Wayne County, GA

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan

County Facts: Wayne County, GA
Population 30,000

The Local Economy

Unemployment rate: 5.8% Wayne County, 4.7% GA, 4.4% United States
Poverty rate: 22.4% Wayne County, 17.8% GA, 15.1% United States
Median family income (000s): $57 Wayne County, $53 GA, $35 United States
Population growth 2000-2017: 12% Wayne County, 16% GA, 11% United States
Manufacturing share of workforce: 14% Wayne County, 11% GA, 10% United States
Farming share of workforce: 6.7% Wayne County, 1.3% GA, 1.7% United States
Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 5.4% Wayne County, 4.7% GA, 4.1% United States

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

Percent graduating any college: 32% Wayne County, 43% GA, 46% United States
Percent reaching upper-middle class: 13% Wayne County, 16% GA, 20% United States
Percent achieving American Dream: 6% Wayne County, 6% GA, 10% United States
Percent giving birth as a teen: 6% Wayne County, 25% GA, 32% United States
Percent landing in jail: 2.2% Wayne County, 1.5% GA, 3.2% United States
Local school expenditure per student (000s): $4.9 Wayne County, $5.9 GA, $6.4 United States
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 9.1% (Georgia) vs. 9.3% (U.S.)
- Low-income student success rate: 48.2% (Georgia) vs. 51.3% (U.S.)

2-Year Colleges

- Low-income share of students: 37.0% (Georgia) vs. 22.9% (U.S.)
- Low-income student success rate: 22.9% (Georgia) vs. 23.5% (U.S.)

Altamaha Tech College (public)

- Low-income share of students: 23.0% (Georgia) vs. 23.5% (U.S.)
- Low-income student success rate: 83 (Georgia) vs. 84 (U.S.)

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

Local Demographics

- Percent Black
  - Wayne County: 27%
  - GA: 32%
  - United States: 14%

- Percent Hispanic
  - Wayne County: 10%
  - GA: 9%
  - United States: 9%

- Percent over age 65
  - Wayne County: 12.8%
  - GA: 10.7%
  - United States: 19%

- Percent college grad
  - Wayne County: 21%
  - GA: 21%
  - United States: 83

- Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)
  - Wayne County: 76
  - GA: 81.1
  - United States: 83.2

- Life expectancy (years)
  - Wayne County: 82.4
  - GA: 83.2
  - United States: 83.2

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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 25 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