

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Minnesota



January 2011

1,260,797 children live in Minnesota:  
 23,759 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
 44,287 are two or more races  
 66,476 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
 89,815 are Black  
 94,442 are Hispanic  
 959,815 are White, non-Hispanic

### In Minnesota:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.  
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 21 hours.  
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 2 weeks.

### Minnesota Ranks:\*

3<sup>rd</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

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

Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

22<sup>nd</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 Minnesota

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Number of poor children (and percent poor)  | 173,980 (14.1%) |
| Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)                               | 78,116 (6.3%)   |
| Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) | 48,387          |
| Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three  | \$532           |

### Child Health in Minnesota

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)              | 81,000 (6.1%) |
| Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*   | 5,470**       |
| CHIP eligibility: 275 percent of federal poverty (\$60,638 for a family of four) |               |
| Number of children enrolled in Medicaid  | 389,353**     |
| Medicaid and CHIP participation rate   | 80.9%         |
| Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment                               | 48.2%         |
| Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures    | 25.2%         |
| Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized                                     | 42.4%         |

\*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 Minnesota**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Number of children who receive food stamps   | 139,669 |
| Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps  | 66%     |
| Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)                                 | 233,113 |
| Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program  | 30,435  |
| Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) | 141,440 |

### **Early Childhood Development in Minnesota**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force                       | 72.2%   |
| Number of children served by Head Start   | 17,058  |
| Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG                        | 22,400  |
| Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center                         | \$9,700 |
| Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs | 10.6%   |
| Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs | 15.7%   |

### **Education in Minnesota**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Annual expenditure per prisoner   | \$23,756 |
| Annual expenditure per public school pupil                                | \$9,159  |
| Percent of public school fourth graders:<br>unable to read at grade level | 63%      |
| unable to do math at grade level  | 46%      |
| Percent of public school eighth graders:<br>unable to read at grade level | 62%      |
| unable to do math at grade level  | 53%      |
| Number of high school students who drop out of school annually            | 10,959   |

### **Child Welfare in Minnesota**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect | 4,961  |
| Number of children in foster care                       | 5,410  |
| Number of children adopted from foster care             | 660    |
| Number of grandparents raising grandchildren            | 21,744 |

### **Youth at Risk in Minnesota**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates                           | 3.7%   |
| Averaged freshman high school graduation rate   | 86.4%  |
| Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed   | 21.1%  |
| Number of juvenile arrests  | 42,324 |
| Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities   | 1,317  |
| Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil  | 2.6    |
| Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 27<br>11 homicides; 16 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](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)**