The State of America's Children® in

GEORGIA

2017 Factsheet



Child Population

- **2,511,544** children lived in Georgia in 2016.
- **56 percent** were children of color: 34 percent were Black; 14 percent were Hispanic; 4 percent were Asian; and <1 percent were American Indian/Alaska Native.

Child Poverty

- 23 percent of Georgia's children were poor in 2016– a total of 566,005 children–and children of color were disproportionately poor.
- 32 percent of Black, 34 percent of Hispanic and 13 percent of White children were poor.
- 10 percent of children were extremely poor (their family had income at less than half the poverty level).
- 26 percent of children under 6 were poor.

Income and Wealth Inequality

\$76,400 was the median income for White families with children compared with \$37,300 for Black and \$34,700 for Hispanic families in 2015.

Housing and Homelessness

- **37,791** homeless children were enrolled in public schools during 2014-2015.
- 2.3 full-time jobs at minimum wage were needed for a family to afford a two-bedroom rental unit at fair market rent in 2016.

Child Hunger and Nutrition

- **23 percent** of children lived in food-insecure households in 2015.
- **32 percent** of children 10-17 were overweight or obese in 2016.
- **31 percent** relied on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in FY2015.
- **85 percent** of children receiving free or reducedprice lunch during the school year did not participate in Summer Nutrition Programs in 2016.

Child Health

- **162,772** children 0-17 were uninsured in 2016.
- 1,580,701 children 0-18 were enrolled in Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids (Children's Health Insurance Program).

Early Childhood

- \$7,597 was the average annual cost for an infant in center-based child care in 2015.
- **60 percent** of 4-year-olds were enrolled in state-funded preschool during 2015-2016.

Education

- **78 percent** of Black, **78 percent** of Hispanic and **55 percent** of White 4th grade public school students could not read at grade level in 2015.
- **85 percent** of Black, **79 percent** of Hispanic and **57 percent** of White 8th grade public school students could not read at grade level in 2015.
- 75 percent of Black, 72 percent of Hispanic and 83 percent of White students graduated high school on time during 2014-2015.
- 21 percent of Black, 10 percent of Hispanic and
 7 percent of White public secondary students had at least one out-of-school suspension in 2011-2012.

Child Welfare

- 26.952 children were abused or neglected in 2015.
- 12,381 children were in foster care on the last day of FY2016.

Juvenile Justice

- 1,110 children were in residential placement in 2015. 74 percent were Black; 5 percent were Hispanic; and 18 percent were White.
- **80** children were in adult jails or prisons in 2015.

Gun Violence

• 135 children and teens (4.8 per 100,000) were killed with a gun in 2015.

Note: All numbers in this factsheet are included in the Children's Defense Fund's *The State of America's Children*® 2017 report, and most have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Facts for states and the District of Columbia were omitted when data were not available. Citations for all data may be found in *The State of America's Children*® 2017.