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**News from the 2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book  
Colorado's Kids – Opportunities and Well-Being Status**

Our ability to progress as a state depends on the degree to which we can create opportunities for all children to succeed. Colorado ranks 20th nationally in the *2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, a state-by-state study on the well-being of America's children. The *Data Book* reveals that Colorado improved on five of the 10 measures affecting child well-being since 2000. Yet on three other measures, conditions worsened for Colorado's kids. Two measures were not comparable to previous years.

The 21st annual *Data Book* is complemented by the expanded KIDS COUNT Data Center, which contains hundreds of measures of child well-being and allows users to create maps and graphs of the data at the national, state, county, and city level. To access information for Colorado go to <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/co>.

**Share of children in single-parent families among lowest in nation.**

In 2008, 27 percent of Colorado's children lived in single-parent families. Although this figure slightly exceeds the 26 percent level in 2000, it does represent an improvement from 2007. Colorado tied Iowa for seventh nationally on this indicator.

**Child poverty is worse than in 2000-**

The percentage of children in Colorado living in poverty has increased from 10 percent in 2000 to 15 percent in 2008. (A family of two adults and two children were considered poor if their income in 2008 fell below \$21,834.)

**Infant mortality rises from previous year's level.**

Since 2000, Colorado's infant mortality rate has fluctuated. Although the state's 2007 rate of 6.1 deaths per 1,000 live births is 2 percent lower than it was in 2000, it actually is 7 percent higher than it was in 2006. The state had 433 infant deaths in 2007.

**Child mortality continues to fall.**

At 16 deaths per 100,000 children in 2007, the child death rate in Colorado is 27 percent lower than it was in 2000 and 16 percent lower than its 2006 level. Colorado tied California and Maine for 11th among the 50 states on this measure.