

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Idaho



January 2011

419,190 children live in Idaho:  
 8,360 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
 5,821 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
 7,615 are Black  
 13,112 are two or more races  
 68,682 are Hispanic  
 321,846 are White, non-Hispanic

### In Idaho:

A child is abused or neglected every 5 hours.  
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 2 days.  
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 26 days.

### Idaho Ranks:\*

8<sup>th</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

25<sup>th</sup> among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

50<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 Idaho

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	75,008 (18.1%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	28,882 (7.0%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	2,412
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$309

### Child Health in Idaho

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	46,000 (10.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	44,319**
CHIP eligibility: 185 percent of federal poverty (\$40,793 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	130,250**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	74.4%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	63.6%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	31.7%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	48.3%

\*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 Idaho**

Number of children who receive food stamps	51,601
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	50%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	89,161
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	20,397
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	41,781

### **Early Childhood Development in Idaho**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	57.2%
Number of children served by Head Start	4,593
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	7,400
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,360
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	7.0%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	14.5%

### **Education in Idaho**

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$22,419
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$6,469
Percent of public school fourth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	68%
unable to do math at grade level	59%
Percent of public school eighth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	67%
unable to do math at grade level	62%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	6,125

### **Child Welfare in Idaho**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	1,634
Number of children in foster care	1,446
Number of children adopted from foster care	353
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	10,679

### **Youth at Risk in Idaho**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	6.2%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	80.1%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	20.2%
Number of juvenile arrests	13,735
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	528
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.5
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 14 0 homicides; 12 suicides; 2 accidents; and 0 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:**

**Children's Defense Fund  
25 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 628-8787  
1 (800) 233-1200  
[www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org)**