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## ABSTRACT

This Kids Count factbook is the fifth to examine statewide and county trends in the well-being of Maryland's children. The statistical portrait is based on indicators in the domains of economic well-being, good health, safety, and preparing for adulthood. The 16 indicators are: (1) child poverty; (2) child support; (3) births to teens; (4) low birth weight infants; (5) infant mortality; (6) early prenatal care; (7) binge drinking; (8) child abuse and neglect; (9) child death rate; (10) teen violent death; (11) school violence; (12) juvenile violent crime arrests; (13) nonviolent juvenile criminal arrests; (14) third grade reading; (15) on-time graduation; and (16) high school completion. The report presents key findings about Maryland's children and describes how Maryland counties rank and how the state ranks nationwide. The bulk of the report presents state and county level data on demographic information and the above indicators from the mid 1980s to the late 1990s. Key findings indicated that there were improvements in percentage of babies born to teenage mothers, percentage of paying child support cases, infant mortality rate, percentage of third grade students performing satisfactorily or above on the reading portion of the Maryland State Performance Assessment Program, teen violent death rate, nonviolent juvenile crime arrests, and the percentage of women beginning prenatal care in the first trimester. There was an increase in child poverty, violence-related arrests, and binge drinking. The report concludes with an appendix presenting data by county on the indicators and information on methodology and data sources. (KB)

# 1999 Maryland

# WIDS GOOD BOOK

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# Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership

**JANN JACKSON**

Advocates for Children and Youth, Inc.  
LEAD AGENCY

**KATHY ROSENBERGER**

Maryland State Department of  
Education

*Staff:*

**JENNEAN EVERETT-REYNOLDS**  
Project Director

**DAVID AYER**

Governor's Office for Children, Youth  
and Families

**JAMES P. McCOMB**

Maryland Association of Resources for  
Families and Youth

**CLAUDINE TIFFAULT**

Research Assistant

**DIANE BAUM**

Shelter Foundation

**LYNDA MEADE**

Welfare Advocates

**CHARLIE COOPER**

Maryland Education Coalition

**LINDA RAMSEY**

Friends of the Family, Inc.

**ARNA J. GRIFFITH**

Maryland Committee for Children, Inc.

**JUNE E. STRECKFUS**

Maryland Business Roundtable for  
Education

**ROBERT HESS**

Center for Poverty Solutions

**CHARLENE HUGHINS UHL**

Ready at Five Partnership

**BURTON LOHNES**

Mental Health Association of Maryland

**ROGER I. LYONS**

The Baltimore Urban League, Inc.



# ERRATA

On page 84 of *The Maryland 1999 KIDS COUNT Factbook*, we reported an error on the table labeled, "Teen Birth Rate." The numbers should read as the following:

## TEEN BIRTH RATE

Rate of Births from mothers ages 15-19 per 1,000 females, ages 15-19  
Maryland

County	THEN 1987			NOW 1997			TREND	RANK
	Total	White	African American*	Total	White	African American		
Allegany	37.6	36.4	72.7	41.5	43.6	17.6	Worse	10
Anne Arundel	33.9	27.8	64.4	36.6	27.7	75.8	Worse	8
Baltimore City	88.0	57.2	99.6	94.5	48.9	111.5	Worse	24
Baltimore County	26.4	23.4	41.1	33.0	24.2	65.8	Worse	7
Calvert	37.0	21.9	97.6	88.8	36.0	56.8	Worse	23
Caroline	43.3	34.5	80.0	66.3	13.8	116.7	Worse	21
Carroll	24.4	23.5	47.4	18.2	18.5	8.3	Better	2
Cecil	57.2	59.3	36.7	52.7	50.0	81.3	Better	16
Charles	31.6	24.3	57.9	46.7	33.8	88.4	Worse	14
Dorchester	66.9	26.3	140.5	72.5	52.0	97.5	Worse	22
Frederick	27.7	25.2	58.3	29.2	25.1	74.4	Worse	5
Garrett	49.6	50.0	0.0	58.8	60.6	0.0	Worse	17
Harford	29.3	25.8	53.8	31.0	26.9	53.9	Worse	6
Howard	13.8	10.7	26.3	16.9	12.8	34.3	Worse	1
Kent	17.1	11.1	37.5	44.6	28.1	106.7	Worse	12
Montgomery	17.2	13.4	27.2	21.7	15.1	36.5	Worse	4
Prince George's	38.2	24.1	48.3	45.6	25.6	52.6	Worse	13
Queen Anne's	32.0	27.4	57.9	19.6	13.8	53.8	Better	3
Somerset	48.4	48.8	48.1	43.8	15.9	43.1	Better	11
St. Mary's	38.1	31.0	69.7	39.6	30.5	83.7	Worse	9
Talbot	36.0	26.4	60.7	62.3	40.4	115.0	Worse	20
Washington	48.3	45.7	105.0	59.5	55.8	153.3	Worse	18
Wicomico	42.4	29.3	80.0	60.9	31.6	144.0	Worse	19
Worcester	47.6	25.6	97.4	49.1	41.1	67.7	Worse	15
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>66.9</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>74.1</b>	<b>Worse</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics

\* African American category for 1987 also includes other races

**Our Vision**

Maryland's children will have opportunities to achieve their full potential. They will reach adulthood having experienced a safe, healthy and nurturing childhood. Children in Maryland will have opportunities to grow physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially. They will be prepared to become responsible, self-sufficient and contributing members of the community.



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## Maryland 1999 KIDS COUNT Factbook

### What is KIDS COUNT?

**M**aryland KIDS COUNT began in 1993, funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Maryland KIDS COUNT profiles the status of children in Maryland by tracking outcomes of economic well-being, health, safety and education. The five main goals of this project are to:

- develop a clear picture of the condition of children at state and local levels that can be used to guide efforts to improve the quality of life for children;
- track data indicators over time to assess change;
- educate the public and policy makers on the status of children and families in Maryland;
- use KIDS COUNT data as a planning tool to identify priority issues which will assist decision-makers in effectively utilizing scarce public and private resources; and
- maximize collaborative efforts on behalf of children.

Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership is a collaborative effort of the following: Advocates for Children and Youth, Inc., Baltimore Urban League, Inc., Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families, The Shelter Foundation, The Ready At Five Partnership, Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth, Maryland Business Roundtable for Education, Maryland Committee for Children, Inc., Maryland State Department of Education, Welfare Advocates, Maryland Education Coalition, Mental Health Association of Maryland, Friends of the Family Inc.; and The Center for Poverty Solutions.

For further information about KIDS COUNT publications contact:

#### Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership

Jennean Everett-Reynolds

Project Director

Advocates for Children and Youth, Inc.

34 Market Place, Fifth Floor

Baltimore, MD 21202

E-mail: Kidscount@acy.org

(410) 547-9200 Fax (410) 547-8690

Or visit our website at: [www.acy.org](http://www.acy.org)



Additional copies of the Maryland 1999 KIDS COUNT Factbook are available for a fee of \$15 (postage included).

Please make checks payable to "ACY- KIDS COUNT."

We encourage that any or all portions of this book be copied without prior permission, provided the Maryland 1999 KIDS COUNT Factbook is acknowledged.

## Acknowledgements

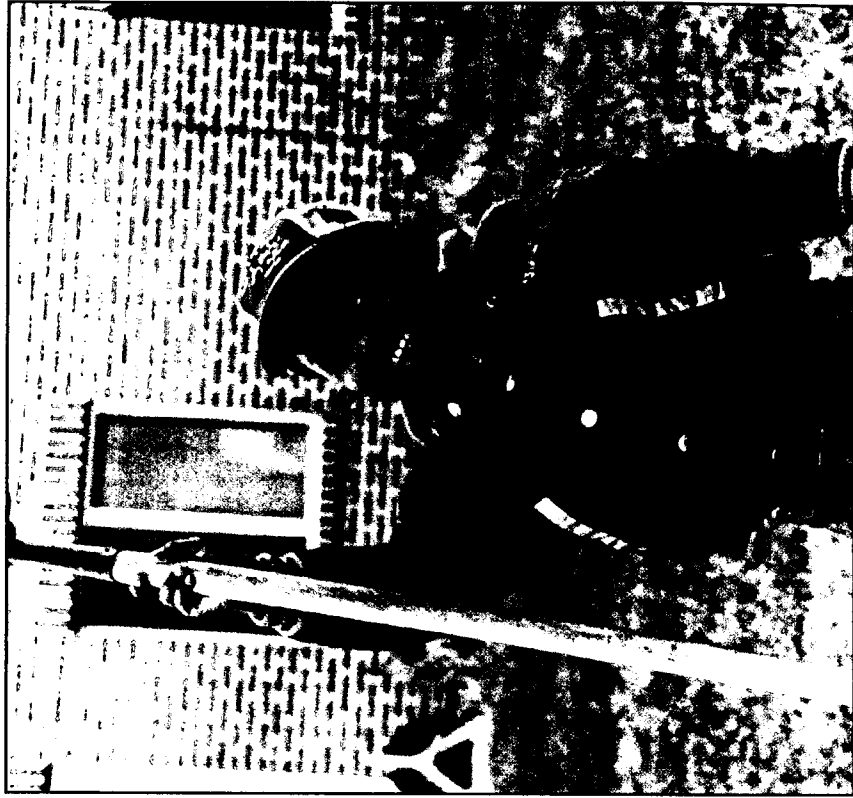
The Maryland KIDS COUNT project is funded by a grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Without its dedication and commitment to the well-being of children, this project would not have been possible. Thanks to the national KIDS COUNT project staff; Bill O'Hare and Jennifer Baratz for their technical assistance and encouragement. We would also like to recognize the staff from Child Trends, Inc., for their technical assistance and professional advice.

It is with our appreciation that we would like to thank the following individuals for their contribution to the Maryland KIDS COUNT project.

Thanks to the Data Committee for their outstanding effort in helping us collect the various data elements used in this book. They are: Margaret Fowler (Child Support Enforcement Administration, Department of Human Resources), Sandy Kratzer (Income Maintenance Administration, Department of Human Resources), Linda Baker and Roslyn Hodnett (Maryland State Department of Education), Arna Griffith (Maryland Committee for Children, Inc.), Deborah Morgan (Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene), John Folkmer (Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene), Dr. Lakshmi Iyengar (Department of Juvenile Services), Estelle Appleburg and Hal Sommers (Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene), Denise Shearer (Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Maryland State Police), Steve Berry (Maryland Department of Human Resources).

For their hard work and dedication we acknowledge the KIDS COUNT staff: Jennean Everett-Reynolds, Project Director and Claudine Tiffault, Research Assistant.

We would like to thank Saro Dedeyan of Bulls-Eye Graphics for his innovative and creative design of this factbook.





## Status of Our Children

### Why This Book?

The Maryland 1999 Factbook presents the fifth comprehensive look at the conditions of children and families in Maryland. The factbook measures how well or how poorly children are doing by presenting the best available data to monitor the social, economic, educational and physical well-being of Maryland's children. The data on the sixteen indicators in this factbook are categorized under four domains: Economic Well-Being, Good Health, Safety and Preparing for Adulthood. This Factbook provides a detailed state and county level picture of the quality of life of Maryland's children.

This Factbook is an important tool in educating the public and decision-makers on the status of children in Maryland. It builds a strong and effective case for improving measurable outcomes for Maryland's children. It is our hope that the increased awareness resulting from the presentation of these data will prompt the interest of all Marylanders to work toward improving the quality of life for our children. This can be done by working together toward public and private solutions to the present and future crises our children face.

### What's New in the KIDS COUNT Factbook?

In an continuing effort to provide our readers with the most relevant and useful data and information we have made several changes to this year's Factbook.

- After careful review the Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership decided to cease reporting on the percentage of children screened for lead poisoning. Because the Centers for Disease Control is no longer recommending universal screening, and as the risk for lead poisoning is not significant in all Maryland counties, the relevance of this indicator is diminished.
- Three new indicators have been added to this years edition. We believe the addition of these indicators will provide a more comprehensive view into the lives of the children in our community. Non-violent juvenile arrest rate and 10th grade binge drinking, have been added to more fully monitor adolescent risk taking behavior. The third new indicator, early prenatal care, has been added as it is viewed by many as an essential compliment to two other child health indicators contained in the Factbook, infant mortality and low birth weight. While infant mortality and low birth weight are outcome measures that indicate birth outcomes directly, prenatal care use represents access to and utilization of health care resources in our community.
- In response to the numerous requests we receive each year for technical assistance on the proper use and manipulation of data, this edition contains a new section entitled, "Using KIDS COUNT Data." This new section contains basic information, formulas and advice on responsible use of data that will arm the reader with a basic tool set to accurately and confidently use and manipulate these data.

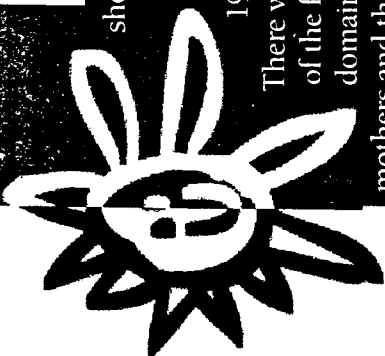
# Key Findings About Maryland's Children

## Promising News

There are now sixteen indicators of children's well-being in this publication and we are disappointed to report that only seven have shown any improvement. While we are pleased to report some promising news, we are disappointed that in the two years since our release of the 1996 Factbook more progress has not been made. There was improvement in at least one indicator in each of the four domains. Within the economic well-being domain, both the percentage of babies born to teenage mothers and the percentage of paying child support cases improved modestly, with the percentage of births to teens decreasing by 4% and the percent of paying child support cases increasing by 12%. Within the health domain our multi-year analysis reveals that the infant mortality rate decreased 11% over baseline to 8.9 deaths per 1,000 births. With regard to education we find that while still falling short of our goal, the percentage of third grade students performing satisfactory or above on the reading portion of the Maryland State Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP), has improved significantly, with its most current rate of 41.6%, a 45% improvement over baseline.

Within the safety domain, the rate of teen violent death showed a small reduction (2%) for the first time.

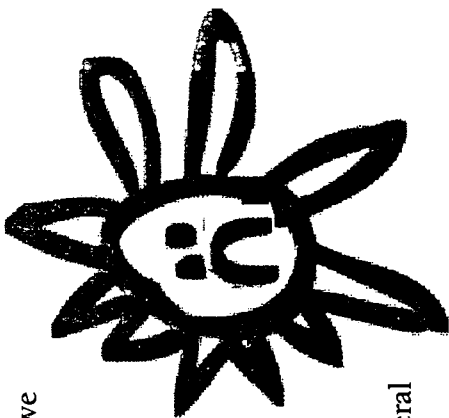
Of the three new indicators added this year, two have experienced positive change over baseline. The rate of non-violent juvenile crime arrests has fallen by over 11% since 1990 to 262 arrests per 10,000 youths. During the same time period, the percentage of women who began prenatal care in their first trimester increased by 4% to 78.7%.



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## Disturbing News

Perhaps the most troubling data we report in this publication is on poverty. The most current data available from the United States Bureau of the Census indicates there has been a 17% increase in the percentage of Maryland children living in poverty between 1989 and 1995 from 11.3% to 13.2%. During this same time period the number of children in Maryland living under the federal poverty level increased by nearly 34%.

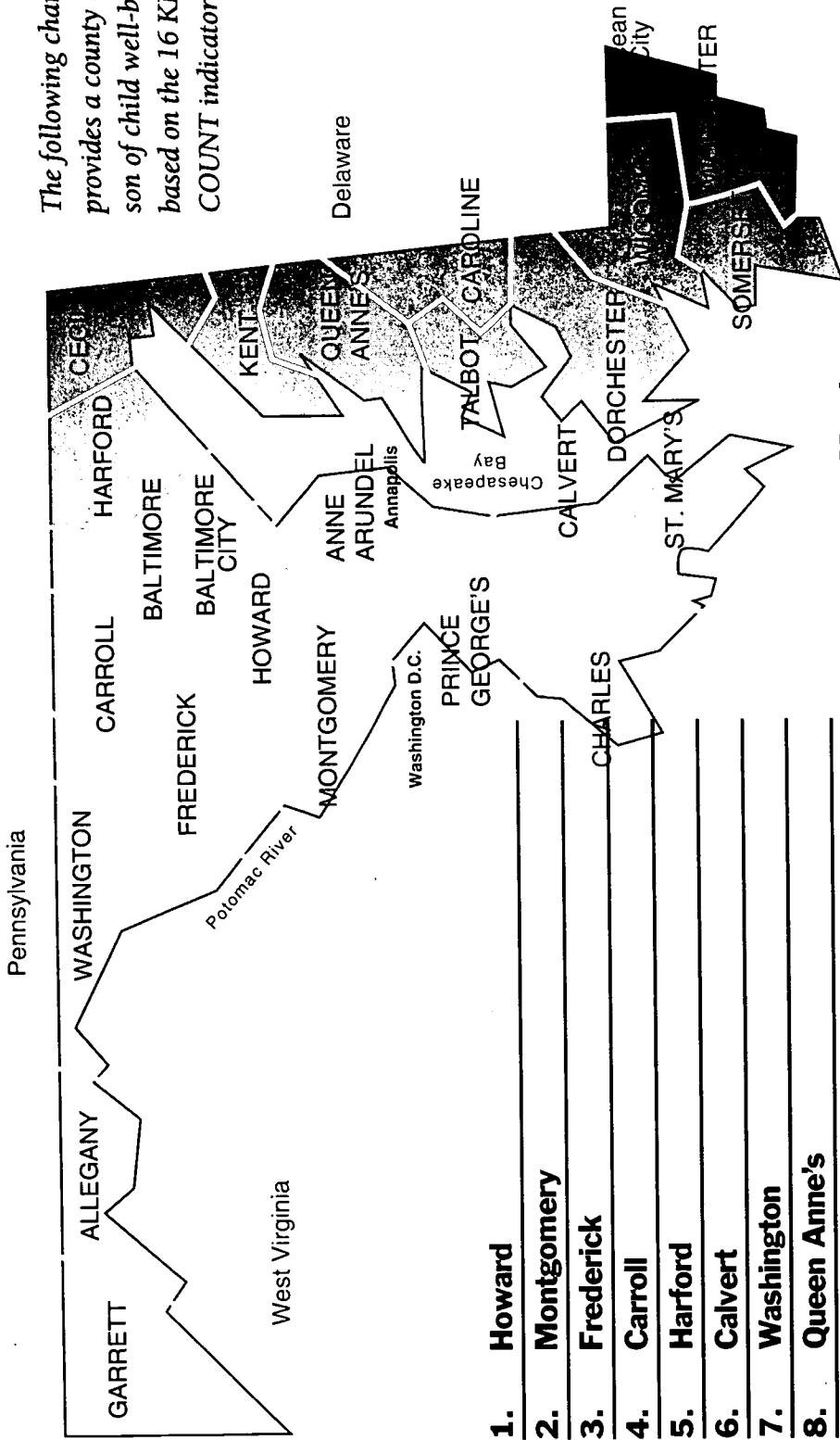


There is also disturbing news to report with regard to Maryland's children and violence. The rates of violence-related suspension, and violence-related arrests have both increased over baseline. The magnitude of these increases are troubling. The rate of violence-related suspension grew by more than 30% since school year 1992-93, much of this increase has occurred between school year 1996-97 and school year 1997-98 with a remarkable 21% one year increase. There is no systemic explanation for this sharp rise. The rate of violence-related arrests increased by 17% since 1990.

Our new binge drinking indicator also presents us with distressing information. These data reflect that since 1992, there has been a 27% increase in the percentage of students engaging in this behavior, from 19.9% to 25.2%. This means that 1 out of every 4 10th grade students reported binge drinking during the past thirty days.

# How Maryland Counties Rank

The following chart provides a county comparison of child well-being based on the 16 KIDS COUNT indicators.



1. Howard
2. Montgomery
3. Frederick
4. Carroll
5. Harford
6. Calvert
7. Washington
8. Queen Anne's
9. Allegany
10. Cecil
11. Garrett
12. Anne Arundel
13. Baltimore County
14. Charles
15. Kent
16. Somerset
17. St. Mary's
18. Talbot
19. Prince George's
20. Worcester
21. Caroline
22. Wicomico
23. Dorchester
24. Baltimore City

# How Maryland Counties Rank by Domain

Health	Economic Well-Being	Safety	Preparing For Adulthood
Howard	Howard	Montgomery	Howard
Carroll	Frederick	Washington	Montgomery
Harford	Carroll	Carroll	Frederick
Frederick	Calvert	Harford	Calvert
Calvert	Queen Anne's	Howard	Carroll
Garrett	Harford	Allegany	Worcester
Queen Anne's	Montgomery	Frederick	Baltimore County
Montgomery	Charles	Garrett	Allegany
Allegany	Talbot	Anne Arundel	Harford
Washington	Baltimore County	Calvert	Talbot
Cecil	Washington	Queen Anne's	Kent
Kent	Anne Arundel	Somerset	Anne Arundel
Charles	Kent	Cecil	Queen Anne's
Talbot	Cecil	Baltimore County	Dorchester
St. Mary's	St. Mary's	Prince George's	St. Mary's
Anne Arundel	Caroline	Caroline	Washington
Somerset	Prince George's	Kent	Prince George's
Worcester	Somerset	St. Mary's	Cecil
Baltimore County	Worcester	Wicomico	Wicomico
Caroline	Garrett	Talbot	Charles
Prince George's	Allegany	Charles	Garrett
Baltimore City	Wicomico	Worcester	Somerset
Wicomico	Dorchester	Dorchester	Caroline
Dorchester	Baltimore City	Baltimore City	Baltimore City

## Domains

### Health

- Low Birthweight Infants
- Infant Mortality
- Prenatal Care
- Binge Drinking

### Economic Well-Being

- Child Poverty
- Child Support
- Births to Teens

### Safety\*

- Child Death Rate
- Teen Violence Deaths
- Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests

### Preparing for Adulthood

- School Violence
- Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrests
- Third Grade Reading
- On-Time Graduation
- High School Program Completion

\* Does not include the Child Abuse/Neglect indicator.



## How Do We Rank?

### How Does Maryland Compare to other States on Teen Sexual Activity\*

Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females 15-19) 1995	20th
Percent Change in teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females 15-19) 1991-96	15th
Birth rate for younger teens (births per 1,000 females 15-17) 1996	28th
Percent of teen births that occurred to unmarried teens 1996	48th
Percent of teen births that are repeat births 1996	19th
Teen births as percent of all births 1996	8th
Percent of births to teens receiving late or no prenatal care 1996	9th
Gonorrhea rate 1996	46th

### How Does Maryland Compare to Other States\*\*

Percent of low birth weight babies 1995	43rd
Infant mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births) 1995	41st
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children 1-14) 1995	21st
Rate of teen violent death (deaths per 100,000 children 15-19) 1995	38th
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females 15-17) 1995	28th
Juvenile violent crime arrest rate (per 100,000 youths 10-17) 1995	46th
Percent of teens who are high school drop outs (16-19) 1995	22nd
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (16-19) 1995	18th
Percent of children in poverty 1995	20th
Percent of single parent families 1995	24th

\* Excerpted from When Teens Have Sex - 1999 The Annie E. Casey Foundation (1=Best 50=Worst)  
 \*\* Excerpted from Kids Count Data Book: State Profiles of Child Well-Being - 1998, The Annie E. Casey Foundation (1=Best 50=Worst)

## Guide to the Factbook

**T**he 1999 Factbook provides data for 16 indicators of child well-being for each county. County-specific data are reported for time periods marked THEN and NOW. Data presented under the category of NOW are the most current data available. Due to time required for the collection and assembly of data by the agencies that serve as our primary data sources and the time required to produce the Factbook, data from 1997 and in a few instances 1998 are the most current available. Please note that "year" may be calendar year or fiscal year. Data presented under the category of THEN serve as baseline years. The reader is cautioned to check each indicator to determine the exact time period being reported. Please refer to the methodology section for clarification.

The data in the 1999 Maryland KIDS COUNT Factbook is presented in three different ways: number, rate, and rank.

**NUMBER:** The most direct measure of the scope of a problem is the count of the number of events of concern, for example the number of births to mothers under age 20. County factsheets show the number of events for a designated time period.

**RATE:** A rate measures both the likelihood of an event and the severity of a problem. For example, if 10 out of every 100 births are low birthweight that is a low birthweight rate of 10 per 100 births or 10%. A rate is useful if you want to compare the severity of the problem in one area to another or from one time period to another. However, if you are planning an intervention and estimating the required resources, you will need to know the actual numbers.

A rate is calculated by dividing the number of events of interest by the number of persons that are "eligible" for the event and multiplying the yielded value by the chosen multiplier (e.g. 100, 1,000, 10,000, etc.)

**RANK:** In the 1999 Factbook, we used the rate or percentage to assign a ranking for each of the sixteen indicators. These rankings are then used to calculate overall county rankings. The overall ranking of a county is based on the sum of its rankings for each indicator. The county with the lowest sum total has the highest (best) rank. The county with the highest sum total has the lowest (worst) rank. The county rank tells how well the children in each county are faring compared to other jurisdictions in Maryland.

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## Using KIDS COUNT Data

Contained within the pages of this book are a wide array of data presented in many different forms. For your benefit we have analyzed these data to convey how children in our state are faring at the state and county levels. While this publication is comprehensive and exhaustive in its scope, it is not possible to perform every analysis to answer every question each reader may have. There is substantially more that can be learned from these data, especially at the county level. For example, you may be specifically interested in the rate of non-violent juvenile arrests in your county. It would be reasonable for you to want to know what the rate has been over the last ten years, how it has changed and how it compares to your neighboring counties. The limits of time and space do not allow The Maryland KIDS COUNT Factbook to present that level of detail for every county. However we encourage you to use the data contained within this book to find the answers to those critically important questions.

Many people are intimidated by data and assume that to manipulate and use data requires special training. In fact, armed with a few simple formulas and some words of wisdom regarding responsible use, anyone with paper and pencil can perform calculations that will describe problems, inform possible solutions and help set priorities. We urge you to use the formulas presented below to inform your work.

### *Calculating Percentages, Rates, Ratios and Change Over Time*

#### **Calculating a percentage:**

A percent means per 100. For example, 10 percent means 10 out of 100, 50 percent means 50 out of 100. To calculate a percent you must divide the number in a subgroup by the number in the total group and multiply by 100.

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- Percent = (Number in sub-group ÷ Number in whole group) x 100
- Example: Percent births to teens
- Formula: (Births to females 15-19 ÷ All Births) x 100
- Calculation:  $(6,971 \div 70,151) \times 100 = 9.9\%$

Once your percentages are calculated there are numerous ways you can express them to maximize their use.

Percentages	Conversion
5%	5 in 100 or 1 in 20
10%	1 in 10 or One-tenth
50%	1 in 2 or One-half
75%	3 in 4 or Three-fourths

#### **Calculating a rate:**

To calculate a rate you need three pieces of information: the total group number, the number in your sub-group and the multiplier.

- Rate = (Number in sub-group ÷ Number in whole group) x Multiplier
- Example: Teen birth rate per 1,000 females 15-19
- Formula: (Births to females 15-19 ÷ All females 15-19) x 1,000
- Calculation:  $(6,971 \div 327,918) \times 1,000 = 21.2$

#### **Calculating a ratio:**

A ratio is simply one number divided by another. It conveys the magnitude of the difference between two numbers. You can use this kind of comparison if you have the same measure for two groups for the same year or one group with data for two different years.

For example, in 1997 the infant mortality rate for white babies was 5.3 per 1,000 live births, for African Americans it was 13.6 per 1,000 live births. If you divide the African American rate by the white rate you get the ratio.

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## Using KIDS COUNT Data

Ratio = African American infant mortality ÷ White infant mortality rate  
 $13.6 \div 5.3 = 2.6$

This tells us that the 1997 infant mortality rate for African Americans is more than two and a half times higher than the 1997 infant mortality rate for whites.

### Calculating Change Over Time

Often it is helpful to examine how a data element has changed over the years. You may be interested in knowing the magnitude of the change of the rate at one point in time as compared to another point in time. This calculation is referred to as the "rate of change" and the formula is presented below.

Rate of Change =  $\frac{(\text{Newer year number} - \text{Older year number})}{-1} \times 100$

Example: The percentage of births to women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester for 1990 was 75.8%.  
The percentage of births to women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester for 1997 was 78.7%.

Calculation:  $\frac{(78.7 - 75.8)}{-1} \times 100 = 3.8\%$

The rate of change for the percentage of births to women with early prenatal care between 1990 and 1997 is 3.8%.

### Using Data Responsibly

In order to fully maximize your use of these data or any other data you use in the future, here are a few tips on how to use it responsibly.

- Use caution when dealing with small numbers  
Calculating rates and percentages when you only have small numbers of events or individuals is problematic. Death rates are a good example given the low number of incidences, especially in smaller counties. These figures may be unstable,

unreliable and can be very misleading. If you find the event you are attempting to produce a rate for has less than 10 occurrences you should not produce a rate. Try combining three to five years of data to produce a more stable rate.

### ■ Definitions and methods of collecting data sometimes change

When analyzing data over time be aware that the agency that collects the data may change how they define or calculate the data. For example, over the years the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has made many changes in how they classify race. For some years they reported rates and events for whites, with all other races combined into one group, with no further disaggregation possible. Currently they have begun to report separately for whites, African Americans, Native Americans and Asians. That means that in earlier years calculating rates for African Americans Native Americans and Asians alone was not possible. Another example is that some agencies change from year to year how they report the same data element. Consider the number of children enrolled in foster care as an example. Depending on how the data are available, the data you receive might be an actual count or a monthly average, an unduplicated count or perhaps it does not take into consideration those children who leave the system and then return within the same year. You should always note changes in the way data are defined and reported and convey this to your readers or audience.



# Overview

Child Poverty  
Child Support  
Births to Teens

Low Birthweight Babies  
Infant Mortality  
Early Prenatal Care  
Binge Drinking

Child Death Rate  
Teen Violent Deaths  
Child Abuse and Neglect  
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests  
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrests  
School Violence

Third Grade Reading  
On-Time Graduation  
High School Program Completion

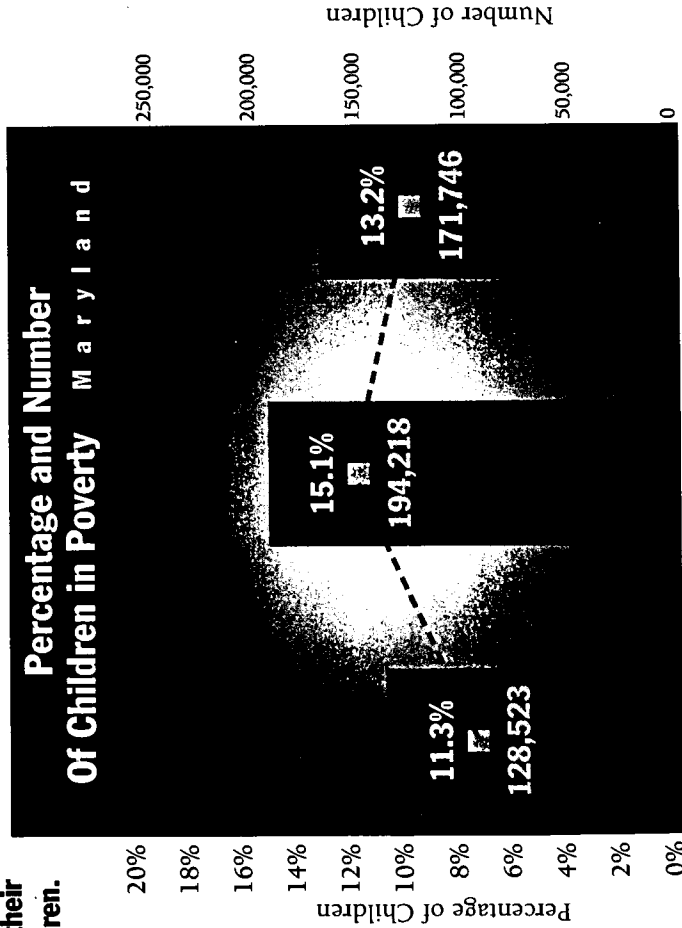
# Overview

## ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

### Child Poverty

**Indicator Definition:** Child poverty is the percent and number of related children under 18 whose families have incomes below the U.S. Poverty Threshold. The base year data presented at the state and county levels are from the 1990 census. Data for 1993 and 1995 are poverty estimates produced by the U.S. Department of the Census. These data are the most current available poverty estimates at the jurisdictional level. These data should be used

**Families should be able to feed, clothe and house their children.**



■ Percent in Poverty ■ Number of Children Poverty  
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

with caution as they are estimates. While we believe in the validity of these data it is important to consider that when producing estimates there is a certain amount of variability that is impossible to control or anticipate. This is taken into consideration by, producing a range within which we can be sure the actual number falls. The poverty estimates in question are produced at the 90% confidence level. This means we can be 90% confident that the actual number, "percent of children in poverty", is within the range, or confidence interval indicated. Confidence intervals for each county and Maryland can be found in the appendix.

**Significance:** Economic security is the necessary first step to giving a child the opportunity to fully realize his or her potential. Because poverty affects virtually every area of a child's life, it is one of the most widely used and powerful indicators of child well-being. Children living in poverty are more likely to suffer from a host of problems including, abuse and neglect, problems in school, premature parenthood, lead poisoning and developmental delays associated with pre and post-natal malnutrition. Recent research indicates that children who suffer enduring poverty year after year and children who live in poverty during their early years suffer the worst outcomes. While poverty is a problem for all of Maryland's children, children of color are disproportionately poor. African American children are nearly four times more likely to live in poverty than white children.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** The most current data available indicates the rate of child poverty in Maryland has grown by 17% since 1989. Estimates for 1995 indicate the percentage of Maryland children who are living in poverty is 13.2%. As the graph illustrates, there has been moderate variability in this rate. While the most current data does reflect an increase over baseline, it is important to note the 1995 rate is 13% lower than the 1993 rate of 15.1%.

## Overview

### How Poverty is Measured:

The federal government's official poverty index is used to classify people as above or below the poverty line. The poverty level, created in 1964, was computed by using as a yardstick the amount of money necessary to purchase the lowest nutritionally adequate diet. This price was then multiplied

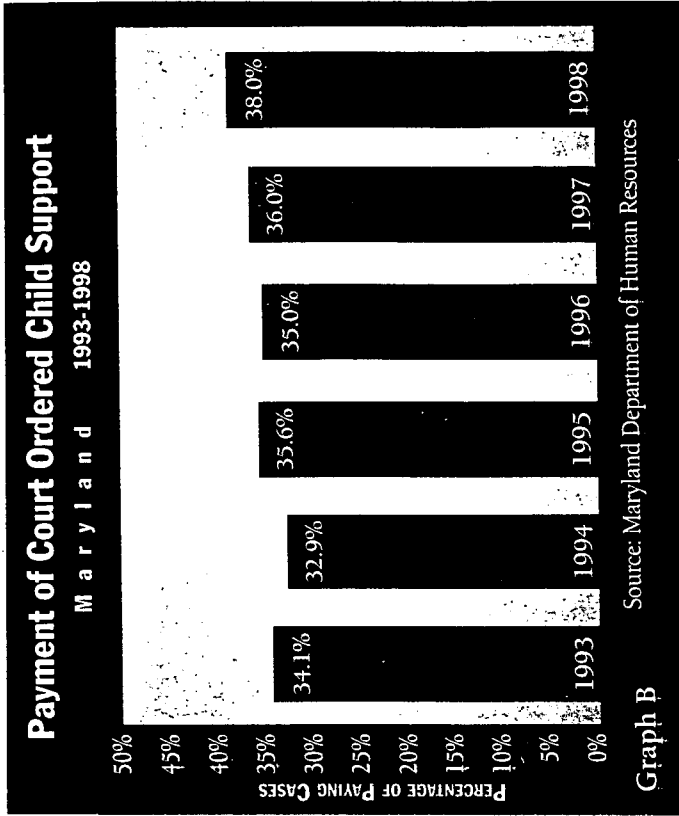
by three to obtain a poverty threshold. A family is officially classified as poor if its cash income (wages, pensions, Social Security benefits and all other forms of cash income) falls below the poverty threshold. The poverty income thresholds are updated each year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (inflation). The 1997 poverty guideline is \$12,802 for a family of three.

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Every county experienced growth with regard to this indicator except Kent County whose rate decreased by 6% over baseline. In nearly every county the percentage of children living in poverty grew by at least 15%. Eight counties' rates grew by more than 30%. The percentage of children living in poverty grew by nearly 60% in both Charles and Prince George's Counties.

### Child Support

**Indicator Definition:** This indicator is the number and percent of child support cases with active court orders for which any payment has been received. A serious limitation of this data is that a payment can be as little as \$1 and still be counted as a payment.

**Significance:** With the rates of out-of-wedlock births and divorce on the rise, more than one-half of the children in Maryland will spend some or all of their childhood in a single parent home. All too often a one parent family means one



income and translates into more children in poverty. In Maryland, one in five children living in a single parent family is living in poverty. Even more dismal, 40% of children under five living in female-headed households live in poverty. The lack of child support by non-custodial parents threatens the economic, physical and emotional well-being of many of our children.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** The percent of paying child support cases has increased by nearly thirteen percent since 1993. Over the past three years the rate of paying cases has shown steady increase after several years of minimal fluctuation. However, more than 60% of court ordered child support received no payment during fiscal year 1998. The 12.6% percent increase is a positive change and may be an indication that increasingly vigilant efforts to collect child support payment are beginning to be more effective. Nationally, about half of custodial parents with court orders receive payment in full.

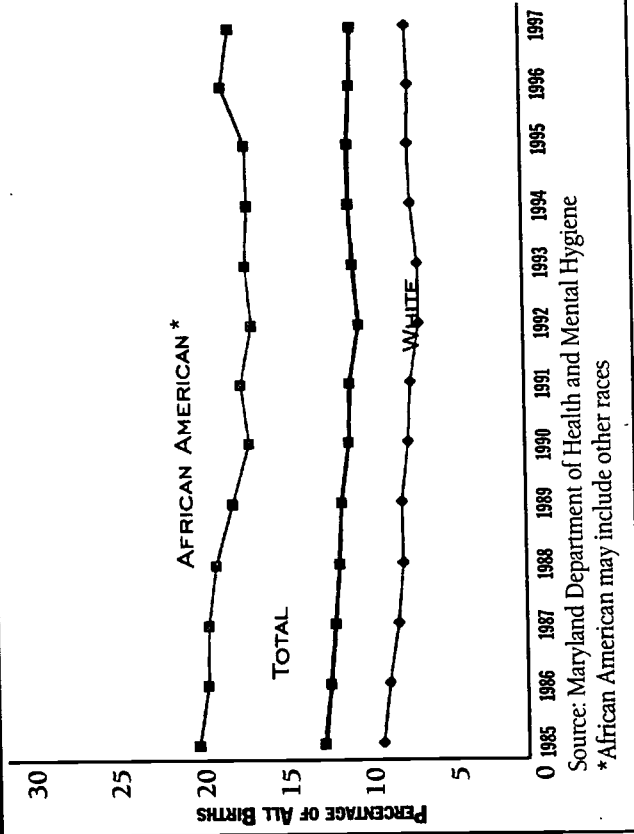
## Overview

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Twenty of Maryland's twenty-four jurisdictions experienced a rise in their rate of paying child support cases. Nine counties' rates increased by 25% or more over baseline. Charles, Frederick, Howard and Talbot Counties' rates of paying cases increased by 30% or more. While Baltimore City is still ranked 24th on this indicator, for the first time in several years there was a marked increase (20% over baseline), in its rate of payments. Of the four counties whose rates of paying cases declined, Prince George's County's more than 20% decrease was the most notable. In this county, the actual number of paying cases is comparable to the number of paying cases in 1993. What has changed significantly is the total number of orders which has increased by more than 10,000 cases, a 37% increase. This increase is substantially greater than any other county in Maryland.



## Percent Births to Teens

M a r y l a n d 1985-1997



## Teen Birth

**Indicator Definition:** This indicator is the percent of all births at the state or county level to women under age 20. Because this indicator is a percentage of all births rather than a population-based rate, it should be used with caution, especially in instances where the numbers are small. Fluctuations in the number of births in a jurisdiction can have significant and misleading effects on percentages. For example, if in 1993 one hundred babies were born, forty of them to women under twenty, the percent of births to teens was 40%. However, if the following year only 80 babies are born but once again 40 are born to teenage mothers, the percent of births to teens is now 50%. At face value one might incorrectly surmise that more teenagers had babies in 1994 than in the previous year. For this reason the population-based teen birth rate must also be considered in order to accurately pinpoint the nature of the

trend. A population based rate is the measure of the likelihood of an event. In this case it is the likelihood that out of every 1,000 females ages 15-19 "x" will give birth. A rate is calculated by dividing the number of events by the number of people eligible for the event.

**Significance:** Babies born to teenage mothers are more likely to suffer a host of lifelong problems. Pregnant teens are more likely to have inadequate or no prenatal care, suffer preterm labor and the babies born to them have a higher incidence of being low birth weight and dying before their first birthday. There are considerable economic hurdles to overcome as well. Many of these young women have little education and even less earning potential. Teenage parents are two times more likely to live in poverty and earn fully one half as much as women who begin childbearing after age twenty. This trans-

## Overview

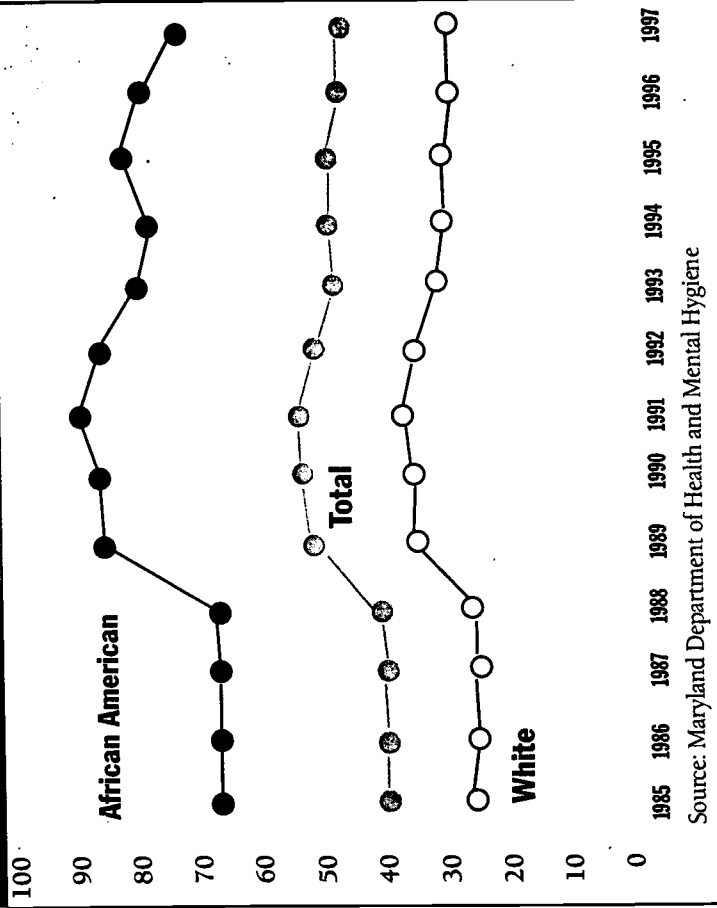
lates into mothers who are unable to provide an adequate living environment, suitable nutrition and quality health care for their children. Research suggests that the cycle of teen parenthood is likely to continue with the daughters of these young women. One-third of teen girls who are the daughters of teen mothers become teenage mothers themselves. Sexually active daughters of teenage mothers are three times more likely to become teenage mothers as other teens.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Analysis of 1997 data has revealed that the slow but steady decrease in the percentage of total births to women under twenty is continuing to decline gradually. Since 1985 the overall percentage of births to teenaged mothers has decreased by 18%. When disaggregated by race the percentage of births to teens has decreased by nearly one quarter for whites during the last ten years. For African American's the percentage of births to women under twenty has decreased by 13% during the same time period. With regard to teen birth rate (a population based rate), we find a 12% decrease since 1991 from 54.1 per 1,000 to 47.5 per 1,000 in 1997. Analysis by race reveals the rates for African Americans and whites have fallen at a comparable rate, 18% and 16% respectively, since 1991.

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Our multi-year analysis has revealed that 16 Maryland counties have had reductions in the percentage of births to teens. While most decreases were small in magnitude, 5% or less, there are a few notable exceptions. Queen Anne's County saw the biggest decrease, down just over 27% from 10% during years 1988 to 1992 to 7.5% during 1993 to 1997. Carroll County's percentage decreased by close to 12% from 6.4% to 5.6% currently. During these same time periods the rates in several Counties increased from 1% (Montgomery County) to as much as 25% (Kent County).

## Teen Birth Rates

Maryland 1985-1997



## GOOD HEALTH

### Low Birthweight

**Indicator Definition:** The rate of low birthweight births is the number and percent of babies born weighing 2500 grams (5.5 pounds) or less at birth.

**Significance:** The strength of this indicator is that it is an estimation of both the child's immediate and future health and well-being. It is also the strongest predictor of infant survival. Babies who are born with low birthweight are at greater risk for dying during their first year of life, more likely to have neurodevelopmental problems (e.g., cerebral palsy), mental retardation and learning disabilities, birth defects and face a greater probability of

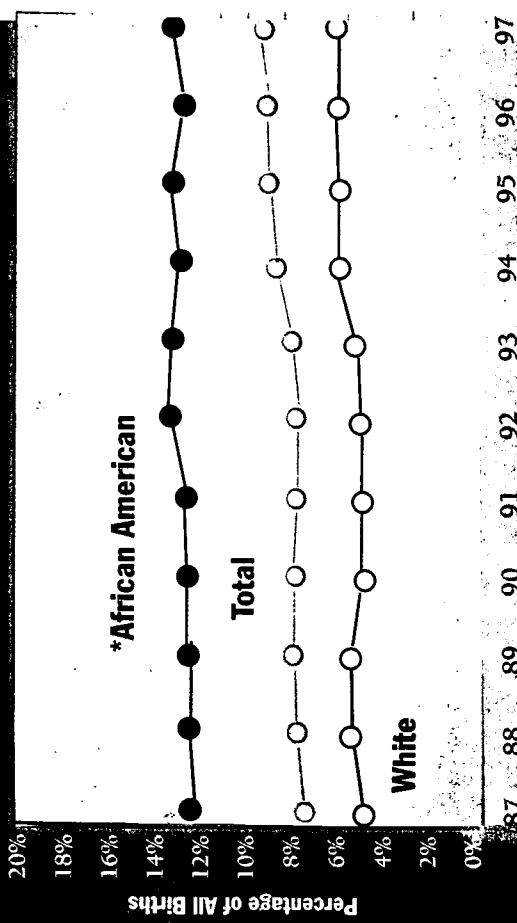
## Overview

being abused or neglected. Additionally, the rate of babies born with low birthweight is a reflection of maternal health and general well-being. Mothers who give birth to babies of low birthweight are often economically disadvantaged, poorly educated, under nourished and have limited access to health care. They are also more likely to have used drugs, alcohol and tobacco during pregnancy. All of these factors are well documented risk factors for giving birth to a low birthweight baby. While the majority of low birthweight babies develop normally, most children with developmental disabilities were born low birth weight. There is great disparity in low birthweight rates between African Americans and whites. Nationally, African Americans are more than twice as likely to have a baby weighing under 2500 grams than are whites. While it is clear that some of this disparity is due to African Americans being disproportionately poor and therefore exposed to many of the well-documented risk factors for low birthweight, it does not account for all of it. Hispanics who are also disproportionately poor have rates of low birthweight and infant mortality similar to whites.

**Children should have the physical and mental health care they need to be healthy, secure and strong.**

## Graph E Low Birth Weight Babies

Maryland 1987-1997



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

\* African American may include other races

during years 1988-92 to 7.7% during years 1993-97. Talbot County's rate decreased 5% during the same time period. Of the 21 counties with increases in the percentage of babies born low birth weight, the most substantial was in Carroll County where the rate increased by 23%, from 4.8% to 5.9%. However, despite the magnitude of this increase, Carroll County continues to have the lowest rate of babies born with low birthweight than any other county in Maryland.

## Infant Mortality

**Indicator Definition:** Infant mortality rate is the number of infants who die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births.

**Significance:** Infant mortality rate is an outcome measure which reflects the overall health of a community. It encompasses the health of women during pregnancy, the general health of infants, the adequacy of pre and post-natal health care and

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Our multi-year analysis has revealed only one county has demonstrated a substantial decrease on this indicator. Somerset County's rate fell 26% percent from 10.4%

## Overview

the quality of the living conditions during an infant's first year of life. There are a number of risk factors highly correlated with infant mortality including low birthweight, poverty and birth to a teenaged parent. The major causes of infant death are sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), birth defects, unsafe housing and inadequate supervision.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Maryland's infant mortality rate continues to follow the national trend of decline. The overall rate of 8.6 per 1,000 live births in 1997 is 28% lower than in 1985. However this rate is 20% higher than the national rate of 7.2. Racial analysis reveals that while the infant mortality rate for whites and African Americans have both fallen since 1985, by 59% and 23% respective-

ly, the rate for African Americans is still 160% higher than that for whites. When compared to national figures the 1996 rate for white infants in Maryland is 2% lower than for white infants at the national level. For African Americans the magnitude of the difference is greater, with Maryland's rate of African American infant mortality 13% lower than for the nation.

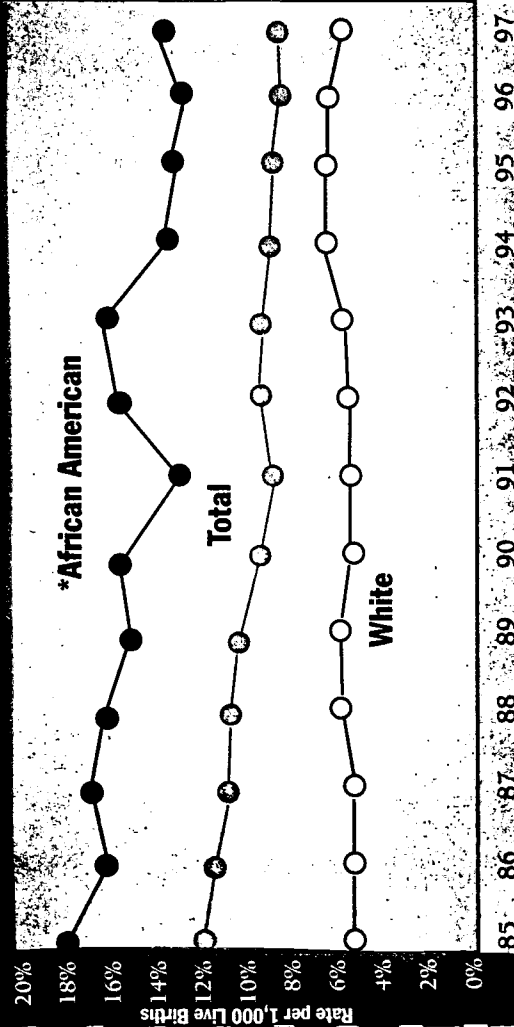
**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Twenty counties have demonstrated reductions on this indicator ranging from a 1.3% reduction in Baltimore County to a remarkable 74% decrease in Talbot County. Our analysis has revealed four counties whose infant mortality rates increased. Worcester County's overall rate increased by 25% between year 1988-92 and 1993-97 from 9.3 to 11.7. St. Mary's and Queen Anne's counties rates also increased during this time period by 6% and 15% respectively. Carroll County, which has been ranked in the top three among all the counties on this indicator since we began printing this publication, has fallen to a rank of 14 as its rate increased by 14% from 6.4 per 1,000 during 1988-92 to its current rate of 7.4 during 1993-97.

## Early Prenatal Care

**Indicator Definition:** Early prenatal care is the percentage of all births where prenatal care was initiated in the first trimester of the pregnancy.

**Significance:** For years, prenatal care has been a focus of public health policies aimed at improving birth outcomes. There is evidence that early prenatal care does result in healthier births, especially for low income and adolescent mothers. Some studies have shown that mothers lacking prenatal care are more likely to deliver low birthweight babies or babies that will die during their first year of life. Presumably, prenatal care may improve outcomes by screening for high-risk pregnan-

Graph F  
**Infant Mortality Rates**  
Maryland 1985-1997



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

\* African American may include other races

## Overview

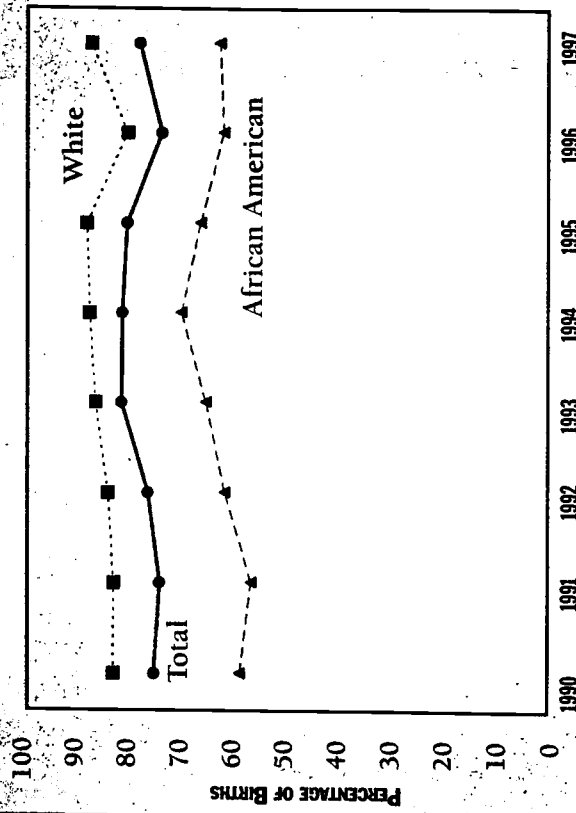
cies that will require vigilant medical care and monitoring. It may also improve outcomes by modifying harmful maternal behaviors, e.g. smoking, alcohol and other drug use, and poor nutrition. However there is concern about whether these findings are reliable. In fact, although there is a large body of research on this subject, there is no clear and consistent evidence supporting the relationship between prenatal care and birth outcomes. Our use of this indicator is not as a primary predictor of birth outcomes, as are low birth weight and infant mortality, but reflects our belief that every woman deserves to have access to quality medical attention during pregnancy, regardless of the impact it may or may not have on the baby.

**Maryland Findings:** The percentage of births with prenatal care initiated in the first trimester has grown by 4% in the last eight years from 76% in 1990 to 79% in 1997. However, the 1997 rate is a 4% decrease from the rate in 1993 and 1994 of 82%. As with all indicators where the data is desegregated by race our analysis reveals significant racial disparity between white births and African American births. While the rates for both whites and African Americans have grown since 1990 (by 5% and 7% respectively), the racial disparity endures. In 1997 the rate of early prenatal care for whites was more than 27% higher than that for African Americans.

**County Findings:** Only one county has experienced a decline in their percentage of births with early prenatal care. Prince George's County's rate fell by 6% over baseline, from 66% in 1990 to 62% in 1997. Prince George's County is ranked twenty-fourth on this indicator. Baltimore City with it's current rate of 63% is the only other jurisdiction where the percentage of births with early prenatal care was under 70%. Of the twenty-three counties whose rates of early prenatal care have grown

## Percentage of Births with Early Prenatal Care

M a r y l a n d 1990-1997



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics

since 1990, most were modest in magnitude. The counties with the most significant growth were amongst the smallest counties in Maryland. Caroline, Kent, Worcester, Somerset and St. Mary's Counties all saw exceptional growth of between twenty and thirty-five percent.

## Binge Drinking

**Indicator Definition:** Binge drinking is the percentage of 10th grade students reporting having consumed five or more alcoholic beverages on one occasion during the past 30 days. One serving is defined as a bottle of beer, one wine cooler, one shot glass of liquor or one mixed drink. This data comes from



## Overview

the Maryland Adolescent Survey, a self-report survey of Maryland students administered by the Maryland State Department of Education every two years. While self-reported data has some drawbacks, these data do estimate the magnitude of a serious problem.

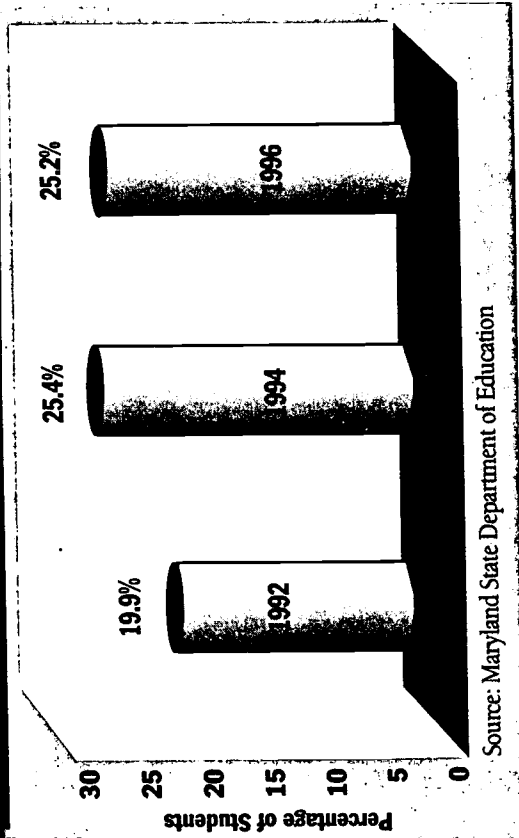
**Significance:** Alcohol and other drug use are among the most prevalent and significant adolescent problem behaviors. Alcohol use and abuse contributes significantly to the morbidity and mortality of youths and young adults. Heavy alcohol use is often a factor in deaths of adolescents due to motor vehicle accidents, drownings, homicides, and suicides. A 1988 study found that nationally, alcohol was a factor in approximately half of all injuries resulting in death from the aforementioned causes.

Alcohol use is also implicated in other problem behaviors, e.g. unprotected sex leading to exposure to sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and unplanned pregnancy. There are also strong correlations between heavy alcohol use and poor academic achievement and high school drop out.

**Maryland Findings:** The data for Maryland indicates that in 1996 one out of four 10th grade students reported having consumed five or more alcoholic beverages on the same occasion during the past 30 days. This is a 27% increase from 1992 when 20% of 10th graders reported engaging in binge drinking within the past 30 days.

## 10th Grade Binge Drinking

M a r y l a n d 1992-1996



**County Findings:** Sixteen of Maryland's twenty-four counties experienced growth over baseline on this indicator. Two counties with substantial growth were Prince George's County, whose rate increased by more than 180% and Baltimore City whose rate increased by 77%. However, despite these substantial increases Prince George's County and Baltimore City are ranked 2nd and 3rd on this indicator, respectively. This is the only indicator on which Baltimore City's ranking has ever placed it the top five. Of the sixteen counties with increases in this indicator more than half were increases of 50% or more over baseline.

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## Overview

### SAFETY

#### Child Abuse and Neglect

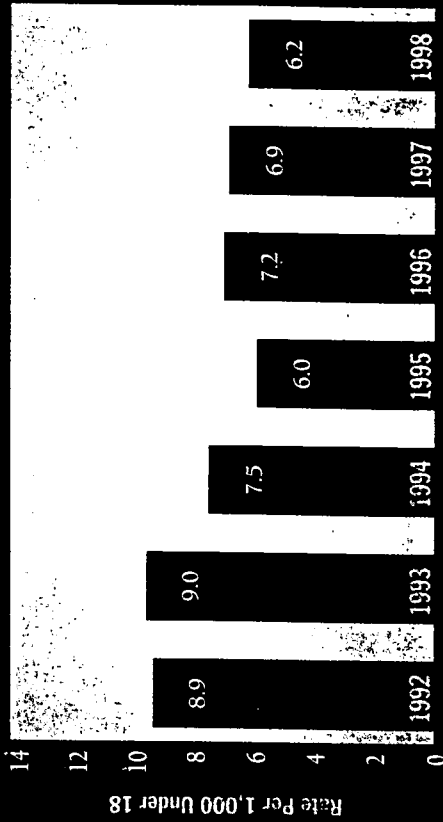
**Indicator Definition:** The rate of indicated child abuse investigations is a proxy indicator for the occurrence of child abuse and neglect in our community. It is a rate based on the number of indicated child abuse investigations in each county and the state as a whole. Each year in Maryland there are approximately 29,000 child abuse/neglect investigations and each one is given a final disposition of either unsubstantiated, indicated or ruled out. An indicated finding means "there is credible evidence which has not been satisfactorily refuted, that abuse, neglect, or sexual abuse did occur." This data must be interpreted with caution, as it is not the true occurrence of child abuse or neglect in our community. It is only an estimation of the magnitude of the problem. It has been estimated that only five percent of incidences of child abuse are ever reported. Another cause for caution are changing regulations within the child welfare system which may affect how many cases are investigated and how they are dispositioned. If a county is forced to decrease the number of investigators on staff due to funding constraints, the result may be fewer investigated cases and therefore, fewer indicated investigations. The result would be a downward trend, not because fewer children were being harmed but because of artificial influences. These influences need to be taken into account when interpreting these data.

**Children should have caring families, safe homes, schools and streets that are free of fear and violence.**

**Significance:** Child maltreatment is a serious community problem which reflects society's failure to care for, nurture and protect children. Maltreatment has devastating lifelong effects on its victims. We now know it is not just the problem of the poor or uneducated. Victims and perpetrators of child abuse come from

#### Indicated Child Abuse Investigation Rate

Graph 1 Maryland 1992-1998



Source: Maryland Department of Human Resources

all classes, races and walks of life. Parents are at greater risk for abusing their children if they are poor, unemployed, have drug and/or alcohol problems, or if they are themselves victims of domestic violence or were abused as children. Alcohol use has also been identified as a primary culprit in child neglect. Child abuse and neglect has serious consequences on a child's physical, behavioral, and cognitive development. Learning disorders, attention problems, low self-esteem, long-term health and mental health problems and even violent behavior can result from childhood maltreatment.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Since publication of our last Factbook two years ago, Maryland's rate of indicated child abuse and neglect has continued its downward trend. In that issue we reported on the 1996 rate of 7.2 children per thousand which was a 12% decrease from the rate in 1990 of 8.2. Since that time the rate has decreased by another 14% to 6.2 per thousand.

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## Overview

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** The vast majority of Maryland counties experienced declines on this indicator. Six counties (Calvert, Charles, Harford, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's and Washington), have had rate reductions of more than 50% over baseline. Baltimore County's rate has increased from 5.5 per thousand in 1990 to 7.1 per thousand in 1998, a 30% increase.

## Child Death

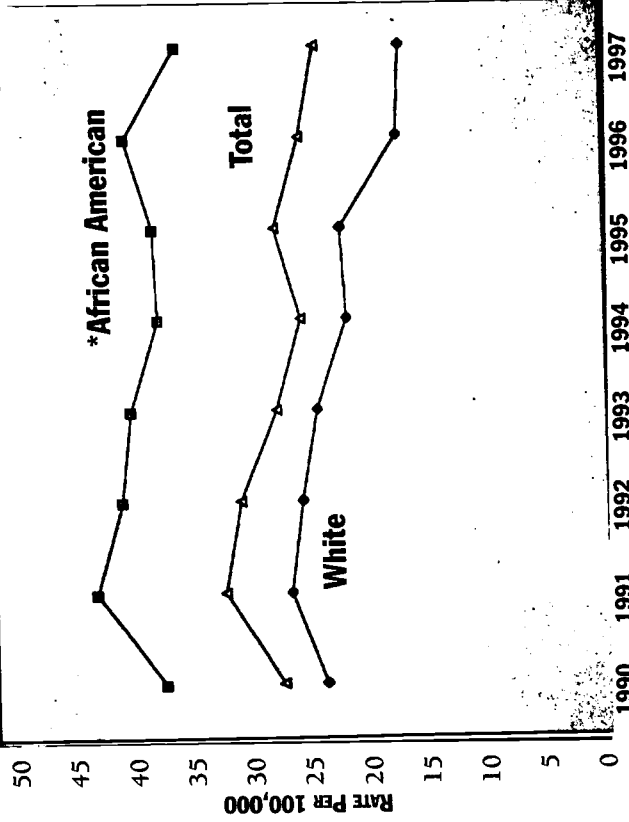
**Indicator Definition:** The child death rate is a population-based rate of the number of deaths resulting from all causes per 100,000 children between the ages of one and fourteen. A limitation of this indicator (and of all death indicators) is that it does not shed any light on the quality of life of the numerous children who survive life-threatening injury or illness.

**Significance:** Child death rate is an outcome measure which provides information about the health status of children in our state and the risk factors to which they are exposed. Child deaths are outcomes of either health problems (e.g., birth-related problems, childhood illness, or untreated chronic conditions), or injury, (e.g., unsafe living environments, intentional/unintentional accidents). It is also a measure of the effectiveness of public health and accident prevention public education strategies, e.g. use of smoke detectors, safety belts/car seats, and bike helmets. Children who live in poverty are 2-3 times more likely to die as a result of injury, and 3-4 times more likely to die from illness than children who are not poor. It is hypothesized this disparity is due to limited access to quality emergency and non-emergency healthcare and because poor children often live in unsafe environments where they are exposed to violence, environmental hazards and inadequate supervision.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** As graph J illustrates, the total

## Child Death Rate

M a r y l a n d 1990-1997 Youths Age 1-14



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

\*African American may include other races.

(all races combined) child death rate for Maryland has been declining steadily since 1990 from 27.4 per 100,000 to 23 per 100,000 in 1997, a 16% reduction. A ten year analysis reveals that since 1987 the total child death rate has decreased by a remarkable 29%. When analyzed by race these data reveal rate reductions for both whites and African Americans. However the magnitude of the reduction for whites (33%), is markedly higher than for African Americans (7%). This means that while the rates for both African Americans and whites are falling, the rate for white children is falling, at a rate four times faster than it is for African American children. This, coupled with the fact that the rate for African Americans is more than twice the white rate, means that the good news of falling rates must be taken in context.

## Overview

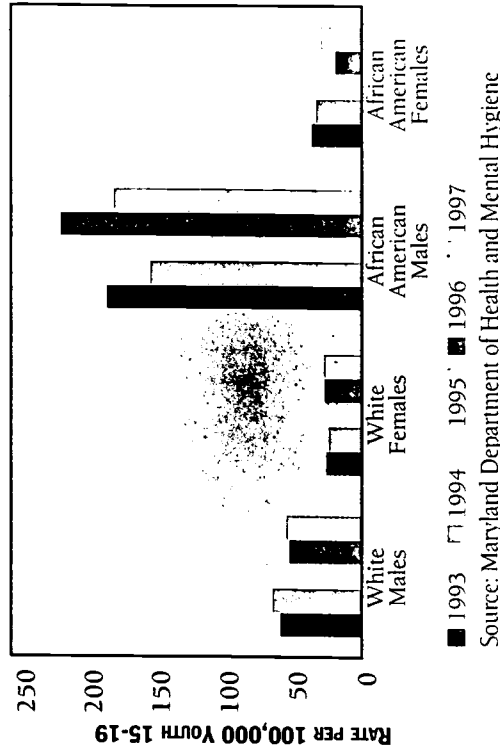
**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Our multi-year analysis has revealed that eighteen Maryland counties have seen reductions in the rate of the deaths of children ages 1-14. Both Prince George's and Montgomery Counties (the two counties with the largest populations of children in the State), had marked decreases of 17% and 39% respectively, over baseline. Three counties (Anne Arundel, Caroline & Howard), who upon our previous analysis in the 1996 Factbook had child death rates show growth over baseline, have since had reductions of 11%, 38%, and 22% respectively. With regard to race the state pattern is echoed at the county level with rates for whites falling at a faster rate than for African Americans. Two notable exceptions are in Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties where the rate of death for white children is falling while the rate of death for African American children is growing.

## Teen Violent Death

**Indicator Definition:** Teen violent death rate is the number of teenagers 15-19 who die from homicide, accidents or suicide per 100,000 youths 15-19.

**Indicator Significance:** Like the child death rate, the teen violent death rate is an outcome measure which gauges behaviors by teens which have resulted in death. A significant component of this indicator is that it is not only a measure of environmental risks but also of the risk-taking behavior of teens. The developmental stage which peaks during adolescence has a well-documented risk taking component which may lead teenagers into dangerous and even life-threatening situations. Teen violent death is also an indicator of the stress, hostility and/or despair teens may feel and the degree to which they have adequate social and family support and access to mental health and other services.

## Teen Violent Death Rates Maryland 1993-1997



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Our multi-year analysis has revealed that the overall teen violent death rate for years 1988-92 versus years 1993-97 has decreased by 2% from 66.6 per 100,000 to 65.2 per 100,000. While the magnitude of this decrease is slight, this finding is important as it is the first time since we began analyzing these data that this rate has shown any decrease. When analyzed by race it is apparent that both the racial and gender disparities continue. In 1997 the rate for African American males was 275% higher than that for white males. As the graph illustrates the rates for both white and African American males are two to seven times higher than the rates for white and African American females. Another notable change is that in the last five years the teen violent death rates

## Overview

for white females have risen by 17% while the rate for African American females has dropped by nearly 25%.

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** When analyzing the years 1988-92 versus 1993-97 we found the teen violent death rate decreased or remained unchanged in nineteen counties. The jurisdiction with the largest increase was Baltimore City whose rate jumped 53% from 95.6 per 100,000 to 146.6 per 100,00. In three counties (Anne Arundel, Baltimore & Montgomery Counties), where overall rates fell, an analysis by race revealed reductions in the rates for white teens and growth in the rates for African American teens ranging from 12% to more than 50%.

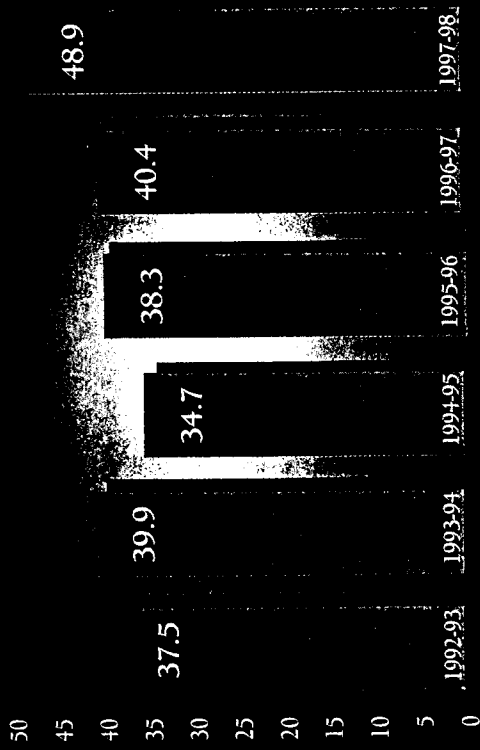
## School Violence

**Indicator Definition:** Violence related suspension rate is the number of suspensions or expulsions resulting from verbal or physical attacks against teachers, staff or students per 1,000 students. Although guidelines exist, there is no uniform statewide code for determining whether an act warrants suspension or expulsion, so the decision to expel or suspend is up to the discretion of each school administrator. The result is that behavior that warrants expulsion in one school may not warrant it in another, making comparisons of rates problematic. The reader should use caution in interpreting these data.

**Significance:** The number of violence related school suspensions/expulsions is one of the few ways to assess the level of violence in schools and gives us a window into the environment in which children spend a great deal of time. The school environment is not impervious to the rising problems in the community. When the level of violence increases in our neighborhoods, it is reflected in schools and negatively affects this critically important environment in which children need to

## Violence Related Suspension Rate

Maryland 1992-1998



Source: Maryland State Department of Education

feel safe in order to learn and grow. Violence within school walls hinders the social development of students and impedes the learning process. It causes increased stress for students, teachers and staff and creates an atmosphere of fear which ultimately interferes with teaching and learning.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Since school year 92-93 the rate of violence related suspension has fluctuated on average 8% from year to year from a low of 34.7 students per thousand to a high of 48.9 students per thousand. During school year 97-98 the rate increased sharply from 40.4 in 96-97 to 48.9 in 97-98. This is a 21% increase over the previous year, a remarkable one year increase. The 97-98 rate of 48.9 per thousand is a 30% increase over the baseline rate of 37.5 per thousand in 92-93.

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Only seven Counties demonstrated reductions over baseline on this indicator. While these reductions were moderate in size, ranging from 4% to 37%, the magnitude of the increases in the other seventeen counties over-

## Overview

shadow these improvements. Most troublesome is the magnitude of the increase in Baltimore County where the rate has nearly tripled since school year 92-93. During school year 1997-98, 37 students per 1,000 were suspended for violence related offenses. This is a 190% increase from 1992-93, when only 13 students per 1,000 were suspended for violent offenses. Baltimore City and Calvert, Howard and Washington Counties also experienced increases of more than 50% since school year 1992-93.

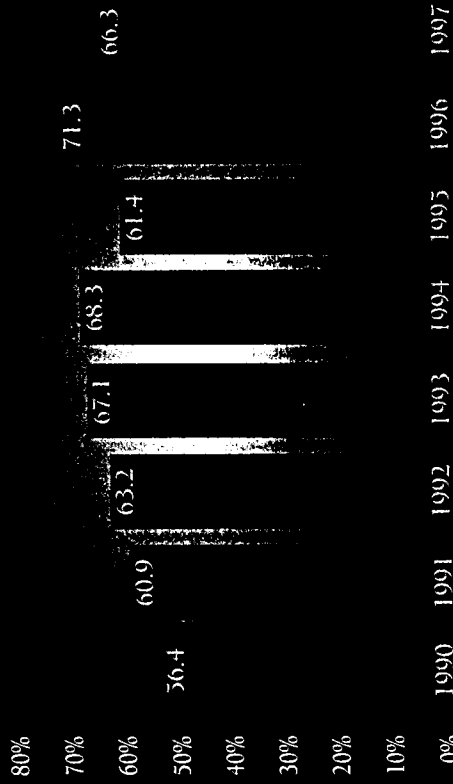
### Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate

**Indicator Definition:** The juvenile violent crime arrest rate is the number of arrests of juveniles for a violent offense (i.e. homicide, aggravated assault, forcible rape, and robbery), per 10,000 youths ages 10-17.

**Significance:** Being arrested for a violent crime clearly has serious short and long term ramifications and can significantly affect the life course of affected adolescents. There are a number of factors which place adolescents at risk for becoming involved in violent crime. Living in unstable communities with high poverty rates, elevated school dropout rates, teen pregnancy and unemployment rates are all risk factors which place adolescents at jeopardy for committing a violent crime. Children who have been neglected, abused and/or exposed to family violence are also at risk for displaying aggressive and violent behavior. There has much media attention paid to violent crime committed by juveniles during the past two years. While violent crime by juveniles is an area of great concern, especially because it has been on the increase, we must keep this in perspective. In 1997, only 7% of all juvenile arrests were for violent crime.

## Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate

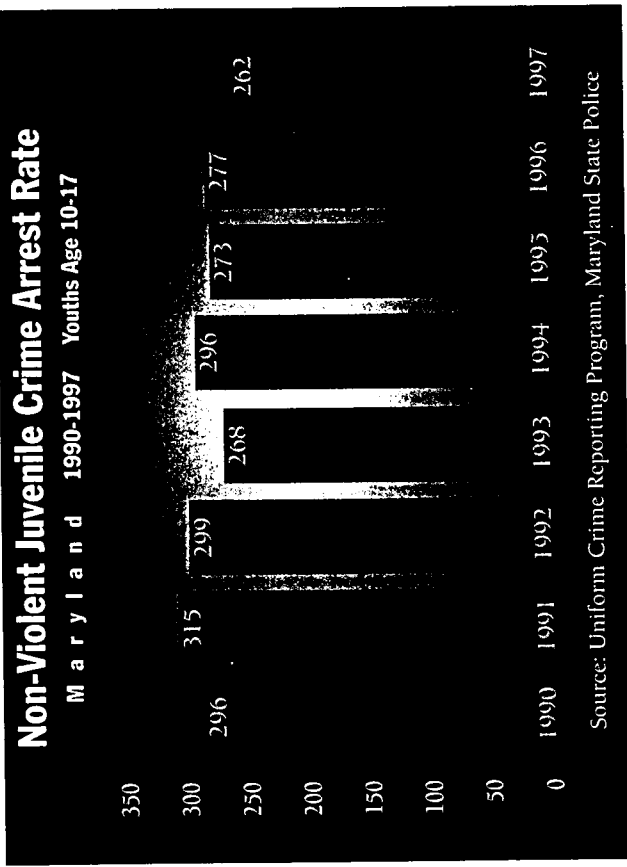
M a r y l a n d 1990-1997 Youths Age 10-17



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Maryland State Police

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Since 1990 Maryland's juvenile violent arrest rate grew steadily at an average rate of 6% per year. Following the national trend, in 1995 Maryland's rate suddenly dropped by 10% to 61.4 arrests per 10,000 youth 10-17 only to increase in 1996 to 71.3, a 16% increase. Currently (1997), Maryland's rate is 66.3 arrests per 10,000 a rate that has increased 17.5% over baseline but is 7% lower than the 1996 rate.

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Nine Maryland counties have experienced reductions of this indicator ranging from quite small reductions of 4% or less (Wicomico and Allegany Counties) to more substantial decreases of over 40% (Carroll, Harford and Garrett Counties). Of the counties with increases, the most remarkable occurred in Howard County, where the rate of violent crime arrest has more than quadrupled since 1990. Its' rate has grown from 24 in 1990 to 108 in 1997, a 237% increase. Anne Arundel County has also experienced a sharp rise in its



## Overview

rate which has tripled to a rate 200% increased over baseline. Several of Maryland's smaller counties also bear watching carefully as their rates seem to be on the rise. However, because of their relatively small populations it is difficult to produce stable rates and therefore it is critically important to watch overall trends and not place too much import on year to year fluctuations.

## Non-Violent Juvenile Crime Arrest Rate

**Indicator Definition:** The non-violent juvenile crime arrest rate is the number of arrests of juveniles, ages 10-17 for burglary, larceny theft and motor vehicle theft per 10,000 youth ages 10-17.

**Significance:** Contact with the justice system as a juvenile is predictive of poor occupational and other life outcomes. Risk factors for juvenile crime and delinquency include lack of educational and job training opportunities, poverty, family violence and inadequate parental supervision. Poor school performance, including falling behind one or more grade levels, and absence from school increases the likelihood of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system. Research has shown that the peak hours for juvenile crime and delinquent behavior are between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Maryland Findings:** Maryland's rate of non-violent juvenile crime arrests has declined by almost 12% since 1990 from 296 arrests per youth 10-17 to 262 in 1997. Between 1990 and 1994 the rate fluctuated between 268 and 315. However, since 1994 the rate has shown relatively steady decline to its current rate, the lowest it has been in ten years.

**County Findings:** The most encouraging finding of our analysis is that of the five counties with the largest portions of Maryland's youth population (Anne Arundel, Baltimore City and County, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties), three have shown substantial decreases in their rate of non-violent juvenile arrests. Montgomery County's rate dropped by half, from 223 per 10,000 in 1990 to 109 per 10,000 in 1997. Baltimore City's rate fell by more than one-third from 547 per 10,000 in 1990 to 345 per 10,000 in 1997. Prince George's County's rate has also declined by nearly 20% over baseline. Three of the four counties whose rates increased by more than 100% were on the Eastern Shore (i.e. Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot). The rates in these counties have increased by 150% to 200%. Five of the nine Eastern Shore Counties experienced an increase on this indicator.

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## Overview

### PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD

### THIRD GRADE READING

*Indicator Definition:* Third grade reading is the percent of students scoring satisfactory on tests given as part of the Maryland School Performance Assessment Program.

*Significance:* The Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP) was begun in 1993 to assess school performance as a part of the education reform movement in Maryland. Results for individual students are combined to assess the overall performance of a school, and ultimately of the entire school system at the county and state levels. All stu-

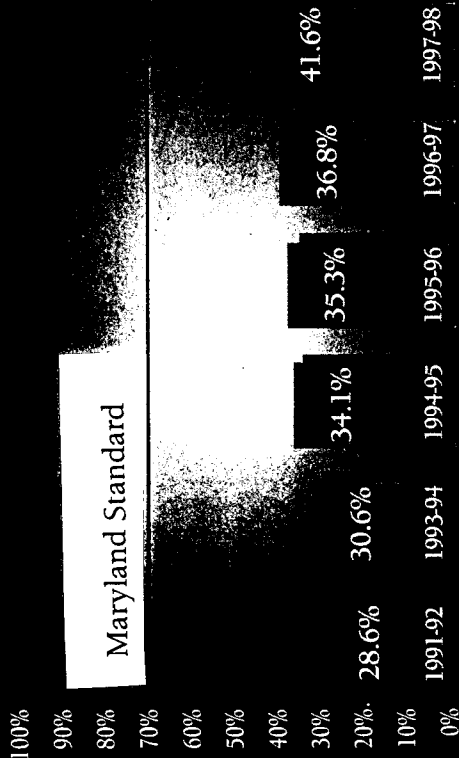
**Children should learn how to become responsible adults who can advance themselves while being sensitive to others.**

dents in grades 3, 5 and 8 participate, (few are exempted) in assessments on reading, writing, mathematics, language usage, science and social studies. MSPAP focuses on "higher level thinking skills" i.e., it assesses students' ability to apply knowledge and skills to solve real-life problems and make decisions. Third grade reading ability is a powerful indicator of future academic achievement and is closely associated with household income. The 1993 Maryland School Performance Report showed that as poverty increased, student reading levels decreased. Students attending schools in which less than 5% of students were receiving free or reduced lunch (a proxy indicator of poverty) are four times more likely to score satisfactory or better in third grade reading than students in schools where 70-100% of students received free or reduced lunch. Other factors highly correlated with poor student performance are low birthweight, inadequate nutrition, lead poisoning and child abuse/neglect.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Since 1992 when MSPAP was first administered the percentage of students scoring satisfactory or above has grown steadily from 28.6% during school year 1992-93 to 41.6% during school year 1997-98. This is an impressive 45% increase. Also worth noting is that between school years 94-95, 95-96, and 96-97 the magnitude of the increase from the year before was approximately four percent indicating steady growth. However, the percentage of third grade students scoring satisfactory on MSPAP between school years 96-97 and 97-98 increased by thirteen percent. This is the largest one year increase to date. While still falling far short of our goal of 70% scoring satisfactory or better, these data clearly reflect improvement.

### Third Grade Reading Scores

M a r y l a n d 1992-1998

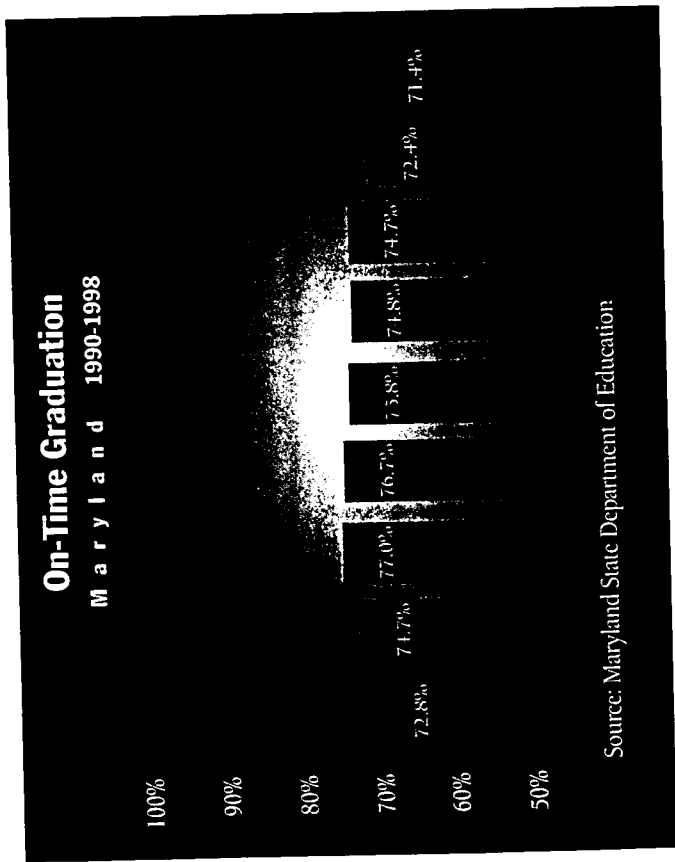


Source: Maryland State Department of Education



# Overview

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** All twenty-four Maryland counties saw growth on this indicator. The most significant occurred in Dorchester County where the percentage of children scoring satisfactory more than tripled from 15.2% in 1992-93 to 47% in 1997-98, a more than 200% increase. The rate in Worcester County also improved by more than double, growing from 22.1 to 50%, a 124% increase over baseline. While these examples are exceptional, most counties rates grew by at least 25% over baseline. For the first time Baltimore City has shown significant positive change over baseline, with its current rate of 16.6%. This is a 42% increase over Baltimore City's baseline of 11.7%.



## ON-TIME GRADUATION

**Indicator Definition:** On-time graduation is the percentage of students who complete their high school education within four years. This is calculated by the number of June graduates divided by the number of students enrolled in ninth grade four years earlier. This rate does not include those who drop out of high school and eventually earn their high school diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED) and does not take into account entrants and withdrawals during the four year period.

**Significance:** While earning a high school diploma does not guarantee economic security, it does indicate a student's acquisition of basic knowledge and skills upon which he or she may build, either in continued formal education or in the workplace. A teen who does not complete at least this much formal education faces a restricted range of employment opportunities and severely limited earning potential. Individuals who do not complete high school are more likely to live in low-income families, have a handicapping condition or a learning disability, have repeated at least one grade, engage in delinquent behavior and have a child before the age of 20.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** This rate has undergone minor fluctuations since 1990. The current rate of 71.4% is two percent lower than the 1990 rate of 72.8%, and 7% lower than in 1992 when the rate reached 77%, the highest it has been in the last ten years.

## Overview

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** At the county level, 21 counties experienced a decline in the percentage of their students graduating on-time. However in almost all cases the magnitude of the decrease was modest. Exceptions to this are Calvert, Dorchester, Garrett and Wicomico Counties where the rates decreased by 10% or more. Frederick County is once again ranked first on this indicator with a rate that has increased 3% over baseline.

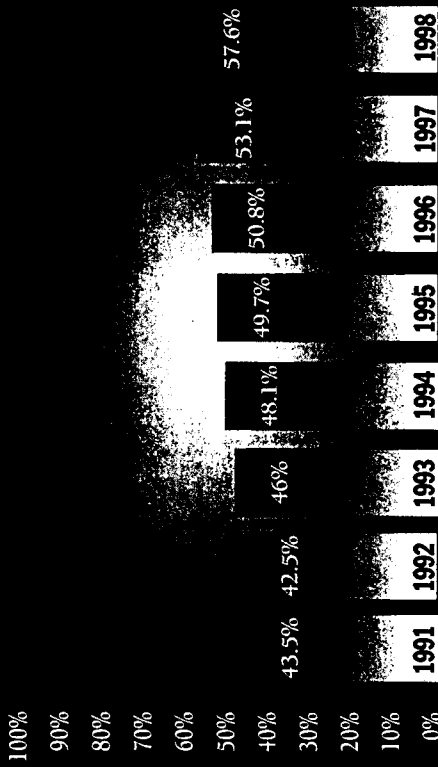
## High School Program Completion

**Indicator Definition:** High school program completion is the percent of graduating students who have completed the minimum requirements for admission into the University of Maryland System in addition to completion of requirements to receive a high school diploma.

**Significance:** In this age of rapidly evolving technology, education beyond high school is necessary to be competitive and marketable in the job market. Today's most lucrative and briskly expanding careers require greater technical knowledge, advanced language skills and the ability to apply complex theories and concepts. The economic benefits of a college education are clear; education and income are positively correlated. As educational attainment increases, income also increases. However, despite the obvious benefits to completing an advanced degree, nationally less than half of high school graduates go to college and of those who go, only about twenty-five percent complete their degree. There are also racial and gender differences in educational attainment. In 1990 12% of white males and 10% of white females in Maryland reported having a bachelors degree as compared to 5% of African American males and 6% of African American females. While this indicator does not reflect the number of

## High School Program Completion

Maryland 1991-1998



Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Maryland graduates who actually attend college, it does give us insight on the percentage who graduated with the basic pre-requisites for college admission.

**MARYLAND FINDINGS:** Since 1991 the percent of students who graduated having completed the minimum requirements for admission to the University of Maryland System has increased steadily to over 50%. This is an increase of more than 16% in five years.

**COUNTY FINDINGS:** Only two counties have experienced reductions of this rate over baseline. Charles County's rate has decreased by one quarter in the past eight years from 37.2% in 1991 to 27.7% in 1998. While not as dramatic, Kent County's already low rate of 38.9% in 1991 fell by 6% to 36.4% in 1998. By contrast, during the same time period Harford County's rate has nearly tripled from 24.4% to 71.5%, a 200% increase.

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# County Fact Sheets

16 indicators for Maryland's children

County Fact Sheets

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### Economic Well Being

Children in Poverty

Paying Child Support Cases

Births to Teens

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)

Early Prenatal Care

Binge Drinking

### Safety

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

Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)

Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)

Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)

Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)

Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading\*

On-Time Graduation Rate

High School Program Completion\*\*

	Then		Now		Trend	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
		Base Yr.		Current Yr.		
128,523	11.3%	(1989)	171,746	13.2%	(1995)	worse
82,593	34.1%	(1993)	92,073	38.4%	(1998)	better
41,072	10.5%	(1988-92)	36,588	10.1%	(1993-97)	better
31,569	8.1%	(1988-92)	31,010	8.5%	(1993-97)	worse
3,922	10.0	(1988-92)	3,238	8.9	(1993-97)	better
60,783	75.8%	(1990)	55,187	78.7%	(1997)	better
	19.9%	(1992)		25.2%	(1996)	worse
1,403	30.4	(1988-92)	1,312	25.4	(1993-96)	better
1086	66.6	(1988-92)	1026	65.2	(1993-97)	better
9,555	8.2	(1990)	7,908	6.2	(1998)	lower
27,588	37.5	(1992-93)	40,590	48.9	(1997-98)	worse
2,708	57.8	(1990)	3,643	66.3	(1997)	worse
13,881	296.2	(1990)	14,405	262.1	(1997)	better
	28.6%	(1992)		41.6%	(1998)	better
	72.8%	(1989-90)		71.4%	(1997-98)	worse
	43.5%	(1991)		57.6%	(1998)	better

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

# MARYLAND DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	59,526	40,898	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	121,861	95,322	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	144,546	229,491	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	43,277	73,872	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	192,171	257,030	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	38,704	55,833	44.3%

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## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
<b>CHILDREN UNDER 18:</b>		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	777,014	70.1%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	452,318	73.5%
Living in Single Parent Families	242,132	22.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	784,129	63.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		78.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		26.5%

Maryland

## State Population (1997)

	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total State Population *	5,094,289		\$45,034	
Minority Population under age 20	506,240	36.3%	\$60,908	
(% of Population under 20)			\$21,292	
All Persons under age 20 (% of Total Population)	1,395,441	27.4%	N.A.	
Ages 0 - 4	346,948			
Ages 5 - 9	372,054			
Ages 10 - 14	348,521			
Ages 15 - 19	327,918			6.4%

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

Median Family Income (1989)	\$45,034
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$60,908
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$21,292
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1996)	N.A.
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)	
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$106.04
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)* (1989)	6.4%

\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	3,913	24.3% (1989)	4,154	25.0% (1995)		22
Paying Child Support Cases	1,489	47.4% (1993)	2,084	55.1% (1998)		17
Births to Teens	697	15.6% (1988-92)	592	14.8% (1993-97)		19

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	238	5.3% (1988-92)	258	6.4% (1993-97)		4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	46	10.3 (1988-92)	27	6.7 (1993-97)		9
Early Prenatal Care	713	78.9% (1990)	649	85.3% (1997)		11
Binge Drinking		27.6% (1992)		32.0% (1996)		16

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	25	39.0 (1988-92)	11	16.8 (1993-96)		3
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	17	58.3 (1988-92)	12	44.3 (1993-97)		7
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	196	12.0 (1990)	194	12.2 (1996)		23
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	282	25.6 (1992-93)	318	28.6 (1997-98)		3
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	18	24.5 (1990)	18	23.4 (1997)		6
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	235	319.7 (1990)	282	366.9 (1997)		18

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		20.4% (1992)		45.3% (1998)		13
On-Time Graduation Rate		91.0% (1989-90)		89.4% (1997-98)		2
High School Program Completion**		29.7% (1991)		37.9% (1998)		21

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test

\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# ALLEGANY COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	895	308	-65.6	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	2,460	735	-70.1%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	3,023	4,865	60.9%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	1,644	1,722	4.7%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	4,719	5,059	7.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	510	1,347	164.1%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18:		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	9,393	59.3%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	5,450	63.5%
Living in Single Parent Families	3,223	19.7%
Living in Two-Parent Families	11,706	71.5%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		71.0%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		11.8%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of County Population)	72,289	1.4%
Minority Population under age 20	1,022	5.5%
(% of Population under age 20)		
All persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	18,516	25.6%
Ages 0 - 4	3,640	
Ages 5 - 9	4,617	
Ages 10 - 14	4,790	
Ages 15 - 19	5,469	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$27,609	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$39,427	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$11,456	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		22.3%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$75.12	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		5.0%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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# Anne Arundel County Factsheet

COUNTY SEAT: ANNAPOLIS  
16 indicators for county's children

County Rank  
**12**

## Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	6,123	5.9%	9,110	7.5%	(1995)	worse 4
Paying Child Support Cases	6,400	45.9%	6,429	51.9%	(1998)	better 21
Births to Teens	2,717	8.1%	2,468	7.7%	(1993-97)	better 8

## Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	2,147	6.4%	2,309	7.2%	(1993-97)	worse 13
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	273	8.2	213	6.7	(1993-97)	better 9
Early Prenatal Care	5,380	79.4%	5,432	84.0%	(1997)	better 17
Binge Drinking		26.0%		35.6%	(1996)	worse 21

## Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	112	27.0	110	24.0	(1993-96)	better 11
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	78	51.2	59	39.7	(1993-97)	better 6
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	532	5.0	441	3.7	(1998)	lower 6
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	2,971	44.5	3,519	48.0	(1997-98)	worse 13
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	46	10.7	166	31.8	(1997)	worse 7
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	1,095	253.6	1,638	313.7	(1997)	worse 15

## Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		33.7%		46.7%	(1998)	better 12
On-Time Graduation Rate		71.6%		67.1%	(1997-98)	worse 21
High School Program Completion**		42.0%		55.5%	(1998)	better 10

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst



# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	2,192	1,537	-29.9	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	5,167	3,706	-28.3%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	6,114	11,740	92.0%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	2,022	4,314	113.4%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	7,850	12,049	53.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	2,716	5,739	111.3%	44.3%

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### Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	71,910	70.8%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	41,698	73.6%
Living in Single Parent Families	15,668	14.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	79,141	75.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		81.1%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		24.6%

### County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of County Population)	470,028	9.2%
Minority Population under age 20 (% of Population Under 20)	26,267	20.2%
All persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	130,113	27.7%
Ages 0 - 4	31,322	
Ages 5 - 9	34,457	
Ages 10 - 14	32,681	
Ages 15 - 19	31,653	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

### Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$49,706	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$60,607	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$24,668	18.0%
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$114.59	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)**		5.2%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	57,203	32.5%	(1989)	62,509	36.3%	(1995)	worse	24
Paying Child Support Cases	20,663	16.3%	(1993)	22,118	19.4%	(1998)	better	24
Births to Teens	14,673	21.4%	(1988-92)	11,668	22.0%	(1993-97)	worse	24

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	8,933	13.0%	(1988-92)	7,343	13.9%	(1993-97)	worse	24
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	1,031	15.0	(1988-92)	704	13.3	(1993-97)	better	24
Early Prenatal Care	8,888	61.9%	(1990)	5,837	63.0%	(1997)	better	23
Binge Drinking		10.0%	(1992)		17.7%	(1996)	worse	3

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	347	47.6	(1988-92)	349	47.7	(1993-96)	same	24
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	247	95.7	(1988-92)	322	146.6	(1993-97)	worse	24
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	3,732	20.7	(1990)	2,548	15.5	(1998)	lower	24
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	5,953	56.3	(1992-93)	9,966	92.8	(1997-98)	worse	22
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	1,082	155.5	(1990)	1,127	165.1	(1997)	worse	24
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	3,806	546.9	(1990)	2,353	344.6	(1997)	worse	16

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		11.7%	(1992)		16.6%	(1998)	better	24
On-Time Graduation Rate		38.4%	(1989-90)		35.7%	(1997-98)	worse	24
High School Program Completion**		31.5%	(1991)		40.7%	(1998)	better	19

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test

\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# BALTIMORE CITY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	28,313	22,270	-21.3	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	68,779	51,695	-24.8%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	78,301	84,894	8.4%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	13,107	18,924	44.4%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	73,880	72,885	-1%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	9,776	11,508	17.7%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	104,239	63.1%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	59,551	67.2%
Living in Single Parent Families	73,790	41.0%
Living in Two-Parent Families	63,886	35.5%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		60.7%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		15.5%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	657,256	12.9%
Minority Population under age 20	138,386	75.7%
(% of Population Under 20)		
All Persons Under age 20 (% of City Population)	182,779	27.8%
Ages 0 - 4	47,339	
Ages 5 - 9	48,601	
Ages 10 - 14	43,301	
Ages 14 - 19	43,538	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$28,217	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$47,007	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$14,713	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		26.1%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$96.83	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		14.8%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	10,917	7.3%	16,211	9.8%	worse	9
Paying Child Support Cases	9,135	62.8%	8,726	57.2%	worse	16
Births to Teens	3,492	7.1%	3,452	7.6%	worse	7

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	3,511	7.1%	3,667	8.0%	worse	19
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	379	7.7	354	7.8	same	15
Early Prenatal Care	8,557	83.8%	7,582	85.2%	better	13
Binge Drinking		21.8%		32.8%	worse	19

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	133	22.4	150	22.3	same	10
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	100	47.5	94	46.2	better	10
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	829	5.5	775	7.1	higher	17
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	1,173	12.9	3,859	36.9	worse	8
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	466	77.3	844	121.5	worse	22
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	2,202	365.4	2,957	425.6	worse	20

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		30.7%		47.0%	better	10
On-Time Graduation Rate		78.0%		80.1%	better	7
High School Program Completion**		42.8%		47.3%	better	15

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test

\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# BALTIMORE COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	4,969	3,596	-27.6%	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	8,497	8,031	-5.5%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	9,760	22,937	135.0%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	3,836	7,366	92.0%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	13,232	28,590	116%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	5,405	7,933	46.8%	44.3%

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## Family Environment (1990)

### CHILDREN UNDER 18:

	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	99,536	68.7%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	59,839	71.8%
Living in Single Parent Families	27,131	17.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	109,894	72.7%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		78.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		25.0%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population * (% of State Population)	720,662	14.1%
Minority Population under age 20	42,851	34.1%
(% of Population Under 20)		
All Persons Under age 20 (% of County Population)	125,642	17.4%
Ages 0 - 4	44,092	
Ages 5 - 9	46,921	
Ages 10 - 14	44,048	
Ages 15 - 19	41,566	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$44,502	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$61,379	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$22,844	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		20.2%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$110.20	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		5.1%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	980	6.8%	1,569	7.9%	worse	6
Paying Child Support Cases	1,111	51.0%	1,414	65.9%	better	4
Births to Teens	384	9.2%	402	8.9%	better	9

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5 lbs.)	233	5.6%	292	6.5%	worse	7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	23	5.5	24	5.3	better	4
Early Prenatal Care	688	79.8%	788	86.2%	better	9
Binge Drinking		26.0%		29.5%	worse	11

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	11	18.9	15	19.8	worse	6
Ten Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	14	73.7	12	56.4	better	14
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	111	7.5	64	3.2	lower	3
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	208	18.2	564	38.3	worse	9
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	12	19.3	42	46.3	worse	13
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	107	172.0	222	244.5	worse	11

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		33.4%		45.3%	better	13
On-Time Graduation Rate		95.0%		84.7%	worse	6
High School Program Completion**		47.2%		63.9%	better	4

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# CALVERT COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	436	257	-41.1	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	799	540	-32.4%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,088	2,224	104.4%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	486	693	42.6%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,419	2,152	52.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	453	963	98.9%	44.3%

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## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	10,090	71.3%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	5,646	74.0%
Living in Single Parent Families	1,803	12.3%
Living in Two-Parent Families	11,140	76.3%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		79.3%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		17.6%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	69,413	1.4%
Minority Population under age 20	4,590	19.4%
(% of Population Under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	23,637	34.1%
Ages 0 - 4	4,885	
Ages 5 - 9	5,969	
Ages 10 - 14	5,857	
Ages 15 - 19	4,699	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$50,845	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$57,321	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$25,899	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		16.5%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$104.23	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.7%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work



### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	985	14.3%	1,271	16.2%	worse	17
Paying Child Support Cases	893	53.7%	1,006	64.9%	better	5
Births to Teens	323	15.8%	302	16.3%	worse	21

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	166	8.1%	157	8.5%	worse	20
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	27	13.2	22	11.9	better	22
Early Prenatal Care	304	71.7%	311	85.7%	better	10
Binge Drinking		28.6%		35.1%*	worse	20

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	17	61.9	12	38.7	better	20
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	9	97.8	3	32.4	better	3
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	40	5.6	53	6.8	higher	15
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	315	63.7	443	78.6	worse	20
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	2	6.8	26	74.9	worse	17
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	53	181.5	163	469.7	worse	22

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		29.2%		41.6%	better	18
On-Time Graduation Rate		66.5%		64.9%	worse	23
High School Program Completion**		26.3%		42.1%	better	18

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst



# CAROLINE COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	286	119	-58.3	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	551	344	-37.5%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	672	1,722	156.3%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	498	731	46.8%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,635	2,350	44.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	213	613	187.8%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	4,866	73.3%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	2,779	76.8%
Living in Single Parent Families	4,742	19.2%
Living in Two-Parent Families	1,366	66.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		66.9%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		10.9%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	29,527	0.6%	\$32,093	
Minority Population under age 20	2,030	24.0%	\$41,308	
(% of Population Under 20)			\$13,504	
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	8,466	28.7%		18.2%
Ages 0 - 4	2,015			
Ages 5 - 9	2,317			
Ages 10 - 14	2,258			
Ages 15 - 19	1,876			15.4%

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

## Family Economics (1990)

Median Family Income (1989)	\$32,093
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$41,308
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$13,504
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)	18.2%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)	
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$63.65
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)	15.4%

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	1,381	4.3%	(1989)	2,252	5.6%	(1995)	worse	2
Paying Child Support Cases	1,350	53.5%	(1993)	1,754	63.2%	(1998)	better	13
Births to Teens	615	6.4%	(1988-92)	521	5.6%	(1993-97)	better	3

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	461	4.8%	(1988-92)	546	5.9%	(1993-97)	worse	1
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	62	6.4	(1988-92)	68	7.4	(1993-97)	worse	14
Early Prenatal Care	1,756	89.2%	(1990)	1,645	90.0%	(1997)	better	4
Binge Drinking		21.5%	(1992)		21.0%	(1996)	better	5

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	35	27.2	(1988-92)	31	20.8	(1993-96)	better	7
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	32	71.8	(1988-92)	25	55.3	(1993-97)	better	13
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	194	5.9	(1990)	133	3.4	(1998)	lower	5
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	560	24.4	(1992-93)	834	31.1	(1997-98)	worse	4
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	18	13.4	(1990)	13	7.4	(1997)	better	1
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	149	110.7	(1990)	222	127.1	(1997)	worse	2

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		32.0%	(1992)		52.0%	(1998)	better	4
On-Time Graduation Rate		85.8%	(1989-90)		86.9%	(1997-98)	better	5
High School Program Completion**		28.6%	(1991)		46.6%	(1998)	better	16

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# CARROLL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	478	256	-46.5	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	814	511	-37.2	-21.8
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,156	2,918	152.4%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	653	1,018	55.9%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,889	2,497	32.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	747	1,193	59.7%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	21,861	68.8%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	12,520	71.7%
Living in Single Parent Families	3,557	10.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	26,964	82.3%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		78.5%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		19.6%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	146,936	2.9%
Minority Population under age 20	1,739	4.0%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	43,716	29.8%
Ages 0 - 4	9,974	
Ages 5 - 9	11,933	
Ages 10 - 14	11,249	
Ages 15 - 19	9,839	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$46,491	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$54,544	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$21,771	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		17.0%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$101.19	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.9%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	1,782	9.5%	(1989)	2,734	12.0%	(1995)	worse	12
Paying Child Support Cases	2,071	64.0%	(1993)	2,317	63.8%	(1998)	better	11
Births to Teens	792	13.6%	(1988-92)	698	12.9%	(1993-97)	better	16

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	381	6.5%	(1988-92)	366	6.7%	(1993-97)	worse	9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	50	8.6	(1988-92)	43	7.9	(1993-97)	better	16
Early Prenatal Care	986	83.3%	(1990)	971	89.1%	(1997)	better	5
Binge Drinking		30.6%	(1992)		30.5	(1996)	same	14

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	21	27.3	(1988-92)	26	29.9	(1993-96)	worse	17
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	19	67.8	(1988-92)	18	63.7	(1993-97)	better	16
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	158	8.1	(1990)	179	7.9	(1998)	lower	18
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	778	58.5	(1992-93)	689	45.0	(1997-98)	better	11
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	38	45.0	(1990)	40	37.9	(1997)	better	8
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	209	247.3	(1990)	258	244.4	(1997)	better	10

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		27.4%	(1992)		44.6%	(1998)	better	16
On-Time Graduation Rate		77.6%	(1989-90)		75.8%	(1997-98)	worse	12
High School Program Completion**		33.0%	(1991)		55.2%	(1998)	better	11

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test

\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# CECIL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	684	337	-50.7	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,238	632	-48.9	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,681	3,406	102.6%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	738	1,206	63.4%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	2,345	3,310	41.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	748	1,145	53.1%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18:		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	12,275	67.4%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	6,792	70.9%
Living in Single Parent Families	3,161	16.2%
Living in Two-Parent Families	14,310	73.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		72.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		12.1%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population * (% of State Population)	80,768	1.6%
Minority Population under age 20	1,903	7.7%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	24,686	30.6%
Ages 0 - 4	5,592	
Ages 5 - 9	6,419	
Ages 10 - 14	6,603	
Ages 15 - 19	6,072	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$40,420	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$47,252	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$19,242	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		18.1%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$88.93	
Unemployment Rate (1994)		8.4%
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		6.2%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	1,664	5.7%	(1989)	3,148	9.0%	(1995)	worse	8
Paying Child Support Cases	1,801	48.1%	(1993)	2,666	64.2%	(1998)	better	8
Births to Teens	885	10.5%	(1988-92)	851	10.4%	(1993-97)	same	11

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	563	6.7%	(1988-92)	617	7.6%	(1993-97)	worse	16
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	70	8.3	(1988-92)	51	6.3	(1993-97)	better	7
Early Prenatal Care	1,377	79.2%	(1990)	1,339	81.8%	(1997)	better	19
Binge Drinking		27.7%	(1992)		24.1%	(1996)	better	6

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	31	26.4	(1988-92)	29	22.1	(1993-96)	better	9
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	38	93.9	(1988-92)	24	59.7	(1993-97)	better	15
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	221	7.4	(1990)	77	2.2	(1998)	lower	2
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	994	51.5	(1992-93)	1,526	70.6	(1997-98)	worse	18
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	34	27.3	(1990)	72	46.6	(1997)	worse	14
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	343	275.3	(1990)	536	346.9	(1997)	worse	17

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		26.0%	(1992)		36.9%	(1998)	better	21
On-Time Graduation Rate		83.7%	(1989-90)		79.5%	(1997-98)	worse	8
High School Program Completion**		37.2%	(1991)		27.7%	(1998)	worse	24

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# CHARLES COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	1,238	592	-52.2	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,908	1,343	-29.6	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	2,373	4,757	100.5%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	1,027	1,595	55.3%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	3,290	4,726	44.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	987	1,637	65.9%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18	21,158	73.9%
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	11,666	77.2%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	4,788	16.1%
Living in Single Parent Families	21,889	73.6%
Living in Two-Parent Families		81.0%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		16.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	115,075	2.3%
Minority Population under age 20	10,017	26.7%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	37,571	32.6%
Ages 0 - 4	8,818	
Ages 5 - 9	10,304	
Ages 10 - 14	9,866	
Ages 15 - 19	8,583	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$49,724	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$57,525	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$24,352	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		16.7%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$100.81	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		6.0%
** Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work		

# Dorchester County Factsheet

## COUNTY SEAT: CAMBRIDGE 16 Indicators for county's children

County Rank **23**

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank	
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	1,341	19.7%	(1989)	1,664	22.9%	(1995)	worse 21
Paying Child Support Cases	1,028	46.3%	(1993)	1,112	52.4%	(1998)	better 20
Births to Teens	429	19.6%	(1988-92)	339	19.7%	(1993-97)	same 23

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### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	193	8.8%	(1988-92)	160	9.3%	(1993-97)	worse 22
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	22	10.0	(1988-92)	16	9.3	(1993-97)	better 18
Early Prenatal Care	321	67.3%	(1990)	277	71.2%	(1997)	better 22
Binge Drinking		17.9%	(1992)		38.0%	(1996)	worse 24

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	15	54.5	(1988-92)	13	44.5	(1993-96)	better 23
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	10	107.6	(1988-92)	4	45.8	(1993-97)	better 8
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	54	7.8	(1990)	48	6.9	(1998)	lower 16
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	452	93.8	(1992-93)	519	100.3	(1997-98)	worse 23
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	31	108.0	(1990)	48	154.0	(1997)	worse 23
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	61	212.5	(1990)	159	510.3	(1997)	worse 23

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		15.2%	(1992)		47.0%	(1998)	better 10
On-Time Graduation Rate		78.5%	(1989-90)		67.0%	(1997-98)	worse 22
High School Program Completion**		28.2%	(1991)		50.7%	(1998)	better 12

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst



# DORCHESTER COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	429	282	-34.4	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,101	659	-40.2%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,300	2,059	58.4%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	501	709	41.5%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,955	2,467	26.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	354	642	81.4%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	4,666	72.6%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	2,813	76.5%
Living in Single Parent Families	1,927	27.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	3,877	56.1%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		64.7%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		10.9%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	29,893	0.6%
Minority Population under age 20	3,306	43.4%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	7,611	25.5%
Ages 0 - 4	1,801	
Ages 5 - 9	2,059	
Ages 10 - 14	2,000	
Ages 15 - 19	1,751	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$30,004	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$43,613	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$13,656	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		19.4%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$65.97	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		12.3%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	2,274	5.8%	(1989)	3,661	7.4%	(1995)	worse	3
Paying Child Support Cases	1,726	49.6%	(1993)	2,754	64.3%	(1998)	better	7
Births to Teens	902	7.4%	(1988-92)	930	7.1%	(1993-97)	better	5

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	721	6.0%	(1988-92)	832	6.3%	(1993-97)	worse	3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	81	6.7	(1988-92)	77	5.9	(1993-97)	better	6
Early Prenatal Care	2,226	87.0%	(1990)	2,378	90.6%	(1997)	better	1
Binge Drinking		16.2%	(1992)		32.0%	(1996)	worse	16

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	45	28.6	(1988-92)	32	16.8	(1993-96)	better	3
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	29	52.7	(1988-92)	18	31.2	(1993-97)	better	2
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	149	3.7	(1990)	197	4.0	(1998)	higher	9
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	1,150	39.8	(1992-93)	1,572	45.5	(1997-98)	worse	12
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	74	45.7	(1990)	89	41.4	(1997)	better	9
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	340	209.7	(1990)	532	247.3	(1997)	worse	12

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		44.4%	(1992)		50.1%	(1998)	better	6
On-Time Graduation Rate		87.3%	(1989-90)		90.1%	(1997-98)	better	1
High School Program Completion**		49.6%	(1991)		59.1%	(1998)	better	6

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test

\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	823	306	-62.8	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,282	770	-39.9	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,611	4,563	183.2%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	1,224	2,193	79.2%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	3,630	5,152	42.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	1,210	2,057	70.0%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	26,841	70.1%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	15,106	72.7%
Living in Single Parent Families	5,104	12.8%
Living in Two-Parent Families	31,790	80.0%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		80.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		22.0%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	183,215	3.6%
Minority Population under age 20	5,158	9.5%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	54,157	29.6%
Ages 0 - 4	12,792	
Ages 5 - 9	14,712	
Ages 10 - 14	13,894	
Ages 15 - 19	12,759	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$45,847	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$53,984	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$20,449	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		18.5%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$100.92	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.8%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	1,423	19.1%	(1989)	1,814	22.1%	(1995)	worse	20
Paying Child Support Cases	423	61.2%	(1993)	483	54.8%	(1998)	worse	18
Births to Teens	263	13.2%	(1988-92)	263	14.1%	(1993-97)	worse	18

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	115	5.8%	(1988-92)	126	6.7%	(1993-97)	worse	9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	20	10.0	(1988-92)	10	5.4	(1993-97)	better	5
Early Prenatal Care	350	81.4%	(1990)	306	87.7%	(1997)	better	7
Binge Drinking		13.5%	(1992)		30.9%	(1996)	worse	15

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	12	40.7	(1988-92)	11	35.6	(1993-96)	better	19
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	4	37.0	(1988-92)	5	47.5	(1993-97)	worse	11
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	60	7.9	(1990)	45	5.6	(1998)	lower	12
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	174	34.7	(1992-93)	161	31.5	(1997-98)	better	5
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	8	23.1	(1990)	5	12.7	(1997)	better	2
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	30	86.5	(1990)	53	134.7	(1997)	worse	4

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		35.4%	(1992)		37.3%	(1998)	better	20
On-Time Graduation Rate		92.4%	(1989-90)		77.6%	(1997-98)	worse	10
High School Program Completion**		28.5%	(1991)		35.8%	(1998)	better	23

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

**Children and Family Services/Programs**

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	247	146	-41.1	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	690	255	-63.1	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,020	2,366	132.0%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	733	807	10.1%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	2,048	2,271	11.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	226	269	19.0%	44.3%

**Family Environment (1990)**

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	4,112	56.4%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	2,279	61.1%
Living in Single Parent Families	986	12.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	6,003	78.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		68.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		10.9%

**County Population (1997)**

	Number	Percent
Total County Population (% of State Population)	29,511	0.6%
Minority Population under age 20 (% of Population under age 20)	104	1.2%
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	8,820	29.9%
Ages 0 - 4	1,750	
Ages 5 - 9	2,409	
Ages 10 - 14	2,446	
Ages 15 - 19	2,215	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Family Economics (1990)**

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$26,365	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$34,132	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$12,776	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		21.0%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$72.74	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		8.6%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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# Harford County Factsheet

COUNTY SEAT: BEL AIR  
16 Indicators for county's children

County Rank  
**5**

## Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank	
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	3,239	6.7%	(1989)	4,727	7.9%	(1995)	worse 6
Paying Child Support Cases	2,247	47.5%	(1993)	2,533	60.1%	(1998)	better 15
Births to Teens	1,110	7.7%	(1988-92)	1,028	7.0%	(1993-97)	better 4

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## Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	901	6.2%	(1988-92)	968	6.6%	(1993-97)	worse 8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	111	7.7	(1988-92)	93	6.3	(1993-97)	better 7
Early Prenatal Care	2,523	85.3%	(1990)	2,587	90.6%	(1997)	better 1
Binge Drinking		19.3%	(1992)		27.3%	(1996)	worse 9

## Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	41	21.5	(1988-92)	56	24.8	(1993-97)	worse 13
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	40	60.2	(1988-92)	31	45.8	(1993-97)	better 8
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	413	8.4	(1990)	224	3.8	(1998)	lower 8
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	829	25.1	(1992-93)	1,250	32.4	(1997-98)	worse 6
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	46	23.5	(1990)	33	13.0	(1997)	better 3
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	327	166.8	(1990)	410	161.5	(1997)	better 6

## Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		37.2%	(1992)		57.8%	(1998)	better 3
On-Time Graduation Rate		76.7%	(1989-90)		75.8%	(1997-98)	worse 12
High School Program Completion**		24.4%	(1991)		71.5%	(1998)	better 3

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	1,259	573	-54.5	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,837	1,345	-26.8%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	2,501	5,712	128.4%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	1,487	2,206	48.4%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	4,853	6,796	40.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	1,060	2096	97.7%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	31,383	66.2%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	18,164	70.1%
Living in Single Parent Families	6,630	13.6%
Living in Two-Parent Families	38,779	79.5%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		81.6
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		21.5%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	212,560	4.2%
Minority Population under age 20	9,742	15.4%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	63,415	29.8%
Ages 0 - 4	15,484	
Ages 5 - 9	17,609	
Ages 10 - 14	16,324	
Ages 15 - 19	13,998	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$45,923	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$54,360	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$18,639	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		18.8%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$108.11	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.5%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank	
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	1,797	3.7%	(1989)	3,057	5.0%	(1995)	worse 1
Paying Child Support Cases	1,197	46.8%	(1993)	1,996	63.3%	(1998)	better 12
Births to Teens	516	3.3%	(1988-92)	574	3.4%	(1993-97)	worse 1

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	815	5.3%	(1988-92)	1,018	6.0%	(1993-97)	worse 2
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	73	4.7	(1988-92)	76	4.5	(1993-97)	better 3
Early Prenatal Care	2,665	85.4%	(1990)	3,027	90.1%	(1997)	better 3
Binge Drinking		25.0%	(1992)		19.6%	(1996)	better 4

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	43	22.6	(1988-92)	42	17.6	(1993-97)	better 5
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	28	47.5	(1988-92)	16	25.8	(1993-97)	better 1
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	212	4.3	(1990)	260	4.3	(1998)	same 11
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	642	19.5	(1992-93)	1,311	32.6	(1997-98)	worse 7
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	24	12.4	(1990)	108	41.8	(1997)	worse 10
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	399	206.2	(1990)	656	254.2	(1997)	worse 13

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		38.8%	(1992)		59.3%	(1998)	better 2
On-Time Graduation Rate		94.1%	(1989-90)		88.9%	(1997-98)	worse 3
High School Program Completion**		69.4%	(1991)		73.7%	(1998)	better 2

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst



# HOWARD COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	797	293	-63.2	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,049	711	-32.2%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,346	3,620	168.9%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	635	1,101	73.4%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1858	4,252	129%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	825	1,981	140.1%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	34,783	73.2%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	20,233	76.2%
Living in Single Parent Families	6,155	12.7%
Living in Two-Parent Families	39,888	82.3%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		91.1%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		46.9%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	228,797	4.5%
Minority Population under age 20	25,980	40.4%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	64,273	28.1%
Ages 0 - 4	16,453	
Ages 5 - 9	17,831	
Ages 10 - 14	16,500	
Ages 15 - 19	13,489	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$61,088	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$74,221	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$28,054	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		17.6%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$138.88	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.2%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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# Kent County Factsheet

COUNTY SEAT: CHESTERTOWN  
16 Indicators for county's children

County Rank  
**15**

## Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	529	14.6% (1989)	574	13.7% (1995)	better	15
Paying Child Support Cases	461	51.7% (1993)	544	69.3% (1998)	better	3
Births to Teens	133	11.1% (1988-92)	140	13.9% (1993-97)	worse	17

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## Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	82	6.9% (1988-92)	74	7.4% (1993-97)	worse	15
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	7	5.8 (1988-92)	4	4.0 (1993-97)	better	1
Early Prenatal Care	156	67.0% (1990)	175	86.6% (1997)	better	8
Binge Drinking		19.4% (1992)		37.9% (1996)	worse	23

## Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	7	47.0 (1988-92)	4	24.9 (1993-97)	better	14
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	8	120.6 (1988-92)	6	90.3 (1993-97)	better	21
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	15	3.9 (1990)	17	4.2 (1998)	higher	10
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	119	47.4 (1992-93)	173	59.6 (1997-98)	worse	17
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	1	6.2 (1990)	14	75.7 (1997)	worse	18
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	17	104.9 (1990)	58	313.5 (1997)	worse	14

## Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		44.2% (1992)		63.1% (1998)	better	1
On-Time Graduation Rate		76.1% (1989-90)		69.8% (1997-98)	worse	18
High School Program Completion**		38.9% (1991)		36.4% (1998)	worse	22

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# KENT COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	111	37	-66.7	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	266	94	-64.5%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	340	821	141.5%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	323	377	16.7%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	721	1,105	53.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	173	386	112.7%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	2,563	73.2%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	1,409	76.9%
Living in Single Parent Families	728	19.1%
Living in Two-Parent Families	2,497	65.6%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		71.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		16.9%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	19,067	0.4%
Minority Population under age 20	2,354	48.7%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	4,832	25.3%
Ages 0 - 4	1,061	
Ages 5 - 9	1,183	
Ages 10 - 14	1,146	
Ages 15 - 19	1,442	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$35,231	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$46,098	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$15,308	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		16.8%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$63.25	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		4.3%

\*\*Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank	
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	9,058	5.2%	(1989)	15,252	7.5%	(1995)	worse 4
Paying Child Support Cases	5,605	48.3%	(1993)	6,066	54.2%	(1998)	better 19
Births to Teens	2,681	4.3%	(1988-92)	2,593	4.3%	(1993-97)	same 2

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	3,813	6.1%	(1988-92)	4,094	6.8%	(1993-97)	worse 11
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	500	7.9	(1988-92)	424	7.0	(1993-97)	better 11
Early Prenatal Care	10,675	83.6%	(1990)	9,943	84.2%	(1997)	better 16
Binge Drinking		17.6%	(1992)		16.6%	(1996)	better 1

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	159	22.4	(1988-92)	111	13.7	(1993-97)	better 2
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	76	33.7	(1988-92)	75	33.5	(1993-97)	better 4
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	514	2.9	(1990)	632	3.2	(1998)	higher 3
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	2,141	19.8	(1992-93)	3,436	27.5	(1997-98)	worse 1
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	159	22.6	(1990)	170	20.4	(1997)	better 4
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	1,572	223.3	(1990)	909	108.9	(1997)	better 1

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		41.6%	(1992)		51.5%	(1998)	better 5
On-Time Graduation Rate		90.4%	(1989-90)		87.3%	(1997-98)	worse 4
High School Program Completion**		60.5%	(1991)		79.6%	(1998)	better 1

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test

\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	3,251	1,635	-49.7	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	5,788	4,032	-30.3%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	7,190	16,435	128.6%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	3,983	10,351	159.9%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	18,230	27,944	53.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Services Intake Cases (1990/1998)	4,065	4,838	19.0%	44.3%

### Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18:		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	120,844	70.2%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	71,604	73.8%
Living in Single Parent Families	25,450	14.3%
Living in Two-Parent Families	141,488	79.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		14.3%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		79.4%

### County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	826,766	16.2%
Minority Population under age 20	65,005	30.4%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	213,884	25.9%
Ages 0 - 4	57,173	
Ages 5 - 9	57,834	
Ages 10 - 14	52,696	
Ages 15 - 19	46,181	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

### Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$61,988	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$83,589	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$29,885	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		18.1%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$134.15	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.0%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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## Economic Well Being

Children in Poverty  
Paying Child Support Cases  
Births to Teens

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	12,216	7.0%	21,879	10.9%	worse	11
Paying Child Support Cases	15,389	59.4%	16,796	47.3%	worse	23
Births to Teens	6,796	10.2%	6,343	10.2%	same	10

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## Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)  
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)  
Early Prenatal Care  
Binge Drinking

	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	Trend	Rank
Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	6,281	9.5%	(1988-92)	6,237	10.0%	(1993-97)	worse	23
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	869	13.1	(1988-92)	806	12.9	(1993-97)	better	23
Early Prenatal Care	8,912	66.5%	(1990)	7,450	62.2%	(1997)	worse	24
Binge Drinking		6.2%	(1992)		17.6%	(1996)	worse	2

## Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)  
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)  
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)  
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)  
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)  
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)

	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	Trend	Rank
Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	210	29.4	(1988-92)	196	24.4	(1993-97)	better	12
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	246	91.6	(1988-92)	220	84.7	(1993-97)	better	20
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	1,228	7.2	(1990)	1,239	6.4	(1998)	lower	14
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	5,193	46.8	(1992-93)	6,710	52.3	(1997-98)	worse	15
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	478	66.1	(1990)	581	69.0	(1997)	worse	15
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	1,844	255.1	(1990)	1,728	205.2	(1997)	better	9

## Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading\*  
On-Time Graduation Rate  
High School Program Completion\*\*

	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	Trend	Rank
Third Grade Reading*		19.4%	(1992)		29.0%	(1998)	better	23
On-Time Graduation Rate		71.8%	(1989-90)		75.0%	(1997-98)	better	14
High School Program Completion**		45.6%	(1991)		60.9%	(1998)	better	5

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
\*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS**

**Children and Family Services/Programs**

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	8,964	6,535	-27.1	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	11,578	15,557	34.4%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	14,752	35,150	138.3%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	4,224	11,640	175.6%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	31,943	53,036	66.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	5,483	5,063	-7.7%	44.3%

**Family Environment (1990)**

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	133,273	79.1%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	78,977	82.3%
Living in Single Parent Families	42,540	23.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	109,403	61.5%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		83.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		25.5%

**County Population (1997)**

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	770,633	15.1%
Minority Population under age 20	151,432	69.3%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	218,621	28.4%
Ages 0 - 4	55,162	
Ages 5 - 9	55,743	
Ages 10 - 14	52,857	
Ages 15 - 19	54,859	

\*1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Family Economics (1990)**

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$48,471	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$57,358	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$27,462	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		18.2%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$104.82	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		4.8%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	655	8.0%	1,014	10.4%	worse	10
Paying Child Support Cases	604	51.4%	663	64.2%	better	8
Births to Teens	242	10.3%	162	7.5%	better	6

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	124	5.3%	139	6.4%	worse	4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	19	8.1	20	9.3	worse	18
Early Prenatal Care	389	79.7%	380	88.6%	better	6
Binge Drinking		18.0%		29.4%	worse	10

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	16	49.4	3	8.1	better	1
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	8	76.5	10	96.8	worse	22
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	42	5.0	20	2.1	lower	1
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 children)	284	50.6	350	53.0	worse	16
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	5	15.1	18	43.4	worse	12
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	63	189.8	53	127.9	better	3

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		40.9%		45.3%	better	13
On-Time Graduation Rate		77.4%		79.2%	better	9
High School Program Completion**		40.7%		42.4%	better	17

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst



# QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	178	93	-47.9	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	429	199	-53.5%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	571	1,024	79.3%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	331	443	33.8%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,121	1,175	5.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	232	414	78.4%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18:		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	5,694	71.2%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	3,218	73.9%
Living in Single Parent Families	1,205	14.4%
Living in Two-Parent Families	6,273	75.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		76.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		19.9%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	39,093	0.8%
Minority Population under age 20	1,678	16.1%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	10,411	26.6%
Ages 0 - 4	2,491	
Ages 5 - 9	2,998	
Ages 10 - 14	2,768	
Ages 15 - 19	2,154	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$43,173	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$51,784	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$18,704	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1989)		16.3%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$84.40	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)* (1989)		8.0%

\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate		
Children in Poverty	2,224	10.4%	3,172	12.6%	worse	13
Paying Child Support Cases	1,526	51.5%	2,014	64.1	better	10
Births to Teens	715	10.6%	652	10.6%	same	12

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	448	6.7%	443	7.2%	worse	13
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	64	9.5	62	10.1	worse	20
Early Prenatal Care	886	65.5%	1,030	85.3%	better	21
Binge Drinking		22.6%		29.9%	worse	7

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	39	45.6	26	27.3	better	15
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	13	44.0	15	52.7	worse	12
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	201	9.3	92	3.7	lower	6
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	642	51.0	633	43.1	better	10
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	45	52.8	45	42.0	better	11
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	36	42.2	185	172.6	worse	8

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		24.7%		47.9%	better	8
On-Time Graduation Rate		76.4%		71.9%	worse	16
High School Program Completion**		33.7%		48.0%	better	14

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS**

**Children and Family Services/Programs**

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	723	353	-51.2	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	1,200	783	-34.8%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	1,574	3,319	110.9%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	1,127	1,296	15.0%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	2,765	3,505	27.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	489	911	86.3%	44.3%

**Family Environment (1990)**

	Number	Percent
<b>CHILDREN UNDER 18:</b>		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	13,872	66.7%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	7,611	71.2%
Living in Single Parent Families	3,080	14.3%
Living in Two-Parent Families	16,620	77.1%
% of Persons 25 yrs + High School Grad. or Higher		77.1%
% of Persons 25 yrs + College Degree or Higher		16.8%

**County Population (1997)**

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	85,684	1.7%
Minority Population under age 20	5,642	20.5%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	27,548	32.2%
Ages 0 - 4	6,997	
Ages 5 - 9	7,411	
Ages 10 - 14	6,893	
Ages 15 - 19	6,247	

\*1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Family Economics (1990)**

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$40,828	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$46,589	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$19,426	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		18.3%
(based on family of + a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$84.68	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)* (1989)		8.1%

\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.		
Children in Poverty	861	18.2%	(1989)	1,262	25.1%	(1995)	worse	23
Paying Child Support Cases	905	54.6%	(1993)	1,065	64.9%	(1998)	better	5
Births to Teens	291	21.5%	(1988-92)	248	19.5%	(1993-97)	better	22

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### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	141	10.4%	(1988-92)	98	7.7%	(1993-97)	better	17
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	16	11.8	(1988-92)	9	7.1	(1993-97)	better	12
Early Prenatal Care	161	59.2%	(1990)	198	79.5%	(1997)	better	11
Binge Drinking		26.2%	(1992)		25.4%	(1996)	better	12

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	5	27.0	(1988-92)	8	41.5	(1993-97)	worse	21
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	7	72.1	(1988-92)	6	64.2	(1993-97)	better	17
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	53	11.2	(1990)	39	8.1	(1998)	lower	19
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	597	181.3	(1992-93)	361	114.2	(1997-98)	better	24
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	6	28.2	(1990)	19	82.1	(1997)	worse	20
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	173	812.2	(1990)	44	190.1	(1997)	better	7

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		25.2%	(1992)		32.5%	(1998)	better	22
On-Time Graduation Rate		73.3%	(1989-90)		69.1%	(1997-98)	worse	19
High School Program Completion**		23.3%	(1991)		48.4%	(1998)	better	13

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

**SOMERSET COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS**

**Children and Family Services/Programs**

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	404	144	-64.3	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	683	329	-51.8%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	866	1,573	81.6%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	399	457	14.5%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,747	1,722	-1%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	101	222	119.8%	44.3%

**Family Environment (1990)**

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18:		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	3,447	75.3%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	1,950	77.7%
Living in Single Parent Families	1,285	27.2%
Living in Two-Parent Families	2,702	57.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		61.2%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		9.6%

**County Population (1997)**

	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	24,474	0.5%	\$27,097	
Minority Population under age 20	3,228	52.8%	\$38,084	
(% of Population under 20)			\$14,494	
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	6,108	25.0%		18.8%
Ages 0 - 4	1,148			
Ages 5 - 9	1,372			
Ages 10 - 14	1,466			9.9%
Ages 15 - 19	2,122			

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Family Economics (1990)**

Median Family Income (1989)	\$27,097
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$38,084
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$14,494
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)	18.8%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)	
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$60.93
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)* (1989)	9.9%

\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.			Rate	Current Yr.
Children in Poverty	639	10.2%	(1989)	957	13.5%	(1995)	worse	14
Paying Child Support Cases	649	52.7%	(1993)	737	71.1%	(1998)	better	2
Births to Teens	247	12.7%	(1988-92)	210	11.9%	(1993-97)	better	13

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	159	8.1%	(1988-92)	137	7.7%	(1993-97)	better	17
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	29	14.9	(1988-92)	7	4.0	(1993-97)	better	1
Early Prenatal Care	321	77.3%	(1990)	272	85.0%	(1997)	better	14
Binge Drinking		34.3%	(1992)		32.4%	(1996)	better	18

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	10	40.2	(1988-92)	8	28.2	(1993-97)	better	16
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	6	72.7	(1988-92)	6	75.2	(1993-97)	worse	19
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	53	8.2	(1990)	44	6.3	(1998)	lower	13
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	361	86.9	(1992-93)	381	83.6	(1997-98)	better	21
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	15	58.4	(1990)	31	103.2	(1997)	worse	21
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	41	159.5	(1990)	136	452.6	(1997)	worse	21

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		24.7%	(1992)		42.3%	(1998)	better	17
On-Time Graduation Rate		75.8%	(1989-90)		69.0%	(1997-98)	worse	20
High School Program Completion**		30.6%	(1991)		57.6%	(1998)	better	9

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System  
 COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# TALBOT COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	200	68	-66.2	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	465	218	-53.2%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	652	1,152	76.7%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	343	436	27.1%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	873	1,199	37.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	316	611	93.4%	44.3%

## Family Economics (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	4,750	78.1%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	2,704	79.7%
Living in Single Parent Families	1,283	19.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	4,426	68.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		76.6%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		23.0%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	33,054	0.6%
Minority Population under age 20	3,642	48.3%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	7,542	22.8%
Ages 0 - 4	1,829	
Ages 5 - 9	2,135	
Ages 10 - 14	1,955	
Ages 15 - 19	1,623	

\*1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$38,599	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$59,689	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$17,722	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		16.9%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$71.34	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		5.4%

\*\*Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

## Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	3,383	12.5%	4,294	14.3%	(1995)	worse 16
Paying Child Support Cases	2,878	68.5%	3,240	71.5%	(1998)	better 1
Births to Teens	1,002	12.2%	982	12.6%	(1993-97)	worse 15

## Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5 lbs.)	522	6.4%	494	6.4%	(1993-97)	same 4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	65	7.9	56	7.2	(1993-97)	better 13
Early Prenatal Care	1,442	86.9%	1,343	84.5%	(1997)	better 15
Binge Drinking		16.6%		26.8%	(1996)	worse 8

## Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	36	33.4	25	21.1	(1993-97)	better 8
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	26	64.9	14	36.5	(1993-97)	better 5
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	190	6.9	308	10.5	(1998)	higher 22
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	326	17.8	550	27.5	(1997-98)	worse 1
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	21	18.2	31	23.3	(1997)	worse 5
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	269	233.7	201	151.3	(1997)	better 5

## Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		26.1%		47.6%	(1998)	better 9
On-Time Graduation Rate		79.3%		74.3%	(1997-98)	worse 15
High School Program Completion**		33.4%		38.1%	(1998)	better 20

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst



# WASHINGTON COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	1,123	405	-63.9	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	2,455	911	-62.9%	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	3,159	5,386	70.5%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	2,007	2,165	7.9%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	5,103	5,597	10.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	938	1,452	54.8%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	17,383	65.4%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	10,119	68.7%
Living in Single Parent Families	5,086	18.5%
Living in Two-Parent Families	20,210	73.4%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + High School Grad. or Higher		69.3%
% of Persons 25 yrs. + College Degree or Higher		11.4%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	128,155	2.5%
Minority Population under age 20	2,658	8.2%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	32,356	25.2%
Ages 0 - 4	7,515	
Ages 5 - 9	8,589	
Ages 10 - 14	8,449	
Ages 15 - 19	7,803	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$34,614	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$44,383	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$14,153	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		19.3%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$80.05	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		8.4%

\*\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank		
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.		
Children in Poverty	2,816	15.7%	(1989)	3,789	18.6%	(1995)	worse	19
Paying Child Support Cases	2,037	44.9%	(1993)	2,313	51.0%	(1998)	better	22
Births to Teens	834	14.7%	(1988-92)	873	15.9%	(1993-97)	worse	20

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5 lbs.)	447	7.9%	(1988-92)	467	8.5%	(1993-97)	worse	20
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	61	10.7	(1988-92)	44	8.0	(1993-97)	better	17
Early Prenatal Care	786	67.6%	(1990)	872	79.6%	(1997)	better	20
Binge Drinking		23.3%	(1992)		36.7%	(1996)	worse	22

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	20	27.8	(1988-92)	29	35.4	(1993-97)	worse	18
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	23	80.3	(1988-92)	21	75.0	(1993-97)	better	18
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	236	12.9	(1990)	201	10.1	(1998)	lower	21
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	1,029	78.4	(1992-93)	1,111	78.1	(1997-98)	Better	19
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	64	83.7	(1990)	72	80.4	(1997)	better	19
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	281	367.3	(1990)	380	424.4	(1997)	worse	19

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		23.8%	(1992)		38.6%	(1998)	better	19
On-Time Graduation Rate		81.4%	(1989-90)		70.2%	(1997-98)	worse	17
High School Program Completion**		47.7%	(1991)		57.7%	(1998)	better	8

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# WICOMICO COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	1,146	664	-42.1	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	2,088	1,588	-23.9	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	2,551	4,750	86.2%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	1,256	1,530	21.8%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	3,253	4,865	50.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	766	1,389	81.3%	44.3%

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## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
CHILDREN UNDER 18:		
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	12,608	72.6%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	7,088	76.8%
Living in Single Parent Families	4,420	24.4%
Living in Two-Parent Families	11,591	64.0%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		72.1%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		18.5%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	79,318	1.6%
Minority Population under age 20	7,763	34.5%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	22,484	28.3%
Ages 0 - 4	5,128	
Ages 5 - 9	5,822	
Ages 10 - 14	5,814	
Ages 15 - 19	5,720	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Environment (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$33,449	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$49,729	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$16,189	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		16.8%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$67.02	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		3.9%

\* Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

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### Economic Well Being

	Then		Now		Trend	Rank	
	No.	Rate	Base Yr.	No.	Rate	Current Yr.	
Children in Poverty	1,120	14.9%	(1989)	1,617	17.6%	(1995)	worse 18
Paying Child Support Cases	1,005	50.9%	(1993)	1,243	61.4%	(1998)	better 14
Births to Teens	333	13.0%	(1988-92)	297	12.4%	(1993-97)	better 14

### Good Health

Low Birthweight Infants (weighing less than 5.5 lbs.)	174	6.8%	(1988-92)	168	7.0%	(1993-97)	worse 12
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	24	9.3	(1988-92)	28	11.7	(1993-97)	worse 21
Early Prenatal Care	321	67.7%	(1990)	395	82.1%	(1997)	better 18
Binge Drinking		25.4%	(1994)		30.2%	(1996)	worse 13

### Safety

Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)	13	42.5	(1988-92)	15	41.6	(1993-97)	better 22
Teen Violent Death Rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)	8	80.0	(1988-92)	10	97.3	(1993-97)	worse 23
Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect Rate (per 1,000 children)	62	8.0	(1990)	78	8.2	(1998)	higher 20
Violence Related Suspension Rate (per 1,000 students)	415	70.0	(1992-93)	354	51.8	(1997-98)	better 14
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	15	47.5	(1990)	31	74.0	(1997)	worse 16
Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest (ages 10-17, per 10,000)	221	699.4	(1990)	270	644.7	(1997)	better 24

### Preparing for Adulthood

Third Grade Reading*		22.1%	(1992)		49.5%	(1998)	better 7
On-Time Graduation Rate		82.2%	(1989-90)		77.3%	(1997-98)	worse 11
High School Program Completion**		38.9%	(1991)		59.0%	(1998)	better 7

\* percent of students scoring satisfactory or above in Maryland School Performance Assessment Program test  
 \*\* percent of students meeting minimal requirements for the University of Maryland System

COUNTY RANK: 1 = best 24 = worst

# WORCESTER COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Children and Family Services/Programs

	Base Year	Most Current Year	% Change County	% Change Maryland
Adults Receiving FIP/TANF (1996/1998)	379	147	-61.2	-31.3%
Children Receiving FIP/TANF (1990/1998)	737	348	-52.8	-21.8%
Children Enrolled in Medicaid (1990/1998)	945	2,098	122.0%	58.8%
Children/Infants Participating in WIC (1990/1998)	693	592	-14.6%	70.7%
Children Eligible for Free/Reduced Price School Meals (1992/1998)	1,928	2,326	21.0%	34.0%
Department of Juvenile Justice Intake Cases (1990/1998)	911	1,624	78.3%	44.3%

## Family Environment (1990)

CHILDREN UNDER 18:	Number	Percent
With Sole/Both Parent(s) Working	5,372	73.4%
With Mothers in the Labor Force	3,102	77.5%
Living in Single Parent Families	1,766	22.9%
Living in Two-Parent Families	4,910	63.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ High School Grad. or Higher		70.8%
% of Persons 25 yrs.+ College Degree or Higher		14.8%

## County Population (1997)

	Number	Percent
Total County Population* (% of State Population)	42,115	0.8%
Minority Population under age 20	3,675	36.0%
(% of Population under 20)		
All Persons under age 20 (% of County Population)	10,216	24.3%
Ages 0 - 4	2,487	
Ages 5 - 9	2,809	
Ages 10 - 14	2,660	
Ages 15 - 19	2,260	

\* 1997 U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Family Economics (1990)

	Number	Percent
Median Family Income (1989)	\$33,089	
Average Income of Married-Couple (1989)	\$46,465	
Average Income of Female-Headed Family (1989)	\$14,687	
% Median Income Spent on Child Care (1998)		21.1%
(based on family of 4 - a couple & 2 children ages 1-2 & 3-5)		
Weekly Cost of Family Day Care (child 0-2) (1998)	\$76.78	
% of Idle Teens (ages 16-19)** (1989)		6.7%

\*\*Teens who are not in school, not working and not looking for work

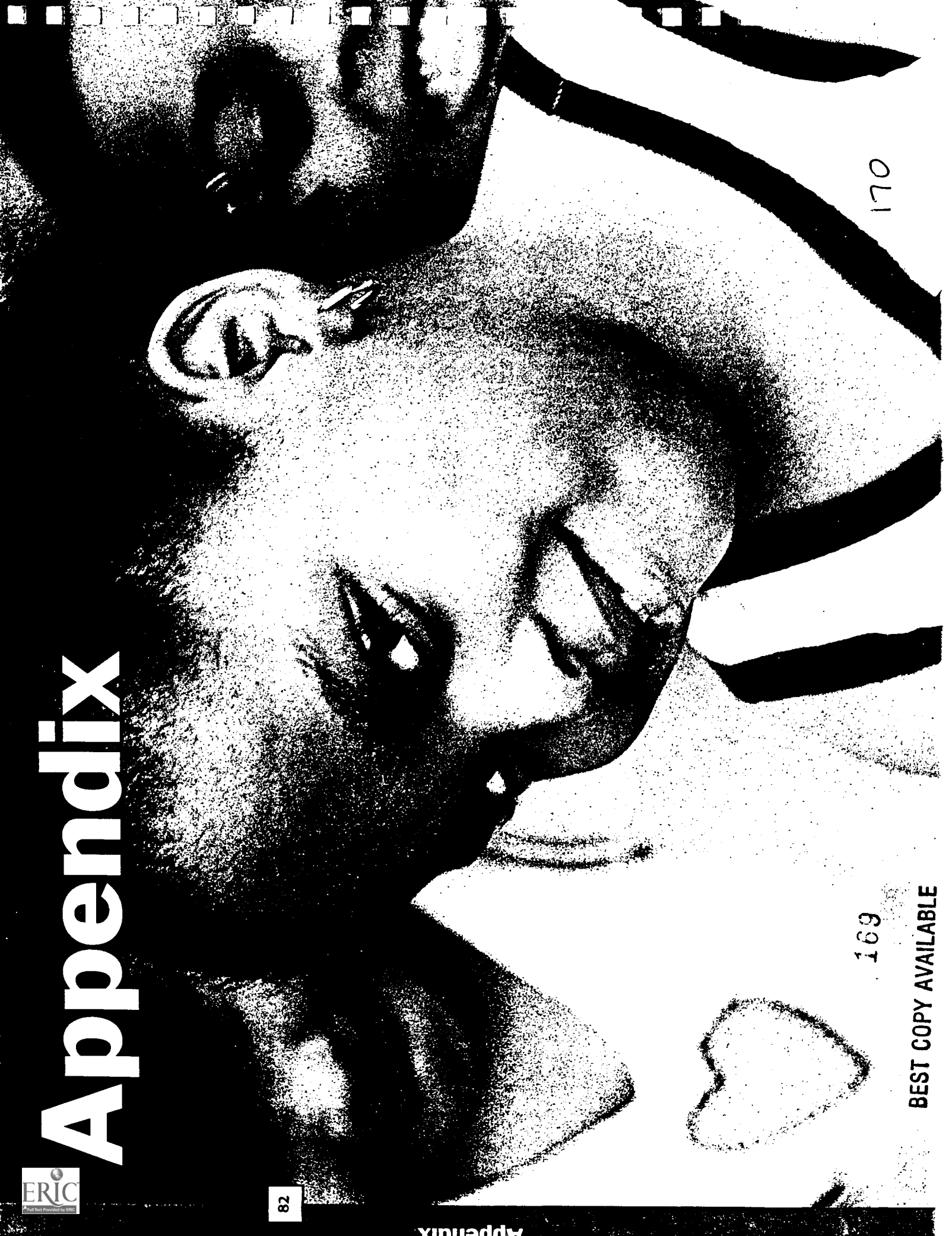
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# Appendix

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# Appendix

The following tables present data by county on the sixteen KIDS COUNT indicators. These are the same data that are represented on the individual county factsheets but are in aggregate form allowing the reader to more easily compare actual numbers and rates and appreciate the range between the highest and lowest ranked counties on each indicator. There is an additional table of data that is not included on the county fact sheets, teen birth rate. This extra data element will aid the reader in interpreting related KIDS COUNT indicators.

## High School Program Completion

Percent of graduates who have completed minimum course requirements qualifying them for admission to the University of Maryland System

### Maryland

County	THEN 1991	NOW 1998	TREND	RANK
Allegany	29.7%	37.9%	Better	21
Arne Arundel	42.0%	55.5%	Better	10
Baltimore City	31.5%	40.7%	Better	19
Baltimore County	42.8%	47.3%	Better	15
Calvert	47.2%	63.9%	Better	4
Caroline	26.3%	42.1%	Better	18
Carroll	28.6%	46.6%	Better	16
Cecil	33.0%	55.2%	Better	11
Charles	37.2%	27.7%	Worse	24
Dorchester	28.2%	50.7%	Better	12
Frederick	49.6%	59.1%	Better	6
Garrett	28.5%	35.8%	Better	23
Harford	24.4%	71.5%	Better	3
Howard	69.4%	73.7%	Better	2
Kent	38.9%	36.4%	Worse	22
Montgomery	60.5%	79.6%	Better	1
Prince George's	45.6%	60.9%	Better	5
Queen Anne's	40.7%	42.4%	Better	17
St. Mary's	33.7%	48.0%	Better	14
Somerset	23.3%	48.4%	Better	13
Talbot	30.6%	57.6%	Better	9
Washington	33.4%	38.1%	Better	20
Wicomico	47.7%	57.7%	Better	8
Worcester	38.9%	59.0%	Better	7
MARYLAND	43.5%	57.6%	Better	

Source: Maryland Department of Education

## Child Support

Number of court-ordered child support cases, number of paying cases, percent of paying cases

### Maryland

County	THEN 1993			NOW 1998			TREND	RANK
	Total Orders	#Paying Cases	%Paying Cases	Total Orders	#Paying Cases	%Paying Cases		
Allegany	3,142	1,489	47.4%	3,783	2,084	55.1%	Better	17
Arne Arundel	13,949	6,400	45.9%	12,396	6,429	51.9%	Better	21
Baltimore City	127,126	20,663	16.3%	113,724	22,118	19.4%	Better	24
Baltimore County	14,533	9,133	62.9%	13,243	8,726	57.2%	Worse	16
Calvert	2,180	1,111	51.0%	2,146	1,414	65.9%	Better	4
Caroline	1,662	893	53.7%	1,550	1,006	64.9%	Better	5
Carroll	2,524	1,350	53.5%	2,777	1,754	63.2%	Better	13
Cecil	3,235	2,071	64.0%	3,633	2,317	63.8%	Better	11
Charles	3,742	1,801	48.1%	4,154	2,666	64.2%	Better	8
Dorchester	2,218	1,028	46.3%	2,122	1,112	52.4%	Better	20
Frederick	3,480	1,726	49.6%	4,286	2,754	64.3%	Better	7
Garrett	491	423	86.1%	882	483	54.8%	Worse	18
Harford	4,729	2,247	47.5%	4,214	2,533	60.1%	Better	15
Howard	2,559	1,197	46.8%	3,152	1,996	63.3%	Better	12
Kent	891	461	51.7%	785	544	69.3%	Better	3
Montgomery	11,598	5,605	48.3%	11,185	6,066	54.2%	Better	19
Prince George's	25,914	13,389	51.7%	35,493	16,796	47.3%	Worse	23
Queen Anne's	1,174	604	51.4%	1,032	663	64.2%	Better	8
St. Mary's	2,964	1,526	51.5%	3,144	2,014	64.1%	Better	10
Somerset	1,657	905	54.6%	1,641	1,065	64.9%	Better	5
Talbot	1,232	649	52.7%	1,037	737	71.1%	Better	2
Washington	4,199	2,878	68.5%	4,530	3,240	71.5%	Better	1
Wicomico	4,533	2,037	44.9%	4,534	2,313	51.0%	Better	22
Worcester	1,975	1,005	50.9%	2,024	1,243	61.4%	Better	14
MARYLAND	241,927	82,593	34.1%	239,467	92,073	38.4%	Better	

Source: Child Support Enforcement Administration

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# Appendix

## Teen Birth Rate Maryland

Rate of births from mothers ages 15-19 per 1,000 live births

County	THEN 1987			NOW 1997			TREND	RANK
	Total	White	African American*	Total	White	African American		
Allegany	18.9	36.4	72.7	19.7	42.3	23.4	Worse	9
Anne Arundel	16.2	27.8	64.4	16.5	28.6	70.9	Worse	7
Baltimore City	45.6	57.2	99.6	47.2	50.4	108.8	Worse	24
Baltimore County	13.3	23.4	41.1	16.8	23.4	71.2	Worse	8
Cabaret	18.3	21.9	97.6	20.2	39.8	44.6	Worse	12
Caroline	22.1	34.5	80.0	30.4	50.1	99.5	Worse	22
Carroll	11.9	23.5	47.4	8.8	19.2	7.6	Better	2
Cecil	28.3	39.3	36.7	24.5	31.6	83.9	Better	17
Charles	15.8	24.3	57.9	22.0	36.6	73.3	Worse	14
Dorchester	35.4	26.3	140.5	38.8	57.3	94.7	Worse	23
Frederick	14.1	25.2	58.3	14.1	25.5	65.2	Same	5
Garrett	24.7	50.0	0.0	27.1	36.9	0.0	Worse	19
Harford	13.9	25.8	53.8	15.4	29.1	56.4	Worse	6
Howard	6.8	10.7	26.3	8.3	13.9	32.6	Worse	1
Kent	8.3	11.1	37.5	22.9	29.5	93.0	Worse	15
Montgomery	8.6	13.4	27.2	10.6	18.0	40.5	Worse	4
Prince George's	19.5	24.1	48.3	21.7	25.0	54.4	Worse	13
Queen Anne's	15.8	27.4	57.9	9.7	14.8	43.5	Better	3
St. Mary's	19.4	31.0	69.7	19.8	32.3	69.3	Worse	10
Somerset	26.9	48.8	48.1	19.8	41.8	36.8	Better	10
Talbot	18.7	26.4	60.7	29.6	41.4	99.6	Worse	21
Washington	22.2	45.7	105.0	28.6	58.1	155.4	Worse	20
Wicomico	21.7	29.3	80.0	26.0	34.4	92.6	Worse	18
Worcester	24.1	25.6	97.4	23.0	42.6	56.6	Better	16
MARYLAND	20.5	27.1	66.9	21.3	29.7	73.5	Worse	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Division of Health Statistics

\* African American category for 1987 also includes other races

## Percent of Births to Teens Maryland

Number of births to women under age 20, and percentage of  
total births born to women under age 20

County	THEN 1988-1992			NOW 1993-1997			TREND	RANK
	Total Births to Teens	% Births to Teens	Total Births to Teens	Total Births to Teens	% Births to Teens	Total Births to Teens		
Allegany	697	4.455	15.69%	4,004	14.8%	14.8%	Better	19
Anne Arundel	2,717	33.477	81.9%	2,468	32.014	7.7%	Better	8
Baltimore City	14,673	68.577	21.4%	11,668	52.937	22.0%	Worse	24
Baltimore County	3,492	49.474	7.1%	3,452	43.611	7.6%	Worse	7
Cabaret	384	4.196	9.2%	402	4.506	8.9%	Better	9
Caroline	323	2.049	15.8%	302	1.855	16.3%	Worse	21
Carroll	615	9.630	6.4%	521	9.238	5.6%	Better	3
Cecil	792	5.817	13.6%	698	5.424	12.9%	Better	16
Charles	885	8.421	10.5%	851	8.157	10.4%	Same	11
Dorchester	429	2.192	19.6%	339	1.720	19.7%	Worse	23
Frederick	902	12.110	7.4%	930	13.116	7.1%	Better	5
Garrett	263	1.995	13.2%	263	1.868	14.1%	Worse	18
Harford	1,110	14.452	7.7%	1,028	14.662	7.0%	Better	4
Howard	516	15.451	3.3%	574	16.959	3.4%	Worse	1
Kent	133	1.197	11.1%	140	1.005	13.9%	Worse	17
Montgomery	2,681	62.943	4.3%	2,593	60.243	4.3%	Same	2
Prince George's	6,796	66.447	10.2%	6,343	62.473	10.2%	Same	10
Queen Anne's	242	2.350	10.3%	162	2.159	7.5%	Better	6
St. Mary's	715	6.733	10.6%	652	6.149	10.6%	Same	12
Somerset	291	1.251	21.5%	248	1.270	19.5%	Better	22
Talbot	247	1.952	12.7%	210	1.770	11.9%	Better	13
Washington	1,002	8.192	12.2%	982	7.770	12.6%	Worse	15
Wicomico	894	5.679	14.7%	873	5.495	15.9%	Worse	20
Worcester	333	2.569	13.0%	297	2.402	12.4%	Better	14
MARYLAND	41,072	391,709	10.5%	36,588	362,807	10.1%	Better	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics

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# Appendix

## Low Birth Weight Infants

Number and percent of infants born weighing less than 5.5 lbs.  
Maryland

County	THEN 1988-1992		NOW 1993-1997		TREND	RANK
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent		
Allegany	238	5.3%	258	6.4%	Worse	4
Anne Arundel	2,147	6.4%	2,309	7.2%	Worse	13
Baltimore City	8,933	13.0%	7,343	13.9%	Worse	24
Baltimore County	3,511	7.1%	3,667	8.0%	Worse	19
Calvert	233	5.6%	292	6.5%	Worse	7
Caroline	166	8.1%	157	8.5%	Worse	20
Carroll	461	4.8%	546	5.9%	Worse	1
Cecil	381	6.5%	366	6.7%	Worse	9
Charles	563	6.7%	617	7.6%	Worse	16
Dorchester	193	8.8%	160	9.3%	Worse	22
Frederick	721	6.0%	832	6.3%	Worse	3
Garrett	115	5.8%	126	6.7%	Worse	9
Harford	901	6.2%	968	6.6%	Worse	8
Howard	815	5.3%	1,018	6.0%	Worse	2
Kent	82	6.9%	74	7.4%	Worse	15
Montgomery	3,813	6.1%	4,094	6.8%	Worse	11
Prince George's	6,281	9.5%	6,237	10.0%	Worse	23
Queen Anne's	124	5.3%	139	6.4%	Worse	4
St. Mary's	448	6.7%	443	7.2%	Worse	13
Somerset	141	10.4%	98	7.7%	Better	17
Talbot	159	8.1%	137	7.7%	Better	17
Washington	522	6.4%	494	6.4%	Same	4
Wicomico	447	7.9%	467	8.5%	Worse	20
Worcester	174	6.8%	168	7.0%	Worse	12
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>31,569</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>31,010</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>Worse</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics

## Infant Mortality Rate

Number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births  
Maryland

County	THEN 1988-1992		NOW 1993-1997		TREND	RANK
	Total deaths	Mortality Rate	Total deaths	Mortality Rate		
Allegany	46	10.3	27	6.7	Better	9
Anne Arundel	273	8.2	213	6.7	Better	9
Baltimore City	1,031	15.0	704	13.3	Better	24
Baltimore County	379	7.7	354	7.8	Same	15
Calvert	23	5.5	24	5.3	Better	4
Caroline	27	13.2	22	11.9	Better	22
Carroll	62	6.4	68	7.4	Worse	14
Cecil	50	8.6	43	7.9	Better	16
Charles	70	8.3	51	6.3	Better	7
Dorchester	22	10.0	16	9.3	Better	18
Frederick	81	6.7	77	5.9	Better	6
Garrett	20	10.0	10	5.4	Better	5
Harford	111	7.7	93	6.3	Better	7
Howard	73	4.7	76	4.5	Better	3
Kent	7	5.8	4	4.0	Better	1
Montgomery	500	7.9	424	7.0	Better	11
Prince George's	869	13.1	806	12.9	Better	23
Queen Anne's	19	8.1	20	9.3	Worse	18
St. Mary's	64	9.5	62	10.1	Worse	20
Somerset	16	11.8	9	7.1	Better	12
Talbot	29	14.9	7	4.0	Better	1
Washington	65	7.9	56	7.2	Better	13
Wicomico	61	10.7	44	8.0	Better	17
Worcester	24	9.3	28	11.7	Worse	21
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>3,922</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>3,238</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>Better</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics

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# Appendix

## Early Prenatal Care

Percent of Births to Mothers Receiving Prenatal Care in the First Trimester Maryland

County	THEN 1990		NOW 1997		TREND	RANK
	Total Births with First Trimester Care	% Births with First Trimester Care	Total Births with First Trimester Care	% Births with First Trimester Care		
Allegany	713	78.9%	649	85.3%	Better	11
Anne Arundel	5,380	79.4%	5,432	84.0%	Better	17
Baltimore City	8,488	61.9%	5,837	63.0%	Better	23
Baltimore County	8,537	83.8%	7,582	85.2%	Better	13
Calvert	688	79.8%	788	86.2%	Better	9
Caroline	304	71.7%	311	85.7%	Better	10
Carroll	1,756	89.3%	1,645	90.0%	Better	4
Cecil	986	83.3%	971	89.1%	Better	5
Charles	1,377	79.2%	1,339	81.8%	Better	19
Dorchester	321	67.3%	277	71.2%	Better	22
Frederick	2,226	87.0%	2,378	90.6%	Better	1
Garrett	350	81.4%	306	87.7%	Better	7
Harford	2,523	85.3%	2,587	90.6%	Better	1
Howard	2,663	85.4%	3,027	90.1%	Better	3
Kent	136	67.0%	175	86.6%	Better	8
Montgomery	10,675	83.6%	9,943	84.2%	Better	16
Prince George's	8,912	64.5%	7,450	62.2%	Worse	24
Queen Anne's	389	79.7%	380	88.6%	Better	6
St. Mary's	886	65.5%	1,030	85.5%	Better	21
Somerset	161	59.2%	198	79.5%	Better	11
Talbot	321	77.3%	272	85.0%	Better	14
Washington	1,442	86.9%	1,343	84.5%	Better	15
Wicomico	786	67.6%	872	79.6%	Better	20
Worcester	321	67.7%	395	82.1%	Better	18
MARYLAND	66,783	75.8%	55,187	78.7%	Better	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics

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## Binge Drinking

Percentage of 10th grade students reporting having consumed five or more alcoholic beverages on the same occasion in the past 30 days Maryland

County	THEN 1992	NOW 1996	TREND	RANK
Allegany	27.6%	32.0%	Worse	16
Anne Arundel	26.0%	35.6%	Worse	21
Baltimore City	10.0%	17.7%	Worse	3
Baltimore County	21.8%	32.8%	Worse	19
Calvert	26.0%	29.5%	Worse	11
Caroline	28.6%	35.1%*	Worse	20
Carroll	21.5%	21.0%	Better	5
Cecil	30.6%	30.5%	Same	14
Charles	27.7%	24.1%	Better	6
Dorchester	17.9%	38.0%	Worse	24
Frederick	16.2%	32.0%	Worse	16
Garrett	13.5%	30.9%	Worse	15
Harford	19.3%	27.3%	Worse	9
Howard	25.0%	19.6%	Better	4
Kent	19.4%	37.9%	Worse	23
Montgomery	17.6%	16.6%	Better	1
Prince George's	6.2%	17.6%	Worse	2
Queen Anne's	18.0%	29.4%	Worse	10
St. Mary's	22.6%	29.9%	Worse	7
Somerset	26.2%	25.4%	Better	12
Talbot	34.3%	32.4%	Better	18
Washington	16.6%	26.8%	Worse	8
Wicomico	23.3%	36.7%	Worse	22
Worcester	25.4%**	30.2%	Worse	13
MARYLAND	19.9%	25.2%	Worse	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Maryland Adolescent Survey  
 \* This figure comes from the 1994 Maryland Adolescent Survey as grade 10 in Caroline County had too few responses to allow for generalization.  
 \*\* This figure comes from the 1994 Maryland Adolescent Survey as Worcester County had too few responses to allow for generalization.

# Appendix

## Child Deaths

Number of child (ages 1-14) deaths from all causes  
per 100,000 children ages 1-14  
**Maryland**

County	THEN 1988-1992		NOW 1993-1996		TREND	RANK
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
Allegany	25	39.0	11	16.8	Better	3
Anne Arundel	112	27.0	110	24.0	Better	11
Baltimore City	347	47.6	349	47.7	Same	24
Baltimore County	133	22.4	150	22.3	Same	10
Calvert	11	18.9	15	19.8	Worse	6
Caroline	17	61.9	12	38.7	Better	20
Carroll	35	27.2	31	20.8	Better	7
Cecil	21	27.3	26	29.9	Worse	17
Charles	31	26.4	29	22.1	Better	9
Dorchester	15	54.5	13	44.5	Better	23
Frederick	45	28.6	32	16.8	Better	3
Garrett	12	40.7	11	35.6	Better	19
Harford	41	21.5	56	24.8	Worse	13
Howard	43	22.6	42	17.6	Better	5
Kent	7	47.0	4	24.9	Better	14
Montgomery	159	22.4	111	13.7	Better	2
Prince George's	210	29.4	196	24.4	Better	12
Queen Anne's	16	49.4	3	8.1	Better	1
St. Mary's	39	45.6	26	27.3	Better	15
Somerset	5	27.0	8	41.5	Worse	21
Talbot	10	40.2	8	28.2	Better	16
Washington	36	33.4	25	21.1	Better	8
Wicomico	20	27.8	29	35.4	Worse	18
Worcester	13	42.5	15	41.6	Worse	22
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>1,312</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>Better</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

## Teen Violent Deaths

Number of teen deaths ages 15-19 from accidents, homicide, and  
suicide, violent death rates per 100,000 teens ages 15-19  
**Maryland**

County	THEN 1988-1992		NOW 1993-1997		TREND	RANK
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
Allegany	17	58.3	12	44.3	Better	7
Anne Arundel	78	51.2	59	39.7	Better	6
Baltimore City	247	95.7	322	146.6	Worse	24
Baltimore County	100	47.5	94	46.2	Better	10
Calvert	14	73.7	12	56.4	Better	14
Caroline	9	97.8	3	32.4	Better	3
Carroll	32	71.8	25	55.3	Better	13
Cecil	19	67.8	18	63.7	Better	16
Charles	38	93.9	24	59.7	Better	15
Dorchester	10	107.6	4	45.8	Better	8
Frederick	29	52.7	18	31.2	Better	2
Garrett	4	37.0	5	47.5	Worse	11
Harford	40	60.2	31	45.8	Better	8
Howard	28	47.5	16	25.8	Better	1
Kent	8	120.6	6	90.3	Better	21
Montgomery	76	33.7	75	33.5	Better	4
Prince George's	246	91.6	220	84.7	Better	20
Queen Anne's	8	76.5	10	96.8	Worse	22
St. Mary's	13	44.0	15	52.7	Worse	12
Somerset	7	72.1	6	64.2	Better	17
Talbot	6	72.7	6	75.2	Worse	19
Washington	26	64.9	14	36.5	Better	5
Wicomico	23	80.3	21	75.0	Better	18
Worcester	8	80.0	10	97.3	Worse	23
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>1086</b>	<b>66.6</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>65.2</b>	<b>Better</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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# Appendix

## Indicated Child Abuse and Neglect

CPS indicated abuse and neglect investigations  
Rate per 1,000 children under 18  
Maryland

County	THEN 1990		NOW 1998		TREND	RANK
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
Allegany	196	12.0	194	12.2	Higher	23
Anne Arundel	532	5.0	441	3.7	Lower	6
Baltimore City	3,732	20.7	2,548	15.5	Lower	24
Baltimore County	829	5.5	775	7.1	Higher	17
Calvert	111	7.5	64	3.2	Lower	3
Caroline	40	5.6	53	6.8	Higher	15
Carroll	194	5.9	133	3.4	Lower	5
Cecil	158	8.1	179	7.9	Lower	18
Charles	221	7.4	77	2.2	Lower	2
Dorchester	54	7.8	48	6.9	Lower	16
Frederick	149	3.7	197	4.0	Higher	9
Garrett	60	7.9	45	5.6	Lower	12
Harford	413	8.4	224	3.8	Lower	8
Howard	212	4.3	260	4.3	Same	11
Kent	15	3.9	17	4.2	Higher	10
Montgomery	514	2.9	632	3.2	Higher	3
Prince George's	1,288	7.2	1,239	6.4	Lower	14
Queen Anne's	42	5.0	20	2.1	Lower	1
St. Mary's	201	9.3	92	3.7	Lower	6
Somerset	53	11.2	39	8.1	Lower	19
Talbot	53	8.2	44	6.3	Lower	13
Washington	190	6.9	308	10.5	Higher	22
Wicomico	236	12.9	201	10.1	Lower	21
Worcester	62	8.0	78	8.2	Higher	20
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>9,555</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7,908</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>Lower</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Human Resources

## School Violence

Violence related suspension rate per 1,000 students  
Maryland

County	THEN 1992-1993		NOW 1997-1998		TREND	RANK
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
Allegany	282	25.6	318	28.6	Worse	3
Anne Arundel	2,971	44.5	3,519	48.0	Worse	13
Baltimore City	5,953	56.3	9,966	92.8	Worse	22
Baltimore County	1,173	12.9	3,859	36.9	Worse	8
Calvert	208	18.2	564	38.3	Worse	9
Caroline	315	63.7	443	78.6	Worse	20
Carroll	560	24.4	834	31.1	Worse	4
Cecil	778	58.5	689	45.0	Better	11
Charles	994	51.5	1,526	70.6	Worse	18
Dorchester	452	93.8	519	100.3	Worse	23
Frederick	1,150	39.8	1,572	45.5	Worse	12
Garrett	174	34.7	161	31.5	Better	5
Harford	829	25.1	1,250	32.4	Worse	6
Howard	642	19.5	1,311	32.6	Worse	7
Kent	119	47.4	173	59.6	Worse	17
Montgomery	2,141	19.8	3,436	27.5	Worse	1
Prince George's	5,193	46.8	6,710	52.3	Worse	15
Queen Anne's	284	50.6	350	53.0	Worse	16
St. Mary's	642	51.0	633	43.1	Better	10
Somerset	597	181.3	361	114.2	Better	24
Talbot	361	86.9	381	83.6	Better	21
Washington	326	17.8	550	27.5	Worse	1
Wicomico	1,029	78.4	1,111	78.1	Better	19
Worcester	415	70.0	354	51.8	Better	14
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>27,588</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>40,590</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>Worse</b>	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

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# Appendix

## Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest

Number of violent crime arrests and rate of violent crime arrests per 10,000 youth ages 10-17

Maryland

County	THEN 1990		NOW 1997		TREND	RANK
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
Allegany	18	24.5	18	23.4	Better	6
Anne Arundel	46	10.7	166	31.8	Worse	7
Baltimore City	1,082	155.5	1,127	165.1	Worse	24
Baltimore County	466	77.3	844	121.5	Worse	22
Calvert	2	19.3	42	46.3	Worse	13
Caroline	2	6.8	26	74.9	Worse	17
Carroll	18	13.4	13	7.4	Better	1
Cecil	38	45.0	40	37.9	Better	8
Charles	34	27.3	72	46.6	Worse	14
Dorchester	31	108.0	48	154.0	Worse	23
Frederick	74	45.7	89	41.4	Better	9
Garrett	8	23.1	5	12.7	Better	2
Harford	46	23.5	33	13.0	Better	3
Howard	24	12.4	108	41.8	Worse	10
Kent	1	6.2	14	75.7	Worse	18
Montgomery	159	22.6	170	20.4	Better	4
Prince George's	478	66.1	581	69.0	Worse	15
Queen Anne's	5	15.1	18	43.4	Worse	12
St. Mary's	45	52.8	45	42.0	Better	11
Somerset	6	28.2	19	82.1	Worse	20
Talbot	15	58.4	31	103.2	Worse	21
Washington	21	18.2	31	23.3	Worse	5
Wicomico	64	83.7	72	80.4	Better	19
Worcester	15	47.5	31	74.0	Worse	16
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>2,708</b>	<b>57.8</b>	<b>3,643</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>Worse</b>	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

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## Juvenile Non-Violent Crime Arrest

Number of non-violent crime arrests and rate of violent crime arrests per 10,000 youth ages 10-17

Maryland

County	THEN 1990		NOW 1997		TREND	RANK
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
Allegany	235	319.7	282	366.9	Worse	18
Anne Arundel	1,095	253.6	1,638	313.7	Worse	15
Baltimore City	3,806	546.9	2,353	344.6	Better	16
Baltimore County	2,202	365.4	2,957	425.6	Worse	20
Calvert	107	172.0	222	244.5	Worse	11
Caroline	53	181.5	163	469.7	Worse	22
Carroll	149	110.7	222	127.1	Worse	2
Cecil	209	247.3	258	244.4	Better	10
Charles	343	275.3	536	346.9	Worse	17
Dorchester	61	212.5	159	510.3	Worse	23
Frederick	340	209.7	532	247.3	Worse	12
Garrett	30	86.5	53	134.7	Worse	4
Harford	327	166.8	410	161.5	Better	6
Howard	399	206.2	656	254.2	Worse	13
Kent	17	104.9	58	313.5	Worse	14
Montgomery	1,572	223.3	909	108.9	Better	1
Prince George's	1,844	255.1	1,728	205.2	Better	9
Queen Anne's	63	189.8	53	127.9	Better	3
St. Mary's	36	42.2	185	172.6	Worse	8
Somerset	173	812.2	44	190.1	Better	7
Talbot	41	159.5	136	452.6	Worse	21
Washington	269	233.7	201	151.3	Better	5
Wicomico	281	367.3	380	424.4	Worse	19
Worcester	221	699.4	270	644.7	Better	24
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>13,881</b>	<b>296.2</b>	<b>14,405</b>	<b>262.1</b>	<b>Better</b>	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education  
Maryland School Performance Report

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# Appendix

## Third Grade Reading

Percent of students scoring satisfactory on the Maryland School Performance Assessment Program  
Maryland

County	THEN 1992	NOW 1998	TREND	RANK
Allegany	20.4%	45.3%	Better	13
Anne Arundel	33.7%	46.7%	Better	12
Baltimore City	11.7%	16.6%	Better	24
Baltimore County	30.7%	47.0%	Better	10
Calvert	33.4%	45.3%	Better	13
Caroline	29.2%	41.6%	Better	18
Carroll	32.0%	52.0%	Better	4
Cecil	27.4%	44.6%	Better	16
Charles	26.0%	36.9%	Better	21
Dorchester	15.2%	47.0%	Better	10
Frederick	44.4%	50.1%	Better	6
Garrett	35.4%	37.3%	Better	20
Harford	37.2%	57.8%	Better	3
Howard	38.8%	59.3%	Better	2
Kent	44.2%	63.1%	Better	1
Montgomery	41.6%	51.5%	Better	5
Prince George's	19.4%	29.0%	Better	23
Queen Anne's	40.9%	45.3%	Better	13
Saint Mary's	24.7%	47.9%	Better	8
Somerset	25.2%	32.5%	Better	22
Talbot	24.7%	42.3%	Better	17
Washington	26.1%	47.6%	Better	9
Wicomico	23.8%	38.6%	Better	19
Worcester	22.1%	49.5%	Better	7
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>41.6%</b>	<b>Better</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Education  
Maryland School Performance Report

## On-Time Graduation

Graduates in June as a percent of ninth graders enrolled in September four years prior  
Maryland

County	THEN 1989-1990		TREND	RANK
	Percent	Percent		
Allegany	91.0%	89.4%	Worse	2
Anne Arundel	71.6%	67.1%	Worse	21
Baltimore City	38.4%	35.7%	Worse	24
Baltimore County	78.0%	80.1%	Better	7
Calvert	95.0%	84.7%	Worse	6
Caroline	66.5%	64.9%	Worse	23
Carroll	85.8%	86.9%	Better	5
Cecil	77.6%	75.8%	Worse	12
Charles	83.7%	79.5%	Worse	8
Dorchester	78.5%	67.0%	Worse	22
Frederick	87.3%	90.1%	Better	1
Garrett	92.4%	77.6%	Worse	10
Harford	76.7%	75.8%	Worse	12
Howard	94.1%	88.9%	Worse	3
Kent	76.1%	69.8%	Worse	18
Montgomery	90.4%	87.3%	Worse	4
Prince George's	71.8%	75.0%	Better	14
Queen Anne's	77.4%	79.2%	Better	9
St. Mary's	76.4%	71.9%	Worse	16
Somerset	73.3%	69.1%	Worse	19
Talbot	75.8%	69.0%	Worse	20
Washington	79.3%	74.3%	Worse	15
Wicomico	81.4%	70.2%	Worse	17
Worcester	82.2%	77.3%	Worse	11
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>72.8%</b>	<b>71.4%</b>	<b>Worse</b>	

Source: Maryland Department of Education

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# Appendix

## Child Poverty

Number and percent of children (under age 18) living below the federal poverty level  
Maryland

County	THEN 1989				NOW 1995				TREND	RANK
	Number	C.I.*	Rate	C.I.*	Number	C.I.*	Rate	C.I.*		
Allegany	3,913	3,622 to 4,204	24.3%	22.5 to 26.1	4,154	3,229 to 5,078	25.0%	19.4 to 30.6	Worse	22
Anne Arundel	6,123	5,666 to 6,580	5.9%	5.5 to 6.3	9,110	7,145 to 11,075	7.5%	5.9 to 9.2	Worse	4
Baltimore City	57,203	55,851 to 58,555	32.5%	31.8 to 33.3	62,509	49,023 to 75,995	36.3%	28.5 to 44.1	Worse	24
Baltimore County	10,917	10,307 to 11,527	7.3%	6.9 to 7.8	16,211	12,774 to 19,648	9.8%	7.8 to 11.9	Worse	9
Calvert	980	832 to 1,128	6.8%	5.8 to 7.8	1,569	1,215 to 1,924	7.9%	6.1 to 9.7	Worse	6
Caroline	985	838 to 1,132	14.3%	12.2 to 16.5	1,271	990 to 1,551	16.2%	12.6 to 19.7	Worse	17
Carrroll	1,381	1,204 to 1,558	4.3%	3.7 to 4.8	2,252	1,743 to 2,761	5.6%	4.4 to 6.9	Worse	2
Cecil	1,782	1,583 to 1,981	9.5%	8.5 to 10.6	2,734	2,129 to 3,338	12.0%	9.3 to 14.6	Worse	12
Charles	1,664	1,471 to 1,857	5.7%	5.0 to 6.4	3,148	2,415 to 3,880	9.0%	6.9 to 11.1	Worse	8
Dorchester	1,341	1,170 to 1,599	19.7%	17.2 to 22.2	1,664	1,292 to 2,035	22.9%	17.8 to 28.0	Worse	21
Frederick	2,274	2,048 to 2,500	5.8%	5.3 to 6.4	3,661	2,853 to 4,469	7.4%	5.7 to 9.0	Worse	3
Garrett	1,423	1,247 to 1,599	19.1%	16.8 to 21.5	1,814	1,403 to 2,225	22.1%	17.1 to 27.1	Worse	20
Harford	3,239	2,907 to 3,571	6.7%	6.0 to 7.4	4,727	3,691 to 5,763	7.9%	6.2 to 9.7	Worse	6
Howard	1,797	1,549 to 2,045	3.7%	3.2 to 4.3	3,057	2,362 to 3,752	5.0%	3.8 to 6.1	Worse	1
Kent	529	421 to 637	14.6%	11.6 to 17.6	574	441 to 706	13.7%	10.6 to 16.9	Better	15
Montgomery	9,058	8,501 to 9,615	5.2%	4.9 to 5.5	15,252	11,989 to 18,516	7.5%	5.9 to 9.1	Worse	4
Prince George's	12,216	11,571 to 12,861	7.0%	6.6 to 7.3	21,879	17,189 to 26,569	10.9%	8.5 to 13.2	Worse	11
Queen Anne's	655	534 to 776	8.0%	6.5 to 9.4	1,014	776 to 1,251	10.4%	8.0 to 12.8	Worse	10
Somerset	861	692 to 1,030	18.2%	14.6 to 21.7	1,262	964 to 1,561	25.1%	19.2 to 31.0	Worse	23
St. Mary's	2,224	1,951 to 2,497	10.4%	9.2 to 11.7	3,172	2,458 to 3,887	12.6%	9.7 to 15.4	Worse	13
Talbot	639	519 to 759	10.2%	8.3 to 12.1	957	740 to 1,174	13.5%	10.4 to 16.5	Worse	14
Washington	3,383	3,109 to 3,657	12.5%	11.5 to 13.5	4,294	3,378 to 5,211	14.3%	11.2 to 17.3	Worse	16
Wicomico	2,816	2,567 to 3,065	15.7%	14.3 to 17.1	3,789	2,964 to 4,613	18.6%	14.5 to 22.6	Worse	19
Worcester	1,120	963 to 1,277	14.9%	12.8 to 17.0	1,671	1,303 to 2,039	17.6%	13.7 to 21.5	Worse	18
<b>MARYLAND</b>	<b>128,523</b>	<b>126,442 to 130,604</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>11.1 to 11.4</b>	<b>171,746</b>	<b>154,876 to 188,616</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>11.9 to 14.5</b>	<b>Worse</b>	

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census  
\* 90% Confidence Interval

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# Methodology and Sources



Methodology and Sources

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## Methodology and Sources

The information in the Maryland KIDS COUNT Factbook comes from both state and national sources. Data were collected from state departments and agencies and United States government bureaus. This section identifies both the primary and secondary data sources and the methodology used to compute findings.

### ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

#### Child Poverty

Child poverty is the number and percentage of children under 18 living in families with incomes below the U.S. Poverty Threshold as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The data were obtained from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population and Housing.

**References:** Center on Hunger, Poverty and Nutrition. (1993). *Racial Differences in Child Poverty in the U.S., A Linear Trend Analysis to the year 2010*. Medford, MA: Tufts University

Duncan, G.J., Yeung, W.J., Brooks-Gunn, J., & Smith, J.R. (1998). How much does childhood poverty affect the life chances of children. *American Sociological Review*, 63, 406-423.

Center for the Future of Children. (1994). *The Future of Children: Children and Poverty*.

Los Altos: The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (1998). *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children & Youth*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

#### Child Support

Child support is the number and percentage of court-ordered child support cases in which any payment was received. These data are generated by computing a 12 month fiscal year average that were supplied by the Maryland Department of Human Resources.

**References:** U.S. Bureau of the Census. (1991) *Child Support For the Custodial Mothers and Fathers*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Nazario, T.A. (1988). *In Defense of Children: Understanding the Rights, Needs, and Interests of the Child. A Resource Book for Parents and Professionals*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

#### Births to Teens

Births to teens is the percentage of total births born to women under the age of 20. The percent is computed by dividing the number of babies born to women under age 20, by the total number of babies born. That number is then multiplied by 100. Birth data were obtained from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Vital Statistics. Teen birth rates (rate per 1,000) were calculated and provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Vital Statistics, and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

**References:** Luker, K., (1996). *Dubious Conceptions: The Politics of Teenage Pregnancy*. Cambridge, M.A.: Harvard University Press.

Combs-Orme, T. (1993). Health effects of adolescent pregnancy: Implications for social workers. *Family in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Human Services*, 74(6), 344-354.

Moore, K.A., Driscoll, A.K., & Lindberg, L.D. (1998) *A Statistical Portrait of Adolescent Sex, Contraception, and Childbearing*. Washington, D.C.: National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.



## GOOD HEALTH

### Low Birthweight

Low birthweight is the percentage of all births of infants weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 lbs.) at birth. The data were provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics.

**References:** Abel, M.H. (1997). Low birth weight and interactions between traditional risk factors. *The Journal of Genetic Psychology*, 158(4), 443-456.

Center for the Future of Children (1994).

*The Future of Children: Low Birth Weight.* Los Altos: The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Eberstein, I., Nam, C., & Hummer, R.

(1990). Infant mortality by cause of death: Main and interaction effects. *Demography*, 27, 413-430.

McCormick, M.J., Brooks-Gunn, J., Workman-Daniels, K., Turner, J., & Peckman, G. (1992). The health and development status of very low birth weight children at school age. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 267, 2204-2208.

Shiono, P.H., Rauh, V.A., Park, M., Lederman, S.A., & Zuskar, D. (1997) Ethnic differences in birthweight: The role of lifestyle and other factors. *American Journal of Public Health*, 87(5), 787-793.

### Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate is the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 live births. The data were provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics.

**References:** Howell, E.M., & Blondell, B. (1994). International infant mortality rates: Bias from reporting differences. *American Journal of Public Health*, 84, 850-852.

Schieber, G., Pullier, J., & Greenwald, L.M. (1991). Health care systems in twenty-four countries. *Health Affairs*, 10, 22-38.

### Early Prenatal Care

Early prenatal care is the percentage of births to mothers that received prenatal care during their first trimester. The data were provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics.

**References:** Frick, K.D., & Lantz, P.M. (1996). Selection bias in prenatal care utilization: an interdisciplinary framework and review of the literature. *Medical Care Research and Review*, 53(4), 371-396.

Kotelchuck, M. (1994). The adequacy of prenatal care utilization index: Its U.S. distribution and association with low birth weight. *American Journal of Public Health*, 84, 1486-1488.

Lantz, P. & Partin, M. (1997). Population indicators of prenatal and infant health. In R.M. Hauser, B. V. Brown, & W.R. Prosser (Eds.) *Indicators of Children Well-being* (pp. 47-75). New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

### Binge Drinking

Binge drinking is the percentage of 10th grade students who reported to having five or more alcoholic beverages in the past 30 days. The data were provided by the Maryland Adolescent Survey (MAS) conducted by the Maryland State Department of Education.

The MAS was administered to representative samples of 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in public middle and high schools in every school system in Maryland. Representative sampling allows for generalization of the findings to all students in Maryland. Participants gave an anonymous, self report regarding their drug and alcohol use.

**References:** Blanchen, A.J. (1993). Measuring the use of alcohol and other drugs among adolescents. *Public Health Reports*, 10, 25-30.

Farrell, A.D., Danish, S.J., & Howard, C.W. (1992). Relationship between drug use and other problem behaviors in urban adolescents. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 60, 705-712.

Kennedy, B.P. & Prothrow-Stith, D. (1997). The status of adolescent problem behavior indicators. In R.M. Hauser, B.V. Brown, & W.R. Prosser (Eds.) *Indicators of Children Well-being* (pp. 442-454). New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

Perrine, M.W, Peck, R.C., Fell, J.C. (1989). Epidemiological perspective on drunk driving. Background paper for Surgeon General's Workshop on Drunk Driving. Rockville, MD. (December 14, 1988).

## Child Deaths

Child death rate is the number of deaths from all causes of children, ages 1-14, per 100,000 children ages 1-14. Data were obtained from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics. The total number of children ages 1-14 for the years 1988-97 were based on population estimates from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

**References:** Miller, A., Fine, A. & Adams-Taylor, S., (1989). *Monitoring Children's Health: Key Indicators*. Washington, D.C.: American Health Association.

Center for Health Economics Research. (1993). *Access to Health Care: Key Indicators for Policy*. Princeton, NJ.: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Patrick, D. & Bergner, M. (1990). Measurement of health status in the 1990's. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 11, 165-183.

Staifield, B. (1997). Health indicators for preadolescent school-age children. In. R.M. Hauser, B.V. Brown, & W.R Prosser (Eds) *Indicators of Children Well-being* (pp. 95-111). New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

## Teen Violent Deaths

The teen violent death rate is the number of deaths from homicides, accidents, and suicides of youths ages 15-19, per 100,000 youths ages 15-19. The data were supplied by Maryland Department of Health and Mental

Hygiene. The total number of teens ages 15-19 for the years 1988-97 were based on Maryland population estimates from Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Health Statistics and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

**References:** Donovan, J.E., Jessor, R., & Costa, F.M. (1988). Syndrome of adolescent problem behavior in adolescence: A replication. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 56, 762-765.

Kann, L. Warren, W., Collins, J.L., Ross, J., Collins, B., & Kolbe, L.J. (1993). Results from the national school-based 1991 youth risk behavior survey and progress toward achieving related health objectives for the nation. *Public Health Reports*, 108, 47-55.

Kennedy, B.P. & Prothrow-Stith, D. (1997). The status of adolescent problem behavior indicators. In. R.M. Hauser, B.V. Brown, & W.R Prosser (Eds.) *Indicators of Children Well-being* (pp. 442-454). New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

## Child Abuse and Neglect

The child abuse and neglect rate is the number of indicated investigations per 1,000 children ages 0-17. An investigation can involve one or more children. This fiscal year data were provided by the Maryland Department of Human Resources. Data on total population under 18 were based on population estimates from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Vital Statistics and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

**References:** National Research Council.

(1993). *Understanding Child Abuse and Neglect*. Washington, D.C.: National Research Council.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. (1996). *Third National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect*. Washington, D.C.: National Center of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Besharov, D.J. & Laumann, L.A. (1997).

Don't call it child abuse if it is really poverty. *Journal of Children and Poverty*, 3(1), 5-36.

Center for the Future of Children (1994). *The Future of Children: Sexual Abuse of Children*. Los Altos: The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Center for the Future of Children (1998). *The Future of Children: Protecting Children from Abuse and Neglect*. Los Altos: The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

## Juvenile Non-Violent and Violent Crime Arrests

Non-violent crime is defined as breaking and entering, larceny or theft, and motor vehicle theft. Violent crime is defined as homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The arrest rates could include repeat arrests of the same individual for different offenses. Juvenile non-violent and violent crime arrest rates are the number of youths between the ages of 10 and 17, per 10,000 youths, ages 10-17. The arrest rates reflect the number of arrests, not the number of adolescents involved in each arrest.

In 1990 and 1997, the number of juvenile non-violent and violent crimes for the counties do not equal the total number of juvenile



non-violent and violent crimes for the state due to arrests made by statewide agencies. Juvenile non-violent and violent crime arrest data were obtained from the Maryland State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Division. The number of youths, ages 10-17, were obtained from population estimates from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Vital Statistics and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

References: Ford, H.A. (1996). *Maryland CAN Prevent Youth Violence*. Baltimore, MD: Advocates for Children and Youth.

*Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1996 Update on Violence*. Washington, D.C.: US Department of Justice: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (1996).

National Research Council. (1993). *Understanding and Preventing Violence*. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.

### School Violence

School violence is the number of physical attacks against teacher/staff, physical attacks against student(s), verbal/physical threats against teacher/staff, and verbal/physical threats against student(s) resulting in a suspension and/or expulsion from school. Data were obtained from the Maryland State Department of Education.

References: Gourvis, C. (1995). *Special Report on Children and Violence*. Baltimore, MD: Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership.

Broswell, C.A. (1996) *Facts on Kids and Violence in Maryland*. Baltimore, MD: Advocates for Children and Youth.

National Research Council. (1993). *Understanding and Preventing Violence*. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.

## PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD

### Third Grade Reading

Third grade reading is the percentage of students who score satisfactorily on the Maryland State School Performance Assessment Program test. Data were obtained from the Maryland State Department of Education.

References: *Living in Poverty: Must Students Pay the Price? Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership*: Baltimore.

MSPAP- Maryland School Performance Assessment Program: A Guide for Parents. Maryland State Department of Education, School and Community Outreach.

Improving Learning For All Children: Education Reform in Maryland 1977-1996. Maryland State Department of Education.

### On-Time Graduation

On-time graduation is the percentage of ninth grade public school students who complete high school four years later. The rate was calculated by the number of high school graduates divided by the number of ninth grade students enrolled four years prior. The data were obtained from the Maryland State Department of Education.

References: Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. (1993). *Losing Generations: Adolescents in High-Risk Settings*. Washington, D.C.: National Research Council: Sherman, A. (1994). *Wasting America's Future*. Washington, DC.: Children's Defense Fund.

### High School Program Completion

High school program completion is the percentage of high school graduates who have completed the minimum course requirements that would qualify them for admission to the University of Maryland System. The Maryland State Department of Education provided these data.

References: 1998 Maryland School Performance Report. Maryland State Department of Education.

Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. (1993). *Losing Generations: Adolescents in High-Risk Settings*. Washington, D.C.: National Research Council:

**Community Investment****Program/Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (FIP/TANF)**

FIP/TANF reflects the fiscal year monthly average number of children under age 18 who live in families receiving AFDC benefits. FIP/TANF is a public assistance program that provides cash benefits to poor families with dependent children. It is block grant funded by both the federal government and the states. States, however, set their own AFDC benefit levels. The data were supplied by Maryland Department of Human Resources.

**Medicaid**

Medicaid notes the fiscal year monthly average number of children under 18 who are enrolled in Medicaid. Medicaid provides medical assistance to low-income elderly, the blind and disabled. It also serves families on AFDC and other low-income women and children. Medicaid is the principal source of health care coverage for poor women and children. Today, every state must provide Medicaid to all pregnant women with children under age six with family incomes less than 133% of the poverty level. Data were provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

**Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Special Supplemental Nutrition Program**

Children in the WIC program reflects the monthly average number of children and infants participating in WIC during the fiscal

year. They were obtained from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

**Free and Reduced Price Meals**

Students receiving free/reduced price meals is the number of students whose application for free/reduced price meals met income eligibility guidelines of the United States Department of Agriculture. The data were supplied by the Maryland State Department of Education.

**Juvenile Justice Intake**

Juvenile Justice is the number and percentage of intake cases in the Department of Juvenile Justice. The Maryland Department of Juvenile Justice provided the data.

**Child Care**

Estimated child care costs, food, taxes and housing are based on a two-parent family with 2 children ages 1-2 and 3-5 years. Center based care refers to year round care provided in non-residential facilities for 8-12 hours per day and is licensed by the Child Care Administration of the Maryland Department of Human Resources. Family Day Care pertains to child care provided in the caregiver's home. Caregivers are registered with the Child Care Administration of the Maryland Department of Human Resources and offer full or part time care. Child care data were provided by the Maryland Committee for Children, Inc.

**Estimated Child Population**

The estimated child population is the number of children in Maryland ages 18 and under. Child population data were derived from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

**Children's Living Arrangements**

Children's living arrangements include the number of children under 18 living with two parents, a single parent, and relatives/non-relatives. Data for children's living arrangements were obtained from the Maryland Office of Planning Analysis of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population and Housing 1990, STF-1A.

**Median Family Income**

Data were obtained from the Maryland Office of Planning Analysis of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census Population and Housing 1990, STF-3A, table 109.

**Percent of Children with****Working Parents**

This demographic variable has two components:

- The percentage of children under age 18 with all parents working (either both parents or the sole parent living with the children)
- The percentage of women in the labor force with children under 18

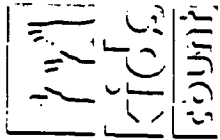
All data on working parents were available from the Maryland Office of Planning Analysis of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population and Housing 1990, STF-3A, tables 73 and 75.

**Teen Idleness**

Idle teen is the number and percentage of youth ages 16-19 not in school, not working and not looking for work. Data were obtained from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990.

## Maryland KIDS COUNT Partnership

Advocates for Children and Youth, Inc.  
34 Market Place, Fifth Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(410) 547-9200 Fax (410) 547-8690  
E-mail: [kidscount@acy.org](mailto:kidscount@acy.org)



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Signature: <b>Jennean Everett-Reynolds</b>	Printed Name/Position/Title: <b>Project Director</b>	
Organization/Address: <b>Key! 34 Market Pl. Baltimore</b>	Telephone: <b>410 547 9200</b>	FAX: <b>410 547 8690</b>
	E-Mail Address: <b>kidscount@ericy.org</b>	Date: <b>8/25/99</b>

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