

# DATA SNAPSHOT

## KIDS COUNT IN PALO ALTO COUNTY

### Child population

Strong communities offer pathways to opportunity to every family and child. Families of color have faced, and still face, discrimination that limits their opportunities. As Iowa becomes more diverse, helping every family — of every race — support their children is ever more important.

<b>Number of children (0-17)</b>	<b>2,069</b>	Pct Other*	11%
Pct Asian	<1%	Pct White, not Hispanic	84%
Pct Black or African Am.	1%	Pct Hispanic or Latino**	5%

\* includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and two or more races

\*\* can be of any race; total of all categories may not add up to 100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2020

### Wages

Iowa families are working hard, but wages have not kept up with costs and productivity. All workers, especially those with children, must earn well above the minimum wage to meet even a bare-bones budget.

Wage needed to meet basic needs: single parent with 1 child under 6 <b>Iowa: \$21.16</b>	<b>\$17.78</b>
Wage needed to meet basic needs: 2 working parents with 2 children <b>Iowa: \$16.11</b>	<b>\$14.49</b>
State median wage	<b>\$19.19</b>
State minimum wage	<b>\$7.25</b>

Source: Common Good Iowa, The Cost of Living in Iowa, 2022

### Births

The roots of lifelong health start before birth. Iowa babies — and their moms — need access to high-quality health care that sets them up for a strong start.

Percent of births with no or inadequate prenatal care, 2020 <b>Iowa: 16%</b>	<b>9%</b>
Percent of births at low birthweight, 2020 <b>Iowa: 7.0%</b>	<b>n/a%</b>
Percent of births covered by Medicaid, 2021 <b>Iowa: 41%</b>	<b>25%</b>

Sources: Prenatal care, low birthweight: Iowa Dept. of Health and Human Services. Medicaid/CHIP births: Iowa State Data Center

## Child care

Working parents rely on reliable, affordable child care to provide for their families, grow in their careers and contribute to their communities and Iowa's economic growth. It's out of reach for too many Iowa families.

Annual cost of infant care <b>Iowa: \$11,129</b>	<b>\$8,073</b>
Annual cost of school-age care <b>Iowa: \$5,954</b>	<b>\$4,288</b>
Tuition and fees at UI (2022-23)	<b>\$10,353</b>
Percent of young children with all available parents in the workforce <b>Iowa: 76%</b>	<b>77%</b>
Children on Child Care Assistance or CCA Plus, September 2022	<b>16</b>

Sources: Costs: Common Good Iowa calculations from 2022 Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral data. Tuition: University of Iowa, accessed at <https://admissions.uiowa.edu/finances/estimated-costs-attendance>. Young children with working parents: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2016-20. CCA: Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

## Education

A state that values advancing opportunity for all its children is one that invests — in word, deed and dollars — in their education. The vast majority of Iowa children attend public schools that are obligated to serve all children.

Children enrolled in public schools	<b>1,704</b>
Children enrolled in private schools	<b>87</b>
Percent of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in preschool (parent reported) <b>Iowa: 46%</b>	<b>49%</b>

Sources: School enrollment: Iowa Department of Education, 2022-23; Preschool: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2016-20.