

Taney County

County Seat: Forsyth

County
Composite
Rank

74

2018

80

2022

Population: 55,563

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2016	2020	2016	2020		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	3,131	2,769	27.3%	24.1%	↑	15.5%	84
Food insecurity for children ^b	2,730	2,090	24%	17.9%	↑	15.1%	74
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a,c}	230	289	7.3%	9.2%	↓	8.7%	91
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	63	61	5.4	5.2	↑	7.1	39
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	58	44	5	3.7	↑	6.2	66
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	63	42	35.1	23.7	↑	18.8	64
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	92	80	7.9	6.8	↑	3.2	102
Education							
High school graduation	602	566	96.9%	97.1%	↑	91.3%	16
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	54,735
	2020	55,563
Child population under 18	2016	11,692
	2020	11,742
Children under 18 as % of total population	2016	21.4%
	2020	20.9%
Child population under 6	2016	3,731
	2020	3,762
Children under 6 as % of total population	2016	6.8%
	2020	6.7%
Minority child population under 18	2016	1,736
	2020	2,033
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2016	14.8%
	2020	17.3%
Minority child population under 6	2016	654
	2020	745
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population	2016	17.5%
	2020	19.8%
Children in single-parent families	2011-2015	35.5%
	2016-2020	24.5%
Children in married-parent families	2011-2015	64.3%
	2016-2020	66.6%

Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2016	45.6%
	2020	25.3%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2011-2015	25%
	2016-2020	23.3%
Housing cost-burdened households	2011-2015	33.9%
	2016-2020	27.7%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2011-2015	49.4%
	2016-2020	45.2%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2016	41.6%
	2020	38.8%
Median income family household with children under 18	2011-2015	\$44,287
	2016-2020	\$51,034
Adult unemployment	2016	7.4%
	2020	12.9%
Child homelessness	2016	7.8%
	2020	4.8%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2016	61.8
	2021	33.4
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2016	17.7%
	2021	49.5%
School attendance, grades K-12	2016	94.5%
	2020	94.1%

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2011-2015	45.4
	2016-2020	45.4
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2011-2015	9.38%
	2016-2020	7.49%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2016	32.3
	2020	14.8
Annual high school dropout rate	2016	1%
	2020	0.3%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2016	11.4
	2020	11.5

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2011-2015	6.7
	2016-2020	8.6
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2011-2015	21.1
	2016-2020	23.4
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2011-2015	17.3
	2016-2020	12.5
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2011-2015	39.3
	2016-2020	58.9
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^a	2011-2015	50%
	2016-2020	50%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^b	2010-2014	27.7
	2015-2019	42.2
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2010-2014	76.3
	2015-2019	78.9
Uninsured children	2015	8.2%
	2019	8.6%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2016	94.2%
	2020	94.1%

^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).