

MICHIGAN Findings – State overall ranking is 30th

Unemployment and Foreclosure – two indicators to measure impact of recession on kids – MI worse than the nation on both

- 12 percent affected by unemployment (vs. 11% US)
- 5 percent affected by foreclosures between 2007-2009 (vs. 4% US)

Large numbers of children have been affected by the economic downturn

- Child poverty rate escalated **by 64 percent** between 2000 and 2009 in MI - up from 14 to 23 percent – 75,000 more children poor in 2009 – OVER half a million children in the state now living in families with income inadequate to meet basic needs --44% of children are living in families with income under 200% of the poverty level -- \$43,500 for a two-parent family with two children
- WORST RANKING: MI ranks 47th among the 50 states with over one third (36%) of children living in families where no parent has full-time year-round employment – 845,000 children affected
- 281,000 children in families where at least one parent is unemployed, that is looking for a job but unable to find one –
- 217,000 children affected by foreclosure between 2007 and 2009

Little or no improvement in maternal and infant health

- Infants more likely to survive their first year in 39 other states – roughly 8 of every 1,000 babies die before their first birthdays
- Over 10,000 babies are born weighing less than 5.5 pounds – up by 9%

Good news about teens

- Less likely to have a baby – down by 18% -- ranking 13th – BEST ranking – 33 of every 1,000 female teens, ages 15-19, vs. national 41
- Less likely to drop out of high school – down by 40% - 6 percent of teens, ages 16-19 not attending school, not HS grads
- Less likely to die during teen years - 59 of every 100,000 teens, ages 15-19

MICHIGAN HAS NOT IMPLEMENTED MANY OF THE RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES TO LESSEN THE IMPACT OF THE RECESSION ON CHILDREN.

MICHIGAN HAS BEEN UNWILLING TO SUPPORT SOME KEY PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE ECONOMIC SUCCESS FOR FAMILIES.

- **PROPOSED LEGISLATION to limit cash assistance to 48 months WOULD destabilize ROUGHLY 25,000 CHILDREN in families without the resources to maintain housing or AT A TIME WHEN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES REMAIN AT DOUBLE DIGITS FOR THE STATE. MICHIGAN HAD EITHER THE HIGHEST OR NEAR HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS. The state also ranks 47th of the 50 states for having one of the largest percentages of children in families where no parent has a full-time/year-round job.**
- **MI HAS NOT ENACTED UE REFORMS THAT WOULD HAVE BROUGHT IN \$139 MILLION FROM FEDS—THE DEADLINE IS AUGUST 22nd; one of the reforms would have addressed the eligibility of part-time workers (many of them mothers) for unemployment benefits**
- **THE STATE RECENTLY EXTENDED 90-DAY PRE-FORECLOSURE MEDIATION LAW until JANUARY BUT IT NEEDS TO BE EXTENDED FURTHER AND**
- **THE \$498 MILLION IN TARP HARDEST HIT FUNDS NEEDS TO BE USED FOR FAMILIES FACING FORECLOSURE BEFORE TIME LIMIT FOR SPENDING THESE FUNDS IS REACHED**
- **MI HAS DONE A GREAT JOB OF GETTING CHILDREN INSURED THROUGH MEDICAID AND MICHILD.**
- **AT THE SAME TIME THE CHILD CARE SUBSIDY HAS WEAKENED CONSIDERABLY; IT SEVERELY LIMITS PARENTAL CHOICE OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS SINCE IT HAS NOT KEPT UP WITH INFLATION.**
- **MICHIGAN HAS ALSO WEAKENED THE EARNED INCOME TAX CRDIT, WHICH SUPPLEMENTS POVERY-LEVEL WAGES—DROPPING FROM 20% TO 6% OF THE FEDERAL CREDIT.**

DESPITE THE OSTENSIBLE COMMITMENT TO EARLY CHILDHOOD, KEY PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF YOUNG CHILDREN HAVE BEEN REDUCED OR ELIMINATED.

- **MICHIGAN POLICY MAKERS HAVE MAINTAINED FUNDING FOR THE STATE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM – BUT WE CAN'T WAIT TILL CHILDREN REACH PRESCHOOL TO INTERVENE.**
- **IMPROVING COORDINATION WILL SUCCEED ONLY IF THERE ARE PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES TO HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

2011 KIDS COUNT® Data Book: MI Talking Points for August 17 Release

The 2011 *KIDS COUNT® Data Book* message, “America’s Children, America’s Challenge: Promoting Opportunity for the Next Generation,” examines how children and families are faring in the wake of the recession and ties together research findings on family economic success and the critical role of investing in early childhood programs that can allow the next generation to succeed.

KIDS COUNT data shows that these times are tough on kids:

- Nearly 8 million children lived with at least one unemployed parent in 2010; double the number in 2007. – **IN MI 281,000 IN 2010 – OVER 100,000 MORE THAN IN 2007**
 - Between 2000 and 2009, there was an 18 percent increase in the U.S. child poverty rate. As a result, 2.4 million more children are living below the federal poverty line. **IN MI CHILD POVERTY RATE ESCALATED BY 64 PERCENT WITH 75,000 MORE CHILDREN IN POVERTY – INCOME BELOW \$17,200 FOR A SINGLE PARENT WITH TWO CHILDREN**
 - As a result of unemployment and income loss, 42 percent of our nation’s children, or about 31 million, lived in low-income families, defined as those with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level, in 2009 – **IN MI 44%**
 - Last decade’s tough economy wiped out the previous decade’s gains in the fight against child poverty.
- Foreclosures – never before reported – affected an estimated 4 percent (or over 5 million) of America’s children who lived in mortgaged households that were disrupted by foreclosure since 2007. – **IN MI 5% OR 217,000 CHILDREN**

These indicators underscore the importance of Casey’s commitment to a two-generation strategy to change the future for large numbers of at-risk kids. We must find ways to help their parents succeed, provide for them now, and ensure that services are in place from health care to education – to ensure that children have an opportunity to succeed in the future.

2011 Recommendations: In the midst of difficult choices at local, state and Federal government levels, there are opportunities to invest in Casey’s two-generation strategy:

- Family economic success:
 - **Strengthen and modernize Unemployment Insurance (UI) and promote foreclosure prevention and remediation efforts:** Economic security is important throughout a child’s development. A continued extension of UI benefits for the long-term unemployed beyond the end of 2011 is recommended if the unemployment rate has not significantly improved. State legislation could be enacted, such as mandatory foreclosure mediation, to possibly avoid foreclosure and potentially allow the family to stay at home. Other legislation can be enacted,

such as permanent federal tenant protections, so that renters who live in properties at risk for foreclosure do not lose their lease.

- **MI HAS NOT ENACTED UE REFORMS THAT WOULD HAVE BROUGHT IN \$139 MILLION FROM FEDS; THE STATE RECENTLY EXTENDED 90-DAY PRE-FORECLOSURE MEDIATION LAW BUT IT NEEDS TO BE EXTENDED FURTHER AND THE \$498 MILLION IN TARP HARDEST HIT FUNDS NEEDS TO BE USED BEFORE TIME LIMIT IS REACHED**
- **Preserve and strengthen existing programs that supplement poverty-level wages, offset the high cost of child care, and provide health insurance coverage for parents and children:** Valuable tax credits such as the refundable Earned Income Tax Credit should be preserved, as these credits have been effective in lifting 6.6 million Americans above the federal poverty line (2001). Low- and moderate-income families' access to subsidized child care should be the priority. Research on child care subsidies suggests that they can help stabilize employment and increase family self-sufficiency. While states have done a good job of using Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program to provide health insurance coverage for parents and children, states should continue to develop strategies to bridge the payment gaps to ensure that this generation and the next are healthy and strong.
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- **Promote savings and asset protection and help families gain financial knowledge skills:** Having access to good financial products can provide safe mechanisms for savings. Innovative pilot programs, such as delivering federal tax refunds electronically to prepaid debit cards, rather than being issued by check, can help prevent situations where a check can be quickly cashed and spent. Several states have adopted legislation to curb high-cost payday loans that can trap a family in a cycle of debt.
- Ensure children have the opportunity to succeed:
 - **Promote responsible parenthood and ensure that mothers-to-be receive prenatal care:** Research has shown that children do better when they grow up in an intact two-parent family, both in terms of economic well-being and longer term outcomes. Efforts should be encouraged across the political spectrum to find ways to remove

disincentives to marriage and to support two committed, married parents as the best environment to raise children. Leaders in the public and private spheres are urged to help promote a culture that supports healthy marriage and relationships, as well as responsible fatherhood. The health of infants and young children is closely tied to the health of their mothers during pregnancy. Expanded access to prenatal care could be given to more pregnant women if states raised the eligibility standard for public health insurance.

- **ROUGHLY 30 PERCENT OF MICHIGAN BIRTHS ARE TO MOTHERS WHO HAD RECEIVED LESS THAN ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE.**

- **Ensure that children are developmentally ready to succeed in school:** Home visiting and other parenting support programs can help parents understand the critical role they play in their child's early development. The tough economic climate has placed some early childhood programs at risk –Head Start and Early Head Start – as federal funds dry up and states face large deficits. As state economies recover, policymakers should continue to support these programs and improve their quality.
 - **MICHIGAN POLICY MAKERS HAVE SPORADICALLY SUPPORTED HOME VISITING PROGRAMS BUT THE FUNDING AND COORDINATION HAVE NOT BEEN THERE. NEW FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR THESE PROGRAMS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO IMPROVE THIS SITUATION.**

- **Promote reading proficiency by the end of third grade:** Reaching the milestone of reading on grade level by the end of third grade is critical to ensure that the next generation of students can compete globally. Deeper connections between the early childhood and K-12 systems and ensuring more consistent standards across states can better serve children and result in increased student achievement.
 - **SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS HAS BEEN STRONG AND FOR COORDINATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AT THE LOCAL AND STATE LEVEL. AT THE SAME TIME SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN THE PROGRAMS THAT HELP PARENTS MEET BASIC NEEDS WILL HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT.**

Importance of Making Changes Now:

The Annie E. Casey Foundation understands the difficult budget decisions that policymakers in Washington, D.C. and state capitols across the country grapple with everyday; however, it is critical that change be made now to ensure the future of our nation's children. Research is clear that:

- Children who grow up in low-income families are less likely to successfully navigate life's challenges and achieve future success.

- The younger they are and the longer they are exposed to economic hardship, the higher the risk of failure.

2011 KIDS COUNT[®] Data Book: MI Talking Points for August 17 Release

Our country's long-term prosperity depends on how well we prepare the next generation to meet the challenges of a competitive global economy. With that said, **today**, policymakers should focus on:

- Economic prospects of families and on the educational success of all children.
- A two-generation strategy that both helps parents move their families ahead economically and improves young children's health, development, and educational success.

The KIDS COUNT[®] Data Book, Data Center, and Mobile Site

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's *KIDS COUNT[®] Data Book* provides the most recent comparable data on child well-being and is a credible source of information that measures national and state-by-state trends on a wide range of indicators. The *Data Book* is one of the strongest examples of the Foundation's commitment to gather and evaluate data in order to make better decisions impacting the lives of children and families.

This is the 22nd year that Casey has produced the *Data Book*, an unparalleled commitment to provide policymakers with a way to track the well-being of children over time.

The 22nd *KIDS COUNT Data Book* is complemented by the online Data Center that contains hundreds of measures of child well-being for the U.S., states, counties, cities, congressional districts and more. The KIDS COUNT Data Center is updated regularly and is a powerful resource for policy makers, practitioners and the media. <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>. Beginning on launch day, encourage followers to access the Data Center's new, user-friendly mobile site, accessible at <http://mobile.kidscount.org>.

2011 KIDS COUNT® Data Book: MI Talking Points for August 17 Release

THE KIDS COUNT Data Book Trends – MI MIRRORS NATIONAL TRENDS EXCEPT CHILD POVERTY WORSENER BY 3X AS MUCH (64% VS. 18% CHANGE) AND SINGLE PARENT BY HALF AS MUCH (6% VS. 10%)

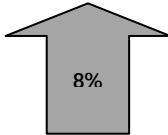
2011 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* shows that since 2000, five of the 10 key indicators improved, three indicators got worse, and two areas are not comparable, based on the available data between 2007, 2008, and 2009. These data indicate that the recent recession has wiped out many of the economic gains for children that occurred in the late 1990s:

- **Five areas have improved:** the infant mortality rate, child death rate, teen death rate, and teen birth rate; and the percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates.
- **Three areas have worsened:** the percent of babies born low-birthweight, the child poverty rate, and the percent of children living in single-parent families. **Two areas are not comparable:** changes made to the American Community Survey's (ACS) 2008 questionnaire regarding employment affected the ability to track trends for the percent of teens not in school and not working, and the percent of children in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment. Although comparisons cannot be made back to 2000, both indicators worsened between 2008 and 2009.

Note on data sources: The *KIDS COUNT Data Book* uses the most up-to-date state level estimates from Federal statistical agencies. The data on the percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates, the percent of teens not attending school and not working, the percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment, the percent of children in poverty, and the number of children living in single-parent families come from the U.S. Census Bureau's ACS and reflect conditions in 2009. Data on births and deaths come from the National Center for Health Statistics. All birth data reflect events in 2008 and all death data reflect events in 2007.

10 Measures of Child Well-Being

Percent Change
Since 2000



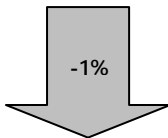
Percent of low-birthweight babies leveled off in 2008.

Between 2000 and 2008, the percentage of low-birthweight babies (less than 5.5 lbs.) increased from 7.6 percent to 8.2 percent, an increase of 8 percent. However, this is the same rate as 2007 signaling the upward trend may have halted.

Best rate in 2008: Alaska (6.0 percent)

Worst rate in 2008: Mississippi (11.8 percent)

MI 8.6% UP FROM 7.9% (rankina 36)



Infant mortality rate has remained relatively stable, after five decades of decline.

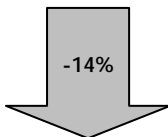
After several decades of constantly falling infant mortality rates, improvements have stalled. The infant mortality rate (6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births) in 2007 is slightly less than the rate of 6.9 seen in 2000. Since the start of the decade, 226,000 babies under the age of 1 have died.

Best rate in 2007: Washington (4.8 deaths per 1,000 live births)

Worst rate in 2007: Mississippi (10 deaths per 1,000 live births)

MI 7.9 DOWN BY 4% - 40th among the states

Note: 2008 mortality data were not available by the time this report was released. (next as well)



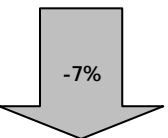
Child death rate continues its downward trend.

The child death rate continues to improve, with a drop from 22 out of every 100,000 children between the ages of 1 and 14 in 2000 to 19 deaths per 100,000 in 2007. In 2007, an average of 30 children ages 1 to 14 died each day in the United States.

Best rate in 2007: Rhode Island (9 deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)

Worst rate in 2007: Mississippi (34 deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)

MI 18 (15th) – down by 18 percent from 22



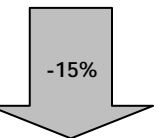
Teen death rate continues to decline.

The death rate for youth ages 15 to 19 dropped from 67 deaths per 100,000 teens in 2000 to 62 deaths per 100,000 in 2007. In 2007, 13,229 adolescents ages 15 to 19 died.

Best rate in 2007: Vermont (35 deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)

Worst rate in 2007: Alaska (100 deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)

MI – 59 – 19th -- down by 8%



Teen birth rate continues to improve.

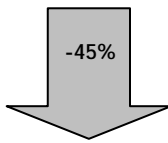
After witnessing a two year increase in the teen birth rate, in 2008 the rate declined in line with the long-term trend. Nationally, the teen birth rate fell from 48 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19 in 2000 to 41 births per 1,000 females in this age range in 2008. In 2008, approximately 1,191 births to teens occurred each day.

Best rate in 2008: Mass and New Hampshire (20 births per 1,000 females)

Worst rate in 2008: Mississippi (66 births per 1,000 females)

MI – 33 - 13th BEST RANKING – down by 18%

Percent Change
Since 2000



Percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates continues to improve.

The rate of teens not in school and without a high school diploma has declined steadily between 2000 and 2009. The 2009 rate is slightly more than half the rate in 2000 (6 percent compared to 11 percent). In 2009, about 1.1 million teens were not in school and had not graduated from high school.

Best rate in 2009: New Hampshire, New Jersey (3 percent)

Worst rate in 2009: Nevada (11 percent)

MI 6% (ranking 22nd) – down 40%

Nearly one out of 10 teens not attending school and not working.

In 2009, 9 percent of teens ages 16 to 19, or 1.6 million teens, were neither enrolled in school nor working. There was a 13 percent increase of teens not attending school and not working between 2008 and 2009.

Note: The 2008 ACS made significant changes to its questions on labor force participation and number of weeks worked. Due to these changes in methodology, comparisons cannot be made back to 2000 and thus the comparisons were made only between 2008 and 2009. (same for next indicator)

Best rate in 2009: New Hampshire (5 percent)

Worst rate in 2009: West Virginia (15 percent)

MI 9% - (ranking 23rd)



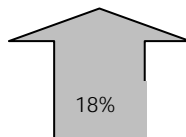
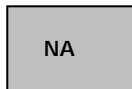
Percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment increased since 2008.

In 2009, 31 percent, or 23 million children, lived in families where no parent had full-time, year-round employment. This is 2.9 million more children than in 2008.

Best rate in 2009: North Dakota (21 percent)

Worst rate in 2009: Mississippi (39 percent)

MI – 36% (47th ranking – WORSE RANKING)



Children living in poverty increases. In 2009, 14.7 million children lived in poverty.

The percentage of children living in poverty (income below \$21,756 for a family of 2 adults and two children in 2009) increased from 17 in 2000 to 20 percent in 2009. This represents about 2.4 million more children living in households with incomes below the poverty line in 2009 than 2000.

Best rate in 2009: New Hampshire (11 percent)

Worst rate in 2009: Mississippi (31 percent)

MI – 23% (38th ranking) – increased by 64% vs. 18% US

Percent of children living in single-parent families rose for the first time since 2005.

The percent of children living in single-parent families increased from 31 percent in 2000 to 34 percent in 2009. About 23.8 million children lived in single-parent families in 2009—3.1 million more children than in 2000.

Best rate in 2009: Utah (18 percent)

Worst rate in 2009: Mississippi (48 percent)

MI – 34 % (29th ranking) – worsened by 6% vs. 10% in the US

