

Howard County

County Seat: Fayette

County
Composite
Rank

57

2019

11

2023

Population: 10,168

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	405	342	19.0%	15.7%	↑	16.5%	30
Food insecurity for children ^b	450	350	20.1%	15.9%	↑	15.4%	43
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	58	39	9.8%	7.4%	↑	8.8%	39
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	10	5	4.5	2.2	↑	5.0	13
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	10	4	4.5	1.8	↑	3.6	39
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	9	2	24.1	4.8	↑	17.0	3
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	19	18	8.6	8.0	↑	3.0	102
Education							
High school graduation	89	98	89.0%	94.2%	↑	90.8%	50
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	38	—	36.5		41.4%	86
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	43	—	57.3		44.9%	4
4th grade math (MAP)	—	30	—	28.8		36.8%	102
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	14	—	26.4		26.8%	76

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			Education		
Total population	2017	10,139	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	103.3
	2020	10,168		2022	37.4
Child population under 18	2017	2,197	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	20.3%
	2021	2,248		2022	23.8%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	21.7%	School attendance, grades K-12	2017	94.9
	2021	22.1%		2021	94.3
Child population under 6	2017	722	Family & Community		
	2021	658	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	47.6
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	7.1%		2017-2021	46.5
	2021	6.5%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	12.3%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2017	206		2017-2021	11.5%
	2021	292	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	51.2
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2017	9.4%		2021	6.5
	2021	13.0%	Annual high school dropout rate	2017	2.0%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2017	70		2021	1.5%
	2021	101	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	10.0
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2017	9.7%		2021	10.7
	2021	15.3%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	31.3%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	3.4
	2017-2021	19.2%		2017-2021	5.7
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	67.9%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	26.7
	2017-2021	65.0%		2017-2021	18.7
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	10.6
Children in poverty under 6	2017	30.2%		2017-2021	0.0
	2021	18.4%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	109.3
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	17.7%		2017-2021	97.6
	2017-2021	13.9%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2012-2016	0.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	20.6%		2017-2021	100.0%
	2017-2021	17.3%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2011-2015	7.4**
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	43.2%		2016-2020	15.5**
	2017-2021	32.9%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	90.4
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	28.9%		2016-2020	114.4
	2021	22.2%	Uninsured children	2016	6.2%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$53,750		2020	8.2%
	2017-2021	\$66,364	School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	93.7%
Adult unemployment	2017	3.9%		2021	93.0%
	2021	3.2%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2017	2.5%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.		
	2021	1.5%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		