

KIDS COUNT in Missouri 2012 Data Book

the State of Our State's Children



KIDS COUNT in Missouri



Welcome to the *KIDS COUNT in Missouri 2012 Data Book*. The *Data Book* is a collaborative project of Partnership for Children, Children's Trust Fund, the Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis at the University of Missouri, and more than 20 public and private organizations across the state.

The mission of *KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book* is to improve the well-being of Missouri's children and families. The *KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book* and website, <http://osedamissouri.edu/kidscount/>, are easily accessible tools to assist local and state public policy-makers and child advocates in identifying both needs and solutions. *KIDS COUNT in Missouri* data are used to brief legislators, inform policy, and are integral to informing child advocates.

The annual *KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book* documents the status of children in Missouri's 114 counties and the City of St. Louis. First produced in 1993, the *KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book* remains an invaluable repository of comprehensive, longitudinal information on the status of children.



Partners

Thanks to the Annie E. Casey Foundation for their continued support of the *KIDS COUNT in Missouri* initiative. Primary funding for the *KIDS COUNT in Missouri 2012 Data Book* comes from the Children's Trust Fund.

Sponsors



Partnership for Children is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, multi-issue child advocacy organization committed to improving the lives of children and youth. PFC works with partners throughout Missouri to make long-term systemic change by advocating for public policies and practices that help all young people realize their full potential.



The Children's Trust Fund (CTF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect through grant distribution, education, and awareness. CTF was created by the Missouri General Assembly in 1983 and is governed by a 21-member Board of Directors appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Missouri Senate. For more information, visit www.ctf4kids.org.



Established in 1980, the University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis conducts public policy support research for communities, agencies and other partners in Missouri. OSEDA strives to transform data into useful information. We believe the construction of meaningful information is an inherently collaborative enterprise.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

The Annie E. Casey Foundation is the nation's largest philanthropic source for disadvantaged children. The Casey Foundation supports a network of state-level KIDS COUNT projects that shapes a new direction for America's children.

The *KIDS COUNT in Missouri 2012 Data Book* was produced by Partnership for Children and the University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis. Permission to copy, disseminate, or otherwise use information from this report is granted as long as appropriate acknowledgment is given. This report, the full data set, and corresponding interactive data tools are available at www.osedamissouri.edu/kidscount.



April 2013

Greetings!

Partnership for Children is pleased to present the *KIDS COUNT in Missouri 2012 Data Book*. This report provides an annual look at the well-being of Missouri's children and offers reliable data for planning and action to improve the quality of their lives.

One of the most powerful outcomes of the annual *KIDS COUNT in Missouri* report is the awareness of striking, often troubling, trends that are significantly impacting our children. This year, the increase in children living in poverty continues to be one of those disturbing trends.

Poverty is one of the main obstacles to prosperity for Missouri's youngest citizens. Research tells us that children growing up in poverty often struggle with low educational achievement, health problems, emotional challenges and a range of other issues that decrease their chances of success. Because the consequences of being poor in childhood often carry into adulthood, significant economic costs are associated with this trend. This is a trend our children, and our state, cannot afford.

The annual *KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book* is one of the most trusted resources on the status of Missouri's children. This year's report provides important information about our children's economic security as well as their health, education and safety. It is our hope that this data will be used by community leaders, policy makers, advocates and others working to set priorities and develop action plans to reverse negative trends.

There is no doubt the Great Recession could leave an indelible mark on our children. But accurate data and information is key to understanding the realities our kids are facing and to determining the best opportunities to protect them, securing not only their futures but the future of Missouri.

We hope that you find the *KIDS COUNT* data valuable in your work on behalf of Missouri's young people, and we invite you to share the information with other advocates throughout the state. By working together, sharing best practices and making sure all kids, no matter where they live, have the opportunity to reach their full potential, we can ensure a bright future for our youngest citizens and our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Charron Townsend". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charron" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Townsend".

Charron Townsend
President



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about PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN



Partnership for Children (PFC) was founded in 1991 as a joint initiative of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and Heart of America United Way. For the past 21 years, PFC has collaborated with local and state-

wide partners to advocate for public policies and practices in the areas of health, early care and education, K-12 education, and child safety.

PFC's advocacy efforts include researching and analyzing critical issues, collecting data and producing reports, identifying gaps and ensuring they are addressed, and mobilizing public support for specific initiatives and interventions.

PFC also collaborates with local and statewide groups to conduct legislative advocacy on behalf of children. Specifically, PFC:

- Works with partners to establish legislative priorities and develop action plans;
- Develops materials to educate legislators and other advocates about priority issues;
- Tracks hearings, votes, and amendments on House and Senate bills that benefit children;
- Testifies before committees, where appropriate, and enlists testimony of others to support priority areas;
- Produces weekly legislative alerts (Child Advocate Insider) to keep legislators and the community abreast of policies and legislation affecting children; and
- Conducts workshops on "Understanding and Impacting the Legislative Process" to develop a more informed and engaged coalition of child advocates.

Because PFC is recognized as one of the state's leading voices for children in Jefferson City, the organization was chosen by The Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2010 to be Missouri's new *KIDS COUNT* grantee. In this role, PFC uses the *KIDS COUNT* measurements of social, economic, educational, and physical well-being to inform policymakers and the public about the needs of Missouri's children and to spur action.

PFC is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, multi-issue child advocacy organization and is a proud member of Voices for America's Children.

The #1 Question

In 1997, PFC introduced the #1 Question in an attempt to get every individual, organization, and lawmaker to use the question — **"Is it good for the children?"** — as a litmus test for all decisions.



Whether it's a parent making plans for a Saturday night, a business considering whether to provide child care for employees, or a legislator deciding what funding to cut, almost every decision we make in our lives affects children in some way.

The #1 Question reminds us to *always* consider how the decisions we make will affect our children and youth. Our goal is to see the needs of young people at the top of Missouri's list of priorities.

Granted, the notion of *every* citizen using the #1 Question in all decision-making is ambitious. But just imagine what life would be like for our children and youth if their needs were considered before all others. By building a state where our children come first in all personal, business, and public policy decisions, we have a great opportunity to ensure all our young people grow up healthy, safe, and well-prepared to succeed in life.

All this can be accomplished by asking one simple question — **"Is it good for the children?"**

The #1 Question Campaign is a registered trademark of Partnership for Children. It cannot be used without consent of PFC.

The Child Action Network

Sign up for the Partnership for Children listserv to keep informed about what's happening at the State Capitol, upcoming events and easy ways to get involved in child advocacy in Missouri. Visit our website at pfc.org to sign up for periodic e-updates and e-newsletters.

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Executive Summary

The *KIDS COUNT in Missouri 2012 Data Book* provides information on measures of child well-being for the state, its 114 counties, and St. Louis City. By highlighting data trends across time and geographic areas, this book gives local and state policymakers, as well as other child advocates, the crucial information they need to make informed decisions regarding how best to support the well-being of children across the state.

To track changes over time, *KIDS COUNT in Missouri* provides the most currently available data (2011) as well as data from 2007 (the base year). (Please note that the exact years for which data are provided differ slightly between indicators and outcomes based on the nature of the data.) Between the base and current years, three *KIDS COUNT in Missouri* outcome measures worsened, five improved, and two remained unchanged. Measures that improved were infant mortality, child deaths, teen violent deaths, births to mothers without a high school diploma, and births to teens. The three measures that worsened were the number of students enrolled in free/reduced lunch, child abuse and neglect, and out-of-home placements, which increased 14%, 4%, and 16%, respectively, between the base and current years. Two outcomes, the percent of low birthweight infants and high school dropouts, remained the same.

It is essential to keep in mind the larger national context and how it has potentially affected the outcomes tracked in *KIDS COUNT in Missouri*. Between 2007 and 2011, Missouri, like the rest of the United States, experienced an economic downturn on a scale unprecedented since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Although the national and state economies are slowly recovering, the “Great Recession” resulted in greater numbers of children and families facing deep economic insecurity, as evidenced by increases in measures of poverty. Although the long-term effects of the “Great Recession” are not completely clear, we do know that more families and children are in poverty than before it occurred—and that poverty has a negative impact on children’s potential for success in school and later in life.

Because the *KIDS COUNT* project, both in Missouri and nationwide, strives to provide both the most current and most local data available to describe the status of children, some indicators are based on administrative data collected through state agencies in delivery of existing services and programs. In the

past few years, state budgets, and subsequently the programs they fund, have diminished. It is incumbent upon users of the *KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book* to distinguish between changes in rates or numbers of this year’s *KIDS COUNT* data that indicate an authentic improvement in the quality of children’s lives versus changes that reflect scaled-back services and resources.

MEASURES OF ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Students enrolled in free or reduced-price lunch program, a proxy measure of child poverty, increased throughout the last decade. In 2000, more than one-third of Missouri’s students lived in families whose incomes were low enough to qualify for this program, and by 2011 the proportion of children rose to nearly half (47.7%). Children living in or close to poverty are at higher risk than other children for health, educational, and social problems.

In 2011, 15.9% of Missouri births were to a *mother without a high school diploma*. During the decade between 2001 and 2011, this rate trended downwards from nearly 20% in the early years of the decade to the current rate. Children who are born to undereducated parents face the highest odds of living in chronic poverty.

While the number of *children receiving cash assistance* decreased from 6.4% in 2000 to 4.7% in 2007, a substantial portion of this decrease was an intended effect of a policy shift in the cash assistance program for families with children that limits lifetime benefits to 60 months. Despite the severe recession, the rate stood at 4.9% for 2011. This modest increase from pre-recession levels suggests that families in poverty replaced cash assistance benefits with low-paying employment and a constellation of non-cash support programs. *Food stamp utilization* rose sharply over the past decade, from serving 22% of Missouri’s children in 2000, to 31% of children in 2007, and 38% in 2011.

Consistent with administrative record indicators such as the Food Stamp program and Free/Reduced School Lunch program, the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey estimates that the percent of Missouri *children living in poverty* increased from 15% in 2000 to 21.3% in 2010, more than 1 in 5 children statewide. From 2007 to 2011 *adult unemployment* increased 69%,

from 5.1% to 8.6%. More than one in four (25.5%) Missouri *children under 6* were living in poverty in 2010.

MEASURES OF HEALTH

The percent of *low birthweight infants* has remained stable at 8.1 for almost the past decade. For the 5-year period (2007-2011) reported in *KIDS COUNT*, on average about 6,300 infants were born per year weighing less than five pounds.

In contrast, the *infant mortality* rate declined steadily over the last 10 years. This is due to a combination of improved medical technology and public health outreach efforts. Despite these improvements, during the years 2007 through 2011, over 2,700 Missouri babies died before their first birthday.

The number of *children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids* increased between 2007 and 2011 from 33.0% to 37.5%, a 14% jump, which reflects the more turbulent economic conditions facing Missouri families today.

MEASURES OF CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFETY

The *child death* rate has improved steadily over the past decade. Despite these positive gains, on average, approximately 216 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in Missouri between 2007 and 2011. *Violent deaths of teens* decreased between the periods 2002-2006 and 2007-2011 from a 5-year total of 1,355 to 1,257, respectively. Accidents, including automobile accidents, were responsible for 51% of deaths of teenagers between 15 and 19 years old.

The *child abuse and neglect* indicator measures the number of child abuse victims documented in reports that cited a “preponderance of evidence,” that child abuse or neglect occurred. This indicator also measures the number of child abuse victims as defined by the outcome of Department of Social Services family assessments. The indicator is expressed as a rate per 1,000 children. In 2011, 47,540 cases of child abuse and neglect were reported in

Missouri, or 33.7 cases per 1,000. The number and rate for 2011 were slightly higher than the data for 2007 (46,453 cases, 32.5 per 1,000).

Out-of-home placement entries are used in *KIDS COUNT* to measure the status of children who are confirmed victims of neglect, and who are living in environments posing immediate risk or environments not responding immediately to intervention to prevent further physical or emotional threat or injury to children. This indicator is expressed as a rate per 1,000 children. The rate of *out-of-home placement* entries increased from 3.7 in 2007 to 4.3 in 2011.

MEASURES OF EDUCATION

The *high school dropout* rate has remained fairly constant and low. For 2007, the rate was 3.5%; the identical rate was found for 2011. Although this percentage may seem low, nearly 10,000 students dropped out of public high schools in the 2010-2011 school year, increasing their risks of economic insecurity and other negative outcomes.

Missouri’s *teen birth* rate declined 22% between 2007 and 2011, to 34.4 births per 1,000 teens—the lowest rate since 2000. In 2000, about 9,800 Missouri teens, ages 15-19, gave birth. In 2011, approximately 7,000 teens gave birth. Although the number of teens giving birth annually has fallen, thousands of teen mothers and their children remain at risk for poverty, unemployment/underemployment, and health problems.

MISSOURI STATE PROFILE

Capital - Jefferson City

Missouri Trends

✗ = Worse

✓ = Better

○ = No Change

NOTE: Free and reduced lunch and high school dropout data may not match data displayed on the website of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). While DESE posts data as it appears in the database on a given date, data published in KIDS COUNT in Missouri Data Book may reflect subsequent revisions by school districts.

Outcome Measures	Number		Rate		Trend
	Base Year	Current Year	Base Year	Current Year	

Economic Well-being

Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch 2007/2011	364,980	414,360	41.7%	47.7%	✗
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Births to mothers without h.s. diploma 2007/2011	14,942	12,067	18.2%	15.9%	✓
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Health

Low birthweight infants* 2002-2006/2007-2011	31,638	31,747	8.1%	8.1%	○
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Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) 2002-2006/2007-2011	3,013	2,738	7.7	6.9	✓
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Child Protection and Safety

Child deaths, ages 1-14* (per 100,000) 2002-2006/2007-2011	1,246	1,080	21.9	18.4	✓
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Child abuse and neglect* (per 1,000) 2007/2011	46,453	47,540	32.5	33.7	✗
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Out-of-home placement entries (per 1,000) 2007/2011	5,362	6,137	3.7	4.3	✗
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Violent deaths, ages 15-19* (per 100,000) 2002-2006/2007-2011	1,355	1,257	65.4	59.1	✓
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Education

Annual high school dropouts 2007/2011	10,003	9,610	3.5%	3.5%	○
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Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000) 2007/2011	9,232	6,937	44.0	34.4	✓
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DEMOGRAPHIC

Child population	2007	1,431,346
	2011	1,412,121

Children as percent of total population	2007	24.3
	2011	23.5

Minority children	2007	22.9%
	2011	23.9%

Children with limited English proficiency	2007	18,971
	2011	21,539

ECONOMIC

Children in poverty	2000	15.3%
	2010	21.3%

Children under 6 in poverty	2000	17.7%
	2010	25.5%

Children in single parent families	2000	24.3%
	2010	33.3%

Average annual wage/salary	2007	\$36,606
	2010	\$41,749

Adult unemployment	2007	5.1%
	2011	8.6%

FAMILY SUPPORTS

Children receiving subsidized child care (per 1,000 in poverty)	2007	154.7
	2011	167.5

Licensed child care capacity (per 1,000)	2007	99.2
	2012	108.2

Accredited child care facilities	2007	527
	2012	566

Children receiving cash assistance	2007	4.7%
	2011	4.9%

Children receiving food stamps	2007	30.9%
	2011	37.9%

HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH

Children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids	2007	33.0%
	2011	37.5%

Children receiving public SED mental health services	2007	17,127
	2011	26,755

Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)	2007	54.6
	2011	44.3

MISSOURI PROFILE: minority

According to Census 2010 data, there are more than 1.4 million children living in Missouri. One in five of these children are of an ethnic/racial minority, including African American, Asian, Native American, and children of one or more race/ethnicities. Although still a relatively small part of the overall child population, Hispanic children now make up 3%, a proportion almost double what it was in 1990.

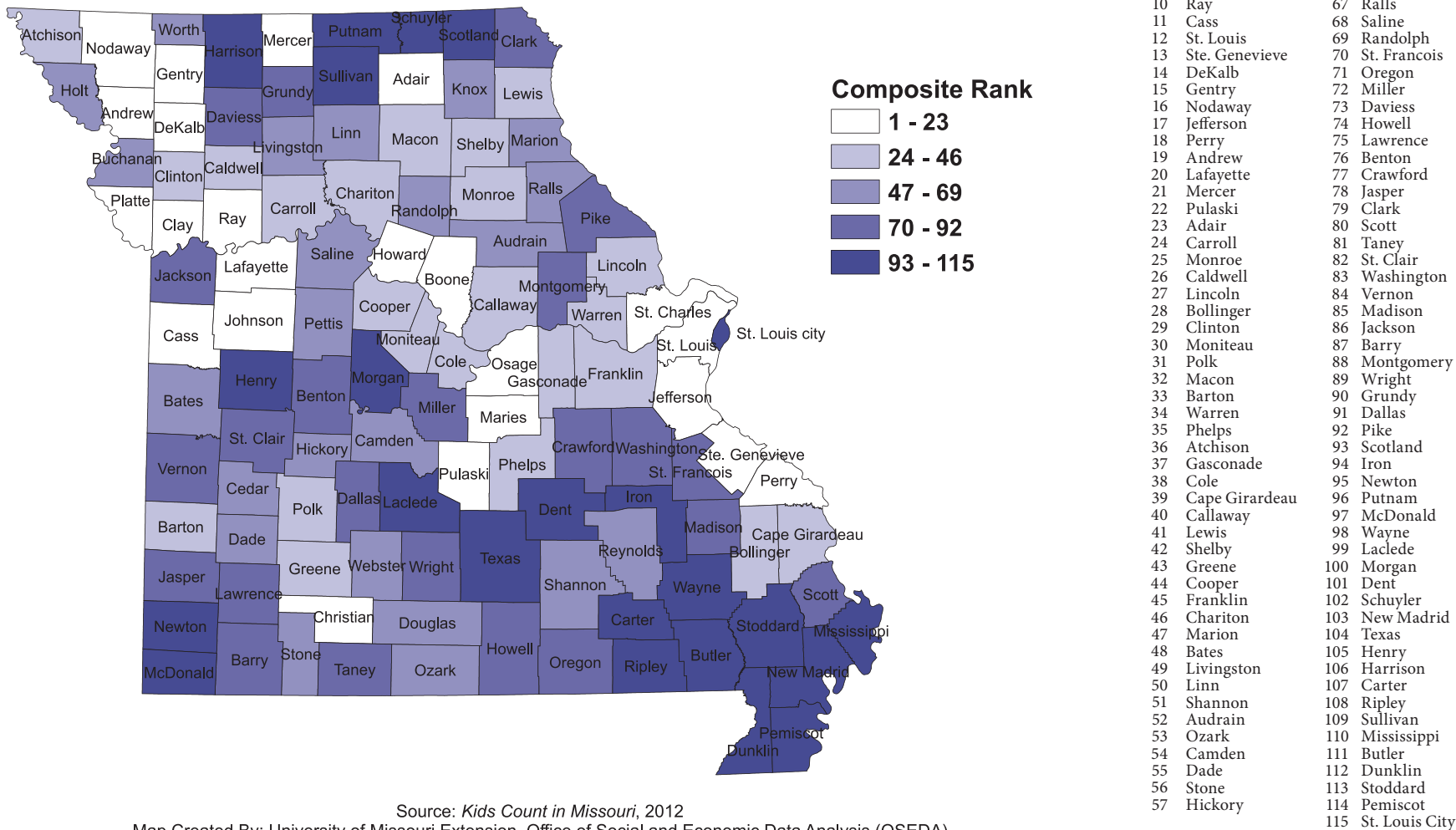
	Years	Nonminority			Minority		
		Base	Current	Trend	Base	Current	Trend
Births to mothers without high school diploma	2007/2011	17.2%	13.9%	√	22.4%	22.7%	X
Low birthweight infants	2002-2006 and 2007/2011	7.1%	7.0%	√	12.6%	12.2%	√
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	2002-2006 and 2007/2011	6.5	5.7	√	13.2	11.7	√
Child deaths, ages 1-14 (per 100,000)	2002-2006 and 2007/2011	22.1	18.0	√	26.9	20.7	√
Child abuse and neglect (per 1,000)	2007/2011	31.7	34.5	X	34.3	31.1	√
Out-of-home placements (per 1,000)	2007/2011	3.5	4.0	X	4.7	4.6	√
Violent teen deaths, ages 15-19 (per 100,000)	2002-2006 and 2007/2011	63.3	58.5	√	73.5	83.2	X
Annual high school dropouts	2007/2011	3.2%	2.2%	√	5.9%	7.5%	X
Births to teens, ages 15-19 (per 1,000)	2007/2011	39.0	30.5	√	78.7	46.2	√

The table above shows outcomes by minority status for the base and current years. *Minority* refers to individuals who are African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, a combination of races, and/or who identify as Hispanic; *nonminority* refers to non-Hispanic White individuals. In general, both groups have experienced more positive trends than negative ones. For minority Missourians, six outcomes improved and three worsened; for nonminority Missourians, seven outcomes improved and two worsened. However, the pattern of outcomes trends was different by minority status. For minorities, violent teen deaths, high school dropouts, and births to mothers without a high school diploma all increased, whereas the opposite trend was found for nonminority individuals. Nonminority children experienced increases in child abuse and neglect and out-of-home placements, both of which decreased for minority children.

Despite the mostly positive trends for both groups, minority teens are far more likely to give birth and to have low birthweight infants compared to their nonminority peers. Nonminority mothers are more likely to have at least a high school diploma, compared to minority mothers.

COUNTY RANKS: composite

Kids Count in Missouri, 2012 Composite County Rankings



Source: Kids Count in Missouri, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA)

COUNTY RANKS: economic well-being

Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch rate rank (2011)

1 St. Charles	41 Chariton	81 Lawrence
2 Platte	42 Macon	82 Barry
3 Clay	43 Warren	83 Stone
4 Osage	44 Marion	84 Saline
5 Andrew	45 Perry	85 Newton
6 Cass	46 Phelps	86 Madison
7 Jefferson	47 Bates	87 Dade
8 Ray	48 Webster	88 Pettis
9 Boone	49 Monroe	89 Texas
10 Nodaway	50 Daviess	90 Howell
11 Christian	51 Worth	91 Taney
12 Johnson	52 Maries	92 Butler
13 Clinton	53 Jasper	93 Benton
14 St. Louis	54 Jackson	94 Knox
15 Ralls	55 Carroll	95 Washington
16 Lafayette	56 Vernon	96 Morgan
17 Holt	57 Audrain	97 Dallas
18 DeKalb	58 Caldwell	98 Hickory
19 Pulaski	59 Clark	99 New Madrid
20 Franklin	60 Stoddard	100 Sullivan
21 Cole	61 Bollinger	101 Iron
22 Moniteau	62 Grundy	102 Oregon
23 Lincoln	63 Montgomery	103 McDonald
24 Cape Girardeau	64 Barton	104 Wayne
25 Callaway	65 Miller	105 Carter
26 Atchison	66 Buchanan	106 Ozark
27 Gasconade	67 Cedar	107 Reynolds
28 Linn	68 Polk	108 Wright
29 Ste. Genevieve	69 St. Francois	109 Dunklin
30 Adair	70 Crawford	110 Mississippi
31 Greene	71 Camden	111 Ripley
32 Shelby	72 Henry	112 Douglas
33 Howard	73 Randolph	113 Pemiscot
34 Putnam	74 Scotland	114 Shannon
35 Livingston	75 Dent	115 St. Louis City
36 Lewis	76 Laclede	
37 Mercer	77 Harrison	
38 Gentry	78 St. Clair	
39 Pike	79 Schuyler	
40 Cooper	80 Scott	

Births to mothers without a high school diploma rate rank (2011)

1 Worth	41 Douglas	81 Stone
2 St. Charles	42 Clark	82 Dade
3 Platte	43 Franklin	83 Vernon
4 Howard	44 DeKalb	84 Cedar
5 Johnson	45 Bollinger	85 Pike
6 Nodaway	46 Iron	86 Washington
7 Atchison	47 Camden	87 Pettis
8 Pulaski	48 Miller	88 New Madrid
9 St. Louis	49 Polk	89 Harrison
10 Ralls	50 Marion	89 Moniteau
11 Clay	51 Reynolds	91 Audrain
12 Boone	52 Shannon	92 Texas
13 Holt	53 Livingston	93 Butler
14 Andrew	54 Bates	94 Carter
15 Christian	55 Ste. Genevieve	95 St. Clair
15 Clinton	56 Henry	96 Gentry
17 Jefferson	57 Putnam	97 Madison
18 Osage	58 Macon	98 Ripley
19 Cass	59 Warren	99 Lawrence
20 Cole	60 Saline	100 Barry
21 Cape Girardeau	61 Carroll	101 Mississippi
22 Adair	62 Jackson	102 Dent
23 Oregon	63 Wayne	103 Pemiscot
24 Gasconade	64 Buchanan	104 Dunklin
25 Phelps	65 Chariton	105 Grundy
26 Lincoln	65 Wright	106 Schuyler
27 Ray	67 St. Francois	107 McDonald
28 Greene	68 Lewis	108 Webster
29 Maries	69 Stoddard	109 Mercer
30 Caldwell	70 Taney	110 Dallas
31 Lafayette	71 Newton	111 Sullivan
32 Ozark	72 Shelby	112 Daviess
33 Perry	73 Benton	113 Morgan
34 Callaway	74 Howell	114 Knox
35 Linn	75 Laclede	115 Scotland
36 Montgomery	76 Scott	
37 Monroe	77 Jasper	
38 Cooper	78 Hickory	
39 Barton	79 St. Louis City	
40 Randolph	80 Crawford	

COUNTY RANKS: health

Low birthweight infants rate rank (2007-2011)

1	Worth	40	Platte	81	Crawford
2	Gentry	40	Ralls	81	Sullivan
3	Cedar	40	Randolph	83	Saline
3	Scotland	44	Daviess	84	Cape Girardeau
5	Chariton	45	Dallas	84	Douglas
6	Maries	45	Iron	84	St. Francois
6	Reynolds	47	Benton	84	Shannon
6	Webster	47	Henry	88	Howard
9	Vernon	47	Jefferson	88	Ozark
10	Putnam	47	Macon	90	Bates
11	Knox	47	Newton	90	Dent
11	Linn	47	Ste. Genevieve	90	Jackson
11	Moniteau	47	Schuyler	93	Mercer
11	Morgan	54	Audrain	94	Carroll
11	Nodaway	54	Barry	95	Oregon
16	Clark	54	Cass	96	Shelby
16	Johnson	54	Franklin	96	Wayne
16	Warren	54	Lafayette	98	Pike
19	Atchison	54	Montgomery	98	St. Louis
20	Andrew	60	Dade	98	Stoddard
20	Camden	60	Greene	98	Washington
20	Harrison	60	St. Charles	102	Cooper
20	Polk	60	Wright	103	Butler
24	Christian	64	Perry	103	Scott
25	Bollinger	64	Phelps	105	Caldwell
25	Clinton	66	Boone	106	Holt
25	Grundy	66	DeKalb	107	Monroe
25	Laclede	66	Pulaski	107	Ripley
25	Livingston	69	Cole	109	Callaway
25	Miller	70	Buchanan	110	Carter
31	Barton	70	Howell	110	Dunklin
31	Clay	70	Marion	112	St. Louis City
31	Jasper	70	Ray	113	Mississippi
31	Lincoln	70	Stone	114	New Madrid
31	Pettis	75	Lawrence	115	Pemiscot
36	Gasconade	75	McDonald		
36	Lewis	75	Taney		
36	Madison	75	Texas		
36	Osage	79	Adair		
40	Hickory	79	St. Clair		

Infant mortality rank (2007-2011)

1	Gentry	37	St. Charles	81	Benton
1	Knox	42	Howell	82	Buchanan
1	Maries	42	Ray	83	Cole
1	Monroe	44	Bates	83	Dunklin
5	Perry	44	Johnson	83	Iron
6	Macon	44	Lewis	86	Cooper
6	Stone	44	Livingston	87	Andrew
8	Atchison	48	Greene	87	Callaway
9	Howard	48	Webster	87	Laclede
10	Washington	50	Lawrence	90	Butler
11	Cass	50	McDonald	91	Henry
12	Pettis	52	Mississippi	92	Harrison
13	Bollinger	52	Sullivan	92	Vernon
13	Jasper	54	Douglas	94	Chariton
13	Polk	54	Moniteau	94	Saline
16	St. Clair	56	Ozark	96	Reynolds
16	Ste. Genevieve	56	Stoddard	97	Clinton
18	Christian	58	Cape Girardeau	98	Oregon
19	Warren	58	Franklin	99	Gasconade
20	Audrain	58	Lafayette	99	Morgan
20	Mercer	58	Lincoln	101	Cedar
20	Platte	58	Pulaski	101	Dent
23	Daviess	58	Taney	103	Pemiscot
24	Shelby	58	Wright	104	Marion
25	Phelps	65	Barry	105	Schuyler
26	Nodaway	65	St. Louis	105	Wayne
27	Camden	67	Clark	105	St. Louis City
27	Dade	67	Newton	108	Pike
29	Barton	69	Grundy	109	New Madrid
29	Boone	70	Jackson	110	Texas
29	Crawford	70	Osage	111	Holt
32	Carroll	72	Hickory	112	Ralls
32	DeKalb	72	Miller	113	Carter
34	Adair	72	Scott	114	Putnam
34	Dallas	75	Madison	115	Worth
34	Scotland	75	Ripley		
37	Caldwell	75	St. Francois		
37	Clay	78	Linn		
37	Jefferson	78	Montgomery		
37	Randolph	78	Shannon		

COUNTY RANKS: child protection and safety

Child deaths, ages 1-14, rate rank (2007-2011)

1 Bollinger	41 Ste. Genevieve	81 Dunklin
1 Holt	42 Cole	82 Audrain
1 Howard	42 Nodaway	83 Warren
1 Linn	44 Wayne	84 Miller
1 Putnam	45 Andrew	85 Stone
1 Ralls	46 Johnson	86 Howell
1 Stoddard	47 Clinton	87 Polk
1 Worth	48 Jackson	88 Barton
9 Washington	49 Webster	88 Ripley
10 Platte	50 Callaway	90 Scott
11 Cooper	51 Crawford	91 Grundy
12 Benton	52 Adair	92 Sullivan
12 Osage	53 Iron	93 Wright
14 Lafayette	53 Lewis	94 Oregon
15 Boone	55 Randolph	95 Daviess
15 Saline	55 St. Francois	96 Reynolds
17 Henry	57 Atchison	97 Scotland
18 Pulaski	57 Buchanan	98 Moniteau
19 Perry	57 Marion	99 New Madrid
20 Morgan	60 DeKalb	99 Pemiscot
21 Jefferson	60 Harrison	101 Ozark
21 St. Charles	60 Laclede	102 Douglas
23 Monroe	63 Livingston	103 Dallas
24 Pike	64 McDonald	104 Caldwell
25 Christian	65 Maries	105 Texas
26 Clay	66 Phelps	106 Gasconade
27 Cass	67 Vernon	107 Schuyler
28 Chariton	68 Cape Girardeau	108 Bates
29 Dade	69 Camden	109 Shannon
30 Lawrence	70 Knox	110 Cedar
31 Hickory	70 St. Louis City	111 Dent
32 Newton	72 Franklin	112 Carroll
33 Taney	73 Butler	113 Gentry
34 Mississippi	74 Pettis	114 Carter
35 Shelby	75 Lincoln	115 Clark
36 St. Louis	76 Madison	
37 Ray	77 St. Clair	
38 Barry	78 Macon	
38 Greene	79 Mercer	
40 Montgomery	80 Jasper	

Child abuse and neglect rate rank (2011)

1 Platte	41 Moniteau	81 Reynolds
2 Scotland	42 Ray	82 Gasconade
3 St. Charles	43 Jackson	83 Texas
4 St. Louis	44 Schuyler	84 Atchison
5 Mercer	45 Webster	85 Montgomery
6 Knox	46 Gentry	86 Barton
7 Clay	47 St. Louis City	87 Wayne
8 Osage	48 Jasper	88 St. Clair
9 DeKalb	49 Howard	89 Morgan
10 Maries	50 Audrain	90 Polk
11 Daviess	51 Sullivan	91 Stone
12 Carroll	52 Scott	92 Greene
13 Cass	53 Worth	93 Saline
14 Andrew	54 Holt	94 Madison
15 Shelby	55 Pettis	95 Ripley
16 Johnson	56 Livingston	96 Miller
17 Chariton	57 Cape Girardeau	97 Grundy
18 Cole	58 Phelps	98 Harrison
19 Boone	59 Barry	99 Taney
20 Christian	60 Shannon	100 Bollinger
21 Nodaway	61 Douglas	101 Vernon
22 Bates	62 Carter	102 Hickory
23 Caldwell	63 Lawrence	103 Randolph
24 Lincoln	64 Mississippi	104 Dallas
25 Clark	65 Iron	105 Callaway
26 Macon	66 Oregon	106 Benton
27 Pulaski	67 Monroe	107 Putnam
28 Jefferson	68 Washington	108 Wright
29 Ste. Genevieve	69 New Madrid	109 Marion
30 Lafayette	70 Pike	110 Butler
31 Newton	71 St. Francois	111 Linn
32 Ozark	72 Dunklin	112 Cedar
33 Franklin	73 Buchanan	113 Laclede
34 Clinton	74 Howell	114 Henry
35 Cooper	75 Dent	115 Pemiscot
36 McDonald	76 Dade	
37 Ralls	77 Stoddard	
38 Perry	78 Warren	
39 Crawford	79 Adair	
40 Lewis	80 Camden	

COUNTY RANKS: child protection and safety

Out-of-home placement rate rank (2011)

1	Andrew	41	Camden	81	Harrison
1	Carroll	42	Dent	82	Grundy
1	Carter	43	Morgan	83	Madison
1	Mercer	44	Lafayette	84	Wayne
1	Shannon	45	Callaway	85	Pulaski
6	Maries	46	Texas	86	Crawford
7	Ste. Genevieve	47	Polk	87	New Madrid
8	Platte	48	Lincoln	88	Taney
9	Clay	49	Perry	89	Stone
10	Audrain	50	Bates	90	Linn
11	Hickory	51	Monroe	91	Miller
12	Webster	52	Livingston	92	Laclede
13	Dallas	53	Lawrence	93	McDonald
14	Moniteau	54	Franklin	94	Greene
15	Buchanan	55	Howard	95	Schuyler
16	Johnson	56	Cole	96	Pike
17	Howell	57	Chariton	97	Adair
18	St. Charles	58	Phelps	98	Macon
19	Osage	59	Cass	99	Randolph
20	St. Louis	60	Ozark	100	Wright
21	Gentry	61	Douglas	101	Worth
22	Benton	62	Cape Girardeau	102	St. Clair
23	Daviess	63	Butler	103	Putnam
24	Clinton	64	Barry	104	Pemiscot
25	Oregon	65	Lewis	105	Jasper
26	Cedar	66	Jefferson	106	Montgomery
27	Ray	67	Bollinger	107	Shelby
28	Marion	68	Pettis	108	Holt
29	DeKalb	69	Mississippi	109	Dunklin
30	Christian	70	Warren	110	Nodaway
31	Vernon	71	Scott	111	Newton
32	Dade	72	Saline	112	Henry
33	Knox	73	Iron	113	Clark
34	Caldwell	74	Sullivan	114	Atchison
35	Cooper	75	Scotland	115	Stoddard
36	Gasconade	76	Jackson		
37	St. Louis City	77	Barton		
38	Boone	78	Reynolds		
39	Ralls	79	Washington		
40	St. Francois	80	Ripley		

Violent deaths, ages 15-19, rate rank (2007-2011)

1	Atchison	41	Wayne	81	Iron
1	Gentry	42	Cole	82	Vernon
1	Knox	43	Pike	83	Franklin
1	Mississippi	44	Cass	84	Bates
1	Schuyler	45	Scott	85	Henry
1	Scotland	46	Phelps	86	Butler
1	Worth	47	Platte	87	Carroll
8	Adair	48	Cooper	88	Warren
9	Nodaway	49	Jasper	89	Ralls
10	Cedar	50	Audrain	90	Ray
11	Lewis	51	DeKalb	91	Washington
12	Grundy	52	Texas	92	Benton
13	Pemiscot	53	Randolph	93	Moniteau
14	Johnson	54	Caldwell	94	Lawrence
15	Taney	55	Gasconade	95	Dent
16	St. Charles	56	New Madrid	96	Oregon
17	Cape Girardeau	57	Perry	97	Shannon
17	Wright	58	Christian	98	Daviess
19	Lincoln	59	Saline	99	Howell
20	Maries	60	Livingston	100	Morgan
21	Ste. Genevieve	61	Jefferson	101	Polk
22	Boone	62	Lafayette	102	Ozark
23	Miller	63	Andrew	103	Douglas
24	Clay	64	Putnam	104	Madison
24	Stoddard	65	Dallas	105	Macon
26	Greene	66	Clinton	106	St. Louis City
27	Callaway	67	Bollinger	107	Crawford
28	Pettis	68	Howard	108	Montgomery
29	Chariton	69	Barry	109	Monroe
29	Pulaski	70	Camden	110	St. Clair
31	Stone	71	Dade	111	Sullivan
32	Clark	71	Marion	112	Shelby
33	Buchanan	73	Osage	113	Harrison
33	Carter	74	Hickory	114	Mercer
35	Reynolds	75	St. Francois	115	Holt
36	Linn	76	Dunklin		
37	St. Louis	77	Jackson		
37	Webster	78	Ripley		
39	Barton	79	Laclede		
40	McDonald	80	Newton		

COUNTY RANKS: education

Annual high school dropout rank (2011)

1 Mercer	38 Moniteau	81 Lawrence
1 Shannon	38 Platte	81 Perry
1 Worth	38 St. Francois	83 Scotland
4 Morgan	44 Barton	84 Boone
5 Carroll	44 Chariton	84 Clark
5 Douglas	44 Polk	84 Clay
5 Oregon	44 Ste. Genevieve	84 Clinton
8 Schuyler	44 Shelby	88 Dent
9 Reynolds	49 Buchanan	88 Howell
9 Wright	49 Randolph	88 Ripley
11 Scott	49 St. Charles	91 Cape Girardeau
11 Warren	52 Caldwell	91 Dallas
13 Christian	52 Cedar	91 Henry
13 Daviess	52 Dade	91 Livingston
13 DeKalb	52 Knox	95 Cole
13 Gentry	52 Linn	96 Callaway
13 Hickory	52 Nodaway	96 Franklin
13 Lafayette	58 Barry	98 Harrison
13 Osage	58 Benton	98 Jasper
20 Bollinger	58 Cooper	98 Miller
20 Holt	58 Pulaski	98 St. Clair
20 Macon	62 Bates	98 Washington
20 Madison	62 Cass	103 Phelps
24 Grundy	62 Gasconade	104 Camden
24 Ozark	62 Laclede	105 Pike
24 Ray	62 Webster	106 Audrain
27 Pettis	67 Dunklin	106 Iron
28 McDonald	67 Jefferson	108 Sullivan
28 Putnam	67 Monroe	109 Pemiscot
28 Saline	70 Andrew	110 Crawford
31 Atchison	70 Greene	111 Ralls
31 Carter	70 Lincoln	112 Vernon
31 Texas	70 Maries	113 Jackson
31 Wayne	70 Mississippi	114 Butler
35 Johnson	75 Stoddard	115 St. Louis City
35 Lewis	76 Montgomery	
35 New Madrid	76 Newton	
38 Adair	76 St. Louis	
38 Howard	76 Stone	
38 Marion	76 Taney	

Birth to teens, ages 15-19, rate rank (2011)

1 Osage	41 Worth	81 Schuyler
2 Nodaway	42 Clark	82 Dallas
3 Adair	43 Lewis	83 Wayne
4 St. Charles	44 Shannon	84 Madison
5 Boone	45 Marion	85 Morgan
6 Platte	46 Knox	86 Wright
7 Shelby	47 Putnam	87 Washington
8 Mercer	48 Lafayette	88 Jasper
9 Johnson	49 Webster	89 Barry
10 Barton	50 Macon	90 Randolph
11 Howard	51 Stone	91 New Madrid
12 Pulaski	52 Cedar	92 Stoddard
13 St. Louis	53 Warren	93 Iron
14 Atchison	54 Cooper	94 Buchanan
15 Ste. Genevieve	55 Audrain	95 Montgomery
16 Callaway	56 Camden	96 St. Louis City
17 Perry	57 St. Clair	97 Grundy
18 Chariton	58 Pike	98 Daviess
19 Caldwell	59 Miller	99 Henry
20 Maries	60 Carroll	100 St. Francois
21 Christian	61 Linn	101 Benton
22 Clay	62 Franklin	102 Oregon
23 Phelps	63 Dade	103 Dent
24 Ray	63 Holt	104 Carter
25 Cass	65 Ralls	105 Howell
26 DeKalb	66 Douglas	106 Scott
27 Gasconade	67 Crawford	107 Sullivan
28 Lincoln	68 Hickory	108 Texas
29 Cole	69 McDonald	109 Butler
30 Polk	70 Jackson	110 Laclede
31 Jefferson	71 Saline	111 Ripley
32 Gentry	72 Andrew	112 Harrison
33 Bollinger	73 Vernon	113 Dunklin
34 Moniteau	74 Livingston	114 Pemiscot
35 Greene	75 Pettis	115 Mississippi
36 Reynolds	76 Monroe	
37 Scotland	77 Lawrence	
38 Ozark	78 Taney	
39 Cape Girardeau	79 Bates	
40 Clinton	80 Newton	





PERSPECTIVE:
economic well-being

PERSPECTIVE: economic well-being

A family's economic well-being has a great impact on a child's ability to develop into a healthy, productive adult. *KIDS COUNT in Missouri* tracks many indicators related to economic conditions for Missouri's children and families, including parental education and employment, enrollment in federal assistance programs, and child poverty, in order to provide a full picture of how our children are faring. Because no single outcome or indicator represents how well children and families are faring economically, all of the indicators included in this section should be examined closely.

The child poverty rate is one of the most scrutinized indicators of child and family well-being. National child poverty levels fell by 30% between 1994 and 2000, the largest decrease since the 1960s.¹ During most of the first decade of the 21st century, however, state and national poverty rate improvements stalled. The significant economic downturn that began in 2007 adversely affected economic conditions at both state and national levels. The national child poverty rate increased from 19% to 22% between 2005 and 2010, which translated to 2 million additional children living in poverty.² In Missouri, the child poverty rate

increased from 19% to 21% percent between 2005 and 2010.

KIDS COUNT tracks two outcomes directly related to children's economic security:

- Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch
- Births to mothers without high school diplomas

In addition, seven other economic well-being indicators are reported:*

- Children in poverty
- Children under 6 in poverty
- Children in single-parent families
- Average annual wage/salary
- Adult unemployment
- Children receiving cash assistance
- Children receiving food stamps (SNAP)

For the most part, the economic outlook for the children and families in Missouri has been declining. Since 2007, the percentage of students enrolled in the free/reduced-price lunch program increased by 14%; in 2011, nearly half of Missouri's children qualified for the program. The percentage of children receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps) increased 23% over the same time period. Since 2000, the percentage of children in poverty increased 39%, the percentage of children under 6 in poverty has burgeoned by 44%, and the percentage of children in single-parent families has gone up over 37%. Not all trends related to economic security are in decline, however; since 2007 progress has been made on the percentage of births to mothers without a high school diploma (a decrease of 18%).

*In past data books, another indicator, *parents paying child support in the state system*, has been included in this section. Due to changes in how out-of-state orders are processed, and other data system changes that have affected county-level data for this indicator, it will be closely scrutinized and may appear again in next year's data book.

Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percent of children enrolled in the free or reduced-price lunch program in Missouri public schools.

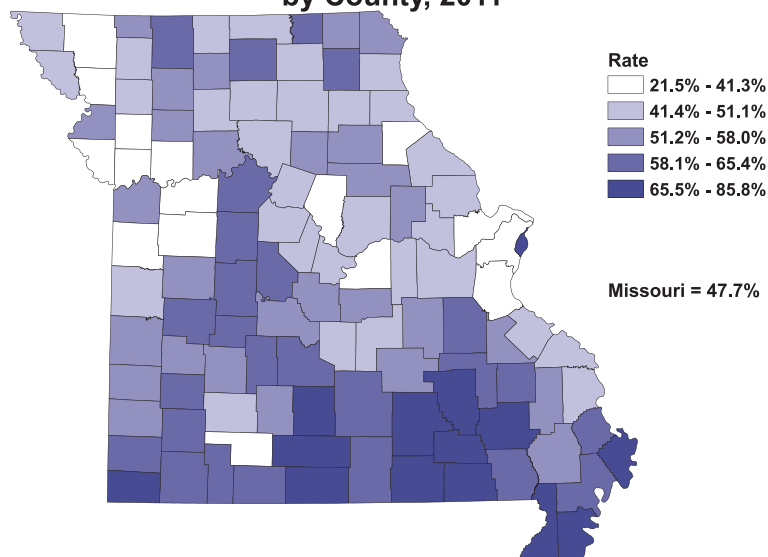
Significance

Participation in the free/reduced-price lunch program is a widely used proxy for measuring the extent of child poverty. Economic hardship can have profound negative effects on children's health and development. Children from families with low incomes have a greater risk for delays in cognitive development and learning problems.

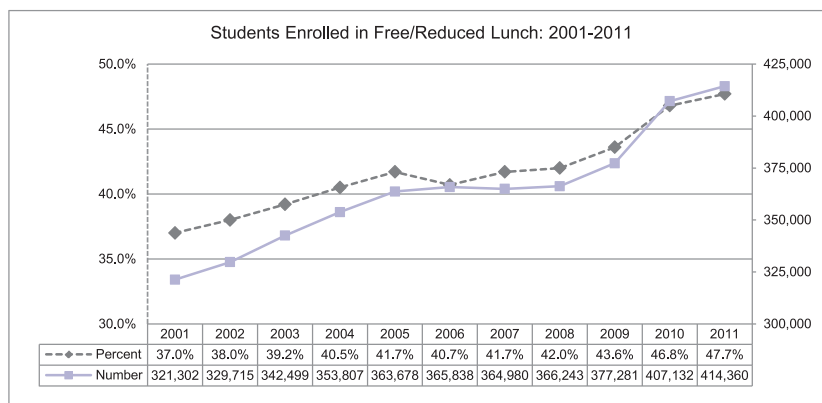
State Findings

For the 2010-11 school year, nearly half of Missouri public school students (47.7%) were enrolled in the free/reduced-price lunch program. This percentage has been trending steadily upward over time. In 2000-01, 36.6% of children were enrolled in the program; in 2006-07, 41.7% were enrolled.

Percent Students Enrolled in Free/Reduced Lunch by County, 2011



Source: Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA)
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013



County Findings

The counties with the highest participation rates in 2010-11, which suggest high levels of child poverty, were primarily found in the southern parts of the state. The counties with the highest rates were St. Louis City, (85.8%), Shannon (79.2%), Pemiscot (71.7%), Douglas (71.0%), Ripley (70.8%), Mississippi (70.3%), and Dunklin (70.2%). The counties with the lowest rate, all at or below 37%, were St. Charles, Platte, Clay, Andrew, Osage, Cass, and Jefferson.

Births to Mothers without High School Diplomas

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number and percentage of all births to mothers who indicated that they have less than 12 years of education on their child's birth certificate.

Significance

Children born to mothers with fewer than 12 years of education face increased odds of living in chronic and/or severe poverty. Parents with low education levels typically have lower incomes than those with more education. Higher levels of parental education are strongly associated

with positive outcomes for children, including better school readiness and academic achievement, lower rates of smoking and drinking, and higher rates of volunteering.³

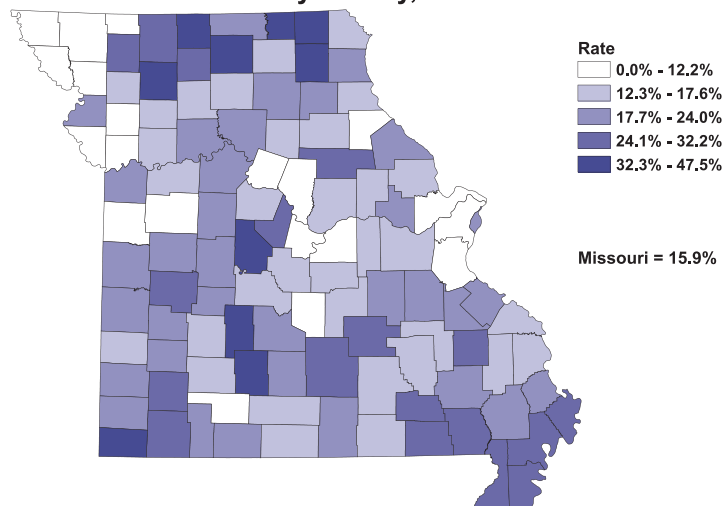
State Findings

In 2011, 15.9% of births were to women without a high school diploma, which was a decrease from 18.2% of births in 2007. Of the 12,067 live births to women without a high school diploma in 2011, 32.4% were to racial and/or ethnic minority mothers and 67.6% were to nonminority mothers.

County Findings

In 11 counties—Worth, St. Charles, Platte, Howard, Johnson, Nodaway, Pulaski, Atchison, St. Louis, Ralls, and Clay—less than 10% of children were born to mothers without a high school diploma in 2010. In 10 counties, one-third or more of births were to mothers with less than 12 years of education: Scotland, Knox, Morgan, Daviess, Sullivan, Dallas, Mercer, Webster, McDonald, and Schuyler. In absolute numbers, Jackson County, St. Louis City, and St. Louis County collectively accounted for 34% of Missouri's total births to mothers without a high school diploma.

Percent of Births to Mothers without High School Diplomas by County, 2011



Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDa)
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013

Children in Poverty

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percentage of children (under age 18) that live in families with income below the federal poverty threshold. The federal poverty threshold depends on the number of adults and children in a family. In 2010, the current year used for this indicator in this data book, the federal poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$22,113. For 2012, the federal poverty threshold for the same family was \$23,050.

Significance

Nationally, over one in five children (22%) lived in families with incomes below the poverty threshold in 2011.⁴ However, most families need an income of at least double the poverty threshold (i.e., 200%) to meet their basic needs; families below this level are considered low-income. In the U.S., the percentage of children living in low-income families was 45% in 2011.⁵

State Findings

In 2010, 21.3% of Missouri children lived in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold. This figure has been steadily increasing

over time. In 2000, 15.3% of children were in poverty; in 2007 this increased to 18.3%. In Missouri's largest cities, the percentage of children living in poverty is particularly high: 44.1% in Springfield, 41.8% in St. Louis City, and 29.3% in Kansas City.⁶

County Findings

In 2010, seven counties had at least 40% of children living in poverty: Hickory, Pemiscot, Iron, St. Louis City, Carter, Shannon, and Polk. The counties with the lowest percentage of children living in poverty—all below 14%—were St. Charles, Lafayette, Platte, Osage, Clay, Ray, Gasconade, and DeKalb.

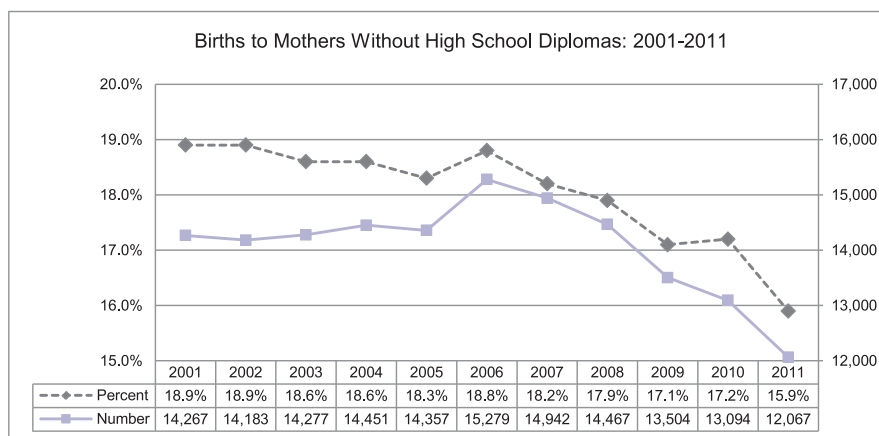
Children under 6 in Poverty

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percentage of children under age 6 living in poverty, based on the federal poverty thresholds. The federal poverty threshold depends on the number of adults and children in a family.

Significance

Very young children are more likely to live in poverty than older



children. Thus, the percentage of children under 6 in poverty is higher than that of all children in poverty. Many factors contribute to an increased likelihood of children experiencing poverty at a young age, including the relative youth of parents (which limits earning potential), as well as the need for child care (parents either pay for it or stay at home to take care of young children). Poverty can interfere with children's development at all ages, but its developmental effects are more pervasive and persistent for children who experience economic hardship when very young.

State Findings

In 2010, the proportion of children under 6 living in poverty was 25.5%. This figure has been trending upward, from 17.7% in 2000 to 22% in 2007.

County Findings

In 2010, five counties had more than 50% of children under 6 living in poverty: Pemiscot, Iron, Dunklin, Ozark, and Hickory. Another six counties had more than 45% of children under 6 living in poverty: Shannon, Saline, New Madrid, Dallas, Wright, and Texas. Seven counties had less than 14% of children

under six in poverty: Lafayette, St. Charles, Mercer, Perry, Clay, Osage, and Platte.

Children in Single-Parent Families

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percent of related children under 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home.

Significance

In 2010, over 24 million children lived in single-parent families across the nation.⁷ The relationship between poverty and family structure is shown by the fact that more children living in single-parent families were in poverty (37%) compared to children living in married-couple families (9%).⁸

Two-parent families tend to have higher household incomes and more assets than single-parent families; as a result, single parents may find it more challenging to maintain high quality home and out-of-home experiences for their children.⁹ In addition, economic hardship may increase single

parents' psychological distress and decrease sensitive caregiving.¹⁰

These factors can lead to negative effects on children's cognitive and social development and impact their long-term academic achievement.¹¹

State Findings

In 2010, one third of Missouri children—33.3%—lived in single-parent families. This percentage has increased over time. In 2000, 24.3% of children lived in single-parent families; in 2007, the figure was 31.2%.

County Findings

In three counties, more than 50% of children lived in single-parent families in 2010: St. Louis City (62.5%), Pemiscot (57.1%), and Mississippi (53.6%). Another six counties had more than 40% of children living with single-parents: Dunklin, New Madrid, Jackson, Buchanan, Crawford, and Randolph. The counties with the lowest percentage of children living in single-parent families (less than 20%) were Scotland, Christian, Daviess, Schuyler, Chariton, Cedar, Osage, and Knox.

Average Annual Wage/Salary

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the average annual wage/salary in Missouri per job.

Significance

This indicator is another way of measuring economic conditions for children and families over time.

State Findings

In 2010, the average annual wage/salary for Missourians was \$41,749. This indicator has increased steadily over time. In 2007, the average annual wage/salary was \$39,500.

County Findings

Seven counties had an average annual wage/salary higher than \$40,000 in 2010: St. Louis City, St. Louis, Jackson, Clay, Pulaski, Mercer, and Platte. The counties with the lowest average annual wage/salary in 2010, all below \$25,000, were Shannon, Worth, Ozark, Clark, Howard, and Hickory.

Adult Unemployment

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the annual unemployment rate (percentage of civilian labor force that is unemployed and looking for work).

Significance

Unemployment rates provide another picture of the general economic conditions of a state, region, or county. As more adults have problems finding employment, the number of children and families in poverty increases. Higher unemployment rates are also associated with families using more government services, such as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamps Program) to help make ends meet.

State Findings

The recent recession has had a significant impact on unemployment rates throughout Missouri. In 2007, the state unemployment rate was 5.1%. For 2011, Missouri's unemployment rate was 8.6%, a

69% increase from what it was in 2007.

County Findings

In 2011, nine counties had unemployment rates below 6.5%: Boone, Worth, Perry, Knox, Osage, Andrew, Scotland, Cole, and Mercer. Twenty-seven counties (nearly a quarter of Missouri's counties) had unemployment rates of at least 10%. The counties with the highest unemployment rates in 2010 (all greater than 11%) were Shannon, Reynolds, Hickory, Taney, Washington, Stone, St. Louis City, Morgan, Miller, and Laclede.

Children Receiving Cash Assistance

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percentage of children receiving cash assistance under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Significance

This indicator is another way of examining the economic well-being of children and families. However, changes in this indicator over time must be considered in the context

of policy changes at the state and federal levels, which can artificially impact the direction of the trend.

State Findings

In 2011, 4.9% of children were in families receiving cash assistance, a very slight increase over the 2010 figure of 4.8%. The rate has remained surprisingly stable since 2007, when it was 4.7%, despite the economic downturn. Because other indices of poverty have increased during the downturn, these stable figures suggest that there might be other barriers to accessing this service besides eligibility.

County Findings

The counties with the highest percentage of children receiving cash assistance in 2011 (all over 10%) were St. Louis City, Pemiscot, Dunklin, and Mississippi. The counties with the lowest percentage of children receiving cash assistance (all below 2%) were Worth, St. Charles, Osage, Gentry, Schuyler, Atchison, Nodaway, Knox, and Putnam.

Children Receiving Food Stamps

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percentage of children receiving benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps.

Significance

SNAP provides low-income families with electronic cards (EBT cards) that they can use like cash at most grocery stores. Participation in SNAP is an indicator of economic security as well as child nutrition.

State Findings

In 2011, nearly two in five children (37.9%) received SNAP. This figure has increased 23% from the 2007 rate of 30.9%. This increase demonstrates the impact of the recent recession on Missouri's children and families.

County Findings

In 26 counties, at least 50% of the children received SNAP in 2011. In 2007, only 10 counties surpassed the 50% benchmark, another indica-

tion of the recent economic downturn. The counties with the highest percentage of children receiving SNAP in 2011 (all at or higher than 60%) were St. Louis City, Pemiscot, Dunklin, Mississippi, Ripley, and Washington. The counties with the lowest percentage of children in SNAP (all below 25%) in 2011 were St. Charles, Platte, Osage, Nodaway, Andrew, Scotland, and Worth.



¹The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2010). *2010 Kids Count Data Book*. Retrieved January 11, 2013, from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/DataBook/2010/OnlineBooks/2010DataBook.pdf>

²The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2012). *2012 Kids Count Data Book*. Retrieved January 9, 2013, from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/DataBook/2012/OnlineBooks/Kidscount2012DataBookFullReport.pdf>

³National Center for Children in Poverty. (2009). *Ten important questions about child poverty and family economic hardship*. Retrieved February 2, 2013, from http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_829.html

⁴National Center for Children in Poverty. (2012). *Basic facts about low-income children. 2011: Children under age 18*. Retrieved January 29, 2013, from http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_1074.html

⁵*Ibid.*

⁶Missouri Census Data Center. (n.d.). *American community survey profile report, 2011*.

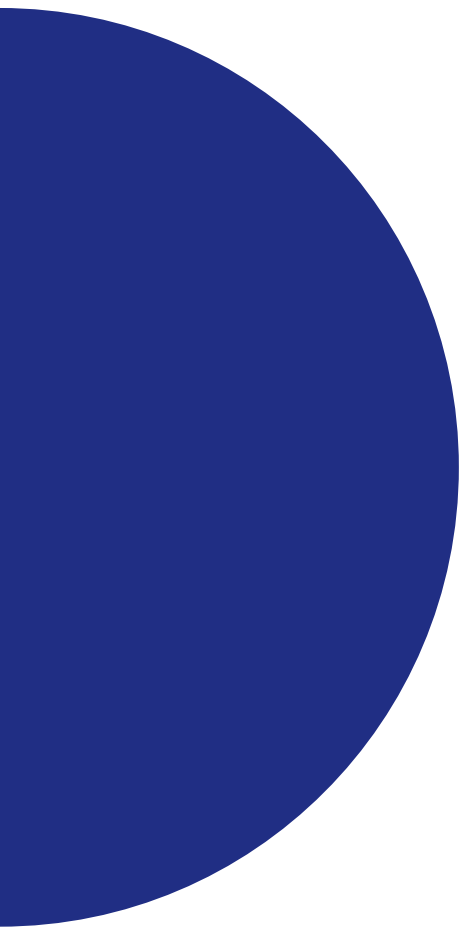
⁷The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2012). *2012 Kids Count Data Book*. Retrieved January 29, 2013, from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/DataBook/2012/OnlineBooks/Kidscount2012DataBookFullReport.pdf>

⁸Missouri Census Data Center. (n.d.). *American community survey profile report, 2011*.

⁹Votruba-Drzal, E. (2003). Income changes and cognitive stimulation in young children's home learning environments. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 65, 341–355.

¹⁰Votruba-Drzal, E. (2006). Economic disparities in middle childhood development: Does income matter? *Developmental Psychology*, 42, 1154–1167.

¹¹*Ibid.*





PERSPECTIVE:
health

PERSPECTIVE: health

A healthy start in life provides children with the necessary foundation for healthy development and the capacity to learn. Indicators of a healthy start include quality prenatal care, consistent access to health-care services throughout childhood and adolescence, proper immunization, and good nutrition.

The majority of Missouri children access health coverage through private insurance and/or MO HealthNet for Kids, which is Missouri's public health insurance program for low-income children who do not have access to other health coverage. A portion of Missouri's children remain without healthcare coverage, including many who are eligible for coverage.

KIDS COUNT tracks two outcomes directly related to children's health:

- Low birthweight infants
- Infant mortality

In addition, two other health indicators are reported:*

- Children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids
- Children receiving public mental health services for serious emotional disorders (SED)

In comparison to the baseline years, the status of Missouri children's health and mental health with respect to these outcomes and indicators is mixed. Infant mortality, which has been declining for some time, decreased by 11.6% between the baseline time period 2002-2006 and the period 2007-2011, while the rate of low birthweight infants remained the same during these time periods. Changes in the other two indicators are more difficult to interpret. Because they reflect services provided by state government, the decreases over time may be due to actual progress on these indicators or may be due to budget shortfalls, changes in funding priorities, or administrative changes in how data are tracked. With this in mind, the percentage of children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids increased 13.6% between 2007 and 2011. In the same time period, the number of children who received public mental health services for SED increased 56.2%.

*In past data books, another indicator, *children with elevated blood lead levels*, has been included in this section. Given that this indicator has remained stable and, fortunately, very close to zero over the past several years, it has relatively little utility as a contextual indicator of child well-being. Accordingly, it has been dropped from the data book.

Low Birthweight Infants

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the percent of infants who weigh less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth. This figure includes term and pre-term infants. Data are combined across five-year periods to provide more stable rates. Infants born weighing less than 1,500 grams (three pounds, five ounces) are considered *very low birthweight*.

Significance

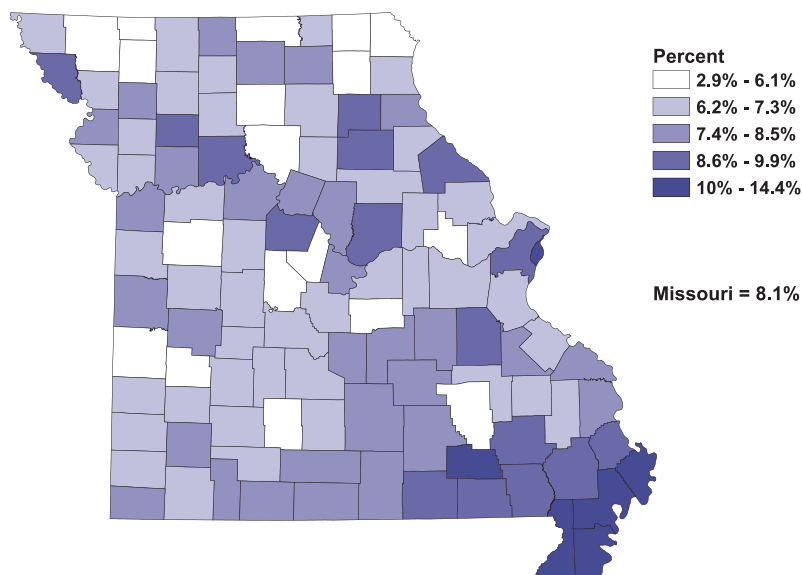
Infants born with low birthweights are at high risk for adverse outcomes and developmental problems throughout their lives. Compared to normal birthweight infants, they are more likely to have low oxygen levels at birth, problems maintain-

ing body temperature, difficulties feeding and gaining weight, infections, breathing and respiratory problems, gastrointestinal problems, and intellectual and neurological impairments, including cerebral palsy, blindness, deafness, and brain damage. It is also quite possible that infants born with a low birthweight may have a difficult time "catching up" in physical growth compared to normal birthweight peers. In general, the smaller the baby at birth, the higher his or her risk for complications.¹

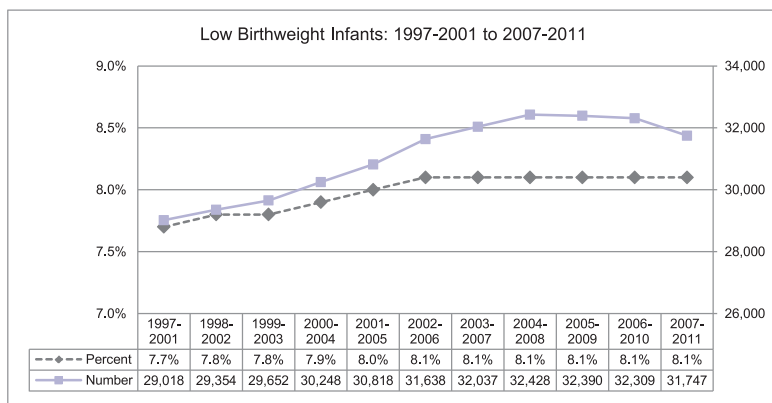
There are two main reasons why a baby may be born with a low birthweight: premature birth and fetal growth restriction. Growth-restricted babies may be born full-term, but are underweight because they did not grow well during pregnancy due to problems in the uterus, the mother's health, or birth defects. Premature birth occurs when a baby is born before 37 completed weeks of pregnancy. About 67% of low birthweight babies are premature.²

Early induction of labor and cesarean-section (c-section) delivery account for about 25% of preterm births nationally.³ Often these cases are due to pregnancy complications or health problems affecting the mother or fetus.

Percent Low Birthweight Infants by County, 2007-2011



Data Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA)
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013



Babies born with a low birthweight may have increased risk for certain chronic conditions in adulthood, including high blood pressure, adult-onset diabetes, and heart disease.⁴

State Findings

The percent of low birthweight infants has been quite stable over the past several years. It was 8.1% during the five-year period from 2002-2006 and has remained unchanged for all five-year periods through the most recent one, 2007-2011. Between 2007 and 2011, 31,746 low birthweight infants were born in Missouri.

In 2011, 76,069 live births occurred in Missouri; 6,015 infants (7.9%) were low birthweight. The low birthweight rate differs considerably by minority status. In 2011, for minority infants the rate was 12.1%, whereas the rate for nonminority infants was 6.7%.

County Findings

Between 2007 and 2011, the counties with the highest rates of low birthweight infants (all over 10%) were Pemiscot, New Madrid, Mississippi, St. Louis City, Dunklin, and Carter.

During the same time period, the counties with the lowest rates, all below 6%, were Worth, Gentry, Cedar, Scotland, Chariton, Maries,

Reynolds, Webster, Vernon, and Putnam.

Infant Mortality

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of infants who die before their first birthday. The rate is expressed as deaths per 1,000 live births. The data are combined over five-year periods to provide more stable rates.

Significance

Infant mortality has long been an indicator of the health of a community, state, and nation because of its association with such factors as maternal health, quality and access to medical care, socioeconomic conditions, and public health practices. Nationally, the leading causes of infant death are congenital malformations (physical defects present at birth), disorders related to short gestation or low birthweight, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).⁵

The U.S. infant mortality rate was 6.1 in 2011.⁶ However, this rate differs greatly by race and ethnicity. In 2011, the group with the highest rate was African American infants

(11.4), followed by Hispanic infants (5.3), and White infants (5.1).⁷

The infant mortality rate goes beyond health considerations to encompass economic and safety issues as well. Infants are more likely to die before their first birthday if they live in unsafe homes and neighborhoods or have inadequate nutrition, health care, or supervision.

State Findings

The infant mortality rate in Missouri has slowly and steadily decreased over the past five years from a rate of 7.7 deaths per 1,000 children younger than one year of age during 2002-2006 to 6.9 deaths per 1,000 children during the period 2007-2011.

Based on the *Missouri Child Fatality Review Program Annual Report* for 2011, 539 infants under the age of one died in Missouri. Of these, 423 infant deaths were due to illness/natural causes (not including SIDS). Prematurity accounted for 59% of all illness/natural-cause deaths, and congenital anomalies accounted for 20%. Of the deaths due to illness/natural causes, 61% occurred within the first two days of life. Other primary causes of infant death, and the number associated with them,

include: SIDS, 9; unintentional suffocation, 73; and child abuse, 7. Nineteen cases were classified as undetermined.

County Findings

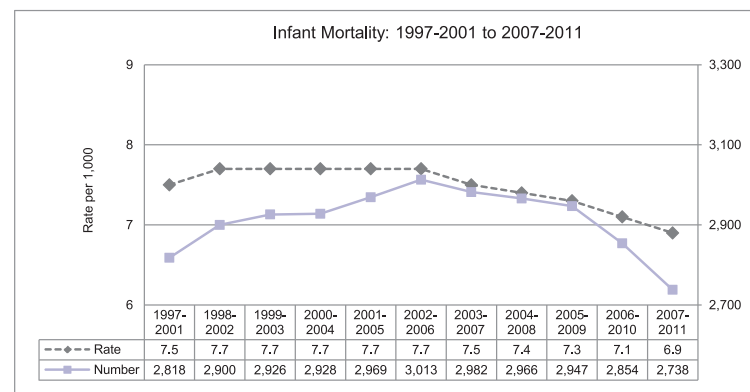
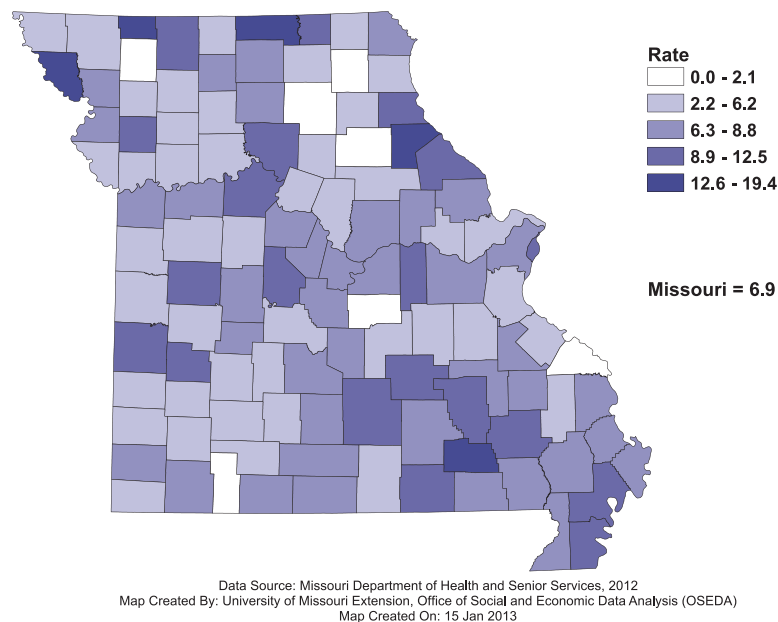
Gentry, Knox, Maries, and Monroe counties had the lowest infant mortality rate between 2007 and 2011, with no infant deaths. The counties with the highest infant mortality rates during the same period were Worth, Putnam, Carter, Ralls, Holt, and Texas. These counties had rates of 12.5 or higher. However, because of the extremely low number of deaths in most counties, even over a five-year period, county infant mortality rates should be interpreted with caution—particularly in low-population areas with relatively few infant births.

Children Enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the average monthly percentage of children under age 18 who have applied for and been certified as eligible for participation in MO HealthNet for Kids.

Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births by County, 2007-2011



Significance

MO HealthNet is Missouri’s health coverage program for citizens with low incomes. The program provides coverage for eligible individuals who do not have access to private health care coverage and generally covers eligible elderly and disabled individuals, low-income families, pregnant women, and children. MO HealthNet for Kids provides health care coverage for children under 18 years of age, regardless of insurance

uninsured children with gross family incomes up to 300 percent of the federal poverty threshold. Children must be uninsured for six months before becoming eligible and cannot have family assets with a net worth over \$250,000. To be eligible, children in families with incomes over 150% of the federal poverty threshold cannot already have access to “affordable health insurance” as determined based on family size and income. Families must also pay monthly premiums based on family

MO HealthNet for Kids Eligibility Information ⁸	
Covered Populations	Income Guidelines
Children (non-SCHIP)	
Up to age 1	< 185% of federal poverty threshold
Ages 1 to 5	< 133% of federal poverty threshold
Ages 6 to 18	< 100% of federal poverty threshold
Children (SCHIP)	< 300% of federal poverty threshold

status, whose family income falls within certain guidelines.

Additionally, uninsured children whose families’ income is over the limits shown in the table, and whose monthly gross family income is under 150% of the federal poverty threshold, are also eligible.

The State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) covers

size and income. Premiums range from one to five percent of family income.

Disabled children, children in the care and custody of the Missouri Children’s Division (including foster care and adoptive homes), and children in the custody of the Division of Youth Services or a juvenile court are also covered by MO HealthNet.

Newborns are automatically eligible for assistance if their mother is receiving a federally matched category of assistance at the time of birth.

State Findings

In Missouri, 37.5% of children (approximately 530,000) were enrolled in MO HealthNet in 2011, an increase of 0.6 percentage points over the 2010 figure of 36.9%. This figure has been increasing since 2007, when it was 33.0%.

County Findings

In 2011, the counties with the highest percentage of children enrolled in MO HealthNet (all above 60%) were St. Louis City, Pemiscot, Ripley, Douglas, Mississippi, Dunklin, and Oregon. The counties with the lowest percentage in 2011, all below 24%, were St. Charles, Andrew, Platte, Osage, Nodaway, and Clay.

Children Receiving Public SED Mental Health Services

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of children receiving mental health services for serious emotional dis-

orders (SED) through the Missouri Department of Mental Health. The Missouri Department of Mental Health defines SED as any emotional, behavioral, or mental disorder that requires multiple services; severely disrupts daily functioning in the home, school, or community; and has either been present for one year, or is expected to last a year or more.

Significance

Children and adolescents are susceptible to many of the same mental illnesses that afflict adults. Half of all lifetime cases of mental illness begin by age 14.⁹ Scientists are discovering that changes in the body and brain leading to mental illness may start much earlier, before any symptoms appear. Through greater understanding of when and how quickly specific areas of children’s brains develop, researchers are learning more about the early stages of a wide range of mental illnesses that appear later in life. Helping children and their parents manage difficulties early in life may prevent the development of many disorders. Once mental illness develops, it becomes a regular part of a child’s behavior and more difficult to treat. Even though we know how to treat—though not yet cure—many

disorders, many children with mental illnesses are not getting treatment. Without treatment, these children will be at risk for falling behind in other domains of development, thereby decreasing the likelihood that they will become happy, stable, productive adults.

Young people are especially at risk of depression, obsessive-compulsive behaviors, phobias, and substance abuse. Behavior disorders are another kind of mental disability that appear in childhood and adolescence. As many as one in five Missouri children may have a behavior disorder, ranging from barely noticeable to disruptive to their education, development, and family life.¹⁰

The causes of mental illness are varied, but most are caused by imbalances in the brain's chemistry, by injury to the head and brain, or by emotional trauma. Some mental illnesses are more prevalent in some families, suggesting a genetic link.

State Findings

Due to recent administrative changes in how these services are tracked within the divisions of mental health, it is difficult to compare numbers across years. In 2011, 26,755 children received

mental health services for SED through the Missouri Department of Mental Health, an increase from the 2007 figure of 17,127. This increase is mostly due to the aforementioned changes in how services were tracked. In 2011, the majority of services (68%) of services were provided to children under 15.

County Findings

In 2011, the counties with the highest number of children receiving mental health services were also among the most populous in Missouri. These counties were Jackson, St. Louis, St. Louis City, St. Charles, Greene, Jasper, Jefferson, Buchanan, Clay, and Boone. Together, these counties accounted for 54% of cases involving children receiving services for SED. The counties with the fewest children receiving services for SED, all with fewer than 16 cases, were Reynolds, Hickory, Holt, Knox, Howard, Ozark, and Putnam.



¹ March of Dimes. (2008). *Medical resources: Low birthweight*. Retrieved January 23, 2013, from http://www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/medicalresources_low-birthweight.html

² *Ibid.*

³ March of Dimes. (2010). *Your premature baby*. Retrieved January 28, 2013, from http://www.marchofdimes.com/baby/premature_in-depth.html#

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Matthews, T. & MacDorman, M. (2011). Infant Mortality Statistics from 2007 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Sets. *National Vital Statistics Reports*, 59, no. 6. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved February 4, 2013, from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr59/nvsr59_06.pdf

⁶ Hoyert, D., Xu, J. (2012) Deaths: Preliminary Data for 2011. *National Vital Statistics Reports*, 61, no 6. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved January 31, 2013, from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/deaths.htm>

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division. (2008). *MO HealthNet for kids*. Retrieved February 4, 2013, from <http://www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/mchild.htm>

⁹ National Institute of Mental Health. (2009). *Treatment of children with mental illness*. Retrieved February 4, 2013, from <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/treatment-of-children-with-mental-illness-fact-sheet/nimh-treatment-children-mental-illness-faq.pdf>

¹⁰ Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services. (n.d.). *Childhood mental illnesses*. Retrieved February 4, 2013, from <http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/mentalillness/childmentalillness.pdf>





PERSPECTIVE:
*child protection
and safety*

PERSPECTIVE: child protection and safety

Child safety is another aspect of child well-being. Injuries, both intentional and unintentional, are the leading cause of death for children between the ages of 5 and 14.¹ Most injuries and injury-related deaths can be prevented through proven interventions that include education, environmental or product modification (car seats, bicycle helmets, smoke detectors), and better enforcement of legislation or regulations related to child safety.² Intentional injuries occur when there is intent to harm. They include injuries that occur as a result of violence, abuse, or neglect. Strategies for preventing these types of injuries are different from the strategies employed to prevent unintentional injuries, and they are not as well understood.³

Childhood maltreatment can adversely affect development, health, and well-being in the short and long term. Abused children are at higher risk of mental health disorders and more likely to engage in risk-taking behavior throughout childhood, adolescence, and adulthood.⁴

KIDS COUNT tracks four outcomes directly related to children's protection and safety:

- Child death, ages 1-14
- Child abuse and neglect
- Out-of-home placement entries
- Violent teen deaths, ages 15-19

Child Deaths, Ages 1-14

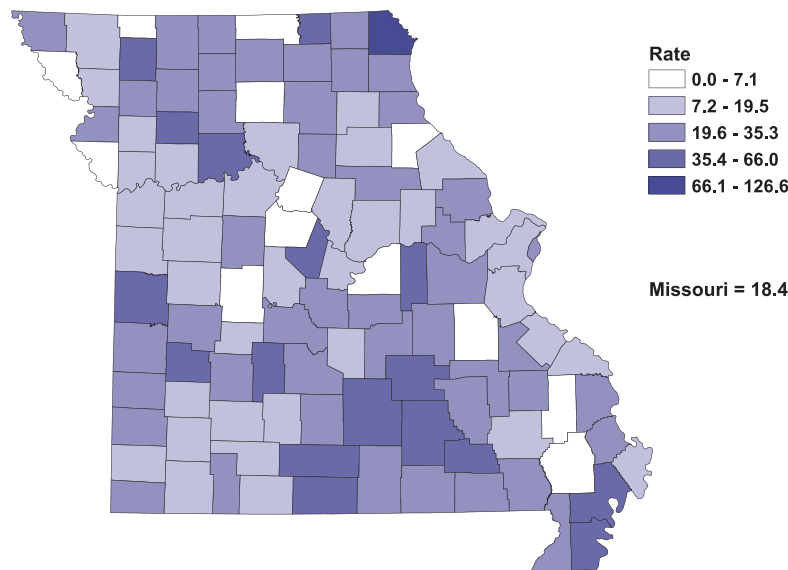
Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of deaths of children ages 1 through 14 from all causes. The rate is expressed per 100,000 children of that age group. Data were combined over five-year periods in order to provide more stable rates.

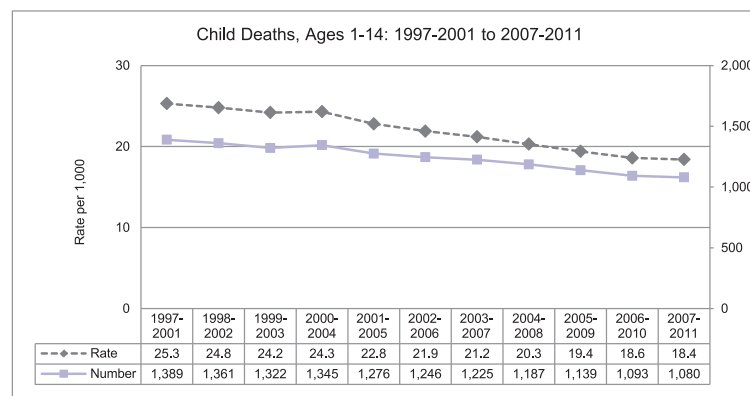
Significance

As with infant mortality, the child death rate is a significant indicator of child well-being. Although mortality rates drop sharply after the first year of life, children are still at risk from a number of health and environmental factors. This outcome reflects physical health conditions, the amount of adult supervision, and the prevalence of risks that children face every day in their homes and communities. For this age group (1-14), accidents

Child Deaths Ages 1-14 per 100,000 by County, 2007-2011



Data Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA)
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013



are the leading cause of death, with automobile accidents accounting for 31% of deaths in 2009.⁵

State Findings

For the current five-year period of 2007-2011, the child death rate was 18.4, a decline from the figure of 21.9 for 2002-2006. For the 2007-2011 period, 1,080 child deaths occurred in Missouri.

County Findings

Because of the extremely small number of deaths in most counties, even over a five-year period, this measure is not used to calculate the composite county rank. County rates should be interpreted with caution.

Between 2007-2011, nine Missouri counties experienced no child deaths: Bollinger, Holt, Howard, Linn, Putnam, Ralls, Stoddard, and Worth. The counties with the highest rates of child death during the same period, all above 50 deaths per 100,000 children, were Clark, Carter, Gentry, Carroll, Dent, and Cedar.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Definition

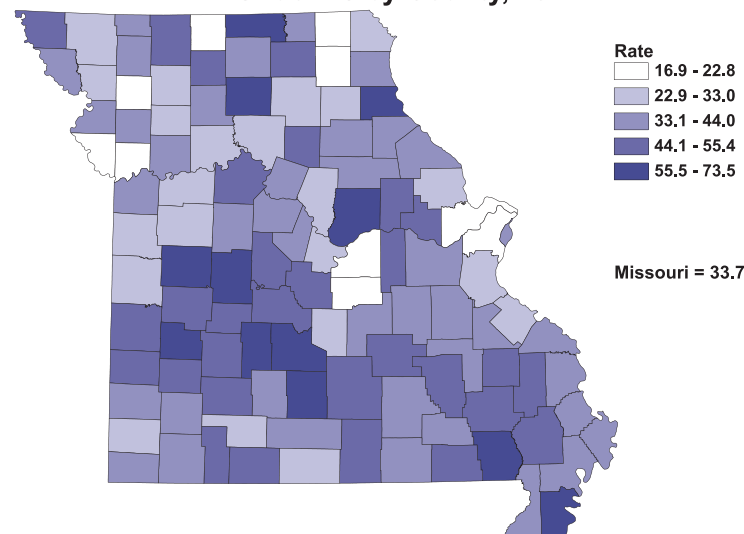
KIDS COUNT tracks the number of child abuse victims from reports classified as “preponderance of evidence” that indicates child abuse or neglect has occurred. In addition, this outcome includes the number of child abuse victims that receive family assessments. The rate is expressed per 1,000 children.

Significance

This indicator provides information about the scale of neglectful family environments in a given geographic region. In the United States, about 680,000 children were determined to be victims of child abuse and neglect during 2011.⁶ However, the true incidence of maltreatment is estimated to be up to three times higher. Children who are abused and/or neglected are more likely to experience negative outcomes throughout their lives in a number of areas:

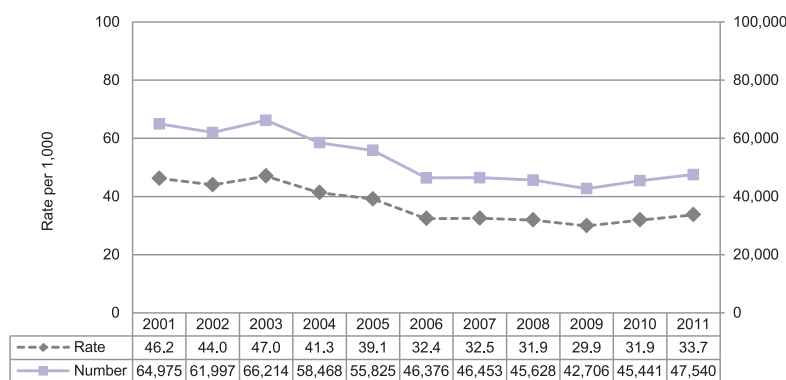
- poor physical health (e.g., hypertension, chronic fatigue, obesity, sexually transmitted diseases)

Child Abuse/Neglect and Family Assessments per 1,000 Under 18 by County, 2011



Data Source: Missouri Department of Social Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDa)
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013

Child Abuse and Neglect Assessments: 2001-2011



- poor emotional and mental health (e.g., depression, anxiety, eating disorders, suicidal ideation, post-traumatic stress disorder)
- social difficulties (e.g., inability to trust others, inability to appropriately communicate needs and wants)
- behavioral problems (e.g., aggression and/or abusive and violent behavior, juvenile delinquency, adult criminal behaviors)
- cognitive problems that lead to poor academic achievement (e.g., deficits in attention, abstract reasoning, language development, problem-solving skills)
- high-risk behaviors (e.g., higher number of lifetime sexual partners, teen pregnancy, alcohol and substance use)⁷

Children who are at highest risk for abuse and neglect often live in families with parents who were abused as children, suffer from mental disorders, have a history of criminal activity, and/or have a substance use problem. Adults who abuse children often have poor

coping or problem-solving skills, and are socially isolated. Many are experiencing external stress, such as marital discord, work instability, or poor living conditions. Parental education levels, particularly maternal education, are also linked to child abuse and neglect. In addition to poverty and other socioeconomic disadvantages, family disorganization, dissolution, or a lack of family cohesion can also contribute to child abuse and neglect. When parents do not understand child development or the needs of children, they are more likely to abuse or neglect. In addition, there is a high risk of abuse for children living in families who experience domestic violence or violence in their communities.⁸ Young children and children with disabilities are more likely to be abused or neglected, and their parents are often the perpetrators.

State Findings

In 2011, the child abuse and neglect rate was 33.7 (per 1,000 children). This is a slight increase from the 2007 rate of 32.5.

In 2011, the Children's Division (Missouri Department of Social Services) received 47,540 reports of child abuse and neglect, involving 90,709 children. Of these, 4,294

reports (6,092 children) were substantiated, meaning child abuse or neglect had occurred, while 27,701 reports (41,448 children) resulted in a family assessment. A family assessment takes the place of a traditional investigation and requires a prompt assessment of a child believed to be a victim and his or her family. Of the 27,701 reports resulting in a family assessment, 3,883 were identified as needing services from the Children's Division.

The Children's Division provides information on the types of abuse for substantiated reports, but since a report may represent more than one type of abuse, the following numbers do not add up to 4,294. Of the substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect in 2011, 1,411 were classified as physical abuse; 2,066 as neglect; 1,191 as sexual maltreatment; 154 as emotional maltreatment; 154 as medical neglect; and 57 as educational neglect.

In 2011, there were 29 child abuse or neglect fatalities in Missouri, a decrease from the 46 deaths in 2007.

County Findings

All county rates should be interpreted with caution because reporting practices differ between counties. In

2011, the counties with the lowest rates of child abuse and neglect—all less than 20.0 per 1,000 children—were Platte, Scotland, St. Charles, St. Louis, and Mercer. Nine counties had rates above 60.0 per 1,000 children: Pemiscot, Henry, Laclede, Cedar, Linn, Butler, Marion, Wright, and Putnam.

Out-of-Home Placement Entries

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of entries into the Missouri Children's Division alternative care, including foster care, group homes, kinship/relative care, and residential settings. The rate is expressed per 1,000 children. The Children's Division defines out-of-home placement as out-of-home care that is provided in situations where parents are incapable of providing children with adequate social, emotional, and physical care. Out-of-home is defined as care provided in licensed foster or approved relative family homes, licensed residential facilities, or licensed group homes. The service provides substitute settings for children. Children are placed

only after it is determined that they cannot remain at home.

Significance

This indicator is as a reflection of the number of children whose lives are significantly disrupted due to a harmful situation in their homes, thus providing information on the severity of neglectful family environments for children. Many of the children who are removed from their homes are experiencing profound abuse, neglect, or disruption. These children are considered to be at risk for adverse outcomes.

Children need to live in stable, safe and permanent homes and communities in order to develop their full potential. If a child is residing in an unsafe home or experiencing abuse or neglect, he or she may need to be removed from the home and placed in a new, stable environment. Once a child is placed in a new setting, the state must continue to monitor his or her safety, health, and overall well-being.

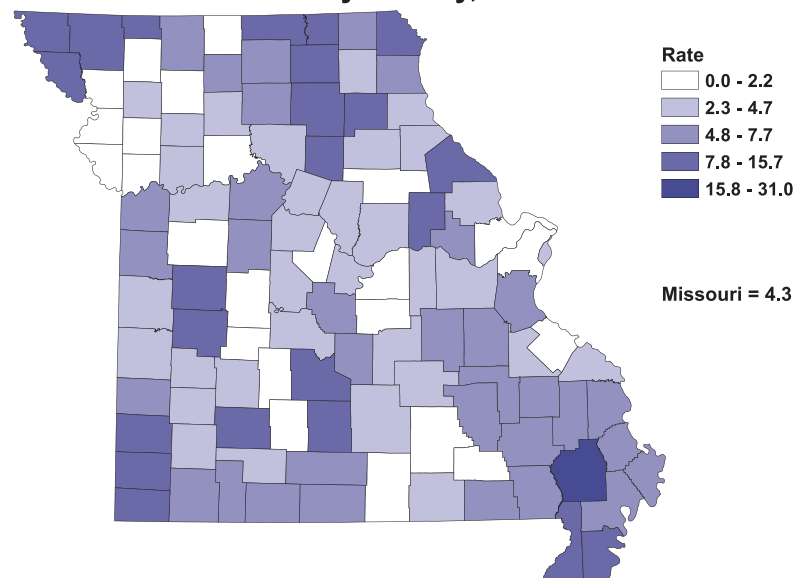
Unfortunately, when children are removed from their homes, they often lose contact with other family members and friends, go through multiple placements, and have overlooked physical health, men-

tal health, and educational needs. Long-term out-of-home placements can have negative consequences for children, even into adulthood. Children in foster care may not have the necessary supports to help them develop into self-sufficient adults.

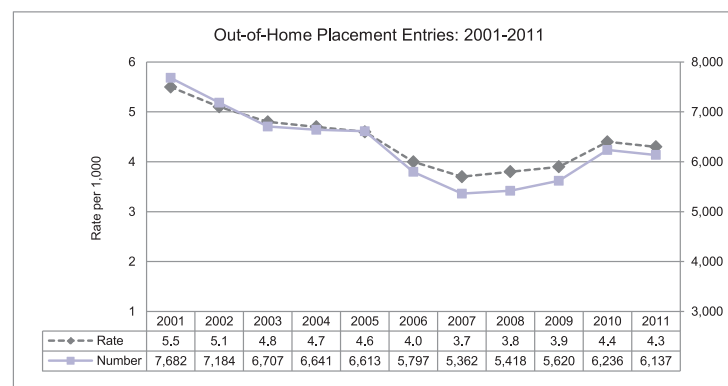
Children who are placed in kinship/relative care (non-parental family members raising children to whom they are related) experience more stability than children in other forms of foster care.⁹

- Children in kinship care suffer fewer changes in placement than do non-kinship care foster children.
- Sixty-three percent of children in kinship foster care are forced to change schools, a number that is far too high but compares favorably to the far higher rates for children residing in group homes (93%) and in non-kinship foster care (80%).

Out-of-Home Placements per 1,000 Children Under 18 by County, 2011



Data Source: Missouri Department of Social Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA)
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013



- Children in kinship care are more likely to live with their siblings, which research has shown to be beneficial both emotionally and psychologically for foster children.
- Children in kinship care have greater positive perceptions of their placements, and as a result, have fewer behavioral problems.

State Findings

In 2011, the out-of-home placement rate was 4.3 (per 1,000 children), an increase from the 3.7 rate for 2007. There were 6,137 out-of-home placement entries in 2011.

County Findings

In 2011, five counties had no out-of-home placement entries: Andrew, Carroll, Carter, Mercer, and Shannon. The counties with the highest rates, all above 10.0 per 1,000 children, were Stoddard, Atchison, Clark, Henry, Newton, Nodaway, Dunklin, Holt, Shelby, and Montgomery.

Violent Teen Deaths, Ages 15-19

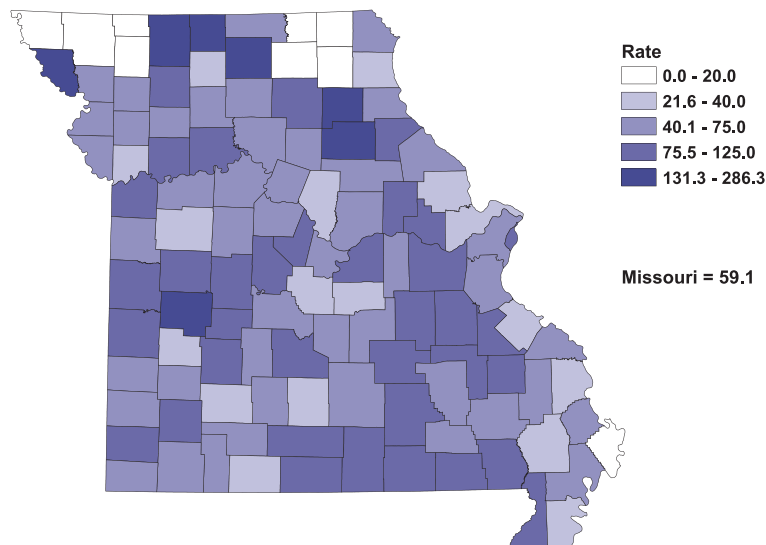
Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of deaths of teens ages 15 to 19 from homicides, suicides, motor vehicle crashes, and other accidents. The rate is expressed per 100,000 teens of that age group. Data are combined over five-year periods to provide more stable rates.

Significance

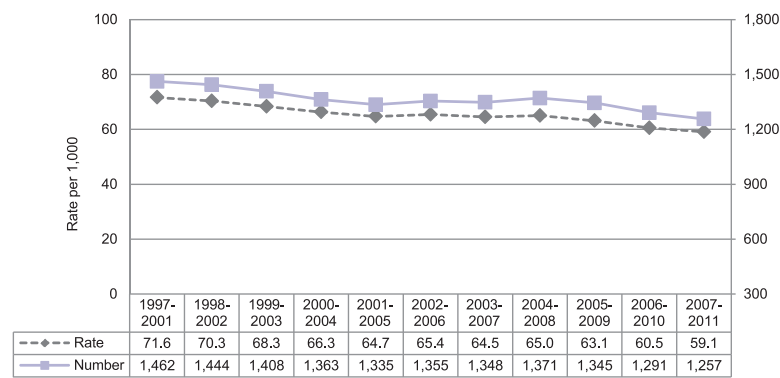
The overall rates of injury and death increase dramatically from childhood to late adolescence, due to developmental and social factors such as increasing independence and less time spent without adult supervision.¹⁰ Biology also plays a role. The maturation of brain networks responsible for self-regulation does not typically occur until late adolescence or early adulthood, making teens more likely to engage in risk-taking behaviors.¹¹ Nationally, the three leading causes of teen deaths are motor vehicle accidents, homicides, and suicides, all of which are preventable.¹² For example, young drivers ages 16-24 are more likely to use cell phones for texting or calling when driving, which dramatically increases their risk of crashing.¹³

Violent Deaths per 100,000 Teens Ages 15-19 by County, 2007-2011



Data Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED)A
Map Created On: 16 Jan 2013

Violent Teen Deaths, Ages 15-19: 1997-2001 to 2007-2011



State Findings

For the years 2007-2011, 1,257 teens ages 15 to 19 died in Missouri. For those years, the rate of teen violent death was 59.1 per 100,000 teens ages 15 to 19. This is a decrease from 65.4 for the 2002-2006 period.

County Findings

Because of the extremely small number of deaths in most counties, even over a five-year period, this measure is not used to calculate the composite county rank. County rates should be interpreted with caution. However, seven Missouri counties experienced no violent teen deaths of those 15 to 19 years old during the 2007-2011 time period: Atchison, Gentry, Knox, Mississippi, Schuyler, Scotland, and Worth. The counties with the highest violent teen death rate, all over 130 per 100,000 teen ages 15 to 19, were Holt, Mercer, Harrison, Shelby, Sullivan, St. Clair, and Monroe.

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¹ ChildStats.gov. (2012). *America's children: Key national indicators of well-being, 2012*. Retrieved January 14, 2013, from <http://www.childstats.gov/americaschildren/phenviro7.asp>

² Packard Foundation. (2000). Unintentional injuries in childhood: Analysis and Recommendations. *Future of Children*, 10(1), 4-22.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health. (2009). History of childhood maltreatment linked to higher rates of unemployment, poverty. Retrieved February 1, 2013, from <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2009/history-of-childhood-maltreatment-linked-to-higher-rates-of-unemployment-poverty.shtml>

⁵ The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2012). *2012 Kids Count Data Book*. Retrieved January 29, 2013, from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/2012/OnlineBooks/KidsCounty-2012DatBookFullReport.pdf>

⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Admin-

istration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2012). *Child maltreatment 2011*. Retrieved January 25, 2013, from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm11.pdf>

⁷ Wang, C. T., & Holton, J. (2007). *Total estimated cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States*. Chicago: Prevent Child Abuse America. Retrieved February 1, 2013, from http://www.preventchildabuse.org/about_us/media_releases/pcaa_pew_economic_impact_study_final.pdf

⁸ Promising Practices Network. (2010). *Promising practices for preventing child abuse and neglect* (Issue Brief). Santa Monica, CA: Author. Retrieved February 1, 2013, from http://www.promisingpractices.net/briefs/briefs_childabuse.asp?ref=ppntext

⁹ Conway, T., & Hutson, R. Q. (2007). *Is kinship care good for kids?* Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy. Retrieved February 1, 2013, from <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/0347.pdf>

¹⁰ Schwarz, S. W. (2009, October). *Adolescent violence and unintentional injury in the United States*. New York: National Center for Children in Poverty. Retrieved February 1, 2013, from http://nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_890.pdf

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2012). *2012 Kids Count Data Book*. Retrieved January 29, 2013, from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/2012/OnlineBooks/KIDSCOUNT2012DatBookFullReport.pdf>

¹³ Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. (2011, March). *Cellphones, texting, and driving*. Retrieved, March 11, 2011, from <http://www.iihs.org/research/qanda/cellphones.aspx>





PERSPECTIVE:
education

PERSPECTIVE: education

Early childhood, elementary, and secondary education provide the foundation for children's future success in our society. Preparing children for school, maximizing their development and achievement in all arenas, and ensuring that they stay in school are key goals to helping all Missouri children have the chance to be productive adults. For Missouri to be a significant economic competitor in the future, the state will need a highly educated and skilled workforce. Two-thirds of the new jobs created in the United States require some education or training beyond high school,¹ yet 13% of high school students nationally fail to earn a high school diploma.² For Hispanic and African American students the percentage is higher: 37% of Hispanics and 16% of African Americans fail to earn a high school diploma.³ Clearly, improvement needs to be made in our education pipeline in order to ensure that Missouri cultivates a workforce that has the skills to be productive in the future.

From economists to military generals, early childhood education has been touted as one of the most logical and cost-effective ways to address problems in the education pipeline. High quality

early learning experiences provide the building blocks for children's school readiness. However, children do not develop school readiness skills in isolation. Other important factors—such as the physical and mental health of children and their parents, family economic risk, family structure, home environment, parenting choices, and community and neighborhood characteristics—play key roles in the extent to which children are ready for school, as well as schools being ready for children.

Research has demonstrated the positive impact of good preschool programs on children's future academic success. Compared to peers who did not participate in early education programs, children who attend high quality preschools are:

- more likely to have better grades
- less likely to repeat grades
- less likely to need special education classes
- more likely to graduate high school and enroll in college.⁴

The effects of quality preschools extend beyond academics. Compared

to peers who did not participate in early education programs, children who attend high quality preschools are also:

- less likely to engage in criminal behavior throughout life
- more likely to be employed
- more likely to have higher earnings
- less likely to depend on public assistance
- less likely to become teenage parents.⁵

Approximately two-thirds of Missouri's children under 6 spend a portion of their day in the care of someone other than their parents. Unfortunately, many young Missouri children do not have access to, or cannot afford, the kind of high quality preschool programs that are needed to make a difference in their lives. Missouri should make access to publicly funded, high quality preschool programs an educational priority.

Adolescence is another crucial developmental period in a child's life. There are several key develop-

mental benchmarks that must be met to ensure a successful transition to productive adulthood, ranging from the most basic—surviving the teen years and avoiding criminal activity—to milestones required for higher level functioning in the adult world, such as succeeding in school and delaying starting a family and childrearing responsibilities. Recent advances in understanding how adolescent brains develop demonstrate that teens do not have all the neural structures in place for appropriate self-regulation. This, of course, explains why teens often act in ways that seem obviously impulsive, irrational, or dangerous. In addition, as discussed above in the context of early childhood, there are other factors besides personal ones that come into play when examining adolescents' well-being, including the influence of parents, peers, family economics, home environment, and community and neighborhood characteristics.

KIDS COUNT tracks two outcomes related to educational success:

- Annual high school dropouts
- Births to teens, ages 15-19

In addition, five other education-related indicators are reported:

- Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17 (per 1,000)
- Children with limited English proficiency
- Children receiving subsidized child care
- Licensed child care capacity
- Accredited child care facilities

In comparison to the base years, the educational outlook for Missouri children is positive. One of the most important outcomes, annual high school dropouts, decreased from 2007 to 2011, from 3.6% to 3.5%. Another positive trend is the 22% decrease in birth to teens ages 5-19 between 2007 and 2011. Juvenile law referrals also decreased over 19% from 2007 to 2011. On the early childhood education front, the findings are mostly positive. The licensed child care capacity rate per 1,000 children increased 7.8% from 2007 to 2012, and the number of accredited child care facilities increased by 7.4% during the same time period. The rate of children receiving subsidized care, per 1,000

poor children, increased 8.3% from 2007 to 2011, an indication of the worsening economic circumstances felt during the downturn. Finally, as would be expected in our state as it becomes more demographically and culturally diverse, the number of children who have limited English proficiency increased by a robust 13.5% from 2007 to 2011.

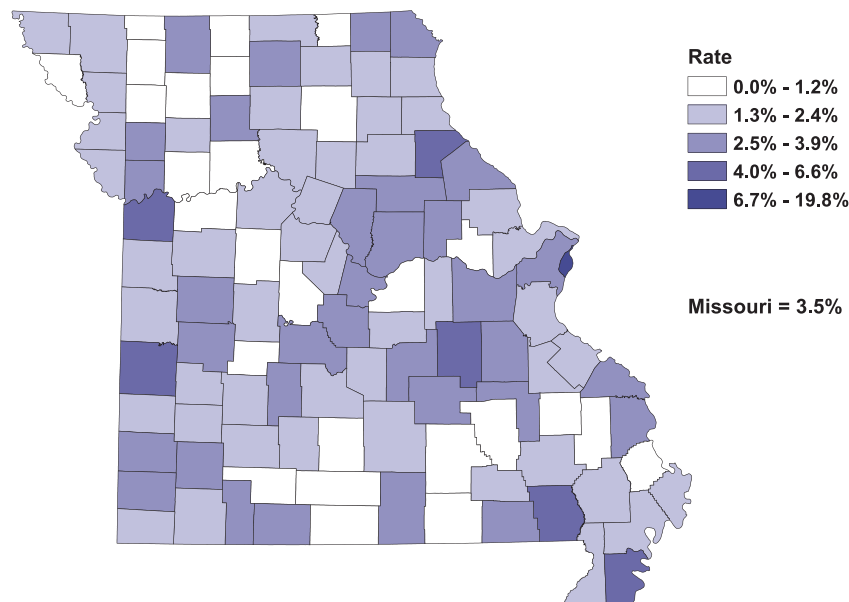
Annual High School Dropouts

Definition

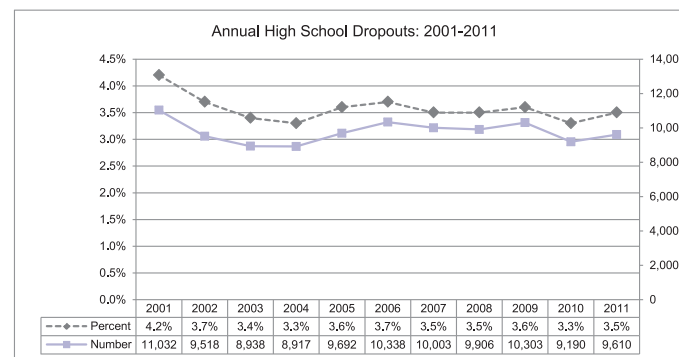
KIDS COUNT tracks the number of students enrolled in public high schools who left school during the school year without graduating. The rate is expressed as a percent of enrolled students. The formula used to calculate the rate accounts for transfers in and out of a school district. However, it does not include students who drop out of school but eventually earn their General Education Development (GED) certificates. The years indicated are school years; for example, 2011 refers to the 2010-2011 school year.

It is important to note that school district superintendents provide dropout information to Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Criteria for

Annual High School Dropout Rate by County, 2011



Source: Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED)A
Map Created On: 15 Jan 2013



how dropout data are calculated and entered may differ from district to district. Dropout data may also be changed for up to 10 years. This means that the dropout rates reported this year may not match data presented in earlier years.

Significance

When students drop out of high school, they face many challenges that hinder their abilities to become successful and productive adults. In 2011, the mean annual income for a high school dropout in the U.S. was \$21,107 whereas the mean income for a high school graduate was \$32,493.⁶ Youth who leave high school without receiving a diploma are more likely to be unemployed, receive public assistance, and be incarcerated as adults.⁷ In addition, high school dropouts are more likely to be single parents and to have children who also do not complete high school.⁸

Research shows that over their working lives, the average high school dropout will have a negative net fiscal contribution to society of nearly -\$5,200, while the average high school graduate generates a positive lifetime contribution of

\$287,000. Relative to an average person who graduates high school, the average high school dropout will cost taxpayers over \$292,000 in lower tax revenues, higher cash and in-kind transfer costs, and more incarceration costs.⁹ Addressing the dropout problem can help support long-term economic growth within a state.

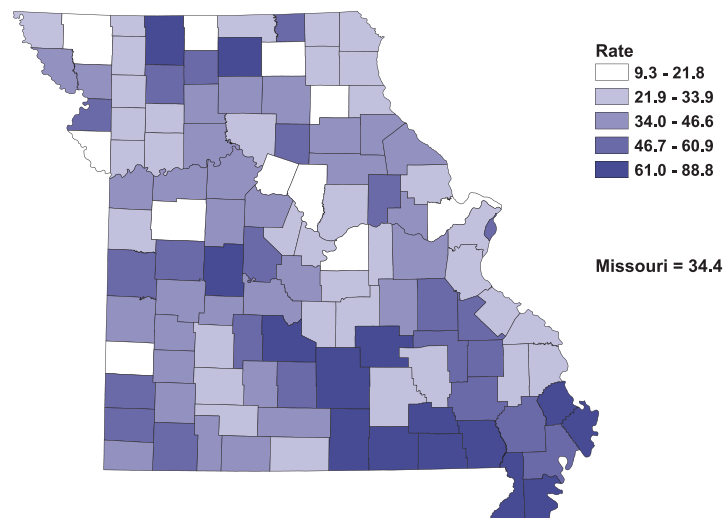
State Findings

For the 2010-11 school year, Missouri's high school dropout rate was 3.5%, which is the same as last year's rate, and is slightly lower than the 2006-07 rate of 3.6%. This year's figure represented 9,610 students dropping out of school. The dropout rate bottomed out at 3.3% in 2004.

County Findings

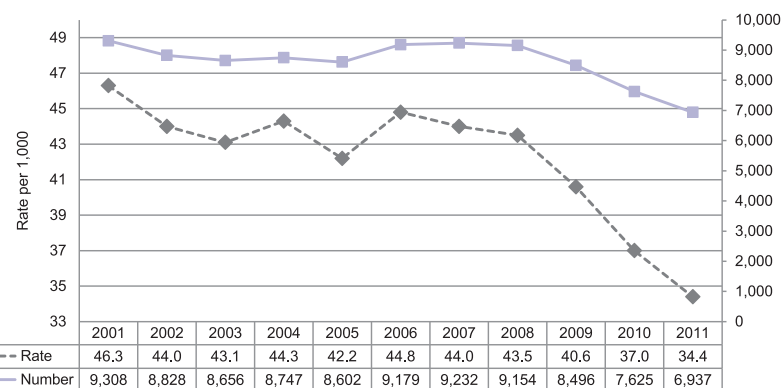
Seven counties had dropout rates of less than 0.5% in 2010-11: Mercer, Shannon, Worth, Morgan, Carroll, Douglas, and Oregon. Conversely, almost one in five (19.8%) of enrolled high school students in St. Louis City dropped out in 2010-11, by far the highest in the state. Other counties that had dropout rates of 4% or greater were Butler, Jackson, Vernon, Ralls, Crawford, and Pemiscot.

Births to Teens Ages 15-19 per 1,000 Females by County, 2011



Data Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 2012
Map Created By: University of Missouri Extension, Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED)
Map Created On: 16 Jan 2013

Births to Teens, Ages 15-19: 2001-2011



Births to Teens, Ages 15-19

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of live births to teen girls ages 15 to 19. The rate is expressed per 1,000 females of that age group.

Significance

Giving birth as a teen presents social, economic, and health risks for both the mother and baby. Teen mothers are more likely than other young women to drop out of school, remain unmarried and become single parents, and live in poverty and rely on public assistance.¹⁰ The children of teen mothers also face adverse consequences since teen mothers are less likely to have the necessary financial resources, social supports, and parenting skills to ensure health child development. Research has shown that, compared to children born to older mothers, children born to teen mothers are more likely to:

- be classified as low birthweight
- be premature
- suffer abuse and neglect

- have lower language and math skills
- have less general knowledge
- show deficits in social and emotional skills
- experience more problems in physical well-being and motor development
- drop out of high school
- become teen parents as well
- spend time in prison^{11, 12, 13}

Although figures have been declining, the United States still has the highest rate of teen births among comparable countries. In fact, the U.S. rate (41.0 per 1,000) is significantly higher than the rates in the United Kingdom (26.7 per 1,000) and in Canada (14.1 per 1,000).¹⁴

State Findings

The rate of births to teen mothers decreased sharply in recent years, from 44.0 births per 1,000 teen girls in 2007 to 34.4 births per 1,000 teenagers in 2011.

County Findings

Nine counties had teen birth rates less than 20.0 (per 1,000 teen girls ages 15-19) in 2011: Osage, Nodaway, Adair, St. Charles, Boone, Platte, Shelby, Mercer, and Johnson. High teen birth rates (above 70.0 per 1,000 teen girls ages 15-19) were found in Mississippi, Pemiscot, Dunklin, Harrison, and Ripley.

Juvenile Law Violation Referrals, Ages 10-17 (per 1,000)

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of referrals to one of the 45 juvenile courts in Missouri for acts that would be violations of the Missouri Criminal Code if committed by an adult.

Significance

Antisocial behavior may be a normal part of growing up—or the beginning of a long-term pattern of adult criminal activity. Many young people commit some kind of petty offense at some point during their adolescence and yet do not become adult criminals. However, studies have shown that about half the

adolescents who had juvenile justice records went on to become adults with felony records.^{15, 16, 17}

Because the brain networks responsible for self-regulation are continuing to develop in adolescence, teenagers are less likely to think about future consequences of their present actions, more likely to take great risks, to make impulsive decisions, and to be vulnerable to coercion by peers.¹⁸ In addition, other familial and societal factors also play direct and indirect roles, including poverty, family instability, family conflict and violence, poor parental supervision, and gang membership.¹⁹

State Findings

The rate of juvenile law violation referrals for youth ages 10 to 17 has declined from 54.6 per 1,000 in 2007 to 44.3 per 1,000 in 2011. There were 28,292 juvenile law referrals in 2011. This number represents separately disposed court referrals, not individual youths.

In 2011, minority youth comprised 36.5% of the referrals, whereas non-minority youth accounted for 63.5%. Minority youths continue to have a disproportionate involvement with the juvenile justice system.

County Findings

In 2011, the counties with the lowest juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10 to 17, per 1,000, were Chariton, Wayne, Scotland, Osage, Pemiscot, Mercer, Ozark, Knox, and Worth. These counties all had rates below 13.0 per 1,000 youth. The counties with the highest rates in 2011 (all above 70.0 per 1,000 youths) were Mississippi, Vernon, Barton, Randolph, Putnam, and Cedar.

Children with Limited English Proficiency

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of children enrolled in Missouri schools who have been defined as having limited English proficiency.

Significance

When children have difficulty speaking, reading, or otherwise communicating in English because of their home language, it can affect their abilities to succeed academically. However, because the source of these data are individual school districts, and because there are no absolute guidelines for identifying

such students, the number of students with limited English proficiency (LEP) are difficult to compare across time and across counties.

State Findings

The number of children enrolled in Missouri schools deemed to have limited English proficiency increased from 18,971 in 2007 to 21,539 in 2011.

County Findings

In 2011, the counties with the greatest number of children with limited English proficiency were part of the Kansas City and St. Louis metropolitan areas: Jackson, St. Louis, St. Louis City, and Clay counties. However, twenty-nine rural counties reported zero children with limited English proficiency. From 2007 to 2011, the counties that gained the most number of children with limited English proficiency were Jackson, Jasper, St. Louis, Greene, St. Charles, Barry, Pulaski, and Buchanan.

Licensed Child Care Capacity

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of spaces in licensed family child care

homes, group child care homes, and child care centers. Beginning with this year's data book, this indicator has been changed to a rate instead of a count. The rate is expressed per 1,000 children under 18. Licensed facilities must undergo regular fire, sanitation, and health inspections, as well as regular inspections by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Section for Child Care Regulation. Licensing requirements and regulations address the maximum child-to-staff ratio per age group and setting, caregiver training and educational requirements, caregiver age, what background checks are needed for caregivers and household members, how children may be disciplined, and food and nutrition requirements.

Significance

For child care programs, meeting licensure requirements is a first step toward providing quality care. However, licensure only addresses the basic needs and requirements for facilities that provide child care and is not a guarantee of high quality services. Licensed child care capacity, relative to the number of children needing child care in a community, is an important factor in determining whether families can find and

afford care for their children.

State Findings

In 2012, Missouri had 151,002 spaces available in licensed child care facilities, which results in a state rate of 106.9 spaces available per 1,000 children. This figure represents an increase from the 2007 figure of 99.2 spaces available per 1,000 children.

County Findings

In 2012, the counties with the highest rates of spaces available in licensed child care facilities, all above 150 per 1,000 children, were Pettis, St. Louis City, Pike, Cole, Boone, and Osage. The counties with the lowest rate of spaces available in 2012, all below 30 per 1,000 children, were Daviess, Caldwell, Ray, Reynolds, and Ralls.

Children Receiving Subsidized Child Care

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of children participating in one of the following subsidized child care programs: FUTURES, transitional, income maintenance/income eligible, at-risk, and child care and develop-

ment block grant. Beginning with this year's data book, this indicator has been changed to a rate instead of a count. The rate is expressed per 1,000 children under 18 in poverty.

Significance

State child care assistance is essential in providing reliable child care for children of low-income parents who would otherwise not be able to afford such care. Without assistance, many low-income families would be forced to go into debt, return to welfare, or chose lower quality child care arrangements. For center-based care, the average cost of full-time child care for an infant in Missouri is \$8,550; for a four-year-old in full-time center-based care, the average cost was \$5,950. For home-based care, the average cost of full-time child care for an infant in Missouri is \$5,500; for a four-year-old, the average cost was \$4,800.²⁰ These figures are nearly equal to tuition at state universities. The prohibitive cost of child care often forces families to make difficult decisions such as leaving a job to take care of children or enrolling their child in low-quality care that is not regulated by the state.

In 2011, eligibility for child care assistance was at 127% of the federal

poverty threshold, one of the lowest levels in the nation. In fact, Missouri ranks 48th in terms of supporting poor families with child care.²¹

State Findings

In 2011, 49,564 children received subsidized child care, which results in a state rate of 167.5 per 1,000 children in poverty. This rate is an increase from 2007, when the rate was 154.7.

County Findings

In 2011, the counties with the highest rates of child care subsidy participation, all above 200 per 1,000 children in poverty, were St. Louis City, St. Louis, Lafayette, St. Charles, Mississippi, and Scott. The counties with the lowest rate of child care subsidy participation in 2011, all below 15 per 1,000 children in poverty, were Worth, Mercer, Shannon, Iron, Caldwell, St. Clair, and Douglas.

Accredited Child Care Facilities

Definition

KIDS COUNT tracks the number of child care facilities that are accredited by at least one of the following state-approved accrediting entities:

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Missouri Accreditation (MO-A), National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), National Afterschool Association (NAA), National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA), Council on Accreditation (COA), and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Significance

Accreditation is a voluntary process that child care facilities, including afterschool care programs, go through to demonstrate that the program they offer meets the accrediting entity's standards for quality. Accreditation standards go beyond licensing requirements and address every aspect of a facility's operations. It should be noted that standards differ among the accrediting agencies.

State Findings

In 2012, 566 child care facilities were accredited by one of the state-approved accrediting bodies, an increase from 527 in 2007. This figure reached its peak in 2006 (613). Because accreditation costs money, this decrease may be attributed to programs choosing not to keep their

accreditation due to difficult economic circumstances.

County Findings

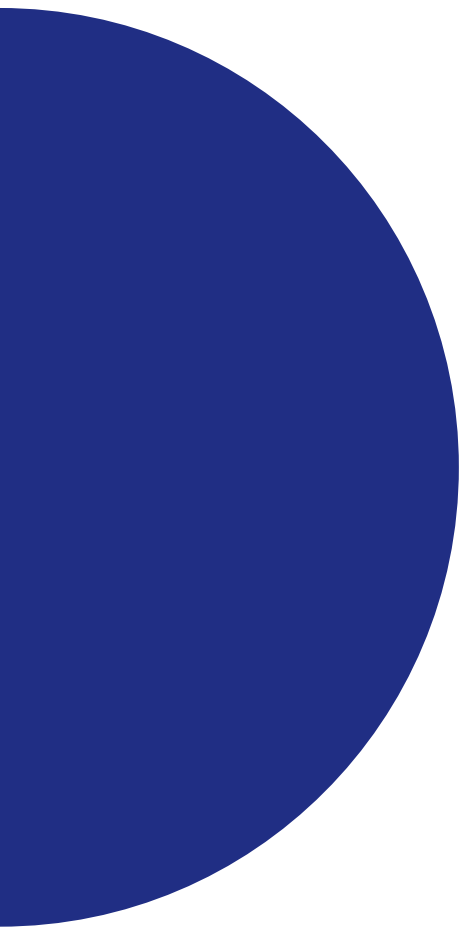
From 2007 to 2012, the counties that gained the most number of accredited child care facilities were St. Louis, Jefferson, St. Charles, Clay, and Lafayette. Twenty-five counties decreased in the number of accredited facilities during this period. The counties that lost the most accredited child care facilities were Jackson, Iron, and Franklin.

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² U.S. Census Bureau (2012, March), *Educational Attainment by Selected Characteristics: 2010*. Retrieved February 5, 2013 from <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2012/tables/12s0231.pdf>

- ³ *Ibid.*
- ⁴ Galinsky, E. (2006). *The economic benefits of high-quality early childhood programs: What makes the difference?* Washington, DC: The Committee for Economic Development. Retrieved February 5, 2013 from <http://familiesandwork.org/site/research/reports/ced.pdf>.
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- ⁶ U.S. Census Bureau. *Table A-3. Mean earnings of workers 18 years and over, by educational attainment, race, Hispanic origin, and sex: 1975-2011*. Retrieved February 5, 2013, from <http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education/data/cps/historical/index.html>
- ⁷ Levin, H.M., & Belfield, C.R. (2007). Educational interventions to raise high school graduation rates. In C.R. Belfield and H.M. Levin (Eds.), *The price we pay: Economic and social consequences of inadequate education* (pp. 177-199). Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press.
- ⁸ *Ibid.*
- ⁹ Center for Labor Market Studies. (2009). *The consequences of dropping out of high school*. Northeastern University: Boston. Retrieved February 5, 2013, from http://www.americaspromise.org/~media/Files/Resources/Consequences_of_Dropping_Out_of_High_School.ashx
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- ¹³ National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. (n.d.). *Why it matters: Teen pregnancy and overall child well-being*. Retrieved February 5, 2013, from http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/why-it-matters/pdf/child_well-being.pdf.
- ¹⁴ The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2011). *2011 Kids Count Data Book*. Retrieved February 5, 2013, from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/2011/OnlineBooks/2011KCDB_FINAL.pdf.
- ¹⁵ Washington State Institute for Public Policy. (1997, January). *The class of 1988, seven years later: How a juvenile offender's crime, criminal history, and age affect the chances of becoming an adult felon in Washington state*. Olympia, WA: Author. Retrieved February 5, 2013, from <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/classo88.pdf>
- ¹⁶ Rivers, J., & Trotti, T. (1995). *South Carolina delinquent males: An 11-year follow-up into adult probation and prison* [Abstract]. Abstract from National Criminal Justice Reference Service. Retrieved February 5, 2013 from <https://www.ncjrs.gov/App/publications/Abstract.aspx?id=161872>
- ¹⁷ Office of Economic Analysis, State of Oregon. (2003). *Previously incarcerated juveniles in Oregon's adult corrections system*. Salem, OR: Author. Retrieved February 5, 2013, from <http://www.oregon.gov/DAS/OEA/docs/oya/oya-to-corrections.pdf?ga=t>.
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- ¹⁹ Tischler, H. L. (2004). *Introduction to sociology* (8th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth.
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DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

Outcome Measures

Students enrolled in free/reduced lunch: number of students who are enrolled in the free or reduced price National School Lunch Program. Children from households with incomes less than 130% of poverty are eligible for free lunches; those from households below 185% of poverty are eligible for reduced price lunches. Rate is expressed as percent of total school enrollment. *Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Births to mothers without high school diplomas: number of live births that occur to women who have less than 12 years of education as indicated on a child's birth certificate. Rate is expressed as percent of all live births. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.*

Low birthweight infants: number of live infants recorded as having a birth weight under 2,500 grams (five pounds, eight ounces). Rate is expressed as a percent of total live births. Data were aggregated over five-year periods in order to provide more stable rates. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.*

Infant mortality: number of deaths to infants under one year of age. Rate is expressed per 1,000 live births. Data were aggregated over five-year periods in order to provide more stable rates. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.*

Child deaths, ages 1-14: number of deaths from all causes of children ages one to 14. Rate is expressed per 100,000 children of that age group. Data were aggregated over five-year periods in order to provide more stable rates. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Child abuse and neglect: number of child abuse victims from reports classified as "preponderance of evidence" that indicates child abuse or neglect has occurred. In addition, this outcome includes the number of child abuse victims that receive family assessments. Rate is expressed per 1,000 children. *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Out-of-home placement entries: number of entries into Division of Family Services alternative care, including foster care, group homes, relative care, and residential settings. Rate is expressed

per 1,000 children. *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Annual high school dropouts: number of students (grades nine through 12) enrolled in public schools that left school during the school year without graduating. Rate is expressed as percent of enrolled students. The formula used to calculate the rate accounts for transfers in and out of a district. Years indicated are school years; for example, 2011 indicates the 2010-2011 school year. *Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.*

Births to teens, ages 15-19: number of live births that occur to young women ages 15 to 19. Rate is expressed per 1,000 young women of that age group. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning; USDC, Bureau of the Census.*

Violent teen deaths, ages 15-19: number of deaths from homicides, suicides, motor vehicle crashes, and other accidents to teens ages 15 to 19. Rate is expressed per 100,000 teens of that age group. Data were aggregated over five-year periods in order to provide more stable rates. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services;*

USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.

Demographic Data

Child population: total resident population under age 18, including dependents of the Armed Forces personnel stationed in the area. *Source: USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Children as percent of total population: percentage of total population that is under age 18. *Source: USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Minority children: percentage of children under age 18 who are identified as non-white. *Source: USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Children with limited English proficiency: number of children reported by school districts as having limited English language skills. *Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.*

Economic Data

Children in poverty: percentage of related children under age 18 who

live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the Bureau of the Census. In 2010, the current year used for this indicator in this data book, the federal poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$22,113. For 2012, the federal poverty threshold for the same family was \$23,050. For counties with a population of less than 20,000, an estimate based on county-PUMA (Public Use Microdata Area) ratio is reported. *Source: USDC, Bureau of the Census.*

Children under 6 in poverty: percentage of related children under age six who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the Bureau of the Census. The 2010 poverty threshold was \$22,314 for a family of four. For counties with a population of less than 20,000, an estimate based on county-PUMA ratio is reported. *Source: USDC, Bureau of the Census.*

Children in single-parent families: percentage of related children under age 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. *Source: USDC, Bureau of the Census.*

Average annual wage/salary: average annual wage/salary per job. County data indicate annual wage/salary for all jobs located in that county. Employees

may live in a different county from where they work. *Source: USDC, Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

Adult unemployment: percentage of civilian labor force that is unemployed and actively looking for work. *Source: Missouri Department of Economic Development, Division of Employment Security.*

Family Supports Data

Children receiving subsidized child care: total number of children participating in one of the following subsidized child care programs: FUTURES, transitional, income maintenance/income eligible, at-risk, and child care and development block grant. Rate is expressed per 1,000 children under 18 in poverty. *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census.*

Licensed child care capacity: number of spaces in licensed family child care homes, group child care homes, and child care centers. Rate is expressed per 1,000 children under 18. *Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census.*

Accredited child care facilities: number of child care centers accredited by National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Mis-

souri Accreditation (MO-A), National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), National Afterschool Association (NAA), National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA), Council on Accreditation (COA), and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). *Source: Child Care Aware of Missouri.*

Children receiving cash assistance: average monthly percentage of population under age 18 that live in households receiving public assistance under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Children receiving food stamps: percentage of population under age 18 who live in households receiving benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps. *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Health/Mental Health Data

Children enrolled in MO HealthNet for Kids: average monthly percentage of children under age 18 who have applied for and have been certified eligible

for participation in MO HealthNet for Kids, Missouri's health insurance program for children in low-income families, either through managed care or traditional fee-for-service providers. This indicator includes both number and rate. *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; USDC, Bureau of the Census; Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning.*

Children receiving public SED mental health services: an unduplicated count of children receiving treatment through a division of the Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH) for serious emotional disorders (SED) as of January 1st of the year reported for whom DMH provided a service in that calendar year. *Source: Missouri Department of Mental Health.*

Juvenile law violation referrals, ages 10-17: number of referrals to juvenile courts in Missouri for acts that would be violations of the Missouri Criminal Code if committed by an adult. The count represents separately disposed court referrals, not individual youth. Rate is expressed per 1,000 youths ages ten through 17. *Source: Missouri Department of Social Services; Missouri Office of Administration.*



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