Roberts County, TX

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan

County Facts: Roberts County, TX
Population 940

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 3.7% (TX: 4.3%, United States: 4.4%)
Poverty rate: 16.6% (TX: 15.9%, United States: 36%)
Median family income (000s): $46 (TX: $57, United States: $57)
Population growth 2000-2017: 6% (TX: 16%, United States: 12%)
Manufacturing share of workforce: 9% (TX: 10%, United States: 9.7%)
Farming share of workforce: 1.1% (TX: 1.7%, United States: 3.4%)
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 3.3% (TX: 3.3%, United States: 4.7%)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 36% (TX: 46%, United States: 28%)
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 20% (TX: 22%, United States: 2%)
Percent achieving American Dream: 10% (TX: 16%, United States: 25%)
Percent giving birth as a teen: 20% (TX: 0.2%, United States: 1.9%)
Percent landing in jail: 1.5% (TX: 1.5%, United States: 0.2%)
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $5.8 (TX: $15.1, United States: $6.4)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

Low-income share of students: 13.6% (Texas 4-year-college average), 9.3% (U.S. 4-year-college average)
Low-income student success rate: 56.0% (Texas 4-year-college average), 51.3% (U.S. 4-year-college average)

2-Year Colleges

Low-income share of students: 17.5% (Texas 2-year-college average), 15.6% (U.S. 2-year-college average)
Low-income student success rate: 37.1% (Texas 2-year-college average), 32.9% (U.S. 2-year-college average)

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

Local Demographics

Percent Black: 4% (Roberts County), 13% (TX), 14% (United States)
Percent Hispanic: 17% (Roberts County), 10.3% (TX), 8% (United States)
Percent over age 65: 16.0% (Roberts County), 13.0% (TX), 10% (United States)
Percent college grad: 21% (Roberts County), 18% (TX), 90% (United States)
Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): 90 (Roberts County), 71 (TX), 76 (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