**County Facts: Whitley County, KY**
Population 36,000

The Local Economy

- **Unemployment rate**
  - Whitley County: 5.8%
  - KY: 4.9%
  - United States: 4.4%

- **Poverty rate**
  - Whitley County: 31.2%
  - KY: 18.5%
  - United States: 15.1%

- **Median family income (000s)**
  - Whitley County: $27
  - KY: $46
  - United States: $57

- **Population growth 2000-2017**
  - Whitley County: 8.5%
  - KY: 5.1%
  - United States: 1%

- **Manufacturing share of workforce**
  - Whitley County: 16%
  - KY: 10%
  - United States: 1%

- **Farming share of workforce**
  - Whitley County: 14%
  - KY: 10%
  - United States: 1.0%

- **Great Recession unemployment spike (pp)**
  - Whitley County: 1.7%
  - KY: 1.7%
  - United States: 4.7%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- **Percent graduating any college**
  - Whitley County: 37%
  - KY: 43%
  - United States: 46%

- **Percent reaching upper-middle class**
  - Whitley County: 11%
  - KY: 17%
  - United States: 20%

- **Percent achieving American Dream**
  - Whitley County: 5%
  - KY: 7%
  - United States: 10%

- **Percent giving birth as a teen**
  - Whitley County: 21%
  - KY: 20%
  - United States: 1.4%

- **Percent landing in jail**
  - Whitley County: 1.2%
  - KY: 1.0%
  - United States: 1.5%

- **Local school expenditure per student (000s)**
  - Whitley County: $6.3
  - KY: $6.1
  - United States: $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students:**
  - **U of The Cumberlands:** 12.5%
  - **Kentucky 4-year-college average:** 9.8%
  - **U.S. 4-year-college average:** 9.3%

- **Low-income student success rate:**
  - **U of The Cumberlands:** 51.3%
  - **Kentucky 4-year-college average:** 40.4%
  - **U.S. 4-year-college average:** 38.4%

### 2-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students:**
  - **U of The Cumberlands:** 11.3%
  - **Kentucky 2-year-college average:** 11.3%
  - **U.S. 2-year-college average:** 15.6%

- **Low-income student success rate:**
  - **U of The Cumberlands:** 28.2%
  - **Kentucky 2-year-college average:** 28.2%
  - **U.S. 2-year-college average:** 32.9%

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

Local Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Whitley County</th>
<th>KY</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Black</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Hispanic</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent over age 65</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent college grad</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crime rate (arrests per 10k residents)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life expectancy (years)</td>
<td>81.2</td>
<td>81.9</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid deaths (deaths per 10k residents)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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