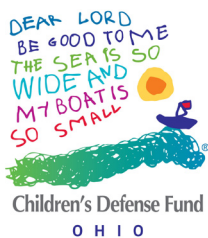
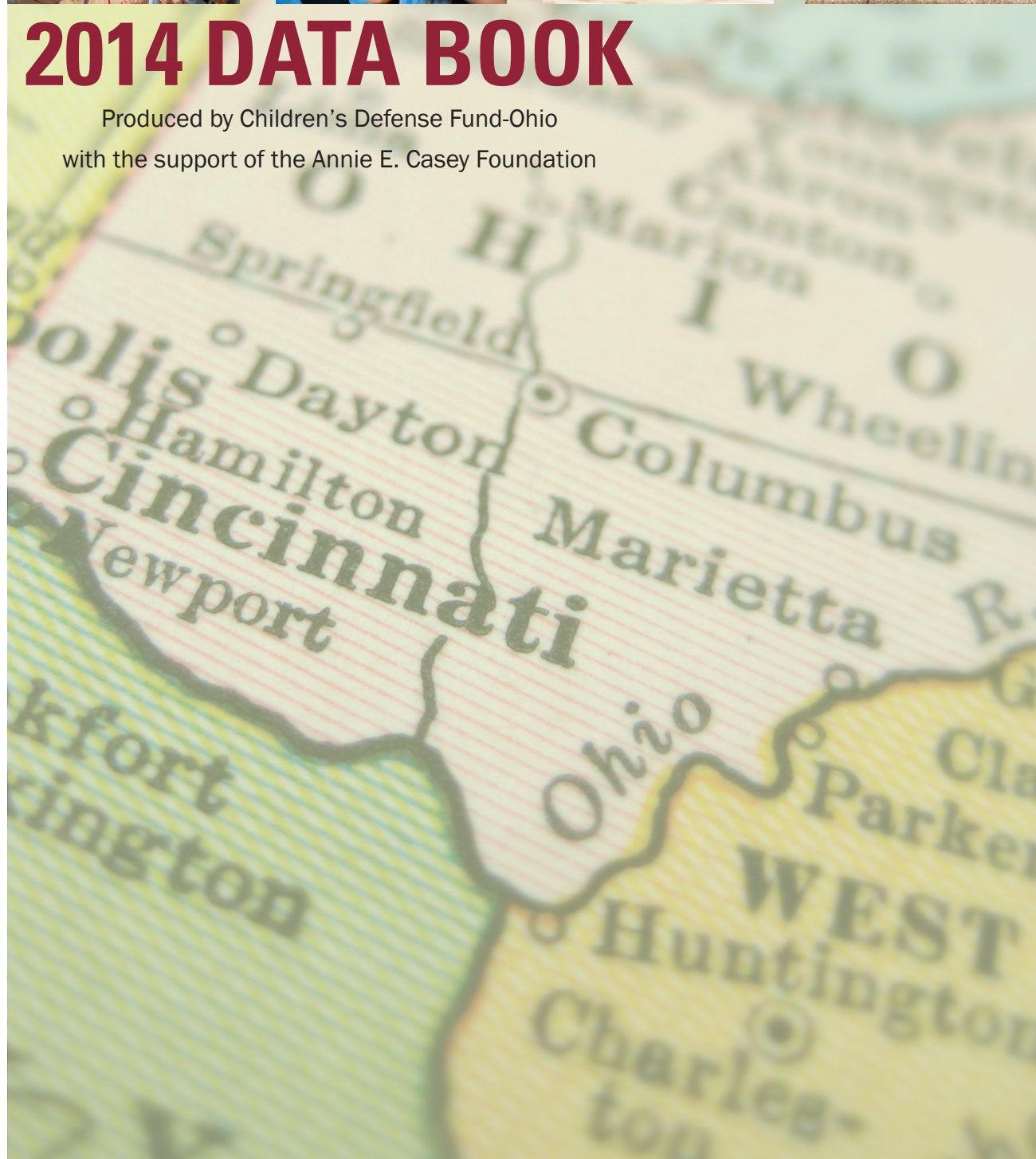


# OHIO'S KIDS COUNT



## 2014 DATA BOOK

Produced by Children's Defense Fund-Ohio  
with the support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation



## About KIDS COUNT®

KIDS COUNT®, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, the KIDS COUNT goal is to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children.

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio (CDF-Ohio) serves as the state-level KIDS COUNT grantee for Ohio. As part of the KIDS COUNT network, CDF-Ohio strives to improve programs and policies for children and families by collecting and reporting credible data and promoting the use of data-based advocacy and communications strategies. In addition to our annual *Data Book* regarding the well-being of children and families in Ohio, we release periodic issue briefs and provide additional resources on our website. Please visit [www.cdfohio.org](http://www.cdfohio.org) for a downloadable copy of this *Data Book*, state and county fact sheets, and other KIDS COUNT publications. CDF-Ohio staff is available to present KIDS COUNT information to groups and agencies.



THE ANNIE E. CASEY  
FOUNDATION



## About Children's Defense Fund

The Children's Defense Fund's Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start* and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective and independent voice for *all* the children of America who cannot vote, lobby or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, drop out of school, get into trouble or suffer family breakdown.

Founded in 1981, CDF-Ohio is a state office of the national Children's Defense Fund, with a unique focus on the needs of Ohio's children and families.



Children's Defense Fund  
OHIO



# OHIO'S KIDS COUNT 2014 DATA BOOK



## ABOUT THIS DATA BOOK

The *Ohio's KIDS COUNT 2014 Data Book* provides the most current, accurate information available about the well-being of Ohio's children for the state and within each of its 88 counties. It contains updated comparison data on 15 indicators of well-being: children living in poverty, median household income, unemployment, children receiving free/reduced price school lunch, children receiving food assistance, children in publicly funded child care, babies born at low birth weight, births to adolescents, children in public health insurance programs, fourth grade reading and math proficiency, graduation rates, children abused and neglected, children in foster care, and adolescents adjudicated for felonies. For most indicators, 2012 is the year for which the most current data were available at the time of printing.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Ohio has many reasons to be proud. Our state is blessed with geographic diversity, from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, from farm lands to the rolling hills of Appalachia, from forests to major cities. With our museums, amusement parks, fairs and events, state and metro parks, sports teams, and beaches, Ohio is a fun place for those who live and who travel here. We have a strong and comprehensive system of higher education with 14 public universities, 23 community colleges, more than 100 independent colleges, and more than 120 workforce education and training centers. These are just a few of the reasons that it is great to be an Ohioan.

While our state has many assets, none is more precious than our 2.6 million children. Ohio's children depend upon adults—their families, teachers, caregivers, doctors, coaches, police officers, firefighters, community and faith leaders, and policy makers—to help them become educated, responsible, caring, and successful adults. We must ensure that the well-being of all children is always our top priority.

Ohio has been making strides toward improving the well-being of our children. For example, the 2014-15 state budget included \$30 million in new spending to expand the availability of high-quality early childhood



education opportunities for low-income children. New policies in the Mid-Biennium Review of the state budget allocate an additional \$16 million to help parents obtain or continue child care subsidies, so that children do not lose the consistency of high-quality child care programs while their parents are temporarily out of work. In this first year of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee's implementation, nearly 90% of third graders attained scores needed to advance to fourth grade. Fewer children are entering our juvenile detention centers and Department of Youth Services facilities. And, our economy is showing signs of improvement after the recent economic recession.

At the same time, we know that there are still far too many children in Ohio who face the daily struggles of hunger, poverty, poor health, inadequate schools, abuse, neglect, and trauma. We all are familiar with problems in our cities such as crime, violence, and troubled schools. Most Ohioans are aware of the extreme poverty children face in much of Appalachia. We also know of the disparities that exist in for Ohio's children by race and economic status. For example, a 2014 Annie E. Casey Foundation report, *Race for Results: Building a Path to Opportunity for All Children*, found that Black children in Ohio fared among the worst in the nation on an index of 12 indicators that measure a child's success in each stage of life.<sup>1</sup> Most people also are aware that students who are considered economically disadvantaged in the schools consistently score lower on proficiency tests than their peers whose families are not economically disadvantaged.

However, what about children in other parts of the state, such as suburbs or in rural areas in western Ohio? Recent studies reveal growing problems in areas that do not usually receive quite the same level of concern or attention as our cities. The USDA's annual *Rural America at a Glance* cites national trends of lagging job growth, lower median incomes and higher poverty in rural compared to metropolitan areas.<sup>2</sup> Suburbs are also seeing increased poverty. The Brookings Institution's *Confronting Suburban Poverty in America* found that poverty was growing faster in the nation's suburbs than in cities and rural areas.<sup>3</sup> These reports raise new concerns and emphasize the importance of understanding how our children's well-being differs across the state.

In response to this need, the *Ohio's KIDS COUNT 2014 Data Book* takes a closer look at how children in metropolitan, Appalachian, non-Appalachian rural, and

suburban counties differ on indicators in education, economic well-being, health, safety, and demographics. It provides information to help educators, advocates, policy makers, funders, and communities understand the status of children in different parts of the state so that they are better equipped to identify and address children's needs.

Key findings from regional comparisons show that:

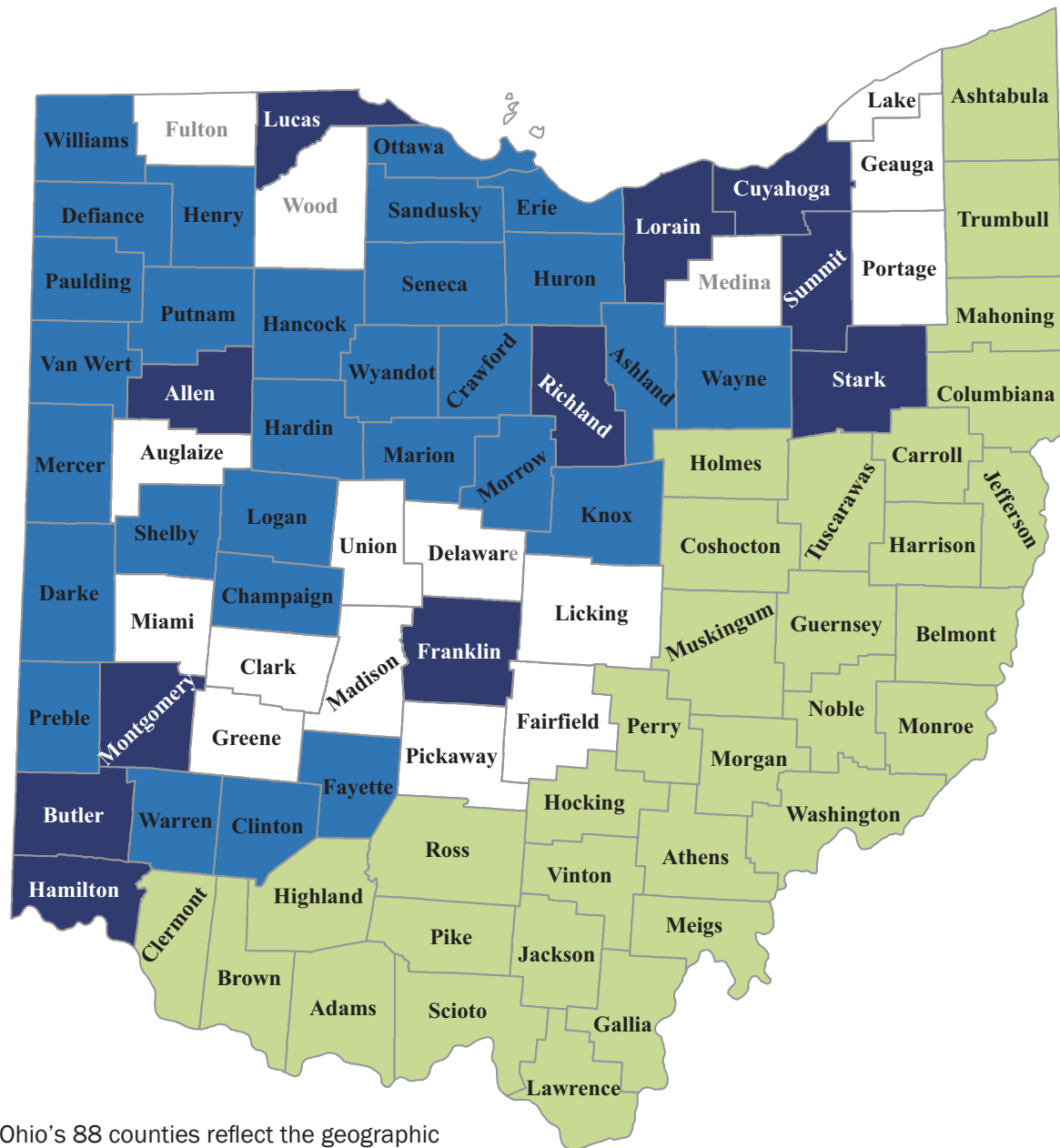
- Metropolitan and Appalachian counties each scored the lowest on about half of the indicators of child well-being. Appalachian counties scored the lowest on every economic indicator, and metropolitan counties had the lowest scores on health and safety indicators.
- Suburban counties scored the best on all but one indicator.
- Rural counties tended to do better than metropolitan and Appalachian counties, but were behind suburban counties. Rural counties scored the best on one indicator, babies born at low birth weight.
- The percent increase of children in poverty has been the highest in rural and suburban regions over the last decade.

These findings and others reveal that children's well-being differs from region to region. They suggest that a one-size-fits-all approach to improving well-being may not address disparities that exist for different regions of the state. At the same time, the findings also foster opportunities for similar types of regions or counties to collaborate on shared initiatives and improve conditions in ways that will most benefit children in those areas.

## Ohio's Geographic Regions

Each year, KIDS COUNT provides data on indicators of child well-being at the state and county levels. In addition to county data, most indicators are aggregated and reported in terms of one of four regions or county types: Metropolitan, Suburban, Rural (non-Appalachian), and Appalachian. The region to which counties are assigned follows the designations from the Ohio Medicaid Assessment Survey (OMAS), formerly called the Ohio Family Health Survey.<sup>4</sup> The one exception is that Mahoning County is classified as Appalachian in KIDS COUNT based on its designation by the Appalachian Regional Commission, while the OMAS classifies it as Metropolitan. Regional averages are calculated for KIDS COUNT indicators when possible.

# OHIO'S GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS



Ohio's 88 counties reflect the geographic diversity of our state. To enable comparisons, most indicators are aggregated and reported in terms of one of four regions:

- Metropolitan
- Suburban
- Rural (non-Appalachian)
- Appalachian





# FAMILY & COMMUNITY



**Children make up nearly a quarter (23.1%) of the total population of Ohio. The majority of these children are very young-- more than 53% are below the age of ten.**

The racial and ethnic composition of the child population in Ohio, like much of the country, is becoming more diverse and less White. Twenty years ago, 85% of the child population was White, 13.9% was Black, 1% was Asian, and 2% was Hispanic.<sup>5</sup> Today, 78.1% of children are White, 15% are Black, 4.6% identify with two or more races, and 1.9% are Asian. Five percent of the child population (of any race) is Hispanic or Latino. Most children (98.5%) were born in the United States.<sup>6</sup>

**Table 1**

DEMOGRAPHICS	Number	Percent
<b>Total population</b>	11,544,225	
<b>Child population, as % of total population</b>	2,663,674	23.1%
Children age 0-4, as % of child population	694,870	26.1%
Children age 5-9, as % of child population	735,672	27.6%
Children age 10-13, as % of child population	611,729	23.0%
Children age 14-17, as % of child population	621,403	23.3%
<b>Child population by race/ethnicity, as % of children</b>		
White alone	2,080,674	78.1%
Black alone	400,537	15.0%
American Indian and Alaskan Native alone	7,327	0.3%
Asian alone	50,439	1.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	1,744	0.1%
Two or More Race Groups	122,953	4.6%
Hispanic or Latino	140,826	5.3%

Source: U.S. Census 2012 Population Estimates. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

# FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Geographically, more than half (52.2%) of children live in counties considered metropolitan (see Figure 1). Approximately 17% of children live in Appalachian and suburban counties respectively, and 13.9% live in counties that are in non-Appalachian rural areas.

## Educational Attainment

The educational attainment of a child's parents is strongly connected to the family's socio-economic status. Adults with college degrees have higher incomes and are less likely to live in poverty than those with less education, which in turn affects their children. In Ohio, one fourth of adults age 25 and over hold bachelor's degrees or higher, a level that is below the national rate of 28.6%. Adults with bachelor's degrees earn \$20,326 more than those whose highest level of education is a high school diploma or GED and nearly \$29,000 more than those who have not completed high school. Table 2 also shows that poverty rates are substantially higher for adults without bachelor's degrees.

## Births to Teen Mothers

Households in which the mother is a teen can have a profound impact on a child's well-being. Teen pregnancy and childbearing have substantial social and economic costs

that affect parents and their babies.<sup>7</sup> Teen mothers are less likely to graduate from high school than girls who are not teen mothers. Lacking a high school diploma contributes to lower incomes and increases the chances of falling into poverty during adulthood. Children born to adolescents are more likely to be incarcerated as teens, have lower achievement in school, are more likely to drop out, and are more likely to become teen parents themselves.<sup>8</sup>

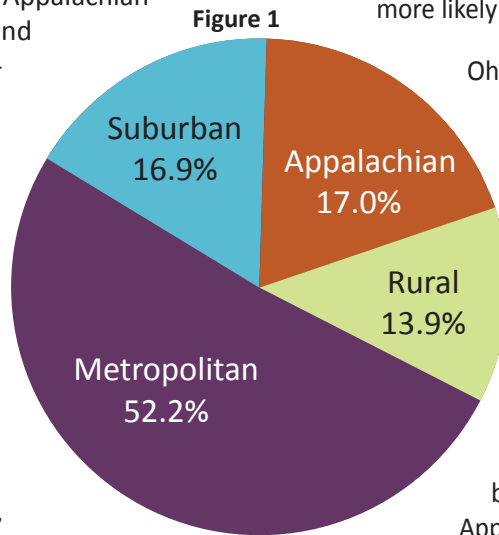
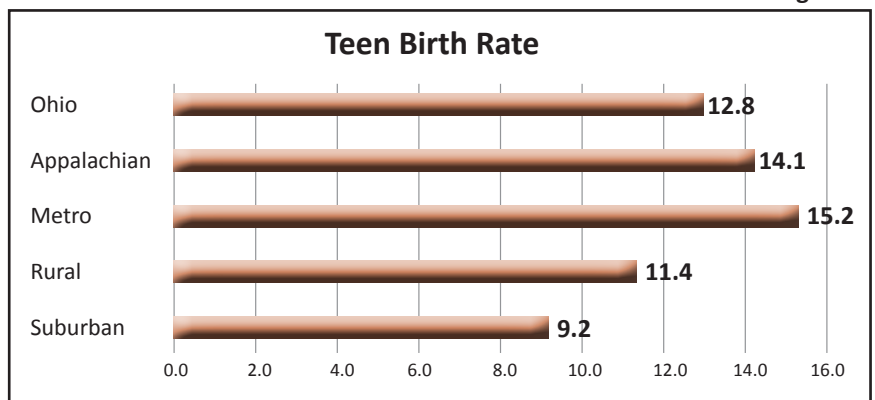


Figure 1

Source: U.S. Census 2012 Population Estimates. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

Ohio continues to improve on this indicator of child well-being. The number of children born to teen mothers (age 15-17) has been declining steadily since 2007, following an overall national decline.<sup>9</sup> In 2012, 2,907 babies were born to teen mothers in Ohio compared to 5,044 a decade earlier. The teen birth rate, or number of births per 1,000 females in the age group 15-17 years, is shown in Figure 2. The teen birth rate is highest in metropolitan and Appalachian counties, where the averages exceed the state rate of 12.8. There is a wide range in teen birth rates by county, with a high of 25.5 in Vinton County and a low of 2.6 in Geauga County.

Figure 2



Source: Ohio Department of Health, Center for Public Health Statistics and Informatics. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

Table 2

Educational Attainment (Age 25 and over)	Percent of Adults	Median Income	Percent in Poverty
Not a high school graduate	12%	\$18,444	28%
High school graduate or GED	35%	\$27,058	13%
Some college or Associate's degree	29%	\$31,803	11%
Bachelor's degree	16%	\$47,384	4%*
Graduate or professional degree	9%	\$62,705	

\*Poverty rate for Bachelor's degree and higher, including Graduate or professional degrees

Source: American Community Survey (2010-2012). Calculations by CDF-Ohio.





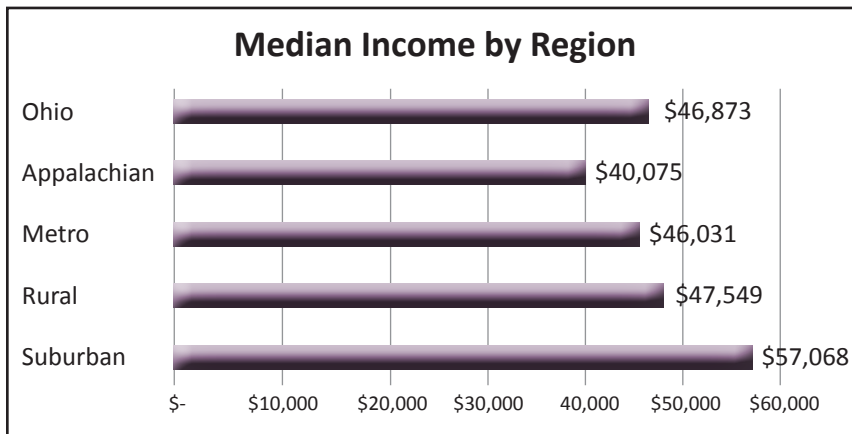
# ECONOMIC WELL-BEING



Ohio's economy was hit hard during the recent recession, and children bore much of the brunt of its harsh effects. Although declining unemployment and rising median incomes provide signs of improvement, Ohio continues to have an alarming number of children who live in poverty. Further, recovery has not been consistent across the state. Appalachian counties

as a whole continue to have lower incomes and higher unemployment than the rest of Ohio. However, child poverty is rising the fastest in non-Appalachian rural and suburban counties. There is still much ground to cover to bring economic relief to all of Ohio's children.

Figure 3



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, SAIPE, 2012. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

## Income

Median household income in Ohio rose by \$1,070 from 2011 to 2012, but still remains below pre-recession levels.<sup>10</sup> At \$46,873, Ohio's median household income also is well below the national median of \$51,371. As shown in Figure 3, median income varies greatly between Ohio's regions. The median income for Appalachian households is almost

# ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

\$17,000 less than that of suburban counties. There also is a large range in median incomes when comparing individual counties. The difference between the county with the lowest median income (Athens, \$33,950) and the county with the highest median income (Delaware, \$87,470) is more than \$53,000.

## Unemployment

More than 420,000 people in Ohio were unemployed in 2012.<sup>11</sup> The state's unemployment rate was 7.2% and has declined each year since peaking at 10.2% in 2009 (see Figure 4). The unemployment rate also declined in every county and in each region compared to the previous year. Appalachia's unemployment rate of 9% was the highest, followed by rural and metropolitan counties (both 7.4%). Suburban counties (6.5%) had the lowest unemployment rate. Several counties had unemployment rates higher than 10%, with the highest rates in Pike (13.2%), Meigs (11.9%), and Morgan (11.1%) counties. Holmes and Mercer counties both had unemployment rates below 5%.

## Children Living in Poverty

Poverty continues to be one of the most urgent problems plaguing Ohio's children. Poverty is defined by the federal government as a household income at or below \$23,050 for a family of four, a level that also is

well below the median household income.<sup>12</sup> Nearly one fourth (23.6%) of children in Ohio live in poverty. Ohio's child poverty rate has been higher than the national rate for the past seven years.<sup>13</sup> Our youngest children, age four and younger, are even more likely to live in families considered poor. The poverty rate for this age group is 28.4%.<sup>14</sup>

Over the last ten years, the percent of children in poverty has increased in every county in Ohio. All but 11 counties saw percent increases of at least 50% and in 17 counties, the rate of child poverty grew by more than 100%.

## A Regional Look at Child Poverty

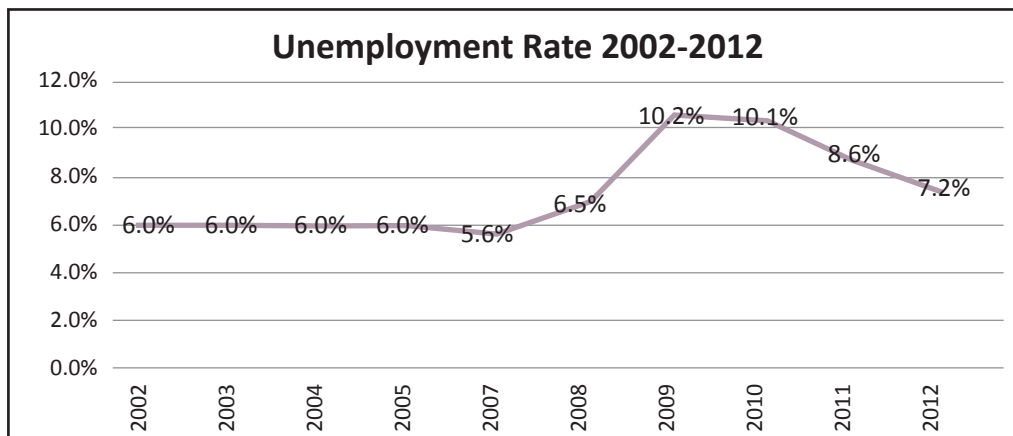
By region, Appalachia has the highest percent of children in poverty (28.3%). The seven counties with the highest child poverty rates in Ohio all are in Appalachia: Jackson (35.2%), Vinton (34.9%), Pike (34.4%), Scioto (33.6%), Adams (33.5%), Mahoning (32.6%) and Hocking (32.5%). Although Appalachia has the highest percent of children in poverty, the region had the smallest percent increase in child poverty during the last decade.

Child poverty rates also are high in metro areas, where the average for the region is 26.2%. Ohio's cities have some of the highest rates of child poverty in the nation. Youngstown-- with a staggering 63.5% of children below the poverty line-- has the highest child poverty rate of all cities in the United States.<sup>15</sup> Cincinnati (53.1%) ranks 11th, Cleveland (52.6%) ranks 12<sup>th</sup>, and Dayton (50.5%) ranks 14<sup>th</sup> for cities with the highest child poverty rates.

More than 40% of children in Toledo, Lorain, Canton, and Akron are considered poor.<sup>16</sup>

Although they have the lowest child poverty rate compared to the other regions in the state, poverty in suburban counties has been on the rise. As Figure 5 shows, the percent increase in child poverty rates from 2002-2012 was 80.5% for suburban

Figure 4



Source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (2012). Civilian labor force estimates query.



Figure 5

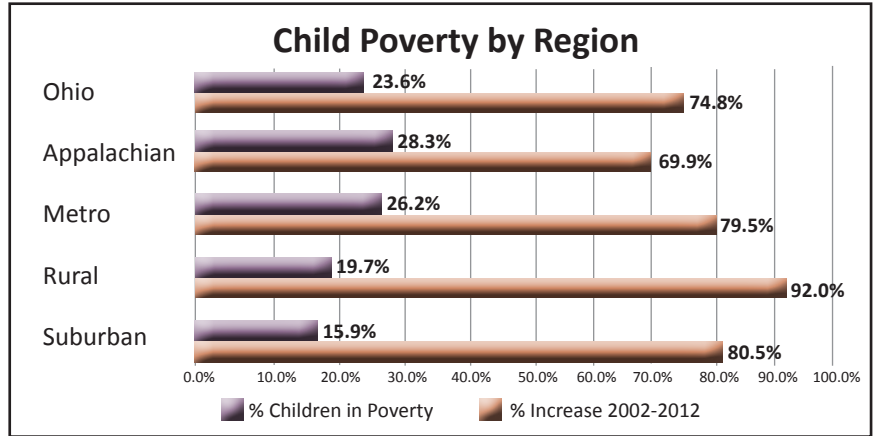
counties-- higher than in Appalachian or metropolitan counties. Further, a 2013 Brookings Institution study found that the percent increase in the number of poor in the total population from 2000 to 2011 was higher in the suburbs of Ohio's seven largest cities than in the cities themselves.<sup>17</sup> The poor population across the country is now larger and growing faster in suburbs than in cities or rural areas.<sup>18</sup>

Finally, although Ohio's non-Appalachian rural counties have a relatively lower rate of child poverty (19.7%) compared to all but suburban counties, rural counties have experienced some of the largest percent increases in child poverty in the last decade. Eight of the top ten counties for biggest percent increase in child poverty from 2002-2012 are rural counties, predominately located in northwest Ohio: Hancock, Defiance, Seneca, Ashland, Williams, Van Wert, Henry, and Champaign. In Hancock and Defiance counties the percent of children in poverty increased by more than 140% from 2002-2012.<sup>19</sup> The percent increase in child poverty for rural counties combined was 92%, the highest of all regions in the state.

### Food Assistance Programs

Low-income families and children that are struggling economically may be eligible for programs that provide much-need food assistance. The National School Lunch Program (NSLP), often referred to in the schools as Free and Reduced Price Lunch, is a federally assisted meal program that provides low-cost or free lunches to children. In 2012, the program provided lunches to more than 31 million children in the U.S. each school day.<sup>20</sup> Children from families with incomes at or below 130% of the poverty level are eligible for

free meals and those with incomes between 130% and 185% of the poverty level are eligible for reduced-price



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, SAIPE. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

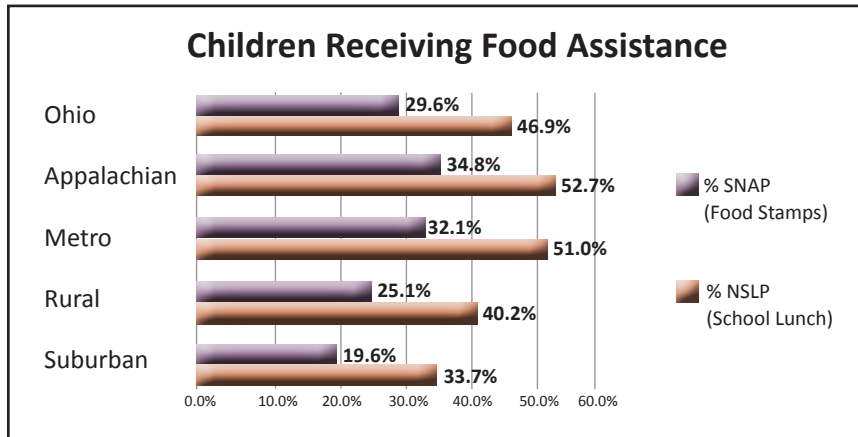


# ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

meals. Families submit applications to determine eligibility. Some higher poverty Ohio schools participate in a Community Eligibility Provision which provides free lunch and breakfast to all students without an application process.<sup>21</sup>

Another program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called Food Stamps, helps eligible low-income households to purchase food at stores. Eligibility is based upon several factors, including income, disability, the number of people in the household, and in some cases, household expenses.

**Figure 6**



Sources: Ohio Department of Education; Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

Figure 6 shows the percent of children participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and children eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

## National School Lunch Program/ Free and Reduced Price Lunch

Nearly half -- 46.9% of Ohio's children-- participated in the National School Lunch Program in 2012.<sup>22</sup> Thirty-four counties had participation rates of greater than 50%. Appalachia (51.5%) and metropolitan areas (48.7%) have the highest percentage of children participating. The counties with the highest percentage of children on free or reduced lunch are all in Appalachia: Vinton (77.3%),

Pike (69.7%), Jackson (62.7%), and Scioto (62.7%). Delaware (15.0%), Warren (20.4%), and Geauga (20.7%) have the smallest percentage of children enrolled.

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/ Food Stamps

In Ohio, 788,006 children (29.6%) were eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in 2012. Both the number and percent of eligible children rose from the previous year.

One third of children in Appalachian (34.8%) and metropolitan counties (32.1%) were eligible for SNAP. Although a lower percent of children in suburban (19.6%) and rural (25.1%) counties were eligible, both had higher rates of increase in the percent eligible from 2011 to 2012. The percent increase for Appalachian and metro counties was under 4%, while the percent increases for rural and suburban counties were 6.6% and 5.2%. The ten counties with the highest percentage of children eligible for SNAP are in Appalachia and have rates of 40% or higher: Vinton, Pike, Scioto, Adams, Meigs, Ross, Lawrence, Muskingum, Jackson, and Mahoning. In contrast, fewer than 9% of children are eligible for SNAP benefits in Holmes, Delaware, Geauga, and Warren counties.







# EDUCATION



Ohio has seen many changes related to education in the past year. For example, the state budget provided funding to enable more low-income children to have access to high-quality early learning opportunities. Ohio updated and expanded its quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for early childhood education programs, called Step Up to Quality. The 2013-2014 school year was the first year of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, a new policy that requires third graders to demonstrate proficiency in reading (with some exceptions) in order to advance to fourth grade. New graduation requirements were adopted, phasing out Ohio Graduation Tests and establishing new requirements such as end of course exams for students who will be ninth graders in 2014-2015.<sup>23</sup> In order for these changes to be successful in improving educational outcomes, however, it will be imperative that schools, communities, and families have the capacity to provide low-income children, children of color, and children who have disabilities with the extra supports that they need to achieve.

## EDUCATION

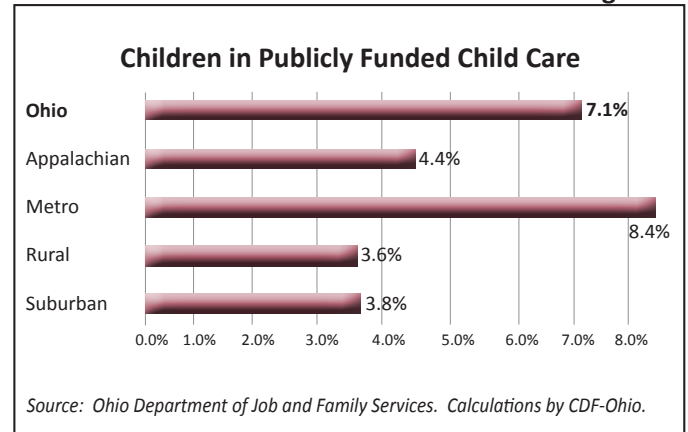
### Children in Publicly Funded Childcare

The Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program helps parents who are working or in school pay for child care.<sup>24</sup> Publicly funded Ohio Early Learning and Development programs can include child care centers, Head Start programs, Type B home providers, school-age programs, and camps.<sup>25</sup> Eligibility is based on income, family size, and the number of children who need child care.

The total number of children in publicly funded child care in state fiscal year 2012 was 188,467, which represents 7.1% of all children in the state. Children in metropolitan counties (8.4%) are enrolled in publicly funded childcare at almost twice the rate as children in other types of counties, as shown in Figure 7. Similarly, individual counties with the highest percent of children in publicly funded child care are metropolitan: Hamilton (13.5%), Cuyahoga (11.4%), Franklin (10.8%), Lucas (9.6%), and Montgomery (8.7%). Paulding, a rural

county, has the lowest percent with 0.7% of children in publicly funded child care.

Figure 7



### Fourth Grade Reading and Math Proficiency

Students in grades three through eight are assessed annually in reading and math using the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA). The OAA's measure what students know and can do in each subject.<sup>29</sup> OAA results also are used to track progress at the state, district, and school levels. Students' scores place them in one of five levels: Limited, Basic, Proficient,

# FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN MATTERS

Full-day kindergarten benefits children in many ways. Compared to half-day kindergarteners, full-day kindergarteners are better prepared for first grade, have better attendance, show faster gains in literacy and language development, and benefit socially and emotionally by spending more time in a structured environment. They may also have less need for remediation and have better student retention.<sup>26</sup>

Ohio requires public districts to offer at least half-day kindergarten, but many districts choose to offer full-day or a combination of both types.<sup>27</sup> More than 75% of public districts, charter, and community schools offer full-day kindergarten.<sup>28</sup>

Appalachia (90%) has the highest percent of districts and community schools that offer full-day kindergarten

only, followed by metropolitan counties (77%). Suburban districts are the most likely to offer half-day only or a combination of kindergarten types.

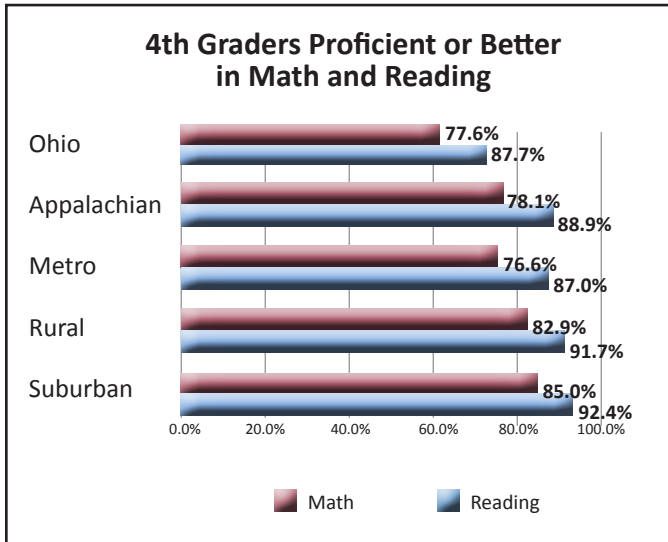
Table 3

### TYPE OF KINDERGARTEN OFFERED BY REGION

	Full-Day	Half-Day	Full-Day Every Other Day	Combination of Full-Day and Half or Full-Day Every Other Day
Ohio	76%	8%	3%	13%
Appalachian	90%	2%	3%	6%
Metro	77%	8%	0%	15%
Rural	71%	12%	4%	12%
Suburban	57%	14%	8%	19%

Source: Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Ohio Department of Education. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

**Figure 8**



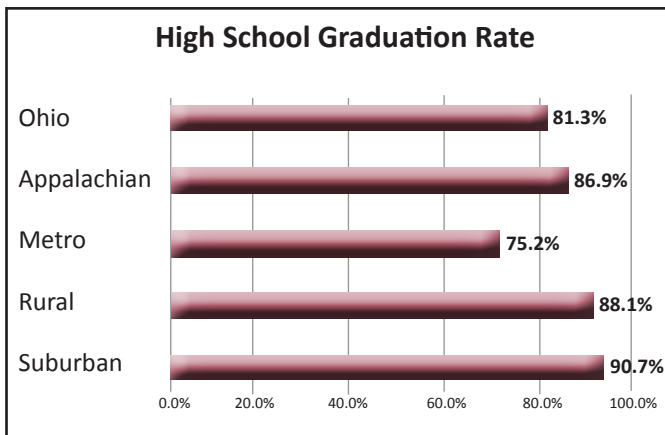
Source: Ohio Department of Education, 2012-2013.

Accelerated, and Advanced. Children who score Proficient or better are considered to be at or above grade level for the subject.

During the 2012-2013 school year, 87.7% of 4th graders scored Proficient or better in reading on the OAA. Students in metro counties scored Proficient or better at the lowest rates (87.0%) while students in suburban (92.4%), rural (91.7%), and Appalachian (88.9%) counties all had proficiency rates above the state average.

In math, 77.6% of 4th graders scored Proficient or better statewide. Similarly to reading, 4th graders in metro counties had the lowest proficiency rates (76.6%) compared to other regions in the state. Suburban children had the highest proficiency rates in math (85.0%), followed by rural (82.9%) and Appalachian (78.1%) children. Figure 8 shows 4<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency rates in reading and math.

**Figure 9**



Source: Ohio Department of Education, 2012-2013.

Although there are gaps in proficiency rates by region of the state, disparities in proficiency rates are more pronounced looking at economic status and race, especially in math (see Table 4). For example, there is a gap of 14.2 percentage points in reading and 23.5 points in math between Ohio 4th graders who are economically disadvantaged versus children who do not come from economically disadvantaged families. The gap between Black and White 4th graders is 19.8 percentage points in reading and 32.5 in math, and 9.6 and 16.6 points respectively for Latino compared to White children.

**Table 4**

**4<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS PROFICIENT IN READING AND MATH BY ECONOMIC STATUS, RACE AND ETHNICITY**

Student Category	Reading	Math
All Students	87.70%	77.60%
By Economic Status		
Economic Disadvantage	80.6%	66.0%
No Economic Disadvantage	94.8%	89.5%
By Race or Ethnicity		
Asian	92.8%	89.9%
Black, Non-Hispanic	71.7%	51.4%
Hispanic	81.9%	67.3%
AI/AN*	83.1%	71.7%
Multiracial	86.1%	73.3%
Pacific Islander	86.4%	76.1%
White, Non-Hispanic	91.5%	83.9%

\* American Indian or Alaskan Native

Source: Ohio Department of Education, 2012-2013.

**High School Graduation Rate**

Ohio’s four-year longitudinal graduation rate was 81.3% for the 2011-2012 school year. As Figure 9 shows, students in metropolitan counties are much less likely to graduate in four years than students in the other regions of the state. Suburban students have the highest graduation rate at 90.7% although the four rural counties of Mercer (96.6%), Putnam (96.6%), Defiance (96%) and Wyandot (95.6%) rank in the top five for highest graduation rates among all counties in the state. Marion (49.6%), Lucas (61.7%), Franklin (66.9%), and Cuyahoga (73.2%) counties have the state’s lowest graduation rates.





# HEALTH

Health is the foundation for a child's well-being. Children who have a healthy start to life face better odds of achieving benchmarks that put them on track developmentally. To improve health outcomes for children in Ohio, there have been numerous initiatives and policies enacted in recent years. Cities across the state have launched programs designed to bring down the state's high infant mortality rates, especially for Black babies. Starting this year, all newborns will be screened for critical congenital heart defects. Advocates, businesses, and the medical community banded together to advocate for Medicaid expansion, which resulted in Ohio becoming one of 27 states to expand Medicaid to include many more low income Ohioans. In 2015, Congress will vote to reauthorize



**CHIP, the Children's Health Insurance Program—a program that is crucial to the health of Ohio's children.**

The two KIDS COUNT indicators for health, babies born at low birth weight and children enrolled in Medicaid, reveal the familiar trend that children in metropolitan and Appalachian counties fare worse than their suburban or rural peers.

Figure 10

To learn more about health disparities that affect Ohio’s rural and Appalachian children, read CDF-Ohio’s issue brief at [www.cdfohio.org/research-library/](http://www.cdfohio.org/research-library/).

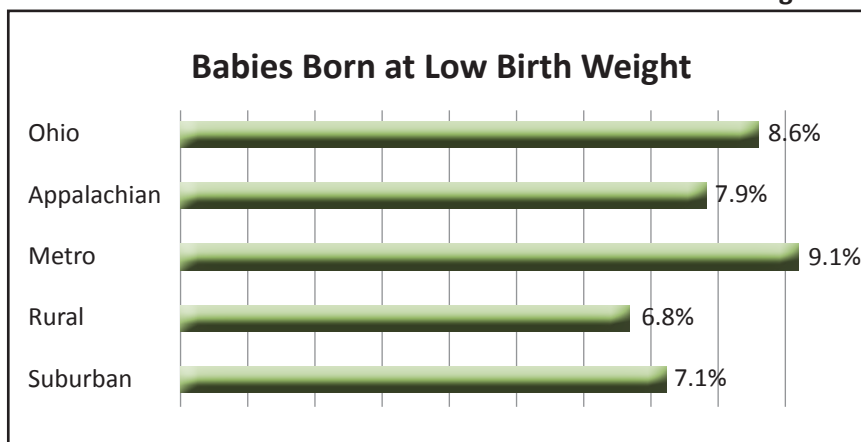
## Low Birth Weight

Children who weigh less than 5.5 pounds (2500 grams) when born are considered low birth weight babies.<sup>30</sup> Compared to those born at normal weight, babies born at low birth weight may be more at risk for a variety of health problems. Risk factors that may increase the chances of a pregnant woman having a baby born at low birth weight include smoking, drinking alcohol, lack of weight gain, being younger than 15 or older than 35, low income, low education level, stress, domestic violence or abuse, not being married, previous preterm birth, exposure to air pollution, and exposure to lead in drinking water.<sup>31</sup>

In 2012, 11,805 or 8.6% of babies were born at low birth weight in Ohio (see Figure 10). The percentage of babies born at low birth weight has remained stable for more than a decade. Metropolitan counties have the highest percentage of babies born at low birth weight (9.1%) followed by Appalachian (7.9%), suburban (7.1%), and rural counties (6.8%). Morgan, Marion, Hardin, Cuyahoga, Wyandot, Meigs, Ross, and Pike counties all have rates higher than 10%.

## Children Enrolled in Medicaid

Three publicly funded health care programs for children, pregnant women and families with limited income are offered through Ohio Medicaid.<sup>32</sup> Healthy Start (SCHIP) is available to uninsured children up to age 19 in families with household income up to 206% of the federal poverty level (FPL), insured children in families with household income up to 156% FPL, and pregnant women in families with household income up to 200% FPL. Healthy Families provides Medicaid coverage to families with income up to

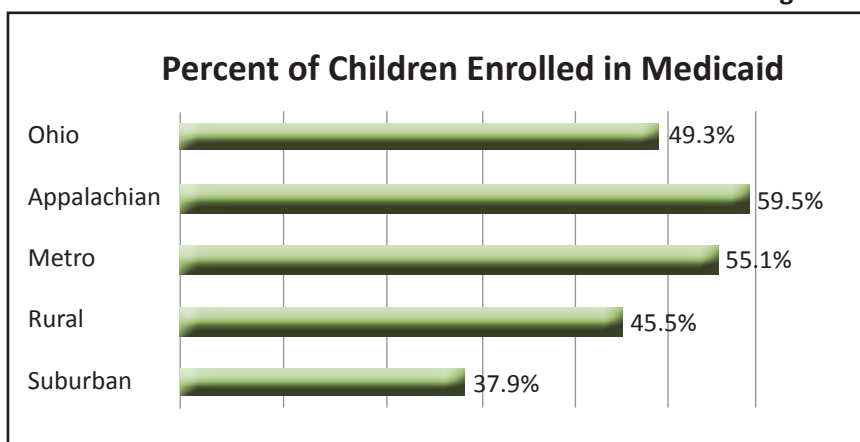


Source: Ohio Department of Health, Center for Public Health Statistics and Informatics. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

90% FPL that have at least one minor child under the age of 18. A third program provides Medicaid for 19 and 20-year-olds with household income up to 44% of the federal poverty level.

More than 1.3 million children—about half of Ohio’s children-- were enrolled in Healthy Start or Healthy Families at some point during the year. Appalachia (59.5%) had the highest percent of children enrolled in Medicaid followed by metropolitan (55.1%), rural (45.5%), and suburban counties (37.9%), as shown in Figure 11. In five counties, more than 70% of the children were enrolled in Medicaid at some point during the year: Pike (81.2%), Vinton (77.9%), Adams (77.6%), Jackson (73.4%), and Scioto (71.0%). In contrast, fewer than 25% of children were enrolled in Medicaid in Delaware (17.1%), Holmes (19.6%), Geauga (20.6%), and Warren (21.4%) counties.

Figure 11



Source: Ohio Department of Medicaid. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.





# SAFETY



Imagine trying to play or study in an environment in which you feared for your safety—an environment with violence, maltreatment, or other types of trauma. Sadly, thousands of children in Ohio live in situations that do not promote their well-being or are downright unsafe. Exposure to trauma such as abuse and neglect can create life-long physical, mental, behavioral and emotional health problems.<sup>33</sup> In this section, we compare indicators under the broad category of safety. This includes substantiated reports of maltreatment and youths adjudicated for felonies. In addition, updated information on children in substitute or foster care is provided.

## *Child Maltreatment*

Child maltreatment refers to substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, including emotional maltreatment, neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse. There were 21,372 substantiated reports

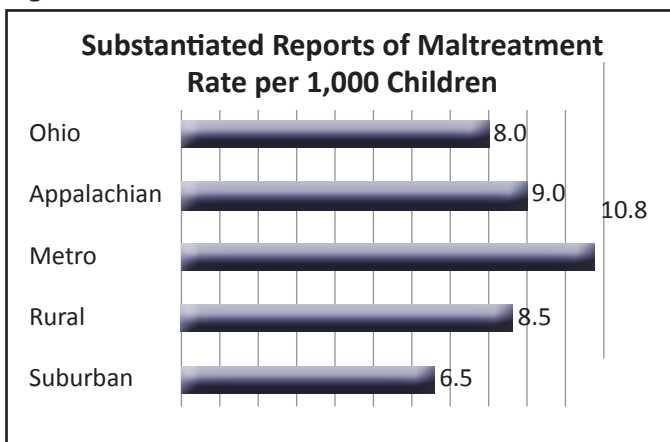


of maltreatment in 2012, for a rate of 8.0 reports per 1,000 children. The actual number of substantiated reports of child maltreatment fell by 1,984 from the previous year.

Metropolitan counties (10.8) have the highest rates of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect while suburban counties have the lowest (6.5). The rates in Appalachian (9.0) and rural counties (8.5) are similar. Child maltreatment rates by region are found in Figure 12.

The rate varies widely among counties. Richland County (29.3) had the highest rate by far followed by Allen (16.8) and Monroe (16.6) counties. Delaware (1.7), Putnam (1.9) and Darke (1.9) were the counties with the lowest rates of substantiated reports of maltreatment.

**Figure 12**

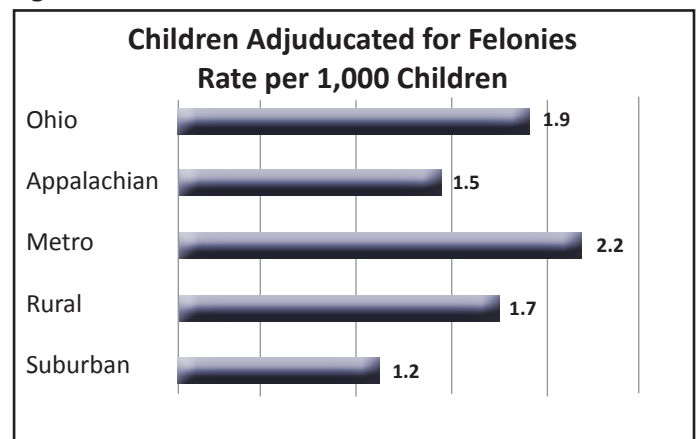


Source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

## Felony Adjudications

Ohio adjudicated 5,074 adolescents for felonies in 2012.<sup>34</sup> The majority of adjudications (63%) involved youth in metropolitan counties. Statewide, the percent of youth adjudicated for felonies who are Black (47.6%) and White (47.2%) are nearly equal, but in metropolitan counties, more than 65% adjudicated youth are Black. In addition to having the largest number of adjudications (3,177) metropolitan counties also adjudicated youth at a higher rate than the other areas of the state. Adjudication rates were 1.9 per 1,000 children for Ohio overall, 2.2 for metropolitan counties, 1.7 for rural counties, 1.5 for Appalachian counties, and 1.2 for suburban counties. Jefferson (3.8), an Appalachian county, and the rural counties of Marion

**Figure 13**



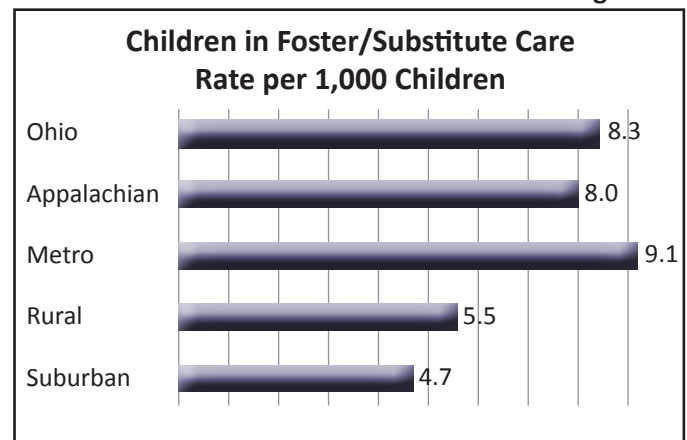
Source: Ohio Department of Youth Services. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

(3.3) and Crawford (3.3) had the highest rates of felony adjudications. Nineteen counties had less than one adjudication per 1,000 children. Figure 13 shows the regional rates of felony adjudications.

## Foster Care

Approximately 22,000 of children were in foster or substitute care in Ohio at some point in 2012. As Figure 14 shows, children in Appalachian (8.5 per 1,000 children) and metropolitan counties (8.7) were in foster care at considerably higher rates than children in rural (5.3) and suburban counties (4.3). Harrison (18.1), Vinton (15.7), and Adams (15.7) counties had the highest rates of children in foster care while Delaware (1.0), Van Wert (1.4), and Putnam (1.5) counties had the lowest rates across the state.

**Figure 14**



Source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Calculations by CDF-Ohio.

# INDICATORS BY COUNTY

	Region	Child Poverty	Med. Family Income in 1,000's	Unemployment	SNAP/Food Stamps	School Lunch Program	Publicly Funded Child Care	4th Gr. Math Proficiency	4th Gr. Reading Proficiency	HS Graduation	Children Enrolled in Medicaid	Teen Birth Rate	Low Birth Wt. Babies per 1,000	Maltreatment Rpts. per 1,000	Felony Adjudications per 1,000	Foster Care per 1,000
<b>OHIO</b>	-	24%	\$47	7%	30%	47%	7%	78%	88%	81%	49%	12.8	9%	8.0	1.9	8.3
<b>ADAMS</b>	A	34%	\$35	11%	43%	61%	4%	76%	86%	88%	78%	11.9	9%	11.9	1.3	15.7
<b>ALLEN</b>	M	28%	\$42	8%	31%	52%	6%	79%	89%	86%	59%	17.4	9%	16.8	2.3	6.4
<b>ASHLAND</b>	R	23%	\$45	8%	21%	45%	2%	86%	95%	93%	45%	12.3	7%	4.5	1.3	10.6
<b>ASHTABULA</b>	A	30%	\$38	9%	35%	56%	6%	83%	90%	85%	61%	13.7	8%	8.7	2.6	10.5
<b>ATHENS</b>	A	32%	\$34	8%	39%	53%	4%	72%	87%	92%	66%	19.2	8%	11.1	0.8	12.8
<b>AUGLAIZE</b>	S	14%	\$52	6%	20%	35%	3%	86%	95%	95%	38%	6.5	6%	5.9	1.6	2.0
<b>BELMONT</b>	A	25%	\$42	8%	32%	48%	3%	82%	94%	89%	58%	15.3	8%	6.3	2.0	5.4
<b>BROWN</b>	A	26%	\$44	9%	32%	53%	3%	80%	90%	89%	63%	6.2	6%	10.6	1.0	13.6
<b>BUTLER</b>	M	20%	\$56	7%	24%	41%	5%	84%	91%	88%	45%	11.9	8%	7.1	1.8	7.1
<b>CARROLL</b>	A	24%	\$43	8%	29%	48%	3%	81%	91%	93%	58%	13.3	7%	11.8	2.1	1.6
<b>CHAMPAIGN</b>	R	21%	\$49	7%	26%	39%	5%	81%	88%	86%	50%	9.7	7%	6.1	2.0	2.1
<b>CLARK</b>	S	32%	\$41	7%	39%	59%	6%	71%	82%	84%	64%	19.5	9%	8.2	2.5	6.2
<b>CLERMONT</b>	A	16%	\$54	7%	20%	35%	3%	86%	94%	93%	44%	8.7	8%	10.2	1.8	10.2
<b>CLINTON</b>	R	22%	\$43	10%	33%	46%	5%	82%	89%	90%	65%	10.6	6%	12.2	3.1	8.0
<b>COLUMBIANA</b>	A	25%	\$43	8%	33%	58%	8%	83%	91%	79%	60%	11.7	10%	9.2	1.1	5.0
<b>COSHOCTON</b>	A	25%	\$42	10%	33%	55%	5%	72%	87%	89%	57%	15	5%	6.4	1.7	4.0
<b>CRAWFORD</b>	R	25%	\$40	9%	35%	54%	4%	73%	90%	89%	66%	9	6%	9.8	3.3	8.7
<b>CUYAHOGA</b>	M	28%	\$42	7%	38%	55%	11%	70%	82%	73%	58%	14.6	11%	8.7	2.7	10.8
<b>DARKE</b>	R	18%	\$45	7%	20%	36%	2%	84%	91%	94%	43%	7.2	6%	1.9	1.1	3.8
<b>DEFIANCE</b>	R	22%	\$46	8%	27%	42%	4%	88%	93%	96%	55%	11.8	6%	9.6	3.2	4.6
<b>DELAWARE</b>	S	6%	\$87	5%	8%	15%	2%	91%	97%	96%	17%	2.9	5%	1.7	0.7	1.0
<b>ERIE</b>	R	20%	\$46	7%	31%	45%	8%	76%	89%	89%	54%	11.2	8%	4.8	2.8	8.0
<b>FAIRFIELD</b>	S	16%	\$59	6%	22%	35%	5%	86%	95%	91%	45%	9.1	8%	3.7	0.5	7.7
<b>FAYETTE</b>	R	28%	\$42	7%	38%	52%	8%	80%	84%	93%	67%	15.5	6%	12.2	1.9	8.2
<b>FRANKLIN</b>	M	26%	\$50	6%	35%	49%	11%	73%	84%	67%	58%	15.4	9%	7.3	1.9	13.2
<b>FULTON</b>	S	14%	\$51	8%	20%	38%	3%	85%	94%	92%	45%	11.2	7%	11.7	1.5	2.7
<b>GALLIA</b>	A	32%	\$38	9%	38%	60%	5%	83%	94%	90%	67%	11.6	8%	6.5	2.1	4.7
<b>GEAUGA</b>	S	12%	\$69	6%	8%	21%	2%	90%	96%	94%	21%	2.6	6%	3.9	0.6	3.0
<b>GREENE</b>	S	17%	\$54	7%	20%	35%	5%	84%	92%	90%	40%	10.1	8%	7.6	1.0	5.3
<b>GUERNSEY</b>	A	30%	\$38	9%	37%	60%	5%	74%	89%	90%	66%	15.6	8%	7.0	2.7	7.9
<b>HAMILTON</b>	M	30%	\$47	7%	33%	56%	14%	75%	86%	77%	56%	15.2	10%	8.7	2.3	12.4
<b>HANCOCK</b>	R	20%	\$50	6%	23%	34%	4%	85%	92%	91%	43%	12.1	8%	8.0	1.8	4.9
<b>HARDIN</b>	R	23%	\$42	7%	27%	47%	2%	82%	94%	92%	53%	16.8	11%	11.7	0.7	4.5
<b>HARRISON</b>	A	29%	\$40	8%	32%	54%	3%	57%	80%	90%	62%	22.2	5%	8.6	1.5	18.1
<b>HENRY</b>	R	17%	\$51	8%	21%	41%	3%	89%	93%	94%	46%	5.1	5%	12.8	1.6	7.1
<b>HIGHLAND</b>	A	28%	\$39	10%	36%	55%	4%	83%	88%	88%	68%	18.5	8%	13.2	0.8	10.8
<b>HOCKING</b>	A	33%	\$39	8%	36%	61%	4%	90%	96%	94%	69%	20.8	6%	7.3	0.9	9.4
<b>HOLMES</b>	A	22%	\$44	5%	7%	41%	1%	87%	95%	93%	20%	3.6	4%	6.0	0.5	3.0
<b>HURON</b>	R	20%	\$46	10%	29%	45%	5%	81%	94%	90%	57%	10.2	6%	3.2	1.6	2.0
<b>JACKSON</b>	A	35%	\$37	10%	40%	63%	3%	83%	88%	87%	73%	23.5	9%	10.4	0.6	6.6
<b>JEFFERSON</b>	A	27%	\$40	11%	38%	58%	5%	80%	92%	90%	64%	11.8	7%	7.3	3.8	9.2
<b>KNOX</b>	R	24%	\$44	7%	26%	48%	4%	83%	92%	88%	49%	10.8	6%	13.8	1.1	2.5
<b>LAKE</b>	S	14%	\$55	6%	19%	34%	5%	84%	92%	89%	37%	7.4	9%	6.1	1.6	2.7
<b>LAWRENCE</b>	A	29%	\$39	8%	41%	58%	5%	79%	92%	91%	68%	17.5	10%	7.2	2.3	4.1

	Region	Child Poverty	Med. Family Income in 1,000's	Unemployment	SNAP/Food Stamps	School Lunch Program	Publicly Funded Child Care	4th Gr. Math Proficiency	4th Gr. Reading Proficiency	HS Graduation	Children Enrolled in Medicaid	Teen Birth Rate	Low Birth Wt. Babies per 1,000	Maltreatment Rpts. per 1,000	Felony Adjudications per 1,000	Foster Care per 1,000
LICKING	S	21%	\$53	7%	23%	39%	6%	84%	92%	88%	47%	13.9	9%	8.2	1.4	11.7
LOGAN	R	22%	\$45	7%	31%	45%	2%	81%	93%	93%	53%	17.1	6%	15.4	1.9	3.8
LORAIN	M	22%	\$50	8%	28%	45%	6%	79%	89%	85%	48%	13.7	7%	10.5	2.2	4.1
LUCAS	M	33%	\$41	8%	39%	53%	10%	69%	85%	62%	61%	16.2	9%	6.0	2.4	9.2
MADISON	S	19%	\$53	7%	26%	39%	4%	83%	88%	80%	48%	10.1	9%	9.9	1.0	4.0
MAHONING	A	33%	\$40	8%	40%	51%	8%	81%	89%	81%	60%	12.9	9%	5.4	2.5	6.4
MARION	R	28%	\$43	8%	38%	61%	4%	74%	82%	50%	66%	20.7	11%	15.8	3.3	5.1
MEDINA	S	10%	\$66	6%	12%	22%	3%	90%	95%	93%	26%	4.7	6%	2.4	1.0	2.2
MEIGS	A	32%	\$35	12%	41%	61%	3%	75%	89%	89%	69%	15.5	10%	13.2	1.3	9.6
MERCER	R	12%	\$52	4%	15%	26%	3%	92%	95%	97%	32%	6.7	6%	6.9	1.2	5.2
MIAMI	S	19%	\$53	7%	18%	37%	4%	85%	94%	91%	41%	11.9	6%	2.6	1.2	3.5
MONROE	A	25%	\$43	10%	30%	54%	2%	65%	78%	93%	65%	15.6	7%	16.6	1.3	4.6
MONTGOMERY	M	28%	\$43	8%	33%	54%	9%	73%	83%	79%	57%	15.6	10%	10.3	2.7	9.5
MORGAN	A	27%	\$36	11%	33%	62%	5%	82%	91%	87%	66%	6.5	13%	8.1	0.6	3.9
MORROW	R	24%	\$51	7%	26%	47%	4%	82%	94%	76%	55%	18.3	9%	4.2	1.4	5.1
MUSKINGUM	A	31%	\$40	10%	41%	54%	7%	78%	89%	89%	67%	15.5	8%	13.3	1.6	8.3
NOBLE	A	22%	\$40	10%	26%	47%	6%	75%	83%	94%	62%	4.1	8%	8.1	0.0	7.0
OTTAWA	R	17%	\$51	10%	22%	39%	3%	82%	91%	95%	45%	13.6	6%	7.8	1.3	4.4
PAULDING	R	19%	\$44	7%	26%	48%	1%	86%	98%	92%	51%	12.5	8%	5.2	3.2	6.4
PERRY	A	28%	\$41	10%	37%	52%	4%	77%	87%	91%	67%	8.8	6%	6.9	2.1	13.3
PICKAWAY	S	20%	\$55	8%	27%	45%	2%	84%	90%	92%	53%	15.3	8%	2.2	1.3	2.0
PIKE	A	34%	\$37	13%	46%	70%	3%	68%	85%	84%	81%	25	10%	8.5	1.3	8.5
PORTAGE	S	19%	\$52	7%	23%	37%	4%	82%	91%	90%	43%	7.3	7%	11.4	1.3	6.9
PREBLE	R	20%	\$46	8%	26%	43%	5%	83%	93%	89%	50%	5.7	7%	12.2	2.2	15.0
PUTNAM	R	10%	\$57	6%	15%	26%	2%	87%	95%	97%	30%	6.3	5%	1.9	0.9	1.5
RICHLAND	M	30%	\$42	8%	33%	50%	8%	80%	89%	85%	61%	21.3	8%	29.3	1.2	3.9
ROSS	A	28%	\$43	8%	41%	52%	4%	74%	88%	86%	67%	10.1	10%	12.6	1.4	9.4
SANDUSKY	R	19%	\$46	7%	25%	49%	7%	82%	93%	90%	53%	11.4	7%	6.3	0.6	2.4
SCIOTO	A	34%	\$36	11%	45%	63%	6%	81%	88%	95%	71%	21.4	8%	6.3	1.2	12.9
SENECA	R	25%	\$44	8%	32%	47%	4%	77%	86%	90%	55%	10.1	10%	6.6	1.2	2.1
SHELBY	R	16%	\$53	7%	21%	37%	3%	83%	90%	92%	46%	13.5	5%	7.6	1.8	2.1
STARK	M	22%	\$46	7%	30%	46%	6%	83%	89%	88%	50%	14.1	9%	8.3	2.0	8.9
SUMMIT	M	23%	\$49	7%	29%	47%	7%	80%	89%	83%	47%	11.8	10%	6.1	2.7	10.8
TRUMBULL	A	30%	\$41	8%	34%	56%	6%	82%	89%	83%	59%	11.8	9%	3.7	2.1	6.1
TUSCARAWAS	A	21%	\$44	7%	26%	44%	4%	84%	93%	85%	51%	10	7%	8.1	1.0	8.0
UNION	S	10%	\$63	6%	14%	27%	3%	88%	94%	93%	31%	6	5%	11.1	0.7	5.2
VAN WERT	R	17%	\$45	7%	23%	47%	1%	82%	93%	94%	48%	15.6	4%	10.0	1.4	1.4
VINTON	A	35%	\$36	11%	48%	77%	4%	69%	85%	88%	78%	25.5	7%	8.7	0.3	15.7
WARREN	R	8%	\$74	6%	9%	20%	2%	91%	96%	93%	21%	2.9	8%	3.7	1.1	3.4
WASHINGTON	A	24%	\$42	7%	28%	44%	4%	78%	89%	89%	53%	9.5	7%	8.0	0.8	4.7
WAYNE	R	18%	\$48	6%	20%	44%	4%	87%	94%	91%	39%	11.1	5%	13.4	0.8	8.4
WILLIAMS	R	20%	\$42	8%	29%	44%	3%	81%	91%	93%	55%	13	4%	14.1	2.0	8.2
WOOD	S	13%	\$51	7%	16%	31%	4%	86%	94%	95%	37%	9.3	7%	7.0	0.9	2.5
WYANDOT	R	14%	\$46	8%	16%	36%	2%	84%	92%	96%	43%	8.6	10%	5.6	0.4	4.1

Notes: Region types are A- Appalachian, M- Metro, R-Rural and S-Suburban. Median income reported in thousands. Percents rounded to whole numbers and rates rounded to one decimal place.



# CONCLUSIONS

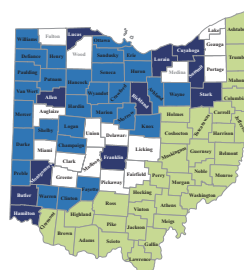
This year's *Data Book* considered differences on the KIDS COUNT indicators by the type of county or region: Appalachian, rural, metropolitan, or suburban. The table below provides a summary table of regional "scores" on each of the indicators. As the data show, children in Appalachian and metropolitan counties each fared the worst on about half of the indicators. Children in suburban counties had the highest level of well-being on all indicators but babies born at low birth weight. Rural non-Appalachian children had the second-highest level of well-being on most indicators. Although Ohio's suburban and non-Appalachian rural areas currently fare the best on the indicators, the relatively higher growth rate of child poverty in both regions is a worrisome trend that could have long term impacts to children in those areas.

These findings demonstrate there are distinct disparities in well-being depending on the region where a child lives. This information provides a starting point for communities, schools, advocacy organizations, and policy makers to work together with others in their regions to identify solutions for children that will target needs in their areas. Our hope is that the data and findings spark conversations about how to address regional disparities and make Ohio a state in which all children can have the best possible start in life. Ohioans must work to ensure that our policies address the needs of all children, regardless of where they live.

	OHIO	APPALACHIAN	METRO	RURAL	SUBURBAN
<b>ECONOMIC WELL-BEING</b>					
Children living in poverty (nbr)	617,004	121,359	360,756	66,325	68,564
Children living in poverty (%)	23.6%	28.3%	26.2%	19.7%	15.9%
Median income	\$46,873	\$40,075	\$46,031	\$47,549	\$57,068
Unemployment rate (%)	7.2%	9.0%	7.4%	7.4%	6.5%
Children receiving SNAP/Food Stamps (%)	29.6%	34.8%	32.1%	25.1%	19.6%
Children eligible for School Lunch Program (%)	46.9%	52.7%	51.0%	40.2%	33.7%
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Children in publicly funded child care (%)	7.1%	4.4%	8.4%	3.6%	3.8%
4th grade math - proficient or higher (%)	77.6%	78.1%	76.6%	82.9%	85.0%
4th grade reading - proficient or higher (%)	87.7%	88.9%	87.0%	91.7%	92.4%
High school graduation rate (%)	81.3%	86.9%	75.2%	88.1%	90.7%
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Children enrolled in Medicaid (%)	49.3%	59.5%	55.1%	45.5%	37.9%
Births to teens (birth rate for females age 15-17)	12.8	14.1	15.2	11.4	9.2
Low birth weight babies (% of all births)	8.6%	7.9%	9.1%	6.8%	7.1%
<b>SAFETY</b>					
Child maltreatment (rate per 1,000 children)	8.0	9.0	10.8	8.5	6.5
Felony adjudications (rate per 1,000 children)	1.9	1.5	2.2	1.7	1.2
Children in foster care (rate per 1,000 children)	8.3	8.0	9.1	5.5	4.7

## County Information Pages

Visit [www.cdfohio.org](http://www.cdfohio.org) to view or download indicators for each of Ohio's 88 counties.





# DATA DEFINITIONS AND SOURCES

## Adolescents Adjudicated for Felonies (2012)

**Definition:** The rate per 1,000 children of youths adjudicated for felony-level offenses.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Youth Services, *Profile of Youth Adjudicated or Committed for Felony Offenses: Fiscal Year 2012*. Extracted from <http://www.dys.ohio.gov/DNN/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=6q7b6F47gWY%3d&abid=117&mid=873>

**Comments:** The rate is calculated by dividing the number of youths adjudicated by the child population and multiplying by 1,000. Regional rates are calculated by using the total youth felony adjudications and the total under 18 population for the region.

## Babies Born at Low Birth Weight (2012)

**Definition:** The percentage of babies born weighing less than 5.5 pounds at birth.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Health, Center for Public Health Statistics and Informatics. County birth weight groups, data run provided May 16, 2014. Prior years available at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/healthStats/vitalstats/birthstat.aspx>

## Births to Teen Mothers (2012)

**Definition:** The birth rate for Ohio females between the ages of 15 and 17.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics. Birth counts and rates for Ohio females by population age group, data run provided May 20, 2014. <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/healthStats/vitalstats/birthstat.aspx>

## Child Maltreatment (2012)

**Definition:** The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, including emotional maltreatment, neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse during the calendar year.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Job and Family Services data request.

**Comments:** The rate is calculated by dividing the number of substantiated reports by the child population and multiplying by 1,000. Regional rates are calculated by dividing the total number of substantiated child maltreatment reports for all counties in the region by the total child population for all counties in the region.

# DATA DEFINITIONS AND SOURCES

## Child Population (2012)

**Definition:** A count of all persons under the age of 18 within a state or county.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: July 1, 2012.

## Child Population by Race and Ethnicity (2012)

**Definition:** A count of all persons of each race or ethnicity under the age of 18 within a state or county.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: July 1, 2012.

**Comments:** Hispanic or Latino is considered an ethnicity, which is measured separately from race. Thus, race and ethnicity numbers may total more than 100 percent.

## Children Eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (2012)

**Definition:** The percent of children eligible for SNAP/Food Stamps.

**Sources:** Ohio Department of Job and Family Services data request. Child Population: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Comments:** The percentage is calculated by dividing the total number of children eligible by the total child population of the county or state.

## Children Enrolled in Medicaid (2012)

**Definition:** The percentage of children receiving health insurance through Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), called Healthy Start and Healthy Families.

**Sources:** Ohio Department of Medicaid data request. Child Population: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Comments:** The statewide total is an unduplicated count. County totals are the number of children enrolled through that county; children may be enrolled through more than one county in a year. The percent is calculated by dividing the number of children enrolled in Medicaid by the child population.

## Children in Foster/Substitute Care (2012)

**Definition:** The number of children in substitute care each year. This includes children who were in foster care on January 1 of each year. This number reflects children placed by public agencies only. Children who have been placed with more than one public agency may be double-counted.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Job and Family Services data request.

**Comments:** Rates are calculated by dividing the number of children in foster care by the child population and multiplying by 1,000.

## Children in Publicly Funded Childcare (2012)

**Definition:** Total unduplicated children receiving publicly funded child care in Ohio.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Job and Family Services data request.

**Comments:** The percentage is calculated by dividing the total number of children in publicly funded childcare by the total child population of the county or state.

## Children Living in Poverty (2012)

**Definition:** An estimate of the percentage of children living below the poverty guideline. This official measure was established by the Office of Management and Budget Statistical Policy Directive No. 14.

**Source:** U.S. Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) 2012. Extracted from <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/data/statecounty/data/2012.html>

**Comments:** Regional rates are averages of all counties in a given region.



## Children Participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)/Free and Reduced Price Lunch (2012)

**Definition:** An estimate of the percentage of children who participated in the free and reduced-price lunch program in Ohio schools in October 2012.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Education, MR81 report. Extracted from <ftp://ftp.ode.state.oh.us/MR81/>.

**Comments:** The NSLP or free and reduced lunch enrollment rate is based on Total Free and Reduced Applications divided by Current Enrollment (CE). For schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (referred to as CEO schools in Ohio), Total Free and Reduced Applications is zero because households do not submit applications. Students are directly certified for free meals on the basis of their participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and also includes homeless, runaway, Head Start, and migrant youth. It does not include students who are categorically eligible based on submission of a free and reduced price application.<sup>35</sup> The number of CEO Eligible Students is multiplied by a factor of 1.6 to provide an estimate. This estimate is treated like Total Free and Reduced Applications in CDF-Ohio's county and regional calculations. For more information, see the MR81 CEO Readme Document at [ftp://ftp.ode.state.oh.us/MR81/MR81\\_October\\_2012/](ftp://ftp.ode.state.oh.us/MR81/MR81_October_2012/)

## County Types/Regions

The four county types identified in the book (Appalachian, Metropolitan,

Rural non-Appalachian, and Suburban) originate from the Ohio Department of Health's Family Health Survey, 1998. In charts and graphs, the category "Rural" refers to rural non-Appalachian counties.

## Fourth Graders Proficient in Reading and Math (2012-2013)

**Definition:** The average percentage of students who scored proficient or better on the fourth grade reading and math Ohio Achievement Assessment (OAA) proficiency tests.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Education, Interactive Local Report Card Power User Reports. Extracted from <http://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/Pages/Power-User-Reports.aspx>.

## Graduation Rate (2010-2011)

**Definition:** The four-year longitudinal high school graduation rate. School districts were assigned to the county where their district office is located.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Education, Interactive Local Report Card Power User Reports. Extracted from <http://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/Pages/Power-User-Reports.aspx>.

## Median Household Income (2012)

**Definition:** The median divides the income distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median income and one-half above the median. Median income is based on the distribution of the total number of households and families including those with no income.

**Source:** U.S. Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) 2012. Extracted from <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/data/statecounty/data/2012.html>

**Comments:** Regional median income estimates are averages of all counties in the region.

## Total Population (2012)

**Definition:** A count of all persons living within the state or county.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: July 1, 2012.

## Unemployment Rate (2012)

**Definition:** Unemployment refers to persons who were not employed during the reference week, but who were actively seeking work, waiting to be called back to a job from which laid off, or waiting to report within 30 days to a new payroll job. The unemployment rate is unemployment as a percentage of the civilian labor force.

**Source:** Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Ohio Labor Market Information, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Data from 2002-2012 extracted from Civilian Labor Force Estimates Query tool at <http://ohiolmi.com/asp/laus/vbLaus.htm>

**Comments:** Rates are not seasonally adjusted.



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*2014 Honorees and current college freshmen, pictured L - R:  
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Not pictured: Rebecca Finley.*

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**EARLY READING PROFICIENCY in the United States**

Percentage of Fourth-Grade Students Reading Below Proficient Levels, 2003

State	Percentage
Alabama	65%
Arizona	55%
Arkansas	63%
California	31%
Colorado	49%
Connecticut	78%
Delaware	54%

**OHIO'S KIDS COUNT**  
2014 DATA BOOK

Produced by Children's Defense Fund Ohio with the support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation



