

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Connecticut



January 2011

807,985 children live in Connecticut:
 4,188 are American Indian/Alaska Native
 24,827 are two or more races
 34,208 are Asian/Pacific Islander
 103,817 are Black
 144,500 are Hispanic
 517,308 are White, non-Hispanic

In Connecticut:

A child is abused or neglected every 54 minutes.
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 1 day.
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 26 days.

Connecticut Ranks:*

4th among states in per pupil expenditures.
 Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
 22nd among states in its infant mortality rate.
 Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia
 21st among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
 Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi
 [*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Connecticut

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	96,893 (12.1%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	44,752 (5.6%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	34,645
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$636

Child Health in Connecticut

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	57,000 (6.6%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	21,874**
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	267,551**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	85.2%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	48.4%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	11.4%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	53.5%

*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 Connecticut

Number of children who receive food stamps	84,597
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	69%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	143,911
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	12,545
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	56,328

Early Childhood Development in Connecticut

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	70.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	8,587
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	9,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$9,832
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	18.3%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	24.4%

Education in Connecticut

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$45,007
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$13,072
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	58%
unable to do math at grade level	54%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	57%
unable to do math at grade level	60%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	9,100

Child Welfare in Connecticut

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	9,756
Number of children in foster care	4,761
Number of children adopted from foster care	768
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	19,153

Youth at Risk in Connecticut

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	4.4%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	82.2%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	18.8%
Number of juvenile arrests	18,665
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	426
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.4
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 14 10 homicides; 3 suicides; 0 accidents; and 1 undetermined	

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

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

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