Poverty in Nevada

In September, the U.S. Census Bureau released 2010 poverty data from the 2011 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement for the nation and each state. Included in the release were data on children. The Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) posted the recently released poverty data on their Data Center (http://datacenter.kidscount.org). Poverty data are available from 2000 to 2010, allowing for comparisons over time and across states.

In 2010, a family of two adults and two children with an annual income below $22,113 would be in poverty. Based on this definition, 22 percent of Nevada children age 18 and under lived in poverty. Among the states, Nevada ranked 30th (1st = best and 50th = worst) on the percent of children in poverty. New Hampshire ranked first with only 10 percent of its children in poverty, and Mississippi ranked last with 33 percent of its children in poverty.

From 2008 to 2010, Nevada and the United States experienced increased poverty rates. See Figure 1. From 2000 to 2010, the poverty rate in Nevada almost doubled, from 13 percent to 22 percent. The U.S. rate increased from 17 percent to 22 percent.

Figure 1. Percent of Children Ages 17 and Under in Nevada and the United States in Poverty: 2000 to 2010

Among Nevada's neighboring states, as shown in Figure 2, Arizona had the highest percent of children in poverty. Nevada, California, and Oregon tied for second highest.

**Figure 2. Percent of Children Ages 17 and Under in Poverty in Nevada and Neighboring States: 2010**

![Bar chart showing percent of children in poverty by state.]


Figure 3 illustrates the change in the poverty rates for Nevada and the neighboring states over time. Since 2008, all the states have similar accelerated rates of increase.

**Figure 3. Percent of Children Ages 17 and Under in Poverty in Nevada and Neighboring States: 2000 - 2010**

![Line graph showing poverty rates over time by state.]


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