County Facts: Mason County, WV
Population 27,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 6.7% (Mason County), 5.2% (WV), 4.4% (United States)
Poverty rate: 20.4% (Mason County), 17.8% (WV), 15.1% (United States)
Median family income (000s): $57 (Mason County), $43 (WV), $42 (United States)
Population growth 2000-2017: 3% (Mason County), 0% (WV), 16% (United States)
Manufacturing share of workforce: 16% (Mason County), 9% (WV), 8% (United States)
Farming share of workforce: 10% (Mason County), 0.7% (WV), 1.0% (United States)
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.9% (Mason County), 4.7% (WV), 3.6% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 45% (Mason County), 46% (WV), 45% (United States)
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 19% (Mason County), 20% (WV), 15% (United States)
Percent achieving American Dream: 9% (Mason County), 17% (WV), 17% (United States)
Percent giving birth as a teen: 1.0% (Mason County), 1.0% (WV), 1.0% (United States)
Percent landing in jail: 1.5% (Mason County), 20% (WV), 20% (United States)
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.8 (Mason County), $6.4 (WV), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges
- Ohio Univ. (public)†: 5.1%
- West Virginia 4-year-college average: 9.6%
- U.S. 4-year-college average: 37.8%

2-Year Colleges
- Hocking Tech College (public)†: 11.3%
- West Virginia 2-year-college average: 15.6%
- U.S. 2-year-college average: 27.1%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Mason County: 4%, WV: 4%, United States: 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Mason County: 1%, WV: 1%, United States: 17%
- Percent over age 65: Mason County: 3.0%, WV: 6.0%, United States: 17.0%
- Percent college grad: Mason County: 15%, WV: 14%, United States: 21%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Mason County: 45, WV: 46, United States: 76
- Life expectancy (years): Mason County: 81.7, WV: 81.9, United States: 83.2
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents): Mason County: 15, WV: 46, United States: 52
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