

oklahoma 2009 factbook
KIDS COUNT

Introducing

KIDS COUNT Data Center

Community Level Information on Kids (CLIKS)



OKLAHOMA



**kids
count**

This Oklahoma KIDS COUNT 2009 Factbook is a publication that reports on the well-being of children and youth in Oklahoma. Data from the Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook can be accessed on the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy (OICA) website at www.oica.org.

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 St., Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-410-547-6600, or online at www.kidscount.org.

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Focusing on the KIDS COUNT Data Center Community Level Information on Kids (CLIKS)

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Every Day in Oklahoma

147 babies are born

6 of the babies are born to children

58 of the babies are born without adequate prenatal care

11 of the babies are born too small

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

35 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

At least 2 young people will die

1 of those will be a baby

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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 principal strategies:

1. Creating Awareness

2. Taking Action

3. Changing Policy

IN THESE AREAS...

Advocacy

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

Youth Initiatives

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

Maternal & Child Health

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

Early Childhood

Advancing Public Policy
Training
Promoting Best Practices

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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 policymakers, 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 their youngest citizens.

Leaders Work for Children and Youth

KIDS COUNT Leaders elevate public awareness of pertinent issues on behalf of children and youth, through media, community meetings, Child Watch Tours, roundtable discussions and other activities. They generate public interest and provide helpful information on these important issues.

Leaders Make a Difference

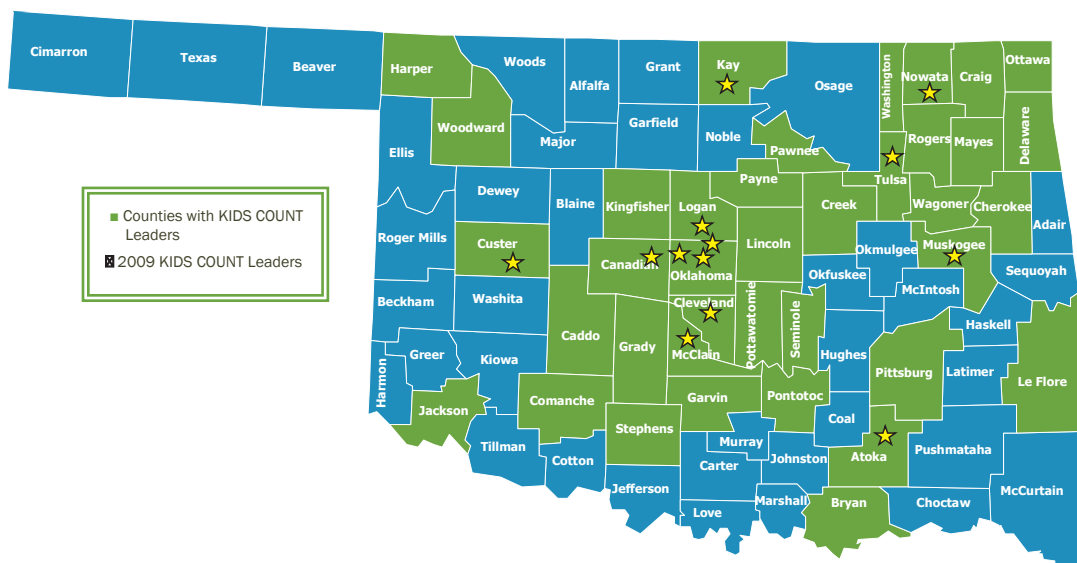
Leaders are people who care and lead others to the cause. Through Oklahoma KIDS COUNT, they have the resources, connections and support to improve the lives of children and youth.

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 on 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.



- ### 2009 KIDS COUNT Leaders Class XIV
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 - Sara Barry, Oklahoma City
 - Thomas Bass, Edmond
 - Kathie Burnett, Midwest City
 - Codi Canning, Guthrie
 - Tina Cole, El Reno
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 - Chris Vassar, Ponca City
 - Kara Walters, Guthrie
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STATE OVERVIEW AND FINDINGS

This thirteenth Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook continues to measure progress (or lack of progress) for children and youth in our state from the middle of the 1990's, 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 and 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 deaths (ages 1 - 14), teen deaths (ages 15 - 19) and child/teen deaths (ages 1 - 19).

Again, there is little change. This year the same nine indicators that improved in recent years still show improvement over comparable data from the middle of the 1990s or early 2000s.

Even so, Oklahoma's recent progress continues to erode, this year slowing in births to young teens, births to older teens, births to all teens, infant mortality and child death. Improvement is recorded for the following nine indicators:

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

Entrenched problems continue to resist improvement. The same three indicators worsened when compared to data from the middle of the 1990's. Indicators in two areas — Very Low Birthweight Infants and Low Birthweight Infants — substantially worsened, while one area — Child Abuse and Neglect Confirmations — slowed its steep declines of recent years. The following three indicators worsened over time:

- 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 2009 Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Factbook is prepared, almost two hundred thousand (196,160) Oklahoma children live in poverty. Each year, nearly thirteen thousand (12,911) children are abused or neglected. Each year, just under six thousand (5,725) youth quit high school before graduating. Almost another thousand (910) children do not even make it that far in school before quitting.

Each year, well over seven thousand (7,244, under age 20) children and teens become mothers. Each year, over seven hundred (724) children and youth are arrested for murder, rape, aggravated assault or robbery. Each year, over four hundred (419) Oklahoma babies do not live to see their first birthday. Nearly another four hundred (388) children and youth do not live to see their twentieth.





STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Number of Children (2007): 899,507

Children are 24.9% of the state population

Number of Poor Children (2007): 196,160

Child Poverty Rate (2007): 22.2%

Indicator	Baseline Data	-	Worsened Improved	+	Recent Data
Birthweight					
Low Birthweight (<5.5 lbs)	7.1% of live births, 1994-96	-8.4%			7.7% of live births, 2005-07
Very Low Birthweight (<3 lbs 5 oz)	1.2% of live births, 1994-96	-29.6%			1.5% of live births, 2005-07
Births to Teens					
Births to Young Teens (ages 15-17)	38.1/1,000 girls 15-17, 1994-96				22.6% 29.5/1,000 girls 15-17, 2005-07
Births to Older Teens (ages 18-19)	103.1/1,000 girls 18-19, 1994-96				0.2% 102.8/1,000 girls 18-19, 2005-07
Births to Teens (ages 15-19)	63.6/1,000 girls 15-19, 1994-96				8.3% 58.3/1,000 girls 15-19, 2005-07
Child Abuse & Neglect	14.3 confirmed/1,000 children, FY 1995-97	-1.8%			14.5 confirmed/1,000 children, FY 2006-08
High School Dropouts	3.7% youth <age 19, SY 2001/02-2003/04				12.0% 3.3% youth <age 19, SY 2005/06-2007/08
Violent Crime Arrests	363.3/100,000 youths 10-17, 1994-96				49.0% 185.3/100,000 youths 10-17, 2005-07
Mortality					
Infant Mortality (<age 1)	8.4/1,000 live births, 1994-96				4.4% 8.0/1,000 live births, 2004-06
Child Deaths (ages 1-14)	33.1/100,000 children 1-14, 1994-96				15.9% 27.9/100,000 children 1-14, 2004-06
Teen Deaths (ages 15-19)	100.1/100,000 teens 15-19, 1994-96				19.9% 80.2/100,000 teens 15-19, 2004-06
Child & Teen Deaths (ages 1-19)	51.0/100,000 youth 1-19, 1994-96				17.2% 42.3/100,000 youth 1-19, 2004-06