

Children's Defense Fund

Children in North Dakota

January 2012



148,192 children live in North Dakota:
121,645 are White, non-Hispanic
2,592 are Black
5,045 are Hispanic
1,458 are Asian
12,838 are American Indian/Alaska Native
5,963 are two or more races

In North Dakota:

A child is abused or neglected every 8 hours.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 7 days.

North Dakota Ranks:*

6th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi
16th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia
29th 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 North Dakota

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	24,116 (16.2%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	11,679 (7.9%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	4,579
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$477

Child Health in North Dakota

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	17,531 (11.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	7,192
CHIP eligibility: 160 percent of federal poverty (\$36,880 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	43,568
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	51.2%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	74.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	18.2%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	24.8%

Child Hunger in North Dakota

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	27,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	67%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	83,413
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	2,659
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	14,068

Early Childhood Development in North Dakota

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	72.0%
Number of children served by Head Start	3,926
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	4,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,650
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	16.1%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	23.7%

Education in North Dakota

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$9,802
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	64.2%
unable to do math at grade level	53.6%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	65.9%
unable to do math at grade level	57.4%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	1,495

Child Welfare in North Dakota

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	1,128
Number of children in foster care	1,077
Number of children adopted from foster care	145
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	2,833

Youth at Risk in North Dakota

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	3.8%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	87.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	15.3%
Number of juvenile arrests	5,075
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	85
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	4.12

**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:

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