Children's Defense Fund

Children in Arizona

January 2011

1,732,019 children live in Arizona:
- 48,239 are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 59,339 are two or more races
- 96,390 are Black
- 110,265 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 726,411 are White, non-Hispanic
- 754,363 are Hispanic

In Arizona:
A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 12 hours.
A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 4 days.

Arizona Ranks:*
15th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi
27th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia
49th among states in per pupil expenditures.
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
[*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Arizona

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	398,060(23.4%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	180,736(10.6%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	83,236
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	$347

Child Health in Arizona

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	269,000(14.8%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	105,140**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty ($44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	736,896**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	76.6%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	47.9%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	36.1%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	30.1%

*States may have a different name for CHIP
**The number of enrolled children throughout the year rather than on a given day

Child Hunger in Arizona

Number of children who receive food stamps	341,683
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	61%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	427,650
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	10,339
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	197,586

Early Childhood Development in Arizona

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	59.3%
Number of children served by Head Start	21,269
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	32,700
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	$6,626
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	8.8%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	20.2%

Education in Arizona

Annual expenditure per prisoner	$22,346
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	$6,515
Percent of public school fourth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	75%
unable to do math at grade level	72%
Percent of public school eighth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	73%
unable to do math at grade level	71%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	27,017

Child Welfare in Arizona

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	3,922
Number of children in foster care	10,175
Number of children adopted from foster care	1,653
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	59,231

Youth at Risk in Arizona

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	7.5%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	70.7%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	31.1%
Number of juvenile arrests	50,921
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,485
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.4

Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 82
53 homicides; 17 suicides; 4 accidents; and 8 undetermined

Compiled from the most up-to-date data available as of January 2011. For data sources, please visit www.childrensdefense.org/cits

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