



The State of the Berks County Child

County-level facts on child well-being

Census 2000

July 2003

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Find extensive data by legislative district at www.papartnerships.org/kc/

Demographics and Diversity

The impact of child well-being

On this page: Child population, households, children’s race and origin, and English proficiency.

- Community resources devoted to child well-being and family stability can create a blanket of support for children’s health, education, and security.
- Racial and ethnic diversity has grown in Pennsylvania. Nationally, diversity is projected to keep growing in the coming decades.
- Children who lack English proficiency can be separated from teachers and classroom activities and fall short on academic achievement tests. As adults, they face greater challenges in the labor market.

	—Berks County—		—Pennsylvania—	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Demographics				
Total Population	373,638	—	12,281,054	—
• Population under age 18	91,909	100.0%	2,922,221	100.0%
• Children ages 5 to 17	68,877	74.9%	2,194,417	75.1%
• Children under age 5	23,032	25.1%	727,804	24.9%
Total Households	141,570	—	4,777,003	—
Total Households with persons under age 18	48,610	34.3%	1,559,281	32.6%
Race & Origin				
For children under age 18				
• White Alone	74,697	81.3%	2,342,083	80.1%
• Black Alone	4,700	5.1%	380,123	13.0%
• Asian Alone	1,033	1.1%	55,135	1.9%
• American Indian or Alaska Native Alone	190	0.2%	5,093	0.2%
• Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Alone	22	0.0%	899	0.0%
• Some Other Race Alone	8,396	9.1%	73,080	2.5%
• Two or More Races	2,871	3.1%	65,808	2.3%
• Hispanic Origin	15,246	16.6%	148,664	5.1%
English Proficiency				
• Children ages 5 to 17 who speak English less than very well	3,091	4.5%	63,638	2.9%
• Children ages 5 to 17 who are linguistically isolated.	2,321	3.4%	39,204	1.8%

All data, U.S. Census of Population and Housing. Published by Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children, a strong, effective and trusted voice to improve the health, early education, and well-being of the Commonwealth’s children, 1-800-257-2030; www.papartnerships.org. See www.papartnerships.org for research citations. Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.aecf.org.