

MECOSTA

A BETTER FUTURE IS POSSIBLE

POPULATION	2010	2020	% Change	POPULATION BY RACE (2020)			
Total population	42,798	43,907	2.6%	Child population by race		Young adult population by race	
Child population	8,546	8,057	-5.7%	Hispanic 0-17	334	Hispanic 18-24	243
• Ages 0-5	2,676	2,613	-2.4%	Non-Hispanic 0-17		Non-Hispanic 18-24	
• Ages 6-12	3,398	3,036	-10.7%	• African American/Black	322	• African American/Black	638
• Ages 13-17	2,472	2,408	-2.6%	• American Indian	95	• American Indian	82
Young adult population				• Asian/Pacific Islander	50	• Asian/Pacific Islander	184
• Ages 18-24	8,987	7,976	-11.2%	• White	7,256	• White	6,829

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME (Most recent year is listed in parentheses)	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR				Trend
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	MI Rate	
Children in poverty, ages 0-17 (2020)	2,414	28.8%	1,500	19.0%	-34.0%	16.8%	●
Young adults in poverty, ages 18-24 (2020)	2,679	54.3%	2,632	48.7%	-10.3%	23.2%	●
Households in poverty & ALICE (2019)	7,680	48.2%	7,599	48.1%	-0.2%	38.1%	●

ECONOMIC SECURITY

ADDITIONAL DATA

(Data is for 2021 unless noted)

	Number	Rate	MI Rate
Children receiving...			
• Free and reduced-price lunch, K-12	3,417	60.9%	51.1%
• Subsidized child care, ages 0-12	175	3.1%	1.8%
• Cash assistance (FIP), ages 0-18	82	0.9%	1.0%
• Food assistance (FAP), ages 0-18	1,677	18.4%	21.9%
• Women, Infant and Children (WIC), ages 0-4 (2020)	1,043	49.4%	43.5%
• Supplemental Security Income, ages 0-18 [^]	127	13.9	15.3
• Any amount of child support received	1,581	85.0%	81.5%
Median household income (2020)	\$52,949	N/A	\$61,352
Average cost of full-time child care/month	\$473	N/A	\$646
• Percent of full-time minimum wage	N/A	28.3%	38.7%
Families receiving the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) (2020)	2,430	14.2%	13.7%
Families with high-cost housing (2020)	4,046	24.9%	26.2%

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME (Most recent year is listed in parentheses)	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR				Trend
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	MI Rate	
3- and 4- year olds in preschool (2020)	341	37.3%	200	27.1%	-27.3%	46.7%	●
Students graduating on time (2021)	416	77.5%	341	75.4%	-2.7%	80.5%	●

EDUCATION

ADDITIONAL DATA

(Data is for 2021 unless noted)

	Number	Rate	MI Rate
Children receiving <i>Early On</i> services by ISD, ages 0-2	97	4.9%	3.4%
Students in Special Education	958	17.1%	14.5%
Students who are homeless by ISD, K-12 (2020)	186	2.4%	1.9%
3rd graders proficient in English Language Arts, M-STEP	166	46.8%	42.8%
8th graders proficient in Math, PSAT	111	28.0%	36.0%
Students who drop out	59	13.1%	7.7%
Teens not in school or working, ages 16-19 (2020)	218	5.9%	6.8%

KEY	● Improving	[^] Rate per 1,000	N/A Data not available
	● Little Change	^t Rate per 10,000	* Data suppressed
	● Worsening	[♦] Rate per 100,000	For all data definitions and sources, see the Data Definitions and Notes page.

HEALTH & SAFETY

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR (2020)				Trend
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	MI Rate	
Less than adequate prenatal care	155	35.0%	120	29.2%	-16.5%	32.2%	●
Infant mortality [^]	4	9.0	3	7.3	-19.3%	6.6	●
Child deaths, ages 1-14*	1	*	1	*	*	18.5	—
Teen deaths, ages 15-19*	3	64.4	1	*	*	48.1	—
Young adult deaths, ages 18-24*	3	29.7	2	24.9	-16.2%	83.8	●

ADDITIONAL DATA

(Most recent year is listed in parentheses)

	Number	Rate	MI Rate
Children with health insurance, ages 0-18 (2019)	7,923	96.1%	96.6%
Insured by Medicaid, ages 0-18 (2021)	4,403	48.2%	48.7%
Low-birthweight babies (2020)	33	8.0%	8.7%
Fully immunized toddlers, ages 19-35 months (2021)	465	71.8%	69.4%
Children tested for lead, ages 1-2 (2020)	207	23.3%	29.8%
Children hospitalized for asthma, ages 0-14 ^t (2019)	*	*	10.6
Children with food insecurity, ages 0-17 (2019)	1,340	16.7%	14.2%
Mental health providers (ratio of population to provider) (2020)	56	776:1	355:1

FAMILY & COMMUNITY

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME (Most recent year is listed in parentheses)	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR				Trend
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate Change	MI Rate	
Birth to teens, ages 15-19 [^] (2020)	39	19.5	22	10.5	-46.3%	14.8	●
Child abuse/neglect, ages 0-17 (2021)							
• Children in investigated families [^]	848	103.5	1,124	139.5	34.8%	86.2	●
• Confirmed victims [^]	114	13.9	127	15.8	13.6%	12.1	●
• Children in out-of-home care [^]	60	7.3	24	3.0	-59.0%	4.3	●

ADDITIONAL DATA (2020)

	Number	Rate	MI Rate
Children living in high-poverty areas, ages 0-17	1,680	21.4%	12.5%
Children by household structure, ages 0-17			
• Family with married parents	5,574	71.7%	66.5%
• Family with single parent	2,200	28.3%	33.5%
Children in poverty by household structure, ages 0-17			
• Family with married parents	607	10.9%	8.4%
• Family with single parent	875	39.8%	38.2%
English not spoken at home, ages 5-17	312	5.3%	10.4%
Children with internet at home, ages 0-17	6,910	86.1%	92.5%

Kids Count provides child advocates, agencies, public officials and legislators with the best available data, nonpartisan policy recommendations and tools to advance policies that benefit children. Our data-based profiles help decision-makers understand the educational, social, economic and physical well-being of children across the state.

An equitable, two-generation approach will help Michigan's kids keep moving forward.

A child's well-being should not be determined by their race, place or income, but data shows that this is the reality. That's why our racial equity lens considers how policy decisions help or hinder outcomes. We also consider access to opportunity for the adults in kids' lives when working to improve well-being.

KEY

- Improving
- Little Change
- Worsening

- [^] Rate per 1,000
- ^t Rate per 10,000
- [♦] Rate per 100,000

- N/A Data not available
- * Data suppressed

For all data definitions and sources, see the [Data Definitions and Notes](#) page.