

Dallas County

County Seat: Buffalo

Population: 17,768

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,097	915	28.0%	22.1%	↑	14.7%	89
Food insecurity for children ^a	710	910	17.8%	22.3%	↓	18.7%	98
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^b	74	78	8.4%	7.4%	↑	8.9%	35
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	36	16	9.0	3.8	↑	7.1	13
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^a	5	1	1.3	0.2	↑	5.5	5
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	12	12	23.8	22.3	↑	15.9	69
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	13	19	3.3	4.5	↓	2.9	74
Education							
High school graduation	104	116	99.0%	98.3%	↓	91.3%	16
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	57	31	47.5%	24.8%	↓	42.2%	113
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	41	61	28.9%	46.6%	↑	42.3%	19
4th grade math (MAP)	33	47	27.7%	36.2%	↑	43.7%	87
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	23	74	20.7%	40.9%	↑	40.1%	43

^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	16,878	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	62.6
	2022	17,768		2024	31.5
Child population under 18	2019	3,998	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	%
	2023	4,228		2024	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	23.7%	School attendance, grades K-12	2019	94.4
	2023	23.8%		2023	93.1
Child population under 6	2019	1,314	Family & Community		
	2023	1,367	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	90.5
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	7.8%		2019-2023	52.0
	2023	7.7%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2018	9.1%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2019	241		2019-2023	6.3%
	2023	367	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	20.6
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2019	6.0%		2023	24.7
	2023	8.7%	Annual high school dropout rate	2019	0.0%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2019	91		2023	0.3%
	2023	119	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	4.8
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2019	6.9%		2023	5.2
	2023	8.7%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	24.1%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	7.5
	2019-2023	20.4%		2019-2023	15.1
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	75.7%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	55.2
	2019-2023	71.8%		2019-2023	24.9
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	26.3
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	25.7%		2019-2023	24.7
	2023	44.2%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	184.0
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	27.4%		2019-2023	25.8
	2023	20.1%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2018	33.3%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	21.9%		2019-2023	0.0%
	2019-2023	24.4%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2017	12.3**
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	47.1%		2018-2022	13.7**
	2019-2023	45.8%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	105.6
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	32.8%		2018-2022	12.2
	2023	27.5%	Uninsured children	2018	9.4%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	\$53,450		2022	7.5%
	2019-2023	\$78,333	School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	94.3%
Adult unemployment	2019	4.5%		2023	93.9%
	2023	3.1%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2019	2.8%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2023	0.0%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		