

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Maine

January 2012



277,294 children live in Maine:

- 251,038 are White, non-Hispanic
- 6,156 are Black
- 6,497 are Hispanic
- 3,227 are Asian
- 1,642 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 10,197 are two or more races

### In Maine:

- A child is abused or neglected every 3 hours.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 5 days.

### Maine Ranks:\*

3rd among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi

11th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia

14th 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 Maine

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	47,727 (17.8%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	16,921 (6.3%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	26,445
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$485

### Child Health in Maine

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	11,715 (4.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	32,994
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$46,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	142,931
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	32.8%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	91.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	23.6%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	33.0%

### Child Hunger in Maine

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	87,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	94%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	109,302
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	8,651
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	26,261

### **Early Childhood Development in Maine**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	70.0%
Number of children served by Head Start	4,704
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	2,600
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,650
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	12.4%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	42.4%

### **Education in Maine**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$12,183
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	67.6%
unable to do math at grade level	55.0%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	61.5%
unable to do math at grade level	61.2%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	3,418

### **Child Welfare in Maine**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	3,269
Number of children in foster care	1,546
Number of children adopted from foster care	276
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	7,128

### **Youth at Risk in Maine**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	4.8%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	79.9%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	21.7%
Number of juvenile arrests	6,557
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	215
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	4.47

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

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

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