

Mercer County

County Seat: Princeton

Population: 3,469

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	179	160	21.0%	19.0%	↑	14.7%	61
Food insecurity for children ^a	110	150	12.0%	17.6%	↓	18.7%	48
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^b	11	12	5.6%	5.1%	↑	8.9%	6
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	7	4	8.1	4.7	↑	7.1	22
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^a	-	2	0.0	2.3	↓	5.5	44
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	1	1	9.7	9.0	↑	15.9	20
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	1	1	1.2	1.2	↓	2.9	13
Education							
High school graduation	48	36	98.0%	100.0%	↑	91.3%	1
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	16	11	57.1%	44.0%	↓	42.2%	42
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	13	12	33.3%	25.0%	↓	42.3%	110
4th grade math (MAP)	28	23	63.6%	57.5%	↓	43.7%	11
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	15	14	35.7%	31.8%	↓	40.1%	82

^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	3,617	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	11.5
	2022	3,469		2024	0.0
Child population under 18	2019	864	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	%
	2023	858		2024	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	23.9%	School attendance, grades K-12	2019	94.9
	2023	24.7%		2023	93.8
Child population under 6	2019	295	Family & Community		
	2023	282	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	0.0
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	8.2%		2019-2023	0.0
	2023	8.1%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2018	4.8%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2019	60		2019-2023	15.8%
	2023	101	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	27.2
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2019	6.9%		2023	2.5
	2023	11.8%	Annual high school dropout rate	2019	0.0%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2019	23		2023	0.0%
	2023	40	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	3.5
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2019	7.8%		2023	1.2
	2023	14.2%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	22.8%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	12.4
	2019-2023	14.5%		2019-2023	0.0
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	75.5%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	0.0
	2019-2023	68.4%		2019-2023	24.8
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	0.0
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	31.7%		2019-2023	31.0
	2023	12.5%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	0.0
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	21.3%		2019-2023	0.0
	2023	18.3%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2018	%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	18.9%		2019-2023	0.0%
	2019-2023	21.1%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2017	0
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	31.5%		2018-2022	0
	2019-2023	32.0%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	50.2
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	15.6%		2018-2022	8.9
	2023	16.0%	Uninsured children	2018	11.5%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	\$59,250		2022	9.6%
	2019-2023	\$66,705	School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	94.5%
Adult unemployment	2019	3.2%		2023	92.5%
	2023	2.8%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2019	1.3%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2023	0.7%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		