

# Children's Defense Fund

## *Children in Ohio*



November 2008

2,751,874 children live in Ohio:

- 5,097 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 43,167 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 69,239 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 101,127 are Hispanic
- 405,194 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 2,128,050 are White, non-Hispanic

### **In Ohio:**

- A child is born into poverty every 16 minutes.
- A child is abused or neglected every 13 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 7 hours.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 4 days.

### **Ohio Ranks:\***

- 17<sup>th</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures.  
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
- 36<sup>th</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.  
Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi
- 43<sup>rd</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 Ohio**

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	500,745 (18.5%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	244,966 (9.1%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	173,264
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$373

### **Child Health in Ohio**

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	224,000 (7.7%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	231,538
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	968,681
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	49.8%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	16.6%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	22.3%

### **Child Hunger in Ohio**

Number of children who receive food stamps	490,566
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	68%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	1,099,400
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	56,978
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	281,607

### **Early Childhood Development in Ohio**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	66.5%
Number of children served by Head Start	37,940
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	39,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,385
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	14.9%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	21.3%

### **Education in Ohio**

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$9,330
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	64%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	54%

### **Child Welfare in Ohio**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	41,449
Number of children in foster care	16,631
Number of children adopted from foster care	1,803
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	90,447

### **Youth at Risk in Ohio**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	5.1%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	79.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	38,509
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	4,149
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.1:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 78 homicides; 28 suicides; 12 accidents; and 0 undetermined	118

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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