



Children in the States

INDIANA

September 2015

Child Population

1,581,927 children lived in Indiana in 2014; 27 percent were children of color.

- 73 percent were White
- 11 percent were Hispanic
- 11 percent were Black
- 2 percent were Asian
- 4 percent were two or more races
- <1 percent were American Indian/Alaska Native
- <1 percent were Pacific Islander

Child Poverty

More than 1 in 5 (21.5 percent) of Indiana's children were poor in 2014, a total of 333,348 children.¹

- Indiana ranked 29th in child poverty among states.²
- More than 1 in 11 children lived in extreme poverty at less than half the poverty level.
- The youngest children were the poorest age group. More than 1 in 4 children under age 6 were poor; nearly half of the poor children were extremely poor.

Children of color in Indiana are disproportionately poor.

- More than 2 in 5 Black children, more than 1 in 3 Hispanic children, and nearly 1 in 4 American Indian/Native Alaskan children were poor in 2014, compared to nearly 1 in 6 White children.

Child Hunger and Homelessness

Child poverty in Indiana leads to unacceptable child homelessness and hunger.

- Nearly 16,000 Indiana public school students were homeless in the 2012-2013 school year.
- In 2014, nearly 2 full-time minimum-wage jobs were necessary to be able to afford a fair market rent two-bedroom apartment in Indiana and still have enough left over for food, utilities and other necessities.
- Nearly 22 percent of children lived in households that lacked access to adequate food in 2013. More than 31 percent of children ages 10-17 were overweight or obese in 2011-2012. Indiana ranked 26th of 50 states in child food security and 29th in percent of children overweight and obese.
- More than 27 percent of Indiana children relied on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to meet their nutritional needs on an average month in FY2013.
- 80 percent of Indiana children receiving a free and reduced-price lunch during the school year did not participate in Summer Nutrition Programs in 2014 – ranking Indiana 10th of 50 states in ensuring that children have adequate summer nutrition.

Child Health

Although the majority of Indiana's children have access to health coverage, that does not guarantee enrollment in coverage or access to care, which can jeopardize their education and their future.

- In 2013, 84.2 percent of eligible children participated in Indiana Medicaid or Hoosier Healthwise, Indiana's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In FY2013, a total of 701,804 Indiana children ages 0-18 were enrolled in Indiana Medicaid, and 152,415 in Hoosier Healthwise.
- More than 130,000 Indiana children ages 0-17 (8.2 percent) were uninsured in 2013. The state had the 13th highest uninsured rate among states.

¹ A family of four was poor if it was living on less than \$23,834 a year, \$1,986 a month, \$458 a week and \$65 a day, and extremely poor if living on less than \$11,917 a year, \$993 a month, \$229 a week and \$33 a day.

² The state ranked 1st is the best for children for that outcome and the state ranked 50th is the worst for children.

- In 2012, 102,000 uninsured children ages 0-18 were eligible for Indiana Medicaid or Hoosier Healthwise but not enrolled.

Early Childhood and Education

Lack of early childhood investments deprives children of critical supports in the early years and reduces school readiness.

- In 2013, the average annual cost of center-based child care for an infant was \$8,281 – 7 percent less than the average annual in-state tuition and fees at a public four-year college in Indiana.
- Indiana did not have a waiting list for child care assistance in early 2014.
- On average, 39 percent of Indiana's 3- and 4-year-olds were enrolled in public or private preschool from 2011-2013. Only 30 percent of children from families with incomes under 200 percent of poverty were enrolled.

Indiana's schools fail to educate all children, closing off a crucial pathway out of poverty.

- In 2013, 62 percent of Indiana's fourth grade public school students were unable to read at grade level and 48 percent were unable to compute at grade level.
 - 83 percent of Black fourth graders could not read at grade level and 79 percent could not compute.
 - 76 percent of Hispanic fourth graders could not read at grade level and 61 percent could not compute.
- 80 percent of Indiana public high school students graduated on time in 2012, placing Indiana 27th among states. 63 percent of Black students and 83 percent of Hispanic students graduated on time compared to 82 percent of White students.
- Students who are suspended or expelled are more likely to drop out of school. During the 2011-2012 school year, 11 percent of Indiana public secondary school students received at least one out-of-school suspension, placing Indiana 34th among 48 ranked states. For Black and Hispanic students, the percentages were 28 percent and 13 percent, respectively.

Children Facing Special Risks

Many vulnerable children need treatment, services and permanent families.

- In Indiana, 21,755 children were abused or neglected in 2013 – 13.7 out of 1,000 children.
- On the last day of FY2013, there were 12,817 Indiana children in foster care.

Too many Indiana children are involved in the juvenile justice system.

- 1,878 children and youth were in residential placement in 2011. 29 percent of the children in residential placement were Black, 5 percent were Hispanic, and 61 percent were White.
- 32 Indiana children were in adult jails in 2013.
- Indiana spent 2.1 times as much per prisoner as per public school student in FY2012.

Indiana ranked 35th out of 41 ranked states in preventing child and teen gun deaths.

- A total of 78 children and teens were killed by guns in Indiana in 2013—a rate of 4.4 out of 100,000 children and teens.

For sources please visit www.childrensdefense.org/cits