**County Facts: Nicholas County, KY**
Population 7,000

### The Local Economy

- **Unemployment rate:** Nicholas County: 5.4%, KY: 4.9%, United States: 4.4%
- **Poverty rate:** Nicholas County: 4.4%, KY: 5.1%, United States: 14.6%
- **Median family income (000s):** Nicholas County: $57, KY: $46, United States: $52
- **Population growth 2000-2017:** Nicholas County: 16%, KY: 10%, United States: 5%
- **Manufacturing share of workforce:** Nicholas County: 23%, KY: 14%, United States: 10%
- **Farming share of workforce:** Nicholas County: 3.5%, KY: 1.7%, United States: 1.7%
- **Great Recession unemployment spike (pp):** Nicholas County: 4.8%, KY: 4.7%, United States: 4.5%

### How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- **Percent graduating any college:** Nicholas County: 33%, KY: 43%, United States: 46%
- **Percent reaching upper-middle class:** Nicholas County: 14%, KY: 17%, United States: 20%
- **Percent achieving American Dream:** Nicholas County: 8%, KY: 7%, United States: 10%
- **Percent giving birth as a teen:** Nicholas County: 21%, KY: 20%, United States: 17%
- **Percent landing in jail:** Nicholas County: 1.8%, KY: 1.5%, United States: 1.4%
- **Local school expenditure per student (000s):** Nicholas County: $5.7, KY: $6.1, United States: $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges
- U of Kentucky (public)†
- Kentucky 4-year-college average
- U.S. 4-year-college average

2-Year Colleges
- Low-income share of students
- Low-income student success rate

*: 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)
- Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents)

Nicholas County | KY | United States
Nicholas County, KY

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