

[2011 Economic Forecast Conference](#)
[Michael Pakko's Blog, Arkansas Economist](#)

Dr. Michael R. Pakko assumed the Chief Economist and State Economic Forecaster position at the Institute for Economic Advancement (IEA) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) in August, 2009. Dr. Pakko had been a research economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, where he published research on a variety of topics, including international trade, economic growth, monetary economics, and public policy. During his time in St. Louis, Dr. Pakko also held occasional positions as Adjunct Assistant Professor at Saint Louis University's Cook School of Business, and as Research Fellow at the Show-Me Institute—a public policy think tank.

Prior to that time, Dr. Pakko served as the “Little Rock Zone Expert” for the St. Louis Federal Reserve, monitoring and reporting on economic conditions in the state of Arkansas. Dr. Pakko cited this experience in his decision to come to Little Rock: “I had the opportunity to travel around the state, meeting business and community leaders, and I came to appreciate the vibrancy of the Arkansas economy. In my new capacity, I’ll be able to build on that knowledge and experience with a new, sharper focus.”

The Institute had been without a forecaster for over two years when Dr. Pakko was hired. In addition to being IEA's Chief Economist and Arkansas' Economic Forecaster, Dr. Pakko has been an asset to the Governor, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC), the Legislature, and to the business and public leaders throughout the state of Arkansas.

For an in-depth look at Arkansas' economy, visit www.arkansaseconomist.com - Dr. Michael Pakko's blog.