# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Georgia

March 2013

2,487,874 children live in Georgia:

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| 1,170,855 are White, non-Hispanic | 683,451 are under the age of 5 |
| 853,301 are Black | 1,256,858 are ages 5 to 13 |
| 316,439 are Hispanic | 549,549 are ages 14 to 17 |
| 78,403 are Asian/Pacific Islander | 1,806,407 are ages 5 to 17 |
| 5,986 are American Indian/Alaska Native | |
| 92,341 are two or more races | |

**In Georgia:**
A child is abused or neglected every 28 minutes.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 10 hours.

**Georgia Ranks:***
45th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi
26th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi
33rd 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 Georgia**

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| Number of poor children (and percent poor) | 646,824 (26.3%) |
| Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty) | 285,013 (11.6%) |
| Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) | 33,014 |
| Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three | $280 |

**Child Health in Georgia**

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| Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured) | 277,753 (10.9%) |
| Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) | 248,536 |
| CHIP eligibility: 235 percent of federal poverty ($55,343 for a family of four) | |
| Number of children enrolled in Medicaid | 1,168,338 |
| Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment | 60.8% |
| Medicaid and CHIP participation rate | 84.3% |
| Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures | 32.6% |
| Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized | 20.5% |

**Child Hunger in Georgia**

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|---|---|
| Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps) | 826,000 |
| Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps) | 81% |
| Number of children in the School Lunch Program | 1,287,033 |
| Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program | 84,202 |
| Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) | 303,875 |

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| **Early Childhood Development in Georgia** | |
| Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force | 63.5% |
| Number of children served by Head Start | 28,991 |
| Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG | 70,600 |
| Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center | $6,062 |
| Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs | 10.0% |
| Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs | 67.4% |
| **Education in Georgia** | |
| Annual expenditure per public school pupil | $9,432 |
| Percent of public school fourth graders: | |
| unable to read at grade level | 67.6% |
| unable to do math at grade level | 63.0% |
| Percent of public school eighth graders: | |
| unable to read at grade level | 72.4% |
| unable to do math at grade level | 72.2% |
| Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school | 39,728 (6.8%) |
| **Child Welfare in Georgia** | |
| Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect | 18,541 |
| Number of children in foster care | 7,591 |
| Number of children adopted from foster care | 1,071 |
| Number of grandparents raising grandchildren | 117,354 |
| **Youth at Risk in Georgia** | |
| Averaged freshman high school graduation rate | 69.9% |
| Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed | 29.0% |
| Number of juvenile arrests | 38,046 |
| Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities | 2,692 |
| Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil | 2.0 |
| Number of children and teens killed by firearms | 112 |

**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.**

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