

# WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

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## Child Health Indicators: Where Does Nevada Need Improvement?

How Nevada children compare to other states' children on health indicators is beneficial in making data-driven decisions to improve the welfare of children in our state.\* This *Newsletter* presents the results of a review of the health indicator data on the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) KIDS COUNT Data Center. Five indicators were chosen to consider as priorities—those on which Nevada performs poorly in comparison to the other states.

The five indicators and their rankings are presented in Table 1. Nevada's ranking among the states on the indicators places Nevada at or near the bottom (1=best and 50=worst). Of the five indicators, Nevada ranks the lowest on births to women receiving late or no prenatal care and preventive dental care. The rank of 40th for the former indicator places Nevada (tied with Texas) last among the states for which data were available.

A more detailed discussion of the five indicators are on the following pages, including Nevada's performance on the five health indicators relative to its neighboring states.

**Table 1. Health Indicators That Need Improvement, Nevada**

<b>Health Indicator</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Births to women receiving late or no prenatal care (2013)	40*
Preventive dental care (2011-2012)	49
Children without health insurance (2014)	47
Teen births to women who were already mothers (2013)	47
Male children and teens overweight or obese (2011-2012)	46

\*The rank of 40th places Nevada last on this indicator because the ranking was based on only 41 states. Data Source: Retrieved from the AECF KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, as of 11/13/15.

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\*Many indicators can be used to measure the health of children. The AECF uses four health indicators in its index of child well-being: low-birthweight babies, children without health insurance, child and teen deaths, and teens who abuse alcohol or drugs. Overall, Nevada ranked 46th among the states on child health based on these four indicators (1=best and 50th=worst). Rankings on the health domain for all the states are reported in the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book 2015*.

## Births to Women Receiving Late or No Prenatal Care

The first indicator is births to women receiving late or no prenatal care, which is defined as births that occurred to mothers who reported receiving care only in the third trimester of their pregnancy or reported receiving no prenatal care. In 2013, 10 percent of births to women in Nevada were to those who received late or no prenatal care. Among 41 states for which data were available, Nevada and Texas tied at 40th, which places them last. Vermont ranks 1st at 3 percent.

Compared with its neighboring states, Nevada ranks last on births to women receiving late or no prenatal care (Table 2).

**Table 2. Number and Percent of Births to Women Receiving Late or No Prenatal Care, the United States, Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2013**

<i>U.S./State</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
United States	207,714	6
Arizona	NA	NA
California	17,756	4
Idaho	1,228	6
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>10</b>
Oregon	1,956	4
Utah	1,814	4

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

NA = Not Available. Data were not available for nine states: Alabama, West Virginia, Rhode Island, Maine, Connecticut, New Jersey, Hawaii, Arizona, and Arkansas.

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved from the AECF KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, of 11/13/15.

## Preventive Dental Care

The second indicator is children who have received preventive dental care, which is defined as children under age 18 who have seen a dentist at least once for preventive dental care, such as check-ups and dental cleanings in the past year. In 2011-2012, 67 percent of Nevada children had received preventive dental care in the past year. Nevada and Florida rank 49th among the states on this indicator. Vermont ranks 1st at 88 percent.

Compared with its neighboring states, Nevada ranks last on children who received preventive dental (Table 3).

**Table 3. Number and Percent of Children Ages 17 and under Who Have Received Preventive Dental Care in the Past Year, the United States, Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2011-2012**

<i>U.S./State</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
United States	53,388,000	77
Arizona	1,153,000	75
California	6,535,000	75
Idaho	316,000	79
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>419,000</b>	<b>67</b>
Oregon	617,000	77
Utah	633,000	78

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Data Source: Child Trends analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health. The state-level data come from the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH). Retrieved from the AECF KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, as of 11/13/15.

## Children without Health Insurance

The third indicator is children without health insurance, which is defined as children under age 18 not covered by any health insurance. In 2014, 10 percent of Nevada children were uninsured. Nevada ranks 47th (tied with Arizona) among the states on this indicator (1=best and 50 = worst). Only Alaska and Texas had a higher percentage of children uninsured at 11 percent. Vermont and Massachusetts had the lowest percentage of children uninsured at 2 percent. Nevada improved considerably on this indicator from 2013 to 2014, by 33.3 percent—the uninsured rate declining from 15 percent to 10 percent, respectively.

Compared with its neighboring states, Nevada and Arizona rank last on children without health insurance (Table 4).

**Table 4. Number and Percent of Children Ages 17 and under without Health Insurance in the United States, Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2014**

<i>U.S./State</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
United States	4,397,000	6
Arizona	162,000	10
California	497,090	5
Idaho	34,000	8
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>64,000</b>	<b>10</b>
Oregon	39,000	5
Utah	85,000	9

Notes: The data are based on health insurance coverage at the time of the survey; interviews are conducted throughout the calendar year. Children receiving health insurance through a variety of State Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP) are counted as having health insurance.

Numbers of uninsured have been rounded.

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey. Retrieved from the AECF KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, as of 11/13/15.

## Teen Births to Women Who Were Already Mothers

The fourth indicator is teen births to women who were already mothers, which is defined as births that were second or higher order births to mothers who were under the age of 20 at the time of the birth. In 2013, 19 percent of the teen births in Nevada were to women who were already mothers. Nevada, Oklahoma, and Georgia rank 47th among the states on this indicator. Only Texas had a higher percentage at 21. New Hampshire ranks 1st at 10 percent.

Although Nevada ranks near the bottom of the states on repeat births to teens, it ranks 32nd on the teen births. Nevada's teen birth rate for 2013 was 30 births per 1,000 teenage girls. Nevada's teen birth rate declined from 56 births per 1,000 teenage girls in 2006 to 30 births per 1,000 teenage girls in 2013.

Compared with its neighboring states, Nevada ranks last on teen births to women who were already mothers (Table 5).

**Table 5. Number and Percent of Teen Births to Women Who Were Already Mothers, the United States, Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2013**

<i>U.S./State</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
United States	46,619	17
Arizona	1,334	18
California	5,130	17
Idaho	231	16
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>19</b>
Oregon	341	13
Utah	347	15

Note: Percents have been rounded.

Data Source: Child Trends analysis of Natality microdata files from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistic. Retrieved from the AECF KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, as of 11/13/15.

## Children and Teens Overweight or Obese

The fifth indicator is children and teens overweight or obese, which is defined as the share of children and teens ages 10 to 17 who are overweight and obese. Data by gender are available for this indicator, showing that in 2011-2012, 41 percent of males 10 to 17 in Nevada were overweight or obese compared to 25 percent of females. Nevada and Kentucky tied at 46th on male children and teens overweight or obese. Only North Dakota, Louisiana, and Mississippi had a higher percentage of male children obese than Nevada. Colorado ranks 1st at 26 percent.

Compared with its neighboring states, Nevada ranks last on male children who are overweight or obese (Table 6).

**Table 6. Percent of Male Children Ages 10 to 17 Who Are Overweight or Obese, the United States, Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2011-2012**

<i>U.S./State</i>	<i>Percent</i>
United States	35
Arizona	40
California	32
Idaho	34
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>41</b>
Oregon	31
Utah	27

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Data Source: "Child Trends analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health. The state-level data used here come from the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH). The National Survey of Children's Health uses height and weight, as reported by the parent or most knowledgeable adult, to determine a child's Body Mass Index, or BMI, which is used to determine if a child is overweight. The BMI is age- and gender-specific." Retrieved from the AECF KIDS COUNT Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, as of 11/13/15.

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