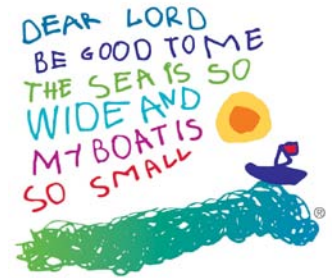


Children's Defense Fund

Children in Alaska

January 2012



185,469 children live in Alaska:

- 98,566 are White, non-Hispanic
- 6,478 are Black
- 14,360 are Hispanic
- 11,350 are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 32,389 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 26,942 are two or more races

In Alaska:

- A child is abused or neglected every 3 hours.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 5 days.

Alaska Ranks:*

- 2nd among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi
- 17th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia
- 4th among states in per pupil expenditures.
The District of Columbia is best; Utah is the worst state

[*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Alaska

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	23,773 (12.9%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	8,330 (4.5%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	10,272
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$923

Child Health in Alaska

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	26,519 (14.0%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	12,473
CHIP eligibility: 175 percent of federal poverty (\$50,435 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	78,034
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	58.4%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	80.1%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	36.3%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	35.0%

Child Hunger in Alaska

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	35,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	70%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	54,441
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	6,564
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	26,296

Early Childhood Development in Alaska

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	58.6%
Number of children served by Head Start	3,889
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	3,300
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,650
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	12.4%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	19.9%

Education in Alaska

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$15,353
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	74.4%
unable to do math at grade level	63.4%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	69.0%
unable to do math at grade level	64.8%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	2,552

Child Welfare in Alaska

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	2,825
Number of children in foster care	1,801
Number of children adopted from foster care	338
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	6,480

Youth at Risk in Alaska

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	6.3%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	72.6%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	19.0%
Number of juvenile arrests	3,665
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	249
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	5.19

**This fact sheet contains the most recent data as of January 26, 2012.
For data sources and methodological notes, please visit: www.childrensdefense.org/cits.**

For more information on the state of America's children contact:

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