

McDonald County

County
Composite
Rank

95

2020

90

2024

County Seat: Pineville

Population: 23,588

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2018	2022	2018	2022		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,517	1,303	26.2%	22.7%	↑	16.8%	75
Food insecurity for children ^b	1,130	950	19.0%	16.1%	↑	12.8%	84
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^{a, c}	139	127	8.4%	7.7%	↑	8.9%	49
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^c	37	25	6.3	4.2	↑	6.3	28
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^b	19	12	3.2	2.0	↑	5.1	39
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	38	28	49.0	39.2	↑	16.8	111
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000) ^a	12	21	2.0	3.6	↓	2.7	55
Education							
High school graduation	261	221	91.9%	90.2%	↓	91.2%	90
Achievement proficiency ^{a, d}							
3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	125	115	41.0	43.6		41.0%	38
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	143	91	51.1	33.2		41.9%	93
4th grade math (MAP)	184	129	65.2	50.4		43.0%	26
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	133	118	55.0	37.1		41.2%	61

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	22,827	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2018	31.8
	2021	23,588		2023	26.2
Child population under 18	2018	5,951	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2018	0.0%
	2022	5,907		2023	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2018	25.8%	School attendance, grades K-12	2018	94.6
	2022	25.0%		2022	92.4
Child population under 6	2018	2,056	Family & Community		
	2022	1,921	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2017	85.5
Children under 6 as % of total population	2018	8.9%		2018-2022	78.2
	2022	8.1%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2017	9.9%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2018	1,861		2018-2022	13.0%
	2022	2,111	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2018	52.7
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2018	31.3%		2022	51.6
	2022	35.7%	Annual high school dropout rate	2018	1.6%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2018	718		2022	1.6%
	2022	760	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2018	8.4
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2018	34.9%		2022	12.9
	2022	39.6%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2017	34.1%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2017	12.0
	2018-2022	24.8%		2018-2022	7.3
Children in married-parent families	2013-2017	65.9%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	37.2
	2018-2022	68.1%		2018-2022	32.2
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	37.2
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2018	33.2%		2018-2022	22.0
	2022	13.3%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	37.2
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2018	25.7%		2018-2022	76.3
	2022	22.6%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2017	50.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2017	22.6%		2018-2022	0.0%
	2018-2022	26.6%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2016	12.2**
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2017	57.3%		2017-2021	22.9*
	2018-2022	55.5%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2016	64.3
Children in families receiving SNAP	2018	40.5%		2017-2021	56.2
	2022	34.4%	Uninsured children	2017	10.0%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2017	\$\$41,677		2021	10.3%
	2018-2022	\$\$51,882	School attendance, grades 9-12	2018	93.4%
Adult unemployment	2018	3.0%		2022	91.4%
	2022	2.4%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2018	3.3%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2022	3.1%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		