County Facts: O'Brien County, IA

Population 14,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 2.4% O'Brien County, 3.1% IA, 2.4% United States
- Poverty rate: 9.2% O'Brien County, 12.4% IA, 15.0% United States
- Median family income (000s): $56 O'Brien County, $56 IA, $57 United States
- Population growth 2000-2017: 7% O'Brien County, 16% IA, 17% United States
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 10% O'Brien County, 15% IA, 15% United States
- Farming share of workforce: 4.3% O'Brien County, 1.7% IA, 1.9% United States
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 1.7% O'Brien County, 1.9% IA, 4.7% United States

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 60% O'Brien County, 55% IA, 46% United States
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 30% O'Brien County, 26% IA, 20% United States
- Percent achieving American Dream: 20% O'Brien County, 14% IA, 10% United States
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 14% O'Brien County, 10% IA, 10% United States
- Percent landing in jail: 1.5% O'Brien County, 0.7% IA, 0.5% United States
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $6.4 O'Brien County, $5.7 IA, $6.1 United States
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 3.8% (Dordt College†), 4.6% (Iowa 4-year-college average), 9.3% (U.S. 4-year-college average)
- Low-income student success rate: 22.7% (Dordt College†), 51.3% (Iowa 4-year-college average), 58.1% (U.S. 4-year-college average)

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 7.2% (Northwest Iowa CC (public)), 9.7% (Iowa 2-year-college average), 15.6% (U.S. 2-year-college average)
- Low-income student success rate: 32.8% (Northwest Iowa CC (public)), 32.9% (Iowa 2-year-college average), 43.3% (U.S. 2-year-college average)

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 1% (O’Brien County), 4% (IA), 14% (United States)
- Percent Hispanic: 6% (O’Brien County), 6% (IA), 17% (United States)
- Percent over age 65: 14.9% (O’Brien County), 13.0% (IA), 20.4% (United States)
- Percent college grad: 19% (O’Brien County), 15% (IA), 21% (United States)
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 36 (O’Brien County), 66 (IA), 76 (United States)
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