

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Oregon



November 2008

862,908 children live in Oregon:

- 11,387 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 20,138 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 34,342 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 35,927 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 152,214 are Hispanic
- 608,900 are White, non-Hispanic

In Oregon:

- A child is born into poverty every 58 minutes.
- A child is abused or neglected every 41 minutes.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 1 day.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 2 weeks.

Oregon Ranks:*

- 1st 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 its infant mortality rate.
Best state is Utah; worst is the District of Columbia
 - 26th among states in per pupil expenditures.
Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
- [*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Oregon

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	143,391 (16.9%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	60,920 (7.2%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	44,406
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$460

Child Health in Oregon

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	110,000 (12.1%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	63,090
CHIP eligibility: 185 percent of federal poverty (\$40,793 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	276,581
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	50.3%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	24.9%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	29.5%

Child Hunger in Oregon

Number of children who receive food stamps	183,006
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	86%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	304,422
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	22,903
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	103,753

Early Childhood Development in Oregon

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	61.7%
Number of children served by Head Start	8,814
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	20,200
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,480
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	14.3%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	24.1%

Education in Oregon

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$8,071
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	72%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	65%

Child Welfare in Oregon

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	12,927
Number of children in foster care	10,661
Number of children adopted from foster care	1,095
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	24,060

Youth at Risk in Oregon

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	7.1%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	73.4%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	16.4%
Number of juvenile arrests	24,723
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,254
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	3.4:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 2 homicides; 12 suicides; 3 accidents; and 0 undetermined	17

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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