

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Connecticut

January 2012



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821,384 children live in Connecticut:
508,383 are White, non-Hispanic
95,260 are Black
155,967 are Hispanic
33,888 are Asian/Pacific Islander
1,858 are American Indian/Alaska Native
44,262 are two or more races

In Connecticut:

A child is abused or neglected every 52 minutes.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 2 days.

Connecticut Ranks:*

20th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi
20th 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 Connecticut

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	103,498 (12.8%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	50,340 (6.2%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	32,415
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$560

Child Health in Connecticut

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	51,158 (6.2%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	21,033
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$69,150 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	282,100
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	47.9%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	90.7%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	14.7%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	29.9%

Child Hunger in Connecticut

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	122,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	66%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	301,259
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	10,834
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	56,083

Early Childhood Development in Connecticut

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	67.2%
Number of children served by Head Start	8,570
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	9,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$10,350
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	18.4%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	26.2%

Education in Connecticut

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$15,353
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	58.0%
unable to do math at grade level	54.6%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	55.3%
unable to do math at grade level	61.9%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	7,569

Child Welfare in Connecticut

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	10,021
Number of children in foster care	4,462
Number of children adopted from foster care	665
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	20,620

Youth at Risk in Connecticut

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	3.8%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	75.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	21.9%
Number of juvenile arrests	15,060
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	303
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.29

**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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