

Making **KIDS COUNT** in the 2019 Legislative Session

House District 24 Rep. Barbara Bessette



POPULATION	District	State
Total population	9,197	1,029,862
Children ages 0-4	609	61,218
Children ages 5-17	1,427	164,940
Median age	39	40



ECONOMIC WELL-BEING	District	State
Median household income (2017\$)	\$44,744	\$50,801
Children in poverty (<100% FPL) [§]	32%	18%
Children ages 0-18 who have public health insurance	47%	38%
Tax return filers who would qualify for a state EITC ^{1§§}	609	76,267



SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION	District	State
Preschool-aged children NOT enrolled in school	47%	60%
Children enrolled in grades K-12	1,452	162,262
Graduation rate, all students ²	N/A	86%
Graduation rate, disabled students ²	N/A	77%



SAFETY	State
High school students texting/emailing while driving ³	54%
High school students talking on a cell phone while driving ³	57%
High school students driving after drinking alcohol ³	8%
Traffic crash fatalities and incapacitating injuries ⁴	917

The best way to ensure that children get ahead is to make sure that they never fall behind.

Sources: Data source is the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Earned Income Tax Credit; Brookings Institution.

² 2018, Montana Office of Public Instruction.

³ 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, OPI; High school students who have engaged in behavior on at least one occasion during the past 30 days.

⁴ 2017, Montana Department of Transportation.

[§] Below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level;

\$20,420 for a family of 3 in 2017.

^{§§} Tax return filers who currently qualify for the federal EITC.

** Rate withheld due to low count.



www.montanakidscount.org