Johnson County, NE

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan

County Facts: Johnson County, NE
Population 5,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 3.4% (Johnson County), 2.9% (NE), 1.7% (United States)
Poverty rate: 12.3% (Johnson County), 10.9% (NE), 1.6% (United States)
Median family income (000s): $45 (Johnson County), $56 (NE), $6.9 (United States)
Population growth 2000-2017: 15.1% (Johnson County), 16% (NE), 15.1% (United States)
Manufacturing share of workforce: 14% (Johnson County), 11% (NE), 1.7% (United States)
Farming share of workforce: 9.2% (Johnson County), 5.1% (NE), 1.7% (United States)
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.7% (Johnson County), 1.6% (NE), 1.6% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 59% (Johnson County), 54% (NE), 46% (United States)
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 29% (Johnson County), 25% (NE), 20% (United States)
Percent achieving American Dream: 23% (Johnson County), 13% (NE), 10% (United States)
Percent giving birth as a teen: 14% (Johnson County), 14% (NE), 12% (United States)
Percent landing in jail: 0.9% (Johnson County), 0.3% (NE), 0.3% (United States)
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.9 (Johnson County), $6.6 (NE), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 9.5%
- Low-income student success rate: 9.3%
- 57.5%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 11.0%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.8%

- Peru State College (public)†
- Nebraska 4-year-college average: 5.2%
- U.S. 4-year-college average: 42.7%
- Nebraska 2-year-college average: 11.0%
- U.S. 2-year-college average: 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 1% Johnson County, 5% NE, 14% United States
- Percent Hispanic: 6% Johnson County, 10% NE, 17% United States
- Percent over age 65: 13.5% Johnson County, 13.0% NE, 17.6% United States
- Percent college grad: 20% Johnson County, 15% NE, 21% United States
- Crime rate: 76 (arrests per 10K residents) Johnson County, 76 NE, 76 United States

- Johnson County
- NE
- United States
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