

# General Information

## Limitations of the Data

It is important to recognize that no data are perfect and in any data-collection process there may be concerns about the accuracy of the data. In all cases, the best available data were used. It should be noted that in some data tables, the sum of the county data may not equal the state total due to rounding and/or missing county-reference data. In these cases, an explanatory footnote is included. Because rates based on small denominators are statistically unreliable, rates were not calculated for counties with small denominators. Instead, the designation N.M. = not meaningful is noted in the table. Raw data are provided wherever possible.

## Multiyear Rolling Average

The atypical population distribution in Nevada creates a serious “rare event” problem in many counties. New this year is the use of multiyear rolling averages to help stabilize rates wherever possible.

## Definitions and Data Sources

The definitions and data sources for the majority of child well-being indicators are either provided in the text or the tables. Additional sources on demographics and more elaborate definitions and/or sources for selected indicators are provided below.

## Nevada Demographic Profile Sources

- ◆ *Nevada State Demographer*: State population, Clark County population and Washoe County population
- ◆ U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1998*, (118<sup>th</sup> edition) Washington DC, 1998, p. 471: Median household income
- ◆ **Nevada Facts, Nevada: The Official State of Nevada Website**: Land area

## Nevada Child Demographics Sources

- ◆ *When Teens Have Sex: Issues and Trends, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998*: Percent of births to teens receiving no late or prenatal care and Percent of births to teens receiving no late or prenatal care by race
- ◆ *State of Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family and Family Services, 1998*: Number of 1997 adoptions finalized and Foster care
- ◆ Personal Communication with State of Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services Adoption Specialist: 1999 adoptions finalized
- ◆ *Nevada State Demographer*: Child population, Percent of children and Percent of poor children
- ◆ *1999 KIDS COUNT Data Book, The Annie Casey Foundation*: Percent of children covered by Medicaid or other public-sector health insurance
- ◆ *U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1998, (118<sup>th</sup> edition) Washington DC, 1998, p. 392*: Number of students benefiting from the National School Lunch Program
- ◆ Definition of Related Children: Only children who live in a household where they are related to the householder are included in this analysis. These “related children” include the householder’s children by birth, marriage or adoption, as well as other persons under the age of 18, who are related to the head of household.

## Early Care & Education

reflects the holistic nature of early childhood programs. Children’s health, education and safety must be viewed in the context of the home and the community. Care and education occur simultaneously in the environment of every young child. Most child-care providers consciously plan educational experiences for the children in their care.

Questions regarding procedures used in the CBER study should be directed to:  
R. Keith Schwer, Director  
Center for Business and Economic Research  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
4505 S. Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89154-6002  
(702) 895-3191

## Health Care

See Early Care & Education for procedures

**Percent of Children in Poverty** is the percentage of children under 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

## Child Abuse Neglect

**Substantiated:** “The reported abusive or neglectful situation/ incident is confirmed through the investigation/assessment process.”

**Unsubstantiated:** “The abusive or neglectful situation was not confirmed through the investigation.”

**Unknown:** “The receiving/ investigating agency was unable to locate the alleged perpetrator and/or interview the child, there was insufficient information or evidence, or the information was too old to pursue.”

*Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics, 1998*, State of Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, p. ii.