

Pettis County

County Seat: Sedalia

Population: 43,791

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend	Rank	
	2020	2024	2020	2024		State Rate	County Rank
Economic Well-Being							
Children under 18 in poverty	2,392	2,233	23.3%	21.3%	↑	15.3%	83
Food insecurity for children ^a	1,640	1,880	15.6%	17.3%	↓	18.1%	40
Health^b							
Low birthweight infants ^c	214	207	7.4%	7.3%	↑	8.9%	37
Child asthma ER rates (per 1,000) ^a	38	20	3.6	1.8	↑	5.4	35
Family & Community							
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	32	38	25.0	27.7	↓	15.9	89
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases (per 1,000)	47	25	4.4	2.3	↑	2.9	31
Education							
High school graduation	449	479	94.3%	95.2%	↑	92.1%	45
Achievement proficiency 3rd grade English/language arts (MAP)	366	229	63.7%	48.1%	↓	41.6%	18
8th grade English/language arts (MAP)	277	180	55.8%	37.3%	↓	42.1%	62
4th grade math (MAP)	276	228	50.5%	43.9%	↓	44.5%	59
Algebra I (end-of-course exam)	333	202	63.9%	39.8%	↓	41.5%	45

Trend: ↑ better ↓ worse → no change

Notes:

^aData based on 2019 and 2023.

^b"Preventable Hospitalizations for All Causes for Children Under 18" was discontinued as a MOPHIMS indicator in 2023.

^cData based on five-year time spans, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.

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Contextual Indicators

Demographics			Education		
Total population	2020	42,421	Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2020	100.5
	2023	43,791		2025	123.6
Child population under 18	2020	10,572	Accredited child care capacity as % of licensed capacity	2020	4.5%
	2024	10,822		2025	6.0%
Children under 18 as % of total population	2020	24.9%	School attendance, grades K-12	2020	94.8
	2024	24.7%		2024	93.7
Child population under 6	2020	3,518	Family & Community		
	2024	3,486	Teen unintentional deaths/homicides/suicides (per 100,000)	2013-2019	83.2
Children under 6 as % of total population	2020	8.3%		2020-2024	47.5
	2024	8.0%	Single parent head-of-household with children under 18	2013-2019	8.0%
Minority child population under 18	2020	2,435		2020-2024	14.0%
	2024	2,996	Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2020	29.1
Minority child population under 18 as % of child population	2020	23.0%		2024	47.1
	2024	27.7%	Annual high school dropout rate	2020	—%
Minority child population under 6	2020	858		2024	0.5%
	2024	1,080	Children entering/re-entering state custody (per 1,000)	2020	4.5
Minority child population under 6 as % of under 6 child population	2020	24.4%		2024	3.6
	2024	31.0%	Health		
Children in single-parent families	2013-2019	22.4%	Infant mortality (per 1,000)	2013-2019	2.8
	2020-2024	21.1%		2020-2024	3.9
Children in married-parent families	2013-2019	68.7%	Child deaths ages 1-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2019	28.0
	2020-2024	68.7%		2020-2024	39.0
Economic Well-being			Child deaths ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2013-2019	9.7
Children under 6 in families in poverty	2020	26.2%		2020-2024	31.3
	2024	13.2%	Child deaths ages 15-17 (per 100,000)	2013-2019	106.8
Children ages 5-17 in families in poverty	2020	22.4%		2020-2024	72.0
	2024	22.2%	Unrestrained automobile fatalities for children under 18 ^b	2013-2019	100.0%
Housing cost-burdened households	2013-2019	21.8%		2020-2024	75.0%
	2020-2024	24.8%	Substance abuse hospitalizations ages 1-19 (per 100,000) ^c	2012-2018	16.6
Family households with children under 18 at 185% of poverty level	2013-2019	38.4%		2019-2023	12.4*
	2020-2024	38.9%	Mental/behavioral hospitalizations (not substance abuse) ages 1-19 (per 10,000)	2012-2018	125.7
Children in families receiving SNAP	2020	34.8%		2019-2023	133.9
	2024	34.7%	Uninsured children	2019	8.7%
Median income family household with children under 18	2013-2019	\$57,222		2023	5.5%
	2020-2024	\$73,889	School attendance, grades 9-12	2020	94.3%
Adult unemployment ^a	2020	6.8%		2024	93.2%
	2023	3.1%	^a There will be a delay in the release of 2024 annual unemployment statistics until after April 10, 2026.		
Child homelessness	2020	1.4%	^b If no % listed, no vehicle fatalities occurred during the period.		
	2024	9.2%	^c *Indicates unstable rate due to low count (<20 cases); ** indicates very unstable rate due to very low count (<5 cases).		