

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Oklahoma

January 2012



922,098 children live in Oklahoma:  
521,683 are White, non-Hispanic  
76,600 are Black  
127,371 are Hispanic  
16,297 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
82,982 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
121,036 are two or more races

### In Oklahoma:

A child is abused or neglected every 1 hour.  
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 22 hours.

### Oklahoma Ranks:\*

29th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi  
34th among states in its infant mortality rate.  
Best state is New Hampshire; worst is the District of Columbia  
49th 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 Oklahoma

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	226,679 (24.7%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	98,058 (10.7%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	19,835
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$292

### Child Health in Oklahoma

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	119,375 (12.5%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	122,874
CHIP eligibility: 185 percent of federal poverty (\$42,643 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	477,181
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	56.6%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	84.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	32.3%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	38.4%

### Child Hunger in Oklahoma

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	264,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	68%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	452,415
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	10,628
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	126,944

### **Early Childhood Development in Oklahoma**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	62.3%
Number of children served by Head Start	20,852
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	22,600
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,200
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	14.4%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	85.8%

### **Education in Oklahoma**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$7,878
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	73.4%
unable to do math at grade level	66.5%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	73.3%
unable to do math at grade level	72.7%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	15,743

### **Child Welfare in Oklahoma**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	7,207
Number of children in foster care	7,857
Number of children adopted from foster care	1,628
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	44,074

### **Youth at Risk in Oklahoma**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	7.4%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	77.3%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	22.0%
Number of juvenile arrests	16,365
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	923
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.34
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in homicides	25
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	17

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

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

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