



To Our Loyal E-Bulletin Reader,

We ask that you take a few minutes to help us improve the Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin. We value your opinion, and the feedback you provide will help ensure that the E-Bulletin continues to meet your needs. The survey contains eleven questions, which should take only three to five minutes to complete. If you have questions about the survey, feel free to email kcadmin@hawaii.edu or call us at 808-956-3760.

Click here to take the survey: http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/ebulletin.asp

Don't forget to read the latest November issue, provided for you below.

Mahalo for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivette Rodriguez Stern".

Ivette Rodriguez Stern
Hawai'i KIDS COUNT Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lana Nakamura".

Lana Nakamura
Hawai'i KIDS COUNT Project Coordinator

November 2011 Issue

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

WHAT'S NEW

1. The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2011
2. State Child Care Assistance Policies 2011
3. Highlights from the Center on the Family/Hawai'i KIDS COUNT Facebook Page

1. The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2011

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) produces *The Nation's Report Card* to disseminate findings from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a continuing and nationally representative measure of achievement in various subjects over time. Nationally representative samples of 213,100 fourth graders and 168,200 eighth graders participated in the 2011 NAEP in reading. In reading, the picture was mixed: the average score for fourth graders was unchanged from 2009, while the average score for eighth graders continued to rise. In reading, 34 percent of fourth graders scored at or above *Proficient*, unchanged since 2009 but higher than in 1992. In the eighth grade, 34 percent of

reading test-takers scored *Proficient* or above—higher than in 2009 and 1992. Key findings specific to Hawai‘i* include:

- Hawai‘i was among four other states whose fourth graders had higher average scores in 2011 than in 2009 (214 and 211**, respectively). In 2011, over two thirds (73%) of students scored below *Basic* and at *Basic*, while 27% were at *Proficient* and *Advanced*. Hawai‘i’s eighth graders also scored higher in 2011 than in 2009 (257 and 255, respectively), along with ten other states. In 2011, eighth graders’ achievement results had 74% of students scoring below *Basic* and at *Basic*, and 26% at *Proficient* and *Advanced* levels.
- In 2011, over half (59%) of fourth grade and two thirds (68%) of eighth grade public school students were at or above the *Basic* reading achievement level.
- Over one quarter of fourth grade (27%) and of eighth grade (26%) public school students were at or above *Proficient* in the reading achievement level.
- Girls in the fourth and eighth grades scored higher (219 and 263, respectively) compared to boys (208 and 252, respectively).

*While results at the national level represent the performance of all public, private, charter, Bureau of Indian Education, and Department of Defense schools, results for individual states only reflect the performance of public schools.

**The results for the reading scores are reported as average scores on a 0-500 scale.

To download the results from the reading assessment, go to:

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2011/2012457.pdf>

2. State Child Care Assistance Policies 2011

The National Women’s Law Center publishes this report annually as a comparative analysis of trends in child care assistance policies since 2001. This report focuses on the following five policy areas which help to determine the child care assistance that low-income families receive: 1) income eligibility limits, 2) waiting lists for assistance, 3) parent copayment levels, 4) reimbursement rates for providers, and 5) eligibility policies for parents searching for work. Families who are struggling to meet their basic expenses rely on child care assistance policies for support. Nationally, thirty-seven states were worse off in 2011 than in 2010, as families were negatively impacted by policy changes in one or more of the policy areas. Eleven states were better off, as policies in those states improved. Key findings for Hawai‘i are as follows:

- Hawai‘i is one of 28 states that did not have a waiting list for child care assistance in both 2010 and 2011.
- In 2011, Hawai‘i’s parent copayments for a family of three with an income at 150% of the poverty level (\$27,795) and one child in care was the highest in the nation, at \$405 or 17% of the family’s income.

- Between 2001 and 2011, Hawai‘i had one of the highest copayments as a percentage of family income, along with North Dakota and Maryland. The parent copayments for a family of three in Hawai‘i with an income at 100% of the poverty level (\$18,530) and one child in care was \$203 or 13% of the family’s income.
- In 2011, Hawai‘i is one of 17 states that allows parents to qualify for child care assistance while searching for a job.

The full report can be accessed at:

http://www.nwlc.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/state_child_care_assistance_policies_report2011_final.pdf

3. Highlights from the Center on the Family/Hawai‘i KIDS COUNT Facebook Page

Hawai‘i KIDS COUNT, in collaboration with the Center on the Family, posts weekly updates to its Facebook page on topics concerning children and families in Hawai‘i. Current data, publications, events, and child-related activities are highlighted on a regular basis. Recent postings include:

- What are some strategies that families and communities can use to prevent adolescents from engaging in multiple risky behaviors? Learn more about this approach in the latest Child Trends research brief: http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2011_10_01_RB_RiskyBehaviors.pdf
- October is Bullying Prevention Month. How can you recognize the warning signs that a youth you know is being bullied? What are some things parents and schools can do to prevent cyberbullying? To find out, visit the Department of Health and Human Services website: <http://www.stopbullying.gov/>
- Looking for a fun and simple way to help your preschooler learn to count? This Halloween activity from Learning to Grow helps teach simple math using just markers and index cards: <http://www.learningtogrowhawaii.org/>
- Hawaii was among six states that reported up to 82% of juvenile re-arrests for a new crime (misdemeanor or felony) within two years of release, according to a new Annie E. Casey Foundation report, No Place for Kids: The Case for Reducing Juvenile Incarceration, which assembles a vast array of evidence to demonstrate that incarcerating kids doesn't work. Access the report at: <http://t.co/FcYiIw8W>

To see more posts and receive weekly updates, we encourage you to visit and “like” our page. <https://www.facebook.com/COFHawaii>

SUBSCRIBING:

You may subscribe to this newsletter by sending an email to kadmin@hawaii.edu with the phrase "Subscribe to Hawai‘i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

UNSUBSCRIBING:

If we have reached you in error or if you would prefer not to hear from us in the future, send an email to kcadmin@hawaii.edu with the phrase "Unsubscribe Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

ARCHIVE OF E-BULLETINS:

PDF versions of our monthly e-bulletins are available at http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/archive.asp

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