

Children in Merced County

Indicator	Year	Merced County	California	Data Source
Child Population Ages 0-17	2016	78,952	9,118,201	California Dept. of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1990-1999, 2000-2010, 2010-2060 ; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Estimates, Vintage 2015 (Jun. 2016).
Percentage of Infants Born Preterm (based on last menstrual period estimates)	2013	7.8%	8.8%	California Dept. of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Statistical Master Files; Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Natality data on CDC WONDER; Martin et al. (2015), Births: Final Data for 2013. National Vital Statistics Reports, 64(1) (Mar. 2015).
Percentage of Children in Families with Single Female Householders	2010-2014	20.9%	18.7%	Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey microdata files (Mar. 2016).
Percentage of Children Living with One or More Foreign-Born Parent	2012-2016	52.8%	49.3%	U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (Jan. 2018).
Percentage of English Learners in Public Schools	2016	27.8%	22.1%	California Dept. of Education, DataQuest (May 2016).
Percentage of Children Living in Low-Income Working Families	2012-2016	31.8%	25.9%	Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey microdata files (Feb. 2018).
Percentage of Children Living Below the Federal Poverty Threshold	2012-2016	35.0%	21.9%	U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (Jan. 2018).
Percentage of Children Living in Food Insecure Households	2014	28.9%	22.9%	Gundersen, C., et al. (2016). Map the Meal Gap 2016: Food insecurity and child food insecurity estimates at the county level . Feeding America.
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Price School Meals	2015	79.5%	58.6%	California Dept. of Education, Student Poverty FRPM Data (Mar. 2016); U.S. Dept. of Education, NCES Digest of Education Statistics (Mar. 2016).
Percentage of Public School Students Who Are Homeless	2016	2.8%	4.4%	California Dept. of Education, Coordinated School Health and Safety Office custom tabulation & California Basic Educational Data System (May 2017).
Percentage of Children with Health Insurance Coverage	2012-2016	95.6%	94.6%	U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (Jan. 2018).

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Percentage of Children/Youth Ages 0-21 with Medi-Cal or CHIP Coverage	2012-2016	55.1%	38.6%	Population Reference Bureau , analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey microdata files (Feb. 2018).
Percentage of Children in Excellent or Very Good Health	2013-2014	58.7%	74.1%	UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Sep. 2016).
Percentage of Kindergarteners with All Required Immunizations	2016	96.5%	92.8%	California Dept. of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Kindergarten Assessment Results (Feb. 2016).
Percentage of Children Ages 1-17 with Asthma Diagnoses	2013-2014	26.6%	15.2%	UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Dec. 2015).
Percentage of Students Enrolled in Special Education	2016	11.6%	11.8%	California Dept. of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS), & Special Education Division custom tabulation (Dec. 2016); National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics : Table 204.30 (Dec. 2016), & Table 203.50 (Jun. 2016).
Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standards in English	2016	37%	48%	California Dept. of Education, CAASPP Test Results (Oct. 2016).
Percentage of 7th Graders Who Are Overweight or Obese	2017	44.7%	38.7%	California Dept. of Education, Physical Fitness Testing Research Files (Jan. 2018).
Rate of Child Abuse and Neglect Reports	2015	64.9 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	55.0 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	Webster, D., et al. California Child Welfare Indicators Project Reports , U.C. Berkeley Center for Social Services Research (Jun. 2016).
Children/Youth Ages 0-20 in Foster Care	2015	6.5 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	5.8 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	Webster, D., et al. Child Welfare Services Reports for California , U.C. Berkeley Center for Social Services Research (Jun. 2016); Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center (Jul. 2016).
Percentage of 7th Graders Who Were Bullied at School in the Previous Year	2013-2015	37.9%	39.2%	WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey . California Department of Education (Jul. 2017).
Percentage of 9th Graders with Feelings of Depression	2013-2015	31.6%	31.5%	WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey . California Department of Education (Jul. 2017).
Percentage of 9th Graders with High Levels of School Connectedness	2013-2015	45.0%	44.5%	WestEd, California Healthy Kids Survey . California Department of Education (Jul. 2017).

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

More data on Merced County: <https://www.kidsdata.org/region/354/merced-county/summary>