York County, with the cities of Biddeford and Sanford, is the southernmost county and the second most populous, with approximately 38,400 children.

Areas of Strength
York County had a strong economy, based on pre-pandemic economic indicators. York had the second highest household median income; the second lowest poverty rate; and the second lowest rate of uninsured children. York had the third highest rate of 4th graders reading proficiently and was one of two counties with high school graduation rates above 90%. Children thrive when their families’ basic needs are met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>STATE RANK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median household income</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child poverty</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uninsured children</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th grade reading</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Areas of Challenge
York County was below statewide averages in the rate of high-quality child care sites and in the rate of 4-year-olds attending public preschool. Attention to the educational, social and emotional needs of children under age 5 is important to build a foundation for success. Comparing the 2020 annual unemployment rate to the previous year, York’s unemployment rate nearly more than doubled and was the largest increase in the state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>STATE RANK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public preschool</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality child care</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

The County Profiles offer insight into how policies and practices in Maine are working and where there are opportunities for improvement. 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. Where possible, 2020 data is shown to reflect the current situation for children and families. For other data, the most recent data is 2019 and this can serve as a baseline for assessing well-being before the onset of the Covid-19 crisis.
### DEMOGRAPHICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>York</th>
<th>Maine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children under age 5, 2019</td>
<td>9,625</td>
<td>63,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 5 -17, 2019</td>
<td>28,813</td>
<td>185,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Children ages 0 -17, 2019</td>
<td>38,438</td>
<td>248,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births, 2020</td>
<td>1,729</td>
<td>11,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in poverty, 2019</td>
<td>3,632</td>
<td>33,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 0 -18 participating in MaineCare, SFY 2020</td>
<td>14,116</td>
<td>118,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children receiving SNAP, Dec 2020</td>
<td>5,696</td>
<td>53,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School children eligible for free and reduced meals, 2020-2021</td>
<td>7,074</td>
<td>64,925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HEALTH

#### Children under age 19 without health insurance, 2019
- Current number: 1,840
- Rate: 4.6%
- Previous rate: 4.6%
- Better or Worse: No change
- State rate: 5.6%

#### Prenatal care in first trimester, 2019
- Current number: 1,633
- Rate: 91.1%
- Previous rate: 90.9%
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 90.1%

#### Immunization rate, ages 24-35 months, CY 20, Q4
- Current number: 1,266
- Rate: 67.8%
- Previous rate: 64.8%
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 71.2%

#### Children in foster care, 12/31/20, (rate per 1,000)
- Current number: 233
- Rate: 6.1
- Previous rate: 5.5
- Better or Worse: Worse
- State rate: 8.9

#### Substantiated child abuse CY 2020, (rate per 1,000)
- Current number: 634
- Rate: 16.5
- Previous rate: 19.3
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 17.6

### SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

#### Child poverty, 2019
- Current number: 3,632
- Rate: 9.9%
- Previous rate: 10.5%
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 13.8%

#### Median household income, 2019
- Current number: N/A
- Rate: $66,803
- Previous rate: $65,984
- Better or Worse: No change
- State rate: $58,824

#### Teens not in school and not working, 2015-2019
- Current number: 251
- Rate: 2.7%
- Previous rate: 2.2%
- Better or Worse: Worse
- State rate: 3.3%

#### Unemployment Rate, 2020
- Current number: N/A
- Rate: 5.4%
- Previous rate: 2.4%
- Better or Worse: Worse
- State rate: 5.4%

#### All parents in work force, children under 6, 2015-2019
- Current number: 8,303
- Rate: 73.7%
- Previous rate: 72.9%
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 70.7%

### EDUCATION

#### Four-year-olds in public preschool, 2020-2021
- Current number: 593
- Rate: 29.0%
- Previous rate: 34.9%
- Better or Worse: Worse
- State rate: 35.6%

#### High school graduation rate, 2020
- Current number: 1,776
- Rate: 90.8%
- Previous rate: 91.1%
- Better or Worse: No change
- State rate: 87.4%

#### 4th grade reading MEA meets or exceeds proficiency, 2018-2019*
- Current number: 1,163
- Rate: 59.7%
- Previous rate: 54.4%
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 56.2%

#### Child Care sites at QRIS level 3 or 4, Dec 2020
- Current number: 24
- Rate: 11.2%
- Previous rate: 9.8%
- Better or Worse: Better
- State rate: 12.7%

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* MEA reading tests were not conducted 2019-2020 school year, due to Covid-19 school closures.