



MarinKids
Opportunity Around Every Corner

Opportunity for every child



2016 Data & Action Guide Economic Sufficiency

Economic Sufficiency



MARINKIDS GOAL

All children have access to sufficient basic needs for healthy development.

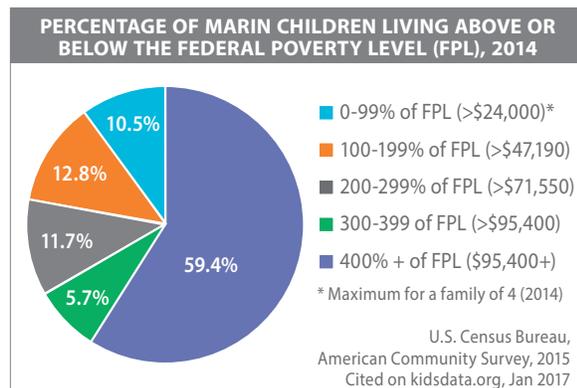
“Growing up in poverty is one of the greatest threats to healthy child development. Poverty and financial stress can impede children’s cognitive development and their ability to learn. It can contribute to behavioral, social and emotional problems and poor health.” (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2014)

Research shows that children who grow up poor are less likely to graduate from high school, attend higher education and have future economic success.

MarinKids tracks several indicators for economic well-being for children in Marin including family income and access to basic needs.

Income

According to the U.S. Census American Community Survey in 2015, 23.5% or more than 12,000 children in Marin 0-18 years of age lived in households where the income was less than 199% of the federal poverty level – \$0 to a maximum of \$48,500 annually for a family of four. Of those nearly 6,000 children (11%) 0-18 years of age lived in households with an income from 0%-99% of the Federal Poverty Level - at or below \$24,250 for a family of four.



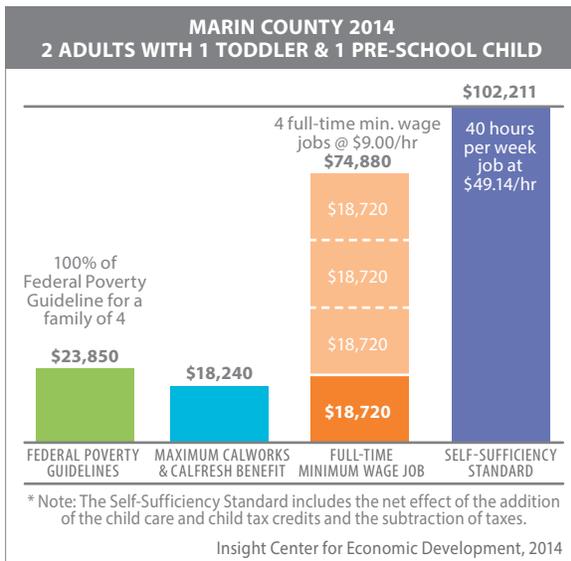
In 2014, 26% of children in Marin lived in families without secure parental employment – working at least 35 hours per week for 50 weeks (kidsdata.org). This is a reduction from 29% in 2012 and reflects the very low unemployment rate in Marin of 3.5% and the improving economy overall.

While the median household income in Marin is estimated at \$136,929, **32.5% of children in Marin live in households with an income that is insufficient to meet the basic needs of the family an increase of 2.5% from 2013 (kidsdata).** In 2014 in Marin, the Insight Center for Economic Development estimated that a family of four with two children that require child care needed an annual income of \$102,223 to meet their basic needs (housing, child care, healthcare, food, transportation, etc.). According to United Way of the Bay Area, of the households that had incomes below the self-sufficiency standard in Marin, 89.4% had more than one person working, only 1.1% received public assistance and only 5.5% received food stamps. The rising cost of housing and child care are key issues for families trying to make ends meet in Marin.



Economic Sufficiency

The following table depicts the economic challenges faced by low-to moderate-income families.



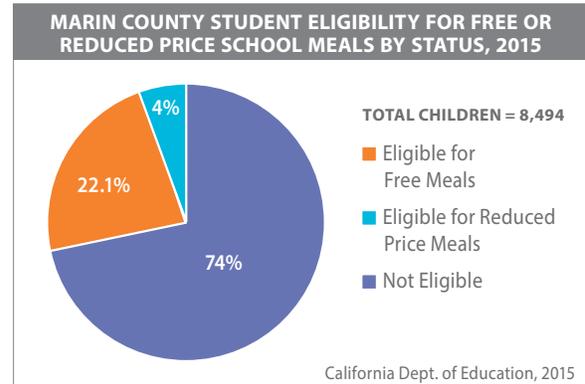
Free and Reduced Price Meals at school help fill some of that gap for many children. In 2015, 26.1% of public school students (8,494 students) in Marin were eligible for free or reduced price school meals. To qualify for free meals, family income must fall below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), a maximum of \$31,525 for a family of four, or 185% of FPL for reduced priced meals – a maximum of \$44,863 for a family of four (CDE).

Summer and school breaks without the food program are a challenge for many children. According to the Children Now 2016 County Scorecard, only 87% of children eligible for free or reduced lunch are eating them during the summer. Local food banks and other resources are a critical safety net for these children.

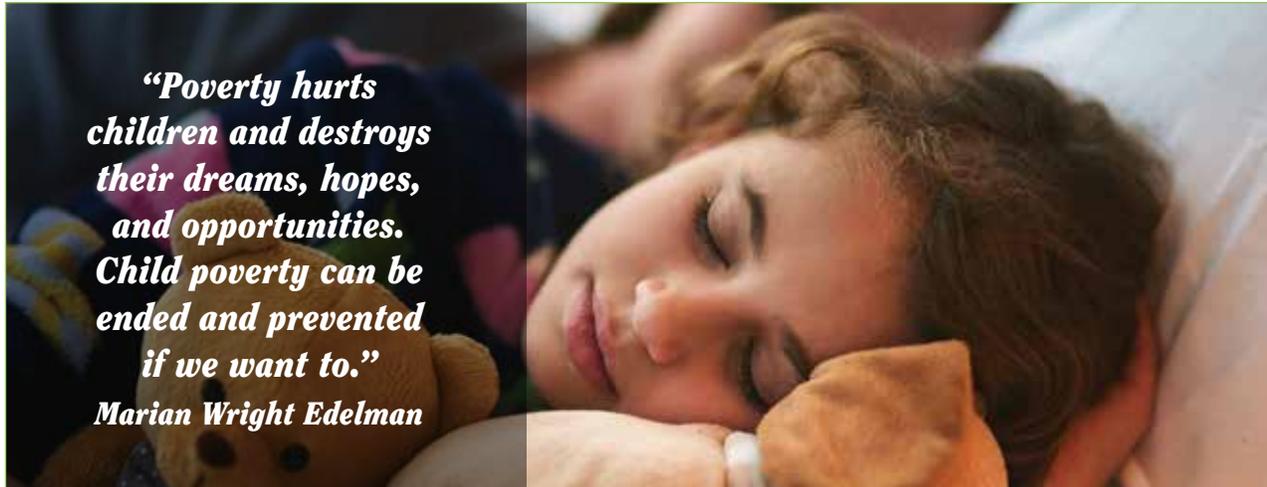
Basic Needs

FOOD

Based on data from Feeding America, **nearly 19% of children (10,130 children) in Marin lived in homes where there was not a dependable, consistent resource to provide enough food for healthy growth.** Only 45% of these children were eligible for nutrition programs.



Economic Sufficiency

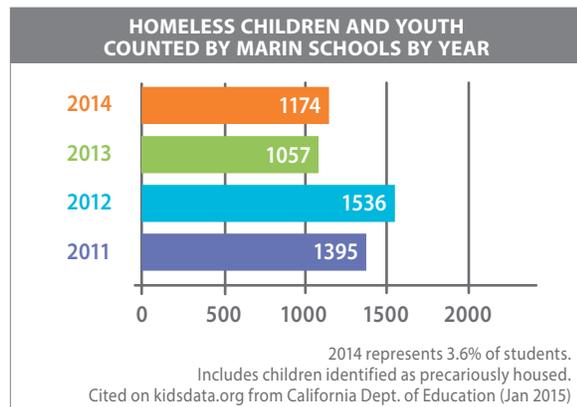


“Poverty hurts children and destroys their dreams, hopes, and opportunities. Child poverty can be ended and prevented if we want to.”
Marian Wright Edelman

SAFE AND SUITABLE HOUSING

The high cost of housing in Marin is an increasing factor for low and moderate income families. The estimated median value of a home reached \$1,000,000 in 2015 and the average cost of renting a two-bedroom apartment was about \$3,000 per month with a 97% occupancy rate. Affordable housing is scarce and **more than 40% of families spend over 30% of their monthly income on housing. In 2015, 15% of children in Marin lived in overcrowded housing** (kidsdata.org).

In 2014, the Marin County Office of Education reported 1,174 students as homeless or precariously housed, up slightly from 2013. The vast majority of homeless children and youth live in shelters, doubled up with friends or relatives, or in situations such as motels and campground and parking lots. The Marin County Housing Authority waitlist is closed. Children who live in these circumstances are much more likely to have health, learning and emotional problems.



AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

Child care is critical for working families and a productive workforce. In Marin, the high cost of child care challenges families to provide quality care for their children when they are at work.

AGE RANGE	CHILD CARE CENTER	FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME
Infant 0-2 yrs.	\$18,321 or \$1,527/mo.	\$13,219 or \$1,115/mo.
Preschool 3-5 yrs.	\$13,412 or \$1,118/mo.	\$12,477 or \$1,044/mo.

Cited on Kidsdata.org, 2015

The market rate cost of care for an infant in Marin can reach as high as \$1,527 per month and cost of care for children 3-5 years of age is approximately \$13,412 annually or \$1,118 per month – well beyond the reach of many families that live below the family self-sufficiency level. **Subsidies for child care are limited and ceilings for income eligibility are low.** Families that earn less than 70% of the state median income (based on 2007 median income) for a household can be eligible for subsidized child care on a sliding scale based on income and need. For example, two parents each working full time (40 hrs/week) at minimum wage with a three-year old in a child care center would be “over-income”, earning a total of \$3,637 per month. However, their monthly unsubsidized child care cost would be

Economic Sufficiency

\$1,400, nearly 40% of their gross monthly income. In Marin even for those who qualify, demand for these subsidized child care placements exceeds the resources to provide them. **At any given time, the wait list for affordable child care is from 400-800 families.**

Subsidized, supervised afterschool programs for low income children are sparse with only 11% having access to such programs. This many leave many children unsupervised afterschool.

Policy Recommendations/What We Can Do

✓ Create safety net services at schools. One successful national model is Communities in Schools. Partnerships are developed with local businesses, social service agencies, health care providers and volunteers. Supports include food, school supplies, health care, counseling, academic assistance and caring adult role models. Family resource centers such as the one at Venetia Valley School help parents engage in their child's education and provide support to families.

✓ Support affordable housing options for families in Marin to reduce overcrowded living situations.

✓ Provide breakfast and lunch to assure all children have a healthy start to their day. Continue to expand access to free and reduced priced meals at schools during summer and school breaks for children who depend on free meals for their primary source of food.

✓ Assure every eligible child is enrolled in reduced price meals and their families are enrolled in SNAP (food stamp) programs, if they are eligible. United Way of the Bay Area has set up SparkPoint programs at many low income schools to assist families to enroll in programs that can help provide a reliable source of food and other services for their children.

✓ Expand child care subsidies for low- to moderate-income families on a sliding scale. Advocate with elected state officials to raise state income limits and reimbursement rates for state subsidized child care centers to meet the actual cost of care.

✓ Support higher wages for early childhood education workers and other minimum wage workers.

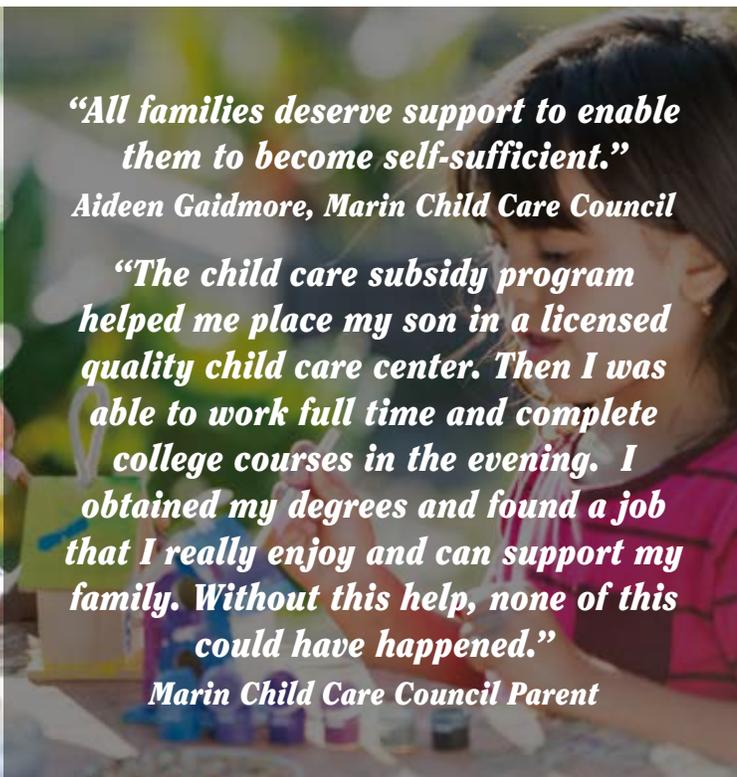


“All families deserve support to enable them to become self-sufficient.”

Aideen Gaidmore, Marin Child Care Council

“The child care subsidy program helped me place my son in a licensed quality child care center. Then I was able to work full time and complete college courses in the evening. I obtained my degrees and found a job that I really enjoy and can support my family. Without this help, none of this could have happened.”

Marin Child Care Council Parent



Sources

DEMOGRAPHICS

U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey

California Dept. of Education, DataQuest, Jan 2016

U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2015; retrieved from www.kidsdata.org

Insight Center for Community Economic Development www.insightccd.org

ECONOMIC SUFFICIENCY

The 2014 Kids Count Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.aecf.org/resources/the-2014-kids-count-data-book/

U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2016; retrieved from www.kidsdata.org

Insight Center for Community Economic Development www.insightccd.org

California Dept. of Education, DataQuest, Jan 2016

Struggling to Make Ends Meet in the Bay Area, United Way of the Bay Area, 2009 www.uwba.org/wp/wpcontent/uploads/2010/06/uwba_making_ends_meet_report.pdf

The Future of Children, Parent's Employment and Children's Wellbeing, Carolyn Heinrich, PhD., Vol.24, Spring 2014

Feeding America Data by County in Each State cited from www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/our-research/map-the-meal-gap/data-by-county-in-each-state.html, Dec 2016

California Dept. of Education, Student Poverty FRPM Data, Dec 2016

Marin Homeless Children and Youth, cited on www.kidsdata.org

Child Care and Preschool Costs, cite on www.kidsdata.org

EDUCATION

Trends in Higher Education, Education Pays 2013, The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society, College Board, Baum, Sandy, Ma, Jennifer, Kathleen Payea, 2013

Preschool Education

Who Goes to Preschool and Why Does it Matter? W. Steven Barnett and Donald J. Yarosz, National Institute of Early Education Research, 2007

The Costs and Benefits of Universal Preschool in California, Rand Corporation, 2010

Starting School at a Disadvantage: The School Readiness of Poor Children, Julia B. Isaacs, Brookings Institution, March 2012

High Quality Preschool: Why We Need It and What It Looks Like. Linda Espinoza, National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, 2002

Children Now, 2016-17 Marin County Scorecard, retrieved from www.google.com/#q=Children+Now+County+Scorecard+Marin+2016, Jan 2016, Source: 2012 US Census, American Community Survey, 2016

Reading Proficiency

Musen, L. (2010). Early reading proficiency. New York, NY: Annenberg Institute for School Reform at Brown University. Retrieved from www.annenberginstitute.org/pdf/LeadingIndicator_Reading.pdf

Double Jeopardy – How Third-Grade Reading Skills and Poverty Influence High School Graduation, Donald J. Hernandez, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2012

California Dept. of Education (CDE), California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, Results 2016, English Language Arts, <http://caaspp.cde.ca.gov/>, retrieved Nov 2016

Measuring implementation and multiple outcomes in a Child-Parent Center compensatory education program, Conrad, K.J., & Eash, M.J., American Educational Research Journal, 20, 221-236 (1983)

A New Generation of Evidence: The Family is Critical to Student Achievement, Anne T. Henderson and Nancy Berla, (Washington, DC: Center for Law and Education, 1994)

Mathematics Proficiency

Child Trends. (2012). Mathematics proficiency. Retrieved from: www.childtrendsdatabank.org/?q=node/256

California Dept. of Education (CDE), California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, Results 2016, Mathematics, <http://caaspp.cde.ca.gov/>, retrieved, Nov 2016

Secondary and Post-Secondary Achievement

Staying in School: A Proposal for Raising High School graduation Rates, Issues in Science and Technology, 2013, <http://issues.org/29-2/derek/>

2015 California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). Retrieved Nov 2016

American Institutes for Research, National High School Center, 2009 www.air.org/project/national-high-school-center

Marin County Graduates Enrolled in College, Marin Promise Partnership, Jan 2016

Class of 2007, 2008, 2009, College Completion: Marin Promise Partnership, 2016. Source: National Student Clearinghouse and Area High Schools

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Ickovics JR, Carroll-Scott A, Peters SM, Schwartz M, Gilstad-Hayden K, McCaslin C. Health and academic achievement: cumulative effects of health assets on standardized test scores among urban youth in the United States. *J Sch Health.* 2014; 84: 40-48

Glascoe, F. (2000) Early Detection of Developmental and Behavioral Problems. *Pediatrics in Review.* Vol. 21, pp. 272-280

Marin County Health and Human Services, Epidemiology Department

Health Insurance & Medical Care

Health Insurance Coverage, www.kidsdata.org/region/217/marin-county/summary#44/physical-health, retrieved Dec 2016

Mental and Emotional Health

California Healthy Kids Survey, WestEd, Marin Results, 2015 retrieved from <http://chks.wested.org/reports/>, Dec 2016

Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, 2014. 4 essential facts about lifelong health, school success and adverse childhood experiences among California's children. Retrieved from: <http://childhealthdata.org/docs/presentations-californiadata.pdf?Status=Master>. Retrieved from www.kidsdata.org, Jan 2016

Dental Care

Children Now, Marin County Scorecard 2016 from California Dept. of Health Care Services, Medi-Cal Dental Services Division

California Dept. of Health Care Services Weaknesses in Its Medi Cal Dental Program Limit Children's Access to Dental Care, 2014

Healthy Weight/Physical Fitness

National Institutes of Health, 2006, www.nichd.nih.gov/od/secc/index.htm.

California Dept. of Education, Physical Fitness Testing Research, PFT, 2015

Immunizations

California Dept. of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Kindergarten Assessment Results, 2016 as cited on www.kidsdata.org

California Dept. of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Pertussis Rates, www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Documents/Pertussis%20report%201-25-2016.pdf





MarinKids
Opportunity Around Every Corner



Learn how you can make a difference...

415.526.5720

marinkids.org

[facebook.com/marinkids](https://www.facebook.com/marinkids)