

# County Composite Ranks

## Missouri KIDS COUNT 2024

Missouri's counties are quite diverse, especially with respect to population. Our largest county, St. Louis, has just about 1 million residents, whereas the smallest county, Worth, has fewer than 2,000 residents. To assist people with using the composite county rank, we divide Missouri's 115 counties into three categories based on population category: metropolitan, micropolitan, and rural. Missouri KIDS COUNT users have found it useful to look at ranks within these categories to make more meaningful comparisons about how counties ranked within a year.

The population categories are based on the Census Bureau's Core Based Statistical Areas (CBSAs), which consist of counties that are part of an urbanized area. A metropolitan area contains a core urban area of at least 50,000 in population, whereas a micropolitan area has an urban area of 10,000-49,999. Both metropolitan and micropolitan areas consist of the county that contains the core urban area, as well as any adjacent counties that have a high degree of economic and social integration with the core urban area, as measured by commuting-to-work patterns. In some cases, relatively smaller counties are classified as part of a metropolitan area, even though their own population is not especially large. Counties that are not part of a metropolitan or micropolitan area are considered rural for this purpose.

### Micropolitan

County	Rank in Category	Rank in State
Ralls	1	1
Lewis	2	7
Nodaway	3	21
Johnson	4	31
Phelps	5	40
Schuyler	6	43
Pulaski	7	56
Taney	8	61
Marion	9	62
Pettis	10	70
Laclede	11	75
Adair	12	81
Audrain	13	93
Saline	14	96
Howell	15	97
Scott	16	100
Randolph	17	103
St. Francois	18	105
Butler	19	108
Dunklin	20	109
Mississippi	21	112

*\* Counties with less than 30,000 population that are still considered part of metropolitan area by the Census Bureau.*

### Metropolitan

County	Rank in Category	Rank in State
St. Charles	1	3
Andrew*	2	4
Christian	3	5
Osage*	4	6
Platte	5	10
Clay	6	12
Jefferson	7	18
Moniteau*	8	20
Franklin	9	22
Cass	10	23
Lincoln	11	24
Clinton*	12	25
Howard*	13	26
Greene	14	28
DeKalb*	15	29
Boone	16	34
Cooper*	17	35
Cole	18	39
Lafayette	19	42
Dallas*	20	45
Callaway	21	46
Warren	22	48
Polk	23	50
Bollinger*	24	51
Cape Girardeau	25	53
Caldwell*	26	55
Webster	27	64
Newton	28	74
St. Louis	29	76
Ray*	30	79
Bates*	31	91
Jasper	32	98
Jackson	33	107
Buchanan	34	111
St. Louis city	35	115

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## By Population Category

Rural		
County	Rank in Category	Rank in State
Scotland	1	2
Clark	2	8
Atchison	3	9
Shelby	4	11
Knox	5	13
Ste. Genevieve	6	14
Holt	7	15
Mercer	8	16
Perry	9	17
Livingston	10	19
Hickory	11	27
Daviess	12	30
Macon	13	32
Miller	14	33
Chariton	15	36
Worth	16	37
Grundy	17	38
Morgan	18	41
Stone	19	44
Lawrence	20	47
Barton	21	49
Gentry	22	52
Camden	23	54
Maries	24	57
Monroe	25	58
Linn	26	59
Douglas	27	60
Gasconade	28	63
Ozark	29	65
Putnam	30	66

Rural		
County	Rank in Category	Rank in State
Dade	31	67
Pike	32	68
Cedar	33	69
Carroll	34	71
Harrison	35	72
Montgomery	36	73
Wright	37	77
Sullivan	38	78
St. Clair	39	80
Benton	40	82
Dent	41	83
Shannon	42	84
Vernon	43	85
Stoddard	44	86
Barry	45	87
Henry	46	88
Crawford	47	89
McDonald	48	90
New Madrid	49	92
Texas	50	94
Reynolds	51	95
Oregon	52	99
Madison	53	101
Carter	54	102
Washington	55	104
Iron	56	106
Wayne	57	110
Ripley	58	113
Pemiscot	59	114