2018

Kids Count in Nebraska Report

Acknowledgements

Kids Count in Nebraska is a children's data and policy project of Voices for Children in Nebraska. Key indicators measure the well-being of children in five areas: health, education, economic stability, child welfare, and juvenile justice.

An important component of this project is the Technical Team of Advisors, members of which provide data and expertise on child well-being in our state. The *Kids Count* Technical Team, comprising representatives from numerous agencies and organizations in Nebraska and other research experts, provides invaluable information for this project each year. Without their interest, support, and partnership, *Kids Count* would be impossible to produce.

Kids Count in Nebraska Reports from 2006 to 2018 are available for download at www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount.

Additional copies of the *Kids Count in Nebraska 2018 Report*, as well as reports from 1993 through 2017, are available from:

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Dear Kids Count Reader,

Welcome to the 26th edition of the *Kids Count in Nebraska Report*! This year's report brings with it all the updated data on child well-being in Nebraska that you have come to expect year after year. As always, we have added a few indicators and updated some to make them even more relevant, making this year's report our most comprehensive and in-depth look at the overall status of Nebraska's children.

For the first time ever, this year's report includes a ranking on child well-being of Nebraska's 93 counties. Based on our *Index of Race and Opportunity for Nebraska Kids* as well as our county-level data contained within each *Kids Count Report*, we know that place and race matter when determining a child's pathway to opportunity. In order to quantify the impact of geography on child well-being, we selected indicators in each of our issue areas that are strong predictors of a child's future opportunity. Following analysis of these 14 indicators, we applaud **Greeley, Boone, Arthur, Washington, and Chase counties** for their top five child well-being rankings! Each county's ranking and data can be found in this report as well as in our supplemental county fact sheets located on our website— www.voicesforchildren.com. We hope that these rankings and county snapshots are useful in determining where local strategies and investments can have the most impact.

We hope you find this year's edition of the *Kids Count in Nebraska Report* helpful. As always, we welcome your feedback. This report exists to help you—whether you are a policymaker, legislative staff member, administrator, child advocate, educator or anyone else who wants to help ensure that all Nebraska's children have the opportunity to lead the happy and healthy life they deserve.

Finally, we want to extend our thanks to the many experts and data providers who lent their expertise to the production of this report. Thank you.

Please enjoy the *2018 Kids Count in Nebraska Report*!

Kind Regards,

Aubrey Mancuso, MSW
Executive Director

Chrissy Tonkinson, MPH
Research Coordinator

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About Voices for Children

Founded in 1987, Voices for Children in Nebraska has over 30-year track record of improving the lives of Nebraska's children and youth. As the independent, nonpartisan voice for children, we are not funded by state, federal, city, or county dollars. Our independence allows us to speak loud and clear and to shine the spotlight on the needs of children in our state.

MISSION:

Voices for Children in Nebraska is the independent voice building pathways to opportunity for all children and families through research, policy, and community engagement.

VISION:

We will engage the public and state leaders to build systems removing obstacles and promoting opportunities for ALL children to lead healthy, secure, and fulfilling lives.

VALUES:

All children deserve an equal opportunity to succeed in life. To ensure kids remain at the center of priorities and programs:
- Informed research drives our direction.
- When a policy is good, we support it; when it is harmful, we fight it; when it is missing, we can create it.
- Community engagement is how we promote systems change.

Voices for Children in Nebraska's 2019 Board of Directors:

Executive Committee:

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Children are our state's greatest resource, and the decisions our leaders make about them impact our collective future.

Voices for Children in Nebraska has developed the following Pro-Kid Policy Plan, focusing on the issues of health, economic stability, child welfare, and juvenile justice. Our policy priorities are guided by research, data, and proven best practices that improve child well-being. We pay close attention to the impact of race, socioeconomic status, and geography, and seek to remove barriers to opportunity within these areas. This plan represents our vision for a Nebraska where strong communities allow all children to thrive.

Voices for Children works to ensure that:

Health
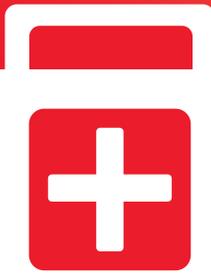
Children and families have access to affordable, quality physical and behavioral health care. Consistent and preventive health care gives children the best start to grow up to be healthy and productive adults.

Economic Stability

Families are able to achieve financial security, and children's basic needs are met. State economic policies support families in trying to build a better future and balance work and family life.

Child Welfare

Children grow up in safe, permanent, and loving homes. An effective child welfare system strengthens families and minimizes trauma through timely and appropriate action.

Juvenile Justice

Youth are held accountable for their actions in developmentally appropriate ways that promote community safety and allow them to grow into responsible citizens.

Contacting elected officials

How to use your voice on behalf of children

Do you have something to share with elected officials about children's issues? It's easy to contact policymakers using these tools— a legislative map, contact information for your representatives, and a wealth of information and data at your fingertips.

1 **Find your district**
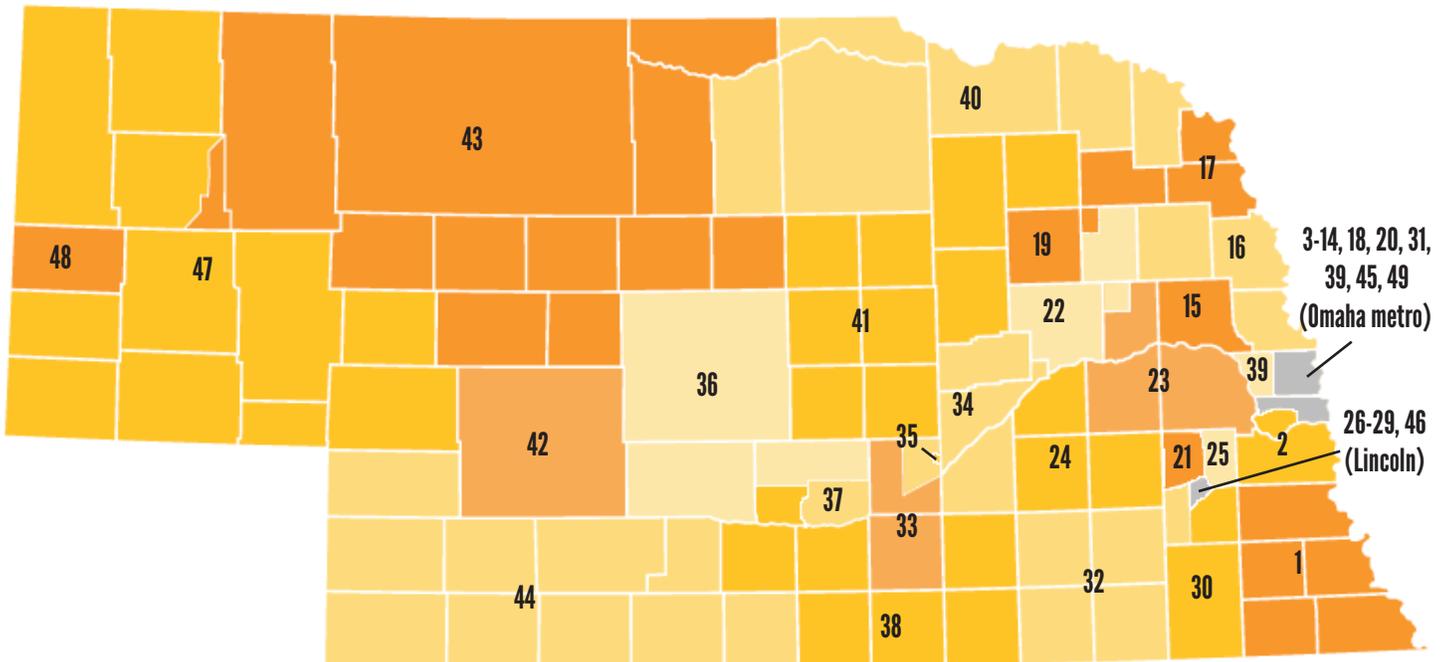
2 **Identify your elected official or officials**

2018 Nebraska Legislature			
Senator	District	Office Phone	Email
Albrecht, Joni	17	471-2716	jalbrecht@leg.ne.gov
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Wishart, Anna	27	471-2632	awishart@leg.ne.gov

Other elected officials

U.S. President: Donald Trump
202-456-1414, president@whitehouse.gov

Nebraska Governor: Pete Ricketts
402-471-2244, www.governor.nebraska.gov

Nebraska Secretary of State: Bob Evnen
402-471-2554, www.sos.ne.gov

Nebraska Attorney General: Doug Peterson
402-471-2682, www.ago.nebraska.gov

Nebraska State Treasurer: John Murante
402-471-2455, www.treasurer.nebraska.gov

U.S. Senator: Deb Fischer
202-224-6551, www.fischer.senate.gov

U.S. Senator: Ben Sasse
202-224-4224, www.sasse.senate.gov

U.S. Representative-1st District: Jeff Fortenberry
202-225-4806, www.fortenberry.house.gov

U.S. Representative-2nd District: Don Bacon
202-225-4155, www.bacon.house.gov

U.S. Representative-3rd District: Adrian Smith
202-225-6435, www.adriansmith.house.gov

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Know your issues, share your data

www.voicesforchildren.com contains a wealth of information including:

· Legislative Priority bills

· Blog

· *Kids Count NEteractive* data tool

· Electronic version of the *Kids Count in Nebraska Report*

To stay current on children's legislative issues, sign up for our free advoKID email alerts on our website to help you respond to the issues affecting children in the unicameral.

To access *Kids Count Nebraska* data on the go, visit www.kidscountnebraska.com for our interactive state data tool.

To use the KIDS COUNT Data Center – the interactive home of national, state, and county level data, visit www.datacenter.kidscount.org.

To view the legislative calendar, read bills, listen live, and more, visit www.nebraskalegislature.gov.

*By the time this report is in print, Legislative Districts 1 and 49 will have a different, Governor appointed Legislator.

Commentary

Equality Before the Law: Place Matters - A Ranking of Opportunity among Nebraska's Counties

Nebraska is a great state to be a kid, and the data supports that claim. Our state consistently receives top ranks in the Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT Data Book. The data comprised in Casey's 2018 Book placed Nebraska at 9th state for overall child well-being.[1] However, we know that overall state data may not tell the whole story of what's going on with Nebraska kids.

Nebraska's rankings in the KIDS COUNT National Data Book compared with other states (2018)

NEBRASKA'S OVERALL RANK: **9**

DOMAIN RANK: **21** — FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

DOMAIN RANK: **2** — ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

HEALTH — DOMAIN RANK: **12**

EDUCATION — DOMAIN RANK: **8**
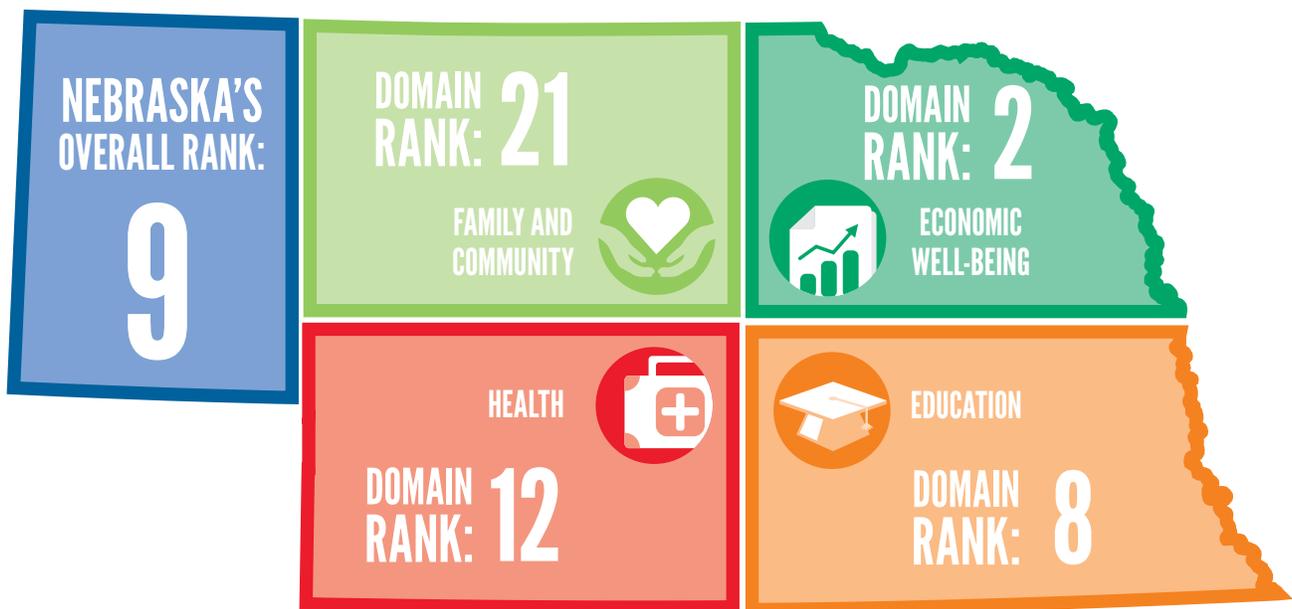
Based on Voices for Children's conversations with Nebraskans around our state, and the work we do day-to-day, we wanted to further explore the role of geography as it relates to child opportunity by looking at how counties compare on indicators of child well-being. Despite our consistently positive rankings as a state compared to others, when we dive a bit deeper, we see a Nebraska of disparity of opportunity for some kids in our state. We know from our *Index of Race & Opportunity for Nebraska Children*, now in its fourth year, that **race matters** in predicting the lifelong opportunity for our children.

Voices for Children's Pro-Kid Policy Plan represents our vision for a Nebraska where strong communities allow all children to thrive. To measure our state's progress in supporting strong communities, the first 25 years of the Kids Count in Nebraska Report contained several indicators of child well-being disaggregated by county. These indicators have proven to us that **place matters** for children in Nebraska. The county you live in often plays a role in determining child well-being and access to opportunity. In order to create a representative ranking that covers all areas of child well-being in Nebraska we selected 14 indicators divided between four issue areas: Health, Education, Economic Stability, and Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems.

Voices for Children encourages users to focus on individual indicators, trends, and geographical patterns to identify areas of child well-being in each county that need the greatest attention and to track positive changes made in areas where programs have been implemented to promote improvement.

Indicator List

Health:

1. Children without health insurance
2. 10-year average child mortality rate
3. Births with inadequate prenatal care

Economic Stability:

7. Children living in low-income families
8. Ratio of kids of color living in poverty to all kids in poverty
9. Children who are food insecure
10. Families with children who do not own their homes

Education:

4. 3rd graders not reading proficiently
5. High schoolers not graduating on time
6. 3- and 4-year-olds not in school

Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems:

11. Children having involvement in the child welfare system
12. Children involved in the child welfare system placed in out-of-home care
13. Youth in juvenile court without access to counsel
14. Ratio of youth referred to diversion to cases filed in juvenile court

Methodology

When establishing the methodology for ranking counties, we wanted something that was easy to understand, replicate, and allowed for a variety of data formats while not causing undue penalty to counties that did not have any events in certain indicators. In order to compute the ranking, the following steps were taken:

1. Selection of data indicators – Voices for Children's data indicator selection standard was used to establish a set of indicators in each of our *Kids Count* issue areas. These indicators are systems-focused, disaggregatable by county, and considered to be among the strongest available to measure child well-being and predict future opportunity.

2. Data was collected – The most recent county-level data for each indicator was collected from trusted state and national data providers.

3. Data was standardized – While the number of an event occurring is important within a specific location, they are not able to provide a meaningful comparison between counties with disparate population sizes. Rates and percentages were calculated from the data to provide fair comparisons between counties.

4. Counties were ranked – For each indicator a 1-93 ranking was produced with 1 being the most desirable. Counties with the same rates were given an equal ranking.

5. Rankings were averaged – After a ranking was established for each indicator, the rankings were then averaged for each issue area and overall to create an overall score.

6. Average rankings were ranked – Finally, after an average ranking was calculated, this average was ranked 1-93 to create an overall ranking as well as an issue area specific ranking for each county.

Commentary

Overall Child Well-being

Based on Voices for Children's methodology and analysis of the data, the children in Greeley County have the best opportunity for success on their pathway to adulthood. Boone, Arthur, Washington, and Chase counties round out the top five with 2nd-5th place ranking, respectively. With the five lowest rankings, children in Dawes, Dodge, Thurston, Pawnee, and Sheridan counties are likely to experience the greatest barriers to opportunity when compared to their peers in other Nebraska counties.

Top and bottom ranked counties: overall child well-being

Ranking	County	Ranking	County
1	Greeley	89	Dawes
2	Boone	90	Dodge
3	Arthur	91	Thurston
4	Washington	92	Pawnee
5	Chase	93	Sheridan

Ranking results depict no obvious pattern of regions of highest need. Many highly ranked counties neighbor low-ranked counties and vice versa. These inconsistencies also exist between urban and rural counties with high and low ranks in each.

Overall child well-being county rankings

1-31 Ranking   32-62 Ranking   63-93 Ranking
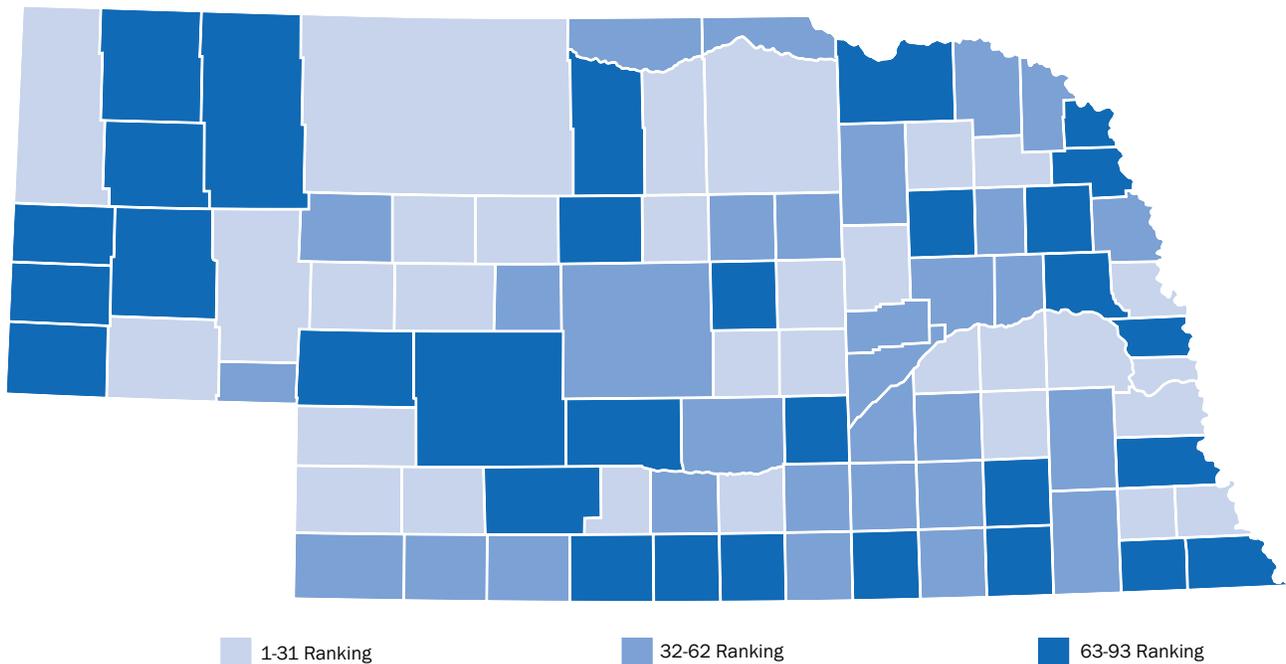
Overall child well-being by county ranking

Ranking	County	Ranking	County	Ranking	County
1	Greeley	32	Grant	63	Otoe
2	Boone	33	Keya Paha	64	Frontier
3	Arthur	34	Hamilton	65	Valley
4	Washington	35	Webster	66	Richardson
5	Chase	36	Stanton	67	Banner
6	Loup	37	Garfield	68	Box Butte
7	Howard	38	Burt	69	Douglas
8	Sarpy	39	Merrick	70	Dakota
9	Seward	40	Platte	71	Franklin
10	Saunders	41	Buffalo	72	Lincoln
11	Garden	42	Logan	73	Cuming
12	Hooker	43	Phelps	74	Nuckolls
13	Hayes	44	Fillmore	75	Brown
14	Cass	45	Dixon	76	Furnas
15	Butler	46	Nance	77	Saline
16	Sherman	47	Lancaster	78	Hall
17	Pierce	47	Red Willow	79	Knox
18	Wayne	49	Thayer	80	Madison
19	Holt	50	York	81	Morrill
20	Kearney	51	Cedar	82	Blaine
21	Sioux	52	Dundy	83	Kimball
22	Rock	53	Custer	84	Harlan
23	Nemaha	54	Antelope	84	Scotts Bluff
24	Johnson	55	Wheeler	86	Dawson
25	Gosper	56	Gage	87	Keith
26	Cheyenne	57	Hitchcock	88	Jefferson
27	McPherson	58	Clay	89	Dawes
28	Cherry	59	Adams	90	Dodge
29	Thomas	60	Boyd	91	Thurston
30	Polk	61	Colfax	92	Pawnee
31	Perkins	62	Deuel	93	Sheridan

Health

Every child and family should have access to affordable, quality physical and behavioral health care. Consistent and preventive health care gives children the best start to grow up to be healthy and productive adults.

Children without health insurance (2012-2016 average):
Percentage of children 0-17 without health insurance compared to all children 0-17.[2]

Health insurance is important in ensuring that children are able to receive health care when they need it. Children with health insurance coverage benefit from preventive care and timely medical treatments services to treat acute and chronic conditions, or to address injuries when they occur. Having health insurance can protect families from a financial crisis when a child experiences a serious or chronic illness and can help children remain active, healthy, and in school.[3]

The rate of children in Nebraska without health insurance has reached a decade low. 5.1% of children 18 and under were uninsured in 2017. Uninsured rates among Nebraska counties range from 0.0% uninsured in McPherson County to 25.9% uninsured in Thurston County. Consistently, most children who are uninsured are living in low-income families, and likely qualify for Medicaid or CHIP, but are not enrolled. Efforts to increase enrollment in counties with high rates of children without health insurance may bring access to needed health care to more of our state's children.

Top and bottom ranked counties: children without health insurance

Ranking	County	Uninsured children	Ranking	County	Uninsured children
1	McPherson	0.0%	89	Boyd	14.7%
2	Wheeler	0.7%	90	Rock	18.1%
3	Perkins	1.2%	91	Blaine	20.1%
4	Saunders	1.3%	92	Pawnee	20.3%
5	Nemaha	1.4%	93	Thurston	25.9%

Child mortality rate per 100,000 (2008-2017 average):
Average number of annual deaths of children 1-19 between 2008 and 2017 compared to the average population of children 1-19 during those same years.[4]

The child mortality rate reflects a wide range of factors— physical and mental health, access to health care, community safety, and level of adult supervision. Accidents are consistently the leading cause of death for children and teens. The state 10-year average child mortality rate is 26 deaths per 100,000 children 1-19 with 1,281 children dying in 2008-2017. County rates range from a rate of 0.0 mortality to 193.5 per 100,000 population in Thomas County. The highest rates of child mortality were in counties with a very low population that experienced a child death over the decade.

Top and bottom ranked counties: 10-year child mortality rate

Ranking	County	Child mortality rate	Ranking	County	Child mortality rate
1	Arthur	0.0	89	McPherson	73.0
1	Garden	0.0	90	Blaine	88.5
1	Gosper	0.0	91	Sioux	102.4
1	Grant	0.0	92	Loup	149.8
1	Hayes	0.0	93	Thomas	193.5
1	Hooker	0.0			
1	Logan	0.0			

Prenatal care inadequacy (2017 births):

Percentage of births to infants whose mothers received inadequate prenatal care, meaning they attended fewer than 50% of recommended prenatal doctor's visits, compared to the total number of births.[5]

Mothers who attend prenatal doctor's visits experience significant improvement in their own and their infant's well-being. During these visits, mothers receive education on important pre- and post-natal behaviors that thereby improve the health and well-being of their baby.[6]

16.6% of Nebraska infants were born to mothers who received inadequate prenatal care, the highest rate over the last 10 years. Nebraska counties ranged from no babies receiving inadequate prenatal care to 40.6% in Pawnee County not getting the care they need to help ensure their health and wellness.

Top and bottom ranked counties: prenatal care inadequacy

Ranking	County	Inadequate Prenatal Care	Ranking	County	Inadequate Prenatal Care
1	Arthur	0.0%	89	McPherson	33.3%
1	Wheeler	0.0%	90	Thurston	33.8%
1	Keya Paha	0.0%	91	Dawson	34.0%
1	Banner	0.0%	92	Gosper	36.0%
1	Blaine	0.0%	93	Pawnee	40.6%
1	Hooker	0.0%			
1	Logan	0.0%			

Child health county rankings

1-31 Ranking   32-62 Ranking   63-93 Ranking

Commentary
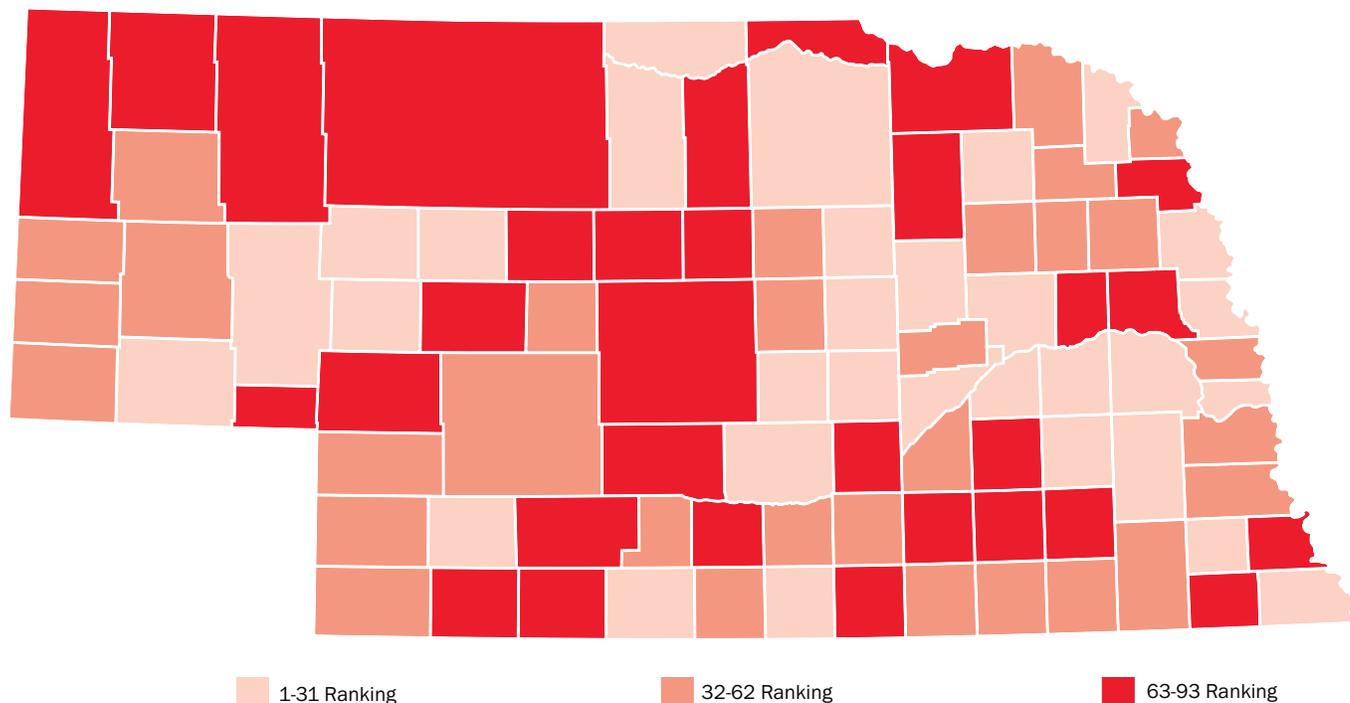
Child health data and rankings by county

Ranking	County	% Children Uninsured	10 year average child mortality rate	% of births with inadequate prenatal care	Ranking	County	% Children Uninsured	10 year average child mortality rate	% of births with inadequate prenatal care
1	Greeley	1.9%	16.5	7.1%	47	Adams	6.4%	26.7	14.4%
2	Sherman	4.0%	14.1	5.0%	47	Box Butte	3.1%	50.5	14.8%
3	Arthur	5.8%	0.0	0.0%	47	Cass	3.5%	56.2	12.9%
4	Pierce	2.8%	26.4	6.3%	47	Kearney	8.1%	30.6	11.1%
5	Butler	4.3%	23.8	6.8%	47	Lincoln	5.0%	24.8	21.3%
5	Seward	3.0%	21.5	10.6%	52	Thayer	5.4%	67.3	8.5%
7	Howard	4.5%	25.4	3.4%	53	Chase	7.0%	19.9	17.0%
8	Boone	3.2%	15.0	12.7%	54	Nuckolls	10.3%	20.9	13.6%
9	Polk	5.1%	7.7	11.1%	54	Scotts Bluff	8.1%	29.4	11.2%
9	Sarpy	3.5%	19.3	12.3%	56	Kimball	12.2%	34.2	5.6%
11	Platte	4.6%	22.5	10.4%	57	Madison	5.4%	33.7	16.0%
12	Cheyenne	1.4%	16.0	16.3%	58	Hamilton	4.3%	50.0	16.0%
13	Wheeler	0.7%	54.5	0.0%	59	Nance	9.2%	45.6	7.3%
14	Garden	6.9%	0.0	9.5%	60	Dakota	10.8%	23.5	15.1%
15	Buffalo	3.9%	23.1	12.5%	60	Harlan	7.3%	13.0	28.1%
16	Saunders	1.3%	38.3	9.1%	60	Stanton	6.1%	30.0	17.2%
17	Merrick	2.5%	35.8	8.8%	63	York	5.4%	42.1	15.6%
18	Franklin	2.5%	44.8	7.3%	64	Hall	8.3%	16.6	23.1%
18	Grant	8.5%	0.0	9.1%	65	Nemaha	1.4%	66.8	22.5%
20	Washington	3.3%	26.1	12.8%	66	Phelps	5.6%	34.2	18.8%
21	Richardson	2.2%	38.1	11.1%	67	Fillmore	12.9%	23.2	16.7%
22	Lancaster	4.7%	17.3	14.8%	68	Colfax	7.7%	27.7	17.6%
23	Johnson	2.5%	9.5	23.7%	69	Loup	5.7%	149.8	12.5%
24	Dixon	4.9%	25.7	12.0%	70	McPherson	0.0%	73.0	33.3%
25	Holt	4.8%	27.5	12.0%	70	Red Willow	6.7%	48.5	14.6%
26	Furnas	6.2%	25.5	9.8%	72	Keith	6.3%	49.6	15.2%
27	Burt	6.7%	12.7	12.7%	72	Saline	6.1%	28.0	30.3%
27	Hooker	6.0%	0.0	16.7%	74	Antelope	7.1%	31.5	18.6%
29	Hayes	12.2%	0.0	11.1%	74	Blaine	20.1%	88.5	0.0%
30	Keya Paha	4.7%	58.0	0.0%	76	Cherry	11.1%	30.1	16.5%
31	Brown	6.2%	29.0	8.7%	77	Sheridan	13.6%	39.1	12.5%
32	Cuming	5.5%	33.6	9.0%	78	Deuel	13.6%	70.9	8.3%
32	Gosper	4.2%	0.0	36.0%	79	Dodge	6.5%	36.2	20.2%
34	Banner	4.9%	61.0	0.0%	80	Dawson	10.9%	19.9	34.0%
35	Cedar	4.9%	35.0	10.3%	81	Dawes	13.9%	26.6	17.9%
35	Gage	1.7%	38.4	14.2%	82	Webster	6.9%	34.2	26.7%
37	Otoe	5.6%	12.8	17.3%	83	Hitchcock	8.7%	31.4	25.0%
38	Dundy	4.1%	23.7	18.8%	84	Clay	8.1%	47.9	17.8%
39	Valley	10.3%	20.3	11.1%	85	Sioux	5.0%	102.4	25.0%
40	Logan	14.1%	0.0	12.5%	86	Custer	7.3%	52.8	19.7%
41	Douglas	4.8%	25.9	17.4%	87	Frontier	8.6%	44.6	21.7%
42	Perkins	1.2%	66.3	13.9%	88	Rock	18.1%	33.0	30.0%
42	Wayne	5.9%	7.8	21.9%	89	Knox	11.6%	50.5	26.0%
44	Jefferson	5.0%	30.4	14.5%	90	Boyd	14.7%	44.3	29.4%
45	Morrill	9.6%	31.9	7.0%	91	Thomas	10.1%	193.5	28.6%
46	Garfield	4.5%	69.5	11.1%	92	Thurston	25.9%	54.6	33.8%
					93	Pawnee	20.3%	64.6	40.6%

Education

Every child should have access to high-quality educational opportunities from early childhood onward. Education focused on children's varying needs provides an important foundation for children as they move into adulthood.

Young children not in school (2012-2016 average):

Percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds who are not enrolled in nursery school or preschool compared to the total population of 3- and 4-year-olds.[7]

The earliest years in a child's life are when the most brain development occurs. Small disparities in outcomes at this young age can lead to lifelong impacts on the child's development. High-quality preschool programs set the stage for future skill development, well-being, and learning. Early learning programs play an important role in preparing children for success and lead to higher levels of educational attainment, career advancement, and earnings.[8]

Among Nebraska 3- and 4-year-olds, 57.0% do not attend nursery school or preschool. Nebraska counties ranged from no young children receiving the benefits of preschool education to 100.0% attending some form of nursery school or preschool.

Top and bottom ranked counties: 3- and 4-year-olds not in school

Ranking	County	3- and 4-year-olds not in school	Ranking	County	3- and 4-year-olds not in school
1	Loup	0.0%	93	Rock	100.0%
2	Wheeler	14.3%	93	Hayes	100.0%
3	Keya Paha	18.2%	93	Hooker	100.0%
4	Garfield	22.2%	93	Dundy	100.0%
5	York	22.7%	93	Banner	100.0%

3rd Graders not reading proficiently (2016/17 school year):

Percentage of children in 3rd grade who do not score proficient or better on the Nebraska State Accountability English Language Arts Assessment compared to all 3rd grade children.[9]

Reading proficiency in 3rd grade is one of the most important predictors of high school graduation and career success. 3rd grade reading represents the pivot point from learning to read, to reading to learn. Following this point, an education shift begins where children begin to gain knowledge and information through what they read, rather than being taught how to read. Proficiency at this level is paramount to a child's future learning experiences and school performance.[10]

47.0% of Nebraska's 3rd graders are not reading proficiently, with lower rates of proficiency seem among children of color, and low-income children. Keya Paha County had the lowest rate of reading proficiency among 3rd graders with 85.7% falling short of the proficiency marker.

Top and bottom ranked counties: 3rd graders not reading proficiently

Ranking	County	3rd graders not reading proficiently	Ranking	County	3rd graders not reading proficiently
1	Arthur	0.0%	89	Jefferson	65.1%
2	Loup	12.5%	90	Brown	71.4%
3	Hitchcock	14.8%	91	Thurston	77.0%
4	Blaine	20.0%	92	Harlan	78.3%
4	Rock	20.0%	93	Keya Paha	85.7%

Commentary

High school students graduating on time (2017 cohort):

Percentage of youth who were among the 2017 graduation cohort who did not graduate high school within 4-years compared to all youth within the 2017 graduation cohort.[11]

A high school diploma is one of the largest contributors to long-term career opportunity. Students who graduate high school on time are more likely to pursue postsecondary education and training, and engage in healthier lifelong behaviors. High school graduates are also more employable and have higher incomes than those who fail to graduate.[12]

For several years, Nebraska has consistently held one of the country's highest on-time graduation rates. 89.1% of 2017 cohort students graduated on time. 24 Nebraska counties had 100% of high school students graduate on time.

Counties with 100% of high school students graduating on time

Arthur	Clay	Garfield	Hayes	Loup	Sioux
Banner	Dundy	Grant	Hooker	McPherson	Thomas
Blaine	Franklin	Greeley	Keya Paha	Nuckolls	Webster
Boyd	Garden	Harlan	Logan	Rock	Wheeler

Counties with lowest 4-year graduation rate

Ranking	County	4-year graduation rate
89	Platte	89.1%
90	Douglas	88.5%
91	Lancaster	88.0%
92	Thurston	75.8%
93	Dawes	65.9%

Child educational opportunity county rankings

1-31 Ranking   32-62 Ranking   63-93 Ranking

Child educational opportunity data and rankings by county

Ranking	County	% 3rd Graders not reading proficiently	% high schools graduating on time	% 3- and 4-year-olds not in school	Ranking	County	% 3rd Graders not reading proficiently	% high schools graduating on time	% 3- and 4-year-olds not in school
1	Loup	12.5%	100.0%	0.0%	48	Thomas	50.0%	100.0%	83.3%
2	Wheeler	50.0%	100.0%	14.3%	49	Cuming	45.1%	98.1%	62.6%
3	Webster	43.9%	100.0%	48.7%	49	Gosper	50.0%	91.7%	29.2%
4	Hamilton	31.9%	98.7%	49.0%	49	McPherson	50.0%	100.0%	84.6%
5	Greeley	38.9%	100.0%	55.3%	52	Perkins	35.7%	96.2%	73.6%
6	York	42.3%	98.4%	22.7%	53	Madison	46.1%	93.1%	49.8%
7	Nemaha	25.6%	95.8%	37.7%	54	Franklin	60.0%	100.0%	61.4%
8	Seward	32.5%	97.7%	49.9%	54	Holt	49.1%	95.5%	53.1%
9	Blaine	20.0%	100.0%	66.7%	56	Frontier	52.4%	97.9%	56.3%
10	Nuckolls	54.0%	100.0%	29.5%	56	Lincoln	44.2%	92.3%	51.3%
11	Washington	35.9%	98.3%	51.9%	58	Dixon	55.9%	95.5%	40.3%
12	Chase	39.2%	96.5%	41.8%	59	Banner	50.0%	100.0%	100.0%
12	Howard	41.7%	97.9%	42.1%	59	Burt	44.4%	95.5%	59.8%
14	Arthur	0.0%	100.0%	75.0%	59	Pawnee	47.2%	95.2%	55.0%
15	Garden	50.0%	100.0%	51.9%	62	Phelps	52.8%	96.5%	54.8%
15	Sioux	28.6%	100.0%	69.7%	63	Hitchcock	14.8%	94.7%	89.6%
17	Butler	43.1%	96.1%	34.4%	63	Saunders	45.2%	96.0%	60.9%
18	Garfield	61.9%	100.0%	22.2%	63	Scotts Bluff	50.9%	91.7%	35.2%
19	Logan	23.1%	100.0%	87.5%	66	Saline	50.0%	93.8%	50.9%
20	Keya Paha	85.7%	100.0%	18.2%	67	Harlan	78.3%	100.0%	62.4%
21	Rock	20.0%	100.0%	100.0%	68	Cheyenne	41.2%	95.4%	69.3%
22	Boone	41.3%	97.3%	52.9%	69	Wayne	51.7%	95.6%	56.8%
23	Grant	42.9%	100.0%	65.0%	70	Adams	50.7%	91.0%	46.8%
23	Pierce	40.5%	98.9%	58.9%	71	Nance	25.2%	89.7%	69.8%
25	Hayes	33.3%	100.0%	100.0%	72	Platte	42.3%	89.1%	60.8%
26	Johnson	29.8%	92.7%	49.3%	73	Box Butte	60.1%	90.6%	38.7%
27	Furnas	41.6%	96.3%	54.6%	74	Buffalo	45.5%	92.3%	61.0%
27	Hooker	37.5%	100.0%	100.0%	74	Jefferson	65.1%	94.2%	49.0%
29	Clay	50.0%	100.0%	60.2%	74	Lancaster	40.8%	88.0%	61.6%
30	Cherry	38.6%	98.6%	64.8%	77	Valley	59.6%	98.5%	73.0%
31	Dundy	39.3%	100.0%	100.0%	78	Douglas	47.7%	88.5%	57.7%
31	Red Willow	37.8%	96.7%	60.8%	78	Hall	57.5%	92.4%	53.1%
33	Fillmore	44.0%	94.2%	41.5%	80	Sheridan	52.9%	91.5%	55.7%
34	Cass	39.2%	95.6%	57.5%	81	Thurston	77.0%	75.8%	39.3%
35	Boyd	60.7%	100.0%	54.8%	82	Brown	71.4%	95.2%	57.1%
35	Merrick	26.7%	95.6%	62.4%	83	Dawes	60.5%	65.9%	95.3%
37	Sherman	60.0%	97.4%	35.5%	83	Keith	62.3%	93.8%	55.6%
38	Polk	46.9%	98.4%	58.8%	85	Cedar	54.3%	95.4%	67.8%
38	Richardson	53.3%	96.5%	40.2%	86	Colfax	48.4%	90.3%	66.1%
40	Antelope	52.5%	97.6%	50.8%	86	Kimball	48.4%	93.8%	94.2%
40	Kearney	44.7%	95.4%	52.3%	88	Dawson	62.1%	94.0%	60.5%
40	Knox	42.3%	91.1%	44.2%	89	Dakota	56.3%	93.1%	68.5%
43	Custer	45.7%	96.6%	57.4%	90	Otoe	55.6%	91.2%	65.1%
43	Sarpy	43.0%	96.1%	57.8%	90	Stanton	56.7%	90.3%	61.0%
45	Deuel	48.0%	94.7%	48.8%	92	Morrill	60.3%	94.4%	75.8%
45	Thayer	48.4%	97.1%	55.5%	93	Dodge	56.0%	89.7%	68.5%
47	Gage	47.9%	92.0%	36.9%					

Commentary

Economic Stability

Every family should be able to achieve financial security, and children's basic needs must be met. State economic policies should support families in trying to build a better future and balance work and family life.

Ratio of kids of color in poverty to kids in poverty (2012-2016 average)[13]

Percentage of children of color living in poverty compared to the percentage of all children living in poverty.[14]

Growing up in poverty is one of the greatest threats to healthy child development. The negative effects of poverty on children can extend into the teenage and young adult years. Children living in poverty are more likely to be exposed to factors that can impair brain development, become pregnant as teens, and fail to graduate high school.[15]

Nebraska's children of color face disparate rates of poverty and are three times more likely to live in poverty than their White, non-Hispanic peers. While 26 Nebraska counties showed no disparate outcomes among poverty rates for children of color, 11 had a ratio that exceeded the state average. By computing a ratio for this indicator, we are highlighting counties that are working to lift all children out of poverty, regardless of race or ethnicity.

Counties with no disparate poverty based on race/ethnicity

Arthur	Chase	Garden	Holt	McPherson	Phelps	Stanton
Boyd	Cherry	Gosper	Howard	Nance	Rock	Thomas
Brown	Dundy	Hayes	Kearney	Nemaha	Saunders	
Butler	Fillmore	Hitchcock	Loup	Pawnee	Sioux	

Counties with highest rates of disparate poverty based on race/ethnicity

Ranking	County	Kids of color in poverty	Kids in poverty	Ratio
86	Perkins	40.6%	10.3%	3.95
87	Nuckolls	67.3%	17.0%	3.96
88	Deuel	65.6%	15.8%	4.16
89	Logan	100%	17.6%	5.68
90	Wheeler	100%	6.2%	16.22

Children living in low-income families (2012-2016 average)

Percentage of children whose families' income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level compared to all children.[16]

When parents are unemployed or earn low wages, their ability to support their child's development is more limited, undermining their kid's prospects for success in school and beyond.[17] Too many parents lack the education and skill needed to gain employment that provides a living wage and they are forced to piece together part-time or temporary work that often prevents them from getting ahead financially. Family economic self-sufficiency calculations place a living wage at just below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. This level is defined as low-income, where families may be able to make all their financial ends meet independent of public assistance programs.

A family of four in Nebraska is defined as low-income if they are making less than $50,200 per year. A higher income level would enable them to make ends meet each month, independent of public assistance programs. 37.9% of Nebraska children live in families below this level. Nebraska counties range from 19.3% of children living in low-income families in Garden County to 69.3% in Thurston County.

Top and bottom ranked counties: children in low-income families

Ranking	County	Children in low-income families	Ranking	County	Children in low-income families
1	Garden	19.3%	89	Furnas	54.1%
2	Logan	20.8%	90	Dakota	58.3%
3	Sarpy	23.7%	91	Pawnee	58.9%
4	Rock	24.7%	92	Dundy	62.3%
5	Cass	25.6%	93	Thurston	69.3%

Children who are food insecure (2016)

Percentage of children who are defined as food insecure.[18]

Food insecurity is the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods.[19] Children who are food-insecure are more likely to face serious health conditions like anemia and asthma, and be hospitalized. They are also more likely to struggle in school and social situations, leading to higher rates of repeating an elementary school grade, experiencing development impairments, and having more social and behavioral problems.[20]

Despite the poverty rate of Nebraskans falling since the height of the Great Recession, food insecurity rates have increased, with 17.3% of Nebraska children experiencing food insecurity in 2016. 12 counties in Nebraska have 20.0% or more children living with food insecurity.

Top and bottom ranked counties: food insecure children

Ranking	County	Food insecure children	Ranking	County	Food insecure children
1	Colfax	14.9%	89	Blaine	22.6%
2	Wayne	15.2%	90	Richardson	23.0%
3	Sarpy	15.3%	91	Brown	23.1%
4	Rock	15.6%	92	Pawnee	23.6%
5	Stanton	15.7%	93	Thurston	27.9%

Commentary

Families with children who do not own their homes (2012-2016 average)

Percentage of families with children who do not own their homes compared to all families with children.[21]

Homeownership and financial equity are the cornerstone of household wealth for most Americans and plays a large role in asset building among low-income households. The median net wealth of low-income homeowners is dramatically higher than that of low-income renters.[22] In addition to generational wealth building, homeowners enjoy better living conditions, are more involved in their communities, and their children are healthier, do better in school, and are less likely to become involved with crime.[23]

Nebraska's rate of children living in households that are owned, 66.0%, well exceeds the national average of 59.0%, but our rate has decreased from the pre-recession high of 73.0%. 15 counties in Nebraska have homeownership rates that are lower than the national average, while 32 have higher rates than our pre-recession level.

Top and bottom ranked counties: families with children that do not own their home

Ranking	County	Families with children that do not own their home	Ranking	County	Families with children that do not own their home
1	Hooker	7.4%	89	Banner	51.4%
2	Washington	17.3%	90	Thurston	51.6%
3	Webster	18.2%	91	Hayes	60.0%
3	Cedar	18.2%	92	McPherson	63.0%
5	Thomas	19.0%	93	Blaine	63.9%

Child economic stability county rankings

1-31 Ranking   32-62 Ranking   63-93 Ranking
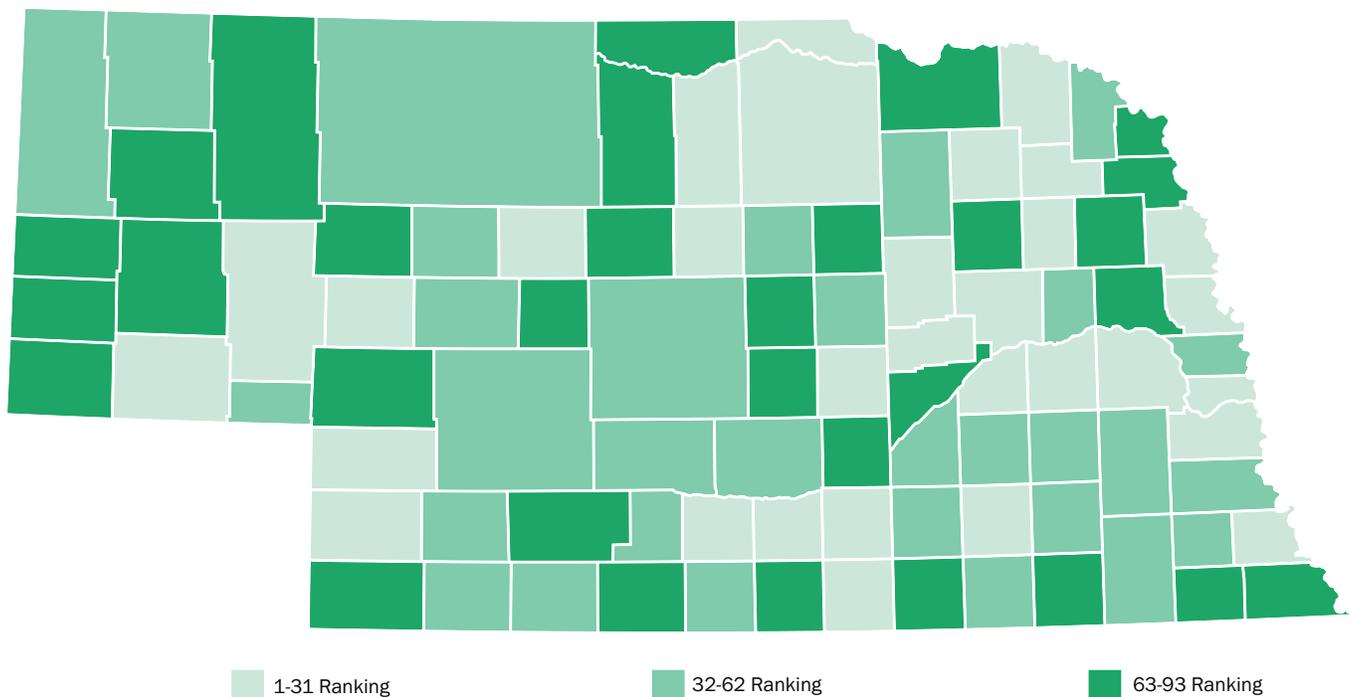
Child economic stability data and rankings by county

Ranking	County	Ratio of kids of color in poverty to kids in poverty	% Children living in low-income families	% Families with Children who do not own their home	% Food Insecure Children	Ranking	County	Ratio of kids of color in poverty to kids in poverty	% Children living in low-income families	% Families with Children who do not own their home	% Food Insecure Children
1	Stanton	0.75	30.9%	20.0%	15.7%	48	Custer	2.06	39.0%	31.4%	17.4%
2	Garden	0.92	19.3%	26.1%	15.9%	49	Greeley	1.10	43.5%	31.6%	18.0%
3	Chase	0.49	35.2%	20.2%	15.9%	50	Thayer	1.96	41.4%	24.5%	18.7%
4	Rock	0.00	24.7%	33.3%	15.6%	51	Lancaster	1.85	37.0%	35.4%	17.9%
4	Saunders	0.76	28.0%	24.0%	17.8%	52	Dawes	1.67	35.0%	37.9%	18.1%
6	Cass	1.35	25.6%	20.6%	16.3%	53	Gage	2.96	32.2%	31.6%	18.1%
6	Kearney	0.00	28.3%	32.1%	15.8%	54	Saline	1.61	41.6%	41.7%	16.4%
8	Thomas	0.00	32.7%	19.0%	18.0%	55	Garfield	3.55	50.3%	27.1%	15.9%
9	Wayne	1.34	30.1%	25.6%	15.2%	56	Lincoln	2.02	35.5%	33.3%	18.2%
10	Howard	0.85	25.8%	27.3%	17.5%	57	Clay	2.22	52.1%	26.1%	17.9%
11	Butler	0.26	37.4%	23.7%	17.1%	58	Deuel	4.16	37.7%	28.8%	18.1%
12	Sarpy	1.65	23.7%	26.9%	15.3%	59	Harlan	1.08	50.1%	26.5%	21.4%
13	Nance	0.81	39.0%	25.3%	17.0%	60	Douglas	1.82	39.3%	34.3%	18.2%
14	Burt	1.06	34.7%	21.6%	17.6%	61	Dixon	2.56	39.2%	28.4%	18.7%
14	Fillmore	0.48	36.2%	27.0%	17.5%	62	Dawson	1.33	54.0%	34.3%	17.9%
16	Washington	2.43	26.0%	17.3%	17.0%	63	Dundy	0.00	62.3%	42.7%	18.1%
17	Phelps	0.49	35.3%	32.4%	16.3%	64	Merrick	3.79	41.4%	35.3%	17.2%
18	Boyd	0.81	44.5%	21.8%	17.1%	65	Brown	0.34	46.6%	37.3%	23.1%
19	Holt	0.84	40.6%	26.8%	16.5%	66	Dodge	1.60	45.7%	40.5%	18.0%
20	Webster	1.12	39.0%	18.2%	17.4%	67	Richardson	1.33	46.1%	30.1%	23.0%
21	Boone	1.37	28.6%	30.4%	16.1%	68	Dakota	1.16	58.3%	36.3%	18.1%
22	Platte	2.46	33.5%	22.9%	16.1%	68	Frontier	3.42	34.4%	36.0%	18.8%
23	Loup	0.00	39.2%	25.4%	18.1%	70	Jefferson	1.77	49.7%	29.7%	19.6%
24	Pierce	2.49	36.3%	23.8%	15.9%	70	Logan	5.68	20.8%	41.2%	19.1%
25	Perkins	3.95	27.8%	26.4%	15.8%	72	Franklin	3.29	53.6%	19.3%	19.1%
26	Cheyenne	1.69	35.1%	26.6%	17.4%	73	Box Butte	2.49	41.6%	28.8%	19.7%
27	Adams	1.92	33.5%	25.6%	17.7%	74	Pawnee	0.40	58.9%	34.3%	23.6%
28	Polk	3.01	34.2%	26.0%	16.2%	75	Knox	2.10	43.8%	30.0%	19.7%
29	Cedar	3.11	31.4%	18.2%	17.9%	76	Valley	1.88	42.6%	35.7%	19.0%
30	Nemaha	0.75	31.7%	37.6%	18.1%	77	Madison	1.98	46.9%	32.9%	18.4%
31	Arthur	0.00	43.1%	34.6%	17.3%	78	Keith	1.60	39.5%	41.5%	19.9%
32	Seward	3.52	31.2%	27.5%	16.4%	79	Wheeler	16.22	46.4%	41.1%	16.2%
32	Sioux	0.00	38.7%	32.2%	18.2%	80	Hall	1.54	45.4%	42.2%	18.8%
34	Colfax	1.22	53.7%	28.4%	14.9%	81	Sherman	1.90	49.8%	32.7%	21.0%
35	Gosper	0.00	43.9%	40.3%	16.6%	82	Morrill	2.34	47.1%	37.4%	18.4%
35	Hayes	0.00	43.5%	60.0%	16.0%	83	Cuming	2.65	43.3%	36.4%	19.4%
37	Cherry	0.62	46.9%	41.7%	16.0%	84	Keya Paha	2.94	37.5%	42.3%	20.1%
38	Johnson	2.89	34.2%	27.2%	17.5%	85	Kimball	2.77	52.8%	40.6%	18.1%
38	Red Willow	1.51	36.7%	26.9%	18.5%	86	Scotts Bluff	1.69	53.7%	43.0%	18.8%
40	Hamilton	2.23	38.6%	26.3%	17.8%	87	Sheridan	1.83	50.6%	39.2%	22.1%
41	York	2.64	36.2%	29.9%	16.5%	88	Furnas	2.54	54.1%	30.6%	21.1%
42	Hooker	n/a	39.1%	7.4%	20.1%	89	Nuckolls	3.96	52.1%	33.7%	19.3%
43	Otoe	1.15	37.9%	29.7%	18.3%	90	Thurston	1.18	69.3%	51.6%	27.9%
44	Buffalo	2.05	38.1%	31.1%	17.2%	91	Banner	2.31	51.8%	51.4%	19.6%
45	Hitchcock	0.76	50.2%	22.8%	22.3%	92	Blaine	n/a	40.3%	63.9%	22.6%
45	McPherson	0.00	30.1%	63.0%	19.3%	93	Grant	n/a	52.5%	48.0%	19.9%
47	Antelope	2.29	44.4%	23.1%	17.9%						

Commentary

Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems[24]

Our child welfare system must ensure that children grow up in safe, permanent, and loving homes. Our juvenile justice system should ensure that youth are held accountable for their actions in developmentally appropriate ways that promote community safety and allow them to grow into responsible citizens.

Children having any child welfare system involvement (2017)[25]

Number of children per 1,000 population who had any involvement (court or non-court) in the child welfare system.[26]

Most children with child welfare system involvement have experienced some form of abuse or neglect. Additionally, many children coming to the attention of the system come from high-risk home environments characterized by poverty, instability, and poor psychological well-being of caregivers. This trauma, coupled with the trauma of being separated from a parent can lead to a variety of behavioral and emotional problems, as well as a greater likelihood of experiencing developmental issues.[27] Exposure to childhood abuse and neglect hinders children's healthy social, emotional, and cognitive development. If untreated, toxic stress makes it more likely that children will adopt risky behaviors which negatively impact their future health and success.

Over 10,000 Nebraska children had some type of involvement with the child welfare system in 2017, representing a rate of 22.0 per 1,000 child population. Eight counties in Nebraska had no children with any involvement while five had rates higher than 30.0 children per 1,000.

Top and bottom ranked counties: rate of child welfare involvement

Ranking	County	Child welfare involvement rate	Ranking	County	Child welfare involvement rate
1	Arthur	0.0	89	Douglas	32.0
1	Grant	0.0	90	Pawnee	32.4
1	Hayes	0.0	91	Lincoln	37.1
1	Hooker	0.0	92	Harlan	39.0
1	Keya Paha	0.0	93	Garden	39.9
1	McPherson	0.0			
1	Sioux	0.0			
1	Thomas	0.0			

Children living in out-of-home care (2017)

Number of children per 1,000 population who were placed in out-of-home care by the child welfare system.[28]

Children do best when living in families, but many Nebraska children are removed from their home during the most critical years of their physical, emotional, psychological, and social development. Many children who have experienced abuse or neglect may be able to remain at home with their parents or with a caring relative while the family receives needed services.

3,491 Nebraska children in our child welfare system were living in out-of-home care, representing a rate of 7.3 per 1,000 children. 16 Nebraska counties had no children in out-of-home care while Garden, Harlan, and Wheeler counties each had rates above 20.0 children per 1,000.

Counties with no child welfare involved children living in out-of-home care

Arthur	Garfield	Hooker	Rock
Banner	Grant	Keya Paha	Sherman
Boone	Greeley	Loup	Sioux
Frontier	Hayes	McPherson	Thomas

Counties with highest rates of child welfare involved children living in out-of-home care

Ranking	County	Out-of-home care rate per 1,000 children
89	Boyd	15.7
90	Pawnee	19.8
91	Garden	23.9
92	Harlan	28.3
93	Wheeler	29.8

Youth in juvenile court without access to counsel (2017)[29]

Percentage of youth not having attorney representation in juvenile court.[30]

Having an attorney present during proceedings in the juvenile justice system is not only important for youth, but a guaranteed constitutional right. The right to counsel is also enshrined in Nebraska statute 43-272(1). The law is meant to protect children at every stage of legal proceedings, and requires the court to advise youth, along with their parents, of their right to an attorney, and that legal counsel can be provided at no cost if they are unable to afford it. Having an attorney results in better outcomes for young people in juvenile court and their communities. Unfortunately, the data show dramatically disparate rates of counsel by county.

When youth in Nebraska entered juvenile court, 73.5% had attorney representation. State policy creates justice by geography, where our state's largest three counties are required to provide immediate, automatic appointment of counsel in juvenile cases, while the same protection is not guaranteed in our other 90 counties. While counsel is not automatic for all youth in juvenile court in most of our counties, some rural and smaller urban counties still have high rates of cases having counsel.

Top and bottom ranked counties: Juvenile Court cases without counsel

Ranking	County	Juvenile court cases without counsel	Ranking	County	Juvenile court cases without counsel
1	Deuel	0.0%	78	Sheridan	83.7%
1	Garden	0.0%	79	Cedar	90.5%
1	Gosper	0.0%	82	Banner	100%
1	McPherson	0.0%	80	Blaine	100%
1	Sherman	0.0%	80	Perkins	100%

Ratio of youth referred to diversion to juvenile cases filed (2017)[31]

Number of youth referred to diversion compared to number of juvenile cases filed as admit in juvenile court.[32]

Pretrial diversion programs are designed to provide youth who have broken the law with an opportunity be held accountable and make amends to their community. Youth in these programs are given individualized goals and services, and upon successful completion, avoid formal charges and have any record of the matter sealed. Without juvenile diversion programs, youth who break the law may go through unnecessary juvenile court proceedings, creating financial burdens on counties.

Commentary

Among the Nebraska youth who came to the attention of our juvenile court system, 4,164 were referred to county diversion programs in 2017 and 4,674 cases were filed in juvenile court, a ratio of 0.89. 16 counties referred zero youth to diversion programs and had juvenile cases filed in court. 31 counties had a diversion ratio higher than the state average.

Top and bottom ranked counties: juvenile diversion referrals to juvenile court filings ratio

Ranking	County	Diversion referrals	Juvenile court filings	Ratio	Ranking	County	Diversion referrals	Juvenile court filings	Ratio
1	Greeley	4	0	No filings	77	Cedar	0	17	No diversion referrals
1	Perkins	4	0	No filings	78	Knox	0	18	No diversion referrals
3	Frontier	13	2	6.50	79	York	0	22	No diversion referrals
4	Nemaha	17	3	5.67	80	Dawes	0	23	No diversion referrals
5	Dundy	5	1	5.00	81	Jefferson	0	49	No diversion referrals

Child welfare and juvenile justice system involvement county rankings

1-31 Ranking   32-62 Ranking   63-93 Ranking

Child welfare and juvenile justice systems involvement data and rankings by county

Ranking	County	Rate of children having any involvement in child welfare	Rate of children being in OOH	% youth in juvenile court without an attorney	Ratio of kids referred to diversion to number of juvenile court filings	Ranking	County	Rate of children having any involvement in child welfare	Rate of children being in OOH	% youth in juvenile court without an attorney	Ratio of kids referred to diversion to number of juvenile court filings
1	Arthur	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	48	Buffalo	22.5	8.6	20.8%	2.19
1	Grant	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	49	Knox	4.9	0.5	66.7%	0.00
1	Hayes	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	49	Red Willow	10.5	3.8	48.9%	0.33
1	Hooker	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	51	Stanton	10.0	1.3	62.5%	0.08
1	Keya Paha	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	52	Hall	19.3	5.7	35.2%	0.76
1	McPherson	0.0	0.0	0.0%	n/a	52	Thayer	9.6	3.5	42.9%	0.00
1	Sioux	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	53	Kearney	13.7	3.1	45.0%	0.29
1	Thomas	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	55	Hamilton	7.7	1.8	73.2%	0.08
9	Greeley	3.6	0.0	n/a	No court cases	56	Dundy	19.5	11.1	50.0%	5.00
10	Boone	7.1	0.0	10.0%	3.00	57	Phelps	15.2	5.5	31.6%	0.13
11	Loup	8.8	0.0	n/a	n/a	58	Douglas	32.0	9.8	4.1%	1.09
12	Sherman	15.1	0.0	0.0%	4.00	59	Cedar	3.7	2.3	90.5%	0.00
13	Cherry	3.0	0.7	20.0%	0.92	59	Otoe	20.2	10.6	25.0%	0.68
14	Washington	5.7	3.0	10.0%	1.49	61	Nance	17.0	10.9	66.7%	5.00
15	Chase	3.0	1.0	53.8%	2.50	62	Webster	23.5	11.7	30.0%	1.00
16	Sarpy	12.6	3.7	0.7%	2.92	63	Polk	13.1	4.9	71.4%	0.57
17	Saunders	11.3	2.9	31.8%	1.95	64	Pierce	11.3	2.8	71.4%	0.00
18	Gosper	13.3	6.6	0.0%	4.00	65	Dawson	28.0	7.8	25.2%	0.37
19	Frontier	20.8	0.0	50.0%	6.50	66	Brown	19.7	1.5	56.3%	0.00
20	Dakota	12.0	4.2	23.9%	1.97	66	Gage	19.8	5.0	54.6%	0.42
21	Seward	10.2	4.7	28.3%	1.81	68	Boyd	13.1	15.7	25.0%	0.00
22	Cass	10.0	3.0	31.5%	0.66	69	Cuming	14.1	5.9	68.8%	0.46
23	Logan	4.9	4.9	n/a	n/a	70	Garden	39.9	23.9	0.0%	0.57
24	Rock	7.0	0.0	50.0%	0.00	71	Dawes	12.8	4.5	55.6%	0.00
25	Banner	5.7	0.0	100.0%	n/a	71	Fillmore	21.2	7.1	50.0%	0.40
26	Custer	10.5	3.5	38.9%	1.00	73	Keith	28.3	9.2	45.5%	0.92
27	Thurston	5.8	2.7	26.7%	0.00	74	Nuckolls	24.1	9.2	57.1%	1.09
28	Dixon	11.0	2.1	11.1%	0.00	74	Platte	21.0	6.8	62.0%	0.50
29	Wayne	4.2	2.1	72.7%	0.91	76	Scotts Bluff	27.3	12.8	39.2%	0.68
30	Nemaha	14.1	8.7	33.3%	5.67	77	Dodge	23.9	11.5	43.8%	0.65
31	Johnson	21.1	1.0	50.0%	1.60	77	Saline	28.2	5.6	41.3%	0.17
32	Howard	17.5	3.9	38.9%	1.36	79	Burt	28.1	9.6	69.2%	2.90
32	Lancaster	18.9	6.9	8.1%	1.09	80	Adams	23.7	10.0	50.0%	0.44
34	Hitchcock	12.2	1.5	66.7%	1.25	80	Sheridan	11.9	7.6	83.7%	0.09
35	Merrick	19.3	2.2	42.9%	0.94	82	Madison	22.2	9.9	64.1%	0.71
35	Perkins	6.9	5.5	100.0%	No court cases	83	Pawnee	32.4	19.8	55.6%	2.14
37	Colfax	14.1	3.4	32.5%	0.47	84	Butler	20.0	7.9	63.0%	0.25
37	Garfield	7.9	0.0	66.7%	0.00	85	Furnas	26.6	15.2	36.8%	0.29
37	Morrill	18.3	4.3	42.1%	1.56	86	Lincoln	37.1	14.0	36.4%	0.39
40	Clay	10.5	2.0	45.8%	0.19	87	Richardson	21.4	9.5	56.1%	0.30
40	Deuel	20.3	15.2	0.0%	4.00	88	York	25.2	4.7	51.9%	0.00
40	Valley	18.3	2.0	33.3%	0.36	89	Franklin	29.1	8.5	50.0%	0.00
43	Cheyenne	21.6	6.5	10.0%	1.32	90	Harlan	39.0	28.3	45.5%	0.44
43	Kimball	10.0	5.0	14.3%	0.00	91	Jefferson	27.4	10.2	72.2%	0.00
45	Box Butte	9.4	2.9	52.0%	0.35	92	Blaine	10.2	10.2	100.0%	0.00
46	Holt	11.9	3.2	37.5%	0.21	93	Wheeler	29.8	29.8	n/a	n/a
47	Antelope	7.4	4.0	64.0%	0.65						

Commentary

Conclusions:

All children deserve the opportunity to thrive. The data tell us that place has an impact on the pathway to adulthood and lifelong opportunity for Nebraska children. Although the statewide implications of this data are limited due to the different size and circumstances of counties, we hope it can serve as a guide to local leaders in determining the need for local investments and strategies to improve child well-being. With limited resources, it is important to know where investments can be most beneficial.

When looking at these county rankings, it is also important to remember that behind each piece of data is the life of a child or a family. While a high ranking is something a county should take pride in, and some alarm bells should go off in lower-ranked counties, the ranking is not the ultimate goal. There are successes to be lauded, and there is work to be done to improve child well-being in every single one of our 93 counties.

In addition to these county rankings, Voices for Children publishes our *Index of Race and Opportunity for Nebraska Kids*, tracking the impact a child's racial or ethnic identity has on their pathway to adulthood. Unfortunately, disparate access to opportunity based on race and geography are not mutually exclusive. While the data did not allow for us to fully examine the impact of race and ethnicity at the county level, statewide data shows that a significant connection exists. With Nebraska's population becoming more diverse, it is important to recognize that place-based opportunities impact children from different racial and ethnic groups differently.

Finally, we invite you to share your story with us about what child well-being looks like in your county in Nebraska. What are the challenges? What are the opportunities? If there is a service, child, family, group, or local leader that is doing particularly well, or a systemic barrier creating particular challenges in your community, we want to hear about it. Together, we can work to ensure that every Nebraska child has the best possible opportunity to succeed in every corner of our state.

Notes and Sources:
1. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2018 KIDS COUNT Data Book.
2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B27016.
3. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2018 KIDS COUNT Data Book.
4. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Vital Statistics.
5. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Vital Statistics.
6. Child Trends Databank, Late or no prenatal care, 2015.
7. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B14003.
8. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2018 KIDS COUNT Data Book.
9. Nebraska Department of Education.
10. Child Trends, Reading Proficiency, 2014.
11. Nebraska Department of Education.
12. Alliance for Excellent Education, The High Cost of High School Dropouts, 2011.
13. All counties that did not show a racial disparity among children living in poverty (having a ratio of 1.0 or less) received a 1st place ranking for this indicator. Counties with no children of color in poverty were not included in the county ranking.
14. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B17001B-I.
15. Lerner, Jacobs, & Wertlieb, Promoting positive child, adolescent, and family development: A hand book of program and policy innovations, 2003.
16. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B17026.
17. Hernandez & Napierala, Children's experience with parental employment insecurity and family income inequality, 2017.
18. Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2018, Child Food Insecurity in Nebraska by County in 2016.
19. USDA, Food Security in the U.S., 2018.
20. Feeding America, Child Hunger Facts.
21. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B25115.
22. Belsky, Retsinas, & Duda, The Financial Returns to Low-Income Homeownership, 2005.
23. Habitat for Humanity, Beneficial Impacts of Homeownership: A Research Summary, 2016.
24. For the purpose of these county rankings, data from both the child welfare system and the juvenile justice system were grouped into one category. The population of children touching these systems are both seeing the impact of our court systems on their day-to-day lives and in many cases are the same children.
25. Data on child welfare involved children does not include tribal children.
26. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.; U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 Population Estimates Program.
27. Kortenkamp & Macomber, The Well-being of Children Involved in the Child Welfare System, A National Overview, 2002.
28. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.; U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 Population Estimates Program.
29. Counties with no juvenile court cases were not included in the ranking.
30. State of Nebraska Judicial Branch, Administrative Office of the Courts & Probation, Nebraska Juvenile Justice System Statistical Annual Report 2017.
31. Counties with diversion cases, but no court cases received a 1st place ranking. Counties with no diversion cases and juvenile court filings were ranked based on the number of filings. Counties with no diversion referrals and no court case filings were not included in the ranking. Diversion data is masked when there are fewer than 5 cases. In these cases, a conservative, beneficial estimate was made at 4 cases in the county.
32. Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice.; State of Nebraska Judicial Branch, Administrative Office of the Courts & Probation, Nebraska Juvenile Justice System Statistical Annual Report 2017.

Race & Opportunity Index

Nebraska was founded under values of opportunity and equality for all, but when looking at the data and research on Nebraska's children and families, a harsher reality is uncovered – one of disparity and lack of equitable chance of future success and opportunity for children of color. In response to this, the *Index of Race & Opportunity for Nebraska Children* was created. A composite score of 13 indicators of child well-being was calculated to highlight disparities in opportunity and measure progress toward race equity and inclusion.

EDUCATION

- 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in school
- Reading proficiently at 3rd grade
- 16-24-year-olds employed or attending school

HEALTH

- Children with health insurance coverage
- Infants receiving adequate prenatal care

ECONOMIC STABILITY

- Children living above the Federal Poverty Level
- Median family income
- Children living in low-poverty areas

JUVENILE JUSTICE

- Youth who have completed a diversion program successfully
- Youth who have completed probation successfully

CHILD WELFARE

- Children not involved in the child welfare system
- Children who are wards of the state, but are living at home
- Children who are living in out-of-home care, but have done so in three or fewer placements

OVERALL INDEX SCORES OUT OF A POSSIBLE 100

7 KEY STEPS

Used to help advance and embed race equity and inclusion at all levels of policy creation

STEP 1
Establish an understanding of race equity and inclusion principles.

STEP 2
Engage affected populations and stakeholders.

STEP 3
Gather and analyze disaggregated data.

STEP 4
Conduct systems analysis of root causes of inequities.

STEP 5
Identify strategies and target resources to address root causes of inequities.

STEP 6
Conduct race equity impact assessment for all policies and decision making.

STEP 7
Continuously evaluate effectiveness and adapt strategies.

American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black/African American	Hispanic	Multi-racial	White, non-Hispanic
27	81	26	51	63	92
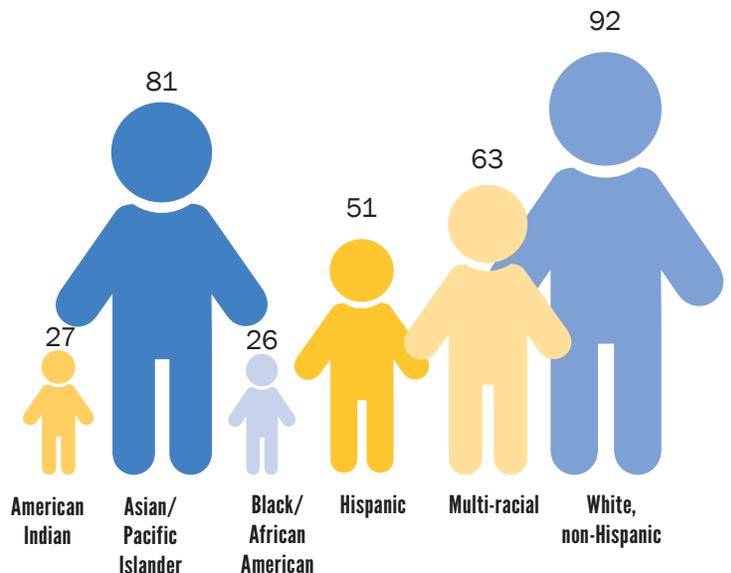
Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, Seven Steps to Advance and Embed Race Equity and Inclusion.

Race & Opportunity Index

Children with health insurance coverage (2016)[1]
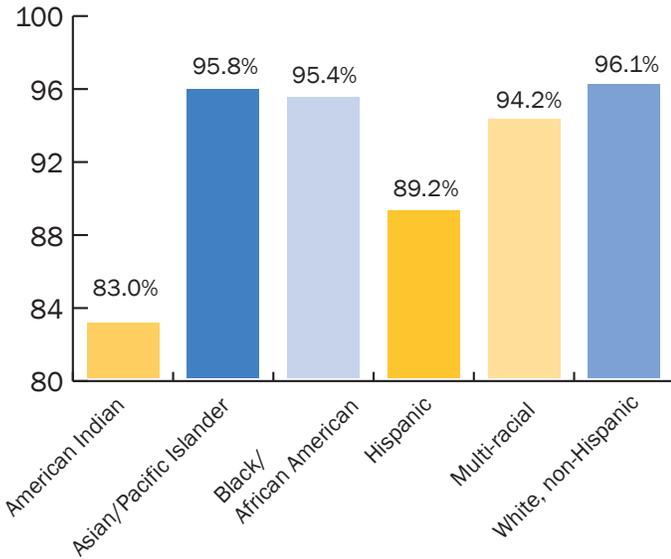
Race	Percentage
American Indian	83.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	95.8%
Black/African American	95.4%
Hispanic	89.2%
Multi-racial	94.2%
White, non-Hispanic	96.1%

Infants receiving adequate prenatal care (2017)[2]

Race	Percentage
American Indian	47.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	68.9%
Black/African American	61.9%
Hispanic	58.7%
Multi-racial	54.4%
White, non-Hispanic	78.9%

3- and 4-year olds enrolled in school (2016)[3]

Race	Percentage
American Indian	44.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	44.5%
Black/African American	39.7%
Hispanic	41.4%
Multi-racial	43.4%
White, non-Hispanic	42.9%
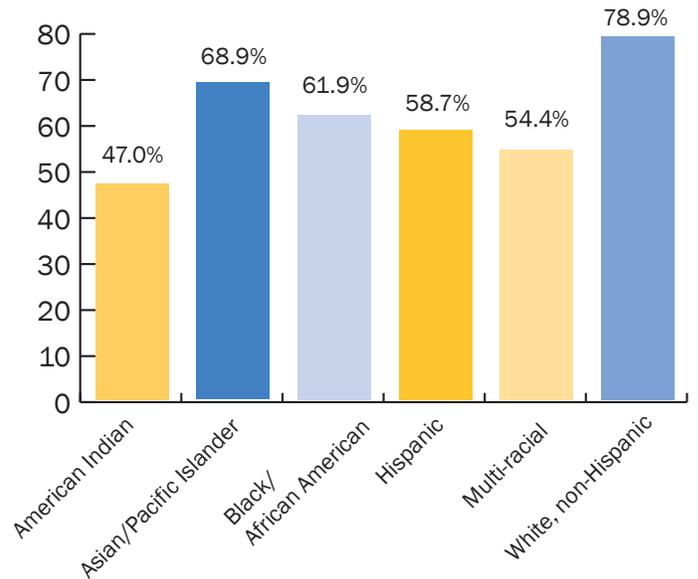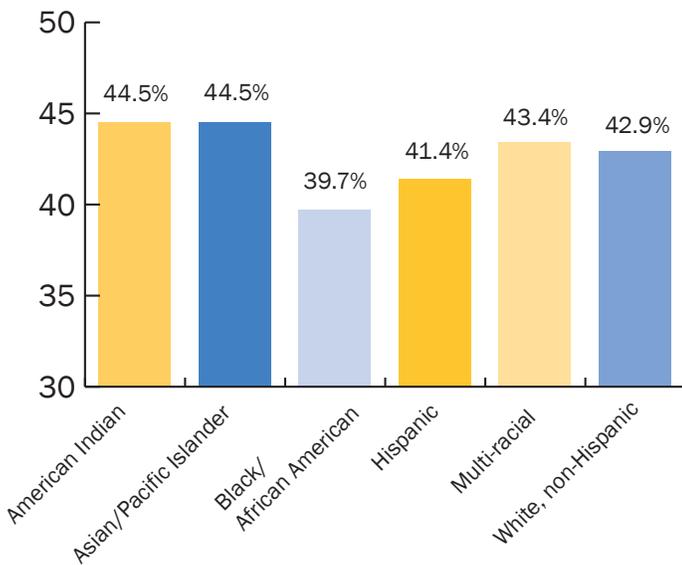
3rd graders reading proficiently (2016/17)[4*]

Race	Percentage
American Indian	29.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	57.0%
Black/African American	32.0%
Hispanic	37.0%
Multi-racial	51.0%
White, non-Hispanic	61.0%
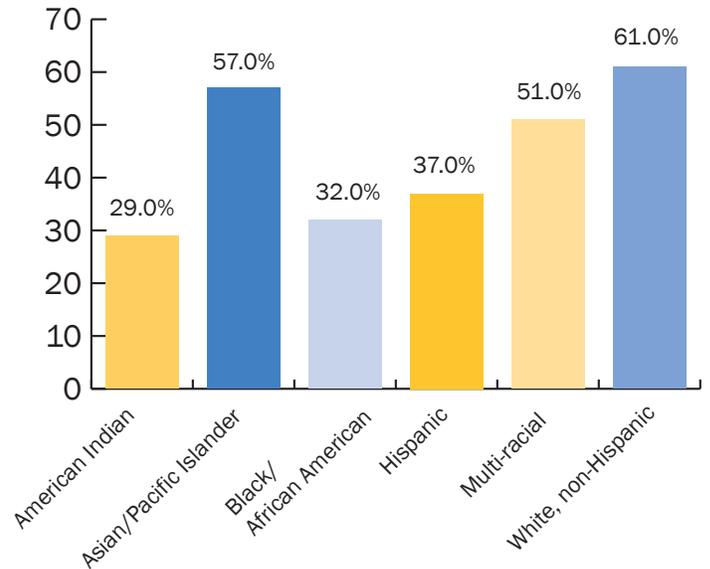
1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Tables C27001B-I.
2. Vital Statistics.
3. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Public Use Microdata Samples.
4. Nebraska Department of Education, 2016/17 Nebraska Education Profile, NESA.
*Due to changes in the assessment, this data is not comparable to prior year's.

16-24-year olds in school or employed (2016)[5]

Race/Ethnicity	Percent
American Indian	85.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	95.2%
Black/African American	90.2%
Hispanic	91.6%
Multi-racial	94.2%
White, non-Hispanic	96.1%

Children living above the federal poverty line (2016)[6]

Race/Ethnicity	Percent
American Indian	52.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	79.4%
Black/African American	58.7%
Hispanic	68.9%
Multi-racial	78.7%
White, non-Hispanic	89.9%

Median family income (2017)[7]

Race/Ethnicity	Income
American Indian	$32,939
Asian/Pacific Islander	$60,776
Black/African American	$37,066
Hispanic	$41,970
Multi-racial	$47,844
White, non-Hispanic	$74,253

Children living in areas that are low poverty (2016)[8]

Race/Ethnicity	Percent
American Indian	43.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	64.7%
Black/African American	45.9%
Hispanic	60.3%
Multi-racial	77.6%
White, non-Hispanic	90.9%
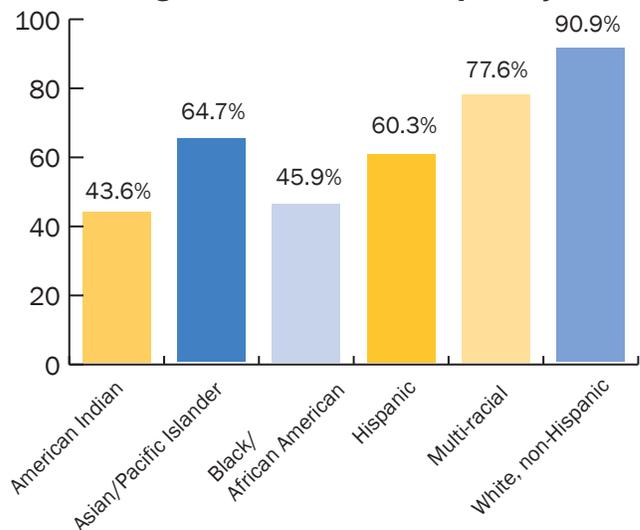
Children not involved in the child welfare system [Rate/1,000] (2017)[9]
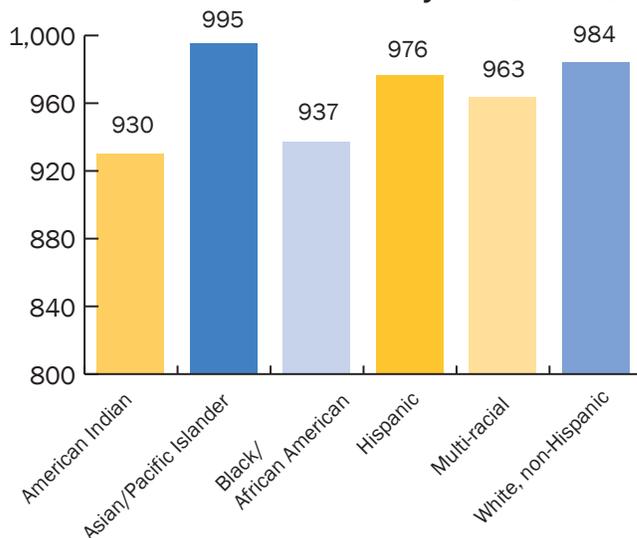
Race/Ethnicity	Rate
American Indian	930
Asian/Pacific Islander	995
Black/African American	937
Hispanic	976
Multi-racial	963
White, non-Hispanic	984

5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Public Use Microdata Samples.
6. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Tables B17001B-I.
7. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Tables B19113B-I.
8. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Tables B17001B-I, B01001B-I.
9. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Race & Opportunity Index

State Wards receiving in-home services (2017)[10]

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage
American Indian	14.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	14.0%
Black/African American	9.5%
Hispanic	12.8%
Multi-racial	15.2%
White, non-Hispanic	14.4%
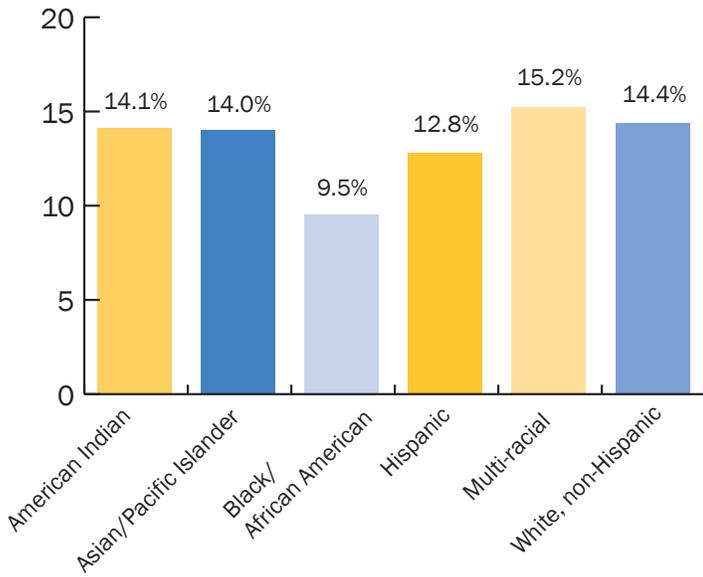
Children with three or fewer out-of-home placements (2017)[11]

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage
American Indian	85.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	85.4%
Black/African American	72.9%
Hispanic	89.9%
Multi-racial	87.0%
White, non-Hispanic	86.5%
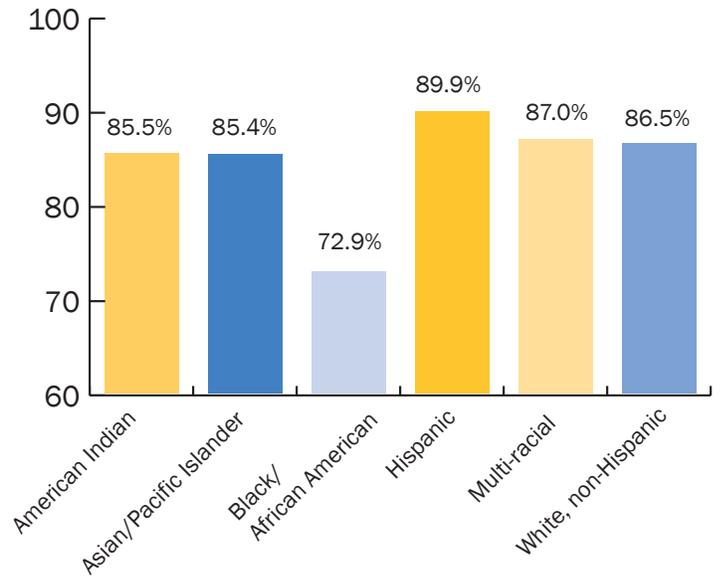
Youth successfully completing diversion (2017)[12]

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage
American Indian	85.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	74.4%
Black/African American	71.1%
Hispanic	71.5%
Multi-racial	45.8%
White, non-Hispanic	80.9%
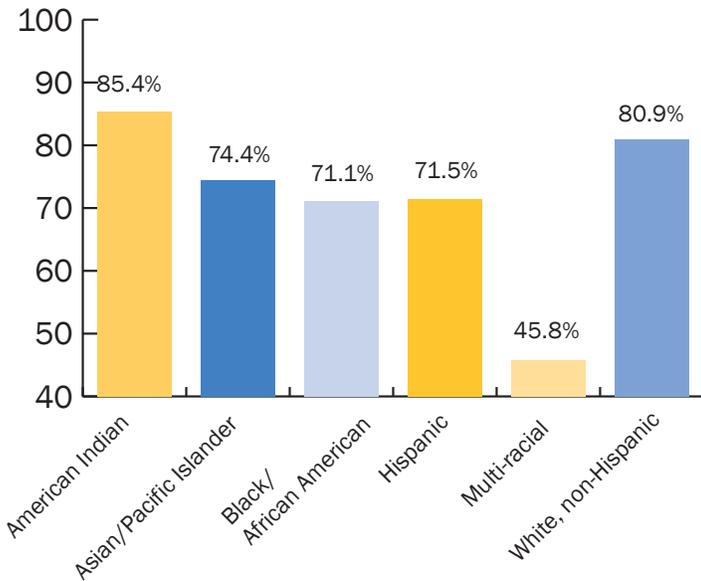
Youth successfully completing probation (2017)[13]

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage
American Indian	55.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	77.3%
Black/African American	65.0%
Hispanic	70.9%
Multi-racial	70.9%
White, non-Hispanic	75.7%
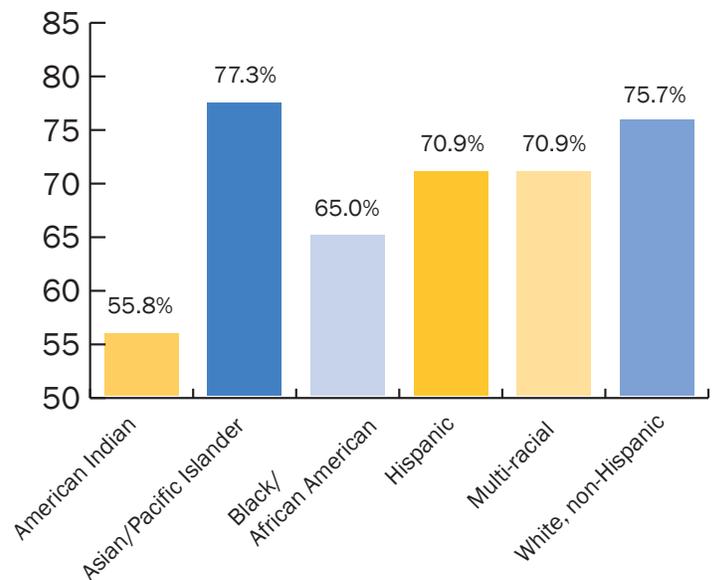
10. *Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.*
11. *Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.*
12. *Nebraska Crime Commission, Diversion.*
13. *Nebraska Juvenile Probation System.*

Nebraska total resident population (1980-2017)[1]

1,920,076 people including 501,131 children* lived in Nebraska in 2017.[1]

1,920,076

1,569,528
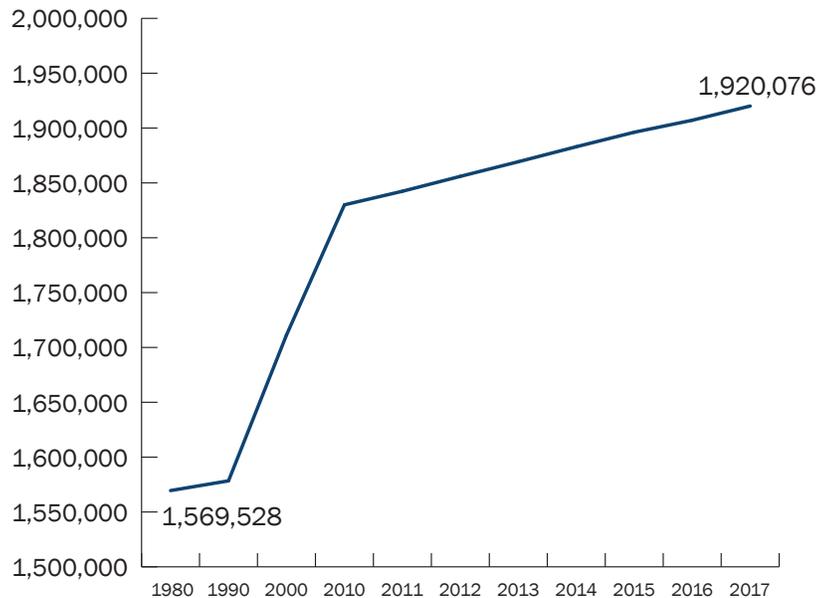
Nebraska population by race/ethnicity (2017)[2]

	Total	17 & Under
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.8%	1.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6%	2.6%
Black/African American	4.8%	5.8%
Multi-racial, or non-white, Hispanic	3.2%	6.7%
White, Hispanic	9.6%	14.8%
White, non-Hispanic	79.0%	68.9%
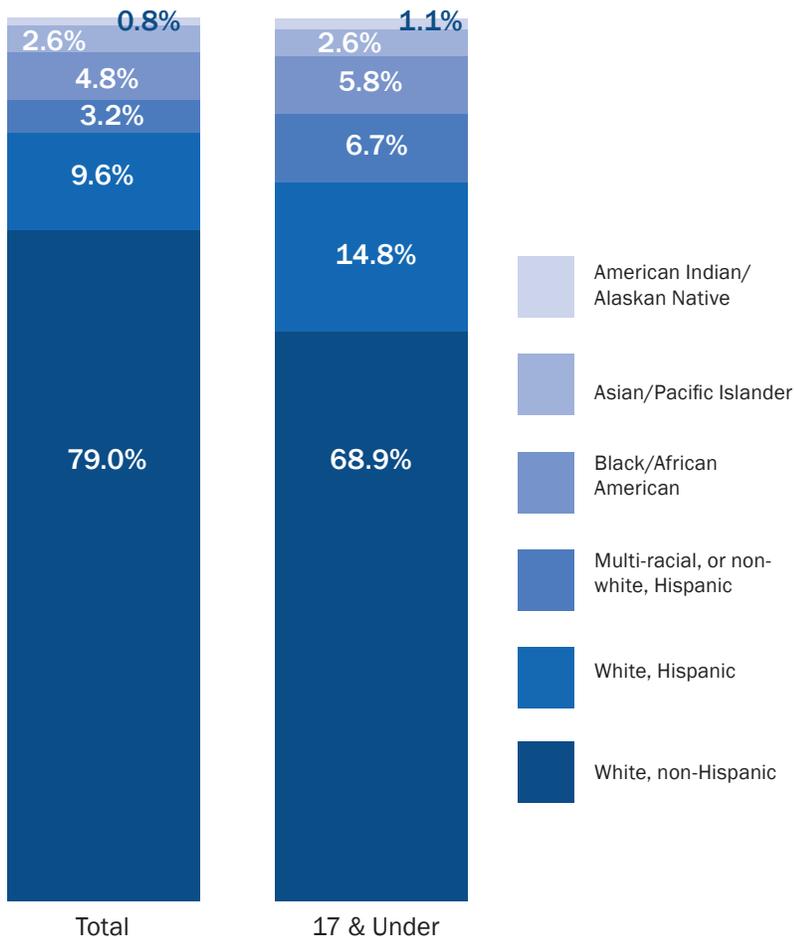
21% of Nebraskans were of color in 2017.[2] This is expected to increase to 38% by 2050.

*Children 18 & under
1. U.S. Census Bureau, 1980, 1990, 2000; Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2010-2017 Estimates, Table PEPSYASEX.
2. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2017 Estimates, Table PEPASR6H.

Population

Nebraska rurality classifications (2017)[1]
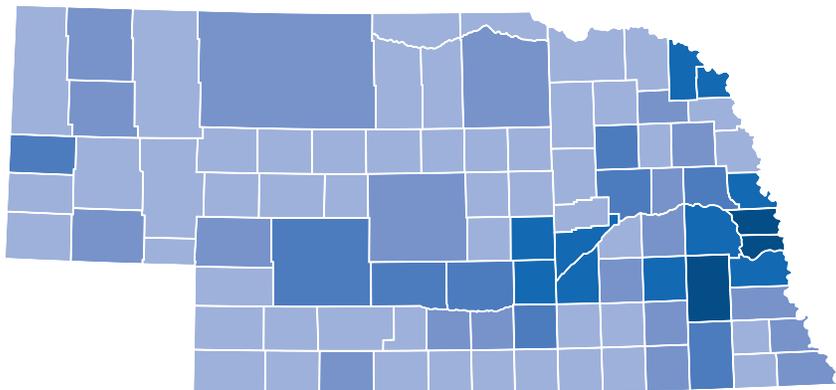
Based on the current population distribution of Nebraska, counties are split into 5 categories:

- ■ The "Big 3" counties: Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy

- ■ 10 other metropolitan counties: Cass, Dakota, Dixon, Hall, Hamilton, Howard, Merrick, Saunders, Seward, and Washington

- ■ 9 micropolitan central counties: Adams, Buffalo, Dawson, Dodge, Gage, Lincoln, Madison, Platte, and Scotts Bluff

- ■ 20 nonmetropolitan counties that have a city with 2,500-9,999 residents

- ■ 51 nonmetropolitan counties that do not have a city with >2,500 residents

Nebraska population by rurality classification (2017)[1]

	Total	19 & Under
	8.8%	8.1%
	10.1%	9.7%
	15.8%	15.7%
	10.2%	10.4%
	55.1%	56.2%
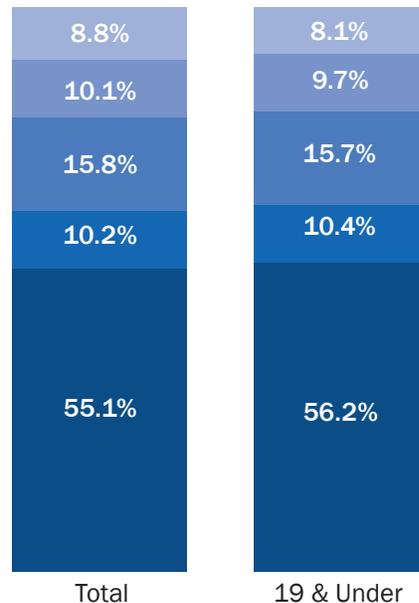
56.2% of Nebraska kids live in the "Big 3" counties.[2]

Nebraska population by age (2017)[2]

15.4%	65+ years
58.5%	19-64 years
26.1%	Under 19 years
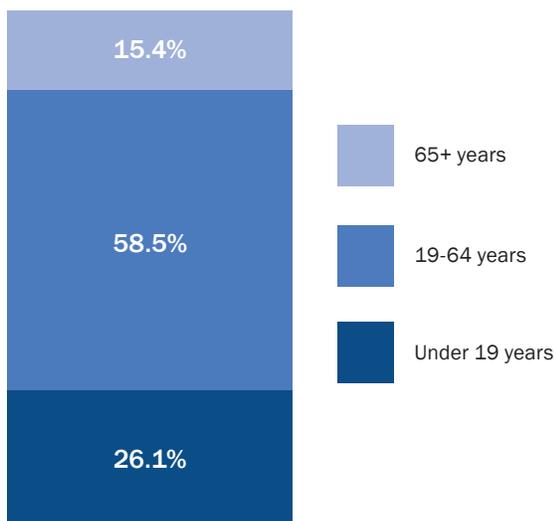
15.4% of Nebraskans were 65 or older in 2017.[2] This is expected to increase to 21.0% by 2050.[1]

Nebraska child population by age (2017)[1]

Age group	Percentage
20.5%	15 - 18 years
26.5%	10 - 14 years
26.5%	5 - 9 years
26.6%	Under 5 years

28.1% of Nebraska kids were living with a single parent in 2017,[2] an increase from 12% in 1980.[3]
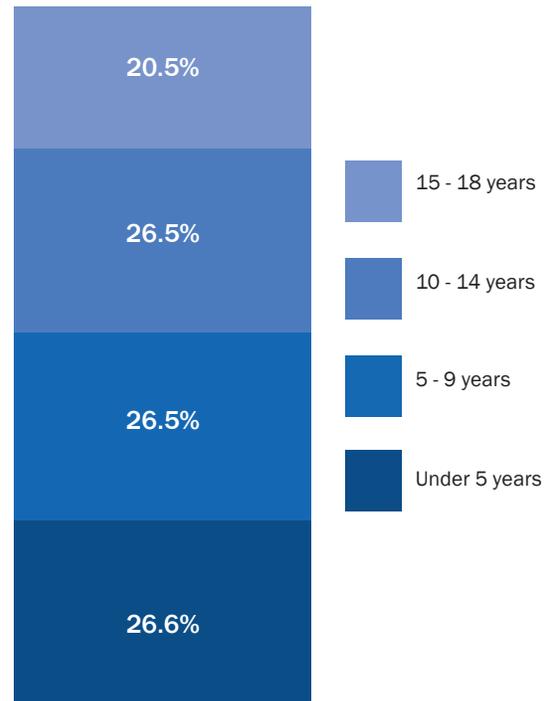
4,545 Nebraska children were living with their grandparent(s) without a parent present in 2017.[4]

Nebraska children 17 & under by family type (2017)[2]

7.7%

20.4%

0.9%

71.1%

- Non-family household
- Female household, no husband present
- Male household, no wife present
- Married-couple household
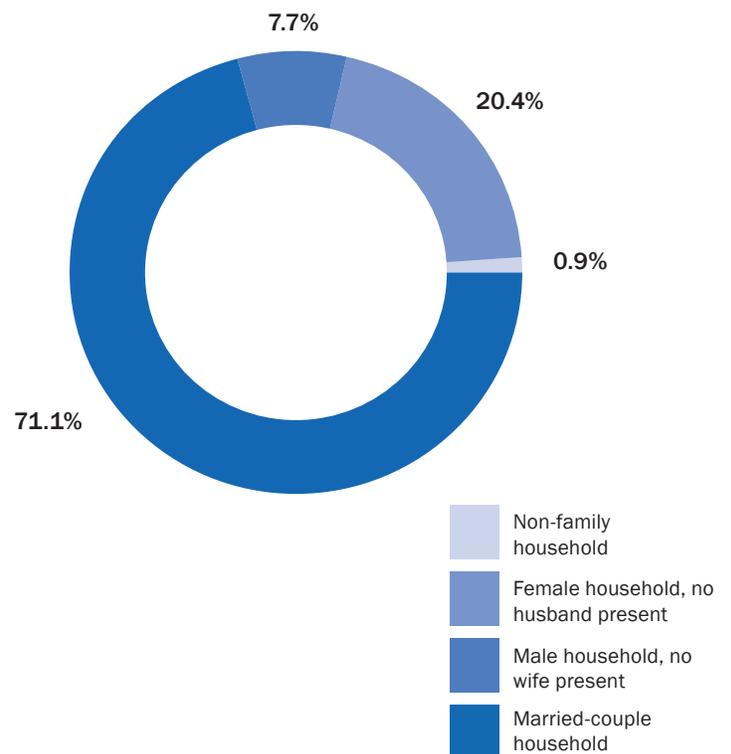
1. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2017 Estimates.
2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, Table B09002.
3. U.S. Census Bureau, 1980 Census of the Population.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, Table B10002.
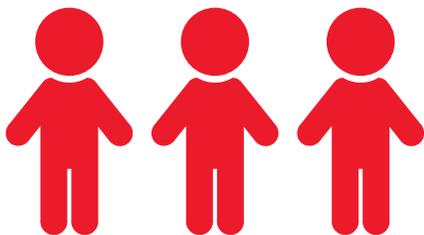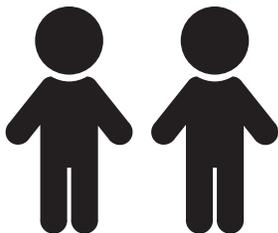
Health

60% of uninsured Nebraska kids are low-income and likely eligible for Medicaid/CHIP.[1]

....

88.6% of Nebraska children are in excellent or very good health.[2]

Why does it matter?

All children deserve access to affordable, quality physical and behavioral health care.

Quality and consistent preventive health care, beginning even before birth, gives children the best chance to grow up to be healthy and productive adults.

Adequate levels of immunization, public health efforts to prevent disease and disability, and support for maternal health and positive birth outcomes are examples of measures that help children now and later. Good health, both physical and behavioral, is an essential element of a productive and fulfilling life.

Where are the data?

25,833 babies were born in 2017.

Births by race & ethnicity (2017)

- White (75.9%)
- Other/Unknown (10.8%)
- Black/African American (7.7%)
- Asian/Pacific Islander (3.7%)
- American Indian/ Alaska Native (1.9%)

- Not Hispanic (83.0%)
- Hispanic (17.0%)
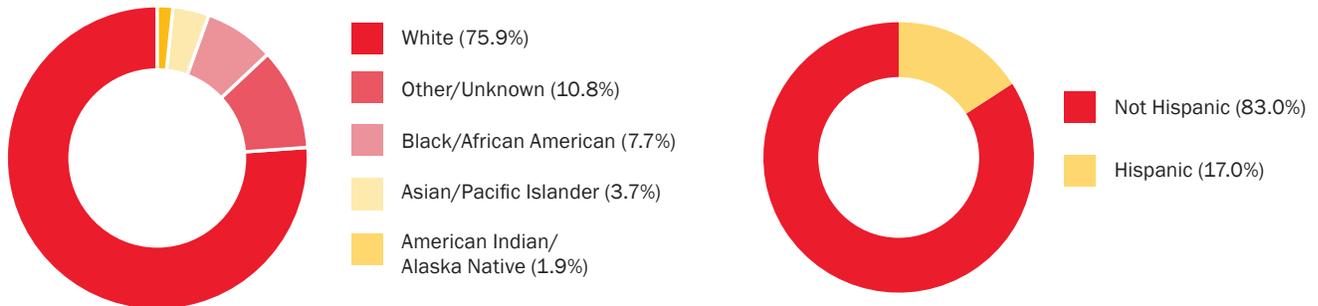
16.6% of babies received inadequate prenatal care.

Women who see a health care provider regularly during pregnancy have healthier babies and are less likely to deliver prematurely or have other serious pregnancy-related problems. The ideal time for a woman to seek out prenatal care is during her first trimester or even prior to getting pregnant.

Barriers to care can include a lack of any of the following:
- insurance
- transportation
- knowledge of where to find care
- quality treatment at care center
- translation services
- knowledge of importance of care

Trimester prenatal care began (2017)

- None (1.0%)
- First (72.8%)
- Second (21.0%)
- Third (5.1%)
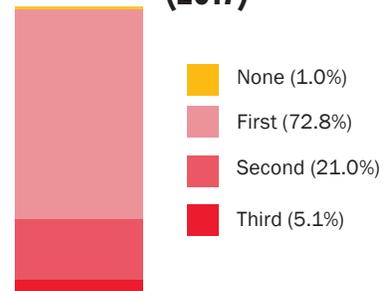
Adequacy of prenatal care by race & ethnicity (2017)

	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Other	White	Total
Adequate/Adequate Plus	48.4%	70.8%	63.9%	62.5%	59.0%	80.4%	76.0%
Intermediate	12.6%	6.6%	8.2%	7.7%	7.8%	7.2%	7.4%
Inadequate	39.0%	22.7%	27.8%	29.8%	33.3%	12.3%	16.6%
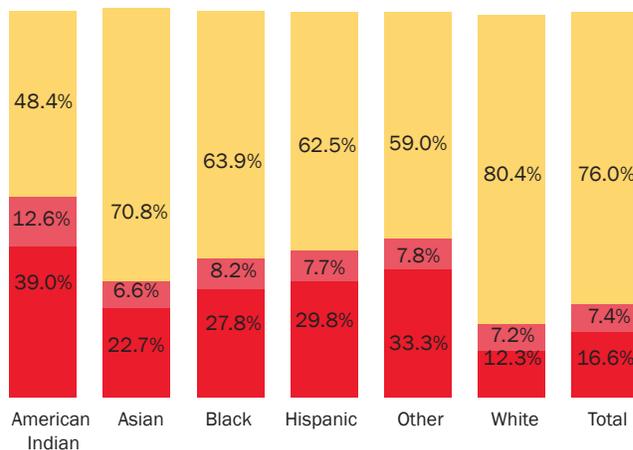
Adequacy of prenatal care by payment type (2017)

	Total	Medicaid	Private Insurance	Self-Pay	Other
Adequate/Adequate Plus	76.0%	65.2%	84.6%	46.1%	70.5%
Intermediate	7.4%	7.6%	6.9%	9.3%	11.2%
Inadequate	16.6%	27.3%	8.5%	44.6%	18.3%
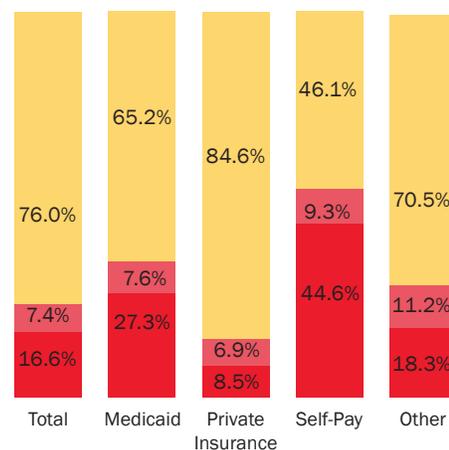
- Adequate/Adequate Plus - received 80%+ of expected visits
- Intermediate - received 50-79% of expected visits
- Inadequate - received less than 50% of expected visits

Source: Vital Statistics, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Pre/post-natal health

Folic acid use prior to pregnancy (2016)[1]

43.4%
56.6%
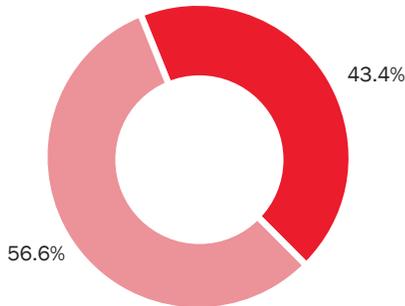
- 4 or more times/week before pregnancy
- 3 or fewer times/week before pregnancy

Mother's BMI prior to pregnancy (2016)[1]

29.2%
10.4%
14.7%
45.6%
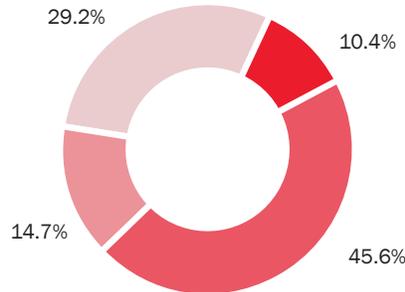
- Underweight before pregnancy
- Normal weight before pregnancy
- Overweight before pregnancy
- Obese before pregnancy

Tobacco use (2017)[2]

3.8%
9.6%
86.6%
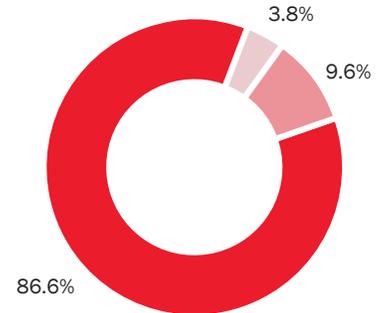
- Did not use tobacco during most recent pregnancy
- Used tobacco during most recent pregnancy
- Smoked in the three months prior to pregnancy

Pregnancy intendedness (2016)*[1]

38.8%
61.2%
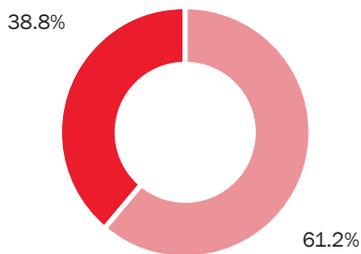
- Unintended pregnancy
- Intended pregnancy

Breastfeeding (2016)[1]

7.6%
92.4%
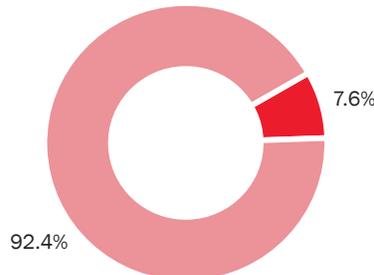
- Mothers who breastfed at any time
- Mothers who did not breastfeed at any time

Low birth weight (2017)[2]

1.2%
6.3%
92.5%
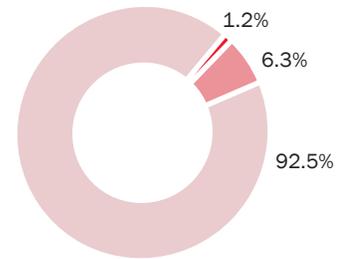
- Not low birth weight
- Moderately low birth weight
- Very low birth weight

Domestic violence[1]	2016
Experienced physical abuse from husband or partner in the 12 months before pregnancy	3.9%
Maternal depression[1]	2016
New mothers who experienced maternal depression related to most recent pregnancy	10%

*This data is not comparable to years 2011 and prior due to changes in methodology.
1. PRAMS, 2016.
2. Vital Statistics, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Teen parenting

Teen birth is highly correlated with child poverty. While teen pregnancy occurs at all socioeconomic levels, teen moms are more likely to come from economically-disadvantaged families or to be coping with substance abuse and behavioral problems.

In turn, children born to teenage parents are more likely to live in poverty, experience health problems, suffer from maltreatment, struggle in school, run away from home, and serve time in prison. Children of teen parents are also more likely to become teen parents themselves, thus perpetuating the cycle of teen pregnancy and generational poverty.

Teen births are at the lowest point in a decade. In 2017 there were 1,168 babies born to teen mothers, 299 to mothers who were 14-17 years old, 869 to mothers who were 18 or 19.[2]
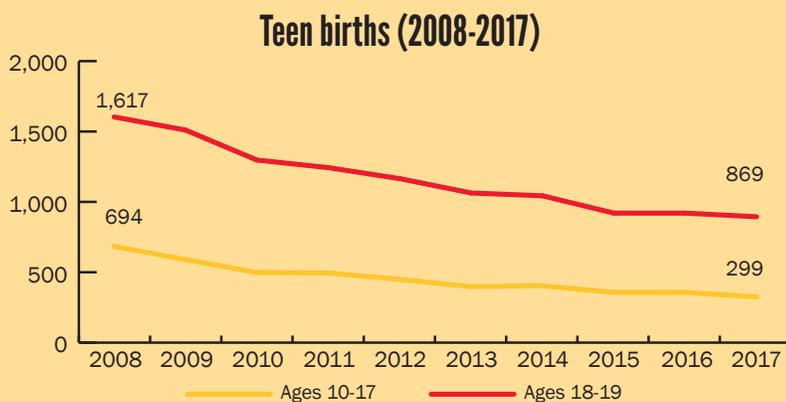
Teen births (2008-2017)

Teen births by age (2017)

- Ages 18-19 (74.4%)
- Ages 16-17 (22.8%)
- Ages 14-15 (2.8%)
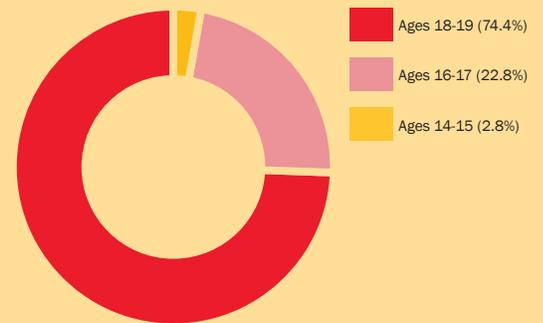
Source: Vital Statistics, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Teen sexual behavior[1]	2017
Ever had sexual intercourse	29.1%
Reported having sexual intercourse before age 13	2.8%
Had sex with four or more people	6.0%
Had sex in the past three months	20.5%
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse	13.7%
Did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse	46.7%
Did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse	7.0%

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) (2008-2017)[2]
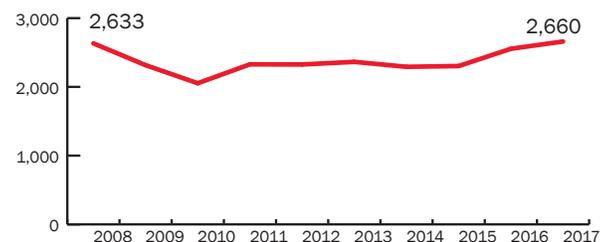
There were 2,660 cases of sexually transmitted infections reported in children ages 19 and under in Nebraska in 2017.

HIV/AIDS[3]

In 2017, 12 children ages 0-11 and 21 children ages 12-19 were living with HIV.

Since 2008, 0 children with a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS have died from the disease.

1. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017.
2. STD Prevention Program, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
3. HIV Surveillance, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Infant & child deaths

Infant mortality

Infant mortality decreased to 5.6 per 1,000 births in 2017 from 6.2 per 1,000 births in 2016.

Causes of infant deaths (2017)		
	Number	Percent
Maternal and Perinatal	38	26.4%
Birth Defects	29	20.1%
SIDS/SUDI	20	13.9%
Heart/Cardiovascular and Respiratory	18	12.5%
Accident	8	5.6%
Prematurity	8	5.6%
Infection	7	4.9%
Homicide	2	1.4%
Other	14	9.7%
Total	144	

Rate of infant mortality per 1,000 births by race and ethnicity (2017)

American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Multi-racial	Other	White
10.4	3.1	15.2	5.9	1.8	6.3	5.6
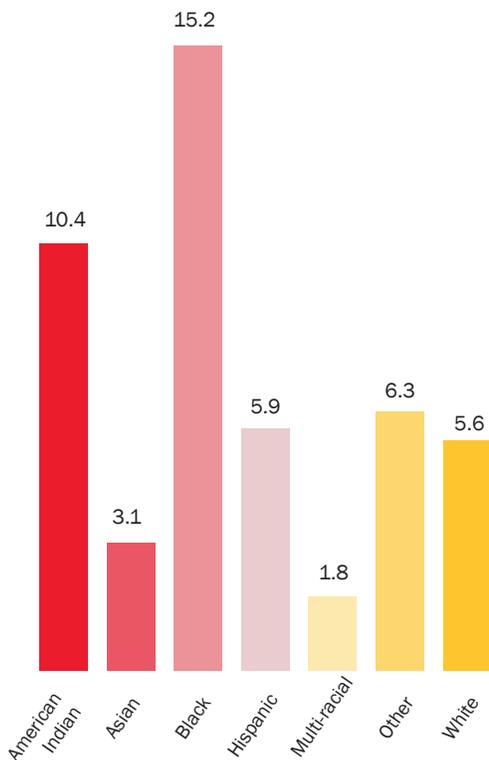
Child deaths

In 2017, 137 children and youth ages one to 19 died of various causes, the most common of which were accidents and suicide.

Causes of child deaths (2017)		
	Number	Percent
Accidents	41	29.9%
Suicide	30	21.9%
Cancer	17	12.4%
Birth Defects	8	5.8%
Homicide	5	3.6%
Other	36	26.3%
Total	137	

5 women

died in 2017 due to a cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management.[1]

Child deaths, ages 1-19 (2008-2017)
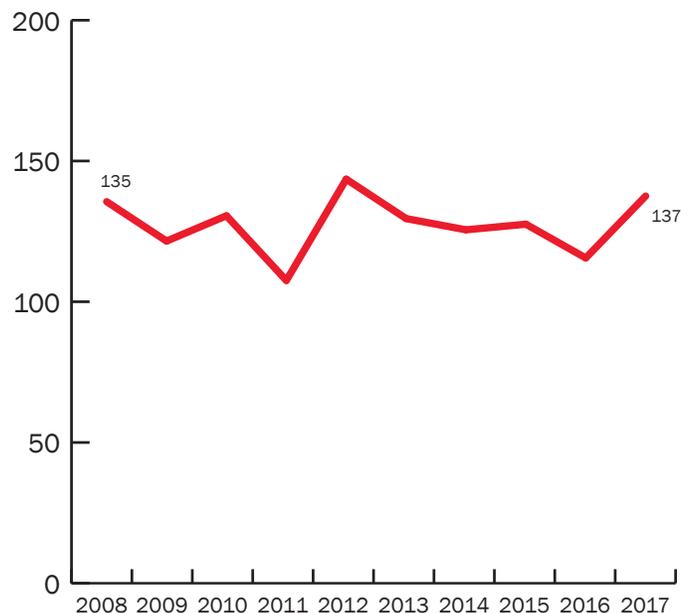
Source: Vital Statistics, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Health coverage for Nebraska's children, ages 18 & under (2017)[1]

- Public Insurance (26.6%)
- Employer-Based Insurance (60.9%)
- Direct-Purchase Insurance (8.6%)
- Uninsured (5.2%)

Bar values: 129,189 · 295,646 · 41,829 · 25,214 (2017)

5.2% of kids did not have health insurance in 2017.[1]
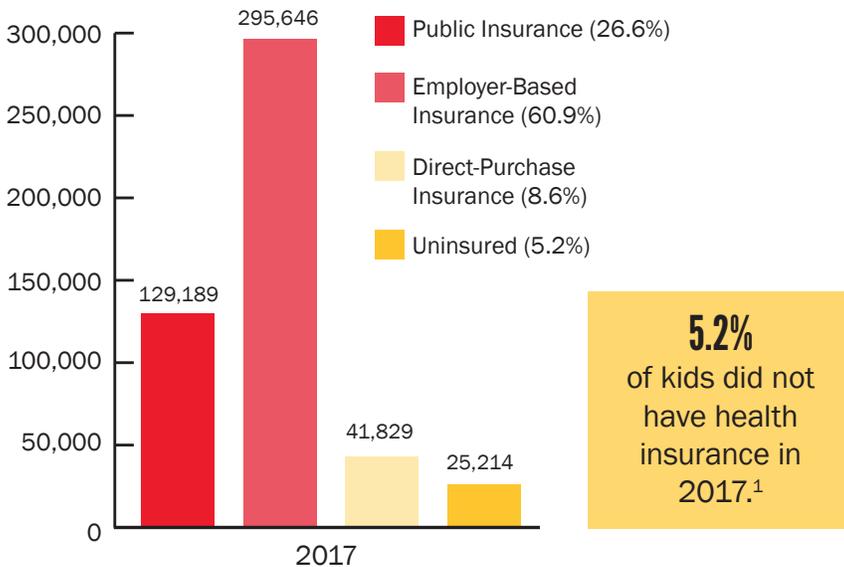
Access to health care

In 2017, there were 25,214 (5.2%) uninsured children in Nebraska. Of those, 15,070 (60%) were low-income (below 200% of the federal poverty level) and likely eligible, yet unenrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).[1]

Percent uninsured children by race/ethnicity (2012-2016)[2]	
American Indian and Alaska Native	17.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	4.2%
Black/African American	4.6%
Hispanic	10.8%
Other, Unknown, or Multi-racial	8.5%
White, non-Hispanic	3.9%

Medicaid and CHIP served a monthly average of 163,466 children in SFY 2017.[3]

79.3% of those eligible for Medicaid/CHIP are children, but children only make up 27% of Medicaid costs.[3]

Nebraska Medicaid average monthly eligible persons by age (SFY 2017)[3]

31,801
5,473
5,473
163,466

- Blind/Disabled (15.4%)
- Aged (2.7%)
- Adults (2.7%)
- Children (79.3%)
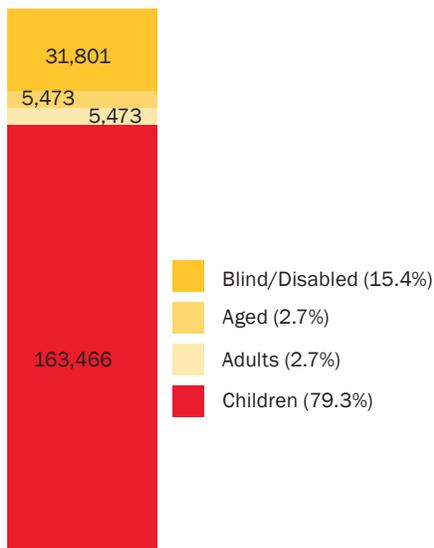
Nebraska Medicaid expenditures by age (SFY 2017)[3]

Blind/Disabled (43.9%) $922,423,134
Aged (20.8%) $437,468,676
Adults (8.2%) $172,336,196
Children (27.0%) $568,088,433
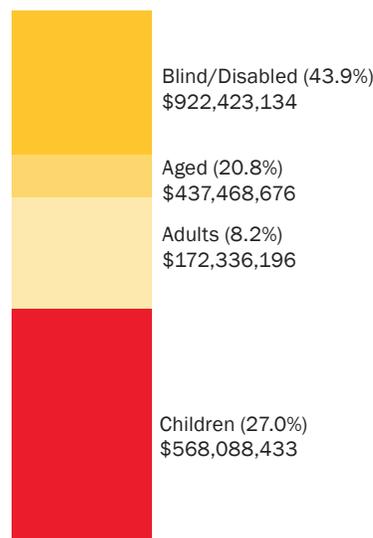
CHIP/Medicaid enrollment (SFY 2017)[3]

131,536 — Medicaid (80.5%)
31,930 — CHIP (19.5%)
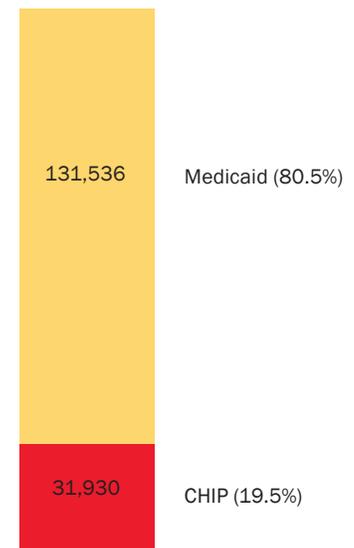
1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B27016.
2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Tables C27001B-I.
3. Financial and Program Analysis Unit, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
Notes: "Children" category combines Medicaid and CHIP coverage. "Adults" are those aged 19-64 receiving Aid to Dependent Children, or temporary cash assistance through the state of Nebraska.

Behavioral health

Estimating mental health needs

Many children in Nebraska deal with behavioral health problems that may affect their ability to participate in normal childhood activities.

The National Survey of Children's Health estimates the number of Nebraska children facing the following disorders:

- Anxiety: 16,462
- ADD/ADHD: 25,323
- Depression: 13,600
- Autism Spectrum Disorder: 10,367
- Children diagnosed with mental/behavioral condition needing treatment: 44,543

Source: 2016-2017 National Survey of Children's Health.

Considered suicide in last 12 months (2017)[2]	
Seriously considered suicide	16.1%
Had suicide plan	14.1%
Made suicide attempt	8.0%

Children receiving community-based behavioral health services through DHHS (2017)[1]

3,371
284
2

- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse
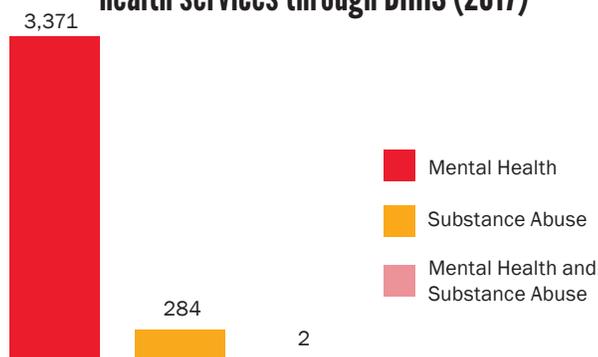
27.0% of teens felt sad or hopeless (every day for 2+ weeks so that activity was stopped in last 12 months).[2]

Regional centers (2017)[1]

106 males
received services at Hastings Regional Center, a chemical dependency program for youth from the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center (YRTC) in Kearney.

51 males
received services from Lincoln Regional Center at the Whitehall Campus.

57.6% of children needing mental health counseling actually received it.[3]

68% of children six months to five years met all four measures of "flourishing." [3]

1. Child is affectionate with parent/s
2. Child shows interest and curiosity in learning new things
3. Child smiles and laughs a lot
4. Child bounces back quickly when things do not go his or her way

1. *Division of Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).*
2. *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017.*
3. *2016-2017 National Survey of Children's Health.*

8.5% of high schoolers rarely or never wore a seat belt.

Motor vehicle behavior among high schoolers	2017
In past 30 days, rode in a vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol	22.1%
In past 30 days, drove a motor vehicle after drinking alcohol	6.3%
In past 30 days, texted or emailed while driving a car or other vehicle	48.3%

Gunshot wound injuries	2017
Children ages 1-18 injured by a firearm necessitating hospitalization	26
Injuries due to accidental discharge	*15*
Injuries due to assault	*5*
Injuries due to intentional self-harm	*3*
Injuries were undetermined	*2*
Injury was due to legal intervention by a law enforcement officer	*1*

Injuries and violence among high schoolers	2017
In past 12 months, was physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating	7.4%
In the past 12 months, was threatened or injured with a weapon on school property	7.1%
In past 12 months, was bullied on school property	22.4%
Has ever experienced sexual violence	10.1%

In past 12 months, was in a physical fight: 19.2%

In past 12 months, was electronically bullied: 17.5%

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017.

Motor Vehicle Crashes (2017)

23 children died and **158 children** suffered disabling injuries in motor vehicle crashes.

- 38% were not using a seatbelt
- Alcohol was involved in 23

Source: Nebraska Department of Roads.

Blood lead level testing (2017)

Exposure to lead may harm a child's brain and central nervous system. Even low blood lead concentrations can cause irreversible damage such as:

- impaired physical and cognitive development,
- delayed development,
- behavioral problems,
- hearing loss and
- malnutrition.

The Centers for Disease Control uses a reference level of five micrograms per deciliter to identify children as having an elevated blood lead level.

In 2017: 36,268 children were tested.

493 had elevated blood lead levels,

representing **1.4%** of all children tested.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Health risks

Alcohol and other drugs among high schoolers	2017
Ever used marijuana	25.4%
Ever used any form of cocaine	4.1%
Ever used inhalants to get high	6.0%
Ever used meth	3.0%
Ever used ecstasy or MDMA	3.9%
In past 12 months, offered, sold, or given illegal drugs by someone on school property	18.5%
Currently smokes cigarettes	7.4%
Currently uses smokeless tobacco	5.3%
Currently uses an electronic vapor product	9.4%

In past 30 days, had at least one drink of alcohol: 24.4%

In past 30 days, had five or more drinks in a row within a couple of hours: 10.5%

Ever took prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription: 14.3%
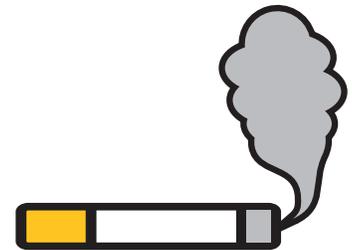
Currently smokes cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, or electronic vapor product: 16.1%

Obesity, dieting, activity, and eating habits	2017

In past seven days did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juice: 7.6%
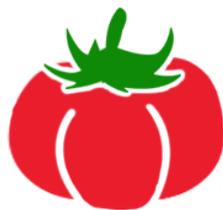
In past seven days did not eat vegetables: 5.8%

Were currently overweight or obese according to CDC growth charts: 31.2%

In past seven days did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on any day: 14.8%

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events that can have negative, lasting effects on health and well-being.

Number of ACEs (2016)

- 20%
- 22%
- 58%
- 0 ACEs
- 1-2 ACEs
- 3+ ACEs

Percent of children by ACE (2016)

- Economic hardship: 24.1%
- Divorce: 22.1%
- Mentally ill family member: 10.1%
- Family member with substance abuse problems: 9.5%
- Parent incarceration: 8.0%
- Domestic violence: 4.6%
- Neighborhood violence: 3.7%
- Racial/ethnic discrimination: 3.0%
- Parent death: 2.1%
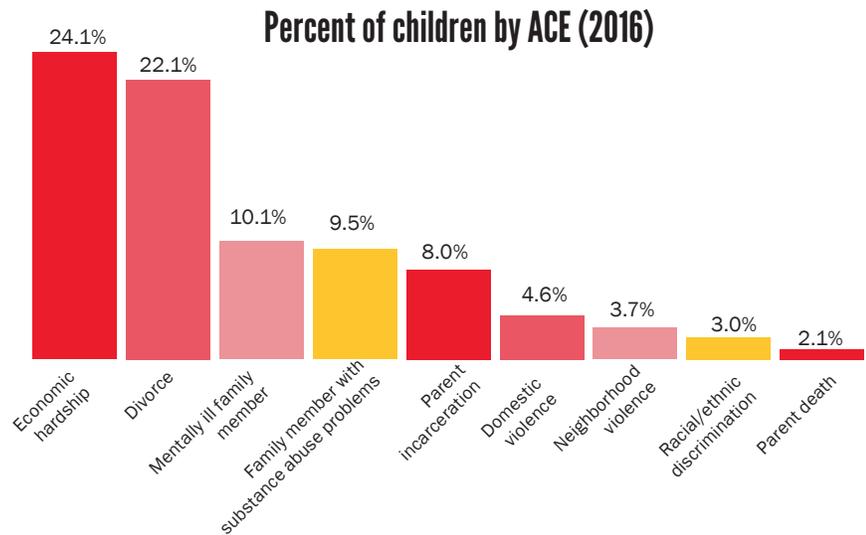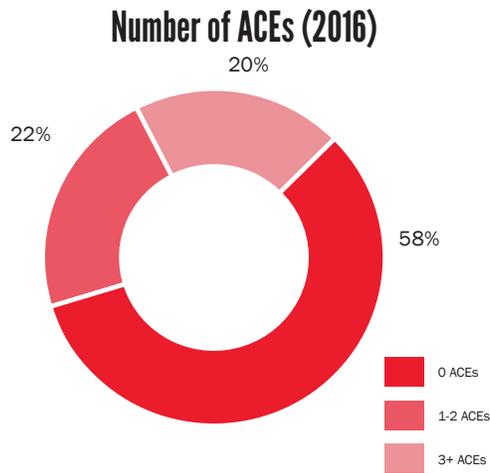
Among children with 1 or more ACE, the following were displayed:

Chronic health condition	26%	Demonstrates resilience	43%
Ongoing emotional, developmental, and/or behavioral health condition	13%	Live in a supportive neighborhood	50%
Mother's physical and mental health is very good to excellent	45%	Parents cut back on work or stopped working because of child's health	7%
Parents can handle day-to-day demands	57%	Lack demonstrated positive family habits and routine	25%
Engaged in school	63%		

Source: The Child & Adolescent Health Measure Initiative, A national and across-state profile on Adverse Childhood Experience among U.S. children and possibilities to heal and thrive, 2017.

Domestic violence & sexual assault[*]

Nebraska's Network of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Programs includes 20 community-based programs. There are also **four** tribal programs which comprise the Nebraska Tribal Coalition Ending Family Violence.

Service participants (2017)*

- 3,904
- 1,038
- 11,656
- Children
- Women
- Men

Services provided to children served (2017)*

- Shelter services: 1,206
- Individual support: 10,423
- Group support: 2,440
- Additional services: 2,492
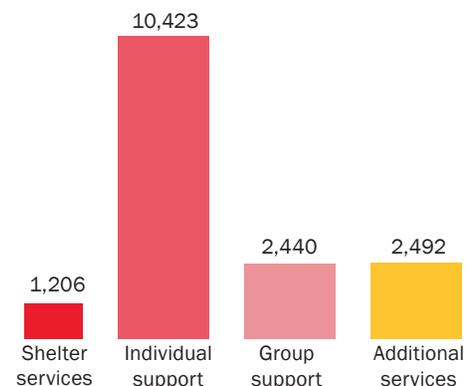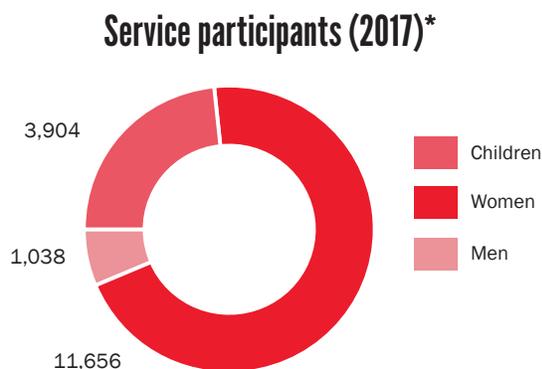
*Data does not include information from the Nebraska Tribal Coalition Ending Family Violence.
Source: Nebraska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition (FY 2017).

Health services

Number of medical provider shortages by county (2017)[1]

0 shortages	1 shortage	2-3 shortages	4-5 shortages	6+ shortages
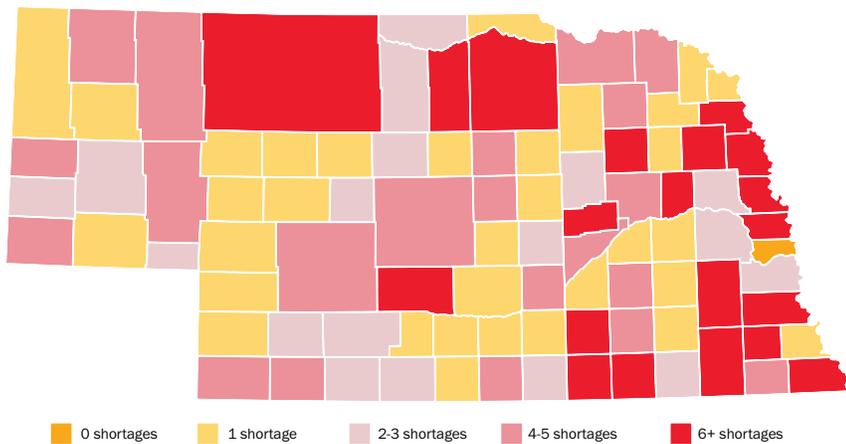
Medical provider shortage

Health professional shortage areas are designated as having too few primary medical, dental, or mental health care providers.

Immunizations Series Coverage (2009-2017)[3]

- Healthy People 2020 Goal
- Nebraska Coverage
- National Coverage
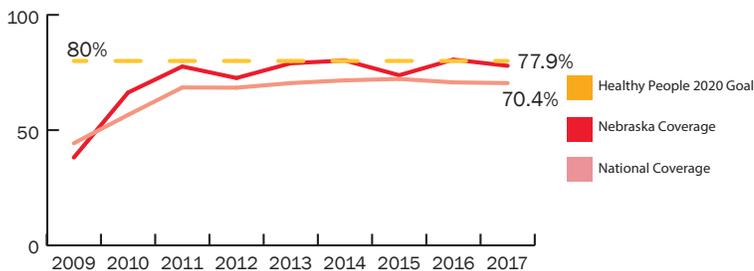
Immunizations (2017)[3]

77.9% of Nebraska children had received the primary immunization series* by age three.

84.8% of Nebraska teens were immunized against meningitis caused by types A, C, W, and Y.

61.4% of Nebraska teen girls and **55.3%** of Nebraska teen boys completed their HPV vaccine series.
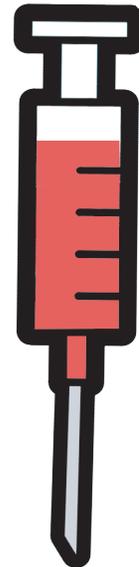
Children with a medical home (2017)[2]

A patient-centered medical home is a primary care physician or provider that serves as a child's usual source of care. It is an important mechanism for coordination of all segments of health - physical, behavioral, and oral.

43% do not have a medical home

57% have a medical home
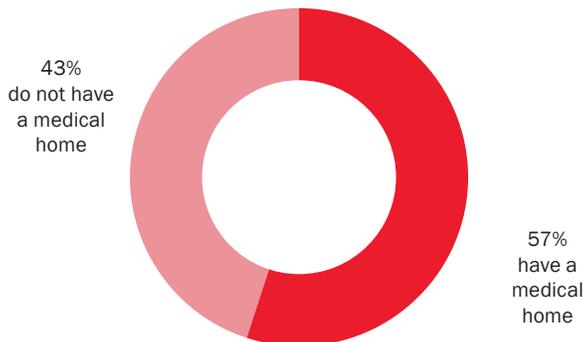
34.7% of children had 1 or more current health conditions.[2]

79.2% of children had a preventive medical visit in the past year.[2]

88.6% of children had a preventive dental visit in the past year.[2]

53%
of Nebraska 3rd graders
score proficient or better in reading.

89%
of Nebraska high school
students graduated on time

Why does it matter?

A good education begins early. Access to high-quality early childhood and pre-kindergarten programs provide an important foundation for children as they move through their school years and into adulthood.

Children who are well-educated are much more likely to become successful adults. Higher education is linked to higher income, higher job satisfaction, lower divorce rates, and lower crime rates. By ensuring that all children have access to high-quality educational opportunities and closing the opportunity gap, we are investing in the future of our communities, our state, and our economy.

Additional supports for educationally vulnerable children — such as special education, English language learning programs, and quality alternative education programs — help ensure that children with varying needs can navigate the education system.

Where are the data?

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Head Start/Early Head Start

6,152
children were served by Head Start/Early Head Start in 2016/17 program year.

156 pregnant women were served by Head Start/Early Head Start in 2016/17 program year

Source: Federal Head Start PIR System.

Counties served by Head Start or Early Head Start grantees (2017)
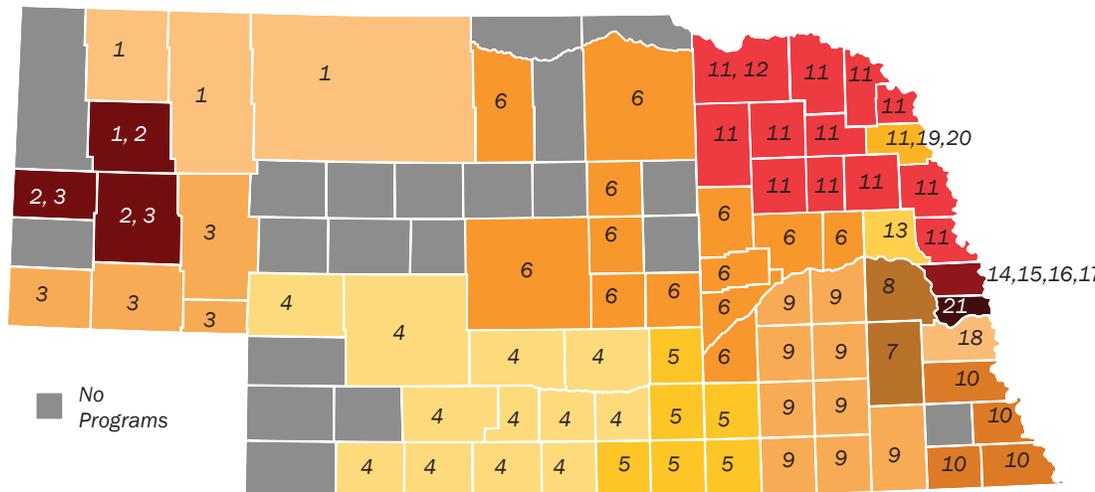
There were **17** Head Start and **14** Early Head Start Grantees - including **three** Delegate programs, **four** Tribal programs, and **one** Migrant and Seasonal program.

No Programs

#	Grantee Name	Total Served
1	Northwest Community Action Partnership	258
2	Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Grantee	65
3	Educational Service Unit 13	350
4	Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska	386
5	Head Start Child & Family Development Program, Inc.	496
6	Central Nebraska Community Services, Inc.	552
7, 8, 9	Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties and Lincoln and Wahoo Public School Delegates	644
10	Blue Valley Community Action Partnership	329
11	Southeast Nebraska Community Action	156
12	Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership	417
13	Midland University/Dodge County Head Start	94
14	Salvation Army Early Head Start	111
15/16	Omaha Public Schools Head Start and Educare Omaha Delegate	1,013
17	Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative	160
18	Plattsmouth Community Schools	120
19	Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start	221
20*	*Omaha Tribe of Nebraska	101
21*	*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	166
22*	*Santee Sioux Council Tribal Head Start	35

* Indicates a Tribal Program

Source: Nebraska Department of Education, Head Start State Collaboration Office.

189

children served by Head Start/Early Head Start were living in foster care.

946

children served by Head Start/Early Head Start were determined to have a disability.

1,684

children served by Head Start/Early Head Start have a primary language other than English.

School-Based Preschool (2016/17)

16,467

children were enrolled in public school-based preschool.

Public School PreK Enrollment (2000/01 - 2016/17)

16,467

4,138

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Early Head Start/Head Start participants by race/ethnicity (2017)

- American Indian/Alaska Native (7.8%)
- Asian/Pacific Islander (2.1%)
- Black/African American (12.3%)
- Multi-racial or non-White, Hispanic (8.5%)
- Other (6.9%)
- Unspecified (4.3%)
- White, Hispanic (19.2%)
- White, non-Hispanic (38.9%)

Source: Federal Head Start PIR System.
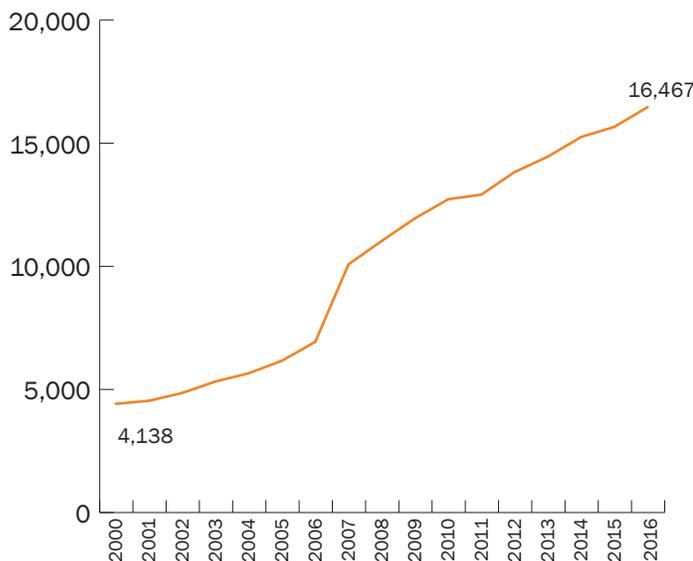
Early Development Network (2017/18)

The Early Development Network (EDN) serves families with children born with disabilities.

2,062

infants and toddlers had an Individualized Family Service Plan through EDN.

1,694 with a developmental delay
102 with a speech language impairment
91 with a hearing impairment
33 with autism
142 with some other disability

Source: Early Development Network, Annual Performance Report, Federal Fiscal Year 2017.

Sixpence (2016/17)

Sixpence serves children birth to age three who are at risk of failure in school and is funded through public and private dollars. There were **31** Sixpence programs in the state of Nebraska in the 2016/17 program year serving:

956
families

71
pregnant moms

1,110
children

Source: Interdisciplinary Center for Program Evaluation, University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Child care

Children need a safe environment while their parents work. Ensuring that caregivers are licensed is an important first step toward keeping children safe. This data shows counties with and without adequate licensed child care capacity.

Capacity of licensed child care facilities per 100 children under six with all available parents working, by county*

Legend: No facilities | 1-24 | 25-49 | 50-74 | 75-99 | 100+

* Does not include School-Age-Only Child Care Centers. Due to changes in data this is not comparable to years prior to the 2017 Kids Count Report. Source: "Early Childhood Capacity by County," DHHS (Report run Oct. 5, 2018), U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, Table B23008.

Annual child care costs (2017)[1]

Center-based care	
Infant	$12,272
4-year-old	$11,148

Home-based care	
Infant	$12,480
4-year-old	$12,480

4,204

Nebraska parents quit, did not take, or greatly changed their job because of child care problems in 2016.[2]

1. ChildCare Aware, Child Care in America: 2017 State Fact Sheets.
2. 2016 National Survey of Children's Health.
3. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Child care subsidies (SFY 2017)[3]

- There were **29,860** children in Nebraska who received child care subsidies in SFY 2017, for an average annual payment per child of **$3,344**. **3,286** children were in the care of a license-exempt facility.

- An average of **17,498** children received a subsidy each month for an average of **7** months. The average monthly payment per child was **$476***. **11,986** were below school age, and **6,111** were school age.

- **23,828** children receiving a subsidy were from a family living below 100% FPL, **9,679** were from families between 100%-130% FPL and **4,459** were from families between 130%-185% FPL. **5,403** were from TANF transition families.

- **$60,654,707** in state and **$41,267,390** in federal funds were spent on the child care subsidy program.

*Average annual and average monthly payments based on NFOCUS service expenditures, not total Child Care Program expenditures.

Nebraska Step Up to Quality is an Early Childhood Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), passed by the Nebraska Legislature in 2013. The primary goal of Nebraska Step Up to Quality is to improve early care and education quality and increase positive outcomes for young children. This is done through informing parents about quality early care and education programs in understandable and measurable ways. In addition, it improves teacher and director effectiveness through training and professional development, formal education, and coaching. It also emphasizes strengthening the understanding and use of standards, assessment processes, and using data to improve quality.

As of 09/14/2018 Nebraska had

337 Step Up to Quality Programs
Nebraska Step Up to Quality program providers by step (09/14/2018)

152 Providers - Step 1: The program has completed the application to participate in Step Up to Quality, staff members have submitted a professional record, and the program's director completes orientation.

96 Providers - Step 2: The program director completes several trainings related to safety, child health and early learning and management as well as several self assessments related to child development knowledge.

90 Providers - Steps 3-5: Once programs achieve Step 2 they are eligible for coaching services. Early childhood coaches help guide programs as they set goals to make program improvements. During the rating process, programs earn points in the following standard areas, curriculum, learning environments & interactions, Child outcomes, professional development and training, family engagement & partnerships, and program administration. Step 3-5 ratings are determined by the number of points achieved.

Nebraska Step Up to Quality programs by county (as of 9/14/2018)

Step Up to Quality Programs	
337 Programs (9/14/2018)	
Step 1	152
Step 2	96
Step 3	53
Step 4	23
Step 5	14

Source: Nebraska Department of Education, Step Up to Quality.

Student characteristics

302,386 children were enrolled in public school in 2016/17.

School membership by grade (2016/17)

Grade	Membership
K	22,283
1	23,400
2	24,019
3	24,026
4	22,378
5	23,525
6	23,168
7	23,607
8	23,175
9	23,322
10	23,224
11	22,840
12	23,419

142,527 public and nonpublic students were eligible for free and reduced meals in 2016/17.

MEAL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Breakfast	Lunch
266 districts	**377** districts
946 sites	**1,134** sites

Note: Includes state operated Special Purpose School

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY (2016/17)*

	Schools	Children
Eligible	219	81,689
Served	15	3,576

Note: Both public and private school students are eligible for free and reduced school meals.

*The Community Eligibility Provision allows high poverty schools to serve school meals at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications. The number of children eligible for the Community Eligibility Program is based on proxy data.

Percentage of public and private students eligible for free and reduced school meals (FRL) (2006/07 - 2016/17)

Year	Percentage
2006/07	36.4%
2016/17	44.7%
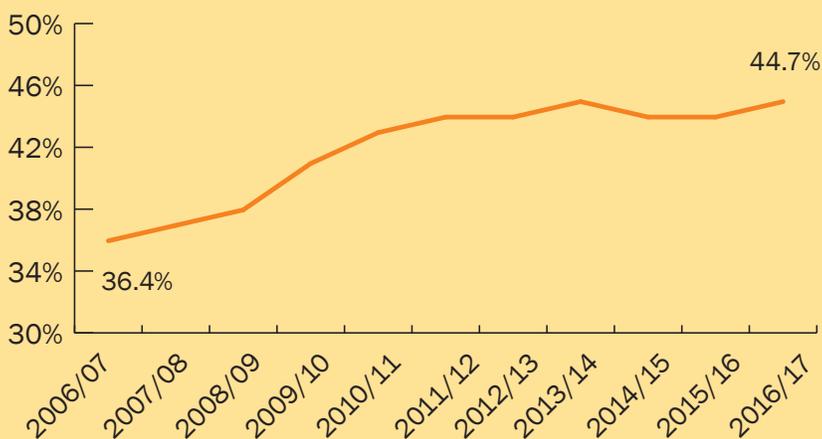
There were **281** Summer Food Participation sites in 2017, each serving an average of **62** meals daily.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Student characteristics

16.0% of students were classified as Special Education (2016/17).

13.4% of students were classified as High Ability Learners (2016/17).

4.2%

of Nebraska school students were highly mobile, meaning they enrolled in two or more public schools during the 2016/17 school year. Higher school mobility is correlated with lower achievement.

Public school cost per pupil based on average daily membership: $12,230

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Special Education Classification (2016/17)

Category	Percentage
American Indian/Alaska Native	22.9%
Asian	9.4%
Black/African American	20.1%
Hispanic	15.7%
Native Hawaiian	14.1%
Multi-racial	19.0%
White	15.6%
FRL	18.4%
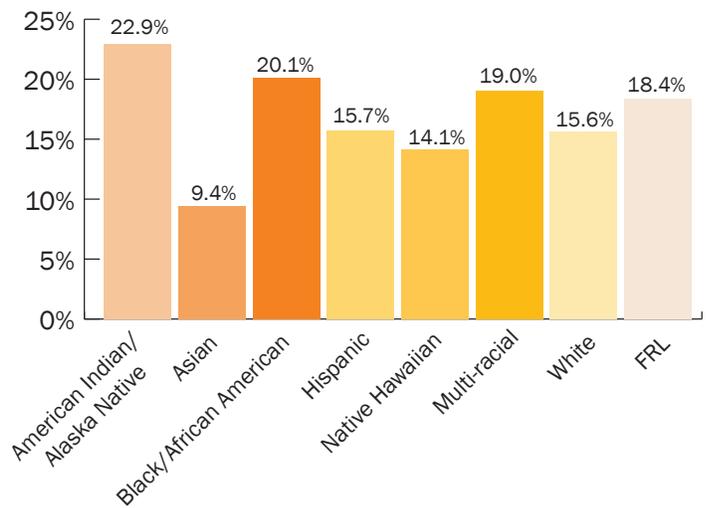
Rate of home schooled students per 1,000 students (2006/07 - 2016/17)

2006/07: 17.9 ... 2016/17: 28.4
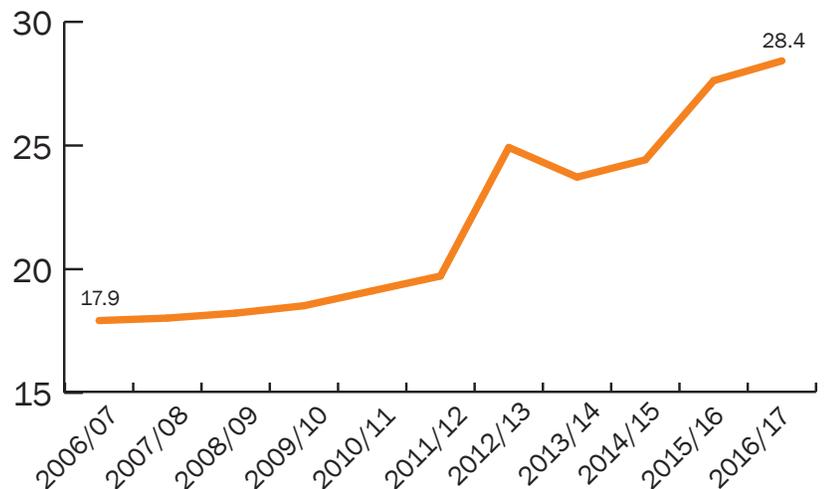
Percentage of students who were English language learners (2006/07 - 2016/17)

2006/07: 6.5% ... 2016/17: 7.3%
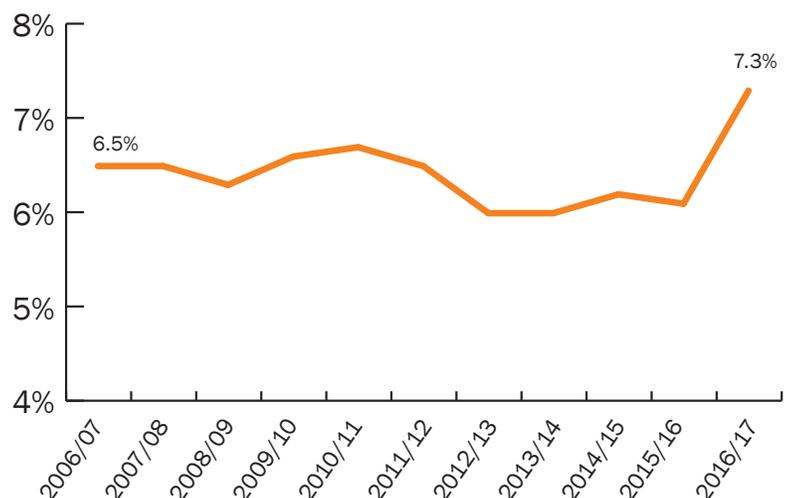
Test scores - reading

Reading is a fundamental skill that affects learning experiences and school performance of children and teens. The ability to read proficiently translates to a greater likelihood of performing well in other subjects. Children with lower reading achievement are less likely to be engaged in the classroom, graduate high school, and attend college.

Source: Child Trends, Reading Proficiency.

Non-Proficient   **Proficient**

3rd Grade (2016/17)

53%
of children overall read proficiently

38%
of low-income children read proficiently

Multi-racial — 49% / 51%
Hispanic — 63% / 37%
Black/African American — 68% / 32%
Pacific Islander — 58% / 42%
White — 61% / 39%
American Indian — 71% / 29%
Asian — 42% / 58%
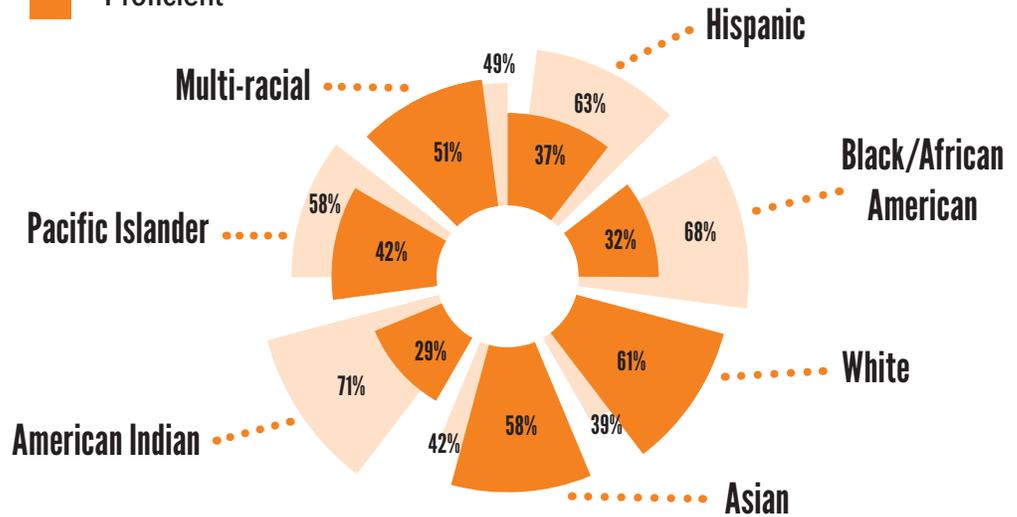
8th Grade (2016/17)

51%
of children overall read proficiently

34%
of low-income children read proficiently

Multi-racial — 51% / 49%
Hispanic — 65% / 35%
Black/African American — 76% / 24%
Pacific Islander — 60% / 40%
White — 58% / 42%
American Indian — 81% / 19%
Asian — 42% / 58%
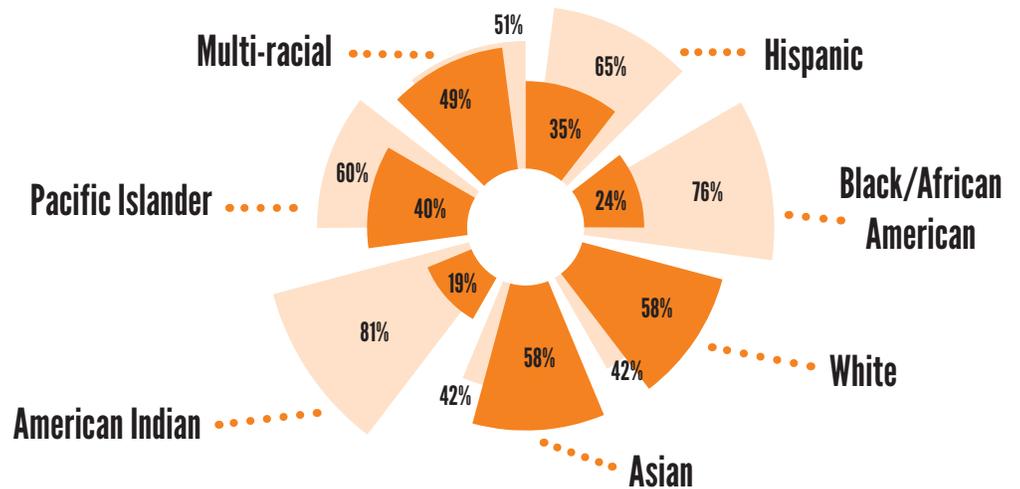
11th Grade (2016/17)

52%
of children overall read proficiently

32%
of low-income children read proficiently

Multi-racial — 54% / 46%
Hispanic — 62% / 38%
Black/African American — 78% / 22%
Pacific Islander — 73% / 27%
White — 61% / 39%
American Indian — 83% / 17%
Asian — 48% / 52%
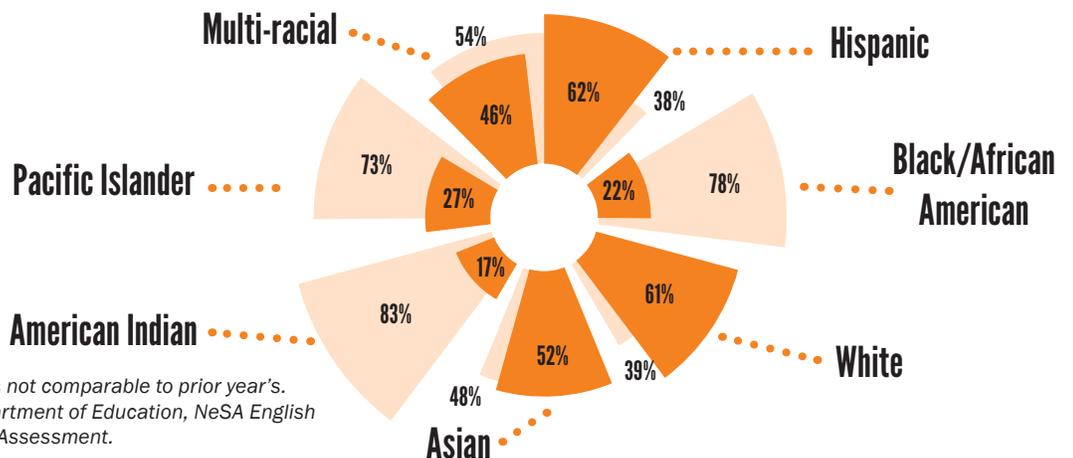
Note: Due to changes in assessment, data is not comparable to prior year's.
Sources: 3rd and 8th Grade: Nebraska Department of Education, NeSA English Language Arts Proficiency. 11th Grade: ACT Assessment.

Test scores - math

Math skills are essential for functioning in everyday life, as well as for future success in our increasingly technical workplace. Students who take higher courses in mathematics are more likely to attend and complete college. Those with limited math skills are more likely to find it difficult to function in everyday society and have lower levels of employability.

Source: Child Trends, Mathematics Proficiency.

Non-Proficient   Proficient

5th Grade (2016/17)

76%
of children overall are proficient in math

64%
of low-income children are proficient in math

Hispanic 64% 36%
Multi-racial 74% 26%
Black/African American 49% 51%
Pacific Islander 68% 32%
White 84% 16%
American Indian 52% 48%
Asian 76% 24%
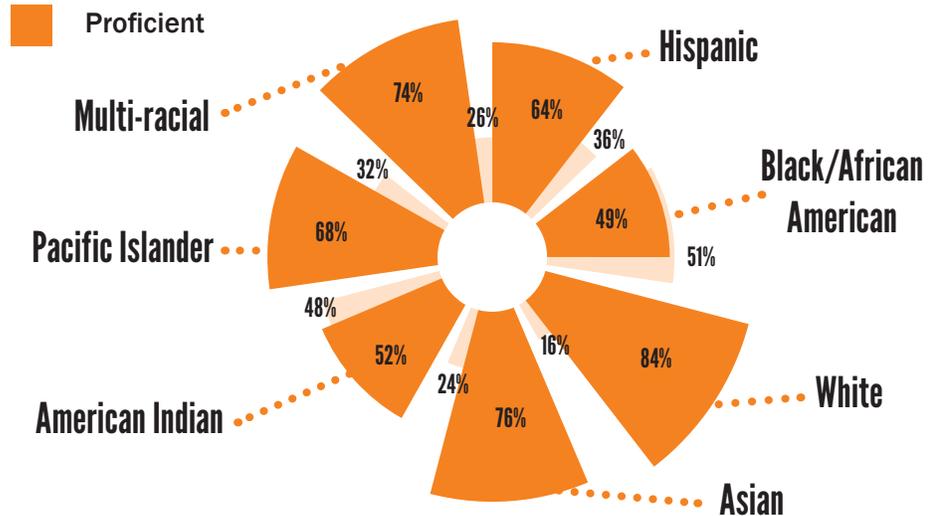
8th Grade (2016/17)

65%
of children overall are proficient in math

48%
of low-income children are proficient in math

Multi-racial 56% 44%
Hispanic 48% 52%
Pacific Islander 60% 40%
Black/African American 34% 66%
White 74% 26%
American Indian 31% 69%
Asian 70% 30%
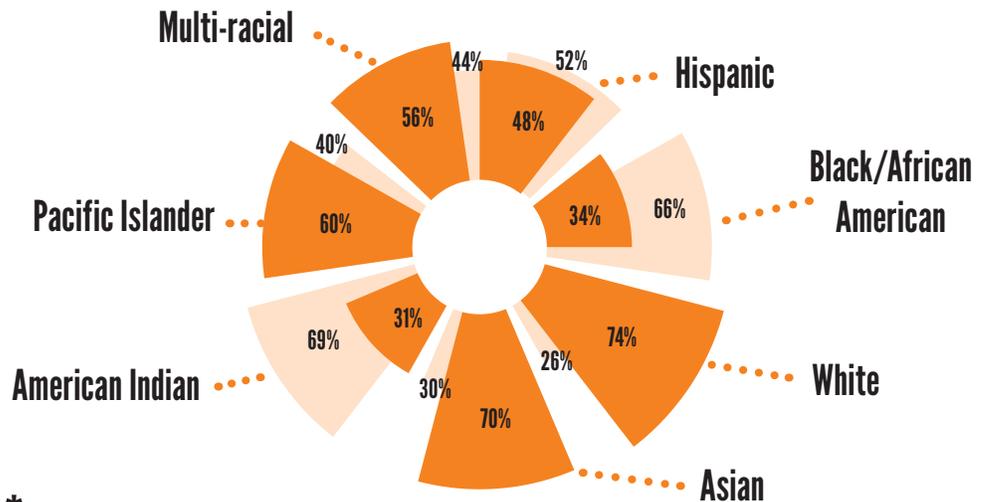
11th Grade (2016/17)*

50%
of children overall are proficient in math

30%
of low-income children are proficient in math

Multi-racial 42% 58%
Hispanic 28% 72%
Pacific Islander 27% 73%
Black/African American 16% 84%
White 60% 40%
American Indian 19% 81%
Asian 52% 46%*
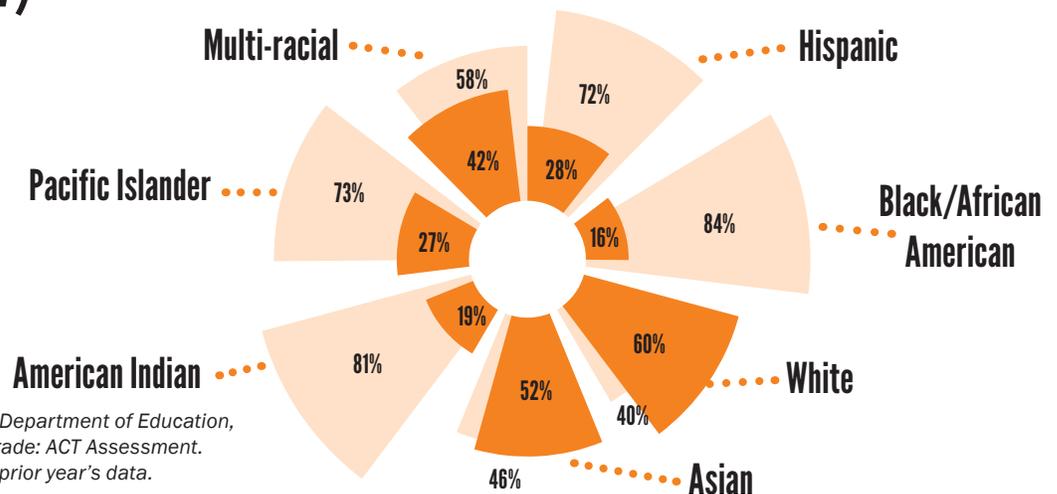
Sources: 5th and 8th Grade: Nebraska Department of Education, NeSA Mathematics Proficiency. 11th Grade: ACT Assessment.
*11th grade data is not comparable to prior year's data.

Test scores- science

Proficiency in science helps prepare students to go on to highly skilled professions. Having a strong foundation in the sciences allows students to work in today's high demand fields. Students with a greater understanding of sciences learn how to better protect the environment and increase the health and security of people throughout the world.

Source: Child Trends, Science Proficiency.

Non-Proficient   **Proficient**

5th Grade (2016/17)

72%
of children overall are proficient in science

57%
of low-income children are proficient in science

- Multi-racial: 70% / 30%
- Hispanic: 52% / 48%
- Black/African American: 44% / 56%
- White: 81% / 19%
- Asian: 66% / 34%
- American Indian: 46% / 54%
- Pacific Islander: 64% / 36%
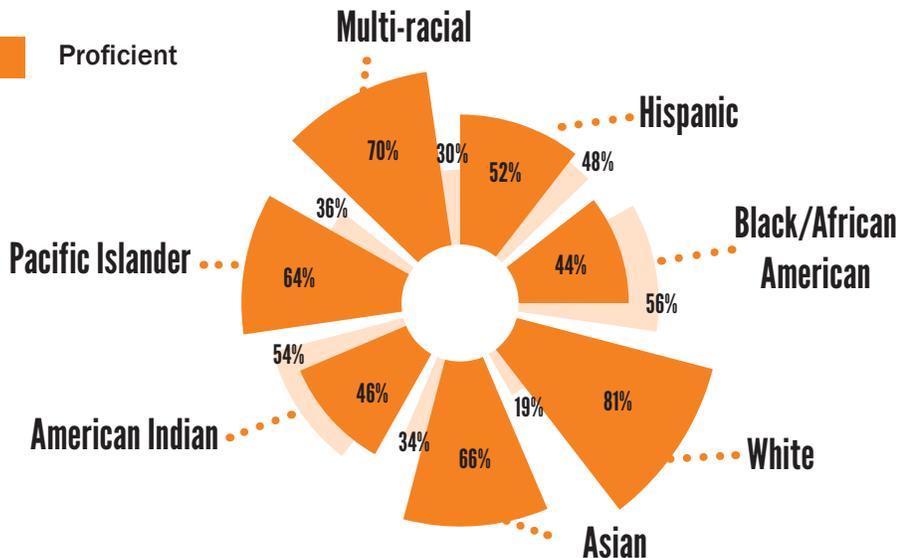
8th Grade (2016/17)

68%
of children overall are proficient in science

52%
of low-income children are proficient in science

- Multi-racial: 64% / 36%
- Hispanic: 49% / 51%
- Black/African American: 37% / 63%
- White: 78% / 22%
- Asian: 67% / 33%
- American Indian: 35% / 65%
- Pacific Islander: 48% / 52%
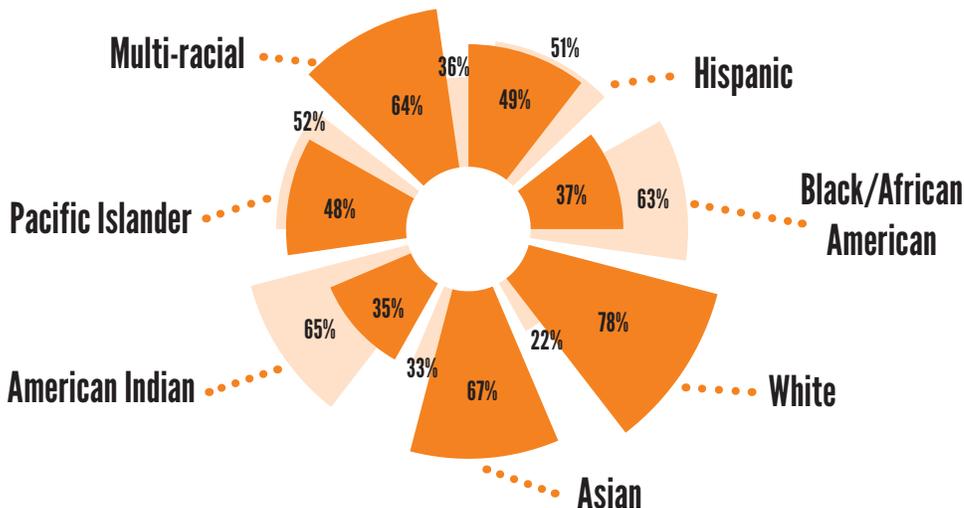
11th Grade (2016/17)*

54%
of children overall are proficient in science

34%
of low-income children are proficient in science

- Multi-racial: 49% / 51%
- Hispanic: 32% / 68%
- Black/African American: 19% / 81%
- White: 61% / 39%
- Asian: 54% / 46%
- American Indian: 24% / 76%
- Pacific Islander: 31% / 69%
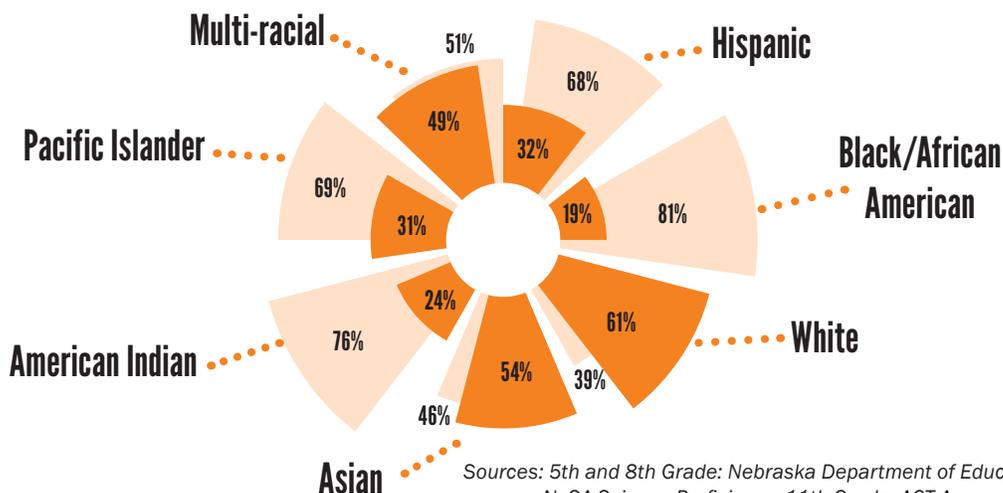
*Sources: 5th and 8th Grade: Nebraska Department of Education, NeSA Science Proficiency. 11th Grade: ACT Assessment. *11th grade data is not comparable to prior year's data.*

Children need to be in school to achieve educational success and all the positive life outcomes that go with it. Too often, children are pushed out of the school system through suspensions, expulsions, and referrals to the court system. The cumulative sum of these practices, often referred to as "the school to prison pipeline," has been shown to have a negative impact on students, schools, and academic achievement. When a student is suspended, they become less likely to graduate on time and more likely to repeat a grade, drop out without earning a diploma, and become involved with the juvenile justice system. Studies have also shown that schools with a higher reliance on school exclusion as a form of discipline actually score lower on academic achievement tests, even when controlling for socioeconomic and demographic factors. Policies that keep kids in the classroom produce better results for both students, schools, and our communities as a whole. *Source: The Academic Cost of Discipline, Center for Evaluation and Education Policy, Indiana University.*

675 (0.2%) students in public and nonpublic schools were EXPELLED during the 2016/17 school year.

36,158 (11.0%) students in public and nonpublic schools were SUSPENDED during the 2016/17 school year.

1,876 students in public and nonpublic schools dropped out in 2016/17.

Public school absences (2016/17)

63,814 (20.0%) students were absent — **10-19** days

14,415 (4.5%) students were absent — **20-29** days

11,519 (3.6%) students were absent — **30+** days

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Graduation and career

70% of Nebraska's 2016/17 public high school graduates had enrolled in college by April 2018.[1]

68% of students who enrolled in a 4-year public college in Fall 2011 completed within six years.[2]

39% of Students who enrolled in a 2-year public college in Fall 2011 completed within six years.[2]

21,810 students of the 2018 graduation cohort took the ACT with average composite score of 19.3.[3]

17,000 (9%) young people age 18-24 were not attending school, not working, and had no degree beyond high school.[4]

96,000 (51%) young people age 18-24 were enrolled in or completed college.[4]

6,000 (5%) teens 16-19 were not in school and not working.[4]

15,372 students were enrolled in a career academy or dual credit courses in 2016/17.[1]

23,385
students completed high school in four years in 2016/17.

2017 cohort 4-year graduation rates by student demographics

	Rate
All students	89.1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	70.3%
Asian	81.8%
Black/African American	81.2%
Hispanic	81.6%
Multi-racial	86.0%
Pacific Islander	85.4%
White	92.5%
Free/reduced meals	81.8%
ELL	49.8%
SPED	71.4%
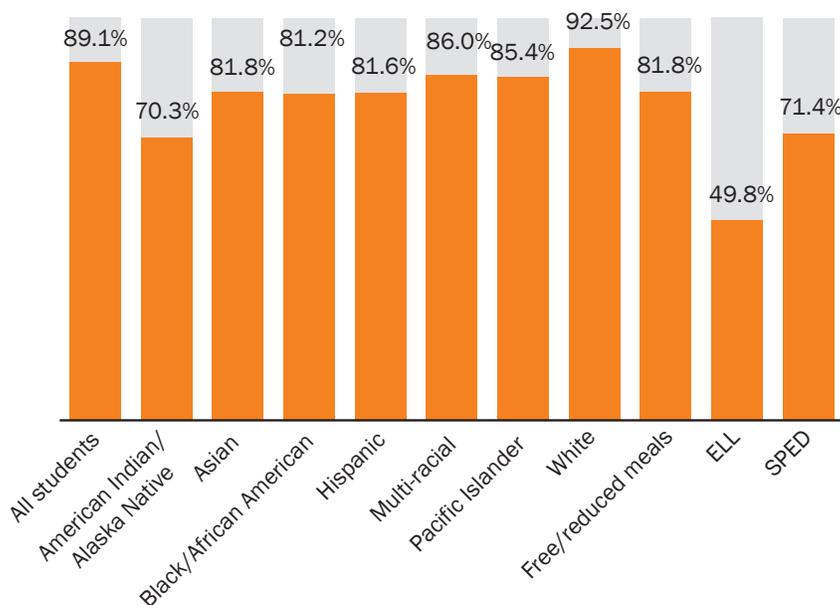
91.3%
2016 extended 5-year graduation rate*

a decrease from **91.6%** from the 2015 cohort 5-year graduation rate.

300
16-21 year olds took the GED in 2016/17 with 275 completing successfully.

*Extended 5th year graduation rate is the percent of students who graduated within five years rather than the standard four.
Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Economic Stability
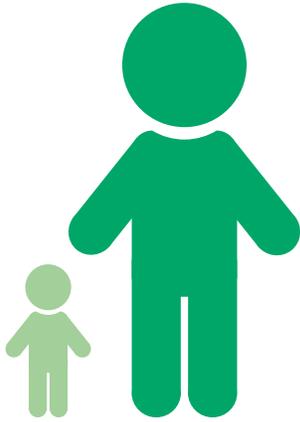
White families' median income is 1.6 times higher than the median income of families of color.[1]

Our values

Our children, communities, and state are stronger when all of Nebraska's families are able to participate fully in the workforce and establish financial security.

Achieving economic stability occurs when parents have the education, skills, and opportunity to access work that pays a living wage. In turn, parents who are economically stable can provide their children housing, child care, health care, food, and transportation.

Public programs provide a vital safety net for families who are unable to provide necessities on their own. Well-structured programs gradually reduce assistance while supporting families moving toward financial independence.

21.1% of Nebraska households are underbanked and may be forced to rely on costly financial services to meet their basic needs.[2]

Where are the data?

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Tables B19113B-I, B19161B-I.
2. Assets and Opportunity Nebraska State Data, 2017.

Poverty

Nebraska poverty (2008-2017)

Legend:
- Percent of children in poverty
- Percent of families in poverty
- Percent of all persons in poverty

Data points shown: 13.4%, 11.0%, 10.8% (2008); 14.1%, 11.9%, 10.8% (2017)
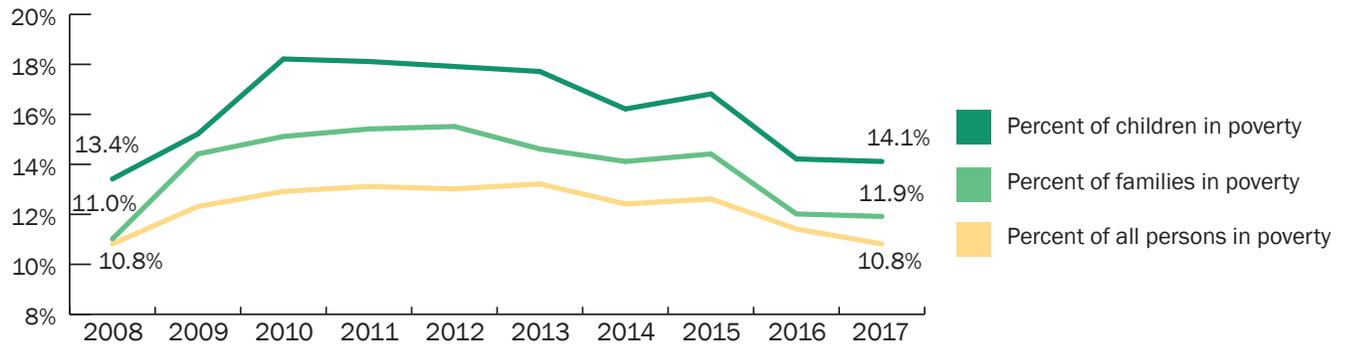
Nebraska poverty rates (2017)

Poverty rate for children	14.1%
Poverty rate for families	11.9%
Poverty rate for all persons	10.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1- year estimates, Tables B17001, B17010.

Family structure and poverty[1]

39.8%
of children living in single-mother households are in poverty

16.8%
of children living in single-father households are in poverty.

5.9%
of children living in married-couple households are in poverty.

12.4%
of children living with a grandparent without a parent present are in poverty.[2]

1. Source: U.S. Census 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B17006.
2. Source: U.S. Census 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table S1001.

Nebraska poverty by race and ethnicity (2016)

Race	Percent of children in poverty (17 and under)	Percent of population in poverty
American Indian/ Alaska Native	47.6%	37.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	20.6%	19.2%
Black/African American	41.3%	30.2%
Hispanic	31.1%	24.6%
Multi-racial	27.7%	21.8%
Other/Unknown	22.0%	20.7%
White, non-Hispanic	10.1%	9.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Tables B17001B-I.

In the United States, there is an ongoing relationship between race and ethnicity and poverty, with people of color experiencing higher rates of poverty. Poverty rates in Nebraska also continue to reveal significant disparities based on race and ethnicity. These disparities grew out of a history of systemic barriers to opportunity for people of color that still have a presence in our society and institutions today. We need to continue working to address these barriers in order to ensure that all children have the best opportunity to succeed.

Making ends meet

Nebraskans pride themselves on being hard-working people. In 2017, 77.3% of children in our state had all available parents in the workforce.[1] Unfortunately, having high labor force participation doesn't always translate into family economic stability.

The chart at right illustrates the gap between low-wage earnings and the amount needed to provide for a two-parent family with two children. It assumes that both parents work full-time (40 hours a week), year round (52 weeks per year). That means no vacation, no sick time, just work.

Minimum wage in Nebraska is $9.00 an hour.[2] If both parents work at minimum wage, their monthly income will be $3,120. This puts them above the federal poverty level of $2,092.

The federal poverty level doesn't describe what it takes for working families to make ends meet. For that we turn to the Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard (FESS). The FESS uses average costs, like fair median rent and the average price of a basic menu of food, to calculate what a family needs to earn to meet its basic needs without any form of private or public assistance. It does not include luxuries like dining out or saving for the future.

For a two-parent, two-child family of any age, the FESS for Nebraska is $3,287 a month.[3] That requires an hourly wage of $9.48 per parent.

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B23008.
2. United States Department of Labor, "Minimum Wage Laws in the States - January 1, 2016," http://www.dol.gov.
3. FESS was calculated using an average of 2010 figures for a two-adult, two-child family, adjusted for 2018 inflation. Data used to calculate information is courtesy of Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest.

Two-adult, two-child family (2018)

200% Federal Poverty Line
$50,200 annual
$4,183 monthly
$12.07 hourly (per adult)

Family Economic
Self-Sufficiency Standard
$39,447 annual
$3,287 monthly
$9.48 hourly (per adult)

100% Federal Poverty Line
$25,100 annual
$2,092 monthly
$6.03 hourly (per adult)

Minimum Wage
$37,440 annual
$3,120 monthly
$9.00 hourly (per adult)
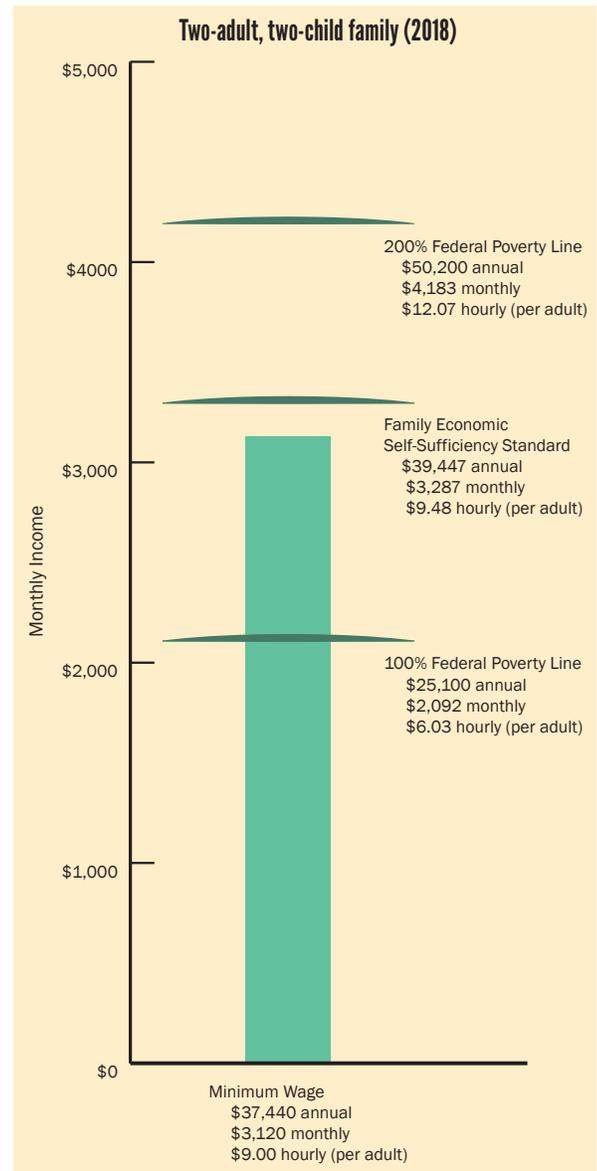
2018 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines

Program Eligibility	Child Care Subsidy, SNAP	Medicaid Expansion		WIC, Reduced Price Meals, Transitional Child Care Subsidy	Kids Connection (CHIP)		ACA Exchange Tax Credits
Family Size	100%	130%	138%	150%	185%	218%	300%	400%
1	$12,140	$15,782	$16,753	$18,210	$22,459	$26,465	$36,420	$48,560
2	$16,460	$21,398	$22,715	$24,690	$30,451	$35,883	$49,380	$65,840
3	$20,780	$27,014	$28,676	$31,170	$38,443	$45,300	$62,340	$83,120
4	$25,100	$32,630	$34,638	$37,650	$46,435	$54,718	$75,300	$100,400
5	$29,420	$38,246	$40,600	$44,130	$54,427	$64,136	$88,260	$117,680
6	$33,740	$43,862	$46,561	$50,610	$62,419	$73,553	$101,220	$134,960
7	$38,060	$49,478	$52,523	$57,090	$70,411	$82,971	$114,180	$152,240
8	$42,380	$55,094	$58,484	$63,570	$78,403	$92,388	$127,140	$169,520

Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2018.

*For families with more than eight people, add $4,320 for each additional member.

Aid to Dependent Children

Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) (SFY 2017)

ADC recipients by age

18 & Under
76.9%

5 & under
32.4%

- Ages 19+ (23.1%)
- Ages 15-18 (9.1%)
- Ages 6-14 (35.4%)
- Ages 0-5 (32.4%)
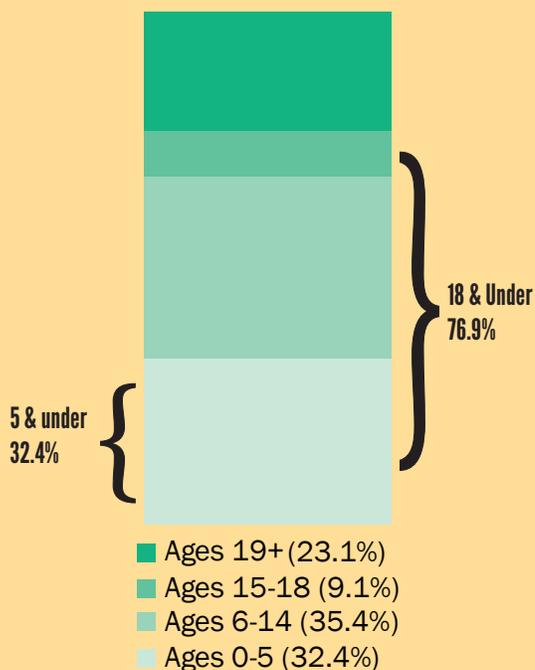
12,746 Average monthly number of children receiving ADC.

5,904 Average monthly number of families receiving ADC.

$418.00 Average monthly ADC payment per family.

$28,754,098 Total ADC payments (Includes both state and federal funds).

70%
FEDERAL
TANF
FUNDS

30%
STATE
GENERAL
FUNDS

Source: Financial Services, Operations, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Is Nebraska's safety net catching families in need?

Aid to Dependent Children (ADC), Nebraska's cash assistance program, is intended to support very low-income families with children struggling to pay for basic needs. According to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, ADC payments are often the only form of income for participating families.[1]

The chart below explores whether ADC adequately reaches children and families in need. The number of children in poverty and extreme poverty over time is compared with the number of children receiving ADC. The gap between extreme poverty and ADC enrollment suggest that Nebraska's safety net has not kept pace with needs.

Children receiving ADC vs. children in poverty and extreme poverty (2008-2017)

39,422[2]
Poverty
(50 - 100% FPL)

26,169[2]
Extreme Poverty
(under 50% FPL)

13,739[1]
ADC enrollment

35,780
22,574
17,609
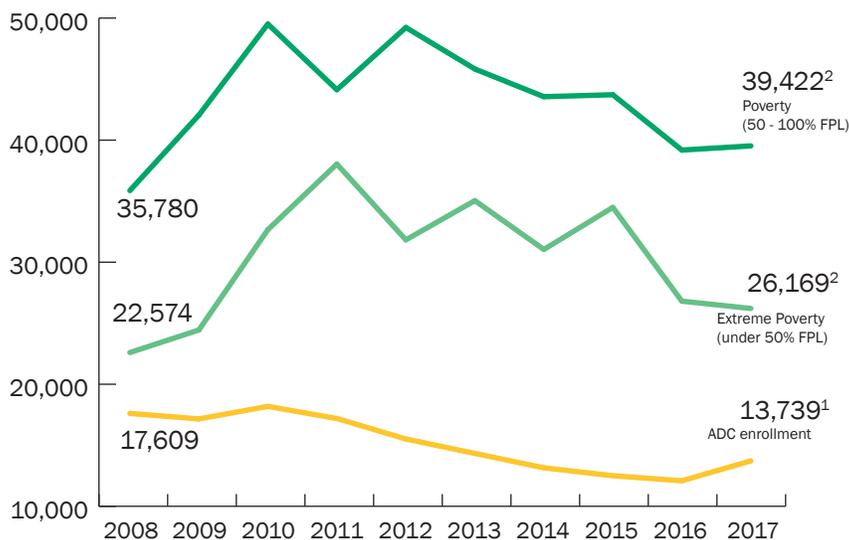
ADC Increase with LB 607 in 2015

The Aid to Dependent Children program received a boost with the adoption of LB 607. LB 607 sought to address a problem with the ADC program, in which the payments did not adequately cover the cost of living: in 2013, the average monthly payment was only $326.17. The enacted bill raises the monthly payment level to 55% of the standard of need, an average increase of $72 per month to help approximately 6,200 Nebraskan families with low incomes. It also provides financial assistance to families transitioning off of ADC to help them get back on their feet.

1. *Financial Services, Operations, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).*
2. *U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B17024.*

Homelessness

The Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) and the Housing and Urban Development Program (HUD) served individuals who are homeless or near homeless. Not all homeless people receive services.

In 2017, HUD/NHAP served:

7,513 Homeless individuals.

1,546 Homeless children ages 18 and under.

2,710 Homeless families with children.

46 Unaccompanied homeless children.

1,792 Individuals at risk of homelessness.

793 Children at risk of homelessness.

1,613 Families with children at risk of homelessness.

9 Unaccompanied children at risk of homelessness.

Source: Nebraska Homeless Assistance Project, FY2017 combined CAPER Reports.

Homeownership

Homeownership provides a sense of stability for children and communities.

68.5% of families with children owned their home in 2017.[1]

In 2017, Nebraska Public Housing had:[2]

7,359 public housing units with 7,061 occupied.

12,716 vouchers with 11,609 in use.

4,773 units were one bedroom (non-family).

42,000 children (9%) lived in crowded housing with more than one person/room.[3]

36,000 children (8%) lived in areas of concentrated poverty.[3]

105,000 children (22%) lived in households with a high housing cost burden.[3,4]

85,000 children (51%) with a high housing cost burden were low-income.[3,4]

Homeownership by race/ethnicity (2017)[5]

Race/Ethnicity	Percent
American Indian	38.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	48.4%
Black/African American	27.7%
Hispanic	45.1%
Multi-racial	46.1%
Other/Unknown	47.1%
White, non-Hispanic	70.9%
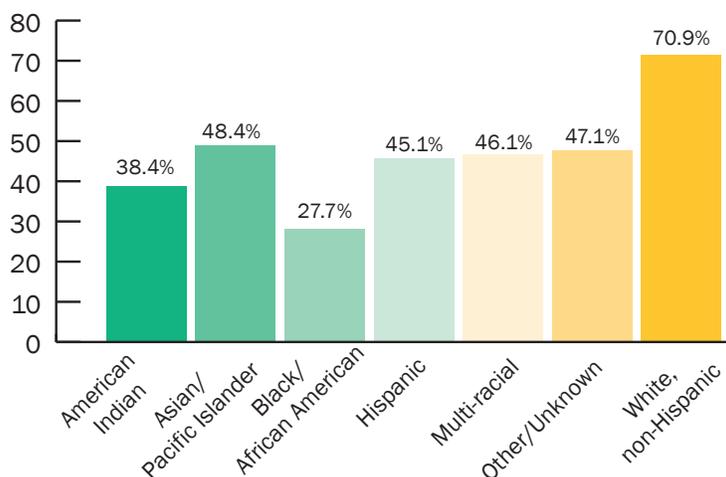
1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B25115.
2. Nebraska Office of Public Housing, HUD.
3. Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center, 2016.
4. Ibid. Families with high housing cost burdens spend more than 30% of their pre-tax income on housing.
5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B25003B-I.

1 in 7 Nebraska households don't know where their next meal is coming from.[1]

Food insecure households in Nebraska (2008-2017)[1]

74,000
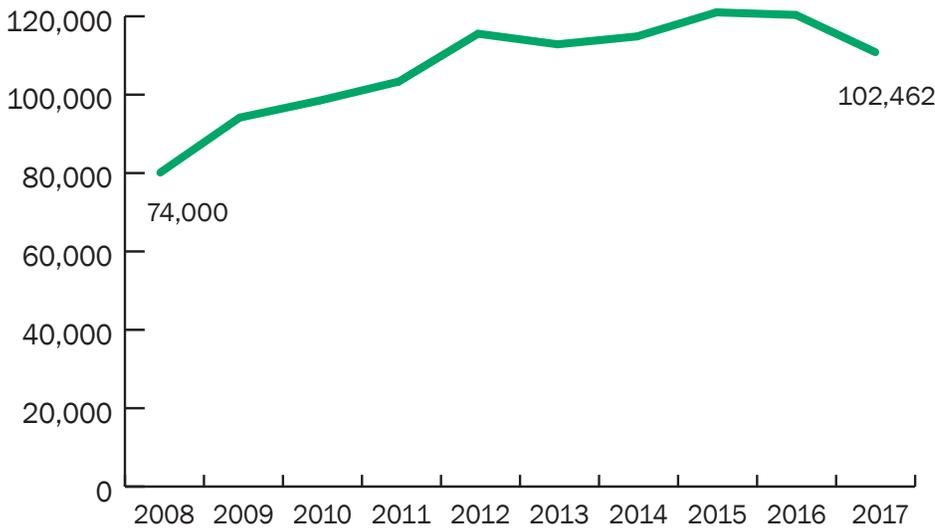
102,462

With poverty rates remaining high in recent years, it is not surprising that many families with children struggle to put food on the table. Approximately 102,462 households in Nebraska were food-insecure in 2017, a decrease from 111,279 in 2016.

17.3% of Nebraska children experienced food insecurity (2017).[2]

60% of food-insecure children were likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance (2017).[2]

1. National and State Program Data, Food Research & Action Center, USDA, Household Food Security in the United States in 2017.
2. Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2017.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs in the United States. It provides nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families through benefits that can be used to purchase food at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other places where groceries are sold.

In Nebraska in 2016, SNAP moved about 8,600 households above the poverty line.

Characteristics of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2016, USDA, Food Nutrition Services, The Office of Policy Support, Tables B.12, B.13.

Average number of children enrolled in SNAP (June 2008-2017)
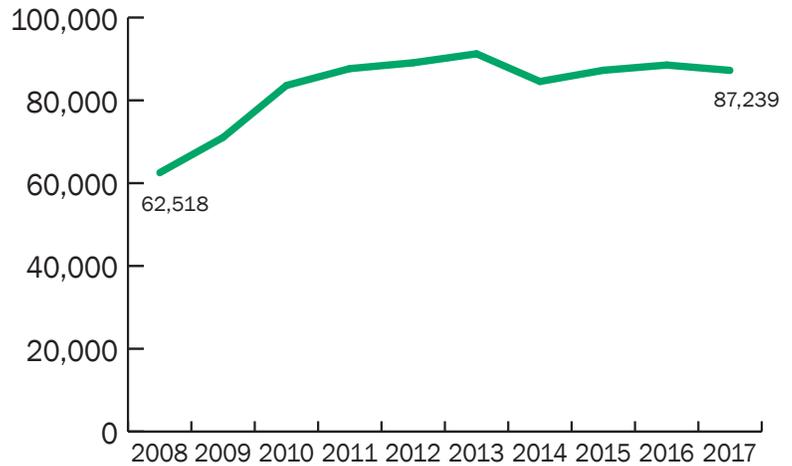
Source: Financial Services, Operations, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

SNAP participants by race/ethnicity (June 2017)

American Indian/Alaskan Native (3.9%)
Asian/Pacific Islander (3.3%)
Black/African American (18.4%)
Multi-racial (6.4%)
Unknown/Other (16.2%)
White (51.9%)
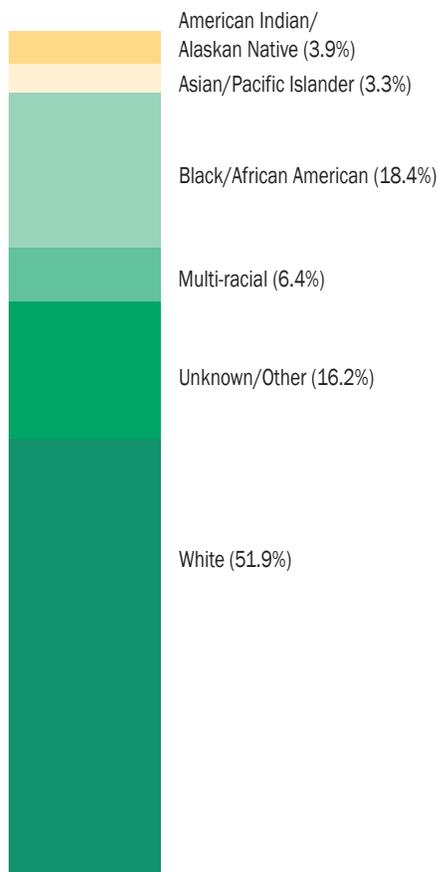
Child SNAP Participants

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children—known as WIC—aims to improve the health of low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age five who are at nutritional risk. The program provides nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating, breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2017)

Of the monthly average **36,481** WIC participants in 2017:
- 8,440 were women;
- 8,809 were infants; and
- 19,592 were children

WIC services are provided at **102 clinics** in **93 counties**.

$60.56
Average monthly cost per participant in 2017.

Source: Nebraska WIC Program.

Source: Financial Services, Operations, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Custody

Marriage and divorce

In 2017...

12,338 couples
were married

&

5,785
were divorced.

5,273 children
experienced their parents divorcing.

2,367 children
were put under their
mother's custody.

2,335 children
were put under both
parent's custody.

478 children
were put under their
father's custody.

84 children
were given a different
arrangement.

Source: Vital Statistics, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Informal kinship care

Children are considered to be in informal kinship care if they are not living with a parent or foster parent and are not living independently.

12,000 (2.5%)[1]
children were living
in kinship care (2017
3-year averages).

9,364 (2%)[2]
were living with a
grandparent who was their
primary caregiver in 2017.

1. Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center.
2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B10002.

Child support (207)

Custodial parents who do not receive child support payments they are owed by non-custodial parents may seek assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services. Assistance is provided by Child Support Enforcement (CSE).

106,796 cases received CSE assistance,

101,900 were non-ADC cases.*

4,896 were ADC cases.*

$215,252,365 Amount of child support disbursed through CSE.

19,826 Cases received services through CSE, but payments were not being made.

1,951 Cases receiving public benefits which are eligible for and are receiving child support payments.

1,224 Cases receiving public benefits which are eligible for child support, but it is not being paid.

5,244 Child support cases where non-custodial parent is incarcerated.

$118.12 Mean monthly child support payment per child.

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue.
* If the custodial parent is receiving ADC, the state is entitled to collect child support from the non-custodial parent as reimbursement.

Employment, income, & assets

In 2017,

77.3%
of children under 18 had all available parents in the workforce

75.0%
of children under 6 had all available parents in the workforce

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B23008.

Nebraska unemployment and underemployment rate (2008-2017)
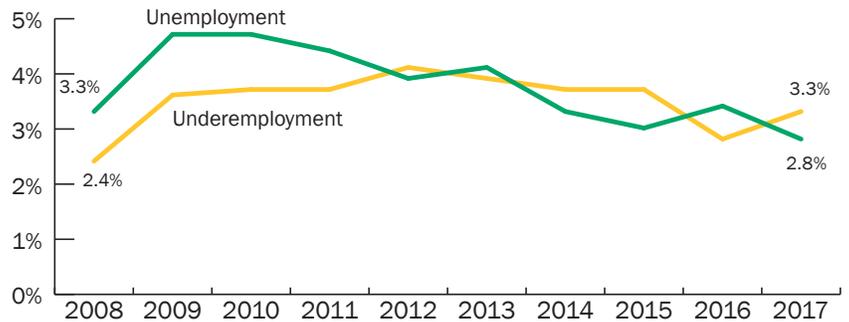
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for States, Annual Averages, U-3, U-6.

Median income for families with children (2017)

All families	$75,112
Married couple	$91,646
Male householder (no wife)	$43,701
Female householder (no husband)	$26,926

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B19126.

Median income for families by race & ethnicity (2017)

American Indian	$47,809
Asian/Pacific Islander	$72,370
Black/African American	$41,365
Hispanic	$48,399
Multi-racial	$46,889
Other	$48,987
White, Non-Hispanic	$80,550

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B19113B-I.

7,000
workers in Nebraska earned minimum wage or below in 2017.[1]

22.2%
of Nebraska workers were working in a low-wage job, meaning the median annual pay is below the poverty line for a family of four.[2]

17.0%
of Nebraskans experience asset poverty with

10.6%
in extreme asset poverty.[2]

Asset poverty

A household is considered to be in asset poverty if they do not have sufficient net worth at the Federal Poverty Line to subsist without income for three months.

Extreme asset poverty

A household is without or has negative net worth.

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Characteristics of Minimum wage workers, 2017.
2. Assets and Opportunity Nebraska State Data, 2017.

Transportation & taxes

41,169 (5.5%) households had no vehicle available in 2017.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates Table B08201.

38,466 (3.9%) workers used transportation other than a personal automobile or carpool to get to work in 2017.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Tables B08201, C08141.

Family tax credits 2017

127,420 families claimed $303,132,451 in federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

126,316 families claimed $29,993,137 in state Earned Income Tax Credit.

151,844 families claimed $207,189,666 in federal Child Tax Credit.

53,582 families claimed $29,136,384 in federal Child and Dependent Care Credit.

57,127 families claimed $11,193,522 in state Child and Dependent Care Credit.

89,969 families claimed $126,981,025 in Additional Child Tax Credit.

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue.

State & local taxes share of family income (2016)

Income Group	% income to state and local taxes
<20%	11.1%
20%-39%	10.0%
40%-59%	10.8%
60%-79%	9.8%
80%-94%	9.4%
95%-98%	8.7%
Top 1%	8.7%
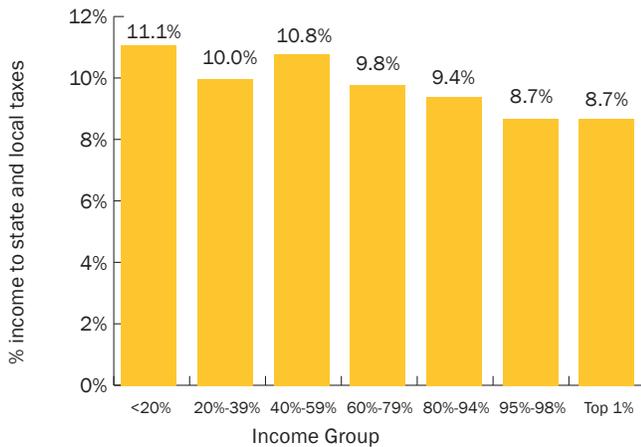
Sales & excise tax share of family income (2016)

Income Group	% income to state and local taxes
<20%	6.1%
20%-39%	5.3%
40%-59%	4.6%
60%-79%	3.6%
80%-94%	2.7%
95%-98%	1.7%
Top 1%	0.8%
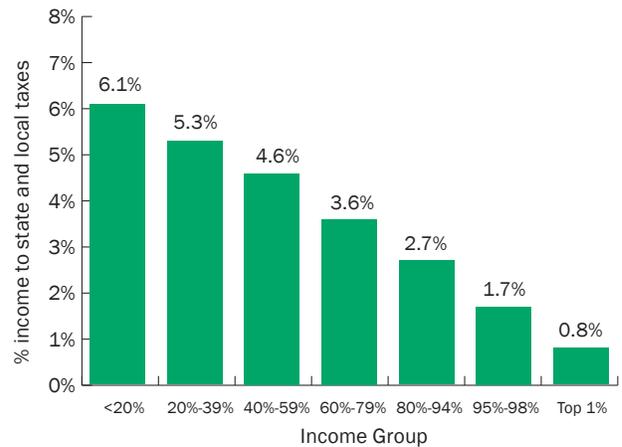
Personal income tax share of family income (2016)

Income Group	% income to state and local taxes
<20%	-0.2%
20%-39%	0.8%
40%-59%	2.4%
60%-79%	2.8%
80%-94%	3.6%
95%-98%	4.2%
Top 1%	4.4%
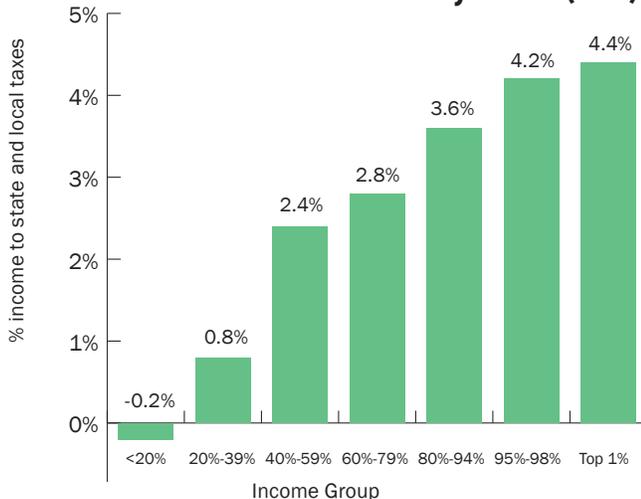
Property tax share of family income (2016)

Income Group	% income to state and local taxes
<20%	5.3%
20%-39%	3.8%
40%-59%	3.8%
60%-79%	3.4%
80%-94%	3.1%
95%-98%	2.8%
Top 1%	3.2%

Source: ITEP, Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems, Nebraska, 2018.

Child Welfare

52% of children living in out-of-home care were living with **relatives or kin.***

803 families were served by Alternative Response.

Why does it matter?

Keeping our children and youth safe is essential to their healthy development. Children deserve to grow up in safe, permanent, and loving homes. An effective child welfare system works to strengthen families and minimizes trauma through timely and appropriate action.

Where are the data?

Point in Time 12/31/2017
Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Child maltreatment

Federal law defines child maltreatment, otherwise known as abuse and neglect, as "any act or failure to act that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or any act or failure to act that represents an imminent risk of serious harm."

In Nebraska, the vast majority (83%) of maltreatment is physical neglect, which is a failure to meet a child's basic needs like food, shelter, and clothing; this is, in many cases, an economic issue.

Why should we be concerned?

Exposure to childhood abuse and neglect hinders children's healthy social, emotional, and cognitive development. If untreated, toxic stress makes it more likely that children will adopt risky behaviors which negatively impact their future health and success. Given the impacts, we need to strengthen families to prevent abuse and neglect whenever possible, and take swift, thoughtful action to ensure that all children grow up in loving homes.

Child abuse & neglect reports

35,923 REPORTS

of alleged maltreatment were made to the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline in 2017.

35,923
reports were made

13,718
calls were assessed by DHHS and/or law enforcement

2,169
reports were substantiated

9,523
reports were unfounded

599
reports were referred to Alternative Response

Do you know a child who is being maltreated?

Call the Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline at 1-800-652-1999.

Safety assessments

16,766
safety assessments conducted on children

2,219
children determined unsafe

1,820
children determined unsafe and referred to court

224
children determined unsafe and referred to voluntary services

175
children determined unsafe and non-court involved and family did not elect to participate in voluntary services

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Child maltreatment

Types of substantiated maltreatment (2017)

Physical Abuse — 14.1%
Emotional Abuse — 1.0%
Sexual Abuse — 9.6%
Physical Neglect — 82.4%
Emotional Neglect — 0.3%

Some children experienced more than one type of maltreatment. The numbers here will be higher than the total number of children who experienced maltreatment.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

It is important to note that only maltreatment cases that were reported are included in this report. The actual incidence of maltreatment may be higher than what is reported here.

Child maltreatment by age (2017)

Infant (0-1) — 20.2% — 729
Toddler (2-4) — 20.3% — 735
School-age (5-12) — 41.1% — 1,485
Teen (13-18) — 18.4% — 663

3,612 kids experienced maltreatment in 2017.

Number of child maltreatment victims per 1,000 children (2008-2017)

11.0 (2008), 12.2 (2009), 7.6 (2017)
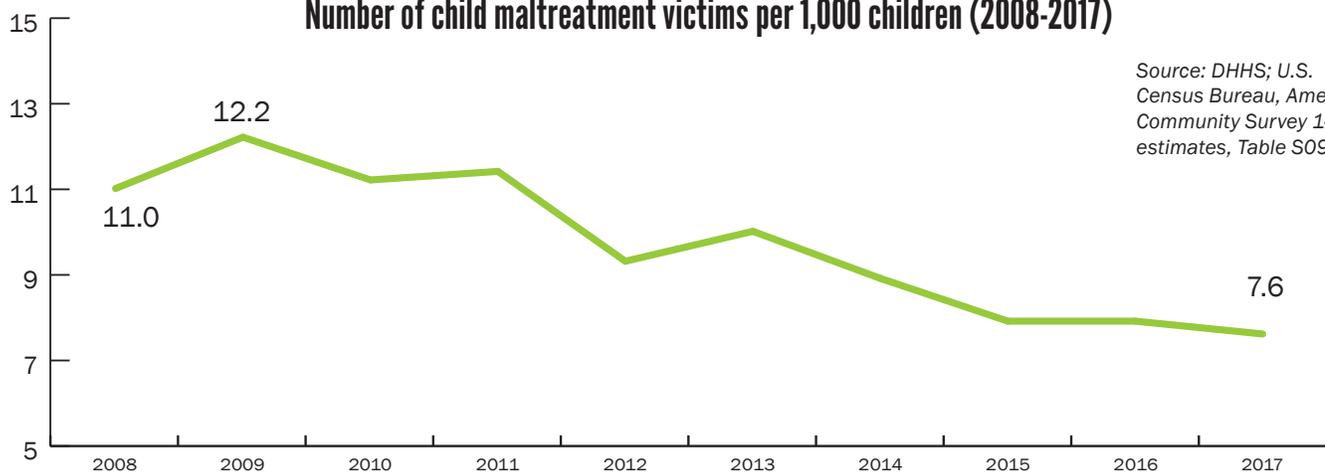
Source: DHHS; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table S0901.

In 2017, **6,931 children** in **93 counties** who were alleged victims of maltreatment were served by the Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) of Nebraska.

The Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers provides statewide leadership in the fights against child abuse alongside it's member centers, Nebraska's seven fully accredited Child Advocacy Centers (CACs). The CACs are located in Gering, Grand Island, Kearney, Lincoln, Norfolk, North Platte, and Omaha. There are also 10 satellite locations in other parts of the state covering each of Nebraska's counties.

Source: Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers, 2017 Annual Statistics.

Child Advocacy Centers conducted:

4,816
Forensic interviews

1,319
Medical exams

32,453
Advocacy sessions*

12,214
Case reviews

*Beginning in 2017, the definition of "Advocacy sessions" changed leading to a dramatic increase in the number reported by the CACs.
Source: Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers, 2017 Annual Statistics.

How do children enter our child welfare system? (2012-2017)

Legend:
- Court, Out-of-home
- Non-court, In-home
- Court, In-home
- Non-court, Out-of-home

Data labels: 2,614 · 2,466 · 847 · 135 · 3,241 · 2,044 · 480 · 0
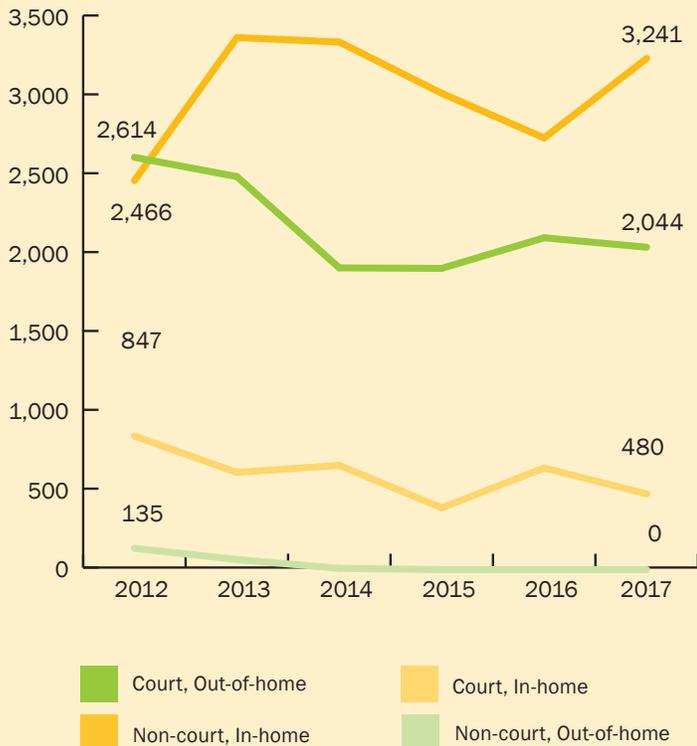
5,765 kids

entered the child welfare system in 2017.

3,241 (56%) were non-court involved
2,524 (44%) were court involved

Court vs. non-court

Children who are removed from their homes often experience traumatic and long-term consequences. Recently, DHHS has been seeking ways to keep families together while ensuring that safety can be maintained. Non-court cases allow children to remain in their own homes, where they can continue to receive a stable source of love and care from their families.

Non-court entries by age (2017)

- 15.3%
- 18.8%
- 44.4%
- 21.5%

- Infant (0-1) 495
- Toddler (2-4) 609
- School-age (5-12) 1,439
- Teen (13-18) 698

Court entries by age (2017)

- 20.0%
- 16.2%
- 34.6%
- 29.1%

- Infant (0-1) 505
- Toddler (2-4) 410
- School-age (5-12) 874
- Teen (13-18) 735
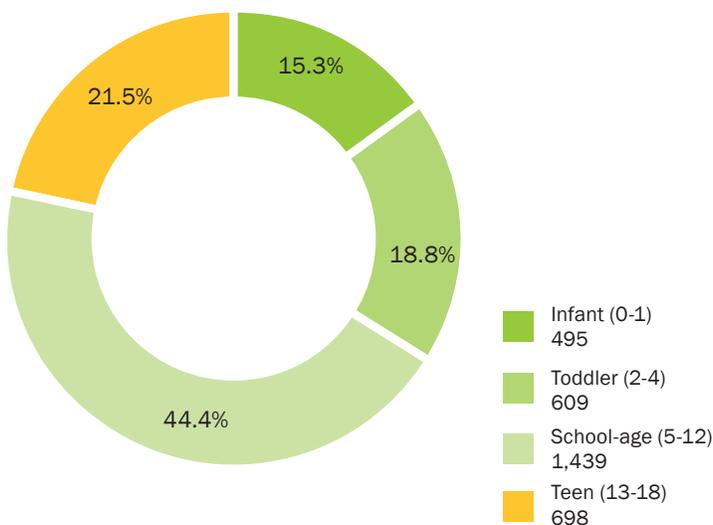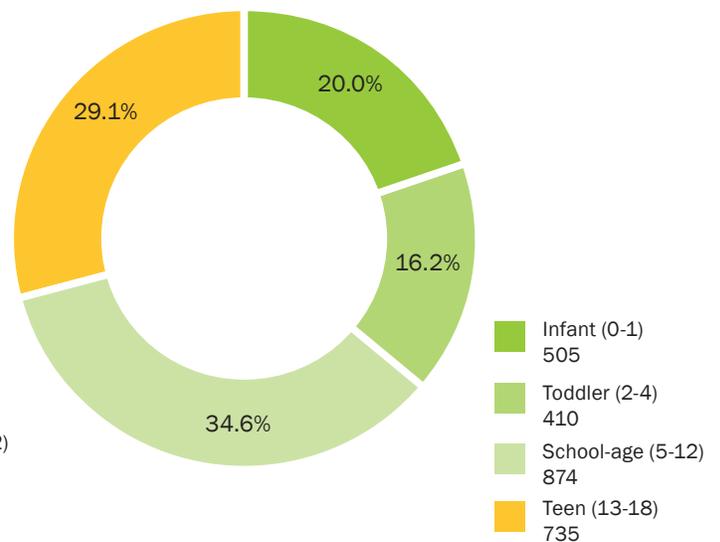
Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Involvement in child welfare & Alternative Response

Any involvement by age (2017)
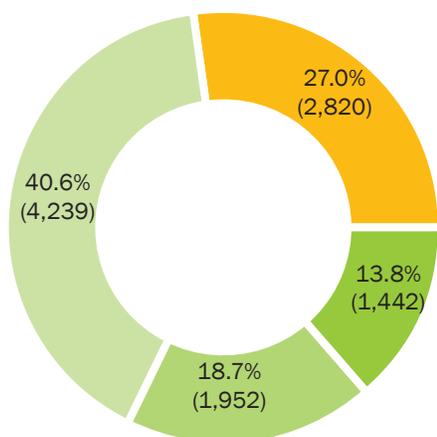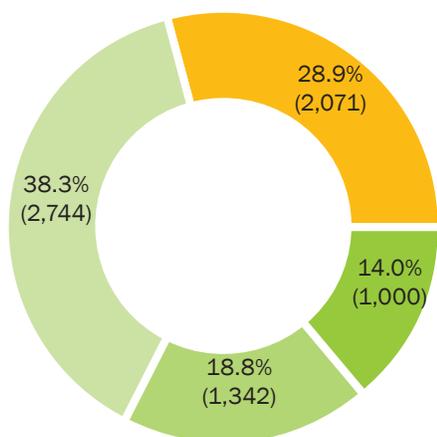
- 27.0% (2,820)
- 13.8% (1,442)
- 18.7% (1,952)
- 40.6% (4,239)
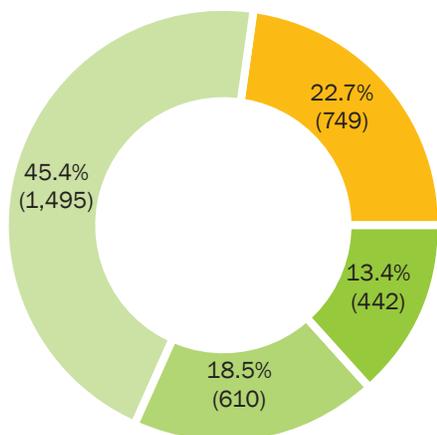
Court involved youth over time (2008-2017)*

6,631

4,833
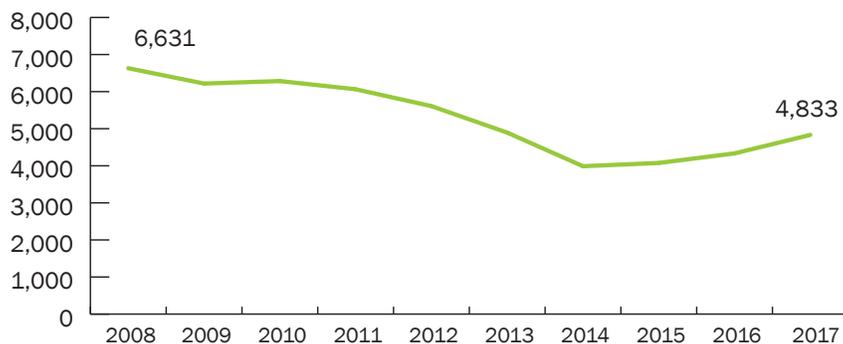
Point-in-time, Dec. 31 each year.

Court involvement by age (2017)

- 28.9% (2,071)
- 14.0% (1,000)
- 18.8% (1,342)
- 38.3% (2,744)

Non-court involvement by age (2017)

- 22.7% (749)
- 13.4% (442)
- 18.5% (610)
- 45.4% (1,495)

Legend:
- Infant (0-1)
- Toddler (2-4)
- School-age (5-12)
- Teen (13-18)

10,453 kids
were involved in the child welfare system at some point in 2017.

7,157 (68.5%) from 3,890 families were court involved.

3,296 (31.5%) from 1,229 families were non-court involved.

464 non-court involved children became court involved.

803 families
were served by and

737 families
were successfully discharged from

Alternative Response in 2017.

The majority of children who come into Nebraska's child welfare system are identified because their family is unable to meet their basic needs, which is often related to symptoms of poverty. Alternative Response brings more flexibility to our state response to child maltreatment in certain low- or moderate-risk cases by allowing caseworkers to focus on harnessing the strengths of each family and building parental capacity through intensive supports and services.

43 families
changed track from Alternative Response to Traditional Response after an average 30 days of involvement.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Race & ethnicity in child welfare

Total child population (2017)

Child population
- 1.1%
- 2.6%
- 5.8%
- 14.8%
- 6.7%
- 68.9%
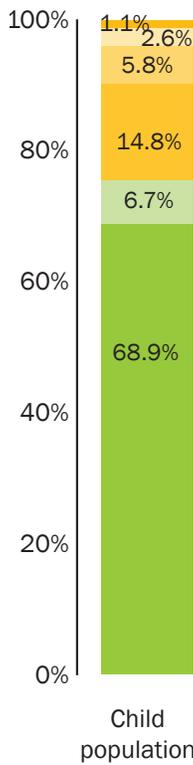
Entries to the child welfare system (2017)

Court entry
- 4.8%
- 0.7%
- 12.1%
- 18.0%
- 10.3%
- 2.7%
- 51.5%

Non-court entry
- 2.0%
- 1.4%
- 19.5%
- 16.1%
- 11.8%
- 4.8%
- 44.4%

Legend:
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black/African American
- Hispanic
- Multi-racial
- Other/Declined/Unknown
- White, non-Hispanic

Child welfare system involvement (2017)

Any involvement
- 3.5%
- 0.9%
- 16.7%
- 15.9%
- 11.4%
- 2.7%
- 48.8%

Court involvement
- 4.1%
- 0.8%
- 15.2%
- 15.6%
- 11.7%
- 1.7%
- 50.8%

Non-Court involvement
- 2.2%
- 1.2%
- 19.8%
- 16.7%
- 10.8%
- 4.7%
- 44.6%

Out-of-home care (2017)

Out-of-home placement
- 4.1%
- 0.8%
- 15.9%
- 15.8%
- 11.5%
- 1.6%
- 50.3%

2+ years in out-of-home care
- 2.9%
- 0.2%
- 21.8%
- 15.7%
- 15.2%
- 0.5%
- 43.7%

In-home and out-of-home placement

Removal reasons of children in out-of-home care

Neglect (alleged/reported)	2,586	Sexual abuse (alleged/reported)	288
Drug abuse (parent/caretaker)	2,192	Mental and emotional Abuse	64
Physical abuse (alleged/reported)	916	Mentally ill and dangerous (child)	54
Domestic violence	590	Death of parent(s)/caretaker(s)	44
Inadequate housing	433	Court determined that reasonable efforts are not required	38
Child's behavior problem	283	Alcohol abuse (child)	24
Abandonment	348	Diagnosed child's disability	23
Incarceration of parent(s)/caretaker(s)	427	Drug abuse (child)	18
Parent's/caretaker's inability to cope due to illness/other	201	Relinquishment	7
Alcohol abuse (parent/caretaker)	249	Safe haven	4
		Grand total	**8,789**

*A child may have more than one reason for removal from their home.

Children receiving in-home services by age (2017)

- Infant (0-1) 762 — 12.9%
- Toddler (2-4) 1,159 — 19.7%
- School-age (5-12) 2,690 — 45.6%
- Teen (13-18) 1,287 — 21.8%
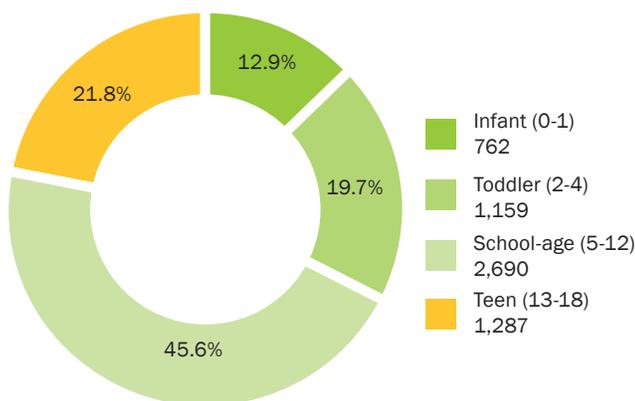
Children receiving out-of-home services by age (2017)

- Infant (0-1) 912 — 14.7%
- Toddler (2-4) 1,153 — 18.6%
- School-age (5-12) 2,267 — 36.7%
- Teen (13-18) 1,853 — 30.0%
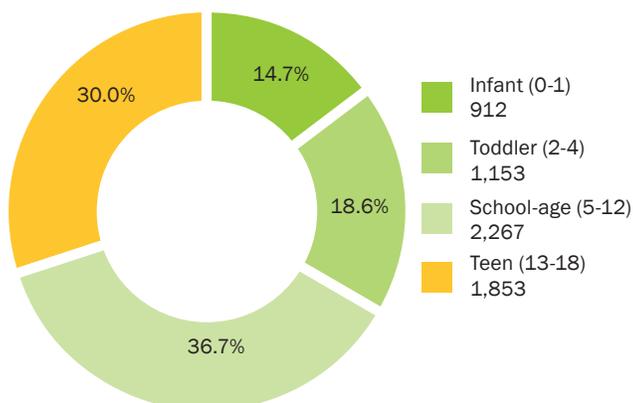
Children receiving in-home and out-of-home services by race & ethnicity (2017)

	Child population	Children in in-home care	Children in out-of-home care
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.1%	2.8%	4.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6%	1.0%	0.8%
Black/African American	5.8%	16.6%	15.9%
Hispanic	14.8%	16.8%	15.8%
Other/Declined/Unknown		3.6%	1.6%
Multi-racial	6.7%	11.1%	11.5%
White, non-Hispanic	68.9%	48.3%	50.4%
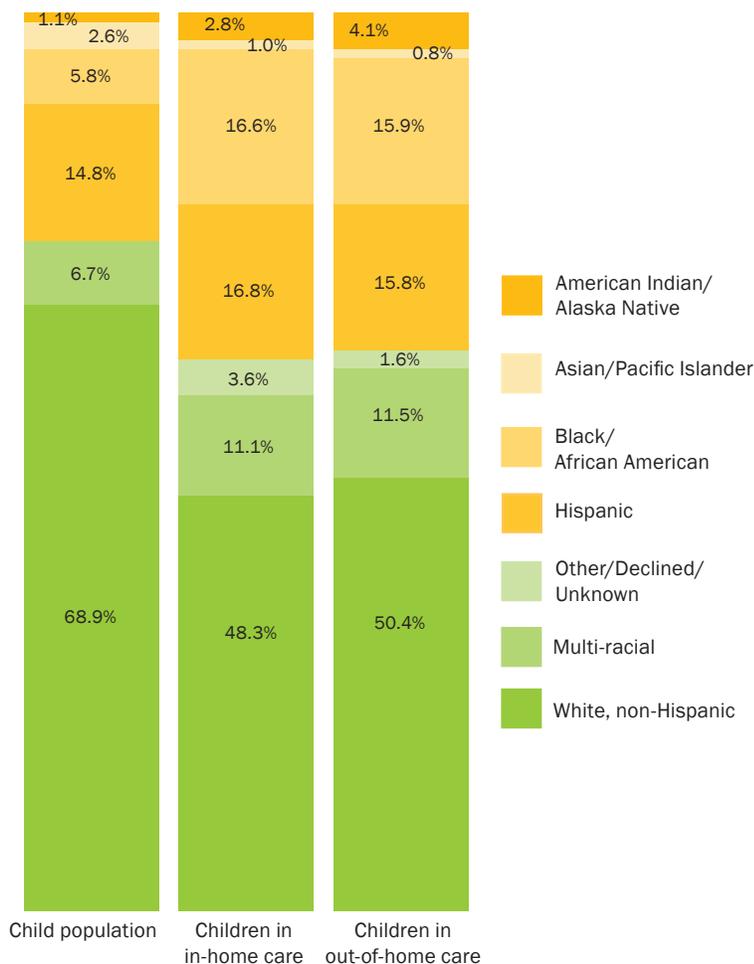
*Sources: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).;
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2017 estimates.*

Out-of-home placements

Where are the kids in out-of-home care?*

4.6%
Group home
(160 children)

0.8% Living
independently
(27 children)

0.8%
Missing Youth
(27 children)

35.3%
Foster &
adoptive homes
(1,232 children)

2.2% Medical facility
(76 children)

11.9%
Kinship care
(417 children)

4.2% Detention facility
(145 children)

40.1%
Relative home
(1,401 children)

0.2%
Emergency
shelter
(6 children)

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.
*Point-in-time data taken on December 31, 2017.

Foster home placement beds*

5,570 foster home beds were available in **2,555** homes.

1,489 beds in **862** approved homes.

4,081 beds in **1,693** licensed homes.

1,818 (59.6%) children in foster care were placed with relatives or kin

38.9% of foster home beds were in kin or relative homes

2,318 kids in out-of-home care also had a sibling in out-of-home care on 12/31/17

- **65%** were placed with all siblings

- **83%** were placed with at least one sibling

When children must be removed from their homes, it is important to ensure that their placement reduces the trauma of removal and promotes the well-being of the child. Congregate care, which places children in an institutional setting such as a group home or detention center, should be used minimally for out-of-home placements.

Research shows that placement in a family-like setting provides children with improved long-term outcomes in physical and emotional health. Although congregate care may be necessary for some children, for many others, it does not allow children to maintain the strong relationships with trusted adults that are essential for successful development.

Multiple placements

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services counts placement changes when a child moves from one foster care setting to another. Children in stable homes are reported to receive more attention, acceptance, affection, and better care from their foster parents. Children who are in stabilized homes are more likely to receive therapy, are less delinquent and oppositional/aggressive, and are more likely to be placed with competent and caring foster parents.

Source: University of Illinois, Child and Family Research Center, Placement Stability Study, 1999.

Average number of out-of-home placements by age (CY 2017)

Legend:
- Infant (0-1)
- Toddler (2-4)
- School-age (5-12)
- Teen (13-18)
- All children in out-of-home care

Infant (0-1): 1.5
Toddler (2-4): 1.7
School-age (5-12): 2.0
Teen (13-18): 4.1
All children in out-of-home care: 2.4

Children in out-of-home care
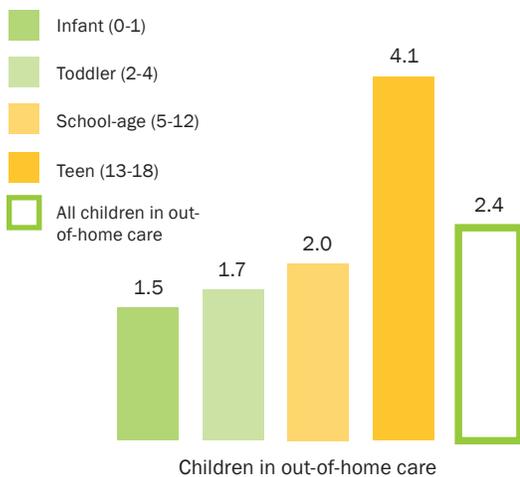
Average number of out-of-home placements by race/ethnicity (CY 2017)

Legend:
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black/African American
- Hispanic
- Multi-racial
- Other/Declined/Unknown
- White, non-Hispanic
- All children in out-of-home care

American Indian/Alaska Native: 2.3
Asian/Pacific Islander: 2.2
Black/African American: 3.5
Hispanic: 2.1
Multi-racial: 2.3
Other/Declined/Unknown: 1.9
White, non-Hispanic: 2.3
All children in out-of-home care: 2.4

Children in out-of-home care

Length of time in out-of-home care (2017)

- 25 or more months
- 19-24 months
- 13-18 months
- 7-12 months
- 6 months or less

23.9% (452)
17.5% (331)
16.0% (303)
13.5% (255)
29.2% (554)

Of the **1,895** children who exited out-of-home care in 2017, the mean length of time away from home was **20** months.

Length of time in out-of-home care by race/ethnicity (2017)

	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black/African American	Hispanic	White, non-Hispanic	Multi-racial	Other/Unknown
25 or more months	25.0%	7.1%	37.6%	22.2%	26.1%	33.9%	7.0%
19-24 months	4.7%	35.7%	12.7%	13.7%	13.9%	14.1%	20.9%
13-18 months	7.8%	21.4%	11.2%	12.1%	20.6%	11.7%	2.3%
7-12 months	23.4%		12.1%	26.7%	19.4%	19.0%	14.0%
6 months or less	39.1%	35.7%	26.4%	26.8%	20.0%	21.4%	55.8%

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Permanency

Exiting the system

Once in the child welfare system, children should be on a track toward achieving permanency in a safe, loving environment. Most of the time, that means they will be reunified with their family and return home. Other times, permanency may be achieved through adoption or guardianship.

2,836 court involved children exited the system in 2017.

2,395 non-court involved children exited the system in 2017.

Exits from out-of-home care (2008-2017)

*Increase in 2014 data is due to the transfer of youth from DCFS to Probation according to Juvenile Justice Reform Legistlation.

Reunification 50.7%

Adoption 25.6%

Other* 10.0%
Guardianship 9.7%
Independent Living 4.0%

Exits from out-of-home care (2017)

1,066 — Reunification
539 — Adoption
84 — Independent Living
204 — Guardianship
211 — Other Reason
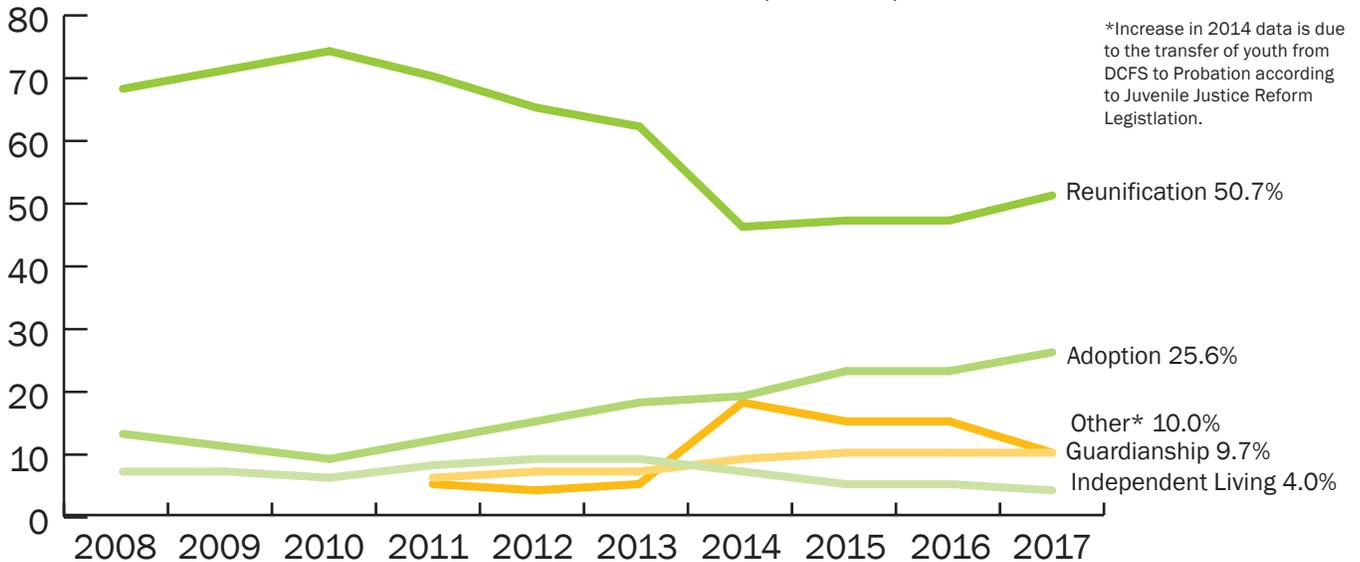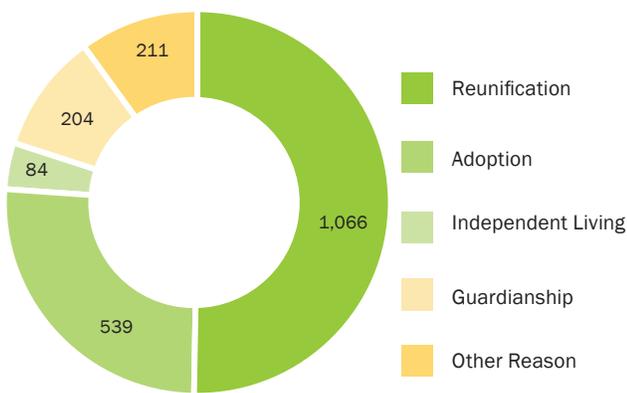
204 children exited into guardianships in 2017,
168 of which were subsidized.

539 children were adopted in 2017.
517 adoptions were subsidized.

Mean time from becoming free for adoption to adoption: 13 months.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

132 youth
were in out-of-home care when they reached their 19th birthday in 2017.

95% were HHS wards

3% were OJS wards (youth placed at YRTC)

2% were both

290 young adults were served
through the Bridge to Independence Program in 2017.
153 young adults left the program during this time.

Family support is key to any successful transition into adulthood, especially for youth who may have been exposed to trauma. Learning to be self-reliant in seeking employment and housing, managing finances, or seeking healthcare can be daunting without family connections. For youth who have been in foster care who do not exit the system to a family, ensuring a strong system of support in this transition is key. To address this issue, the Unicameral passed LB 216 in 2013, which extended supports and services until the age of 21 for youth who have "aged out." The Bridge to Independence (b2i) program began serving youth in October 2014. Participants must be either working, seeking work, or in school. In return, they receive Medicaid coverage, a monthly stipend to use for living expenses, and an assigned caseworker on call 24/7 to help them navigate the transition to adulthood.

Bridge to Independence Program (2017)

290 young adults participated

136 young adults entered

153 young adults left

94 were no longer eligible due to age

53 left due to lack of cooperation with the voluntary program

6 chose to leave the voluntary services program

Reasons for participation in Bridge to Independence (CY 2017)*

	Value
Enrolled in secondary school	134
Enrolled in post-secondary or vocational education	96
Participating in a program designed to promote or remove barriers to employment	120
Employed 80 hours per month	116
Incapacitated due to physical or mental health conditions from employment or schooling	16

*A young adult may have more than one reason for Bridge to Independence participation.

43 young adults in the Bridge to Independence program in 2017 were parenting and 11 were pregnant.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Juvenile Justice

73.5% of youth in juvenile court had access to counsel in 2017.

....

2,184 youth supervised on probation were placed in out-of-home care.

Why does it matter?

Keeping our children and youth safe is essential to their healthy development. Responding to the troubling behaviors of children and youth in developmentally appropriate ways is key to ensuring every child can build a successful, independent adult life.

Where are the data?

Source: JUSTICE, Administrative Office of the Courts.

Youth arrests (2017)

Type	Male	Female	Total	% of total
Status offenses	644	547	1,172	11.9%
Runaway	*163*	*147*	*291*	*2.9%*
Curfew	*98*	*70*	*168*	*1.7%*
Alcohol	*383*	*330*	*713*	*7.2%*
Drug-related	1,030	434	1,464	14.8%
Violent	198	44	242	2.4%
Person	1,210	575	1,785	18.1%
Property	2,124	1,153	3,277	33.2%
Public order	271	145	416	4.2%
Weapon	98	5	103	1.0%
Other	907	417	1,320	13.4%
DUI	54	22	76	0.8%
Total	**6,536**	**3,342**	**9,878**	

Status offenses

"Status offenses" are non-criminal behaviors, like skipping school, that could not be charged but for the "status" of being a minor.

Source: Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

9,878 youths were arrested in 2017.

Of those arrests, only 242 (2.4%) were for violent crimes.

Number of youth arrested (2008-2017)

15,738

9,878
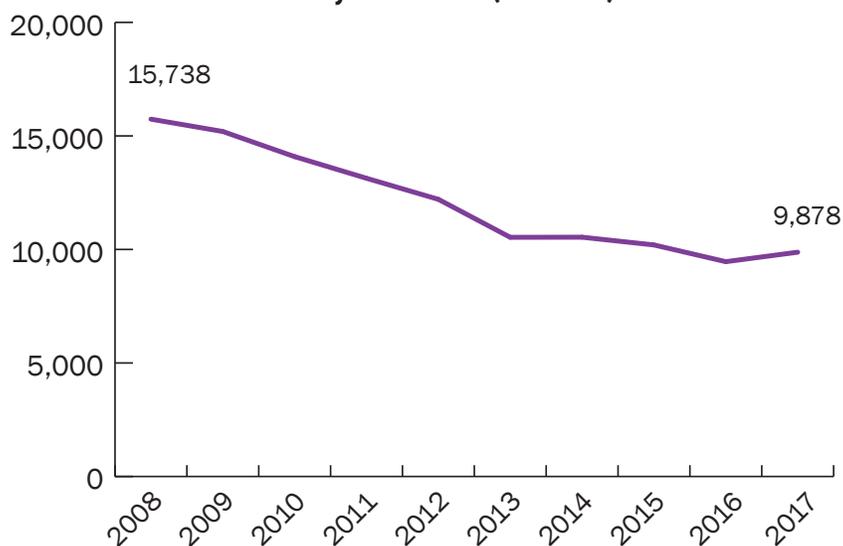
Youth arrests by race (2017)

2.5% 0.6%
21.9%
1.1%
73.9%

- American Indian (244)
- Asian (64)
- Black (2,159)
- Unknown (109)
- White (7,284)
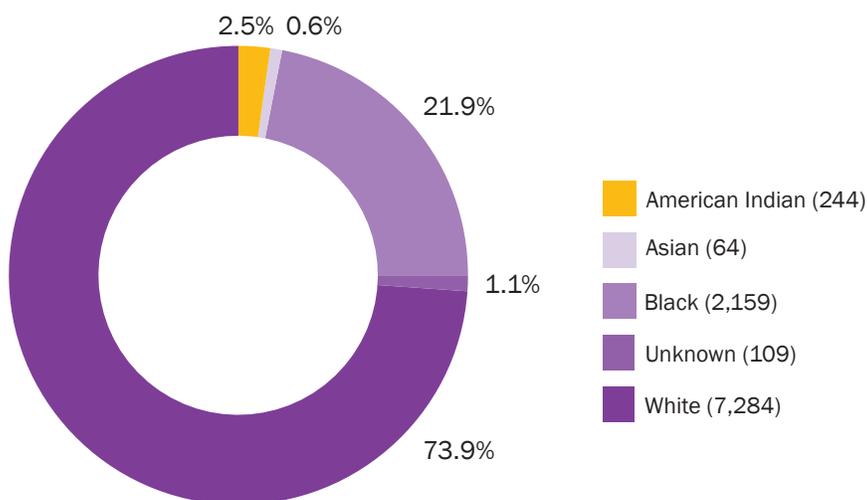
Disproportionate minority contact

Disproportionate minority contact (DMC)

Despite the promise of equal protection under the law, national research shows that youth of color are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system. This overrepresentation often is a product of decisions made at early points of contact with the juvenile justice system. Where racial differences are found to exist, they tend to accumulate as youth are processed deeper into the system.[1]

Unfortunately, our juvenile justice system lacks uniform ways of collecting data on race and ethnicity. Although disparities exist across system points, different agencies have different ways of counting Hispanic youth in particular. Additional information on the race and ethnicity of youth arrested, on probation, and in adult prison are available elsewhere in this section.

Youth interaction with the justice system by race/ethnicity (2017)

Youth population 10-17 years[i]
- American Indian 1.1%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 2.5%
- Black/African American 5.7%
- Hispanic 14.4%
- Multi-racial/Other/Unknown 5.8%
- White, non-Hispanic 70.5%

Youth on diversion[ii]
- American Indian 1.7%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 1.2%
- Black/African American 14.9%
- Hispanic 18.0%
- Multi-racial/Other/Unknown 3.4%
- White, non-Hispanic 60.9%

Court case filings[iii]*
- American Indian 2.5%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 0.5%
- Black/African American 11.9%
- Hispanic 13.6%
- Multi-racial/Other/Unknown 29.6%
- White, non-Hispanic 42.0%

Youth in detention[iv]
- American Indian 4.6%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 1.2%
- Black/African American 31.4%
- Hispanic 21.5%
- Multi-racial/Other/Unknown 0.4%
- White, non-Hispanic 40.9%

Youth in YRTCs[v]
- American Indian 4.1%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 0.6%
- Black/African American 31.4%
- Hispanic 26.7%
- Multi-racial/Other/Unknown 4.1%
- White, non-Hispanic 33.1%

Youth tried in adult court[iii]*
- American Indian 2.3%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 0.4%
- Black/African American 20.4%
- Hispanic 22.6%
- Multi-racial/Other/Unknown 13.6%
- White, non-Hispanic 40.8%

i. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, 2017 Estimates, Table PEPASR6H.
ii. Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.
iii. JUSTICE, Administrative Office of the Courts.
iv. Analysis based on data from individual facilities including Lancaster County Detention Center, Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services, Douglas County Youth Center, and the Patrick J. Thomas Juvenile Justice Center.
v. SFY 2016/17 Annual Reports for Kearney and Geneva Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers.
*Data is input by clerks across the state and may not be well standardized. This may account for the large variance in the "multiracial/other/unknown" category.

1. "And Justice for Some: Differential Treatment of Youth of Color in the Juvenile Justice System," National Council on Crime and Delinquency, (January 2007).

Juvenile Diversion Program

Pretrial diversion programs are based on the belief that many juvenile cases are better handled outside the courthouse doors. These voluntary programs are designed to provide eligible youth an opportunity to demonstrate rehabilitation and make things right with the community, while reducing the cost and burden to taxpayers and courts that come with formal charges being filed. By successfully completing his or her diversion plan, a minor has the opportunity to avoid formal charges in the court and get all record of the matter sealed. By diverting these cases from the court system, counties save significant dollars, making successful diversion programs a win-win.

4,164 youths were referred to the diversion program.

478 of those referred did not participate.

2,650 youths successfully completed diversion.

763 youths did not complete diversion successfully and were discharged for failing to comply or for a new law violation.

73 counties participated in the diversion program.

Counties offering a juvenile diversion program (2017)
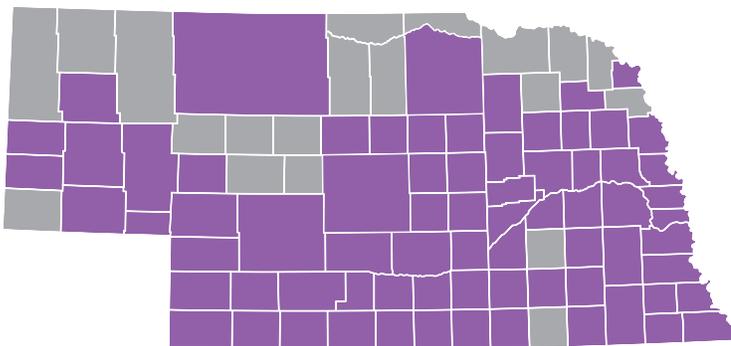
Youth participating in a juvenile diversion program (2017)

17-18 years
15-16 years
13-14 years
11-12 years
10 years & under

Female
Male

Referred to Diversion — Successful Completion — Unsuccessful Completion

Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid Program (2017)

226 programs in **68** counties and **1** tribe were funded through the Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid Program in Fiscal Year 2017/18.

Most Common Law Violations Referred to Diversion (2017)			
Minor in possession	947	Criminal mischief	265
Shoplifting	734	Theft	200
Marijuana-possession	639	Trespassing	178
Truancy	569	Disturbing the peace	160
Assault	476	Ungovernable juvenile	118
Possession/use of drug paraphernalia	396	Curfew	103
Traffic offense	354		

Source: Nebraska Commision on Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice.

Juvenile cases

New juvenile court cases by age (2017)

Legend:
- 17 years
- 16 years
- 14-15 years
- 11-13 years
- 10 years and under

Traffic offense: 26.2%, 37.6%, 34.2%, 1.3%, 0.7%
Status offense: 17.4%, 26.7%, 40.8%, 13.6%, 1.5%
Misdemeanor: 28.2%, 24.9%, 35.0%, 11.5%, 0.5%
Felony: 28.6%, 22.6%, 35.5%, 13.1%, 0.2%
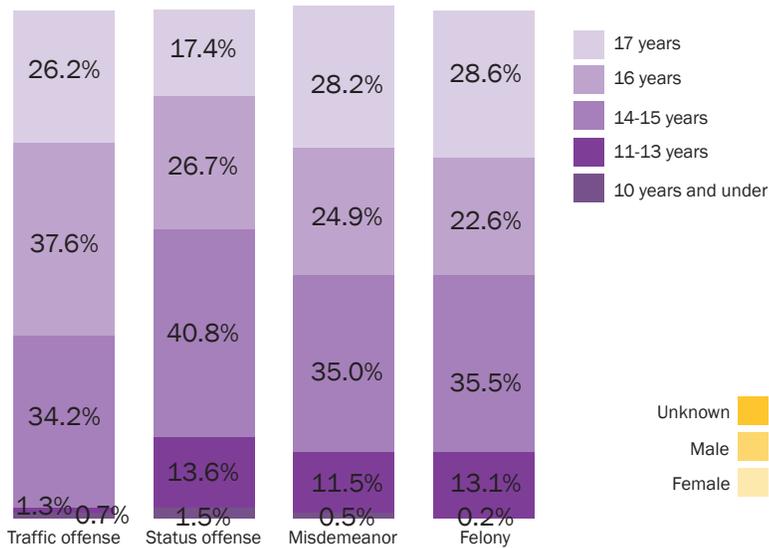
New juvenile court cases by gender (2017)

Legend:
- Unknown
- Male
- Female

Traffic offense: 1.3%, 67.1%, 31.5%
Status offense: 2.7%, 48.5%, 48.8%
Misdemeanor: 1.5%, 67.3%, 31.2%
Felony: 2.2%, 77.0%, 20.8%
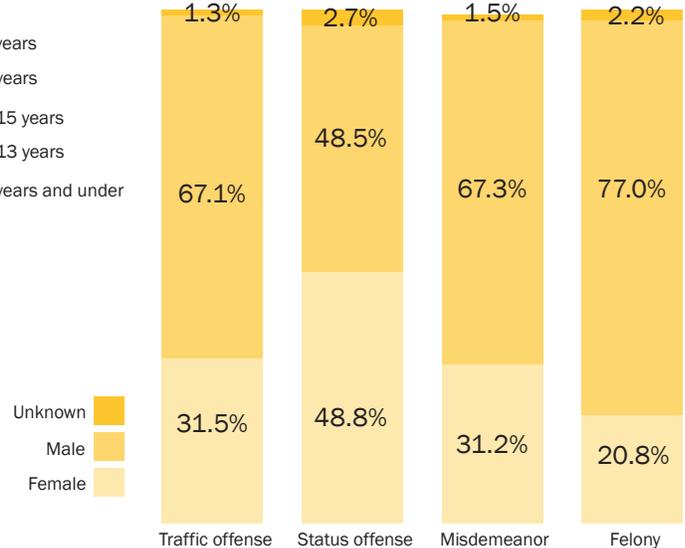
New juvenile court cases by race/ethnicity (2017)							
	Traffic offense		**Status offense**		**Misdemeanor**		**Felony**
American Indian	1	0.7%	18	2.1%	80	2.5%	16	3.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	2.7%	4	0.5%	11	0.3%	4	0.8%
Black/African American	8	5.4%	47	5.5%	415	13.1%	84	16.9%
Hispanic	31	20.8%	85	9.9%	454	14.3%	64	12.9%
Other	0	0.0%	2	0.2%	25	0.8%	3	0.6%
Unknown	11	7.4%	462	53.6%	771	24.3%	111	22.4%
White	94	63.1%	244	28.3%	1,411	44.6%	214	43.1%
Total Cases	**149**	**73%** of cases adjudicated as "admit"	**862**	**62%** of cases adjudicated as "admit"	**3,167**	**66%** of cases adjudicated as "admit"	**496**	**70%** of cases adjudicated as "admit"

Note: In Juvenile Court a case being adjudicated as admit means that it has been accepted to be true.

Source: JUSTICE, Administrative Office of the Courts.

Juvenile access to counsel

Having an attorney present during proceedings in the juvenile justice system is not only important for youth, but a guaranteed constitutional right. The right to counsel is also enshrined in Nebraska statute 43-272(1). The law is meant to protect children at every stage of legal proceedings, and requires the court to advise youth, along with their parents, of their right to an attorney, and that legal counsel can be provided at no cost if they are unable to afford it.

51.5%
of children in adult criminal court had an attorney in 2017.

73.5%
of children in juvenile court had an attorney in 2017.

Youth in adult criminal court's access to counsel by age, gender, and race (2017)
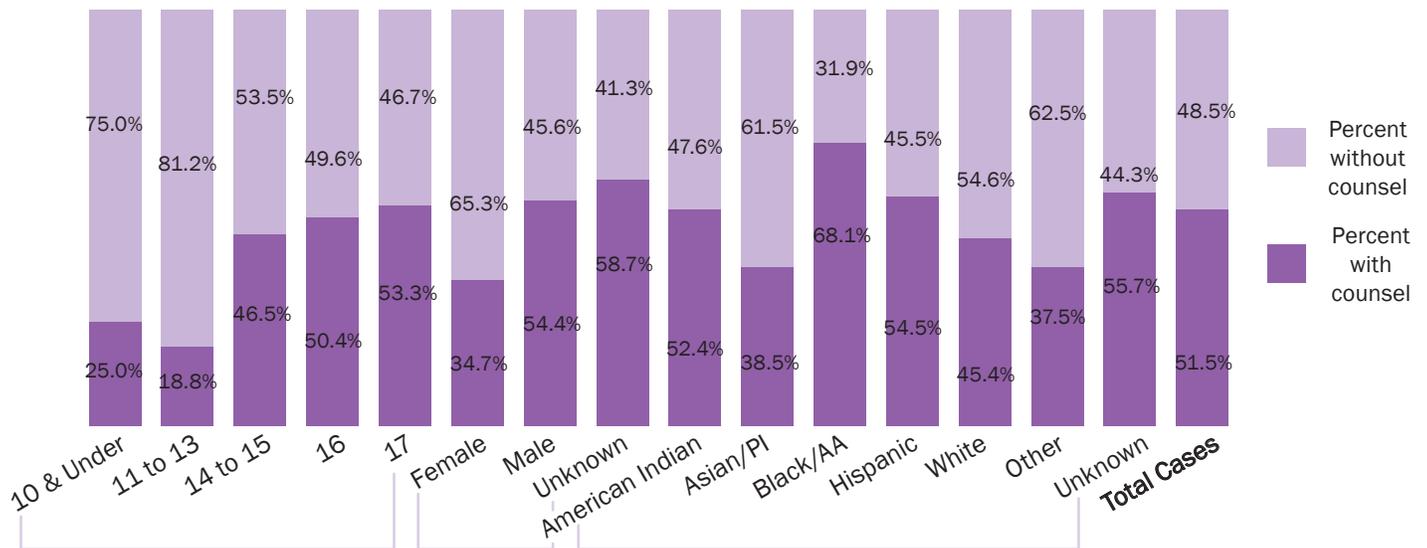
Youth in juvenile court's access to counsel by age, gender, and race (2017)
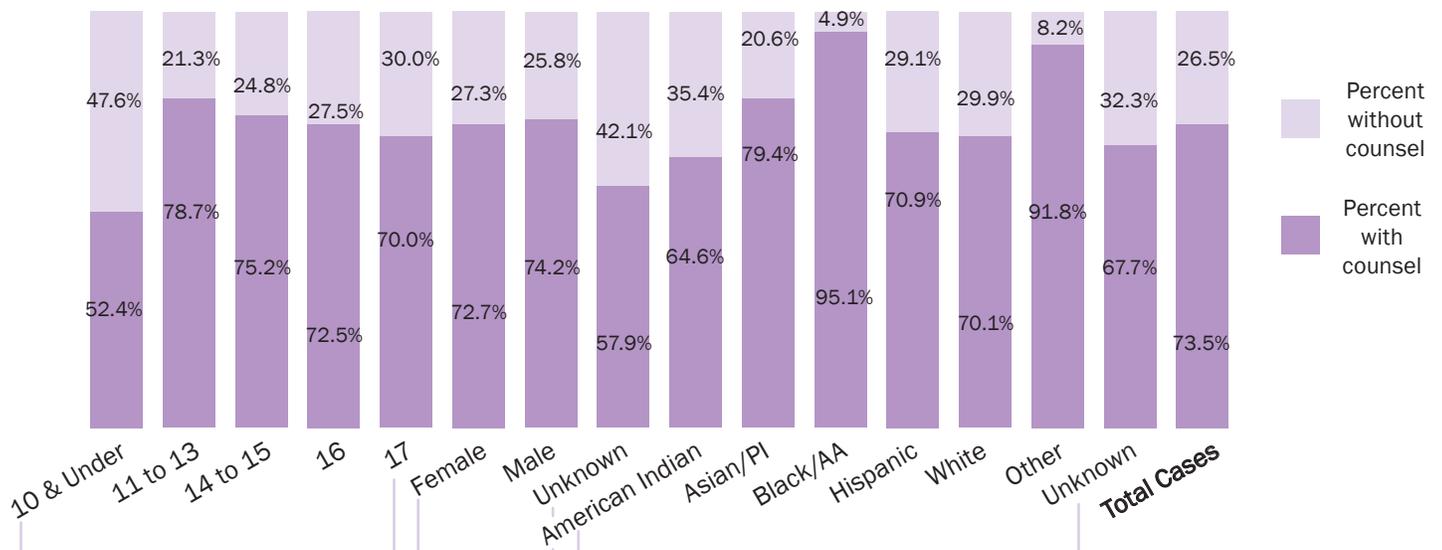
Source: JUSTICE, Administrative Office of the Courts.

Probation

Youth supervised on probation by gender & race/ethnicity (2017)

	Supervised on Probation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Male	66.4%	63.8%	72.5%
Female	33.6%	36.2%	27.5%
White	60.2%	65.0%	54.9%
Other	17.0%	16.7%	18.2%
Black/African American	17.5%	14.6%	20.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.5%	2.8%	1.3%
American Indian	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%
Hispanic	23.2%	21.7%	23.6%
Non-Hispanic	76.8%	78.3%	76.4%

Released from Probation
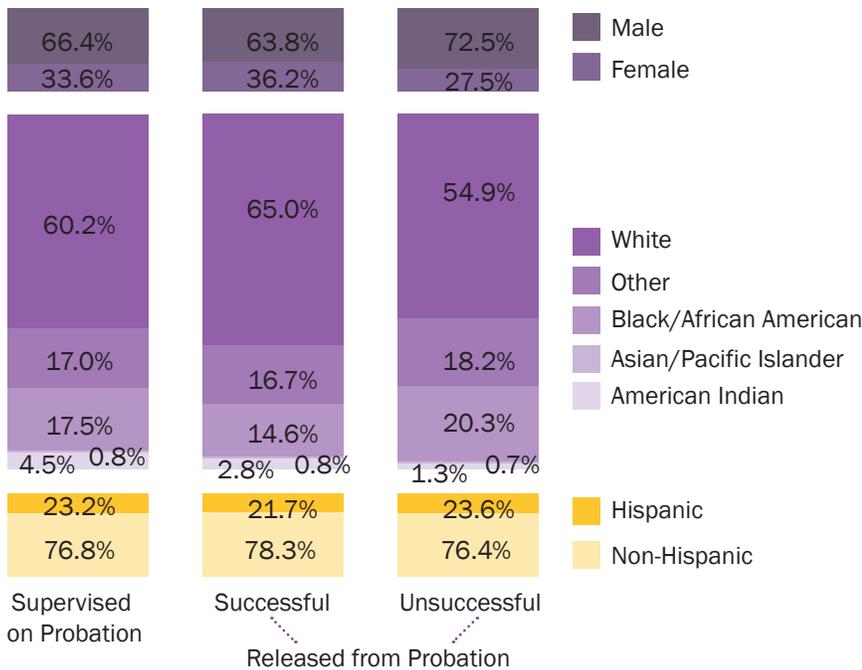
In 2017, **5,142** youths were supervised on probation:

- **756** had felony offenses
- **3,912** had misdemeanor, infraction, traffic, or city ordinance offenses
- **1,503** had status offenses
- **2,883** youths were placed on probation
- **2,763** were discharged
  - **2,048** were successful
  - **670** were unsuccessful

Youth supervised on probation by age (2017)

	Supervised on Probation	Successful	Unsuccessful
18	3.3%	0.2%	1.5%
17	19.7%	16.6%	34.2%
15 & 16	48.8%	54.2%	51.9%
14 & under	28.1%	29.1%	12.4%

Released from Probation
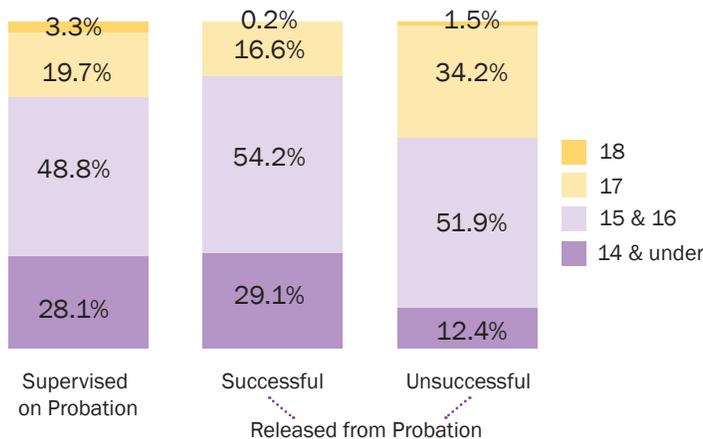
Average caseload of Juvenile Probation Officers (2017)

	Urban	Rural
High-risk/high-need intervention	18	20
Low-risk/low-need supervision	27	23

$640.20
average monthly cost for supervising a juvenile on probation

$340.89
average monthly cost per juvenile receiving in-home services

$1,775.25
average monthly cost per juvenile receiving out-of-home services

14.1 months
mean length of time on probation in 2017.

15.3 months
mean length of time for status offenses in 2017.

13.6 months
mean length of time for misdemeanors/ infractions in 2017.

16 months
mean length of time for felonies in 2017.

Source: Nebraska Office of Probation Administration.

Youth held in juvenile detention facilities* (2017)

	Lancaster County Detention Center (Lancaster County)		Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services (Madison County)		Douglas County Youth Center (Douglas County)		Patrick J. Thomas Juvenile Justice Center (Sarpy County)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Gender								
Female	107	32.1%	95	26.0%	222	30.0%	55	31.3%
Male	226	67.9%	270	74.0%	518	70.0%	121	68.8%
Race/Ethnicity								
American Indian/ Alaska Native	18	5.4%	36	9.9%	16	2.2%	5	2.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	1.2%	0	0.0%	12	1.6%	3	1.7%
Black/African American	98	29.4%	32	8.8%	362	48.9%	15	8.5%
Hispanic	48	14.4%	112	30.7%	144	19.5%	43	24.4%
Other	6	1.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
White	159	47.7%	185	50.7%	205	27.7%	110	62.5%
Age								
12 and under	2	0.5%	1	0.3%	34	3.5%	0	0.0%
13-14	43	11.5%	60	16.4%	176	18.0%	30	17.0%
15-16	147	39.3%	177	48.5%	423	43.3%	78	44.3%
17+	182	48.7%	127	34.8%	344	35.2%	68	38.6%
Times Detained*								
1	214	64.3%	329	90.1%	Not Available		128	94.1%
2	80	24.0%	24	6.6%			25	18.4%
3+	39	11.7%	12	3.3%			23	16.9%
Total count	**333**		**365**		**740**		**176**	
Secure Admissions	506		175		1,015		—	
Staff Secure Admissions	—		190		—		167	
Average Days Detained	**26 Days**		**23 Days**		**50 Days**		**17 Days**	

Sources: Individual detention centers.
*Includes secure and staff secure detention.
** For Lancaster County Detention Center and Douglas County Youth Center if the same youth is admitted under different ages during the year, they will count under each age group.
*** Douglas County Youth Center's data system is unable to provide data on times detained for 2017.

Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers (YRTCs)

Geneva		Kearney
40	Number admitted for treatment	132
33	Average daily population	97
8.7 months	Average length of stay	9.4 months
16	Average age at admission	16
$598.75	Average per diem cost per youth	$348.55
9.8%	% return to facility in 12 months	23%
American Indian: 10.0% Asian: 3.0% Black, non-Hispanic: 25.0% Hispanic: 22.0% Other: 15.0% White, non-Hispanic: 25.0%	Race/ethnicity	American Indian: 2.0% Asian: 0.0% Black, non-Hispanic: 33.0% Hispanic: 28.0% Other: 1.0% White, non-Hispanic: 36.0%
51 girls released to: Parole: 0.0% Probation: 94.0% Court safekeeper: 0.0% Institutional discharge: 6.0%	Releases	139 boys released to: Parole: 0.0% Probation: 88.0% Court safekeeper: 1.0% Institutional discharge: 11.0%

Type of offenses in Geneva's YRTC

- Status offense 5.0%
- Weapon 0.0%
- Probation 0.0%
- Public order 32.5%
- Drug 2.5%
- Property 22.5%
- Person 37.5%

Type of offenses in Kearney's YRTC

- Status offense 0.0%
- Weapon 9.1%
- Probation 0.8%
- Public order 26.5%
- Drug 9.8%
- Property 26.5%
- Person 27.3%

YRTC admissions (2007-2016)
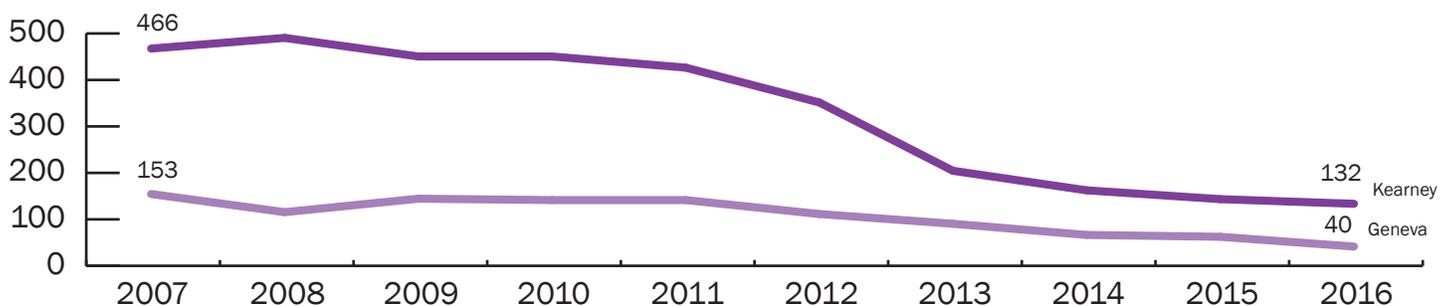
Sources: SFY 2016/17 Annual Reports for Kearney and Geneva Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers.

Out-of-home care of probation youth by placement type and average length of stay (2017)

2,184 youth supervised on probation were placed in out-of-home care. The mean length of time in out-of-home care was 3 months.

Placement type	Number	Avg length of stay
Acute inpatient hospitalization and Short Term Residential	95	11.8 Days
Non-treatment congregate care	760	188.6 Days
Treatment congregate care	438	116.7 Days
Crisis stabilization and shelter	663	34 Days
Detention	1,117	32.3 Days
Foster care	405	28.5 Days
Jail	103	29.6 Days
Runaway	532	53.4 Days
YRTC	265	229.1 Days

Probationer in out-of-home care	Number	Percent
Male	1,490	68%
Female	694	32%
American Indian	125	6%
Asian	20	1%
Black	532	24%
White	1,174	54%
Other	333	15%
Hispanic	454	21%
Non-Hispanic	1,730	79%
Felony*	452	17%
Status offense*	587	22%
Misdemeanor/infraction/traffic/city ordinance offenses*	1,627	61%
Total	**2,184**	

All offenses are included for analysis. If a youth had an offense in more than one adjudication type they will be counted accordingly in each category.
Source: Nebraska Office of Probation Administration.

Youth treated as adults

In 2017, **265** youth cases were prosecuted in Nebraska adult courts, down from **1,972** in 2013.

Of the **265** youth cases prosecuted in adult criminal court in 2017, **29%** were traffic cases, **43%** were misdemeanor cases, and **27%** were felony cases.

A motion to transfer from juvenile court to adult court was requested in **76** cases and granted in **23**.

Youth cases tried in adult court (2017)

	Youth cases prosecuted in adult court		Sentenced to probation		Sentenced to jail		Sentenced to prison	
Male	189	71.3%	125	68.3%	43	72.9%	21	91.3%
Female	66	24.9%	55	30.1%	11	18.6%	0	0.0%
Unknown	10	3.8%	3	1.6%	5	8.5%	2	8.7%
14 to 15	23	8.7%	19	10.4%	0	0.0%	4	17.4%
16	65	24.5%	54	29.5%	6	10.2%	5	21.7%
17	177	66.8%	110	60.1%	53	89.8%	14	60.9%
American Indian	6	2.3%	0	0.0%	6	10.2%	0	0.0%
Asian	1	0.4%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Black/African American	54	20.4%	29	15.8%	13	22.0%	12	52.2%
Hispanic	60	22.6%	50	27.3%	6	10.2%	4	17.4%
Unknown/ other	36	13.6%	18	9.8%	16	27.1%	2	8.7%
White	108	40.8%	85	46.4%	18	30.5%	5	21.7%
Total*	265		183		59		23	

Cases may receive multiple sentencing types, so the total by sentence will add to higher than 265.

Source: JUSTICE, Administrative Office of the Courts.

An age-appropriate response

Research consistently indicates that treating children as adults neither acts as a deterrent, nor does it prevent crime or reduce violence – instead, prosecution in adult court exposes youth to more risks, delays or prevents treatment, and can burden them with permanent records which may act as barriers to future education and employment opportunities. Nebraska law requires that all children age 17 or younger charged with a misdemeanor or low-level felony must have their cases originate in juvenile court. This means that many more children are now receiving the benefit of speedy access to treatment services, a developmentally-appropriate court process aimed at rehabilitation, and the potential to have their records sealed to set them up for a brighter future.

Youth in adult prisons and jails

64 males

5 females

10 youth (18 and under) were held in a Nebraska correctional facility for safekeeping reasons. **59** youth were sentenced to a Nebraska prison.

Youth incarcerated in correctional facilities by race/ethnicity (2017)

3 1
16
3
17
29

- American Indian
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black
- Hispanic
- Unknown/Other
- White
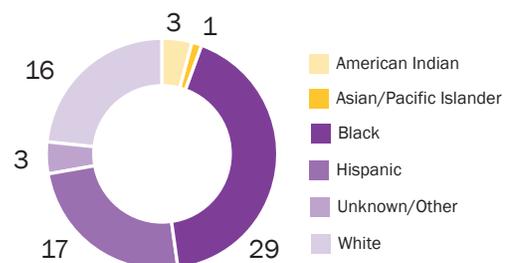
Source: Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

About county data

This edition of the county indicators include the most current available data and comparison data from five years ago, and a rate or percentage based on population or change as relevant.

Map of Nebraska Counties

Where are the data?

Total population (2013 & 2017)

Total population (2017)

State	Number
2013	1,867,414
2017	1,920,076

Highest county	2017
By number	Douglas
By percent change	Banner

Lowest county	2017
By number	Arthur
By percent change	Sioux

Legend: 450-2,499 | 2,500-5,499 | 5,500-9,999 | 10,000-59,999 | 60,000+
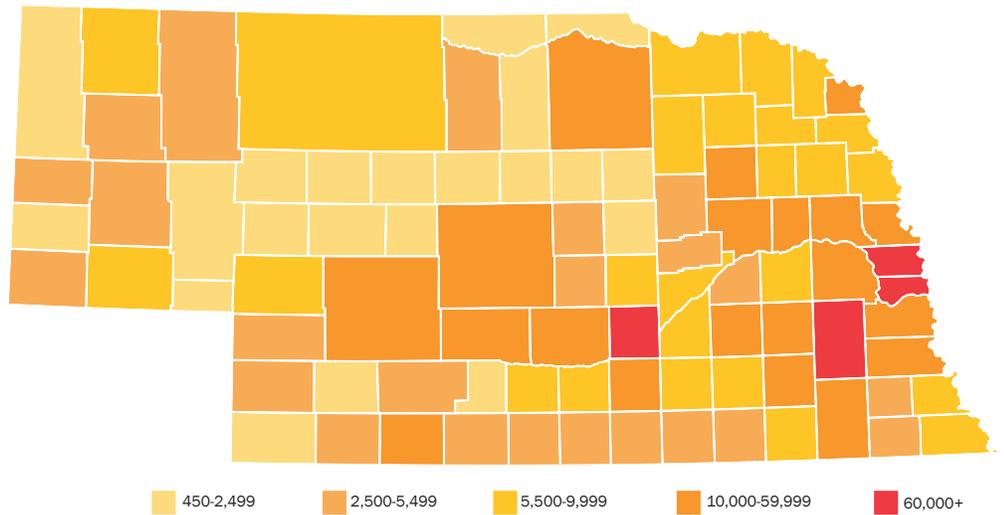
	2013	2017	% Change
Adams	31,547	31,678	0.4%
Antelope	6,471	6,362	-1.7%
Arthur	454	457	0.7%
Banner	679	742	9.3%
Blaine	470	482	2.6%
Boone	5,399	5,352	-0.9%
Box Butte	11,297	10,886	-3.6%
Boyd	2,016	1,977	-1.9%
Brown	2,959	3,014	1.9%
Buffalo	48,050	49,732	3.5%
Burt	6,568	6,535	-0.5%
Butler	8,230	8,053	-2.2%
Cass	25,293	25,889	2.4%
Cedar	8,624	8,530	-1.1%
Chase	3,978	3,971	-0.2%
Cherry	5,754	5,818	1.1%
Cheyenne	10,066	9,676	-3.9%
Clay	6,359	6,205	-2.4%
Colfax	10,461	10,585	1.2%
Cuming	9,013	9,042	0.3%
Custer	10,832	10,897	0.6%
Dakota	20,802	20,186	-3.0%
Dawes	9,065	8,890	-1.9%
Dawson	24,073	23,709	-1.5%
Deuel	1,923	1,883	-2.1%
Dixon	5,807	5,754	-0.9%
Dodge	36,508	36,707	0.5%
Douglas	537,527	561,620	4.5%
Dundy	1,958	1,801	-8.0%
Fillmore	5,636	5,582	-1.0%
Franklin	3,065	2,990	-2.4%

	2013	2017	% Change
Frontier	2,716	2,631	-3.1%
Furnas	4,832	4,780	-1.1%
Gage	21,726	21,601	-0.6%
Garden	1,923	1,906	-0.9%
Garfield	2,023	2,016	-0.3%
Gosper	2,017	2,028	0.5%
Grant	633	649	2.5%
Greeley	2,483	2,374	-4.4%
Hall	60,613	61,519	1.5%
Hamilton	9,123	9,207	0.9%
Harlan	3,502	3,443	-1.7%
Hayes	945	893	-5.5%
Hitchcock	2,855	2,834	-0.7%
Holt	10,384	10,202	-1.8%
Hooker	731	674	-7.8%
Howard	6,337	6,437	1.6%
Jefferson	7,511	7,178	-4.4%
Johnson	5,163	5,185	0.4%
Kearney	6,486	6,530	0.7%
Keith	8,159	8,072	-1.1%
Keya Paha	791	793	0.3%
Kimball	3,695	3,619	-2.1%
Knox	8,556	8,472	-1.0%
Lancaster	297,528	314,358	5.7%
Lincoln	35,950	35,280	-1.9%
Logan	777	768	-1.2%
Loup	587	609	3.7%
Madison	35,178	35,144	-0.1%
McPherson	529	499	-5.7%
Merrick	7,826	7,882	0.7%
Morrill	4,926	4,836	-1.8%

	2013	2017	% Change
Nance	3,559	3,607	1.3%
Nemaha	7,149	6,949	-2.8%
Nuckolls	4,384	4,275	-2.5%
Otoe	15,700	16,027	2.1%
Pawnee	2,750	2,641	-4.0%
Perkins	2,893	2,903	0.3%
Phelps	9,182	9,060	-1.3%
Pierce	7,180	7,138	-0.6%
Platte	32,630	33,175	1.7%
Polk	5,247	5,328	1.5%
Red Willow	11,056	10,728	-3.0%
Richardson	8,132	7,969	-2.0%
Rock	1,441	1,436	-0.3%
Saline	14,332	14,441	0.8%
Sarpy	169,095	181,439	7.3%
Saunders	20,880	21,057	0.8%
Scotts Bluff	36,855	36,363	-1.3%
Seward	16,994	17,161	1.0%
Sheridan	5,209	5,289	1.5%
Sherman	3,061	3,086	0.8%
Sioux	1,330	1,203	-9.5%
Stanton	6,088	5,988	-1.6%
Thayer	5,179	5,045	-2.6%
Thomas	705	725	2.8%
Thurston	6,875	7,223	5.1%
Valley	4,182	4,209	0.6%
Washington	20,213	20,721	2.5%
Wayne	9,445	9,318	-1.3%
Webster	3,643	3,524	-3.3%
Wheeler	778	818	5.1%
York	13,858	13,806	-0.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates, Table PEPAGESEX.

Children 19 and under (2013 & 2017)

State	Number	% total population
2013	518,067	27.7%
2017	528,860	27.5%

Highest county	By number	By % total population
2013	Douglas	Thurston
2017	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By % total population
2013	Blaine	Garden
2017	Blaine	Keya Paha

Percent of children 19 and under (2017)

18.0-22.9% | 23.0-24.9% | 25.0-26.9% | 27.0-29.9% | 30.0%+
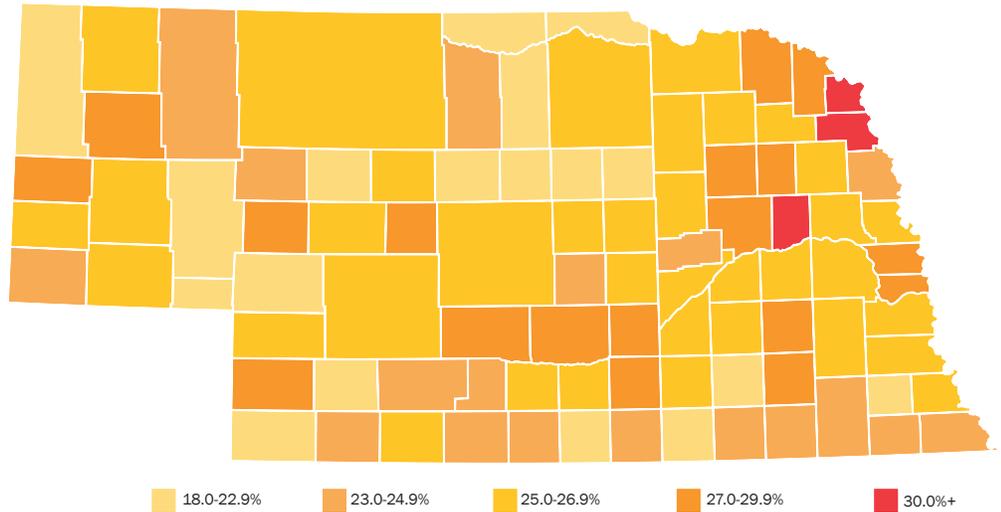
	2013	% total population	2017	% total population
Adams	8,560	27.1%	8,649	27.3%
Antelope	1,648	25.5%	1,633	25.7%
Arthur	139	30.6%	132	28.9%
Banner	141	20.8%	189	25.5%
Blaine	112	23.8%	108	22.4%
Boone	1,351	25.0%	1,382	25.8%
Box Butte	3,077	27.2%	2,978	27.4%
Boyd	469	23.3%	435	22.0%
Brown	695	23.5%	721	23.9%
Buffalo	13,409	27.9%	13,546	27.2%
Burt	1,614	24.6%	1,591	24.3%
Butler	2,185	26.5%	2,081	25.8%
Cass	6,841	27.0%	6,874	26.6%
Cedar	2,379	27.6%	2,342	27.5%
Chase	1,051	26.4%	1,071	27.0%
Cherry	1,401	24.3%	1,453	25.0%
Cheyenne	2,629	26.1%	2,503	25.9%
Clay	1,700	26.7%	1,657	26.7%
Colfax	3,317	31.7%	3,529	33.3%
Cuming	2,426	26.9%	2,401	26.6%
Custer	2,705	25.0%	2,786	25.6%
Dakota	6,623	31.8%	6,297	31.2%
Dawes	2,376	26.2%	2,223	25.0%
Dawson	7,421	30.8%	7,068	29.8%
Deuel	453	23.6%	427	22.7%
Dixon	1,603	27.6%	1,611	28.0%
Dodge	9,530	26.1%	9,797	26.7%
Douglas	152,946	28.5%	158,865	28.3%
Dundy	506	25.8%	397	22.0%
Fillmore	1,314	23.3%	1,235	22.1%
Franklin	674	22.0%	625	20.9%

	2013	% total population	2017	% total population
Frontier	695	25.6%	651	24.7%
Furnas	1,192	24.7%	1,147	24.0%
Gage	5,362	24.7%	5,290	24.5%
Garden	361	18.8%	401	21.0%
Garfield	442	21.8%	423	21.0%
Gosper	512	25.4%	493	24.3%
Grant	149	23.5%	154	23.7%
Greeley	641	25.8%	605	25.5%
Hall	17,846	29.4%	18,193	29.6%
Hamilton	2,483	27.2%	2,434	26.4%
Harlan	831	23.7%	811	23.6%
Hayes	233	24.7%	201	22.5%
Hitchcock	660	23.1%	703	24.8%
Holt	2,702	26.0%	2,731	26.8%
Hooker	165	22.6%	154	22.8%
Howard	1,646	26.0%	1,664	25.9%
Jefferson	1,826	24.3%	1,702	23.7%
Johnson	1,110	21.5%	1,085	20.9%
Kearney	1,711	26.4%	1,739	26.6%
Keith	1,842	22.6%	1,793	22.2%
Keya Paha	168	21.2%	158	19.9%
Kimball	894	24.2%	878	24.3%
Knox	2,244	26.2%	2,242	26.5%
Lancaster	79,907	26.9%	83,945	26.7%
Lincoln	9,716	27.0%	9,186	26.0%
Logan	198	25.5%	221	28.8%
Loup	121	20.6%	124	20.4%
Madison	9,755	27.7%	9,793	27.9%
McPherson	155	29.3%	127	25.5%
Merrick	2,041	26.1%	1,979	25.1%
Morrill	1,329	27.0%	1,237	25.6%

	2013	% total population	2017	% total population
Nance	893	25.1%	899	24.9%
Nemaha	1,874	26.2%	1,810	26.0%
Nuckolls	997	22.7%	954	22.3%
Otoe	4,054	25.8%	4,213	26.3%
Pawnee	638	23.2%	613	23.2%
Perkins	753	26.0%	782	26.9%
Phelps	2,476	27.0%	2,369	26.1%
Pierce	1,948	27.1%	1,917	26.9%
Platte	9,299	28.5%	9,454	28.5%
Polk	1,352	25.8%	1,350	25.3%
Red Willow	2,836	25.7%	2,705	25.2%
Richardson	1,819	22.4%	1,842	23.1%
Rock	314	21.8%	318	22.1%
Saline	4,165	29.1%	4,243	29.4%
Sarpy	51,929	30.7%	54,212	29.9%
Saunders	5,721	27.4%	5,579	26.5%
Scotts Bluff	9,942	27.0%	9,985	27.5%
Seward	4,861	28.6%	4,853	28.3%
Sheridan	1,287	24.7%	1,292	24.4%
Sherman	724	23.7%	722	23.4%
Sioux	322	24.2%	244	20.3%
Stanton	1,770	29.1%	1,624	27.1%
Thayer	1,286	24.8%	1,244	24.7%
Thomas	174	24.7%	186	25.7%
Thurston	2,650	38.5%	2,833	39.2%
Valley	1,045	25.0%	1,069	25.4%
Washington	5,474	27.1%	5,561	26.8%
Wayne	2,624	27.8%	2,496	26.8%
Webster	898	24.7%	844	24.0%
Wheeler	178	22.9%	187	22.9%
York	3,532	25.5%	3,590	26.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children 4 and under (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children 4 and under (2017)

State	Number	% of all children
2013	130,160	25.1%
2017	133,061	25.2%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Grant
2017	Douglas	Grant

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Loup	Garfield
2017	McPherson	McPherson
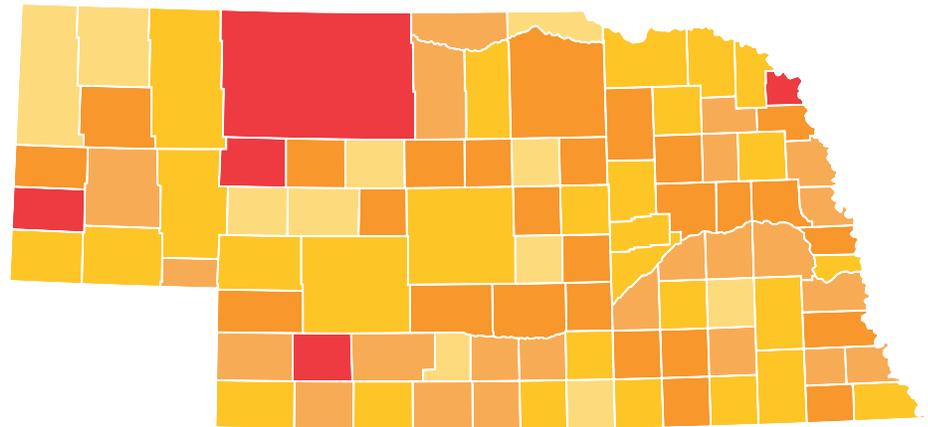
Legend: < 20.9% | 21.0-22.9% | 23.0-24.9% | 25.0-26.9% | 27.0%+

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	1,997	23.3%	2,094	24.2%
Antelope	414	25.1%	434	26.6%
Arthur	36	25.9%	20	15.2%
Banner	33	23.4%	52	27.5%
Blaine	38	33.9%	28	25.9%
Boone	302	22.4%	342	24.7%
Box Butte	772	25.1%	788	26.5%
Boyd	111	23.7%	82	18.9%
Brown	135	19.4%	162	22.5%
Buffalo	3,326	24.8%	3,486	25.7%
Burt	353	21.9%	341	21.4%
Butler	458	21.0%	453	21.8%
Cass	1,496	21.9%	1,575	22.9%
Cedar	501	21.1%	572	24.4%
Chase	258	24.5%	234	21.8%
Cherry	325	23.2%	413	28.4%
Cheyenne	615	23.4%	610	24.4%
Clay	403	23.7%	427	25.8%
Colfax	911	27.5%	937	26.6%
Cuming	508	20.9%	568	23.7%
Custer	639	23.6%	690	24.8%
Dakota	1,657	25.0%	1,714	27.2%
Dawes	471	19.8%	450	20.2%
Dawson	1,817	24.5%	1,883	26.6%
Deuel	95	21.0%	95	22.2%
Dixon	349	21.8%	389	24.1%
Dodge	2,293	24.1%	2,517	25.7%
Douglas	40,812	26.7%	42,788	26.9%
Dundy	83	16.4%	94	23.7%
Fillmore	279	21.2%	311	25.2%
Franklin	148	22.0%	153	24.5%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	110	15.8%	140	21.5%
Furnas	244	20.5%	260	22.7%
Gage	1,258	23.5%	1,282	24.2%
Garden	74	20.5%	97	24.2%
Garfield	69	15.6%	87	20.6%
Gosper	126	24.6%	99	20.1%
Grant	52	34.9%	47	30.5%
Greeley	143	22.3%	146	24.1%
Hall	4,692	26.3%	4,755	26.1%
Hamilton	525	21.1%	556	22.8%
Harlan	226	27.2%	179	22.1%
Hayes	47	20.2%	58	28.9%
Hitchcock	157	23.8%	156	22.2%
Holt	717	26.5%	708	25.9%
Hooker	43	26.1%	39	25.3%
Howard	380	23.1%	428	25.7%
Jefferson	401	22.0%	395	23.2%
Johnson	252	22.7%	244	22.5%
Kearney	397	23.2%	393	22.6%
Keith	371	20.1%	422	23.5%
Keya Paha	38	22.6%	34	21.5%
Kimball	229	25.6%	212	24.1%
Knox	522	23.3%	532	23.7%
Lancaster	20,210	25.3%	20,293	24.2%
Lincoln	2,339	24.1%	2,130	23.2%
Logan	41	20.7%	58	26.2%
Loup	22	18.2%	32	25.8%
Madison	2,604	26.7%	2,588	26.4%
McPherson	33	21.3%	16	12.6%
Merrick	458	22.4%	472	23.9%
Morrill	287	21.6%	283	22.9%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	235	26.3%	212	23.6%
Nemaha	434	23.2%	386	21.3%
Nuckolls	198	19.9%	223	23.4%
Otoe	1,005	24.8%	1,064	25.3%
Pawnee	138	21.6%	165	26.9%
Perkins	195	25.9%	204	26.1%
Phelps	655	26.5%	531	22.4%
Pierce	419	21.5%	463	24.2%
Platte	2,439	26.2%	2,450	25.9%
Polk	296	21.9%	295	21.9%
Red Willow	658	23.2%	633	23.4%
Richardson	395	21.7%	450	24.4%
Rock	64	20.4%	78	24.5%
Saline	999	24.0%	943	22.2%
Sarpy	13,468	25.9%	13,300	24.5%
Saunders	1,325	23.2%	1,271	22.8%
Scotts Bluff	2,520	25.3%	2,498	25.0%
Seward	1,016	20.9%	995	20.5%
Sheridan	276	21.4%	301	23.3%
Sherman	156	21.5%	150	20.8%
Sioux	71	22.0%	45	18.4%
Stanton	400	22.6%	361	22.2%
Thayer	252	19.6%	320	25.7%
Thomas	57	32.8%	33	17.7%
Thurston	713	26.9%	755	26.7%
Valley	233	22.3%	277	25.9%
Washington	1,105	20.2%	1,202	21.6%
Wayne	538	20.5%	524	21.0%
Webster	233	25.9%	165	19.5%
Wheeler	47	26.4%	49	26.2%
York	918	26.0%	875	24.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children 10-17 years (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children 10-17 (2017)

State	Number	% of all children
2013	194,713	38.9%
2017	202,792	39.7%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Loup
2017	Douglas	McPherson

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Blaine	Wayne
2017	Blaine	Dawes

Legend: <35.0% | 35.0-37.9% | 38.0-40.9% | 41.0-43.9% | 44.0%+
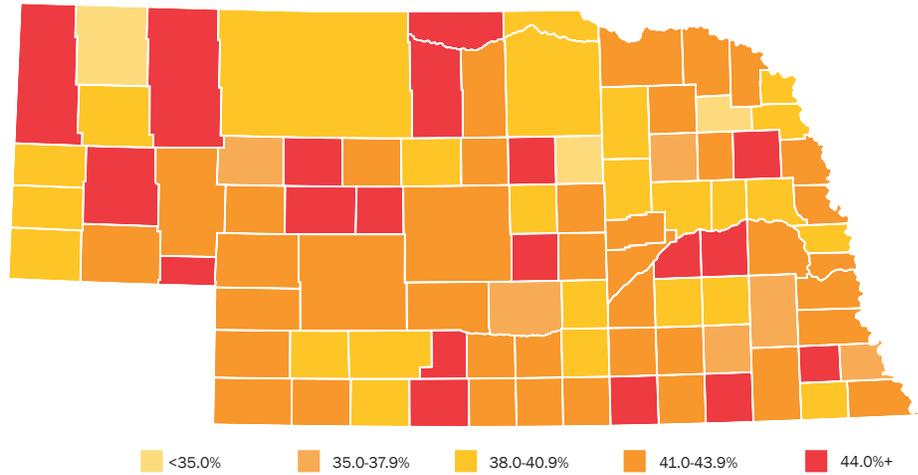
	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	3,349	39.1%	3,390	39.2%
Antelope	686	41.6%	642	39.3%
Arthur	55	39.6%	57	43.2%
Banner	56	39.7%	75	39.7%
Blaine	47	42.0%	42	38.9%
Boone	590	43.7%	556	40.2%
Box Butte	1,288	41.9%	1,176	39.5%
Boyd	213	45.4%	178	40.9%
Brown	313	45.0%	332	46.0%
Buffalo	4,728	35.3%	4,924	36.4%
Burt	666	41.3%	697	43.8%
Butler	1,008	46.1%	922	44.3%
Cass	2,992	43.7%	2,973	43.2%
Cedar	1,022	43.0%	973	41.5%
Chase	438	41.7%	466	43.5%
Cherry	587	41.9%	578	39.8%
Cheyenne	1,147	43.6%	1,062	42.4%
Clay	705	41.5%	699	42.2%
Colfax	1,242	37.4%	1,398	39.6%
Cuming	1,069	44.1%	1,062	44.2%
Custer	1,099	40.6%	1,170	42.0%
Dakota	2,730	41.2%	2,459	39.1%
Dawes	764	32.2%	680	30.6%
Dawson	3,045	41.0%	2,956	41.8%
Deuel	181	40.0%	194	45.4%
Dixon	723	45.1%	675	41.9%
Dodge	3,778	39.6%	3,922	40.0%
Douglas	58,648	38.3%	61,760	38.9%
Dundy	245	48.4%	171	43.1%
Fillmore	582	44.3%	534	43.2%
Franklin	279	41.4%	261	41.8%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	302	43.5%	256	39.3%
Furnas	538	45.1%	544	47.4%
Gage	2,234	41.7%	2,221	42.0%
Garden	162	44.9%	175	43.6%
Garfield	204	46.2%	196	46.3%
Gosper	210	41.0%	230	46.7%
Grant	48	32.2%	56	36.4%
Greeley	274	42.7%	250	41.3%
Hall	6,922	38.8%	7,419	40.8%
Hamilton	1,126	45.3%	1,046	43.0%
Harlan	338	40.7%	346	42.7%
Hayes	101	43.3%	80	39.8%
Hitchcock	263	39.8%	305	43.4%
Holt	1,060	39.2%	1,083	39.7%
Hooker	68	41.2%	68	44.2%
Howard	692	42.0%	712	42.8%
Jefferson	781	42.8%	753	44.2%
Johnson	469	42.3%	486	44.8%
Kearney	672	39.3%	750	43.1%
Keith	833	45.2%	777	43.3%
Keya Paha	74	44.0%	75	47.5%
Kimball	365	40.8%	354	40.3%
Knox	1,010	45.0%	956	42.6%
Lancaster	28,525	35.7%	31,434	37.4%
Lincoln	3,813	39.2%	3,945	42.9%
Logan	73	36.9%	107	48.4%
Loup	65	53.7%	52	41.9%
Madison	3,653	37.4%	3,693	37.7%
McPherson	63	40.6%	76	59.8%
Merrick	916	44.9%	843	42.6%
Morrill	577	43.4%	544	44.0%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	359	40.2%	386	42.9%
Nemaha	646	34.5%	682	37.7%
Nuckolls	438	43.9%	426	44.7%
Otoe	1,672	41.2%	1,760	41.8%
Pawnee	288	45.1%	249	40.6%
Perkins	298	39.6%	334	42.7%
Phelps	1,005	40.6%	1,016	42.9%
Pierce	864	44.4%	808	42.1%
Platte	3,721	40.0%	3,794	40.1%
Polk	591	43.7%	610	45.2%
Red Willow	1,137	40.1%	1,104	40.8%
Richardson	837	46.0%	768	41.7%
Rock	136	43.3%	133	41.8%
Saline	1,513	36.3%	1,576	37.1%
Sarpy	20,491	39.5%	22,306	41.1%
Saunders	2,400	42.0%	2,408	43.2%
Scotts Bluff	3,956	39.8%	4,061	40.7%
Seward	1,875	38.6%	1,842	38.0%
Sheridan	555	43.1%	570	44.1%
Sherman	319	44.1%	327	45.3%
Sioux	143	44.4%	116	47.5%
Stanton	763	43.1%	700	43.1%
Thayer	523	40.7%	527	42.4%
Thomas	73	42.0%	79	42.5%
Thurston	980	37.0%	1,114	39.3%
Valley	465	44.5%	421	39.4%
Washington	2,406	44.0%	2,397	43.1%
Wayne	807	30.8%	828	33.2%
Webster	358	39.9%	350	41.5%
Wheeler	72	40.4%	63	33.7%
York	1,288	36.5%	1,416	39.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Young adults 18-24 years (2013 & 2017)

Percent of population 18-24 (2017)

State	Number	% of population
2013	188,325	10.1%
2017	191,038	9.9%

Highest county	By number	By % of population
2013	Douglas	Wayne
2017	Douglas	Dawes

Lowest county	By number	By % of population
2013	McPherson	McPherson
2017	Grant	Grant

Legend: <6.5% | 6.5-7.4% | 7.5-8.9% | 9.0-10.4% | 10.5%+
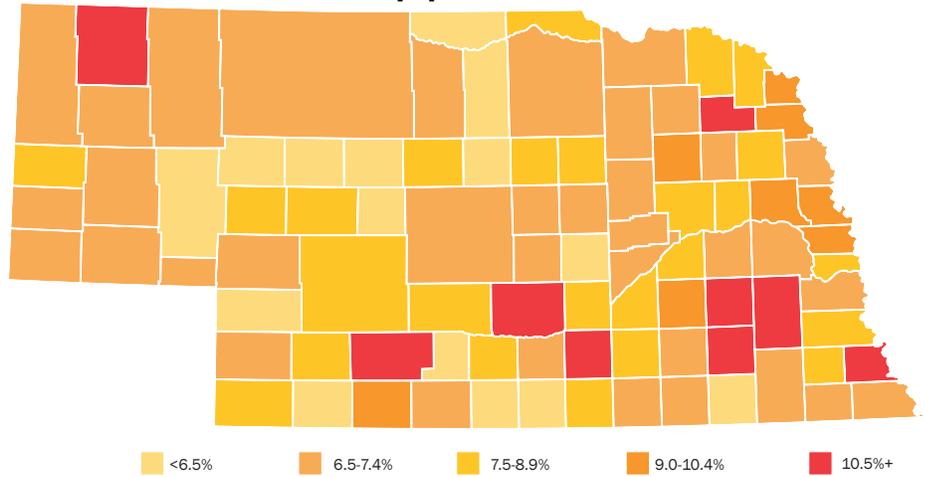
	2013	% of population	2017	% of population
Adams	3,676	11.7%	3,566	11.3%
Antelope	418	6.5%	455	7.2%
Arthur	25	5.5%	38	8.3%
Banner	51	7.5%	51	6.9%
Blaine	35	7.4%	38	7.9%
Boone	388	7.2%	398	7.4%
Box Butte	825	7.3%	769	7.1%
Boyd	116	5.8%	165	8.3%
Brown	172	5.8%	200	6.6%
Buffalo	7,652	15.9%	7,667	15.4%
Burt	424	6.5%	433	6.6%
Butler	569	6.9%	586	7.3%
Cass	1,812	7.2%	1,847	7.1%
Cedar	627	7.3%	641	7.5%
Chase	243	6.1%	257	6.5%
Cherry	373	6.5%	405	7.0%
Cheyenne	690	6.9%	642	6.6%
Clay	459	7.2%	463	7.5%
Colfax	904	8.6%	888	8.4%
Cuming	927	10.3%	719	8.0%
Custer	742	6.9%	754	6.9%
Dakota	2,019	9.7%	1,931	9.6%
Dawes	2,083	23.0%	2,142	24.1%
Dawson	2,115	8.8%	1,992	8.4%
Deuel	101	5.3%	133	7.1%
Dixon	406	7.0%	463	8.0%
Dodge	3,322	9.1%	3,308	9.0%
Douglas	50,653	9.4%	51,112	9.1%
Dundy	129	6.6%	149	8.3%
Fillmore	413	7.3%	395	7.1%
Franklin	207	6.8%	176	5.9%

	2013	% of population	2017	% of population
Frontier	296	10.9%	288	10.9%
Furnas	335	6.9%	350	7.3%
Gage	1,599	7.4%	1,558	7.2%
Garden	122	6.3%	105	5.5%
Garfield	135	6.7%	153	7.6%
Gosper	127	6.3%	124	6.1%
Grant	33	5.2%	30	4.6%
Greeley	147	5.9%	156	6.6%
Hall	5,283	8.7%	5,112	8.3%
Hamilton	677	7.4%	742	8.1%
Harlan	225	6.4%	222	6.4%
Hayes	82	8.7%	67	7.5%
Hitchcock	169	5.9%	176	6.2%
Holt	706	6.8%	739	7.2%
Hooker	39	5.3%	43	6.4%
Howard	442	7.0%	410	6.4%
Jefferson	482	6.4%	441	6.1%
Johnson	348	6.7%	387	7.5%
Kearney	441	6.8%	441	6.8%
Keith	525	6.4%	537	6.7%
Keya Paha	47	5.9%	51	6.4%
Kimball	264	7.1%	254	7.0%
Knox	534	6.2%	569	6.7%
Lancaster	44,980	15.1%	47,393	15.1%
Lincoln	2,761	7.7%	2,633	7.5%
Logan	50	6.4%	43	5.6%
Loup	33	5.6%	38	6.2%
Madison	3,520	10.0%	3,351	9.5%
McPherson	24	4.5%	38	7.6%
Merrick	573	7.3%	587	7.4%
Morrill	340	6.9%	347	7.2%

	2013	% of population	2017	% of population
Nance	244	6.9%	242	6.7%
Nemaha	944	13.2%	862	12.4%
Nuckolls	244	5.6%	294	6.9%
Otoe	1,162	7.4%	1,212	7.6%
Pawnee	160	5.8%	177	6.7%
Perkins	167	5.8%	187	6.4%
Phelps	676	7.4%	704	7.8%
Pierce	524	7.3%	527	7.4%
Platte	2,757	8.4%	2,697	8.1%
Polk	335	6.4%	411	7.7%
Red Willow	1,062	9.6%	998	9.3%
Richardson	555	6.8%	541	6.8%
Rock	68	4.7%	89	6.2%
Saline	1,903	13.3%	1,968	13.6%
Sarpy	14,487	8.6%	15,202	8.4%
Saunders	1,500	7.2%	1,535	7.3%
Scotts Bluff	3,169	8.6%	2,996	8.2%
Seward	2,303	13.6%	2,328	13.6%
Sheridan	290	5.6%	353	6.7%
Sherman	183	6.0%	204	6.6%
Sioux	80	6.0%	82	6.8%
Stanton	461	7.6%	445	7.4%
Thayer	337	6.5%	332	6.6%
Thomas	42	6.0%	38	5.2%
Thurston	697	10.1%	714	9.9%
Valley	266	6.4%	295	7.0%
Washington	1,800	8.9%	1,879	9.1%
Wayne	2,306	24.4%	1,956	21.0%
Webster	260	7.1%	271	7.7%
Wheeler	62	8.0%	62	7.6%
York	1,366	9.9%	1,269	9.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children: American Indian/Alaska Native (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children: American Indian/Alaska Native (2017)

State	Number	% of all children
2013	5,647	1.1%
2017	5,885	1.1%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Thurston	Thurston
2017	Thurston	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	15 with 0	15 with 0%
2017	10 with 0	10 with 0%
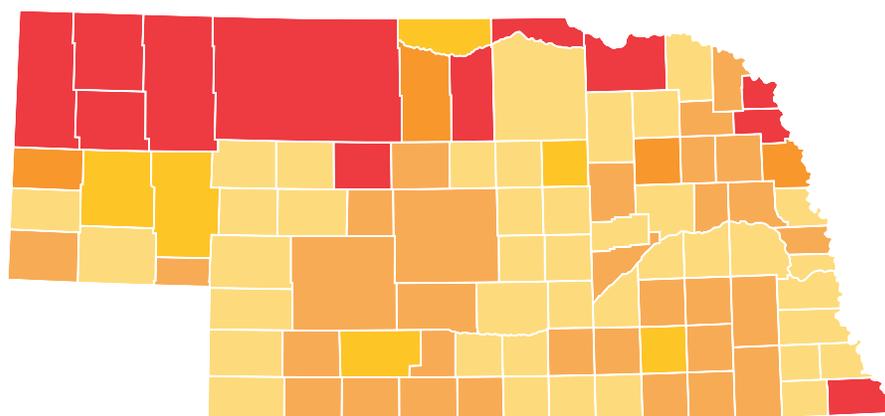
Legend: < 0.5% | 0.5-0.9% | 1.0-1.4% | 1.5-1.9% | 2.0%+

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	49	0.6%	49	0.6%
Antelope	3	0.2%	6	0.4%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Blaine	0	0.0%	1	0.9%
Boone	10	0.7%	7	0.5%
Box Butte	149	4.8%	127	4.3%
Boyd	6	1.3%	10	2.3%
Brown	9	1.3%	13	1.8%
Buffalo	49	0.4%	47	0.3%
Burt	29	1.8%	30	1.9%
Butler	3	0.1%	3	0.1%
Cass	24	0.4%	29	0.4%
Cedar	10	0.4%	9	0.4%
Chase	5	0.5%	0	0.0%
Cherry	118	8.4%	105	7.2%
Cheyenne	22	0.8%	11	0.4%
Clay	11	0.6%	10	0.6%
Colfax	20	0.6%	19	0.5%
Cuming	4	0.2%	12	0.5%
Custer	9	0.3%	14	0.5%
Dakota	158	2.4%	166	2.6%
Dawes	111	4.7%	93	4.2%
Dawson	37	0.5%	32	0.5%
Deuel	1	0.2%	4	0.9%
Dixon	16	1.0%	14	0.9%
Dodge	45	0.5%	46	0.5%
Douglas	908	0.6%	939	0.6%
Dundy	2	0.4%	1	0.3%
Fillmore	12	0.9%	13	1.1%
Franklin	0	0.0%	1	0.2%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	4	0.6%	7	1.1%
Furnas	6	0.5%	7	0.6%
Gage	35	0.7%	34	0.6%
Garden	0	0.0%	4	1.0%
Garfield	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Gosper	3	0.6%	4	0.8%
Grant	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Greeley	3	0.5%	0	0.0%
Hall	76	0.4%	68	0.4%
Hamilton	10	0.4%	10	0.4%
Harlan	4	0.5%	5	0.6%
Hayes	0	0.0%	1	0.5%
Hitchcock	0	0.0%	4	0.6%
Holt	8	0.3%	10	0.4%
Hooker	8	4.8%	0	0.0%
Howard	3	0.2%	4	0.2%
Jefferson	5	0.3%	12	0.7%
Johnson	2	0.2%	2	0.2%
Kearney	4	0.2%	6	0.3%
Keith	4	0.2%	4	0.2%
Keya Paha	0	0.0%	2	1.3%
Kimball	9	1.0%	8	0.9%
Knox	317	14.1%	341	15.2%
Lancaster	512	0.6%	507	0.6%
Lincoln	46	0.5%	56	0.6%
Logan	5	2.5%	1	0.5%
Loup	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Madison	122	1.3%	148	1.5%
McPherson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Merrick	11	0.5%	17	0.9%
Morrill	14	1.1%	14	1.1%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	5	0.6%	3	0.3%
Nemaha	5	0.3%	5	0.3%
Nuckolls	6	0.6%	3	0.3%
Otoe	17	0.4%	17	0.4%
Pawnee	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Perkins	2	0.3%	1	0.1%
Phelps	9	0.4%	10	0.4%
Pierce	7	0.4%	8	0.4%
Platte	43	0.5%	36	0.4%
Polk	-	0.0%	6	0.4%
Red Willow	16	0.6%	18	0.7%
Richardson	92	5.1%	56	3.0%
Rock	6	1.9%	7	2.2%
Saline	17	0.4%	22	0.5%
Sarpy	179	0.3%	184	0.3%
Saunders	13	0.2%	20	0.4%
Scotts Bluff	170	1.7%	178	1.8%
Seward	23	0.5%	34	0.7%
Sheridan	199	15.5%	197	15.2%
Sherman	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Sioux	7	2.2%	12	4.9%
Stanton	12	0.7%	11	0.7%
Thayer	2	0.2%	6	0.5%
Thomas	0	0.0%	5	2.7%
Thurston	1,727	65.2%	1,888	66.6%
Valley	2	0.2%	4	0.4%
Washington	5	0.1%	17	0.3%
Wayne	21	0.8%	20	0.8%
Webster	3	0.3%	1	0.1%
Wheeler	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
York	26	0.7%	25	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children: Asian/Pacific Islander (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children: Asian/Pacific Islander (2017)

State	Number	% of all children
2013	11,314	2.2%
2017	14,205	2.7%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Lancaster
2017	Douglas	Lancaster

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	17 with 0	17 with 0%
2017	19 with 0	19 with 0%
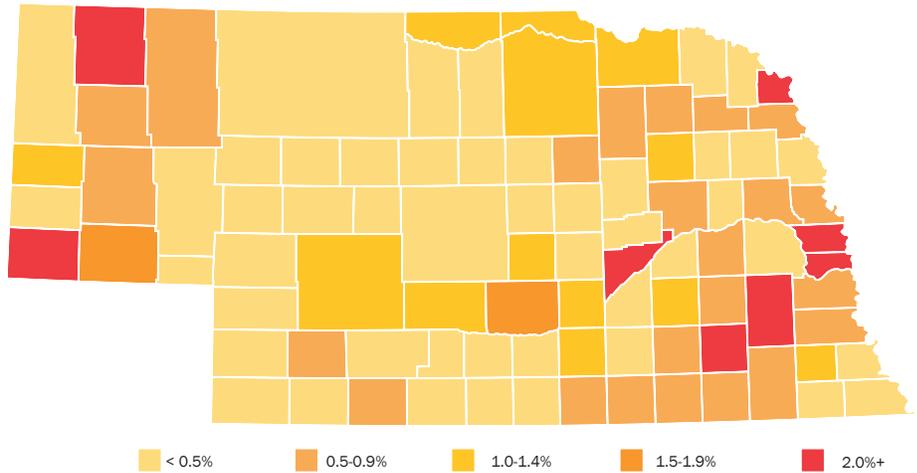
Legend: < 0.5% | 0.5-0.9% | 1.0-1.4% | 1.5-1.9% | 2.0%+

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	137	1.6%	116	1.3%
Antelope	14	0.8%	12	0.7%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Blaine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Boone	9	0.7%	4	0.3%
Box Butte	13	0.4%	17	0.6%
Boyd	7	1.5%	5	1.1%
Brown	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
Buffalo	164	1.2%	201	1.5%
Burt	12	0.7%	5	0.3%
Butler	15	0.7%	12	0.6%
Cass	46	0.7%	41	0.6%
Cedar	10	0.4%	5	0.2%
Chase	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cherry	5	0.4%	5	0.3%
Cheyenne	59	2.2%	47	1.9%
Clay	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
Colfax	9	0.3%	12	0.3%
Cuming	4	0.2%	10	0.4%
Custer	6	0.2%	3	0.1%
Dakota	226	3.4%	220	3.5%
Dawes	57	2.4%	56	2.5%
Dawson	63	0.8%	85	1.2%
Deuel	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dixon	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
Dodge	62	0.7%	70	0.7%
Douglas	5,021	3.3%	6,817	4.3%
Dundy	4	0.8%	0	0.0%
Fillmore	9	0.7%	11	0.9%
Franklin	1	0.1%	0	0.0%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Furnas	5	0.4%	4	0.3%
Gage	44	0.8%	27	0.5%
Garden	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Gosper	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Grant	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Greeley	1	0.2%	2	0.3%
Hall	169	0.9%	174	1.0%
Hamilton	10	0.4%	6	0.2%
Harlan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hayes	2	0.9%	1	0.5%
Hitchcock	1	0.2%	3	0.4%
Holt	6	0.2%	30	1.1%
Hooker	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	6	0.4%	6	0.4%
Jefferson	8	0.4%	8	0.5%
Johnson	20	1.8%	12	1.1%
Kearney	11	0.6%	4	0.2%
Keith	9	0.5%	5	0.3%
Keya Paha	1	0.6%	2	1.3%
Kimball	18	2.0%	19	2.2%
Knox	17	0.8%	27	1.2%
Lancaster	3,319	4.2%	3,980	4.7%
Lincoln	61	0.6%	98	1.1%
Logan	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Loup	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Madison	54	0.6%	134	1.4%
McPherson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Merrick	59	2.9%	54	2.7%
Morrill	7	0.5%	8	0.6%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Nemaha	9	0.5%	7	0.4%
Nuckolls	3	0.3%	5	0.5%
Otoe	38	0.9%	30	0.7%
Pawnee	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Perkins	3	0.4%	1	0.1%
Phelps	10	0.4%	9	0.4%
Pierce	7	0.4%	11	0.6%
Platte	62	0.7%	87	0.9%
Polk	5	0.4%	6	0.4%
Red Willow	10	0.4%	18	0.7%
Richardson	9	0.5%	7	0.4%
Rock	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Saline	79	1.9%	147	3.5%
Sarpy	1,046	2.0%	1,175	2.2%
Saunders	37	0.6%	22	0.4%
Scotts Bluff	50	0.5%	123	1.2%
Seward	27	0.6%	28	0.6%
Sheridan	6	0.5%	8	0.6%
Sherman	7	1.0%	8	1.1%
Sioux	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Stanton	0	0.0%	5	0.3%
Thayer	13	1.0%	7	0.6%
Thomas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Thurston	16	0.6%	18	0.6%
Valley	6	0.6%	4	0.4%
Washington	26	0.5%	35	0.6%
Wayne	23	0.9%	22	0.9%
Webster	9	1.0%	4	0.5%
Wheeler	3	1.7%	1	0.5%
York	20	0.6%	51	1.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children: Black/African American (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children: Black/African American (2017)

State	Number	% of all children
2013	29,573	5.7%
2017	30,474	5.8%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Douglas
2017	Douglas	Douglas

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	12 with 0	12 with 0
2017	11 with 0	11 with 0

Legend: < 0.5% | 0.5-0.9% | 1.0-1.4% | 1.5-1.9% | 2.0%+
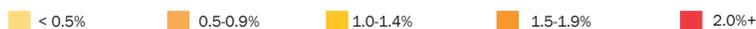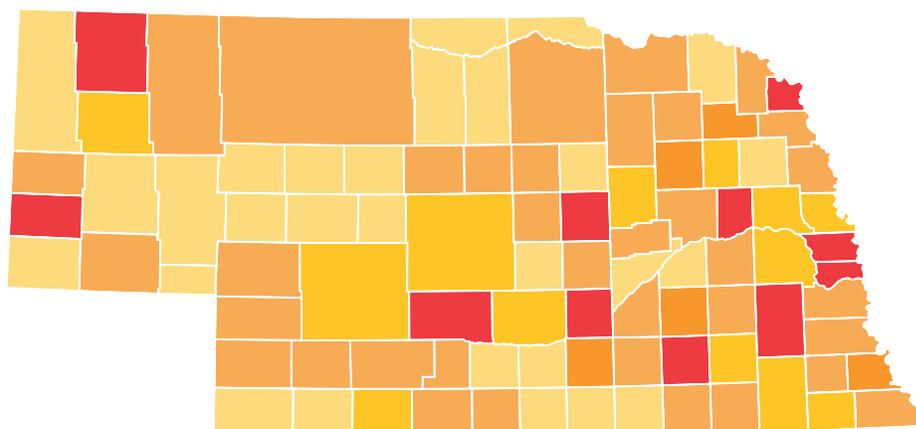
	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	103	1.2%	126	1.5%
Antelope	12	0.7%	10	0.6%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	0	0.0%	13	6.9%
Blaine	0	0.0%	1	0.9%
Boone	15	1.1%	17	1.2%
Box Butte	18	0.6%	30	1.0%
Boyd	2	0.4%	1	0.2%
Brown	4	0.6%	3	0.4%
Buffalo	143	1.1%	173	1.3%
Burt	14	0.9%	15	0.9%
Butler	12	0.5%	13	0.6%
Cass	36	0.5%	43	0.6%
Cedar	4	0.2%	8	0.3%
Chase	4	0.4%	9	0.8%
Cherry	8	0.6%	9	0.6%
Cheyenne	16	0.6%	17	0.7%
Clay	22	1.3%	14	0.8%
Colfax	39	1.2%	95	2.7%
Cuming	10	0.4%	6	0.2%
Custer	31	1.1%	30	1.1%
Dakota	269	4.1%	322	5.1%
Dawes	59	2.5%	44	2.0%
Dawson	331	4.5%	345	4.9%
Deuel	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Dixon	6	0.4%	8	0.5%
Dodge	98	1.0%	108	1.1%
Douglas	20,924	13.7%	20,826	13.1%
Dundy	3	0.6%	1	0.3%
Fillmore	24	1.8%	26	2.1%
Franklin	2	0.3%	2	0.3%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	1	0.1%	3	0.5%
Furnas	6	0.5%	7	0.6%
Gage	37	0.7%	51	1.0%
Garden	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Garfield	2	0.5%	2	0.5%
Gosper	4	0.8%	3	0.6%
Grant	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Greeley	11	1.7%	12	2.0%
Hall	461	2.6%	637	3.5%
Hamilton	11	0.4%	12	0.5%
Harlan	0	0.0%	7	0.9%
Hayes	3	1.3%	1	0.5%
Hitchcock	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Holt	11	0.4%	19	0.7%
Hooker	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	9	0.5%	13	0.8%
Jefferson	11	0.6%	10	0.6%
Johnson	9	0.8%	7	0.6%
Kearney	4	0.2%	7	0.4%
Keith	10	0.5%	15	0.8%
Keya Paha	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kimball	4	0.4%	3	0.3%
Knox	9	0.4%	15	0.7%
Lancaster	3,673	4.6%	4,263	5.1%
Lincoln	109	1.1%	94	1.0%
Logan	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Loup	3	2.5%	1	0.8%
Madison	172	1.8%	150	1.5%
McPherson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Merrick	7	0.3%	6	0.3%
Morrill	4	0.3%	2	0.2%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	5	0.6%	7	0.8%
Nemaha	35	1.9%	32	1.8%
Nuckolls	4	0.4%	2	0.2%
Otoe	33	0.8%	39	0.9%
Pawnee	6	0.9%	7	1.1%
Perkins	7	0.9%	5	0.6%
Phelps	27	1.1%	8	0.3%
Pierce	7	0.4%	10	0.5%
Platte	56	0.6%	75	0.8%
Polk	3	0.2%	4	0.3%
Red Willow	31	1.1%	34	1.3%
Richardson	10	0.5%	9	0.5%
Rock	0	0.0%	1	0.3%
Saline	35	0.8%	46	1.1%
Sarpy	2,111	4.1%	2,122	3.9%
Saunders	53	0.9%	66	1.2%
Scotts Bluff	74	0.7%	76	0.8%
Seward	34	0.7%	37	0.8%
Sheridan	5	0.4%	6	0.5%
Sherman	3	0.4%	2	0.3%
Sioux	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Stanton	23	1.3%	19	1.2%
Thayer	7	0.5%	10	0.8%
Thomas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Thurston	19	0.7%	20	0.7%
Valley	2	0.2%	9	0.8%
Washington	55	1.0%	59	1.1%
Wayne	63	2.4%	44	1.8%
Webster	8	0.9%	3	0.4%
Wheeler	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
York	73	2.1%	66	1.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children: Multi-racial, or non-White, Hispanic (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children: Multi-racial, or non-White, Hispanic (2017)
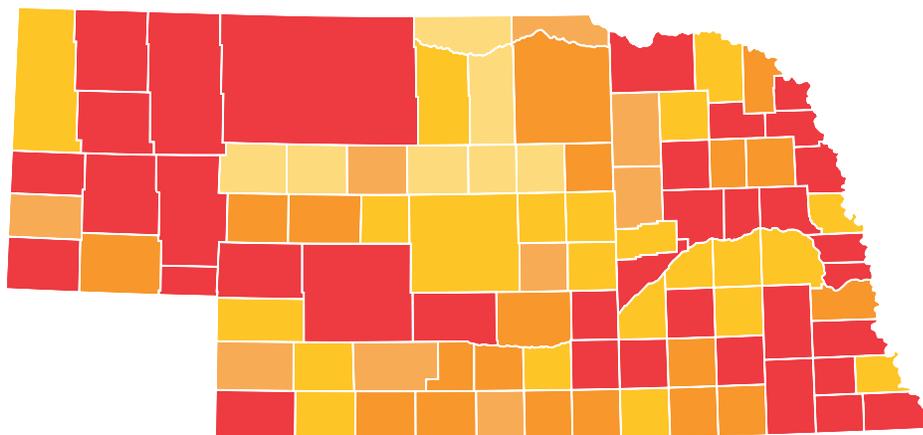
State	Number	% of all children
2013	30,102	5.8%
2017	34,452	6.5%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Colfax
2017	Douglas	Sheridan

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Keya Paha, Loup	Keya Paha, Loup
2017	Blaine, Keya Paha	Blaine, Keya Paha

Legend: < 1.0% | 1.0-1.9% | 2.0-2.9% | 3.0-3.9% | 4.0%+

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	320	3.7%	363	4.2%
Antelope	19	1.2%	26	1.6%
Arthur	6	4.3%	5	3.8%
Banner	3	2.1%	2	1.1%
Blaine	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Boone	16	1.2%	19	1.4%
Box Butte	239	7.8%	298	10.0%
Boyd	7	1.5%	6	1.4%
Brown	20	2.9%	16	2.2%
Buffalo	474	3.5%	494	3.6%
Burt	68	4.2%	84	5.3%
Butler	34	1.6%	41	2.0%
Cass	219	3.2%	262	3.8%
Cedar	41	1.7%	58	2.5%
Chase	24	2.3%	20	1.9%
Cherry	118	8.4%	155	10.7%
Cheyenne	75	2.9%	86	3.4%
Clay	61	3.6%	87	5.3%
Colfax	326	9.8%	387	11.0%
Cuming	83	3.4%	76	3.2%
Custer	78	2.9%	78	2.8%
Dakota	429	6.5%	473	7.5%
Dawes	160	6.7%	162	7.3%
Dawson	393	5.3%	432	6.1%
Deuel	15	3.3%	22	5.2%
Dixon	47	2.9%	62	3.8%
Dodge	496	5.2%	581	5.9%
Douglas	10,915	7.1%	12,403	7.8%
Dundy	20	4.0%	21	5.3%
Fillmore	33	2.5%	41	3.3%
Franklin	22	3.3%	23	3.7%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	13	1.9%	11	1.7%
Furnas	34	2.9%	35	3.1%
Gage	190	3.5%	210	4.0%
Garden	7	1.9%	17	4.2%
Garfield	2	0.5%	1	0.2%
Gosper	21	4.1%	19	3.9%
Grant	2	1.3%	1	0.6%
Greeley	7	1.1%	12	2.0%
Hall	1,175	6.6%	1,421	7.8%
Hamilton	52	2.1%	54	2.2%
Harlan	21	2.5%	15	1.8%
Hayes	2	0.9%	4	2.0%
Hitchcock	19	2.9%	15	2.1%
Holt	63	2.3%	89	3.3%
Hooker	1	0.6%	1	0.6%
Howard	37	2.2%	40	2.4%
Jefferson	73	4.0%	61	3.6%
Johnson	33	3.0%	48	4.4%
Kearney	39	2.3%	50	2.9%
Keith	74	4.0%	87	4.9%
Keya Paha	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kimball	42	4.7%	57	6.5%
Knox	118	5.3%	122	5.4%
Lancaster	5,686	7.1%	6,416	7.6%
Lincoln	378	3.9%	418	4.6%
Logan	2	1.0%	5	2.3%
Loup	0	0.0%	1	0.8%
Madison	576	5.9%	619	6.3%
McPherson	7	4.5%	5	3.9%
Merrick	67	3.3%	82	4.1%
Morrill	74	5.6%	75	6.1%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	16	1.8%	24	2.7%
Nemaha	63	3.4%	46	2.5%
Nuckolls	24	2.4%	27	2.8%
Otoe	131	3.2%	180	4.3%
Pawnee	23	3.6%	29	4.7%
Perkins	12	1.6%	18	2.3%
Phelps	67	2.7%	85	3.6%
Pierce	34	1.7%	44	2.3%
Platte	399	4.3%	521	5.5%
Polk	34	2.5%	38	2.8%
Red Willow	91	3.2%	94	3.5%
Richardson	93	5.1%	111	6.0%
Rock	3	1.0%	3	0.9%
Saline	225	5.4%	297	7.0%
Sarpy	3,506	6.8%	4,047	7.5%
Saunders	117	2.0%	152	2.7%
Scotts Bluff	660	6.6%	796	8.0%
Seward	129	2.7%	125	2.6%
Sheridan	119	9.2%	157	12.2%
Sherman	11	1.5%	13	1.8%
Sioux	11	3.4%	7	2.9%
Stanton	84	4.7%	61	3.8%
Thayer	29	2.3%	45	3.6%
Thomas	4	2.3%	3	1.6%
Thurston	213	8.0%	290	10.2%
Valley	26	2.5%	23	2.2%
Washington	140	2.6%	146	2.6%
Wayne	92	3.5%	103	4.1%
Webster	40	4.5%	30	3.6%
Wheeler	3	1.7%	7	3.7%
York	126	3.6%	156	4.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children: White, Hispanic (2013 & 2017)

Percent of children: White, Hispanic (2017)
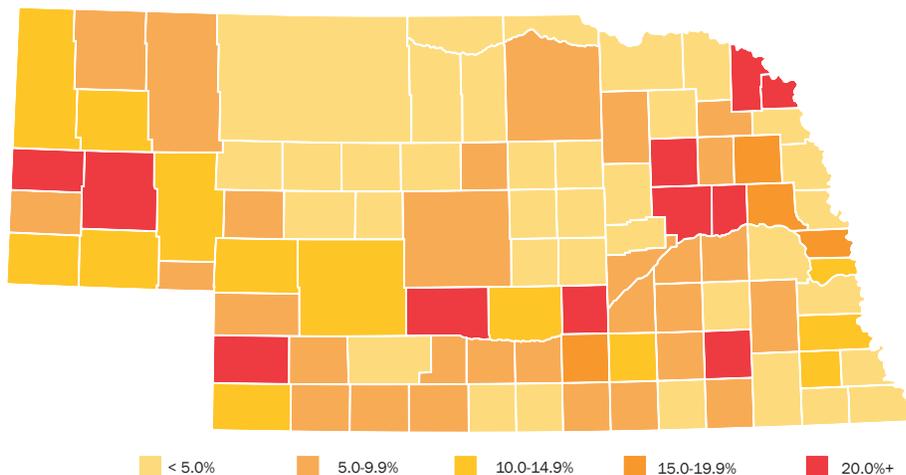
State	Number	% of all children
2013	70,327	13.6%
2017	77,329	14.6%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Colfax
2017	Douglas	Colfax

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Blaine, Hooker	Hooker
2017	Keya Paha	Keya Paha

Legend: < 5.0% | 5.0-9.9% | 10.0-14.9% | 15.0-19.9% | 20.0%+

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	1,060	12.4%	1,330	15.4%
Antelope	88	5.3%	90	5.5%
Arthur	12	8.6%	7	5.3%
Banner	13	9.2%	12	6.3%
Blaine	1	0.9%	3	2.8%
Boone	32	2.4%	59	4.3%
Box Butte	441	14.3%	434	14.6%
Boyd	14	3.0%	21	4.8%
Brown	16	2.3%	20	2.8%
Buffalo	1,599	11.9%	1,681	12.4%
Burt	69	4.3%	62	3.9%
Butler	98	4.5%	107	5.1%
Cass	300	4.4%	305	4.4%
Cedar	58	2.4%	47	2.0%
Chase	222	21.1%	220	20.5%
Cherry	33	2.4%	45	3.1%
Cheyenne	233	8.9%	254	10.1%
Clay	203	11.9%	203	12.3%
Colfax	1,745	52.6%	1,979	56.1%
Cuming	380	15.7%	408	17.0%
Custer	110	4.1%	140	5.0%
Dakota	3,163	47.8%	3,117	49.5%
Dawes	98	4.1%	132	5.9%
Dawson	3,141	42.3%	2,952	41.8%
Deuel	34	7.5%	30	7.0%
Dixon	271	16.9%	342	21.2%
Dodge	1,557	16.3%	1,808	18.5%
Douglas	23,921	15.6%	26,977	17.0%
Dundy	59	11.7%	55	13.9%
Fillmore	92	7.0%	77	6.2%
Franklin	11	1.6%	20	3.2%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	17	2.4%	17	2.6%
Furnas	54	4.5%	75	6.5%
Gage	169	3.2%	198	3.7%
Garden	42	11.6%	44	11.0%
Garfield	5	1.1%	10	2.4%
Gosper	35	6.8%	45	9.1%
Grant	4	2.7%	2	1.3%
Greeley	18	2.8%	13	2.1%
Hall	5,941	33.3%	6,334	34.8%
Hamilton	115	4.6%	130	5.3%
Harlan	28	3.4%	22	2.7%
Hayes	10	4.3%	11	5.5%
Hitchcock	27	4.1%	50	7.1%
Holt	176	6.5%	207	7.6%
Hooker	1	0.6%	5	3.2%
Howard	62	3.8%	67	4.0%
Jefferson	102	5.6%	85	5.0%
Johnson	160	14.4%	152	14.0%
Kearney	137	8.0%	165	9.5%
Keith	162	8.8%	222	12.4%
Keya Paha	2	1.2%	1	0.6%
Kimball	115	12.9%	111	12.6%
Knox	60	2.7%	51	2.3%
Lancaster	6,412	8.0%	7,526	9.0%
Lincoln	1,121	11.5%	1,031	11.2%
Logan	9	4.5%	6	2.7%
Loup	7	5.8%	10	8.1%
Madison	1,969	20.2%	1,992	20.3%
McPherson	2	1.3%	2	1.6%
Merrick	146	7.2%	124	6.3%
Morrill	255	19.2%	249	20.1%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	32	3.6%	25	2.8%
Nemaha	53	2.8%	63	3.5%
Nuckolls	35	3.5%	49	5.1%
Otoe	398	9.8%	499	11.8%
Pawnee	22	3.4%	18	2.9%
Perkins	46	6.1%	49	6.3%
Phelps	188	7.6%	173	7.3%
Pierce	42	2.2%	53	2.8%
Platte	2,027	21.8%	2,363	25.0%
Polk	56	4.1%	110	8.1%
Red Willow	230	8.1%	194	7.2%
Richardson	32	1.8%	36	2.0%
Rock	5	1.6%	7	2.2%
Saline	1,256	30.2%	1,327	31.3%
Sarpy	4,966	9.6%	5,842	10.8%
Saunders	192	3.4%	161	2.9%
Scotts Bluff	3,031	30.5%	3,050	30.5%
Seward	141	2.9%	172	3.5%
Sheridan	58	4.5%	67	5.2%
Sherman	25	3.5%	27	3.7%
Sioux	28	8.7%	26	10.7%
Stanton	136	7.7%	123	7.6%
Thayer	54	4.2%	56	4.5%
Thomas	12	6.9%	5	2.7%
Thurston	57	2.2%	58	2.0%
Valley	41	3.9%	50	4.7%
Washington	214	3.9%	253	4.5%
Wayne	203	7.7%	222	8.9%
Webster	74	8.2%	79	9.4%
Wheeler	4	2.2%	5	2.7%
York	232	6.6%	273	7.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children: White, Non-Hispanic (2013 & 2017)

State	Number	% of all children
2013	371,004	71.6%
2017	366,515	69.3%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Douglas	Keya Paha
2017	Douglas	Grant

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2013	Blaine	Thurston
2017	Blaine	Thurston

Percent of children: White, non-Hispanic (2017)

Legend: < 60.0% | 60.0-69.9% | 70.0-79.9% | 80.0-89.9% | 90.0%+
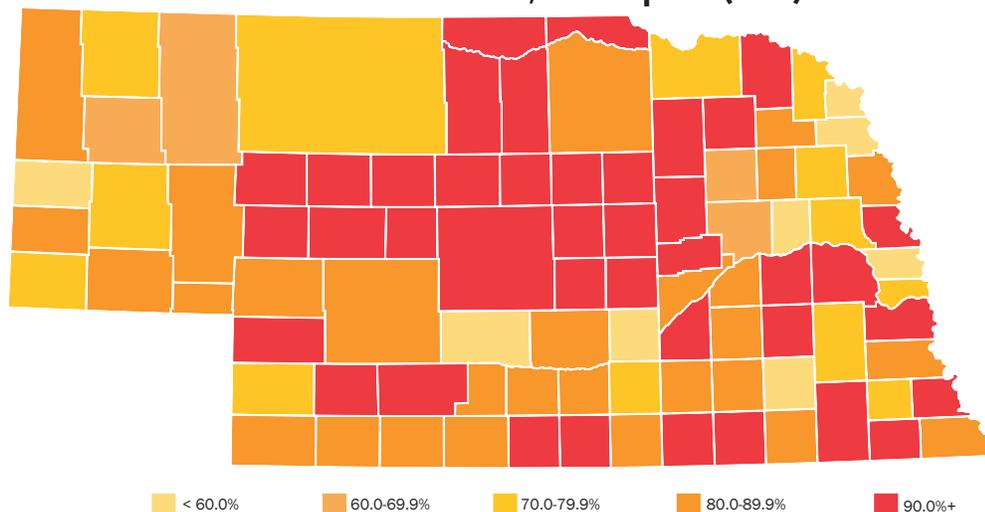
	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Adams	6,891	80.5%	6,665	77.1%
Antelope	1,512	91.7%	1,489	91.2%
Arthur	121	87.1%	120	90.9%
Banner	125	88.7%	162	85.7%
Blaine	110	98.2%	103	95.4%
Boone	1,269	93.9%	1,276	92.3%
Box Butte	2,217	72.1%	2,072	69.6%
Boyd	433	92.3%	392	90.1%
Brown	645	92.8%	668	92.6%
Buffalo	10,980	81.9%	10,950	80.8%
Burt	1,422	88.1%	1,395	87.7%
Butler	2,023	92.6%	1,905	91.5%
Cass	6,216	90.9%	6,194	90.1%
Cedar	2,256	94.8%	2,215	94.6%
Chase	796	75.7%	822	76.8%
Cherry	1,119	79.9%	1,134	78.0%
Cheyenne	2,224	84.6%	2,088	83.4%
Clay	1,401	82.4%	1,341	80.9%
Colfax	1,178	35.5%	1,037	29.4%
Cuming	1,945	80.2%	1,889	78.7%
Custer	2,471	91.3%	2,521	90.5%
Dakota	2,378	35.9%	1,999	31.7%
Dawes	1,891	79.6%	1,736	78.1%
Dawson	3,456	46.6%	3,222	45.6%
Deuel	402	88.7%	370	86.7%
Dixon	1,261	78.7%	1,183	73.4%
Dodge	7,272	76.3%	7,184	73.3%
Douglas	91,257	59.7%	90,903	57.2%
Dundy	418	82.6%	319	80.4%
Fillmore	1,144	87.1%	1,067	86.4%
Franklin	638	94.7%	579	92.6%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Frontier	660	95.0%	612	94.0%
Furnas	1,087	91.2%	1,019	88.8%
Gage	4,887	91.1%	4,770	90.2%
Garden	311	86.1%	336	83.8%
Garfield	432	97.7%	410	96.9%
Gosper	448	87.5%	421	85.4%
Grant	143	96.0%	151	98.1%
Greeley	601	93.8%	566	93.6%
Hall	10,024	56.2%	9,559	52.5%
Hamilton	2,285	92.0%	2,222	91.3%
Harlan	778	93.6%	762	94.0%
Hayes	216	92.7%	183	91.0%
Hitchcock	612	92.7%	631	89.8%
Holt	2,438	90.2%	2,376	87.0%
Hooker	155	93.9%	148	96.1%
Howard	1,529	92.9%	1,534	92.2%
Jefferson	1,627	89.1%	1,526	89.7%
Johnson	886	79.8%	864	79.6%
Kearney	1,516	88.6%	1,507	86.7%
Keith	1,583	85.9%	1,460	81.4%
Keya Paha	165	98.2%	153	96.8%
Kimball	706	79.0%	680	77.4%
Knox	1,723	76.8%	1,686	75.2%
Lancaster	60,305	75.5%	61,253	73.0%
Lincoln	8,001	82.3%	7,489	81.5%
Logan	180	90.9%	209	94.6%
Loup	111	91.7%	112	90.3%
Madison	6,862	70.3%	6,750	68.9%
McPherson	146	94.2%	120	94.5%
Merrick	1,751	85.8%	1,696	85.7%
Morrill	975	73.4%	889	71.9%

	2013	% of all children	2017	% of all children
Nance	835	93.5%	839	93.3%
Nemaha	1,709	91.2%	1,657	91.5%
Nuckolls	925	92.8%	868	91.0%
Otoe	3,437	84.8%	3,448	81.8%
Pawnee	586	91.8%	557	90.9%
Perkins	683	90.7%	708	90.5%
Phelps	2,175	87.8%	2,084	88.0%
Pierce	1,851	95.0%	1,791	93.4%
Platte	6,712	72.2%	6,372	67.4%
Polk	1,254	92.8%	1,186	87.9%
Red Willow	2,458	86.7%	2,347	86.8%
Richardson	1,583	87.0%	1,623	88.1%
Rock	299	95.2%	300	94.3%
Saline	2,553	61.3%	2,404	56.7%
Sarpy	40,121	77.3%	40,842	75.3%
Saunders	5,309	92.8%	5,158	92.5%
Scotts Bluff	5,957	59.9%	5,762	57.7%
Seward	4,507	92.7%	4,457	91.8%
Sheridan	900	69.9%	857	66.3%
Sherman	677	93.5%	672	93.1%
Sioux	276	85.7%	199	81.6%
Stanton	1,515	85.6%	1,405	86.5%
Thayer	1,081	84.1%	1,120	90.0%
Thomas	158	90.8%	173	93.0%
Thurston	618	23.3%	559	19.7%
Valley	968	92.6%	979	91.6%
Washington	5,034	92.0%	5,051	90.8%
Wayne	2,222	84.7%	2,085	83.5%
Webster	764	85.1%	727	86.1%
Wheeler	168	94.4%	172	92.0%
York	3,055	86.5%	3,019	84.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Children 17 and under in poverty (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)

State	Number	% of all children
2008-2012	74,993	16.7%
2012-2016	75,250	16.4%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children
2008-2012	Douglas	Loup
2012-2016	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children
2008-2012	Arthur	Arthur
2012-2016	Arthur	Arthur

Percent of children 17 and under in poverty (2012-2016)

Legend: < 10.0% | 10.0-14.9% | 15.0-19.9% | 20.0-24.9% | 25.0%+
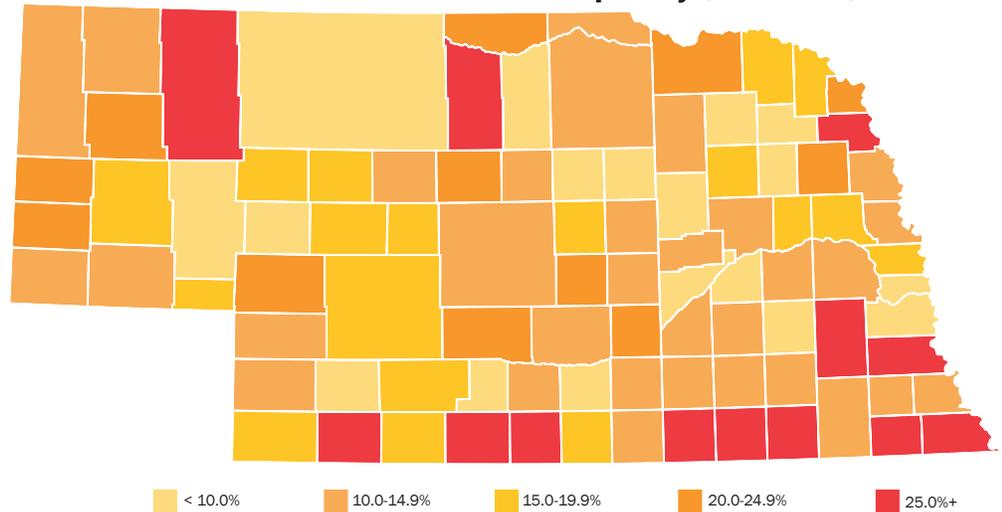
	2008-2012	% of all children	2012-2016	% of all children
Adams	1,270	17.4%	1,061	14.8%
Antelope	310	20.0%	214	14.5%
Arthur	0	0.0%	1	0.7%
Banner	52	26.0%	38	20.5%
Blaine	41	26.5%	33	22.9%
Boone	126	10.0%	95	7.7%
Box Butte	1,043	36.5%	632	22.5%
Boyd	51	12.5%	47	10.1%
Brown	62	8.8%	162	26.6%
Buffalo	1,482	13.8%	1,645	14.9%
Burt	111	7.3%	153	10.6%
Butler	243	12.1%	195	10.1%
Cass	466	7.4%	505	8.2%
Cedar	253	11.5%	320	15.1%
Chase	221	23.5%	128	13.2%
Cherry	105	9.0%	68	5.8%
Cheyenne	402	17.6%	350	14.8%
Clay	156	9.6%	222	14.6%
Colfax	648	22.5%	480	16.0%
Cuming	381	16.9%	466	21.4%
Custer	206	8.2%	319	12.9%
Dakota	1,435	24.2%	1,275	21.3%
Dawes	475	29.0%	232	14.5%
Dawson	1,271	19.2%	1,480	22.8%
Deuel	78	19.7%	56	15.8%
Dixon	259	16.9%	273	19.1%
Dodge	1,425	16.7%	1,361	16.2%
Douglas	25,224	19.1%	26,942	19.5%
Dundy	43	10.1%	56	15.4%
Fillmore	88	7.2%	152	13.8%
Franklin	78	11.9%	100	17.4%

	2008-2012	% of all children	2012-2016	% of all children
Frontier	75	13.9%	79	15.3%
Furnas	306	27.1%	277	25.8%
Gage	797	15.9%	633	13.3%
Garden	35	11.1%	28	7.6%
Garfield	57	12.1%	17	4.3%
Gosper	59	12.6%	36	8.5%
Grant	42	31.1%	24	19.4%
Greeley	104	17.2%	80	13.7%
Hall	2,818	18.1%	3,527	21.8%
Hamilton	289	12.6%	315	14.4%
Harlan	149	21.3%	229	29.3%
Hayes	20	8.0%	9	4.6%
Hitchcock	117	21.1%	154	26.3%
Holt	270	11.2%	248	10.2%
Hooker	30	20.5%	18	18.4%
Howard	184	12.0%	178	11.9%
Jefferson	399	24.5%	311	19.8%
Johnson	188	18.9%	134	13.7%
Kearney	45	2.9%	124	8.0%
Keith	342	20.3%	362	21.9%
Keya Paha	60	45.8%	30	20.4%
Kimball	124	14.9%	89	10.6%
Knox	367	18.3%	409	20.0%
Lancaster	11,002	17.1%	11,178	16.3%
Lincoln	1,077	12.3%	1,372	16.3%
Logan	16	12.6%	34	17.6%
Loup	63	51.2%	13	12.4%
Madison	1,728	20.4%	1,686	19.6%
McPherson	8	14.0%	18	19.4%
Merrick	239	13.3%	145	8.7%
Morrill	331	27.0%	169	14.5%

	2008-2012	% of all children	2012-2016	% of all children
Nance	155	17.8%	84	10.3%
Nemaha	120	7.9%	188	12.8%
Nuckolls	258	28.0%	140	17.0%
Otoe	619	16.4%	555	15.0%
Pawnee	121	21.2%	195	34.7%
Perkins	52	7.9%	70	10.3%
Phelps	225	10.3%	221	10.0%
Pierce	106	5.7%	109	6.3%
Platte	1,408	16.6%	917	11.0%
Polk	104	8.0%	106	8.8%
Red Willow	332	13.3%	409	16.4%
Richardson	519	29.2%	518	30.4%
Rock	15	5.1%	10	4.4%
Saline	842	24.8%	488	14.3%
Sarpy	4,819	10.7%	3,961	8.3%
Saunders	663	12.6%	762	14.5%
Scotts Bluff	2,130	23.8%	1,841	20.8%
Seward	201	5.2%	367	9.3%
Sheridan	285	23.3%	365	30.0%
Sherman	73	10.6%	158	23.8%
Sioux	35	13.7%	38	14.6%
Stanton	234	14.2%	127	8.1%
Thayer	150	13.4%	194	17.8%
Thomas	7	2.9%	20	12.7%
Thurston	797	32.8%	1,042	42.7%
Valley	133	14.0%	145	15.6%
Washington	355	7.1%	647	13.3%
Wayne	426	23.1%	131	7.2%
Webster	182	21.3%	94	12.0%
Wheeler	28	19.2%	9	6.2%
York	273	9.9%	328	10.6%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B17001.

Children 5 and under in poverty (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)

State	Number	% of all children 5 & under
2008-2012	30,313	19.8%
2012-2016	30,277	19.6%

Highest county	By number	By % of all children 5 & under
2008-2012	Douglas	Box Butte
2012-2016	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By % of all children 5 & under
2008-2012	Arthur, Rock, Thomas	Arthur, Rock, Thomas
2012-2016	Arthur, Garfield	Arthur, Garfield

Percent of children 5 and under in poverty (2012-2016)
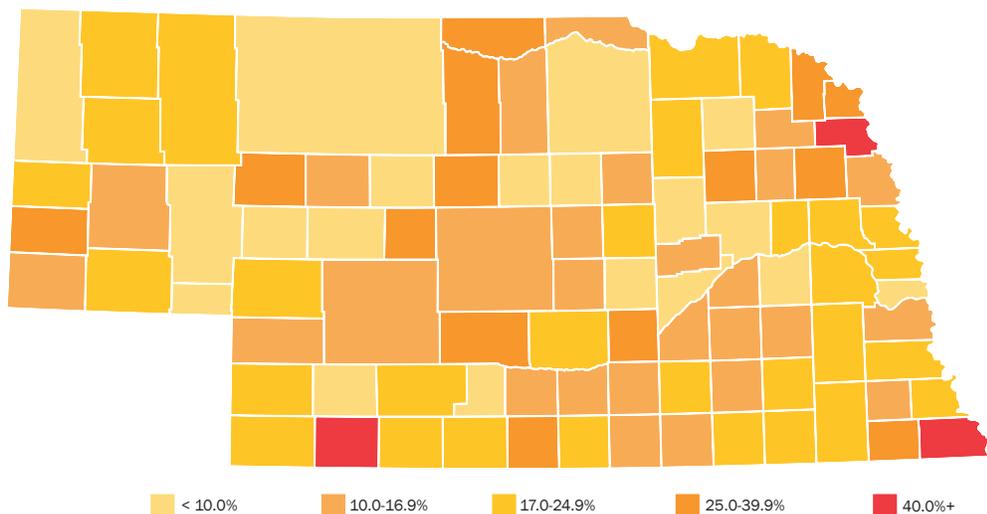
Legend: < 10.0% | 10.0-16.9% | 17.0-24.9% | 25.0-39.9% | 40.0%+

	2008-2012	% children ≤5	2012-2016	% children ≤5
Adams	504	20.7%	336	14.2%
Antelope	168	32.6%	90	19.4%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	26	31.3%	18	26.9%
Blaine	2	4.3%	11	25.0%
Boone	35	10.1%	25	5.8%
Box Butte	373	45.2%	152	19.5%
Boyd	24	18.5%	23	15.2%
Brown	40	19.2%	69	39.4%
Buffalo	614	16.4%	779	19.4%
Burt	38	8.4%	59	14.4%
Butler	57	10.1%	55	9.5%
Cass	169	8.6%	243	13.0%
Cedar	107	15.8%	130	19.5%
Chase	123	35.4%	61	23.3%
Cherry	43	12.8%	20	4.2%
Cheyenne	176	23.9%	146	18.6%
Clay	66	15.0%	82	17.7%
Colfax	244	25.0%	188	17.8%
Cuming	146	22.3%	232	34.2%
Custer	59	6.9%	84	12.1%
Dakota	812	39.8%	560	27.3%
Dawes	234	44.2%	115	18.6%
Dawson	386	17.9%	605	27.8%
Deuel	12	13.5%	10	8.7%
Dixon	75	16.4%	121	26.5%
Dodge	668	22.8%	608	21.3%
Douglas	10,100	21.4%	11,366	23.2%
Dundy	21	17.8%	22	17.2%
Fillmore	67	16.8%	46	16.2%
Franklin	23	10.6%	42	24.1%

	2008-2012	% children ≤5	2012-2016	% children ≤5
Frontier	14	8.6%	36	22.1%
Furnas	86	31.5%	52	20.6%
Gage	277	17.4%	264	18.2%
Garden	29	20.4%	6	5.5%
Garfield	6	6.1%	0	0.0%
Gosper	10	5.8%	2	1.8%
Grant	13	36.1%	15	33.3%
Greeley	19	10.7%	39	21.4%
Hall	1,501	26.6%	1,671	30.1%
Hamilton	134	18.5%	100	16.4%
Harlan	47	24.5%	66	25.7%
Hayes	17	19.5%	1	2.0%
Hitchcock	43	26.5%	78	41.7%
Holt	105	13.5%	46	6.4%
Hooker	8	17.4%	4	12.9%
Howard	57	11.4%	29	6.8%
Jefferson	131	27.8%	90	18.4%
Johnson	90	29.4%	46	14.8%
Kearney	20	4.5%	60	13.8%
Keith	171	34.3%	96	21.4%
Keya Paha	9	20.9%	12	27.9%
Kimball	57	21.3%	46	15.3%
Knox	123	20.0%	136	21.8%
Lancaster	4,900	20.7%	4,672	19.4%
Lincoln	448	15.3%	391	15.9%
Logan	7	22.6%	20	28.2%
Loup	6	24.0%	3	6.4%
Madison	797	26.1%	786	25.8%
McPherson	1	4.5%	3	8.8%
Merrick	161	32.5%	21	4.1%
Morrill	74	22.3%	49	16.3%

	2008-2012	% children ≤5	2012-2016	% children ≤5
Nance	45	15.3%	37	16.7%
Nemaha	78	15.1%	97	21.6%
Nuckolls	97	34.2%	32	13.2%
Otoe	217	19.6%	230	18.4%
Pawnee	45	24.5%	69	35.6%
Perkins	26	11.7%	24	11.4%
Phelps	118	17.4%	91	13.4%
Pierce	30	5.2%	32	5.9%
Platte	330	11.9%	246	8.7%
Polk	10	2.7%	34	10.8%
Red Willow	138	16.9%	116	17.1%
Richardson	209	45.1%	192	41.5%
Rock	0	0.0%	7	10.6%
Saline	219	19.0%	256	22.5%
Sarpy	1,641	10.6%	1,433	9.0%
Saunders	272	16.7%	375	22.1%
Scotts Bluff	803	26.7%	637	21.7%
Seward	54	4.7%	149	11.7%
Sheridan	127	36.2%	57	20.7%
Sherman	14	6.2%	26	13.1%
Sioux	4	5.6%	5	5.0%
Stanton	51	10.4%	51	11.0%
Thayer	49	12.8%	69	20.8%
Thomas	0	0.0%	2	4.9%
Thurston	321	38.1%	351	43.0%
Valley	58	19.2%	51	15.9%
Washington	111	8.1%	235	17.0%
Wayne	268	39.5%	63	11.4%
Webster	73	27.7%	36	16.1%
Wheeler	8	13.8%	5	11.4%
York	124	13.4%	131	11.6%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B17001.

Children of color in poverty (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)

Percent of children of color in poverty (2012-2016)

State	Number	% of children of color
2008-2012	40,075	33.2%
2012-2016	42,469	31.3%

Highest county	By number	By % of children of color
2008-2012	Douglas	4 with 100%
2012-2016	Douglas	Logan, Wheeler

Lowest county	By number	By % of children of color
2008-2012	12 with 0	12 with 0%
2012-2016	13 with 0	13 with 0%
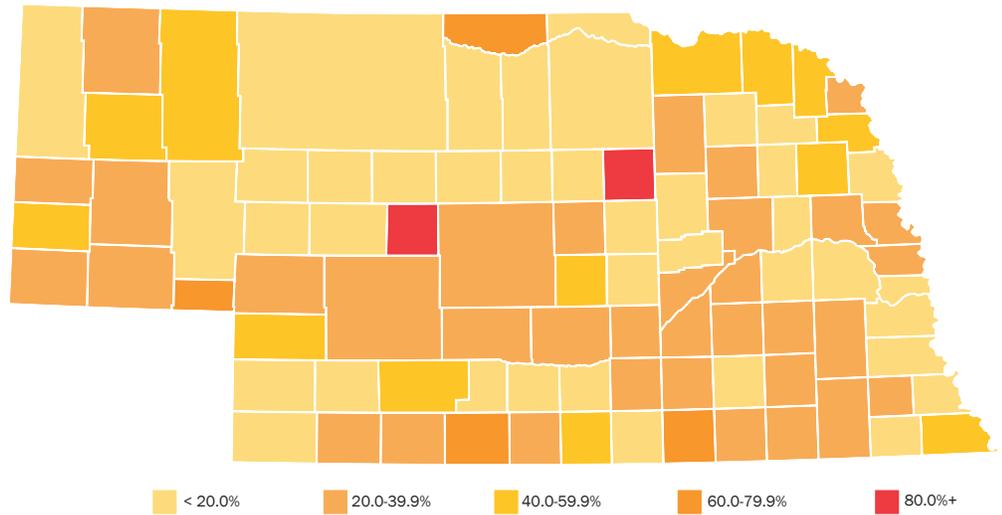
Legend: < 20.0% | 20.0-39.9% | 40.0-59.9% | 60.0-79.9% | 80.0%+

	2008-2012	% children of color	2012-2016	% children of color
Adams	371	26.7%	436	28.4%
Antelope	58	50.4%	36	33.3%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	8	32.0%	29	47.5%
Blaine	12	100.0%	0	0.0%
Boone	33	82.5%	8	10.5%
Box Butte	525	65.9%	468	56.1%
Boyd	5	20.0%	4	8.2%
Brown	0	0.0%	3	9.1%
Buffalo	392	22.8%	592	30.5%
Burt	20	13.2%	18	11.3%
Butler	13	11.5%	4	2.6%
Cass	22	4.4%	61	11.1%
Cedar	23	23.0%	54	47.0%
Chase	83	43.9%	14	6.4%
Cherry	10	5.9%	7	3.6%
Cheyenne	193	63.1%	91	24.9%
Clay	83	30.5%	88	32.5%
Colfax	465	27.1%	380	19.5%
Cuming	170	39.7%	229	56.7%
Custer	32	20.9%	56	26.7%
Dakota	1,108	30.8%	991	24.7%
Dawes	96	40.7%	88	24.1%
Dawson	759	21.9%	1,041	30.2%
Deuel	17	47.2%	21	65.6%
Dixon	108	37.5%	153	48.9%
Dodge	609	33.4%	533	26.0%
Douglas	18,861	36.1%	20,643	35.5%
Dundy	1	2.4%	0	0.0%
Fillmore	6	14.3%	9	6.7%
Franklin	11	44.0%	16	57.1%

	2008-2012	% children of color	2012-2016	% children of color
Frontier	3	27.3%	11	52.4%
Furnas	53	63.1%	83	65.4%
Gage	118	30.4%	168	39.3%
Garden	10	37.0%	4	7.0%
Garfield	13	100.0%	5	15.2%
Gosper	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grant	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Greeley	23	0.0%	6	15.0%
Hall	1,892	29.8%	2,491	33.5%
Hamilton	25	17.6%	57	32.2%
Harlan	12	41.4%	32	31.7%
Hayes	3	17.6%	0	0.0%
Hitchcock	10	47.6%	2	20.0%
Holt	43	24.6%	22	8.6%
Hooker	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	12	13.0%	10	10.1%
Jefferson	78	53.4%	47	35.1%
Johnson	51	25.5%	63	39.6%
Kearney	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Keith	65	32.5%	87	34.9%
Keya Paha	6	0.0%	3	60.0%
Kimball	53	31.7%	45	29.4%
Knox	186	45.9%	208	41.9%
Lancaster	5,681	36.0%	5,417	30.1%
Lincoln	324	23.3%	471	32.9%
Logan	7	100.0%	4	100.0%
Loup	18	62.1%	0	0.0%
Madison	987	43.2%	1,085	38.8%
McPherson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Merrick	60	42.0%	52	33.1%
Morrill	56	20.4%	119	39.5%

	2008-2012	% children of color	2012-2016	% children of color
Nance	21	70.0%	2	8.3%
Nemaha	33	50.0%	8	9.5%
Nuckolls	35	40.2%	35	67.3%
Otoe	251	43.7%	116	17.2%
Pawnee	0	0.0%	4	13.8%
Perkins	10	37.0%	13	40.6%
Phelps	11	6.1%	13	4.9%
Pierce	12	15.6%	13	15.7%
Platte	766	35.4%	679	27.0%
Polk	15	16.3%	37	26.4%
Red Willow	31	13.7%	89	24.9%
Richardson	57	27.9%	89	40.3%
Rock	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Saline	521	40.1%	336	23.1%
Sarpy	1,982	20.4%	1,482	13.7%
Saunders	77	24.3%	46	11.0%
Scotts Bluff	1,061	31.1%	1,265	35.1%
Seward	49	19.4%	98	32.8%
Sheridan	141	39.5%	232	55.1%
Sherman	32	91.4%	19	45.2%
Sioux	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Stanton	46	23.4%	13	6.1%
Thayer	47	54.7%	22	34.9%
Thomas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Thurston	778	41.6%	975	50.4%
Valley	21	44.7%	12	29.3%
Washington	0	0.0%	140	32.3%
Wayne	81	40.9%	23	9.6%
Webster	51	48.1%	17	13.5%
Wheeler	3	100.0%	1	100.0%
York	60	21.9%	125	28.0%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B17001.

Children 5 and under with all available parents working (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)

Percent of children 5 and under with all available parents working (2012-2016)

State	Number	% of all children
2008-2012	112,004	73.9%
2012-2016	110,101	72.2%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	Douglas	Garden, Loup
2012-2016	Douglas	Gosper

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	McPherson	Banner
2012-2016	Hayes	Hayes

Legend: <50.0% | 50.0-59.9% | 60.0-69.9% | 70.0-79.9% | 80.0%+
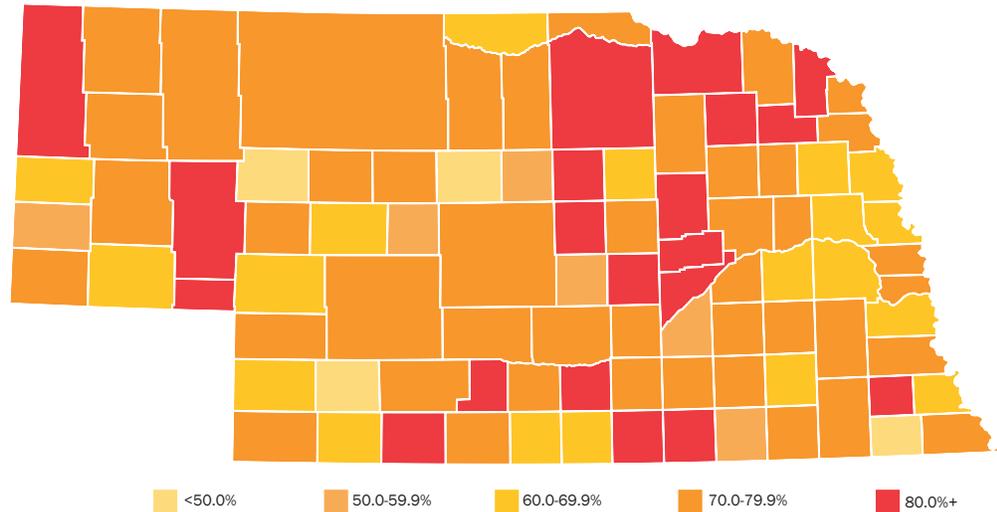
	2008-2012	% children ≤5	2012-2016	% children ≤5
Adams	1,773	73.2%	1,797	77.2%
Antelope	341	66.3%	344	74.6%
Arthur	54	85.7%	28	73.7%
Banner	25	30.1%	37	58.7%
Blaine	34	73.9%	20	45.5%
Boone	284	81.6%	373	88.8%
Box Butte	406	51.5%	569	74.2%
Boyd	78	60.0%	109	72.2%
Brown	156	77.2%	129	73.7%
Buffalo	2,806	75.1%	2,979	74.4%
Burt	291	66.3%	279	68.0%
Butler	316	59.8%	383	66.5%
Cass	1,363	69.9%	1,144	62.0%
Cedar	527	78.0%	512	77.0%
Chase	213	61.4%	169	64.5%
Cherry	268	79.5%	374	79.4%
Cheyenne	550	74.9%	528	68.1%
Clay	286	69.1%	300	70.4%
Colfax	601	66.9%	745	75.3%
Cuming	467	71.6%	459	69.1%
Custer	590	71.6%	483	70.3%
Dakota	1,299	65.7%	1,432	73.1%
Dawes	396	74.9%	433	70.0%
Dawson	1,608	75.8%	1,677	78.5%
Deuel	63	70.8%	94	82.5%
Dixon	368	81.8%	405	90.0%
Dodge	2,205	76.3%	1,892	67.9%
Douglas	33,785	72.6%	34,272	71.2%
Dundy	61	51.7%	81	71.7%
Fillmore	299	74.8%	226	79.6%
Franklin	172	79.6%	115	66.1%

	2008-2012	% children ≤5	2012-2016	% children ≤5
Frontier	85	52.5%	124	76.1%
Furnas	159	59.1%	197	77.9%
Gage	1,234	82.2%	1,001	74.0%
Garden	142	100.0%	101	91.8%
Garfield	90	91.8%	116	94.3%
Gosper	150	86.7%	107	96.4%
Grant	27	75.0%	22	48.9%
Greeley	120	67.4%	137	75.3%
Hall	4,131	73.4%	3,877	71.4%
Hamilton	532	73.8%	351	59.7%
Harlan	130	68.1%	162	63.0%
Hayes	75	86.2%	6	12.2%
Hitchcock	94	59.9%	106	62.7%
Holt	665	86.3%	567	81.8%
Hooker	32	69.6%	24	77.4%
Howard	357	71.1%	373	88.0%
Jefferson	405	86.0%	364	76.5%
Johnson	183	60.8%	250	82.0%
Kearney	365	82.4%	372	85.3%
Keith	393	78.8%	310	69.2%
Keya Paha	26	60.5%	29	67.4%
Kimball	162	60.7%	227	75.7%
Knox	494	82.3%	516	84.5%
Lancaster	18,227	77.3%	17,289	72.3%
Lincoln	2,294	80.4%	1,721	71.2%
Logan	20	64.5%	30	50.0%
Loup	25	100.0%	21	53.8%
Madison	2,333	76.5%	2,250	74.2%
McPherson	12	54.5%	21	61.8%
Merrick	363	73.2%	433	86.3%
Morrill	193	58.5%	205	79.2%

	2008-2012	% children ≤5	2012-2016	% children ≤5
Nance	255	86.7%	207	93.7%
Nemaha	304	59.3%	297	67.2%
Nuckolls	213	77.5%	226	93.0%
Otoe	885	80.2%	925	74.4%
Pawnee	113	64.6%	76	39.6%
Perkins	191	85.7%	147	73.9%
Phelps	445	66.5%	527	77.8%
Pierce	507	87.1%	453	83.3%
Platte	2,238	81.9%	2,093	74.5%
Polk	314	86.0%	233	74.2%
Red Willow	672	82.2%	554	81.6%
Richardson	227	49.0%	338	74.3%
Rock	64	82.1%	51	77.3%
Saline	740	69.3%	795	69.9%
Sarpy	11,156	72.2%	11,228	70.8%
Saunders	1,202	74.6%	1,125	68.7%
Scotts Bluff	2,170	73.0%	1,973	68.6%
Seward	938	82.3%	903	70.8%
Sheridan	208	59.6%	210	79.5%
Sherman	121	53.8%	117	59.1%
Sioux	42	59.2%	83	82.2%
Stanton	332	67.5%	335	72.5%
Thayer	281	73.6%	195	58.9%
Thomas	42	61.8%	31	75.6%
Thurston	610	76.8%	523	70.3%
Valley	204	69.2%	267	83.2%
Washington	883	64.7%	934	68.5%
Wayne	470	69.3%	469	84.7%
Webster	240	90.9%	205	91.5%
Wheeler	36	62.1%	29	65.9%
York	698	75.2%	855	76.6%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B23008.

Total births (2013 & 2017)

Percent change in total births (2013 to 2017)

State	Number
2013	26,094
2017	25,833

Highest county	2017
By number	Douglas
By percent change	Loup

Lowest county	2017
By number	Arthur
By percent change	Logan

-20.0% or less | -19.9% to -6.0% | -5.9% to 5.9% | 6.0% to 19.9% | 20.0%+
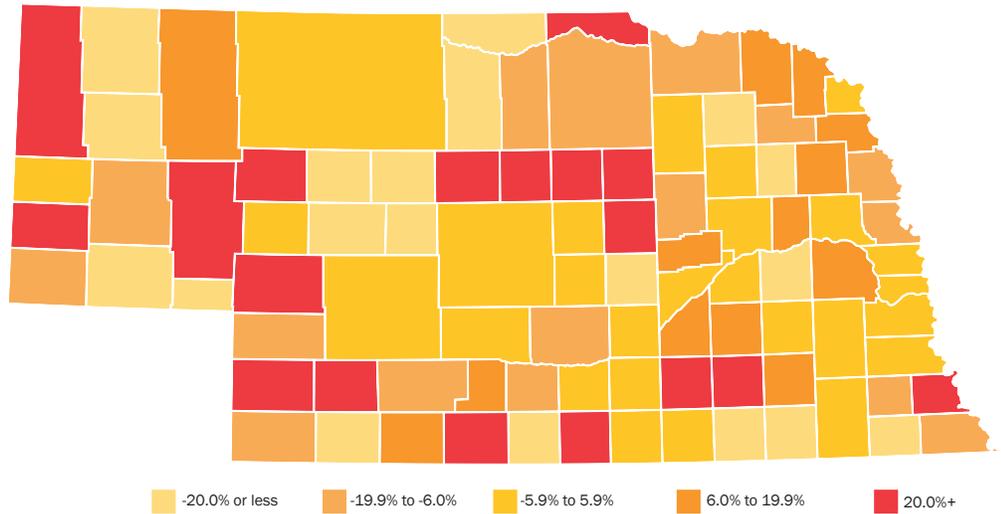
	2013	2017	% Change
Adams	394	409	3.8%
Antelope	90	86	-4.4%
Arthur	2	2	0.0%
Banner	4	6	50.0%
Blaine	3	4	33.3%
Boone	65	55	-15.4%
Box Butte	161	128	-20.5%
Boyd	14	17	21.4%
Brown	32	23	-28.1%
Buffalo	730	665	-8.9%
Burt	69	63	-8.7%
Butler	98	74	-24.5%
Cass	282	278	-1.4%
Cedar	94	107	13.8%
Chase	40	53	32.5%
Cherry	75	79	5.3%
Cheyenne	130	98	-24.6%
Clay	75	90	20.0%
Colfax	176	199	13.1%
Cuming	99	111	12.1%
Custer	130	127	-2.3%
Dakota	355	370	4.2%
Dawes	93	67	-28.0%
Dawson	390	412	5.6%
Deuel	17	12	-29.4%
Dixon	77	83	7.8%
Dodge	476	460	-3.4%
Douglas	8,372	8,313	-0.7%
Dundy	18	16	-11.1%
Fillmore	48	66	37.5%
Franklin	27	41	51.9%

	2013	2017	% Change
Frontier	26	23	-11.5%
Furnas	46	61	32.6%
Gage	250	253	1.2%
Garden	16	21	31.3%
Garfield	15	18	20.0%
Gosper	21	25	19.0%
Grant	8	11	37.5%
Greeley	21	28	33.3%
Hall	935	924	-1.2%
Hamilton	111	125	12.6%
Harlan	40	32	-20.0%
Hayes	14	18	28.6%
Hitchcock	29	20	-31.0%
Holt	154	142	-7.8%
Hooker	8	6	-25.0%
Howard	74	59	-20.3%
Jefferson	90	69	-23.3%
Johnson	42	38	-9.5%
Kearney	71	72	1.4%
Keith	73	92	26.0%
Keya Paha	8	5	-37.5%
Kimball	39	36	-7.7%
Knox	111	104	-6.3%
Lancaster	4,030	3,925	-2.6%
Lincoln	420	428	1.9%
Logan	14	8	-42.9%
Loup	3	8	166.7%
Madison	532	512	-3.8%
McPherson	5	3	-40.0%
Merrick	94	91	-3.2%
Morrill	50	43	-14.0%

	2013	2017	% Change
Nance	35	41	17.1%
Nemaha	81	102	25.9%
Nuckolls	43	44	2.3%
Otoe	189	197	4.2%
Pawnee	43	32	-25.6%
Perkins	43	36	-16.3%
Phelps	126	112	-11.1%
Pierce	100	80	-20.0%
Platte	484	482	-0.4%
Polk	62	63	1.6%
Red Willow	121	144	19.0%
Richardson	111	90	-18.9%
Rock	12	10	-16.7%
Saline	184	198	7.6%
Sarpy	2,538	2,588	2.0%
Saunders	226	254	12.4%
Scotts Bluff	531	500	-5.8%
Seward	174	180	3.4%
Sheridan	54	64	18.5%
Sherman	38	40	5.3%
Sioux	8	12	50.0%
Stanton	80	64	-20.0%
Thayer	80	47	-41.3%
Thomas	11	7	-36.4%
Thurston	138	157	13.8%
Valley	47	45	-4.3%
Washington	239	218	-8.8%
Wayne	111	96	-13.5%
Webster	29	30	3.4%
Wheeler	5	7	40.0%
York	165	179	8.5%

Source: Vital Statistics, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Births to mothers ages 10-17 (2013 & 2017)

Percent of all births to mothers ages 10-17 (2017)

State	Number	% of births
2013	469	1.8%
2017	332	1.2%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2013	Douglas	Dundy
2017	Douglas	Richardson

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2013	42 with 0	42 with 0%
2017	55 with 0	55 with 0%

Legend: 0.0% | 0.1-0.9% | 1.0-1.9% | 2.0-2.9% | 3.0%+
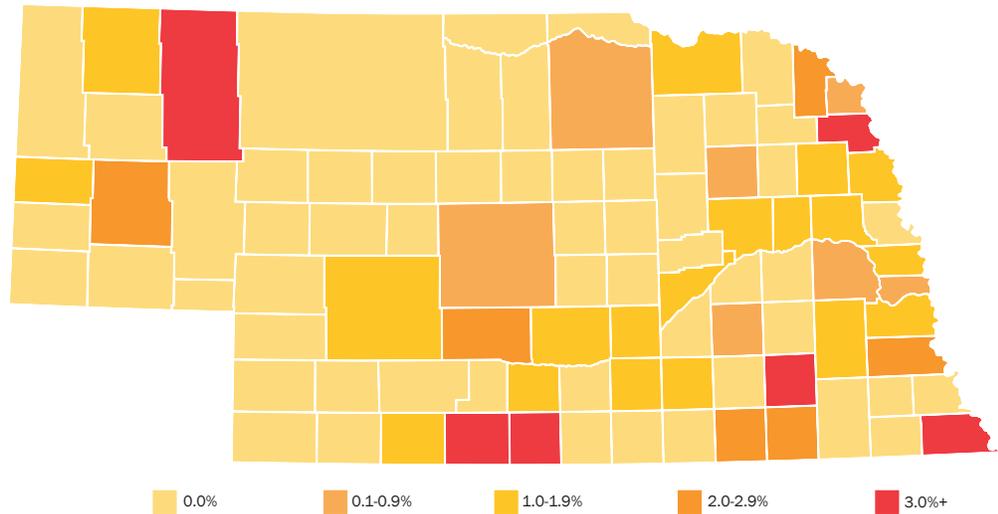
	2013	% of births	2017	% of births
Adams	11	2.8%	5	1.2%
Antelope	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Blaine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Boone	3	4.6%	0	0.0%
Box Butte	8	5.0%	0	0.0%
Boyd	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Buffalo	11	1.5%	11	1.7%
Burt	0	0.0%	1	1.6%
Butler	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cass	6	2.1%	3	1.1%
Cedar	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Chase	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cherry	2	2.7%	0	0.0%
Cheyenne	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clay	4	5.3%	1	1.1%
Colfax	5	2.8%	2	1.0%
Cuming	3	3.0%	2	1.8%
Custer	4	3.1%	1	0.8%
Dakota	9	2.5%	3	0.8%
Dawes	2	2.2%	1	1.5%
Dawson	16	4.1%	11	2.7%
Deuel	1	5.9%	0	0.0%
Dixon	3	3.9%	2	2.4%
Dodge	9	1.9%	8	1.7%
Douglas	126	1.5%	105	1.3%
Dundy	2	11.1%	0	0.0%
Fillmore	1	2.1%	0	0.0%
Franklin	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

	2013	% of births	2017	% of births
Frontier	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Furnas	1	2.2%	2	3.3%
Gage	3	1.2%	0	0.0%
Garden	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Gosper	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grant	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Greeley	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hall	29	3.1%	17	1.8%
Hamilton	3	2.7%	0	0.0%
Harlan	0	0.0%	1	3.1%
Hayes	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hitchcock	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Holt	1	0.6%	1	0.7%
Hooker	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	1	1.4%	0	0.0%
Jefferson	4	4.4%	2	2.9%
Johnson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kearney	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Keith	3	4.1%	0	0.0%
Keya Paha	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kimball	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Knox	0	0.0%	1	1.0%
Lancaster	57	1.4%	50	1.3%
Lincoln	7	1.7%	8	1.9%
Logan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Loup	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Madison	13	2.4%	4	0.8%
McPherson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Merrick	1	1.1%	1	1.1%
Morrill	0	0.0%	1	2.3%

	2013	% of births	2017	% of births
Nance	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Nemaha	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Nuckolls	1	2.3%	0	0.0%
Otoe	3	1.6%	5	2.5%
Pawnee	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Perkins	2	4.7%	0	0.0%
Phelps	1	0.8%	2	1.8%
Pierce	1	1.0%	0	0.0%
Platte	5	1.0%	5	1.0%
Polk	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Red Willow	0	0.0%	2	1.4%
Richardson	4	3.6%	4	4.4%
Rock	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Saline	2	1.1%	6	3.0%
Sarpy	19	0.7%	13	0.5%
Saunders	2	0.9%	1	0.4%
Scotts Bluff	13	2.4%	7	1.4%
Seward	3	1.7%	0	0.0%
Sheridan	1	1.9%	2	3.1%
Sherman	1	2.6%	0	0.0%
Sioux	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Stanton	2	2.5%	0	0.0%
Thayer	1	1.3%	1	2.1%
Thomas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Thurston	1	0.7%	5	3.2%
Valley	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Washington	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
Wayne	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Webster	1	3.4%	0	0.0%
Wheeler	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
York	4	2.4%	1	0.6%

Source: Vital Statistics, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Low birth weight births (2013 & 2017)

Percent low birth weight births (2017)

State	Number	% of births
2013	1,690	6.5%
2017	1,932	7.5%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2013	Douglas	Blaine
2017	Douglas	Garden

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2013	16 with 0	16 with 0%
2017	13 with 0	13 with 0%
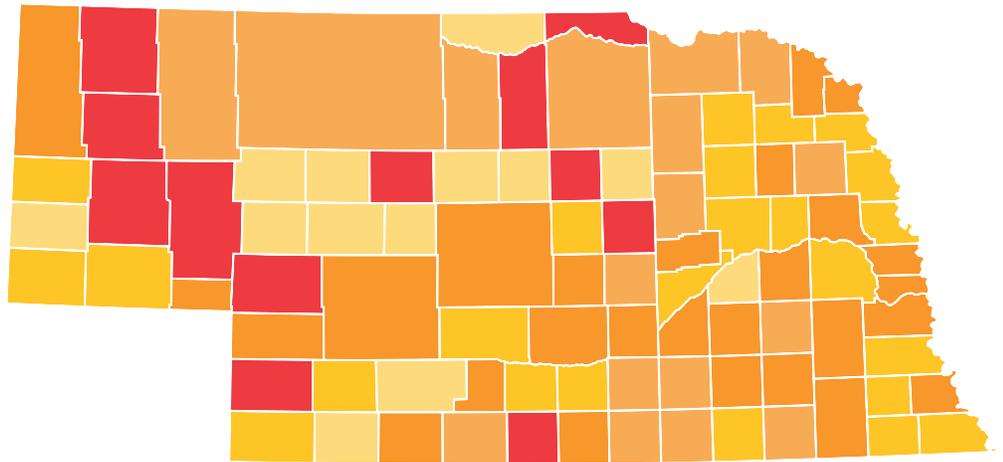
Legend: 0.0% | 0.1-4.9% | 5.0-6.9% | 7.0-9.9% | 10.0%+

	2013	% of births	2017	% of births
Adams	22	5.6%	15	3.7%
Antelope	3	3.3%	4	4.7%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Blaine	1	33.3%	0	0.0%
Boone	4	6.2%	1	1.8%
Box Butte	14	8.7%	15	11.7%
Boyd	0	0.0%	2	11.8%
Brown	5	15.6%	1	4.3%
Buffalo	42	5.8%	60	9.0%
Burt	6	8.7%	4	6.3%
Butler	6	6.1%	6	8.1%
Cass	29	10.3%	27	9.7%
Cedar	3	3.2%	4	3.7%
Chase	2	5.0%	6	11.3%
Cherry	6	8.0%	3	3.8%
Cheyenne	12	9.2%	6	6.1%
Clay	6	8.0%	2	2.2%
Colfax	5	2.8%	11	5.5%
Cuming	6	6.1%	1	0.9%
Custer	5	3.8%	10	7.9%
Dakota	16	4.5%	28	7.6%
Dawes	4	4.3%	7	10.4%
Dawson	22	5.6%	25	6.1%
Deuel	0	0.0%	1	8.3%
Dixon	4	5.2%	7	8.4%
Dodge	24	5.0%	32	7.0%
Douglas	633	7.6%	700	8.4%
Dundy	3	16.7%	1	6.3%
Fillmore	1	2.1%	6	9.1%
Franklin	2	7.4%	3	7.3%

	2013	% of births	2017	% of births
Frontier	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Furnas	3	6.5%	2	3.3%
Gage	15	6.0%	25	9.9%
Garden	1	6.3%	4	19.0%
Garfield	0	0.0%	3	16.7%
Gosper	5	23.8%	2	8.0%
Grant	1	12.5%	0	0.0%
Greeley	2	9.5%	4	14.3%
Hall	60	6.4%	73	7.9%
Hamilton	1	0.9%	12	9.6%
Harlan	2	5.0%	4	12.5%
Hayes	0	0.0%	1	5.6%
Hitchcock	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Holt	4	2.6%	6	4.2%
Hooker	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	7	9.5%	1	1.7%
Jefferson	6	6.7%	3	4.3%
Johnson	3	7.1%	2	5.3%
Kearney	5	7.0%	5	6.9%
Keith	5	6.8%	13	14.1%
Keya Paha	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kimball	3	7.7%	2	5.6%
Knox	7	6.3%	4	3.8%
Lancaster	251	6.2%	294	7.5%
Lincoln	27	6.4%	35	8.2%
Logan	2	14.3%	0	0.0%
Loup	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Madison	30	5.6%	26	5.1%
McPherson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Merrick	6	6.4%	6	6.6%
Morrill	4	8.0%	7	16.3%

	2013	% of births	2017	% of births
Nance	2	5.7%	4	9.8%
Nemaha	3	3.7%	8	7.8%
Nuckolls	3	7.0%	1	2.3%
Otoe	12	6.3%	13	6.6%
Pawnee	0	0.0%	2	6.3%
Perkins	5	11.6%	3	8.3%
Phelps	12	9.5%	6	5.4%
Pierce	4	4.0%	5	6.3%
Platte	20	4.1%	33	6.8%
Polk	4	6.5%	0	0.0%
Red Willow	10	8.3%	11	7.6%
Richardson	5	4.5%	5	5.6%
Rock	1	8.3%	1	10.0%
Saline	9	4.9%	18	9.1%
Sarpy	142	5.6%	180	7.0%
Saunders	9	4.0%	16	6.3%
Scotts Bluff	44	8.3%	34	6.8%
Seward	10	5.7%	7	3.9%
Sheridan	3	5.6%	3	4.7%
Sherman	5	13.2%	3	7.5%
Sioux	0	0.0%	1	8.3%
Stanton	4	5.0%	5	7.8%
Thayer	5	6.3%	3	6.4%
Thomas	1	9.1%	1	14.3%
Thurston	6	4.3%	8	5.1%
Valley	0	0.0%	3	6.7%
Washington	13	5.4%	14	6.4%
Wayne	5	4.5%	5	5.2%
Webster	2	6.9%	1	3.3%
Wheeler	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
York	15	9.1%	16	8.9%

Source: Vital Statistics, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Children without health insurance (2012 & 2016)

Percent of children without health insurance (2016)

State	Number	% of all children
2012	30,816	6.5%
2016	24,859	5.1%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2012	Douglas	Hayes
2016	Douglas	Hayes

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2012	Loup	Washington
2016	McPherson	Sarpy

< 4.5%   4.5-5.9%   6.0-7.4%   7.5-8.9%   9%+
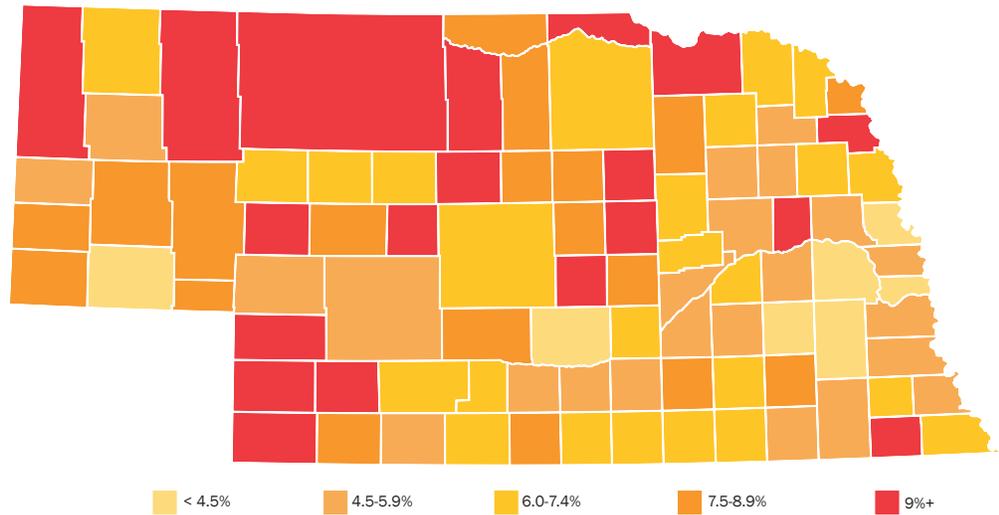
	2012	% of all children	2016	% of all children
Adams	548	7.1%	390	5.1%
Antelope	124	7.8%	124	8.1%
Arthur	19	13.4%	14	10.4%
Banner	21	14.5%	13	7.9%
Blaine	21	16.1%	16	15.1%
Boone	101	7.9%	93	7.2%
Box Butte	187	6.4%	162	5.5%
Boyd	40	9.4%	40	9.8%
Brown	76	11.1%	60	9.2%
Buffalo	687	6.0%	500	4.2%
Burt	121	7.9%	109	7.3%
Butler	131	6.4%	98	5.1%
Cass	345	5.4%	305	4.7%
Cedar	187	8.6%	164	7.3%
Chase	99	9.9%	113	11.2%
Cherry	119	9.2%	141	10.4%
Cheyenne	130	5.3%	109	4.4%
Clay	136	8.3%	133	8.6%
Colfax	325	10.0%	290	9.0%
Cuming	207	9.1%	169	7.4%
Custer	192	7.5%	192	7.4%
Dakota	544	8.6%	518	8.7%
Dawes	155	8.2%	126	7.4%
Dawson	614	8.8%	578	8.8%
Deuel	37	8.7%	33	8.1%
Dixon	126	8.3%	110	7.4%
Dodge	626	7.1%	504	5.7%
Douglas	8,383	5.9%	7,017	4.8%
Dundy	66	13.9%	45	12.1%
Fillmore	84	6.7%	77	7.0%
Franklin	52	7.7%	39	6.7%

	2012	% of all children	2016	% of all children
Frontier	51	8.6%	37	7.0%
Furnas	93	8.1%	75	6.9%
Gage	308	6.1%	224	4.5%
Garden	31	9.0%	30	8.2%
Garfield	46	11.1%	34	8.7%
Gosper	35	7.5%	31	6.8%
Grant	14	10.8%	9	6.4%
Greeley	67	11.7%	77	13.5%
Hall	1,350	8.0%	1,131	6.6%
Hamilton	123	5.4%	108	4.6%
Harlan	58	8.0%	59	7.6%
Hayes	37	18.0%	36	20.8%
Hitchcock	56	8.9%	55	8.5%
Holt	200	8.0%	186	7.2%
Hooker	17	10.5%	10	6.1%
Howard	129	8.3%	121	7.5%
Jefferson	108	6.5%	84	5.3%
Johnson	90	8.6%	69	6.6%
Kearney	82	5.3%	81	4.9%
Keith	131	7.5%	94	5.5%
Keya Paha	28	15.7%	14	8.8%
Kimball	78	8.9%	67	7.9%
Knox	241	11.4%	211	9.8%
Lancaster	4,063	5.9%	2,922	4.0%
Lincoln	535	5.8%	416	4.8%
Logan	21	11.3%	23	10.5%
Loup	12	9.3%	10	8.6%
Madison	701	7.9%	493	5.6%
McPherson	18	12.4%	10	8.6%
Merrick	126	6.6%	97	5.3%
Morrill	111	9.2%	95	7.9%

	2012	% of all children	2016	% of all children
Nance	74	8.4%	57	6.7%
Nemaha	91	5.7%	70	4.5%
Nuckolls	84	9.1%	61	7.0%
Otoe	226	5.9%	216	5.6%
Pawnee	57	9.6%	58	9.7%
Perkins	58	8.1%	70	9.4%
Phelps	130	5.6%	125	5.3%
Pierce	146	7.9%	115	6.3%
Platte	674	7.6%	492	5.6%
Polk	98	7.4%	76	6.2%
Red Willow	164	6.3%	129	5.3%
Richardson	131	7.3%	112	6.4%
Rock	43	15.2%	25	8.9%
Saline	307	8.4%	323	8.9%
Sarpy	2,422	5.0%	1,511	2.9%
Saunders	298	5.5%	231	4.3%
Scotts Bluff	700	7.5%	533	5.8%
Seward	196	4.9%	186	4.4%
Sheridan	128	10.6%	124	10.4%
Sherman	62	9.1%	69	10.3%
Sioux	29	9.4%	25	9.7%
Stanton	102	6.3%	76	5.0%
Thayer	88	8.0%	87	7.3%
Thomas	26	16.4%	13	7.3%
Thurston	290	10.8%	284	10.9%
Valley	90	9.4%	86	8.7%
Washington	234	4.6%	185	3.5%
Wayne	124	6.3%	97	5.0%
Webster	65	7.7%	48	6.0%
Wheeler	26	14.0%	16	9.1%
York	190	6.1%	168	5.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

Children enrolled in public health insurance (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)*

Percent of children enrolled in public health insurance (2012-2016)

Legend	
0-19.9%	
20.0-24.9%	
25.0-29.9%	
30.0-34.9%	
35.0%+	

State	Number	% of all children
2008-2012	128,533	28.2%
2012-2016	167,679	29.5%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	Douglas	Loup
2012-2016	Douglas	Dundy

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	McPherson	Arthur
2012-2016	Hooker	Hooker

	2008-2012	% of all children	2012-2016	% of all children
Adams	2,281	30.5%	1,715	23.0%
Antelope	523	33.4%	371	25.0%
Arthur	15	9.9%	30	21.7%
Banner	43	21.5%	78	42.2%
Blaine	59	38.1%	55	38.2%
Boone	292	22.5%	134	10.8%
Box Butte	1,211	42.3%	1,070	37.3%
Boyd	196	45.0%	179	37.5%
Brown	255	35.7%	211	33.8%
Buffalo	3,155	29.1%	3,130	27.9%
Burt	350	23.0%	414	28.2%
Butler	356	17.6%	489	25.1%
Cass	993	15.6%	1,197	19.2%
Cedar	465	21.1%	404	18.9%
Chase	378	40.1%	279	27.2%
Cherry	234	19.3%	354	29.2%
Cheyenne	767	32.7%	546	22.6%
Clay	465	28.4%	526	34.4%
Colfax	894	29.8%	1,057	33.7%
Cuming	402	17.8%	625	28.2%
Custer	861	33.3%	860	34.1%
Dakota	1,852	30.8%	2,412	40.0%
Dawes	644	38.3%	347	21.0%
Dawson	2,721	39.2%	2,424	36.5%
Deuel	104	26.3%	96	25.7%
Dixon	485	31.1%	407	27.9%
Dodge	2,804	32.2%	3,055	35.7%
Douglas	41,940	31.2%	46,560	33.3%
Dundy	149	33.8%	198	54.0%
Fillmore	260	20.4%	217	19.6%
Franklin	221	33.0%	236	39.9%

	2008-2012	% of all children	2012-2016	% of all children
Frontier	97	17.8%	123	23.0%
Furnas	370	32.5%	424	38.1%
Gage	1,432	28.3%	1,433	29.6%
Garden	78	24.8%	134	35.6%
Garfield	167	35.2%	155	38.4%
Gosper	148	31.1%	65	15.2%
Grant	30	21.6%	30	23.3%
Greeley	243	40.3%	202	34.4%
Hall	5,483	34.3%	6,220	37.6%
Hamilton	533	23.1%	612	27.5%
Harlan	214	29.9%	198	25.4%
Hayes	36	14.4%	75	38.3%
Hitchcock	181	30.3%	268	43.1%
Holt	463	19.0%	531	21.4%
Hooker	20	13.7%	8	8.0%
Howard	300	19.6%	244	16.2%
Jefferson	594	36.2%	549	34.4%
Johnson	238	23.5%	297	30.1%
Kearney	290	18.7%	283	17.8%
Keith	657	37.7%	668	39.8%
Keya Paha	63	48.1%	34	23.0%
Kimball	320	37.8%	309	36.5%
Knox	667	32.5%	635	30.4%
Lancaster	18,208	27.6%	20,390	29.3%
Lincoln	2,358	26.2%	2,229	25.7%
Logan	28	18.7%	44	20.0%
Loup	77	62.6%	34	32.4%
Madison	2,889	33.3%	3,215	36.7%
McPherson	6	10.5%	12	12.9%
Merrick	557	29.7%	579	32.6%
Morrill	456	38.7%	360	31.1%

	2008-2012	% of all children	2012-2016	% of all children
Nance	178	20.4%	177	21.7%
Nemaha	419	27.6%	413	27.9%
Nuckolls	352	37.1%	316	35.9%
Otoe	989	25.6%	1,044	27.6%
Pawnee	159	27.7%	236	42.0%
Perkins	154	22.4%	107	15.7%
Phelps	492	22.2%	430	19.0%
Pierce	410	21.9%	396	22.3%
Platte	1,966	23.0%	1,739	20.3%
Polk	208	15.9%	238	19.6%
Red Willow	674	26.8%	746	29.5%
Richardson	605	33.9%	611	35.7%
Rock	114	38.5%	54	23.8%
Saline	1,209	34.7%	952	27.7%
Sarpy	7,611	16.7%	8,713	18.0%
Saunders	921	17.4%	1,248	23.7%
Scotts Bluff	3,795	41.7%	3,903	43.0%
Seward	622	15.9%	743	18.5%
Sheridan	383	30.5%	434	35.7%
Sherman	173	25.0%	147	22.0%
Sioux	47	18.0%	88	33.8%
Stanton	506	30.6%	396	25.2%
Thayer	337	30.2%	334	30.7%
Thomas	36	14.9%	33	20.9%
Thurston	1,157	46.9%	1,274	51.1%
Valley	344	36.0%	312	33.1%
Washington	770	15.5%	916	18.7%
Wayne	517	28.0%	376	20.6%
Webster	208	24.3%	278	33.7%
Wheeler	42	28.8%	40	27.4%
York	557	18.3%	949	30.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B27003.
Due to changes in data source, this data is not comparable to prior year's data.

Family Bottom Line full-time hourly wage (2017)

Family Bottom Line hourly wage - 2 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler family (2017)

Highest county	Hourly wage
2 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	Sarpy
1 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	Sarpy

Lowest county	Hourly wage
2 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	Thurston
1 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	Thurston
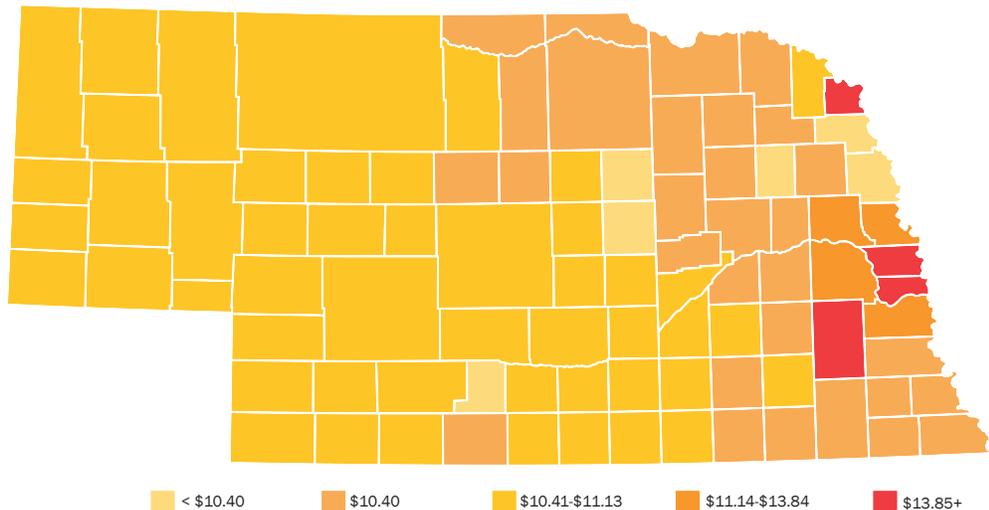
Legend: < $10.40 | $10.40 | $10.41-$11.13 | $11.14-$13.84 | $13.85+

	2 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	1 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler
Adams	$10.91	$17.86
Antelope	$10.40	$17.21
Arthur	$10.42	$17.25
Banner	$10.42	$17.25
Blaine	$10.40	$17.21
Boone	$10.40	$17.21
Box Butte	$10.44	$17.28
Boyd	$10.40	$17.21
Brown	$10.44	$17.28
Buffalo	$10.91	$18.18
Burt	$10.35	$17.11
Butler	$10.40	$17.22
Cass	$11.14	$18.70
Cedar	$10.40	$17.21
Chase	$10.43	$17.27
Cherry	$10.44	$17.28
Cheyenne	$10.44	$17.28
Clay	$10.63	$17.77
Colfax	$10.40	$17.22
Cuming	$10.40	$17.21
Custer	$10.42	$17.25
Dakota	$13.85	$24.58
Dawes	$10.44	$17.28
Dawson	$10.53	$17.56
Deuel	$10.43	$17.27
Dixon	$10.48	$17.32
Dodge	$11.05	$18.48
Douglas	$13.90	$24.70
Dundy	$10.44	$17.28
Fillmore	$10.40	$17.22
Franklin	$10.63	$17.75

	2 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	1 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler
Frontier	$10.42	$17.26
Furnas	$10.40	$17.22
Gage	$10.40	$17.22
Garden	$10.44	$17.28
Garfield	$10.41	$17.23
Gosper	$10.39	$17.19
Grant	$10.43	$17.27
Greeley	$10.39	$17.21
Hall	$10.58	$17.66
Hamilton	$10.41	$17.23
Harlan	$10.65	$17.78
Hayes	$10.42	$17.25
Hitchcock	$10.42	$17.25
Holt	$10.40	$17.21
Hooker	$10.43	$17.27
Howard	$10.41	$17.23
Jefferson	$10.40	$17.22
Johnson	$10.40	$17.22
Kearney	$10.64	$17.77
Keith	$10.44	$17.28
Keya Paha	$10.40	$17.22
Kimball	$10.44	$17.28
Knox	$10.40	$17.21
Lancaster	$13.47	$23.87
Lincoln	$10.57	$17.64
Logan	$10.42	$17.25
Loup	$10.40	$17.21
Madison	$10.40	$17.22
McPherson	$10.50	$17.48
Merrick	$10.41	$17.23
Morrill	$10.43	$17.27

	2 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler	1 adult, 1 infant, 1 toddler
Nance	$10.40	$17.21
Nemaha	$10.40	$17.21
Nuckolls	$10.63	$17.77
Otoe	$10.40	$17.22
Pawnee	$10.40	$17.22
Perkins	$10.42	$17.25
Phelps	$10.65	$17.78
Pierce	$10.40	$17.21
Platte	$10.40	$17.22
Polk	$10.40	$17.22
Red Willow	$10.44	$17.28
Richardson	$10.40	$17.22
Rock	$10.40	$17.22
Saline	$10.58	$17.66
Sarpy	$14.32	$25.57
Saunders	$11.10	$18.58
Scotts Bluff	$10.44	$17.28
Seward	$10.40	$17.21
Sheridan	$10.43	$17.27
Sherman	$10.42	$17.25
Sioux	$10.43	$17.27
Stanton	$10.38	$17.19
Thayer	$10.40	$17.21
Thomas	$10.42	$17.25
Thurston	$10.34	$17.10
Valley	$10.42	$17.25
Washington	$11.43	$19.38
Wayne	$10.40	$17.21
Webster	$10.64	$17.78
Wheeler	$10.39	$17.21
York	$10.65	$17.81

Source: Center for Women's Welfare, "The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Nebraska"(2010).
Note: Calculation based on 2,080 hours worked annually per adult. Figures were updated for inflation from 2010 to 2017 by Voices for Children in Nebraska.

Average monthly number of families on ADC (SFY 2013 & 2017)

Average percent of families on ADC (SFY 2017)

State	Number	Percent of all families with children
2013	7213	3.4%
2017	5,904	2.7%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2013	Douglas	Thurston
2017	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2013	Arthur, Thomas	Arthur, Thomas
2017	4 with 0	4 with 0%
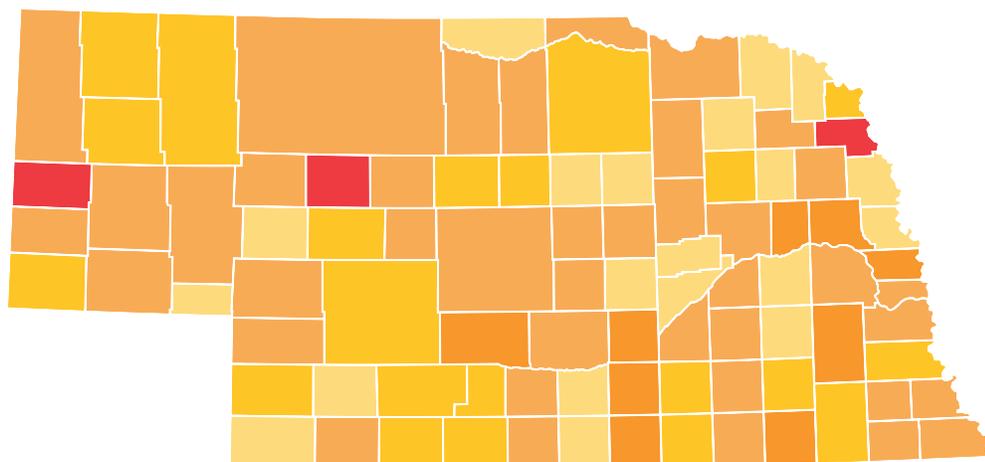
Legend: 0.0-0.9% | 1.0-1.9% | 2.0-2.9% | 3.0-3.9% | 4.0%+

	2013	% of all families with children	2017	% of all families with children
Adams	144	4.1%	116	3.5%
Antelope	7	0.8%	12	1.9%
Arthur	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Banner	1	1.2%	1	1.1%
Blaine	1	1.3%	1	2.5%
Boone	7	1.3%	7	1.4%
Box Butte	44	3.7%	27	2.2%
Boyd	4	2.9%	2	1.3%
Brown	3	0.5%	7	1.9%
Buffalo	90	1.7%	83	1.5%
Burt	11	1.6%	7	0.8%
Butler	6	0.7%	6	0.6%
Cass	43	1.4%	32	1.0%
Cedar	5	0.6%	6	0.7%
Chase	8	1.8%	8	2.1%
Cherry	11	2.1%	11	1.8%
Cheyenne	15	1.3%	14	1.3%
Clay	20	2.8%	19	2.7%
Colfax	57	4.2%	45	3.6%
Cuming	25	2.2%	19	1.8%
Custer	20	1.6%	21	1.6%
Dakota	94	3.3%	81	2.9%
Dawes	29	3.6%	25	2.8%
Dawson	140	4.9%	94	3.1%
Deuel	2	1.4%	1	0.7%
Dixon	8	1.2%	5	0.8%
Dodge	174	4.1%	131	3.2%
Douglas	3,155	5.0%	2,384	3.7%
Dundy	5	2.8%	2	0.9%
Fillmore	9	1.5%	8	1.4%
Franklin	3	0.9%	3	0.9%

	2013	% of all families with children	2017	% of all families with children
Frontier	6	2.0%	6	2.2%
Furnas	13	2.4%	9	2.0%
Gage	60	2.8%	53	2.4%
Garden	5	3.3%	3	1.6%
Garfield	3	1.9%	1	0.7%
Gosper	3	1.4%	4	2.1%
Grant	1	2.0%	1	1.5%
Greeley	4	1.6%	5	1.9%
Hall	329	4.4%	265	3.5%
Hamilton	13	1.3%	11	1.1%
Harlan	5	1.6%	4	1.2%
Hayes	1	0.7%	0	0.0%
Hitchcock	5	1.8%	5	1.7%
Holt	29	2.5%	27	2.3%
Hooker	2	2.3%	4	6.6%
Howard	7	1.0%	7	0.8%
Jefferson	24	3.2%	19	3.0%
Johnson	17	3.4%	7	1.3%
Kearney	5	0.7%	3	0.5%
Keith	20	2.2%	15	1.7%
Keya Paha	1	1.8%	0	0.0%
Kimball	8	2.0%	9	2.5%
Knox	24	2.4%	13	1.5%
Lancaster	1,092	3.3%	1,114	3.3%
Lincoln	144	3.5%	126	2.9%
Logan	5	5.6%	1	1.3%
Loup	1	1.8%	1	2.1%
Madison	131	3.3%	98	2.3%
McPherson	2	3.1%	1	2.3%
Merrick	9	1.1%	7	0.8%
Morrill	11	2.0%	10	1.9%

	2013	% of all families with children	2017	% of all families with children
Nance	3	0.6%	2	0.3%
Nemaha	18	2.5%	11	1.6%
Nuckolls	7	1.6%	10	2.0%
Otoe	46	2.5%	37	2.1%
Pawnee	5	1.7%	4	1.3%
Perkins	3	0.8%	4	1.2%
Phelps	17	1.6%	11	1.1%
Pierce	6	0.7%	7	0.9%
Platte	81	2.2%	68	1.9%
Polk	10	1.6%	11	1.9%
Red Willow	28	2.3%	22	2.3%
Richardson	15	2.0%	12	1.2%
Rock	2	1.4%	2	1.7%
Saline	52	3.4%	37	2.3%
Sarpy	356	1.6%	251	1.1%
Saunders	26	1.0%	31	1.3%
Scotts Bluff	181	4.5%	175	4.4%
Seward	9	0.5%	13	0.7%
Sheridan	21	3.7%	15	2.9%
Sherman	1	0.3%	4	1.3%
Sioux	1	1.1%	1	1.1%
Stanton	4	0.5%	6	0.8%
Thayer	10	1.7%	10	1.9%
Thomas	0	0.0%	1	1.3%
Thurston	132	20.6%	102	14.3%
Valley	7	1.3%	7	1.2%
Washington	18	0.7%	13	0.5%
Wayne	20	2.6%	18	1.8%
Webster	11	3.1%	13	3.4%
Wheeler	1	1.7%	0	0.0%
York	21	1.6%	13	1.0%

Sources: Financial and Programs Services, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).;
U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 and 2017 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table DP02.
Note: 14 Out-of-state families received ADC from Nebraska in 2017.

Child food insecurity (2016)

Percent of food-insecure children (2016)

State	2016
Number of children	82,017
Percent of children	17.3%
Percent likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance	60%

Highest county	2016
Number of children	Douglas
Percent of children	Thurston
Percent likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance	Garfield

Lowest county	2016
Number of children	McPherson
Percent of children	Colfax
Percent likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance	Madison

Legend: <16.0% | 16.0-17.4% | 17.5-18.9% | 19.0-20.4% | 20.5%+
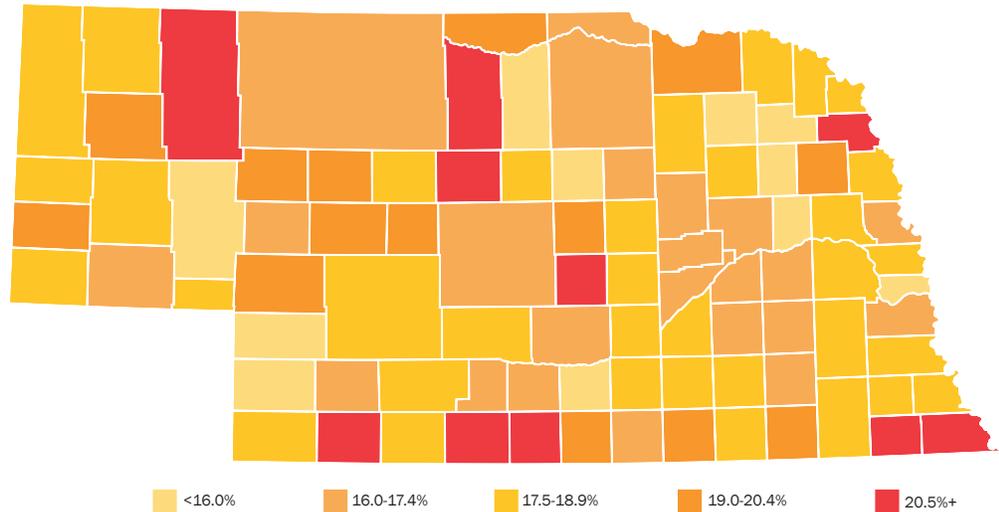
	2016	% of children	% likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance
Adams	1,324	17.7%	56%
Antelope	266	17.9%	80%
Arthur	24	17.3%	55%
Banner	36	19.6%	78%
Blaine	33	22.6%	60%
Boone	199	16.1%	58%
Box Butte	565	19.7%	66%
Boyd	82	17.1%	90%
Brown	144	23.1%	68%
Buffalo	1,943	17.2%	63%
Burt	258	17.6%	61%
Butler	334	17.1%	69%
Cass	1,014	16.3%	44%
Cedar	384	17.9%	55%
Chase	163	15.9%	57%
Cherry	194	16.0%	81%
Cheyenne	420	17.4%	62%
Clay	273	17.9%	84%
Colfax	468	14.9%	82%
Cuming	430	19.4%	70%
Custer	439	17.4%	73%
Dakota	1,091	18.1%	75%
Dawes	300	18.1%	65%
Dawson	1,188	17.9%	76%
Deuel	68	18.1%	58%
Dixon	273	18.7%	56%
Dodge	1,545	18.0%	68%
Douglas	25,587	18.2%	61%
Dundy	66	18.1%	84%
Fillmore	207	17.5%	61%
Franklin	113	19.1%	86%

	2016	% of children	% likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance
Frontier	101	18.8%	55%
Furnas	235	21.1%	76%
Gage	878	18.1%	58%
Garden	60	15.9%	40%
Garfield	64	15.9%	98%
Gosper	71	16.6%	64%
Grant	26	19.9%	71%
Greeley	106	18.0%	79%
Hall	3,115	18.8%	64%
Hamilton	396	17.8%	60%
Harlan	167	21.4%	67%
Hayes	31	16.0%	85%
Hitchcock	139	22.3%	75%
Holt	409	16.5%	74%
Hooker	20	20.1%	48%
Howard	264	17.5%	47%
Jefferson	312	19.6%	80%
Johnson	173	17.5%	59%
Kearney	251	15.8%	55%
Keith	334	19.9%	59%
Keya Paha	30	20.1%	64%
Kimball	153	18.1%	89%
Knox	412	19.7%	71%
Lancaster	12,461	17.9%	62%
Lincoln	1,581	18.2%	60%
Logan	42	19.1%	38%
Loup	19	18.1%	46%
Madison	1,620	18.4%	33%
McPherson	18	19.3%	71%
Merrick	305	17.2%	70%
Morrill	216	18.4%	79%

	2016	% of children	% likely eligible for federal nutrition assistance
Nance	139	17.0%	78%
Nemaha	268	18.1%	58%
Nuckolls	170	19.3%	79%
Otoe	693	18.3%	65%
Pawnee	133	23.6%	77%
Perkins	108	15.8%	36%
Phelps	369	16.3%	62%
Pierce	282	15.9%	64%
Platte	1,378	16.1%	60%
Polk	197	16.2%	67%
Red Willow	468	18.5%	62%
Richardson	394	23.0%	65%
Rock	35	15.6%	52%
Saline	564	16.4%	64%
Sarpy	7,424	15.3%	44%
Saunders	937	17.8%	51%
Scotts Bluff	1,705	18.8%	76%
Seward	658	16.4%	62%
Sheridan	269	22.1%	76%
Sherman	140	21.0%	69%
Sioux	47	18.2%	55%
Stanton	247	15.7%	63%
Thayer	203	18.7%	71%
Thomas	28	18.0%	50%
Thurston	695	27.9%	84%
Valley	179	19.0%	70%
Washington	834	17.0%	51%
Wayne	278	15.2%	62%
Webster	143	17.4%	68%
Wheeler	24	16.2%	79%
York	521	16.5%	71%

*Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2018, Child Food Insecurity in Nebraska by County in 2016.;
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2016 Estimates.*

SNAP participation among children (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)*

Percent of households with children receiving SNAP (2012-2016)

State	Number	Percent
2008-2012	35,500	15.3%
2012-2016	36,835	15.7%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	Douglas	Thurston
2012-2016	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	Thomas	Thomas
2012-2016	Arthur, Hooker	Arthur, Hooker
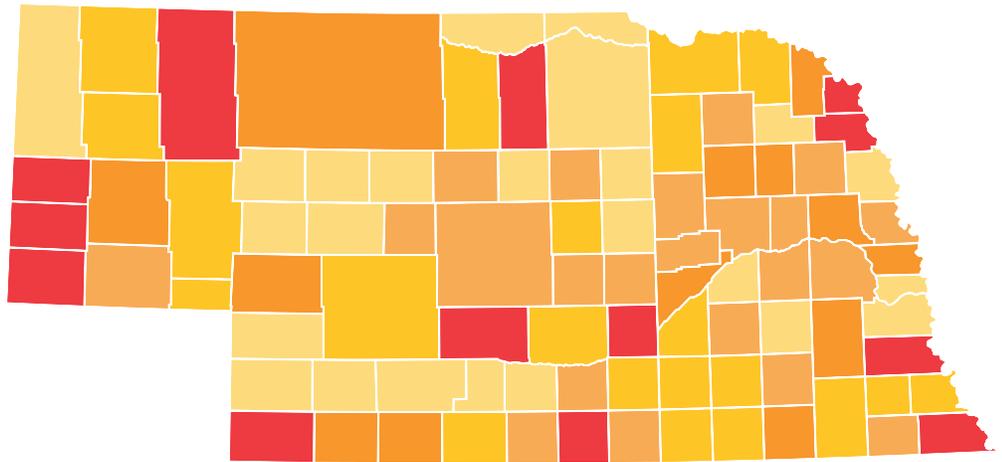
Legend: 0.0-9.9% | 10.0-13.3% | 13.4-16.7% | 16.8-19.9% | 20.0%+

	2008-2012	% of households with children	2012-2016	% of households with children
Adams	617	15.8%	506	13.6%
Antelope	91	11.4%	121	16.2%
Arthur	4	5.6%	0	0.0%
Banner	10	10.6%	33	31.4%
Blaine	3	3.3%	9	12.5%
Boone	62	9.6%	59	10.1%
Box Butte	323	22.3%	194	14.3%
Boyd	3	1.9%	6	3.0%
Brown	47	10.6%	56	13.9%
Buffalo	827	15.0%	817	13.9%
Burt	86	11.0%	68	8.9%
Butler	125	13.4%	121	12.0%
Cass	211	6.6%	282	8.5%
Cedar	98	11.1%	145	14.9%
Chase	96	20.0%	41	9.3%
Cherry	40	5.9%	107	17.8%
Cheyenne	179	12.7%	123	10.3%
Clay	110	13.4%	117	15.2%
Colfax	199	12.8%	190	12.7%
Cuming	75	7.0%	115	10.3%
Custer	149	11.2%	159	11.9%
Dakota	655	21.2%	618	20.8%
Dawes	186	20.2%	148	13.6%
Dawson	480	14.7%	647	20.5%
Deuel	25	14.3%	28	14.3%
Dixon	104	12.8%	120	17.5%
Dodge	826	17.2%	778	17.1%
Douglas	12,016	17.9%	12,182	17.6%
Dundy	35	13.4%	33	21.4%
Fillmore	97	14.4%	96	15.1%
Franklin	38	11.1%	77	22.8%

	2008-2012	% of households with children	2012-2016	% of households with children
Frontier	29	9.0%	28	8.7%
Furnas	108	17.9%	77	14.2%
Gage	409	17.1%	321	13.4%
Garden	21	12.6%	33	16.6%
Garfield	46	21.2%	22	10.1%
Gosper	35	14.9%	17	9.6%
Grant	5	9.1%	2	4.0%
Greeley	20	6.9%	8	2.8%
Hall	1,708	21.0%	1,848	22.3%
Hamilton	137	13.4%	175	15.7%
Harlan	64	20.7%	45	12.7%
Hayes	10	6.3%	11	8.8%
Hitchcock	57	17.8%	47	17.7%
Holt	84	7.4%	29	2.3%
Hooker	14	20.3%	0	0.0%
Howard	107	14.9%	83	11.4%
Jefferson	134	17.5%	116	16.8%
Johnson	118	20.2%	78	13.7%
Kearney	68	8.4%	86	10.7%
Keith	180	18.2%	171	17.8%
Keya Paha	4	6.5%	4	4.8%
Kimball	51	13.1%	88	22.4%
Knox	179	16.8%	132	13.7%
Lancaster	5,551	15.7%	6,205	17.7%
Lincoln	688	15.1%	671	15.3%
Logan	7	10.9%	9	10.0%
Loup	9	12.2%	4	6.3%
Madison	669	16.1%	853	19.0%
McPherson	10	15.6%	2	4.3%
Merrick	172	19.7%	160	18.0%
Morrill	123	21.1%	116	18.1%

	2008-2012	% of households with children	2012-2016	% of households with children
Nance	64	16.6%	46	10.2%
Nemaha	131	16.5%	117	14.8%
Nuckolls	95	20.5%	67	13.7%
Otoe	373	18.3%	397	20.3%
Pawnee	64	20.3%	41	12.8%
Perkins	38	10.5%	32	9.6%
Phelps	90	8.1%	99	8.8%
Pierce	61	6.6%	95	11.1%
Platte	514	13.6%	435	11.2%
Polk	62	9.8%	45	7.3%
Red Willow	203	15.3%	194	17.4%
Richardson	157	19.3%	232	23.5%
Rock	30	20.7%	26	21.1%
Saline	210	13.8%	219	12.8%
Sarpy	2,158	9.1%	2,365	9.2%
Saunders	182	6.5%	285	11.3%
Scotts Bluff	1,223	26.6%	1,099	24.1%
Seward	135	6.7%	172	8.5%
Sheridan	78	13.5%	110	20.1%
Sherman	48	15.2%	41	11.5%
Sioux	7	5.7%	1	0.9%
Stanton	80	9.3%	146	17.8%
Thayer	66	11.8%	94	16.6%
Thomas	0	0.0%	2	2.4%
Thurston	311	35.7%	336	37.6%
Valley	70	12.5%	78	13.8%
Washington	109	4.4%	309	11.8%
Wayne	133	15.3%	58	6.1%
Webster	32	8.5%	52	13.2%
Wheeler	9	14.3%	3	4.1%
York	133	8.9%	202	12.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B22002.
Due to changes in data source, this data is not comparable to prior year's data.

Children eligible for free and reduced meals (2012/13 & 2016/17)

Percent of children eligible for free and reduced meals (2016/17)

State	Number	Percent
2012/13	133,972	44.2%
2016/17	153,177	45.8%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2012/13	Douglas	Thurston
2016/17	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2012/13	Arthur, McPherson, Sioux	Arthur, McPherson, Sioux
2016/17	Arthur, McPherson, Sioux, Wheeler	Arthur, McPherson, Sioux, Wheeler
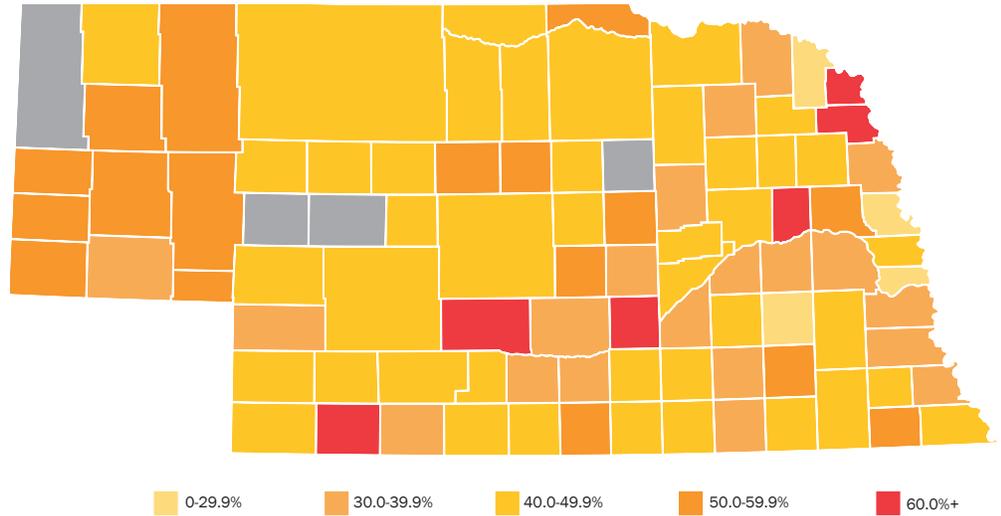
Legend: 0-29.9% | 30.0-39.9% | 40.0-49.9% | 50.0-59.9% | 60.0%+

	2012/13	% of all children	2016/17	% of all children
Adams	2,757	46.4%	2,843	48.8%
Antelope	577	44.3%	549	48.5%
Arthur	***	***	***	***
Banner	76	57.1%	90	56.3%
Blaine	44	35.8%	47	50.0%
Boone	342	38.8%	427	38.9%
Box Butte	996	50.2%	1,036	52.5%
Boyd	172	48.2%	183	54.8%
Brown	188	50.0%	213	49.5%
Buffalo	3,229	40.0%	3,202	37.4%
Burt	510	39.1%	469	38.8%
Butler	508	41.8%	458	33.4%
Cass	1,303	34.5%	1,270	33.0%
Cedar	573	39.8%	595	36.1%
Chase	329	33.7%	395	44.2%
Cherry	373	47.1%	304	42.6%
Cheyenne	623	33.9%	662	38.5%
Clay	363	48.2%	338	48.0%
Colfax	1,453	55.0%	1,641	64.5%
Cuming	847	46.7%	860	43.1%
Custer	710	36.9%	820	43.4%
Dakota	3,034	68.9%	2,975	66.4%
Dawes	569	46.1%	515	45.6%
Dawson	3,820	61.5%	3,581	65.0%
Deuel	209	48.1%	222	54.5%
Dixon	273	35.2%	192	29.3%
Dodge	3,036	51.7%	3,554	52.5%
Douglas	48,090	49.5%	50,901	47.5%
Dundy	212	51.1%	166	49.8%
Fillmore	343	29.1%	251	37.2%
Franklin	154	50.6%	165	56.3%

	2012/13	% of all children	2016/17	% of all children
Frontier	240	41.0%	245	44.6%
Furnas	577	46.6%	634	47.9%
Gage	1,414	41.3%	1,514	44.7%
Garden	123	50.0%	136	56.0%
Garfield	124	34.5%	147	45.8%
Gosper	106	55.5%	113	48.5%
Grant	76	53.7%	62	43.1%
Greeley	304	60.0%	191	51.6%
Hall	7,186	61.5%	7,578	60.4%
Hamilton	546	32.6%	497	34.2%
Harlan	124	42.8%	136	42.9%
Hayes	49	47.5%	43	45.3%
Hitchcock	192	63.8%	198	60.4%
Holt	818	48.1%	822	44.0%
Hooker	71	42.7%	65	40.9%
Howard	487	35.9%	441	34.5%
Jefferson	767	48.3%	750	48.8%
Johnson	380	47.6%	333	45.6%
Kearney	382	35.4%	373	37.2%
Keith	516	41.8%	559	46.0%
Keya Paha	47	48.9%	37	44.6%
Kimball	295	48.2%	241	51.0%
Knox	615	46.3%	800	48.7%
Lancaster	17,871	40.0%	21,218	40.7%
Lincoln	2,455	39.8%	2,557	41.8%
Logan	89	37.6%	79	40.9%
Loup	39	43.2%	35	50.0%
Madison	2,865	47.2%	3,128	44.9%
McPherson	***	***	***	***
Merrick	452	42.2%	457	47.4%
Morrill	506	55.7%	471	53.3%

	2012/13	% of all children	2016/17	% of all children
Nance	274	33.0%	316	40.5%
Nemaha	485	41.1%	449	38.9%
Nuckolls	545	43.9%	517	49.3%
Otoe	1,022	37.2%	1,053	35.2%
Pawnee	250	51.8%	263	51.5%
Perkins	155	36.9%	145	35.4%
Phelps	587	35.1%	595	36.5%
Pierce	417	30.1%	395	30.3%
Platte	2,457	46.4%	2,830	44.4%
Polk	469	36.7%	493	39.0%
Red Willow	769	41.1%	760	39.7%
Richardson	764	55.8%	715	48.2%
Rock	69	39.9%	100	45.2%
Saline	1,323	44.3%	1,629	53.4%
Sarpy	6,618	24.0%	7,395	25.3%
Saunders	1,064	34.2%	1,164	32.1%
Scotts Bluff	3,571	51.8%	3,868	55.8%
Seward	684	23.8%	748	25.7%
Sheridan	485	53.0%	485	57.4%
Sherman	224	50.5%	228	55.3%
Sioux	***	***	***	***
Stanton	180	39.0%	175	43.5%
Thayer	288	32.7%	325	34.8%
Thomas	43	41.2%	45	45.5%
Thurston	1,371	71.8%	1,626	76.8%
Valley	260	41.6%	338	46.6%
Washington	763	20.7%	887	24.1%
Wayne	646	36.8%	697	42.4%
Webster	242	42.9%	231	46.9%
Wheeler	68	50.0%	***	***
York	926	38.2%	974	42.3%

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.
Note: Percent and number determined on the last Friday in September.
***Data are masked when there are fewer than 10 students.

3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in school (2008-2012 & 2012-2016)

Percent of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in school (2012-2016)

State	Number	% of 3-4 year olds
2008-2012	24,757	47.4%
2012-2016	22,864	42.9%

Highest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	Douglas	Gosper
2012-2016	Douglas	Loup

Lowest county	By number	By percent
2008-2012	Keya Paha, McPherson, Thomas	Keya Paha, McPherson, Thomas
2012-2016	5 with 0	5 with 0%
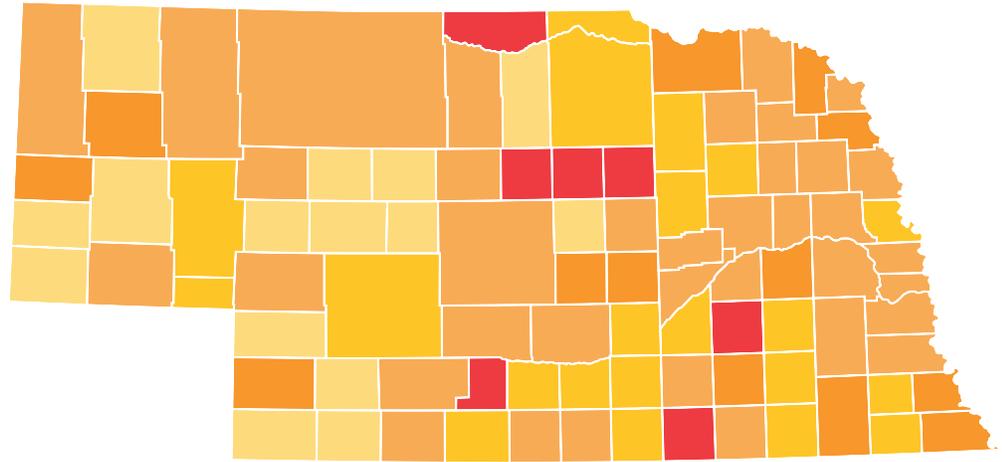
Legend: 0-29.9% | 30.0-44.9% | 45.0-54.9% | 55.0-69.9% | 70.0%+

	2008-2012	% of 3-4 year-olds	2012-2016	% of 3-4 year-olds
Adams	414	50.4%	413	53.2%
Antelope	77	39.9%	60	49.2%
Arthur	3	25.0%	1	25.0%
Banner	3	20.0%	0	0.0%
Blaine	1	5.3%	3	33.3%
Boone	37	31.4%	65	47.1%
Box Butte	291	78.0%	165	61.3%
Boyd	14	21.9%	28	45.2%
Brown	23	38.3%	18	42.9%
Buffalo	586	45.4%	521	39.0%
Burt	85	55.9%	72	40.2%
Butler	150	73.2%	143	65.6%
Cass	312	47.0%	235	42.5%
Cedar	113	42.6%	68	32.2%
Chase	95	62.9%	39	58.2%
Cherry	81	53.3%	37	35.2%
Cheyenne	115	38.5%	102	30.7%
Clay	61	57.5%	66	39.8%
Colfax	82	19.7%	114	33.9%
Cuming	49	35.8%	74	37.4%
Custer	65	23.8%	109	42.6%
Dakota	85	16.1%	202	31.5%
Dawes	91	59.9%	8	4.7%
Dawson	245	31.6%	300	39.5%
Deuel	19	54.3%	22	51.2%
Dixon	96	54.9%	92	59.7%
Dodge	405	37.7%	268	31.5%
Douglas	8,005	48.5%	7,321	42.3%
Dundy	11	16.9%	0	0.0%
Fillmore	70	61.9%	62	58.5%
Franklin	35	57.4%	22	38.6%

	2008-2012	% of 3-4 year-olds	2012-2016	% of 3-4 year-olds
Frontier	38	60.3%	35	43.8%
Furnas	42	44.2%	54	45.4%
Gage	283	51.9%	301	63.1%
Garden	25	43.9%	26	48.1%
Garfield	36	69.2%	28	77.8%
Gosper	40	83.3%	17	70.8%
Grant	5	62.5%	7	35.0%
Greeley	20	32.8%	21	44.7%
Hall	737	46.1%	879	46.9%
Hamilton	62	33.7%	126	51.0%
Harlan	39	37.5%	38	37.6%
Hayes	13	81.3%	0	0.0%
Hitchcock	4	9.8%	8	10.4%
Holt	68	25.4%	100	46.9%
Hooker	4	33.3%	0	0.0%
Howard	128	71.9%	110	57.9%
Jefferson	128	75.7%	78	51.0%
Johnson	47	65.3%	70	50.7%
Kearney	57	47.5%	53	47.7%
Keith	64	32.3%	76	44.4%
Keya Paha	0	0.0%	9	81.8%
Kimball	29	37.7%	6	5.8%
Knox	104	47.9%	130	55.8%
Lancaster	3,351	43.3%	3,170	38.4%
Lincoln	546	49.1%	527	48.7%
Logan	4	33.3%	3	12.5%
Loup	12	57.1%	7	100.0%
Madison	633	59.9%	440	50.2%
McPherson	0	0.0%	2	15.4%
Merrick	84	40.4%	83	37.6%
Morrill	47	40.5%	32	24.2%

	2008-2012	% of 3-4 year-olds	2012-2016	% of 3-4 year-olds
Nance	29	28.4%	26	30.2%
Nemaha	107	55.7%	76	62.3%
Nuckolls	48	57.1%	74	70.5%
Otoe	169	38.0%	126	34.9%
Pawnee	30	75.0%	27	45.0%
Perkins	32	55.2%	23	26.4%
Phelps	83	41.7%	127	45.2%
Pierce	71	28.6%	67	41.1%
Platte	487	44.3%	337	39.2%
Polk	85	54.8%	49	41.2%
Red Willow	190	67.9%	109	39.2%
Richardson	100	64.1%	73	59.8%
Rock	4	36.4%	0	0.0%
Saline	255	64.6%	222	49.1%
Sarpy	2,692	50.7%	2,354	42.2%
Saunders	240	39.5%	232	39.1%
Scotts Bluff	489	67.3%	629	64.8%
Seward	157	51.1%	188	50.1%
Sheridan	79	46.5%	58	44.3%
Sherman	45	72.6%	40	64.5%
Sioux	15	71.4%	10	30.3%
Stanton	61	31.3%	64	39.0%
Thayer	50	43.5%	49	44.5%
Thomas	0	0.0%	1	16.7%
Thurston	199	65.5%	176	60.7%
Valley	84	58.3%	24	27.0%
Washington	251	52.7%	262	48.1%
Wayne	117	60.3%	114	43.2%
Webster	69	63.3%	40	51.3%
Wheeler	3	12.0%	6	85.7%
York	147	58.3%	215	77.3%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 and 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B14003.

3rd grade reading proficiency (2016/17)

Percent 3rd graders proficient in NeSA English Language Arts Assessment (2016/17)

State	Percent proficient
2016/17	53.0%

Highest county	Percent proficient
2016/17	Arthur

Lowest county	Percent proficient
2016/17	Keya Paha
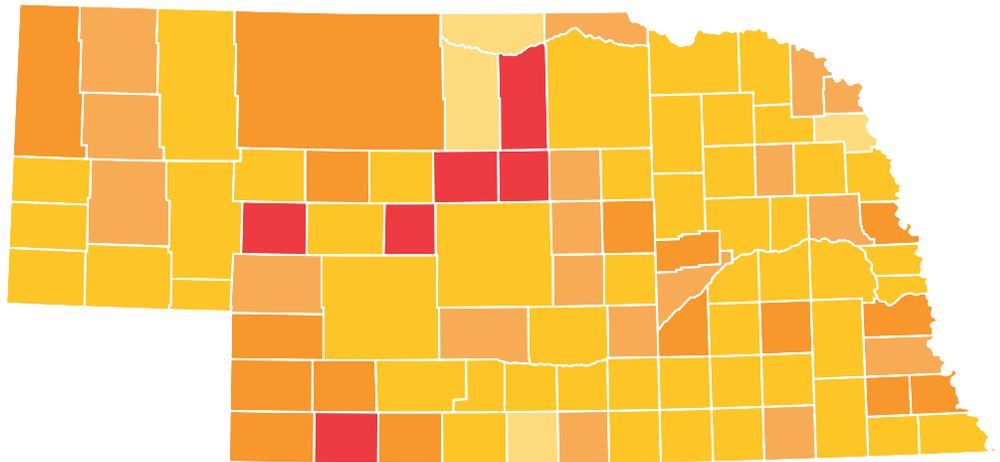
| | <30.0% | 30.0-44.9% | 45.0-59.9% | 60.0-74.9% | 75.0%++ |

	% 3rd graders testing proficient in English Language Arts (2016/17)
Adams	49.3%
Antelope	47.5%
Arthur	100.0%
Banner	50.0%
Blaine	80.0%
Boone	58.7%
Box Butte	39.9%
Boyd	39.3%
Brown	28.6%
Buffalo	54.5%
Burt	55.6%
Butler	56.9%
Cass	60.8%
Cedar	45.7%
Chase	60.8%
Cherry	61.4%
Cheyenne	58.8%
Clay	50.0%
Colfax	51.6%
Cuming	54.9%
Custer	54.3%
Dakota	43.7%
Dawes	39.5%
Dawson	37.9%
Deuel	52.0%
Dixon	44.1%
Dodge	44.0%
Douglas	52.3%
Dundy	60.7%
Fillmore	56.0%
Franklin	40.0%

	% 3rd graders testing proficient in English Language Arts (2016/17)
Frontier	47.6%
Furnas	58.4%
Gage	52.1%
Garden	50.0%
Garfield	38.1%
Gosper	50.0%
Grant	57.1%
Greeley	61.1%
Hall	42.5%
Hamilton	68.1%
Harlan	21.7%
Hayes	66.7%
Hitchcock	85.2%
Holt	50.9%
Hooker	62.5%
Howard	58.3%
Jefferson	34.9%
Johnson	70.2%
Kearney	55.3%
Keith	37.7%
Keya Paha	14.3%
Kimball	51.6%
Knox	57.7%
Lancaster	59.2%
Lincoln	55.8%
Logan	76.9%
Loup	87.5%
Madison	53.9%
McPherson	50.0%
Merrick	37.3%
Morrill	39.7%

	% 3rd graders testing proficient in English Language Arts (2016/17)
Nance	74.6%
Nemaha	74.4%
Nuckolls	46.1%
Otoe	44.4%
Pawnee	52.8%
Perkins	64.3%
Phelps	47.2%
Pierce	59.5%
Platte	57.7%
Polk	53.1%
Red Willow	62.2%
Richardson	46.7%
Rock	80.0%
Saline	50.0%
Sarpy	57.0%
Saunders	54.9%
Scotts Bluff	49.1%
Seward	64.8%
Sheridan	47.1%
Sherman	40.0%
Sioux	71.4%
Stanton	43.3%
Thayer	51.6%
Thomas	50.0%
Thurston	23.0%
Valley	40.4%
Washington	64.2%
Wayne	48.3%
Webster	56.1%
Wheeler	50.0%
York	57.7%

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

4-year high school graduation (2017)

Percent high schoolers graduating in 4-years (2017 cohort)

State	Percent graduating
2017	89.1%

Highest county	Percent graduating
2017	24 with 100%

Lowest county	Percent graduating
2017	Dawes
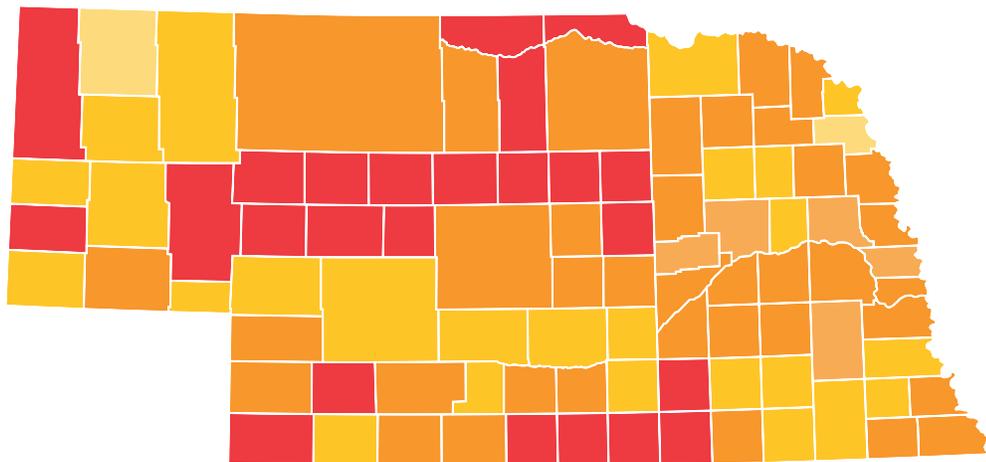
Legend: <85.0% | 85.0-89.9% | 90.0-94.9% | 95.0-99.9% | 100%

	% high schoolers graduating in 4 years (2017 cohort)
Adams	91.0%
Antelope	97.6%
Arthur	100.0%
Banner	100.0%
Blaine	100.0%
Boone	97.3%
Box Butte	90.6%
Boyd	100.0%
Brown	95.2%
Buffalo	92.3%
Burt	95.5%
Butler	96.1%
Cass	95.6%
Cedar	95.4%
Chase	96.5%
Cherry	98.6%
Cheyenne	95.4%
Clay	100.0%
Colfax	90.3%
Cuming	98.1%
Custer	96.6%
Dakota	93.1%
Dawes	65.9%
Dawson	94.0%
Deuel	94.7%
Dixon	95.5%
Dodge	89.7%
Douglas	88.5%
Dundy	100.0%
Fillmore	94.2%
Franklin	100.0%

	% high schoolers graduating in 4 years (2017 cohort)
Frontier	97.9%
Furnas	96.3%
Gage	92.0%
Garden	100.0%
Garfield	100.0%
Gosper	91.7%
Grant	100.0%
Greeley	100.0%
Hall	92.4%
Hamilton	98.7%
Harlan	100.0%
Hayes	100.0%
Hitchcock	94.7%
Holt	95.5%
Hooker	100.0%
Howard	97.9%
Jefferson	94.2%
Johnson	92.7%
Kearney	95.4%
Keith	93.8%
Keya Paha	100.0%
Kimball	93.8%
Knox	91.1%
Lancaster	88.0%
Lincoln	92.3%
Logan	100.0%
Loup	100.0%
Madison	93.1%
McPherson	100.0%
Merrick	95.6%
Morrill	94.4%

	% high schoolers graduating in 4 years (2017 cohort)
Nance	89.7%
Nemaha	95.8%
Nuckolls	100.0%
Otoe	91.2%
Pawnee	95.2%
Perkins	96.2%
Phelps	96.5%
Pierce	98.9%
Platte	89.1%
Polk	98.4%
Red Willow	96.7%
Richardson	96.5%
Rock	100.0%
Saline	93.8%
Sarpy	96.1%
Saunders	96.0%
Scotts Bluff	91.7%
Seward	97.7%
Sheridan	91.5%
Sherman	97.4%
Sioux	100.0%
Stanton	90.3%
Thayer	97.1%
Thomas	100.0%
Thurston	75.8%
Valley	98.5%
Washington	98.3%
Wayne	95.6%
Webster	100.0%
Wheeler	100.0%
York	98.4%

Source: Nebraska Department of Education.

Child maltreatment (2013 & 2017)*

Child maltreatment per 1,000 children (2017)

State	Number	Rate per 1,000
2013	2,892	6.2
2016	3,612	7.6

Highest county	By number	By rate
2013	Douglas	Logan
2017	Douglas	Thurston

Lowest county	By number	By rate
2013	18 with 0	18 with 0
2017	14 with 0	14 with 0
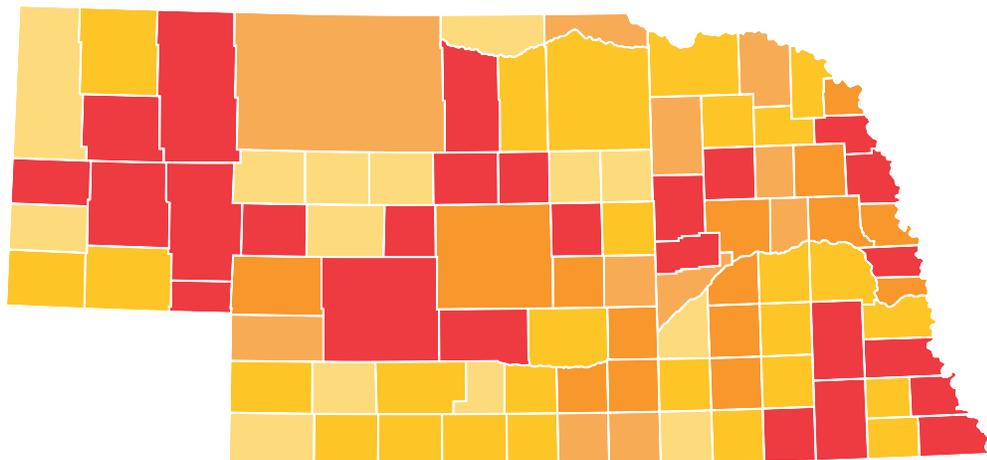
Legend: 0.0 | 0.1-2.9 | 3.0-5.5 | 5.6-7.9 | 8.0+

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Adams	36	4.8	50	6.7
Antelope	2	1.3	4	2.7
Arthur	0	0.0	1	8.5
Banner	0	0.0	0	0.0
Blaine	0	0.0	1	10.2
Boone	1	0.8	12	9.5
Box Butte	10	3.5	27	9.8
Boyd	0	0.0	1	2.6
Brown	4	6.4	12	18.2
Buffalo	72	6.4	57	4.9
Burt	8	5.5	14	9.6
Butler	12	6.0	10	5.3
Cass	25	4.0	32	5.1
Cedar	1	0.5	4	1.9
Chase	2	2.0	5	5.1
Cherry	4	3.1	2	1.5
Cheyenne	8	3.2	7	3.0
Clay	4	2.6	8	5.2
Colfax	14	4.5	6	1.8
Cuming	7	3.1	13	5.9
Custer	9	3.7	16	6.2
Dakota	21	3.4	41	7.1
Dawes	13	7.8	6	3.9
Dawson	43	6.4	53	8.2
Deuel	4	9.6	4	10.2
Dixon	3	2.0	7	4.8
Dodge	48	5.6	66	7.4
Douglas	1,083	7.8	1,198	8.3
Dundy	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fillmore	1	0.9	7	6.2
Franklin	7	11.7	1	1.7

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Frontier	0	0.0	2	3.8
Furnas	3	2.8	4	3.8
Gage	38	7.8	41	8.5
Garden	0	0.0	3	8.0
Garfield	0	0.0	0	0.0
Gosper	3	6.5	0	0.0
Grant	0	0.0	0	0.0
Greeley	1	1.7	2	3.6
Hall	59	3.6	113	6.7
Hamilton	5	2.2	0	0.0
Harlan	3	3.9	3	4.0
Hayes	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hitchcock	1	1.6	2	3.0
Holt	5	2.0	13	5.1
Hooker	0	0.0	0	0.0
Howard	4	2.7	2	1.3
Jefferson	13	7.8	19	12.1
Johnson	10	9.8	4	4.0
Kearney	13	8.3	11	6.9
Keith	12	7.1	11	6.8
Keya Paha	1	6.3	0	0.0
Kimball	12	14.8	4	5.0
Knox	8	3.8	7	3.4
Lancaster	710	10.3	675	9.4
Lincoln	58	6.6	85	10.1
Logan	3	16.5	2	9.7
Loup	0	0.0	1	8.8
Madison	48	5.5	88	10.0
McPherson	0	0.0	0	0.0
Merrick	6	3.3	4	2.2
Morrill	9	7.6	11	9.6

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Nance	4	4.9	9	10.9
Nemaha	8	5.2	15	10.0
Nuckolls	4	4.4	0	0.0
Otoe	16	4.3	37	9.6
Pawnee	5	8.5	2	3.6
Perkins	0	0.0	2	2.7
Phelps	10	4.4	8	3.7
Pierce	1	0.6	7	4.0
Platte	35	4.1	56	6.5
Polk	5	4.1	9	7.3
Red Willow	7	2.8	8	3.4
Richardson	14	8.4	14	8.3
Rock	0	0.0	1	3.5
Saline	22	6.3	18	5.1
Sarpy	137	2.9	304	6.1
Saunders	11	2.1	28	5.4
Scotts Bluff	63	6.9	81	8.9
Seward	15	3.7	15	3.7
Sheridan	7	6.0	14	11.9
Sherman	2	3.0	4	6.0
Sioux	0	0.0	0	0.0
Stanton	1	0.6	1	0.7
Thayer	3	2.7	5	4.4
Thomas	0	0.0	0	0.0
Thurston	11	4.6	79	30.4
Valley	3	3.1	9	9.2
Washington	15	3.1	29	5.9
Wayne	3	1.6	7	3.7
Webster	5	6.2	1	1.3
Wheeler	0	0.0	0	0.0
York	18	5.8	20	6.2

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).;
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.
* Number of substantiated victims of child maltreatment.

Children with non-court child welfare involvement (2017)

Children with non-court child welfare involvement rate per 1,000 children (2017)

State	Number	Rate per 1,000 children
2013	4,348	9.4
2017	3,296	6.9

Highest county	By number	By rate
2013	Douglas	Kimball
2017	Douglas	Douglas

Lowest county	By number	By rate
2013	23 with 0	23 with 0
2017	29 with 0	29 with 0

| | 0.0 | | 0.1-2.4 | | 2.5-4.9 | | 5.0-7.4 | | 7.5+ |
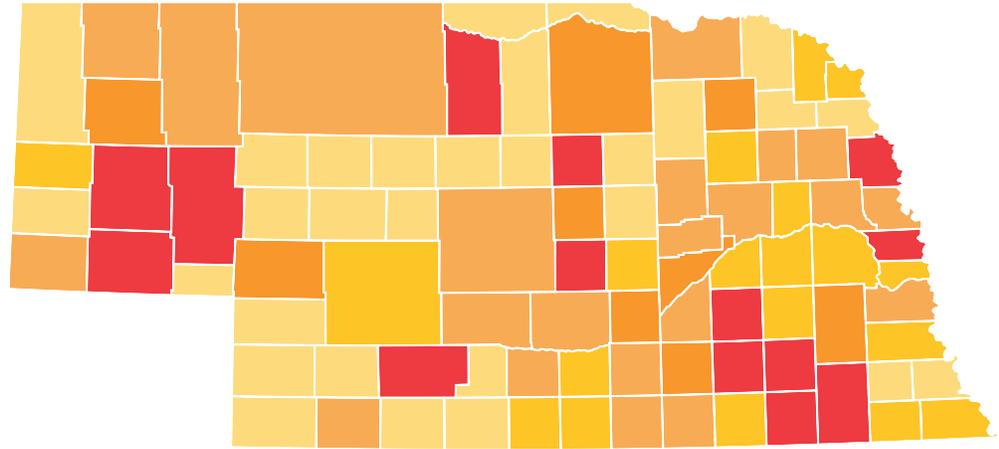
	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Adams	23	3.1	13	1.7
Antelope	0	0.0	0	0.0
Arthur	0	0.0	0	0.0
Banner	0	0.0	0	0.0
Blaine	0	0.0	0	0.0
Boone	10	8.0	3	2.4
Box Butte	21	7.4	14	5.1
Boyd	0	0.0	0	0.0
Brown	12	19.2	6	9.1
Buffalo	49	4.3	21	1.8
Burt	24	16.4	11	7.5
Butler	17	8.5	9	4.7
Cass	36	5.8	14	2.2
Cedar	0	0.0	0	0.0
Chase	0	0.0	0	0.0
Cherry	2	1.6	2	1.5
Cheyenne	29	11.7	18	7.8
Clay	31	20.0	8	5.2
Colfax	15	4.9	11	3.4
Cuming	21	9.4	5	2.3
Custer	4	1.6	5	1.9
Dakota	54	8.8	26	4.5
Dawes	21	12.6	1	0.6
Dawson	86	12.8	10	1.5
Deuel	7	16.8	0	0.0
Dixon	9	6.1	6	4.1
Dodge	28	3.3	7	0.8
Douglas	1,567	11.3	2,023	14.0
Dundy	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fillmore	1	0.9	9	8.0
Franklin	3	5.0	2	3.4

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Frontier	0	0.0	6	11.3
Furnas	2	1.8	0	0.0
Gage	56	11.4	38	7.8
Garden	2	6.0	5	13.3
Garfield	0	0.0	3	7.9
Gosper	0	0.0	0	0.0
Grant	0	0.0	0	0.0
Greeley	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hall	80	4.9	87	5.2
Hamilton	5	2.2	5	2.3
Harlan	3	3.9	3	4.0
Hayes	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hitchcock	8	13.2	1	1.5
Holt	7	2.8	17	6.7
Hooker	0	0.0	0	0.0
Howard	3	2.0	4	2.6
Jefferson	32	19.2	18	11.5
Johnson	0	0.0	0	0.0
Kearney	7	4.5	5	3.1
Keith	15	8.8	10	6.2
Keya Paha	3	18.9	0	0.0
Kimball	25	30.8	1	1.3
Knox	1	0.5	5	2.4
Lancaster	1,009	14.7	376	5.2
Lincoln	165	18.7	37	4.4
Logan	3	16.5	0	0.0
Loup	0	0.0	0	0.0
Madison	32	3.7	23	2.6
McPherson	0	0.0	0	0.0
Merrick	10	5.4	10	5.5
Morrill	15	12.6	10	8.7

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Nance	4	4.9	2	2.4
Nemaha	10	6.6	0	0.0
Nuckolls	16	17.7	1	1.1
Otoe	18	4.9	11	2.8
Pawnee	1	1.7	2	3.6
Perkins	11	16.0	0	0.0
Phelps	11	4.8	1	0.5
Pierce	0	0.0	9	5.1
Platte	69	8.1	18	2.1
Polk	3	2.4	5	4.1
Red Willow	10	4.0	0	0.0
Richardson	12	7.2	8	4.7
Rock	1	3.5	0	0.0
Saline	44	12.6	28	7.9
Sarpy	271	5.6	214	4.3
Saunders	14	2.7	14	2.7
Scotts Bluff	201	22.0	30	3.3
Seward	5	1.2	12	3.0
Sheridan	23	19.6	1	0.8
Sherman	0	0.0	5	7.5
Sioux	0	0.0	0	0.0
Stanton	0	0.0	2	1.3
Thayer	12	10.8	3	2.6
Thomas	3	17.9	0	0.0
Thurston	16	6.6	0	0.0
Valley	2	2.1	6	6.1
Washington	10	2.1	2	0.4
Wayne	1	0.5	0	0.0
Webster	4	5.0	1	1.3
Wheeler	0	0.0	0	0.0
York	23	7.4	33	10.3

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).;
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

State wards (2013 & 2017)

State wards per 1,000 children (2017)

State	Number	Rate per 1,000
2013	8,440	18.2
2017	7,157	15.0

Highest county	By number	By rate
2013	Douglas	Franklin
2017	Douglas	Harlan

Lowest county	By number	By rate
2013	7 with 0	7 with 0
2017	9 with 0	9 with 0

Legend: 0.0 | 0.1-6.9 | 7.0-10.9 | 11.0-16.9 | 17.0+
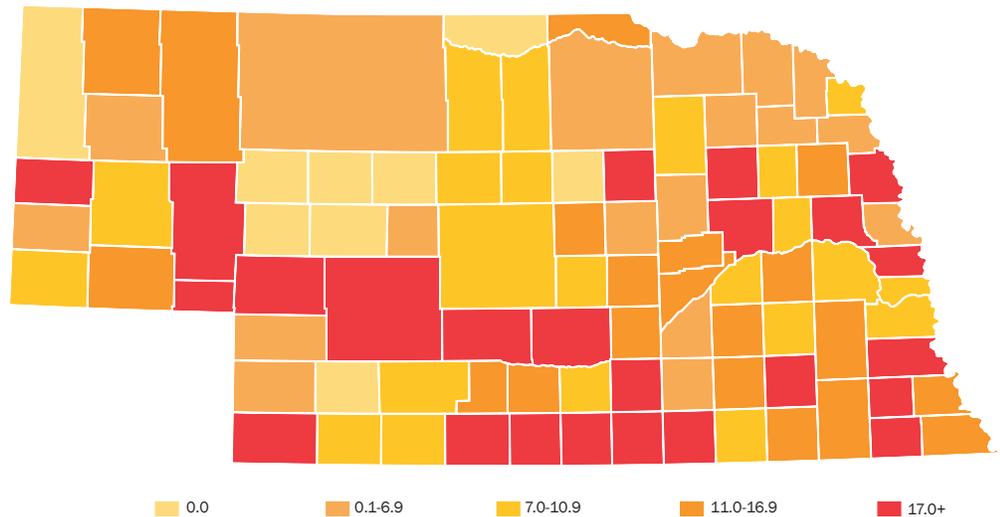
	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Adams	146	19.6	165	22.0
Antelope	15	9.9	11	7.4
Arthur	4	30.8	0	0.0
Banner	0	0.0	1	5.7
Blaine	0	0.0	1	10.2
Boone	8	6.4	6	4.7
Box Butte	16	5.6	12	4.4
Boyd	4	9.6	5	13.1
Brown	3	4.8	7	10.6
Buffalo	239	21.1	240	20.7
Burt	11	7.5	30	20.5
Butler	48	24.1	29	15.3
Cass	58	9.3	49	7.7
Cedar	7	3.3	8	3.7
Chase	11	11.2	3	3.0
Cherry	13	10.2	2	1.5
Cheyenne	27	10.9	32	13.9
Clay	20	12.9	8	5.2
Colfax	39	12.6	35	10.7
Cuming	26	11.6	26	11.8
Custer	25	10.2	22	8.6
Dakota	91	14.9	43	7.5
Dawes	12	7.2	19	12.2
Dawson	99	14.7	172	26.5
Deuel	7	16.8	8	20.3
Dixon	17	11.6	10	6.9
Dodge	194	22.7	205	23.1
Douglas	2,830	20.4	2,596	18.0
Dundy	5	11.1	7	19.5
Fillmore	27	23.4	15	13.3
Franklin	25	41.7	15	25.6

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Frontier	4	7.0	5	9.4
Furnas	15	13.9	28	26.6
Gage	73	14.9	58	12.0
Garden	4	12.1	10	26.6
Garfield	2	5.3	0	0.0
Gosper	2	4.3	6	13.3
Grant	0	0.0	0	0.0
Greeley	3	5.1	2	3.6
Hall	288	17.6	236	14.1
Hamilton	11	4.9	12	5.4
Harlan	16	21.1	26	35.0
Hayes	1	5.0	0	0.0
Hitchcock	10	16.5	7	10.6
Holt	19	7.7	13	5.1
Hooker	0	0.0	0	0.0
Howard	8	5.3	23	14.9
Jefferson	29	17.4	25	15.9
Johnson	22	21.5	21	21.1
Kearney	39	25.0	17	10.6
Keith	27	15.9	36	22.2
Keya Paha	0	0.0	0	0.0
Kimball	13	16.0	7	8.8
Knox	4	1.9	5	2.4
Lancaster	1,904	27.7	985	13.7
Lincoln	265	30.1	275	32.7
Logan	2	11.0	1	4.9
Loup	1	8.3	1	8.8
Madison	189	21.7	172	19.6
McPherson	1	7.2	0	0.0
Merrick	30	16.3	25	13.8
Morrill	10	8.4	11	9.6

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Nance	12	14.8	12	14.6
Nemaha	16	10.5	21	14.1
Nuckolls	9	10.0	20	23.0
Otoe	76	20.6	67	17.3
Pawnee	9	15.3	16	28.8
Perkins	4	5.8	5	6.9
Phelps	38	16.7	32	14.8
Pierce	13	7.3	11	6.2
Platte	94	11.0	164	18.9
Polk	6	4.9	11	9.0
Red Willow	34	13.5	25	10.5
Richardson	31	18.6	28	16.6
Rock	2	7.1	2	7.0
Saline	65	18.6	72	20.3
Sarpy	525	10.9	420	8.4
Saunders	48	9.2	44	8.6
Scotts Bluff	193	21.2	219	24.0
Seward	39	9.7	29	7.2
Sheridan	9	7.7	13	11.0
Sherman	4	6.0	5	7.5
Sioux	3	10.0	0	0.0
Stanton	15	9.3	13	8.7
Thayer	12	10.8	8	7.0
Thomas	0	0.0	0	0.0
Thurston	12	5.0	15	5.8
Valley	11	11.5	12	12.2
Washington	45	9.3	26	5.3
Wayne	14	7.5	8	4.2
Webster	11	13.7	17	22.2
Wheeler	0	0.0	5	29.8
York	71	22.8	48	15.0

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).;
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

State wards in out-of-home care (2013 & 2017)

State wards in out-of-home care rate per 1,000 children (2017)

State	Number	Rate
2013	3,523	7.6
2017	3,491	7.3

Highest county	By number	By rate
2013	Douglas	Franklin
2017	Douglas	Wheeler

Lowest county	By number	By rate
2013	11 with 0	11 with 0
2017	16 with 0	16 with 0
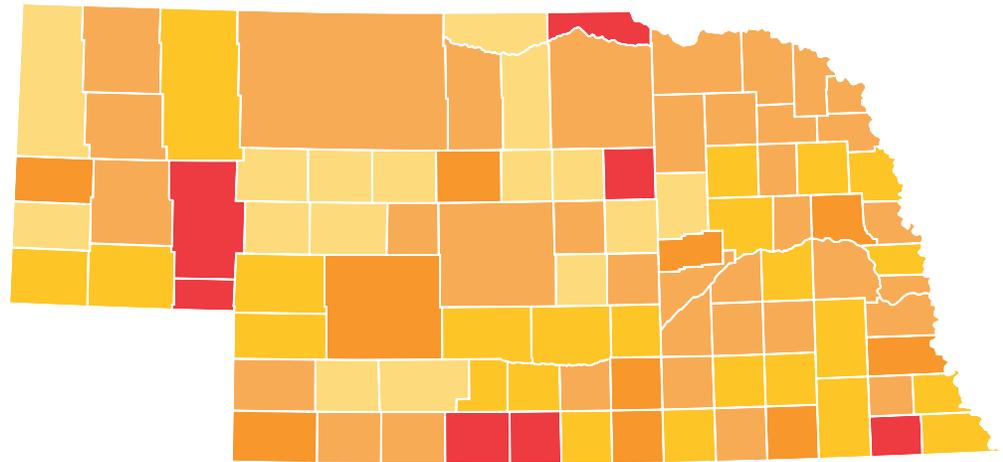
Legend: 0.0 | 0.1-4.9 | 50-9.9 | 10.0-14.9 | 15.0+

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Adams	57	7.6	75	10.0
Antelope	7	4.6	6	4.0
Arthur	1	7.7	0	0.0
Banner	0	0.0	0	0.0
Blaine	0	0.0	1	10.2
Boone	2	1.6	0	0.0
Box Butte	10	3.5	8	2.9
Boyd	2	4.8	6	15.7
Brown	2	3.2	1	1.5
Buffalo	112	9.9	100	8.6
Burt	6	4.1	14	9.6
Butler	22	11.0	15	7.9
Cass	27	4.3	19	3.0
Cedar	1	0.5	5	2.3
Chase	4	4.1	1	1.0
Cherry	7	5.5	1	0.7
Cheyenne	9	3.6	15	6.5
Clay	11	7.1	3	2.0
Colfax	16	5.2	11	3.4
Cuming	9	4.0	13	5.9
Custer	8	3.2	9	3.5
Dakota	24	3.9	24	4.2
Dawes	5	3.0	7	4.5
Dawson	43	6.4	51	7.8
Deuel	2	4.8	6	15.2
Dixon	5	3.4	3	2.1
Dodge	94	11.0	102	11.5
Douglas	1,305	9.4	1,414	9.8
Dundy	3	6.7	4	11.1
Fillmore	9	7.8	8	7.1
Franklin	10	16.7	5	8.5

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Frontier	2	3.5	0	0.0
Furnas	4	3.7	16	15.2
Gage	32	6.5	24	5.0
Garden	2	6.0	9	23.9
Garfield	1	2.6	0	0.0
Gosper	1	2.2	3	6.6
Grant	0	0.0	0	0.0
Greeley	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hall	117	7.1	96	5.7
Hamilton	6	2.7	4	1.8
Harlan	4	5.3	21	28.3
Hayes	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hitchcock	4	6.6	1	1.5
Holt	8	3.2	8	3.2
Hooker	0	0.0	0	0.0
Howard	2	1.3	6	3.9
Jefferson	8	4.8	16	10.2
Johnson	8	7.8	1	1.0
Kearney	21	13.5	5	3.1
Keith	14	8.2	15	9.2
Keya Paha	0	0.0	0	0.0
Kimball	5	6.2	4	5.0
Knox	2	1.0	1	0.5
Lancaster	748	10.9	495	6.9
Lincoln	97	11.0	118	14.0
Logan	0	0.0	1	4.9
Loup	1	8.3	0	0.0
Madison	56	6.4	87	9.9
McPherson	1	7.2	0	0.0
Merrick	7	3.8	4	2.2
Morrill	4	3.4	5	4.3

	2013	Rate per 1,000 children	2017	Rate per 1,000 children
Nance	8	9.9	9	10.9
Nemaha	10	6.6	13	8.7
Nuckolls	3	3.3	8	9.2
Otoe	19	5.1	41	10.6
Pawnee	7	11.9	11	19.8
Perkins	1	1.5	4	5.5
Phelps	15	6.6	12	5.5
Pierce	7	3.9	5	2.8
Platte	44	5.2	59	6.8
Polk	2	1.6	6	4.9
Red Willow	18	7.2	9	3.8
Richardson	18	10.8	16	9.5
Rock	1	3.5	0	0.0
Saline	35	10.0	20	5.6
Sarpy	165	3.4	188	3.7
Saunders	19	3.6	15	2.9
Scotts Bluff	80	8.8	117	12.8
Seward	14	3.5	19	4.7
Sheridan	6	5.1	9	7.6
Sherman	2	3.0	0	0.0
Sioux	0	0.0	0	0.0
Stanton	2	1.2	2	1.3
Thayer	2	1.8	4	3.5
Thomas	0	0.0	0	0.0
Thurston	22	9.1	7	2.7
Valley	3	3.1	2	2.0
Washington	18	3.7	15	3.0
Wayne	6	3.2	4	2.1
Webster	5	6.2	9	11.7
Wheeler	0	0.0	5	29.8
York	23	7.4	15	4.7

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).;
*U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.*

Youth arrests ages 17 & under (2013 & 2017)

Youth arrest rate per 1,000 youth 10-17 (2017)

| State	Number	Rate
2013	10,536	52.2
2017	9,876	47.0

Highest county	By number	By rate
2013	Douglas	York
2017	Douglas	Madison

Lowest county	By number	By rate
2013	21 with 0	21 with 0
2017	29 with 0	29 with 0
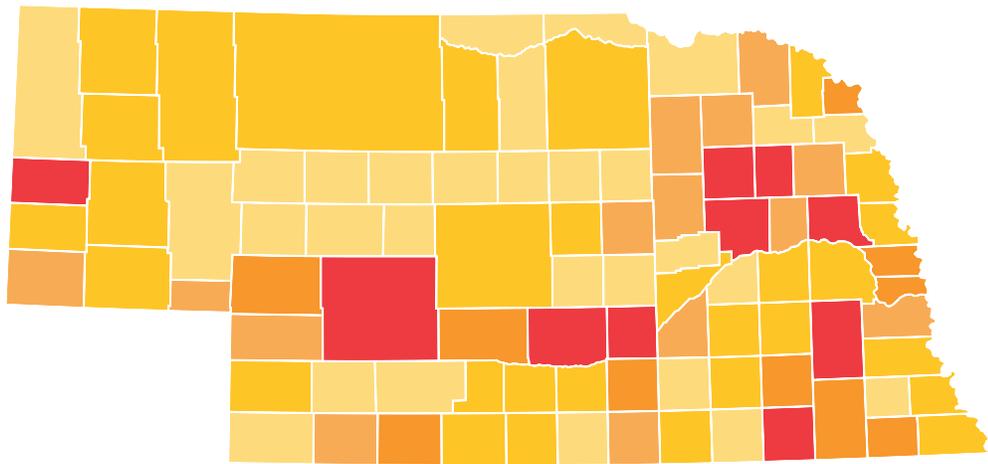
Legend: 0 or not reported to Crime Commission | 0.1-9.9 | 10.0-29.9 | 30.0-59.9 | 60.0+

	2013	Rate per 1,000 youth ages 10-17	2017	Rate per 1,000 youth ages 10-17
Adams	171	51.1	191	56.3
Antelope	1	1.5	3	4.7
Arthur	0	0.0	0	0.0
Banner	0	0.0	2	26.7
Blaine	1	21.3	0	0.0
Boone	1	1.7	1	1.8
Box Butte	7	5.4	18	15.3
Boyd	0	0.0	0	0.0
Brown	8	25.6	4	12.0
Buffalo	424	89.7	299	60.7
Burt	9	13.5	16	23.0
Butler	16	15.9	22	23.9
Cass	22	7.4	24	8.1
Cedar	3	2.9	6	6.2
Chase	7	16.0	7	15.0
Cherry	18	30.7	12	20.8
Cheyenne	10	8.7	27	25.4
Clay	3	4.3	0	0.0
Colfax	0	0.0	10	7.2
Cuming	16	15.0	8	7.5
Custer	30	27.3	23	19.7
Dakota	228	83.5	96	39.0
Dawes	30	39.3	19	27.9
Dawson	152	49.9	169	57.2
Deuel	0	0.0	1	5.2
Dixon	5	6.9	7	10.4
Dodge	220	58.2	243	62.0
Douglas	3,068	52.3	2,817	45.6
Dundy	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fillmore	2	3.4	9	16.9
Franklin	4	14.3	0	0.0

	2013	Rate per 1,000 youth ages 10-17	2017	Rate per 1,000 youth ages 10-17
Frontier	0	0.0	0	0.0
Furnas	9	16.7	11	20.2
Gage	104	46.6	101	45.5
Garden	1	6.2	0	0.0
Garfield	0	0.0	0	0.0
Gosper	1	4.8	4	17.4
Grant	0	0.0	0	0.0
Greeley	0	0.0	1	4.0
Hall	634	91.6	641	86.4
Hamilton	7	6.2	2	1.9
Harlan	3	8.9	5	14.5
Hayes	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hitchcock	3	11.4	2	6.6
Holt	28	26.4	23	21.2
Hooker	0	0.0	0	0.0
Howard	1	1.4	0	0.0
Jefferson	12	15.4	46	61.1
Johnson	0	0.0	0	0.0
Kearney	24	35.7	16	21.3
Keith	58	69.6	35	45.0
Keya Paha	5	67.6	0	0.0
Kimball	21	57.5	1	2.8
Knox	2	2.0	0	0.0
Lancaster	2,067	72.5	1,936	61.6
Lincoln	337	88.4	290	73.5
Logan	0	0.0	0	0.0
Loup	2	30.8	0	0.0
Madison	340	93.1	339	91.8
McPherson	0	0.0	0	0.0
Merrick	2	2.2	11	13.0
Morrill	3	5.2	13	23.9

	2013	Rate per 1,000 youth ages 10-17	2017	Rate per 1,000 youth ages 10-17
Nance	1	2.8	0	0.0
Nemaha	17	26.3	7	10.3
Nuckolls	2	4.6	6	14.1
Otoe	90	53.8	50	28.4
Pawnee	0	0.0	10	40.2
Perkins	10	33.6	1	3.0
Phelps	29	28.9	13	12.8
Pierce	5	5.8	1	1.2
Platte	221	59.4	300	79.1
Polk	3	5.1	0	0.0
Red Willow	70	61.6	51	46.2
Richardson	19	22.7	23	29.9
Rock	1	7.4	0	0.0
Saline	84	55.5	74	47.0
Sarpy	1,079	52.7	1,258	56.4
Saunders	78	32.5	51	21.2
Scotts Bluff	348	88.0	331	81.5
Seward	67	35.7	48	26.1
Sheridan	32	57.7	10	17.5
Sherman	6	18.8	0	0.0
Sioux	3	21.0	0	0.0
Stanton	37	48.5	64	91.4
Thayer	10	19.1	0	0.0
Thomas	0	0.0	0	0.0
Thurston	0	0.0	0	0.0
Valley	0	0.0	9	21.4
Washington	35	14.5	35	14.6
Wayne	0	0.0	0	0.0
Webster	4	11.2	1	2.9
Wheeler	0	0.0	0	0.0
York	165	128.1	22	15.5

Source: Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.;
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2013 and 2017 Estimates.

Youth referred to diversion (2017)

Youth referred to diversion (2017)

State	Juvenile Court filings	Diversion referrals
2017	4,674	4,164

Highest county	Juvenile Court filings	Diversion referrals
2017	Douglas	Douglas

Lowest county	Juvenile Court filings	Diversion referrals
2017	14 with 0	28 with 0
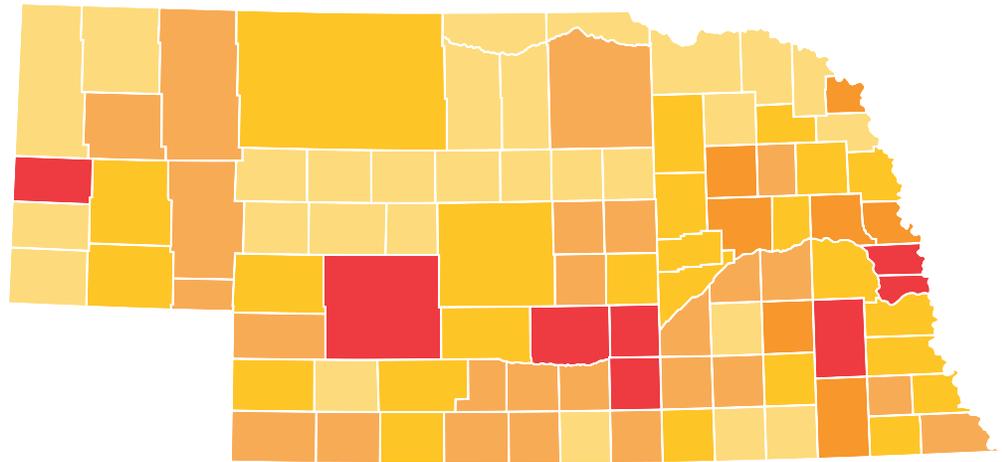
| 0 | 1-9 | 10-49 | 50-199 | 200+ |

	Juvenile Court filings	Diversion referrals
Adams	171	76
Antelope	20	13
Arthur	0	0
Banner	0	0
Blaine	1	0
Boone	5	15
Box Butte	20	7
Boyd	7	0
Brown	14	0
Buffalo	95	208
Burt	10	29
Butler	24	6
Cass	58	38
Cedar	17	0
Chase	4	10
Cherry	12	11
Cheyenne	28	37
Clay	21	***
Colfax	74	35
Cuming	28	13
Custer	15	15
Dakota	59	116
Dawes	23	0
Dawson	132	49
Deuel	1	***
Dixon	8	0
Dodge	130	85
Douglas	912	992
Dundy	1	5
Fillmore	10	***
Franklin	5	0

	Juvenile Court filings	Diversion referrals
Frontier	2	13
Furnas	14	***
Gage	129	54
Garden	7	***
Garfield	5	0
Gosper	1	***
Grant	0	0
Greeley	0	***
Hall	330	251
Hamilton	49	***
Harlan	9	***
Hayes	0	0
Hitchcock	4	5
Holt	19	***
Hooker	0	0
Howard	14	19
Jefferson	49	0
Johnson	5	8
Kearney	14	***
Keith	24	22
Keya Paha	0	0
Kimball	5	0
Knox	18	0
Lancaster	451	492
Lincoln	166	64
Logan	0	0
Loup	0	0
Madison	178	127
McPherson	0	0
Merrick	32	30
Morrill	16	25

	Juvenile Court filings	Diversion referrals
Nance	2	10
Nemaha	3	17
Nuckolls	11	12
Otoe	66	45
Pawnee	7	15
Perkins	0	***
Phelps	32	***
Pierce	7	0
Platte	220	111
Polk	7	***
Red Willow	45	15
Richardson	23	7
Rock	1	0
Saline	63	11
Sarpy	236	689
Saunders	21	41
Scotts Bluff	238	161
Seward	37	67
Sheridan	45	***
Sherman	1	***
Sioux	0	0
Stanton	48	***
Thayer	12	0
Thomas	0	0
Thurston	13	0
Valley	11	***
Washington	39	58
Wayne	11	10
Webster	7	7
Wheeler	0	0
York	22	0

*Source: Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.;
JUSTICE Administrative Office of the Courts.*
***Data are masked when a county referred fewer than 5 youth to diversion.

Youth court cases with access to counsel (2017)

Percent of youth in juvenile court who had access to counsel (2017)

State	Number of cases	% with counsel
Juvenile Court	4,674	73.5%

Highest county	Number of cases	% with counsel
Juvenile Court	Douglas	5 with 100%

Lowest county	Number of cases	% with counsel
Juvenile Court	11 with 0	Banner, Blaine, Perkins
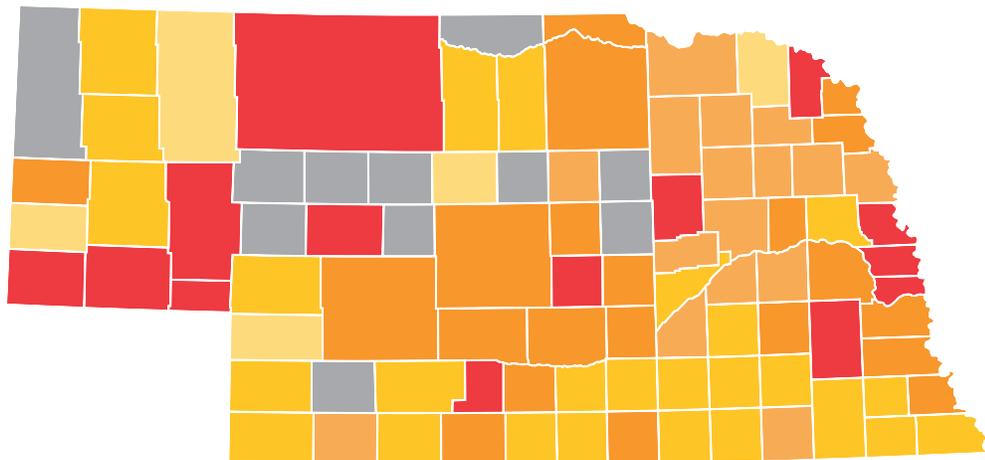
Legend: None Applicable | 0.0-19.9% | 20.0-39.9% | 40.0-59.9% | 60.0-79.9% | 80.0-100%

	Juvenile Court Cases	% of Juvenile Court cases with counsel
Adams	208	50.0%
Antelope	25	36.0%
Arthur	0	n/a
Banner	1	0.0%
Blaine	1	0.0%
Boone	20	90.0%
Box Butte	25	48.0%
Boyd	8	75.0%
Brown	16	43.8%
Buffalo	154	79.2%
Burt	13	30.8%
Butler	27	37.0%
Cass	89	68.5%
Cedar	21	9.5%
Chase	13	46.2%
Cherry	15	80.0%
Cheyenne	40	90.0%
Clay	24	54.2%
Colfax	83	67.5%
Cuming	32	31.3%
Custer	18	61.1%
Dakota	71	76.1%
Dawes	27	44.4%
Dawson	163	74.8%
Deuel	5	100.0%
Dixon	9	88.9%
Dodge	137	56.2%
Douglas	1,837	95.9%
Dundy	6	50.0%
Fillmore	12	50.0%
Franklin	6	50.0%

	Juvenile Court Cases	% of Juvenile Court cases with counsel
Frontier	2	50.0%
Furnas	19	63.2%
Gage	152	45.4%
Garden	8	100.0%
Garfield	6	33.3%
Gosper	1	100.0%
Grant	0	n/a
Greeley	0	n/a
Hall	492	64.8%
Hamilton	56	26.8%
Harlan	11	54.5%
Hayes	0	n/a
Hitchcock	6	33.3%
Holt	24	62.5%
Hooker	0	n/a
Howard	18	61.1%
Jefferson	54	27.8%
Johnson	6	50.0%
Kearney	20	55.0%
Keith	44	54.5%
Keya Paha	0	n/a
Kimball	7	85.7%
Knox	21	33.3%
Lancaster	557	91.9%
Lincoln	176	63.6%
Logan	0	n/a
Loup	0	n/a
Madison	209	35.9%
McPherson	1	100.0%
Merrick	35	57.1%
Morrill	19	57.9%

	Juvenile Court Cases	% of Juvenile Court cases with counsel
Nance	3	33.3%
Nemaha	3	66.7%
Nuckolls	14	42.9%
Otoe	68	75.0%
Pawnee	9	44.4%
Perkins	2	0.0%
Phelps	38	68.4%
Pierce	7	28.6%
Platte	245	38.0%
Polk	7	28.6%
Red Willow	47	51.1%
Richardson	41	43.9%
Rock	2	50.0%
Saline	80	58.8%
Sarpy	538	99.3%
Saunders	22	68.2%
Scotts Bluff	329	60.8%
Seward	46	71.7%
Sheridan	49	16.3%
Sherman	1	100.0%
Sioux	0	n/a
Stanton	56	37.5%
Thayer	14	57.1%
Thomas	0	n/a
Thurston	15	73.3%
Valley	15	66.7%
Washington	50	90.0%
Wayne	11	27.3%
Webster	10	70.0%
Wheeler	0	n/a
York	27	48.1%

Source: JUSTICE Administrative Office of the Courts.

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Any opinions, views, or policy positions expressed in this Kids Count in Nebraska Report can only be attributed to Voices for Children in Nebraska. These opinions do not necessarily represent the views of any members of the Technical Team.

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