County Facts: Dawson County, TX
Population 13,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Dawson County 4.9%, TX 4.4%, United States 4.3%
- Poverty rate: Dawson County 16.6%, TX 14.7%, United States 14.7%
- Median family income (000s): Dawson County $56, TX $57, United States $44
- Population growth 2000-2017: Dawson County 36%, TX 16%, United States 4%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Dawson County 10%, TX 9%, United States 4%
- Farming share of workforce: Dawson County 6.7%, TX 1.1%, United States 1.7%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Dawson County 4.7%, TX 3.3%, United States 3.1%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Dawson County 27%, TX 41%, United States 46%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Dawson County 20%, TX 20%, United States 20%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Dawson County 10%, TX 11%, United States 11%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Dawson County 38%, TX 25%, United States 20%
- Percent landing in jail: Dawson County 3.0%, TX 1.9%, United States 1.5%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Dawson County $6.3, TX $5.8, United States $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: Dawson County, TX
  - Texas 4-year-college average: 13.6%
  - U.S. 4-year-college average: 9.3%

- Low-income student success rate: Dawson County, TX
  - Texas 4-year-college average: 56.0%
  - U.S. 4-year-college average: 51.3%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: Dawson County, TX
  - Texas 2-year-college average: 19.0%
  - U.S. 2-year-college average: 17.5%

- Low-income student success rate: Dawson County, TX
  - Texas 2-year-college average: 15.6%
  - U.S. 2-year-college average: 15.6%

Howard County Junior College District (public)†

- Low-income share of students: 37.0%
- Low-income student success rate: 37.1%
- Low-income share of students: 32.9%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Dawson County, TX - 4%, United States - 13%
- Percent Hispanic: Dawson County, TX - 14%, United States - 14%
- Percent over age 65: Dawson County, TX - 43%, United States - 38%
- Percent college grad: Dawson County, TX - 17%, United States - 10.3%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Dawson County, TX - 10%, United States - 10%

Dawson County TX 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