Children's Defense Fund

Children in Nebraska

March 2013



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457,700 children live in Nebraska:

332,667 are White, non-Hispanic 26,465 are Black 68,660 are Hispanic 8,843 are Asian/Pacific Islander 6,831 are American Indian/Alaska Native 20,697 are two or more races 131,472 are under the age of 5 229,510 are ages 5 to 13 99,083 are ages 14 to 17 328,593 are ages 5 to 17

In Nebraska:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours. A child dies before his or her first birthday every 3 days.

Nebraska Ranks:*

8th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

14th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

18th 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 Nebraska

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	81,943 (18.1%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	37,940 (8.4%)
Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary	
Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	12,351
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$364

Child Health in Nebraska

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	37,569 (8.2%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	52,852
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$47,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	166,277
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	58.5%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	88.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	27.7%
Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized	17.5%

Child Hunger in Nebraska

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	82,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	75%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	251,186
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	9,836
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program	
for Women, Infants, and Children)	42,727

Early Childhood Development in Nebraska	
Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	73.6%
Number of children served by Head Start	6,983
Average monthly number of children served by the	
Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	12,800
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,386
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special	
education programs	16.9%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special	
education programs	36.7%
Education in Nebraska	
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$11,460
Percent of public school fourth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	63.7%
unable to do math at grade level	60.6%
Percent of public school eighth graders:	
unable to read at grade level	65.2%
unable to do math at grade level	67.2%
Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school	
and have not graduated from high school	3,251 (3.1%)
Child Welfare in Nebraska	
Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	4,307
Number of children in foster care	5,117
Number of children adopted from foster care	413
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	11,868
Youth at Risk in Nebraska	
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	83.8%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	12.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	12,640
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	773
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms	10

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.

For more information on the state of America's children contact:
Children's Defense Fund
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 628-8787 or (800) 233-1200
www.childrensdefense.org