

KIDS COUNT IN MICHIGAN

EVIDENCE INTO ACTION

2023 Data Book



Acknowledgements

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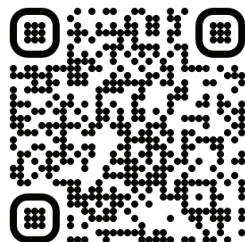
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Scan this code to access the 2023 Kids Count in Michigan Data Book online. The online publication features interactive data and profiles for counties, regions and select cities.

About Kids Count in Michigan

Kids Count in Michigan is part of a broad national effort to measure the well-being of children at the state and local levels and use that information to shape efforts to improve the lives of children.

The project is housed at the Michigan League for Public Policy, a research and advocacy organization whose mission is to advance economic security, racial equity, health and well-being for all people in every part of Michigan through policy change.

2023 Kids Count in Michigan Advisory Committee

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Jeremiah A.N. White, Sr. Implementation Success Manager, Hope Starts Here

Data Sources

Kids Count in Michigan collects data from multiple primary sources, considering their reliability, collection schedule, availability at the local level and validity. Data in the 2023 Data Book and data profiles are mostly from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Michigan's Center for Educational Performance and Information, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Department of Education, Early Childhood Investment Corporation, Feeding America and United for ALICE.

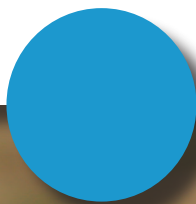
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Introduction

2021 saw unprecedented levels of investment in kids and their families in an effort to mitigate the health and economic crises brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As hospitals continued to fill up and schools faced challenges with remote learning, the federal, state and local governments stepped in to provide relief from the disruptions. Although workers and families continued to face hardship and economic uncertainty, the positive outcomes we saw in 2021—including reduced childhood poverty and increased rates of child Medicaid coverage—show what can be accomplished when we make big investments in our kids.

Between the three federal Economic Impact Payments and the temporary advance Child Tax Credit, three rounds of education funding, and two rounds of funding for state and local governments, Michigan saw billions of dollars coming in to help kids and their families cope with the health and economic consequences of the pandemic.

Thanks to these programs, poverty actually fell for children during the pandemic after accounting for noncash benefits and tax credits. Free school lunches and increased food assistance kept kids fed while rental assistance kept them housed. Federal funding helped schools provide devices for kids to continue learning remotely while also allowing the state to expand the Great Start Readiness Program, providing an additional 3,340 school day slots for 4-year-olds.

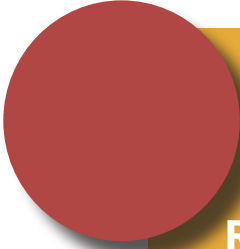
Three years later, the evidence demonstrates how effective these policies could be if we continued to invest in our kids and took action to make the most successful temporary programs permanent.

Because right now, despite the clear benefits of these investments in children, their families and the communities where they live, we have allowed the most successful programs to expire and asked families to return to business as usual even when we know many have been struggling for years to make ends meet.

Now that we have the evidence that these programs work, it's time for our leaders to take action and dedicate state resources to make them permanent.

The 2023 Kids Count in Michigan Data Book both lays out the data to illustrate how Michigan's children are faring and puts the data in context during what was a tumultuous time for all families.

But most importantly, the book provides policy solutions—backed by evidence—that can meaningfully improve the lives of Michigan's youngest residents.



Right now—despite the clear benefits of investments in children, their families and the communities where they live—we have allowed the most successful programs to expire and asked families to return to business as usual even when we know many have been struggling for years to make ends meet.

It's time to take action.

Using the Data Book

Kids Count in Michigan and the Michigan League for Public Policy have produced the Kids Count in Michigan Data Book since 1992.

The Data Book reviews the most recently available and trend data to evaluate the well-being of children while identifying policies that, if implemented, could improve life and outcomes for families.

For the first time, this year's book includes a young adult feature section, recognizing Kids Count's expanded focus on young people making the transition to adulthood and the unique challenges they face.

In addition to the Data Book, Kids

Count publishes a state data profile and regional, county and select city data profiles. These profiles—and over 100 indicators that are regularly updated on the Annie E. Casey *KIDS COUNT* Data Center—provide data across variables such as race/ethnicity, age and nativity. The Data Center has other useful functions: comparing data between counties and states, locating rankings, viewing trends over multiple years, and creating and downloading charts and graphs.

For Advocates

Advocates can use Kids Count data to encourage stronger investments.

How we spend our money is a reflection of our priorities. When we allocate resources for kids and families in the Michigan state budget, we say that kids' well-being matters and that they deserve a better future.

With state revenues at an all-time high, there are opportunities to invest in the areas we care most about: fully funding the true cost of child care, strengthening our weighted school funding formula based on community and student need, and expanding the state's Earned Income Tax Credit to young workers without children, among other priorities. Here are five tips for using the Data Book and your own passions and expertise to influence the state budget and advocate for policy change:

Build relationships with your lawmakers.

Building an ongoing relationship makes your advocacy most impactful. A last-minute letter or phone call can be too little, too late. Let your representatives know what matters most to you as a constituent. You can educate them on the issues or ask them to vote a certain way on the final state budget or other policy.

Have good sources and timely information about the issues you care about.

Some decisions—like debates and votes on the state budget—can move quickly. The League provides timely information at www.mlpp.org. You can also use data from this book, our local data profiles, the *KIDS COUNT* Data Center and other sources to stay informed and make the case for why a particular issue is important.

Use your expertise.

You are an expert in your own lived experiences around what your community, family and children need. Data is most valuable when paired with personal stories that help policymakers understand why it's important to act. Working with local advocacy organizations and coalitions can also help to show a unified position on the issues you care about.

Provide your testimony.

Legislative committees typically take public testimony before voting on budget or policy items, and they need to hear from you. This is a great time to voice what is important to you and the specific budget items you support or oppose before a captive audience of lawmakers.

Don't forget the governor.

Michigan's governor has the power to veto portions of the budget passed by the Legislature and negotiates with legislative leaders throughout the process. Letting the governor know what you value is another way to advocate for the issues you care about.

The trends in this year's profiles should be approached with caution as they include the period covering 2020 and 2021 when, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, kids were facing both enormous disruptions and unprecedented government investment. These irregularities are discussed at length in the book, but may not represent long-term trends in child well-being.

Along with data on children, our data products include household indicators to help understand and

analyze family characteristics. Using a two-generational approach, the project recognizes that we cannot improve life for children without also addressing parental needs. We also recognize that structural racism and racial prejudice have made disparities by race inevitable. Our products disaggregate data by race and ethnicity when possible to better understand outcomes for various subgroups.

All data definitions and notes are available for every indicator

featured in the book and profiles at the back of the Data Book and online. All other citations are listed in the endnotes of each section.

Small population numbers in some areas of the state often result in data being suppressed because small numbers may cause rate changes to appear more significant. In addition, data may be available on different time frames (e.g. by school year, fiscal year, or by three- or five-year averages). Both suppression rules and time frames are noted in the definitions section.





Kids Count data is an important tool for policymakers.

Kids Count in Michigan has been an independent source of data and research for children and families for over 30 years. We publish a variety of data products and work with policymakers and community members across the state to understand and act on the challenges families face. Below are four ways Kids Count can support you while in office.

View outcomes specific to your district.

Easily view, rank and compare outcomes for nearly 100 indicators of well-being in your county and district with data from the Annie E. Casey *KIDS COUNT* Data Center (datacenter.aecf.org). Many indicators can be further broken down by demographic variables such as race and ethnicity, age and nativity.

Quickly access the most current data.

The biannual Data Book and annual profiles use the best data available. Even more, the Kids Count team regularly updates Michigan data on the online Data Center to ensure you always have access to the most current figures.

Consider policy recommendations backed by the public.

The League and Kids Count offer budget and policy recommendations based on data as well as community and collaborative input. In 2022, the League held two focus groups with 34 state residents, three boot camps with nearly 100 advocates, and dozens of meetings and presentations with partner organizations, all of which helped to identify top priorities for Michigan families and develop policy recommendations that meet the needs of people across the state.

Enjoy technical assistance.

The Kids Count team provides technical assistance, including answering questions and providing guidance on data and data sources to help inform your positions and generate new ideas.

Why Kids Count?

The Kids Count in Michigan Data Book seeks to tell the whole story of the whole child, looking at every area of kids and their families' lives and what policy changes can be made to improve them. I continue to work on policies to better address families at the ALICE threshold in Kent County and around the state, and Kids Count offers the data and policy insights to help inform these efforts. I hope my colleagues will join me in heeding this information and stepping up to do more for our kids.

● Michigan Senate Marjority Leader Winnie Brinks

A strong indicator of healthy, economically vibrant communities is the well-being of the children growing up in them. If state leaders want to see our Michigan communities and businesses thrive through the successful attraction and retention of the best talent in our competitive global marketplace, they must prioritize public policies that ensure quality educational attainment and brighter futures for Michigan children.

● Sandy K. Baruah, Detroit Regional Chamber

Kids Count in Michigan helps us make informed, data-driven decisions on how to improve outcomes for children and their communities. The information and insights that are shared each year are instrumental in the important work that we do to advance solutions and discoveries that improve the physical and mental health of children.

● Andrew Stein, Children's Foundation

Kids Count in Michigan is vital to community decision-making when we are looking for data across multiple communities in a region or one single community. This data is reviewed daily by nonprofit directors and grant writers across the state who are making the case for funding to their foundation. It continues to be a "go-to" resource for human service providers as well.

● Suzanne Greenberg, Children Trust Michigan

The data in the Kids Count report give a clear and consistent picture of the health and welfare of our children and are important to guide investments in our future.

● Kyle Caldwell, Council of Michigan Foundations

Michigan children and families should be at the forefront of every policy decision, and all children should be given the same opportunities to thrive. No child's well-being should be based on their race, ethnicity, family income or zip code. The Kids Count data helps ensure lawmakers know how kids are doing in our districts and what policies can help improve the lives of our young people. As a state senator and as a mom, securing the well-being of Michigan's kids is the most important part of my work.

● Michigan Sen. Stephanie Chang

Data in Action

Recent policy wins by the numbers

The past two years have seen numerous policy and budget wins that will measurably improve the lives of children and families in Michigan. Though some of the most effective policies were temporary, their benefits show what can be achieved when we choose to invest in the well-being of kids and their families.

Economic Security

In 2023, Michigan passed legislation **increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit from 6% to 30%** of the federal credit, increasing the average state credit by \$600. Nearly half of Michigan's children will benefit from the increase, which is expected to lift 16,000 kids out of poverty, by allowing their families to keep more of their hard-earned money to pay for essentials.

30%

\$600

Michigan provided a **\$600 young child supplement** for families participating in the Family Independence Program, Michigan's cash assistance program, in 2023. Recognizing the importance of these payments for families with young kids, the 2024 budget continues this program, providing a supplemental payment of at least \$400 per child under the age of 6.

Roughly **1.8 million children in Michigan benefited from the advance Child Tax Credit** as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in 2021.¹ For the first time, ARPA made the Child Tax Credit fully refundable and allowed half of the amount to be paid in advance in monthly increments. The expansion was not renewed, though many states, recognizing the success of the program, have since developed their own state-level credits. While Michigan does not have a statewide child tax credit, a new pilot program—Rx Kids—aims to address child poverty by providing prenatal and infant allowances to all newborns in Flint.

1.8 million

Education

grade 3

In early 2023, legislators repealed the retention component of Michigan's **Read by Grade Three** law, which mandates that students can be held back if they are not reading at grade level by third grade. While less than 10% of students eligible to be held back in the 2021-2022 school year were retained under the new law, there were substantial disparities in its application. Among students eligible for retention, students were more likely to be retained if they were economically disadvantaged or Black.²

\$6.9 billion

Three rounds of federal COVID-19 relief for states **provided \$6.9 billion for K-12 schools in Michigan** since 2020. Michigan allocated these funds to districts for per-pupil funding, health and safety expenditures, before- and after-school programs, learning loss and credit recovery,

The Michigan Achievement Scholarship was passed into law in 2022 to make college more affordable for families. The scholarship provides additional financial aid to attend community college or a four-year university for students who are eligible based on demonstrated need on the FAFSA. It is anticipated **the scholarship will cover 94% of students attending community college.**

94%

Health & Safety

Family & Community

4,000

Following more than a decade of advocacy, Michigan is eliminating the five-year waiting period for Medicaid and CHIP that applies to lawfully residing children and pregnant people. **The policy will extend healthcare coverage to as many as 4,000 immigrant children** who, aside from their immigrant status, would otherwise be eligible for Medicaid and CHIP.

\$160 million

Nearly 1 in 5 children—19% of all kids in Michigan—live in households that will experience food insecurity at some point during the year. Building on the success of a federal pandemic-era policy to provide universal school meals, Michigan included **\$160 million in the 2024 budget to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students.**

7

Michigan's LGBTQ+ legislative caucus grew to its largest ever in 2023, **with seven members in the House and Senate.** Lawmakers took action to expand the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression. Representation is critical for LGBTQ+ youth, who experience higher-than-average rates of anxiety and depression and increased suicide risk. Laws and policies that uplift LGBTQ+ youth are needed to protect their mental health and well-being so they can thrive.

32

The Michigan Task Force on Juvenile Justice Reform proposed **32 recommendations** to improve Michigan's juvenile justice system. These data-driven and stakeholder-informed recommendations seek to improve outcomes for justice-involved youth and increase equity in the system.

For the first time in 2023, state legislators included a permanent, dedicated funding stream of up to **\$50 million annually for the Michigan Housing and Community Development Fund**, which promotes affordable, attainable and workforce housing. One in four children live in a household with a high housing-cost burden in Michigan—meaning the family spent more than 30% of income on rent—and this kind of robust, continuous investment could help more families access affordable housing.

\$50 million

11%

States that have adopted laws requiring the safe storage of firearms have seen an **11% decrease in firearm suicide rates** among youth ages 14-17.³ Gun violence represents a public health emergency for young people ages 1 to 19 for whom firearms represent the number one cause of death. The governor signed new gun safety legislation—including a safe storage law—in 2023 and legislators are continuing to work towards passing additional firearm bills to reduce gun violence following the tragic shooting on Michigan State University's campus early in the 2023 legislative session.

1. IRS. "Advance Child Tax Credit Payments, by State," May 2022. <https://www.irs.gov/statistics/soi-tax-stats-advance-child-tax-credit-payments-in-2021>.
2. John Westall, et al. "Read by Grade Three Law Initial Retention Decisions for the 2021-22 School Year." Education Policy Innovation Collaborative (EPIC), Michigan State University, December 2022. https://epicedpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/RBG3_Retention_Report2_Dec2022.pdf.
3. Daniel W. Webster et al. "Association Between Youth-Focused Firearm Laws and Youth Suicides." <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/1991-94>.

Statewide Data Profile

DATA IS FOR 2021 UNLESS NOTED

POPULATION		POPULATION BY RACE AND ETHNICITY		
Total population	10,050,811	American Indian and Native Alaskan, alone	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-24
Child population	2,153,379	Asian, alone	11,973	5,970
• Ages 0-5	665,886	Black, alone	74,328	39,891
• Ages 6-12	838,360	Hispanic or Latino	347,374	137,045
• Ages 13-17	649,133	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, alone	190,002	73,278
Young adult population		Two or more races	637	319
• Ages 18-24	929,745	White, alone	110,256	35,456
			1,418,809	637,786

ECONOMIC SECURITY	KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2016)		MOST RECENT YEAR			Trend
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	
		Children in poverty, ages 0-17	444,100	20.7%	372,695	17.6%	
Young adults in poverty, ages 18-24	259,853	28.5%	186,913	21.5%	-24.6%	●	
Free & reduced-price lunch, K-12	679,208	45.8%	741,067	53.3%	16.4%	●	
ADDITIONAL DATA		Number	Rate				
Households in poverty & ALICE		1,570,724	39.0%				
Children receiving...							
• Cash assistance (FIP), ages 0-18 (2022)		24,077	1.1%				
• Food assistance (FAP), ages 0-18 (2022)		525,320	23.0%				
• Women, Infant and Children (WIC), ages 0-4		234,429	41.9%				
• Subsidized child care payments, ages 0-12 (2022)		31,393	2.1%				
Average cost of full-time child care/month; (% of full-time minimum wage; 2022)		\$722	42.3%				

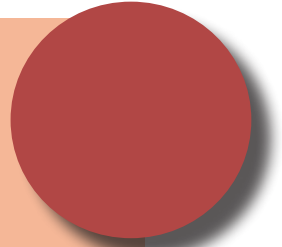
EDUCATION	KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2016)		MOST RECENT YEAR			Trend
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	
		3- and 4-year olds in preschool	111,952	47.3%	105,230	44.8%	
Students graduating on time (2022)	97,146	79.6%	95,464	81.0%	1.8%	●	
3rd graders proficient in ELA, M-STEP (2022)	49,653	46.0%	40,253	42.1%	-8.5%	●	
ADDITIONAL DATA		Number	Rate				
Children receiving <i>Early On</i> services, ages 0-2 (2022) [^]		12,371	3.9%				
Students in special education, ages 0-26		203,392	14.5%				
Students experiencing homelessness, K-12 [^]		28,724	2.0%				
8th graders proficient in math, PSAT (2022)		36,274	36.9%				
Children with internet at home, ages 0-17		2,050,986	93.9%				

[^]Multiple counties may be served by a single ISD. In this case, the data cannot be broken down by county, and the same proportion is listed for each county. See the Data Definitions & Notes page for the county to ISD key.

HEALTH & SAFETY

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2016)		MOST RECENT YEAR			Trend
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	
Less than adequate prenatal care	36,926	32.5%	31,948	31.5%	-3.1%	●
Infant mortality <i>rate per 1,000</i>	763	6.7	685	6.8	1.5%	●
Low-birthweight babies	9,637	8.5%	9,089	9.0%	5.9%	●
ADDITIONAL DATA			Number	Rate		
Children with health insurance, ages 0-18 (2020)			2,118,456	97.4%		
Insured by Medicaid, ages 0-18 (2022)			1,132,428	49.6%		
Fully immunized toddlers, ages 19-35 months (2022)			107,075	66.1%		
Children tested for lead, ages 1-2			63,781	29.2%		
Children with food insecurity, ages 0-17 (2020)			297,150	13.7%		

The trends in this year's profiles should be approached with caution as they all include the period covering 2020 and 2021 when—at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic—kids were facing both enormous disruptions and unprecedented government investment.

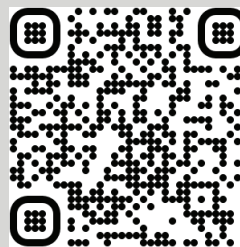


FAMILY & COMMUNITY

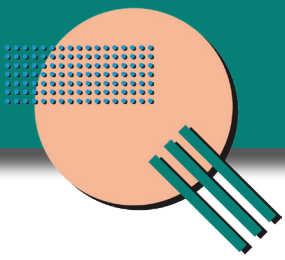
	BASE YEAR (2016)		MOST RECENT YEAR			Trend
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	
Birth to teens, ages 15-19 <i>rate per 1,000</i>	6,371	19.4	4,080	13.0	-33.0%	●
Children in poverty by household structure:						
• Family with married parents, ages 0-17	151,815	10.6%	115,846	8.1%	-23.6%	●
• Family with single parents, ages 0-17	335,485	45.5%	265,557	37.2%	-18.2%	●
ADDITIONAL DATA			Number	Rate		
Children owed child support, ages 0-19			461,754	19.4%		
Child support owed; none received, ages 0-19			85,627	18.5%		
Children who are foreign-born, ages 5-17			44,858	2.8%		
Language other than English spoken at home, ages 5-17			170,024	10.5%		
Families with high housing-cost burden			1,030,529	25.9%		

KEY

- Improving
 - Little Change
 - Worsening
 - N/A Data not available
 - * Data suppressed
- For all data definitions and sources, see the Data definitions, notes and sources section.*



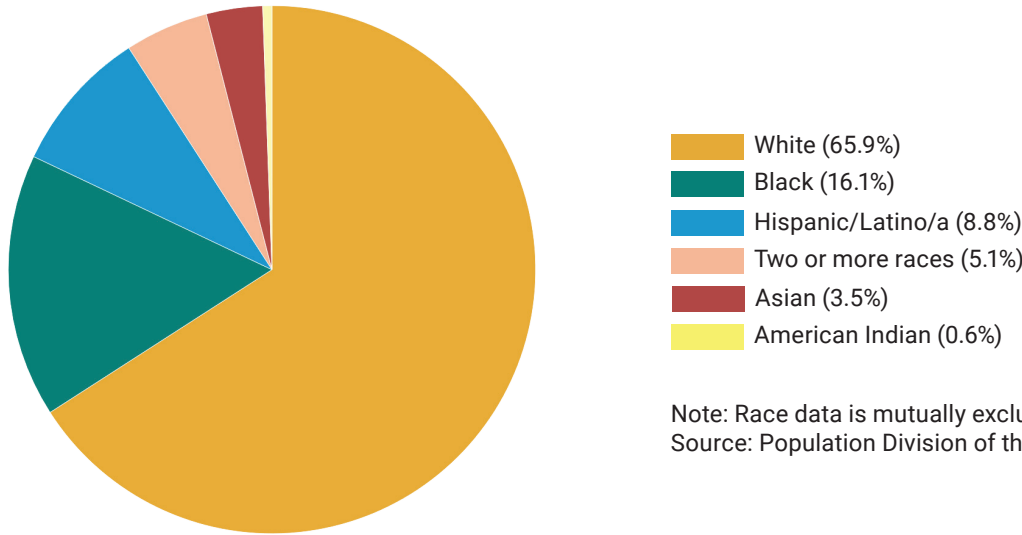
Scan this code to access the Kids Count Online Data Center, which provides additional data, including nearly 150 indicators, trends, graphs, rates and more.



Population & Demographics

Michigan has grown more diverse over the past two decades, with children who identify as Asian, Hispanic and two or more races increasing over that time period despite an otherwise declining child population.

Michigan children by race or ethnicity in 2021



Note: Race data is mutually exclusive from Hispanic/Latino/a category
Source: Population Division of the U.S. Census Bureau

Children living in poverty are more likely to face barriers throughout their lives.



Notes: In 2021, the poverty threshold for a family with two adults and two children was \$27,479.
"Kids in immigrant families" includes children who are immigrants or who live with at least one immigrant parent.
"Single-parent households" include families with two adults who are not married.



14% of children in Michigan are from immigrant families. Immigrant families are an asset to Michigan. Their children, whether born in the U.S. or elsewhere, aspire to become teachers, artists, scientists and even future policymakers. When we invest in children from all backgrounds, we are investing in a vibrant and resilient future for Michigan.

Note: This includes children who are immigrants or who live with at least one immigrant parent.

FAST FACTS:

Michigan is home to 2,153,379 children ages 0-17.

21% of Michigan's population are children.



Where do kids live? Children in every county in Michigan deserve fresh food, a stable home, safe drinking water and well-funded schools. Knowing where kids live and ensuring those communities are well-resourced will help kids and their families thrive.

17%

live in non-metro areas

5%

live in unsafe neighborhoods

11%

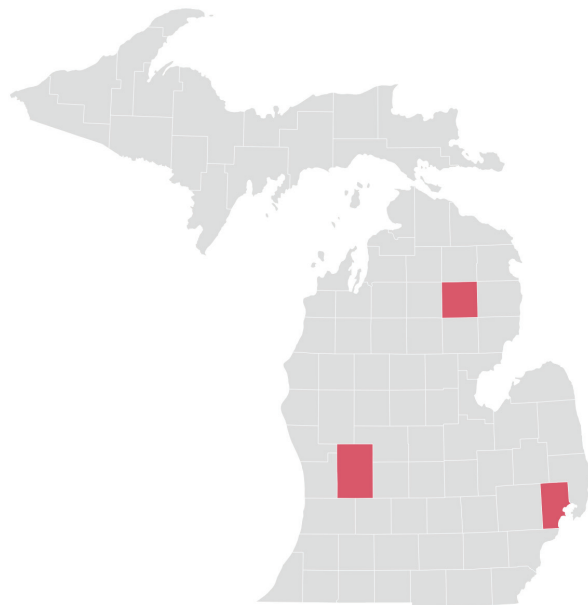
live in high-poverty areas

Notes: "Non-metro" areas are defined by the USDA to include open countryside, rural towns with fewer than 2,500 people and urban areas with populations under 50,000 that are not part of a larger labor market area. "Unsafe neighborhoods" based on surveys of parents and guardians. "High-poverty" areas include census tracts where more than 30% of residents are below the poverty line.

The 2020 Census was disrupted by the pandemic, leading to undercounts of certain populations that will have long-lasting effects on how resources are allocated to communities.

In Michigan, three counties had high undercounts of children in 2020—Kent, Macomb and Oscoda.¹ In addition, the Census Bureau has acknowledged undercounts among Black and Hispanic populations nationwide—by 3.3% and 5% respectively.²

Source: Count All Kids





Evidence Into Action

Smart Policy Choices for Michigan's Kids

1. Close the gender pay gap.

\$17,000

Poverty rates for children in families headed by single mothers are higher than for any other household structure. While all women face a persistent gender pay gap, the gap for working moms is even greater. **Full-time working mothers lose an estimated \$17,000 annually due to the pay gap.**³ Racial inequities compound these disparities, meaning Latina, American Indian and Black mothers are losing even more. Ensuring moms are paid fairly for their labor is essential to reducing poverty in Michigan.

2. Invest in robust, equitable data systems.

291,512

Representation in data means representation in policy—without the right data, our policies will always come up short and our ability to analyze and improve them will be limited. As Michigan's child population becomes more diverse, having data disaggregated by age, race, ethnicity, gender and geography is essential, but our systems are sometimes lacking. For example, the decennial census does not include a Middle Eastern or North African (MENA) category to collect race and ethnicity data about Arab Americans, but other survey data suggests Michigan's MENA population is growing rapidly, estimated at approximately **291,512**—a likely undercount—in 2019. Michiganders need this kind of disaggregated data that is accurate, reliable and easily accessible if we are going to make informed policy decisions and be able to identify trends and gaps in children's well-being.

Note: MLPP analysis of 2021 IPUMS USA (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series) data. Includes survey respondents who listed ancestry or ethnic origin as "North Africa and Southwest Asia."

End Notes

1. William P. O'Hare. "Counties with High Undercounts of Children in 2020 U.S. Census." Count All Kids, March 2023. <https://2hj858.a2cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Counties-with-High-Undercounts-of-Children-in-2020-U.S.-Census.pdf>.

2. Census Bureau. "Census Bureau Releases Estimates of Undercount and Overcount in the 2020 Census," March 10, 2022. <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2022/2020-census-estimates-of-undercount-and-overcount.html>.

3. Jasmine Tucker. "The Wage Gap Shortchanges Mothers." National Women's Law Center, August 2022. <https://nwlc.org/>





Active Voice

Youth weigh in on what matters

What do you want adults to know about what it's like to be a young person right now?

It's hard and we may need them to be patient and things aren't how they use to be when they were younger.

● **Anaya, age 14**
Ingham County

I think it is important that adults know it can be really challenging to be a young person right now. Not only is fitting in and "being cool" more stressed about than ever, but tons of young people are suffering with mental health issues and are not receiving enough support.

● **Emma, age 16**
Eaton County

Being a young person is challenging, but we are resilient and capable of making a difference.

● **Christina, age 14**
Washtenaw County

We're passionate about causes such as gun control, climate change and social justice.

● **John, age 16**
Macomb County



The pressure to succeed academically can be overwhelming at times.

● **Christopher, age 12**
Macomb County

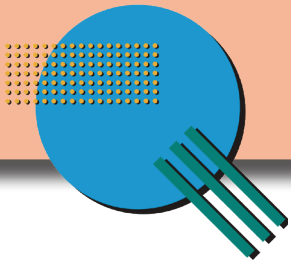
That even though there are differences in the way we are being raised—with technology and such— we are still young and navigating the world just as they are.

● **Brenda, age 17**
Wayne County

It's really, really stressful. I don't see much of a future for myself between climate change, the economy, marginalized people losing their human rights and probably a ton of debt.

● **Elliot, age 15**
Washtenaw County





Economic Security

FAST FACTS:

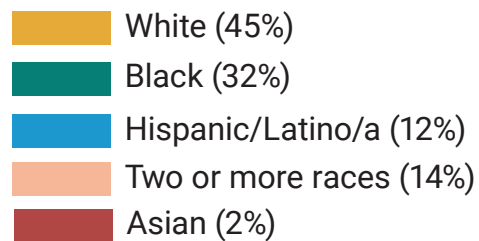
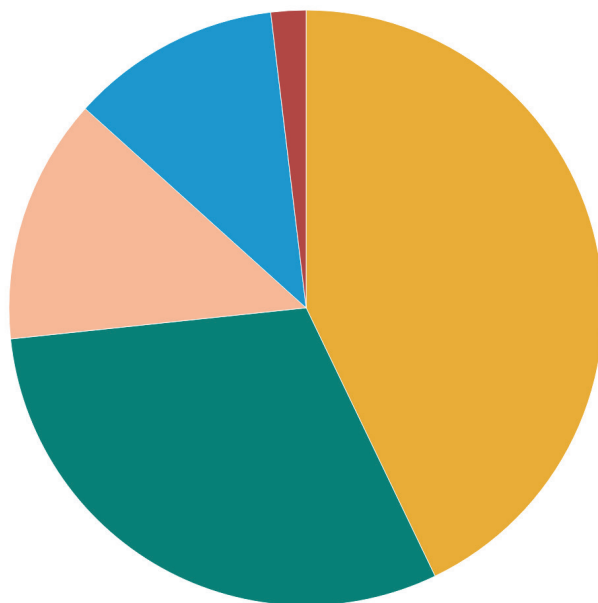
18% of Michigan's children live in poverty.

\$30,000 annually is the poverty level for a family of four. (2023)

The median household income is \$63,444.



377,000 children in Michigan live below the poverty line



Note: Race data is mutually exclusive from Hispanic/Latino/a category
Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation.

PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS

Alongside loss of employment income due to pandemic disruptions as well as increased inflation, families with children are experiencing elevated levels of economic and food insecurity. Federal Economic Impact Payments in 2020 and 2021 helped families make ends meet early in the pandemic, but families increasingly struggled to pay their usual household expenses as inflation took off and relief programs expired.

Families with children have continued to struggle with paying for food and other household expenses.

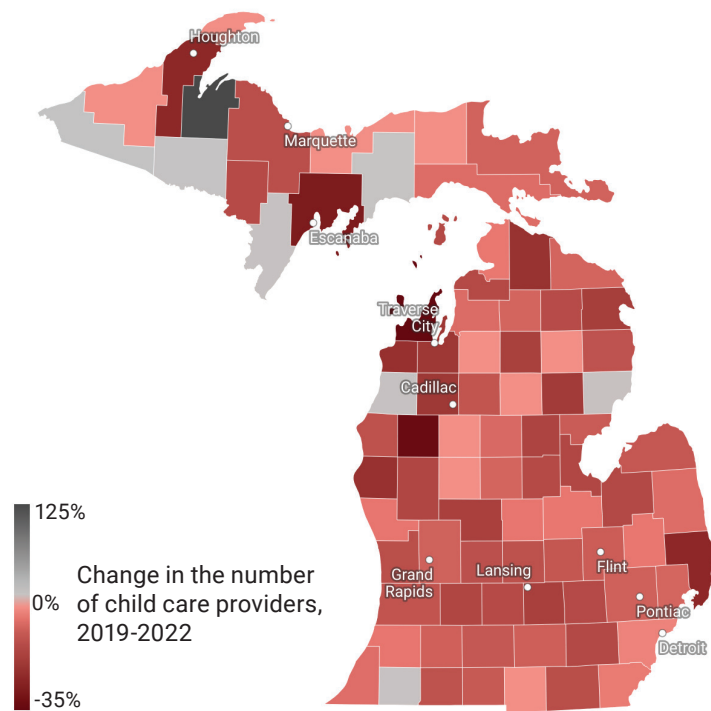


Source: Household Pulse Surveys

The number of child care providers remains below pre-pandemic levels in 54 counties.

Families and child care providers faced additional challenges during the pandemic. Unlike schools, child care centers could remain open—often with reduced capacity—to allow essential workers a place to drop off their kids.

But reduced capacity was difficult, especially for family providers, which were in turn more likely to close permanently. Many communities across Michigan were already considered “child care deserts”—meaning there were more than three kids for every one available slot—and the pandemic has only exacerbated the gap.



Source: Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Safety net expansions were instrumental in reducing child poverty during the pandemic.

Children in poverty according to the Supplemental Poverty Measure, ages 0-17



Note: The Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) includes a broad range of resources for families, including noncash benefits and tax credits. Source: Current Population Survey

Federal legislation provided three Economic Impact Payments in the first 12 months of the pandemic, which included \$500, \$600 and \$1,400 for each qualifying child in eligible families. In addition to these “stimulus checks,” many families were eligible for an expanded Child Tax Credit, which (a) increased the value of the credit, (b) provided advance monthly payments for six months in 2021 and (c) made the credit fully refundable so families with very low incomes could claim the full value of the credit. These investments in kids and their families drove the poverty rate down rather than up despite the economic disruptions.

Federal investments in child care were essential for providers and families.

Federal relief dollars also helped both providers and families access child care during the pandemic, raising the income eligibility limit for families to 200% of the federal poverty level (\$55,500 for a family of four) and **providing grants to 6,465 child care programs, covering every county across the state.**¹

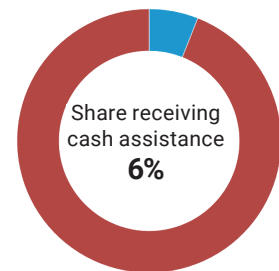


Evidence Into Action

Smart Policy Choices for Michigan’s Kids

1. Preserve federal TANF dollars for direct cash assistance, increase benefit levels and eliminate restrictive eligibility rules.

Very few children in poverty receive basic cash assistance. The number of children in Michigan benefiting from cash assistance, funded through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, has fallen drastically since its peak in 1981. In 2022, just 24,000 children lived in families receiving benefits as the state has increasingly directed dollars away from direct cash assistance and toward projects that do not serve the most vulnerable residents of our state. In 2021, Michigan allocated 16% of TANF dollars to college financial aid, but only 6% on its Family Independence Program (FIP), which provides direct cash assistance.² By preserving more federal TANF funding for direct cash assistance, the state could increase benefit levels for families with the lowest incomes.



Kids in Poverty

Source: Michigan League for Public Policy analysis of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services data.

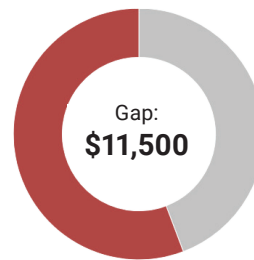
In addition, Michigan can ensure more families receive the assistance they need by eliminating restrictive eligibility rules for FIP that deny assistance to kids when parents are out of compliance with child support, not meeting work requirements or have savings beyond the \$15,000 asset limit. Work requirements are particularly harmful for kids, as they have been found to cause a rise in deep poverty and increase child welfare involvement.

2. Fully fund the true cost of child care.

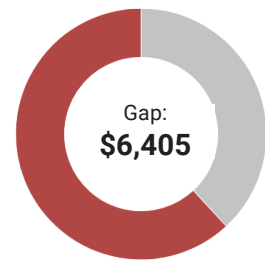
Michigan’s current child care system is underfunded, with subsidy rates that are insufficient to meet the true needs of kids and their families, and reimbursement rates that leave child care providers unable to pay their living wage.

As a result, child care is too expensive for many families—who must pay out of their own pockets—and unsustainable for child care providers. Fully funding the true cost of child care—including home visiting and *Early On* services—would require a state investment of over \$3.5 billion.³

Child care subsidy rates do not fund the true cost of care for children ages 0-5.



Cost of care for an infant
\$26,000



Cost of care for a 4-year-old
\$16,805

Note: The “true cost of care” includes a living wage for the early childhood education workforce.
Source: Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies (P5FS)

3. Establish a refundable state Child Tax Credit.

**1 in 4
kids left out**

Following on the successes of the temporary federal Child Tax Credit expansion in 2021, a growing number of states have enacted state-level tax credits to ensure the economic security and well-being of children in those states. Michigan should adopt a targeted Child Tax Credit that is fully refundable so even kids in families with very low or no income—including those who miss out on the full federal credit—can benefit. At present, **1 in 4 kids is left out of the full Child Tax Credit because their parents’ earnings are too low.**⁴ Black and Hispanic children as well as kids in rural families and those with single parents are disproportionately excluded from the federal credit because their families tend to earn less.

End Notes

1. “Michigan ARP Child Care Stabilization Fact Sheet.” Administration for Children and Families, 2023. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/occ/Michigan_ARP_Child_Care_Stabilization_Fact_Sheet.pdf.
2. Peter Ruark. “RAISE THE STANDARD: Revitalize the Family Independence Program to Help More Michigan Families Reach Financial Stability.” Michigan League for Public Policy, February 2023. <https://mlpp.org/revitalize-the-family-independence-program-to-help-more-michigan-families-reach-financial-stability/>.
3. Hope Starts Here. “True Cost of Care Analysis.” <https://hopestartsheredetroit.org/cost-of-care/>.
4. Chuck Marr, et al. “Year-End Tax Policy Priority: Expand the Child Tax Credit for the 19 Million Children Who Receive Less Than the Full Credit.” Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, December 2022. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-tax/year-end-tax-policy-priority-expand-the-child-tax-credit-for-the-19-million>.

Education

FAST FACTS:

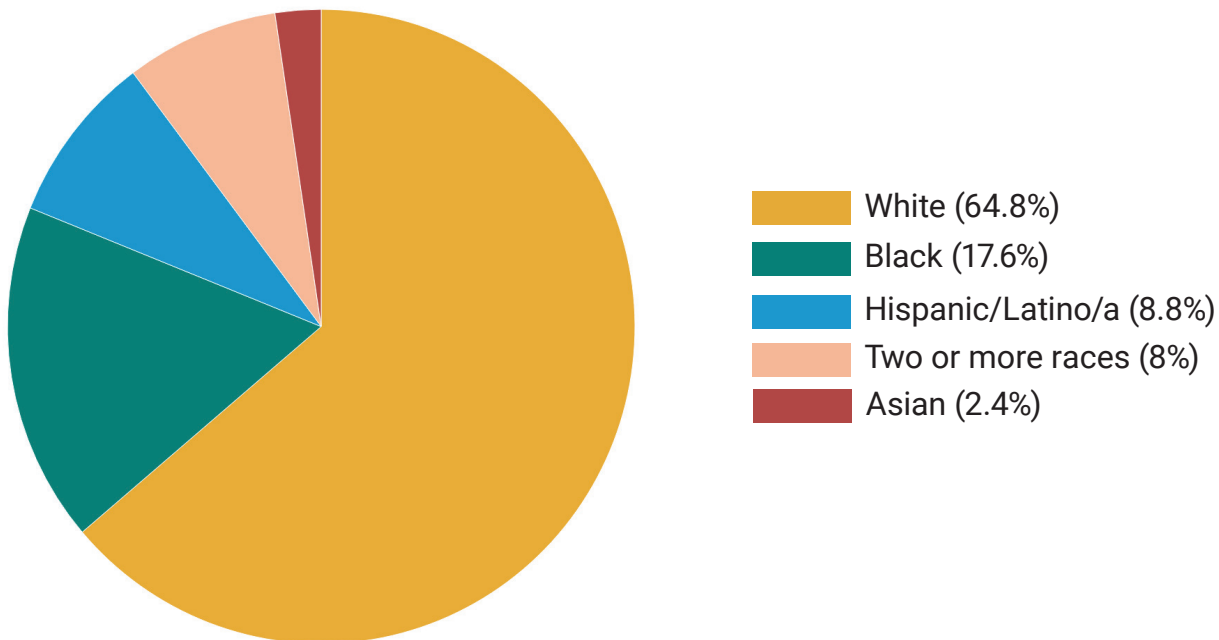
19% of students are not graduating on time.

203,392 students are in special education (ages 0-26).

53% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.



130,000 three- and four-year-olds in Michigan are not in school.



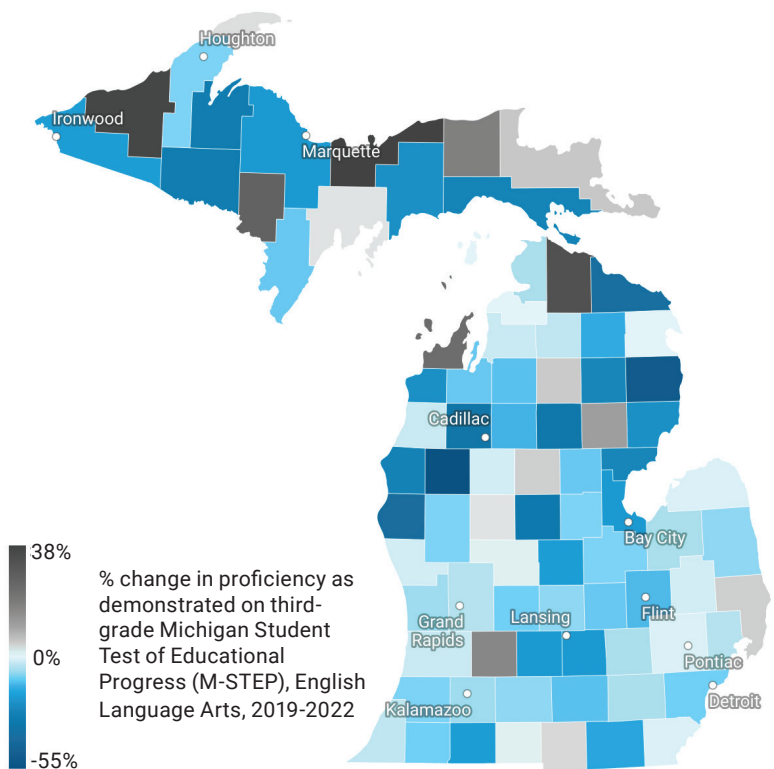
Note: Population Reference Bureau analysis of American Community Survey, 2017-2021. Totals may sum to more than 100% because Hispanic/Latino/a is not mutually exclusive from some race categories. These data were derived from ACS table B14003.
Source: American Community Survey

PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS

63 counties saw a decline in the share of students proficient in third-grade reading during the pandemic.

Students faced numerous disruptions to their school and home lives during the pandemic, leading to substantial declines in reading proficiency in recent years. Students were not tested in 2020 due to school closures and only 71% of third graders took the exam in 2021 due to continued pandemic disruptions, but results from 2022 revealed the sharp drop affecting students in the vast majority of the state.

Even before the pandemic, Michigan had been one of the lowest-performing states on reading proficiency, but the pandemic set students further back. The Education Trust found that during the pandemic, students in Lansing Public Schools and Saginaw Public Schools lost over a year of reading knowledge.¹

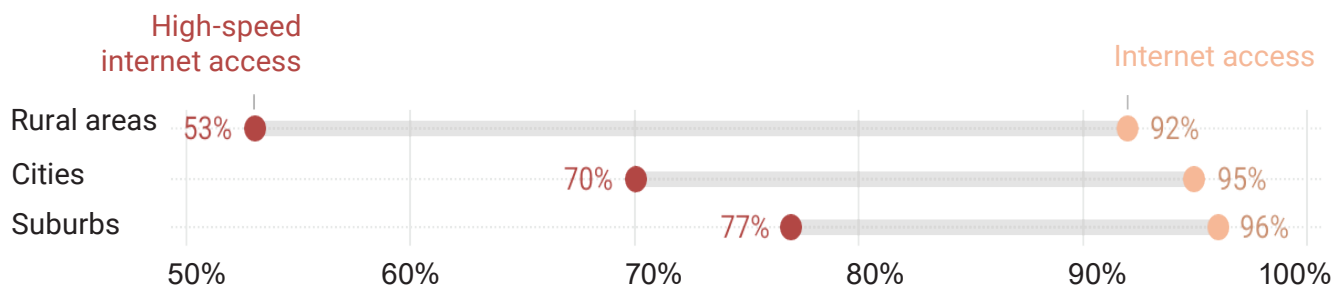


Source: Michigan Department of Education



All families should have access to high-quality pre-K education through our existing system of child care centers, family child care home providers, Head Start and public schools.

Students in rural areas are least likely to report having access to high-speed internet.

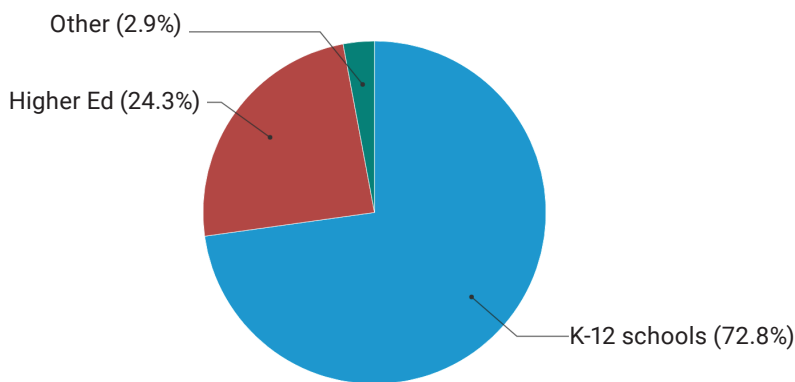


Source: Quello Center, Michigan State University

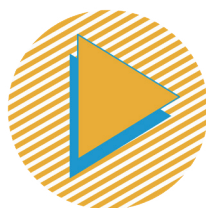
When schools sent students home early in the pandemic to engage in remote learning, not all students had access to the tools they needed to succeed. Students in rural areas as well as those whose families are at or near the poverty line were most likely to lack access to high-speed at-home internet.² As online learning becomes the new norm, poor internet connectivity puts some students at a disadvantage, as they are not able to actively participate in learning or complete assignments.

Of the \$9.5 billion in recovery dollars allocated to education, nearly three quarters went to K-12 school districts.

States saw three rounds of educational investments. The largest of these, the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, provided nearly \$5.8 billion for Michigan’s K-12 schools. Another, the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), allocated an additional \$2.1 billion for Michigan’s colleges and universities. A smaller allocation of \$173.5 million was set aside for Michigan’s non-public schools.



Source: MLPP analysis of House Fiscal Agency data



Evidence Into Action

Smart Policy Choices for Michigan’s Kids

1. Make sure all 4-year-olds can attend pre-K.

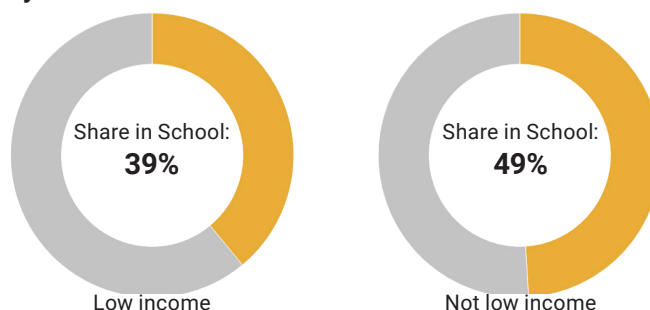
School readiness—having the cognitive, behavioral and social skills to succeed in school—is a strong predictor of a child’s future educational achievement.

All families should have access to high-quality pre-K education through our existing system of child care centers, family child care home providers, Head Start and public schools.

Note: In 2021, a family of four with an income under \$53,000 is considered low income.

Source: MLPP analysis of ACS 5-year estimates for 2021

3- and 4-year-olds are less likely to be in school if their family has a low income.

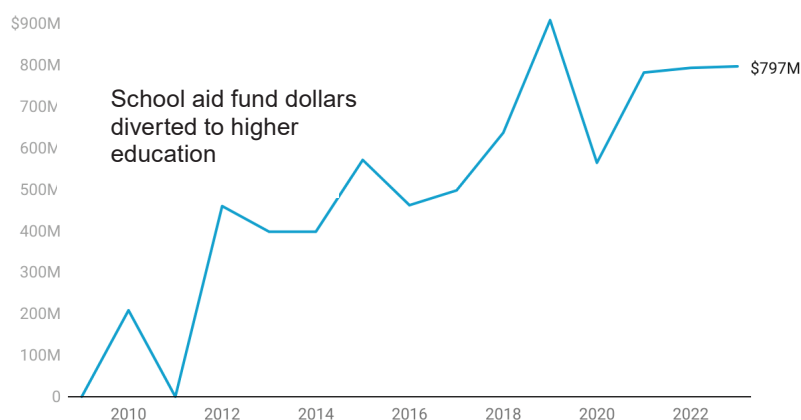


2. Preserve School Aid Fund dollars for K-12 schools.

Since 2010, Michigan has increasingly drawn on School Aid Fund (SAF) dollars to support universities and community colleges, which have historically been funded entirely by General Fund/General Purpose revenues.

Diverting SAF dollars for higher education institutions is harmful to public schools, which need reliable and adequate funding to prepare students for college and their careers.

Nearly \$7.5 billion has been diverted to postsecondary education since the practice began in 2012.



Source: House and Senate Fiscal Agencies

3. Adopt a weighted school funding formula based on community and student need.

\$5.1 billion

Current funding levels for students in schools with concentrated poverty, who are learning English or who have disabilities is insufficient to meet student needs and begin to address existing disparities in educational outcomes. The Education Trust found **Michigan is underfunding students from low-income backgrounds and English-language learners by \$5.1 billion annually.**³ The 2024 budget makes important strides in providing more investments for students who qualify for at-risk funding, but we can continue to do more to make sure we are meeting the educational needs of all students.

End Notes

1. "Beyond the Pandemic: State of Michigan Education Report 2023." The Education Trust--Midwest, 2023. https://midwest.edtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2023-State-of-Michigan-Education-Report_v.10.pdf?emci=535b852f-3dde-ed11-8e8b-00224832eb73&emdi=c110d715-b2de-ed11-8e8b-00224832eb73&ceid=468420.
2. Keith N. Hampton, et al. "Broadband and Student Performance Gaps." Quello Center, Michigan State University, 2020. https://quello.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Broadband_Gap_Quello_Report_MSU.pdf.
3. Jen DeNeal, et al. "Eliminating the Opportunity Gaps: Creating a Truly Fair and Equitable Funding System." The Education Trust--Midwest, 2023. <https://midwest.edtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/FINAL-Eliminating-the-Opportunity-Gaps-Fair-Funding-Brief.pdf>.



Active Voice

Youth weigh in on what matters

What's your biggest concern about life after high school?

I'm most concerned about my finances after I graduate. I'm worried that I'm going to get into a lot of debt between college, houses and cars. I don't really know how to do taxes or manage my paycheck and understand how to spend it wisely.

● **Nellie, age 15**
Eaton County

It's hard. Just the fact that you don't get the time to ease out of high school—just jumping from one school to another is a bit challenging.

● **Radija, age 18**
Wayne County

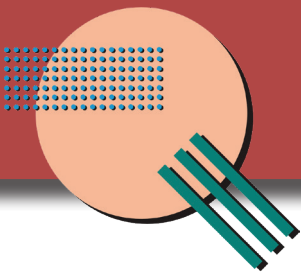
My biggest concern for life after graduation is if I am making the right career choice. It's hard to know what you want to do forever when you are applying to college.

● **Avah, age 17**
Kalamazoo County

One of my biggest concerns is not being prepared or making a mistake in the direction I choose to take academically or career-wise and regretting it.

● **Gwendolyn, age 17**
Eaton County





Health & Safety

FAST FACTS:

97.4% of Michigan children have health insurance.

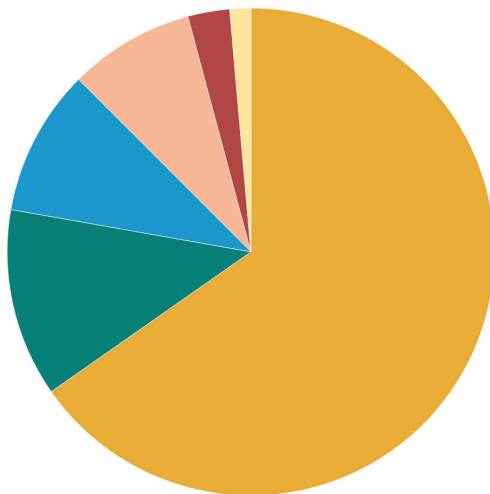
13.5% of kids have anxiety or depression.

1,823 children ages 0-14 were hospitalized for asthma in 2020.



Laws and policies that uplift LGBTQ+ youth are needed to protect their mental health and well-being so they can thrive.

69,000 children are without health insurance.



- White (68%)
- Black (13%)
- Hispanic/Latino/a (10%)
- Two or more races (9%)
- Asian (3%)
- American Indian (1%)

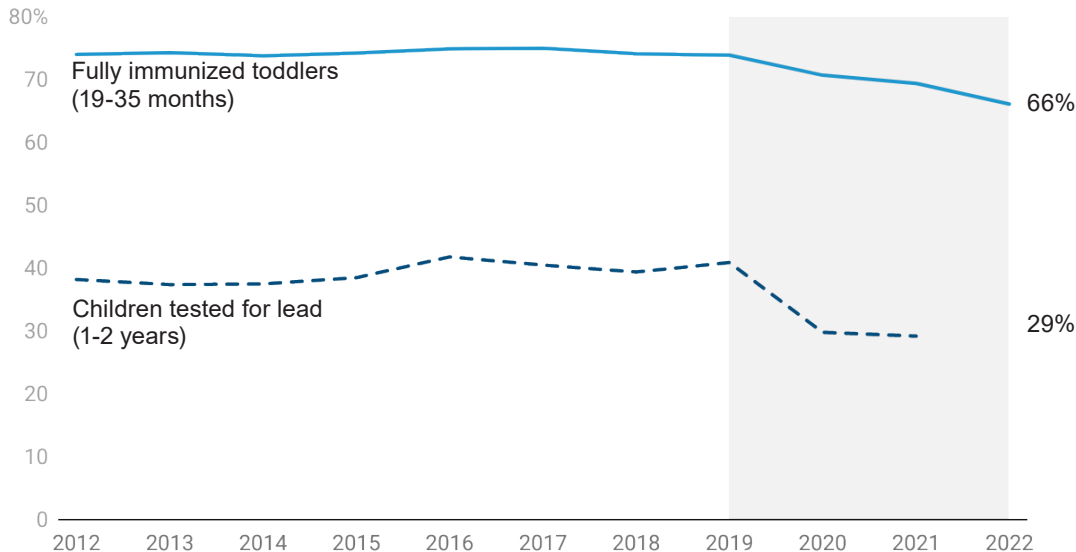
Note: Population Reference Bureau analysis of American Community Survey, 2021. Shares may sum to over 100% because Hispanic/Latino/a is not mutually exclusive from American Indian, Asian, Black or two or more races. These data are derived from data available in ACS table C27001 (B,C,D,E,G,H,I).

Source: American Community Survey

PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS

Toddlers fell behind on routine immunizations and lead testing during the pandemic.

More than 1 in 4 Michigan households with children reported missing, skipping or delaying preventative check-ups during the first year of the pandemic.¹ Attending regular check-ups is especially important for young children because this is the time for crucial vaccinations as well as early intervention if they are missing early milestones. But with many public health departments operating on irregular schedules and stay-at-home orders discouraging in-person activity, many infants and toddlers saw disruptions in their well-child visits.



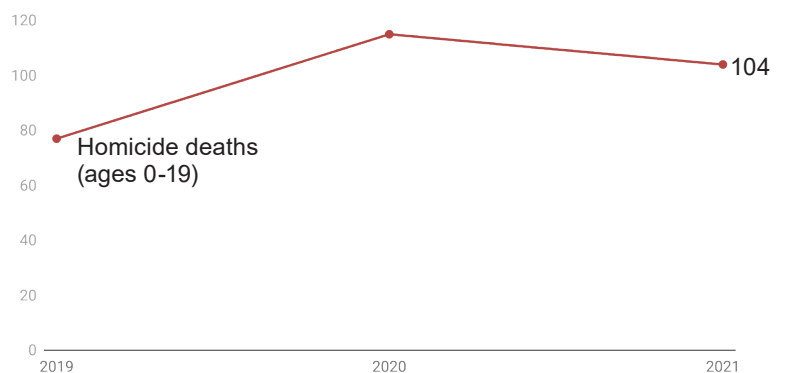
Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

1 in 3

The pandemic and its effects—like the transition to virtual schooling, social isolation and access to usual sources of care suddenly cut off—have contributed to adverse mental health impacts for young people. A national survey administered during the spring of 2021 revealed **more than 1 in 3 high school students experienced poor mental health during the pandemic.** Reports of poor mental health were highest among LGBTQ+ youth, more than half of whom reported experiencing stress, anxiety or depression most or all of the time.²

Michigan saw a spike in child and teen homicide deaths during the first year of the pandemic.

During the first year of the pandemic Michigan saw an increase in child mortality, driven not by COVID-19, but by a 49% increase in homicide deaths. Nearly 3 in 4 child homicides in 2020 were caused by firearms, following a trend seen across the country that researchers are calling an epidemic of gun violence.³ While mass shootings—like those in Oxford or on the Michigan State University campus—often capture our attention and drive calls for change, the daily reality of gun violence harms all kids. Communities of color face the greatest risk, with Black boys roughly twice as likely to become victims of gun violence than their white peers.



Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

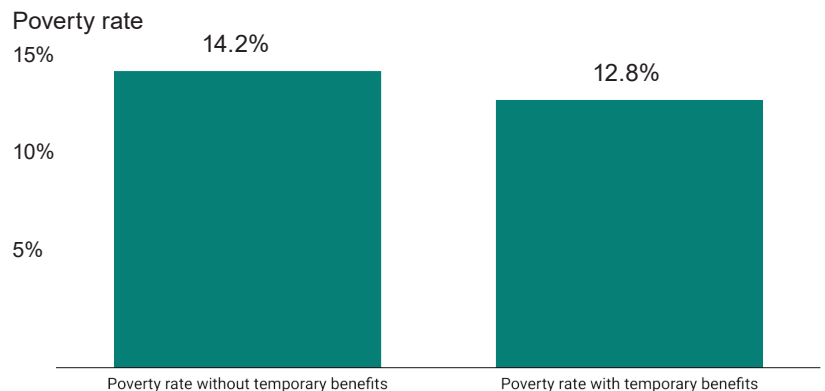
SPOTLIGHT

Big investments, big results.

Temporary food assistance benefits during the pandemic kept 133,000 Michiganders out of poverty.

Food insecurity tends to rise during economic downturns as families struggle to afford basic needs, sometimes having to choose between rent, heat or groceries. But an increase in federal nutrition assistance helped to mitigate the effects of household financial insecurity on child hunger.

This included a temporary increase in monthly payments for eligible Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients, lasting through February 2023. Families with children on average saw larger increases in monthly benefits.



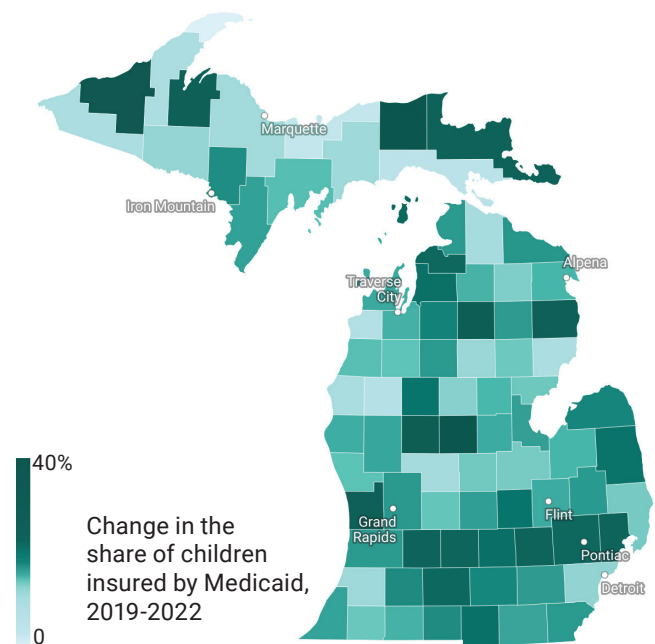
Note: The poverty rate is based on the Supplemental Poverty Measure, which incorporates the value of noncash benefits.
Source: Urban Institute



The number of children insured by Medicaid has increased throughout the state thanks to continuous enrollment.

Since the Public Health Emergency began in 2020, Michigan did not disenroll any beneficiary from Medicaid for over three years. From November 2019 to November 2022, Michigan saw a 19% increase in children insured by Medicaid or MiChild.

Continuous enrollment has allowed an increasing number of kids to remain insured throughout the pandemic, but that policy is coming to an end and Michigan is required to redetermine eligibility for over 3 million Medicaid recipients. The redetermination period began in June 2023 and will continue through May 2024.



Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services



Evidence Into Action

Smart Policy Choices for Michigan's Kids

1. Adopt multi-year Medicaid coverage for young children.

368,000

Continuous enrollment policies for Medicaid enacted during the pandemic proved extraordinarily successful in maintaining—and even growing—the rate of children insured despite what could have otherwise been a disruptive period. Michigan can learn from this success by adopting multi-year coverage for children under 6, ensuring young children do not lose coverage at renewal time due to temporary fluctuations in family income, confusion over requirements or lost paperwork. This change would benefit over **368,000 children** ages 0-5 insured by Medicaid as of March 2023.

2. Provide a full year of Medicaid postpartum coverage, regardless of immigration status.

12 months

In April 2022, Michigan built on the success of a pandemic-era policy to provide **12 months of continuous Medicaid postpartum coverage**—up from 60 days—for those who give birth while on Medicaid. Access to care is important for both maternal health outcomes and child development, but undocumented individuals are ineligible for the extended coverage because of their immigration status.

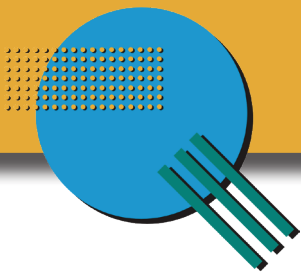
Thanks to the recent adoption of the ICHIA option—which provides coverage for lawfully residing pregnant women without a five-year wait—the cost of such a change could be covered mostly by existing dollars, including those available through the state's CHIP Health Services Initiative funding.

End Notes

1. Lydie A. Lebrun-Harris, et al. "Missed and Delayed Preventive Health Care Visits Among US Children Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic." *Public Health Reports* 137, no. 2 (2022): 336–43.

2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey (ABES)," 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/abes.htm>.

3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "WISQARS National Violent Death Reporting System." Accessed May 19, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal/index.html>.



Family & Community

FAST FACTS:

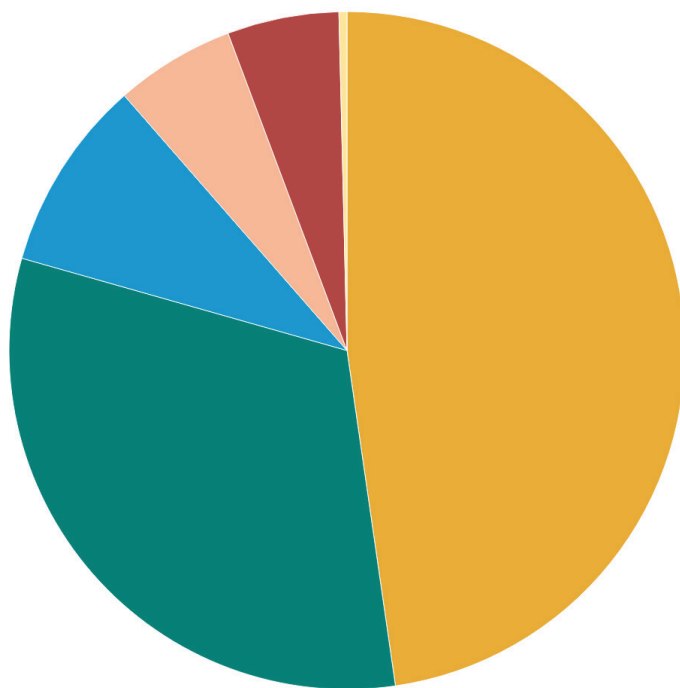
25% of children live with a single mom.

184,048 children in Michigan have a parent who has been incarcerated.

60% of youth ages 14-17 volunteered in the past year.



239,000 children live in high-poverty areas



- White (48.8%)
- Black (32.4%)
- Hispanic/Latino/a (9.4%)
- Two or more races (5.9%)
- Asian (5.5%)
- American Indian (0.4%)

Note: Shares may sum to more than 100% because Hispanic/Latino/a is not mutually exclusive from American Indian, Asian, Black and two or more races.

Source: American Community Survey

PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS

Black children were three times as likely as white children to lose a primary or secondary caregiver to COVID-19.

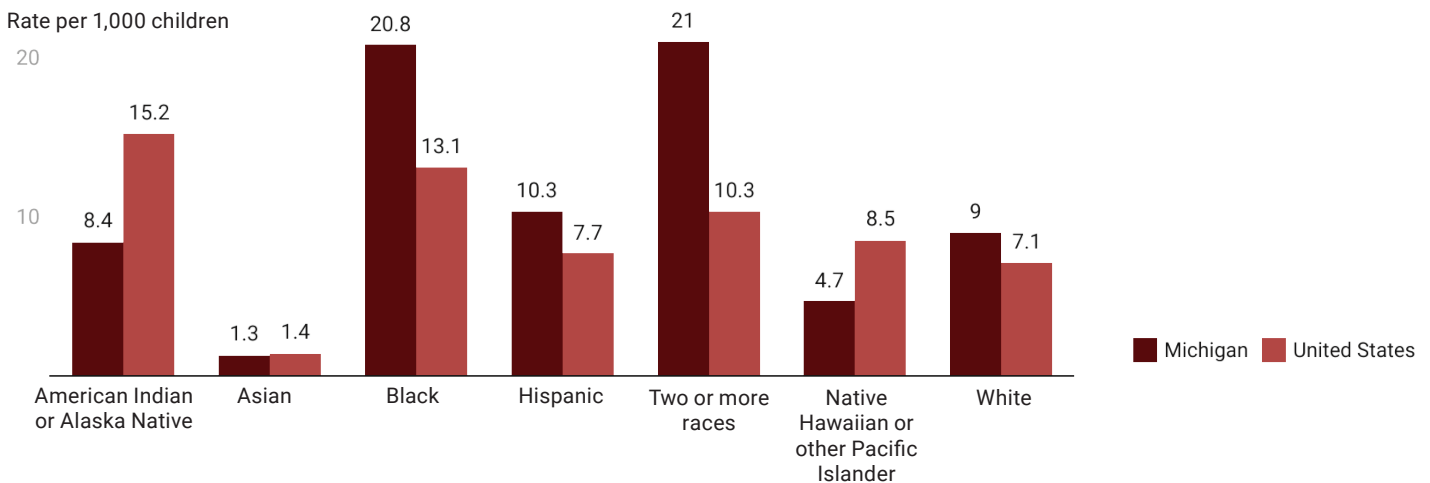


Note: Data is the rate per 1,000 and covers the period from April 1, 2020 - Dec. 31, 2022
 Source: MLPP analysis of Imperial College London and American Community Survey Data

While the number of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths continues to fall every day, the children and families who lost a caregiver continue to face hardship. In Michigan, 9,016 children lost a primary or secondary caregiver to COVID-19, and disparities in healthcare access, ability to work remotely and reliance on public transportation, among others, put children of color at greater risk of loss during the pandemic.¹

Loss of a caregiver is a highly stressful and traumatic event that is associated with a range of adverse outcomes for children, including an increased risk of poverty as well as worsened health and behavioral outcomes later in life.

Black and multiracial children in Michigan face high rates of confirmed abuse and neglect.

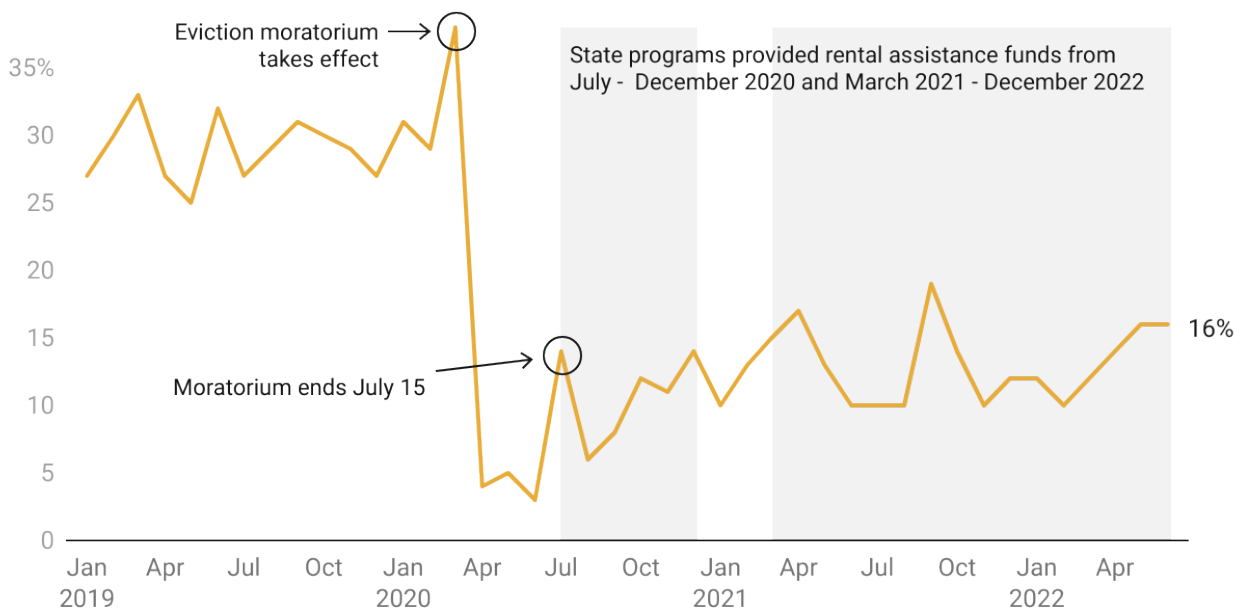


Source: The Administration for Children and Families Children’s Bureau

Michigan, like the U.S. as a whole, saw a decline in confirmed reports of abuse and neglect during the pandemic despite a steady increase in the years immediately prior. With kids engaged in remote schooling and families skipping medical check-ups, children may have lost valuable opportunities to interact with mandated reporters like teachers, meaning some instances of abuse and neglect may have never been investigated. Abuse and neglect is an example of an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE), which can hinder healthy development and outcomes into adulthood.

In September 2021, Michigan allocated \$11.6 million in federal Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars specifically designated for youth with experience in foster care, including \$1.3 million for postsecondary education and training as well as \$10.2 million to help these youth (ages 14-21) weather the pandemic. Young people with experience in the foster care system have faced unique challenges meeting basic needs over the past three years—like affording food and housing, securing employment, and completing school—often without a strong family network to support them. These funds could be used to support transportation, housing, living expenses and other needs.

Michigan’s eviction rate plummeted thanks to state policies designed to keep families housed.



Source: Michigan State Court Administrative Office
 Note: The eviction rate is the number of evictions as a share of eviction filings. Eviction filings also fell during the period.

State policies enacted during the pandemic helped families—including those with a high housing burden—stay in their homes. Not only did eviction filings decline by over 50% compared to pre-pandemic levels, but the number of filings that resulted in an eviction also fell by over 60% and continued to remain below pre-pandemic levels over two years later.

Multiple strategies—including eviction moratoriums, emergency rental assistance and the establishment of the Eviction Diversion Program (EDP)—helped Michiganders across the state. As of April 2023, the COVID Emergency Rental Assistance Program had helped 260,218 people—nearly half of them under 18—with rent and utilities.² The EDP, which operated for just six months, helped 12,960 children remain housed.³



Evidence Into Action

Smart Policy Choices for Michigan's Kids

1. End punitive fines and fees for justice-involved youth.

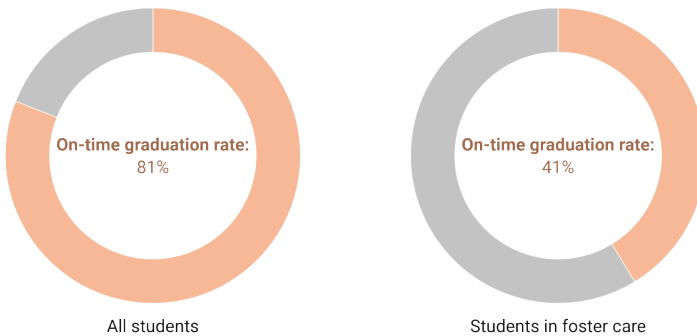
Michigan should abolish most fines and fees for justice-involved youth, putting an end to the punitive practice of charging youth and their families to fund court operations. Juvenile court debt exacerbates poverty for justice-involved youth and their families, with a disproportionate impact on families of color.

\$84 million

While costs are high, collection rates are low for these types of fines and fees, which is why Macomb County has eliminated juvenile court fees altogether and **discharged \$84 million in outstanding debt.**⁴ It's time for Michigan to take legislative action to eliminate fines and fees for juveniles in counties throughout the state.

2. Help children in foster care thrive at school.

Students in foster care face much lower on-time graduation rates than the general student population



Note: 4-year graduation rate, 2022 cohort
Source: Michigan Department of Education

Placement instability for children in foster care can lead to instability in school attendance, as gaps in knowledge and skills, a lack of educational support services and challenges to transferring credits can set students back. Early interventions, such as after-school and summer learning programs, as well as dedicated staff to help connect kids with needed services, are needed to ensure youth in foster care are not falling through the cracks.

End Notes

1. Susan D. Hills, et al. "COVID-19-Associated Orphanhood and Caregiver Death in the United States." *Pediatrics* 148, no. 6 (December 2021). <https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/148/6/e2021053760/183446/COVID-19-Associated-Orphanhood-and-Caregiver-Death?autologincheck=redirected>.
2. "Covid Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA)." Dashboard. Michigan State Housing Development Authority. <https://ceraapp.michigan.gov/p/eviction-dashboard/county-demographic-race-p5P8Q>.
3. Elizabeth Benton, et al. "Reducing Michigan Evictions: The Pandemic and Beyond." *Poverty Solutions*, University of Michigan, June 2021. https://sites.fordschool.umich.edu/poverty2021/files/2021/05/Poverty-Solutions_Reducing-Michigan-Evictions_June2021.pdf.
4. Jameson Cook. "Macomb Circuit Court Waives \$84 Million in Costs Accumulated by Juvenile Defendants." *Macomb Daily*, June 2021. <https://www.macombdaily.com/2021/06/08/macomb-circuit-court-waives-84-million-in-costs-accumulated-by-juvenile-defendants/amp/>.



Active Voice

Youth weigh in on what matters



If you had \$1 million dollars, what would you do with it to make the future better for young people?

I would make programs to help children and teens in need, whether they need a place to stay, food to eat, clothes on their back, etc. Many kids in Battle Creek are in great need for basic necessities and \$1 million would go a long way when helping them get the little things.

● **Anya, age 16**
Calhoun County

I would fund organizations that promote intergenerational dialogue and understanding between young people and older generations.

● **Shannon, age 16**
Macomb County

I would definitely invest money into more schools to have more counselors and have more people help kids with mental health.”

● **Andrea, age 16**
Wayne County

What can adults do to make you feel supported and cared about?

Listen to my emotions without immediately minimizing and disregarding them. Sometimes it's hard for adults to understand children's emotions and reasons for being upset, because they are not the same as their own. However, it's so important for kids to feel like their emotions are important and cared about.

● **Anya, age 16**
Eaton County

Just listen. We don't need to be judged or misheard—we want you to listen and care not listen and forget. Show us that you understand our pain, and even if you don't, we only want your support or even just a hug. Don't be the reason we go back home, cry and feel worse.

● **Radija, age 18**
Wayne County

Show interest in our lives and what we're going through.

● **Michael, age 17**
Macomb County

I think schools should take bullying more seriously because being in school is already very hard and it just makes it impossible to do anything when everyone is bullying.

● **Rocky, age 13**
Van Buren County

They can foster a supportive and inclusive community.

● **Brandon, age 12**
Washtenaw County

Think ahead to life in 10 years. What does it look like for you to be living the life of your dreams?

I would be enjoying my job and starting a relationship ... just being really successful and being happy and what I work with and just have a healthy relationship with my friends and my parents.

● **Andrea, age 16**
Wayne County

My dream is to be fluent in multiple languages and communicate with people globally.

● **Tim, age 18**
Kent County

Working a job that I will hopefully love, being social and active. I'd experience hardships, but nothing I couldn't work through.

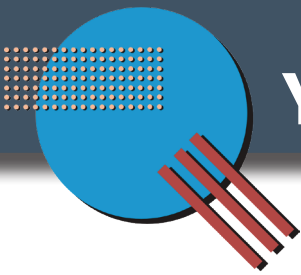
● **Riley, age 15**
Ingham County

I plan to have a diverse group of friends from various backgrounds and walks of life.

● **Heather, age 16**
Macomb County

Being in college majoring in music, and being a student-teacher in a high school band.

● **Cole, age 13**
Jackson County



Young Adults

FAST FACTS:

21.5% of young adults live in poverty.

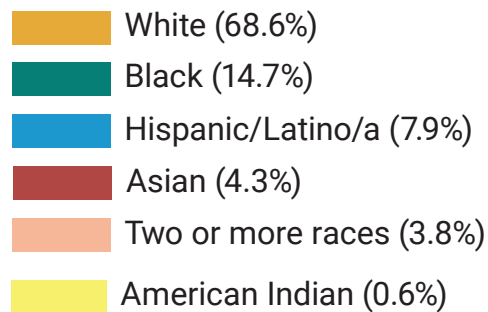
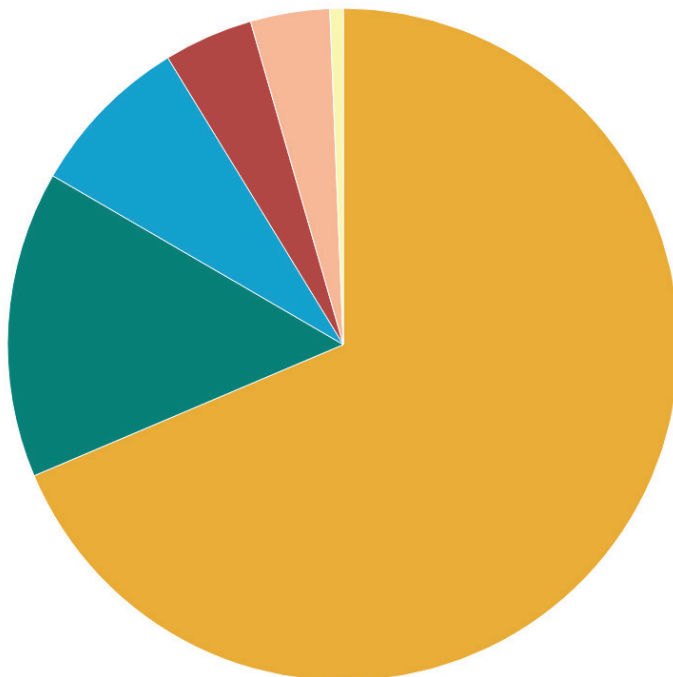
48% of young adults are enrolled in or have completed college.

45% of young adults voted in the 2022 midterms—the second-highest youth turnout of any state.¹



929,745 young adults live in Michigan.

Note: In our data, young adults include Michiganders ages 18-24.

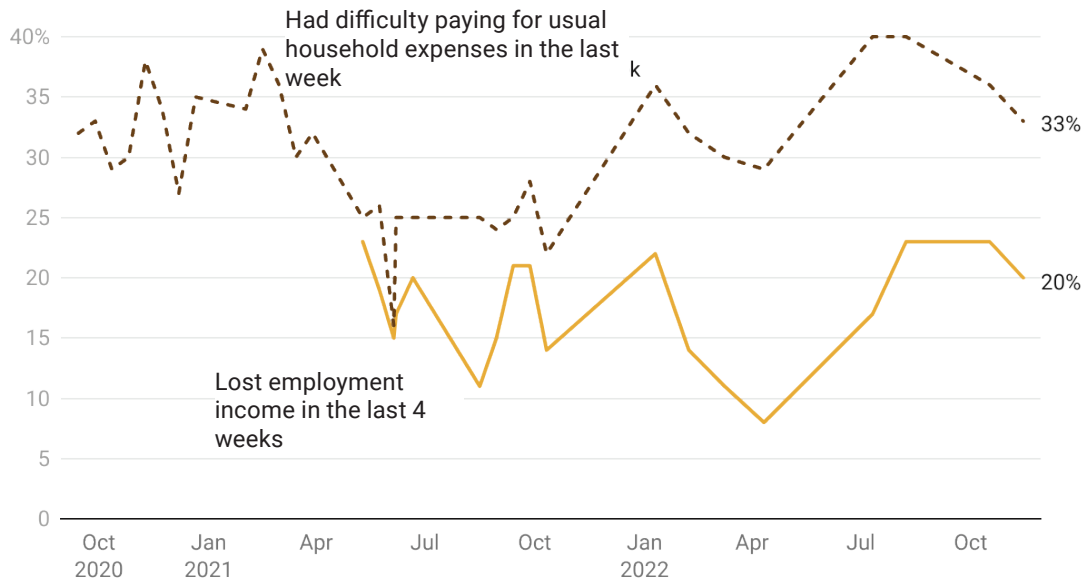


Note: Shares may sum to more than 100% because Hispanic/Latino/a is not mutually exclusive from American Indian, Asian, Black and two or more races.

Source: American Community Survey, 2021

PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS

The economic effects of the pandemic were especially hard on young workers.



Source: Household Pulse Survey

Historically, young people face greater disadvantages during an economic downturn—they have fewer years of experience, less education and have not had time to build up emergency savings. Young workers are already the most likely to be unemployed or under-employed even during good economic times and, despite unemployment hitting 50-year lows in January 2023, young adults continued to face unemployment rates roughly twice the national average.

Recent investments in young adults created a more stable foundation.

195,000

Approximately 195,000 young workers benefited from the American Rescue Plan Act’s temporary expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to include young workers without children.² Including both the federal and state credits, workers without children in Michigan are estimated to have received an average total credit of \$875 in tax year 2021. This is money they could use for car repairs, college classes or savings.

\$1,430

In 2021, 396,037 students at 112 Michigan colleges and universities received Emergency Aid Grants worth \$1,430 on average to support any expense related to the cost of attendance, including food, housing, mental health and child care. These grants were well-targeted, with 80% of Pell Grant recipients receiving direct aid.²

\$3.53 billion

In March 2020, the Office of Federal Student Aid paused student loan repayments, a move that has benefited approximately 233,100 Michiganders ages 24 and under who carry \$3.53 billion in total student debt.⁴ This COVID-19 emergency relief measure has been both expanded to help more borrowers and extended numerous times throughout the past three years, but is scheduled to end no later than August 2023.



Evidence Into Action

Smart Policy Choices for Michigan’s Young Adults

1. Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to workers who are currently excluded.

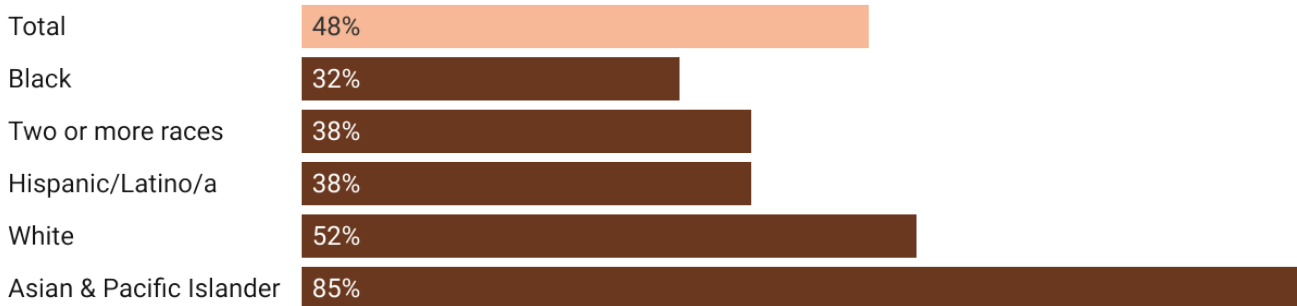
250,000

Michigan’s EITC excludes workers ages 19-24 without children, those over 65 without children and immigrants who work and pay taxes, but lack a social security number. Altogether, **these exclusions harm approximately 250,000 workers with low wages** who keep Michigan’s economy running. Expanding the EITC to cover these groups would help keep more workers out of poverty and put more money into the local economies where these workers live.

2. Ensure all young adults can access higher education and workforce training.

Black, Hispanic and multiracial young adults face barriers to college.

Share of young adults who are enrolled in or have completed college, 2021

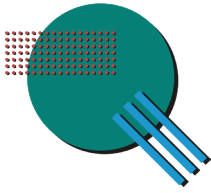


Source: Population Reference Bureau

The Michigan Reconnect program pays in-district community college tuition for adults pursuing a certificate or associate degree, but adults under 25 have traditionally been left out. Permanently lowering the age limit to 21 could help reach some of the 52% of young adults who are not enrolled in and have not completed college.

End Notes

1. Census Bureau. "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2022," April 2023. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-586.html>.
2. Aidan Davis. "Federal EITC Enhancements Help More Than One in Three Young Workers." Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, February 2022. <https://itep.org/federal-eitc-enhancements-help-more-than-one-in-three-young-workers/>.
3. "New Data Show the American Rescue Plan and Other Pandemic Relief Funds Have Helped 18 Million College Students." The White House Briefing Room, February 2023. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/beerf-2021-state-by-state.pdf>.
4. Melanie Hanson. "Student Loan Debt by Age." Education Data Initiative, April 2022. <https://educationdata.org/student-loan-debt-by-age#:~:text=Borrowers%2024%20and%20younger%20owe,higher%20have%20student%20loan%20debt.>
5. "2024 Budget Priority: Strengthen Michigan’s EITC." Michigan League for Public Policy, 2023. <https://mlpp.org/strengthen-eitc/>.



Data Definitions, Notes and Sources

Please note that trends over time are not tested for statistical significance.

Rates: Except where noted, rates are calculated when incidents total more than five. Three or five years of data are used to calculate an average annual rate for some indicators because they are less likely to be distorted compared to rates based on single-year numbers. Averaging over multiple years also allows rates to be calculated for many counties with small populations. Rates based on small numbers of events and small populations can vary dramatically and are not reliable for projecting trends or understanding local impact.

Rate Changes: Rate change is calculated by dividing the difference between the recent and base year rates by the base year rate:

The calculation is based on unrounded rates because calculations use rounded rates. Trend changes are indicated by the color-coded dots to be improving, worsening or showing no change. An indicator is determined to have no change if the percentage change is less than 1% or -1%. The rate change is not calculated if a rate is suppressed for one or both years.

Populations

Definition: The population by age and race and ethnicity.

Notes: Prior to 2021, Kids Count in Michigan used the Bridged Race Estimates to calculate our unique age group populations with a single-year age variable. After 2020, the Bridged Race Estimates were discontinued, and Kids Count in Michigan switched to calculating these population age groups via a by-request-only (BRO) annual county resident population file from the Vintage 2021 estimates series provided by the Population Division of the U.S. Census Bureau.

The 2021 populations include two new race categories: “two or more races” and “Native Hawaiian And Other Pacific Islander Alone.” The addition of these two race category options may result in smaller counts for race categories previously available. We therefore do not recommend that you make comparisons to previous years’ estimates.

Sources: Population Division of the U.S. Census Bureau annual county resident population estimates for Michigan from Vintage 2021 estimates series. U.S. Census Bureau, The American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, provided by the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics.

Economic Security

Children in poverty, ages 0-17

Definition: The number of children ages birth to 17 who live below the poverty threshold. The percent is based on the number of children ages birth to 17 for whom poverty status was determined by small area income and poverty estimates (SAIPE).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). Detroit, Flint and Grand Rapids are from the American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Table B17001.

Young adults in poverty, ages 18-24

Definition: The five-year average number of 18- to 24-year-olds with income in the past 12 months below the federal poverty level. The percentage is based on the total number of 18- to 24-year-olds during that period.

Notes: Time comparisons with five-year estimates are best done without overlapping the years. For example, comparing five-year estimates from 2019 or 2020 with five-year estimates from 2021 is not ideal since the 2021 estimates include 2019 and 2020 in their data. It’s better to use something like the 2021 five-year estimates compared with the 2016 estimates, since they do not include any overlapping years.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table B17001.

Free and reduced-price lunch, K-12

Definition: K-12 students (including ungraded special education students) from families who are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunch. The percentage is based on total enrollment of K-12 public school students for the school year.

Source: Michigan’s Center for Educational Performance and Information, Free and Reduced Lunch Counts.

Households in poverty & ALICE

Definition: All people who are in households that are either below 100% of the federal poverty level or determined to be Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE). The percentage is based on the total population during that period.

Notes: ALICE is a metric developed by United Way to estimate the number of households who earn above the federal poverty level but not enough to afford a bare-bones household budget. To learn more about the ALICE methodology, visit: <https://www.unitedforalice.org/methodology>.

Source: United for Alice, 2023.

Cash assistance (FIP), ages 0-18

Definition: The number reflects child recipients aged 0-18 in the Family Independence Program (FIP). The percentage is based on the estimated population of children ages 0-18.

Notes: Families with minor children qualify by having very low incomes and assets less than \$15,000 as of December 1, 2021. Children in families receiving extended FIP are not included. Since population data was not available at the time of release, the percentage is based on the population of the previous calendar year. Multiple data requests to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for FIP city-level data have gone unanswered. Therefore, data for the cities of Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids and the Out-Wayne region are not reported.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Assistance Payments Statistics, Table 67.

Food assistance (FAP), ages 0-18

Definition: The number reflects child recipients aged 0-18 in the Food Assistance Program (FAP), also known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The percentage is based on the estimated population of children ages 0-18.

Notes: For data covered in this publication, families qualify with income below 200% of the federal poverty level. Since population data was not available at the time of release, the percentage is based on the population of the previous calendar year. Multiple data requests to MDHHS for FAP city-level data have gone unanswered. Therefore, data for the cities of Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids and the Out-Wayne region are not reported.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Assistance Payments Statistics, Table 68.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC), ages 0-4

Definition: The number of children ages 0-4 who are enrolled in the WIC program. The percentage is based on the estimated population of children ages 0-4.

Notes: Since population data was not available at the time of release, the percentage is based on the population of the previous calendar year.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan WIC Program.

Received subsidized child care payments, ages 0-12

Definition: The number of children ages 0-12 in child care for whom subsidy payments were made from the state in December of the year listed. The percentage is based on the estimated population of children ages 0-12.

Notes: Since population data was not available at the time of release, the percentage is based on the population of the previous calendar year.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Child Development and Care Program, Assistance Payment Statistics, Table 41.

Average cost of full-time child care per month (% of full-time minimum wage)

Definition: The number is the weighted average monthly cost for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children in day care centers, group homes, and family homes. The percentage is based on \$9.87 an hour, the minimum wage as of January 1, 2022, working an average of 173 full-time hours per month.

Notes: Data are self-reported by providers and not validated by any third party. Providers have the option to report and the data source continually updates data on a rolling basis. These data should be considered estimates as not all provider cost data are included. Some counties had no providers submit cost data and are indicated by an asterisk (*).

Source: Early Childhood Investment Corporation.

Education

3- and 4-year-olds in preschool

Definition: The number of children ages 3-4 who were enrolled in preschool for the five-year averages of the years listed. The percentage is based on the population for ages 3-4 during those time periods. Includes nursery school and programs sponsored by federal, state or local agencies such as Head Start.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B14003.

Students graduating on time

Definition: The number represents students who graduated four years after entering ninth grade. The percent is based on the cohort of students entering ninth grade four years earlier.

Notes: County totals are estimations based on district code. Some districts are excluded due to small numbers of students. Several county totals include virtual schools operated by Intermediate School Districts or school districts within the county whose students may reside in other counties, impacting on-time graduation rates. Counties most affected include Berrien, Clinton, Leelanau, Manistee and Montcalm.

Source: Michigan's Center for Educational Performance and Information, Graduation and Dropout Report.

Third-graders proficient in ELA, M-STEP

Definition: The number of third-graders whose performance on the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) English Language Arts (ELA) test met the standard of proficiency. The percentage is based on the number of third-graders whose ELA test scores were included in the report.

Notes: Due to disclosure avoidance rules, districts were excluded from analysis where there were fewer than ten test-takers or where the number of students not meeting proficiency was suppressed. More detailed data for districts can be found at mischooldata.org.

Source: Michigan's Center for Educational Performance and Information, Grade 3-8 Assessments Report.

Children receiving Early On services, ages 0-2

Definition: The number of children ages 0-2 who were enrolled in Early On in the fall of the year listed. The percentage is based on the estimated three-year births. These data are reported by the Intermediate School District (ISD).

Notes: Multiple counties may be served by a single ISD. In this case, the data cannot be broken down by county, and the same proportion is listed for each county. See the county to ISD key at the end of this section.

Source: Michigan Department of Education; MDHHS Birth Data.

Students in special education, ages 0-26

Definition: The number of individuals ages 0 through 26 receiving special education services, except those in programs operated by state agencies. These students have been diagnosed with a mental or physical condition that qualified them for special education services. The percentage is based on total student enrollments.

Source: Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education & Early Intervention Services - for county level data. Center for Educational Performance and Information, MiSchool Data, Special Education Enrollment count for cities (charters included).

Total enrollment is from the Center for Educational Performance and Information, MiSchool Data, Free and Reduced Lunch file.

Students experiencing homelessness, K-12

Definition: The number of K-12 students who were considered homeless in the school year listed. The percentage is based on the total number of K-12 students enrolled in the ISD.

Notes: These data are based on the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness, which includes all children who "lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence."

Multiple counties may be served by a single ISD. In this case, the data cannot be broken down by county, and the same proportion is listed for each county. See the county to ISD key at the end of this section.

Source: Michigan's Center for Educational Performance.

Eighth-graders proficient in math, PSAT

Definition: The number of eighth-graders whose performance on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) math test met the standard of proficiency in the year listed. The percentage is based on the number of eighth-graders whose math test scores were included in the report.

Notes: In 2019, the PSAT 8/9 replaced the M-STEP ELA and mathematics assessment in eighth grade and is included in Michigan's accountability system along with the eighth grade M-STEP for science and social studies. Due to disclosure avoidance rules, districts were excluded from analysis where there were fewer than ten test-takers or where the number of students not meeting proficiency was suppressed. County and city totals are estimations that may exclude some districts, and careful consideration should be taken when comparing data across years. More detailed data for districts can be found at mischooldata.org.

Source: Michigan's Center for Educational Performance and Information, Grade 3-8 Assessments Report.

Children with internet at home, ages 0-17

Definition: The five-year average number of children ages 0-17 with internet at home. The percentage is based on the five-year average population of children ages 0-17.

Notes: Children are determined to have internet at home if they have any type of computer in the household and either a dial-up or broadband internet subscription.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B28005.

Health and Safety

Less than adequate prenatal care

Definition: The three-year average number of births to mothers who received less than adequate prenatal care as defined by the Kessner Index. The Kessner Index measures the adequacy of prenatal care by the month it began, the number of prenatal visits and the length of the pregnancy. The percentage is based on total three-year average live births based on the mother's county of residence.

Notes: Data are collected from medical records by birth providers. Visits to alternative prenatal care providers such as midwives and doulas are reflected as long as they were documented in the medical record.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Vital Records and Health Data Development Section.

Infant mortality

Definition: The three-year average number of infants who died before their first birthday. The rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births (three-year average) during the referenced periods based on the mother's county of residence.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Vital Records and Health Data Development Section.

Low-birthweight babies

Definition: Low birthweight includes those babies who weighed less than 2,500 grams (approximately 5 lb., 8 oz.) at birth. The number is an annual average for the three-year period. The percentage is based on the total three-year average live births in the mother's county of residence.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Vital Records and Health Data Development Section.

Children with health insurance, ages 0-18

Definition: The annual number and percentage estimates of children ages 0-18 insured through a public or private program. The percent is based on the population ages birth to 18.

Notes: For 2020 city-level data, the U.S. Census Bureau did not release its standard 1-year estimates from the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on data collection. Therefore, these data are unable to be updated, and 2019 city data are reported again this year.

Source: County, state, and regional data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE); Detroit, Flint, and Grand Rapids use the American Community Survey, 1-Yr Estimate, Table B27001.

Children insured by Medicaid, ages 0-18

Definition: The number of children ages 0-18 enrolled in Medicaid in December of the year listed. The percentage is based on the estimated population of children ages 0-18 of the year prior. (For example, for the number of children enrolled in Medicaid in December 2021, the percentage is based on the estimated population of children in 2020.)

Notes: City-level data were found to be unreliable due to discrepancies within city population counts and have been removed.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Medicaid Policy and Health System Innovation special run.

Fully immunized toddlers, ages 19-35 months

Definition: The number of children ages 19-35 months who had completed the recommended childhood vaccination series schedule as of December of the year listed, according to the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). The percentage is based on the population of children ages 19-35 months who were born to mothers residing in Michigan at the time of the birth.

Notes: Schedule 4313314 includes: four doses or more of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTaP/DTP/DT) vaccine, three doses or more of polio vaccine, one dose or more of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, three doses or more of haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) vaccine, three doses or more of hepatitis B vaccine, one dose or more of varicella vaccine and four doses or more of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV).

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Immunization, Michigan Care Improvement Registry.

Children tested for lead, ages 1-2

Definition: The number of children ages 1-2 who were tested for lead poisoning. The percentage is based on the number of children ages 1-2.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

Children with food insecurity, ages 0-17

Definition: The number and percentage of children ages 0-17 determined to be food insecure, or living in households that experienced food insecurity at some point during the year. Food insecurity refers to the United States Department of Agriculture's measurement of a lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all members of a given household, and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.

Notes: County estimates were aggregated to get regional estimates, and 2020 populations for 0-17 were used to generate regional percentages.

According to the data source: "Please take caution as you compare county rates year-by-year. For each iteration of the study, there are very few statistically significant changes. Methodology has changed twice since the study's inception. Most recently, beginning in 2020, the food insecurity model was enhanced through the inclusion of a disability rate variable and refining our poverty measure to reflect non-undergraduate student poverty. The details surrounding this change are discussed in a technical brief (<https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/map-the-meal-gap/how-we-got-the-map-data>, pg. 4 – 5). Additionally, in 2013, we introduced homeownership as an independent variable to serve as a proxy for household assets. Because of these methodology changes, the estimates from Map the Meal Gap 2020 are not directly comparable to estimates from previous years. Additionally, studies prior to 2013 are not directly comparable to more recent publications."

Source: Gundersen, C., A. Dewey, E. Engelhard, M. Strayer & L. Lapinski. Map the Meal Gap 2020: A Report on County and Congressional District Food Insecurity and County Food Cost in the United States. Feeding America.

Family and Community

Births to teens, ages 15-19

Definition: The three-year average number of births to mothers ages 15-19. The rate is the number of births to mothers ages 15-19 per 1,000 females ages 15-19 (three-year average) during those periods.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics.

Children in poverty by household structure, ages 0-17

Definition: The five-year average number of children ages 0-17 by household structure living in households with incomes below 100% of the federal poverty level. The percentage is based on the average population of children ages 0-17 by household structure for that period.

Notes: Children are determined to be in a married-parent household if the head of household is married. Children living with cohabiting adults who are not married, even if one of those adults is a parent, are considered to be in single-parent households.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B17006.

Children owed child support, ages 0-19

Definition: The number of children on support orders for whom child support is owed. The percent is based on the population ages birth to 19.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Child Support Enforcement System (MiCSES).

Child support owed; none received, ages 0-19

Definition: The number of children ages birth to 19 who were owed child support but received none. The percent is based on the number with support owed.

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Child Support Enforcement System (MiCSES).

Children who are foreign born, ages 5-17

Definition: The number represents the five-year average, ending in the year listed, of children ages 5 to 17 who are foreign born. The percent is based on the average population of 5- to 17-year-olds for that period.

Source: American Community Survey Table B16008.

Language other than English spoken at home, ages 5-17

Definition: The number represents the five-year average, ending in the year listed, of children ages 5 to 17 who live in households where a language other than English is spoken at home. The percent is based on the population ages 5 to 17 during that period.

Source: American Community Survey Table B16008.

Families with a high housing cost burden

Definition: The number of households spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs. The percentage is based on total households for that period.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B25106.

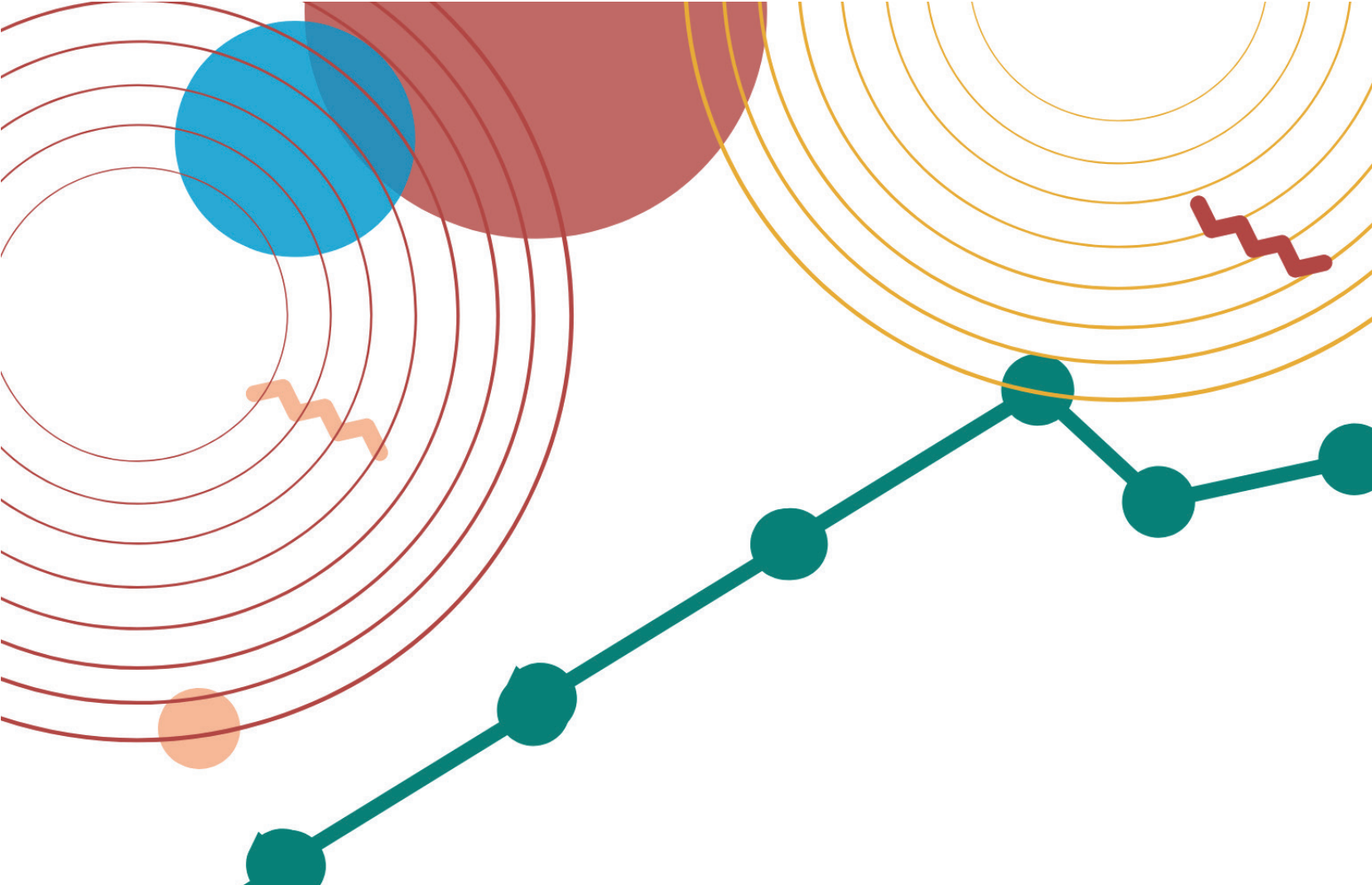
Regional Profile Key:

Region	Counties Included
Out-Wayne	Wayne without Detroit
Southeast Michigan	Macomb, Oakland and Wayne
Upper Peninsula	Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon and Schoolcraft
West Michigan	Allegan, Kent, Muskegon and Ottawa

County to ISD Key:

County	Intermediate School District (ISD) Name
Michigan	All ISDs in the state
Alcona	Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District
Alger	Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency
Allegan	Allegan Area Educational Service Agency
Alpena	Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District
Antrim	Northwest Educational Services
Arenac	Bay-Arenac ISD
Baraga	Copper Country ISD
Barry	Barry ISD
Bay	Bay-Arenac ISD
Benzie	Northwest Education Services
Berrien	Berrien Regional Educational Service Agency
Branch	Branch ISD
Calhoun	Calhoun ISD
Cass	Heritage Southwest ISD
Charlevoix	Charlevoix-Emmet ISD
Cheboygan	Cheb-Otsego-Presque Isle Educational Service District
Chippewa	Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD
Clare	Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District
Clinton	Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency
Crawford	C.O.O.R. ISD
Delta	Delta-Schoolcraft ISD
Dickinson	Dickinson-Iron ISD
Eaton	Eaton Regional Education Service District
Emmet	Charlevoix-Emmet ISD
Genesee	Genesee ISD
Gladwin	Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District
Gogebic	Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD
Grand Traverse	Northwest Educational Services
Gratiot	Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District
Hillsdale	Hillsdale ISD
Houghton	Copper Country ISD
Huron	Huron ISD
Ingham	Ingham ISD
Ionia	Ionia ISD
Iosco	Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency
Iron	Dickinson-Iron ISD
Isabella	Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District
Jackson	Jackson ISD
Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency
Kalkaska	Northwest Educational Services
Kent	Kent ISD
Keweenaw	Copper Country ISD

County	Intermediate School District (ISD) Name
Lake	West Shore Educational Service District
Lapeer	Lapeer ISD
Leelanau	Northwest Educational Services
Lenawee	Lenawee ISD
Livingston	Livingston Educational Service Agency
Luce	Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD
Mackinac	Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD
Macomb	Macomb ISD
Manistee	Manistee ISD
Marquette	Marquette-Alger Regional Education Service District
Mason	West Shore Educational Service District
Mecosta	Mecosta-Osceola ISD
Menominee	Menominee ISD
Midland	Midland County Educational Service Agency
Missaukee	Wexford-Missaukee ISD
Monroe	Monroe ISD
Montcalm	Montcalm Area ISD
Montmorency	Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Education Service District
Muskegon	Muskegon Area ISD
Newaygo	Newaygo County Regional Education Service District
Oakland	Oakland Schools
Oceana	West Shore Educational Service District
Ogenaw	C.O.O.R. ISD
Ontonagon	Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD
Osceola	Mecosta-Osceola ISD
Oscoda	C.O.O.R. ISD
Otsego	Cheb-Otsego-Presque Isle Educational Service District
Ottawa	Ottawa Area ISD
Presque Isle	Cheb-Otsego-Presque Isle Educational Service District
Rosecommon	C.O.O.R. ISD
Saginaw	Saginaw ISD
St. Clair	St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency
St. Joseph	St. Joseph County ISD
Sanilac	Sanilac ISD
Schoolcraft	Delta-Schoolcraft ISD
Shiawassee	Shiawassee Regional Educational Service District
Tuscola	Tuscola ISD
Van Buren	Van Buren ISD
Washtenaw	Washtenaw ISD
Wayne	Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency
Wexford	Wexford-Missaukee ISD



2023 Kids Count in Michigan Enduring Champions



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