County Facts: Mercer County, NJ
Population 375,000

The Local Economy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Mercer County</th>
<th>NJ</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median family income (000s)</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$76</td>
<td>$57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population growth 2000-2017</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing share of workforce</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming share of workforce</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Recession unemployment spike (pp)</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Mercer County</th>
<th>NJ</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent graduating any college</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent reaching upper-middle class</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent achieving American Dream</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent giving birth as a teen</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent landing in jail</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges
- **Low-income share of students**: 10.4%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 61.4%

### 2-Year Colleges
- **Low-income share of students**: 15.6%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 37.3%

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**Thomas A Edison State College (public)**
- **Low-income share of students**: 9.0%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 56.4%

**New Jersey 4-year-college average**
- **Low-income share of students**: 9.3%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 51.3%

**U.S. 4-year-college average**
- **Low-income share of students**: 8.8%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 33.7%

**Mercer County CC (public)**
- **Low-income share of students**: 14.1%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 37.3%

**New Jersey 2-year-college average**
- **Low-income share of students**: 15.6%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 32.9%

**U.S. 2-year-college average**
- **Low-income share of students**: 15.0%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 32.9%

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

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**Local Demographics**

- **Percent Black**: 21%
- **Percent Hispanic**: 19%
- **Percent over age 65**: 13.5%
- **Percent college grad**: 28%
- **Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)**: 74
- **Life expectancy (years)**: 83.7
- **Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents)**: 21

- **Mercer County**: 14%
- **New Jersey**: 17%
- **United States**: 12.6%
- **Mercer County**: 3.0%
- **New Jersey**: 21%
- **United States**: 64
- **Mercer County**: 83.2
- **New Jersey**: 15
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