



Council on Children and Families

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ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION RELEASES 2014 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

25th edition shows New York State in top five for children's health status

Partnership between Council, Annie E. Casey Foundation uses data to develop policy to help children across the state

July 22, 2014, ALBANY —The 25th edition of the *KIDS COUNT Data Book* shows improvement in all eight categories of health and education well-being for New York's children, with New York State ranking among the top five states in the country for children's health. The *Data Book* is released annually to a national audience by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and is disseminated in New York State by the Council on Children and Families.

The *KIDS COUNT Data Book* provides the State with county-level data that focuses on child well-being in order to advance the use of children's health, education and well-being indicators as a tool for policy development, planning and accountability. This year's edition examines data from 1990 that show the major trends in child well-being and recent trends that compare data from years 2005 to 2012.

For New York, the following conclusions can be drawn from the 2014 *Data Book*:

- The percent of children who did not graduate on time (in four years) decreased from 33 percent in 1990/1991 to 22 percent in 2011/2012.
- The number of teen births decreased between 1990 and 2012.
- The number of heads-of-household with a high school diploma (2005 to 2012), as well as the number of children living in high-poverty areas (2000 to 2008-2012), remained stable at 16 percent and 17 percent, respectively.
- The number of children in single-parent families increased by 24 percent between 1990 and 2012.

"The work accomplished by the Annie E. Casey Foundation through its KIDS COUNT network has made a tremendous difference in our understanding of child well-being and our ability to use data to guide policy decisions," said Deborah Benson, the Executive Director of the Council on Children and Families.

(MORE)



Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

Council Member Agencies

State Office for the Aging * Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services
Office of Children and Family Services * Division of Criminal Justice Services * State Education Department
Department of Health * Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs *
Department of Labor * Office of Mental Health * Office for People With Developmental Disabilities
Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives * Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance



Deborah A. Benson
Executive Director

In order for children to be successful, they need strong families, good schools, and safe, supportive communities. Over the past 25 years, New Yorkers have gained greater knowledge about what works to improve children's lives, helping to build a pathway to opportunity for all children.

The research indicates that the best predictors of success for children are:

- Beginning life with a healthy birth, and continuing healthy development in the early years;
- Being raised by two married parents;
- Having adequate family income;
- Doing well in school, graduating high school, and completing post-secondary education or training;
- Avoiding teen pregnancy and substance abuse;
- Staying out of trouble; and
- Becoming connected to work and opportunity.

The Council on Children and Families coordinates New York State health, education and human services systems as a means to provide more effective systems of care for children and families. Follow the Council on Twitter [@nysccf](https://twitter.com/nysccf) and bookmark its website, ccf.ny.gov

The Council works with its 11 member agencies to coordinate the New York State health, education, and human service systems to provide more effective systems of care for children and families. Members of the Council include the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Labor, the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS), the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), the Office of Mental Health (OMH), the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA), the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), the Office for the Aging (SOFA), and the State Education Department (SED).

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