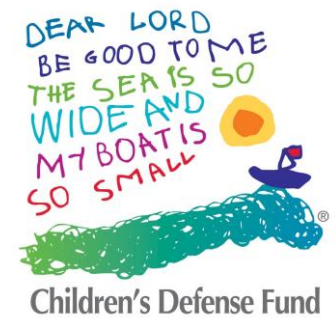


# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Alaska

March 2013



187,865 children live in Alaska:

99,063 are White, non-Hispanic  
6,783 are Black  
14,800 are Hispanic  
11,847 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
31,874 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
28,448 are two or more races

54,543 are under the age of 5  
92,579 are ages 5 to 13  
41,319 are ages 14 to 17  
133,898 are ages 5 to 17

### In Alaska:

A child is abused or neglected every 3 hours.  
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 8 days.

### Alaska Ranks:\*

1st among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

1st among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

5th 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 Alaska

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	26,941 (14.5%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	12,856 (6.9%)
Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	6,921
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$923

### Child Health in Alaska

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	20,493 (10.7%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	12,787
CHIP eligibility: 175 percent of federal poverty (\$41,213 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	79,286
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	57.5%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	82.0%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	35.2%
Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized	32.3%

### Child Hunger in Alaska

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	39,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	73%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	53,920
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	4,661
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	24,969

### **Early Childhood Development in Alaska**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	63.2%
Number of children served by Head Start	4,094
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	4,600
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$8,856
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	13.5%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	21.4%

### **Education in Alaska**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$15,829
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	74.4%
unable to do math at grade level	63.4%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	69.0%
unable to do math at grade level	64.8%
Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	2,542 (6.5%)

### **Child Welfare in Alaska**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	2,898
Number of children in foster care	1,829
Number of children adopted from foster care	294
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	6,047

### **Youth at Risk in Alaska**

Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	75.5%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	20.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	3,453
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	249
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	4.6
Number of children and teens killed by firearms	18

**This fact sheet contains the most recent data as of March 20, 2013. Most of the data are from 2011 and 2010. For more information on data year, sources, and methodological notes, please visit:**

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

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