

McDonald County

County
Composite
Rank

95

2019

77

2023

County Seat: Pineville

Population: 23,383

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,741	1,476	30.5%	25.5%	↑	16.5%	90
Food insecurity for children ^b	1,200	1,100	20.0%	19.0%	↑	15.4%	81
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	138	131	8.5%	7.8%	↑	8.8%	57
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	33	22	5.6	3.7	↑	5.0	34
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	14	5	2.4	0.8	↑	3.6	15
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	38	35	47.7	46.9	↑	17.0	110
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	11	11	1.9	1.9	↑	3.0	16
Education							
High school graduation	240	218	89.9%	91.6%	↑	90.8%	71
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	96	—	37.6		41.4%	77
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	115	—	39.8		44.9%	77
4th grade math (MAP)	—	81	—	31.8		36.8%	88
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	61	—	25.4		26.8%	80

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	22,828	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	28.8
	2020	23,383		2022	107.1
Child population under 18	2017	5,873	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	0.0%
	2021	5,930		2022	%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	25.7%	School attendance, grades K-12	2017	94.6
	2021	25.4%		2021	91.1
Child population under 6	2017	1,922	Family & Community		
	2021	1,968	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	61.2
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	8.4%		2017-2021	50.4
	2021	8.4%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	14.3%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2017	1,802		2017-2021	13.4%
	2021	2,080	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	29.5
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2017	30.7%		2021	44.2
	2021	35.1%	Annual high school dropout rate	2017	1.3%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2017	692		2021	2.3%
	2021	772	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	11.2
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2017	36.0%		2021	10.8
	2021	39.2%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	34.1%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	12.9
	2017-2021	27.5%		2017-2021	6.6
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	65.9%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	39.8
	2017-2021	66.9%		2017-2021	35.5
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	44.6
Children in poverty under 6	2017	31.1%		2017-2021	26.0
	2021	27.6%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	18.3
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	26.7%		2017-2021	77.9
	2017-2021	24.1%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2012-2016	50.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	22.6%		2017-2021	33.3%
	2017-2021	27.3%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2011-2015	15.1*
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	57.3%		2016-2020	19.4*
	2017-2021	56.3%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	33.7
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	43.8%		2016-2020	51.6
	2021	33.6%	Uninsured children	2016	10.0%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$41,677		2020	13.4%
	2017-2021	\$47,313	School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	93.6%
Adult unemployment	2017	3.6%		2021	89.1%
	2021	3.9%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2017	2.8%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.		
	2021	1.4%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		