

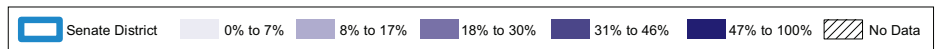
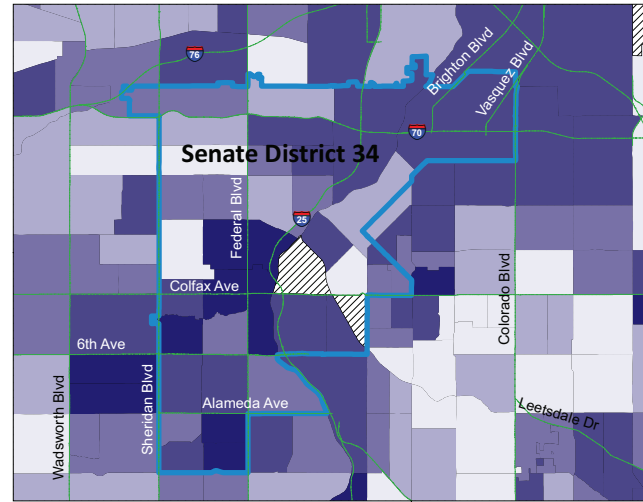
# Making Kids Count in *Senate District 34*



**KIDS COUNT in Colorado!** is an annual publication of the Colorado Children's Campaign that provides the best available state- and county-level data to measure and track the health, education and general well-being of our state's children. Below are data for select indicators of child well-being for your legislative district. For more data on how children are faring in your community, visit our website at [coloradokids.org](http://coloradokids.org) to download the full report, or visit the KIDS COUNT Data Center at [datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org).

## Child Poverty

In 2016, Colorado's child poverty rate reached its lowest point since 2003, falling to 13 percent—down from its peak of 18 percent in 2012. Although the poverty rate for Colorado kids has fallen in recent years, more than 166,000 Colorado kids experienced poverty in 2016. Poverty is defined as an annual income below \$24,300 for a family of four. Child poverty rates vary across Colorado communities, as illustrated in the adjacent map of child poverty rates by Census tract.



**Early Childhood Learning and Development:** Early childhood is a time of tremendous development and opportunity. High-quality early learning experiences help children build a strong foundation and set them up for success in kindergarten and beyond. The table below shows key early childhood indicators for the counties included in your district, with state-level data as a benchmark.

Early Childhood Learning and Development	Colorado	Denver
3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in preschool (2012-2016)	50.5%	56.8%
Kindergartners in a full-day program (2017-2018)	78.4%	100.0%
Licensed capacity in child care centers, homes and preschools, as a percentage of children who need care (2012-2016)	61.1%	72.4%
Infant mortality rate (rate per 1,000, 2012-2016)*	4.8	5.5

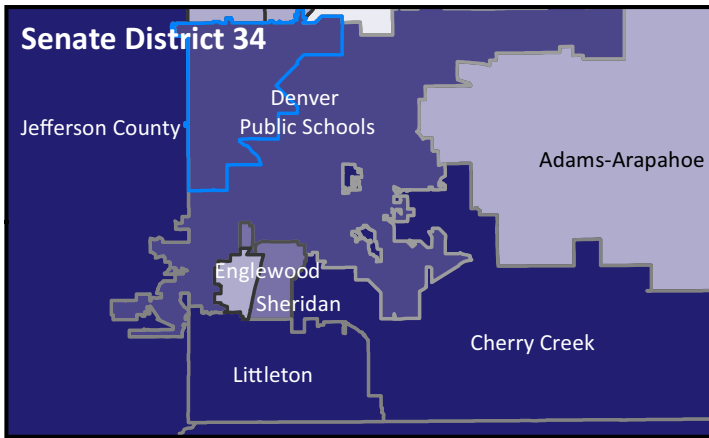
**Health:** All children need adequate amounts of healthy food, plenty of opportunities for physical activity, and access to high-quality and affordable medical, oral and behavioral health care. The table below shows how children in your district are faring on indicators of child health, with state-level data as a benchmark.

Child and Maternal Health	Colorado	Denver
Uninsured children, ages 0-18 (2016)	4.3%	3.8%
Births to women without a high school diploma or GED (2016)	11.7%	13.4%
Children experiencing food insecurity (2016)	15.1%	16.2%
High school students who reported seriously considering suicide (2017) *	17.0%	11.7%

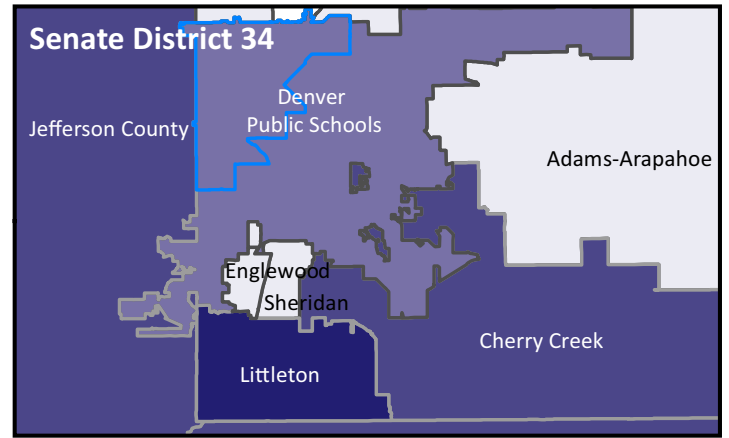
\*Data for this indicator provided at the Health Statistics Region (HSR) level. Most HSRs contain multiple counties.

**Education:** Every child deserves access to a high-quality educational environment. The maps below show the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations across all grades assessed by the 2017 Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) in English Language Arts and math by school district.

English Language Arts



Math



The table below shows other key education indicators by school district, with state-level data as a benchmark.

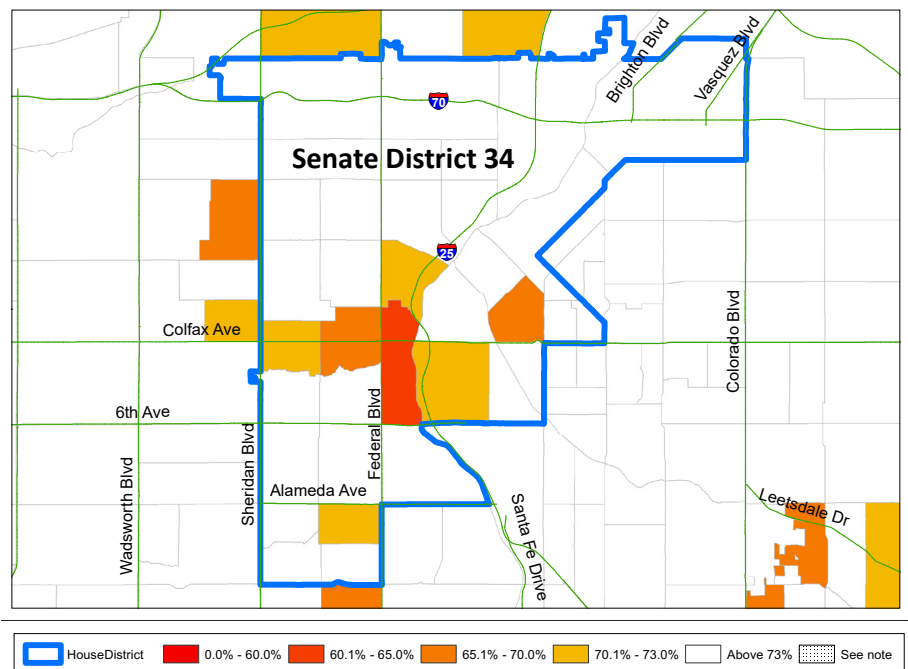
Education	Colorado	Denver Public Schools
4th grade students proficient in English Language Arts (2017)	44.1%	40.1%
High school graduation rate (2017)	79.0%	66.6%
Students requiring remediation in college (Class of 2015)	36.1%	45.4%
Average teacher salary (2017-2018)	\$52,728	\$50,757

## 2020 Census: Ensuring Every Kid Counts

Every 10 years, the decennial census counts every person living in America, as required by the Constitution. The 2020 Census is right around the corner, and **Colorado kids and families are depending on a fair and accurate census count to ensure that more than \$600 billion of federal funding flows accurately into Colorado communities.** Census data also determine how legislative districts are drawn and help inform policymakers' decisions. Ensuring that every Colorado adult, child and baby is counted in the census is vital to our state.

Some communities are harder to count in the census than others. Young children are at the highest risk of being undercounted. Mail-in return rates to the 2010 Census can help identify communities that are hard to count. In 2010, **77 percent of households in your district** mailed back their census questionnaire, below the state average of 79 percent. Households that do not respond to the census questionnaire require costly follow-up efforts.

Approximately **16 percent of your district's population lives in communities that are considered hard-to-count.** Hard-to-count communities are those in which fewer than 73 percent of households mailed back their 2010 Census questionnaire. **Hard-to-count census tracts in your district are shaded in the adjacent map.**



Response rates and hard-to-count data courtesy of CUNY's HardToCount 2020 map. For more information, please visit [censushardtocountmaps2020.us](http://censushardtocountmaps2020.us).