

# Children's Defense Fund

## *Children in Nevada*



November 2008

660,002 children live in Nevada:

- 7,218 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 26,128 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 34,780 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 54,246 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 240,563 are Hispanic
- 297,067 are White, non-Hispanic

### **In Nevada:**

- A child is born into poverty every 1 hour.
- A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 2 days.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 2 weeks.

### **Nevada Ranks:\***

- 10<sup>th</sup> among states in its infant mortality rate.  
Best state is Utah; worst is the District of Columbia
- 27<sup>th</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- 46<sup>th</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures.  
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah

[\*1<sup>st</sup> represents the best state for children and 51<sup>st</sup> represents the worst state for children in the country]

### **Child Poverty in Nevada**

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	99,670 (15.3%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	41,019 (6.3%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	18,066
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$348

### **Child Health in Nevada**

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	112,000 (16.2%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	41,862
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	148,326
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	57.6%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	28.3%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	36.9%

### **Child Hunger in Nevada**

Number of children who receive food stamps	59,270
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	49%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	193,461
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	4,274
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	52,343

### **Early Childhood Development in Nevada**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	59.8%
Number of children served by Head Start	2,754
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	6,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,707
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	6.5%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	12.8%

### **Education in Nevada**

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$6,804
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	76%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	70%

### **Child Welfare in Nevada**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	5,345
Number of children in foster care	5,069
Number of children adopted from foster care	444
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	22,589

### **Youth at Risk in Nevada**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	11.2%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	55.8%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.3%
Number of juvenile arrests	20,725
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	885
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.7:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 20 homicides; 14 suicides; 0 accidents; and 0 undetermined	34

Compiled from the most up-to-date data available as of November 2008.

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

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