

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Florida

January 2012



4,005,470 children live in Florida:

- 1,852,538 are White, non-Hispanic
- 857,169 are Black
- 1,083,356 are Hispanic
- 101,477 are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 13,923 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 170,408 are two or more races

In Florida:

- A child is abused or neglected every 10 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 5 hours.

Florida Ranks:*

- 38th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi
- 32nd among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia
- 39th 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 Florida

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	923,963 (23.5%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	411,134 (10.4%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	98,956
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$303

Child Health in Florida

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	565,716 (14.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	403,349
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$46,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	1,915,980
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	52.1%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	77.0%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	28.7%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	20.1%

Child Hunger in Florida

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	1,090,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	62%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	1,646,690
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	128,857
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	492,075

Early Childhood Development in Florida

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	68.1%
Number of children served by Head Start	46,080
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	104,800
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,350
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	8.5%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	77.8%

Education in Florida

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$8,867
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	64.8%
unable to do math at grade level	62.7%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	70.2%
unable to do math at grade level	72.3%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	57,967

Child Welfare in Florida

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	50,239
Number of children in foster care	18,753
Number of children adopted from foster care	3,385
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	159,275

Youth at Risk in Florida

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	5.8%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	68.9%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	31.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	95,756
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	5,895
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.22
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in homicides	104
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	47

**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:

**Children's Defense Fund
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 628-8787 or (800) 233-1200
www.childrensdefense.org**