THE STATE OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN®

2021

children's defense fund
Leave No Child Behind®

ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND

The Children's Defense Fund envisions a nation where marginalized children flourish, leaders prioritize their well-being and communities wield the power to assure they thrive. To realize this vision, we pursue a movement-building and institutional growth strategy to build power for child-centered public policy, informed by racial equity and the lived experience of children and youth.

Our Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start* and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

We serve and advocate for the largest, most diverse generation in America: the 73 million children and youth under the age of 18 and 30 million young adults under the age of 25, with particular attention to those living in poverty and communities of color.

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A Note about Using *The State of America's Children® 2021*

The Children's Defense Fund fights for the largest, most diverse generation in America. We know that to succeed, children need stable homes, quality health care, ample nutritious food, good schools, safe neighborhoods, and access to resources and opportunities that enable them to reach their potential. But the fact is that for too many of our children, these basic building blocks for success are out of reach. As we urge policymakers to prioritize child-centered solutions that create equitable conditions in which all young people can thrive, our work must be grounded in data and facts. As our children continue to suffer from the harmful impacts of our country's health, economic, and racial disparities, which are now magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic, the challenges facing our young people are more daunting in every area.

This year's *State of America's Children®* report is unique in that the majority of the data included in the report reflect realities prior to the pandemic. The report is undergirded by specific data that were vital in reducing child poverty and taking other steps towards improving child well-being *before* the devastation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, while also reflecting the deep racial and economic disparities that have long plagued our nation. To bridge the gap between the available data and current realities, each chapter includes a special section highlighting the impact of the COVID-19 public health and economic crisis on children. Taken as a whole, the report underscores the need for government data reporting agencies and other organizations to conduct more real-time data collection, reporting, and information dissemination if we as a nation are to meet the challenges facing our children and families. Throughout the report terms of race, identity, and experience reflect the original data source's language. This means from chapter to chapter, language usage may vary depending on the source of the data.

The State of America's Children® 2021 and corresponding state fact sheets provide an overview of how America's children are faring to inform conversations and improve policies to ensure no child is left behind.

- *The State of America's Children®* 2021 summarizes the status of America's children in 12 areas: child population, child poverty, income and wealth inequality, housing and homelessness, child hunger and nutrition, child health, early childhood, education, child welfare, youth justice, gun violence and immigration. For each area, we compiled the most recent, available national and state-level data. The report includes key findings as well as data tables, which are useful for comparing how children are faring in different states.
- Using data from the tables in *The State of America's Children®* 2021, our national and state factsheets each provide a one-page summary of how children are doing in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and nationwide. Whether you identify as a teacher, child advocate, policymaker, policy wonk, college professor, faith leader, parent or grandparent, a millennial eager to make life better for your younger siblings, or a member of the media, we ask you to use *The State of America's Children®* 2021 to inform your conversations and effectively make the case for policies, programs, and strategies to improve the odds for children in your state and nationwide. We must keep moving forward in the fight for America's children.

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INTRODUCTION

The year since the last publication of the Children's Defense Fund's *State of America's Children* report has felt more like a decade. Consequential changes in the nation's health, wealth, and leadership have occurred in ways that make the whole world seem different.

Shortly after last year's release, we were forced to respond to the most significant health pandemic in a century, which has now taken more than 500,000 American lives. The advent of COVID-19 initiated an economic crisis and restructuring from Wall Street to each of our homes. Shelter-in-place orders, mask mandates, and mandatory shifts to telecommuting have altered whole industries and impacted the trajectory of the future of work.

Meanwhile, last summer brought with it a racial reckoning years in the making. The largest mass mobilization for social justice in recent memory occurred as a historic presidential campaign took shape. More than 155 million citizens voted in an atmosphere infused with white nationalism and culminating in an attempted siege of the U.S. Capitol. The protracted struggle for democracy led to a change in partisan control of the federal government and a first in executive leadership for women, Black, and South Asian Americans.

Every aspect of American life in the social sector has been impacted by these shifts more quickly than data can track; even the most recent available data sets do not fully encompass how this past year has shaped our lives. This, of course, includes our 2021 *State of America's Children* report. Because, as one element of the report makes clear "Our Children are Not Immune."

Young People are Not Immune

Children are being impacted at every level: physically, economically, academically, socially, and psychologically. As we consider child well-being in this country, this year's report gives special attention to the various impacts of the pandemic.

- As of February 25, 2021, 3,168,274 total child COVID-19 cases had been reported, representing 13.1 percent of all cases.
- October 2020 data analysis by the Center on Poverty & Social Policy (CPSP) at Columbia University showed that an additional 8 million Americans—including 2.5 million children—have fallen into poverty since May 2020.
- As of February 2021, more than 1 in 7 adults with children (14.5 percent) reported that their children were not getting enough to eat—more than five times the pre-pandemic rate.

Chief among concerns more difficult to measure and monitor are the impacts on how our children are processing this dramatic change. But a November 2020 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) paints an important picture. By examining emergency room visits for mental health, the CDC found increases of between 24 and 31 percent for people under the age of eighteen, compared to the same period in 2019. Unfortunately, policies regarding reimbursement for services, coverage inequities, and cultural stigma have contributed to emergency departments being the frontline of support for children's mental health.

While more than 3 million children and youth have contracted the novel coronavirus in the United States, all 73 million are impacted by the sense of uncertainty and disruption of routine it has caused. Even the improvements in the second school year of online learning have not resolved concerns of social isolation and the loss of important life milestones, like graduation and the high school prom. This loss of certainty, consistent routine, and connection is leading to increased levels of depression and despair among our children and youth.

INTRODUCTION

Black youth are especially vulnerable to 2020's converging crises. COVID-19 and racial uprisings swept into Black communities wrestling with spiking child suicide rates. In December 2019, the Congressional Black Caucus's Emergency Task Force on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health released *Ring the Alarm*. The report found that Black youth under 13 are twice as likely to die by suicide than their white counterparts and the suicide death rate for Black youth is increasing faster than any other racial or ethnic group.

Time for Healing, Imagination, and Action

A year marked by such dramatic change and drastic negative impact on children's lives must be followed by one of healing and restoration. This healing will require disciplined reflection, radical imagination, and bold action. Throughout the tumult of 2020, two of my most valued thought partners were the late writer and activist James Baldwin (with whom I share a deep intellectual resonance and a birthday) and Princeton professor Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr.

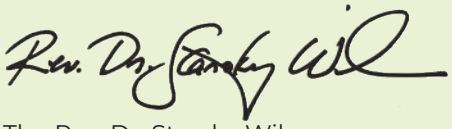
Glaude reflected powerfully on "Jimmy's" life in his 2020 book, *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for our Own*. A revelation of critical import to me is Glaude's highlighting Baldwin's insight that times of reckoning and crisis call us to "do our first works over." This is an invitation to re-examine our foundational commitments, values, and stories to faithfully craft a future.

The Children's Defense Fund is walking this path of examination. The board and staff entered the year in discernment about the first leadership transition in our history. After having made the decision, we initiated a process of organizational, programmatic, and operational planning holding our "first works" and children's needs in conversation.

As a result, even in what President Biden has called a "dark winter" considering the pandemic, the ***Children's Defense Fund envisions a nation where marginalized children flourish, leaders prioritize their well-being, and communities wield the power to ensure they thrive.*** From where we currently stand, this is a radical vision. Yet, we are committed to work – with you – to make it happen.

Join us. Allow this data, compiled by our extraordinary public policy team, to inform your disciplined reflection. But don't stop there. Pause and imagine a country where flourishing children smile, sing, and dance. Talk to young people about what they desire for their lives. Then gather your neighbors, friends, and colleagues to work together and improve the state of America's children. We will be with you every step of the way.

For our children,



The Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson
President & CEO
Children's Defense Fund

The State of America's Children® 2021

CHILD POPULATION: America's children are more diverse than ever.

- There were 73 million children in the U.S. in 2019—22 percent of our nation's population.
- In 2019, children of color made up 49.8 percent of all children and the majority of children under 5.

CHILD POVERTY: Children remain the poorest age group in America, with children of color and young children suffering the highest poverty rates.

- Nearly 1 in 7 children—10.5 million—were poor in 2019. Nearly 71 percent of poor children were children of color. More than 1 in 4 Black children and more than 1 in 5 Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native children were poor compared with 1 in 12 white children.
- The youngest children are the poorest. Nearly 1 in 6 children under 6 were poor and almost half lived in extreme poverty below half the poverty line.

INCOME AND WEALTH INEQUALITY: Income and wealth inequality are growing and harming children in low-income, Black and Brown families.

- The share of all wealth held by the top one percent of Americans grew from 30 to 37 percent and the share held by the bottom 90 percent fell from 33 to 23 percent between 1989 and 2019.
- Today, a member of the top 10 percent of income earners makes about 39 times as much as the average earner in the bottom 90 percent.
- In 2019, the median family income of white households with children ($95,700) was more than double that of Black ($43,900), and Hispanic households with children ($52,300).

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS: The lack of affordable housing and federal rental assistance leaves millions of children homeless or at risk of homelessness.

- More than 1 in 3 children live in households burdened by housing costs, meaning more than 30 percent of their family income goes toward housing.
- More than 1.5 million children enrolled in public schools experienced homelessness during the 2017-2018 school year.
- 74 percent of unhoused students during the 2017-2018 school year were living temporarily with family or friends.

CHILD HUNGER AND NUTRITION: Millions of children live in food-insecure households, lacking reliable access to safe, sufficient, and nutritious food.

- More than 1 in 7 children—10.7 million—were food insecure, meaning they lived in households where not everyone had enough to eat. Black and Hispanic children were twice as likely to live in food-insecure households as white children.
- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helped feed 17 million children in Fiscal Year 2018—nearly a quarter of all children in America.
- Half of all families that received SNAP in 2019 were not able to get enough healthy food, however, because SNAP benefits were too low. Among households with children, monthly SNAP benefits averaged just $118 a person—or less than $4 a day.

OVERVIEW

CHILD HEALTH: Our children have lost the health coverage they need to survive and thrive at an alarming rate.

- An estimated 4.4 million children under age 19, were uninsured—an increase of 320,000 more children without health insurance since 2018.
- Disparities in health insurance coverage persist. The rates of uninsured children are especially high among Hispanic children, undocumented children, children living in the South, and children in families with lower incomes.
- Medicaid and CHIP are the foundation of the nation's health insurance system for children. In 2019, nearly 36 million children under 19 received comprehensive, pediatric-appropriate and affordable health coverage through Medicaid and CHIP.

EARLY CHILDHOOD: The high cost of child care and lack of early childhood investments leaves many children without quality care during critical years of brain development.

- Center-based child care for an infant cost more than public college tuition in 28 states and the District of Columbia in 2019. More than 80 percent of two-child families were paying more for child care than for rent.
- During the 2018-2019 school year, only 34 percent of 4-year-olds and 6 percent of 3-year-olds were enrolled in a state-funded preschool program.

EDUCATION: America's schools continue to slip backwards into patterns of deep racial and socioeconomic segregation, perpetuating achievement gaps.

- During the 2017-2018 school year, 19 percent of Black, 21 percent of Hispanic, and more than 26 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native public school students did not graduate on time compared with only 11 percent of white students.
- More than 77 percent of Hispanic and more than 79 percent of Black fourth and eighth grade public school students were not proficient in reading or math in 2019, compared with less than 60 percent of white students.
- In 2017, 60 percent of Black children attended high-poverty schools with a high share of students of color while fewer than 9 percent of white children did.

CHILD WELFARE: For the first time since 2012, the number of children in the child welfare system fell, but too many children wind up in foster care because of poverty.

- Black and American Indian/Alaska Native families are disproportionately impacted by the child welfare system. Nationally, Black and AI/AN children are represented in foster care at a rate 1.66 and 2.84 times their portion of the overall population, respectively.
- After steadily declining since 2008, the number of children aging out of the foster care system jumped by more than 14 percent in 2019, with 20,445 youth reaching adulthood without a permanent family.

YOUTH JUSTICE: A disproportionate number of children of color are incarcerated in the juvenile justice and/or adult criminal justice systems, placing them at risk of physical and psychological harm.

- Despite a 67 percent reduction in child arrests between 2009 and 2019, 530,581 children were arrested in the U.S and a child or teen was arrested every 59 seconds.
- Black children were 2.4 times more likely to be arrested and American Indian children were 1.5 times more likely to be arrested than white children.

- Black youth represented less than 15 percent of the total youth population but 52 percent of youth prosecuted in adult criminal court in 2018. Black youth are nine times more likely than white youth to receive an adult prison sentence, American Indian/Alaska Native youth are almost two times more likely, and Hispanic youth are 40 percent more likely.

GUN VIOLENCE: Child and teen gun deaths hit a 19-year high in 2017 and have remained elevated since.

- Gun violence was the leading cause of death for children and teens ages 1-19 in 2018, surpassing motor vehicle accidents for the first time.
- In 2019, 3,371 children and teens were killed with guns—one every 2 hours and 36 minutes.
- Black children and teens had the highest gun death rate, followed by American Indian/Alaska Native children and teens. Black children and teens were 4 times more likely to die from gun violence than their white peers.
- The United States has more guns than people—and nearly 1 in 5 are sold without background checks.

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN: Family separation and anti-immigrant policies are dangerous to children's health, development, and well-being.

- Nearly 1 in 4, approximately 18 million, U.S. children lived with at least one immigrant parent in 2018.
- More than 1 in 4 immigrant children did not have health coverage in 2019, 25.5 percent compared to 5.1 percent of native-born citizen children.
- An estimated 6.9 million children lived with undocumented parents. Chronic uncertainty and distress about the threat of enforcement activity destroy children's sense of safety and their mental health.

Each Day in America

2	mothers die from complications of childbirth.
5	children are killed by abuse or neglect.
8	children or teens die by suicide.
9	children or teens are killed with a gun.
20	children or teens die from accidents.
46	children or teens are injured with a gun.
59	babies die before their first birthday.
121	children are arrested for violent crimes.
223	children are arrested for drug crimes.
514	public school students are corporally punished.*
678	babies are born without health insurance.
827	babies are born into extreme poverty.
860	babies are born with low birthweight.
1,541	babies are born into poverty.
1,785	children are confirmed as abused or neglected.
1,909	children are arrested.
2,906	high school students drop out.*
14,206	public school students are suspended.*

*Based on 180 school days a year

Moments in America for Children by Race/Ethnicity

Number of Children Percent of the Child Population	All Children 73,039,150 100%	White 36,682,894 50.2%
A public school student is suspended*	Every 2 seconds	Every 6 sec
Conditions lead a high school student to drop out*	Every 9 seconds	Every 19 sec
A child is arrested	Every 45 seconds	Every min and 12 sec
A child is confirmed abused or neglected	Every 48 seconds	Every 2 min
A public school student is corporally punished*	Every 49 seconds	Every 2 min
A baby is born into poverty	Every 1 minute	Every 3 min
A baby is born without health insurance	Every 2 minutes	Every 4 min
A baby is born into extreme poverty	Every 2 minutes	Every 5 min
A baby is born at low birthweight	Every 2 minutes	Every 4 min
A child is arrested for a drug offense	Every 6.5 minutes	Every 9 min
A child is arrested for a violent offense	Every 12 minutes	Every 25 min
A baby dies before their first birthday	Every 25 minutes	Every 59 min
A child or teen dies from an accident	Every hour and 11 minutes	Every 2 hrs and 14 min
A child or teen is killed with a gun	Every 2 hours and 36 minutes	Every 7 hrs and 35 min
A child or teen dies by suicide	Every 3 hours and 11 minutes	Every 5 hrs
A child is killed by abuse or neglect	Every 5 hours	Every 13 hrs and 32 min
A mother dies from complications of childbirth or pregnancy	Every 11 hours and 40 minutes	Every 25 hrs

*Based on 180 school days a year
Notes: Where possible, racial categories (White, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native) do not include Hispanic children. See Endnotes for citations.

MOMENTS

Hispanic 18,687,565 25.6%	Black 10,007,157 13.7%	Asian/ Pacific Islander 3,831,129 5.2%	American Indian/ Alaska Native 615,950 <1%
Every 9 sec	Every 4 sec	Every 2 min and 19 sec	Every 2 min
Every 28 sec	Every 53 sec	n/a	n/a
n/a	Every 2 min and 15 sec	Every 54 min	Every 33 min
Every 3 min and 30 sec	Every 4 min	Every 1 hr and 7 min	Every 58 min
Every 11 min	Every 2 min	Every 6 hrs and 38 min	Every 46 min
Every 2 min and 15 sec	Every 5 min	Every 37 minutes	Every 9 hrs and 38 min
Every 8 min and 25 sec	Every 19 min	Every 37 min	Every 2 hr and 39 min
Every 5 min	Every 10 min	Every 1 hr and 15 min	n/a
Every 8 min	Every 7 min	n/a	n/a
n/a	Every 30 min	Every 7 hrs	Every 5 hrs
n/a	Every 25 min	Every 13 hrs	Every 11 hrs and 23 min
Every 2 hrs	Every 1 hr and 26 min	Every 11 hrs and 15 min	Every 1.5 days
Every 5 hrs and 30 min	Every 5 hrs and 43 min	Every 2 days	Every 2 days
Every 15 hrs and 24 min	Every 6 hrs	Every 5.5 days	Every 8 days
Every 18 hrs and 13 min	Every day and 4 hrs	Every 4 days	Every 4 days
Every 1.5 days	Every 20 hrs and 19 min	Every 2.5 weeks	Every 5 weeks
Every 3.5 days	Every 1.5 days	Every 1.5 weeks	Every 3.5 weeks

CHILD POPULATION

2020

THE YEAR CHILDREN OF COLOR BECAME THE MAJORITY OF CHILDREN IN AMERICA.

In 2019, there were over 73 million children in the United States—making up 22 percent of our nation's population.[1]

The U.S.—and especially our youngest generation—is reaching a critical moment in racial and ethnic diversity. We need policies and programs that recognize and celebrate this growing diversity.

- In 2019, children of color made up 49.8 percent of all children.
- More than half of the 19.6 million children under five in America in 2019 were children of color.[2]
- The majority of children under 18 were children of color in 14 states—Alaska, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York and Texas—and the District of Columbia (see **Table 1**).
- In 2019, 36.7 million children were white (50.2 percent); 18.7 million were Hispanic (25.6 percent); 10 million were Black (13.7 percent); 3.7 million were Asian (5.0 percent); 615,950 were American Indian/Alaska Native (<1 percent); and 147,057 were Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (<1 percent).[3]
- Previous estimates suggest the majority of all U.S. children are children of color as of 2020 and the U.S. population will continue to become more racially and ethnically diverse.[4]

The U.S. is also graying and approaching a tipping point in age, with older adults set to outnumber children.

- While the proportion of the population that is younger than 18 has been gradually decreasing (from 24.0 percent in 2010 and 22.3 percent in 2019), the proportion of the population that is 65 or older continues to steadily increase (from 13.1 percent in 2010 and 16.5 percent in 2019).[5]
- Given current trends, it is expected that the share of seniors will continue to grow and there will be more seniors than children by 2040.[6]
- We must prepare our nation to support its aging population, but also plan ahead to ensure our increasingly diverse child population is set from birth on a path to a productive and successful future with the foundation necessary to support future generations.

Our current federal spending reflects our nation's skewed priorities: Our children are our future but are not getting the investments they need to thrive.

- Despite children making up such a large portion of our population, less than 7.5 percent of federal spending went towards children in FY2020.[7]
- Although Congress raised statutory caps on discretionary spending in FY2018-FY2020, children didn't receive their fair share of those increases and children's share of total federal spending has continued to decline between FY2016 and FY2020.[8]

CHILD POVERTY

71%

OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY ARE CHILDREN OF COLOR

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only disrupted the everyday lives of our children, it has also exacerbated our nation's greatest moral disgrace: child poverty. Even before the pandemic, children, particularly children of color and very young children, were the poorest Americans. More than 10 million children—nearly 1 in 7 (14.4 percent)—lived in poverty in 2019, the most recent year for which U.S. Census Poverty Data are available.[1] The child poverty rate is one-and-a-half times higher than that for adults ages 18-64 (9.4 percent) and adults 65 and older (8.9 percent) (see **Table 2**). In 2019, a family of four was considered poor if their annual income fell below $26,172, which amounts to $2,181 a month, $503 a week, or less than $72 a day (see **Table 3**). Almost half of all children living in poverty lived in extreme poverty, which is defined as half the poverty threshold or an annual income of $13,086 for a family of four.

Historical, systemic racism and institutional barriers mean that children of color have been particularly vulnerable to child poverty. Black and Hispanic children experience some of the highest poverty rates in the country, and 71 percent of children in poverty in 2019 were children of color.

- Nearly 1 in 5 children of color in America (20.5 percent) were poor. Children of color were 2.5 times more likely to be poor than their white, non-Hispanic peers.[2]
- 3.6 million children under six were living in poverty in 2019. Nearly 1 in 6 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers ages 0-5 were poor (15.4 percent).[3]
- More than 1 in 4 Black children (26.5 percent) and 1 in 5 Hispanic children (20.8 percent) and American Indian/Alaska Native children (20.6 percent) were poor, compared with 1 in 12 white, non-Hispanic children (8.3 percent) and 1 in 14 Asian, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander children (7.7 percent) (see **Tables 4-5**).[4]

Our youngest Americans are being hit hardest during their years of greatest development.

- Nearly 1 in 6 children under six were poor in 2019 and almost half of them lived in extreme poverty (see **Table 6**).

Children's chances of being poor are also a result of the lottery of geography—with some states and regions having higher rates of poverty and inequality than others—as well as dramatic differences in services and support for children in families with low-incomes.

- More than 25 percent of Black children were poor in 39 states and the District of Columbia in 2019; Hispanic children, in 22 states; and American Indian/Alaska Native children, in 24 states.
- No states had white child poverty rates 20 percent or higher (see **Table 6**).
- Black children are more likely than white children to live in states where benefits from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the nation's core cash assistance program, are lowest.[5] State-level decisions about benefit allocation and amounts are too often rooted in historical racism and have disparate impacts on Black families.[6]

This pandemic has exposed how unequal our pre-COVID economy was: families were working to take care of their children, but the unjust and unequal economy built by our political leaders was not working for them and left millions of children behind. More than two-thirds of poor children (70.1 percent) had at least one family member who worked in 2019, and more than one-third (33.7 percent) had at least one family member who worked full-time year-round.

We know what works when children and families are in financial crisis.[7] Mountains of evidence show the benefit of government assistance programs,[8] which help curb the negative effects poverty has on children, families, and the economy. Investing in children and their healthy development not only helps our economy, but helps reduce racial disparities and improve opportunities for children in the long run.

- In 2019, more than four million children were lifted out of poverty with the help of the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC); more than 1.4 million with Social Security; nearly 1 million with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); 763,000 with housing subsidies; 661,000 with the National School Lunch Program; 536,000 with the Supplemental Social Insurance (SSI); 160,000 with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and general assistance; 133,00 with Unemployment Insurance and 127,000 with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).[9]

Child poverty and racial disparities will worsen if we do not continue to ensure relief for families and expand basic needs programs to help all children learn, grow, and thrive during this pandemic and beyond. Cash assistance, child allowances, rental and housing support, SNAP, and unemployment insurance are all relief measures that must be boosted in the short and long term to help families.

COVID-19 and the Need for Real-Time Data and Updated Measures of Poverty

Each September, the U.S. Census Bureau releases income, poverty, and health insurance statistics from the prior year. The official poverty estimates and poverty thresholds released by the Census Bureau inform important policy choices, yet they fail to fully and meaningfully capture who is experiencing poverty and what a family requires to survive and thrive in the 21st century economy. Additionally, as economic conditions have changed dramatically this year, the available data inadequately depicts the challenges that children and families are experiencing due to the impacts of COVID-19. Official Census Bureau measures of poverty are based on a family's *annual* resources, which means this data is not only outdated, but creates a lag that makes it hard to spot trends in poverty or measure the impact of policy responses in real time.

However, an October 2020 data analysis by the Center on Poverty & Social Policy (CPSP) at Columbia University monitored *monthly* poverty estimates, which showed that an additional eight million Americans—including 2.5 million children—have fallen into poverty since May 2020.[10] The findings revealed that poverty rose beyond pre-COVID levels after Congress allowed COVID relief to expire. Although the stimulus checks and expanded unemployment benefits included in the CARES Act initially prevented a rise in poverty, keeping as many as 18 million Americans out of poverty in April and May of 2020, CPSP found much of this progress was reversed throughout the summer after cash assistance ended in June and the $600 weekly extra unemployment benefits expired in July.[11] By September 2020, the poverty reduction impact of the relief legislation had fallen dramatically and poverty rates had risen among all groups, according to Columbia's analysis.[12] Columbia's work underscores the importance of frequently updated data to inform wise policy choices, and a forthcoming February 2021 report will update the monthly poverty estimates at a crucial time when a new Congress and administration will be in place.

Advocates and policymakers need consistent, non-partisan, evidence-based, statistically and economically relevant and timely data on child poverty and family income to better respond to this economic crisis and protect children and families from harm.

INCOME AND WEALTH INEQUALITY

IN 2019 THE MEDIAN WHITE FAMILY HAD ALMOST

EIGHT TIMES

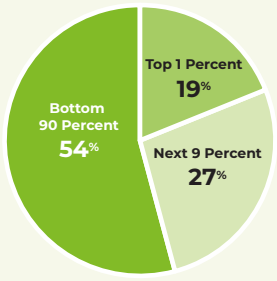
MORE WEALTH THAN THE MEDIAN BLACK FAMILY AND FIVE TIMES MORE THAN THE MEDIAN HISPANIC FAMILY.

A family's income is critical to ensuring basic needs are met for a child's life. Income, which is the revenue a family receives, either from work or return on investment, helps a family put food on the table and keep a roof over their heads. Income inequality is the extent to which income is concentrated among the wealthiest few rather than shared equally among all earners. In the U.S., our economic rules have favored the rich at the expense of our communities' well-being, especially communities of color. People are working harder than ever, but a powerful and wealthy few CEOs, corporations, and billionaires reap the benefits, raking in record profits off lower-income workers' production while their families struggle to get by.

On the surface, data tells a rosy story about incomes in America; median household income grew by 4.5 percent between 2018 and 2019 to $65,712, the highest level in history.[1] But in recent decades, incomes have grown very quickly for the rich, and relatively slowly for everyone else. Since 1979, incomes for the top 1 percent of earners have grown by 261 percent, compared with only 49 percent for the middle 60 percent of earners.[2] These unequal growth rates have produced some astonishing present-day income disparities:

- The top 20 percent of households earn, on average, about 14 times more than households in the bottom 20 percent.[3] In 1975, the average household income of the top 20 percent of Americans was 10 times that of the bottom 20 percent.[4]
- A member of the top 10 percent of income earners makes about 39 times as much as the average earner in the bottom 90 percent; the average member of the richest 0.1 percent of the population earns about 196 times more than an average earner in the bottom 90 percent.[5]
- In 2019, the share of total income going to the top 10 percent was almost 50 percent and the share going to the top 1 percent was 19 percent (see **Figure 1**).[6]

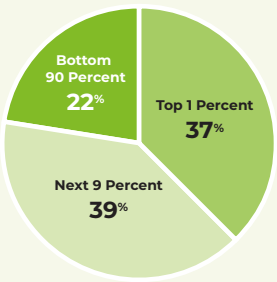
Figure 1: Share of Total U.S. Income Held by Income Group, 2019



In short, incomes have exploded for the rich, while creeping up slowly for the vast majority of earners, a fact that has corrosive effects on the American Dream. Slow-growing family income means that economic mobility is on the decline and children born into low-income families may grow up to make less money than their parents.[7]

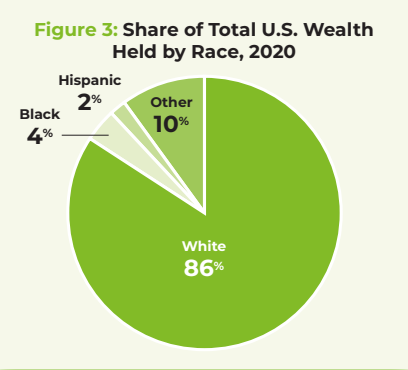
Income inequality contributes to another runaway economic problem: wealth inequality. Wealth or net worth refers to the total value of a person or family's money, property, and other assets minus any debt they hold; wealth inequality is the disproportionate concentration of wealth among the richest few. Like income inequality, wealth inequality has increased for decades and reached levels not seen for almost a century. Today, wealth is even more concentrated than income.[8]

Figure 2: Share of Total U.S. Wealth Held by Income Group, 2019



- In 2019, compared to 1989, the share of wealth held by the top one percent of Americans grew from 30 to 37 percent of all wealth and the share held by the bottom 90 percent fell from 33 to 23 percent.[9] The top 10 percent of Americans owned more than 75 percent of all wealth in 2019 (see **Figure 2**).[10]
- In total, the richest five percent own more than two-thirds of the country's wealth. The richest one percent own more than half of the stock owned by private Americans, but hold just five percent of the same group's debt.[11]

- In 2018, the three richest men in the United States—Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates and Warren Buffet—held as much wealth as the entire bottom half of Americans.[12]



This is not by chance. For centuries, our nation's policies have been intentionally constructed in a way that has disproportionately denied families with low incomes, especially families of color, the opportunity to build wealth. Racist housing policies, for example, led to differences in homeownership rates that today account for nearly one-third of the racial wealth gap.[13] As a result of such policies, racial income and wealth inequality in our nation is staggering. For example:

- In 2019, the median income of Black ($43,900), Hispanic ($52,300), and American Indian ($48,000) families with children was about half the median income of white families with children ($95,700) (see **Table 7**).
- For every $1 earned by the median white household in 2019, the median Black household only earned 61 cents and the median Hispanic household, 74 cents.[14]
- In 2019, the median net worth of white families ($188,200) was almost eight times more than Black families ($24,100) and five times more than Hispanic families ($36,100).[15]
- Today's median Black family owns $3,600—just 2 percent of the median white family's wealth. The median Latino family owns $6,600—only 4 percent of that of the median white family.[16]
- The 400 richest people in the U.S. hold more wealth than every Black household plus a quarter of Hispanic households combined.[17]

Inequality is a global phenomenon, but the U.S. does not fare well even when compared with other industrialized countries. In 2019, the U.S. held the largest share of the world's wealth (nearly 30 percent).[18] Studies suggest, however, that the U.S. has the highest level of wealth inequality and one of the highest levels of income inequality among developed countries.[19]

COVID-19 Made the Rich Even Richer and Widened Inequality

As the COVID-19 pandemic raged and millions of families lost jobs, a familiar pattern accelerated: the rich got richer, while everyone else suffered.

The pandemic, and the corresponding economic recession, hit low-income workers hardest with lost jobs, wages, and livelihoods. Low-income workers experienced the highest job loss rate during the pandemic, but comparatively few of the highest-income workers lost their jobs.[20] In all, more than ten percent of workers between the ages of 25 and 54 lost their jobs during the pandemic.[21] Over half of families with children experienced a job loss or loss of income during the pandemic, with those losses concentrated at the lower-end of the income distribution.[22]

While low-income workers were laid off at staggering rates, the wealthiest few saw their fortunes expand dramatically. According to an Institute for Policy Studies analysis, the combined wealth of all U.S. billionaires increased by more than $1 trillion between March and December 2020, from approximately $3 trillion to about $4 trillion.[23] Elon Musk's net worth increased by about $100 billion during the pandemic.[24] Jeff Bezos's fortune grew by about $70 trillion.[25] Although the stock market, took an initial hit in the spring, it has since recovered and remains near an all-time high.

Racial inequality has continued to widen during the pandemic as well. Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous communities were more likely to get sick and die from COVID-19 in addition to having greater chances of becoming unemployed during the pandemic, despite being overrepresented among "essential workers."[26] As the economic recovery progressed, job and income losses for white people bounced back much more quickly than for Black or Hispanic people.[27]

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

MORE THAN

1.5 MILLION

CHILDREN ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS DURING THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR.

Having a safe, stable home is a basic need for all children. Homelessness, unstable housing, and the unavailability of affordable housing have dire consequences for children's health, education, and future earning potential. Yet, the right to a decent, safe, and affordable home was out of reach even before the COVID-19 crisis for far too many children and families—but particularly for Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous families. Access to housing is a racial justice issue as families of color, especially Black families, are more likely to experience eviction, homelessness, and segregated housing and neighborhoods due to racist policies built deep into our housing system.

The affordable housing crisis has deep and racist roots, but stems largely from policymakers' intentional divestment from affordable housing and rental assistance programs.

- Federal investment in housing was gutted in the 1970s and 80s and the number of unhoused children and families skyrocketed. The crisis deepened after the 2008 financial crisis as foreclosures forced 9 million new families into the rental market.[1]
- As more families sought affordable and safe rental housing, construction failed to keep pace with growing demand, and the new units built were mostly luxury units in big cities. Rents rose and working-class wages remained stagnant, leaving many families unable to find suitable housing.[2]
- By 2020, rents were so high that a person working full-time, year-round at minimum wage could not afford the monthly Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom rental unit in any state or the District of Columbia and still have enough money for food, utilities, and other necessities.[3] To afford this rent, a single person working full-time would have to make almost $24 an hour, more than three times the federal minimum wage (see **Table 8**).[4]

These barriers to prosperity and disinvestment in federal housing programs have put decent, affordable housing out of reach for millions of people and disproportionately impacted Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous communities. Families with children are hit especially hard by the affordable housing crisis.

- More than 1 in 3 children live in households burdened by housing costs, meaning more than 30 percent of their family income goes toward housing.[5] Sixty-one percent of children in low-income households are rent-burdened.[6]
- Nearly 2.6 million families with children experience "worst-case housing needs," meaning they are extremely rent-burdened, their income is at or below the poverty line, they spend half of their income on housing, and receive no housing assistance from the government.[7]
- Twenty percent of Black households, 17 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native households, 15 percent of Hispanic households, and 10 percent of Asian households (compared to just six percent of white households), are extremely low-income renters and are often locked out of affordable housing due to systemic and structural racism and decades of racist policies.[8]

The affordable housing crisis is the primary reason so many families are unhoused. Children made up 107,069—nearly 1 in 5—of the nearly 568,000 people who were unhoused on a single night in January 2019.[9]

- Thirty percent of people who were unhoused were in families with children, and half of all families who are unhoused with children lived in just three states: California, Massachusetts, and New York. Family homelessness declined by 5 percent between 2018 and 2019 and by 27 percent between 2007 and 2019.[10]
- In 2019, more than half of individuals in families who were unhoused were Black.[11] Black youth are 83 percent more likely than youth of other races to be unhoused.[12]
- More than 1.3 million children under six were unhoused in 2017.[13]

More than 1.5 million unhoused children were enrolled in public schools during the 2017-2018 school year, according to the Department of Education, excluding younger children and youth not enrolled in school (see **Table 9**).[14]

- The number of unhoused students has increased by 15 percent since the 2015-2016 school year.[15]
- Seventy-four percent of unhoused students during the 2017-2018 school year were living temporarily with family or friends; 12 percent were in shelters or transitional housing; 7 percent were in hotels or motels; and 7 percent were unsheltered, often living in abandoned buildings or cars.[16]
- Access to school for unhoused children is complicated by economic mobility and the lack of school supplies and clothes, funds for transportation, and necessary records to enroll in a new school. The trauma, poor physical and mental health, hunger, and fatigue many experience continue to challenge these children when they get to school.
- In addition to school-aged public school students, 4.2 million teens and young adults experienced homelessness during 2016 and 2017.[17] Black and Hispanic youth, youth living in poverty, and young adults; youth with less than a high school diploma or GED; young parents; youth aging out of foster care; and LGBTQ youth were all at especially high risk of homelessness.

Housing insecurity and homelessness are exacerbated by a lack of accessible federal assistance. This assistance is extremely effective, but these programs do not come close to meeting families' needs because they are woefully underfunded.

- Families with children make up 60 percent of those helped by federal rental assistance.
- Although federal rental assistance can help reduce homelessness, housing instability, and overcrowding, only 1 in 4 eligible households receive it.[18]
- Housing vouchers can help families move from areas of concentrated poverty to lower-poverty neighborhoods. Children who moved from concentrated poverty neighborhoods before age 13 have been shown to have higher earnings as 26-year-old adults when compared with those who did not leave the neighborhoods.[19]
- Vouchers for unhoused families with children reduce foster care placements by more than half and also reduce school moves and other hardships.[20]

COVID-19 Has Pushed Millions of Children and Families to the Brink of Eviction

The pandemic has accelerated the nationwide affordable housing crisis and the racial inequities in housing. By February 2021, the hardship facing renter families with children was staggering. More than a quarter of renter families with children were behind on their rent.[21] In February, nearly 4 in 10 of those families reported little or no confidence in their ability to pay the next month's rent.[22] Most shocking of all, almost half of renter families with children said it was either somewhat or very likely that they would lose their home within the next two months due to eviction.[23]

Though evictions were banned in many states and localities for much of 2020 and banned nationwide beginning in September by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), many evictions slipped through the patchwork of legal protections and became a major driver of the spread of COVID-19. Evictions that took place between the beginning of the pandemic and the CDC's national eviction moratorium in September led to 433,700 excess COVID-19 cases and 10,700 additional deaths.[24]

If the CDC's eviction moratorium is allowed to expire before renters receive adequate assistance from Congress, 30 to 40 million renters are at risk of losing their home due to eviction.[25] The fallout from such a wave of evictions would be devastating, a crisis primed by the nation's failure to address its underlying affordable housing crisis.

CHILD HUNGER AND NUTRITION

MORE THAN

1 in 7

CHILDREN LIVED IN FOOD-INSECURE HOUSEHOLDS BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Children need healthy food to grow, learn, and thrive. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, however, children in America went hungry at alarming rates. Institutional racism, low wages, and other inequities made it impossible for many families—especially Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous families—to put food on the table. At the same time, policymakers have refused to adequately fund nutrition programs to reach and feed all children in need. Millions of children entered this crisis without consistent access to nutritious food, leaving them especially vulnerable to hunger and harm.

In 2019, more than 1 in 7 children—10.7 million—were food insecure, meaning they lived in households where not everyone had enough to eat (see **Table 10**). These households struggled to afford and access healthy meals, forcing them to rely on low-cost food to feed their children, skip meals, or even go hungry.

- Black and Hispanic children were twice as likely to live in food-insecure households as white children. Nearly 1 in 4 Black children (24.1 percent) and 1 in 5 Hispanic children (19.2 percent) lived in households that didn't get enough food to eat in 2019, compared with 1 in 9 white children (11.0 percent).[1]
- Younger children also faced a greater risk of hunger. Households with children under 6 were more likely to lack access to healthy food than households with children under 18.[2]
- The majority of households experiencing hunger struggle to put food on the table even with full- or part-time employment. In 2019, 61 percent of households experiencing hunger were in the labor force; 51 percent had at least one full-time worker.[3] With living expenses rising, wages stagnating, and systemic racism, food and other basic necessities are becoming increasingly out of reach for working families.
- Lack of nutritious and healthy food is linked to low birth weight and birth defects, physical and mental health problems, oral health problems, and poor educational outcomes.[4]

School meal programs like the National School Lunch Program (NLSP) and the National School Breakfast Program (SBP) are a critical source of nutritious food for children experiencing hunger and poverty. Many children typically consume up to two full meals a day at school and too often, these are the only meals they can count on.

- Nearly half of all public school students rely on free or reduced-price school meals to meet their daily nutritional needs.[5] During the 2018-2019 school year, more than 21.6 million children received free or reduced-price school lunch, and 12.4 million received free or reduced-price breakfast (see **Table 11**).
- While most schools are now serving free meals to all children regardless of income in response to COVID-19, a growing number offered universal meals through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) prior to the pandemic. During the 2019-2020 school year, nearly 30,700 schools serving 14.9 million children participated in community eligibility,[6] allowing them to offer free meals to every student without processing applications or collecting meal fees. This is up from nearly 28,800 schools that participated during the previous school year. Serving meals to all students at no charge reduces administrative burdens and costs, enabling schools to invest time and resources in building stronger nutrition programs that reach more children.

Even during traditional school years, however, most children who receive free or reduced-price school meals cannot access them when schools are closed after school, on weekends, and over the summer. Prolonged school closures due to COVID-19 are now exacerbating the systemic gaps in federal nutrition support, leaving children without reliable access to healthy meals year round.

- Only 1 in 15 eligible children received after school suppers through the At-Risk Afterschool Meals component of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) on an average weekday in October 2019.[7]
- In summer 2019, the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) through the NSLP reached only 1 in 7 children (13 percent) who received free or reduced-price lunch during the 2018-2019 school year (see **Table 11**). This marks the fourth year in a row that participation in summer nutrition programs declined.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—our nation's largest federal nutrition program—helps connect children to healthy meals to supplement food budgets, improve health, and reduce poverty. Due to limited funding, however, SNAP benefits fall far short of meeting the need—and that need has only grown since the pandemic began.

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helped feed 17 million children in Fiscal Year 2018—nearly a quarter of all children in America (see **Table 12**). SNAP participation is linked to improved health and educational outcomes .[8]
- SNAP lifted nearly one million children out of poverty in 2019 and helps more children escape deep poverty than any other government program.[9]
- In FY2018, 3.8 million households had no income except SNAP benefits, including 1.2 million households with children.[10]
- Half of all families that received SNAP in 2019 were not able to get enough healthy food,[11] however, because SNAP benefits were too low. Among households with children, monthly SNAP benefits averaged just $118 a person—or less than $4 a day.[12]

Federal nutrition programs like SNAP must be strengthened and expanded to support children's well-being and success.

- Calculating SNAP benefits using the Low Cost Food Plan rather than the current Thrifty Food Plan would increase SNAP benefits by 31 percent, improve SNAP's anti-hunger impact, and lift 1.5 million children out of poverty.[13]
- Boosting SNAP is smart economic policy, especially during recessions. Every $1 invested in SNAP generates $1.50 to $1.80 in economic activity and creates jobs.[14]

COVID-19 is Deepening America's Longstanding Hunger Crisis

Child hunger was a crisis long before the COVID-19 pandemic—and it has only worsened since. Widespread school and child care closures have left millions of children without reliable access to affordable meals, while record job losses have made it even harder for families to keep food on the table at home. Now, child hunger is reaching dangerous new heights. As of February 2021, more than 1 in 7 adults with children (14.5 percent) reported that their children were not getting enough to eat[15]—more than five times the pre-pandemic rate (3 percent).[16]

Due to historic and systemic racism, children of color are going hungry at even higher rates. As of February 2021, more than 1 in 5 Black and Hispanic adults with children (22.8 percent and 20.6 percent, respectively) said their households were not getting enough to eat compared with 1 in 10 white adults with children (10.4 percent).[17] If unemployment and poverty rates remain elevated, as many as 1 in 4 children—18 million in total—could be at risk of going hungry as a result of COVID-19.[18] Without continued and expanded nutrition assistance during the pandemic and beyond, rising child hunger will devastate our children's development and community success for years to come.

726,000

CHILDREN LOST HEALTH INSURANCE BETWEEN 2016 AND 2019.

All children need access to comprehensive, affordable health coverage that is easy to get and to keep. Yet, even before our country began facing a devastating pandemic that has left more than 28 million Americans infected with the coronavirus, including more than 3 million children, our children were losing access to the health coverage they need to survive and thrive at an alarming rate.[1]

Decades of hard-fought progress to expand access to comprehensive, affordable health and mental health coverage through expansions of Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the Affordable Care Act brought the rate of uninsured children in America to an historic low. However, over the course of the last three years, our nation has shamefully reversed course and the number of uninsured children in America continues to steadily *increase*.[2]

- In 2019, an estimated 5.7 percent of children under age 19 (nearly 4.4 million) were uninsured—an increase of 320,000 more children without health insurance since 2018 (see **Table 13**). This is the third year in a row the number of uninsured children has grown and it is the largest annual increase in more than a decade.[3]
- This data also highlights continued and worsening disparities in health insurance coverage. The rates of uninsured children were especially high among Hispanic children, undocumented children, children living in the South, and children in families with lower incomes; and these children were among those that experienced some of the greatest increases in uninsured rates between 2018 and 2019.[4]
- This means millions of children and families lacked health insurance even before the rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the beginning of the economic crisis where many parents became unemployed and lost access to job-based health insurance. While fortunately, some of these children may be eligible for Medicaid and CHIP, it is but certain that many of them are going uninsured.[5] In 2018, more than half (57.4 percent) of uninsured children were eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, demonstrating the critical need for outreach and enrollment efforts.[6]

Unfortunately, this is far from surprising given sustained efforts over the last four years by the Trump administration to undermine the public health insurance system, including Medicaid and CHIP, which form the backbone of the health insurance system for children in low- to middle-income families, as well as the administration's anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies which have led many families to remove their eligible children—many of them U.S. citizens—from the health coverage they need out of fear of repercussions.[7]

- In 2019, Medicaid and CHIP provided comprehensive, pediatric-appropriate and affordable health coverage to more than 36 million children under 19 (see **Table 14**).
- More than half of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black, multi-racial, and Hispanic children rely on Medicaid and CHIP as their source of health coverage.[8]
- Following steady increases in child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP since 2007, 2017 was the first year to not see an increase despite a strong economy—and those numbers have only gotten worse in subsequent years. Child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP decreased by 821,000 between 2017 and 2018 and decreased by 224,000 between 2018 and 2019.[9]
- Children in low-income families are far more likely to be covered by Medicaid and CHIP than private insurance. In 2019, 72 percent of children in low-income families had public health insurance coverage, including Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare, and TRI-CARE.[10]
- These health insurance programs provide lifelong benefits that far outweigh the short-term costs. The National Bureau of Economic Research compared children eligible for Medicaid during childhood with those not eligible and found Medicaid-eligible children were more likely to attend college and make greater contributions as adult taxpayers.[11]

We know that children with health coverage are more likely to receive the preventive services they need, including immunizations; miss fewer days of school and have better educational outcomes; and grow up to be more economically secure and more likely to contribute to their communities.[12] As children are losing coverage at staggering rates, there will be long-term consequences for their health and well-being.

When parents have health coverage, their children are more likely to have health coverage.

- A child is eight times more likely to have public health insurance if their parent has it.[13]
- States that have expanded Medicaid coverage to parents have higher Medicaid participation among children. For example, Massachusetts' coverage expansion for parents cut the rate of uninsured children in half.[14]
- While 33 states and the District of Columbia have expanded Medicaid to very low-income parents and adults under the ACA's expansion option, 12 states have not done so as of October 2020 (see **Table 15**).
- States that have not expanded Medicaid to parents and other adults under the Affordable Care Act have seen increases in their rate of uninsured children nearly three times as large as states that have.[15]
- Lack of health coverage—as well as inequities in our healthcare system and disparities in social determinants of health—have devastating impacts on our nation's infants and mothers.[16] The maternal mortality rate is higher now than it was decades ago, and Black women are bearing the brunt of this crisis.[17] What's more, for every 1,000 infants born in 2018, six died before their first birthday (see **Table 16**). Continuing to expand coverage to low-income parents through the ACA's Medicaid expansion would help decrease the number of uninsured children as well as ensure more women access to essential prenatal care to help reduce both maternal and infant mortality.[18]

Children Are Not Immune

Although COVID-19 infection and death rates may be lower for children when compared to adults, our children are certainly not immune—to the virus itself or the racial inequities it is magnifying.

- As of February 25, 2021, 3,168,274 total child COVID-19 cases have been reported, representing 13.1 percent of all cases. Children were 0 to 0.19 percent of all COVID-19 deaths in the states that provided data (Note: only 43 states provided data on the age distribution of COVID-19 deaths).[19]
- CDC reports show that between February and July 2020, 78 percent of children who died from COVID-19 were Hispanic, Black, and American Indian children, though they represent only 41 percent of the population.[20]

These disparities mirror the disparities we see among adults and reflect decades of structural racism and injustice that have created a long history of social and economic inequities.[21] Long before COVID-19, children of color were more likely to experience harmful environmental factors and toxic stress, grow up with underlying health conditions, and experience inequitable health care into adulthood including racial bias, discrimination, and inadequate treatment.[22] Amid the pandemic, children of color are more likely to live with essential workers; experience crowded housing conditions, food insecurity, and wealth gaps; and face additional barriers to accessing high-quality, non-discriminatory health care—inequities that put the health and well-being of Black, Hispanic, and American Indian children at risk during a public health crisis.[23]

In addition to COVID-19 cases, the pandemic has created further child health concerns as well. Children are missing routine well-child visits that include important developmental screenings and vaccinations: compared to March through May 2019, there have been 3.2 million fewer child screening services, 6.9 million fewer outpatient mental health services, and 1.7 million fewer vaccinations for children ages zero to two through Medicaid and CHIP.[24] Even with the need to continue to social distance and limit potential exposure, ensuring children have access to preventative services is critical in order to prevent further health concerns. Vaccines save lives and are critical in order to keep children safe from preventable diseases and ensure against the added crisis of a preventable outbreak amid the ongoing pandemic.

IN 2019, CENTER-BASED CHILD CARE FOR AN INFANT COST MORE THAN PUBLIC COLLEGE TUITION IN

28 STATES AND DC.

The first five years of a child's life are a time of both great opportunity and risk as their brain develops more rapidly than at any other point. Children who grow up in supportive environments are more likely to develop self-confidence, an increased desire to learn, and better impulse control as well as improved achievement in school and throughout their life.[1] Unfortunately, COVID-19 has upended a system that was already not adequately serving children and families: even before the pandemic, children—especially the 3.6 million children under six living in poverty—lacked access to a meaningful continuum of care and supports during this critical period of development.[2]

A full continuum of high-quality early childhood development and learning opportunities from birth to age five have been proven to buffer the negative impacts of poverty and other stressors, improve outcomes throughout a child's life, and yield great societal returns on investment.

- Head Start and Early Head Start are federally-funded, high-quality early childhood programs that provide comprehensive services including child care, mental health, nutritional, and other developmental services and connect poor children and families with other community resources when needed. Children who participate in the Head Start program are able to pay better attention in school and engage in learning; perform better in cognitive and language development; and have better pre-reading, pre-writing, and vocabulary skills making them more prepared for kindergarten and school.[3] The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program similarly promotes child development and school readiness.[4] Gaps in opportunity and outcomes based on race and income exist from the start of school, but access to high-quality early childhood programs can give children the skills they need to thrive in school and close these gaps.[5]
- Studies show children who attend high-quality early childhood programs are more likely to graduate from high school and hold a job, make more money, and are less likely to have contact with the criminal justice system than peers who do not. Programs that directly target children's health outcomes, like Head Start, have been shown to increase child health insurance, child immunization, and receipt of primary care.[6]
- Research estimates the lifelong return on investment for quality early childhood programs is more than 13 percent a year for every dollar invested.[7]

High-quality, affordable child care that meets children's developmental needs is a critical part of the early childhood continuum and essential for working families, but the cost of high-quality child care is a barrier for many.

- Center-based child care for an infant cost more than public college tuition in 28 states and the District of Columbia in 2019 (see **Table 17**). In one study, more than 80 percent of two-child families were paying more for child care than for rent.[8]
- The Child Care and Development Fund, which provides subsidies to help families with child care costs, served just 15 percent of all federally-eligible children in 2016.[9]
- The number of children receiving publicly-funded child care subsidies has decreased by more than 430,000 since 2006 (see **Table 18**). Access to high-quality child care is not guaranteed even for families who do receive subsidies as care costs increase.[10]
- A well-trained, competitively-compensated workforce is necessary to ensure the child care provided is high-quality and our children are supported during their most critical years of development. However, in 2019, child care workers in 42 states were paid less than half of a living wage for a single parent with one child (see **Table 19**).

While many existing early childhood development and education programs are effective, they often fall far short of serving and supporting all children in need.

- Voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs provide impressive short- and long-term gains for children and families who participate. However, in FY2019, the MIECHV Program served only a small portion of parents and children across the country.[11]
- Due to underfunding, Head Start served less than 57 percent of eligible three and four-year-olds and Early Head Start served less than 8 percent of eligible infants and toddlers in 2019.[12]
- Other quality preschool programs for three and four-year-olds are also a key part of the continuum. Yet, according to the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER), during the 2018-2019 school year, only 34 percent of four-year-olds and 6 percent of three-year-olds were enrolled in a state-funded preschool program. Only four states operated a program that met all ten of NIEER's evidence-based quality standards (see **Table 20**).
- While total state funding for preschool increased by 3.6 percent during the 2018-2019 school year, the increase was small compared to high growth years and spending per child was essentially flat after adjusting for inflation.[13]
- Full-day kindergarten boosts students' academic achievement as well as their social and emotional skills. Studies show full-day kindergarten can produce long-term educational gains, especially for children of color and children from families with low incomes.[14] The majority of five-year-olds (82.7 percent) in kindergarten are enrolled in a full-day program; however, access to full-day kindergarten is only guaranteed in 17 states and the District of Columbia.[15]

The high cost of child care and lack of early childhood investments leave many children without quality care during critical years of brain development. We must ensure every child has the head start they need through access to a continuum of high-quality, comprehensive early childhood opportunities starting at birth. To do this, Congress must ensure child care providers have the immediate support needed to keep from permanently closing during the pandemic and states have the long-term funding needed to reconstruct a child care infrastructure that better serves all children and families.

The Child Care Crisis Creates Impossible Decisions for Families

In May 2020, Cristina Guajardo of Austin, TX, was let go from her job and unable to start a new job until her two-year-old's subsidized daycare was able to reopen. Cristina turned down job opportunities as bills continued to pile up and was forced into the impossible decision between caring for her child and beginning a much-needed new job.[16]

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that child care providers are not only essential for the development and education of our next generation, but for parents like Cristina who have been forced to choose between working to keep food on the table and provide for their families and staying home to care for their children as many child care providers don't have the resources they need to safely stay open. Child care is also essential for our healthcare workers, United States Postal Service (USPS) workers, and other workers providing essential services we all depend on to keep our economy running. This burden has fallen especially hard on our nation's mothers as 2.2 million women have left the workforce since the pandemic began, largely due to caregiving responsibilities;[17] mothers could face $64.5 billion in lost wages and economic activity with continued inaction.[18]

With months-long child care closures and little federal relief to date, as many as 4.5 million child care slots could be permanently lost due to the pandemic—a loss that is estimated to impact at least 2.25 million families.[19] Many child care providers—including those that have contributed their own funds and faced growing debt to ensure they have the resources they need to stay safe while caring for our children—continue to face economic destabilization and permanent closures.[20] Our child care system was struggling long before the pandemic and we must ensure the system is strengthened and has the necessary funding and support that recognizes it as the as the necessity it is for families, businesses, and our economy.

14 MILLION

STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOLS WITH POLICE BUT NO COUNSELOR, NURSE, PSYCHOLOGIST, OR SOCIAL WORKER.

All children deserve to attend diverse, well-funded schools where they feel safe and protected, where they have access to high-quality educators and resources, and where their education is culturally responsive, developmentally appropriate, and intellectually stimulating. They have a right to the robust enforcement of our nation's civil rights and education laws and their education must be free from discrimination.

Unfortunately, this is not the reality for too many students. While COVID-19 has crippled our country's public education system even further, America's schools were deeply segregated and inequitable long before the pandemic. Poor children and children of color are likely to already be behind their wealthier and white peers when they start school, and as they progress through schools with smaller budgets and fewer educational resources, it is too often impossible to catch up.

- Less than half of children born into household and neighborhood poverty are ready for school at age five compared with 78 percent of their wealthier peers.[1]
- More than 75 percent of lower-income fourth and eighth grade public school students were not proficient in reading or math in 2019, compared with less than 50 percent of higher-income fourth grade and less than 55 percent of higher-income eighth grade students (see **Table 21**).
- More than 77 percent of Hispanic and more than 79 percent of Black fourth and eighth grade public school students were not proficient in reading or math in 2019 compared with less than 60 percent of white students (see **Tables 22-23**).
- During the 2017-2018 school year, 19 percent of Black, 21 percent of Hispanic, and more than 26 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native public school students did not graduate on time compared with only 11 percent of white students (see **Table 24**).

Students of color in schools that are highly segregated along racial and economic lines have significantly less access to highly-qualified and experienced teachers and high-quality educational resources. Academic indicators such as standardized test scores and graduation rates indicate that learning suffers accordingly.

- Only 1 in 8 white students attends a school where the majority of students are Black, Hispanic, Asian, or American Indian, whereas nearly 7 in 10 Black children attend such schools.[2]
- Every school district in the U.S. where segregation is high or even moderate has a large achievement gap.[3]
- In 2017, 60 percent of Black children attended high-poverty schools with a high share of students of color while fewer than 9 percent of white children did.[4]

Large disparities in school funding mean that children living in lower-wealth areas—often children of color and children growing up in poverty—also attend under-funded schools that have fewer high-quality teachers, fewer curricular resources, larger class sizes, and less student support.

- As of 2015, only 12 states distributed more funding to high-poverty school districts than low-poverty districts. In many states, the wealthiest districts spend as much as two-to-three times what poorer districts spend per pupil.[5]
- Many states cut funding for education due to the Great Recession in 2008, and as of 2017, K-12 funding in 22 states and the District of Columbia remained below pre-recession levels.[6]
- Studies suggest that a 25 percent increase in per-pupil spending during all 12 years of a child's education could eliminate the average secondary education achievement gap between lower-income and higher-income children.[7]

Too many students, especially students of color, face exclusionary discipline policies that threaten to derail their education or over-policed schools that put their very safety at risk.[8] Over the last decade, schools have increased investment in school policing under the guise of making them safer for students. However, police in schools do not necessarily make children safer, but rather contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline and continue to disproportionately deny Black children, Latino children, and children with disabilities the opportunity to succeed.[9]

- During the 2015-2016 school year, the suspension rate for Black students in public school was more than four times that for white students (see **Table 26**).
- Fourteen million students attend schools with police but no counselor, nurse, psychologist, or social worker. This is despite evidence that schools with these types of supports "see improved attendance rates, better academic achievement, and higher graduation rates, as well as lower rates of suspension, expulsion, and other disciplinary incidents."[10]
- While students with disabilities made up only 12 percent of students during the 2015-2016 school year, they comprised 26 percent of students who received out-of-school suspensions.[11]

Children who are experiencing homelessness, in foster care, or returning from juvenile detention are especially likely to be educationally disadvantaged and are less likely to graduate from high school.

- The estimated national graduation rate for students experiencing homelessness is only 67.5 percent, as compared to the overall national average for all students which is 85.3 percent.[12]
- Because of the lack of adequate supports, students in foster care are more likely to be suspended or expelled, to score lower on standardized tests in reading and math, to be involved in special education, and to have higher rates of grade retention and drop out, and are less likely to attend and graduate from college.[13]
- Without adequate educational resources, young people in juvenile justice facilities are chronically behind in school and make no meaningful progress in academic achievement while incarcerated. Approximately 2 in 3 drop out of school after exiting the juvenile justice system.[14]

When we deny our children the education to which they have every right, we deny them the chance they deserve to have a bright future. We must continue to work to equitably distribute educational resources, eliminate segregation and gross inequities in school funding, and eliminate discriminatory education policies that undermine equal opportunities for all students.

COVID-19 Leaves Marginalized Students Disconnected and Behind

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an education crisis that will impact this generation of students for the rest of their lives. While many school districts provided some distance learning opportunities during the 2019-2020 school year, children with disabilities, children from low-income and unemployed families, children living in rural communities, and children of color faced many barriers to accessing this modified education—including insufficient internet access, lack of support for online learning due to parent work schedules, and inability to effectively learn via modified formats, among others.

Too many students could not access modified education or lived in districts where no instruction was offered after schools closed for the last several months of the 2019-2020 school year.[15] A survey of close to 1,600 families found that parents with low incomes were "10 times more likely to say their kids are doing little or no remote learning," and children with Individualized Educational Program accommodations (which includes many students with disabilities) are "twice as likely as their peers to be doing little or no remote learning."[16] This untenable situation has carried into the 2020-2021 school year in districts across the country.

A CHILD IS REMOVED FROM THEIR HOME AND PLACED INTO FOSTER CARE

EVERY TWO MINUTES.

The child welfare system is in the midst of a paradigm shift that recognizes the critical importance of supporting families so children can remain safely at home and foster care is used only as a last resort. With the historic passage of the Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) in 2018, states and tribes can now utilize guaranteed child welfare funds to provide certain evidence-based services and programs to stabilize families and prevent the need for foster care.[1] However, Family First, which is still in early stages of implementation, is just the first step to ensure children can thrive with their families.

The U.S. has deeply underinvested in the upstream services that support families and keep them strong, services that extend well beyond the bounds of the formal child welfare system and into housing, economic support, and other critical services, and this was exacerbated in 2020 by the COVID-19 pandemic. By investing in keeping families strong, we can prevent child maltreatment and give all children the opportunity to thrive.

In 2019, 651,505 children were victims of abuse or neglect, a decrease of 21,643 compared to the previous year (see **Table 27**). That means, on average, a child is abused or neglected every 48 seconds in America, 1,785 each day.[2] More than half of all child maltreatment cases in 2019 involved children who were six years old or younger, with 14.9 percent of cases involving infants under one.[3] Of these children, 251,359 entered foster care.[4]

- Neglect, often a proxy for the consequences of poverty, was the most common reason for children entering the child welfare system. Neglect was associated with a child's removal in 63 percent of cases. Issues related to unsafe or substandard housing were associated with 10 percent of child removals.[5]
- After steadily rising every year since 2008, the proportion of child removals in which parental drug abuse played a role declined in 2019. Parental drug abuse is partly responsible for 34 percent of child removals, while alcohol abuse played a role in 5 percent of child removals.[6]
- A common misconception is that physical and sexual abuse are the primary drivers of child welfare involvement, though these serious forms of abuse factor into a smaller portion of cases. Physical abuse was associated with 13 percent of removals and sexual abuse four percent.[7]

Children in foster care are among the most vulnerable children in America. There were 423,997 children in care in 2019 (see **Table 28**), 41 percent of whom were under the age of six.[8] These children spend an average of 19.6 months in foster care, with 14 percent spending more than three years in the system.[9] Children of color, particularly Black and American Indian/Alaska Native children, are dramatically overrepresented in the child welfare system. Of every 1,000 white children in the United States, 5.2 are in foster care, compared with 9.9 of every 1,000 Black children and 16.9 of every 1,000 American Indian/Alaska Native children.[10]

- Nationally, Black children, are represented in foster care at a rate that is 1.66 times their portion of the overall population, and in 18 states at a rate that is more than double (see **Table 29**).
- American Indian/Alaska Native children are represented in foster care at a rate that is 2.84 times their portion of the population nationally. This disproportionality varies by state, with 11 states where the percent of the foster care population that is American Indian/Alaska Native is more than double the percent of the overall child population that is American Indian/Alaska Native, including one state where it is more than 15 times as high (see **Table 29**).

Children do best when placed with families, preferably their own relatives, but some require a level of mental or behavioral health treatment that can only be provided in a congregate (non-family) setting, such as a group home or child care institution. Congregate care is meant to be temporary treatment, but children are often inappropriately placed in these settings without a clinical need or are held long after their clinical needs are met.

- Nationally, 11 percent of children in foster care are placed in congregate care settings, with up to 27 percent of children in congregate care in certain states (see **Table 30**). While this number has been steadily decreasing, the number of children in congregate care increased in 19 states between 2017 and 2018.[11]
- More than 2.6 million children live in households headed by grandparents or other relatives without their parents present.[12] Approximately 133,000 children in foster care are placed with relatives, and the remainder of these kinship placements occur outside of the child welfare system with little or no government support.[13]

Foster care is intended to be temporary, with the ultimate goal of returning children safely home to their families. When this is not possible, children must be placed into permanent homes, either through adoption, guardianship, or other arrangements with relatives. In 2019, 248,669 children left foster care after an average of 20 months in care.[14]

- In 2019, only 47 percent of children exiting foster care were reunified with their families, the lowest percentage ever recorded (see **Table 31**).
- In 2019, 64,415 (26 percent) children were adopted out of the child welfare system, the highest number recorded,[15] and 122,216 children were waiting to be adopted.[16]
- After steadily declining since 2008, the number of children aging out of foster care jumped by more than 14 percent in 2019, with 20,445 youth reaching adulthood without a permanent family.[17] When the system fails to find permanent homes for youth, they are significantly more likely to experience homelessness, unemployment, and incarceration.

More resources are needed to ensure that every child can grow up in a safe, stable, and loving family. By dramatically increasing investments in family support, we can keep families strong and prevent the need for foster care. Making this early investment will free up necessary resources to improve the child welfare system for the families that do need it, including specialized treatment services to help children heal from the trauma they have experienced and robust supports to help families reunify safely.

COVID-19 Places Unprecedented Stresses on Children, Families, and the Child Welfare System

Stressors caused by the COVID-19 pandemic that are detailed throughout this report —economic, housing, and food insecurity, school and child care closures, and decreased access to services and supports—are testing the resilience of families. Stress directly impacts the ability of parents to safely care for their children and an overload of stressors without sufficient support contributes to child maltreatment.[18] As the pandemic places unprecedented stress on families, it also made it more difficult for them to access the services that help them to remain strong. In response, the child welfare system has had to rapidly adapt to help children remain safe with their families.

The pandemic weighed especially heavily on older youth in extended foster care and on youth who have recently aged out as they often lack the resources and connections that other young people have relied on to weather this crisis and face staggering levels of job loss and food insecurity.[19] Additionally, kin caregivers, especially the approximately 2.5 million kin caregivers raising children outside the formal child welfare system, have been made particularly vulnerable as they are disproportionately older and at high risk from the virus.[20]

The pandemic has laid bare the fact that too many families were in a precarious position before the pandemic began. It has made clear that we must invest in the strong families and communities that keep children safe.

YOUTH JUSTICE

1,909

CHILDREN ARE ARRESTED EACH DAY IN THE U.S.

The number of children arrested and incarcerated has declined over the past decade, largely due to positive changes in policy and practice. However, America's children continue to be criminalized at alarming rates and disparities have persisted. Many children—particularly children in poverty; children of color; children with disabilities; children with mental health and substance abuse challenges; children subjected to neglect, abuse, and/or other violence; children in foster care; and LGBTQ children—are pushed out of their schools and homes into the juvenile justice or adult criminal justice systems.

- In 2019, 696,620 children were arrested in the U.S. (see **Table 32**). A child or teen was arrested every 45 seconds despite a 62 percent reduction in child arrests between 2009 and 2019.[1]
- During the 2015-2016 school year alone, there were over 61,000 school arrests and 230,000 referrals to law enforcement, largely overrepresented by students with disabilities, Black students, and Indigenous students. The prioritization of police over mental health professionals in schools often leads to the criminalization of typical adolescent behavior and fuels the school-to-prison pipeline. Today, 14 million students attend schools with police but no counselor, nurse, psychologist, or social worker.[2]
- Although the number of children in the juvenile justice system has been cut in half since 2007, 43,580 children and youth were held in residential placement on a given night in 2017. Nearly 2 in 3 were placed in the most restrictive facilities.[3]
- Another 653 children were incarcerated in adult prisons on any given night in 2019—down from 2,743 in 2009 (see **Table 33**).
- Despite research showing that young people's brains continue to develop and mature through their late teens and into their mid-twenties,[4] young adults do not often have access to the age- and developmentally- appropriate policies and resources they need. Adolescents and young adults often "age out" of offending; however, as of 2021, 46 states and the District of Columbia automatically prosecute 18-year-olds as adults and 3 states automatically prosecute 17-year-olds as adults (Vermont is the first and only state to expand juvenile court jurisdiction to 18). All states also allow or require younger children charged with certain offenses to be prosecuted in adult court.[5]

Even as child arrests and detentions have fallen, extreme racial disparities have persisted across the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems. Children of color, particularly Black children, continue to be overcriminalized and overrepresented at every point—from school discipline and arrest to sentencing and post-adjudication placements.

- Although 63 percent of children arrested in the U.S. were white, American Indian children were 1.5 times more likely to be arrested and Black children were 2.4 times more likely to be arrested than white children.[6]
- In 2017, the residential placement rate for children of color was two times higher than that of white children nationwide: Hispanic children were 1.4 times more likely, American Indian children were 2.8 times more likely, and Black children were 4.6 times more likely to be committed or detained than white children. In 18 states and the District of Columbia, the residential placement rate for children of color was four times higher than that of white children.[7]
- Two-thirds (67 percent) of children in the juvenile justice system were children of color: 41 percent were Black and 21 percent were Hispanic (see **Table 34**).
- Children of color are also disproportionately transferred to the adult criminal justice system, where they are tried and prosecuted as adults. In 2018, Black youth represented less than 15 percent of the total youth population but 52 percent of youth prosecuted in adult criminal court.[8] Black youth are nine times more likely than white youth to receive an adult prison sentence, American Indian/Alaska Native youth are almost two times more likely, and Hispanic youth are 40 percent more likely.[9]

Boys, youth with disabilities, and LGBTQ youth also come into disproportionate contact with the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems.

- In 2017, the residential placement rate for boys was more than five times that for girls. Eighty-five percent of children in residential placement were male.[10]
- At least 1 in 3 youth in the juvenile justice system has a disability qualifying them for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)—nearly four times the rate of youth in public schools. However, less than half receive special education services while in custody.[11]
- The percent of LGBTQ children in the juvenile justice system (20 percent) is more than two times that of LGBTQ youth in the general population (7-9 percent); 85 percent are LGBTQ children of color.[12]

Children do not belong in prisons. Incarceration does not support the growth and development of our children; it places them at risk and limits their access to resources.

- While incarcerated, children are often provided with inadequate education instruction, health care, and counseling services and they are at greater risk of maltreatment, physical and psychological abuse, sexual assault, and suicide.[13]
- The use of solitary confinement further deprives them of social interaction, mental stimulation, and key services during a critical time of adolescent brain development. Youth of color and LGBTQ youth are at heightened risk of being placed in solitary confinement and youth with disabilities are often placed in isolation due to lack of available services or accommodations—when no child should be placed in solitary confinement regardless of identity.[14]
- Risks are heightened for children in the adult criminal justice system, which is even more focused on punishment rather than rehabilitation and treatment. Children in adult jails are more likely to suffer permanent trauma and are five times more likely to die by suicide than children held in juvenile detention centers.[15]

As youth crime and arrest rates continue to decline, now is the time to re-imagine youth justice. We have better choices than incarceration: diversion, treatment, after school programs, and family support programs support children, keep communities safe, and save taxpayer dollars. It is time to end the criminalization of children and provide every child time and space for learning, mistakes, and restorative support from caring adults.

COVID-19 Magnifies the Harms of Incarceration

With continued reliance on criminalization and incarceration, our nation's children—especially Black children—are being put at risk of lasting harm to their health, development, and well-being instead of receiving the resources and supports they need. This is especially true amid the ongoing pandemic.

Latoyia Porter of Louisiana is filing early release papers for her son, Treyjon. "We can do more for him on this side of the facility. He's already served five years for vehicular theft, a non-violent crime," she said. "With no rehabilitation services, what's the point of having him in there?" Treyjon and other young people detained in Louisiana have had their rehabilitation services suspended; have been pepper sprayed by untrained temps; and have been denied COVID-19 tests despite having symptoms. "It's really hard for a mother not to be in control of her child's healthcare," Latoyia explains.[16]

Living in congregate care settings with inadequate resources puts children like Treyjon at great risk of COVID-19. As of late February 2021, more than 3,750 young people in juvenile facilities and even more staff have been diagnosed with coronavirus across 41 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.[17] The roughly 44,000 incarcerated children across the country are living in fear of COVID-19 and are facing solitary confinement as a form of social distancing, limited access to PPE, limited or no visitations or contact with loved ones, and limited educational and recreational activities. To date, their needs have largely been ignored by federal lawmakers as they have crafted legislation to respond to the crisis.

GUN VIOLENCE

IN 2019, A CHILD OR TEEN WAS KILLED WITH A GUN EVERY

2 HOURS AND 36 MINUTES.

Even before COVID-19, another epidemic was killing our children at higher rates: gun violence. Gun violence was the leading cause of death for all children and teens ages 1-19 in 2018, surpassing motor vehicle accidents for the first time in history.[1] Children and teens are far more likely to die from gunfire than COVID-19,[2] yet our leaders continue to allow gun violence to go uncurbed and gun laws to go unchanged.

After years of congressional inaction, a growing number of children are paying with their lives. In 2019, 3,371 American children and teens were killed with guns—enough to fill more than 168 classrooms of 20 (see **Table 35**).

- Child and teen gun deaths hit a 19-year high in 2017 and have remained elevated since.[3]
- In 2019, nine children and teens were killed with guns each day in America—one every 2 hours and 36 minutes.[4]
- Guns killed more children and teens than cancer, pneumonia, influenza, asthma, HIV/AIDs, and opioids combined.[5]
- While mass shootings grabbed fleeting public and policymaker attention, routine gunfire took the lives of more children and teens every week than the Parkland, Sandy Hook, and Columbine massacres combined.
- Since 1963, nearly 193,000 children and teens have been killed with guns on American soil—more than four times the number of U.S. soldiers killed in action in the Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq wars combined.[6]

Shamefully, gun deaths reflect only part of the devastating toll of America's growing gun violence epidemic. Many more children and teens are injured than killed with guns each day in our nation.

- For every child or teen fatally shot, another 5 suffered non-fatal gunshot wounds.[7]
- An estimated 16,644 children and teens were injured with guns in 2018—one every 32 minutes.[8]

Gun violence affects all children, but children of color, boys, and older youth are at greatest risk.

- Black children and teens had the highest gun death rate in 2019 (11.9 per 100,000) followed by American Indian/Alaska Native children and teens (6.4 per 100,000).[9]
- Although Black children and teens made up only 14 percent of all children and teens in 2019, they accounted for 43 percent of child and teen gun deaths.[10]
- Black children and teens were four times more likely to be killed with guns than their white peers.[11]
- Eighty-six percent of children and teens who died from gunfire in 2019 were boys. Boys were six times more likely than girls to die in gun homicides. Black boys were 18 times more likely to be killed in gun homicides than white boys.[12]
- Eighty-five percent of child and teen gun deaths occurred among 15- to 19-year-olds, but infants and toddlers were far from immune. Guns killed more preschoolers than law enforcement officers in the line of duty. In 2019, 86 children under 5 were killed with guns compared with 51 law enforcement officers in the line of duty.[13]

No child is safe in a nation with easy access to deadly weapons. Even before the pandemic drove up fear and gun sales, there were too many firearms in our homes and streets—and a shocking number were sold without background checks.

- As of 2017, American civilians owned 393 million firearms—more than one gun per person. In contrast, U.S. military and law enforcement agencies possessed 5.5 million.[14]

- Americans accounted for less than five percent of the global population, but owned nearly half (46 percent) of all civilian guns in the world.[15]
- Nearly 1 in 5 guns are sold without a background check due to a loophole in federal law exempting sales at gun shows, online, or between private individuals.[16]

Children are learning there are no safe spaces in our gun-saturated nation. Many children even live in homes with loaded, unlocked guns and know where they are kept. Too often, this leads to tragic accidents and preventable deaths. With a growing number of children learning and playing at home during COVID-related closures, the risk of gun accidents and suicides has only increased.

- A third of households with children have a gun and nearly half of gun-owning households with children do not store all of their firearms safely.[17]
- An estimated 4.6 million children live in homes with at least one unlocked and loaded gun—and most children know where these guns are kept.[18] About 3 in 4 children ages 5-14 with gun-owning parents know where firearms are stored and more than 1 in 5 have handled a gun in the home without their parents' knowledge.[19]
- Guns in the home are more likely to endanger than protect loved ones. The presence of a gun in the home makes the likelihood of homicide three times higher, suicide three to five times higher, and accidental death four times higher.[20]
- Eight children and teens are killed or injured in accidental shootings involving an improperly stored gun each day in America.[21]

It is long past time for leaders to end America's gun violence epidemic. Congress must urgently pass common-sense gun safety measures like universal background checks and child access prevention laws to protect children from firearms in their homes, schools, and communities. All children deserve the chance to live, learn, and play safely—free from violence and fear.

COVID-19 is Magnifying Our Gun Violence Epidemic and Highlighting the Need for Immediate Reform

The pandemic has created and exacerbated so many crises for children and families and gun violence is no exception. Unprecedented increases in gun sales—coupled with financial insecurity, social isolation, and other stressors—are magnifying America's gun violence crisis.

- Nearly two million guns were sold in March 2020 alone—the second highest number of guns ever sold in a single month—and this disturbing trend continued in the months that followed.[22]
- Even with much of the country on lockdown, mass shootings hit a record high in 2020. Children witnessed, suffered, or died in 611 mass shootings in 2020—up from 417 in 2019.[23]
- Gun accidents in the home have also surged during the pandemic. School and child care closures have exacerbated children's risk of dying in gun accidents at home. Between March and May 2020, accidental gun deaths by children increased by 30 percent relative to rates over the past three years.[24]
- The pandemic has also intensified factors that contribute to gun-related domestic violence and community violence: job losses and financial insecurities have left victims of domestic violence more vulnerable to harm as well as fueling community gun violence.[25]

The COVID-19 crisis has exposed the consequences of our nation's longstanding failure to pass policies to keep children safe where they live and learn. Our leaders must not only advance meaningful solutions to address the COVID-19 crisis but also the ongoing gun violence crisis in America. We cannot allow children to die at the hands of these crises.

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

1 in 4

CHILDREN IN THE U.S.— APPROXIMATELY 18 MILLION—ARE CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS.

Immigrants are a part of our families, workplaces, and houses of worship. They are friends and neighbors woven into the fabric of our communities. Critically, they are parents tucking children into bed each night.[1] More than 1 in 4 (26 percent), or approximately 18 million, U.S. children lived with at least one immigrant parent in 2018.[2] For America to flourish and prosper, we must commit to policies that promote all children's well-being and center children of immigrants in these policies.

In direct opposition to children's well-being, the Trump administration's four-year legacy of dangerous, reckless policy choices has created a climate of confusion, fear, and impossible choices. The administration continuously attacked family unity, a foundational principle of child welfare protected by the U.S. Constitution.[3]

- Family separation is dangerous to children's health, development, and well-being.[4] Yet during the enforcement of the administration's Zero Tolerance policy between April and June 2018, the government took 4,500 children from their parents.[5] Although a court order forced the administration to end the policy in June 2018, 1,100 more children were taken from their parents between June 2018 and November 2019.[6] As of October 2020, the parents of 545 children taken from their families cannot be found.[7]
- Family separation is still happening. Today, there are fresh threats of separations due to the Remain in Mexico program, which has trapped nearly 60,000 people in terrible conditions at the U.S. border as they are forced to wait for their immigration proceedings in Mexico.[8] Parents are faced with the impossible choice between an indefinite wait in dangerous tent camps and sending their children alone across the border.[9]
- Parents detained together with their children in the U.S. have also faced family separation. In May 2020, families told their lawyers that ICE officers asked them to make the unconscionable choice of either separating from their children or staying in indefinite detention during a global pandemic.[10]

Family separation as well as the battle over the border wall and who will pay for it have been highly visible horrors, but the Trump administration's less visible shifts in regulatory and executive action also erected barriers to critical, life-saving benefits and services, affecting the lives of millions in the U.S.[11] What does that "invisible wall" look like?

A hungry child.

- Fear and confusion—known as the chilling effect—over intentionally complex Trump administration "public charge" regulations are causing families to disenroll or forgo health care, nutrition, public service, and other economic support programs.[12] For example, between 2016-2019, Texas experienced a precipitous drop in enrollment in benefit programs,[13] including a 13.5 percent drop in SNAP enrollment between December 2017 and April 2019.[14] A qualitative study of 32 geographically diverse organizations in Texas by CDF-Texas found that anti-immigrant policies such as public charge caused many mixed-status families to fear enrolling even their citizen children.[15]
- A nationally representative survey found that 11.4 percent of adults in immigrant families with children reported they or a family member avoided a nutrition program (SNAP or WIC) in 2019.[16]

A child without access to health care.

- More than 1 in 4 immigrant children did not have health coverage in 2019 (25.5 percent compared to 5.1 percent of native-born citizen children).[17]
- As of January 2020, 35 states and the District of Columbia provided health coverage to lawfully residing immigrant children without a five-year wait,[18] and as of July 2019, six states and the District of Columbia use state-only funds to provide Medicaid coverage to income-eligible children regardless of immigration status.[19]

A scared child.

- Children's feelings of personal safety are linked to the perceived safety of those who care for them.[20] Chronic uncertainty and distress about the threat of enforcement activity destroy children's sense of safety and their mental health.[21] The Trump administration's aggressive enforcement choices, including continuous threats to DACA, heightened fears of deportation.
- More than 250,000 children in the U.S. have at least one parent who is a DACA recipient.[22]
- An estimated 6.9 million children lived with undocumented parents.[23]

Beyond tearing down the harmful policies that separate families and chill access to critical services, we must lean forward and build a permanent solution to this nation's immigration crisis so that every child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving family and community.

Immigrant Families are Essential Members of Our Communities and Must Be Prioritized in COVID-19 Relief

Right now, immigrant workers are at the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis, keeping all of us healthy, fed, and cared for in health care, retail, manufacturing, and other essential industries.[24] In recognition of the critical role immigrant families play in our communities, Congress must ensure that COVID relief packages are inclusive of our immigrant children and families.[25]

For example, our leaders have the opportunity to make economic stimulus payments inclusive and fair. Immigrants and their families must be included in any new COVID stimulus payments and receive retroactive stimulus from when they were cut out of relief last year—regardless of the kind of taxpayer identification they use.

COVID relief, including economic stimulus payments, help families make ends meet during this crisis, and it is well established that cash assistance also supports children's well-being and healthy development.[26] Our leaders must act swiftly to ensure the next COVID relief package is the most robust and inclusive yet.

TABLES

In 2019, children of color made up nearly 50 percent of the total U.S. child population and more than half the child population in 11 states and the District of Columbia.

Table 1: Child Population by Age and Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	Number of Children		Percent of Children Who Are:							
	Under 5	Under 18	Children of Color	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Two or More Races	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander
Alabama	294,357	1,088,306	42.4	57.6	8.2	28.8	1.5	<1	0.5%	0.1%
Alaska	51,080	179,983	51.2	48.8	9.9	3.0	7.3	19.0	18.2	1.7
Arizona	429,788	1,640,236	61.4	38.6	44.5	5.0	3.0	5.0	4.9	0.2
Arkansas	188,464	700,155	37.2	62.8	12.7	17.7	2.1	<1	0.7	0.5
California	2,383,716	8,894,641	74.4	25.6	52.0	5.1	12.0	<1	0.4	0.4
Colorado	332,201	1,259,519	44.1	55.9	31.5	4.4	3.3	<1	0.6	0.1
Connecticut	181,710	727,440	46.1	53.9	25.3	11.5	5.2	<1	0.3	0.0
Delaware	54,719	203,572	51.6	48.4	16.5	25.4	4.0	<1	0.3	0.0
District of Columbia	45,368	128,168	76.3	23.7	17.1	52.5	2.5	<1	0.1	0.1
Florida	1,139,742	4,229,929	58.7	41.3	32.1	19.9	2.7	<1	0.2	0.1
Georgia	656,566	2,503,881	56.6	43.4	15.0	33.6	4.0	<1	0.2	0.1
Hawaii	85,219	299,868	85.6	14.4	18.5	1.9	34.2	<1	0.1	11.0
Idaho	116,200	448,201	25.3	74.7	18.4	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.1	0.2
Illinois	746,934	2,817,875	48.8	51.2	24.9	15.1	5.2	<1	0.1	0.0
Indiana	418,340	1,567,974	29.6	70.4	11.4	11.2	2.6	<1	0.2	0.0
Iowa	195,636	726,841	23.0	77.0	10.4	5.4	2.8	<1	0.4	0.2
Kansas	185,331	700,250	33.7	66.3	18.7	6.2	2.9	<1	0.7	0.1
Kentucky	272,610	1,002,871	22.0	78.0	6.5	9.3	1.8	<1	0.2	0.1
Louisiana	301,469	1,087,630	49.1	50.9	7.3	36.2	1.6	<1	0.6	0.0
Maine	63,537	248,842	12.0	88.0	2.9	2.9	1.4	<1	0.8	0.0
Maryland	361,937	1,334,687	58.7	41.3	16.5	30.6	6.1	<1	0.2	0.0
Massachusetts	357,362	1,352,800	39.6	60.4	19.2	8.9	7.2	<1	0.2	0.0
Michigan	566,442	2,143,933	33.2	66.8	8.5	16.0	3.4	<1	0.6	0.0
Minnesota	351,622	1,303,157	31.7	68.3	9.0	10.1	6.1	1.0	1.4	0.1
Mississippi	183,478	698,583	50.7	49.3	5.0	41.5	1.0	<1	0.6	0.0
Missouri	368,080	1,370,585	27.6	72.4	7.0	13.4	2.2	<1	0.4	0.2
Montana	61,156	228,588	22.4	77.6	6.7	0.7	<1	10.0	9.6	0.1
Nebraska	130,880	476,074	32.0	68.0	18.1	6.0	2.8	1.0	1.1	0.1
Nevada	185,575	692,639	65.4	34.6	41.2	10.5	6.2	<1	0.8	0.7
New Hampshire	63,621	255,253	15.7	84.3	6.6	2.0	3.3	<1	0.2	0.0
New Jersey	514,690	1,938,578	54.1	45.9	27.8	13.4	9.6	<1	0.1	0.0
New Mexico	120,986	475,838	76.2	23.8	60.4	1.7	1.2	10.0	10.3	0.1
New York	1,127,001	4,028,299	52.1	47.9	25.0	15.0	8.1	<1	0.3	0.0
North Carolina	609,770	2,300,715	48.3	51.7	16.9	22.5	3.4	1.0	1.2	0.1
North Dakota	54,101	180,171	24.7	75.3	6.8	4.3	1.6	8.0	7.7	0.1
Ohio	690,828	2,578,019	29.1	70.9	6.5	15.1	2.5	<1	0.2	0.1
Oklahoma	255,533	952,238	47.0	53.0	17.7	7.8	2.3	10.0	9.7	0.2
Oregon	227,811	866,562	36.6	63.4	22.3	2.4	4.6	1.0	1.2	0.5
Pennsylvania	697,924	2,634,613	33.9	66.1	12.8	13.1	3.9	<1	0.1	0.0
Rhode Island	54,521	204,495	43.1	56.9	26.5	7.6	3.7	<1	0.6	0.1
South Carolina	292,464	1,111,183	45.3	54.7	9.8	29.3	1.8	<1	0.3	0.1
South Dakota	61,167	217,101	29.0	71.0	7.1	2.9	1.6	13.0	12.7	0.1
Tennessee	408,605	1,510,051	35.2	64.8	10.2	18.9	1.9	<1	0.2	0.1
Texas	1,990,891	7,399,810	68.7	31.3	49.5	11.8	4.4	<1	0.2	0.1
Utah	247,803	931,184	26.6	73.4	18.0	1.3	2.8	<1	0.9	1.1
Vermont	29,043	114,005	11.0	89.0	2.9	1.9	2.1	<1	0.3	0.0
Virginia	505,477	1,860,848	46.9	53.1	14.5	19.8	6.5	<1	0.2	0.1
Washington	456,476	1,663,061	44.2	55.8	21.5	4.5	8.8	1.0	1.4	0.9
West Virginia	93,025	359,567	11.4	88.6	2.8	3.6	<1	<1	0.2	0.0
Wisconsin	330,496	1,266,597	29.8	70.2	12.1	8.8	3.7	1.0	1.1	0.0
Wyoming	34,931	133,734	23.3	76.7	15.0	1.1	<1	3.0	2.9	0.1
United States	**19,576,683**	**73,039,150**	**49.8**	**50.2**	**25.6**	**13.7**	**5.2**	**<1**	**0.8%**	**0.2%**

Notes: Racial categories (White, Black, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native) exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race. Children of color include all racial categories except white. Racial/ethnic categories are presented in the order of their share in the child population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. 2020. "Annual State Resident Population Estimates for 6 Race Groups (5 Race Alone Groups and Two or More Races) by Age, Sex, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019," "2019 Population Estimates. https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-state-detail.html."

Nearly 1 in 7 children were poor in 2019. 71 percent were children of color and more than 2 in 3 lived in working families.

Table 2: Poor Children in America in 2019—A Portrait

	Number Who Are Poor	Percent Who Are Poor	Percent of Poor Children
Among All Children	10,466,000	14.4%	100%
Extremely Poor	4,501,000	6.2	43.0
Under 6	3,612,000	15.4	34.5
Under 6 and Extremely Poor	1,679,000	7.2	16.0
By Race/Ethnicity			
White	3,030,000	8.3	29.0
Hispanic	3,888,000	20.8	37.1
Black	2,668,000	26.5	25.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	127,000	20.6	1.2
Asian	271,000	7.0	2.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	30,000	18.1	0.3
Two or More Races	452,000	14.0	4.3
By Geography			
In Cities > 50,000	4,218,000	18.3	40.3
In Suburbs	4,458,000	11.0	42.6
Outside Cities and Suburbs	1,790,000	19.6	17.1
By Region			
Northeast	1,439,000	12.6	13.7
Midwest	2,132,000	13.9	20.4
South	4,615,000	16.3	44.1
West	2,280,000	13.0	21.8
By Family Structure			
In Single-Parent Family	6,958,000	31.7	68.4[a]
In Married-Couple Family	3,220,000	6.4	31.6[a]
By Family Working Status			
Any Family Member Works	7,128,000	10.5	70.1[b]
Works Full-Time, Year-Round	3,430,000	5.8	33.7[b]
Head of Family Works	5,565,000	9.5	54.8[b]
Works Full-Time, Year-Round	2,341,000	5.2	23.0[b]
Adults 18-64	**18,660,000**	**9.4%**	–
Seniors 65+	**4,858,000**	**8.9%**	–

[a] Percentages calculated relative to the number of poor children related to the head of household (10,177,000) rather than the total number of poor children (10,466,000).

[b] Percentages calculated relative to the number of poor children in related families (10,165,000) rather than the total number of poor children (10,466,000).

Notes: A family of four was considered poor in 2019 with an annual income below $26,370 and extremely poor with an income below half that amount ($13,185). Poverty estimates differ based on the source of the Census data. Census data on poverty is collected through both the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS provides the most accurate national data on poverty and is therefore the official source of national poverty estimates. The ACS uses a larger sample size and is therefore preferred for state-level poverty data. All racial categories exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey. 2020. "2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement," Tables POV01, POV03, POV07, POV13, POV21, POV40. https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/data/tables.html. Additional customized tables generated using MDAT. https://data.census/gov/mdat/#/.

The federal government uses different guidelines for determining who is considered poor and who is eligible for public benefits. In 2019, a family of four was considered poor if their annual income fell below $26,172 and extremely poor if their income fell below half that amount. A family of four was considered eligible for public benefits if their annual income fell below $25,750.

Table 3: Federal Poverty Thresholds and Guidelines, 2019

Federal Poverty Thresholds[a]

	Poverty (100 Percent)			Extreme Poverty (50 Percent)		
Family Size	Per Year	Per Month	Per Week	Per Year	Per Month	Per Week
1	$13,011	$1,084	$250	$6,506	$542	$125
2	16,521	1,377	318	8,261	688	159
3	20,335	1,695	391	10,168	847	196
4	26,172	2,181	503	13,086	1,091	252
5	31,021	2,585	597	15,511	1,293	298
6	35,129	2,927	676	17,565	1,464	338
7	40,016	3,335	770	20,008	1,667	385
8	44,461	3,705	855	22,231	1,853	428
9 or More	52,875	4,406	1,017	26,438	2,203	508

Federal Poverty Guideines[b]

Family Size	Poverty
1	$12,490
2	16,910
3	21,330
4	25,750
5	30,170
6	34,590
7	39,010
8	43,430
Each Additional Person beyond 8	4,420

[a] The federal poverty thresholds are used to calculate those who are considered poor and extremely poor. The poverty threshold numbers in the table are weighted averages of the actual thresholds. The actual poverty thresholds vary slightly based on the number of children and, for households of size one and two, whether the houshold includes someone over 64. Except for Alaska and Hawaii, which have slightly higher thresholds, no adjustments are made for differences in living costs from state to state. Extreme poverty is defined as half of the poverty thresholds.

[b] The federal poverty guidelines (also called the Federal Poverty Level) are a simplification of the poverty thresholds used to determine eligibility for public benefits and are adjusted annually to account for inflation.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. ""Poverty Thresholds for 2019 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years."" https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html; U.S Department of Health and Human Services. 2019. ""Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines."" Federal Register 84 (22). https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-01/pdf/2019-00621.pdf.

Hispanic children were the largest group of poor children in 2019 followed by white and Black children.

Table 4: Number of Poor Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Two or More Races
Alabama	81,673	28,725	110,120	1,087	917	8,099
Alaska	5,641	2,044	1,524	108	10,318	2,775
Arizona	58,188	180,638	25,491	5,225	33,257	22,203
Arkansas	70,713	22,639	45,681	1,763	151	11,952
California	164,357	952,382	117,166	82,954	16,576	87,281
Colorado	42,168	68,837	14,606	2,896	3,337	12,859
Connecticut	18,889	53,102	24,198	2,917	1,487	9,127
Delaware	9,502	9,974	10,742	659	n/a	1,920
District of Columbia	n/a	2,572	21,496	35	n/a	n/a
Florida	184,081	279,388	245,708	10,716	2,661	43,612
Georgia	100,492	97,131	234,667	7,915	3,633	25,697
Hawaii	2,777	8,580	140	17,050	n/a	14,559
Idaho	36,474	17,444	n/a	798	2,423	3,530
Illinois	126,380	139,568	139,887	13,162	1,188	25,651
Indiana	118,839	34,409	55,671	5,400	806	19,517
Iowa	55,417	16,071	15,096	1,211	1,167	4,478
Kansas	42,761	34,128	13,404	2,977	1,572	9,807
Kentucky	147,561	18,574	28,132	2,868	n/a	17,691
Louisiana	81,557	25,662	167,298	2,065	1,141	11,571
Maine	27,734	566	2,644	340	327	1,268
Maryland	30,246	31,572	76,384	7,095	489	12,641
Massachusetts	45,461	60,187	34,702	6,221	896	19,110
Michigan	167,315	54,851	117,363	6,230	4,487	29,021
Minnesota	51,850	19,137	45,414	9,162	5,792	15,636
Mississippi	47,465	13,385	123,582	846	1,499	7,256
Missouri	133,568	26,443	49,827	2,217	1,755	17,954
Montana	19,852	3,258	n/a	n/a	8,308	3,095
Nebraska	22,300	15,192	9,173	802	1,713	3,394
Nevada	24,783	59,649	18,944	5,165	2,542	10,002
New Hampshire	14,391	1,600	659	110	n/a	1,070
New Jersey	50,737	108,232	56,704	9,675	760	13,224
New Mexico	15,643	77,345	2,875	387	21,269	7,279
New York	230,083	240,382	184,354	46,690	3,799	52,205
North Carolina	122,241	112,212	167,122	5,283	11,394	30,463
North Dakota	7,918	1,920	n/a	n/a	4,523	1,870
Ohio	227,321	48,080	144,047	5,596	1,742	48,038
Oklahoma	69,468	45,613	27,622	2,915	20,465	28,855
Oregon	54,380	37,994	5,598	2,566	2,902	10,798
Pennsylvania	180,925	109,057	123,326	11,384	1,719	33,074
Rhode Island	5,740	14,886	4,060	332	n/a	6,726
South Carolina	61,613	33,881	106,983	1,397	110	12,160
South Dakota	11,424	1,840	1,916	n/a	13,626	2,671
Tennessee	133,986	48,128	84,585	2,195	1,947	22,614
Texas	189,524	930,760	233,275	31,610	4,744	57,191
Utah	41,999	36,451	4,456	1,692	1,712	7,764
Vermont	8,789	n/a	1,104	n/a	n/a	542
Virginia	81,285	44,913	96,897	6,627	163	21,048
Washington	79,927	74,509	14,697	8,583	6,370	20,195
West Virginia	56,494	1,922	4,864	n/a	n/a	5,732
Wisconsin	69,290	37,718	38,228	7,150	5,827	13,653
Wyoming	9,041	3,869	n/a	n/a	922	1,205
United States	**3,029,608**	**3,888,278**	**2,667,773**	**301,093**	**126,543**	**452,478**

Notes: Poverty estimates differ based on the source of Census data. Census data on poverty is collected through both the American Community Survey (ACS) and Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS provides the most accurate national data on poverty and is therefore the official source of national poverty estimates. The ACS uses a larger sample size and is preferred for state-level poverty data. For national estimates, all racial categories exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. For state estimates, only the "White" racial category excludes children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race. The racial categories Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Other Pacific Islander are combined because disaggregated data were not available for most states. "N/A" means data were not available.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2019. "2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates," Tables B17020B-I. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey. 2019. "2018 Annual Social and Economic Supplement." Accessed using Data Ferrett. https://dataferrett.census.gov/.

In 2019, more than 1 in 4 Black children were poor in 39 states and the District of Columbia; Hispanic children, in 22 states; and American Indian/Alaska Native children, in 24 states.

Table 5: Percent of Poor Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Two or More Races
Alabama	13.20%	33.3%	35.2%	7.9%	20.5%	20.9%
Alaska	6.7	11.9	40.2	1.3	28.0	10.8
Arizona	9.4	25.1	29.4	11.2	36.4	18.5
Arkansas	16.4	26.9	38.9	15.8	5.8	29.8
California	7.4	21.0	25.7	8.0	23.6	10.8
Colorado	6.1	17.7	25.5	8.4	26.8	13.1
Connecticut	4.9	29.3	26.8	8.7	52.2	15.8
Delaware	10.2	30.0	21.2	8.6	n/a	13.0
District of Columbia	n/a	12.0	31.0	1.5	n/a	n/a
Florida	10.9	20.9	29.2	10.5	22.2	15.8
Georgia	9.5	26.6	28.4	8.4	34.2	18.2
Hawaii	6.6	15.8	3.0	14.7	n/a	12.3
Idaho	11.1	21.4	n/a	15.5	42.7	13.3
Illinois	8.9	20.3	34.0	9.6	13.7	15.8
Indiana	11.1	19.9	32.7	13.4	22.7	23.2
Iowa	10.1	21.9	37.6	7.3	44.3	13.9
Kansas	9.4	26.6	32.3	15.9	37.6	19.5
Kentucky	19.3	30.3	32.2	15.1	n/a	33.4
Louisiana	15.0	32.8	43.2	10.9	14.3	29.0
Maine	13.2	9.2	40.2	16.7	17.1	12.9
Maryland	5.6	14.9	18.7	9.5	13.6	14.0
Massachusetts	5.7	23.8	26.8	7.0	28.9	18.2
Michigan	11.9	30.6	35.6	9.3	35.6	21.2
Minnesota	6.0	16.5	37.2	12.2	37.1	16.8
Mississippi	14.1	43.4	42.9	11.3	40.5	32.5
Missouri	13.8	28.7	28.4	9.3	34.8	22.1
Montana	11.5	27.4	n/a	n/a	37.2	22.1
Nebraska	7.0	18.7	32.2	7.5	26.9	12.4
Nevada	10.7	21.2	25.8	10.5	24.3	16.3
New Hampshire	6.9	9.5	12.8	1.7	n/a	8.3
New Jersey	5.8	20.4	21.4	5.5	18.4	10.8
New Mexico	14.2	27.4	26.9	5.7	40.1	24.8
New York	12.2	24.8	27.7	15.2	28.7	21.5
North Carolina	10.5	29.8	32.5	8.1	37.3	22.0
North Dakota	5.9	19.6	n/a	n/a	33.0	15.5
Ohio	12.7	29.8	38.8	9.9	32.2	28.7
Oklahoma	14.1	27.5	38.2	15.4	22.8	24.0
Oregon	10.2	20.2	33.8	7.8	25.2	14.2
Pennsylvania	10.6	33.4	34.5	12.6	24.3	21.1
Rhode Island	5.1	32.7	23.3	5.3	n/a	34.2
South Carolina	10.4	14.7	34.5	7.3	3.3	19.0
South Dakota	7.5	31.9	31.2	n/a	50.9	22.7
Tennessee	14.0	25.7	30.9	8.4	49.2	29.8
Texas	8.3	21.9	26.5	9.8	16.8	15.3
Utah	6.2	17.8	37.0	8.1	17.8	15.4
Vermont	8.8	n/a	52.3	n/a	n/a	10.0
Virginia	8.4	17.7	25.9	5.9	3.5	14.7
Washington	8.8	21.2	20.1	6.6	24.5	10.7
West Virginia	18.3	21.4	44.5	n/a	n/a	35.8
Wisconsin	7.9	25.4	35.5	17.2	39.7	19.2
Wyoming	9.1	20.2	n/a	n/a	24.0	14.5
United States	**8.3%**	**20.8%**	**26.5%**	**7.7%**	**20.6%**	**14.0%**

Notes: Poverty estimates differ based on the source of Census data. Census data on poverty is collected through both the American Community Survey (ACS) and Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS provides the most accurate national data on poverty and is therefore the official source of national poverty estimates. The ACS uses a larger sample size and is preferred for state-level poverty data. For national estimates, all racial categories exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. For state estimates, only the "White" racial category excludes children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race. The racial categories Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Other Pacific Islander are combined because disaggregated data were not available for most states. "N/A" means data were not available.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. "2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates," Tables B17020B-I. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey. 2020. "2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement." Accessed using MDAT. https://data.census.gov/mdat/#/.

In 2019, more than 1 in 6 children were poor in 21 states and the District of Columbia.

Table 6: Poor and Extremely Poor Children by Age, 2019

	Poor Children						Extremely Poor Children					
	Under 18			Under 6			Under 18			Under 6		
	Number	Percent	Rank*	Number	Percent	Rank*	Number	Percent	Rank*	Number	Percent	Rank*
Alabama	228,412	21.4%	45	81,998	24.1%	45	108,936	10.2%	46	42,231	12.4%	46
Alaska	22,921	13.0	14	9,618	15.9	22	7,589	4.3	3	2,661	4.4	2
Arizona	308,459	19.1	38	104,663	20.8	37	137,419	8.5	39	48,268	9.6	38
Arkansas	151,448	22.1	47	54,838	25.5	46	59,582	8.7	41	22,709	10.6	44
California	1,363,574	15.6	27	431,358	15.5	20	556,820	6.4	26	180,820	6.5	19
Colorado	135,405	10.9	5	42,516	10.9	3	59,438	4.8	7	18,794	4.8	4
Connecticut	101,233	14.1	22	31,236	14.5	15	43,899	6.1	22	14,707	6.8	21
Delaware	32,277	16.4	29	10,351	16.8	24	11,345	5.8	18	4,838	7.9	27
District of Columbia	23,931	18.9	—	9,654	18.2	—	12,737	10.1	—	5,775	10.9	—
Florida	737,415	17.7	34	259,512	19.7	35	324,966	7.8	33	120,199	9.1	36
Georgia	461,456	18.7	37	152,237	20.0	36	187,231	7.6	31	64,691	8.5	32
Hawaii	36,461	12.4	13	11,362	11.3	7	18,333	6.2	24	5,250	5.2	5
Idaho	58,188	13.2	17	23,581	16.7	23	23,293	5.3	11	9,111	6.5	19
Illinois	436,327	15.7	28	153,921	17.6	29	175,016	6.3	25	63,144	7.2	24
Indiana	230,725	15.2	26	82,393	17.1	26	109,776	7.2	30	40,542	8.4	31
Iowa	92,018	13.0	14	34,616	15.1	18	36,995	5.2	9	12,767	5.6	7
Kansas	101,094	14.7	23	36,243	16.8	24	39,681	5.8	18	15,854	7.3	25
Kentucky	212,130	21.7	46	81,402	25.5	46	102,771	10.5	47	42,737	13.4	47
Louisiana	288,732	27.0	49	97,332	28.1	49	140,522	13.2	50	48,949	14.1	49
Maine	32,746	13.8	20	12,782	17.6	29	12,622	5.3	11	5,084	7.0	22
Maryland	156,992	12.0	10	50,697	12.1	8	78,016	6.0	20	26,543	6.4	16
Massachusetts	154,457	11.6	8	50,244	12.1	8	79,599	6.0	20	25,986	6.3	14
Michigan	371,020	17.6	33	129,434	19.3	34	162,436	7.7	32	56,934	8.5	32
Minnesota	143,006	11.2	7	46,414	11.2	6	61,995	4.9	8	21,542	5.2	5
Mississippi	192,413	28.1	50	65,621	30.9	50	85,187	12.4	49	30,911	14.6	50
Missouri	229,336	17.1	32	78,375	18.3	31	108,887	8.1	35	35,806	8.3	30
Montana	32,888	14.9	24	10,313	15.3	19	12,338	5.6	15	5,395	8.0	28
Nebraska	51,085	11.0	6	19,924	13.1	12	21,827	4.7	6	9,401	6.2	13
Nevada	114,886	16.9	30	40,248	18.5	32	43,469	6.4	26	15,381	7.1	23
New Hampshire	17,609	7.1	1	5,537	7.3	1	6,853	2.7	1	2,434	3.2	1
New Jersey	235,470	12.3	12	81,031	13.4	13	102,571	5.4	13	36,043	6.0	9
New Mexico	115,997	24.9	48	38,572	27.7	48	52,678	11.3	48	18,771	13.5	48
New York	711,686	18.1	35	244,630	18.8	33	331,669	8.4	37	115,945	8.9	35
North Carolina	440,230	19.5	40	153,623	21.9	41	198,004	8.8	42	70,274	10.0	40
North Dakota	17,823	10.2	3	6,237	10.5	2	9,062	5.2	9	3,442	5.8	8
Ohio	466,168	18.4	36	169,765	21.0	38	208,477	8.2	36	82,067	10.2	42
Oklahoma	186,392	19.9	43	65,187	21.9	41	81,827	8.8	42	30,333	10.2	42
Oregon	110,323	13.1	16	33,675	12.7	10	47,412	5.6	15	16,925	6.4	16
Pennsylvania	434,904	16.9	30	143,024	17.4	27	203,907	7.9	34	72,027	8.8	34
Rhode Island	28,009	14.0	21	9,718	15.5	20	13,154	6.6	28	4,737	7.6	26
South Carolina	214,772	19.7	41	72,672	21.7	40	95,259	8.8	42	33,107	9.9	39
South Dakota	31,425	15.0	25	12,177	17.4	27	14,899	7.1	29	5,637	8.1	29
Tennessee	290,815	19.7	41	104,712	22.1	44	124,188	8.4	37	44,158	9.3	37
Texas	1,400,918	19.2	39	502,052	21.5	39	624,266	8.6	40	233,897	10.0	40
Utah	91,433	9.9	2	32,755	11.1	5	35,505	3.9	2	13,238	4.5	3
Vermont	11,320	10.2	3	3,627	11.0	4	5,101	4.6	4	1,961	6.0	9
Virginia	244,953	13.4	18	83,381	14.3	14	110,938	6.1	22	36,825	6.3	14
Washington	196,520	12.0	10	69,443	13.0	11	89,933	5.5	14	32,634	6.1	12
West Virginia	69,975	20.1	44	23,611	22.0	43	35,117	10.1	45	12,859	12.0	45
Wisconsin	167,605	13.5	19	56,225	14.5	15	71,008	5.7	17	23,023	6.0	9
Wyoming	15,088	11.6	8	5,910	15.0	17	6,060	4.6	4	2,526	6.4	16
United States	**10,465,773**	**14.4%**		**3,612,490**	**15.4%**		**4,500,840**	**6.2%**		**1,678,050**	**7.2%**	

*States are ranked 1 to 50 with 1 meaning the lowest child poverty rate and 50 meaning the highest child poverty rate.

Notes: Poverty estimates differ based on the sources of Census data. Census data on poverty is collected through both the American Community Survey (ACS) and Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS provides the most accurate national data on poverty and is therefore the official source of national poverty estimates. The ACS uses a larger sample size and is preferred for state-level poverty data.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. "2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates," Tables B17020 and B17024. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey. 2020. "2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement." Accessed using MDAT. https://data.census.gov/mdat/#/.

In 2019, the median income of Black (43,900), Hispanic (52,300) and American Indian (48,000) families with children was about half the median income of white families with children (95,700).

Table 7: Median Family Income among Households with Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	Total	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian/Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	American Indian
Alabama	62,400	78,900	35,400	35,300	87,100	69,500	S
Alaska	83,700	99,200	76,300	S	64,200	76,000	53,300
Arizona	70,200	92,400	50,200	52,900	115,200	75,500	42,300
Arkansas	57,300	69,600	42,200	28,800	93,200	49,700	S
California	85,300	123,500	57,600	58,800	132,600	88,300	64,700
Colorado	92,500	110,200	59,100	45,400	111,700	76,000	56,600
Connecticut	98,300	130,500	46,000	47,800	140,200	75,200	S
Delaware	77,200	101,200	47,300	49,100	117,800	S	S
District of Columbia	106,700	247,900	92,800	47,400	S	S	S
Florida	65,800	85,800	52,300	45,000	90,700	65,100	49,400
Georgia	70,800	93,100	50,700	47,400	100,600	73,200	S
Hawaii	93,300	105,700	71,800	86,900	92,300	81,800	S
Idaho	72,500	79,300	52,200	S	S	62,100	S
Illinois	86,600	107,400	55,800	39,700	118,700	74,800	63,600
Indiana	71,100	80,400	47,100	34,200	64,700	57,400	S
Iowa	77,900	86,400	48,600	36,900	82,100	53,300	S
Kansas	75,700	86,300	46,300	40,800	76,300	47,800	S
Kentucky	65,100	69,300	45,600	39,600	76,100	41,200	S
Louisiana	61,300	84,500	40,500	33,900	69,000	65,800	53,100
Maine	75,600	76,500	S	S	S	S	S
Maryland	103,600	130,500	68,700	71,700	134,100	97,000	S
Massachusetts	111,800	135,600	48,100	63,100	142,000	71,600	S
Michigan	73,700	83,800	45,800	34,700	105,000	45,200	45,400
Minnesota	97,200	108,600	52,900	41,600	90,000	52,000	34,000
Mississippi	53,100	75,700	39,300	31,400	60,700	S	S
Missouri	72,100	80,000	45,100	40,700	95,100	54,300	S
Montana	71,600	76,500	49,700	S	S	S	33,300
Nebraska	80,300	90,000	53,100	42,400	69,400	52,300	34,400
Nevada	69,300	89,100	50,900	47,400	77,900	69,400	61,100
New Hampshire	102,400	104,400	57,800	S	137,400	S	S
New Jersey	108,400	141,000	58,000	57,900	157,700	86,900	S
New Mexico	53,400	78,400	46,400	38,100	77,100	58,500	32,500
New York	83,600	110,100	54,100	51,300	87,400	64,400	55,500
North Carolina	68,900	88,400	40,400	41,000	106,100	53,200	39,600
North Dakota	87,600	97,700	56,800	S	S	S	33,600
Ohio	72,100	81,700	45,800	33,300	105,100	45,600	S
Oklahoma	62,200	76,000	43,000	40,000	69,400	51,100	54,000
Oregon	81,200	89,100	56,900	48,000	121,200	64,100	60,500
Pennsylvania	80,700	93,100	40,800	37,900	99,900	45,900	S
Rhode Island	82,300	100,600	39,800	45,700	S	S	S
South Carolina	66,700	85,600	45,400	36,800	111,100	70,800	S
South Dakota	75,100	83,300	48,700	S	S	S	27,300
Tennessee	66,400	77,500	41,600	40,500	91,000	47,000	S
Texas	72,100	106,400	51,200	49,200	112,400	69,700	61,900
Utah	87,300	94,700	56,100	S	81,100	66,500	51,300
Vermont	82,200	84,800	S	S	S	S	S
Virginia	94,500	110,200	63,500	57,100	140,100	77,700	S
Washington	91,500	101,900	52,800	57,800	130,100	78,100	41,600
West Virginia	58,500	61,000	S	26,800	S	S	S
Wisconsin	82,000	92,600	43,100	30,900	93,700	55,500	31,700
Wyoming	80,000	85,100	68,200	S	S	S	S
United States	**78,000**	**95,700**	**52,300**	**43,900**	**114,900**	**67,800**	**48,000**

Notes: "S" means estimates were suppressed when confidence interval around the percent was greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. Racial/ethnic categories are presented in the order of their share in the child population. The racial category, "White," excludes children of Hispanic ethnicity while the racial categories, "Black," "Asian/Pacific Islander," "Two or More Races" and "American Indian" include children of Hispanic ethnicity.

Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center. 2020. "Median Family Income among Households with Children by Race and Ethnicity, 2019." https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8782-median-family-income-among-households-with-children-by-race-and-ethnicity#detailed/.

In 2020, a person working full-time, year-round at minimum wage could not afford the monthly Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom rental unit in any state or the District of Columbia.

Table 8: Rental Housing Affordability, FY2020

	Monthly Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a Two-Bedroom Rental Unit	Minimum Wage ($/hr)	Number of Full-Time Jobs at Minimum Wage Needed to Afford Two-Bedroom FMR	Hourly Wage Necessary to Afford FMR with One Full-Time Job
Alabama	$803	$7.25[a]	2.1	$15.44
Alaska	1,304	10.19	2.5	25.07
Arizona	1,097	12.00	1.8	21.10
Arkansas	738	10.00	1.4	14.19
California	1,922	12.00	2.8	36.96
Colorado	1,375	12.00	2.2	26.45
Connecticut	1,374	12.00	2.4	26.42
Delaware	1,142	9.25	2.4	21.96
District of Columbia	1,707	15.00	2.2	32.83
Florida	1,270	8.56	2.9	24.43
Georgia	994	7.25	2.6	19.11
Hawaii	2,015	10.10	3.8	38.76
Idaho	863	7.25	2.3	16.59
Illinois	1,108	10.00	2.1	21.30
Indiana	848	7.25	2.3	16.32
Iowa	804	7.25	2.1	15.46
Kansas	855	7.25	2.3	16.43
Kentucky	780	7.25	2.1	14.99
Louisiana	909	7.25[a]	2.4	17.48
Maine	1,029	12.00	1.6	19.79
Maryland	1,459	11.00	2.6	28.06
Massachusetts	1,847	12.75	2.8	35.52
Michigan	906	9.65	1.8	17.42
Minnesota	1,068	10.00	2.1	20.53
Mississippi	774	7.25[a]	2.1	14.89
Missouri	836	9.45	1.7	16.07
Montana	878	8.65	2.0	16.88
Nebraska	846	9.00	1.8	16.27
Nevada	1,065	9.00/8.00[b]	2.3	20.48
New Hampshire	1,218	7.25	3.2	23.43
New Jersey	1,544	11.00	2.7	29.69
New Mexico	851	9.00	1.8	16.37
New York	1,691	11.80	2.8	32.53
North Carolina	919	7.25	2.4	17.67
North Dakota	841	7.25	2.2	16.18
Ohio	832	8.70	1.8	15.99
Oklahoma	828	7.25	2.2	15.93
Oregon	1,267	12.00	2.0	24.37
Pennsylvania	1,000	7.25	2.7	19.23
Rhode Island	1,101	10.50	2.0	21.16
South Carolina	900	7.25[a]	2.4	17.30
South Dakota	793	9.30	1.6	15.24
Tennessee	889	7.25[a]	2.4	17.09
Texas	1,087	7.25	2.9	20.90
Utah	1,031	7.25	2.7	19.83
Vermont	1,215	10.96	2.1	23.36
Virginia	1,229	7.25	3.3	23.64
Washington	1,584	13.50	2.3	30.46
West Virginia	778	8.75	1.7	14.97
Wisconsin	898	7.25	2.4	17.27
Wyoming	892	7.25	2.4	17.15
United States	**$1,246**	**$7.25**	**2.4**	**$23.96**

[a] In these states federal minimum wage law supersedes state minimum wage laws because the federal minimum wage is greater than the state minimum wage or there is no state minimum wage.

[b] As of July 1, 2020, Nevada raised the minimum wage to $8.00 for employees with health insurance and $9.00 for employees without health insurance.

Notes: Affordability is defined as rent not being more than 30 percent of monthly income. Fair Market Rent (FMR) is the 40th percentile of gross rents for typical, non-substandard rental units. It is calculated annually by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sources: National Low Income Housing Coalition. 2020. "Out of Reach 2020." https://reports.nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/OOR_2020.pdf; U.S. Department of Labor. "Consolidated Minimum Wage Table." Updated as of September 1, 2020. https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/mw-consolidated.

The number of homeless children and youth in public schools has more than doubled since the start of the Great Recession. Only 19 states saw decreases between the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years.

Table 9: Homeless Children Enrolled in Public Schools, Select School Years

	School Year:					Percent Change between 2006-2007 and 2017-2018	Percent Change between 2016-2017 and 2017-2018
	2006-2007	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018		
Alabama	10,907	19,373	14,112	15,931	15,023	37.7%	-5.7%
Alaska	3,216	4,018	3,784	4,041	3,769	17.2	-6.7
Arizona	19,628	28,393	24,770	25,454	24,399	24.3	-4.1
Arkansas	7,080	10,756	11,984	13,104	14,052	98.5	7.2
California	178,014	235,983	246,296	262,935	263,058	47.8	0.0
Colorado	11,978	24,146	23,014	21,062	22,369	86.8	6.2
Connecticut	1,980	3,192	3,759	4,293	5,015	153.3	16.8
Delaware	1,842	3,098	3,227	3,018	3,484	89.1	15.4
District of Columbia	824	3,551	6,260	6,415	7,445	803.5	16.1
Florida	30,554	73,117	72,042	75,106	95,167	211.5	26.7
Georgia	14,017	37,791	38,474	38,336	39,571	182.3	3.2
Hawaii	1,132	3,526	3,790	2,958	3,101	173.9	4.8
Idaho	1,875	7,162	7,143	7,512	8,080	330.9	7.6
Illinois	19,821	52,333	50,949	51,617	52,978	167.3	2.6
Indiana	8,249	19,205	17,863	18,431	18,625	125.8	1.1
Iowa	2,886	6,936	6,774	6,789	7,124	146.8	4.9
Kansas	3,569	9,715	9,265	9,297	8,471	137.3	-8.9
Kentucky	18,337	27,836	27,603	26,826	23,964	30.7	-10.7
Louisiana	34,102	20,277	20,254	30,481	18,320	-46.3	-39.9
Maine	1,055	1,934	2,271	2,515	2,443	131.6	-2.9
Maryland	8,456	16,096	16,267	17,122	17,601	108.1	2.8
Massachusetts	11,863	19,353	20,929	20,872	23,601	98.9	13.1
Michigan	24,066	40,861	39,092	36,811	35,193	46.2	-4.4
Minnesota	6,008	15,196	16,550	17,750	16,698	177.9	-5.9
Mississippi	12,856	10,309	9,284	9,979	9,815	-23.7	-1.6
Missouri	13,620	30,650	32,133	33,857	36,006	164.4	6.3
Montana	2,202	3,075	3,003	3,606	3,977	80.6	10.3
Nebraska	1,633	3,317	3,422	3,592	3,723	128.0	3.6
Nevada	5,374	17,178	20,696	16,765	20,685	284.9	23.4
New Hampshire	1,983	3,335	3,349	3,913	3,982	100.8	1.8
New Jersey	4,279	10,150	10,391	10,994	13,234	209.3	20.4
New Mexico	4,383	10,279	10,071	11,625	10,683	143.7	-8.1
New York	44,018	118,435	139,959	148,418	153,209	248.1	3.2
North Carolina	12,659	26,613	26,339	29,297	28,877	128.1	-1.4
North Dakota	1,209	2,715	2,230	2,153	2,156	78.3	0.1
Ohio	13,578	27,939	29,403	30,385	34,180	151.7	12.5
Oklahoma	8,284	26,979	26,268	27,096	25,623	209.3	-5.4
Oregon	15,517	22,637	22,958	24,322	23,141	49.1	-4.9
Pennsylvania	12,935	22,014	23,164	25,109	30,624	136.8	22.0
Rhode Island	667	1,004	1,049	1,231	1,523	128.3	23.7
South Carolina	6,033	13,353	14,140	11,767	12,426	106.0	5.6
South Dakota	1,038	2,156	1,958	2,018	2,037	96.2	0.9
Tennessee	6,567	13,259	15,404	16,851	17,766	170.5	5.4
Texas	33,896	113,063	115,676	111,177	231,305	582.4	108.1
Utah	9,991	14,999	15,094	15,438	13,838	38.5	-10.4
Vermont	764	1,124	1,098	1,097	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	9,898	17,876	18,577	20,593	20,393	106.0	-1.0
Washington	16,853	35,511	39,127	40,930	40,112	138.0	-2.0
West Virginia	2,984	7,955	9,320	9,024	9,716	225.6	7.7
Wisconsin	8,103	18,366	18,592	19,264	18,853	132.7	-2.1
Wyoming	675	1,556	1,625	1,908	1,703	152.3	-10.7
United States	**673,458**	**1,259,695**	**1,300,802**	**1,351,085**	**1,499,138**	**122.6%**	**11.0%**

[a] U.S. totals exclude data from Puerto Rico and the Bureau of Indian Education.

Sources: National Center for Homeless Education. 2009. "Education for Homesless Children and Youths Program: Analysis of Data." https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/data_comp_04-07.pdf; National Center for Homeless Education. 2019. "Federal Data Summary School Years 2014-15 to 2016-17: Education for Homeless Children and Youth," Table 4. https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Federal-Data-Summary-SY-14.15-to-16.17-Final-Published-2.12.19.pdf; National Center for Homeless Education. 2020. "Federal Data Summary School Years 2015-16 to 2017-18: Education For Homeless Children and Youth," Table 5. https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Federal-Data-Summary-SY-15.16-to-17.18-Published-1.30.2020.pdf.

In 2018, at least 1 in 6 children living in food-insecure households in 24 states and District of Columbia.

Table 10: Child Hunger, 2018 and 2019

Children Living in Food-Insecure Households[a]

	2018 Number	2018 Percent	State Rank[b]
Alabama	251,800	23.1%	47
Alaska	33,200	18.1	32
Arizona	311,390	19.0	37
Arkansas	162,270	23.1	47
California	1,362,340	15.2	16
Colorado	155,120	12.2	5
Connecticut	117,660	16.0	21
Delaware	38,680	19.0	37
District of Columbia	24,280	19.1	n/a
Florida	819,370	19.4	41
Georgia	405,380	16.2	24
Hawaii	55,710	18.4	33
Idaho	56,120	12.6	8
Illinois	363,900	12.7	9
Indiana	274,080	17.5	29
Iowa	102,190	13.9	11
Kansas	129,780	18.4	33
Kentucky	190,600	18.9	35
Louisiana	269,650	24.6	50
Maine	47,460	19.1	39
Maryland	216,070	16.1	23
Massachusetts	138,760	10.1	2
Michigan	318,960	14.7	13
Minnesota	161,880	12.4	6
Mississippi	162,150	23.0	46
Missouri	209,870	15.2	16
Montana	36,560	15.9	19
Nebraska	79,310	16.7	27
Nevada	134,350	19.5	42
New Hampshire	34,280	13.3	10
New Jersey	219,760	11.3	3
New Mexico	114,180	23.8	49
New York	685,500	16.9	28
North Carolina	443,040	19.3	40
North Dakota	16,700	9.6	1
Ohio	489,160	18.9	35
Oklahoma	208,110	21.8	45
Oregon	139,220	16.0	21
Pennsylvania	399,270	15.1	15
Rhode Island	36,270	17.8	31
South Carolina	178,710	16.2	24
South Dakota	35,330	16.5	26
Tennessee	267,110	17.7	30
Texas	1,598,940	21.6	44
Utah	113,190	12.1	4
Vermont	17,550	15.2	16
Virginia	233,530	12.5	7
Washington	244,480	14.7	13
West Virginia	73,770	20.3	43
Wisconsin	179,180	14.1	12
Wyoming	21,160	15.9	19
United States 2018	**11,174,000**	**15.2%**	
United States 2019	**10,732,000**	**14.7%**	

[a] Food-insecure households are households with children that had difficulty meeting basic food needs for adults, children or both.

[b] States are ranked 1-50 with 1 meaning the lowest percent of children living in food-insecure households and 50 meaning the highest percent of children living in food-insecure households.

Source: "Map the Meal Gap 2020: A Report on County and Congressional District Food Insecurity and County Food Cost in the United States in 2018." Feeding America. https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/MaptheMealGap2020CombinedModules.pdf; Coleman-Jensen, Alisa et al. 2020. "Household Food Security in the United States in 2019 Statistical Supplement," Table S-3. Washington, DC: United States Department of Agriculture. https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/99289/ap-084.pdf?v=7883.8.

More than 21.6 million children received free or reduced-price lunch during the 2018-2019 school year, but less than 3 million of them received meals in summer 2019. In 44 states, more than 4 in 5 children who received free or reduced-price lunch did not participate in Summer Nutrition Programs.

Table 11: School and Summer Feeding Programs, 2018-2019 School Year and Summer 2019

	Number of Children Participating in:			Summer Food Service Particiation as a Percent of Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Participation	State Rank Based on Summer Food Service Participation as a Percent of Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Participationa
	Free and Reduced-Price Lunch	Free and Reduced-Price Breakfast	Summer Food Service Programs		
Alabama	381,690	229,960	35,691	9.4%	38
Alaska	40,101	22,196	4,160	10.4	31
Arizona	475,335	265,387	69,099	14.5	20
Arkansas	239,627	159,276	24,577	10.3	32
California	2,609,162	1,488,463	398,577	15.3	15
Colorado	225,045	129,448	19,773	8.8	40
Connecticut	197,440	101,576	34,736	17.6	8
Delaware	65,426	40,942	10,673	16.3	13
District of Columbia	42,908	29,575	14,983	34.9	—
Florida	1,478,971	762,038	189,431	12.8	26
Georgia	894,473	548,478	112,495	12.6	27
Hawaii	64,810	25,476	5,230	8.1	43
Idaho	92,404	50,813	16,154	17.5	9
Illinois	797,483	409,682	86,772	10.9	30
Indiana	453,523	231,077	63,377	14.0	23
Iowa	192,364	82,205	18,466	9.6	36
Kansas	190,002	99,046	16,744	8.8	40
Kentucky	434,270	292,773	41,449	9.5	37
Louisiana	456,192	271,145	21,419	4.7	49
Maine	57,900	37,173	14,216	24.6	4
Maryland	305,040	188,504	65,366	21.4	5
Massachusetts	342,327	187,236	52,392	15.3	15
Michigan	591,565	349,149	60,720	10.3	32
Minnesota	282,314	155,679	48,114	17.0	11
Mississippi	298,367	180,493	20,316	6.8	45
Missouri	358,404	224,681	30,036	8.4	42
Montana	48,606	29,793	8,955	18.4	7
Nebraska	129,648	57,946	8,761	6.8	45
Nevada	185,342	111,943	13,731	7.4	44
New Hampshire	34,385	15,393	4,848	14.1	22
New Jersey	442,019	262,957	91,698	20.7	6
New Mexico	175,458	121,777	44,973	25.6	2
New York	1,389,734	728,280	354,712	25.5	3
North Carolina	661,170	383,888	85,055	12.9	25
North Dakota	33,735	17,497	3,172	9.4	38
Ohio	636,939	365,425	61,575	9.7	35
Oklahoma	319,031	185,781	14,501	4.5	50
Oregon	201,935	111,462	30,030	14.9	17
Pennsylvania	688,965	362,368	83,734	12.2	28
Rhode Island	51,860	27,927	8,047	15.5	14
South Carolina	364,049	227,651	53,772	14.8	18
South Dakota	48,720	22,403	7,131	14.6	19
Tennessee	487,223	316,379	55,011	11.3	29
Texas	2,694,377	1,706,449	182,871	6.8	45
Utah	159,295	63,497	26,870	16.9	12
Vermont	25,567	17,796	7,928	31.0	1
Virginia	457,001	282,822	60,598	13.3	24
Washington	353,105	166,310	35,688	10.1	34
West Virginia	145,420	120,683	8,923	6.1	48
Wisconsin	294,868	153,752	42,470	14.4	21
Wyoming	24,029	11,825	4,161	17.3	10
United States	**21,619,624**	**12,434,975**	**2,774,183**	**12.8%**	

[a] States are ranked 1-50 with 1 meaning the highest percent of children who receive free or reduced-price lunch also participated in Summer Nutrition Programs and 50 meaning the lowest number of children who receive free or reduced-price lunch also participate in Summer Nutrition Programs.

[b] In these states, 50 percent or more of eligible school districts adopted the Community Eligiblity Provision for the 2018-2019 school year. These high poverty school districts offered breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students without having to collect and process individual meal applications.

Note: Participation data are based on average daily meals served from September through May for the School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and in July for the Summer Food Service Program.

Sources: Philbin, Etienne Melcher, Crystal FitzSimons, and Randy Rosso. 2020. "School Breakfast Scorecard: School Year 2018-2019." Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). https://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/Breakfast-Scorecard-2018-2019_FNL.pdf; Hayes, Clarissa and Crystal FitzSimons. 2020. "Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status Report." FRAC. https://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/FRAC-Summer-Nutrition-Report-2020.pdf; Maurice, Alison, Randy Rosso, Crystal FitzSimons, and Kathryn Furtado. 2019. "Community Eligibility: The Key to Hunger-Free Schools: School Year 2018-2019." FRAC. https://www.frac.org/wp-content/uploads/community-eligibility-key-to-hunger-free-schools-sy-2018-2019.pdf.

In FY2018, nearly 1 in 4 children benefited from SNAP. In FY2020, nearly 1 in 6 children under age 5 relied on WIC during years of critical development.

Table 12: Average Monthly Number of Children Participating in SNAP and WIC

	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), FY2018			Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), FY2020[a]			
		As a Percent of:		Number of:			
	Number	All Children[b]	All SNAP Participants	All Participants	Infants	Children Under 5	As a Percent of Children Under 5[c]
Alabama	347,000	31.8%	46.3%	114,893	31,689	55,554	18.9%
Alaska	37,000	20.1	41.0	15,519	3,534	8,478	16.6
Arizona	389,000	23.7	47.3	125,911	32,207	65,909	15.3
Arkansas	172,000	24.5	47.2	62,255	19,038	27,196	14.4
California	1,901,000	21.1	49.5	843,766	179,619	479,421	20.1
Colorado	203,000	16.0	45.7	80,026	18,687	42,564	12.8
Connecticut	136,000	18.5	35.8	43,684	11,716	22,177	12.2
Delaware	59,000	29.0	43.8	16,183	4,476	7,964	14.6
District of Columbia	37,000	29.0	33.5	12,742	3,637	5,734	12.6
Florida	1,228,000	29.0	40.4	414,933	105,055	211,193	18.5
Georgia	721,000	28.8	47.8	196,856	56,647	90,293	13.8
Hawaii	62,000	20.4	38.7	24,934	5,820	13,322	15.6
Idaho	74,000	16.6	47.4	30,214	7,376	15,770	13.6
Illinois	775,000	27.1	43.3	171,877	49,486	81,380	10.9
Indiana	288,000	18.4	47.5	140,161	35,337	72,301	17.3
Iowa	144,000	19.7	43.4	57,717	13,833	30,816	15.8
Kansas	95,000	13.5	45.0	46,835	11,518	24,648	13.3
Kentucky	239,000	23.7	39.9	93,615	25,812	45,916	16.8
Louisiana	401,000	36.6	46.8	95,544	30,719	39,183	13.0
Maine	55,000	22.0	35.3	16,671	3,872	9,353	14.7
Maryland	252,000	18.8	39.6	121,457	29,419	63,340	17.5
Massachusetts	265,000	19.4	34.9	102,489	22,761	57,455	16.1
Michigan	470,000	21.7	37.6	209,010	51,506	113,076	20.0
Minnesota	186,000	14.3	44.7	100,264	22,417	56,143	16.0
Mississippi	244,000	34.6	48.6	77,092	22,594	36,402	19.8
Missouri	319,000	23.2	45.3	101,934	29,256	46,729	12.7
Montana	44,000	19.2	39.3	15,212	3,630	8,308	13.6
Nebraska	81,000	17.0	48.9	33,069	7,818	17,854	13.6
Nevada	184,000	26.7	42.5	58,543	14,090	31,385	16.9
New Hampshire	35,000	13.6	41.1	12,330	2,620	7,169	11.3
New Jersey	331,000	16.9	44.1	131,252	31,302	68,721	13.4
New Mexico	190,000	39.4	42.7	37,978	9,557	19,091	15.8
New York	1,006,000	24.7	37.0	363,461	87,059	192,509	17.1
North Carolina	441,000	19.2	41.1	217,681	55,655	109,694	18.0
North Dakota	22,000	12.3	43.0	10,187	2,395	5,598	10.3
Ohio	579,000	22.3	41.6	186,666	62,615	79,431	11.5
Oklahoma	262,000	27.4	46.4	66,316	17,551	32,409	12.7
Oregon	198,000	22.7	32.4	78,514	16,282	45,224	19.9
Pennsylvania	629,000	23.7	35.2	191,978	47,671	101,737	14.6
Rhode Island	50,000	24.4	32.8	17,471	4,339	9,374	17.2
South Carolina	302,000	27.3	46.9	77,005	23,586	33,457	11.4
South Dakota	43,000	19.8	49.1	14,087	3,476	7,692	12.6
Tennessee	414,000	27.5	43.6	110,420	33,110	47,668	11.7
Texas	2,035,000	27.5	54.2	678,056	177,773	311,186	15.6
Utah	95,000	10.2	51.6	41,348	9,985	21,583	8.7
Vermont	23,000	19.8	32.4	11,052	2,050	6,718	23.1
Virginia	323,000	17.3	45.4	111,168	29,891	54,796	10.8
Washington	296,000	17.8	34.3	122,401	26,605	68,438	15.0
West Virginia	112,000	30.8	35.7	33,548	9,037	16,754	18.0
Wisconsin	260,000	20.4	41.2	86,936	20,753	47,998	14.5
Wyoming	13,000	9.6	46.1	7,338	1,758	3,848	11.0
United States	**17,067,000**	**23.3%**	**43.6%**	**6,030,599**	**1,528,639**	**3,070,959**	**15.7%**

[a] Average monthly participation data from October 2019 to April 2020 as of July 2020. All data are preliminary and subject to revision. Data excludes participation from American Indian tribal organizations.

[b] Calculations made by the Children's Defense Fund based on the annual estimates of the resident population on July 1, 2017.

[c] Calculations made by the Children's Defense Fund based on the annual estimates of the resident population on July 1, 2019.

Sources: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. 2019. "Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2018," Table B.14. https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/Characteristics2018.pdf; U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2020. WIC Program Data. "Monthly Data-State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs – FY 2020 (Preliminary)." https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. 2020. "Annual State Resident Population Estimates for 6 Race Groups (5 Race Alone Groups and Two or More Races) by Age, Sex, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019," 2019 Population Estimates. https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-state-detail.html.

1 in 18 children in the U.S. were uninsured in 2019 – nearly than 4.4 million children. Hispanic children were much more likely to be uninsured than white, Black, and Asian children. Children in families living below 100% of the poverty line were more likely to be uninsured than their counterparts.

Table 13A: Uninsured Children—A Portrait

Number and Percent of People Uninsured by Age, 2018 and 2019

	2018		2019		Change 2018-2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total, All Ages	28,565,542	8.9%	29,638,672	9.2%	1,073,130	3.8%
Under 19	4,055,370	5.2	4,375,102	5.7	319,732	9.4
Under 6	1,019,380	4.3	1,082,653	4.7	63,273	8.3
6-18 Years	3,035,990	5.6	3,292,449	6.1	256,459	9.1
19-64 Years	24,109,214	12.5%	24,851,900	12.9%	742,686	3.4%

Table 13B: Uninsured Children By Age, Race/Ethnicity, Poverty Level, Citizenship and Region, 2018 and 2019

	Percent Uninsured in 2018	Percent Uninsured in 2019	Percent Change 2018-2019	One out of Every____ Is Uninsured
All Children Under 19	5.2%	5.7%	9.6%	18
By Age				
Under 6	4.3	4.7	9.3	21
6 to 18 Years	5.6	6.1	8.9	16
By Race/Ethnicity				
White	4.1	4.3	4.9	23
Hispanic	8.2	9.2	12.2	11
Black	4.4	4.6	4.5	22
Asian	3.9	4.1	5.1	24
By Poverty Level				
Below 100% of poverty	6.6	7.4	12.1	13
100%-399% of poverty	6.4	6.9	7.8	15
400%+ of poverty	2.3	2.6	13.0	38
By Citizenship				
Native-born Citizen	4.7	5.1	8.5	20
Naturalized Citizen	6.2	7.7	24.2	13
Non-Citizen	24.0	25.5	6.3	4
By Region				
Northeast	3.1	3.3	6.5	30
Midwest	4.3	4.7	9.3	21
South	7.1	7.7	8.5	13
West	4.4%	4.9%	11.4%	20

Notes: Uninsured is defined as not covered by any type of insurance (private or public) for the entire year. The white racial category does not include children of Hispanic ethnicity.

Sources: Keisler-Starkey, Katherine and Lisa Bunch. 2020. "Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2019 Current Population Reports," Figure 5. U.S. Census Bureau. https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2020/demo/p60-271.html; U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B27001 - Health Insurance Coverage Status by Sex by Age. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

In 2019, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provided comprehensive and affordable health and mental health coverage to more than 36 million children but more than 4 million children remained uninsured.

Table 14: Children Uninsured and Enrolled in Medicaid/CHIP, 2019[a]

	Uninsured, Under Age 6		Uninsured, Ages 6-18		Uninsured, Ages 0-18				Child Enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP				
							Change in Coverage 2018-2019[b]	State Rank by Percent Uninsured[c]	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Change in Enrollment 2018-2019		State Expanded[d]
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number		Number	Number	Number	%	Y/N
Alabama	10,113	2.9%	30,047	3.7%	40,160	3.5%	558	11	650,406	664,904	14,498	2.2%	No
Alaska	6,199	10.0	11,660	9.1	17,859	9.4	316	48	94,469	97,434	2,965	3.1	Yes
Arizona	40,853	8.0	120,477	9.8	161,330	9.2	-15,046	47	759,466	763,023	3,557	0.5	Yes
Arkansas	10,119	4.6	33,276	6.4	43,395	5.9	-9,680	35	426,599	433,540	6,941	1.5	Yes
California	75,758	2.7	258,276	3.9	334,034	3.6	-35,335	14	4,971,516	4,874,521	-96,995	-2.0	Yes
Colorado	15,408	3.9	57,148	6.1	72,556	5.5	-10,324	28	588,054	569,132	-18,922	-3.2	Yes
Connecticut	6,712	3.1	20,189	3.6	26,901	3.5	-6,529	12	330,253	333,764	3,511	1.1	Yes
Delaware	2,537	3.9	7,845	5.2	10,382	4.8	-2,544	24	105,732	105,591	-141	-0.1	Yes
District of Columbia	829	1.6	1,995	2.3	2,824	2.0	-395	-	92,575	92,773	198	0.2	Yes
Florida	71,821	5.3	270,858	8.6	342,679	7.6	-3,635	41	2,483,564	2,435,574	-47,990	-1.9	No
Georgia	44,938	5.8	152,198	8.1	197,136	7.4	20,154	40	1,245,555	1,273,274	27,719	2.2	No
Hawaii	1,869	1.8	6,954	3.3	8,823	2.8	-513	5	140,392	139,530	-862	-0.6	Yes
Idaho	5,181	3.6	18,388	5.6	23,569	5.0	5,229	26	202,303	197,533	-4,770	-7.3	No*
Illinois	28,665	3.2	91,374	4.4	120,039	4.0	-17,573	17	1,356,850	1,350,045	-6,805	-0.5	Yes
Indiana	34,289	6.9	84,494	7.2	118,783	7.1	-9,789	39	800,565	803,575	3,010	0.4	Yes
Iowa	7,340	3.1	15,011	2.8	22,351	2.9	-1,329	6	334,623	338,908	4,285	1.3	Yes
Kansas	9,301	4.2	33,735	6.5	43,036	5.8	-4,899	33	270,256	260,439	-9,817	-3.6	No
Kentucky	13,984	4.2	31,107	4.3	45,091	4.3	-5,067	19	564,123	551,738	-12,385	-2.2	Yes
Louisiana	13,313	3.8	36,725	4.6	50,038	4.4	-10,834	21	749,077	731,669	-17,408	-2.3	Yes
Maine	4,325	5.7	10,338	5.6	14,663	5.6	-151	29	104,796	103,538	-1,258	-1.2	Yes
Maryland	10,740	2.5	37,042	3.8	47,782	3.4	-1,012	9	618,583	622,786	4,203	0.7	Yes
Massachusetts	6,636	1.6	15,387	1.5	22,023	1.5	-4,067	1	685,233	679,394	-5,839	-0.9	Yes
Michigan	21,215	3.1	56,749	3.6	77,964	3.4	-105	10	948,635	939,546	-9,089	-1.0	Yes
Minnesota	11,060	2.6	31,327	3.3	42,387	3.1	2,807	7	536,246	530,404	-5,842	-1.1	Yes
Mississippi	10,318	4.8	35,395	6.7	45,713	6.1	-10,284	36	420,209	419,061	-1,148	-0.3	No
Missouri	29,402	6.7	65,284	6.5	94,686	6.5	-12,153	38	564,476	524,374	-40,102	-7.1	No
Montana	3,887	5.6	11,147	6.5	15,034	6.2	-117	37	127,863	122,324	-5,539	-4.3	Yes
Nebraska	8,560	5.4	19,834	5.8	28,394	5.7	-2,166	30	164,913	164,247	-666	-0.4	No*
Nevada	13,947	6.2	44,039	8.8	57,986	8.0	-446	44	330,343	298,087	-32,256	-1.7	Yes
New Hampshire	2,245	2.9	7,931	4.0	10,176	3.7	-2,920	15	91,337	89,163	-2,174	-2.4	Yes
New Jersey	21,597	3.5	66,524	4.7	88,121	4.3	-8,360	20	826,133	815,411	-10,722	-1.3	Yes
New Mexico	5,513	3.9	23,324	6.5	28,837	5.7	-2,028	31	330,359	329,876	-483	-0.1	Yes
New York	27,296	2.0	73,499	2.5	100,795	2.4	6,586	4	2,504,152	2,496,514	-7,638	0.3	Yes
North Carolina	33,516	4.7	108,012	6.2	141,528	5.8	-11,466	32	1,186,195	1,194,836	8,641	0.7	No
North Dakota	4,951	8.2	9,583	7.6	14,534	7.8	-3,359	42	43,094	42,921	-173	-0.4	Yes
Ohio	36,574	4.4	94,455	4.9	131,029	4.8	1,538	23	1,143,206	1,174,978	31,772	2.8	Yes
Oklahoma	22,945	7.6	63,334	9.0	86,279	8.6	-2,863	46	511,168	512,444	1,276	0.2	No
Oregon	10,141	3.7	27,374	4.3	37,515	4.1	-4,624	18	414,548	416,723	2,175	0.5	Yes
Pennsylvania	40,007	4.8	87,900	4.5	127,907	4.6	-4,126	22	1,390,084	1,389,372	-712	-0.1	Yes
Rhode Island	1,322	2.1	2,859	1.8	4,181	1.9	604	2	122,710	118,303	-4,407	-3.6	Yes
South Carolina	16,736	4.9	52,094	6.2	68,830	5.8	-13,154	34	653,431	652,750	-681	-0.1	No
South Dakota	5,342	7.5	12,295	7.9	17,637	7.8	-4,326	43	78,791	78,019	-772	-1.0	No
Tennessee	20,206	4.2	60,266	5.4	80,472	5.0	2,452	27	788,680	830,091	41,411	5.3	No
Texas	236,724	10.0	758,600	14.0	995,324	12.7	-122,530	50	3,406,298	3,313,891	-92,407	-2.7	No
Utah	20,481	6.9	61,136	8.9	81,617	8.3	-9,359	45	195,061	186,758	-8,303	-4.3	No*
Vermont	647	1.9	1,958	2.2	2,605	2.1	-142	3	63,270	61,192	-2,078	-3.3	Yes
Virginia	20,515	3.4	76,054	5.5	96,569	4.9	4,999	25	702,460	740,192	37,732	5.4	Yes
Washington	14,602	2.7	39,543	3.3	54,145	3.1	-6,663	8	829,464	822,109	-7,355	-0.9	Yes
West Virginia	3,054	2.7	10,371	3.9	13,425	3.5	-325	13	217,920	215,198	-2,722	-1.2	Yes
Wisconsin	15,067	3.8	35,646	3.8	50,713	3.8	384	16	480,642	506,598	25,956	5.4	No
Wyoming	3,853	9.4	11,392	11.1	15,245	10.6	-5,121	49	38,918	36,990	-1,928	-5.0	No
United States	**1,082,653**	**4.7%**	**3,292,449**	**6.1%**	**4,375,102**	**5.7%**	**-319,732**		**36,658,946**	**36,435,057**	**-223,889**	**-0.6%**	

[a] Uninsured at the time of the survey, not necessarily for the entire year. These numbers are among children ages 0-18.

[b] Calculations were based on a comparison with data from 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B27001- Health Insurance Coverage Status by Sex by Age

[c] States are ranked 1-50 with 1 meaning the highest percent of children who are uninsured and 50 meaning the lowest percent of children who are uninsured.

[d] These states had expanded Medicaid to 138 percent of the FPL for all eligible adults in the state as of January 2020. When parents are covered, their children are more likely to also be covered. An asterisk (*) denotes the state has expanded Medicaid between January 2020 and January 2021.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B27001 - Health Insurance Coverage Status by Sex by Age. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/; Brooks, Tricia. 2020 "Child Enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP Remains Down in 2019." Georgetown University Health Policy Institute Center for Children and Families. https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2020/02/18/child-enrollment-in-medicaid-and-chip-remains-down-in-2019/; Kaiser Family Foundation. 2020. "Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion" as of October 21, 2020. https://www.kff.org/health-reform/state-indicator/state-activity-around-expanding-medicaid-under-the-affordable-care-act/.

Children's access to health coverage and services across the United States remains a lottery of geography.

Table 15: Selected Characteristics of State Medicaid and CHIP Programs, 2020

	Upper-Income Eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP (Percent of FPL)[a]	CHIP Waiting Period[b]	12-month Continuous Eligibility[c]	Lawfully-Residing Immigrant Children Covered without 5-Year Wait[d]	ACA Medicaid Expansion State[e]
Alabama	317%		M, C	No	No
Alaska	208		M, n/a	No	Yes
Arizona	205	90 days		No	Yes
Arkansas	216	90 days	C	Yes	Yes
California	266		M, n/a	Yes	Yes
Colorado	265		M, C	Yes	Yes
Connecticut	323			Yes	Yes
Delaware	217		C	Yes	Yes
District of Columbia	324		n/a	Yes	Yes
Florida	215	2 months	C	Yes	No
Georgia	252			No	No
Hawaii	313		n/a	Yes	Yes
Idaho	190		M, C	No	Yes
Illinois	318	90 days	M,C	Yes	Yes
Indiana	262	90 days		No	Yes
Iowa	380	1 month	M, C	Yes	Yes
Kansas	240		M, C	No	No
Kentucky	218			Yes	Yes
Louisiana	255	90 days	M, C	Yes	Yes
Maine	213	90 days	M, C	Yes	Yes
Maryland	322		n/a	Yes	Yes
Massachusetts	305			Yes	Yes
Michigan	217		M, n/a	No	Yes
Minnesota	288		n/a	Yes	Yes
Mississippi	214		M, C	No	No
Missouri	305			No	Yes*
Montana	266		M, C	Yes	Yes
Nebraska	218		n/a	Yes	Yes
Nevada	205		C	Yes	Yes
New Hampshire	323		n/a	No	Yes
New Jersey	355	90 days	M, C	Yes	Yes
New Mexico	305		M, n/a	Yes	Yes
New York	405		M, C	Yes	Yes
North Carolina	216		M, C	Yes	No
North Dakota	175		M, n/a	No	Yes
Ohio	211		M, n/a	Yes	Yes
Oklahoma	210		n/a	No	Yes*
Oregon	305		M, C	Yes	Yes
Pennsylvania	319		C	Yes	Yes
Rhode Island	266		n/a	Yes	Yes
South Carolina	213		n/r	Yes	No
South Dakota	209	90 days		No	No
Tennessee	255		C	No	No
Texas	206	90 days	C	Yes	No
Utah	205	90 days	C	Yes	Yes
Vermont	317		n/a	Yes	Yes
Virginia	205			Yes	Yes
Washington	317		M, C	Yes	Yes
West Virginia	305		M, C	Yes	Yes
Wisconsin	306			Yes	No
Wyoming	205%	1 month	M, C	No	No

[a] Highest level of income eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP as a percent of the federal poverty level (FPL).

[b] "Waiting period" refers to the length of time a state requires a child to be uninsured prior to enrolling in CHIP, although every state has exceptions. The ACA prohibited waiting periods longer than 90 days starting in 2014.

[c] "M" denotes 12-month continuous eligibility for Medicaid. "C" denotes 12-month continuous eligibility for CHIP. "n/a" denotes the state does not provide a separate CHIP program for uninsured children. "n/r" denotes the state did not report.

[d] These states cover immigrant children who have been lawfully residing in the U.S. for less than five years under the Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (ICHIA) option with state funds.

[e] These states have expanded Medicaid to 138 percent of the FPL for all eligible adults in the state as of January 2020. When parents are covered, their children are more likely to also be covered. An asterisk (*) denotes the state has expanded Medicaid but enrollment for the expansion population will not begin until 2021.

Sources: Brooks, Tricia, Lauren Roygardner, Samantha Artiga, Olivia Pham, and Rachel Dolan. 2020. "Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility, Enrollment, Renewal, and Cost-Sharing Practices as of January 2020: Findings from a 50-State Survey," Updated as of November 2, 2020. Georgetown University Center for Children and Families and Kaiser Family Foundation. https://www.kff.org/report-section/medicaid-and-chip-eligibility-enrollment-and-cost-sharing-policies-as-of-january-2020-findings-from-a-50-state-survey-executive-summary/; Kaiser Family Foundation. 2020. "Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision, as of October 16, 2020. https://www.kff.org/health-reform/state-indicator/state-activity-around-expanding-medicaid-under-the-affordable-care-act/.

More than 40% of births in the U.S. were covered by Medicaid in recent years. In 2018, the Black infant mortality rate was more than two times that of white and Hispanic infants.

Table 16: Births Covered by Medicaid and Infant Mortality, 2018

	Births Covered by Medicaid, 2018		Infant Mortality, 2018 (Rate per 1,000 Births)			
	Percent	Number	All Races/ Ethnicities	White	Black	Hispanic
Alabama	49.4%	29,120	7.0	5.3	10.9	13.0
Alaska	39.2	4,026	5.9	4.1	n/a	n/a
Arizona	53.3	43,517	5.6	4.3	9.6	6.2
Arkansas	45.7	16,921	7.5	6.6	12.0	5.9
California	43.1	202,943	4.2	3.7	9.0	4.5
Colorado	39.4	25,261	4.7	4.1	5.9	6.2
Connecticut	37.2	13,058	4.2	3.3	7.8	5.4
Delaware	44.8	4,855	5.8	4.0	11.0	n/a
District of Columbia	43.6	4,155	6.9	n/a	11.9	n/a
Florida	49.0	109,078	6.0	4.3	10.7	5.1
Georgia	46.1	59,425	7.0	4.9	11.3	4.4
Hawaii	31.4	5,490	6.8	n/a	n/a	9.7
Idaho	37.0	8,196	5.1	4.8	n/a	5.6
Illinois	40.9	60,852	6.5	5.0	13.7	5.3
Indiana	41.1	33,693	6.8	5.8	12.1	6.1
Iowa	40.0	15,381	5.1	4.2	13.4	5.4
Kansas	31.5	11,466	6.5	5.2	13.6	9.2
Kentucky	48.2	26,158	5.8	5.6	9.2	n/a
Louisiana	62.8	38,340	7.6	5.6	10.9	5.3
Maine	39.2	4,804	5.4	5.3	n/a	n/a
Maryland	40.2	28,631	6.1	3.7	9.9	3.8
Massachusetts	27.8	19,652	4.2	3.6	8.2	4.6
Michigan	42.3	46,989	6.2	4.1	13.8	7.8
Minnesota	32.0	21,871	5.1	3.9	8.7	7.0
Mississippi	62.6	23,339	8.3	6.4	10.9	n/a
Missouri	38.8	27,919	6.3	5.5	10.6	7.7
Montana	41.3	4,864	4.8	4.4	n/a	n/a
Nebraska	34.6	8,822	5.8	5.3	10.1	5.8
Nevada	47.4	16,834	6.1	6.5	8.3	4.9
New Hampshire	25.7	3,091	3.6	3.6	n/a	n/a
New Jersey	30.8	31,194	3.9	2.7	7.8	4.4
New Mexico	56.2	13,350	5.7	5.1	n/a	5.9
New York	48.4	110,653	4.3	3.6	7.2	3.5
North Carolina	43.1	51,686	6.7	5.0	11.3	4.8
North Dakota	25.2	2,677	5.5	5.4	n/a	n/a
Ohio	42.0	57,120	6.9	5.4	13.7	6.1
Oklahoma	51.8	25,959	7.1	5.4	13.6	7.3
Oregon	45.1	19,639	4.2	3.7	n/a	5.5
Pennsylvania	34.2	45,537	5.9	4.7	10.7	7.3
Rhode Island	48.4	5,146	5.0	4.1	n/a	n/a
South Carolina	49.7	28,253	7.2	4.9	12.0	5.5
South Dakota	32.0	3,871	5.9	5.5	n/a	n/a
Tennessee	50.9	39,045	6.9	5.6	11.9	6.1
Texas	47.5	180,969	5.5	4.6	10.3	5.0
Utah	26.0	12,222	5.5	4.9	n/a	7.3
Vermont	42.9	2,421	6.4	6.6	n/a	n/a
Virginia	30.2	30,247	5.6	4.6	9.2	5.0
Washington	39.6	34,135	4.7	4.1	10.2	4.9
West Virginia	49.9	9,261	7.1	6.6	n/a	n/a
Wisconsin	36.7	23,500	6.1	4.8	15.2	7.1
Wyoming	32.0	2,197	5.3	4.7	n/a	n/a
United States	**43.0%**	**1,647,833**	**5.7**	**4.6**	**10.7**	**5.1**
Residence						
Rural	50.0%	258,390				
Urban	41.9	1,389,148				
Race and Ethnicity						
Black	65.9	367,439				
Hispanic	60.2	538,440				
Asian	25.0	62,103				
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	56.2	5,235				
American Indian or Alaska Native	67.3	19,987				
White	30.5%	603,746				

Notes: Infant mortality is defined as death before age 1. Race/ethnicity is based on the infant's race/ethnicity. White and Black racial categories exclude infants of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic infants can be of any race. Data for other racial/ethnic groups were not available. "n/a" means data reported by state did not meet standard of reliability or precision according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Sources: MACPAC. 2020. "Medicaid's Role in Financing Maternity Care." Medicaid and CHIIP Payment and Access Commission. https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Medicaid's-Role-in-Financing-Maternity-Care.pdf; Kids Count Data Center. 2020. "Infant Mortality by Race in the United States, 2018." Annie E Casey Foundation. https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/21-infant-mortality-by-race.

In 2019, center-based child care for infants was more expensive than public college in at least 28 states and the District of Columbia.

Table 17: Child Care Costs for Infants, 2019

	Average Annual Cost for an Infant in Center-Based Care	Percent Difference between Cost of Center-Based Infant Care and Public College[a]	Cost of Center-Based Infant Care as a Percent of:		
			Income for a Poor Family	State Median Income for a Single-Parent Family	Median Annual Rent
Alabama	$7,592	-30.5%*	35.6%*	35.8%	82.0%
Alaska	11,832	43.7	44.4	32.8	80.4
Arizona	11,017	-7.6*	51.7*	38.4	91.0
Arkansas	7,540	-16.5*	35.3*	33.6	86.2
California	17,384	74.4	81.5	56.7	101.4
Colorado*	15,881	39.6	74.5	48.3	110.7
Connecticut	16,224	18.7	76.1	50.1	117.0
Delaware	11,473	-13.7	53.8	37.4	86.1
District of Columbia	24,081	185.2	112.9	86.9	135.0
Florida	9,617	51.4	45.1	34.7	71.0
Georgia	8,112	-7	38.0	30.7	69.8
Hawaii	14,354	30.7	58.5	35.8	76.4
Idaho	8,791	9.9*	41.2*	36.3	88.8
Illinois	9,876	-30.3	46.3	35.8	83.6
Indiana	11,094	14.7	52.0	43.9	114.6
Iowa	11,185	19.4	52.4	41.0	121.7
Kansas	12,881	39.3*	60.1*	46.9	129.2
Kentucky	7,574	-30.5*	35.5*	34.8	85.2
Louisiana	8,734	-9.2	40.9	41.1	85.6
Maine	10,734	2.4	50.3	39.5	107.6
Maryland	15,680	55	73.5	39.2	96.3
Massachusetts	21,256	55.8	99.7	67.4	144.6
Michigan	10,870	-21.1	51.0	43.4	106.6
Minnesota	16,164	36.6	75.8	50.4	142.7
Mississippi	5,864	-31.8*	27.5*	28.4	64.1
Missouri	9,782	8.4	45.9	37.7	100.8
Montana	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nebraska	11,960	36.8	56.1	42.9	123.8
Nevada	11,107	39.7	52.1	35.8	87.3
New Hampshire	13,355	-21	62.6	40.3	103.3
New Jersey	16,268	11.9*	76.3*	50.4	104.7
New Mexico	9,299	25.1*	43.6*	40.8	93.6
New York	13,390	58.8	62.8	46.0	90.0
North Carolina	9,650	32.5	45.2	38.1	91.7
North Dakota	9,248	-0.4	43.4	31.7	95.6
Ohio	9,919	-12.5	46.5	41.2	104.9
Oklahoma	9,041	1.4	42.4	37.8	95.0
Oregon	10,092	-10.1	47.3	37.5	80.1
Pennsylvania	12,308	-17.6*	57.7*	44.8	112.1
Rhode Island	11,152	-14.6*	52.3*	39.0	94.7
South Carolina	9,490	-27.3	44.5	39.1	91.1
South Dakota	7,426	-17.3	34.8	28.1	85.7
Tennessee	10,780	5.1	50.5	45.4	106.8
Texas	10,306	-1.6*	48.3*	37.9	86.1
Utah	9,120	27.3	42.8	29.4	76.9
Vermont	13,915	-20.4	65.2	47.6	119.3
Virginia	14,778	8.4	69.3	47.1	102.5
Washington	15,420	53	72.3	50.0	107.6
West Virginia	9,360	10.3	43.9	47.6	109.7
Wisconsin	10,332	13.5	48.4	36.8	102.9
Wyoming	9,490	70*	44.5*	32.4	93.8

[a] A positive percent (higher than 0) means infant center-based care cost more than public college tuition. A negative percent (lower than 0) means infant center-based care cost less than public college tuition.

Notes: "*" means state did not report on the 2020 survey; data reported from state's most recent Market Rate Survey. "n/a" means data was not reported or not available.

Source: Child Care Aware of America. 2020. "Picking Up the Pieces: Building a Better Child Care System Post COVID-19," Appendices III, XI, XII, XV. https://www.childcareaware.org/picking-up-the-pieces/.

Although over 812,000 families and 1.3 million children were served each month by the Child Care and Development Fund in FY2018, more than 430,000 subsidies have been lost since 2006—the year before the recession began.

Table 18: Average Monthly Number of Children and Families Served by the Child Care and Development Fund by Race/Ethnicity, FY2018

				Percent of Children Who Are:							
	Number of Families, FY2018	Number of Children, FY2018	Change in Children Served 2006-2018	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native American/ Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	In Unregulated Care
Alabama	15,800	27,900	-100	18.9%	1.0%	79.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	1.5%	42.5%
Alaska	2,100	3,000	-1,900	48.5	10.9	8.6	2.6	8.4	2.0	24.2	1.3
Arizona	18,100	27,100	-3,100	59.3	34.3	19.9	0.4	4.7	0.4	15.3	5.1
Arkansas	3,800	4,900	-700	46.6	10.3	40.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	3.5	0.1
California	73,100	107,800	-67,700	69.9	57.5	20.9	5.0	1.6	0.7	1.9	19.9
Colorado	11,800	20,400	4,100	35.5	27.1	10.9	0.6	1.1	0.2	5.8	0.7
Connecticut	10,800	16,200	6,100	30.8	43.7	34.1	1.2	0.3	1.1	8.0	30.8
Delaware	4,600	7,300	-200	34.1	12.7	64.9	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	5.6
District of Columbia	800	1,100	-2,600	11.4	14.4	85.8	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.0
Florida	70,500	99,100	-9,500	43.0	34.6	48.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	3.9	7.3
Georgia	21,700	24,600	-40,000	21.5	4.9	75.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	1.9	0.3
Hawaii	2,200	3,900	-4,700	8.8	9.6	0.9	17.9	0.1	33.9	38.5	71.6
Idaho	4,100	7,100	-2,800	83.9	22.3	6.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.4	4.8
Illinois	23,100	41,200	-41,000	17.9	21.0	43.9	1.3	0.2	0.2	3.8	25.6
Indiana	14,500	26,200	-6,600	38.8	10.5	52.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	8.5	21.4
Iowa	10,100	18,100	-1,300	67.6	12.9	19.0	0.6	0.4	0.2	7.7	3.0
Kansas	5,700	10,000	-12,400	57.6	12.1	24.4	0.1	0.6	0.1	14.8	6.7
Kentucky	10,000	18,000	-10,900	58.3	6.4	31.8	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.8	0.7
Louisiana	11,000	17,400	-21,700	21.1	3.0	71.5	0.2	0.6	0.1	6.3	3.5
Maine	2,600	4,100	-1,300	73.2	2.8	11.2	0.4	0.4	0.0	3.6	14.6
Maryland	8,000	13,700	-9,200	12.2	4.6	81.6	0.6	0.4	0.2	5.0	4.7
Massachusetts	18,400	26,700	-5,400	26.8	12.7	16.7	2.3	0.4	0.1	1.9	1.1
Michigan	22,300	39,700	-48,100	41.7	5.3	53.9	0.1	0.7	0.0	1.9	21.4
Minnesota	10,100	20,400	-6,900	31.7	5.1	53.7	1.7	1.3	0.0	7.0	10.8
Mississippi[a]	9,300	16,400	-22,700	15.0	0.9	83.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.9	1.2
Missouri	23,800	35,900	2,300	36.4	9.5	46.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	1.8	22.5
Montana	2,500	3,700	-1,100	72.2	6.0	2.4	0.2	14.3	0.5	3.6	5.9
Nebraska	5,200	9,500	-3,600	50.4	17.4	27.2	0.5	2.4	0.1	10.0	7.3
Nevada	5,100	8,800	2,800	45.3	29.9	42.6	1.3	0.9	1.3	2.5	32.6
New Hampshire	3,700	5,000	-2,500	69.0	7.6	3.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	2.5	3.9
New Jersey	29,200	43,500	5,600	41.2	41.4	45.0	1.1	0.2	1.0	1.2	1.1
New Mexico	12,000	19,500	-2,100	77.5	73.1	5.0	0.5	6.7	0.4	2.6	8.4
New York	61,100	102,200	-21,500	38.1	29.9	38.2	2.6	0.8	2.2	6.2	27.1
North Carolina	20,000	38,000	-41,900	30.3	4.0	64.5	0.3	3.4	0.0	1.3	0.3
North Dakota	1,800	2,700	-1,300	63.5	6.1	16.5	0.3	12.0	0.6	7.1	14.3
Ohio	26,700	50,300	10,400	30.6	5.7	55.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	5.9	0.0
Oklahoma	16,700	27,700	2,700	56.0	13.9	28.3	0.4	5.3	0.2	9.8	0.0
Oregon	7,400	13,400	-6,800	80.5	26.7	12.0	1.0	2.1	0.6	3.7	26.4
Pennsylvania	58,000	99,700	16,900	31.2	16.9	49.1	1.4	0.1	0.1	2.7	6.1
Rhode Island	4,300	6,500	-600	22.6	13.7	10.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	2.9
South Carolina	7,300	11,600	-8,100	26.1	3.8	63.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	6.3	7.7
South Dakota	2,300	3,600	-1,300	56.9	4.7	4.8	0.4	24.8	0.3	12.7	11.1
Tennessee	14,400	22,400	-20,100	31.0	2.0	68.7	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.0
Texas	68,600	115,000	-11,200	43.9	41.0	25.9	0.3	0.2	0.1	1.9	0.4
Utah	6,200	11,400	-1,600	21.8	10.1	3.3	0.2	1.3	0.3	0.3	3.5
Vermont	2,400	3,100	-3,700	90.4	2.5	4.0	1.2	0.3	0.1	3.9	0.1
Virginia	10,300	18,000	-9,900	33.9	6.7	63.2	2.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.6
Washington	22,300	38,200	-15,000	45.3	29.6	18.8	2.1	3.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
West Virginia	4,900	8,300	-1,000	71.5	2.5	11.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	14.1	0.1
Wisconsin	9,900	16,500	-13,000	22.5	11.7	34.2	0.9	0.8	0.0	5.7	0.0
Wyoming	1,900	3,000	-1,700	80.8	11.8	4.1	0.4	2.3	0.1	0.0	9.2
United States[b]	**812,500**	**1,319,800**	**-437,900**	**41.4%**	**23.7%**	**39.7%**	**1.2%**	**1.1%**	**0.6%**	**4.0%**	**10.3%**

[a] Counts for the United States exclude U.S. territories and protectorates. Percents include data from territories and protectorates.

Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change. Racial categories (White, Black, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Multi-Racial) include children of Hispanic ethnicity. Percents for racial groups do not add up to 100 percent because of missing data.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2019. "FY 2018 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary)," Tables 1, 4, 11, and 12. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/fy-2018-ccdf-data-tables-preliminary; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2008. "FY 2006 CCDF Data Tables (Final)," Table 1. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/ccdf-data-06acf800-final.

In 2019, the hourly mean wage for child care workers was less than half of a living wage for a single parent in 42 states.

Table 19: Child Care Worker Wages, 2019

	Annual Mean Wage	Hourly Mean Wage	Living Wage for a Single Parent with One Child
Alabama	$20,770	$9.99	$22.47
Alaska	28,680	13.79	27.30
Arizona	26,520	12.75	25.16
Arkansas	21,870	10.52	22.32
California	30,190	14.52	31.25
Colorado	30,280	14.56	28.36
Connecticut	28,060	13.49	29.33
Delaware	23,440	11.27	26.31
District of Columbia	34,140	16.41	29.94
Florida	24,350	11.71	25.47
Georgia	21,510	10.34	24.64
Hawaii	27,710	13.32	28.29
Idaho	21,910	10.53	23.72
Illinois	25,440	12.23	26.48
Indiana	22,470	10.80	23.01
Iowa	21,170	10.18	23.85
Kansas	22,250	10.70	23.52
Kentucky	22,160	10.65	23.19
Louisiana	20,320	9.77	23.81
Maine	28,100	13.51	25.63
Maryland	26,010	12.51	29.39
Massachusetts	31,280	15.04	32.12
Michigan	24,580	11.82	23.77
Minnesota	26,780	12.88	26.65
Mississippi	19,320	9.29	21.14
Missouri	23,230	11.17	22.86
Montana	23,510	11.30	24.28
Nebraska	24,340	11.70	24.11
Nevada	23,190	11.15	25.39
New Hampshire	25,200	12.12	26.72
New Jersey	27,740	13.33	29.55
New Mexico	23,470	11.29	24.27
New York	29,880	14.37	30.92
North Carolina	23,550	11.32	24.73
North Dakota	25,380	12.20	23.45
Ohio	23,780	11.43	23.31
Oklahoma	20,430	9.82	23.28
Oregon	27,990	13.46	27.55
Pennsylvania	23,610	11.35	24.30
Rhode Island	27,880	13.41	27.14
South Carolina	21,000	10.10	23.16
South Dakota	21,940	10.55	22.28
Tennessee	22,270	10.71	22.66
Texas	23,100	11.11	23.86
Utah	23,270	11.19	24.31
Vermont	30,880	14.85	26.74
Virginia	25,210	12.12	28.04
Washington	31,380	15.09	27.08
West Virginia	22,380	10.76	22.00
Wisconsin	23,650	11.37	25.31
Wyoming	24,840	11.94	23.86
United States	**$25,510**	**$12.27**	

Source: Occupational Employment Statistics. "Occupational Employment and Wages, May 2019: 39-9011 Childcare Workers." U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes399011.htm#st; MIT. 2020. Living Wage Calculator. https://livingwage.mit.edu

Only 34 percent of 4-year-olds and 6 percent of 3-year-olds were enrolled in a state-funded preschool program during 2018-2019 and quality varied widely from state to state.

Table 20: Enrollment of 4- and 3-Year-Olds in State-Funded Preschool Programs, 2018-2019

	Number		Percent		NIEER Quality Benchmarks Met (Out of 10)
	4-Year-Olds	3-Year-Olds	4-Year-Olds	3-Year-Olds	
Alabama	18,756	0	32%	0%	10
Alaska	1,043	261	10%	2%	1
Arizona	3,424	1,986	4%	2%	3
Arkansas	12,256	7,071	32%	18%	8
California	187,565	57,447	38%	12%	4.7
Colorado	15,616	5,877	23%	9%	4
Connecticut	11,528	3,330	31%	9%	5
Delaware	581	264	5%	2%	9
District of Columbia	7,237	6,360	87%	71%	4
Florida	173,633	0	75%	0%	2
Georgia	80,493	0	60%	0%	8
Hawaii	415	0	2%	0%	8
Idaho	0	0	0%	0%	n/a
Illinois	47,360	33,598	31%	22%	8
Indiana	0	0	0%	0%	n/a
Iowa	26,528	1,244	66%	3%	7.9
Kansas	10,147	913	26%	2%	4
Kentucky	16,497	4,854	29%	9%	8
Louisiana	18,841	0	30%	0%	7.9
Maine	5,805	0	44%	0%	9
Maryland	27,780	4,000	38%	5%	7
Massachusetts	21,642	11,791	30%	16%	5.2
Michigan	37,140	0	32%	0%	10
Minnesota	7,613	624	10%	1%	5.4
Mississippi	1,954	0	5%	0%	10
Missouri	4,626	1,097	6%	1%	5.9
Montana	269	2	2%	.02%	6
Nebraska	9,057	4,021	34%	15%	8
Nevada	2,139	0	6%	0%	7
New Hampshire	0	0	0%	0%	n/a
New Jersey	31,221	21,332	30%	20%	8
New Mexico	9,987	1,264	38%	5%	9
New York	121,610	4,692	54%	2%	7
North Carolina	29,509	0	24%	0%	8
North Dakota	1,062	0	10%	0%	2
Ohio	16,091	1,779	11%	1%	5
Oklahoma	40,625	1,567	76%	3%	9
Oregon	5,767	3,593	12%	8%	7.5
Pennsylvania	29,141	13,726	20%	10%	6.6
Rhode Island	1,080	0	10%	0%	10
South Carolina	28,137	284	47%	.05%	7
South Dakota	0	0	0%	0%	n/a
Tennessee	17,812	67	22%	.01%	8
Texas	203,650	35,271	49%	9%	3
Utah	0	0	0%	0%	n/a
Vermont	4,818	3,830	78%	65%	7
Virginia	17,657	0	17%	0%	6
Washington	8,432	5,059	9%	5%	8
West Virginia	11,913	1,150	59%	6%	9
Wisconsin	48,943	504	72%	1%	3
Wyoming	0	0	0%	0%	n/a
United States	**1,377,484**	**239,104**	**34%**	**6%**	

[a] The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) defines a state preschool program as one serving 3- and 4- year olds that is funded, controlled, and directed by the state. Its primary focus must be early childhood education and it must offer a group learning experience to children at least two days each a week. It may serve children with disabilities but cannot be primarily designed to serve these children. State-funded preschool may be coordinated and integrated with the child care subsidy system in the state. State supplements for Head Start constitute state preschool if they substantially increase the number of children served and involve some state administrative responsibility. NIEER uses 10 benchmarks to measure the quality of state preschool programs: 1) comprehensive early learning and development standards that are horizontally and vertically aligned, supported, and culturally sensitive; 2) supports for curriculum implementation; 3) teachers with bachelor's degrees and 4) specialization in early childhood; 5) assistant teachers with child development associate's or equivalent degrees; 6) at least 15 hours/year of professional development, individualized plans and professional development plans, and coaching for lead and assistant teachers; 7) a maximum class size of 20; 8) child-staff ratios of no more than 10:1; 9) comprehensive vision, hearing, and health screenings; and 10) continuous quality improvement system.

Note: "n/a" means no program.

Source: Friedman-Krauss, Allison et al. 2020. "The State of Preschool 2019 Yearbook," Tables 1 and 2. National Institute for Early Education Research. http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/YB2019_Full_Report.pdf.

In 2019, the percent of lower-income 4th and 8th grade public school students who were not proficient in reading and math was 1.5 times that of higher-income students.

Table 21: Percent of 4th and 8th Grade Public School Students Performing Below Proficiency in Reading and Math by Income Status, 2019

	Lower-Income Students				Higher-Income Students			
	4th Grade		8th Grade		4th Grade		8th Grade	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
Alabama	84.4%	84.3%	86.0%	91.2%	55.1%	55.6%	66.8%	65.9%
Alaska	86.2	80.3	87.0	83.6	63.2	53.3	67.1	58.6
Arizona	82.3	77.8	83.5	79.0	53.6	45.2	58.4	59.2
Arkansas	76.3	76.0	79.3	83.3	52.4	47.8	56.2	55.4
California	79.6	81.2	81.6	84.1	48.2	43.9	53.0	50.3
Colorado	78.1	77.0	80.7	81.7	45.8	39.3	51.3	51.3
Connecticut	80.3	77.1	76.8	81.7	43.2	37.4	47.7	47.7
Delaware	82.8	76.8	83.8	87.1	60.0	53.6	63.7	64.4
District of Columbia	81.2	77.0	88.8	88.4	38.6	35.6	50.3	48.8
Florida	72.1	62.2	75.4	81.1	47.8	37.7	53.0	53.6
Georgia	80.0	78.0	79.4	83.4	43.8	37.4	50.3	47.3
Hawaii	78.2	76.4	83.3	84.9	55.6	47.1	62.0	63.0
Idaho	74.5	69.2	75.2	78.1	51.0	44.4	53.2	51.0
Illinois	79.3	75.6	78.8	79.6	50.5	46.0	50.3	53.7
Indiana	76.1	67.2	75.4	76.9	47.6	36.9	51.9	50.0
Iowa	77.9	74.9	82.9	82.3	54.2	43.3	56.7	56.2
Kansas	79.8	75.2	80.5	80.3	51.8	43.2	55.5	54.2
Kentucky	74.5	71.3	76.7	82.1	49.8	42.8	52.5	56.8
Louisiana	81.6	80.0	81.5	85.7	55.6	47.9	56.5	60.3
Maine	76.8	73.0	75.9	81.0	53.5	45.2	55.9	56.0
Maryland	81.1	78.5	81.7	85.9	49.2	44.0	51.6	54.1
Massachusetts	74.4	71.7	76.1	74.6	44.8	37.5	47.4	43.8
Michigan	80.2	79.5	81.2	83.7	55.2	48.4	56.9	57.1
Minnesota	79.4	68.9	82.5	77.7	51.1	34.2	56.7	43.9
Mississippi	74.1	68.6	81.3	83.1	46.3	33.1	54.8	53.8
Missouri	77.4	72.0	78.7	82.1	49.3	43.9	54.8	54.7
Montana	77.6	71.2	76.2	78.4	51.2	45.2	57.8	54.7
Nebraska	78.0	70.0	81.6	79.4	50.3	40.0	54.8	51.6
Nevada	76.4	74.9	79.6	84.2	54.3	46.0	59.8	60.1
New Hampshire	78.7	71.7	80.3	80.9	52.6	45.0	55.4	53.4
New Jersey	77.5	73.7	77.5	78.3	43.7	35.6	45.8	43.2
New Mexico	82.9	77.1	84.0	85.9	52.2	48.8	56.9	60.3
New York	79.9	76.4	78.2	79.2	47.4	45.7	57.5	54.0
North Carolina	79.0	74.1	79.6	79.6	49.9	44.5	57.6	51.1
North Dakota	78.0	73.2	80.7	80.2	58.8	47.1	62.8	54.1
Ohio	77.7	74.5	80.5	83.2	46.6	41.3	47.4	46.0
Oklahoma	79.7	76.2	83.0	84.0	57.7	47.0	61.4	61.2
Oregon	77.1	73.8	76.6	80.1	48.3	42.8	52.7	53.8
Pennsylvania	77.1	73.7	78.7	80.2	44.6	35.2	53.5	47.3
Rhode Island	79.2	74.0	81.8	88.1	50.4	44.2	50.4	55.0
South Carolina	80.3	77.0	80.8	83.7	48.0	41.3	56.8	53.8
South Dakota	77.0	75.0	82.7	77.9	57.8	47.9	62.1	53.6
Tennessee	82.4	78.4	82.6	84.9	57.2	51.3	62.7	61.7
Texas	81.1	68.5	85.2	81.3	51.7	37.6	60.0	55.3
Utah	77.6	67.8	75.2	80.6	50.5	45.9	55.3	53.2
Vermont	78.6	72.7	72.1	77.0	52.7	52.8	52.8	53.7
Virginia	79.9	70.0	81.7	80.5	48.3	38.7	57.8	51.1
Washington	78.3	75.7	79.1	76.9	49.8	43.8	45.6	44.0
West Virginia	77.9	81.2	81.3	85.3	59.9	57.4	69.1	68.0
Wisconsin	79.9	73.7	76.9	78.2	52.2	40.9	50.4	45.8
Wyoming	72.7	66.5	79.0	76.3	51.1	43.6	59.2	55.7
United States	**78.9%**	**74.3%**	**80.5%**	**81.8%**	**49.6%**	**42.1%**	**54.5%**	**52.2%**

Notes: Lower-income students are students who qualify for free and reduced-price school lunch, which means their families' incomes are at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Higher-income students are students who do not qualify, or whose families' incomes are higher than 185 percent of FPL.

Source: U.S. Department of Education and NAEP. 2019. "2019 Mathematics Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and Achievement Level Results" https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/; U.S. Department of Education and NAEP. 2019. "2019 Reading Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and Achievement Level Results." https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/.

In 2019, around 60 percent of public school 4th graders were not proficient in reading and math.

Table 22: Percent of 4th Grade Public School Students Performing Below Proficiency in Reading or Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	Reading								Math							
	All Students	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	State Rank Based on Reading[a]	All Students	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	State Rank Based on Math[a]
Alabama	71.8%	61.9%	79.8%	87.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	47	71.9%	61.6%	83.8%	88.3%	n/a	n/a	n/a	50
Alaska	74.9	64.5	78.6	n/a	72.5%	90.5%	73.3%	49	66.8	51.3	73.3	77.8	74.1%	86.7%	68.7%	46
Arizona	68.6	56.0	80.2	78.6	n/a	n/a	58.8	41	62.7	46.4	76.4	80.4	24.2	n/a	50.2	36
Arkansas	68.8	62.5	73.3	84.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	42	66.8	58.8	74.3	86.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	45
California	67.9	50.7	78.3	82.2	42.8	n/a	54.0	37	66.4	46.0	79.5	80.8	34.2	n/a	45.8	44
Colorado	60.3	49.7	77.0	75.2	52.2	n/a	51.0	7	55.5	42.9	74.8	75.4	38.8	n/a	53.7	14
Connecticut	59.9	47.2	80.0	83.1	35.4	n/a	52.2	4	55.0	43.5	74.1	79.2	26.9	n/a	45.2	12
Delaware	67.5	53.7	77.6	84.2	30.1	n/a	72.1	35	60.9	47.1	71.7	79.7	19.7	n/a	53.0	31
District of Columbia	69.9	20.8	73.1	80.7	n/a	n/a	31.6	—	65.8	16.1	67.3	77.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	—
Florida	62.3	53.6	66.1	77.0	30.7	n/a	66.7	11	52.5	41.0	57.3	72.4	24.2	n/a	51.0	6
Georgia	67.8	51.7	77.4	83.1	37.5	n/a	62.7	36	63.5	47.6	75.3	81.0	17.2	n/a	53.2	39
Hawaii	66.2	44.3	72.8	n/a	58.8	82.4	61.5	33	60.2	42.3	66.4	n/a	46.1	81.9	54.5	28
Idaho	62.6	57.2	82.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	62.7	12	57.0	51.1	75.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	66.5	18
Illinois	65.6	55.1	77.3	82.7	43.3	n/a	57.0	28	61.5	49.0	71.6	85.5	35.1	n/a	60.4	35
Indiana	63.0	57.1	75.6	83.0	52.8	n/a	66.8	14	52.9	45.9	66.2	80.5	36.7	n/a	53.8	8
Iowa	64.9	60.4	79.6	89.3	57.5	n/a	64.9	23	58.0	51.3	79.4	87.0	n/a	n/a	68.4	20
Kansas	66.2	60.4	79.0	85.3	n/a	n/a	66.0	32	59.7	50.9	77.7	86.3	41.3	n/a	62.3	25
Kentucky	64.9	61.2	75.5	85.8	46.9	n/a	66.6	26	60.1	56.3	73.3	79.6	35.0	n/a	62.1	26
Louisiana	74.3	63.1	76.2	87.2	n/a	n/a	63.0	48	71.2	56.6	79.7	86.6	n/a	n/a	62.7	48
Maine	64.0	63.3	n/a	81.1	n/a	n/a	66.3	18	58.2	56.6	n/a	80.3	n/a	n/a	64.7	21
Maryland	64.9	51.7	77.9	77.6	36.5	n/a	54.9	24	60.9	46.1	72.6	77.3	19.7	n/a	57.9	32
Massachusetts	54.6	45.9	75.2	75.6	38.3	n/a	32.7	1	49.8	40.7	69.8	72.0	21.9	n/a	51.4	2
Michigan	68.4	62.8	81.8	85.0	55.8	n/a	65.2	39	64.4	56.1	78.7	89.7	40.4	n/a	71.4	41
Minnesota	61.9	54.5	80.6	80.7	61.0	n/a	60.9	10	47.1	35.3	78.8	74.5	43.9	n/a	50.6	1
Mississippi	68.5	57.1	66.4	80.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	40	61.2	44.7	57.7	78.4	n/a	n/a	51.1	33
Missouri	65.8	62.4	72.4	82.2	n/a	n/a	64.6	31	60.7	55.2	65.3	85.1	n/a	n/a	61.8	29
Montana	63.6	59.6	73.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	66.1	16	57.4	52.8	67.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	63.0	19
Nebraska	63.2	55.1	77.4	85.0	n/a	n/a	72.8	15	54.5	45.2	71.8	83.9	56.8	n/a	55.3	11
Nevada	69.1	57.0	76.0	84.2	52.5	n/a	64.7	43	65.7	50.8	74.7	85.1	43.3	n/a	60.8	43
New Hampshire	61.8	61.1	74.0	n/a	51.9	n/a	n/a	9	54.2	53.2	73.6	71.1	29.1	n/a	n/a	10
New Jersey	58.1	46.6	73.9	76.5	35.5	n/a	n/a	2	51.8	39.0	70.3	75.6	19.5	n/a	n/a	3
New Mexico	76.3	59.2	81.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50	71.3	56.4	76.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49
New York	65.7	56.0	77.7	84.0	48.6	n/a	46.7	30	63.1	53.2	78.8	83.1	31.0	n/a	56.5	38
North Carolina	64.0	50.7	77.0	79.9	41.3	n/a	60.1	19	58.6	43.5	68.2	78.2	21.0	n/a	76.4	22
North Dakota	65.7	61.8	75.8	76.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	29	55.7	50.5	72.0	76.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	15
Ohio	63.9	57.5	77.9	85.2	38.0	n/a	72.7	17	58.9	51.5	75.8	85.6	30.0	n/a	60.8	23
Oklahoma	71.5	65.3	81.4	86.7	n/a	n/a	68.5	46	65.5	57.7	78.5	81.6	n/a	n/a	67.9	42
Oregon	66.2	61.8	82.6	n/a	54.1	n/a	52.8	34	62.8	55.3	80.8	n/a	38.8	n/a	73.1	37
Pennsylvania	60.3	51.7	81.6	83.4	34.6	n/a	65.4	6	52.7	42.4	77.5	79.0	32.7	n/a	52.4	7
Rhode Island	64.6	54.5	79.6	85.3	60.7	n/a	67.3	22	59.5	49.2	76.1	76.3	48.4	n/a	70.5	24
South Carolina	68.2	55.4	73.1	85.4	n/a	n/a	69.9	38	63.7	47.3	72.9	85.3	n/a	n/a	66.7	40
South Dakota	64.0	58.6	80.4	78.6	n/a	n/a	67.8	20	57.0	48.8	76.2	80.2	n/a	n/a	67.7	17
Tennessee	65.4	57.3	79.0	82.4	n/a	n/a	59.7	27	60.1	51.1	80.1	77.4	n/a	n/a	54.8	27
Texas	69.7	51.8	78.9	84.3	34.9	n/a	62.3	45	56.3	41.1	65.1	68.5	18.2	n/a	48.9	16
Utah	60.0	54.2	80.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	56.9	5	53.7	47.7	75.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	52.2	9
Vermont	62.9	62.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	57.0	13	61.2	60.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	66.9	34
Virginia	61.7	53.8	74.5	80.6	37.0	n/a	56.0	8	52.1	42.6	64.2	74.0	23.6	n/a	49.2	4
Washington	64.9	56.9	80.6	79.0	51.0	n/a	58.5	25	60.7	52.8	76.3	78.7	33.4	n/a	60.0	30
West Virginia	69.7	68.9	n/a	84.0	n/a	n/a	79.0	44	70.4	69.3	n/a	83.6	n/a	n/a	73.5	47
Wisconsin	64.5	58.3	77.3	89.3	64.8	n/a	64.4	21	55.2	46.7	72.8	85.9	59.0	n/a	60.3	13
Wyoming	59.4	56.2	69.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	52.2	48.1	63.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5
United States	**65.7%**	**55.6%**	**77.4%**	**82.4%**	**43.4%**	**75.9%**	**60.3%**		**59.6%**	**48.1%**	**72.4%**	**79.9%**	**30.3%**	**70.8%**	**56.5%**	

[a] States are ranked 1-50 with 1 meaning the lowest percent of students performing below proficiency and 50 meaning the highest percent of students performing below proficiency. States with different ranks may have same percents due to rounding.

Note: "n/a" means reporting standards were not met and sample size was insufficient to generate a reliable estimate. Racial categories (White, Black, Asian, Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander, two or more races) exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education and NAEP. 2019. "2019 Mathematics Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and Achievement Level Results." https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/; U.S. Department of Education and NAEP. 2019. "2019 Reading Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and Achievement Level Results." https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/.

In 2019, more than 67 percent of public school 8th graders were not proficient in reading and math.

Table 23: Percent of 8th Grade Public School Students Performing Below Proficiency in Reading or Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	Reading								Math							
	All Students	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	State Rank Based on Reading[a]	All Students	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	State Rank Based on Math[a]
Alabama	76.4%	69.9%	83.1%	88.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	78.7%	70.5%	89.2%	92.9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	49
Alaska	76.7	67.1	81.6	88.3	74.9	90.4	74.8	50	71.0	59.0	73.6	91.0	69.1	88.8	68.7	38
Arizona	71.6	58.9	81.0	85.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	42	69.0	54.6	80.1	80.0	32.5	n/a	n/a	32
Arkansas	70.5	65.1	71.1	89.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	72.7	65.3	77.3	92.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	43
California	70.2	55.1	80.6	90.2	42.7	n/a	60.3	37	71.5	53.2	85.3	89.7	37.4	n/a	56.6	41
Colorado	62.3	51.9	79.8	82.1	44.9	n/a	51.4	10	63.1	52.4	80.6	82.2	34.0	n/a	62.7	18
Connecticut	59.0	48.9	76.9	78.3	40.1	n/a	n/a	3	60.8	49.6	82.5	85.9	20.6	n/a	68.3	7
Delaware	69.0	58.2	79.8	83.6	33.5	n/a	62.5	36	70.8	58.8	81.5	87.1	30.8	n/a	65.9	37
District of Columbia	77.0	26.6	75.9	86.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	—	77.0	23.2	82.4	85.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	—
Florida	66.1	55.4	70.0	83.4	43.7	n/a	54.0	22	69.4	58.1	74.1	87.0	32.0	n/a	67.8	34
Georgia	67.9	56.8	74.7	82.3	41.1	n/a	51.4	31	68.9	56.7	74.8	85.7	22.6	n/a	66.0	31
Hawaii	70.8	58.0	72.8	n/a	63.0	84.2	64.8	40	72.3	61.3	74.7	n/a	61.5	87.8	69.0	42
Idaho	62.9	58.8	79.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	62.7	56.5	85.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	61.6	15
Illinois	64.6	54.8	74.9	85.4	34.2	n/a	68.2	15	66.2	58.4	76.2	85.8	26.7	n/a	62.3	22
Indiana	63.0	57.9	72.6	83.5	n/a	n/a	69.6	12	62.6	57.1	75.6	84.6	n/a	n/a	66.8	13
Iowa	67.4	64.2	80.6	87.1	n/a	n/a	69.7	28	67.5	63.2	82.7	91.4	n/a	n/a	78.2	27
Kansas	67.7	63.1	76.3	86.6	n/a	n/a	72.9	30	67.1	61.2	80.7	86.4	n/a	n/a	64.4	25
Kentucky	66.6	63.8	73.2	85.6	61.0	n/a	63.7	24	71.0	68.1	80.0	89.5	45.8	n/a	82.9	39
Louisiana	72.8	63.7	68.8	86.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	43	76.9	65.9	77.8	90.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	48
Maine	64.4	63.3	n/a	86.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	14	66.4	65.6	n/a	87.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	23
Maryland	64.0	49.9	79.0	80.1	32.0	n/a	54.4	13	67.4	49.6	82.5	86.0	37.6	n/a	60.6	26
Massachusetts	55.4	48.9	78.4	73.8	32.8	n/a	48.9	1	52.6	45.3	76.1	79.3	22.0	n/a	49.5	1
Michigan	68.5	64.8	77.5	87.9	44.4	n/a	59.7	35	69.0	63.2	84.0	90.6	48.0	n/a	75.8	33
Minnesota	65.8	59.1	81.7	89.1	63.4	n/a	69.9	19	55.8	46.9	79.1	86.3	53.0	n/a	57.6	2
Mississippi	75.0	62.8	69.8	87.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	75.7	61.9	76.7	89.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	46
Missouri	66.7	62.8	72.3	87.6	n/a	n/a	66.3	25	68.4	64.2	78.3	88.8	n/a	n/a	69.2	28
Montana	65.7	62.3	75.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	67.4	18	64.3	60.4	71.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	72.0	21
Nebraska	66.2	60.0	82.1	87.8	48.6	n/a	67.4	23	63.1	54.6	83.0	90.7	53.8	n/a	71.1	19
Nevada	71.4	61.2	78.2	85.3	56.9	n/a	68.0	41	74.3	62.8	82.8	89.1	49.0	n/a	71.6	44
New Hampshire	62.3	61.2	79.6	n/a	49.9	n/a	n/a	9	61.5	61.0	78.0	79.6	38.6	n/a	n/a	9
New Jersey	57.1	46.9	75.0	78.6	30.0	n/a	n/a	2	55.9	44.3	77.4	81.0	22.3	n/a	n/a	3
New Mexico	76.7	62.8	80.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	79.3	63.2	84.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50
New York	67.5	58.8	79.0	81.5	53.6	n/a	n/a	29	66.5	55.8	83.3	85.3	39.7	n/a	n/a	24
North Carolina	67.1	57.7	71.6	85.6	40.0	n/a	72.2	27	63.5	53.0	73.9	81.5	29.0	n/a	61.8	20
North Dakota	68.4	64.4	83.6	83.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	33	62.6	56.7	74.0	91.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	14
Ohio	61.9	54.8	69.7	88.4	n/a	n/a	73.4	7	62.5	55.4	74.4	87.5	43.0	n/a	77.5	12
Oklahoma	74.4	68.3	83.8	86.7	n/a	n/a	71.3	44	74.5	69.3	80.6	92.7	n/a	n/a	70.8	45
Oregon	66.0	61.1	79.8	n/a	46.6	n/a	58.4	20	68.6	62.5	86.8	n/a	43.2	n/a	59.4	29
Pennsylvania	64.8	58.2	82.3	86.7	38.1	n/a	78.3	16	61.4	52.8	83.4	89.4	34.4	n/a	66.0	8
Rhode Island	65.0	54.1	83.0	79.6	64.4	n/a	67.4	17	70.5	61.3	87.3	84.7	n/a	n/a	75.6	36
South Carolina	70.7	60.4	75.9	87.1	n/a	n/a	72.0	39	71.1	59.4	77.9	90.0	n/a	n/a	71.3	40
South Dakota	68.1	63.0	78.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	71.1	32	60.6	52.8	79.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	64.9	6
Tennessee	68.4	62.7	78.4	84.8	42.4	n/a	62.8	34	68.8	62.2	80.8	88.2	27.2	n/a	64.3	30
Texas	75.0	64.7	80.7	89.4	40.8	n/a	74.7	47	70.4	56.4	79.0	84.0	29.2	n/a	58.6	35
Utah	62.2	57.4	78.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	62.7	56.8	84.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	52.2	16
Vermont	59.8	59.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	57.2	4	61.7	60.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	68.8	10
Virginia	66.8	59.0	78.3	85.0	41.0	n/a	62.7	26	62.2	54.4	70.0	83.6	34.9	n/a	59.4	11
Washington	61.5	53.9	78.2	86.2	40.0	n/a	70.9	6	60.0	54.5	79.3	79.0	29.0	n/a	55.2	5
West Virginia	74.7	74.1	n/a	88.0	n/a	n/a	80.7	45	75.9	75.3	n/a	85.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	47
Wisconsin	61.5	55.3	79.4	89.8	50.2	n/a	59.7	5	58.7	51.4	73.6	87.9	56.7	n/a	73.0	4
Wyoming	66.1	62.5	78.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	21	62.9	58.5	74.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	71.7	17
United States	**67.6%**	**58.7%**	**78.6%**	**85.3%**	**43.5%**	**75.6%**	**64.5%**		**67.1%**	**57.0%**	**80.5%**	**86.7%**	**36.0%**	**81.7%**	**63.8%**	

[a] States are ranked 1-50 with 1 meaning the lowest percent of students performing below proficiency and 50 meaning the highest percent of students performing below proficiency. States with different ranks may have same percents due to rounding.

Note: "n/a" means reporting standards were not met and sample size was insufficient to generate a reliable estimate. Racial categories (White, Black, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, two or more races) exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education and NAEP. 2019. "2019 Mathematics Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and Achievement Level Results." https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/; U.S. Department of Education and NAEP. 2019. "2019 Reading Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and Achievement Level Results." https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/.

During the 2017-18 school year, more than 20 percent of Black high school students did not graduate on time in 28 states and the District of Columbia; Hispanic students, in 27 states and the District of Columbia; American Indian and Alaska Native students, in 27 states.

Table 24: On-Time High School Graduation Rates Among Public School Students by Race/Ethnicity, 2017-18 School Year

	Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR)							
	All Students	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian/Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Two or More Races	Rank by ACGR for All Students[a]
Alabama	90.0	91.5	87.6	87.7	94.0	90.0	91.0	5
Alaska	78.5	83.7	76.0	73.0	84.0	69.0	74.0	11
Arizona	78.7	83.4	75.7	73.7	89.0	67.8	75.0	29
Arkansas	89.2	91.2	85.8	85.6	88.0	84.0	90.0	4
California	83.0	87	80.6	73.3	93.0	70.5	73.2	3
Colorado	80.8	85.3	73.4	74.4	89.0	68.0	83.0	21
Connecticut	88.4	93.4	78.6	80.6	96.0	85.0	88.0	3
Delaware	86.9	89.9	82.0	83.2	95.0	76.0	91.0	20
District of Columbia	68.5	89	65.0	67.0	88.0	S	≥90	—
Florida	86.3	89.3	85.4	81.2	95.5	80.0	87.3	24
Georgia	81.6	84.9	74.6	79.4	90.3	77.0	82.0	37
Hawaii	84.5	86	80.0	82.0	84.6	n/a	n/a	18
Idaho	80.7	82.3	75.9	71.0	83.0	61.0	74.0	35
Illinois	86.5	91.1	82.0	77.6	93.9	80.0	85.5	15
Indiana	88.1	90	84.3	79.4	95.0	84.0	84.9	11
Iowa	91.4	93.2	83.9	81.0	91.0	76.0	88.0	1
Kansas	87.2	89.7	81.3	79.0	93.0	79.0	86.0	13
Kentucky	90.3	91.9	83.0	82.0	95.0	89.0	88.0	3
Louisiana	81.4	85.5	68.0	78.1	92.0	89.0	81.0	25
Maine	86.7	87.3	83.0	78.0	92.0	71.0	79.0	15
Maryland	87.1	93.2	72.2	84.8	96.2	90.0	90.0	15
Massachusetts	87.8	92.2	73.8	80.1	94.3	83.0	87.0	9
Michigan	80.6	83.9	74.4	70.0	91.0	70.0	74.9	39
Minnesota	83.2	88.4	66.8	67.4	86.5	51.0	72.0	25
Mississippi	84.0	87.7	79.0	80.7	93.0	86.0	82.0	27
Missouri	89.2	91.6	84.7	80.0	92.0	87.0	88.0	5
Montana	86.4	89.4	79.0	80.0	90.0	68.0	82.0	18
Nebraska	88.7	92.5	80.9	78.0	82.0	71.0	85.0	10
Nevada	83.2	86	82.3	71.5	92.0	80.0	83.0	23
New Hampshire	88.8	89.5	76.0	81.0	93.0	85.0	92.0	7
New Jersey	90.9	95	84.8	84.2	97.0	87.0	92.0	2
New Mexico	73.9	79.3	73.1	69.0	86.0	66.0	n/a	28
New York	82.3	90.1	71.6	72.9	88.9	69.0	84.0	32
North Carolina	86.3	89.6	80.0	83.2	93.4	84.0	84.1	24
North Dakota	88.1	91.4	75.0	76.0	89.0	72.0	n/a	9
Ohio	82.1	85.6	72.8	68.6	90.0	70.0	77.1	25
Oklahoma	81.8	83.3	78.9	77.2	86.0	81.1	83.9	27
Oregon	78.7	80.1	74.6	68.0	88.0	65.0	78.0	33
Pennsylvania	85.9	90.5	73.7	72.1	92.4	79.0	78.6	27
Rhode Island	84.0	87.3	77.0	83.0	91.0	69.0	78.0	18
South Carolina	81.0	83.6	80.5	76.9	93.0	73.0	n/a	37
South Dakota	84.1	89.9	71.0	75.0	87.0	50.0	80.0	21
Tennessee	90.0	93	83.1	83.7	95.0	90.0	n/a	5
Texas	90.0	93.6	88.2	86.5	96.1	85.0	91.4	3
Utah	87.0	89.3	78.1	76.0	89.0	77.0	87.0	19
Vermont	85.1	86.2	79.0	70.0	72.0	S	80.0	8
Virginia	87.5	91.8	73.5	83.8	94.6	84.0	90.8	4
Washington	86.7	88	83.2	80.1	91.6	71.0	86.7	20
West Virginia	90.2	90.4	92.0	86.0	≥95%	87.0	86.0	2
Wisconsin	89.7	93.6	82.4	69.5	91.0	78.0	85.0	7
Wyoming	81.7	83.8	75.0	77.0	86.0	59.0	78.0	37
United States	**85.3**	**89.1**	**81.0**	**79.0**	**92.2**	**73.5**	**n/a**	

Notes: The ACGR is an estimate of the percent of public school students who receive a regular diploma within four years of entering ninth grade. Racial categories exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race. "S" means data were suppressed to protect the confidentiality of individual student data. The greater than or equal to sign "≥" means the estimate has been top-coded to protect the confidentiality of individual student data. "n/a" means data were not available.

[a] a States are ranked 1 to 50 with 1 meaning highest ACGR and 50 meaning lowest ACGR.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics. 2019. "Table 1. Public High School 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR), by Race/Ethnicity and Selected Demographic Characteristics for the United States, the 50 States, and the District of Columbia: School Year 2017-18." https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2017-18.asp.

The U.S. spends far more on incarceration than education. On average, the U.S. spent 2.5 times as much per prisoner as per public school student during 2016-2017.

Table 25: Public Spending on Prisoners vs. Public School Students, 2016-2017

	Spending Per Prisoner, FY2016	Spending Per Public School Student, 2016-2017	Ratio of Spending Per Prisoner vs. Public School Student	Rank by Ratio[a]
Alabama	$14,300	$9,528	1.5	3
Alaska	54,405	17,838	3.1	34
Arizona	22,828	8,053	2.8	31
Arkansas	20,216	10,004	2.0	11
California	59,029	12,151	4.9	49
Colorado	35,015	9,849	3.6	42
Connecticut	41,891	19,929	2.1	15
Delaware	38,094	14,892	2.6	28
District of Columbia[b]	n/a	22,561	n/a	n/a
Florida	17,622	9,374	1.9	10
Georgia	17,264	10,274	1.7	5
Hawaii	36,158	14,322	2.5	26
Idaho	30,728	7,554	4.1	46
Illinois	21,763	15,517	1.4	2
Indiana	23,593	9,823	2.4	22
Iowa	30,819	11,456	2.7	30
Kansas	26,999	10,428	2.6	29
Kentucky	25,697	10,083	2.5	27
Louisiana	10,385	11,379	0.9	1
Maine	64,012	14,633	4.4	47
Maryland	54,675	14,933	3.7	43
Massachusetts	96,569	17,718	5.5	50
Michigan	36,984	11,256	3.3	40
Minnesota	31,406	12,635	2.5	25
Mississippi	15,350	8,755	1.8	7
Missouri	19,121	10,684	1.8	9
Montana	34,913	11,538	3.0	33
Nebraska	19,839	12,662	1.6	4
Nevada	16,020	9,120	1.8	8
New Hampshire	36,964	15,958	2.3	18
New Jersey	47,945	19,585	2.4	24
New Mexico	45,246	9,949	4.5	48
New York	53,811	22,861	2.4	21
North Carolina	29,536	8,995	3.3	39
North Dakota	55,300	13,767	4.0	44
Ohio	21,618	12,569	1.7	6
Oklahoma	18,523	7,921	2.3	20
Oregon	35,175	11,252	3.1	36
Pennsylvania	38,152	15,782	2.4	23
Rhode Island	52,554	16,620	3.2	37
South Carolina	21,785	10,419	2.1	13
South Dakota	32,759	10,117	3.2	38
Tennessee	21,498	9,246	2.3	19
Texas	20,615	9,520	2.2	16
Utah	29,040	7,206	4.0	45
Vermont	39,633	19,480	2.0	12
Virginia	24,976	11,885	2.1	14
Washington	35,354	11,971	3.0	32
West Virginia	38,963	11,745	3.3	41
Wisconsin	36,489	11,962	3.1	35
Wyoming	37,957	16,513	2.3	17
United States	**$30,361**	**$12,258**	**2.5**	

[a] States are ranked 1-50 with 1 meaning the lowest ratio of spending per prisoner vs. public school student and 50 meaning the highest ratio of spending per prisoner vs. public school student.

Notes: "n/a" means data were not available because the District of Columbia does not have a prison system. Spending per prisoner based on prisoner count on December 31, 2015, the latest count within FY2016.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Justice Expenditure and Employment Extracts. 2019. "Table 10. Detail of Direct Expenditure for Correctional Activities of State Governments by Character and Object, Fiscal Year 2016 (Preliminary)."" https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=6728; U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. 2018. "Inmates in Custody of State or Federal Correctional Facilities, Including Private Prison Facilities, December 31, 1999-2016," http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nps; U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. 2019. ""Digest of Education Statistics,"" Table 236.65. Current Expenditure per Pupil in Fall Enrollment in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, by State or Jurisdiction: Selected Years, 1969-70 through 2016-17. https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d19/tables/dt19_236.65.asp.

During the 2015-2016 school year, the suspension rate for Black students in public elementary school was more than four times that for white students.

Table 26: Suspensions among Public School Students, 2015-2016 School Year

Percent of Elementary and Secondary Students Receiving at Least One Out-of-School Suspension by Race/Ethnicity

	All Students	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	Two or More Races
Alabama	7.9%	4.1%	2.6%	15.8%	1.3%	3.8%	3.7%	4.5%
Alaska	5.2	3.3	4.7	10.4	1.3	8.7	7.9	5.3
Arizona	5.1	3.7	5.2	12.0	1.5	8.9	4.0	5.3
Arkansas	6.8	4.3	3.7	15.9	1.0	4.4	4.0	6.7
California	3.5	2.9	3.4	10.0	1.0	6.9	3.9	3.3
Colorado	4.5	3.3	5.6	10.3	1.4	8.0	4.4	4.7
Connecticut	3.8	1.5	5.9	9.9	0.6	4.2	1.6	3.3
Delaware	8.8	4.5	6.5	16.4	1.4	8.2	2.2	7.8
District of Columbia	8.9	0.7	3.1	11.4	1.7	3.4	5.4	2.0
Florida	5.6	4.1	3.6	10.1	0.9	5.0	3.2	6.2
Georgia	7.1	3.4	4.1	12.9	1.2	4.7	6.6	6.4
Hawaii	3.6	2.5	2.8	3.9	1.9	4.7	5.9	2.3
Idaho	2.1	1.9	2.4	3.8	0.5	4.0	2.7	2.8
Illinois	4.1	2.3	3.1	11.3	0.6	3.4	2.7	5.0
Indiana	6.0	3.9	5.2	18.1	1.3	4.8	2.3	7.9
Iowa	2.8	2.0	2.9	11.2	0.8	3.3	2.7	5.0
Kansas	4.3	2.9	4.5	15.1	1.5	5.5	2.5	5.9
Kentucky	4.9	3.9	3.4	13.3	1.0	4.5	2.9	5.9
Louisiana	9.0	4.7	4.4	12.5	1.8	7.5	3.5	6.2
Maine	3.5	3.3	3.4	6.8	1.1	5.0	1.1	3.4
Maryland	4.0	2.1	2.3	6.9	0.5	4.1	2.5	3.6
Massachusets	3.3	1.9	6.1	7.6	0.7	3.6	1.9	3.5
Michigan	7.2	4.4	6.3	18.7	1.4	8.0	3.5	7.6
Minnesota	3.6	2.0	4.3	13.3	1.1	9.4	1.1	5.2
Mississippi	9.7	4.5	3.9	15.0	2.0	7.1	3.0	6.3
Missouri	5.5	3.4	4.0	15.7	1.1	5.1	3.1	5.6
Montana	3.8	2.5	3.7	6.3	0.5	12.3	1.1	2.9
Nebraska	4.1	2.7	4.3	15.2	1.4	8.7	3.3	7.5
Nevada	7.3	4.7	6.8	19.1	2.4	6.7	5.9	7.1
New Hampshire	4.4	3.8	9.3	11.4	1.3	6.7	2.9	3.3
New Jersey	4.2	2.0	5.0	11.4	0.8	3.1	1.8	3.4
New Mexico	4.5	3.3	4.7	8.4	1.2	6.0	2.3	4.3
New York	3.2	2.6	2.3	6.7	0.5	3.3	0.6	4.2
North Carolina	7.1	4.0	4.9	14.1	1.2	11.3	4.4	7.9
North Dakota	2.1	1.5	2.1	4.2	0.5	6.6	2.2	0.9
Ohio	6.8	3.9	6.6	19.3	1.4	6.0	2.9	9.1
Oklahoma	5.6	4.4	5.1	16.0	1.1	4.7	4.4	4.7
Oregon	3.6	3.4	3.8	7.7	1.1	7.2	4.1	3.7
Pennsylvania	5.6	2.9	8.4	16.6	1.2	5.8	2.1	6.9
Rhode Island	4.7	3.1	6.7	8.7	1.6	10.8	1.0	6.7
South Carolina	10.2	5.9	5.4	17.7	1.7	9.8	5.4	8.6
South Dakota	2.9	1.8	3.5	7.3	1.1	8.7	5.0	3.8
Tennessee	7.2	3.6	4.4	18.6	1.6	6.0	3.8	5.7
Texas	4.7	2.2	4.2	11.7	0.7	3.5	3.1	3.8
Utah	1.5	1.2	2.5	4.5	0.8	2.6	2.1	1.3
Vermont	3.4	3.1	2.8	7.4	1.4	11.6	1.1	1.9
Virginia	5.7	3.4	3.6	13.1	0.7	5.8	3.7	4.8
Washington	4.0	3.3	4.5	9.0	1.2	7.7	5.8	4.7
West Virginia	8.0	7.4	5.3	16.7	1.7	5.2	3.5	8.2
Wisconsin	4.1	2.2	4.4	18.0	1.2	7.7	2.6	6.2
Wyoming	3.3	2.8	4.1	5.6	2.2	8.7	2.9	3.8
United States	**5.1%**	**3.2%**	**4.1%**	**12.9%**	**1.0%**	**6.7%**	**4.4%**	**5.2%**

Notes: Data by race/ethnicity exclude students with disabilities served only under Section 504 (not receiving services under IDEA). Racial categories (White, Black, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander) exclude students of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic students can be of any race.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Civil Rights Data Collection. 2020. "2015-16 State and National Estimations," One or More Out-of-School Suspensions and Enrollment. https://ocrdata.ed.gov/estimations/2015-2016. Calculations made by the Children's Defense Fund.

More than 651,000 children were victims of abuse and neglect in 2019. Nearly 3 in 4 were victims of neglect.

Table 27: Child Abuse and Neglect, 2019

	Victims of Maltreatment		Percent of Maltreatment Cases that Involved:						
	Number	Rate per 1,000 Children	Neglect Only	Physical Abuse Only	Sexual Abuse Only	Sex Trafficking Only	Emotional Abuse Only	Medical Neglect Only	Other or Unknown
Alabama	11,677	10.7	39.1	53.8	17.5	0.0	0.2	0.7	n/a
Alaska	3,059	17.0	75.1	16.0	9.1	0.1	32.6	2.9	n/a
Arizona	12,847	7.8	91.6	7.9	3.8	n/a	0.1	n/a	n/a
Arkansas	8,422	12.0	51.1	24.2	19.2	0.1	1.1	17.2	0.0
California	64,115	7.2	88.9	7.1	5.3	0.1	9.1	0.1	0.5
Colorado	12,246	9.7	82.8	10.0	9.6	n/a	2.1	1.3	0.2
Connecticut	8,042	11.1	86.0	5.4	4.7	n/a	32.0	3.0	n/a
Delaware	1,248	6.1	30.9	17.7	10.6	n/a	38.5	n/a	13.1
District of Columbia	1,857	14.5	87.1	15.0	3.5	1.5	n/a	n/a	0.2
Florida	32,915	7.8	58.8	8.5	8.8	n/a	1.3	3.2	42.0
Georgia	10,102	4.0	67.6	11.8	8.4	0.4	19.4	2.6	n/a
Hawaii	1,342	4.5	16.3	10.5	5.7	1.2	1.0	0.8	90.7
Idaho	1,869	4.2	77.4	20.2	6.8	0.1	n/a	0.6	0.4
Illinois	33,331	11.8	75.0	18.2	13.8	n/a	0.2	2.1	0.1
Indiana	23,029	14.7	87.2	6.9	10.7	0.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Iowa	11,648	16.0	71.6	10.2	6.1	n/a	0.6	0.9	31.3
Kansas	2,945	4.2	45.8	24.6	19.8	0.3	15.8	2.9	0.0
Kentucky	20,130	20.1	95.5	6.7	3.9	n/a	0.2	1.8	n/a
Louisiana	8,441	7.8	87.5	12.5	5.2	0.1	0.2	n/a	0.1
Maine	4,413	17.7	62.2	29.6	8.1	n/a	33.4	n/a	n/a
Maryland	7,661	5.7	61.2	20.3	25.0	n/a	0.2	n/a	n/a
Massachusetts	25,029	18.5	94.0	8.0	3.2	1.1	n/a	n/a	0.0
Michigan	33,043	15.4	87.4	15.4	4.0	0.1	0.6	2.3	0.0
Minnesota	6,780	5.2	69.1	14.7	23.3	0.4	2.0	n/a	n/a
Mississippi	9,377	13.4	71.9	15.9	13.6	0.1	16.6	5.0	0.1
Missouri	4,762	3.5	53.0	30.0	32.9	0.2	12.2	3.0	0.1
Montana	3,736	16.3	97.6	4.6	2.5	n/a	0.6	0.3	0.1
Nebraska	2,822	5.9	83.5	12.8	9.3	0.1	0.4	0.1	n/a
Nevada	4,999	7.2	84.0	19.3	5.9	n/a	0.1	1.7	n/a
New Hampshire	1,217	4.8	86.7	8.8	8.2	n/a	1.6	4.1	n/a
New Jersey	5,132	2.6	74.4	12.9	15.1	0.1	1.4	2.3	0.0
New Mexico	8,025	16.9	82.3	12.1	2.7	n/a	27.2	3.2	n/a
New York	67,269	16.7	95.5	9.1	3.4	n/a	0.8	6.4	27.1
North Carolina	5,601	2.4	45.0	28.8	21.7	n/a	1.9	1.0	2.8
North Dakota	1,797	10.0	77.6	7.4	3.7	n/a	27.9	2.8	n/a
Ohio	25,470	9.9	45.8	45.3	17.7	0.1	6.4	1.9	n/a
Oklahoma	15,148	15.9	74.8	12.5	4.7	0.0	32.9	1.8	n/a
Oregon	13,543	15.6	50.1	12.2	8.0	0.3	2.0	1.4	49.2
Pennsylvania	4,817	1.8	9.9	44.6	43.6	0.7	1.2	4.5	0.5
Rhode Island	3,183	15.6	58.8	13.6	4.4	0.0	35.2	1.8	2.0
South Carolina	18,717	16.8	55.4	56.0	5.0	n/a	0.6	2.0	0.1
South Dakota	1,537	7.1	92.3	9.4	3.8	n/a	1.2	n/a	n/a
Tennessee	9,859	6.5	24.9	60.6	24.9	1.1	4.0	1.5	n/a
Texas	64,093	8.7	83.4	12.2	10.8	0.0	0.6	1.8	0.0
Utah	10,579	11.4	28.0	43.1	17.4	0.1	30.6	0.4	1.3
Vermont	851	7.5	2.9	57.7	40.2	n/a	1.6	2.1	n/a
Virginia	6,159	3.3	65.2	28.9	12.6	n/a	1.1	2.4	n/a
Washington	4,222	2.5	77.8	22.0	11.5	0.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
West Virginia	6,727	18.7	39.5	79.7	3.6	n/a	62.6	5.5	n/a
Wisconsin	4,576	3.6	68.0	16.0	21.2	1.1	0.7	2.0	0.0
Wyoming	1,096	8.2	75.6	1.9	6.6	n/a	31.8	0.6	n/a
United States	**651,505**	**8.9**	**74.9%**	**17.5%**	**9.3%**	**0.1%**	**6.1%**	**2.3%**	**6.8%**

Notes: "n/a" means the category is not reported by state. Percents add up to over 100 percent as some cases involved multiple types of maltreatment. Due to differences in definitions of child maltreatment, data should not be compared between states. Categorization of child maltreatment was analyzed differently for 2019, and data should not be compared to that of previous reports. U.S. total excludes data from Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2021. "Child Maltreatment 2019," Tables 3-4 and 3-9. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/report/child-maltreatment-2019.

After increasing every year since FY2012, the number of children living in foster care decreased for the first time in FY2018. In FY2019, that trend continued, decreasing to 423,997.

Table 28: Children Living In, Entering and Exiting Foster Care, Select Fiscal Years

			Percent Change FY2012-FY2019	Entering Care	Existing Care
	FY2012	FY2019		FY2019	FY2019
Alabama	4,561	5,783	26.8%	3,985	3,958
Alaska	1,854	2,879	55.3	1,496	1,337
Arizona	13,461	13,330	-1.0	9,607	9,359
Arkansas	3,711	4,127	11.2	3,071	3,107
California	54,553	51,268	-6.0	28,138	26,622
Colorado	6,003	5,340	-11.0	4,420	4,402
Connecticut	4,563	4,333	-5.0	2,046	1,647
Delaware	799	576	-27.9	299	354
District of Columbia	1,216	672	-44.7	360	389
Florida	19,536	24,563	25.7	15,597	14,572
Georgia	7,671	12,867	67.7	6,468	7,309
Hawaii	1,079	1,706	58.1	1,272	1,169
Idaho	1,234	1,752	42.0	1,322	1,289
Illinois	16,772	18,317	9.2	6,709	4,716
Indiana	11,190	16,307	45.7	9,180	10,904
Iowa	6,262	5,955	-4.9	3,769	3,819
Kansas	6,002	8,066	34.4	4,212	3,998
Kentucky	6,979	9,148	31.1	6,629	6,635
Louisiana	4,044	3,919	-3.1	2,769	3,317
Maine	1,512	2,096	38.6	1,246	901
Marlyand	4,884	3,840	-21.4	1,917	1,949
Massachusetts	8,522	9,871	15.8	5,419	5,930
Michigan	14,522	11,671	-19.6	5,758	6,169
Minnesota	5,330	8,400	57.6	6,045	6,614
Mississippi	3,699	4,161	12.5	2,396	2,898
Missouri	9,985	12,685	27.0	6,889	6,642
Montana	1,937	3,697	90.9	2,178	2,353
Nebraska	5,116	3,506	-31.5	2,209	2,137
Nevada	4,745	4,541	-4.3	3,231	3,181
New Hampshire	768	1,225	59.5	846	886
New Jersey	6,848	4,430	-35.3	2,679	3,700
New Mexico	1,914	2,326	21.5	1,447	1,609
New York	23,924	16,086	-32.8	8,337	7,968
North Carolina	8,461	11,223	32.6	5,564	4,454
North Dakota	1,109	1,502	35.4	987	1,020
Ohio	11,877	16,387	38.0	12,410	11,053
Oklahoma	9,120	8,306	-8.9	4,524	4,802
Oregon	8,686	6,994	-19.5	3,329	3,348
Pennsylvania	14,515	15,526	7.0	9,528	10,058
Rhode Island	1,707	2,200	28.9	1,111	860
South Carolina	3,113	4,521	45.2	3,958	3,779
South Dakota	1,399	1,706	21.9	1,215	1,027
Tennessee	7,440	9,290	24.9	6,719	5,081
Texas	29,613	31,427	6.1	18,455	19,673
Utah	2,813	2,488	-11.6	2,020	2,084
Vermont	975	1,245	27.7	736	743
Virginia	4,579	4,925	7.6	2,800	2,701
Washington	9,606	10,909	13.6	5,336	5,673
West Virginia	4,562	7,269	59.3	5,048	4,757
Wisconsin	6,384	7,642	19.7	4,631	4,635
Wyoming	949	994	4.7	1,042	1,081
United States	**392,104**	**423,997**	**8.1%**	**251,359**	**248,669**

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2019. "Trends in Foster Care and Adoption." Adoption Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS), FY 2008 - 2018. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2020. "Trends in Foster Care and Adoption." AFCARS, FY 2010 - 2019. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption.

Black children and American Indian children were overrepresented in foster care in 2018. In 18 states, the percent of Black children in foster care was at least two times the percent of Black children in the overall child population; and in 11 states for American Indian and Alaska Native children.

Table 29: Children in Foster Care by Race/Ethnicity, 2018

	Percent of Children in Foster Care Who Are:						Ratio of Black Children in Foster Care to Black Children in the Overall Population	Ratio of AI/AN Children in Foster Care to AI/AN Children in the Overall Population
	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Two or More Races		
Alabama	55.09%	4.57%	34.89%	0.15%	0.17%	4.65%	1.21	0.38
Alaska	24.03	5.01	1.87	3.62	45.38	19.99	0.58	2.47
Arizona	34.04	38.35	11.28	0.46	4.79	4.79	2.31	0.97
Arkansas	64.95	6.33	16.37	0.40	0.09	11.55	0.92	0.13
California	19.88	53.29	19.05	1.48	0.72	4.84	3.73	1.89
Colorado	43.45	37.96	10.83	0.47	0.72	5.49	2.48	1.21
Connecticut	32.66	35.50	23.27	0.21	0.17	6.49	2.05	0.61
Delaware	31.99	12.10	47.98	0.14	n/a	7.79	1.89	n/a
District of Columbia	0.15	12.56	82.18	0.59	n/a	0.74	1.52	n/a
Florida	47.04	15.63	29.86	0.20	0.06	6.60	1.49	0.29
Georgia	47.48	5.96	39.41	0.31	0.04	6.47	1.18	0.24
Hawaii	12.33	2.37	1.36	30.35	0.12	51.33	0.72	0.83
Idaho	75.36	15.33	1.27	0.66	1.82	2.09	1.36	1.61
Illinois	42.43	8.86	44.15	0.25	0.10	4.05	2.90	0.72
Indiana	65.84	8.07	16.96	0.21	0.03	8.83	1.51	0.18
Iowa	68.36	8.35	11.92	0.70	1.35	4.73	2.21	3.60
Kansas	64.55	12.72	13.87	0.30	0.94	7.61	2.24	1.33
Kentucky	75.10	4.77	10.39	0.19	0.04	6.30	1.12	0.27
Louisiana	54.08	1.89	38.65	0.26	0.13	3.92	1.06	0.21
Maine	71.82	4.64	2.77	0.40	1.36	7.19	0.95	1.58
Maryland	27.45	7.20	53.08	0.54	n/a	4.63	1.73	n/a
Massachusetts	42.39	29.82	13.92	0.59	0.23	9.69	1.58	1.22
Michigan	49.13	7.80	29.10	0.26	0.40	13.27	1.82	0.67
Minnesota	34.81	10.02	15.28	1.81	22.71	13.76	1.54	15.50
Mississippi	54.79	1.87	37.78	0.26	0.06	3.32	0.91	0.10
Missouri	64.80	9.13	18.17	0.18	0.41	1.82	1.35	1.02
Montana	50.23	7.75	1.19	0.05	30.74	9.68	1.80	3.16
Nebraska	50.09	18.08	17.59	1.05	4.63	7.56	2.94	4.06
Nevada	39.83	24.27	25.53	1.63	0.75	7.57	2.47	0.91
New Hampshire	73.74	8.30	4.88	0.52	0.07	4.77	2.50	0.43
New Jersey	30.26	24.14	40.39	0.65	0.05	4.27	3.02	0.39
New Mexico	23.41	61.21	5.26	n/a	6.19	2.64	3.10	0.60
New York	25.04	25.42	40.21	1.03	0.27	6.71	2.68	0.92
North Carolina	50.89	7.98	25.80	0.28	2.18	11.14	1.14	1.83
North Dakota	42.58	6.41	5.52	0.70	33.63	9.01	1.30	4.29
Ohio	52.70	5.30	30.13	0.19	0.01	11.33	2.00	0.08
Oklahoma	37.32	17.93	8.53	0.06	9.05	27.11	1.08	0.92
Oregon	62.95	16.34	4.08	0.97	4.37	7.62	1.71	3.56
Pennsylvania	42.24	13.09	36.32	0.43	0.02	7.13	2.77	0.16
Rhode Island	46.33	28.36	13.08	0.45	0.25	10.43	1.74	0.44
South Carolina	49.60	5.97	35.79	0.16	0.22	4.76	1.21	0.67
South Dakota	22.56	5.32	2.95	0.19	55.00	13.97	1.01	4.25
Tennessee	64.58	5.51	22.34	0.20	0.16	6.35	1.18	0.73
Texas	29.66	41.26	22.35	0.32	0.08	4.78	1.90	0.33
Utah	65.80	23.40	2.60	1.23	2.68	4.06	2.07	2.93
Vermont	93.50	1.38	2.68	0.23	0.15	1.15	1.39	0.54
Virginia	51.88	9.60	27.96	0.57	0.06	8.77	1.41	0.29
Washington	48.89	19.76	7.96	1.97	4.90	16.41	1.80	3.42
West Virginia	88.51	0.91	3.18	0.11	0.03	6.92	0.88	0.18
Wisconsin	46.99	9.70	27.71	1.05	7.21	5.90	3.12	6.46
Wyoming	74.61	16.50	3.39	0.27	1.47	2.20	3.00	0.49
United States	**44.37%**	**20.84%**	**22.76%**	**0.73%**	**2.40%**	**7.56%**	**1.66**	**2.84**

Notes: Data are for children in foster care on September 30, 2018. Racial categories exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. "n/a" means data were not available.

Sources: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS Count Data Center. 2020. "Children in Foster Care by Race and Hispanic Origin in the United States, 2018." https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6246-children-in-foster-care-by-race-and-hispanic-origin; The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS Count Data Center. 2020. "Child Population by Race in the United States, 2018" https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/103-child-population-by-race.

Between 2008 and 2018, 26 states and the District of Columbia decreased their use of congregate care by at least 33.3 percent. In 14 of these states children in congregate care declined by at least 50 percent. Only two states—Delaware and New Mexico—increased their use of congregate care.

Table 30: Children in Congregate Care and Care with Relatives, 2008 and 2018

	Children in Congregate Care, 2008		Children in Congregate Care, 2018		Percent Change in Percent of Children in Congregate Care	Children in Foster Care with Relatives, 2008		Children in Foster Care with Relatives, 2018		Percent Change in Percent of Children in Foster Care with Relatives,
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	2008-2018	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	2008-2018
Alabama	1,314	19%	1,046	18%	-5.3	801	12%	759	13%	8.3%
Alaska	201	9	109	4	-55.6	460	21	763	27	28.6
Arizona	1,537	15	1,893	14	-6.7	3,386	33	5,823	44	33.3
Arkansas	704	20	748	18	-10.0	313	9	920	22	144.4
California	8,242	12	4,282	8	-33.3	19,021	28	17,234	33	17.9
Colorado	2,578	33	1,465	27	-18.2	1,080	14	1,331	25	78.6
Connecticut	1,356	26	332	8	-69.2	822	16	1,613	38	137.5
Delaware	126	13	119	17	30.8	111	12	63	9	-25.0
District of Columbia	333	15	62	9	-40.0	358	17	153	22	29.4
Florida	3,219	15	2,560	10	-33.3	9,256	42	10,539	43	2.4
Georgia	1,964	20	1,620	12	-40.0	1,716	17	3,798	28	64.7
Hawaii	122	8	74	4	-50.0	662	41	755	45	9.8
Idaho	189	11	160	9	-18.2	332	19	554	31	63.2
Illinois	1,835	10	1,220	7	-30.0	6,252	35	7,679	46	31.4
Indiana	2,125	17	1,074	6	-64.7	2,152	17	6,705	36	111.8
Iowa	1,548	23	636	10	-56.5	1,241	18	2,280	36	100.0
Kansas	521	8	613	8	0.0	1351	21	2,357	29	38.1
Kentucky	1,281	18	1,230	13	-27.8	766	11	932	10	-9.1
Louisiana	687	14	401	9	-35.7	1,083	21	1,535	34	61.9
Maine	252	14	88	5	-64.3	414	24	631	36	50.0
Maryland	1,489	20	557	14	-30.0	2,210	29	1,602	40	37.9
Massachusetts	1,978	19	1,686	16	-15.8	1,891	18	2,762	26	44.4
Michigan	3,270	16	1,128	9	-43.8	7,429	37	4,675	39	5.4
Minnesota	1,586	26	1,141	12	-53.8	961	16	3,796	41	156.3
Mississippi	698	21	308	7	-66.7	635	19	1,690	36	89.5
Missouri	1,705	17	1,059	8	-52.9	1,857	18	4,591	36	100.0
Montana	206	13	278	7	-46.2	450	28	1,768	45	60.7
Nebraska	1,227	22	176	5	-77.3	1,039	19	1,096	31	63.2
Nevada	440	9	239	5	-44.4	1,462	29	1,799	40	37.9
New Hampshire	239	23	310	20	-13.0	159	15	410	27	80.0
New Jersey	970	11	328	6	-45.5	3,229	38	1,834	33	-13.2
New Mexico	113	5	212	8	60.0	458	21	554	22	4.8
New York	5,760	20	2,216	14	-30.0	5,825	20	3,742	24	20.0
North Carolina	1,273	13	1,114	11	-15.4	2,214	23	2,431	24	4.3
North Dakota	316	26	170	11	-57.7	187	15	298	19	26.7
Ohio	1,870	14	1,960	12	-14.3	1,970	14	3,353	21	50.0
Oklahoma	895	8	506	6	-25.0	2,995	28	2,678	31	10.7
Oregon	659	7	402	5	-28.6	1,720	19	2,462	32	68.4
Pennsylvania	4,738	25	2,333	14	-44.0	4,268	22	6,242	38	72.7
Rhode Island	829	34	307	15	-55.9	539	22	853	43	95.5
South Carolina	1,215	24	897	20	-16.7	340	7	223	5	-28.6
South Dakota	328	22	235	15	-31.8	266	18	336	22	22.2
Tennessee	1,455	20	1,543	17	-15.0	544	8	1,052	12	50.0
Texas	4,943	18	3864	12	-33.3	7,436	27	11,303	34	25.9
Utah	524	19	245	9	-52.6	390	14	758	29	107.1
Vermont	251	21	173	13	-38.1	134	11	373	29	163.6
Virginia	1,478	22	735	15	-31.8	386	6	340	7	16.7
Washington	585	5	535	5	0.0	4,019	36	3,879	34	-5.6
West Virginia	1,142	26	1,193	17	-34.6	671	15	1,497	21	40.0
Wisconsin	1,073	14	752	10	-28.6	2,290	31	3,165	40	29.0
Wyoming	472	41	176	16	-61.0	167	14	353	32	128.6
United States	**73,861**	**16.2%**	**46,510**	**10.7%**	**-34.0**	**109,718**	**24.2%**	**138,339**	**31.8%**	**31.4%**

Source: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center. 2020. "Children in Foster Care by Placement Type." https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6247-children-in-foster-care-by-placement-type.

Four out of five children exiting foster care were placed in a permanent family in 2018; the majority of children reunited with their families. However, 11 percent of children—nearly 18,000—"aged out" of foster care without a permanent family.

Table 31: Exits from Foster Care and Exits to Emancipation, FY2018

	Number of Children Who Exited Foster Care	Median Length of Stay (Months)	Percent by Type of Exit:			Number of Children Who "Aged Out" of the System	Percent Who Aged Out Who Entered Foster Care at Age 13 and Older
			Reunification	Adoption	Guardianship		
Alabama	3,582	11.9	68.0%	19.9%	1.5%	317	82.0
Alaska	1,251	21.2	54.5	28.0	6.7	81	86.4
Arizona	10,549	15.8	44.9	37.3	7.5	881	92.6
Arkansas	3,578	12.0	63.1	27.3	2.0	219	82.6
California	25,879	16.2	53.8	25.8	10.9	1,988	80.3
Colorado	4,741	8.0	61.4	15.3	7.1	225	85.8
Connecticut	1,560	19.1	45.1	38.5	2.9	120	55.0
Delaware	370	13.8	17.0	30.8	22.7	30	90.0
District of Columbia	361	22.0	44.3	27.4	14.1	49	81.6
Florida	15,505	13.5	46.0	27.1	19.5	1,026	87.8
Georgia	7,257	14.5	63.8	17.8	7.2	640	91.4
Hawaii	1,043	10.8	59.0	17.3	13.7	71	87.3
Idaho	1,143	11.1	65.6	20.5	4.8	83	94.0
Illinois	4,278	33.9	38.3	41.1	10.1	398	72.4
Indiana	12,132	14.1	69.0	16.4	10.4	392	87.2
Iowa	3,617	15.5	53.8	29.4	10.4	223	83.0
Kansas	3,696	17.0	56.6	25.1	5.3	391	84.1
Kentucky	5,993	8.0	69.2	18.7	0.3	667	89.5
Louisiana	3,458	11.5	55.7	26.3	8.6	150	81.3
Maine	883	19.9	41.6	44.6	6.2	63	71.4
Maryland	2,237	15.2	62.7	15.5	2.8	389	71.5
Massachusetts	5,850	14.5	62.0	14.2	9.6	813	82.2
Michigan	5,984	19.2	46.6	33.4	6.1	706	86.7
Minnesota	6,771	11.6	61.6	19.0	10.9	427	85.7
Mississippi	3,181	16.3	64.2	20.4	11.2	68	76.5
Missouri	6,559	18.2	45.3	25.4	19.6	538	79.2
Montana	2,154	15.3	64.1	18.5	8.9	89	80.9
Nebraska	2,438	16.8	60.2	22.9	9.3	115	87.8
Nevada	2,965	11.9	60.4	25.6	7.0	136	78.7
New Hampshire	828	17.2	56.4	29.1	2.2	85	89.4
New Jersey	3,863	13.9	61.2	27.1	3.7	265	84.2
New Mexico	1,793	10.5	65.1	23.0	4.5	98	78.6
New York	8,400	16.3	65.9	24.4	5.9	112	88.4
North Carolina	4,698	16.9	41.6	29.8	21.6	184	84.8
North Dakota	1,043	10.0	57.0	15.0	10.9	68	83.8
Ohio	11,014	10.8	71.6	13.8	4.5	902	87.3
Oklahoma	5,320	18.9	45.7	40.2	6.3	203	77.3
Oregon	3,335	18.8	56.4	19.4	13.7	295	72.2
Pennsylvania	9,931	14.2	52.1	26.7	8.2	836	92.0
Rhode Island	1,107	13.6	50.5	23.1	11.4	134	86.6
South Carolina	3,591	5.1	77.7	12.3	2.2	257	82.9
South Dakota	1,145	11.5	56.9	16.1	10.0	57	84.2
Tennessee	5,241	10.0	57.8	20.6	5.5	388	94.8
Texas	19,403	15.6	38.4	29.6	25.5	1,148	75.6
Utah	2,263	13.3	47.0	34.3	7.6	170	87.6
Vermont	740	15.8	57.3	31.1	4.1	46	89.1
Virginia	2,849	17.8	41.0	31.0	0.1	642	88.8
Washington	5,422	18.8	63.7	24.4	7.1	191	76.4
West Virginia	4,429	13.4	56.7	31.8	8.8	61	96.7
Wisconsin	4,724	13.8	56.7	16.1	17.7	395	87.8
Wyoming	1,007	8.0	76.6	7.4	8.2	11	81.8
United States FY2018	**251,161**	**13.2**	**49%**	**25%**	**11%**	**17,843**	
United States FY2019	**248,669**	**13.3**	**47%**	**26%**	**11%**	**20,445**	

Note: National data is presented for both FY2018 and FY2019 but state data is presented for FY2018 alone as state data for FY2019 was not available at the time of publication.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2020. "Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data." https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/threeOne/index; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2019. "The Adoption Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS) Report, Preliminary FY 2018 Estimates as of August 22, 2019 - No. 26. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcarsreport26.pdf; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2020. The Adoption Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS) Report, Preliminary FY 2019 Estimates as of June 23, 2020 - No. 27." https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcarsreport27.pdf;U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2020. "Trends in Foster Care and Adoption." AFCARS, FY 2010 - 2019. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption.

In 2019, nearly 700,000 children were arrested in the U.S. In 45 states, less than 10 percent of child arrests were for violent crimes.

Table 32: Child Arrests, 2019

	Total Number of Child Arrests	Arrests per 100,000 Children[a]	Percent of Arrests for Violent Crimes
Alabama	103	9	2.9
Alaska	1,433	796	12.4
Arizona	18,502	1,128	5.9
Arkansas	7,809	1,115	5.7
California	38,617	434	17.5
Colorado	16,885	1,341	4.8
Connecticut	6,942	954	4.4
Delaware	2,924	1,436	10.8
District of Columbia	807	630	23.3
Florida	44,634	1,055	7.3
Georgia	5,176	207	5.2
Hawaii	1,849	617	5.8
Idaho	6,235	1,391	3.4
Illinois	696	25	7.2
Indiana	5,211	332	5.4
Iowa	8,901	1,225	5.7
Kansas	3,632	519	5.7
Kentucky	4,798	478	6.9
Louisiana	12,267	1,128	7.8
Maine	2,470	993	1.7
Maryland	18,857	1,413	10.9
Massachusetts	4,141	306	11.7
Michigan	11,172	521	9.2
Minnesota	18,594	1,427	5.1
Mississippi	2,719	389	4.0
Missouri	10,435	761	6.9
Montana	4,355	1,905	4.1
Nebraska	8,282	1,740	2.9
Nevada	10,818	1,562	8.8
New Hampshire	3,243	1,271	1.8
New Jersey	13,360	689	7.8
New Mexico	2,852	599	6.9
New York	11,606	288	9.8
North Carolina	12,088	525	6.6
North Dakota	4,152	2,304	1.6
Ohio	20,149	782	5.1
Oklahoma	7,195	756	5.6
Oregon	8,031	927	5.5
Pennsylvania	8,153	309	8.0
Rhode Island	2,176	1,064	4.6
South Carolina	9,403	846	6.2
South Dakota	4,791	2,207	2.3
Tennessee	19,687	1,304	7.0
Texas	49,409	668	8.9
Utah	11,334	1,217	3.0
Vermont	803	704	5.9
Virginia	15,992	859	4.7
Washington	10,101	607	9.3
West Virginia	292	81	7.5
Wisconsin	33,383	2,636	2.9
Wyoming	3,117	2,331	1.3
United States	**696,620**	**954**	**7.3%**

[a] Juvenile arrest rates are based on the number of arrests of children ages 0-17 per 100,000 children ages 0-17 in the resident population.

Notes: "Violent crimes" include the offenses of robbery, aggravated assault, rape, and homicide.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. 2019. "Crime in the United States, 2019," Table 69. https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/tables/table-69; Puzzanchera, C., A. Sladky, and W. Kang. 2020. "Easy Access to Juvenile Populations: 1990-2019 State Comparisons." https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_display.asp.

653 children remained in adult prisons in 2019; a 76 percent decline in 10 years. More than half of all children in adult prisons were held in seven states—Florida, North Carolina, Arizona, Connecticut, Texas, Ohio, and New York.

Table 33: Children in Adult Prisons, 2009-2019

	Number of Children in Adult Prisons in:				Percent Change in the Number of Children in Adult Prisons 2009-2019
	2009	2017	2018	2019	
Alabama	118	25	9	2	-78.8
Alaska*	7	13	2	5	85.7
Arizona	157	54	51	55	-65.6
Arkansas	17	24	8	8	41.2
California	0	0	0	0	0.0
Colorado	43	8	9	7	-81.4
Connecticut*	332	55	46	52	-83.4
Delaware*	28	11	11	5	-60.7
District of Columbia	–	–	–	–	–
Florida	393	133	91	81	-66.2
Georgia	99	62	33	31	-37.4
Hawaii*	2	0	0	0	-100.0
Idaho	0	0	0	0	0.0
Illinois	106	0	0	0	-100.0
Indiana	54	24	28	31	-55.6
Iowa	13	10	3	0	-23.1
Kansas	5	0	0	0	-100.0
Kentucky	0	0	0	0	0.0
Louisiana	15	21	14	18	40.0
Maine	0	0	0	0	0.0
Maryland	58	13	16	16	-77.6
Massachusetts	8	0	0	0	-100.0
Michigan	132	40	35	26	-69.7
Minnesota	13	8	5	4	-38.5
Mississippi	28	18	14	21	-35.7
Missouri	31	11	3	4	-64.5
Montana	2	0	0	0	-100.0
Nebraska	21	5	3	7	-76.2
Nevada	118	22	21	11	-81.4
New Hampshire	0	0	0	n/a	n/a
New Jersey	21	0	0	0	-100.0
New Mexico	3	0	0	0	0.0
New York	190	67	64	36	-64.7
North Carolina	215	76	60	61	-64.7
North Dakota	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ohio	86	32	40	36	-62.8
Oklahoma	19	12	14	9	-36.8
Oregon	13	0	0	n/a	n/a
Pennsylvania	61	27	14	9	-55.7
Rhode Island*	1	0	1	0	-100.0
South Carolina	89	35	26	23	-60.7
South Dakota	1	0	0	0	-100.0
Tennessee	22	7	13	9	-68.2
Texas	156	42	22	38	-73.1
Utah	6	1	1	3	-83.3
Vermont*	4	2	0	1	-50.0
Virginia	16	12	11	12	-25.0
Washington	2	0	10	5	-100.0
West Virginia	0	0	0	0	0.0
Wisconsin	37	22	21	0	-40.5
Wyoming	1	1	0	0	0.0
United States	**2,743**	**935**	**699**	**653**	**-76.2**

Note: "*" means the prisons and jails in the state form one integrated system; Data include total jail and prison populations. "n/a" means data were not available.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics. "Reported Number of Inmates Age 17 or Younger Held in Custody in Federal or State Prisons, December 31, 2000-2018." Generated using the Corrections Statistical Analysis Tool at www.bjs.gov; Carson, E. Ann. 2020. "Prisoners in 2019," Table 12. Bureau of Justice Statistics. https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/p19.pdf.

Nearly 44,000 children were held in residential placement on an average night in 2017. In 14 states and the District of Columbia, Black children made up more than half of all children in residential placements.

Table 35: Children in Residential Placement by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, 2017

		Percent of Children in Residential Placement Who Are:					Percent of Children in Residential Placement Who Are:	
	Number	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Male[a]	Female[a]
Alabama	804	44%	3%	52%	<1%	0%	81%	19%
Alaska	207	35	1	14	4	36	81	19
Arizona	531	31	42	16	<1	5	86	14
Arkansas	585	40[b]	14[b]	42[b]	1	0[b]	82[b]	19[b]
California	5,463	14	56	26	2	<1	85	15
Colorado	993	39	37	22	<1[b]	<1	88	12
Connecticut	99	18[b]	27[b]	49[b]	3[b]	0[b]	88[b]	12[b]
Delaware	129	14	5	81	0	0	93	7
District of Columbia	93	3	3	94	0	0	84	16
Florida	2,712	29	10	61	0	<1[b]	85	15
Georgia	1,068	17	7	73	<1[b]	0	89	11
Hawaii	60	0	20	5	40	0	70	30
Idaho	408	71	16	5	<1	3	80	20
Illinois	1,071	21	11	66	<1	<1	91	9
Indiana	1,335	61	6	26	<1[b]	<1	81	19
Iowa	585	46	10	35	1	2	85	15
Kansas	423	49	15	34	<1	1	89	11
Kentucky	555	55	4	33	1	0	87	13
Louisiana	762	22	<1[b]	76	0	<1	88	12
Maine	93	84	3	10	0	0	81	19
Maryland	549	15	8	77	0	0	90	10
Massachusetts	309	25	41	32	0	0	91	9
Michigan	1,260	42	4	45	0	<1	76	24
Minnesota	675	35	7	42	2	10	85	15
Mississippi	273	30[b]	11[b]	57[b]	0	1[b]	76[b]	24[b]
Missouri	780	54	4	39	<1	0	86	14
Montana	183	62	7	3	2	25	82	18
Nebraska	486	35	20	32	1	6	65	35[b]
Nevada	588	27	28	40	3	2	80	20
New Hampshire	69	61	22	9	0	4	82	18[b]
New Jersey	585	11	23	65	0	0	92	8[b]
New Mexico	318	15	71	7	0	8	83	17
New York	870	29	16	53	<1	1	81	19
North Carolina	366	16	7	73	0	2	89	11
North Dakota	108	36	8	17	0	36	76	24
Ohio	2,079	41	3	49	<1	<1	86	14
Oklahoma	426	36	11	39	<1	10	87	13
Oregon	909	55	21	14	1	7	89	11[b]
Pennsylvania	1,791	34	12	49	0	<1	86	14
Rhode Island	123	46	15	27	0	0	95	5
South Carolina	546	44[b]	14[b]	37[b]	<1[b]	1[b]	88	12
South Dakota	150	44	2[b]	12	0	40	84	16
Tennessee	537	36	8	53	0[b]	0[b]	89[b]	11[b]
Texas	3,963	20	40	38	<1	<1	85	15
Utah	222	49	39	7	3	3	87	13
Vermont	18	83	0	17	0	0	100	0
Virginia	1,062	25	10	62	<1	0	87	13
Washington	834	39	24	21	4	4	87	13
West Virginia	474	80	<1	13	0	0	83	17
Wisconsin	630	33	8	53	1	3	87	13
Wyoming	183	64	20	12[b]	0	5	77	23
United States	**43,580**	**33%**	**21%**	**41%**	**<1%**	**2%**	**85%**	**15%**

[a] Relative to the combined number of children in residential placement who identified as male or female, which may differ from total counts due to rounding.

[b] Interpret data with caution. In these states, 30% or more of the information for age, sex, and/or race/ethnicity was imputed.

Notes: Residential placements range from non-secure community-based group homes to long-term secure facilities. Racial categories (White, Black, Asian, and American Indian/Alaska Native) exclude children of Hispanic ethnicity. Hispanic children can be of any race. U.S. totals exclude youth in tribal facilities.

Source: Sickmund, Melissa et al. 2019. "Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement: 1997-2017." http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/.

In 2019, 3,371 children and teens were killed with guns in America. More than half of all child and teen gun deaths occurred in just 10 states: Texas, California, Florida, Illinois, Georgia, Ohio, Missouri, North Carolina, Louisiana and Tennessee.

Table 36: Child and Teen Gun Deaths by State, 2010-2019

	Number of Deaths		Rate per 100,000 Children and Teens		
	2019	2010-2019	2019	2010-2019 Average	2010-2019 State Rank[a]
Alabama	98	729	8.1	5.9	47
Alaska	24	183	12.2	8.9	50
Arizona	79	614	4.3	3.4	21
Arkansas	50	392	6.4	5.0	39
California	232	2,610	2.3	2.6	11
Colorado	73	500	5.2	3.6	23
Connecticut	<10	136	S	1.6	5
Delaware	10	96	U	4.2	34
District of Columbia	20	132	13.4	9.6	—
Florida	187	1,705	4.0	3.7	25
Georgia	163	1,207	5.8	4.3	35
Hawaii	<10	20	S	0.6	1
Idaho	16	181	U	3.8	29
Illinois	179	1,692	5.7	5.1	40
Indiana	100	804	5.7	4.5	37
Iowa	26	212	3.2	2.6	11
Kansas	42	296	5.4	3.7	25
Kentucky	58	489	5.2	4.3	35
Louisiana	107	959	8.9	7.8	49
Maine	<10	72	S	2.5	9
Maryland	58	514	3.9	3.4	21
Massachusetts	17	181	U	1.1	3
Michigan	83	949	3.4	3.8	29
Minnesota	37	354	2.6	2.5	9
Mississippi	64	475	8.2	5.8	45
Missouri	122	907	8.0	5.8	45
Montana	17	141	U	5.6	44
Nebraska	13	143	U	2.7	13
Nevada	33	304	4.3	4.1	33
New Hampshire	<10	53	S	1.7	6
New Jersey	38	411	1.8	1.8	7
New Mexico	39	264	7.3	4.7	38
New York	50	711	1.1	1.5	4
North Carolina	116	938	4.5	3.7	25
North Dakota	10	68	U	3.6	23
Ohio	142	1,135	4.9	3.8	29
Oklahoma	70	537	6.6	5.1	40
Oregon	25	260	2.6	2.7	13
Pennsylvania	100	1,165	3.4	3.8	29
Rhode Island	<10	21	S	0.8	2
South Carolina	95	634	7.6	5.2	42
South Dakota	10	86	U	3.7	25
Tennessee	102	899	6.1	5.4	43
Texas	384	2,621	4.7	3.3	18
Utah	32	320	3.1	3.2	17
Vermont	<10	33	S	2.3	8
Virginia	87	698	4.2	3.3	18
Washington	54	501	2.9	2.8	15
West Virginia	20	141	5.0	3.3	18
Wisconsin	48	436	3.4	3.0	16
Wyoming	13	90	U	5.9	47
United States	**3,371**	**29,019**	**4.1**	**3.5**	—

[a]States are ranked 1-50 from lowest to highest gun death rate.

Notes: Gun deaths include homicides, suicides, accidents and deaths of unknown intent, but exclude deaths from legal intervention. Rates are not age adjusted. "S" denotes cases where the number of deaths was below 10 and the exact number was not released to protect the anonymity of the victims. "U" means the rate is unreliable because it is based on fewer than 20 deaths.

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[2] CDC. 2020. "Underlying Cause of Death, 1999-2019," Detailed Mortality Tables. Accessed using CDC WONDER Online Database. https://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10.html. Note: All data are for children and teens ages 0-19 and exclude deaths for interactions with law enforcement; American Academy of Pediatrics. 2021. "Children and COVID-19: State-Level Data Report, Version 02/25/2021," p. 4. https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-state-level-data-report/. Note: Gun violence and COVID-19 mortality rates for children are not directly comparable, as age ranges reported for children vary state by state in COVID-19 death counts. While the majority of states reported COVID-19 deaths for children ages 0-19, some states reported COVID-19 deaths for children ages 0-14, 0-17, or 0-20. Based on available data, the Children's Defense Fund compared the gun death rate in 2019 for children ages 0-19 (4.1 per 100,000 children) to the approximate COVID-19 death rate for children within the age range reported by each state as of February 25, 2021 (0.35 per 100,000 children).

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[5] Ibid. Note: ICD-10 codes included C00-D49 (Neoplasms); J09-J18 (Influenza and Pneumonia); J45 (Asthma); B20-B24 and R75 (HIV/AIDS). Opioid overdose deaths were represented by the presence of any of the following MCOD codes: Opium (T40.0); heroin (T40.1); natural opioid analgesics (T40.2); methadone (T40.3); synthetic opioid analgesics other than methadone (T40.4); or other and unspecified narcotics (T40.6).

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Immigration

[1] For example, more than 250,000 Dreamers, or immigrants who arrived in the U.S. as children, have grown up and started their own families in the U.S. Svajlenka, Nicole Prchal. 2019. "What We Know About DACA Recipients in the United States." Washington, DC: Center for American Progress. https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2019/09/05/474177/know-daca-recipients-united-states/.

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