

**FY23 POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA ANNUAL REPORT
COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE**

VISION

Every child from zero through age five will be healthy and successful.

MISSION

The Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board’s mission is to work with community partners to make investments to achieve long-term positive results for expectant mothers, children zero through age five, and their families.

INDICATORS

The Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) state system uses statewide indicators to determine progress made toward achieving five identified results areas. ECI local area boards may use these indicators and may also use additional or other indicators to monitor progress in the local ECI area.

Results Area	ECI State Board State-Wide Indicators	Polk County ECI Indicators
Healthy Children	Low birth weight	Low birth weight
	Immunized children	Child Immunization (2yo)
	Dental services	Prenatal care
		Infant Mortality
		Uninsured Children
Children Ready to Succeed in School	Early Literacy Skills	Early Literacy FAST Assessment
	Educational attainment of women age 15-50 with a birth in the last 12 months	Preschool participation
Safe and Supportive Communities	Crime Rate/Juvenile Crime	Children Receiving WIC
	Child Deaths due to Unintentional Injuries	
	Unemployment Rate	
	Percent of children under age 6 living in poverty	Children in Poverty
Secure and Nurturing Families	Incidence of child abuse	Child Abuse and Neglect
	Teen births	Teen Births
	Domestic violence rate	Single parent families
		% households with children under age 6 all parents in workforce
Secure and Nurturing Early Learning Environments	Quality early learning environments	# of Child Care Programs
	Availability of child care	# total child care spaces
	Percent of households with children under age six with all parents in the workforce	# programs accepting HHS CCA
		# programs in QRS/IQ4K

POPULATION AGE 0-5

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk	33,334	39,122	39,779	41,606	41,886
State of Iowa	289,276	241,531	237,872	235,696	236,146

Data Source: Woods & Poole provided annually by ECI to local ECI areas

HEALTHY CHILDREN

LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%	2.1%
State of Iowa	1.5%	1.7%	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%

Definitions: Percentage of babies born who weigh under 2,500 grams

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

CHILD IMMUNIZATION (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022
Polk	84%	73%	69%	74%	72%	72%
State of Iowa	85.9%	69%	67%	73%	71%	71%

Definitions: Percentage of assessments conducted at public sector clinics where the children were fully immunized at age 24 months

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal](#)

PRENATAL CARE (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	88.8%	77.8%	84.4%	83.2%	84.6%
State of Iowa	87.1%	75.5%	79.4%	79.0%	83.8%

Definitions: Percentage of live births where the mother began prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

INFANT MORTALITY (PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS) (RATE)

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk	7.4	6	6	6	5
State of Iowa	6.3	5	4	5	5

Definitions: Rate of death of infants before age one per 1,000 live births

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

UNINSURED CHILDREN (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Polk		4%	3%	2%	2.8%	2.6%	2.4%
State of Iowa		4%	4%	3%	3.4%	3.1%	3.0%

Definitions: Percentage of children who are not covered by health insurance during the year

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

CHILDREN READY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

EARLY LITERACY SKILLS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Polk	64%	68%	67%	64%	70%	66%	65%	73%
State of Iowa	66%	70%	68%	62%	72%	67%	66%	

Definitions: Percentage of kindergartners meeting the fall benchmark for the early literacy universal screening measure requirements as measured by Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST)

Data Source: Department of Education as reported by ECI via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

* Available beginning 2015

PRESCHOOL

	2000	2006-2010	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019	2016-2020
Polk	47.1%	48.1%	44.7%	42.3%	44.7%	44.2%	43.0%	43.1%	42.2%
State of Iowa	44.5%	47.1%	48.2%	48.3%	48.1%	47.5%	46.9%	46.6%	45.5%

Definitions: Percentage of children age 3-4 enrolled in preschool

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES

CHILDREN RECEIVING WIC

	2003	2010	2015	2018	2019	2020
Polk	22.1%	24.3%	21.2%	26.6%	21.6%	26.5%
State of Iowa	28.2%	28.2%	24.3%	25.9%	23.9%	25.2%

Definitions: Percentage of children age 0-4 who are receiving services through the Women, Infants and Children Program

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

CHILD POVERTY

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk		19%	20%	16%	16%
State of Iowa		19.1%	17.8%	15.4%	14.7%

Definitions: Percentage of children under age 6 who live in families with incomes below 100% of federal poverty level

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

SECURE AND NURTURING FAMILIES

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk		19	17	17	17
State of Iowa		27	17	21	23

Definitions: Child abuse incidence rate per 1,000 for children 5 years and under

Data Source: Iowa Department of Human Services via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

TEEN BIRTHS

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk	24	17	10	8	8
State of Iowa	16	14	9	6	6

Definitions: Rate of live births to women aged 15 to 19 per 1,000 women in this age range

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES

	2000	2010	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2016-2020
Polk	27.6%	31.4%	32.7%	34.1%	33.6%	33.3%	34.3%
State of Iowa	24.9%	30.6%	31.2%	31.4%	31.0%	31.2%	31.8%

Definitions: Percentage of families with children that are headed by a single parent

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 WITH ALL AVAILABLE PARENTS IN THE WORKFORCE

	2000	2010	2015	2020	2021
Polk		72%	74%	74%	74%
State of Iowa		74%	75%	75%	76%

Definitions: Percentage of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force.

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2018 American Community Survey via [I2D2 Data Dashboard](#)

SECURE AND NURTURING EARLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

CHILD CARE DATA

Polk County	2015	2016	2017	2020	2021	2022	% Change 5 years from 2017 to 2022
# child care programs	1,432	1,287	1,084	888	872	818	-25%
# of child care spaces	34,355	35,141	33,111	42,063	36,220	36,219	9%
# programs accept DHS Child Care Assistance	1,060	957	641	671	643	641	-24%

State of Iowa	2015	2016	2017	2020	2021	2022	% Change 5 years from 2017 to 2022
# child care programs	7,560	6,913	6,132	5,101	4,961	4,661	-24%
# child care spaces	170,777	166,232	16,7817	173,253	173,481	175,570	5%
# programs accept DHS Child Care Assistance	5,704	5,152	3,190	3,510	3,387	3,190	-30%

NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS WITH A QRS/IQ4K RATING

	2015	2020	2021	2022
Polk	160	321	369	151
State of Iowa	1,205	1,436	1,576	1,240

NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS WITH A QRS RATING OF 3 OR HIGHER

	2015	2020	2021	2022
Polk	93	127	140	95
State of Iowa	744	829	836	687

*2022 Start of IQ4K

Data Source: Child Care Resource & Referral, [Data Sheets](#)