County Facts: Benton County, WA
Population 198,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: Benton County 5.5% WA 4.8% United States 4.4%
Poverty rate: Benton County 15.2% WA 15.1% United States 12.9%
Median family income (000s): Benton County $66 WA $59 United States $57
Population growth 2000-2017: Benton County 39% WA 26% United States 16%
Manufacturing share of workforce: Benton County 10% WA 10% United States 9%
Farming share of workforce: Benton County 6.1% WA 3.2% United States 1.7%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Benton County 4.7% WA 4.4% United States 2.2%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: Benton County 48% WA 47% United States 46%
Percent reaching upper-middle class: Benton County 24% WA 23% United States 20%
Percent achieving American Dream: Benton County 12% WA 12% United States 10%
Percent giving birth as a teen: Benton County 20% WA 17% United States 14%
Percent landing in jail: Benton County 1.5% WA 1.0% United States 1.0%
Local school expenditure per student (000s): Benton County $6.7 WA $6.6 United States $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges
- Low-income share of students: 10.5%
- Low-income student success rate: 51.0%
- Low-income share of students: 9.3%
- Low-income student success rate: 35.9%

### 2-Year Colleges
- Low-income share of students: 15.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.0%
- Low-income share of students: 32.9%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9%

*Columbia Basin College (public)†
Washington 4-year-college average
U.S. 4-year-college average

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Benton County 3%, WA 5%, United States 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Benton County 12%, WA 11.8%, United States 26%
- Percent over age 65: Benton County 18%, WA 18%, United States 13%
- Percent college grad: Benton County 21%, WA 21%, United States 23%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Benton County 118, WA 101, United States 84.0
- Life expectancy (years): Benton County 83.6, WA 83.2, United States 84.0
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10K residents): Benton County 10, WA 10, United States 15
The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate (August 2018, BLS)
- Poverty rate (2012-2016 ACS)
- Median family income (2016 ACS)
- 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
- 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