### County Facts: Mercer County, ND
Population 8,000

#### The Local Economy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Mercer County</th>
<th>ND</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median family income (000s)</td>
<td>$67</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population growth 2000-2017</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing share of workforce</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming share of workforce</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Recession unemployment spike (pp)</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Mercer County</th>
<th>ND</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent graduating any college</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent reaching upper-middle class</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent achieving American Dream</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent giving birth as a teen</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent landing in jail</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local school expenditure per student (000s)</td>
<td>$6.2</td>
<td>$6.4</td>
<td>$5.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 65% graduating any college
- 43% reaching upper-middle class
- 32% achieving American Dream
- 20% giving birth as a teen
- 10% landing in jail
- Local school expenditure per student ($6.2, $6.4, $5.2)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges
- Bismarck State College (public)†
- North Dakota 4-year-college average
- U.S. 4-year-college average

2-Year Colleges
- North Dakota 2-year-college average
- U.S. 2-year-college average

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black
- Percent Hispanic
- Percent over age 65
- Percent college grad
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)

Mercer County, ND Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
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: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
• 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