State Profiles of Child Well-Being

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

2004

kids count DATA BOOK

MOVING YOUTH FROM RISK TO OPPORTUNITY

Acknowledgments

Designed by KINETIK
www.kinetikcom.com

Photography by Michael Cunningham, © 2004

Data compiled by Population Reference Bureau
www.prb.org

PRB

Printed and bound in the United States of America on recycled paper using soy-based inks.

ISSN 1060–9814

This *KIDS COUNT Data Book* could not be produced and distributed without the help of numerous people. The publication was assembled and produced under the general direction of Dr. William P. O'Hare, KIDS COUNT Coordinator at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, with help from Laura Beavers, Cindy Guy, and Connie Dykstra.

Most of the data presented in the *Data Book* were collected and organized by the staff at the Population Reference Bureau (PRB). We owe a special debt of gratitude to Kelvin Pollard and Kerri Rivers of PRB, who worked tirelessly assembling, organizing, checking, and re-checking the figures seen here.

A special thanks goes to Rowena Johnson and her staff in the Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics in the Bureau of Labor Statistics for providing tabulations of the Current Population Survey microdata files.

We also owe a special thanks to Martye T. Scobee of the Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville for providing data on the number and percent of disconnected young adults; percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty; and percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment.

Special thanks go to Richard Wertheimer, Megan Gallagher, Erum Ikramullah, and Sharon Vandivere of Child Trends, who prepared data on number of persons in foster care; number of teen mothers; and number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities.

Special thanks are also due Jeff Fabian, Beverley Hunter, Katie Roland, and Jenny Skillman of KINETIK Communication Graphics, Inc., who were responsible for the design of the book; Jayson Hait of eye4detail for proofreading and copyediting; Eugenie Thompson, Darcy Sawatzki, and Polly Dement at Hager Sharp for providing assistance in the promotion and dissemination of the *Data Book*; and all of the young people who were photographed for this year's *Data Book*, with special recognition to Elizabeth Bruce and the students, staff, volunteers, and friends of the Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center in Washington, DC.

Finally, we would like to thank the state KIDS COUNT projects listed on page 202 and the dissemination partners listed on page 211 for distributing the *Data Book* to national, state, and local leaders across the country.

Permission to copy, disseminate, or otherwise use information from this *Data Book* is granted as long as appropriate acknowledgment is given.

To obtain additional copies of this publication, call 410.223.2890 or write to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Attn: *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, 701 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

The 2004 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* can be viewed, downloaded, or ordered on the Internet at www.kidscount.org.

Table of Contents

ESSAY

Essay

MOVING YOUTH FROM RISK TO OPPORTUNITY

For most American youth, the transition to adulthood inspires a mix of excitement and high anxiety. There is excitement about taking steps to realize emerging dreams, aspirations, and possibilities. Yet there is anxiety about making the right choices, seizing the right opportunities, and navigating the predictable crises of confidence that are an inevitable part of growing up. Most of us have lived through those anxieties and spent time convincing our kids and other young adults we know that they will survive the turmoil of this transition; that things will, in fact, turn out okay. For the significant majority of youth in this country, things do end up well. They graduate, find employment, learn to handle new independence, and make responsible decisions.

This group is made up of teens in foster care; youth involved in the juvenile justice system; teens who have children of their own; and youth who never finished high school. These are the young adults who we believe deserve our most urgent attention.

Nevertheless, the transition to adulthood is never an automatic or uncomplicated process. All kids, no matter what their background or financial status, need a set of basic connections to help them navigate the shoals of young adulthood. They need the guidance, the time, and often the financial help of a stable, secure family. They need connections to wider communities that provide access to other mentoring adults and real-life options. And they need access to education and experiences that provide them with a foundation of learning, life skills, and credentials that can help them gain the knowledge and confidence they need to succeed.

Unfortunately, lots of young people, through no fault of their own, do not make enough of these critical connections and do not garner enough of the resources and supports they need. By the time these kids reach their early 20s, they find themselves facing adulthood unprepared, unsupported, and dispirited. Currently, it is estimated that there are 3.8 million youth between the ages of 18 and 24 who are neither employed nor in school—roughly 15 percent of all young adults.[1] Since 2000 alone, the ranks of these non-engaged young adults grew by 700,000, a 19 percent increase over just 3 years.[2] For many of these young people—America's "disconnected youth"—the transition to adulthood is not a time of anticipation and possibility; it is a time of fear and frustration. A significant number of these 3.8 million kids have neither the skills, supports, experience, education, nor confidence to successfully transition to adulthood.

A disproportionately large share of these youth come from minority and low-income families.[3] As a group, their lack of preparation will make it more difficult to secure good jobs with a future; it is more likely that they will have difficulty advancing beyond low-wage work. Their odds of being incarcerated will be greater, as will their chances of being victims of crime. With fewer earning opportunities, adequate housing will be more difficult to find, and they will be more likely to continue living in high-poverty, under-resourced communities. Perhaps most discouraging, with diminished ability to build economic security, they will be considerably less likely to become stable providers for their own kids. In sum, these disconnected youth—as a whole—face a much greater likelihood of bad outcomes, now and in the future, than their in-school or at-work peers.

Who Are America's "Most Disconnected Youth"?

While this overall population faces a much tougher road to successful adulthood, we know that there is a sub-group of young people who face even worse odds. They are, in fact, *the most at-risk kids in the country*—those most likely to consistently fail.

This group is made up of teens in foster care; youth involved in the juvenile justice system; teens who have children of their own; and youth who never finished high school.

These are the young adults who we believe deserve our most urgent attention. Their risk is greatest; their hardship is most profound; and their current and future costs to our communities are the most significant. They often are the kids in whom we frequently invest intervention dollars that yield disappointing results. They are the kids most directly affected by our state and local public systems and public policies. In urban and rural communities across the country, these are the kids who depend on:

- foster care systems to help them connect to strong families;
- juvenile corrections systems to treat them fairly and help them find a new beginning;
- public schools to help them gain the knowledge and skills they will need to become productive providers and citizens; and
- public health systems to provide the information and services that can help ensure their physical and mental well-being.

But the sad truth is that these systems have routinely and consistently failed them in their young lives.

In this, our 15th annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, we examine the issues surrounding America's most at-risk young adults. We examine who they are, why it is so critical that we help them, and what they need to succeed. Just as important, we outline a number of ways that we can alter the path of their lives and increase the odds that they, too, can become successful adults.

Teens in Foster Care

For adolescents in our nation's foster care system, the transition to successful adulthood is particularly rocky. In 2000, approximately 16 percent of the roughly 550,000 children in publicly supported foster care were between the ages of 16 and 18. About one-third of these youth had been in care for at least 2 years, and one-fourth had been in care for 5 years or more.[4] It is estimated that each year about 20,000 young people leave the foster care system at age 18 (the age at which most states relinquish legal responsibility for these youth) without being adopted or returning to families.[5]

African Americans are disproportionately represented in foster care. They make up more than 40 percent of the foster care population, even though they represent less than 20 percent of the nation's child population. By contrast, white children comprise only 31 percent of the foster care population, but 64 percent of the country's children. As children move along in age within the foster care system, African-American youngsters are more likely to be in residential or group care instead of family foster care. African-American children also stay in care longer,[6] and they are least likely to be reunified with their families.

The problems of adolescents in foster care are compounded by their considerable and overlapping health and mental health problems. An estimated 30 percent to 40 percent of foster children have physical or emotional difficulties.[7] Those leaving care are at especially high medical risk and likely to have acute, chronic, and complex health needs resulting from past neglect or abuse.[8] Yet a major problem for this population is their lack of even minimal medical coverage.[9] Without appropriate medical coverage these young people run the risk of incurring high medical bills if faced with an emergency, not receiving the appropriate preventive medical treatment, and being untreated for chronic conditions such as asthma and depression.[10] A 2001 longitudinal study of youth leaving care found that 44 percent had problems obtaining health care "most or all of the time."[11]

While many foster youth overcome the obstacles and challenges of growing up apart from their birth families, significant numbers of foster teens and young adults do not. Research indicates that these foster youth are behind educationally and have disproportionately high rates of special educational needs. Some studies report high school dropout rates

among foster youth as high as 55 percent.[12] They also fare poorly on other predictors of successful adult transition. For example, examinations of foster care alumni found that 2 to 4 years after leaving foster care, only half were regularly employed, more than half of the young women had given birth, and a significant number were dependent on welfare support. Nearly half of the population had been arrested, and a quarter had been homeless.[13] A study of employment outcomes among children exiting foster care near their 18th birthday in California, Illinois, and South Carolina during the mid-1990s found that these youth have mean earnings well below the poverty level and earn significantly less than youth in any of the comparison groups both prior to and after their 18th birthday.

All of this is not surprising, given the trauma that many of these young people have experienced, and their lack of family connections and support when they leave foster care. Most have been abused or neglected; some have been abandoned by their families. Many youth in foster care have been placed in marginal group homes, rather than with good foster or relative families. Many have bounced from placement to placement without any real stability or ongoing family ties. These neglected kids have been underserved by the very system that was designed to provide them with the strong families they need.

What is truly surprising is our apparent national expectation that upon reaching 18, these high-risk adolescents will be capable of functioning independently. Common sense dictates that in today's world, most 18-year-olds, regardless of their economic or educational status, are not fully capable of assuming adult responsibilities. In fact, in a nationwide survey respondents felt that the average young adult is not ready to be completely on their own until about age 23. A third didn't consider them ready until age 25 or older.[14]

Yet, each year, approximately 20,000 teenagers "age out" of foster care by virtue of having reached the age at which their legal rights to foster care end. Most entered foster care as teenagers, and too few (given current practice and policy) are being reunited with their birth families or adopted. For the most part, adequate preparation for this critical transition is just not provided. Despite the fact that Congress passed the Foster Care Independence Act—also known as the Chafee Act—in 1999, which doubled federal spending and expanded eligibility for services to age 21, neither the funds appropriated (less than $1,000 per year, per eligible youth) nor the state and county systems charged with addressing the needs of this population have so far been up to the challenge.[15]

A state-by-state analysis of policies that promote successful transition indicates that the scope and quality of services provided to current and former foster youths, and the eligibility requirements for these services, vary widely. In general, states provide minimal and uneven assistance with education, employment, and housing, and only a few states provide essential health and mental health services. For example, fewer than one-third of the states offer former foster youth ages 18–21 access to Medicaid coverage. And although most states provide some mentoring services, they generally do not utilize other methods of enhancing youth support networks.[16] Perhaps most important, the inability of foster care systems to routinely place teenagers with strong foster, relative, and adoptive families puts them at great risk

of not having a network of adults available as they transition to adulthood—a transition that is challenging even for youth who have families supporting them.

Youth Involved in the Juvenile Justice System

No experience may be more predictive of future adult difficulty than having been confined in a secure juvenile facility. Many youth are held in detention centers because they have been arrested and are simply waiting for trial; others are incarcerated in secure congregate care facilities because they have been sentenced for a crime. However youth enter juvenile custody, almost all are at significant risk of failure when they exit.

For example, each year, there are more than 600,000 admissions to secure detention facilities. According to recent federal statistics, there are approximately 27,000 youth in these institutions on any given day, an increase of almost 100 percent since 1985. Despite public stereotypes that these are very dangerous youth, fewer than one-third are charged with offenses involving violence. More than one-third are detained for status offenses (non-criminal offenses such as running away) and various technical violations of probation and other rules. Approximately two-thirds of these kids are minority youth, and virtually all of the growth in detention over the past 15 years is due to greatly increased rates of detention for African Americans and Latinos. About two-thirds of all youth admitted to secure detention facilities will enter institutions that are overcrowded and unsafe. By professional standards, such places are unable to provide the kinds of custody or care that these youth require. The needs of detained and incarcerated youth are many and often severe:

- One-half to three-fourths of incarcerated youth nationwide are estimated to suffer from a mental health disorder. Suicide within juvenile detention and correctional facilities is more than four times greater than in the general population. At the same time, researchers and administrators alike decry the lack of appropriate assessment and treatment services for confined youth with mental health problems.[17]
- It is estimated that more than half of all detained youth have drug use problems that require substance abuse treatment, yet relatively few facilities provide such services. One survey found that treatment for adolescent substance offenders was available in less than 40 percent of the nation's public and private youth facilities.[18]
- Academically, incarcerated youth function at a significantly lower level than peers their age. Studies indicate that although 10 percent to 12 percent of the general population suffers from learning disabilities, rates are as high as 42 percent among the correctional population. Yet reviews of educational programs in these institutions consistently indicate that incarcerated youth receive markedly substandard and inadequate educational services. Their educational progress is further compromised because school districts are often averse to re-enrolling youth upon their release and often refuse to accept any academic credits that they may have earned while incarcerated.[19]

Confined youth lose daily contact with their families, lose valuable school time, and are unlikely to have their health and mental health needs met. They are much more likely to be tutored in crime than they are in math, and their mentors are much more likely to be offenders than caring adults. The reality is that months in confinement can increase the odds of negative adult outcomes for a 16-year-old by jump-starting a spiral of

The overall effects of confinement, combined with our dismal national record for providing quality after-care services for youth once they are released, make adolescent incarceration a significant risk factor for compromised adulthoods.

failure that often becomes impossible to escape. Far too often, incarceration under current practices serves as a trip wire for long-term criminal involvement and future failure.

The overall effects of confinement, combined with our dismal national record for providing quality after-care services for youth once they are released, make adolescent incarceration a significant risk factor for compromised adulthoods. For example:

- Once incarcerated, youth are far less likely to gain the education credentials to succeed. One longitudinal study of incarcerated 9th graders found that only slightly more than half returned to school when released. Of these, more than two-thirds dropped out or withdrew within 1 year of re-enrolling, and 4 years later, only 15 percent had completed high school.[20] Other research also confirms that most released juvenile offenders 16 and older never return to any formal education.[21]
- Incarcerated youth, without appropriate treatment, connections, and support systems, are more likely to re-offend and get re-arrested. Numerous studies point to recidivism rates of 50 percent to 75 percent.[22] In fact, prior confinement is the strongest predictor of future incarceration. It is actually a stronger predictor than gang membership, poor parental relations, prior offense history, and other characteristics.[23]
- The effects of incarceration on prospective employment are profound. Formerly incarcerated youth work 3 to 5 weeks less a year than those never incarcerated—a disadvantage that carries over far into adulthood. Controlling for other factors, the impact of incarceration on employment is greater than the impact of a youth living in a high unemployment area or being a high school dropout. According to the London School of Economics, having been in jail is the most important deterrent to employment, and its effect, even years later, is persistent and substantial.[24]

Teen Parents

According to this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, in 2002 there were nearly 850,000 mothers under age 20. (See page 50.) Despite the good news that national teen birth rates are declining, the reality is that these numbers are still far too high and still well above those of other industrialized countries.

Teen pregnancy and birth statistics clearly reveal that these rates continue to vary greatly by race, ethnicity, and economic status. According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, African-American and Hispanic girls are more than twice as likely as whites to become pregnant at least once before age 20.[25] Teens from high-poverty, low-income, one-parent families are far more likely to become pregnant and give birth than teens from intact families living in more affluent communities.[26]

There is considerable evidence that teenage childbearing correlates with a host of long-term negative life outcomes. Teen parenthood greatly increases the risk of educational failure, and pregnancy is a major reason girls give for dropping out of school. Even after controlling for race, ethnicity, and other personal and community characteristics, having a child before age 20 reduces academic attainment by almost 3 years.[27] According to recent estimates, only about one-third of teen mothers go on to receive a high school diploma after having a child.[28] Among young men who have fathered children, less than half complete high school; and those who do are far less likely to obtain any additional education.

There is considerable evidence that teenage childbearing correlates with a host of long-term negative life outcomes. Teen parenthood greatly increases the risk of educational failure, and pregnancy is a major reason girls give for dropping out of school.

No characteristic may be more powerful at predicting who drops out than where a young person attends school. For example, the most dramatic dropout problems are concentrated in 200 to 300 schools in the 35 largest U.S. cities.

As a result, young women who give birth as teens have significantly lower earnings and greater probability of being poor or receiving welfare. Given their lower education attainment, as well as gaps in their basic skills, young mothers find themselves at a distinct disadvantage in the labor market. When they do work, they have lower family incomes and higher rates of poverty than women who gave birth at a later age.[29] Historically, nearly half of all teenage mothers receive welfare within 5 years of becoming parents.[30] Teen fathers enter the labor market earlier, and although they initially earn more money than their peers, they earn less by the time they reach their mid-20s.[31] Young dads are also often unprepared to provide emotional or other parental support for their children.

In addition to being a critical risk factor for a young person's successful transition to adulthood, teen parenthood is also a social problem with intergenerational dimensions. Children of adolescents are at higher risk of developmental problems than children of older parents. They are more likely to live in poor families headed by single parents and reared by mothers who are less prepared to be successful parents. Researchers have found, for example, that teenage mothers are more prone to have unrealistic expectations regarding children's developmental milestones and less able to provide children with the verbal and cognitive stimulation they need.[32]

High School Dropouts

Numerous studies over the past 30 years confirm what most of us know by intuition and experience: Kids who drop out of high school—and even those who later return and complete equivalency degrees—begin adulthood at a significant disadvantage. Gone are the days when a high school diploma was sufficient to obtain a job that could support a family. Today, high school completion is the minimum entry credential for employment with even modest growth potential, and post-secondary education, even if it stops short of a degree, makes a huge difference in an individual's employment, earnings, and self-sufficiency prospects.

For example, young adults ages 17–24 with less than a high school diploma are three times as likely to be unemployed, underemployed, or working for very low wages than those with a college degree.[33] One study that followed a large group of high school-aged youth from 1979 until 1992 found that 80 percent of those without a high school diploma were unemployed for at least a full year, and half were out of work for 3 or more years between their 18th and 25th birthdays. More recently, in 2000, a time of low unemployment, only half of all dropouts were employed at any given time. Between 1997 and 2001, more than a quarter of all dropouts were unemployed for a year or longer, compared with only 11 percent of those with a high school diploma or GED.[34]

A lack of education and connection to the workforce translates into significant earning differences. Over the course of a lifetime, college graduates make $900,000 more than graduates of high school only. Moreover, even those individuals who attend college without attaining a degree demonstrate significantly higher lifetime earnings. Over the course of a lifetime, individuals with some college training earn $300,000 more than graduates of high school only, and $500,000 more than high school dropouts.[35]

Race, ethnicity, and economic status help us understand who drops out and who stays in school. Compared to white students, African Americans are twice as likely to drop out before

graduation, and Hispanics are four times as likely.[36] Family poverty is also a critical predictor. Among youth in the lowest quartile of income distribution, only 64 percent manage to graduate high school, compared to 86 percent of youth from families in the middle two quartiles and 92 percent of youth from families in the top quartile.[37]

Still, no characteristic may be more powerful at predicting who drops out than *where* a young person attends school. For example, the most dramatic dropout problems are concentrated in 200 to 300 schools in the 35 largest U.S. cities. In these schools, 50 percent or fewer of the students who enroll in 9th grade graduate. Consistent with this, large schools attended primarily by students of color (those with more than 900 students and more than 90 percent students of color) have the highest dropout rates.[38]

The Importance of Investing in America's Disconnected Youth

The youth described in this essay arguably represent our nation's most vulnerable young people. Viewed as a whole, they are largely minority and endure the effects of having been raised in troubled families and in neighborhoods that do not offer the supports and opportunities available in more affluent communities. Most have attended our worst schools, and many have lacked access to adults whose guidance and networks can connect them to mainstream opportunities. Although they may reach adolescence and early adulthood with the same dreams and aspirations of all young people, their ability to realize them is severely limited.

If the human tragedy of having so many young people on the precipice of adult failure is itself not a sufficient stimulus to move us to action on their behalf, it may be useful to consider the likely implications of ignoring this issue. Specifically, if we do not learn to intervene more effectively in the transition of the most vulnerable young people, then we can expect the following outcomes:

- Over the next decade a new generation of children will be born to parents whose ability to provide for them financially will be severely compromised. Given the background and experiences of today's disconnected youth, a significant number of their offspring will be at risk for the same negative outcomes experienced by their parents.
- We will spend approximately $1 billion annually to incarcerate youth in our nation's detention systems, with the disheartening prospect of doing more harm than good.[39]
- We will spend more than $150 billion annually for police protection, corrections, and judicial and legal activities nationally.[40]
- We will spend more than $223 billion at the federal level alone to help our needy kids and families—the amount it currently costs to support federal programs that address substance abuse, violence, teen pregnancy, nutrition, school failure, and workforce preparation.[41] Furthermore, we can expect to spend billions more at the state and local levels.
- Finally, we will lose a sizeable portion of our potential labor market, along with billions of dollars in earnings and tax revenue that could be pumped into our economy annually.

We know that we can avoid a good share of this human tragedy and financial waste. We also believe that as a nation, the best way of doing so is to make more prudent and effective investments in our most at-risk youth—investments

that can help dysfunctional public systems improve results and spend resources more efficiently; investments that can help communities connect kids to opportunities that enhance the skills, knowledge, and relationships they need to make it as adults.

The good news is that we needn't start from scratch. In the following section, we highlight a range of promising and proven efforts that we believe can help move us in a more productive direction.

Crafting New Connections for Our Most Vulnerable Young People

The range of data reported in this essay make it abundantly clear that for many of today's disconnected young adults, their diminished prospects are rooted in the risk factors they experienced as adolescents. Therefore, we believe that the smartest interventions we can advance are those that can prevent kids from experiencing the factors that put them at risk for disconnection, as well as help those who have faced these challenges get back on their feet.

Below, we discuss several efforts in a wide range of states and communities that are addressing the needs of the kids experiencing the various risk factors we have described. While many focus on providing innovative program options, others are trying to reform public systems or refine public policies in ways that can provide opportunities for even larger numbers of at-risk youth.

Connecting Foster Youth to Families and Transition Assistance

For any adolescent or young adult, the most powerful predictor of future success is a connection to a caring and supportive family. For those young people who, through no fault of their own, have been removed from their families, this critical connection is often either temporary or lacking altogether. The fact is, the older a child gets, the less likely it is that foster care systems will find a suitable foster family or relative willing to provide care. As a result, 40 percent of older youth routinely spend at least a part of their adolescence in group homes and other institutional settings, disconnected from enduring family relationships and support.[42] And even those who do get placed with foster families often have a rough ride, as the probability of a disrupted foster placement for an adolescent is much greater than for younger children.

Given this, it is imperative that we do more to promote the chances that adolescents removed from their homes can connect to strong families and do more to help those in foster care successfully transition to adulthood.

At the Casey Foundation, we have spent decades promoting strong family connections for kids, particularly those in foster care. For 25 years we have provided high-quality foster care services in each of the New England states through **Casey Family Services**, our direct service arm. We recruit committed, talented foster parents and support them with training and a range of ongoing services that enable them to provide a stable family connection for even the most vulnerable adolescents. The program encourages and assists each child in maintaining a connection with his or her birth family. Casey Family Services, for example, also provides counseling and support to children making the transition from foster homes to their birth or adoptive families, or to independent living. We try to provide all of our foster kids with the necessary supports once they age out of care. In

most cases, the key elements of a successful transition are helping them complete school, make plans for the future, maintain enduring relationships with family members or caring adults, and find an affordable place to live.

Casey Family Services helps young adults make these and other critical short- and long-term decisions by providing a variety of resources, from tuition and housing assistance to counseling and training. Perhaps most important, our social workers, foster parents, and kin resources remain connected to these foster kids after they have officially left care. The results are impressive. A 2001 study of Casey Family Services alumni found that 73 percent had graduated from high school or earned a GED; 48 percent had received education beyond high school; 68 percent were currently employed; and 61 percent were in regular contact with their foster, adoptive, and/or birth parents.[43]

At the system level, we have also put Casey's experiences and principles to work through our national **Family to Family Initiative**, now being implemented in 35 cities and 16 states, including cities as large as New York, Los Angeles, and Cleveland. In Family to Family, our goal is to help child welfare systems connect all of the children in their care to supportive and protective families and communities. The agencies involved in our Family to Family Initiative have committed to developing networks of foster care that are family-centered, culturally sensitive, and located in the neighborhoods where children currently live; and to ensuring that all kids, including adolescents and their siblings, are routinely placed with families, rather than in institutional settings. Through a variety of creative strategies, these state- and local-level systems are increasing the number and quality of foster and kinship families; making better decisions about child placement and treatment through the use of a team decision-making approach that involves foster families, birth families, and child welfare personnel; and establishing networks of neighborhood-based services that are providing birth and foster families with the ongoing support they need.

Family to Family's results indicate that these systems are making a significant, positive difference for young people. In Cleveland, for example, among youth 15 and older who entered the child welfare system for the first time, placement in their network of family foster homes increased from 4.1 percent to 19 percent between 1996 and 2003. During that same period, group home placements declined from 6.2 percent to 2.5 percent, while placements in detention facilities were reduced from 5.6 percent to 1.6 percent. Family to Family is now being replicated in a number of settings nationwide. We believe that it represents a proven model for how our nation's foster care systems can help more vulnerable young people, including adolescents, develop the stable family supports and connections they need to successfully transition to adulthood.

While Casey Family Services and Family to Family provide strong examples of how we can more effectively work with adolescents in care, we must also do much more to help vulnerable young people as they transition from, or age out of, foster care.

A major national effort to help foster care alumni transition to successful adulthood is the **Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative** (JCYOI). JCYOI is a nonprofit, single-purpose, grant-making foundation, supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Casey Family Programs,[44] that brings together the people and resources needed to help youth in foster

It is imperative that we do more to promote the chances that adolescents removed from their homes can connect to strong families and do more to help those in foster care successfully transition to adulthood.

care and foster care alumni gain access to education, employment, health care, housing, and supportive personal and community relationships. To date, this effort has been launched successfully in nine sites—Atlanta; Denver; Des Moines; Jacksonville; Kansas City; Nashville; Detroit and Traverse City, Michigan; and Portland, Maine—with plans to bring on five more sites in the coming year.

A key component of JCYOI's approach is to engage youth directly as key partners and catalysts to improve outcomes for youth leaving foster care. The Initiative does this in each site by establishing and working closely with youth leadership boards and community partnership boards, which bring youth and civic leaders together to develop new options for transitioning youth. For example, in Michigan, the youth board has been instrumental in advancing new policies that ensure that youth receive key documents, such as birth certificates or proof of residence, that are required to open bank accounts and participate in other routine financial transactions. Nashville's youth board started a "suitcase drive" to collect luggage for youth in and leaving foster care to replace the ubiquitous plastic trash bags historically issued to carry their belongings. The response was so overwhelming that excess suitcases were donated to other cities, and the luggage drive is now statewide.

Each site is also developing Opportunity Passports™, a tool designed to organize resources to create opportunities—financial, educational, vocational, health care, entrepreneurial, and recreational—for alumni of the foster care system and for youth still in foster care. The Opportunity Passport has several components, including a personal debit account; a matched savings account (also known as an Individual Development Account, which can be used for education or for other critical purchases, such as housing); and a range of "Door Openers." These are locally developed benefits that may include pre-approved registration for community college courses, expedited access to job training or adult education courses, mentors, assistance with finanacial aid applications, part-time jobs, and pre-certification for subsidized housing. Almost 400 Opportunity Passports have been issued to transitioning youth to date.

Another innovative program to help foster care alumni make a successful transition to adulthood is the Casey Foundation's **School-to-Career Partnership**, which is administered through the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative. The School-to-Career Partnership provides employment training and placement services to help transitioning youth get, keep, and succeed at adult jobs, as well as supports that can improve career, academic, and life success. In contrast to standard job training programs, which focus on placement, the School-to-Career model establishes a range of observable and measurable goals for both youth and their employers. Partners include public and private nonprofit child welfare agencies, for-profit employers, community-based organizations, and the youth themselves. In 2003, more than 340 youth across eight program sites were placed in jobs with an average salary of $7.92 per hour. Fifty-one percent received health benefits, and the program had an 81 percent retention rate.

A program modeled on the lines of the School-to-Career Partnership, but with an entertainment industry focus, is the **Rowell Foster Children's Positive Plan** (RFCPP), which annually sponsors more than 60 foster

One critical starting point for helping detained youth is to re-examine and address our national over-reliance on indiscriminately locking up so many young offenders in the first place, particularly since such a large percentage are detained for non-violent offenses.

youth to participate in fine arts programs, camps, and cultural activities. Additionally, it provides older and former foster youth with employment opportunities on the East and West Coasts. For example, last year, RFCPP enabled more than 30 foster youth to participate in entertainment-related employment training. It has placed foster youth with such notable entertainment corporations as Viacom, Paramount, and BMG Music. RFCPP is piloting an accredited class on the campus of Dorsey High School in Los Angeles, which has a student population that is one-third foster youth.

Given the lack of opportunities for foster youth to obtain quality post-secondary education, some transition efforts have specifically focused on bolstering foster youths' access to college. For example, in San Jose, California, the Silicon Valley Children's Fund launched their **Youth Education Scholarship** (YES) program as a pilot project in 2000 and began bringing it to scale last year. This initiative provides transitioning foster youth with scholarships for college tuition, books, food, and transportation, plus a comprehensive support system that includes outreach, mentoring, and counseling services. Since 2000, 28 foster youth have received YES scholarships, and it is estimated that 1,000 will be eligible over the next 5 years. To date, 85 percent of YES scholars have returned for a second year of college (compared to a 33 percent national rate for foster youth), and more than 95 percent have maintained a GPA of 2.0 or above. Similarly, California State University, Fullerton, through its **Guardian Scholars Program**, annually provides an array of financial and other supports to up to 10 former foster youth between the ages of 17 and 23. In addition to paying all annual fees, academic tuition, and textbook costs, the Program offers on-campus housing, employment opportunities, individual counseling, and mentors who can assist with various needs and help students plan for their post-graduate future. In 2003, 7 Guardian Scholars received their bachelor's degrees.

To help foster care youth get ready for higher education, Seattle's **Tree House Coaching to College Program** offers a pre-college preparation and access program that matches transitioning youth with coaches who help them define educational goals and navigate the college application and financial aid systems. It produces up to $4,000 in scholarship assistance per year. Last year, 151 youth benefited from this aid.

Reforming Juvenile Justice and Building Bridges for Confined Youth

One critical starting point for helping detained youth is to re-examine and address our national over-reliance on indiscriminately locking up so many young offenders in the first place, particularly since such a large percentage are detained for non-violent offenses. In light of what we know about the generally negative impact of confinement on successful adult transition, it is clear we must do more to avoid unnecessary imprisonment and establish more effective ways of getting troubled youth the help they need.

Over the past decade, a number of communities have successfully accomplished this and done so without compromising public safety. These jurisdictions have been part of the Casey Foundation's **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative** (JDAI), a multi-site effort designed to reform our nation's juvenile detention systems. Through JDAI, places as varied as Chicago, Illinois; Portland, Oregon;

and Sacramento, Santa Cruz, and Ventura County, California, have demonstrated that by using better screening tools, accurate data, and more effective community-based alternatives to incarceration, it is possible to reduce the costly confinement of youth in detention significantly without increasing youth crime or recidivism.

By employing JDAI's principles and strategies, these sites have drastically decreased average daily detention populations, increased the use of community programs, reduced the numbers of youth who fail to appear for trial, and decreased the re-arrest rate. For example, Chicago and Multnomah County (Portland) reduced their average daily populations by 37 percent and 66 percent, respectively, while achieving improvements in relevant public safety outcomes. Multnomah County became the first site nationally to successfully reduce racial disparities within its detention population.

By reducing overcrowding, the detention facilities participating in this initiative have also become safer and more responsive to those youth for whom incarceration is appropriate. Furthermore, these sites have saved millions of dollars by redirecting funds from expensive secure detention facilities to more cost-efficient alternative programs.

One state that has taken several juvenile justice reforms to scale is Missouri. Since closing its large juvenile training schools 20 years ago, Missouri has become a national model in juvenile corrections. At that time, **Missouri's Division of Youth Services** (DYS) began to experiment with smaller correctional programs across the state, and their largest new unit housed only three dozen teens. DYS divided the state into five regions, allowing confined youth to remain within driving distance of their homes and families. And it began staffing its facilities primarily with college-educated "youth specialists," rather than traditional corrections officers. Over the next decade, DYS developed a distinctive new approach to juvenile corrections—one that relies on counseling and personal development, rather than punishment and isolation, as the best course for delinquent teens.

Today, the available data suggest that Missouri is well above the pack in assuring the health and safety of confined youth, preventing abuses, and fostering learning. Most significant, Missouri achieves far more success than most other states in reducing the future criminality of youthful offenders. The most recent DYS recidivism report, compiled in February 2003, shows that 70 percent of youth released in 1999 avoided recommitment to a correctional program within 3 years. Compared to states that measure recidivism in similar ways, these success rates are exceptional. Missouri's lower recidivism rates do not come with a high price tag. The total DYS budget for 2002 was $58.4 million—equal to $103 a day for each young person. Missouri's spending rates are lower than those of states with significantly higher recidivism rates, such as Florida (approximately $271), Louisiana ($270 a day per young person ages 10–16), and Maryland ($192 for each youth ages 10–17).[45]

A community-based effort that has shown extremely positive results is **Multi-Systemic Therapy** (MST), designed as a cost-effective alternative for youth with serious behavior disorders who would normally be confined in out-of-home settings.[46] MST identifies key individuals in each youth's social network who can help them target and change problem behaviors at home, in school, and in their community. For example, MST equips parents to deal more

effectively with a youth's negative actions and generally helps them overcome barriers to effective parenting. MST enables youth to build stronger social support circles of friends, extended family, neighbors, and church members. MST therapists provide treatment and services in the home, in schools, and in other community locations. These include monitoring and disciplining youth, as well as establishing strategies to help youth cut ties with negative influences and develop relationships with more positive peer networks. MST also provides educational support, vocational training, and employment assistance. Treatment generally lasts approximately 4 months, with 60 hours of therapist–family, face-to-face contact.[47]

Evaluations have shown that MST services are highly effective and cost-efficient compared to the traditional juvenile justice interventions of confinement, probation, or residential treatment. Youth on probation are three times less likely to commit new offenses, two times less likely to be re-arrested, and three times less likely to be placed in out-of-home placement in the future. Savings from using MST strategies are also significant. For example, in South Carolina, the state's use of MST (at an average cost of $3,500) instead of institutional placements (average cost of $17,769) saved the state more than $14,000 per youth on treatment alone. This amount does not include the savings derived from a decrease in future crime and future confinement.[48]

Avoiding the unnecessary use of confinement is a critical element of a strategy to prevent young offenders from becoming disconnected young adults. However, we also need to advance efforts that help those youth who are detained to re-connect to school, work, and community upon their release. The best programs take a comprehensive approach, helping youth become economically self-sufficient and building on their strengths.[49]

A New York City-based program taking this approach is the **CUNY (City University of New York) Catch Program**, established in 1991 to provide transitional services for young inmates returning from Rikers Island (the City's largest detention facility) to their home communities. CUNY Catch offers outreach and programming for those who are detained and awaiting trial for a wide range of criminal offenses or who have been sentenced to less than 1 year at Rikers Island. It helps inmates make the transition from jail to community-based campuses for continued counseling, training, and education. A full-time transitional care specialist works as a permanent liaison between the university and the facility, providing workshops, seminars, and motivational programming for students several days each week.

When young people return home from Rikers, Catch staff members help them develop options for gainful employment and offer ex-offenders academic and vocational assistance and referral services on several local college campuses. The post-release program includes a GED preparation class that helps ex-offenders earn certification, learn the workplace skills they need to get and keep a job, and apply to college. The CUNY Catch Program reports a 95 percent success rate for students who have taken the GED test. Latest results indicate that 50 percent of the program participants enrolled in college; the rest received job placement assistance.[50]

Preventing Teen Pregnancy and Helping Young Parents Succeed

In order to reduce the risk that youth will fall prey to long-term disconnection and

disadvantage, it is essential to take on the challenge of reducing adolescent pregnancy, especially in low-income communities where teen childbearing continues to be entrenched and widespread. Although teen pregnancy rates have dropped nationwide, they continue to be much too high, particularly among adolescents of color, and more must be done to help young people make better decisions about responsible sexual behavior. Similarly, we need to develop strategies that can better support young moms and dads so that they can more effectively acquire skills, meet parental responsibilities, and compete in the job market—all to increase the odds that they will achieve economic security for themselves and their children.

Our experiences indicate that the most effective teen pregnancy prevention efforts, including those that promote abstinence, contain three essential components: (1) They stress a high degree of community involvement. (2) They promote and advance communication between youth and their parents and other adults. (3) They provide adolescents with information and high-quality services to make smart decisions about sexual behavior and protect themselves from unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

These three components were core to the Casey Foundation's successful **Plain Talk Initiative**, which was first implemented in Atlanta, San Diego, Hartford, and New Orleans in 1993 and is now being replicated in several cities nationally. Plain Talk is a neighborhood-based initiative that combines adult-focused community outreach and education with youth-focused improvements in services. One key element of the Plain Talk strategy is to train and equip neighborhood adults to provide young people (both male and female) with accurate and straightforward facts about teen pregnancy, STDs, and contraception.

The other element of the Plain Talk strategy is to increase adolescents' access to reproductive health services that are culturally effective and developmentally appropriate and offered at locations and hours that are convenient for teens. By 1997, an independent evaluation found that the incidence of pregnancy and disease was significantly reduced among Plain Talk youth. For example, participating females were 70 percent less likely to get pregnant than those who had not been exposed to the Plain Talk strategies, and males were significantly less likely to have caused a pregnancy. Youth were 80 percent more likely to get routine reproductive health care and half as likely to have an STD.

In addition to Plain Talk, other efforts that stress youth development and lots of interaction with adults also have had a strong impact on helping young women avoid early pregnancy. For example, the **New York City Children's Aid Society's Carrera Program** is an after-school sex education, pregnancy prevention, and youth development program aimed at high-risk black and Hispanic urban youth ages 13 through 15. Adult involvement with youth is a significant program element, based on the belief that parents and other supportive adults have the moral authority and responsibility to become involved to improve teens' reproductive health outcomes.

The Carrera Program has several activity and service components. These include a job club, which offers stipends, bank accounts, employment experience, and career awareness; academic support, including individual assessment, tutoring, PSAT and SAT preparation, and college application assistance; comprehensive family life and sexuality education;

Although teen pregnancy rates have dropped nationwide, they continue to be much too high, particularly among adolescents of color, and more must be done to help young people make better decisions about responsible sexual behavior.

arts; and athletics. The program also provides mental health services and medical care (including reproductive health care, primary care, and dental care). It operates daily during the school year and summer. A multi-site, multi-year comparative evaluation of 600 youth involved in the program showed that participants demonstrated a better knowledge of sexual health issues. Females were less likely to have ever had sex and were more successful at resisting pressure to have sex. Additionally, sexually active females were significantly more likely to have used condoms along with other contraceptives, and 3 years after participating in the program, they had significantly lower rates of pregnancy and birth.[51]

Some successful, male-focused pregnancy prevention efforts have effectively targeted young Latino and African-American males. For example, **Hombres Jovenes con Palabra (HJCP; Young Men with Word)** is a prevention program for young men in Los Angeles and other sites that builds upon traditional Latino values and culture. It focuses on the concept of "El Hombre Noble" (the noble man) as the foundation of male responsibility. Through interactive educational workshops and presentations, the program helps participants build the knowledge, skills, and will to prevent pregnancy and violence, while developing a positive identity as men of dignity and responsibility. Most are young Latinos between the ages of 14 and 17, and a large proportion have low incomes. About half are sexually active, and approximately 10 percent to 15 percent are already fathers. While originally developed among urban youth in Los Angeles, HJCP is now offered through a variety of institutions throughout the country.

The **Be Proud! Be Responsible! Program** in Philadelphia seeks to prevent pregnancy and disease by building on African-American youths' sense of community. It stresses the importance of protecting one's community, as well as oneself, against the potentially negative consequences of high-risk sexual behavior. Through small-group discussions, videos, role-playing, games, and exercises delivered in six 5-hour sessions, participants learn about responsible sexual behavior and the importance of smart choices. Follow-up with 157 young black men 3 months after participating in the program documented significant reductions in sexual activity and unprotected sex.[52]

To help address the needs of young adults who have already had children, a number of states have used the guidelines of the 1996 welfare reform legislation—the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act (TANF)—to organize and support their efforts. Among the most successful of these is California's program, **Cal Learn**, a mandatory program for all unmarried custodial teen parents under age 19 who receive welfare and do not have a high school diploma or GED. Cal Learn relies heavily on case management services, provides other support services, and issues sanctions and bonuses according to school progress. A four-county evaluation by UC Berkeley found that graduation rates for participants (usually through a GED) were significantly higher than for non-participants and that positive impacts were greatest among those teen parents who had dropped out of school.[53]

Other states have collaborated with state universities or community colleges to design specialized case management and educational services for teen parents. Some, like **Arizona**, allow teen parents to continue their education at post-secondary institutions

Because school failure is both an antecedent and a result of the risk factors we have discussed, it is critical that we help more high school-aged youth graduate and provide those who have already dropped out with a chance to regain the ground they have lost.

or to receive special GED or other parenting classes at state universities or community colleges. In **Illinois**, teen parents engaged in post-secondary education are eligible for the benefits that TANF adults accrue when they attend post-secondary institutions. If they maintain a 2.5 grade point average, they can attend school for up to 36 months without it affecting their lifetime 60-month time limit for receiving TANF benefits.[54]

New Jersey is providing child care and other important services to teen parents in high schools. For example, through the **School-Based Youth Services Program**, on-site services at high schools for TANF teen parents are designed to provide teenagers with a comprehensive set of services on a "one-stop-shopping" basis. On-site services include health care, mental health and family counseling, job and career training, substance abuse counseling, and referral services. Several of the sites also provide transportation, child care, tutoring, and family planning.

Similar to pregnancy prevention efforts targeted to males, a number of community-based efforts nationally are now specifically reaching out to young fathers. One Baltimore-based example operates through Casey Family Services, which has created the **Fatherhood Program for Adolescent and Adult Fathers** to serve young men in one of the city's neediest neighborhoods. The program helps young dads—some as young as 15—get an education, find better jobs, secure housing, and establish better relationships with their children. Like other father-focused programs, this effort recognizes that young dads need a comprehensive effort that can offer assistance with issues like employment, health, substance abuse, education, and finances and help with legal matters such as child support, visitation, and custody. A new program to help fathers is "Dads 101," a 6-week training program for new and expecting dads.

Dads Make a Difference is a program of the Healthy Families Initiative, in San Angelo, Texas, and is designed to promote fathers' emotional connections to their children, as well as enhance their ability to provide financial support. Fathers are contacted within a few days of the birth of their child and invited to participate in a wide variety of program activities, including home visits, group meetings, team parenting sessions, father-child play sessions, and recreational activities. The program helps dads develop a greater capacity to provide financial support for their children through remedial education, job training, and employment placement. Of the more than 150 families currently enrolled in Healthy Families programs, approximately 86 percent of the dads receive parent training, 88 percent are employed or in an employment training program, and 74 percent provide some financial support to their children.[55]

Ensuring Educational Success for Our Most Academically At-Risk Youth

Most of the youth discussed in this essay share a common characteristic: They're at risk of reaching young adulthood without the academic credentials, skills, and knowledge to compete successfully in the job market. Because school failure is both an antecedent and a result of the risk factors we have discussed, it is critical that we help more high school-aged youth graduate and provide those who have already dropped out with a chance to regain the ground they have lost.

Countless studies confirm that the most successful schools for at-risk adolescents share certain common traits: They are small so that

youth can form close relationships with mentoring adults; they are demanding, with high expectations for both students and teachers; they promote innovative and creative curricula and instruction; and they view parents and community members as partners in their work with students. Nationally, these principles are being put into practice through a variety of new educational structures, including restructured high schools, charter schools, small schools, and many school choice initiatives.

Some cities are converting large comprehensive high schools into several smaller schools that are housed in one building. For example, the **Julia Richmond Education Complex** in New York City was initially a failing, aging school with 3,000 students and a graduation rate of just 33 percent. During a 3-year period (1994–1996), it was restructured into four new smaller high schools: Vanguard High School, a 400-student school with a typical high school course of study and organizational structure; Manhattan International High School, designed for 310 students with limited fluency in English; Talent Unlimited Performing Arts High School, a 400-student specialty school that also offers basic courses; and Urban Academy, which provides an academically rigorous college-oriented curriculum for 120 students. All schools have physically separate class space with some shared spaces such as a gymnasium, library, or science lab. In addition, students at the complex can take advanced placement courses at local community colleges. Overall achievement and school completion results are vastly improved from pre-conversion rates. The schools in the complex now have a graduation rate that exceeds 90 percent and comparatively high college acceptance rates.[56]

The Oakland Unified School District is establishing a series of small innovative schools across the city and had opened 15 as of September 2003. One of the first was **ASCEND (A School Cultivating Excellence, Nurturing Diversity)**, which began in 2001. Central to the mission of this low-income, minority school is a commitment to the Outward Bound Expeditionary Learning model. This type of instruction emphasizes project-based learning that extends across curriculum areas and takes students out of the classroom and into the community. Every course shares common characteristics: an emphasis on student-led inquiry, connections to the community (through interactions with local experts and service learning projects, for example), and an integrated curriculum with a strong emphasis on the visual and performing arts.[57]

Some cities have used charter school legislation to create smaller, stronger schools for at-risk students. The **Maya Angelou Public Charter School** in Washington, DC, is an alternative high school designed to create a learning environment in a lower-income urban community where teens, particularly those who have not succeeded in traditional schools, can reach their potential. Through small classes, a strong academic and technology-rich curriculum, a focus on critical life skills (like decision making, budgeting, and finance), a residential program for students needing additional support, and school-run nonprofit businesses (including a catering business), students develop the academic, social, and employment skills that they need to build rewarding lives and promote positive change in their communities.

Results achieved at Maya Angelou clearly demonstrate that at-risk youth with histories of poor school performance and court involve-

ment can succeed, given appropriate interventions. On average, Maya Angelou students improved their SAT scores by 18 percent, substantially higher than the District as a whole. In total, 46 percent of students who graduated from Maya Angelou between 2000 and 2002 were court involved when they entered the school, and only 6 percent were court involved when they graduated. All Maya Angelou students have paying jobs while they are enrolled in school, and they are required to save part of their earnings. Graduates had saved an average of more than $1,000 by their senior year, and more than 70 percent of the 2000–2002 graduates enrolled in college.[58]

Although these varied efforts succeed for many adolescents, legions of kids still drop out of our schools annually. Even among those who do remain until graduation, far too many are not academically prepared to either succeed in college or advance in the workplace. The vast majority of dropouts seeking to resume their education do so through adult education courses, which usually do not offer academic credentials and often lack appropriate curriculum, adequate technology, and well-prepared instructors. As a result, these programs have significant retention problems with younger students.[59] We must do more to provide older adolescents and young adults who have not been academically successful with quality opportunities to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become productive, contributing adults.

Community colleges can be particularly valuable, given research indicating that college training, even if it does not result in a degree, can significantly increase one's lifetime earnings. The best community college programs recognize that many youth do not believe they have the necessary academic skills, are uninformed about how to access the community college system, or cannot afford the costs. They work to address these issues and establish routes for disconnected young adults to transition back to school.

For example, some have developed "bridge institutions" or pre-college programs, often offered in partnership with community-based organizations or adult education programs. Others have developed individualized programs that are tailored to the specific needs of these non-traditional students and have bolstered their outreach efforts, counseling and support services, and work-based learning programs so that students can explore careers and also learn the "soft skills" demanded in any workplace.[60]

There are several good examples of community colleges working jointly with community-based organizations to improve access for disconnected young adults. For example, **Austin Community College** in Austin, Texas, helps hundreds of low-income students move from unemployment or dead-end jobs into potentially well-paying careers in 13 different industries (including health care, public safety, construction, and semiconductor technician training) by working closely with city and local employers, high schools, and community-based organizations. Graduates earn industry certification as well as college credits toward an associate's degree. Over the past 4 years, the program has graduated more than 350 participants, with a placement rate of 85 percent.[61]

Chicago's **West Side Technical Institute** (WSTI), part of Richard J. Daley College, provides a good example of a pre-college program designed with input from employers and

college faculty and offered in community-based settings where case management and job placement are part of the package. WSTI serves students who lack 9th grade proficiency in math and reading and helps them quickly qualify for college-level technical programs to improve the skills necessary for job advancement. Technical certificate program areas include manufacturing, office technology, and computer graphics. A recent review of results showed that of 500 students who entered with below 9th grade academic ability, more than half successfully entered a college certification program.[62]

In Oregon, **Portland Community College** has developed College Bound, an innovative alternative high school program for at-risk youth ages 16–20. It provides students who have 8th grade math and literacy skills with an intensive one-term program of college prep courses. Upon successful completion, students qualify to move to mainstream college courses that count toward their high school diploma and an associate's degree. Their results have been impressive. For example, in 2001, 378 students entered (students' average high school GPA was 1.3). With an average attendance rate of 94 percent, almost 77 percent of the College Bound participants gained the reading proficiency required for college-level courses.[63]

In addition to community college programs, there are other specialized programs that successfully maximize the potential and build upon the resilience of young adults who have dropped out of high school. One of the best is **YouthBuild**, which helps young adults gain their GEDs or high school diplomas through classroom training in an alternative high school, while providing them with counseling, leadership training, and employment skills through a construction training program and job experience on community rehabilitation projects. In 2002 there were 203 YouthBuild programs across the country. Since 1994, more than 25,000 young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 have participated in the program and have helped create more than 10,000 units of affordable housing nationwide.[64] An evaluation of YouthBuild found that the program achieved better retention and academic results than most comparable programs.[65]

Many of these examples show that it is possible to provide a new lifeline even to those who have reached late adolescence without adequate academic preparation.Yet much still needs to be done to help this nation's more than 3 million disconnected young people. More targeted investments aimed at helping our 2- and 4-year colleges reach out to this population—particularly those who have not earned high school degrees—are badly needed. Also necessary is a re-examination of current policies that deny Pell Grants (the primary source of federal tuition aid to low-income students) to individuals convicted of even minor drug offenses.

Finally, we should also strengthen and restructure the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), which provides federal funding for job training and other employment services for adults and youth. Results from WIA-supported efforts have been generally positive since its enactment in 1998. In FY 2001, for example, national performance for employment, retention, earnings, and credentialing for both younger and older youth have exceeded established national targets. At the same time, current funding levels provide access for only a very small number—roughly 125,000—of the eligible population. In addition, we need to promote greater coordination between WIA and schools in order to reach

We hope that this information is helpful for promoting greater understanding of these issues. Yet we need to recognize that achieving positive results for our at-risk youth requires that we take specific actions.

Knowing more about long-term school enrollment, work experience, and family formation among vulnerable youth would help identify policies and supports that can more effectively help them move from a troubled adolescence to a responsible and healthy adulthood.

out to, and better support, out-of-school youth. According to a recent General Accounting Office report, about 70 percent of WIA programs have focused on preemptive strategies to help in-school youth avoid academic failure. While this is critically important, more must be done to help schools also reconnect dropouts to these important services.[66]

Conclusion

In this 15th annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, we have tried to highlight what we believe is a critical national problem: the significant share of our young people who are reaching adulthood with little hope and capacity for long-term success. We have discussed which youth are most at risk of not making a successful adult transition, and we have highlighted examples of efforts nationally that are making inroads toward improving the odds that more of these youth can make it as adults.

We hope that this information is helpful for promoting *greater understanding* of these issues among policymakers, practitioners, parents, funders, and the public. Yet we need to recognize that achieving *positive results* for our at-risk youth requires that we take specific *actions*.

First, we need to get our goals right. As the data we have described illustrate, any of the risk factors discussed in this essay can result from and contribute to the others. Decreasing detention, reducing teen pregnancy, or increasing high school graduation and achievement are absolutely critical goals. However, in our view they are only a means to a more important end: an increase in the numbers of American kids who reach adulthood with the skills, tools, opportunities, and confidence to succeed in the economy and contribute to its success. To reach this goal, we need efforts that are more holistic and comprehensive than anything currently being done in our states and cities.

Second, we cannot reach this goal if we do not acknowledge and address the fact that most of the risk factors and bad outcomes we have discussed disproportionately affect poor kids of color. At least at a basic level, we need to better understand the ways in which current systems that serve families and kids fail to achieve appropriate results for African-American, Hispanic, and other minority youth—and we need to take steps to resolve these issues. We must also do more to involve parents and others in low-income minority communities as full partners in developing strategies, in order to better ensure that the policies we promote are fair and equitable and that the services and practices we pursue are relevant to, and trusted by, the very communities where they are most needed.

This is a challenge, but certainly not impossible. In our work with states, cities, and local communities over the past decade, we have seen strong examples of policymakers, practitioners, and communities working together to shape effective and responsive strategies for reducing minority detention, recruiting minority foster families for older youth, reducing teen pregnancy rates among youth of different cultures, and increasing minority youths' academic achievement.

Third, we need to develop better data about youth in transition—data that systematically examine the overlap among the four key vulnerable youth groups identified in this essay. Research studies tell us, for example, that many teen moms drop out of high school, and we know that those teens who drop out of high

school are more likely to enter juvenile justice facilities. However, apart from a small number of states, such as Illinois, there are not many examples of integrated state and local information systems able to provide data about youth involved in *multiple* systems. This information would greatly contribute to our ability to identify those who are most at risk.

Similarly, we need to do a better job of tracking outcomes for youth as they move into adulthood. Knowing more about long-term school enrollment, work experience, and family formation among vulnerable youth would help identify policies and supports that can more effectively help them move from a troubled adolescence to a responsible and healthy adulthood.

Finally, and most important, we must acknowledge that we will not make any real headway toward the goal of improving successful adult transition without a genuine national, state, and local commitment to this goal. Acting more holistically and comprehensively; promoting more accurate, timely, and integrated data; and successfully addressing the disproportionate numbers of poor and minority kids at risk of lousy adult outcomes—all this will require an unprecedented level of commitment and collaboration. We need parents, residents, schools, colleges, community-based service providers, police, employers, policymakers, funders, and others who are willing to assume ownership and responsibility for seeing that more youth reach adulthood with a good shot at making it, and who are willing to work together to achieve this result. Put more simply, all of us need to respond to this issue with the same tenacity we would employ if our own adolescent sons and daughters, nieces and nephews were at risk.

These are difficult issues to address, and doing so requires us to make hard choices about how we work and how we use our time and resources. Yet, in light of the way we currently use public money, and given the investments we will ultimately make should we choose to ignore this critical issue, the choice ought to be a simple one. We *can* invest more sensibly, we *can* work more effectively, and we *can* do better by our most at-risk kids.

Douglas W. Nelson, President
The Annie E. Casey Foundation

SUMMARY & FINDINGS

Summary and Findings

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 since 1996. 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. Furthermore, the annual presentation of KIDS COUNT data allows us to make incremental improvements as new data become available and methods are refined.

Although the 10 measures used in KIDS COUNT to rank states can hardly capture the full range of conditions shaping kids' 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 indicators capture most of the yearly variation in child well-being reflected in other indices that utilize a much larger number of indicators.[67] (For more information about the criteria used to select KIDS COUNT indicators, see p. 201.)

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 2004 *Data Book* to rankings in past *Data Books* does not always provide a perfect assessment of change over time. However, Appendix 3 shows how states would have ranked in past years if we had employed the same 10 measures used in the 2004 *Data Book*.

The 10 indicators used to rank states reflect a developmental perspective on childhood and underscore our goal to provide 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

IN ONE DAY

Sometimes the facts and figures reported in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* may seem remote and difficult to grasp in a meaningful way. The following statistics, based on information presented in the *Data Book*, describe what happened in a typical day in 2001 (except where noted).

- 846 low-birthweight babies were born
- 76 infants (under age 1) died
- 33 children ages 1–14 died
- 18 teens died from accidents
- 5 teens died from homicide
- 4 teens committed suicide
- Almost 400 children were born to females ages 15–17
- In an average day, between 2000 and 2002, 750 children were added to the poverty population
- In an average day, between 2000 and 2002, 1,680 children were added to the count of families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment

assistance provided by a strong family and a supportive community.

KIDS COUNT State Indicators

In the pages that follow, the most recent figures are compared with corresponding data from 1996 to assess the trends over time in each state. To provide a fuller picture of children's lives and a framework for better understanding the 10 indicators of child well-being used to rank states, several background measures are provided for each state, including measures that reflect vulnerable youth and disconnected young adults.

The 10 key indicators of child well-being used here are all from federal government statistical agencies and reflect the best available state-level data for tracking yearly changes in each indicator. However, it is important to recognize 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 may simply reflect random fluctuations rather than real changes in the well-being of children.[68]

We include data for the District of Columbia in the *Data Book*, but we do not include the District in our state rankings because it is so different from any state that the comparisons are not meaningful. It is more useful to look at changes within the District of Columbia between 1996 and 2001, or to compare the District with other large cities as we do in other KIDS COUNT publications.[69]

The data on the following pages present a rich but complex picture of American children. Some dimensions of well-being improved, some worsened, and some showed little change. At the national level, eight of the indicators of child well-being showed that conditions improved between 1996 and 2001, while child well-being worsened on two other indicators. It should be noted, however, that some of these changes were very small and may be nothing more than random fluctuation. Naturally, the portrait of child well-being varies among states, and state-level measures often mask important differences within a state.

Table 1 provides a summary of results from this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book*.[70] Yearly data for each state are presented in Appendix 2.

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 last column in Table 1 shows the number of events or number of children that are reflected in each of the national rates for the 10 key indicators used to rank states. This table underscores the fact that despite the positive trends in the late 1990s, thousands of children die every year, and millions are at risk because of poverty, family structure, lack of parental employment, or risky behavior. As we note some of the favorable trends between 1996 and 2001, it is important to remember the millions of children whose futures are in jeopardy because their lives are filled with risks. Similar state-level data about the numbers behind the state rates are offered in Appendix 2.

TABLE 1

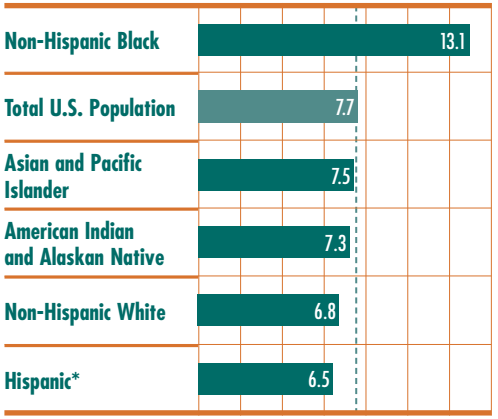
Changes in Key Indicators of Child Well-Being: 1996–2001 and National Totals: 2001

Indicators*	National Change: Percent Change (WORSE / ZERO / BETTER)	State Changes: Number of States That Are Worse	Unchanged	Better	National Totals: 2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	−4	42	4	4	308,747 births
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	7	11	2	37	27,568 deaths
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	15	5	1	44	12,202 deaths
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	17	5	2	43	10,156 deaths
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	24	0	0	50	145,324 births
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	10	17	10	23	1,488,000 teens
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	11	18	14	18	1,355,000 teens
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	11	8	1	41	17,963,000 children
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	24	0	2	48	11,587,100 children
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	−4	36	7	7	9,679,000 families

**See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.*

FIGURE 1

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2001



**Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.*

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "Births: Final Data for 2001," by Joyce A. Martin, Brady E. Hamilton, Stephanie J. Ventura, Fay Menacker, Melissa M. Park, and Paul D. Sutton, National Vital Statistics Reports, *Vol. 51, No. 2 (December 18, 2002), Tables 24 and 25, pp. 56–57.*

Each of the 10 indicators used to rank states is discussed separately below.

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies

Babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth have a high probability of experiencing developmental problems. Therefore, the Percent Low-Birthweight Babies reflects a group of children who are likely to have problems as they grow older.

Some of the risks faced by low-birthweight babies have been captured in data linking information from birth and death certificates.[71] Although low-birthweight babies were only 7.7 percent of all births in 2001, they accounted for 66 percent of infant deaths that year. The risk of dying during the first year of life for low-birthweight babies (58.6 deaths per 1,000 births) is nearly 25 times that for babies of normal birthweight (2.4 deaths per 1,000 births).

Nationally, 308,747 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in 2001. Low-birthweight babies were 7.7 percent of all births in 2001, compared to only 7.4 percent in 1996. This represents a 4 percent increase over the 1996–2001 period.

The increase in the share of births weighing less than 2,500 grams is related to the increase in multiple births. The number of twins, triplets, and higher-order multiple births increased from 106,689 (2.7 percent of all births) in 1996 to 128,717 (3.2 percent of all births) in 2001. According to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), 57 percent of multiple-birth babies are low birthweight compared to 6 percent of single-birth babies.[72]

NCHS also reports a link between the rise of multiple births—especially that of higher-order multiple births—and two other trends.[73] First, efforts to enhance fertility (such as fertility drugs, in vitro fertilization, and other procedures) are more widespread than ever before, and a recent study found that 56 percent of infants born as a result of assisted reproductive technologies (ARTs) were multiple births, compared to only 3 percent of all births.[74] Second, more women are having children at older ages. Even without fertility therapy, women in their 40s are more likely to have a multiple birth than women in their 20s.

While an increase in multiple births related to new fertility treatments may explain much of the increase in low-birthweight babies being born between 1996 and 2001, it does not explain the racial differentials on this measure. The National Institutes of Health has asserted that "unraveling the underlying reasons for ethnic variations in LBW and preterm delivery" is one of the greatest current challenges to research.[75] In 2001, 6.8 percent of births to non-Hispanic whites were of low birthweight, compared to 13.1 percent of births to non-Hispanic blacks, 6.5 percent of births to Hispanics, 7.5 percent of births to Asians and Pacific Islanders, and 7.3 percent of births to American Indians and Alaskan Natives (see Figure 1). The high rate of low birthweight among blacks is not related to multiple births. Multiple births were about equally likely among non-Hispanic whites and non-Hispanic blacks in 2001—3.6 percent for the former group, and 3.5 percent for the latter.

Although poverty and low birthweight are often linked, income differences by themselves do not fully explain the high rate of low-weight births among blacks. A variety of studies have found little difference in birthweight distribution among African-American infants across different income classes. In fact, differences in low-birthweight rates between black and white

infants are even wider at the upper end of the socioeconomic spectrum than at the lower end.[76] Differences in where blacks and whites live may help explain the difference in the percent of low-birthweight babies. Some research suggests the risk of low-birthweight babies for African-American mothers is significantly higher in areas with a high degree of residential segregation.[77] This reinforces the notion that people living in isolated neighborhoods, disconnected from access to mainstream support services, experience a wide range of disadvantages and negative outcomes.

Another reason for the racial differentials may involve access to health insurance and medical care. According to the U.S. Census Bureau,[78] nearly one-third of all Latinos (32 percent) and about one-fifth of all African Americans and Asian Americans (20 percent and 18 percent, respectively) did not have health insurance in 2002, compared to 11 percent of non-Hispanic whites.

In addition, data from the March 2003 Current Population Survey show that 24 percent of women of childbearing age (ages 15–44) living in central cities lacked health insurance, compared to 17 percent of those living in the suburbs. These percentages are higher among minority women in central cities—40 percent of central-city Hispanic women of childbearing age lacked health insurance in 2002, compared to 24 percent for non-Hispanic blacks and 14 percent for non-Hispanic whites.[79]

In 2001, there were 308,747 low-birthweight babies born in the United States, which means an average of 846 low-weight births each day. Between 1996 and 2001, the percentage of births that were of low birthweight increased in 42 states, fell in 4 states, and remained unchanged in 4 others. The percentage of low-birthweight babies in the District of Columbia dropped by 15 percent between 1996 and 2001. Among the states, the incidence of low-birthweight babies in 2001 ranged from a low of 5.5 percent in Oregon to a high of 10.7 percent in Mississippi.

Infant Mortality Rate

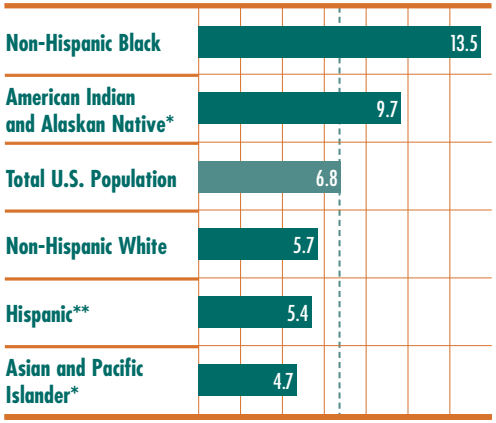
Since the first year of life is more precarious than later years of childhood, negative social conditions (such as poverty and an unhealthy physical environment) have a bigger impact on newborns. The number of children who die before their first birthday is reflected in the Infant Mortality Rate, defined as the number of deaths to persons less than 1 year old per 1,000 live births during the year.

Reduction in infant mortality in the United States is clearly a success story. The fact that the infant morality rate has dropped steadily suggests that there may be some lessons that could be applied to other areas of child well-being. However, it is important to note that even though the infant mortality rate in the United States is currently at an all-time low, the nation's infant survival rate remains worse than that of most other industrialized nations.[80] Even the best performing states have higher rates than several other industrialized countries. Clearly we can do better.

Children born to families with fewer advantages are more likely to experience death at an early age. For example, the Infant Mortality Rate for children born into poor families was more than 50 percent higher than that for children born into families with incomes above the poverty line.[81] In general, research indicates that poverty elevates the risks of infant mortality, but among middle- and upper-income families, incomes differences have little impact.[82]

FIGURE 2

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2001



**Data are not available for Non-Hispanic American Indians and Alaskan Natives or Non-Hispanic Asians and Pacific Islanders.*
***Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.*

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2001 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set," by T.J. Mathews, Fay Menacker, and Marian F. MacDorman, National Vital Statistics Reports, *Vol. 52, No. 2 (September 15, 2003), Tables A and B, p. 2.*

The link between poverty and infant mortality helps explain why the Infant Mortality Rate of African Americans remains more than twice that of whites. The poverty rate for blacks is about three times that for whites, and the Infant Mortality Rate for non-Hispanic blacks in 2001 was 13.5, compared to 5.7 for non-Hispanic whites (see Figure 2). However, the Infant Mortality Rate for Hispanics, who have a poverty rate almost as high as blacks, was 5.4, slightly lower than that for non-Hispanic whites. This suggests that the link between poverty and infant mortality may be more complicated than it first appears. Further complicating the picture is the fact that a black/white differential persists at all ages, incomes, and educational levels.[83]

The Infant Mortality Rate in America's largest cities (8.0 deaths per 1,000 births in 1999) is 11 percent higher than the rate for the nation as a whole (6.9 in 1999).[84] However, the problem of infant mortality varies among individual cities, and recent evidence indicates neighborhood conditions can have a big impact on infant mortality rates.[85] Communities where there is a confluence of several problems, such as poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy, tend to have higher infant mortality rates. One reason for the high Infant Mortality Rate in low-income neighborhoods is that residents are less likely to have easy access to neonatal intensive care.[86]

During 2001, 27,568 infants under age 1 died in the United States, which amounts to almost 76 infant deaths each day. The U.S. Infant Mortality Rate declined from 7.3 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1996 to 6.8 deaths in 2001. This improvement was reflected in 37 states and the District of Columbia. However, infant mortality worsened in 11 states, and went unchanged in 2 others. In 2001, the Infant Mortality Rate ranged from a low of 3.8 in New Hampshire to a high of 10.7 in Delaware. It is important to note, however, that the rates in both New Hampshire and Delaware are based on a relatively small number of infant deaths and may not be a very good gauge of the underlying risk of death.

Child Death Rate

The Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14) has fallen steadily for the past several years, due in large part to advances in medical care. The general decrease in deaths from motor vehicle accidents, which accounted for nearly one-fifth of all child deaths in 2001, also has contributed to a declining Child Death Rate.

This measure improved among each racial and ethnic group, although the 2001 rates for African-American children (31 deaths per 100,000) and American Indian and Alaskan Native children (29 deaths per 100,000) were significantly higher than the rates for children in other groups.[87] The risk of child injury and death is much higher for children in poverty. One prominent study concluded, "Poverty's starkest and most unmistakable health effects are those leading to death. Poor children (in the United States) are more likely to die at every age and from every cause. Their risk of death ranges from 1.1 times greater for cancer to 5 or more times greater for infectious diseases and parasites."[88]

Although the Child Death Rate in the United States has been declining, it is still much higher than that in most other wealthy countries. Compared to 25 other relatively developed countries, the United States ranks 23rd in terms of children's deaths due to injuries—a major cause of death among kids.[89] This may reflect the facts that U.S. children are much

more likely to be involved in automobile accidents and too many are not wearing seatbelts. In 2000, nearly half of children ages 1 to 4 who died in traffic crashes were not wearing a seatbelt or other restraint.[90] And deaths by injury are just the tip of the iceberg. One study found that for each death from an injury, there were 160 children admitted to a hospital for an injury and about 2,000 children with emergency department visits related to injuries.[91]

In 2001, 12,202 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in the United States, which means an average of 33 deaths per day. This amounts to 22 out of every 100,000 children in this age range, down from 26 deaths per 100,000 in 1996. Between 1996 and 2001, the Child Death Rate decreased in 44 states and the District of Columbia, while increasing in just 5 states—Alaska, Delaware, Kentucky, New Hampshire, and Oklahoma. (It did not change in Rhode Island.) Among the states, the Child Death Rate in 2001 ranged from a low of 14 in Connecticut and New Jersey to a high of 35 in Mississippi.

Rate of Teen Deaths by Accident, Homicide, and Suicide

As people move into their middle and late teenage years, they encounter many new risks that can cost them their life. The Rate of Teen Deaths by Accident, Homicide, and Suicide reflects deaths among 15- to 19-year-olds (per 100,000 teens in this age group) from these three causes. Deaths from these three sources accounted for 75 percent of all deaths in this age group in 2001.

Accidents continue to account for at least three times as many teen deaths as any other source, including homicide. Most of the lethal accidents are automobile accidents. However, many states have started graduated licensing, where young people slowly obtain full driving privileges, and this seems to be reducing teen automobile deaths.[92]

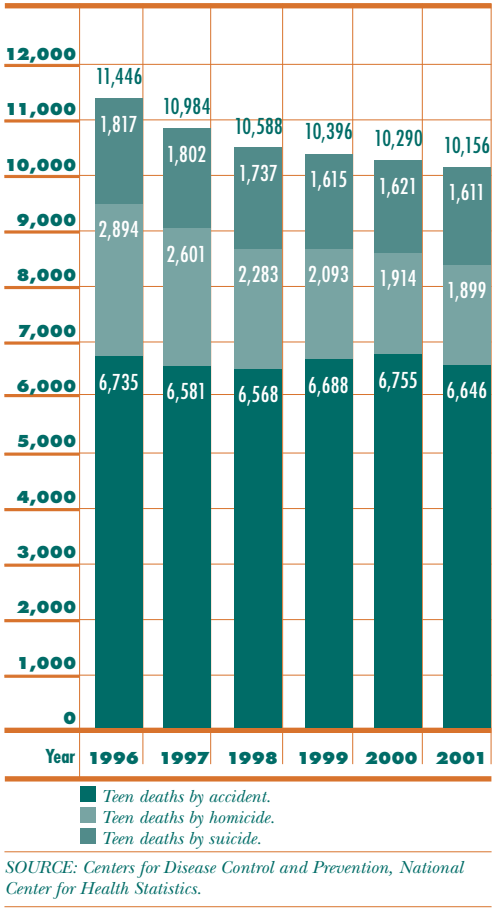
The number of accidents, homicides, and suicides were all lower in 2001 than they were in 1996. The number of teen deaths due to accidents dipped by 1 percent, the number due to homicide fell 34 percent, and the number due to suicide dropped 11 percent (see Figure 3). The declining number of teen deaths in the late 1990s is even more impressive in light of the 7 percent increase in the number of 15- to 19-year-olds over this period—from 18.9 million in 1996 to 20.3 million in 2001.

In 2001, 10,156 Americans ages 15–19 died from accidents, homicide, or suicide. This amounts to an average of 28 teen deaths each day, and virtually all of these were preventable deaths. In an average day, teenagers in America experienced about 18 accidental deaths, a little more than 5 homicides, and slightly more than 4 suicides.

The Rate of Teen Deaths by Accident, Homicide, and Suicide fell from 60 deaths per 100,000 teens in 1996 to 50 deaths per 100,000 in 2001—a drop of 17 percent. This measure improved among all racial and ethnic groups during the period, but the rate remains significantly higher for African-American teens and American Indian teens (63 per 100,000 and 78 per 100,000, respectively).[93] During the late 1990s, the rate of teen deaths from these three causes declined in 43 states and the District of Columbia, increased in only 5 states, and remained unchanged in Colorado and Massachusetts. In 2001, the Rate of Teen Deaths by Accident, Homicide, and Suicide ranged from a low of 29 in New Jersey to a high of 75 in Alaska.

FIGURE 3

Number of Teen Deaths (ages 15–19) by Accident, Homicide, and Suicide: 1996–2001



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

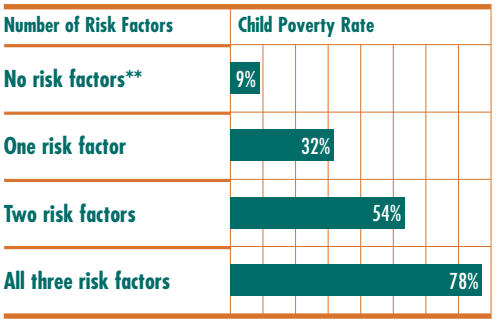
FIGURE 4

Child Poverty and Birth Circumstances

Statistically speaking, three characteristics surrounding a child's birth increase the risk of child poverty:*

1. Being born to a teenage mother
2. Being born to a mother who has not completed high school
3. Being born to a mother who never married

The graph below shows the cumulative effect of these risk factors on child poverty.



**These calculations are based on analysis of the 2000 Census 1 percent Public Use Microdata Sample. The analysis includes natural born children (primary family only) and stepchildren if the mother is the spouse of the householder (primary family only). Tabulations are based on children in families where the mother was between the ages of 18 and 38 at the time of the survey, and the mother was age 12 or older at the time of their birth.*

*** "No risk factors" is defined as a child born to a currently married woman over age 20 who graduated from high school.*

SOURCE: Analysis of the 2000 Census 1 percent Public Use Microdata Sample.

Teen Birth Rate

Teenage childbearing is problematic because it often diminishes the opportunities of both the child and the young mother. Births to females under age 18 are particularly troublesome because most of these young mothers are unmarried and have not completed high school. Data show 89 percent of 15- to 17-year-olds who had a baby in 2002 were not married. Not surprising, only 10 percent of 15- to 17-year-olds who gave birth were high school graduates.

The importance of starting out life as the child of a teen mother can be illustrated by the following stark comparison.[94] The poverty rate for children born to a teenage mother who has never married and who did not graduate from high school is 78 percent. On the other hand, the poverty rate for children born to women over age 20 who are currently married and did graduate from high school is 9 percent (see Figure 4).

Most teenage mothers are not settled in a job or career, and many young fathers are not in a position to provide financial help. According to recent estimates, only about one-third of teen mothers eventually receive a high school diploma,[95] and an estimated 80 percent of young mothers will go on welfare sooner or later.[96]

Most teen fathers are unlikely to provide much financial help. Data from the Census Bureau show that only 48 percent of males ages 16 to 19 had any earned income in 2002 and that the average annual income for those who worked was slightly less than $5,700. Given this situation, it is not surprising that only 30 percent of 15- to 17-year-old mothers received child support payments in 2001, or that most of those received only part of the payments that were due them (either through an agreement or an award).[97]

Children born to teenage mothers are less likely to receive the emotional and financial resources that support their development into independent, productive, and well-adjusted adults. Research shows that children born to single mothers "are twice as likely to drop out of high school, twice as likely to have a child before age twenty, and one and one-half times as likely to be 'idle'—out of school and out of work—in their late teens and early twenties."[98] Thus, babies born to young teens reflect a group of children who will have to overcome high odds to thrive.

Although teenage childbearing is usually denoted by the age of the mother, many of the fathers of these babies are not teenagers. Slightly more than half (51 percent) of the fathers of children born to females under age 18 were in their 20s.[99] If programs to prevent teen pregnancy focus solely on teenagers, they may miss an important segment of the population involved in this problem. Furthermore, although data remain scattered and preliminary, there seems to be growing evidence that the births experienced by many young teens may be the result of nonvoluntary sex.[100] To the extent that teen births are a result of nonvoluntary sex, prevention models that focus solely on choice may be neither appropriate nor effective.

Nationally, the Teen Birth Rate fell from 33 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 17 in 1996 to 25 births per 1,000 teen females in this age range in 2001. This decline was reflected among every major racial and ethnic group. Furthermore, the birth rate among 18- and 19-year-olds also declined during the period—again, for all racial and ethnic groups.[101] It is worth noting that teen pregnancy rates and teen abortion rates have been falling as well.[102]

Teen birth rates have been falling for two simple reasons—fewer teens are hav-

ing sex, and more teens who do have sex are using contraception. The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System found that 46 percent of the nation's high school students reported having ever had sex in 2001 compared to 54 percent in 1991.[103] Moreover, 58 percent of the students who did have sex in 2001 reported using condoms, compared to only 46 percent in 1991. Researchers attribute the recent trends in teen sexual activity and contraceptive use to a variety of factors.[104]

- There has been a greater public emphasis on delaying sexual activity.
- Teenagers seem to have taken more responsible attitudes about casual sex and out-of-wedlock childbearing.
- There is an increased fear of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), especially Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).
- Long-lasting contraceptive methods, such as the implant (Norplant) and the injected (Depo-Provera) options, have become increasingly popular.
- More restrictive criteria for obtaining public assistance may have caused some teenagers to re-think the costs and benefits of becoming a parent.
- A stronger economy in the 1990s created better job prospects for young people and perhaps provided options that were not available or evident in the past.

Analysis of the National Longitudinal Study on Adolescent Health (AddHealth) found that "enhancing the connections of teenagers to their family and home, their school, and their community is essential for protecting teenagers from a vast array of risky behaviors, including sexual activity."[105] The Casey Foundation's Plain Talk initiative also demonstrated the importance of better communication in promoting healthy behavior among teens.[106]

The state figures shown here mask enormous variation within each state. A recent KIDS COUNT analysis of teen birth rates (ages 15–19) in large cities shows:[107]

- Teen birth rates in most large cities are above the national rate; only 9 of the 50 largest cities had a rate lower than the national average.
- Teen birth rates in most large cities (45 out of the 50 largest, in fact) fell during the 1990s.
- There is enormous variation in the teen birth rate among these large cities, with the teen birth rate in Miami (174) six times that in San Francisco and Seattle (28).

Although the recent decline in teen births is welcome news, it is important to recognize that the teen birth rate in the United States is still well above that of other developed countries. Research comparing teen sexual behavior in the United States and Europe found several important differences between American teens and their European counterparts. Although the study found virtually no differences in levels of sexual activity, it showed that American teens were significantly less likely to use contraceptives.[108] For example, 20 percent of sexually active U.S. teens reported using no birth control, compared to only 4 percent in Great Britain.

In 2001, there were 145,324 babies born nationwide to females ages 15–17, yielding a record-low rate of 25 births per 1,000 teens. Nonetheless, this means there were nearly 400 births to young teens each day during 2001. The 2001 rate represents a drop of 24 percent from 1996, when the Teen Birth Rate was 33 births per 1,000 teens. Every state and the District of Columbia echoed the national decrease

in teenage childbearing during the period. The Teen Birth Rate in 2001 ranged from a low of 10 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 17 in New Hampshire and Vermont to a high of 39 births per 1,000 in Mississippi and Texas.

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts

Graduating from high school is critical for obtaining post-secondary education and getting a good job. In many school systems around the country, especially those in wealthy suburbs, a high percentage of students stay in school and graduate on time with a good education. However, many students, especially those living in troubled inner-city areas, attend schools where graduating on time with a solid education is more the exception than the rule. Data from the 2000 Census show that more than 7 million children live in neighborhoods where the high school dropout rate is 23 percent or more.[109] It is not surprising that minority children are greatly overrepresented in these neighborhoods.

Teens who drop out of high school will find it difficult to achieve financial success in life. A report from the U.S. Department of Education notes, "In terms of employment, earnings, and family formation, dropouts from high school face difficulties in making the transition to the adult world."[110] As America moves further into the 21st century, when advanced skills and technical knowledge will be required for most good-paying jobs, the prospects for those who have not completed high school will be even more dismal. A recent Census Bureau report shows the average income for full-time, year-round workers with a high school diploma ($30,400) is 30 percent higher than that for a person without a high school diploma ($23,400).[111]

Ongoing changes in the U.S. economy have increased the financial costs of dropping out of high school. Between 1973 and 1999, for example, the average hourly wage (adjusted for inflation) of high school dropouts fell 24 percent.[112] The deterioration of wages among poorly educated workers has hit the youngest workers the hardest, and this factor often is implicated in the deterioration of family formation and family stability among young adults.[113]

Nationwide in 2001, there were nearly 1.5 million teens between the ages of 16 and 19 who were not in school and had not graduated from high school. The dropout rate in 2001 (9 percent) was 1 percentage point lower than the 10 percent rate in 1996. However, the degree of change during this period varied across the states. The dropout rate fell in 23 states between 1996 and 2001, rose in 17 states, and was unchanged in 10 others, plus the District of Columbia. It should be noted, moreover, that many of these changes were quite small and probably not statistically significant. In 2001 the high school dropout rate ranged from a low of 4 percent in North Dakota, to a high of 16 percent in Arizona.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working

During late adolescence, young people make some critical choices that affect their transition to adulthood. The Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (sometimes referred to as "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 also

belong to a marginalized group. Work experience at this point in life is critical, and people who spend a large share of their young adult years unemployed have a hard time finding and keeping a job later in life.

In 2001, almost 1.4 million teens between the ages of 16 and 19 were neither enrolled in school nor working. Nationwide there was a decline in the share of idle 16- to 19-year-olds, from 9 percent in 1996 to 8 percent in 2001. Despite the improvement, African-American and Hispanic youth were almost twice as likely as white youth to be idle in 2001. The share of idle teens fell in 18 states and the District of Columbia during this period, while increasing in another 18 states and remaining unchanged in 14 others. It should be noted, moreover, that many of these changes were quite small and probably not statistically significant. Among the states, the Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working in 2001 ranged from a low of 4 percent in Iowa and Minnesota to a high of 14 percent in West Virginia.

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

In 2001, nearly 18 million children had no parent in the household who worked full-time, year-round. This measure is sometimes referred to as "lack of secure parental employment." In addition to having higher poverty rates, these children are more likely to lack access to the health and family benefits that a stable job provides. We found that 18 percent of children living in families where no parent had a full-time, year-round job lacked health insurance, compared to 9 percent in other families. About two-thirds (64 percent) of children with underemployed parents who do have health insurance, have public-sector insurance (Medicaid, Medicare, and State Child Health Insurance Program). Many parents who cannot find regular employment end up working at temporary or part-time jobs that do not provide enough money to support a family; fail to offer benefits (such as health insurance and vacation or sick leave); are often at odd hours requiring unusual child-care arrangements; and lack overall stability.

There are two trends in this indicator that are worth noting. First, much of the decline in the percentage of children living in families with no securely-employed parent is attributable to the very large increase in the percentage of single mothers working full-time, year-round. In 2001, 48 percent of children living in single-mother families had mothers who worked full-time, year-round, compared to just 39 percent in 1996.[114]

Second, secure parental employment increasingly offers no guarantee that a family can move above the poverty line. According to the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, "Children living below the poverty line have become increasingly likely to have one or two parents working full-time all year. In 1993, 21 percent of children below poverty had at least one parent working full-time all year. In 2001, this statistic was 32 percent."[115]

It is important to recognize that the problems associated with this situation go beyond the effects of poverty. Since a working parent offers a strong positive role model for children, those growing up in a family without a regularly employed parent do not experience the positive effects that such a parental figure provides. Additionally, secure parental employment reduces the negative psychological effects associated the stress of underemployment and unemployment.

Nationally, the Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Had Full-Time, Year-Round Employment declined from 28 percent in 1996 to 25 percent in 2001—an 11 percent improvement. During that period, this measure improved in 41 states and the District of Columbia and got worse in 8 others. (It was unchanged in Nebraska.) Among the states, the 2001 figures ranged from a low of 17 percent in Iowa and Minnesota to a high of 34 percent in New Mexico.

Percent of Children in Poverty

The Percent of Children in Poverty is perhaps the most global and widely used indicator of child well-being. This is partly due to the fact that poverty is closely linked to a number of undesirable outcomes in areas such as health, education, emotional welfare, and delinquency.[116]

The data shown here are based on the official poverty measure as determined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The official poverty measure consists of a series of income thresholds based on family size and composition. The 2002 poverty line was $14,494 for a family of one adult and two children.[117] However, a number of researchers are critical of the official measure.[118] Some analysts think the current standard underestimates real poverty, while others think it overstates the phenomenon. In the last several years, the Census Bureau has published a set of experimental poverty measures that incorporate many of the changes called for in a study by the National Academy of Sciences, but there has been no change yet in the official definition of poverty.[119]

Growth in the ranks of poor children over the past few decades has not been due to an increase in the number of welfare-dependent families; rather, it is because the ranks of the working poor have been growing. Between 1976 and 2002, the number of poor children living in families totally dependent on welfare has actually fallen from 2.8 million to slightly under 1 million, while the number of poor children living in families with income from earnings, but no income from public assistance, increased from 4.4 million in 1976 to 7.3 million in 2002.[120]

It is also noteworthy that a large segment of children in poverty do not receive benefits from the government's major cash assistance programs, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (formerly called Aid to Families With Dependent Children) and/or Supplemental Security Income. Census Bureau data indicate that only 24 percent of poor families with children reported receiving cash public assistance in 2002.[121]

Despite the enormous wealth in the United States, our child poverty rate is among the highest in the developed world.[122] The gap in the child poverty rate between the United States and other developed countries is partly a product of differences in private-sector income, but differences in governmental efforts to alleviate child poverty greatly accentuate the disparities. The lack of investment in our children will put us at a competitive disadvantage in the international marketplace of the 21st century.

The state measure of child poverty used in the *Data Book*—and in every *Data Book* since 2000—comes from the Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program, which provides estimates of state- and county-level child poverty. The Bureau developed this estimate series to help the U.S. Department of Education distribute roughly $8 billion each year in Title I funds. These estimates also are used to monitor changes in child

poverty in connection with the 1996 welfare reform legislation.

While the most recent state-level data from the SAIPE program reflect poverty through 2000, national-level data are available for each year through 2002 from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. Examination of figures for recent years reveals that the poverty rate for children under age 18 fell dramatically during the mid- to late-1990s. However, the 2002 child poverty rate of 16.7 percent was up slightly from the rates of the previous 2 years—the first noticeable increase since 1992–1993 (see Figure 5). Between 2000 and 2002, there was an average of 750 kids added to the poverty population each day. These figures also suggest that the benefits of the robust economy of the late 1990s reached many, but not all, low-income workers. Despite all of the economic gains during the 1990s, 1 out of every 6 children was poor at the end of the decade.

According to the SAIPE estimates, 16 percent of children were poor in 2000, down from 21 percent in 1995. During that same period, child poverty declined in nearly every state (48, plus the District of Columbia)—and remained unchanged in 2 states (Hawaii and Utah). Among the states, the child poverty rate for 2000 ranged from a low of 7 percent in New Hampshire to a high of 26 percent in New Mexico.

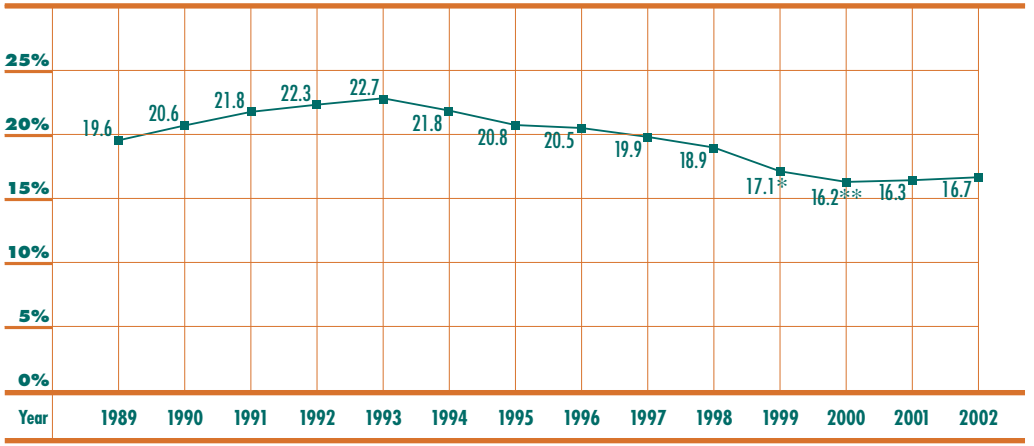
Percent of Families With Children Headed by a Single Parent

The Percent of Families With Children Headed by a Single Parent rose steadily from the end of World War II until the mid-1990s before leveling off in recent years.

Two recent signs suggest, however, that the long-term increase may be coming to an

FIGURE 5

Child Poverty Rate: 1989–2002



Revised based on use of 2000 Census population controls.
***Revised based on use of 2000 Census population controls and expansion of Current Population Survey sample by 28,000 households.*

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004, Current Population Survey, "Poverty Status of People, by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1959 to 2002," *Historical Poverty Tables, Table 3, accessed online at www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/histpov/hstpov3.html (February 2).*

end—or at least slowing down. The divorce rate (number of divorces per 1,000 population) has been falling steadily for more than a decade, and the percent of births to unmarried women has nearly stabilized since the mid-1990s (see Figure 6). The share of births to unmarried women rose from 28.0 percent in 1990 to 32.6 percent in 1994, but the rate has increased by less than 2 percentage points since 1994 and was 34.0 percent in 2002.

Despite the recent leveling off, the large number of children growing up in single-parent families remains a major concern among policymakers and the public. The number of families with children headed by a single parent rose from 9.2 million in 1996 to 9.7 million in 2001, and the percent of all families with children that were headed by a single parent rose from 27 percent in 1996 to 28 percent in 2001.

Much of the public interest is linked to the fact that children growing up in single-parent households typically do not have the same economic or human resources available as those growing up in two-parent families. About 40 percent of children in female-headed families were poor in 2002, compared to 8 percent of children in married-couple families. Only about one-third of female-headed families reported receiving any child support or alimony payments in 2001. Beyond poverty, children in divorced and single-parent families are at increased risk for "low measures of academic achievement (repeated grades, low marks, low class standing); increased likelihood of dropping out of high school; early childbearing; and increased levels of depression, stress, anxiety, and aggression."[123]

The number of children living with a single father doubled during the 1990s, and many states now have official initiatives to promote responsible fatherhood. But some efforts to encourage the active involvement of divorced and unmarried fathers with their children might benefit from the recognizing that many so-called "Dead-Beat Dads" are more fairly characterized as "Dead-Broke Dads." According to an Urban Institute study, nearly 30 percent of the 2.5 million poor non-custodial fathers they studied were incarcerated, while the remainder were either unemployed or earned an average of just $5,600 a year.[124]

Research by Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation has found that nearly two-thirds of poor non-custodial fathers had child support orders for an amount more than half of their monthly income.[125] Results of small-scale pilot programs to reach out to these fathers and alleviate the problems of huge child support arrears debt have shown increases both in the dollars received by custodial mothers and more time spent by these fathers with their children.[126]

While it is certainly true that the poverty rate for children in single-parent families is much higher than for those in married-couple families, many of the children of poor single parents would remain in or near poverty even if their parents were to marry. Because unmarried parents, on average, are younger and have less education than their married counterparts, research from the Princeton Fragile Families survey has found that even if the unmarried couples with young children in that study were to marry and both partners were to work outside the home, 28 percent would remain at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty level.[127]

Stepchildren in married-couple families experience many negative child outcomes at about the same rate as children in single-parent families. This underscores the fact that living in a married-couple family is not always a panacea for kids. Therefore, in terms of child outcomes,

there is a critical distinction between children growing up in a married-couple family with two biological parents and those growing up in a married-couple family with stepparents. Nearly two-thirds of all children live with both biological parents, while 25 percent live in single-parent families, 8 percent are stepchildren in married-couple families, and 4 percent live with neither parent.[128]

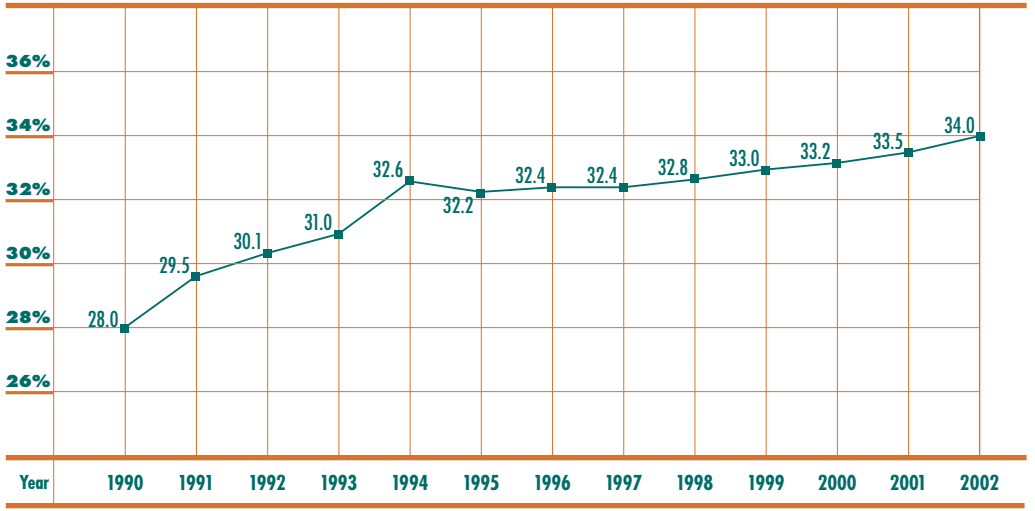
In general, research suggests that children benefit when both parents are active in their lives regardless of marital status, but this is most likely to occur when parents are married.[129]

Implementing governmental efforts to reduce the number of single-parent families continues to be among the most fiercely debated components of U.S. social policy, in general, and the welfare reform agenda, in particular. The Bush administration's plans for reauthorization of the welfare reform act included a requirement that states report specifically their activities to promote marriage. Some policy experts propose putting more money into funding experimental programs to encourage poor parents to marry.[130] Opponents of these provisions cite concern that such incentive programs and media campaigns divert funds from direct support of poor families.[131]

Nationwide, the Percent of Families With Children Headed by a Single Parent increased slightly in the late 1990s—from 27 percent in 1996 to 28 percent in 2001. During this period, 7 states and the District of Columbia recorded a decrease in single-parent families. Seven other states reported no change in this measure, while the situation worsened in 36 states. In 2001, the Percent of Families With Children Headed by a Single Parent ranged from a low of 17 percent in Utah to a high of 36 percent in Louisiana and New Mexico.

FIGURE 6

Percent of Births to Unmarried Women in the United States: 1990–2002



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 2003, "Births: Final Data for 2002," by Joyce A. Martin, Brady E. Hamilton, Paul D. Sutton, Stephanie J. Ventura, Fay Menacker, and Martha L. Munson, National Vital Statistics Reports, *Vol. 52, No. 10 (December 17), Table C, p. 10.*

1. Annie E. Casey Foundation analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2002 American Community Survey.

2. Annie E. Casey Foundation analyses of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2000 and 2003 Current Population Survey.

3. African Americans (24 percent), Hispanics (22 percent), and Native Americans (27 percent) are almost twice as likely as whites (12 percent) to fall into this category. Females are also more likely than males to be disconnected during this critical stage of life (2.1 million versus 1.7 million). More than 1 in 3 have incomes below the poverty line, compared to only 20 percent of all young adults ages 18–24. Poverty is particularly prevalent among women and young adults of color. Poverty is also related to where these young people live, with the highest proportions of disconnected young adults in states with the highest proportion of low-income kids and families. For example, states with the highest rates of disconnected young adults include West Virginia, Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, and Kentucky. Among those with the lowest rates are Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, and New Hampshire. Annie E. Casey Foundation Analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2002 American Community Survey.

4. DiLorenzo, P., 2003, "A Review of the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 Within Selected States," prepared for the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative.

5. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1999, analysis of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System Data.

6. DiLorenzo, P., 2003, "A Review of the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 Within Selected States," prepared for the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative.

7. Foster, E., et. al., 2004, "Special Populations and Transition to Adulthood: Challenges to Policies and Research," *On the Frontier of Adulthood: Theory, Research, and Public Policy,* Richard A. Settersten, Jr., Frank F. Furstenberg, Jr., and Rubén G. Rumbaut, Eds., forthcoming, University of Chicago Press.

8. Brindis, C.D., et. al., 2003, "The Unique Health Care Needs of Adolescents," *The Future of Children*, Vol. 13, No. 1, Spring.

9. English, A., et. al., 2003, "Access to Health Care for Youth Leaving Foster Care: Medicaid and SCHIP," *Journal of Adolescent Health*, Vol. 32 No. 6 (June).

10. Brindis, C.D. et. al., 2003, "The Unique Health Care Needs of Adolescents," *The Future of Children*, Vol. 13, No. 1, Spring.

11. Courtney, M.E., et al., 2001, "Foster Youth Transitions to Adulthood: A Longitudinal View of Youth Leaving Care," *Child Welfare*, Vol. 80.

12. DiLorenzo, P., 2003, "A Review of the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 Within Selected States," prepared for the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative.

13. Wald, M. and T. Martinez, 2003, "Connected by 25: Improving the Life Chances of the Country's Most Vulnerable 14–24 Year Olds", Working Paper for the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

14. Lake, Snell, Parry and Associates, 2003, "Public Opinion About Youth Transitioning From Foster Care to Adulthood," prepared for the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative.

15. Shirk, M. and G. Stangler, 2004, *On Their Own: What Happens to Kids When They Age Out of the Foster Care System?* Westview Press, Boulder, CO.

16. Massinga, R. and P. Pecora, 2004,"Providing Better Opportunities for Older Children in the Child Welfare System," *The Future of Children*, Vol. 14, No. 1.

17. Zeidenberg, J. and B. Holman, "The Dangers of Detention"(draft), 2004, The Justice Policy Institute, Washington, DC.

18. *Ibid.*

19. *Ibid.*

20. *Ibid.*

21. *Ibid.*

22. *Ibid.*

23. *Ibid.*

24. *Ibid.*

25. National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2004, "Campaign Update: Teen Pregnancy Rates Continue to Decline," available at www.teenpregnancy.org.

26. Manlove, J., et.al., 2002, "Preventing Teenage Pregnancy, Childbearing, and Sexually Transmitted Diseases: What the Research Shows," Child Trends, Washington, DC.

27. Bos, J., D. Polit, and J. Quint, 1997, *New Chance: Final Report on a Comprehensive Program for Young Mothers in Poverty and Their Children*, MDRC, New York, NY.

28. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2002, "Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth: 2002," available at http://aspe.hhs.gov.

29. Bos, J., D. Polit, and J. Quint, 1997, *New Chance: Final Report on a Comprehensive Program for Young Mothers in Poverty and Their Children*, MDRC, New York, NY.

30. Acs, G. and H. Koball, 2003, "TANF and the Status of Teen Mothers under 18," *New Federalism Issues and Options for State Series A*, No. A-62, The Urban Institute, Washington, DC.

31. Pirog-Good, M., 1993, "The Education and Labor Market Outcomes of Adolescent Fathers," Discussion Paper No. 1014–93, Institute for Research on Poverty, Washington, DC.

32. Bos, J., D. Polit, and J. Quint, 1997, *New Chance: Final Report on a Comprehensive Program for Young Mothers in Poverty and Their Children*, MDRC, New York, NY.

33. Sum, et. al, 2003, *Confronting the Youth Demographic Challenge: The Labor Prospects of Out-of-School Young Adults*, The Sar Levitan Center, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.

34. Wald, M. and T. Martinez, 2003, "Connected by 25: Improving the Life Chances of the Country's Most Vulnerable 14–24 Year Olds," Working Paper for the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

35. Massinga, R. and P. Pecora, 2004,"Providing Better Opportunities for Older Children in the Child Welfare System," *The Future of Children*, Vol. 14, No. 1.

36. U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2002, *Dropout Rates in the United States: 2000*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC.

37. Wald, M. and T. Martinez, 2003, "Connected by 25: Improving the Life Chances of the Country's Most Vulnerable 14–24 Year Olds," Working Paper for the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

38. Johns Hopkins University, 2001, "How Many Central-City Schools Have a Severe Dropout Problem, Where Are They Located, and Who Attends Them? Estimates Using the Common Core of Data," by R. Balfanz and N. Legters, paper presented at Dropouts in America Conference, the Harvard Graduate School of Education, January.

39. Zeidenberg, J. and B. Holman, "The Dangers of Detention,"(draft), The Justice Policy Institute, Washington, DC.

40. Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2002, "Justice Expenditure and Employment in the United States, 1999," U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

41. White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth, 2003, Final Report available at www.ncfy.com/whreport.htm.

42. DiLorenzo, P., 2003, "A Review of the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 Within Selected States," prepared for the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative.

43. Casey Family Services, 2001, "The Road to Independence: Transitioning Youth in Foster Care to Independence," available at www.caseyfamilyservices.org.

44. Casey Family Programs is a Seattle-based national operating foundation that has served children, youth, and families in the child welfare system since 1966. It develops tools, practices, and policies to nurture all youth in care and to help parents strengthen families at risk of needing foster care.

45. Mendel, D., 2003, "Small Is Beautiful: The Missouri Division of Youth Services," AdvoCasey, Vol. 5, No. 1, Spring.

46. Zeidenberg, J. and B. Holman, "The Dangers of Detention"(draft), The Justice Policy Institute, Washington, DC.

47. *Ibid.*

48. *Ibid.*

49. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2002, *Barriers and Promising Approaches to Workforce and Youth Development for Young Offenders: Program Profiles*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD.

50. *Ibid.*

51. Alford, S., 2003, "Science and Success: Sex Education and Other Programs That Work to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, HIV, and Sexually Transmitted Infections," Advocates for Youth, Washington, DC.

52. *Ibid.*

53. Duffy, J. and J. Levin-Epstein, 2002, *Add It Up: Teen Parents and Welfare… Undercounted, Oversanctioned, Underserved*, Center for Law and Social Policy, Washington, DC.

54. *Ibid.*

55. Healthy Families San Angelo, *2002 Annual Report*, available at www.hfsatx.com.

Endnotes

56. Vander Ark, Tom, 2002, "Personalization: Making Every School a Small School," *Principal Leadership* (High School ed.), Vol. 2, No. 6.

57. The George Lucas Educational Foundation, "The Little School That Did," available at www.glef.org/php/article.php?id=Art_1065.

58. O'Connell, J. and J. Greer, 2003, "Young People Rising: Learning, Working, and Growing at the Maya Angelou Public Charter School," Social Policy Action Network, available at www.span-online.org.

59. Brown, C. and A. Hartman, 2003, "The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and Disconnected Youth," in *Leave No Youth Behind: Opportunities for Congress to Reach Disconnected Youth*, Jodie Levin-Epstein and Mark H. Greenberg (Eds.), Center for Law and Social Policy, Washington, DC.

60. Grubb, W. Norton, 2003, "Using Community Colleges to Re-Connect Disconnected Youth," Working Paper for the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, available at www.hewlett.org/archives.

61. Alssid, J., et. al, 2002, "Building a Career Pathways System: Promising Practices in Community College Centered Workforce Development," Workforce Strategy Center, available at www.workforcestrategy.org/publications/Career_Pathways.pdf.

62. Kazis, R. and M. Liebowitz, 2003, *Changing Courses: Instructional Innovations That Help Low-Income Students Succeed in Community College*, MDRC, New York, NY.

63. *Ibid.*

64. YouthBuild U.S.A., *Annual Report 2002*, available at www.youthbuild.org/YouthBuild-2002.pdf.

65. Ferguson, R.F., et. al., 1996, "YouthBuild in Developmental Perspective: A Formative Evaluation of the YouthBuild Demonstration Project," John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

66. U.S General Accounting Office, 2004, "Workforce Investment Act: Labor Actions Can Help States Improve Quality of Performance Outcome Data and Delivery of Youth Services," Washington, DC.

67. O'Hare, William P. and Nicole L. Bramstedt, 2003, "Assessing the KIDS COUNT Composite Index," KIDS COUNT Working Paper, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD.

68. For more information about the standard errors associated with the sample data used in the *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, contact Kelvin M. Pollard at the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, DC, at 202.939.5424.

69. In January 2004, the Casey Foundation provided updated data originally published in *The Right Start: Conditions of Babies and Their Families in America's Largest Cities*, which provides information on birth outcomes in 55 large American cities. This information is available on the KIDS COUNT website. In February 1997, the Casey Foundation published the *CITY KIDS COUNT* report, which provides comparable data on child well-being for the 50 largest cities in the country. To obtain a free copy of either publication, call 410.223.2890, or visit www.kidscount.org.

70. For more information about the relationships among the KIDS COUNT indicators, see Bramstedt, Nicole L. and William P. O'Hare, 2002, "Examining Inter-Relationships Among State-Level Measures of Child Well-Being," KIDS COUNT Working Paper, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD.

71. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 2002, "Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2001 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set," by T.J. Mathews, Fay Menacker, and Marian F. MacDorman, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 52, No. 2 (September 15), Table 2.

72. Based on calculations from Table H in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 2002, "Births: Final Data for 2001," by Joyce A. Martin, Brady E. Hamilton, Stephanie J. Ventura, Fay Menacker, Melissa M. Park, and Paul D. Sutton, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 51, No. 2 (December 18).

73. *Ibid.*, p. 21.

74. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2002, "Use of Assisted Reproductive Technology—United States, 1996 and 1998," by L.A. Schieve, G. Jeng, and L.S. Wilcox, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 51, No. 5 (February 8), p. 97.

75. National Institutes of Health, 1999, "Low Birth Weight in Minority Populations," accessed at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pafiles/PA-99-045.html (April 2002).

76. Hughes, D. and L. Simpson, 1995, "The Role of Social Change in Preventing Low Birth Weight," *The Future of Children*, Vol. 5, No. 1, Spring.

77. Aber, Larry J. and G. Bennett, 1992, "The Effects of Poverty on Child Health and Development," *American Review of Public Health*, Vol. 18, pp. 463–483; and Ellen, I.G., 2000, "Is Segregation Bad for Your Health? The Case of Low Birth Weight," *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs,* pp. 203–229.

78. U.S. Census Bureau, 2003, "Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2002," by Robert J. Mills and Shailesh Bhandari, *Current Population Reports,* Series P60–223, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, Table 3.

79. Annie E. Casey Foundation, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau's March 2003 Current Population Survey.

80. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2002, *KIDS COUNT International Data Sheet*, available at www.aecf.org/kidscount/int_data.pdf (accessed February 2004).

81. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1995, "Poverty and Infant Mortality—United States, 1988," by John L. Kiely, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 44, No. 49 (December 15), pp. 922–927.

82. Finch, Brian Karl, 2003, "Early Origins of the Gradient: The Relationship Between Socioeconomic Status and Infant Mortality," *Demography*, Vol. 40, No. 4, pp. 675–699.

83. National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health, 1998, "Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Maternal and Child Health," by M. Berglas and J.J. Lim, *NCEMH Policy Brief*, No. 3, available at www.ncemch.org/pic/PDF/Disparities.pdf (accessed April 2002).

84. Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, 2002, *Child Health USA 2002*, Health Resources and Services Administration, available at www.mchirc.net/HTML/CHUSA-02/main_pages/page_71 (accessed March 2003).

85. Neuberg, Leland G. and Victor G. Rodwin, 2003, "Neighborhood Matters: Infant Morality Rates in Four Cities; London, Manhattan, Paris and Tokyo, " *Indicators: The Journal of Social Health*, Vol. 2, No. 1, M.E. Sharpe, Armonk, NY; Coulton, Claudia and Shanta Pandey, 1992, "Geographic Concentration of Poverty and Risk to Children in Urban Neighborhoods," *American Behavioral Scientist*, Vol. 35, No. 3, pp. 238–257; and O'Campo, Patricia, Ziaonan Xue, Mei-Chang Wang, and Margaret O'Brien Caughy, 1997, "Neighborhood Risk Factors for Low Birthweight in Baltimore: A Multilevel Analysis," *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 87, No. 7 (July), pp. 1113–1118.

86. Howell, Embry Martin and Paul Vert, 1993, *Pediatrics*, Vol. 91, No. 2 (February), pp. 464–469.

87. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 2003, "Deaths: Final Data for 2001," by Elizabeth Arias, Robert N. Anderson, Hsiang-Ching Kung, Sherry L. Murphy, and Kenneth D. Kochanek, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 52, No. 3 (September 18), Tables 3–4, pp. 21–23; and Tables I–II, p. 106.

88. Sherman, Arloc, 1994, *Wasting America's Future: The Children's Defense Fund Report on Child Poverty*, Beacon Press, Boston, MA, p. 64.

89. Innocenti Research Center, 2001, *Child Deaths by Injury in Rich Nations*, United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, Florence, Italy, p. 6. Figure 1, February.

90. Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, 2003, *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being 2003*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, p. 32.

91. Innocenti Research Center, 2001, *Child Deaths by Injury in Rich Nations*, United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, Florence, Italy, p. 6, Figure 1, February.

92. Williams, A.F., 2003, "The Compelling Case for Graduated Licensing," *Journal of Safety Research*, Vol. 34, pp. 3–4, National Safety Council and Elsevier Science, Ltd.

93. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "Deaths: Leading Causes for 2001," by Robert N. Anderson and Betty L. Smith, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 52, No. 9 (November 7), Table 1, p. 34, and Table 2, pp. 48, 55, and 62.

94. These figures are computed from the 2000 Census 1 percent PUMS file and reflect only those children where the mother was the householder or spouse of the householder and the child was a natural born child or a stepchild of the householder if the mother was the spouse of the householder. The calculations include only those children whose mother was between the ages of 18 and 38 at the time of the survey, and whose mother was 12 years or older at the time of their birth.

95. National Commission on Children, 1991, *Beyond Rhetoric: A New American Agenda for Children and Families*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC.

96. Calculations based on U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1998, *National Longitudinal Survey of Youth: 1997*, Washington, DC. U.S. Department of Labor cited in *Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth: 2002*, p. 296.

97. U.S. Census Bureau, 2003, "Custodial Mothers and Fathers and Their Child Support: 2001," detailed tables, Table 4, accessed online at www.census.gov/hhes/www/childsupport/chldsu01.pdf (February 4, 2004).

98. Sandefur, Gary and Sara S. McLanahan, 1994, *Growing Up With a Single Parent: What Hurts, What Helps*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, pp. 1–2.

99. Landry, David J. and Jacqueline Darroch Forrest, 1995, "How Old Are U.S. Fathers?" *Family Planning Perspectives*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (July/August), pp. 159–161.

100. Boyer, Debra and David Fine, 1992, "Sexual Abuse as a Factor in Adolescent Pregnancy and Child Maltreatment," *Family Planning Perspectives*, Vol. 24, No. 1 (January/February); and Moore, Kristin, Christine Winquist Nord, and James L. Peterson, 1989, "Nonvoluntary Sexual Activity Among Adolescents," *Family Planning Perspectives*, Vol. 21, No. 3 (May/June).

101. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 2002, "Births: Final Data for 2001," by Joyce A. Martin, Brady E. Hamilton, Stephanie Ventura, Fay Menacker, Melissa M. Park, and Paul Sutton, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 51, No. 2, Tables 4 and 9.

102. Alan Guttmacher Institute, 2004, *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics*, The Alan Guttmacher Institute, New York, NY.

103. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2002, "Trends in Sexual Risk Behaviors Among High School Students—United States, 1991–2001," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 51, No. 38 (September 27), pp. 856–859.

104. Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998, *When Teens Have Sex: Issues and Trends*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD, p. 9.

105. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 2001, "Births to Teenagers in the United States, 1940–2000," by Stephanie J. Ventura, T.J. Mathews, and Brady E. Hamilton, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 49, No. 10 (September 25), p. 8.

106. Grossman, Jean Baldwin, Karen E. Walker, Lauren J. Kotloff, and Sarah Pepper, 2002, *Adult Communication and Teen Sex: Change a Community*, Public/Private Ventures, Philadelphia, PA.

107. See KIDS COUNT Pocket Guide, *Teen Births in America's Largest Cities: 1990 and 2000*, available at www.aecf.org/kidscount/pubs/teen_birth_final.pdf.

108. Darroch, Jacqueline, Susheela Singh, and Jennifer Frost, 2001, "Differences in Teenage Pregnancy Rates Among Five Developed Countries: The Roles of Sexual Activity and Contraceptive Use," *Family Planning Perspectives*, Vol. 33, No. 6, p. 244.

109. O'Hare, William P. and Mark Mather, 2003, "The Growing Number of Kids in Severely Distressed Neighborhoods: Evidence From the 2000 Census," *A KIDS COUNT/PRB Report on Census 2000*, Population Reference Bureau, Washington, DC.

110. National Center for Education Statistics, 1996, *Dropout Rates in the United States: 1994*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, p. viii.

111. U.S. Census Bureau, 2002, "The Big Payoff: Educational Attainment and Synthetic Estimates of Work-Life Earnings," by Jennifer Cheeseman Day and Eric C. Newburger, *Current Population Reports*, Series P23–210, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, Figure 1.

112. Mishel, Lawrence, Jared Bernstein, and Helen Boushey, 2003, *The State of Working America 2002–2003*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY, p. 153.

113. Wilson, William Julius, 1997, *When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor*, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY, Chapter 4.

114. Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, 2003, *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, p. 90.

115. *Ibid.*, p. 18.

116. Mayer, Susan E., 1997, *What Money Can't Buy: Family Income and Children's Life Chances*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, Table 3.1; and Children's Defense Fund, 1994, *Wasting America's Future*, Washington, DC.

117. U.S. Census Bureau, 2003, "Poverty in the United States: 2002," by Bernadette D. Proctor and Joseph Dalaker, *Current Population Reports*, Series P60–222, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington DC, p. 4.

118. National Research Council, 1995, *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*, National Academy Press, Washington, DC; Kull, Steven, 1994, *Fighting Poverty in America: A Study of American Public Attitudes*, Center for Study of Public Attitudes, Washington, DC; and O'Hare, William P., Taynia Mann, Kathryn Porter, and Robert Greenstein, 1990, *Real-Life Poverty in America: Where the American Public Would Set the Poverty Line*, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Washington, DC.

119. U.S. Census Bureau, 2000, "Poverty Among Working Families: Findings From Experimental Poverty Measures: 1998," by John Iceland, *Current Population Reports*, Series P23–203, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC; and U.S. Census Bureau, 1999, "Experimental Poverty Measures: 1990 to 1997," by Kathleen Short, Thesia Garner, David Johnson, and Patricia Doyle, *Current Population Reports*, Series P60–205, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC.

120. Casey Foundation analysis of the Census Bureau's March Current Population Survey.

121. U.S. Census Bureau, 2003, "Table POV27: Source of Income by Ratio of Poverty Threshold for Families and Unrelated Individuals: 2002," accessed at ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032003/pov/new27_005_05.htm (February 5, 2004).

122. Jesuit, David and Timothy M. Smeeding, 2002, *Poverty Levels in the Developed World*, Working Paper No. 321, Luxembourg Income Study, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY; and UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2000*, UNICEF, New York, NY, p. 76.

123. U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, "A Child's Day: Home, School, and Play (Selected Indicators of Child Well-Being): 1994," by Jason Fields, Kristin Smith, Loretta E. Bass, and Terry Lugaila, *Current Population Reports*, Series P70–68, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, pp. 1–2.

124. Sorenson, Elaine and Chava Zibman, 2000, "Poor Dads Who Don't Pay Child Support: Deadbeats or Disadvantaged?" *New Federalism Report*, No. B-30, Urban Institute, Washington, DC.

125. Miller, Cynthia and Virginia Knox, 2001, *The Challenge of Helping Low-Income Fathers Support Their Children*, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, p. 33.

126. Harden, Blaine, 2002, "'Dead Broke' Dads' Child-Support Struggle," *The New York Times*, January 29.

127. Single-Rushton, Wendy, 2001, *For Richer or Poorer*, Center for Research on Child Well-Being Working Paper No. 01–17-FF, Princeton, NJ, p. 16.

128. Online analysis of the 1999 National Survey of American Families, Focal Child File, The Urban Institute, Washington, DC.

129. Norland, Christina, 2001, "Father Involvement, Maternal Health Behavior, and Infant Health," *Fragile Families Research Brief*, No. 5, Bendheim-Thorman Center for Research on Child Well-Being, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

130. Meckler, Laura, 2002, "Administration Staking Moderate Position on Welfare as Debate Renewed in Congress, *The New York Times*, January 28.

131. Solot, Dorian and Marshall Miller, 2002, *Let Them Eat Wedding Rings: The Role of Marriage Promotion in Welfare Reform*, Alternatives to Marriage Program, Boston, MA.

NATIONAL PROFILES

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total population	288,368,698	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	28,341,732	10%
Total children under age 18	72,894,483	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	17,567,702	62%
Black/African American*	3,971,764	14%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	256,597	1%
Asian*	1,160,181	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	50,033	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	429,732	2%
Hispanic/Latino	4,905,723	17%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

Children without health insurance: 2001	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

Median income of families with children: 2001	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	35%

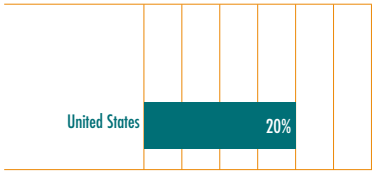
Education

4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	132,641
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	846,259
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	104,413

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

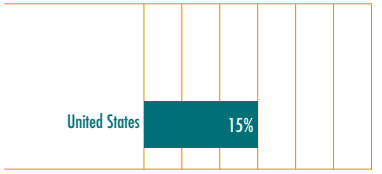


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

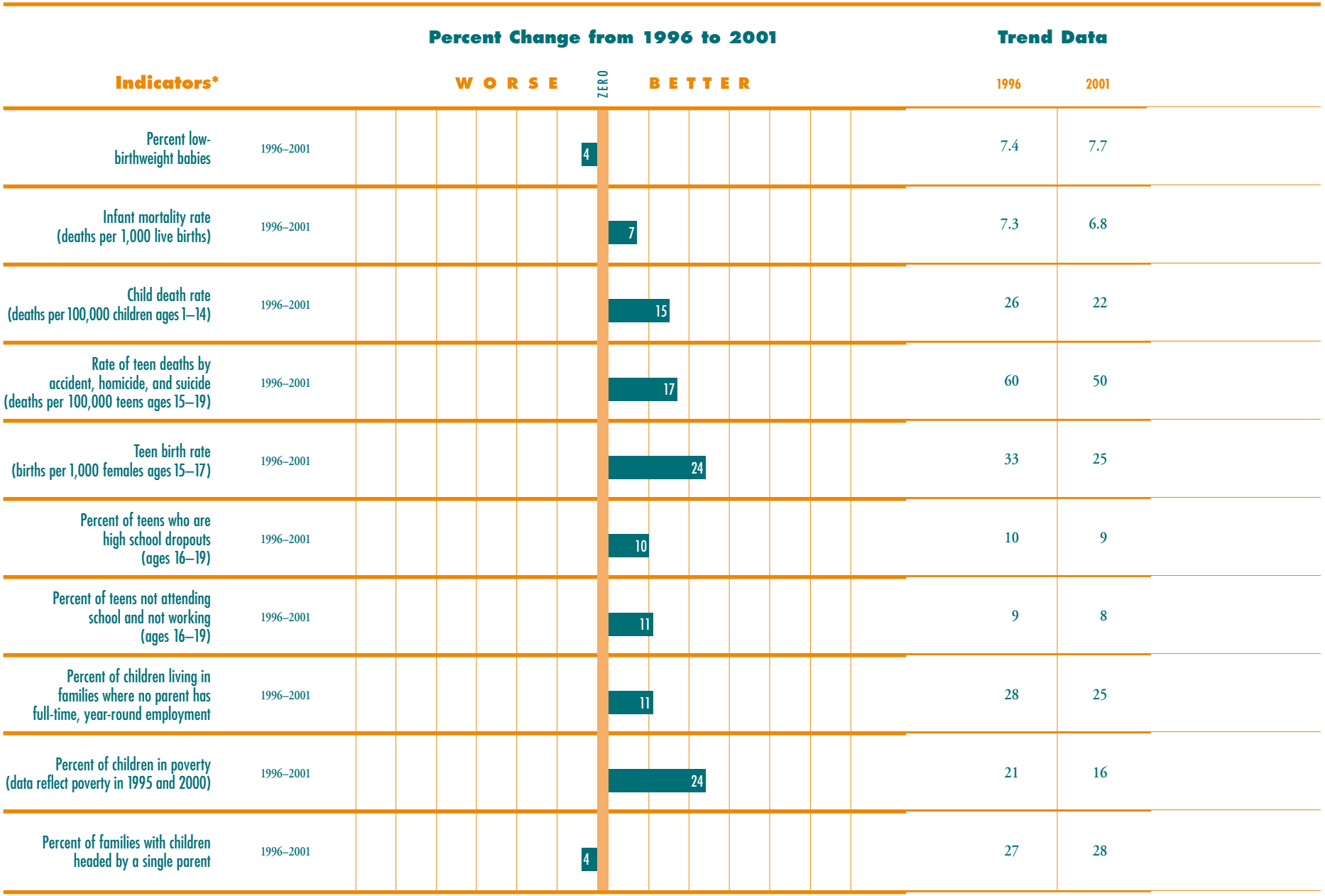
Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	3,843,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



United States Profile

USA

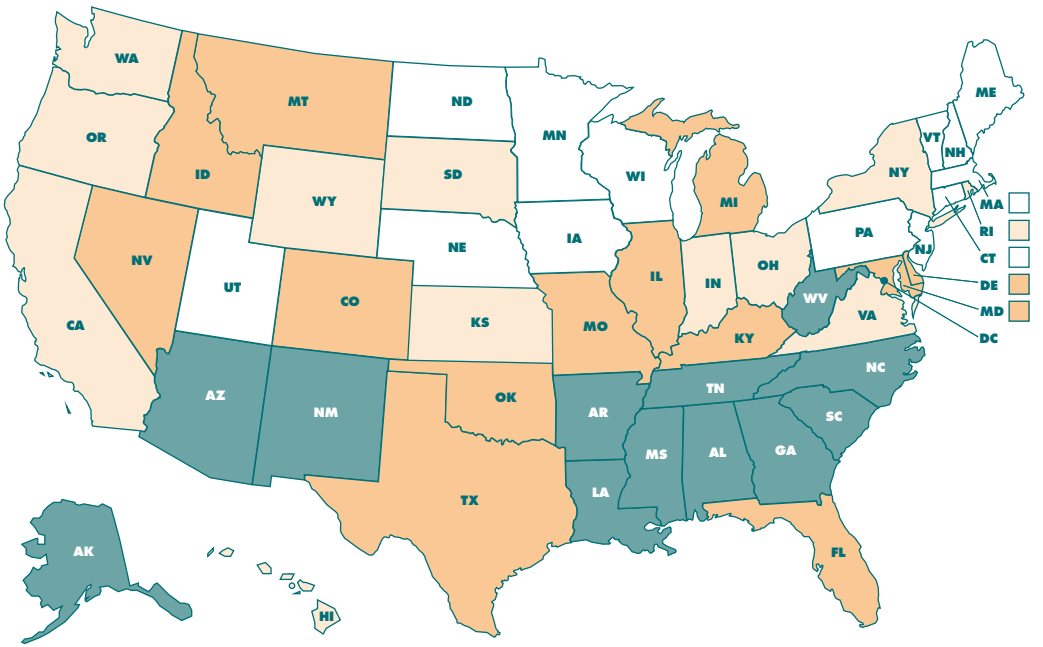


*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Overall Rank: 2004

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

N.R.=Not Ranked.

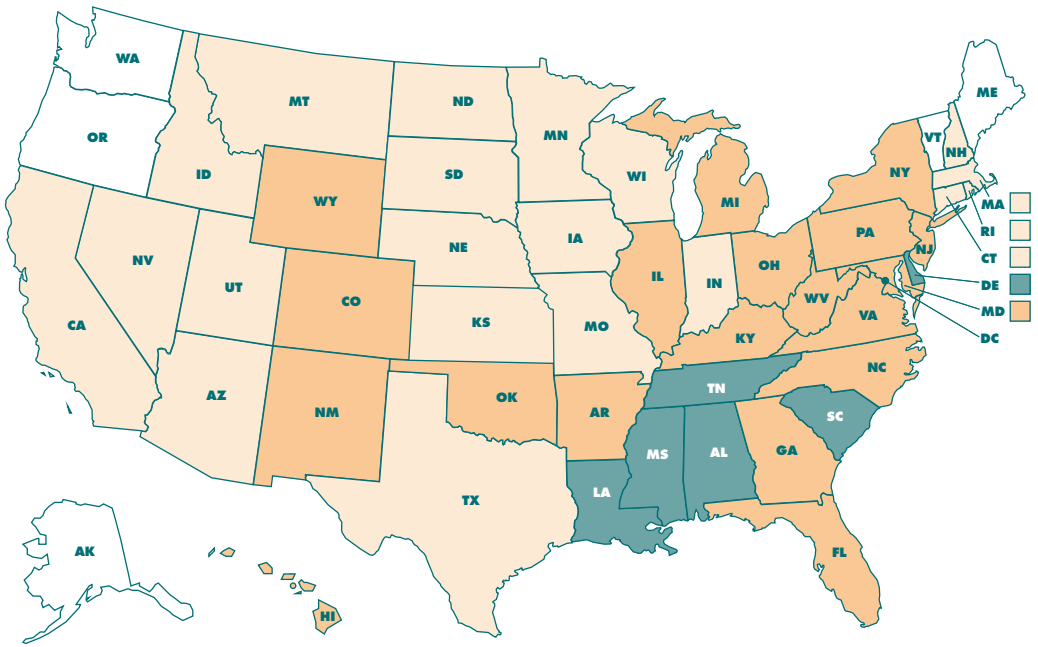


Rank 1–13
Rank 14–25
Rank 26–38
Rank 39–50

A state's Overall Rank is determined by the sum of a 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). The measures are as follows: percent low-birthweight babies; infant mortality rate; child death rate; rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide; teen birth rate; percent of teens who are high school dropouts; percent of teens not attending school and not working; percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment; percent of children in poverty; and percent of families with children headed by a single parent.

National Indicator Maps: State Rates

Percent low-birthweight babies: 2001*



More than 20% better than state median (6.1 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (6.2 to 7.6)

Up to 20% worse than state median (7.7 to 9.1)

More than 20% worse than state median (9.2 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Oregon	5.5	27	Oklahoma	7.8
2	Alaska	5.7	28	New Jersey	7.9
3	Washington	5.8	28	New Mexico	7.9
4	Vermont	5.9	28	Pennsylvania	7.9
5	Maine	6.0	28	Virginia	7.9
6	North Dakota	6.2	32	Illinois	8.0
7	California	6.3	32	Michigan	8.0
7	Minnesota	6.3	32	Ohio	8.0
9	Idaho	6.4	35	Hawaii	8.1
9	Iowa	6.4	36	Florida	8.2
9	South Dakota	6.4	37	Kentucky	8.3
9	Utah	6.4	37	Wyoming	8.3
13	New Hampshire	6.5	39	Colorado	8.5
14	Nebraska	6.6	39	West Virginia	8.5
14	Wisconsin	6.6	41	Arkansas	8.8
16	Montana	6.9	41	Georgia	8.8
17	Arizona	7.0	43	North Carolina	8.9
17	Kansas	7.0	44	Maryland	9.0
19	Massachusetts	7.2	45	Tennessee	9.2
20	Rhode Island	7.3	46	Delaware	9.3
21	Connecticut	7.4	47	Alabama	9.6
22	Indiana	7.6	47	South Carolina	9.6
22	Missouri	7.6	49	Louisiana	10.4
22	Nevada	7.6	50	Mississippi	10.7
22	Texas	7.6	N.R.	District of Columbia	12.1
26	New York	7.7			

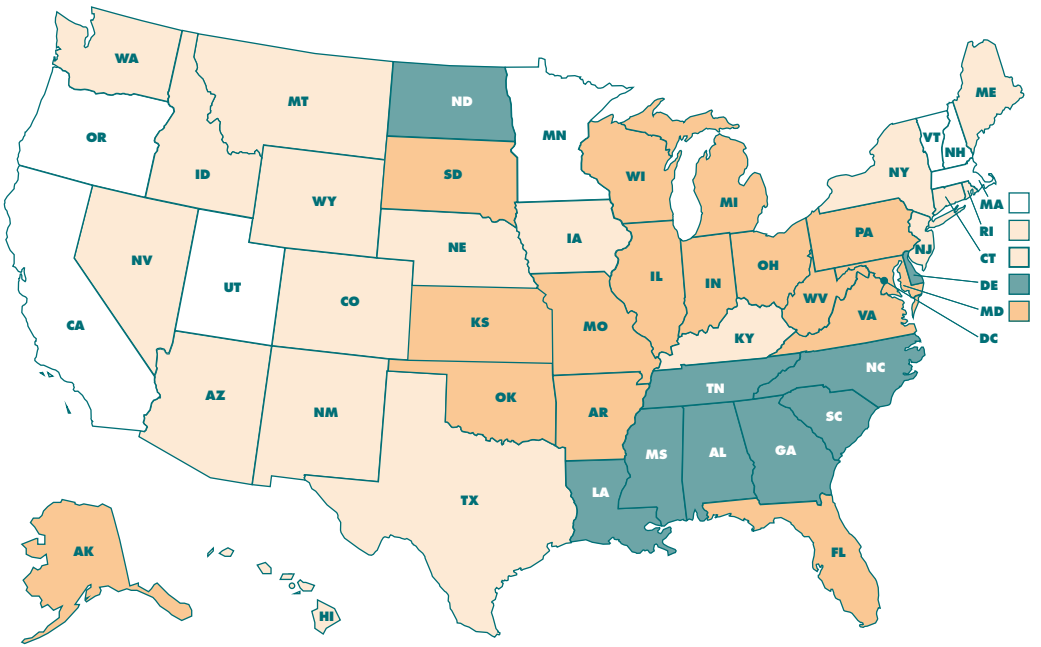
N.R.=Not Ranked.

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

Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births): 2001

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	3.8	27	Pennsylvania	7.2
2	Utah	4.8	27	West Virginia	7.2
3	Massachusetts	5.0	29	Florida	7.3
4	Minnesota	5.3	29	Oklahoma	7.3
5	California	5.4	31	Kansas	7.4
5	Oregon	5.4	31	Missouri	7.4
7	Vermont	5.5	31	South Dakota	7.4
8	Iowa	5.6	34	Indiana	7.5
9	Nevada	5.7	35	Virginia	7.6
10	Colorado	5.8	36	Illinois	7.7
10	New York	5.8	36	Ohio	7.7
10	Washington	5.8	38	Michigan	8.0
13	Kentucky	5.9	39	Alaska	8.1
13	Texas	5.9	39	Maryland	8.1
13	Wyoming	5.9	41	Arkansas	8.3
16	Connecticut	6.1	42	North Carolina	8.5
16	Maine	6.1	43	Georgia	8.6
18	Hawaii	6.2	44	Tennessee	8.7
18	Idaho	6.2	45	North Dakota	8.8
20	New Mexico	6.4	46	South Carolina	8.9
21	New Jersey	6.5	47	Alabama	9.4
22	Montana	6.7	48	Louisiana	9.8
23	Nebraska	6.8	49	Mississippi	10.5
23	Rhode Island	6.8	50	Delaware	10.7
25	Arizona	6.9	N.R.	District of Columbia	10.6
26	Wisconsin	7.1			

N.R.=Not Ranked.



More than 20% better than state median (5.5 and lower)

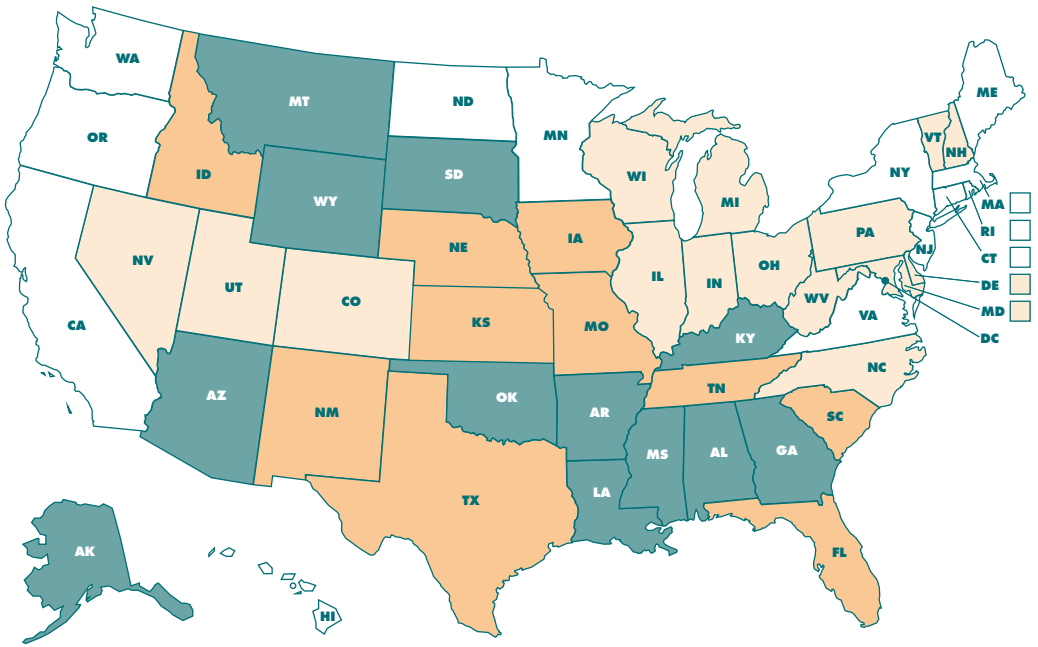
Up to 20% better than state median (5.6 to 6.9)

Up to 20% worse than state median (7.0 to 8.3)

More than 20% worse than state median (8.4 and higher)

National Indicator Maps: State Rates

Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14): 2001



More than 20% better than state median (18 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (19 to 22)

Up to 20% worse than state median (23 to 26)

More than 20% worse than state median (27 and higher)

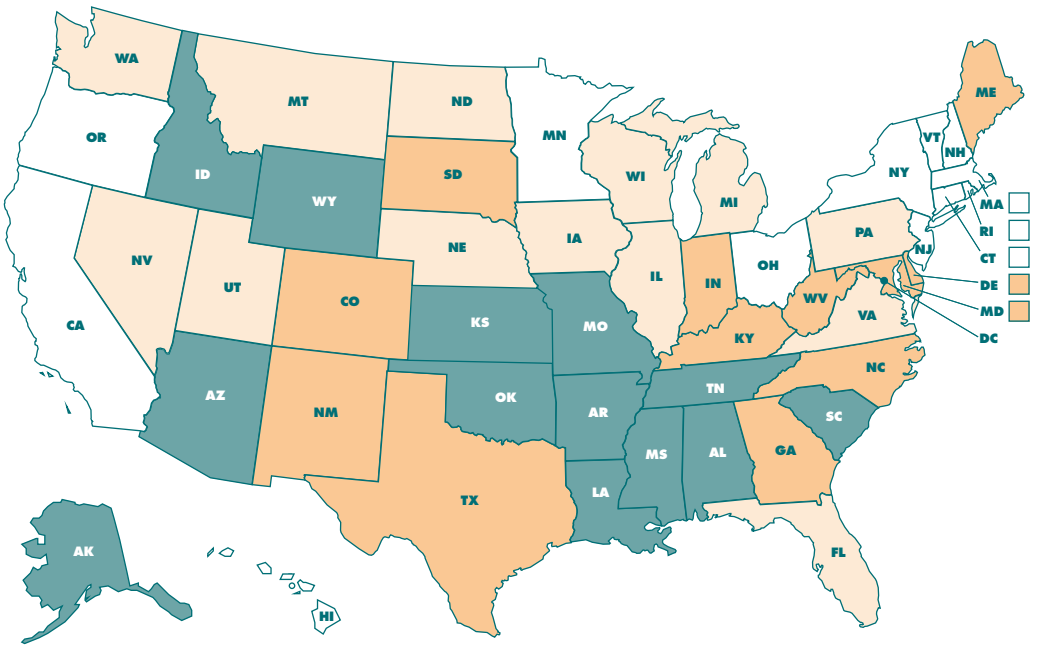
Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Connecticut	14	21	Nevada	22
1	New Jersey	14	21	North Carolina	22
3	Massachusetts	15	29	Florida	23
3	Rhode Island	15	29	Iowa	23
5	Hawaii	16	29	Nebraska	23
5	Maine	16	29	Tennessee	23
7	Minnesota	17	33	Kansas	24
7	North Dakota	17	33	Missouri	24
9	California	18	33	Texas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

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19): 2001

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	New Jersey	29	27	Texas	54
2	Rhode Island	31	27	West Virginia	54
3	Massachusetts	32	29	Indiana	56
4	New York	35	29	Maine	56
5	Vermont	38	29	Maryland	56
6	California	39	29	South Dakota	56
6	Hawaii	39	33	Kentucky	57
6	Minnesota	39	34	Colorado	58
9	Connecticut	40	35	New Mexico	59
9	New Hampshire	40	36	Georgia	62
11	Oregon	41	36	North Carolina	62
12	Ohio	42	38	Kansas	65
13	Montana	43	38	Tennessee	65
13	Washington	43	38	Wyoming	65
15	Utah	44	41	Arizona	66
16	Michigan	46	42	South Carolina	68
16	Virginia	46	43	Mississippi	69
18	Iowa	47	43	Missouri	69
18	Wisconsin	47	43	Oklahoma	69
20	Nebraska	48	46	Louisiana	71
21	North Dakota	49	47	Alabama	72
21	Pennsylvania	49	47	Idaho	72
23	Nevada	50	49	Arkansas	74
24	Florida	51	50	Alaska	75
25	Illinois	52	N.R.	District of Columbia	126
26	Delaware	53			

N.R.=Not Ranked.



More than 20% better than state median (42 and lower)

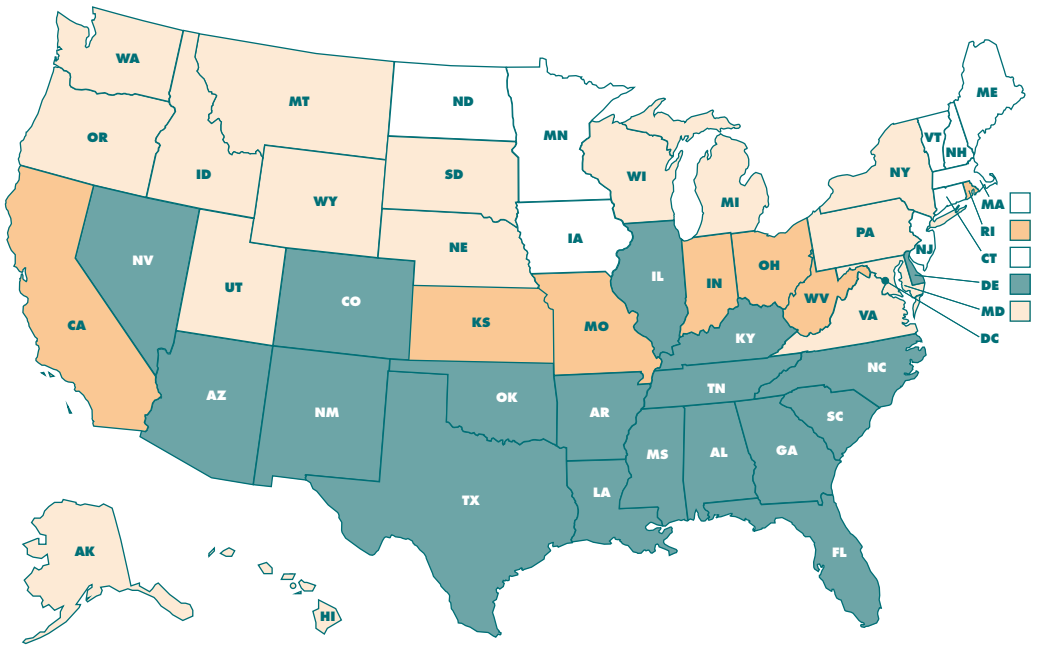
Up to 20% better than state median (43 to 52)

Up to 20% worse than state median (53 to 62)

More than 20% worse than state median (63 and higher)

National Indicator Maps: State Rates

Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17): 2001



More than 20% better than state median (17 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (18 to 21)

Up to 20% worse than state median (22 to 25)

More than 20% worse than state median (26 and higher)

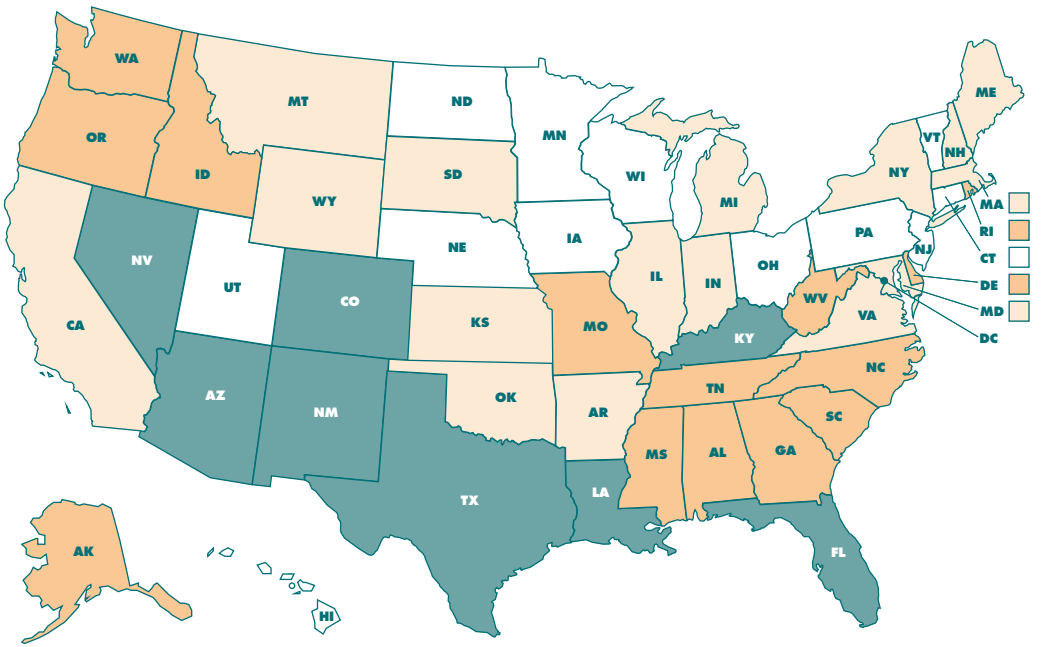
Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	10
1	Vermont	10
3	Maine	12
3	North Dakota	12
5	Massachusetts	14
5	Minnesota	14
7	Connecticut	15
8	New Jersey	16
9	Iowa	17
10	Montana	18
10	New York	18
10	Pennsylvania	18
10	Washington	18
10	Wisconsin	18
10	Wyoming	18
16	Alaska	19
16	Idaho	19
16	South Dakota	19
16	Utah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

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19): 2001*

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	North Dakota	4	24	New York	9
2	Iowa	5	24	Oklahoma	9
2	Minnesota	5	29	Delaware	10
2	New Jersey	5	29	Georgia	10
5	Connecticut	6	29	Missouri	10
5	Nebraska	6	29	Rhode Island	10
7	Hawaii	7	29	Washington	10
7	Ohio	7	29	West Virginia	10
7	Pennsylvania	7	35	Alabama	11
7	Utah	7	35	Alaska	11
7	Vermont	7	35	Idaho	11
7	Wisconsin	7	35	Mississippi	11
13	Arkansas	8	35	North Carolina	11
13	California	8	35	Oregon	11
13	Indiana	8	35	South Carolina	11
13	Kansas	8	35	Tennessee	11
13	Maine	8	43	Florida	12
13	Massachusetts	8	43	Kentucky	12
13	Michigan	8	43	Louisiana	12
13	Montana	8	43	New Mexico	12
13	South Dakota	8	43	Texas	12
13	Virginia	8	48	Colorado	13
13	Wyoming	8	49	Nevada	14
24	Illinois	9	50	Arizona	16
24	Maryland	9	N.R.	District of Columbia	11
24	New Hampshire	9			

N.R.=Not Ranked.



More than 20% better than state median (7 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (8 and 9)

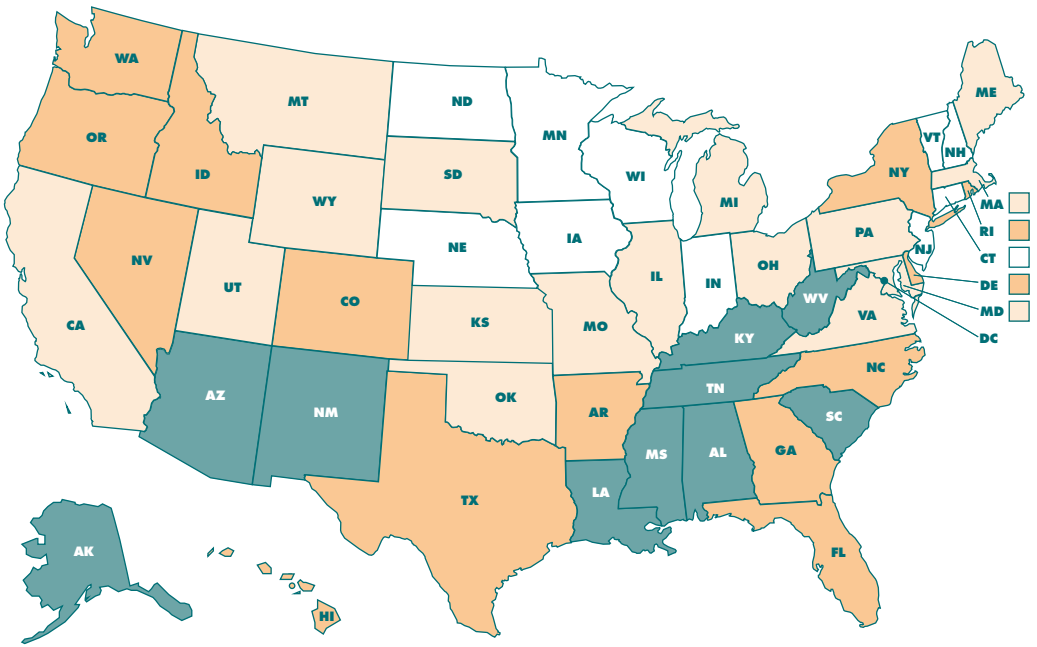
Up to 20% worse than state median (10 and 11)

More than 20% worse than state median (12 and higher)

*Three-year average of data from 2000 through 2002.

National Indicator Maps: State Rates

Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19): 2001*



More than 20% better than state median (6 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (7 and 8)

Up to 20% worse than state median (9 and 10)

More than 20% worse than state median (11 and higher)

Rank	State	Rate
1	Iowa	4
1	Minnesota	4
3	New Hampshire	5
3	North Dakota	5
3	Wisconsin	5
6	Connecticut	6
6	Indiana	6
6	Nebraska	6
6	New Jersey	6
6	Vermont	6
11	Kansas	7
11	Massachusetts	7
11	Montana	7
11	Ohio	7
11	Pennsylvania	7
11	South Dakota	7
11	Utah	7
11	Virginia	7
19	California	8
19	Illinois	8
19	Maine	8
19	Maryland	8
19	Michigan	8
19	Missouri	8
19	Oklahoma	8
19	Wyoming	8
27	Delaware	9
27	Florida	9
27	New York	9
27	Rhode Island	9
27	Washington	9
32	Arkansas	10
32	Colorado	10
32	Georgia	10
32	Hawaii	10
32	Idaho	10
32	Nevada	10
32	North Carolina	10
32	Oregon	10
32	Texas	10
41	Alabama	11
41	Alaska	11
41	New Mexico	11
41	South Carolina	11
41	Tennessee	11
46	Arizona	12
46	Kentucky	12
48	Louisiana	13
48	Mississippi	13
50	West Virginia	14
N.R.	District of Columbia	14

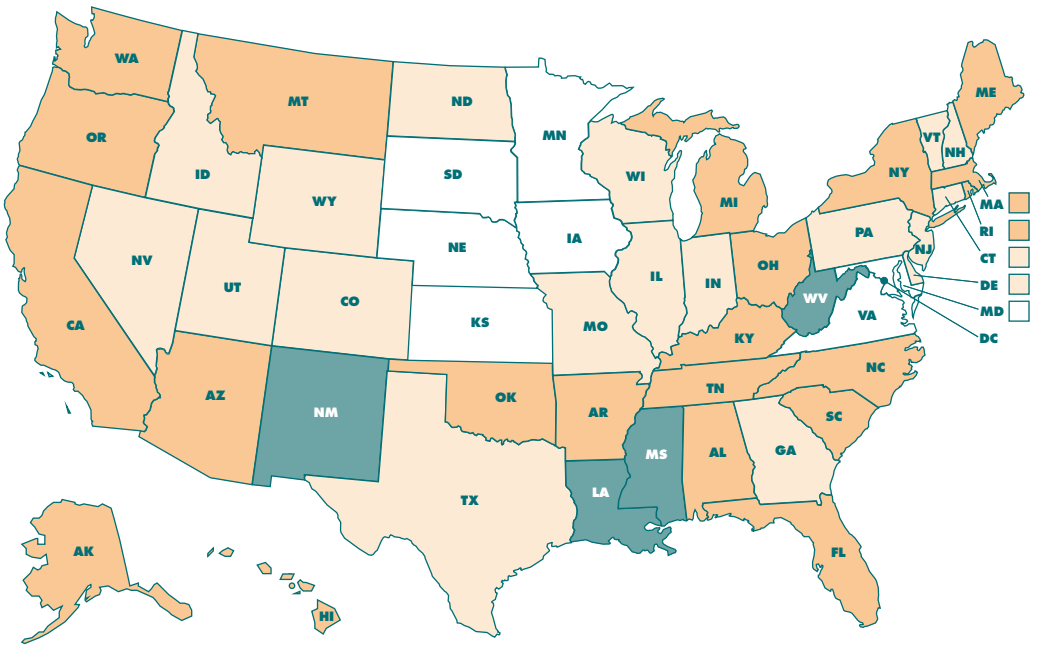
N.R.=Not Ranked.

* *Three-year average of data from 2000 through 2002.*

Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment: 2001*

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Iowa	17	26	Kentucky	25
1	Minnesota	17	26	Massachusetts	25
3	Nebraska	18	26	Michigan	25
3	South Dakota	18	26	Ohio	25
5	Kansas	19	26	Oklahoma	25
5	Maryland	19	26	Rhode Island	25
5	Virginia	19	33	Arizona	26
8	Colorado	20	33	California	26
8	Delaware	20	33	Maine	26
8	New Hampshire	20	36	Alabama	27
8	New Jersey	20	36	South Carolina	27
8	Wyoming	20	38	Hawaii	28
13	Nevada	21	38	New York	28
13	North Dakota	21	38	North Carolina	28
13	Wisconsin	21	38	Oregon	28
16	Connecticut	22	38	Washington	28
16	Indiana	22	43	Alaska	29
16	Missouri	22	43	Arkansas	29
19	Georgia	23	43	Montana	29
19	Pennsylvania	23	43	Tennessee	29
19	Utah	23	47	Mississippi	31
19	Vermont	23	48	Louisiana	33
23	Idaho	24	48	West Virginia	33
23	Illinois	24	50	New Mexico	34
23	Texas	24	N.R.	District of Columbia	40
26	Florida	25			

N.R.=Not Ranked.



More than 20% better than state median (19 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (20 to 24)

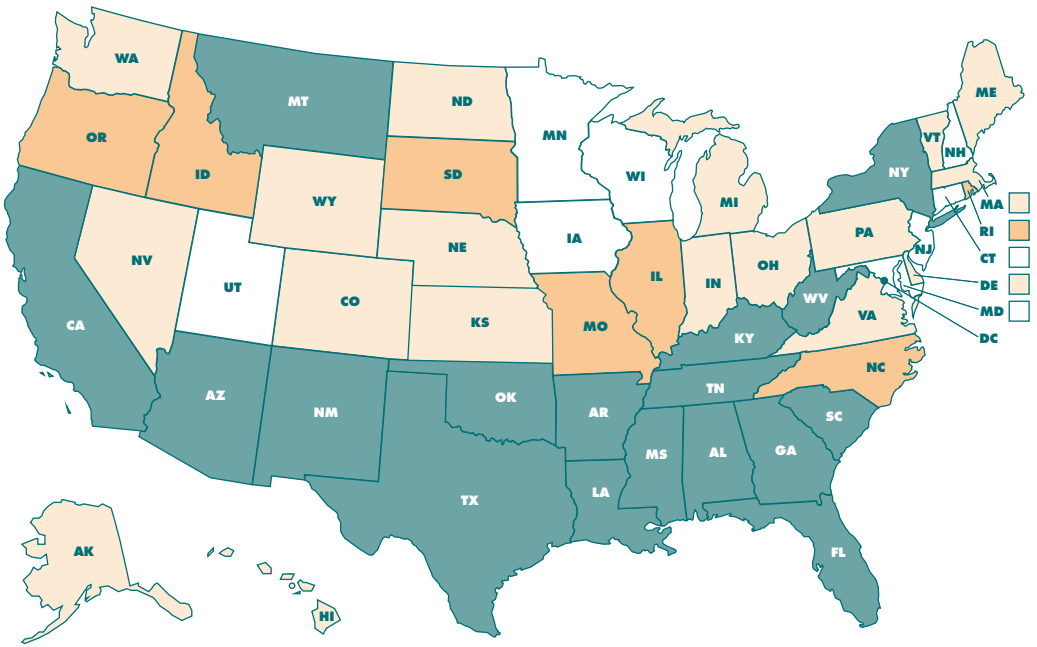
Up to 20% worse than state median (25 to 29)

More than 20% worse than state median (30 and higher)

*Three-year average of data from 2000 through 2002.

National Indicator Maps: State Rates

Percent of children in poverty: 2001
(data reflect poverty in 2000)



- More than 20% better than state median (11 and lower)
- Up to 20% better than state median (12 to 14)
- Up to 20% worse than state median (15 to 17)
- More than 20% worse than state median (18 and higher)

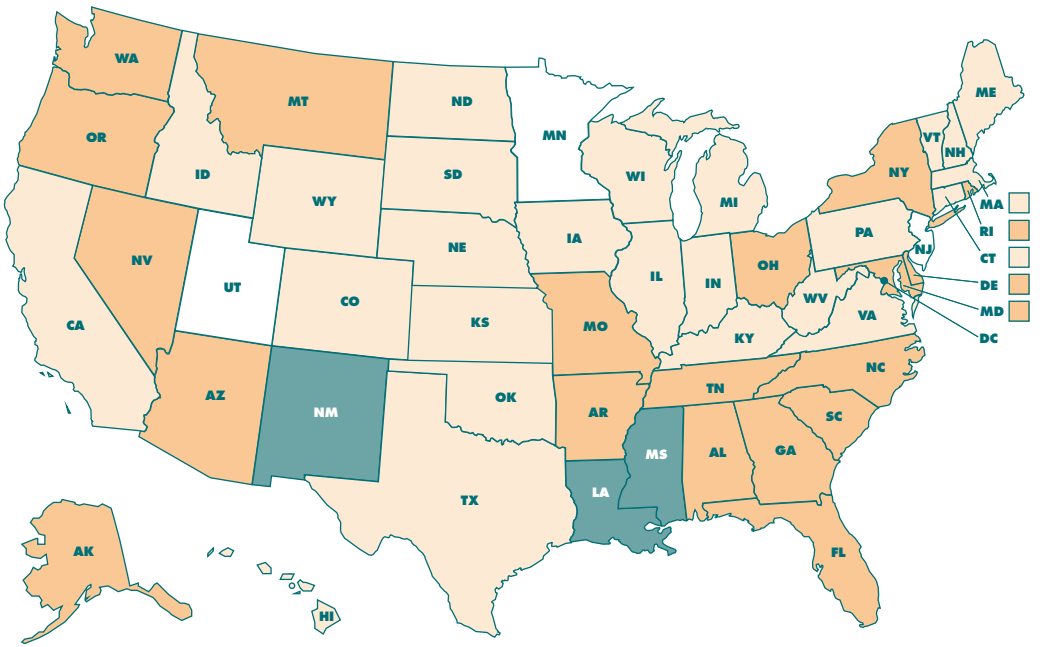
Rank	State	Rate
1	New Hampshire	7
2	Minnesota	9
3	Connecticut	10
4	Iowa	11
4	Maryland	11
4	New Jersey	11
4	Utah	11
4	Wisconsin	11
9	Alaska	12
9	Colorado	12
9	Indiana	12
9	Kansas	12
9	Massachusetts	12
9	Nebraska	12
9	Vermont	12
9	Virginia	12
17	Delaware	13
17	Maine	13
17	North Dakota	13
17	Pennsylvania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

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Percent of families with children headed by a single parent: 2001*

Rank	State	Rate	Rank	State	Rate
1	Utah	17	22	Virginia	28
2	Minnesota	21	22	West Virginia	28
3	New Jersey	22	29	Arizona	29
4	Colorado	23	29	Arkansas	29
4	Iowa	23	29	Delaware	29
6	South Dakota	24	29	Maryland	29
7	Idaho	25	29	Nevada	29
7	Nebraska	25	29	Oregon	29
7	New Hampshire	25	29	Rhode Island	29
7	Pennsylvania	25	36	Florida	30
11	California	26	36	Georgia	30
11	Indiana	26	36	Missouri	30
11	Maine	26	36	North Carolina	30
11	North Dakota	26	36	South Carolina	30
11	Wisconsin	26	36	Tennessee	30
16	Connecticut	27	36	Washington	30
16	Kansas	27	43	Alabama	31
16	Kentucky	27	43	Alaska	31
16	Massachusetts	27	43	Montana	31
16	Texas	27	43	New York	31
16	Wyoming	27	43	Ohio	31
22	Hawaii	28	48	Mississippi	35
22	Illinois	28	49	Louisiana	36
22	Michigan	28	49	New Mexico	36
22	Oklahoma	28	N.R.	District of Columbia	57
22	Vermont	28			

N.R.=Not Ranked.



More than 20% better than state median (22 and lower)

Up to 20% better than state median (23 to 28)

Up to 20% worse than state median (29 to 34)

More than 20% worse than state median (35 and higher)

*Three-year average of data from 2000 through 2002.

STATE PROFILES

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	4,486,508	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	452,196	10%
Total children under age 18	1,107,108	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	283,779	63%
Black/African American*	144,604	32%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,610	1%
Asian*	4,096	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	180	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	4,335	1%
Hispanic/Latino	12,592	3%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	81%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$44,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	8%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	38%	35%

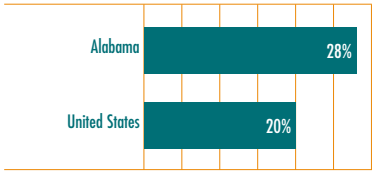
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	48%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	35%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	35%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	47%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,511
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	17,357
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,617

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

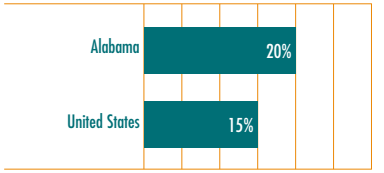


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	84,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Alabama

AL

Overall Rank [47]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	3	STATE	9.3	9.6	[47]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	10	STATE	10.5	9.4	[47]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	14	STATE	35	30	[44]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	80	72	[47]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	26	STATE	43	32	[42]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	8	STATE	12	11	[35]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	10	11	[41]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	4	STATE	28	27	[36]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	19	STATE	26	21	[44]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	0	STATE	31	31	[43]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	643,786	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	58,738	9%
Total children under age 18	192,428	30%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	36,238	62%
Black/African American*	2,606	4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	10,554	18%
Asian*	2,438	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	406	1%
More than one race*	3,210	5%
Hispanic/Latino	3,286	6%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	13%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$56,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	39%	35%

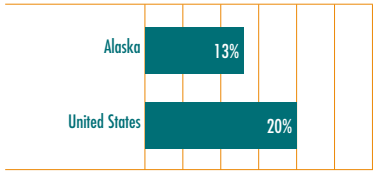
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	42%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	33%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	25%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	30%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	286
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	1,999
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	349

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

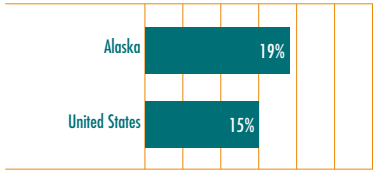


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	10,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Alaska

AK

Overall Rank [39]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	5.5	5.7	[2]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	13	STATE	7.2	8.1	[39]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	13	STATE	30	34	[49]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	26	STATE	101	75	[50]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	32	STATE	28	19	[16]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	38	STATE	8	11	[35]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	10	11	[41]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	4	STATE	28	29	[43]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	8	STATE	13	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	19	STATE	26	31	[43]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	5,456,453	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	540,015	10%
Total children under age 18	1,476,856	27%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	279,666	52%
Black/African American*	18,042	3%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	31,601	6%
Asian*	10,658	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	885	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	7,461	1%
Hispanic/Latino	191,702	35%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	15%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	70%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$46,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	9%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	31%	35%

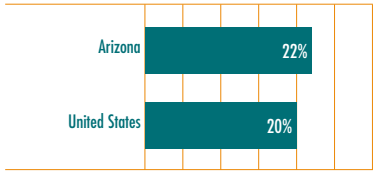
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	46%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	34%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	30%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	39%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,544
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	22,212
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,884

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

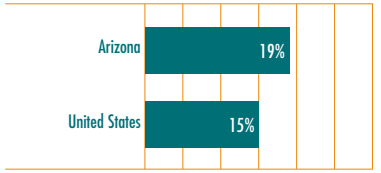


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	100,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Arizona

AZ

Overall Rank [45]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	6.7	7.0	[17]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	9	STATE	7.6	6.9	[25]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	3	STATE	30	29	[42]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	19	STATE	81	66	[41]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	20	STATE	46	37	[47]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	16	16	[50]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	9	STATE	11	12	[46]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	13	STATE	30	26	[33]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	24	STATE	25	19	[38]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	28	29	[29]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	2,710,079	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	272,391	10%
Total children under age 18	677,522	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	195,278	72%
Black/African American*	54,758	20%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,812	1%
Asian*	2,760	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	282	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	3,341	1%
Hispanic/Latino	14,160	5%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	11%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	75%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$36,400	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	12%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	34%	35%

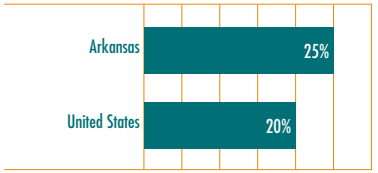
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	40%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	30%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	29%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	42%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	811
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	10,975
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	652

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

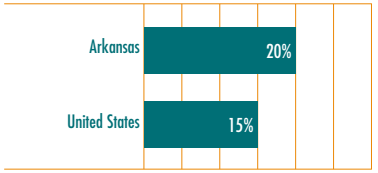


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	51,000

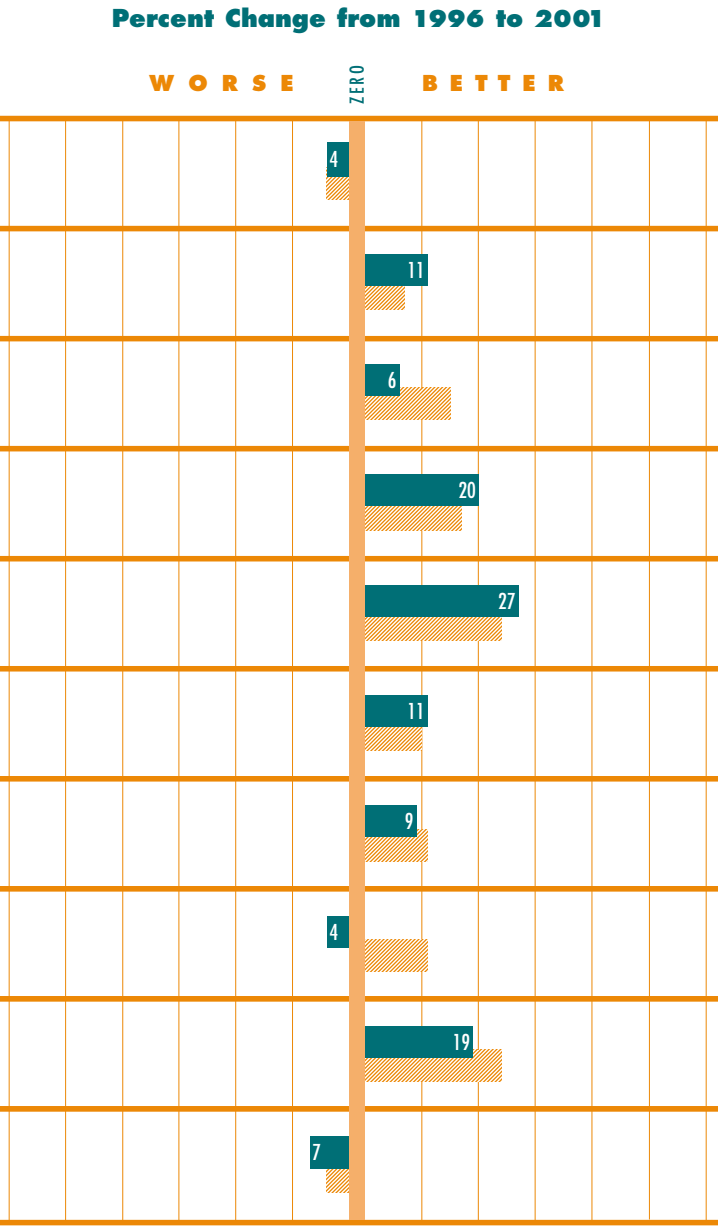
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Arkansas

AR

Overall Rank [44]



Indicators*		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE 8.5 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 8.8 / NATIONAL 7.7	[41]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE 9.3 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 8.3 / NATIONAL 6.8	[41]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE 32 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 30 / NATIONAL 22	[44]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE 92 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 74 / NATIONAL 50	[49]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE 44 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 32 / NATIONAL 25	[42]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 9 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 8 / NATIONAL 9	[13]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 11 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 10 / NATIONAL 8	[32]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE 28 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 29 / NATIONAL 25	[43]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE 27 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 22 / NATIONAL 16	[46]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE 27 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 29 / NATIONAL 28	[29]

**See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.* *Patterned bars indicate national change.* *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	35,116,033	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	3,551,492	10%
Total children under age 18	9,452,391	27%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	1,289,010	36%
Black/African American*	236,292	7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	20,715	1%
Asian*	396,528	11%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	14,964	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	77,447	2%
Hispanic/Latino	1,516,536	43%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	15%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$51,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	28%	35%

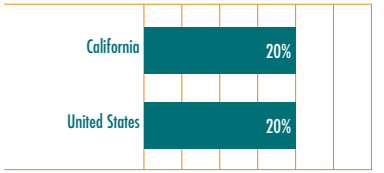
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	50%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	39%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	33%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	44%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	27,571
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	102,188
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	18,145

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

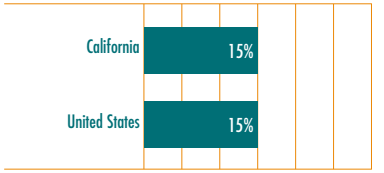


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	495,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



California

CA

Overall Rank [15]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	3	STATE	6.1	6.3	[7]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	8	STATE	5.9	5.4	[5]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	22	STATE	23	18	[9]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	33	STATE	58	39	[6]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	37	STATE	38	24	[32]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	20	STATE	10	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11	STATE	9	8	[19]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	21	STATE	33	26	[33]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	21	STATE	24	19	[38]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	0	STATE	26	26	[11]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	4,506,542	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	447,869	10%
Total children under age 18	1,151,118	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	297,346	66%
Black/African American*	19,214	4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	3,578	1%
Asian*	11,802	3%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	632	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	7,755	2%
Hispanic/Latino	107,542	24%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	14%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	65%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$56,600	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	38%	35%

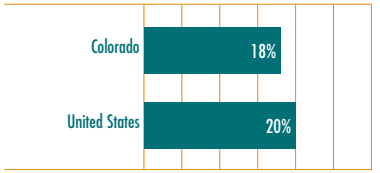
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	22%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	23%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	26%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	2,329
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	13,899
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,772

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

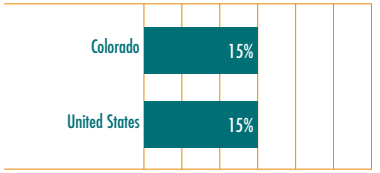


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	61,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Colorado

CO

Overall Rank [28]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001		3	STATE 8.8 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 8.5 / NATIONAL 7.7	[39]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001		12	STATE 6.6 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 5.8 / NATIONAL 6.8	[10]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001		4	STATE 23 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 22 / NATIONAL 22	[21]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001		0	STATE 58 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 58 / NATIONAL 50	[34]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001		16	STATE 31 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 26 / NATIONAL 25	[33]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	30		STATE 10 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 13 / NATIONAL 9	[48]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11		STATE 9 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 10 / NATIONAL 8	[32]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001		5	STATE 21 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 20 / NATIONAL 25	[8]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001		14	STATE 14 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 12 / NATIONAL 16	[9]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	5		STATE 22 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 23 / NATIONAL 28	[4]

WORSE ZERO BETTER

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	3,460,503	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	287,412	8%
Total children under age 18	872,853	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	196,389	68%
Black/African American*	34,101	12%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	820	less than 0.5%
Asian*	9,747	3%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	151	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	3,786	1%
Hispanic/Latino	42,418	15%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	86%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$66,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	37%	35%

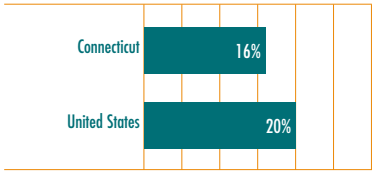
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	26%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	18%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	27%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,929
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	5,962
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	630

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

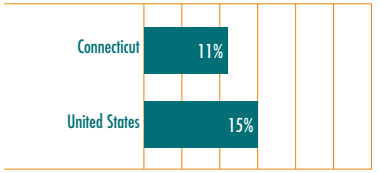


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	28,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Connecticut

CT

Overall Rank [7]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	3	STATE	7.2	7.4	[21]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	5	STATE	6.4	6.1	[16]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	39	STATE	23	14	[1]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	3	STATE	39	40	[9]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	38	STATE	24	15	[7]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	20	STATE	5	6	[5]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	6	6	[6]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	24	STATE	29	22	[16]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	29	STATE	14	10	[3]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	0	STATE	27	27	[16]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	807,385	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	81,501	10%
Total children under age 18	189,698	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	54,315	67%
Black/African American*	18,176	22%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	259	less than 0.5%
Asian*	1,779	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	34	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,023	1%
Hispanic/Latino	5,915	7%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	85%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$59,100	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	41%	35%

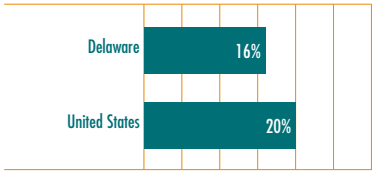
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	29%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	19%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	32%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	355
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	2,480
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	305

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

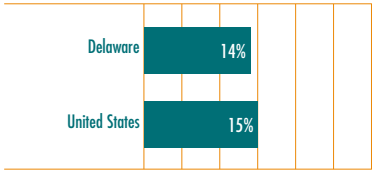


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	10,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Delaware

DE

Overall Rank [35]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	9	STATE	8.5	9.3	[46]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	41	STATE	7.6	10.7	[50]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	16	STATE	19	22	[21]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	33	STATE	40	53	[26]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	26	STATE	38	28	[37]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11	STATE	9	10	[29]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	29	STATE	7	9	[27]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	26	STATE	27	20	[8]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	13	STATE	15	13	[17]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	6	STATE	31	29	[29]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	570,898	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	66,003	12%
Total children under age 18	112,128	20%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	19,586	30%
Black/African American*	35,240	53%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	143	less than 0.5%
Asian*	2,478	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	56	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	837	1%
Hispanic/Latino	7,663	12%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	9%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	74%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$34,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	16%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	18%	35%

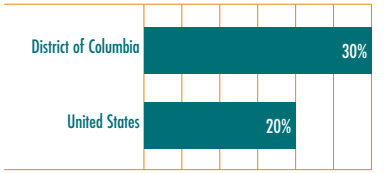
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	69%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	53%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	64%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	71%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	810
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	2,074
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	171

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

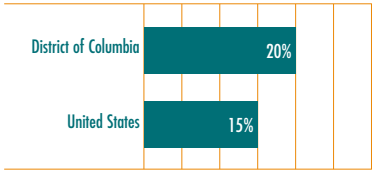


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	9,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



District of Columbia

DC

Overall Rank [N.R.]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001		15	STATE 14.3	12.1	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001		29	STATE 14.9	10.6	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001		38	STATE 53	33	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001		47	STATE 236	126	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001		23	STATE 57	44	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		0	STATE 11	11	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		13	STATE 16	14	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001		29	STATE 56	40	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001		30	STATE 37	26	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001		8	STATE 62	57	[N.R.]
				NATIONAL 27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	16,713,149	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	1,403,624	8%
Total children under age 18	3,882,271	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	751,519	54%
Black/African American*	289,284	21%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	4,630	less than 0.5%
Asian*	30,306	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	1,077	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	17,003	1%
Hispanic/Latino	309,805	22%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	16%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$45,400	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	8%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	34%	35%

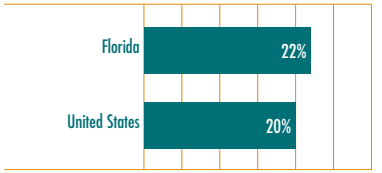
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	37%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	32%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	24%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	38%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	4,668
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	46,706
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	6,776

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

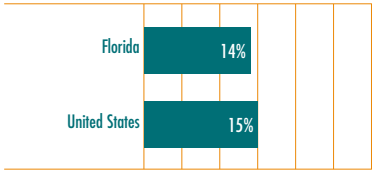


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	182,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Florida

FL

Overall Rank [34]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	7.9	8.2	[36]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	3	STATE	7.5	7.3	[29]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	21	STATE	29	23	[29]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	6	STATE	54	51	[24]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	28	STATE	36	26	[33]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	12	12	[43]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	18	STATE	11	9	[27]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	22	STATE	32	25	[26]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	25	STATE	24	18	[34]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	3	STATE	31	30	[36]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	8,560,310	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	868,937	10%
Total children under age 18	2,268,477	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	476,991	55%
Black/African American*	279,917	32%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,100	less than 0.5%
Asian*	21,104	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	525	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	8,679	1%
Hispanic/Latino	79,621	9%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	13%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	83%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$47,200	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	8%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	35%	35%

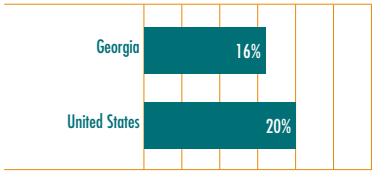
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	41%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	41%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,961
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	32,628
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	2,942

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

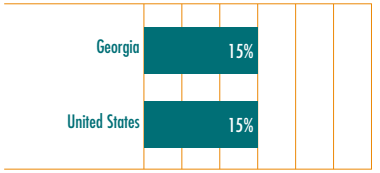


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	118,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Georgia

GA

Overall Rank [40]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	8.5	8.8	[41]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	7	STATE	9.2	8.6	[43]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	13	STATE	31	27	[39]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	23	STATE	81	62	[36]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	25	STATE	44	33	[45]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	23	STATE	13	10	[29]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	10	10	[32]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	18	STATE	28	23	[19]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	25	STATE	24	18	[34]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	7	STATE	28	30	[36]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,244,898	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	123,045	10%
Total children under age 18	295,514	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	27,366	22%
Black/African American*	3,927	3%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	333	less than 0.5%
Asian*	40,994	33%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	11,703	10%
More than one race*	26,479	22%
Hispanic/Latino	12,243	10%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	81%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$57,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	30%	35%

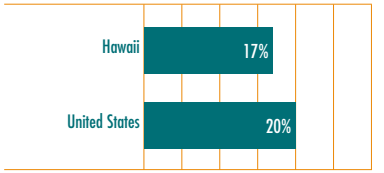
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	47%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	39%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	32%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	44%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	431
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	3,013
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	103

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

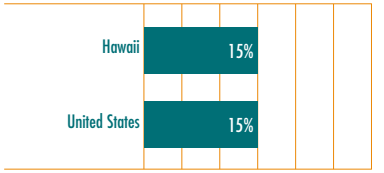


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	15,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Hawaii

HI

Overall Rank [20]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	11	STATE	7.3	8.1	[35]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	7	STATE	5.8	6.2	[18]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	24	STATE	21	16	[5]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	13	STATE	45	39	[6]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	26	STATE	27	20	[20]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	40	STATE	5	7	[7]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11	STATE	9	10	[32]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	10	STATE	31	28	[38]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	0	STATE	14	14	[22]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	12	STATE	25	28	[22]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,341,131	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	149,036	11%
Total children under age 18	370,439	28%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	126,308	85%
Black/African American*	871	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,046	1%
Asian*	1,585	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	212	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	2,206	1%
Hispanic/Latino	15,808	11%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	13%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	74%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$45,700	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	52%	35%

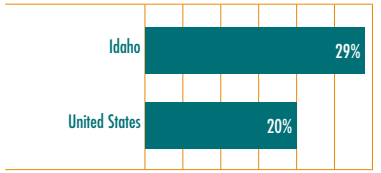
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	36%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	24%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	20%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	27%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	252
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	3,942
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	530

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

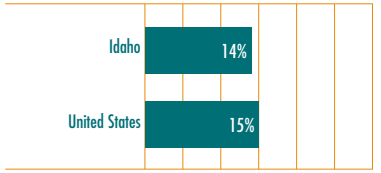


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	19,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Idaho

ID

Overall Rank [29]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	10	STATE	5.8	6.4	[9]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	16	STATE	7.4	6.2	[18]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	11	STATE	28	25	[36]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	12	STATE	82	72	[47]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	27	STATE	26	19	[16]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	22	STATE	9	11	[35]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11	STATE	9	10	[32]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	17	STATE	29	24	[23]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	12	STATE	17	15	[27]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	32	STATE	19	25	[7]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	12,600,620	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	1,228,541	10%
Total children under age 18	3,254,523	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	737,123	60%
Black/African American*	205,277	17%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,306	less than 0.5%
Asian*	47,694	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	460	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	12,877	1%
Hispanic/Latino	222,804	18%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	11%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	80%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$55,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	8%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	31%	35%

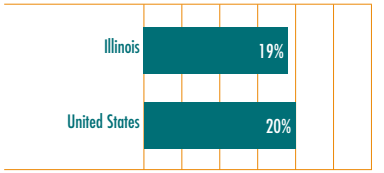
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	39%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	27%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	34%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	7,377
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	37,314
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	3,560

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

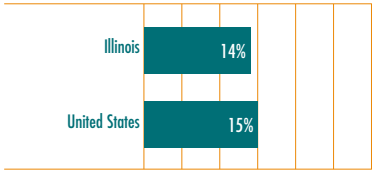


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	153,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Illinois

IL

Overall Rank [31]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	0	STATE	8.0	8.0	[32]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	10	STATE	8.6	7.7	[36]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	15	STATE	26	22	[21]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	16	STATE	62	52	[25]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	28	STATE	36	26	[33]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	10	9	[24]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11	STATE	9	8	[19]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	14	STATE	28	24	[23]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	21	STATE	19	15	[27]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	27	28	[22]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	6,159,068	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	628,691	10%
Total children under age 18	1,594,857	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	519,335	83%
Black/African American*	57,463	9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,588	less than 0.5%
Asian*	9,139	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	307	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	6,898	1%
Hispanic/Latino	33,961	5%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	11%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	79%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$53,600	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	51%	35%

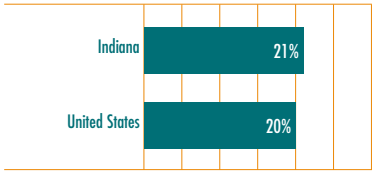
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	34%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	18%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	26%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,963
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	18,532
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	3,235

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

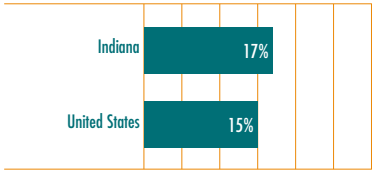


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	93,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Indiana

IN

Overall Rank [17]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	0	STATE	7.6	7.6	[22]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	14	STATE	8.7	7.5	[34]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	21	STATE	28	22	[21]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	13	STATE	64	56	[29]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	28	STATE	32	23	[28]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	33	STATE	6	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	7	6	[6]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	10	STATE	20	22	[16]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	20	STATE	15	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	18	STATE	22	26	[11]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	2,936,760	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	314,972	11%
Total children under age 18	698,045	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	283,047	90%
Black/African American*	8,483	3%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,096	less than 0.5%
Asian*	6,217	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	196	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	3,211	1%
Hispanic/Latino	12,722	4%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	6%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	81%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$53,400	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	3%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	48%	35%

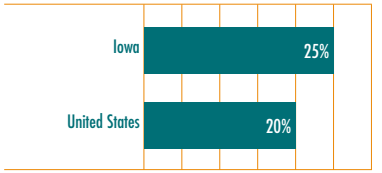
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	30%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	21%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	17%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	24%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,748
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	6,524
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,105

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

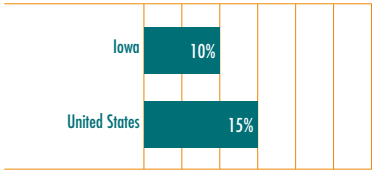


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	29,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Iowa

IA

Overall Rank [4]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	0	STATE	6.4	6.4	[9]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	20	STATE	7.0	5.6	[8]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	18	STATE	28	23	[29]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	11	STATE	53	47	[18]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	19	STATE	21	17	[9]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	17	STATE	6	5	[2]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	20	STATE	5	4	[1]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	6	STATE	18	17	[1]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	21	STATE	14	11	[4]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	24	23	[4]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	2,715,884	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	291,509	11%
Total children under age 18	696,519	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	228,136	78%
Black/African American*	19,512	7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,955	1%
Asian*	6,522	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	212	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	5,144	2%
Hispanic/Latino	29,028	10%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	9%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	74%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$53,700	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	48%	35%

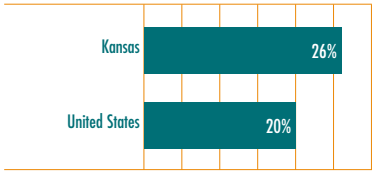
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	34%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	15%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	24%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,854
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	8,124
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,116

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

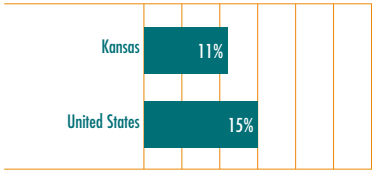


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	30,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Kansas

KS

Overall Rank [22]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	1	STATE	6.9	7.0	[17]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	11	STATE	8.3	7.4	[31]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	23	STATE	31	24	[33]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	18	STATE	79	65	[38]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	18	STATE	28	23	[28]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	33	STATE	6	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	17	STATE	6	7	[11]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	5	STATE	20	19	[5]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	20	STATE	15	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	0	STATE	27	27	[16]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	4,092,891	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	419,536	10%
Total children under age 18	931,588	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	361,097	86%
Black/African American*	37,854	9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	961	less than 0.5%
Asian*	3,833	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	210	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	4,316	1%
Hispanic/Latino	11,265	3%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	74%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$43,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	7%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	40%	35%

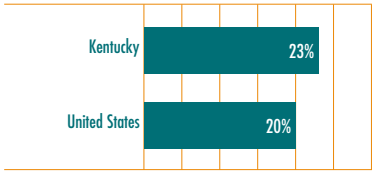
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	36%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	22%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	35%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,745
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	13,291
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	990

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

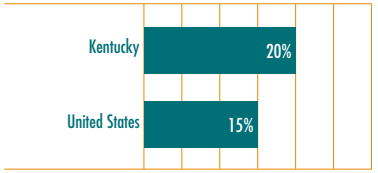


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	76,000

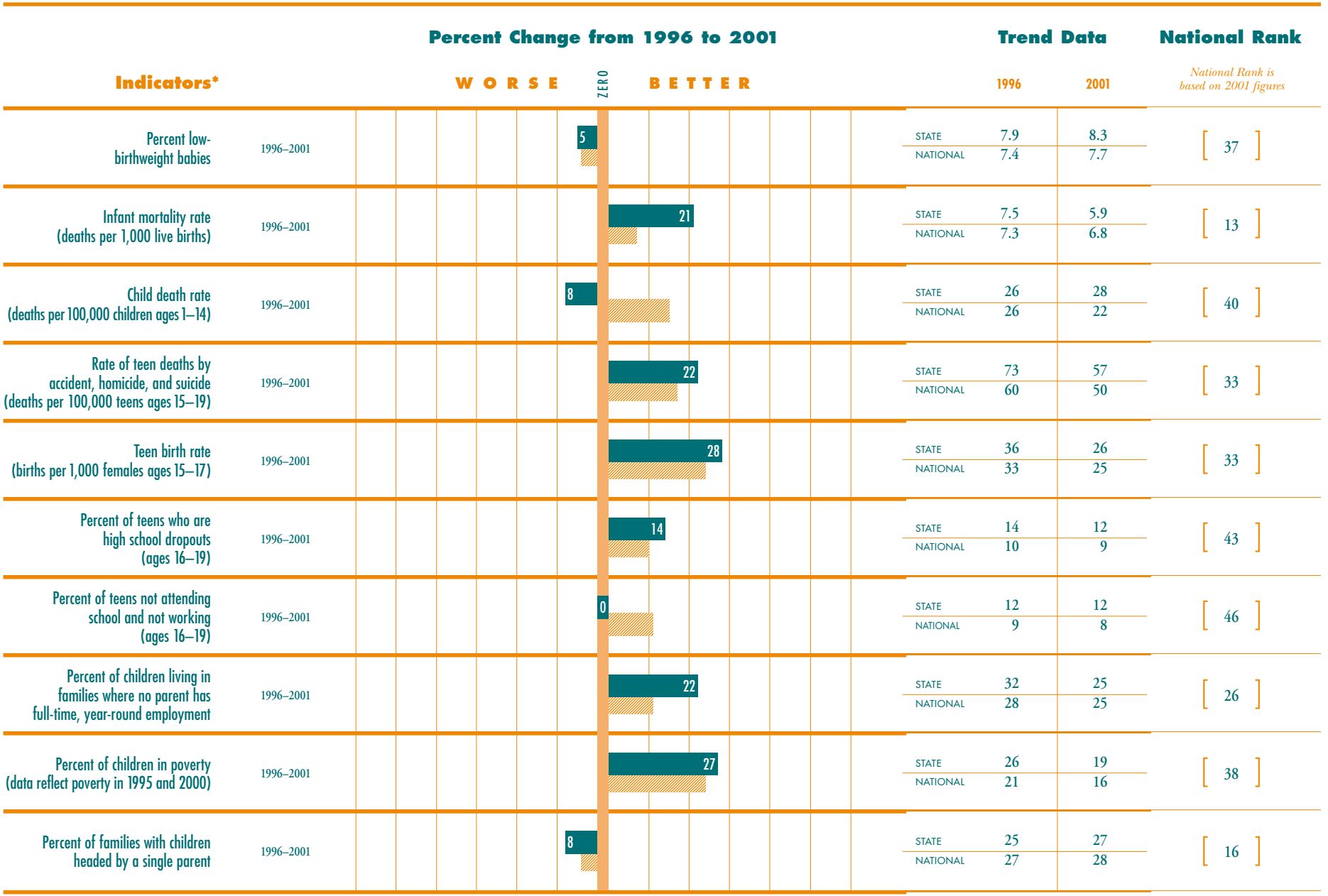
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Kentucky

KY

Overall Rank [37]



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	4,482,646	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	495,811	11%
Total children under age 18	1,185,674	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	279,746	56%
Black/African American*	186,691	38%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	3,050	1%
Asian*	7,591	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	201	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	4,260	1%
Hispanic/Latino	14,272	3%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	13%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	70%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$37,300	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	13%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	31%	35%

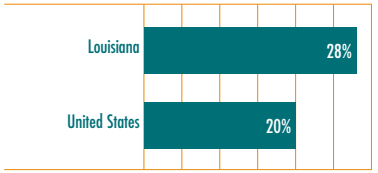
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	51%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	36%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	33%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	43%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,328
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	20,350
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	2,456

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

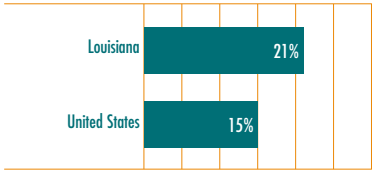


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	97,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Louisiana

LA

Overall Rank [49]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	9.9	10.4	[49]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	9	STATE	9.0	9.8	[48]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	8	STATE	36	33	[47]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	16	STATE	85	71	[46]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	21	STATE	42	33	[45]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	12	12	[43]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	13	13	[48]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	11	STATE	37	33	[48]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	23	STATE	31	24	[48]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	3	STATE	35	36	[49]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,294,464	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	118,126	9%
Total children under age 18	279,058	22%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	111,646	95%
Black/African American*	1,146	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	886	1%
Asian*	1,422	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	68	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,386	1%
Hispanic/Latino	1,572	1%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	84%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$48,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	46%	35%

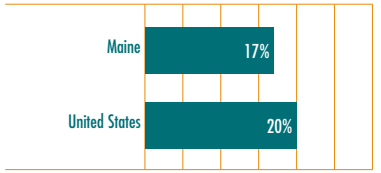
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	30%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	21%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	17%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	25%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	915
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	2,139
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	227

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

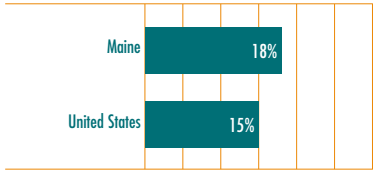


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	17,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Maine

ME

Overall Rank [12]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	2	STATE	5.9	6.0	[5]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	39	STATE	4.4	6.1	[16]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	27	STATE	22	16	[5]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	49	56	[29]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	29	STATE	17	12	[3]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	7	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	7	8	[19]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	4	STATE	27	26	[33]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	19	STATE	16	13	[17]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	13	STATE	23	26	[11]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	5,458,137	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	488,911	9%
Total children under age 18	1,379,925	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	273,480	56%
Black/African American*	152,398	31%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,403	less than 0.5%
Asian*	22,740	5%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	275	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	7,275	1%
Hispanic/Latino	31,340	6%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	82%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$71,600	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	36%	35%

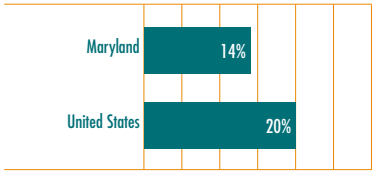
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	38%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	29%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	27%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	33%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	3,431
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	13,588
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,198

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

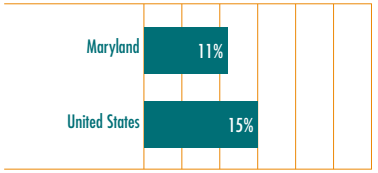


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	49,000

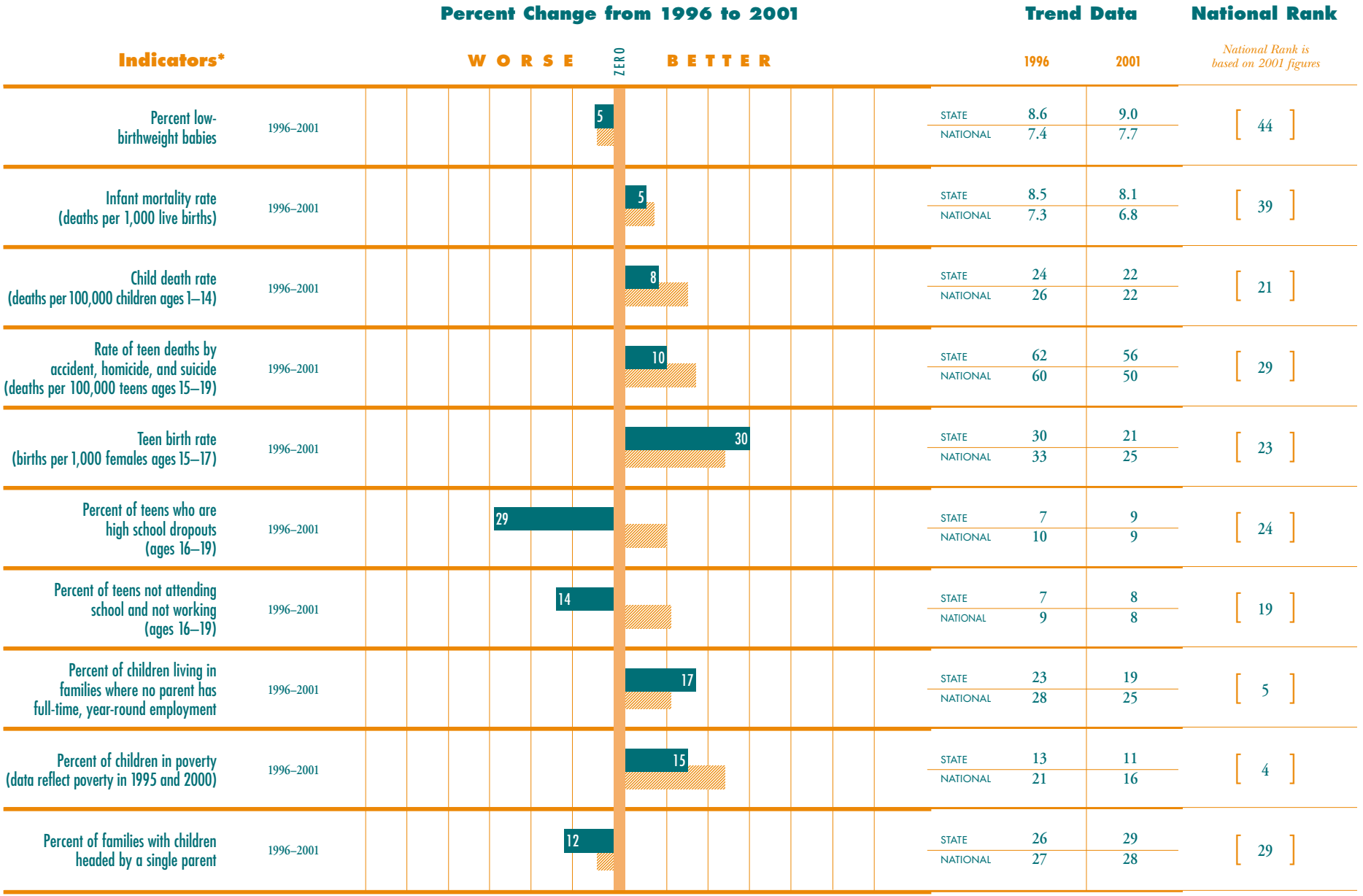
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Maryland

MD

Overall Rank [27]



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	6,427,801	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	597,865	9%
Total children under age 18	1,463,340	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	446,699	75%
Black/African American*	42,568	7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,445	less than 0.5%
Asian*	34,760	6%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	390	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	7,658	1%
Hispanic/Latino	64,345	11%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	6%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	90%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$64,300	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	32%	35%

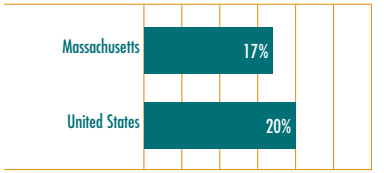
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	27%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	19%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	16%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	24%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	3,647
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	9,694
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,324

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

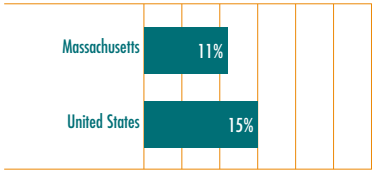


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	55,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Massachusetts

MA

Overall Rank [9]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	13	STATE	6.4	7.2	[19]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	0	STATE	5.0	5.0	[3]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	12	STATE	17	15	[3]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	32	32	[3]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	26	STATE	19	14	[5]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	7	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	7	7	[11]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	11	STATE	28	25	[26]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	20	STATE	15	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	26	27	[16]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	10,050,446	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	970,466	10%
Total children under age 18	2,570,264	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	735,127	76%
Black/African American*	145,594	15%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	6,309	1%
Asian*	21,986	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	345	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	14,946	2%
Hispanic/Latino	46,159	5%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	7%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	84%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$55,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	36%	35%

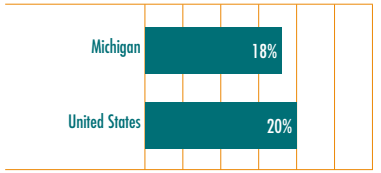
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	36%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	25%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	23%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	32%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	4,438
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	24,823
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	3,504

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

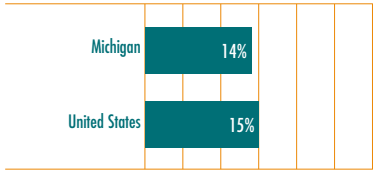


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	122,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002

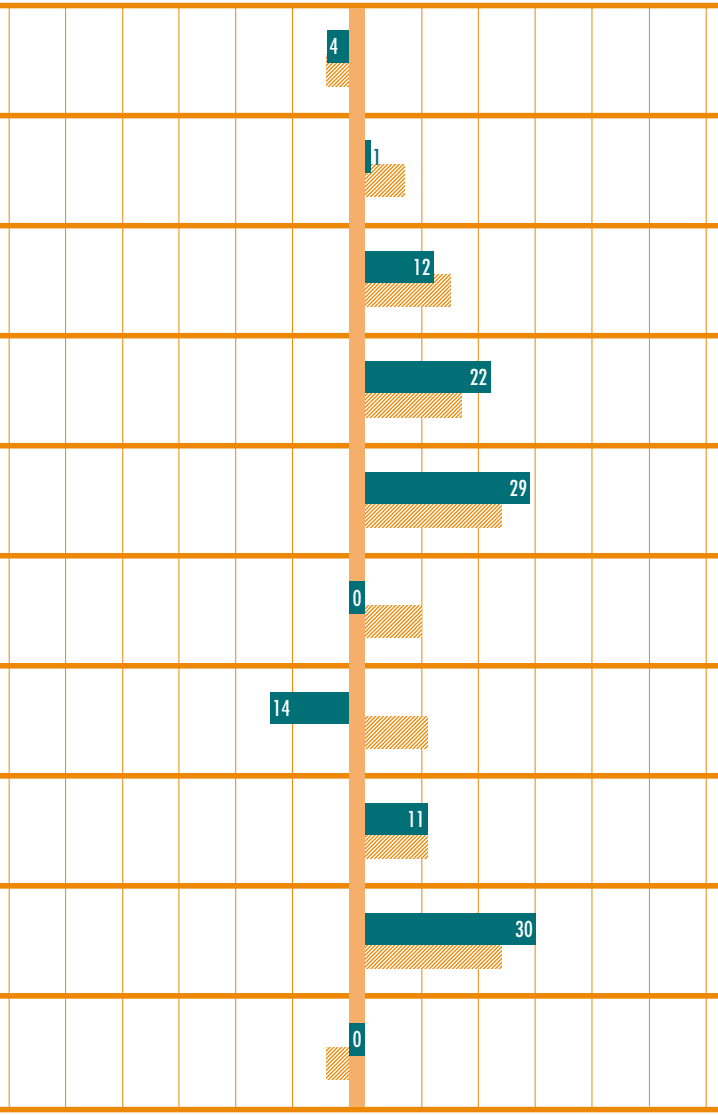


Michigan

MI

Overall Rank [26]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	7.7	8.0	[32]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	1	STATE	8.1	8.0	[38]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	12	STATE	25	22	[21]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	22	STATE	59	46	[16]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	29	STATE	28	20	[20]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	8	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	7	8	[19]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	11	STATE	28	25	[26]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	30	STATE	20	14	[22]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	0	STATE	28	28	[22]
			NATIONAL	27	28	



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	5,019,720	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	507,071	10%
Total children under age 18	1,252,125	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	427,052	84%
Black/African American*	22,223	4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	6,887	1%
Asian*	20,064	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	319	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	8,084	2%
Hispanic/Latino	22,442	4%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	6%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	82%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$66,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	3%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	46%	35%

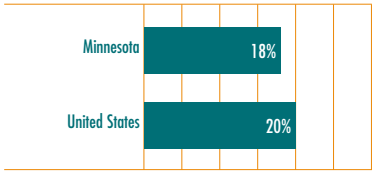
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	22%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	16%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	18%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	3,130
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	9,761
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,946

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

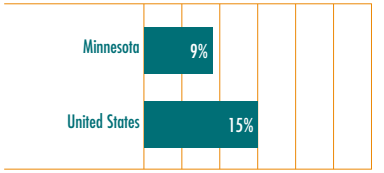


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	43,000

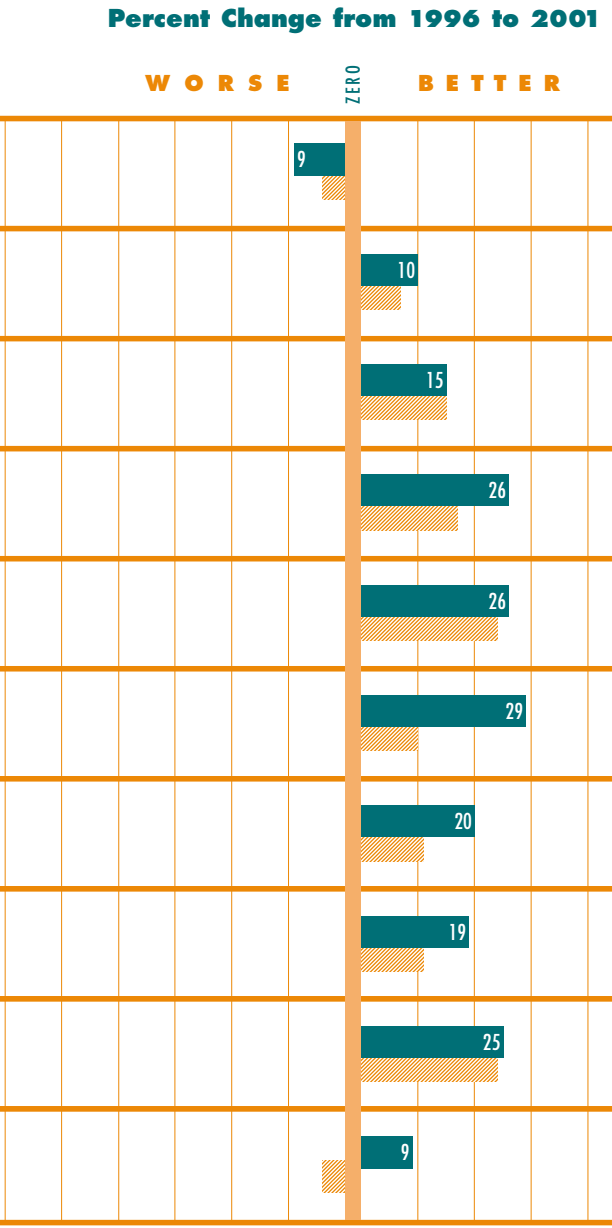
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Minnesota

MN

Overall Rank [1]



Indicators*		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE 5.8 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 6.3 / NATIONAL 7.7	[7]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE 5.9 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 5.3 / NATIONAL 6.8	[4]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE 20 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 17 / NATIONAL 22	[7]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE 53 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 39 / NATIONAL 50	[6]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE 19 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 14 / NATIONAL 25	[5]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 7 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 5 / NATIONAL 9	[2]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 5 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 4 / NATIONAL 8	[1]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE 21 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 17 / NATIONAL 25	[1]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE 12 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 9 / NATIONAL 16	[2]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE 23 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 21 / NATIONAL 28	[2]

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	2,871,782	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	322,625	11%
Total children under age 18	760,747	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	169,811	53%
Black/African American*	140,358	44%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,428	less than 0.5%
Asian*	2,539	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	102	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	2,061	1%
Hispanic/Latino	6,326	2%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$39,300	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	11%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	34%	35%

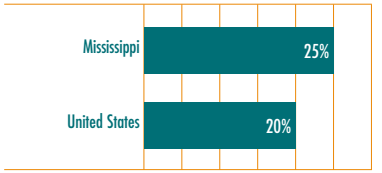
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	51%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	35%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	38%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	53%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	773
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	14,790
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	693

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

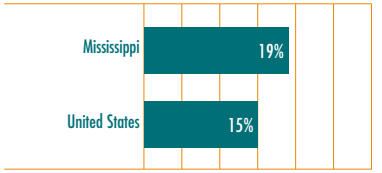


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	54,000

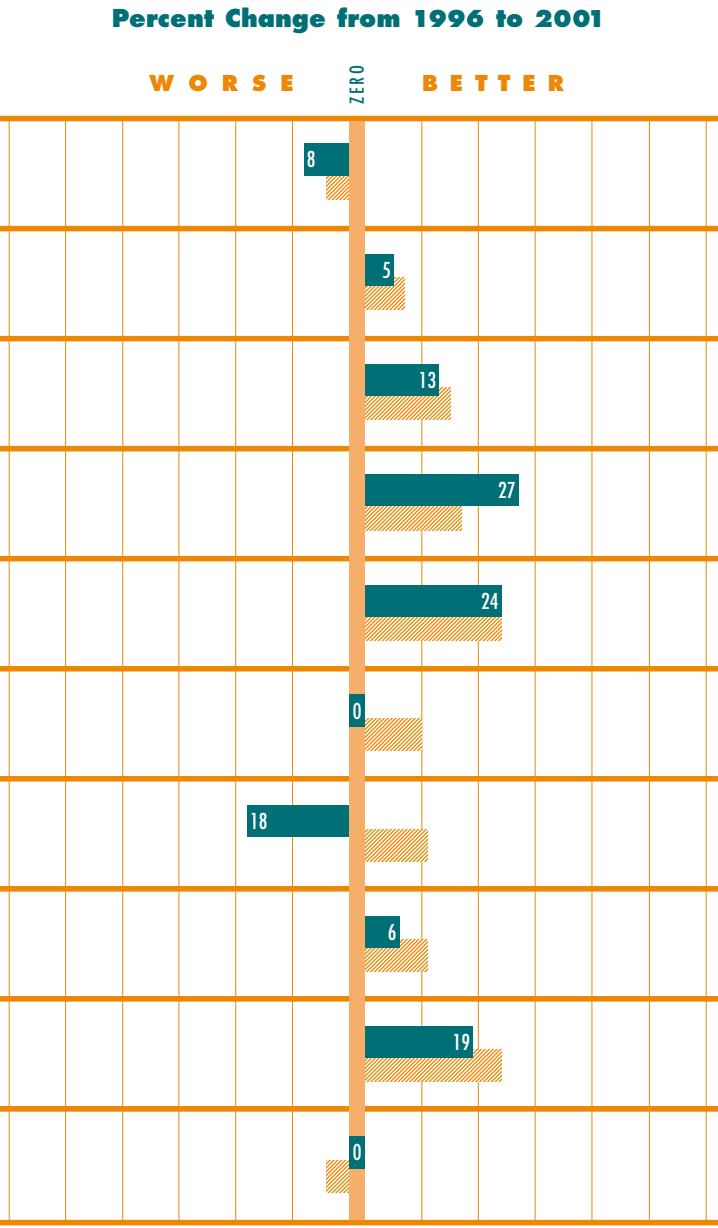
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Mississippi

MS

Overall Rank [50]



Indicators*		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE 9.9 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 10.7 / NATIONAL 7.7	[50]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE 11.0 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 10.5 / NATIONAL 6.8	[49]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE 40 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 35 / NATIONAL 22	[50]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE 94 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 69 / NATIONAL 50	[43]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE 51 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 39 / NATIONAL 25	[49]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 11 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 11 / NATIONAL 9	[35]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 11 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 13 / NATIONAL 8	[48]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE 33 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 31 / NATIONAL 25	[47]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE 31 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 25 / NATIONAL 16	[49]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE 35 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 35 / NATIONAL 28	[48]

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	5,672,579	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	567,574	10%
Total children under age 18	1,397,461	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	458,084	81%
Black/African American*	72,760	13%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,598	less than 0.5%
Asian*	8,329	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	504	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	7,801	1%
Hispanic/Latino	17,498	3%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	6%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$54,600	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	7%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	37%	35%

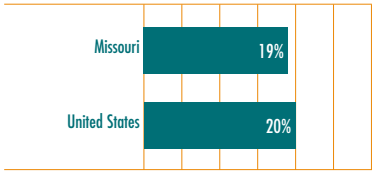
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	32%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	21%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	29%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	3,361
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	17,132
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,392

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

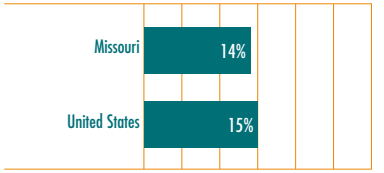


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	70,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Missouri

MO

Overall Rank [33]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001		1	STATE 7.5	7.6	[22]
				NATIONAL 7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001		3	STATE 7.6	7.4	[31]
				NATIONAL 7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001		17	STATE 29	24	[33]
				NATIONAL 26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001		8	STATE 75	69	[43]
				NATIONAL 60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001		26	STATE 31	23	[28]
				NATIONAL 33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		17	STATE 12	10	[29]
				NATIONAL 10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		11	STATE 9	8	[19]
				NATIONAL 9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001		12	STATE 25	22	[16]
				NATIONAL 28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001		25	STATE 20	15	[27]
				NATIONAL 21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	15		STATE 26	30	[36]
				NATIONAL 27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	909,453	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	92,915	10%
Total children under age 18	216,320	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	79,893	86%
Black/African American*	549	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	7,144	8%
Asian*	733	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	91	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,753	2%
Hispanic/Latino	2,752	3%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	14%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	72%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$40,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	9%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	47%	35%

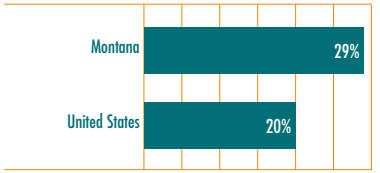
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	18%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	19%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	375
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	2,355
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	266

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

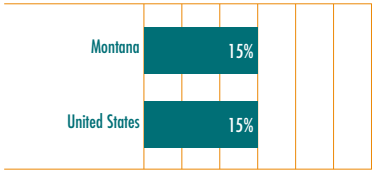


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	12,000

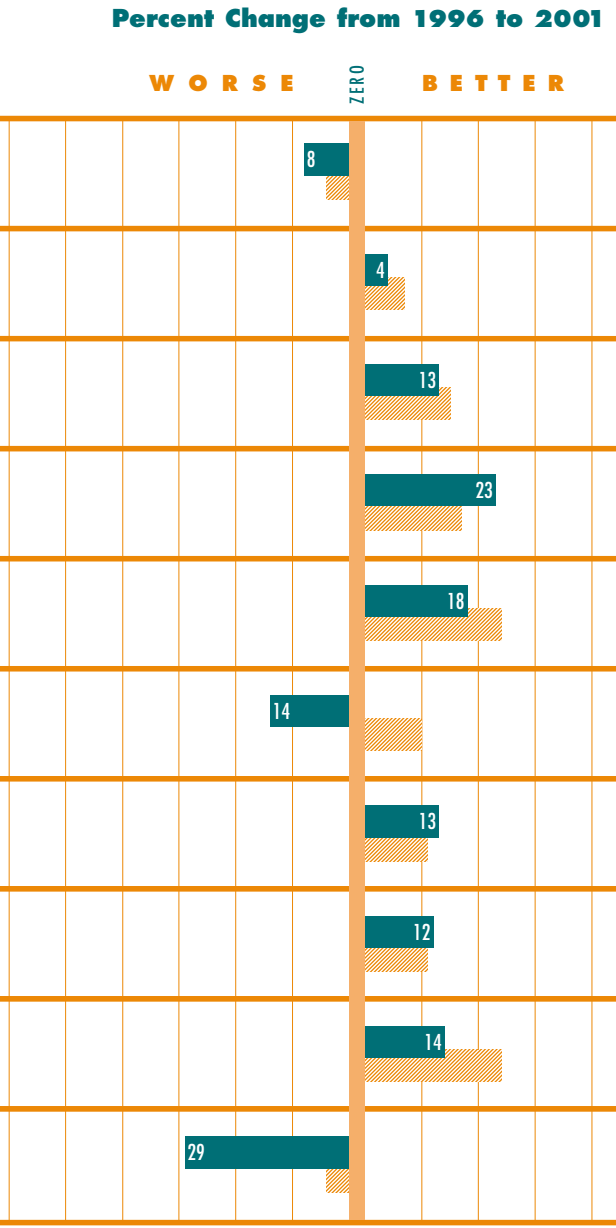
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Montana

MT

Overall Rank [30]



Indicators*		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE 6.4 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 6.9 / NATIONAL 7.7	[16]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE 7.0 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 6.7 / NATIONAL 6.8	[22]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE 32 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 28 / NATIONAL 22	[40]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE 56 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 43 / NATIONAL 50	[13]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE 22 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 18 / NATIONAL 25	[10]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 7 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 8 / NATIONAL 9	[13]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 8 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 7 / NATIONAL 8	[11]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE 33 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 29 / NATIONAL 25	[43]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE 22 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 19 / NATIONAL 16	[38]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE 24 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 31 / NATIONAL 28	[43]

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,729,180	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	184,586	11%
Total children under age 18	439,393	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	154,647	84%
Black/African American*	8,476	5%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,861	1%
Asian*	3,280	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	130	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	2,160	1%
Hispanic/Latino	14,032	8%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	7%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	81%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$53,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	51%	35%

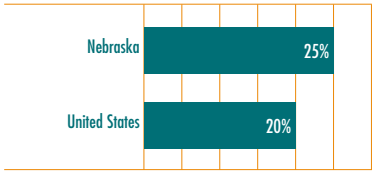
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	34%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	20%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	26%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	2,553
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	4,434
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	718

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

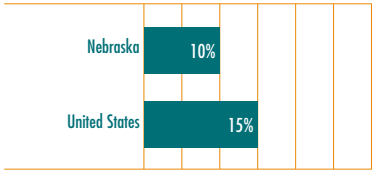


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	17,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Nebraska

NE

Overall Rank [10]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	6.3	6.6	[14]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	22	STATE	8.7	6.8	[23]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	15	STATE	27	23	[29]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	13	STATE	55	48	[20]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	9	STATE	22	20	[20]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	25	STATE	8	6	[5]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	6	6	[6]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	0	STATE	18	18	[3]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	8	STATE	13	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	14	STATE	22	25	[7]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	2,173,491	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	187,297	9%
Total children under age 18	572,590	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	102,608	55%
Black/African American*	13,673	7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,422	1%
Asian*	8,897	5%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	1,018	1%
More than one race*	4,601	2%
Hispanic/Latino	54,078	29%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	17%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$49,200	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	27%	35%

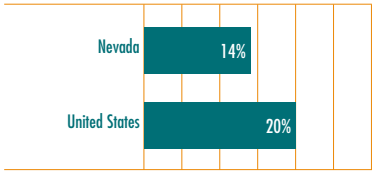
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	48%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	37%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	31%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	41%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	313
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	6,915
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	901

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

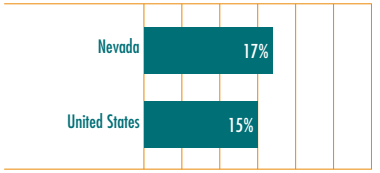


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	31,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002

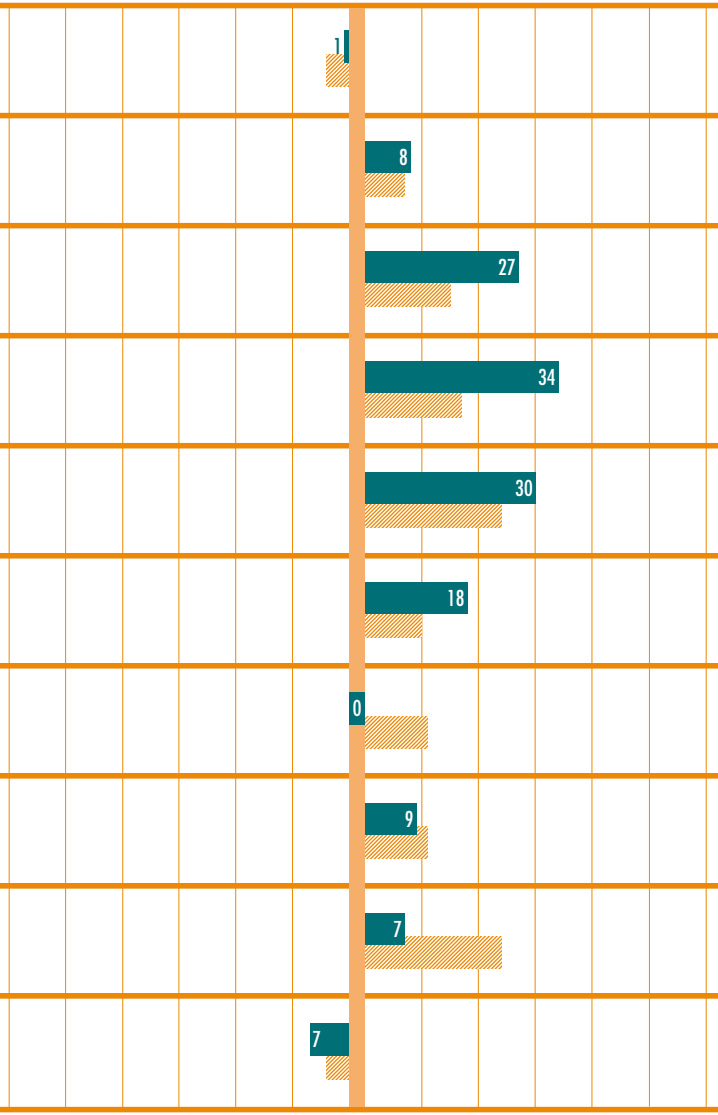


Nevada

NV

Overall Rank [32]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001		1	STATE 7.5	7.6	[22]
				NATIONAL 7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001		8	STATE 6.2	5.7	[9]
				NATIONAL 7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001		27	STATE 30	22	[21]
				NATIONAL 26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001		34	STATE 76	50	[23]
				NATIONAL 60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001		30	STATE 43	30	[38]
				NATIONAL 33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		18	STATE 17	14	[49]
				NATIONAL 10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		0	STATE 10	10	[32]
				NATIONAL 9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001		9	STATE 23	21	[13]
				NATIONAL 28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001		7	STATE 15	14	[22]
				NATIONAL 21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001		7	STATE 27	29	[29]
				NATIONAL 27	28	



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,275,056	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	114,725	9%
Total children under age 18	308,371	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	106,862	93%
Black/African American*	1,310	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	323	less than 0.5%
Asian*	2,126	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	53	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,242	1%
Hispanic/Latino	2,809	2%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	6%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	88%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$64,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	2%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	58%	35%

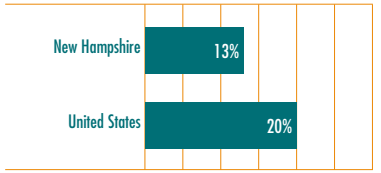
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	25%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	19%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	13%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	309
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	1,645
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	203

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

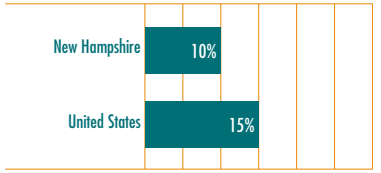


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	10,000

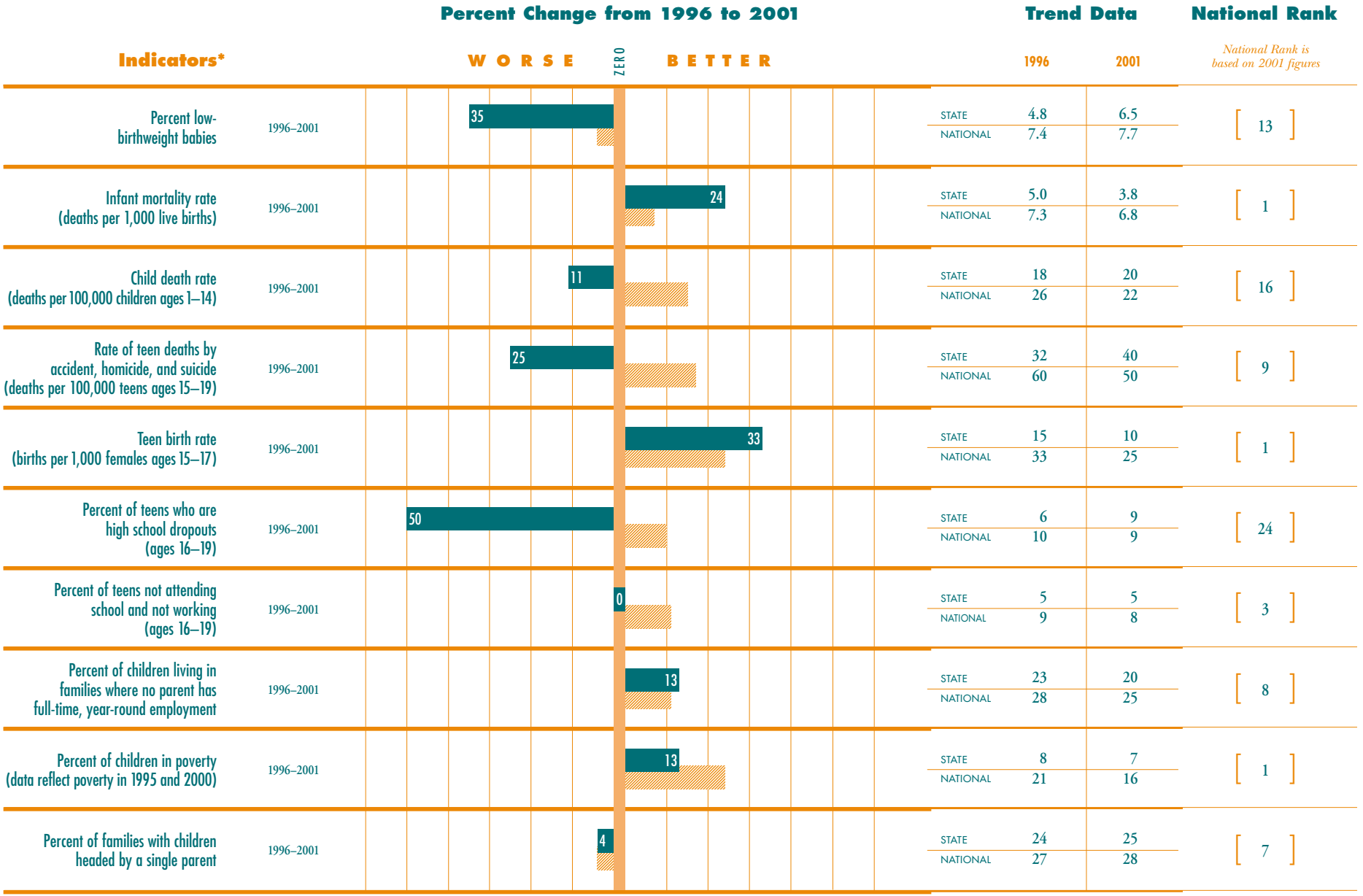
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



New Hampshire

NH

Overall Rank [2]



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	8,590,300	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	693,034	8%
Total children under age 18	2,127,391	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	388,018	56%
Black/African American*	114,263	16%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,220	less than 0.5%
Asian*	43,019	6%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	286	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	7,740	1%
Hispanic/Latino	138,488	20%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	82%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$69,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	33%	35%

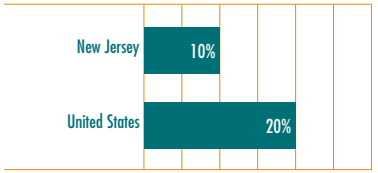
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	30%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	21%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	20%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	2,029
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	14,928
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	2,079

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

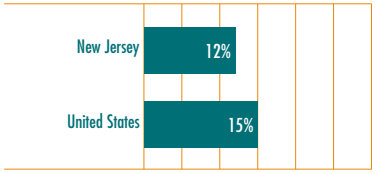


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	73,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



New Jersey

NJ

Overall Rank [3]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	3	STATE	7.7	7.9	[28]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	6	STATE	6.9	6.5	[21]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	33	STATE	21	14	[1]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	17	STATE	35	29	[1]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	30	STATE	23	16	[8]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	17	STATE	6	5	[2]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	6	6	[6]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	17	STATE	24	20	[8]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	15	STATE	13	11	[4]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	0	STATE	22	22	[3]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,855,059	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	191,698	10%
Total children under age 18	500,506	27%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	67,832	35%
Black/African American*	4,090	2%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	20,997	11%
Asian*	2,119	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	153	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	2,324	1%
Hispanic/Latino	94,183	49%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	16%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	68%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$37,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	11%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	22%	35%

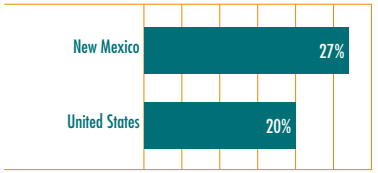
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	53%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	38%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	37%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	48%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	341
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	9,120
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	837

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

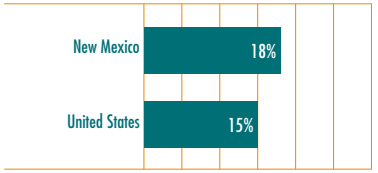


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	30,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



New Mexico

NM

Overall Rank [48]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	7.5	7.9	[28]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	3	STATE	6.2	6.4	[20]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	24	STATE	33	25	[36]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	36	STATE	92	59	[35]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	17	STATE	46	38	[48]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	14	12	[43]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	21	STATE	14	11	[41]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	11	STATE	38	34	[50]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	19	STATE	32	26	[50]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	13	STATE	32	36	[49]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	19,157,532	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	1,815,216	9%
Total children under age 18	4,613,251	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	990,776	55%
Black/African American*	312,671	17%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	6,314	less than 0.5%
Asian*	116,504	6%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	910	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	22,120	1%
Hispanic/Latino	365,921	20%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	82%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$51,100	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	9%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	30%	35%

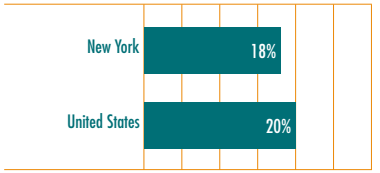
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	33%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	25%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	30%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	10,566
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	38,530
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	4,593

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

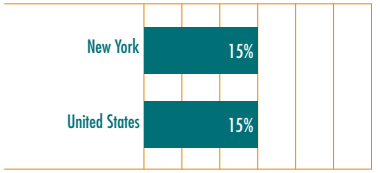


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	245,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002

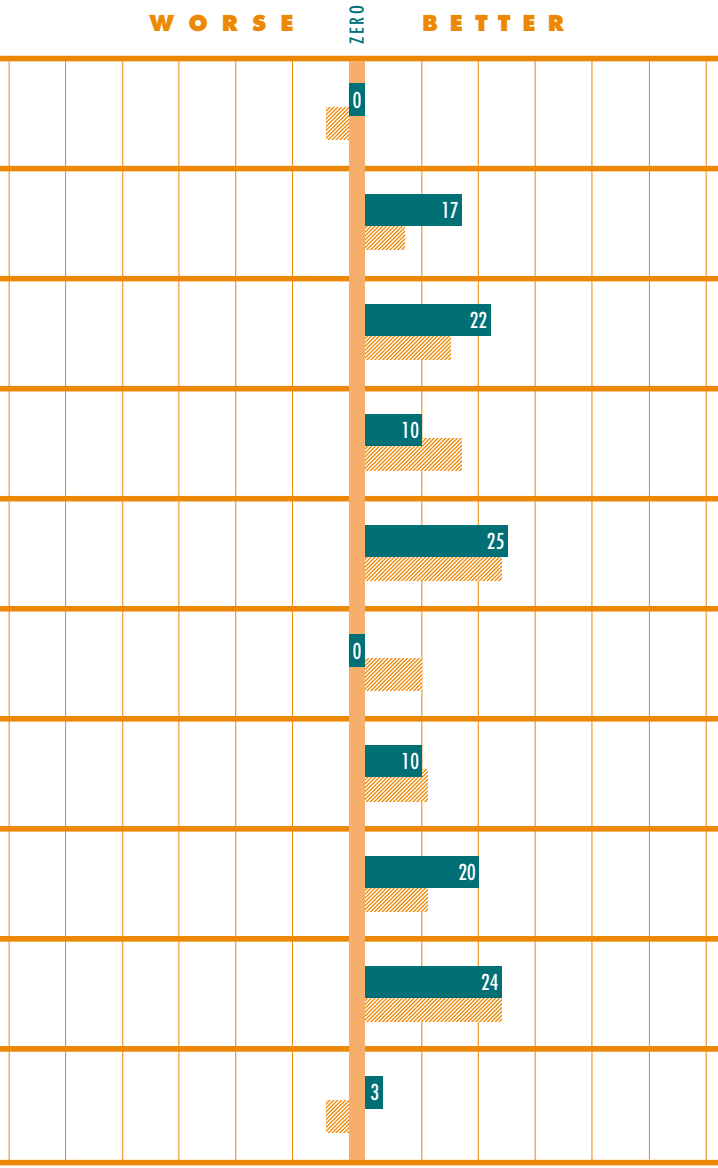


New York

NY

Overall Rank [25]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001	Trend Data			National Rank
				1996	2001	*National Rank is based on 2001 figures*
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	0	STATE	7.7	7.7	[26]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	17	STATE	7.0	5.8	[10]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	22	STATE	23	18	[9]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	39	35	[4]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	25	STATE	24	18	[10]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	9	9	[24]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	10	9	[27]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	20	STATE	35	28	[38]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	24	STATE	25	19	[38]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	3	STATE	32	31	[43]
			NATIONAL	27	28	



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	8,320,146	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	815,438	10%
Total children under age 18	2,068,840	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	508,327	62%
Black/African American*	198,439	24%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	11,403	1%
Asian*	15,560	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	553	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	8,213	1%
Hispanic/Latino	72,943	9%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	11%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	87%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$43,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	7%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	32%	35%

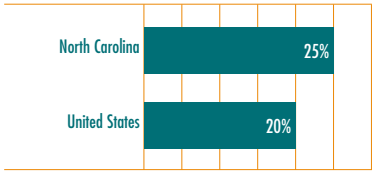
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	34%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	28%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	15%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	2,202
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	27,555
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,318

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

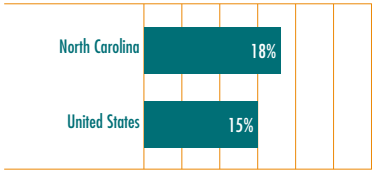


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	124,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



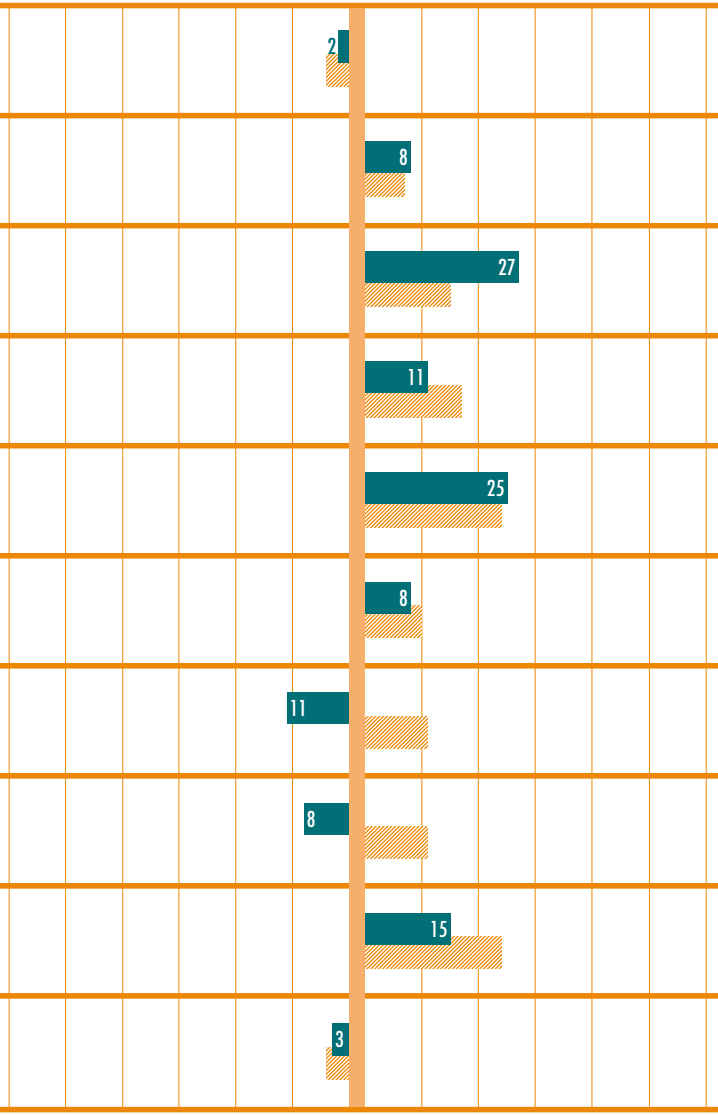
North Carolina

NC

Overall Rank [41]

Percent Change from 1996 to 2001

Indicators*		Trend Data	1996	2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE	8.7	8.9	[43]
		NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE	9.2	8.5	[42]
		NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE	30	22	[21]
		NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE	70	62	[36]
		NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE	40	30	[38]
		NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE	12	11	[35]
		NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE	9	10	[32]
		NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE	26	28	[38]
		NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE	20	17	[33]
		NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE	29	30	[36]
		NATIONAL	27	28	



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	634,110	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	76,034	12%
Total children under age 18	146,812	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	67,946	89%
Black/African American*	1,002	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	4,180	5%
Asian*	519	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	44	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	891	1%
Hispanic/Latino	1,452	2%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	79%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$47,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	7%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	41%	35%

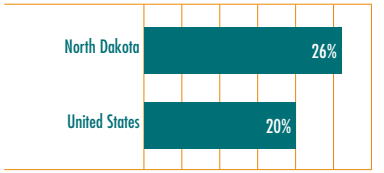
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	19%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	17%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	19%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	415
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	1,192
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	180

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

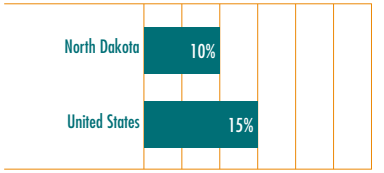


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	6,000

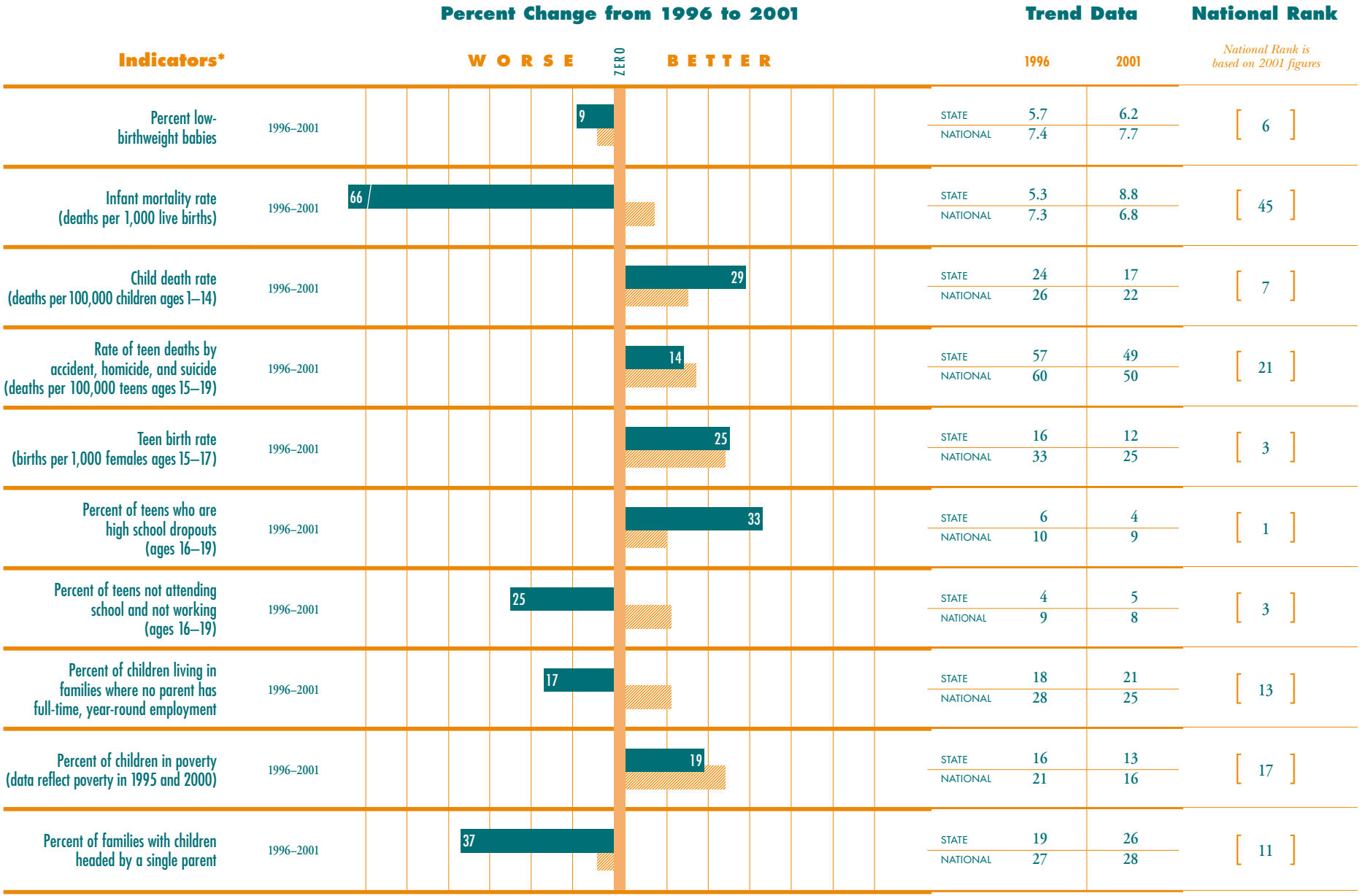
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



North Dakota

ND

Overall Rank [8]



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	11,421,267	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	1,098,431	10%
Total children under age 18	2,879,927	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	896,088	82%
Black/African American*	138,692	13%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,511	less than 0.5%
Asian*	16,745	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	384	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	14,116	1%
Hispanic/Latino	29,895	3%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	9%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$53,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	7%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	39%	35%

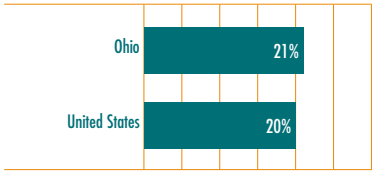
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	22%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	19%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	26%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	5,541
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	31,446
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	4,554

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

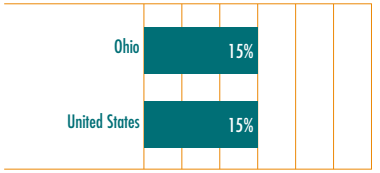


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	145,000

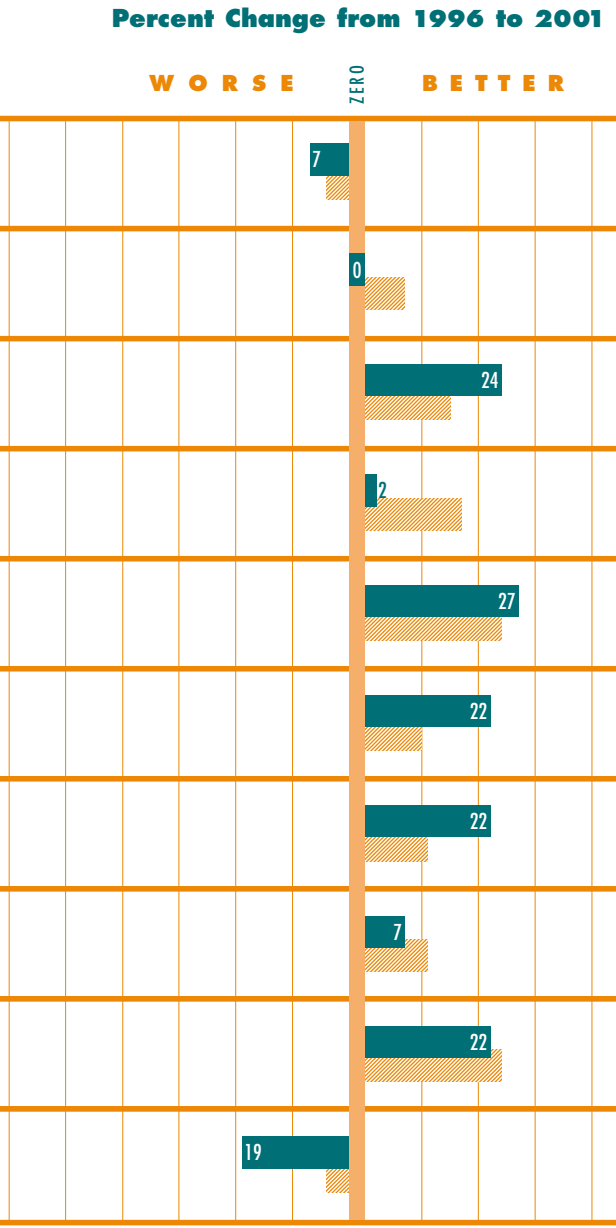
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Ohio

OH

Overall Rank [23]



Indicators*		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE 7.5 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 8.0 / NATIONAL 7.7	[32]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE 7.7 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 7.7 / NATIONAL 6.8	[36]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE 25 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 19 / NATIONAL 22	[14]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE 43 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 42 / NATIONAL 50	[12]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE 30 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 22 / NATIONAL 25	[26]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 9 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 7 / NATIONAL 9	[7]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 9 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 7 / NATIONAL 8	[11]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE 27 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 25 / NATIONAL 25	[26]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE 18 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 14 / NATIONAL 16	[22]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE 26 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 31 / NATIONAL 28	[43]

**See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.*

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	3,493,714	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	377,256	11%
Total children under age 18	873,560	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	254,643	67%
Black/African American*	35,372	9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	34,007	9%
Asian*	7,012	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	409	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	16,940	4%
Hispanic/Latino	28,873	8%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	15%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	70%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$40,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	8%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	33%	35%

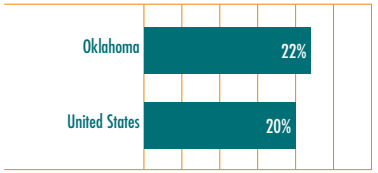
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	40%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	26%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	26%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	35%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,473
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	13,582
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	870

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

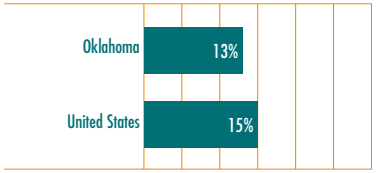


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	42,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Oklahoma

OK

Overall Rank [38]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	7.4	7.8	[27]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	14	STATE	8.5	7.3	[29]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	3	STATE	30	31	[46]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	7	STATE	74	69	[43]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	16	STATE	37	31	[41]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	10	STATE	10	9	[24]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	8	8	[19]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	14	STATE	29	25	[26]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	23	STATE	26	20	[43]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	27	28	[22]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	3,521,515	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	338,287	10%
Total children under age 18	855,107	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	261,087	77%
Black/African American*	6,508	2%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	4,663	1%
Asian*	12,498	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	1,190	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	8,860	3%
Hispanic/Latino	43,481	13%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	11%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	75%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$48,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	41%	35%

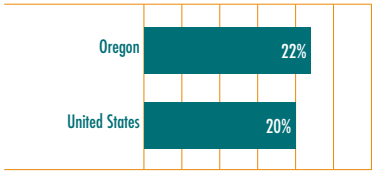
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	37%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	25%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	30%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,375
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	8,870
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,508

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

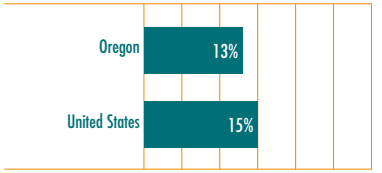


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	37,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Oregon

OR

Overall Rank [21]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	5.3	5.5	[1]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	4	STATE	5.6	5.4	[5]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	36	STATE	28	18	[9]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	28	STATE	57	41	[11]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	30	STATE	30	21	[23]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	8	STATE	12	11	[35]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	9	STATE	11	10	[32]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	15	STATE	33	28	[38]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	6	STATE	16	15	[27]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	7	STATE	27	29	[29]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	12,335,091	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	1,153,224	9%
Total children under age 18	2,863,452	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	923,981	80%
Black/African American*	129,278	11%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,748	less than 0.5%
Asian*	31,476	3%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	487	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	10,974	1%
Hispanic/Latino	55,280	5%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	79%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$54,900	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	46%	35%

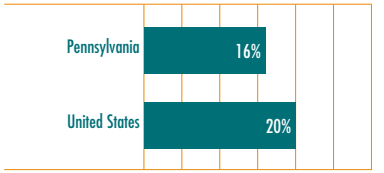
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	35%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	24%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	22%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	31%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	6,431
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	26,047
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	4,066

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

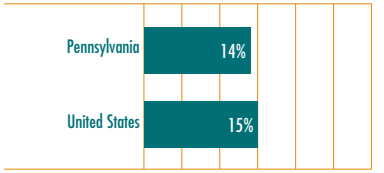


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	134,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Pennsylvania

PA

Overall Rank [13]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	7.5	7.9	[28]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	8	STATE	7.8	7.2	[27]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	5	STATE	21	20	[16]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	8	STATE	53	49	[21]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	25	STATE	24	18	[10]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	13	STATE	8	7	[7]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	22	STATE	9	7	[11]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	15	STATE	27	23	[19]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	24	STATE	17	13	[17]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	24	25	[7]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,069,725	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	114,090	11%
Total children under age 18	239,248	22%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	86,254	76%
Black/African American*	6,935	6%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	569	less than 0.5%
Asian*	4,804	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	125	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,747	2%
Hispanic/Latino	13,656	12%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	4%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	90%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$57,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	41%	35%

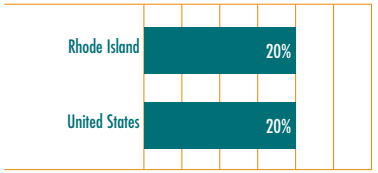
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	38%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	29%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	37%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	893
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	2,347
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	311

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

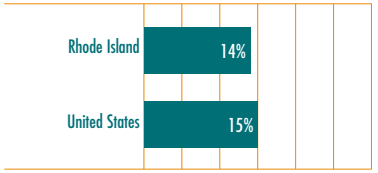


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	13,000

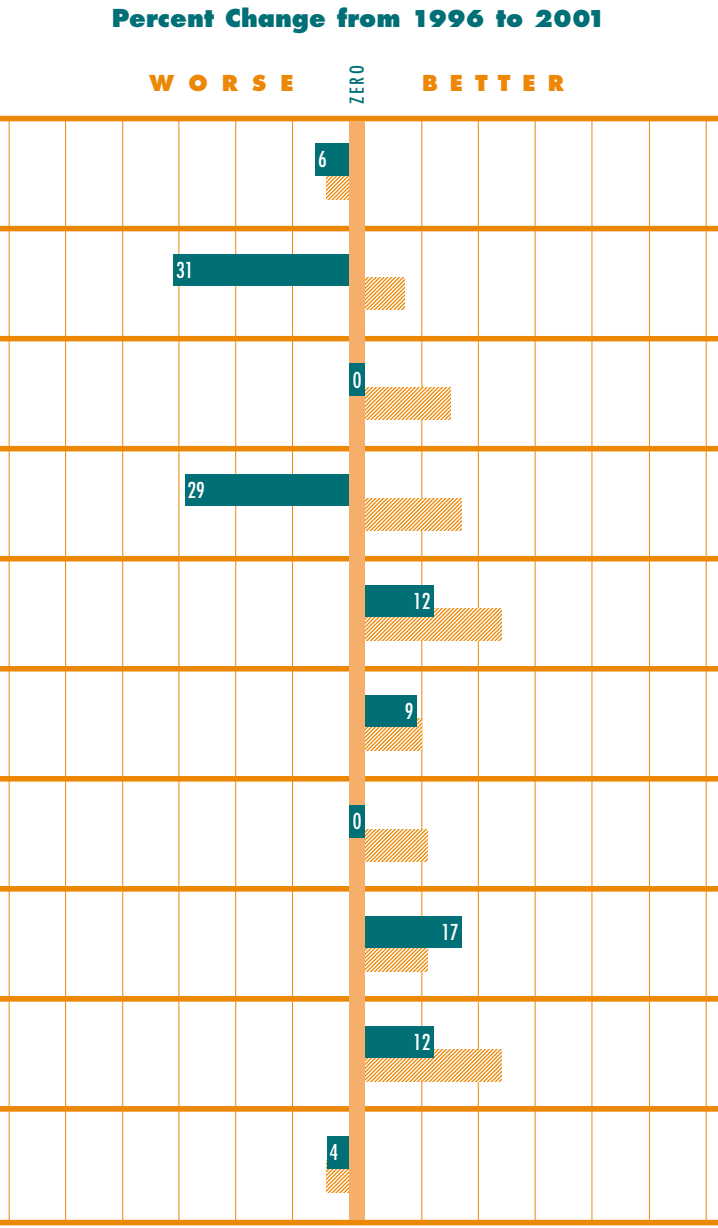
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Rhode Island

RI

Overall Rank [19]



Indicators*		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE 6.9 / NATIONAL 7.4	STATE 7.3 / NATIONAL 7.7	[20]
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE 5.2 / NATIONAL 7.3	STATE 6.8 / NATIONAL 6.8	[23]
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE 15 / NATIONAL 26	STATE 15 / NATIONAL 22	[3]
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE 24 / NATIONAL 60	STATE 31 / NATIONAL 50	[2]
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE 25 / NATIONAL 33	STATE 22 / NATIONAL 25	[26]
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 11 / NATIONAL 10	STATE 10 / NATIONAL 9	[29]
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE 9 / NATIONAL 9	STATE 9 / NATIONAL 8	[27]
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE 30 / NATIONAL 28	STATE 25 / NATIONAL 25	[26]
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE 17 / NATIONAL 21	STATE 15 / NATIONAL 16	[27]
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE 28 / NATIONAL 27	STATE 29 / NATIONAL 28	[29]

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	4,107,183	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	429,425	10%
Total children under age 18	979,163	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	252,718	59%
Black/African American*	147,191	34%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,635	less than 0.5%
Asian*	4,978	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	233	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	3,738	1%
Hispanic/Latino	18,932	4%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	9%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	81%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$46,100	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	11%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	36%	35%

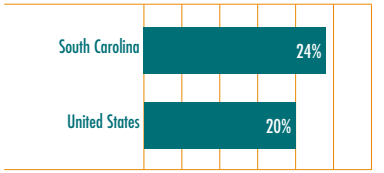
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	41%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	32%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,315
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	15,487
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,398

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

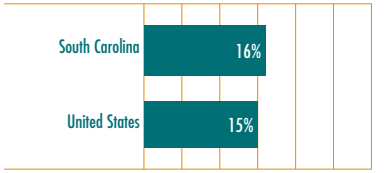


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	61,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



South Carolina

SC

Overall Rank [46]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	4	STATE	9.2	9.6	[47]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	6	STATE	8.4	8.9	[46]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	30	STATE	37	26	[38]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	6	STATE	72	68	[42]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	18	STATE	39	32	[42]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	11	11	[35]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	22	STATE	9	11	[41]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	13	STATE	31	27	[36]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	28	STATE	25	18	[34]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	3	STATE	31	30	[36]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	761,063	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	82,635	11%
Total children under age 18	195,625	26%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	70,615	85%
Black/African American*	838	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	7,787	9%
Asian*	712	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	44	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,159	1%
Hispanic/Latino	1,480	2%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	8%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	82%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$51,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	46%	35%

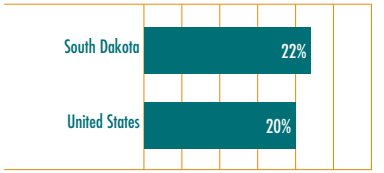
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	18%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	18%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	22%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	236
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	2,106
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	496

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

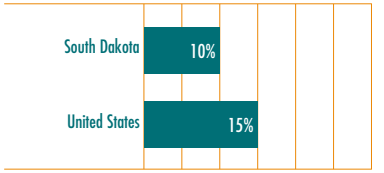


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	7,000

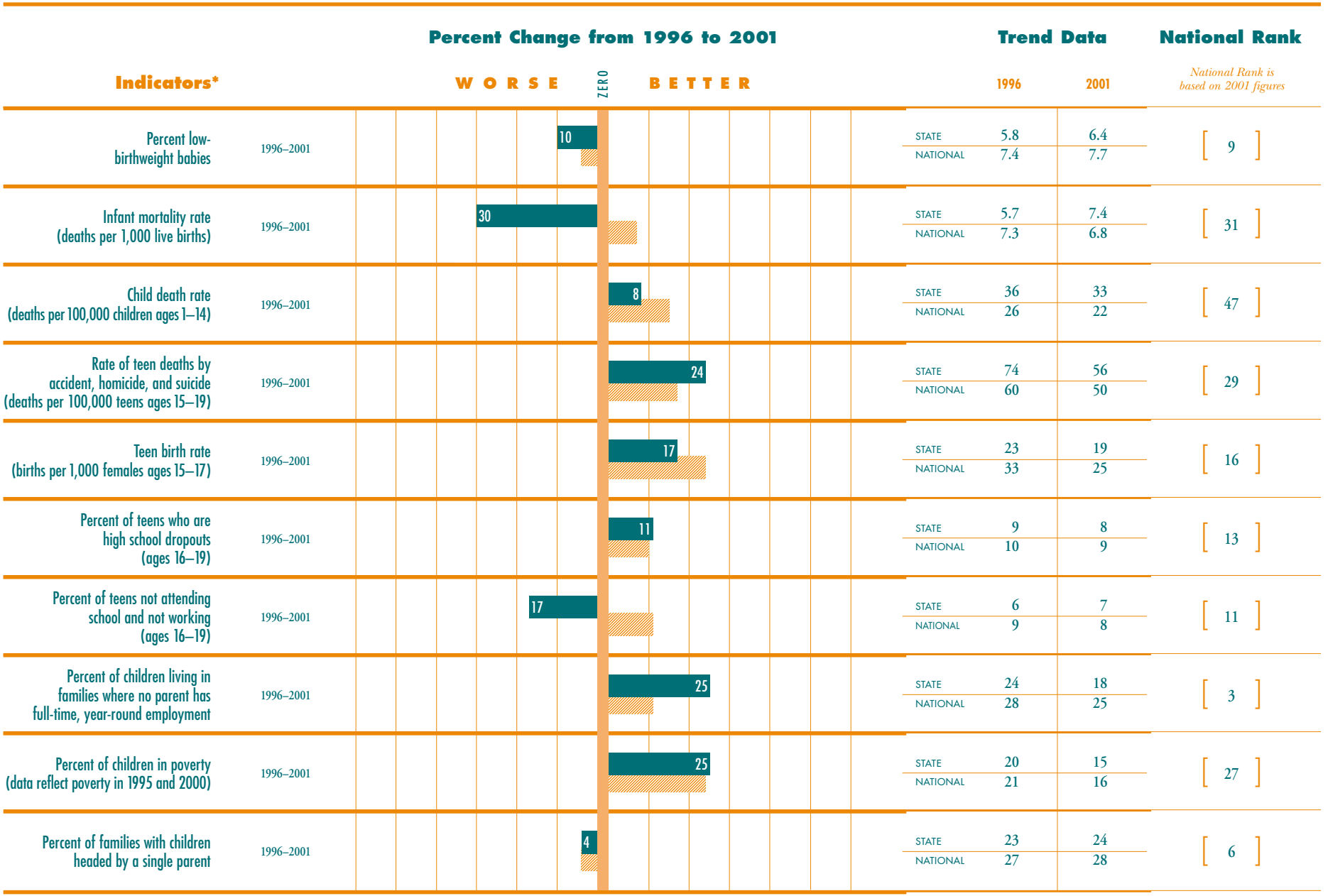
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



South Dakota

SD

Overall Rank [18]



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	5,797,289	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	553,941	10%
Total children under age 18	1,404,661	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	408,848	74%
Black/African American*	109,460	20%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,454	less than 0.5%
Asian*	7,324	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	307	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	5,505	1%
Hispanic/Latino	21,043	4%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	7%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	81%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$42,300	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	10%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	33%	35%

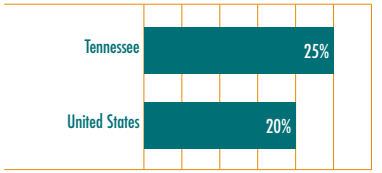
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	43%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	30%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	41%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	4,033
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	20,284
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,655

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

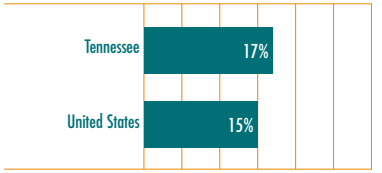


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	87,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Tennessee

TN

Overall Rank [43]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	8.8	9.2	[45]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	2	STATE	8.5	8.7	[44]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	21	STATE	29	23	[29]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	19	STATE	80	65	[38]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	23	STATE	39	30	[38]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	15	STATE	13	11	[35]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	15	STATE	13	11	[41]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	7	STATE	27	29	[43]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	18	STATE	22	18	[34]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	3	STATE	29	30	[36]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	21,779,893	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	2,287,194	11%
Total children under age 18	6,102,316	28%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	993,094	43%
Black/African American*	277,850	12%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	7,782	less than 0.5%
Asian*	61,919	3%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	1,571	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	20,669	1%
Hispanic/Latino	924,309	40%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	22%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	71%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$42,400	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	8%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	36%	35%

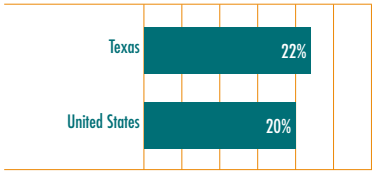
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	41%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	29%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	18%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	31%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	3,576
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	99,817
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	8,524

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

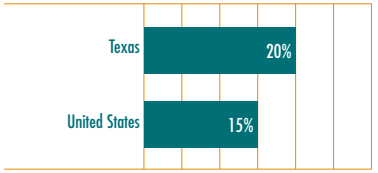


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	415,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Texas

TX

Overall Rank [36]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	6	STATE	7.2	7.6	[22]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	6	STATE	6.3	5.9	[13]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	17	STATE	29	24	[33]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	19	STATE	67	54	[27]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	19	STATE	48	39	[49]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	8	STATE	13	12	[43]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	17	STATE	12	10	[32]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	14	STATE	28	24	[23]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	22	STATE	27	21	[44]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	4	STATE	26	27	[16]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	2,316,256	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	321,169	14%
Total children under age 18	713,012	31%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	268,783	84%
Black/African American*	2,542	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	4,244	1%
Asian*	5,549	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	2,882	1%
More than one race*	4,597	1%
Hispanic/Latino	32,572	10%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	80%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$54,800	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	48%	35%

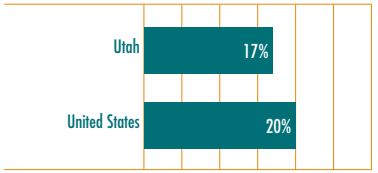
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	34%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	24%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	606
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	6,732
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,015

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

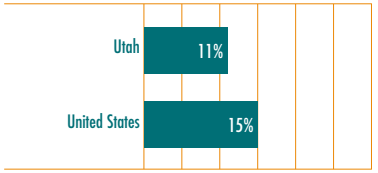


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	33,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Utah

UT

Overall Rank [5]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	3	STATE	6.6	6.4	[9]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	20	STATE	6.0	4.8	[2]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	17	STATE	24	20	[16]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	23	STATE	57	44	[15]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	14	STATE	22	19	[16]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	7	7	[7]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	7	7	[11]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	28	STATE	18	23	[19]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	0	STATE	11	11	[4]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	21	STATE	14	17	[1]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	616,592	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	62,147	10%
Total children under age 18	139,662	23%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	58,633	94%
Black/African American*	566	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	269	less than 0.5%
Asian*	885	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	27	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	782	1%
Hispanic/Latino	985	2%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	4%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	88%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$51,000	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	4%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	46%	35%

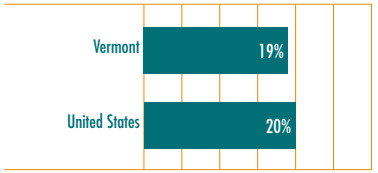
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	27%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	19%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	15%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	23%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	610
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	955
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	62

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

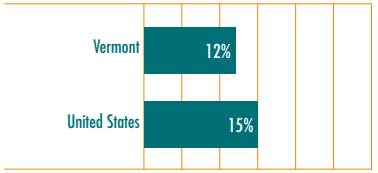


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	6,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Vermont

VT

Overall Rank [6]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	5	STATE	6.2	5.9	[4]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	23	STATE	7.1	5.5	[7]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	14	STATE	22	19	[14]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	16	STATE	45	38	[5]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	33	STATE	15	10	[1]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	17	STATE	6	7	[7]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	14	STATE	7	6	[6]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	8	STATE	25	23	[19]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	14	STATE	14	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	17	STATE	24	28	[22]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	7,293,542	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	720,847	10%
Total children under age 18	1,779,408	24%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	459,583	64%
Black/African American*	164,307	23%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	2,311	less than 0.5%
Asian*	30,072	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	505	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	11,534	2%
Hispanic/Latino	52,535	7%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	78%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$58,700	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	31%	35%

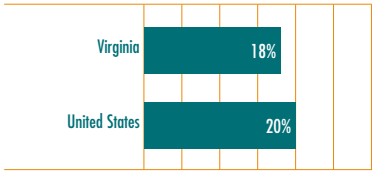
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	21%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	17%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	2,224
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	17,695
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	2,811

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

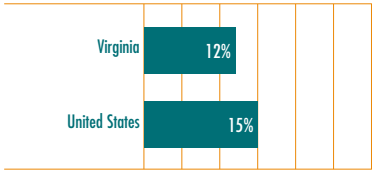


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	73,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Virginia

VA

Overall Rank [14]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	3	STATE	7.7	7.9	[28]
			NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	1	STATE	7.7	7.6	[35]
			NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	18	STATE	22	18	[9]
			NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	21	STATE	58	46	[16]
			NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	22	STATE	27	21	[23]
			NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	8	8	[13]
			NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	0	STATE	7	7	[11]
			NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	24	STATE	25	19	[5]
			NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	25	STATE	16	12	[9]
			NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	3	STATE	29	28	[22]
			NATIONAL	27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	6,068,996	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	593,628	10%
Total children under age 18	1,513,360	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	431,364	73%
Black/African American*	23,182	4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	10,295	2%
Asian*	38,644	7%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	3,539	1%
More than one race*	19,875	3%
Hispanic/Latino	66,729	11%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	75%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$50,600	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	6%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	42%	35%

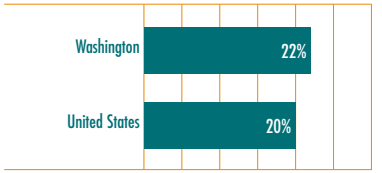
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	33%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	24%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	19%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	28%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,529
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	13,751
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	2,054

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

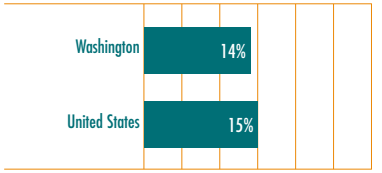


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	75,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Washington

WA

Overall Rank [16]

Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001		4	STATE 5.6	5.8	[3]
				NATIONAL 7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001		3	STATE 6.0	5.8	[10]
				NATIONAL 7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001		18	STATE 22	18	[9]
				NATIONAL 26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001		14	STATE 50	43	[13]
				NATIONAL 60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001		31	STATE 26	18	[10]
				NATIONAL 33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	11		STATE 9	10	[29]
				NATIONAL 10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		25	STATE 12	9	[27]
				NATIONAL 9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001		10	STATE 31	28	[38]
				NATIONAL 28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001		13	STATE 15	13	[17]
				NATIONAL 21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	15		STATE 26	30	[36]
				NATIONAL 27	28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	1,801,873	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	173,743	10%
Total children under age 18	389,171	22%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	161,040	93%
Black/African American*	7,399	4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	373	less than 0.5%
Asian*	1,540	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	72	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	1,660	1%
Hispanic/Latino	1,659	1%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	10%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	79%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$37,500	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	9%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	39%	35%

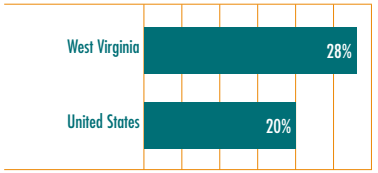
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	35%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	28%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	25%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	37%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,245
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	4,897
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	475

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

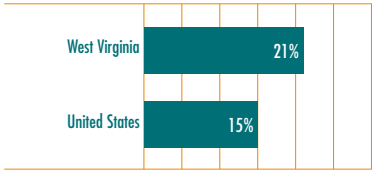


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	33,000

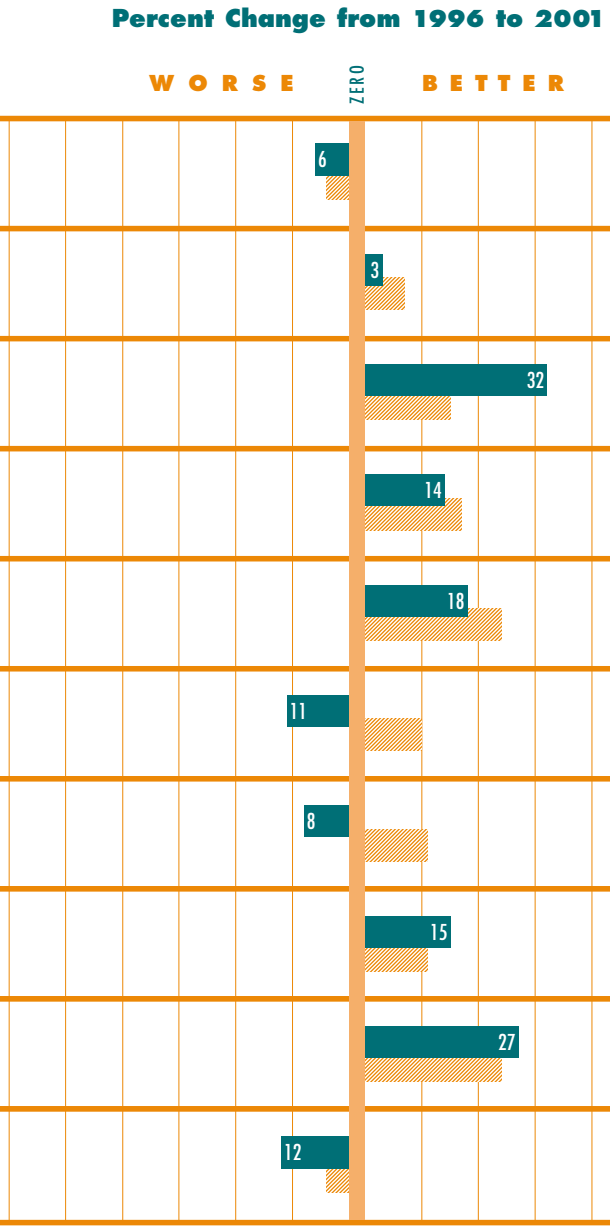
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



West Virginia

WV

Overall Rank [42]



Indicators*		Trend Data	1996	2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001	STATE	8.0	8.5	[39]
		NATIONAL	7.4	7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001	STATE	7.4	7.2	[27]
		NATIONAL	7.3	6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001	STATE	31	21	[19]
		NATIONAL	26	22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001	STATE	63	54	[27]
		NATIONAL	60	50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001	STATE	28	23	[28]
		NATIONAL	33	25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE	9	10	[29]
		NATIONAL	10	9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001	STATE	13	14	[50]
		NATIONAL	9	8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001	STATE	39	33	[48]
		NATIONAL	28	25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001	STATE	30	22	[46]
		NATIONAL	21	16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001	STATE	25	28	[22]
		NATIONAL	27	28	

**See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.*

Patterned bars indicate national change. *Solid bars indicate state change.*

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	5,441,196	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	556,567	10%
Total children under age 18	1,338,064	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	463,335	83%
Black/African American*	37,151	7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	5,662	1%
Asian*	13,745	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	271	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	6,324	1%
Hispanic/Latino	30,079	5%

Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	4%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	83%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$57,300	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	45%	35%

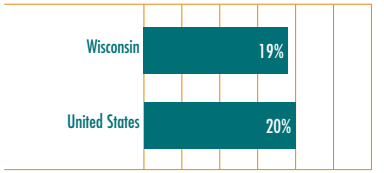
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	32%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	23%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	21%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	25%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	1,867
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	12,622
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	1,941

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

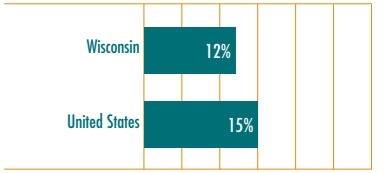


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	56,000

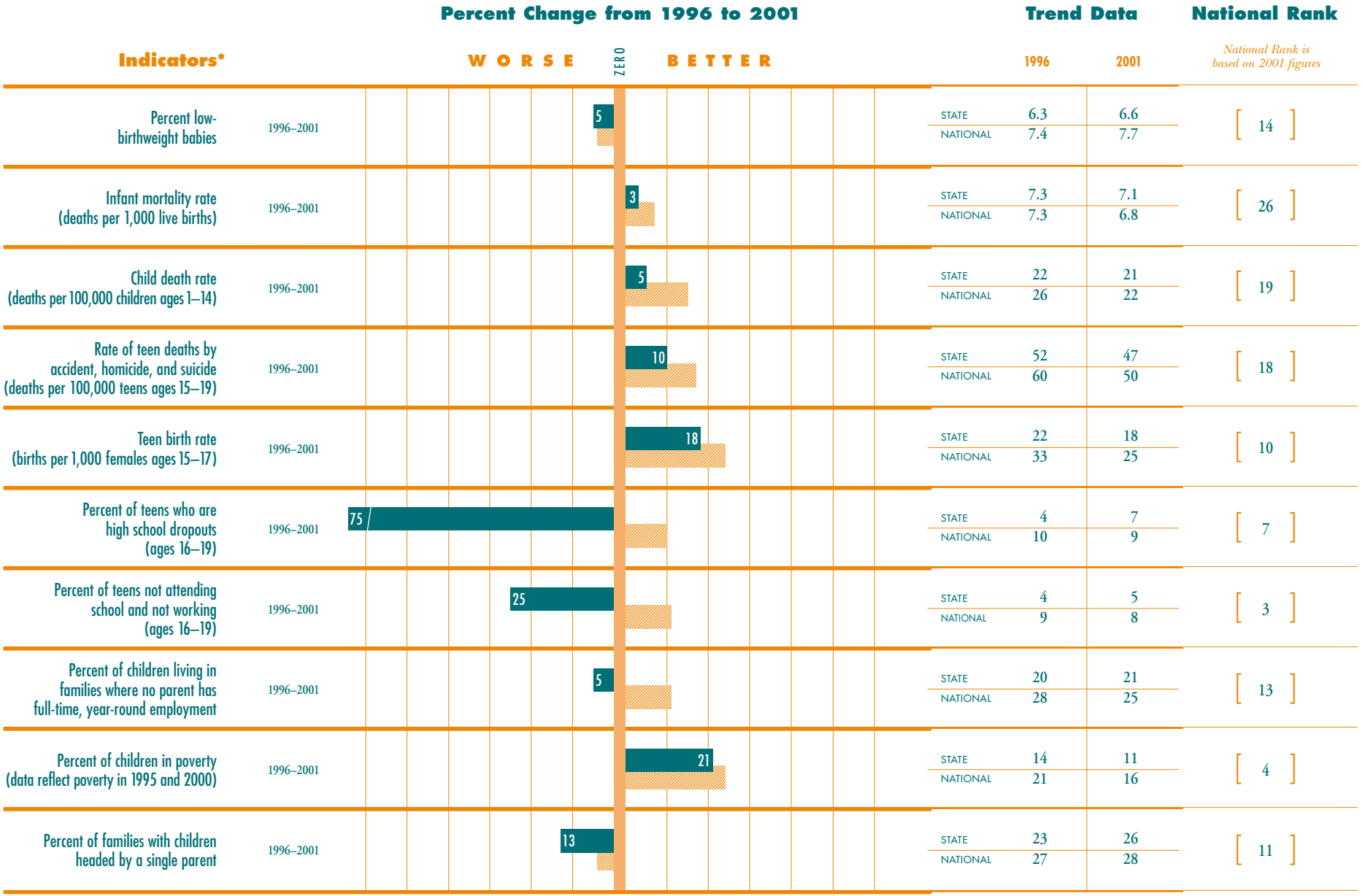
Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Wisconsin

WI

Overall Rank [11]



*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

Background Information

Demographic Data

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total state population	498,703	100%
Total young adults ages 18–24	54,248	11%
Total children under age 18	122,344	25%

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002

	NUMBER	PERCENT
White*	46,553	86%
Black/African American*	661	1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native*	1,310	2%
Asian*	410	1%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander*	53	less than 0.5%
More than one race*	729	1%
Hispanic/Latino	4,532	8%

*Non-Hispanic

Child Health

	STATE	NATIONAL
Children without health insurance: 2001	13%	12%
2-year-olds who were immunized: 2002	77%	79%

Economic Conditions of Families

	STATE	NATIONAL
Median income of families with children: 2001	$48,700	$51,100
Children in extreme poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001	5%	7%
Female-headed families receiving child support or alimony: 2001	49%	35%

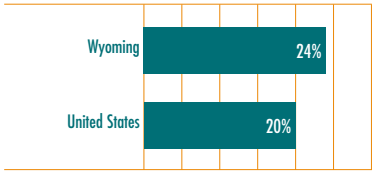
Education

	STATE	NATIONAL
4th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	31%	38%
8th grade students who scored below basic reading level: 2003	21%	28%
4th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	13%	24%
8th grade students who scored below basic math level: 2003	23%	33%

Vulnerable Youth

Number of persons ages 15–19 in foster care: 2001	416
Number of mothers under age 20: 2002	1,450
Number of juveniles detained, incarcerated, or placed in residential facilities: 2001	327

Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in poverty: 2002

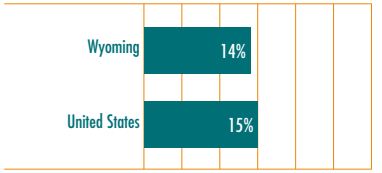


Disconnected Young Adults

Disconnected young adults are persons ages 18–24 who
- are not enrolled in school
- are not working
- have no degree beyond high school

Number of young adults who are disconnected: 2002	7,000

Percent of young adults who are disconnected: 2002



Wyoming

WY

Overall Rank [24]

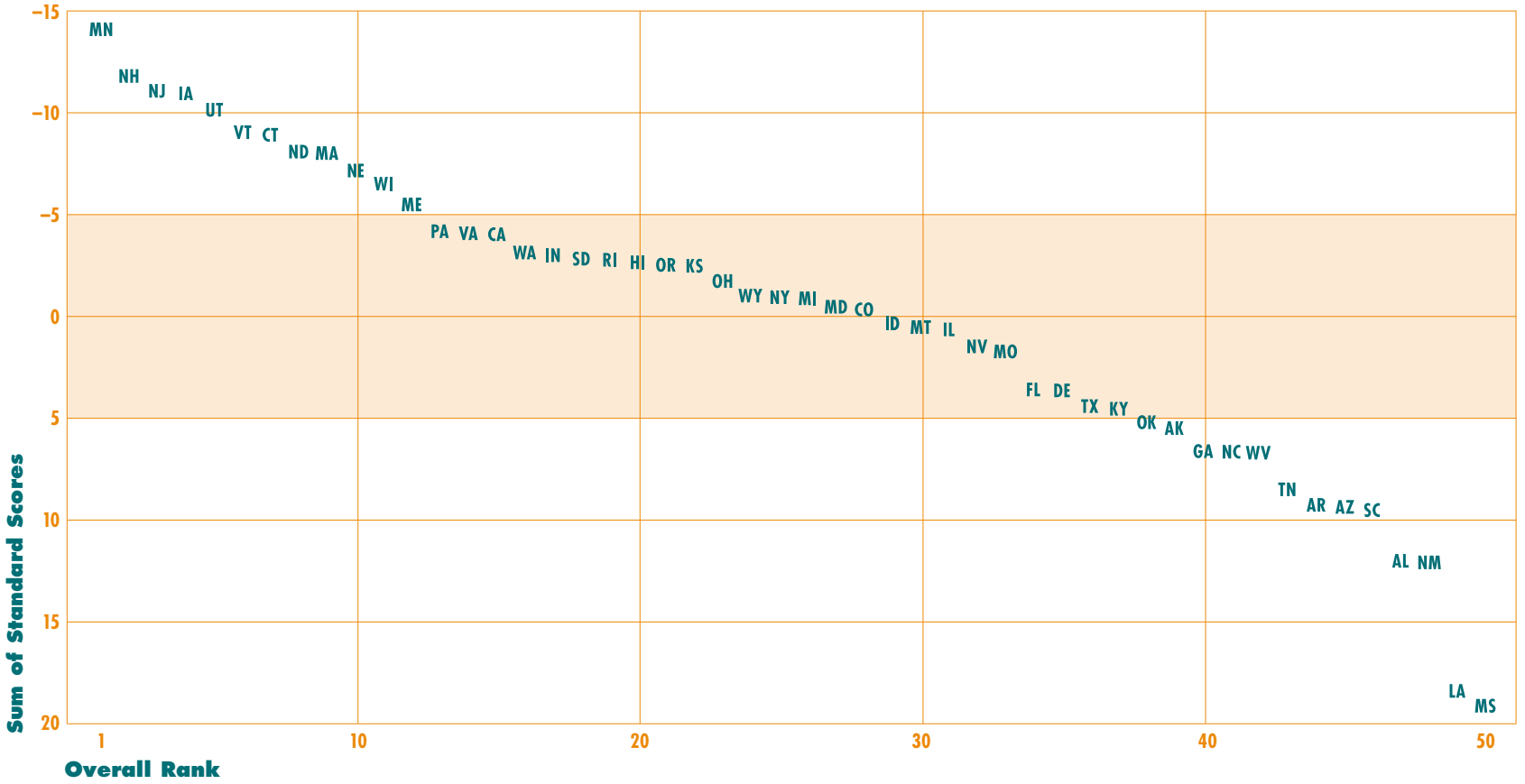
Indicators*		Percent Change from 1996 to 2001 (WORSE ← ZERO → BETTER)		Trend Data 1996	Trend Data 2001	National Rank (National Rank is based on 2001 figures)
Percent low-birthweight babies	1996–2001		1	STATE 8.4	STATE 8.3	[37]
				NATIONAL 7.4	NATIONAL 7.7	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	1996–2001		8	STATE 6.4	STATE 5.9	[13]
				NATIONAL 7.3	NATIONAL 6.8	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	1996–2001		17	STATE 35	STATE 29	[42]
				NATIONAL 26	NATIONAL 22	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	1996–2001		42	STATE 112	STATE 65	[38]
				NATIONAL 60	NATIONAL 50	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	1996–2001		31	STATE 26	STATE 18	[10]
				NATIONAL 33	NATIONAL 25	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		0	STATE 8	STATE 8	[13]
				NATIONAL 10	NATIONAL 9	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	1996–2001		0	STATE 8	STATE 8	[19]
				NATIONAL 9	NATIONAL 8	
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	1996–2001		5	STATE 21	STATE 20	[8]
				NATIONAL 28	NATIONAL 25	
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	1996–2001		13	STATE 16	STATE 14	[22]
				NATIONAL 21	NATIONAL 16	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	1996–2001		4	STATE 26	STATE 27	[16]
				NATIONAL 27	NATIONAL 28	

*See Definitions and Data Sources, page 188.

Patterned bars indicate national change. Solid bars indicate state change.

APPENDICES

KIDS COUNT Standard Scores and Overall Ranks



This chart assists readers in comparing states' performance based on the 10 KIDS COUNT measures of child well-being used to rank states. In addition to showing whether a state ranks higher or lower overall than another state, this chart shows the differences among states based on the sum of their standard scores. If a state had the exact state mean on each indicator, then the sum of the standard scores for that state would be zero. We have inverted the vertical axis in this graph to reflect the fact that negative scores indicate better conditions for children. States are highly clustered near the middle of the distribution, as evidenced by the large number of states in the shaded area.

This chart provides the rate for each of the 10 KIDS COUNT indicators used to rank states for the years between 1996 and 2001 and the raw data behind the most recent rate. In addition, this chart includes a state's rank by indicator for each year. Raw data based on estimates from the Current Population Survey (CPS) are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Because the estimates for child poverty are more accurate than the CPS-based estimates, they are rounded to the nearest 100.

Indicators		USA 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	308,747 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.9	6.8
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	27,568 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	26	25	23	23	22	22
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	12,202 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	60	57	53	52	51	50
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	10,156 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	33	31	30	28	27	25
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	145,324 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	10	10	9	10	9	9
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	1,488,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	8	8	8	8
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	1,355,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	28	27	26	25	25	25
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	17,963,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	21	21	20	19	17	16
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	11,587,100 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	27	27	27	27	28	28
	Rank	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2001 raw data	9,679,000 families					

N.A.=Not Available.

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Alabama

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
9.3	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.7	9.6
48	47	47	47	47	47
5,812 births					
10.5	9.5	10.2	9.8	9.4	9.4
49	46	50	48	49	47
567 deaths					
35	34	33	35	27	30
45	46	48	49	39	44
259 deaths					
80	72	76	82	73	72
40	40	43	47	44	47
229 deaths					
43	41	39	36	36	32
43	42	42	41	44	42
2,975 births					
12	11	10	10	11	11
38	34	33	30	35	35
29,000 teens					
10	10	9	10	10	11
34	35	30	38	35	41
28,000 teens					
28	29	30	31	29	27
25	36	42	47	41	36
309,000 children					
26	25	24	23	22	21
42	40	41	41	44	44
226,200 children					
31	30	29	29	30	31
43	42	40	39	38	43
179,000 families					

Alaska

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
5.5	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.7
3	5	7	3	1	2
566 births					
7.2	7.5	5.9	5.7	6.8	8.1
24	30	7	6	24	39
81 deaths					
30	42	30	23	32	34
34	50	43	24	45	49
50 deaths					
101	94	82	78	128	75
49	50	48	44	50	50
41 deaths					
28	27	28	28	24	19
23	24	28	31	28	16
302 births					
8	8	7	8	8	11
17	15	9	14	13	35
4,000 teens					
10	11	10	10	10	11
34	40	37	38	35	41
4,000 teens					
28	27	29	29	30	29
25	25	40	43	45	43
56,000 children					
13	15	16	15	11	12
4	14	19	18	6	9
21,100 children					
26	26	27	28	30	31
20	18	22	25	38	43
26,000 families					

Arizona

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.7	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0
18	16	16	17	18	17
5,957 births					
7.6	7.1	7.5	6.8	6.7	6.9
30	24	29	22	22	25
592 deaths					
30	31	29	23	26	29
34	42	40	24	38	42
322 deaths					
81	68	65	59	65	66
42	37	34	28	37	41
249 deaths					
46	44	44	41	41	37
47	47	47	47	48	47
4,096 births					
16	15	17	17	17	16
49	49	49	50	50	50
50,000 teens					
11	11	12	12	12	12
39	40	46	48	46	46
37,000 teens					
30	30	28	27	27	26
36	40	34	35	35	33
385,000 children					
25	24	23	23	19	19
39	39	37	41	36	38
263,700 children					
28	28	28	29	30	29
36	34	34	39	38	29
176,000 families					

Arkansas

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.5	8.4	8.9	8.6	8.6	8.8
40	39	44	41	41	41
3,250 births					
9.3	8.7	8.9	8.0	8.4	8.3
48	43	43	37	40	41
309 deaths					
32	37	32	33	33	30
42	49	47	46	47	44
157 deaths					
92	88	80	70	71	74
46	49	45	38	43	49
145 deaths					
44	42	40	36	35	32
45	44	46	41	41	42
1,799 births					
9	12	12	12	9	8
23	40	41	41	24	13
12,000 teens					
11	12	12	12	12	10
39	46	46	48	46	32
16,000 teens					
28	27	27	26	29	29
25	25	30	31	41	43
202,000 children					
27	26	25	24	22	22
45	44	44	46	44	46
147,300 children					
27	28	28	28	28	29
29	34	34	25	24	29
91,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		California						Colorado					
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.3	8.8	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.4	8.5
	Rank	10	8	9	7	8	7	45	41	41	39	40	39
	2001 raw data	33,228 births						5,720 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.4	6.6	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.2	5.8
	Rank	9	8	6	5	5	5	18	22	14	17	13	10
	2001 raw data	2,830 deaths						388 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	23	21	20	19	20	18	23	23	23	22	22	22
	Rank	14	9	12	8	12	9	14	17	20	20	22	21
	2001 raw data	1,331 deaths						190 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	58	51	46	40	39	39	58	53	57	59	48	58
	Rank	23	14	11	9	7	6	23	16	23	28	15	34
	2001 raw data	978 deaths						182 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	38	35	32	29	27	24	31	31	30	30	30	26
	Rank	37	37	35	32	31	32	30	31	32	34	37	33
	2001 raw data	17,314 births						2,342 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	10	10	9	9	9	8	10	11	13	14	14	13
	Rank	31	29	23	22	24	13	31	34	45	48	48	48
	2001 raw data	159,000 teens						31,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	9	9	8	8	9	8	8	9	10	10
	Rank	23	26	30	30	21	19	23	18	22	30	35	32
	2001 raw data	163,000 teens						23,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	33	31	31	29	28	26	21	21	19	19	19	20
	Rank	43	42	46	43	37	33	8	8	4	8	6	8
	2001 raw data	2,552,000 children						230,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	24	25	25	23	20	19	14	15	15	14	12	12
	Rank	36	40	44	41	39	38	8	14	8	8	10	9
	2001 raw data	1,711,400 children						136,800 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	26	26	26	26	26	26	22	23	24	23	23	23
	Rank	20	18	15	14	13	11	4	7	7	5	3	4
	2001 raw data	1,136,000 families						118,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Connecticut

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.2	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.4
21	21	28	23	22	21
3,143 births					
6.4	7.2	7.0	6.1	6.6	6.1
16	26	16	12	19	16
260 deaths					
23	19	16	16	15	14
14	3	3	3	3	1
93 deaths					
39	40	41	33	32	40
5	9	7	5	4	9
90 deaths					
24	22	21	19	17	15
14	12	12	8	7	7
1,004 births					
5	8	9	8	7	6
2	15	23	14	7	5
11,000 teens					
6	6	6	6	5	6
6	5	7	8	3	6
9,000 teens					
29	25	19	20	19	22
33	17	4	11	6	16
186,000 children					
14	14	15	13	10	10
8	7	8	2	3	3
85,500 children					
27	27	27	27	26	27
29	27	22	18	13	16
114,000 families					

Delaware

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.5	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.6	9.3
40	40	39	41	41	46
996 births					
7.6	7.8	9.6	7.4	9.2	10.7
30	35	47	31	48	50
115 deaths					
19	24	22	21	27	22
4	21	17	16	39	21
32 deaths					
40	62	51	40	63	53
7	28	19	9	36	26
29 deaths					
38	34	31	31	29	28
37	33	33	36	34	37
438 births					
9	10	11	10	10	10
23	29	36	30	30	29
4,000 teens					
7	7	7	8	9	9
11	14	13	24	31	27
4,000 teens					
27	26	25	23	20	20
20	19	22	19	13	8
39,000 children					
15	15	15	15	14	13
14	14	8	18	16	17
23,900 children					
31	32	33	33	30	29
43	46	48	48	38	29
29,000 families					

District of Columbia

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
14.3	13.4	13.1	13.1	11.9	12.1
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
924 births					
14.9	13.2	12.5	15.0	12.0	10.6
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
81 deaths					
53	42	43	29	31	33
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
29 deaths					
236	200	114	139	98	126
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
38 deaths					
57	44	42	38	48	44
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
347 births					
11	10	11	12	12	11
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
3,000 teens					
16	16	16	15	13	14
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
3,000 teens					
56	49	44	38	38	40
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
45,000 children					
37	36	34	31	29	26
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
29,100 children					
62	62	61	59	57	57
N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
27,000 families					

N.R.=Not Ranked.

Florida

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.0	8.2
35	37	37	36	35	36
16,776 births					
7.5	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.0	7.3
28	24	22	31	27	29
1,495 deaths					
29	27	26	26	24	23
30	30	27	35	30	29
666 deaths					
54	53	51	52	53	51
17	16	19	21	22	24
529 deaths					
36	34	33	31	29	26
33	33	37	36	34	33
8,012 births					
12	12	12	12	12	12
38	40	41	41	43	43
100,000 teens					
11	9	8	8	8	9
39	26	22	24	21	27
72,000 teens					
32	29	27	24	24	25
41	36	30	23	24	26
958,000 children					
24	22	22	22	19	18
36	36	36	36	36	34
663,900 children					
31	31	30	29	30	30
43	44	42	39	38	36
544,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		Georgia 1996	Georgia 1997	Georgia 1998	Georgia 1999	Georgia 2000	Georgia 2001	Hawaii 1996	Hawaii 1997	Hawaii 1998	Hawaii 1999	Hawaii 2000	Hawaii 2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	8.5	8.8	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.8	7.3	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.5	8.1
	Rank	40	41	40	43	41	41	23	20	22	23	25	35
	2001 raw data	11,750 births						1,385 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	9.2	8.6	8.5	8.2	8.5	8.6	5.8	6.6	6.9	7.0	8.1	6.2
	Rank	46	41	39	40	41	43	8	18	15	27	37	18
	2001 raw data	1,146 deaths						106 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	31	28	28	27	25	27	21	19	17	13	15	16
	Rank	39	34	35	39	33	39	6	3	5	1	3	5
	2001 raw data	461 deaths						36 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	81	63	57	61	55	62	45	27	39	23	28	39
	Rank	42	29	23	31	23	36	9	3	6	2	2	6
	2001 raw data	370 deaths						33 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	44	43	39	37	36	33	27	25	29	25	23	20
	Rank	45	45	42	44	44	45	21	19	30	24	23	20
	2001 raw data	5,753 births						480 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	13	12	13	12	11	10	5	5	5	6	6	7
	Rank	44	40	45	41	35	29	2	2	1	3	3	7
	2001 raw data	46,000 teens						4,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	10	9	9	9	10	10	9	10	10	10	10	10
	Rank	34	26	30	30	35	32	23	35	37	38	35	32
	2001 raw data	42,000 teens						6,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	28	28	30	27	25	23	31	32	28	28	29	28
	Rank	25	30	42	35	27	19	38	45	34	40	41	38
	2001 raw data	517,000 children						88,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	24	23	23	22	18	18	14	18	16	15	15	14
	Rank	36	37	37	36	34	34	8	27	19	18	20	22
	2001 raw data	386,100 children						41,100 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	28	29	31	31	30	30	25	24	26	27	29	28
	Rank	36	38	44	45	38	36	17	10	15	18	32	22
	2001 raw data	307,000 families						34,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Idaho

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
5.8	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.7	6.4
6	10	7	9	15	9
1,326 births					
7.4	6.8	7.2	6.7	7.5	6.2
26	20	22	17	32	18
129 deaths					
28	36	28	31	22	25
26	48	35	44	22	36
72 deaths					
82	67	73	73	55	72
44	34	40	42	23	47
80 deaths					
26	22	24	24	21	19
18	12	18	22	18	16
602 births					
9	10	10	11	10	11
23	29	33	35	30	35
9,000 teens					
9	9	9	9	9	10
23	26	30	30	31	32
8,000 teens					
29	28	26	23	23	24
33	30	27	19	20	23
90,000 children					
17	16	17	17	17	15
25	20	23	26	31	27
55,800 children					
19	20	20	21	23	25
2	2	2	2	3	7
44,000 families					

Illinois

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.0	7.9	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.0
37	35	34	33	31	32
14,731 births					
8.6	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	7.7
42	40	38	43	41	36
1,413 deaths					
26	22	22	22	20	22
23	13	17	20	12	21
547 deaths					
62	56	58	55	50	52
27	19	27	23	17	25
458 deaths					
36	34	32	29	28	26
33	33	35	32	33	33
6,625 births					
10	9	9	10	10	9
31	25	23	30	30	24
66,000 teens					
9	8	8	8	8	8
23	18	22	24	21	19
59,000 teens					
28	26	25	24	23	24
25	19	22	23	20	23
774,000 children					
19	18	18	15	15	15
29	27	29	18	20	27
466,500 children					
27	27	28	28	28	28
29	27	34	25	24	22
428,000 families					

Indiana

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.6	7.7	7.9	7.9	7.4	7.6
30	27	32	30	22	22
6,569 births					
8.7	8.2	7.6	8.0	7.8	7.5
43	38	31	37	36	34
650 deaths					
28	26	26	27	25	22
26	26	27	39	33	21
271 deaths					
64	60	57	59	58	56
30	25	23	28	29	29
249 deaths					
32	31	28	27	26	23
32	31	28	29	30	28
3,037 births					
6	6	6	7	8	8
4	3	4	10	13	13
25,000 teens					
7	6	6	7	7	6
11	5	7	12	12	6
21,000 teens					
20	20	22	22	22	22
5	7	13	16	18	16
329,000 children					
15	14	15	14	12	12
14	7	8	8	10	9
190,400 children					
22	22	22	22	24	26
4	4	4	4	6	11
193,000 families					

Iowa

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.4	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.4
14	13	10	9	5	9
2,409 births					
7.0	6.2	6.6	5.7	6.5	5.6
20	12	13	6	17	8
212 deaths					
28	24	26	21	22	23
26	21	27	16	22	29
126 deaths					
53	50	46	50	59	47
14	12	11	19	31	18
102 deaths					
21	20	18	18	18	17
7	7	7	7	9	9
1,049 births					
6	6	7	6	6	5
4	3	9	3	3	2
9,000 teens					
5	5	4	4	4	4
3	4	1	1	1	1
7,000 teens					
18	19	19	17	15	17
1	2	4	3	1	1
124,000 children					
14	13	14	14	11	11
8	6	6	8	6	4
76,000 children					
24	24	24	24	24	23
12	10	7	7	6	4
87,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		Kansas 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Kentucky 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.9	7.8	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.3
	Rank	19	16	18	18	17	17	35	32	37	36	37	37
	2001 raw data	2,709 births						4,539 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	8.3	7.4	7.0	7.3	6.8	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.5	7.6	7.2	5.9
	Rank	37	28	16	28	24	31	28	27	29	34	29	13
	2001 raw data	287 deaths						325 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	31	26	28	26	25	24	26	28	26	23	23	28
	Rank	39	26	35	35	33	33	23	34	27	24	27	40
	2001 raw data	132 deaths						207 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	79	69	68	57	65	65	73	72	62	61	67	57
	Rank	39	38	35	25	37	38	34	40	31	31	40	33
	2001 raw data	135 deaths						161 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	28	28	25	25	23	23	36	34	31	30	29	26
	Rank	23	27	23	24	23	28	33	33	33	34	34	33
	2001 raw data	1,369 births						2,110 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	6	6	7	9	8	8	14	11	11	11	12	12
	Rank	4	3	9	22	13	13	47	34	36	35	43	43
	2001 raw data	14,000 teens						28,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	6	6	6	6	6	7	12	12	10	10	11	12
	Rank	6	5	7	8	8	11	44	46	37	38	45	46
	2001 raw data	12,000 teens						27,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	20	19	20	19	19	19	32	31	29	26	25	25
	Rank	5	2	9	8	6	5	41	42	40	31	27	26
	2001 raw data	129,000 children						250,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	15	14	15	14	14	12	26	26	23	21	20	19
	Rank	14	7	8	8	16	9	42	44	37	35	39	38
	2001 raw data	82,600 children						182,700 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	27	27	27	27	27	27	25	25	26	27	27	27
	Rank	29	27	22	18	18	16	17	13	15	18	18	16
	2001 raw data	89,000 families						131,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Louisiana

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
9.9	10.2	10.1	10.0	10.3	10.4
49	50	49	49	49	49
6,825 births					
9.0	9.5	9.1	9.2	9.0	9.8
45	46	44	47	46	48
643 deaths					
36	33	31	33	32	33
47	45	44	46	45	47
303 deaths					
85	83	71	72	67	71
45	46	39	41	40	46
255 deaths					
42	41	39	37	36	33
42	42	42	44	44	45
3,434 births					
12	11	11	12	12	12
38	34	36	41	43	43
34,000 teens					
13	13	12	11	12	13
47	48	46	45	46	48
36,000 teens					
37	35	32	34	33	33
48	49	48	49	50	48
398,000 children					
31	30	26	26	26	24
48	48	49	49	48	48
289,100 children					
35	35	37	36	36	36
49	50	50	50	50	49
200,000 families					

Maine

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
5.9	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0
9	5	4	6	4	5
830 births					
4.4	5.1	6.3	4.8	4.9	6.1
1	2	9	1	2	16
84 deaths					
22	20	18	18	21	16
9	6	7	6	19	5
34 deaths					
49	38	47	63	50	56
11	7	13	34	17	29
51 deaths					
17	16	15	14	14	12
4	4	3	4	4	3
321 births					
7	7	7	6	7	8
11	9	9	3	7	13
5,000 teens					
7	8	8	7	8	8
11	18	22	12	21	19
6,000 teens					
27	29	28	27	25	26
20	36	34	35	27	33
72,000 children					
16	17	15	14	15	13
20	21	8	8	20	17
36,500 children					
23	25	27	28	27	26
8	13	22	25	18	11
41,000 families					

Maryland

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.6	8.8	8.7	9.0	8.6	9.0
43	41	42	45	41	44
6,580 births					
8.5	8.8	8.6	8.4	7.6	8.1
39	44	41	42	33	39
594 deaths					
24	22	19	20	21	22
18	13	9	11	19	21
234 deaths					
62	57	58	62	51	56
27	21	27	33	20	29
208 deaths					
30	28	27	26	23	21
27	27	26	28	23	23
2,307 births					
7	7	7	8	8	9
11	9	9	14	13	24
25,000 teens					
7	8	7	7	7	8
11	18	13	12	12	19
25,000 teens					
23	22	19	17	17	19
11	11	4	3	3	5
265,000 children					
13	14	15	13	10	11
4	7	8	2	3	4
144,000 children					
26	26	27	28	28	29
20	18	22	25	24	29
183,000 families					

Massachusetts

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.4	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.2
14	18	17	18	19	19
5,773 births					
5.0	5.2	5.1	5.2	4.6	5.0
2	3	2	4	1	3
405 deaths					
17	15	11	14	15	15
2	2	1	2	3	3
168 deaths					
32	31	37	27	25	32
2	4	4	3	1	3
129 deaths					
19	18	17	16	15	14
5	5	5	5	5	5
1,628 births					
7	7	6	6	7	8
11	9	4	3	7	13
26,000 teens					
7	6	5	5	6	7
11	5	3	4	8	11
24,000 teens					
28	27	28	28	28	25
25	25	34	40	37	26
361,000 children					
15	15	17	14	15	12
14	14	23	8	20	9
167,700 children					
26	27	27	28	27	27
20	27	22	25	18	16
203,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		Michigan 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Minnesota 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.7	7.7	7.8	8.0	7.9	8.0	5.8	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.3
	Rank	31	27	28	33	31	32	6	5	4	7	5	7
	2001 raw data	10,642 births						4,254 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.2	5.6	5.3
	Rank	36	38	36	39	39	38	9	8	7	13	7	4
	2001 raw data	1,069 deaths						361 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	25	25	26	23	22	22	20	21	21	21	18	17
	Rank	21	25	27	24	22	21	5	9	14	16	9	7
	2001 raw data	434 deaths						169 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	59	59	48	46	47	46	53	46	43	45	44	39
	Rank	26	24	15	14	14	16	14	11	8	12	11	6
	2001 raw data	331 deaths						148 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	28	26	24	23	22	20	19	18	17	17	16	14
	Rank	23	23	18	20	22	20	5	5	5	6	6	5
	2001 raw data	4,267 births						1,583 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	8	8	9	9	9	8	7	6	6	5	5	5
	Rank	17	15	23	22	24	13	11	3	4	2	2	2
	2001 raw data	48,000 teens						14,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	7	7	7	7	8	8	5	4	4	4	4	4
	Rank	11	14	13	12	21	19	3	1	1	1	1	1
	2001 raw data	49,000 teens						12,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	28	28	27	26	25	25	21	21	20	16	15	17
	Rank	25	30	30	31	27	26	8	8	9	1	1	1
	2001 raw data	628,000 children						204,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	20	19	18	17	14	14	12	11	13	13	9	9
	Rank	30	30	29	26	16	22	3	2	2	2	2	2
	2001 raw data	347,200 children						108,700 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	28	28	28	28	28	28	23	22	21	21	21	21
	Rank	36	34	34	25	24	22	8	4	3	2	2	2
	2001 raw data	353,000 families						138,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Mississippi

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
9.9	10.1	10.1	10.3	10.7	10.7
49	49	49	50	50	50
4,505 births					
11.0	10.6	10.1	10.1	10.7	10.5
50	50	49	49	50	49
445 deaths					
40	35	41	39	37	35
50	47	50	50	50	50
207 deaths					
94	87	73	81	86	69
48	48	40	46	48	43
156 deaths					
51	48	46	43	44	39
50	50	50	48	50	49
2,542 births					
11	10	10	12	11	11
35	29	33	41	35	35
19,000 teens					
11	10	12	12	12	13
39	35	46	48	46	48
22,000 teens					
33	30	28	27	28	31
43	40	34	35	37	47
239,000 children					
31	30	25	24	26	25
48	48	44	46	48	49
187,500 children					
35	34	34	35	34	35
49	49	49	49	48	48
130,000 families					

Missouri

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.5	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6
25	27	28	26	27	22
5,741 births					
7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.2	7.4
30	32	32	36	29	31
558 deaths					
29	27	26	23	27	24
30	30	27	24	39	33
263 deaths					
75	72	69	75	74	69
37	40	37	43	46	43
286 deaths					
31	30	29	27	27	23
30	30	30	29	31	28
2,819 births					
12	11	9	7	9	10
38	34	23	10	24	29
32,000 teens					
9	9	7	6	7	8
23	26	13	8	12	19
24,000 teens					
25	26	25	23	23	22
16	19	22	19	20	16
308,000 children					
20	19	18	17	17	15
30	30	29	26	31	27
206,900 children					
26	26	26	27	28	30
20	18	15	18	24	36
210,000 families					

Montana

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.4	6.3	7.0	6.8	6.2	6.9
14	10	18	15	8	16
758 births					
7.0	6.9	7.4	6.7	6.1	6.7
20	21	28	17	12	22
74 deaths					
32	31	18	27	33	28
42	42	7	39	47	40
47 deaths					
56	70	81	84	81	43
19	39	46	48	47	13
31 deaths					
22	21	20	19	19	18
8	8	8	8	10	10
382 births					
7	8	8	8	8	8
11	15	16	14	13	13
4,000 teens					
8	8	8	7	7	7
20	18	22	12	12	11
4,000 teens					
33	32	31	31	31	29
43	45	46	47	48	43
64,000 children					
22	21	21	22	20	19
34	34	35	36	39	38
40,500 children					
24	25	26	28	30	31
12	13	15	25	38	43
35,000 families					

Nebraska

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.3	7.0	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.6
12	18	11	13	16	14
1,649 births					
8.7	7.4	7.3	6.8	7.3	6.8
43	28	27	22	31	23
168 deaths					
27	23	23	22	22	23
25	17	20	20	22	29
78 deaths					
55	67	57	63	61	48
18	34	23	34	34	20
64 deaths					
22	21	21	20	19	20
8	8	12	12	10	20
760 births					
8	9	8	7	6	6
17	25	16	10	3	5
6,000 teens					
6	6	6	4	5	6
6	5	7	1	3	6
6,000 teens					
18	17	16	16	18	18
1	1	1	1	5	3
78,000 children					
13	12	13	14	13	12
4	3	2	8	14	9
51,300 children					
22	23	24	24	25	25
4	7	7	7	9	7
53,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		Nevada 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	New Hampshire 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.2	7.6	4.8	5.8	5.7	6.2	6.3	6.5
	Rank	25	25	23	23	20	22	1	4	2	9	11	13
	2001 raw data	2,380 births						957 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	6.2	6.5	7.0	6.6	6.5	5.7	5.0	4.3	4.4	5.8	5.7	3.8
	Rank	13	16	16	16	17	9	2	1	1	9	9	1
	2001 raw data	180 deaths						56 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	30	30	29	25	23	22	18	19	11	16	14	20
	Rank	34	39	40	31	27	21	3	3	1	3	2	16
	2001 raw data	98 deaths						49 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	76	66	86	58	60	50	32	25	38	35	36	40
	Rank	38	32	49	27	32	23	2	1	5	6	6	9
	2001 raw data	67 deaths						35 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	43	43	39	38	35	30	15	14	13	11	10	10
	Rank	43	45	42	46	41	38	1	2	2	1	1	1
	2001 raw data	1,222 births						264 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	17	17	17	16	14	14	6	8	7	8	8	9
	Rank	50	50	49	49	48	49	4	15	9	14	13	24
	2001 raw data	14,000 teens						6,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	10	10	9	10	10	10	5	6	5	5	5	5
	Rank	34	35	30	38	35	32	3	5	3	4	3	3
	2001 raw data	10,000 teens						4,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	23	24	22	21	21	21	23	27	23	22	20	20
	Rank	11	13	13	13	16	13	11	25	17	16	13	8
	2001 raw data	119,000 children						59,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	15	14	15	15	15	14	8	8	10	11	8	7
	Rank	14	7	8	18	20	22	1	1	1	1	1	1
	2001 raw data	74,500 children						20,900 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	27	27	27	28	29	29	24	26	25	25	25	25
	Rank	29	27	22	25	32	29	12	18	10	12	9	7
	2001 raw data	73,000 families						40,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

New Jersey

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.7	7.9	8.0	8.2	7.7	7.9
31	35	34	36	28	28
9,170 births					
6.9	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.3	6.5
19	14	11	17	14	21
747 deaths					
21	21	19	17	15	14
6	9	9	5	3	1
240 deaths					
35	35	34	29	32	29
4	5	3	4	4	1
159 deaths					
23	21	21	19	17	16
12	8	12	8	7	8
2,553 births					
6	6	6	6	6	5
4	3	4	3	3	2
23,000 teens					
6	6	6	6	6	6
6	5	7	8	8	6
25,000 teens					
24	24	22	20	19	20
14	13	13	11	6	8
400,000 children					
13	14	15	13	11	11
4	7	8	2	6	4
220,700 children					
22	22	23	23	23	22
4	4	6	5	3	3
232,000 families					

New Mexico

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.5	7.8	7.6	7.7	8.0	7.9
25	32	23	26	35	28
2,145 births					
6.2	6.1	7.2	6.9	6.6	6.4
13	10	22	25	19	20
174 deaths					
33	27	29	26	20	25
44	30	40	35	12	36
98 deaths					
92	67	81	86	88	59
46	34	46	49	49	35
87 deaths					
46	44	45	43	39	38
47	47	48	48	47	48
1,650 births					
14	14	13	11	11	12
47	48	45	35	35	43
14,000 teens					
14	14	13	11	10	11
50	50	50	45	35	41
12,000 teens					
38	33	30	28	30	34
49	47	42	40	45	50
169,000 children					
32	29	28	27	26	26
50	47	50	50	48	50
124,900 children					
32	32	31	31	34	36
47	46	44	45	48	49
84,000 families					

New York

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.7	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.7
31	32	28	28	28	26
19,481 births					
7.0	6.7	6.3	6.4	6.4	5.8
20	19	9	15	16	10
1,482 deaths					
23	20	19	19	17	18
14	6	9	8	7	9
662 deaths					
39	35	32	35	31	35
5	5	2	6	3	4
452 deaths					
24	22	21	20	19	18
14	12	12	12	10	10
6,532 births					
9	9	9	9	9	9
23	25	23	22	24	24
91,000 teens					
10	10	10	9	8	9
34	35	37	30	21	27
89,000 teens					
35	34	33	30	29	28
47	48	49	45	41	38
1,277,000 children					
25	25	25	23	21	19
39	40	44	41	43	38
873,100 children					
32	32	31	31	31	31
47	46	44	45	47	43
693,000 families					

North Carolina

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.7	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.9
44	41	43	44	45	43
10,572 births					
9.2	9.2	9.3	9.1	8.6	8.5
46	45	46	46	44	42
1,009 deaths					
30	29	28	25	24	22
34	38	35	31	30	21
354 deaths					
70	60	63	57	55	62
32	25	32	25	23	36
333 deaths					
40	37	36	34	34	30
41	38	39	39	39	38
4,728 births					
12	12	11	11	11	11
38	40	36	35	35	35
44,000 teens					
9	9	9	8	9	10
23	26	30	24	31	32
40,000 teens					
26	26	25	25	25	28
19	19	22	27	27	38
571,000 children					
20	19	19	19	17	17
30	30	32	33	31	33
330,200 children					
29	29	28	28	29	30
40	38	34	25	32	36
270,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		North Dakota 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Ohio 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	5.7	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.2	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.0
	Rank	5	8	11	9	12	6	25	27	27	30	31	32
	2001 raw data	472 births						12,094 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	5.3	6.2	8.6	6.8	8.1	8.8	7.7	7.8	8.0	8.2	7.6	7.7
	Rank	5	12	41	22	37	45	33	35	34	40	33	36
	2001 raw data	67 deaths						1,161 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	24	20	26	23	19	17	25	24	23	20	23	19
	Rank	18	6	27	24	10	7	21	21	20	11	27	14
	2001 raw data	19 deaths						426 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	57	60	55	55	39	49	43	42	43	45	40	42
	Rank	20	25	22	23	7	21	8	10	8	12	9	12
	2001 raw data	25 deaths						343 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	16	14	16	13	12	12	30	29	27	25	24	22
	Rank	3	2	4	3	3	3	27	29	26	24	28	26
	2001 raw data	174 births						5,253 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	6	6	5	3	4	4	9	8	8	8	8	7
	Rank	4	3	1	1	1	1	23	15	16	14	13	7
	2001 raw data	2,000 teens						49,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	4	4	5	5	5	5	9	8	8	7	7	7
	Rank	1	1	3	4	3	3	23	18	22	12	12	11
	2001 raw data	2,000 teens						45,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	18	19	22	21	22	21	27	28	28	27	26	25
	Rank	1	2	13	13	18	13	20	30	34	35	33	26
	2001 raw data	30,000 children						685,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	16	15	17	17	16	13	18	17	16	16	16	14
	Rank	20	14	23	26	27	17	28	21	19	24	27	22
	2001 raw data	19,500 children						400,400 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	19	20	22	24	25	26	26	27	27	29	30	31
	Rank	2	2	4	7	9	11	20	27	22	39	38	43
	2001 raw data	20,000 families						441,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Oklahoma

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.4	7.3	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.8
24	21	20	21	25	27
3,908 births					
8.5	7.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	7.3
39	30	39	43	41	29
366 deaths					
30	32	31	31	25	31
34	44	44	44	33	46
209 deaths					
74	81	68	68	62	69
35	45	35	37	35	43
182 deaths					
37	37	35	33	33	31
36	38	38	38	38	41
2,325 births					
10	10	9	9	9	9
31	29	23	22	24	24
19,000 teens					
8	9	9	9	8	8
20	26	30	30	21	19
17,000 teens					
29	29	26	25	25	25
33	36	27	27	27	26
219,000 children					
26	25	24	23	20	20
42	40	41	41	39	43
174,000 children					
27	27	27	26	26	28
29	27	22	14	13	22
110,000 families					

Oregon

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
5.3	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.5
2	1	1	1	1	1
2,512 births					
5.6	5.8	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.4
6	5	3	9	7	5
246 deaths					
28	24	22	22	21	18
26	21	17	20	19	9
117 deaths					
57	53	52	38	50	41
20	16	21	8	17	11
101 deaths					
30	27	26	25	23	21
27	24	24	24	23	23
1,477 births					
12	13	13	13	12	11
38	45	45	47	43	35
21,000 teens					
11	11	10	9	9	10
39	40	37	30	31	32
19,000 teens					
33	31	30	30	30	28
43	42	42	45	45	38
241,000 children					
16	17	16	17	16	15
20	21	19	26	27	27
127,500 children					
27	28	27	28	28	29
29	34	22	25	24	29
120,000 families					

Pennsylvania

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.5	7.6	7.6	7.9	7.7	7.9
25	25	23	30	28	28
11,346 births					
7.8	7.6	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.2
35	32	21	28	28	27
1,033 deaths					
21	23	21	21	20	20
6	17	14	16	12	16
450 deaths					
53	56	50	51	46	49
14	19	18	20	13	21
409 deaths					
24	21	21	20	20	18
14	8	12	12	16	10
4,384 births					
8	8	7	7	7	7
17	15	9	10	7	7
50,000 teens					
9	8	7	7	7	7
23	18	13	12	12	11
47,000 teens					
27	26	24	22	21	23
20	19	18	16	16	19
641,000 children					
17	17	17	17	14	13
25	21	23	26	16	17
372,200 children					
24	25	25	25	25	25
12	13	10	12	9	7
357,000 families					

Rhode Island

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.9	7.4	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.3
19	24	23	20	20	20
931 births					
5.2	7.0	7.0	5.7	6.3	6.8
4	22	16	6	14	23
86 deaths					
15	14	16	19	17	15
1	1	3	8	7	3
29 deaths					
24	39	29	22	40	31
1	8	1	1	9	2
22 deaths					
25	25	22	19	21	22
17	19	17	8	18	26
424 births					
11	12	11	10	10	10
35	40	36	30	30	29
5,000 teens					
9	11	10	9	8	9
23	40	37	30	21	27
4,000 teens					
30	28	25	24	23	25
36	30	22	23	20	26
62,000 children					
17	18	17	16	16	15
25	27	23	24	27	27
36,000 children					
28	29	30	29	29	29
36	38	42	39	32	29
34,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		South Carolina 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	South Dakota 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	9.2	9.2	9.5	9.8	9.7	9.6	5.8	5.5	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.4
	Rank	47	47	48	48	47	47	6	1	4	5	8	9
	2001 raw data	5,340 births						671 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	8.4	9.6	9.6	10.2	8.7	8.9	5.7	7.7	9.1	8.9	5.5	7.4
	Rank	38	48	47	50	45	46	7	34	44	45	6	31
	2001 raw data	496 deaths						78 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	37	26	28	28	25	26	36	28	36	26	35	33
	Rank	49	26	35	42	33	38	47	34	49	35	49	47
	2001 raw data	201 deaths						49 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	72	63	63	65	66	68	74	84	70	80	70	56
	Rank	33	29	32	36	39	42	35	47	38	45	42	29
	2001 raw data	195 deaths						35 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	39	38	37	36	35	32	23	22	20	20	19	19
	Rank	39	41	41	41	41	42	12	12	8	12	10	16
	2001 raw data	2,624 births						337 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	11	11	9	11	11	11	9	9	8	8	8	8
	Rank	35	34	23	35	35	35	23	25	16	14	13	13
	2001 raw data	26,000 teens						4,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	9	9	8	8	10	11	6	6	6	7	7	7
	Rank	23	26	22	24	35	41	6	5	7	12	12	11
	2001 raw data	26,000 teens						4,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	31	25	24	23	26	27	24	21	19	18	17	18
	Rank	38	17	18	19	33	36	14	8	4	5	3	3
	2001 raw data	272,000 children						33,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	25	23	23	22	19	18	20	19	19	18	15	15
	Rank	39	37	37	36	36	34	30	30	32	32	20	27
	2001 raw data	177,800 children						29,500 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	31	31	29	28	29	30	23	24	25	24	24	24
	Rank	43	44	40	25	32	36	8	10	10	7	6	6
	2001 raw data	142,000 families						22,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Tennessee

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.8	8.8	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.2
45	41	46	46	46	45
7,212 births					
8.5	8.6	8.2	7.7	9.1	8.7
39	41	36	35	47	44
681 deaths					
29	30	26	30	28	23
30	39	27	43	43	29
249 deaths					
80	75	77	70	73	65
40	43	44	38	44	38
253 deaths					
39	37	36	34	34	30
39	38	39	39	39	38
3,417 births					
13	13	12	11	11	11
44	45	41	35	35	35
36,000 teens					
13	13	11	10	10	11
47	48	44	38	35	41
34,000 teens					
27	26	24	25	27	29
20	19	18	27	35	43
411,000 children					
22	21	19	19	18	18
34	34	32	33	34	34
245,400 children					
29	30	31	29	29	30
40	42	44	39	32	36
211,000 families					

Texas

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.6
21	21	21	21	22	22
27,603 births					
6.3	6.4	6.4	6.2	5.7	5.9
15	15	11	13	9	13
2,171 deaths					
29	26	24	25	24	24
30	26	24	31	30	33
1,142 deaths					
67	66	59	54	57	54
31	32	29	22	28	27
891 deaths					
48	47	45	43	42	39
49	49	48	48	49	49
18,701 births					
13	13	12	12	13	12
44	45	41	41	47	43
154,000 teens					
12	11	11	10	10	10
44	40	44	38	35	32
121,000 teens					
28	27	27	26	24	24
25	25	30	31	24	23
1,491,000 children					
27	26	24	22	22	21
45	44	41	36	44	44
1,237,600 children					
26	26	27	27	27	27
20	18	22	18	18	16
755,000 families					

Utah

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4
17	15	15	15	14	9
3,077 births					
6.0	5.8	5.6	4.8	5.2	4.8
11	5	4	1	3	2
232 deaths					
24	27	24	20	20	20
18	30	24	11	12	16
110 deaths					
57	64	48	42	44	44
20	31	15	11	11	15
91 deaths					
22	22	20	21	21	19
8	12	8	16	18	16
1,086 births					
7	7	9	9	8	7
11	9	23	22	13	7
11,000 teens					
7	7	7	7	7	7
11	14	13	12	12	11
11,000 teens					
18	19	18	18	19	23
1	2	2	5	6	19
171,000 children					
11	12	13	13	10	11
2	3	2	2	3	4
78,500 children					
14	15	17	17	17	17
1	1	1	1	1	1
52,000 families					

Vermont

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.2	6.3	6.5	5.7	6.1	5.9
11	10	11	2	5	4
377 births					
7.1	6.1	7.0	5.8	6.0	5.5
23	10	16	9	11	7
35 deaths					
22	22	17	18	13	19
9	13	5	6	1	14
21 deaths					
45	25	74	46	55	38
9	1	42	14	23	5
17 deaths					
15	12	11	12	10	10
1	1	1	2	1	1
135 births					
6	7	6	6	7	7
4	9	4	3	7	7
2,000 teens					
7	8	8	7	6	6
11	18	22	12	8	6
2,000 teens					
25	24	24	24	24	23
16	13	18	23	24	19
31,000 children					
14	15	13	13	12	12
8	14	2	2	10	9
16,000 children					
24	26	26	27	28	28
12	18	15	18	24	22
22,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

Indicators		Virginia 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Washington 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Percent low-birthweight babies	Rate	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.8
	Rank	31	27	32	28	31	28	4	3	2	3	1	3
	2001 raw data	7,761 births						4,599 births					
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Rate	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.3	6.9	7.6	6.0	5.6	5.7	5.0	5.2	5.8
	Rank	33	35	32	28	26	35	11	4	5	3	3	10
	2001 raw data	747 deaths						459 deaths					
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1–14)	Rate	22	22	21	20	20	18	22	23	20	20	19	18
	Rank	9	13	14	11	12	9	9	17	12	11	10	9
	2001 raw data	242 deaths						213 deaths					
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19)	Rate	58	58	49	48	52	46	50	52	47	49	49	43
	Rank	23	23	17	16	21	16	12	15	13	17	16	13
	2001 raw data	228 deaths						189 deaths					
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17)	Rate	27	25	24	22	21	21	26	25	24	22	20	18
	Rank	21	19	18	18	18	23	18	19	18	18	16	10
	2001 raw data	2,914 births						2,253 births					
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16–19)	Rate	8	7	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	9	10	10
	Rank	17	9	16	14	13	13	23	15	16	22	30	29
	2001 raw data	29,000 teens						34,000 teens					
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16–19)	Rate	7	6	7	7	7	7	12	9	7	7	8	9
	Rank	11	5	13	12	12	11	44	26	13	12	21	27
	2001 raw data	26,000 teens						31,000 teens					
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	Rate	25	24	21	19	19	19	31	28	26	25	28	28
	Rank	16	13	11	8	6	5	38	30	27	27	37	38
	2001 raw data	349,000 children						429,000 children					
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1995 and 2000)	Rate	16	17	17	14	12	12	15	17	15	14	13	13
	Rank	20	21	23	8	10	9	14	21	8	8	14	17
	2001 raw data	211,900 children						196,800 children					
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	Rate	29	29	28	26	27	28	26	26	26	28	30	30
	Rank	40	38	34	14	18	22	20	18	15	25	38	36
	2001 raw data	230,000 families						221,000 families					

Multi-Year Trend Data for KIDS COUNT Indicators

West Virginia

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.0	8.3	8.0	8.0	8.3	8.5
37	38	34	33	38	39
1,730 births					
7.4	9.6	8.0	7.4	7.6	7.2
26	48	34	31	33	27
148 deaths					
31	28	23	25	30	21
39	34	20	31	44	19
65 deaths					
63	57	61	70	58	54
29	21	30	38	29	27
65 deaths					
28	27	26	24	23	23
23	24	24	22	23	28
784 births					
9	8	8	9	11	10
23	15	16	22	35	29
10,000 teens					
13	11	10	11	13	14
47	40	37	45	50	50
14,000 teens					
39	38	37	34	32	33
50	50	50	49	49	48
127,000 children					
30	30	25	24	24	22
47	48	44	46	47	46
85,400 children					
25	26	27	28	28	28
17	18	22	25	24	22
58,000 families					

Wisconsin

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6.3	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.6
12	13	11	13	13	14
4,552 births					
7.3	6.5	7.2	6.7	6.6	7.1
25	16	22	17	19	26
491 deaths					
22	21	24	24	20	21
9	9	24	30	12	19
214 deaths					
52	50	44	49	56	47
13	12	10	17	27	18
193 deaths					
22	22	20	21	19	18
8	12	8	16	10	10
2,170 births					
4	4	5	6	7	7
1	1	1	3	7	7
21,000 teens					
4	4	5	5	5	5
1	1	3	4	3	3
16,000 teens					
20	19	18	18	19	21
5	2	2	5	6	13
272,000 children					
14	12	14	14	11	11
8	3	6	8	6	4
147,300 children					
23	23	25	26	26	26
8	7	10	14	13	11
177,000 families					

Wyoming

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
8.4	9.0	8.9	8.4	8.3	8.3
39	46	44	40	38	37
510 births					
6.4	5.8	7.2	6.9	6.7	5.9
16	5	22	25	22	13
36 deaths					
35	30	31	34	27	29
45	39	44	48	39	42
27 deaths					
112	80	86	89	60	65
50	44	49	50	32	38
27 deaths					
26	24	24	23	19	18
18	18	18	20	10	10
220 births					
8	8	9	10	8	8
17	15	23	30	13	13
3,000 teens					
8	7	7	8	8	8
20	14	13	24	21	19
3,000 teens					
21	22	21	21	20	20
8	11	11	13	13	8
25,000 children					
16	14	15	15	15	14
20	7	8	18	20	22
17,000 children					
26	25	25	24	26	27
20	13	10	7	13	16
17,000 families					

USA

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
308,747 births					
7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.9	6.8
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
27,568 deaths					
26	25	23	23	22	22
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
12,202 deaths					
60	57	53	52	51	50
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
10,156 deaths					
33	31	30	28	27	25
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
145,324 births					
10	10	9	10	9	9
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1,488,000 teens					
9	9	8	8	8	8
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1,355,000 teens					
28	27	26	25	25	25
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
17,963,000 children					
21	21	20	19	17	16
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
11,587,100 children					
27	27	27	27	28	28
N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
9,679,000 families					

N.A.=Not Available.

Multi-Year Overall Ranks

The *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2004* is the 15th annual profile of child well-being produced by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. However, the indicators of child well-being have not been the same every year, making year-to-year comparisons of state ranks problematic. This chart provides Overall Ranks for 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001 using a consistent set of indicators—namely, those used to derive the 2001 Overall Ranks. The Overall Ranks for the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2004* are based on data from 2001 (the most recent available year).

	AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL
1996	47	29	42	45	30	19	12	26	38
1997	47	34	44	48	26	20	12	33	35
1998	46	29	45	47	26	24	12	34	35
1999	48	29	43	46	21	27	10	32	36
2000	48	39	45	46	20	26	6	36	35
2001	47	39	45	44	15	28	7	35	34

	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA
1996	44	14	21	34	16	10	20	40	49
1997	42	13	24	30	15	5	16	40	50
1998	44	16	21	33	15	5	17	36	49
1999	44	15	24	31	19	4	18	37	49
2000	41	23	22	30	21	5	18	38	49
2001	40	20	29	31	17	4	22	37	49

Multi-Year Overall Ranks

	ME	MD	MA	MI	MN	MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND
1996	6	23	7	28	4	50	33	24	11	35	1	8	48	32	39	2
1997	10	22	7	29	1	49	32	28	11	36	2	9	46	31	39	3
1998	11	19	4	27	2	50	30	28	8	40	1	7	48	32	41	9
1999	12	22	5	28	1	50	26	34	9	35	2	6	47	30	39	8
2000	12	17	9	29	1	50	31	32	11	33	2	4	47	27	40	8
2001	12	27	9	26	1	50	33	30	10	32	2	3	48	25	41	8

	OH	OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY
1996	25	36	27	18	13	46	15	43	37	3	9	22	17	41	5	31
1997	23	38	27	18	25	41	17	45	37	6	8	19	14	43	4	21
1998	25	37	22	14	20	42	23	43	38	3	13	18	10	39	6	31
1999	25	40	23	17	16	45	20	42	38	3	7	14	13	41	11	33
2000	28	34	25	13	19	42	15	44	37	3	7	14	16	43	10	24
2001	23	38	21	13	19	46	18	43	36	5	6	14	16	42	11	24

2-Year-Olds Who Were Immunized: 2002 is derived from the National Immunization Survey (NIS), which provides state estimates of vaccination coverage levels among children ages 19 months to 35 months. The survey data were collected for calendar year 2002. The figures given here reflect the percentage of children who have "4:3:1 Series Coverage"; that is, four or more doses of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis (DTP) vaccine, diphtheria and tetanus toxoids (DT) vaccine, and diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine; three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine; and one or more doses of measles-containing vaccine. The figures were derived from a national sample of 21,317 children with a minimum of about 270 children in each state.
SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "National, State, and Urban Area Vaccination Levels Among Children Aged 19–35 Months—United States, 2002," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report,* Vol. 52, No. 31 (August 8, 2003), pp. 728–732.

4th Grade Students Who Scored Below Basic Math Level: 2003 is the percentage of 4th grade public school students failing to reach the Basic proficiency level in mathematics, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

The math assessment measures five content areas: (1) numbers and operations; (2) measurement; (3) geometry; (4) data analysis; and (5) algebra and functions. The NAEP uses three proficiency categories—Advanced, Proficient, and Basic. Fourth grade students at the Basic level showed some basic understanding of the mathematical concepts and procedures in the five content areas. Scores on this measure are reported for every state and the District of Columbia.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Nation's Report Card Mathematics Highlights 2003,* NCES 2004–451 (Washington, DC: 2004), Figure 3, p. 7

4th Grade Students Who Scored Below Basic Reading Level: 2003 is the percentage of 4th grade public school students failing to reach the Basic proficiency level in reading, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

The reading assessment for grade 4 students measures two global purposes for reading—reading for literary experience and reading to gain information. The NAEP uses three proficiency categories—Advanced, Proficient, and Basic. Fourth grade students at the Basic level could show an understanding of the overall meaning of what they read. They could make obvious connections between the text and their own experiences and make simple inferences from the ideas in the text. Scores on this measure are reported for every state and the District of Columbia.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Nation's Report Card Reading Highlights 2003,* NCES 2004–452 (Washington, DC: 2004), Figure 3, p. 7.

8th Grade Students Who Scored Below Basic Math Level: 2003 is the percentage of 8th grade public school students failing to reach the Basic proficiency level in mathematics, as measured by the National Assessment of

Educational Progress (NAEP), which is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

The math assessment measures five content areas: (1) numbers and operations; (2) measurement; (3) geometry; (4) data analysis; and (5) algebra and functions. The NAEP uses three proficiency categories—Advanced, Proficient, and Basic. Eighth grade students at the Basic level showed some basic understanding in the content areas—in particular, they were able to understand and perform arithmetic operations on whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and percentages. Scores on this measure are reported for every state and the District of Columbia.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Nation's Report Card Mathematics Highlights 2003,* NCES 2004–451 (Washington, DC: 2004), Figure 4, p. 8.

8th Grade Students Who Scored Below Basic Reading Level: 2003 is the percentage of 8th grade public school students failing to reach the Basic proficiency level in reading, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

The reading assessment for grade 8 students measures three global purposes for reading—reading for literary experience, reading to gain information, and reading to perform a task. The NAEP uses three proficiency categories—Advanced, Proficient, and Basic. Eighth grade students at the Basic level could show a literal understanding of what they read and were able to make interpretations. They could identify specific portions of the text that reflect its overall meaning, make simple inferences from the text, relate ideas in the text to their own experiences, and draw some conclusions from what they read. Scores on this measure are reported for every state and the District of Columbia.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Nation's Report Card Reading Highlights 2003,* NCES 2004–452 (Washington, DC: 2004), Figure 4, p. 8.

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 place of residence, not place of death.

The rates from 1996 through 1999 are based on revised population estimates that are consistent with results from the 2000 Decennial Census. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) revised their rates from 1991 through 1999 to provide more accurate levels of fertility and mortality levels during the 1990s. As a result, the 1996–1999 rates shown here may differ slightly from those published in previous editions of the *Data Book.*

SOURCES: Death Statistics: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). **2001 data:** Special tabulations provided by CDC, NCHS, Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths by 10-Year Age Groups: United States and Each State, 2001." **2000 data:** CDC, NCHS, Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths by 10-Year Age Groups: United States and Each State, 2000," accessed online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/VS00100.TABLE23B_2000.pdf (January 10, 2003). **1999 data:** CDC, NCHS, Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths From 358 Selected Causes, by 5-Year Age Groups, Race and Sex: U.S. and Each State, 1999," accessed online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/VS00199.TABLEIII.PT1.pdf (October 23, 2001). **1998 data:** CDC, NCHS, Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths From 282 Selected Causes, by 5-Year Age Groups, Race and Sex: U.S. and Each State, 1998," accessed online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/98gm3_01.pdf (July 26, 2000). **1997 data:** CDC, NCHS, Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths From 282 Selected Causes, by 5-Year Age Groups, Race and Sex: U.S. and Each State, 1997," accessed online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/97gm3_01.pdf (October 27, 1999). **1996 data:** Special tabulations accessed online through CDC WONDER at wonder.cdc.gov (January 5, 1999). **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau. **2001 data:** State Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-6R.txt (November 21, 2003). **2000 data:** *Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100 Percent Data,* Table P14. **1999 data:** 1999 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1999.txt (November 21, 2003). **1998 data:** 1998 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1998.txt (November 21, 2003). **1997 data:** 1997 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1997.txt (November 21, 2003). **1996 data:** 1996 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1996.txt (November 21, 2003).

Children in Extreme Poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2001 is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 50 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In calendar year 2001, a family of two adults and two children fell in this category if their income fell below $8,980. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children).

The figures shown here represent 3-year averages of data from 2000 through 2002. We label these as 2001 estimates because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period. For any given year, the income data needed to determine poverty status are actually collected in March of the following year.

The March 2002 Current Population Survey (CPS) file incorporated a significant sample expansion—from about 50,000 to 78,000 interviewed households—compared to earlier CPS surveys. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the March 2002 file introduced population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes, the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/ads/adsmain.htm (sample expansion) and www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm (2000 Census population controls).

The procedures outlined above actually were first used on a test basis in early 2001. In late 2002, the U.S. Census Bureau released a "bridge" CPS file for March 2001, containing both the expanded sample and the 2000-based weights. It was this "bridge" file—and not the original March 2001 file—that was used to collect poverty data for 2000.

SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Demographic File, March 2001 (bridge file) and March 2002; and Annual Social and Economic Supplement, March 2003.

Children Without Health Insurance: 2001 is the percentage of children under age 18 who were not covered by health insurance at any point during the year. Health insurance includes private-sector insurance generally provided through work, as well as insurance provided through the public sector, such as Medicare and Medicaid. Children receiving health insurance through a variety of new State Child Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP) are counted as having health insurance. The figures shown here are 3-year averages of data from 2000 through 2002. We label these as 2001 estimates because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period. For any given year, data on health insurance status actually are collected in March of the following year.

The March 2002 Current Population Survey (CPS) file incorporated a significant sample expansion—from about 50,000 to 78,000 interviewed households—compared to earlier CPS surveys. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the March 2002 CPS file introduced population controls based on data from the 2000 Census.

(By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for health insurance, the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/ads/adsmain.htm (sample expansion) and www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm (2000 Census population controls).

The procedures outlined above actually were first used on a test basis in early 2001. In late 2002, the Bureau released a "bridge" CPS file for March 2001, containing both the expanded sample and the 2000-based weights. It was this "bridge" file—and not the original March 2001 file—that was used to collect health insurance data for 2000.

SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Demographic File, March 2001 (bridge file) and March 2002; and Annual Social and Economic Supplement, March 2003.

Disconnected Young Adults: 2002 are persons ages 18 to 24 who: (1) are not presently enrolled in school; (2) are not currently working; and (3) have no degree beyond a high school diploma or GED. This measure reflects those young adults who are considered having difficulty navigating what most would consider a successful transition to adulthood.

The data for this measure come from the 2002 American Community Survey (ACS), a special nationwide survey of 700,000 households that the U.S. Census Bureau conducted monthly during calendar year 2002. (The Bureau had conducted similar "supplementary surveys" in 2000 and 2001; both of these surveys used the questionnaire and methods developed for the ACS.) Beginning in mid-2004, the U.S. Census Bureau plans to expand the ACS sample to 3 million households. The ACS, when fully implemented, is designed to provide annually updated social, economic, and housing data for states and communities. (Such local-area data currently are collected once every 10 years in the long form of the decennial census.) The data for this variable—like all data from the ACS and the supplementary surveys—reflect annual averages of monthly data.

SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, special tabulations of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 American Community Survey.

Female-Headed Families Receiving Child Support or Alimony: 2001 is the percentage of families headed by an unmarried woman (living with one or more of her own children under age 18) receiving either child support or alimony payments during the previous calendar year. (Editions of the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* prior to 1998 referred to this measure as the Percent of Mother-Headed Families Receiving Child Support or Alimony.) "Own children" include never-married persons under age 18 who are the sons or daughters of the householder (head of household). The householder's stepchildren and adopted children also are counted as "own children." Families categorized as receiving child support or alimony include those receiving partial payment, as well as those receiving full payment. It also should be noted that there is no child support award in place in many of these families. Nationally, only 63 percent of all female-headed families had a child support award in place in 2001.

The figures shown here represent 3-year averages of data from 2000 through 2002. We label these as 2001 estimates because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period. For any given year, income and poverty data actually are collected in March of the following year.

The March 2002 Current Population Survey (CPS) file incorporated a significant sample expansion—from about 50,000 to 78,000 interviewed households—compared to earlier CPS surveys. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the March 2002 CPS file introduced population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for income, poverty, and health insurance, the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the general effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/ads/adsmain.htm (sample expansion) and www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm (2000 Census population controls).

The procedures outlined above actually were first used on a test basis in early 2001. In late 2002, the Bureau released a "bridge" CPS file for March 2001, containing both the expanded sample and the 2000-based weights. It was this "bridge" file—and not the original March 2001 file—that was used to collect child support and alimony data for 2000.

SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Demographic File, March 2001 (bridge file) and March 2002; and Annual Social and Economic Supplement, March 2003.

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 place of residence, not place of death.
SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **2001 data:** "Deaths: Final Data for 2001," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 52, No. 3 (September 18, 2003), Table 33. **2000 data:** "Deaths: Final Data for 2000," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 50, No. 15 (September 16, 2002), Table 36. **1999 data:** "Deaths: Final Data for 1999," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 49, No. 8 (September 21, 2001), Table 29. **1998 data:** "Deaths: Final Data for 1998," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 48, No. 11 (July 24, 2000), Table 31. **1997 data:** "Deaths: Final Data for 1997," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 47, No. 19 (June 30, 1999), Table 31. **1996 data:** "Deaths: Final Data for 1996," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 47, No. 9 (November 10, 1998), Table 31.

Median Income of Families With Children: 2001 is the median annual income for families with related children under age 18 living in the household. "Related children" include the householder's (head of the household) children by birth, marriage, or adoption; as well as other persons under age 18 (such as nieces or nephews) who are related to the householder and living in the household.

The median income is the dollar amount that divides the income distribution into two equal groups—half with income above the median, half with income below it. The figures shown here represent 3-year averages of data from 2000 through 2002 and are expressed in 2001 dollars. We label these as 2001 estimates because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period. All figures are rounded to the nearest $100. Income data for a given year are actually collected in March of the following year.

The March 2002 Current Population Survey (CPS) file incorporated a significant sample expansion—from about 50,000 to 78,000 interviewed households—compared to earlier CPS surveys. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the March 2002 CPS file introduced population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for income, the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the effects were relatively minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/ads/adsmain.htm (sample expansion) and www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm (2000 Census population controls).

The procedures outlined above actually were first used on a test basis in early 2001. In late 2002, the U.S. Census Bureau released a "bridge" CPS file for March 2001, containing both the expanded sample and the 2000-based weights. It was this "bridge" file—and not the original March 2001 file—that was used to collect income data for 2000.
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Demographic File, March 2001 (bridge file) and March 2002; and Annual Social and Economic Supplement, March 2003.

Definitions and Data Sources

Number of Children and Young Adults: 2002 is the total resident population as of July 1, 2002, including Armed Forces personnel stationed in the area and their dependents. These data come from the U.S. Census Bureau, State Characteristics Population Estimates File. We present data for three specific population groups: (1) Total state population, (2) Total young adults ages 18–24, and (3) Total children under age 18.
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, State Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-6R.txt (November 21, 2003).

Number of Juveniles Detained, Incarcerated, or Placed in Residential Facilities: 2001 is the total number of youth who were in juvenile facilities as of October 2001. The figures come from the 2001 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, which was conducted by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the U.S. Department of Justice. These are the most recent data available. Figures include persons under age 21 who, as of October 24, 2001, had been: (1) charged with or adjudicated for an offense; (2) assigned a bed in a facility that can hold accused or convicted juvenile offenders; and (3) placed in the facility because of the offense. The figure for the United States includes 2,435 juvenile offenders in private facilities for whom the state where the offense was committed was not reported, plus 194 offenders in tribal facilities. It should be noted that some juveniles are housed in adult prisons and are not included here. The figures presented here do not include a small number of individuals who are in facilities exclusively intended for drug or mental health treatment even though some offenders are in such facilities. The figures presented here include both pre-adjudicated and post-adjudicated individuals.
SOURCE: Melissa Sickmund and Yi-chun Wan, "Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook" (2001), accessed online at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/cjrp (February 12, 2004).

Number of Mothers Under Age 20: 2002 reflects the total number of females below age 20 who gave birth as teens. This figure is different from the teen birth rate, which reflects just one year of births. This figure reflects the accumulation of teen births over several years. For example, a female who was age 19 in 2002, but had given birth as a 14-year-old is included in the estimate of teen mothers even though she did not have a birth in 2002. The state figures do not account for interstate migration of teen mothers, but the interstate migration rate is quite small for people in this age range.

The teen motherhood figure is based on first births reported in the Natality Data Sets distributed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Child Trends staff tabulated birth certificate records for births from 1997 to 2002, counting all first births that occurred to 10- to 19-year-olds in 2002, 10- to 18-year-olds in 2001, 10- to 17-year-olds in 2000, 10- to 16-year-olds in 1999, 10- to 15-year-olds in 1998, and 10- to 14-year-olds in 1997. Because births to girls ages 10–14 are not available by single year of age in the original data source, first births that occurred to 10- to 14-year-olds between 1993 and 1996 are not included because they may be over age 19. With this exception (which accounts for a very small number of first births), the accumulation of these figures provides data on the total number of females ages 10–19 in 2002 who had a birth as a teenager.
SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, special tabulations of first births from the 1997–2002 Natality Data Sets, Numbers 9–16, Series 21.

Number of Persons Ages 15–19 in Foster Care: 2001 is the total number of youth in the 15–19 age group who were reported as being in the foster care system at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 (September 30, 2001). Children who were in foster care at some point during FY 2001, but were not in foster care on September 30, are not included. The Children's Bureau in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services initially collected these data from each state and the District of Columbia. An electronic data file was made available by the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect at Cornell University, as part of the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). These data have been assembled every year for the past several years, but FY 2001 was the first year that had data available for every state. Data for FY 2001 are the most recent available. Child Trends processed the file to select only those persons ages 15–19 who were still in foster care on September 30, 2001, for analysis. The file contains a small number of duplications that could not be removed from the tabulations shown here.
SOURCE: Child Trends, analysis of data from the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, Cornell University, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), 2001.

Overall Rank for each state was obtained in the following manner. First, we converted the 2001 numerical values for each of the 10 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. (Because we did not rank the District of Columbia, we did not include data for the District in our calculations of standard scores. See page 32 of the *Data Book* for an explanation of why we did not rank the District.) All measures were given the same weight in calculating the overall standard score. In other words, no attempt was made to judge the relative importance of each indicator.

Percent Change Over Time Analysis was computed by comparing the 2001 data for each of the 10 indicators with the data for the base year (1996). To calculate percent change, we subtracted the value for 1996 from the value for 2001, then divided that quantity by the value for 1996. 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.

Percent Low-Birthweight Babies is the share of live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). The data are reported by place of mother's residence, not place of birth. Each year there are a small number of births in which the weight of the newborn is not recorded, and births of unknown weight are not included in these calculations. In 2001, 3,179 births were of unknown weight.
SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **2001 data:** "Births: Final Data for 2001," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 51, No. 2, (December 18, 2002), Table 46. **2000 data:** "Births: Final Data for 2000," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 50, No. 5, (February 12, 2002), Table 46. **1999 data:** "Births: Final Data for 1999," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 49, No. 1, (April 17, 2001), Table 46. **1998 data:** "Births: Final Data for 1998," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 48, No. 3, (March 28, 2000), Table 46. **1997 data:** "Births: Final Data for 1997," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 47, No. 18, (April 29, 1999), Table 46. **1996 data:** "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1996," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11, Supplement (June 30, 1998), Table 46.

Percent of 18- to 24-Year-Olds in Poverty: 2002 is the share of young adults between ages 18 and 24 who either live alone (or with nonrelatives) and have incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, or who live in families with incomes below the poverty level, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In calendar year 2002, for example, persons under age 65 who lived alone were considered poor if their income fell below $9,359. (A family of two adults and two children fell below poverty if their 2002 income was less than $18,244.) Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children).

Definitions and Data Sources

The data for this measure come from the 2002 American Community Survey (ACS), a special nationwide survey of 700,000 households that the U.S. Census Bureau conducted monthly during calendar year 2002. (The Bureau had conducted similar "supplementary surveys" in 2000 and 2001; both of these surveys used the questionnaire and methods developed for the ACS.) Beginning in mid-2004, the U.S. Census Bureau plans to expand the ACS sample to 3 million households. The ACS, when fully implemented, is designed to provide annually updated social, economic, and housing data for states and communities. (Such local-area data currently are collected once every 10 years in the long form of the decennial census.) The data for this variable—like all data from the ACS and the supplementary surveys—reflect annual averages of monthly data. In the ACS, the questions used to determine poverty status measure income received during the 12 months prior to the survey. Therefore, income data collected in June 2002 reflect income since June 2001.
SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, special tabulations of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 American Community Survey.

Percent of Children in Poverty is the share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 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. In 2000, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was $17,463. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children).

Since the 2000 *Data Book*, we have used information from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) series of the U.S. Census Bureau, which provides annual state-level estimates of income and poverty (including child poverty). This series was developed to help the U.S. Department of Education distribute roughly $8 billion each year in Title I funds. In addition, it is now used in connection with the federal welfare reform legislation passed in 1996.

The SAIPE program uses a model-based estimation technique to create annual state- and county-level income and poverty estimates, as well as income and poverty estimates for school districts in odd-numbered years. State-level estimates currently are available for 1989, 1993, and each year from 1995 through 2000. (County-level estimates also are available for each of the years listed above *except* 1996.) Because the most recent SAIPE estimate for child poverty is for 2000, we used it in our calculation of the National Composite Rank for this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book*—even though this year's composite ranking is based on 2001 data for the other 9 indicators.
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program, data accessed online at www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe.html (November 20, 2003).

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. This measure is very similar to the measure called "Secure Parental Employment," used by the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics in its publication *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being.*

For children living in single-parent families, this means the resident parent did not work at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the previous calendar year. For children living in married-couple families, this means neither parent worked at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the previous calendar year. Children living with neither parent also were listed as not having secure parental employment because those children are likely to be economically vulnerable. The figures shown here reflect 3-year averages; for example, the figure for 2001 reflects an average of data from 2000 through 2002. (We label this figure as a 2001 estimate because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period.) For any given year, employment data are collected in March of the following year.

The March 2002 Current Population Survey (CPS) file incorporated a significant sample expansion—from about 50,000 to 78,000 interviewed households—compared to earlier CPS surveys. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the March 2002 CPS file introduced population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for income, poverty, and health insurance, the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the general effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/ads/adsmain.htm (sample expansion) and

www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm (2000 Census population controls).

The procedures outlined above actually were first used on a test basis in early 2001. In late 2002, the Bureau released a "bridge" CPS file for March 2001, containing both the expanded sample and the 2000-based weights. It was this "bridge" file—and not the original March 2001 file—that was used to collect parental employment data for 2000.

SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Demographic File, March 1996 through 2002 (including March 2001 bridge file); and Annual Social and Economic Supplement, March 2003.

Percent of Families With Children Headed by a Single Parent is the percentage of all families with own children under age 18 living in the household, who are headed by a person—male or female—without a spouse present in the home. "Own children" include never-married persons under age 18 who are the sons or daughters of the householder (head of household). The householder's stepchildren and adopted children also are counted as "own children."

This measure is based on analysis of the 12-month Current Population Survey (CPS) file maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Questions regarding family type are collected for all family households each month. A yearly average was calculated based on responses for the 12 months in the calendar year. The figures shown here represent 3-year averages. For example, the figure for 2001 represents an average of data from 2000 through 2002. (We label this figure as a 2001 estimate because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period.)

Families with either spouse in the military are not included in this analysis because their inclusion would introduce a small bias in our estimate. The CPS sample does not include families where the only adult in the family is in the military, but it does include military families where one of the spouses is in the civilian labor force. Therefore, the only military families included in the CPS are two-parent families where one spouse is in the civilian labor force and one is in the military. This discrepancy would introduce a slight downward bias in the estimate of the percent of children in single-parent families if military families were included.

Beginning in July 2001, the basic CPS expanded its sample from about 50,000 to 60,000 interviewed households. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the 12-month CPS file from 2002 has incorporated population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for income, poverty, and health insurance (items measured in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement conducted in March), the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the general effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm.

Like all estimates derived from samples, these figures contain some amount of random error. The Bureau of Labor Statistics suggests that state rankings based on these figures should be used with caution.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, special tabulations of Current Population Survey microdata from 1995 through 2002.

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."

This measure is based on analysis of the 12-month Current Population Survey (CPS) file maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Each month the CPS asks a nationwide sample of respondents questions regarding activities related to the labor force and education. Questions regarding school enrollment and employment are asked of all 16- to 19-year-olds in the sample each month. A yearly average was calculated based on responses for the 9 months students typically are in school (September through May). The figures shown here represent 3-year averages. For example, the figure for 2001 represents an average of data from 2000 through 2002. (We label this figure as a 2001 estimate because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period.)

Beginning in July 2001, the basic CPS expanded its sample from about 50,000 to 60,000 interviewed households. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the 12-month CPS file from 2002 has incorporated population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for income, poverty, and health insurance (items measured in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement conducted in March), the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the general effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm.

Like all estimates derived from samples, these figures contain some amount of random error. The Bureau of Labor Statistics suggests that state rankings based on these figures should be used with caution.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, special tabulations of Current Population Survey microdata from 1995 through 2002.

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts (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 by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) as shown in their publication *Dropout Rates in the United States: 2000* (p. 2). We used data from the 12-month Current Population Survey (CPS) because it provides systematic information for all states. Currently, only 45 states have submitted event dropout data to the NCES that meets quality and comparability levels needed to justify publishing estimates (see NCES, *Public High School Dropouts and Completers From the Common Core of Data: School Year 2000–01*, p. 2). For the measure presented here, we focus on teens ages 16 to 19, rather than young adults ages 16 to 24 (which is the focus of *Dropout Rates in the United States: 2000*), because a large share of 18- to 24-year-olds migrate across state lines each year. The high interstate migration rates of 18- to 24-year-olds confound the connection between state policies and programs and state dropout rates.

This measure is based on analysis of the 12-month CPS file maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Each month the CPS asks a nationwide sample of respondents questions regarding their activities related to the labor force and education. A yearly average was calculated based on responses for the 9 months students typically are in school (September through May). The figures shown here represent 3-year averages. For example, the figure for 2001 represents an average of data from 2000 to 2002. (We label this figure as a 2001 estimate because 2001 is the midpoint of the 3-year period.)

Beginning in July 2001, the basic CPS expanded its sample from about 50,000 to 60,000 interviewed households. Although done primarily to produce better state-level estimates of the number of children without health insurance, estimates for other variables also improved. In addition, the 12-month CPS file from 2002 has incorporated population controls based on data from the 2000 Census. (By contrast, population controls for earlier survey years are based on the 1990 Census.) In analyzing the effects of these changes for income, poverty, and health insurance (items measured in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement conducted in March), the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the general effects were minor. More detailed analyses are available at www.bls.census.gov/cps/tp/tp63.htm.

Like all estimates derived from samples, these figures contain some amount of random error. The Bureau of Labor Statistics suggests

that state rankings based on these figures should be used with caution.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, special tabulations of Current Population Survey microdata from 1995 through 2002.

Race and Hispanic Origin of Young Adults (ages 18–24): 2002 provides mutually exclusive categories for the largest racial and ethnic groups, as currently measured by the U.S. Census Bureau in the aftermath of the 2000 Decennial Census. As in previous years, the 2000 Census used two distinct questions to collect data on race and Hispanic origin. One question was used to identify an individual's race; the other, to ascertain whether that person was of Hispanic origin. Consequently, persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. (For example, a person of Puerto Rican ancestry may be both black and Hispanic.)

Unlike previous censuses, however, the 2000 Census form allowed individuals to select more than one race. This was the result of a 1997 directive from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. For example, people of white and African-American heritage could check both the "White" and "Black/African American" boxes on their census forms.

In addition, the race question in Census 2000 had a "Some Other Race" category, for the benefit of persons who identified with a group other than those listed—White, Black, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. About 15.4 million persons (5.5 million children under age 18) listed themselves in the "Some Other Race" category in 2000, and while the overwhelming majority of those (97 percent) were Hispanic/Latino, some—Arab Americans, for example—were not. In the U.S. Census Bureau's post-2000 population estimates, persons in the "Some Other Race" category have been incorporated into one (or more) of the major racial or ethnic groups.

In order to provide mutually exclusive groupings, we did two things. First, persons who marked more than one race were placed in their own separate category. Second, Hispanics/Latinos were removed from each of the racial categories—including the "More than one race" group. In other words, the racial categories used here ("White," "Black/African American," "American Indian/Alaskan Native," "Asian," "Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander," and "More than one race") do not include anyone who indicated that they were Hispanic or Latino. Those persons who did consider themselves Hispanic or Latino were included in the "Hispanic/Latino" category.

It is important to note that the "More than one race" category includes 26 different racial combinations—from the most common (such as white/American Indian, white/Asian, and white/black) to all combinations of three or more racial groups. Therefore, persons in this group are quite diverse.

The 2002 figures reflect the resident population ages 18 to 24 as of July 1, 2002, including dependents of Armed Forces personnel stationed in the area.
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, State Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-6R.txt (November 21, 2003).

Rate of Teen Deaths by Accident, Homicide, and Suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15–19) is the number of deaths from

accidents, homicides, and suicides to teens between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. (Editions of the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* prior to 1997 referred to this measure as the Teen Violent Death Rate.) The data are reported by place of residence, not the place where the death occurred.

Beginning with data for 1999, causes of death have been reclassified to be consistent with the Tenth Revision of the *International Classification of Diseases* (ICD-10), which replaces the Ninth Revision (ICD-9) that had been used for data from 1979 to 1998. To facilitate better comparability over time, accident, homicide, and suicide data for 1996 through 1998 have been retabulated using the new ICD-10 codes. The effect the new classification had on this measure is to remove deaths due to "adverse effects" (such as bad reactions to medication) from the "accident" category, and to remove deaths as a result of legal intervention (such as executions) from the "homicide" category. ("Adverse effects" and "legal intervention" account for less than 1 percent of all deaths from accident, homicide, and suicide. For more on the effects of the new ICD revision, please see Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "Comparability of Cause of Death Between ICD-9 and ICD-10: Preliminary Estimates," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 49, No. 2, May 18, 2001.)

The rates from 1996 through 1999 are based on revised population estimates that are consistent with results from the 2000 Decennial Census. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) revised their rates from 1991 through 1999 to provide more accurate estimates of fertility and mortality levels during the 1990s. As a result, the 1996 to 1999 rates shown here may differ slightly from those published in previous editions of the *Data Book*. **SOURCES: Death Statistics: 2001 data:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), special tabulations accessed online through NCIPC at http://webapp.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate.html (November 14, 2003). **2000 data:** NCIPC special tabulations accessed online through NCIPC at http://webapp.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate.html (January 17, 2003). **1999 data:** CDC, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths From 358 Selected Causes, by 5-Year Age Groups, Race and Sex: U.S. and Each State, 1999," accessed online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/VS00199.TABLEIII.PT4.pdf (October 23, 2001). **1996 through 1998 data:** CDC, NCIPC, special tabulations accessed online through NCIPC at http://webapp.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate.html (January 28, 2002). **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau. **2001 data:** State Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-6R.txt (November 21, 2003). **2000 data:** *Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100 Percent Data,* Table P14. **1999 data:** 1999 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1999.txt (November 21, 2003). **1998 data:** 1998 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1998.txt (November 21, 2003). **1997 data:** 1997 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1997.txt (November 21, 2003). **1996 data:** 1996 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1996.txt (November 21, 2003).

Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15–17) is the number of births to teenagers between ages 15 and 17 per 1,000 females in this age group. Data reflect the mother's place of residence, rather than place of birth. This measure of teenage childbearing focuses on the fertility of all females ages 15 to 17, regardless of marital status.

We focus on births to 15- to 17-year-olds rather than the broader age range of 15- to 19-year-olds because there is a consensus that births to females ages 15 to 17 are more problematic. We omitted births to females under age 15, since less than 5 percent of teen births occurred to females in that age group. The inclusion of females under age 15 in the denominator would dramatically lower the rate, providing an unrealistic assessment of the true risk being faced by 15- to 17-year-old females.

The rates from 1996 through 1999 are based on revised population estimates that are consistent with results from the 2000 Decennial Census. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) revised their rates from 1991 through 1999 to provide more accurate estimates of fertility and mortality levels during the 1990s. The U.S. Census Bureau's data set for state-level intercensal estimates only had data for 5-year age groups after age 1. (In other words, the data set had 1996 to 1999 state estimates for females ages

15 to 19, but not for females ages 15 to 17.) As a result, staff at the Population Reference Bureau generated state-level estimates of 15- to 17-year-old females by first calculating the ratio of females ages 15 to 17 nationwide to females ages 15 to 19, then applying the ratio to each state's female population ages 15 to 19, making sure the sum of the newly-derived state figures matched the independent national total for females ages 15 to 17. Because of the new data set and the methods mentioned above, the 1996–1999 rates shown here may differ slightly from those published in previous editions of the *Data Book*.

SOURCES: Birth Statistics: 2001 data: Child Trends, Inc., *Facts at a Glance* (Washington, DC: 2003), Table 1. **2000 data:** Child Trends, Inc., *Facts at a Glance* (Washington, DC: 2002), Table 1. **1999 data:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), "Births: Final Data for 1999," *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 49, No. 1 (April 17, 2001), Table 10; and Child Trends, Inc., *Facts at a Glance* (Washington, DC: 2001), Table 1. **1998 data:** CDC, NCHS, "Births: Final Data for 1998," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 48, No. 3 (March 28, 2000), Table 10; and Child Trends, Inc., analysis of unpublished tabulations from the NCHS. **1997 data:** CDC, NCHS, "Declines in Teenage Birth Rates, 1991–1998: Update of National and State Trends," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 47, No. 26 (October 25, 1999), Table 2; and unpublished tabulations from NCHS. **1996 data:** CDC, NCHS, "Declines in Teenage Birth Rates, 1991–1997: National and State Patterns," *National Vital Statistics Reports,* Vol. 47, No. 12 (December 17, 1998), Table 4; and unpublished tabulations from the NCHS. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau. **2001 data:** State Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-6R.txt (November 21, 2003). **2000 data:** *Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100 Percent Data,* Table P14. **1999 data:** 1999 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1999.txt (November 21, 2003). **1998 data:** 1998 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1998.txt (November 21, 2003). **1997 data:** 1997 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1997.txt (November 21, 2003). **1996 data:** 1996 Intercensal State and County Characteristics Population Estimates File, accessed online at eire.census.gov/popest/data/states/files/STCH-icen1996.txt (November 21, 2003).

Criteria for Selecting KIDS COUNT Indicators

Over the past several years, a set of criteria has been developed to select the statistical indicators used in the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* to measure change over time and to rank the states. These criteria are described below.

1. Data must be from a reliable source. All of the indicator data used in this book come from U.S. government statistical agencies. Most of the data have been published or released to the public in some other form before we use them.

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

3. The statistical indicator must be available and consistent across all states. In practical terms, 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 change over time in a single state, but unless all of the states follow the same data collection and reporting procedures, the statistics are not likely to be comparable across states.

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.

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, then 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 in order to track changes in the well-being of children. Data collected only at one point in time don't serve this purpose.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation funds a nationwide network of KIDS COUNT projects that provide a more detailed, community-by-community picture of the condition of children.

Alabama VOICES for Alabama's Children	PO Box 4576 Montgomery, AL 36103 334.213.2410 ext. 101 334.213.2413 (fax)	Apreill Curtis-Hartsfield *Coordinator of Policy and Programs* achartsfield@alavoices.org www.alavoices.org
Alaska KIDS COUNT Alaska University of Alaska—Anchorage Institute of Social and Economic Research	3211 Providence Dr. Anchorage, AK 99508 907.786.5431 907.786.7739 (fax)	Virgene Hanna *Project Director* anvh@uaa.alaska.edu www.kidscount.alaska.edu
Arizona Children's Action Alliance	4001 North 3rd St. Suite 160 Phoenix, AZ 85012 602.266.0707 602.263.8792 (fax)	Dana Naimark *Vice President for Policy* dnaimark@azchildren.org www.azchildren.org
Arkansas Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families	523 S Louisiana Suite 700 Little Rock, AR 72201-4531 501.371.9678 501.371.9681 (fax)	Paul Kelly *Interim Executive Director* paul.kelly@aradvocates.org www.aradvocates.org
California Children Now	1212 Broadway 5th Floor Oakland, CA 94612 510.763.2444 510.763.1974 (fax)	Sara Grossman-Swenson *Senior Policy Associate* sgrossman@childrennow.org www.childrennow.org
Colorado Colorado Children's Campaign	1120 Lincoln St. Suite 125 Denver, CO 80203-1604 303.839.1580 ext. 232 303.839.1354 (fax)	Kaye Boeke *KIDS COUNT Director* kaye@coloradokids.org www.coloradokids.org

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

Connecticut Connecticut Association for Human Services	110 Bartholomew Ave. Suite 4030 Hartford, CT 06106 860.951.2212 ext. 240 860.951.6511 (fax)	Judith Carroll *Director, KIDS COUNT Project* jcarroll@cahs.org www.cahs.org
Delaware University of Delaware	298K Graham Hall Newark, DE 19716 302.831.4966 302.831.4987 (fax)	Terry Schooley *KIDS COUNT Project Director* terrys@.udel.edu www.dekidscount.org
District of Columbia DC Children's Trust Fund	1616 P St., NW Suite 150 Washington, DC 20036-4960 202.667.4940 202.667.2477 (fax)	Kinaya Sokoya *Executive Director* ksokoya@dcctf.org www.dckidscount.org
Florida Center for the Study of Children's Futures—Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute University of South Florida	13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. Tampa, FL 33612 813.974.7411 813.974.8534 (fax)	Susan Weitzel *Director* weitzel@fmhi.usf.edu www.floridakidscount.org
Georgia Family Connection Partnership, Inc.	235 Peachtree St. Suite 1600, North Tower Atlanta, GA 30303 404.527.7394 ext. 136 404.527.7443 (fax)	Taifa Butler *Director, Public Affairs and Policy* taifa@gafcp.org www.georgiafamilyconnection.org
Hawaii Center on the Family University of Hawaii—Manoa	2515 Campus Rd. Miller Hall 103 Honolulu, HI 96822 808.956.6394 808.956.4147 (fax)	Marika Ripke *KIDS COUNT Project Director* marika@hawaii.edu www.uhfamily.hawaii.edu

Idaho Mountain States Group	1607 W Jefferson St. Boise, ID 83702 208.388.1014 208.331.0267 (fax)	Linda Jensen *KIDS COUNT Director* ljensen@mtnstatesgroup.org www.idahokidscount.org
Illinois Voices for Illinois Children	208 South LaSalle St. Suite 1490 Chicago, IL 60604 312.516.5551 312.456.0088 (fax)	Julie Parente *Director of Communications* jparente@voices4kids.org www.voices4kids.org
Indiana Indiana Youth Institute	603 E Washington St. Suite 800 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2692 317.396.2714 317.396.2701 (fax)	Angela Miller *Director of Programs* amiller@iyi.org www.iyi.org
Iowa Child & Family Policy Center	218 Sixth Ave. Suite 1021 Des Moines, IA 50309 515.280.9027 515.244.8997 (fax)	Michael Crawford *Senior Associate* mcrawford@cfpciowa.org www.cfpciowa.org
Kansas Kansas Action for Children	3360 SW Harrison St. Topeka, KS 66611 785.232.0550 ext. 314 785.232.0699 (fax)	Gary Brunk *Executive Director* brunk@kac.org www.kac.org
Kentucky Kentucky Youth Advocates, Inc.	2034 Frankfort Ave. Louisville, KY 40206 502.895.8167 502.895.8225 (fax)	Tara Grieshop-Goodwin *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* tgrieshop@kyyouth.org www.kyyouth.org

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

Louisiana Agenda for Children	PO Box 51837 New Orleans, LA 70151 504.586.8509 504.586.8522 (fax)	Shannon Johnson *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* sjohnson@agendaforchildren.org www.agendaforchildren.org
Maine Maine Children's Alliance	303 State St. Augusta, ME 04330 207.623.1868 ext. 204 207.626.3302 (fax)	Lynn Davey *KIDS COUNT Director* ldavey@mekids.org www.mekids.org
Maryland Advocates for Children & Youth	34 Market Pl. 5th Floor, Bernstein Bldg. Baltimore, MD 21202 410.547.9200 ext. 3014 410.547.8690 (fax)	Jennean Everett-Reynolds *KIDS COUNT Project Director* jenneanr@aol.com www.acy.org
Massachusetts Massachusetts Citizens for Children	14 Beacon St. Suite 706 Boston, MA 02108 617.742.8555 ext. 5 617.742.7808 (fax)	Barry Hock *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* barry@masskids.org www.masskids.org
Michigan Michigan League for Human Services	1115 S Pennsylvania Ave. Suite 202 Lansing, MI 48912-1658 517.487.5436 517.371.4546 (fax)	Jane Zehnder-Merrell *KIDS COUNT Project Director* janez@mlan.net www.milhs.org
Minnesota Children's Defense Fund—Minnesota	200 University Ave. W Suite 210 St. Paul, MN 55103 651.855.1175 651.227.2553 (fax)	Diane Benjamin *KIDS COUNT Director* benjamin@cdf-mn.org www.cdf-mn.org

Mississippi Mississippi Forum on Children and Families, Inc.	737 N President St. Jackson, MS 39202 601.355.4911 601.355.4813 (fax)	Jane Boykin *President and Project Director* jane.boykin@mfcf.org www.mfcf.org
Missouri Citizens for Missouri's Children	606 E Capitol Jefferson City, MO 65101 573.634.4324 573.634.7540 (fax)	Cande Iveson *KIDS COUNT Project Director* civeson@mokids.org www.mokids.org
Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research—University of Montana School of Business Administration	234 Gallagher Business Bldg. Missoula, MT 59812-6840 406.243.2725 406.243.2086 (fax)	Steve Seninger *Director of Economic Analysis* steve.seninger@business.umt.edu www.bber.mt.edu/kidscountmt
Nebraska Voices for Children in Nebraska	7521 Main St. Suite 103 Omaha, NE 68127 402.597.3100 402.597.2705 (fax)	Anne Baker *Research Coordinator* abaker@voicesforchildren.com www.voicesforchildren.com
Nevada Center for Business and Economic Research University of Nevada—Las Vegas	4505 S Maryland Pkwy. Box 456002 Las Vegas, NV 89154-6002 702.895.3191 702.895.3606 (fax)	R. Keith Schwer *Director* schwer@unlv.nevada.edu http://kidscount.unlv.edu
New Hampshire Children's Alliance of New Hampshire	2 Greenwood Ave. Concord, NH 03301 603.225.2264 603.225.8264 (fax)	Ellen Shemitz *President* eshemitz@childrennh.org www.childrennh.org

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

New Jersey Association for Children of New Jersey	35 Halsey St. Newark, NJ 07102 973.643.3876 973.643.9153 (fax)	Nancy Parello *NJ KIDS COUNT Coordinator* nparello@acnj.org www.acnj.org
New Mexico New Mexico Voices for Children	801 Encino Place NE Suite F21 Albuquerque, NM 87102 505.244.9505 505.244.9509 (fax)	Kelly O'Donnell *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* kodonnell@nmvoices.org www.nmvoices.org
New York New York State Council on Children & Families	5 Empire State Plaza Suite 2810 Albany, NY 12223-1533 518.473.3652 518.473.2570 (fax)	Deborah Benson *Director of Policy Planning and Research* debbie.benson@ccf.state.ny.us www.ccf.state.ny.us
North Carolina North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute	311 E Edenton St. Raleigh, NC 27601-1017 919.834.6623 ext. 233 919.829.7299 (fax)	Joann Haggerty *Research and Data Director* joann@ncchild.org www.ncchild.org
North Dakota North Dakota State University Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics	IACC 424 PO Box 5636 Fargo, ND 58105-5636 701.231.5931 701.231.9730 (fax)	Richard Rathge *Professor and Director* richard.rathge@ndsu.nodak.edu www.ndkidscount.org
Ohio Children's Defense Fund—Ohio	629 Oak St. Suite 400 Cincinnati, OH 45206 513.751.2332 513.751.2003(fax)	Mason Gray *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* mgray@cdfcinti.org www.cdfohio.org

Oklahoma Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy	420 NW 13th St. Suite 101 Oklahoma City, OK 73103 405.236.5437 405.236.5439 (fax)	Anne Roberts *Executive Director* aroberts@oica.org www.oica.org
Oregon Children First for Oregon	PO Box 14914 Portland, OR 97293-0914 503.236.9754 ext. 103 503.236.3048 (fax)	Tina Kotek *Policy Director* tina@cffo.org www.childrenfirstfororegon.org
Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children	20 N Market Sq. Suite 300 Harrisburg, PA 17101-1632 717.236.5680 ext. 105 717.236.7745 (fax)	Joan Benso *President and CEO* president@papartnerships.org www.papartnerships.org
Puerto Rico National Council of La Raza	201 De Diego Ave., Suite 221 Plaza San Francisco San Juan, PR 00927 787.641.0546 787.641.0545 (fax)	Nayda Rivera-Hernandez *Research Analyst* nrivera@nclr.org www.nclr.org
Rhode Island Rhode Island KIDS COUNT	1 Union Station Providence, RI 02903 401.351.9400 ext. 12 401.351.1758 (fax)	Elizabeth Burke Bryant *Executive Director* ebb@rikidscount.org www.rikidscount.org
South Carolina South Carolina Budget & Control Board—Office of Research & Statistics	1000 Assembly St., Room 460 Rembert C. Dennis Bldg. Columbia, SC 29201 803.734.2291 803.734.3619 (fax)	A. Baron Holmes *KIDS COUNT Project Director* bholmes@ogc.state.sc.us www.sckidscount.org

Primary Contacts for State KIDS COUNT Projects

South Dakota Business Research Bureau University of South Dakota	414 E Clark St. Vermillion, SD 57069-2390 605.677.5287 605.677.5427 (fax)	Carole Cochran *Project Director, South Dakota KIDS COUNT* ccochran@usd.edu www.usd.edu/brbinfo
Tennessee Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth	Andrew Johnson Tower, 9th Floor 710 James Robertson Pkwy. Nashville, TN 37243-0800 615.532.1571 615.741.5956 (fax)	Pam Brown *Director, KIDS COUNT Project* pam.k.brown@state.tn.us www.tennessee.gov/tccy/
Texas Center for Public Policy Priorities	900 Lydia St. Austin, TX 78702 512.320.0222 ext. 106 512.320.0227 (fax)	Dayna Finet *Senior Research Associate* finet@cppp.org www.cppp.org/kidscount
U.S. Virgin Islands The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands	PO Box 11790 St. Thomas, USVI 00801 340.774.6031 340.774.3852 (fax)	Dee Baecher-Brown *Executive Director* dbrown@cfvi.net www.fdncenter.org/grantmaker/cfvi
Utah Voices for Utah Children	757 E South Temple St. Suite 250 Salt Lake City, UT 84102 801.364.1182 801.364.1186 (fax)	Terry Haven *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* terryh@utahchildren.org www.utahchildren.org
Vermont Vermont Children's Forum	PO Box 261 Montpelier, VT 05601 802.229.6377 802.229.4929 (fax)	Beth Burgess *Research Coordinator* bburgess@childrensforum.org www.childrensforum.org

Virginia Voices for Virginia's Children	701 E Franklin St. Suite 807 Richmond, VA 23219 804.649.0184 ext. 23 804.649.0161 (fax)	Cindy Hetzel *Director of Data and Research* cindy@vakids.org www.vakids.org
Washington Human Services Policy Center Evans School of Public Affairs University of Washington	Box 354804 Seattle, WA 98195 206.543.8483 206.616.1553 (fax)	Richard Brandon *Director* brandon@u.washington.edu www.hspc.org
West Virginia West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund	1031 Quarrier St., Suite 313 Atlas Bldg. Charleston, WV 25301 304.345.2101 304.345.2102 (fax)	Margie Hale *Executive Director* margiehale@wvkidscountfund.org www.wvkidscountfund.org
Wisconsin Wisconsin Council on Children & Families	16 N Carroll St. Suite 600 Madison, WI 53703 608.284.0580 608.284.0583 (fax)	M. Martha Cranley *KIDS COUNT Coordinator* mcranley@wccf.org www.wccf.org
Wyoming Wyoming Children's Action Alliance	3116 Old Faithful Rd. Suite 100 Cheyenne, WY 82001 307.635.2272 307.635.2306 (fax)	Deanna Frey *Executive Director* dfrey@trib.com www.wykids.com

Dissemination Partners

The Annie E. Casey Foundation wishes to thank the following organizations for their assistance in disseminating the *KIDS COUNT Data Book*.

Academy for Educational Development
www.aed.org

AFL-CIO
www.aflcio.org

Alliance for Children and Families
www.alliance1.org

Alliance for Excellent Education
www.all4ed.org

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.aap.org

American Federation of Teachers
www.aft.org

American Public Human Services Association
www.aphsa.org

American School Health Association
www.ashaweb.org

American Youth Policy Forum
www.aypf.org

Assets for Colorado Youth
www.buildassets.org

Association of Junior Leagues International Inc.
www.ajli.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
www.bigbrothersbigsisters.org

Boys and Girls Clubs of America
www.bgca.org

Camp Fire USA
www.campfireusa.org

Casey Family Programs
www.casey.org

Center for Family Life in Sunset Park
www.cflsp.org

Center for the Study of Social Policy
www.cssp.org

Center for Workforce Preparation, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
www.uschamber.com/cwp

Center for Youth as Resources
www.yar.org

Childspan
www.childspan.net

Coalition for Juvenile Justice
www.juvjustice.org

Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth
www.ccfy.org

Colorado Foundation for Families and Children
www.coloradofoundation.org

Community Foundation for Monterey County
www.cfmco.org

Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute
www.ccainstitute.org

Connect for Kids
www.connectforkids.org

Cornerstone: The Center for Advanced Learning, Washington University in St. Louis
http://cornerstone.wustl.edu

Council of Chief State School Officers
www.ccsso.org

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
www.copafs.org

The Darrell Green Youth Life Foundation
www.dgylf.org

Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation
www.meyerfoundation.org

Foundation for the Mid South
www.fndmidsouth.org

Fund for the City of New York
www.fcny.org

Grand Rapids Community Foundation
www.grfoundation.org

Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
www.hogg.utexas.edu

Institute for Educational Leadership
www.iel.org

Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative
www.jimcaseyyouth.org

Living Classrooms Foundation
www.livingclassrooms.org

Marguerite Casey Foundation
www.caseygrants.org

National Association for the Education of Young Children
www.naeyc.org

National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions
www.childrenshospitals.net

National Association of Counties
www.naco.org

National Association of Elementary School Principals
www.naesp.org

National Association of Service and Conservation Corps
www.nascc.org

National Child Care Information Center
www.nccic.org

National Education Association
www.nea.org

National Low Income Housing Coalition
www.nlihc.org

National PTA
www.pta.org

National School Boards Association
www.nsba.org

National Youth Employment Coalition
www.nyec.org

Neighborhood Centers Inc.
www.neighborhood-centers.org

NM Forum for Youth in Community
www.nmforumforyouth.org

Open Society Institute–Baltimore
www.soros.org/initiatives/baltimore

P-3 Community Foundation
386.734.4075

Panther Express Youth Newspaper, Platteville Community Foundation Fund
970.388.5418

Parkersburg Area Community Foundation
www.pacfwv.com

Permanency Planning for Children Department, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
www.pppncjfcj.org

Safe and Sound: Baltimore's Campaign for Children and Youth
www.safeandsound.org

Sar Levitan Center Johns Hopkins University, Institute for Policy Studies
www.levitan.org

The Schott Center for Public & Early Education
www.schottcenter.org

Scranton Area Foundation
www.safdn.org

Service Employees International Union
www.seiu.org

Southwest Key Program, Inc.
www.swkey.org

Taos Community Foundation
www.taoscf.org

United Neighborhood Centers of America, Inc.
www.unca.org

University of Delaware Department of Individual and Family Studies
www.udel.edu/ifst

The Urban Institute
www.urban.org

Voices for America's Children
www.voicesforamericaschildren.org

W.K. Kellogg Foundation
www.wkkf.org

Washington Grantmakers
www.washingtongrantmakers.org

The William Penn Foundation
www.williampennfoundation.org

Women in Community Service
www.wics.org

Y&H Soda Foundation
925.253.2630

YouthBuild USA
www.youthbuild.org

Youth Law Center
www.youthlawcenter.com