

# Children's Defense Fund

## *Children in Michigan*



November 2008

2,446,856 children live in Michigan:

- 13,723 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 60,993 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 67,407 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 144,717 are Hispanic
- 424,697 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 1,735,319 are White, non-Hispanic

### **In Michigan:**

- A child is born into poverty every 18 minutes.
- A child is abused or neglected every 19 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 9 hours.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 4 days.

### **Michigan Ranks:\***

- 16<sup>th</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures.  
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
- 27<sup>th</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- 38<sup>th</sup> among states in its infant mortality rate.  
Best state is Utah; worst is the District of Columbia

[\*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 Michigan**

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Number of poor children (and percent poor)  | 468,400 (19.4%) |
| Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)                               | 229,186 (9.5%)  |
| Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) | 173,760         |
| Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three  | \$459           |

### **Child Health in Michigan**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)              | 148,000 (5.7%) |
| Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)    | 114,025        |
| CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four) |                |
| Number of children enrolled in Medicaid  | 987,238        |
| Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment                               | 56.4%          |
| Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures    | 23.7%          |
| Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized                                     | 21.2%          |

### **Child Hunger in Michigan**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Number of children who receive food stamps   | 530,380 |
| Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps  | 75%     |
| Number of children in the School Lunch Program   | 896,883 |
| Number of Children in the Summer Food Service Program  | 45,923  |
| Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) | 232,007 |

### **Early Childhood Development in Michigan**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force                       | 64.9%   |
| Number of children served by Head Start   | 35,067  |
| Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG                        | 87,800  |
| Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center                         | \$7,025 |
| Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs | 14.8%   |
| Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs | 38.2%   |

### **Education in Michigan**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Amount spent per pupil in the public schools                      | \$9,340 |
| Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level | 68%     |
| Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math | 63%     |

### **Child Welfare in Michigan**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect | 27,148 |
| Number of children in foster care                       | 20,142 |
| Number of children adopted from foster care             | 2,591  |
| Number of grandparents raising grandchildren            | 69,008 |

### **Youth at Risk in Michigan**

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates                            | 5.4%   |
| Averaged freshman high school graduation rate  | 73.6%  |
| Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed  | 19.6%  |
| Number of juvenile arrests   | 44,002 |
| Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities  | 2,760  |
| Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil   | 3.2:1  |
| Number of children and teens killed by firearms:<br>65 homicides; 23 suicides; 2 accidents; and 2 undetermined | 92     |

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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