County Facts: Vernon County, MO
Population 20,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 3.9% (MO: 3.8% US: 4.7%)
Poverty rate: 5.1% (MO: 5.3% US: 4.0%)
Median family income (000s): $41 (MO: $52 US: $57)
Population growth 2000-2017: 9% (MO: 16% US: 16%)
Manufacturing share of workforce: 11% (MO: 10% US: 1.9%)
Farming share of workforce: 16% (MO: 17% US: 2.9%)
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 16% (MO: 16% US: 11%)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 43% (MO: 45% US: 46%)
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 13% (MO: 19% US: 20%)
Percent achieving American Dream: 7% (MO: 8% US: 10%)
Percent giving birth as a teen: 27% (MO: 20% US: 20%)
Percent landing in jail: 1.4% (MO: 1.5% US: 1.6%)
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $4.6 (MO: $5.9 US: $6.4)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 7.0%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 48.7%

#### Missouri 4-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 9.3%
- Low-income student success rate: 51.3%

#### U.S. 4-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 13.0%
- Low-income student success rate: 27.6%

### 2-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 13.0%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 15.6%

#### Missouri 2-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 15.6%
- Low-income student success rate: 32.9%

#### U.S. 2-year-college average
- Low-income share of students: 21%
- Low-income student success rate: 19%

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

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Local Demographics

- **Percent Black**: 1% (Vernon County), 12% (MO), 14% (United States)
- **Percent Hispanic**: 4% (Vernon County), 4% (MO), 4% (United States)
- **Percent over age 65**: 17% (Vernon County), 16.4% (MO), 14% (United States)
- **Percent college grad**: 13% (Vernon County), 14.0% (MO), 13.0% (United States)
- **Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)**: 65 (Vernon County), 88 (MO), 76 (United States)

- **Vernon County**
- **MO**
- **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