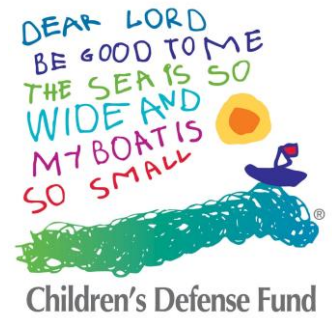


# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Mississippi

March 2013



755,180 children live in Mississippi:

373,095 are White, non-Hispanic  
330,672 are Black  
26,499 are Hispanic  
6,097 are Asian  
4,084 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
17,963 are two or more races

209,250 are under the age of 5  
373,443 are ages 5 to 13  
167,546 are ages 14 to 17  
540,989 are ages 5 to 17

### In Mississippi:

A child is abused or neglected every 1 hour.

A child dies before his or her first birthday every 23 hours.

### Mississippi Ranks:\*

51st among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

51st among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

47th 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 Mississippi

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	235,727 (31.8%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	112,589 (15.2%)
Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	18,215
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$170

### Child Health in Mississippi

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	68,903 (9.0%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	91,470
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$47,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	468,183
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	54.9%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	88.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	30.4%
Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized	28.8%

### Child Hunger in Mississippi

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	284,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	72%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	398,654
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	28,027
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	94,773

### **Early Childhood Development in Mississippi**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	68.8%
Number of children served by Head Start	30,130
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	33,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$3,911
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	25.7%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	39.8%

### **Education in Mississippi**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$8,104
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	78.2%
unable to do math at grade level	74.9%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	79.0%
unable to do math at grade level	80.7%
Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	11,251 (6.0%)

### **Child Welfare in Mississippi**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	6,712
Number of children in foster care	3,597
Number of children adopted from foster care	358
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	44,903

### **Youth at Risk in Mississippi**

Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	63.8%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	23.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	7,915
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	413
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	1.9
Number of children and teens killed by firearms	46

**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).**

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

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