## Kossuth County

### Demographic Summary (2017)

- **Total Population**: 15,166
- **Under 18**: 3,320 (21.9%)
- **Under 6**: 975 (6.4%)
- **Child Population (under 18) by Race/Ethnicity**:
  - African American: 43 (1.3%)
  - Asian: 38 (1.1%)
  - Native American: 6 (0.2%)
  - White, Non-Hispanic: 3,058 (92.1%)
  - Other: 18 (0.5%)
  - Multiple: 47 (1.4%)
  - Hispanic (any race): 137 (4.1%)

### Familiarity & Community Economic Well-Being

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kossuth County</th>
<th>Iowa</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children living under the poverty level</strong></td>
<td>388 (12.1%)</td>
<td>96,860 (13.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unemployed individuals age 16 and over</strong></td>
<td>172 (2.0%)</td>
<td>42,570 (2.5%)</td>
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### School Readiness & Success

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<tr>
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<th>Iowa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3- and 4-year-olds participating in preschool (2014-18 average)</strong></td>
<td>247 (68.4%)</td>
<td>37,312 (46.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fourth graders proficient in reading (2003)</strong></td>
<td>80 (79.2%)</td>
<td>24,650 (74.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eighth graders proficient in mathematics (2003)</strong></td>
<td>117 (80.7%)</td>
<td>24,749 (75.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>High school graduation (students graduating with class in 4 years)</strong></td>
<td>101 (93.5%)</td>
<td>32,325 (91.5%)</td>
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### Stable, Secure Families

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cases of child abuse/neglect (per 1,000)</strong></td>
<td>43 (13.2%)</td>
<td>11,568 (15.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Single-parent families (2014-18 average)</strong></td>
<td>536 (32.8%)</td>
<td>115,352 (31.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teen births (number/pct of females 15-19 giving birth)</strong></td>
<td>7 (1.6%)</td>
<td>1,607 (1.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Live births that are to unmarried teens</strong></td>
<td>7 (4.0%)</td>
<td>1,490 (4.0%)</td>
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</table>

### Healthy Children

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Live births where prenatal care began during first trimester (2007)</strong></td>
<td>133 (76.4%)</td>
<td>29,583 (79.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infant Mortality (per 1,000)</strong></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>191 (5.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child deaths (per 100,000)</strong></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>96 (17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Low birthweight (live births less than 5.5 pounds)</strong></td>
<td>6 (3.4%)</td>
<td>2,607 (6.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children 0-18 uninsured during the year (2014-18 average)</strong></td>
<td>263 (7.7%)</td>
<td>23,736 (3.1%)</td>
</tr>
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### Use of Public Supports

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children 0-4 receiving WIC (2003)</strong></td>
<td>189 (22.3%)</td>
<td>51,321 (25.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students eligible for free or reduced-price lunches</strong></td>
<td>709 (41.0%)</td>
<td>195,532 (40.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual tax filers who receive the EITC (2017)</strong></td>
<td>890 (12.0%)</td>
<td>204,490 (14.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individuals receiving Food Assistance</strong></td>
<td>1,066 (7.2%)</td>
<td>344,349 (10.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individuals participating in Family Investment Program</strong></td>
<td>37 (0.2%)</td>
<td>19,565 (0.6%)</td>
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</table>

* Incidences of five or less have been suppressed to protect confidentiality.

To download data or view data snapshots for other Iowa counties, visit www.cfpciowa.org and click on “Kids Count Data.”
## About the Kids Count indicators

### FAMILY/COMM ECON WELL-BEING

**Child poverty**

- Children 0-17 who lived below poverty during the year
  - U.S. Census Bureau

  Children growing up in poverty (defined here as $23,850 for a family of four) are much more likely than peers to experience stress and deprivation that hinders development and readiness for school and life.

### FAMILY/COMM ECON WELL-BEING

**Unemployment**

- Individuals 16 and over in the labor force but unemployed
  - Iowa Workforce Development

  High levels of unemployment in a community make it difficult for families to move up the economic ladder. It also contributes to family stress when a parent struggles to find work.

### SCHOOL READINESS & SUCCESS

**8th grade math**

- Students proficient on the Iowa Assessments and Iowa Alternate Assessment
  - Iowa Department of Education

  Proficiency in math by the end of middle school is an important predictor of future academic success, including high school graduation and life.

### SCHOOL READINESS & SUCCESS

**High school graduation**

- Public school students entering 9th grade who graduate with their class 4 years later
  - Iowa Department of Education

  A high school diploma is the baseline credential needed for higher education, most kinds of job training and many jobs. Adults without one are much more likely to struggle economically.

### SCHOOL READINESS & SUCCESS

**Preschool participation**

- Children ages 3-4 enrolled in preschool
  - U.S. Census Bureau

  Children who participate in a high-quality preschool program are more likely to be socially and cognitively ready for kindergarten. The benefits are strongest for low-income children and children facing other risk factors.

### STABLE, SECURE FAMILIES

**Single-parent families**

- Families with children that are headed by a single parent
  - U.S. Census Bureau

  Children in single-parent families typically do not have the same economic or human resources available in two-parent families. They are more likely to drop out of school and experience divorce in adulthood.

### STABLE, SECURE FAMILIES

**Child abuse & neglect**

- Confirmed cases of child abuse or neglect among children 0-17
  - Iowa Dept. of Human Services

  Experiencing abuse or neglect is one of the adverse childhood experiences that hinders healthy development — physical, mental and cognitive — and can affect well-being far into adulthood.

### HEALTHY CHILDREN

**Infant mortality**

- Deaths of infants before age 1 per 1,000 children
  - Iowa Department of Public Health

  In addition to being a child outcome, data on infant mortality is used as a proxy for population health. The many factors that shape population health also shape infant mortality rates.

### HEALTHY CHILDREN

**Child deaths**

- Deaths of children ages 1-14 per 100,000 children
  - Iowa Department of Public Health

  Child death rates can point to underlying problems and inequities within a community, such as the safety of neighborhoods, access to health care or exposure to environmental toxins.

### HEALTHY CHILDREN

**Uninsured children**

- Children 0-18 who are uninsured during the year
  - U.S. Census Bureau

  Health coverage is the key that opens the door to the health-care system. Insured children are more likely to get timely medical care, including well-child visits, that contributes to overall health.

### ACCESS TO PUBLIC SUPPORTS

**Free or Reduced-Price Lunch**

- Students eligible for free or low-cost meals while at school
  - Iowa Department of Education

  This federally funded program provides meals to students. Available to families with incomes up to 185 percent of the federal poverty level, it is a commonly used proxy for poverty.

### ACCESS TO PUBLIC SUPPORTS

**Food Assistance**

- Monthly average of individuals receiving Food Assistance
  - Iowa Dept. of Human Services

  The Food Assistance Program (known nationally as SNAP) provides financial assistance that low-income Iowans, including many children and working adults, can use to buy groceries.

### ACCESS TO PUBLIC SUPPORTS

**Family Investment Program**

- Monthly average of individuals participating in FIP
  - Iowa Dept. of Human Services

  Iowa's version of the federal TANF program provides cash assistance to eligible low-income families for up to 60 months. It serves a small and shrinking share of the population.

### ACCESS TO PUBLIC SUPPORTS

**WIC Program**

- Children 0-4 participating in the Women, Infants, & Children program
  - Iowa Department of Public Health

  WIC offers supplemental foods, referrals and nutrition education for low-income pregnant and postpartum women and children through age 4.

### ACCESS TO PUBLIC SUPPORTS

**EITC**

- Individual tax filers who receive the Earned Income Tax Credit
  - Internal Revenue Service

  The EITC is recognized across the political spectrum as a successful antipoverty program that ensures that people who work are able to provide for their families.