

KIDS
COMMUNITY

Alaska Economic Well-Being



Winter 2018

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In a state full of resources, we sometimes forget that our most precious and valuable resource is in homes across Alaska – our children. Alaska’s growth and prosperity is deeply connected to health and productivity of our children and families and the communities they live in. Alaska is home to 207,100 children, many of whom are thriving, however many are not.

All families, no matter their education, economic status, family structure or where they live, can raise thriving children. Unfortunately, many of our hard-working families across Alaska are struggling. They are faced with challenges that prevent them from becoming and remaining physically, mentally and economically healthy and self-sufficient.

As a state, we all have a responsibility to ensure our children and families live in safe, stable and nurturing environments. One of the ways we can ensure we achieve this goal is by allowing data to help tell the story of how we can eliminate the challenges that prevent our families from raising thriving children.

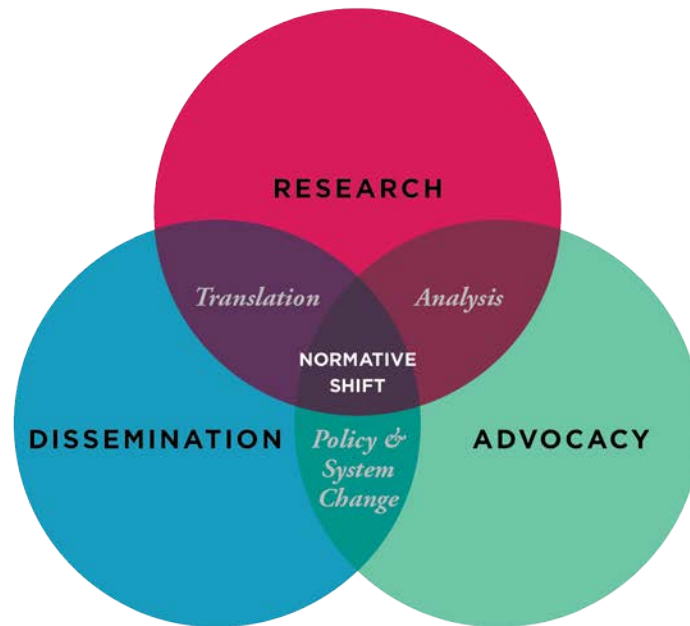
Alaska Children’s Trust (ACT) embraces this vision and has adopted a framework that includes six strategies. The framework provides the architectural structure Alaska needs to support these families who are struggling. There are six core components:

1. **Foster Data** – data is neutral information that is an essential tool in building the road map to true success.
2. **Advocacy** – ensures the implementation of legislation that addresses the root cause of trauma and supports resilience.
3. **Community Investment** – utilizes resources that support efforts to address the social determinants identified by the data.
4. **Strengthen Economic Supports for Families** – lack of resources (i.e. wages, health insurance, transportation) leads to many of the social determinants that create the environment that cultivates unhealthy children. This strategy aims to improve the socioeconomic conditions of families, which tend to have the largest impacts on health.
5. **Education & Life Skills** – increases children’s access to more effective, equitable education, social-emotional learning, and life skills training.
6. **Norms & Value** – aims to strengthen norms and values that support safe, stable and nurturing environments for children and families.

Kids Count Alaska is an ACT project that supports the first core component of this framework – Foster Data. Kids Count Alaska is part of the national KIDS COUNT program at the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF). The mission of KIDS COUNT is to ensure child advocates, policymakers, and the public have access to high-quality, unbiased data about child well-being. AECF gathers and publishes child well-being data from national and state sources online on the KIDS COUNT [Data Center](#). Currently, the data center houses over 4 million data points at national and local levels. To provide an accessible snapshot of child well-being, KIDS COUNT compiles annual Data Books that describe national and state progress towards selected indicators of children’s economic well-being, education, health, and family/community context. KIDS COUNT engages in advocacy at the federal level

for investments in data collection and provides funding to a network of organizations to gather data and support advocacy at the state level.

Figure 1. Voices for Alaska’s Children Model



ACT has operated as Alaska’s KIDS COUNT partner since 2016. Kids Count Alaska is part of the Voices for Alaska’s Children program (Voices) at ACT. Voices is a grassroots community movement focused on continually raising awareness of the needs and challenges of children, youth, and families throughout Alaska. Voices is an independent voice for children; it aims to provide a sustainable and impactful system that allows every voice to be heard during advocacy for policies and decisions that support children. The goal of Voices is to help create a normative shift that ensures children and families live in safe, stable and nurturing environments.

Trevor Storrs
Executive Director
Alaska Children’s Trust



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Executive Summary

KIDS COUNT is a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) that ensures child advocates, policymakers, and the public have access to high-quality, unbiased data about child well-being. Kids Count Alaska is part of the Voices for Alaska Children program at the Alaska Children's Trust (ACT). The following summary presents analysis of national and state-level KIDS COUNT data focused on the economic well-being of Alaska children.

All data included here can be found at datacenter.kidscount.org/data#AK. Analysis of this data and more is published in the report *2018 Kids Count: Economic Well-Being* available at www.alaskachildrenstrust.org.

Alaska Children

Children make up a quarter of Alaska's population.

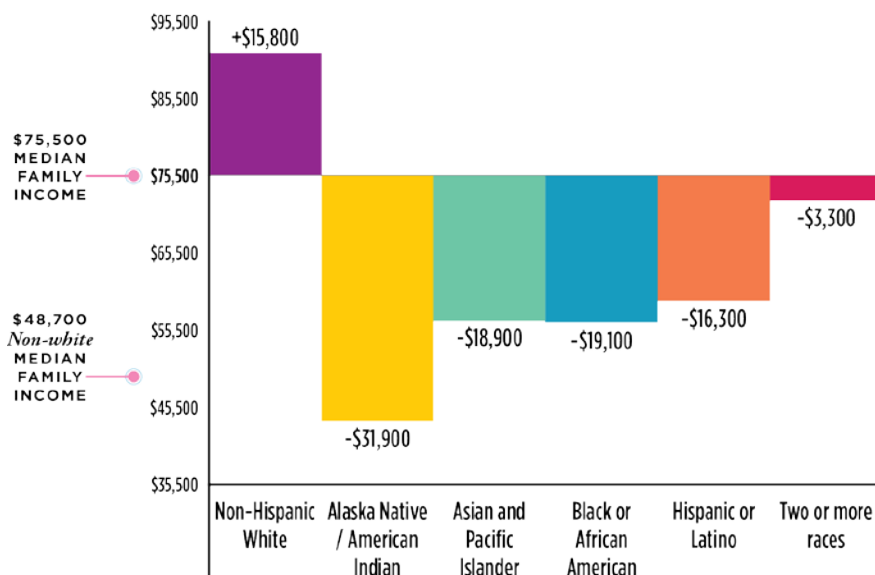
187,300

CHILDREN
between the ages of 0 and 17
LIVE IN ALASKA

- Because the number of adults is increasing at a faster rate, children make up a smaller percentage of Alaska's population in 2016 than in 2001. The Alaska child population will continue to increase modestly through 2045.
- Population changes vary regionally. The child population has increased steadily in the Matanuska-Susitna region, remained about the same in the Interior, Northern region, and Southwest, and decreased in all other regions over the last fifteen years.
- Most children live in two-parent families, but approximately 60,000 children live with only one parent. Most single-parent households are headed by women (39,825 households).
- The Alaska child population is more racially diverse than the adult population.

Employment and Income

When parents have well-paying, secure jobs, they can provide for the basic needs of their families and invest in their children's futures.



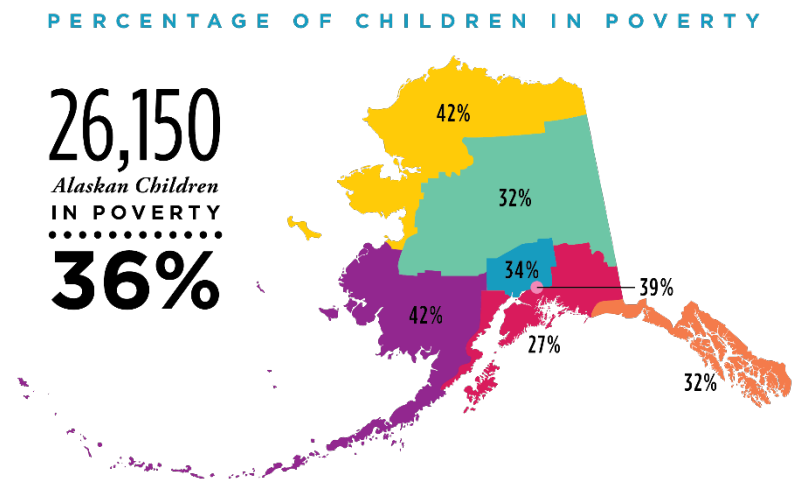
- There are significant disparities in family income by race/ethnicity in Alaska. While median family income was \$75,500 in 2015, only White families earned more than the median (\$91,300); all other race/ethnicities earned less (non-White median family income is \$48,700). Alaska Native families and American Indian families have the lowest median income (\$43,600).

- Many children live in homes where at least one parent is looking for work or lacks secure employment (approximately 64,000 children). More than a third of Alaska children live in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment. Eight percent of children have at least one parent who is actively looking for work, while 5,000 children live in low-income households where no adult worked during the last year.

Poverty

Experiencing poverty as a child can have life-long impacts on a child’s development. Poverty and financial stress can contribute to learning, behavioral, social and emotional problems and poor health.

- About 26,000 Alaska children live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.
- Approximately 11,000 children live in families with incomes less than \$12,000 a year.
- In almost all regions of Alaska, the youngest children are most likely to live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.
- Most families in poverty are single-parent families.



Basic Needs

Children need access to basic necessities—a stable environment, enough food, dependable housing, and reliable transportation—to develop into healthy adults. Families that struggle to provide these basic necessities for their children experience a chronic level of strain that places all family members at risk.



20% of Alaska children lived in homes without enough food this past year and are hungry.

- One fifth of Alaska children lived in homes without enough food this past year (38,000 children).
- A third of children live in households with a high housing cost burden (58,000 children).
- 10,000 children live in neighborhoods with poverty rates of 30 percent or more.
- 42,000 children living in households received some form of public assistance.
- Ten percent of children live in homes where no vehicle is available for household members (19,000 children).

Kids Count Alaska will release a quarterly Kids Count report focused on a core topic. This report, the first of four issues of the 2017-2018 Alaska KIDS COUNT Data Book, focuses on the economic well-being of Alaska children and presents analysis of national and state-level KIDS COUNT data. Accompanying the report are an executive summary that summarizes the data in this report and an infographic that highlights key findings.

Report Structure

Following an introductory letter and the executive summary, the report provides an overview of basic demographic data about Alaska children. Next, the report explores a variety of published indicators—employment and income, public assistance, and housing—that shed light on the economic well-being of Alaska children and their families. The report concludes with a summary of recommendations to learn more about this topic. A glossary and source notes are included in the Appendices.

Methodology

Information in this report comes from analysis of secondary data publicly available on the KIDS COUNT Data Center. Data denoted by “National KIDS COUNT” are gathered and published by the AECF. Data denoted by “Kids Count Alaska” are gathered and published by Alaska’s Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). Detailed citations and the original data sources are included as endnotes in the final section of this report. The glossary defines terms used in the indicators; links connect first-used terms to the glossary. A complete list of economic well-being indicators available on the Data Center is provided in the Appendices.

The approach for this report included review of all available economic well-being data and documentation from the data center, assessment of the quality and limitations of the data, followed by selection of indicators for analysis and inclusion in the report. The selection process prioritized relevant, stand-alone indicators that explored different dimensions of child economic well-being. The ACT Kids Count Advisory Committee provided recommendations for data to highlight in this report.

Data Sources

While all data in this report were gathered from the KIDS COUNT Data Center, the following sources were used by National KIDS COUNT and Kids Count Alaska:

- **U.S. Census Bureau** provides demographic data, including age, race, household characteristics, languages spoken, gender, labor force information, income etc. All census data are gathered as of April 1 of every 10 years, and the income data gathered reflects the previous year.
- **Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development** provides a range of economic data to the public, including population estimates (overall, age and gender, and race), population projections, migration, employment and wages, employers, resident hire, unemployment data, industry and occupational information, workplace safety, cost of living and housing information, workforce training, and local and regional information. The data consider Alaska’s unique patterns including seasonal

employment, lack of roads, migration, etc., and utilizes data only available in Alaska to provide their estimates, such as Permanent Fund enrollment.

- **American Community Survey (ACS)** collects a wide range of information about demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics. The ACS produces annual and five-year estimates. It is administered by the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Current Population Survey (CPS)** is sponsored by the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and yields labor force statistics for the U.S. population.
- Some program specific data sources are also consulted, such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or other forms of public assistance.

Data Notes

TIME FRAME

Unless otherwise stated, all data reflect the most recent year of available data, usually 2015. Trends were not calculated because, for most indicators, statistical variation is not provided. When confidence intervals are available on the data center, this is noted in the associated endnote. Occasionally, yearly comparisons are drawn to illustrate relevant changes over time.

CHILD POPULATIONS

Interpretation of demographic data can be unwieldy, as data sources categorize and count children in different ways. For example, various sources included in the Data Center define children as 'under 18', '18 and under', and '19 and under'. As a result, comparison of indicators is not straightforward. For the purposes of readability, all child populations are children under the age of 18 unless otherwise noted.

Except for the supplemental poverty measure, all poverty indicators are calculated from a population slightly smaller than the total population. The universe for all poverty indicators reflects the persons for whom the Census Bureau can determine poverty status. Excluded from this universe are unrelated children below age 15 and individuals who live in group quarters (such as dormitories or institutional settings).

RACE AND ETHNICITY

The KIDS COUNT Data Center provides several indicators by race and ethnicity. While these were reviewed and do show disparities by race/ethnicity, much of the data is incomplete (often suppressed due to large margins of error) and reflects race/ethnicity categories that are no longer standard in Alaska. Race/ethnicity breakouts are presented only where data are complete. Where race data are presented in alone categories, populations are typically underestimated and should be interpreted with care.

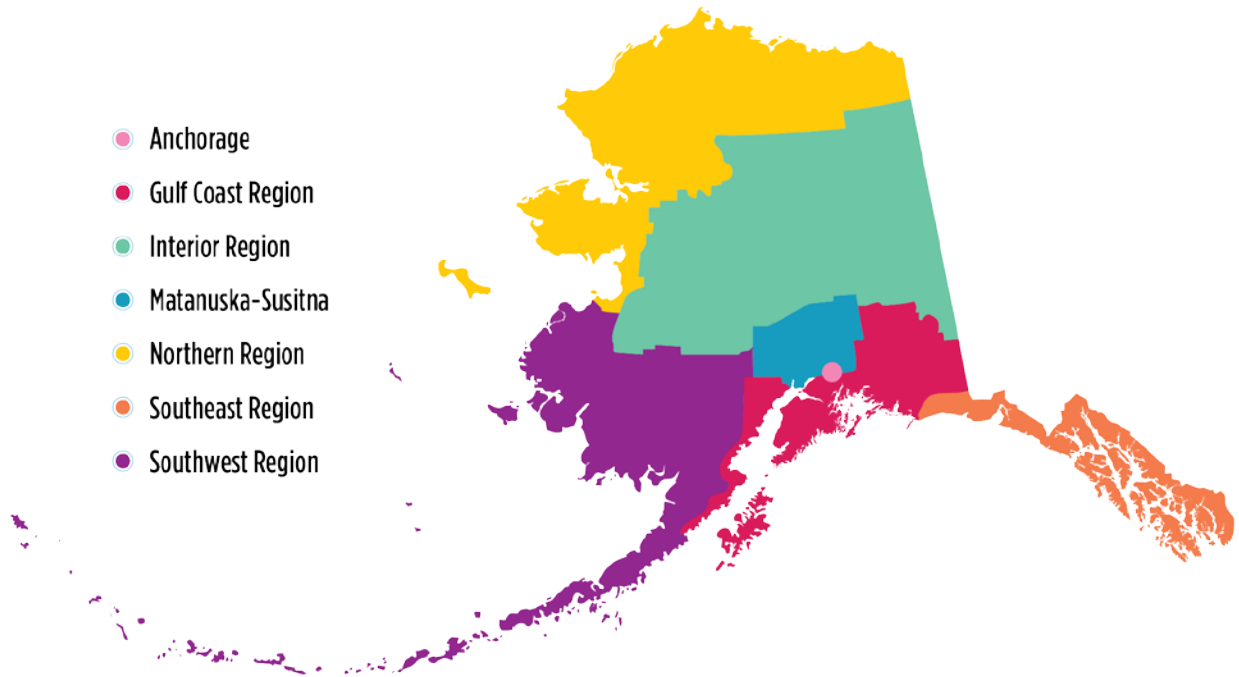
CALCULATIONS

Data included in this report reflects the best available. Calculations with data in this report should be done with care, as data come from multiple sources and reflect different sub-populations and/or total populations of children. For example, some indicators are calculated from the population of children ages 0 to 19, while others begin with a subset of this population such as children in households or own children. As a result, counts differ within sections of the report and should be included with each indicator when published elsewhere.

REGIONS

Where presented, regional data are broken into the economic regions used by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development with the exception of the Anchorage/Mat-Su region which are separated. The following map details the census areas included in each region.

Figure 2. Geographic Regions



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development



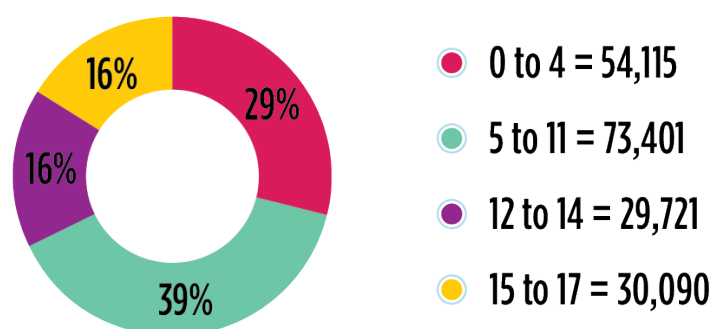
Data Snapshot

- Children make up a quarter of Alaska’s population (187,300 children).
- Because the number of adults is increasing at a faster rate, children make up a smaller percentage of Alaska’s population in 2016 than in 1990.
- Most children—nearly 40 percent—live in Anchorage (81,772 children).
- Approximately 60,000 children live with only one parent. Most single-parent households are headed by women (39,325 households).
- Population changes vary regionally. The child population has increased steadily in the Matanuska-Susitna region, remained about the same in the Interior, Northern region, and Southwest, and decreased in all other regions.
- The Alaska child population is more diverse than the adult population.
- The Alaska child population will increase modestly through 2045.

Approximately 207,100 children between the ages of 0 and 19 lived in Alaska in 2016.^{1*} Twenty-nine percent of Alaska children were 4 years old or younger, 39 percent were between the ages of 5 and 11, 16 percent were between the ages of 12 and 14, and 16 percent were between the ages of 15 and 17 (Figure 3).²

Table 1 provides a detailed breakout of the child population by age.³

Figure 3. Child Population, 2016



Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

Alaska’s overall population is projected to increase modestly. Including projected births, deaths, in-migrants and out-migrants, Alaska’s population is projected to be 899,825 in 2045.⁴ The growth rate is expected to decline from 0.9 percent during 2015-2020 to 0.5 percent in 2040-2045.⁵ The following table details projected child population growth by age.

(See table on the following page.)

* See the [data notes](#) for a discussion of child populations age break-outs.

Table 1. Current (2016) and Projected (2020-2045) Child Population

Age	2016	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	Projected +/-
<1	10,938	11,375	11,432	11,531	11,810	12,262	12,702	+1,327
1	10,798	11,375	11,432	11,531	11,810	12,262	12,702	+1,327
2	11,061	11,375	11,432	11,531	11,810	12,262	12,702	+1,327
3	11,166	11,375	11,432	11,531	11,810	12,262	12,702	+1,327
4	10,152	11,375	11,432	11,531	11,810	12,262	12,702	+1,327
5	11,330	10,727	11,496	11,560	11,664	11,948	12,404	+1,677
6	10,482	10,727	11,496	11,560	11,664	11,948	12,404	+1,677
7	10,393	10,727	11,496	11,560	11,664	11,948	12,404	+1,677
8	10,606	10,727	11,496	11,560	11,664	11,948	12,404	+1,677
9	10,265	10,727	11,496	11,560	11,664	11,948	12,404	+1,677
10	10,363	10,932	10,832	11,606	11,674	11,782	12,070	+1,137
11	9,962	10,932	10,832	11,606	11,674	11,782	12,070	+1,137
12	9,957	10,932	10,832	11,606	11,674	11,782	12,070	+1,137
13	9,957	10,932	10,832	11,606	11,674	11,782	12,070	+1,137
14	9,807	10,932	10,832	11,606	11,674	11,782	12,070	+1,138
15	9,753	10,118	10,864	10,760	11,529	11,594	11,698	+1,580
16	10,299	10,118	10,864	10,760	11,529	11,594	11,698	+1,580
17	10,038	10,118	10,864	10,760	11,529	11,594	11,698	+1,580
Total	187,327	195,528	201,398	205,767	210,327	214,738	220,971	+25,443

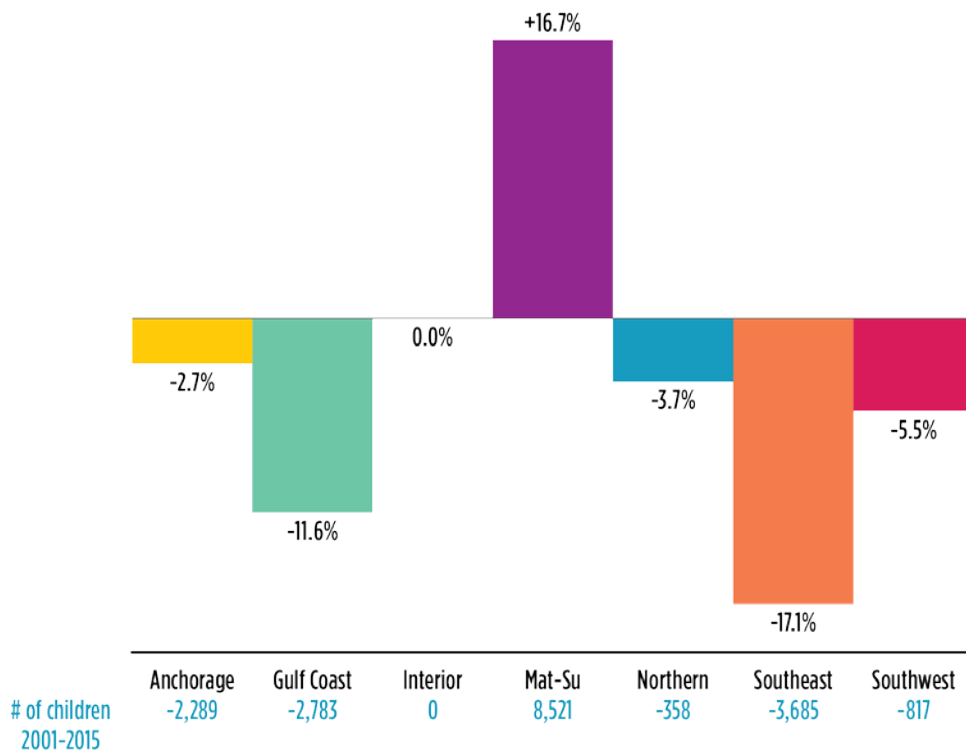
Source: Kids Count Data Center, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and McDowell Group calculations.

Children make up about 25 percent of the total population today, compared to nearly a third in 2001 (30 percent). Because the population of adults has increased at a faster rate during the same period, children now make up a smaller percentage of the total population than in 2001.⁶ Alaska is the third youngest state in the country after Utah and Texas.⁷

When viewed regionally, however, the child population has declined since 2001 in Anchorage, the Gulf Coast region, and Southeast (Figure 4).⁸ The child population has increased steadily in the Matanuska-Susitna region and remained about the same in the Interior, Northern region, and Southwest during the same time period.

(See figure on the following page.)

Figure 4. Percent Change in Child Population by Region, 2001 and 2015⁸



Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center
 Note: In this figure, child population includes children ages 0-19.

Over a third of Alaska children live in Anchorage (39 percent of the total child population); between 5 and 15 percent of the total child population live in each of the remaining six regions (Table 2).¹

Table 2. Child Population (0-19) by Region, 2016

Region	# of Children (0-19)	Percentage of Child Population
Anchorage	81,772	39%
Gulf Coast Region	21,027	10%
Interior Region	31,041	15%
Matanuska-Susitna	31,704	15%
Northern Region	9,424	5%
Southeast Region	18,054	9%
Southwest Region	14,109	7%
Alaska	207,131	100%

Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

The Alaska child population is more diverse than the adult population (Table 3). In contrast to the adult population, 12 percent of children are two or more races (compared to 5 percent of adults), 50 percent are white

(65 percent of adults), 9 percent of children are Hispanic or Latino (6 percent of adults), and 18 percent of children are Alaska Native or American Indian alone† (13 percent of adults).^{9,10}

Table 3. Diversity of Alaska Child and Adult Populations, 2016^{9,10}

Race	Child Population (0-17)	Adult Population (18+)
Hispanic or Latino	9%	6%
Non-Hispanic Alaska Native or American Indian alone	18%	13%
Non-Hispanic Asian alone	6%	6%
Non-Hispanic Black alone	3%	3%
Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	2%	1%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Race Groups	12%	5%
Non-Hispanic White alone	50%	65%

Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

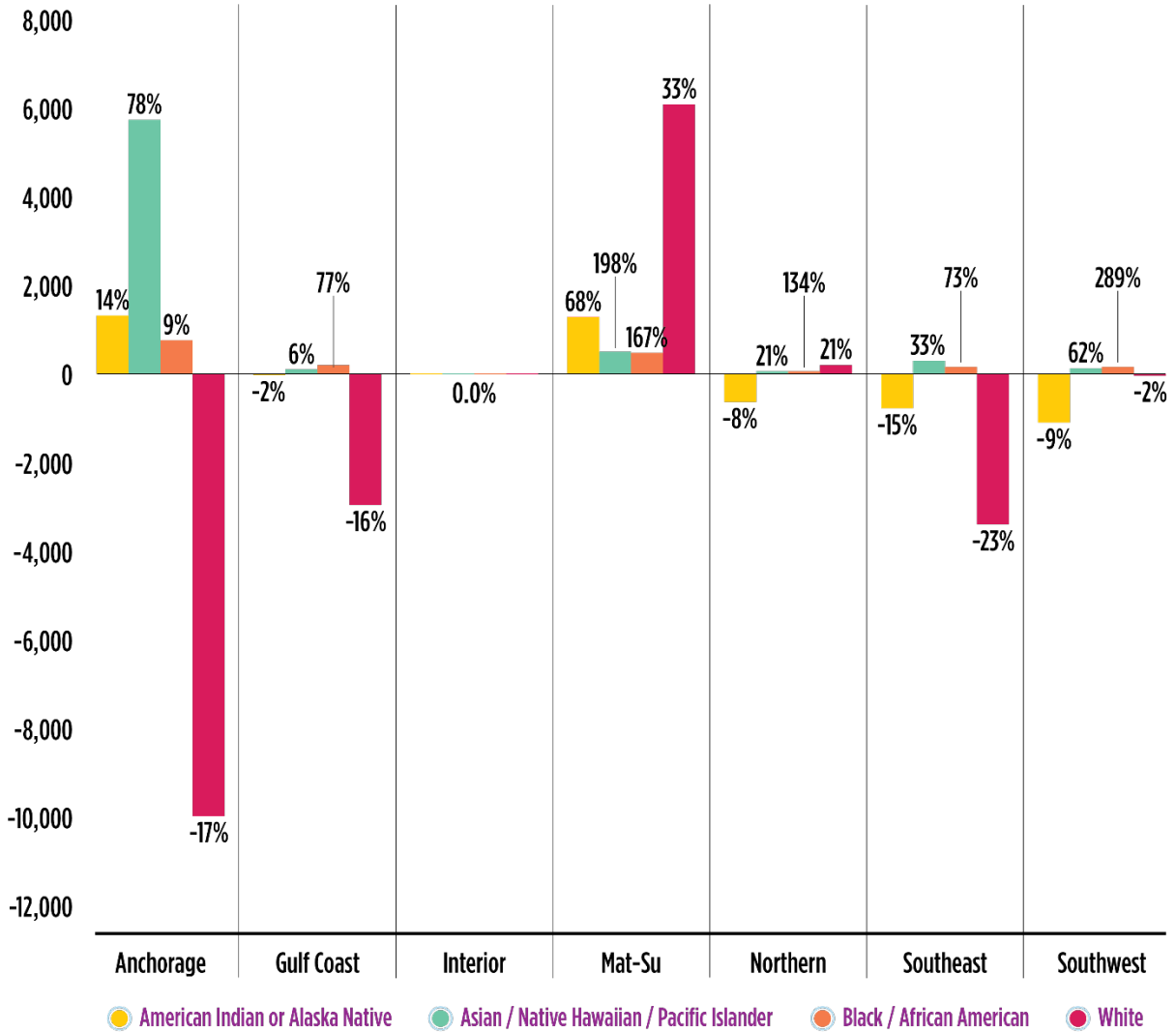
Except for Southwest and Northern regions of Alaska where children are most likely to be Alaska Native or American Indian, the child population is predominantly White. In Anchorage, as the populations of Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children, African American children, and Alaska Native/American Indian children increase and the number of White children decreases, the overall child population is becoming more diverse. Likewise, as the population of White children decreases in the Gulf Coast region, the region’s child population is becoming more diverse.

(See figure on the following page.)



†When race data are counted in alone categories, populations are typically underestimated. As a result, reporting race data by “All” categories is standard in Alaska, but not available for all indicators on the KIDS COUNT Data Center. Because different categorizations are used, total counts will differ depending on methodology.

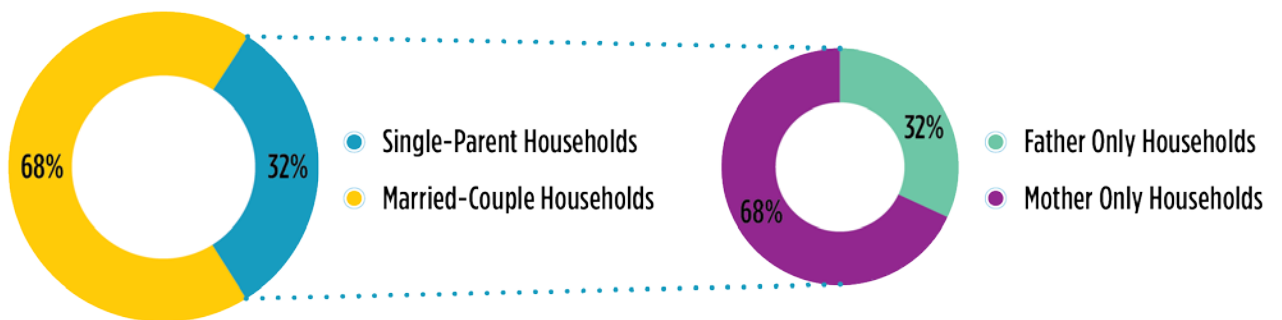
Figure 5. Change in Child Population from 2001 to 2015, by Race/Ethnicity and Region



Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

Many children in Alaska, approximately two-thirds of children living with *at least one* parent, live in two-parent families (2011-2015 5-Year-Estimate).¹¹ The remaining third, approximately 60,000 children, live with only one parent.¹² Most single-parent households are headed by women.¹³

Figure 6. Household Type 2011-2015



Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

Child Economic Well-Being

Data Snapshot

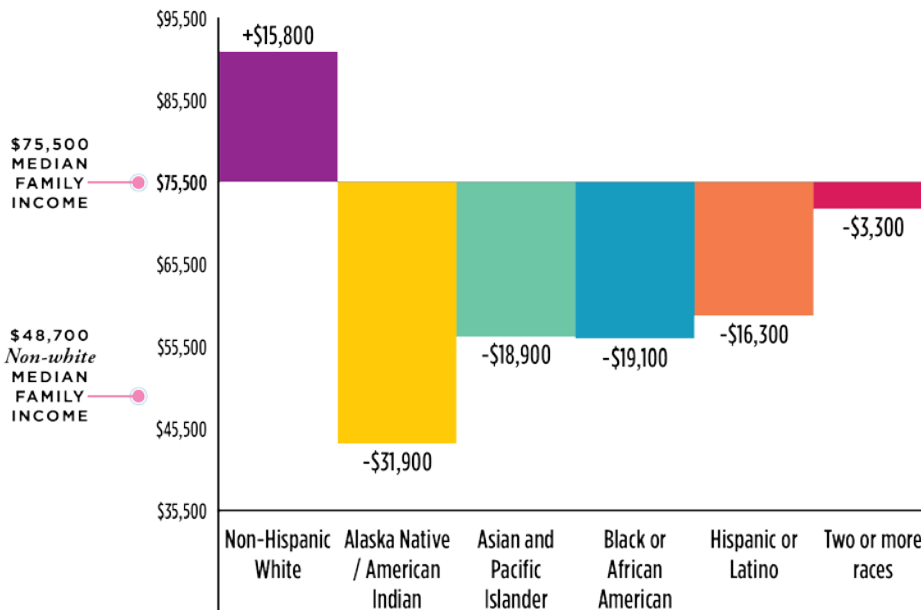
- Median family income in 2015 was \$75,500 with significant differences by race/ethnicity.
- White families earn more than the median family income while families of all other race/ethnicities earn less.
- More than a third of Alaska children live in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment.

When parents have secure, well-paying jobs, they can provide for the basic needs of their children and invest in their future. As a result, their children are more likely to grow into healthy and successful adults.

Median Family Income

In 2015, the [median income of families](#) with children living at home was \$75,500.¹⁴ When broken out by race and ethnicity[†], median family income fluctuates from a low of \$43,600 per year among Alaska Native/American Indian [families](#) to a high of \$91,300 among non-Hispanic White families.¹⁵ The non-White median family income is \$48,700.¹⁶ This range of nearly \$50,000 illustrates how race/ethnicity can have significant bearing on income and earning potential. Immigrant status also has some bearing on income. The median income among immigrant family [households](#) with children is \$63,100 compared to \$72,400 among U.S.-born family households.¹⁷

Figure 7. Difference from Median Family Income by Race / Ethnicity, 2015



Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

Note: ACS PUMS files were used to calculate the non-White median family income estimate, which does not appear on the KIDS COUNT Data Center. The Population Reference Bureau completed the calculation in January 2018.

[†] Race/ethnicity is determined by the householder.

Parents in the Labor Force

Sixty-five percent of children under age 12 have all available parents in the labor force (87,000 children).^{18,19} Most parents included in the labor force have jobs (full-time, part-time, or seasonal), but parents who are unemployed are also counted in this category. Parents who are not currently looking for work or who want a job, but have not looked within the past year are not included in the labor force. In single-parent households, this means the resident parent is in the labor force. In married-couple families, this means both parents are in the labor force.

Parental Unemployment Rates

In 2015, Alaska's unemployment rate was 6.4 percent.²⁰ The parental unemployment rate was slightly lower—6 percent—during the same time period.²¹ For children who live in [single-parent](#) households, this means the resident parent is unemployed. For children living in married-couple families, this means either one or both of the parents is unemployed. In total, 7,000 parents were looking for work in 2015.²¹ Of children living with families, 8 percent have at least one parent who is actively searching for work, approximately 13,000 children.²² Approximately 5,000 children live in low-income homes where no adult worked full-time or part-time during the prior 12 months.²³

Lack of Secure Employment

Many parents who have a job are unable to find regular, full-time employment that pays a livable wage. In 2015, over a third of Alaska children live in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment, approximately 64,000 children.²⁴

Single-Parent Households

When family units shift—through marriage, divorce, separation, new children etc.—there are often profound economic consequences for children in the home. Children growing up in single-parent families typically do not have access to the same economic resources available to children who grow up in two-parent household. Divorce is also considered an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE).

Most children in Alaska, approximately two-thirds, live in two-parent families (approximately 120,600 children) (2011-2015 5-Year-Estimate).²⁵ The remaining third, approximately 60,000 children, live with only one parent.²⁶ Most single-parent households are headed by women.²⁷ In 2014, 30 percent of female-headed families—5,000 families—received child support from the children's father within the prior calendar year.²⁸

Data Snapshot

- Approximately 26,000 Alaska children live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.
- Approximately 10,000 children live in families with incomes less than \$12,000 a year.
- Single parent families struggle more financially than dual parent households.

Experiencing poverty as a child can have life-long impacts on a child’s development. Poverty and financial stress can contribute to learning, behavioral, social and emotional problems, and poor health.

Family Income

In 2015, ten percent of all Alaskans, approximately 75,000 people, live in families with incomes below the [federal poverty level](#).^{29§} Roughly one third (36 percent) of Alaska children who live in families live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level (2011-2015 5-Year-Estimate) (Table 4).³⁰ There are no obvious differences by gender. Boys are just as likely as girls to live in poverty.³¹ Regionally, the percentage of children in poverty ranges from 27 percent in the Gulf Coast regions to 42 percent of children living in the Northern and Southwest regions. This indicator does not include cost of living differences by region. For example, fuel costs typically are more affordable in Anchorage compared to rural areas.

Table 4. Children who Live in Families with Incomes below the Federal Poverty Level, 2011-2015

Region	# of Children	% of Children
Anchorage	9,221	39%
Gulf Coast Region	2,218	27%
Interior Region	3,275	32%
Matanuska-Susitna	3,254	34%
Northern Region	2,248	42%
Southeast Region	2,063	32%
Southwest Region	3,871	42%
Alaska	26,150	36%

Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

Children of all ages live in low-income homes. Fifteen percent of children ages 0-5, approximately 9,000 children, and 14 percent of children ages 6-17, approximately 17,000 children, live in poverty.³² In almost all regions of Alaska, the youngest children are most likely to live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.³³ In 2016, approximately 14 percent of Alaska children, or 26,000 children, lived in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.³⁴ Income below \$24,339 for a family of four—two adults and two children—is considered in poverty.

[§] The Census Bureau (through the American Community Survey (ACS)) applies thresholds to a family’s income to statistically determine poverty status. This is the most statistically accurate measure of poverty. This is not to be confused with the federal poverty threshold issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Table 5. Children who Live in Families with Incomes below the Federal Poverty Level, 2011-2015

Region	Age		
	<=5	6 to 11	12 to 17
Anchorage	15%	12%	12%
Gulf Coast Region	11%	7%	9%
Interior Region	13%	10%	9%
Matanuska-Susitna	10%	12%	12%
Northern Region	15%	15%	11%
Southeast Region	14%	10%	8%
Southwest Region	17%	14%	10%
Alaska	14%	12%	11%

Source: KIDS COUNT Data Center

Extreme Poverty

In 2016, 6 percent of children or approximately 11,000 children live in families with incomes less than half of the federal poverty level.³⁵ In 2015, half of the federal poverty threshold was an annual income of less than \$12,170 for a family of two adults and two children.

Supplemental Poverty Measure

According to the supplemental poverty measure (SPM), 22,000 Alaskan children lived in poverty in 2013-2015.³⁶ The SPM defines poverty as lack of economic resources to meet the basic needs of food, housing, clothing and utilities; it was adopted in 2010, following the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences to address identified shortcomings of the official poverty measure.³⁷

Below Poverty by Family Type and Size

Most families in poverty are single-parent families. In 2015, approximately 10,000 families with [related children](#) had annual incomes below the federal poverty threshold.³⁸ Of these families, 2,000 are married-couple families and 8,000 are single-parent families.³⁸ Most families in poverty have six or fewer members in the household.³⁹

Table 6. Estimated Primary Families in Poverty by Family Size, 2016**

Family Size	Number of Primary Families with Children under 18 Living in Poverty	Percentage of Primary Families with Children under 18 Living in Poverty
2	2,208	2.4%
3	2,717	3.0%
4	4,127	4.6%
5	1,916	2.1%
6	1,852	2.1%
7	<i>suppressed</i>	~0.1%
8	195	0.2%
9+	763	0.8%

Source: Alaska Division of Public Health's Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Unit. Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2017.

Note: Primary families refers to a group of 2 or more people related by birth, marriage or adoption residing together and does not include non-relatives.

** Data was collected in 2017 but reflects 2016 poverty status.

Data Snapshot

- One fifth of Alaska children lived in homes without enough food this past year (38,000 children).
- A third of children live in households with a high housing cost burden (58,000 children).
- Ten percent of children live in homes where no vehicle is available for household members.
- A quarter of children living in households received some form of public assistance.
- 10,000 children live in areas with poverty rates of over 30 percent.

Children need access to basic necessities—a safe environment, enough food, dependable housing, and reliable transportation—to develop into healthy adults. Families that struggle to provide for their children experience a chronic level of strain that places all members at risk.

Food Insecure Households

In 2014, 20 percent of all children, approximately 38,000 children, lived in households where there was not enough food because of insufficient resources.⁴⁰

In 2015, 81,121 individuals participated in Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program (SNAP).⁴¹ Children may or may not reside in these households. Not everyone who is eligible for food stamps participates in SNAP. In 2013 (most recent data published), 90 percent of individuals eligible for SNAP participated in the program.⁴²

No Vehicle at Home

Reliable transportation is necessary for most adults to work in Alaska. Unreliable transportation can be the tipping point that causes a household-earner to lose a job and tip the whole family into poverty. In Alaska, most children live in homes with a vehicle available for use. In 2015, 10 percent of children, approximately 19,000 children, lived in homes where there was not a vehicle available for household members.⁴³ Regionally, particularly off the road system, individuals may have less need for a truck or car and rather rely on ATVs or snow machines, which are excluded from this indicator.

Housing

In 2015, 59 percent of children living in households lived in homes that are owned, approximately 111,000 children.⁴⁴

HIGH HOUSING COST BURDEN

In 2015, 31 percent of children lived in households where more than 30 percent^{††} of the monthly income was spent on rent, mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and/or related expenses, approximately 58,000 children.⁴⁵ Most children in low-income households live in families with a high housing cost burden. The share of children living in low-income households^{††} where more than 30 percent of the monthly income was spent on housing related expenses was 59 percent, approximately 38,000 children.⁴⁶

CROWDED HOUSING

Twenty-four percent of children living in households live in homes with more than one person per room, approximately 45,000 children.⁴⁷ Not all children in this category are unsafe or at-risk; some homes may be multi-generational homes where grandparents are present for example.

High Poverty Neighborhoods

Concentrated poverty is linked with negative effects for neighborhoods and the children living within them. Five percent of Alaska children, approximately 10,000 children, live in neighborhoods where 30 percent or more of the neighbors live in poverty (2011-2015 5-Year-Estimate).⁴⁸ Approximately 17,000 children, 9 percent of children, live in neighborhoods that never or only sometimes feel safe (2011-2012).⁴⁹

Children in Families Receiving Public Assistance

In 2015, 22 percent of children living in households lived in families that receive some form of [public assistance](#), approximately 42,000 children.⁵⁰ Public assistance is defined as families receiving any or all of the following supplemental security income, cash public assistance, or SNAP during the previous 12 months.



^{††} The 30 percent threshold for housing costs is based on research on affordable housing by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

^{††} Low-income refers to families below 200 percent poverty.

Financial security is a complex issue that no one policy can solve. However, leaders in the private, public, and nonprofit sector can take steps to address the issues that put our children's and families' financial security and stability at risk.

An example of a policy that made a significant impact on families' financial security and stability was when Alaska expanded Medicaid in 2015. Medicaid expansion extended health coverage to thousands of low-income Alaskans who hold down jobs that do not offer health insurance. Expansion reduced expenses and economic stress to our most vulnerable families. But low-income families were not the only ones who benefited. The state saved money. Uncompensated care was reduced ensuring the cost to those who have insurance was reduced. It promoted economic growth and job creation. Employers had healthier employees resulting in higher productivity.

It is important that we prioritize policies and programs that provide financial security and stability to our most vulnerable families. When families have financial security and stability, they are able to create a safe, stable, and nurturing environment. Drawing on the data and lessons learned in this report, Alaska leaders have the opportunity to help all families create these types of environments. It will require a level of investment that utilizes resources in a manner that supports efforts to address the social determinants identified by the data. Areas of investment include:

- **Affordable Child Care** – Investing in the creation and support of quality, affordable child care can have a profound impact on families. Our workforce has changed dramatically, but our workplace policies have not kept pace. Too often, child care availability fails both the families that need it and the workers who provide it. We cannot meet our full potential as a state if we don't take steps to support working parents. Businesses are encouraged to adopt policies that support employees by implementing a childcare benefits program and consider establishing an on-site childcare center. Expand high-quality programs to serve young children's development and learning, including state-funded pre-K delivered in a variety of settings such as schools, child care centers, and Head Start agencies, with public funding targeted to low-income children first.
- **Afterschool Programs** – Any program or activity that occurs out-of-school's regular hours, that significantly increase youth well-being, academic achievement, and successful high school graduation should be strengthened and expanded to meet the needs of families. Tens of thousands of children would enter afterschool programs if space was available. These types of programs not only provide an essential service to families but also play a vital role in developing the upcoming workforce.
- **Affordable Housing** – Individuals and families should pay no more than 30 percent of their income towards housing, whether it is rental or owned. Paying more than 30 percent, they are at financial risk of not being able to maintain their housing and/or pay for other essential items like food, medical or transportation. By increasing the number of affordable housing units, we reduce the number of homeless in our communities and reduce the strain on essential services. We need policies that increase tenant protections and expands access to housing supports. These types of policies can help families

better cope with increasing housing costs. Finally, homeownership must be an affordable option within reach of all credit-qualified Alaskans, particularly young adults and communities of color who experience tighter credit markets and loan discrimination.

- **Living wage** – The data shows that a lack of resources (i.e. lack of secure and/or fulltime jobs, low wages, transportation) can create the environment that cultivates unhealthy children. Increase the minimum wage to a living wage. The current wage rate of \$9.75 is simply not enough to sustain an individual, not to mention a family; too many Alaskans work 40 or 50 hours each week and still need help from their local food pantry.
- **Equal Pay & Compensation** – Women in the U.S. who work full time, year-round are paid only 80 cents for every dollar paid to men. The wage gap is even larger for women of color. One more step to help families achieve financial security and stability is ensuring individuals in the same workplace be given equal compensation for equal work. Employers must pay the same wage for similar work and offer the same opportunities regardless of sex or gender identity. Especially for single mothers, who make up 80 percent of families who make less than \$25,520 a year (the Federal poverty guideline for a family of 3). In addition, it is important to protect the rights of misclassified workers, workers who are employees under the law but are incorrectly labeled by employers and often denied access to minimum wage, overtime, job-protected family and medical leave, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and safe workplaces.
- **Food Security** – Despite having employment, many households still struggle to access and afford food. Provide SNAP incentives to encourage participants to buy fresh, healthy and local produce to improve the health of our most vulnerable citizens while supporting local food producers. Fund Farm to School programs that bring Alaska Grown products to school and support a market for Alaska Grown, educating the next generation of producers, consumers, and leaders. Provide technical assistance for vendors to accept SNAP or Quest cards at food markets. Expand School Lunch and Breakfast programs that created financial security and ensure the success of our children. Expand access to healthy meals during the summer, when school is out and food insecurity typically rises in households.
- **Healthcare** – Healthcare is an essential tool that helps families reach financial security and stability. Current healthcare coverage needs to be maintained while finding solutions for the components that are not working as effectively. We need a system that expands access to quality, affordable, healthcare for all Alaskans, children and adults. Healthcare needs to include preventive services like immunizations and reproductive and sexual health services. To ensure families have healthy and thriving children, healthcare coverage needs to include preconception and prenatal care. Continue to support Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Programs (i.e. home visiting programs) and help families and communities fight the opioid epidemic. This crisis disproportionately affects rural communities in part due to the lack of outreach and treatment resources available in remote areas.

- **Norms & Value** – Strengthening Families framework is a research-based, cost-effective strategy to increase family strengths, enhance child development and reduce child abuse and neglect. It focuses on building five Protective Factors that also promote healthy outcomes; Parental resilience, Social connections, Knowledge of parenting and child development, Concrete support in times of need, Healthy social and emotional development of children. Government programs are encouraged to incorporate this framework into their services. Leaders could utilize this framework when developing policies that impact families.

These are just a few examples of how an investment in policy can help families across the state achieve financial security and stability, which can result in thriving children. Together, we can have communities that provide safe, stable and nurturing environments for children and families.



Appendices

A **family** has two or more members who live in the same home and are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

The **federal poverty level** is determined by a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In 2016, a family of two adults and two children with an annual income below \$24,339 fell in the poverty category. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children).

Table 7. 2016 Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family

2 People	3 People	4 People	5 People	6 People	7 People	8 People	9 People
\$15,569	\$19,105	\$24,563	\$29,111	\$32,928	\$37,458	\$41,781	\$49,721

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2017). Available at: <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>

High housing cost burden refers to households where more than 30 percent of the monthly income was spent on rent, mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and/or related expenses.

High poverty areas are census tracts with poverty rates of 30 percent or more.

A **household** consists of one or more persons living in the same house, condominium or apartment. They may or may not be related.

Median family income refers to the median income for families with own children under age 18 living in the household.

Poverty is considered income in the past 12 months that is below the poverty level.

The **poverty universe** refers to all persons for whom the Census Bureau can determine poverty status. Poverty status is not defined for unrelated individuals under age 15 or for people living in group quarters. Thus, the total population in poverty tables—the poverty universe—is slightly smaller than the overall population.

A **primary family** refers to a group of 2 or more people related by birth, marriage or adoption residing together and does not include non-relatives.

Public assistance refers to recipients of Supplemental Security Income, cash public assistance income, or Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in the previous 12 months.

Related children in a family include own children and all other children under 18 years old in the household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Children in **single-parent families** are children who live with their own single-parent in a family or subfamily. Single-parent families may include cohabiting couples but does not include children living with married stepparents. Children who live in group quarters (institutions, dormitories, or group homes) are not included.

Following is a list of economic well-being indicators available on the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

Table 8. KIDS COUNT Indicator List

KIDS COUNT Indicators
BASIC DEMOGRAPHICS
Child population 0-19 by race
Child population 0-19 by gender
Child population by gender
INDICATORS BY AGE GROUP
Total population by child and adult populations
Child population by single age
Child population by age group
Adult population by age group
OTHER DEMOGRAPHICS
Population projections 2020-2045
INDICATORS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY
Child population by race
Adult population by race
Child population by race and age group
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME
Unemployment Rate (Annual)
Children under age 6 with all available parents in the labor force
Children ages 6 to 12 with all available parents in the labor force
Unemployment rate of parents
Children with at least one unemployed parent
Children whose parents lack secure employment
Children under age 6 with no parent in the labor force
Low-income working families with children
Children in low-income working families by age group
Children living in low-income households where no adults work
Median family income among households with children
Female-headed families receiving child support
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
Children in families that receive public assistance
Number of participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Percent who participated in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
HOUSING
Children living in households that are owned
Children living in households with a high housing cost burden
Children in low-income households with a high housing cost burden
Children living in crowded housing
POVERTY
Children under 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level

Children under 18 by gender who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level

Children under 18 by age group who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level

Children in poverty (100 percent poverty)

Children in poverty by age group

Children below 200 percent poverty

Children in extreme poverty (50 percent poverty)

Children below 150 percent poverty

Children below 250 percent poverty

Persons 18 to 24 in poverty

Population in poverty

Families with related children that are below poverty by family type

Children ages 0 to 8 below 200 percent poverty

Children ages 0 to 8 at or above 200 percent poverty

Children in poverty according to the supplemental poverty measure

OTHER ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Children without a vehicle at home

Children living in households that were food insecure at some point during the year

INDICATORS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

Children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment by race

Children in poverty by race and ethnicity

Children below 200 percent poverty by race

Children living in households with a high housing cost burden by race

Children in poverty (100%) by age group and race and ethnicity

Median family income among households with children by race and ethnicity

Children in extreme poverty (50 percent poverty) by race and ethnicity

INDICATORS BY FAMILY NATIVITY

Children whose parents lack secure parental employment by family nativity

Children in low-income working families by family nativity

Children with all available parents in the labor force by family nativity

Children with all available parents not in the labor force by family nativity

Median family income among households with children by family nativity

Children living in households that are owned by family nativity

Children living in households with a high housing cost burden by family nativity

Children living in crowded households by family nativity

Children living below the poverty threshold by family nativity

Children living in low-income families (below 200 percent of the poverty threshold) by family nativity

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

Children living in high poverty areas

FAMILY STRUCTURE

Living arrangements of children under 18 living with either both or single parents

Children under 18 living with single parents by age group

Children under 18 living with both parents by age group

Child population by household type

Children in single-parent families

KIDS COUNT Rankings

Each year AECF publishes rankings of national and state performance on a selection of indicators of economic well-being, education, health, and family and community domains. Alaska and United States rankings for the economic well-being domain are presented below. In 2017, Alaska ranked 38th overall and 36th in economic well-being. The complete profile of state rankings can be found at: <http://www.aecf.org/resources/2017-kids-count-data-book/#state-rankings>.

Table 9. 2017 KIDS COUNT Economic Well-Being Profile, Alaska and United States

Economic Well-Being Indicator	Alaska		United States	
	Number of Children	Percent of Total Child Population	Number of Children	Percent of Total Child Population
Children in Poverty	28,000	15%	15,000,000	21%
Children Whose Parents Lack Secure Employment	64,000	34%	21,363,000	29%
Children Living in Households with a High Housing Cost Burden	58,000	31%	24,646,000	33%
Teens Not in School and Not Working	3,000	9%	1,191,000	7%

Source: State Rankings. (2017). Annie E. Casey Foundation. Available at: <http://www.aecf.org/resources/2017-kids-count-data-book/#state-rankings>.

¹ *Child population 0-19 by gender*. Published by Kids Count Alaska. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8746-child-population-0-19-by-gender> Data source: Bridged race estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

² *Child population by age group*. Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017) Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/101-child-population-by-age-group>. Data source: U.S. Census Bureau.

³ *Child population by single age*. Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017) Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/100-child-population-by-single-age?> Data source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Data presented for 2010 through 2016 are Vintage 2016 population estimates. Each year the U.S. Census Bureau revises their post-2010 estimates. Therefore, data presented here may differ from previously published estimates. Figures for 1990, 2000, and 2010 represent revised population estimates for July 1, 1990, July 1, 2000, and July 1, 2010 - not actual Census counts from April 1, 1990, April 1, 2000, and April 1, 2010.

⁴ *Population projections 2020-2045*. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/line/184-population-projections-2020-2045> Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section. US Bureau of the Census. These estimates were developed using Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend data, information from the Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics, and survey information as the primary indicators of population change. These population estimates include Armed Forces in Alaska and exclude seasonal populations. The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development provides high, middle, and low scenarios. The data shown here are the middle-level projections.

⁵ *Alaska Population Projections*. (2017). Published by State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Available at: <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/projections.cfm>.

⁶ *Total population by child and adult populations*. (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/99-total-population-by-child-and-adult-populations?> Data source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

⁷ Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. (2017). *Alaska economic trends: December 2017*. Available at: <http://labor.alaska.gov/trends/dec17.pdf>.

⁸ *Child population 0-19 by race*. Published by Kids Count Alaska. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/4604-child-population-0-19-by-race>. Data source: Bridged race estimates from the US Census Bureau.

⁹ *Adult population by race*. Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6539-adult-population-by-race>. Data source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Data presented for 2010 through 2016 are Vintage 2016 population estimates. Each year the U.S. Census Bureau revises their post-2010 estimates. Therefore, data presented may differ from previously published estimates. Figures for 1990, 2000, and 2010 represent revised population estimates for July 1, 1990, July 1, 2000, and July 1, 2010 - not actual Census counts from April 1, 1990, April 1, 2000, and April 1, 2010.

¹⁰ *Child population by race*. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/103-child-population-by-race>. Data source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Data presented for 2010 through 2016 are Vintage 2016 population estimates. Each year the U.S. Census Bureau revises their post-2010 estimates. Therefore, data presented may differ from previously published estimates. Figures for 1990, 2000, and 2010 represent revised population estimates for July 1, 1990, July 1, 2000, and July 1, 2010 - not actual Census counts from April 1, 1990, April 1, 2000, and April 1, 2010.

¹¹ *Living arrangements of children under 18 living with either both or single parents*. (2017). Published by Kids Count Alaska. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8781-living-arrangements-of-children-under-18-living-with-either-both-or-single-parents?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates for 2006-2010 through 2011-2015 Table B05009: AGE AND NATIVITY OF OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN FAMILIES AND SUBFAMILIES BY NUMBER AND NATIVITY OF PARENTS - Universe: Own children under 18 years in families and subfamilies.

¹² *Children in single parent families*. Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/106-children-in-single-parent-families>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey and 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). These data were derived from American Fact Finder table C23008 (factfinder2.census.gov/).

¹³ *Child population by household type*. (2017). Published by Kids Count Alaska. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8780-child-population-by-household-type?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates for 2005-2009 through 2011-2015 Table B09005: HOUSEHOLD TYPE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN HOUSEHOLDS (EXCLUDING HOUSEHOLDERS, SPOUSES, AND UNMARRIED PARTNERS) Universe: Population under 18 years in households.

¹⁴ *Median family income among households with children*. (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/65-median-family-income-among-households-with-children>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 through 2015 American Community Survey.

¹⁵ *Median family income among households with children by race and ethnicity.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8782-median-family-income-among-households-with-children-by-race-and-ethnicity?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013 2014, 2015 American Community Survey.

¹⁶ Population Reference Bureau. (January 22, 2018). Via email correspondence. Note: ACS PUMS files were used to calculate the non-White median family income estimate, which does not appear on the KIDS COUNT Data Center and differ slightly from the median family income estimates on the Data Center.

¹⁷ *Median family income among households with children by family nativity.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/123-median-family-income-among-households-with-children-by-family-nativity?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey. Children in immigrant families is defined as children who are themselves foreign-born or reside with at least one foreign-born parent. Foreign-born is defined as either a U.S. citizen by naturalization or not a citizen of the U.S. Native-born is defined as born in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or the Northern Marianas or born abroad of American parents. The foreign-born status of children not living with either parent is based solely on the status of the child and no other household member. Children living in subfamilies are linked to their parent(s) and not the householder.

¹⁸ *Children under age 6 with all available parents in the labor force.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5057-children-under-age-6-with-all-available-parents-in-the-labor-force>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2015 American Community Survey.

¹⁹ *Children ages 6 to 12 with all available parents in the labor force.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5053-children-ages-6-to-12-with-all-available-parents-in-the-labor-force>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2015 American Community Survey.

²⁰ *Unemployment rate (annual).* (2017). Published by Kids Count Alaska. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/4539-unemployment-rate-annual>. Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Development.

²¹ *Unemployment rate of parents.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6519-unemployment-rate-of-parents>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of Current Population Survey (CPS) Basic Monthly data 2007 - 2015.

²² *Children with at least one unemployed parent.* Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6518-children-with-at-least-one-unemployed-parent>. Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS) Basic Monthly Data Files, 2007 - 2015.

²³ *Children living in low-income families where no adults work.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5046-children-living-in-low-income-households-where-no-adults-work?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2015 American Community Survey.

²⁴ *Children whose parents lack secure employment.* Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5043-children-whose-parents-lack-secure-employment>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2015 American Community Survey.

²⁵ *Living arrangements of children under 18 living with either both or single parents.* (2017). Published by Kids Count Alaska. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8781-living-arrangements-of-children-under-18-living-with-either-both-or-single-parents?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates for 2006-2010 through 2011-2015 Table B05009: AGE AND NATIVITY OF OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN FAMILIES AND SUBFAMILIES BY NUMBER AND NATIVITY OF PARENTS - Universe: Own children under 18 years in families and subfamilies.

²⁶ *Children in single parent families.* Published by National KIDS COUNT. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/106-children-in-single-parent-families>. Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey and 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). These data were derived from American Fact Finder table C23008 (*factfinder2.census.gov*).

²⁷ *Child population by household type.* (2017). Published by Kids Count Alaska. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8780-child-population-by-household-type?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates for 2005-2009 through 2011-2015 Table B09005: HOUSEHOLD TYPE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN HOUSEHOLDS (EXCLUDING HOUSEHOLDERS, SPOUSES, AND UNMARRIED PARTNERS) Universe: Population under 18 years in households.

²⁸ *Female-headed families receiving child support.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/66-female-headed-families-receiving-child-support?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (March supplement), 1990 through 2016.

²⁹ *Population in poverty.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/52-population-in-poverty?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey. These were derived from American Fact Finder table B17001 (factfinder2.census.gov).

³⁰ *Children under 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.* (2017). Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8772-children-under-18-who-live-in-families-with-incomes-below-the-federal-poverty-level?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates: 2005-2009, 2007-2001, 2009-2013, & 2011-2015 Table B17001: POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE.

³¹ *Children under 18 by gender who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.* Published by Kids Count Alaska. (2017). Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8773-children-under-18-by-gender-who-live-in-families-with-incomes-below-the-federal-poverty-level?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates: 2005-2009, 2007-2011, 2009-2013, & 2011-2015 Table B17001: POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE.

³² *Children in poverty (100%) by age group and race and ethnicity.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8447-children-in-poverty-100-by-age-group-and-race-and-ethnicity?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 American Community Survey. These were derived from American Fact Finder table B17001 (factfinder2.census.gov).

³³ *Children under 18 by age group who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level.* Published by Kids Count Alaska. (2017). Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8776-children-under-18-by-age-group-who-live-in-families-with-incomes-below-the-federal-poverty-level?> Data source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates: 2005-2009, 2007-2011, 2009-2013 & 2011-2015 Table B17001: POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE.

³⁴ *Children in poverty (100 percent poverty)* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/43-children-in-poverty-100-percent-poverty?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2016 American Community Survey. These data were derived from American Fact Finder table B17001 (factfinder2.census.gov).

³⁵ *Children in extreme poverty.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/45-children-in-extreme-poverty-50-percent-poverty?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey. These data are derived from American Fact Finder table B17024 (factfinder2.census.gov).

³⁶ *Children in poverty according to the supplemental poverty measure.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9330-children-in-poverty-according-to-the-supplemental-poverty-measure?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of Census Bureau 2013- 2015 Supplemental Poverty Measure Public Use Research files: <https://www.census.gov/hhes/povmeas/data/supplemental/public-use.html>. The 2013 data uses the 2014 CPS ASEC sample eligible to receive the redesigned income questions.

³⁷ Jacob, A. (2017). The supplemental poverty measure: A better measure for poverty in America? Center for Poverty Research, University of California Davis. Available at: poverty.ucdavis.edu/policy-brief/supplemental-poverty-measure-better-measure-poverty-america.

³⁸ *Families with related children that are below poverty by family type.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/55-families-with-related-children-that-are-below-poverty-by-family-type?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey. These were derived from American Fact Finder table B17010 (factfinder2.census.gov).

³⁹ Alaska Division of Public Health's Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Unit analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2017

⁴⁰ *Children living in households that were food insecure at some point during the year.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5201-children-living-in-households-that-were-food-insecure-at-some-point-during-the-year?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Food Security Supplement. Because of the large sampling errors associated with state-level data, the Census Bureau recommends using multi-year averages to examine state-level trends from the Current Population Survey. Therefore, each year represents a three-year average of data. For example, 2002 represents results from the 2001, 2002 and 2003 Current Population Survey, Food Security Supplements.

⁴¹ *Number of participants in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9165-number-of-participants-in-the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program?> Data source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Studies. 2000-2015 SNAP State Activity Reports. Reports can be found at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snap-state-activity-reports>.

⁴² *Percent who participated in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9166-percent-who-participated-in-the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program?> Data source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Studies. 2011-2013

Mathematica Policy Research Institute analysis of participation data and eligible persons. The 2011-2013 report can be found at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/empirical-bayes-shrinkage-estimates-state-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-participation>.

⁴³ *Children without a vehicle at home.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/68-children-without-a-vehicle-at-home?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey. Confidence intervals for data are available.

⁴⁴ *Children living in households that are owned.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/4755-children-living-in-households-that-are-owned?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2006 through 2015 American Community Survey.

⁴⁵ *Children living in households with a high housing cost burden.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/7244-children-living-in-households-with-a-high-housing-cost-burden?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 through 2015 American Community Survey.

⁴⁶ *Children in low-income households with a high housing cost burden.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/71-children-in-low-income-households-with-a-high-housing-cost-burden?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey.

⁴⁷ *Children living in crowded housing.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/67-children-living-in-crowded-housing?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2015 American Community Survey.

⁴⁸ *Children living in high poverty areas.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6795-children-living-in-high-poverty-areas?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census Summary File 1 and Summary File 3 and the 2006-2010 to 2011–2015 American Community Survey 5-year data.

⁴⁹ *Children who live in unsafe communities.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8818-children-who-live-in-unsafe-communities?> Data source: 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 (NSCH). The NSCH includes information on over 102,000 children under age 18, with roughly 2,000 children per state. Households were selected through a random-digit-dial sample, and one child was randomly selected in each household. Information on each child is based on responses of the parent or guardian in the household who was most knowledgeable about the sampled child's health. Information was collected via a computer-assisted telephone interview.

⁵⁰ *Children in families that receive public assistance.* (2017). Published by National KIDS COUNT. Available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8857-children-in-families-that-receive-public-assistance?> Data source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, and 2015 American Community Survey. These were derived from American Fact Finder table B09010 (factfinder2.census.gov/).



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