F AS IN FAT REPORT

A new report from the Trust for America’s Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation raises awareness of the obesity epidemic in the U.S. The report compiles the latest data on adult obesity from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System and includes new child data. Child-related data reveals that in 2008-2011, 18 states and one U.S. territory experienced a decline in obesity rates among preschool children from low-income families. F as in Fat provides state-specific trend data on obesity rates among children ages two to four who are enrolled in federal health and nutrition programs, and other health related indicators from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH). Child obesity data for Hawai’i include the following:

- In Hawai’i, 9.2% of low-income children ages 2 to 4 are obese (i.e., have an age- and sex-specific body mass index equal to or greater than 95th percentile), compared with the U.S. average of 14.4%.
- Hawai’i is ranked 44th of 50 states and D.C. with 11.5% of 10- to 17-years olds classified as obese.
- In Hawai’i, 13.2% of high school students are obese, similar to the national average of 13%.
KIDS COUNT DATA CENTER UPDATES

New health and education data from the National Survey of Children's Health are now available on the KIDS COUNT Data Center. Data and trends for Hawai‘i include the following:

- In Hawai‘i, 9% of children ages 1 to 5 are in families who read to them less than three days per week, compared to 14% nationally.
- Hawai‘i ranks 24th in the nation with 73% of children having teeth that are in excellent or very good condition.
- Between 2003 and 2011/2012, the percentage of children repeating one or more grades in school decreased from 11% to 9% in the U.S. Hawai‘i experienced a decrease from 7% to 6% in the same period.
- In 2011/2012, the percentage of Hawai‘i’s children who have one or more emotional, behavioral, or developmental conditions was unchanged (13%) from the 2007 level.

Check out more data and trends for the nation and Hawai‘i at [http://datacenter.kidscount.org/](http://datacenter.kidscount.org/).

CENTER ON THE FAMILY DIRECTOR APPOINTED

The Center on the Family is happy to announce the appointment of Dr. Marianne Berry as the new Director. Dr. Berry has served as the Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia; Director of the Office of Child Welfare Research and Development at the University of Kansas; and Co-founder and Director of the Center for Child Welfare at the University of Texas at Arlington. She is experienced in conducting translational research and developing outreach programs, including the design of evidence-based curriculum and practices, program evaluation, and workforce training. Dr. Berry looks forward to meeting and working with our community partners.

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Hawai'i KIDS COUNT is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. We thank them for their support, and we acknowledge that the findings and conclusions presented in the E-Bulletin are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation.