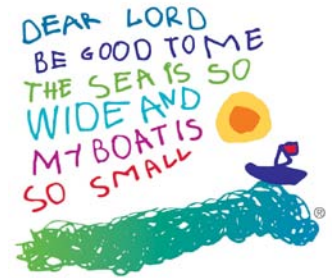


Children's Defense Fund

Children in the United States

January 2012



Children's Defense Fund

74,132,578 children live in the United States:
40,094,251 are White, non-Hispanic
10,800,765 are Black
16,794,272 are Hispanic
3,348,314 are Asian/Pacific Islander
736,141 are American Indian/Alaska Native
3,764,244 are two or more races

In the United States:

A child is abused or neglected every 47 seconds.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 19 minutes.

Child Poverty in the United States

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	15,749,129 (21.6%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	7,023,152 (9.6%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	4,463,752

Child Health in the United States

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	7,270,078 (9.8%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	7,705,723
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	34,441,217
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	49.3%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	84.8%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	26.0%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	29.8%

Child Hunger in the United States

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	18,516,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	66%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	31,398,104
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	2,279,820
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	8,905,676

Early Childhood Development in the United States

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	66.0%
Number of children served by Head Start	1,117,729
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	1,619,100
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,377
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	14.2%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	40.3%

Education in the United States

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$10,591
Percent of public school fourth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	67.6%
unable to do math at grade level	60.3%
Percent of public school eighth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	68.4%
unable to do math at grade level	66.5%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	1,000,363

Child Welfare in the United States

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	677,221
Number of children in foster care	403,949
Number of children adopted from foster care	52,775
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	2,641,514

Youth at Risk in the United States

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	5.6%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	75.5%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	25.9%
Number of juvenile arrests	1,379,039
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	81,015
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.35
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in homicides	1,855
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	800

**This fact sheet contains the most recent data as of January 26, 2012.
For data sources and methodological notes, please visit: www.childrensdefense.org/cits.**

For more information on the state of America's children contact:

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