

Benton County

County Seat: Warsaw

County
Composite
Rank

78²⁰¹⁹

76²⁰²³

Population: 19,908

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	907	921	28.5%	26.9%	↑	16.5%	93
Food insecurity for children ^b	750	800	22.5%	24.0%	↓	15.4%	102
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	53	54	7.0%	6.6%	↑	8.8%	20
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	23	18	7.0	5.1	↑	5.0	78
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	9	5	2.8	1.4	↑	3.6	33
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	15	5	34.6	10.9	↑	17.0	13
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	13	16	4.0	4.6	↓	3.0	67
Education							
High school graduation	196	172	94.2%	94.0%	↓	90.8%	51
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	82	—	48.8		41.4%	27
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	80	—	43.5		44.9%	55
4th grade math (MAP)	—	70	—	41.7		36.8%	41
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	83	—	46.9		26.8%	7

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

^a Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

^b Data based on 2016 and 2020.

^c Data based on five-year time spans, 2012-2016 and 2017-2021.

^d Achievement proficiency measures those that scored proficient or above on the MAP tests and algebra I end-of-course exam. Achievement data from 2017 are not shown due to differences in testing standards and assessments used in 2021; accordingly, no trend arrows are shown.

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78

2019

76

2023

Population: 19,908

Contextual Indicators

Demographics

Total population	2017	19,074
	2020	19,908
Child population under 18	2017	3,270
	2021	3,496
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	17.1%
	2021	17.6%
Child population under 6	2017	996
	2021	1,058
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	5.2%
	2021	5.3%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2017	243
	2021	357
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2017	7.4%
	2021	10.2%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2017	92
	2021	104
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2017	9.2%
	2021	9.8%
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	27.7%
	2017-2021	24.0%
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	71.6%
	2017-2021	70.4%

Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2017	14.7%
	2021	27.8%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	26.7%
	2017-2021	25.9%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	27.4%
	2017-2021	24.5%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	54.5%
	2017-2021	44.5%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	41.3%
	2021	32.6%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$42,930
	2017-2021	\$54,316
Adult unemployment	2017	5.2%
	2021	5.7%
Child homelessness	2017	4.0%
	2021	3.2%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	97.6
	2022	67.5
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	0.0%
	2022	%
School attendance, grades K-12	2017	94.8
	2021	94.1

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	40.7
	2017-2021	20.6
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	8.6%
	2017-2021	8.1%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	63.1
	2021	30.5
Annual high school dropout rate	2017	1.9%
	2021	0.9%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	0.6
	2021	2.3

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	5.3
	2017-2021	2.4
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	36.1
	2017-2021	53.9
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	14.9
	2017-2021	59.2
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	126.2
	2017-2021	31.4
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2012-2016	0.0%
	2017-2021	100.0%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2011-2015	27.4*
	2016-2020	5.4**
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	127.5
	2016-2020	152.5
Uninsured children	2016	7.1%
	2020	8.2%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	94.1%
	2021	93.1%

^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.

^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.

^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).