County Facts: Lafayette County, MS
Population 54,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 5.1% Lafayette County, 4.4% MS, 4.2% United States
- Poverty rate: 22.1% Lafayette County, 22.2% MS, 22.1% United States
- Median family income (000s): $40 Lafayette County, $42 MS, $40 United States
- Population growth 2000-2017: 41% Lafayette County, 16% MS, 5% United States
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 22% Lafayette County, 13% MS, 10% United States
- Farming share of workforce: 2.6% Lafayette County, 1.7% MS, 1.7% United States
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.7% Lafayette County, 3.9% MS, 3.6% United States

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 49% Lafayette County, 41% MS, 46% United States
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 20% Lafayette County, 13% MS, 17% United States
- Percent achieving American Dream: 10% Lafayette County, 6% MS, 6% United States
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 32% Lafayette County, 20% MS, 23% United States
- Percent landing in jail: 1.9% Lafayette County, 1.3% MS, 1.5% United States
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.4 Lafayette County, $4.6 MS, $4.5 United States
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: U of Mississippi (public) 7.0%, Mississippi 4-year-college average 9.3%, U.S. 4-year-college average 12.9%
- Low-income student success rate: U of Mississippi (public) 46.1%, Mississippi 4-year-college average 49.0%, U.S. 4-year-college average 51.3%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: U of Mississippi (public) 15.6%, Mississippi 2-year-college average 24.4%, U.S. 2-year-college average 32.9%
- Low-income student success rate: U of Mississippi (public) 88, Mississippi 2-year-college average 89, U.S. 2-year-college average 82.6

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Lafayette County 26%, MS 38%, United States 38%
- Percent Hispanic: Lafayette County 14%, MS 2%, United States 2%
- Percent over age 65: Lafayette County 10.5%, MS 12.8%, United States 13.0%
- Percent college grad: Lafayette County 15%, MS 14%, United States 15%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Lafayette County 88, MS 76, United States 81.3
- Life expectancy (years): Lafayette County 89, MS 82.6, United States 83.2

Lafayette County, MS

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
Lafayette County, MS

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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
- BLS LAUS: BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics, from Yagan “Employment Hysteresis from the Great Reces-
- 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
- 2000 Census: U.S. Census Bureau from Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner “Association between In-
- FBI Uniform Crime Reports: 2000 from Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner “Association between In-
- NCES: National Center for Education Statistics Common Core of Data 1996-1997 Financial Survey data from
  Social Mobility” 2018.
- Tax Data 2: Chetty-Friedman-Saez-Turner-Yagan “Income Segregation and Intergenerational Mobility at U.S. Col-
  leges” 2018.
- Tax Data 3: Bergeron-Chetty-Cutler-Scuder-Stepner-Turner “Association between Income and Life Expectancy in