County Facts: Laurens County, GA
Population 47,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 5.9%
Poverty rate: 4.7%
Median family income (000s): $57
Population growth 2000-2017: 27%
Manufacturing share of workforce: 12%
Farming share of workforce: 4.0%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 6.7%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 36%
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 13%
Percent achieving American Dream: 5%
Percent giving birth as a teen: 6%
Percent landing in jail: 25%
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 9.1% (Georgia) vs. 9.3% (U.S.)
- Low-income student success rate: 48.2% (Georgia) vs. 51.3% (U.S.)

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 15.6% (Georgia) vs. 23.5% (U.S.)
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9% (Georgia) vs. 83.2% (U.S.)

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Laurens County 34% vs. GA 32% vs. United States 83.2%
- Percent Hispanic: Laurens County 14% vs. GA 4% vs. United States 82.4%
- Percent over age 65: Laurens County 17% vs. GA 9% vs. United States 10.7%
- Percent college grad: Laurens County 14.2% vs. GA 13.0% vs. United States 9%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Laurens County 211 vs. GA 84 vs. United States 76
- Life expectancy (years): Laurens County 80.7 vs. GA 82.4 vs. United States 82.4
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