

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Oklahoma



January 2011

918,849 children live in Oklahoma:
 16,304 are Asian/Pacific Islander
 60,020 are two or more races
 90,643 are Black
 91,125 are American Indian/Alaska Native
 120,670 are Hispanic
 559,073 are White, non-Hispanic

In Oklahoma:

A child is abused or neglected every 1 hour.
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 19 hours.
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 8 days.

Oklahoma Ranks:*

25th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

46th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

48th 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 Oklahoma

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	200,623 (22.2%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	86,092 (9.5%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	21,598
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$292

Child Health in Oklahoma

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	111,000 (11.4%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	123,681**
CHIP eligibility: 185 percent of federal poverty (\$40,793 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	413,353**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	81.4%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	57.2%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	32.2%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	29.8%

*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 Oklahoma

Number of children who receive food stamps	193,676
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	69%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	273,665
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	11,686
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	122,840

Early Childhood Development in Oklahoma

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	61.7%
Number of children served by Head Start	19,926
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	22,600
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$4,881
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	14.3%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	86.6%

Education in Oklahoma

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$17,208
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$6,941
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	72%
unable to do math at grade level	67%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	74%
unable to do math at grade level	76%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	17,488

Child Welfare in Oklahoma

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	7,621
Number of children in foster care	8,712
Number of children adopted from foster care	1,564
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	43,215

Youth at Risk in Oklahoma

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	8.3%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	78.0%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	18.9%
Number of juvenile arrests	20,280
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	864
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.5
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 45 24 homicides; 16 suicides; 5 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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