



Children in Illinois

3,230,606 children live in Illinois

- A child in Illinois is abused or neglected every 19 minutes**
- A child in Illinois is born into poverty every 20 minutes**
- A child in Illinois dies before his or her first birthday every 6 hours**
- A child or teen in Illinois is killed by gunfire every 2 days**

Illinois Rankings*

- Illinois ranks 20th among states in per pupil expenditures.
- Illinois ranks 20th among states in the percent of babies born to mothers who received early prenatal care.
- Illinois ranks 24th among states in the percent of children who are poor.
- Illinois ranks 32nd among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
- Illinois ranks 36th among states in infant mortality.

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

Child Poverty in Illinois

Number of poor children	511,352
Percent of children who are poor	16.0%
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	92,667
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$396

Child Hunger in Illinois

Number of children who receive food stamps	409,120
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	73%
Number of children in School Lunch Program	1,090,013
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children)	260,080

Early Childhood Development in Illinois

Percent of children under age six with all parents in the labor force	60.3%
Number of children served by Head Start	39,619
Number of children served by the Child Care and Development Block Grant	103,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$5,304

Child Welfare in Illinois

Number of children who were victims of abuse and neglect	28,160
Number of children in foster care	23,707
Number of children adopted from foster care	3,585
Number of grandparents raising their grandchildren	102,007

Education in Illinois

Amount spent per pupil in public school	\$7,133
Percent of fourth graders reading below grade level	69%
Percent of fourth graders below grade level in math	68%
Average class size in public elementary schools	22.2
Average class size in public secondary schools	23.8

Child Health in Illinois

Number of children without health insurance	380,000
Percent of children without health insurance	11.1%
Percent of two-year-olds who are not fully immunized	21.4%

Youth At Risk in Illinois

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates	10.0%
High school completion rate	87.1%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds who are unemployed	18.3%
Number of juveniles arrested	38,810
Number of children and teens in juvenile or adult correctional facilities	4,771
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 139 homicides; 28 suicides; 6 accidents; and 2 undetermined	175

GET INVOLVED: CDF and our partners in Illinois offer a variety of projects, which individuals, organizations and congregations can initiate at the local level to improve the lives of children. CDF provides training and/or ongoing technical assistance for many of these projects.

The Dodd-Miller comprehensive **Act to Leave No Child Behind** (S. 448/H.R. 936) will help provide all children 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. For more information on how the Act to Leave No Child Behind will help children in your state, and how your Representatives and Senators vote for children, please visit www.cdfactioncouncil.org.

Compiled from the most up-to-date data available.

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

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