County Facts: La Paz County, AZ
Population 21,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 5.4% (La Paz County), 4.8% (AZ), 4.4% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 19.0% (La Paz County), 17.7% (AZ), 15.1% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $57 (La Paz County), $53 (AZ), $57 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 37% (La Paz County), 5% (AZ), 6% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 10% (La Paz County), 7% (AZ), 1.6% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 1.7% (La Paz County), 1.4% (AZ), 1.7% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 6.2% (La Paz County), 5.8% (AZ), 4.7% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 30% (La Paz County), 41% (AZ), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 11% (La Paz County), 17% (AZ), 20% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 7% (La Paz County), 8% (AZ), 10% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 22% (La Paz County), 20% (AZ), 26% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 1.5% (La Paz County), 1.5% (AZ), 2.2% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $5.6 (La Paz County), $5.6 (AZ), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges
- CSU Northridge (public)†
  - Low-income share of students: 19.8%
  - Low-income student success rate: 51.3%
- Arizona 4-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 9.3%
  - Low-income student success rate: 50.3%
- U.S. 4-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 9.3%
  - Low-income student success rate: 57.8%

2-Year Colleges
- E. Los Angeles College (public)*†
  - Low-income share of students: 28.3%
  - Low-income student success rate: 15.6%
- Arizona 2-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 13.5%
  - Low-income student success rate: 15.6%
- U.S. 2-year-college average
  - Low-income share of students: 36.8%
  - 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
  - La Paz County: 2%
  - AZ: 5%
  - United States: 14%
- Percent Hispanic
  - La Paz County: 17%
  - AZ: 17%
  - United States: 30%
- Percent over age 65
  - La Paz County: 13.8%
  - AZ: 13.0%
  - United States: 21%
- Percent college grad
  - La Paz County: 9%
  - AZ: 61
  - United States: 76
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)
  - La Paz County: 5
  - AZ: 13
  - United States: 15
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents)
  - La Paz County: 61
  - AZ: 76
  - United States: 15

La Paz County, AZ 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