County Facts: Cass County, MI
Population 51,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 4.7% (Cass County), 4.6% (MI), 4.4% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 15.4% (Cass County), 15.1% (MI), 16% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $57 (Cass County), $53 (MI), $50 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 1% (Cass County), 0% (MI), 1% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 17% (Cass County), 10% (MI), 1% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 3.9% (Cass County), 14% (MI), 1.7% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 6.6% (Cass County), 5.8% (MI), 4.7% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 46% (Cass County), 46% (MI), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 20% (Cass County), 20% (MI), 20% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 8% (Cass County), 7% (MI), 7% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 17% (Cass County), 17% (MI), 17% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 20% (Cass County), 20% (MI), 20% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $7.2 (Cass County), $6.4 (MI), $5.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 1.4% (Notre Dame), 6.3% (Michigan 4-year-college average), 9.3% (U.S. 4-year-college average)
- Low-income student success rate: 50.3% (Notre Dame), 51.3% (Michigan 4-year-college average), 76.8% (U.S. 4-year-college average)

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 12.5% (Notre Dame), 11.0% (Michigan 2-year-college average), 15.6% (U.S. 2-year-college average)
- Low-income student success rate: 21.5% (Notre Dame), 27.7% (Michigan 2-year-college average), 32.9% (U.S. 2-year-college average)

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 6% (Cass County), 14% (MI), 82.6% (United States)
- Percent Hispanic: 17% (Cass County), 8% (MI), 55% (United States)
- Percent over age 65: 16% (Cass County), 16.0% (MI), 76% (United States)
- Percent college grad: 14% (Cass County), 3.0% (MI), 3.8 (United States)
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 23 (Cass County), 55 (MI), 20 (United States)
- Life expectancy (years): 83.2 (Cass County), 82.6 (MI), 82.6 (United States)
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents): 20 (Cass County), 20 (MI), 15 (United States)

- Cass County
- MI
- United States
Definitions and Sources

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