

# Webster County

County  
Composite  
Rank

66

2019

50

2023

County Seat: Marshfield

Population: 39,735

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2017	2021	2017	2021		State Rate	County Rank
<b>Economic Well-Being</b>							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,746	2,566	26.4%	23.9%	↑	16.5%	83
Food insecurity for children <sup>b</sup>	2,020	1,870	20.1%	18.0%	↑	15.4%	66
<b>Health</b>							
Low birthweight infants <sup>a, c</sup>	155	218	5.6%	7.4%	↓	8.8%	40
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) <sup>c</sup>	48	42	4.7	3.8	↑	5.0	38
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) <sup>b</sup>	22	9	2.1	0.8	↑	3.6	14
<b>Family &amp; Community</b>							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	47	32	38.2	24.8	↑	17.0	71
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) <sup>a</sup>	57	44	5.4	4.0	↑	3.0	57
<b>Education</b>							
High school graduation	268	300	91.8%	90.6%	↓	90.8%	82
Achievement proficiency <sup>a, d</sup>							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	109	—	32.2		41.4%	103
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	—	119	—	35.6		44.9%	94
4th grade math (MAP)	—	103	—	30.4		36.8%	96
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	—	63	—	21.7		26.8%	88

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

<sup>a</sup> Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

<sup>b</sup> Data based on 2016 and 2020.

<sup>c</sup> Data based on five-year time spans, 2012-2016 and 2017-2021.

<sup>d</sup> 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	38,665
	2020	39,735
Child population under 18	2017	10,543
	2021	10,942
Children under 18 as % of total population	2017	27.3%
	2021	27.5%
Child population under 6	2017	3,455
	2021	3,519
Children under 6 as % of total population	2017	8.9%
	2021	8.9%
Minority child population under 18 <sup>a</sup>	2017	541
	2021	830
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population <sup>a</sup>	2017	5.1%
	2021	7.6%
Minority child population under 6 <sup>a</sup>	2017	197
	2021	268
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population <sup>a</sup>	2017	5.7%
	2021	7.6%
Children in single-parent families	2012-2016	21.3%
	2017-2021	15.3%
Children in married-parent families	2012-2016	78.0%
	2017-2021	77.3%

### Economic Well-being

Children in poverty under 6	2017	20.6%
	2021	10.7%
Children in poverty, ages 5-17	2012-2016	25.6%
	2017-2021	23.1%
Housing cost-burdened households	2012-2016	22.6%
	2017-2021	17.8%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2012-2016	43.2%
	2017-2021	34.5%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2017	27.4%
	2021	20.6%
Median income family household with children under 18	2012-2016	\$54,375
	2017-2021	\$73,472
Adult unemployment	2017	3.9%
	2021	3.4%
Child homelessness	2017	3.4%
	2021	2.4%

### Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2017	51.4
	2022	45.6
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2017	6.6%
	2022	%
School attendance, grades K-12	2017	95.0
	2021	94.2

### Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2012-2016	30.1
	2017-2021	22.1
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2012-2016	10.5%
	2017-2021	8.6%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2017	35.0
	2021	28.7
Annual high school dropout rate	2017	1.8%
	2021	1.7%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2017	5.3
	2021	5.9

### Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2012-2016	8.0
	2017-2021	5.4
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	33.7
	2017-2021	23.1
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	26.4
	2017-2021	21.1
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2012-2016	68.7
	2017-2021	32.3
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 <sup>b</sup>	2012-2016	50.0%
	2017-2021	50.0%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) <sup>c</sup>	2011-2015	40.6
	2016-2020	10.7*
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2011-2015	68.3
	2016-2020	87.9
Uninsured children	2016	7.7%
	2020	12.8%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2017	94.5%
	2021	93.2%

<sup>a</sup> Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.

<sup>b</sup> If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities happened in the county during that period.

<sup>c</sup> \*Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); \*\* indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).