

# KIDS COUNT New Mexico

KIDS COUNT Conference  
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# KIDS COUNT



ECONOMIC  
WELL-BEING




EDUCATION



HEALTH



FAMILY AND  
COMMUNITY

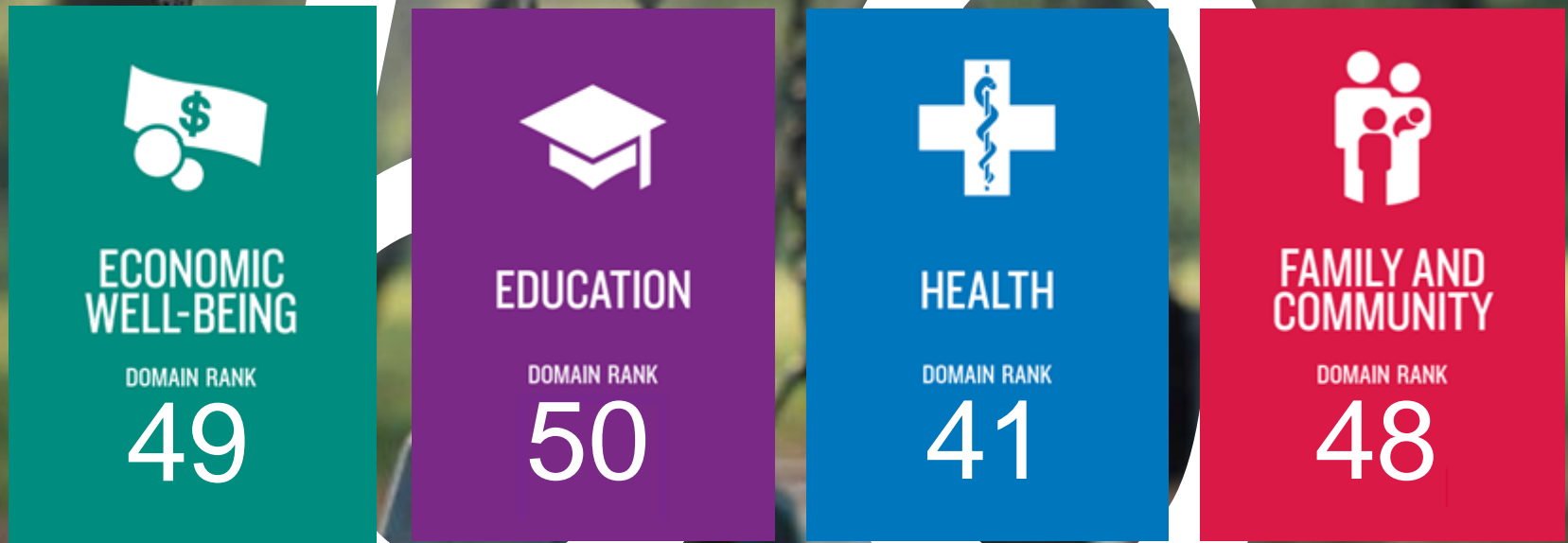


**All children should have  
the best possible  
opportunities to reach  
their full potential.**



A silhouette of a person holding a child against a sunset sky. The person is standing and holding the child up, with their arms visible. The child is wearing a dress. The sky is a mix of blue, orange, and purple, with clouds. The text "KIDS COUNT tells a story of opportunity." is overlaid on the image in white.

**KIDS COUNT** tells a story  
of opportunity.



low reading &  
math scores

food insecurity

poverty

teen birth  
rates

low access to  
early education  
& care

# COVID<sub>19</sub> created new challenges.

- Pediatric visits and vaccinations down
- 40% of parents feel anxious or stressed
- 8% of parents rarely or never have internet
- 34% of children are projected to be food insecure as a result of COVID-19.



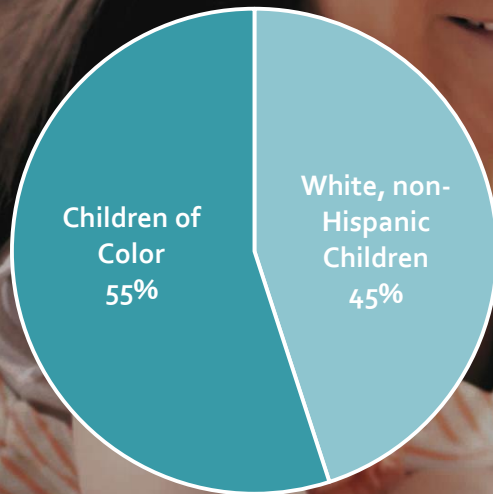


**Disparities exist in  
nearly every  
indicator.**

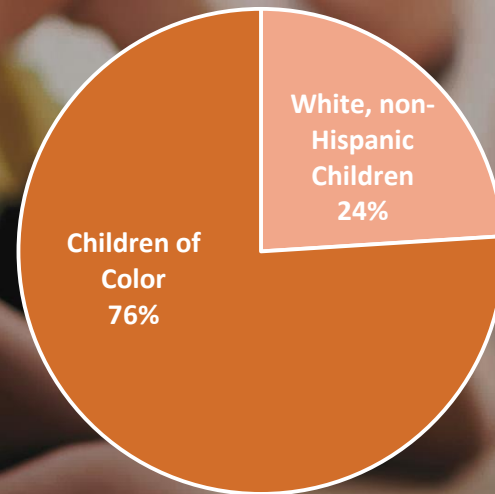


# New Mexico is ahead of the demographic trend.

United States, 2030



New Mexico, 2018





# Data doesn't tell the whole story.



A photograph of four diverse children (two boys and two girls) sitting outdoors on the ground, smiling and reaching out towards the camera. They are surrounded by many floating soap bubbles. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with trees and foliage. The text "And there's more good news." is overlaid in large white font on the upper left portion of the image.

And there's more  
good news.

Policy matters.



better reading  
& math scores

lower rates of  
food insecurity

better health outcomes

higher grad  
rates

lower remedial  
education costs

# Progress is possible!

- 33,000 more insured
- 2,100 fewer teen births
- 33,000 more kids with a parent with a diploma
- 13 of 16 KIDS COUNT indicators improved



# Policy changes set us up for success in the future.

- Tax cut for 70% of NM families with children
- Improved higher ed affordability and access
- New early childhood department
- New funding source for ECE programs
- Minimum wage increase
- K-12 funding and teacher pay increases
- Crucial COVID-19 relief for families, workers, and businesses



A photograph of a sunset over a field of purple wildflowers. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm orange and yellow glow. The foreground is filled with numerous small purple flowers, likely asters, growing in a field. The background shows a line of trees and distant hills under a cloudy sky.

**Make sure New Mexicans can  
meet their basic needs, and  
avoid cuts to crucial  
programs.**



**Put money into the hands of families who will spend it quickly and locally.**



# We're all in this together.

Photo by: Rebecca Glenn, OLÉ

[www.nmvoices.org](http://www.nmvoices.org)

#NMKIDSCOUNT



# Thank you!

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