

# Children's Defense Fund

## *Children in South Dakota*



November 2008

196,890 children live in South Dakota:

- 1,807 are Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 3,240 are Black, non-Hispanic
- 5,495 are two or more races, non-Hispanic
- 7,501 are Hispanic
- 25,861 are American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic
- 152,986 are White, non-Hispanic

### **In South Dakota:**

- A child is born into poverty every 3 hours.
- A child is abused or neglected every 6 hours.
- A child dies before his or her first birthday every 4 days.
- A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 6 weeks.

### **South Dakota Ranks:\***

7th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best states are Alaska, Oregon, and Washington; worst state is Mississippi

30th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Utah; worst is the District of Columbia

39th among states in per pupil expenditures.

Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah

[\*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 South Dakota**

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	32,511 (16.8%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	16,166 (8.4%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	5,673
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$501

### **Child Health in South Dakota**

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	18,000 (8.8%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	14,982
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	68,379
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	59.1%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	28.8%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	23.1%

### **Child Hunger in South Dakota**

Number of children who receive food stamps	29,105
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	57%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	106,067
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	3,430
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	21,795

### **Early Childhood Development in South Dakota**

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	76.4%
Number of children served by Head Start	2,827
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	4,900
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$6,240
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	19.8%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	29.3%

### **Education in South Dakota**

Amount spent per pupil in the public schools	\$7,464
Percent of public school fourth graders reading below grade level	66%
Percent of public school fourth graders below grade level in math	59%

### **Child Welfare in South Dakota**

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	1,529
Number of children in foster care	1,648
Number of children adopted from foster care	150
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	5,858

### **Youth at Risk in South Dakota**

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates	6.0%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	84.5%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	8.1%
Number of juvenile arrests	2,214
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	597
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	1.9:1
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 2 homicides; 7 suicides; 2 accidents; and 0 undetermined	11

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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