

**2-Year-Olds Who Were Immunized: 2003**

is derived from the National Immunization Survey, which provides state estimates of vaccination coverage levels among children ages 19 months to 35 months. The figures given here reflect the percentage of children who have “4:3:1 Series Coverage”; that is, four or more doses of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis (DTP) vaccine, diphtheria and tetanus toxoids (DT) vaccine, and diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine; three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine; and one or more doses of measles-containing vaccine. SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**4th Grade Students Who Scored At or Above Proficient Math Level: 2003**

is the percentage of 4th grade public school students who reached either the Proficient or Advanced level in mathematics, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

**4th Grade Students Who Scored At or Above Proficient Reading Level: 2003**

is the percentage of 4th grade public school students who reached either the Proficient or Advanced level in reading, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

**8th Grade Students Who Scored At or Above Proficient Math Level: 2003**

is the percentage of 8th grade public school students who reached either the Proficient or Advanced level in mathematics, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

**8th Grade Students Who Scored At or Above Proficient Reading Level: 2003**

is the percentage of 8th grade public school students who reached either the Proficient or Advanced level in reading, as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

**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 place of residence, not place of death.

SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

**Children in Cohabiting-Couple Households: 2003**

reflects the number and percentage of children under age 18 who live in households headed by an unmarried couple (opposite sex or same sex), regardless of the relationship between the child and the household head (householder).

SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

 More complete definitions and more detailed listings of data sources are available on the KIDS COUNT website at [www.kidscount.org/2005](http://www.kidscount.org/2005).

**Children in Extreme Poverty (income below 50% of poverty level): 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 50 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In calendar year 2003, a family of two adults and two children fell in this category if their annual income fell below \$9,330. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Households Where Someone Receives Social Security Income: 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in households where someone received Social Security income (including railroad retirement insurance checks from the U.S. government) within 12 months prior to the survey. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Households Where the Household Head Did Not Finish High School: 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in a household headed by an adult who is not a high school graduate. In this measure, persons who have a GED or equivalent are considered high school graduates. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Households Where the Household Head Has a Work Disability: 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in a household headed by an adult who reported difficulty working at a job or business because of

a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting more than 6 months.

SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Households Where the Household Head Has Limited English Proficiency: 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in a household headed by an adult who speaks a language other than English at home and who speak English less than “very well.” This measure is based on self-reported perception of English proficiency.

SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Households Where the Household Head Owns the Housing Unit: 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in households containing someone—usually the household head (householder)—who owns or co-owns the housing unit where the child resides. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Low-Income Families (income below 200% of poverty level): 2003** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 200 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In calendar year 2003, a family of two adults and two children fell in this category if their annual income fell below \$37,320.

SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Low-Income Families That Spend More Than 30% of Their Income on Housing: 2003** is the share of children under age 18 in low-income families where the family spent more than 30 percent of their monthly income on rent, mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and/or related expenses. Low-income families are those with incomes below 200 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In calendar year 2003, a family of two adults and two children fell in this category if their annual income fell below \$37,320. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Low-Income Households Where No Adult Worked in the Past 12 Months: 2003** reflects the number and percentage of children under age 18 who live in low-income households where no adult worked (full- or part-time) in the 12 months prior to the survey. Low-income households are those with incomes less than 200 percent of the U.S. poverty line. In calendar year 2003, a family of two adults and two children fell in the low-income category if their annual income fell below \$37,320. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Married-Couple Households: 2003** reflects the number and percentage of children under age 18 who live in households headed by a married couple, regardless of the relationship between the child and the household head (householder). SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children in Single-Parent Households With No Spouse/Partner: 2003** reflects the number and percentage of children under age 18 who live in households headed by a person (man or woman) without either a spouse or an unmarried partner present in the household, regardless of the relationship between the child and the household head (householder).  
SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children Under Age 6 With All Parents in the Labor Force: 2003** is the share of children under age 6 living with parents who are in the civilian labor force. For those children living with one parent, this means that the resident parent is in the civilian labor force. For those children living with two parents, this means that both resident parents are in the civilian labor force. The civilian labor force includes persons who are employed and those who are unemployed but looking for work.  
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Children Without Health Insurance: 2002** is the percentage of children under age 18 who were not covered by health insurance at any point during the year. The figures shown here are 3-year averages of data from 2001 through 2003. We label these as 2002 estimates because 2002 is the midpoint of the 3-year period.  
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.

**Female-Headed Families Receiving Child Support: 2003** is the percentage of families headed by an unmarried woman (living with one or more of her own children under age 18) who reported receiving child support payments during the previous calendar year. The figures shown here represent 3-year averages of data from 2002 through 2004. We label these as 2003 estimates because 2003 is the midpoint of the 3-year period.  
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.

**Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)** is the number of deaths occurring to infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births. The data are reported by place of residence, not place of death.  
SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

**Median Income of Families With Children: 2003** is the median annual income for families with related children under age 18 living in the household. “Related children” include the householder’s (head of the household) children by birth, marriage, or adoption; as well as other persons under age 18 (such as nieces or nephews) who are related to the householder and living in the household. The median income is the dollar amount that divides the income distribution into two equal groups—half with income above the median, half with income below it.  
SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.

**Number of Children with Special Health Care Needs That Limit Employment of a Family Member: 2001** is the total number of children under age 18 who have a special health care need that forced at least one family member either to reduce the number of hours worked or to stop working altogether so that he or she could care for the child. The data are self-reported.  
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey, National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs, 2001.

**Overall Rank** for each state was obtained in the following manner. First, we converted the 2003 (or 2002, depending on the indicator) state numerical values for each of the 10 indicators into standard scores. We then summed those standard scores to create a total standard score for each of the 50 states. Finally, we ranked the states on the basis of their total standard score in sequential order from highest/best (1) to lowest/worst (50). Standard scores were derived by subtracting the mean score from the observed score and dividing the amount by the standard deviation for that distribution of scores. All measures were given the same weight in calculating the overall standard score.

**Percent Change Over Time Analysis** was computed by comparing the 2003 (or 2002, depending on the indicator) data for each of the 10 indicators with the data for 2000. To calculate percent change, we subtracted the value for 2000 from the value for 2002/2003 and then divided that quantity by the value for 2000. The results are multiplied by 100 for readability. The percent

change was calculated on rounded data, and the “percent change” figure has been rounded to the nearest whole number.

**Percent Low-Birthweight Babies** is the share of live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). The data are reported by place of mother’s residence, not place of birth. SOURCE: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

**Percent of Children in Poverty** is the share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In 2003, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$18,660. SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**Percent of Children in Single-Parent Households** is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in households headed by a person (man or woman) without a spouse present in the home. In this definition, single-parent households may include cohabiting couples. SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**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 the 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. SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**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.” SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts (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. SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**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. SOURCES: **Birth Statistics:** Child Trends, Inc., *Facts at a Glance* (Washington, DC: 2005). **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

**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. SOURCES: **Death Statistics:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. **Population Statistics:** U.S. Census Bureau.

**Total Children in Households: 2003** reflects the total population of children under age 18 living in households. Children who live in group quarters (for example, institutions, dormitories, or group homes) are not included in this tabulation. SOURCE: Urban Studies Institute at the University of Louisville, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey.