

# National States Geographic Information Council 2008 State Summary

## 2008 State Summary

### State of Arkansas

## Background Information

1	Please Choose the primary contact
Shelby Johnson	

3	Please select the answer that most closely describes your role in statewide GIS coordination.
Officially Recognized Statewide GIS Coordinator	

4	What is your job title?
Other (please specify) State Geographic Information Coordinator	

5	Enter the name of your agency/organization.
Arkansas Department of Information Systems, Geographic Information Office	

6	Please select the answer that best describes the affiliation of your office/agency in state government.
Information Technology Agency	

11	Describe your state's top three geospatial accomplishments during the past year. (200 character limit per line)
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#### Accomplishment 1.

The state launched a grant program in 2005 to fund just over \$659,000 to 28 counties in Arkansas to accelerate the development of high quality road centerline data. In 2008 all the counties in the program completed their data development. Additionally the state entered a contract on behalf of four more counties to complete their data, two of which involved physical addressing. The state now has only one county remaining with rural route box addressing and the goal is to have this remaining county completed in the next year.

#### Accomplishment 2.

The Arkansas County Assessor Mapping Program (CAMP) completed a major update of digital cadastral data from the counties of Arkansas. The data was published on GeoStor the state's GIS data clearinghouse. This update represents an extraordinary body of work produced by thirty nine of the seventy five counties.

#### Accomplishment 3.

The Office undertook a major upgrade of the backend software systems operating GeoStor the state's GIS data clearinghouse. This three month effort included software version upgrades for the major components of the system. IN calendar year 2007 the system processed over 14,400 data downloads, over 1.24 million feature and image service requests. The growth of clearinghouse users and applications continues, proving that create it once and use it a bunch really does work!

12	Describe your state's top three geospatial goals for the coming year. (200 character limit per line)
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#### Goal 1.

The Arkansas Legislature will convene in January of 2009. The primary goal will be continued funding of the Office for its coordination of existing programs and increased funding for clearinghouse operations and additional framework data development.

#### Goal 2.

The counties of the state have nearly completed a statewide road centerline file in each county. Looking ahead a major goal will be keeping close relationships with all of the data creators so that statewide framework layer will be maintained over time. We will have this same goal for the County Assessor Mapping Program and digital orthoimagery.

#### Goal 3.

As the state's GIS clearinghouse continues to grow we must find ways to continually improve the system while cutting cost and making the system efficient.

13	Describe the three most significant geospatial challenges for your state. (200 character limit per line)
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#### Challenge 1.

Unfortunately each of the challenges outlined in the 2007 summary still remain the same and are virtually repeated for 2008. Our state must identify a sustainable source of revenue for local data development and maintenance.

#### Challenge 2.

Continued education of state and local policy makers about the strategic use of GIS.

#### Challenge 3.

Despite a staff of five the Arkansas Geographic Information Office is overcommitted. There is not enough staff time to provide broader coordination leadership.

14	Describe any significant cooperative efforts with federal, state or local partners. (200 character limit per line)
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#### Cooperative Effort 1.

We have a joint program sponsored by the Assessment Coordination Dept. and counties to promote the development of standardized statewide parcel data. 75 of 75 counties are participating. 39 Counties have published data in the clearinghouse.

#### Cooperative Effort 2.

The state's road centerline program is developing standardized road centerline data. In 2008 we will have 74 of 75 counties completed. Now we must look forward to the cooperative effort of working with counties to keep the data maintained. This will be assisted by a grant where we are working on transportation stewardship as a component of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. The grant is supported by the US Geological Survey.

#### Cooperative Effort 3.

We are continuing to partner with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on the Flood Map Modernization Program. A member of staff is supporting that cooperative effort by assisting our counties.

#### Cooperative Effort 4.

Empty

#### Cooperative Effort 5.

Empty

#### Cooperative Effort 6.

Empty

15	Describe any significant data development activities, innovative applications, cost saving measures, contracts, etc. that are on-going or that you have begun over the past year. (200 character limit per line)
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#### Activity 1.

The hard work and cooperative spirit of the counties in the state should be praised. Through two state programs we have centerline and cadastral data being developed. In each case the counties needed about 10% leadership, 10% financial support, and about 80% technical support. This proves to us that data can be created locally, integrated regionally and used nationally.

#### Activity 2.

In 2006 we started an initiative to host shared applications on the state GIS clearinghouse. This started with one application and the system now boasts ten applications. As a general rule we believe each application saves about \$50,000 because agencies are not required to purchase additional servers, licensing and hosting fees. The applications to date represent about \$500,000 in savings to the Arkansas taxpayer.

Activity 3.

In 2007 the Arkansas Legislature changed a law impacting the way land survey plats are filed. Prior to this change Registered Land Surveyors were required by law to file their plat in the County Courthouse in which the survey and plat were located and they were secondarily required to file the plat with the State Land Surveyor's Office resulting in a duplicate filing. The Legislative change required the Surveyor to file the plat centrally with the State Surveyor's Office. The State Surveyor's Office recognized the immediate problem this created for the County Assessor Office who would no longer receive a local copy of the plats. The State Office had already initiated an effort to record filed plats into a database, scan the plat and enter the scan record into the database as well. The plat record is an essential document necessary for the success of the County Assessor Mapping Program. Through a joint effort an online plat archive and subscription service was created to assist both surveyors and County Assessors. The system operates on the state GIS clearinghouse at <http://www.plat.arkansas.gov>

Activity 4.

Empty

Activity 5.

Empty

Activity 6.

Empty

16	Please provide the URL link for the mission statement of your state GIS Council.
URL: <a href="http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/ASLIB_index.htm">http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/ASLIB_index.htm</a>	

17	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Coordination Office.
URL: <a href="http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/AGIO_index.htm">http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/AGIO_index.htm</a>	

18	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Coordination Council Web Page.
URL: <a href="http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/ASLIB_index.htm">http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/ASLIB_index.htm</a>	

19	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Clearinghouse Node.
URL: <a href="http://www.geostor.arkansas.gov">http://www.geostor.arkansas.gov</a>	

20	Is your Clearinghouse Node set up to be harvested by the GOS Portal?
Yes	

21	Please provide the URL link to a list of GIS data stewards for your state.
URL: <a href="http://www.geostor.arkansas.gov">http://www.geostor.arkansas.gov</a>	

22	Please provide the URL link to your state GIS Personnel Classifications.
Digital File Available by E-Mail	

23	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS data distribution policies.
Digital File Available by E-mail	

24	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Data Standards.
URL: <a href="http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/Documents/Standards_index.htm">http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/Documents/Standards_index.htm</a>	

## Score Card for the fifty states initiative

1	Which of the following NSGIC Coordination Criteria are in effect in your state?  1 = We previously had this function and lost it over the past year 2 = No plans at this time for implementing this criteria 3 = We currently are planning to implement this within the next 12 to 18 months 4 = Progress has been made and we reasonably expect this to be fully implemented within the next 12 months 5 = Implemented at this time						
		Not Applicable	1	2	3	4	5
	1. A full-time, paid coordinator position is designated and has the authority to implement the state's business and strategic plans.	-	-	-	-	-	5

2. A clearly defined authority exists for statewide coordination of geospatial information technologies and data production.	-	-	-	-	-	5
3. The statewide coordination office has a formal relationship with the state's Chief Information Officer (or similar office).	-	-	-	-	-	5
4. A champion (politician or executive decision-maker) is aware and involved in the process of coordination.	-	-	-	-	-	5
5. Responsibilities for developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure and a State Clearinghouse are assigned.	-	-	-	-	-	5
6. The ability exists to work and coordinate with local governments, academia, and the private sector.	-	-	-	-	-	5
7. Sustainable funding sources exist to meet projected needs.	-	-	-	-	-	5
8. Coordinators have the authority to enter into contracts and become capable of receiving and expending funds.	-	-	-	-	-	5
9. The Federal government works through the statewide coordinating authority.	-	-	-	-	-	5

2	Please identify the stakeholder groups that participate on your GIS Coordination Council and their level of participation.
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	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Cities and Towns	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	-
Statewide City Organization	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Counties and Parishes	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	-
Statewide County Organization	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Regional Government Organizations	-	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
State Agencies	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Tribal Governments	-	-	-
Federal Agencies	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Utilities	Actively participates on our Council	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Academic (Colleges & Universities)	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	-
Education (K-12)	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Private Sector (GIS Industry Vendors and Users)	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
General Business Community	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Surveying Community	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Non-Profit Organizations	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
General Public	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Local URISA Chapter	-	-	-
Local ASPRS Chapter	-	-	-

3	Please provide the URL link to your current Statewide Strategic Plan for GIS.
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Under Development - Not Available at this Time

4	Please provide the URL link to your current Statewide Business Plan for GIS.
No Business Plan Available	
5	Please provide the URL link to your current Statewide Marketing Plan for GIS.
No Marketing Plan Available	
6	Please provide the URL link to the Law or Executive Order that established your GIS Coordination Office and/or Council.
URL: <a href="http://www.gis.state.ar.us/ASLIB/Ar_Code_15-21-501.htm">http://www.gis.state.ar.us/ASLIB/Ar_Code_15-21-501.htm</a>	
7	Please provide a URL link to your state's law(s) related to privacy issues as they affect data and information technology.
URL: <a href="http://www.arkansas.gov/directory/foicode.html">http://www.arkansas.gov/directory/foicode.html</a>	
8	Please provide a URL link to your state's law(s) related to data security issues.
URL: <a href="http://www.techarch.state.ar.us/indexes/standards.htm">http://www.techarch.state.ar.us/indexes/standards.htm</a>	
9	Does your GIS Coordination Council have adequate funding to support its operation? (This refers only to the activities of the Council and not to your Coordination Office or projects like data development.)
Partially Funded	
10	What fund sources does your Coordination Council use to support its operations? (Check all that apply)
State General Funds	
11	Does your GIS Council officially endorse the use of appropriate OGC, FGDC, ANSI or ISO standards as appropriate?
Yes	
12	Does your state make its own GIS Inventory tool available to users?
Yes - All Users	
13	Does your state actively develop and promote the use of data sharing agreements?
Yes for all applications	
14	Does your GIS Council or State Coordination Office actively participate in The National Map?
Yes	

## Hot Topics

1	Does your state have a shared Orthoimagery Program that involves local and state agencies?
Yes	
2	Have you completed a Return on Investment (ROI) Study or Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to justify a shared Orthoimagery Program?
No	
3	Please provide a URL link so we can obtain a copy of your ROI or CBA study.
Not Applicable	
4	Does your state have a shared Road Centerline file project that involves local and state agencies?
Yes	
5	Have you completed a Return on Investment (ROI) Study or Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to justify a shared Road Centerline File program?
No	
6	Please provide a URL link so we can obtain a copy of your ROI or CBA study.
Not Applicable	

7	Does your state have a statewide (or multi-jurisdictional) address database? (pick one)
No	
8	Is this database based on individual addresses or address ranges? (pick one)
Not Applicable	
9	Have you completed a Return on Investment (ROI) or Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to justify this Address program? (pick one)
No	
10	If applicable, please provide a URL link so we can obtain a copy of your ROI or CBA study. (fill-in if applicable)

## Role of State GIS Coordinators

1	Please choose the mechanism that created your position.
Legislation	
2	Please provide the URL link for the document(s) that created your position (Legislation, Executive Order or Other Action).
URL: <a href="http://www.gis.state.ar.us/ASLIB/Ar_Code_15-21-501.htm">http://www.gis.state.ar.us/ASLIB/Ar_Code_15-21-501.htm</a>	
3	Which choice most closely matches the title of your boss?
State Chief Information Officer	
4	What choice best describes how closely you are aligned with the State CIO?
The CIO is My Boss	
5	Please select the number of staff that you supervise.
3 to 5	
6	Does your GIS Coordination Office have adequate funding to support its operation? (This refers only to the activities of your office and not to the Coordination Council, or projects like data development.)
Partially Funded	
7	What fund sources does your Coordination Office use to support its operations? (Check all that apply)
State General Funds State Capital Budget Funds Federal Grants	
8	When an administration change occurs following a statewide election is your position?
Not Likely to be Affected	

9	Please rank the importance of these characteristics/skills to the effective performance of your job.				
	Not Important	Not Very Important	Important	Very Important	Critical
GIS Evangelist/Cheerleader	-	-	-	Very Important	-
GIS Architect	-	Not Very Important	-	-	-
Political Savvy	-	-	-	-	Critical
Technological Savvy	-	-	Important	-	-
General Management Skills	-	-	-	Very Important	-
Procurement/Contracting Skills	-	-	Important	-	-
People Skills	-	-	-	-	Critical
Understanding the Business Needs of Your Customers	-	-	Important	-	-