

Data Summary

Welcome, to the new, reduced version of the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book*. This year we introduce to you a 42-page, pocket-size book. By omitting reviews of literature, which were featured in previous *Data Books*, we feel that you will more easily be able to find facts on Nevada's children. We plan to produce the reduced size *Data Book* every other year to coincide with sessions of the Nevada Legislature. Nevada KIDS COUNT hopes that this *Data Book* still meets your needs.

Not all the indicators presented in previous years' *Data Books* are reported in this edition. To access additional data on previously reported indicators, such as child abuse and neglect, go to the Nevada KIDS COUNT Web site <<http://kidscount.unlv.edu>> or the CLIKS: County-City-Community Level Information on Kids Web site <<http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/cliks>>.

Comparing the data on the eight child well-being indicators from last year's *Data Book* with this year's, we find that half of the indicators improved and half worsened. Of the indicators that changed for the better, the teen birth rate improved the most, declining from 29.9 to 27.9. Of the indicators that worsened, the teen violent death rate changed the most, from 51.8 to 53.8.

The following is a summary of the data presented in the table on page 4 for each of the eight child well-being indicators.

Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies (babies weighing about 5.5 pounds)

- ❖ The percent of low-birthweight babies (LBW) babies in Nevada for the years 2001-2003 was 7.7, a slight increase from 7.4 percent for 2000-2002.
- ❖ The percent of LBW babies ranged from 0.0 in Esmeralda County to 9.3 in Mineral County.
- ❖ Of the 2,704 LBW babies born in 2003, blacks (African Americans) had the highest percentage of LBW babies (13.6), followed by Asians (9.4).

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Comparison of Child Well-Being Indicators in Nevada: 2004 and 2005 Data Books

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Nevada 2004 Data Book</i>	<i>Nevada 2005 Data Book</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	
	<i>Rate or Percent</i>	<i>Rate or Percent</i>	<i>Improved</i>	<i>Worsened</i>
Percent low-birthweight babies	7.4% (2000-02)	7.7% (2001-03)		X
Teen birth rate	29.9 (2000-02)	27.9 (2001-03)	X	
Children in poverty	12.5% (2001)*	14.1% (2002)		X
High school dropout rate	6.3% (2001-02)	6.0% (2002-03)	X	
Infant mortality rate	6.0 (2000-02)	5.7 (2001-03)	X	
Child death rate	21.0 (2000-02)	20.5 (2001-03)	X	
Teen violent death rate	51.8 (2000-02)	53.8 (2001-03)		X
Juvenile violent crime arrest rate	242.4 (2000-02)	242.5 (2001-03)		X

*Data for 2000 were presented in the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book 2004*.

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas.

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Teen Birth Rate (births to females ages 15 to 17 per 1,000 females)

- ❖ Nevada's average teen birth rate for 2001-2003 was 27.9, down from 29.9 for 2000-2002.
- ❖ The average teen birth rate ranged from 9.0 in Douglas County to 36.6 in Humboldt County.
- ❖ Six counties' average teen birth rates were considered not meaningful (NM) due to a low number of births for each county. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable. Rates for counties with less than 10 births were not reported.
- ❖ Hispanics and blacks (African Americans) had the highest average teen birth rates for 2001-2003, 51.1 and 43.1, respectively, followed by Native Americans (24.6), Asians (15.6), and whites (14.3).
- ❖ Nevada's average unmarried teen birth rate for 2001-2003 was 21.8.

Percent of Children in Poverty (children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold)

- ❖ Approximately 14.0 percent of Nevada's children were in poverty in 2002, up from 12.5 percent in 2001.
- ❖ The percent of children in poverty ranged from 4.6 in Storey County to 19.9 in Mineral County.

High School Dropout Rate (grades 9-12)

- ❖ Nevada's high school dropout rate decreased from 6.3 percent in 2001-2002 to 6.0 percent in 2002-2003.
- ❖ The dropout rate ranged from 0.0 percent in Eureka, Mineral, and Pershing counties to 8.7 percent in Storey County.

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths during babies' first year of life per 1,000 births)

- ❖ Nevada's average infant mortality rate for 2001-2003 was 5.7, down from 6.0 for 2000-2002.
- ❖ Of the 97,312 babies born during this period, 556 infants died before they reached their first birthday.
- ❖ Among the nine counties for which statistically reliable rates could be calculated, the infant mortality rate ranged from 2.3 in Carson City to 8.3 in Nye County.

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Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)

- ❖ Nevada's 2001-2003 average child death rate was 20.5, down from 21.0 for 2000-2002. Two hundred sixty-seven children died during 2001-2003.
- ❖ Three counties had an age-specific population of 10,000 or more which allowed for calculation of reliable rates: Clark, Washoe, and Carson City. Their respective rates were 20.3, 18.4, and 13.3. Statistically reliable rates were not reported for the remaining 14 counties due to small population numbers for the 1 to 14 age groups. The rate of the combined 14 counties was 26.3.

Teen Violent Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)

- ❖ Nevada's average teen violent death rate for 2001-2003 was 53.8, up from 51.8 for 2000-2002.
- ❖ Two hundred forty-six teens died as a result of homicide, suicide, and accident.
- ❖ In 2003, 96 teens died from violence—60 were accidents, 15 were homicides, and 21 were suicides.
- ❖ Two counties had an age-specific population of 10,000 or more which allowed for calculation of the teen violent death rate. The teen violent death rates per 100,000 teens ages 15 to 19 in Clark and Washoe counties were 51.3 and 45.5, respectively. The rate of the remaining 15 counties, each with a population under 10,000, was 75.4.

Juvenile Violent Crime Rate (arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17)

- ❖ Nevada experienced almost no change in its juvenile violent crime rate during a comparative three-year period. The juvenile violent crime arrest rate from 2001-2003 was 242.5 arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17. The rate for 2000-2002 was 242.4.
- ❖ There were 1,779 violent crime arrests from 2001-2003.
- ❖ Two counties had an age-specific population of 10,000 or more which allowed for calculation of the juvenile violent crime arrest rate. The juvenile violent crime arrest rates for Washoe and Clark counties were 342.4 and 241.9, respectively. The rate of the combined remaining 15 counties, each with a population under 10,000, was 137.0.