

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Florida



January 2011

4,057,773 children live in Florida:  
 26,291 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
 110,514 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
 121,749 are two or more races  
 877,281 are Black  
 1,070,805 are Hispanic  
 1,964,274 are White, non-Hispanic

### In Florida:

A child is abused or neglected every 11 minutes.  
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 5 hours.  
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 2 days.

### Florida Ranks:\*

28<sup>th</sup> among states in its infant mortality rate.  
 Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia  
 34<sup>th</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
 Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi  
 39<sup>th</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures.  
 Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah  
 [\*1<sup>st</sup> represents the best state for children and 51<sup>st</sup> represents the worst state for children in the country]

### Child Poverty in Florida

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	851,803(21.3%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	367,870(9.2%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	107,719
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$303

### Child Health in Florida

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	786,000(18.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	417,414**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	1,592,742**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	69.8%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	52.7%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	28.3%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	25.3%

\*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 Florida**

Number of children who receive food stamps	640,032
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	57%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	1,051,110
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	120,505
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	464,381

### **Early Childhood Development in Florida**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	67.5%
Number of children served by Head Start	45,858
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	104,800
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,033
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	8.3%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	76.8%

### **Education in Florida**

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$19,375
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$7,812
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	64%
unable to do math at grade level	60%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	68%
unable to do math at grade level	71%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	67,497

### **Child Welfare in Florida**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	49,078
Number of children in foster care	19,156
Number of children adopted from foster care	3,711
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	150,391

### **Youth at Risk in Florida**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	7.1%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	66.9%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	24.0%
Number of juvenile arrests	105,805
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	5,733
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.5
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 176 136 homicides; 31 suicides; 3 accidents; and 6 undetermined	

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

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

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