County Facts: Lamar County, TX
Population 50,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: Lamar County 4.2%, TX 4.3%, United States 4.4%
Poverty rate: Lamar County 18.5%, TX 6.6%, United States 5.1%
Median family income (000s): Lamar County $56, TX $43, United States $57
Population growth 2000-2017: Lamar County 2%, TX 36%, United States 16%
Manufacturing share of workforce: Lamar County 16%, TX 9%, United States 10%
Farming share of workforce: Lamar County 3.5%, TX 1.1%, United States 1.7%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Lamar County 3.3%, TX 3.3%, United States 4.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: Lamar County 32%, TX 41%, United States 46%
Percent reaching upper-middle class: Lamar County 20%, TX 20%, United States 20%
Percent achieving American Dream: Lamar County 10%, TX 10%, United States 10%
Percent giving birth as a teen: Lamar County 31%, TX 25%, United States 20%
Percent landing in jail: Lamar County 3.3%, TX 1.9%, United States 1.5%
Local school expenditure per student (000s): Lamar County $6.4, TX $6.4, United States $6.4

Lamar County, TX
Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Low-income share of students</th>
<th>Low-income student success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M Univ. - Commerce (public)†</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas 4-year-college average</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>49.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 4-year-college average</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2-Year Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Low-income share of students</th>
<th>Low-income student success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paris Junior College (public)</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas 2-year-college average</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 2-year-college average</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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Local Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Black</th>
<th>Percent Hispanic</th>
<th>Percent over age 65</th>
<th>Percent college grad</th>
<th>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</th>
<th>Life expectancy (years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lamar County</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>81.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lamar 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