# Child Data Snapshot

## Jones County

### Demographic summary

- **Total population**: 20,468
- **Under 18**: 4,447 (21.7%)
- **Under 6**: 1,273 (6.2%)

**Child population (under 18) by race/ethnicity**
- **African American**: 81 (1.8%)
- **Asian**: 0 (0.0%)
- **Native American**: 0 (0.0%)
- **White, non-Hispanic**: 4,162 (93.6%)
- **Other**: 15 (0.3%)
- **Multiple**: 98 (2.2%)
- **Hispanic (any race)**: 106 (2.4%)

### FAMILY & COMMUNITY ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017 Number</th>
<th>2017 Rate/Percentage</th>
<th>Chg from 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children living under the poverty level</strong></td>
<td>502</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>+12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unemployed individuals age 16 and over</strong></td>
<td>386</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>+47.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCHOOL READINESS & SUCCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3- and 4-year-olds participating in preschool</strong></td>
<td>243</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
<td>+32.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fourth graders proficient in reading</strong></td>
<td>157</td>
<td>83.1%</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eighth graders proficient in mathematics</strong></td>
<td>168</td>
<td>75.5%</td>
<td>+0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>High school graduation (students graduating with class in 4 years)</strong></td>
<td>170</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
<td>+1.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STABLE, SECURE FAMILIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2017 Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cases of child abuse/neglect (per 1,000)</strong></td>
<td>52</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>+52.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Single-parent families</strong></td>
<td>623</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>+13.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teen births (number/pct of females 15-19 giving birth)</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>-60.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Live births that are to unmarried teens</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>-50.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HEALTHY CHILDREN

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<tr>
<td><strong>Live births where prenatal care began during first trimester</strong></td>
<td>165</td>
<td>83.8%</td>
<td>+21.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infant Mortality (per 1,000)</strong></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child deaths (per 100,000)</strong></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Low birthweight (live births less than 5.5 pounds)</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children 0-18 uninsured during the year</strong></td>
<td>62</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### USE OF PUBLIC SUPPORTS

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children 0-4 receiving WIC</strong></td>
<td>134</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>-37.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students eligible for free or reduced-price lunches</strong></td>
<td>1,157</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
<td>+56.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual tax filers who receive the EITC</strong></td>
<td>1,270</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>+36.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individuals receiving Food Assistance</strong></td>
<td>1,720</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>+173.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individuals participating in Family Investment Program</strong></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>-61.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Teen births**
- Females ages 15-19 giving birth — **Iowa Department of Public Health**
  - Children born to teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely or low birth-weight and to die as infants. Teen mothers are less likely to finish high school or go on to college and more likely to rely on public supports.

**Teen unmarred births**
- Live births that are to unmarried teens — **Iowa Department of Public Health**
  - Unmarried teen mothers are less likely to ever marry and often face the primary responsibility of parenthood, often without the full physical, emotional and financial resources needed for child rearing.

#### 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.