

COUNTY GRADE:

C+

STATE RANK: 8

# Opportunity in Jefferson County, IA

**Opportunity Index 2015.** The Opportunity Index is an annual composite measure at the state and county levels of economic, educational and civic factors that expand or constrict opportunity. The Index focuses on the conditions present in communities and is designed to identify concrete solutions to lagging conditions for opportunity and economic mobility. The Index measures 16 indicators and scores all 50 states plus Washington, DC on a scale of 0-100 each year. More than 2,600 counties are graded A-F, giving policymakers and leaders a useful tool to identify areas for improvement and to gauge progress over time.

## ECONOMY

|                    |   | COUNTY AVG. | STATE AVG. | NATIONAL AVG. |
|--------------------|---|-------------|------------|---------------|
| Jobs               | Unemployment rate   | 4.5%        | 3.6%       | 5.1%          |
| Wages              | Median household income   | \$45,690    | \$48,886   | \$48,906      |
| Poverty            | Poverty (% of population below poverty line)  | 12.4%       | 12.7%      | 15.8%         |
| Inequality         | Ratio of household income at the 80th percentile to that at the 20th percentile                       | 4.3         | 4.3        | 5             |
| Assets             | Banking Institutions (commercial banks, savings institutions, and credit unions per 10,000 residents) | 10.2        | 5.9        | 3.9           |
| Affordable Housing | Households spending less than 30% of household income on housing                                      | 75.1%       | 75.7%      | 65.4%         |
| Internet Access    | High-speed Internet (5-level categories for counties, % of households for states)                     | 4           | 68         | 72.7          |

## EDUCATION

|                                |   |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|
| Pre-School Enrollment          | Preschool (% ages 3 and 4 in school)                                      | —     | 47.7% | 47.1% |
| On-time High School Graduation | On-time high school graduation (% of freshmen who graduate in four years) | —     | 89.7% | 81.4% |
| Postsecondary Completion       | Associate degree or higher (% of adults 25 and older)                     | 25.8% | 37.5% | 37.7% |

## COMMUNITY

|                        |  |       |       |       |
|------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Community Safety       | Violent Crime (per 100,000 population)                     | 167.8 | 260.9 | 387.8 |
| Disconnected Youth     | Young people not in school nor working (% ages 16-24)      | —     | 8.8%  | 13.8% |
| Access to Health Care  | Medical Doctors (per 100,000 population)                   | 85.3  | 265   | 286.5 |
| Access to Healthy Food | Grocery stores and produce vendors (per 10,000 population) | 6.8   | 2     | 2.2   |



Opportunity Nation is a bipartisan, cross-sector national campaign to expand economic mobility and close the opportunity gap in America. The Opportunity Index was jointly developed by Opportunity Nation and Measure of America, a project of the Social Science Research Council.