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KIDS COUNT in Delaware What Would It Take? To be best in the nation for child well-being

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This annual publication is a companion piece to the Annie E. Casey Foundation's national KIDS COUNT Data Book. "What Would It Take" overviews sixteen national indicators of child well-being, analyzes where Delaware falls in comparison to the national average for each

indicator, and examines "what would it take" for Delaware to rank best in the nation for each of the indicators of child well-being.

KIDS COUNT is a national and state-by-state effort of the Annie E. Casey Foundation to track the well-being of children in the United States. KIDS COUNT in Delaware, a project of the University of Delaware Center for Community Research & Service, is a collaborative effort of over forty organizations to enrich local and state discussion concerning ways to secure better lives for all children by providing policy makers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being.

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What Would It Take Delaware 2022

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

What Would It Take



2021
17%
35,000

Children in poverty

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **17%** Delaware is **equal to** the U.S. average rate of **17%** of children in poverty.

To equal the #1 rate of **8%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children in poverty by **19,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. These data were derived from ACS Table B17001.

Children in poverty is the percentage of children under 18 who live in families with incomes below 100 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined each year by the U.S. Census Bureau. Poverty status is not determined for people living in group quarters (military barracks, prisons, and other institutional quarters) or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as children in foster care). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2021
29%
62,000

Children whose parents lack secure employment

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **29%** Delaware is **equal to** the U.S. average rate of **29%** of children whose parents lack secure employment.

To equal the #1 rate of **19%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children whose parents lack secure employment by **21,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Children whose parents lack secure employment is the share of all children under age 18 who live in families where no parent has regular, full-time, year-round employment. For children living in single-parent families, this means the resident parent did not work at least 35 hours per week for at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. For children living in married-couple families, this means neither parent worked at least 35 hours per week for at least 50 weeks in the 12 months before the survey. Children living with neither parent are also listed as not having secure parental employment because they are likely to be economically vulnerable. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2021
31%
64,000

Children living in households with a high housing cost burden

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

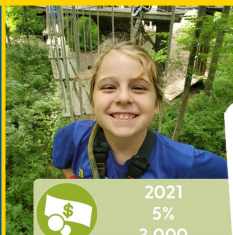
At a rate of **31%** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **30%** of children living in households with a high housing cost burden.

To equal the #1 rate of **20%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children living in households with a high housing cost burden by **23,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Children living in households with a high housing cost burden is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in households where more than 30 percent of monthly household pretax income is spent on housing-related expenses, including rent, mortgage payments, taxes, and insurance. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2021
5%
3,000

Teens not in school and not working

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **5%** Delaware is **lower than** the U.S. average rate of **7%** of teens not in school and not working.

To equal the #1 rate of **3%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of teens not in school and not working by **1,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Teens not in school and not working is the percentage of teenagers between 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full or part time) and not employed (full or part time). *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take Delaware 2022

EDUCATION

What Would It Take



2017-2021
53%
12,000

Young children not in school

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **53%** Delaware is **lower than** the U.S. average rate of **54%** of young children not in school.

To equal the #1 rate of **39%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of young children not in school by **3,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. These data were derived from ACS table B14003.

Young children not in school is the percentage of children ages 3 and 4 who were not enrolled in school (nursery school, preschool, or kindergarten) during the previous three months. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2022
75%

Fourth graders not proficient in reading

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **75%** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **68%** of fourth graders not proficient in reading. The #1 ranked state has a rate of **57%**.

Calculations of event reduction data for this measure are not available based on a methodology for calculating population (n) which is not replicable publicly.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Fourth graders not proficient in reading is the percentage of fourth-grade public school students who did not reach the proficient level in reading as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress. Public schools include charter schools and exclude Bureau of Indian Education schools and Department of Defense Education Activity schools. *SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress.*

What Would It Take



2022
82%

Eighth graders not proficient in math

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **82%** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **74%** of eighth graders not proficient in math. The #1 ranked state has a rate of **65%**.

Calculations of event reduction data for this measure are not available based on a methodology for calculating population (n) which is not replicable publicly.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Eighth graders not proficient in math is the percentage of eighth-grade public school students who did not reach the proficient level in math as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress. Public schools include charter schools and exclude Bureau of Indian Education schools and Department of Defense Education Activity schools. *SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress.*

What Would It Take



2018/19
11%

High school students not graduating on time

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **11%** Delaware is **lower than** the U.S. average rate of **14%** of high school students not graduating on time. The #1 ranked state has a rate of **8%**.

Calculations of event reduction data for this measure are not available based on a methodology for calculating population (n) which is not replicable publicly.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

High school students not graduating on time is the percentage of an entering freshman class not graduating in four years. The measure is derived from the adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR). The four-year ACGR is the number of students who graduate in four years with a regular diploma divided by the number of students who form the adjusted cohort for the graduating class. Students who enter ninth grade for the first time form a cohort that is adjusted by adding any students who subsequently transfer into the cohort and subtracting any students who transfer out. *SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

What Would It Take Delaware 2022

HEALTH

What Would It Take



2021
9.1%
952 babies

Low-birthweight
babies

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **9.1%** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **8.5%** of low-birthweight babies.

To equal the #1 rate of **6.6%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of low-birthweight babies by **260 babies**.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics

Low-birthweight babies is the percentage of live births weighing less than 5.5 pounds (2,500 grams). The data reflect the mother's place of residence, not the place where the birth occurred. *SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics.*

What Would It Take



2021
4%
8,000

Children without health
insurance

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **4%** Delaware is **lower than** the U.S. average rate of **5%** of children without health insurance.

To equal the #1 rate of **1%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children without health insurance by **6,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. These data were derived from ACS Table B27001.

Children without health insurance is the percentage of children under age 19 not covered by any health insurance. The data are based on health insurance coverage at the time of the survey; interviews are conducted throughout the calendar year. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2021
33 per 100,000
75 deaths

Child and teen
deaths

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **33 per 100,000** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **30 per 100,000** child and teen deaths.

To equal the #1 rate of **16 per 100,000** Delaware must **reduce** the number of child and teen deaths by **40 total**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Population statistics: U.S. Census Bureau.

Child and teen deaths is the number of deaths, from all causes, of children between ages 1 and 19 per 100,000 children in this age range. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred. *SOURCES: Death Statistics: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Population Statistics: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates..*

What Would It Take



2020-2021
36%

Teens who are
overweight or obese

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **36%** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **33%** of teens who are overweight or obese. The #1 ranked state has a rate of **24%**.

Calculations of event reduction data for this measure are not available based on a methodology for calculating population (n) which is not replicable publicly.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Social Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health.

Teens who are overweight or obese is the percentage of teens ages 10 to 17 with a Body Mass Index (BMI)-for-age at or above the 85th percentile. These data are based on a two-year average of survey responses. *SOURCE: U.S. Department of Health and Social Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health.*

What Would It Take Delaware 2022

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

What Would It Take



2021
36%
72,000

Children in
single-parent families

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **36%** Delaware is **higher than** the U.S. average rate of **34%** of children in single-parent families.

To equal the #1 rate of **18%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children in single-parent families by **36,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. These data were derived from ACS table C23008.

Children in single-parent families is the percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own unmarried parents. Children not living with a parent are excluded. In this definition, single-parent families include cohabitating couples. Children who live with married stepparents are not considered to be in a single-parent family. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2021
10%
21,000

Children in families where
the household head lacks
a high school diploma

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **10%** Delaware is **lower than** the U.S. average rate of **11%** of children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma.

To equal the #1 rate of **4%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma by **13,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in households where the head of household does not have a high school diploma or equivalent. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2017-2021
4%
8,000

Children living in
high-poverty areas

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **4%** Delaware is **lower than** the U.S. average rate of **8%** of children living in high-poverty areas.

To equal the #1 rate of **1%** Delaware must **reduce** the number of children living in high-poverty areas by **6,000**.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Children living in high-poverty areas is the percentage of children under 18 who live in census tracts where the poverty rates of the total population are 30 percent or more. The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey. *SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.*

What Would It Take



2021
14 per 1,000
425 births

Teen births

...for Delaware to rank best in the nation on indicators of child well-being?

At a rate of **14 per 1,000** Delaware is **equal to** the U.S. average rate of **14 per 1,000** teen births.

To equal the #1 rate of **5 per 1,000** Delaware must **reduce** the number of teen births by **270**.

Source: Birth Statistics: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Population Statistics: U.S. Census Bureau.

Teen births per 1,000 is the number of births to teenagers between ages 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group. Data reflect the mother's place of residence, rather than the place of the birth. *SOURCES: Birth Statistics: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Population Statistics: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.*