

Kids Count: Education and Well- being in Maryland

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**Every Marylander should
be able to achieve their full
potential in a healthy
economy that offers a
widely shared, rising
standard of living**

We engage in **research, analysis, strategic communications, public education, and grassroots alliances** promoting robust debate and greater public awareness of the policy choices Maryland residents face together.

Maryland Center on Economic Policy



Annie E. Casey Foundation and KIDS COUNT

- Started in 1990 to provide legislators, public officials and child advocates with reliable data, policy recommendations and tools to advance policies that benefit children.
- Advance policies that connect children to quality education, and health care, parents to economic opportunities, and communities to better ways of working on behalf of families
- **National KIDS COUNT Project**
 - KIDS COUNT Data Book
 - Online Resources including KIDS COUNT Data Center
- **State KIDS COUNT Projects**
 - Grantees in all 50 states including DC, US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico
 - Produce data and information on child wellbeing at the local level (county etc.)

KIDS COUNT

State KIDS COUNT Network



St. Croix Foundation For Community Development

KIDS COUNT

Data Center

Best available data and statistics on the educational, social, economic and physical well-being of children.

With data at the local, state and national levels, the Data Center features hundreds of indicators, many of which examine the effects of poverty and race on child well-being.

The screenshot displays the KIDS COUNT Data Center website. At the top, the header includes the logo "KIDS COUNT data center" and the tagline "A PROJECT OF THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION". Navigation tabs for "DATA BY LOCATION", "DATA BY TOPIC", "PUBLICATIONS", and "UPDATES" are visible, along with "Help", "About", and "Contact" links. A search bar prompts users to "Enter any location, topic and/or keywords here" with a "SEARCH DATA CENTER" button. Below this is a "CHOOSE A STATE" section featuring a map of the United States with state abbreviations and a "VIEW U.S. DATA" button. The "CHOOSE A DATA TOPIC" section offers icons for Demographics, Economic Well-Being, Education, Family & Community, Health, and Safety & Risky Behaviors. The main content area is divided into "THE LATEST FROM KIDS COUNT" (showing a photo of a child in a yellow shirt and the headline "Youth Confinement Rate Drops") and "QUICK LINKS" (including "Create Custom Profiles", "KIDS COUNT State Rankings", and "Media Inquiries and Resources"). A "CASEY TWEETS" section displays recent tweets from the organization.

KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Annual ranking of states on 16 key measures of child well-being.

Also highlights important trends, such as the growing issue of income inequality or the improving health and educational achievement of U.S. students.



What is in the 2024 KIDS COUNT Data Book?

Overall Child Well-Being

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Top Rankings	Bottom Rankings
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. New Hampshire2. Massachusetts3. Utah4. Vermont5. Minnesota	<ol style="list-style-type: none">46. Oklahoma47. Nevada48. Louisiana49. Mississippi50. New Mexico

Maryland is 22nd

2024 KIDS COUNT Data Book

RANK

18

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

	UNITED STATES			MARYLAND		
Children in poverty US 11,583,000 MD 155,000	17% 2019	16% 2022	↓ BETTER	12% 2019	12% 2022	= SAME
Children whose parents lack secure employment US 18,635,000 MD 294,000	26% 2019	26% 2022	= SAME	24% 2019	22% 2022	↓ BETTER
Children living in households with a high housing cost burden US 21,807,000 MD 402,000	30% 2019	30% 2022	= SAME	31% 2019	30% 2022	↓ BETTER
Teens not in school and not working US 1,149,000 MD 19,000	6% 2019	7% 2022	↑ WORSE	7% 2019	6% 2022	↓ BETTER

2024 KIDS COUNT Data Book

HEALTH

RANK

27

	UNITED STATES			MARYLAND		
Low birth-weight babies US 315,288 MD 5,980	8.3% 2019	8.6% 2022	↑ WORSE	8.7% 2019	8.7% 2022	= SAME
Children without health insurance US 3,932,000 MD 60,000	6% 2019	5% 2022	↓ BETTER	3% 2019	4% 2022	↑ WORSE
Child and teen deaths per 100,000 US 23,140 MD 404	25 2019	30 2022	↑ WORSE	24 2019	28 2022	↑ WORSE
Children and teens (ages 10 to 17) who are overweight or obese** US N.A. MD N.A.	N.A. N.A.	33% 2021-22	N.A.	N.A. N.A.	36% 2021-22	N.A.

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FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

RANK

21

	UNITED STATES			MARYLAND		
Children in single-parent families US 23,331,000 MD 427,000	34% 2019	34% 2022	= SAME	35% 2019	33% 2022	↓ BETTER
Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma US 8,015,000 MD 124,000	12% 2019	11% 2022	↓ BETTER	10% 2019	9% 2022	↓ BETTER
Children living in high-poverty areas US 5,682,000 MD 46,000	12% 2013-17	8% 2018-22	↓ BETTER	4% 2013-17	3% 2018-22	↓ BETTER
Teen births per 1,000 US 143,789 MD 2,066	17 2019	14 2022	↓ BETTER	14 2019	11 2022	↓ BETTER

KIDS COUNT looked
at education and the
challenges children
faced as a result of
the pandemic

2024 KIDS COUNT Data Book

EDUCATION

RANK

22

	UNITED STATES			MARYLAND		
Young children (ages 3 and 4) not in school US 4,328,000 MD 83,000	52% 2013-17	54% 2018-22	↑ WORSE	50% 2013-17	54% 2018-22	↑ WORSE
Fourth graders not proficient in reading US N.A. MD N.A.	66% 2019	68% 2022	↑ WORSE	65% 2019	69% 2022	↑ WORSE
Eighth graders not proficient in math US N.A. MD N.A.	67% 2019	74% 2022	↑ WORSE	67% 2019	75% 2022	↑ WORSE
High school students not graduating on time* US N.A. MD N.A.	14% 2018-19	14% 2020-21	= SAME	13% 2018-19	13% 2020-21	= SAME

N.A.: Not available *Graduation data may not be comparable across time due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Education in Maryland *Third Graders Reading Proficiency*

- Only **31% of fourth graders were at or above in reading in 2022**
 - Four percentage points worse than before the pandemic
 - Proficiency rates were **20% for Black students and 15% for Hispanic students**
- Just **1 in 6 fourth graders attending higher-poverty schools (16%) and 1 in 7 kids eligible for free a-or reduced school lunch (14%) were proficient**

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Education in Maryland Eighth Graders Math Proficiency

- Just **25% of eighth graders were at or above proficient** in math, worse than before the pandemic (**33%**)
- Only **9% of Black students and 10% of Latino Students** were math proficient.
- Only **8% of students attending high-poverty schools and 9% eligible for free and reduced school lunch** were proficient

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Education in Maryland

- **33% of Maryland students (287,000 students) were chronically absent in 2021-22**
- **1 in 3 kids (38%) have undergone one or more *adverse childhood experiences* such as family economic hardship or their parents being separated or served time in jail.**

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Education, workforce and the economy

- The drop in math scores between 2019 and 2022 could result in **\$900 billion in lost income** for 48 million pandemic-era students
- **Less than a third of kids are on pace** to have the math and reading skills for the careers of tomorrow, such as those in competitive, well-paying STEM careers.

KIDS COUNT Data Book

Education, workforce and the economy

- **STEM jobs make up a quarter of the workforce, 36 million jobs.** Positions that pay well like software developers, data scientists and industrial machinery mechanics will be open to math-proficient jobseekers.
- **The U.S. gross domestic product would have been \$540 billion larger** in 2019 if racial, ethnic and gender disparities in educational attainment had been eliminated for the previous three decades.

Helpful Websites

- Maryland Center on Economic Policy
<http://www.mdeconomy.org/>
- KIDS COUNT Data Center
<https://datacenter.aecf.org/>
- Maryland KIDS COUNT Data Center
<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#MD/2/0/char/0>
- KIDS COUNT Data Book
<https://www.aecf.org/resources/2024-kids-count-data-book>

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