

California: The State of Our Children

California: The State of Our Children 1998

Table of Contents

I. Introduction	3
II. Ten Year Highlights	4
III. An Agenda for Children and Families	5
State Benchmarks	
Family Economics	9
Child Care	10
Child Support	11
Children in Poverty	12
Public Assistance	13
Hungry Children	14
Homelessness/Housing	15
Unemployed Youth	16
Health	19
Prenatal Care	20
Low Birthweight Infants	21
Infant Mortality	22
Immunizations	23
Uninsured Children	24
Use of Nutrition Program	25
Mental Health	26
Smoking	28
Drugs and Alcohol Use	29
Teen Births	30
Education	33
Preschool Education	34
Pupil/Teacher Ratio	35
Per Pupil Expenditure	36
Reading and Math Skills	37
Dropout Rate	38
College Bound Seniors	39
Students with Limited English Proficiency	40
Safety	43
Drug Exposed Babies	44
Child Abuse and Neglect	45
Foster Care	46
Incarcerated Juveniles	47
Gun-related Injuries and Fatalities	48
Youth Homicide	50
County Tables	51
California County Highlights	53
California Children	54
Family Economic Realities	55
Subsidized School Meals	56
Children Receiving TANF	57
Late or No Prenatal Care	58
Low Birthweight Infants	59
Infant Mortality	60
Teen Births	61
Average Class Size	62
High School Dropout Rate	63
Child Abuse	64
Foster Care	65
Acknowledgements	66

California: The State of Our Children 1998

I. Introduction

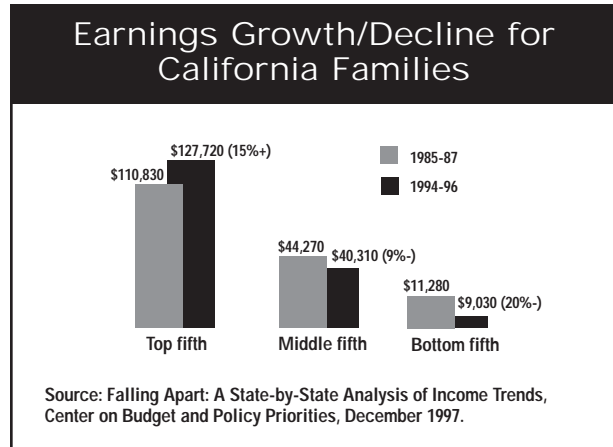
A Decade of Political and Economic Change Shapes Children's Lives

In 1998, children are on the political map. Ten years ago, when Children Now was founded, only a handful of children's policy organizations existed; today, in state capitals across the country, numerous groups are representing children's best interests. Recently we have witnessed greater attention in Congress and statehouses to child care and children's health. In California and across the nation, voters and candidates in the most recent elections put education at the top of the political agenda

But the politically powerful have *not* become reliable allies of children. Consider the 1996 federal welfare debate: seldom were children discussed although they constitute two-thirds of those affected. In state budget deliberations across the country, securing adequate funding for children's programs remains a battle that is often lost.

The Ten-Year Balance Sheet

An assessment of how the well-being of California's children has changed over the past decade yields mixed results. One of the starkest trends is the disparate economic fortunes of families. A comparison of California families' average incomes between the years 1985-87 and 1994-96 shows that families with children in the top fifth of the income range increased their income by 15%, while families with children in the middle fifth saw their incomes decline by 9% and the bottom fifth experienced an income drop of 20%. On a basic level, many more families are struggling today than a decade ago to



provide for their children.

Even with the state's current strong economy, a child is more likely to live in poverty today. And a child has no greater chance of having medical coverage or access to subsidized child care.

Yet, some areas of children's lives have improved. Compared to a decade ago, an infant today is more likely to be born to a mother who received prenatal care and is more likely to survive her first year of life. Teenagers are less likely to drop out of school. Teen births and youth homicides have declined in the past few years, after their rise in the beginning of the decade. But California has the resources to do much more.

Looking at the balance sheet for California children over the past decade, it is apparent that many sectors of society have fared better than children. Stockholders reaped gains as the S&P 500 grew by 300%. Overall, the state's economy grew by 19%. A decade from now, what will our state look like if the well-being of children posts comparable gains?

The Opportunity Ahead

Californians have reason to be optimistic about the future. The state recently recovered from its deepest recession since the 1930's. In 1997, the state's economy outperformed the nation, with employment growth of three percent—bringing an additional 400,000 jobs. Voter participation by the state's largest minority population, Latinos, increased significantly from 1984 to 1996, with 350,000 more Latino voters in the 1996 elections. California continues to be a state with remarkable human capital and natural resources.

Our resources can be harnessed much more effectively for children. Below, *An Agenda for Children and Families* lists achievable objectives for improving the quality of children's lives in California. As a state, these should be our common resolutions in preparation for the new millennium.

II. Ten-year Highlights

The state has made progress for kids in some arenas. More infants are born to mothers who received prenatal care and more infants survive past their first year. School dropout rates have shown a consistent decline. However, childhood poverty—a risk factor tied to many poor outcomes for children—has increased significantly. Vital community support, such as subsidized child care and housing, has not kept pace.

Family Economics

- In the last ten years, child poverty increased from one in five children (20.8% or 1.8 million) living in poverty to one in four (26% or 2.4 million).
- California has nearly quadrupled the number of subsidized child care slots since 1986, with about 440,000 spaces in 1997. However, with the increased demand, only about one-quarter of the children

who qualify for subsidies are currently served, approximately the same proportion as a decade ago.

- For the poorest children, the value of welfare assistance declined by 30% in the last ten years. In 1997-98, a family of three in a higher cost county received \$565 monthly, while a family in a lower cost county received \$538. In the current 1998-99 fiscal year, needy children will receive slightly more assistance: \$580 - \$610, depending upon where they live.

Health

- Little progress was made in the last decade in increasing the proportion of children with health insurance. While publicly funded programs cover more kids, fewer children receive coverage through their parents' employers. In 1996, 1.6 million children ages 0-17 (nearly 18%) lacked coverage of any kind compared to 1.2 million (or 16%) in 1987. California is only spending one-fifth of available federal funding for children's health coverage.
- About 40% of toddlers are not immunized on time, putting them at risk for contracting a serious, even life-threatening, disease.
- One of the decade's success stories has been the reduction in infant mortality. The rate of infant deaths dropped from 9.0 per 1,000 births in 1987 to 5.9 per 1,000 births in 1996. The infant death rate for African-American babies, which also declined, from 18.6 to 14.4 per 1,000 births, remains over twice as high as the rate for White babies.

Education

- From 1988 to 1997, California's ranking among states in per-pupil expenditures

dropped from 27th to 41st.

- There is no comprehensive measurement of educational achievement for California children that is consistent over time. On recent national assessments of 8th graders' reading and math skills, California tied for last among the 40 participating states.
- A greater proportion of the student body is finishing high school compared to 1988. The current average high school dropout rate for 9th - 12th graders is 3.3%, about half the rate of 1988. This trend is consistent across all ethnicities.

Safety

- Gun violence among youth and youth homicide rates rose significantly in the late 1980s and early 1990s. However, such violence has declined in recent years. The incidents of youth homicide declined from 857 homicides in 1993 to 680 in 1996.
- Child abuse reports have risen steadily over the past decade. While part of the increase may be attributed to greater awareness and reporting, the increasing number of children who have been seriously injured (not just reported for being at risk) indicates some actual rise in abuse.
- From 1987 to 1997, the number of children in foster care more than doubled: from 50,547 to 108,488.

III. An Agenda for Children & Families

California has made strides in improving some areas of children's lives in the past decade. However, outcomes are mixed. A sustained commitment of public and private sector support for families could substantially improve the lives of generations of children.

1. Health coverage for all kids. New feder-

al funding for children's coverage presents an excellent opportunity to realize the goal of providing coverage to all children, a goal that requires action from both the public and private sectors.

- Expand the Healthy Families program. New federal dollars help to fund California's Healthy Families program, which makes about 400,000 children newly eligible for coverage. Federal funds are available to cover more children and the state should expand eligibility to kids in families with incomes under \$40,950 for a family of three (300% of the federal poverty level).
- Simplify enrollment in Medi-Cal and Healthy Families. The joint Medi-Cal/Healthy Families application form, now 28 pages long, should be simplified and made easy for families to complete. Also, rather than requiring families of children in Medi-Cal to submit new paperwork every three months, California should provide children in Medi-Cal a full year of continuous coverage (as it already offers to children in Healthy Families).
- Augment the private sector's coverage of children. With innovative approaches, the private sector can do more to cover employees' dependents. Just 55% of California children receive job-based coverage compared to 62% nationally.

2. Quality child care for every child.

Additional work requirements for those receiving welfare have highlighted the urgency for additional subsidized child care. Research on the brain development of infants and toddlers has raised awareness about the importance of quality care. Today, state funding for child care subsidies does not meet about three-quarters of the estimated need.

- Continue to expand the analysis of supply and demand for various types of care—infant, preschool, afterschool, non-traditional hours, etc.—to develop a strategic plan for meeting families’ needs.
- Pool resources to meet the need for subsidized care. Explore financing solutions among the private sector, public sector and parents that allow every child who needs a subsidized space in high quality care to have one.
- Promote quality in all child care settings. Ensure that training in child development is widely available and reward providers who have undertaken additional training. Set salary levels for providers that attract and retain qualified individuals.

3. An effective child support system.

Time-limited welfare assistance raises the stakes for hundreds of thousands of families who look to the state’s child support enforcement system to secure support owed to children. The next governor faces critical decisions about how to operate the enforcement program for maximum effectiveness.

- Child support automation should be streamlined and centralized. In 1999, the new administration be responsible for automating California’s child support computer system. Centralization offers the best chance for efficiency. Maximum efficiency must be the standard for children.
 - Develop state-level strategies for improving county child support collections. The new administration must begin to reform the state’s

The next governor faces critical child support enforcement decisions.

struggling child support program through top-level leadership. Key reforms include res-structuring and streamlining the program.

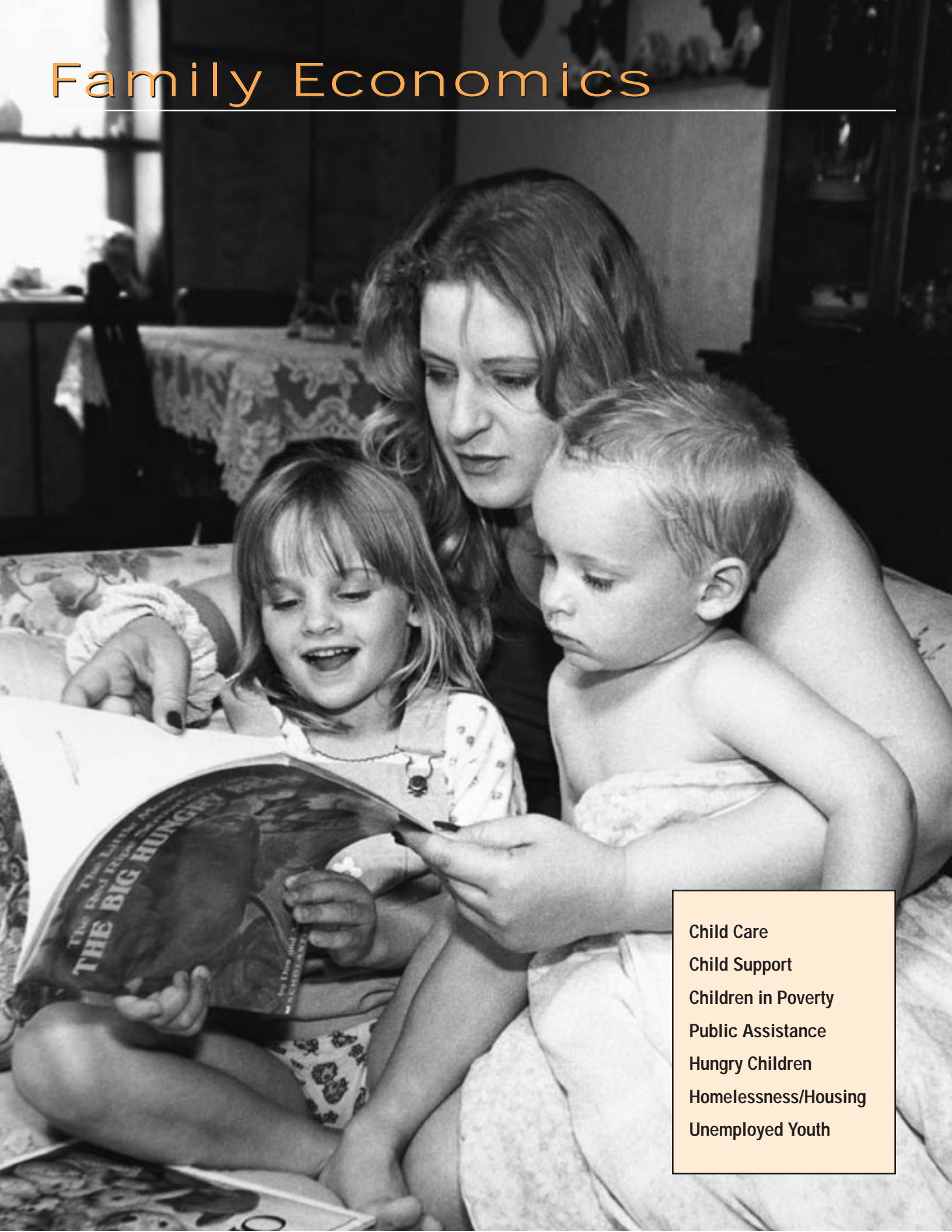
4. Fair tax policies. Recent state budget actions to reduce taxes and fees have not helped struggling working families.

- Enact a state Earned Income Credit (EIC) for low-income working families. The federal EIC is a refundable tax credit designed to help parents with low earnings to provide for their children. Nine other states supplement the federal credit with a state one. California could add a 15% supplement for about half the cost of the 1998-99 vehicle license fee reduction, a reduction which will give the most benefits to those with more expensive cars.

5. Family-friendly businesses. Employer practices fundamentally affect the time and resources parents have to share with their children. With most children now having both parents or their single parent in the workforce, employer policies have a tremendous impact on families.

- Pay living wages. A living wage not only fosters employee loyalty and longevity on the job, it helps parents provide for their families.
- Design jobs as flexibly as possible. Employees who can attend parent-teacher conferences regularly or coach basketball one afternoon a month are likely to be more satisfied and even more productive employees. Permit job sharing and telecommuting when possible.
- Be a community leader. Around the state,

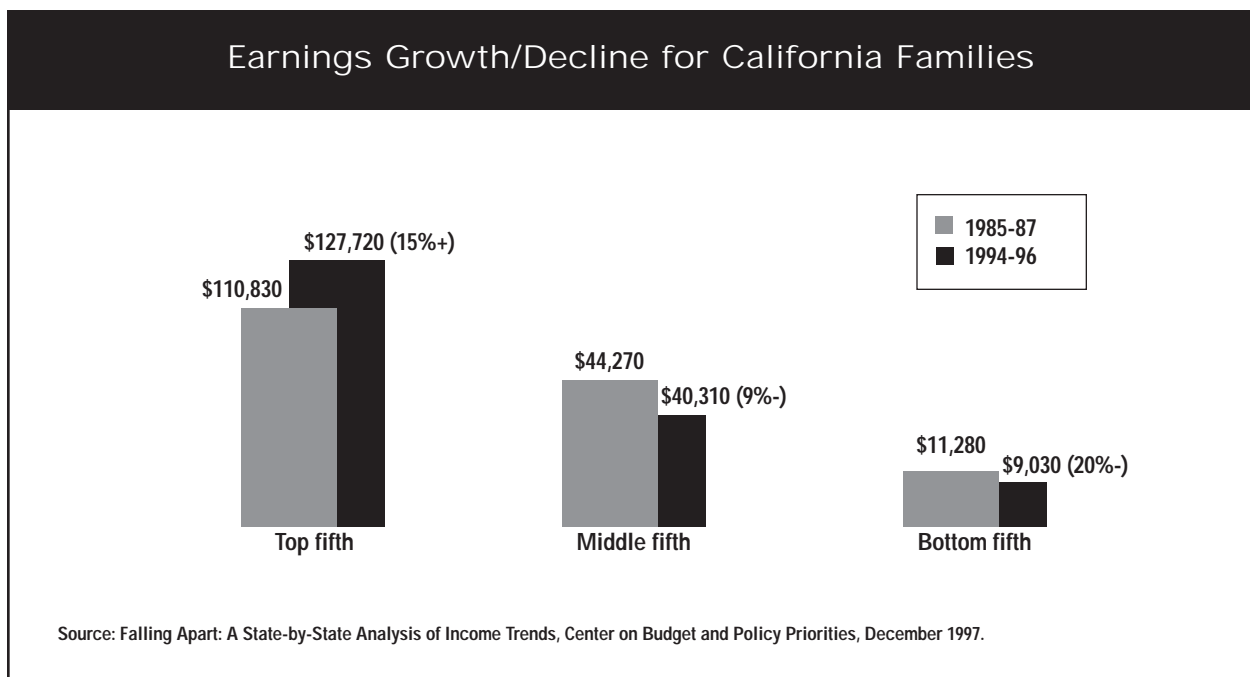
Family Economics



Child Care
Child Support
Children in Poverty
Public Assistance
Hungry Children
Homelessness/Housing
Unemployed Youth

Family Economics

Growing economic disparity limits opportunities for low- and middle-income children as their working families struggle to put together a family budget. Housing and child care costs are major expenses for many families, with average annual rent for a two-bedroom apartment in California reaching \$9,324 (\$777 monthly) and full-time center-based child care costing between \$4,888 and \$7,020, depending on the child's age.



Source: *Pulling Apart: A State-by-State Analysis of Income Trends*, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, December 1997; California Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; The California Child Care Portfolio, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, 1997; *Out of Reach: Rental Housing at What Cost?*, National Low Income Housing Coalition, September 1997.

1. Child Care

This indicator represents the number of children whose families need subsidized care and the percentage actually being served in subsidized programs.

California Trend:

There is no annual count of the total number of children in California whose families need affordable child care.

- Between April and September 1997, 439,792 children were served through subsidized child care programs within the Department of Education and the Department of Social Services. The state estimates that it serves only about 25% of the approximately 1.7 million children eligible for child care subsidies.
- In a 1997 report to the U.S. General Accounting Office, the California Department of Education puts the number of families throughout the state on waiting lists for child care assistance at 200,000.
- In 1996, the average cost of full-time care for a child in a licensed child care center was \$135/week or \$7,020 annually; the average cost for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center was \$94/week or \$4,888 annually.

Historical Trend - CA:

The Senate Office of Research estimated that 20-25% of parents who needed subsidized child care in 1988 received it. In 1986, 110,000 children were served through the state's child development programs. The number of children on waiting lists in 1986 was estimated at 134,000 by the Department of Education. The total number of unmet need in 1986 was estimated as high as 405,000 children by the Legislative Analyst's Office.

3 of 4 families eligible for child care assistance are not served due to insufficient funding.

National Average:

Because the state-based data are incomplete, it is impossible to get a national count of the percentage of children needing child care who receive it.

State Rank:

Not available.

Notable Facts:

Low-income parents face particular challenges in gaining access to child care. The Berkeley-Stanford PACE Center's study on California child care availability, *An Unfair Head Start*, found that a "family's opportunity to enroll their youngster in a preschool or child-care program depends largely on their income and where they live." In Los Angeles County, for example, the supply of child care is 40% higher in neighborhoods with incomes above the county median than in areas with incomes below the county median. The survey also suggests a negative correlation between the availability of child care and the concentration of Latino families within a given area. Areas with concentrations of Latino families above the median have 46% fewer child care spaces than those areas where the concentration of Latino families is below the median.

Source: Results for the April-September 1997 ACF-800 Aggregate Report on Subsidized Child Care, California Department of Education, Child Development Division, Data Automation and Analysis Unit; *An Unfair Head Start*, Policy Analysis for California Education, University of California, Berkeley, Stanford University, 1997; *California: Child Care Challenges*, Children's Defense Fund, May 1998; *Caring For Our Children: Our Most Precious Investment*, September 1998, Little Hoover Commission; The California Child Care Portfolio, 1997, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network; The Child Development Program: A Sunset Review, Office of the Legislative Analyst, February 1989. See also *California: The State of Our Children and Report Card, 1989*, Children Now; *Welfare Reform: Implications of Increased Work Participation for Child Care*, United States General Accounting Office, May 1997.

2. Child Support

This indicator represents the percentage of cases in the state child support system for which some money has been collected. This figure reflects the collections as a percent of all cases, recognizing that even cases without orders in place represent children awaiting child support.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Case with Support Collections	12.5%	12.9%	13.9%	17.2%*

Historical Trend - CA:

1987	1996
18.8%	17.2%*

* Estimate based on U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' preliminary report.

National Average:

In 1996, 20.5% of all child support cases under the U.S. Office of Child Support Enforcement received some support. In 1987, 16.6% of all cases received some payment.

State Rank:

In 1996, California ranked 37th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987	1996
17th of 51	37th of 51

Child support is collected for less than 1 in 5 children awaiting support.

Source: *California's Child Support Failure: Stalling Welfare Reform, 1997*, National Center for Youth Law, The Child Support Reform Initiative and Children Now; Twelfth Annual Report To Congress, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement; Preliminary Child Support Enforcement FY 1996 Data Report, Ibid.

3. Children in Poverty

This indicator represents the percentage of children under the age of 18 living below the poverty level. The poverty threshold for a family of three with two children was \$12,641 in 1996.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Poverty Rate	28.6%	28.2%	25.5%	26.0%
Children in Poverty (in millions)	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.4

Historical Trend - CA:

1987	1996
20.8%	26.0%

National Average:

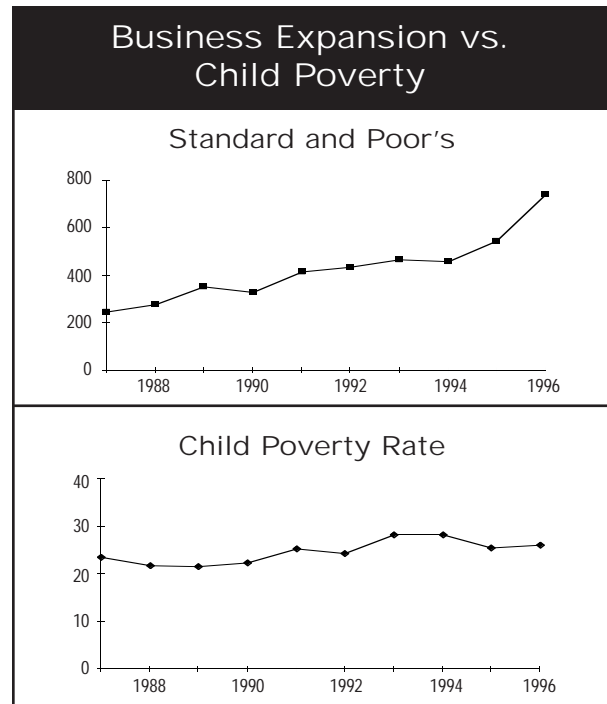
20.5% of all children under 18 were poor in 1996. In 1987, 20.3% of all children under 18 lived in poverty.

State Rank:

In 1996, California ranked 43rd of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987	1996
31st of 51	43rd of 51



Source: California State Department of Finance, California Current Population Survey Report: March 1997 Data; U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics, Population Branch, March 1997 data from Current Population Survey.

4. Public Assistance

This indicator represents the maximum monthly Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) grant for a family of three with no other income compared to the fair market rent.

California Trend:

	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98
TANF grant:	\$607	\$594	\$565	\$565
FMR*	\$635	**	\$777	\$777
% of Income	105%		138%	138%
# of children*** (millions)	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6

* The fair market rent is an estimate by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of the cost of a modest two bedroom apartment plus the cost of utilities, except telephone.

** Information not available.

*** Represents average monthly recipients.

Historical Trend - CA:

	1988-89	1997-98
TANF grant (welfare)	\$663	\$565
# of children (millions)	1.2	1.6

National Average:

In April 1997, the median state's maximum monthly grant for a family of three with no other income was \$377 and the median state's FMR for a two bedroom apartment was \$558, 148% of the family's income.

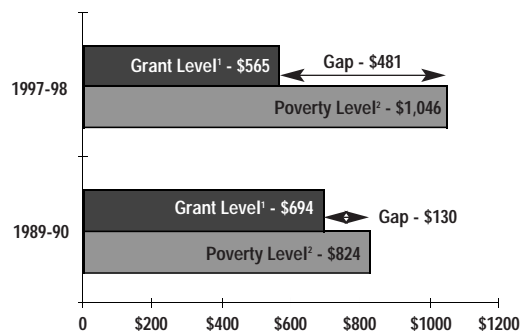
State Rank:

In 1996-97, California ranked 18th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987-88	1996-1997
NA	18th of 51

Value of Public Assistance Payments



1. Maximum monthly grant for a family of three in a high-cost county.

2. Federal poverty level for a family of three.

Source: California Budget Project

Despite the recent increase in public assistance cash grants, the maximum grant remains between 75% and 78% of the state fair market rent.

Source: Public Welfare in California, Annual Report Series, California Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; *Out of Reach: Rental Housing at What Cost?*, September 1997, National Low Income Housing Coalition; Khadduri, Schroder, and Steffen, *Welfare Reform and HUD-Assisted Housing: Measuring the Extent of Needs and Opportunities*, Fannie Mae Foundation Research Roundtable

5. Hungry Children

This indicator represents the number of children who experience “food insecurity,” or, stated differently, were not “assured access to enough food for an active, healthy life,” as defined and measured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

California Trend:

No one agency or organization takes an annual count of hungry children in California or nationally. In

About 14% of California's children do not have enough food for an active, healthy life.

September 1997, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released estimates of “food insecurity” from the first Food Security Supplement to the Current Population Survey, the principal

survey used to determine state and national poverty rates. The supplement captures food insecurity among Americans for the period ending April 1995. The state and national results are as follows:

1994-1995 All Persons	CA	U.S.	CA Rank
Food Insecure	14.4%	11.9%	44th of 51
Food Insecure, Hunger not evident	9.6%	7.8%	45th of 51
Food Insecure, Moderate Hunger Evident	3.8%	3.3%	33rd of 51
Food Insecure, Severe Hunger Evident	1.0%	0.8%	36th of 51

In addition, the survey showed that 17.6% of households with children experienced some food insecurity between April 1994 and April 1995, compared to 9.8% of households without children.

Notable Facts:

The California Food Policy Advocates further documented food insecurity among California's children (specifically among immigrant communities) through their survey and subsequent report, *Impact of Legal Immigrant Food Stamp Cut*. The researchers surveyed impacted communities in Los Angeles at the beginning of the food stamp cuts under welfare reform (November 1997) and again in March 1998. The survey showed 40% of families with children experienced varying levels of food insecurity in November 1997. Five months later, 50% of these same families experienced food insecurity. A smaller increase in food insecurity was also experienced by a control group, from 33% to 38%, during this same time period

Source: *Household Food Security in the United States in 1995: Summary Report of the Food Security Measurement Project*, September 1997, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service; *Impact of Legal Immigrant Food Stamp Cuts in Los Angeles and San Francisco*, May 1998, California Food Policy Advocates, California Food Security Monitoring Project.

6. Homelessness/Housing

This indicator represents the number of children and youth under age 18 who live in shelters and on the street because they have no home.

California Trend:

No one agency or organization takes an annual count of homeless children in California or for the nation as a whole.

However, an annual 29-city survey conducted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors estimates families with children constituted 36% of the homeless population across the U.S. in 1997. The survey also notes a 5% increase, from 1996 to 1997, in requests for emergency shelter by families with children, with 64% of the surveyed cities reporting

The U.S. Conference of Mayors estimates children constituted 25% of the homeless population in 1997.

an increase. In the same time period, the number of emergency shelter beds decreased by 3%.

The lack of affordable housing continues to be identified as a

major cause of homelessness among families with children in most of the surveyed cities, including the three California cities—San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Monica. Overall, in 75% of the cities surveyed, requests for assisted housing by low-income families and individuals increased during the year. These families spent an average of 45%

of their income on housing. In California, the fair market rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment was \$777 in 1997; the rent on a one-bedroom apartment was \$620.

California's FMR remains significantly above the median two-bedroom apartment FMR for the United States (\$558). Only 3 states and the District of Columbia have higher rents than California.

A family of three surviving on Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) received \$565 a month in 1997-98, which is \$212 dollars less than the FMR on a two-bedroom apartment and \$55 less than the FMR on a one-bedroom apartment.

Historical Trend - CA:

Ten years ago, 19% of requests for emergency shelter went unmet in the surveyed cities. Today that number is up to 27% overall and 36% for families with children, up from 23% in 1988. Children continue to constitute 25% of the homeless population in the surveyed cities ten years later.

National Average:

Not available.

State Rank:

Notable Facts:

Contrary to popular perception, most families receiving public assistance do not also receive housing assistance. United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) data shows that, in 1996, only 13% of California families receiving public assistance also received HUD assistance. In larger percentages than any state other than Michigan (with 11% of welfare families receiving housing assistance), California families receiving public assistance have to cover the cost of housing without HUD subsidies.

Source: *A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1988*, U.S. Conference of Mayors; *A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1997*, Ibid.; *Out of Reach: Rental Housing at What Cost?*, September 1997, National Low Income Housing Coalition; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

7. Unemployed Youth

This indicator represents the number and percentage of 16- to 19-year-olds who are unemployed and are actively looking for work.

California Trend:

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Percent	22.8%	22.7%	23.1%	21.1%
Number (in thousands)	182	175	176	152

Historical Trend - CA:

1988	1997
15.7%	21.1%

National Average:

In 1996, 16.7% of youth 16- to 19- years old were unemployed nationally. In 1987, the national average was 16.9%.

State Rank:

In 1996, California ranked 47th of 49 states.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987	1996
28th of 50	47th of 49

Source: Current Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished data (re: 1997 unemployed youth rate and number); *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment*, 1996, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Rank calculated by Children Now.

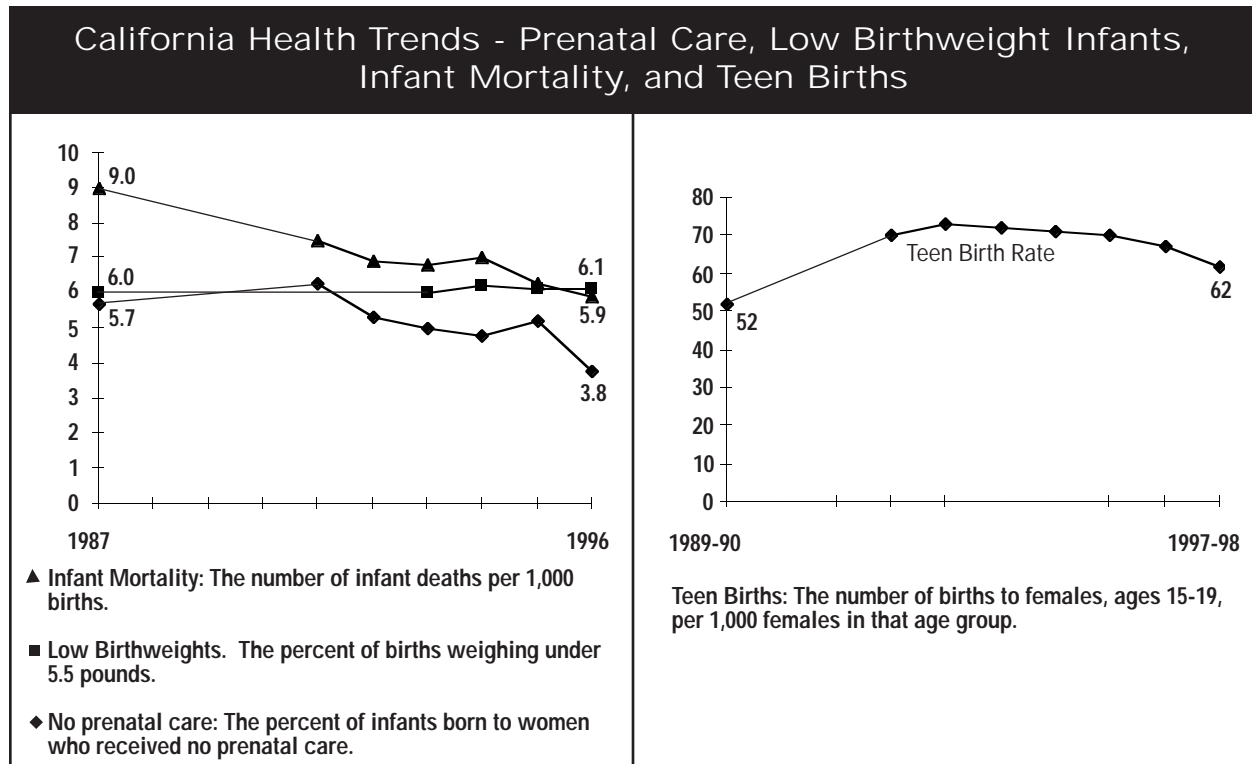
Health



Prenatal Care
Low Birthweight Infants
Infant Mortality
Immunizations
Uninsured Children
Use of Nutrition Program
Mental Health
Smoking
Drugs and Alcohol Use
Teen Births

Health

Health care for pregnant women and infants has improved in some areas. More women are receiving prenatal care and more infants survive their first year of life. However, low birthweight rates have not improved; low birthweight is an indicator of a newborn's health and a factor in an infant's chances of survival and future healthy development.



More women are receiving prenatal care and infant mortality rates have improved, however the proportion of infants born at low birthweight has remained about the same over the past decade.

Source: Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics.

1. Prenatal Care

This indicator represents the percentage of infants born to women who received no prenatal care during pregnancy, or only received care during the last trimester.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Percent	5.0%	4.8%	5.2%	3.8%

In 1996, 20,328 women (3.8%) did not receive prenatal care or began prenatal care in the third trimester of their pregnancy.

Historical Trend - CA:

1987	1996
5.7%	3.8%

National Average:

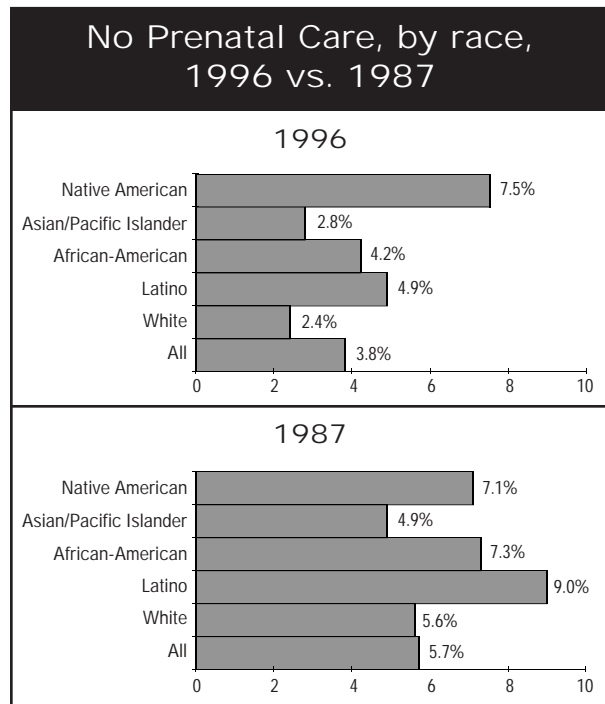
In 1995, 4.2% of women giving birth did not receive prenatal care or began prenatal care in the third trimester of their pregnancy. In 1986, the national average was 6.0%, while California's rate was 5.7%.

State Rank:

In 1995, California ranked 44th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1986	1995
36th of 51	44th of 51



Notable Facts:

As noted above, although California's prenatal care ranking has fallen relative to other states since 1986, the actual rate has improved from 5.0% in 1987 to 3.8% in 1996. Prenatal care rates also improved across racial lines. However, children born to White parents have experienced the most improvement. For example, the percent of infants born to African-American women who received late or no prenatal care was 1.3 times that of White women in 1987. In 1996, it was 1.8 times that of White women. A similar disparity exists for Latinos. Also, in 1987, the rate for Asians and Pacific Islanders was less than Whites. In 1996, this rate was greater for Asian and Pacific Islander families, while the rate for Native Americans has in fact increased, from 7.1% in 1987 to 7.5% in 1996.

Source: Center for Health Statistics, California Department of Health; "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995." Monthly Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 45, No. 11, Supplement, National Center for Health Statistics, Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

2. Low Birthweight Infants

This indicator represents the percentage of live births with birthweights less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.).

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Percent	6.0%	6.2%	6.1%	6.1%

A total of 32,649 babies (6.1%) were born in 1996 weighing less than 2,500 grams.

Historical Trend - CA:

1987	1996
6.0%	6.1%

National Average:

The national average was 7.3% in 1995 and 6.8% in 1986.

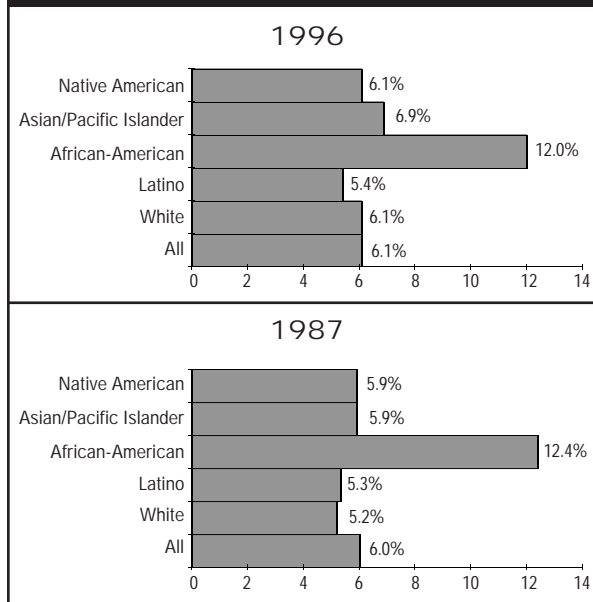
State Rank:

In 1995, California ranked 13th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1986	1995
17th of 51	13th of 51

Low Birthweight Infants, by race, 1996 vs. 1987



Notable Facts:

The low birthweight rates for Native American, Asian, Latino, and White children increased slightly since 1987. On a positive note, the low birthweight for African-American children declined, from 12.4% in 1987 to 12.0% in 1996. Nevertheless, the low birthweight rate for African-American children remains nearly twice the rate of Native Americans, Asians, and Whites and nearly two and one half times the rate of Latinos.

Source: Center for Health Statistics, California Department of Health; "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," Monthly Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 45, No. 11, Supplement, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

3. Infant Mortality

This indicator represents the number of infants who die in their first year of life per 1,000 live births.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Rate	6.8	7.0	6.3	5.9

In 1996, there were 3,186 infant deaths.

Historical Trend - CA:

1987	1996
9.0	5.9

National Average:

The infant mortality rate was 7.6 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1995. In 1986, the national infant mortality rate was 10.4 per 1,000 live births.

State Rank:

California ranked 11th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia) in 1995.

1986	1995
8th of 51	11th of 51

The mortality rate for African-American infants is 2.5 times that of White children.

Notable Facts:

In 1987, the infant mortality rate for African-American children was 18.5 per 1,000 live births, or 2.2 times the rate for White children (8.4 per 1,000 live births). A decade later (1996), the infant mortality rate for White and African-American children improved to 5.5 and 13.9 respectively. However, the mortality rate for infant African-American children is now 2.5 times the rate for White children.

Source: Centers for Health Statistics, California Department of Health; "Infant Mortality Data from the Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set--1995 Period Data," Monthly Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 46, No. 6, Supplement 2, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; "Annual Summary of Vital Statistics," Pediatrics, Volume 100, No. 6, December 1997.

4. Immunizations

This indicator represents the percentage of two-year-olds appropriately immunized for their age.*

California Trend:

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Percent	57.2%	55.4%	57.3%	59.2%

* Fully immunized two-year-olds have received four DTP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis), three oral polio vaccines, and one MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine, known as the 4:3:1 series.

Historical Trend - CA:

1988	1997
45.7%	59.2%

National Average:

78% of children 19-35 months were adequately immunized in 1997, according to the National Immunization Survey administered by the Centers for Disease Control. In 1994, the first year of the survey, 75% were adequately immunized. The survey showed the comparative percentages for California were 76% and 74% respectively for 1997 and 1994.

State Rank:

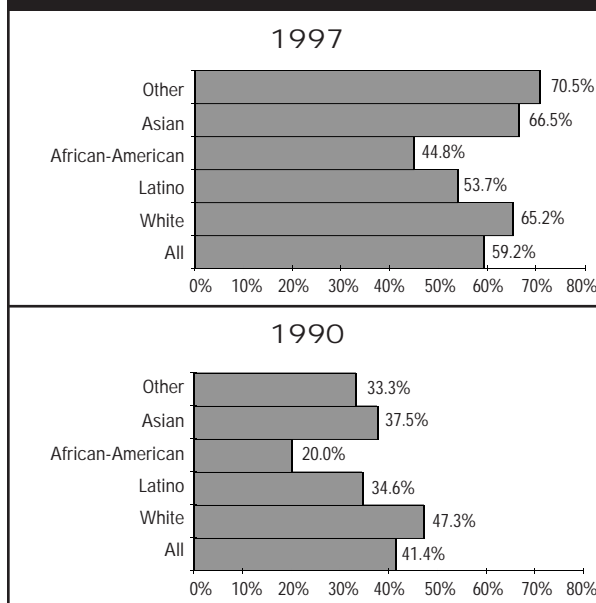
California ranked 31st of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia) in 1997.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1994*	1997
30th of 51	31st (5 tied) of 51

* The first year of the National Immunization Survey was 1994.

Immunization Rates, by race, 1997 vs. 1990



Notable Facts:

Available ethnicity data for the California Retrospective Survey of Kindergarten Children goes back to 1990. Since this time, immunization rates have improved for all ethnic groups. Specifically, immunization rates for White two-year-olds improved 38%, from 47.3% to 65.2%, Latino rates improved 55% to 53.7%, and Asian rates improved 77% to 66.5% in 1997, from 37.5% in 1990. The rate of immunization for African-American two-year-olds more than doubled, from 20% in 1990 to 44.8% in 1997. Despite this considerable improvement, rates of immunization for African-American two-year-olds lag behind the rates for White and Asian children by a ratio of 3 to 2. African-American two-year-olds are the only ethnic group whose rate of immunization is less than 50%.

Source: California Kindergarten Retrospective Survey Results, 1997: Summary Tables, California Department of Human Services, Immunization Branch; "National, State, and Urban Area Vaccination Coverage Levels Among Children Aged 19-35 Months—United States, July 1996 to June 1997," Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, February 20, 1998, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control.

5. Uninsured Children

This indicator represents the percentage of children under 18 who had no health insurance coverage, public or private, through an entire year.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Percent	17.6	20.0	17.4	17.8
# of children (millions)	1.65	1.79	1.60	1.63

Historical Trend - CA:

1987	1996
16.1%	17.8%

National Average:

In 1996, 14.8% of children (or nearly 10.6 million) lacked insurance nationally. In 1987, 12.9% of children (8.2 million) lacked insurance.

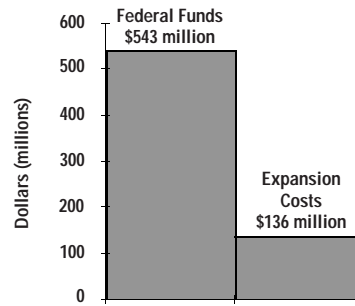
State Rank:

California ranked 39th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia) in 1996.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987	1996
37th of 51	39th of 51

1999 Federal Funds vs. Expansion Costs



1. Estimated unspent federal funds if all eligible children enroll in Healthy Families in FY99.

2. Estimated federal funds needed to expand Healthy Families to children with income up to \$40,950 (for a family of three): a \$70 million state match would be required.

California is now spending just 1/5 of available federal funds for children's health coverage.

Source: "Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State—Children Under 18: 1987 to 1996," Table HI-5, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division.

6. Use of Nutrition Program

This indicator represents the fiscal year average monthly number of nursing mothers, infants and children younger than 5 who receive nutrition supplements through the Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program.

California Trend:

Fed Fiscal Year	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97
# served (in thousands)	838	1,004	1,142	1,224

Historical Trend - CA

Fed Fiscal Year	1987-88	1996-97
# served (in thousands)	303	1,224

The California Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children offers supplemental nutritious food and nutrition education to low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women.

California's program is the nation's largest and is 100% federally funded. The increase in the number of women served is due solely to increased federal funds. WIC is not an entitlement program.

In 1995, the most recent year for which data is available, 52% of all eligible California children received assistance through the WIC

program. In 1992, the earliest year for which data is available, 27% of all eligible children were served.

* A family is eligible for the WIC program if its income is at or below 185% of the federal poverty level. In 1995, the federal poverty level for a family of four with 2 related children was \$15,455; 185% of this amount is \$28,592.

National Average:

In Fiscal Year 1997, the average monthly participation was 7,185,763. Ten years earlier, in 1988, the average monthly participation rate was 3,592,833. In 1996, the Office of Evaluation and Analysis of the WIC program estimated that approximately 9 million women, infants, and children in the general population were eligible to receive WIC benefits. Of those eligible, 81% participated in the program.

State Rank:

Not applicable.

Notable Fact:

In 1993, the Department of Agriculture sponsored a five-state study, wherein researchers found WIC participation to be associated with a significant reduction in infant mortality, particularly neonatal mortality.

Source: Supplemental Food Programs, Food and Nutrition Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture; *Infant Mortality Among Medicaid Newborns in Five States: The Effects of Prenatal WIC Participation*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation, May 1993.

7. Mental Health

This indicator represents the number of children and young persons in need of mental health services and the actual percentage being served.

California Trend:

No one agency regularly compiles data on the prevalence or incidence of mental disorders among children. However, a 1994 report based on a 1992 household survey conducted by the California State Department of Mental Health estimated that 445,000-623,000 children, or approximately 5-7% of California children, were in need of special mental health services. Statewide data does exist for the number of children served through local county mental health programs and the number of children served through the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA):

California Mental Health Programs

	93-94	94-95	95-96
Children age 0-17	74,012	76,135	79,302

Historical Trend - CA

	86-87	95-96
Children age 0-17	61,020	79,302

The change between 1987 and 1996 represents a 30% increase in the number of children served through mental health programs. During this time, the number of children, ages 0-17, in California has increased by 22%.

Individuals with Disability Education Act-California:

Children and young adults served, ages 6-21*:

	1994	1995	1996*
Mental Retardation	26,554	27,349	28,706
Serious Emotional Disturbance	15,636	16,372	18,020
% of all disabilities	8.8%	8.9%	9.1%

*Federal fiscal year.

Historical Trend - CA

Children and young adults served, age 6-21:

	1988	1996
Mental Retardation	24,348	28,706
Serious Emotional Disturbance	10,891	18,020

The total population served for Serious Emotional Disturbance increased 65% between 1988 and 1996. This increase is significantly greater than the total increase in the population, ages 6-21, between 1988 and 1996, of 8.7%.

National Average:

Data for the number of children receiving services through mental health programs nationwide is not regularly compiled. In addition, there is no one study of national scope from which to derive prevalence estimates.

However, using several studies within different regions across the U.S., the Center for Mental Health Services within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that 5-9% of youth, ages 9-17, in 1996 were inflicted with “serious emotional disturbance and extreme functional impairment.” The Center also estimates that 9-13% of youth, ages 9-17, were inflicted with “serious emotional disturbance, with substantial functional impairment” and 20% were inflicted with some “diagnosable disorder.”

Individuals with Disability Education Act-U.S.:

Children and young adults served, age 6-21:

	1987	1996*
Mental Retardation	579,133	570,558
Serious Emotional Disturbance	370,956	437,267

Distinct from the California statewide data, the number of Mental Retardation children and young adults served nationally under IDEA declined nationwide between 1988 and 1996 (California saw an increase of 18% during this time). The total population, ages 6-21, served for Serious Emotional Disturbance increased 18% nationwide during this time.

*Federal fiscal year.

Source: *The California Household Mental Health Survey of 1992*, California Department of Mental Health, Statistics and Data Analysis; “Local Mental Health Programs Unduplicated Number of Clients By County and Age Group,” State Fiscal Year 1987, 1994, 1995, 1996, Ibid.; *Eighteenth Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, 1996, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services; *Nineteenth Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, 1997, Ibid.; Mental Health, United States, 1996, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Mental Health Services.

8. Smoking

This indicator represents the percentage of 9th grade students who smoke one or more cigarettes daily.

California Trend:

	89-90	91-92	93-94	95-96
Percent	9.3%	6.3%	8.6%	8.4%

Historical Trend - CA

1985-86	1995-96
13.0%	8.4%

Although the survey (the Biennial California Student Substance Use Survey from which the data above was drawn) has been conducted for a decade, comparisons between current and earlier findings should be made with caution due to parental consent requirements implemented in 1995-96.

National Average:

There is no direct comparison to the California figures cited above. However, in the annual "Monitoring the Future Study" conducted by the University of Michigan for the National Institute on Drug Abuse, 9.0% of 8th graders surveyed indicated that they smoked cigarettes daily in 1997, down from 10.4% in 1996. In 1991, the earliest year for which data on 8th graders is available, 7.2% of 8th graders smoked cigarettes daily.

Prevalence of cigarette use is significantly greater among 12th graders. In 1997, 24.6% of 12th graders smoked daily. This compares with 18.7% in 1987.

Approximately 4.5 million youths, ages 12-17, a rate of 19.9%, were current smokers in 1997. In 1988, an estimated 11.8% of youth, ages 12-17, were current smokers.

State Rank:

Not available.

Nationwide almost 20% of young people ages 12-17 were current smokers in 1997.

Source: *The Sixth Biennial California Student Substance Use Survey for Grades 7, 9, 11, 1995-96*, California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Crime and Violence Prevention Center; *Monitoring the Future Study, 1997*, University of Michigan, Survey Research Center; *Preliminary Results from the 1997 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; *Ibid.*, 1988.

9. Drugs and Alcohol Use

This indicator represents the percentage of 11th grade students who have used alcohol or illicit drugs in the past 30 days.

California Trend:

	93-94	95-96
Alcohol	50.1%	47.7%
Any illicit drug	32.2%	30.8%

Historical Trend - CA:

Data for alcohol and illicit drug use among 11th graders is not available before 1993-94. Additionally, although the survey (the Biennial California Student Substance Use Survey) from which the data above was drawn has been conducted for a decade, comparisons between current and earlier findings should be made with caution due to parental consent requirements implemented in 1995-96.

National Average:

There are no national figures directly comparable to the California figures cited above. The Monitoring the Future report, conducted by the University of Michigan for the National Institute on Drug Use, found 26.2% of 12th graders and 23.0% of 10th graders admitted using illicit drugs within 30 days of the study. These figures contrast with rates of 16.4% and 11.6% respectively in 1991, the earliest year for which data is available. Marijuana continues to be one of the more popular drugs among high school students with 23.7% of 12th graders and 20.5% of 10th graders admitting to its use within 30 days of the 1997 study, compared with 13.8% and 8.7% respectively in 1991.

State Rank:

Source: *The Sixth Biennial California Student Substance Use Survey for Grades 7, 9, 11, 1995-96*, California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Crime and Violence Prevention Center; *Monitoring the Future Study, 1997*, University of Michigan, Survey Research Center; *Preliminary Results from the 1997 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

10. Teen Births

This indicator represents the number of births to females, ages 15-19, per 1,000 females in that age group.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Rate	71	70	67	62

A total of 63,118 babies were born to California teenagers ages 15-19 in 1996.

Historical Trend - CA

1987	1996
52	62

National Average:

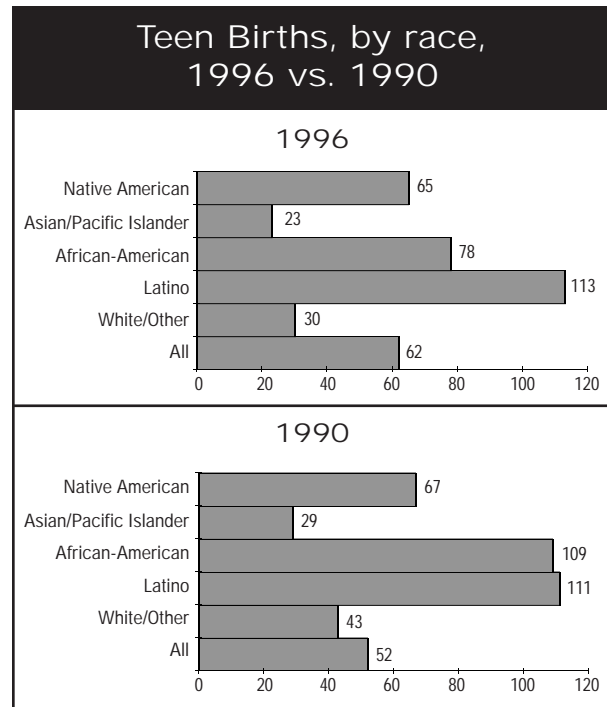
In 1995, the teenage birth rate was 57 per 1,000. Ten years earlier, the national teen birth rate stood at 50 per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 years old.

State Rank:

In 1995, California ranked 41st of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1986	1995
35th of 51	41st of 51



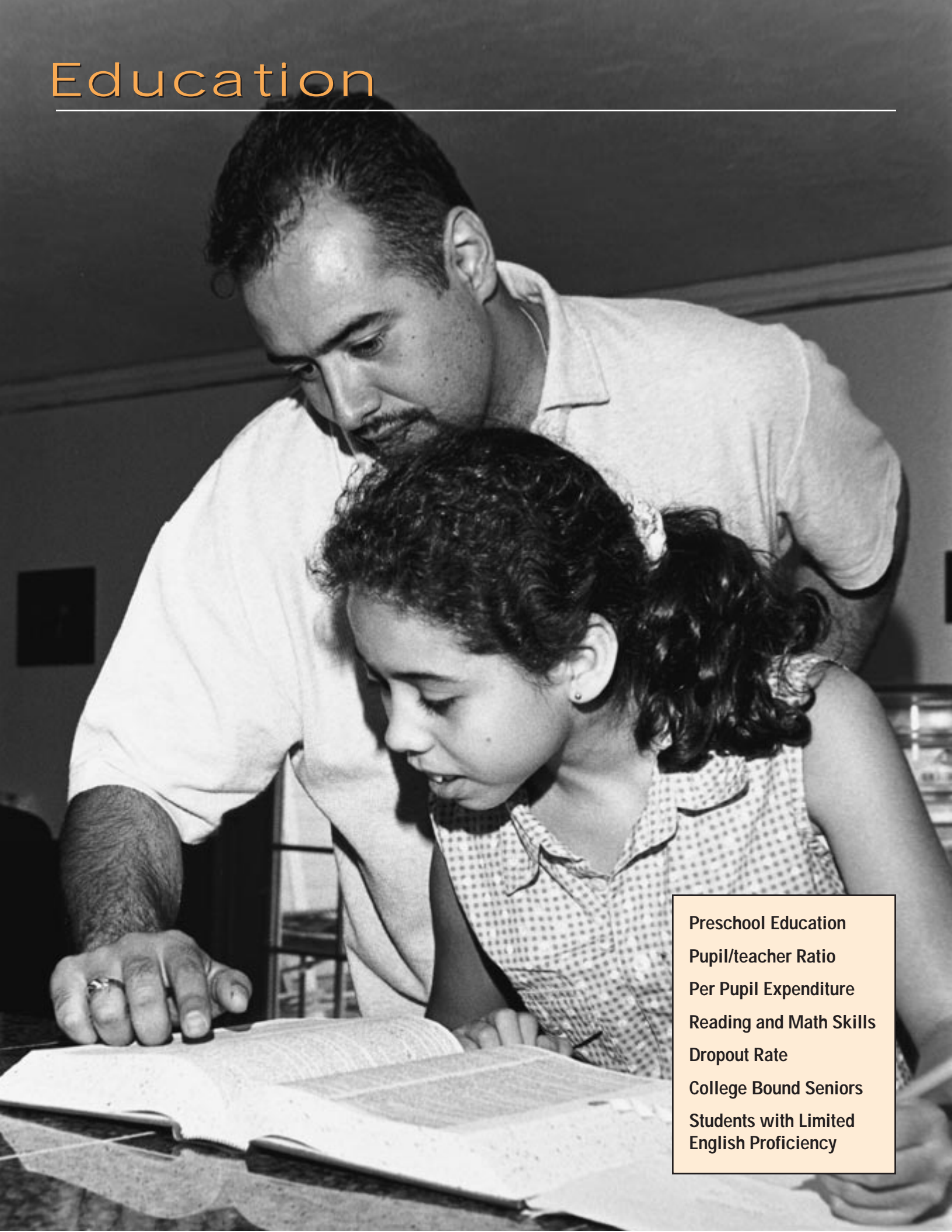
The teen birth rate for Latinos stands at nearly 4 times the rate of White teenagers.

Notable Facts:

Between 1990 and 1996, teen birth rates improved from 70 to 62 births per 1,000 teenagers. This improvement is consistent across racial lines, most notably for African-American and White teenagers. In recent years the Latino teen birth rate has also improved. However, it remains slightly higher than in 1990 (113 in 1996 compared to 111 in 1990). During this time period, the birth rate among White teenagers declined significantly, from 43 to 30 per 1,000 White teenage women.

Source: Center for Health Statistics, California Department of Health; "Report of Final Natality Statistics," 1995, Monthly Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 45, No. 11, Supplement, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; "Teenage Births in the United States: National and State Trends, 1990-1996", Ibid.

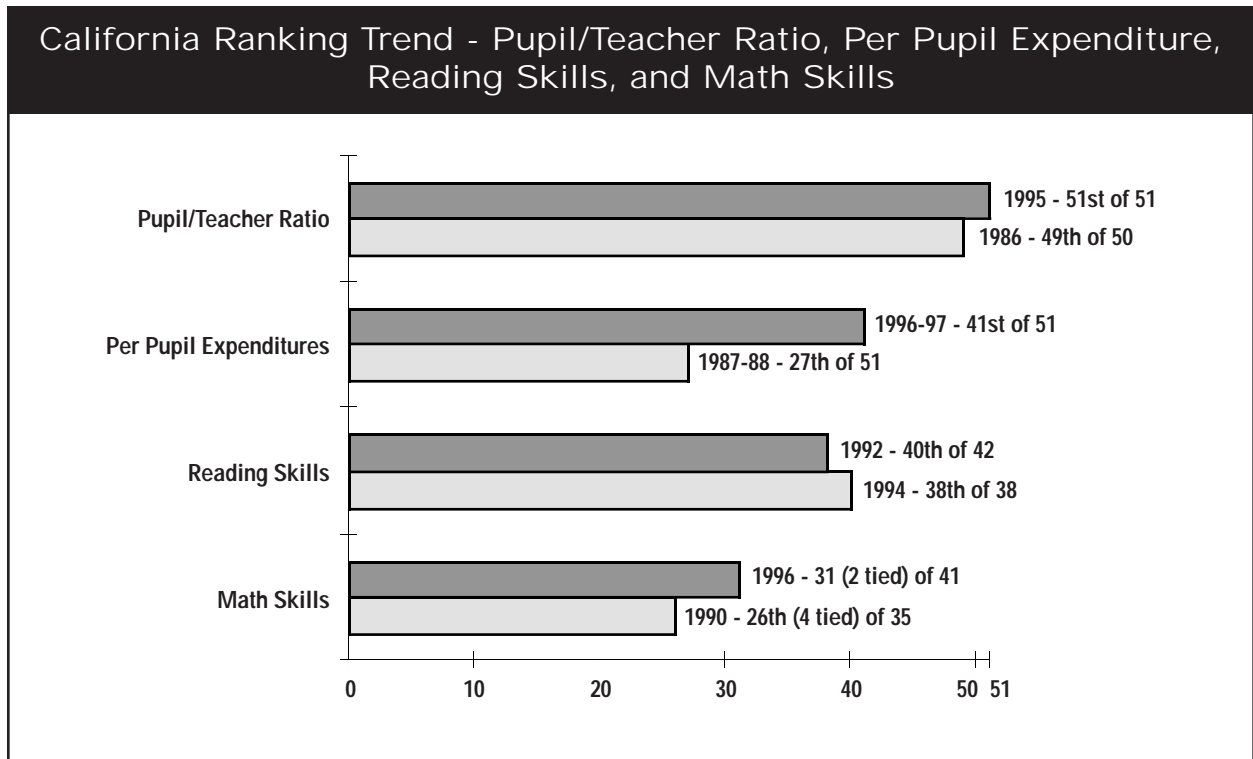
Education



Preschool Education
Pupil/teacher Ratio
Per Pupil Expenditure
Reading and Math Skills
Dropout Rate
College Bound Seniors
Students with Limited
English Proficiency

Education

California's rankings among states has fallen and/or remained low in a number of educational categories, including pupil/teacher ratio, per pupil expenditure, reading and math skills. However, California's dropout rate, which cannot be directly compared across states, has steadily improved in the last decade.



Dropout rates have improved for students of all ethnic groups

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; National Education Association.

1. Preschool Education

This indicator represents the number and percentage of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds who receive early childhood education through programs such as Head Start.

California Trend:

Similar to child care, no data is collected to measure the extent of need for early childhood education in California. In fiscal year 1996-97, 43,555 full-time equivalent children were served through the state's preschool program. Due to increased financing beginning in fiscal year 1997-98, 73,425 children were served between April 1, 1997 and September 30, 1997. Additionally, 79,929 California children were enrolled in the federally funded Head Start program.

Historical Trend - CA:

Based on a survey conducted in 1986, approximately 21,240 young children were served by California's State Preschool Program. In 1989, an estimated 35,170 children in California were served by Head Start. The state's child population has grown by 38% since 1986, while the percent of children served through the state preschool program has grown by 276%. Despite this improved investment, the need for state preschool services continues to go largely unmet.

National Average:

Not available. In 1996, 61% of all 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children were enrolled in public and private pre-primary programs, up from 55% ten years earlier (1987).

In 1997, 793,809 U.S. children were enrolled in a Head Start Program. In 1988, ten years earlier, 448,464 U.S. children were enrolled in Head Start. The Head Start Bureau of the Department of Health and Human Services estimates that it currently serves about 40% of all eligible* children.

* Children between the ages of 3 and 5 in families that meet the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for Head Start services. In 1997, the federal poverty guideline for a family of 4 was \$16,050.

State Rank:

Not available.

Source: Head Start Statistical Fact Sheet, February 1998, Head Start Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Digest of Educational Statistics, 1997, U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; Kids Count Data Book, 1998, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

2. Pupil/teacher ratio

This indicator represents the number of pupils in average daily attendance per teacher in California public schools.

California Trend:

	Fall 93	Fall 94	Fall 95	Fall 96
Ratio	23.8	23.7	24.1	22.9

Historical Trend - CA

Fall 1987	Fall 1996
23.0	22.9

National Average:

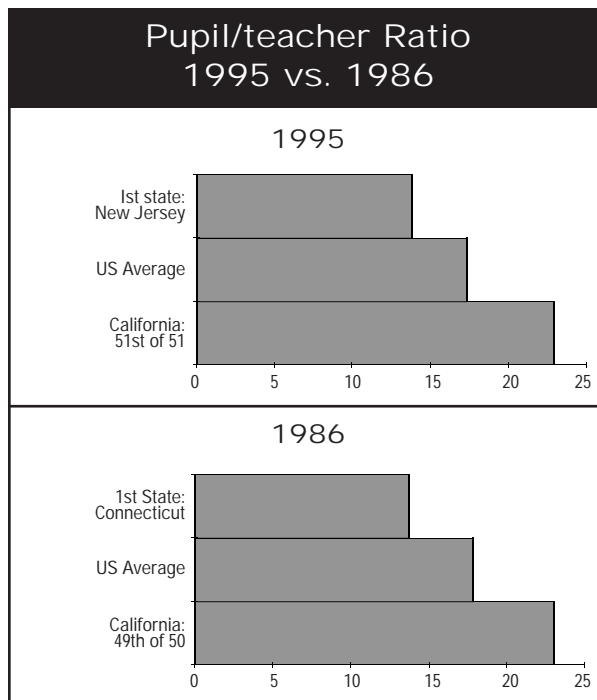
The national average pupil/teacher ratio was 17.3 during the Fall 1995 school year. In 1986, the national average was 17.8.

State Rank:

California ranked 51st of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia) in 1995.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

Fall 1986	Fall 95
49th of 50	51st of 51



3. Per Pupil Expenditure

This indicator represents the current expenditures for public elementary and secondary schools for each pupil in average daily attendance during the school year.

California Trend:

	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97
Amount	\$4,745	\$4,799	\$4,924	\$5,327*

* estimate

Historical Trend - CA

1987-88	1996-97
\$3,868	\$5,327

National Average:

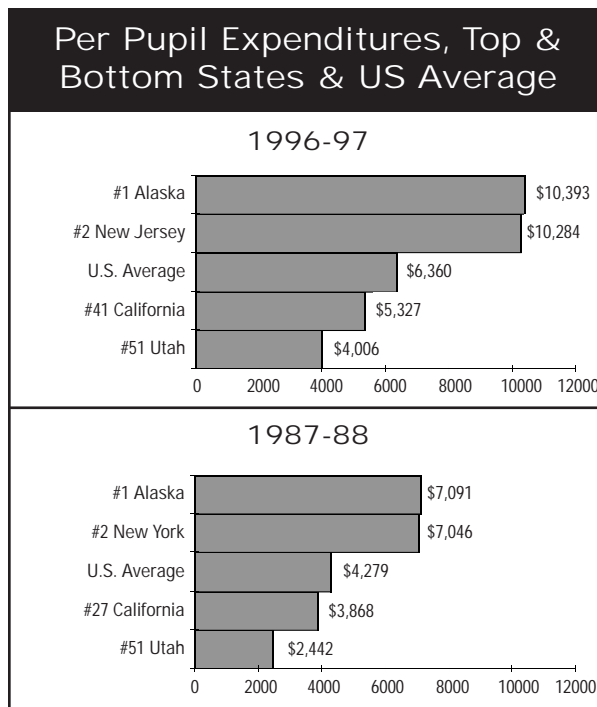
The national per pupil expenditure average is estimated at \$6,360 for the school year 1996-97. A decade earlier the national per pupil expenditure average was \$4,279.

State Rank:

In 1996-97, California's per pupil expenditure ranking is estimated at 41st of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987-88	1996-97
27th of 51	41st of 51



Notable Facts:

California spent \$33 for every \$1,000 in 1995 personal income on the 1994-95 school year, ranking 48th among states for its school finance effort.

Source: Ranking of the States 1997, National Education Association, Research Division; California Department of Education, Education Finance Division.

4. Reading and Math Skills

This indicator represents the average proficiency in reading comprehension for 4th grade and math skills for 8th grade public school students, as determined by the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP).

California Trend:

The NAEP Reading (Main) Assessment rates students' reading proficiency on a scale of 0 to 500. Students in the 4th grade must score at least 208 points to achieve a NAEP rank of "Basic" reading ability. The Assessment was not begun until 1992, and, beginning in 1998, is scheduled to take place every 4 years.

Reading Scores - 4th graders:

	1990	1992	1994
Scores	NA	203	197

National Average:

212 in 1994.

State Rank:

38th (tied) of 39 states participating in program.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1992	1994
40th of 42	38th (tied) of 39

California Trend:

Math Scores - 8th graders:

	1990	1992	1996
Scores	256	260	263

National Average:

271 in 1996. As with the Reading (Main) Assessment exam, the Math (Main) Assessment exam has only recently been administered, and so comparable historical data do not exist. The next exam is scheduled for 2000 and every 4 years thereafter.

State Rank:

Tied for 31st of 41 in 1996.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1990	1996
26th (4 tied) of 35	31st (tied) of 41

The NAEP Math Assessment rates students' math skills as follows:

- (200) simple addition and problem solving;
- (250) simple multiplication and 2-step problem solving;
- (300) reasoning and problem solving for fractions, decimals, percents, elementary geometry and simple algebra.

5. Dropout Rate

The indicator represents the percentage of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students who leave school and do not notify the school of a change of residence.

California Trend:

	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97
Annual dropout rate	4.9%	4.4%	3.9%	3.3%

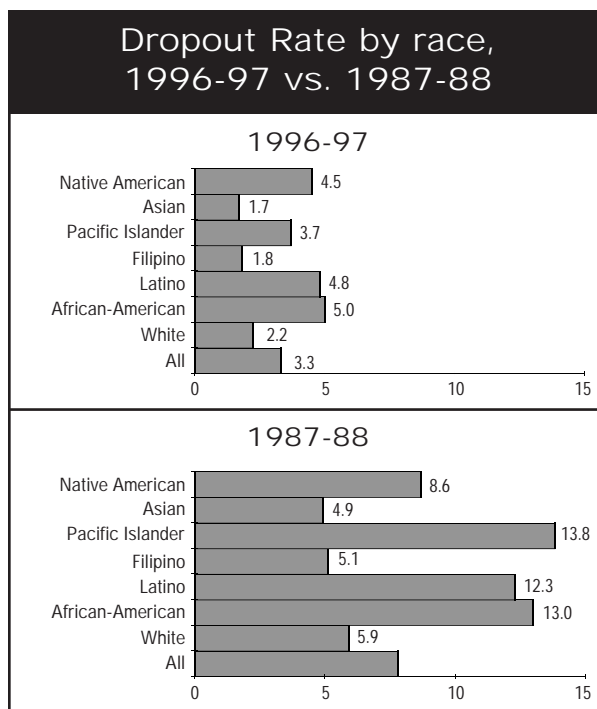
Historical Trend - CA:

1987-88	1996-97
*	3.3%

* This dropout rate is not comparable to 1996-97 data, since 1996-97 data represents a one-year dropout rate for grades 9 to 12, whereas 1987-88 data represents one-year dropout rate for grades 10 to 12. Nevertheless, dropout rates for 1996-97 for grades 10 to 12 only are consistent with the significant decline in the one-year dropout rates overall, from 7.8% in 1987-88 to 3.3% in 1996-97.

National Average and State Rank:
National figures are not comparable to California's dropout rate above. However, a recent analysis conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics estimated the high school completion rate of 18 through 24

year-olds for the U.S. at 85.8% between 1994 and 1996.* California ranks 51st of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia) in this measure. In 1990-92, the earliest years for which comparable data is available, California ranked 50th of 51.



Notable Facts:

One-year dropout rates show equal improvement among most ethnic groups over the past decade. Specifically, the one-year dropout rate for Latino and African-American students declined 61% and 62%, respectively, to 4.8% and 5.0% in 1996-97 from 12.3% and 13.0% in 1987-88. The rate for White students improved 62% during this time, from 5.0% in 1987-88 to 2.2% in 1996-97. The greatest improvement (73%) was experienced by Filipinos, from 5.1% to 1.8%. Despite these improvements, the rates for Latino and African-American children remain more than twice the rate of White children and nearly three times the rate of Asian students (1.7%).

Source: "Enrollment, Graduates, Dropouts, and Staff in California Public School Districts," October 1996, Unpublished Data, California Department of Education, Education Demographics Unit; Fact Book, 1997-98: Handbook of Educational Information, California Department of Education; Digest of Educational Statistics, 1997, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education; Dropout Rates in the U.S., 1996, Ibid.

6. College Bound Seniors

This indicator represents the percentage of recent public and private high school graduates who go to postsecondary education in California public and independent colleges and universities.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Percent	53.8%	53.2%	54.9%	53.1%*

* Percents do not include students attending independent colleges and universities or colleges out of state. In 1995, 1.9% of all high school graduates attended independent schools and colleges, while 9.3% migrated out of state to attend college.

Historical Trend - CA:

1988	1996
55.7%	53.1%

National Average:

In 1996, the college enrollment rate of high school graduates was 65%. In 1987, the college enrollment rate of high school graduates was 57%.

State Rank:

Not available.

7. Students with Limited English Proficiency

This indicator represents the percent of 1996 public school students (K-12) who were designated by their school as having limited proficiency in English.

California Trend:

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Percent	23.2%	23.8%	24.4%	24.7%
# of children (millions)	1.2	1.2	1.31	1.4

Historical Trend - CA:

1988	1997
14.6%	24.7%

National Average:

In the 1995-96, the national average was 7.6% of all students. Ten years earlier, in 1986-87, 3.9% of public school K-12 students were classified as Limited English Proficient.

State Rank:

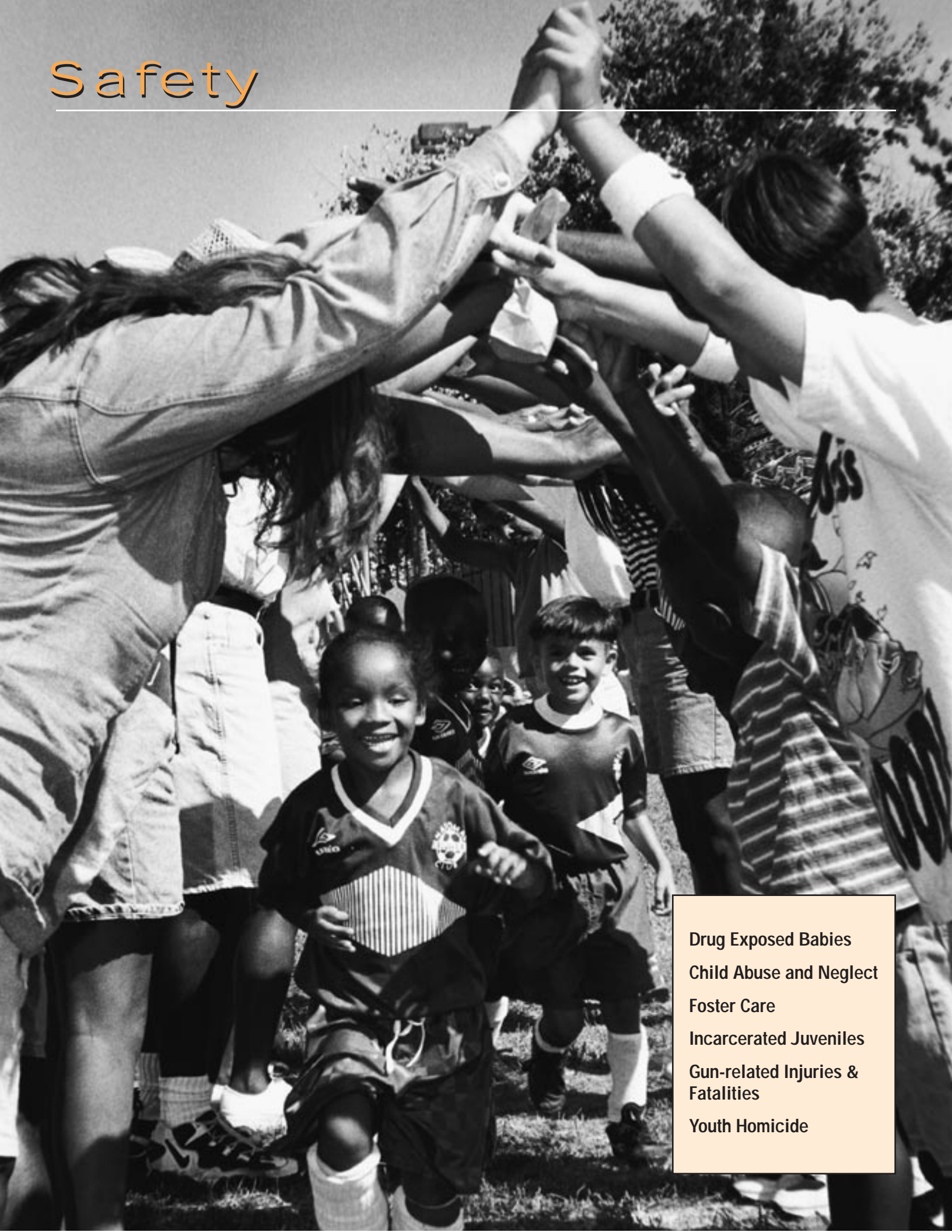
California ranks 2nd among 47 states for which data was available in school year 1995-96.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1986-87	1995-96

Source: "Language Census Report for California Schools," 1997, California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit; How many are there?: Enrollment Statistics of the Limited English Proficient Students in the United States, Compiled by Roger Olsen from State Educational Agency Data and under contract from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs; Report of the Survey of the States' Limited English Proficient Students and Available Educational Programs and Services, 1995-96, Compiled from State Educational Agency Data, Ibid., U.S. Department of Education, Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs.

Safety

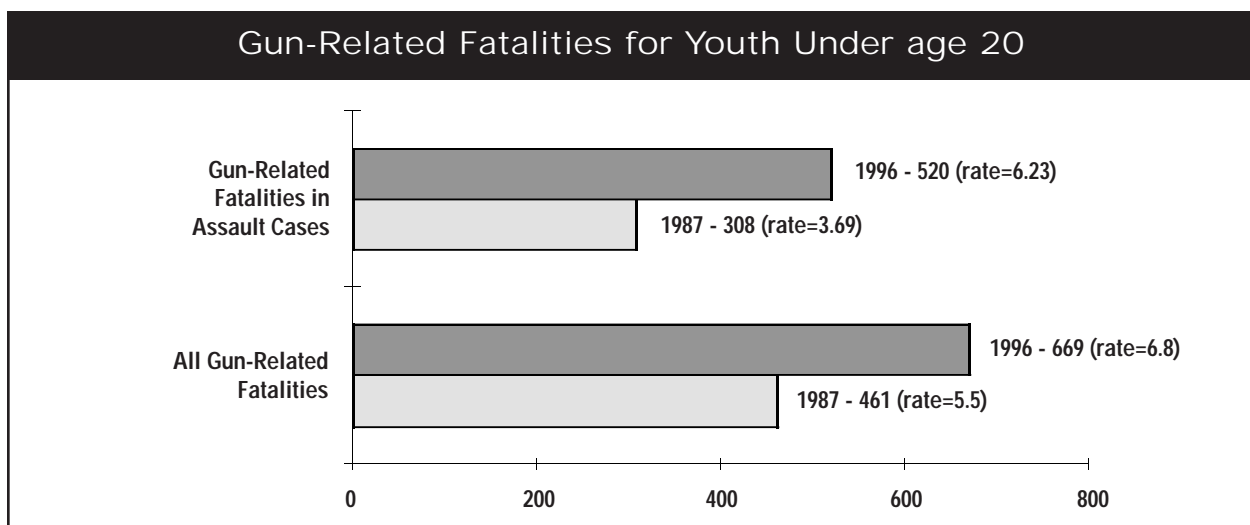
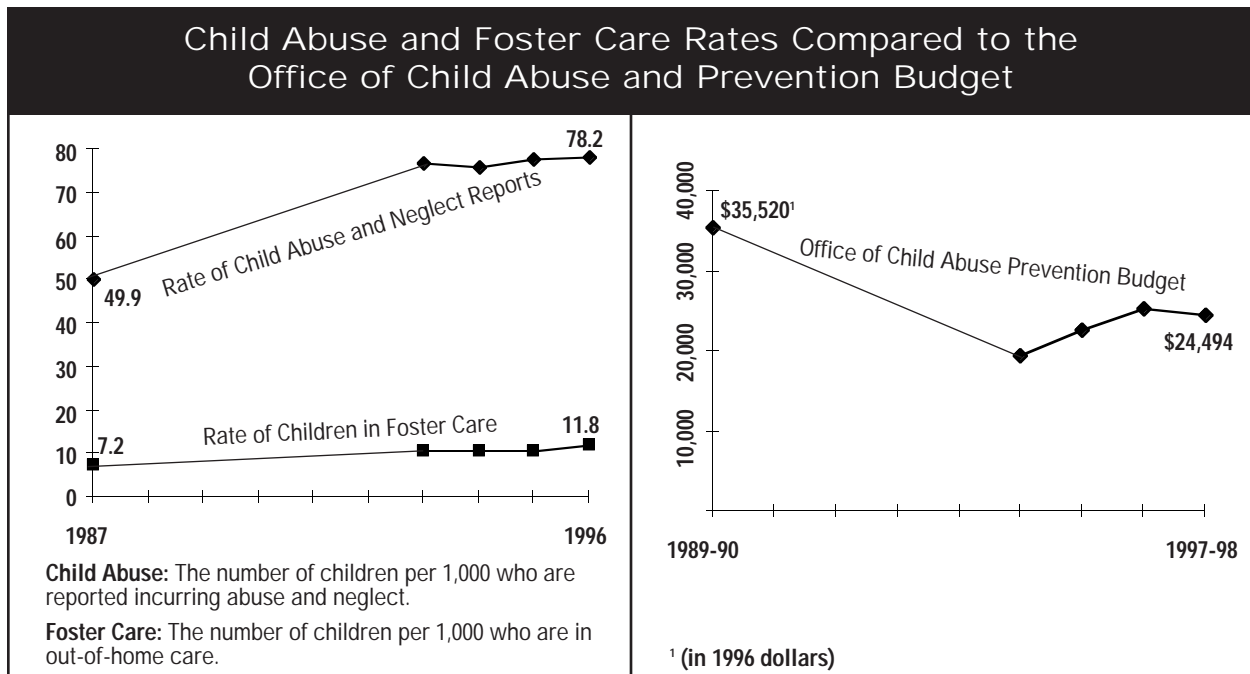


Drug Exposed Babies
Child Abuse and Neglect
Foster Care
Incarcerated Juveniles
Gun-related Injuries & Fatalities
Youth Homicide

Safety

Child abuse reports increased throughout the past decade. While some of the increase may be attributed to greater awareness and reporting, the increasing number of children who have been seriously injured (not just reported for being at risk) indicates some actual rise in abuse. From 1987 to 1997, the percentage of children in foster care more than doubled: from 50,547 to 108,488. In the past decade, the budget for the state Office of Child Abuse Prevention declined in real dollars, but did receive some augmentation in recent years.

Guns claim a higher number of children's lives. They are involved in more assaults as well as deaths



Source: California Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; California Children's Budget, 1997-98, Children's Advocacy Institute; California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control (EPIC) Branch.

1. Drug Exposed Babies

This indicator represents the prevalence of drug or alcohol use among pregnant women and the

California Trend:

No annual statewide statistics are available. The most recent and comprehensive study of the prevalence of drug exposed births remains the Perinatal Substance Exposure Study conducted through the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs in 1992. Through urine toxicology screening and a random sample of nearly 30,000 women, researchers estimated a statewide prevalence rate for licit or illicit drugs of 11.4%, 5.2% for drugs other than alcohol, and 3.5% for illicit drugs.

Smaller studies conducted in urban

Graph/chart:

* 1 LINE graph showing 3 lines: 1) increasing rate of children in abused and neglected, 2) increasing rate of children in foster care or out-of-home care, and 3) decreasing budget of Office of Child Abuse and Prevention.

Also

One BAR graph: 1 Bar showing the increasing total number of gun-related fatalities and 2) 1 bar showing the increasing number of deaths gun-related fatalities due to assault

Numbers re: RATE OF CHILDREN ABUSED AND NEGLECTED

1987 - 49.9

1993 - 76.9

1994 - 75.8

1995 - 77.5

1996 - 78.2

Numbers re: RATE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

1987 - 7.2

1993 - 10.5

1994 - 10.8

1995 - 10.8

1996 - 11.8

Note: Children Abused and Neglected and Children in Foster Care figures represent rate per 1,000 children.

Numbers re: Office of Child Abuse Prevention Budget

1989-90 - \$35,520

1994-95 - \$19,586

1995-96 - \$22,666

1996-97 - \$25,402 (estimated)

1997-98 - \$24,494 (proposed)

Note: Office of Child Abuse Prevention dollar amounts are in 1,000s.

Numbers re: gun-related fatalities in assault cases for youth under age 20.

1987 - 308 (rate = 3.69)

1996 - 520.(rate = 6.23)

Numbers re: All gun-related fatalities for youth under age 20.

1987 - 461 (rate = 5.5 per 100,000)

1996 - 669 (rate = 6.8 per 100,000)

Source: *Profile of Alcohol and Drug Use During Pregnancy in California*, 1992, California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs; "Effects of Age on Substance Perinatal Abuse among Whites and African-Americans," *American Journal on Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 23(3), pp. 431-457; Preliminary results from the 1997 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies; Preliminary Results from the 1996 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, *Ibid.*; National Pregnancy and Health Survey, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Drug Abuse; "Update: Trends in Fetal Alcohol Syndrome - United States, 1979-1993," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, February 20, 1998, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control.

2. Child Abuse and Neglect

This indicator represents the number of children and rate per 1,000 children who are reported incurring abuse (sexual, physical, and emotional) and neglect.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Number*	660,942	664,294	690,005	706,918
Rate per 1,000	76.9	75.8	77.5	78.2

* Some children may be reported multiple times within a year.

Historical Trend - CA:

	1987	1996
Number	370,634	706,918
Rate	49.9	78.2

National Average:

43.5 per 1,000 children in 1996. The national average is not directly comparable to California's rate. Some states, including California, count each incident of maltreatment as one report, regardless of the number of children involved. Others use a child-based system that assigns a report to each child who is alleged to be a victim of maltreatment. In 1987, the national average was 34.0 per 1,000 children.

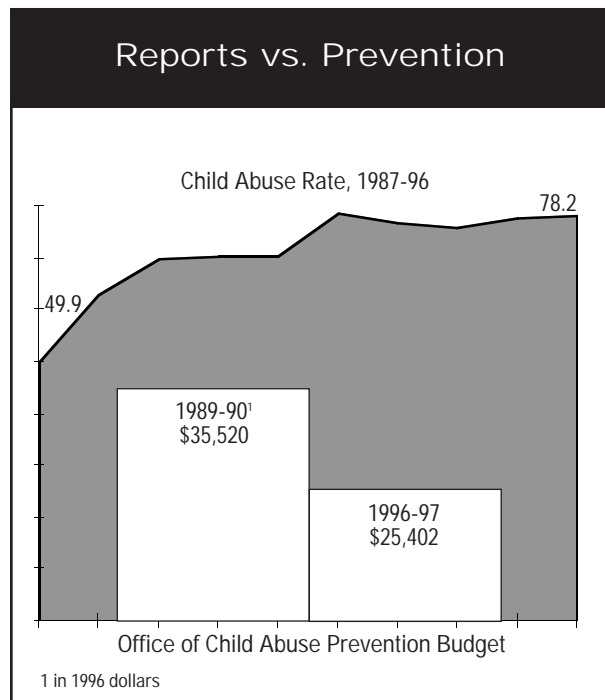
State Rank:

In 1996, California ranked 34th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1990*	1996
42nd of 51	34th of 51

* Standardized data exist only back to 1990. However, California ranked 48th of 50 states in 1987 in a separate survey administered by the National Center on Child Abuse. This survey, *Highlights of the Official Aggregate Child Neglect and Abuse Reporting*, is no longer being conducted.



Source: *Preplacement Preventative Services For Children in California*, 1996, California Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; *Highlights of the Official Aggregate Child Neglect and Abuse Reporting*, 1987, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect; *Child Maltreatment 1996: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System*, Ibid.

3. Foster Care

The indicator represents the number of children and rate per 1,000 children who are in out-of-home care (which includes children in foster care and children on probation who are not in institutionalized care, such as the California Youth Authority).

California Trend:

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Welfare	86,126	91,482	93,159	102,681
Probation	5,438	5,101	4,932	5,807
Rate per 1,000	10.5	10.8	10.8	11.8

Historical Trend - CA**:

	1988	1997
Welfare	54,128	102,681
Probation	5,243	5,807
Rate per 1,000	7.2	11.8

National Average:

The national average is not directly comparable to California's rate. The most recent data indicates that 507,000 youth were in out-of-home care in December 1996. However, this number includes young people who are 18 and older, though they are less than 10% of the out-of-home population.

State Rank:

Not available.

Notable Facts:

In California, African-American children comprised 35.6% of all children in foster care in 1996, more than any other ethnic group and up from 31.8% in 1987. Yet, African-American children comprise only 7.7% of all children, ages 0-17, in California in 1996.

Source: California Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau, FCI 520-A Report, *Selected Characteristics of Children in Foster Care*; California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit; U.S., Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Bureau, Voluntary Cooperative Information Systems.

4. Incarcerated Juveniles

This indicator represents the number of juveniles in custody in public and private institutions—including the California Youth Authority, county camps and juvenile halls—and private institutions per 100,000 juveniles.

California Trend:

	1989	1991	1993	1995
Total*	653	578	595	636
Public	519	490	505	559
Private	134	87	90	76

* Public and Private rates may not add to total due to rounding.

In 1995, 21% of all juveniles in custody in the United States were incarcerated in California; over 19,000 were in public institutions administered by the state, up from 17,000 in 1993.

Historical Trend - CA:

	1985	1995
Total	543	636
Public	430	559
Private	113	76

National Average:

In 1995, 381 juveniles per 100,000 were in custody nationally. This rate represents a 22% increase from 1985 when there were 313 juveniles in custody per 100,000 in the population. The rate of incarceration of juveniles in private facilities has increased by 9% (128 to 140), since 1985.

Notable Facts:

The total rate of youth incarceration for all races increased between 1985 and 1995, from 176 to 250 youths incarcerated per 100,000. During this time, the number of Latino children, ages 0-17, in California grew by 25%, from 7.1 million to 8.9 million. The incarceration rate increased the most for Latino youth, from 157 to 282 per 100,000 (a 79% increase). African-American youth continue to be incarcerated at the highest rate, from 662 in 1985 to 929 per 100,000 in 1995 (a 45% increase).

State Rank:

In 1995, California ranked 50th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).

Historical Trend - State Rank*:

1985	1995
49th of 50	50th of 51

* Due to the transfer from state to state of juveniles in private facilities, this ranking is based on juveniles in detention in public facilities only. This ranking is therefore more representative of the state resident juvenile population in custody.



Source: Children in Custody, 1985 to 1995: Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional, and Shelter Facilities. Statistical Report, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

5. Gun-related Injuries & Fatalities

This indicator represents the number and rate per 100,000 of fatalities and injuries to children from firearms.

Ages 0 to 17

This indicator represents the number and rate per 100,000 of fatalities and injuries to children under 18 years of age from firearms.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Deaths	514	471	488	358
Injuries	1,634	1,507	1,393	1,112
Rate (Deaths and Injuries) per 100,000	25.3	22.6	21.1	16.2

Historical Trend - CA:

	1987	1996
Deaths	252	358
Injuries	*	1,112
Rate (Deaths and Injuries) per 100,000	*	16.2

* Gun-related hospitalization data is not distinguishable prior to 1991. In that year there were 478 gun-related fatalities and 1,721 non-fatal gun-related hospitalization in California, for a rate of 27.1 gun-related fatalities and injuries per 100,000 children, ages 0-17.

Ages 0 to 19

This indicator represents the number and rate per 100,000 of fatalities and injuries to children under 20 years of age from firearms.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Deaths	901	887	850	669
Injuries	2,852	2,533	2,400	1,921
Rate (Deaths and Injuries) per 100,000	39.9	35.7	33.5	26.3

Historical Trend - CA:

	1987	1996
Deaths	461	669
Injuries	*	1,921
Rate (Deaths and Injuries) per 100,000	*	26.3

* Gun-related hospitalization data is not distinguishable prior to 1991. In that year there were 903 gun-related fatalities and 2876 non-fatal gun related hospitalization in California, 42 per 100,000 young persons, ages 0-19.

National Average:

In 1995, 5,285 young persons, ages 0-19, died in gun-related violence, a rate of 7.0 per 100,000. This figure shows a significant increase from 1986 when 3,373 gun-related deaths of young persons, ages 0-19, were recorded, a rate of 4.8 per 100,000.

Additionally, an estimated 41,566 young people, ages 0-24, were non-fatally injured in gun violence in 1995. This figure represents nearly half (49.4%) of all gun-related non-fatal injuries.

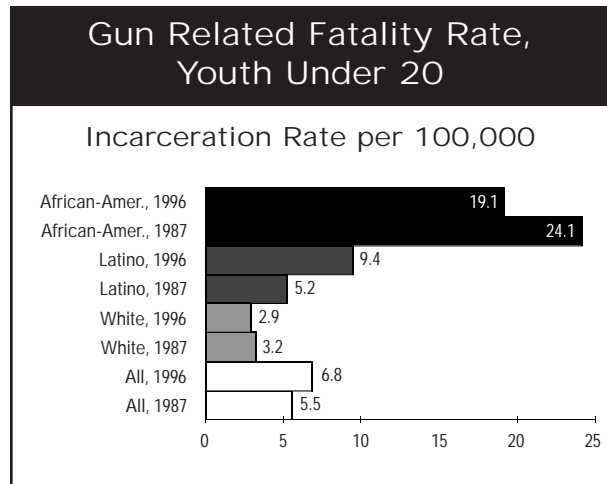
State Rank:

In 1995, California ranked 38th of 51 (50 states and the District of Columbia).*

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1986	1995
41st of 51	38th of 51

* States ranked with respect to gun-related death rate per 100,000 young persons (0-19) in population.



Notable Facts:

Although gun-related deaths among children have declined in recent years, total fatalities and rate per 100,000 children and youths remain higher than a decade ago. In 1987, gun-related fatality rates for children, ages 0-17, and youths, ages 0-19, was 3.4 and 5.5 respectively. In 1996 these rates increased to 4.0 and 6.8 respectively. Moreover, California has experienced a sharp increase in the fatality rate for Latino youth over this period. In 1987, the Latino gun-related fatality rate was 2.9 per 100,000 Latino children, ages 0-17. In 1996, this rate more than doubled to 5.4. During this period, the rate for African-American children declined from 13.9 to 10.0, yet still remained five times the rate for White children (1.8). In addition, the non-fatal gun violence rate for African-American children, ages 0-17, is 66 per 100,000 children, nearly ten times the rate for White children (6.7) and over twice the rate for Latino children (29.9).

Source: California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control Branch; Mortality Data, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control.

6. Youth Homicide

The indicator represents the number of homicide victims under age 20 and the homicide rate per 100,000 young people under age 20.

California Trend:

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Number	857	824	832	680
Rate per 100,000	9.2	9.2	9.1	6.9

Historical Trend - CA:

	1987	1996
Number	441	680
Rate	5.3	6.9

National Average:

A total of 3,345 young people of known age under 20 were victims of homicide crime in 1996 (4.4 per 100,000). Of this total, two-thirds (67%) involved the use of a firearm. In 1987, 3.5 per 100,000 youths, a total of 2,411 persons (53% involving firearms), in the U.S. were victims of homicidal crime.

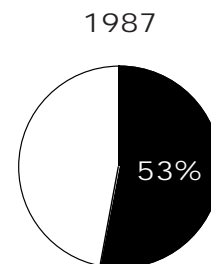
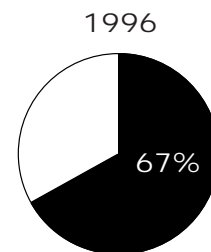
State Rank:

In 1996, California ranked 45th of 48 states.

Historical Trend - State Rank:

1987	1996
47th of 50	45th of 48

Youth Homicides caused by firearms, 1996 vs. 1987



Notable Facts:

The increase in gun violence involving Latino children has carried over to an increase in Latino youth homicide rates. In 1987, 5.0 per 100,000 Latino youths, ages 0-19, were victims of homicidal crime, twice the rate of White youths (2.2) and considerably less than the rate for African-American youth (27.3). In 1996, the youth homicide rate for White youth was about the same (2.1), while the rate for Latino youth increased to 10.4. During this time the rate for African-American youth declined to 20.0, yet remains ten times the rate for White youth and twice the rate for Latino youth.*

* Rate for Asian youth and other ethnic groups not available.

Source: California Department of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center; 1993 Series Population Projections, California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit; 1996 Supplementary Homicide Report, Victims by Age, Sex, Race, State, and for U.S., U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Criminal Justice Information Services Division; Resident Population of the United States: Estimates by Age, Sex and Race, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Population Division.

County Tables



California County Highlights

Family Economics

- * The state's healthy economy, along with changes to the welfare program, have combined to reduce the number of families receiving public assistance. Between 1996 and 1997, the number of children receiving public assistance declined by 16%.
- * While more families are transitioning off welfare, the number of low-income children continues to grow. Between the 1996-97 and 1997-98 school years, 34 of the 58 California counties saw an increase in eligibility for free or reduced school meals among children enrolled in public education. In nearly one-third (18) of the counties, 50% or more of the students were eligible for subsidized school meals.

Health

- * The teen birth rate continued to fall in the most recent year of available data. Statewide from 1995 to 1996, the rate fell from 67 births per 1,000 teenage women to 62; the rate fell in 51 of the 58 counties.
- * The percent of low birthweight infants has not improved from a year ago; in over one third of the 58 counties, the rate increased.
- * Although the state's infant mortality rate has improved in recent years, between 1995 and 1996, the rate increased in 23 of the 58 counties.
- * The proportion of infants born to women who received late or no prenatal care

improved between 1995 and 1996, from 5.2% to 3.8%. Yet, 5 counties have more than twice the statewide average. Additionally, in 21 counties, the proportion of women receiving late or no prenatal care in 1996 is equal to or greater than 5.2%, the 1995 national average.

Education

- * The one-year dropout rate among high school students continues to improve, declining in over two-thirds of California counties. Nine counties saw the proportion of high school dropouts decline by more than one percentage point, with San Bernardino and Shasta both experiencing a decline of 1.4% in their high school dropout rate, the largest among all counties.
- * Average classroom size improved in 57 of the 58 counties; statewide, the average class size declined from 29.1 to 27.4.

Safety

- * Between 1995 and 1996, the rate of child abuse and neglect reports per 1,000 children increased statewide and in 24 of the 58 counties.
- * The number of children in foster care per 1,000 children increased in 37 of the 58 California counties between 1996 and 1997; the average months a foster care child is in out-of-home placement increased in 32 of the 58 counties in 1997.

California Children

1996, Ages 0-17

Counties	White	Latino	Asian	African-American	Native American	Total
Alameda	134,185	73,097	69,053	72,627	1,599	350,561
Alpine	133	19	5	0	89	246
Amador	5,458	680	45	168	112	6,463
Butte	38,163	6,016	3,051	884	901	49,015
Calaveras	701	660	75	43	191	8,670
Colusa	2,541	2,818	84	16	82	5,541
Contra Costa	130,715	41,300	28,228	26,113	1,005	227,361
Del Norte	5,175	895	304	30	632	7,036
El Dorado	31,654	4,441	896	195	374	37,560
Fresno	84,974	116,379	34,767	14,083	1,951	252,154
Glenn	4,744	2,578	634	24	155	8,135
Humboldt	25,519	2,189	1,224	306	2,540	31,778
Imperial	7,495	37,154	497	677	383	46,206
Inyo	3,004	745	64	16	582	4,411
Kern	99,483	81,070	5,840	12,334	1,578	200,305
Kings	16,149	16,113	1,568	2,035	334	36,199
Lake	10,864	1,672	124	316	371	13,347
Lassen	5,775	741	66	80	258	6,920
Los Angeles	606,767	1,505,046	292,621	286,368	5,795	2,696,597
Madera	14,475	16,520	444	762	317	32,518
Marin	37,363	6,635	2,828	1,646	115	48,587
Mariposa	3,110	267	28	15	142	3,562
Mendocino	16,353	4,356	267	169	1,224	22,369
Merced	27,075	29,196	9,657	2,895	277	69,100
Modoc	1,942	387	9	17	130	2,485
Mono	1,944	538	32	12	125	2,651
Monterey	38,034	56,163	7,068	5,714	507	107,486
Napa	18,902	7,626	1,021	410	164	28,123
Nevada	18,044	1,483	199	40	191	19,957
Orange	336,869	279,144	91,235	14,023	1,693	722,964
Placer	46,911	6,476	1,496	391	423	55,697
Plumas	3,888	420	38	55	185	4,586
Riverside	212,014	160,696	16,846	24,681	3,393	417,630
Sacramento	183,300	52,757	40,843	38,735	3,178	318,813
San Benito	5,596	7,256	224	71	37	13,184
San Bernardino	248,145	193,781	23,886	50,060	2,864	518,736
San Diego	363,420	240,220	66,141	54,564	4,030	728,375
San Francisco	38,024	30,429	53,919	20,056	407	142,835
San Joaquin	73,194	49,114	29,264	9,862	1,092	162,526
San Luis Obispo	38,965	10,551	1,193	1,009	320	52,038
San Mateo	72,603	48,481	36,239	9,020	545	166,888
Santa Barbara	47,530	45,027	4,433	2,708	493	100,191
Santa Clara	170,822	131,374	100,604	16,228	1,136	420,164
Santa Cruz	36,124	22,712	2,138	732	259	61,965
Shasta	37,232	2,804	1,643	404	1,218	43,301
Sierra	699	58	1	3	17	778
Siskiyou	8,782	1,155	137	189	566	10,829
Solano	57,849	19,181	16,104	16,175	655	109,964
Sonoma	79,830	19,878	4,025	2,191	1,151	107,075
Stanislaus	74,613	42,252	10,288	2,791	1,066	131,010
Sutter	13,103	5,373	2,500	366	201	21,543
Tehama	11,045	2,929	94	73	264	14,405
Trinity	2,816	129	45	14	193	3,197
Tulare	45,488	64,336	6,168	1,809	870	118,671
Tuolumne	9,800	873	105	38	171	10,987
Ventura	106,101	77,596	11,286	4,543	751	200,277
Yolo	22,333	12,115	3,254	848	468	39,018
Yuba	12,695	3,133	3,339	880	365	20,412
CALIFORNIA	3,757,532	3,547,034	988,187	700,514	50,135	9,043,402

Source: California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

Family Economic Realities

Counties	1998 Median Yearly		Unemployment	
	Income	Rank	Rate	Rank
Alameda	\$63,300	6	4.40%	9
Alpine	\$36,900	37	9.10%	31
Amador	\$42,500	27	6.00%	17
Butte	\$35,300	45	8.50%	28
Calaveras	\$36,600	40	8.80%	30
Colusa	\$35,700	43	18.30%	57
Contra Costa	\$63,300	6	4.10%	7
Del Norte	\$34,500	50	10.00%	36
El Dorado	\$51,400	14	5.50%	14
Fresno	\$36,500	41	13.20%	51
Glenn	\$34,500	50	12.40%	48
Humboldt	\$35,200	46	7.30%	23
Imperial	\$31,700	54	26.50%	58
Inyo	\$39,300	30	8.00%	27
Kern	\$38,700	34	12.10%	45
Kings	\$34,400	52	12.30%	47
Lake	\$30,600	57	10.50%	40
Lassen	\$39,300	30	9.40%	33
Los Angeles	\$49,800	19	6.80%	22
Madera	\$36,500	41	13.50%	53
Marin	\$68,600	2	2.80%	2
Mariposa	\$36,700	38	9.80%	35
Mendocino	\$37,800	35	7.90%	26
Merced	\$35,700	43	15.50%	56
Modoc	\$34,800	49	11.40%	44
Mono	\$42,400	28	10.00%	36
Monterey	\$48,200	21	10.70%	41
Napa	\$51,800	12	5.10%	13
Nevada	\$45,200	25	6.10%	18
Orange	\$65,800	5	3.30%	4
Placer	\$51,400	14	4.70%	10
Plumas	\$36,700	38	10.20%	38
Riverside	\$46,500	22	7.50%	24
Sacramento	\$51,400	14	5.50%	14
San Benito	\$48,600	20	10.90%	43
San Bernardino	\$46,500	22	6.30%	19
San Diego	\$50,800	18	4.20%	8
San Francisco	\$68,600	2	4.00%	6
San Joaquin	\$43,700	26	10.70%	41
San Luis Obispo	\$46,200	24	4.70%	10
San Mateo	\$68,600	2	2.70%	1
Santa Barbara	\$51,400	14	5.00%	12
Santa Clara	\$77,200	1	3.00%	3
Santa Cruz	\$58,700	9	7.60%	25
Shasta	\$37,100	36	9.10%	31
Sierra	\$39,000	33	10.40%	39
Siskiyou	\$31,000	56	12.10%	45
Solano	\$51,800	12	6.40%	20
Sonoma	\$54,300	10	3.80%	5
Stanislaus	\$42,400	28	12.90%	49
Sutter	\$35,000	47	15.10%	54
Tehama	\$31,700	54	9.40%	33
Trinity	\$29,800	58	13.40%	52
Tulare	\$33,800	53	15.20%	55
Tuolumne	\$39,200	32	8.60%	29
Ventura	\$63,100	8	6.50%	21
Yolo	\$52,500	11	5.80%	16
Yuba	\$35,000	47	13.00%	50
CALIFORNIA	\$52,600		6.30%	
United States	\$45,300			

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Subsidized School Meals

1996-98

Counties	1996-98 Avg School enroll	1996-98 Avg Child Eligible	1996-98 %Child Eligible	1996-98 Rank	1997-98 %Child Eligible	1996-97 %Child Eligible	1995-96 %Child Eligible
Alameda	202,793	74,996	37.0%	22	36.7%	37.9%	36.3%
Alpine	160	113	70.5%	58	78.9%	80.5%	53.5%
Amador	4,749	1,230	25.9%	5	28.1%	28.8%	20.7%
Butte	33,582	14,666	43.7%	30	44.7%	44.6%	41.7%
Calaveras	6,638	2,289	34.5%	18	33.7%	34.9%	34.8%
Colusa	4,136	2,501	60.5%	53	62.1%	57.3%	62.0%
Contra Costa	145,183	40,491	27.9%	9	28.7%	27.6%	27.4%
Del Norte	5,144	2,370	46.1%	35	47.8%	46.3%	44.1%
El Dorado	27,895	6,755	24.2%	4	24.3%	23.9%	24.5%
Fresno	170,527	101,201	59.3%	50	60.1%	60.9%	57.0%
Glenn	5,928	3,295	55.6%	48	58.5%	55.5%	52.7%
Humboldt	21,630	8,383	38.8%	26	38.9%	39.2%	38.1%
Imperial	31,662	20,292	64.1%	55	68.9%	66.8%	56.6%
Inyo	3,450	1,011	29.3%	12	29.4%	30.1%	28.4%
Kern	137,610	69,726	50.7%	42	55.1%	44.9%	52.0%
Kings	23,740	12,760	53.7%	44	53.9%	53.7%	53.6%
Lake	10,069	5,503	54.7%	47	57.1%	53.8%	53.1%
Lassen	5,430	1,924	35.4%	20	37.1%	36.1%	33.1%
Los Angeles	1,524,018	910,971	59.8%	51	59.7%	59.7%	59.9%
Madera	23,150	13,199	57.0%	49	60.2%	56.6%	54.1%
Marin	26,363	3,623	13.7%	1	13.6%	13.3%	14.4%
Mariposa	2,772	810	29.2%	11	32.3%	28.6%	26.8%
Mendocino	15,641	6,773	43.3%	29	45.5%	47.5%	36.9%
Merced	47,313	32,307	68.3%	57	74.2%	66.9%	63.6%
Modoc	2,217	1,125	50.7%	43	53.5%	52.3%	46.6%
Mono	1,844	571	31.0%	13	33.6%	28.8%	30.5%
Monterey	64,188	34,927	54.4%	46	55.2%	54.8%	53.2%
Napa	18,355	6,099	33.2%	16	33.6%	32.6%	33.5%
Nevada	13,380	2,928	21.9%	3	21.6%	22.6%	21.4%
Orange	434,129	162,941	37.5%	24	37.7%	38.2%	36.6%
Placer	46,160	8,709	18.9%	2	19.1%	18.3%	19.2%
Plumas	3,675	1,383	37.6%	25	38.5%	38.0%	36.4%
Riverside	273,510	136,195	49.8%	39	50.5%	49.9%	49.0%
Sacramento	195,534	86,829	44.4%	32	44.9%	45.1%	43.1%
San Benito	9,799	3,369	34.4%	17	31.7%	35.1%	36.6%
San Bernardino	339,665	164,276	48.4%	38	50.0%	49.8%	45.2%
San Diego	443,272	207,433	46.8%	36	46.2%	47.2%	47.0%
San Francisco	61,168	36,729	60.0%	52	62.4%	52.2%	65.4%
San Joaquin	106,048	53,267	50.2%	40	50.1%	51.0%	49.6%
San Luis Obispo	35,392	11,024	31.1%	15	32.3%	31.6%	29.5%
San Mateo	90,356	25,383	28.1%	10	28.5%	28.0%	27.8%
Santa Barbara	60,936	24,614	40.4%	27	40.6%	41.0%	39.6%
Santa Clara	245,047	76,263	31.1%	14	30.6%	30.8%	32.0%
Santa Cruz	38,382	14,406	37.5%	23	37.2%	37.7%	37.7%
Shasta	29,887	13,077	43.8%	31	44.4%	44.2%	42.7%
Sierra	1,088	301	27.6%	8	18.7%	39.2%	33.0%
Siskiyou	8,314	3,790	45.6%	33	46.8%	44.7%	45.3%
Solano	68,134	17,977	26.4%	6	30.9%	20.1%	28.1%
Sonoma	68,400	18,144	26.5%	7	26.0%	27.1%	26.5%
Stanislaus	88,647	40,638	45.8%	34	46.2%	45.8%	45.6%
Sutter	14,952	7,112	47.6%	37	46.8%	46.9%	49.0%
Tehama	11,013	5,559	50.5%	41	50.6%	51.9%	49.0%
Trinity	2,400	1,292	53.8%	45	54.3%	54.9%	52.4%
Tulare	81,287	50,378	62.0%	54	62.0%	61.2%	62.7%
Tuolumne	8,165	2,825	34.6%	19	35.0%	34.7%	34.0%
Ventura	126,125	45,341	35.9%	21	36.4%	35.8%	35.6%
Yolo	25,298	10,795	42.7%	28	45.2%	42.0%	40.6%
Yuba	13,085	8,867	67.8%	56	67.1%	66.7%	69.5%
CALIFORNIA	5,509,433	2,621,752	47.6%		48.0%	47.6%	47.1%

Note: A child is eligible for subsidized school meals if his or her parent's income is below 185% of the federal poverty level.
Source: California Department of Education. Prepared by California Food Policy Advocates.

Children Receiving TANF

1995-97 percent of child population receiving Temporary Aid to Needy Families

Counties	1995-97 Avg # Children	1995-97 % Children	1995-97 Rank	1996-97 % Children	1995-96 % Children	1994-95 % Children
Alameda	67,318	19.7%	31	18.3%	20.0%	20.7%
Alpine	79	25.5%	47	24.0%	26.6%	25.6%
Amador	690	10.1%	10	9.4%	10.2%	10.7%
Butte	14,685	30.0%	51	29.0%	30.7%	30.2%
Calaveras	1,570	15.6%	23	14.8%	15.6%	16.5%
Colusa	760	12.9%	16	11.2%	12.8%	14.7%
Contra Costa	30,148	12.9%	17	12.2%	13.1%	13.6%
Del Norte	2,351	30.5%	53	30.2%	30.6%	30.6%
El Dorado	3,581	8.5%	4	7.8%	8.6%	9.1%
Fresno	83,100	33.6%	56	31.7%	33.9%	35.2%
Glenn	1,825	21.5%	35	20.3%	21.0%	23.2%
Humboldt	7,239	21.7%	36	20.6%	21.9%	22.5%
Imperial	13,792	28.9%	50	28.2%	29.3%	29.3%
Inyo	778	17.0%	26	16.2%	17.5%	17.2%
Kern	50,262	24.6%	45	24.1%	25.1%	24.5%
Kings	8,121	22.2%	38	21.1%	22.3%	23.0%
Lake	4,612	33.5%	55	32.6%	33.4%	34.5%
Lassen	1,690	21.8%	37	20.4%	21.4%	23.6%
Los Angeles	609,612	24.1%	42	23.3%	24.3%	24.6%
Madera	8,116	23.3%	40	23.2%	24.0%	22.8%
Marin	2,635	5.6%	1	5.1%	5.6%	6.0%
Mariposa	705	18.6%	30	18.4%	18.4%	19.0%
Mendocino	5,010	21.0%	33	19.6%	21.1%	22.2%
Merced	24,454	34.7%	57	32.9%	35.7%	35.5%
Modoc	735	26.0%	48	25.5%	25.7%	27.0%
Mono	208	7.5%	3	7.0%	7.3%	8.3%
Monterey	16,263	15.4%	22	14.3%	15.8%	16.1%
Napa	2,578	8.9%	6	8.1%	9.0%	9.5%
Nevada	2,084	9.2%	7	8.1%	9.6%	10.1%
Orange	75,161	10.8%	12	9.9%	11.1%	11.6%
Placer	5,189	8.8%	5	7.9%	8.9%	9.7%
Plumas	795	14.4%	21	14.1%	14.4%	14.8%
Riverside	72,919	17.0%	27	16.3%	17.4%	17.2%
Sacramento	97,033	31.0%	54	30.4%	31.2%	31.4%
San Benito	1,828	12.4%	15	11.6%	12.4%	13.4%
San Bernardino	126,810	24.1%	43	22.9%	24.3%	25.1%
San Diego	126,190	17.8%	29	16.5%	18.0%	18.8%
San Francisco	21,079	16.8%	25	15.3%	17.1%	18.1%
San Joaquin	47,938	28.5%	49	27.2%	28.8%	29.5%
San Luis Obispo	5,999	11.0%	13	10.6%	11.3%	11.2%
San Mateo	10,986	6.9%	2	5.9%	7.1%	7.7%
Santa Barbara	12,608	12.9%	18	12.1%	13.1%	13.6%
Santa Clara	54,882	13.5%	19	11.8%	13.8%	15.0%
Santa Cruz	6,909	11.3%	14	10.4%	11.5%	12.1%
Shasta	11,360	24.2%	44	24.3%	24.4%	24.1%
Sierra	86	9.3%	8	9.9%	9.6%	8.5%
Siskiyou	3,076	25.0%	46	23.5%	25.2%	26.2%
Solano	16,019	14.4%	20	14.1%	14.6%	14.4%
Sonoma	11,518	10.5%	11	9.6%	10.6%	11.2%
Stanislaus	31,975	23.5%	41	22.4%	23.8%	24.4%
Sutter	3,672	16.0%	24	14.8%	16.1%	17.1%
Tehama	3,568	23.1%	39	22.1%	23.5%	23.6%
Trinity	777	21.2%	34	20.9%	21.1%	21.6%
Tulare	37,295	30.3%	52	28.9%	30.6%	31.6%
Tuolumne	2,144	17.1%	28	16.3%	17.6%	17.5%
Ventura	19,475	9.3%	9	8.7%	9.5%	9.9%
Yolo	8,258	20.7%	32	20.0%	20.7%	21.5%
Yuba	7,716	36.9%	58	35.4%	37.4%	37.9%
CALIFORNIA	1,722,705	19.4%		17.0%	20.4%	20.9%

Source: Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

Late or No Prenatal Care

1994-96

Counties	1994-96 Avg. #	1994-96 Avg. %	1994-96 Rank	1996 Number	1996 Percent	1995 Number	1995 Percent	1994 Number	1994 Percent
Alameda	570	2.7%	3	378	1.8%	744	3.6%	588	2.7%
Alpine	1	7.4%	NR	0	0.0%	2	18.2%	0	0.0%
Amador	7	2.5%	NR	7	2.4%	7	2.8%	6	2.2%
Butte	135	5.4%	23	118	4.8%	145	5.8%	143	5.8%
Calaveras	15	4.1%	NR	6	1.9%	17	4.5%	21	5.5%
Colusa	29	9.2%	NR	25	8.3%	26	8.2%	37	11.1%
Contra Costa	470	3.8%	17	409	3.3%	549	4.4%	452	3.6%
Del Norte	21	6.3%	NR	11	3.3%	23	7.4%	28	8.2%
El Dorado	48	2.8%	4	45	2.7%	56	3.2%	42	2.3%
Fresno	568	3.8%	16	480	3.3%	560	3.7%	663	4.3%
Glenn	27	6.0%	NR	23	5.2%	32	7.2%	26	5.6%
Humboldt	108	6.9%	35	78	5.2%	144	9.2%	101	6.3%
Imperial	239	9.1%	41	210	8.4%	213	8.1%	295	10.8%
Inyo	22	9.7%	NR	20	9.0%	23	9.5%	23	10.7%
Kern	960	8.0%	40	592	5.1%	1,212	10.1%	1,077	8.5%
Kings	138	6.2%	28	89	3.9%	166	7.8%	159	7.1%
Lake	60	9.4%	43	49	8.4%	80	11.9%	50	7.6%
Lassen	16	5.4%	NR	11	3.7%	24	8.1%	14	4.6%
Los Angeles	6,145	3.5%	11	5,005	3.0%	6,311	3.6%	7,120	3.9%
Madera	115	5.8%	26	82	4.1%	134	6.7%	128	6.6%
Marin	81	3.0%	6	74	2.8%	98	3.7%	72	2.6%
Mariposa	11	6.6%	NR	5	3.2%	11	7.3%	16	8.7%
Mendocino	140	12.8%	44	74	7.2%	177	15.6%	170	14.8%
Merced	268	6.7%	34	220	5.9%	289	7.2%	294	7.1%
Modoc	7	5.9%	NR	5	4.4%	9	7.4%	7	5.7%
Mono	8	6.0%	NR	3	2.5%	10	7.4%	10	7.9%
Monterey	460	6.7%	33	350	5.3%	533	7.8%	496	7.0%
Napa	68	4.5%	20	64	4.2%	78	5.3%	61	4.1%
Nevada	28	3.4%	10	28	3.5%	27	3.2%	30	3.6%
Orange	1,784	3.6%	13	1,522	3.2%	1,886	3.9%	1,944	3.9%
Placer	88	3.2%	8	83	3.0%	104	3.6%	77	2.9%
Plumas	8	4.8%	NR	8	5.4%	11	6.5%	5	2.8%
Riverside	1,584	6.5%	30	1,340	5.7%	1,730	7.1%	1,682	6.8%
Sacramento	1,146	6.2%	27	925	5.2%	1,483	7.9%	1,031	5.6%
San Benito	22	2.9%	5	21	2.6%	34	4.3%	12	1.6%
San Bernardino	1,995	6.6%	31	1,519	5.2%	2,303	7.6%	2,162	6.9%
San Diego	3,002	6.5%	29	2,447	5.5%	3,277	7.1%	3,281	6.9%
San Francisco	321	3.7%	14	213	2.5%	355	4.1%	395	4.4%
San Joaquin	599	6.6%	32	472	5.4%	667	7.4%	658	7.0%
San Luis Obispo	120	4.6%	22	103	4.1%	140	5.3%	116	4.3%
San Mateo	314	3.1%	7	286	2.8%	350	3.5%	307	3.0%
Santa Barbara	277	4.6%	21	245	4.1%	310	5.3%	275	4.3%
Santa Clara	1,176	4.5%	19	811	3.0%	1,583	6.1%	1,135	4.3%
Santa Cruz	136	3.9%	18	124	3.6%	147	4.2%	137	3.7%
Shasta	73	3.5%	12	49	2.4%	87	4.3%	84	4.0%
Sierra	1	3.4%	NR	0	0.0%	1	4.3%	1	5.3%
Siskiyou	35	7.1%	36	31	5.8%	37	7.5%	38	8.3%
Solano	440	7.6%	38	407	7.0%	547	9.6%	366	6.2%
Sonoma	186	3.4%	9	106	1.9%	295	5.4%	156	2.8%
Stanislaus	271	3.7%	15	220	3.1%	310	4.3%	282	3.8%
Sutter	87	7.4%	37	69	6.0%	87	7.5%	106	8.6%
Tehama	40	5.6%	24	34	5.1%	40	5.5%	47	6.1%
Trinity	3	2.6%	NR	2	1.4%	5	4.1%	3	2.5%
Tulare	410	5.7%	25	395	5.5%	410	5.7%	426	5.8%
Tuolumne	11	2.3%	1	10	2.2%	13	2.6%	10	2.1%
Ventura	281	2.4%	2	202	1.7%	353	2.9%	289	2.4%
Yolo	175	7.9%	39	135	6.3%	220	10.1%	169	7.4%
Yuba	109	9.3%	42	88	8.1%	104	8.8%	135	11.0%
CALIFORNIA	25,458	4.6%		20,328	3.8%	28,589	5.2%	27,458	4.8%

NR = Numbers too small to be statistically significant.

Note: Percentage refers to percentage of infants born to women who received no prenatal care during pregnancy, or only received care during the last trimester.

Source: Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics.

Low Birthweight Infants

1994-96

Counties	1994-96 Avg. #	1994-96 Avg. %	1994-96 Rank	1996 Number	1996 Percent	1995 Number	1995 Percent	1994 Number	1994 Percent
Alameda	1,496	7.1%	44	1,440	7.0%	1,454	6.9%	1,594	7.5%
Alpine	0	0.0%	NR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Amador	12	4.6%	NR	11	3.8%	13	5.3%	13	4.7%
Butte	136	5.5%	18	122	4.9%	131	5.2%	155	6.2%
Calaveras	23	6.5%	NR	17	5.3%	28	7.3%	25	6.6%
Colusa	18	5.7%	NR	10	3.3%	27	8.5%	17	5.1%
Contra Costa	774	6.2%	35	776	6.3%	744	6.0%	802	6.5%
Del Norte	18	5.4%	NR	15	4.5%	14	4.5%	24	7.0%
El Dorado	100	5.8%	27	107	6.4%	96	5.6%	98	5.5%
Fresno	1,005	6.7%	42	947	6.5%	1,009	6.7%	1,059	6.8%
Glenn	18	4.0%	NR	16	3.6%	18	4.1%	20	4.3%
Humboldt	77	4.9%	5	75	5.0%	77	4.9%	78	4.9%
Imperial	128	4.9%	3	109	4.4%	132	5.0%	144	5.3%
Inyo	14	6.4%	NR	17	7.7%	16	6.6%	10	4.7%
Kern	791	6.6%	40	760	6.6%	787	6.6%	826	6.5%
Kings	132	6.0%	30	141	6.3%	120	5.6%	136	6.1%
Lake	35	5.4%	17	28	4.8%	44	6.5%	32	4.9%
Lassen	16	5.3%	NR	7	2.4%	20	6.7%	21	6.9%
Los Angeles	11,168	6.4%	37	10,761	6.4%	11,270	6.4%	11,474	6.4%
Madera	106	5.3%	14	109	5.4%	115	5.8%	93	4.8%
Marin	146	5.5%	20	149	5.6%	133	5.1%	156	5.7%
Mariposa	7	4.5%	NR	5	3.2%	12	7.9%	5	2.7%
Mendocino	57	5.2%	11	57	5.6%	51	4.5%	64	5.6%
Merced	231	5.8%	28	235	6.3%	245	6.1%	212	5.1%
Modoc	9	7.5%	NR	7	6.1%	7	5.7%	13	10.7%
Mono	8	6.5%	NR	5	4.2%	11	8.1%	9	7.1%
Monterey	363	5.3%	13	319	4.8%	359	5.3%	411	5.8%
Napa	62	4.1%	2	59	3.9%	62	4.2%	64	4.3%
Nevada	42	5.1%	9	48	6.0%	41	4.9%	36	4.3%
Orange	2,575	5.3%	12	2,488	5.2%	2,613	5.4%	2,625	5.2%
Placer	140	5.0%	8	127	4.6%	143	5.0%	149	5.6%
Plumas	10	6.2%	NR	10	6.8%	10	6.0%	11	6.1%
Riverside	1,464	6.1%	31	1,440	6.1%	1,394	5.8%	1,559	6.3%
Sacramento	1,193	6.5%	38	1,097	6.1%	1,230	6.6%	1,252	6.8%
San Benito	39	5.0%	7	39	4.9%	39	4.9%	39	5.3%
San Bernardino	2,011	6.6%	41	1,941	6.6%	2,018	6.7%	2,074	6.6%
San Diego	2,663	5.8%	25	2,614	5.8%	2,553	5.6%	2,821	5.9%
San Francisco	591	6.8%	43	559	6.7%	610	7.1%	605	6.7%
San Joaquin	593	6.5%	39	578	6.6%	567	6.3%	634	6.8%
San Luis Obispo	129	5.0%	6	136	5.5%	121	4.6%	131	4.9%
San Mateo	572	5.7%	22	577	5.7%	586	5.9%	554	5.3%
Santa Barbara	346	5.7%	24	363	6.1%	332	5.7%	344	5.4%
Santa Clara	1,562	5.9%	29	1,599	6.0%	1,573	6.1%	1,514	5.7%
Santa Cruz	173	4.9%	4	150	4.4%	164	4.7%	205	5.6%
Shasta	112	5.4%	1	102	5.0%	114	5.6%	119	5.6%
Sierra	1	5.2%	NR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	15.8%
Siskiyou	27	5.5%	19	30	5.6%	37	7.5%	14	3.0%
Solano	371	6.4%	36	366	6.3%	361	6.3%	385	6.5%
Sonoma	285	5.2%	10	299	5.4%	302	5.5%	254	4.6%
Stanislaus	451	6.2%	33	439	6.1%	427	5.9%	487	6.6%
Sutter	66	5.6%	21	75	6.6%	52	4.5%	70	5.7%
Tehama	39	5.4%	15	34	5.1%	49	6.7%	34	4.4%
Trinity	9	6.7%	NR	7	4.8%	10	8.1%	9	7.4%
Tulare	418	5.8%	26	409	5.7%	397	5.6%	449	6.1%
Tuolumne	29	6.2%	32	25	5.4%	23	4.7%	40	8.6%
Ventura	643	5.4%	16	609	5.2%	644	5.3%	677	5.7%
Yolo	125	5.7%	23	119	5.5%	112	5.1%	145	6.4%
Yuba	73	6.2%	34	65	5.9%	71	6.0%	82	6.7%
CALIFORNIA	3,3704	6.1%		32,649	6.1%	33,588	6.1%	34,876	6.2%

NR = Numbers too small to be statistically significant.

Note: Percentage refers to percentage of live births with birthweights less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.).

Source: Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics.

Infant Mortality

1994-96

Counties	1994-96 Avg. Deaths	1994-96 Rate	1994-96 Rank	1996 Deaths	1996 Rate	1995 Deaths	1995 Rate	1994 Deaths	1994 Rate
Alameda	125	6.0	20	124	6.0	114	5.4	137	6.4
Alpine	0	0.0	NR	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Amador	1	4.9	NR	1	3.5	0	0.0	3	10.9
Butte	20	7.9	40	17	6.9	26	10.3	16	6.4
Calaveras	5	12.9	NR	1	3.1	5	13.1	8	21.1
Colusa	2	6.3	NR	2	6.6	2	6.3	2	6.0
Contra Costa	71	5.8	17	68	5.5	75	6.0	71	5.7
Del Norte	4	11.2	NR	1	3.0	5	16.1	5	14.6
El Dorado	11	6.2	22	10	6.0	6	3.5	16	8.9
Fresno	128	8.5	43	115	7.9	125	8.3	145	9.3
Glenn	1	3.0	2	1	2.3	1	2.3	2	4.3
Humboldt	14	8.8	44	7	4.7	14	8.9	20	12.5
Imperial	14	5.2	9	11	4.4	13	4.9	17	6.2
Inyo	2	7.4	NR	2	9.0	1	4.1	2	9.3
Kern	128	10.6	46	113	9.8	130	10.9	141	11.2
Kings	20	8.9	45	26	11.5	13	6.1	20	9.0
Lake	4	6.8	27	4	6.9	2	3.0	7	10.7
Lassen	2	6.7	NR	1	3.4	3	10.1	2	6.5
Los Angeles	1,142	6.5	26	999	5.9	1,176	6.7	1,252	6.9
Madera	14	7.2	33	13	6.5	14	7.0	16	8.2
Marin	10	3.7	3	9	3.4	7	2.7	14	5.1
Mariposa	0	2.0	1	0	0.0	1	6.6	0	0.0
Mendocino	9	7.9	39	10	9.8	9	8.0	7	6.1
Merced	30	7.6	38	27	7.2	33	8.2	30	7.2
Modoc	1	11.2	NR	2	17.5	1	8.2	1	8.2
Mono	0	0.0	NR	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Monterey	38	5.6	15	35	5.3	39	5.7	41	5.8
Napa	8	5.4	11	7	4.6	8	5.5	9	6.0
Nevada	5	6.5	25	9	11.3	3	3.6	4	4.8
Orange	261	5.3	10	211	4.4	272	5.6	300	6.0
Placer	15	5.5	13	17	6.2	18	6.3	11	4.1
Plumas	2	14.1	NR	2	13.5	1	6.0	4	22.1
Riverside	177	7.3	34	150	6.4	171	7.1	209	8.4
Sacramento	130	7.1	31	123	6.9	131	7.0	136	7.3
San Benito	4	5.6	14	4	5.0	3	3.8	6	8.1
San Bernardino	229	7.6	37	209	7.1	231	7.7	247	7.9
San Diego	261	5.7	16	243	5.4	226	4.9	313	6.6
San Francisco	50	5.8	18	40	4.8	37	4.3	74	8.2
San Joaquin	65	7.2	32	67	7.6	58	6.4	71	7.6
San Luis Obispo	13	5.1	7	11	4.4	10	3.8	19	7.1
San Mateo	41	4.1	4	40	4.0	51	5.1	33	3.2
Santa Barbara	31	5.1	8	22	3.7	39	6.7	32	5.0
Santa Clara	142	5.4	12	137	5.1	135	5.2	154	5.8
Santa Cruz	21	5.9	19	21	6.1	13	3.7	28	7.6
Shasta	14	6.9	28	12	5.9	14	6.9	17	8.0
Sierra	0	0.0	NR	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Siskiyou	3	6.1	21	3	5.6	5	10.2	1	2.2
Solano	41	7.0	29	41	7.1	29	5.1	52	8.8
Sonoma	25	4.6	5	23	4.2	24	4.4	29	5.3
Stanislaus	51	7.0	30	49	6.8	43	5.9	62	8.4
Sutter	7	6.2	23	9	7.9	7	6.0	6	4.9
Tehama	5	7.4	35	2	3.0	5	6.9	9	11.7
Trinity	1	5.1	NR	1	6.9	1	8.1	0	0.0
Tulare	46	6.3	24	44	6.1	41	5.7	52	7.1
Tuolumne	4	8.4	42	6	13.0	1	2.0	5	10.7
Ventura	60	5.1	6	58	5.0	65	5.4	57	4.8
Yolo	18	8.2	41	21	9.7	11	5.0	22	9.7
Yuba	9	7.4	36	5	4.6	10	8.4	11	8.9
CALIFORNIA	3,537	6.4		3,186	5.9	3,478	6.3	3,948	7.0

NR = Numbers too small to be statistically significant.

Note Rate refers to the number of infants who died in their first year of life per 1,000 live births.

Source: Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics.

Teen Births

Ages 15-19, 1994-96

Counties	1994-96 Avg. Births	1994-96 Avg. Rate	1994-96 Rank	1996 Births	1996 Rate	1995 Births	1995 Rate	1994 Births	1994 Rate
Alameda	1,911	50.4	16	1,830	46.7	1,991	52.8	1,911	51.8
Alpine	2	50.0	NR	1	26.3	4	108.1	1	22.2
Amador	34	37.3	NR	37	37.0	35	38.5	31	36.3
Butte	372	61.3	23	396	62.4	391	64.2	330	56.9
Calaveras	48	38.2	NR	48	37.1	52	41.7	43	35.7
Colusa	48	66.7	NR	41	54.4	51	70.9	52	75.8
Contra Costa	1,078	40.2	9	1,093	39.2	1,072	40.1	1,070	41.3
Del Norte	60	66.2	NR	54	57.2	63	69.2	62	72.9
El Dorado	164	33.5	4	150	29.1	176	35.8	167	35.9
Fresno	2,601	93.0	39	2,517	85.7	2,633	94.7	2,654	99.4
Glenn	63	60.9	NR	61	56.6	65	62.3	64	63.9
Humboldt	206	49.9	14	197	45.2	217	53.2	205	51.8
Imperial	406	65.8	28	400	63.4	388	63.5	430	70.7
Inyo	36	56.0	NR	37	57.9	32	49.5	38	60.7
Kern	2,096	94.9	42	1,952	85.8	2,146	97.6	2,189	101.7
Kings	387	96.2	43	381	91.1	387	96.5	392	101.3
Lake	115	66.2	29	117	64.2	107	61.5	122	73.4
Lassen	55	59.6	NR	48	49.1	62	68.5	55	62.2
Los Angeles	21,220	75.5	34	19,958	70.3	21,612	77.3	22,091	79.0
Madera	387	89.6	38	371	83.7	399	92.3	390	93.1
Marin	110	20.0	1	119	21.1	93	16.9	119	22.1
Mariposa	18	37.6	NR	11	22.4	21	43.8	22	47.2
Mendocino	189	63.0	24	167	53.9	202	67.5	197	68.1
Merced	731	94.2	41	674	84.4	768	99.5	751	98.9
Modoc	20	52.1	NR	25	63.1	14	36.9	21	55.7
Mono	9	31.6	NR	9	30.9	9	33.6	8	30.2
Monterey	936	85.6	37	900	80.1	936	85.5	972	91.6
Napa	154	43.8	12	158	43.2	163	46.7	142	41.6
Nevada	86	29.4	2	86	27.7	86	29.3	86	31.4
Orange	4,350	58.9	21	4,247	56.4	4,268	58.2	4,535	62.3
Placer	245	34.9	5	229	30.5	262	37.4	244	37.2
Plumas	27	35.8	NR	24	30.9	31	41.2	25	35.4
Riverside	3,372	74.9	33	3,284	69.2	3,409	75.8	3,424	80.1
Sacramento	2,308	64.6	27	2,131	57.1	2,362	66.4	2,432	70.8
San Benito	112	68.7	31	124	72.3	113	68.7	98	64.5
San Bernardino	4,445	79.0	36	4,316	73.9	4,485	79.8	4,534	83.6
San Diego	5,002	63.3	25	4,831	59.4	4,937	62.8	5,239	68.1
San Francisco	631	39.6	6	588	35.7	637	40.6	669	42.6
San Joaquin	1,413	76.4	35	1,328	68.5	1,454	78.8	1,457	82.5
San Luis Obispo	264	32.1	3	249	28.9	273	33.3	271	34.4
San Mateo	716	39.7	7	702	37.6	719	40.0	726	41.6
Santa Barbara	742	59.3	22	724	56.2	705	56.4	797	65.8
Santa Clara	2,242	49.9	15	2,137	46.0	2,204	49.6	2,385	54.4
Santa Cruz	396	50.9	17	367	45.8	410	52.7	410	54.5
Shasta	311	54.6	20	322	55.0	300	52.7	311	56.1
Sierra	2	15.6	NR	1	7.3	3	23.1	2	17.1
Siskiyou	77	46.7	13	73	43.2	79	47.6	80	49.3
Solano	697	54.3	19	700	52.4	686	53.7	705	57.1
Sonoma	529	41.3	10	504	37.5	534	41.9	548	45.0
Stanislaus	1,090	71.0	32	1,084	67.2	1,070	69.8	1,117	76.4
Sutter	163	64.2	26	141	53.4	177	69.5	172	70.2
Tehama	131	67.2	30	115	57.7	132	67.6	145	76.9
Trinity	19	40.6	NR	18	37.3	16	34.1	23	50.7
Tulare	1,403	98.2	44	1,387	93.9	1,380	96.4	1,441	104.7
Tuolumne	66	40.0	8	65	38.0	80	48.2	53	33.5
Ventura	1,208	51.0	18	1,159	48.0	1,247	52.6	1,218	52.3
Yolo	276	41.9	11	236	34.7	275	41.6	318	49.7
Yuba	206	93.5	40	194	86.5	221	99.5	204	94.8
CALIFORNIA	65,987	66.3		63,118	61.6	66,644	67.2	68,198	70.2

NR = Numbers too small to be statistically significant.

Note: Rate refers to the number of births to females, ages 15-19, per 1,000 women in that age group.

Source: Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics; Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

Average Class Size

October 1995-October 1997

Counties	1995-97 Avg. Class		1997 Avg. Class Size	1996 Avg. Class Size	1995 Avg. Class Size
	Size	Rank			
Alameda	28.0	43	26.9	28.6	28.4
Alpine	16.6	1	13.9	15.7	20.3
Amador	25.8	21	25	26	26.4
Butte	27.2	29	26.5	27.5	27.7
Calaveras	25.2	15	23.7	25.3	26.6
Colusa	21.8	5	20.7	21.6	23.2
Contra Costa	28.9	52	27.9	29.6	29.2
Del Norte	27.4	34	26.2	27.8	28.3
El Dorado	28.1	46	27	29.1	28.3
Fresno	27.3	31	26.1	27.9	28
Glenn	23.8	10	22.7	24.2	24.5
Humboldt	24.9	14	24.3	25	25.5
Imperial	27.1	27	26.1	27.3	27.8
Inyo	22.1	7	20.7	22.8	22.8
Kern	27.4	33	26.1	28	28.1
Kings	26.8	24	25.9	27.2	27.4
Lake	24.4	13	23.8	24.6	24.9
Lassen	23.3	9	22.5	23.6	23.7
Los Angeles	29.2	55	28	29.9	29.7
Madera	28.1	46	26.9	28.5	29
Marin	25.5	19	24.7	26.1	25.8
Mariposa	23.9	12	21.9	24.6	25.1
Mendocino	23.8	10	23.4	24.3	23.7
Merced	27.4	32	26.4	27.4	28.3
Modoc	19.7	3	19.4	19.7	20
Mono	20.8	4	20.4	20.7	21.3
Monterey	27.6	35	26.6	28.4	27.8
Napa	27.9	39	27	28.4	28.2
Nevada	27.0	25	26.1	27.3	27.7
Orange	30.0	57	28.9	30.3	30.7
Placer	27.9	41	27.5	28.2	28.1
Plumas	25.3	16	23.6	25	27.2
Riverside	30.0	57	28.5	30.9	30.5
Sacramento	28.1	44	27.3	28.4	28.7
San Benito	28.2	48	27.5	28.2	29
San Bernardino	29.6	56	28.5	30.1	30.3
San Diego	28.9	52	27.6	29.4	29.7
San Francisco	25.4	18	24.7	25.1	26.4
San Joaquin	28.1	44	27.3	28.4	28.7
San Luis Obispo	26.7	23	25.9	27.1	27
San Mateo	27.9	39	26.9	28.2	28.5
Santa Barbara	27.0	25	26.1	27.2	27.8
Santa Clara	28.3	49	26.9	28.9	29
Santa Cruz	28.7	51	27.8	29	29.3
Shasta	27.2	28	26.2	27.6	27.7
Sierra	16.8	2	16.5	16.9	17.1
Siskiyou	21.9	6	20.8	23.1	21.8
Solano	28.0	42	26.8	28.9	28.2
Sonoma	27.3	30	26.3	27.5	28.1
Stanislaus	29.1	54	28.3	29.4	29.5
Sutter	26.5	22	25.9	27	26.6
Tehama	25.6	20	24.9	26	25.8
Trinity	22.3	8	22.4	22.7	21.7
Tulare	27.7	36	26.7	28.6	27.7
Tuolumne	25.4	17	24.5	25.7	25.9
Ventura	28.5	50	28.3	27.2	29.9
Yolo	27.7	37	26.8	28	28.3
Yuba	27.8	38	27.4	28.2	27.7
CALIFORNIA	28.5		27.4	29.1	29.1

Source: California Department of Education, Demographic Unit.

High School Dropout Rate

1995-97, Public School Grades 9-12

Counties	1995-97 Dropouts		1996-97 Dropouts		1995-96 Dropouts		1994-95 Dropouts	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Alameda	1,922	3.5%	1,482	2.6%	2,005	3.7%	2,280	4.3%
Alpine	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Amador	19	1.2%	21	1.4%	15	1.0%	21	1.4%
Butte	441	4.7%	399	4.0%	485	5.2%	439	4.9%
Calaveras	47	2.1%	38	1.7%	52	2.2%	52	2.5%
Colusa	18	1.3%	8	0.6%	20	1.5%	25	2.0%
Contra Costa	821	2.0%	626	1.5%	875	2.2%	963	2.5%
Del Norte	48	3.2%	37	2.4%	34	2.3%	73	5.1%
El Dorado	197	2.3%	217	2.4%	189	2.2%	184	2.3%
Fresno	2,206	4.8%	2,143	4.4%	2,201	4.8%	2,273	5.2%
Glenn	75	4.5%	69	4.0%	80	4.7%	77	4.6%
Humboldt	244	3.9%	194	3.0%	224	3.5%	314	5.1%
Imperial	198	2.1%	134	1.4%	185	1.9%	276	3.0%
Inyo	18	1.7%	13	1.2%	19	1.8%	23	2.2%
Kern	1,646	4.4%	1,650	4.2%	1,660	4.4%	1,628	4.5%
Kings	150	2.4%	134	2.0%	165	2.6%	151	2.4%
Lake	105	3.7%	106	3.7%	106	3.8%	104	3.7%
Lassen	39	2.4%	59	3.6%	25	1.6%	32	2.1%
Los Angeles	22,688	5.5%	19,246	4.6%	22,152	5.4%	26,666	6.6%
Madera	261	3.7%	201	2.3%	216	3.5%	367	6.0%
Marin	108	1.4%	109	1.4%	95	1.2%	119	1.6%
Mariposa	21	2.7%	16	2.0%	18	2.4%	28	3.7%
Mendocino	182	3.7%	185	3.7%	150	3.1%	212	4.4%
Merced	415	3.2%	320	2.4%	471	3.6%	454	3.6%
Modoc	12	1.7%	12	1.7%	17	2.6%	6	0.9%
Mono	17	3.9%	16	3.4%	12	2.8%	24	5.6%
Monterey	572	3.5%	538	3.1%	585	3.6%	592	3.8%
Napa	61	1.2%	61	1.1%	73	1.4%	49	1.0%
Nevada	148	3.4%	156	3.4%	152	3.5%	136	3.3%
Orange	3,216	2.6%	3,174	2.5%	3,271	2.7%	3,202	2.7%
Placer	283	2.2%	281	2.0%	266	2.1%	302	2.5%
Plumas	25	2.1%	25	2.1%	26	2.3%	24	2.0%
Riverside	2,133	2.9%	2,026	2.6%	2,071	2.8%	2,302	3.3%
Sacramento	2,137	4.1%	1,780	3.2%	2,257	4.3%	2,375	4.7%
San Benito	30	1.2%	28	1.0%	24	0.9%	38	1.6%
San Bernardino	3,542	4.0%	3,092	3.3%	4,168	4.7%	3,367	3.9%
San Diego	3,949	3.3%	3,758	3.0%	3,536	3.0%	4,554	4.0%
San Francisco	797	4.0%	571	2.8%	818	4.1%	1,001	5.0%
San Joaquin	696	2.4%	575	1.9%	654	2.3%	858	3.2%
San Luis Obispo	195	1.9%	195	1.8%	188	1.9%	202	2.1%
San Mateo	560	2.3%	504	2.0%	554	2.2%	623	2.5%
Santa Barbara	469	3.0%	477	2.9%	448	2.8%	482	3.2%
Santa Clara	2,107	3.2%	1,699	2.5%	2,522	3.8%	2,101	3.2%
Santa Cruz	384	3.7%	420	3.9%	346	3.3%	385	3.8%
Shasta	331	3.6%	240	2.5%	357	4.0%	397	4.5%
Sierra	4	1.3%	3	1.0%	2	0.7%	6	2.3%
Siskiyou	127	4.8%	149	5.6%	114	4.4%	119	4.4%
Solano	412	2.2%	349	1.8%	449	2.4%	437	2.4%
Sonoma	501	2.7%	497	2.6%	498	2.7%	507	2.8%
Stanislaus	906	3.8%	880	3.5%	902	3.7%	935	4.0%
Sutter	223	5.2%	268	6.0%	232	5.4%	169	4.1%
Tehama	54	1.7%	58	1.8%	51	1.6%	53	1.7%
Trinity	10	1.3%	7	0.9%	13	1.7%	9	1.2%
Tulare	856	3.9%	1,026	4.6%	706	3.2%	837	4.0%
Tuolumne	52	2.1%	63	2.5%	53	2.1%	39	1.6%
Ventura	1,043	2.9%	906	2.5%	1,022	2.9%	1,200	3.5%
Yolo	231	3.2%	210	2.8%	229	3.2%	255	3.7%
Yuba	107	3.2%	97	2.8%	92	2.7%	33	4.1%
CALIFORNIA	58,059	3.9%	51,548	3.3%	58,150	3.9%	64,480	4.4%

n/a = not applicable (i.e.: no school in Alpine county).

Source: Department of Education, Demographic Unit.

Child Abuse

1994-96

Counties	1994-96 Avg. Child Abuse			1996 Child Abuse		1995 Child Abuse		1994 Child Abuse	
	Reports	Rate	Rank	Reports	Rate	Reports	Rate	Reports	Rate
Alameda	17,587	51.1	6	14,120	40.3	19,176	55.9	19,465	57.4
Alpine	102	401.3	58	115	467.5	114	447.1	78	295.5
Amador	428	66.0	13	485	75.0	404	62.5	394	60.6
Butte	9,034	184.9	53	8,546	174.4	8,833	180.1	9,722	200.5
Calaveras	1,264	144.1	44	1,255	144.8	1,219	137.8		
Colusa	462	84.5	20	415	74.9	468	85.4	1,318	149.7
Contra Costa	19,341	86.1	23	20,382	89.6	19,369	86.3	504	93.5
Del Norte	1,239	173.9	50	1,135	161.3	1,219	170.3	18,271	82.2
El Dorado	2,738	72.7	18	2,686	71.5	2,880	76.1	1,364	189.8
Fresno	23,560	95.4	31	26,547	105.3	22,399	90.6	2,649	70.6
Glenn	1,082	133.6	43	1,042	128.1	1,108	136.0	21,733	89.9
Humboldt	5,855	183.5	52	7,043	221.6	5,842	183.0	1,096	136.8
Imperial	2,477	54.1	8	2,812	60.9	2,575	56.8	4,679	146.3
Inyo	495	110.8	36	498	112.9	515	114.5	2,045	44.7
Kern	10,577	53.2	7	13,491	67.4	8,383	42.1	473	105.0
Kings	3,277	91.7	25	4,029	111.3	2,987	83.2	9,856	50.1
Lake	2,636	196.2	55	3,059	229.2	3,201	237.1	2,815	80.1
Lassen	1,373	202.2	56	1,467	212.0	1,383	206.3	1,647	122.4
Los Angeles	179,074	67.4	14	191,921	71.2	180,586	67.9	1,270	188.0
Madera	3,623	112.6	38	4,010	123.3	3,570	111.0	164,716	62.9
Marin	2,114	44.0	2	1,968	40.5	2,017	41.9	3,289	103.2
Mariposa	526	145.6	45	547	153.6	489	135.3	2,356	49.7
Mendocino	3,327	147.8	47	3,721	166.3	3,535	156.7	541	148.1
Merced	8,461	122.5	40	8,017	116.0	9,520	137.5	2,725	120.5
Modoc	446	176.3	51	308	123.9	522	206.3	7,847	114.0
Mono	201	75.3	19	220	83.0	220	82.2	508	197.3
Monterey	9,164	85.6	22	9,142	85.1	9,757	90.8	163	60.9
Napa	1,187	42.6	1	1,217	43.3	1,187	42.5	8,592	80.9
Nevada	1,877	93.1	27	1,849	92.6	1,996	98.7	1,158	41.9
Orange	35,049	49.9	5	31,847	44.1	34,541	49.1	1,785	88.0
Placer	3,715	68.7	15	2,994	53.8	3,399	62.6	38,758	56.7
Plumas	622	130.5	41	521	113.6	625	130.7	4,752	91.0
Riverside	26,396	64.5	12	26,805	64.2	28,756	70.1	720	146.1
Sacramento	29,583	94.2	29	33,000	103.5	27,384	87.4	23,626	59.1
San Benito	740	57.4	10	734	55.7	860	66.5	28,366	91.6
San Bernardino	49,274	95.9	32	48,825	94.1	48,273	93.8	626	49.8
San Diego	81,495	114.1	39	84,766	116.4	81,969	114.8	50,725	99.9
San Francisco	8,389	60.6	11	7,929	55.5	8,563	62.4	77,749	110.9
San Joaquin	14,400	90.0	24	13,668	84.1	14,644	91.5	8,674	64.2
San Luis Obispo	7,564	146.5	46	7,774	149.4	7,330	141.7	14,888	94.7
San Mateo	7,487	45.9	3	6,803	40.8	7,513	46.0	7,589	148.3
Santa Barbara	9,112	92.6	26	9,328	93.1	9,671	98.1	8,144	51.1
Santa Clara	23,291	56.9	9	22,700	54.0	24,634	60.5	8,337	86.6
Santa Cruz	5,716	93.5	28	5,652	91.2	5,950	97.3	22,538	56.3
Shasta	6,652	152.9	48	6,337	146.3	6,814	156.5	5,546	92.1
Sierra	86	108.6	35	87	111.8	110	137.7	6,804	155.9
Siskiyou	1,245	112.2	37	969	89.5	1,411	126.7	61	76.3
Solano	5,040	46.0	4	5,676	51.6	5,315	48.5	1,354	119.5
Sonoma	7,638	72.0	17	7,184	67.1	7,471	70.4	4,129	37.7
Stanislaus	11,071	85.3	21	11,743	89.6	10,293	79.3	8,259	78.6
Sutter	2,081	97.8	33	2,121	98.5	2,118	99.3	11,177	87.0
Tehama	2,270	156.8	49	2,041	141.7	1,969	135.1	2,004	95.7
Trinity	709	217.0	57	653	204.3	671	205.5	2,801	193.5
Tulare	11,087	94.5	30	13,198	111.2	10,659	90.5	803	240.3
Tuolumne	1,487	132.8	42	1,450	132.0	1,734	155.6	9,403	81.3
Ventura	13,676	68.8	16	12,941	64.6	13,913	69.8	1,278	111.5
Yolo	3,849	100.4	34	3,656	93.7	3,835	99.8	14,175	71.9
Yuba	3,822	185.2	54	3,469	169.9	4,106	197.1	4,057	108.1
CALIFORNIA	687,072	77.2		706,918	78.2	690,005	77.5	664,294	75.8

Source: California Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.
 Note: Rate refers to the number of reports per 1,000 children in population.

Foster Care

Children in Foster Care (Dependent Status) 1995-97

Counties	1995-97 Avg. #	1995-97 Rate	Mos in Placement			1997 Children	1997 Rate	1996 Children	1996 Rate	1995 Children	1995 Rate
			1995-97 Rank	1995-97 Avg.	1995-97 Rank						
Alameda	4,238	12.4	48	29.3	48	4,491	13.0	4,156	12.1	4,066	12.0
Alpine	12	37.4	58	16.6	11	12	39.5	9	28.2	14	44.9
Amador	41	5.9	16	11.5	1	46	6.7	49	7.1	27	4.0
Butte	837	17.1	54	16.2	8	992	20.2	831	16.9	689	14.1
Calaveras	81	8.1	27	13.5	3	91	8.9	80	7.9	72	7.3
Colusa	43	7.2	25	24.6	37	50	8.3	42	7.1	36	6.3
Contra Costa	2,254	9.7	37	34.7	56	2,147	9.1	2,278	9.8	2,336	10.2
Del Norte	123	16.0	53	13.3	2	119	15.2	128	16.5	123	16.3
El Dorado	270	6.4	18	19.9	23	283	6.6	278	6.5	248	6.0
Fresno	2,846	11.5	43	20.2	25	2,892	11.6	2,943	11.8	2,704	11.0
Glenn	94	11.0	40	18.9	16	107	12.6	95	11.1	79	9.4
Humboldt	351	10.5	39	22.1	30	321	9.6	342	10.2	390	11.7
Imperial	280	5.9	15	29.9	49	325	6.8	255	5.3	260	5.5
Inyo	35	7.7	26	17.1	13	43	9.5	32	6.9	31	6.7
Kern	1,877	9.2	34	34.5	54	2,046	9.9	1,815	8.9	1,769	8.8
Kings	243	6.6	21	32.2	51	230	6.2	266	7.2	232	6.5
Lake	155	11.2	42	22.3	31	155	11.3	145	10.5	164	11.9
Lassen	112	14.4	50	18.9	16	120	15.2	110	14.0	106	14.1
Los Angeles	47,800	18.9	56	25.8	41	53,069	20.9	45,815	18.0	44,515	17.7
Madera	187	5.4	12	27.0	44	188	5.3	171	4.9	203	6.0
Marin	217	4.6	7	20.8	27	202	4.3	203	4.3	246	5.2
Mariposa	45	11.8	45	16.0	7	46	12.3	49	12.8	39	10.4
Mendocino	289	12.1	46	26.4	42	266	11.1	303	12.6	298	12.6
Merced	410	5.8	14	19.3	20	352	4.9	444	6.3	434	6.2
Modoc	9	3.2	1	15.2	4	11	3.9	4	1.4	12	4.3
Mono	15	5.6	13	33.0	52	17	6.1	15	5.5	14	5.1
Monterey	434	4.1	4	19.7	22	518	4.8	449	4.2	336	3.2
Napa	195	6.7	22	27.5	46	197	6.7	202	6.9	187	6.5
Nevada	109	4.8	10	15.6	5	131	5.7	102	4.5	94	4.2
Orange	3,346	4.8	9	27.3	45	3,484	4.9	3,294	4.7	3,259	4.8
Placer	378	6.4	19	23.1	32	435	7.2	399	6.7	299	5.3
Plumas	52	9.4	35	16.5	10	48	8.7	56	10.1	51	9.3
Riverside	3,778	8.8	33	20.0	24	4,361	9.9	3,597	8.4	3,377	8.0
Sacramento	3,467	11.1	41	34.7	55	3,650	11.6	3,299	10.5	3,452	11.2
San Benito	69	4.7	8	23.4	33	87	5.6	59	4.0	61	4.4
San Bernardino	4,625	8.8	32	22.0	29	4,886	9.2	4,479	8.5	4,510	8.7
San Diego	6,221	8.8	31	24.4	36	6,238	8.7	6,099	8.6	6,326	9.1
San Francisco	3,376	27.0	57	36.2	57	3,374	26.9	3,315	26.4	3,439	27.6
San Joaquin	1,687	10.0	38	33.5	53	1,723	10.1	1,610	9.5	1,728	10.5
San Luis Obispo	445	8.2	28	16.4	9	462	8.4	464	8.5	410	7.7
San Mateo	629	3.9	3	21.7	28	643	4.0	588	3.7	655	4.2
Santa Barbara	438	4.5	6	31.1	50	442	4.5	422	4.3	450	4.7
Santa Clara	2,666	6.6	20	24.2	35	2,899	7.0	2,555	6.3	2,543	6.4
Santa Cruz	429	7.0	24	15.6	6	517	8.4	415	6.8	355	5.9
Shasta	448	9.6	36	24.0	34	457	9.7	424	9.0	462	9.9
Sierra	14	15.2	52	19.0	19	14	15.2	16	17.2	12	13.1
Siskiyou	227	18.4	55	25.3	40	216	17.6	250	20.3	215	17.4
Solano	557	5.0	11	37.6	58	567	5.1	572	5.1	533	4.8
Sonoma	487	4.4	5	29.2	47	528	4.7	482	4.4	452	4.2
Stanislaus	832	6.1	17	24.6	38	779	5.7	811	5.9	905	6.8
Sutter	201	8.7	30	16.9	12	210	9.0	200	8.7	192	8.5
Tehama	227	14.7	51	20.6	26	272	17.6	231	14.9	179	11.6
Trinity	45	12.4	47	18.1	14	46	12.8	45	12.2	45	12.2
Tulare	1,441	11.7	44	18.1	15	1,333	10.8	1,422	11.5	1,568	12.9
Tuolumne	85	6.8	23	19.6	21	75	6.0	85	6.8	95	7.7
Ventura	684	3.3	2	26.6	43	631	3.0	695	3.3	727	3.5
Yolo	330	8.3	29	18.9	18	360	8.9	332	8.3	299	7.7
Yuba	269	12.9	49	24.6	38	284	13.6	264	12.5	260	12.5
CALIFORNIA	101,054	11.4		25.1		108,488	12.1	98,091	11.0	96,583	11.0

Note: Rate refers to children in foster care per 1,000 children in the population.

Source: Selected Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of Three Consecutive Years, April 1995-April 1997, California State Department of Social Services, Information Services Bureau; U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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