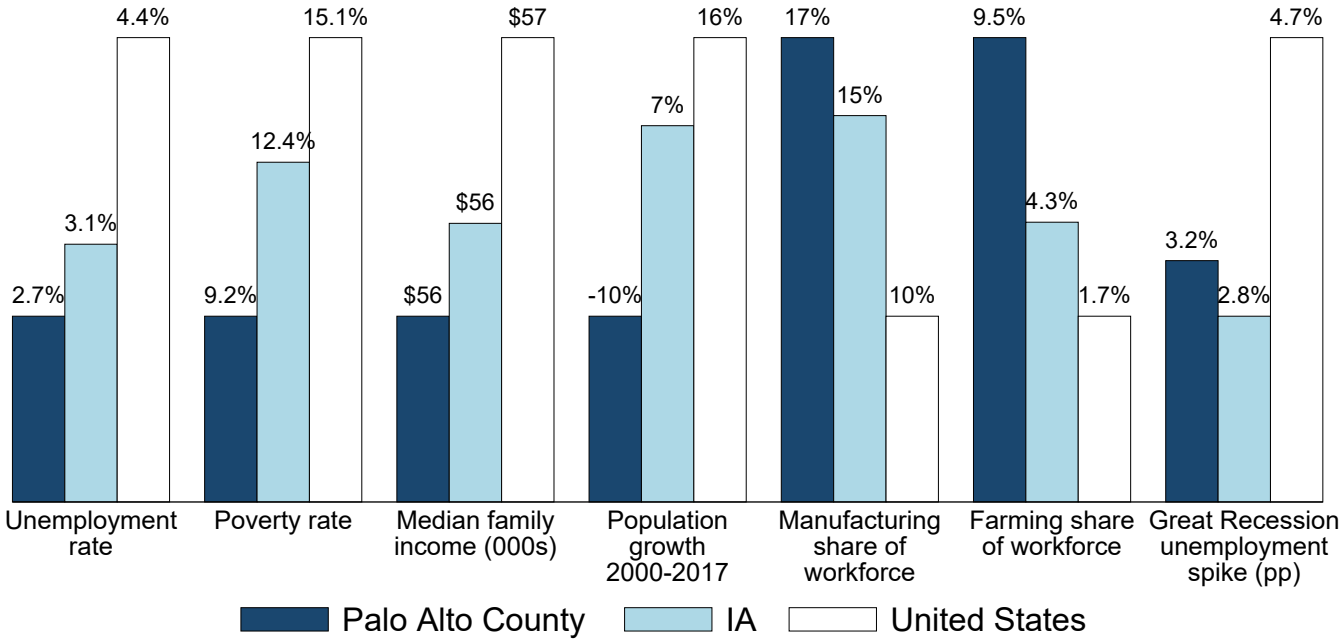
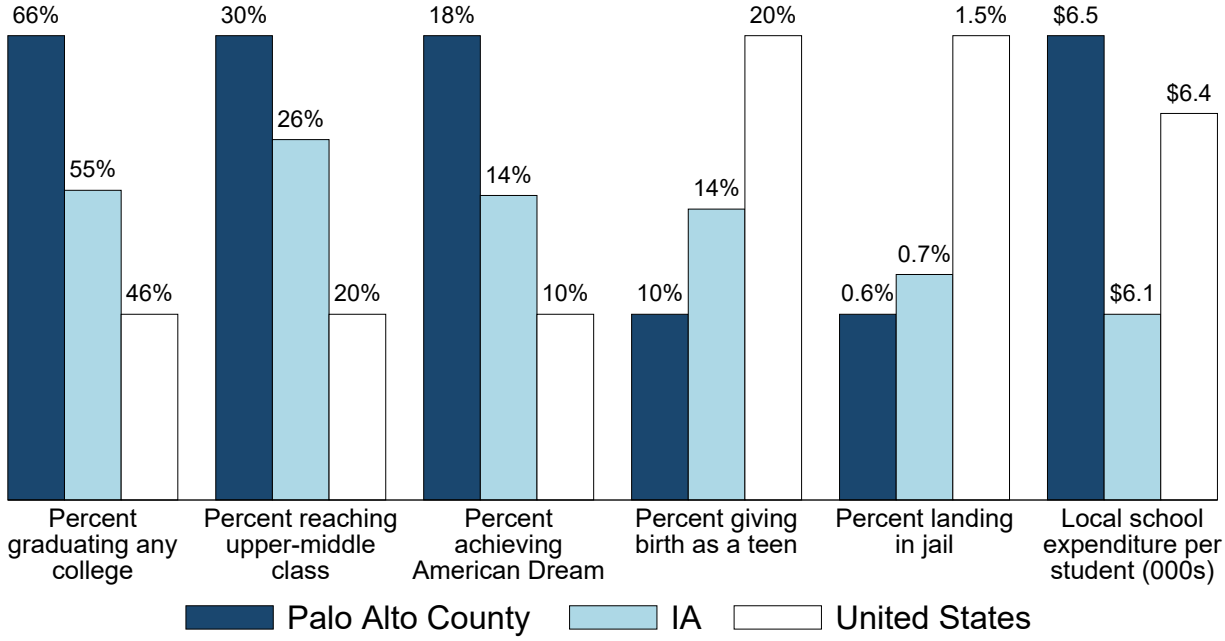
County Facts: Palo Alto County, IA

Population 9,000

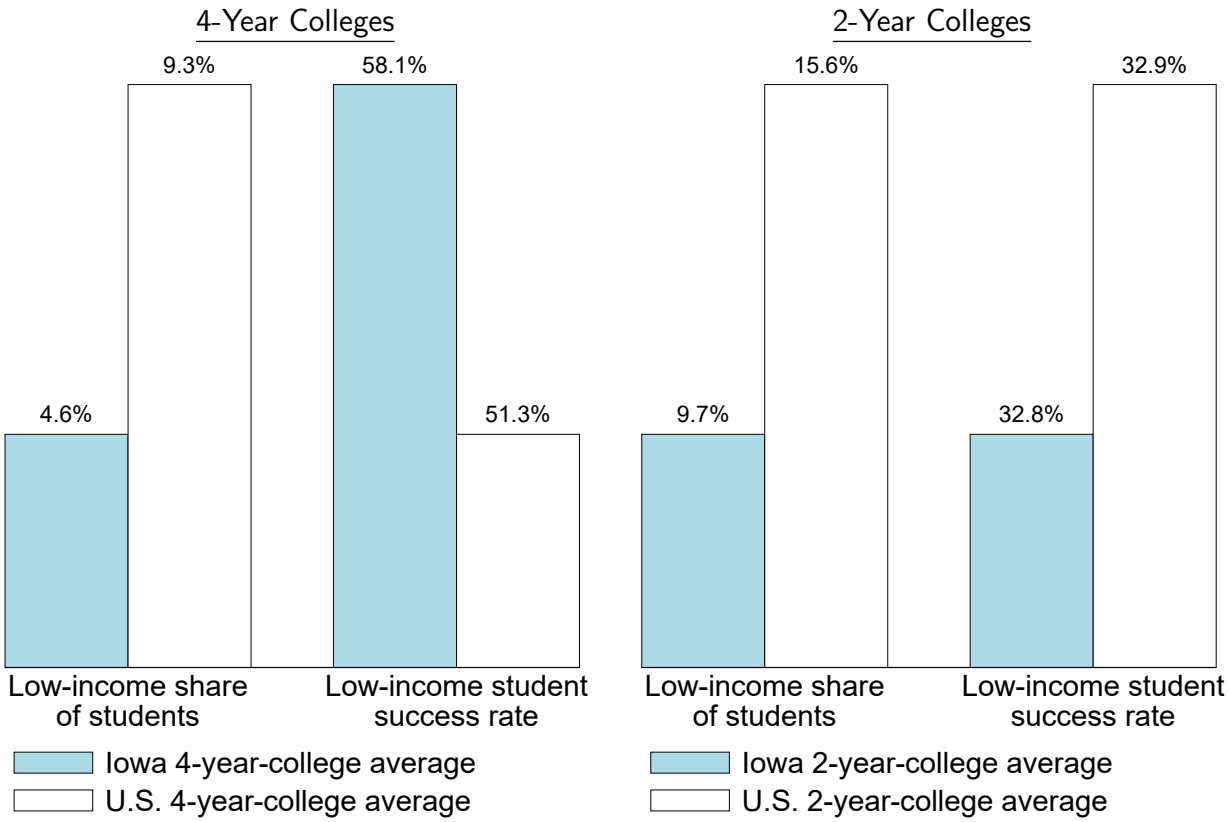
The Local Economy



How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

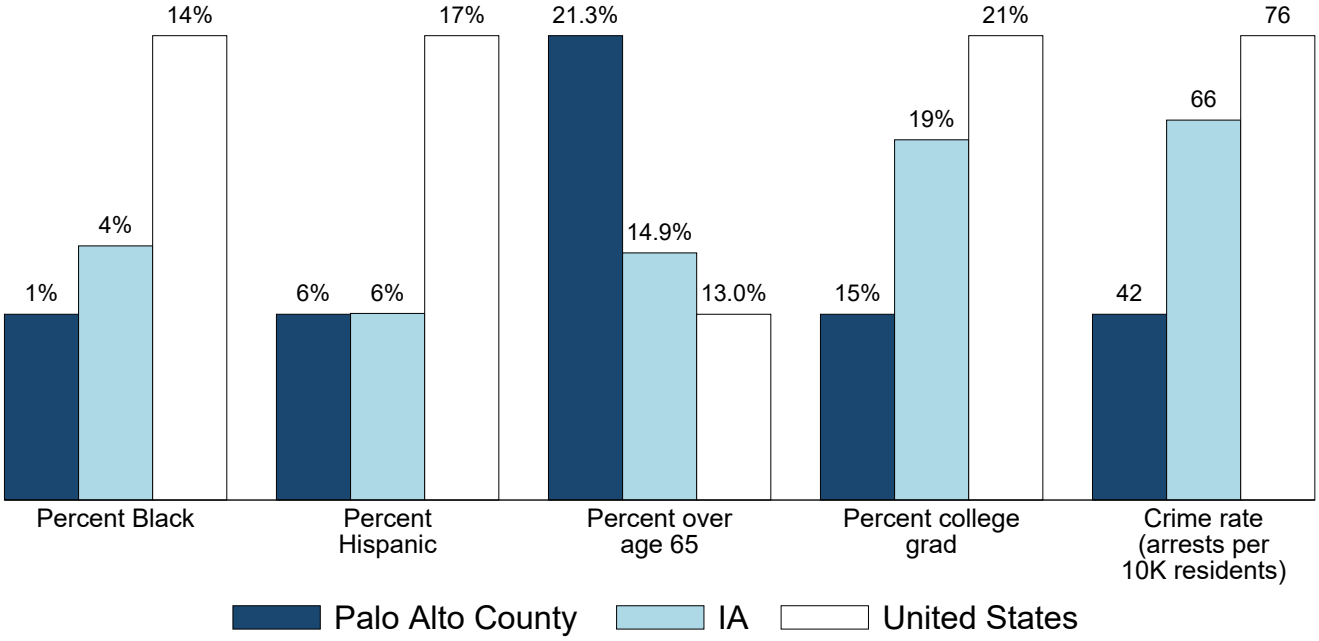


Local Colleges and Upward Mobility



*: Data refers to the full college system, not just this campus. †: In nearby county

Local Demographics



Definitions and Sources

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate (August 2018, BLS)
- Poverty rate (2012-2016 ACS)
- Median family income (2016 ACS)
- Population Growth 2000-2017 (2000 and 2010 Census)
- Manufacturing share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Farming share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (BLS LAUS)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college (2-yr or 4-yr, Tax Data 2, N/A for some counties)
- Percent reaching upper middle-class (top 20% of the U.S. income distribution, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent achieving American Dream (share of local low-income kids—i.e. those with 25th-income-percentile parents—who reach the top 20% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent (of local female kids) giving birth as a teen (Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent landing in jail (percent of local kids in jail on 1 April 2010, Tax Data 1 and 2010 Census, N/A for some counties)
- Local school expenditure per student (in public schools, NCES, N/A for some counties)

Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

- Low-income share of students (share of age-18-22 students with bottom-20% parents, Tax Data 2)
- Low-income student success rate (share of low-income age-18-22 students who reach the top 40% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 2)

Local Demographics

- Percent Black (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent Hispanic (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent over age 65 (2010 Census)
- Percent college grad (4-yr college, 2012-2016 ACS)
- Crime rate (serious violent and property arrests per 10,000 residents, FBI Uniform Crime Reports, N/A for some counties)
- Life expectancy (at age 40, Tax Data 3, N/A for some counties)
- Opioid deaths (per 10,000 residents in 2017, CDC, N/A for some counties and some counties report population weighted commuting zone average)

Sources Legend

- ACS: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Surveys, 2012-2016
- BLS: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- BLS LAUS: BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics, from Yagan "Employment Hysteresis from the Great Recession" Journal of Political Economy 2019.
- CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database.
- Census: U.S. Census Bureau
- 2000 Census: U.S. Census Bureau from Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner "Association between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014" JAMA 2016.
- FBI Uniform Crime Reports: 2000 from Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner "Association between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014" JAMA 2016.
- NCES: National Center for Education Statistics Common Core of Data 1996-1997 Financial Survey data from Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner "Association between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014" JAMA 2016.
- Tax Data 1: Chetty-Friedman-Hendren-Jones-Porter "The Opportunity Atlas: Mapping the Childhood Roots of Social Mobility" 2018.
- Tax Data 2: Chetty-Friedman-Saez-Turner-Yagan "Income Segregation and Intergenerational Mobility at U.S. Colleges" 2018.
- Tax Data 3: Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner "Association between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014" JAMA 2016.