County Facts: Ringgold County, IA
Population 5,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Ringgold County 4.4%, IA 3.1%, United States 3.1%
- Poverty rate: Ringgold County 15.1%, IA 13.2%, United States 12.4%
- Median family income (000s): Ringgold County $57, IA $56, United States $47
- Population growth 2000-2017: Ringgold County 16%, IA 7%, United States 16%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Ringgold County 15%, IA 10%, United States 15%
- Farming share of workforce: Ringgold County 17%, IA 10%, United States 17%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Ringgold County 10%, IA 4.3%, United States 1.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Ringgold County 56%, IA 55%, United States 46%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Ringgold County 26%, IA 21%, United States 20%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Ringgold County 15%, IA 14%, United States 10%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Ringgold County 20%, IA 14%, United States 0.2%
- Percent landing in jail: Ringgold County 0.7%, IA 0.2%, United States 0.2%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Ringgold County $8.1, IA $6.1, United States $6.4
**Local Colleges and Upward Mobility**

### 4-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 10.8%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 58.1%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Graceland Univ.†</th>
<th>Iowa 4-year-college average</th>
<th>U.S. 4-year-college average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-income share of students</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-income student success rate</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### 2-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 15.6%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 51.3%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Southwestern CC of Creston, IA (public)†</th>
<th>Iowa 2-year-college average</th>
<th>U.S. 2-year-college average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-income share of students</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-income student success rate</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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**Local Demographics**

- **Percent Black**: 1% (Ringgold County), 4% (IA), 13% (United States)
- **Percent Hispanic**: 3% (Ringgold County), 6% (IA), 13% (United States)
- **Percent over age 65**: 14.9% (Ringgold County), 13% (IA), 13% (United States)
- **Percent college grad**: 19% (Ringgold County), 13% (IA), 0% (United States)
- **Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)**: 66 (Ringgold County), 76 (IA), 76 (United States)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Ringgold County</th>
<th>IA</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Black</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Hispanic</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<td>14.9%</td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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