



Hawai'i KIDS COUNT

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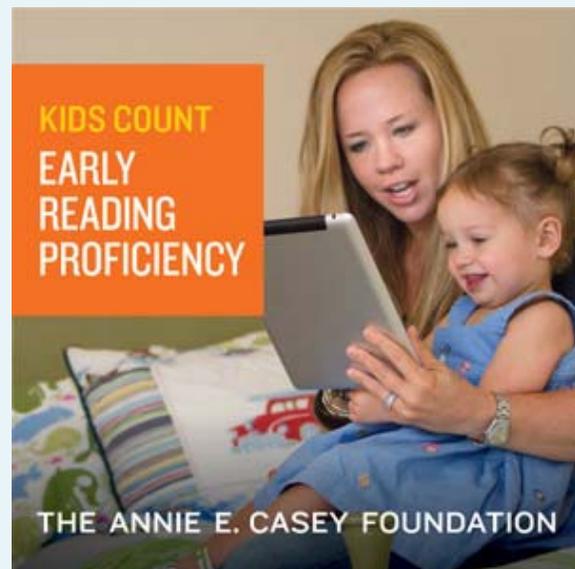
EARLY READING PROFICIENCY IN THE UNITED STATES

In a new KIDS COUNT data snapshot, the Annie E. Casey Foundation finds that a large majority of children in the United States are not reading proficiently by the time they reach fourth grade — a key predictor of a student's future educational and economic success. *Early Reading Proficiency in the United States* finds that while there have been overall improvements in reading scores over the past decade, the gap between students from higher- and lower-income families is growing wider. Proficiency levels have increased significantly more for higher-income students than for their lower-income peers.

Hawai'i's trend is similar to the national trend. While the share of students not reading-proficient remains slightly higher in Hawai'i than nationally, the state has seen an overall improvement in proficiency levels, with 79% of fourth graders reading below proficiency in 2003

compared to 70% in 2013. Despite these overall improvements, disparities between income groups persist. Greater improvements were seen among higher-income students in Hawai'i over the past decade (with the share who are not proficient decreasing from 71% to 57%) than among lower-income students (decreasing from 87% to 83%).

This latest data snapshot compares reading data from the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress, with data taken from the assessment in 2003 when a majority of states began participating. Among the recommendations, the data report emphasizes the need to develop a coherent system of early care and education that aligns, integrates and coordinates what children experience from birth through age 8.



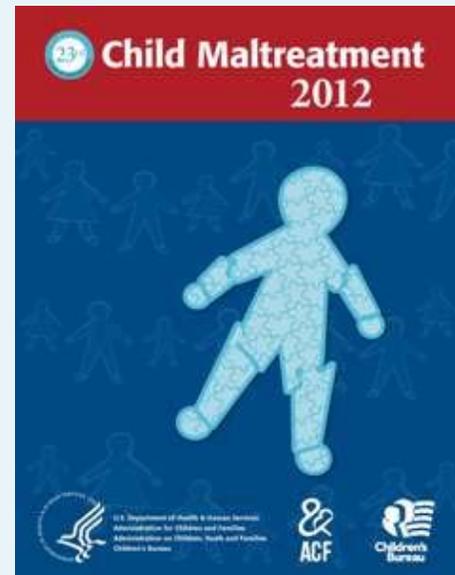
To download the Snapshot, go to the KIDS COUNT website:

<http://www.aecf.org/KnowledgeCenter/Publications.aspx?pubguid={35DCA3B7-3C03-4992-9320-A5A10A5AD6C9}>.

CHILD MALTREATMENT 2012

The 23rd annual Child Maltreatment report was recently released by the Administration for Children and Families. The report presents national and state-level data on child abuse and neglect known to child protective services (CPS) agencies in each state and the District of Columbia. The report estimates there were 686,000 cases of child abuse and neglect across the country during the 2012 federal fiscal year, a 5% decrease from five years earlier. The report also includes data on: referrals and reports of child maltreatment, characteristics of victims and nonvictims, fatalities that occurred as a result of maltreatment, perpetrators of maltreatment, services to prevent maltreatment and to assist children and families, and additional research related to child maltreatment. The following are key findings for the state of Hawai'i:

- There were 4.6 victims of child abuse and neglect per 1,000 children in Hawai'i, lower than the national rate of 9.2.
- Children younger than 1 year had the highest rate of victimization at 11.5 per 1,000, lower than the national rate of 21.9.
- Seventeen percent (17%) of unique victims had a reported disability (behavior problem, emotional disturbance, learning disability, intellectual disability, other medical condition, physically disabled, or visually or hearing impaired), higher than the U.S. average of 13.3%.
- Over three-fourths (78.8%) of unique victims were victims for the first time, which is slightly higher than the national average of 73.5%.



The complete report can be accessed at: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2012.pdf>.

HALF IN TEN ANNUAL REPORT 2013



The Half in Ten campaign, led by the Center for American Progress Action Fund, tracks progress toward the goal of cutting poverty in half in 10 years by monitoring 21 different indicators of economic security and opportunity. This year, the Center for American Progress Action Fund published *Resetting the Poverty Debate: State of the States 2013*, which tracks progress and backward slides from 2010 to 2011 as well as longer-term trends at the national and state levels. The report also offers recommendations to move the

indicators in the right direction, such as making investments that will rebuild the job markets with more living-wage jobs, investing in a sound set of federal policies to prepare the workforce for the 21st century economy, and supporting families when they need help. The report covers 14 indicators (the majority of which are child

and youth-related) in four categories: poverty, employment, strengthening families and communities, and family economic security. Data for Hawai'i include the following:

- Fourteen percent of households in Hawai'i were food insecure on average from 2010 to 2012, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing food for their families due to a lack of money or resources. Hawai'i ranked 24th in the nation on this indicator.
- In 2011, Hawai'i ranked 28th in the teen birth rate, with 30 births for every 1,000 women ages 15 to 19. Compared to women who postpone childbearing until they are older, teenage mothers are more likely to limit educational attainment and to live in poverty.
- Over two-thirds (75.4%) of high school students in Hawai'i graduated on time at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. Hawaii ranked 39th in the U.S. on this indicator.

The *Resetting the Poverty Debate* report can be found at:

<http://www.americanprogressaction.org/issues/poverty/report/2013/12/17/81261/resetting-the-poverty-debate/>.

The accompanying website provides state data and rankings and emphasizes the state's bottom-ranking data to focus attention on areas that need improvement. The interactive state progress reports can be viewed at:

<http://halfinteneducation.org/poverty-indicators/>.

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