County Facts: Highland County, VA
Population 2,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Highland County 3.5%, VA 3.7%, United States 4.4%
- Poverty rate: Highland County 12.9%, VA 11.4%, United States 15.1%
- Median family income (000s): Highland County $57, VA $50, United States $67
- Population growth 2000-2017: Highland County 14%, VA 18%, United States 20%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Highland County 7%, VA 10%, United States 14%
- Farming share of workforce: Highland County 0.9%, VA 1.2%, United States 4.1%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Highland County 4.1%, VA 4.1%, United States 4.7%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Highland County 16%, VA 9%, United States 10%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Highland County 20%, VA 10%, United States 10%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Highland County 1.0%, VA 1.5%, United States 1.7%
- Percent landing in jail: Highland County 1.8%, VA 10%, United States 20%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Highland County $6.5, VA $6.4, United States $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Washington And Lee Univ.†</th>
<th>Virginia 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>1.1%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-income student success rate</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>59.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Blue Ridge CC of Weyers Cave, VA (public)†</th>
<th>Virginia 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>10.3%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-income student success rate</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Local Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Highland County</th>
<th>VA</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Black</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Hispanic</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent over age 65</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent college grad</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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