

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Iowa



January 2011

713,155 children live in Iowa:

- 5,035 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 14,567 are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 19,325 are two or more races
- 31,058 are Black
- 55,999 are Hispanic
- 592,652 are White, non-Hispanic

In Iowa:

- A child is abused or neglected every 40 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 2 days.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 24 days.

Iowa Ranks:*

8th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

8th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

31st 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 Iowa

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	109,423 (15.7%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	44,221 (6.3%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	55,888
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$426

Child Health in Iowa

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	41,000 (5.4%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	52,608**
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	224,616**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	86.5%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	47.3%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	23.9%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	34.4%

*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 Iowa

Number of children who receive food stamps	111,610
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	74%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	147,839
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	8,982
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	72,555

Early Childhood Development in Iowa

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	75.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	9,347
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	15,100
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,062
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	11.1%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	39.2%

Education in Iowa

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$25,652
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$8,355
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	66%
unable to do math at grade level	59%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	68%
unable to do math at grade level	66%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	8,965

Child Welfare in Iowa

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	13,007
Number of children in foster care	6,564
Number of children adopted from foster care	967
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	14,450

Youth at Risk in Iowa

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	5.1%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	86.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	18,341
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	954
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 15 4 homicides; 10 suicides; 1 accident; 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

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

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