

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Kansas



November 2008

696,082 children live in Kansas:

- 6,454 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 15,245 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 21,840 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 49,632 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 92,752 are Hispanic
- 510,159 are White, non-Hispanic

In Kansas:

- A child is born into poverty every 1 hour.
- A child is abused or neglected every 3 hours.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 1 day.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 2 weeks.

Kansas Ranks:*

- 17th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- 29th among states in per pupil expenditures.
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
- 33rd among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is Utah; worst is the District of Columbia

[*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Kansas

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	99,590 (14.6%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	42,816 (6.3%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	31,002
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$429

Child Health in Kansas

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	53,000 (7.2%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	49,536
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	208,940
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	59.3%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	26.6%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	24.0%

Child Hunger in Kansas

Number of children who receive food stamps	84,800
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	61%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	343,178
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	14,256
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	69,067

Early Childhood Development in Kansas

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	67.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	8,178
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	22,400
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,292
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	33.8%

Education in Kansas

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$7,926
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	64%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	49%

Child Welfare in Kansas

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	2,630
Number of children in foster care	6,237
Number of children adopted from foster care	524
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	18,748

Youth at Risk in Kansas

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	4.4%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	78.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	15.7%
Number of juvenile arrests	10,036
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,053
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.3:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 11 homicides; 4 suicides; 3 accidents; and 0 undetermined	18

Compiled from the most up-to-date data available as of November 2008.

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

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