



Number and Rate of Children Living in Poverty in 2006

Ranked by number of poor children:

State	Number of Poor Children	Child Poverty Rate
<u>Black Children</u>		
United States	3,776,153	35.3
Georgia	276,929	33.6
Texas	275,457	34.8
Florida	266,813	32.0
New York	259,728	32.0
Illinois	220,177	38.8
Louisiana	201,830	48.4
North Carolina	189,568	36.1
California	178,111	28.5
Michigan	171,849	40.7
Ohio	168,021	42.0

Ranked by child poverty rate:

State	Number of Poor Children	Child Poverty Rate
<u>Black Children</u>		
United States	3,776,153	35.3
Louisiana	201,830	48.4
Mississippi	160,287	47.6
Oklahoma	35,312	46.1
Minnesota	36,453	45.3
Wisconsin	50,369	44.9
Kentucky	38,829	44.5
Missouri	84,620	43.0
Arkansas	56,589	42.6
Ohio	168,021	42.0
District of Columbia	33,088	41.7

Latino Children (may be of any race.)

United States	4,112,200	28.0
California	1,133,514	26.3
Texas	972,344	36.1
New York	299,317	34.0
Florida	193,806	22.3
Arizona	185,672	29.3
Illinois	148,831	22.2
Colorado	95,628	23.7
New Jersey	87,013	26.6
New Mexico	79,405	31.9
Georgia	70,939	39.2

Latino Children (may be of any race.)

United States	4,112,200	28.0
Montana	3,150	42.3
Kentucky	10,622	40.1
Tennessee	25,546	39.8
Oklahoma	34,521	37.5
Pennsylvania	66,609	37.1
Massachusetts	58,420	35.7
Rhode Island	14,827	35.5
Arkansas	17,541	34.8
Wisconsin	31,157	34.7
Texas	972,344	33.7

White, non-Latino, Children

United States	4,506,802	10.8
Ohio	287,316	13.6
New York	269,581	11.4
California	241,847	8.3
Texas	240,752	9.9

White, non-Latino, Children

United States	4,506,802	10.8
West Virginia	86,170	24.4
Kentucky	162,406	19.6
Oklahoma	99,078	18.1
Arkansas	81,785	17.7

Pennsylvania	223,096	10.8	Maine	41,895	16.5
Michigan	206,928	11.9	Tennessee	161,671	16.1
Florida	204,570	10.3	Mississippi	53,416	14.1
Indiana	165,054	13.6	Indiana	165,054	13.6
Kentucky	162,406	19.6	Louisiana	80,406	13.6
Tennessee	161,671	16.1	Ohio	287,316	13.6

All Children

United States	13,285,569	18.3
California	1,697,024	18.1
Texas	1,527,262	23.9
New York	888,344	20.0
Florida	689,315	17.5
Illinois	543,373	17.1
Ohio	508,703	18.7
Georgia	484,525	20.2
Pennsylvania	464,686	16.9
Michigan	445,142	18.3
North Carolina	429,169	20.2

All Children

United States	13,285,569	18.3
District of Columbia	36,678	32.6
Mississippi	220,420	29.5
Louisiana	298,228	27.8
New Mexico	127,823	25.6
West Virginia	96,386	25.2
Arkansas	164,545	24.3
Oklahoma	212,672	24.3
Texas	1,527,262	23.9
Alabama	253,108	23.0
Kentucky	223,296	22.8

Source: 2006 American Community Survey

Note: Poverty measures in the American Community Survey are derived from 12 monthly samples, and are not comparable to the calendar year estimates from the March Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey. Calculations by CDF.

Key Immediate Action Steps to Protect and Rescue Children from the Cradle to Prison Pipeline

- 1. Name and change the Pipeline and work together, recognizing that children do not come in pieces but in families and communities and are profoundly affected by the norms, priorities, policies and values of our nation and culture.**
- 2. Call and work for a fundamental paradigm shift in child policy and practice away from the too frequent first choice of punishment and incarceration to prevention and early intervention and sustained child investment.** The only thing our rich nation will guarantee every child is a jail or detention cell after s/he gets into trouble, fails in school, becomes a child parent or explodes in rage from undiagnosed and untreated health and mental health, neglect and abuse problems.
- 3. We must begin early by ensuring every child a healthy start through guaranteed comprehensive health and mental health coverage and coverage of pregnant women wherever they live in America.** Children and pregnant women cannot wait until health coverage for all is debated and enacted. A child has only one birth and childhood.
- 4. Ensure quality Early Head Start, Head Start, child care and preschool to get every child ready for school.** High quality early childhood programs help children do better in school, avoid special education and stay out of trouble. Yet only 50 percent of children eligible for Head Start get it.
- 5. Link every child to a permanent, caring family member or adult mentor who can keep them on track and get them back on track if and when they stray.** The fabric of community must be rewoven to catch falling children until our torn family fabric can be repaired. We must bring to scale promising practices that engage and enrich children during out-of-school time and encourage more minority youths to see teaching and child advocacy as urgent callings.
- 6. Make sure every child can read by 4th grade and can graduate from school able to succeed at work and in life and has quality positive programs during out of school hours.** An ethic of achievement and high expectations for every child must be created in every home, congregation, community and school and in our culture and public policies and practices.
- 7. Commit to helping the richest nation on earth end the child and family poverty that drives so much of the Pipeline process and the racial disparities faced by Black, Latino and American Indian children who are disproportionately poor.** It is not right, sensible or necessary to have 13 million poor children in a \$13.3 trillion economy. No other industrialized nation permits such high rates of child poverty.
- 8. Dramatically decrease the number of children who enter the child welfare and juvenile and criminal justice systems, stop detaining children in adult jails, and reduce the racial disparities in these and other child serving systems.** Children need strong and loving families and communities who work together to keep children safely at home whenever possible: to be moved out of foster care promptly and into permanent caring families, and to be helped not to reenter care unnecessarily or get shunted from child welfare to the juvenile and criminal justice systems.
- 9. Confront America's deadly, historic romance with guns and violence and stress more nonviolent values and conflict resolution in all aspects of American life.** Since 1968 when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Senator Robert Kennedy were assassinated, more than 1.1 million Americans have been killed by guns; another 724,000 have died by other violent means. The majority have been White. This is more internal deaths than American combat deaths in the 20th and 21st centuries.