County Facts: Fayette County, KY
Population 322,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Fayette County 3.6%, KY 4.9%, United States 4.4%
- Poverty rate: Fayette County 18.5%, KY 17.7%, United States 15.1%
- Median family income (000s): Fayette County $55, KY $46, United States $57
- Population growth 2000-2017: Fayette County 24%, KY 16%, United States 10%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Fayette County 14%, KY 9%, United States 10%
- Farming share of workforce: Fayette County 2.1%, KY 1.7%, United States 1.7%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Fayette County 4.8%, KY 4.7%, United States 4.5%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Fayette County 56%, KY 43%, United States 46%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Fayette County 20%, KY 17%, United States 17%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Fayette County 10%, KY 7%, United States 7%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Fayette County 21%, KY 18%, United States 18%
- Percent landing in jail: Fayette County 1.5%, KY 1.4%, United States 1.4%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Fayette County $6.3, KY $6.4, United States $6.1
**Local Colleges and Upward Mobility**

### 4-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 5.6% (U of Kentucky), 9.8% (Kentucky average), 9.3% (U.S. average)
- **Low-income student success rate**: 41.0% (U of Kentucky), 51.3% (Kentucky average), 38.4% (U.S. average)

### 2-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 11.3% (U of Kentucky), 15.6% (Kentucky average), 28.2% (U.S. average)
- **Low-income student success rate**: 29% (U of Kentucky), 15.6% (Kentucky average), 82.8% (U.S. average)

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

**Local Demographics**

- **Percent Black**: 16% (Fayette County), 14% (KY), 9% (United States)
- **Percent Hispanic**: 17% (Fayette County), 7% (KY), 3% (United States)
- **Percent over age 65**: 13.3% (Fayette County), 10.5% (KY), 13.0% (United States)
- **Percent college grad**: 29% (Fayette County), 16% (KY), 21% (United States)
- **Life expectancy (years)**: 82.8 (Fayette County), 81.9 (KY), 83.2 (United States)
- **Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents)**: 34 (Fayette County), 26 (KY), 15 (United States)

**Fayette County, KY**

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