

Profile of Child Well-Being in Butler County



Population Profile

The population 17 years of age or younger in Butler County in 2000 was 3,734, a decrease of 10 percent since 1990. According to projections, the youth population will decline to 2,858 by 2020.

In Butler County, youth accounted for 24.4 percent of the total population in 2000 compared to 25.1 percent statewide. Minority youth in the county numbered 106 in 2000 and are projected to decrease to 90 by 2020.

1. Population 17 Years or Younger

	Butler County			
	1990	2000	2010*	2020*
Total population	15,731	15,305	14,878	14,793
Percent 17 or younger	26.4	24.4	20.6	19.3
Population 17 or younger	4,149	3,734	3,066	2,858
0 to 4 years	982	847	787	702
5 to 9 years	1,207	1,015	841	780
10 to 14 years	1,255	1,123	831	830
15 to 17 years	705	749	607	546
Minority^ Population 17 or younger	n/a	106	74	90
0 to 4 years	n/a	34	20	30
5 to 9 years	n/a	37	8	28
10 to 14 years	n/a	22	26	20
15 to 17 years	n/a	13	20	12
Female Population 17 or younger	1,993	1,825	1,470	1,404
0 to 4 years	480	417	387	345
5 to 9 years	572	492	405	385
10 to 14 years	611	561	396	410
15 to 17 years	330	355	282	264
Male Population 17 or younger	2,156	1,909	1,596	1,454
0 to 4 years	502	430	400	357
5 to 9 years	635	523	436	395
10 to 14 years	644	562	435	420
15 to 17 years	375	394	325	282

^ Minority includes all persons except white non-Hispanics.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1, *Projections by Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2004

Data and support for this profile provided by:

Margie Hanson
Office of Social and Economic
Trend Analysis (SETA)
Iowa State University
www.seta.iastate.edu
e-mail: seta@iastate.edu

Michael Crawford
Iowa Kids Count
Child and Family Policy Center
Des Moines, Iowa
www.cfpciowa.org/ipkc.shtml
e-mail: mcrawford@cfpciowa.org
phone: (515) 280-9027

Beth Henning
State Data Center
State Library of Iowa
Des Moines, Iowa
www.iowadatacenter.org

e-mail:
beth.henning@lib.state.ia.us
phone: (515) 281-4350

Health Profile

As the number of total births in Butler County dropped from 1999 to 2003, the number of births to teens decreased by 5. In 1999, births to teens accounted for 8.2 percent of total births in the county compared to 5.1 percent in 2003.

Teen parenting is used as a predictor of future economic hardship for both parents and children. Teen parents are often less able to provide positive, safe and caring environments, or family stability.

In Butler County, 5.7 percent of total births in 2003 were low birthweight compared to 6.6 percent statewide.

Low birthweight (less than 5.5 pounds or 2,500 grams) can be an indicator of mothers not receiving adequate prenatal care and is often a good predictor of future health and developmental complications.

Early and ongoing prenatal care increases the chances of delivering healthy, full-term, and normal weight babies. Rates are per 1,000 live births.

For the period from 1998 to 2001, the rate of mothers in Butler County receiving prenatal care during the first trimester of their pregnancy was 918.5 compared to 869.8 statewide.



2. Births to Teens, Low Birthweight Births, Pre-natal Care, and Immunizations

Year	Births to Teens		Low Birthweight Births		1st Trimester Prenatal Care		Full Immunizations*	
	Butler County	State	Butler County	State	Butler County	State	Butler County	State
	n	% of total births	n	% of total births	rate (per 1,000 live births)	rate (per 1,000 live births)	% fully immunized	% fully immunized
1999	13	8.2	9	5.7	---	---	86.0	84.0
2000	13	7.6	9	5.3	---	---	89.0	86.0
2001	7	5.2	7	5.2	918.5	869.8	100.0	88.0
2002	14	8.8	9	5.6	n/a	n/a	92.0	85.0
2003	8	5.1	9	5.7	n/a	n/a	74.0	89.0

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

*NOTE: Immunization data reflect only one site per county so should be interpreted with caution.

In Butler County in 2003, 74 percent of children 24 months of age were reported to be fully immunized compared to 86 percent in 1999. Percentages for the state were 89 in 2003 and 84 in 1999.

Fully immunized = 4 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep. B by 24 months of age.

Infant mortality is considered one of the best overall measures of health care accessibility and quality in that it measures the health of the most vulnerable in a given population. The infant mortality rate is the number of infants who die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births.

In Butler County, the infant mortality rate from 2001 to 2003 was 8.8, higher than the county rate of 1995-1998 and higher than the statewide rate of 5.5 in 2001-2003 period.

NOTE: Due to the relatively low number of births, infant deaths, and child deaths per year in many of Iowa's counties, users are encouraged to use 3-5 year averages for comparative purposes. These are presented in Tables 3 and 4.



3. Infant Mortality

Year	Butler County		State	
	n	rate	n	rate
1995-1997	1	2.1	7.1	7.1
1998-2000	2	4.1	6.2	6.2
2001-2003	4	8.8	5.5	5.5

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

From 2000 to 2002, the child death rate in Butler County was 0.2 compared to the state's rate of 0.2

Child deaths include deaths to all children ages 1 to 14. Child death rates are the number of deaths in this population per 1,000 total population age 1 to 14.

4. Child Death Rates

Year	Butler County		State	
	n	rate	n	rate
2000-2002	2	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health



Education Profile

In Butler County, 51 children were enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten during the 2003-04 school year. This was a 19 child decrease from 2000-01.

Pre-Kindergarten students often demonstrate stronger early reading and math skills than non PK students.

5. Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment

	Butler County	State
2000-2001	70	5,797
2001-2002	32	5,714
2002-2003	58	5,949
2003-2004	51	6,907

Source: Iowa Department of Education

The Community Empowerment Families Area reported at least 47.4 percent of its kindergartners consistently displaying school-ready behaviors in the five areas. Statewide at least 35.9 percent of kindergarten students were reported as school ready.

"School readiness" is the result of kindergarten teachers being asked to assess their students in 5 areas: communication skills, cognitive skills, self-management skills, motor skills, and social-emotional development. Teachers report the degree to which behaviors within these five areas are observable ranging from "rarely" to "consistently".

6. School Readiness*, 2002-2003

	Area	State
Motor Skills ¹	47.4	48.8
Communication Skills ²	48.3	35.9
Cognitive Skills ³	51.1	44.5
Social/Emotional Dev. ⁴	64.4	50.1
Self-Management Skills ⁵	51.5	43.0

* Percent reported "consistently observed"

Source: Iowa Department of Education

- ¹ Include coordination and balance, using scissors, etc.
- ² Include the ability to ask and answer questions, communicate needs, etc.
- ³ Include using a variety of words to describe a shape or color, ability to sort objects into categories, etc.
- ⁴ Includes ability to build relationships with adults and peers, express emotions and feelings, etc.
- ⁵ Includes ability to follow classroom rules and routines, take responsibility for personal belongings, etc.

Economic Profile

During the 2003-04 school year, 24.1 percent of K-12 students in Butler County were eligible for free or reduced-price school compared to 22.6 percent in 2000-01. Statewide a total of 144,000 students (30.0%) were eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Because eligibility for free and reduced-price school meals is an annual measure, it is a good indicator of the economic well-being of children in a community. Families with incomes 135% or less of the federal poverty threshold are eligible for free meals, those with incomes 136% to 180% of poverty are eligible for reduced-price meals.

7. Eligibility for Free or Reduced-Price School Meals

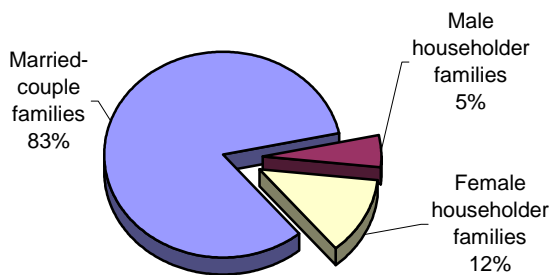
	Number Eligible for Free Meals		Number Eligible for Reduced-Price Meals		Percentage Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals	
	Butler County	State	Butler County	State	Butler County	State
2000-01	301	93,823	174	37,754	22.6	26.7
2001-02	280	93,062	180	36,492	23.0	26.7
2002-03	277	100,544	170	36,870	23.6	28.5
2003-04	281	107,324	169	36,907	24.1	30.0

Source: Iowa Department of Education

Family Living Profile

While the majority of the 3,589 children under 18 years of age in Butler County in 2000 resided in a two-parent family, 17.2 percent lived in a family headed by a single parent.

Children by Family Type, 2000



Source: Census 2000, SF1, US Bureau of the Census

In Butler County, 75.4 percent of children under 6 living in a family or subfamily had all parents in the labor force compared to 71.4 percent statewide. All parents includes both parents in a married-couple family and the parent in a male- or female-headed family.

Safety Profile

The number of confirmed cases of child abuse or neglect in Butler County in 2003 was 50, an increase of 4 since 1999.

9. Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect

	Butler County	State
1999	46	9,588
2000	33	10,821
2001	46	12,793
2002	41	12,292
2003	50	14,936

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

In 2003, Butler County reported 0 Group A and 0 Group B arrests per 100,000 juveniles compared to rates of 2,003 and 1,180, respectively, for the state.

Source and further details available @ http://www.dps.state.ia.us/documents_repository/DPS/2003/iacrim e/iacrime.htm

Juvenile arrests are reported in 2 groups, Group A offenses include such crimes as murder, rape, burglary and drug violations while Group B offenses include curfew, drunkenness and runaways.

8. Employment Status of Parents with Young Children, 2000

	Butler County		State
	n	%	%
Total Own Children in Families			
Under 6 years:	1,043		
Living with 2 parents	872		
Both parents in labor force	640	73.4	69.2
Living with father only	53		
Father in labor force	46	86.8	88.8
Living with mother only	118		
Mother in labor force	100	84.7	71.4

Source: Census 2000, SF3, US Bureau of the Census