

Jackson County

County
Composite
Rank

2020 **103** 2024 **107**

County Seat: Independence

Population: 716,531

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2018	2022	2018	2022		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	30,541	31,620	19.0%	19.8%	↓	16.8%	57
Food insecurity for children ^b	29,810	27,090	18.1%	16.1%	↑	12.8%	84
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	4,249	4,327	9.0%	9.9%	↓	8.9%	105
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	1,591	1,241	9.6	7.6	↑	6.3	95
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	2,130	1,436	12.8	8.8	↑	5.1	113
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	560	448	26.8	20.4	↑	16.8	56
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	409	165	2.5	1.0	↑	2.7	5
Education							
High school graduation	6,432	6,544	88.7%	88.8%	↑	91.2%	102
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	3,721	2,632	43.1	34.0		41.0%	87
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	3,592	3,064	45.7	38.2		41.9%	63
4th grade math (MAP)	3,541	2,899	40.7	37.4		43.0%	89
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	3,229	2,655	43.2	34.6		41.2%	73

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.

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Contextual Indicators

Demographics			Education		
Total population	2018	692,003	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2018	144.2
	2021	716,531		2023	145.0
Child population under 18	2018	164,979	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2018	14.6%
	2022	164,000		2023	17.3%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2018	23.8%	School attendance, grades K-12	2018	93.8
	2022	22.9%		2022	91.0
Child population under 6	2018	55,649	Family & Community		
	2022	52,250	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2017	65.0
Children under 6 as % of total population	2018	7.9%		2018-2022	91.6
	2022	7.3%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2017	10.8%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2018	77,638		2018-2022	16.7%
	2022	84,025	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2018	14.5
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2018	47.1%		2022	11.4
	2022	51.2%	Annual high school dropout rate	2018	2.6%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2018	25,964		2022	2.7%
	2022	27,537	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2018	5.6
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2018	46.7%		2022	3.5
	2022	52.7%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2017	42.4%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2017	6.2
	2018-2022	31.5%		2018-2022	6.9
Children in married-parent families	2013-2017	56.9%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	25.5
	2018-2022	58.8%		2018-2022	31.6
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	19.4
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2018	18.8%		2018-2022	19.9
	2022	20.0%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	57.3
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2018	17.7%		2018-2022	84.1
	2022	18.9%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2017	64.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2017	30.6%		2018-2022	88.9%
	2018-2022	31.5%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2016	17.8
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2017	38.8%		2017-2021	30.0
	2018-2022	32.7%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2016	146.4
Children in families receiving SNAP	2018	38.3%		2017-2021	145.3
	2022	35.2%	Uninsured children	2017	5.5%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2017	\$\$57,164		2021	6.6%
	2018-2022	\$\$80,377	School attendance, grades 9-12	2018	92.6%
Adult unemployment	2018	3.7%		2022	89.1%
	2022	2.9%	^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).		
Child homelessness	2018	4.6%			
	2022	2.6%			