

# Children's Defense Fund

## Children in Wisconsin

March 2013



1,333,769 children live in Wisconsin:

981,235 are White, non-Hispanic  
118,105 are Black  
135,578 are Hispanic  
40,571 are Asian/Pacific Islander  
14,386 are American Indian/Alaska Native  
61,246 are two or more races

354,582 are under the age of 5  
665,955 are ages 5 to 13  
305,671 are ages 14 to 17  
971,626 are ages 5 to 17

### In Wisconsin:

A child is abused or neglected every 2 hours.

A child dies before his or her first birthday every 22 hours.

### Wisconsin Ranks:\*

16th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

19th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

19th 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 Wisconsin

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	236,730 (18.2%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	102,810 (7.9%)
Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	47,592
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$673

### Child Health in Wisconsin

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	77,162 (5.8%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	172,451
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$70,650 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	537,093
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	n/a
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	87.0%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	n/a
Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized	20.8%

### Child Hunger in Wisconsin

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	131,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	84%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	587,416
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	87,629
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	118,585

### **Early Childhood Development in Wisconsin**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	73.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	19,572
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	20,100
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$9,588
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	13.7%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	65.5%

### **Education in Wisconsin**

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$11,453
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	66.4%
unable to do math at grade level	53.2%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	65.1%
unable to do math at grade level	59.0%
Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	13,359 (4.1%)

### **Child Welfare in Wisconsin**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	4,750
Number of children in foster care	6,547
Number of children adopted from foster care	717
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	26,329

### **Youth at Risk in Wisconsin**

Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	91.1%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	20.3%
Number of juvenile arrests	64,921
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,395
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.3
Number of children and teens killed by firearms	43

**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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