

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Wyoming



January 2011

132,025 children live in Wyoming:  
 1,416 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
 3,265 are Black  
 4,027 are two or more races  
 5,045 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
 16,514 are Hispanic  
 103,785 are White, non-Hispanic

### In Wyoming:

A child is abused or neglected every 12 hours.  
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 6 days.  
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 61 days.

### Wyoming Ranks:\*

10<sup>th</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures.  
 Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah  
 19<sup>th</sup> among states in its infant mortality rate.  
 Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia  
 36<sup>th</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
 Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi  
 [\*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 Wyoming

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	15,965 (12.6%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	4,238 (3.3%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	583
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$340

### Child Health in Wyoming

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	13,000 (9.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	8,871**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	49,297**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	78.2%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	63.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	29.9%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	38.0%

\*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 Wyoming**

Number of children who receive food stamps	11,320
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	47%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	22,647
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	2,880
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	12,617

### **Early Childhood Development in Wyoming**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	66.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	2,448
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	4,500
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,500
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	16.4%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	26.5%

### **Education in Wyoming**

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$33,448
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$11,437
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	67%
unable to do math at grade level	60%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	66%
unable to do math at grade level	65%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	2,479

### **Child Welfare in Wyoming**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	727
Number of children in foster care	1,155
Number of children adopted from foster care	71
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	4,573

### **Youth at Risk in Wyoming**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	7.8%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	76.0%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.8%
Number of juvenile arrests	6,071
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	249
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.9
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 6 1 homicides; 5 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:**

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