Jackson County

County Seat: Independence

Population: 718,560

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	31,367	23,666	19.6%	14.7%	↑	14.7%	31
Food insecurity for children [a]	25,160	34,870	15.3%	20.9%	↓	18.7%	84
Health							
Low birthweight infants [b]	3,434	4,274	9.2%	9.9%	↓	8.9%	102
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) [b]	1,172	1,329	7.1	8.0	↓	7.1	98
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) [a]	1,690	1,598	10.3	9.7	↑	5.5	114
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	535	434	25.7	19.2	↑	15.9	56
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	324	226	2.0	1.4	↑	2.9	16
Education							
High school graduation	6,505	6,634	89.4%	83.1%	↓	91.3%	107
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	3,574	2,854	42.2%	35.8%	↓	42.2%	88
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	3,682	3,008	45.7%	37.2%	↓	42.3%	73
4th grade math (MAP)	3,666	2,878	42.9%	36.2%	↓	43.7%	88
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	3,312	2,885	43.1%	35.5%	↓	40.1%	69

[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

Total population	2019	703,011
	2022	718,560
Child population under 18	2019	164,372
	2023	165,358
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	23.4%
	2023	23.0%
Child population under 6	2019	54,606
	2023	52,110
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	7.8%
	2023	7.3%
Minority child population under 18 [a]	2019	77,555
	2023	86,139
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population [a]	2019	47.2%
	2023	52.1%
Minority child population under 6 [a]	2019	25,467
	2023	27,677
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population [a]	2019	46.6%
	2023	53.1%
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	42.1%
	2019-2023	30.8%
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	56.6%
	2019-2023	59.9%

Economic Well-being

Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	21.7%
	2023	21.1%
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	18.4%
	2023	13.6%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	31.4%
	2019-2023	31.9%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	37.3%
	2019-2023	32.9%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	36.5%
	2023	34.9%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	$61,082
	2019-2023	$82,451
Adult unemployment	2019	3.7%
	2023	3.4%
Child homelessness	2019	4.3%
	2023	3.2%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	144.2
	2024	135.3
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	16.1%
	2024	19.4%
School attendance, grades K-12	2019	93.7
	2023	90.7

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/ homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	72.5
	2019-2023	100.6
Single parent head-of-house-hold with children under 18	2013-2018	10.8%
	2019-2023	16.4%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	12.5
	2023	10.5
Annual high school dropout rate	2019	3.0%
	2023	2.4%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	5.3
	2023	2.6

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	6.5
	2019-2023	7.0
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	26.8
	2019-2023	34.0
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	16.4
	2019-2023	21.5
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	66.0
	2019-2023	88.4
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 [b]	2013-2018	65.4%
	2019-2023	88.2%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) [c]	2012-2017	14.9
	2018-2022	30.4
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	133.8
	2018-2022	15.1
Uninsured children	2018	6.2%
	2022	5.2%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	92.3%
	2023	88.7%

[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).