

KIDS COUNT

2011

State Profiles of Child Well-Being

Southern Early Childhood Association



A Summary of the SECA States

Prepared by Glenda Bean, Executive Director

August 2011

NOTES

Excerpted from the 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book

Available at

<http://www.aecf.org/KnowledgeCenter/Publications.aspx?pubguid={E78A80B5-988E-4FB5-A070-8279A5170B35}>

- Although the 10 key indicators don't capture the full range of conditions shaping children's lives, these indicators possess three important attributes:
 1. They reflect a wide range of factors affecting the well-being of children, such as health, adequacy of income and educational attainment.
 2. They reflect experiences across a range of developmental stages-from birth through early adulthood.
 3. They permit legitimate comparisons because they are consistent across states and over time.

- The 10 key indicators of child well-being used in the report are all derived from federal government statistical agencies and reflect the best available state-level data for tracking yearly changes in each indicator.

- The *2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book* includes an essay entitled, "How Children Are Faring in the Wake of the Economic Downturn: A Worsening Picture for Vulnerable Children and Families." The essay looks at the effects of the current economy and makes recommendations to support a "path toward economic opportunity for the next generation." Some findings to note:
 - Recent research confirms a causal link between family income and young children's academic achievement and later success, underscoring the critical importance of helping families maintain an income source during spells of unemployment.

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**Changes in Median Income for Households with Children
by Race and Ethnicity: 2007 and 2009 (2009 dollars)**

Ethnicity	Median Household Income : 2009	Change from 2007	Percent Change from 2007
White	\$64,566	-\$2,752	-4.1
Black	\$33,982	-\$1,991	-5.5
Latino	\$38,980	-\$2,042	-5.0
Asian American	\$81,957	-\$87	-0.1

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, "America's Children, America's Challenge: Promoting Opportunity for the Next Generation", *2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, <<http://www.aecf.org>>, Table 2, p. 11.

- The **foreclosure crisis** widened the already enormous racial and ethnic gap in homeownership. Between 2005 and 2008, the foreclosure rate for blacks and Latinos was roughly 170 percent of that for whites and Asian Americans.
- In 2005, 29% of families with children were considered "**asset poor**", meaning that their total assets (liquid and non-liquid) were worth less than three months of income at the official poverty level. By 2009, the percent of families with children who were asset poor had jumped to 37%.
- A gradual **erosion of economic security** over the past 30 years exacerbated the downturn's toll on children and families at the lower half of the income scale, which will make it more difficult for them to recover once the economy has rebounded. "**Children succeed when parents succeed.**"

Percent of Children With at Least One Unemployed Parent by SECA State: 2010

State	Rank	Number/Percent	State	Rank	Number/Percent
Alabama	37	131,000/ 12%	North Carolina	37	253,000/ 12%
Arkansas	21	63,000/ 10%	Oklahoma	21	81,000/ 10%
Florida		468,000/ 12%	South Carolina	30	113,000/ 11%
Georgia	37	300,000/ 12%	Tennessee	30	152,000/ 11%
Kentucky	44	122,000/ 13%	Texas	12	607,000/ 9%
Louisiana	4	77,000/ 7%	Virginia	12	151,000/ 9%
Mississippi	37	89,000/ 12%	West Virginia	21	37,000/ 10%
United States		7,757,000/ 11%			

Source: *2011 Kids Count Data Book*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, State Ranking Tables,

<<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrossstates>>

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Children Affected by Foreclosure Since 2007

State	Number	State	Number
Alabama	45,000/ 3%	North Carolina	90,000/ 2%
Arkansas	22,000/ 2%	Oklahoma	35,000/ 3%
Florida	626,000/ 10%	South Carolina	53,000/ 3%
Georgia	205,000/ 5%	Tennessee	73,000/ 3%
Kentucky	38,000/ 2%	Texas	281,000/ 3%
Louisiana	39,000/ 2%	Virginia	100,000/ 3%
Mississippi	28,000/ 3%	West Virginia	10,000/ 2%
United States	5,288,000/ 4%		

Source: 2011 Kids Count Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, State Ranking Tables,

<<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrosstates>>

Where Did We Rank Nationally?

Highest and Lowest Ranking States on Key Indicators 2011

Key Indicators	Best State(s)	Worst State(s)
Percent Low-Birthweight Babies (2008)	Alaska	Mississippi
Infant Mortality Rate (2007)	Washington	Mississippi
Child Death Rate (2007)	Rhode Island	Mississippi
Teen Death Rate (2007)	Vermont	Alaska
Teen Birth Rate (2008)	New Hampshire Massachusetts +	Mississippi
Percent of Teens Who are High School Dropouts (2009)	New Hampshire New Jersey+	Nevada+
Percent of Teens Not Attending School & Not Working (2009)	New Hampshire +	West Virginia +
Percent of Children Living in Families Where no Parent Has Full-time, Year-round Employment (2009)	North Dakota +	Mississippi
Percent of children in Poverty (2009)	New Hampshire	Mississippi
Percent of Children in Single Parent Families (2009)	Utah	Mississippi

Source: 2011 Kids Count Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, State Ranking Tables,

<<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrosstates>>

+ Denotes change in ranking from the 2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book. For a look at the 2010 rankings, go to <http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/upload/file/Public%20Policy%20Docs/2010%20Kids%20Count%202.pdf> and access the SECA Public Policy Brief, Kids Count 2010, p. 3.

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The following information and tables are summaries of information provided in the *2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book*. We have excerpted the statistics that apply to the SECA region and consolidated them to make them more readily available to our members throughout the region. The charts reflect the latest data available on the 10 Indicators of Child Well-being. Find more information and the definitions and data sources for indicators at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/2011>. There is also a new mobile site that can be accessed from a smartphone at <http://mobile.kidscount.org>. The KIDS COUNT project is sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and is in its 21st year.

National Overall Ranking of SECA States on Key Indicators/Review of Performance on Key Indicators in Comparison with 2000 Data

State	National Rank 2010	National Rank 2011	Number of Indicators/Improved	Number of Indicators/Worsened	Number of Indicators/Unchanged+
Alabama	47	48	3	5	0
Arkansas	48	47	5	3	0
Florida	35	36	4	3	1
Georgia	42	42	5	3	0
Kentucky	40	41	4	4	0
Louisiana	49	49	4	4	0
Mississippi	50	50	5	3	0
North Carolina	37	38	5	3	0
Oklahoma	44	43	1	6	1
South Carolina	45	45	4	3	1
Tennessee	41	39	5	2	1
Texas	34	35	4	4	0
Virginia	16	14	4	4	0
West Virginia	43	44	4	4	0

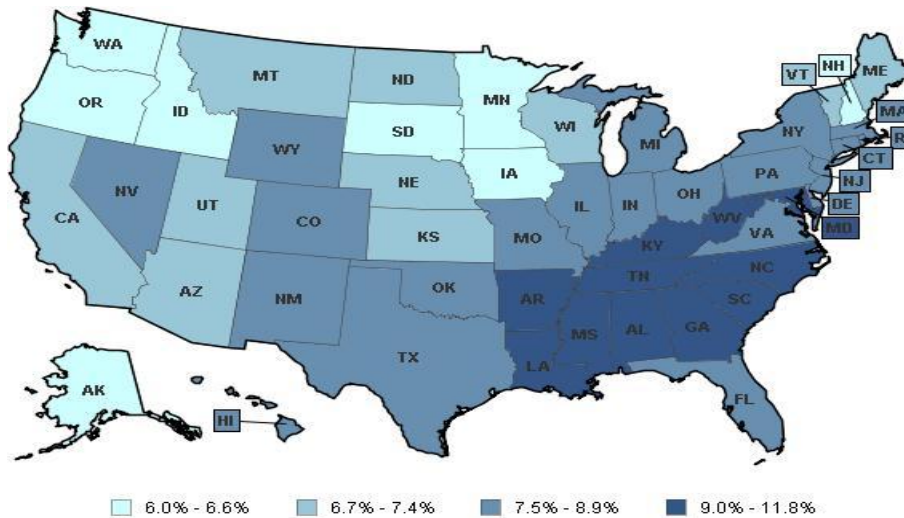
Source: *2011 Kids Count Data Book*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, State Ranking Tables, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrossstates>

Note: In comparing indicators to determine progress or worsening from 2000, totals for a state will not add to ten. Data for most states was not available from 2000 on two of the indicators, the percent of teens not attending school and not working and the percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment.

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Low-birthweight babies (Percent) – 2008
 KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
 A Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies: 2008

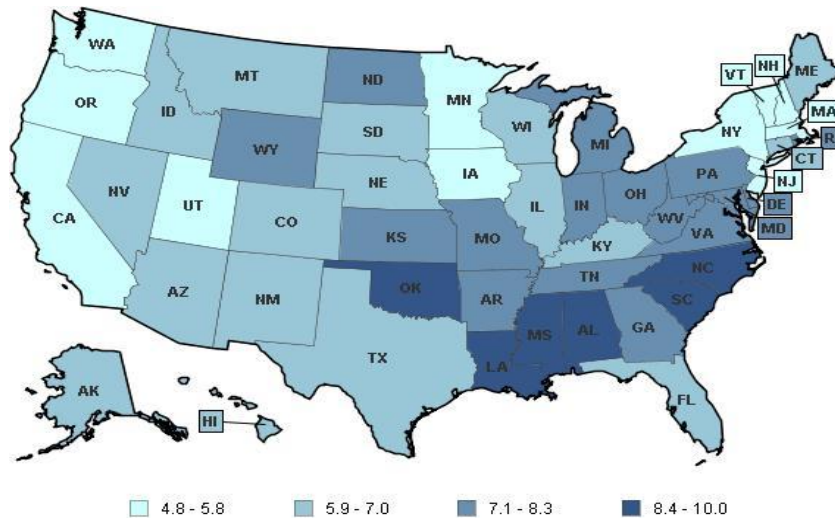
State	Percentage 2007	Percentage 2008	Better/Worse
Alabama	10.4	10.6	Worse
Arkansas	9.1	9.2	Worse
Florida	8.7	8.8	Worse
Georgia	9.1	9.6	Worse
Kentucky	9.3	9.2	Better
Louisiana	11.0	10.8	Better
Mississippi	12.3	11.8	Better
North Carolina	9.2	9.1	Better
Oklahoma	8.2	8.3	Worse
South Carolina	10.1	9.9	Better
Tennessee	9.4	9.2	Better
Texas	8.4	8.4	-----
Virginia	8.6	8.3	Better
West Virginia	9.5	9.5	-----

Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,
<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrosstates>

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Infant mortality (Rate) - 2007

KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
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Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1000 live births): 2007

State	National Rank	Rate
Alabama	49	9.9
Arkansas	37	7.7
Florida	28	7.0
Georgia	42	8.0
Kentucky	23	6.7
Louisiana	48	9.2
Mississippi	50	10.0
North Carolina	45	8.5
Oklahoma	45	8.5
South Carolina	47	8.6
Tennessee	44	8.3
Texas	13	6.3
Virginia	39	7.8
West Virginia	31	7.5

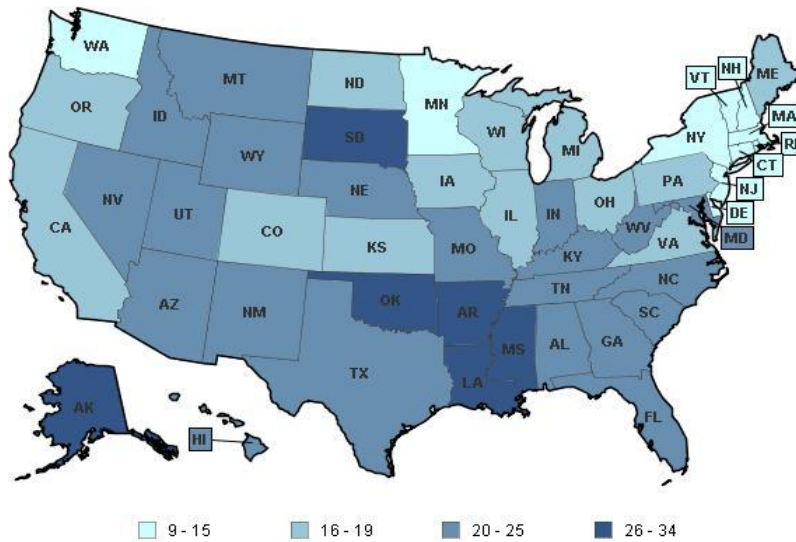
Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,

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Child deaths (Rate per 100,000) – 2007

KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
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Child Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14): 2007

State	National Rank	Rate
Alabama	40	23
Arkansas	46	28
Florida	27	21
Georgia	27	21
Kentucky	36	22
Louisiana	47	29
Mississippi	50	34
North Carolina	27	21
Oklahoma	47	29
South Carolina	44	25
Tennessee	24	20
Texas	27	21
Virginia	15	18
West Virginia	42	24

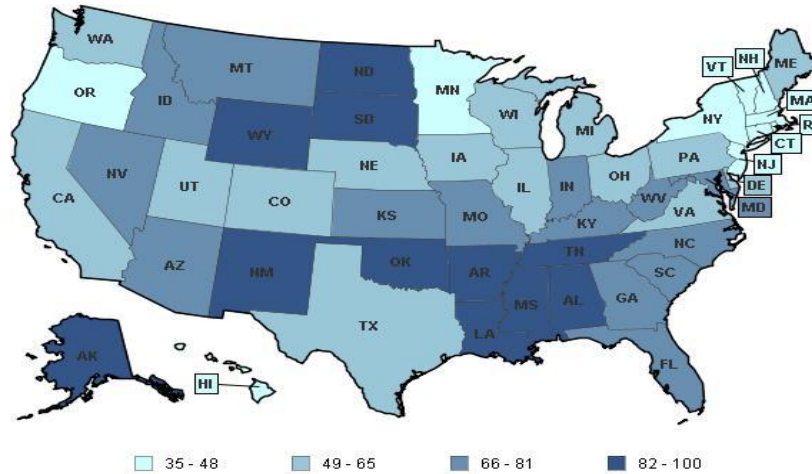
Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,

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Teen deaths from all causes (Rate per 100,000) – 2007

KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
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Teen Death Rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19): 2007

State	National Rank	Rate
Alabama	45	93
Arkansas	45	93
Florida	32	72
Georgia	33	73
Kentucky	34	74
Louisiana	47	94
Mississippi	49	98
North Carolina	26	67
Oklahoma	40	83
South Carolina	39	81
Tennessee	42	84
Texas	23	63
Virginia	13	53
West Virginia	30	70

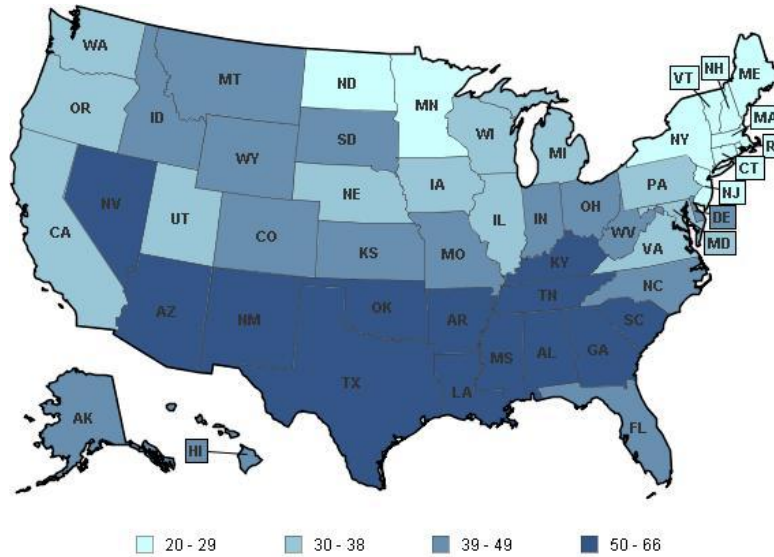
Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,

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Teen births by age group: 15 to 19 (Rate per 1,000) – 2008

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Teen Birth Rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15-19): 2008

State	Ages 15-17	Total Ages 15-19
Alabama	27	53
Arkansas	31	62
Florida	21	43
Georgia	27	52
Kentucky	25	56
Louisiana	27	54
Mississippi	35	66
North Carolina	26	49
Oklahoma	31	62
South Carolina	28	53
Tennessee	27	56
Texas	36	63
Virginia	15	33
West Virginia	23	49

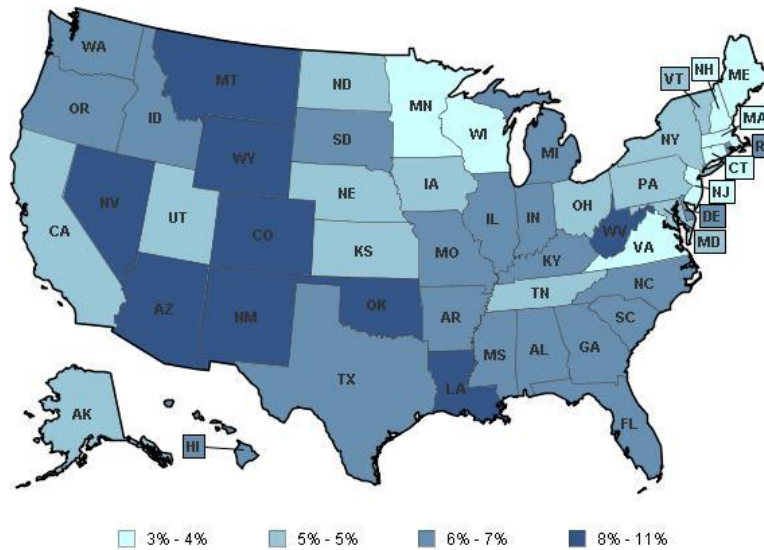
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Teens ages 16 to 19 not in school and not high school graduates (Percent) - 2009

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Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts (ages 16-19): 2009

State	2008 Rate	2009 Rate
Alabama	8	7
Arkansas	9	7
Florida	7	7
Georgia	8	7
Kentucky	7	7
Louisiana	10	8
Mississippi	7	7
North Carolina	8	7
Oklahoma	8	8
South Carolina	7	7
Tennessee	7	5
Texas	7	7
Virginia	4	4
West Virginia	8	9

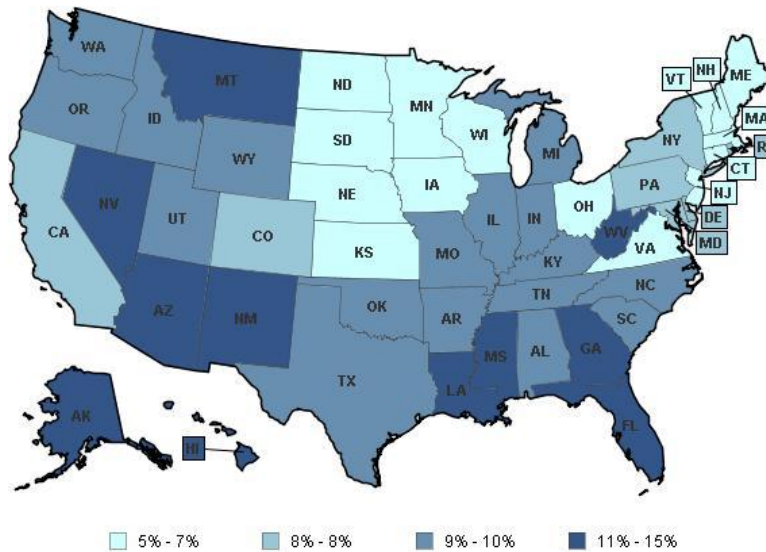
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Teens ages 16 to 19 not attending school and not working (Percent) – 2009

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Percent of Teens Not Attending School & Not Working (ages 16-19): 2009

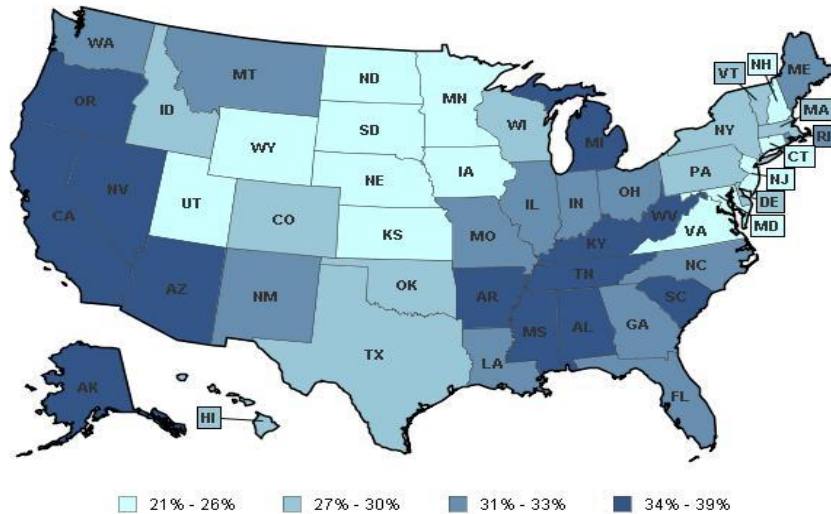
State	2008 Rate	2009 Rate
Alabama	10	10
Arkansas	12	10
Florida	10	11
Georgia	11	12
Kentucky	10	10
Louisiana	11	11
Mississippi	9	12
North Carolina	8	10
Oklahoma	8	9
South Carolina	8	10
Tennessee	9	10
Texas	8	10
Virginia	7	7
West Virginia	10	15

Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,
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Children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment (Percent) - 2009
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Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment: 2009

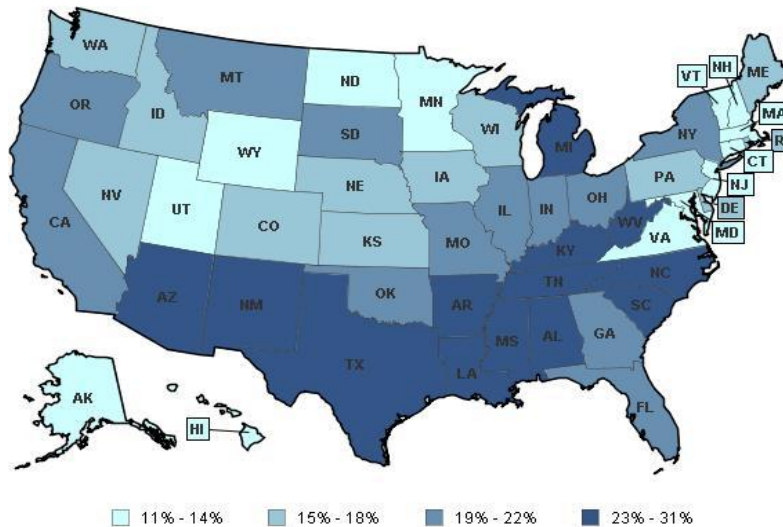
State	2008 Rate	2009 Rate
Alabama	30	35
Arkansas	32	34
Florida	28	32
Georgia	28	32
Kentucky	33	38
Louisiana	32	33
Mississippi	35	39
North Carolina	28	33
Oklahoma	29	29
South Carolina	30	34
Tennessee	30	35
Texas	26	30
Virginia	23	25
West Virginia	45	35

Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrosstates>

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Children in poverty (Percent) - 2009

KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
 A Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Percent of Children in Poverty: 2009

State	2008 Rate	2009 Rate
Alabama	22	25
Arkansas	25	27
Florida	18	21
Georgia	20	22
Kentucky	23	26
Louisiana	25	24
Mississippi	30	31
North Carolina	20	23
Oklahoma	23	22
South Carolina	22	24
Tennessee	22	24
Texas	23	24
Virginia	14	14
West Virginia	23	24

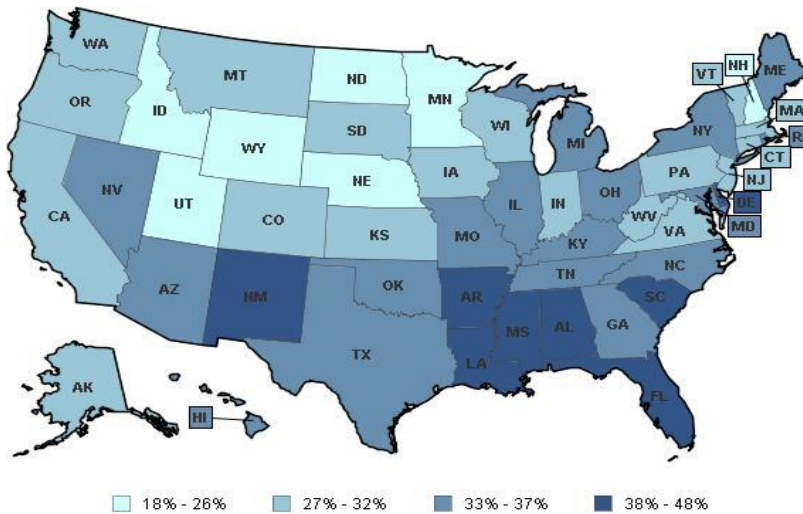
Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,

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Children in single-parent families (Percent) – 2009

KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
 A Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Percent of Children in Single-Parent Families: 2009

State	2008 Rate	2009 Rate
Alabama	36	39
Arkansas	36	38
Florida	36	38
Georgia	36	37
Kentucky	33	34
Louisiana	43	42
Mississippi	45	48
North Carolina	34	36
Oklahoma	33	35
South Carolina	39	40
Tennessee	35	36
Texas	33	35
Virginia	30	31
West Virginia	29	32

Source: 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Data Across States,
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Definitions

- **Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies:** The percentage of live babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.) at birth. *Source: US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics*
- **Infant Mortality Rate:** The number of deaths occurring to infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births. *Source: US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics*
- **Child Death Rate:** The number of deaths to children between ages 1-14, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age range. *Source: US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics*
- **Teen Death Rate:** The number of deaths from all causes to teens between the ages of 15-19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. *Source: Death Statistics: US Center for Disease Control and Prevention*
- **Teen Birth Rate:** The number of births to teenagers between ages 15-19 per 1,000 females in this age group. *Source: US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics*
- **Percent of Teens Who are High-School Dropouts:** The percentage of teenagers between ages 16- 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. *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*
- **Percent of Teens Not Attending School and Not Working:** The percentage of teenagers between ages 16-19 who are not enrolled in school (full or part-time) and not employed (full or part-time). *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*
- **Percent of Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment:** The share of all children under age 18 living in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment. *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*
- **Percent of Children In Poverty:** The percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 100% of the federal poverty level (\$21,027 for a family of two adults and two children in 2007). *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*
- **Percent of Children In Single Parent Families:** 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. *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey*

