

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Maine



January 2011

271,176 children live in Maine:
 2,238 are American Indian/Alaska Native
 3,944 are Asian/Pacific Islander
 6,650 are Black
 6,657 are Hispanic
 6,826 are two or more races
 245,790 are White, non-Hispanic

In Maine:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 4 days.
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 10 weeks.

Maine Ranks:*

6th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

12th among states in per pupil expenditures.

Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah

15th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

[*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Maine

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	45,190 (17.1%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	19,424 (7.4%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	36,026
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$485

Child Health in Maine

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	15,000 (5.2%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	31,349**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	113,063**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	91.6%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	32.9%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	25.0%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	47.5%

*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 Maine

Number of children who receive food stamps	64,234
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	91%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	54,610
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	6,188
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	25,784

Early Childhood Development in Maine

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	68.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	4,812
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	2,600
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,228
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	13.0%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	36.0%

Education in Maine

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$48,482
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$10,841
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	65%
unable to do math at grade level	55%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	65%
unable to do math at grade level	65%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	2,943

Child Welfare in Maine

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	4,073
Number of children in foster care	1,646
Number of children adopted from foster care	323
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	6,328

Youth at Risk in Maine

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	3.9%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	79.1%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	25.7%
Number of juvenile arrests	6,899
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	204
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	4.5
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 5 1 homicide; 4 suicides; 0 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

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

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