

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Iowa

January 2012



725,270 children live in Iowa:

- 595,390 are White, non-Hispanic
- 30,849 are Black
- 59,584 are Hispanic
- 12,792 are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 3,417 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 30,780 are two or more races

In Iowa:

- A child is abused or neglected every 44 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 2 days.

Iowa Ranks:*

- 9th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi
 - 15th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia
 - 27th 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 Iowa

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	115,365 (16.3%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	47,791 (6.7%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	44,448
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$426

Child Health in Iowa

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	53,858 (7.4%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	63,985
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$69,150 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	293,103
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	47.2%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	87.0%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	24.8%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	27.3%

Child Hunger in Iowa

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	141,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	75%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	396,700
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	11,122
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	70,931

Early Childhood Development in Iowa

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	75.6%
Number of children served by Head Start	9,385
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	15,100
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	51.1%

Education in Iowa

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$10,055
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	66.8%
unable to do math at grade level	56.9%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	67.3%
unable to do math at grade level	66.4%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	7,804

Child Welfare in Iowa

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	12,005
Number of children in foster care	6,533
Number of children adopted from foster care	801
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	14,918

Youth at Risk in Iowa

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	4.3%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	85.7%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	16,561
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,060
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.06

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

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

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