

# Butler County

County Seat: Poplar Bluff

County  
Composite  
Rank

107<sup>2019</sup>

106<sup>2023</sup>

Population: 42,101

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
<b>Economic Well-Being</b>							
Children under 18 in poverty	3,104	2,757	32.0%	28.5%	↑	16.5%	97
Food insecurity for children <sup>b</sup>	2,200	2,540	21.9%	25.3%	↓	15.4%	108
<b>Health</b>							
Low birthweight infants <sup>a,c</sup>	306	281	10.8%	10.6%	↑	8.8%	105
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) <sup>c</sup>	205	63	20.3	6.3	↑	5.0	97
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) <sup>b</sup>	49	25	4.9	2.5	↑	3.6	67
<b>Family &amp; Community</b>							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	49	52	39.1	40.0	↓	17.0	104
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) <sup>a</sup>	70	75	7.0	7.5	↓	3.0	98
<b>Education</b>							
High school graduation	461	384	92.9%	90.1%	↓	90.8%	87
Achievement proficiency <sup>a,d</sup>							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	273	—	56.3		41.4%	12
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	263	—	50.8		44.9%	18
4th grade math (MAP)	—	227	—	46.9		36.8%	17
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	181	—	34.9		26.8%	39

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

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

<sup>b</sup> Data based on 2016 and 2020.

<sup>c</sup> Data based on five-year time spans, 2012-2016 and 2017-2021.

<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 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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## Contextual Indicators

### Demographics

Total population	2017	42,666
	2020	42,101
Child population under 18	2017	10,025
	2021	9,980
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	23.5%
	2021	23.7%
Child population under 6	2017	3,270
	2021	3,183
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	7.7%
	2021	7.6%
Minority child population under 18 <sup>a</sup>	2017	1,507
	2021	1,875
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population <sup>a</sup>	2017	15.0%
	2021	18.8%
Minority child population under 6 <sup>a</sup>	2017	528
	2021	680
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population <sup>a</sup>	2017	16.1%
	2021	21.4%
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	40.5%
	2017-2021	28.2%
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	57.4%
	2017-2021	53.4%

### Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2017	27.5%
	2021	28.3%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	29.8%
	2017-2021	26.6%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	28.9%
	2017-2021	29.4%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	48.4%
	2017-2021	54.6%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	49.9%
	2021	46.7%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$46,821
	2017-2021	\$46,875
Adult unemployment	2017	4.6%
	2021	4.7%
Child homelessness	2017	1.5%
	2021	1.0%

### Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	102.7
	2022	100.5
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	14.3%
	2022	13.7%
School attendance, grades K-12	2017	94.2
	2021	92.7

### Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	65.3
	2017-2021	52.2
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	14.9%
	2017-2021	16.6%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	44.3
	2021	46.9
Annual high school dropout rate	2017	1.7%
	2021	1.6%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	11.0
	2021	11.7

### Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	7.4
	2017-2021	6.8
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	35.8
	2017-2021	33.8
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	26.5
	2017-2021	23.4
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	81.1
	2017-2021	78.4
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 <sup>b</sup>	2012-2016	50.0%
	2017-2021	40.0%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) <sup>c</sup>	2011-2015	29.1*
	2016-2020	63.7
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	133.5
	2016-2020	178.4
Uninsured children	2016	4.9%
	2020	6.2%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	93.9%
	2021	92.0%

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

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

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