## Child Data Snapshot

### Pottawattamie County

#### Demographic summary (2017)

- **Total population**: 93,287
- **Under 18**: 22,122 (23.7%)  
- **Under 6**: 7,394 (7.9%)

#### Child population (under 18) by race/ethnicity

- **African American**: 308 (1.4%)
- **Asian**: 109 (0.5%)
- **Native American**: 28 (0.1%)
- **White, non-Hispanic**: 17,928 (81.0%)
- **Other**: 723 (3.3%)
- **Multiple**: 1,078 (4.9%)
- **Hispanic (any race)**: 2,746 (12.4%)

#### FAMILY & COMMUNITY ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>2018 Number</th>
<th>2018 Rate/Percentage</th>
<th>Chg from 2000§</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children living under the poverty level</td>
<td>3,235</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>+21.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed individuals age 16 and over</td>
<td>1,115</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>-5.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SCHOOL READINESS & SUCCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3- and 4-year-olds participating in preschool (*2014-18 average)</td>
<td>987</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>-14.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth graders proficient in reading (*2003)</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>70.2%</td>
<td>+0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth graders proficient in mathematics (*2003)</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>71.0%</td>
<td>+11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduation (students graduating with class in 4 years)</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>90.5%</td>
<td>+4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### STABLE, SECURE FAMILIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases of child abuse/neglect (per 1,000)</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
<td>+71.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-parent families (*2014-18 average)</td>
<td>4,207</td>
<td>38.8%</td>
<td>+23.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen births (number/pct of females 15-19 giving birth)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>-56.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live births that are to unmarried teens</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>-55.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### HEALTHY CHILDREN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live births where prenatal care began during first trimester (*2007)</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>-39.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Mortality (per 1,000)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>+33.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child deaths (per 100,000)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low birthweight (live births less than 5.5 pounds)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>+26.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 0-18 uninsured during the year (*2014-18 average)</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### USE OF PUBLIC SUPPORTS

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children 0-4 receiving WIC (*2003)</td>
<td>1,996</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students eligible for free or reduced-price lunches</td>
<td>6,830</td>
<td>45.3%</td>
<td>+48.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual tax filers who receive the EITC (*2017)</td>
<td>6,930</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>+30.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals receiving Food Assistance</td>
<td>14,624</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>+176.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals participating in Family Investment Program</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>-61.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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.

**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

**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.

**4th grade reading**  
Students proficient on the Iowa Assessments and Iowa Alternate Assessment  
— Iowa Department of Education  
Reading proficiently by mid-elementary school is an important predictor of future academic success, including high school graduation, and of economic stability in adulthood.

#### 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 prepares students for higher-order math classes they will need to succeed in high school as well as the basic skills needed for adult life.

**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.

#### 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.