

# Howell County

County Seat: West Plains

County  
Composite  
Rank

2013  
**103**

2017  
**86**

Population: 40,117

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2011	2015	2011	2015		State Rate	County Rank
<b>Economic Well-Being</b>							
Children under 18 in poverty	3,156	2,818	32.2%	30%	↑	20.4%	87
Food insecurity for children*	2,660	2,590	26.9%	25.9%	↑	20.8%	94
<b>Health</b>							
Low birthweight infants <sup>^+</sup>	216	183	7.7%	7.1%	↑	8.0%	38
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18* (per 1,000)	82	58	8.1	6	↑	7.6	46
Child asthma ER rates* (per 1,000)	53	40	5.2	4.1	↑	10.2	34
<b>Family &amp; Community</b>							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	82	59	65.9	47.9	↑	25.0	98
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) <sup>^</sup>	81	104	8	10.8	↓	4.5	107
<b>Education</b>							
Graduation rate	407	404	81.4%	93.5%	↑	90.2%	52
Achievement proficiency <sup>^#</sup>							
3rd grade English/Language Arts (MAP)	229	290	44.3%	56.4%		57.2%	
8th grade English/Language Arts (MAP)	327	267	58.4%	54.6%		57.6%	
4th grade Math (MAP)	269	211	52.4%	43%		49.2%	
Algebra I (End of Course exam)	295	304	66.6%	65.1%		62.2%	

<sup>^</sup>Outcome not included in County Composite Rank

\* Data based on 2010/2014.

+ Data based on 5-year time spans; 2006-2010 and 2011-2015.

# Achievement proficiency measures those that scored proficient or above on the MAP tests and Algebra I End of Course exam. Comparisons between 2011 and 2015 data should be treated with caution due to differences in testing standards; accordingly, no trend arrows are shown.

**LEGEND:** ↑ Better ↓ Worse → No Change

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## Contextual Indicators

### Demographics

Total population	2011	40,601
	2015	40,117
Child population under 18	2011	10,080
	2015	9,587
Children under 18 as % of total population	2011	24.8%
	2015	23.9%
Child population under 6	2011	3,389
	2015	3,091
Children under 6 as % of total population	2011	8.3%
	2015	7.7%
Minority child population under 18	2011	539
	2015	579
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2011	5.3%
	2015	6%
Minority child population under 6	2011	185
	2015	181
Minority child population under 6 as % of child population	2011	1.8%
	2015	1.9%
Children in single-parent families	2006-2010	29.1%
	2011-2015	34%
Children in married-parent families	2006-2010	70.6%
	2011-2015	65.7%

### Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2006-2010	32%
	2011-2015	41.8%
Children in poverty, ages 6-17	2006-2010	32.2%
	2011-2015	30%
Housing cost-burdened households	2006-2010	27.7%
	2011-2015	29.8%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2006-2010	49.8%
	2011-2015	54.2%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2011	51.8%
	2015	48.8%
Median income family household with children under 18	2006-2010	\$37,899
	2011-2015	\$37,062
Adult unemployment	2011	8.2%
	2015	6.4%
Child homelessness	2011	3.1%
	2015	3.7%

### Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2011	77.8
	2016	94
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2011	-
	2016	15%
School attendance, grades K-12	2011	94.1%
	2015	94.7%

### Family & Community

Teen unintentional injuries/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2006-2010	118.8
	2011-2015	70.2
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2006-2010	12.3%
	2011-2015	14.9%
Juvenile law violation referrals (per 1,000)	2011	39
	2015	20.8
Annual high school dropout rate	2011	2.9%
	2015	1.2%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2011	1.7
	2015	3.9
Children living in high poverty areas	2006-2010	50.3%
	2011-2015	39.3%

### Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2006-2010	5.7
	2011-2015	6.6
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2006-2010	38.2
	2011-2015	49.2
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2006-2010	24.4
	2011-2015	42.2
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2006-2010	106.4
	2011-2015	83.5
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18*	2006-2010	50%
	2011-2015	100%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000)	2005-2009	29.4
	2010-2014	47.9
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2005-2009	96.4
	2010-2014	96.4
Uninsured children	2010	7.8%
	2014	8.8%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2011	93.1%
	2015	94.2%

\*If no % is listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.