



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN
& THE COURTS

455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel 415-865-7739
Fax 415-865-7217
E-mail cfcc@jud.ca.gov

www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/

STAT SHEET

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California's Children: Their Story in Numbers

Population¹

Total population of California.....	33,871,648
Number of children.....	9,249,829
As percentage of total population.....	27%
Age of children:	
Under 5 years.....	27%
5 to 9 years.....	29%
10 to 14 years.....	28%
15 to 17 years.....	16%

Education

Percentage of children enrolled in school: ²	
3 to 4 years.....	46%
5 to 14 years.....	97%
15 to 17 years.....	95%
Public school dropout rate: ³	
Total for all grades.....	2.7%
9 th grade.....	2.4%
10 th grade.....	2.4%
11 th grade.....	2.7%
12 th grade.....	3.9%
Number of times children 12 and over skipped school in past 12 months: ⁴	
None.....	80%
One.....	8%
Two or more.....	12%
Percentage of children 12 and over who were suspended or expelled in past 12 months ⁴	13%

Families & Living Arrangements

Children's living arrangements: ⁵	
With parents.....	87%
With other relatives.....	10%
With nonrelatives.....	2%
In group quarters.....	<1%
Head of household/spouse.....	<1%
Children living with parents ⁶	8,053,222
In two-parent families.....	75%
In single-parent families headed by mother.....	19%
In single-parent families headed by father.....	6%
Grandparents living with grandchildren under 18 ⁷	928,290
Percentage responsible for care of grandchildren.....	32%

Parents in the Labor Force⁸

Children living with two parents:	
Both parents in labor force.....	51%
Father only in labor force.....	34%
Mother only in labor force.....	5%
Neither parent in labor force.....	10%
Children living with mother only:	
Mother in labor force.....	69%
Mother not in labor force.....	31%
Children living with father only:	
Father in labor force.....	79%
Father not in labor force.....	21%

Race/Ethnicity & Language

	Adults	Children
Race/Ethnicity:⁹		
White (non-Hispanic).....	51%	35%
Hispanic.....	28%	44%
Asian or Pacific Islander.....	12%	10%
African American.....	6%	7%
Native American.....	1%	1%
Other.....	<1%	<1%
Two or more races.....	2%	4%
Language spoken at home:¹⁰		
English only.....	61%	57%
Spanish.....	24%	32%
Other Indo-European languages.....	5%	3%
Asian and Pacific Island languages.....	9%	7%
Other.....	1%	1%

Health

Percentage of adults without health insurance ¹¹	24%
Percentage of children without health insurance ¹¹	14%
Children's health status:⁴	
Poor.....	1%
Fair.....	5%
Good.....	16%
Very good.....	25%
Excellent.....	53%
Percent of children with a condition that limits their activity ⁴	8%
Number of well-child doctor visits in past 12 months:⁴	
None.....	36%
One.....	37%
Two or more.....	27%
Percentage of children who saw a dentist in past 12 months ⁴	77%

Poverty

Number of adults below poverty level¹².....		2,949,030
As percentage of all adults.....		12%
Number of children below poverty level¹³.....		1,705,797
As percentage of all children.....		19%
Percentage of children below poverty level:¹³		
In two-parent families.....		13%
In single-parent families headed by mother.....		40%
In single-parent families headed by father.....		24%
Percentage of children receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)¹⁴		
0 to 5 years.....		15%
0 to 19 years.....		10%

Child Welfare¹⁵

Total open child welfare-supervised cases.....¹¹		131,168
Emergency response.....		4%
Permanent placement.....		52%
Family reunification.....		21%
Family maintenance.....		23%
Number of children per 1,000 with report of abuse or neglect:		
0 to 5 years.....		57
0 to 17 years.....		57
Number of children per 1,000 in foster care:		
0 to 5 years.....		8
0 to 18 years.....		9

Drug and Alcohol Use¹⁶

	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
Alcohol use:			
Percentage of students who used alcohol in last 6 months.....	29%	50%	63%
Percentage of students who use alcohol weekly.....	2%	7%	17%
Marijuana use:			
Percentage of students who used marijuana in last 6 months.....	7%	19%	34%
Percentage of students who use marijuana weekly.....	2%	7%	17%
Other drug use:			
Percentage of students who used other drugs in last 6 months.....	10%	15%	21%
Percentage of students who used no drugs or alcohol in last 6 months.....	67%	47%	35%

Violence and Safety¹⁷

	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
Percentage of students who:			
Felt unsafe or very unsafe at school.....	22%	17%	14%
Felt unsafe or very unsafe in their neighborhoods.....	15%	11%	11%
Were in a physical fight at school in last 12 months.....	29%	19%	14%
Were threatened or bullied at school in last 12 months.....	38%	30%	20%
Had property stolen or damaged at school in last 12 months.....	30%	29%	28%
Carried a gun to school in last 12 months.....	5%	4%	4%
Carried another weapon to school in last 12 months.....	13%	10%	12%
Used a weapon to threaten or bully in last 12 months.....	6%	5%	6%
Were a victim of dating violence in last 12 months.....	14%	10%	11%
Have ever been a gang member.....	10%	10%	9%

Law Enforcement/Corrections

Arrest rates per 100,000 children:		Juvenile probation caseload:²¹	
Felony ¹⁸	1,407	All case types.....	87,186
Violent offenses.....	362	Formal wardship.....	70,720
Property offenses.....	651	Informal probation.....	14,123
Drug offenses.....	134	Nonward.....	2,343
Sex offenses	44	Juvenile detention:²²	
Other offenses.....	215	Average daily population, all detention	
Misdemeanor ¹⁹	3,028	options.....	13,659
California Youth Authority:²⁰		Average daily population, halls or	
Total institutional population.....	5,531	camps.....	11,128
Total parole population.....	4,158		

Sources and Notes

- 1) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table P12. Sex by Age: 2000. "Children" means the population under 18 years.
 - 2) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table QT-P19. School Enrollment: 2000. Enrollment figures include public and private schools.
 - 3) California Department of Education. Number of Dropouts in California Public Schools, Grades 9-12 by Grade Level by Ethnic Group and by Gender for the Year 2001-02 [On-line]. Available: <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest>.
 - 4) Furstenberg, F.F., Waller, M.R., and Wang, H. (2003). *The Well-Being of California's Children*. San Francisco: Public Policy Institute of California. Figures are based on parent's reports of child's activity.
 - 5) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table P29. Relationship by Age for the Population Under 18 Years: 2000. "Group quarters" include correctional institutions, psychiatric hospitals, hospitals for the chronically ill, schools or hospitals for the mentally retarded or physically handicapped, group homes, and shelters.
 - 6) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table P36. Own Children Under 18 Years by Family Type and Age: 2000. "Two-parent families" include couples in both formal and common-law marriages. A "single parent" is a parent who is not currently living with a spouse. "Single-parent families" include cohabiting persons of the opposite sex.
 - 7) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table DP-2. Profile of Selected Social Characteristics: 2000. "Responsible for care of grandchildren" indicates that the grandparent is financially responsible for food, shelter, day care, etc., for any or all grandchildren living in the household.
 - 8) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table P46. Age of Own Children Under 18 Years in Families and Subfamilies by Living Arrangements by Employment Status of Parents: 2000.
 - 9) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table QT-PL. Race, Hispanic or Latino, and Age: 2000. "Adults" means the population 18 years and over.
 - 10) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table PCT38. Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over: 2000. Language is reported only for children 5 to 17.
 - 11) Brown, E.R. and Lavarreda, S.A. (2003). Fact sheet: Over Half of California's 6.3 Million Uninsured Lack Health Coverage for More Than a Year. Los Angeles: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.
 - 12) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table DP-3. Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics: 2000.
 - 13) U.S. Census Bureau.* Table PCT150. Poverty Status in 1999 of Related Children Under 18 Years by Family Type by Age: 2000.
 - 14) Grossman-Swenson, S. (2002). *California: The State of Our Children 2002*. Oakland: Children Now.
 - 15) Needell, B., Webster, D., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Brookhart, A., Lery, B., Shaw, T., Dawson, W., Piccus, W., Magruder, J., & Kim, H. (2003). Child Welfare Services Reports for California [On-line]. Available: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/>. Caseload and foster care data are point-in-time estimates as of July 1, 2002. Referral data are from fourth quarter 2002.
 - 16) Office of the Attorney General. Fact Sheet: 2001-2002 California Student Survey: Alcohol and Other Drug Use. Students were asked how often they had used a number of different drugs. "Students who used no drugs or alcohol" are defined as those who responded "0 times" to every drug listed.
 - 17) Austin, G., Huh-Kim, J., Skager, R., and Furlong, M. (2002). *Violence and Safety Among California Youth*. Sacramento: Office of the Attorney General. "Another weapon" was self-defined by the student; examples provided on the questionnaire were a knife or a club. "Dating violence" is defined as a student having been hit, slapped, or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend on purpose.
 - 18) California Department of Justice. Juvenile Felony Arrests by Gender, Offense, and Arrest Rate, 1993-2002 [On-line]. Available: <http://www.caag.state.ca.us/cjsc/datatabs.htm>.
 - 19) California Department of Justice. Juvenile Misdemeanor Arrests by Gender, Offense, and Arrest Rate, 1993-2002 [On-line]. Available: <http://www.caag.state.ca.us/cjsc/datatabs.htm>.
 - 20) Department of the Youth Authority. Characteristics of the CYA Population: Calendar Year 2002 [On-line]. Available: http://www.cya.ca.gov/research/char_2002.pdf.
 - 21) California Department of Justice. Juvenile Probation Caseloads, 2001.
 - 22) California Board of Corrections. *Juvenile Detention Profile Survey: Annual Report 2002*. "Detention options" include detention facilities, home supervision, electronic monitoring, and alternative confinement.
- * All U.S. Census Bureau tables are available on-line at: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>.