Elk County, KS

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County Facts: Elk County, KS
Population 2,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 4.3%
Poverty rate: 3.6%
Median family income (000s): $44
Population growth 2000-2017: 15.1%
Manufacturing share of workforce: 12%
Farming share of workforce: 3.1%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 1.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 40%
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 16%
Percent achieving American Dream: 11%
Percent giving birth as a teen: 10%
Percent landing in jail: 1.0%
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $7.5
**Local Colleges and Upward Mobility**

### 4-Year Colleges

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

### 2-Year Colleges

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

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

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**Local Demographics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Elk 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>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent college grad</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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