

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Nebraska



January 2011

451,641 children live in Nebraska:
 8,066 are American Indian/Alaska Native
 9,840 are Asian/Pacific Islander
 13,418 are two or more races
 28,475 are Black
 63,824 are Hispanic
 335,145 are White, non-Hispanic

In Nebraska:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 2 days.
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 18 days.

Nebraska Ranks:*

26th among states in its infant mortality rate.
 Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia
 15th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
 Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi
 21st 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 Nebraska

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	66,349 (15.2%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	24,414 (5.6%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	21,154
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$364

Child Health in Nebraska

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	43,000 (9.1%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	48,139**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	129,867**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	82.8%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	58.9%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	29.8%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	40.1%

*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 Nebraska

Number of children who receive food stamps	59,931
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	64%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	102,941
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	7,534
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	44,507

Early Childhood Development in Nebraska

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	73.5%
Number of children served by Head Start	6,502
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	13,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,760
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	12.1%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	20.6%

Education in Nebraska

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$19,089
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$9,324
Percent of public school fourth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	65%
unable to do math at grade level	62%
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	5,389

Child Welfare in Nebraska

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	5,448
Number of children in foster care	5,343
Number of children adopted from foster care	588
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	9,365

Youth at Risk in Nebraska

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	5.2%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	83.8%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	9.9%
Number of juvenile arrests	14,591
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	708
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.0
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 20 10 homicides; 8 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

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**