The Annie E. Casey Foundation

2010 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

State Profiles of Child Well-Being

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Acknowledgments

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Finally, we would like to thank the state KIDS COUNT projects (listed on page 51), for making the *Data Book* available to national, state, and local leaders across the country.

The 2010 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* can be viewed, downloaded, or ordered on the Internet at www.kidscount.org.

Outreach Partners

The Annie E. Casey Foundation wishes to thank our Outreach Partners for their support and assistance in promoting and disseminating the 2010 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*. With the help of our partners, data on the status and well-being of kids and families are shared with policymakers, advocates, practitioners, and citizens to help enrich local, state, and national discussions on ways to improve outcomes for America's most vulnerable children.

To learn more about the Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2010 KIDS COUNT Outreach Partners, please visit www.kidscount.org for a complete list of organizations.

8.2%

Percent of U.S. babies born low birthweight, or less than 5.5 pounds

Foreword

For 21 years, the Annie E. Casey Foundation has published an annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, compiling the best data available on children and families in our nation and ranking every state on the well-being of its kids. We believe that it has never been more important to have reliable and meaningful data to ensure that our nation's programs and policies are doing all they can to help struggling families.

The nation remains in an economic crisis. While many indicators suggest that we are emerging from the recent economic downturn, most experts predict a slow recovery, with high levels of unemployment persisting for several years. Many low-income families will suffer deep social and economic consequences, and they are at high risk of being pushed even further off the path to opportunity and stability.

States are facing huge budget shortfalls, leading to deep cuts in education, child care, health care, job training, summer employment, and after-school programs. Although the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allowed states to hold off from making even more drastic cuts in services and benefits for kids and families, the full impact of the state fiscal crisis is just now being felt. The bottom line is that the situation will likely worsen before it improves.

In the face of economic crisis, federal and state officials all too often make important decisions without the benefit of reliable, comprehensive data and without basic information about the likely impact of their policy and budgetary decisions.

The reality is we have only a tiny fraction of the data we need to ensure that these tough decisions are smart decisions. From the data that are available to us, we can draw some initial conclusions about child well-being during the recession:

» According to the American Community Survey, the rate of children living in poverty in 2008 was 18 percent. This means that 1 million more children were living in poverty in that year than at the start of the decade. Experts project that the child poverty rate will climb above 20 percent when the U.S. Census Bureau releases more up-to-date data later this year.

» According to the Economic Policy Institute, as the unemployment rate increased from 4.6 percent in 2007 to 9.3 percent in 2009, the share of children with an unemployed parent increased from 5.0 percent to 10.4 percent. Consequently, in 2009, 7.3 million children lived in households with an unemployed parent.

» Estimates are that 16.7 million children lived in households that were food insecure at some point during the year in 2008, one-third more than in 2007.

What is most striking about this relatively superficial snapshot is what is not included. As you will see in this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, all of the national data available to us is from either 2007 or 2008—*before* the recession had taken hold for most families. Because the most recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey and Current Population Survey reflect information from 2008, we will have to wait until the Census Bureau releases data later this year to begin to fully capture the impact of the recession on child well-being.

In truth, none of us has a good grasp on the conditions facing America's children because state and federal agencies collect data too infrequently and often do not measure what really matters for kids. For example, some data on child well-being in the states depend entirely on administrative sources, such as Medicaid or public school records. As a result, we lack good

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information on children who are not in those systems, including school dropouts and the uninsured—the very children who are often the most at risk.

It doesn't have to be this way. There are simple and relatively inexpensive steps our federal government can take to improve the collection of data on our nation's children. These include the following:

» **Expand the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).** This excellent, but limited, survey was last conducted in 2007 and is not scheduled again until 2011. During the intervening years, we have been unable to fully gauge the effects of the severe economic downturn on our nation's children. Economic cycles create rapid changes in child well-being. But there is no way to adequately measure this in a survey conducted every four years. The Casey Foundation supports the expansion and enhancement of the NSCH, allowing data to be collected on a continuous or annual basis and to cover a broader range of child well-being indicators. Increasing the frequency, as well as the scope, of data collected would provide a more detailed picture of how children are doing nationally and in each state. It would also provide a better tool to assess how well current programs are helping families and how best to target available funds.

» **Adopt a Supplemental Poverty Measure.** The lack of a modern poverty measure has created a serious gap in our knowledge about how children are faring. The current poverty measure is based on spending patterns typical of the 1950s, when food accounted for one-third of the average family's expenses—compared with one-seventh today. It has not been revised since the early 1960s, when non-cash benefits like food stamps and housing subsidies did not exist and expenses like child care and out-of-pocket medical costs were far lower. The Census Bureau has begun taking positive steps to update the calculation, announcing that it will release a supplemental poverty measure in the fall of 2011, alongside the current official measure. The supplemental measure will include an assessment of both family income and expenses, providing more accurate data to guide policy decisions.

» **Increase the Sample Size of the American Community Survey (ACS).** The annual American Community Survey is the primary source of community-level data in this country and provides timely social and economic data at the local level. The value of the ACS, however, could be vastly enhanced if the sample size were increased to provide more precise data for urban neighborhoods and sparsely populated rural communities. That's why we support proposals to increase the ACS sample size.

» **Address Problems in the National Vital Statistics System.** Of the 10 measures used in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* to rank states, five come from vital statistics data on birth and death rates. These include such essential measures as teen birth rates, percent of babies born low birthweight, and infant mortality rates. However, years of underinvestment at the National Center for Health Statistics and difficulty implementing recent changes to birth and death certificate forms have led to significant gaps and delays in compiling these data. To rectify these problems, Congress should make a one-time appropriation of $30 million to help states transition to the new forms and modernize the National Vital Statistics System, and then should provide additional annual funds to support this key data stream.

Our *KIDS COUNT Data Book* has made significant strides in tracking results and compiling data on children and families during the past two decades. In addition to tracking 10 well-recognized indicators of child and family well-being, we have built an extensive online KIDS COUNT Data Center, which includes hundreds of additional indicators of well-being at the national, state, and community levels. But we can only go so far without improvements to our national and state data collection systems. At the Casey Foundation, we believe that calculating child well-being should be a national priority, as widely discussed and distributed as the monthly data on unemployment or housing starts. Only then will we have a true picture of how well our children—and our country as a whole—are doing.

Patrick T. McCarthy
President and CEO
The Annie E. Casey Foundation

6%

Percent of U.S. teens ages 16 to 19 not in school and not high school graduates

Summary and Findings

Our future success as a nation depends on the degree to which we ensure that all of our children have the opportunity to thrive. The broad array of data we present each year in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* is intended to illuminate the status of America's children and to assess trends in their well-being. By updating the assessment every year, KIDS COUNT provides ongoing benchmarks that can be used to see how states have advanced or regressed over time. Readers can also use KIDS COUNT to compare the status of children in their state with those in other states across several dimensions of child well-being.

Find more information at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

This year's *Data Book* is also accompanied by the KIDS COUNT Data Center, available at datacenter.kidscount.org. It provides easy online access to hundreds of additional indicators on children and youth for the United States as a whole, as well as for individual states, cities, counties, and school districts across the country.

Although the 10 measures used in KIDS COUNT to rank states can hardly capture the full range of conditions shaping children's lives, we believe these indicators possess three important attributes: (1) They reflect a wide range of factors affecting the well-being of children, such as health, adequacy of income, and educational attainment. (2) They reflect experiences across a range of developmental stages—from birth through early adulthood. (3) They permit legitimate comparisons because they are consistent across states and over time. Research shows that the 10 KIDS COUNT key indicators capture most of the yearly variation in child well-being reflected in other indices that utilize a much larger number of indicators. For more information about the criteria used to select KIDS COUNT indicators, see page 49.

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The 10 indicators used to rank states reflect a developmental perspective on childhood and underscore our goal to build a world where pregnant women and newborns thrive; infants and young children receive the support they need to enter school prepared to learn; children succeed in school; adolescents choose healthy behaviors; and young people experience a successful transition into adulthood. In all of these stages of development, young people need the economic and social assistance provided by a strong family and a supportive community.

As the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* has developed over time, some of the indicators used to rank states have changed because we replaced weaker measures with stronger ones. Consequently, comparing rankings in the 2010 *Data Book* to rankings in past *Data Books* does not always provide a perfect assessment of change over time. However, the Appendix (see page 43) shows how states would have ranked in past years if we had employed the same 10 measures used in the 2010 *Data Book*. The table in the Appendix is the best way to assess state changes over time in overall child well-being.

National Trends in Child Well-Being

The data on the following pages present a rich but complex picture of American children. However, after showing improvement in the late 1990s, overall, child well-being has stagnated since 2000. The overriding picture that these 10 indicators present is one of little change since 2000 (see Table 1). At the national level, 5 of the 10 indicators of child well-being showed that conditions improved since 2000, while child well-being worsened on 3 indicators. The survey tool for 2 indicators, the percent of teens not in school and not working and the percent of children in families where no parent works full-time year-round, was significantly changed in 2008. Therefore, data cannot be compared to previous years.

The portrait of change in child well-being since 2000 stands in stark contrast to the period just prior to 2000. Between 1996 and 2000, 8 of the 10 key indicators

TABLE 1 10 Key Indicators of Child Well-Being, National Average: 2000 and 2007/2008

Key Indicators		2000	2007/2008	PERCENT CHANGE
Percent low-birthweight babies	2007	7.6	8.2	8
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2007	6.9	6.7	–3
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2007	22	19	–14
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2007	67	62	–7
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2007	48	43	–10
Percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates (ages 16–19)	2008	11	6	–45
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2008	—	8	N.A.
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2008	—	27	N.A.
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008)	2008	17	18	6
Percent of children in single-parent families	2008	31	32	3

N.A.= Change data not available because the survey instrument used to collect the data was changed so that comparisons cannot be made to previous years.

Not all children have the same opportunities to succeed. Some children, particularly children of color, face greater barriers to achieving success as they move through childhood and adolescence.

used in KIDS COUNT improved, and several improved dramatically. The improvement was experienced by every major racial group and in nearly all of the states.

Pre- and post-2000 trends are clearly illustrated by changes in the rate of child poverty. Between 1994 and 2000, the child poverty rate fell by 30 percent. This was the largest decrease in child poverty since the 1960s. Since 2000, however, improvements have stalled. In fact, the child poverty rate has increased by 6 percent, meaning that 1 million more children lived in poverty in 2008 than in 2000.

It is important to note that the data in this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* do not reflect the current period of economic recession at the national level. The economic indicators included in the *Data Book* come from the 2008 American Community Survey, which reflects information for the 12 months prior to the survey date. The effects of the economic downturn were not felt by most U.S. families until well into 2008 and 2009. Most experts project significant increases in the child poverty rate over the next several years.

Variations in Child Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin

Not all children have the same opportunities to succeed. Some children, particularly children of color, face greater barriers to achieving success as they move through childhood and adolescence. Table 2 provides national statistics for the five largest racial and Hispanic origin groups on each of the 10 measures of child well-being used to rank states. To access state-level data for these racial and Hispanic origin groups for our 10 key indicators, visit the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

Nationally, the differences in child well-being across racial and Hispanic origin lines vary by indicator. Since 2000, gaps in the differences in child well-being along racial and ethnic lines have decreased in some areas—most notably, the high school dropout rate. However, on the whole, non-Hispanic white children continue to have greater opportunities for better outcomes compared with most other racial and Hispanic origin groups. Comparative trend data for the information contained in Table 2 can be found at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

KIDS COUNT State Indicators

In the pages that follow, data are presented for the 10 key indicators for all states, including state-level maps of each indicator. The state and U.S. profiles that were included in previous years, comparing the current year's data to 2000, are now available online at datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/profiles.

Table 3 provides a summary of results from this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book* and highlights the enormous variation among the states. The rates of the worst states are approximately two to four times those of the best states on every indicator.

The importance of reporting state-level data is underscored by the fact that most measures in most states are statistically significantly different from the national value for each measure. In other words, the national value for a measure does not tell you much about most states. Tables showing the statistical

TABLE 2 10 Key Indicators of Child Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007/2008

Key Indicators		NATIONAL AVERAGE	NON-HISPANIC WHITE	BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER	AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE	HISPANIC/LATINO
Percent low-birthweight babies	2007	8.2	7.2	13.8*	8.1	7.5	6.9
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2007	6.7	5.6	13.2	3.7	8.8	5.7
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2007	19	17	27	14	28	18
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2007	62	58	83	33	87	58
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2007	43	27	64*	17	59	82
Percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates (ages 16–19)	2008	6	5	8	2	13	11
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2008	8	6	12	4	15	11
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2008	27	21	43	20	44	33
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008)	2008	18	11	34	12	31	28
Percent of children in single-parent families	2008	32	23	65	16	50	38

**Black/African American Percent low-birthweight babies and Teen birth rate data are for non-Hispanic Blacks only. All other rates for Blacks/African Americans include both Hispanics and non-Hispanics.*

TABLE 3 10 Key Indicators of Child Well-Being, Highest and Lowest Ranking States: 2007/2008

Key Indicators		HIGHEST RANKING VALUE	HIGHEST RANKING STATE(S)	LOWEST RANKING VALUE	LOWEST RANKING STATE(S)
Percent low-birthweight babies	2007	5.7	Alaska	12.3	Mississippi
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2007	4.8	Washington	10.0	Mississippi
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	2007	9	Rhode Island	34	Mississippi
Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	2007	35	Vermont	100	Alaska
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)	2007	20	New Hampshire	72	Mississippi
Percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates (ages 16–19)	2008	3	Iowa, Minnesota, New Hampshire	10	Alaska, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	2008	4	Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire	12	Arkansas
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	2008	19	Nebraska, Utah	35	Mississippi
Percent of children in poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008)	2008	9	New Hampshire	30	Mississippi
Percent of children in single-parent families	2008	18	Utah	45	Mississippi

significance of differences among states and changes over time are provided at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

The 10 key indicators of child well-being used here are all derived from federal government statistical agencies (with the exception of the Teen Birth Rate, which came from State Health Department records) and reflect the best available state-level data for tracking yearly changes in each indicator. However, it is important to recognize that many of the indicators used here are derived from samples, and like all sample data, they contain some random error. Other measures (the Infant Mortality Rate and the Child Death Rate, for example) are based on relatively small numbers of events in some states and may exhibit some random fluctuation from year to year. Therefore, we urge readers to focus on relatively large differences—both across states and over time within a state. Small differences, within a state over time or between states, may simply reflect random fluctuations, rather than real changes in the well-being of children. Assessing trends by looking at changes over a longer period of time is more reliable. Historical data for each state are available at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

We include data for the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico in the *Data Book*, but not in our state rankings. Because they are significantly different from any state, the comparisons are not meaningful. It is more useful to look at changes for these geographies over time, or to compare the District with other large cities. Data for many child well-being indicators for the 50 largest cities (including the District of Columbia) are available at the KIDS COUNT Data Center. Information for the U.S. Virgin Islands was not available in time to be included in this year's publication, but limited information is available at the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

The *KIDS COUNT Data Book* utilizes rates and percentages because that is the best way to compare states to each other and to assess changes over time within a state. However, our focus on rates and percentages may mask the magnitude of some of the problems that are examined in this report. The number of events or number of children reflected in each of the national rates for the 10 key indicators used to rank states are provided on corresponding indicator pages. These data underscore the fact that thousands of children die every year, and millions are at risk because of poverty, family structure, lack of parental employment, or risky behavior.

It is our hope that the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* and the accompanying KIDS COUNT Data Center will help raise the visibility of children's issues on the national agenda and serve as a tool for advocates, policymakers, and others to make better decisions. We believe that good data are always needed to develop the most effective policies and practices for children and their families, but they are even more critical at this time in our nation's history, when families are facing economic uncertainties about their future well-being. At the same time, states faced with huge budget shortfalls are making tough decisions about how to deal with lost revenue. It's more important than ever that we use the best data available to monitor the impact of these decisions on the life outcomes for millions of our nation's most vulnerable children.

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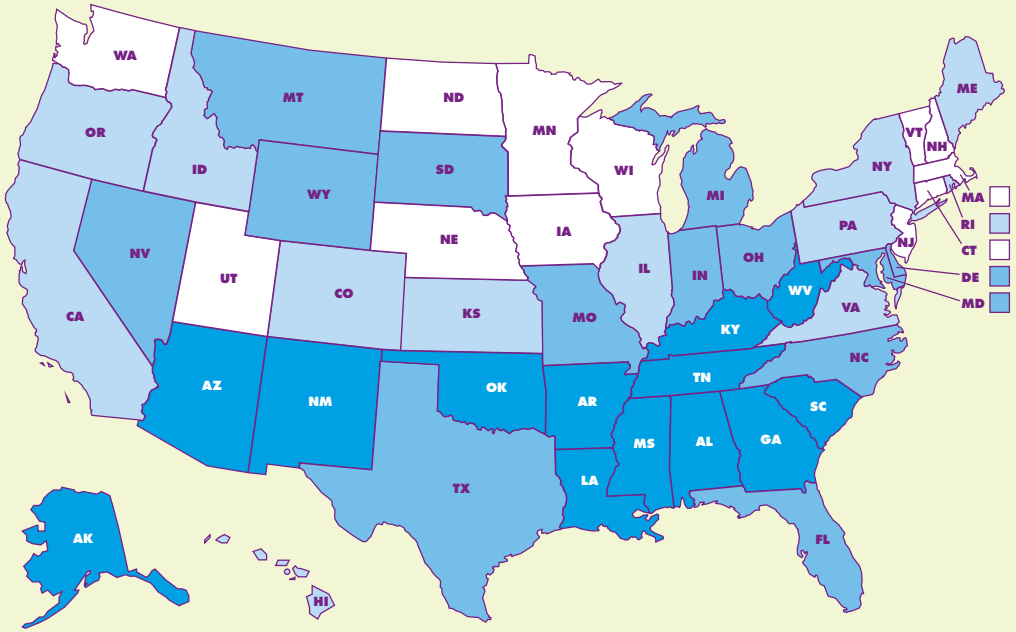
Ranking States on Composite Index

Data from all 10 key indicators are used to develop a composite index of child well-being for each state. The Overall Rank Table and Map show how states rank, based on the 10-item index. The state that ranks highest (best), based on the composite index, is New Hampshire. Minnesota ranks second, and Vermont ranks third. The three states at the bottom of the ranking are Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

The Overall Rank Map also reflects some regional overtones. The New England states and a group of states in the Northern Plains all rank relatively high. Except for Maine and Rhode Island, all of the New England states rank in the top 10. In the Northern Plains, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin are all ranked in the top 10. At the other end of the spectrum, states in the South and Southwest dominate the lower part of the ranking. The 10 states with the lowest Overall Rank in terms of child well-being are all located in the South or Southwest.

KIDS COUNT Overall Rank: 2010



Rank 1–12 Rank 13–24 Rank 25–37 Rank 38–50

A state's Overall Rank is determined by the sum of the state's standing on each of 10 measures of the condition of children arranged in sequential order from highest/best (1) to lowest/worst (50). See Definitions and Data Sources on page 47.

Rank	State	Rank	State
1	New Hampshire	27	Delaware
2	Minnesota	28	Wyoming
3	Vermont	29	Ohio
4	Utah	30	Michigan
5	Massachusetts	31	Missouri
6	Iowa	32	Montana
7	New Jersey	33	Indiana
8	Connecticut	34	Texas
9	Nebraska	35	Florida
10	Wisconsin	36	Nevada
11	Washington	37	North Carolina
12	North Dakota	38	Alaska
13	Kansas	39	Arizona
14	Maine	40	Kentucky
15	New York	41	Tennessee
16	Virginia	42	Georgia
17	Rhode Island	43	West Virginia
18	Oregon	44	Oklahoma
19	California	45	South Carolina
20	Colorado	46	New Mexico
21	Idaho	47	Alabama
22	Hawaii	48	Arkansas
23	Pennsylvania	49	Louisiana
24	Illinois	50	Mississippi
25	Maryland	N.R.	District of Columbia
26	South Dakota	N.R.	Puerto Rico

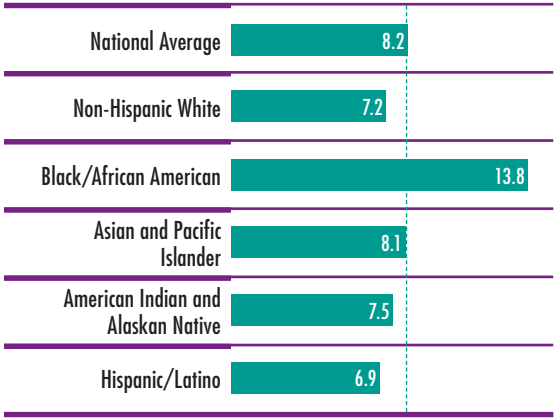
N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies

Newborn babies remind us of the potential that exists in every new generation. Yet, some newborns face stiffer odds than other babies to thrive. Babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth have a high probability of experiencing developmental problems. Low-birthweight infants are at greater risk of dying within the first year of life and of experiencing both short- and long-term disabilities than those with a higher birthweight. Although recent increases in multiple births have strongly influenced the rise in rates of low-birthweight babies, rates have also been higher among singleton deliveries.

- Nationally, low-birthweight babies represented 8.2 percent of all live births in 2007, decreasing slightly from its four-decade high of 8.3 percent in 2006. Preliminary data for 2008 show the rate holding steady at 8.2 percent.
- While the upward trend appears to have halted, the rate in 2007 is still 8 percent above the rate in 2000.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the percent of low-birthweight babies worsened in 47 states, remained unchanged in 1 state, and only showed some improvement in 2 states and the District of Columbia.
- African American babies are approximately twice as likely to be born low birthweight as other racial and Hispanic origin groups.

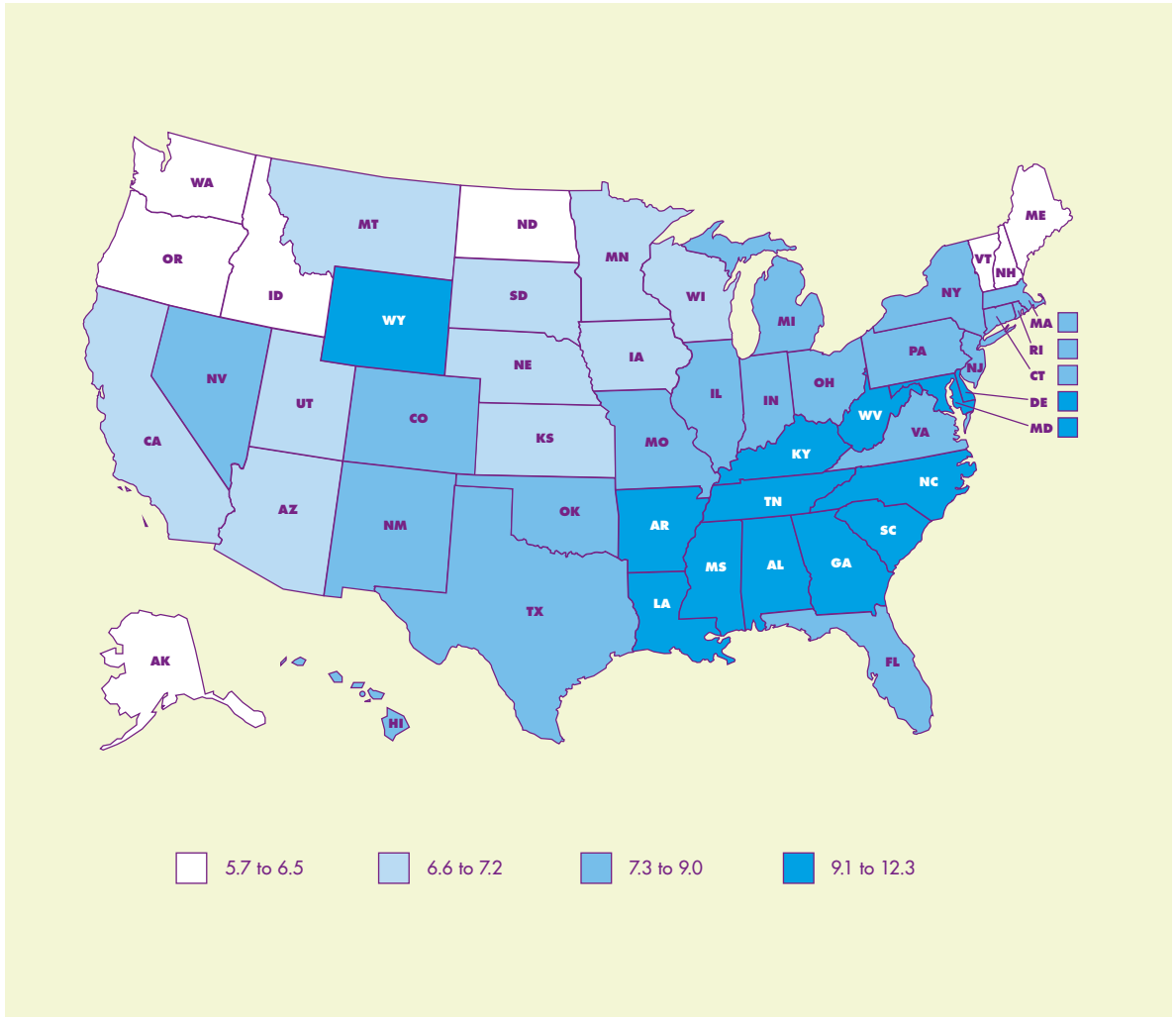
Percent Low-Birthweight Babies by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Blacks/African Americans are for non-Hispanic Blacks only because of data availability.

Find more information at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies: 2007*



Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Alaska	5.7	24	Oklahoma	8.2
2	Oregon	6.1	28	Pennsylvania	8.4
3	Vermont	6.2	28	Texas	8.4
4	Maine	6.3	30	Illinois	8.5
4	New Hampshire	6.3	30	Indiana	8.5
4	North Dakota	6.3	30	New Jersey	8.5
4	Washington	6.3	33	Virginia	8.6
8	Idaho	6.5	34	Florida	8.7
9	Minnesota	6.7	34	Ohio	8.7
9	Utah	6.7	36	New Mexico	8.8
11	Iowa	6.8	37	Colorado	9.0
12	California	6.9	38	Arkansas	9.1
13	Nebraska	7.0	38	Georgia	9.1
13	South Dakota	7.0	38	Maryland	9.1
13	Wisconsin	7.0	38	Wyoming	9.1
16	Arizona	7.1	42	North Carolina	9.2
16	Kansas	7.1	43	Delaware	9.3
18	Montana	7.2	43	Kentucky	9.3
19	Missouri	7.8	45	Tennessee	9.4
20	Massachusetts	7.9	46	West Virginia	9.5
21	Hawaii	8.0	47	South Carolina	10.1
21	Rhode Island	8.0	48	Alabama	10.4
23	Connecticut	8.1	49	Louisiana	11.0
24	Michigan	8.2	50	Mississippi	12.3
24	Nevada	8.2	N.R.	District of Columbia	11.1
24	New York	8.2	N.R.	Puerto Rico	12.4

**Babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth.*

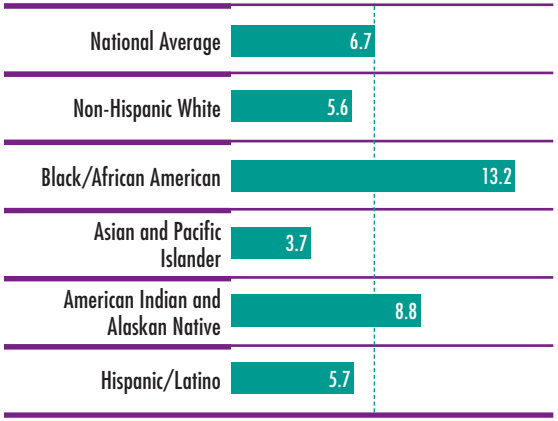
N.R.=Not Ranked.

Infant Mortality Rate

Since the first year of life is more precarious than later years of childhood, negative social conditions (such as poverty and an unhealthy physical environment) have a bigger impact on newborns. The number of children who die before their first birthday is reflected in the Infant Mortality Rate, defined as the number of deaths to persons less than 1 year old per 1,000 live births during the year. The leading causes of death among infants are congenital and chromosomal abnormalities, problems related to preterm births and low birthweight, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). After reaching a historic low in 2006, the Infant Mortality Rate remained unchanged in 2007.

- During 2007, 29,138 infants under age 1 died in the United States, about 80 infants each day. This represents 6.7 deaths per 1,000 live births, 611 more deaths than in 2006.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the Infant Mortality Rate improved in 30 states and deteriorated in 17 states and the District of Columbia. Three states saw no change in the indicator.
- The Infant Mortality Rate varies widely across states. The best state-level rate was half that of the worst state. In 2007, the Infant Mortality Rate ranged from a low of 4.8 per 1,000 live births in Washington to a high of 10.0 per 1,000 in Mississippi.
- According to *Health, United States, 2009*, the United States' infant mortality international ranking fell from 12th in the world in 1960 to 28th in 2006. The most recent ranking places the United States behind most European countries, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, and Israel.

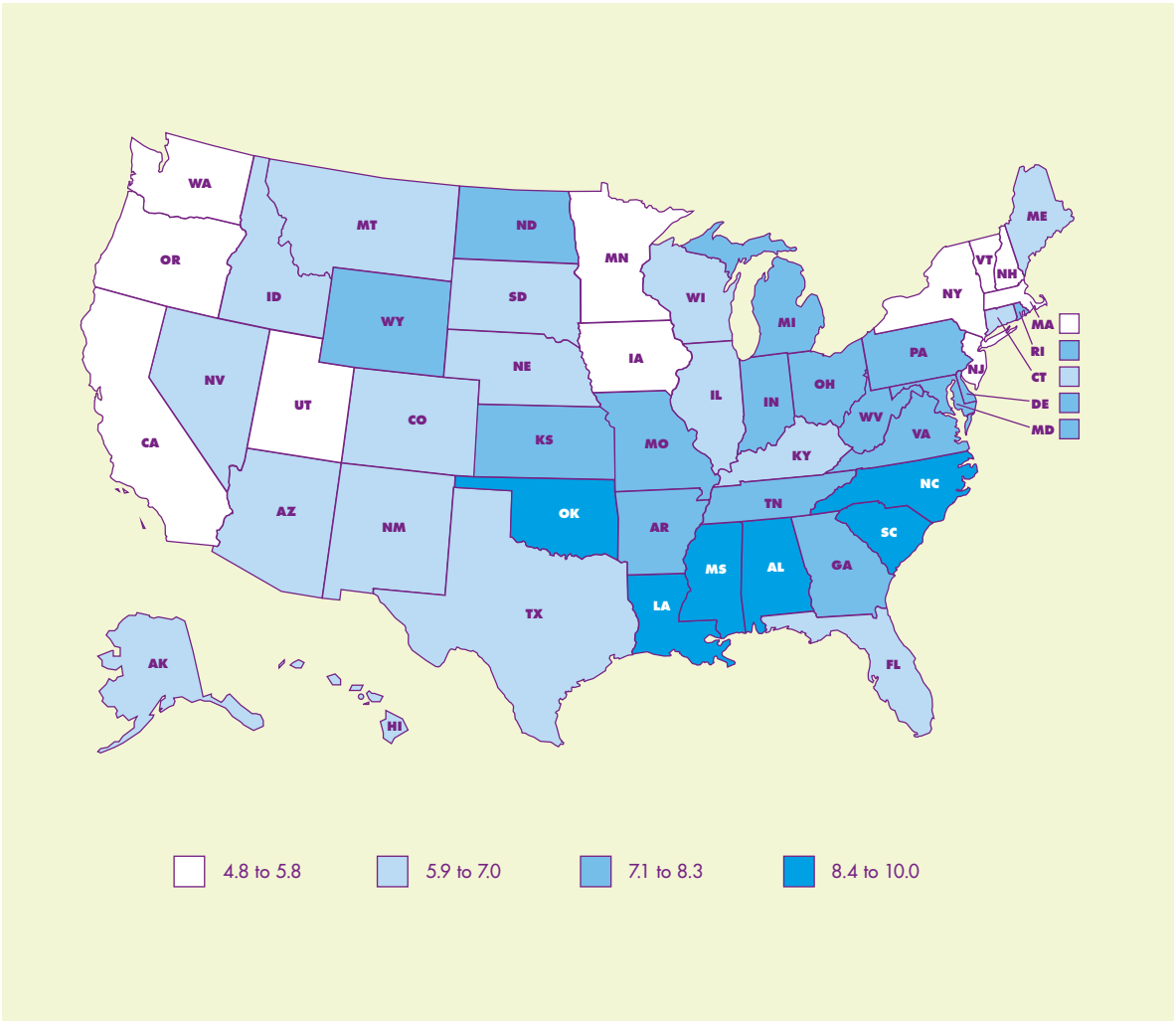
Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

Find more information at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births): 2007

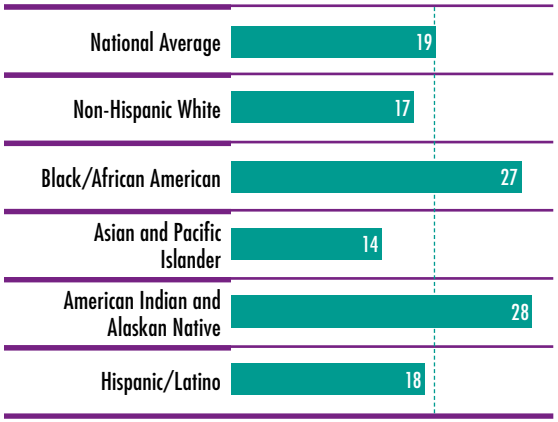


Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Washington	4.8	25	Nebraska	6.8
2	Massachusetts	4.9	28	Florida	7.0
3	Utah	5.1	29	Wyoming	7.3
3	Vermont	5.1	30	Rhode Island	7.4
5	California	5.2	31	Delaware	7.5
5	New Jersey	5.2	31	Missouri	7.5
7	New Hampshire	5.4	31	North Dakota	7.5
8	Iowa	5.5	31	West Virginia	7.5
8	Minnesota	5.5	35	Indiana	7.6
10	New York	5.6	35	Pennsylvania	7.6
11	Oregon	5.8	37	Arkansas	7.7
12	Colorado	6.1	37	Ohio	7.7
13	Maine	6.3	39	Virginia	7.8
13	Montana	6.3	40	Kansas	7.9
13	New Mexico	6.3	40	Michigan	7.9
13	Texas	6.3	42	Georgia	8.0
17	Nevada	6.4	42	Maryland	8.0
17	South Dakota	6.4	44	Tennessee	8.3
19	Alaska	6.5	45	North Carolina	8.5
19	Hawaii	6.5	45	Oklahoma	8.5
19	Wisconsin	6.5	47	South Carolina	8.6
22	Connecticut	6.6	48	Louisiana	9.2
23	Illinois	6.7	49	Alabama	9.9
23	Kentucky	6.7	50	Mississippi	10.0
25	Arizona	6.8	N.R.	District of Columbia	13.1
25	Idaho	6.8	N.R.	Puerto Rico	8.4

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Child Death Rate

Child Death Rate
(deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)
by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

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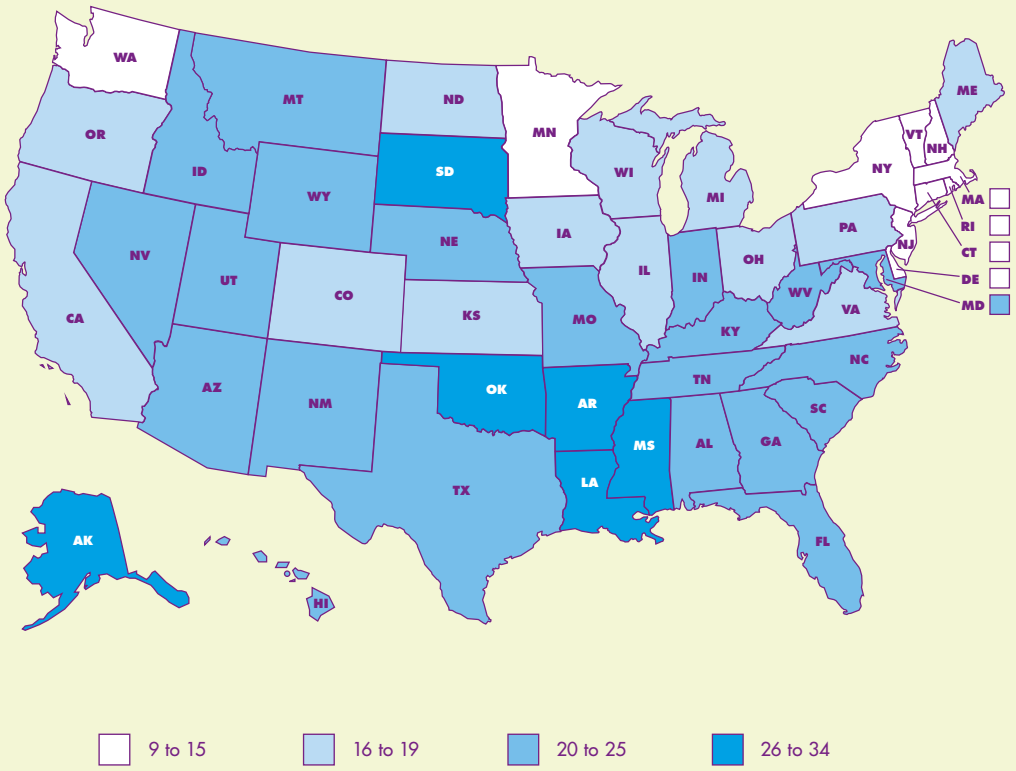
The Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14) has fallen steadily for the past several years, in large part because of advances in medical care. The general decrease in deaths from motor vehicle accidents, which accounted for 17 percent of child deaths in 2007, also has contributed to a declining Child Death Rate. Many young children die in automobile accidents because they are not wearing a seat belt. Nearly half of the children under age 15 who died in traffic crashes were not wearing a seat belt or other restraint. Accidents are the leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 14. However, the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control reports that for each injury-related death in 2007, there were 1,540 injury-related emergency room visits and about 22 hospital admissions for children who survived their injuries.

- During 2007, 10,850 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in the United States, an average of 30 deaths per day.
- The Child Death Rate inched downward from 22 out of every 100,000 children in this age range in 2000, to 19 deaths per 100,000 in 2007.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the Child Death Rate decreased in 40 states and the District of Columbia; was unchanged in 6; and increased in Hawaii, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Oklahoma.
- The Child Death Rate in 2007 ranged from 9 per 100,000 in Rhode Island to 34 per 100,000 in Mississippi.
- Child Death Rates for American Indians and Alaskan Natives and African Americans are the highest of all major racial and ethnic groups.

Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14): 2007



Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Rhode Island	9	27	Arizona	21
2	Delaware	10	27	Florida	21
3	Connecticut	12	27	Georgia	21
3	Massachusetts	12	27	Hawaii	21
3	Vermont	12	27	Indiana	21
6	Minnesota	15	27	Maryland	21
6	New Hampshire	15	27	North Carolina	21
6	New Jersey	15	27	Texas	21
6	New York	15	27	Wyoming	21
6	Washington	15	36	Idaho	22
11	California	16	36	Kentucky	22
11	Colorado	16	36	Montana	22
11	Maine	16	36	Nevada	22
14	Oregon	17	40	Alabama	23
15	Michigan	18	40	Missouri	23
15	Ohio	18	42	New Mexico	24
15	Pennsylvania	18	42	West Virginia	24
15	Virginia	18	44	South Carolina	25
19	Illinois	19	45	South Dakota	27
19	Iowa	19	46	Arkansas	28
19	Kansas	19	47	Louisiana	29
19	North Dakota	19	47	Oklahoma	29
19	Wisconsin	19	49	Alaska	31
24	Nebraska	20	50	Mississippi	34
24	Tennessee	20	N.R.	District of Columbia	29
24	Utah	20	N.R.	Puerto Rico	16

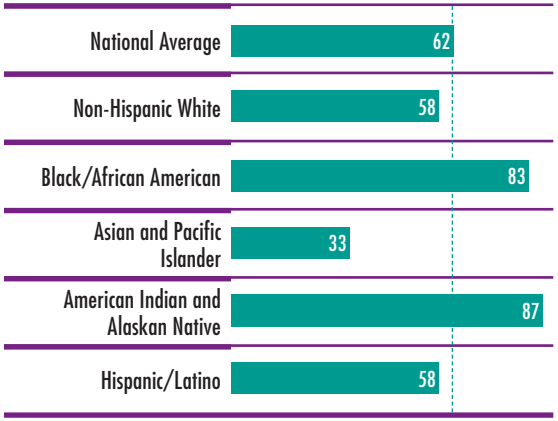
N.R.=Not Ranked.

Teen Death Rate

As people move into their middle and late teenage years, they encounter many new risks that can cost them their life. The Teen Death Rate reflects deaths among 15- to 19-year-olds (per 100,000 teens in this age group) from all causes. It is worth noting that deaths from accidents, homicides, and suicides accounted for 77 percent of all deaths in this age group in 2007. Accidents continue to account for at least three times as many teen deaths as any other single cause, including homicide. Most of the lethal accidents are automobile accidents. In 2007, 6,493 teens died due to accidents (4,723 deaths were due to motor vehicle accidents), 2,224 teen deaths were due to homicide, and 1,481 teen deaths were due to suicide.

- In 2007, 13,229 adolescents ages 15 to 19 died. This is the equivalent of the number of passengers on 38 jumbo jets. Virtually all of these deaths were preventable.
- The Teen Death Rate declined from 67 deaths per 100,000 teens in 2000 to 62 deaths in 2007. The Teen Death Rate had been steadily declining between 1990 and about 1998, when progress began to slow. In 2007, the Teen Death Rate was only slightly lower than in 1998.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the Teen Death Rate declined in 40 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 9 states, and remained unchanged in Ohio.
- Among the states, the Teen Death Rate in 2007 ranged from a low of 35 per 100,000 in Vermont to a high of 100 per 100,000 in Alaska.
- The death rates for African American and American Indian teens are significantly higher than the national average.

Teen Death Rate
(deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)
by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino.

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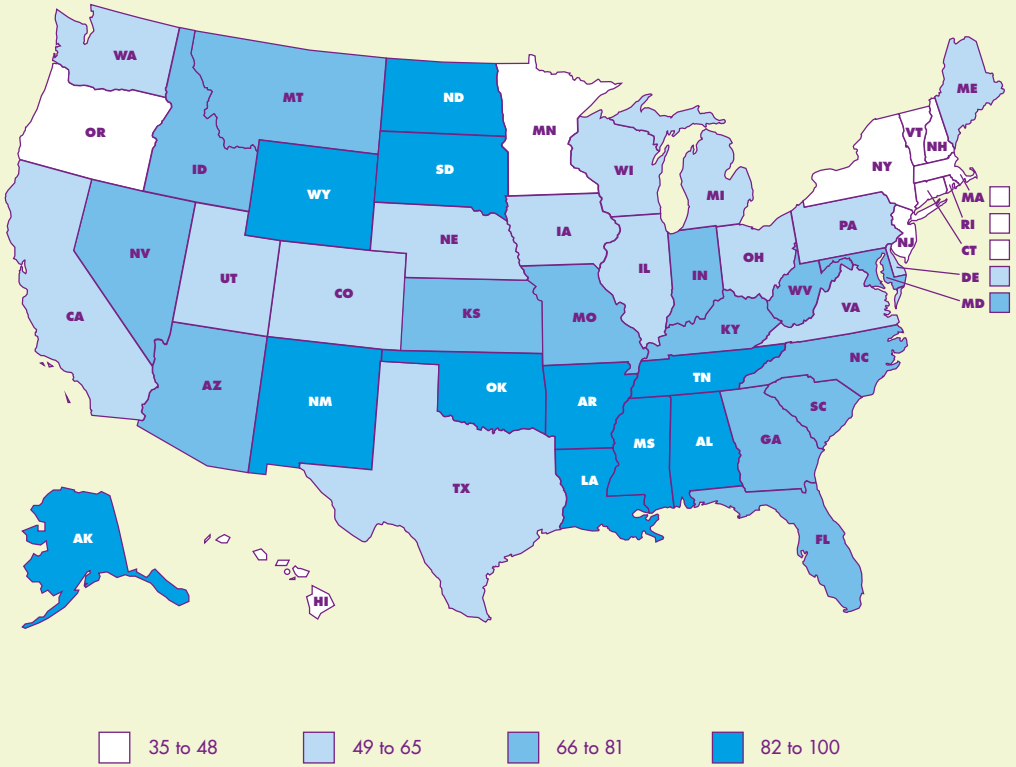
Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19): 2007

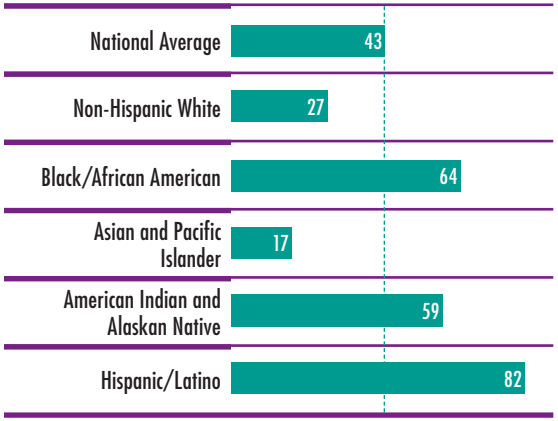


Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Vermont	35	26	North Carolina	67
2	Hawaii	39	28	Indiana	68
2	New York	39	29	Kansas	69
2	Rhode Island	39	30	West Virginia	70
5	Minnesota	43	31	Nevada	71
5	New Hampshire	43	32	Florida	72
7	Connecticut	44	33	Georgia	73
7	Massachusetts	44	34	Kentucky	74
7	New Jersey	44	35	Idaho	77
10	Oregon	48	36	Arizona	80
11	Washington	51	36	Missouri	80
12	California	52	36	Montana	80
13	Virginia	53	39	South Carolina	81
14	Maine	54	40	Oklahoma	83
15	Iowa	56	40	South Dakota	83
16	Delaware	57	42	Tennessee	84
17	Colorado	58	43	Wyoming	86
17	Ohio	58	44	North Dakota	89
19	Michigan	59	45	Alabama	93
19	Pennsylvania	59	45	Arkansas	93
19	Utah	59	47	Louisiana	94
22	Illinois	60	48	New Mexico	96
23	Texas	63	49	Mississippi	98
24	Wisconsin	64	50	Alaska	100
25	Nebraska	65	N.R.	District of Columbia	92
26	Maryland	67	N.R.	Puerto Rico	67

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Teen Birth Rate

Teen Birth Rate
(births per 1,000 females ages 15–19)
by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2007



NOTE: Data for Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Blacks/African Americans are for non-Hispanic Blacks only because of data availability.

Find more information at:
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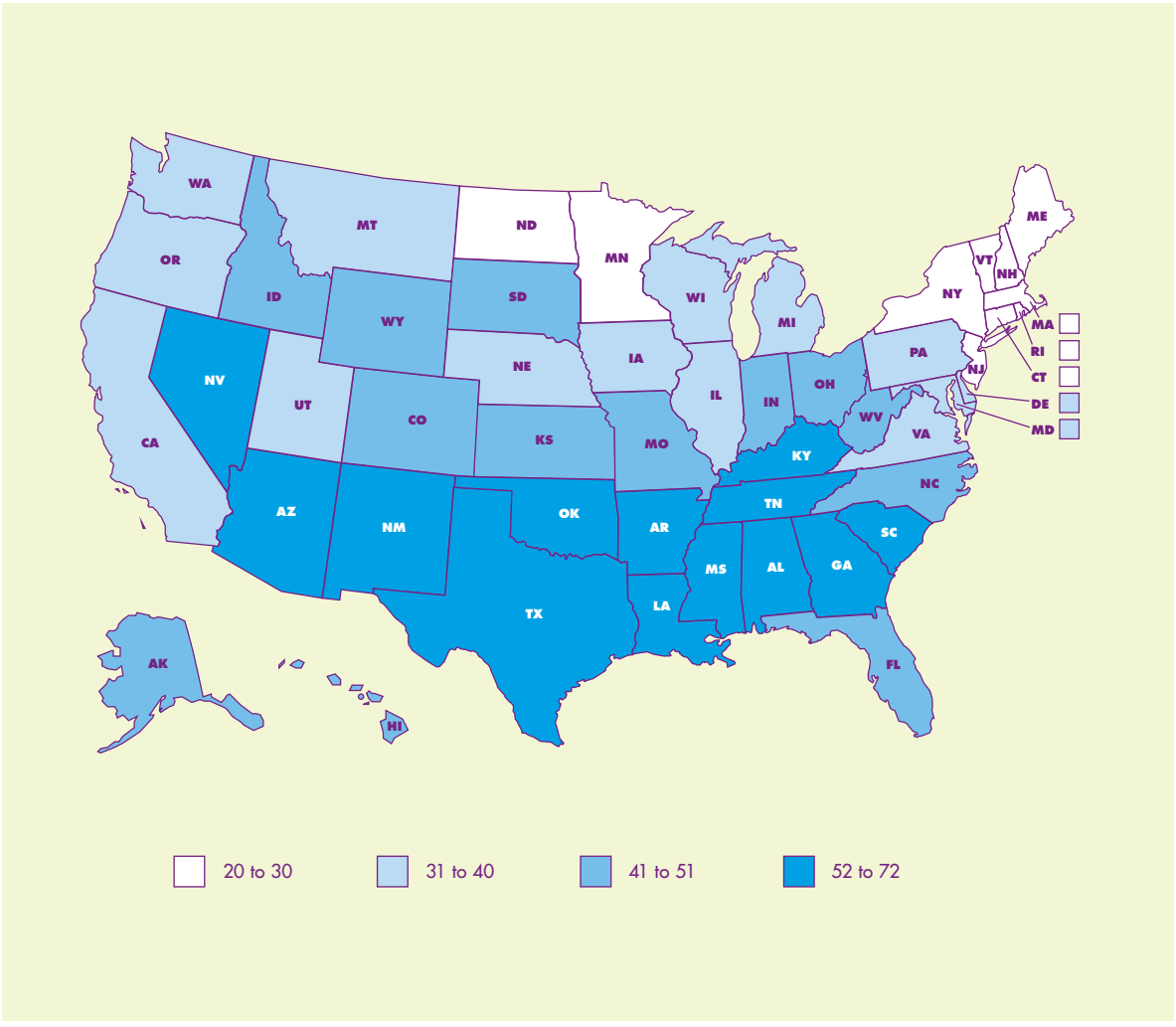
As Americans, we believe that every child should have a shot at achieving their full potential: getting a good education, securing a job that pays well, and raising a family of their own. But not all children have these opportunities. Teenage childbearing can have long-term negative effects on both the adolescent mother and the newborn. Babies born to teen mothers are at higher risk of being low birthweight and preterm. They are also far more likely to be born into families with limited educational and economic resources, which function as barriers to future success. In 2006, the United States saw the first increase in the Teen Birth Rate in more than a decade, and data show that the rate continued to rise in 2007. Between 2005 and 2007, the rate increased from 40 to 43 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19. Preliminary data from 2008 show the rate dropping back slightly to 41.5 per 1,000 females.

- In 2007, there were 445,045 babies born to females ages 15 to 19. That represents about 1,219 births to teens each day.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the Teen Birth Rate decreased in 41 states and the District of Columbia; increased in 5; and was unchanged in Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico, and West Virginia.
- Among the states, the Teen Birth Rate in 2007 ranged from a low of 20 per 1,000 in New Hampshire to a high of 72 per 1,000 in Mississippi.
- The Teen Birth Rate for Latinos remains the highest across the largest racial and Hispanic origin groups, at nearly twice the national average.

Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19): 2007



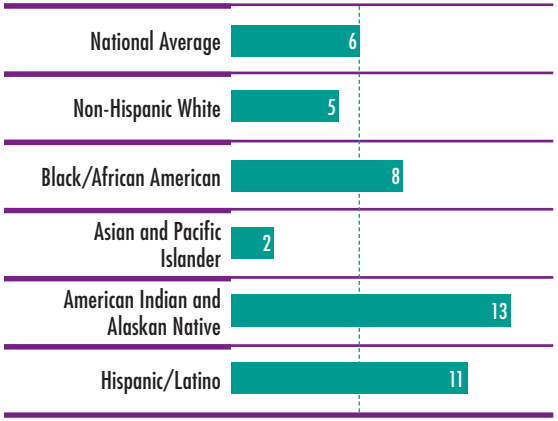
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	20	25	Ohio	41
2	Massachusetts	22	28	South Dakota	42
2	Vermont	22	29	Colorado	43
4	Connecticut	23	30	Kansas	44
5	New Jersey	25	31	Alaska	45
6	New York	26	31	Florida	45
7	Maine	27	31	Indiana	45
8	Minnesota	28	34	Missouri	46
9	North Dakota	29	35	West Virginia	47
10	Rhode Island	30	36	North Carolina	50
11	Pennsylvania	31	37	Wyoming	51
12	Wisconsin	32	38	Alabama	54
13	Iowa	33	38	South Carolina	54
14	Maryland	34	40	Georgia	55
14	Michigan	34	40	Kentucky	55
16	Virginia	35	40	Nevada	55
16	Washington	35	43	Tennessee	56
18	Nebraska	36	44	Louisiana	57
18	Oregon	36	45	Arizona	61
18	Utah	36	45	Oklahoma	61
21	Montana	37	47	Arkansas	62
22	California	40	48	Texas	64
22	Delaware	40	49	New Mexico	66
22	Illinois	40	50	Mississippi	72
25	Hawaii	41	N.R.	District of Columbia	50
25	Idaho	41	N.R.	Puerto Rico	57

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Teens Not in School and Not High School Graduates

As America moves further into the 21st century, advanced skills and technical knowledge will be required for a healthy economy. We have a responsibility to ensure that our future workforce can compete on a global scale. Graduating from high school is critical for obtaining post-secondary education and getting a good job. Adolescents who don't complete high school will find it difficult to achieve financial success in adulthood. In fact, in 2007, the median income for someone with less than a high school diploma was $23,000, compared to $48,000 for someone who obtained a bachelor's degree or higher.

Percent of Teens Not in School and Not High School Graduates (ages 16–19) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2008



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives are for persons who selected only one race.

» In 2008, about 1.1 million teens ages 16 to 19 were not in school and had not graduated from high school, referred to in previous *Data Books* as Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts.

» The rate of teens who were not in school and did not graduate from high school in 2008 (6 percent) was slightly more than half the rate in 2000 (11 percent).

» Between 2000 and 2008, the rate fell in 43 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 6 states, and was unchanged in West Virginia.

» In 2008, the rate of teens not in school and not high school graduates ranged from a low of 3 percent in Iowa, Minnesota, and New Hampshire to a high of 10 percent in Alaska, Louisiana, Nevada, and New Mexico.

» Although large gaps still exist, more teens across all five of the largest racial and ethnic groups stayed in school and obtained a high school diploma or GED in 2008 than in 2000. However, since 2006, American Indians have seen a slight increase in the percent of teens who left school and did not receive a high school diploma.

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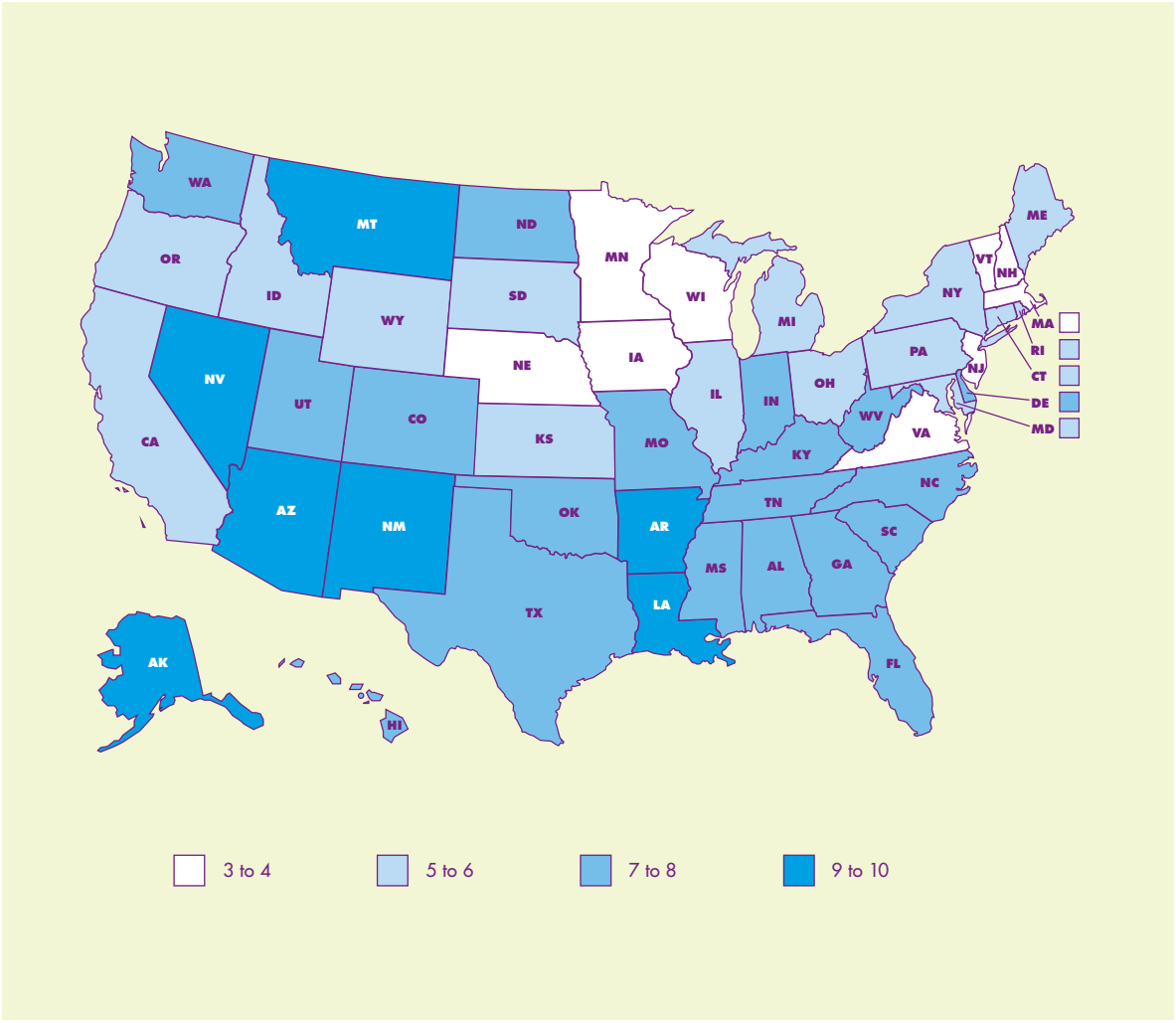
Percent of Teens Not in School and Not High School Graduates (ages 16–19): 2008



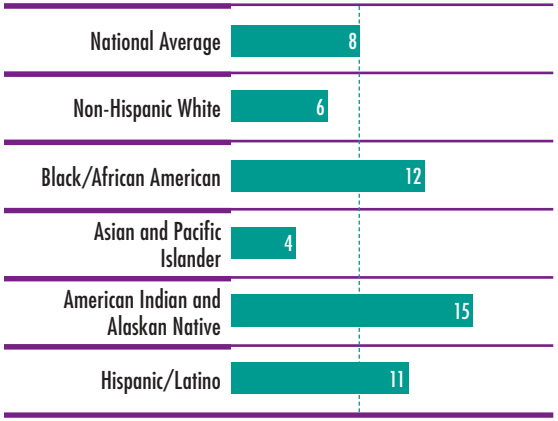
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Iowa	3	25	Kentucky	7
1	Minnesota	3	25	Mississippi	7
1	New Hampshire	3	25	Missouri	7
4	Massachusetts	4	25	North Dakota	7
4	Nebraska	4	25	South Carolina	7
4	New Jersey	4	25	Tennessee	7
4	Vermont	4	25	Texas	7
4	Virginia	4	25	Utah	7
4	Wisconsin	4	25	Washington	7
10	Connecticut	5	36	Alabama	8
10	Kansas	5	36	Colorado	8
10	New York	5	36	Georgia	8
10	Ohio	5	36	Hawaii	8
10	Pennsylvania	5	36	Indiana	8
15	California	6	36	North Carolina	8
15	Idaho	6	36	Oklahoma	8
15	Illinois	6	36	West Virginia	8
15	Maine	6	44	Arizona	9
15	Maryland	6	44	Arkansas	9
15	Michigan	6	44	Montana	9
15	Oregon	6	47	Alaska	10
15	Rhode Island	6	47	Louisiana	10
15	South Dakota	6	47	Nevada	10
15	Wyoming	6	47	New Mexico	10
25	Delaware	7	N.R.	District of Columbia	7
25	Florida	7	N.R.	Puerto Rico	8

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working

Ensuring that all adolescents have the opportunity to make a successful transition to adulthood is a key to a healthy society in the future. The Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (sometimes called "Idle Teens") reflects young people ages 16 to 19 who are not engaged in either of the core activities that usually occupy people during this crucial period in their lives. While those who have dropped out of school are clearly vulnerable, many young persons who have finished school but are not working are also at a disadvantage in achieving economic success in adulthood.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2008

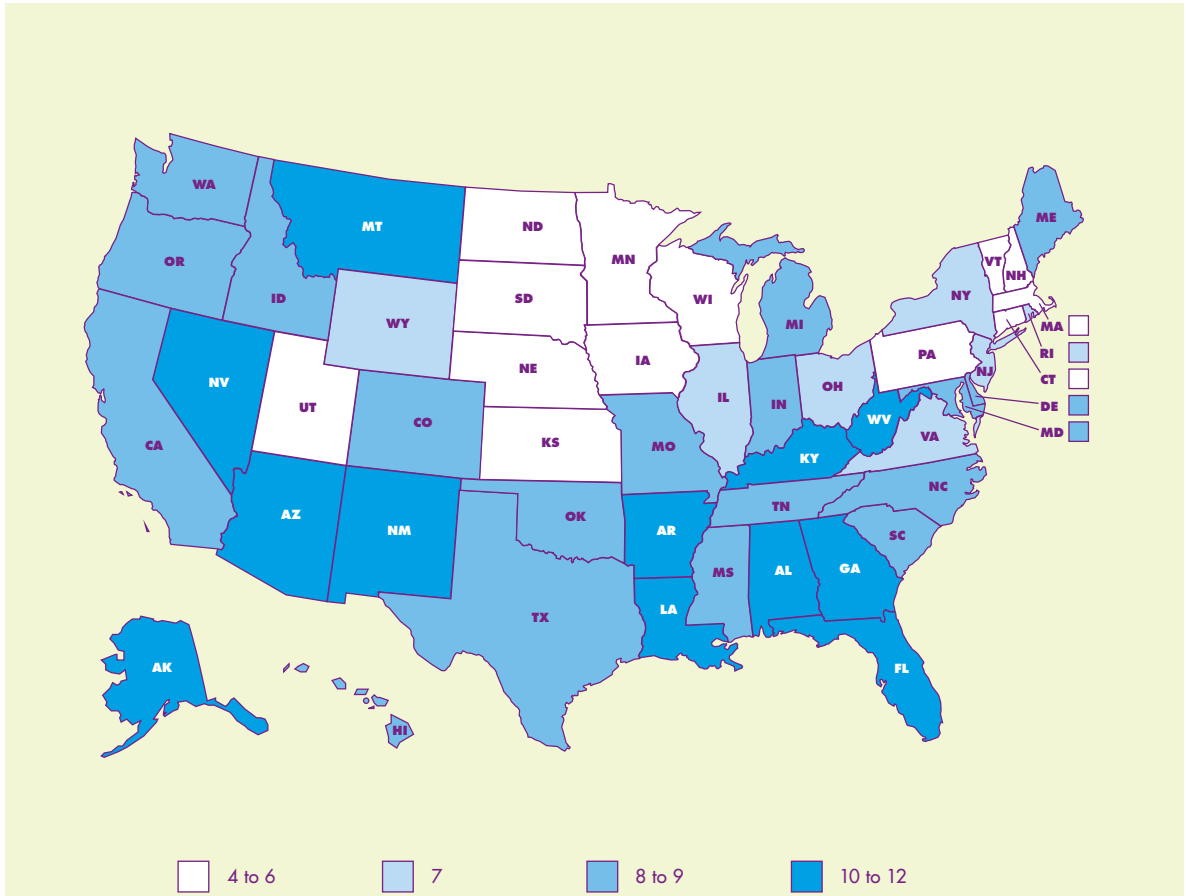


NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives are for persons who selected only one race.

- It should be noted that significant changes were made to the 2008 American Community Survey questions on labor force participation and number of weeks worked. Due to these changes in methodology, comparisons were not made to estimates from previous years.
- In 2008, about 1.4 million teens ages 16 to 19 were neither enrolled in school nor working.
- Among the states, the Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working in 2008 ranged from a low of 4 percent in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and New Hampshire to a high of 12 percent in Arkansas.
- In 2008, American Indian, African American, and Hispanic teens were considerably more likely to be neither in school nor working than were their non-Hispanic white and Asian counterparts.

Find more information at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19): 2008



Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Iowa	4	21	Michigan	8
1	Minnesota	4	21	Missouri	8
1	Nebraska	4	21	North Carolina	8
1	New Hampshire	4	21	Oklahoma	8
5	Kansas	5	21	South Carolina	8
5	Massachusetts	5	21	Texas	8
5	Wisconsin	5	21	Washington	8
8	Connecticut	6	34	Delaware	9
8	North Dakota	6	34	Hawaii	9
8	Pennsylvania	6	34	Mississippi	9
8	South Dakota	6	34	Oregon	9
8	Utah	6	34	Tennessee	9
8	Vermont	6	39	Alabama	10
14	Illinois	7	39	Florida	10
14	New Jersey	7	39	Kentucky	10
14	New York	7	39	Montana	10
14	Ohio	7	39	New Mexico	10
14	Rhode Island	7	39	West Virginia	10
14	Virginia	7	45	Alaska	11
14	Wyoming	7	45	Arizona	11
21	California	8	45	Georgia	11
21	Colorado	8	45	Louisiana	11
21	Idaho	8	45	Nevada	11
21	Indiana	8	50	Arkansas	12
21	Maine	8	N.R.	District of Columbia	9
21	Maryland	8	N.R.	Puerto Rico	15

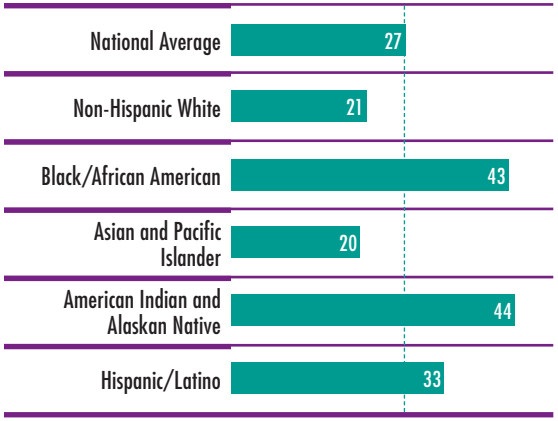
N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment

Children thrive when parents have the opportunity to earn income sufficient to support their family. In addition to having higher poverty rates, children whose parents lack stable employment are less likely to have access to the health and family benefits that a stable job provides. We found that 12 percent of children living in families where no parent had a full-time, year-round job lacked health insurance, compared to 8 percent in other families. Although there are significant benefits when a parent works, having one parent employed full-time, year-round is not a guarantee for economic security. Nearly one of two (48 percent) children living in families maintained by two parents who were living below the poverty line had at least one parent working year-round, full-time.

- It should be noted that significant changes were made to the 2008 American Community Survey questions on labor force participation and number of weeks worked. Due to these changes in methodology, comparisons were not made to estimates from previous years.
- In 2008, 27 percent of children in the United States (20.2 million) lived in families where no parent had full-time, year-round employment.
- Among the states, the 2008 figures ranged from a low of 19 percent in Nebraska and Utah to a high of 35 percent in Mississippi.
- In 2008, American Indian, African American, and Hispanic children were significantly more likely to live without securely employed parents than were their Asian and non-Hispanic white counterparts.

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2008



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives are for persons who selected only one race.

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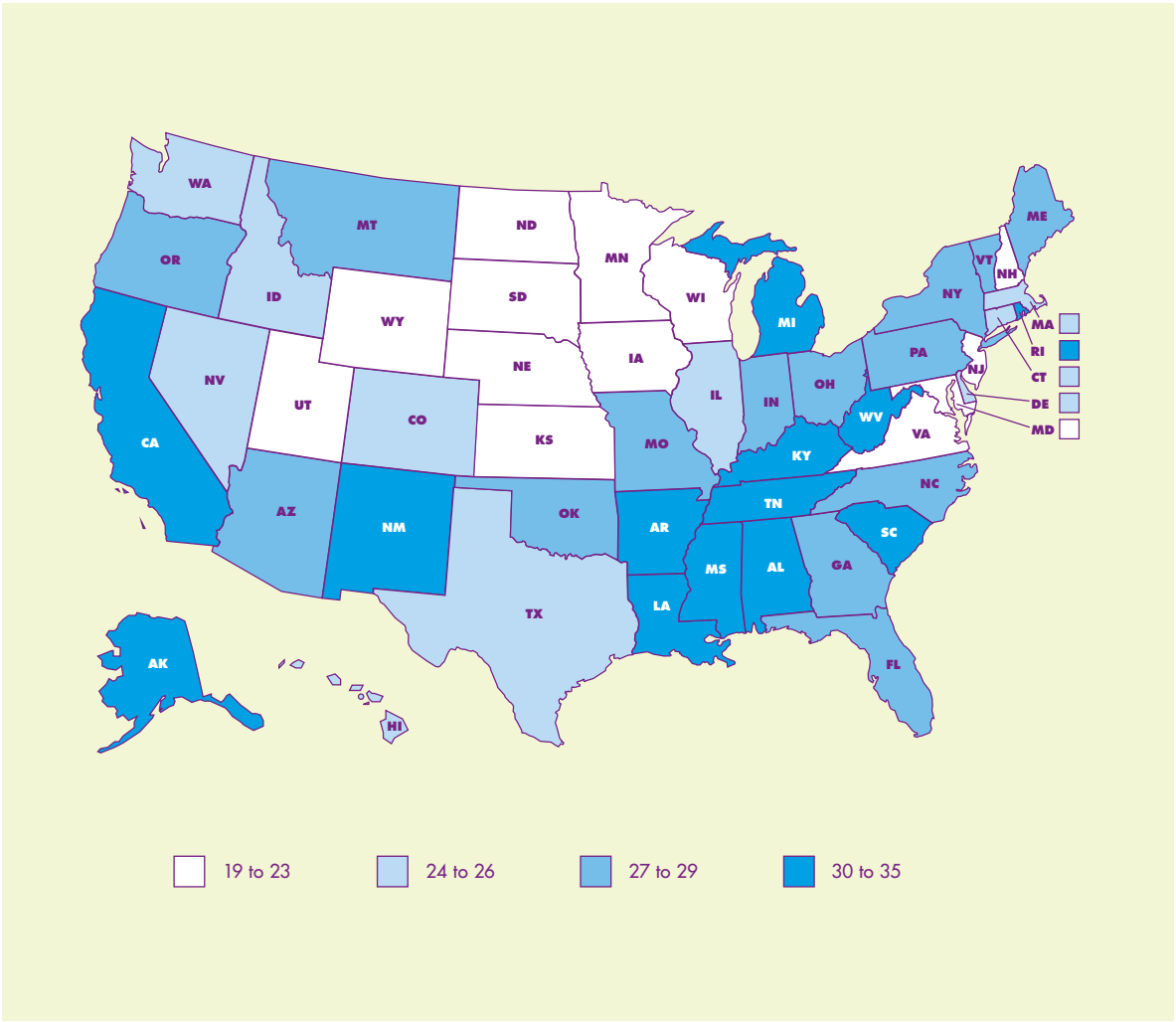
Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment: 2008

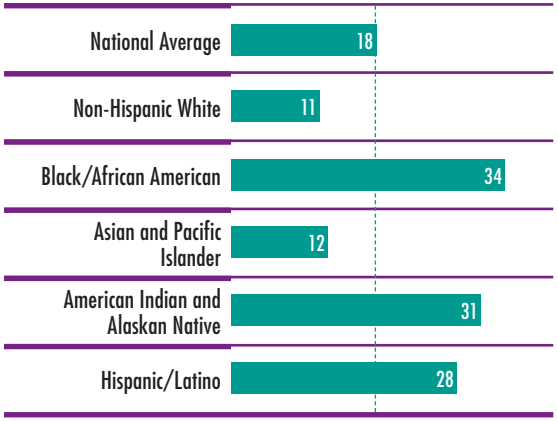


Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Nebraska	19	26	Georgia	28
1	Utah	19	26	Indiana	28
3	North Dakota	20	26	New York	28
4	Iowa	21	26	North Carolina	28
4	Maryland	21	26	Ohio	28
4	New Hampshire	21	26	Vermont	28
7	Kansas	22	33	Arizona	29
7	Minnesota	22	33	Maine	29
7	Wisconsin	22	33	Montana	29
10	New Jersey	23	33	Oklahoma	29
10	South Dakota	23	33	Oregon	29
10	Virginia	23	38	Alabama	30
10	Wyoming	23	38	California	30
14	Colorado	24	38	New Mexico	30
14	Connecticut	24	38	Rhode Island	30
16	Delaware	25	38	South Carolina	30
17	Hawaii	26	38	Tennessee	30
17	Idaho	26	44	Michigan	31
17	Illinois	26	45	Arkansas	32
17	Massachusetts	26	45	Louisiana	32
17	Nevada	26	45	West Virginia	32
17	Texas	26	48	Kentucky	33
17	Washington	26	49	Alaska	34
24	Missouri	27	50	Mississippi	35
24	Pennsylvania	27	N.R.	District of Columbia	41
26	Florida	28	N.R.	Puerto Rico	51

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Children in Poverty

Percent of Children in Poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2008



NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives are for persons who selected only one race.

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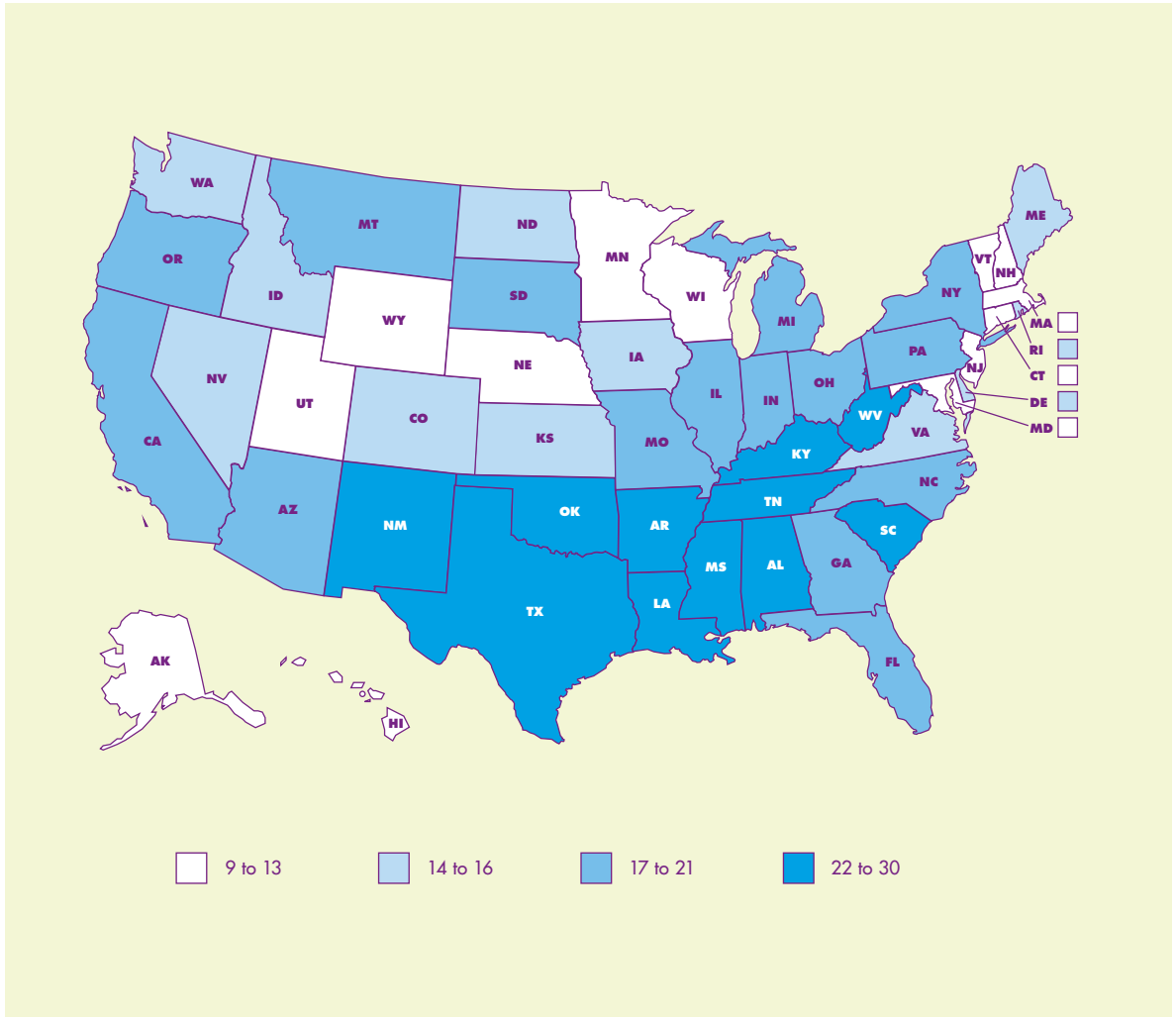
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

It's critical that we as a nation ensure that all children have the opportunity to become productive members of society. Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to experience many undesirable outcomes in such areas as health, education, and emotional welfare. The Percent of Children in Poverty is perhaps the most global and widely used indicator of child well-being. Our data are based on the official poverty measure as determined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The 2008 poverty line was $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children. Our indicator data come from the 2008 American Community Survey, which surveyed U.S. households about income received in the previous 12 months. Therefore, these data do not reflect the true impact of the current economic recession, which was not felt in most states until late 2008 and continues through 2010.

- In 2008, 18 percent of children (13.2 million) were poor, up from 17 percent in 2000. This represents 1 million more children living in poverty in 2008 than in 2000.
- Between 2000 and 2008, child poverty increased in 32 states, decreased in 13 states and the District of Columbia, and remained unchanged in 5.
- Among the states, the child poverty rate for 2008 ranged from a low of 9 percent in New Hampshire to a high of 30 percent in Mississippi.
- The child poverty rate increased between 2000 and 2008 for non-Hispanic white children, remained unchanged for black and American Indian children, and declined for Asian and Hispanic children.

Percent of Children in Poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008): 2008

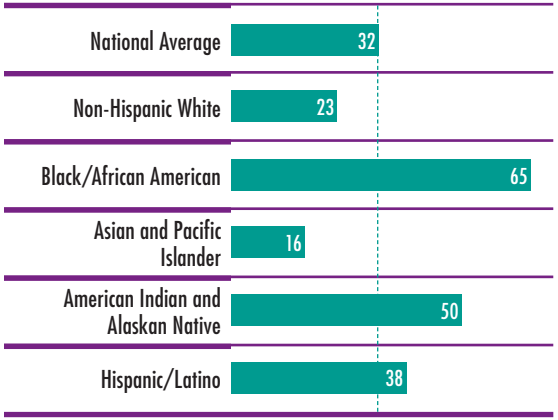


Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	9	27	California	18
2	Hawaii	10	27	Florida	18
2	Maryland	10	27	Indiana	18
4	Alaska	11	27	Oregon	18
4	Minnesota	11	27	South Dakota	18
4	Utah	11	32	Michigan	19
7	Connecticut	12	32	Missouri	19
7	Massachusetts	12	32	New York	19
7	Wyoming	12	32	Ohio	19
10	Nebraska	13	36	Georgia	20
10	New Jersey	13	36	North Carolina	20
10	Vermont	13	38	Arizona	21
10	Wisconsin	13	38	Montana	21
14	Delaware	14	40	Alabama	22
14	Iowa	14	40	South Carolina	22
14	Virginia	14	40	Tennessee	22
14	Washington	14	43	Kentucky	23
18	Colorado	15	43	Oklahoma	23
18	Kansas	15	43	Texas	23
18	Nevada	15	43	West Virginia	23
18	North Dakota	15	47	New Mexico	24
18	Rhode Island	15	48	Arkansas	25
23	Idaho	16	48	Louisiana	25
23	Maine	16	50	Mississippi	30
25	Illinois	17	N.R.	District of Columbia	26
25	Pennsylvania	17	N.R.	Puerto Rico	56

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2008



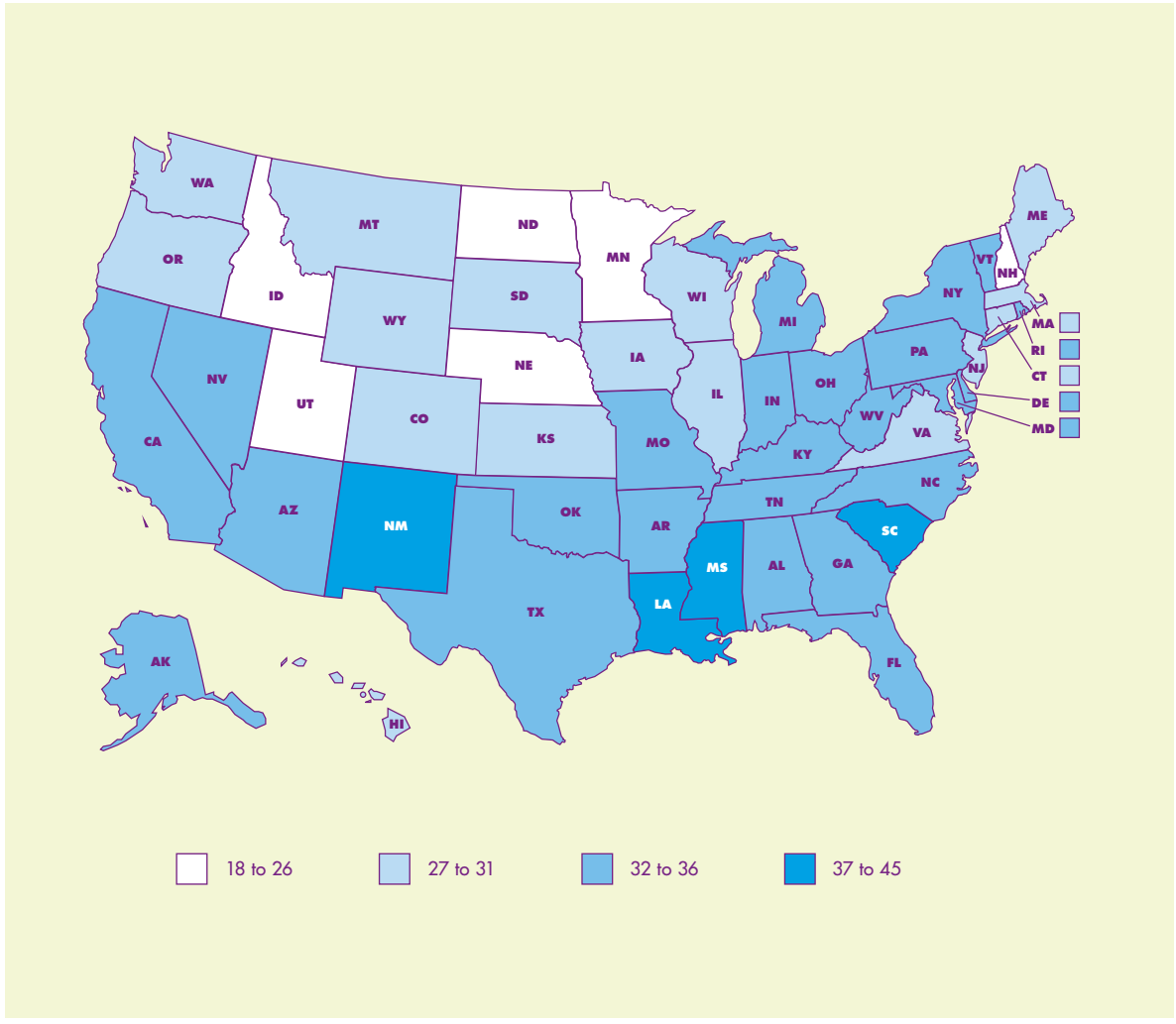
NOTE: Data for Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives include those who are also Hispanic/Latino. Data for Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks/African Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives are for persons who selected only one race.

Find more information at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

Much of the public interest in family structure is linked to the fact that children growing up in single-parent families typically do not have the same economic or human resources available as those growing up in two-parent families. In 2008, 32 percent of single-parent families with related children had incomes below the poverty line, compared to 7 percent of married-couple families with children. Only about one-third of female-headed families reported receiving any child support or alimony payments in 2008. The U.S. Census Bureau defines single-parent families as those families headed by an unmarried adult.

- About 22.7 million children lived in single-parent families in 2008. Of these children, 4.9 million lived with cohabiting domestic partners.
- Nationwide, there was a slight increase in the Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families, from 31 percent in 2000 to 32 percent in 2008. There were 1.9 million more children living in single-parent families in 2008 than in 2000.
- During this period, 3 states and the District of Columbia recorded a decrease in the Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families, 11 states reported no change in this measure, while the situation worsened in 36 states.
- In 2008, the Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families ranged from a low of 18 percent in Utah to a high of 45 percent in Mississippi.
- Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of African American children lived in single-parent families, compared to a little more than one-third (38 percent) for Latinos and slightly less than one-fourth (23 percent) for non-Hispanic whites.

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families: 2008



Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Utah	18	23	Pennsylvania	32
2	Idaho	23	23	Vermont	32
3	North Dakota	24	29	Indiana	33
4	Minnesota	25	29	Kentucky	33
4	New Hampshire	25	29	Maryland	33
6	Nebraska	26	29	Nevada	33
7	Colorado	27	29	Oklahoma	33
7	Iowa	27	29	Texas	33
9	Kansas	28	29	West Virginia	33
9	New Jersey	28	36	Delaware	34
9	Washington	28	36	New York	34
12	Massachusetts	29	36	North Carolina	34
12	Montana	29	36	Ohio	34
12	Wisconsin	29	36	Rhode Island	34
12	Wyoming	29	41	Arizona	35
16	Connecticut	30	41	Tennessee	35
16	Hawaii	30	43	Alabama	36
16	Oregon	30	43	Arkansas	36
16	South Dakota	30	43	Florida	36
16	Virginia	30	43	Georgia	36
21	Illinois	31	47	South Carolina	39
21	Maine	31	48	New Mexico	40
23	Alaska	32	49	Louisiana	43
23	California	32	50	Mississippi	45
23	Michigan	32	N.R.	District of Columbia	57
23	Missouri	32	N.R.	Puerto Rico	53

N.R.=Not Ranked.

8%

Percent of U.S. teens ages 16 to 19 not attending school and not working

KIDS COUNT Data Center

The KIDS COUNT Data Center provides easy online access to the latest data on child well-being nationwide. Find hundreds of indicators on such topics as education, employment and income, health, poverty, and youth risk factors for all U.S. states and many cities, counties, and school districts. Advocates, journalists, policymakers, practitioners, and all concerned citizens can find data for planning, preparing reports, crafting policies, or identifying and addressing needs in their communities. The Data Center offers multiple ways to customize and share information, including a mobile site that you can access on the go.

Access the KIDS COUNT Data Center at:
datacenter.kidscount.org

State Profiles Now Available Online

National and State profile pages previously available in the *Data Book* are now accessible online at: datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/profiles.

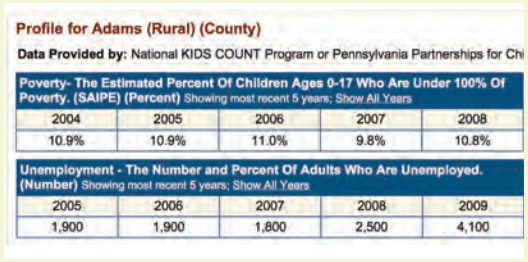
datacenter.kidscount.org

Access Data Anytime, Anywhere

Access data quickly and easily from your BlackBerry, iPhone, or any smartphone at mobile.kidscount.org.

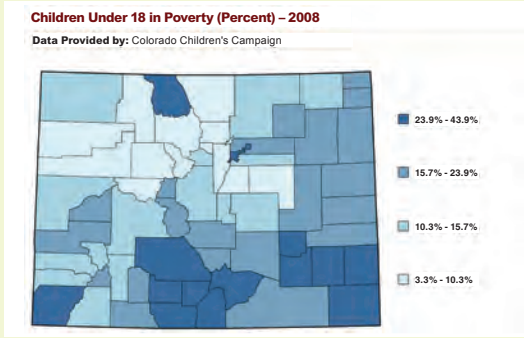
Find National, State, and Local Data

Access detailed information for communities across the country. Data are now available for many cities, counties, and school districts.

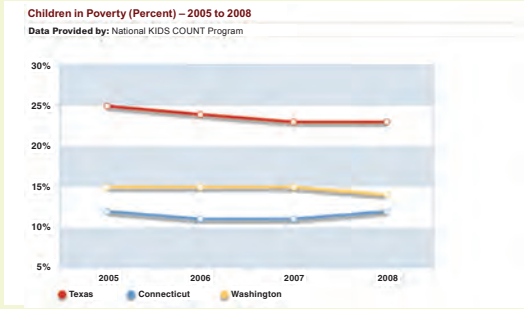


Create Maps and Graphs That Show How Children Are Faring in Your State

Customize your own maps to show differences in outcomes for children within or across states.



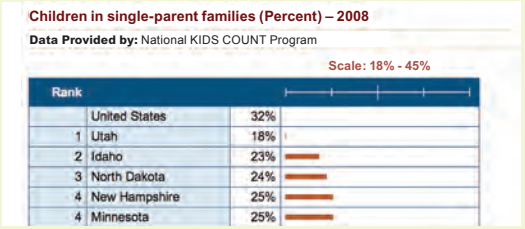
Create graphs to show change over time.



Use these graphics in your own publications and presentations.

Rank Geographic Areas on Child Well-Being

Compare states, counties, cities, and communities on indicators of child well-being.



Customize and Share Information

- Create graphs, maps, and charts for your own website or blog that will automatically update when we upload new data on the Data Center.
- Share content via Twitter, Facebook, Digg, and other social networking sites.
- Add a "widget" to your website or blog that allows visitors to find key data from the 2010 *Data Book* without leaving your site.

27%

Percent of U.S. children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment

Appendix

The 2010 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* is the 21st annual profile of child well-being produced by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. However, indicators used in the *Data Books* have changed over time, making year-to-year comparisons of state ranks problematic. This Appendix provides Overall Ranks for 2000 through 2008 for each state, using a consistent set of indicators—namely, those used to derive the rank reported in the 2010 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*. This Appendix is the best source of information to see whether a particular state improved in ranking over the past few years.

Find more information at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

Multi-Year State Trend Data for Overall Ranks

Note that state ranks in 2008 are based on data from 2007 for five measures and data from 2008 for the other five measures. In other words, data for the Percent Low-Birthweight Babies, Infant Mortality Rate, Child Death Rate, Teen Death Rate, and Teen Birth Rate lag 1 year behind the other measures.

	AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE
2000	48	30	40	46	20	22	11	26
2001	48	38	39	46	22	26	7	37
2002	48	33	43	45	18	22	7	36
2003	48	36	41	44	17	27	11	31
2004	43	35	37	45	18	25	3	29
2005	48	38	36	45	19	23	3	35
2006	47	31	39	45	22	28	4	33
2007	48	35	40	47	20	22	4	29
2008	47	38	39	48	19	20	8	27

	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC
2000	21	10	39	1	9	45	24	43
2001	32	13	31	1	5	43	25	45
2002	29	10	34	1	5	47	19	41
2003	34	12	32	1	4	46	22	40
2004	34	8	36	1	7	48	22	41
2005	29	10	33	2	9	47	18	39
2006	29	9	36	1	6	48	20	38
2007	30	11	39	1	9	43	17	37
2008	32	9	36	1	7	46	15	37

FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME	MD	MA	MI	MN	MS	MO	
35	44	14	25	29	32	6	17	37	49	5	31	8	28	2	50	34	2000
33	42	21	23	29	30	6	15	36	49	8	19	3	27	2	50	34	2001
35	44	23	25	30	31	9	20	39	49	15	27	3	24	2	50	32	2002
35	39	24	16	28	30	9	15	42	49	7	21	6	26	3	50	33	2003
33	44	21	20	24	32	5	12	42	49	11	23	10	27	4	50	30	2004
32	41	11	22	26	31	7	16	40	49	15	24	5	27	1	50	34	2005
35	40	13	14	24	34	8	18	41	49	16	19	3	27	2	50	32	2006
36	42	18	26	24	31	6	13	41	49	12	25	5	27	2	50	33	2007
35	42	22	21	24	33	6	13	40	49	14	25	5	30	2	50	31	2008

ND	OH	OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY	
7	27	41	23	18	15	47	16	42	36	4	3	19	13	38	12	33	2000
10	28	40	20	17	18	44	11	47	35	4	9	16	12	41	14	24	2001
4	26	40	11	21	14	46	17	42	37	8	6	16	13	38	12	28	2002
5	29	38	18	25	20	45	19	43	37	8	2	13	14	47	10	23	2003
9	26	40	15	16	31	47	14	46	39	6	2	19	17	38	13	28	2004
8	28	42	17	21	20	46	30	43	37	4	6	14	13	44	12	25	2005
7	30	43	17	23	21	46	25	42	37	5	10	15	11	44	12	26	2006
7	28	44	19	23	15	45	21	46	34	3	8	16	14	38	10	32	2007
12	29	44	18	23	17	45	26	41	34	4	3	16	11	43	10	28	2008

18%

Percent of U.S. children in poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008)

Definitions and Data Sources

Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14) is the number of deaths to children between ages 1 and 14, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age range. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred. SOURCES: **Death Statistics:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) is the number of deaths occurring to infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place of death. SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Overall Rank for each state was obtained in the following manner. First, we converted the 2008 (or 2007, depending on the indicator) state numerical values for each of the 10 key indicators into standard scores. We then summed those standard scores to create a total standard score for each of the 50 states. Finally, we ranked the states on the basis of their total standard score in sequential order from highest/best (1) to lowest/worst (50). Standard scores were derived by subtracting the mean score from the observed score and dividing the amount by the standard deviation for that distribution of scores. All measures were given the same weight in calculating the total standard score.

Percent Change Over Time analysis was computed by comparing the 2008 (or 2007, depending on the indicator) data for 8 key indicators with the data for 2000. To calculate percent change, we subtracted the value for 2000 from the value for 2007/2008 and then divided that quantity by the value for 2000. The results are multiplied by 100 for readability. The percent change was calculated on rounded data, and the "percent change" figure has been rounded to the nearest whole number. The 2008 Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19) and Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment should not be compared to previous years because of substantial changes made to the 2008 American Community Survey questions on labor force participation and number of weeks worked.

Find detailed Definitions and Data Sources at:
datacenter.kidscount.org/databook

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies is the percentage of live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). The data reflect the mother's place of residence, not the place where the birth occurred. Data used are preliminary because the final birth report was not available at print time. SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Percent of Children in Poverty (income below $21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008) is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 100 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition and is updated every year to account for inflation. In calendar year 2008, a family of two adults and two children fell in the "poverty" category if their annual income fell below $21,834. Poverty status is not determined for people living in group quarters, such as military barracks, prisons, and other institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey. SOURCE: State-level data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families is the percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own single parent, either in a family or subfamily. In this definition, single-parent families may include cohabiting couples and do not include children living with married stepparents. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment is the share of all children under age 18 living in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment. For children living in single-parent families, this means that the resident parent did not work at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. For children living in married-couple families, this means that neither parent worked at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. Children living with neither parent also were listed as not having secure parental employment because those children are likely to be economically vulnerable. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16–19) is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full- or part-time) and not employed (full- or part-time). This measure is sometimes referred to as "Idle Teens" or "Disconnected Youth." Inclusion of the group quarters population to the ACS in 2007 could have a noticeable impact on the universe population for this age group. Therefore, the 2008 ACS estimates might not be fully comparable to estimates prior to 2007. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Teens Not in School and Not High School Graduates (ages 16–19) is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates. Those who have a GED or equivalent are included as high school graduates in this measure. The measure used here is defined as a "status dropout" rate. Inclusion of the group quarters population to the ACS in 2007 could have a noticeable impact on the universe population for this age group. Therefore, the ACS estimates for 2007 and 2008 might not be fully comparable to estimates prior to 2007. SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–19) is the number of births to teenagers between ages 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group. Data reflect the mother's place of residence, rather than the place of the birth. SOURCES: **Birth Statistics:** State Health Department for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. For more information on the individual Health Departments, contact kidscount@prb.org. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19) is the number of deaths from all causes to teens between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred. SOURCES: **Death Statistics:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

Criteria for Selecting KIDS COUNT Indicators

Over the past several years, we have developed a set of criteria to select the statistical indicators published in the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* for the purposes of measuring change over time and ranking the states. The criteria are designed to meet our twin goals of using only the highest quality data and communicating clearly and concisely. The criteria are described below.

1. The statistical indicator must be from a reliable source. All of the indicator data used in this book come from U.S. government agencies. Most of the data have already been published or released to the public in some other form before we use them. We work with a small circle of data experts to examine and re-examine the quality of the data used in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* each year.

2. The statistical indicator must be available and consistent over time. Changes in methodologies, practice, or policies may affect year-to-year comparability. Program and administrative data are particularly vulnerable to changes in policies and/or program administration, resulting in data that are not comparable across states or over time.

3. The statistical indicator must be available and consistent for all states. In practice, this means data collected by the federal government or some other national organization. Much of the data collected by states may be accurate and reliable and may be useful for assessing changes over time in a single state, but unless all of the states follow the same data collection and reporting procedures, the data are likely to be inconsistent across states. Without data for every state, we would not be able to construct an overall composite index of child well-being.

4. The statistical indicator should reflect a salient outcome or measure of well-being. We focus on outcome measures rather than programmatic or service data (such as dollars spent on education or welfare costs), which are not always related to the actual well-being of children. This focus reflects our ultimate aim of improving child well-being, regardless of the policies or programs used to achieve this goal.

5. The statistical indicator must be easily understandable to the public. We are trying to reach an educated lay public, not academic scholars or researchers. Measures that are too complex or esoteric cannot be communicated effectively.

6. The statistical indicator must have a relatively unambiguous interpretation. If the value of an indicator changes over time, we want to be sure there is widespread agreement that this is a good thing (or a bad thing) for kids.

7. There should be a high probability that the measure will continue to be produced in the near future. We want to establish a series of indicators that can be produced year after year to track trends in the well-being of children in each state. Therefore, we are reluctant to use data from a one-time survey, even though it may provide good information about kids.

Over the past few years, we have produced several KIDS COUNT Working Papers *focused on the KIDS COUNT data and methodology. These are available at www.kidscount.org. For additional information on characteristics of good indicators of child well-being, see* Key Indicators of Child and Youth Well-Being: Completing the Picture, *2008, Brett V. Brown (Ed.), Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, New York, NY.*

32% Percent of U.S. children in single-parent families

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

The Annie E. Casey Foundation provides funding and technical assistance for a national network of KIDS COUNT projects in every state, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. These projects, listed on the following pages, measure and report on the status of children at the state and local levels. They use the data to inform public debates and encourage public action to improve the lives of children.

The state KIDS COUNT projects publish a range of data-driven materials—state data books, special reports, issue briefs, and fact sheets—that help policymakers and citizens identify the needs of children and families and develop appropriate responses to address these needs. Much of the local-level data collected by the state KIDS COUNT grantees is available at datacenter.kidscount.org.

Please visit www.kidscount.org for more information about the network of state KIDS COUNT grantees, including mailing addresses.

Find more information at:
www.kidscount.org

Alabama VOICES for Alabama's Children www.alavoices.org	Melanie Bridgeforth *Policy Analyst/KIDS COUNT Director* (334) 213-2410 ext. 101 mbridgeforth@alavoices.org
Alaska KIDS COUNT Alaska www.kidscount.alaska.edu	Virgene Hanna *Project Director* (907) 786-5431 anvh@uaa.alaska.edu
Arizona Children's Action Alliance www.azchildren.org	Dana Wolfe Naimark *President and CEO* (602) 266-0707 ext. 214 dnaimark@azchildren.org
Arkansas Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families www.aradvocates.org	Tara Manthley *Communications Director* (501) 371-9678 ext. 111 tmanthey@aradvocates.org
California Children Now www.childrennow.org	Jessica Mindnich *Associate Director of Research* (510) 763-2444 ext. 115 jmindnich@childrennow.org

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Connecticut Connecticut Association for Human Services www.cahs.org	Jude Carroll *Director, CT KIDS COUNT Project* (860) 951-2212 ext. 240 jcarroll@cahs.org	**Idaho** Mountain States Group www.idahokidscount.org	Linda Jensen *KIDS COUNT Director* (208) 336-5533 ext. 246 ljensen@mtnstatesgroup.org
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Delaware University of Delaware www.dekidscount.org	Janice Barlow *Policy Analyst* (302) 831-3462 jls@udel.edu	**Indiana** Indiana Youth Institute www.iyi.org	Sarah Patterson *Project Manager-Data* (317) 396-2715 spatterson@iyi.org
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Georgia Georgia Family Connection Partnership, Inc. www.gafcp.org	Taifa Butler *Director, Policy and Communications* (404) 527-7394 ext. 136 taifa@gafcp.org	**Kansas** Kansas Action for Children www.kac.org	Suzanne Wikle *Director of Health Policy* (785) 232-0550 suzanne@kac.org

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Please contact AECF KIDS COUNT staff at (410) 547-6600 or visit www.kidscount.org for more information.

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About the Annie E. Casey Foundation and KIDS COUNT

The Annie E. Casey Foundation
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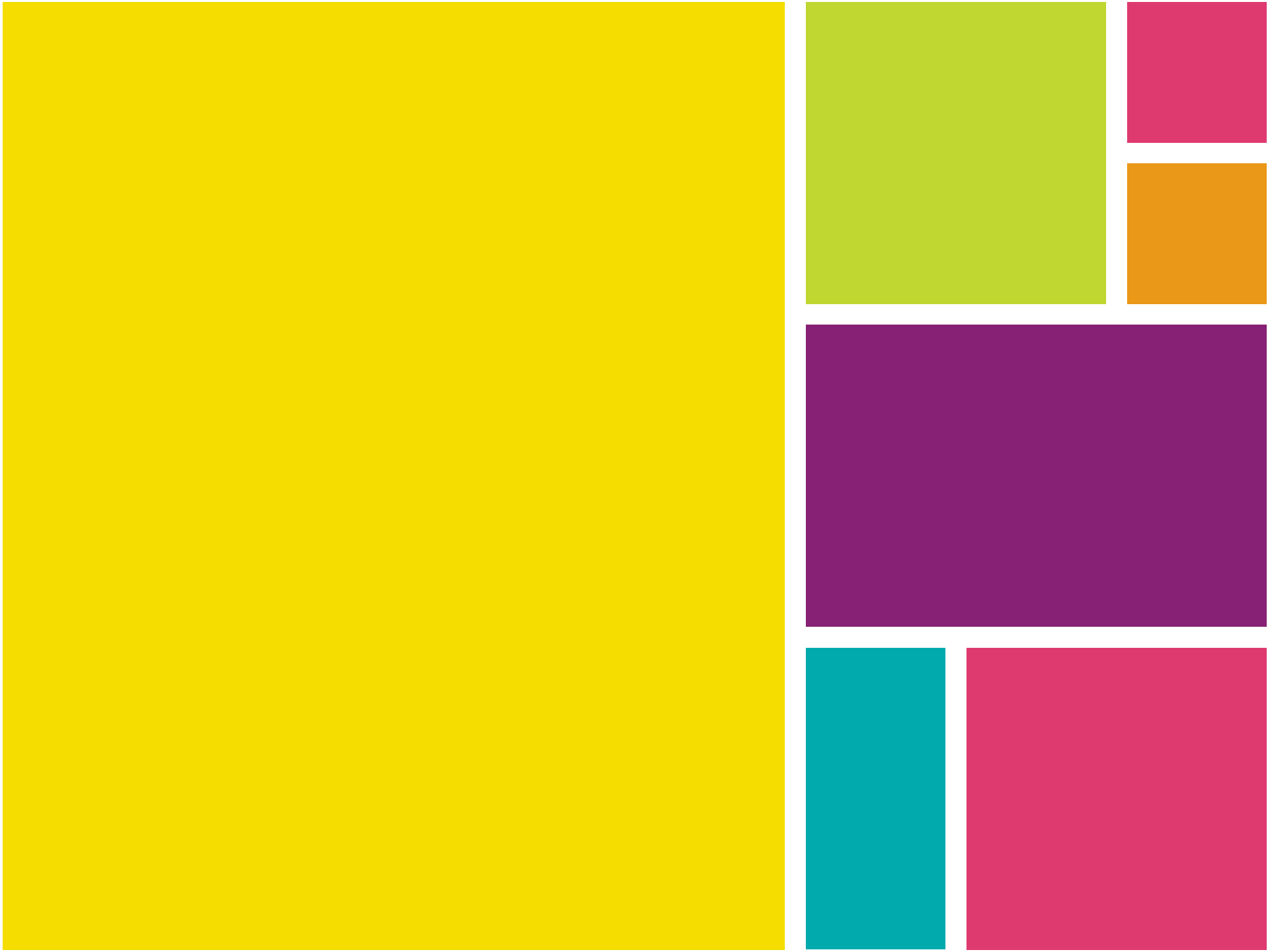
The Annie E. Casey Foundation is a private charitable organization dedicated to helping build better futures for disadvantaged children in the United States. It was established in 1948 by Jim Casey, one of the founders of UPS, and his siblings, who named the Foundation in honor of their mother. The primary mission of the Foundation is to foster public policies, human-service reforms, and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of today's vulnerable children and families. In pursuit of this goal, the Foundation makes grants that help states, cities, and communities fashion more innovative, cost-effective responses to these needs.

KIDS COUNT, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children. At the national level, the principal activities of the initiative are the publication of the annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book* and the maintenance of the KIDS COUNT Data Center, which use the best available data to measure the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children. The Foundation also funds a nationwide network of state-level KIDS COUNT projects that provide a more detailed, community-by-community picture of the condition of children.



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