

## Children in Kern County

| Indicator                                                             | Year      | Kern County | California | Data Source                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Child Population Ages 0-17                                            | 2025      | 254,509     | 8,386,716  | California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> ; U.S. Census Bureau, <a href="#">Population and Housing Unit Estimates</a> (Mar. 2025).                                                    |
| Percentage of Children Living with Two Parents                        | 2014-2018 | 58.9%       | 63.8%      | U.S. Census Bureau, <a href="#">American Community Survey</a> (Jan. 2020).                                                                                                                                                    |
| Percentage of Children Living with One or More Foreign-Born Parent    | 2016-2020 | 41.0%       | 47.2%      | U.S. Census Bureau, <a href="#">American Community Survey</a> (Aug. 2022).                                                                                                                                                    |
| Percentage of English Learners in Public Schools                      | 2021      | 16.9%       | 17.7%      | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">English Learners by Grade and Language</a> (Sept. 2021).                                                                                                                           |
| Percentage of Children Living Below the Federal Poverty Threshold     | 2016-2020 | 27.7%       | 16.8%      | U.S. Census Bureau, <a href="#">American Community Survey</a> (Aug. 2022).                                                                                                                                                    |
| Percentage of Children Living in Low-Income Working Families          | 2016-2020 | 29.2%       | 23.0%      | Population Reference Bureau, analysis of U.S. Census Bureau <a href="#">American Community Survey</a> microdata files (Aug. 2022).                                                                                            |
| Percentage of Children Living in Food Insecure Households             | 2023      | 21.7%       | 16.9%      | Feeding America, <a href="#">Map the Meal Gap</a> (Nov. 2025).                                                                                                                                                                |
| Percentage of Public School Students Who Are Homeless                 | 2021      | 2.4%        | 3.8%       | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Coordinated School Health and Safety Office</a> custom tabulation & DataQuest (Feb. 2023).                                                                                         |
| Percentage of Children Ages 0-18 with Health Insurance Coverage       | 2016-2020 | 96.8%       | 96.7%      | U.S. Census Bureau, <a href="#">American Community Survey</a> (Aug. 2022).                                                                                                                                                    |
| Average Monthly Enrollment in Medi-Cal Among Children/Youth Ages 0-20 | 2024      | 70.4%       | 52.3%      | California Dept. of Health Care Services, <a href="#">Eligible Individuals Under Age 21 Enrolled in Medi-Cal</a> (Dec. 2025); California Dept. of Finance, <a href="#">Population Estimates and Projections</a> (Sept. 2024). |
| Percentage of Kindergarteners with All Required Immunizations         | 2022      | 88.2%       | 94.0%      | California Dept. of Public Health, Immunization Branch, <a href="#">Reporting Data for Kindergarten and 7th Grade</a> (Nov. 2024).                                                                                            |
| Percentage of Children Ages 1-17 Ever Diagnosed with Asthma           | 2019-2020 | 7.6%        | 12.4%      | UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, <a href="#">California Health Interview Survey</a> (Feb. 2022).                                                                                                                       |
| Percentage of High-Need Students (Unduplicated Pupil Count)           | 2021      | 73.9%       | 62.4%      | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Unduplicated Pupil Count (UPC) Source Files</a> (Nov. 2021).                                                       |

# Children in Kern County

| Indicator                                                                      | Year      | Kern County                     | California                      | Data Source                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Percentage of Students Receiving Special Education Services                    | 2020      | 11.4%                           | 13.0%                           | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">DataQuest &amp; Special Education Division custom tabulation</a> ; National Center for Education Statistics, <a href="#">Digest of Education Statistics</a> (Jun. 2021). |
| Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standard in Reading    | 2021*     | 39.9%                           | 49.0%                           | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Test Results for California's Assessments</a> (Feb. 2022).                                                                                                               |
| Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Grade-Level Standards in Math      | 2021*     | 21.8%                           | 33.8%                           | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Test Results for California's Assessments</a> (Feb. 2022).                                                                                                               |
| Percentage of 5th Graders Who Are Overweight or Obese                          | 2019      | 44.5%                           | 41.3%                           | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Physical Fitness Testing Research Files</a> (Jan. 2020).                                                                                                                 |
| Children with Substantiated Cases of Abuse or Neglect                          | 2020      | 10.7<br><i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | 6.8<br><i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>  | California Child Welfare Indicators Project, <a href="#">CCWIP Reports</a> . University of California at Berkeley & California Dept. of Social Services (Oct. 2021).                                                |
| Children/Youth Ages 0-20 in Foster Care                                        | 2018      | 5.6<br><i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>  | 5.3<br><i>(Rate per 1,000)</i>  | Webster, D., et al. <a href="#">California Child Welfare Indicators Project Reports</a> . UC Berkeley Center for Social Services Research (Jul. 2019).                                                              |
| Students Suspended from School                                                 | 2020      | 33.2<br><i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | 24.5<br><i>(Rate per 1,000)</i> | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Suspension Data</a> (May 2021).                                                                                                                                          |
| Percentage of 7th Graders Who Were Bullied at School in the Previous Year      | 2017-2019 | 32.1%                           | 36.0%                           | WestEd, <a href="#">California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) &amp; Biennial State CHKS</a> . California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020).                                                                                |
| Percentage of 9th Graders with Feelings of Depression                          | 2017-2019 | 33.5%                           | 32.6%                           | WestEd, <a href="#">California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) and Biennial State CHKS</a> . California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020).                                                                                  |
| Percentage of 9th Graders with High Levels of School Connectedness             | 2017-2019 | 42.4%                           | 44.8%                           | WestEd, <a href="#">California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) and Biennial State CHKS</a> . California Dept. of Education (Aug. 2020).                                                                                  |
| Percentage of Students in the Graduating Class Receiving a High School Diploma | 2021      | 83.6%                           | 83.6%                           | California Dept. of Education, <a href="#">Graduates by Race and Gender</a> (Jun. 2017) & <a href="#">Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate and Outcome Data</a> (May 2022).                                              |

Definitions for LNE, N/A, N/R, or S can be found in the footnote section of the indicator page.

More data on Kern County: <https://hwww.kidsdata.org/region/362/kern-county/summary>