

2026 KIDS COUNT® DATA PROFILE

NEW MEXICO

OVERALL SCORE

281
BETTER

OVERALL RANK

49

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

SCORE: **399** BETTER | RANK: **47**

| | UNITED STATES | | | NEW MEXICO | | |
|---|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Children in poverty <small>US 11,117,000 NM 95,000</small> | 17% 2019 | 15% 2024 | ↓ BETTER | 25% 2019 | 22% 2024 | ↓ BETTER |
| Children whose parents lack secure employment <small>US 18,420,000 NM 138,000</small> | 26% 2019 | 25% 2024 | ↓ BETTER | 32% 2019 | 31% 2024 | ↓ BETTER |
| Children living in households with a high housing cost burden <small>US 22,385,000 NM 118,000</small> | 30% 2019 | 31% 2024 | ↑ WORSE | 26% 2019 | 27% 2024 | ↑ WORSE |
| Teens not in school and not working <small>US 1,218,000 NM 9,000</small> | 6% 2019 | 7% 2024 | ↑ WORSE | 11% 2019 | 8% 2024 | ↓ BETTER |

EDUCATION

SCORE: **1** WORSE | RANK: **50**

| | UNITED STATES | | | NEW MEXICO | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Young children (ages 3 and 4) not in school <small>US 4,277,000 NM 28,000</small> | 52% 2015-19 | 54% 2020-24 | ↑ WORSE | 55% 2015-19 | 60% 2020-24 | ↑ WORSE |
| Fourth graders not proficient in reading <small>US N.A. NM N.A.</small> | 66% 2019 | 70% 2024 | ↑ WORSE | 76% 2019 | 80% 2024 | ↑ WORSE |
| Eighth graders not proficient in math <small>US N.A. NM N.A.</small> | 67% 2019 | 73% 2024 | ↑ WORSE | 79% 2019 | 86% 2024 | ↑ WORSE |
| High school students not graduating on time <small>US N.A. NM N.A.</small> | 14% 2018-19 | 13% 2023-24 | ↓ BETTER | 25% 2018-19 | 22% 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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FOUNDATION

| HEALTH | UNITED STATES | | | NEW MEXICO | | SCORE | RANK |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|------|
| | | | | | | 464 WORSE | 41 |
| Low birth-weight babies US 308,966 NM 1,970 | 8.3% 2019 | 8.5% 2024 | ↑ WORSE | 9.3% 2019 | 9.2% 2024 | ↓ BETTER | |
| Children without health insurance US 4,648,000 NM 29,000 | 6% 2019 | 6% 2024 | STABLE | 6% 2019 | 6% 2024 | STABLE | |
| Child and teen deaths per 100,000 US 21,189 NM 178 | 25 2019 | 27 2024 | ↑ WORSE | 36 2019 | 37 2024 | ↑ WORSE | |
| Children and teens (ages 10 to 17) who are overweight or obese US N.A. NM N.A. | 31% 2018-19 | 30% 2023-24 | ↓ BETTER | 33% 2018-19 | 34% 2023-24 | ↑ WORSE | |

| FAMILY AND COMMUNITY | UNITED STATES | | | NEW MEXICO | | SCORE | RANK |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|------|
| | | | | | | 260 BETTER | 50 |
| Children in single-parent families US 23,472,000 NM 182,000 | 34% 2019 | 34% 2024 | STABLE | 44% 2019 | 44% 2024 | STABLE | |
| Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma US 7,868,000 NM 63,000 | 12% 2019 | 11% 2024 | ↓ BETTER | 14% 2019 | 14% 2024 | STABLE | |
| Children living in high-poverty areas US 5,419,000 NM 93,000 | 9% 2015-19 | 7% 2020-24 | ↓ BETTER | 20% 2015-19 | 20% 2020-24 | STABLE | |
| Teen births per 1,000 US 137,273 NM 1,280 | 17 2019 | 13 2024 | ↓ BETTER | 24 2019 | 18 2024 | ↓ BETTER | |

N.A.: Not available

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New Mexico Voices for Children | www.nmvoices.org | 505.244.9505

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

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