County Facts: Polk County, MN
Population 32,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate | Polk County: 4.2% | MN: 3.4% | United States: 4.4%
Poverty rate | Polk County: 11.1% | MN: 0.9% | United States: 15.1%
Median family income (000s) | Polk County: $54 | MN: $57 | United States: $65
Population growth 2000-2017 | Polk County: 13% | MN: 1% | United States: 16%
Manufacturing share of workforce | Polk County: 14% | MN: 14% | United States: 10%
Farming share of workforce | Polk County: 5.8% | MN: 2.8% | United States: 1.7%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp) | Polk County: 1.1% | MN: 1.1% | United States: 4.7%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college | Polk County: 56% | MN: 55% | United States: 46%
Percent reaching upper-middle class | Polk County: 28% | MN: 29% | United States: 20%
Percent achieving American Dream | Polk County: 16% | MN: 15% | United States: 10%
Percent giving birth as a teen | Polk County: 12% | MN: 10% | United States: 10%
Percent landing in jail | Polk County: 0.8% | MN: 0.6% | United States: 0.6%
Local school expenditure per student (000s) | Polk County: $7.1 | MN: $6.4 | United States: $7.6
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- U of Minnesota - Crookston (public)*: 6.5% 45.9%
- Minnesota 4-year-college average: 9.3% 51.3%
- U.S. 4-year-college average: 3.8% 57.1%

2-Year Colleges

- Minnesota 2-year-college average: 8.6% 24.2%
- U.S. 2-year-college average: 15.6% 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Polk County 2% 2%, MN 6% 6%, United States 14% 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Polk County 4% 4%, MN 5% 5%, United States 17% 17%
- Percent over age 65: Polk County 12.9% 17%, MN 13.0% 17%, United States 16.5% 17%
- Percent college grad: Polk County 22% 21%, MN 21% 21%, United States 22% 22%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Polk County 33, MN 71, United States 76
- Life expectancy (years): Polk County 83.9, MN 83.2, United States 84.4
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