Six facts about child well-being in New York

As of 2018, 29% of New York children lived in families lacking secure parental employment.

Hispanic or Latino New York children were almost three times as likely to be in poor health than their non-Hispanic White peers.

624,000 New York children lived in households that were food insecure at some point in 2018.

In 2018, 41% of New York children ages 3 to 4 were not enrolled in prekindergarten programs.

66% of New York children scored below proficient at fourth grade reading achievement in 2019.

New York ranks 42nd in the nation in the children's economic well-being domain.

Sources: NYS Council on Children and Families, KIDS COUNT Data Center
In the US today, 52.1% of children (38.5 million children) are poor or low-income.\(^1\) 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\(^2\) during the 2017-2018 school year. LGBTQ+ youth are at a much higher risk of homelessness than their peers.\(^3\)

In 2016, there was a resurgence in school re-segregation. Predominantly white school districts received $2,200 more per student in funding.\(^4\) Funding for tribals schools has fallen from $400 million to $133 million over the past 10 years.\(^5\)

A child or teen is killed with a gun every 2 hours and 34 minutes.\(^6\) 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.\(^7\)

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\(^10\) and affected about 44 million Americans.\(^11\)

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.\(^12\) A Wall Street tax of 0.1% in trading could raise $70 billion to provide free public college for all.\(^13\) A cut of just 1% to the military budget would cover nearly 8 million additional Head Start spots.\(^14\)


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