

THE STATE OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN 2008

Children's Defense Fund

CDF Mission Statement

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 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 or into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown.

CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundation and corporate grants and individual donations. We have never taken government funds.

About CDF

The Children's Defense Fund is a non-profit child advocacy organization that has worked relentlessly for 35 years to ensure a level playing field for all children. We champion policies and programs that lift children out of poverty; protect them from abuse and neglect; and ensure their access to health care, quality education, and a moral and spiritual foundation. Supported by foundation and corporate grants and individual donations, CDF advocates nationwide on behalf of children to ensure children are always a priority.

Table of Contents

Are Our Children Ready to Compete in the Global Arena?

How America Ranks Among Industrialized Countries in Investing in and Protecting Children	1
America's Children Are Behind Academically	1

Moments in America for All Children 2

Each Day in America for All Children 2

Each Day in America for Children

Each Day in America for White, non-Hispanic Children	3
Each Day in America for Black Children.	3
Each Day in America for Latino Children.	4
Each Day in America for Asian and Pacific Islander Children	4
Each Day in America for American Indian and Alaska Native Children	4

Key Data Findings 5

Child Population

Child Population: 2007	12
Where Children Live: The 10 States with the Largest Number of Children for Each Race	13

Child Poverty and Income

Child Poverty: 2006–2007	15
Extreme Poverty Among Children: 2007	16
Largest Number of Poor Children: Top 10 States in 2007	17
Highest Child Poverty Rates: Top 10 States (plus the District of Columbia) in 2007	17
Poor Children in America: A Portrait	18
Child Poverty: 1959–2007	19
Child Poverty Rate: 1959–2007	20
AFDC/TANF Benefit Levels and Participation	21
Child Support Enforcement: 2004	22

Child Poverty and Race

Child Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity: 2007	23
Largest Number of Poor Children for Each Race: Top 10 States	25

Child Health and Health Coverage

Uninsured Children Younger than 19: 2005–2007	27
Which Children Are Uninsured?	28
Uninsured Children in America: A Portrait (2007)	29
Largest Number of Uninsured Children: Top 10 States	30
Highest Percentage of Uninsured Children: Top 10 States	30
Children Enrolled in Medicaid and SCHIP	31
Prenatal Care: 2005	32
Low Birthweight Babies: 2005	33
Infant Deaths: 2005	34
Highest Percentage of Low Birthweight Births: Top 10 States (plus the District of Columbia)	35
Highest Infant Mortality Rates: Top 10 States (plus the District of Columbia)	35
Selected Maternal and Infant Health Indicators: 2005	36
Infant Health: 1940–2005	37
Immunization of Two-Year-Olds	38

Child Welfare

Child Abuse and Neglect: 2006	39
Children in Foster Care: FY2002–FY2006	40
Children in Foster Care, by Race, 2005	41
Who’s in Foster Care?	42
Children in Kinship Care: 2000 and 2007	43
Adoptions from Foster Care: Selected Years FY1995–FY2006	44
Adoptions of Children in Foster Care: 1995–2006	45

Youths at Risk

Youths at Risk	46
Teen Birth Rates	47
Youth Unemployment and Joblessness	48
Drug Use and Drug-related Arrests and Incarceration Among Teens	49
Spending on Prisoners vs. Spending on Public School Students: FY2003	50
Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: 2003–2005	51
Largest Number of Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: Top 10 States in 2005	52
Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: A Portrait (2005)	53
Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: 1979–2005	54

Education

Reading and Math Achievement of 4 th Graders.	55
Reading and Math Achievement of 8 th Graders.	56
Public School Education: Various Indicators	57
School Discipline: 2006.	58
Children and Youths in Federal Education and Disability Programs	59
Enrollment in Classes for Students with Mental Retardation: 2006.	60
Enrollment in Classes for Students with Emotional Disturbance: 2006.	61
Enrollment in Classes for Students with Learning Disabilities: 2006.	62

Early Childhood Care and Development

Children Enrolled in Head Start	63
Prekindergarten Enrollment: 2006	64
Working Parents: 2007	65
Cost of Child Care vs. Cost of College	66
Child Care Assistance	67
Teacher and Child Care Worker Earnings: 2006	68
Child Care Center Regulations	69

Nutrition

Number of Children Receiving Food Stamps: Selected Years FY1989–FY2007.	70
Children Receiving Food Stamps: 1989–2007.	71
Nutrition Assistance for Women, Infants and Children.	72
Child Nutrition Programs	73

Housing

Fair Market Rent vs. Minimum Wage: 2008	74
---	----

Are Our Children Ready to Compete in the Global Arena?

How America Ranks Among Industrialized Countries in Investing in and Protecting Children

- 1st in gross domestic product
- 1st in number of billionaires
- 1st in number of persons incarcerated
- 1st in health expenditures
- 1st in military technology
- 1st in defense expenditures
- 1st in military weapons exports
- 21st in 15-year-olds' science scores
- 22nd in low birthweight rates
- 25th in 15-year-olds' math scores
- 25th in infant mortality rates
- Last in relative child poverty
- Last in the gap between the rich and the poor
- Last in adolescent birth rates (ages 15 to 19)
- Last in protecting our children against gun violence

The United States and Somalia (which has no legally constituted government) are the only two United Nations members that have failed to ratify the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

America's Children Are Behind Academically

Percent of 12th grade public school students:

	NOT reading at grade level	NOT doing math at grade level
Total, all races	60%	75%
White, non-Hispanic	57	71
Black	84	94
Hispanic	80	92
American Indian	74	94
Asian	64	64

If we compare just Black child well-being to children in other nations:

- 62 nations have lower infant mortality rates, including Sri Lanka.
- Over 100 nations have lower low birthweight rates, including Algeria, Botswana and Panama.
- Black women in the United States are more likely to die from complications of pregnancy or childbirth than women in Uzbekistan.

Moments in America for All Children

Every second a public school student is suspended.*
Every 11 seconds a high school student drops out.*
Every 19 seconds a child is arrested.
Every 20 seconds a public school student is corporally punished.*
Every 21 seconds a baby is born to an unmarried mother.
Every 33 seconds a baby is born into poverty.
Every 35 seconds a child is confirmed as abused or neglected.
Every 39 seconds a baby is born without health insurance.
Every minute a baby is born to a teen mother.
Every 2 minutes a baby is born at low birthweight.
Every 4 minutes a child is arrested for a drug offense.
Every 7 minutes a child is arrested for a violent crime.
Every 18 minutes a baby dies before his or her first birthday.
Every 44 minutes a child or teen dies from an accident.
Every 3 hours a child or teen is killed by a firearm.
Every 5 hours a child or teen commits suicide.
Every 6 hours a child is killed by abuse or neglect.
Every 14 hours a woman dies from complications of childbirth or pregnancy.

* Based on calculations per school day (180 days of seven hours each).

Each Day in America for All Children

2 mothers die in childbirth.
4 children are killed by abuse or neglect.
5 children or teens commit suicide.
8 children or teens are killed by firearms.
33 children or teens die from accidents.
78 babies die before their first birthdays.
201 children are arrested for a violent crime.
404 children are arrested for a drug crime.
928 babies are born at low birthweight.
1,154 babies are born to teen mothers.
1,240 public school students are corporally punished.*
2,224 babies are born without health insurance.
2,367 high school students drop out.*
2,479 children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
2,583 babies are born into poverty.
4,184 babies are born to unmarried mothers.
4,520 children are arrested.
18,493 public school students are suspended.

* Based on calculations per school day (180 days of seven hours each).

Each Day in America for Children

For White, non-Hispanic Children:

1	mother dies in childbirth.
1	child is killed by abuse or neglect.
4	children or teens commit suicide.
4	children or teens are killed by firearms.
20	children or teens die from accidents.
51	babies die before their first birthday.
75	babies are born at low birthweight.
95	children are arrested for violent crimes.
277	children are arrested for drug crimes.
663	babies are born without health insurance.
663	public school students are corporally punished.*
753	babies are born into poverty.
819	babies are born to teen mothers.
1,050	children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
1,583	babies are born to unmarried mothers.
1,600	high school students drop out.*
3,015	children are arrested.
7,236	public school students are suspended.*

For Black Children:

3	children or teens are killed by firearms.
5	children or teens die from accidents.
24	babies die before their first birthday.
102	children are arrested for violent crimes.
119	children are arrested for drug crimes.
224	babies are born at low birthweight.
292	babies are born to teen mothers.
348	babies are born without health insurance.
417	high school students drop out.*
442	public school students are corporally punished.*
497	children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
794	babies are born into poverty.
1,202	babies are born to unmarried mothers.
1,385	children are arrested.
6,916	public school students are suspended.

* Based on calculations per school day (180 days of seven hours each).

For Latino Children:

- 2 children or teens are killed by firearms.
- 5 children or teens die from accidents.
- 103 public school students are corporally punished.*
- 186 babies are born at low birthweight.
- 382 babies are born to teen mothers.
- 436 children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
- 661 high school students drop out.*
- 956 babies are born into poverty.
- 1,125 babies are born without health insurance.
- 1,295 babies are born to unmarried mothers.
- 3,726 public school students are suspended.*

For Asian and Pacific Islander Children:

- 2 children are arrested for violent crimes.
- 2 public school students are corporally punished.*
- 3 children are arrested for drug crimes.
- 21 babies are born to teen mothers.
- 22 children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
- 44 children are arrested.
- 88 babies are born into poverty.
- 102 babies are born to unmarried mothers.
- 167 high school students drop out.*
- 351 public school students are suspended.

For American Indian and Alaska Native Children:

- 2 children are arrested for violent crimes.
- 4 children are arrested for drug crimes.
- 22 babies are born to teen mothers.
- 26 children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
- 29 public school students are corporally punished.*
- 52 babies are born into poverty.
- 56 children are arrested.
- 78 babies are born to unmarried mothers.
- 264 public school students are suspended.

* Based on calculations per school day (180 days of seven hours each).

Key Data Findings

Child Population

Child Population: 2007

There are about 74 million children in the United States; almost 21 million of them are under the age of 5. California, Texas and New York have the largest number of children; North Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming and the District of Columbia have the fewest.

Where Children Live

Largest Number of Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all children in the United States live in only nine states: California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Georgia and Michigan.

Largest Number of White, non-Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of the White, non-Hispanic children in the United States live in 11 states: California, Texas, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina, Georgia and Indiana.

Largest Number of Black, non-Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

Half of the Black, non-Hispanic children in the United States live in eight states: Georgia, Florida, Texas, New York, California, Illinois, North Carolina and Maryland.

Largest Number of Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all Hispanic children in the United States live in three states: California, Texas and Florida.

Largest Number of Asian/Pacific Islander Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all Asian/Pacific Islander children live in four states: California, New York, Texas and New Jersey.

Largest Number of American Indian and Alaska Native Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all American Indian and Alaska Native children in the United States live in six states: Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California, Alaska and North Carolina.

Child Poverty and Income

Child Poverty 2006–2007

More than 1 in 6—13.3 million—children in the United States are poor. There is great variation among the states, ranging from a low of 1 in 12 in New Hampshire to a high of almost 3 in 10 in Mississippi. The federal poverty line for a family of four in 2008 is \$21,200.

Extreme Poverty Among Children: 2007

Almost 1 in 13 children in the United States—5.8 million—lives in extreme poverty. A family of four is extremely poor in 2008 if their household income is below \$10,600, or half of the official poverty line. Young children are more likely than school-age children to live in extreme poverty.

Largest Number of Poor Children: Top 10 States 2007

More than half of all poor children in the United States live in eight states: California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia and Michigan.

Poor Children in America: A Portrait

There are more poor White, non-Hispanic children than Black children. However, Hispanic and Black children are about three times as likely to live in poverty than White, non-Hispanic children. Children who live in inner

cities, rural areas, in the South or in female-headed families are more likely to be poor. Children under age 6 are more likely to be poor than school-age children. Poverty and race are the primary factors underpinning the pipeline to prison. In fact, Black juveniles are about four times as likely as their White peers to end up being incarcerated.

Child Poverty: 1959–2007

The number of poor children was at its lowest in 1973. Since 2000, both the number and the rate have risen. There are now 13.3 million poor children in the United States, an increase of 500,000 between 2006 and 2007. These numbers are expected to increase as families face the full impact of the recession.

Child Poverty Rate: 1959–2007

The child poverty rate dropped substantially in the 1960s, then rose significantly in the early 1980s. Great strides were made in decreasing child poverty in the late 1990s, owing in part to the strong economy. However, the child poverty rate is higher in 2007 than at the beginning of the decade. Child poverty is closely tied to the overall health of the economy, rising in periods of recession.

AFDC/TANF Benefit Levels and Participation

Cash assistance to poor families has not kept pace with inflation. The maximum benefit for a three-person family in Mississippi is only 13 percent of the poverty line. (The poverty line was \$16,090 for a family of three in 2005.) Even in the most generous states—Alaska, California, New York, Vermont and Wisconsin—maximum benefits are just above 50 percent of the poverty line.

Child Support Enforcement: 2004

Three out of four child support cases have a court order, but only half actually collect payments due. States vary in collecting child support for children: Only six states collect payments on more than 70 percent of cases; 21 states and the District of Columbia collect payments in fewer than half the cases.

Child Poverty and Race

Child Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity: 2007

Child poverty rates vary substantially by state and race/ethnicity. More than 20 percent of White children are poor in Kentucky, New Mexico, Texas and West Virginia. A White child is almost four times as likely to be poor in New Mexico as Maryland. In 12 states, more than 40 percent of Black children are poor. A Black child in Mississippi is more than twice as likely to be poor as one in New Jersey. Asian/Pacific Islander children are the least likely of any racial or ethnic group to live in poverty, but an Asian/Pacific Islander child in Wisconsin is almost three times as likely to be poor as one in Virginia.

Child Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity: 2007 (continued)

More than half of all Native American children in South Dakota are poor, where they are more than three times as likely to be poor as a Native American child in New York. More than 40 percent of Hispanic children in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island are poor. An Hispanic child in these states is more than three times as likely to be poor as one in Hawaii.

Largest Number of Poor White Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all poor White children live in nine states: Texas, California, New York, Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois and Arizona.

Largest Number of Poor Black Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all poor Black children live in nine states: Georgia, Texas, Florida, New York, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, North Carolina and Ohio.

Largest Number of Poor Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all poor Hispanic children live in only three states: California, Texas and New York.

Largest Number of Poor Asian and Pacific Islander Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all poor Asian and Pacific Islander children live in four states: California, New York, Texas and Illinois.

Largest Number of Poor American Indian and Alaska Native Children: Top 10 States in 2007

More than half of all poor American Indian and Alaska Native children live in six states: Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California, South Dakota and North Carolina.

Child Health and Health Coverage

Uninsured Children Younger than 19: 2005–2007

About 1 in 9—nearly 9 million—children are uninsured. This ranges from a low of 1 in 21 in Massachusetts to a high of 1 in 5 in Texas. A child in Texas is more than four times as likely to be uninsured as a child in Massachusetts.

Which Children Are Uninsured?

Black, Hispanic, Asian and American Indian children are more likely to be uninsured than White, non-Hispanic children. One in 5 Hispanic children, 1 in 5 American Indian children, 1 in 8 Black children, 1 in 9 Asian/Pacific Islander children, and 1 in 13 White, non-Hispanic children are uninsured.

Uninsured Children in America: A Portrait (2007)

Among uninsured children: 9 out of 10 have at least one employed parent; 9 out of 10 are United States citizens; and 6 out of 10 live in two-parent families. There are about equal numbers of uninsured White and Hispanic children, numbering 3.4 million uninsured children for each group. There are more uninsured White and Hispanic children than any other racial or ethnic group.

Largest Number of Uninsured Children: Top 10 States

More than half of all uninsured children in the United States live in six states: Texas, California, Florida, New York, Georgia and Illinois.

Children Enrolled in Medicaid and SCHIP

About 28.3 million children are enrolled in Medicaid, and 7.1 million are enrolled in SCHIP. Although children comprise about half of those enrolled in Medicaid, less than one-fourth of Medicaid payments are for children.

Prenatal Care: 2005

In all but one state, Black and Hispanic babies are less likely than White babies to be born to mothers who received early prenatal care.

Low Birthweight Babies: 2005

About 1 in 12 babies born in the United States is low birthweight. Black babies are about twice as likely as White or Hispanic babies to have low birthweight. The United States ranks 22nd in low birthweight rates among industrialized countries.

Infant Deaths: 2005

The infant mortality rate ranges from a low of 4.46 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in Utah to a high of 14.05 in the District of Columbia. Infant mortality rates are more than twice as high for Black infants as for White infants. The United States infant mortality rate ranks 25th among industrialized countries.

Highest Percentages of Low Birthweight Births: Top 10 States

More than 10 percent of babies in Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and the District of Columbia are born at low birthweight.

Highest Infant Mortality Rates: Top 10 States (plus the District of Columbia)

Mississippi, Louisiana and the District of Columbia have the highest infant mortality rates.

Selected Maternal and Infant Health Indicators: 2005

Black women are more than three times as likely as White or Hispanic women to die of pregnancy or childbirth complications. More than two-thirds of Black babies are born to unmarried mothers, compared to almost half of Hispanic babies and one-fourth of White babies.

Infant Health: 1940–2005

After four decades of decline, the infant mortality rate increased in 2002 and stalled in 2005. Black infants are more than twice as likely as White infants to die before age 1. For two decades, the incidence of low birthweight has been increasing. The rate in 2005 was 22 percent higher than the rate in 1984.

Immunization of Two-Year-Olds

Among two-year-olds, 1 in 3 is not fully immunized. More than 80 percent of two-year-old children in Connecticut and New Hampshire are fully immunized compared to fewer than half in South Dakota. On two of the recommended vaccines for one-year-old children, the U.S. ranks near the bottom of industrialized countries.

Child Welfare

Child Abuse and Neglect: 2006

More than 900,000 children were abused or neglected in 2006. Almost 2 out of 3 of these children were neglected.

Children in Foster Care: FY 2002–FY 2006

There are about 500,000 children in foster care. States with the highest number of children in foster care are California, Florida, New York and Texas.

Children in Foster Care, by Race: 2005

For every 100 children in foster care, 41 are White, 32 are Black, and 18 are Hispanic. There are relatively few Asian or Pacific Islander children in foster care.

Who's in Foster Care?

Although Black children comprise 15 percent of all children, they are 32 percent of children in foster care. About one-third of children in foster care are under age 6.

Children in Kinship Care: 2000 and 2007

More than 2.5 million grandparents are raising their grandchildren. Almost 80 percent of them have been caring for their grandchildren for a year or longer; 60 percent of them are in the labor force; and about 1 in 5 of them is poor.

Adoptions from Foster Care, Selected Years: FY1995–FY 2006

More than 50,000 children were adopted from foster care in FY 2006, almost twice the number adopted in FY 1995.

Adoptions of Children in Foster Care: 1995–2006

Since 1999, about 50,000 children have been adopted from foster care each year, twice as many as in 1995.

Youth at Risk

Youth at Risk

Nationally, about 1 in 15 teens ages 16 to 19 is a dropout. Fewer than two-thirds of 9th graders in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Nevada graduate from high school within four years with a regular diploma. There were almost 1.3 million juvenile arrests in 2006, and almost 93,000 juveniles are in residential placements.

Teen Birth Rates

The overall teen birth rate in the United States is 40.5 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19. Texas, New Mexico, Mississippi and the District of Columbia have the highest teen birth rates. The United States has a higher teen birth rate than any other industrialized nation.

Youth Unemployment and Joblessness

About 1 in 6 teens ages 16 to 19 is unemployed. However, during the summer when most of them are not in school, fewer than half actually have jobs. This has been the case since 2002. The youth jobless rate has reached the highest rate in more than four decades.

Drug Use and Drug-related Arrests and Incarceration Among Teens

White, Black and Hispanic teens are about equally likely to use drugs, but Black juveniles are twice as likely as their White peers to be arrested for drug offenses and more than five times as likely to be in secure residential placement for drug offenses.

Spending on Prisoners vs. Spending on Students: FY 2003

States spend on average 2.8 times as much per prisoner as per public school pupil. Nine states spend at least four times as much per prisoner as per pupil, but Utah has the worst ratio, spending almost eight times as much on prisoners as students.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: 2003–2005

Between 2004 and 2005, total firearm deaths of children and teens increased by 181, the first annual increase since 1994. Increases were recorded in 27 states. California had the largest number of firearm deaths of children and teens; Maine, Vermont, Hawaii and New Hampshire had the fewest.

Largest Number of Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: Top 10 States in 2005

Ten states account for 1,669 firearm deaths or 55.5 percent of the total 3,006 deaths.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: A Portrait (2005)

In 2005, 3,006 children and teens were killed by firearms, the equivalent of 120 public school classrooms of 25 students each. More than half of these deaths were of White children and teens. Sixty-nine preschoolers were killed by firearms compared to 53 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Another 16,000 children and teens suffered non-fatal firearm injuries.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: 1979–2005

Between 1979 and 2005, more than 104,000 children and teens were killed by firearms in the United States. This is the equivalent of 4,177 classrooms of 25 students each.

Education

Reading and Math Achievement of 4th Graders

About two-thirds of public school 4th graders cannot read at grade level; 6 out of 10 cannot do math at grade level. More than 80 percent of Black and Hispanic 4th graders in public school cannot read at grade level, compared with 58 percent of their White peers. Eighty-five percent of Black 4th graders in public school cannot do math at grade level, compared to 78 percent of Hispanic children and about half of White children.

Reading and Math Achievement of 8th Graders

Seven out of 10 public school 8th graders cannot read or do math at grade level. More than 4 out of 5 Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native 8th graders cannot read or do math at grade level, compared to 3 out of 5 of their White peers. Three out of 5 Asian/Pacific Islander 8th graders cannot read at grade level; 1 in 2 cannot do math at grade level.

Public School Education: Various Indicators

Although 3 out of 4 9th graders graduate from high school in four years with a regular diploma, there is great variation among the states, from a low of 5 out of 9 in Nevada to a high of 7 out of 8 in Wisconsin. Expenditures per public school pupil also vary, from \$5,216 in Utah to \$14,117 in New Jersey.

School Discipline: 2006

Black, Hispanic and American Indian students are more likely than Asian or White students to be suspended. Black students are more than three times as likely as White or Asian/Pacific Islander students and more than twice as likely as Hispanic students to be suspended. Policies focused not on achievement but on “zero tolerance” often succeed only in encouraging suspended students to drop out, in effect pushing many into criminal activity and the pipeline to prison.

Children and Youths in Federal Education and Disability Programs

More than 17.4 million children receive compensatory education under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. More than 6.6 million students ages 3 to 21 receive educational services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. About 1.1 million children receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Enrollment in Classes for Students with Mental Retardation: 2006

Black and American Indian students are more likely than those in other racial groups to be enrolled in classes for students with mental retardation. Black children are more than twice as likely as White or Hispanic children to be in these classes, and more than three times as likely as Asian/Pacific Islander children to be in these classes.

Enrollment in Classes for Students with Emotional Disturbance: 2006

Black and American Indian children are more likely than those in other racial groups to be enrolled in classes for students with emotional disturbance. Black children are more than three times as likely as Hispanic children to be in these classes, and more than seven times as likely as Asian/Pacific Islander children to be in these classes.

Enrollment in Classes for Students with Learning Disabilities: 2006

About 1 in 20 public school students is in a class for students with learning disabilities. Black and American Indian children are the most likely to be in these classes.

Early Childhood Care and Development

Children Enrolled in Head Start

Only about 3 percent of eligible infants and young children are enrolled in the Early Head Start program. About 900,000 children are enrolled in Head Start programs, about 800,000 in state programs, and another 100,000 in migrant and Indian tribal programs and in the territories. Only about one-half to two-thirds of children eligible for Head Start are enrolled.

Prekindergarten Enrollment: 2006

Twenty states have no state-funded prekindergarten programs for 3-year-olds; eight states have no programs for 4-year-olds. Yet research has shown that early childhood programs significantly increase a child’s chances of avoiding the prison pipeline, instead helping give him a head start and put him in the “pipeline to success.”

Working Parents: 2007

About 2 out of 3 mothers of preschool-age children and 3 out of 4 mothers of school-age children are in the labor force. Six in 10 preschool-age children and 7 in 10 school-age children have all parents in the labor force.

Cost of Child Care vs. Cost of College

In 33 states and the District of Columbia, the annual cost of center-based child care for a preschooler is more than the annual tuition at a 4-year public university.

Child Care Assistance

Income eligibility for the one million families who receive child care assistance ranges from just above the poverty line in Missouri to 275 percent of the poverty line in Maine. The Urban Institute has calculated that 2.7 million people would be lifted out of poverty if child care assistance were provided to all families with children whose incomes are below 200 percent of the federal poverty line (FPL). In 2008, 200 percent of the FPL was \$35,200 for a family of three.

Teacher and Child Care Worker Earnings: 2006

Median wages for child care workers range from \$13,970 in Louisiana to more than \$21,000 in Massachusetts, New York and the District of Columbia. For elementary school teachers, those in South Dakota are paid the least. With a median salary of \$32,950, they make less than half the salary of elementary teachers in New York, whose median salary is the highest in the nation at \$66,300. The average wage of child care workers is less than that of Head Start, preschool, kindergarten or elementary school teachers in every state.

Child Care Center Regulations

Fifteen states allow child-care ratios higher than the recommended maximum for infants; 31 states exceed the maximum for toddlers; and 35 states exceed the maximum for preschoolers. Seventeen states have no maximum requirements for group size for at least one of the age groups.

Child Nutrition

Number of Children Receiving Food Stamps: Selected Years FY 1989–FY 2007

During FY 2007, an average of 12.7 million children each month received Food Stamps. Nationally, 87 percent of eligible children receive Food Stamps.

Children Receiving Food Stamps: 1989–2007

Starting in 1989, the number of children receiving Food Stamps rose for several years, then fell for several years, but has been rising since 2000. These numbers are expected to continue to rise with the onset of the recession.

Nutrition Assistance for Women, Infants and Children

An average of 8.1 million women, infants and young children participated in the WIC program each month in FY 2007. Preliminary data for August 2008 show more than 8.9 million participants; this number is expected to rise as the recession continues.

Child Nutrition Programs

More than half the children participating in the School Lunch Program—more than 17 million children—received free or reduced-price meals in FY 2007. The 8 million children in the School Breakfast Program who received free or reduced-price meals—4 out of 5 participants—are the most needy children. Yet the Summer Food Service Program, an entitlement targeted at these children, served fewer than 2 million children in FY 2007, indicating that needy children are not receiving this important assistance during the summer months.

Housing

Fair Market Rent vs. Minimum Wage: 2008

Despite the increase in the minimum wage in July 2008 to \$6.55 per hour, the monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the lowest-cost metro area in each state ranges from 39 percent of the minimum wage (based on full-time employment) in Illinois to over 100 percent in the District of Columbia and Hawaii. This means minimum-wage earners would have to spend every cent they earned on rent and still not be able to afford an apartment in these jurisdictions.

There are about 74 million children in the United States; almost 21 million of them are under the age of 5. California, Texas and New York have the largest number of children; North Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming and the District of Columbia have the fewest.

Child Population: 2007

	Total population, all ages	Total number of children under age 18	Percent of total population	Number of children under age 5 (preschool)	Number of children ages 5-17 (school-age)
Alabama	4,627,851	1,123,537	24.3%	308,234	815,303
Alaska	683,478	182,218	26.7	51,311	130,907
Arizona	6,338,755	1,669,866	26.3	499,581	1,170,285
Arkansas	2,834,797	700,537	24.7	198,977	501,560
California	36,553,215	9,383,924	25.7	2,660,386	6,723,538
Colorado	4,861,515	1,192,679	24.5	349,902	842,777
Connecticut	3,502,309	820,216	23.4	210,985	609,231
Delaware	864,764	205,646	23.8	58,869	146,777
District of Columbia	588,292	113,720	19.3	36,215	77,505
Florida	18,251,243	4,043,560	22.2	1,148,213	2,895,347
Georgia	9,544,750	2,531,609	26.5	737,422	1,794,187
Hawaii	1,283,388	285,694	22.3	86,690	199,004
Idaho	1,499,402	407,712	27.2	118,630	289,082
Illinois	12,852,548	3,199,159	24.9	891,315	2,307,844
Indiana	6,345,289	1,586,518	25.0	437,494	1,149,024
Iowa	2,988,046	711,403	23.8	195,916	515,487
Kansas	2,775,997	696,082	25.1	196,138	499,944
Kentucky	4,241,474	1,003,973	23.7	278,330	725,643
Louisiana	4,293,204	1,079,560	25.1	298,157	781,403
Maine	1,317,207	279,467	21.2	70,744	208,723
Maryland	5,618,344	1,358,797	24.2	376,745	982,052
Massachusetts	6,449,755	1,432,856	22.2	376,848	1,056,008
Michigan	10,071,822	2,446,856	24.3	633,017	1,813,839
Minnesota	5,197,621	1,260,282	24.2	353,901	906,381
Mississippi	2,918,785	768,704	26.3	219,282	549,422
Missouri	5,878,415	1,424,830	24.2	393,177	1,031,653
Montana	957,861	219,498	22.9	59,117	160,381
Nebraska	1,774,571	446,145	25.1	129,796	316,349
Nevada	2,565,382	660,002	25.7	194,651	465,351
New Hampshire	1,315,828	298,186	22.7	75,125	223,061
New Jersey	8,685,920	2,063,789	23.8	556,673	1,507,116
New Mexico	1,969,915	500,276	25.4	144,945	355,331
New York	19,297,729	4,413,414	22.9	1,196,688	3,216,726
North Carolina	9,061,032	2,217,680	24.5	637,664	1,580,016
North Dakota	639,715	142,809	22.3	39,988	102,821
Ohio	11,466,917	2,751,874	24.0	736,416	2,015,458
Oklahoma	3,617,316	899,507	24.9	261,146	638,361
Oregon	3,747,455	862,908	23.0	236,390	626,518
Pennsylvania	12,432,792	2,786,719	22.4	730,061	2,056,658
Rhode Island	1,057,832	233,115	22.0	61,397	171,718
South Carolina	4,407,709	1,059,917	24.0	296,302	763,615
South Dakota	796,214	196,890	24.7	56,450	140,440
Tennessee	6,156,719	1,471,486	23.9	409,580	1,061,906
Texas	23,904,380	6,623,366	27.7	1,988,979	4,634,387
Utah	2,645,330	816,822	30.9	255,708	561,114
Vermont	621,254	131,353	21.1	32,435	98,918
Virginia	7,712,091	1,826,179	23.7	518,410	1,307,769
Washington	6,468,424	1,536,368	23.8	423,096	1,113,272
West Virginia	1,812,035	387,381	21.4	104,452	282,929
Wisconsin	5,601,640	1,321,279	23.6	356,287	964,992
Wyoming	522,830	125,365	24.0	35,890	89,475
United States	301,621,157	73,901,733	24.5	20,724,125	53,177,608

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "State Single Year of Age and Sex Population Estimates: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2007 – RESIDENT," at <<http://www.census.gov/popest/states/asrh/files/SC-EST2007-AGESEX-RES.csv>>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Where Children Live

More than half of all children in the United States live in only 9 states: California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Georgia and Michigan.

Largest Number of Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number of children
California	9,383,924
Texas	6,623,366
New York	4,413,414
Florida	4,043,560
Illinois	3,199,159
Pennsylvania	2,786,719
Ohio	2,751,874
Georgia	2,531,609
Michigan	2,446,856
North Carolina	2,217,680

More than half of the White, non-Hispanic children in the United States live in 11 states: California, Texas, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina, Georgia and Indiana.

Largest Number of White, non-Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

California	2,899,141
Texas	2,486,828
New York	2,344,089
Ohio	2,128,050
Pennsylvania	2,076,895
Florida	2,034,145
Illinois	1,777,530
Michigan	1,735,319
North Carolina	1,310,395
Georgia	1,293,098

Half of the Black, non-Hispanic children in the United States live in eight states: Georgia, Florida, Texas, New York, California, Illinois, North Carolina and Maryland.

Largest Number of Black, non-Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

Georgia	842,422
Florida	833,346
Texas	800,050
New York	776,415
California	589,781
Illinois	562,116
North Carolina	545,996
Maryland	439,703
Michigan	424,697
Louisiana	413,780

More than half of all Hispanic children in the United States live in three states: California, Texas and Florida.

Largest Number of Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

California	4,587,533
Texas	3,010,560
Florida	987,247
New York	903,665
Arizona	701,723
Illinois	668,999
New Jersey	405,459
Colorado	337,335
Georgia	273,527
New Mexico	268,657

More than half of all Asian and Pacific Islander children live in four states: California, New York, Texas and New Jersey.

Largest Number of Asian/Pacific Islander Children: Top 10 States in 2007

California	960,396
New York	284,736
Texas	197,497
New Jersey	155,694
Illinois	121,822
Hawaii	107,106
Washington	99,829
Florida	93,345
Virginia	85,299
Massachusetts	74,270

More than half of all American Indian and Alaska Native children in the United States live in six states: Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California, Alaska and North Carolina.

Largest Number of American Indian and Alaska Native Children: Top 10 States in 2007

Arizona	87,460
Oklahoma	85,083
New Mexico	53,118
California	44,574
Alaska	32,216
North Carolina	27,740
South Dakota	25,861
Washington	25,579
Texas	21,845
Montana	20,199

More than 1 in 6—13.3 million—children in the United States are poor. There is great variation among the states, ranging from a low of 1 in 12 in New Hampshire to a high of almost 3 in 10 in Mississippi. The federal poverty line for a family of four in 2008 is \$21,200.

Child Poverty, 2006–2007

	Number Poor			Poverty Rate (percent poor)		
	Under age 18	Under age 5	Ages 5-17	Under age 18	Under age 5	Ages 5-17
Alabama	269,086	83,983	185,103	24.3%	27.6%	23.1%
Alaska	20,439	7,578	12,861	11.5	15.4	10.0
Arizona	330,910	112,548	218,362	20.2	23.0	19.0
Arkansas	177,805	55,736	122,069	25.8	28.7	24.6
California	1,591,295	489,469	1,101,826	17.3	18.7	16.7
Colorado	191,725	65,071	126,654	16.3	18.8	15.3
Connecticut	89,373	26,308	63,065	11.1	12.6	10.5
Delaware	29,382	10,422	18,960	14.7	17.9	13.4
District of Columbia	25,597	6,902	18,695	22.7	19.0	24.5
Florida	678,038	223,733	454,305	17.1	19.9	16.0
Georgia	490,381	166,171	324,210	19.7	23.3	18.3
Hawaii	27,608	9,684	17,924	9.8	11.2	9.1
Idaho	63,591	21,630	41,961	15.9	18.8	14.7
Illinois	525,294	160,039	365,255	16.6	18.2	16.0
Indiana	267,610	91,148	176,462	17.3	21.1	15.8
Iowa	94,586	33,530	61,056	13.6	17.4	12.1
Kansas	99,590	33,791	65,799	14.6	17.6	13.4
Kentucky	234,959	78,250	156,709	23.9	28.7	22.1
Louisiana	283,350	86,648	196,702	26.8	29.7	25.6
Maine	41,973	12,271	29,702	15.4	17.9	14.5
Maryland	140,058	40,255	99,803	10.5	10.9	10.3
Massachusetts	182,159	49,732	132,427	12.9	13.3	12.8
Michigan	468,400	143,080	325,320	19.4	22.9	18.2
Minnesota	148,649	49,539	99,110	12.0	14.2	11.1
Mississippi	220,446	71,456	148,990	29.3	34.1	27.5
Missouri	247,893	84,864	163,029	17.7	21.9	16.1
Montana	39,660	12,320	27,340	18.3	21.1	17.3
Nebraska	65,309	23,014	42,295	14.9	18.2	13.6
Nevada	99,670	29,151	70,519	15.3	15.3	15.3
New Hampshire	25,622	7,655	17,967	8.8	10.4	8.2
New Jersey	236,098	74,722	161,376	11.6	13.6	10.8
New Mexico	123,808	41,559	82,249	25.5	30.0	23.6
New York	844,424	252,879	591,545	19.4	21.4	18.7
North Carolina	426,047	140,920	285,127	19.5	22.6	18.3
North Dakota	18,937	7,130	11,807	13.4	17.7	11.7
Ohio	500,745	162,267	338,478	18.5	22.3	17.1
Oklahoma	198,555	70,915	127,640	22.5	27.8	20.4
Oregon	143,391	45,402	97,989	16.9	19.6	15.9
Pennsylvania	446,832	138,123	308,709	16.3	19.2	15.3
Rhode Island	40,468	12,568	27,900	17.5	20.6	16.4
South Carolina	218,250	74,342	143,908	20.9	25.5	19.1
South Dakota	32,511	12,464	20,047	16.8	22.5	14.5
Tennessee	331,269	113,375	217,894	23.0	28.5	20.9
Texas	1,512,819	521,764	991,055	23.2	26.7	21.7
Utah	88,741	31,051	57,690	11.0	12.4	10.4
Vermont	15,907	4,945	10,962	12.4	15.5	11.3
Virginia	233,841	72,217	161,624	13.0	14.4	12.5
Washington	226,424	73,716	152,708	15.0	17.8	14.0
West Virginia	86,277	29,482	56,795	22.8	28.8	20.6
Wisconsin	186,980	58,550	128,430	14.4	16.6	13.6
Wyoming	14,318	4,751	9,567	11.6	13.6	10.8
United States	13,097,100	4,229,120	8,867,980	18.0	20.8	17.0

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Table B17001. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Almost 1 in 13 children in the United States—5.8 million—lives in extreme poverty. A family of four is extremely poor in 2008 if their household income is below \$10,600, or half of the official poverty line. Young children are more likely than school-age children to live in extreme poverty.

Extreme Poverty Among Children: 2007

	Number in Extreme Poverty			Percent in Extreme Poverty		
	Under age 18	Under age 6	Ages 6-17	Under age 18	Under age 6	Ages 6-17
Alabama	124,561	49,125	75,436	11.3%	13.6%	10.1%
Alaska	7,851	2,849	5,002	4.4	4.7	4.3
Arizona	152,505	62,627	89,878	9.3	10.8	8.5
Arkansas	68,749	26,249	42,500	10.0	11.4	9.3
California	611,166	226,858	384,308	6.6	7.3	6.3
Colorado	89,519	34,731	54,788	7.6	8.5	7.2
Connecticut	42,695	16,409	26,286	5.3	6.6	4.7
Delaware	13,095	6,307	6,788	6.5	9.1	5.2
District of Columbia	13,570	5,709	7,861	12.0	13.5	11.2
Florida	276,783	116,018	160,765	7.0	8.8	6.1
Georgia	225,591	91,191	134,400	9.1	10.7	8.2
Hawaii	13,181	4,981	8,200	4.7	4.9	4.5
Idaho	24,241	9,095	15,146	6.0	6.6	5.8
Illinois	237,261	89,009	148,252	7.5	8.5	7.0
Indiana	129,755	53,767	75,988	8.4	10.5	7.3
Iowa	40,368	17,378	22,990	5.8	7.6	4.9
Kansas	42,816	17,769	25,047	6.3	7.8	5.5
Kentucky	106,618	44,766	61,852	10.9	13.7	9.4
Louisiana	124,373	49,697	74,676	11.7	14.1	10.6
Maine	17,779	6,660	11,119	6.5	8.1	5.8
Maryland	67,101	26,164	40,937	5.0	5.9	4.6
Massachusetts	86,554	31,645	54,909	6.1	7.1	5.7
Michigan	229,186	86,829	142,357	9.5	11.6	8.6
Minnesota	62,080	25,551	36,529	5.0	6.2	4.4
Mississippi	107,094	42,197	64,897	14.2	16.7	13.0
Missouri	114,660	49,206	65,454	8.2	10.8	6.9
Montana	15,422	6,579	8,843	7.1	9.4	6.0
Nebraska	30,498	12,952	17,546	7.0	8.6	6.1
Nevada	41,019	15,384	25,635	6.3	6.8	6.0
New Hampshire	11,715	4,334	7,381	4.0	4.9	3.6
New Jersey	110,410	42,397	68,013	5.4	6.5	4.9
New Mexico	54,113	22,083	32,030	11.1	13.5	9.9
New York	398,964	148,434	250,530	9.2	10.5	8.5
North Carolina	183,076	74,379	108,697	8.4	10.1	7.5
North Dakota	8,895	3,865	5,030	6.3	8.1	5.4
Ohio	244,966	99,280	145,686	9.1	11.4	7.9
Oklahoma	88,407	38,097	50,310	10.0	12.5	8.7
Oregon	60,920	21,515	39,405	7.2	7.8	6.9
Pennsylvania	209,545	82,521	127,024	7.6	9.6	6.8
Rhode Island	17,697	6,706	10,991	7.6	9.0	7.0
South Carolina	103,398	44,423	58,975	9.9	12.9	8.4
South Dakota	16,166	7,473	8,693	8.4	11.4	6.8
Tennessee	148,229	61,609	86,620	10.3	13.1	8.9
Texas	644,798	267,726	377,072	9.9	11.6	9.0
Utah	28,176	11,076	17,100	3.5	3.8	3.3
Vermont	5,888	2,406	3,482	4.6	6.3	3.9
Virginia	97,487	38,622	58,865	5.4	6.5	4.9
Washington	104,261	40,675	63,586	6.9	8.2	6.3
West Virginia	40,505	16,743	23,762	10.7	13.9	9.2
Wisconsin	75,959	29,904	46,055	5.9	7.1	5.2
Wyoming	6,314	2,811	3,503	5.1	6.8	4.3
United States	5,775,980	2,294,781	3,481,199	7.9	9.5	7.2

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Table B17024. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than half of all poor children in the United States live in eight states: California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia and Michigan.

Largest Number of Poor Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number of poor children
California	1,591,295
Texas	1,512,819
New York	844,424
Florida	678,038
Illinois	525,294
Ohio	500,745
Georgia	490,381
Michigan	468,400
Pennsylvania	446,832
North Carolina	426,047

Highest Child Poverty Rates: Top 10 States (plus the District of Columbia) in 2007

	Percent of children who are poor
Mississippi	29.3%
Louisiana	26.8
Arkansas	25.8
New Mexico	25.5
Alabama	24.3
Kentucky	23.9
Texas	23.2
Tennessee	23.0
West Virginia	22.8
District of Columbia	22.7
Oklahoma	22.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Table B17001. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

There are more poor White, non-Hispanic children than Black children. However, Hispanic and Black children are about three times as likely to live in poverty than White, non-Hispanic children. Children who live in inner cities, rural areas, in the South or in female-headed families are more likely to be poor. Children under age six are more likely to be poor than school-age children. Poverty and race are the primary factors underpinning the pipeline to prison. In fact, Black juveniles are about four times as likely as their White peers to end up being incarcerated.

Poor Children in America: A Portrait

	Number Poor (thousands) 2007	Percent Poor	
		2007	1973
<i>All persons younger than 18</i>	13,324	18.0%	14.4%
White ¹	8,771	15.0	n/a
Black ¹	4,178	33.7	n/a
Asian and Pacific Islander ¹	431	11.9	n/a
Hispanic (may be any race) ²	4,482	28.6	n/a
Non-Hispanic White ²	4,255	10.1	n/a
South	5,728	20.8	19.7
All other regions	7,596	16.4	11.6
Central city	5,961	24.9	20.4
Suburb	4,797	12.5	7.8
Rural (nonmetropolitan)	2,566	22.3	16.6
<i>Related to head of household</i>	12,843	17.6	14.2
White ¹	8,388	14.5	9.7
Black ¹	4,121	33.6	40.6
Asian and Pacific Islander ¹	404	11.3	n/a
Hispanic (may be any race) ²	4,360	28.2	27.8
Non-Hispanic White ²	4,005	9.7	n/a
In female-headed family	7,567	42.9	52.1
All other family types	5,276	9.5	7.6
Any family member works	9,096	13.3	n/a
Full-time year round	4,405	7.6	n/a
Head of family works	7,269	12.2	8.7
Full-time year round	3,152	7.2	4.1
Under age 6	5,101	20.8	15.7
Ages 6-17	7,701	15.9	13.6
<i>Comparison: Adults 18-64</i>	20,396	10.9	8.3
Seniors 65+	3,556	9.7	16.3

¹Starting with poverty data for 2002, the Census Bureau permits persons to choose more than one race; racial groups shown here may overlap.

²Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. White non-Hispanic means White alone (no other race) and not of Hispanic origin

n/a — Not available

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplement and 1974 March Supplement. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

The number of poor children was at its lowest in 1973. Since 2000, both the number and the rate have risen. There are now 13.3 million poor children in the United States, an increase of 500,000 between 2006 and 2007. These numbers are expected to increase as families face the full impact of the recession.

Child Poverty: 1959–2007

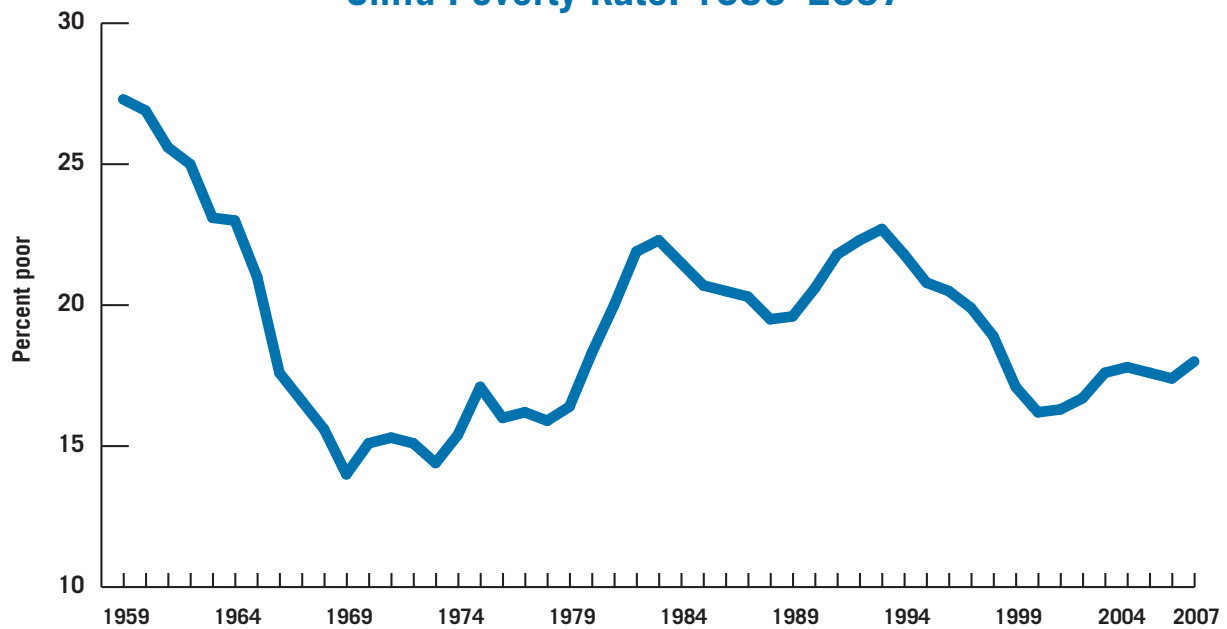
Year	Number of children under 18 who are poor	Child poverty rate	Number of children* under 6 who are poor	Poverty rate for children* under 6
1959	17,552,000	27.3%	n/a	n/a
1960	17,634,000	26.9	n/a	n/a
1961	16,909,000	25.6	n/a	n/a
1962	16,963,000	25.0	n/a	n/a
1963	16,005,000	23.1	n/a	n/a
1964	16,051,000	23.0	n/a	n/a
1965	14,676,000	21.0	n/a	n/a
1966	12,389,000	17.6	n/a	n/a
1967	11,656,000	16.6	n/a	n/a
1968	10,954,000	15.6	n/a	n/a
1969	9,691,000	14.0	3,298,000	15.3%
1970	10,440,000	15.1	3,561,000	16.6
1971	10,551,000	15.3	3,499,000	16.9
1972	10,284,000	15.1	3,276,000	16.1
1973	9,642,000	14.4	3,097,000	15.7
1974	10,156,000	15.4	3,294,000	16.9
1975	11,104,000	17.1	3,460,000	18.2
1976	10,273,000	16.0	3,270,000	17.7
1977	10,288,000	16.2	3,326,000	18.1
1978	9,931,000	15.9	3,184,000	17.2
1979	10,377,000	16.4	3,415,000	17.8
1980	11,543,000	18.3	4,030,000	20.5
1981	12,505,000	20.0	4,422,000	22.0
1982	13,647,000	21.9	4,821,000	23.3
1983	13,911,000	22.3	5,122,000	24.6
1984	13,420,000	21.5	4,938,000	23.4
1985	13,010,000	20.7	4,832,000	22.6
1986	12,876,000	20.5	4,619,000	21.6
1987	12,843,000	20.3	4,852,000	22.4
1988	12,455,000	19.5	5,032,000	22.6
1989	12,590,000	19.6	5,071,000	22.5
1990	13,431,000	20.6	5,198,000	23.0
1991	14,341,000	21.8	5,483,000	24.0
1992	15,294,000	22.3	5,781,000	25.0
1993	15,727,000	22.7	6,097,000	25.6
1994	15,289,000	21.8	5,878,000	24.5
1995	14,665,000	20.8	5,670,000	23.7
1996	14,463,000	20.5	5,333,000	22.7
1997	14,113,000	19.9	5,049,000	21.6
1998	13,467,000	18.9	4,775,000	20.6
1999	12,280,000	17.1	4,162,000	18.4
2000	11,587,000	16.2	4,066,000	17.8
2001	11,733,000	16.3	4,188,000	18.2
2002	12,133,000	16.7	4,296,000	18.5
2003	12,866,000	17.6	4,654,000	19.8
2004	13,041,000	17.8	4,747,000	20.0
2005	12,896,000	17.6	4,784,000	20.0
2006	12,827,000	17.4	4,830,000	20.0
2007	13,324,000	18.0	5,101,000	20.8

*Related children in families

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The child poverty rate dropped substantially in the 1960s, then rose significantly in the early 1980s. Great strides were made in decreasing child poverty in the late 1990s, owing in part to the strong economy. However, the child poverty rate is higher in 2007 than at the beginning of the decade. Child poverty is closely tied to the overall health of the economy, rising in periods of recession.

Child Poverty Rate: 1959–2007



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Cash assistance to poor families has not kept pace with inflation. The maximum benefit for a three-person family in Mississippi is only 13 percent of the poverty line (\$2,040 in 2005). Even in the most generous states—Alaska, California, New York, Vermont and Wisconsin—maximum benefits are just above 50 percent of the poverty line. (The poverty line was \$16,090 for a family of three in 2005.)

AFDC/TANF Benefit Levels and Participation

	Maximum monthly benefit for a three-person family ¹						Number of welfare (AFDC/TANF) recipients		
	July 1970		January 2005			Percent change, 1970-2005	August 1996	March 2008	Percent Change ³
	Actual dollars	Inflation-adjusted value in 2005 ²	Actual dollars	As percent of 2005 poverty guideline	Rank				
Alabama	\$65	\$318	\$215	16.5%	47	-32.4%	100,662	40,186	-60.1%
Alaska	328	1,604	923	56.5	1	-42.5	35,544	8,466	-76.2
Arizona	138	675	347	26.6	32	-48.6	169,442	75,996	-55.1
Arkansas	89	435	204	15.6	49	-53.1	56,343	18,965	-66.3
California	186	909	679	55.4	2	-25.3	2,581,948	1,195,251	-53.7
Colorado	193	944	356	27.3	31	-62.3	95,788	22,260	-76.8
Connecticut	283	1,384	636	48.7	6	-54.0	159,246	39,204	-75.4
Delaware	160	782	338	25.9	36	-56.8	23,654	8,496	-64.1
District of Columbia	195	954	379	29.0	28	-60.3	69,292	11,965	-82.7
Florida	114	557	303	23.2	38	-45.6	533,801	77,480	-85.5
Georgia	107	523	280	21.4	42	-46.5	330,302	38,971	-88.2
Hawaii	226	1,105	570	37.9	13	-48.4	66,482	13,739	-79.3
Idaho	211	1,032	309	23.7	37	-70.1	21,780	2,187	-90.0
Illinois	232	1,134	396	30.3	25	-65.1	642,644	56,473	-91.2
Indiana	120	587	288	22.1	41	-50.9	142,604	117,361	-17.7
Iowa	201	983	426	32.6	21	-56.7	86,146	39,996	-53.6
Kansas	222	1,086	429	32.8	20	-60.5	63,783	31,002	-51.4
Kentucky	147	719	262	20.1	44	-63.5	172,193	58,681	-65.9
Louisiana	88	430	240	18.4	45	-44.2	228,115	22,262	-90.2
Maine	135	660	485	37.1	14	-26.5	53,873	23,968	-55.5
Maryland	162	792	473	36.9	15	-40.3	194,127	42,550	-78.1
Massachusetts	268	1,310	618	47.3	8	-52.8	226,030	90,531	-59.9
Michigan	219	1,071	459	35.1	19	-57.1	502,354	173,760	-65.4
Minnesota	256	1,252	532	40.7	11	-57.5	169,744	47,742	-71.9
Mississippi	56	274	170	13.0	51	-37.9	123,828	21,896	-82.3
Missouri	104	509	292	22.4	39	-42.6	222,820	86,405	-61.2
Montana	202	988	507	31.0	24	-48.7	29,130	8,008	-72.5
Nebraska	171	836	364	27.9	30	-56.5	38,592	16,232	-57.9
Nevada	121	592	348	26.6	32	-41.2	34,261	18,066	-47.3
New Hampshire	262	1,281	625	47.9	7	-51.2	22,937	9,886	-56.9
New Jersey	302	1,477	424	32.5	22	-71.3	275,637	79,136	-71.3
New Mexico	149	729	389	29.8	26	-46.6	99,661	33,531	-66.4
New York	279	1,364	577	52.9	4	-57.7	1,143,962	257,416	-77.5
North Carolina	145	709	272	20.8	43	-61.6	267,326	44,066	-83.5
North Dakota	213	1,042	477	36.5	16	-54.2	13,146	5,040	-61.7
Ohio	161	787	373	28.6	29	-52.6	549,312	173,264	-68.5
Oklahoma	152	743	292	22.4	39	-60.7	96,201	730	-99.2
Oregon	184	900	460	35.2	18	-48.9	78,419	44,406	-43.4
Pennsylvania	265	1,296	421	32.2	23	-67.5	531,059	128,842	-75.7
Rhode Island	229	1,120	554	42.4	9	-50.5	56,560	19,030	-66.4
South Carolina	85	416	205	15.7	48	-50.7	114,273	32,399	-71.6
South Dakota	264	1,291	483	38.4	12	-62.6	15,896	5,673	-64.3
Tennessee	112	548	185	14.2	50	-66.2	254,818	131,024	-48.6
Texas	148	724	201	17.1	46	-72.2	649,018	116,201	-82.1
Utah	175	856	474	36.3	17	-44.6	39,073	11,364	-70.9
Vermont	267	1,306	709	54.3	3	-45.7	24,331	8,858	-63.6
Virginia	225	1,100	389	29.8	26	-64.6	152,845	62,469	-59.1
Washington	258	1,262	546	41.8	10	-56.7	268,927	113,364	-57.8
West Virginia	114	557	453	26.0	34	-18.7	89,039	18,702	-79.0
Wisconsin	184	900	673	51.5	5	-25.2	148,888	37,522	-74.8
Wyoming	213	1,042	340	26.0	34	-67.4	11,398	513	-95.5
United States							12,077,254	3,741,535	-69.0

¹ Where benefits vary by program status, benefits shown are for families required to work. Benefits in Wisconsin are for families in community service.

Where benefits vary by place within a state, the highest benefit is generally shown.

² The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) inflation adjustment for converting July 1970 dollars to January 2005 dollars was 4.8897435897.

Sources: U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, Committee on Ways and Means, 2004 Green Book, WMCP 108-6, Table 7-13, at <<http://waysandmeans.house.gov/Documents.asp?section=813>>; and U.S. Congress, Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service, CRS Report for Congress, The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: Responses to Frequently Asked Questions (August 1, 2007), Table 5; Federal Register, Vol. 69, No. 30 (February 13, 2004), p. 7336; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Family Assistance, at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/data-reports/caseload/2008/caseload_2008_1.xls>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Three out of four child support cases have a court order, but only half actually collect payments due. States vary in collecting child support for children: Only six states collect payments on more than 70 percent of cases; 21 states and the District of Columbia collect payments in fewer than half the cases.

Child Support Enforcement: 2004

	Number of cases	Number with court order	Percent with court order	Number with collection	Percent with collection
Alabama	237,442	173,462	73.1%	119,735	50.4%
Alaska	46,543	40,410	86.8	31,138	66.9
Arizona	252,457	164,986	65.4	98,021	38.8
Arkansas	126,009	100,645	79.9	74,104	58.8
California	1,808,377	1,411,708	78.1	791,101	43.7
Colorado	140,344	118,894	84.7	57,454	40.9
Connecticut	210,311	141,627	67.3	86,864	41.3
Delaware	55,378	39,902	72.1	27,282	49.3
District of Columbia	92,847	32,425	34.9	17,683	19.0
Florida	692,563	484,519	70.0	403,430	58.3
Georgia	489,230	347,700	71.1	206,124	42.1
Hawaii	97,735	57,296	58.6	29,943	30.6
Idaho	95,209	74,261	78.0	49,374	51.9
Illinois	641,235	329,976	51.5	208,184	32.5
Indiana	326,452	230,270	70.5	154,998	47.5
Iowa	179,759	156,317	87.0	139,329	77.5
Kansas	131,550	96,032	73.0	67,806	51.5
Kentucky	316,895	240,304	75.8	143,612	45.3
Louisiana	275,666	196,532	71.3	127,904	46.4
Maine	64,199	57,981	90.3	40,713	63.4
Maryland	279,783	206,398	73.8	150,722	53.9
Massachusetts	256,229	190,187	74.2	115,298	45.0
Michigan	1,026,441	769,462	75.0	427,275	41.6
Minnesota	246,408	199,585	81.0	157,965	64.1
Mississippi	295,432	154,018	52.1	109,612	37.1
Missouri	383,044	309,084	80.7	177,988	46.5
Montana	41,400	32,945	79.6	25,120	60.7
Nebraska	98,992	78,126	78.9	61,619	62.2
Nevada	111,694	66,771	59.8	59,971	53.7
New Hampshire	37,699	30,528	81.0	26,675	70.8
New Jersey	361,553	287,313	79.5	230,486	63.7
New Mexico	74,130	36,023	48.6	26,510	35.8
New York	877,526	702,944	80.1	447,698	51.0
North Carolina	409,041	322,516	78.8	260,576	63.7
North Dakota	39,777	30,607	76.9	23,054	58.0
Ohio	938,356	671,682	71.6	518,342	55.2
Oklahoma	151,410	105,298	69.5	74,886	49.5
Oregon	249,048	168,055	67.5	115,625	46.4
Pennsylvania	567,389	476,882	84.0	420,084	74.0
Rhode Island	68,302	35,801	52.4	20,756	30.4
South Carolina	222,673	158,471	71.2	100,705	45.2
South Dakota	43,565	28,010	64.3	24,016	55.1
Tennessee	345,058	220,563	63.9	159,386	46.2
Texas	913,307	729,063	79.8	574,454	62.9
Utah	74,594	63,110	84.6	58,241	78.1
Vermont	23,503	20,673	88.0	16,944	72.1
Virginia	352,441	294,424	83.5	209,241	59.4
Washington	331,458	297,291	89.7	240,644	72.6
West Virginia	112,091	92,821	82.8	64,145	57.2
Wisconsin	339,654	278,205	81.9	221,649	65.3
Wyoming	37,084	31,073	83.8	23,327	62.9
United States	15,589,283	11,583,176	74.3	8,017,813	51.4

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Office of Child Support Enforcement FY 2004 Annual Report to Congress, Tables 43, 47 and 53, at http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2007/reports/annual_report/. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Child poverty rates vary substantially by state and race/ethnicity. More than 20 percent of White children are poor in Kentucky, New Mexico, Texas and West Virginia. A White child is almost four times as likely to be poor in New Mexico as Maryland. In 12 states, more than 40 percent of Black children are poor. A Black child in Mississippi is more than twice as likely to be poor as one in New Jersey. Asian/Pacific Islander children are the least likely of any racial or ethnic group to live in poverty, but an Asian/Pacific Islander child in Wisconsin is almost three times as likely to be poor as one in Virginia.

Child Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity: 2007

	White		Black		Asian, Pacific Islander	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alabama	107,784	15.1%	146,544	43.2%	1,279	12.5%
Alaska	7,390	7.0	—	—	702	10.1
Arizona	185,963	16.5	22,870	31.3	5,171	14.5
Arkansas	90,629	18.5	64,476	48.1	1,495	13.6
California	748,918	14.8	169,192	28.3	105,102	11.1
Colorado	126,748	13.8	15,708	28.0	4,210	14.0
Connecticut	42,725	7.2	20,710	22.1	3,395	11.9
Delaware	11,973	9.2	14,354	30.1	—	—
District of Columbia	574	2.3	23,687	31.3	—	—
Florida	328,512	12.2	255,884	31.1	10,750	11.4
Georgia	162,566	11.7	267,440	32.0	7,045	10.5
Hawaii	6,061	10.3	—	—	10,397	10.2
Idaho	52,002	14.5	—	—	687	15.4
Illinois	192,587	9.6	212,068	38.6	13,219	10.8
Indiana	174,420	13.9	58,345	35.7	2,964	14.6
Iowa	68,138	11.1	10,683	44.5	1,887	15.1
Kansas	63,942	11.6	16,322	33.4	1,521	10.6
Kentucky	176,202	21.0	42,661	46.7	1,894	19.9
Louisiana	82,192	13.7	183,922	45.7	2,327	16.8
Maine	35,080	14.1	—	—	—	—
Maryland	44,824	6.1	80,371	18.6	3,246	5.5
Massachusetts	97,054	8.9	29,579	27.6	8,871	13.1
Michigan	234,428	13.2	182,504	44.1	7,558	12.2
Minnesota	82,371	8.1	31,563	41.1	13,082	23.9
Mississippi	51,920	13.4	161,172	47.7	—	—
Missouri	154,673	14.0	72,046	36.6	2,657	13.4
Montana	27,206	15.0	—	—	—	—
Nebraska	41,065	11.1	11,376	52.5	—	—
Nevada	56,232	12.7	17,665	31.0	1,535	4.8
New Hampshire	22,554	8.4	—	—	—	—
New Jersey	92,898	7.1	75,750	23.3	10,346	6.9
New Mexico	72,254	23.8	1,905	15.3	—	—
New York	340,151	13.1	233,077	29.1	48,956	17.5
North Carolina	167,671	12.2	181,410	34.2	4,469	10.9
North Dakota	11,384	9.5	—	—	—	—
Ohio	286,326	13.4	170,392	44.3	2,880	7.4
Oklahoma	106,785	18.0	29,850	37.4	1,155	9.1
Oregon	102,251	15.2	6,796	38.5	3,863	12.3
Pennsylvania	235,275	11.1	131,784	36.4	9,560	13.8
Rhode Island	19,748	11.6	4,700	26.4	—	—
South Carolina	79,025	12.5	127,284	36.6	567	4.9
South Dakota	15,928	10.3	—	—	—	—
Tennessee	181,451	17.2	129,053	43.0	2,281	12.0
Texas	864,737	20.1	265,798	33.2	24,188	12.2
Utah	69,936	9.9	—	—	787	5.9
Vermont	14,033	11.6	—	—	—	—
Virginia	99,616	8.6	104,469	26.4	6,281	7.4
Washington	142,700	12.7	21,407	34.0	11,933	12.1
West Virginia	76,658	21.9	5,542	35.8	—	—
Wisconsin	102,910	9.8	52,265	45.8	6,890	19.3
Wyoming	12,279	11.4	—	—	—	—
United States	6,570,749	13.3	3,661,343	34.5	361,745	12.0

—Number of poor children in sample too small to calculate reliable counts or rates.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Table B17001, parts A through I. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than half of all Native American children in South Dakota are poor, where they are more than three times as likely to be poor as a Native American child in New York. More than 40 percent of Hispanic children in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island are poor. An Hispanic child in these states is more than three times as likely to be poor as one in Hawaii.

Child Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity: 2007 (continued)

	American Indian, Alaska Native		Two or more races		Hispanic	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alabama	1,382	30.8%	7,785	27.8%	15,448	34.9%
Alaska	7,358	25.6	3,440	14.2	1,636	12.3
Arizona	35,127	39.6	10,841	13.3	197,081	28.6
Arkansas	1,769	36.4	7,761	34.9	21,701	38.4
California	14,918	25.6	72,629	12.1	1,064,013	23.6
Colorado	3,659	30.7	11,233	18.7	106,732	32.3
Connecticut	—	—	5,598	16.5	37,478	29.1
Delaware	—	—	—	—	6,284	30.5
District of Columbia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	2,996	26.6	26,177	19.0	204,963	21.1
Georgia	—	—	9,950	16.3	79,418	30.3
Hawaii	—	—	10,449	9.4	4,708	12.6
Idaho	2,249	33.8	3,149	20.9	18,010	30.0
Illinois	619	16.2	17,935	17.7	138,169	21.0
Indiana	—	—	14,801	26.8	33,354	29.3
Iowa	—	—	8,141	35.3	13,988	30.5
Kansas	1,267	22.5	6,417	18.1	29,075	32.2
Kentucky	—	—	8,175	29.8	12,396	39.1
Louisiana	2,044	41.5	11,625	42.7	7,536	20.1
Maine	—	—	2,973	28.1	831	16.4
Maryland	—	—	4,873	8.7	11,897	10.5
Massachusetts	—	—	11,178	20.6	68,563	40.4
Michigan	3,037	25.3	23,632	25.5	43,813	31.2
Minnesota	5,072	36.9	10,038	18.4	20,130	26.2
Mississippi	—	—	3,678	27.5	3,431	21.8
Missouri	1,479	37.3	10,965	22.1	18,181	28.3
Montana	9,251	46.6	2,196	19.8	1,998	20.2
Nebraska	1,826	52.6	5,165	26.1	14,345	28.3
Nevada	2,124	25.5	4,129	10.9	49,559	20.7
New Hampshire	—	—	—	—	2,048	19.1
New Jersey	—	—	8,306	12.6	82,993	20.8
New Mexico	19,275	36.9	6,340	25.3	81,880	31.2
New York	2,263	16.9	31,566	20.5	292,217	32.9
North Carolina	9,366	33.2	18,685	25.7	73,708	31.6
North Dakota	5,448	46.1	—	—	—	—
Ohio	1,493	32.3	26,490	25.9	29,969	30.5
Oklahoma	21,458	29.4	25,354	29.5	39,733	39.6
Oregon	8,669	39.6	11,723	21.1	46,518	31.4
Pennsylvania	720	19.0	27,618	32.1	79,143	40.0
Rhode Island	—	—	2,335	25.7	17,295	41.6
South Carolina	—	—	6,454	24.1	15,539	26.6
South Dakota	13,676	56.0	—	—	—	—
Tennessee	—	—	8,282	21.6	26,322	34.2
Texas	7,320	27.7	39,837	19.0	978,205	33.0
Utah	3,047	33.9	5,545	17.2	30,019	25.3
Vermont	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	—	—	12,164	15.8	26,634	16.7
Washington	7,655	32.4	17,297	16.0	70,463	30.2
West Virginia	—	—	3,398	39.3	2,151	30.2
Wisconsin	5,695	43.4	9,738	22.6	22,022	22.4
Wyoming	—	—	—	—	2,542	20.7
United States	210,708	32.9	584,069	18.9	4,149,038	27.5

—Number of poor children in sample too small to calculate reliable counts or rates.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Table B17001, parts A through I. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than half of all poor White children live in nine states: Texas, California, New York, Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois and Arizona.

Largest Number of Poor White Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number poor	Percent poor
Texas	864,737	20.1%
California	748,918	14.8
New York	340,151	13.1
Florida	328,512	12.2
Ohio	286,326	13.4
Pennsylvania	235,275	11.1
Michigan	234,428	13.2
Illinois	192,587	9.6
Arizona	185,963	16.5
Tennessee	181,451	17.2

More than half of all poor Black children live in nine states: Georgia, Texas, Florida, New York, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, North Carolina and Ohio.

Largest Number of Poor Black Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number poor	Percent poor
Georgia	267,440	32.0%
Texas	265,798	33.2
Florida	255,884	31.1
New York	233,077	29.1
Illinois	212,068	38.6
Louisiana	183,922	45.7
Michigan	182,504	44.1
North Carolina	181,410	34.2
Ohio	170,392	44.3
California	169,192	28.3

More than half of all poor Hispanic children live in only three states: California, Texas and New York.

Largest Number of Poor Hispanic Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number poor	Percent poor
California	1,064,013	23.6%
Texas	978,205	33.0
New York	292,217	32.9
Florida	204,963	21.1
Arizona	197,081	28.6
Illinois	138,169	21.0
Colorado	106,732	32.3
New Jersey	82,993	20.8
New Mexico	81,880	31.2
Georgia	79,418	30.3

More than half of all poor Asian and Pacific Islander children live in four states: California, New York, Texas and Illinois.

Largest Number of Poor Asian and Pacific Islander Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number poor	Percent poor
California	105,102	11.1%
New York	48,956	17.5
Texas	24,188	12.2
Illinois	13,219	10.8
Minnesota	13,082	23.9
Washington	11,933	12.1
Florida	10,750	11.4
Hawaii	10,397	10.2
New Jersey	10,346	6.9
Pennsylvania	9,560	13.8

More than half of all poor American Indian and Alaska Native children live in six states: Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California, South Dakota and North Carolina.

Largest Number of Poor American Indian and Alaska Native Children: Top 10 States in 2007

	Number poor	Percent poor
Arizona	35,127	39.6%
Oklahoma	21,458	29.4
New Mexico	19,275	36.9
California	14,918	25.6
South Dakota	13,676	56.0
North Carolina	9,366	33.2
Montana	9,251	46.6
Oregon	8,669	39.6
Washington	7,655	32.4
Alaska	7,358	25.6

About 1 in 9—nearly 9 million—children are uninsured. This ranges from a low of 1 in 21 in Massachusetts to a high of 1 in 5 in Texas. A child in Texas is more than four times as likely to be uninsured as a child in Massachusetts.

Uninsured Children Younger than 19: 2005–2007

	Estimated number of uninsured children	Percent of all children
Alabama	78,000	6.6%
Alaska	20,000	10.3
Arizona	288,000	16.4
Arkansas	70,000	9.5
California	1,273,000	12.8
Colorado	172,000	13.7
Connecticut	60,000	6.9
Delaware	23,000	10.6
District of Columbia	9,000	7.3
Florida	816,000	19.1
Georgia	325,000	12.2
Hawaii	18,000	5.8
Idaho	52,000	12.0
Illinois	305,000	9.0
Indiana	132,000	7.9
Iowa	41,000	5.5
Kansas	53,000	7.2
Kentucky	92,000	8.7
Louisiana	146,000	12.7
Maine	19,000	6.4
Maryland	140,000	9.7
Massachusetts	73,000	4.8
Michigan	148,000	5.7
Minnesota	92,000	6.9
Mississippi	121,000	14.9
Missouri	140,000	9.3
Montana	32,000	13.9
Nebraska	41,000	8.7
Nevada	112,000	16.2
New Hampshire	21,000	6.6
New Jersey	273,000	12.5
New Mexico	95,000	17.9
New York	410,000	8.7
North Carolina	304,000	13.0
North Dakota	14,000	9.1
Ohio	224,000	7.7
Oklahoma	119,000	12.6
Oregon	110,000	12.1
Pennsylvania	226,000	7.6
Rhode Island	18,000	7.0
South Carolina	137,000	12.2
South Dakota	18,000	8.8
Tennessee	132,000	8.5
Texas	1,454,000	20.9
Utah	112,000	13.0
Vermont	11,000	7.7
Virginia	194,000	10.0
Washington	126,000	7.8
West Virginia	29,000	7.0
Wisconsin	81,000	5.8
Wyoming	13,000	9.8
United States (2007)*	8.9 million	11.3

* The percentage and number of uninsured children in the United States are from the most recent year of data and represent coverage in 2007.

Notes: The estimated percent of uninsured children in each state is an average of the percent of uninsured children in that state over three years. Three-year averages are used because of small sample sizes in some states. In March 2007, the Census Bureau changed the way health coverage was determined and issued revised data for a number of years of the ASEC including 2006. The average percent of uninsured children in this table is based on the revised 2006 ASEC, and the 2007 and 2008 ASEC surveys. The estimated number of uninsured in each state is calculated by applying that average percent to the most recent Census estimates of children younger than 19 in the state.

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2006 (revised), 2007, and 2008 Annual Social & Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey; and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "State Single Year of Age and Sex Population Estimates: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2007 - RESIDENT," at <<http://www.census.gov/popest/states/asrh/files/SC-EST207-AGESEX-RES.csv>>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Black, Hispanic, Asian and American Indian children are more likely to be uninsured than White, non-Hispanic children. One in 5 Hispanic children, 1 in 5 American Indian children, 1 in 8 Black children, 1 in 9 Asian and Pacific Islander children, and 1 in 13 White, non-Hispanic children are uninsured.

Which Children Are Uninsured?

Children in the United States (2007)	Number of children*	Percentage who are uninsured	Number who are uninsured	
All (ages birth through 18)	78.7 million	11.3%	8.9 million	
<i>Race/Ethnicity**</i>				
Hispanic	16.5 million	20.7	3.4 million	
White	44.7 million	7.5	3.4 million	
Black	11.6 million	12.8	1.5 million	
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.3 million	11.6	379,000	
American Indian	546,000	18.9	103,000	
Other (multi-racial)	2.1 million	7.4	154,000	
Total	78.7 million		8.9 million	
<i>Age</i>				
Birth through age 5	24.9 million	10.5	2.6 million	
Age 6 through age 12	27.9 million	10.4	2.9 million	
Age 13 through age 18	25.9 million	13.0	3.4 million	
Total	78.7 million		8.9 million	
<i>Income</i>				
				Upper limit, annual income family of 4 (2008)
100% poverty & below	14.4 million	18.4	2.7 million	\$ 21,200
Over 100% through 200%	16.5 million	17.3	2.9 million	42,400
Over 200% through 300%	14.0 million	11.8	1.7 million	63,600
Total, 300% and below	44.9 million	16.0	7.2 million	63,600
Over 300% through 400%	10.6 million	7.2	761,000	84,800
Over 400%	23.1 million	4.1	940,000	
Total	78.7 million		8.9 million	
<i>Family Structure</i>				
Two parents in household	55.2 million	9.4	5.2 million	
Single parent household	21.6 million	14.4	3.1 million	
Child has no parent in household	1.8 million	32.2	591,000	
Total	78.7 million		8.9 million	
<i>Parental Work Status***</i>				
At least one working parent	70.9 million	10.3	7.3 million	
No working parent	5.9 million	17.1	1.0 million	
Total	76.8 million		8.3 million ***	
<i>Citizenship</i>				
Child is a U.S. citizen	76.0 million	10.4	7.9 million	
Child is not a U.S. citizen	2.7 million	36.5	971,000	
Total	78.7 million		8.9 million	

Note: Children are ages birth through 18.

* Numbers may not add to total because of rounding.

** Hispanic children are in a separate category and are not included in the White and Black categories.

*** Of children who have at least one parent in the household.

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey; and "Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines," *Federal Register*, Vol. 73, No. 15 (January 23, 2008), pp. 3971-3972. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Among uninsured children: 9 out of 10 have at least one employed parent; 9 out of 10 are United States citizens; and 6 out of 10 live in two-parent families. There are about equal numbers of uninsured White and Hispanic children, numbering 3.4 million uninsured children for each group. There are more uninsured White and Hispanic children than any other racial or ethnic group.

Uninsured Children in America: A Portrait (2007)

Of the 8.9 Million Uninsured Children:

<i>Race/Ethnicity*</i>	Percentage of the uninsured	Uninsured number**	
Hispanic	38.4%	3.4 million	
White	37.8	3.4 million	
Black	16.6	1.5 million	
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.3	379,000	
American Indian	1.2	103,000	
Other (multi-racial)	1.7	154,000	
Total	100.0	8.9 million	
<hr/>			
<i>Age</i>			
Birth through age 5	29.5	2.6 million	
Age 6 through age 12	32.7	2.9 million	
Age 13 through age 18	37.8	3.4 million	
Total	100.0	8.9 million	
<hr/>			
<i>Income</i>			Upper limit, annual income for family of 4 (2008)
100% poverty & below	30.0	2.7 million	\$ 21,200
Over 100% through 200%	32.2	2.9 million	42,400
Over 200% through 300%	18.7	1.7 million	63,600
Total, 300% and below	80.8	7.2 million	63,600
Over 300% through 400%	8.6	761,000	84,800
Over 400%	10.6	940,000	
Total	100.0	8.9 million	
<hr/>			
<i>Family Structure</i>			
Two parents in household	58.3	5.2 million	
Single parent household	35.1	3.1 million	
Child has no parent in household	6.7	591,000	
Total	100.0	8.9 million	
<hr/>			
<i>Parental Work Status***</i>			
At least one working parent	87.8	7.3 million	
No working parent	12.2	1.0 million	
Total	100.0	8.3 million ***	
<hr/>			
<i>Citizenship</i>			
Child is a U.S. citizen	89.1	7.9 million	
Child is not a U.S. citizen	10.9	971,000	
Total	100.0	8.9 million	

Note: Children are ages birth through 18.

* Hispanic children are in a separate category and are not included in the White and Black categories.

** Numbers may not add to total because of rounding.

*** Of children who have at least one parent in the household

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey; and "Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines," *Federal Register*, Vol. 73, No. 15 (January 23, 2008), pp. 3971-3972.
Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than half of all uninsured children in the United States live in six states: Texas, California, Florida, New York, Georgia and Illinois.

**Largest Number of Uninsured Children:
Top 10 States in 2007**

Texas	1,454,000
California	1,273,000
Florida	816,000
New York	410,000
Georgia	325,000
Illinois	305,000
North Carolina	304,000
Arizona	288,000
New Jersey	273,000
Pennsylvania	226,000

**Highest Percentage of Uninsured Children:
Top 10 States in 2007**

Texas	20.9%
Florida	19.1
New Mexico	17.9
Arizona	16.4
Nevada	16.2
Mississippi	14.9
Montana	13.9
Colorado	13.7
North Carolina	13.0
Utah	13.0

About 28.3 million children are enrolled in Medicaid, and 7.1 million are enrolled in SCHIP. Although children comprise about half of those enrolled in Medicaid, less than one-fourth of Medicaid payments are for children.

Children Enrolled in Medicaid and SCHIP

	Medicaid, FY 2005			SCHIP, FY 2007 Number enrolled
	Number of children enrolled	Children as a percent of:		
		Enrollment	Payments	
Alabama	464,070	48.9%	29.2%	106,691
Alaska	69,835	60.2	37.2	17,558
Arizona	691,907	48.4	40.6	104,209
Arkansas	420,293	57.2	35.8	89,642
California	4,270,367	40.8	22.0	1,538,416
Colorado	314,068	59.7	25.2	84,649
Connecticut	122,556	36.0	7.9	23,632
Delaware	80,785	45.6	26.4	11,143
District of Columbia	77,573	48.4	24.9	6,566
Florida	1,629,328	54.4	24.8	323,529
Georgia	1,122,660	61.4	30.9	356,285
Hawaii	91,521	43.0	22.6	23,958
Idaho	132,581	64.5	29.4	33,060
Illinois	1,171,355	51.0	19.7	345,576
Indiana	541,984	56.6	21.0	130,368
Iowa	202,979	51.2	22.7	50,238
Kansas	208,940	59.3	26.6	49,536
Kentucky	399,268	50.0	26.5	68,776
Louisiana	604,263	58.7	22.2	153,663
Maine	n/a	n/a	n/a	31,037
Maryland	361,489	48.5	22.5	132,887
Massachusetts	412,012	36.7	19.0	184,483
Michigan	987,238	56.4	23.7	114,025
Minnesota	373,816	49.8	23.4	5,408
Mississippi	422,183	54.3	24.2	81,565
Missouri	534,016	49.0	20.6	81,764
Montana	62,685	54.4	27.9	20,115
Nebraska	128,862	57.9	25.7	46,199
Nevada	148,326	57.6	28.3	41,862
New Hampshire	81,280	58.8	22.6	12,088
New Jersey	482,674	54.1	17.0	150,277
New Mexico	298,392	58.4	33.3	16,525
New York	1,940,887	38.9	14.5	651,853
North Carolina	841,731	53.7	25.3	240,152
North Dakota	35,767	49.4	15.4	5,469
Ohio	968,681	49.8	16.6	231,538
Oklahoma	381,168	59.2	29.5	117,084
Oregon	276,581	50.3	24.9	63,090
Pennsylvania	987,810	49.3	24.7	227,367
Rhode Island	91,974	49.1	24.6	26,067
South Carolina	445,826	47.7	28.6	59,920
South Dakota	68,379	59.1	28.8	14,982
Tennessee	649,356	41.4	16.9	41,363
Texas	2,660,468	66.7	36.8	710,690
Utah	174,939	57.4	29.9	44,785
Vermont	68,640	42.5	27.7	6,132
Virginia	459,391	55.4	23.8	144,163
Washington	635,396	52.9	25.8	14,734
West Virginia	195,095	51.1	22.2	38,582
Wisconsin	417,492	45.1	15.8	62,523
Wyoming	50,582	63.6	30.4	8,570
United States	28,259,469	49.8	22.6	7,144,794

n/a — data not available.

Note: This table attempts to exclude those enrolled in Medicaid through the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Because of errors in the CMS categorization of those enrolled, the table may include some who are actually in SCHIP and exclude others who are enrolled in regular Medicaid.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicaid Statistical Information System, FY 2005, at <<http://msis.cms.hhs.gov/>>, accessed October 2008; and SCHIP Statistical Enrollment Data System (SEDS) (February 7, 2008), at <<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalSCHIPPolicy/downloads/SCHIPEverEnrolledYEARFY2007FINAL.PDF>>, accessed October 2008. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

In all but one state (Wyoming), Black and Hispanic babies are less likely than White babies to be born to mothers who received early prenatal care.

Prenatal Care: 2005

	Early prenatal care ¹				Late or no prenatal care ²			
	Total, all races ³	White, non-Hispanic	Black, non-Hispanic	Hispanic ⁴	Total, all races ³	White, non-Hispanic	Black, non-Hispanic	Hispanic ⁴
Alabama	83.1%	89.3%	77.0%	51.5%	4.1%	1.9%	4.6%	21.9%
Alaska	80.2	85.6	82.1	78.4	4.9	3.3	6.0	8.2
Arizona	77.7	87.5	77.4	69.5	6.2	2.8	5.8	8.9
Arkansas	80.6	84.2	74.6	68.1	4.7	3.4	7.1	8.4
California	86.6	90.1	82.8	84.5	2.7	2.1	3.5	3.1
Colorado	80.1	85.6	75.5	70.0	4.5	2.8	6.4	7.5
Connecticut	86.8	92.0	75.5	76.0	1.9	1.2	3.6	3.0
Delaware	81.9	88.2	77.9	62.6	4.9	2.3	5.0	15.3
District of Columbia	77.5	92.0	73.8	62.3	5.1	1.3	6.3	8.0
Florida	72.2	77.5	63.4	69.7	6.7	4.9	9.8	7.6
Georgia	83.6	89.6	79.1	72.9	3.8	2.1	4.7	7.6
Hawaii	81.5	85.2	82.4	81.4	3.6	2.4	—	3.1
Idaho	71.2	74.1	58.8	57.7	5.9	5.0	—	9.8
Illinois	86.0	90.8	75.7	82.2	2.6	1.5	5.8	2.8
Indiana	79.9	83.8	66.0	63.6	4.2	3.1	8.4	8.6
Iowa	87.6	89.6	76.0	74.2	2.2	1.7	5.5	5.2
Kansas	76.6	80.8	67.8	59.8	4.8	3.5	8.3	9.4
Kentucky	73.8	75.4	68.4	54.8	5.3	4.7	7.6	10.6
Louisiana	87.2	92.9	79.0	85.6	2.7	1.2	4.9	3.1
Maine	88.1	88.3	79.1	85.0	1.7	1.6	—	—
Maryland	81.3	89.2	75.1	63.1	4.3	2.1	6.4	8.1
Massachusetts	89.3	92.1	80.5	82.5	2.2	1.6	5.1	3.4
Michigan	85.6	89.6	71.7	79.0	3.0	2.0	6.9	3.8
Minnesota	86.2	90.0	75.3	71.2	2.3	1.4	4.7	5.3
Mississippi	84.2	90.5	77.7	73.7	3.0	1.6	4.3	8.4
Missouri	87.8	89.9	80.3	77.5	2.3	1.8	4.4	3.7
Montana	84.0	87.1	81.0	77.4	2.7	1.6	—	—
Nebraska	75.3	78.6	66.5	62.4	4.5	3.8	6.7	7.0
Nevada	74.0	82.4	68.9	64.0	8.2	5.3	10.6	11.3
New Hampshire	82.4	83.7	52.2	70.1	3.3	3.0	12.4	4.9
New Jersey	78.7	88.1	62.9	66.6	4.8	2.4	10.3	7.0
New Mexico	71.2	79.1	70.8	69.4	7.7	4.5	5.5	8.2
New York (excluding New York City)	77.2	82.2	61.5	63.0	4.3	3.0	9.4	7.0
New York City	80.2	88.1	75.3	77.9	4.9	2.3	7.2	5.5
North Carolina	83.5	90.2	76.7	68.8	2.9	1.6	4.7	5.5
North Dakota	85.9	88.7	83.2	79.0	2.7	1.7	—	—
Ohio	87.1	89.2	78.3	78.2	2.9	2.2	5.8	5.3
Oklahoma	77.3	81.5	71.8	65.6	5.5	4.6	7.0	7.2
Oregon	80.9	84.4	71.3	70.1	4.1	3.3	5.9	6.1
Pennsylvania	73.2	78.4	56.6	55.8	6.2	4.6	12.1	10.1
Rhode Island	89.3	92.4	83.3	85.4	2.2	1.4	4.6	3.1
South Carolina	69.0	76.3	62.0	49.1	7.4	5.0	9.2	15.7
South Dakota	79.5	85.0	58.2	62.4	3.6	1.9	—	6.1
Tennessee	68.8	76.3	53.2	41.3	8.0	4.8	13.9	22.1
Texas	64.1	74.1	57.2	57.9	11.1	6.7	14.1	13.8
Utah	80.2	84.0	54.9	65.3	4.3	3.0	15.7	8.3
Vermont	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	85.0	90.5	79.9	68.6	3.8	2.1	5.2	8.4
Washington	71.2	74.9	65.3	60.9	6.3	5.1	8.0	9.3
West Virginia	84.4	85.0	71.7	75.3	2.7	2.6	5.9	—
Wisconsin	85.5	88.8	76.8	72.8	2.9	2.3	5.4	4.9
Wyoming	84.9	87.0	90.2	77.4	3.3	2.7	—	4.8

¹ Care begun in the first trimester (first three months) of pregnancy

² Care begun in the last trimester (last three months) of pregnancy, or not at all

³ Includes races other than White and Black

⁴ Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

— Number of births too small to calculate a stable rate.

Note: Prior to 2003, information on start of prenatal care was obtained from the mother. Starting in 2003, some states began to use medical records for this information. These two methods produce different results, and hence, the data from these two systems cannot be combined to produce national estimates of prenatal care. In addition, Vermont switched systems during 2005; no annual percentages can be calculated for this state. Finally, New York City's vital statistics system is separate from that of the rest of New York State. New York State switched to the new system in 2004; New York City still used the old system in 2005. No overall percentages can be calculated for New York.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 56, No. 6, "Births: Final Data for 2005" (December 5, 2007), Tables 26a and 26b.

About 1 in 12 babies born in the United States is low birthweight. Black babies are about twice as likely as White or Hispanic babies to have low birthweight. The United States ranks 22nd in low birthweight rates among industrialized countries.

Low Birthweight¹ Babies: 2005

	Total, all races ²		White, non-Hispanic		Black, non-Hispanic		Hispanic ³	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Alabama	10.7%	48	8.8%	46	15.5%	40	7.2%	28
Alaska	6.1	1	5.7	2	15.5	40	5.4	2
Arizona	6.9	12	6.9	18	13.0	11	6.5	15
Arkansas	8.9	38	7.7	35	14.5	31	7.2	28
California	6.9	12	6.5	9	12.6	9	6.2	11
Colorado	9.2	41	8.9	50	15.3	38	8.7	44
Connecticut	8.0	21	6.8	15	13.5	18	8.3	40
Delaware	9.5	43	7.7	35	14.9	35	7.2	28
District of Columbia	11.2	49	7.1	24	14.1	25	7.0	23
Florida	8.7	36	7.6	34	13.6	21	7.0	23
Georgia	9.5	43	7.5	32	14.4	29	6.1	6
Hawaii	8.2	24	6.6	11	10.8	4	8.7	44
Idaho	6.7	9	6.7	14	—	—	6.5	15
Illinois	8.5	33	7.3	29	15.1	37	6.7	19
Indiana	8.3	27	7.8	38	13.4	16	6.7	19
Iowa	7.2	17	7.0	20	12.5	8	6.1	6
Kansas	7.2	17	6.9	18	13.7	23	5.8	5
Kentucky	9.1	39	8.8	46	13.5	18	7.0	23
Louisiana	11.5	50	8.7	44	16.0	42	7.2	28
Maine	6.8	10	6.8	15	—	—	—	—
Maryland	9.1	39	7.1	24	13.1	12	7.2	28
Massachusetts	7.9	20	7.3	29	11.9	7	8.3	40
Michigan	8.3	27	7.0	20	14.7	33	6.5	15
Minnesota	6.5	6	6.0	3	11.3	5	5.7	3
Mississippi	11.8	51	8.7	44	16.1	43	5.1	1
Missouri	8.1	23	7.0	20	14.3	28	6.3	12
Montana	6.6	7	6.3	6	—	—	8.1	38
Nebraska	7.0	14	6.5	9	13.1	12	6.5	15
Nevada	8.3	27	7.8	38	14.8	34	6.9	22
New Hampshire	7.0	14	6.8	15	—	—	7.5	35
New Jersey	8.2	24	7.1	24	13.4	16	7.3	34
New Mexico	8.5	33	8.8	46	14.4	29	8.4	42
New York	8.3	27	7.0	20	13.2	15	7.8	37
North Carolina	9.2	41	7.9	42	14.6	32	6.3	12
North Dakota	6.4	5	6.3	6	—	—	—	—
Ohio	8.7	36	7.8	38	13.9	24	7.1	26
Oklahoma	8.0	21	7.5	32	14.2	26	6.7	19
Oregon	6.1	1	6.0	3	11.4	6	5.7	3
Pennsylvania	8.4	32	7.3	29	13.5	18	8.8	46
Rhode Island	7.8	19	7.1	24	10.3	2	8.6	43
South Carolina	10.2	47	7.8	38	15.3	38	7.2	28
South Dakota	6.6	7	6.6	11	—	—	—	—
Tennessee	9.5	43	8.4	43	14.9	35	6.1	6
Texas	8.3	27	7.7	35	14.2	26	7.5	35
Utah	6.8	10	6.6	11	10.6	3	7.1	26
Vermont	6.2	4	6.2	5	—	—	—	—
Virginia	8.2	24	7.2	28	12.7	10	6.1	6
Washington	6.1	1	5.6	1	9.8	1	6.1	6
West Virginia	9.6	46	9.4	51	13.1	12	—	—
Wisconsin	7.0	14	6.3	6	13.6	21	6.4	14
Wyoming	8.6	35	8.8	46	—	—	8.2	39
United States	8.2		7.3		14.0		6.9	

¹ Birthweight less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs. 8 oz.)

² Includes races other than White and Black

³ Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

—Number of low birthweight births too small to calculate a stable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 56, No. 6, "Births: Final Data for 2005" (December 5, 2007), Table 36. Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

The infant mortality rate in the District of Columbia is three times as high as that in Utah. Infant mortality rates are more than twice as high for Black infants as for White infants. The United States infant mortality rate ranks 25th among industrialized countries.

Infant Deaths: 2005

	Total, all races ¹			White			Black		
	Number of infant deaths	Infant mortality rate ²	Rank	Number of infant deaths	Infant mortality rate ²	Rank	Number of infant deaths	Infant mortality rate ²	Rank
Alabama	568	9.40	47	296	7.18	47	266	14.67	20
Alaska	62	5.93	14	31	4.74	4	4	—	—
Arizona	662	6.88	27	549	6.60	37	46	12.62	9
Arkansas	309	7.88	37	196	6.36	33	111	14.85	21
California	2,930	5.34	7	2,232	5.01	8	440	13.64	12
Colorado	444	6.44	18	379	6.03	28	51	16.33	24
Connecticut	243	5.82	12	167	4.91	7	71	13.45	11
Delaware	105	9.02	46	49	5.98	26	55	18.89	34
District of Columbia	112	14.05	51	21	—	—	91	16.95	28
Florida	1,629	7.20	29	916	5.67	17	679	12.02	7
Georgia	1,159	8.15	42	537	5.90	25	580	12.60	8
Hawaii	116	6.47	20	32	6.26	32	5	—	—
Idaho	141	6.11	16	134	6.06	30	1	—	—
Illinois	1,328	7.42	34	791	5.70	18	502	16.35	25
Indiana	698	8.01	39	526	6.95	44	168	17.01	29
Iowa	210	5.34	7	185	5.05	11	21	—	—
Kansas	294	7.37	33	233	6.64	38	55	17.59	31
Kentucky	375	6.64	23	303	6.01	27	67	13.15	10
Louisiana	613	10.06	49	249	7.04	45	359	14.87	22
Maine	97	6.87	26	93	6.88	42	2	—	—
Maryland	547	7.30	31	219	5.06	12	308	11.61	6
Massachusetts	396	5.15	4	302	4.84	6	72	8.18	1
Michigan	1,012	7.92	38	580	5.80	21	411	18.26	33
Minnesota	362	5.10	3	261	4.52	3	73	10.58	3
Mississippi	481	11.35	50	153	6.64	38	321	17.20	30
Missouri	590	7.50	36	412	6.36	33	171	14.63	19
Montana	81	6.99	28	66	6.66	40	0	—	—
Nebraska	147	5.62	9	120	5.17	13	18	—	—
Nevada	215	5.77	10	160	5.22	14	44	13.67	13
New Hampshire	76	5.27	6	68	5.01	8	3	—	—
New Jersey	595	5.23	5	332	4.02	1	220	11.01	5
New Mexico	177	6.14	17	134	5.56	16	9	—	—
New York	1,431	5.81	11	855	5.03	10	507	9.33	2
North Carolina	1,083	8.80	44	584	6.52	36	465	16.35	25
North Dakota	50	5.96	15	42	5.84	23	0	—	—
Ohio	1,225	8.26	43	809	6.71	41	408	16.92	27
Oklahoma	417	8.05	40	291	7.27	48	74	15.35	23
Oregon	269	5.86	13	243	5.85	24	10	—	—
Pennsylvania	1,061	7.30	31	716	6.18	31	329	14.12	18
Rhode Island	82	6.46	19	62	5.79	20	15	—	—
South Carolina	543	9.41	48	257	7.12	46	281	13.80	14
South Dakota	83	7.24	30	56	6.04	29	1	—	—
Tennessee	724	8.86	45	455	7.41	49	258	13.96	15
Texas	2,537	6.57	21	1,872	5.72	19	620	14.07	16
Utah	230	4.46	1	215	4.39	2	1	—	—
Vermont	42	6.67	24	39	6.39	35	2	—	—
Virginia	781	7.47	35	431	5.80	21	323	14.10	17
Washington	421	5.09	2	327	4.81	5	46	10.87	4
West Virginia	169	8.11	41	158	7.93	50	11	—	—
Wisconsin	469	6.61	22	329	5.44	15	120	17.66	32
Wyoming	49	6.77	25	47	6.94	43	0	—	—
United States	28,440	6.87		18,514	5.73		8,695	13.73	

¹ Includes races other than Black and White

² Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year of age) per 1,000 live births

—Number of infant deaths too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 56, No. 10, "Deaths: Final Data for 2005" (January 2008), Table 32. Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

More than 10 percent of babies in Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and the District of Columbia are born at low birthweight.

**Highest Percentage of Low Birthweight Births:
Top 10 States (plus the District of Columbia) in 2005**

Mississippi	11.8%
Louisiana	11.5
District of Columbia	11.2
Alabama	10.7
South Carolina	10.2
West Virginia	9.6
Tennessee	9.5
Georgia	9.5
Delaware	9.5
North Carolina	9.2
Colorado	9.2

Mississippi, Louisiana and the District of Columbia have the highest infant mortality rates.

**Highest Infant Mortality Rates: Top 10 States
(plus the District of Columbia) in 2005**

District of Columbia	14.05*
Mississippi	11.35
Louisiana	10.06
South Carolina	9.41
Alabama	9.40
Delaware	9.02
Tennessee	8.86
North Carolina	8.80
Ohio	8.26
Georgia	8.15
West Virginia	8.11

*Infant deaths before the first birthday per 1,000 live births.

Black women are more than three times as likely as White or Hispanic women to die of pregnancy or childbirth complications. More than two-thirds of Black babies are born to unmarried mothers, compared to almost half of Hispanic babies and one-fourth of White babies.

Selected Maternal and Infant Health Indicators: 2005

Characteristic	All Races	White		Black		Native American	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic*
		Total	Non-Hispanic	Total	Non-Hispanic			
Percent								
Low birthweight [1]	8.2%	7.2%	7.3%	13.6%	14.0%	7.4%	8.0%	6.9%
Very low birthweight [2]	1.5	1.2	1.2	3.2	3.3	1.2	1.1	1.2
Births to teens	10.2	9.3	7.3	16.9	17.0	17.7	3.3	14.1
Births to unmarried women	36.9	31.7	25.3	69.3	69.9	63.5	16.2	48.0
Mother's age at first birth (mean)	25.2	25.4	26.2	22.8	22.7	21.7	28.5	23.1
Per 1,000								
Infant mortality rate [3]	6.86	5.73	5.76	13.26	13.63	8.06	4.89	5.62
Per 100,000								
Maternal mortality rate [4]	15.1	11.1	11.7	36.5	39.2	na	na	9.6

*Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race; includes races other than White and Black.
na – data not available

[1] Less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs., 8 oz.)

[2] Less than 1,500 grams (3 lbs., 4 oz.)

[3] Infant deaths per 1,000 live births

[4] Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births

Sources: National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 56, No. 6, "Births: Final Data for 2005" (December 5, 2007), Tables 14, 15, 23 and 24; National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 56, No. 10, "Deaths: Final Data for 2005" (April 24, 2008), Tables 33 and 34; and National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 57, No. 2, "Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2005 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set" (July 30, 2008), Tables A and B.

After four decades of decline, the infant mortality rate increased in 2002 and stalled in 2005. Black infants are more than twice as likely as White infants to die before age 1. For two decades, the incidence of low birthweight has been increasing. The rate in 2005 was 22 percent higher than the rate in 1984.

Infant Health: 1940–2005

Infant Mortality Rates¹

Year	Total	White	Black	Black-White Ratio	Low Birth-weight ²
1940	47.0	43.2	72.9	1.69	n/a
1950	29.2	26.8	43.9	1.64	n/a
1959	26.4	23.2	44.8	1.93	n/a
1960	26.0	22.9	44.3	1.93	7.7%
1961	25.3	22.4	41.8	1.87	7.8
1962	25.3	22.3	42.6	1.91	8.0
1963	25.2	22.2	42.8	1.93	8.2
1964	24.8	21.6	42.3	1.96	8.2
1965	24.7	21.5	41.7	1.94	8.3
1966	23.7	20.6	40.2	1.95	8.3
1967	22.4	19.7	37.5	1.90	8.2
1968	21.8	19.2	36.2	1.89	8.2
1969	20.9	18.4	34.8	1.89	8.1
1970	20.0	17.8	32.6	1.83	7.9
1971	19.1	17.1	30.3	1.77	7.7
1972	18.5	16.4	29.6	1.80	7.7
1973	17.7	15.8	28.1	1.78	7.6
1974	16.7	14.8	26.8	1.81	7.4
1975	16.1	14.2	26.2	1.85	7.4
1976	15.2	13.3	25.5	1.92	7.3
1977	14.1	12.3	23.6	1.92	7.1
1978	13.8	12.0	23.1	1.93	7.1
1979	13.1	11.4	21.8	1.91	6.9
1980	12.6	10.9	22.2	2.04	6.8
1981	11.9	10.3	20.8	2.02	6.8
1982	11.5	9.9	20.5	2.07	6.8
1983	11.2	9.6	20.0	2.08	6.8
1984	10.8	9.3	19.2	2.06	6.7
1985	10.6	9.2	19.0	2.07	6.8
1986	10.4	8.8	18.9	2.15	6.8
1987	10.1	8.5	18.8	2.21	6.9
1988	10.0	8.4	18.5	2.20	6.9
1989	9.8	8.1	18.6	2.30	7.0
1990	9.2	7.6	18.0	2.37	7.0
1991	8.9	7.3	17.6	2.41	7.1
1992	8.5	6.9	16.8	2.43	7.1
1993	8.4	6.8	16.5	2.43	7.2
1994	8.0	6.6	15.8	2.39	7.3
1995	7.6	6.3	15.1	2.40	7.3
1996	7.3	6.1	14.7	2.41	7.4
1997	7.2	6.0	14.2	2.37	7.5
1998	7.2	6.0	14.3	2.38	7.6
1999	7.1	5.8	14.6	2.52	7.6
2000	6.9	5.7	14.1	2.47	7.6
2001	6.8	5.7	14.0	2.46	7.7
2002	7.0	5.8	14.4	2.48	7.8
2003	6.85	5.72	14.01	2.45	7.9
2004	6.79	5.66	13.79	2.44	8.1
2005	6.87	5.73	13.73	2.40	8.2

¹ Infant deaths before the first birthday per 1,000 live births

² Birthweight less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs., 8 oz.)

n/a — data not available

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Among two-year-olds, 1 in 3 is not fully immunized. More than 80 percent of two-year-old children in Connecticut and New Hampshire are fully immunized compared to fewer than half in South Dakota. On two of the recommended vaccines for one-year-old children, the U.S. ranks near the bottom of industrialized countries.

Immunization¹ of Two-Year-Olds² Percent Fully Immunized

	4:3:1:3:3 series ³		4:3:1:3:3:1 series ⁴		4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series ⁵
	1995	2007	2002	2007	2007
Alabama	45.8%	81.6%	73.3%	78.2%	67.3%
Alaska	54.3	78.6	56.2	70.1	64.4
Arizona	51.2	80.2	59.0	75.2	66.1
Arkansas	53.6	75.0	68.3	72.3	57.4
California	57.7	79.4	67.1	77.1	67.7
Colorado	51.4	78.6	56.1	78.0	64.3
Connecticut	63.9	89.3	72.8	86.8	81.2
Delaware	54.7	81.8	69.7	80.3	68.6
District of Columbia	49.8	82.8	68.3	81.6	71.0
Florida	53.4	82.4	66.4	80.3	61.8
Georgia	61.7	80.8	76.5	79.6	65.9
Hawaii	66.2	87.8	69.1	87.5	77.4
Idaho	40.7	75.8	52.6	65.6	52.9
Illinois	57.2	76.9	58.1	73.5	65.8
Indiana	41.8	76.8	59.4	74.0	61.8
Iowa	47.7	80.0	58.2	75.9	64.2
Kansas	35.7	81.7	55.1	76.0	64.8
Kentucky	59.6	80.9	63.6	78.2	63.3
Louisiana	61.8	77.7	61.9	77.0	66.9
Maine	46.6	77.6	62.1	72.9	67.0
Maryland	59.2	92.4	70.7	91.3	79.9
Massachusetts	70.7	83.9	78.0	77.9	76.0
Michigan	46.7	80.6	71.7	78.8	66.9
Minnesota	41.2	84.7	61.5	80.5	72.8
Mississippi	38.1	78.7	63.9	77.1	61.2
Missouri	50.5	77.2	60.1	76.1	64.7
Montana	44.7	75.0	49.4	65.3	58.0
Nebraska	49.2	85.2	64.3	82.9	74.4
Nevada	55.9	66.7	65.3	63.1	50.7
New Hampshire	72.7	93.2	66.2	90.6	80.5
New Jersey	60.5	82.3	65.5	80.5	62.3
New Mexico	43.8	78.9	59.1	76.0	65.4
New York	62.6	83.0	67.3	77.8	65.2
North Carolina	62.5	80.0	69.7	77.3	70.1
North Dakota	65.7	81.7	56.3	77.2	68.9
Ohio	47.7	80.4	63.5	77.7	64.5
Oklahoma	42.3	80.1	60.3	78.5	53.3
Oregon	56.6	72.4	60.3	70.5	62.7
Pennsylvania	62.2	81.4	67.6	78.8	68.3
Rhode Island	58.5	80.0	80.7	75.0	69.2
South Carolina	72.2	81.1	73.8	79.5	74.9
South Dakota	27.5	87.1	62.0	76.9	45.8
Tennessee	57.8	80.5	67.3	78.7	64.3
Texas	52.4	78.2	65.0	77.3	68.5
Utah	43.7	78.5	61.4	73.6	61.4
Vermont	55.8	79.8	57.7	67.3	62.7
Virginia	52.8	79.6	64.8	75.5	67.9
Washington	57.0	73.9	51.9	69.0	64.6
West Virginia	28.9	80.7	65.8	75.5	64.9
Wisconsin	53.1	79.4	67.5	77.1	69.6
Wyoming	18.9	76.8	54.1	70.2	58.7
United States	55.1	80.1	65.5	77.4	66.5

¹The vaccination series in this table were the group of vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) in various years. Data collection by the Centers for Disease Control changes as the recommendations are updated.

²Children between the ages of 19 and 35 months at the time of the survey.

³4:3:1:3:3 is 4 or more doses of any diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccines (DTaP/DTP/DT), 3 or more doses of any poliovirus vaccine, 1 or more doses of measles-mumps-rubella vaccine, 3 or more doses of Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine, and 3 or more doses of hepatitis B vaccine.

⁴4:3:1:3:3:1 is the 4:3:1:3:3 series plus 1 or more doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine.

⁵4:3:1:3:3:1:4 is the 4:3:1:3:3:1 series plus 4 or more doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV).

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1995, 2002 and 2007 National Immunization Surveys, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stats-surv/imz-coverage.htm>>, accessed October 2008.

More than 900,000 children were abused or neglected in 2006. Almost 2 out of 3 of these children were neglected.

Child Abuse and Neglect: 2006

	Child victims of abuse and neglect		Type of abuse or neglect (percentage) ²					Other, unknown, or missing
	Number	Rate ¹	Neglect	Physical abuse	Medical neglect	Sexual abuse	Psychological maltreatment	
Alabama	9,378	8.4	41.7%	39.1%		26.1%	0.9%	0.0%
Alaska	3,481	19.2	57.7	14.2	4.4%	4.5	33.2	0.0
Arizona	4,469	2.7	70.6	23.8	7.1	0.8	0.0	—
Arkansas	9,180	13.3	56.6	18.8	5.7	26.1	1.2	0.1
California	89,500	9.4	71.7	12.4	7.4	17.6	0.2	
Colorado	10,862	9.3	69.8	15.8	1.5	9.4	4.5	4.1
Connecticut	10,174	12.4	91.3	6.2	3.8	4.4	3.0	0.0
Delaware	1,933	9.5	43.6	19.2	2.5	8.5	27.4	8.3
District of Columbia	2,759	24.0	57.8	14.7	6.0	5.5	1.9	32.5
Florida	134,567	33.5	32.4	11.3	1.6	3.4	1.8	68.3
Georgia	39,802	16.2	71.3	10.4	5.0	4.1	21.9	0.5
Hawaii	2,045	6.9	15.8	11.4	1.3	4.5	1.3	91.0
Idaho	1,651	4.2	75.7	16.0	0.7	4.7	0.1	7.3
Illinois	27,756	8.6	68.0	24.7	2.7	17.9	0.2	0.0
Indiana	20,925	13.3	72.9	12.5	2.5	20.8	0.0	—
Iowa	14,589	20.5	79.4	12.9	1.0	5.4	0.7	10.4
Kansas	2,630	3.8	22.3	19.9	2.6	25.5	17.2	25.2
Kentucky	19,833	19.8	87.2	11.0	4.0	0.6	0.0	—
Louisiana	12,472	11.4	78.9	25.5	7.2	2.6	0.2	—
Maine	3,548	12.6	68.4	17.8	10.6	38.9	0.0	—
Maryland	n/a	n/a	0.0	—	—	—	—	—
Massachusetts	36,151	25.0	91.5	12.9	2.7	0.2	0.0	—
Michigan	27,148	11.0	76.0	17.4	1.7	4.5	2.1	2.6
Minnesota	7,623	6.1	75.8	15.7	1.5	12.1	0.7	0.0
Mississippi	6,272	8.3	59.4	19.9	3.1	14.9	9.3	0.4
Missouri	7,108	5.0	51.7	31.2	28.7	6.7	0.0	—
Montana	1,775	8.1	70.3	12.1	1.7	8.4	19.8	0.2
Nebraska	6,160	13.8	85.0	13.0	0.1	9.9	6.3	0.0
Nevada	5,345	8.4	84.8	17.8	2.1	3.7	8.4	0.0
New Hampshire	822	2.8	68.7	16.8	2.8	19.6	1.8	0.0
New Jersey	11,680	5.6	57.9	29.0	6.1	8.8	0.8	0.1
New Mexico	5,926	11.6	74.3	13.3	2.4	4.5	18.6	0.0
New York	80,077	17.7	91.5	10.6	4.4	3.4	0.7	25.6
North Carolina	28,422	13.2	52.1	6.4	1.3	4.8	0.3	35.0
North Dakota	1,438	9.9	63.5	11.0	1.7	5.4	54.2	0.0
Ohio	41,449	15.0	54.3	22.2	0.0	17.6	10.0	0.0
Oklahoma	13,414	15.0	83.1	17.9	3.5	6.6	22.9	0.0
Oregon	12,927	15.1	36.9	7.6	2.0	9.5	2.5	59.3
Pennsylvania	4,177	1.5	3.5	34.0	2.4	60.5	1.3	0.0
Rhode Island	4,400	18.5	85.7	12.5	1.5	5.7	0.1	1.0
South Carolina	10,795	10.4	72.2	30.3	3.9	7.2	1.3	0.2
South Dakota	1,529	7.9	88.2	12.2	4.3	3.0	0.0	—
Tennessee	19,182	13.3	53.1	34.1	2.2	20.4	0.4	0.0
Texas	69,065	10.6	73.9	22.3	3.8	10.7	1.5	0.0
Utah	13,043	16.5	21.1	14.9	0.3	17.8	43.4	20.2
Vermont	861	6.5	4.9	51.3	2.3	43.2	0.9	0.0
Virginia	6,828	3.8	61.6	27.9	2.5	13.9	1.1	0.0
Washington	7,294	4.8	81.9	17.3	6.0	0.0	—	—
West Virginia	8,345	21.4	55.5	24.5	1.5	4.6	24.5	8.0
Wisconsin	8,583	6.5	29.9	14.2	35.0	0.5	25.4	—
Wyoming	786	6.5	70.9	6.4	0.9	7.9	12.0	7.3
United States ³	905,000	12.0	64.1	16.0	2.2	8.8	6.6	16.3

¹Number of child victims per 1,000 children

²Totals may be greater than 100 percent because some victims were subject to more than one type of maltreatment.

³The United States total is an estimate that includes Puerto Rico; a more accurate estimate is not possible because Maryland did not report data for 2006.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, *Child Maltreatment 2006* (April 2008), Tables 3-3 and 3.6. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

There are about 500,000 children in foster care. States with the highest number of children in foster care are California, Florida, New York and Texas.

Foster Care: FY 2002–FY 2006

Number of Children in Care on September 30 of Each Year

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Alabama	5,883	6,079	5,934	6,913	7,157
Alaska	2,072	2,040	1,825	1,789	1,993
Arizona	6,173	7,469	9,194	9,685	9,731
Arkansas	2,971	3,014	3,124	3,238	3,434
California	90,692	87,278	82,641	80,247	78,373
Colorado	9,209	8,754	8,196	8,213	8,139
Connecticut	6,007	6,742	6,803	6,249	6,365
Delaware	886	814	849	962	1,074
District of Columbia	3,321	3,092	2,641	2,519	2,378
Florida	31,963	30,677	28,864	29,312	29,229
Georgia	13,149	13,578	14,216	13,965	13,175
Hawaii	2,665	2,919	2,942	2,745	2,355
Idaho	1,246	1,401	1,565	1,818	1,850
Illinois	24,344	21,608	19,931	19,431	18,367
Indiana	8,478	8,815	9,778	11,243	11,401
Iowa	5,238	5,011	5,384	6,794	9,040
Kansas	6,190	5,781	6,060	5,833	6,237
Kentucky	6,814	6,898	6,998	7,220	7,606
Louisiana	4,829	4,541	4,397	4,833	5,213
Maine	3,084	2,760	2,584	2,309	2,076
Maryland*	12,026	11,521	11,111	10,867	10,681
Massachusetts	12,510	12,608	12,562	12,197	11,499
Michigan	21,251	21,376	21,173	20,498	20,142
Minnesota	8,052	6,770	6,540	6,978	7,156
Mississippi	2,686	2,721	2,989	3,269	3,126
Missouri	13,029	11,900	11,778	11,433	10,181
Montana	1,912	1,866	2,030	2,222	1,909
Nebraska	5,724	5,148	6,292	6,231	6,187
Nevada	3,027	3,605	4,037	4,654	5,069
New Hampshire	1,291	1,217	1,236	1,178	1,146
New Jersey	11,442	12,816	12,289	11,211	10,623
New Mexico	1,885	2,122	2,157	2,316	2,357
New York	40,753	37,067	33,445	30,458	29,973
North Carolina	9,527	9,534	10,077	10,698	11,115
North Dakota	1,197	1,238	1,314	1,370	1,331
Ohio	21,038	19,323	18,004	17,446	16,631
Oklahoma	8,812	9,252	11,325	11,393	11,816
Oregon	9,101	9,117	10,048	11,020	10,661
Pennsylvania	21,410	20,845	21,944	21,691	21,135
Rhode Island	2,383	2,357	2,414	2,509	2,842
South Carolina	4,818	4,801	4,635	4,757	4,920
South Dakota	1,396	1,537	1,582	1,704	1,648
Tennessee	9,359	9,487	9,590	9,017	8,818
Texas	21,353	21,880	24,529	28,883	30,848
Utah	2,025	2,033	2,108	2,285	2,427
Vermont	1,526	1,409	1,432	1,436	1,379
Virginia	7,109	7,046	6,869	7,022	7,843
Washington	9,669	9,213	9,368	10,068	10,457
West Virginia	3,220	4,069	3,990	4,627	4,012
Wisconsin	8,744	7,824	7,812	8,109	7,556
Wyoming	921	1,052	1,184	1,244	1,304
United States	514,410	502,025	499,790	504,109	501,985

*Figure for FY 2006 estimated by the state.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Foster Care FY2002 - FY2006 Entries, Exits, and Numbers of Children In Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year, at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/afcars/statistics/entryexit2006.htm>.

For every 100 children in foster care, 41 are White, 32 are Black, and 18 are Hispanic.
There are relatively few Asian or Pacific Islander children in foster care.

Children in Foster Care, by Race: 2005

	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian	Black, non-Hispanic	Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	White, non-Hispanic	Two or more races	Unknown or missing
Alabama	0.2%	<.1%	46.4%	<.1%	1.9%	50.2%	1.1%	0.1%
Alaska	50.9	0.5	5.4	0.3	3.4	27.6	9.0	2.9
Arizona	2.6	<.1	7.9	0.2	38.5	43.6	4.2	2.9
Arkansas	0.0	0.1	28.2	0.0	5.8	57.2	8.4	0.2
California	0.8	1.4	25.9	0.5	43.5	23.8	3.6	0.5
Colorado	1.1	0.6	11.0	0.2	35.4	48.7	2.9	<.1
Connecticut	0.1	0.2	30.6	0.0	29.7	34.0	4.1	1.3
Delaware	0.3	0.1	57.8	0.0	7.7	33.7	0.4	0.0
District of Columbia	0.0	0.1	87.3	0.1	3.6	0.2	4.8	3.9
Florida	0.1	0.2	38.7	<.1	10.1	48.1	2.4	0.3
Georgia	<.1	0.2	46.9	<.1	4.8	45.0	2.4	0.5
Hawaii	0.4	11.3	0.5	24.9	3.0	8.6	45.4	5.9
Idaho	6.6	0.0	1.5	0.2	16.7	72.7	2.4	<.1
Illinois	<.1	0.2	63.6	0.0	5.8	28.4	0.0	2.0
Indiana	0.2	<.1	32.1	<.1	5.9	56.7	4.8	0.2
Iowa	1.6	0.9	13.8	0.3	5.6	72.6	1.6	3.7
Kansas	1.2	0.3	19.8	<.1	5.7	66.9	3.3	2.8
Kentucky	<.1	<.1	19.2	<.1	0.7	72.7	4.4	2.8
Louisiana	0.3	0.2	51.5	0.0	1.2	45.5	0.6	0.7
Maine	1.3	0.5	1.9	<.1	2.8	80.7	1.6	11.1
Maryland	0.2	0.3	73.6	<.1	1.8	21.6	1.0	1.4
Massachusetts	0.2	1.7	17.4	<.1	24.5	49.4	3.1	3.8
Michigan	1.1	0.2	49.1	0.2	4.3	41.0	3.3	0.7
Minnesota	12.2	1.4	19.4	<.1	8.4	49.9	7.2	1.5
Mississippi	0.1	<.1	50.7	<.1	1.7	44.8	1.9	0.5
Missouri	0.4	0.2	31.2	<.1	2.2	65.2	0.3	0.6
Montana	33.6	<.1	1.2	0.1	4.7	52.2	5.0	3.1
Nebraska	9.0	0.3	15.2	<.1	9.8	62.3	0.8	2.6
Nevada	0.5	0.7	21.9	0.7	20.4	49.6	5.2	1.0
New Hampshire	0.2	<.1	4.1	0.2	5.9	80.8	3.4	5.4
New Jersey	0.2	0.2	56.8	<.1	6.5	25.0	1.6	9.7
New Mexico	5.7	<.1	4.6	0.0	55.9	28.9	2.5	2.3
New York	0.3	0.5	47.9	0.0	19.6	19.8	0.0	12.1
North Carolina	1.5	0.2	41.7	0.3	7.0	45.9	3.0	0.4
North Dakota	26.4	1.4	2.9	0.1	5.6	57.9	5.6	0.0
Ohio	0.2	0.1	41.1	<.1	3.1	51.2	3.6	0.7
Oklahoma	11.4	<.1	16.7	<.1	11.5	42.9	17.4	0.0
Oregon	11.3	0.7	6.5	0.3	11.2	55.8	1.6	12.7
Pennsylvania	0.1	0.5	46.9	<.1	8.7	40.4	0.3	3.2
Rhode Island	1.6	2.0	17.6	<.1	20.0	51.8	4.4	2.6
South Carolina	0.1	0.2	48.3	<.1	3.8	42.5	4.8	0.1
South Dakota	52.2	0.0	2.2	0.0	7.1	32.7	5.8	0.0
Tennessee	<.1	0.2	31.2	<.1	3.7	60.5	2.6	1.8
Texas	0.1	0.2	23.5	<.1	39.4	32.4	3.5	0.7
Utah	5.7	0.7	4.7	1.1	22.5	63.5	1.4	0.4
Vermont	0.2	<.1	2.7	0.0	1.0	95.0	0.0	1.1
Virginia	<.1	0.3	42.3	<.1	6.1	45.1	5.6	0.6
Washington	8.4	0.8	10.3	0.5	13.8	55.8	8.5	1.9
West Virginia	<.1	<.1	7.9	0.0	1.7	83.2	5.7	1.5
Wisconsin	3.8	1.2	38.0	<.1	7.3	43.9	4.4	1.5
Wyoming	1.1	0.2	4.4	0.2	9.9	76.6	0.8	6.9
United States	2	1	32	0	18	41	3	2

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Welfare Outcomes 2002-2005: Annual Report to Congress, Safety, Permanency, Well-being (2008). Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Although Black children comprise 15 percent of all children, they are 32 percent of children in foster care. About one-third of children in foster care are under age 6.

Who's in Foster Care?

	Percent in foster care	Percent in U.S. child population
Race and ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	40%	58%
Black	32	15
Latino	19	20
American Indian, Alaska Native	2	1
Asian	1	4
Other and unknown	6	3
Age		
Under age 1	6	
1-5 years	27	
6-10 years	20	
11-15 years	27	
16-18 years	19	
19 + years	2	
Type of placement		
Non-relative foster home	46	
Relative foster home	24	
Institution	10	
Group home	7	
Pre-adoptive home	3	
Trial home visit	5	
Runaway	2	
Supervised independent living	1	
Exit from foster care during year		
Reunification	53	
Living with relative	11	
Adoption	17	
Emancipation	9	
Guardianship	5	
Transfer to another agency	2	
Runaway	2	

Note: Race/ethnicity, age, and placement are estimates of children in foster care on September 30, 2005; exit data reflect outcomes for children exiting foster care during FY 2005.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, "The AFCARS Report: Preliminary FY 2005 Estimates as of September 2006," at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/afcars/tar/report13.pdf>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than 2.5 million grandparents are raising their grandchildren. Almost 80 percent of them have been caring for their grandchildren for a year or longer; 60 percent of them are in the labor force; and about 1 in 5 of them is poor.

Children in Kinship Care: 2000 and 2007

	Children living in relative-headed households, 2000				Grandparents responsible for own grandchildren, 2007				
	Not child of householder; household headed by:		No parents present; household headed by:		Total number	Number responsible for one year or more	Number in labor force	Poor	
	Any relative	Grandparent	Any relative	Grandparent				Number	Percent
Alabama	108,137	89,126	51,486	38,164	58,794	44,814	33,827	12,831	21.8%
Alaska	9,963	7,415	5,110	3,222	5,953	4,440	4,164	812	13.6
Arizona	128,829	93,146	54,833	31,254	63,274	47,891	39,189	13,665	21.6
Arkansas	60,414	49,040	30,111	21,927	40,348	31,415	22,839	10,785	26.7
California	940,397	618,927	389,631	195,269	275,987	219,258	154,077	38,323	13.9
Colorado	65,826	47,430	28,185	16,329	34,962	23,870	21,097	7,434	21.3
Connecticut	49,307	37,604	21,123	12,825	20,254	15,417	13,381	3,080	15.2
Delaware	17,388	13,593	7,803	4,858	8,225	6,090	5,015	790	9.6
District of Columbia	22,458	17,216	10,702	7,148	6,164	5,697	2,506	1,225	19.9
Florida	336,313	253,936	151,492	94,477	151,257	111,678	95,606	23,832	15.8
Georgia	214,593	162,628	98,773	62,874	100,495	79,284	58,184	22,916	22.8
Hawaii	47,677	37,638	13,814	8,341	12,747	11,429	7,346	639	5.0
Idaho	15,596	11,938	7,087	4,642	8,384	6,004	5,621	1,254	15.0
Illinois	284,268	210,046	119,676	72,416	101,879	80,691	61,122	19,896	19.5
Indiana	92,856	75,496	39,180	27,395	49,044	37,750	31,309	7,225	14.7
Iowa	26,683	20,820	11,230	7,203	12,941	9,080	8,742	1,537	11.9
Kansas	34,813	26,532	16,184	10,171	18,748	12,954	12,215	3,041	16.2
Kentucky	64,352	53,049	30,241	22,004	46,312	37,028	24,653	12,095	26.1
Louisiana	142,066	115,446	64,866	46,094	60,671	43,913	34,128	17,579	29.0
Maine	10,882	8,931	4,326	2,910	7,471	5,668	4,936	685	9.2
Maryland	126,100	97,312	54,323	34,503	42,717	35,391	25,782	5,073	11.9
Massachusetts	82,879	64,230	30,615	18,366	28,911	22,168	16,853	4,792	16.6
Michigan	174,773	136,950	71,200	45,805	69,008	51,686	40,492	10,853	15.7
Minnesota	43,731	31,704	19,053	10,882	24,654	18,682	16,594	2,654	10.8
Mississippi	99,370	81,613	46,693	33,929	48,144	36,770	26,739	13,692	28.4
Missouri	90,911	73,805	39,188	27,454	46,898	34,977	30,103	7,257	15.5
Montana	11,200	9,077	5,161	3,539	6,870	5,287	4,065	1,238	18.0
Nebraska	17,482	12,901	8,321	5,120	8,969	6,502	7,027	888	9.9
Nevada	42,722	29,650	19,278	11,105	22,589	16,170	13,636	2,198	9.7
New Hampshire	11,007	9,035	3,869	2,585	6,889	5,037	5,407	—	—
New Jersey	165,351	124,046	63,514	36,633	49,732	41,187	31,279	6,005	12.1
New Mexico	49,959	40,068	21,279	14,630	24,271	18,247	14,290	6,492	26.7
New York	401,228	294,137	165,493	95,352	132,010	107,776	70,608	31,441	23.8
North Carolina	166,356	129,180	80,126	53,366	87,075	68,800	51,466	17,786	20.4
North Dakota	4,807	3,692	2,414	1,533	3,110	2,553	2,344	613	19.7
Ohio	180,287	146,615	76,794	53,208	90,447	69,487	52,691	17,329	19.2
Oklahoma	69,419	55,032	34,185	23,815	43,756	33,574	25,300	8,529	19.5
Oregon	47,903	34,848	20,735	12,499	24,060	17,633	15,330	3,858	16.0
Pennsylvania	194,659	158,607	76,356	51,929	83,770	62,915	49,140	14,334	17.1
Rhode Island	13,621	10,745	5,170	3,305	4,275	3,354	2,589	558	13.1
South Carolina	107,140	87,261	49,894	36,042	50,206	40,611	27,774	12,727	25.4
South Dakota	10,051	7,934	5,146	3,514	5,858	4,142	3,671	2,253	38.5
Tennessee	122,414	98,495	56,682	39,444	71,802	58,847	39,890	15,434	21.5
Texas	579,486	438,768	244,100	152,951	281,681	211,007	174,926	64,044	22.7
Utah	39,030	29,446	13,756	7,988	16,464	12,440	9,367	1,860	11.3
Vermont	4,636	3,757	1,838	1,231	2,175	1,602	1,365	288	13.2
Virginia	130,792	101,025	56,663	37,041	61,333	47,555	37,987	11,319	18.5
Washington	78,283	56,010	35,761	20,495	40,370	31,858	22,660	6,949	17.2
West Virginia	26,536	22,655	10,809	8,146	20,321	14,385	9,340	5,340	26.3
Wisconsin	56,808	42,865	25,373	15,445	27,417	21,638	17,796	4,807	17.5
Wyoming	6,013	4,777	2,738	1,880	4,564	3,199	3,667	975	21.4
United States	5,827,772	4,386,197	2,502,380	1,553,258	2,514,256	1,939,851	1,490,135	481,537	19.2

— Number of cases too small to calculate a stable poverty rate.

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population and Housing; and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Tables B10050, B10058, and B10059. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than 50,000 children were adopted from foster care in FY 2006, almost twice the number adopted in FY 1995.

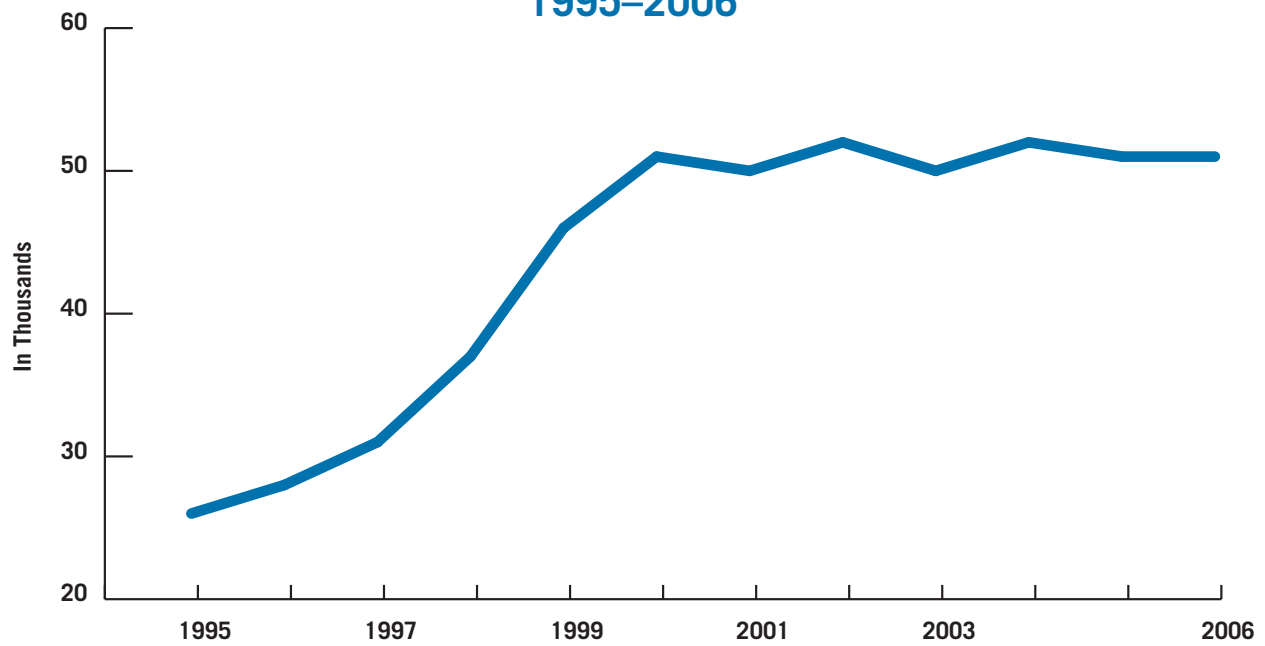
Adoptions from Foster Care, Selected Years: FY 1995–FY 2006

	FY 1995	FY 2000	FY 2005	FY 2006
Alabama	128	202	324	387
Alaska	103	202	204	212
Arizona	215	853	1,012	1,400
Arkansas	84	325	316	395
California	3,094	8,818	7,490	7,364
Colorado	338	711	954	956
Connecticut	198	499	740	649
Delaware	38	103	78	94
District of Columbia	86	319	310	179
Florida	904	1,629	3,019	3,046
Georgia	383	1,091	1,127	1,250
Hawaii	42	280	452	397
Idaho	46	140	149	177
Illinois	1,759	5,664	1,837	1,740
Indiana	520	1,160	1,010	1,183
Iowa	227	729	947	984
Kansas	333	468	649	524
Kentucky	197	398	876	759
Louisiana	292	476	469	466
Maine	85	379	316	331
Maryland	324	552	620	364
Massachusetts	1,073	861	832	874
Michigan	1,717	2,804	2,883	2,591
Minnesota	232	614	732	664
Mississippi	109	288	242	248
Missouri	538	1,265	1,309	1,253
Montana	104	238	244	272
Nebraska	208	293	352	534
Nevada	155	231	412	444
New Hampshire	51	97	124	135
New Jersey	616	832	1,377	1,325
New Mexico	141	347	289	338
New York	4,579	4,234	3,407	2,810
North Carolina	289	1,337	1,203	1,234
North Dakota	42	108	152	150
Ohio	1,202	2,044	2,044	1,803
Oklahoma	226	1,096	1,013	1,141
Oregon	427	831	1,030	1,095
Pennsylvania	1,018	1,712	2,065	1,926
Rhode Island	216	260	217	258
South Carolina	231	378	382	425
South Dakota	42	94	113	150
Tennessee	458	431	1,114	994
Texas	804	2,045	3,181	3,409
Utah	283	303	346	503
Vermont	62	117	166	164
Virginia	320	448	510	551
Washington	645	1,141	1,305	1,196
West Virginia	139	352	368	419
Wisconsin	360	736	906	885
Wyoming	10	61	61	57
United States	25,693	50,596	51,278	50,705

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, "Adoptions of Children with Public Welfare Agency Involvement by State FY 1995–FY 2006," at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/afcars/adoptchild06.pdf>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Since 1999, about 50,000 children have been adopted from foster care each year, twice as many as in 1995.

Adoptions of Children in Foster Care 1995–2006



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, "Adoptions of Children with Public Welfare Agency Involvement by State FY 1995 - FY 2006," at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/afcars/adoptchild06.pdf>.

Nationally, about 1 in 15 teens ages 16 to 19 is a dropout. Fewer than two-thirds of 9th graders in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Nevada graduate from high school within four years with a regular diploma. There were almost 1.3 million juvenile arrests in 2006, and almost 93,000 juveniles are in residential placements.

Youths at Risk

	Dropouts ¹		Averaged Freshman Completion Rate (2005-06)	Youth Unemployment Rate ² (2007)	Juvenile Arrests ³ (2006)	Juveniles in Residential Placement (2006)
	Number (2007)	Percent (2007)				
Alabama	1,752	9.8%	66.2%	16.8%	11,577	1,752
Alaska	363	7.2	66.5	18.3	4,136	363
Arizona	1,737	9.9	70.5	14.1	50,744	1,737
Arkansas	813	6.7	80.4	16.8	11,389	813
California	15,240	6.5	69.9	18.0	231,735	15,240
Colorado	2,034	6.8	75.5	13.6	44,178	2,034
Connecticut	498	3.9	80.9	15.4	15,185	498
Delaware	303	8.9	76.3	10.8	7,448	303
District of Columbia	339	7.8	n/a	29.2	437	339
Florida	7,302	8.5	63.6	13.4	121,173	7,302
Georgia	2,631	9.9	62.4	20.7	24,368	2,631
Hawaii	123	4.1	75.5	15.6	10,315	123
Idaho	522	7.5	80.5	12.6	14,339	522
Illinois	2,631	6.0	79.7	16.7	33,775	2,631
Indiana	2,616	6.6	73.4	15.1	27,770	2,616
Iowa	1,062	4.2	86.9	11.7	19,605	1,062
Kansas	1,053	4.4	78.4	15.7	10,036	1,053
Kentucky	1,242	7.8	77.6	23.1	8,746	1,242
Louisiana	1,200	10.0	59.5	13.7	22,355	1,200
Maine	210	4.7	76.6	14.4	7,765	210
Maryland	1,104	6.6	79.9	15.5	49,359	1,104
Massachusetts	1,164	5.5	79.5	12.7	17,862	1,164
Michigan	2,760	5.4	73.6	19.6	44,002	2,760
Minnesota	1,623	3.0	86.2	13.6	n/a	1,623
Mississippi	444	8.0	63.5	18.9	11,802	444
Missouri	1,293	7.4	81.0	17.7	49,659	1,293
Montana	243	6.9	81.9	10.0	n/a	243
Nebraska	735	3.9	87.0	11.2	14,967	735
Nevada	885	11.2	55.8	16.3	20,725	885
New Hampshire	189	3.8	81.1	12.6	8,314	189
New Jersey	1,704	4.7	84.8	13.5	60,840	1,704
New Mexico	471	8.1	67.3	11.6	8,466	471
New York	4,197	5.5	67.4	17.6	48,209	4,197
North Carolina	1,029	7.7	71.8	14.7	44,691	1,029
North Dakota	240	1.8	82.2	8.0	6,769	240
Ohio	4,149	5.1	79.4	16.4	38,509	4,149
Oklahoma	924	7.6	77.8	11.6	20,192	924
Oregon	1,254	7.1	73.4	16.4	24,723	1,254
Pennsylvania	4,323	5.5	n/a	15.2	106,572	4,323
Rhode Island	348	5.7	77.8	13.0	4,900	348
South Carolina	1,320	8.5	n/a	21.6	23,565	1,320
South Dakota	597	6.0	84.5	8.1	2,214	597
Tennessee	1,419	6.9	71.8	17.0	35,228	1,419
Texas	8,247	8.1	72.5	14.6	169,460	8,247
Utah	864	5.2	77.6	8.3	23,519	864
Vermont	54	3.7	82.4	13.5	1,645	54
Virginia	2,310	4.8	74.5	11.5	34,797	2,310
Washington	1,455	6.9	72.9	17.6	34,902	1,455
West Virginia	579	7.0	76.9	20.5	1,438	579
Wisconsin	1,347	4.2	87.5	15.3	103,275	1,347
Wyoming	315	7.4	76.1	11.4	6,682	315
United States	92,854	6.7	73.4	15.7	1,268,950	92,854

n/a — data not available.

¹ Youths ages 16-19 not enrolled who have not graduated from high school or received an alternate credential

² Youths ages 16-19

³ Data reporting incomplete for District of Columbia, Illinois, New York and Minnesota. No data reported for Montana.

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007 American Community Survey, Table B14005; U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Public School Graduates and Dropouts from the Common Core of Data: School Year 2005-06* (August 2008), Table 1; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population by sex, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and detailed age, 2007 annual averages," at <<http://www.bls.gov/lau/ptable14full2007.pdf>>; U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2006* (September 2007), Tables 32 and 69; and U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book, *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook*, at <<http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstabb/cjrp/asp/Selection.asp>>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

The overall teen birth rate in the United States is 40.5 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19. Texas, New Mexico, Mississippi and the District of Columbia have the highest teen birth rates. The United States has a higher teen birth rate than any other industrialized nation.

Teen Birth Rates¹

	1990	1995	2000	2005
Alabama	71.0	68.5	60.7	49.7
Alaska	65.3	54.5	49.0	37.3
Arizona	75.5	73.5	67.9	58.2
Arkansas	80.1	71.9	66.2	59.1
California	70.6	66.8	47.0	38.8
Colorado	54.5	52.3	51.3	42.6
Connecticut	38.8	38.6	31.1	23.3
Delaware	54.5	54.6	48.0	44.0
District of Columbia	93.1	85.2	53.2	63.4
Florida	69.1	60.2	51.1	42.4
Georgia	75.5	69.8	62.8	52.7
Hawaii	61.2	48.8	46.1	36.2
Idaho	50.6	48.7	42.9	37.7
Illinois	62.9	58.4	48.0	38.6
Indiana	58.6	56.6	49.1	43.2
Iowa	40.5	38.3	34.2	32.6
Kansas	56.1	52.0	46.1	41.4
Kentucky	67.6	62.3	55.1	49.1
Louisiana	74.2	69.9	62.1	49.1
Maine	43.0	33.9	29.2	24.4
Maryland	53.2	47.2	41.3	31.8
Massachusetts	35.1	33.3	25.9	21.8
Michigan	59.0	49.1	40.2	32.5
Minnesota	36.3	32.5	30.1	26.1
Mississippi	81.0	79.2	70.1	60.5
Missouri	62.8	55.1	48.7	42.5
Montana	48.4	42.4	36.7	35.2
Nebraska	42.3	37.8	37.7	34.2
Nevada	73.3	73.4	63.0	50.1
New Hampshire	33.0	30.3	23.3	17.9
New Jersey	40.5	37.7	31.8	23.4
New Mexico	78.2	74.0	65.6	61.6
New York	43.6	42.2	33.2	26.5
North Carolina	67.6	63.0	58.6	48.5
North Dakota	35.4	32.9	27.3	29.7
Ohio	57.9	53.4	46.0	38.9
Oklahoma	66.8	63.7	59.7	54.2
Oregon	54.6	50.1	42.8	33.0
Pennsylvania	44.9	40.9	34.0	30.4
Rhode Island	43.9	39.8	33.6	31.4
South Carolina	71.3	62.8	58.0	51.0
South Dakota	46.8	40.9	38.1	37.5
Tennessee	72.3	66.6	59.5	54.9
Texas	75.3	75.6	68.9	61.6
Utah	48.5	40.9	38.3	33.4
Vermont	34.0	28.1	23.4	18.6
Virginia	52.9	48.4	40.9	34.4
Washington	53.1	48.0	39.2	31.1
West Virginia	57.3	52.7	46.5	43.4
Wisconsin	42.6	37.9	35.2	30.3
Wyoming	56.3	47.9	41.7	43.2
United States	59.9	56.0	47.7	40.5

¹ Number of births to teens ages 15-19 per 1,000 females ages 15-19

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 52, No. 12 (August 4, 2003), "Revised Birth and Fertility Rates for the 1990s and New Rates for Hispanic Populations, 2000 and 2001: United States," Table 10; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 56, No. 6 (December 5, 2007), Table 11.

About 1 in 6 teens ages 16 to 19 is unemployed. However, during the summer when most of them are not in school, fewer than half have jobs. This has been the case since 2002. The youth jobless rate has reached the highest rate in more than four decades.

Youth Unemployment and Joblessness

	Total unemployment rates ¹			Youth jobless rate ² for July
	All Ages	Ages 16-19	Ages 20-24	Ages 16-19
1959	5.5%	14.6%	8.5%	49.2%
1960	5.5	14.7	8.7	47.4
1961	6.7	16.8	10.4	49.5
1962	5.5	14.7	9.0	48.0
1963	5.7	17.2	8.8	51.9
1964	5.2	16.2	8.3	50.8
1965	4.5	14.8	6.7	47.9
1966	3.8	12.8	5.3	44.0
1967	3.8	12.9	5.7	44.1
1968	3.6	12.7	5.8	44.7
1969	3.5	12.2	5.7	43.4
1970	4.9	15.3	8.2	45.5
1971	5.9	16.9	10.0	46.4
1972	5.6	16.2	9.3	44.8
1973	4.9	14.5	7.8	42.7
1974	5.6	16.0	9.1	43.0
1975	8.5	19.9	13.6	45.4
1976	7.7	19.0	12.0	43.4
1977	7.1	17.8	11.0	42.4
1978	6.1	16.4	9.6	39.9
1979	5.8	16.1	9.1	40.1
1980	7.1	17.8	11.5	42.2
1981	7.6	19.6	12.3	44.3
1982	9.7	23.2	14.9	47.9
1983	9.6	22.4	14.5	46.5
1984	7.5	18.9	11.5	43.3
1985	7.2	18.6	11.1	43.4
1986	7.0	18.3	10.7	43.3
1987	6.2	16.9	9.7	42.7
1988	5.5	15.3	8.7	40.4
1989	5.3	15.0	8.6	40.4
1990	5.5	15.5	8.8	43.6
1991	6.7	18.6	10.8	47.7
1992	7.4	20.0	11.3	48.0
1993	6.8	19.0	10.5	46.7
1994	6.1	17.6	9.7	46.0
1995	5.6	17.3	9.1	45.2
1996	5.4	16.7	9.3	46.0
1997	4.9	16.0	8.5	47.0
1998	4.5	14.6	7.9	45.3
1999	4.2	13.9	7.5	45.5
2000	4.0	13.1	7.1	46.5
2001	4.7	14.7	8.3	48.5
2002	5.8	16.5	9.7	52.3
2003	6.0	17.5	10.0	56.3
2004	5.5	17.0	9.4	56.1
2005	5.1	16.6	8.8	55.7
2006	4.6	15.4	8.2	55.1
2007	4.6	15.7	8.2	57.7

¹ Percent of the labor force unemployed

² Percent of the youth population ages 16-19 without a job

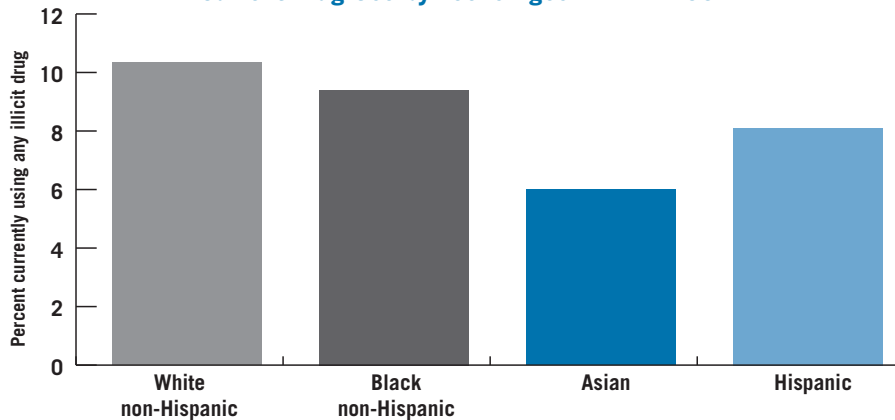
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

White, Black and Hispanic teens are about equally likely to use drugs, but Black juveniles are twice as likely as their White peers to be arrested for drug offenses and more than five times as likely to be in secure residential placement for drug offenses.

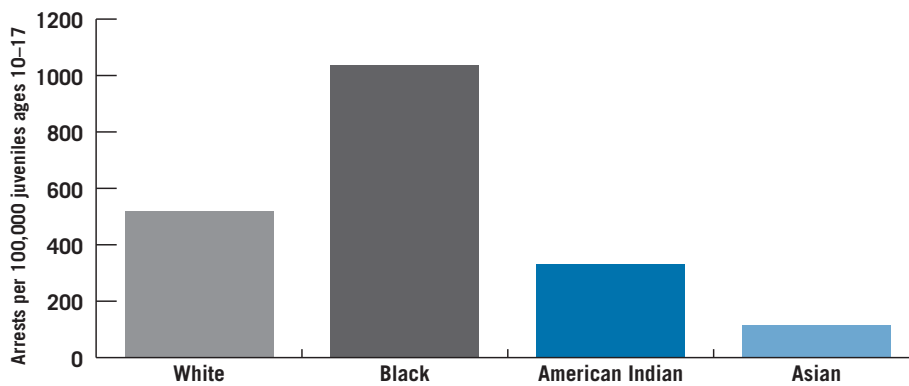
Drug Use and Drug-related Arrests and Incarceration Among Teens

Current Drug Use by Teens Ages 12–17: 2007



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2007 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, Table 1.20B, at <<http://oas.samhsa.gov/NSDUH/2k7NSDUH/tabs/Sect1peTabs1to46.htm>>.

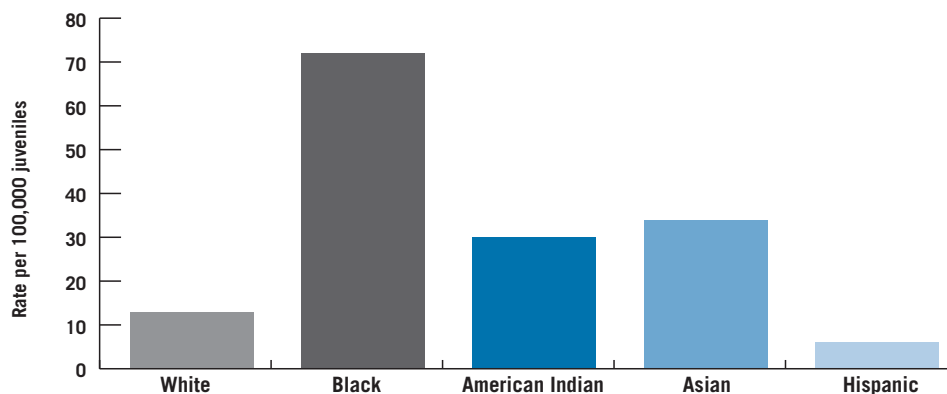
Arrests of Juveniles for Drug Offenses: 2006



Note: Arrest rates for Hispanics not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, developed by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, "Juvenile Arrest Rates by Offense, Sex, and Race (1980-2006)," at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/crime/excel/JAR_2006.xls>.

Incarceration Rates of Juveniles for Drug Offenses: 2006



Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, "Offense Profile by Race/Ethnicity for United States, 2006," Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook, at <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/cjrp/asp/Offense_Race.asp>.

States spend on average 2.8 times as much per prisoner as per public school pupil. Nine states spend at least 4 times as much per prisoner as per pupil, but Utah has the worst ratio, spending almost eight times as much on prisoners as students.

Spending on Prisoners vs. Spending on Public School Students: FY 2003

	Per prisoner cost	Per pupil cost	Ratio
Alabama	\$ 9,320	\$ 6,300	1.5
Alaska	36,240	9,870	3.7
Arizona	18,222	6,282	2.9
Arkansas	16,408	6,482	2.5
California	28,914	7,552	3.8
Colorado	23,108	7,384	3.1
Connecticut	27,383	11,057	2.5
Delaware	22,350	9,693	2.3
District of Columbia	—	11,847	—
Florida	20,236	6,439	3.1
Georgia	15,644	7,774	2.0
Hawaii	21,934	8,100	2.7
Idaho	21,763	6,081	3.6
Illinois	23,441	8,287	2.8
Indiana	25,512	8,057	3.2
Iowa	27,205	7,574	3.6
Kansas	24,496	7,454	3.3
Kentucky	21,096	6,661	3.2
Louisiana	9,980	6,922	1.4
Maine	37,687	9,344	4.0
Maryland	23,649	9,153	2.6
Massachusetts	52,637	10,460	5.0
Michigan	28,260	8,781	3.2
Minnesota	29,971	8,109	3.7
Mississippi	10,309	5,792	1.8
Missouri	17,921	7,495	2.4
Montana	17,009	7,496	2.3
Nebraska	19,035	8,074	2.4
Nevada	16,496	6,092	2.7
New Hampshire	27,948	8,579	3.3
New Jersey	32,606	12,568	2.6
New Mexico	33,557	7,125	4.7
New York	27,785	11,961	2.3
North Carolina	23,487	6,562	3.6
North Dakota	27,543	6,870	4.0
Ohio	26,538	8,632	3.1
Oklahoma	8,825	6,092	1.4
Oregon	25,441	7,491	3.4
Pennsylvania	30,451	8,997	3.4
Rhode Island	41,441	10,349	4.0
South Carolina	15,415	7,040	2.2
South Dakota	12,509	6,547	1.9
Tennessee	13,227	6,118	2.2
Texas	16,642	7,136	2.3
Utah	37,567	4,838	7.8
Vermont	42,625	10,454	4.1
Virginia	19,046	7,822	2.4
Washington	31,261	7,252	4.3
West Virginia	36,594	8,319	4.4
Wisconsin	26,846	9,004	3.0
Wyoming	38,967	8,985	4.3
United States	22,523	8,044	2.8

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2005* (July 2006), Table 166; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *State Government Finances: 2003*, at <<http://www.census.gov/govs/www/state.html>>, extracted May 2006; and U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2003* (May 2004), NCJ 203947, Table 2. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Between 2004 and 2005, total firearm deaths of children and teens increased by 181, the first annual increase since 1994. Increases were recorded in 27 states. California had the largest number of firearm deaths of children and teens; Maine, Vermont, Hawaii and New Hampshire had the fewest.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: 2003–2005

	Total*			Homicide*			Suicide			Accident			Undetermined Intent		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
Alabama	59	52	64	34	31	39	17	16	17	7	4	7	1	1	1
Alaska	26	22	13	10	7	5	13	15	8	2	0	0	1	0	0
Arizona	64	76	102	38	43	62	21	25	35	3	6	2	2	2	3
Arkansas	27	16	46	11	8	17	9	4	23	5	3	5	2	1	1
California	429	468	474	355	406	392	55	49	54	15	10	25	4	3	3
Colorado	32	48	44	20	23	19	10	24	20	1	1	4	1	0	1
Connecticut	12	11	10	10	9	7	1	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
Delaware	10	9	7	6	7	4	3	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	0
District of Columbia	28	40	26	28	39	26	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Florida	109	111	148	81	76	96	23	30	46	3	5	5	2	0	1
Georgia	83	89	80	58	57	54	24	27	21	1	4	5	0	1	0
Hawaii	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Idaho	13	16	16	4	3	5	9	10	9	0	3	2	0	0	0
Illinois	158	143	130	131	123	111	20	17	13	7	3	6	0	0	0
Indiana	54	56	62	32	33	41	15	19	18	6	4	1	1	0	2
Iowa	12	16	15	1	2	4	11	13	10	0	1	1	0	0	0
Kansas	26	26	18	10	13	11	13	12	4	3	1	3	0	0	0
Kentucky	34	40	36	9	18	17	13	20	16	10	2	2	2	0	1
Louisiana	88	88	110	57	54	67	22	25	30	8	8	12	1	1	1
Maine	9	10	1	1	0	0	7	10	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Maryland	80	71	75	67	61	64	13	9	10	0	1	0	0	0	1
Massachusetts	22	32	27	17	26	26	5	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Michigan	79	104	92	49	57	65	25	34	23	2	8	2	3	5	2
Minnesota	40	39	42	17	15	16	19	24	23	3	0	1	1	0	2
Mississippi	38	43	30	23	23	12	8	15	9	7	4	7	0	1	2
Missouri	53	61	73	32	38	44	18	21	16	1	2	10	2	0	3
Montana	14	12	18	5	1	2	9	10	15	0	1	1	0	0	0
Nebraska	17	15	19	6	4	3	10	9	15	1	2	1	0	0	0
Nevada	27	27	34	13	18	20	12	7	14	1	2	0	1	0	0
New Hampshire	5	4	1	0	1	1	3	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
New Jersey	36	48	45	35	41	40	1	7	4	0	0	1	0	0	0
New Mexico	35	28	25	18	11	11	15	17	12	1	0	2	1	0	0
New York	131	89	93	94	69	66	32	16	20	5	4	6	0	0	1
North Carolina	100	70	91	59	40	58	33	22	26	7	5	6	1	3	1
North Dakota	7	10	11	4	1	1	2	6	9	1	1	1	0	2	0
Ohio	75	80	118	49	46	78	21	28	28	5	5	12	0	1	0
Oklahoma	34	29	35	12	13	19	21	13	12	1	3	2	0	0	2
Oregon	15	21	17	7	12	2	7	6	12	0	3	3	1	0	0
Pennsylvania	130	132	138	81	87	99	41	39	32	4	5	4	4	1	3
Rhode Island	6	4	7	4	2	6	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
South Carolina	50	44	41	36	19	24	10	18	12	3	6	5	1	1	0
South Dakota	9	10	11	0	1	2	8	7	7	1	2	2	0	0	0
Tennessee	58	73	77	32	30	48	19	29	22	6	10	7	1	4	0
Texas	244	236	264	146	144	164	85	79	84	10	10	13	3	3	3
Utah	25	15	10	3	4	3	18	11	7	4	0	0	0	0	0
Vermont	4	3	3	1	0	1	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Virginia	83	76	79	58	50	54	22	21	22	2	4	1	1	1	2
Washington	48	49	44	17	18	20	25	27	21	3	4	1	3	0	2
West Virginia	14	12	19	7	4	9	6	8	9	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wisconsin	63	43	56	31	14	33	26	27	20	5	1	3	1	1	0
Wyoming	11	8	7	2	2	3	7	4	4	2	2	0	0	0	0
United States	2,827	2,825	3,006	1,822	1,804	1,972	810	846	822	151	143	173	44	32	39

*Total firearm deaths and homicide firearm deaths exclude firearm deaths by legal (police or corrections) intervention.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>>, data accessed December 2005, January 2007, and February 2008. Calculations by Defense Fund.

These 10 states account for 1,669 firearm deaths or 55.5 percent of the total 3,006 deaths.

**Largest Number of Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens:
Top 10 States in 2005**

California	474
Texas	264
Florida	148
Pennsylvania	138
Illinois	130
Ohio	118
Louisiana	110
Arizona	102
New York	93
Michigan	92

In 2005, 3,006 children and teens were killed by firearms, the equivalent of 120 public school classrooms of 25 students each. More than half of these deaths were of White children and teens. Sixty-nine preschoolers were killed by firearms compared to 53 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Another 16,000 children and teens suffered non-fatal firearm injuries.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: A Portrait (2005)

	Under Age 1	Ages 1-4	Ages 5-9	Ages 10-14	Ages 15-19	Total under age 20
All Races	7	62	62	273	2,602	3,006
Accident	1	22	15	37	98	173
Suicide	0	0	0	84	738	822
Homicide	6	37	44	143	1,742	1,972
Undetermined intent	0	3	3	9	24	39
White	4	33	31	178	1,378	1,624
Accident	0	10	6	31	67	114
Suicide	0	0	0	75	628	703
Homicide	4	23	24	63	668	782
Undetermined intent	0	0	1	9	15	25
Black	3	27	25	85	1,131	1,271
Accident	1	12	8	6	24	51
Suicide	0	0	0	6	80	86
Homicide	2	13	16	73	1,019	1,123
Undetermined intent	0	2	1	0	8	11
American Indian, Alaska	0	1	4	3	43	51
Accident	0	0	1	0	3	4
Suicide	0	0	0	2	20	22
Homicide	0	0	3	1	19	23
Undetermined intent	0	1	0	0	1	2
Asian, Pacific Islander	0	1	2	7	50	60
Accident	0	0	0	0	4	4
Suicide	0	0	0	1	10	11
Homicide	0	1	1	6	36	44
Undetermined intent	0	0	1	0	0	1
Hispanic*	2	7	8	39	558	614
Accident	1	1	1	2	17	22
Suicide	0	0	0	6	78	84
Homicide	1	6	7	31	457	502
Undetermined intent	0	0	0	0	6	6

*Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, WISQARS, at <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars>>, accessed January 2008. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Between 1979 and 2005, more than 104,000 children and teens were killed by firearms in the United States. This is the equivalent of 4,177 classrooms of 25 students each.

Firearm Deaths of Children and Teens: 1979–2005

	Manner					Race/Hispanic Origin				
	Total	Homicide	Suicide	Accident	Unknown	Black	White	American Indian, Alaska Native ¹	Asian, Pacific Islander ¹	Hispanic ²
1979	3,710	1,651	1,220	726	113	929	2,700	—	—	—
1980	3,749	1,743	1,214	689	103	944	2,739	—	—	—
1981	3,589	1,660	1,213	604	112	944	2,569	49	27	—
1982	3,332	1,498	1,207	550	77	811	2,450	55	23	—
1983	2,962	1,238	1,150	504	70	739	2,155	42	25	—
1984	3,030	1,289	1,114	552	75	716	2,238	44	32	—
1985	3,169	1,322	1,256	519	72	850	2,241	42	36	—
1986	3,349	1,513	1,293	472	71	938	2,337	43	31	—
1987	3,400	1,573	1,281	467	79	1,117	2,199	28	54	—
1988	3,974	1,953	1,387	543	91	1,458	2,405	76	53	—
1989	4,384	2,367	1,380	567	70	1,694	2,563	50	76	—
1990	4,935	2,852	1,476	541	66	2,047	2,753	47	87	748
1991	5,329	3,247	1,436	551	95	2,297	2,878	60	91	883
1992	5,353	3,336	1,426	501	90	2,359	2,834	55	105	924
1993	5,715	3,625	1,460	526	104	2,600	2,925	51	139	977
1994	5,793	3,579	1,565	512	137	2,559	3,024	75	135	993
1995	5,254	3,249	1,450	440	115	2,153	2,898	73	130	1,005
1996	4,613	2,836	1,309	376	92	1,976	2,475	64	98	817
1997	4,205	2,562	1,262	306	75	1,687	2,357	59	102	748
1998	3,761	2,184	1,241	262	74	1,416	2,197	60	88	661
1999	3,365	1,990	1,078	214	83	1,301	1,934	57	73	605
2000	3,012	1,776	1,007	193	36	1,149	1,762	44	57	568
2001	2,911	1,771	928	182	30	1,128	1,695	49	39	518
2002	2,867	1,830	828	167	42	1,112	1,639	52	64	581
2003	2,827	1,822	810	151	44	1,172	1,554	50	51	553
2004	2,825	1,804	846	143	32	1,149	1,568	57	51	574
2005	3,006	1,972	822	173	39	1,271	1,624	51	60	614
Total	104,419	58,242	32,659	11,431	2,087	38,516	62,713	1,333	1,727	11,769

¹ Data for American Indian/Alaska Native and Asian/Pacific Islander not available for 1979–1980.

² Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race. Hispanic data not available prior to 1990. For 1990 to 1996, a small number of states with small Hispanic populations did not include Hispanic identifiers in their reporting to the federal government.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC WONDER, at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mortSQL.html>, accessed December 2004; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Control and Prevention, WISQARS, at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>, accessed December 2004, January 2006, December 2006 and January 2008. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

About two-thirds of public school 4th graders cannot read at grade level; 6 out of 10 cannot do math at grade level. More than 80 percent of Black and Hispanic 4th graders in public school cannot read at grade level, compared with 58 percent of their White peers. Eighty-five percent of Black 4th graders in public school cannot do math at grade level, compared to 78 percent of Hispanic children and about half of White children.

Reading and Math Achievement of 4th Graders

Percent of Fourth-grade Public School Students Performing Below Grade Level: 2007

	Reading						Math					
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native
Alabama	71%	61%	87%	83%	—	—	74%	64%	90%	83%	—	—
Alaska	71	60	80	83	72%	90%	62	50	78	74	63%	84%
Arizona	76	64	80	87	54	91	69	52	84	85	41	85
Arkansas	71	64	91	84	—	—	63	54	88	78	59	—
California	77	60	87	89	58	—	70	48	85	85	44	—
Colorado	64	53	82	85	53	—	59	46	80	81	47	—
Connecticut	59	48	85	84	41	—	55	43	85	82	36	—
Delaware	66	56	82	76	38	—	60	47	80	75	30	—
District of Columbia	86	26	91	85	—	—	86	27	92	81	—	—
Florida	66	56	84	72	43	—	60	46	85	67	41	—
Georgia	72	60	86	79	51	—	68	54	87	80	37	—
Hawaii	74	60	77	79	78	—	67	54	76	81	69	—
Idaho	65	61	—	85	—	80	60	55	—	82	—	87
Illinois	68	58	86	82	46	—	64	50	91	81	38	—
Indiana	67	63	88	83	—	—	54	48	86	74	—	—
Iowa	64	62	84	82	51	—	57	54	83	75	—	—
Kansas	64	59	82	81	58	—	49	42	79	71	33	—
Kentucky	67	64	86	—	—	—	69	66	88	85	—	—
Louisiana	80	69	91	74	—	—	76	63	89	69	—	—
Maine	64	64	—	—	—	—	58	57	83	—	—	—
Maryland	64	51	83	79	43	—	60	45	83	72	32	—
Massachusetts	51	44	81	82	42	—	42	35	74	77	34	—
Michigan	68	61	88	81	56	—	63	56	88	74	31	—
Minnesota	63	58	88	84	71	80	49	42	84	78	57	72
Mississippi	81	69	92	—	—	—	79	66	91	—	—	—
Missouri	68	63	88	78	—	—	62	55	88	74	—	—
Montana	61	58	—	70	—	83	56	51	—	60	—	84
Nebraska	65	60	90	84	—	—	62	55	91	85	—	—
Nevada	76	65	84	86	70	—	70	57	84	82	57	—
New Hampshire	59	58	75	80	57	—	48	47	75	73	36	—
New Jersey	57	48	78	77	40	—	48	37	75	71	22	—
New Mexico	76	60	85	84	—	87	76	57	82	84	—	83
New York	64	53	83	82	50	—	57	44	82	75	31	—
North Carolina	71	61	88	82	59	83	59	44	85	72	40	76
North Dakota	65	62	—	—	—	85	54	51	—	—	—	83
Ohio	64	58	86	79	—	—	54	47	82	75	—	—
Oklahoma	73	69	89	85	64	75	67	61	90	78	52	71
Oregon	72	66	90	90	68	79	65	60	84	88	47	82
Pennsylvania	60	53	87	85	59	—	53	47	82	72	34	—
Rhode Island	69	61	90	88	70	—	66	59	84	85	59	—
South Carolina	74	65	88	83	—	—	64	50	86	79	—	—
South Dakota	66	63	—	85	—	88	59	54	85	79	—	87
Tennessee	73	66	92	80	—	—	71	64	91	85	—	—
Texas	70	56	83	79	52	—	60	41	79	70	30	—
Utah	66	62	—	85	74	—	61	55	—	84	56	—
Vermont	59	59	—	—	—	—	51	50	—	—	—	—
Virginia	62	54	81	74	52	—	58	47	82	72	40	—
Washington	64	59	79	82	53	82	56	49	83	81	46	74
West Virginia	72	72	87	—	—	—	67	67	81	—	—	—
Wisconsin	64	59	89	83	67	—	53	46	90	73	50	—
Wyoming	64	61	—	79	—	82	56	52	—	77	—	79
United States	68	58	86	83	55	80	61	49	85	78	41	74

— Data not reported; number of students too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Education Progress, The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2007 (2007), Tables A-8 and A-9; and U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Education Progress, The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2007 (2007), Tables A-8 and A-9. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Seven out of 10 public school 8th graders cannot read or do math at grade level. More than 4 out of 5 Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native 8th graders cannot read or do math at grade level, compared to 3 out of 5 of their White peers. Three out of 5 Asian/Pacific Islander 8th graders cannot read at grade level; 1 in 2 cannot do math at grade level.

Reading and Math Achievement of 8th Graders

Percent of Eighth-grade Public School Students Performing Below Grade Level: 2007

	Reading						Math					
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native
Alabama	79%	71%	91%	80%	—	—	82%	73%	96%	97%	—	—
Alaska	73	64	83	76	73%	90%	68	56	85	77	67%	88%
Arizona	76	63	81	89	52	91	74	60	85	88	48	88
Arkansas	75	68	92	85	—	76	69	91	92	—	—	—
California	79	66	90	89	65	78	76	61	90	90	54	83
Colorado	65	57	82	83	64	—	63	52	79	87	52	—
Connecticut	63	54	88	86	55	—	65	56	93	90	39	—
Delaware	69	59	86	79	53	—	69	57	90	83	35	—
District of Columbia	88	—	91	81	—	—	92	—	94	91	—	—
Florida	72	64	87	77	54	—	73	63	89	79	52	—
Georgia	74	62	87	83	—	—	75	63	89	84	—	—
Hawaii	80	69	79	79	82	—	79	72	—	85	80	—
Idaho	68	66	—	86	—	—	66	62	—	84	—	—
Illinois	70	62	90	84	54	—	69	59	93	87	45	—
Indiana	69	65	90	79	—	—	65	60	91	80	—	—
Iowa	64	62	83	84	—	—	65	62	89	87	—	—
Kansas	65	60	88	83	—	—	60	54	84	84	48	—
Kentucky	72	70	86	—	—	—	73	71	89	—	—	—
Louisiana	81	71	92	—	—	—	81	72	93	—	—	—
Maine	63	62	—	—	—	—	66	65	—	—	—	—
Maryland	67	55	86	76	38	—	63	47	87	79	34	—
Massachusetts	57	51	83	85	46	—	49	42	87	81	26	—
Michigan	72	66	93	86	—	—	71	65	95	89	—	—
Minnesota	63	59	87	81	73	87	57	52	86	82	66	81
Mississippi	83	71	93	—	—	—	86	76	96	—	—	—
Missouri	69	63	90	88	—	—	70	64	94	83	—	—
Montana	61	58	—	—	79	62	59	—	—	—	85	—
Nebraska	65	61	88	79	—	—	65	59	95	89	—	—
Nevada	78	70	84	89	74	—	77	68	88	89	64	—
New Hampshire	63	63	80	—	—	62	61	—	86	—	—	—
New Jersey	61	52	83	78	43	—	60	49	86	80	31	—
New Mexico	83	71	87	88	—	92	83	67	88	90	—	93
New York	68	57	86	84	63	—	70	61	90	85	47	—
North Carolina	72	61	90	84	66	85	66	54	86	77	50	83
North Dakota	68	66	—	—	—	87	59	56	—	—	—	86
Ohio	64	58	88	69	—	—	65	58	91	75	—	—
Oklahoma	74	69	87	91	—	77	79	75	91	92	—	83
Oregon	66	63	79	86	56	68	65	61	72	86	47	84
Pennsylvania	64	59	86	86	42	—	62	56	87	83	34	—
Rhode Island	73	65	90	94	73	—	72	65	91	93	69	—
South Carolina	75	65	91	85	—	—	68	56	85	77	—	—
South Dakota	63	61	—	—	—	80	61	57	—	82	—	86
Tennessee	74	68	92	82	—	—	77	70	93	87	—	—
Texas	72	57	86	84	48	—	65	47	84	77	33	—
Utah	70	67	—	88	70	—	68	64	—	88	68	—
Vermont	58	58	—	—	—	—	59	58	—	—	—	—
Virginia	66	60	84	75	46	—	63	53	85	76	47	—
Washington	66	61	84	84	63	78	64	58	84	87	59	82
West Virginia	77	77	89	—	—	—	81	81	96	—	—	—
Wisconsin	67	62	92	83	73	63	58	94	82	60	—	—
Wyoming	67	64	—	87	—	77	64	61	—	78	—	—
United States	71	62	88	86	60	81	69	59	89	85	51	83

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Education Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2007* (2007), Tables A-15 and A-16; and U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Education Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2007* (2007), Tables A-15 and A-16. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Although 3 out of 4 9th graders graduate from high school in four years with a regular diploma, there is great variation among the states, from a low of 5 out of 9 in Nevada to a high of 7 out of 8 in Wisconsin. Expenditures per public school pupil also vary, from \$5,216 in Utah to \$14,117 in New Jersey.

Public School Education: Various Indicators

	Pupil/ teacher ratio Fall 2005	Averaged freshman graduation rate 2005-2006	Expenditures per pupil 2004-2005	
			Dollars	Rank
Alabama	12.8	66.2%	\$ 7,073	43
Alaska	16.8	66.5	10,847	9
Arizona	21.3	70.5	6,184	50
Arkansas	14.4	80.4	7,659	37
California	20.8	69.9	7,905	30
Colorado	17.0	75.5	7,826	34
Connecticut	14.5	80.9	12,263	4
Delaware	15.1	76.3	10,911	8
District of Columbia	14.0	n/a	13,348	3
Florida	16.8	63.6	7,215	41
Georgia	14.7	62.4	8,065	27
Hawaii	16.3	75.5	8,997	19
Idaho	18.0	80.5	6,319	49
Illinois	15.8	79.7	8,896	21
Indiana	17.1	73.4	8,919	20
Iowa	13.7	86.9	7,962	28
Kansas	13.9	78.4	7,926	29
Kentucky	16.0	77.6	7,132	42
Louisiana	16.6	59.5	7,669	36
Maine	11.7	76.6	10,342	10
Maryland	15.2	79.9	10,031	13
Massachusetts	13.2	79.5	11,642	7
Michigan	17.4	73.6	9,340	16
Minnesota	16.4	86.2	8,718	24
Mississippi	15.7	63.5	6,548	48
Missouri	13.7	81.0	7,858	31
Montana	14.0	81.9	8,133	25
Nebraska	13.4	87.0	8,794	23
Nevada	19.0	55.8	6,804	46
New Hampshire	13.2	81.1	9,771	14
New Jersey	12.4	84.8	14,117	1
New Mexico	14.8	67.3	7,834	32
New York	12.9	67.4	13,703	2
North Carolina	14.8	71.8	6,904	44
North Dakota	12.3	82.2	7,829	33
Ohio	15.6	79.4	9,330	17
Oklahoma	15.2	77.8	6,610	47
Oregon	19.5	73.4	8,071	26
Pennsylvania	15.0	n/a	10,235	11
Rhode Island	10.7	77.8	11,667	6
South Carolina	14.6	n/a	7,549	38
South Dakota	13.4	84.5	7,464	39
Tennessee	16.0	71.8	6,850	45
Texas	15.0	72.5	7,246	40
Utah	22.1	77.6	5,216	51
Vermont	10.9	82.4	11,972	5
Virginia	12.6	74.5	8,886	22
Washington	19.3	72.9	7,717	35
West Virginia	14.1	76.9	9,024	18
Wisconsin	14.6	87.5	9,755	15
Wyoming	12.6	76.1	10,190	12
United States	15.7	73.4		

n/a — Data not reported.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Public School Graduates and Dropouts from the Common Core of Data: School Year 2005-06, First Look (August 2008), Table 1; and U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics 2007 (March 2008), Tables 63 and 172. Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

Black, Hispanic and American Indian students are more likely than Asian or White students to be suspended. Black students are more than three times as likely as White or Asian/Pacific Islander students and more than twice as likely as Hispanic students to be suspended. Policies focused not on achievement but on “zero tolerance” often succeed only in encouraging suspended students to drop out, in effect pushing many into criminal activity and the pipeline to prison.

School Discipline: 2006

Number of Suspensions per 100 Public School Students

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	10.113	4.835	3.188	4.289	18.272	5.801
Alaska	5.895	8.209	4.609	5.944	10.014	4.564
Arizona	5.892	9.973	2.609	6.359	11.805	4.462
Arkansas	7.313	4.684	3.492	4.879	15.892	5.011
California	7.507	12.238	3.268	7.876	17.093	5.962
Colorado	6.031	8.652	3.242	8.138	13.153	4.544
Connecticut	6.838	5.218	2.386	11.407	17.182	4.019
Delaware	10.938	—	3.312	9.216	20.058	6.384
District of Columbia	0.360	—	—	—	0.400	—
Florida	10.459	7.170	2.871	7.702	19.334	7.863
Georgia	8.831	3.742	2.110	5.424	15.007	4.798
Hawaii	5.473	5.996	5.528	5.655	7.008	4.879
Idaho	3.585	8.607	1.649	5.105	3.486	3.278
Illinois	6.439	2.906	1.664	5.971	14.478	3.758
Indiana	7.377	6.063	1.791	7.383	17.266	5.957
Iowa	2.963	5.181	1.605	3.190	11.432	2.432
Kansas	5.091	5.807	2.921	6.559	14.614	3.824
Kentucky	6.565	3.791	1.514	3.982	13.324	5.809
Louisiana	10.349	6.791	2.618	4.716	14.643	7.063
Maine	4.565	6.365	2.935	5.732	8.956	4.453
Maryland	7.087	8.543	2.156	12.907	8.176	5.760
Massachusetts	5.563	4.976	2.520	11.952	10.277	4.230
Michigan	8.205	6.754	2.202	7.422	17.782	6.091
Minnesota	3.731	10.016	2.463	5.350	14.432	2.427
Mississippi	10.216	12.689	3.000	4.259	14.757	5.548
Missouri	7.286	6.999	2.888	5.366	20.153	4.573
Montana	4.475	9.597	2.333	3.501	4.919	3.737
Nebraska	3.702	6.712	1.913	5.047	12.584	2.564
Nevada	7.400	6.612	3.859	8.482	15.476	5.139
New Hampshire	5.567	—	2.235	12.104	8.733	5.365
New Jersey	5.670	3.654	1.433	6.897	12.371	3.668
New Mexico	5.265	8.282	2.526	5.388	6.988	3.951
New York	3.799	4.473	0.690	2.790	7.285	3.350
North Carolina	10.763	14.883	2.661	7.206	20.027	6.480
North Dakota	2.173	8.047	—	3.139	5.003	1.478
Ohio	6.246	3.724	2.055	5.970	14.602	4.558
Oklahoma	4.887	3.992	1.778	5.309	12.056	3.910
Oregon	4.942	7.169	2.091	5.479	8.807	4.780
Pennsylvania	6.786	3.425	2.669	8.694	18.903	4.165
Rhode Island	8.380	11.771	7.162	12.576	14.617	6.664
South Carolina	11.882	9.571	2.873	6.500	19.220	6.892
South Dakota	2.686	6.841	2.988	4.310	7.122	1.934
Tennessee	7.240	3.415	2.694	5.351	12.847	5.538
Texas	5.563	3.053	1.625	5.730	12.674	2.887
Utah	3.197	6.859	4.210	6.662	7.759	2.432
Vermont	3.994	—	—	4.121	5.838	3.989
Virginia	7.233	4.039	2.065	5.598	13.939	4.723
Washington	5.947	11.305	3.689	7.158	11.979	5.255
West Virginia	10.206	8.201	2.369	11.208	21.493	9.683
Wisconsin	4.970	13.506	2.119	7.528	19.721	2.714
Wyoming	2.850	6.416	—	3.102	3.168	2.721
United States	6.864	7.931	2.712	6.777	14.982	4.760

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than 17.4 million children receive compensatory education under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. More than 6.6 million students ages 3 to 21 receive educational services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. About 1.1 million children receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Children and Youths in Federal Education and Disability Programs

	Title I 2003-2004	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Fall 2006				Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Child Recipients December 2007
		Ages 3-5	Ages 6-17	Ages 18-21	Total 3-21	
Alabama	321,823	7,111	72,475	5,186	84,772	29,090
Alaska	24,908	1,954	14,703	878	17,535	1,165
Arizona	403,842	14,097	111,197	5,842	131,136	18,449
Arkansas	173,293	11,795	51,249	2,921	65,965	21,145
California	3,254,327	68,002	572,039	30,863	670,904	102,144
Colorado	144,579	10,802	67,886	4,389	83,077	7,495
Connecticut	105,477	7,660	57,929	3,398	68,987	7,099
Delaware	37,990	2,264	16,240	931	19,435	3,441
District of Columbia	70,805	567	9,383	913	10,863	4,490
Florida	1,033,041	32,819	338,254	20,019	391,092	82,435
Georgia	639,088	18,454	163,747	7,223	189,424	36,259
Hawaii	110,474	2,477	17,320	644	20,441	1,606
Idaho	44,845	3,976	22,897	1,116	27,989	4,444
Illinois	673,508	36,957	269,319	15,392	321,668	44,997
Indiana	126,868	19,530	150,171	9,375	179,076	22,781
Iowa	66,219	5,872	59,856	3,476	69,204	7,502
Kansas	101,481	9,608	53,178	2,926	65,712	7,685
Kentucky	340,639	20,591	84,793	3,803	109,187	29,096
Louisiana	390,981	10,151	73,579	4,423	88,153	31,491
Maine	25,953	3,889	29,045	1,491	34,425	3,707
Maryland	157,048	11,752	88,166	4,667	104,585	15,816
Massachusetts	274,244	15,920	142,986	7,841	166,747	20,247
Michigan	610,029	24,097	199,899	12,580	236,576	39,043
Minnesota	141,628	14,286	97,960	7,086	119,332	12,027
Mississippi	317,805	8,422	54,043	3,252	65,717	22,987
Missouri	200,139	15,629	115,243	7,420	138,292	20,992
Montana	47,606	1,971	15,400	787	18,158	2,238
Nebraska	55,606	5,179	38,342	2,166	45,687	3,715
Nevada	67,558	5,715	40,818	1,799	48,332	6,570
New Hampshire	19,631	2,523	27,055	2,696	32,274	2,089
New Jersey	304,024	19,580	218,547	11,972	250,099	23,239
New Mexico	142,218	6,337	37,540	2,507	46,384	8,117
New York	820,602	63,040	366,760	23,915	453,715	75,387
North Carolina	414,782	19,914	162,729	9,025	191,668	39,919
North Dakota	19,894	1,560	11,399	657	13,616	1,040
Ohio	503,615	23,137	228,859	17,746	269,742	44,872
Oklahoma	288,023	7,617	83,143	4,563	95,323	15,381
Oregon	139,168	8,572	65,846	3,846	78,264	8,606
Pennsylvania	450,832	28,145	249,280	16,440	293,865	64,360
Rhode Island	33,992	2,967	24,652	1,414	29,033	4,224
South Carolina	273,558	10,472	87,714	5,545	103,731	19,139
South Dakota	28,295	2,683	14,484	804	17,971	2,144
Tennessee	337,325	12,264	102,581	6,080	120,925	23,665
Texas	2,869,777	37,528	411,227	23,994	472,749	105,084
Utah	78,837	8,023	52,622	2,421	63,066	4,625
Vermont	31,163	—	—	—	—	1,732
Virginia	181,011	16,845	142,344	9,307	168,496	23,272
Washington	255,733	13,529	104,165	6,004	123,698	15,716
West Virginia	90,568	5,849	39,622	2,384	47,855	9,196
Wisconsin	180,113	14,867	105,773	5,856	126,496	17,958
Wyoming	2,758	2,842	10,785	627	14,254	845
United States	17,427,723	699,841	5,575,244	330,610	6,605,695	1,120,766

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, State ESEA Title I Participation Information for 2003-04 (2007), Table 4; U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Children and Students Served under IDEA, Part B, by age group and state: Fall 2007, at <https://www.ideadata.org/TABLES31ST/AR_1-1.xls>; and Social Security Administration, Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics, SSI Annual Statistical Report, 2007 (September 2008), Table 16. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Black and American Indian students are more likely than those in other racial groups to be enrolled in classes for students with mental retardation. Black children are more than twice as likely as White or Hispanic children to be in these classes, and more than three times as likely as Asian/Pacific Islander children to be in these classes.

Enrollment in Classes for Students with Mental Retardation* : 2006 Percent Enrolled

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	1.051%	0.649%	—	0.378%	1.530%	0.822%
Alaska	0.433	0.741	—	—	—	0.324
Arizona	0.867	1.252	0.511%	0.961	1.447	0.688
Arkansas	1.777	1.064	0.518	1.046	3.399	1.387
California	0.748	0.864	0.842	0.734	1.135	0.629
Colorado	0.440	0.613	0.229	0.563	0.888	0.352
Connecticut	0.445	—	0.240	0.497	0.703	0.394
Delaware	1.764	—	—	1.390	2.953	1.205
District of Columbia	0.597	—	—	—	0.664	—
Florida	1.241	0.944	0.602	0.895	2.358	0.897
Georgia	1.437	—	0.502	0.863	2.201	0.973
Hawaii	0.841	—	0.919	0.732	—	0.516
Idaho	0.667	0.742	—	0.764	—	0.650
Illinois	1.150	—	0.489	0.866	2.329	0.835
Indiana	1.846	2.058	0.497	1.350	3.891	1.595
Iowa	1.213	1.313	0.646	1.292	2.081	1.167
Kansas	0.914	0.753	0.390	0.749	2.070	0.832
Kentucky	2.506	—	0.505	0.933	3.517	2.441
Louisiana	1.281	0.951	0.313	0.429	1.881	0.819
Maine	0.437	—	—	—	—	0.434
Maryland	0.626	—	—	0.620	0.943	0.418
Massachusetts	1.547	1.195	0.793	3.832	5.483	0.793
Michigan	1.593	1.445	0.686	1.294	3.159	1.254
Minnesota	1.044	1.715	0.733	1.067	1.858	0.963
Mississippi	0.864	—	—	0.335	1.211	0.508
Missouri	1.182	—	0.498	0.745	2.145	1.002
Montana	0.771	1.187	—	0.996	—	0.693
Nebraska	1.622	2.789	0.871	1.701	2.615	1.504
Nevada	0.456	0.612	0.390	0.435	0.742	0.406
New Hampshire	0.436	—	—	0.634	—	0.430
New Jersey	0.499	—	0.235	0.648	0.921	0.348
New Mexico	0.546	0.630	—	0.566	0.816	0.464
New York	0.526	0.646	0.274	0.574	0.876	0.415
North Carolina	1.578	2.868	0.499	0.891	2.978	0.925
North Dakota	1.084	1.919	—	—	1.720	0.974
Ohio	1.674	1.712	0.371	1.932	3.233	1.358
Oklahoma	1.112	1.050	0.392	0.792	2.117	1.023
Oregon	0.745	1.098	0.490	0.607	1.433	0.750
Pennsylvania	1.272	—	0.414	1.516	2.127	1.101
Rhode Island	0.711	—	0.649	1.289	1.169	0.526
South Carolina	1.442	—	0.501	0.493	2.324	0.866
South Dakota	0.877	1.568	—	1.489	1.333	0.751
Tennessee	0.757	—	0.245	0.355	0.823	0.770
Texas	0.692	0.735	0.424	0.598	1.299	0.597
Utah	0.626	0.654	0.399	0.667	1.013	0.621
Vermont	1.008	—	—	—	1.926	1.000
Virginia	0.878	0.717	0.491	0.657	1.565	0.613
Washington	0.524	0.973	0.330	0.590	0.789	0.494
West Virginia	2.864	—	—	1.596	3.155	2.877
Wisconsin	1.235	1.651	0.995	1.193	2.529	1.067
Wyoming	0.610	—	—	0.674	—	0.602
United States	1.027	1.107	0.599	0.768	1.919	0.885

*According to the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD): "Intellectual disability is the currently preferred term for the disability historically referred to as mental retardation." Frequently Asked Questions on Intellectual Disability and the AAIDD Definition, at <http://www.aamr.org/Policies/faq_intellectual_disability.shtml>; accessed November 2008.

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Black and American Indian children are more likely than those in other racial groups to be enrolled in classes for students with emotional disturbance. Black children are more than three times as likely as Hispanic children to be in these classes, and more than seven times as likely as Asian/Pacific Islander children to be in these classes.

Enrollment in Classes for Students with Emotional Disturbance: 2006 Percent Enrolled

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	0.215%	—	—	0.085%	0.226%	0.221%
Alaska	0.404	0.510%	0.151%	0.202	0.773	0.372
Arizona	0.731	0.640	0.216	0.382	1.568	0.994
Arkansas	0.174	—	—	0.068	0.162	0.194
California	0.325	0.858	0.091	0.174	0.809	0.514
Colorado	0.910	1.785	0.259	0.637	1.804	0.964
Connecticut	0.794	1.555	0.160	0.992	1.238	0.695
Delaware	0.709	—	—	0.397	0.917	0.667
District of Columbia	0.559	—	—	—	0.624	—
Florida	1.111	0.982	0.091	0.600	1.805	1.083
Georgia	1.354	—	0.183	0.358	1.721	1.306
Hawaii	1.118	—	1.051	1.299	1.268	1.392
Idaho	0.506	—	—	0.193	—	0.560
Illinois	1.101	0.772	0.247	0.542	1.888	1.058
Indiana	1.317	1.272	0.219	0.396	2.122	1.288
Iowa	0.855	—	—	0.603	2.324	0.799
Kansas	0.733	0.956	—	0.319	1.318	0.749
Kentucky	0.883	—	—	0.277	1.933	0.769
Louisiana	0.437	—	—	—	0.607	0.314
Maine	1.361	—	—	—	1.595	1.368
Maryland	0.749	—	0.082	0.556	1.039	0.630
Massachusetts	1.137	1.608	0.347	1.569	2.432	0.976
Michigan	1.121	1.280	0.213	0.673	1.482	1.091
Minnesota	1.993	5.677	0.410	1.451	5.084	1.729
Mississippi	0.302	—	—	—	0.271	0.341
Missouri	0.872	—	—	0.332	1.468	0.779
Montana	0.679	0.809	—	—	—	0.661
Nebraska	0.734	2.411	—	0.319	1.825	0.668
Nevada	0.484	0.627	0.140	0.164	0.969	0.674
New Hampshire	1.163	—	0.133	0.580	0.936	1.211
New Jersey	0.694	—	0.117	0.557	1.341	0.614
New Mexico	0.685	0.742	—	0.587	1.147	0.810
New York	1.288	1.970	0.191	1.384	2.692	0.889
North Carolina	0.770	1.204	—	0.168	1.367	0.557
North Dakota	1.044	1.526	—	—	2.241	0.977
Ohio	0.931	—	0.113	0.855	1.742	0.777
Oklahoma	0.809	0.671	—	0.241	1.111	0.903
Oregon	0.790	1.254	0.204	0.365	1.683	0.868
Pennsylvania	1.183	—	0.201	1.036	2.059	1.036
Rhode Island	1.207	3.264	—	1.195	2.148	1.113
South Carolina	0.698	—	—	0.168	0.987	0.534
South Dakota	1.055	—	—	1.291	0.590	—
Tennessee	0.316	—	—	0.082	0.293	0.342
Texas	0.747	1.053	0.150	0.484	1.183	0.967
Utah	0.507	0.863	0.209	0.391	1.520	0.515
Vermont	1.956	—	—	—	1.926	1.994
Virginia	0.795	1.052	0.167	0.454	1.126	0.737
Washington	0.448	0.821	0.119	0.215	1.050	0.471
West Virginia	0.760	—	—	—	1.689	0.719
Wisconsin	1.732	5.691	0.325	0.995	2.844	1.632
Wyoming	1.011	2.308	—	0.895	2.550	0.962
United States	0.845	1.114	0.203	0.460	1.426	0.857

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections.
Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

About 1 in 20 public school students is in a class for students with learning disabilities.
 Black and American Indian children are the most likely to be in these classes.

Enrollment in Classes for Students with Learning Disabilities: 2006 Percent Enrolled

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	5.357%	4.113%	1.228%	3.724%	7.135%	4.484%
Alaska	3.692	5.844	1.105	2.381	2.254	3.182
Arizona	5.434	9.013	1.662	5.719	6.588	4.820
Arkansas	4.779	4.836	1.323	3.775	5.441	4.765
California	4.613	5.868	1.473	5.064	7.901	4.239
Colorado	3.898	5.662	1.449	4.579	5.267	3.570
Connecticut	3.719	4.566	0.988	4.419	4.479	3.571
Delaware	8.007	—	2.024	8.576	10.556	6.752
District of Columbia	1.393	—	—	1.780	1.369	1.040
Florida	6.484	6.524	1.885	6.458	6.605	6.663
Georgia	3.334	2.946	1.088	3.384	3.329	3.468
Hawaii	5.046	5.443	5.032	6.424	5.381	4.765
Idaho	4.199	8.558	1.474	4.760	4.835	4.067
Illinois	6.674	6.857	1.919	6.431	7.850	6.638
Indiana	6.122	6.063	1.594	4.487	6.515	6.283
Iowa	7.848	8.792	3.288	7.166	10.378	7.843
Kansas	5.659	6.994	2.631	5.168	7.296	5.632
Kentucky	2.309	—	0.488	1.872	2.101	2.367
Louisiana	4.097	4.757	0.637	2.173	5.383	3.121
Maine	5.420	6.506	2.138	3.992	4.531	5.505
Maryland	3.887	3.745	0.992	5.307	4.237	3.692
Massachusetts	6.684	7.127	2.446	7.574	7.509	6.756
Michigan	5.502	7.563	1.409	6.073	6.371	5.374
Minnesota	3.969	6.405	2.969	5.594	5.793	3.675
Mississippi	5.477	6.250	1.017	2.594	6.558	4.466
Missouri	5.118	4.287	1.514	3.431	6.120	5.053
Montana	5.831	8.102	2.640	6.006	6.114	5.516
Nebraska	5.449	8.249	2.462	4.978	5.413	5.545
Nevada	6.116	10.851	2.291	5.704	9.419	6.110
New Hampshire	6.629	6.346	1.836	7.030	5.047	6.757
New Jersey	6.899	5.592	1.686	7.392	8.962	6.770
New Mexico	6.001	7.237	3.098	6.105	7.816	5.350
New York	6.148	7.700	1.854	6.598	7.432	6.068
North Carolina	4.343	4.805	1.786	4.216	4.733	4.234
North Dakota	5.313	8.934	—	6.475	4.846	4.970
Ohio	5.516	6.550	1.564	5.716	5.786	5.529
Oklahoma	7.326	7.163	2.214	5.950	9.684	7.322
Oregon	5.102	7.522	1.619	4.965	6.342	5.242
Pennsylvania	7.905	6.245	2.121	9.345	9.410	7.692
Rhode Island	7.397	11.474	3.435	9.273	8.637	6.958
South Carolina	6.487	5.701	1.645	4.176	7.173	6.271
South Dakota	5.370	9.508	3.071	5.564	4.998	4.811
Tennessee	4.245	3.610	0.952	2.477	3.302	4.744
Texas	5.068	5.225	1.213	5.230	6.910	4.469
Utah	5.429	10.114	2.948	7.281	7.658	5.092
Vermont	4.725	—	—	—	3.970	4.793
Virginia	5.039	5.760	2.193	6.231	5.964	4.690
Washington	4.474	7.476	2.337	5.727	6.739	4.170
West Virginia	5.848	10.582	—	6.166	6.497	5.843
Wisconsin	4.847	7.671	3.317	4.688	6.366	4.670
Wyoming	5.357	9.116	—	6.732	5.873	5.133
United States	5.353	6.995	1.906	5.503	6.322	5.261

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections.
 Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Only about 3 percent of eligible infants and young children are enrolled in the Early Head Start program.

About 900,000 children are enrolled in Head Start programs, about 800,000 in state programs, and another 100,000 in migrant and Indian tribal programs and in the territories.

Only about one-half to two-thirds of children eligible for Head Start are enrolled.

Children Enrolled in Head Start

Enrollment by race/ethnicity, 2005-2006 (percent distribution)

	Number of children enrolled, FY 2007	Enrollment in Early Head Start, 2006-2007	Enrollment by race/ethnicity, 2005-2006 (percent distribution)					
			Black	White	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Other	Hispanic
Alabama	16,374	933	73.2%	20.9%	0.9%	0.2%	4.8%	3.7%
Alaska	1,583	448	3.5	18.2	61.4	4.5	12.4	3.6
Arizona	13,175	1,829	3.5	46.2	26.6	0.4	23.3	53.0
Arkansas	10,778	944	42.5	45.5	3.2	0.5	8.3	12.1
California	98,353	12,933	11.2	26.1	11.0	5.8	45.8	68.7
Colorado	9,820	1,413	7.9	53.6	2.4	1.2	34.9	60.8
Connecticut	7,076	654	37.5	24.3	0.9	2.0	35.4	36.0
Delaware	2,071	296	52.2	20.8	1.1	0.9	24.9	29.5
District of Columbia	3,403	489	80.1	5.0	2.3	0.8	12.0	18.4
Florida	35,457	3,707	49.8	33.5	1.9	1.6	13.2	31.7
Georgia	23,436	1,874	69.6	19.9	0.0	0.5	9.9	10.9
Hawaii	3,049	585	4.0	13.5	0.4	70.9	11.3	5.7
Idaho	2,943	640	0.7	52.3	9.1	0.6	37.4	35.7
Illinois	39,640	4,037	50.0	23.9	0.7	1.4	24.0	28.0
Indiana	14,213	1,607	25.9	57.1	0.2	0.6	16.2	11.6
Iowa	7,710	1,660	12.6	67.6	0.9	2.0	16.8	14.5
Kansas	8,178	2,836	18.2	48.1	3.4	1.4	29.0	25.8
Kentucky	16,070	1,642	18.9	71.3	0.1	0.6	9.2	4.7
Louisiana	21,592	1,358	80.5	14.6	0.4	2.4	2.1	5.5
Maine	3,871	871	4.2	84.6	2.2	1.5	7.6	2.1
Maryland	10,347	1,412	65.1	19.3	1.3	1.5	12.8	11.0
Massachusetts	12,807	1,351	21.0	34.8	1.7	7.3	35.3	38.2
Michigan	35,067	3,182	36.0	44.5	3.4	1.4	14.7	12.2
Minnesota	10,332	1,866	24.9	42.8	8.5	4.4	19.4	22.6
Mississippi	26,657	1,263	82.7	14.1	1.2	0.4	1.6	1.1
Missouri	17,456	2,347	36.0	52.5	0.3	1.2	10.0	6.4
Montana	2,919	790	0.6	49.0	40.2	0.4	9.9	9.0
Nebraska	5,080	1,341	14.6	54.1	5.8	0.9	24.6	25.0
Nevada	2,754	224	18.7	17.7	20.8	2.3	40.6	50.6
New Hampshire	1,632	360	5.3	84.1	0.6	1.5	8.5	7.9
New Jersey	14,854	1,069	42.6	16.4	5.3	2.4	33.3	37.9
New Mexico	7,279	1,315	2.1	18.3	19.9	0.5	59.2	60.6
New York	48,818	5,762	28.6	33.3	1.7	4.1	32.3	34.8
North Carolina	18,963	1,932	55.7	22.9	4.0	0.7	16.7	18.4
North Dakota	2,353	654	2.6	55.2	35.3	0.7	6.2	2.6
Ohio	37,940	2,567	40.9	47.3	0.4	1.0	10.4	5.8
Oklahoma	13,474	1,855	17.7	44.6	23.4	0.6	13.7	13.1
Oregon	8,814	799	4.8	65.1	4.4	1.7	24.1	45.9
Pennsylvania	35,362	3,696	35.6	47.8	0.4	1.9	14.3	13.4
Rhode Island	3,104	672	24.6	53.4	1.2	3.2	17.6	32.7
South Carolina	12,248	888	84.4	8.0	1.1	0.1	6.4	5.8
South Dakota	2,827	925	2.9	49.6	39.6	1.1	6.9	7.3
Tennessee	16,397	1,283	42.7	48.9	0.2	0.4	7.7	6.0
Texas	67,630	6,320	18.9	33.8	0.4	1.0	45.9	66.8
Utah	5,400	753	1.3	48.3	5.0	2.5	43.0	39.7
Vermont	1,552	429	2.7	87.9	1.7	0.6	7.1	3.2
Virginia	13,518	1,725	51.4	35.5	0.6	2.6	9.9	12.4
Washington	11,278	2,895	8.0	37.7	10.3	5.4	38.5	40.0
West Virginia	7,682	795	8.5	86.0	0.2	0.4	4.9	0.9
Wisconsin	13,538	1,787	25.3	41.5	8.2	4.5	20.4	22.2
Wyoming	1,840	259	2.3	63.6	13.5	1.1	19.4	26.8
United States*	908,412	93,272	32.3	36.4	5.1	2.5	23.8	30.5

*United States total enrollment includes 99,698 children in the six territories, in Indian tribal programs, and in migrant programs.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Head Start Bureau, "Head Start Program Fact Sheet," at <<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/about/fy2008.html>>; National Head Start Association, "Head Start, Early Head Start, and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Congressional District Data for the 2006-2007 Program Year," at <<http://www.nhsa.org/download/research/2007CDDat.pdf>>; and Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) for 2005-2006. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Twenty states have no state-funded prekindergarten programs for 3-year-olds; eight states have no programs for 4-year-olds. Yet research has shown that early childhood programs significantly increase a child's chances of avoiding the prison pipeline, instead helping give him a head start and put him in the "pipeline to success."

Prekindergarten Enrollment: 2006

	Percent enrolled in state prekindergarten programs		Percent enrolled in state prekindergarten programs, Head Start or IDEA preschool program	
	3-year-olds	4-year-olds	3-year-olds	4-year-olds
Alabama	0.0%	1.8%	12.7%	21.6%
Alaska	0.0	0.0	15.6	22.4
Arizona	0.0	5.5	8.9	23.2
Arkansas	10.8	21.4	31.3	48.7
California	5.0	10.8	14.3	26.3
Colorado	3.1	14.6	12.1	28.7
Connecticut	4.5	15.6	14.2	29.7
Delaware	0.0	7.6	11.5	24.1
District of Columbia	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Florida	0.0	56.7	8.9	71.1
Georgia	0.0	53.3	11.2	64.9
Hawaii	0.0	0.0	9.9	14.6
Idaho	0.0	0.0	7.6	17.1
Illinois	18.5	26.7	31.8	44.6
Indiana	0.0	0.0	9.7	16.5
Iowa	1.4	4.0	11.6	20.1
Kansas	0.0	15.6	13.7	33.8
Kentucky	10.7	29.3	29.8	60.1
Louisiana	0.0	24.4	21.0	46.7
Maine	0.0	16.3	16.4	40.8
Maryland	1.2	34.0	11.0	46.4
Massachusetts	9.2	10.3	20.2	25.3
Michigan	0.0	16.9	14.8	38.2
Minnesota	1.3	1.9	11.9	18.1
Mississippi	0.0	0.0	27.5	41.8
Missouri	2.2	4.3	15.2	22.9
Montana	0.0	0.0	17.0	26.0
Nebraska	2.0	4.0	14.2	21.1
Nevada	0.4	2.2	6.5	12.8
New Hampshire	0.0	0.0	8.8	12.0
New Jersey	15.1	25.3	24.4	36.9
New Mexico	0.9	8.9	16.0	34.8
New York	0.5	34.6	16.1	54.7
North Carolina	0.0	14.8	8.9	29.6
North Dakota	0.0	0.0	20.2	28.7
Ohio	1.3	3.4	14.9	21.3
Oklahoma	0.0	68.4	15.8	90.0
Oregon	2.6	4.8	14.3	24.1
Pennsylvania	2.2	7.2	15.9	27.2
Rhode Island	0.0	0.0	10.2	19.9
South Carolina	0.6	37.8	19.9	54.3
South Dakota	0.0	0.0	19.8	29.3
Tennessee	1.0	15.6	11.0	32.9
Texas	4.4	45.2	14.5	58.1
Utah	0.0	0.0	7.0	13.6
Vermont	15.6	44.9	30.8	63.7
Virginia	0.0	12.5	8.5	25.5
Washington	1.4	5.8	10.1	20.5
West Virginia	5.1	45.8	23.3	76.5
Wisconsin	0.8	36.1	15.2	53.3
Wyoming	0.0	0.0	21.2	30.5
United States	3.2	21.8	15.0	38.8

n/a — Data not included in source

Source: National Institute for Early Education Research, *The State of Preschool 2007* (2007), Tables 2, 4 and 5.

About 2 out of 3 mothers of preschool-age children and 3 out of 4 mothers of school-age children are in the labor force. Six in 10 preschool-age children and 7 in 10 school-age children have all parents in the labor force.

Working Parents: 2007

	Mothers in the labor force by age of youngest child (percent)		Children with mothers in the labor force (percent)		Children with all parents in the labor force (percent)	
	Under age 6	Ages 6-17	Under age 6	Ages 6-17	Under age 6	Ages 6-17
Alabama	64.6%	74.6%	62.2%	70.8%	62.2%	69.0%
Alaska	63.9	78.4	61.7	73.7	60.5	71.8
Arizona	58.2	72.6	53.3	65.4	54.6	65.0
Arkansas	67.3	75.2	64.6	73.2	63.7	70.6
California	59.2	71.8	56.2	65.8	56.8	64.6
Colorado	62.9	79.2	59.8	71.4	59.8	70.9
Connecticut	67.1	79.8	64.8	75.0	64.1	73.3
Delaware	66.5	80.7	63.5	74.0	64.1	73.2
District of Columbia	70.3	82.6	63.8	77.9	64.0	75.9
Florida	66.3	78.1	63.4	74.1	64.0	72.5
Georgia	66.6	76.5	63.3	72.2	63.5	71.0
Hawaii	63.2	80.3	60.2	75.5	58.5	72.3
Idaho	58.9	77.5	55.2	67.3	55.9	67.3
Illinois	65.2	76.8	62.6	71.5	62.5	70.2
Indiana	67.3	80.2	64.1	74.9	64.7	73.2
Iowa	75.3	85.2	72.8	80.6	71.8	79.2
Kansas	69.2	82.3	67.4	76.7	67.4	75.2
Kentucky	66.7	74.9	63.4	70.5	62.6	68.0
Louisiana	65.0	73.8	63.1	70.5	63.7	68.2
Maine	67.7	82.1	64.4	77.8	64.7	76.4
Maryland	71.1	81.6	67.9	77.7	67.9	76.4
Massachusetts	68.4	79.6	65.2	75.4	64.8	73.6
Michigan	69.0	77.2	65.6	72.5	64.9	70.6
Minnesota	74.4	83.0	71.7	77.8	70.9	76.4
Mississippi	71.6	73.9	68.9	72.4	67.4	69.6
Missouri	71.1	80.9	68.5	76.7	68.2	74.6
Montana	65.0	79.4	61.0	74.3	60.7	72.1
Nebraska	75.7	82.6	74.2	78.3	74.0	77.2
Nevada	61.9	77.7	58.1	72.0	59.8	70.7
New Hampshire	66.6	82.0	64.4	76.0	65.4	74.4
New Jersey	64.5	77.1	61.9	72.9	61.0	71.2
New Mexico	61.8	73.7	57.4	68.7	58.4	67.9
New York	61.8	76.0	58.5	69.4	58.4	67.6
North Carolina	66.8	78.5	62.9	73.6	63.1	71.7
North Dakota	74.9	85.7	69.2	83.8	69.4	82.1
Ohio	69.9	78.5	67.1	73.9	66.5	71.8
Oklahoma	63.4	74.6	60.2	70.4	61.0	68.8
Oregon	64.4	77.3	62.1	71.3	61.7	69.7
Pennsylvania	66.4	78.1	63.1	72.6	62.7	70.9
Rhode Island	74.2	78.1	71.3	75.6	69.7	72.9
South Carolina	68.7	77.5	64.9	73.7	65.4	71.8
South Dakota	77.0	86.1	77.1	81.7	76.4	80.5
Tennessee	65.7	75.8	62.4	71.8	62.6	70.2
Texas	59.5	73.7	55.8	67.4	56.5	66.2
Utah	53.4	74.2	49.2	63.3	50.3	63.0
Vermont	77.4	85.2	76.4	82.8	76.1	81.0
Virginia	68.0	78.3	64.6	73.5	64.8	72.3
Washington	60.7	76.9	57.4	71.0	57.6	69.4
West Virginia	56.6	69.9	54.3	65.0	53.7	61.2
Wisconsin	75.1	83.5	72.3	79.3	72.1	77.8
Wyoming	68.6	85.9	65.9	82.2	66.2	80.3
United States	64.9	76.8	61.6	71.5	61.7	70.0

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2007, Tables B23003 and B23008, at http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=&_lang=en&_ts=>, accessed September 23, 2008. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

In 33 states and the District of Columbia, the annual cost of center-based child care for a preschooler is more than the annual tuition at a 4-year public university.

Cost of Child Care vs. Cost of College

	Annual cost for preschool- age child, center-based care	Annual in-state tuition in a 4-year public university	Ratio
Alabama	\$ 4,976	\$ 4,712	1.06
Alaska	7,080	4,422	1.60
Arizona	5,832	4,669	1.25
Arkansas	NA	4,937	—
California	7,477	4,452	1.68
Colorado	7,103	4,634	1.53
Connecticut	8,910	7,151	1.25
Delaware	6,230	7,417	0.84
District of Columbia	10,920	2,670	4.09
Florida	5,720	3,050	1.88
Georgia	5,243	3,851	1.36
Hawaii	5,886	3,930	1.50
Idaho	4,771	4,155	1.15
Illinois	7,500	8,038	0.93
Indiana	6,373	6,284	1.01
Iowa	5,513	6,019	0.92
Kansas	4,446	4,966	0.90
Kentucky	3,960	5,821	0.68
Louisiana	4,211	3,778	1.11
Maine	6,725	6,557	1.03
Maryland	7,159	7,106	1.01
Massachusetts	10,668	7,629	1.40
Michigan	6,863	7,504	0.91
Minnesota	9,204	7,392	1.25
Mississippi	3,794	4,457	0.85
Missouri	4,611	6,320	0.73
Montana	6,108	5,378	1.14
Nebraska	5,100	5,181	0.98
Nevada	6,045	2,844	2.13
New Hampshire	6,500	9,003	0.72
New Jersey	8,274	9,333	0.89
New Mexico	5,479	3,943	1.39
New York	9,391	5,022	1.87
North Carolina	6,756	4,038	1.67
North Dakota	5,135	5,471	0.94
Ohio	5,564	9,010	0.62
Oklahoma	4,706	4,176	1.13
Oregon	9,012	5,598	1.61
Pennsylvania	6,800	9,092	0.75
Rhode Island	7,800	6,698	1.16
South Carolina	4,940	7,914	0.62
South Dakota	5,304	5,077	1.04
Tennessee	5,773	5,009	1.15
Texas	5,564	5,114	1.09
Utah	5,112	3,757	1.36
Vermont	7,056	9,783	0.72
Virginia	7,488	6,447	1.16
Washington	8,364	5,636	1.48
West Virginia	4,902	4,063	1.21
Wisconsin	6,959	6,048	1.15
Wyoming	5,827	2,951	1.97

Sources: National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, *Parents and the High Price of Child Care* (October 2007), Detail Table 1, used with permission; and U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2007* (March 2008), Table 321.

Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Income eligibility for the one million families who receive child care assistance ranges from just above the poverty line in Missouri to 275 percent of the poverty line in Maine. The Urban Institute has calculated that 2.7 million people would be lifted out of poverty if child care assistance were provided to all families with children whose incomes are below 200 percent of the federal poverty line (FPL).

In 2008, 200 percent of the FPL was \$35,200 for a family of three.

Child Care Assistance

	Income eligibility limits for a three-person family, 2007			Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)/Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) recipients, FY 2006	
	Annual amount	Percent of federal poverty level	Percent of state median income	Monthly average number of families	Monthly average number of children
Alabama	\$ 20,916	122%	42%	14,700	28,000
Alaska	46,243	215	71	2,900	4,900
Arizona	27,390	160	57	18,100	30,200
Arkansas	35,724	208	83	3,900	5,600
California	43,536	254	75	111,500	175,500
Colorado	21,580 - 37,356	126 - 218	35 - 61	8,900	16,300
Connecticut	37,514	218	50	6,300	10,100
Delaware	34,344	200	55	4,600	7,500
District of Columbia	40,225	234	74	2,600	3,700
Florida	24,900	145	49	67,900	108,600
Georgia	26,560	155	52	35,600	64,600
Hawaii	47,124	239	76	5,600	8,600
Idaho	20,472	119	42	5,400	9,900
Illinois	30,396	177	51	44,500	82,200
Indiana	21,084	123	38	17,300	32,800
Iowa	24,084	140	43	11,100	19,400
Kansas	30,708	179	56	12,000	22,400
Kentucky	24,900	145	52	16,200	28,900
Louisiana	31,836	185	70	23,200	39,100
Maine	47,200	275	85	3,700	5,400
Maryland	29,990	175	41	13,500	22,900
Massachusetts	34,680	202	48	23,900	32,100
Michigan	23,880	139	40	45,000	87,800
Minnesota	29,050	169	44	15,100	27,300
Mississippi	34,999	204	82	19,500	39,100
Missouri	18,216	106	34	19,200	33,600
Montana	24,900	145	53	2,900	4,800
Nebraska	19,932	116	37	7,400	13,100
Nevada	38,124	222	75	3,600	6,000
New Hampshire	31,548	184	46	5,100	7,500
New Jersey	33,200	193	44	26,000	37,900
New Mexico	25,730	150	60	12,700	21,600
New York	33,200	193	58	73,200	123,700
North Carolina	35,592	207	70	39,300	79,900
North Dakota	29,556	172	51	2,500	4,000
Ohio	31,764	185	56	28,800	39,900
Oklahoma	29,100	169	62	14,600	25,000
Oregon	25,764	150	50	11,000	20,200
Pennsylvania	33,200	193	57	47,300	82,800
Rhode Island	37,350	218	61	4,400	7,100
South Carolina	24,900	145	52	11,300	19,700
South Dakota	34,575	201	66	3,100	4,900
Tennessee	29,016	169	60	22,200	42,500
Texas	24,900 - 40,347	145 - 235	52 - 85	68,200	126,200
Utah	30,948	180	58	7,000	13,000
Vermont	31,032	181	51	4,700	6,800
Virginia	24,900 - 41,508	145 - 242	40 - 67	17,200	27,900
Washington	33,192	193	55	32,700	53,200
West Virginia	24,144	141	55	5,600	9,300
Wisconsin	31,765	185	53	16,800	29,500
Wyoming	33,120	193	59	2,900	4,700
United States				1,022,700	1,757,700

Source: Karen Schulman and Helen Blank, "State Child Care Assistance Policies 2007: Some Steps Forward, More Progress Needed," National Women's Law Center (September 2007), Table 1A; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, Child Care and Development Fund, Table 1, "Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Families and Children Served," at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccbf/data/ccdf_data/06acf800/table1.htm>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Median wages for child care workers range from \$13,970 in Louisiana to more than \$21,000 in Massachusetts, New York and the District of Columbia. For elementary school teachers, those in South Dakota are paid the least. With a median salary of \$32,950, they make less than half the salary of elementary teachers in New York, whose median salary is the highest in the nation at \$66,300. The average wage of child care workers is less than that of Head Start, preschool, kindergarten or elementary school teachers in every state.

Teacher and Child Care Worker Earnings: 2006

	Head Start teachers (mean)	Child care workers (median)	Preschool teachers (median)	Kindergarten teachers (median)	Elementary teachers (median)
Alabama	\$ 18,887	\$ 14,160	\$ 19,940	\$ 39,400	\$ 39,950
Alaska	25,442	20,240	25,250	52,020	55,500
Arizona	23,722	15,520	20,580	35,300	33,620
Arkansas	21,630	14,120	17,330	38,130	38,260
California	29,350	20,540	25,460	51,710	54,160
Colorado	24,081	18,750	23,850	40,680	43,190
Connecticut	28,119	20,340	25,910	56,770	58,260
Delaware	20,399	19,400	24,190	41,690	48,260
District of Columbia	36,096	22,760	27,480	35,250	n/a
Florida	24,953	17,290	20,970	44,270	44,340
Georgia	22,256	15,680	19,080	44,590	46,410
Hawaii	31,297	16,410	24,450	35,410	41,920
Idaho	17,336	16,920	22,140	25,700	44,780
Illinois	28,747	18,550	25,490	38,410	50,000
Indiana	21,824	17,050	20,560	44,310	46,060
Iowa	23,794	15,300	18,910	36,070	35,290
Kansas	24,098	16,510	22,710	38,190	36,950
Kentucky	21,849	15,250	21,270	42,310	41,620
Louisiana	22,419	13,970	17,760	38,360	38,300
Maine	23,155	20,680	22,750	40,080	43,220
Maryland	29,987	20,250	24,150	45,410	49,050
Massachusetts	24,060	21,990	27,050	50,790	56,310
Michigan	25,767	18,760	26,800	49,180	55,800
Minnesota	21,586	18,270	28,110	44,630	45,340
Mississippi	17,891	14,090	19,960	35,350	36,850
Missouri	20,855	16,610	21,130	38,070	37,900
Montana	18,124	16,390	19,450	34,230	34,400
Nebraska	22,460	16,480	21,890	41,790	42,060
Nevada	23,697	16,360	21,870	33,050	35,390
New Hampshire	20,192	18,170	23,680	36,690	46,320
New Jersey	34,746	18,610	29,270	49,500	51,630
New Mexico	22,811	15,800	20,260	40,110	40,230
New York	30,713	21,730	28,170	68,390	66,300
North Carolina	21,694	17,260	18,270	36,690	37,820
North Dakota	24,155	16,270	22,310	37,360	38,640
Ohio	22,824	17,710	20,570	45,860	49,850
Oklahoma	24,467	15,090	18,670	33,030	34,430
Oregon	24,856	17,840	22,100	39,430	46,050
Pennsylvania	24,510	17,290	20,350	47,250	48,530
Rhode Island	24,714	19,420	26,220	59,820	59,440
South Carolina	18,672	15,230	18,830	40,280	40,810
South Dakota	21,850	15,940	25,920	31,880	32,950
Tennessee	22,225	15,220	16,530	38,710	39,290
Texas	25,091	14,540	18,170	41,490	42,440
Utah	19,165	16,090	24,030	37,660	41,090
Vermont	23,074	18,530	25,150	42,460	43,910
Virginia	25,911	16,840	22,090	47,270	51,130
Washington	24,659	18,300	25,040	44,550	49,350
West Virginia	24,200	14,190	20,800	41,480	40,300
Wisconsin	26,188	18,760	20,970	43,060	45,110
Wyoming	22,992	16,320	20,180	40,690	44,570

n/a — data not available

Sources: Center for Law and Social Policy, State-by-State Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) Data in 2006, at <<http://clasp.org/publications/headstartpir2006.htm>>; and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2006 Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, State Cross-Industry Estimates, at <<ftp://ftp.bls.gov/pub/special.requests/oes/oesm06st.zip>>.

Fifteen states allow child-caretaker ratios higher than the recommended maximum for infants; 31 states exceed the maximum for toddlers; and 35 states exceed the maximum for preschoolers. Seventeen states have no maximum requirements for group size for at least one of the age groups.

Child Care Center Regulations¹ Selected Ages, 2005

	Children per Caretaker			Maximum Group Size		
	9 months	27 months	4 years	9 months	27 months	4 years
Alabama	4:1	7:1	16:1	NR	NR	NR
Alaska	5:1	6:1	10:1	10	12	20
Arizona	5:1 or 11:2	8:1	15:1	NR	NR	NR
Arkansas	6:1	9:1	15:1	12	18	30
California	4:1	6:1	12:1	NR	12	NR
Colorado	5:1	7:1	12:1	10	14	24
Connecticut	4:1	4:1	10:1	8	8	20
Delaware	4:1	10:1	15:1	NR	NR	NR
District of Columbia	4:1	4:1	10:1	8	8	20
Florida	4:1	11:1	20:1	NR	NR	NR
Georgia	6:1	10:1	18:1	12	20	36
Hawaii	4:1	8:1	16:1	8	NR	NR
Idaho	NL	NL	NL	NR	NR	NR
Illinois	4:1	8:1	10:1	12	16	20
Indiana	4:1	5:1	12:1	8	10	24
Iowa	4:1	6:1	12:1	NR	NR	NR
Kansas	3:1	7:1	12:1	9	14	24
Kentucky	5:1	10:1	14:1	10	20	28
Louisiana	6:1	12:1	16:1	NR	NR	NR
Maine	4:1	4:1	10:1	10	24	25
Maryland	3:1	6:1	10:1	6	12	20
Massachusetts	3:1 or 7:2	4:1 or 9:2	10:1	7	9	20
Michigan	4:1	4:1	12:1	NR	NR	NR
Minnesota	4:1	7:1	10:1	8	14	20
Mississippi	5:1	12:1	16:1	10	14	20
Missouri	4:1	8:1	10:1	8	16	NR
Montana	4:1	8:1	10:1	NR	NR	NR
Nebraska	4:1	6:1	12:1	12	NR	NR
Nevada	6:1	10:1	13:1	NR	NR	NR
New Hampshire	4:1	6:1	12:1	12	18	24
New Jersey	4:1	10:1	12:1	12	20	20
New Mexico	6:1	10:1	12:1	NR	NR	NR
New York	4:1	5:1	8:1	8	12	21
North Carolina	5:1	10:1	20:1	10	20	25
North Dakota	4:1	5:1	10:1	8	10	20
Ohio	5:1 or 2:12	7:1	14:1	12	14	28
Oklahoma	4:1	8:1	15:1	8	16	30
Oregon	4:1	5:1	10:1	8	10	20
Pennsylvania	4:1	6:1	10:1	8	12	20
Rhode Island	4:1	6:1	10:1	8	12	20
South Carolina	6:1	10:1	18:1	NR	NR	NR
South Dakota	5:1	5:1	10:1	20	20	20
Tennessee	4:1	7:1	13:1	8	14	20
Texas	4:1	11:1	18:1	10	22	35
Utah	4:1	7:1	15:1	8	14	30
Vermont	4:1	5:1	10:1	8	10	20
Virginia	4:1	10:1	12:1	NR	NR	NR
Washington	4:1	7:1	10:1	8	14	20
West Virginia	4:1	8:1	12:1	8	16	24
Wisconsin	4:1	6:1	13:1	8	12	24
Wyoming	4:1	8:1	12:1	10	18	30
Maximum Recommended Level ²	3:1 to 4:1	4:1 to 6:1	8:1 to 10:1	6 to 8	8 to 10	16 to 20

NL — facilities not licensed at the state level

NR — not regulated

¹ There may be some exceptions to these ratio and group size requirements in some states under certain circumstances. For example, some states have different requirements for small centers, classes with mixed-age groups, or different levels of licensing. See original source for details.

² Maximum Recommended Level: As recommended in the accreditation guidelines developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and in the National Health and Safety Performance Standards developed by the American Public Health Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Source: National Association for Regulatory Administration, Findings from the 2005 Child Care Licensing Study, Table N, Center Child-Staff Ratio Requirements in 2005, at <http://nara.affiniscap.com/associations/4734/files/Table_N_Child-staff_Ratios_2005.pdf>, and Table O, Center Group Size Requirements in 2005, at <http://nara.affiniscap.com/associations/4734/files/Table_O_Group_Size_2005.pdf>.

During FY 2007, an average of 12.7 million children each month received Food Stamps.
Nationally, 87 percent of eligible children receive Food Stamps.

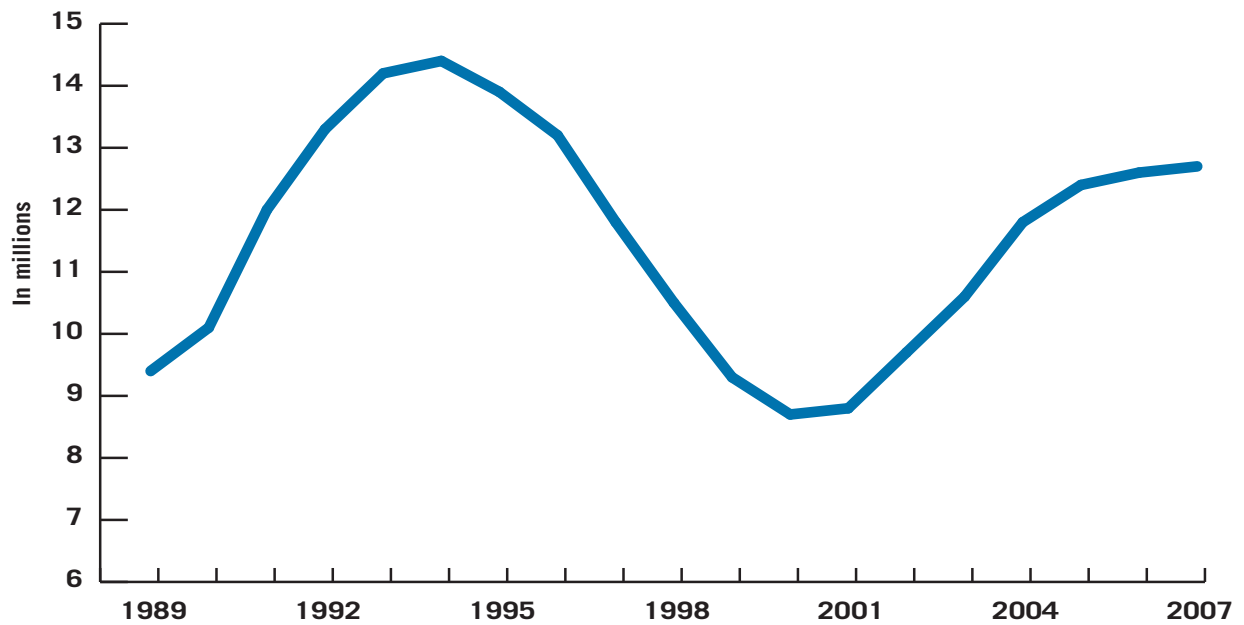
Number of Children Receiving Food Stamps: Selected Years FY 1989–FY 2007

	FY 1989	FY 1994	FY 1999	FY 2004	FY 2007
Alabama	203,627	280,653	216,200	256,164	276,831
Alaska	13,852	24,710	20,743	26,409	25,630
Arizona	142,460	280,587	150,380	297,908	298,550
Arkansas	103,406	134,327	130,021	160,903	176,187
California	1,130,068	2,206,228	1,336,701	1,241,903	1,296,318
Colorado	108,030	142,831	84,579	123,636	127,338
Connecticut	62,617	123,647	86,894	87,480	80,830
Delaware	15,639	28,661	19,432	28,835	33,312
District of Columbia	29,772	52,408	42,400	40,083	34,796
Florida	319,164	748,014	425,329	532,930	546,972
Georgia	247,169	415,623	328,559	421,231	474,327
Hawaii	39,780	56,673	61,446	41,147	36,989
Idaho	29,783	43,834	29,799	45,628	44,148
Illinois	480,701	546,825	397,268	529,423	593,394
Indiana	139,258	254,607	159,095	259,955	279,973
Iowa	80,704	96,003	60,457	83,382	105,476
Kansas	60,856	89,723	56,731	78,205	84,800
Kentucky	190,408	228,424	167,608	235,191	251,041
Louisiana	356,575	403,454	280,474	355,683	307,897
Maine	38,077	59,146	41,572	50,107	61,232
Maryland	127,879	206,048	142,036	129,061	145,358
Massachusetts	153,172	240,069	131,011	178,840	191,733
Michigan	445,279	539,922	343,440	449,409	530,380
Minnesota	120,559	175,763	95,861	114,724	134,878
Mississippi	224,555	252,405	152,968	200,443	207,351
Missouri	192,188	295,224	197,603	291,754	427,138
Montana	26,322	35,654	28,819	37,002	34,452
Nebraska	45,161	62,558	45,471	58,361	59,053
Nevada	19,408	45,887	28,936	59,580	59,270
New Hampshire	9,273	30,016	19,239	24,456	25,313
New Jersey	191,648	290,707	193,346	176,165	192,124
New Mexico	75,537	126,461	92,563	118,897	121,240
New York	722,389	1,094,408	718,290	641,795	711,247
North Carolina	177,509	313,632	258,261	385,631	430,347
North Dakota	18,890	22,968	16,147	18,638	20,513
Ohio	492,247	598,321	305,001	466,333	490,566
Oklahoma	123,659	190,671	131,670	180,314	198,018
Oregon	90,838	134,838	103,126	185,357	183,006
Pennsylvania	441,560	544,571	395,157	447,651	479,009
Rhode Island	29,370	51,496	41,458	39,641	35,963
South Carolina	137,577	205,812	157,901	250,296	257,284
South Dakota	25,213	24,734	22,140	28,656	29,105
Tennessee	230,158	347,335	217,141	344,082	374,945
Texas	846,306	1,406,259	800,811	1,256,104	1,365,363
Utah	52,402	68,105	53,059	67,001	63,880
Vermont	14,362	29,579	18,208	15,969	18,822
Virginia	148,798	275,223	168,992	217,235	235,793
Washington	153,771	231,318	152,780	192,982	219,633
West Virginia	111,043	135,908	96,025	109,115	104,475
Wisconsin	175,538	181,645	96,597	176,275	202,616
Wyoming	14,572	16,868	12,554	14,199	10,681
United States	9,429,127	14,390,783	9,332,299	11,772,169	12,695,597

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished tabulations from Fiscal Year QC database.

Starting in 1989, the number of children receiving Food Stamps rose for several years, then fell for several years, but has been rising since 2000. These numbers are expected to continue to rise with the onset of the recession.

Children Receiving Food Stamps: 1989–2007



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished tabulations.

An average of 8.1 million women, infants and young children participated in the WIC program each month in FY 2007. Preliminary data for August 2008 show more than 8.9 million participants; this number is expected to rise as the recession continues.

Nutrition Assistance for Women, Infants and Children Number of Participants: FY 2007

	Women	Infants	Children	Total
Alabama	31,446	36,287	58,547	126,280
Alaska	6,179	6,176	12,850	25,205
Arizona	47,891	52,670	85,908	186,470
Arkansas	23,959	24,945	35,553	84,457
California	347,362	317,802	713,584	1,378,748
Colorado	23,025	24,758	43,278	91,062
Connecticut	12,189	14,909	26,109	53,206
Delaware	4,581	5,877	9,947	20,405
District of Columbia	4,347	4,777	6,066	15,190
Florida	113,085	115,686	191,747	420,518
Georgia	74,358	78,625	130,124	283,107
Hawaii	8,116	8,147	16,350	32,612
Idaho	9,312	9,624	19,151	38,087
Illinois	71,879	83,547	124,556	279,982
Indiana	36,571	41,809	62,511	140,891
Iowa	17,130	17,024	35,314	69,468
Kansas	16,760	18,189	34,118	69,067
Kentucky	30,955	33,494	65,195	129,644
Louisiana	35,295	37,859	55,900	129,054
Maine	5,846	5,792	13,048	24,686
Maryland	33,588	34,633	55,647	123,868
Massachusetts	30,083	28,638	59,390	118,112
Michigan	54,937	56,087	120,983	232,007
Minnesota	32,959	32,366	69,338	134,662
Mississippi	25,121	34,419	43,129	102,669
Missouri	37,001	38,954	58,687	134,642
Montana	4,470	4,291	10,517	19,279
Nebraska	10,257	10,652	21,177	42,087
Nevada	14,244	15,362	22,737	52,343
New Hampshire	4,330	4,535	8,546	17,411
New Jersey	37,978	40,261	72,263	150,502
New Mexico	15,286	16,846	32,285	64,417
New York	124,945	124,331	233,511	482,787
North Carolina	61,369	65,592	115,128	242,088
North Dakota	3,453	3,502	7,589	14,545
Ohio	68,263	87,737	125,607	281,607
Oklahoma	30,117	31,764	57,878	119,759
Oregon	26,405	24,247	53,102	103,753
Pennsylvania	57,334	64,112	122,710	244,155
Rhode Island	5,681	5,912	12,627	24,220
South Carolina	32,851	35,584	46,303	114,737
South Dakota	5,150	5,808	10,837	21,795
Tennessee	43,110	46,010	70,938	160,058
Texas	225,180	230,327	444,890	900,396
Utah	17,382	14,654	32,182	64,218
Vermont	3,480	3,227	9,602	16,308
Virginia	39,697	38,674	64,900	143,271
Washington	40,389	39,023	85,793	165,206
West Virginia	12,123	12,228	25,237	49,588
Wisconsin	28,762	29,443	58,556	116,761
Wyoming	3,307	3,266	5,768	12,341
United States	2,049,537	2,120,480	3,897,711	8,067,728

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished tabulations. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than half the children participating in the School Lunch Program—more than 17 million children—received free or reduced-price meals in FY 2007. The 8 million children in the School Breakfast Program who received free or reduced-price meals—4 out of 5 participants—are the most needy children. Yet the Summer Food Service Program, an entitlement targeted at these children, served fewer than 2 million children in FY 2007, indicating that needy children are not receiving this important assistance during the summer months.

Child Nutrition Programs

Number of Participants: FY 2007

	School Lunch Program			School Breakfast Program			Summer Food Service Program	Child and Adult Care Food Program ²
	Free	Reduced Price	Total ¹	Free	Reduced Price	Total ¹		
Alabama	295,984	53,993	576,954	145,276	17,010	196,316	26,042	42,215
Alaska	28,426	6,422	52,884	10,238	1,614	14,210	1,188	9,165
Arizona	341,262	68,592	632,772	146,205	21,449	209,822	10,510	45,789
Arkansas	190,365	35,197	347,040	106,815	13,608	146,401	13,882	37,846
California	1,811,949	388,886	2,980,081	774,251	124,024	1,028,693	92,653	310,322
Colorado	160,930	34,300	364,556	60,995	9,025	90,710	9,879	31,852
Connecticut	117,995	25,480	317,013	45,042	4,909	59,931	6,749	16,814
Delaware	35,398	5,994	85,672	17,708	2,162	28,909	8,035	14,170
District of Columbia	30,871	2,640	42,685	14,461	1,187	19,268	47,905	6,180
Florida	815,911	184,296	1,535,281	406,117	60,778	599,278	82,522	144,325
Georgia	638,963	121,937	1,268,942	363,842	49,574	520,993	83,874	131,912
Hawaii	34,563	13,176	101,491	16,291	4,520	34,169	4,854	8,455
Idaho	64,367	22,419	165,320	39,211	7,735	63,571	17,788	9,453
Illinois	614,796	90,584	1,120,303	215,576	17,485	268,257	50,900	114,546
Indiana	271,719	68,822	734,476	122,139	17,226	175,079	33,306	57,419
Iowa	111,140	33,156	392,328	45,984	7,834	80,645	8,253	34,346
Kansas	121,381	38,659	343,178	56,219	11,572	87,942	14,256	46,953
Kentucky	262,143	50,428	548,589	155,385	20,903	228,055	64,018	42,440
Louisiana	330,771	47,955	586,050	177,733	16,952	232,490	28,497	57,459
Maine	43,104	10,275	108,731	20,490	3,161	33,352	5,760	13,301
Maryland	175,224	46,282	439,542	79,672	16,062	136,624	37,994	39,200
Massachusetts	206,347	37,469	560,930	97,728	9,130	129,051	44,362	52,970
Michigan	417,617	80,790	896,883	179,765	18,802	238,850	45,923	73,385
Minnesota	173,621	52,963	607,255	75,584	16,967	132,559	25,489	95,056
Mississippi	264,605	36,981	405,056	153,432	14,179	189,469	20,325	35,683
Missouri	263,778	60,896	639,127	141,263	22,207	217,665	24,855	59,689
Montana	31,456	9,213	83,840	14,665	2,584	23,080	5,787	13,681
Nebraska	75,634	24,783	237,410	31,024	5,842	53,058	5,349	37,305
Nevada	95,789	24,551	193,461	39,168	6,698	59,981	4,274	10,721
New Hampshire	24,713	8,287	113,605	9,886	1,705	21,025	4,474	6,655
New Jersey	271,373	59,569	655,940	106,095	14,018	149,686	39,971	58,416
New Mexico	133,505	23,496	214,380	83,963	12,246	119,130	39,236	49,862
New York	961,531	176,261	1,823,673	379,468	51,210	533,825	421,600	254,285
North Carolina	491,036	91,616	962,367	258,568	32,652	363,546	40,496	119,074
North Dakota	20,862	6,784	78,909	9,684	1,847	19,089	2,202	16,762
Ohio	458,347	94,033	1,099,400	218,774	24,708	312,813	56,978	109,777
Oklahoma	225,485	45,211	419,235	134,479	19,555	192,481	11,509	57,714
Oregon	154,190	32,286	304,422	90,527	13,755	139,473	22,903	33,560
Pennsylvania	422,310	97,761	1,142,313	173,808	22,667	260,172	104,917	105,018
Rhode Island	41,459	7,905	85,020	17,908	2,133	24,876	12,004	10,548
South Carolina	276,347	42,731	496,133	169,889	19,095	234,756	65,262	31,852
South Dakota	34,719	9,972	106,067	16,083	2,464	24,827	3,430	12,730
Tennessee	356,196	61,618	696,175	184,957	23,362	256,669	25,707	55,274
Texas	1,846,547	301,997	3,061,259	1,018,104	119,579	1,363,729	83,966	229,703
Utah	95,107	38,261	312,438	36,957	8,264	60,097	13,957	25,004
Vermont	17,646	5,453	55,358	10,737	2,134	19,746	2,482	9,371
Virginia	263,372	69,249	749,702	132,691	22,238	216,550	45,750	50,737
Washington	234,007	63,176	526,669	104,150	22,642	155,106	39,558	85,862
West Virginia	93,585	22,506	208,204	55,702	10,569	94,269	13,198	16,884
Wisconsin	187,142	52,830	597,202	74,733	12,654	119,301	32,860	63,848
Wyoming	15,650	6,584	53,565	6,810	1,766	12,813	3,056	8,674
United States	14,651,240	2,994,725	30,129,883	7,046,252	966,461	9,992,405	1,910,745	3,004,256

¹ Total includes participants who pay full price.

² 104,031 adults in adult care centers also receive benefits.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished tabulations. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Despite the increase in the minimum wage in July 2008 to \$6.55 per hour, the monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the lowest-cost metro area in each state ranges from 39 percent of the minimum wage (based on full-time employment) in Illinois to over 100 percent in the District of Columbia and Hawaii.

This means minimum-wage earners would have to spend every cent they earned on rent and still not be able to afford an apartment in these jurisdictions.

Fair Market Rent vs. Minimum Wage: 2008

	Monthly Fair Market Rent	Minimum Wage		FMR as percent of minimum wage
		Hourly	Monthly	
Alabama	\$481	\$6.55	\$1,135	42.4%
Alaska	879	7.15	1,239	70.9
Arizona	723	6.90	1,196	60.5
Arkansas	514	6.55	1,135	45.3
California	612	8.00	1,387	44.1
Colorado	608	7.02	1,217	50.0
Connecticut	863	7.65	1,326	65.1
Delaware	743	7.15	1,239	60.0
District of Columbia	1,324	7.55	1,309	101.1
Florida	555	6.79	1,177	47.2
Georgia	518	6.55	1,135	45.6
Hawaii	1,630	7.25	1,257	129.7
Idaho	574	6.55	1,135	50.6
Illinois	528	7.75	1,343	39.3
Indiana	555	6.55	1,135	48.9
Iowa	527	7.25	1,257	41.9
Kansas	525	6.55	1,135	46.3
Kentucky	550	6.55	1,135	48.5
Louisiana	490	6.55	1,135	43.2
Maine	623	7.00	1,213	51.4
Maryland	555	6.55	1,135	48.9
Massachusetts	764	8.00	1,387	55.1
Michigan	578	7.40	1,283	45.1
Minnesota	572	6.55	1,135	50.4
Mississippi	504	6.55	1,135	44.4
Missouri	501	6.65	1,153	43.5
Montana	581	6.55	1,135	51.2
Nebraska	527	6.55	1,135	46.4
Nevada	823	6.85	1,187	69.3
New Hampshire	982	6.55	1,135	86.5
New Jersey	895	7.15	1,239	72.2
New Mexico	527	6.55	1,135	46.4
New York	674	7.15	1,239	54.4
North Carolina	555	6.55	1,135	48.9
North Dakota	532	6.55	1,135	46.9
Ohio	555	7.00	1,213	45.8
Oklahoma	525	6.55	1,135	46.3
Oregon	635	7.95	1,378	46.1
Pennsylvania	546	7.15	1,239	44.1
Rhode Island	965	7.40	1,283	75.2
South Carolina	543	6.55	1,135	47.8
South Dakota	523	6.55	1,135	46.1
Tennessee	501	6.55	1,135	44.1
Texas	550	6.55	1,135	48.5
Utah	613	6.55	1,135	54.0
Vermont	1,013	7.68	1,331	76.1
Virginia	535	6.55	1,135	47.1
Washington	599	8.07	1,399	42.8
West Virginia	515	7.25	1,257	41.0
Wisconsin	555	6.55	1,135	48.9
Wyoming	555	6.55	1,135	48.9

Sources: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2008 Fair Market Rents, at <http://www.huduser.org/datasets/fmr/fmr2008/fy2008_fmrs.xls>; and U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, at <<http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/america.htm>>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.



Children's Defense Fund