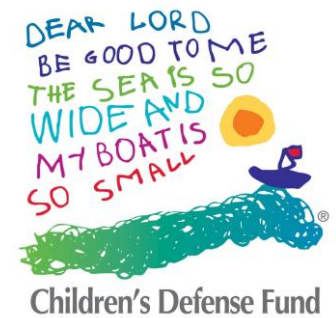


Children's Defense Fund

Children in Louisiana

March 2013



1,116,811 children live in Louisiana:

586,029 are White, non-Hispanic
423,263 are Black
55,252 are Hispanic
16,818 are Asian/Pacific Islander
8,030 are American Indian/Alaska Native
34,164 are two or more races

316,783 are under the age of 5
555,761 are ages 5 to 13
245,652 are ages 14 to 17
801,413 are ages 5 to 17

In Louisiana:

A child is abused or neglected every 55 minutes.

A child dies before his or her first birthday every 18 hours.

Louisiana Ranks:*

50th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

44th among states in its infant mortality rate.

Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi

21st among states in per pupil expenditures.

The District of Columbia is best; Utah is the worst state

[*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Louisiana

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	317,468 (28.8%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	159,314 (14.4%)
Number of children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	19,960
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$240

Child Health in Louisiana

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	130,577 (11.6%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	152,404
CHIP eligibility: 250 percent of federal poverty (\$58,875 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	671,651
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	54.1%
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	91.8%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	26.9%
Percent of 19-35 months-olds not fully immunized	25.4%

Child Hunger in Louisiana

Number of children who receive SNAP (food stamps)	404,000
Percent of eligible persons who receive SNAP (food stamps)	73%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program	587,779
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	32,216
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	145,346

Early Childhood Development in Louisiana

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	65.6%
Number of children served by Head Start	23,810
Average monthly number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	42,300
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,364
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	20.2%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	48.1%

Education in Louisiana

Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$10,701
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	77.4%
unable to do math at grade level	74.1%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	77.8%
unable to do math at grade level	77.7%
Number (percentage) of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and have not graduated from high school	18,331 (6.9%)

Child Welfare in Louisiana

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	9,545
Number of children in foster care	4,531
Number of children adopted from foster care	641
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	64,522

Youth at Risk in Louisiana

Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	68.8%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	27.2%
Number of juvenile arrests	13,711
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	1,294
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	1.3
Number of children and teens killed by firearms	87

This fact sheet contains the most recent data as of March 20, 2013. Most of the data are from 2011 and 2010. For more information on data year, sources, and methodological notes, please visit:

www.childrensdefense.org/cits.

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

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