

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:*

- 16th among states in per pupil expenditures.
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
- 27th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- 38th 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 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: 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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