

Christian County

County
Composite
Rank

6 2019

4 2023

County Seat: Ozark

Population: 91,499

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,640	2,298	12.4%	10.1%	↑	16.5%	5
Food insecurity for children ^b	3,490	2,690	16.2%	12.3%	↑	15.4%	9
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	310	312	6.2%	6.0%	↑	8.8%	12
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	97	74	4.5	3.2	↑	5.0	18
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	26	13	1.2	0.6	↑	3.6	11
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	44	33	15.8	11.5	↑	17.0	14
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	32	41	1.5	1.8	↓	3.0	13
Education							
High school graduation	1,025	981	94.8%	94.9%	↑	90.8%	43
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	653	—	58.6		41.4%	8
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	680	—	56.7		44.9%	6
4th grade math (MAP)	—	653	—	58.6		36.8%	4
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	529	—	52.4		26.8%	3

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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Contextual Indicators

Demographics

Total population	2017	85,432
	2020	91,499
Child population under 18	2017	21,724
	2021	23,245
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	25.4%
	2021	25.4%
Child population under 6	2017	6,552
	2021	6,919
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	7.7%
	2021	7.6%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2017	1,693
	2021	2,611
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2017	7.8%
	2021	11.2%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2017	552
	2021	878
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2017	8.4%
	2021	12.7%
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	25.8%
	2017-2021	14.6%
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	73.1%
	2017-2021	76.2%

Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2017	12.5%
	2021	2.2%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	10.6%
	2017-2021	9.3%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	24.1%
	2017-2021	20.4%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	30.4%
	2017-2021	25.2%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	22.0%
	2021	16.6%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$63,288
	2017-2021	\$83,826
Adult unemployment	2017	3.1%
	2021	3.2%
Child homelessness	2017	2.0%
	2021	0.9%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	76.0
	2022	70.4
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	7.6%
	2022	4.9%
School attendance, grades K-12	2017	95.6
	2021	94.7

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	48.5
	2017-2021	40.1
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	11.8%
	2017-2021	10.0%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	25.3
	2021	22.0
Annual high school dropout rate	2017	1.2%
	2021	1.2%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	2.8
	2021	3.3

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	5.0
	2017-2021	5.0
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	17.7
	2017-2021	23.4
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	14.6
	2017-2021	15.5
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	32.6
	2017-2021	58.2
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2012-2016	50.0%
	2017-2021	100.0%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2011-2015	22.5
	2016-2020	21.6
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	75.8
	2016-2020	98.7
Uninsured children	2016	4.9%
	2020	7.1%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	95.8%
	2021	93.9%

^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).