

Every Day in Oklahoma

140 babies are born

6 of the babies are born to children

53 of the babies are born without adequate prenatal care

11 of the babies are born too small

170 allegations of serious child abuse and/or neglect are investigated

36 incidents are confirmed to be child abuse and/or neglect

16 children quit high school without graduating

59 children are arrested for a crime

2 of those are arrested for a violent crime,
like rape or murder

At least 2 young people will die

1 of those will be a baby



Every Day in Oklahoma. babies are born. Every Day in Oklahoma. all allegations of child abuse or neglect will be investigated. Every Day in Oklahoma children

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2007–2008 Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook

A publication which reports on the well-being of children and youth in Oklahoma. Data from the Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook is included on the website for the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy at www.oica.org.

Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Partnership

www.oica.org

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The National KIDS COUNT Databook is an annual publication that reports on the well-being of children, youth and families in the United States. The publication is free and available through: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 701 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-410-547-6600, or online at www.kidscount.org.

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Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Survey

Please take a moment to share your comments with us so that we may ensure the products and services we provide meet the needs of our users. All responses will remain confidential. Thank you for taking time to fill out this survey. When completed, please fax to 405.236.5439 or complete online at www.oica.org.

Your Name _____ Organization _____
 Telephone _____ Email _____

Please check the box next to the category(s) that best describe your role or affiliation. *Check all that apply.*

- Advocacy
- Legislator
- Private Business
- Health care provider
- Other _____
- Funder
- Other elected official
- Early childhood education
- Children & Youth services
- _____
- Faith-based ministry
- Media
- Higher education
- Social service provider
- _____

How would you describe your community?

- Mostly urban
- Mostly suburban
- Mostly rural

Please indicate which KIDS COUNT reports you have used in the past year and how you have used them. *Check all that apply.*

		read narrative information	viewed specific statistics / trends	searched for specific data
State Databook	<input type="radio"/> hard copy <input type="radio"/> online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
National Databook	<input type="radio"/> hard copy <input type="radio"/> online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Legislative alert / fact sheet	<input type="radio"/> hard copy <input type="radio"/> online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If KIDS COUNT data were not available, how easy would it be for you to get access to these data?

- Very easy
- Somewhat easy
- Not very easy
- Not at all easy

On average, how often do you use KIDS COUNT data / information?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Several times a year
- Once a year or less
- Never

Please indicate how you use KIDS COUNT data / information. *Check all that apply.*

- Needs assesment
- Policy development
- Testifying
- Media campaign
- Other _____
- Budget allocation
- Research
- Advocacy efforts
- Grant writing / fundraising
- _____

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about KIDS COUNT.

	strongly agree	→	strongly disagree	N/A
I know where to go to find KIDS COUNT information I need.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
KIDS COUNT is the place to go for information on children's issues.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
KIDS COUNT information has increased <i>my ability</i> to interpret and understand child well-being indicators.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
KIDS COUNT information has increased the <i>amount</i> of policy dialogue I have on children's issues.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
KIDS COUNT information has increased the <i>effectiveness</i> of the policy dialogue I have on children's issues.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Table of contents

Acknowledgements	3
Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Survey	4
OICA's 25th Anniversary	6
About OICA	7
Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Leadership	8
State Overview & Findings	10
A State Profile: Focus on Children's Behavioral Health	11
Oklahoma's Economic Clusters	24
State Benchmark Topics	
Low Birthweight Infants	28
Births to Teens	29
Child Abuse and Neglect	31
High School Dropouts	33
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests	35
Infant Mortality	37
Child and Teen Death	39
County Benchmarks	41
Understanding the Data	119
Data Tables	129

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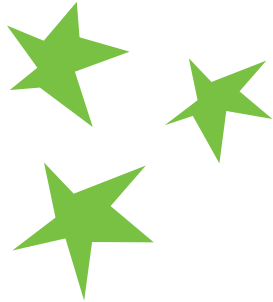
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OICA's 25th Anniversary

The Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy (OICA) works every day to encourage people who care about children to raise awareness, take action and change policy -- knowing that we have a better chance of succeeding by working together. In 2008, OICA celebrates 25 years of advocating for Oklahoma's children, youth and families. Over the years we have worked tirelessly with partners, both public and private, to ensure that the needs of children and youth are identified and solutions are found.

As we reflect on the past and look toward the future, we embrace the hope for every Oklahoma child to have a solid beginning, a successful childhood and an optimistic future. We understand that no child can be overlooked if Oklahoma is to achieve its great future. Our ever-changing families and communities nurture this future, providing the anchor and motivation required for children and youth to be strong, resilient and prepared for life.

OICA was created by Oklahomans who cared about children and about making positive changes to improve their lives. It is sustained today by the same kind of people...Oklahomans who care.

We invite you to add your voice to the throng! To find out more, visit our website at www.oica.org



About OICA

The Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy (OICA) is a broad-based, multi-issue organization that promotes programs and policies designed to improve the health and well-being of Oklahoma's children and youth. Its work provides a critical link between the provision of programs and services at the local level and the policy-making process at the state level. For more information go to www.oica.org or call 405.236.5437

OICA accomplishes positive change for children and youth through three principle strategies:

1. Creating Awareness 2. Taking Action 3. Changing Policy

Advocacy

- Multi-Issue Legislative Action
- Data, Publications and Training
- Leadership Development
- Strategic Communications

Maternal & Child Health

- Promoting Perinatal and Pediatric Health
- Advancing Fitness and Nutrition
- Education and Awareness
- Statewide Collaboration and Outreach

Youth Initiatives

- Promoting Positive Youth Development
- Research and Publications
- State and National Collaboration
- Special Projects

Children's Behavioral Health

- Anti-Stigma Campaign
- Research, Publications and Training
- Promoting Best Practices

KIDS COUNT Leadership

Leaders Build Relationships

Members of each Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Leadership Class work locally and across the state with others who are interested in improving the lives of Oklahoma's children and youth. Leaders have the opportunity to network with policy makers, community leaders, social service providers and concerned citizens.

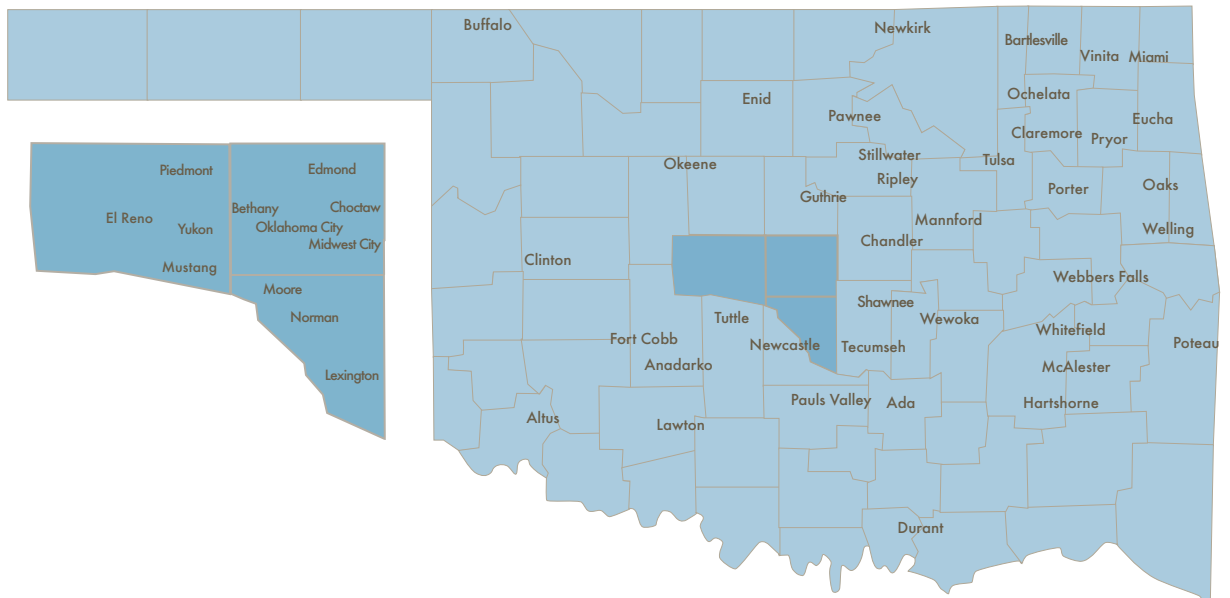
Leaders Help Solve Problems

One tenet of KIDS COUNT is that local people solve local problems. Each Leader receives technical assistance and leadership training to support them in their role as a resource person on children and youth issues. Individuals who are a part of KIDS COUNT guide their own communities toward creating a better life for children and youth.

Leaders Work For Children And Youth

Children and youth are our voiceless, voteless citizens. KIDS COUNT Leaders elevate public awareness of pertinent issues on behalf of children and youth. Through media releases and events, community meetings, Child Watch Visits, Round Table discussions and other publicity activities, Leaders generate public interest and provide helpful information on issues important to children and youth.

KIDS COUNT leader network (leaders from classes I through XIII)



Leaders Make A Difference

They are Leaders who care about children and youth. They lead others to the cause. The work that they do lifts them up as role models to all members of the community. Through Oklahoma KIDS COUNT, they have the resources, connections and support to improve the lives of children and youth.

Individuals from all racial, ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, professional and political backgrounds, from high school age to senior citizens are encouraged to apply.

KIDS COUNT Leaders must be available to attend the KIDS COUNT Advocacy Camp which is held the first Friday and Saturday in August.

The year-round application process for Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Leadership is easy! Applications must be received by the third Monday in June for the next consecutive class. Please contact Ann Patterson Salazar at 405/236-5437 extension 102, or apsalazar@oica.org, if you have any questions, or go to www.oica.org to download an application.



2007 KIDS COUNT Leaders Class XIII

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State Overview & Findings

This twelfth Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook continues to measure progress (or lack of progress) for children and youth in our state from the middle of the 1990s, quantifying the impact of recent social and policy changes on the well-being of Oklahoma's children, families and communities.

KIDS COUNT Factbook indicators, for which change over time is tracked, include low birthweight infants (less than 5 ½ pounds), very low birthweight infants (less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces), births to young teens (ages 15 through 17), births to older teens (ages 18 & 19), births to teens (ages 15-19), confirmations of child abuse & neglect, high school dropouts, juvenile violent crime arrests, infant mortality (under age 1), child death (ages 1-14), teen death (ages 15-19) and child/teen death (ages 1-19).

Again, there is little change. This year the same nine indicators which improved in recent years still show improvement over comparable data from the middle of the 1990s or early 2000s. For the most part, the recent better rates were stronger in this current comparison.

Even so, very important progress is beginning to erode, staying the same (infant mortality) or slowing (infant mortality, child death, teen death and child/teen death) in all four death indicators.

Births to Young Teens (ages 15-17)
Births to Older Teens (ages 18 & 19)
Births to Teens (ages 15-19)
High School Dropouts
Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests
Infant Mortality (under age 1)
Child Death (ages 1-14)
Teen Deaths (ages 15-19)
Child & Teen Death (ages 1-19)

Entrenched problems continue to resist improvement. The same three indicators worsened when compared to data from the middle of the 1990s. Indicators in two areas — Very Low Birthweight Infants and Child Abuse & Neglect Confirmations — substantially worsened.

Low Birthweight Infants
(less than 5 ½ pounds)
Very Low Birthweight Infants
(less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces)
Child Abuse & Neglect Confirmations

Large numbers of Oklahoma children reap the benefits of the improvements recorded in these pages. At the same time, many other young Oklahomans experience pain and face seemingly insurmountable challenges. As this 2007-2008 Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook is prepared, more than one hundred seventy thousand (171,495) Oklahoma children live in poverty. Each year, more than thirteen thousand (13,167) children are abused or neglected. Each year, just under six thousand (5,899) youth quit high school before graduating. Another twelve hundred (1,247) children do not even make it that far in school. Each year, almost seven thousand (6,971, under age 20) children and teens become mothers. Each year, nearly eight hundred (782) children and youth are arrested for murder, rape, aggravated assault or robbery.



Each year, four hundred (406) Oklahoma babies do not live to see their first birthday. Another four hundred (401) children and youth do not live to see their twentieth. Children facing such significant adversity frequently grapple with childhood mental illness or substance abuse. Those who live to adulthood will have an increased likelihood of being met with poor adult health status and early death.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Number of Children (2005): **853,336** Number of Poor Children (2004): **171,495**
 Children are **24.1%** of the county population Child Poverty Rate (2004): **20.2%**

Indicator	Base Data	-	Worsened	Improved	+	Recent Data
BIRTHWEIGHT						
Low Birthweight (<5.5lbs)	7.1% of live births, 1994-96	-11.6%				7.9% of live births, 2003-05
Very Low Birthweight (<3 lbs, 5oz)	1.2% of live births, 1994-96	-12.3%				1.3% of live births, 2003-05
BIRTHS TO TEENS						
Births to Young Teens (ages 15-17)	38.1/1,000 girls 15-17, 1994-96				24.5%	28.8/1,000 girls 15-17, 2003-05
Births to Older Teens (ages 18-19)	103.1/1,000 girls 18-19, 1994-96				10.0%	92.8/1,000 girls 18-19, 2003-05
Births to Teens (ages 15-19)	63.6/1,000 girls 15-19, 1994-96				13.2%	55.2/1,000 girls 15-19, 2003-05
CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT	14.3 confirmed/1,000 children, FY 1995-97	-7.4%				15.3 confirmed/1,000 children, FY 2004-06
HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS	3.7% youth <age 19, SY 2001/02-2003/04				9.0%	3.4% youth <age 19, SY 2003/04-2005/06
VIOLENT CRIME ARRESTS	363.3/100,000 youths 10-17, 1994-96				44.9%	200.3/100,000 youths 10-17, 2003-05
MORTALITY						
Infant Mortality (<age 1)	8.4/1,000 live births, 1994-96				5.5%	7.9/1,000 live births, 2003-05
Child Death (ages 1-14)	33.1/100,000 children 1-14, 1994-96				16.8%	27.6/100,000 children 1-14, 2003-05
Teen Death (ages 15-19)	100.1/100,000 teens 15-19, 1994-96				14.6%	85.4/100,000 teens 15-19, 2003-05
Child & Teen Death (ages 1-19)	51.0/100,000 youth 1-19, 1994-96				14.5%	43.6/100,000 youth 1-19, 2003-05