

Taney County

County Seat: Forsyth

Population: 56,775

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2019	2023	2019	2023		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,132	2,117	18.7%	18.5%	↑	14.7%	57
Food insecurity for children ^a	2,270	2,460	19.5%	21.1%	↓	18.7%	86
Health							
Low birthweight infants ^b	227	253	8.8%	8.5%	↑	8.9%	75
Preventable hospitalizations for all causes for children under 18 (per 1,000) ^b	58	51	5.0	4.4	↑	7.1	18
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^a	43	32	3.7	2.7	↑	5.5	54
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	47	36	25.8	18.3	↑	15.9	52
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	53	59	4.5	5.0	↓	2.9	80
Education							
High school graduation	565	538	95.3%	91.7%	↓	91.3%	88
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	312	225	52.7%	41.9%	↓	42.2%	57
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	305	266	50.7%	44.0%	↓	42.3%	31
4th grade math (MAP)	330	300	53.7%	52.3%	↓	43.7%	16
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	242	236	41.1%	38.8%	↓	40.1%	54

^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	55,928	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2019	48.6
	2022	56,775		2024	31.8
Child population under 18	2019	11,685	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2019	63.4%
	2023	11,706		2024	52.2%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2019	20.9%	School attendance, grades K-12	2019	94.4
	2023	20.6%		2023	92.2
Child population under 6	2019	3,698	Family & Community		
	2023	3,575	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2018	67.0
Children under 6 as % of total population	2019	6.6%		2019-2023	40.4
	2023	6.3%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2018	9.6%
Minority child population under 18 ^a	2019	1,967		2019-2023	9.8%
	2023	2,585	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2019	18.7
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population ^a	2019	16.8%		2023	35.8
	2023	22.1%	Annual high school dropout rate	2019	0.5%
Minority child population under 6 ^a	2019	674		2023	1.1%
	2023	849	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2019	12.7
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population ^a	2019	18.2%		2023	9.0
	2023	23.8%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2018	36.3%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2018	8.7
	2019-2023	22.5%		2019-2023	6.4
Children in married-parent families	2013-2018	62.8%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	22.3
	2019-2023	70.4%		2019-2023	28.7
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	12.4
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2019	26.7%		2019-2023	20.2
	2023	18.2%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2018	58.1
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2019	17.5%		2019-2023	63.5
	2023	17.3%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2018	50.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2018	31.9%		2019-2023	100.0%
	2019-2023	26.9%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2017	34.1
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2018	51.6%		2018-2022	31.1
	2019-2023	35.6%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2017	83.8
Children in families receiving SNAP	2019	36.1%		2018-2022	10.6
	2023	33.4%	Uninsured children	2018	7.7%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2018	\$47,628		2022	7.2%
	2019-2023	\$68,198	School attendance, grades 9-12	2019	94.2%
Adult unemployment	2019	5.1%		2023	91.4%
	2023	4.9%	^a Due to changes in race categories, 2001 and later minority estimates are not comparable to pre-2001 counts and percentages.		
Child homelessness	2019	3.7%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2023	7.6%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		