County Facts: Jasper County, TX
Population 36,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 7.4% (Jasper County), 4.3% (TX), 3.3% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 18.4% (Jasper County), 6.6% (TX), 4.7% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $56 (Jasper County), $57 (TX), $57 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 0% (Jasper County), 16% (TX), 16% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 36% (Jasper County), 16% (TX), 9% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 12% (Jasper County), 10% (TX), 10% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.7% (Jasper County), 4.2% (TX), 3.3% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 36% (Jasper County), 41% (TX), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 18% (Jasper County), 20% (TX), 20% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 10% (Jasper County), 10% (TX), 10% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 25% (Jasper County), 20% (TX), 25% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 1.7% (Jasper County), 1.5% (TX), 1.7% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.4 (Jasper County), $5.8 (TX), $5.8 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 13.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 56.0%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 24.3%
- Low-income student success rate: 36.5%

Lamar Univ. (public)†
- Low-income share of students: 13.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 51.3%

Texas 4-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 9.3%
- Low-income student success rate: 42.4%

U.S. 4-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 15.3%
- Low-income student success rate: 37.1%

Lamar Inst Of Tech (public)†
- Low-income share of students: 17.5%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9%

Texas 2-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 17.5%
- Low-income student success rate: 37.1%

U.S. 2-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 15.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Jasper County 17%, TX 13%, United States 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Jasper County 38%, TX 8%, United States 8%
- Percent over age 65: Jasper County 13%, TX 17%, United States 13%
- Percent college grad: Jasper County 21%, TX 8%, United States 8%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Jasper County 57, TX 71, United States 82.9
- Life expectancy (years): Jasper County 81.8, TX 5, United States 5
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10K residents): Jasper County 12, TX 5, United States 5

Jasper County, TX

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