

Lafayette County

County
Composite
Rank

54 ²⁰²⁰

42 ²⁰²⁴

County Seat: Lexington

Population: 32,961

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2018	2022	2018	2022		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,058	1,009	14.6%	13.8%	↑	16.8%	18
Food insecurity for children ^b	1,360	910	17.9%	11.9%	↑	12.8%	42
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	132	178	7.2%	9.5%	↓	8.9%	99
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	68	39	9.1	5.2	↑	6.3	55
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	55	43	7.3	5.7	↑	5.1	101
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	22	16	23.1	16.2	↑	16.8	37
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	21	18	2.8	2.4	↑	2.7	31
Education							
High school graduation	392	322	96.3%	93.9%	↓	91.2%	56
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	170	120	45.6	34.7		41.0%	84
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	180	150	48.4	33.8		41.9%	88
4th grade math (MAP)	147	114	34.8	32.7		43.0%	105
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	175	182	45.5	37.4		41.2%	58

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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54

2020

42

2024

Population: 32,961

Contextual Indicators

Demographics			Education		
Total population	2018	32,589	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2018	71.2
	2021	32,961		2023	76.6
Child population under 18	2018	7,471	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2018	18.6%
	2022	7,528		2023	13.7%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2018	23.2%	School attendance, grades K-12	2018	94.8
	2022	22.8%		2022	93.1
Child population under 6	2018	2,307	Family & Community		
	2022	2,344	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2017	37.0
Children under 6 as % of total population	2018	7.1%		2018-2022	99.0
	2022	7.1%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2017	10.6%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2018	732		2018-2022	9.8%
	2022	1,032	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2018	42.5
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2018	9.8%		2022	42.8
	2022	13.7%	Annual high school dropout rate	2018	1.1%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2018	245		2022	1.5%
	2022	363	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2018	1.5
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2018	10.6%		2022	2.1
	2022	15.5%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2017	39.1%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2017	11.0
	2018-2022	18.0%		2018-2022	5.9
Children in married-parent families	2013-2017	59.9%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	28.9
	2018-2022	71.7%		2018-2022	22.3
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	26.1
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2018	20.7%		2018-2022	3.5
	2022	19.4%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	40.7
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2018	13.5%		2018-2022	98.0
	2022	12.5%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2017	75.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2017	22.2%		2018-2022	100.0%
	2018-2022	15.4%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2016	23.9*
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2017	36.8%		2017-2021	15.3*
	2018-2022	28.4%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2016	116.4
Children in families receiving SNAP	2018	27.3%		2017-2021	133.7
	2022	23.0%	Uninsured children	2017	4.9%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2017	\$\$61,466		2021	7.8%
	2018-2022	\$\$93,257	School attendance, grades 9-12	2018	94.6%
Adult unemployment	2018	3.2%		2022	92.4%
	2022	2.6%	^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	2.2%			
	2022	1.9%			