

# COMMUNITIES COUNT IN DELAWARE

*Communities Count provides a snapshot of information about the communities in Delaware, focusing on data about children and families in individual census tracts. KIDS COUNT in Delaware especially thanks the Annie E. Casey Foundation for its support of this publication.*



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# A Message from KIDS COUNT in Delaware

Welcome to *Communities Count in Delaware*, a project of KIDS COUNT in Delaware which is housed in the Center for Community Research and Service at the University of Delaware.

Since 1995, KIDS COUNT in Delaware has been reporting on the status of children in the state and, working with the state of Delaware since 1998, has been monitoring the conditions of families, children and individuals in the community in an on-going effort to inform public policy and spur community action.

Making the right decisions for the well-being of children in our state depends largely on first understanding current conditions for children. Therefore, this report and others like it are intended to serve as key tools to be used in efforts to make life better for the state’s children.

Although the KIDS COUNT in Delaware project has completed community-based reports for the City of Wilmington, this is the first report from KIDS COUNT in Delaware that looks at the well-being of children state-wide at the community level. It is our hope that these data will help citizens and policy makers understand the characteristics of a particular community so that they can create and implement specific actions or policies to help improve the conditions for that community’s children.

We have developed the *Conditions for Children’s Well-Being Score* using four indicators based on factors known to be important to the well-being of children and families:

- Female-headed households
- Poverty
- High school dropouts
- Unemployment

For each community, these data were compared to the Delaware average and the community’s status for that indicator categorized from “worse than the state average” to “better than the state average.” The *Conditions for Children’s Well-being Score* also compares the composite of these indicators to the state average and assigns a number. For this purpose, the number 100 is assigned to the state average for that indicator. A score higher than 100 indicates an area with better conditions for children than those for the state as a whole, while a number lower than 100 means conditions that are deemed worse than those for the state.

KIDS COUNT hopes this information will be used to spur the development of policies and programs which will improve the lives of our children and families, not to “label” areas of the state. As the late Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes said, “It is not the place we occupy which is important, but the direction in which we move.” Let us use this data to move the well-being of children and families in Delaware forward.

**Steven A. Dowsben, M.D.**  
Chair, Board

**Theodore W. Jarrell, Ph.D.**  
Chair, Data Committee

**Terry Schooley**  
Director





# About Communities Count

## Purpose

Communities Count in Delaware was created in order to examine the well-being of children in small areas or “communities” throughout the state of Delaware. In order to define communities for this report, we used census tracts because of the large amount of data collected and available from the 2000 Census conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The state of Delaware has a total of 196 census tracts:

- 126 census tracts are in New Castle County
- 34 census tracts are in Kent County and
- 36 census tracts are in Sussex County

Data for each of the 196 census tracts and for the state of Delaware, its counties and the City of Wilmington can be found in this report.

## Data Sources

The data represented in this report was obtained from the State of Delaware’s 2000 Census – Summary File 1 (SF1) and Summary File 3 (SF3). SF1 contains basic population demographics and is based on a 100% sample of Delaware residents. SF3 contains detailed data regarding such issues as income, family composition, and educational attainment. SF3 is based on a 1-in-6 sample of households in Delaware

## Organization of the Report

Communities Count in Delaware has organized data into three sections that are a mixture of maps, profiles and definition of terms.

- Section one includes a series of maps: maps that show cities and towns related to census tracts, maps showing school district boundaries, and maps that show, by census tract, the number of children in each census tract and how children are faring. The ratings are designated as better or worse than the state average.
- The second section contains a series of one-page profiles for each tract, the state, counties, and City of Wilmington. The population counts by race, Hispanic origin, and age were obtained from SF1. The remainder of the data in the one-page profiles comes from SF3 and covers various issues related to children and their families. This section also includes relative comparisons of each tract to the state for the Conditions for Children’s Well-Being Score or CCWBS and each of the four indicators used to calculate the CCWBS.

- Methodology, a glossary of terms and references can be found at the end of the report. The definitions of terms found here are taken from the 2000 census.

## How to Read and Interpret the Data

The Conditions for Children’s Well-Being Score is a composite measure based on four indicators: percent of female-headed households with related children. Percent of population below poverty; percent of persons 25 and over that are high school dropouts; and percent of men 16 to 24 that are unemployed or not in the labor force. These indicators were selected because of their direct impact on conditions for children. A higher percent indicates worse conditions for children.

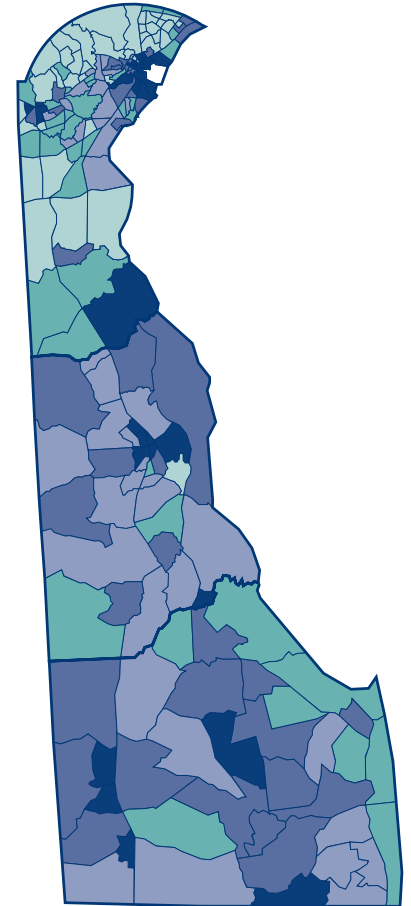
The Delaware CCWBS average is 100.

If a census tract scored more than 100, it is doing better than the Delaware average

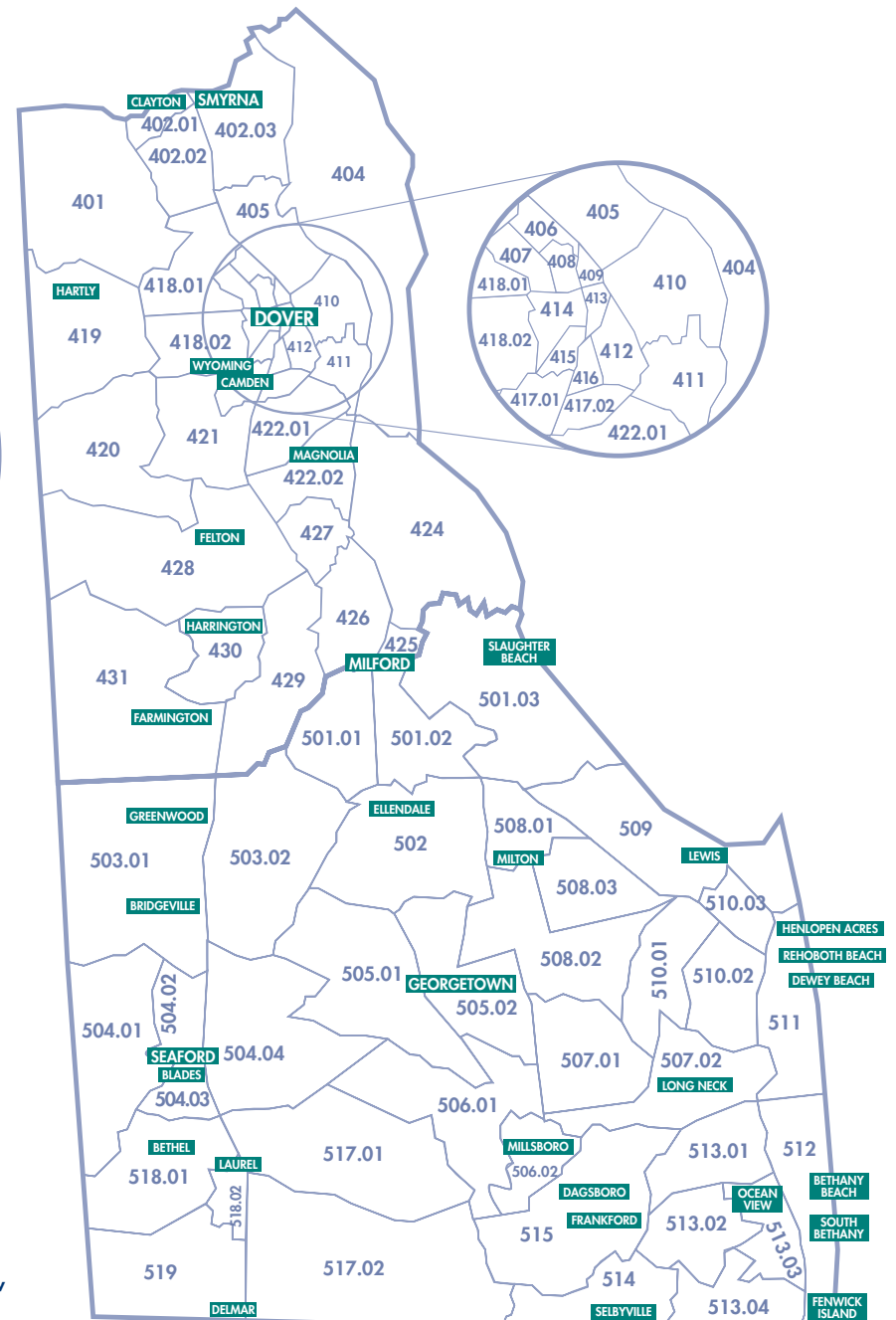
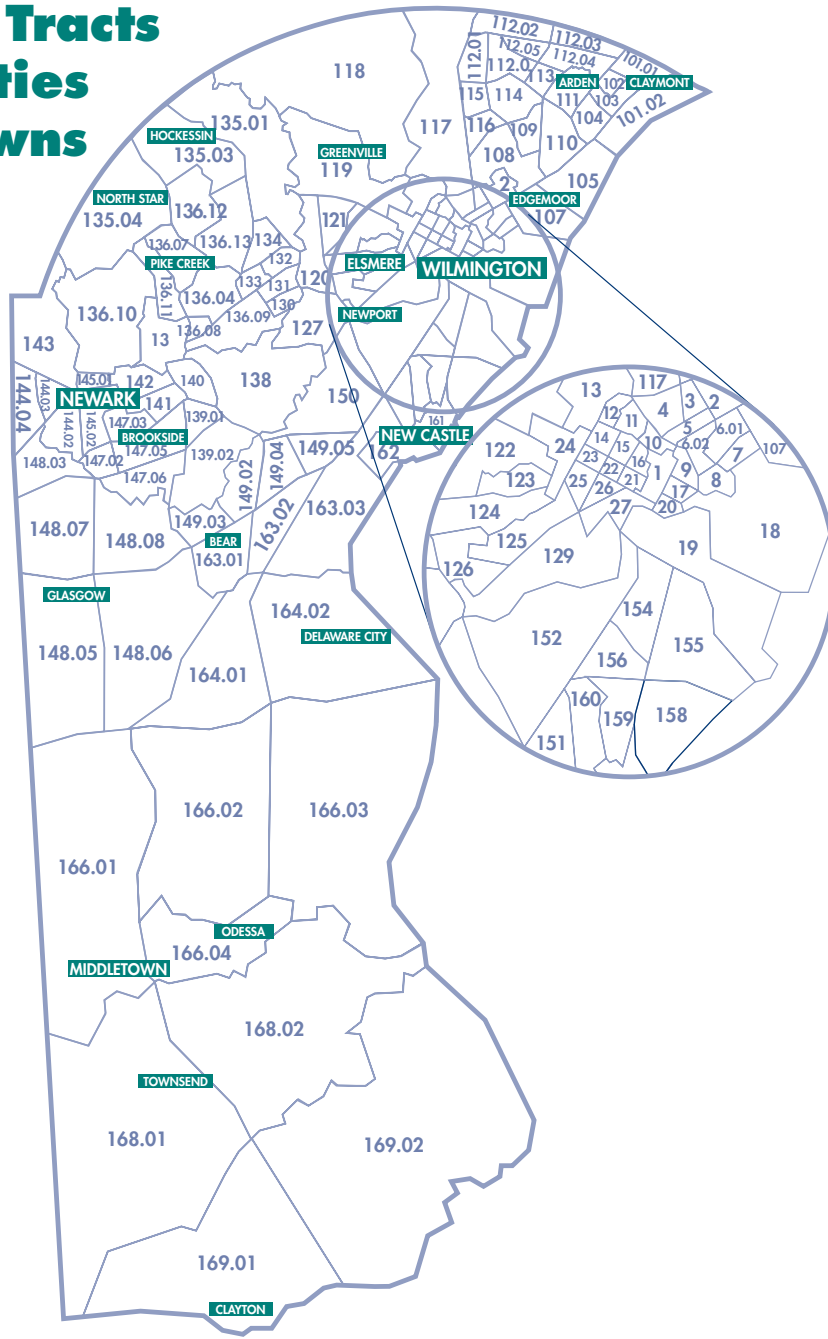
If a census tract scored less than 100, it is doing worse than the Delaware average.

In addition, five categories, ranging from worse to better, were created for each of the four indicators and the combined Conditions for Children’s Well-Being Score.

Since all the four CCWBS indicators were obtained from data based on a sample of Delaware residents, the individual indicators and the final CCWBS are subject to sampling error. In short, the indicators and CCWBS are estimates for each tract rather than a complete census count of every resident of a tract. As a result, small differences between CCWBS or one of its indicators in two different tracts may not be meaningful. Therefore, comparisons of individual CCWBS between tracts are not recommended. In general, it is better to focus on the category/quantile in which a tract falls.



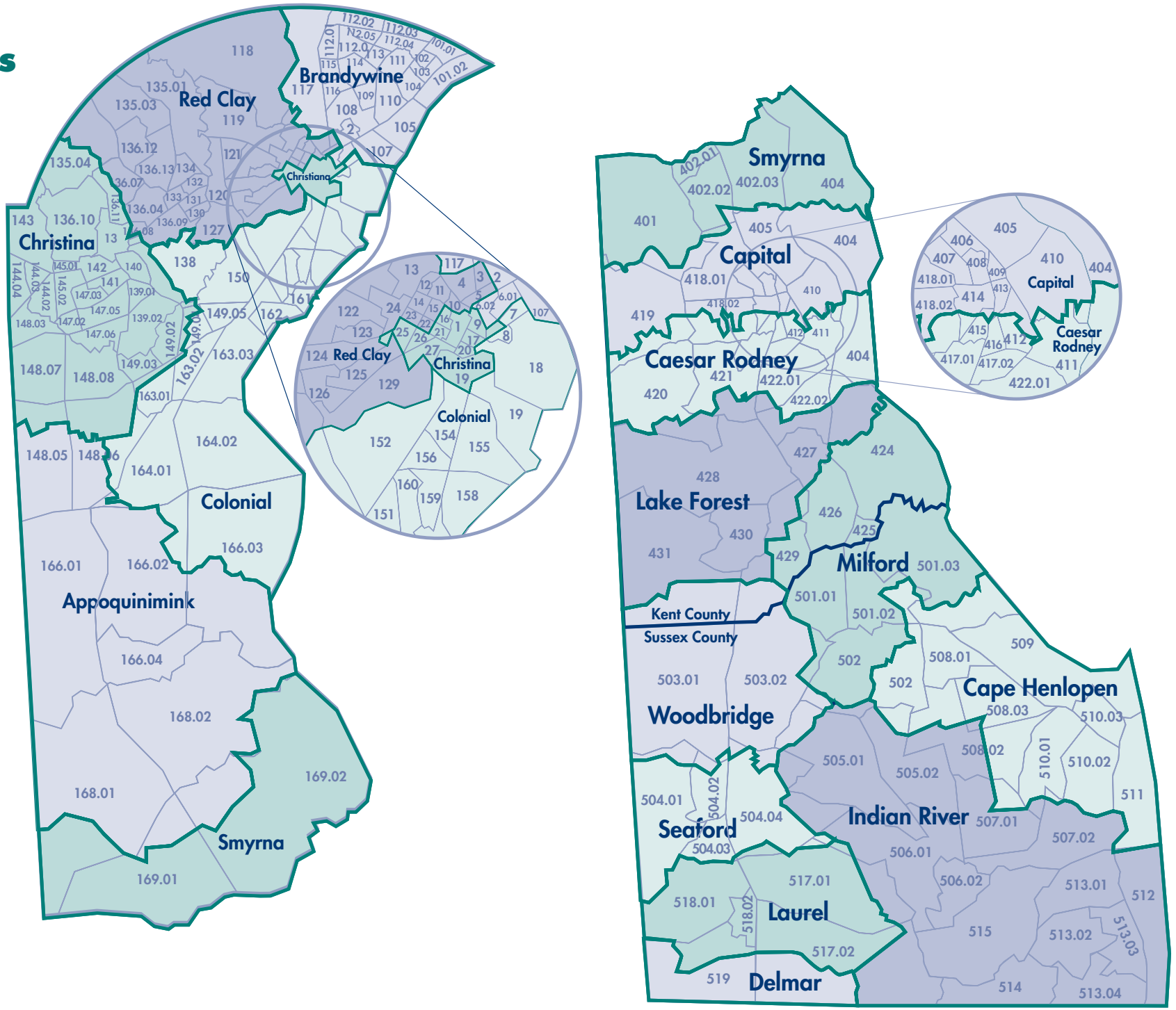
# Census Tracts with Cities and Towns



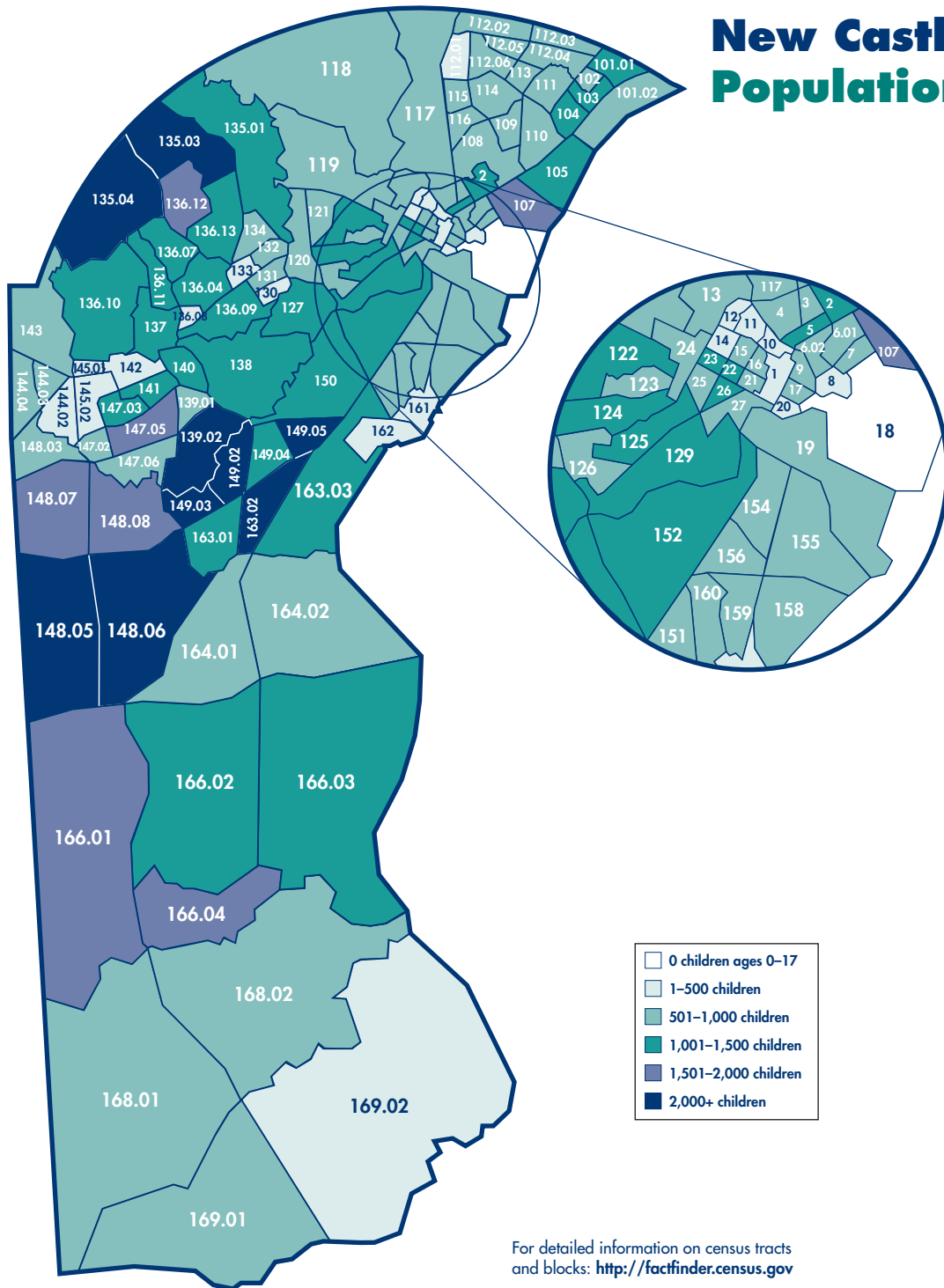
For detailed information on census tracts and blocks: <http://factfinder.census.gov>



# School Districts



# New Castle County Population of Children



Number of Children in Tract

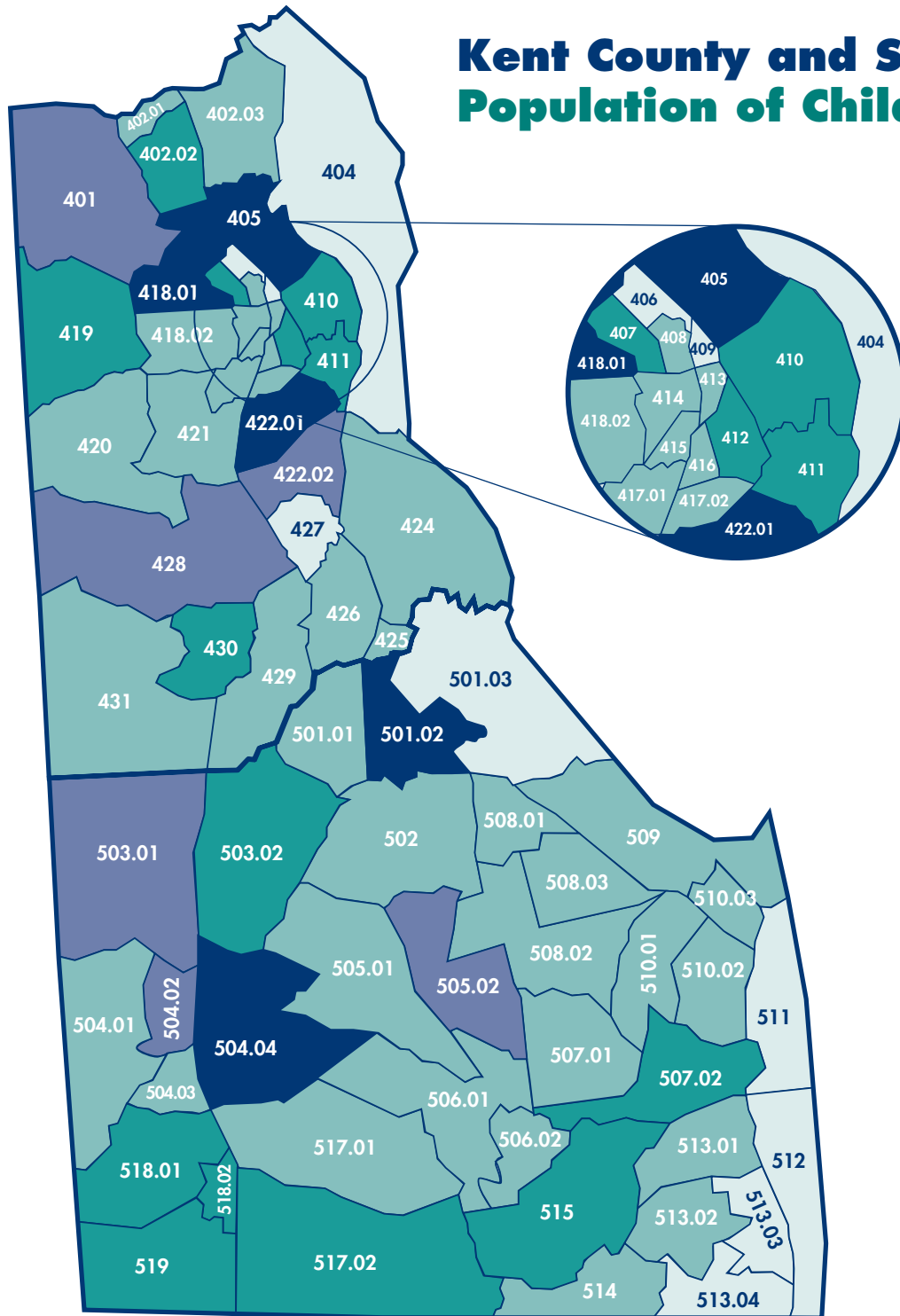
Census Tract	Total Age 0-17	% 0-17	Census Tract	Total Age 0-17	% 0-17	Census Tract	Total Age 0-17	% 0-17
1	136	18.63	113	526	20.84	147.02	502	26.38
2	1,478	26.55	114	757	22.24	147.03	1,120	23.97
3	979	29.15	115	624	21.48	147.05	1,502	26.15
4	643	21.44	116	713	21.88	147.06	886	35.27
5	1,171	31.29	117	802	20.64	148.03	673	19.45
6.01	773	28.59	118	781	18.70	148.05	2,134	31.54
6.02	827	26.43	119	594	20.84	148.06	3,729	29.94
7	842	50.48	120	896	21.12	148.07	1,962	30.06
8	182	7.51	121	754	24.62	148.08	1,809	28.50
9	702	31.94	122	1,227	26.26	149.02	2,678	29.29
10	81	11.55	123	542	24.19	149.03	2,665	36.99
11	112	3.42	124	1,149	24.81	149.04	1,141	24.23
12	166	10.29	125	1,196	23.39	149.05	2,356	27.84
13	615	17.24	126	672	24.36	150	1,472	25.96
14	412	19.42	127	1,082	21.41	151	804	22.95
15	511	21.94	129	1,270	28.40	152	1,446	23.68
16	750	27.95	130	435	22.35	154	920	28.48
17	967	32.81	131	582	22.99	155	779	28.57
18*	0	0	132	695	25.72	156	620	25.72
19	728	39.57	133	360	19.00	158	630	28.15
20	226	28.68	134	631	22.35	159	841	25.77
21	689	32.18	135.01	1,464	22.21	160	694	25.01
22	1,192	34.37	135.03	2,158	28.80	161	438	20.50
23	1,182	34.44	135.04	2,601	31.42	162	470	20.97
24	991	21.69	136.04	1,017	24.50	163.01	1,216	28.74
25	783	25.25	136.07	1,043	18.18	163.02	2,060	30.99
26	1,120	30.12	136.08	473	23.73	163.03	1,303	24.51
27	535	29.01	136.09	1,379	20.08	164.01	994	30.07
101.01	1,207	27.48	136.10	1,434	26.32	164.02	544	23.83
101.02	679	22.11	136.11	1,382	23.49	166.01	1,807	31.64
102	504	24.53	136.12	1,648	27.27	166.02	1,424	32.06
103	1,175	28.63	136.13	1,446	25.72	166.03	1,215	31.53
104	1,063	22.81	137	1,233	26.49	166.04	1,555	31.13
105	1,222	21.26	138	1,220	21.94	168.01	818	27.42
107	1,502	28.59	139.01	827	24.78	168.02	678	27.32
108	918	20.25	139.02	3,041	29.23	169.01	544	24.64
109	556	20.59	140	1,191	22.79	169.02	332	11.04
110	711	22.27	141	1,444	29.40			
111	544	19.94	142	368	21.84			
112.01	497	21.99	143	897	17.12			
112.02	799	22.78	144.02	398	11.85			
112.03	985	21.17	144.03	551	10.35			
112.04	712	20.87	144.04	804	22.65			
112.05	552	26.15	145.01	115	6.05			
112.06	997	23.39	145.02	150	2.18			

\* There is no resident population in Tract 18.

For detailed information on census tracts and blocks: <http://factfinder.census.gov>



# Kent County and Sussex County Population of Children



## Number of Children in Tract

### Kent County

Census Tract	Total Age 0-17	% 0-17
401	1,535	28.76
402.01	951	27.35
402.02	1,217	23.45
402.03	949	30.92
404	300	25.95
405	2,074	25.24
406	180	7.56
407	1,323	29.60
408	586	21.16
409	291	12.09
410	1,212	26.34
411	1,389	36.09
412	1,011	29.48
413	580	27.28
414	764	25.31
415	969	25.57
416	536	23.31
417.01	976	25.76
417.02	984	29.43
418.01	2,200	28.82
418.02	828	31.70
419	1,387	28.67
420	891	29.75
421	799	24.84
422.01	2,096	34.48
422.02	1,771	29.63
424	618	23.75
425	842	28.87
426	538	25.52
427	306	26.40
428	1,508	27.45
429	933	27.17
430	1,321	29.42
431	668	27.51

### Sussex County

Census Tract	Total Age 0-17	% 0-17
501.01	837	25.46
501.02	2,204	27.37
501.03	471	19.81
502	812	28.91
503.01	1,591	28.10
503.02	1,108	29.15
504.01	939	28.11
504.02	1,972	24.43
504.03	833	28.00
504.04	2,326	28.68
505.01	689	24.05
505.02	1,973	22.05
506.01	862	23.28
506.02	888	23.14
507.01	653	23.68
507.02	1,483	16.02
508.01	676	25.64
508.02	804	24.17
508.03	942	20.27
509	738	14.44
510.01	973	18.58
510.02	754	14.56
510.03	741	23.55
511	235	8.26
512	431	10.34
513.01	635	16.34
513.02	553	22.53
513.03	461	16.54
513.04	460	12.04
514	820	27.78
515	1,029	24.63
517.01	906	26.38
517.02	1,194	24.72
518.01	1,092	26.31
518.02	1,150	28.81
519	1,070	26.73

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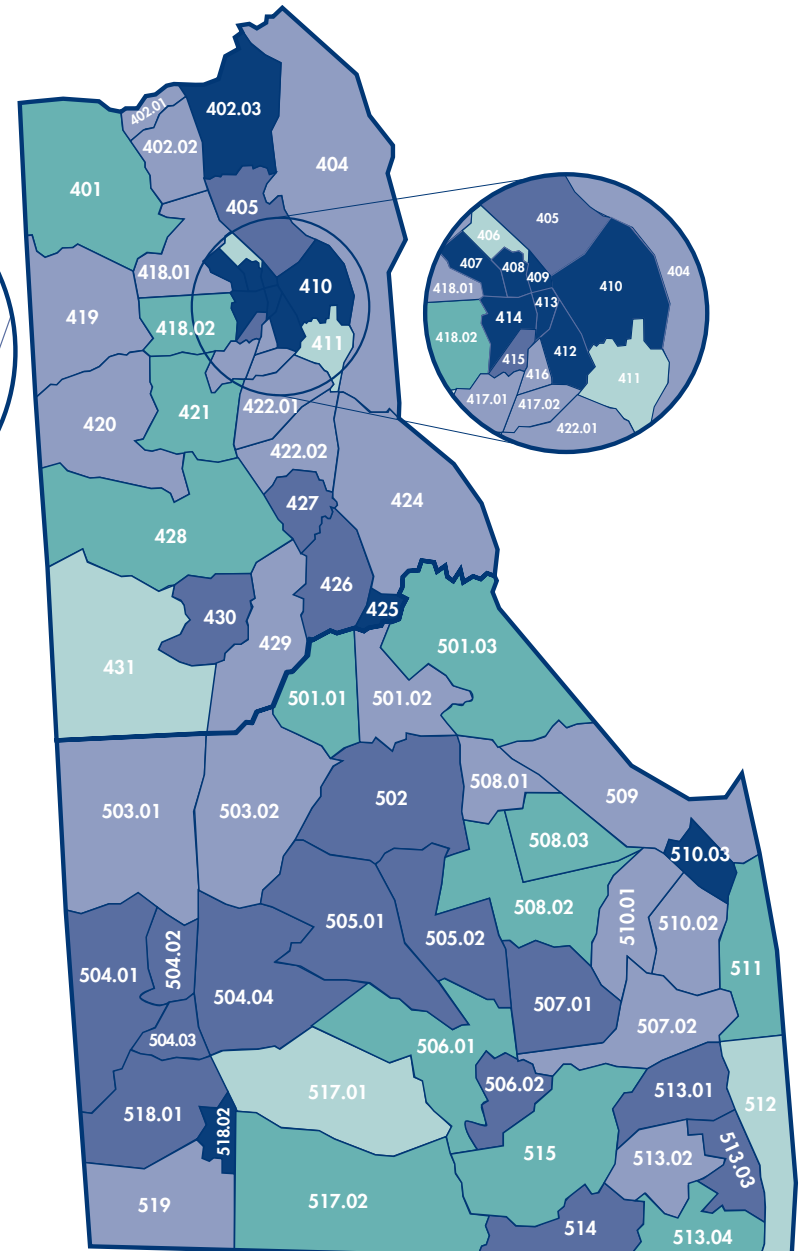
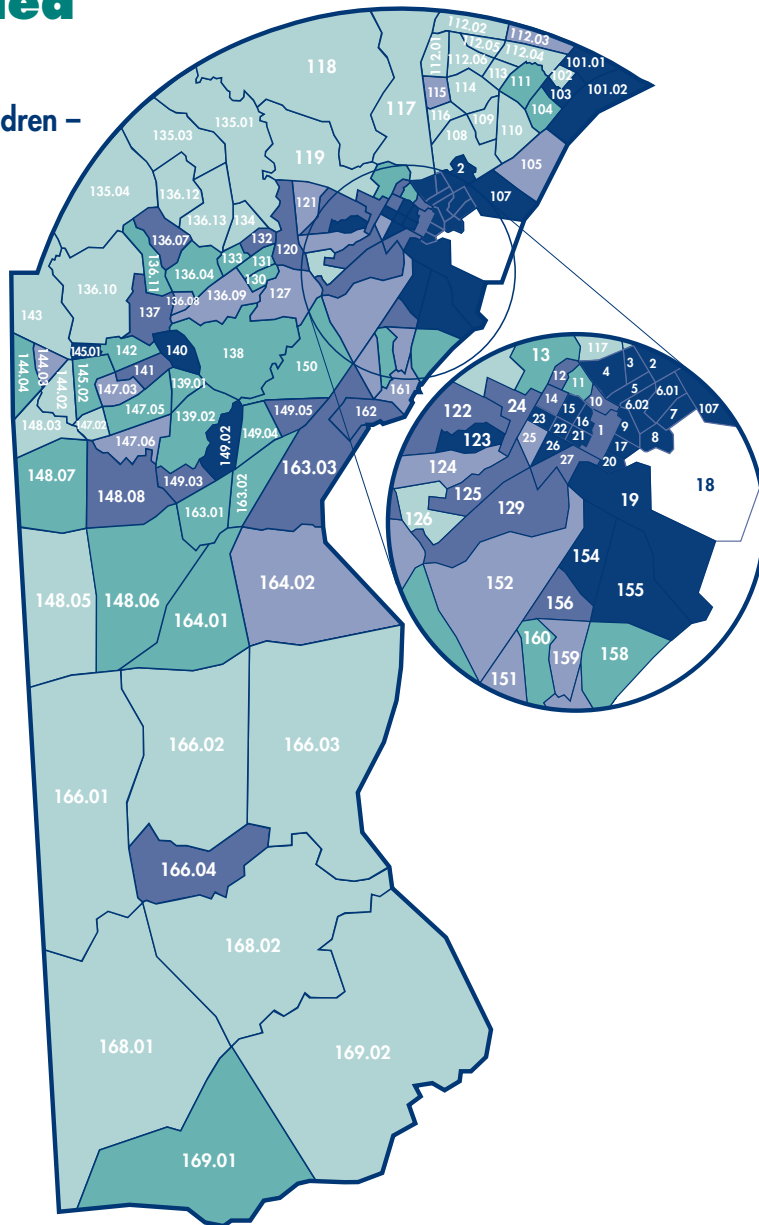


# Female Headed Households

Households with related children – female-headed households (no husband present)

**Household:** one or more people occupying a housing unit as their usual place of residency. A female-headed household has no husband present.

**Related Children** include one's own children and all people under the age of 18 in the household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption.



For detailed information on census tracts and blocks:  
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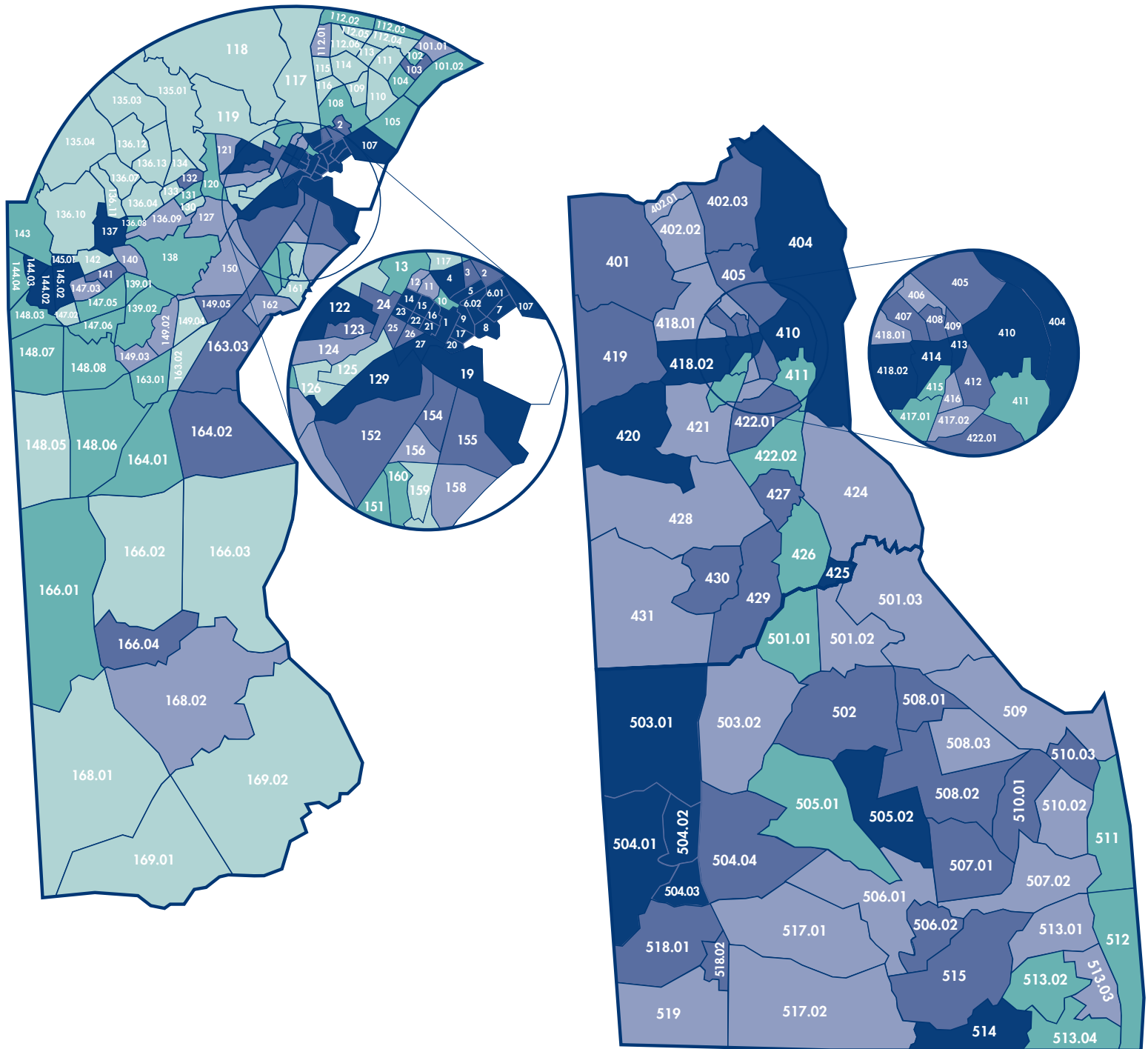
# Poverty

## Percentage of population below 100% of poverty

**Below poverty:** A person is “poor” if they reside in a family with income below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Poverty thresholds differ by family size and are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index. However, they do not take into account geographic differences in the cost of living.

The poverty threshold for a one-parent-two child family in 1999 was \$13,423.

This document also reports the percentage of children below 150% poverty (one and half times the poverty rate) and below 200% poverty (two times the poverty rate).

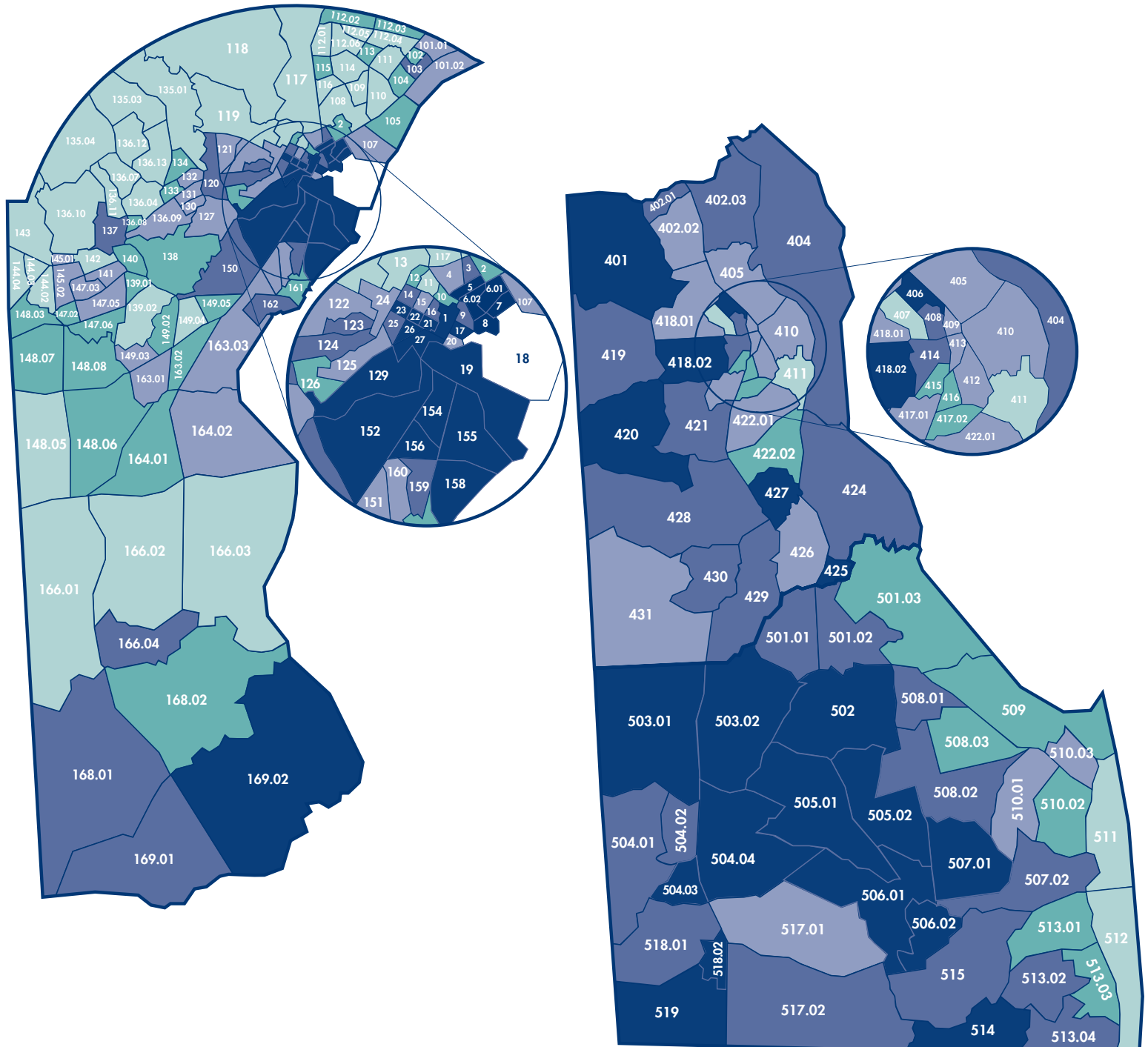


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# Dropouts

## Percentage of persons 25 and over that are high school dropouts

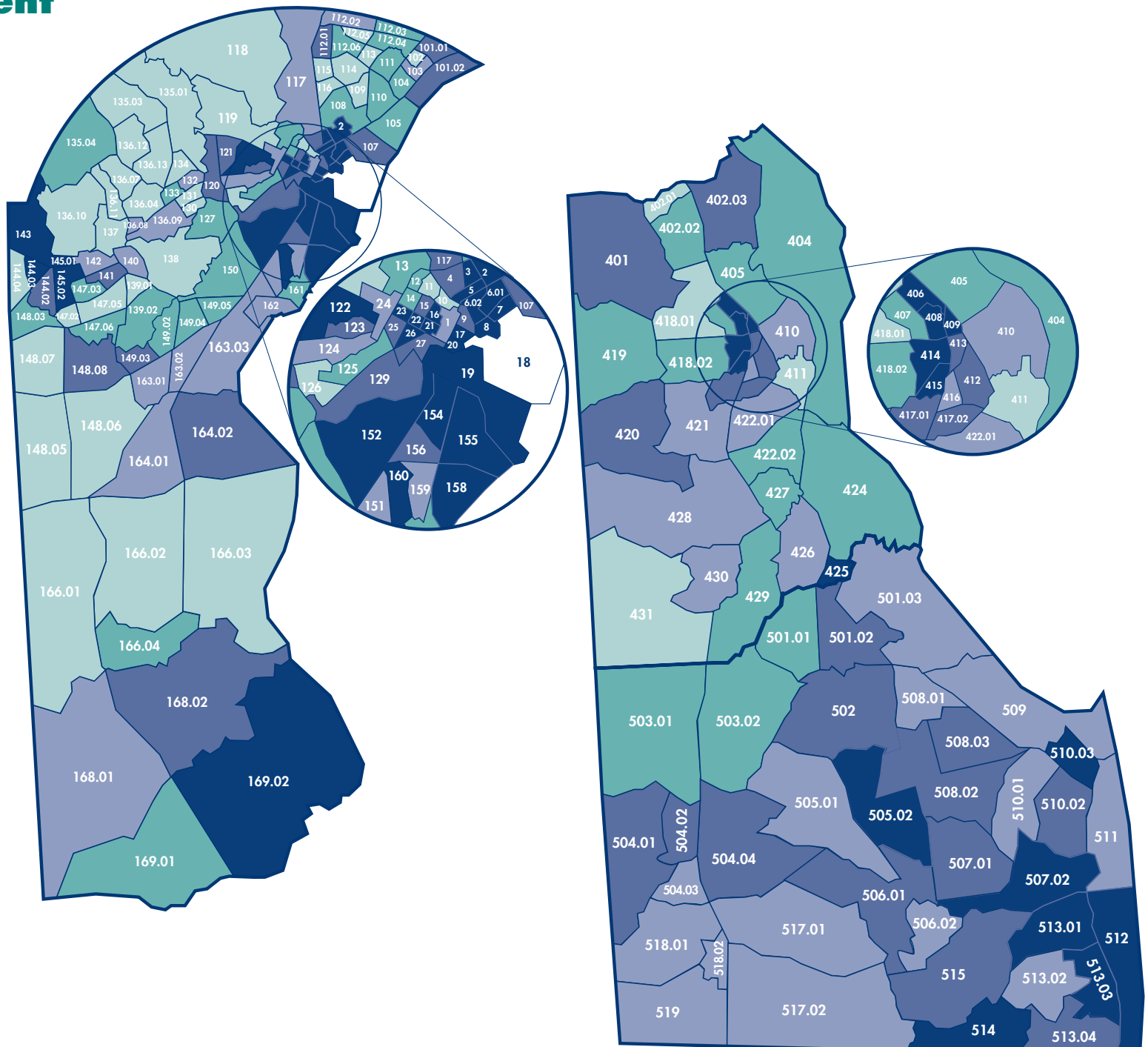
High school dropouts include persons who are not enrolled in school (full-time or part-time) and are not high school graduates. Those persons who have a GED or equivalent are included as high school graduates in this measure.



# Unemployment

## Percentage of men 16 to 64 that are unemployed or not in the labor force

All males 16 and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This includes students, individuals taking care of home or family, retired workers, seasonal workers counted in an off-season who were not looking for work, institutionalized males, and males doing only incidental unpaid family work (fewer than 15 hours during the reference week).



# Conditions for Children's Well-Being

The Conditions for Children's Well-Being Score is a composite measure based on four indicators:

1. Percent of households with related children – female headed (no husband present)
2. Percent of population below 100% of poverty
3. Percent of persons 25 and over that are high school dropouts
4. Percent of men 16 to 64 that are unemployed or not in the labor force

These indicators were selected because of their direct impact on conditions for children. For each indicator, a higher percent would indicate worse conditions for children's well-being. Each of the indicators was weighted equally in the composite score.



For detailed information on census tracts and blocks:  
<http://factfinder.census.gov>

