County Facts: Giles County, VA
Population 17,000

### The Local Economy

- **Unemployment rate**: 4.7% (Giles County), 3.7% (VA), 4.1% (United States)
- **Poverty rate**: 19.8% (Giles County), 11.4% (VA), 10.9% (United States)
- **Median family income (000s)**: $67 (Giles County), $67 (VA), $67 (United States)
- **Population growth 2000-2017**: 20% (Giles County), 16% (VA), 13% (United States)
- **Manufacturing share of workforce**: 13% (Giles County), 7% (VA), 1.0% (United States)
- **Farming share of workforce**: 1.0% (Giles County), 10% (VA), 1.7% (United States)
- **Great Recession unemployment spike (pp)**: 4.7% (Giles County), 4.1% (VA), 4.2% (United States)

### How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- **Percent graduating any college**: 38% (Giles County), 46% (VA), 50% (United States)
- **Percent reaching upper-middle class**: 14% (Giles County), 23% (VA), 20% (United States)
- **Percent achieving American Dream**: 5% (Giles County), 10% (VA), 11% (United States)
- **Percent giving birth as a teen**: 17% (Giles County), 10% (VA), 22% (United States)
- **Percent landing in jail**: 1.8% (Giles County), 10% (VA), 2.6% (United States)
- **Local school expenditure per student (000s)**: $6.7 (Giles County), $6.4 (VA), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Virginia Tech (public)†
- Virginia 4-year-college average
- U.S. 4-year-college average

- Low-income share of students: 2.8%
- Low-income student success rate: 9.3%
- Low-income share of students: 6.4%
- Low-income student success rate: 70.2%

2-Year Colleges

- Virginia Western CC (public)†
- Virginia 2-year-college average
- U.S. 2-year-college average

- Low-income share of students: 11.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 13.0%
- Low-income share of students: 26.2%
- Low-income student success rate: 35.3%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 5%
- Percent Hispanic: 3%
- Percent over age 65: 12.2%
- Percent college grad: 13.0%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 38
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10K residents): 15

Giles County, VA

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