

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Utah



January 2011

868,824 children live in Utah:
 14,277 are American Indian/Alaska Native
 27,191 are two or more races
 24,008 are Asian/Pacific Islander
 16,904 are Black
 141,968 are Hispanic
 656,034 are White, non-Hispanic

In Utah:

A child is abused or neglected every 38 minutes.
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 1 day.
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 24 days.

Utah Ranks:*

4th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

4th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

51st 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 Utah

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	105,000 (12.2%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	42,583 (4.9%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	17,920
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$474

Child Health in Utah

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	101,000 (11.0%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	59,806**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	165,664**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	66.2
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	56.2%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	32.5%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	29.7%

*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 Utah

Number of children who receive food stamps	70,383
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	52%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	137,926
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	17,658
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	66,252

Early Childhood Development in Utah

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	49.6%
Number of children served by Head Start	7,417
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	10,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,580
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	7.0%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	11.9%

Education in Utah

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$39,238
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$ 5,464
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	69%
unable to do math at grade level	59%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	67%
unable to do math at grade level	65%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	8,449

Child Welfare in Utah

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	13,706
Number of children in foster care	2,759
Number of children adopted from foster care	502
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	18,146

Youth at Risk in Utah

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	4.8%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	74.3%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.3%
Number of juvenile arrests	26,491
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	867
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	7.2
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 15 5 homicides; 9 suicides; 1 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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