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Rural mortgages seeing hard times

Delinquency rates far higher than in state's more populous counties

BY DAVID SMITH



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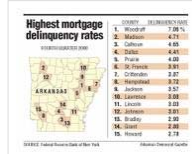
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LITTLE ROCK —
Rural counties in Arkansas are suffering home mortgage

delinquencies at significantly higher rates than more populous counties and the state as a whole, according to the Federal Reserve.

That's because of the economy in those areas, said Kathy Deck, director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.



“When we’ve seen such big job losses in the state disproportionately in the rural areas, it’s not surprising that the folks who have been ...

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Front Section, Pages 1, 8 on 07/15/2009

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