Rural & Urban Michigan

Kids Count in Michigan | 2026 Data Profile

YOUNG ADULTS	Indicator	Rural	Urban	Statewide
	Young Adults in Poverty (2020-24)	20.7%	20.1%	20.2%
	Young Adults who are Parents (2020-24)	6.4%	4.7%	5.0%
	Young Adults Enrolled in or Completed College (2020-24)	39.1%	49.5%	47.7%
	Young Adult Voter Turnout (2024)	53.9%	57.6%	56.9%

HEALTH & SAFETY	Indicator	Rural	Urban	Statewide
	Infant Mortality (2022-24)	5.5 per 1,000	6.4 per 1,000	6.3 per 1,000
	Births with Less than Adequate Prenatal Care (2022-24)	33.1%	30.0%	30.5%
	Ages 0-18 Insured by Medicaid (2025)	42.8%	41.5%	41.8%
	Ages 1-2 Tested for Lead (2024)	48.0%	47.6%	47.7%

EDUCATION	Indicator	Rural	Urban	Statewide
	Ages 0-26 in Special Education (2025)	18.7%	16.2%	16.7%
	3rd-Graders Not Proficient in Reading (2025)	63.6%	60.6%	61.1%
	Students who are Economically Disadvantaged (2025)	52.0%	49.4%	49.8%
	Students who are Not College Ready (2025)	78.3%	72.2%	73.4%

ECONOMIC SECURITY	Indicator	Rural	Urban	Statewide
	Ages 0-4 Receiving WIC (2025)	47.9%	38.4%	40.0%
	Ages 0-17 with Food Insecurity (2024)	20.3%	19.6%	19.7%
	Ages 0-18 Receiving Cash Assistance (2025)	0.7%	1.3%	1.2%
	Ages 0-17 in Poverty (2024)	16.4%	18.0%	17.7%

FAMILY & COMMUNITY	Indicator	Rural	Urban	Statewide
	Ages 16-19 Not in School or Working (2020-24)	8.0%	7.1%	7.3%
	Families with High Housing-Cost Burden (2020-24)	23.0%	27.6%	26.7%
	Ages 5-17 who are Foreign-Born (2020-24)	0.8%	3.3%	2.8%
	Ages 0-17 in Out-of-Home Care (2025)	4.4 per 1,000	4.0 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000

Methodological notes

Creation of rural and urban estimates

Estimates for Kids Count indicators for rural and urban areas in Michigan were created based on rural designation guidelines from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP). Counties that were considered "fully FORHP rural" based on census tract analyses were included as rural counties (58); all others (25) were considered urban.

Numerators and denominators were summed among urban and rural counties, respectively. If values were missing for certain counties, the numerator and denominator for that county were treated as zero.

Margins of error

Some indicators are from sample-based surveys and have margins of error. This means that the true proportion estimated lies within that interval (the estimate +/- the margin of error) with 90% confidence.

Margins of error were not calculated for the estimates in this profile and, as such, caution should be exercised with assuming that different proportions indicate a statistically significant difference. For example, 8% of rural teens and 7% of urban teens were not in school or working; these estimates may not be statistically significant from one another.

The following indicators on the data profile come from sample-based surveys:

- Young Adults in Poverty
- Young Adults who are Parents
- Young Adults Enrolled in or Completed College
- Ages 0-17 in Poverty
- Ages 16-19 Not in School or Working
- Families with High Housing-Cost Burden
- Ages 5-17 who are Foreign-Born

Where can I go for more information?

Complete information on where data are sourced and any additional methodological considerations can be found on the KIDS COUNT Data Center. For any specific questions about these estimates, please contact Jay Cutler at jcutler@mlpp.org.