County Facts: Castro County, TX
Population 8,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 3.3% (Castro County), 4.3% (TX), 4.4% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 15.9% (Castro County), 15.1% (TX), 15.0% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $46 (Castro County), $56 (TX), $57 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 36% (Castro County), 16% (TX), 9% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 12% (Castro County), 9% (TX), 10% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 9.7% (Castro County), 1.7% (TX), 1.1% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.7% (Castro County), 3.3% (TX), 4.7% (United States)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 46% (Castro County), 46% (TX), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 20% (Castro County), 20% (TX), 20% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 10% (Castro County), 10% (TX), 10% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 34% (Castro County), 34% (TX), 34% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 3.0% (Castro County), 3.0% (TX), 3.0% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.4 (Castro County), $6.4 (TX), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 13.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 56.0%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 17.5%
- Low-income student success rate: 37.1%

Texas 4-year-college average: 9.3% 51.3%
U.S. 4-year-college average: 15.6% 32.9%

Texas 2-year-college average: 13.6% 56.0%
U.S. 2-year-college average: 17.5% 37.1%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Castro County 4%, TX 13%, United States 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Castro County 40%, TX 38%, United States 40%
- Percent over age 65: Castro County 13.4%, TX 13.0%, United States 18%
- Percent college grad: Castro County 13.0%, TX 10%, United States 10%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Castro County 77, TX 71, United States 76

Castro County, TX

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
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