County Facts: Ouachita County, AR
Population 24,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Ouachita County 4.6%, AR 3.7%, United States 4.4%
- Poverty rate: Ouachita County 23.2%, AR 18.5%, United States 15.1%
- Median family income (000s): Ouachita County $57, AR $44, United States $32
- Population growth 2000-2017: Ouachita County 12%, AR 16%, United States 20%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Ouachita County 14%, AR 10%, United States 17%
- Farming share of workforce: Ouachita County 2.7%, AR 2.4%, United States 2.6%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Ouachita County 4.7%, AR 2.4%, United States 2.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Ouachita County 42%, AR 37%, United States 46%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Ouachita County 15%, AR 13%, United States 20%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Ouachita County 7%, AR 7%, United States 10%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Ouachita County 32%, AR 27%, United States 20%
- Percent landing in jail: Ouachita County 1.9%, AR 1.7%, United States 1.5%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Ouachita County $6.4, AR $4.9, United States $5.0
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 12.5%
- Low-income student success rate: 51.3%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 22.0%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9%

Low-income share of students and low-income student success rate for 4-year and 2-year colleges. The chart shows the percentages for Arkansas 4-year-college average, U.S. 4-year-college average, Arkansas 2-year-college average, and U.S. 2-year-college average.

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: 36% (Ouachita County), 16% (AR), 14% (United States)
- Percent Hispanic: 17% (Ouachita County), 3% (AR), 7% (United States)
- Percent over age 65: 17.0% (Ouachita County), 14.4% (AR), 13.0% (United States)
- Percent college grad: 21% (Ouachita County), 15% (AR), 13% (United States)
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 102 (Ouachita County), 85 (AR), 76 (United States)
- Life expectancy (years): 83.2 (Ouachita County), 81.5 (AR), 80.2 (United States)

The chart displays the local demographics for Ouachita County, AR, and the 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