County Facts: Thomas County, KS
Population 8,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 2.6%
Poverty rate: 3.6%
Median family income (000s): $48
Population growth 2000-2017: -5%
Manufacturing share of workforce: 6%
Farming share of workforce: 12.2%
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.7%

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 65%
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 27%
Percent achieving American Dream: 18%
Percent giving birth as a teen: 18%
Percent landing in jail: 1.2%
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $7.4

Thomas County  KS  United States
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: Kansas 4-year-college average = 5.6%, U.S. 4-year-college average = 9.3%
- Low-income student success rate: Kansas 4-year-college average = 48.4%, U.S. 4-year-college average = 51.3%

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: Kansas 2-year-college average = 13.1%, U.S. 2-year-college average = 11.8%
- Low-income student success rate: Kansas 2-year-college average = 34.6%, U.S. 2-year-college average = 31.9%

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black: Thomas County = 2%, KS = 7%, United States = 14%
- Percent Hispanic: Thomas County = 6%, KS = 11%, United States = 17%
- Percent over age 65: Thomas County = 15.4%, KS = 13.2%, United States = 13.0%
- Percent college grad: Thomas County = 21%, KS = 18%, United States = 21%
- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents): Thomas County = 47, KS = 34, 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
- 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