

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Arizona

January 2012



1,629,165 children live in Arizona:
684,648 are White, non-Hispanic
75,206 are Black
698,437 are Hispanic
40,567 are Asian/Pacific Islander
92,902 are American Indian/Alaska Native
88,511 are two or more races

In Arizona:

A child is abused or neglected every 1 hour.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 14 hours.

Arizona Ranks:*

14th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi
24th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia
48th 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 Arizona

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	392,229 (24.4%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	187,864 (11.7%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	41,374
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$278

Child Health in Arizona

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	252,860 (15.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	39,589
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$46,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	951,092
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	46.2%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	82.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	31.3%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	30.0%

Child Hunger in Arizona

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	491,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	61%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	661,174
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	23,732
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	199,295

Early Childhood Development in Arizona

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	59.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	22,362
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	32,700
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,350
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	8.2%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	20.2%

Education in Arizona

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$7,929
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	73.9%
unable to do math at grade level	66.4%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	71.8%
unable to do math at grade level	68.5%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	29,607

Child Welfare in Arizona

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	6,023
Number of children in foster care	9,930
Number of children adopted from foster care	2,045
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	61,742

Youth at Risk in Arizona

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	8.0%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	72.5%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	31.5%
Number of juvenile arrests	38,852
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,488
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.13
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in homicides	36
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	21

**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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