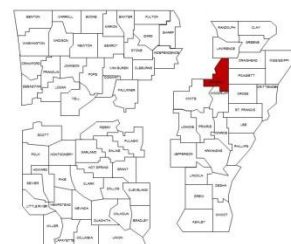
## Jackson County

### Delta District

Jackson County was formed on November 5, 1829, from part of Independence County. It was named for Andrew Jackson, then first-term president of the United States. Newport is the county seat with ten other towns in the county. The landscape of Jackson County is rich delta farmland in the north, central, and south and rolling hills in the extreme western part.

The economy of the county is agricultural, chiefly, rice, soybeans, corn, milo, beef cattle, and catfish. Other industries, aluminum, wood products, manufactured goods and food processing are active. Newport is home to two steel mills. The county has major fishing and hunting in the county, from a premier trout stream to deer and duck hunting that is popular to this area. In June each year a port fest, Rollin' on the River Festival, is held and has been recognized as one of the top 100 festivals in the nation. Newport is home to the Rock 'N Roll Highway 67 Museum and to Depot Days (September 24, 2016) which is a showcase of local, regional, and national talent paying tribute to the early history of rock 'n' roll. In 1955, Elvis Presley toured through Jackson County four times before being seen by the mass audience which would catapult him to international stardom. Many tourists visit this area each year.

Newport/Jackson County is blessed to have an excellent Chamber of Commerce and a Newport Economic Development Commission. The Commission guides the uses and expenditures of the 1/2% economic development sales tax collected in the city limits of Newport.



### **Jackson County Extension Office**

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### **County Extension Agents** *Jackson County*

Sarah Metzger  
CEA – Staff Chair

### **Business Resources for Jackson County**

Newport Area Chamber of Commerce  
<http://newportarcity.org/chamber-of-commerce/>

### **County Statistics**

Population (2015 estimate):	17,338
Land area (square miles):	634
% of high school graduates:	76.9
% with bachelor's degree or higher:	7.9
Median travel time to work (minutes):	19.8
Median household income:	\$31,512
Persons in poverty, percent:	25.1%
Total number of firms:(2012)	1,045
Manufacturer's shipments (\$1000s):	424,960
Retail sales per capita:	\$10,098

Source: United States Census Quickfacts

### **Business Resources for Jackson County (con't)**

**Newport Economic Development Commission**  
<http://newportarcity.org/economic-development/>

**Delta Center for Economic Development**  
<https://www.astate.edu/a/deltaced/>

**Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC) –**  
<http://asbtdc.org/locations/jonesboro/>