



Florida's Family & Community Well-Being

Domain Rank **35**

<p>Children in single-parent families – 2014</p> <p>40% or 1,547,499 children</p> <p><i>To equal the U.S. average rate of 35%, Florida must reduce the number of children in single-parent families by 191,892.</i></p> <p><i>To equal the #1 rate of 19%, Florida must increase the number of children in two parent families by 818,381.</i></p>	<p>Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma – 2014</p> <p>12% or 492,160 children</p> <p><i>At a rate of 12% (81,081 fewer children), Florida is better than the U.S. average rate of 14% of children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma.</i></p> <p><i>To equal the #1 rate of 4%, Florida must increase the number of children in families where the household head has a high school diploma by 329,977.</i></p>	<p>Children living in high-poverty areas – 2010-2014</p> <p>15% or 593,945 children</p> <p><i>At a rate of 15% (40,210 more children), Florida has more than the U.S. average rate of 14% of children living in high-poverty areas.</i></p> <p><i>To equal the #1 rate of 1%, Florida must reduce the number of children living in high poverty areas by 553,756.</i></p>	<p>Teen births per 1,000 2014</p> <p>23 per 1,000 or 12,816 births</p> <p><i>At a rate of 23 per 1,000 (568 fewer teen births), Florida ranks better than the U.S. average rate of 24 per 1,000 teen births.</i></p> <p><i>To equal the #1 rate of 11 per 1,000; 6,559 Florida mothers must delay having their first child until they are 20 or older.</i></p>
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**Due to rounding, event totals are calculated approximations.*

A Call To Action

Children in single-parent families – children in households with two biological parents typically have greater economic and emotional resources, including family income, better health outcomes, access to health care and fewer emotional and behavioral challenges. However, Florida's families come in many shapes, sizes and constellations. Regardless of household composition, we need to ensure that all children live in homes with stable incomes, have access to health care and experience the quality educational opportunities they need in order to thrive.

Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma – children whose parents have higher levels of education tend to have greater socioeconomic advantages including greater discretionary income which allows them to spend more on enrichment activities for their children, they have more time to spend with their families, and their kids have better health and educational outcomes. We need to promote policies that allow parents the opportunities to complete high school and pursue post-secondary education, including affordable child care to enable them to attend.

Children living in high-poverty areas – Families do better over the long run when they live in thriving, supportive communities. Two generational approaches to addressing poverty in which the needs of the caregivers as well as the children are supported are a solid policy approach to addressing this issue. 'Place-based' initiatives that strengthen the capacity of neighborhoods and communities to ensure their own access to economic opportunity and educational success are promising two-generational models to reduce areas of high poverty.

Teen births – Teen mothers are less likely to complete high school, tend to be less well off financially, and are more likely to have children who are born at low birthweights, who are less likely to complete high school and who are more likely to be teen parents themselves. To continue to reduce teen pregnancy and births, we need to support policies that promote use of evidence based pregnancy prevention programs, and that consider the social determinants of health that are associated with the differential rates of teen pregnancy among different racial and ethnic groups.

Children in single-parent families is the percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own unmarried parent, either in a family or subfamily. In this definition single-parent families may include cohabiting couples. Children living with married stepparents are not considered to be in a single-parent family.

SOURCE: 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 living in households where the household head does not have a high school diploma or equivalent.

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Children living in high-poverty areas is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in census tracts where the poverty rates of the total population are 30 percent or more. In calendar year 2014, a family of two adults and two children fell in the “poverty” category if their annual income fell below \$24,008. The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey. The census tract level data used in this analysis are only available in the five-year American Community Survey.

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Teen births 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, Vital Statistics.
Population Statistics: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.*



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The Annie E. Casey Foundation provides funding and technical assistance for a national network of KIDS COUNT projects in every state, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.