Maine KIDS COUNT, a project of the Maine Children’s Alliance, has been part of the national KIDS COUNT network, funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF), since 1994. KIDS COUNT puts together in a user-friendly internet platform the most recent, reliable data available on the well-being of children in Maine and in the nation.

From the hundreds of available indicators in the areas of health, education, and social and economic status on KIDS COUNT, the selected indicators in this County Profile are among those with county-level information, where it is clear which direction we want the indicator to go. 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, some demographics, and then the 14 indicators of child health and well-being for the current year, previous year and in comparison to the state rate. The County Profiles offer insight into how policies and practices in Maine are working and where there are opportunities for improvement.

Knox County is a coastal county with approximately 7,000 children.

Areas of Strength
Knox County is in the top three counties for high school graduation rates with 90 percent graduating in four years. When communities have quality education programs for all students, children can become productive adults. The median household income in Knox County increased over $5,000 in a year and is now above the state average. Children are more able to thrive when their basic needs are met.

Opportunities for Growth
Knox County has the third lowest rate of prenatal care in the first trimester. Access to health care for pregnant women helps establish babies’ healthy development. Knox is also among the three counties with the highest rate of teens not in school and not working. Young adults thrive when given opportunities for higher education and employment that pays a living wage.
## DEMOGRAPHICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Knox</th>
<th>Maine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children under age 5, 2018</td>
<td>1,768</td>
<td>64,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 5-17, 2018</td>
<td>5,272</td>
<td>185,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 0-17, 2018</td>
<td>7,040</td>
<td>250,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in poverty, 2018</td>
<td>1,109</td>
<td>35,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births, 2018</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>12,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 0-18 participating in MaineCare, SFY 2019</td>
<td>3,394</td>
<td>118,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children receiving SNAP, Dec 2019</td>
<td>1,460</td>
<td>57,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School children eligible for free and reduced meals, 2019-2020</td>
<td>1,851</td>
<td>82,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## HEALTH

### Children under age 19 without health insurance, 2018
- **Knox**: 526, 7.3% (6.1%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### Prenatal care in first trimester, 2018
- **Knox**: 313, 86.9% (90.1%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### Immunization rate, ages 24-35 months, 2019
- **Knox**: 252, 73.3% (71.8%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### Children in foster care, 12/31/19, (rate per 1,000)
- **Knox**: 41, 5.8 (3.6)
- **Maine**: 1,109, 14.7% (14.8%)

### Substantiated child abuse victims, CY 2018, (rate per 1,000)
- **Knox**: 125, 17.8 (13.8%)
- **Maine**: 1,109, 14.7% (14.8%)

## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

### Child poverty, 2018
- **Knox**: 1,109, 16.1% (14.7%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### Median household income, 2018
- **Knox**: N/A, $56,678 (51,723)
- **Maine**: 55,579

### Teens not in school and not working, 2014-2018
- **Knox**: 109, 7.1% (5.0%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### Unemployment, Dec 2019 (not seasonally adjusted)
- **Knox**: N/A, 2.8% (4.2%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### All parents in workforce, children under 6, 2018
- **Knox**: 1,411, 73.8% (69.1%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

## EDUCATION

### Four-year-olds in public preschool, 2019 -2020
- **Knox**: 158, 45.0% (45.9%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### High school graduation rate, 2019
- **Knox**: 277, 90.2% (91.1%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### 4th grade reading meets or exceeds proficiency, MEA, 2018-2019
- **Knox**: 175, 56.8% (50.7%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

### High quality child care sites (QRI 3 or 4), Dec 2019
- **Knox**: 7, 14.6% (17.8%)
- **Maine**: 6,428

= Better, = Worse, = No change (defined as less than 1% change.)

To learn more about the measure, click on the link to the KIDS COUNT Data Center or other source.