

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Minnesota

January 2012



1,281,200 children live in Minnesota:  
949,156 are White, non-Hispanic  
92,531 are Black  
98,416 are Hispanic  
67,231 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
17,948 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
65,467 are two or more races

### In Minnesota:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.  
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 20 hours.

### Minnesota Ranks:\*

7th 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  
18th 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 Minnesota

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	192,437 (15.2%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	81,353 (6.4%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	49,469
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$532

### Child Health in Minnesota

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	76,579 (5.9%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	5,164
CHIP eligibility: 275 percent of federal poverty (\$63,388 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	482,352
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	47.1%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	80.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	24.8%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	28.4%

### Child Hunger in Minnesota

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	197,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	62%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	630,570
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	74,691
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	131,187

### **Early Childhood Development in Minnesota**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	73.2%
Number of children served by Head Start	17,868
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	22,400
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$9,900
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	10.2%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	15.4%

### **Education in Minnesota**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$11,088
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	64.7%
unable to do math at grade level	47.1%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	60.7%
unable to do math at grade level	52.4%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	10,594

### **Child Welfare in Minnesota**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	4,462
Number of children in foster care	5,050
Number of children adopted from foster care	627
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	23,151

### **Youth at Risk in Minnesota**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	3.6%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	87.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	21.1%
Number of juvenile arrests	34,201
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,332
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.53
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	19

**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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