

# Howell County

County Seat: West Plains

County  
Composite  
Rank



Population: 40,102

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2014	2018	2014	2018		State Rate	County Rank
<b>Economic Well-Being</b>							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,909	2,859	30.6%	30.6%	→	18.3%	99
Food insecurity for children <sup>b</sup>	2,640	2,170	26.2%	22.3%	↑	17.5%	100
<b>Health</b>							
Low birthweight infants <sup>a,c</sup>	188	188	7.1%	7.4%	↓	8.5%	41
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) <sup>b,c</sup>	78	70	7.7	7.3	↑	7.1	77
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) <sup>b</sup>	49	20	4.8	2.1	↑	7.5	23
<b>Family &amp; Community</b>							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	59	42	48.5	34.2	↑	21.6	85
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) <sup>a</sup>	132	122	13.2	12.8	↑	4.0	107
<b>Education</b>							
High school graduation	390	401	93.8%	93.9%	↑	91.3%	58
Achievement proficiency <sup>a,d</sup>							
3rd grade English/Language Arts (MAP)		219		38.2%		48.6%	
8th grade English/Language Arts (MAP)		268		52.7%		49.0%	
4th grade Math (MAP)		228		41.6%		45.8%	
Algebra I (End of Course exam)		242		49.3%		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	40,173
	2018	40,102
Child population under 18	2014	9,965
	2018	9,540
Children under 18 as % of total population	2014	24.1%
	2018	23.7%
Child population under 6	2014	3,144
	2018	3,043
Children under 6 as % of total population	2014	7.8%
	2018	7.6%
Minority child population under 18	2014	575
	2018	673
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2014	5.9%
	2018	7.1%
Minority child population under 6	2014	188
	2018	292
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population	2014	6.0%
	2018	9.6%
Children in single-parent families	2009-2013	32.1%
	2014-2018	30.4%
Children in married-parent families	2009-2013	67.8%
	2014-2018	68.8%

### Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2014	34.7%
	2018	40.6%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2009-2013	28.7%
	2014-2018	28.6%
Housing cost-burdened households	2009-2013	29.3%
	2014-2018	26.5%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2009-2013	55.7%
	2014-2018	52.2%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2014	48.8%
	2018	45.4%
Median income family household with children under 18	2009-2013	\$35,509
	2014-2018	\$43,544
Adult unemployment	2014	7.0%
	2018	3.6%
Child homelessness	2014	3.3%
	2018	3.5%

### Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2014	68.3
	2019	62.9
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2014	—
	2019	20.0%
School attendance, grades K-12	2014	94.8%
	2018	94.6%

### Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2009-2013	53.6
	2014-2018	81.6
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2009-2013	9.8%
	2014-2018	8.0%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2014	20.9
	2018	14.6
Annual high school dropout rate	2014	0.8%
	2018	0.8%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2014	5.3
	2018	7.9

### Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2009-2013	7.5
	2014-2018	6.3
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2009-2013	31.6
	2014-2018	42.1
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2009-2013	26.3
	2014-2018	24.0
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2009-2013	60.8
	2014-2018	108.7
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 <sup>a</sup>	2009-2013	75.0%
	2014-2018	100%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) <sup>b</sup>	2008-2012	27.7*
	2013-2017	45.4
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2008-2012	81.5
	2013-2017	94.8
Uninsured children	2013	7.5%
	2017	5.5%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2014	94.1%
	2018	94.5%

<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)