

Clay County

County Seat: Liberty

Population: 259,772

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	7,317	5,276	12.5%	8.9%	↑	14.7%	4
Food insecurity for children ^a	5,910	8,170	10.1%	13.6%	↓	18.7%	12
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^b	825	1,165	6.8%	7.8%	↓	8.9%	53
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	354	407	5.9	6.7	↓	7.1	76
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^a	270	305	4.5	5.0	↓	5.5	96
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	96	93	12.6	11.2	↑	15.9	26
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	79	121	1.3	2.0	↓	2.9	26
Education							
High school graduation	3,001	3,208	96.3%	95.6%	↓	91.3%	45
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	1,779	1,494	56.9%	48.2%	↓	42.2%	23
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	1,694	1,539	52.2%	47.0%	↓	42.3%	17
4th grade math (MAP)	1,791	1,597	55.7%	52.1%	↓	43.7%	17
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	1,701	1,609	48.6%	43.2%	↓	40.1%	29

^a Data based on 2018 and 2022.

^b Data based on five-year time spans, 2013-2018 and 2019-2023.

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

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Contextual Indicators

Demographics			Education		
Total population	2019	249,948	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	97.3
	2022	259,772		2024	81.3
Child population under 18	2019	59,748	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	21.5%
	2023	60,538		2024	26.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	23.9%	School attendance, grades K-12	2019	94.8
	2023	23.3%		2023	92.6
Child population under 6	2019	19,066	Family & Community		
	2023	18,461	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	42.5
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	7.6%		2019-2023	32.8
	2023	7.1%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2018	8.6%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2019	14,321		2019-2023	14.2%
	2023	18,417	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	13.2
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2019	24.0%		2023	12.9
	2023	30.4%	Annual high school dropout rate	2019	0.5%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2019	4,563		2023	0.7%
	2023	5,926	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	0.9
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2019	23.9%		2023	1.1
	2023	32.1%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	27.1%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	5.2
	2019-2023	19.5%		2019-2023	4.5
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	71.5%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	19.5
	2019-2023	71.0%		2019-2023	19.8
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	12.6
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	18.3%		2019-2023	16.9
	2023	14.1%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	43.2
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	11.4%		2019-2023	31.8
	2023	7.5%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2018	50.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	24.5%		2019-2023	25.0%
	2019-2023	25.7%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2017	17.6
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	22.0%		2018-2022	19.6
	2019-2023	20.6%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	96.6
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	17.6%		2018-2022	11.6
	2023	17.2%	Uninsured children	2018	4.8%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	\$84,372		2022	4.6%
	2019-2023	\$103,524	School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	94.5%
Adult unemployment	2019	2.9%		2023	92.6%
	2023	2.7%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2019	2.3%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2023	1.8%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		