

DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

Overall rank allows for the comparison of overall child well-being levels across counties from the best (1) to the worst (120). Overall rank for each county was derived using the following method. First, the county numerical values for each indicator were converted into standard scores. Standard scores were calculated by subtracting the mean score from the observed score and dividing the amount by the standard deviation for that distribution of scores. The standard scores were then summed to get a total overall standard score for each county. Finally, the counties were ranked by their total overall standard score in sequential order from best to worst. Each indicator was given the same weight in calculating the total overall standard score.

Economic Security

Children in poverty is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty line. A family's poverty status is determined using inflation-adjusted income and household size. For example, the poverty threshold in 2014 for a family with two adults and two children was \$24,008. The report does not determine the poverty status of children living in group quarters or of children under the age of 15 who are living with unrelated caregivers, such as children in foster care. The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey response. **SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates, Table S1701. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

Children living in high-poverty areas is calculated by determining the percentage of children under age 18 who live in census tracts in which 20 percent or more of the population have incomes below the poverty line. Poverty status is determined by using the inflation-adjusted income

and household size. For example, the poverty threshold in 2014 for a family with two adults and two children was \$24,008. The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey response. **SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates, Tables B01001 and S1701. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

Median family income among households with children looks not at the average of all incomes, but at the point on a continuum of incomes at which half of all households earn more than the amount, and half of all households earn less. For the purposes of this report, only the incomes of families with their own children under age 18 living at home are considered. "Own children" refers to a householder's children by birth, marriage, or adoption. The data reflect 2014 inflation-adjusted dollars. **SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates, Table B19125. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

High rental cost burden is the estimated percentage of renter occupied housing units in which 30 percent or more of monthly household income was spent on gross rent (the cost of rent and utilities). **SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates, Table DP04. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

Education

Kindergarteners not ready to learn is the percentage of all screened incoming public school kindergarteners who do not meet readiness-to-learn standards. The standards include adaptive, cognitive, motor, communication, and social-emotional skills. The Kentucky Department of Education chose the BRIGANCE Kindergarten Screen as its school-readiness screener. However, BRIGANCE scores are not used to determine school eligibility; all Kentucky children who meet the legal age requirement are entitled to enter

public school. Data were aggregated for counties with more than one public school district in order to derive a comprehensive countywide percentage. West Point Independent was not included in the calculation for Hardin County due to the suppression of the district's data by the source. **SOURCE: Kentucky Department of Education, School Year 2015-2016. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

Fourth graders not proficient in reading is the percentage of tested public school fourth graders, for whom the district is accountable, who did not earn a score of "proficient" or "distinguished" on the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) reading test. The assessment for fourth grade consists of multiple-choice, extended-response, and short answer items. Data were aggregated for counties with more than one public school district in order to derive a comprehensive countywide percentage. **SOURCE: Kentucky Department of Education, School Year 2015-2016, School Report Card: Accountability. Processed on 10/3/2016.**

Eighth graders not proficient in math is the percentage of tested public school eighth graders, for whom the district is accountable, who did not earn a score "proficient" or "distinguished" on the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) math test. The assessment for eighth grade consists of multiple-choice, extended-response, and short answer items. Data were aggregated for counties with more than one public school district in order to derive a comprehensive countywide percentage. Southgate Independent was not included in the calculation for Campbell County and West Point Independent was not included in the calculation for Hardin County due to the suppression of the districts' data by the source. **SOURCE: Kentucky Department of Education, School Year 2015-2016, School Report Card: Accountability. Processed on 10/3/2016.**

High school students not graduating on time is the percentage of high school students who did not graduate within four years. The percentage is derived using the four-year cohort method, which tracks students over a four-year period and controls for student population changes within the cohort. Data were aggregated for counties with more than one public school district in order to derive a comprehensive countywide percentage. **SOURCE: Kentucky Department of Education, School Year 2015-2016. Processed on 9/30/2016.**

Health

Smoking during pregnancy is the percentage of births to mothers who reported smoking at any point during pregnancy. Data were reported by mother's place of residence. When the information for this variable was missing, the case was excluded from the total number of live births. The numerator for the rate calculation is the sum of the 2012, 2013, and 2014 data as of August 31, 2016. **SOURCE: Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Vital Statistics Branch, processed by the Kentucky State Data Center, 2012-2014. Processed on 9/12/2016.**

Low-birthweight babies is the percentage of all infants born weighing less than 5.5 pounds. Data were reported by mother's place of residence. When the information for this variable was missing, the case was excluded from the total number of live births. The numerator for the rate calculation is the sum of the 2012, 2013, and 2014 data as of August 31, 2016. **SOURCE: Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Vital Statistics Branch, processed by the Kentucky State Data Center, 2012-2014. Processed on 9/12/2016.**

Children and young adults without health insurance is the percentage of children and young adults under age 26 not

covered by any health insurance. The data represent health insurance coverage at the time of the survey; interviews are conducted throughout the year. **SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates, Table S2701. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

Teen births is the number of births to teenagers between ages 15-19 per 1,000 females in this age group. Data were reported by mother's place of residence. When information for this variable was missing, the case was excluded from the total number of live births. The numerator for the rate calculation is the sum of the 2012, 2013, and 2014 data as of August 31, 2016. **SOURCES: Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Vital Statistics Branch, processed by the Kentucky State Data Center, 2012-2014. Teen population data for rate calculation is from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, 2012-2014 estimates, processed by the Kentucky State Data Center. Processed on 9/12/2016.**

Family and Community

Births to mothers without a high school degree is the percentage of all live births to women with no high school degree or its equivalent. Data were reported by mother's place of residence. When information for this variable was missing, the case was excluded from the total number of live births. The numerator for the rate calculation is the sum of the 2012, 2013, and 2014 data as of August 31, 2016. **SOURCE: Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Vital Statistics Branch, processed by the Kentucky State Data Center, 2012-2014. Processed on 9/12/2016.**

Children in single-parent families is the percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own unmarried parent. Single-parent families may include

cohabiting couples or a parent and child living with another relative. Children living with married stepparents are not considered to be in a single-parent family. **SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates, Table B09002. Processed on 8/23/2016.**

Children in out-of-home care is the number of children under age 18 per 1,000 children in this age group who lived in out-of-home care due to abuse or neglect. Out-of-home care includes placements in licensed foster homes with relatives or unrelated caregivers, or institutional placements such as group homes or residential treatment facilities. Data are collected to reflect the county of the case manager's office, which usually corresponds with the county in which a family is being served. The numerator for the rate calculation is the sum of the 2013, 2014, and 2015 data. **SOURCES: Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Community Based Services, 2013-2015. Child population data for rate calculation is from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, 2014 estimates, processed by Kentucky Youth Advocates. Processed on 9/12/2016.**

Youth incarcerated in the juvenile justice system is the number of children between ages 10-17 per 1,000 children in this age range booked into a secure juvenile detention facility. The numerator for the rate calculation is the sum of the 2013, 2014, and 2015 data. A child may have been booked more than once during those years. **SOURCES: Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services, 2013-2015. Child population data for rate calculation is from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, 2014 estimates, processed by Kentucky Youth Advocates. Processed on 10/3/2016.**