



Hawai'i KIDS COUNT

E-Bulletin

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Center on the Family | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa-CTAHR

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HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DATABOOK

The Hawai'i State Department of Human Services (DHS) recently released its 2013 Databook. The Databook contains a wealth of data and information related to the department's self-sufficiency programs (e.g., financial assistance, services to the homeless), child and adult protection services, and med-quest division services. The report also provides data from the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility and Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, which are administratively attached to DHS. Some of the child-related data available in the report include the following:



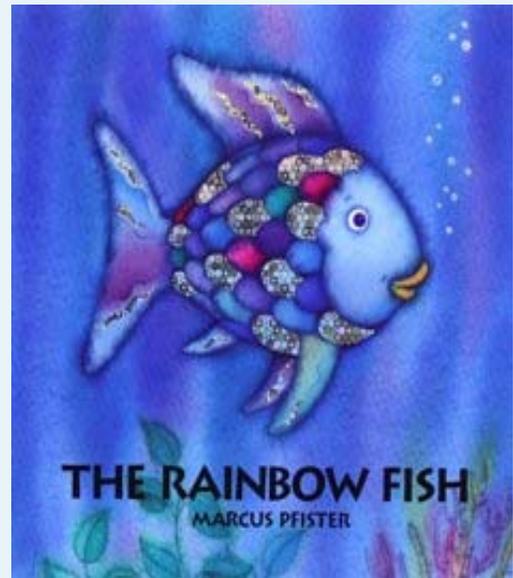
- Well over a third (40%) of the recipients of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are under the age of 18.
- The number of children in foster care has decreased by nearly 60% since 2004, with 2,180 children in foster care in 2013.
- Seventy percent (70%) of children who exited foster care were reunified with their families, compared to 15% who were adopted in 2013.
- Over one hundred youth were admitted to the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility in 2011. O'ahu had the highest proportion of admissions of all counties with 45%, followed by Maui (27%), Hawai'i Island (19%), and Kaua'i (9%).

To download the latest Databook, go to the Hawai'i Department of Human Services website:
http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/DHS-Databook_Jan2014_FINAL.pdf.

MARCH IS NATIONAL READING MONTH

Read Across America kicks off National Reading Month on March 3. An estimated 45 million readers will join the National Education Association's effort to motivate children to read. Research shows that children who are proficient readers by the end of third grade are more likely to graduate from high school and to be economically successful in adulthood. A recent data snapshot from KIDS COUNT provides the latest data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress on early reading proficiency. Additional indicators on early reading proficiency have been added to the KIDS COUNT Data Center including the following:

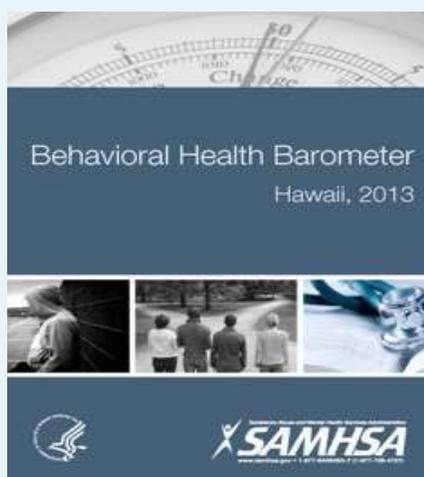
- In Hawai'i, a higher percentage of special education fourth-graders (96%) scored below the proficient level in reading compared to the U.S. (89%).
- Ninety-seven percent (97%) of fourth-grade English language learners (students who are in the process of acquiring English language skills and knowledge) in Hawai'i scored below the proficient level in reading compared to non-English language learners (68%). The U.S. comparison was 93% and 63%, respectively.
- Over three-quarters (78%) of children in low-income schools (i.e., those with higher rates of low-income children who receive funds to support school-wide programs) scored below the proficient level compared to the U.S. average (76%).



More KIDS COUNT data on reading disparity can be viewed at:

<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/updates/show/35-even-with-improvements-disparities-in-reading-proficiency-continue>

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BAROMETER: HAWAI'I 2013



Behavioral Health Barometer: Hawai'i is part of a series of State and national reports from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that provides a snapshot of behavioral health in the U.S. The report presents an array of youth and adult substance use and mental health-related data, including rates of serious mental illness, suicidal ideation, substance abuse, underage drinking, and behavioral health treatment clients. National and state-level trend data presented in the Barometer are drawn from various federal surveys. The Barometer provides analyses by gender, age group and race/ethnicity, where possible, to help decision makers at all levels track and address behavioral health disparities. National findings report that fewer teens are smoking, the percentage of youth using illicit drugs did not change, and more teens received treatment for a major

depressive episode. Here is a sample of the data presented in the

Hawai'i Barometer:

- Among 12- to 17-year-olds in Hawai'i, the mean age of first cigarette use was 12.7 years and the mean age of first marijuana use was 13.6 years.
- In Hawai'i, 8.8% of youth ages 12 or older in 2008-2012 were dependent on or abused alcohol. Hawai'i's rate of alcohol dependence or abuse among youth ages 12 or older was similar to the national average in 2011-2012.
- In 2006-2012, 31.2% of all youth ages 12-17 with at least one major depressive episode received treatment for their depression.

More data in the Hawai'i Barometer can be accessed at: <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA13-4796/SMA13-4796HI.pdf>

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