

## Six facts about child wellbeing in Arizona



As of 2018, 28% of Arizona children lived in families lacking secure parental **employment**. Indigenous children are twice as likely to live in such families.



In 2018, 8% of Arizona children lacked **health insurance**, almost twice the national average.



278,000 Arizona children lived in households that were **food insecure** at some point in 2018.



In 2018, 61% of Arizona children ages 3 to 4 were not enrolled in **prekindergarten programs**.



69% of Arizona fourth graders scored below proficient at **fourth grade reading achievement** in 2019.



Arizona ranks 43rd in the nation in the children's **economic well-being** domain.

Sources: Children's Action Alliance, KIDS COUNT Data Center

In the US today, 52.1% of children (38.5 million children) are poor or low-income. When more than half of our children do not know if they will have a place to sleep, nutritious meals, or safe communities, we are failing our families and compromising the future of this country.



More than 1.5 million public school students experienced homelessness<sup>2</sup> during the 2017-2018 school year. LGBTQ+ youth are at a much higher risk of homelessness than their peers.<sup>3</sup>



In 2016, there was a resurgence in school re-segregation. Predominantly white school districts received \$2,200 more per student in funding. Funding for tribals schools has fallen from \$400 million to \$133 million over the past 10 years.



A child or teen is killed with a gun every 2 hours and 34 minutes.<sup>6</sup>

African American and Native children and teens are more likely to be killed by law enforcement than any other ethnic groups.



Due to consistent underfunding, Early Head Start served only 5% of eligible infants and toddlers in 2016.<sup>7</sup>



SNAP benefits 17.5 million children,8 but current attacks on SNAP will mean that 1 million children will no longer receive school meals.9



In 2019, student debt totaled more than \$1.5 trillion<sup>10</sup> and affected about 44 million Americans.<sup>11</sup>

It does not need to be this way. Investing in our children's education could grow the economy by \$32 trillion over the long-term. A Wall Street tax of 0.1% in trading could raise \$70 billion to provide free public college for all. A cut of just 1% to the military budget would cover nearly 8 million additional Head Start spots.

Sources: 1. Kairos Center 2. Department of Education 3. National LGBTQ Task Force 4. The New York Times 5. Center for Budget and Policy Priorities 6. Center for Disease Control and Prevention 7. Children's Defense Fund 8. Department of Agriculture 9. Food Research and Action Center 10. New York Fed 11. National Student Loan Data Center 12. National Bureau of Economic Research 13. Office of Senator Bernie Sanders 14. National Priorities Project

The Souls of Poor Folk Audit, PPC Moral Budget, KIDS COUNT Data Center



