



Hawai'i KIDS COUNT

E-Bulletin

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

IN THIS ISSUE

[Highlights from the 2012 KIDS COUNT Data Book](#)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2012 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

This issue of the Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin is dedicated to the 23rd annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, released on July 25, 2012, by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

The 2012 *Data Book* has been updated with a new index that provides an even more robust and comprehensive portrait of how children across the country are faring. It assesses states based on how they do on 16 indicators of child well-being – a change from previous annual ranking based on 10, reflecting the tremendous advances in child development research since the Foundation's first *KIDS COUNT Data Book* in 1990. In addition to ranking states, the 16 indicators are organized into four categories: Economic Well-being, Education, Health, and Family and Community.

Nationally, data presented in the *Data Book* show that since 2005, the improvements in children's health and education include a 20% decrease in the number of kids without health insurance; a 16% drop in the child and teen death rate; an 11% reduction in the rate of high school students not graduating in four years; and an 8% reduction in the proportion of eighth graders scoring less than proficient in math. All four economic well-being indicators got substantially worse, which is not surprising, given the depth and severity of the economic crisis over the last five years. Trends in the Family and Community category showed a 6% drop in children living in families where the

household head lacks a high school diploma and a 3% decline in the teen birth rate. However, children living in single-parent families increased 6%, and children living in high-poverty areas increased 22%.

Overall, Hawai'i ranks 24th in key indicators of child well-being. The *Data Book* highlights that certain conditions for Hawai'i's children have improved, while others have worsened:

- As is the case for the nation, all economic well-being conditions measured – children living in poverty, children whose parents lack secure employment, children living in households with a high cost burden, and teens not in school and not working – have worsened over the past several years.
- There were some improvements in the area of education. The percent of fourth graders not proficient in reading and the percent of eighth graders not proficient in math both decreased between 2005 and 2011. There were also more 3- to 4-year-olds attending preschool toward the end of the decade than in the preceding years. The percent of high school students not graduating on time, however, increased, though only slightly, in recent years.
- Two of the health conditions measured showed little (percent of low-birthweight babies) to no (percent of children without health insurance) change in recent years. It is worth noting that Hawai'i has among the lowest rates of children without health insurance. The child and teen death rate and the percent of teens who abuse alcohol or drugs worsened during the period examined.
- In the area of family and community well-being, there has been an increase in the percent of children in single-parent families, the teen birth rate, and the percent of children living in high-poverty areas. The percent of children in families in which the household head lacks a high school diploma has shown a slight improvement.

Overall Child Well-Being in Hawaii

OVERALL RANK

24

Find more state and community-level data at the KIDS COUNT Data Center: datacenter.kidscount.org/HI.

PERCENT CHANGE OVER TIME

GETTING BETTER

GETTING WORSE

NO CHANGE



ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

DOMAIN RANK

31

Key Indicators		National Trend	State Trend	
Children in poverty	2010	22%	14%	8%
	2005	19%	13%	
Children whose parents lack secure employment	2010	33%	30%	15%
	2008	27%	26%	
Children living in households with a high housing cost burden	2010	41%	46%	24%
	2005	37%	37%	
Teens not in school and not working	2010	9%	12%	33%
	2008	8%	9%	



EDUCATION

DOMAIN RANK

31

Key Indicators		National Trend	State Trend	
Children not attending preschool	2008-10	53%	46%	-12%
	2005-07	56%	52%	
Fourth graders not proficient in reading	2011	68%	73%	-5%
	2005	70%	77%	
Eighth graders not proficient in math	2011	66%	70%	-15%
	2005	72%	82%	
High school students not graduating on time	2008/09	24%	25%	4%
	2005/06	27%	24%	



HEALTH

DOMAIN RANK

21

Key Indicators		National Trend	State Trend	
Low-birthweight babies	2009	8.2%	8.4%	2%
	2005	8.2%	8.2%	
Children without health insurance	2010	8%	4%	0%
	2008	10%	4%	
Child and teen deaths per 100,000	2009	27	27	29%
	2005	32	21	
Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs	2008-09	7%	8%	14%
	2005-06	8%	7%	



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

DOMAIN RANK

14

Key Indicators		National Trend	State Trend	
Children in single-parent families	2010	34%	30%	11%
	2005	32%	27%	
Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma	2010	15%	8%	-11%
	2005	16%	9%	
Children living in high-poverty areas	2006-10	11%	4%	100%
	2000	9%	2%	
Teen births per 1,000	2009	39	41	14%
	2005	40	36	

This year's findings emphasize that, while the recession ended in the summer of 2009, many families across the country and in Hawai'i have continued to struggle in its wake. In 2010, one third of youths in the U.S. had parents without secure employment—an increase of 22%, or about 4 million children, in just two years. In 2010, 30% of children under 18 in Hawai'i had parents without secure employment, an increase from 26% in 2008. Hawai'i also has one of the highest rates of children living in households with a housing cost burden (i.e., where more than 30% of monthly household income is spent on rent, mortgage, taxes, insurance, or related expenses), which

increased from 37% in 2005 to 46% in 2010.

To download the full 2012 Data Book and the Hawai'i profile, go to the KIDS COUNT Data Center website: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/Default.aspx>.

The KIDS COUNT Data Center (<http://datacenter.kidscount.org>) provides easy, online access to the latest child well-being data on hundreds of indicators by state, county, city, and school district. It serves as a comprehensive source of information for policymakers, advocates, members of the media, and others concerned with addressing the needs of children, families, and communities. By visiting the Data Center, users can download the complete Data Book, and create interactive maps and graphs for selected indicators and areas.

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[BACK TO TOP](#)

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CENTER ON THE FAMILY

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