

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Pennsylvania

January 2012



2,807,248 children live in Pennsylvania:  
2,006,306 are White, non-Hispanic  
386,693 are Black  
252,390 are Hispanic  
82,966 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
4,373 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
113,142 are two or more races

### In Pennsylvania:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.  
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 8 hours.

### Pennsylvania Ranks:\*

25th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi

36th among states in its infant mortality rate.

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

13th 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 Pennsylvania

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	522,189 (19.1%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	230,286 (8.4%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	192,500
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$403

### Child Health in Pennsylvania

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	229,781 (8.3%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	273,221
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$69,150 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	1,228,017
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	46.9%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	88.4%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	29.2%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	24.9%

### Child Hunger in Pennsylvania

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	647,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	74%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	1,152,824
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	97,206
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	257,911

### **Early Childhood Development in Pennsylvania**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	66.7%
Number of children served by Head Start	41,963
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	93,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,000
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	15.6%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	32.0%

### **Education in Pennsylvania**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$12,299
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	58.6%
unable to do math at grade level	52.1%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	62.0%
unable to do math at grade level	61.1%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	33,415

### **Child Welfare in Pennsylvania**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	3,555
Number of children in foster care	15,346
Number of children adopted from foster care	2,365
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	83,661

### **Youth at Risk in Pennsylvania**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	4.5%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	80.5%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	18.9%
Number of juvenile arrests	81,412
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	5,034
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.82
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in homicides	70
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	25

**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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