

Phelps County

County
Composite
Rank

49 2019

46 2023

County Seat: Rolla

Population: 44,937

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,927	2,008	21.4%	21.8%	↓	16.5%	72
Food insecurity for children ^b	1,800	1,570	19.0%	16.7%	↑	15.4%	53
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	198	178	7.6%	8.1%	↓	8.8%	66
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	58	33	6.2	3.5	↑	5.0	25
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	45	20	4.8	2.1	↑	3.6	48
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	29	29	20.0	19.0	↑	17.0	51
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	38	33	4.1	3.5	↑	3.0	43
Education							
High school graduation	446	442	91.2%	91.7%	↑	90.8%	69
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	209	—	48.6		41.4%	28
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	180	—	37.6		44.9%	87
4th grade math (MAP)	—	197	—	45.7		36.8%	19
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	106	—	25.7		26.8%	79

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	44,744
	2020	44,937
Child population under 18	2017	9,375
	2021	9,559
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	21.0%
	2021	21.3%
Child population under 6	2017	3,061
	2021	2,872
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	6.8%
	2021	6.4%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2017	1,143
	2021	1,378
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2017	12.2%
	2021	14.4%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2017	496
	2021	521
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2017	16.2%
	2021	18.1%
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	31.5%
	2017-2021	23.1%
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	66.6%
	2017-2021	67.5%

Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2017	21.6%
	2021	22.6%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	19.9%
	2017-2021	21.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	26.5%
	2017-2021	29.2%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	40.2%
	2017-2021	35.4%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	33.8%
	2021	26.4%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$51,146
	2017-2021	\$57,920
Adult unemployment	2017	3.8%
	2021	3.7%
Child homelessness	2017	1.8%
	2021	0.8%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	30.9
	2022	18.4
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	0.0%
	2022	%
School attendance, grades K-12	2017	95.1
	2021	94.4

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	34.1
	2017-2021	26.0
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	12.0%
	2017-2021	15.8%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	16.8
	2021	11.2
Annual high school dropout rate	2017	1.4%
	2021	1.7%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	13.1
	2021	11.9

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	9.6
	2017-2021	6.4
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	18.9
	2017-2021	28.4
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	17.5
	2017-2021	21.5
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	27.0
	2017-2021	57.8
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2012-2016	33.3%
	2017-2021	50.0%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2011-2015	47.7
	2016-2020	35.5
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	95.7
	2016-2020	142.4
Uninsured children	2016	6.5%
	2020	7.8%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	94.5%
	2021	93.6%

^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).