County Facts: Cowley County, KS
Population 35,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate 3.8% Cowley County 3.6% KS 3.1% United States
Poverty rate 14.7% Cowley County 15.1% KS 13.1% United States
Median family income (000s) $45 Cowley County $55 KS $57 United States
Population growth 2000-2017 -3% Cowley County 8% KS 16% United States
Manufacturing share of workforce 14% Cowley County 12% KS 10% United States
Farming share of workforce 6.2% Cowley County 3.1% KS 1.7% United States
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp) 4.7% Cowley County 2.9% KS 2.6% United States

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college 48% Cowley County 46% KS 18% United States
Percent reaching upper-middle class 22% Cowley County 22% KS 11% United States
Percent achieving American Dream 11% Cowley County 10% KS 9% United States
Percent giving birth as a teen 22% Cowley County 20% KS 18% United States
Percent landing in jail 1.4% Cowley County 1.2% KS 1.5% United States
Local school expenditure per student (000s) $6.4 Cowley County $6.4 KS $6.4 United States
## Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Low-income share of students</th>
<th>Low-income student success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southwestern College</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas 4-year-college average</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 4-year-college average</td>
<td>60.2%</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Low-income share of students</th>
<th>Low-income student success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cowley County CC &amp; Area Vocational Tech (public)</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas 2-year-college average</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 2-year-college average</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

## Local Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cowley County</th>
<th>KS</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Black</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Hispanic</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent over age 65</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent college grad</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy (years)</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bar Chart

- **Cowley County**
- **KS**
- **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