

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

February 2011

What Does It Take to Improve Nevada's Performance on Child Well-Being Indicators?

The 2010 National KIDS COUNT Data Book reveals that Nevada ranks 36th among the 50 states on 10 indicators that measure child and family wellbeing. Among the 10 indicators, the best were the infant mortality rate and the percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment. The worst were the percent of teens who are not in school and not high school graduates. The following tables show Nevada's current ranking on eight child well-being indicators and what amount of reduction in occurrences it would take for Nevada to become the top-ranking state in the nation and to see a 10 percent improvement in the indicators based on its current percent or rate. Data for two of the indicators, percent of low-birthweight babies and infant mortality rate, were not available at time of publication.

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

is the number of deaths to children between ages 1 and 14, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age range. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred.

Nevada's status In 2007, Nevada ranked 36 th in the nation with a child death rate of 22 per 100,000 children. One hundred fifteen children died. U.S. rate: 19	What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of child deaths by 69 to achieve a rate of 9 per 100,000. Number 1 in the nation: Rhode Island at 9 per 100,000	What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a child population of 56,631,042 in the U.S., 511,308 in Nevada, the number of child deaths in Nevada would have to be reduced by 13 to lower the child death rate from 22 to 20 deaths per 100,000.
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Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)

is the number of deaths from all causes to teens between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. The data are reported by place of residence, not the place where the death occurred.

Nevada's status In 2007, Nevada ranked 31 st in the nation with a teen death rate of 71 per 100,000 teens. One hundred sixteen teens died. U.S. rate: 62	What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of teen deaths by 59 to achieve a rate of 35 per 100,000. Number 1 in the nation: Vermont at 35 per 100,000	What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a teen population of 21,473,690 in the U.S., 162,931 in Nevada, the number of teen deaths in Nevada would have to be reduced by 12 to lower the teen death rate from 71 to 64 deaths per 100,000.
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Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15-19)

is the number of births to teenagers between ages 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group. Data reflect the mother's place of residence, rather than the place of the birth.

<p>Nevada's status In 2007, Nevada ranked 40th in the nation with a teen birth rate of 55 per 1,000 births. A total of 4,351 teen mothers gave birth.</p> <p>U.S. rate: 43</p>	<p>What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of teen births by 2,787 to have a birth rate of 20 per 1,000 births.</p> <p>Number 1 in the nation: New Hampshire at 20 per 1,000</p>	<p>What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a female teen population of 10,466,821 in the U.S., 78,729 in Nevada, the number of teen births in Nevada would have to decrease by 418 to reduce the teen birth rate from 55 to 50 per 1,000 births.</p>
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Percent of Teens Who Are Not in School and Not High School Graduates (ages 16-19)

is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates. Those who have a GED or equivalent are included as high school graduates in this measure. The measure used here is defined as a status dropout rate.

<p>Nevada's status In 2008, Nevada ranked 47th in the nation with a dropout rate of 10 percent. A total of 13,226 teens dropped out of school.</p> <p>U.S. percent: 6</p>	<p>What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of dropouts by 9,179 to attain a dropout rate of 3 percent.</p> <p>Number 1 in nation: Minnesota, Iowa, and New Hampshire at 3 percent</p>	<p>What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a population ages 16 to 19 of 17,723,614 in the U.S., 135,148 in Nevada, the number of dropouts would have to decrease by 1,063 for Nevada to reduce its dropout rate from 10 percent to 9 percent.</p>
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Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (ages 16-19)

is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full- or part-time) and not employed (full- or part-time). This measure is sometimes referred to as Idle Teens or Disconnected Youth.

<p>Nevada's status In 2008, Nevada ranked 45th in the nation on the percent of idle teens. Eleven percent or 15,275 teens were considered idle.</p> <p>U.S. percent: 8</p>	<p>What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of idle teens by 9,882 to achieve 4 percent.</p> <p>Number 1 in the nation: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and New Hampshire at 4 percent</p>	<p>What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a population ages 16 to 19 of 17,723,614 in the U.S., 135,148 in Nevada, the number of idle teens would need to decrease by 1,760 for Nevada to reduce its percent from 11 to 10.</p>
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Percent of Children Living In Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment

is the share of all children under age 18 living in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment. For children living in single-parent families, this means that the resident parent did not work at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to survey. For children living in married-couple families, this means that neither parent worked at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. Children living with neither parent also were listed as not having secure parental employment because those children are likely to be economically vulnerable.

<p>Nevada's status In 2008, Nevada ranked 17th in the nation by having 26 percent of, or 173,460, children/youth living in families without secure employment.</p> <p>U.S. percent: 27</p>	<p>What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of children/youth living in families without secure employment by 46,748 to achieve 19 percent.</p> <p>Number 1 in the nation: Utah and Nebraska at 19 percent</p>	<p>What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a population age 17 and under of 73,693,420 in the U.S., 666,730 in Nevada, the number of children/youth living in families without secure employment would have to be reduced by 20,112 in Nevada to go from 26 percent to 23 percent.</p>
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Percent of Children in Poverty (income below \$21,834 for a family of two adults and two children in 2008)

is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 100 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition and is updated every year to account for inflation. In calendar year 2007, a family of two adults and two children fell in the poverty category if their annual income fell below \$21,027. Poverty status is not determined for people living in group quarters, such as military barracks, prisons, and other institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey.

<p>Nevada's status Nevada ranked 15th in the nation in 2008 on the number of children/youth living in poverty. Fifteen percent of Nevada children or 98,784 lived in poverty.</p> <p>U.S. percent: 18</p>	<p>What will it take to be the best? To become number one in the nation Nevada would have to attain a 9 percent child poverty rate, which means reducing the number of poor children by 39,482.</p> <p>Number 1 in the nation: New Hampshire 9 percent</p>	<p>What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a population age 17 and under of 72,825,003 in the U.S., 658,902 in Nevada, the number of poor children would have to decrease by 6,538 for Nevada to go from a 15 to a 14 percent child poverty rate.</p>
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Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families

is the percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own single parent, either in a family or subfamily. In this definition, single-parent families may include cohabiting couples and do not include children living with married stepparents.

<p>Nevada's status In 2008, Nevada ranked 29th in the nation with 33 percent of its children and youth (213,166) living in single-parent families.</p> <p>U.S. percent: 32</p>	<p>What will it take to be the best? Nevada would need to reduce the number of children/youth in single-parent families by 98,502 to become the best in the nation with a rate of 18.</p> <p>Number 1 in the nation: Utah at 18 percent</p>	<p>What will it take to improve by 10 percent? Given a population of 69,975,757 in the U.S., 636,971 in Nevada, the number of children/youth living in single-parent families would have to decline by 22,075 to lower the rate from 33 to 30.</p>
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Notes: Indicator definitions are from the *2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book* by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF). Event-reduction analyses were conducted by the Population Reference Bureau at the request of the AECF. Data forwarded by Flo Gutierrez, AECF, 7/21/10.

Population numbers for the U.S. and Nevada may differ among the indicators depending upon the source used and the target population.

DATA SOURCES AND DEFINITIONS:

Child Death Rate: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Teen Death Rate: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Teen Birth Rate: Nevada Department of Health and Human Services.

Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Children Living In Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Percent of Children in Poverty: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program (SAIPE).

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

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