

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Delaware

January 2012



206,001 children live in Delaware:  
110,988 are White, non-Hispanic  
54,999 are Black  
26,080 are Hispanic  
6,749 are Asian  
569 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
9,689 are two or more races

### In Delaware:

A child is abused or neglected every 4 hours.  
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 4 days.

### Delaware Ranks:\*

36th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi  
46th among states in its infant mortality rate.  
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia  
15th among states in per pupil expenditures.  
The District of Columbia is best; Utah is the worst state

[\*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 Delaware

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	36,655 (18.1%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	15,473 (7.6%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	15,526
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$416

### Child Health in Delaware

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	12,108 (5.8%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	12,852
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$46,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	83,857
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	43.9%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	91.7%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	27.0%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	31.9%

### Child Hunger in Delaware

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	55,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	66%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	94,727
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	9,131
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	22,551

### **Early Childhood Development in Delaware**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	73.8%
Number of children served by Head Start	2,566
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	6,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,300
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	10.9%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	18.4%

### **Education in Delaware**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$12,109
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	63.9%
unable to do math at grade level	61.4%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	67.3%
unable to do math at grade level	68.1%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	2,986

### **Child Welfare in Delaware**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	2,125
Number of children in foster care	739
Number of children adopted from foster care	67
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	8,249

### **Youth at Risk in Delaware**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	5.5%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	73.7%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	23.2%
Number of juvenile arrests	5,197
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	256
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	4.02

**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](http://www.childrensdefense.org/cits).**

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

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