

Dallas County

County
Composite
Rank

2015
98

2019
31

County Seat: Buffalo

Population: 16,673

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2013	2017	2013	2017		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,262	1,088	33.0%	27.8%	↑	18.5%	85
Food insecurity for children ^b	1,050	820	25.4%	21.0%	↑	17.4%	77
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a,c}	71	83	6.9%	8.0%	↓	8.4%	63
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	32	11	7.9	2.9	↑	7.1	6
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	16	3	4.0	0.8	↑	8.0	3
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	23	11	45.5	22.8	↑	22.5	44
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	21	13	5.4	3.3	↑	3.3	38
Education							
Graduation rate	123	110	84.8%	94.8%	↑	91.0%	39
Achievement proficiency ^{a,d}							
3rd grade English/Language Arts (MAP)		79		50.3%		62.2%	
8th grade English/Language Arts (MAP)		69		57.0%		60.4%	
4th grade Math (MAP)		58		43.3%		53.9%	

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

^a Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

^b Data based on 2012 and 2016.

^c Data based on 5-year time spans, 2008-2012 and 2013-2017.

^d Achievement proficiency measures those that scored proficient or above on the MAP tests. Achievement data from 2013 is not shown due to differences in testing standards and assessments used in 2017; accordingly, no trend arrows or county ranks are shown.

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Contextual Indicators

Demographics			Education		
Total population	2013	16,535	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2013	40.7
	2017	16,673		2018	62.2
Child population under 18	2013	3,881	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2013	—
	2017	3,984		2018	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2013	23.5%	School attendance, grades K-12	2013	94.6%
	2017	23.9%		2018	94.6%
Child population under 6	2013	1,206	Family & Community		
	2017	1,279	Teen unintentional injuries/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2008-2012	51.8
Children under 6 as % of total population	2013	7.3%		2013-2017	84.5
	2017	7.7%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2008-2012	6.8%
Minority child population under 18	2013	211		2013-2017	7.6%
	2017	226	Juvenile law violation referrals (per 1,000)	2013	29.0
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2013	5.4%		2017	29.3
	2017	5.7%	Annual high school dropout rate	2013	3.6%
Minority child population under 6	2013	81		2017	0.6%
	2017	93	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2013	4.1
Minority child population under 6 as % of child population	2013	6.7%		2017	3.8
	2017	7.3%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2008-2012	20.5%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2008-2012	3.9
	2013-2017	27.9%		2013-2017	6.8
Children in married-parent families	2008-2012	79.3%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2008-2012	38.7
	2013-2017	72.0%		2013-2017	51.4
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2008-2012	35.4
Children in poverty under 6	2013	32.1%		2013-2017	24.8
	2017	14.7%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2008-2012	54.6
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2013	30.4%		2013-2017	181.5
	2017	26.6%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^a	2008-2012	%
Housing cost-burdened households	2008-2012	25.8%		2013-2017	33.3%
	2013-2017	18.0%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^b	2007-2011	17.5**
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2008-2012	42.3%		2012-2016	9.3**
	2013-2017	55.8%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2007-2011	81.2
Children in families receiving SNAP	2013	42.4%		2012-2016	113.3
	2017	35.6%	Uninsured children	2012	10.2%
Median income family household with children under 18	2008-2012	\$45,933		2016	8.1%
	2013-2017	\$43,141	School attendance, grades 9-12	2013	93.5%
Adult unemployment	2013	7.3%		2017	94.5%
	2017	4.7%			
Child homelessness	2013	3.9%			
	2017	2.8%			

^a If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.

^b * Indicates unstable rate due to low count (< 20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (< 5 cases).