



Children's Defense Fund

Poor Children in 2007: A Closer Look at the Numbers

All Children:

- The number of poor children under age 18 was 13.3 million (18.0%) or one child in six.
- The number of extremely poor children under age 18 was 5.8 million (7.8%) or one child in thirteen.
- The number of poor children under age 5 was 4.4 million (21.2%) or two children in ten.
- The number of poor related children in working families was 9.1 million (71.1%) or seven of every ten poor children.

Black Children:

- The number of poor children under age 18 was 3.9 million (34.5%) or one child in three.
- The number of extremely poor children under age 18 was 2.0 million (17.3%) or one child in six.
- The number of poor children under age 5 was 1.3 million (40.7%) or eight children in ten.
- The number of poor related children in working families was 2.5 million (64.5%) or more than 6 in ten children.
- Half of all poor Black children live in extreme poverty.

White, non-Latino Children:

- The number of poor children under age 18 was nearly 4.3 million (10.1%) or one child in ten.
- The number of extremely poor children under age 18 was 1.8 million (4.3%) or one child in twenty-three.
- The number of poor children under age 5 was 1.4 million (12.3%) or one child in ten.
- The number of poor related children in working families was 2.8 million (69.1%) or seven of every ten poor children.

Latino Children (Latino children may be of any race):

- The number of poor children under age 18 was 4.5 million (28.6%) or one child in four.
- The number of extremely poor children under age 18 was 1.7 million (11.0%) or one child in ten.
- The number of poor children under age 5 was 1.6 million (31.6%) or three children in ten.
- The number of poor related children in working families was 3.4 million (78.0%) or eight of every ten poor children.
- More poor children are Latino than any other group.

Notes:

Poor children are defined as those living in families with incomes below \$21,027 for a family of four with two children. Extremely poor children are defined as those living in families with incomes below \$10,514 for a family of four with two children. The status of employment of families can only be calculated for related children; it cannot be calculated for every child under the age of 18 in the family.

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