



ESCAMBIA
CHILDREN'S TRUST

Our Children. Our Community. Our Future.



2024 Indicator Report Card

March 2024



Children Are Healthy

Theme 1

**Children Are Ready to Succeed in
School and Life**

Theme 2

**Children Are Safe and Protected
From Abuse and Neglect**

Theme 3

**Children Have Supports to Help
Them Avoid Risky Behaviors**

Theme 4

Indicator Report Card 2024

The data presented in this indicator report card represent an important update to the Needs Assessment published by the Escambia Children's Trust in September 2022. An indicator report card tracks and reports on key metrics related to child wellbeing and the effectiveness of programs and initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for children and families in our community. Here's why that matters:

- **Accountability:** An indicator report card holds the Escambia Children's Trust and partner organizations accountable to the community for achieving results and making a positive impact. By transparently tracking and sharing outcomes data, we are demonstrating our commitment to continuous improvement and responsible stewardship of resources.
- **Identifying Gaps and Needs:** Comparing indicators to baselines and benchmarks helps identify areas where additional support or different approaches may be needed to address ongoing disparities and gaps in child wellbeing. This guides strategic planning and resource allocation.
- **Measuring Progress:** Tracking indicators over time reveals trends and whether initiatives are moving the needle on improving child and family outcomes. This feedback guides course corrections and enhancements to programs and services.
- **Informing the Community:** Sharing indicator data keeps the community informed about the wellbeing of our children and efforts underway to support them. This awareness is important for maintaining public trust and support.

24 CORE INDICATORS

Children Are Healthy Theme 1	Children Are Ready to Succeed in School and Life Theme 2	Children Are Safe and Protected From Abuse and Neglect Theme 3	Children Have Supports to Help Them Avoid Risky Behaviors Theme 4
Infant mortality	VPK participation	Substance-exposed newborns	Childhood hunger
Low birthweight babies	Quality child care	Foster care placements	Youth arrests
Prenatal care	Kindergarten readiness	Children with verified maltreatment	School suspensions
Teen pregnancy	Chronic absence	Domestic violence	School arrests & referrals to law enforcement
Oral health	3rd-grade reading		Youth mental health
Childhood obesity	Middle-grade math		Hospitalizations from mental disorders
Bacterial STD rate among children 0-18	High school graduation		

Indicator Report Card Summary

Indicator	Escambia County	County Ranking (of 67)	Florida	U.S.	Ranking Trend
Children Are Healthy					
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births	8.3	#17 highest	6	5.6	↑ from #23 in 2020
% low birthweight babies	11.8%	#6 highest	9.1%	8.5%	↑ up from #7 in 2020
% births to mothers with no prenatal care	2.4%	#43 highest	3.2%	2.1%	↓ down from #11 in 2020
Teen pregnancy rate	22.4	#24 highest	13.2	13.5	↓ down from #16 in 2020
Students who have not visited a dentist's office in the past 12 months	44.7%	#4 highest	26.2%	14.1%	county data has not been updated since 2020
% of middle and high school students who are overweight or obese	33.2%	#35 highest	31.7%	31.6%	↓ down from #26 in 2020
Bacterial STD rate, per 100,000 children ages 0-18	804	#12 highest	494	N/A	↓ down from #5 in 2020



All health data shown on this page is from Florida Health Charts in 2022, the most recent year available, and the CDC.

Indicator Report Card Summary





Indicator	Escambia County	County Ranking	Florida	U.S.	Ranking Trend
Children Are Ready to Succeed in School and Life					
% of eligible 4-year-olds participating in VPK	47.73%	#64 highest	64.8%	N/A	↓ down from #62 in 2022
Quality child care	11 Gold Seal 3 NAEYC	N/A	N/A	N/A	unchanged since 2022
% children scoring as "ready" for kindergarten	50%-all 64%-VPK 38%-no VPK	#32 highest	51%	N/A	↑ up from #53 in 2020
% of 3rd-graders scoring a Level 3 or higher on ELA	46%	#50 highest	51%	N/A	↓ down from #44 in 2020
% of 7th-graders scoring a Level 3 or higher on math FAST	46%	#38 highest	46%	N/A	↑ up from #51 in 2020
% students absent 21+ days from school, K-12	22.2%	#28 highest	19.4%	N/A	↑ up from #31 in 2020
% of students who graduate high school with a standard diploma in four years (2023)	80.5%	#52 highest	88%	86%	↓ down from #45 in 2020

The education data presented on this page is from the most recent school year available, but it is incomplete.



- The data is based solely on public information available for the K-12 school district, which enrolls only 78.8% of the total student population in the county.
- Escambia County consistently ranks third in Florida for the number of school-age students enrolled in its 41 private schools, accounting for 10,201 students whose data is not publicly available.
- Additionally, the county's 2,380 homeschooled children in the 2022-23 school year are not included in the data set. **As a result, one out of every four students in Escambia County is not represented in the information provided.**








Indicator Report Card Summary

Indicator	Escambia County	County Ranking	Florida	U.S.	Escambia Trend
Children Are Safe and Protected From Abuse and Neglect					
Substance-exposed newborns, annual rate per 10,000 live births	59	N/A	53.5	73	county data has not been updated since 2021
Children in foster care who achieve permanency in 12 months, FY23 average	22%	N/A	29.34%	N/A	 up from 18% in 2022
Children ages 5-11 experiencing child abuse, rate per 100,000	1512	#6 highest	481	N/A	 down from #5 in 2020
Children ages 5-11 experiencing sexual violence, rate per 100,000	70.7	#27 highest	43.7	N/A	 down from #14 in 2020
Domestic violence offenses, rate per 100,000	588.5	#4 highest	305	N/A	 up from #14 in 2020



All data shown on this page is from 2022, the most recent year available on Florida Health Charts. The exception is permanency, which is from 2023 and reported by DCF.

Indicator Report Card Summary

Indicator	Escambia County	County Ranking	Florida	U.S.	Escambia Trend
Children Have Supports to Help Them Avoid Risky Behaviors					
% food-insecure children	17.9%	#17 highest	14.3%	12.8%	 up from #38 in 2020
Youth arrests, all offenses, ages 10-17, rate per 100,000	36.1	#7 highest	18	N/A	 down from #4 in 2020
In-school and out-of-school suspensions, rate per 1,000	121.7 (in-school) 110.8 (out-of-school)	N/A	65.9 (in-school) 67.4 (out-of-school)	N/A	Suspension rates nearly doubled from 2021 to 2023. County rankings are not currently available.
ZIP code youth arrest trends - highest volume (2023 and 2021)	32505 32503 32506	#9 #31 #50	N/A	N/A	 05: down from #3  03: up from #45  06: down from #48
Children ages 1-5 receiving mental health services, rate per 1,000	30.3	#1 highest	1.7	N/A	 #1 highest county since 2020
Hospitalizations from mental disorders among children under 17, rate per 100,000	984.1	#1 highest	689.4	N/A	 up from #7 in 2020



Food insecurity, youth mental health and hospitalization data are from 2022, the most recent year available. Discipline and arrest data are from 2023.

Escambia County Fast Facts



RANKINGS

#58

Child Well-Being

Escambia has consistently ranked in the bottom tier of Florida's 67 counties according to the Florida Kids Count index, which measures 16 outcomes related to children, youth, and families. The county's position has further deteriorated, dropping from #45 in 2020 to #58 in the most recent ranking (2024).

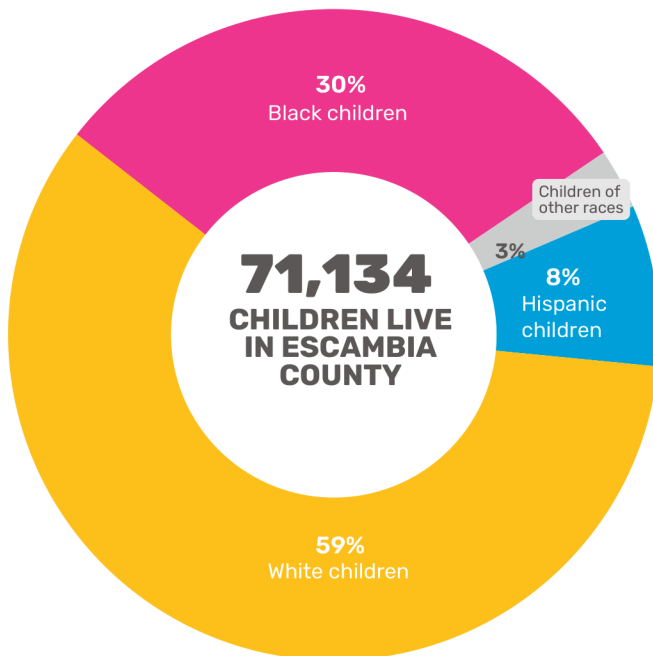
#51

Health Outcomes

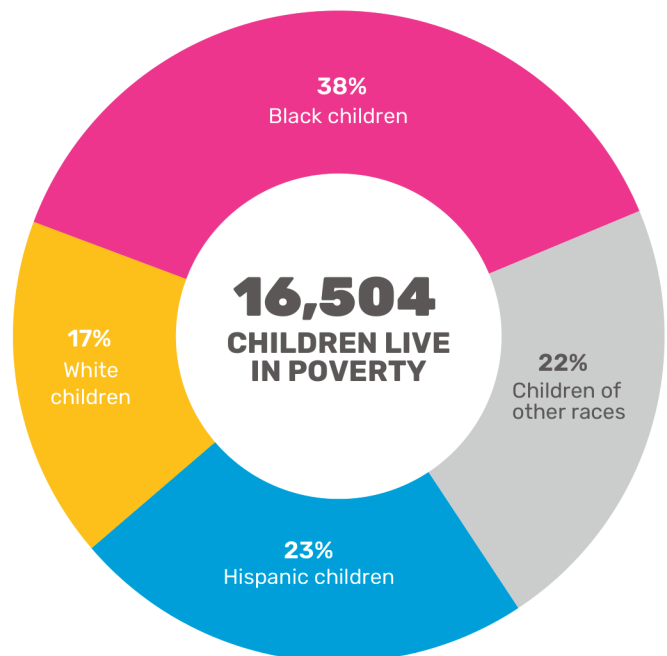
We have been consistently ranked among the least healthy counties in Florida since the University of Wisconsin began publishing the annual County Health Rankings report. Our position dropped from #47 in 2020 to #51 in 2023.

CHILD AND FAMILY DEMOGRAPHICS

Total children under 18 in Escambia County, population breakdown by race, 2022



Escambia children in poverty by race, 2022



Escambia's overall child poverty rate: **23.2**

Florida's overall child poverty rate: **17.7**



What does this say?

Escambia County child poverty rate has risen from 21.6% to 23.2% in just two years, a worrying trend that stands in sharp contrast to the state of Florida's overall improvement in child poverty by one percentage point during the same time period.

These findings emphasize the urgent need for targeted interventions and policies that address the underlying causes of Escambia County's poor performance in child well-being, health, and poverty. It is crucial that measures are implemented and sustained to ensure that all children in our community have the opportunity to reach their full potential.



ESCAMBIA
CHILDREN'S TRUST

Our Children. Our Community. Our Future.

Address

1000 College Boulevard
Building 26, 2nd Floor
Pensacola, Florida 32504

Phone

(850) 475-4980

Email

info@EscambiaChildrensTrust.org

**Like
Us**

**Follow
Us**

**Join
Us**

EscambiaChildrensTrust.org

