**County Facts: Ness County, KS**

Population 3,000

### The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 2.9% (Ness County), 3.6% (KS), 4.7% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 10.5% (Ness County), 13.1% (KS), 15.1% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $48 (Ness County), $55 (KS), $57 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: -17% (Ness County), 8% (KS), 16% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 6% (Ness County), 10% (KS), 12% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 12.2% (Ness County), 3.1% (KS), 1.7% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 2.6% (Ness County), 4% (KS), 4.7% (United States)

### How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 66% (Ness County), 50% (KS), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 27% (Ness County), 22% (KS), 20% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 21% (Ness County), 11% (KS), 10% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 20% (Ness County), 18% (KS), 13% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 1.5% (Ness County), 1.2% (KS), 1% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $8.4 (Ness County), $6.4 (KS), $6.4 (United States)
### Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

#### 4-Year Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-income share of students</th>
<th>Low-income student success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48.4%</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2-Year Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-income share of students</th>
<th>Low-income student success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Kansas 4-year-college average**
- **U.S. 4-year-college average**
- **Kansas 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent Black</th>
<th>Percent Hispanic</th>
<th>Percent over age 65</th>
<th>Percent college grad</th>
<th>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Ness County**
- **KS**
- **United States**

Ness County, KS Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
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