County Facts: Pontotoc County, MS
Population 32,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 3.9% (Pontotoc County), 5.1% (MS), 4.7% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 44% (Pontotoc County), 18.9% (MS), 16% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $42 (Pontotoc County), $42 (MS), $57 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 5% (Pontotoc County), 5% (MS), 18% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 16% (Pontotoc County), 13% (MS), 10% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 22.2% (Pontotoc County), 1.7% (MS), 1.3% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.4% (Pontotoc County), 2.1% (MS), 3.6% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 39% (Pontotoc County), 41% (MS), 32% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 46% (Pontotoc County), 20% (MS), 10% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 20% (Pontotoc County), 10% (MS), 5% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 28% (Pontotoc County), 20% (MS), 6% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 1.9% (Pontotoc County), 1.5% (MS), 1.5% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $4.3 (Pontotoc County), $4.5 (MS), $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>Mississippi 4-year-college average</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 4-year-college average</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51.3%</td>
<td>46.1%</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>Mississippi 2-year-college average</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 2-year-college average</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Itawamba CC (public)† | 24.4% |

*: 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>
<th>Life expectancy (years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pontotoc County</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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