

# Buchanan County

County Seat: St. Joseph

County  
Composite  
Rank

2016  
**82**

2020  
**101**

Population: 89,076

| Outcome Measures   | Number |       | Rate  |       | Trend | Rank       |             |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------------|
|  | 2014   | 2018  | 2014  | 2018  |       | State Rate | County Rank |
| <b>Economic Well-Being</b>   |        |       |       |       |       |            |             |
| Children under 18 in poverty   | 5,316  | 4,325 | 26.8% | 22.4% | ↑     | 18.3%      | 58          |
| Food insecurity for children <sup>b</sup>  | 4,600  | 3,920 | 22.0% | 19.1% | ↑     | 17.5%      | 57          |
| <b>Health</b>  |        |       |       |       |       |            |             |
| Low birthweight infants <sup>a,c</sup>   | 478    | 488   | 7.7%  | 8.6%  | ↓     | 8.5%       | 82          |
| Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) <sup>b,c</sup> | 232    | 180   | 11.1  | 8.9   | ↑     | 7.1        | 95          |
| Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) <sup>b</sup>   | 139    | 111   | 6.6   | 5.5   | ↑     | 7.5        | 90          |
| <b>Family &amp; Community</b>  |        |       |       |       |       |            |             |
| Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)  | 118    | 77    | 43.5  | 28.5  | ↑     | 21.6       | 63          |
| Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) <sup>a</sup>                             | 92     | 113   | 4.4   | 5.7   | ↓     | 4.0        | 66          |
| <b>Education</b>   |        |       |       |       |       |            |             |
| High school graduation   | 768    | 773   | 93.0% | 83.7% | ↓     | 91.3%      | 114         |
| Achievement proficiency <sup>a,d</sup>   |        |       |       |       |       |            |             |
| 3rd grade English/Language Arts (MAP)  |        | 495   |       | 47.9% |       | 48.6%      |             |
| 8th grade English/Language Arts (MAP)  |        | 433   |       | 45.0% |       | 49.0%      |             |
| 4th grade Math (MAP)   |        | 489   |       | 44.6% |       | 45.8%      |             |
| Algebra I (End of Course exam)   |        | 387   |       | 45.9% |       | 47.0%      |             |

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

<sup>a</sup> Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

<sup>b</sup> Data based on 2013 and 2017.

<sup>c</sup> Data based on 5-year time spans, 2009-2013 and 2014-2018.

<sup>d</sup> Achievement proficiency measures those that scored proficient or above on the MAP tests and Algebra I End of Course exam. Achievement data from 2014 are not shown due to differences in testing standards and assessments used in 2018; accordingly, no trend arrows or county ranks are shown.

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## Contextual Indicators

### Demographics

|  |           |        |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Total population   | 2014      | 89,486 |
|  | 2018      | 89,076 |
| Child population under 18  | 2014      | 20,792 |
|  | 2018      | 19,933 |
| Children under 18 as % of total population                         | 2014      | 22.9%  |
|  | 2018      | 22.8%  |
| Child population under 6   | 2014      | 7,121  |
|  | 2018      | 6,629  |
| Children under 6 as % of total population                          | 2014      | 8.0%   |
|  | 2018      | 7.5%   |
| Minority child population under 18                                 | 2014      | 4,280  |
|  | 2018      | 4,270  |
| Minority child population under 18 as % of child population        | 2014      | 20.9%  |
|  | 2018      | 21.4%  |
| Minority child population under 6                                  | 2014      | 1,653  |
|  | 2018      | 1,470  |
| Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population | 2014      | 23.2%  |
|  | 2018      | 22.2%  |
| Children in single-parent families                                 | 2009-2013 | 37.8%  |
|  | 2014-2018 | 39.7%  |
| Children in married-parent families                                | 2009-2013 | 60.5%  |
|  | 2014-2018 | 59.2%  |

### Economic Well-being

|   |           |          |
|---|-----------|----------|
| Children in poverty under 6                                       | 2014      | 32.5%    |
|   | 2018      | 26.6%    |
| Children in poverty, ages 5-17                                    | 2009-2013 | 25.5%    |
|   | 2014-2018 | 20.5%    |
| Housing cost-burdened households                                  | 2009-2013 | 30.6%    |
|   | 2014-2018 | 24.7%    |
| Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level | 2009-2013 | 40.7%    |
|   | 2014-2018 | 40.3%    |
| Children in families receiving SNAP                               | 2014      | 45.4%    |
|   | 2018      | 41.2%    |
| Median income family household with children under 18             | 2009-2013 | \$53,466 |
|   | 2014-2018 | \$54,017 |
| Adult unemployment  | 2014      | 5.6%     |
|   | 2018      | 3.0%     |
| Child homelessness  | 2014      | 5.4%     |
|   | 2018      | 4.2%     |

### Education

|  |      |       |
|--|------|-------|
| Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)                 | 2014 | 93.7  |
|  | 2019 | 74.2  |
| Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity | 2014 | —     |
|  | 2019 | 23.5% |
| School attendance, grades K-12                           | 2014 | 94.0% |
|  | 2018 | 94.9% |

### Family & Community

|  |           |       |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000) | 2009-2013 | 36.5  |
|  | 2014-2018 | 65.2  |
| Single parent head-of-household with children under 18     | 2009-2013 | 10.3% |
|  | 2014-2018 | 10.4% |
| Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)   | 2014      | 51.5  |
|  | 2018      | 39.5  |
| Annual high school dropout rate                            | 2014      | 0.6%  |
|  | 2018      | 4.1%  |
| Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)    | 2014      | 2.1   |
|  | 2018      | 3.4   |

### Health

|   |           |       |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Infant mortality (per 1,000)  | 2009-2013 | 8.9   |
|   | 2014-2018 | 7.4   |
| Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)  | 2009-2013 | 17.2  |
|   | 2014-2018 | 21.6  |
| Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)  | 2009-2013 | 16.0  |
|   | 2014-2018 | 10.0  |
| Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)   | 2009-2013 | 22.9  |
|   | 2014-2018 | 72.8  |
| Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 <sup>a</sup>           | 2009-2013 | 0.0%  |
|   | 2014-2018 | 100%  |
| Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) <sup>b</sup>           | 2008-2012 | 21.6  |
|   | 2013-2017 | 17.1  |
| Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000) | 2008-2012 | 101.8 |
|   | 2013-2017 | 109.8 |
| Uninsured children  | 2013      | 6.3%  |
|   | 2017      | 4.7%  |
| School attendance, grades 9-12  | 2014      | 91.7% |
|   | 2018      | 94.3% |

<sup>a</sup> If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.

<sup>b</sup> \*Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases);\*\* indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases)