County Facts: Smith County, MS
Population 16,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 4.7% (Smith County), 5.1% (MS), 4.4% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 25.3% (Smith County), 22.2% (MS), 15.1% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $33 (Smith County), $42 (MS), $57 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 5% (Smith County), -1% (MS), 16% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 16% (Smith County), 18% (MS), 13% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 4.7% (Smith County), 2.1% (MS), 1.7% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 3.6% (Smith County), 3.5% (MS), 4.7% (United States)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 31% (Smith County), 41% (MS), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 13% (Smith County), 12% (MS), 20% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 6% (Smith County), 8% (MS), 10% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 33% (Smith County), 32% (MS), 10% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 1.9% (Smith County), 1.5% (MS), 0.5% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $4.2 (Smith County), $4.5 (MS), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges
- **Low-income share of students:**
  - Smith County: 12.9%
  - U.S. 4-year-college average: 9.3%
- **Low-income student success rate:**
  - Smith County: 46.1%
  - U.S. 4-year-college average: 51.3%

### 2-Year Colleges
- **Low-income share of students:**
  - Smith County: 24.7%
  - U.S. 2-year-college average: 26.0%
- **Low-income student success rate:**
  - Smith County: 15.6%
  - U.S. 2-year-college average: 24.4%

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

Local Demographics

- **Percent Black:**
  - Smith County: 37%
  - MS: 38%
  - United States: 42%
- **Percent Hispanic:**
  - Smith County: 14%
  - MS: 4%
  - United States: 89
- **Percent over age 65:**
  - Smith County: 15.3%
  - MS: 3%
  - United States: 76
- **Percent college grad:**
  - Smith County: 21%
  - MS: 13.0%
  - United States: 9%
- **Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents):**
  - Smith County: 42
  - MS: 14%
  - United States: 76
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
• BLS: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
• 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