

# Pulaski County

County Seat: Waynesville

Population: 53,812

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
<b>Economic Well-Being</b>							
Children under 18 in poverty	1,642	1,363	14.8%	11.9%	↑	14.7%	14
Food insecurity for children <sup>a</sup>	1,950	2,440	16.7%	20.9%	↓	18.7%	84
<b>Health</b>							
Low birthweight infants <sup>b</sup>	221	271	7.4%	7.7%	↓	8.9%	48
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) <sup>b</sup>	45	67	3.9	5.7	↓	7.1	51
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) <sup>a</sup>	30	24	2.6	2.0	↑	5.5	37
<b>Family &amp; Community</b>							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	36	27	21.0	15.0	↑	15.9	41
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	79	123	6.9	10.5	↓	2.9	107
<b>Education</b>							
High school graduation	525	530	92.6%	93.5%	↑	91.3%	72
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	346	295	48.6%	45.1%	↓	42.2%	34
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	280	234	46.4%	34.9%	↓	42.3%	84
4th grade math (MAP)	334	269	48.4%	42.1%	↓	43.7%	65
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	221	211	41.8%	28.8%	↓	40.1%	95

<sup>a</sup> Data based on 2018 and 2022.

<sup>b</sup> 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	52,607	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	39.2
	2022	53,812		2024	50.4
Child population under 18	2019	11,439	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	5.3%
	2023	11,746		2024	0.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	21.7%	School attendance, grades K-12	2019	94.7
	2023	21.8%		2023	92.7
Child population under 6	2019	4,102	Family & Community		
	2023	4,104	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	24.3
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	7.8%		2019-2023	29.5
	2023	7.6%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2018	7.9%
Minority child population under 18 <sup>a</sup>	2019	3,664		2019-2023	14.9%
	2023	4,026	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	23.1
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population <sup>a</sup>	2019	32.0%		2023	42.2
	2023	34.3%	Annual high school dropout rate	2019	0.7%
Minority child population under 6 <sup>a</sup>	2019	1,363		2023	1.5%
	2023	1,537	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	6.4
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population <sup>a</sup>	2019	33.2%		2023	10.1
	2023	37.5%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	25.7%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	6.1
	2019-2023	24.9%		2019-2023	4.0
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	70.3%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	18.9
	2019-2023	69.7%		2019-2023	21.7
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	10.2
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	22.3%		2019-2023	15.2
	2023	19.3%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	56.8
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	14.0%		2019-2023	54.1
	2023	11.7%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 <sup>b</sup>	2013-2018	50.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	30.0%		2019-2023	50.0%
	2019-2023	25.6%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) <sup>c</sup>	2012-2017	18.2*
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	37.7%		2018-2022	18.3*
	2019-2023	33.4%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	74.4
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	27.2%		2018-2022	10.3
	2023	24.8%	Uninsured children	2018	5.5%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	\$58,050		2022	6.4%
	2019-2023	\$76,941	School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	93.9%
Adult unemployment	2019	4.1%		2023	92.0%
	2023	3.6%	<sup>a</sup> Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2019	1.5%	<sup>b</sup> If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2023	0.8%	<sup>c</sup> *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		