Missouri State Profile

Missouri KIDS COUNT 2025

Population: 6,196,156

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend
	2019	2023	2019	2023	
Economic Well-Being					
Children under 18 in poverty	227,828	197,439	17.0%	14.7%	⬆
Food insecurity for children[b]	209,870	254,720	15.2%	18.7%	⬇
Health					
Low birthweight infants[a, c]	25,537	30,862	8.6%	8.9%	⬇
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000)[b]	9,429	9,813	6.9	7.1	⬇
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000)[b]	9,635	7,617	7.0	5.5	⬆
Family & Community					
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	3,848	3,163	20.3	15.9	⬆
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)[a]	4,429	3,938	3.2	2.9	⬆
Education					
High school graduation	59,446	59,851	91.7%	91.3%	⬇
Achievement proficiency[a] 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	32,537	27,187	48.6%	42.2%	⬇
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	31,881	28,751	47.3%	42.3%	⬇
4th grade math (MAP)	32,124	28,189	46.8%	43.7%	⬇
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	29,066	31,098	44.7%	40.1%	⬇

Trend: ⬆ better ⬇ worse ➜ no change

[a] Outcome not included in County Composite Rank.

[b] Data based on 2018 and 2022.

[c] Data based on five-year time spans, 2014-2018 and 2019-2023.

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Contextual Indicators

Demographics

Total population	2019	6,137,428
	2023	6,196,156
Child population under 18	2019	1,370,585
	2023	1,374,470
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	22.3%
	2023	22.2%
Child population under 6	2019	444,058
	2023	426,031
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	7.2%
	2023	6.9%
Minority child population under 18[a]	2019	349,430
	2023	402,384
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population[a]	2019	25.5%
	2023	29.3%
Minority child population under 6[a]	2019	116,441
	2023	130,733
Minority child population under 6 as % of under-6 child population[a]	2019	26.2%
	2023	30.7%
Children in single-parent families	2014-2018	32.8%
	2019-2023	23.5%
Children in married-parent families	2014-2018	65.8%
	2019-2023	67.1%

Economic Well-being

Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	18.3%
	2023	17.4%
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	15.9%
	2023	14.7%
Housing cost-burdened households	2014-2018	27.6%
	2019-2023	26.4%
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2014-2018	34.0%
	2019-2023	29.8%
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	30.1%
	2023	27.9%
Median income family household with children under 18	2014-2018	$65,872
	2019-2023	$88,619
Adult unemployment	2019	3.3%
	2023	3.1%
Child homelessness	2019	3.8%
	2023	2.5%

Education

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	103.3
	2024	93.2
Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	—
	2024	20.0%
School attendance, grades K-12	2019	94.5%
	2023	92.2%

Family & Community

Teen unintentional deaths/ homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2014-2018	53.5
	2019-2023	61.5
Single parent head-of-house-hold with children under 18	2014-2018	8.9%
	2019-2023	13.3%
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	24.3
	2023	26.8
Annual high school dropout rate	2019	1.8%
	2023	1.8%
Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	5.2
	2023	4.0

Health

Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2014-2018	6.3
	2019-2023	5.9
Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2014-2018	24.1
	2019-2023	28.3
Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2014-2018	15.7
	2019-2023	21.4
Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2014-2018	52.5
	2019-2023	57.2
Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18	2014-2018	61.8%
	2019-2023	61.5%
Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000)	2013-2017	19.9
	2018-2022	26.6
Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2013-2017	95.3
	2018-2022	124.5
Uninsured children	2018	5.8%
	2022	5.5%
School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	93.6%
	2023	91.0%

[a] Due to changes in race categories, 2020 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2020 counts and percentages.