



To report suspected abuse or neglect, call the Kern County Child Abuse Hotline at

(661) 631-6011 (County-wide) (661) 375-6049 (Ridgecrest)

Report 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. For all emergencies call 9-1-1.

Established by the Kern County Board of Supervisors in 1992, the <u>Kern County Network for Children</u> (KCNC) proudly continues its mission to protect and enrich the lives of children in Kern County through the commitment of all community partners by helping to build and sustain healthy families.

Permission to copy, disseminate, or otherwise use information from this 2014 Kern County Report Card is granted as long as appropriate acknowledgment is given.



Acknowledgments

Supporting Caring Responsive Communities

The Kern County Report Card was created by the Kern County Network for Children in 1994. The initial purpose was to help communities improve the lives of Kern County's most vulnerable children and families by collecting and disseminating data that advanced awareness of the issues faced by this population. This 2014 edition continues to track and update more than 150 data indicators on child and family well-being including: family economics, education, child/adolescent health, child safety and at-risk youth behavior. It has also become more focused on raising the visibility of key issues affecting child safety and well-being community's children, specifically child abuse and neglect. In addition to raising awareness of these issues, the Report Card features suggestions for the reader to help meet the needs of children in their community so they may have healthy, safe lives.

In 2013, the <u>Kern County Network for Children</u> partnered with <u>Kidsdata.org</u>, a comprehensive, online clearinghouse of information about child health and well-being of children in communities across California, provided by the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health. The annual report cards now have links to continually updated data on the <u>Kidsdata.org</u> website that can be customized by the reader to help them tell their story in grant proposals, research reports, presentations, public education, advocacy campaigns, and other work on behalf of children.

It is our hope that the facts and figures within the 2014 Report Card are not only informative, but also prompt more community action to improve the lives of children. We invite the community to join the <u>Kern County Network for Children</u> and discover positive, proactive ways that they can contribute to building a strong future for our children.

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Clicking on a blue link will take you to a new web page.

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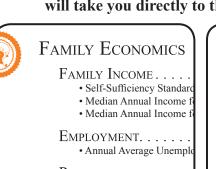
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Tom Corson, Executive Director Martha Góinez, Administrative Assistant Jayme Stuart, Child and Family Services Facilitator

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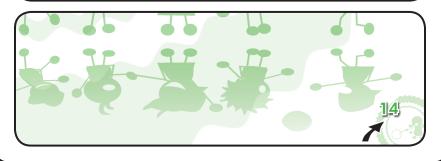
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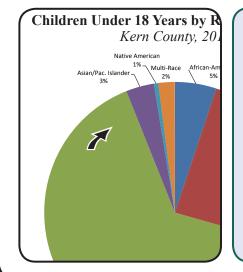
CHILD WELL-BEING

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT REPORTS . .

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- Child Maltreatment Allegation Rates Incidence per 1,000 Chil
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- · Substantiated Child Abuse & Neglect by Type



Clicking on a 1) chart will take you to its original data source and 2) Kidsdata.org. icon will allow you to customize data.



 Few children living in Kern County were born outside the United States – 9% of all those under age 18, and only 2% of those under age 6 in 2011.

Additional customizable Kern County and California child demographic data are available using KidsData.Org. \

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Welcome

On behalf of the Kern County Network for Children Governing Board, it is my pleasure to present the Kern County Report Card for 2014. The Kern County Network for Children was established in 1992 and has seen a great many changes over the last 22 years. One thing that has remained consistent is the feedback we receive regarding the value of this report. You have told us that the data released in this report is used across the County as a tool and a resource for agencies, both public and private, to help define priority areas for funding, to provide valuable data for grant requests, and to distill down the needs of our most vulnerable populations.

Kern County continues to grow in population. Between 2012 and 2013, Kern County's population grew 1.25% to a total of 866,977 residents. In 2013, Kern's child population exceeded a quarter of a million with 252,000 children residing in the county. Kern's child population is the 3rd largest child population percentage among California counties.

According to 2013 demographic statistics, more than one-third of Kern County's children were young children under the age of 6 years old and 60% of Kern's children were Latino. The majority of Kern County children lived in married couple homes with 36% of Kern County children were being raised by a single parent. Mirroring trends in California and the nation, Kern's declining teen birth rate reached an historic low in 2012 of 49.4 per 1,000 females; although still significantly outpacing California's teen birth rate of 25.7 per 1,000 females.

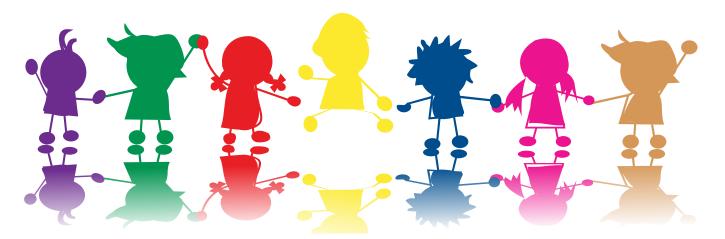
During 2013, 49 children each day were referred to CPS with allegations of child abuse and neglect in Kern County which translates to a rate of 71.4 per 1,000 children. Kern's overall referral rate decreased from the previous year's rate of 72.0 per 1,000 children.

The impact of child abuse and neglect points to the importance of primary prevention. Programs and strategies like Differential Response, parent education, mental health services and expanding the availability of substance abuse treatment, all play a role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

This report is provided as a resource to you as well as a call to action. It is our hope that you find it of value as you continue to serve the members of our community.

Sincerely,

Leslie A. Golich, M.S.A. - HCM KCNC Governing Board President



Children and Families

The 2014 Report Card's chapter Children and Families presents an overview of the Kern County child population and their families. Located in the southern Central Valley, Kern County is California's third-largest county in land area and covers 8,170 square miles of valley, mountains and desert. Kern is also one of the State's youngest counties with children constituting almost one in three of the people living within the County during 2013.

Key Facts

- Kern County's population grew 1.25% between July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2013 to 866,977 residents.
- In 2013, Kern County's child population exceeded 252,000 the 3rd largest child population percentage among California counties.
- Nearly 35% of Kern County's children were young children under the age of 6 years old.
- 6 out of every 10 children were Latino in Kern County.
- The majority of Kern County children live in marriedcouple homes.
- 36% of Kern County children were being raised by a single parent and 5% by their grandparents.

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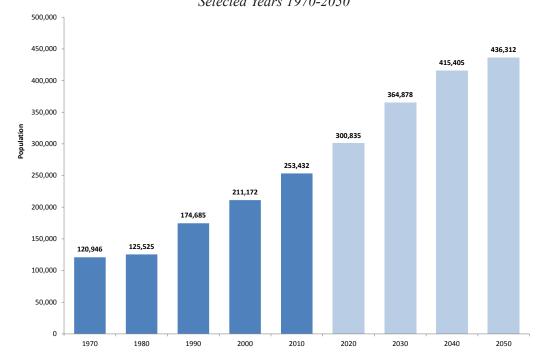
• Families Raising Children



- According to the California Department of Finance, Kern County's population grew 1.25% between July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2013 to 866,977 residents, continuing the county's pattern of modest growth rates over the past few years.
- The population's natural increase of 9,206 in the past year is composed of 14,641 births minus 5,435 deaths.
- Kern County is one of the youngest counties in California. In 2013, a total of 252,029 children under the age of 18 resided in Kern County, about 41,000 more than in 2000.
- The county's child population is projected to increase to 436,312 by 2050.
- The county's child population made up 29% of its total population, the 3rd largest percentage in the state.
- The child population will continue to grow for the foreseeable future, though it will account for a smaller share of the total population in coming decades.
- Males accounted for 51% and females 49% of Kern's 2013 child population.
- Kern County's children are highly diverse, with the largest group being of Hispanic or Latino origin (62.0%).

Kern County Children

Projected Number of Children Under Age 18 in Kern County Selected Years 1970-2050



Kern County Children by Age & Race/Ethnicity 2013

	Ethnic Group						
Age Group	African- American	Caucasian	Latino	Asian/Pac Islander	Native American	Multi- Race	Total
Under 1	810	4,090	8,957	407	70	441	14,775
1-2	1,557	8,095	17,386	772	104	852	28,766
3-5	2,156	11,000	27,445	1,150	219	1,272	43,242
6-10	3,508	18,105	44,531	1,952	395	1,887	70,378
11-15	3,401	18,423	41,446	2,194	434	1,710	67,608
16-17	1,433	7,650	16,383	950	174	668	27,258
Total	12,865	67,363	156,148	7,425	1,396	6,830	252,027

- Caucasian children were the second largest group (26.7%), followed by African-Americans (5.1%), Asian and Pacific Islanders (2.9%), Native Americans (0.6%) and all others (2.7%).
- Few children living in Kern County were born outside the United States-6% of all those under age 18 in 2012.

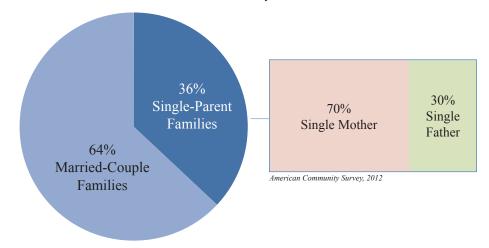
Additional customizable Kern County and California child demographic data are available using <u>Kidsdata.org</u>.

- In 2012 there were 256,000 households in Kern County.
- 46% of Kern's households had one or more children during 2012.
- At the same time, 36% of California's households had children under age 18.
- Of these Kern County households raising their own children, 64% were headed by married couples; 25% were headed by a single mother; and 11% by a single father.
- During 2012, an estimated 79,986 Kern County children lived with just one parent (36% of the totalchild population).
- Children living in single parent homes were more likely to live with their mothers than with their fathers (70% versus 30%) in Kern County.
- In Kern County, 28,000 grandparents lived with their grandchildren under 18 years old in 2012 and 39% of these grandparents had financial responsibility for their grandchildren.

Families Raising Children

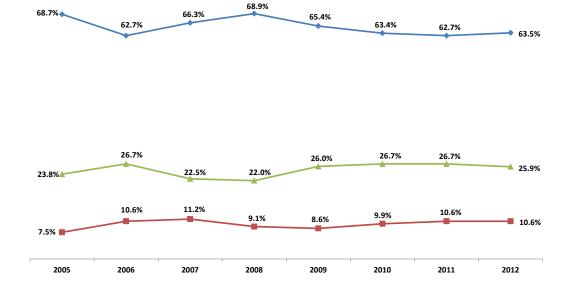
Families with Children

Kern County, 2012



Living Arrangements of Children by Family Structure

Kern County, 2002-2012



Father Only

Mother Only

→ Married-Couple

- According to 2012 estimates, 12,100 Kern County children lived in the care of their grandparents, or 5% of all children under age 18 in county households.
- Statewide, 3% of California's children lived in the care of their grandparents.
- 79% of Kern County children living with grandparents had one or both parents also present in their grandparent's home.
- During 2012, 4.4% of children residing in Kern County were foreign born.
- In 2012, 38% of Kern County children ages 0-17 lived with one or more foreign-born parents.
- In comparison, 40% of California's children lived with one or more foreign-born parents.



Family Economics

Kern County's economic recovery from the recession that began in 2007 continues to be slow and impacts a family's capacity to provide safe and stable homes for their children. The Family Economics chapter presents an overview of the economic resources of Kern County families and their ability to provide their children with such basic needs as housing and food.

Key Facts

- Kern County's declining median family income in 2012 was 31% less than the state and 29% less than the nation.
- Kern's average annual unemployment rate continues to decline in 2013, but remains double-digit.
- Children in single mother families were three times as likely to be poor as children in married-couple families in Kern County.
- Every third child in Kern County was poor in 2012 and very young children continue to be most at risk of experiencing poverty.
- A Kern County renter earning minimum wage must work 70 hours weekly to afford a two bedroom rental unit at Fair Market Rent.
- Since 2007, 29,183 more households receive food assistance in Kern County, an increase of 95%.

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- Employment
- Poverty

- Housing
- Food Security
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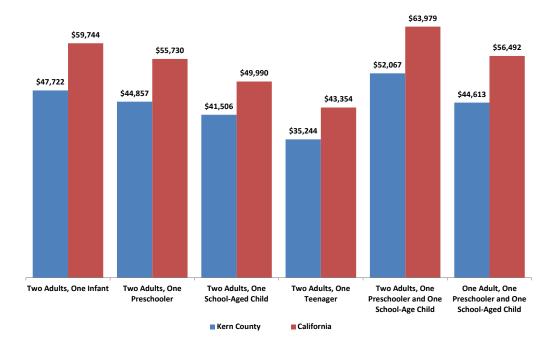


- The Self-Sufficiency Standard, or how much a family would need to meet basic needs, for a Kern County family of two adults, one preschooler and one school-aged child was \$52,067 in 2014.
- The Census Bureau estimates the median income for Kern County families with children was \$42,008 in 2012.
- By comparison, the 2012 median income for families raising children in California was \$60,435 and \$59,537 nationwide.
- Kern County's 2012 median family income was 31% less than the state and 29% less than the nation.
- Median income varies by type of family. The income of single parent families with children in Kern County was far lower than the income of a married-couple families (\$62,478) in 2012.
- The median family income for single fathers in Kern County in 2012 was almost twice the median income for single mothers (\$26,583 versus \$17,590).
- The Kern County Department of Child Support Services served over 59,000 children in the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Family Income

Self-Sufficiency Standard for Selected Families with Children

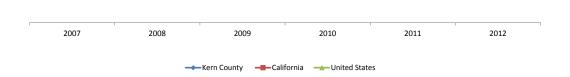
Kern County & California, 2014



Median Annual Income for Families with Children by Year

Kern County, California & United States – 2007-2012





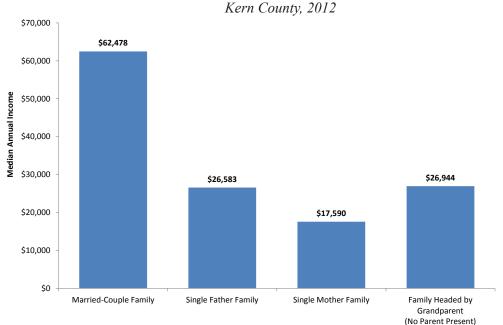
- The Department was able to increase the percent of child support payments collected and distributed to these children by 4.9% over the prior year, for a total of over \$77 million dollars.
- During 2012, 35% of Kern County children live in households with Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash public assistance income, or Food Stamp/ SNAP benefits.
- In California, 27% of children resided in homes receiving public assistance in 2012.
- Rates of Kern County children living in households with Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash public assistance income, or Food Stamp/SNAP benefits were higher among single mother households (55.7%) and single father households (41.9%) in 2012.

Additional customizable Kern County and California family economic data are available using Kidsdata.org.



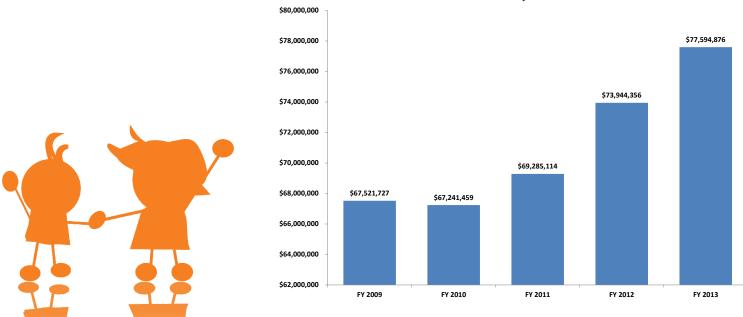
Family Income cont.

Median Annual Income for Families with Children by Family Type



Total Collected Distributions to Children & Families Kern County Department of Child Support Services

Kern County, FY 2009-2013



- 115,599 children under age 13 years in Kern County were in need of child care while their parents worked in 2012.
- Kern County licensed child care providers and programs have the capacity to serve 18% of the estimated child care need of working parents countywide during 2012 compared to 25% statewide.
- The average annual cost of full-time care for an infant or toddler in Kern County is \$9,919 in a licensed center and \$6,010 in a family child care home in 2012.
- The cost of care for a preschooler is \$6,553 for a center and \$5,794 in a family child care home.
- Statewide, the average annual cost of infant/toddler care in 2012 was \$11,461 in licensed child care centers and \$7,446 in family child care homes; for preschool-age children, the annual cost was \$7,982 in licensed child care centers and \$7,050 in family child care homes.

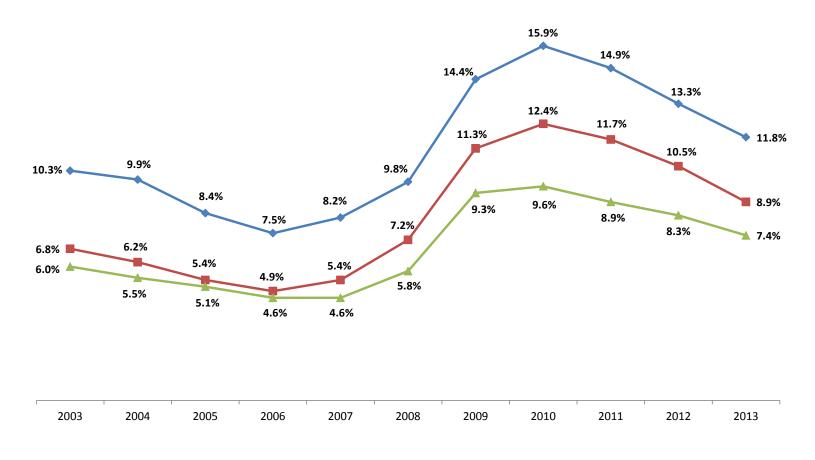
Additional customizable Kern County and California child care data are available using Kidsdata.org.



Employment

Annual Average Unemployment Rate

Kern County, California & United States – 2003-2013



---California

United States

Kern County

- During 2013, 46,400 Kern County residents, 11.8% of the county's workforce, were unemployed.
- Kern County's annual average unemployment rate has declined from 13.3% in 2012 to 11.8% in 2013.
- In comparison, the 2012 average unemployment rate for California was 8.9% and 7.4% for the nation.
- According to the 2012
 American Community
 Survey, 40.7% of Kern
 County's children lived in
 households without secure
 parental employment,
 where no parent worked at
 least 35 hours per week in
 the past year, an increase
 from 39.8% in 2011.
- Kern County's rate of children without secure parental employment was higher than California (34.9%) and the United States (31.3%).
- Kern County has the 5th highest rate of children without secure parental employment among California counties.

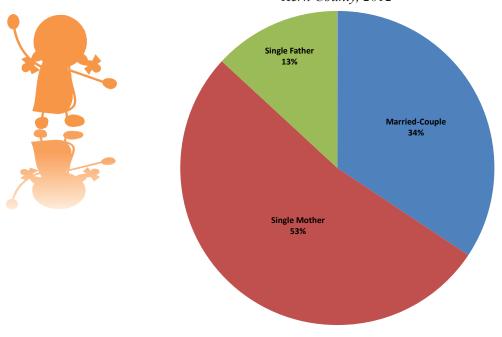
Additional customizable Kern County and California employment data are available using <u>Kidsdata.org</u>.



- For 2012, the federal poverty level was \$23,050 for a family of four.
- According to Census estimates, 28.4% of Kern County families were raising their children with incomes below the poverty line in 2012.
- In California, 19.3% of families with children lived in poverty.
- The poverty rates for Kern County children in single father and single mother households were 41.1% and 63.5%, respectively, compared to 19.1% of married-couple families.
- Among Kern County families whose householder had less than a high school diploma, 36.5% lived in poverty during 2012.
- Of those families whose householder had a high school diploma, the rate of poverty dropped to 21.6%.
- For those families in Kern County with householders having at least a bachelor's degree, the poverty rate fell dramatically to 3.0%.
- According to the 2012 Census, 85,172 children in Kern County (33.9% of all children) lived in households with incomes below the federal poverty line, a decrease of 3,629 children from the previous year estimate.

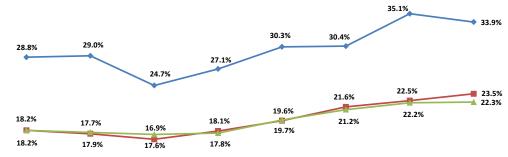
Poverty

Families with Children Under 18 Years - Poverty Rates *Kern County*, 2012



Child Poverty Trend by Year

Kern County, California & United States, 2005-2012





- By comparison, 23.5% of children in California lived in poverty during the past year.
- In 2012, 35.8% of Kern County children under age 5 lived below the poverty threshold.
- Statewide, the poverty rate of young children was 25.1% during the same year.
- The 2012 poverty rate for children under five years of age being raised by single mothers was 71.7% compared to 38.9% of young children in single father homes and 22.3% in married-couple families.
- African-American and Latino children were more likely to live in poor families in Kern County than were Caucasian and Asian children.
- In 2012, 19.2% of Caucasian children and 20.8% of Asian children were poor, compared with 40.9% of Latino children and 37.7% of African-American children.

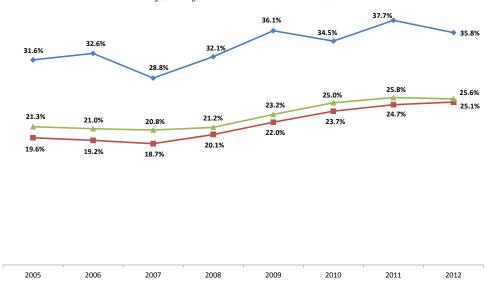
Additional customizable Kern County and California poverty data are available using Kidsdata.org.



Poverty cont.

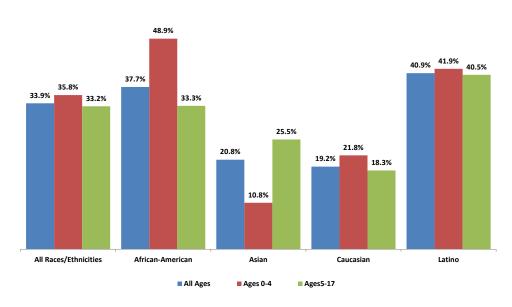
Poverty Rates of Children Under Age 5

Kern County, California & United States, 2005-2012



Child Poverty Rates by Race/Ethnicity & Age

Kern County, 2012



Children in Poverty (0-17)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	30.4%	35.1%	33.9%
California	21.6%	22.5%	23.5%
All Families with Children Percent Living in Poverty	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	24.9%	29.2%	28.4%
California	17.6%	18.6%	19.3%

Children in Poverty (0-4)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	34.5%	37.7%	35.8%
California	23.7%	24.7%	25.1%
Single Moms with Children Percent Living in Poverty	2010	2011	2012
	2010 47.1%	2011 54.1%	2012 57.2%

Children in Poverty (5-17)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	28.7%	34.1%	33.2%
California	20.9%	21.7%	22.9%
Students Enrolled in Free or Reduced Price Meal Program	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013
Kern County	69.2%	67.1%	68.9%
California	56.7%	57.5%	58.0%

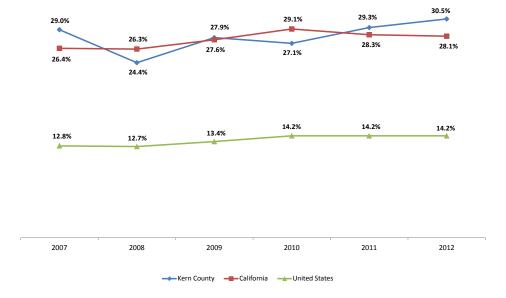


- In 2012, Kern County had 256,000 occupied housing units - 148,000 (58%) owner occupied and 108,000 (42%) renter occupied.
- 54% of Kern County children lived in a rented housing unit during 2012 with higher rates among single mother (71%) and single father (60%) households.
- During 2012, the median gross rent in Kern County was \$872 compared to \$1,200 statewide.
- Families paying more than 30% of their gross income for housing are cost burdened and often have difficulty meeting other important financial obligations.
- The Census estimated 56% of Kern's renting households spent 30% or more of their household income on rent in 2012, a rate slightly lower than California's figure of 58%.
- The 2014 Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Kern County is \$815 a month.
- Kern County's Fair Market Rent has increased by more than 58% since 2000.
- In 2014, Kern County's monthly housing wage is \$2,717; the full-time hourly housing wage is \$15.67.
- Kern County's housing wage represents 174% of the current minimum wage (July 2014).

Housing

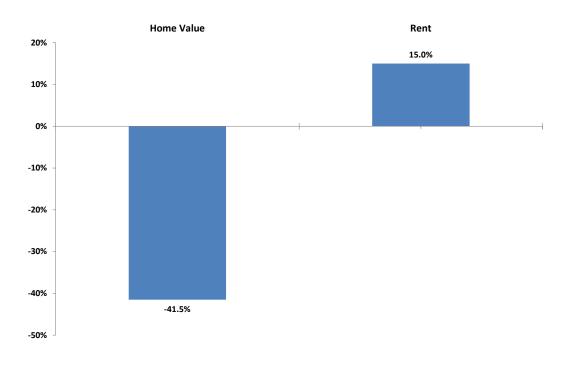
Rate of Children Living in Crowded Households

Kern County, California & United States, 2007-2012



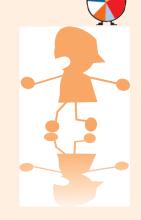
Percent Change in Home Value & Residential Rent

Kern County, 2007-2012



- A renter in Kern County earning minimum wage must work 70 hours per week to afford a two bedroom rental unit at fair market rent.
- In 2012, about 31% of Kern County's children lived in crowded households (crowded households are defined as more than one person per "room"), an increase from 29% in 2011.
- The rate of children living in households with more than one person per room of the house (which includes living rooms, dining rooms, kitchens, bedrooms, finished recreation rooms, enclosed porches, and lodger's rooms), was slightly higher than the state rate of 28% and double the national rate of 14%.

Additional customizable Kern County and California cost of living data are available using Kidsdata.org. ? Q ?

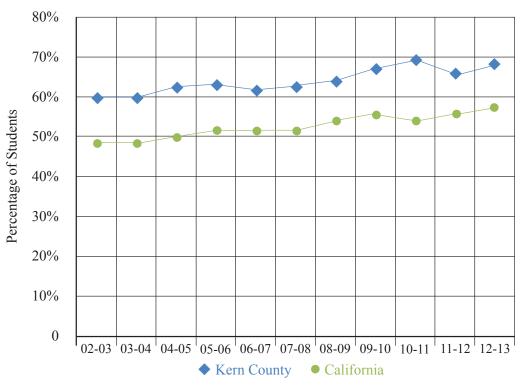


- 31% of children under age 18 living in Kern County households experienced limited or uncertain access to adequate food during 2011, a figure higher than the child food insecurity rate of 27% in California and 22% in the United States.
- In December 2013, 59,969 households in Kern County participated in the food assistance program called CalFresh.
- Since the recession began in late 2007, the number of Kern County households participating in CalFresh has increased 95%, a total of 29,183 more households.
- During the 2012-13 school year, 69% of Kern County students were eligible to receive free or reduced priced meals compared to 58% statewide.
- The percentage of students enrolled ranged from 13% to 100% in Kern County school districts.
- The total number of students participating in the free/reduced meals program has grown 35% from 88,750 in 2001-02 to 119,977 in 2012-13.

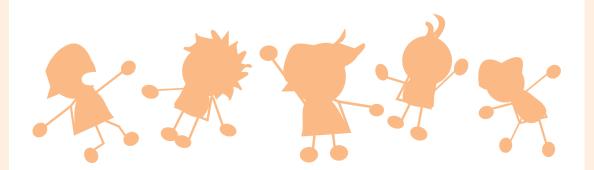
Food Security

Free/Reduced Meal Enrollment

Kern County & California, 2002-03 through 2012-13



California Department of Education



K-12 Education

The chapter K-12 Education presents an overview of Kern County's public K-12 students and their educational achievements. Education provides young people a gateway to more opportunities and greater success in life. Indicators related to academic performance, such as standardized testing and completing high school, often serve as a predictor of a child's current and future social, economic and physical well-being.

Key Facts

- Kern's K-12 public school enrollment hit an all-time high with nearly 179,000 students enrolled during the 2012-13 academic year.
- Double-digit achievement gaps continue to persist between the performance of some socio-economic, ethnic/ racial and other groups of students on standardized tests.
- The majority of Kern students are passing the high school exit exam on their first try in 10th grade.
- 3 out of 4 Kern County students graduated within four years during the 2012-13 school year.
- 30% of Kern County high school graduates met entrance requirements for UC/CSU systems.

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- Students
- Academic Achievement & Educational Attainment
- Contents Page

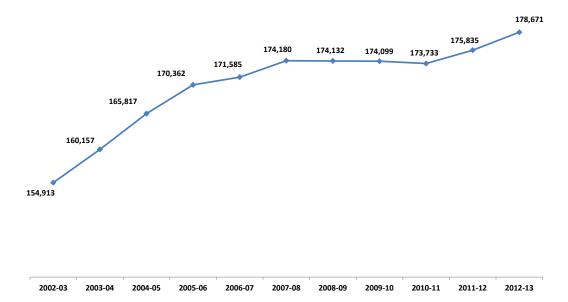


- In the 2012-13 school year, 178,671 students were enrolled in the county's 271 public schools, 2,836 more students than the previous year.
- Kern County averaged 27.0 students in each classroom during the 2012-13 academic year, a figure higher than the state's average of 25.0 students.
- The student-teacher ratio in Kern County was 22.7 students for every full time teacher during the 2012-13 school year compared to 22.5 statewide.
- Kern schools are linguistically diverse, with 45 languages or dialects represented by students county-wide.
- During the 2012-13 academic year, 37,267 students (21% of total county enrollment) were English Learners.
- Most English Learner students were in the earlier grade levels, and nearly all spoke Spanish as their first language (95%).
- Kern County's Special Education system served 17,379 children and young adults from newborn to age 22 during the 2012-13 school year.

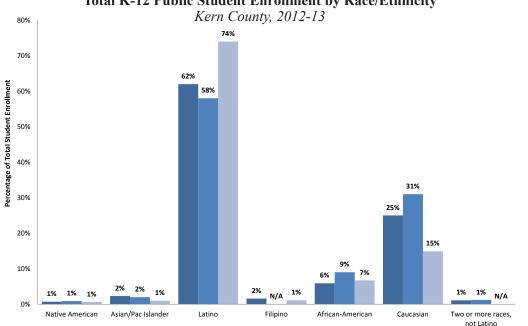
Students

K-12 Public Student Enrollment by Year

Kern County, 2002-03 through 2012-13



Total K-12 Public Student Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity



- Of the 5th grade students surveyed in Kern County, 77% believed there was a teacher or other adult who cared about them all or most of the time and 87% reported that there was a teacher or other adult who believed they could do a good job.
- In the 2012-13 school year, 79% of the Class of 2015 passed the English Language Arts portion and 80% passed the exam's Mathematics section of the CAHSEE high school exit exam in Kern County.
- In Kern County, 10,304 students met graduation requirements during the 2012-13 school year, a graduation rate of 76.0 per 100 students, a slight decline from the previous year's rate of 76.2.
- California's graduation rate was 80.2 per 100 students during 2012-13 academic year.
- Of the students who started high school in 2009-10, 16.2% dropped out, a decrease from the previous year's rate of 16.8%.
- Kern County's dropout rate is higher than the state rate of 11.6%.

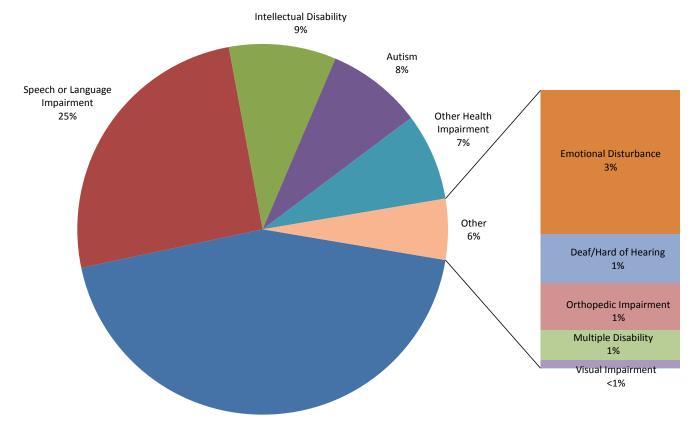
- Students with the highest dropout rates included special education students (30.5%), English Learners (27.8%) and African-Americans (25.6%).
- In the 2012-13 school year, 29.8% of students graduated with all "A-G" classes completed, a figure slightly higher than the previous school year rate of 29.2%.
- In comparison, 39.4% of students graduated with UC/CSU entrance requirements statewide.

Additional customizable Kern County and California child educational data are available using Kidsdata.org.



Students Receiving Special Education Services by Primary Disability

Kern County, 2012-13



Specific Learning Disability



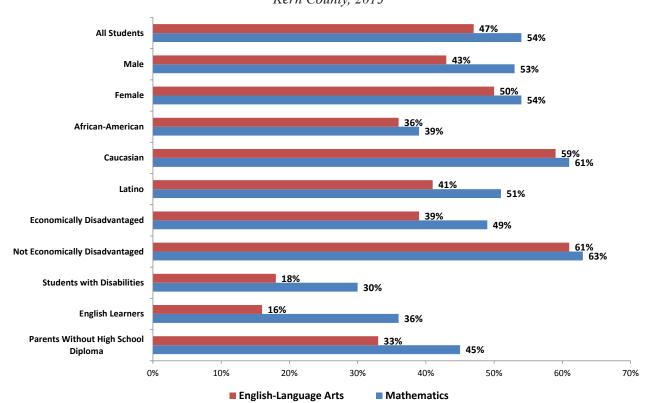
California Standards Test Scores

Kern County & California, 2010-11 through 2012-13

Kern County					
3rd Grade Test Scores (CST) Percent "Proficient" or Above	10-11	11-12	12-13		
English Language Arts	37%	38%	36%		
Mathematics	60%	62%	58%		
7th Grade Test Scores (CST) Percent "Proficient" or Above	10-11	11-12	12-13		
English Language Arts	47%	52%	48%		
Mathematics	42%	45%	44%		

California			
3rd Grade Test Scores (CST) Percent "Proficient" or Above	10-11	11-12	12-13
English Language Arts	46%	48%	45%
Mathematics	68%	69%	66%
7th Grade Test Scores (CST) Percent "Proficient" or Above	10-11	11-12	12-13
English Language Arts	57%	62%	60%
Mathematics	50%	52%	52%

Students (Grades 2-7) Scoring Proficient or Higher on English Language Arts & Mathematics CST Kern County, 2013



Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment Indicators

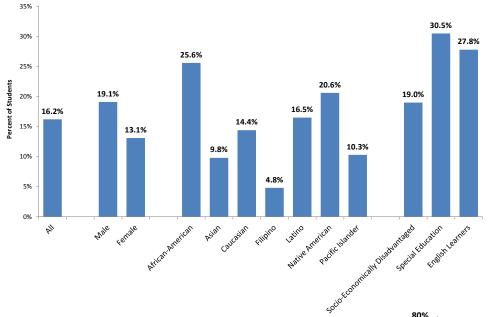
Kern County & California, 2010-11 through 2012-13

Kern County				
Out-of-School Youth	2010	2011	2012	
Percent of youth ages 16-19 not in school and without high school diploma	7.8%	8.5%	8.0%	
CAHSEE % of 10th graders passing exam	10-11	11-12	12-13	
English Language Arts	80%	80%	79%	
Mathematics	80%	80%	80%	
Graduation Rates	10-11	11-12	12-13	
Cohort Graduation Rate	75.3%	76.2%	76.0%	
High School Dropout Rate	10-11	11-12	12-13	
Cohort Dropout Rate	16.6%	16.8%	16.2%	
College Prepared Youth	10-11	11-12	12-13	
% Grads w/ CSU/UC Require	29.0%	29.2%	29.8%	
% 12th Graders Taking SAT	26.6%	28.1%	n/a	
Community Education Levels	2010	2011	2012	
Percent of all adults 25 and older without at least high school diploma	28.9%	27.2%	27.9%	

California			
Out-of-School Youth	2010	2011	2012
Percent of youth ages 16-19 not in school and without high school diploma	5.3%	5.4%	5.1%
CASHEE % of 10th graders passing exam	10-11	11-12	12-13
English Language Arts	82%	83%	83%
Mathematics	83%	84%	84%
Graduation Rates	10-11	11-12	12-13
Cohort Graduation Rate	77.1%	78.9%	80.2%
High School Dropout Rate	10-11	11-12	12-13
Cohort Dropout Rate	14.7%	13.1%	11.6%
College Prepared Youth	10-11	11-12	12-13
% Grads w/ CSU/UC Require	36.9%	38.3%	39.4%
% 12th Graders Taking SAT	38.0%	39.3%	n/a
Community Education Levels	2010	2011	2012
Percent of all adults 25 and older without at least high school diploma	19.3%	18.9%	18.5%

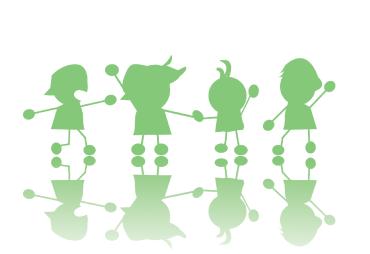
Educational Attainment cont.

High School Dropout Rates – Kern County, 2012-13



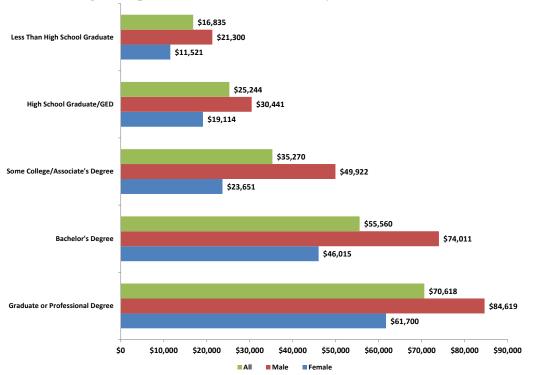
CSU/UC Eligibility Rates by Gender & Race/Ethnicity

Kern County, 2009-10 through 2012-13 70% 60% Percent of High School Graduates 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% African-Native Pacific ΑII Male Female Asian Caucasian Filipino Latino **American American** Islander 2009-10 23.2% 26.1% 21.0% 31.1% 22.4% 55.3% 31.7% 50.0% 21.1% 19.5% **2010-11** 29.0% 23.9% 34.0% 22.7% 59.9% 33.5% 50.8% 25.1% 21.8% 37.5% **2011-12** 29.2% 24.0% 34.3% 22.2% 68.0% 32.4% 55.7% 25.7% 28.2% 43.2% ■ 2012-13 29.8% 24.6% 34.9% 21.7% 55.7% 33.3% 57.1% 27.1% 25.6% 25.9%



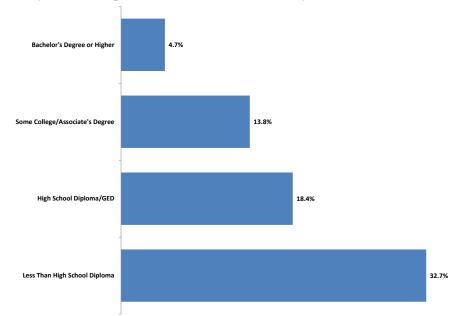
Educational Attainment cont.

Median Earnings of Population 25 Years and Older by Education and Gender – Kern County, 2012



Poverty Rate of Population 25 Years and Older by Educational Attainment – Kern County, 2012





Child & Adolescent Health

Even before birth, the health status of a child can have long term consequences on his or her growth, safety and development. The Child and Adolescent Health chapter provides an overview of key health indicators of Kern County's infants, children and adolescents including leading causes of infant death, maternal, child, and adolescent health, immunizations, tobacco and substance abuse, obesity, depression, and risk for suicide.

Key Facts

- Three out of four Kern County pregnant mothers received prenatal care in their first trimester in 2012.
- The rate of Kern County infants dying before their first birthday declined 17% since 2008.
- More than a third of Kern County's 5th and 7th graders fell within the high-risk category for body composition.
- Despite four straight years of decline, Kern County's teen birth rate was the highest in the State in 2012.
- Kern continues to have the highest Chlamydia infection rate in State with rates highest among teen girls.
- Alcohol is the leading drug used by Kern County teens.
- In Kern County, survey results show more 7th, 9th and 11th graders regularly smoked marijuana than tobacco.

Jump to -

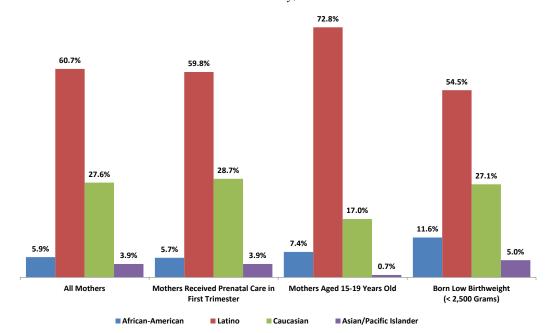
- Infant Health
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- In 2012, 76.0% of pregnant mothers in Kern County obtained prenatal care services during the first trimester of their pregnancies, compared to 76.9% the previous year.
- In California, 83.8% of mothers received care during their first trimester during 2012.
- During 2012, 14,558 babies were born in Kern County.
- In 2012, 11.1% of Kern County babies were born prior to 37 weeks, placing them at greater risk of disability and dying during infancy, compared to 11.9% the previous year.
- By comparison, 9.6% of California's babies were premature during 2012.
- In 2012, 979 babies were born at a low birthweight, 6.7% of Kern County's total live births.
- In California, 6.7% of babies were born with a low birthweight.
- Between 2006 and 2013. a total of 38 newborns in Kern County have been delivered to a "safe surrender site," a direct result of California's Safely Surrendered Baby Law to reduce the number of abandoned baby deaths in the state.
- In 2012, 88 Kern County babies died before their first birthday, a rate of 6.0 per 1,000 live births.

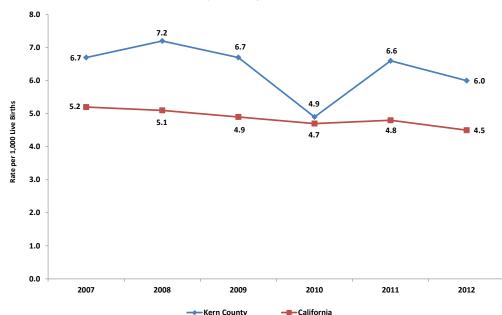
Infant Health

Percentage of Babies Born by Selected Measures & Race/Ethnicity Kern County, 2012



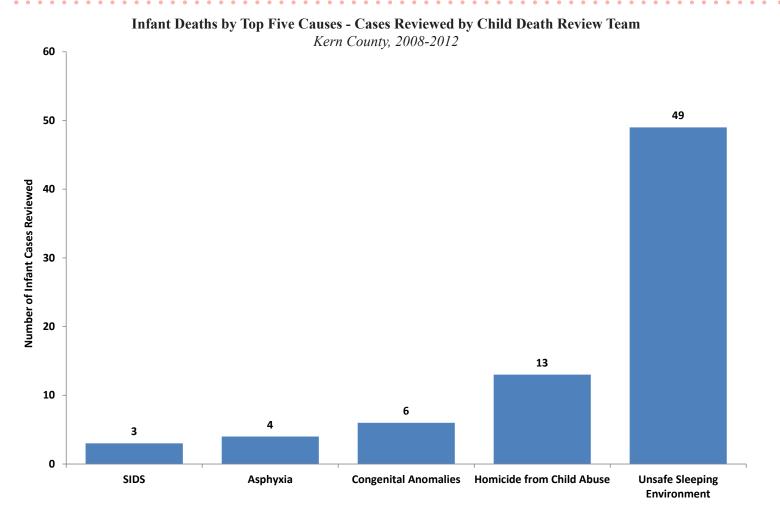
Infant Death Rate by Year

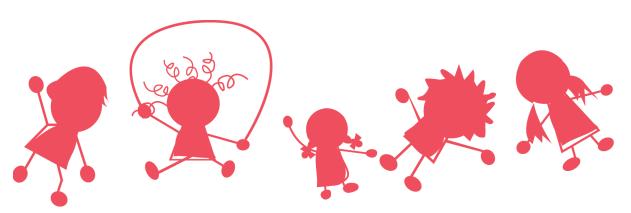
Kern County & California, 2007-2012



- The three-year (2009-2011) average mortality rate for infants in Kern County was 6.1 per 1,000 live births, compared to the previous average rate of 6.3.
- Kern County's 2009-2011 average infant mortality rate was the 5th in highest among California counties.
- Kern's 2009-2011 infant mortality rate was higher than California (4.8 per 1,000) and slightly lower than the United States (6.2 per 1,000).
- Deaths linked to an unsafe sleeping environment continue to be the leading cause of infant death in cases reviewed by the Kern County Child Death Review Team.
- From 2008 through 2012, 52 infants died in their sleep, representing 54% of the infant deaths reviewed.
- 49 infant deaths were linked to "undetermined" causes related to an unsafe sleeping environment.
- The majority of these deaths linked to an unsafe sleep environment occurred between the years of 2009 and 2010 when 28 babies died in their sleep.

Infant Health cont.





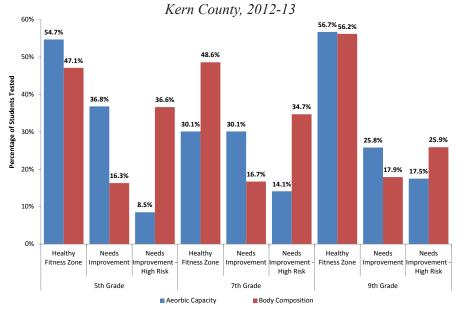
- During 2012, 85.9% of Kern County mothers breastfed in the hospital after giving birth, while only 50.2% of mothers breastfed exclusively after giving birth.
- Throughout California, 92.3% of mothers breastfed in the hospital after giving birth, while only 62.6% of mothers breastfed exclusively after giving birth.
- Similar to statewide trends, Caucasian mothers were more likely to breastfeed exclusively than other racial/ethnic groups (65.0%) in Kern County.
- African American and Latina mothers were less likely to breastfeed their newborns exclusively after giving birth, 30.7% and 45.6%, respectively.

Additional customizable Kern County and California infant health data are available using Kidsdata.org.

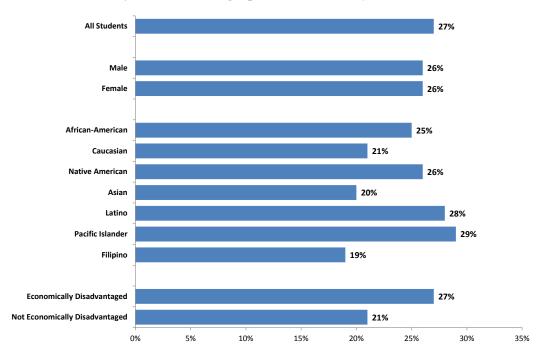
- In 2013, 94% of Kern County children enrolling in Kindergarten had all required immunizations, surpassing the state's goal of 90% coverage.
- During the 2013-14 school year, 96% of 7th grade students enrolled in Kern County schools reporting data completed the pertussis immunization (Tdap) requirement to protect against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (whooping cough).
- During the 2012-13 school year, 37,662 Kern County 5th, 7th and 9th graders completed California Physical Fitness Testing for aerobic capacity, abdominal, trunk and upper body strength, body composition and flexibility.
- Among these students, 21.4% of 5th graders, 28.4% of 7th graders and 32.4% of 9th graders passed all six exercises.
- About 8.5% of Kern County's 5th graders, 14.1% of 7th graders and 17.5% of 9th graders fell into in the high-risk category for aerobic capacity, indicating their fitness levels are not sufficient for good health.
- Kern County results show 36.6% of 5th graders, 34.7% of 7th graders and 25.9% of 9th graders were in the high-risk category for body composition.

Child Health

Percentage of 5th, 7th & 9th Graders – Aerobic Capacity & Body Composition



Percentage of 5th, 7th & 9th Graders within High-Risk Category for Body Composition By Selected Demographics – Kern County, 2012-13



- In Kern County, 10% of children ages 1-17 have been diagnosed with asthma at some point in their lives compared to 15% statewide, according to 2011-12 data.
- · While asthma does not result in hospitalization for most children, 10.0 of every 10,000 Kern County children ages 0-17 were hospitalized due to asthma in 2012, ranking Kern County 7th statewide in asthma related hospitalizations.
- Asthma hospitalization rates are higher for the youngest children (ages 0-4) at a rate of 19.1 per 10,000 population.
- According to the 2012 California Health Interview Survey, 79% of Kern County's children, ages 2-11 years, had visited a dentist at least one time in the last 12 months. Further, 18% of Kern County children surveyed, ages 2-11, had never seen a dentist.
- In 2012, an estimated 91% of Kern County children ages 0-17 had health insurance compared to 92% statewide and 93% nationally.

Child Health cont.

Late or No Prenatal Care (Percentage of live births)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	5.9%	6.7%	5.6%
California	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%

Premature Births (Percentage of live births)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	12.2%	11.9%	11.1%
California	10.0%	9.8%	9.6%

Births to Teen Mothers 15-19 (Percentage of live births)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	13.9%	12.8%	11.2%
California	8.5%	7.6%	7.0%

Births to Teen Mothers 15-19 (Rate per 1,000 population)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	58.1	52.7	49.4
California	31.5	28.0	25.7
United States	34.2	31.3	29.4

Low Birth Weight Births (Percentage of live births)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	7.0%	7.2%	6.7%
California	6.8%	6.8%	6.7%

Infant Mortality Rate (Rate per 1,000 live births)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	4.9	6.6	6.0
California	4.7	4.8	4.5

Healthy Body Weight (Percentage of 5th 7th 9th grade)	2010 -2011	2011 -2012	2012 -2013
Kern County	50.5%	51.0%	50.5%
California	55.6%	55.6%	56.1%

Chlamydia Infection in Female Youth (Ages 15-19) (Rate per 100,000 population)	2010	2011	2012
Kern County	3,267.3	3,505.7	3,723.9
California	2,247.0	2,293.4	2,355.0
United States	3,378.2	3,416.5	3,291.5

Kern County Births to Teens 15-19 (2012)	African American	Caucasian	Latino	Asian/ Pac Islander	Native American	Total *
Number of Live Births	125	288	1,234	12	6	1,696
Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 fe- males in race/ethnicity group	65.7	28.6	61.0	10.4	23.7	49.4

^{*} Figures will not total 100 percent as unknown or multiple races are excluded from these tables

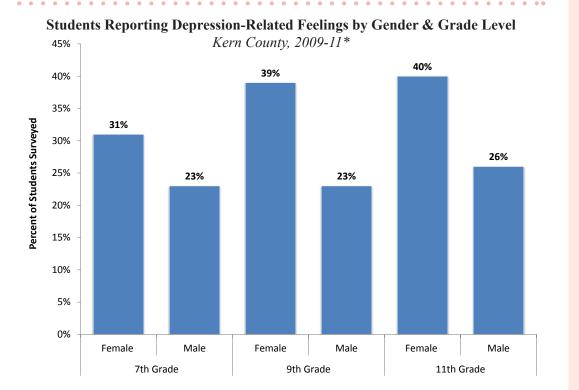
- In Kern County, Latino children (11%) were most likely to be uninsured compared to Asian (8%), Caucasian (7%) and African-American (5%) children.
- Among Kern County youth ages 12-17, 81% received a routine health check-up within the past 12 months in 2011-12, up from an estimated 69% in 2001.
- However, according to 2011-2012 data, less than half (45%) of California children ages 0-17 received care within a "medical home," compared to 54% nationwide.
- In California and nationwide, older, low-income, Latino, and African American children were less likely to have a medical home.
- As of 2012, 86% of Kern County's children between the ages of 12-17 had visited a physician within the past year for a routine checkup, an increase from 62% in 2009.

Additional customizable Kern County and California child health data are available using Kidsdata.org. ? Q 9



- In 2012, 1,696 babies were born to mothers between the ages of 15 and 19 years in Kern County, a birth rate of 49.4 per 1,000 females in this age group.
- Kern County's teen birth rate decreased by 30% between 2008 and 2012, from 70.4 to 49.4 per 1,000 young women ages 15-19.
- During the same year, California's teen birth rate was 25.7 per 1,000 females.
- Kern county had the highest rate of teen births in the state in 2012.
- Kern County had the highest chlamydia infection rate in California during 2012.
- Kern's chlamydia infection rate among females aged 15-19 in 2012 was 58% higher than the state's rate and 13% higher than the national rate for teen girls.
- Findings from the 2009-11 California Healthy Kids Survey show older students and female students were most likely to report feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more consecutive weeks in the last year.
- In Kern County, 20% of 9th graders and 17% of 11th graders reported on the 2009-11 California Healthy Kids Survey that they seriously considered attempting suicide during

Adolescent Health



Chlamydia, Rates by Age & Gender

Kern County, 2012



Rates are per 100,000 population. STD Control Branch, California Department of Public Health

- the past year.
- From 2010 to 2012, Kern County lost 6 youth the ages of 13 and 17 years to suicide.
- Males accounted for 83% of Kern's suicides in this age group.
- Youth committed suicide between 2010 and 2012 with either by hanging/suffocation (50%), a firearm (33%) or poisoning (17%).
- From 2010 to 2012, 132 children and youth between were hospitalized for self-inflicted injuries.
- Females (72%) had a higher rate of attempted suicide than males (28%).
- The attempted suicide rates for Caucasian (45%) and Latino (42%) youth were considerably higher than any other racial or ethnic group.
- African American (8%), Asian/Pacific Islander (3%) and other ethnicity (2%) comprised the remaining racial/ethnic groups with self-inflicted injuries.
- Most youth attempted suicide by poisoning themselves (65%), followed by cutting/piercing (30%) and other method (5%).

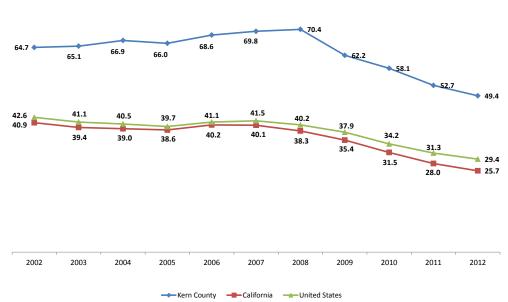
Additional customizable Kern County and California adolescent health data are available using

Kidsdata.org.

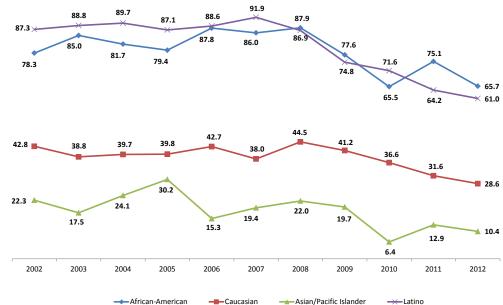
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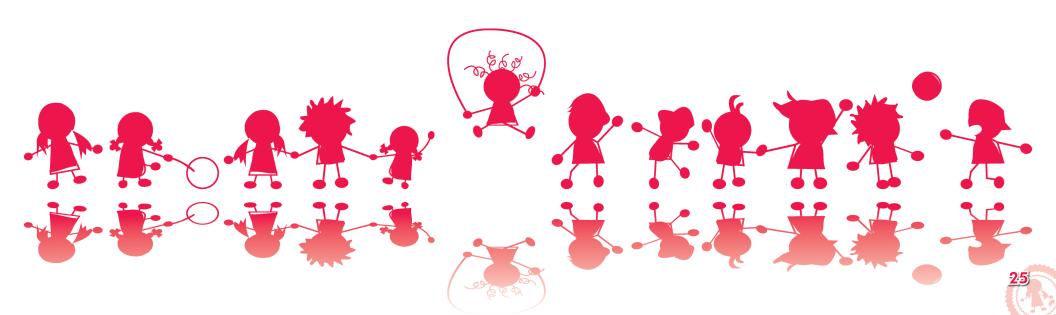
Birth Rates for Teenage Females Aged 15 - 19 Years

Kern County, California & United States – 2002-2012



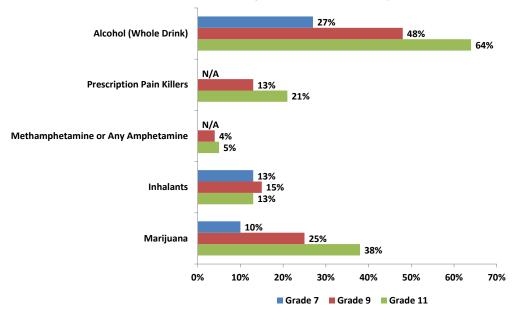
Birth Rates for Teenage Females Aged 15 - 19 Years by Race/Ethnicity *Kern County, 2002-2012*



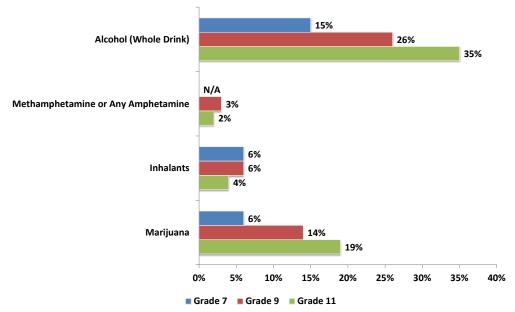


Tobacco, Alcohol & Substance Use

Percent of Students Reporting Use of Alcohol or Other Drugs At Least Once in Their Life by Grade – Kern County, 2009-11



Percent of Students Reporting Use of Alcohol or Other Drugs During Past 30 Days (Current Use) by Grade – Kern County, 2009-11



The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) is administered every two years in order to meet the requirements of the federal Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. Between the fall of 2009 and spring of 2011, the Survey asked 7th 9th, 11th graders health and behavior questions to find out what problems students face in regards to substance abuse and violence to help put programs in place to effectively address problems.

According to the 2009-11 California Healthy Kids Survey, rates of current tobacco, alcohol, marijuana use are higher among older students and males with the exception of alcohol use which was higher among female students than males.

Additional customizable Kern County and California tobacco, alcohol & substance use data are available using Kidsdata.org.



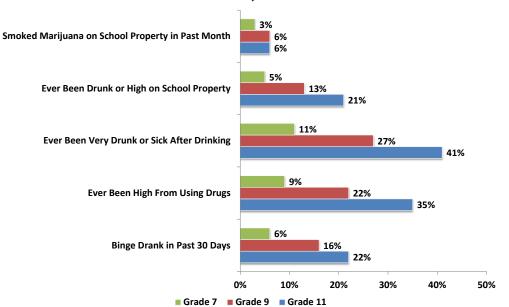


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Tobacco, Alcohol & Substance Use cont.

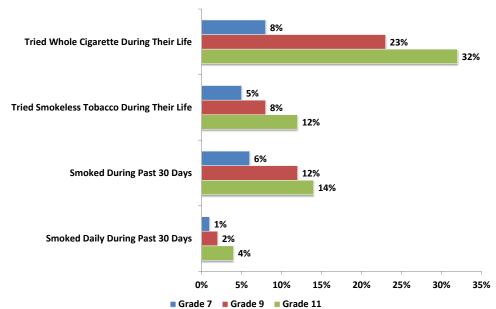
Percent of Students Reporting Participation in High Risk Behaviors Associated with Alcohol, Tobacco, or Other Drugs by Grade

Kern County, 2009-11

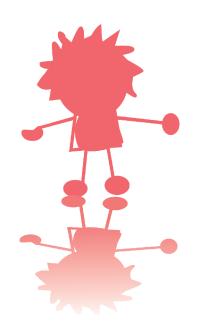


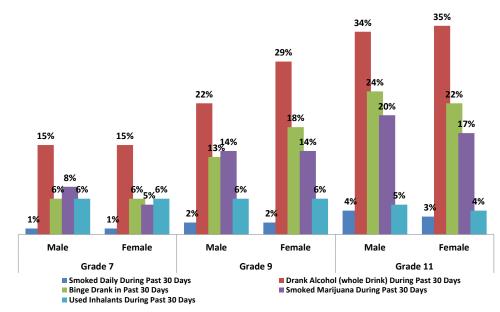
Percent of Students Reporting Participation in Various Levels of Tobacco Use by Grade

Kern County, 2009-11



Percent of Students Reporting Use of Alcohol, Tobacco or Other Drugs During Past 30 Days (Current Use) by Gender & Grade – Kern County, 2009-11





Child & Community Safety

The Child and Community Safety chapter highlights Kern County's capacity to provide children a safe environment in their home and neighborhood from birth through young adulthood. Topics addressed in the section will help inform how and where to concentrate local efforts to prevent injury and violence from occurring in the first place.

Key Facts

- Since 2002, Kern County averaged 28 child deaths annually from unintentional injury with motor vehicle crashes as the leading cause.
- Kern County's child death rate from unintentional injuries has decreased by 46% between 2002 and 2012.
- About 1 in 10 Kern County students in grades 7, 9 and 11 considered themselves a gang member.
- Over half of Kern County students in 7th, 9th and 11th felt safe or very safe at their school.
- Although reports decline as students age, about 1 out of every 3 Kern County high school students said they were bullied in the past year.
- Kern County's rates of domestic calls for assistance and juvenile felony arrests remain higher than California's overall rates.

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- Childhood Unintentional Injury
- Falls
- Burn Injuries
- Motor Vehicle Related Injuries
- Drowning
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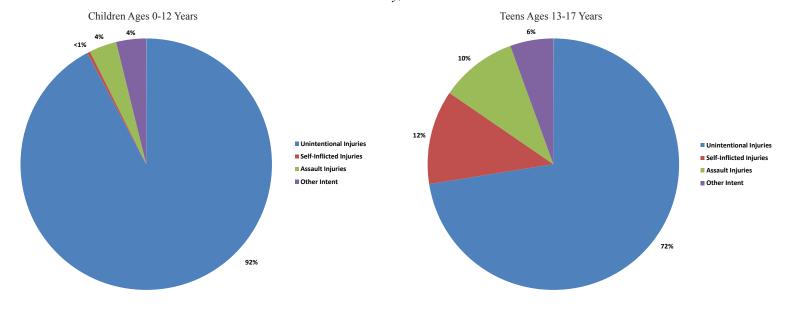
- Child Deaths
- Youth Violence
- Gun Violence
- Missing Children
- Crime & Arrest Rates



Childhood Unintentional Injury

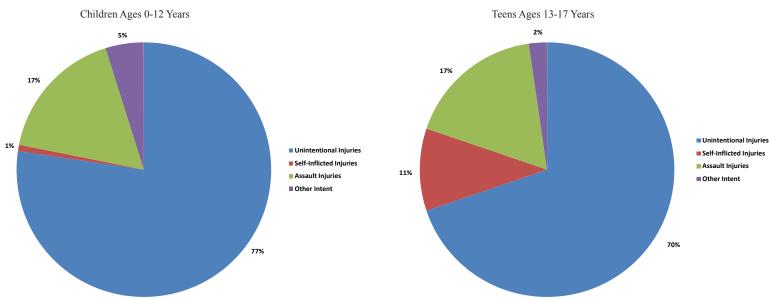
Hospitalizations Caused by Injury Type

Kern County, 2002-2012



Fatalities Caused by Injury Type

Kern County, 2002-2012



- Unintentional injuries such as those caused by falls, road traffic, burns, and drowning—are the leading cause of injury and mortality among children in Kern County.
- In 2012, unintentional injuries killed 21 Kern County children under the age of 18 years and caused serious, non-fatal injury to 483 other children.
- Between 2002 and 2012, 311 Kern County children under age 18 years have been killed and 5,721 have been hospitalized from an unintentional injury, an average of 28.3 and 520.1 children annually, respectively.
- Kern County's death rate among children/youth from an unintentional injury has decreased by 46% between 2002 and 2012, from 15.5 per 100,000 to 8.4.
- Kern County's hospitalization rate among children/youth from an unintentional injury has decreased by 16% between 2002 and 2012, from 228.6 per 100,000 to 192.2.

Additional customizable Kern County and California child unintentional injury data are available using <u>Kidsdata.org</u>.

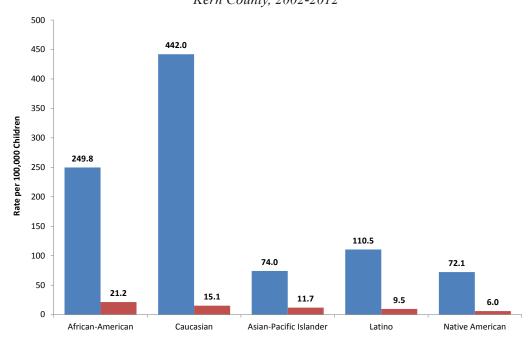


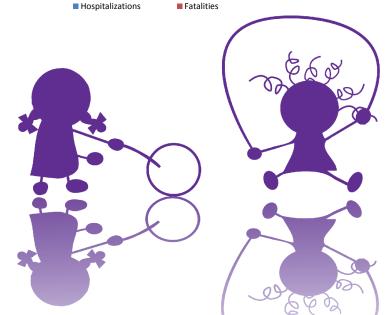
- Falls are the leading cause of emergency room visits among Kern County children under age 18 years.
- In 2012, 6,310 children had an initial emergency department visit for injuries from a fall in Kern County, a rate of 2,511.0 per 100,000 children.
- Between 2002 and 2012, there were 1,635 Kern County children admitted as inpatients with injuries caused by a fall, an average of 148.6 children each year.
- Boys regardless of age were more likely to have injuries (65%) from a fall than girls (35%).
- Caucasian and Latino children had the highest rates of fall-related injuries, 62% and 32%, respectively.
- Kern County children aged 0 to 5 years had a higher rate of injuries from falls than any other age group.
- Falls accounted for 45% of the total nonfatal unintentional injuries for children less than 6 years of age between 2002 and 2012.



Burn Injuries

Hospitalizations & Fatalities From Unintentional Injuries Among Children Under 18 Years by Race/Ethnicity - Incidence per 100,000 Children Kern County. 2002-2012





- In Kern County, 46 children were hospitalized (11.0 per 100,000) and 2 children were killed (0.3 per 100,000) from injuries from fire, flames, and hot objects or substances during 2012.
- Between 2002 and 2012, there were 294 children admitted as inpatients and 9 children were killed from with injuries caused by fire, flames, and hot objects or substances in Kern County, an average of 26.7 and 0.8 children a year, respectively.
- Boys are at a higher risk of fire and burn-related injuries (61%) than girls (39%).
- Latino and Caucasian children had the highest rates of fire/burn injuries, 53% and 38%, respectively.
- Children under the age of six years were most likely to be injured by accidents involving fires and hot objects (79%) during these years.

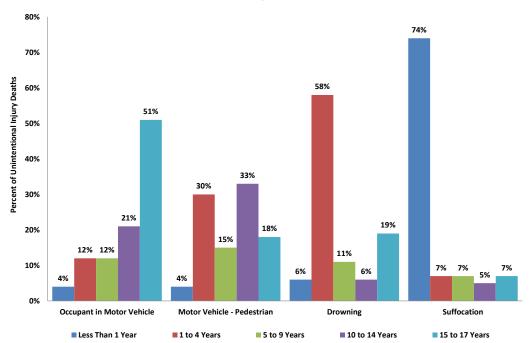
- Motor vehicle-related injuries are the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death of Kern County children.
- In 2012, 58 children were hospitalized and 11 children were killed from injuries involving motor vehicles in Kern County.
- From 2002 to 2012, 1,218
 children have been hospitalized and 153 children have
 died from injuries caused
 by motor-vehicle related
 accidents throughout Kern
 County, an average of 110.7
 and 13.9 children a year,
 respectively.
- Kern County's death rate among children/youth from injuries involving motor vehicles has decreased by 35% between 2002 and 2012, from 6.8 per 100,000 to 4.4.
- Over half of the children injured or killed in motor-vehicle related accidents between 2002 and 2012 were occupants in a motor vehicle (57%).
- Traffic-related injuries also include those sustained while walking, riding a bicycle, or riding a motorcycle.
- From 2002 to 2012, 27
 children died from traffic-related pedestrian injuries and
 an additional 284 children
 were admitted to Kern County
 hospitals with serious injuries
 after being struck by a motor
 vehicle.
- In Kern County, 200 children were injured after being struck by motor vehicles while riding a bike or motorcycle and another 17 were killed from 2000 to 2010.

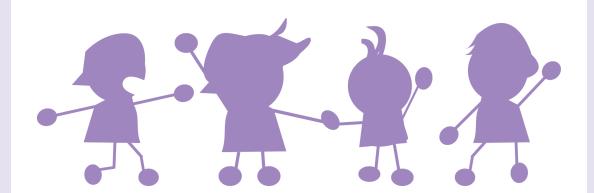
Motor Vehicle Related Injuries

Drowning

Unintentional Injury Deaths Among Children Under Age 18 Years by Age Group & Selected Causes

Kern County, 2002-2012





- Drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death among children under the age of 18 in Kern County.
- During 2012, 15 children were hospitalized and 3 children were killed from accidents involving drowning in Kern County.
- From 2002 to 2012, 114 children were hospitalized and 47 children were killed from accidents involving drowning in Kern County, an average of 10.4 and 4.3 children a year, respectively.
- Kern County's death rate among children/youth from injuries involving drowning has increased by 33% between 2002 and 2012, from 0.9 per 100,000 to 1.2.
- The majority of the children who drowned in Kern County between 2002 and 2012 were male (62%).
- Young children ages 5
 years and under accounted
 for 68% of all child drowning victims.
- Caucasian and Latino children each comprised 47% of the total number of drowning deaths from 2002 to 2012 in Kern County.



- In 2012, there were 148 child deaths in Kern County.
- Of these deaths, the Kern County Child Death Review Team (CDRT) investigated 55 deaths of children to better understand the circumstances of the child's death and recommend local action to prevent other deaths.
- The cases reviewed included 18 accidental deaths (33%), 24 deaths from natural causes (44%), 6 homicides (11%) and 7 deaths of undetermined manner (12%).
- Between 2008 and 2012, deaths involving motor vehicle and traffic related accidents represented 53% of the accidental death cases reviewed by CDRT members.
- 33% of the children killed in automobile crashes in 2012 were unrestrained/ improperly restrained as an occupant in the car.
- Of the remaining cases reviewed for 2012 involving motor vehicles, 5 children died as pedestrians.
- Among 2012 child homicide victims, 4 children died from being beaten or from blunt force trauma and 2 children died from gunshot wounds.

Child Deaths

Submersion/Drowning			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	5	1	3
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	5	16	15

Assault/Homicide			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	9	6	5
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	39	32	29

Motor Vehicle Occupant			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	2	2	1
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	38	29	34

Pedestrian/Traffic				
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012	
Fatal Injury	1	2	6	
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	26	23	20	

Self-Inflicted Injury/Suicide			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	5	1	0
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	38	33	61

Firearm			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	4	1	2
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	4	8	3

Bicycle			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	0	0	0
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	31	30	21

Falls			
(Number of children 0-17 killed or injured)	2010	2011	2012
Fatal Injury	0	0	0
Non-Fatal Hospitalization	146	151	141

- 35% of the cases of child deaths reviewed in 2012 involved the deaths of infants.
- The cases reviewed involving infants included 8 deaths from natural causes, 1 death caused by an accident and 3 homicides from either a beating or blunt force trauma.
- The Coroner categorized
 7 infant deaths as "undetermined," meaning a final manner of death could not be identified, however, these deaths were associated with an unsafe sleep environment.

- More than half of Kern County students in 7th, 9th, and 11th grades self-reported feeling safe or very safe at school in 2009-11; 10% of 7th graders, 9% of 9th graders, and 7% of 11th graders reported they felt unsafe or very unsafe.
- Bullying is highest in Kern County middle schools, where its prevalence is 43% in 7th grade.
- When Kern County youth are bullied or harassed at school, the most common specific reason cited was their race or national origin.
- Although reports of bullying decline among older students, it is still relatively high at 34% in 9th grade and 29% in 11th grade.

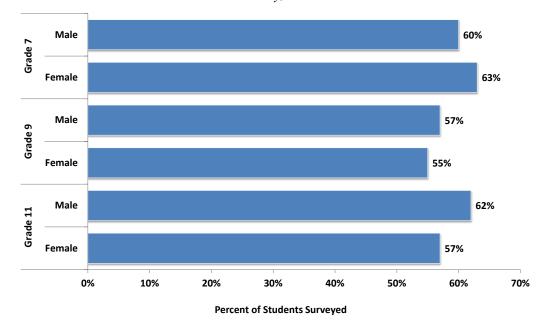
What is Bullying?

Bullying has two key components: repeated harmful acts and an imbalance of power. It involves repeated physical, verbal or psychological attacks or intimidation against a victim.

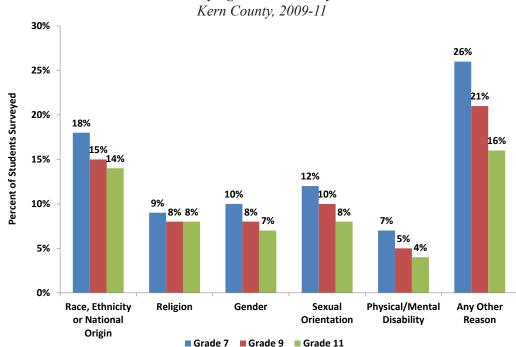
Bullying includes assault, tripping, intimidation, rumor-spreading and isolation, demands for money, destruction of property, theft of valued possessions, destruction of another's work, and name-calling.

Youth Violence

Percent of Students Who Feel Safe at School by Gender & Grade Level Kern County, 2009-11



Reason for Bullying/Harassment by Grade Level



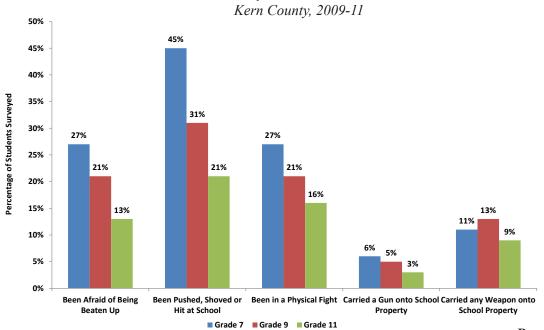
- In 2009-11, 16% of 7th graders, 21% of 9th graders and 21% of 11th graders reported they have been harassed, threatened or humiliated through electronic means such as email, texting or by using social networking sites.
- In Kern County, 4.5% of 7th graders, 5.3% of 9th graders, and 7.5% of 11th graders reported that they had been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a girlfriend or boyfriend during the past year, according to 2009-11 survey data.
- 0.8% of Kern's 7th grade students identified themselves as gang members.
- Among high School Students, 9% of 9th graders and 8% of 11th graders in Kern County identified themselves as gang members.

Additional customizable Kern County and California school safety data are available using



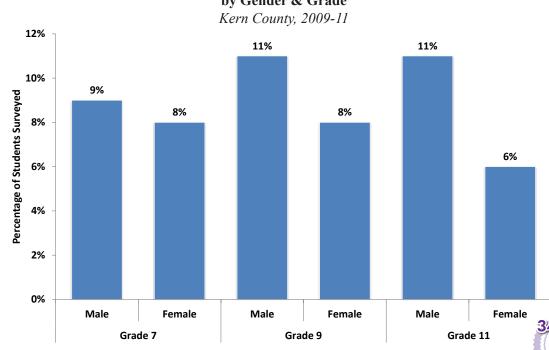
Youth Violence cont.

Violence-Related Behavior & Experiences During the Past 12 Months at School Kern County 7th, 9th & 11th Graders



Percentage of Students Who Consider Themselves a Gang Member by Gender & Grade



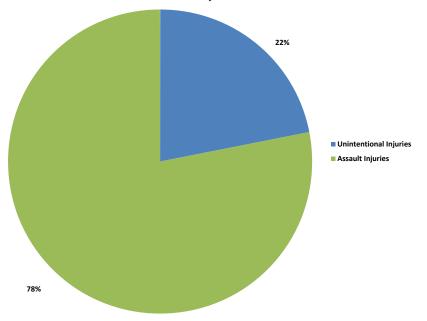


- In Kern County, 36 children and youth died from firearm-related injuries between 2002 and 2012.
- These include homicides, assaults, suicides and unintentional injuries. Homicide accounted for 72% of the deaths; 20% were the result of suicide and 8% were the result of accidents.
- African-American (46%) and Latino (46%) youth were most likely to be homicide victims from gunshot wounds during 2002 to 2012.
- The average youth who died as a victim of homicide or from an accidental shooting was 14.5 years old.
- Male children and youth were about 12 times more likely to be murdered with a firearm than females.
- Between 2002 and 2012, another 105 Kern County children required hospitalization because of gun-related injuries.
- 78% of the firearm related injuries were the result of assaults and 22% were the result of accidents.
- Again, males (90%) were more likely than females to be involved in intentional and accidental shootings.

Gun Violence

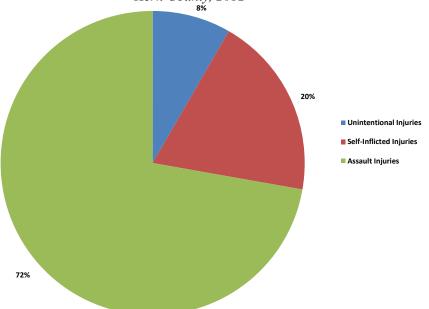
Firearm-Related Hospitalizations, Children Under 18 Years

Kern County, 2012



Firearm-Related Fatalities, Children Under 18 Years

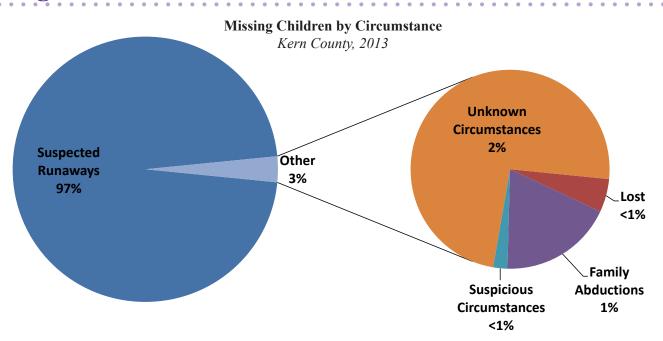
Kern County, 2012



- The average age of youth who were injured in assaults with a firearm was 15.4 years old.
- Caucasian (47%) and African-American (41%) children /youth were more likely to be injured by an intentional shooting in Kern County than Latino (12%) and Native American (1%) from 2002 to 2012.
- Children were more likely to be injured accidentally with firearms averaged 13.7 years old.
- Caucasian (57%) children and youth were more likely to be injured by an accidental shooting in Kern County than Latino (26%) and African-American (17%) from 2002 to 2012.



Missing Children

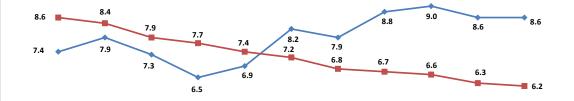


- In 2013, 4,129 children were reported missing in Kern County.
- Of these, 3,999 were suspected runaways, 7 were lost, 24 were suspected family abduction, 3 were missing under suspicious circumstances and 96 were reported under unknown circumstances.
- At the end of 2013, 3,976 of the missing child reports previously noted were canceled (96%).
- 2,672 children were returned, 930 were located, 136 were arrested, 4 became emancipated, 6 were voluntary missing, 12 were withdrawn or invalid and 215 were removed from the system for other reasons.
- A total of 153 children remained missing at year end.

- Among surveyed Kern County students, 4 % of 7th graders, 5% of 9th graders, and 8% of 11th graders reported that they had been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a girlfriend or boyfriend in the past 12 months, according to 2009-11 data.
- During 2012, Kern County law enforcement officers recorded 4,726 calls for assistance in domestic violence situations, a rate of 8.6 calls per 1,000 population.
- In comparison, California rate of calls for assistance was 6.2 calls per 1,000.
- In total, 19% of these calls for assistance involved weapons: 35% involved the use of firearms, knives, or other dangerous weapons and the remaining 65% involved personal weapons, such as hands, fists or feet.
- During 2012, the rate of juveniles (ages 10-17) arrested for a felony was 10.4 per 1,000 youth compared to 8.8 statewide.
- Kern's juvenile felony arrest rate has fallen by 53% between 2002 and 2012, from 22.0 per 1,000 youth to 10.4 per 1,000 youth.

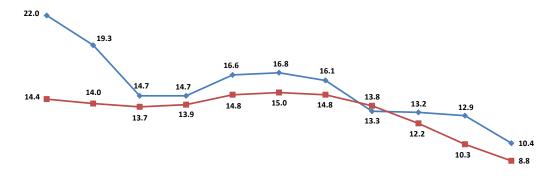
Crime & Arrest Rates

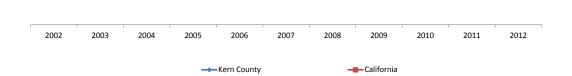
Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance - Incidence Per 1,000 Population Kern County & California, 2002-2012





Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate by Year - Incidence per 1,000 Youth Kern County, California & United States, 2002 - 2012





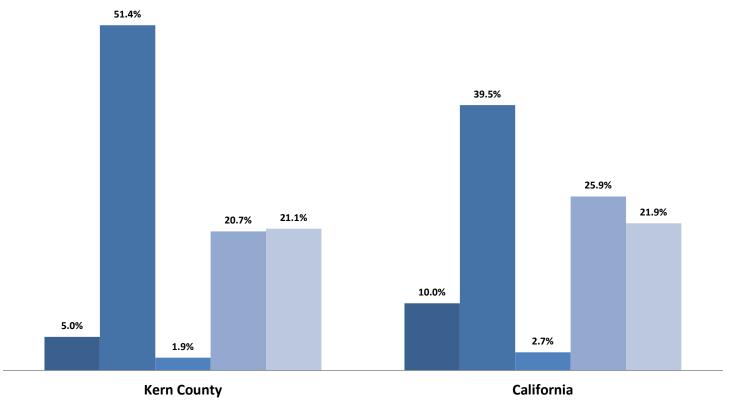
- In 2012, 51% of juvenile felony arrests in Kern County were for property offenses, 21% for violent offenses, 21% for other offenses (e.g., weapons, hit-and-run), 5% for drug and alcohol offenses, and 2% for sex offenses.
- The 2012 juvenile felony arrest rate for males (17.0 per 1,000) was nearly five times the rate of females (3.6 per 1,000) in Kern County.
- In 2012, African American and Latino youth together comprised 78% of all juvenile felony arrests in Kern County.
- Among racial/ethnic groups, African American youth are arrested at higher rates than their peers in other groups with a felony arrest rate of 53.9 per 1,000 youth aged 10-17 years.

Additional customizable Kern County and California juvenile arrest rates data are available using Kidsdata.org.



Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate by Offense

Kern County & California, 2012





Child Well-Being

Children, regardless of age, gender or socioeconomic status, are abused and neglected every day in Kern County. The consequences of child maltreatment can be profound and may endure long after the abuse or neglect occurs. The Report Card's Child Well-Being chapter presents the most recent data available on children who came into contact with Kern County's child welfare system due to abuse or neglect.

Key Facts

- In 2013, 17,990 children 49 children each day were reported to Child Protective Services with child abuse and neglect allegations.
- Kern's substantiated child abuse/neglect rate fell for the 5th straight year down 38% from its peak in 2001.
- Child neglect comprised 93% of Kern's total cases of child maltreatment.
- Younger children, particularly infants, were the most vulnerable to abuse and neglect at a rate nearly 3 times the County's overall rate.
- 32 Kern County children died from abuse or neglect between 2009 and 2013.
- Kern's foster youth population has declined by 43% since 2003.

Jump to -

- Child Abuse & Neglect Reports
- Neglect
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Child Abuse & Neglect Stats
- Severe Injury to Children
- Child Near Fatalities

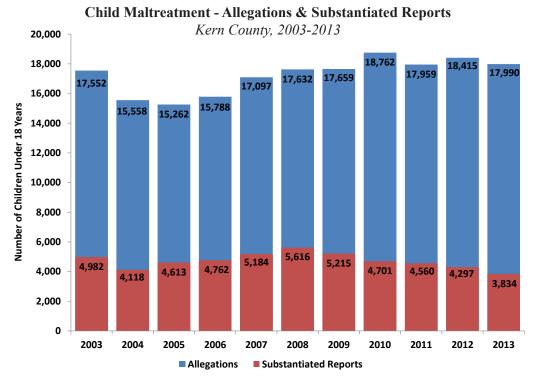
- Child Fatalities
- Children Entering into Foster Care
- Children Served in Foster Care
- Family & Sibling Connections
- Teenagers in Foster Care
- Exiting Foster Care
- Adoption & Guardianships

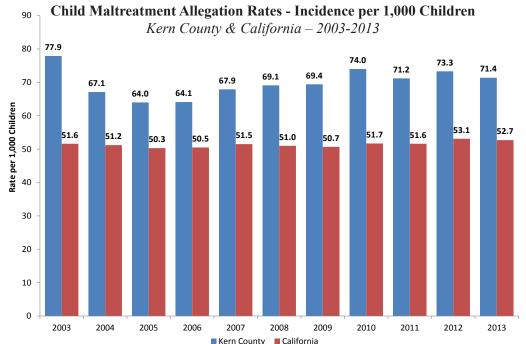


• Contents Page

- During 2013, Kern County CPS received 17,990 reports (allegations) of suspected child abuse or neglect of children -- an average of 49 children per day.
- Of these reports, 3,834
 Kern County children were found to have been victims of abuse and neglect after investigation by CPS--an average of 11 children per day.
- Kern County's referral rate was 71.4 children per 1,000 children in 2013.
 Kern's overall referral rate decreased 2% from the previous year's rate of 72.9 per 1,000 children.
- Kern's substantiated abuse rate declined 11% from 17.1 per 1,000 children in 2012 to 15.2 in 2013, however, this rate remains nearly twice California's child abuse rate of 8.9.
- Child abuse rates per 1,000 children in California counties ranged from 0 to 31.2 in 2013.
- Kern County had the 11th highest substantiated child abuse rate in the state during 2013.
- In 2013, 93% of all child victims of maltreatment in Kern experienced general or severe neglect, meaning a caretaker failed to provide for the child's basic needs.

Child Abuse & Neglect Reports





- Fewer children had allegations for physical abuse (3%), caretaker absence/incapacity (2%), or sexual abuse (1%) substantiated.
- In 2013, 667 infants were the victims of child abuse in Kern County, a rate of 45.1 per 1,000 infants. This rate is about three times higher than Kern's overall rate of substantiated abuse and neglect.
- When compared to other race/ethnic groups, African-American children experienced the highest rate child abuse and neglect in Kern County with 35.2 per 1,000 African-American children.
- Kern County child maltreatment data shows 91% of children for whom there was a substantiated abuse/ neglect allegation did not have another substantiated incident within six months of their first founded report from January 2013 to June 2013.

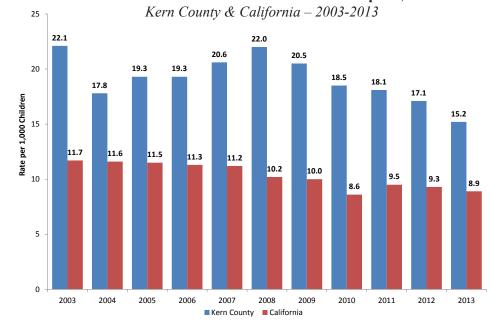
Additional customizable Kern County and California child abuse & neglect data are available using <u>Kidsdata.org</u>.



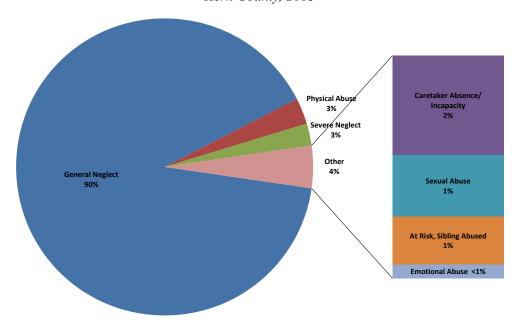


Child Abuse & Neglect Reports cont.

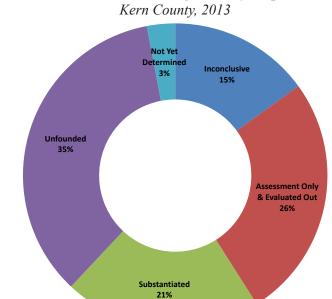
Substantiated Child Maltreatment Rates - Incidence per 1,000 Children



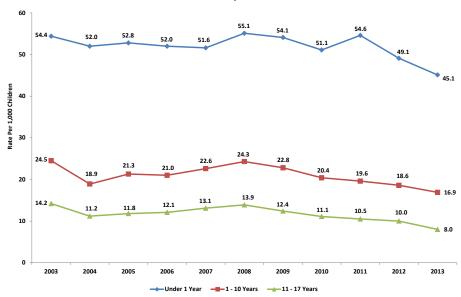
Substantiated Child Abuse & Neglect by Type Kern County, 2013



Child Maltreatment Allegations by Disposition



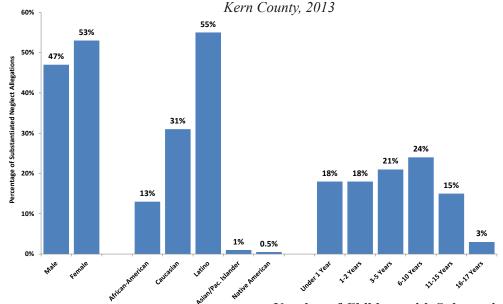
Substantiated Child Abuse by Age - Incidents per 1,000 Children Kern County, 2003-2013



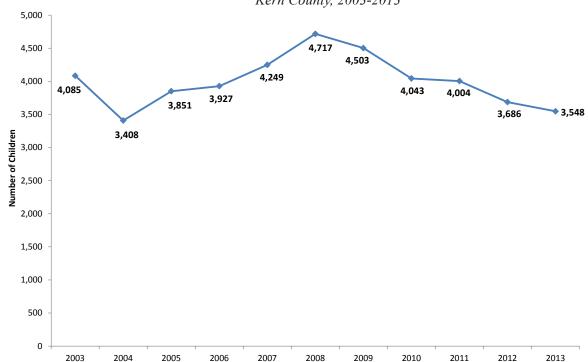




Substantiated Cases of Child Severe & General Neglect by Gender, Race/Ethnicity & Age



Number of Children with Substantiated Cases of Severe & General Neglect Kern County, 2003-2013

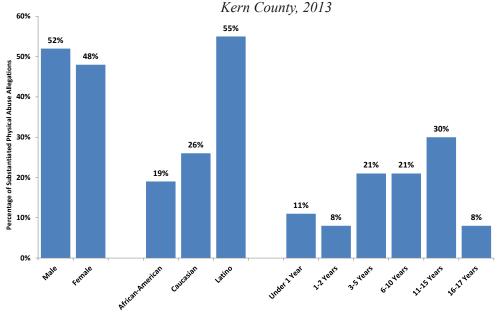


Child neglect is failure to provide for a child's basic physical, emotional, medical or educational needs which threatens the child's health or welfare. General neglect is the negligent failure of a parent/ guardian or caretaker to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or supervision where no physical injury to the child has occurred. Severe neglect refers to those situations of nealect where the child's health is endangered, including severe malnutrition.

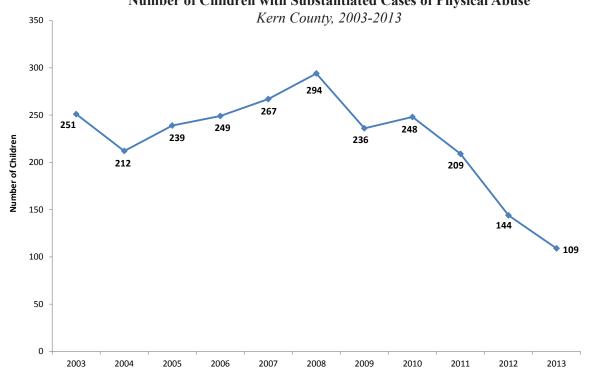
- During 2013, Kern County CPS responded to the allegations of severe and general neglect for 13,402 children to ensure they were safe, 74% of Kern County's total allegations of child maltreatment.
- 3,548 Kern County children were confirmed as cases of neglect upon investigation, a substantiation rate of 26%.
- 604 children were placed into foster care as a result of CPS' investigation of neglect allegations.
- The three largest percentages of substantiated report sources were from such professionals as legal and law enforcement personnel (38%), other mandated reporter professionals (16%) and medical professionals (11%).
- 64% of children placed in foster care due to neglect returned home in less than 12 months during 2013 calendar year.

Physical Abuse

Substantiated Cases of Child Physical Abuse by Gender, Race/Ethnicity & Age



Number of Children with Substantiated Cases of Physical Abuse

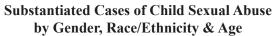


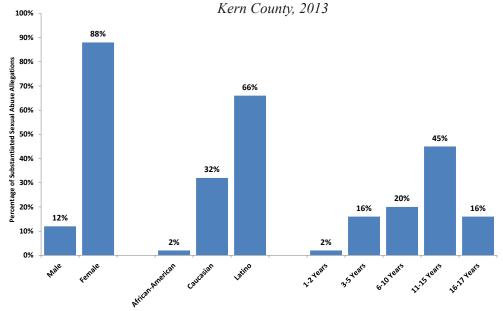
Physical abuse is the injury to a child that is not an accident. This may include: beating, burning, biting, kicking, cutting, shaking, or punching a child.

- During 2013, Kern County CPS responded to the allegations of physical abuse for 1,859 children to ensure they were safe, 10% of Kern County's total allegations of child maltreatment.
- 109 Kern County children were confirmed to be victims of physical abuse upon investigation, a substantiation rate of 5%.
- 31 children were placed into foster care as a result of CPS' investigation of physical abuse allegations.
- The four largest percentages of substantiated report sources were from such professionals as legal and law enforcement personnel (46%), education (30%), medical professionals (7%) and other mandated reporter professionals (7%).
- 68% of children placed in foster care due to physical abuse returned home in less than 12 months during 2013 calendar year.

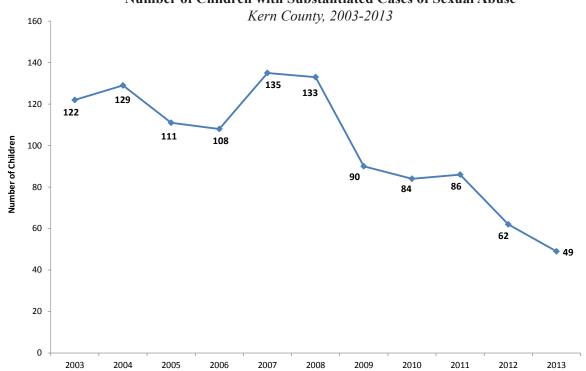


Sexual Abuse





Number of Children with Substantiated Cases of Sexual Abuse



Sexual abuse is any situation where a child is used for sexual gratification. This may include indecent exposure, fondling, rape, or commercial exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.

- During 2013, Kern County CPS responded to the allegations of sexual abuse for 1,026 children to ensure they were safe, 6% of Kern County's total allegations of child maltreatment.
- 49 Kern County children were determined to be victims of sexual abuse, a substantiation rate of 5%.
- 9 children were placed into foster care as a result of CPS' investigation of sexual abuse allegations.
- The four largest percentages of substantiated report sources were from such professionals as legal and law enforcement personnel (46%), school personnel (11%), counselor/therapist (11%) and other mandated reporter professionals (11%).
- 61% of children placed in foster care due to sexual abuse returned home in less than 12 months during 2013 calendar year.



Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics

CPS Referral Rates per 1,000 Children	2011	2012	2013
Kern County	71.2	73.3	71.4
California	51.6	53.1	52.7

Foster Care Rates per 1,000 Children (Entry + Re-Entry)	2011	2012	2013
Kern County	5.1	3.2	3.1
California	3.3	3.4	3.5

Substantiated Child Abuse Rates per 1,000 Children	2011	2012	2013
Kern County	18.1	17.1	15.2
California	9.5	9.3	8.9

Percentage of CPS Referrals Substantiated	2011	2012	2013
Kern County	25.4%	22.2%	21.3%
California	18.4%	16.8%	16.9%

Substantiated Child Abuse Rates per 1,000 Children (2013)	African American	Caucasian	Latino	Asian/ Pac Islander	Native American	All Children
Kern County	35.2	15.5	12.1	2.8	10.8	15.2
California	24.0	7.7	9.3	2.6	19.2	8.9

Substantiated Child Abuse Rates per 1,000 Children (2013)	Under 1	1-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	11-15 yrs	16-17 yrs
Kern County	45.1	23.2	18.8	13.2	9.2	5.2
California	21.8	11.0	10.3	8.4	6.7	4.9

Foster Care Prevalence Rate per 1,000 Children (Children in care on 7/1/13)	African American	Caucasian	Latino	Asian/ Pac Islander	Native American	All Children
Kern County	13.4	7.7	5.2	2.3	5.0	6.1
California	23.5	5.2	5.5	1.3	23.1	5.8

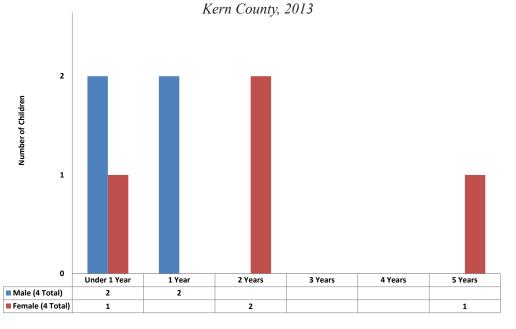
Foster Care Prevalence Rate per 1,000 Children (Children in care on 7/1/13)	Under 1	1-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	11-15 yrs	16-17 yrs
Kern County	8.3	7.3	5.7	5.0	6.2	6.8
California	7.4	7.6	6.1	4.9	5.1	6.7

Foster Care Population (2008-13)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Kern County	2,232	2,107	2,028	1,835	1,810	1,686
California	67,863	61,925	57,331	55,954	55,262	58,699

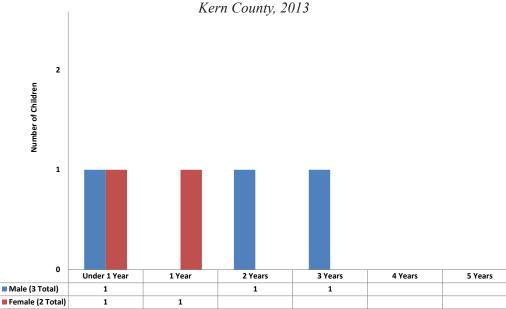
- In 2013, 8 children suffered from severe injuries
 as a result of abuse or neglect. Kern County defines
 severe injury as any injury
 that includes, but is not
 limited to, multiple fractures, amputation of limbs,
 burns requiring hospitalization, severe sexual abuse
 and torture.
- Consistent with state and national trends, very young children are the most vulnerable population to sustain severe injuries. In Kern County, all 8 children who experienced severe injuries from abuse or neglect in 2013 were under the age of six years and averaged 18.6 months in age.
- Seven (7) of the severely injured children were age 2 years or younger (88% of the total children).
- An equal number of boys (50%) and girls (50%) were victims of severe injury from child maltreatment.

Severe Injury To Children Child Near Fatalities

Child Age & Gender of All Reported Severe Injuries From Abuse/Neglect



Child Age & Gender of All Reported Near Fatalities From Abuse/Neglect

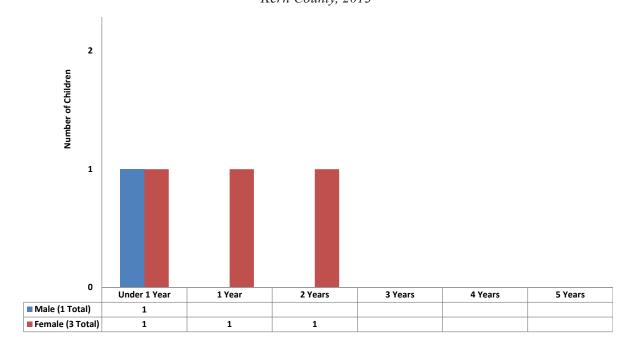


- A near fatality is defined by the state as: a severe childhood injury or condition caused by abuse or neglect which results in the child receiving critical care for at least 24 hours following the child's admission to a critical care unit.
- In 2013, there were 5 near fatalities resultant from abuse or neglect in Kern County.
- All 5 child near fatalities from abuse or neglect in 2013 were under the age of 3 years and averaged 15.2 months in age.
- For near fatalities, the number of incidents involving males (60%) was greater than the number involving females (40%).
- Injuries diagnosed in 5
 child near fatalities due to
 abuse or neglect included:
 Tylenol ingestion, Shaken
 Baby Syndrome, chronic/
 acute bilateral subdural
 hematoma, subdural he matoma, and skull frac ture/severe brain bleed.



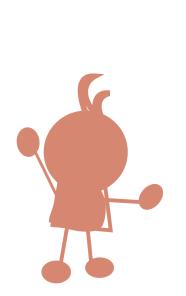
Child Fatalities

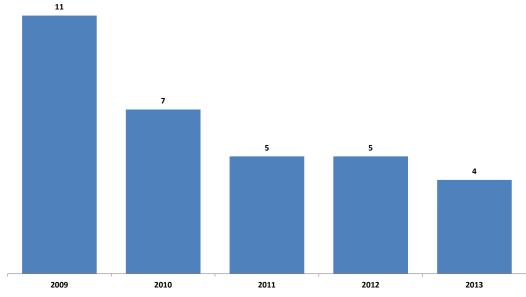
Child Age & Gender of All Reported Fatalities From Abuse/Neglect Kern County, 2013



Number of Child Fatalities Due to Abuse/Neglect

Kern County, 2009-2013



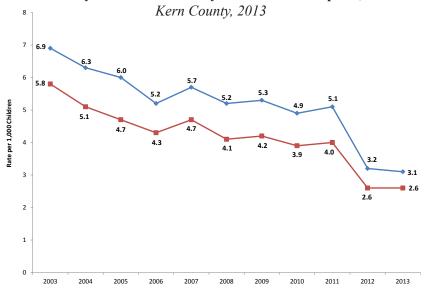


- Between 2009 and 2013, 32 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Kern County.
- In 2013, 4 Kern County children died as a direct result of child abuse or neglect.
- All 4 fatalities were under the age of 3 years, consistent with national and previous county data that found very young children to be most vulnerable.
- In 2013, 3 of the 4 children who died from abuse were female.
- Each of the children died at the hands of those who were entrusted to care for them and keep them safe.
- Blunt force trauma to the head was diagnosed in 2 of the 4 abuse/neglect-related fatalities. The remaining 2 children were killed by blunt force trauma and an unsafe sleeping environment.

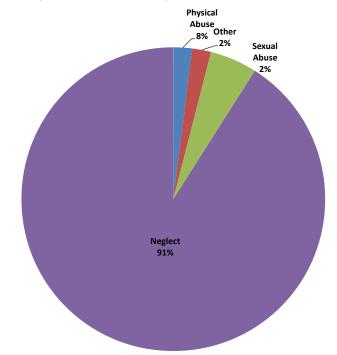
- Of the 3,834 Kern County children with substantiated reports of abuse and neglect during 2013, 790 were removed from their family home and spent at least one day in an out-of home placement in order to ensure their safety (21% of substantiated cases).
- The 2013 rate of foster care placement was 3.1 per 1,000 children compared to California's rate of 3.5 entries per 1,000 children.
- The number of children and youth in foster care continues to decline from a decade peak of 2,971 in 2003 to 1,686 in 2013, a 43% overall decrease.
- During the calendar year 2013, 649 children (82% of all entries) entered foster care for the first time in Kern County.
- Kern County's first time entry rate of children into foster care increased slightly from 2.5 in 2012 to 2.6 per 1,000 children in 2013.

Children Entering into Foster Care Children Served in Foster Care

Foster Care Entry & First Time Entry Rate - Incidence per 1,000 Children



First Time Entry into Foster Care by Removal Reason – Kern County, 2013



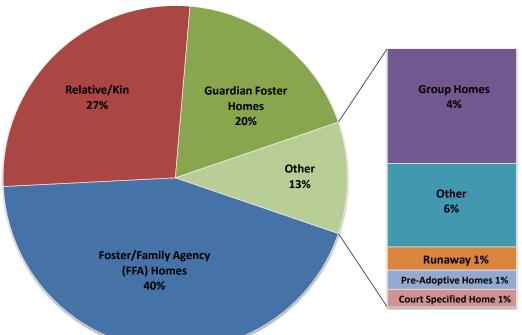
- On July 1, 2013, there
 were 1,686 children in the
 foster care system across
 Kern County, 124 fewer
 children than the previous
 year's count.
- Infants (8.3 per 1,000 infants) and toddlers (7.3 per 1,000 children 1-2 years old) experienced the highest in-care rates in Kern's foster care system.
- In 2013, African-American children (13.4 per 1,000 African-American children) were in foster care at a rate greater than children in any other racial/ethnic group.
- During 2013, 24% of children in the Kern County foster care system experienced more than two placements in less than 12 months.
- Statewide, the placement stability rate was 13% in 2013.

Additional customizable Kern County and California foster care data are available using <u>Kidsdata.org</u>.



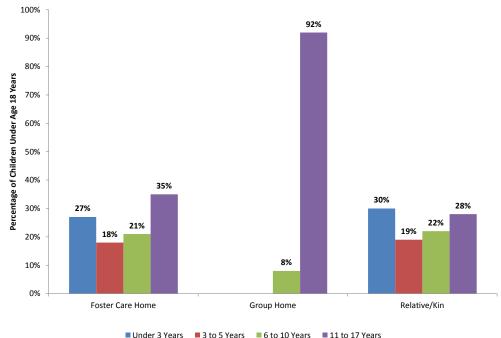
Children Served in Foster Care cont.

Placement Settings for Children in Foster Care – Kern County, July 1, 2013



Selected Foster Care Placement Settings by Age Group – Kern County, 2013





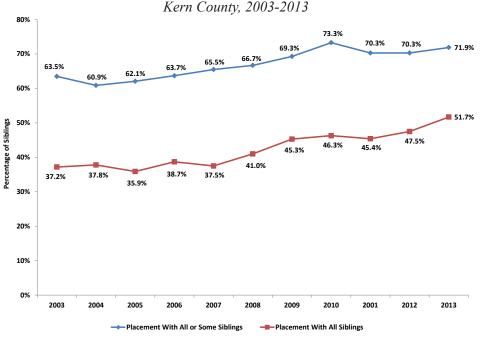
- Whenever possible, sibling units are placed in the same foster home. On July 1, 2013, the share of Kern County's foster youth placed with at least one sibling was 72% in comparison to 73% throughout California.
- Kinship care is the full time care of children by relatives, godparents, step¬parents, or any adult who has a kinship bond with a child. On July 1, 2013, 27% of the Kern County children in outof-home care lived with relatives compared to 36% statewide.
- Among children placed with kin, 50% were between the ages of 0 and 5 years and 56% were Latino.



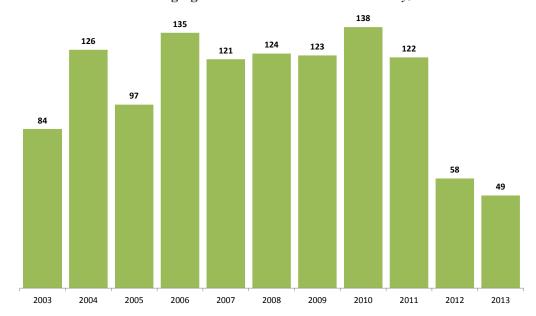


Family & Sibling Connections Teenagers in Foster Care

Percentage of Sibling Groups Placed Together in Foster Care



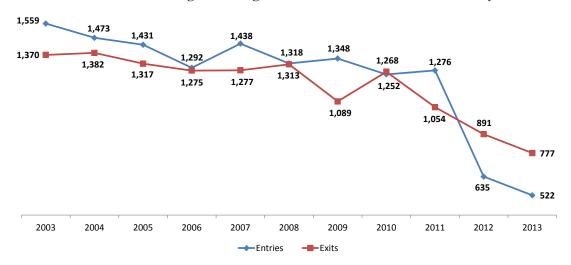
Number of Youth Aging Out of Foster Care – Kern County, 2003 - 2013



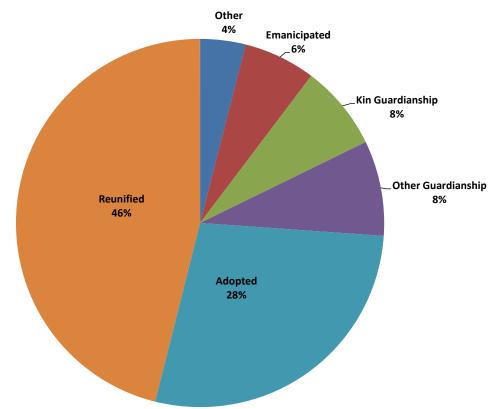
- On July 1, 2013, 447
 youth between the ages of
 13 and 17 lived in foster
 care in Kern County, 27%
 of the county's foster care
 population.
- Teens exiting foster care were reunited with their families in less than a year 50% of the time during 2013.
- Some children remain in foster care until they are 18 or have graduated from high school. In Kern County, 49 youth were either discharged to emancipation or turned 18 while still in foster care in 2013.
- 60% of youth aging out of Kern's foster care system had been in care for three years or longer.
- Assembly Bill 12 (AB 12)
 allows foster youth the
 option to remain in foster
 care and received services
 until age 20 years. On
 July 1, 2013, 150 youth
 between 18 and 20 years
 elected to remain in the
 foster care system.

Exiting Foster Care

Number of Children Entering & Exiting Foster Care Placement – Kern County, 2003-2013



Where Children Went After Exiting Foster Care – Kern County, 2013



- During 2013, 777 children and youth exited foster care in Kern County.
- 60% of Kern's exiting children and youth were reunified with their families in less than 12 months compared to California's reunification rate of 64%.
- The median length of time before Kern County children in foster care were reunified with their families was 9.1 months in 2013.
- Youth between the ages 11 and 15 were the least likely to reunify in 12 months (48%), and infants were the most likely in Kern (100%).
- Children whose first placement type was a foster care home/FFA was most likely to reunify in less than a year (61%) and group homes were the least likely (38%).
- Of the 611 Kern County children discharged from foster care to reunification during 2011, 91% did not return to foster care in less than 12 months from the date of the earliest discharge to reunification, a figure higher than the state rate of 88%.

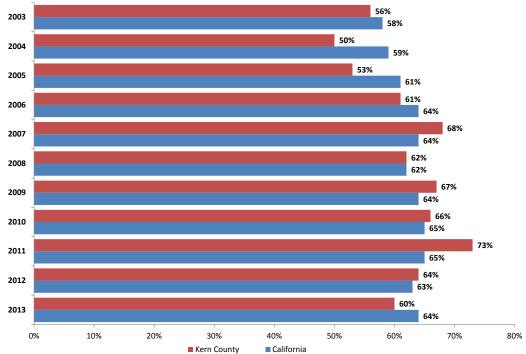
Additional customizable Kern County and California exit from foster care data are available using Kidsdata.org.

51

Exiting Foster Care cont.

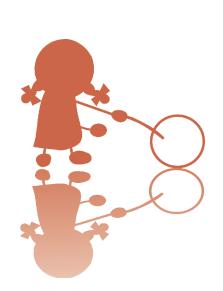
Percentage of Children Who Exited Foster Care to Reunify with Family in Less Than Year

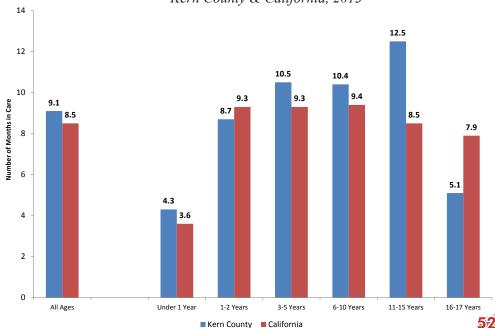
Kern County & California, 2003-2013



Median Length of Time in Foster Care by Age Group

Kern County & California, 2013



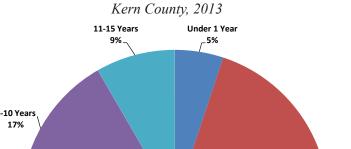


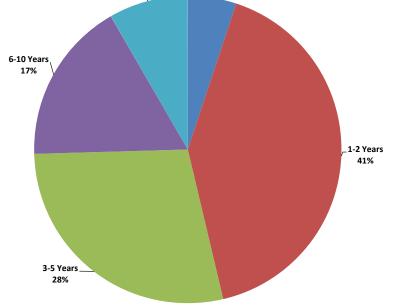
The goal for most foster children is to return to their family, however, sometimes children are not able to return home and need a permanent family through adoption and guardianship.

- During the calendar year 2013, 216 children left foster care in Kern County through adoption.
- 46% of the Kern County children adopted were younger than age 3 when their adoption became final.
- 53% of the finalized adoptions in 2013 were male children.
- · Over half of the children adopted in 2013 were Latino (55%) followed by Caucasian (35%), African-American (9%), and Asian/ Pacific Islander (1%) children.
- · While the length of time to achieve adoption varies by age, the median time to adoption was 24.0 months for children whose adoptions were finalized in Kern County during 2013, an increase from 20.5 months in 2012.

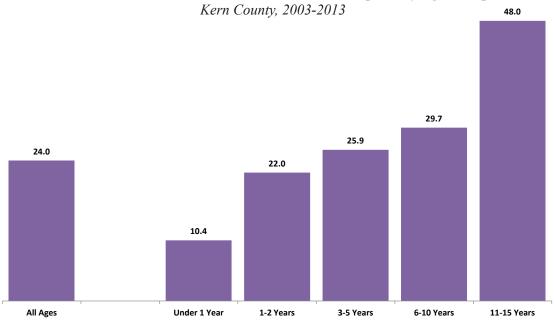
Adoption & Guardianships

Children Exiting Foster Care with Finalized Adoptions by Age Group





Median Number of Months in Foster Care to Adoption by Age Group



When a child cannot be returned home and adoption is not in the child's best interests, then guardianship is considered to be a more permanent plan for a child.

- During 2013, 123 children exited foster care to a guardianship.
- Over half of Kern County guardianships (55%) were for children ages 6 and older in 2013.
- 51% of the Kern County children who left foster care to guardianship were females during 2013.
- Half of the children who exited foster care to guardianship during 2013 were Latino (50%) followed by Caucasian (27%) and African-American (21%) children.

Additional customizable Kern County and California adoption from foster care data are available using Kidsdata.org.





What We Can Do

For many, the maltreatment of children can be very difficult to talk about. It may even be more difficult to acknowledge that children, regardless of age, gender or socioeconomic status, are abused and neglected every day in Kern County.

Abused and neglected children are at increased risk of social and emotional problems, poor peer relationships, academic problems, substance use and dependency, risky behaviors, and even death. As adults, child victims often suffer from persistent

physical and mental health problems, substance abuse, homelessness, suicide, violence and criminal behavior.

Mandated reporters and other concerned adults often refer potentially dangerous situations to <u>Child Protective Services</u> (CPS) for investigation. While the number of reports to CPS can indicate about how many children in the county are potentially at risk of abuse and neglect, referral rates also demonstrate the willingness of community members to report events where children may be in danger. By working together as a community, we all can play a part in strengthening families and preventing child abuse and neglect.

Jump to -

- Ways to Get Involved
- Child Abuse in Public Places
- Kern Cares
 - Kern County Network for Children

• Contents Page



Ways to Get Involved

Despite the availability of child abuse prevention services, the reality is that some families will not use them in time. The prevention of child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility. We all can do small things every day that help children have healthy, safe lives. Anything you do to support children and parents can help reduce the stress that often leads to abuse and neglect. Below are ways you can get involved.

Know What Child Abuse Is, and What the Signs Are

Physical and sexual abuse clearly constitutes maltreatment, but so does neglect-- the failure of parents or others to provide food, clothing and care. Children can also be emotionally abused when they are rejected, berated or continuously isolated. In addition to unexplained injuries, depression, fear of a certain adult, difficulty trusting others or making friends, sudden changes in eating or sleeping patterns, inappropriate sexual behavior, poor hygiene, secrecy and hostility are often signs.

Learn more about becoming a resource to your family, friends and co-workers about what is child abuse/neglect and how to report with the <u>California Online Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training</u>.

Report Abuse

If you witness a child being harmed, if a child tells you about abuse, or if you merely suspect abuse, report it to Kern County Child Protective Services hotline at (661) 631-6011—and keep reporting it—until something is done.

When you report suspected child abuse or neglect, please provide as much information as possible with regard to the situation: child's name, parent's name, address, phone number and the reason why you are concerned. You do not have to give your name, but it helps Child Protective Services if they have further questions. If you do give Child Protective Services your name, your identity is kept strictly confidential.

Encourage Help

If you know a family that is experiencing stress and is in need of food, financial aid, utility assistance, housing, counseling, parent education, child care, clothing, etc., encourage them to call 2-1-1, <u>Kern's comprehensive information and referral service</u>, visit a <u>Family Resource Center</u> located closest to them in their community or share the <u>Department of Human Services Resource Guide</u> with them.

Support Prevention Efforts

Share your time and concern by volunteering with child and family service agencies and organizations throughout Kern County. Mentor a teen mom, become a foster parent, volunteer as a <u>CASA Advocate</u>, donate items to a <u>Family Resource Center</u> or Differential Response program for children and families in need, or organize a donation drive at your workplace, school or place of worship for children and youth who have experienced abuse and receive helping services at the <u>Dream Center</u> and/or <u>Jamison Center</u>.

Child Abuse in Public Places

Whether you are at a doctor's office or in a shopping mall, you may witness parenting situations that make you uncomfortable. One of the main reasons for inappropriate parenting behavior is because a parent's expectations for their child are beyond the child's development level. Stress and lack of effective disciple methods are also possible causes.

You can play an active role in ending child abuse. The key is speaking up. When you see or suspect child abuse, don't look the other way. If an adult is losing patience with a child, intervene, but keep it positive. Intervening in the situation will help to deescalate the situation for the child and the parent may realize that their behavior is not appropriate.

Start a conversation with the adult to direct attention away from the child.

- "My child sometimes gets upset like that too."
- "Children can really wear you out sometimes. Is there anything I can do to help?"
- "Kids at that age have so much energy and can really run fast. Sometimes it is hard to keep up with them."

Divert the child's attention by talking to the child.

- "I like your t-shirt. Did you get that on vacation?"
- That's a great baseball cap. Are you a Dodger's fan?"

Look for an opportunity to praise the parent or child.

- "She has the most beautiful eyes."
- "That is a very nice shirt your little boy has on. Where did you get it?"
- "Your child is very cute. How old is she?"

If the child is in danger, offer assistance.

• If the child is left unattended in a grocery cart, stand near the child until the parent returns.

Avoid negative remarks or looks. Negative reactions are likely to increase a parent's stress or anger and could make the situation worse for the child.

To learn more, please visit the Kern Cares website.

Taken from <u>Blue Ribbons For Kids</u>.



Kern Cares

The prevention of child abuse and neglect requires the involvement of the entire community -- it can be a matter of life or death. Kern Cares is devoted to preventing child abuse and neglect by building communities that are committed to families and to the support and services they need to raise strong, healthy, and successful children. And that begins with awareness.

Formed in 2010, the Kern Cares Children's Advocacy Committee is a group of private business, faith-based, non-profit, education and public service organizations that help guide Kern Cares outreach and education efforts. The Committee utilizes child death and safety data, and community needs information to develop Kern Cares' annual calendar of prevention campaigns to address what each of us can do to prevent child abuse and neglect and promote child safety.



Committee Members

Heidi Carter-Escudero Outreach & Communications, Department of Human Services

Tom Corson Executive Director, Kern County Network for Children

Leslie A. Golich
Director of Hospital and Healthplan Operations, Kaiser Permanente

Martha Gómez Administrative Assistant, Kern County Network for Children

Carrie Kunzmann Pastoral Assistant of Community Transformation, The Bridge Bible Church

Vanessa Lam Kern County Public Health Department

Brian J. Mendiburu Assistant Principal, Instruction, Bakersfield High School

Shirelle Perez Program Facilitator II, Community Connection for Child Care

Kim Silva Research Associate, Kern County Network for Children

Eric Simpson
Pastor of Community Transformation, The Bridge Bible Church

Kristin N. Weber Public Affairs Department, Kaiser Permanente

Barbara Zimmermann Executive Coordinator, Department of Human Services

Information about child abuse and neglect, how to report suspected abuse and community resources can be found at the <u>Kern Cares website</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>.

Kern County Network for Children (KCNC)

KCNC programs and initiatives serve to improve child safety outcomes for Kern County children and families by administering supportive services to families most at-risk of experiencing child abuse and neglect; providing child abuse prevention education and awareness services; improving coordination and cooperation among family serving agencies; and implementing collaborative programs, public and private, to better meet the most critical needs of Kern County's children and families.

We believe in:

- Personal responsibility and family self-sufficiency as the cornerstones of resilient, stable communities;
- Grassroots solutions to local problems;
- Empowering local residents to address common concerns;
- Locally-based, accessible services;
- Program accountability and delivery of cost-effective services.

Our primary roles:

- Kern's Child Abuse Prevention Council
- Kern's Coordinating Council for Child and Family Services
- Planning, administrative and oversight body for child abuse prevention and neglect services.

As Kern County's Child Abuse Prevention Council, KCNC takes its commitment to improving lives seriously and believes in the power of collaboration as the most effective way to support families and provide children with positive, nurturing environments.

The Network, in partnership with government leaders, local community collaboratives, nonprofit agencies, organizations, businesses and concerned individuals, administers the following services throughout Kern County:

Kern County Differential Response

www.kcnc.org/regionalDR

A research-based strategy that expands Child Protective Services' ability to respond differently to suspected reports of child abuse/neglect by assisting families at first signs of trouble with county-wide case management services.

Parental Education & Time Limited Reunification www.kcnc.org/tlfr

Specialized parent education, case management, counseling and other supportive services for families who have experienced child abuse or neglect to learn how to effectively parent their children and stop the horrible cycle of abuse and neglect.

Kern Cares

www.kerncares.org

The Kern County Child Abuse Prevention Council's annual child well-being calendar based upon community child death and safety data that address what each of us can do to prevent child abuse and neglect and promote child safety. Information about child abuse and neglect, how to report suspected abuse and community resources can be found at www.kerncares.org.

Kern County Network for Children (KCNC) cont.

The Dream Center

kcsos.kern.org/dreamcenter

A one-stop resource center that provides independent living, mentoring, social/educational services and job assistance for Kern's current, transitioning and emancipated foster youth.

Kern County Report Card

www.kcnc.org/reportcard

Annual publication of more than 140 child well-being data indicators that tracks the quality of life among Kern County children, with a focus on child abuse and neglect. This interactive tool builds awareness in community of critical issues and provides data to local service providers to focus their strategies build collaboration and develop funding.

KCNC's Annual Leadership Development Program www.kcnc.org/leadership

A 6-month program to help those already in leadership positions in their neighborhoods or organizations gain useful leadership skills in the areas of community awareness, group, personal and self-image skills. The recognized program has graduated nearly 600 community members since 1998.

Community Discussion Forums & Quality Trainings

KCNC invites community partners and concerned individuals can take part in our regular monthly forums including the General Collaborative, Group Home Coalition, Foster Youth Advisory Board and Domestic Violence Advisory Committee to network, foster best practices, raise awareness and share information on behalf of children and families. KCNC helps partner agencies and family support programs increase their capacity to serve children and families with technical assistance, contract administration, evaluation services and high quality community trainings in the areas of child safety, Mandated Reporting, and issues that Kern communities and families face.



Community Collaboratives

Since 1992, Kern County communities have partnered together as <u>Community Collaboratives</u> to better care for children and families. Nineteen of these partnerships have completed an in-depth application process and review by Kern County Network for Children and have been designated Accredited Community Collaboratives. Most Community Collaboratives host a Family Resource Center (FRC) or Community Resource Center (CRC). The following list can be used to refer individuals or families to needed services within their own community.

Accredited Community Collaboratives
Arvin
Bakersfield
East Bakersfield Community Collaborative and CRC
Greenfield H.E.L.P.S. Collaborative and FRC
South Chester Collaborative and FRC
Southeast Neighborhood Partnership and FRC
Buttonwillow
Frazier Park Area
Lake Isabella Area
Lamont/Weedpatch
Lost Hills
McFarland
Mojave Area
Ridgecrest Area
Shafter
Taft Area
Wasco
Kern County
Richardson Special Needs Collaborative and FRC
Other Community Collaboratives
Bakersfield
Delano

2014 KCNC Governing Board

Tammy Burns

Early Childhood Council of Kern

Dr. Don Carter

Kern High School District

Morgan Clayton

Tel-Tec Security

Matt Constantine

Kern County Department of Public Health

Dr. Christine Lizardi Frazier

Kern County Superintendent of Schools

Louis Gill

Bakersfield Homeless Center/Alliance Against Family Violence

Supervisor Mick Gleason

Kern County Board of Supervisors

Leslie Golich

Kaiser Permanente

Della D. Hodson

United Way of Kern County

Deborah Johnson

California Veterans Assistance Foundation

Chief David M. Kuge

Kern County Probation Department

Roland Maier

First 5 Kern

Maqda Menendez

Mexican American Opportunity Foundation

Konrad Moore

Kern County Public Defender

Dena Murphy

Kern County Department of Human Services

John Nilon

Kern County Administrative Office

Stephen Pelz

Housing Authority of the County of Kern

Bill Phelps

Clinica Sierra Vista

Eric Simpson

The Bridge Bible Church

Judge Louie Vega

Kern County Juvenile Justice Center

Chief Greg Williamson

Bakersfield Police Department

Sheriff Donny Youngblood

Kern County Sheriff's Department

Thomas J. Corson

Executive Director, Kern County Network for Children

Theresa Goldner

KCNC Legal Counsel, Office of Kern County Counsel

2014 Data Sources



Children and Family	Children and Family					
Indicator	Page Number	Data Source	Data Location			
County and State Population	2	California Department of Finance	http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates			
Child Population and Race/ Ethnicity	2	Center for Social Services Research, UC Berkeley	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Population.aspx			
Child Population Projections	2	California Department of Finance	http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates			
Foreign-Born Children	2	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml			
Family Structure	3	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml			
Children in Families	3	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml			
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	3	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml			
Foreign Born Parents	3	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml			



Family Economics			
Indicator	Page Number	Data Source	Data Location
Self-Sufficiency Standard	5	Kidsdata.org	http://www.Kidsdata.org/data/topic/table/self-sufficiency-standard.aspx?loc=362
Family Median Income with Children	5	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Median Income by Family	5	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Child Support	5	Kern County Child Support Services	Data obtained through special request
Children in Households Receiving Public Assistance	5	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Children with All Parents in Workforce	6	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Child Care Supply and Demand	6	California Resource & Referral Network	http://my.rrnetwork.org/site/DocServer/Kern_County.pdf?docID=980
Child Care Cost	6	California Resource & Referral Network	http://my.rrnetwork.org/site/DocServer/Kern_County.pdf?docID=980

Unemployment	7	California Employment Development Department	http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/Content.asp?pageid=1006
Children Living in Households Without Secure Parental Employment	7	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/761/secure-employment65/table#fmt=1163&tf=67
Poverty Level	8	U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/11poverty.shtml
Child Poverty Demographics	8	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Family Poverty	8	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Household Poverty by Educational Level	8	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Occupied Housing Units	10	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Children Living in Housing Units	10	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Home Value	10	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Median Gross Rent	10	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Income Spent on Housing	10	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Fair Market Rent	10	HUD User, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development	http://www.huduser.org
Housing Wage	10	National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)	http://www.nlihc.org
Children Living in Crowded Housing	10	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/721/crowded-housing65/table#fmt=1022&tf=67
Food Insecurity	11	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/764/food-insecurity/ table#fmt=1168&tf=64
CalFresh Enrollment	11	California Department of Social Services	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/research/default.htm
Free/Reduced School Meal Enrollment	11	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Profile&submit1=Submit



K-12 Education			
Indicator	Page Number	Data Source	Data Location
Public School Enrollment	13	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Enrollment&submit1=Submit
Public School Student Demographics	13	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Enrollment&submit1=Submit
Average Classroom Size	13	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Profile&submit1=Submit
Student-Teacher Ratio	13	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Profile&submit1=Submit
English Learners	13	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=LC&submit1=Submit
Special Education	13	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=SpecEd&submit1=Submit
School Connectedness	13	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?TheYear=&c- Topic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&cTime- Frame=S
CAHSEE High School Exit Exam	13, 16	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=ExitExam&submit1=Submit
Graduation Rates	13, 16	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Graduates&submit1=Submit
High School Drop Out Rate	13, 16	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Graduates&submit1=Submit
Graduates with CSU/UC Requirements	14, 16	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=Graduates&submit1=Submit
California Standards Test (CST) Scores	15	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=STAR&submit1=Submit
Youth Not in School and Not Working	16	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/11_1YR/S0902/01 00000US 0400000US06 0500000US06029
12th Grade SAT Participation	16	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=SAT&submit1=Submit
Education Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over	16	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Median Earnings by Educational Attainment	18	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment	18	US Census, American Community Survey	http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml



Child and Adolescent Hea	Child and Adolescent Health					
Indicator	Page Number	Data Source	Data Location			
Prenatal Care	20, 23	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/312/prenatalcare/table#fmt=94&tf=67			
Births	20, 23	California Department of Public Health, Vital Statistics Query System	http://www.apps.cdph.ca.gov/vsq/default.asp			
Preterm Births	20, 23	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/560/pretermbirths/table#fmt=753&tf=67			
Low Birthweight Infants	20, 23	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/301/lowbirthweight/table#fmt=91&tf=67			
Safely Surrendered Babies	20	Kern County Department of Human Services	Data obtained through special request			
Infant Mortality	20, 23	California Department of Public Health, Vital Statistics Query System & Kidsdata.org	http://www.apps.cdph.ca.gov/vsq/default.asp, http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/54/infant-mortality/summary			
Sleep-Related Infant Deaths	20	Kern County Child Death Review Team	Data obtained through special request			
Breastfeeding	20	California Department of Health Care Services	http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/BreastfeedingStatistics.aspx			
Immunizations	22	Immunization Branch, California Department of Health Services	http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/ImmunizationLevels.aspx			
Student Body Composition	22, 23	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=STAR&submit1=Submit			
Student Physical Fitness	22	California Department of Education – DataQuest	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/page2. asp?level=County&subject=STAR&submit1=Submit			
Asthma	22	Environmental Health Investigation Branch, California Health Interview Survey	http://www.ehib.org, http://www.chis.ucla.edu			
Oral Health Care	22	California Health Interview Survey	http://www.chis.ucla.edu			
Health Care Insurance	22	California Health Interview Survey	http://www.chis.ucla.edu			
Births to Teen Mothers and Birth Rate	23, 24, 25	California Department of Public Health, Vital Statistics Query System & Kidsdata.org	http://www.apps.cdph.ca.gov/vsq/default.asp, http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/60/teen-births/summary			
Chlamydia Infection	23, 24	California Department of Public Health, STD Control Branch	http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/STDData.aspx			
Depression	24	California Health Interview Survey	http://www.chis.ucla.edu			
Suicide	24	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	EpiCenter CA Injury Data Online - http://epicenter.cdph.ca.gov/			
Alcohol, Tobacco and Substance Use	26	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?TheYear=&cTo-pic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&cTimeFrame=S			



Child and Community Sa	Child and Community Safety					
Indicator	Page Number	Data Source	Data Location			
Unintentional Childhood Injuries and Deaths (Falls, Fire/Burn, Motor Vehicle, Assault/Homicide, Bicycle, Pedestrian Traffic, Drowning)	29-32	EPICenter California Injury Data Online	http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/epicdata/			
Child Deaths	32	Kern County Child Death Review Team	Data obtained through special request			
Feel Safe at School	33	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?TheYear=&c- Topic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&cTime- Frame=S			
Bullying/Harassment	33	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?TheYear=&c- Topic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&cTime- Frame=S			
Youth Gang Membership	33, 34	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?The-Year=&c-Topic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&c-Time-Frame=S			
Violence-Related Behavior on School Property	34	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?The- Year=&c-Topic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&c- Time-Frame=S			
Firearm Injuries and Deaths	35	EPICenter California Injury Data Online	http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/epicdata/			
Missing Children	36	Missing Persons, California Office of the Attorney General	http://ag.ca.gov/missing/stats.php			
Dating Violence	37	California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-11	http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/HKids/HKSearchName.asp?TheYear=&c- Topic=HKids&cLevel=County&cName=&cCounty=15,KERN&cTime- Frame=S			
Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance	37	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/12/domesticviolence-rate/ table#fmt=1097&tf=67			
Juvenile Felony Arrests, Ages 10-17	37	Kidsdata.org	http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/165/juvenilearrest-rate/ table#fmt=1098&tf=67			



Child Well-Being				
Indicator	Page Number	Data Source	Data Location	
Referred and Substantiated Child Abuse/Neglect Allegations	40, 41, 45	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/RefRates.aspx	
Allegation Demographics & Disposition	40, 41, 45	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Allegations.aspx	
Recurrence of Allegations	40	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/S1M1.aspx	
Neglect	42	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Allegations.aspx	
Physical Abuse	43	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Allegations.aspx	
Sexual Abuse	44	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Allegations.aspx	
Foster Care Prevalence Rate and Demographics	45	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/InCareRates.aspx	
Foster Youth Population	45, 48	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/PIT.aspx	
In-Care Rates	45	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/InCareRates.aspx	
Foster Care Entry Rate and Demographics	45, 48	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/EntryRates.aspx	
Severe Injury, Near Fatality and Fatality Due to Abuse/ Neglect	46, 47	Kern County Department of Human Services	Data obtained through special request	
Foster Care Placement	48, 49	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/PIT.aspx	

2014 Data Sources cont.

Family and Sibling Connections	50	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/siblings.aspx
Teenagers in Foster Care	50	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/PIT.aspx, http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Exits.aspx
Reunification	51, 52	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/C1M1.aspx
Foster Care Exits	51	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Exits.aspx
Median Time to Reunification	51, 52	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/C1M2.aspx
Re-Entry After Reunification	51	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/C1M4.aspx
Adoptions	53	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/C2M2.aspx, http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Exits.aspx
Guardianship	53	Center for Social Services Research, University of California Berkeley, Quarter 4, 2012	http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Exits.aspx