

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

Helping vulnerable kids & families succeed

KIDS COUNT News

June 2010

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Coming Soon: The 2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book: State Rankings on Child Well-Being



Every year, the Annie E. Casey Foundation produces the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* to illuminate the status of America's children. By updating the assessment annually, KIDS COUNT provides ongoing benchmarks that can be used to see how the nation and states have advanced or regressed over time on issues concerning our children. The 2010 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* will be released on July 27, 2010. Visit our [KIDS COUNT Data Center](#) to access the 2009 KIDS COUNT Data Book and to learn about the upcoming 2010 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* release.

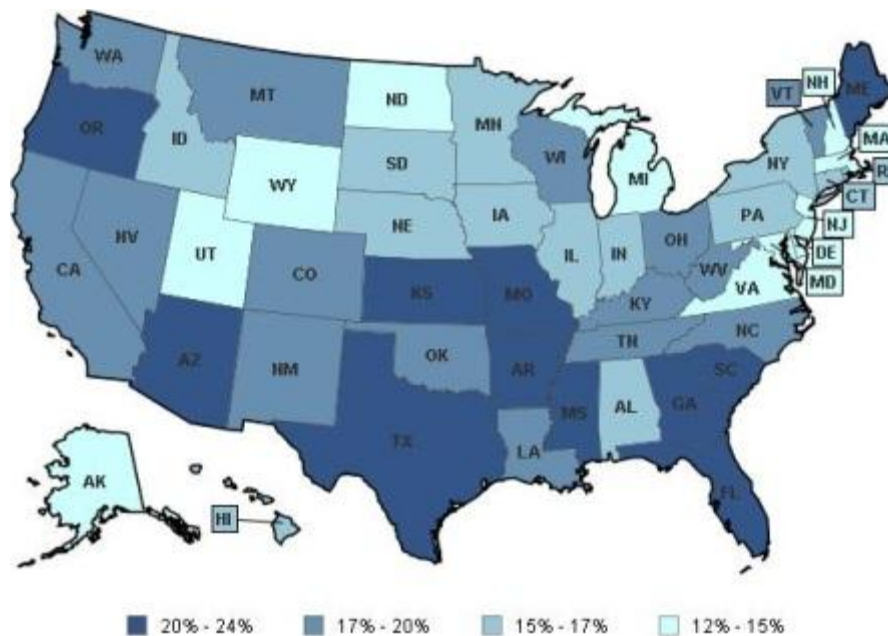
KIDS COUNT Data Center Updates

Last month the Annie E. Casey Foundation released a KIDS COUNT special report, [Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters](#), including data on indicators that impact early reading success. The [KIDS COUNT Data Center](#) has been updated to include additional indicators related to early reading from the National Center of Education Statistics, the U.S. Census Bureau, and the National Survey of Children's Health. The following are highlights of recently updated indicators. Click on the links provided below or visit the [Data Center](#) to access the new data.

Hunger Reduces Children's Chances for School Success

Estimates for 2006-2008 from the Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement show that 19 percent (~14 million children) of children in the United States are living in households that are food insecure at some point during the year. Results vary by state from a high of 24 percent in Arizona, Arkansas, and Texas, and a low of 12 percent in North Dakota and Virginia.

Malnourished children have impaired cognitive development, long term emotional and health problems, decreased educational attainment, and decreased productivity. For these reasons it is important to make sure children do not go hungry. See the Economic Security section in [Data Across States](#) to access national and state-level data.



Children living in households that were food insecure at some point during the year (Percent) - 2006-2008

KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
A Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

New data for the nation as a whole and individual states include:

- [Children living in households that were food insecure at some point during the year](#)
- [Children who missed more than 11 days of school per year due to illness or injury by age group](#)

Access additional indicators related to early reading >>

Children with Educated Parents are More Likely to Succeed in School

In 2008, 28 percent of children lived in a household where the head of household had a bachelor's degree or higher. This rate varies from a high of 43 percent in Massachusetts to a low of 18 percent in West Virginia. Parental education matters because it greatly impacts a child's future. The more education parents have the more likely their children are to succeed in school and in life. See the Education section in [Data Across States](#) to access national and state-level data.

New data for the nation as a whole and individual states include:

- [Per-pupil educational expenditures adjusted for regional cost differences](#)
- [Children by household head's educational attainment \(city data also available\)](#)
- [Persons age 18-24 not attending school, not working, and no degree beyond high school](#)

Access additional indicators related to early reading >>

Additional Resources Now Available

Additional resources are now available on the Reading Matters homepage on the Data Center.

- Watch two short videos from the release of the KIDS COUNT Special Report at the National Press Club on May 18, 2010.



Part 1: Speakers including Patrick McCarthy, Ralph Smith, and Alma Powell discuss the importance of making reading by the end of third grade a national priority.



Part 2: State educators discuss the importance of creating and maintaining high standards in education to ensure that kids are reading proficiently by the end of third grade.

- Access our [Resource Guide](#) to learn about programs and resources available to support the grade-level reading recommendations outlined in the 2010 KIDS COUNT Special Report.

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[KIDS COUNT](#), a project of the Annie E Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children and families in the United States. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks for child well-being, KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children.
