

Androscoggin County, with the cities of Lewiston and Auburn, is one of the five counties in Maine with 23,000 or more children and it is the most diverse county in the state with approximately 25% children of color.

### Areas of Strength

Androscoggin County had the second lowest rate of children without health insurance and the third highest rate of all parents with children under age six in the workforce. Androscoggin saw a large improvement in the high school graduation rate, from 76.9% in 2021 to 83.2% in 2022. Androscoggin had economic gains, too, with declines in both the child poverty rate and the unemployment rate. A diversified local economy helps families meet their basic needs.

### Areas of Challenge

Androscoggin County had an increase in the percent of infants with low birth weights and had the highest rate in the state in 2022. Similarly, Androscoggin had an increase in the rate of children in foster care and the state's highest rate in 2022. Access to health care for pregnant women and access to targeted services to support families are two policies that help young children thrive. Androscoggin had the third highest rate of chronic absenteeism among secondary students.

INDICATOR	STATE RANK
Children without health insurance	2
All parents in the workforce	3

INDICATOR	STATE RANK
Infants with low birth weights	16
Children in foster care	16
Chronic absenteeism	14

The Maine Children's Alliance is part of the national [KIDS COUNT](#)® network of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. In a user-friendly internet platform, KIDS COUNT® makes available the most recent, reliable data on the well-being of children in Maine and the nation.

From the hundreds of indicators in the areas of health, education, and economic status on KIDS COUNT, the selected indicators in this County Profile are among those where county-level data is available where it is clear which direction we want the indicator to go to make improvements for Maine children. By understanding the data and making informed policy decisions in response, we can help ensure children and families in Maine have the best opportunity to thrive.

Each County Profile includes a summary of the county's strengths and challenges, demographic data, and then information on the fourteen indicators of child health and well-being for the current year, previous year, and in comparison to the state rate.



## DEMOGRAPHICS

	Androskoggin	Maine
<a href="#">Children under age 5, 2022</a>	5,970	62,120
<a href="#">Children ages 5 -17, 2022</a>	17,278	187,186
<a href="#">Total Children ages 0 -17, 2022</a>	23,248	249,306
<a href="#">Births, 2022</a>	1,178	12,081
<a href="#">Children of color, Census 2020 †</a>	5,760	41,514
<a href="#">Children in poverty, 2022</a>	3,591	29,991
<a href="#">Children ages 0 -18 participating in MaineCare, SFY 2023</a>	15,000	133,431
<a href="#">Children receiving SNAP, Dec 2023</a>	7,521	55,559
<a href="#">Economically disadvantaged students, under 185% of poverty, 2023-2024</a>	7,065	63,983



HEALTH	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
<a href="#">Children under age 19 without health insurance, 2021</a>	953	3.9%	5.0%		4.3%
<a href="#">Infants with low birth weights, 2022</a>	136	11.6%	9.5%		8.2%
<a href="#">Youth in evidence-based practices of HCT FFT or HCT MST*, rate per 1,000, September 2023</a>	9	0.83	0.55		1.04
<a href="#">Children in foster care, December 2023, rate per 1,000</a>	404	17.4	11.9		9.6
<a href="#">Substantiated child abuse, 2022, rate per 1,000</a>	423	18.2	18.3		15.8

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
<a href="#">Child poverty, 2022</a>	3,591	15.9%	19.1%		12.4%
<a href="#">Median household income, 2022</a>	N/A	\$62,848	\$61,411		\$69,485
<a href="#">Teens not in school and not working, 2018-2022</a>	270	4.5%	4.7%		4.2%
<a href="#">Unemployment Rate, 2022</a>	N/A	3.0%	4.9%		3.0%
<a href="#">All parents in workforce, children under 6, 2018-2022</a>	5,239	72.8%	75.4%		69.6%

EDUCATION	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
<a href="#">Four-year-olds in public preschool, 2023-2024</a>	794	65.8%	65.6%		48.5%
<a href="#">High school graduation rate, 2022</a>	849	83.2%	76.9%		86.1%
<a href="#">Chronic absenteeism in schools with 12th graders**, 2021-2022</a>	1,676	39.4%	43.9%		31.4%
<a href="#">High-quality child care sites (Rising Stars 4 or 5)††, December 2023</a>	22	13.2%	13.2%		17.7%

= Better, = Worse, = No change (defined as less than 1% change) compared to county data from prior year.

**Notes:**

Maine's standardized reading tests do not include proficiency determinations so academic achievement indicators are not included.

† See [Children by race & ethnicity, 2020 Census](#) for the numbers and percents of children by each race and ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino; and among Non-Hispanic children the following races: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black or African-American, Two or More Races/ Some Other Race and white.

\* HCT-MST and HCT-FFT are the acronyms of two evidence-based intensive home and community mental health treatment services for families and youth to prevent institutional placements.

\*\* Secondary school chronic absenteeism (18 days or more) among all public schools that offer grades 9-12, including 60% publicly funded private schools and excluding technical schools.

†† As of March 2023, Rising Stars is Maine's method of assessing and encouraging quality early care programs. It is mandatory and licensed child care programs start at 2 stars.