

# Hickory County

County  
Composite  
Rank

63

2020

27

2024

County Seat: Hermitage

Population: 8,630

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2018	2022	2018	2022		State Rate	County Rank
<b>Economic Well-Being</b>							
Children under 18 in poverty	547	472	34.5%	32.1%	↑	16.8%	108
Food insecurity for children <sup>b</sup>	370	220	23.4%	15.2%	↑	12.8%	77
<b>Health</b>							
Low birthweight infants <sup>a, c</sup>	42	26	11.4%	6.6%	↑	8.9%	21
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) <sup>c</sup>	5	-	3.1	0.0	↑	6.3	1
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) <sup>b</sup>	4	2	2.5	1.3	↑	5.1	21
<b>Family &amp; Community</b>							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	7	2	30.6	9.3	↑	16.8	11
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) <sup>a</sup>	18	11	11.0	7.3	↑	2.7	98
<b>Education</b>							
High school graduation	107	109	98.2%	97.3%	↓	91.2%	16
Achievement proficiency <sup>a, d</sup>							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	69	66	54.8	62.3		41.0%	4
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	77	57	63.6	43.5		41.9%	39
4th grade math (MAP)	60	77	53.1	68.1		43.0%	4
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	72	69	59.5	45.1		41.2%	23

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

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

<sup>b</sup> Data based on 2017 and 2021.

<sup>c</sup> Data based on five-year time spans, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.

<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 2018 are not shown due to differences in testing standards and assessments used in 2022; accordingly, no trend arrows are shown.

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## Contextual Indicators

Demographics			Education		
Total population	2018	9,368	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2018	80.2
	2021	8,630		2023	47.6
Child population under 18	2018	1,633	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2018	0.0%
	2022	1,512		2023	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2018	16.8%	School attendance, grades K-12	2018	95.5
	2022	17.5%		2022	94.3
Child population under 6	2018	504	Family & Community		
	2022	485	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2017	87.5
Children under 6 as % of total population	2018	5.3%		2018-2022	41.5
	2022	5.6%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2017	4.2%
Minority child population under 18 <sup>a</sup>	2018	126		2018-2022	3.4%
	2022	163	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2018	30.8
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population <sup>a</sup>	2018	7.7%		2022	66.8
	2022	10.8%	Annual high school dropout rate	2018	0.0%
Minority child population under 6 <sup>a</sup>	2018	56		2022	0.2%
	2022	57	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2018	2.4
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population <sup>a</sup>	2018	11.1%		2022	2.0
	2022	11.8%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2017	26.6%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2017	8.1
	2018-2022	12.3%		2018-2022	5.1
Children in married-parent families	2013-2017	68.4%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	12.6
	2018-2022	81.6%		2018-2022	42.3
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	0.0
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2018	22.7%		2018-2022	35.4
	2022	19.0%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	66.7
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2018	32.3%		2018-2022	69.2
	2022	31.8%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 <sup>b</sup>	2013-2017	—%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2017	26.7%		2018-2022	50.0%
	2018-2022	35.4%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) <sup>c</sup>	2012-2016	11.3**
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2017	51.2%		2017-2021	26.0**
	2018-2022	50.7%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2016	103.0
Children in families receiving SNAP	2018	38.0%		2017-2021	221.9
	2022	39.2%	Uninsured children	2017	8.2%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2017	\$\$38,929		2021	6.9%
	2018-2022	\$\$63,421	School attendance, grades 9-12	2018	95.2%
Adult unemployment	2018	4.1%		2022	94.0%
	2022	2.7%	<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 occurred during the period. <sup>c</sup> *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		
Child homelessness	2018	0.0%			
	2022	2.3%			