

Dent County

County Composite Rank

2015 **102**

2019 **84**

Population: 15,480

County Seat: Salem

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2013	2017	2013	2017		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,190	1,066	33.7%	31.4%	↑	18.5%	97
Food insecurity for children ^b	870	750	24.7%	21.0%	↑	17.4%	77
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a,c}	72	79	8.1%	8.7%	↓	8.4%	90
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	22	21	6.1	6.1	→	7.1	56
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	18	26	5.0	7.5	↓	8.0	103
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	30	10	65.5	22.4	↑	22.5	41
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	16	31	4.4	8.9	↓	3.3	103
Education							
Graduation rate	118	125	85.5%	93.3%	↑	91.0%	59
Achievement proficiency ^{a,d}							
3rd grade English/Language Arts (MAP)		97		58.1%		62.2%	
8th grade English/Language Arts (MAP)		106		65.4%		60.4%	
4th grade Math (MAP)		82		47.1%		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	15,730	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2013	41.4
	2017	15,480		2018	76.5
Child population under 18	2013	3,627	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2013	—
	2017	3,476		2018	3.8%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2013	23.0%	School attendance, grades K-12	2013	94.9%
	2017	22.5%		2018	95.3%
Child population under 6	2013	1,122	Family & Community		
	2017	1,127	Teen unintentional injuries/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2008-2012	121.8
Children under 6 as % of total population	2013	7.2%		2013-2017	59.7
	2017	7.3%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2008-2012	8.8%
Minority child population under 18	2013	208		2013-2017	8.5%
	2017	252	Juvenile law violation referrals (per 1,000)	2013	13.8
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2013	5.7%		2017	37.2
	2017	7.2%	Annual high school dropout rate	2013	1.0%
Minority child population under 6	2013	88		2017	0.2%
	2017	125	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2013	3.9
Minority child population under 6 as % of child population	2013	7.8%		2017	7.2
	2017	11.1%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2008-2012	28.5%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2008-2012	7.8
	2013-2017	29.9%		2013-2017	13.2
Children in married-parent families	2008-2012	70.1%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2008-2012	56.8
	2013-2017	70.0%		2013-2017	27.9
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2008-2012	53.5
Children in poverty under 6	2013	24.5%		2013-2017	13.7
	2017	21.6%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2008-2012	64.7
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2013	31.0%		2013-2017	89.8
	2017	29.7%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^a	2008-2012	33.3%
Housing cost-burdened households	2008-2012	26.8%		2013-2017	66.7%
	2013-2017	25.9%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^b	2007-2011	20.5**
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2008-2012	49.4%		2012-2016	20.4**
	2013-2017	43.9%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2007-2011	100.8
Children in families receiving SNAP	2013	46.8%		2012-2016	115.2
	2017	43.4%	Uninsured children	2012	10.0%
Median income family household with children under 18	2008-2012	\$38,125		2016	6.8%
	2013-2017	\$52,969	School attendance, grades 9-12	2013	94.7%
Adult unemployment	2013	6.4%		2017	95.2%
	2017	4.3%			
Child homelessness	2013	2.4%			
	2017	1.9%			

^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).