

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Maryland



November 2008

1,358,797 children live in Maryland:

- 3,348 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 38,222 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 62,501 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 115,560 are Hispanic
- 439,703 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 699,463 are White, non-Hispanic

In Maryland:

- A child is born into poverty every 1 hour.
- A child is abused or neglected every *no data*.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 16 hours.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 5 days.

Maryland Ranks:*

- 39th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- 13th among states in per pupil expenditures.
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
- 31st 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 Maryland

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	140,058 (10.5%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	67,101 (5.0%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	42,550
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$482

Child Health in Maryland

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	140,000 (9.7%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	132,887
CHIP eligibility: 300 percent of federal poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	361,489
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	48.5%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	22.5%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	8.7%

Child Hunger in Maryland

Number of children who receive food stamps	145,358
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	55%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	439,542
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	37,994
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	123,868

Early Childhood Development in Maryland

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	67.9%
Number of children served by Head Start	10,347
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	22,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$7,380
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	11.0%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	46.4%

Education in Maryland

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$10,031
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	64%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	60%

Child Welfare in Maryland

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	No data
Number of children in foster care	10,681
Number of children adopted from foster care	364
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	42,717

Youth at Risk in Maryland

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	6.6%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	79.9%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	15.5%
Number of juvenile arrests	49,359
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,104
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.6:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 64 homicides; 10 suicides; 0 accidents; and 1 undetermined	75

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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