KidsData

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# 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 *(Rate per 1,000)* | 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** | 2024 | 44.8% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Aug. 2026). |
| **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** | 2024 | 20.4% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey public use microdata (Aug. 2026). |
| **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** | 2024 | 17.8% | U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, National Survey of Children's Health (Nov. 2025). |
| **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 *(Rate per 1,000)* | 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 *(Rate per 1,000)* | 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 *(Rate per 1,000)* | 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 *(Rate per 1,000)* | California Dept. of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files (Mar. 2020); CDC WONDER, Natality; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections (Jun. 2023). |
| **Percentage of Teens Ages 16-19 Not in School and Not Working** | 2024 | 6.6% | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey summary files and public use microdata (Sept. 2026). |
| **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://kidsdata.org/region/2/california/summary