

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Utah

January 2012



855,286 children live in Utah:

- 649,997 are White, non-Hispanic
- 11,743 are Black
- 139,009 are Hispanic
- 22,450 are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 9,900 are American Indian/Alaska Native
- 33,404 are two or more races

In Utah:

A child is abused or neglected every 41 minutes.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 1 day.

Utah Ranks:*

13th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is South Dakota; worst state is Mississippi

3rd among states in its infant mortality rate.

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

51st 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 Utah

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	135,565 (15.7%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	55,826 (6.5%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	9,528
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$474

Child Health in Utah

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	99,040 (11.4%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	62,071
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$46,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	237,125
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	56.2%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	76.1%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	32.5%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	33.3%

Child Hunger in Utah

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	131,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	55%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	350,477
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	14,777
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	73,049

Early Childhood Development in Utah

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	50.6%
Number of children served by Head Start	7,877
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	10,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,800
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	6.5%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	12.8%

Education in Utah

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$6,612
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	66.5%
unable to do math at grade level	57.0%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	64.6%
unable to do math at grade level	65.1%
Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	9,712

Child Welfare in Utah

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	12,854
Number of children in foster care	2,886
Number of children adopted from foster care	574
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	18,005

Youth at Risk in Utah

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	5.5%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	79.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	20.5%
Number of juvenile arrests	23,810
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	770
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	5.09
Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides	11

**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.**

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

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