

2026 KIDS COUNT® DATA PROFILE

ILLINOIS

OVERALL SCORE	OVERALL RANK
615 WORSE	20

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING	SCORE	RANK
	625 STABLE	24

	UNITED STATES			ILLINOIS		
Children in poverty US 11,117,000 IL 375,000	17% 2019	15% 2024	↓ BETTER	16% 2019	14% 2024	↓ BETTER
Children whose parents lack secure employment US 18,420,000 IL 677,000	26% 2019	25% 2024	↓ BETTER	24% 2019	25% 2024	↑ WORSE
Children living in households with a high housing cost burden US 22,385,000 IL 736,000	30% 2019	31% 2024	↑ WORSE	28% 2019	27% 2024	↓ BETTER
Teens not in school and not working US 1,218,000 IL 42,000	6% 2019	7% 2024	↑ WORSE	6% 2019	6% 2024	STABLE

EDUCATION	SCORE	RANK
	518 WORSE	7

	UNITED STATES			ILLINOIS		
Young children (ages 3 and 4) not in school US 4,277,000 IL 141,000	52% 2015-19	54% 2020-24	↑ WORSE	44% 2015-19	49% 2020-24	↑ WORSE
Fourth graders not proficient in reading US N.A. IL N.A.	66% 2019	70% 2024	↑ WORSE	66% 2019	70% 2024	↑ WORSE
Eighth graders not proficient in math US N.A. IL N.A.	67% 2019	73% 2024	↑ WORSE	66% 2019	68% 2024	↑ WORSE
High school students not graduating on time US N.A. IL N.A.	14% 2018-19	13% 2023-24	↓ BETTER	14% 2018-19	12% 2023-24	↓ BETTER

N.A.: Not available

Note: Rankings show how states compare. Scores range from 0 (worst) to 1,000 (best) and reflect child well-being relative to a 2019 baseline; changes over time indicate progress or decline. Scores are not percentages or a finish line; higher scores indicate better outcomes.

Explore data on children and families at datacenter.aecf.org.



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HEALTH	UNITED STATES			ILLINOIS		SCORE	RANK
						646 WORSE	23
Low birth-weight babies US 308,966 IL 10,778	8.3% 2019	8.5% 2024	↑ WORSE	8.4% 2019	8.6% 2024	↑ WORSE	
Children without health insurance US 4,648,000 IL 104,000	6% 2019	6% 2024	STABLE	4% 2019	4% 2024	STABLE	
Child and teen deaths per 100,000 US 21,189 IL 778	25 2019	27 2024	↑ WORSE	23 2019	27 2024	↑ WORSE	
Children and teens (ages 10 to 17) who are overweight or obese US N.A. IL N.A.	31% 2018-19	30% 2023-24	↓ BETTER	29% 2018-19	31% 2023-24	↑ WORSE	

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY	UNITED STATES			ILLINOIS		SCORE	RANK
						671 BETTER	25
Children in single-parent families US 23,472,000 IL 872,000	34% 2019	34% 2024	STABLE	34% 2019	34% 2024	STABLE	
Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma US 7,868,000 IL 239,000	12% 2019	11% 2024	↓ BETTER	10% 2019	9% 2024	↓ BETTER	
Children living in high-poverty areas US 5,419,000 IL 182,000	9% 2015-19	7% 2020-24	↓ BETTER	7% 2015-19	7% 2020-24	STABLE	
Teen births per 1,000 US 137,273 IL 4,228	17 2019	13 2024	↓ BETTER	15 2019	10 2024	↓ BETTER	

N.A.: Not available

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Find additional data on this state's children and families at datacenter.aecf.org/IL.

Learn about child well-being and state scores and rankings at www.aecf.org/databook.