County Facts: Hempstead County, AR
Population 22,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Hempstead County 3.5%, AR 3.7%, United States 4.4%
- Poverty rate: Hempstead County 20.9%, AR 18.5%, United States 15.1%
- Median family income (000s): Hempstead County $37, AR $44, United States $57
- Population growth 2000-2017: Hempstead County -7%, AR 12%, United States 16%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Hempstead County 17%, AR 14%, United States 10%
- Farming share of workforce: Hempstead County 4.1%, AR 2.7%, United States 1.7%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Hempstead County 2.4%, AR 2.6%, United States 4.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Hempstead County 37%, AR 37%, United States 37%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Hempstead County 20%, AR 15%, United States 11%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Hempstead County 10%, AR 7%, United States 4%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Hempstead County 34%, AR 27%, United States 20%
- Percent landing in jail: Hempstead County 1.8%, AR 1.7%, United States 1.5%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Hempstead County $6.4, AR $5.0, United States $4.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

Henderson State Univ. (public)†
Arkansas 4-year-college average
U.S. 4-year-college average

Low-income share of students
13.5%
12.5%
9.3%

Low-income student success rate
43.2%
43.7%
43.2%

2-Year Colleges

U of Arkansas CC At Hope (public)
Arkansas 2-year-college average
U.S. 2-year-college average

Low-income share of students
26.6%
21.8%
15.6%

Low-income student success rate
22.4%
24.1%
22.4%

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

Local Demographics

Percent Black: Hempstead County, 26%; AR, 16%; United States, 14%
Percent Hispanic: Hempstead County, 17%; AR, 5%; United States, 7%
Percent over age 65: Hempstead County, 15.0%; AR, 14.4%; United States, 13.0%
Percent college grad: Hempstead County, 21%; AR, 15%; United States, 10%
Crime rate (arrests per 10k residents): Hempstead County, 134; AR, 85; United States, 76
Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents): Hempstead County, 18; AR, 6; United States, 15
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