

Cole County

County Seat: Jefferson City

County
Composite
Rank

50

2018

18

2022

Population: 76,630

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2016	2020	2016	2020		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,467	1,793	14.5%	10.7%	↑	15.5%	7
Food insecurity for children ^b	3,000	2,030	17%	11.8%	↑	15.1%	14
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a,c}	369	372	8%	8.6%	↓	8.7%	78
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	118	110	6.7	6.5	↑	7.1	69
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	156	156	8.9	9.2	↓	6.2	112
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	52	36	21.8	15	↑	18.8	26
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	35	35	2	2.1	↓	3.2	19
Education							
High school graduation	755	705	88.2%	85.7%	↓	91.3%	110
Achievement proficiency ^{a,d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)							
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)							
4th grade math (MAP)							
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)							

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

^a Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

^b Data based on 2015 and 2019.

^c Data based on five-year time spans, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.

^d Due to the COVID pandemic, MAP tests were suspended in 2020, and proficiency reports were not issued for the 2019-2020 school year.

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Contextual Indicators

Demographics

Total population	2016	76,631
	2020	76,630
Child population under 18	2016	17,349
	2020	17,028
Children under 18 as % of total population	2016	22.6%
	2020	22.3%
Child population under 6	2016	5,546
	2020	5,385
Children under 6 as % of total population	2016	7.2%
	2020	7.1%
Minority child population under 18	2016	3,834
	2020	3,978
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2016	22.1%
	2020	23.4%
Minority child population under 6	2016	1,356
	2020	1,400
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population	2016	24.5%
	2020	26%
Children in single-parent families	2011-2015	33.1%
	2016-2020	22.3%
Children in married-parent families	2011-2015	66.7%
	2016-2020	71.2%

Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2016	8.9%
	2020	13.7%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2011-2015	16.2%
	2016-2020	10.5%
Housing cost-burdened households	2011-2015	24.2%
	2016-2020	20.4%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2011-2015	30.8%
	2016-2020	27%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2016	29.2%
	2020	27.1%
Median income family household with children under 18	2011-2015	\$61,507
	2016-2020	\$69,055
Adult unemployment	2016	3.6%
	2020	4.4%
Child homelessness	2016	1.4%
	2020	2.2%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2016	182.9
	2021	181.3
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2016	5.4%
	2021	5.5%
School attendance, grades K-12	2016	94.9%
	2020	94%

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2011-2015	12
	2016-2020	81.7
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2011-2015	10.34%
	2016-2020	9.27%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2016	37.7
	2020	23
Annual high school dropout rate	2016	2.2%
	2020	2.5%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2016	3.3
	2020	4.3

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2011-2015	6.7
	2016-2020	6
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2011-2015	9
	2016-2020	22.3
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2011-2015	9.8
	2016-2020	9.7
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2011-2015	8.1
	2016-2020	67.9
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^a	2011-2015	100%
	2016-2020	25%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^b	2010-2014	30.2
	2015-2019	25
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2010-2014	81
	2015-2019	105.5
Uninsured children	2015	5.8%
	2019	6.1%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2016	93.3%
	2020	92.9%

^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).