

Washington County is a Downeast, coastal county with approximately 6,000 children.

Areas of Strength

Washington County had the highest rate of young child immunizations at 86.2%. For prenatal care in the first trimester, Washington tied for the second best rank. Access to health care for pregnant women and for young children helps children with healthy development. Washington County was in the top four counties for all four education measures. Communities with a commitment to education help children reach their full potential.

INDICATOR	STATE RANK
Young child immunizations	1
Prenatal care in the first trimester	tied for 2
Public Preschool	2
Quality child care	3
4th grade reading	2

Areas of Challenge

Washington County had the highest child poverty rate in the state, with one in four children living in poverty. It also had the lowest household median income. Washington County had the second highest rate of children who lack health insurance. All children need to live in financially secure families who can meet their basic needs.

INDICATOR	STATE RANK
Child poverty	16
Median household income	16
Uninsured children	15

Maine KIDS COUNT, a project of the Maine Children’s Alliance, has been part of the national KIDS COUNT network, funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF), since 1994. [KIDS COUNT](#) puts together in a user-friendly internet platform the most recent, reliable data available on the well-being of children in Maine and in the nation.

From the hundreds of available indicators in the areas of health, education, and social and economic status on KIDS COUNT, the selected indicators in this County Profile are among those with county-level information, where it is clear which direction we want the indicator to go. 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.

The County Profiles offer insight into how policies and practices in Maine are working and where there are opportunities for improvement. Each County Profile includes a summary of the county’s strengths and challenges, some demographics, and then the 14 indicators of child health and well-being for the current year, previous year and in comparison to the state rate. Where possible, 2020 data is shown to reflect the current situation for children and families. For other data, the most recent data is 2019 and this can serve as a baseline for assessing well-being before the onset of the Covid-19 crisis.

To learn more about the measure, click on the link to the KIDS COUNT Data Center or other source.

DEMOGRAPHICS	Washington	Maine
Children under age 5, 2019	1,443	63,537
Children ages 5 -17, 2019	4,496	185,087
Total Children ages 0 -17, 2019	5,939	248,624
Births, 2020	254	11,537
Children in poverty, 2019	1,391	33,026
Children ages 0 -18 participating in MaineCare, SFY 2020	4,054	118,603
Children receiving SNAP, Dec 2020	1,892	53,963
School children eligible for free and reduced meals, 2020-2021	1,819	64,925



HEALTH	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
Children under age 19 without health insurance, 2019	511	8.6%	9.1%		5.6%
Prenatal care in first trimester, 2019	254	92.0%	91.8%		90.1%
Immunization rate, ages 24-35 months, CY 20, Q4	232	86.2%	79.5%		71.2%
Children in foster care, 12/31/20, (rate per 1,000)	27	4.5	6.2		8.9
Substantiated child abuse CY 2020, (rate per 1,000)	122	20.5	14.5		17.6

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
Child poverty, 2019	1,391	24.6%	26.8%		13.8%
Median household income, 2019	N/A	\$39,068	\$39,522		\$58,824
Teens not in school and not working, 2015-2019	73	4.8%	4.6%		3.3%
Unemployment Rate, 2020	N/A	6.2%	4.2%		5.4%
All parents in work force, children under 6, 2015-2019	1,017	58.0%	58.8%		70.7%

EDUCATION	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
Four-year-olds in public preschool, 2020-2021	186	62.8%	84.5%		35.6%
High school graduation rate, 2020	267	87.8%	92.2%		87.4%
4th grade reading MEA meets or exceeds proficiency, 2018-2019*	58	61.7%	49.0%		56.2%
Child Care sites at QRIS level 3 or 4, Dec 2020	6	20.0%	30.8%		12.7%

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

* MEA reading tests were not conducted 2019-2020 school year, due to Covid-19 school closures.

