

2014

# New Jersey Kids Count



A Statewide Profile of Child Well-Being



Giving Every Child A Chance

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For more information or to view other Kids Count data online, visit [www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)

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*Advocates for Children of New Jersey is the trusted, independent voice putting children's needs first for more than 30 years. Our work results in better laws and policies, more effective funding and stronger services for children and families. And it means that more children are given the chance to grow up safe, healthy and educated.*

**Giving Every Child A Chance**

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New Jersey is home to roughly 2 million children, a growing number of whom are Hispanic and Asian, nearly all of them born in the United States. The well-being of all New Jersey's children is critical, not only for the children and families themselves, but for the health and economic well-being of the state as a whole.

Each year, **New Jersey Kids Count** provides a statewide view of how these children are faring, with the goal of providing comprehensive information to assist local, county and state leaders — and the broader public — in setting priorities for our state's limited resources.

This year, like many, the data reveal both progress and challenges.

### Family Economics

The most critical measures of child well-being are tied to the economic health of the families in which these children are being raised. It is no secret that children living in families with the means to meet their needs tend to fare better in nearly all aspects of child well-being.

The economic news for New Jersey's families is mixed. While the median family income grew about \$3,000 in a year to roughly \$85,000, more children lived in families earning significantly less. In fact, the number of children living in extreme poverty — roughly \$9,500 a year for a family of three — rose an alarming 32 percent from 2008 to 2012.

Far more children lived in low-income families — earning about \$38,000 for a family of three. This number increased 19 percent during that same time to 646,000 children growing up in families that earned too little to pay housing costs, buy food, pay for child care and provide other necessities to their children.

As more families slipped into poverty, the cost of providing for their children continued to rise. The perennial problem of high housing costs in New Jersey continued to grow. The number of children living in low-income families spending more than the recommended 30 percent of income on rent rose 19 percent. For a staggering 81 percent of these families, housing costs consumed too large a share of family budgets, leaving less for other necessities.

Child care is another major expense for working parents. The average New Jersey family with an infant and toddler spends 24 percent of their income on child care if their children are being cared for in licensed centers. In addition, these parents have fewer child care options, as the state's pool of providers continues to shrink. In 2013, there were 6 percent fewer licensed centers than in 2009. The number of people registered with the state to provide care in their homes plummeted an alarming 29 percent from 2008 to 2012.

This lack of affordable and accessible options means that working parents may have to choose sub-standard or inconsistent care, especially for younger children, who need safe, nurturing environments during their most formative years.

On the positive side, New Jersey schools are getting much better at serving children breakfast at school, with many implementing "breakfast after the bell" models that substantially increase student participation in this child nutrition program. The number of students receiving school breakfast jumped 54 percent from 2009 to 2013. Despite



## Introduction

this progress, just 36 percent of eligible children received this nutritional support that can remove a major barrier to learning — hunger.

### Early Education

New Jersey continues to be a leader in providing high-quality preschool to children living in disadvantaged communities. Public preschool enrollments climbed 6 percent from 2008 to 2012, with nearly 52,000 attending these preschools — the vast majority in full-day programs.

Still, thousands of children across the state still lack access to quality, full-day preschool, which helps lay the foundation for future school success, because the state has never fully funded a 2008 mandate to expand these preschools to low-income children across the state.

The good news is that more children are attending full-day kindergarten, which can help sustain gains made in preschool. Full-day kindergarten enrollments rose 12 percent from 2008 to 2012, while half-day enrollments dropped 23 percent.

### Child Health

One of New Jersey's greatest success stories has been the steep decline in the number of children who lack health insurance, which has plummeted 48 percent from 2008 to 2012 when 113,000 children lacked health coverage, down from 218,000 in 2008. This is largely the result of increased enrollments in NJ FamilyCare, the state's free or low-cost health coverage. Children who have health insurance are more likely to receive the preventive care that can keep them healthy, in school and on the path to productive adulthood.

Other good news on the health front: more mothers received early prenatal care, with Hispanic mothers making the most progress, and infant mortality continued to decline. Gains were also seen in the percent of children, ages 10 to 17, who were overweight or obese, dropping 19 percent from 2007 to 2012, compared to a 3 percent decline nationwide.

Of concern, the number of New Jersey children who have emotional or behavioral difficulties grew 5 percent from 2007 to 2011–12.

### Child Protection

More children were the subject of a child abuse/neglect investigation, but fewer were in foster care, as the state continues implementing reforms to its child protection system. More children are, however, being supervised in their own homes because of confirmed abuse or neglect.

New Jersey has made progress in shortening the amount of time children spend in foster care before being reunified with their families. But the percent of children abused or neglected within 12 months of reunification rose an alarming 42 percent from 2007 to 2011.





## Introduction

### Teens and Young Adults

A growing number of teens and young adults in New Jersey struggle economically. In 2012, 15 percent of young people between the ages of 18 and 24 were living in poverty — a 15 percent increase since 2008. About one-quarter of young people between the ages of 19 and 24 lacked health insurance in 2012, translating to roughly 168,500 young people. That is a 15 percent increase since 2008.

On the positive side, birth to teens fell 19 percent for all ages between 10 and 19 from 2006 to 2010. Births to young females who were already mothers fell 11 percent during that same time.

Juvenile arrests also continue to drop. In 2012, about 29,700 youth were arrested — a 44 percent decline since 2008. A record low number of youth — 352 — were confined in state juvenile justice facilities, while admissions to county detention centers dropped a significant 49 percent during this same time.

However, the number of teens who abused alcohol or drugs rose 6 percent from 2006–07 to 2010–11. This represents an alarming 14 percent jump in the percent of youth abusing drugs or alcohol.

### Immigrant Families

The number of New Jersey's children born outside of the U.S. has decreased, but the number and percentage of children living in immigrant families has risen. In 2012, 724,000 — 36 percent of all New Jersey children — lived in a family where at least one member was born in a foreign country. Of those children, the vast majority — 89 percent — were U.S. citizens.

More of New Jersey children in immigrant families lived in poverty in 2012 when 122,000 of these children lived in families earning below the federal poverty level — an alarming 51 percent increase since 2008. The 17 percent poverty rate for these children exceeds the state average of 15 percent. At the same time, 39 percent of children in immigrant families lived in low-income families.

As New Jersey leaders continue to make critical choices about where to focus attention, all of New Jersey's children must be a top priority. The future of our families, our neighborhoods and our state depend on it.







**A**s the state's total population inches up slightly, New Jersey's child population continues to slowly decrease, declining 1 percent for all children under age 18 and 5 percent for children under five years old since 2008.

In 2012, children under 18 comprised roughly one-quarter of the total population across the state. New Jersey was home to about 2 million children in 2012.

While total births decreased 7 percent from 2006 to 2010, the percentage of those births to unmarried New Jersey mothers increased 7 percent. In 2010, 35 percent of all births were to single mothers in the state.

The racial composition of New Jersey's child population is also shifting. White, non-Hispanic and black children claimed a smaller share of the total child population, while Hispanic and Asian children made up a larger percentage, increasing 11 and 12 percent, respectively.

## Demographics

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Child Population Under 5	557,421	535,889	527,649	-5
% of Total Child Population Under 5	27	26	26	-4
Child Population Under 18	2,047,582	2,043,986	2,026,384	-1
% of Total Population Under 18	24	23	23	-3
Total Population	8,663,398	8,821,155	8,864,590	2

## Births

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
Total Births	114,665	109,543	106,571	-7
# of Births to Unmarried Women	37,234	38,027	37,081	0
% of Births to Unmarried Women	32	36	35	7

## Family Structure

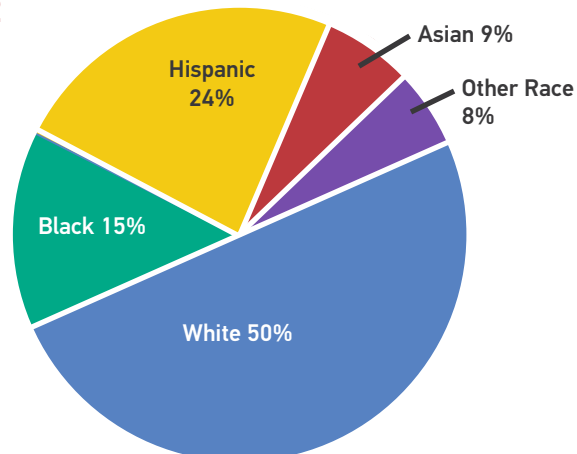
	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Households Headed by One Parent	320,807	343,040	339,668	6
Percentage of Families Headed by One Parent	29	32	31	7
Grandparents Being Cared for by Their Grandparents	50,674	45,869	48,550	-4
Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder	106,819	112,587	115,005	8

## Child Population by Race (%)

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
White (non-Hispanic)	54	51	50	-6
Black	15	15	15	-4
Hispanic	21	23	24	11
Asian	8	9	9	12
Other Race	8	7	8	-3

Percentages may exceed 100%, as some survey participants reported multiple race categories.

### Child Population by Race, 2012



## 2 The State of Family Economics



**T**he average New Jersey family saw an uptick in median income from 2011 to 2012, but the number of children living in poor and low-income families continued to climb.

In 2012, the median income of families with children rose to about \$85,000 from roughly \$82,000 the year before. But the number of children living in extreme poverty rose 32 percent from 2008 to 2012, while those living in families earning poverty-level wages increased 23 percent. The number of children living in low-income families also jumped 19 percent.

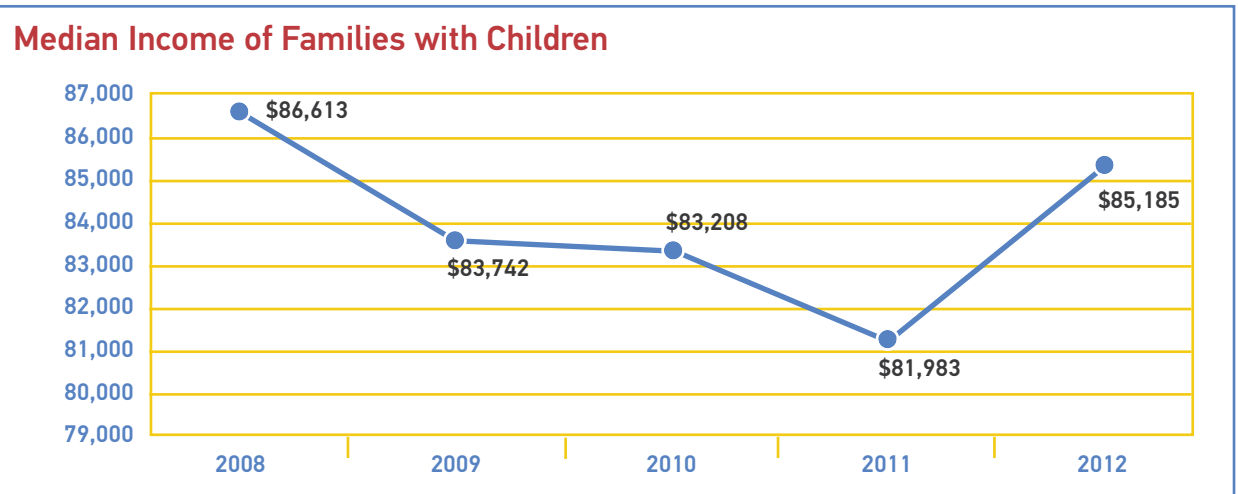
Roughly one-third of New Jersey children live in families earning too little to meet their needs.

While families are earning less each year, they continue to spend a greater proportion of their income on housing costs. The number of children living in low-income families who spent more than the recommended 30 percent of income on housing costs rose 19 percent from 2008 to 2012. In 2012, a staggering 81 percent of all low-income families with children spent too much on housing, leaving less for other necessities, such as food, clothing or transportation.

The number of children living in families receiving NJ SNAP, or food stamps, continued to rise, increasing 65 percent to roughly 419,000 children in 2013. Likewise, the number of children eligible for free- or reduced-price school meals grew 22 percent from the 2008–09 to 2012–13 school years. In 2012, more than 506,000 children were eligible for free- or reduced-price meals.

## 2 The State of Family Economics

Although more children were receiving free- and reduced-price school breakfast in 2012, just 36 percent of eligible children received this all-important morning meal in April 2013. This number has likely improved since then as many more schools are implementing more effective breakfast programs. A much larger percentage — 78 — of eligible students ate lunch at school.



### Children in Families that are Poor or Low-Income

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Children below 50% of the poverty level	116,000	141,000	153,000	32
Percentage of children below 50% of the poverty level	6	7	8	33
Children below 100% of the poverty level	253,000	296,000	310,000	23
Percentage of children below 100% of the poverty level	13	15	15	15
Children below 150% of the poverty level	404,000	472,000	472,000	17
Percentage of children below 150% of the poverty level	20	23	23	15
Children below 200% of the poverty level, the level defined as low-income	543,000	631,000	646,000	19
Percentage of children below 200% of the poverty level	27	31	32	19
Children below 300% of the poverty level	839,000	917,000	915,000	9
Percentage of children below 300% of the poverty level	41	45	46	12
Children below 400% of the poverty level	1,110,000	1,164,000	1,164,000	5
Percentage of children below 400% of the poverty level	55	58	58	5

*Note: For a family of four in 2012, 50% of the federal poverty level was \$11,525, 100% was \$23,050 and 200% was \$46,100.*

## 2 The State of Family Economics

### Family Economics (%), NJ vs. US, 2012

	NJ	US
Children in families below 200% of the poverty level	32	45
Children in families below 100% of the poverty level	15	23
Single-parent families below 100% of the poverty level	32	37
Female-headed households receiving child support, 2011	24	30

### Family Poverty

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Single parents below poverty level	78,000	95,000	107,000	37
Percentage of single parents below poverty level	24	28	32	33
Children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment*	474,000	556,000	534,000	13
Percentage of children in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	23	27	26	13

### New Jersey Births by Mother's Education Level

	2006		2009		2010		% Change 06-10	
	#	%*	#	%*	#	%*	#	%*
Less than High School	15,780	14	13,610	12	12,755	12	-14	-10
High School Graduate	29,962	26	28,610	26	27,244	26	-5	0
Some College	21,810	19	20,673	19	20,033	19	-5	-1
College Graduate or More	41,287	36	41,000	37	40,853	38	-1	4

\*Please note that percentages may not equal 100 due to a small number of births where the education level of the mother is undetermined.

### Housing Costs for Low-Income Families, NJ vs. US, 2008-2012

	2008		2011		2012		% Change 08-12	
	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US
Children in low-income families where housing costs exceed 30% of income	441,000	18,989,000	522,000	21,762,000	524,000	21,203,000	19	12
Percentage of children living in low-income families where housing costs exceed 30% of income	82	66	83	66	81	65	-1	-2
Children living in crowded housing	242,000	9,387,000	245,000	10,507,000	239,000	10,497,000	-1	12
Percentage of children living in crowded housing	12	13	14	12	12	14	0	8

## 2 The State of Family Economics

### Temporary Aid for Needy Families

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Children living in families receiving welfare (TANF)	63,556	68,692	64,379	1

### Percentage of Households Without Enough Food, NJ vs. US

	2006-08	2007-09	2008-10	2009-11	2010-12	% Change 06-09 to 10-12
NJ	10	12	12	12	12	17
US	12	14	15	15	15	20

### Food for Needy Families

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Children receiving Food Stamps	253,684	395,999	419,410	65
Women, infants and children receiving nutritional supports (WIC)	187,865	189,399	185,097	-1

### Average Monthly Food Stamps Benefit per Recipient

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
	\$101.43	\$125.06	\$138.03	\$133.26	\$133.26	

### Participation Rate of Eligible NJ Residents in Food Stamp Program

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
Participation rate of food stamp-eligible persons in NJ	60%	59%	60%	0
New Jersey Food Stamp Participation, State Rank	40	49	49	N/A

## 2 The State of Family Economics

### School Meals

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Children eligible for reduced-price school meals	86,974	78,845	78,027	-10
Children eligible for free school meals	329,638	398,259	428,447	30
Total children eligible for free- or reduced-price school meals	416,612	477,104	506,474	22
Children receiving reduced-price breakfast	14,182	13,824	16,270	15
Children receiving free breakfast	104,848	134,022	167,130	59
Total children receiving free or reduced-price school breakfast	119,030	147,846	183,400	54
<b>School breakfast participation rates</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>27</b>
Children receiving reduced-price lunch	59,869	53,193	53,229	-11
Children receiving free lunch	264,830	327,295	343,057	30
Total children receiving free- or reduced-price school lunch	324,699	380,488	396,286	22
<b>School lunch participation rates</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>0</b>

### NJ Earned Income Tax Credits — 2012

	# Credits Issued	Total Amount of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amount
Recipients with at Least 1 Dependent Under Age 19	314,972	\$171,917,612	\$546
All Recipients	464,336	\$190,659,013	\$411

### Federal Earned Income Tax Credits

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Federal Earned Income Tax Credit Claims	505,607	562,894	563,291	11
Average Federal EITC Claim	\$2,020	\$2,170	\$3,195	58

### Child Support

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Total open cases	347,646	394,228	389,665	12
Percentage of cases with support orders	85	77	77	-10
Child support collection rates	66	65	65	-1
Cost effectiveness of collections	\$4.20	\$4.64	\$4.27	2



### 3 The State of Early Care and Education



**R**ising enrollments across the state in full-day preschool and kindergarten, and a lower percentage of children not attending an early learning program compared to national averages, means New Jersey continues to be a national leader in early childhood education.

Between the 2008–09 and 2012–13 school years, New Jersey’s public preschool enrollment increased 6 percent to roughly 52,000 children, with the vast majority of those children attending a full-day preschool. Encouragingly, the number of children attending full-day kindergarten increased 12 percent, while 23 percent fewer children attending half-day kindergarten. Quality, full-day kindergarten is critical to help children sustain the gains made in preschool.

Despite these positive trends, New Jersey families continue to have fewer child care options for their children. From 2009 to 2013, the number of licensed child care centers in New Jersey decreased a concerning 6 percent, while capacity declined 3 percent. The number of providers who were registered with the state to care for children in their own homes dropped an alarming 29 percent to 2,097 providers.

## 3 The State of Early Care and Education

Total public school enrollment remained steady, while special education enrollments increased slightly. From 2008 to 2012, the number of students ages three to five receiving special education services climbed 15 percent, while the number of students ages six to 21 receiving special education increased 5 percent.

New Jersey's 3<sup>rd</sup> graders showed improvements in pass rates in all areas, with the exception of limited-English proficient students passing state math tests. Fourth graders lost ground in language arts and science pass rates, while showing gains in math. Eighth graders saw little change in language arts pass rates and largely lost ground in science and math. Eleventh graders improved across the board, with limited-English proficient students achieving the most gains in language arts, improving pass rates by 49 percent.

There were fewer school violence and vandalism incidents in 2012–13, compared to 2008–09. However, schools saw a 5 percent increase in incidents involving weapons and a 15 percent increase in incidents involving substance abuse.

New Jersey's high school graduation rate was 88 percent in 2012–13. Asian and white students had the highest graduate rates at 96 to 93 percent, respectively, compared to Hispanic and black students at 79 and 76 percent, respectively. Students with limited English proficiency had the lowest graduation rate at 70 percent.

### Public Preschool Enrollments

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Preschool enrollments (total)	49,080	51,642	51,860	6
Half-day preschool enrollments	5,469	5,592	5,467	0
Full-day preschool enrollments	43,611	46,050	46,393	6

### Early Education

	2008		2011		2012		% Change 08-12	
	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US
Percent of children not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten, ages 3 - 5	25	39	28	40	26	40	4	26

### Head Start

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Children enrolled in Head Start	14,850	15,966	15,661	5

### Demographics of Children with Working Parents, NJ, 2012

Child Population 0 -5	638,658
# Children 0 - 5 with All Parents Working	412,293
% Children 0 - 5 with All Parents Working	66
# Children 0 - 5 in Single-Parent Households	142,121
% Children 0 - 5 Single-Parent Households	25

### Child Care

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Licensed child care centers	4,256	4,137	3,997	-6
Capacity of licensed child care centers	357,568	353,159	346,313	-3

### Registered Family Child Care Providers

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
	2,938	2,431	2,097	-29

### Average Annual Costs of Child Care, 2012

#### Child Care Center

Infants Age 1 and Under	\$10,949
Preschooler	\$9,170

#### Registered Family Child Care

Infants Age 1 and Under	\$8,520
Preschooler	\$7,562

### Public Kindergarten Enrollments

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Kindergarten enrollments (total)	93,501	91,834	95,101	2
Half-day kindergarten enrollments	28,788	24,207	22,308	-23
Full-day kindergarten enrollments	64,714	67,627	72,793	12

### Public School Enrollment

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Total enrollment (K-12)	1,377,728	1,361,813	1,373,182	0

## Public School Special Education Enrollment

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Total enrollment, K - 12	1,377,728	1,361,813	1,373,182	0
Special education enrollment, ages 3 -5	15,350	16,925	17,692	15
Special Education enrollment, ages 6 - 21	191,257	201,015	201,221	5
Percent special education students, ages 6 - 21	14	15	15	6

## Homeless Students

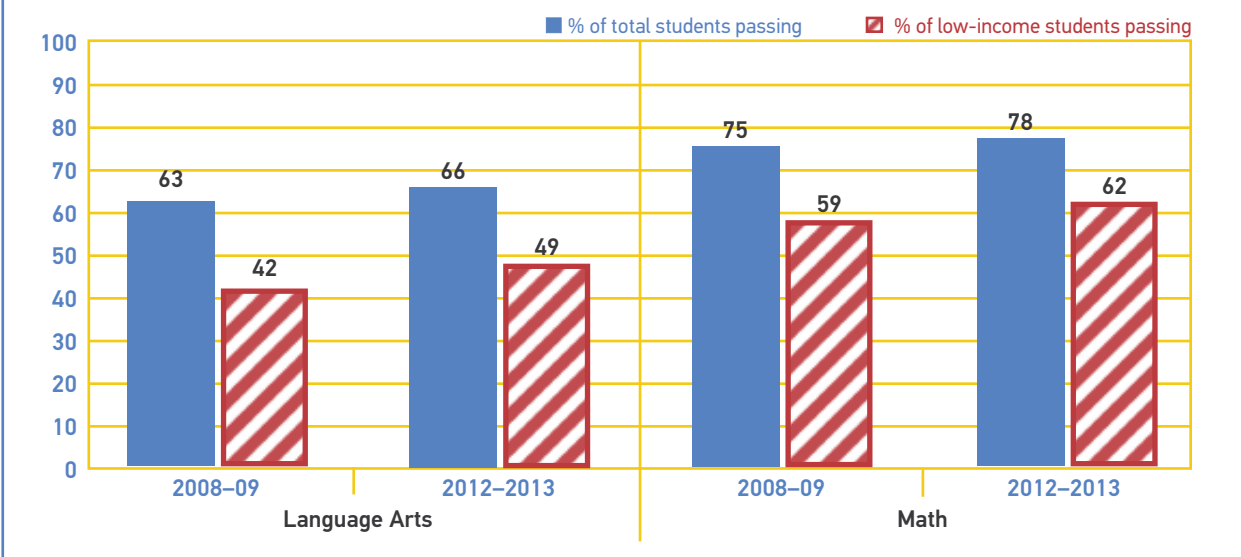
	2008-09	2010-11	2011-12	% Change 09 - 12
Number of homeless students	6,397	4,459	4,495	-30

## Percent of Students Passing 3rd Grade Tests

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Language Arts	63	67	66	6
Language Arts (limited English proficient)	36	38	41	14
Language Arts (low-income)	42	48	49	15
Math	75	78	78	3
Math (limited English proficient)	57	56	56	-2
Math (low-income)	59	63	62	6

\*In the 2008-09 school year, the Department of Education changed the testing standard for this grade.

## Low-Income Student Performance on NJ Tests Compared to Total State Average, 3rd Grade



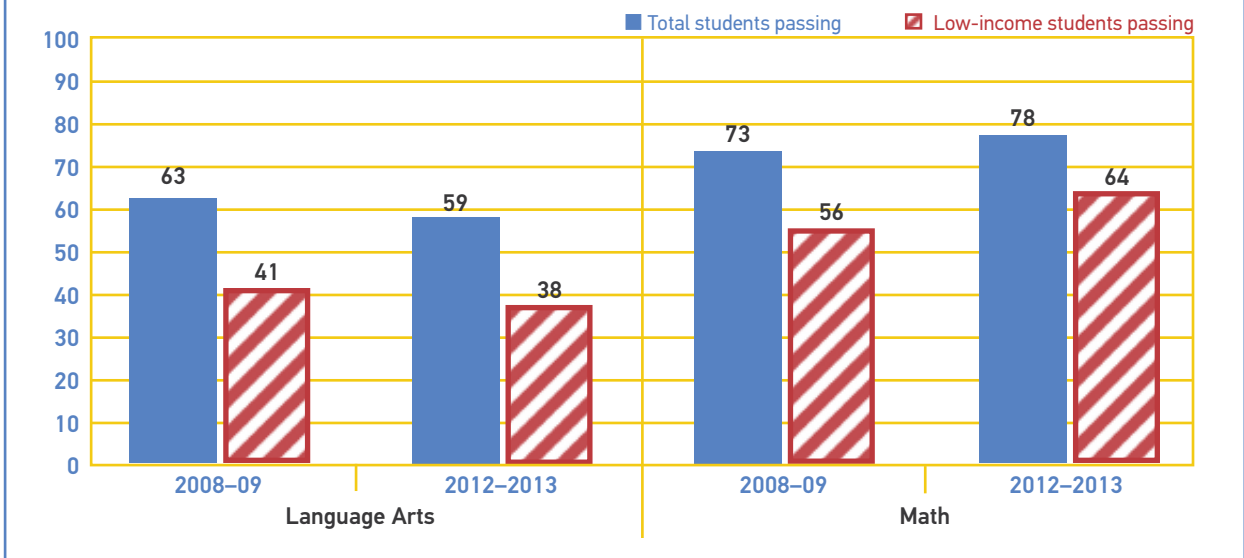
### 3 The State of Early Care and Education

#### Percent of Students Passing 4th Grade Tests

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Language Arts	63	59	59	-6
Language Arts (limited English proficient)	33	29	28	-13
Language Arts (low-income)	41	39	38	-8
Math	73	77	78	7
Math (limited English proficient)	52	57	58	11
Math (low-income)	56	62	64	13
Science	91	91	90	-2
Science (limited English proficient)	73	73	72	-2
Science (low-income)	82	83	80	-2

*\*In the 2008-09 school year, the Department of Education changed the testing standard for this grade.*

#### Low-Income Student Performance on NJ Tests Compared to Total State Average, 4th Grade

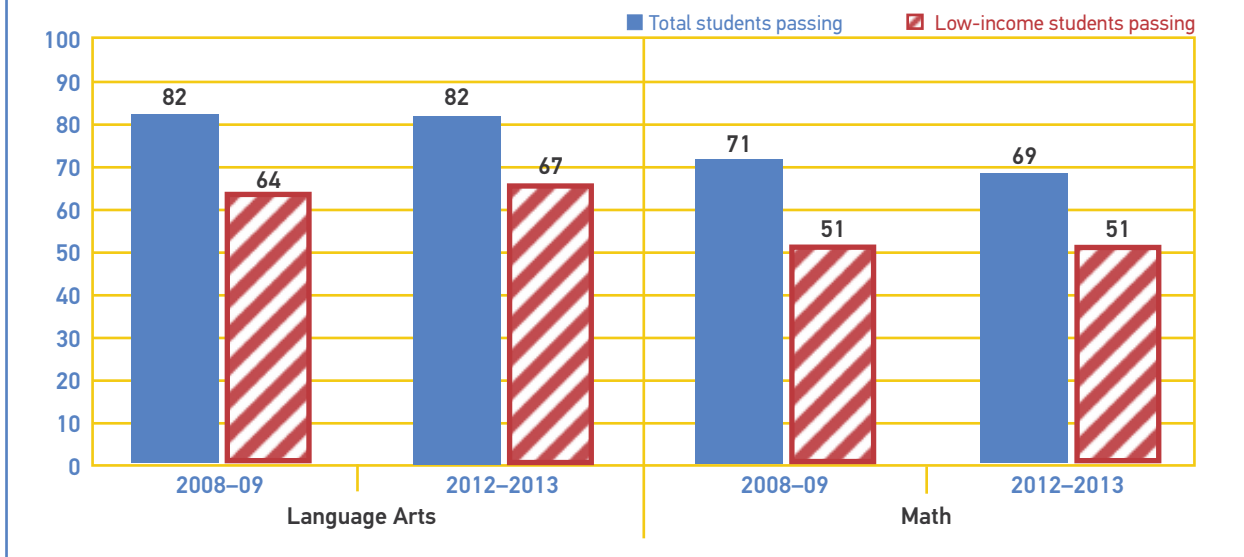


## 3 The State of Early Care and Education

### Percent of Students Passing 8th Grade Tests

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Language Arts	82	82	82	0
Language Arts (limited English proficient)	40	41	40	0
Language Arts (low-income)	64	67	67	5
Math	71	72	69	-3
Math (limited English proficient)	38	35	35	-8
Math (low-income)	51	53	51	1
Science	84	82	79	-6
Science (limited English proficient)	50	41	36	-28
Science (low-income)	68	66	62	-9

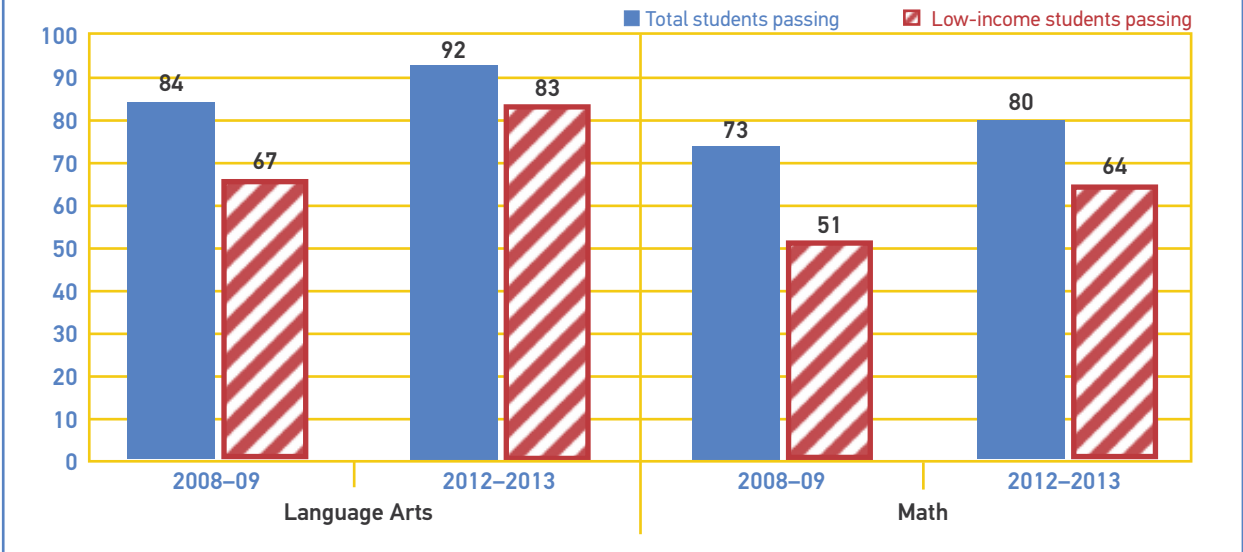
### Low-Income Student Performance on NJ Tests Compared to Total State Average, 8th Grade



## Percent of Students Passing 11th Grade Tests

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Language Arts	84	92	92	10
Language Arts (limited English proficient)	31	47	47	49
Language Arts (low-income)	67	83	83	24
Math	73	79	80	10
Math (limited English proficient)	32	41	40	27
Math (low-income)	51	63	64	26

## Low-Income Student Performance on NJ Tests Compared to Total State Average, 11th Grade



## Achievement Gap. K-12

	2008-09	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 09-13
Achievement Gap	26.7%	26.0%	26.1%	-2

Note: This is the percentage gap between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students passing state tests for all grade levels and all tests.

## School Violence Incidents

2008-09				2012-13				% Change 09-13			
Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substances	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substances	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substances
10,404	2,922	995	2,928	7,895	1,751	1,047	3,358	-24	-40	5	15



## 3 The State of Early Care and Education

### Students Taking SATs

	2007-08	2010-11	2011-12	% Change 08-12
Percentage of students taking the SAT	76	78	78	3
Average SAT math score	513	516	517	1
Average SAT verbal score	495	495	495	0

### Public Education: NJ vs. US

	NJ	US
Average freshman graduation rate, 2009-10	87	78
Percentage of students taking the SAT, 2011-12	78	54
Average SAT verbal score, 2011-12	495	496
Average SAT math score, 2011-12	517	514

### High School Graduation Rates

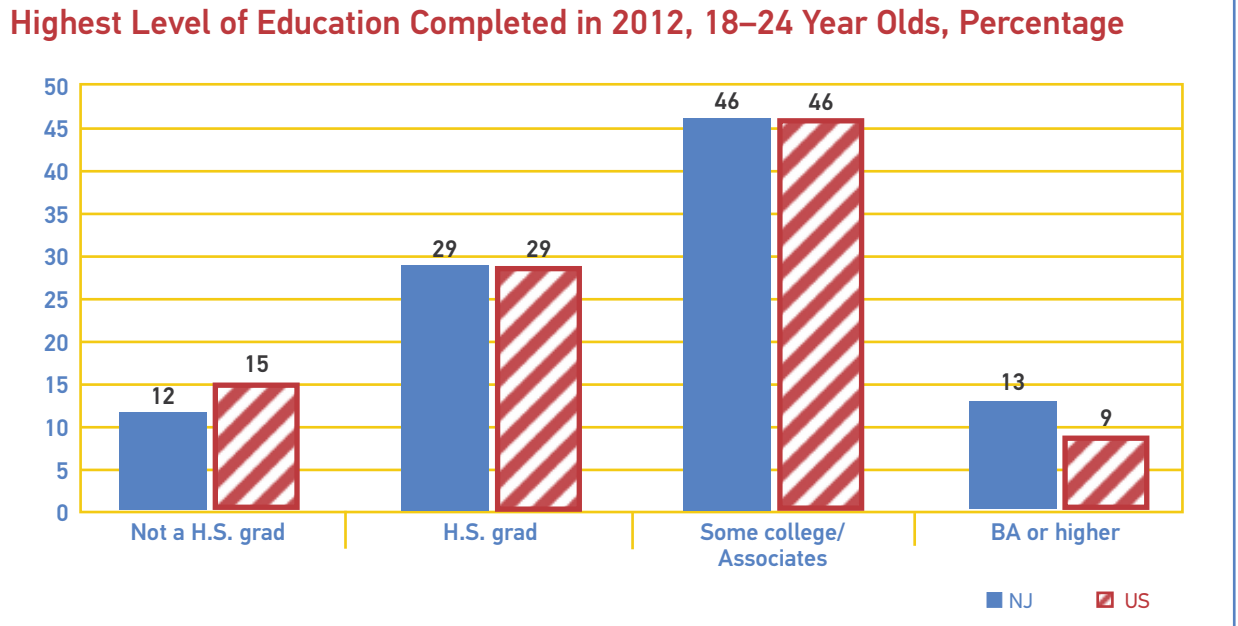
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	% Change 11 -13
High School Graduation Rates	83	86	88	5

*\*Data are not available prior to the 2010-11 school year. In 2011, the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.*

### High School Graduation Rates, 2012-13

White	93
Black	76
Hispanic	79
Asian	96
American Indian	76
Native Hawaiian	92
Two or More Races	89
Limited English Proficiency	70
Economically Disadvantaged	77
Students with Disability	76
<b>Statewide Total</b>	<b>88</b>

### 3 The State of Early Care and Education





**M**any of the most critical measures of children's health continue to show strong progress. In one of the most striking examples of positive change for children, the number of uninsured children has plummeted 47 percent from 2008 to 2012 when 113,000 children were uninsured, compared to 218,000 in 2008.

This corresponds with a 28 percent increase in the number of children enrolled in NJ Family-Care and Medicaid, the state's free- or reduced-cost health plan. Despite these gains, the majority of uninsured children — 73 percent — live in low-income areas. This is an 18 percent increase since 2008.

The percentage of mothers receiving early prenatal care increased across all ethnic groups. Hispanic mothers made the most progress with an 11 percent increase. White and Asian mothers, however, were still more likely to receive prenatal care.

Infant mortality continues to decline and there was a positive 8 percent increase in the percentage of children immunized by age 2. Gains were also seen in the percentage of children, ages 10 to 17, who were overweight or obese, dropping 19 percent from 2007 to 2012, compared to a 3 percent decline nationwide.

## 4 The State of Child Health

Proper dental care and healthy teeth and gums are important factors in a child's overall health. The state's efforts to improve oral health for its children continue to show progress. The number of children receiving any dental services through NJ FamilyCare and Medicaid increased 66 percent from 2008 and 2012.

Not all news is positive, however. New Jersey children who need mental health care were less likely to receive it, compared national averages. In 2012, just 58 percent of children, ages 2 to 17, received the care they needed, compared to 61 percent nationwide.

### Uninsured Children

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Children without health insurance	218,000	190,000	113,000	-48
Percent of children without health insurance	10.6	9.4	5.6	-47

### Low-Income Uninsured Children

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Number	134,000	132,000	82,000	-39
Percentage of children without health insurance who are low-income	61	69	73	18

### NJ vs. US Uninsured Children, 2011 (%)

	NJ	US
All Children	9	9
<b>By Income</b>		
0-99% of the poverty level	14	14
100-124% of the poverty level	14	14
125-149% of the poverty level	13	14
150-174% of the poverty level	11	14
175-199% of the poverty level	15	12
200-249% of the poverty level	13	10

### Health Insurance

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Children Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid	565,281	711,518	724,603	28

## 4 The State of Child Health

### Healthy Starts

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
Total births	114,665	109,543	106,571	-7
Low-birthweight babies	9,525	8,629	8,747	-8
Percentage of low-birthweight babies	8	8	8	-1
Women receiving early prenatal care	85,014	84,208	83,622	-2
Percentage of women receiving early prenatal care	74	77	78	6
Births to unmarried mothers	37,234	38,027	37,081	0
Percentage of births to unmarried mothers	32	35	35	7

### Percentage of Mothers Receiving 1st Trimester Prenatal Care, by Race

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
White, non-Hispanic	85	88	89	4
Black, non-Hispanic	61	65	68	10
Hispanic	66	70	73	11
Asian	84	88	89	6

### Percentage of Low-Birthweight Babies by Race/Ethnicity of Mother

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
White	7.3	7.0	7.0	-5
Black	14.1	13.0	12.7	-10
Hispanic	7.5	7.0	7.1	-5
Asian	8.5	8.5	9.2	8
Other	12.2	10.8	9.6	-21

### Infant and Child Deaths

	2006	2009	2010*	% Change 06-10
Infant mortality	604	559	515	-15
Infant mortality rate/1,000 live births	5.3	5.1	4.8	-8
Child deaths, ages 1- 14	195	177	183	-6
Child death rate/100,000 children	12.1	11.1	11.5	-4

\*Data for 2010 are preliminary.

## 4 The State of Child Health

### Preventing Childhood Illness

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Percentage of children immunized by age 2	73	76	79	8
Children tested for lead (ages 6-29 months)	99,856	101,030	103,380	4
Children with high levels of lead	946	662	540	-43
Percentage of children with high levels of lead	1	1	1	-45

### Children Living with HIV/AIDS

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
	800	790	795	-1

### Children Admitted to the Hospital for Asthma

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Asthma admissions to the hospital	4,774	3,918	4,139	-13

### Children Living with Asthma, NJ

	2007	2010	2011	% Change 07-11
	187,619	184,883	177,858	-5

### Percentage of Children and Teens (ages 10 to 17) Overweight or Obese

	2007			2012			% Change 07-12		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
NJ	36	25	31	29	20	25	-19	-20	-19
US	35	27	32	35	28	31	0	4	-3

### Mental Health Care

	2008		2012		% Change 08-12	
	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US
Percentage of children ages 2 - 17 with problems requiring counseling who received mental health care	55	60	58	61	5	2

## 4 The State of Child Health

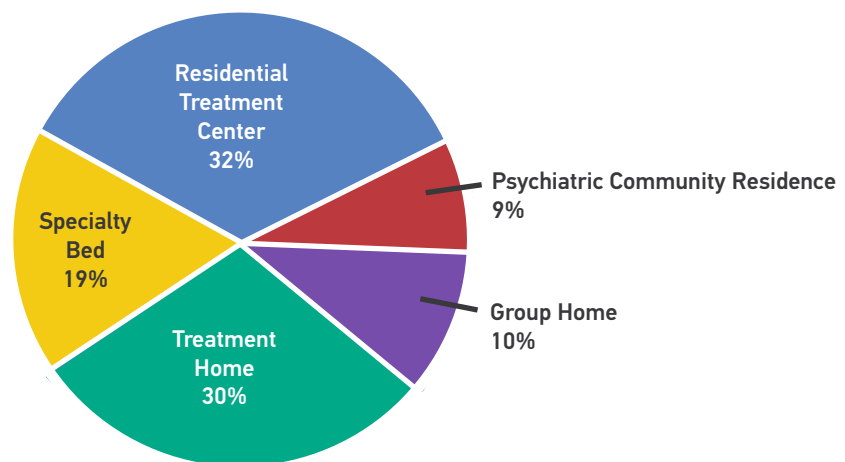
### Children who have one or more emotional, behavioral, or developmental conditions

	2007	2011-12	% Change 07-12
Number	264,000	277,000	5
Percentage	14	15	7

### Division of Children's System of Care Enrollment

	2008	2012	2013	% Change 08-13
Children receiving managed mental/behavioral health services	7,329	8,361	9,470	29

### Children's System of Care (CSOC), Type of Out-of-Home Placement, 2013, %



### Children Who Lack Access to Fluoridated Water, 2012

Number	1,763,131
Percentage	87

### Children Who Have Received Preventive Dental Care in the Past Year

	2007	2011-12	% Change 07-12
Number	1,517,000	1,521,000	0
Percentage	79	80	1



## 4 The State of Child Health

### Dental Treatment for Children Enrolled in NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid

Eligible Children Receiving Any Dental Services	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Under Age 1	234	705	181	-23
Ages 1 - 2	7,594	19,251	16,814	121
Ages 3 - 5	39,929	67,557	69,665	74
Ages 6 - 9	55,741	86,481	92,487	66
Ages 10 - 14	53,714	81,798	87,612	63
Ages 15 - 18	34,361	49,286	50,919	48
Total Ages 18 and Under	191,573	305,078	317,678	66

#### Eligible Children Receiving Preventive Dental Services

Under Age 1	32	240	107	234
Ages 1 - 2	6,093	16,783	15,985	162
Ages 3 - 5	36,597	63,836	66,599	82
Ages 6 - 9	50,401	81,660	87,517	74
Ages 10 - 14	45,822	75,034	81,141	77
Ages 15 - 18	25,005	39,964	42,859	71
Total Ages 18 and Under	163,950	277,517	294,208	79

#### Eligible Children Receiving Dental Treatment Services

Under Age 1	23	20	19	-17
Ages 1 - 2	1,985	3,333	3,263	64
Ages 3 - 5	17,010	27,563	28,807	69
Ages 6 - 9	31,042	48,221	51,354	65
Ages 10 - 14	31,400	44,321	46,241	47
Ages 15 - 18	22,402	29,966	30,376	36
Total Ages 18 and Under	103,862	153,424	160,060	54

### Dental Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Percentage of children ages 3 and older who were in care 6 months or more and who received semi-annual dental exams	64	86	85	33

## 5 The State of Child Protection



**T**he number of children who were the subject of a child abuse/neglect investigation continued to increase from 2011 to 2012 and showed a dramatic 89 percent increase since 2008. In 2012, nearly 23,000 children were the subject of a child abuse/neglect investigation.

Just 10 percent of these investigations, however, resulted in a finding that a child had been abused or neglected.

The total number of children receiving services from the state child protection system, now known as the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, rose 11 percent from 2009 to 2013. That increase occurred only in the number of children who remained with their families while under state supervision. The number of children in foster care continued to decrease, dropping 17 percent during this time.

The division has made progress in shortening the amount of time children are spending in foster care before being reunified with their families. But, the percentage of children abused or neglected within 12 months of reunification rose an alarming 42 percent from 2007 to 2011.

## 5 The State of Child Protection

### Children Under State Supervision

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
All children under state supervision*	47,163	50,354	52,225	11
Children in out-of-home placement	8,846	7,474	7,330	-17
Children receiving in-home services	37,054	42,880	44,925	21

\*Includes children being supervised in their own homes, as well as those in out-of-home placement.

### Children Entering and Exiting Out-of-Home Care

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Entering Care	5,609	5,097	5,588	0
Exiting Care	6,156	5,274	5,374	-13

### Referrals and Investigations

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Referrals for child abuse/neglect	49,055	91,680	92,924	89
Referrals for family services	11,170	12,893	15,097	35

### Child Abuse/Neglect Substantiations

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Number of children where abuse/neglect has been substantiated	9,015	9,414	9,250	3
Percentage of children where abuse/neglect has been substantiated	11	10	10	-9

### Children Found to be Abused or Neglected After Prior Report of Abuse or Neglect

	2007		2010		2011		% Change 07-11	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
After previous unsubstantiated report, w/in 6 months	1,285	2.5	1,558	2.2	1,618	2.4	26	-4
After previous unsubstantiated report, w/in 12 months	2,143	4.2	2,630	3.8	2,711	4.0	27	-5
After previous substantiated report, w/in 6 months	275	4.6	230	4.5	210	5.1	-24	11
After previous substantiated report, w/in 12 months	404	6.7	321	6.3	447	7.4	11	10

## 5 The State of Child Protection

### Repeat Child Abuse/Neglect

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Percentage of children who were not victims of repeat child abuse/neglect	95.4	94.8	94.9	-1

### Children in out-of-Home Care, By Type of Placement

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Group and residential homes	1,017	723	739	-27
Kinship foster homes	2,905	2,667	2,780	-4
Resource families (non-kin)	4,212	3,929	3,980	-6
Independent Living	219	155	131	-40
Total	8,353	7,474	7,630	-9

### Children Abused/Neglected After Reunification with Family

	2007	2010	2011	% Change 07-11
Abuse/Neglect within 12 months of reunification	207	206	268	29
Percentage of children abused/neglected within 12 months of reunification	5.9	6.2	8.4	42

### Foster Care Re-Entry

Exit Year	2007	2010	2011	% Change 07-11
Percentage of children who exit foster care and re-enter within 12 months	17	13	13	-24

### Adoptions

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
State-finalized adoptions	1,315	1,096	943	-28

### Children in Legal Limbo Awaiting a Permanent Home

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Children legally free but not adopted	1,352	977	1,020	-25

## 5 The State of Child Protection

### Amount of Time to Reunification for Children (%)

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Less than 12 months	69	70	77	39
12 to 23 months	20	20	15	-102
24 to 35 months	5	5	5	-29
35 to 47 months	1	2	2	14
48 or more months	3	2	1	-54

### Amount of Time to Adoption for Children (%)

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Less than 12 months	3	3	4	20
12 to 23 months	21	23	21	1
24 to 35 months	33	34	37	12
35 to 47 months	19	21	21	9
48 or more months	23	18	17	-26

### Children Living in Permanent Homes with Relatives (Kinship Legal Guardianship)

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Subsidized Kinship Legal Guardianship	2,655	2,299	2,161	-19

### Older Youth Under State Supervision\*

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Youth 13 - 17 under state supervision	11,728	11,581	11,929	2
Percentage of youth under state supervision who are 13 - 17	25	23	23	-8
Youth 18 - 21 under state supervision	2,084	2,014	2,075	0
Percentage of youth under state supervision who are 18 - 21	5	4	4	-20

\*Youth under state supervision may or may not be in out-of-home care.

## 6 The State of Teens and Young Adults



In recent years, a growing number of teens and young adults in New Jersey struggle economically. In 2012, 15 percent of youth between the ages of 18 and 24 were living in poverty — a 20 percent increase since 2008. But there is some good news. The number of young people who were idle — youth ages 18 to 24 not working, not in school and who had no degree beyond high school — dipped slightly from 2011 to 2012, but was still 21 percent higher than in 2008.

About one-quarter of youth between the ages of 19 and 24 lacked health insurance in 2012, translating to about 168,500 young people. That is a 15 percent increase since 2008.

On the positive side, birth to teens fell 19 percent for all ages between 10 and 19 from 2006 to 2010. Births to females who were already mothers fell 11 percent during that same time.

Juvenile arrests also continue to drop. In 2012, about 29,700 youth were arrested — a 44 percent decline since 2008. A record low number of youth — 352 — were confined in state juvenile justice facilities, while admissions to county detention centers dropped a significant 49 percent during this same time.

However, the number of teens who abused alcohol or drugs rose 6 percent from 2006–07 to 2010–11. This represents an alarming 14 percent jump in the percentage of youth abusing drugs or alcohol.

## 6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

### Young Adults in Poverty

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Youth 18-24 in poverty	91,000	105,000	109,000	20
Percentage of youth 18-24 in poverty	13	15	15	15

### Youth and Young Adults Who Are Idle

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Youth 18-24 not working, not in school, and have no degree beyond high school	92,000	113,000	111,000	21
Percentage of youth 18-24 not working, not in school, and have no degree beyond high school	12	15	14	17
Teens 16-19 not working and not attending school	31,000	31,000	29,000	-6
Percentage of teens 16-19 not working and not attending school	7	7	6	-14

### NJ vs. US — 2012

	NJ	US
Percentage of youth 18-24 in poverty	15	26
Percentage of youth 18-24 who are not working, not in school, and have no degree beyond high school	14	16

### Health Insurance

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Youth 19-24 who have no health insurance	147,039	181,604	168,480	15
Percentage of youth 19-24 who have no health insurance	22	24	24	8

### NJ vs. US, Health Insurance, 2012

	NJ	US
Number of youth 19-24 who lack health insurance	168,480	6,998,428
Percentage of youth 19-24 who lack health insurance	24	27



## 6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

### Births to Teens

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
Births to females 10 - 19	7,183	6,398	5,812	-19
Births to females 10 - 19 as a percentage of all births	6.3	5.8	5.5	-13
Births to females 15 - 19	7,088	6,328	5,735	-19
Births to females 15 - 19 as a percentage of all births	6.2	5.8	5.4	-13
Percentage of births to females through age 19 who were already mothers	18	17	16	-11

### Births to Teens, NJ vs. US, 2010

	NJ	US
Birth rate for 15- to 19-year-olds per 1,000 girls in this age group	20	34
Percentage of births to females through age 19 who are already mothers	16	18

### Juvenile Justice

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Juvenile arrests	52,684	34,140	29,723	-44
Juvenile arrest rate	26	17	15	-44
Juvenile commitments*	664	423	352	-47
Admissions to juvenile county detention	7,731	4,552	3,971	-49
Average daily population as a percentage of approved capacity	61	50	53	-13
Average length of stay in detention in days	28	32	34	21

\*Represents youth confined in facilities operated by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

### Teen Arrests (13 – 19) by Type of Offense as Percentage of All Arrests

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Violent offenses	24	20	18	-25
Property crimes	36	29	25	-31
Drug offenses	26	26	24	-8
Weapons possession, carrying	40	36	28	-30

## 6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

### Teen Arrests (13 – 19) by Type of Offense as Percentage of All Arrests, NJ vs. US, 2012

	NJ	US
Drug Offenses	25	20
Weapons	28	25
Violent Crimes	18	19
Property Crimes	25	28

### Police Disposition of Juveniles Taken into Custody, 2012

	Number	%
Handled within police department and released	9,786	33
Referred to juvenile court or probation department	18,913	64
Referred to child welfare agency	361	1
Referred to other police agency	234	1
Referred to criminal or adult court	429	1

### Sexually-Transmitted Infections

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Males 16-20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	2,325	3,290	3,004	29
Rate per 1,000 males diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	8	11	10	20
Females 16-20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	9,246	10,532	9,773	6
Rate per 1,000 females diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	30	31	28	-6
All youth 16-20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis (includes youth where sex is not known)	11,576	13,876	12,814	11
Rate per 1,000 youth diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	20	22	19	-3

**Teen Deaths**

	2006	2009	2010	% Change 06-10
Teen deaths	287	207	211	-26
Teen death rate per 100,000 teens	50	37	35	-30
Teen deaths by accident, homicide, suicide, rate per 100,000 teens	35	23	25	-29

**Teen Deaths, NJ vs. US, 2010**

	NJ	US
Teen death rate per 100,000 teens	35	49

**Teens Ages 12 to 17 Who Abused Alcohol or Drugs in the Past Year**

	2006-07	2009-10	2010-11	% Change 07-11
Number	50,000	42,000	53,000	6
Percentage	7	6	8	14

## 7 The State of Immigrant Families



The number of New Jersey's children born outside of the U.S. has decreased, but the number and percentage of children living in immigrant families has risen. In 2012, 724,000 — 36 percent of all New Jersey children — lived in a family where at least one member was born in a foreign country. Of those children, the vast majority — 89 percent — were U.S. citizens.

More of New Jersey children in immigrant families lived in poverty in 2012 when 122,000 children in immigrant families were living in families that earned below 100 percent of the federal poverty level, a 51 percent increase since 2008. The 17 percent poverty rate for these children is higher than the state average of 15 percent. At the same time, 39 percent of children in immigrant families lived in low-income families

Immigrants are also less likely to have a high school diploma. In 2012, 21 percent of New Jersey's immigrants were not high school graduates, compared to 8 percent of those born in America.

### Foreign-born Children

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Foreign-born children	118,694	110,117	111,291	-6
Percentage foreign-born children	6	5	5	-17

### Children in Immigrant Families and Citizenship

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Children in immigrant families	652,000	708,000	724,000	11
Percentage of children in immigrant families	32	35	36	13
Children in immigrant families who are citizens	563,000	627,000	645,000	15
Percentage of children in immigrant families who are citizens	86	89	89	3
Children in immigrant families where parent has been in the country 5 years or less	27,000	20,000	19,000	-30
Percentage of children in immigrant families where parent has been in the country 5 years or less	4	3	3	-25

### Immigrant Family Structure

	2008		2011		2012		% Change 08-12	
	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families
Children with all available parents NOT in the labor force	20,000	76,000	31,000	85,000	37,000	86,000	85	13
Percentage of children with all available parents NOT in the labor force	3	6	4	7	5	7	67	17
Children in married couple families	510,000	909,000	530,000	843,000	528,000	836,000	4	-8
Percentage of children in married couple families	79	69	76	66	74	67	-6	-3
Children in single-parent families	134,000	409,000	171,000	433,000	189,000	408,000	41	0
Percentage of children in single-parent families	21	31	24	34	26	33	24	6

### Children in Immigrant Families in Poverty

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Number of children in immigrant families below 100% of the federal poverty level	81,000	109,000	122,000	51
Percentage of children in immigrant families below 100% of the federal poverty level	12	15	17	42
Number of children in immigrant families below 200% of the federal poverty level	212,000	267,000	285,000	34
Percentage of children in immigrant families below 200% of the federal poverty level	33	38	39	18

## 7 The State of Immigrant Families

### Children in Immigrant Families and Language

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Children ages 5-17 who speak a language other than English at home*	386,000	422,000	431,000	12
% of children	26	28	29	12
Children ages 5-17 in immigrant families who have difficulty speaking English**	58,000	62,000	60,000	3
% of all children in immigrant families	13	12	12	-8

\* Includes children who may or may not also speak English at home, regardless of their English proficiency.

\*\* Children who speak English less than "very well."

### Immigrant Workers and Their Families, 2012 (%)

	NJ US Born	NJ Foreign Born	US Foreign Born
Not a high school graduate	8	21	31
Earns less than \$25,000 /year	11	24	32
Median earnings for full-time, year round male workers	\$65,964	\$47,147	\$36,802
Median earnings for full-time, year round female workers	\$50,320	\$40,587	\$32,015
Poor families with children under 18	11	16	24
Single-mother householder in poverty	33	42	46
Single-mother householder in poverty with children under 5	40	44	46
Owned homes	70	50	51
Rented homes	30	50	49
No vehicle available	10	16	13
No phone	2	2	3

## Section 1: The State of Children and Families

**Total population, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, Population Division. Historical data have been changed to reflect updated population estimates from the US Census Bureau.

**Child population under 18, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, Population Division. Historical data have been changed to reflect updated population estimates from the US Census Bureau.

**Child population under 5, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, Population Division. Historical data have been changed to reflect updated population estimates from the US Census Bureau.

**Total Births, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Births to Unmarried Women, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Families headed by one parent, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B11005.

**Grandchildren Being Cared for by Their Grandparents, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10056.

**Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10001.

**Child population by race, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001B, B01001F, B01001H, B01001D and B01001G.

## Section 2: The State of Family Economics

**Median income of families with children, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B19125.

**Children in Families that are Poor or Low-Income, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org> and the US Census Bureau, American Community survey chart B17024.

**Family Economics, NJ vs. US, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Single parents below poverty level, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**New Jersey Births by Mother's Education Level, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Housing for low-income families, 2008, 2011, 2012, NJ vs. US.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children living in families receiving welfare (TANF), 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. The number of children living in families receiving Temporary Aid for Needy Families. Data are from June of each year.

**Households without enough food, 2006-08, 2007-09, 2008-10, 2009-11, 2010-12, NJ vs. US.** As reported by the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Children receiving NJ SNAP (Food Stamps) 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**Women, infants and children receiving nutritional support (WIC), 2009, 2012, 2013.** Number of women, infants and children receiving WIC benefits, which include health care referrals, immunizations, screenings, nutritional counseling and a monthly food stipend. Reported by the N.J. Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Family Health Services Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) for the quarter ending June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

**Average monthly Food Stamps benefit per recipient, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Food Research and Action Center *State of the States* annual reports.

**Participation Rate of Eligible NJ Residents in Food Stamp Program, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the Food Research and Action Center *State of the States* annual reports.

**School Meals, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** Rates calculated using eligibility data from the NJ Department of Education and participation data from the NJ Department of Agriculture. Includes children attending traditional public schools and charter schools.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes

**NJ earned income tax credits, 2012.** Number of New Jersey taxpayers receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and the average credit amount, by all recipients and by recipients with dependents under the age of 19, as reported by the NJ Department of Treasury. Data prior to 2012 are not available.

**Federal earned income tax credits, 2008, 2011, 2012.** Number of New Jersey taxpayers claiming a federal EITC and average claim, as reported by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Total open child support cases, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, State Box Scores.

**Percentage of cases with support orders, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Unaudited Performance Incentive Scores for each year.

**Child support collection rates, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Unaudited Performance Incentive Scores for each year.

**Cost effectiveness of collections, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Unaudited Performance Incentive Scores for each year.

### Section 3: The State of Early Care and Education

**Public preschool enrollments, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** Number of students enrolled in half- and full-day NJ Department of Education approved programs, operated both in-district and in community centers, as reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts of each year. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

**Percentage of children not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten, ages 3 – 5, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children enrolled in Head Start, 2008, 2011, 2012.** US Administration for Children and Families, Head Start Program Fact Sheets for each year.

**Child population 0 – 5, 2012.** As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates of the resident population of the United States. Data files prepared under a collaborative arrangement between CDC/NCHS and the US Census Bureau. Data are as of July 1, 2012.

**Number and percent children 0 – 5 with all parents working, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart b23008. Includes children in two parent households where both parents are working and children in single parent households where that parent is working.

**Number and percent children 0 – 5 in single-parent households, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart b09002.

**Licensed child care centers and capacity, 2009, 2012, 2013.** The number and capacity of state-licensed child care centers as reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

**Registered family day care providers, 2008, 2011, 2012.** The number of registered providers offering child care in their homes as reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

**Average annual costs of child care, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRRA), *The State of Child Care in New Jersey: A Profile of Key Child Care Indicators 2012*. The average annual costs were compiled by local CCR&Rs through a survey that is reported annually to Child Care Aware of America. Figures only include those centers that report their fees to Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies.

**Public kindergarten enrollments, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** The number of students enrolled in half- and full-day public kindergarten, as reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts of each year.

**Public school enrollment, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts.

**Public school special education enrollment, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Special Education Data.

**Homeless Students, 2008-09, 2010-11, 2011-12.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education.



## Data Sources and Technical Notes

**Percent of students passing 3<sup>rd</sup> grade tests, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Scores for low-income students are based on eligibility for free- and reduced-price lunch.

**Percent of students passing 4<sup>th</sup> grade tests, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ State-wide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Scores for low-income students are based on eligibility for free- and reduced-price lunch.

**Percent of students passing 8<sup>th</sup> grade tests, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Scores for low-income students are based on eligibility for free- and reduced-price lunch.

**Percent of students passing 11<sup>th</sup> grade tests, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Scores for low-income students are based on eligibility for free- and reduced-price lunch.

**Achievement Gap, K-12, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2012-13.** NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Data. The average gap, in percent, between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students passing tests in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades for each year. Includes students passing standardized achievement tests in language arts, math and science where applicable. The average was weighted to take into account different numbers of students who take each test in each grade.

**School violence, vandalism, weapons, and substance abuse incidents, 2008-09, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Commissioner of Education's Report on Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse in NJ Public Schools each year.

**Students Taking SATs, 2007-08, 2010-11, 2011-12.** As reported by the US Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics.

**High School Graduation Rate, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data are not available prior to the 2010-11 school year. In 2011 the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.

**Highest level of education completed 18-24 year olds, 2011, Percentage.** As reported by US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15001.

### Section 4: The State of Child Health

**Children without health insurance, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census, Current Population Survey, table HI-05.

**Low-income uninsured children, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census, Current Population Survey, table HI-10.

**Uninsured children, NJ vs. US, 2011.** Data on all children are from the US Census, Current Population Survey, table HI-05. Data on income levels via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services as of March of each year. Includes children enrolled in Medicaid, which is available to children living in families earning below 133% of the federal poverty level and children enrolled in the SCHIP portion of NJ FamilyCare, which is available to children living in families earning between 134% and 350% of the federal poverty level.

**Low-birthweight babies, number and percentage, 2006, 2009, 2010.** The number of babies weighing less than 2,500 grams, as reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Women receiving early prenatal care, number and percentage, 2006, 2009, 2010.** Live births for which the mother received early prenatal care (onset in first trimester), as reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Percentage of mothers receiving first trimester prenatal care by race, 2006, 2009, 2010.** Calculations based on data from the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Percentage of low-birthweight babies by race/ethnicity of mother, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Infant mortality, number and rate, 2006, 2009, 2010.** Counts infants who die within the first year of life. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data. 2010 data are preliminary.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes

**Child deaths, number and rate, 2006, 2009, 2010.** Counts children who died between the ages of 1 – 14. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data. 2010 data are preliminary.

**Percentage of children immunized by age 2, 2008, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the Centers for Disease Control, National Immunization Survey. The percent of children receiving the complete series of four or more doses of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccines; three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine; and one or more doses of any measles-mumps-rubella vaccine by age two.

**Childhood lead testing, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Family Health Services, Maternal, Child and Community Health Services, Annual reports. Any child with a blood lead level equal to or greater to 10 µg/dL (micrograms of lead per deciliter of whole blood) is suffering from childhood lead poisoning and in need of corrective follow-up treatment.

**Children living with AIDS/HIV, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of HIV/AIDS Services. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

**Children admitted to the hospital for asthma, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Hospital Discharge Data.

**Children living with asthma, NJ, 2007, 2010, 2011.** As reported by the American Lung Association, *Estimated Prevalence and Incidence of Lung Disease by Lung Association Territory* for each year.

**Percentage of children and teens (ages 10 to 17) overweight or obese, NJ and US, 2007, 2012.** As reported by the 2007 and 2011/2012 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. [www.childhealthdata.org](http://www.childhealthdata.org).

**Percentage of children ages 2 – 17 with problems requiring counseling who received mental health care, NJ and US, 2008, 2012.** As reported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health.

**Children who have had one or more emotional, behavioral or developmental conditions, 2007, 2011-12.** Children ages 2 to 17 with a parent who reports that a doctor has told them their child has autism, developmental delays, depression or anxiety, ADD/ADHD, or behavioral/conduct problems. As reported by the Child Trends analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>

**Division of Children's System of Care (formerly Behavioral Health Services) enrollment, 2008, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Children's System of Care. Data are as of June 30 for each year. Includes children receiving care management through DCBHS via Care Management Organizations (CMOs), Youth Case Management programs (YCMs) and Unified Care Management (UCM).

**Children's System of Care type of out-of-home placement, 2013, %.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Children's System of Care (formerly Child Behavioral Health Services). Data are as of June 30.

**Dental treatment for children enrolled in NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Annual EPSDT Participation Report, Form CMS-416, US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, for each year. The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit provides comprehensive and preventive health care services for children under age 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid or SCHIP (NJ FamilyCare). Under EPSDT, states are required to provide the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services with data to assess the effectiveness of EPSDT.

**Dental care for children in out-of-home placement, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, Progress of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Monitoring Reports. Data are as of June 30 for each year. Please note that many of the children in out-of-home placement are also eligible for Medicaid.

**Children who lack access to fluoridated water, 2012.** Children under 18 who are on water systems which do not provide fluoridated water; assumes private water systems do not have optimal fluoride levels. As reported by the PEW Children's Dental Campaign using 2012 Population Estimates, Census Bureau state-level population estimates, 2012 CDC Fluoridation Statistics and USGS estimated use of water in the United States, county-level data, 2005, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes

**Children who have received preventive dental care in the past year, 2007, 2011-12.** Children under age 18 who have seen a dentist at least once for preventive dental, such as check-ups and dental cleanings, in the past year. As reported via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, Child Trends analysis of the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).

### Section 5: The State of Child Protection

**Children under state child protection supervision, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families.

**Children in out-of-home placement, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families.

**Children receiving in-home services, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families.

**Children entering and exiting out-of-home care through DYFS, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

**Investigations for child abuse/neglect, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families

**Referrals for family services, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Represents calls to the state child abuse hotline where a screener determines that child abuse/neglect has not occurred but a family wants state services or intervention to prevent abuse from occurring.

**Child abuse/neglect substantiations, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

**Children found to be abused or neglected after prior report of abuse or neglect, 2007, 2010, 2011.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, with analysis by Chapin Hall Center for Children. Please note that in the spring of 2011 Chapin Hall, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, updated the methodology for its maltreatment data. Previously, the investigation start date was used as the trigger date for recurrence data, however this has been changed to reflect the date of referral as the trigger date.

**Percentage of children who were not victims of repeat child abuse/neglect, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. Child Maltreatment reports. The percentage of child abuse/neglect victims who were not victims of another incident of abuse/neglect within a 6 month period.

**Children in out-of-home care, by type of placement, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

**Children abused/neglected after reunification with family, 2007, 2010, 2011.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, with analysis by Chapin Hall Center for Children. Please note that in the spring of 2011 Chapin Hall, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, updated the methodology for its maltreatment data. Previously, the investigation start date was used as the trigger date for recurrence data, however this has been changed to reflect the date of referral as the trigger date.

**Foster care re-entry, 2007, 2010, 2011.** As reported by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, Progress of the Department of Children and Families, Monitoring Reports. The percentage of all children who leave custody and that re-enter custody within one year of the date of exit.

**State-finalized adoptions, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Represents the number of adoptions finalized through the Department.

**Children legally free but not adopted, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Children whose parents' legal rights have been terminated but who have not yet been adopted.

**Amount of time to reunification for children (%), 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data. Please note percentages may not equal 100 due to missing data.

**Amount of time to adoption for children (%), 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data. Please note percentages may not equal 100 due to missing data.

**Children living in permanent homes with relatives (Kinship Legal Guardianship), 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of the end of each fiscal year.

**Older youth under state supervision, number and percentage, 2009, 2012, 2013.** As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families. Youth under state supervision may or may not be in out-of-home care.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes

### Section 6: The State of Teens and Young Adults

**Young adults in poverty, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Youth 18-24 who are not working, not in school and have no degree beyond high school, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Teens 16-19 not working and not attending school, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**NJ vs. US, youth in poverty, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Youth 19-24 who have no health insurance, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, with assistance from the Population Reference Bureau.

**NJ vs. US, Health Insurance, 2012.** As reported by the US Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2011, with assistance from the Population Reference Bureau.

**Births to females ages 10-19, 15-19, number and percentage, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

**Percentage of births to females through age 19 who were already mothers, 2006, 2009, 2010.** Percentage of all teen births that were to teenagers who had already given birth. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Births to teens, NJ vs. US, 2010.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Juvenile arrests, number and rate, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reports for each year. Rate calculated using US Census population data.

**Juvenile commitments, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Admissions to juvenile county detention, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, JDAI Annual Report for each year.

**Average daily population as percent of approved capacity, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, JDAI Annual Report for each year.

**Average length of stay in detention, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, JDAI Annual Report for each year.

**Teen arrests, 13-19, by offense as percentage of all arrests, 2008, 2011, 2012.** NJ data are from the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reports. US data are from the US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Crime in the United States Reports.

**Police disposition of juveniles taken into custody, 2012.** As reported by the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Report.

**Sexually Transmitted Infections, 2008, 2011, 2012.** The number and rate of 16- to 20-year-olds who were diagnosed with Chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services. Rates were calculated using US Census Bureau population data.

**Teen deaths, 2006, 2009, 2010.** Counts teenagers 15-19. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics. Teen death rate calculated using U.S. Census population data. 2010 data are preliminary.

**Teen deaths by accident, homicide, suicide, rate per 100,000, 2006, 2009, 2010.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Teens ages 10 to 17 who abused alcohol or drugs in the past year, 2006-07, 2009-10, 2010-11.** As reported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Abuse and Health, State Estimates of Substance Abuse Use. As reported via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

### Section 7: The State of Immigrant Families

**Foreign-born children, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart B05003.

**Children in immigrant families, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** Children living in families where at least one member is foreign-born. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children in immigrant families who are citizens, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, 2007 through 2012, American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) 1-year files. With assistance from the Population Reference Bureau (PRB).

## Data Sources and Technical Notes

**Children in immigrant families where parent has been in the country 5 years or less, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012.** The share of children under age 18 either foreign-born or who have at least one foreign-born parent in which neither parent has been in the country more than five years. As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children in immigrant and US born families with all available parents not in the labor force, 2008, 2011, 2012.** Includes children in two parent households with neither parent in labor force, or children in a single parent household with that parent not in the labor force. As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children in married and single parent families, in immigrant and US born families, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children in immigrant families in poverty, 2008, 2011, 2012.** As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>

**Children ages 5-17 in immigrant families who speak a language other than English at home, 2008, 2011, 2012.** Includes the share of children ages 5 - 17 who speak a language other than English at home. Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Children ages 5-17 in immigrant families who have difficulty speaking English, 2008, 2011, 2012.** The share of children ages 5 to 17 that speak English less than "very well", by children in foreign-born families. Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

**Immigrant workers and their families, 2012.** As reported by the US Census Bureau, Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-Born Population, 2012 American Community Survey chart S0501.



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