

Lincoln County is a coastal county with approximately 6,000 children.

Areas of Strength

Lincoln County was among the three counties with the lowest rates of children in foster care. Lincoln had above average median household income and saw economic improvements in a reduced unemployment rate, a reduced child poverty rate, and an increased percentage of all parents with children under age six in the work force. A strong economy helps families have financial security to meet their basic needs.

INDICATOR	STATE RANK
Children in foster care	3
Median household income	4

Areas of Challenge

Lincoln County had the highest rate of teens not working or in school for 2018-2022 at 13.0%. There was no access to evidence-based community mental health treatment for youth at risk for institutional placement. Secondary school chronic absenteeism was second highest and Lincoln’s high school graduation rate was below the state average. Having a positive school climate and empowering students to graduate helps youth thrive as adults. Lincoln also had the highest rate of children without health insurance.

INDICATOR	STATE RANK
Teens not in school and not working	16
Evidence-based mental health	16 (tie)
Children without health insurance	16
Chronic absenteeism	15

The Maine Children’s Alliance is part of the national [KIDS COUNT](#)® network of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. In a user-friendly internet platform, KIDS COUNT® makes available the most recent, reliable data on the well-being of children in Maine and the nation.

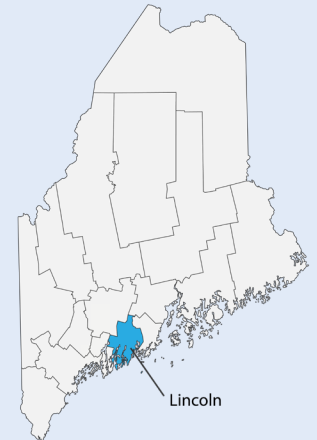
From the hundreds of indicators in the areas of health, education, and economic status on KIDS COUNT, the selected indicators in this County Profile are among those where county-level data is available where it is clear which direction we want the indicator to go to make improvements for Maine children. By understanding the data and making informed policy decisions in response, we can help ensure children and families in Maine have the best opportunity to thrive.

Each County Profile includes a summary of the county’s strengths and challenges, demographic data, and then information on the fourteen indicators of child health and well-being for the current year, previous year, and in comparison to the state rate.



DEMOGRAPHICS

	Lincoln	Maine
Children under age 5, 2022	1,474	62,120
Children ages 5 -17, 2022	4,528	187,186
Total Children ages 0 -17, 2022	6,002	249,306
Births, 2022	257	12,081
Children of color, Census 2020 †	536	41,514
Children in poverty, 2022	680	29,991
Children ages 0 -18 participating in MaineCare, SFY 2023	3,104	133,431
Children receiving SNAP, Dec 2023	1,141	55,559
Economically disadvantaged students, under 185% of poverty, 2023-2024	1,387	63,983



HEALTH

	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
Children under age 19 without health insurance, 2021	382	6.2%	9.1%		4.3%
Infants with low birth weights, 2022	20	7.8%	7.5%		8.2%
Youth in evidence-based practices of HCT FFT or HCT MST*, rate per 1,000, September 2023	0	0%	0.69		1.04
Children in foster care, December 2023, rate per 1,000	20	3.3	4.8		9.6
Substantiated child abuse, 2022, rate per 1,000	106	18.3	15.3		15.8

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
Child poverty, 2022	680	11.9%	13.3%		12.4%
Median household income, 2022	N/A	\$72,657	\$65,638		\$69,485
Teens not in school and not working, 2018-2022	160	13.0%	14.0%		4.2%
Unemployment Rate, 2022	N/A	2.9%	4.4%		3.0%
All parents in workforce, children under 6, 2018-2022	1,187	65.0%	62.5%		69.6%

EDUCATION

	Current number	Current rate	Previous rate	Better or Worse?	State rate
Four-year-olds in public preschool, 2023-2024	155	46.1%	45.4%		48.5%
High school graduation rate, 2022	299	84.9%	87.6%		86.1%
Chronic absenteeism in schools with 12th graders**, 2021-2022	600	41.0%	36.6%		31.4%
High-quality child care sites (Rising Stars 4 or 5)††, December 2023	4	13.8%	17.2%		17.7%

= Better, = Worse, = No change (defined as less than 1% change) compared to county data from prior year.

Notes:

Maine's standardized reading tests do not include proficiency determinations so academic achievement indicators are not included.

† See [Children by race & ethnicity, 2020 Census](#) for the numbers and percents of children by each race and ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino; and among Non-Hispanic children the following races: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black or African-American, Two or More Races/ Some Other Race and white.

* HCT-MST and HCT-FFT are the acronyms of two evidence-based intensive home and community mental health treatment services for families and youth to prevent institutional placements.

** Secondary school chronic absenteeism (18 days or more) among all public schools that offer grades 9-12, including 60% publicly funded private schools and excluding technical schools.

†† As of March 2023, Rising Stars is Maine's method of assessing and encouraging quality early care programs. It is mandatory and licensed child care programs start at 2 stars.