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Coles County Poverty Data Project

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Coles County Poverty Data Project Key Indicators

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COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS POVERTY DATA PROJECT KEY INDICATORS:

Updated: 17-Feb-13

Unemployment Rate (Unadjusted Annual Average, BLS Series LAUPA1708306)
Coles County has a comparable percent of the labor pool unemployment compared to the state and the country:

Coles County, 2011: 9.3%
 U.S.: 8.9%
 Illinois: 9.8%

Median Family Income (American Community Survey)
Coles County lags behind the state and country in the median wage a family earns to meet their standard of living:

Coles County, 2011: \$57,616
 U.S.: \$64,293 (\$6,677 greater than Coles County)
 Illinois: \$69,658 (\$12,042 greater than Coles County)

Median Family Income differs based on the region/tract within Coles County:

Census Tract 9 (highest): \$92,381
 Census Tract 8 (lowest) \$29,583
 Difference: \$62,798

6 of the 12 Census Tracts (4, 5, 8, 10, 11, & 12) in Coles County have a median family income lower than the county-wide measure

Individuals in Poverty: (American Community Survey 2007-2011 Average)
Coles County has a higher percentage of individuals in absolute poverty and who are food insecure than surrounding counties, the state, and the country:

Absolute Poverty (Poverty Threshold):

	<i>American Community Survey (2007-2011 5-Year Average)</i>	<i>Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates 2011 (single-year)</i>
Clark Co.	10.21%	12.4%
Coles Co.	22.08%	21.8%
Cumberland Co.	13.14%	12.4%
Douglas Co.	10.16%	10.0%
Edgar Co.	14.91%	14.4%
Moultrie Co.	10.51%	11.4%
Shelby Co.	10.47%	10.8%
Illinois:	13.14%	14.9%
United States:	14.30%	15.9%

Food Insecurity (185% of Poverty):

American Community Survey (2007-2011 5-Year Average)

Clark Co. 28.09%
Coles Co. 38.36%
 Cumberland Co. 30.56%
 Douglas Co. 29.59%
 Edgar Co. 34.77%
 Moultrie Co. 27.76%
 Shelby Co. 29.44%
 Illinois: 27.55%
 United States: 30.04%

**Individuals in Coles County in Poverty by Selected Age Groups:
(American Community Survey 2007-2011 Average)**

0-17 Years:	20.10%
18-24 Years:	56.55%
25-64 Years:	13.84%
65 Years +:	7.65%

Related Children in Families Age 5-17:

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2011 (single-year)

Clark Co.	17.2%
Coles Co.	19.9%
Cumberland Co.	17.8%
Douglas Co.	14.5%
Edgar Co.	19.4%
Moultrie Co.	16.3%
Shelby Co.	15.4%
Illinois:	19.9%
United States:	20.8%

**Related Individuals in Families who are Poor:
(American Community Survey 2007-2011 Average)**

Coles County, 2011:	11.56%
U.S.:	11.83%
Illinois:	10.91%

Percent of All Families who are Poor and Families with at least 1 related child under 18 years of age:

(American Community Survey 2007-2011 Average)

All Families:	With at least 1 related child:
Coles County: 10.3%	18.0%
U.S.: 10.5%	16.4%
Illinois: 9.6%	15.1%
Highest (Census Tract 8): 38.10%	64.5%
Lowest (Census Tract 9): 1.9%	3.3%

Coles County Poverty Data Project Talking Points:

1. Coles County has an unemployment rate comparable to the state and country, but has a much lower median family income.
2. Lower family incomes, which combine the income from all related members in the household for the 12 months preceding the survey, translate to troubling trends:
 - a. Coles County has higher percentages of poverty for persons across age groups and in regional, state, and country-wide comparisons.
 - b. Families, the basic unit of social organization, are poorer on average in Coles County than in regional, state and country-wide comparisons.
 - c. There are pockets of poverty and of affluence in Coles County
 - d. These pockets of poverty are not confined to the areas around the campus of Eastern Illinois University, but are prevalent in both Charleston and Mattoon, and adjacent to more affluent tracts.
 - e. Food insecurity is a vital issue for families and individuals; nearly 40% of individuals are at-risk of not knowing from where their next meal may come.

Coles County Poverty Data Project

Understanding poverty is dependent on three things:

1. Income
2. The Standard of Living / Level of Subsistence
3. Expenditures on goods and services to meet the standard of living

Income – American Community Survey

- Estimate of incomes for the previous 12 months from:
 - o Job/Wages
 - o Net Self-Employment
 - o Interest, Dividends or other Royalties from Estates and Trusts
 - o Social Security or Railroad Retirement Income
 - o Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - o Public Assistance/Welfare Payments
 - o Retirement, Survivor or Disability Pensions
 - o Other(s)
- Not included:
 - o Capital Gains
 - o Sale of Property
 - o In-kind Subsidies (Food Stamps, Housing, etc)
 - o Medical Care Payments from Employers
 - o Bank Withdrawals
 - o Money Borrowed
 - o Tax Refunds
 - o Exchange of Money from Family Members living in the Same Household
 - o Lump-Sum Inheritance
 - o Insurance Payments
 - o Other Lump-Sum Receipts

Standard of Living:

- How much money it takes to sustain an individual family
- Poverty is measured at the family level, and compared to a standard, minimal level of subsistence for families of different size and composition.
 - o 2011 Poverty Threshold/Minimal Subsistence
 - Individual: \$11,484
 - Family of 4 with 2 related children under 18 years: \$22,811

Expenditures to Meet Standards of Living:

- Vary by geographic location
- 'Midwest' Cost of Living, Total Average Annual Expenditures: \$47,192
 - o BLS Series CXUTE001103