County Facts: Muhlenberg County, KY
Population 31,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 6.7%
Poverty rate: 4.9%
Median family income (000s): $46
Population growth 2000-2017: -3%
Manufacturing share of workforce: 16%
Farming share of workforce: 1.9%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.8%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 47%
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 46%
Percent achieving American Dream: 11%
Percent giving birth as a teen: 10%
Percent landing in jail: 21%
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.4

Percent percent reaching any college: 43%
Percent percent reaching upper-middle class: 17%
Percent percent achieving American Dream: 7%
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 8.7%
- Low-income student success rate: 42.9%
- Kentucky Wesleyan College†: 9.8%
- Kentucky 4-year-college average: 9.3%
- U.S. 4-year-college average: 51.3%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 11.3%
- Low-income student success rate: 28.2%
- Kentucky 2-year-college average: 15.6%
- U.S. 2-year-college average: 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 6% (Muhlenberg County), 9% (KY), 14% (United States)
- Percent Hispanic: 1% (Muhlenberg County), 3% (KY), 17% (United States)
- Percent over age 65: 13.3% (Muhlenberg County), 13.0% (KY), 16% (United States)
- Percent college grad: 9% (Muhlenberg County), 72% (KY), 76% (United States)
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 46 (Muhlenberg County), 81.4 (KY), 81.9 (United States)
- Life expectancy (years): 81.4 (Muhlenberg County), 81.9 (KY), 83.2 (United States)
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