

Pettis County

County Seat: Sedalia

County
Composite
Rank

55

2019

69

2023

Population: 43,188

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,207	2,194	21.5%	20.8%	↑	16.5%	60
Food insecurity for children ^b	1,950	1,720	18.5%	16.3%	↑	15.4%	46
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	186	230	6.5%	7.8%	↓	8.8%	56
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	60	51	5.7	4.7	↑	5.0	64
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	57	44	5.4	4.0	↑	3.6	100
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	51	39	37.0	29.2	↑	17.0	87
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	28	41	2.6	3.8	↓	3.0	48
Education							
High school graduation	450	392	95.3%	91.4%	↓	90.8%	73
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	235	—	45.0		41.4%	42
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	213	—	38.9		44.9%	83
4th grade math (MAP)	—	226	—	43.4		36.8%	35
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	159	—	36.6		26.8%	32

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	42,558
	2020	43,188
Child population under 18	2017	10,616
	2021	10,877
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	24.9%
	2021	25.2%
Child population under 6	2017	3,487
	2021	3,602
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	8.2%
	2021	8.3%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2017	2,367
	2021	2,710
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2017	22.3%
	2021	24.9%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2017	814
	2021	972
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2017	23.3%
	2021	27.0%
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	31.2%
	2017-2021	19.9%
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	67.5%
	2017-2021	68.7%

Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2017	30.1%
	2021	18.4%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	19.8%
	2017-2021	20.7%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	24.6%
	2017-2021	23.6%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	47.7%
	2017-2021	39.1%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	39.8%
	2021	32.6%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$47,590
	2017-2021	\$60,762
Adult unemployment	2017	4.2%
	2021	4.7%
Child homelessness	2017	13.7%
	2021	7.2%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	153.2
	2022	114.1
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	3.3%
	2022	6.5%
School attendance, grades K-12	2017	95.1
	2021	93.4

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	63.6
	2017-2021	49.6
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	14.9%
	2017-2021	12.3%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	51.0
	2021	35.4
Annual high school dropout rate	2017	0.7%
	2021	0.6%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	5.9
	2021	4.0

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	5.3
	2017-2021	2.7
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	26.5
	2017-2021	25.3
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	20.5
	2017-2021	14.1
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	56.5
	2017-2021	77.6
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	15.4*
	2016-2020	23*
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	125.7
	2016-2020	160.7
Uninsured children	2016	5.8%
	2020	8.1%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	94.4%
	2021	92.5%

^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).