

Children's Defense Fund

Children in New York



November 2008

4,413,414 children live in New York:

- 15,159 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 89,350 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 284,736 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 776,415 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 903,665 are Hispanic
- 2,344,089 are White, non-Hispanic

In New York:

- A child is born into poverty every 10 minutes.
- A child is abused or neglected every 7 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 6 hours.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 3 days.

New York Ranks:*

- 2nd among states in per pupil expenditures.
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
 - 11th among states in its infant mortality rate.
Best state is Utah; worst is the District of Columbia
 - 27th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- [*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in New York

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	844,424 (19.4%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	398,964 (9.2%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	257,416
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$691

Child Health in New York

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	410,000 (8.7%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	651,853
CHIP eligibility: 250 percent of federal poverty (\$55,125 for a family of four); state-funded expansion to 400 percent of federal poverty (\$88,200 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	1,940,887
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	38.9%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	14.5%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	22.2%

Child Hunger in New York

Number of children who receive food stamps	711,247
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	61%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	1,823,673
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	421,600
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	482,787

Early Childhood Development in New York

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	58.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	48,818
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	123,700
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$10,473
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	16.1%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	54.7%

Education in New York

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$13,703
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	64%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	57%

Child Welfare in New York

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	80,077
Number of children in foster care	29,973
Number of children adopted from foster care	2,810
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	132,010

Youth at Risk in New York

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	5.5%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	67.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	17.6%
Number of juvenile arrests	48,209
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	4,197
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.3:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 66 homicides; 20 suicides; 6 accidents; and 1 undetermined	93

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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