Children in the United States
January 2012

74,132,578 children live in the United States:
  40,094,251 are White, non-Hispanic
  10,800,765 are Black
  16,794,272 are Hispanic
  3,348,314 are Asian/Pacific Islander
  736,141 are American Indian/Alaska Native
  3,764,244 are two or more races

In the United States:
A child is abused or neglected every 47 seconds.
A child dies before his or her first birthday every 19 minutes.

Child Poverty in the United States
Number of poor children (and percent poor) 15,749,129 (21.6%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty) 7,023,152 (9.6%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) 4,463,752

Child Health in the United States
Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured) 7,270,078 (9.8%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) 7,705,723
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid 34,441,217
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment 49.3%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate 84.8%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures 26.0%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized 29.8%

Child Hunger in the United States
Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps) 18,516,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps) 66%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program 31,398,104
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program 2,279,820
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) 8,905,676

Early Childhood Development in the United States
Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force 66.0%
Number of children served by Head Start 1,117,729
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG 1,619,100
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center 7,377
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs 14.2%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs 40.3%
### Education in the United States

- **Annual expenditure per public school pupil**: $10,591
- **Percent of public school fourth graders:**
  - unable to read at grade level: 67.6%
  - unable to do math at grade level: 60.3%
- **Percent of public school eighth graders:**
  - unable to read at grade level: 68.4%
  - unable to do math at grade level: 66.5%
- **Number of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school**: 1,000,363

### Child Welfare in the United States

- **Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect**: 677,221
- **Number of children in foster care**: 403,949
- **Number of children adopted from foster care**: 52,775
- **Number of grandparents raising grandchildren**: 2,641,514

### Youth at Risk in the United States

- **Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school and not high school graduates**: 5.6%
- **Averaged freshman high school graduation rate**: 75.5%
- **Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed**: 25.9%
- **Number of juvenile arrests**: 1,379,039
- **Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities**: 81,015
- **Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil**: 2.35
- **Number of children and teens killed by firearms in homicides**: 1,855
- **Number of children and teens killed by firearms in suicides**: 800

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This fact sheet contains the most recent data as of January 26, 2012. For data sources and methodological notes, please visit: [www.childrensdefense.org/cits](http://www.childrensdefense.org/cits).

For more information on the state of America's children contact:

**Children’s Defense Fund**

25 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 628-8787 or (800) 233-1200

[www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org)