

Howard County

County
Composite
Rank

57 ²⁰²⁰

26 ²⁰²⁴

County Seat: Fayette

Population: 10,168

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2018	2022	2018	2022		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	389	353	18.2%	16.6%	↑	16.8%	31
Food insecurity for children ^b	430	220	19.1%	9.7%	↑	12.8%	17
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	55	40	9.2%	7.7%	↑	8.9%	40
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	20	9	9.1	4.1	↑	6.3	27
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	7	7	3.2	3.2	↑	5.1	59
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	13	4	34.7	8.9	↑	16.8	10
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	24	8	10.9	3.6	↑	2.7	57
Education							
High school graduation	101	102	92.7%	94.4%	↑	91.2%	48
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	56	37	58.9	42.0		41.0%	45
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	40	32	43.0	30.5		41.9%	104
4th grade math (MAP)	50	40	47.6	33.9		43.0%	102
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	48	38	48.5	36.9		41.2%	62

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

^a Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

^b Data based on 2017 and 2021.

^c Data based on five-year time spans, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.

^d 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.

Howard County

County Seat: Fayette

County
Composite
Rank

57

2020

26

2024

Population: 10,168

Contextual Indicators

Demographics

Total population	2018	10,113
	2021	10,168
Child population under 18	2018	2,199
	2022	2,199
Children under 18 as % of total population	2018	22.3%
	2022	21.6%
Child population under 6	2018	720
	2022	665
Children under 6 as % of total population	2018	7.1%
	2022	6.5%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2018	224
	2022	314
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2018	10.2%
	2022	14.3%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2018	81
	2022	135
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2018	11.3%
	2022	20.3%
Children in single-parent families	2013-2017	31.3%
	2018-2022	18.8%
Children in married-parent families	2013-2017	67.9%
	2018-2022	64.6%
Economic Well-being		
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2018	25.7%
	2022	27.8%
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2018	16.9%
	2022	14.6%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2017	20.6%
	2018-2022	20.0%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2017	43.2%
	2018-2022	38.6%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2018	27.8%
	2022	21.4%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2017	\$\$53,750
	2018-2022	\$\$71,635
Adult unemployment	2018	2.8%
	2022	2.4%
Child homelessness	2018	4.0%
	2022	1.1%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2018	71.9
	2023	70.0
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2018	20.3%
	2023	13.0%
School attendance, grades K-12	2018	94.6
	2022	93.1

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2017	48.5
	2018-2022	23.8
Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2017	7.7%
	2018-2022	12.2%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2018	30.5
	2022	23.6
Annual high school dropout rate	2018	1.7%
	2022	1.1%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2018	5.9
	2022	6.8

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2017	5.0
	2018-2022	3.8
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	26.7
	2018-2022	9.5
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	0.0
	2018-2022	0.0
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	164.4
	2018-2022	51.8
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2017	100.0%
	2018-2022	100.0%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2016	14.7**
	2017-2021	7.6**
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2016	78.5
	2017-2021	105.7
Uninsured children	2017	7.3%
	2021	7.1%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2018	93.4%
	2022	92.0%

^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 occurred during the period.

^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).