



Hawai'i KIDS COUNT

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IN THIS ISSUE

KIDS COUNT Data Snapshot: Reducing Youth Incarceration in the United States

Hawai'i Youth Risk Behavior County-Level Reports 2011

Public School Graduates and Dropouts

Newly Launched Hawai'i KIDS COUNT Facebook Page

KIDS COUNT DATA SNAPSHOT: REDUCING YOUTH INCARCERATION IN THE UNITED STATES

“Locking up young people has lifelong consequences.”
Bart Lubow, The Annie E. Casey Foundation

A new KIDS COUNT data snapshot says **fewer kids are being incarcerated.**

Is it enough? Find data for your state and ways to keep reducing our reliance on incarceration at www.aecf.org.

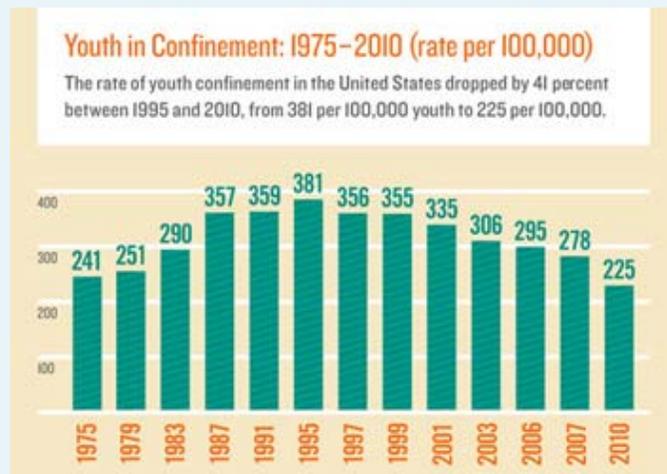
According to a new report released by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the youth confinement rate in the United States reached a 35-year low in 2010, with almost every state incarcerating a smaller share of its youth than a decade earlier.

The KIDS COUNT *Data Snapshot* indicates that youth confinement peaked in 1995, with 107,637 young people in correctional facilities on a single day, and dropped by over a third to 70,792 in 2010. The decline in youth confinement over the past decade has occurred in every region of the country, with 44 states and the District of Columbia experiencing a decline in the rate of young people confined since 1997.

In Hawai'i, the rate of youth in confinement follows the national trend, dropping by 10%, from 100 per 100,000 youth (ages 10–17) in 1997 to 90 in 2010. South Dakota had the highest youth confinement rate (575 per

100,000 youth) in 2010, and Vermont had the lowest (53 per 100,000 youth).

The report points out that, despite this decline, the U.S. still leads the industrialized world in locking up its young people, and holds the majority of its incarcerated youth for nonviolent offenses (e.g., truancy, low-level property offenses) that are not necessarily threats to public safety. Overreliance on incarceration has not worked and, instead, is costly for taxpayers, puts youth at risk for injury and abuse, and does little to reduce recidivism. A decreasing reliance on incarceration presents an opportunity to provide more cost-effective and humane approaches to juvenile justice, offering youth an opportunity to turn their lives around.



The KIDS COUNT *Data Snapshot* provides recommendations for reducing reliance on incarceration and improving the odds for young people involved in the juvenile system. These include restricting incarceration to youth posing a clear risk to public safety; investing in alternatives that effectively supervise, sanction and treat youth in their homes and communities; and encouraging states to seek community-based alternatives to locking up young people.

Download the report on the Annie E. Casey Foundation website:

<http://www.aecf.org/KnowledgeCenter/Publications.aspx?pubguid={DFAD838E-1C29-46B4-BE8A-4D8392BC25C9}>

HAWAI'I YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY COUNTY-LEVEL REPORTS 2011

The Hawai'i Department of Health has recently released the Hawai'i Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) results, which, for the first time, include county level data. The YRBS is one component of the Hawai'i School Health Survey administered biennially to public school students in grades 6–12. The YRBS is part of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System which monitors six types of health-risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth and adults. In 2011, the survey administration was expanded to include more students, allowing for county-specific data. Data are available by the following categories of priority health risk behaviors among youth:

- Healthy Lifestyle: dietary intake, fruit and vegetable consumption, physical activity, perceived and actual overweight/obesity, unhealthy weight control practices
- HIV/AIDS awareness



- Home Life: adult support at home and school, daily screen time, experienced cyber-bullying
- Injuries: weapon carrying, helmet use, intimate partner violence
- Family Planning: sexual activity, sexual orientation, adult guidance about sex, birth control, forced sex or questionable consent, early intercourse or multiple partners
- Mental Health: depression and suicidal thoughts, suicide attempts
- School: perceived safety at school, harassment and bullying in school, alcohol and drug use at school
- Substance Abuse: alcohol or marijuana use, usual source of alcohol

Download the county-level report of your choice on the Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse website:

<http://www.hhdw.org>



NEWLY LAUNCHED HAWAI'I KIDS COUNT FACEBOOK PAGE

In our latest E-Bulletin survey, over half of you reported that you have a Facebook account. Come visit our newly launched Hawai'i KIDS COUNT Facebook page where you'll find the latest data and information on Hawai'i's keiki. Please help us reach our goal of 30 *likes* by the March E-Bulletin release by clicking on the Facebook logo.

PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATES AND DROPOUTS

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education, recently released its provisional data report, *Public School Graduates and Dropouts from the Common Core of Data: School Year 2009–2010*. The report presents the latest data compiled from state education agencies on the number of high school graduates, the Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate (AFGR) and dropout data for grades 9–12 for public schools in school year 2009–2010. The AFGR provides an estimate of the percentage of high school students who graduate within 4 years of first starting 9th grade. Nationally, 78% of high school students graduated on time in the 2009–2010 academic year, an increase of 2 percentage points from the previous year. Roughly 3% of public school students dropped out of grades 9–12. The report presents data by year, race/ethnicity, gender and, where applicable, grade. Hawai'i specific data include the following:

- In Hawai'i, a total of 10,998 public school students received a high school diploma, resulting in a calculated AFGR of 75.4%, lower than the national median of 78.2%.
- During 2009–2010, a total of 2,736 students dropped out of grades 9–12, resulting in an overall dropout rate of 5.2%, which is higher than the national median of 3.4%.
- The dropout rates in Hawai'i were higher for males (5.7%) than females (4.7%), which follows the national trend (3.8 and 2.9, respectively).



The report is available for download on the NCES website: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2013/2013309.pdf>

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