

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Texas

March 2013



6,875,255 children live in Texas:

2,323,123 are White, non-Hispanic
841,872 are Black
3,327,775 are Hispanic
244,456 are Asian/Pacific Islander
38,924 are American Indian/Alaska Native
262,972 are two or more races

1,959,608 are under the age of 5
3,498,153 are ages 5 to 13
1,502,977 are ages 14 to 17
5,001,130 are ages 5 to 17

In Texas:

A child is abused or neglected every 8 minutes.

A child dies before his or her first birthday every 4 hours.

Texas Ranks:*

33rd among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

23rd among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

43rd 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 Texas

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	1,829,214 (26.6%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	762,622 (11.1%)
Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	95,371
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$260

Child Health in Texas

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	1,072,815 (15.4%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	972,715
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$47,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	3,471,310
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	66.5%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	79.7%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	44.6%
Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized	25.4%

Child Hunger in Texas

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	2,188,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	65%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	3,374,182
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	177,353
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	969,893

Early Childhood Development in Texas

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	58.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	93,132
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	140,700
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,414
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	15.5%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	62.5%

Education in Texas

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$8,788
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	71.7%
unable to do math at grade level	61.0%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	73.5%
unable to do math at grade level	60.0%
Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	88,226 (5.9%)

Child Welfare in Texas

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	63,474
Number of children in foster care	30,109
Number of children adopted from foster care	4,718
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	328,712

Youth at Risk in Texas

Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	78.9%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	25.6%
Number of juvenile arrests	121,237
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	5,831
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.3
Number of children and teens killed by firearms	202

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:

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