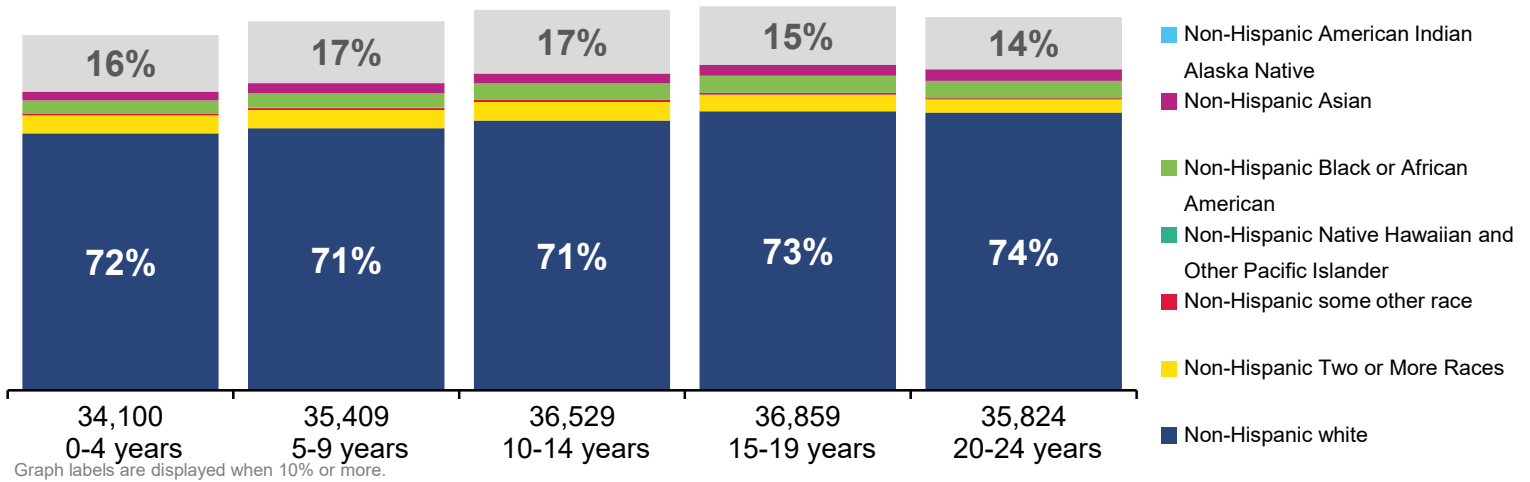


# 2026 STATE OF THE CHILD - LANCASTER

## Population Diversity (2020 Census)



**23%**  
of the county's population is  
**CHILDREN**

**127,670**  
citizens are  
**CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS**

**51,051**  
citizens are  
**18-24 YEARS**

## Children Living in Poverty (<100% FPL)



**1 IN 10** (13,200)  
**CHILDREN**  
under 18 live in **POVERTY**

**30%**  
**CHILDREN**  
under 18 are **LOW-INCOME** (<200%)

**10%**  
**YOUNG ADULTS**  
18-24 live in **POVERTY**

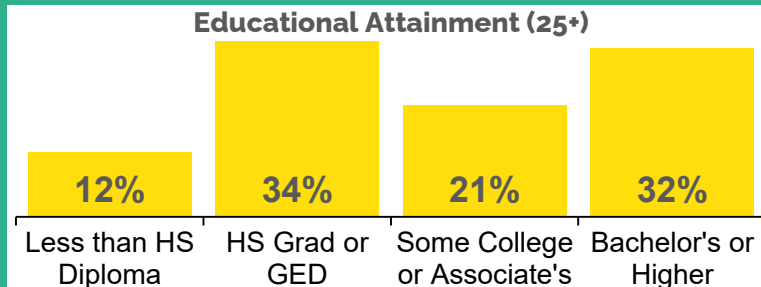
**1 IN 4** (10,440)  
**YOUNG ADULTS**  
18-24 are **LOW-INCOME**

**Households with Children**  
**30%**

**Median Income of Households with Children**  
MARRIED COUPLE \$125,200  
SINGLE FATHER \$63,400  
SINGLE MOTHER \$38,200

**Unemployment Rate**  
**3.4%**

**Children Experiencing Homelessness**  
**3,164**  
**Children Under 6 with All Caregivers in Labor Force**  
**56%**



**Children in Households Receiving Public Assistance**  
**19%**  
**Households with High Housing Cost Burden**  
**26%**

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

**BLACK CHILDREN AND HISPANIC CHILDREN** have disproportionately higher rates of CPS referrals, including substantiations and valid GPS allegations

Top CPS substantiated report allegation(s):  
**SEXUAL ABUSE**

Top valid GPS report concern(s):  
**CAREGIVER SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

**2 IN 3**  
GPS reports screened-out

**16%**  
of assessed GPS reports were valid

## EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

**1,648**  
children enrolled in publicly funded, high-quality pre-k; yet  
**5,622**  
eligible children remain unserved

**562**  
more educators are needed to serve all eligible pre-k children

**82%**  
of infants and toddlers eligible for the subsidized Child Care Works program remain unserved

**62%**  
of children under age 5 in Child Care Works are in high-quality care

**61%**  
of child care licensed capacity for children under 5 is high-quality

## HOME VISITING

**6,478**  
families are most likely to benefit from evidence-based home visiting services

**590**  
families receive evidence-based home visiting services

Evidence-based home visiting models in this county receiving state funds:

- ✓ Child First
- ✓ Family Check-Up®
- ✓ Healthy Families America
- ✓ Nurse-Family Partnership
- ✓ Parents as Teachers
- ✓ Safecare Augmented®
- ✓ Early Head Start
- ✓ Family Connects

**41**  
members served in the Medical Assistance Maternal Home Visiting Program

## K-12 EDUCATION

More than  
**67,260**  
enrolled students in  
**18** school district(s) within the county

**49%**  
of school district students are economically disadvantaged

**50%**  
of 3rd graders score proficient or advanced in English Language Arts as measured by the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA)

**49%**  
of 8th graders score proficient or advanced in math as measured by the PSSA

**3,258**  
students enrolled in career and technical education

## PERINATAL AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

**16%**  
of children under 19 have no health insurance

**41%**  
of all children in the county are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage

**1,605**  
children in the county enrolled in health coverage through Pennie™, the state's health insurance marketplace

**1,758**  
infants and toddlers receive services through Early Intervention Part C

**47%**  
of eligible infants, young children and women participate in the Pennsylvania WIC program

Definitions and data sources can be found at [papartnerships.org/report/state-of-the-child-2026](https://papartnerships.org/report/state-of-the-child-2026)