

## African American/Black Children in California

Indicator	Year	African American/ Black	All Children/ Youth	Data Source
Child Population Ages 0-17	2025	430,493	8,386,716	California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> ; U.S. Census Bureau, <a href="#">Population and Housing Unit Estimates</a> (Mar. 2025).
Percentage of Infants Born at Low Birthweight	2017	12.2%	7.4%	California Dept. of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files; CDC WONDER, <a href="#">Nativity Data</a> (Mar. 2020).
Infant Mortality Rate	2020	9.0 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	3.9 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	CDC WONDER Online Database, <a href="#">Linked Birth / Infant Death Records</a> (Apr. 2023).
Percentage of Children in Poverty - California Poverty Measure	2023 Q1	14.0%	13.8%	Public Policy Institute of California & Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, <a href="#">California Poverty Measure</a> (Aug. 2024).
Percentage of Children in Deep Poverty - California Poverty Measure	2023 Q1	1.9%	2.2%	Public Policy Institute of California & Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, <a href="#">California Poverty Measure</a> (Aug. 2024).
Percentage of Children Ages 0-18 with Health Insurance Coverage	2021	97.2%	96.5%	Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau <a href="#">American Community Survey</a> summary files and public use microdata (Mar. 2024).
Percentage of Children/Youth Ages 0-20 Enrolled in Medi-Cal	2024	64.4%	52.3%	California Dept. of Health Care Services, <a href="#">Eligible Individuals Under Age 21 Enrolled in Medi-Cal</a> (Dec. 2025); California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> (Sept. 2024).
Percentage of Children in Excellent or Very Good Health	2017-2018	74.6%	75.5%	UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, <a href="#">California Health Interview Survey</a> (Aug. 2020).
Percentage of 5th Graders Who Are Overweight or Obese	2019	41.6%	41.3%	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Physical Fitness Testing Research Files</a> (Jan. 2020).
Percentage of Children with Two or More Adverse Experiences	2024	33.3%[!]	12.3%	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, <a href="#">National Survey of Children's Health</a> (Dec. 2025).
Children with Substantiated Cases of Abuse or Neglect	2020	17.9 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	6.8 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	California Child Welfare Indicators Project, <a href="#">CCWIP Reports</a> . University of California at Berkeley & California Dept. of Social Services (Oct. 2021).
Children/Youth Ages 0-20 in Foster Care	2018	21.8 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	5.3 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	Webster, D., et al. <a href="#">California Child Welfare Indicators Project Reports</a> . UC Berkeley Center for Social Services Research (Jul. 2019).

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Special Education Enrollment	2020	60,494	804,107	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Special Education Division</a> custom tabulation (Jun. 2021).
Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standard in Reading	2021*	33.8%	49.0%	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Test Results for California's Assessments</a> (Feb. 2022).
Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standard in Math	2021*	18.0%	33.8%	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Test Results for California's Assessments</a> (Feb. 2022).
Percentage of Students Not Completing High School	2021	17.9%	9.4%	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Dropouts by Race and Gender</a> (Jun. 2017) & <a href="#">Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate and Outcome Data</a> (May 2022).
Students Suspended from School	2018-2020	79.4 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	24.5 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Suspension Data</a> (May 2021).
Students Expelled from School	2018-2020	1.6 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	0.5 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Expulsion Data</a> (May 2021).
Felony Arrest Rate Among Juveniles Ages 10-17	2023	18.5 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	3.8 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	California Dept. of Justice, <a href="#">Crime Statistics: Arrests</a> ; California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> (Jan. 2025).
Birth Rate Among Teens Ages 15-19	2021	10.7 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	9.3 <i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>	California Dept. of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <a href="#">Births: Final Data</a> (Aug. 2017); CDC WONDER, <a href="#">Nativity</a> ; California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> (Jun. 2023).
Rate of Firearm Injury Hospitalization Among Children/Youth Ages 0-24	2021	52.3 <i>(Rate per 100,000)</i>	10.1 <i>(Rate per 100,000)</i>	California Dept. of Public Health, <a href="#">EpiCenter</a> ; California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> (Jul. 2023).
Death Rate Among Children/Youth Ages 1-24	2015-2017	56.2 <i>(Rate per 100,000)</i>	29.8 <i>(Rate per 100,000)</i>	California Dept. of Public Health, Death Statistical Master Files (Apr. 2020); California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> (Apr. 2020); CDC WONDER Online Database, <a href="#">Underlying Cause of Death</a> (May 2020).

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

More data on African American/Black Children: <https://kidsdata.org/demographic/13/african-americanblack-children/summary>