How Are Florida’s Children Fairing?  
2012 KIDS COUNT Data Book Well-being Index

As the Annie E. Casey Foundation releases their Data Book, our children and families stand at a crossroad to recovery. Our economy continues to face serious fiscal challenges and Floridians are still coping with hardships caused by a long and deep recession. We must come together and commit ourselves to investing in today’s families and their children to ensure a strong future for the next generation.

### Economic Well-Being

- **23%**
  - 924,000 Children Live In Poverty

- **34%**
  - 1,377,000 Children Have Parents Who Lack Secure Employment

- **49%**
  - 1,961,000 Children Live in Households with a High Housing Cost Burden

- **10%**
  - 103,000 Teens Are Not in School and Not Working

### Education

- **51%**
  - 217,000 Children Are Not Attending Preschool

- **65%**
  - 65% of 4th Graders Are Not Proficient in Reading

- **72%**
  - 72% of 8th Graders Are Not Proficient in Math

- **31%**
  - 69,117 High School Students Are Not Graduating on Time

### Health

- **8.7%**
  - 19,247 Are Low-birthweight Babies

- **13%**
  - 507,000 Children Are Without Health Insurance

- **7%**
  - 94,000 Teens Abuse Alcohol or Drugs

- **29%**
  - 29 Child and Teen Deaths per 100,000

### Family and Community

- **39%**
  - 1,484,000 Children Are in Single-parent Families

- **14%**
  - 555,000 Children Are in a Family Where the Household Head Lacks a High School Diploma

- **8%**
  - 341,000 Children Are Living in High-poverty Areas

- **39**
  - 39 Teen Births per 1,000

All data is from the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s 2012 KIDS COUNT Data Book. For 23 years, KIDS COUNT has published an annual data book tracking the well-being of our nation’s children, state by state. Complete definitions, sources, and years of data are available in the KIDS COUNT Data Center.

Florida KIDS COUNT is part of the nationwide network providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being seeking to enrich discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for our children. Find more state and community-level data at [http://floridakidscount.org/](http://floridakidscount.org/).

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