

Children in California

| Indicator | Year | California | Data Source |
|--|-----------|--------------------------------|--|
| Child Population Ages 0-17 | 2025 | 8,386,716 | California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections ; U.S. Census Bureau, Population and Housing Unit Estimates (Mar. 2025). |
| Infant Mortality Rate | 2022 | 4.0 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | California Dept. of Public Health, Birth and Death Statistical Master Files & California Vital Data (Cal-ViDa) Query Tool ; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections ; CDC WONDER Online Database, Linked Birth / Infant Death Records (Apr. 2023). |
| Percentage of Children with Four or More Adverse Experiences (Parent Reported) | 2024 | 3.3% | U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, National Survey of Children's Health (Dec. 2025). |
| Percentage of Children Living with Two Parents | 2018 | 63.7% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Dec. 2019). |
| Percentage of Children Living with One or More Foreign-Born Parent | 2021 | 46.1% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Mar. 2024). |
| Percentage of English Learners in Public Schools | 2021 | 17.7% | California Dept. of Education, English Learners by Grade and Language (Sept. 2021). |
| Percentage of Children in Poverty - California Poverty Measure | 2023 Q1 | 13.8% | Public Policy Institute of California & Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, California Poverty Measure (Aug. 2024). |
| Percentage of Children Living in Low-Income Working Families | 2019 | 23.5% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey public use microdata (Oct. 2020). |
| Percentage of Households with a High Housing Cost Burden | 2021 | 41.7% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Mar. 2024). |
| Percentage of Public School Students Who Are Homeless | 2021 | 3.8% | California Dept. of Education, Coordinated School Health and Safety Office custom tabulation & DataQuest (Feb. 2023). |
| Percentage of Children Living in Food Insecure Households | 2023 | 16.9% | Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap (Nov. 2025). |
| Percentage of Children Ages 0-18 with Health Insurance Coverage | 2021 | 96.5% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Mar. 2024). |
| Yearly Enrollment in Medi-Cal and CHIP Among Children Ages 0-18 | 2021 | 61.7% | Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Statistical Enrollment Data System, Annual Enrollment Reports ; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections ; U.S. Census Bureau, Population and Housing Unit Estimates (Mar. 2025). |
| Percentage of Children in Excellent or Very Good Health | 2017-2018 | 75.5% | UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Aug. 2020). |

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| Percentage of Kindergarteners with All Required Immunizations | 2022 | 94.0% | California Dept. of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Reporting Data for Kindergarten and 7th Grade (Nov. 2024). |
| Percentage of Children Ages 1-17 Ever Diagnosed with Asthma | 2019-2020 | 12.4% | UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Feb. 2022). |
| Percentage of Children with Special Health Care Needs | 2022 | 15.8% | U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, National Survey of Children's Health (Jan. 2024). |
| Percentage of High-Need Students (Unduplicated Pupil Count) | 2021 | 62.4% | California Dept. of Education, California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Unduplicated Pupil Count (UPC) Source Files (Nov. 2021). |
| Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standard in Reading | 2021* | 49.0% | California Dept. of Education, Test Results for California's Assessments (Feb. 2022). |
| Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standards in Math | 2021* | 33.8% | California Dept. of Education, Test Results for California's Assessments (Feb. 2022). |
| Percentage of 5th Graders Who Are Overweight or Obese | 2019 | 41.3% | California Dept. of Education, Physical Fitness Testing Research Files (Jan. 2020). |
| Children with Substantiated Cases of Abuse or Neglect | 2020 | 6.8 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | California Child Welfare Indicators Project, CCWIP Reports . University of California at Berkeley & California Dept. of Social Services (Oct. 2021). |
| Children/Youth Ages 0-20 in Foster Care | 2018 | 5.3 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | Webster, D., et al. California Child Welfare Indicators Project Reports . UC Berkeley Center for Social Services Research (Jul. 2019). |
| Felony Arrest Rate Among Juveniles Ages 10-17 | 2023 | 3.8 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | California Dept. of Justice, Crime Statistics: Arrests ; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections (Jan. 2025). |
| Birth Rate Among Teens Ages 15-19 | 2021 | 9.3 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | California Dept. of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files (Mar. 2020); CDC WONDER, Nativity ; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections (Jun. 2023). |
| Percentage of Teens Ages 16-19 Not in School and Not Working | 2021 | 7.2% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Jan. 2024). |
| Percentage of 7th Graders Who Were Bullied at School in the Previous Year | 2017-2019 | 36.0% | WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) & Biennial State CHKS . California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020). |
| Percentage of 9th Graders with Feelings of Depression | 2017-2019 | 32.6% | WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) and Biennial State CHKS . California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020). |
| Percentage of 9th Graders with High Levels of School Connectedness | 2017-2019 | 44.8% | WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) and Biennial State CHKS . California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020). |
| Percentage of Students in the Graduating Class Receiving a High School Diploma | 2021 | 83.6% | California Dept. of Education, Graduates by Race and Gender (Jun. 2017) & Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate and Outcome Data (May 2022). |

Definitions for LNE, N/A, N/R, or S can be found in the footnote section of the indicator page.

More data on California: <https://www.kidsdata.org/region/2/california/summary>