County Facts: Columbia County, WA
Population 4,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 5.6% (Columbia County), 4.8% (WA), 4.4% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 21.3% (Columbia County), 15.1% (WA), 12.9% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $66 (Columbia County), $57 (WA), $44 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: -0% (Columbia County), 16% (WA), 9% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 10% (Columbia County), 10% (WA), 10.7% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 3.2% (Columbia County), 1.7% (WA), 2.2% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.7% (Columbia County), 2.2% (WA), 1.7% (United States)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 49% (Columbia County), 47% (WA), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 23% (Columbia County), 20% (WA), 19% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 12% (Columbia County), 10% (WA), 9% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 20% (Columbia County), 17% (WA), 14% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 1.3% (Columbia County), 1.3% (WA), 1.0% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.7 (Columbia County), $6.4 (WA), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: Columbia Basin College (public)†: 10.5%, Washington 4-year-college average: 6.7%, U.S. 4-year-college average: 9.3%
- Low-income student success rate: Columbia Basin College (public)†: 51.0%, Washington 4-year-college average: 51.3%, U.S. 4-year-college average: 35.9%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: Walla Walla CC (public)†: 15.6%, Washington 2-year-college average: 32.0%, U.S. 2-year-college average: 36.2%
- Low-income student success rate: Walla Walla CC (public)†: 12.5%, Washington 2-year-college average: 10.6%, U.S. 2-year-college average: 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Columbia County: 2%, WA: 5%, United States: 2%
- Percent Hispanic: Columbia County: 17%, WA: 12%, United States: 12%
- Percent over age 65: Columbia County: 23.0%, WA: 13.0%, United States: 20%
- Percent college grad: Columbia County: 23%, WA: 21%, United States: 101%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Columbia County: 66, WA: 76, United States: 12
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents): Columbia County: 10, WA: 10, United States: 15

- Columbia County
- WA
- 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