



Missouri KIDS COUNT: Using Data to Make Children's Lives Better



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Goals for Today

- Discuss role of FACT and community partnerships with KIDS COUNT
- Provide overview of national KIDS COUNT rankings and data
- Provide overview of Missouri KIDS COUNT rankings and data
- Discuss local focus areas—what issues are most pressing for children and youth from your perspective?
- Explore how to use data for advocacy

KIDS COUNT Background

- Since 1990, Annie E. Casey Foundation has published an annual report tracking children's well-being state by state.
- The Foundation also supports states in publishing state-specific reports.
- The purpose of KIDS COUNT is to inform local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children — and to raise the visibility of children's issues through a nonpartisan, evidence-based lens.



TIMELINE

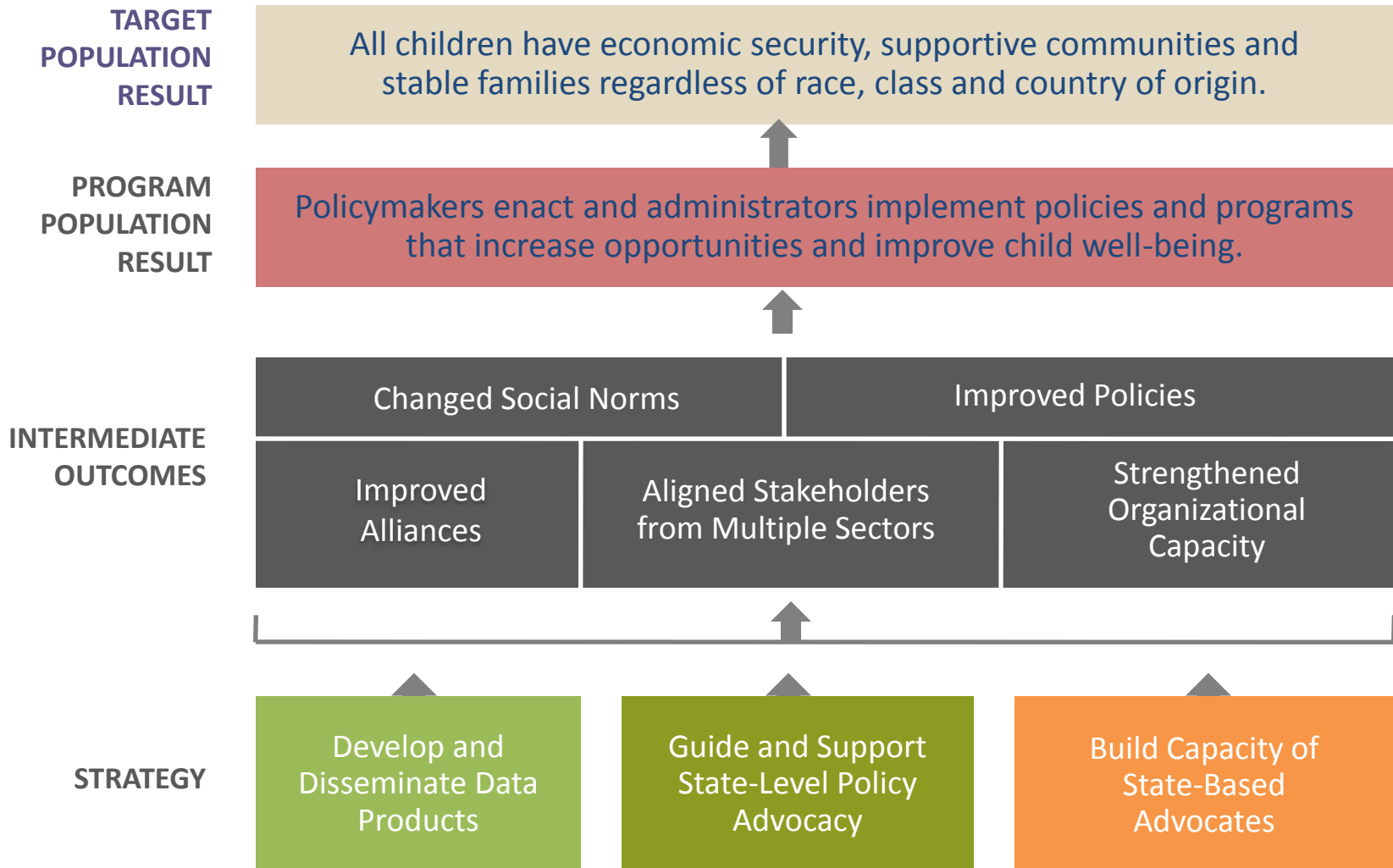
- INTERVIEWED – January 14, 2014
- NOTIFIED – January 24, 2014
- GRANT AWARDED – April 4, 2014

*“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.”
Frederick Douglass*

KIDS COUNT



KIDS COUNT – “The Next 25 Years”



Build Capacity of State Advocates

- Develop core competencies of excellence
- Organizational capacity: self assessment and planning
- Technical assistance: align resources with needs
- Virtual institute: link TA resources with competencies
- Professional development opportunities
- Leadership Institute for State-Based Advocates (LISA)



- INFRASTRUCTURE
- ALIGNMENT
- LEADERSHIP
- SUSTAINABILITY



THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

FACT Board Members

Brian Kinkade, CoChair, Director, *DSS*

Steve Renne, CoChair, VP, Mo Hospital Association, Columbia

Gail Vasterling, Director, *DHSS*

Lowell Kruse, Senior Fellow, Heartland Foundation, St. Joseph

Mike Downing, Director, *Dept of Economic Development*

Roseann Bentley, Associate Commissioner, Greene County Commission, Springfield

Jerry Lee, Director, *Dept of Public Safety*

Ann Covington, Chief Justice, Mo Supreme Court (Ret), Columbia

George Lombardi, Director, *Dept of Corrections*

Jack Craft, Partner, Lathrop & Gage, Kansas City

Chris Nicastro, Commissioner, *DESE*

Michael Middleton, Deputy Chancellor, University of MO, Columbia

Ryan McKenna, Director, *Dept of Labor & Industrial Relations*

Kathryn Swan, President, JCS Wireless, Cape Girardeau

David Russell, Commissioner, *Dept of Higher Ed.*

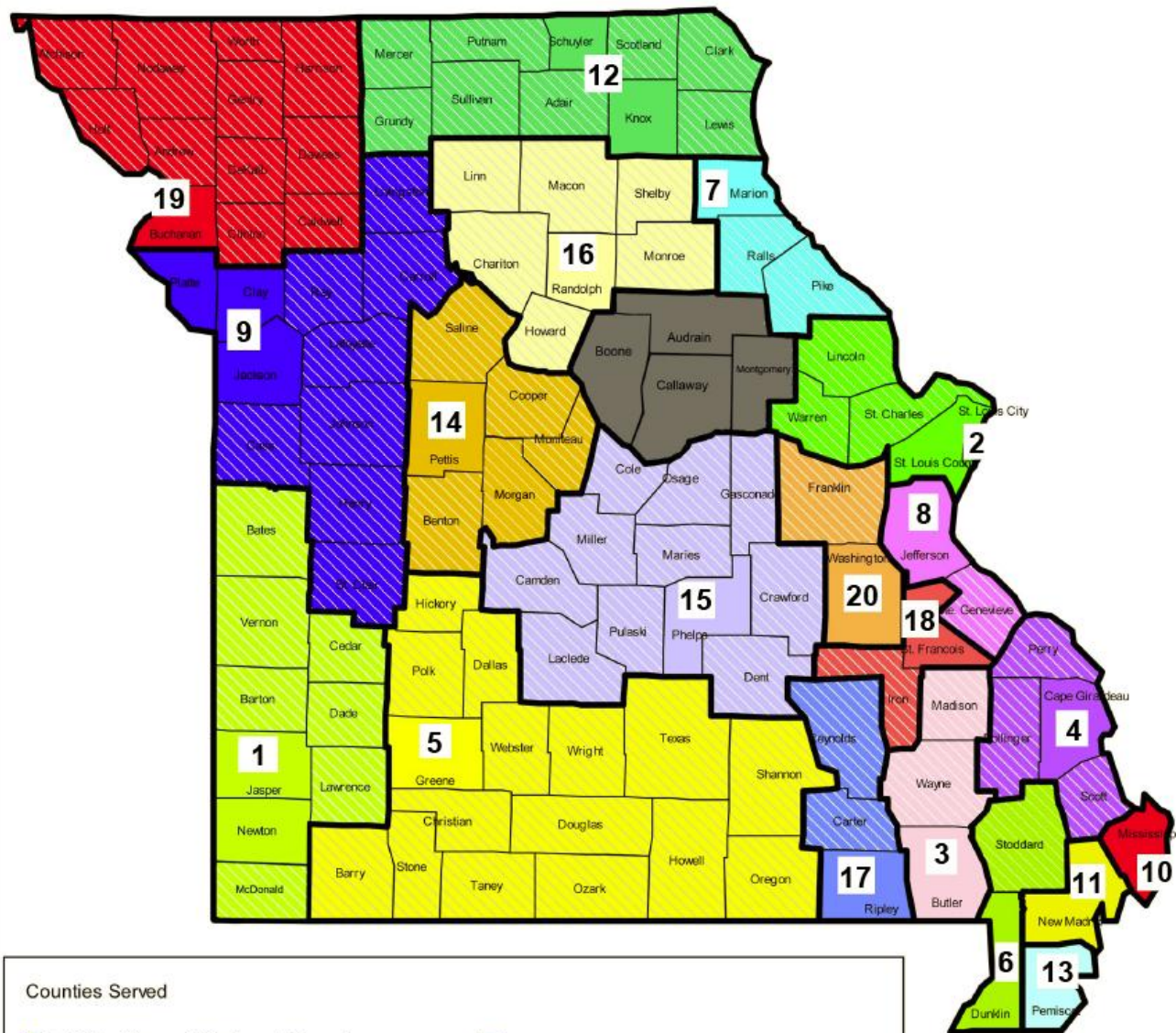
Loretta Prater, Dean Emeritus, College of Health & Human Services, Cape Girardeau

Keith Schafer, Director, *DMH*

Bailus Tate, Black Economic Union of Kansas City, Kansas City

Blanche Touhill, Chancellor Emeritus, University of MO St. Louis,

FACT Counties Served



Counties Served	
1 - The Alliance of Southwest Missouri	12 - Northeast Missouri Caring Communities
2 - ARCHS	13 - Pemiscot County Initiative Network (PIN)
3 - Butler County Community Resource Council	14 - Pettis County Community Partnership
4 - Community Caring Council	15 - The Community Partnership
5 - Community Partnership Of The Ozarks	16 - Randolph County Community Partnership
6 - Dunklin County Caring Council	17 - Ripley County Caring Community Partnership
7 - Families And Communities Together	18 - St. Francois County Community Partnership
8 - Jefferson County Community Partnership	19 - St. Joseph Youth Alliance
9 - Local Investment Commission (LINC)	20 - Washington County C2000 Partnership
10 - Mississippi County Interagency Council	
11 - New Madrid County Human Resources Council	

YEAR ONE GOALS

- Develop brand, website, audience
- Work closely with CPs to define roles, expectations, offer training, tools, direction
- Advocacy
- Research/data workgroup
- Data informed research/briefing papers

MISSOURI

— KIDS COUNT —

THE COLOR PALETTE



AECF Expectations for KIDS COUNT Affiliates

- Maintain a high level of credibility as a non-biased resource for comprehensive and accurate data on child and family well-being in your state;
- Produce at least one data product annually that informs key policy decisions affecting child and family well-being (every other year a comprehensive data product must be produced);
- Provide online access to regularly updated, diverse sets of state data through the KIDS COUNT Data Center or a comparable alternative site;
- Influence data-based decision making through strategic communications;
- Partner with the Foundation in the release of the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* and at least one other national KIDS COUNT publication per year; and
- Participate in at least one Foundation sponsored professional development activity per year.

AECF Performance Measures and Reporting

- Number of KIDS COUNT products produced each year
- Number of decision-makers reached
- Number of indicators added
- Number of stories picked up by major media in the state
- Participation in national releases
- Number of data requests filled

Role of Community Partnerships

- Advocacy- you are Missouri KIDS COUNT
- Communications- contribute stories, have a MoKIDSCOUNT point of contact, engage in some AECF activities
- Lifting up children's issues in communities
- Being seen as the KIDS COUNT point of contact for your area
- Showcasing effective programs for children, youth



Missouri KIDS COUNT Background

- Missouri KIDS COUNT has been published annually since 1993.
- OSEDA has remained consistent over time as the data partner.
 - Advocacy partners
 - Children’s Trust Fund



How do you use KIDS COUNT?

- National KIDS COUNT
- Missouri KIDS COUNT



Why Data are Important

- Humans are biased in how we process information.
 - Tend to focus on low-incidence events, especially “threatening” ones
- (Reliable) data show status and trends from an objective perspective.
- (Good) anecdotes illustrate the subjective experience of the issue at hand.
- Both are needed for effective “advocacy”!



INDICATORS, INDICES, AND RANKINGS

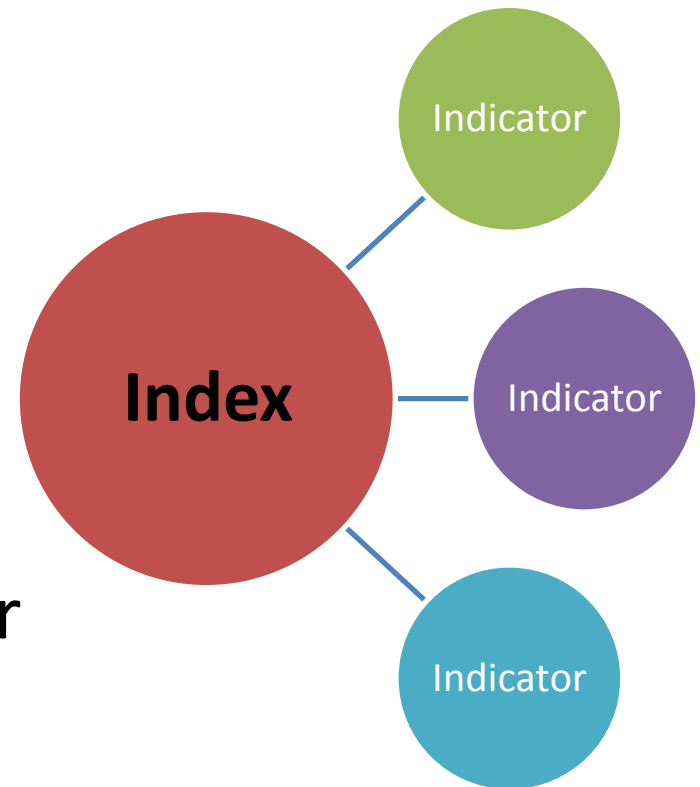
About KIDS COUNT Indicators

- Indicators are proxies that capture dimensions of child well-being.
 - Because “child well-being” is an abstract concept, we have to use indirect measures.
- Ideal indicators share these traits:
 - Cultural consistency in meaning
 - Authentic consistency in data collection method
 - Affordability



About KIDS COUNT Indexes (or Indices, if you prefer)

- An index is made up of multiple indicators/outcomes/criteria
 - Common example: APGAR score
 - Appearance, Pulse, Grimace, Activity, Respiration
 - Sum across five criteria
- Indicators may be weighted (that is, some may “count” for more in the index)



About KIDS COUNT Rankings

- Index scores are calculated for geographic region (state, county).
- Scores are put in order, with better overall well-being index scores having better ranks.
- Lower numbers mean better rank!
 - 1st is better than 5th, even though 1 less than 5.
 - Improve rank = decrease ordinal number (e.g., going from 5th to 3rd)



About KIDS COUNT Rankings (cont.)

- By definition, ranks are relative measures; they do not provide information on what levels are optimal for an outcome or indicator.
 - Can be useful in needs analyses (which area has the greatest need?).



Purpose of KIDS COUNT Rankings

- Rankings facilitate conversations about general trends in child well-being over time.
 - Provide a snapshot of overall well-being.
 - Most useful to look at how a state or county performs over time.
 - How are you doing compared to yourself—and others?



Cautions about KIDS COUNT Rankings

- Use caution when comparing ranks across geographical regions.
- Because these rankings use proxy indicators, they are likely not appropriate to use for evaluating the effects of programs/interventions.
- A state or county may make progress but others may have made more progress, which means the ranking may stay the same or drop.



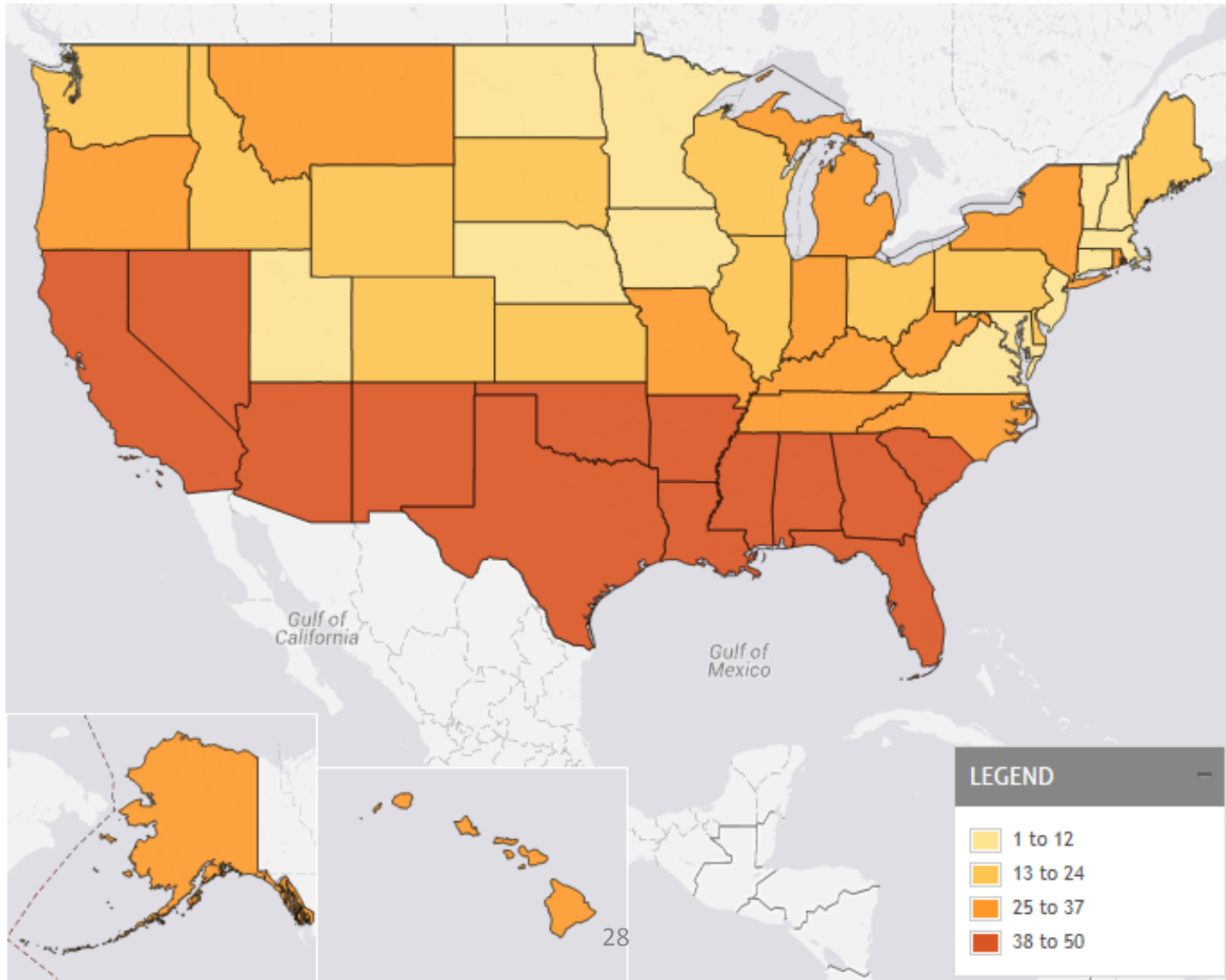
NATIONAL KIDS COUNT

Indicators for National KIDS COUNT Index

National Domain	National Indicators
<i>Economic Well-Being</i>	Children in poverty
	Children whose parents lack secure employment
	Children living in households with a high housing cost burden
	Teens not in school and not working
<i>Education</i>	High school students not graduating on time
	Children not attending preschool
	Fourth graders not proficient in reading
	Eighth graders not proficient in math
<i>Health</i>	Low-birthweight babies
	Children without health insurance
	Child and teen deaths per 100,000
	Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs
<i>Family and Community</i>	Teen births per 1,000
	Children in single-parent families
	Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma
	Children living in high poverty areas

National KIDS COUNT 2014

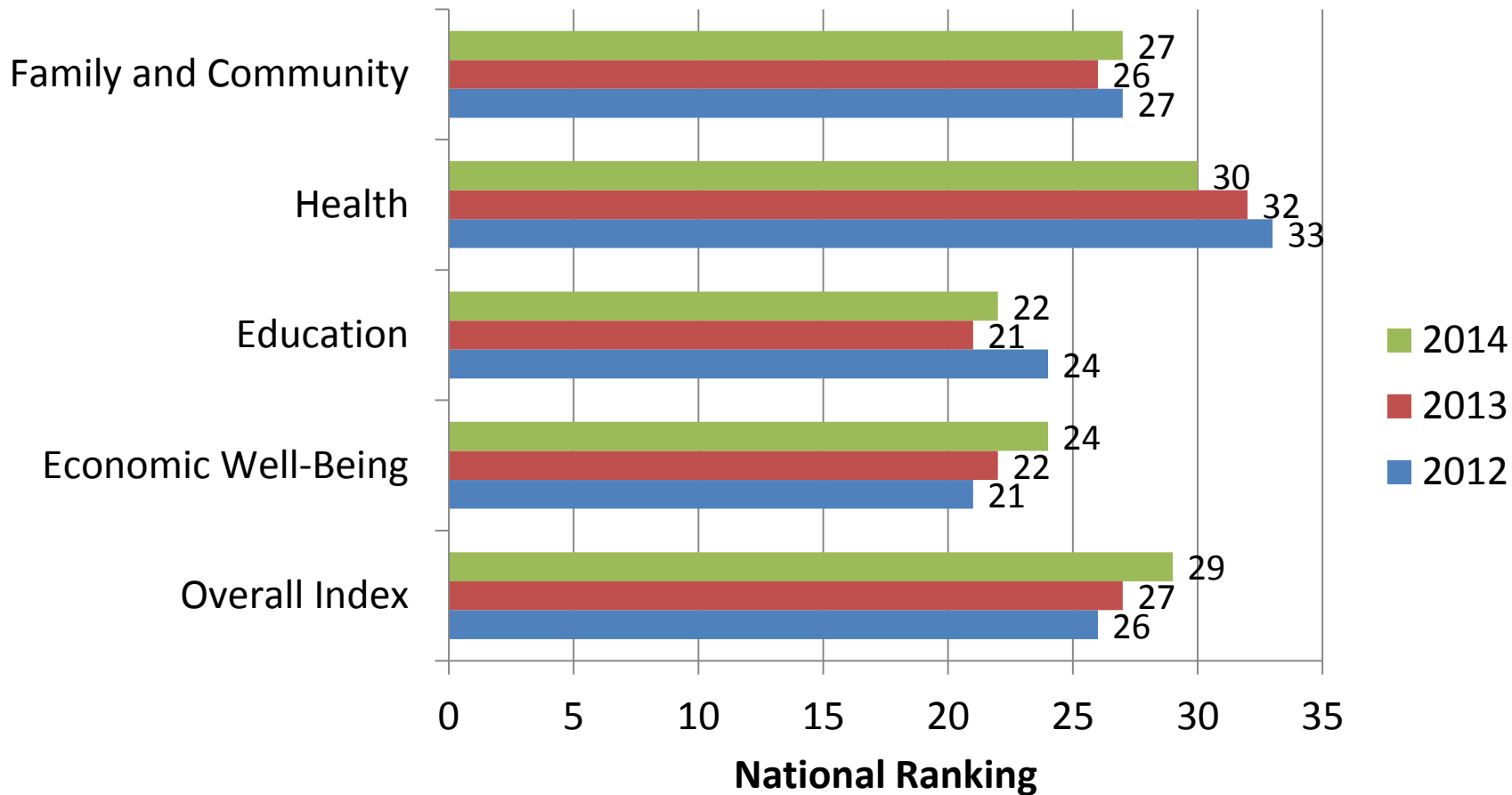
State Ranks



2014 National KIDS COUNT Index for MO

National Domain	MO Rank (Domain)	National Indicators	MO Rank (Indicator)
<i>Economic Well-Being</i>	24	Children in poverty	29
		Children whose parents lack secure employment	26
		Children living in households with a high housing cost burden	13
		Teens not in school and not working	13
<i>Education</i>	22	High school students not graduating on time	12
		Children not attending preschool	26
		Fourth graders not proficient in reading	25
		Eighth graders not proficient in math	30
<i>Health</i>	30	Low-birthweight babies	20
		Children without health insurance	30
		Child and teen deaths per 100,000	34
		Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs	2
<i>Family and Community</i>	27	Teen births per 1,000	30
		Children in single-parent families	27
		Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma	23
		Children living in high poverty areas	26

National KIDS COUNT Index Over Time for Missouri



MISSOURI KIDS COUNT

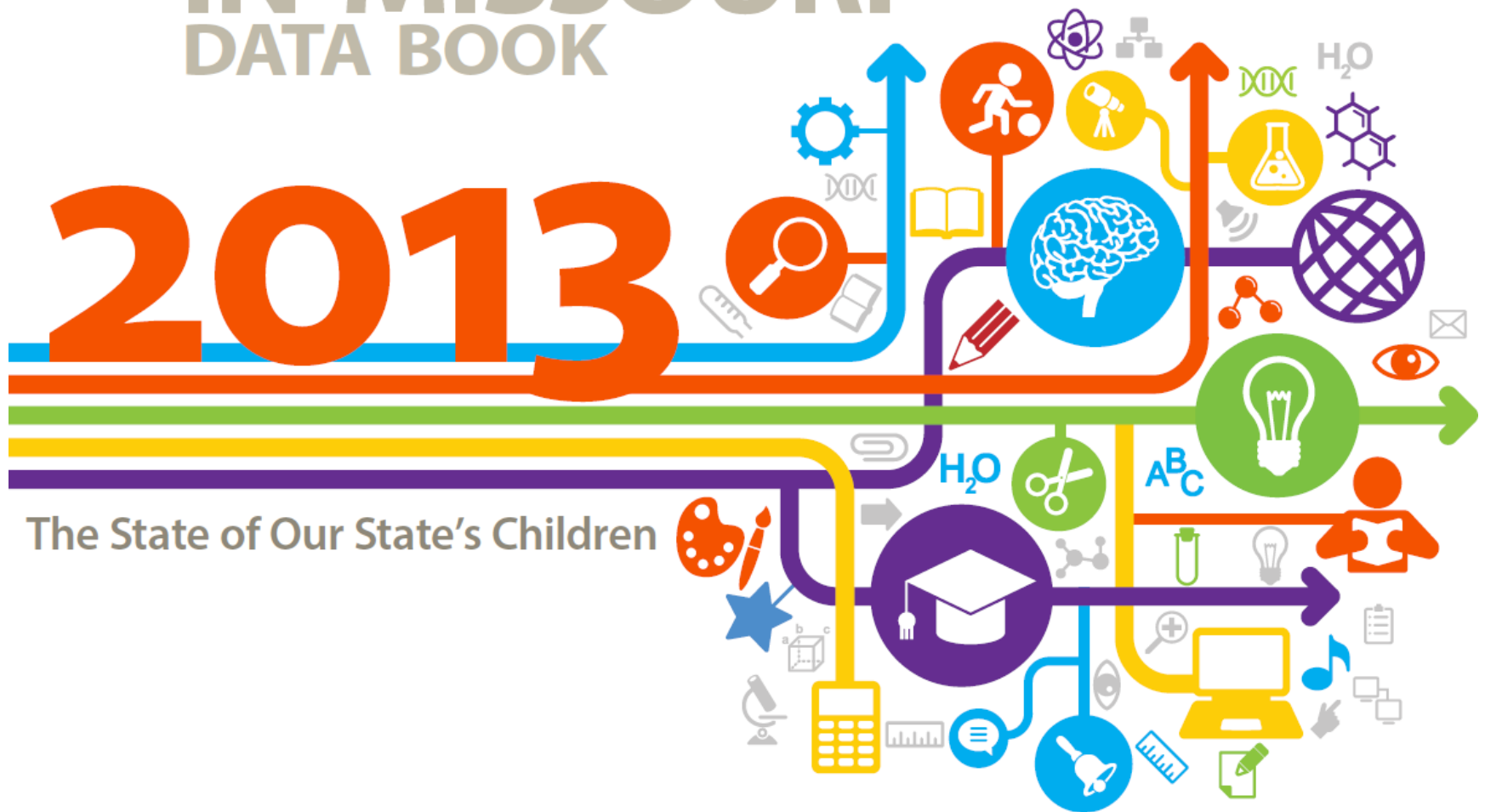
Kids Count

IN MISSOURI

DATA BOOK

2013

The State of Our State's Children



<http://oseda.missouri.edu/kidscount/>

Where do the data come from?

- Outcome measures and indicators are obtained from administrative records and census data.
 - State agencies, such as DESE, DSS, DHSS, provide annual numbers by county.
 - Census bureau data provide population estimates needed for rate calculations (based on American Community Survey or decennial census).



Missouri KIDS COUNT Domains, Outcomes, and Indicators

- Domains
 - Refer to general areas/concepts (e.g., Economic Well-Being, Health)
 - Made up of indicators and outcomes
- Outcomes
 - AKA “Outcome Measures”
 - Refer to the 10 major measures that are tracked over time
 - 6 of the 10 outcomes are included in the County Composite rank
 - 4 are not included due to potential volatility in the measure for counties with low population.
- Indicators
 - AKA “Contextual Indicators”
 - Refer to the 17 indicators that provide additional context for the outcomes

Missouri KIDS COUNT Domains, Outcomes, and Indicators

Domain					
	Economic Well-being	Health	Child Protection & Safety	Education	Demographic
Outcomes	Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch	Low birthweight infants*	Child deaths, ages 1-14 (per 100,000)*	Annual high school dropouts	
	Births to mothers without high school diploma	Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	Child abuse/neglect cases and family assessments (per 1,000)*	Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	
			Out-of-home placements (per 1,000)		
			Violent teen deaths, ages 15-19 (per 100,000)*		
Indicators	Children under 6 in poverty	Children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids		English language learners	Child population
	Children under 6 in poverty	Children receiving public mental health services		Licensed child care capacity(per 1,000)	Children as % of total population
	Children in single-parent families			Accredited child care facilities	Minority children
	Children receiving child care assistance (per 1,000 in poverty)			Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10–17 (per 1,000)	Child population
	Children receiving cash assistance				
	Children receiving SNAP (food stamps)				
	Average annual wage/salary		35		
	Adult unemployment				

Why aren't the data more recent?

- It takes time to gather data, to clean it, and to package it for use by others.
- Can cause confusion.
 - For example, the 2014 national KIDS COUNT Data Book refers to 2012 data.



Changes in Data over Time

- Data always fluctuate.
- To make meaningful statements regarding changes in an outcome/indicator, it is critical to look at a number of years.
 - We typically recommend 5 years.
- Base Year vs. Current Year
 - Both national and Missouri KIDS COUNT include base and current years' data to assist with this issue.



Why are some data for one year and other data for five years?

- For some outcomes/indicators, data are aggregated over 5 years to provide more stable rates.
- For example, infant mortality is a relatively “low-incidence” phenomenon; one death in a small county can appear to make rates spike if only calculated annually.

Numbers and Rates

- State and county pages provide both numbers (counts) and rates for outcome measures.
- Numbers refer to the number of cases (such as children, incidents) that occur over the time period (either 1 or 5 years).
- Rates refer to the ratio of cases to the total possible population over the time period.
 - Rates are either a percent (%) or a rate for some specified population amount (per 1,000, per 100,000).
- Both numbers and rates are useful, depending on what is being examined.



Missouri State Profile

Capital: Jefferson City

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend
	Base Year	Current Year	Base Year	Current Year	
Economic Well-being					
Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch 2008/2012	366,243	427,246	42.0%	49.4%	↓
Births to mothers without HS diploma 2008/2012	14,467	11,459	17.9%	15.2%	↑
Health					
Low birthweight infants* 2003–2007/2008–2012	32,037	31,123	8.1%	8.0%	↑
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) 2003–2007/2008–2012	2,982	2,621	7.5	6.8	↑
Child Protection & Safety					
Child deaths, ages 1–14* (per 100,000) 2003–2007/2008–2012	1,225	1,050	21.2	17.9	↑
Child abuse/neglect & family assessments* (per 1,000) 2008/2012	45,628	50,392	31.9	35.9	↓
Out-of-home placement entries (per 1,000) 2008/2012	5,418	6,422	3.8	4.6	↓
Violent deaths, ages 15–19* (per 100,000) 2003–2007/2008–2012	1,348	1,229	64.5	58.5	↑
Education					
Annual high school dropouts 2008/2012	9,852	7,946	3.5%	3.0%	↑
Births to teens, ages 15–19 (per 1,000) 2008/2012	9,154	6,314	43.5	32.2	↑

LEGEND: ↑ Better ↓ Worse → No Change
*Outcome not included in Composite County Rank

Economic Well-being		
Children under 18 in poverty	2000	15.3%
	2011	21.8%
Children under 6 in poverty	2000	17.7%
	2011	26.3%
Children in single-parent families	2000	24.3%
	2011	33.4%
Children receiving child care assistance (per 1,000 in poverty)	2008	157.5
	2012	150.9
Children receiving cash assistance	2008	4.5%
	2012	4.7%
Children receiving SNAP (food stamps)	2008	32.5%
	2012	39.1%
Average annual wage/salary	2008	\$41,191
	2011	\$42,579
Adult unemployment	2008	6.1%
	2012	6.9%

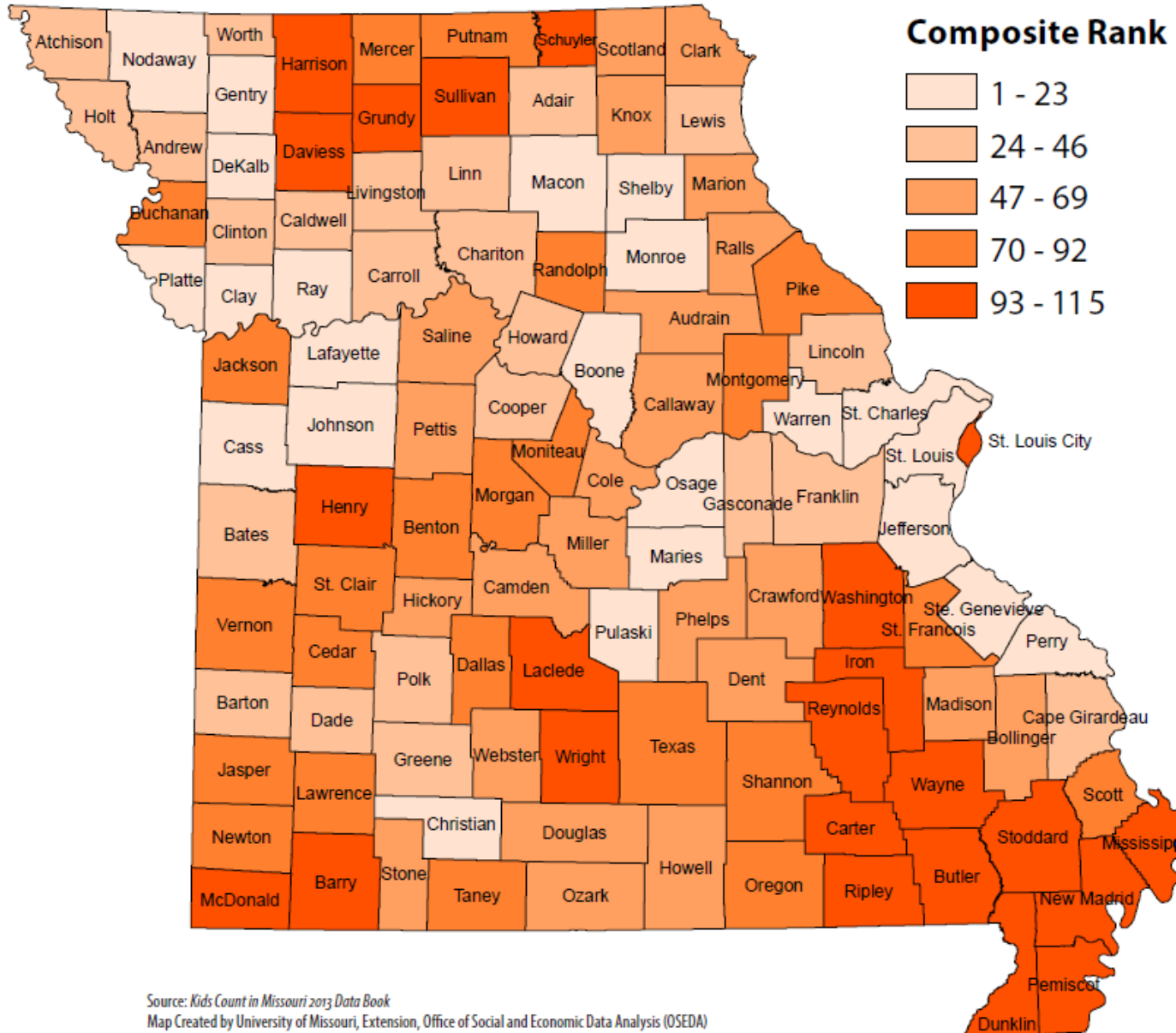
Health		
Children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids	2008	33.3%
	2012	37.4%
Children receiving public mental health services	2008	18,116
	2012	24,195
Education		
Children with limited English proficiency	2008	19,053
	2012	24,402
Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2008	103.7
	2013	106.0
Accredited child care facilities	2008	473
	2013	486
Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10–17 (per 1,000)	2008	54.4
	2012	45.3
Demographic		
Child population	2008	1,428,945
	2012	1,403,475
Children as % of total population	2008	24.2%
	2012	23.3%
Minority children	2008	23.2%
	2012	24.0%

Composite County Rank

- Calculated for each county based on 6 of 10 outcome measures.
 - Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch
 - Births to mothers without high school diploma
 - Infant mortality
 - Out-of-home placement entries (per 1,000)
 - Annual high school dropouts
 - Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)



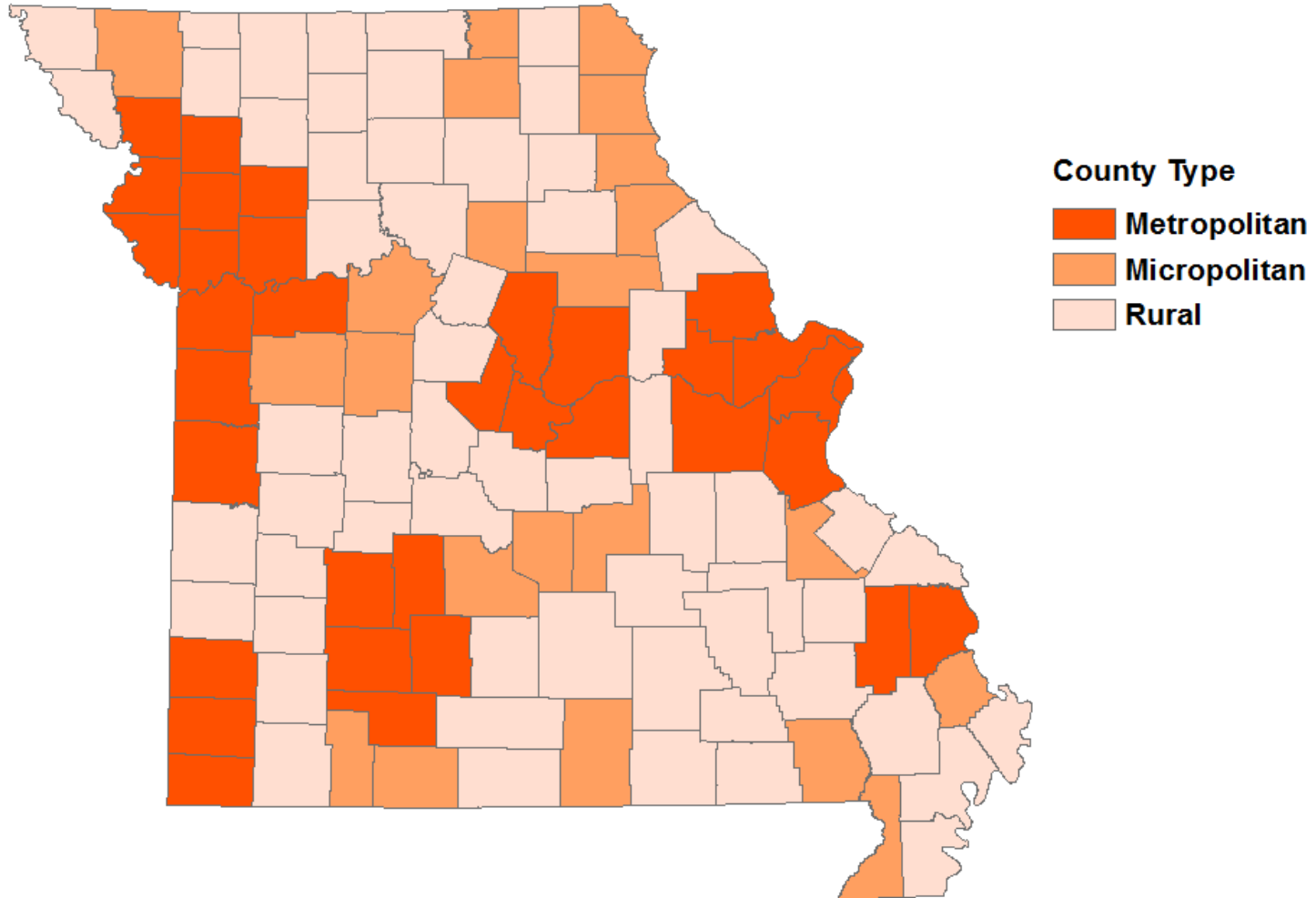
Composite County Ranks



- 1 St. Charles
- 2 Platte
- 3 Nodaway
- 4 Osage
- 5 Clay
- 6 Christian
- 7 Johnson
- 8 Boone
- 9 Cass
- 10 St. Louis
-
- 106 McDonald
- 107 Stoddard
- 108 Henry
- 109 Schuyler
- 110 Ripley
- 111 Butler
- 112 Dunklin
- 113 Mississippi
- 114 Pemiscot
- 115 St. Louis City

Source: Kids Count in Missouri 2013 Data Book
 Map Created by University of Missouri, Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA)
 Map Created on Jan. 27, 2014

Composite County Rank by Population Category



Source: *Kids Count In Missouri, 2013*

Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED)

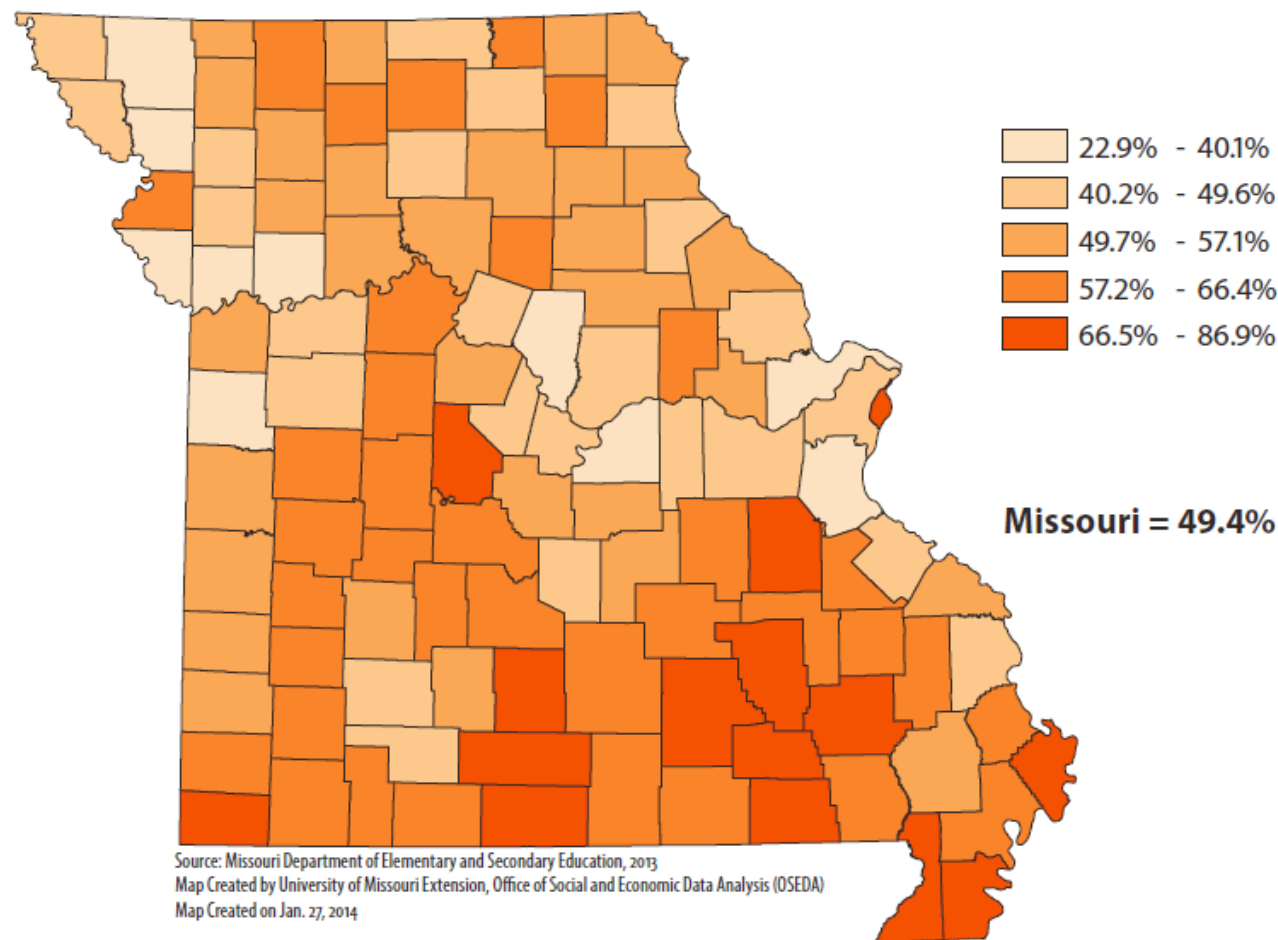
Map Created On: 20 Feb 2014

**EXAMPLE OF OUTCOME PAGES:
STUDENTS ENROLLED IN
FREE/REDUCED LUNCH**

Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch

Participation in the free/reduced-price lunch program is a widely used proxy for measuring the extent of child poverty. Economic hardship can have profound negative effects on children’s health and development. Children from families with low incomes have a greater risk for delays in cognitive development and learning problems.^{1,2}

Percent of Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch by County: 2012

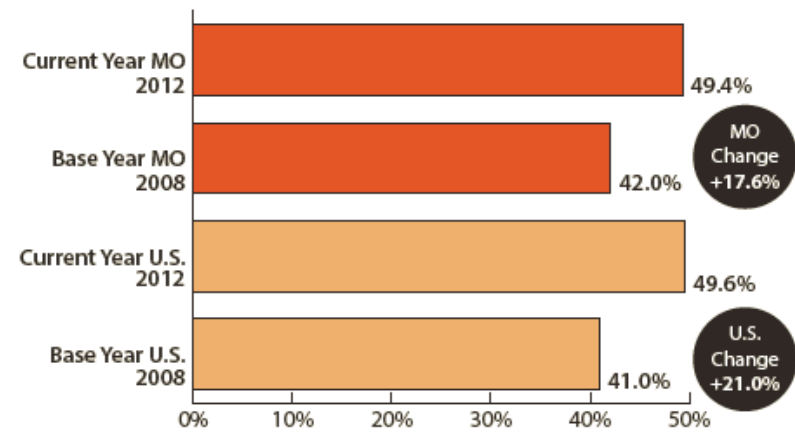


County Ranks (higher rank = lower rate)

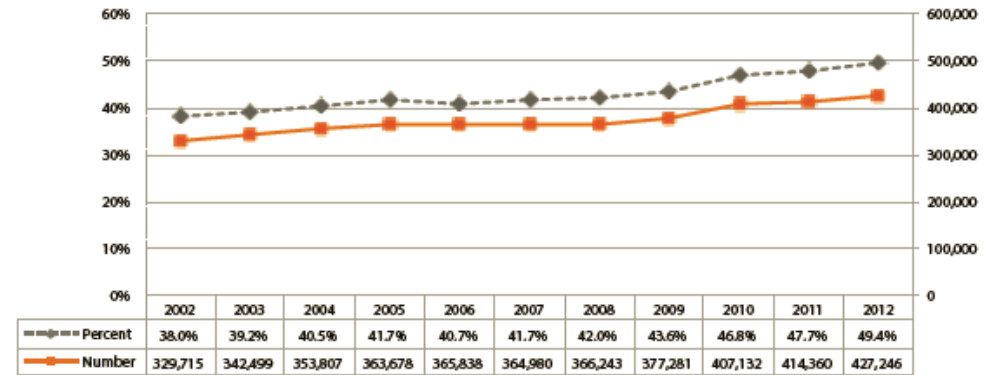
1	St. Charles	40	Monroe	79	Crawford
2	Platte	41	Cooper	80	Newton
3	Andrew	42	Gentry	81	Dallas
4	Clay	43	Shelby	82	Barry
5	Osage	44	Macon	83	Stone
6	Boone	45	Marion	84	Madison
7	Cass	46	Clark	85	Pettis
8	Ray	47	Phelps	86	St. Clair
9	Jefferson	48	Warren	87	Dent
10	Nodaway	49	Pike	88	Saline
11	Christian	50	Webster	89	Taney
12	St. Louis	51	Caldwell	90	Butler
13	Johnson	52	Bates	91	Knox
14	DeKalb	53	Carroll	92	Texas
15	Clinton	54	Mercer	93	Howell
16	Lafayette	55	Vernon	94	Dade
17	Holt	56	Daviess	95	Benton
18	Franklin	57	Audrain	96	Sullivan
19	Cole	58	Jasper	97	New Madrid
20	Moniteau	59	Stoddard	98	Oregon
21	Atchison	60	Scotland	99	Hickory
22	Pulaski	61	Miller	100	Iron
23	Lincoln	62	Jackson	101	Morgan
24	Ralls	63	Barton	102	Reynolds
25	Cape Girardeau	64	Polk	103	Washington
26	Putnam	65	Montgomery	104	Wayne
27	Lewis	66	St. Francois	105	Ozark
28	Linn	67	Bollinger	106	Wright
29	Callaway	68	Cedar	107	McDonald
30	Howard	69	Buchanan	108	Carter
31	Greene	70	Schuyler	109	Douglas
32	Gasconade	71	Scott	110	Ripley
33	St. Genevieve	72	Laclede	111	Pemiscot
34	Adair	73	Harrison	112	Dunklin
35	Livingston	74	Grundy	113	Mississippi
36	Worth	75	Randolph	114	Shannon
37	Maries	76	Henry	115	St. Louis City
38	Chariton	77	Camden		
39	Perry	78	Lawrence		

Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2013
 Map Created by University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED)

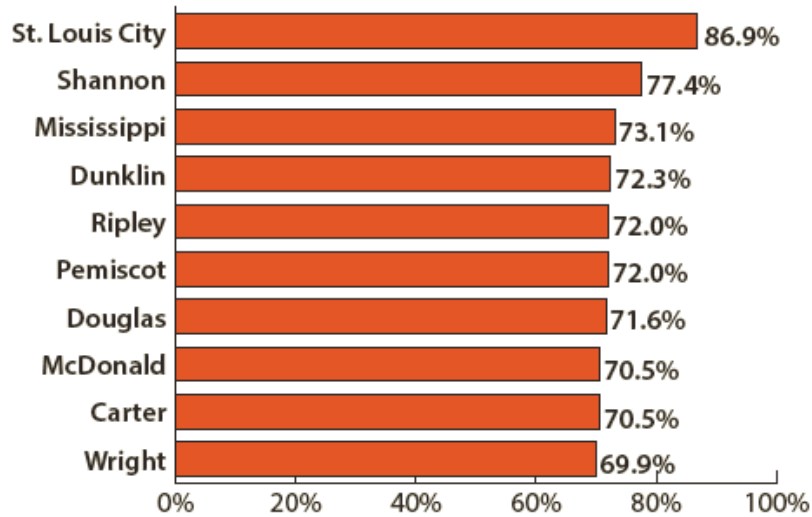
Percent of Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch for Missouri and the U.S.



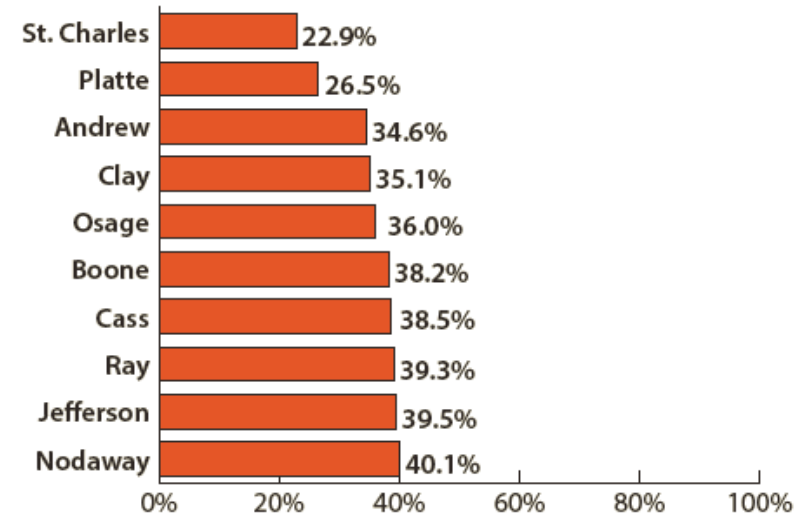
Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch: 2002-2012



Counties with Highest Percent of Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch



Counties with Lowest Percent of Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch



Definition and Data Notes

Number of students who are enrolled in the free or reduced-price National School Lunch Program. Children from households with incomes less than 130% of poverty are eligible for free lunches; those from households below 185% of poverty are eligible for reduced price lunches. Rate is expressed as percent of total school enrollment. *Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*⁴⁷

⁴⁷Votruba-Drzal, E. (2006). Economic disparities in middle childhood development: Does income matter? *Developmental Psychology*, 42, 1154-1167.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013 MISSOURI KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

2013 Data Book Summary

Measures that improved

- Births to mothers without a high school diploma
- Low birthweight infants,
- Infant mortality
- Child deaths
- Teen violent deaths
- Percent of annual high school dropouts
- Births to teens

Measures that worsened

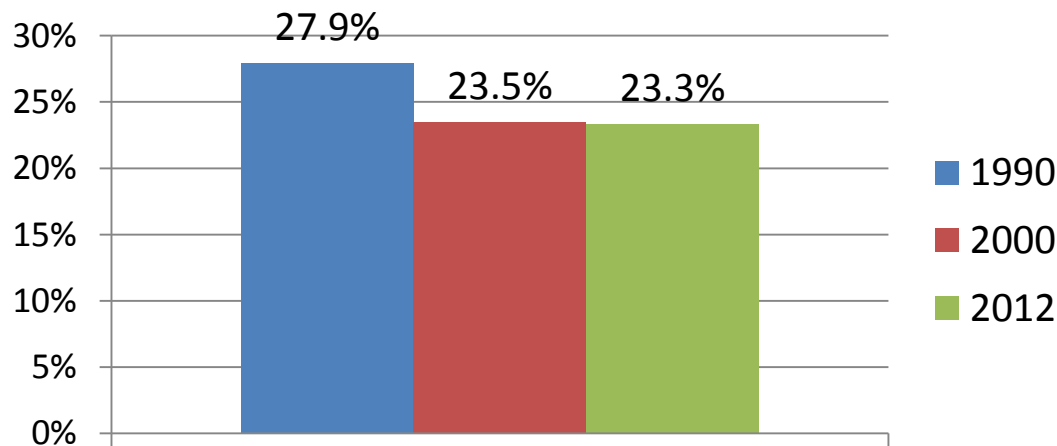
- Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch
- Child abuse/neglect and family assessments
- Out-of-home placements

Number of Children



- Number of children has been decreasing slightly in MO and U.S.
 - Due to a number of factors, including declining birth rates and immigration.
- Children as percent of total population is also decreasing in MO and U.S.
 - Due to fewer children as well as increased lifespan.

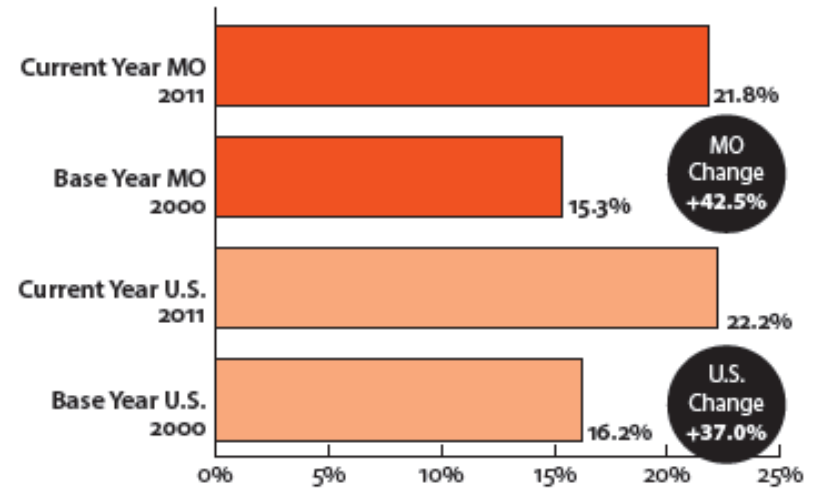
Children as Percent of MO Population



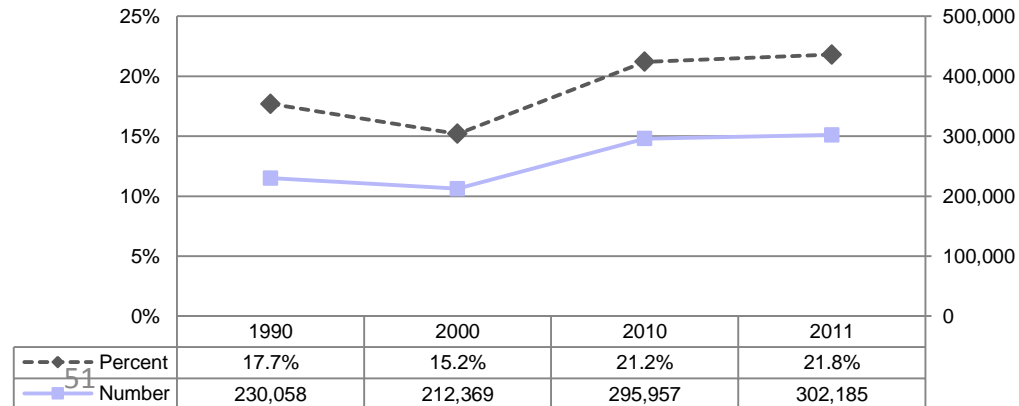
Poverty

- In 2011, more than 1 in 5 Missouri children lived in poverty (21.8%).
 - More than 1 in 4 Missouri children under 6 lived in poverty (26.3%).

Percent of Children Under 18 in Poverty for Missouri and the U.S.



Missouri Children Under 18 in Poverty: 1990-2011



Effects of Poverty

- Economic hardship can have large negative effects on children's development.
 - Cognitive delays
 - Learning problems
 - Increased risk for problems coping with stress and regulating behavior
 - Increased risk for poor health
- Recent brain imaging studies show that poverty affects physical structures of the developing brain (Luby J., et al., 2013, *JAMA Pediatrics*, 167, 1135-1142)
 - Less white matter and cortical gray matter
 - Smaller hippocampus and amygdala (critical for memory, emotion processing, and stress regulation)
- Poverty per se is not the issue: It is the stressors and lack of resources associated with lower SES.
 - Less access to health care for parents and children
 - Increased risk of attachment issues for young children
 - Less verbal stimulation for young children



Missouri Minority Profile

Outcome Measures	Minority			Nonminority		
	Base Year	Current Year	Trend	Base Year	Current Year	Trend
Births to mothers without HS diploma 2008/2012	22.6%	21.2%	↑	16.7%	13.5%	↑
Low birthweight infants 2003–2007/2008–2012	12.5%	12.0%	↑	7.1%	7.0%	↑
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) 2003–2007/2008–2012	13.1	10.8	↑	6.2	5.7	↑
Child deaths, ages 1–14 (per 100,000) 2003–2007/2008–2012	25.8	20.5	↑	21.9	17.1	↑
Child abuse/neglect & family assessments (per 1,000) 2008/2012	35.0	30.3	↑	24.2	37.9	↓
Out-of-home placement entries (per 1,000) 2008/2012	3.6	4.4	↓	2.3	4.6	↓
Violent deaths, ages 15–19 (per 100,000) 2003–2007/2008–2012	71.7	82.7	↓	63.2	56.3	↑
Annual high school dropouts 2008/2012	7.2%	6.0%	↑	3.0%	2.0%	↑
Births to teens, ages 15–19 (per 1,000) 2008/2012	56.3	40.9	↑	41.2	28.8	↑

Missouri Minority Profile (cont.)

Minority outcomes that worsened:

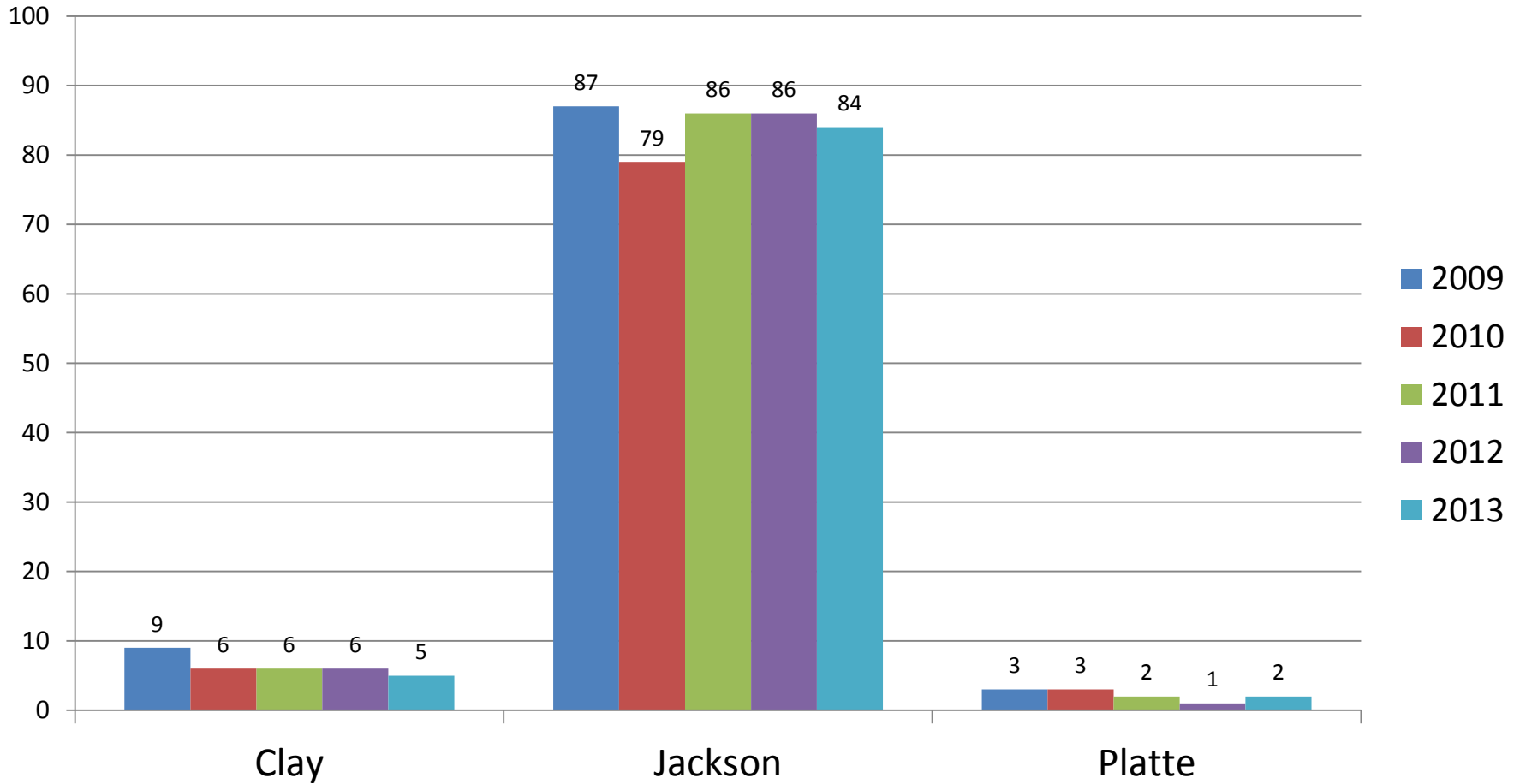
- Out-of-home placements
- Violent deaths, ages 15-19

Nonminority outcomes that worsened:

- Out-of-home placements
- Child abuse/neglect and family assessments

But note that rates are *higher* for minority children/families for all outcomes except for out-of-home placements and child abuse/neglect and family assessments.

Composite County Ranks over Time for Area Counties



What issues are most pressing for children and youth from your perspective?

- From the data we have presented, what issues surface?
 - Why is the issue important?
 - Who is affected?
 - How are they affected?
- What local data can you access to tell the story of children in your county and/or community?



**Thank you for all you do for
children and families!**

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