County Facts: Gage County, NE
Population 22,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Gage County 3.5%, NE 2.9%, United States 4.4%
- Poverty rate: Gage County 10.9%, NE 12.3%, United States 15.1%
- Median family income (000s): Gage County $45, NE $56, United States $57
- Population growth 2000-2017: Gage County -6%, NE 12%, United States 16%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Gage County 14%, NE 11%, United States 10%
- Farming share of workforce: Gage County 9.2%, NE 5.1%, United States 1.7%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Gage County 1.6%, NE 1.6%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Gage County 58%, NE 54%, United States 46%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Gage County 26%, NE 25%, United States 20%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Gage County 13%, NE 13%, United States 10%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Gage County 15%, NE 14%, United States 15%
- Percent landing in jail: Gage County 20%, NE 1.0%, United States 0.9%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Gage County $7.3, NE $6.6, United States $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

**4-Year Colleges**

- Low-income share of students: 4.4% (U of Nebraska (public)*†), 7.4% (Southeast CC (public)†)
- Low-income student success rate: 5.2% (U of Nebraska (public)*†), 11.0% (Southeast CC (public)†)

**2-Year Colleges**

- Low-income share of students: 9.3% (U of Nebraska (public)*†), 15.6% (Southeast CC (public)†)
- Low-income student success rate: 57.3% (U of Nebraska (public)*†), 41.3% (Southeast CC (public)†)

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 1% (Gage County), 5% (NE), 1% (United States)
- Percent Hispanic: 6% (Gage County), 10% (NE), 6% (United States)
- Percent over age 65: 14% (Gage County), 17% (NE), 14% (United States)
- Percent college grad: 19.4% (Gage County), 21% (NE), 19.4% (United States)
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 3% (Gage County), 76 (NE), 3% (United States)
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents): 76 (Gage County), 76 (NE), 76 (United States)

**Gage County, NE**

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