

Phelps County

County Seat: Rolla

Population: 45,284

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,739	1,575	19.4%	17.0%	↑	14.7%	47
Food insecurity for children ^a	1,600	1,690	17.0%	17.9%	↓	18.7%	52
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^b	170	168	8.6%	8.1%	↑	8.9%	60
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	43	61	4.6	6.4	↓	7.1	69
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^a	53	29	5.7	3.0	↑	5.5	61
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	17	22	11.5	14.2	↓	15.9	34
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	35	68	3.7	7.1	↓	2.9	93
Education							
High school graduation	446	454	90.3%	92.5%	↑	91.3%	83
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	260	220	55.4%	52.8%	↓	42.2%	5
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	243	201	48.2%	40.5%	↓	42.3%	51
4th grade math (MAP)	242	203	52.0%	47.5%	↓	43.7%	34
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	230	188	41.8%	32.8%	↓	40.1%	77

^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	44,573	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	29.0
	2022	45,284		2024	19.4
Child population under 18	2019	9,338	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	%
	2023	9,574		2024	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	20.9%	School attendance, grades K-12	2019	95.1
	2023	21.1%		2023	93.1
Child population under 6	2019	2,986	Family & Community		
	2023	2,774	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	36.5
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	6.7%		2019-2023	79.8
	2023	6.1%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2018	8.8%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2019	1,110		2019-2023	14.4%
	2023	1,435	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	16.2
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2019	11.9%		2023	27.8
	2023	15.0%	Annual high school dropout rate	2019	2.2%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2019	463		2023	1.1%
	2023	489	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	13.0
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2019	15.5%		2023	10.4
	2023	17.6%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	30.4%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	10.1
	2019-2023	23.2%		2019-2023	5.8
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	66.5%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	17.0
	2019-2023	67.4%		2019-2023	37.2
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	10.8
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	26.5%		2019-2023	27.4
	2023	21.2%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	40.1
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	17.0%		2019-2023	75.8
	2023	14.9%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2018	0.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	29.1%		2019-2023	80.0%
	2019-2023	30.5%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2017	40.3
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	41.6%		2018-2022	39.8
	2019-2023	32.2%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	105.8
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	28.8%		2018-2022	15.8
	2023	27.6%	Uninsured children	2018	7.3%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	\$50,989		2022	6.5%
	2019-2023	\$69,968	School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	94.8%
Adult unemployment	2019	3.3%		2023	92.8%
	2023	3.1%			
Child homelessness	2019	1.6%			
	2023	1.5%			

^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).