

Nevada KIDS COUNT



Data Book 2004

County, Regional, and State Profiles of Child and Youth Well-Being in Nevada

Nevada *KIDS COUNT* Data Book: 2004

Prepared by the Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER)

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This *Data Book* is dedicated to the children of Nevada.

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Nevada Title IV-B, Family Preservation and Family Support Steering Committee
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Table of Contents

Overview of KIDS COUNT	4	Child and Youth Safety/Welfare	71
Nevada Demographics	7	Infant Mortality	72
Health Conditions and Health Care	11	Child Deaths	73
Low-Birthweight Babies	12	Teen Violent Deaths	75
Teen Births	15	Child Abuse and Neglect	77
Births to Mothers Lacking Adequate Prenatal Care	18	Children in Substitute Care	82
Public-Health Programs	20	Adoption	84
Health Insurance	23	Juvenile Justice	87
Immunizations	26	Juvenile Crime	88
Mental Health	27	Appendix	93
Health Issues	29	Nevada County Data: 2002	94
Economic Well-Being	37	Notes	96
Children in Poverty	38	Resources	98
Child Care	42	Acknowledgements	101
Child Support	46		
Education and Achievement	49		
"Hot" Education Issue	50		
Characteristics of the Formal Education System in Nevada	51		
Homeschooling	53		
Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts	55		
High School Dropout and Graduation Information	61		
Profile of Children and Youth Enrolled in Special Education	64		
Head Start	66		

Overview of KIDS COUNT

WHAT is KIDS COUNT?

KIDS COUNT is a well-known, well-respected project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Its purpose is to track the well-being of children at both the national and the state levels. All 50 states have a KIDS COUNT project, allowing for state-by-state comparisons of child well-being indicators.

In Nevada, the primary activities of the KIDS COUNT project are to:

- ❖ collect, analyze, and distribute the best available data measuring the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children and youth in Nevada;
- ❖ educate and inform decision-makers, citizens, service providers, providers of funding, and community partners regarding data, policy, and resource analysis;
- ❖ provide linkages with community efforts to reach decision-makers with information concerning relevant issues for children and youth.

WHAT is the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2004*?

This report represents the ongoing effort of the Nevada KIDS COUNT project to provide a profile of the children and youth in our state.

WHAT is the Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER)?

The Center for Business and Economic Research, established in 1975, aids businesses and agencies in achieving the fullest expression of economic potential by providing academic expertise in data collection, business-conditions analysis, and research projects which assist the development and diversification of the Nevada economy. CBER serves Nevadans by

making presentations for conferences, task forces, symposiums, and meetings of Nevada organizations. The work of CBER is rather evenly split between data collection and analysis, market analysis, business-conditions analysis, financial feasibility studies, and econometric modeling. CBER's staff publishes many reports and conducts both basic and applied research. CBER's relationship with KIDS COUNT began in 1996 when it began providing data for the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book*. Since 2000, CBER has been publishing the *Data Book*.

WHAT is the layout of the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2004*?

This year's *Data Book* is similar to past years' books. We provide indicators reflecting critical elements of child and youth well-being. The indicators are organized as follows:

- ❖ **Nevada:** Most recent state data for each indicator
- ❖ **Counties:** Most recent county data where applicable
- ❖ **Significant Factors:** Summaries of current research
- ❖ **Definition:** A description of what the indicator is and what it measures
- ❖ **Map:** Rates or percentages are presented for each county

WHAT are the additions to the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2004*?

New in the Health Conditions and Health-Care section are findings from the 2003 *Oral Health Survey*, an oral-needs assessment of third graders in Nevada. Also, we present data on disabilities which were compiled from the 2000 Census. The Education section features a short presentation on the *No Child Left Behind* program and data on Head Start programs.

Overview of KIDS COUNT Continued

HOW were the data indicators selected?

Nevada KIDS COUNT presents 10 indicators identified and used by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in its state-by-state assessment. The Foundation believes: “. . . (1) They reflect a wide range of factors affecting the well-being of children (such as health, adequacy of income, and educational attainment). (2) They reflect experiences across a range of developmental stages—from birth through early adulthood. (3) They permit legitimate comparisons because they are consistent across states and over time.” (See *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003* by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, p. 35.)

The 10 indicators are:

- ❖ percent low-birthweight babies
- ❖ infant mortality rate
- ❖ child death rate
- ❖ rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide
- ❖ teen birth rate
- ❖ percent of teens who are high school dropouts
- ❖ percent of teens not attending school and not working
- ❖ percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time year-round employment
- ❖ percent of children in poverty
- ❖ percent of families with children headed by a single parent

In recent years, Nevada KIDS COUNT added additional indicators based on recommendations by *Data Book* users. Practical considerations guided the selection process of the additional indicators, including whether the individual indicators were:

- ❖ relevant
- ❖ substantially researched
- ❖ regularly measured
- ❖ representative of selected segments of children and youth
- ❖ available at the county level
- ❖ verifiable with reliable data sources

Additionally, feedback about the *Data Book* was solicited from participants at conferences which Nevada KIDS COUNT held in Elko and Winnemucca. Fernando Serrano, a member of the Advisory Council, was instrumental in organizing the meetings. The main events were the unveiling of the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003* and presentations by Professors R. Keith Schwer and Mary Riddel on the national and local economic forecasts which emphasized the importance of healthy economies on the well-being of children. Nevada KIDS COUNT thanks President Paul Killpatrick of Great Basin Community College (GBCC) and the Winnemucca Convention Center for hosting the conferences. We also thank Danny Gonzales of GBCC for making college-related arrangements to ensure a smoothly run conference.

The conference held in Las Vegas featured the unveiling of the *Data Book* and presentations by Professor Larry Ashley on the treatment of adolescent drug abuse and by Jeff Hardcastle on population estimates and projections used in the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Books*.

Overview of KIDS COUNT Continued

WHAT are the limitations of the data?

The atypical population distribution in Nevada counties with very small populations may create a serious “rare event” problem. Multiple-year averages stabilize and improve the usefulness of these data. Still, even when averaged, caution should be used when drawing conclusions from rates or percentages based on small numbers.

Because rates based on small denominators are likely to be statistically unreliable, rates were not calculated for counties with small denominators. The designation, NM = Not Meaningful, is noted in the maps; and raw data are provided as applicable in the County Data section. Also, the sum of the county data may not equal the state total due to rounding and/or missing county-reference data.

Many of our data providers need time to compile and disseminate accurate information. Therefore, current-year data were sometimes not available when this report was produced.

This year’s *Data Book* and last year’s are easily accessed on-line at:

<http://kidscount.unlv.edu>

WHERE did Nevada improve or worsen?

Columns two and three in the adjacent table illustrate that over the past year five indicators showed improvement and three worsened. The most noticeable change was the increase in the high school dropout rate, from 5.0 to 6.3 percent, a 26 percent increase.

Comparison of Child Well-Being Indicators in Nevada: 2003 and 2004 *Data Books*

Indicator	Nevada 2004 Data Book	Nevada 2003 Data Book	Comparison		2003 National Data Book
	Rate or Percent	Rate or Percent	Improved	Worsened	National Rate or Percent*
Percent low-birthweight babies	7.4% (2000-02)	7.5% (1999-01)	X		7.6% (2000)
Infant mortality rate	6.0 (2000-02)	6.2 (1999-01)	X		6.9 (2000)
Child death rate	21.0 (2000-02)	23.0 (1999-01)	X		22 (2000)
Children in poverty	13.6% (2000)	13.5% (1999)		X	17% (1999)
Teen birth rate	29.9 (2000-02)	33.2 (1999-01)	X		27 (2000)
Teen violent death rate	51.8 (2000-02)	51.3 (1999-01)		X	51 (2000)
Dropout rate	6.3% (2001-02)	5.0% (2000-01)		X	9.0% (1999-01)
Juvenile violent crime arrest rate	242.4 (2000-02)	258.9 (1999-01)	X		NA

Note: NA = Not Applicable.

*Measures used to calculate the national rates or percentages may differ from those used in calculating the state’s. For example, the Annie E. Casey Foundation reports high school dropout data from the Current Population Survey; whereas, Nevada KIDS COUNT reports data provided by the Nevada Department of Education. Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas, 2004, *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2004*; and Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2003, *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*.

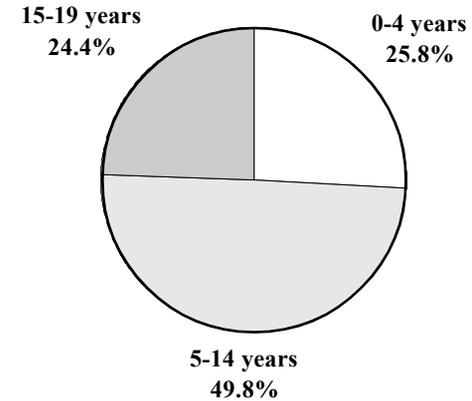
Nevada Demographics

Nevada Demographic Profile: 2002

<i>Population</i>	<i>Number/Percent</i>
State population	2,210,672
Clark County population	1,560,658
Clark County population as a percent of state population	70.6%
Washoe County population	357,766
Washoe County population as a percent of state population	16.2%
Rest of state population	292,248
Rest of state population as a percent of state population	13.2%
Adult (20 and older) population	1,592,755
Adult (20 and older) population as a percent of state population	72.0%
Child (19 and under) population	617,917
Child (19 and under) population as a percent of state population	28.0%

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2004.

Percentage of Children and Youth in Nevada by Age: 2002



Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2004.

Projected Demographic Change of Children and Youth in Nevada by Age: 2002 to 2007

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>
0-4 years	159,403	186,568	17.1
5-14 years	307,534	346,622	12.7
15-19 years	150,980	174,050	15.3
ALL CHILDREN	617,917	707,240	14.5

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2004.

Nevada Demographics Continued

Demographics of Children and Youth in Nevada by Race/Ethnicity: 2002

<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>	<i>Less Than 18 Years of Age Number</i>	<i>Less Than 18 Years of Age Percent</i>	<i>Less Than 20 Years of Age Number</i>	<i>Less Than 20 Years of Age Percent</i>
White	299,257	53.8	333,332	54.0
Hispanic (all races)	170,483	30.6	188,020	30.4
Black (African American)	48,556	8.7	53,602	8.7
Asian and Pacific Islander	30,177	5.4	33,637	5.4
Native American	8,317	1.5	9,326	1.5
ALL CHILDREN	556,790	100.0	617,917	100.0

Note: The racial/ethnic categories were provided by the state demographer.
Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2004.

Nevada Households by Type: 2002

<i>Category</i>	<i>Number (Estimate)</i>
Family households (families)	530,813
With own children under 18 years	255,241
Married-couple families	391,599
With own children under 18 years	175,112
Female householder, no husband present	98,384
With own children under 18 years	57,969
Nonfamily households	277,264
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	808,077
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE*	2.65
AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE*	3.23

*For definitions of household and family, see the Notes section.

Note: The 2002 American Community Survey is limited to the household population and excludes the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other quarters.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Profile 2002, "Nevada," Table 1. General Demographic Characteristics, available online at: <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/P.../ACS/Tabular/040/04000US321.htm>> as of 12/1/03.

Nevada Demographics Continued

Age Distribution of Nevada Children and Youth by County: 2002

<i>County</i>	<i>Less Than 5 Years of Age</i>	<i>5-17*</i> <i>Years of Age</i>	<i>5-19*</i> <i>Years of Age</i>	<i>18-44 Years of Age</i>	<i>20-44 Years of Age</i>	<i>45-64 Years of Age</i>	<i>65 Years of Age and More</i>	<i>Less Than 18 Years of Age Percent</i>	<i>Less Than 20 Years of Age Percent</i>	<i>Total</i>
Carson City	3,553	9,373	10,743	18,020	16,650	13,464	7,987	24.7	27.3	52,397
Churchill	1,910	5,261	6,043	9,131	8,349	5,863	2,909	28.6	31.7	25,074
Clark	116,120	283,269	327,041	640,403	596,631	353,340	167,526	25.6	28.4	1,560,658
Douglas	1,871	6,958	8,055	14,121	13,024	13,625	6,903	20.3	22.8	43,478
Elko	3,639	10,205	11,865	19,903	18,243	10,694	2,877	29.3	32.8	47,318
Esmeralda	33	153	183	373	343	335	192	17.1	19.9	1,086
Eureka	96	328	370	503	461	422	213	27.1	29.8	1,562
Humboldt	1,420	3,428	3,920	6,036	5,544	4,160	1,363	29.5	32.5	16,407
Lander	489	1,351	1,556	2,008	1,803	1,476	426	32.0	35.6	5,750
Lincoln	179	620	810	1,653	1,463	741	666	20.7	25.6	3,859
Lyon	2,384	6,740	7,771	13,532	12,501	10,229	5,638	23.7	26.4	38,523
Mineral	261	833	922	1,143	1,054	1,294	992	24.2	26.2	4,523
Nye	1,996	5,830	6,667	10,700	9,863	10,427	6,886	21.8	24.2	35,839
Pershing	384	1,126	1,347	2,009	1,788	1,252	624	28.0	32.1	5,395
Storey	105	520	611	1,137	1,046	1,426	523	16.8	19.3	3,711
Washoe	24,475	60,014	69,065	143,724	134,673	90,689	38,864	23.6	26.1	357,766
White Pine	488	1,378	1,545	2,024	1,857	2,022	1,414	25.5	27.8	7,326
NEVADA**	159,403	397,387	458,514	886,420	825,293	521,459	246,003	25.2	28.0	2,210,672

*Two age ranges of data are provided since some of the child well-being indicators reflect children and youth through age 17, and others through age 19.

**The sum of the counties may not equal the state total due to missing or incomplete county-reference data.

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2004.

Nevada Demographics Continued

Age and Racial/Ethnic Distribution of Nevada Children and Youth by County: 2002

County	Age		Age		Age		Age		Age		Age	
	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20
	White		Hispanic		Black*		Asian or Pacific Islander		Native American		Total	
Carson City	8,995	9,995	3,160	3,449	104	118	291	323	376	411	12,926	14,296
Churchill	5,342	5,932	909	1,010	167	182	298	317	455	512	7,171	7,953
Clark	191,628	213,446	134,095	148,066	45,473	50,178	24,734	27,602	3,459	3,869	399,389	443,161
Douglas	7,351	8,284	1,044	1,166	52	57	174	190	208	229	8,829	9,926
Elko	9,376	10,446	3,590	4,036	96	114	100	119	682	789	13,844	15,504
Esmeralda	141	166	32	36	0	0	3	3	10	11	186	216
Eureka	355	394	63	66	0	0	2	2	4	4	424	466
Humboldt	3,285	3,640	1,277	1,383	10	10	43	43	233	264	4,848	5,340
Lander	1,296	1,437	455	509	5	7	7	8	77	84	1,840	2,045
Lincoln	730	899	45	60	1	4	1	1	22	25	799	989
Lyon	7,063	7,861	1,614	1,788	76	88	78	91	293	327	9,124	10,155
Mineral	615	660	150	165	60	66	15	19	254	273	1,094	1,183
Nye	6,242	6,921	1,132	1,229	121	132	122	140	209	241	7,826	8,663
Pershing	1,031	1,165	402	472	3	4	6	7	68	83	1,510	1,731
Storey	561	642	55	63	0	0	2	3	7	8	625	716
Washoe	53,811	59,888	22,191	24,235	2,369	2,619	4,266	4,733	1,852	2,065	84,489	93,540
White Pine	1,435	1,556	269	287	19	23	35	36	108	131	1,866	2,033
NEVADA**	299,257	333,332	170,483	188,020	48,556	53,602	30,177	33,637	8,317	9,326	556,790	617,917

Note: <18 = less than 18 years of age; and <20 = less than 20 years of age.

*African American.

** The sum of the counties may not equal the state total due to rounding.

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2004.

Health Conditions and Health Care

*Story courtesy of William Cope,
Nevada KIDS COUNT Project Associate*



While William Cope was growing up in Las Vegas, Nevada, he had many chances to experience the wildlife in the desert. His father would take him on outings to explore the outskirts of the city. On one occasion when he was eight years of age, William and his father came across a pair of chipmunks. After a careful capture, these chipmunks became the family pets for a time. William named the chipmunks Rocky and Rosy. He watched these critters for hours on end in their enclosure. Eventually William and his family decided to return the pets to the wilderness of Red Rock Canyon. It was an arduous task to release the chipmunks that he had grown attached to. He also had three desert tortoises roaming his back yard, which would approach the patio for lettuce. Many would think the desert was merely a wasteland, but those who live there realize the wilderness holds a vast assortment of creatures including chipmunks, tortoises, nighthawks, and snakes.

Low-Birthweight Babies

Nevada

The percent of low-birthweight (LBW) babies in Nevada for 2000-2002 was 7.4. Of the 93,850 babies born during this period, 6,977 weighed less than 5.5 pounds.

Counties

Among the 17 counties in Nevada, the percent of low-birthweight babies ranged from a low of 0 in Esmeralda County to a high of 9.1 in Lincoln County. Five counties had a percent of low-birthweight babies that was higher than the state rate of 7.4.

Significant Factors

Previous research has established a link between marital status and a mother giving birth to a low-birthweight baby, that is, nonmarried mothers are more likely to do so than married mothers. A recent study showed a link between mother-father relationships among unwed parents and giving birth to a low-birthweight baby. Using Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing data, researchers concluded that “mothers who are in a non-cohabiting romantic relationship with the father have significantly higher odds of low birthweight compared to mothers who cohabit with the father of their babies.”¹

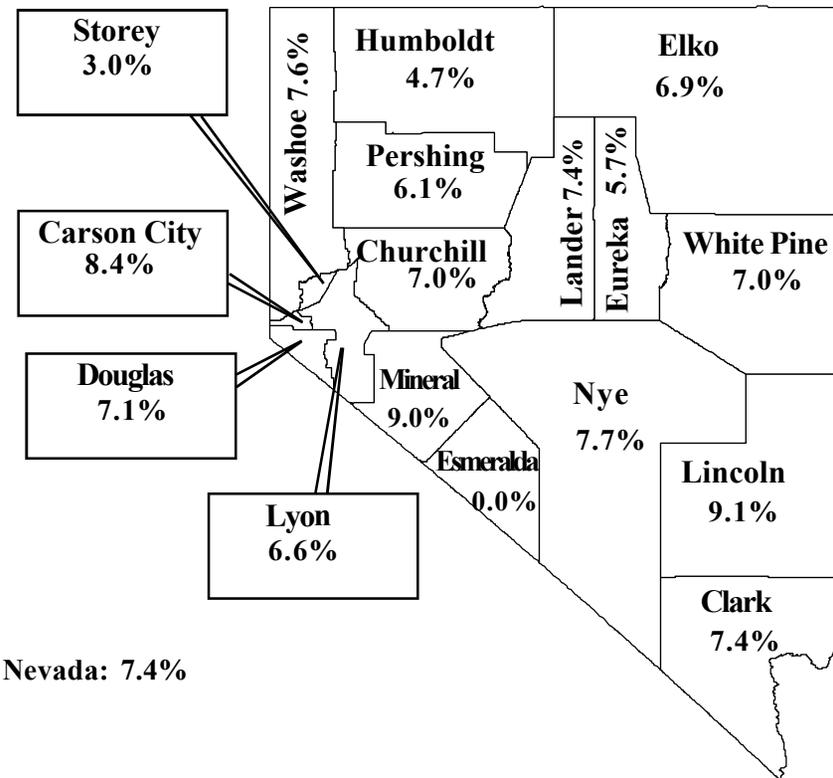
In an indicator brief, Shore for the Annie E. Casey Foundation suggests five strategies which low-birthweight reduction plans should entail:

- “• Promote and Support Research on the Causes of LBW
 - Expand Access to Health Care
 - Focus Intensively on Smoking Prevention and Cessation
 - Ensure that Pregnant Women Get Adequate Nutrition
 - Address Social and Demographic Risk Factors”²

Definition

Low-Birthweight Babies are those weighing less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth. Low-birthweight data, reported by mother’s county of residence rather than infant’s place of birth, measure the percentage of live births in which babies weigh less than 2,500 grams.

**Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies in Nevada:
2000-2002**



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.

Low-Birthweight Babies Continued

Nevada Births by Birthweight and Mother's Age: 2002

Mother's Age	Very Low Birthweight (Less Than 1,500 Grams)		Low Birthweight (Less Than 2,500 Grams)		Total Births
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
0-14	2	---	6	---	47
15-17	23	2.0	111	9.5	1,174
18-19	27	1.1	193	7.8	2,464
20-24	100	1.1	595	6.8	8,768
25-29	84	1.0	557	6.3	8,826
30-34	84	1.2	523	7.4	7,084
35-39	66	2.0	337	10.3	3,284
40-44	22	3.1	100	13.9	719
45+	3	---	12	32.4	37
Unknown	0	---	2	---	20
NEVADA	411	1.3	2,436	7.5	32,423

Note: The low-birthweight category includes those births of very low birthweight. The percentages for those categories where the number of births was less than 10 are not shown.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Nevada Births by Birthweight and Mother's Race/Ethnicity: 2002

Birthweight Category	White	Black (African American)	Native American	Asian	Hispanic	Other/ Unknown	Total
Very low birthweight (<1,500 grams)	167	75	4	24	127	14	411
Adjusted number	173	78	4	25	131	---	411
Percent	1.1%	3.1%	---	1.1%	1.1%	---	1.3%
Low birthweight (<2,500 grams)	1,061	367	25	187	737	59	2,436
Adjusted number	1,087	376	26	192	755	---	2,436
Percent	7.0%	14.8%	6.1%	8.1%	6.6%	---	7.5%
Live births	15,337	2,512	419	2,339	11,340	476	32,423
Adjusted number	15,566	2,549	425	2,374	11,509	---	32,423

Note: The low-birthweight category includes those births of very low birthweight. Percentages are adjusted for unknown race/ethnicity. The percentages for those categories where the number of births was less than 10 are not shown.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Low-Birthweight Babies Continued

Low-Birthweight Percent for Teen (Ages 19 and under) Births by Race/Ethnicity for Nevada Residents: 2002

<i>Birthweight Category</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Black (African American)</i>	<i>Native American</i>	<i>Asian</i>	<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>Other/ Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>
Very low birthweight (<1,500 grams)	14	15	1	0	19	3	52
Adjusted number	15	16	1	0	20	—	52
Percent	1.2%	3.3%	—	0.0%	1.2%	—	1.4%
Low birthweight (<2,500 grams)	90	72	1	10	130	7	310
Adjusted number	92	74	1	10	133	—	310
Percent	7.2%	15.2%	—	6.8%	7.8%	—	8.4%
Live births	1,266	479	62	145	1,678	54	3,684
Adjusted number	1,285	486	63	147	1,703	—	3,684

Note: The low-birthweight category includes those births of very low birthweight. Percentages are adjusted for unknown race/ethnicity. The percentages for those categories where the number of births was less than 10 are not shown.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Teen Births

Nevada

From 2000 through 2002, the average teen birth rate in Nevada was 29.9 per 1,000 females ages 15 to 17. The average unmarried teen birth rate for 2000 to 2002 was 23.8.¹ Of the racial/ethnic groups, Hispanics and blacks (African Americans) had the highest teen birth rates.

Counties

Among the 12 counties for which statistically reliable teen birth rates could be calculated, Carson City and Clark County had the highest rates, 34.3 and 31.6, respectively. Douglas County had the lowest teen birth rate with 12.3 births per 1,000 teens ages 15 to 17. Rates are not shown for the five counties that had less than 10 births.

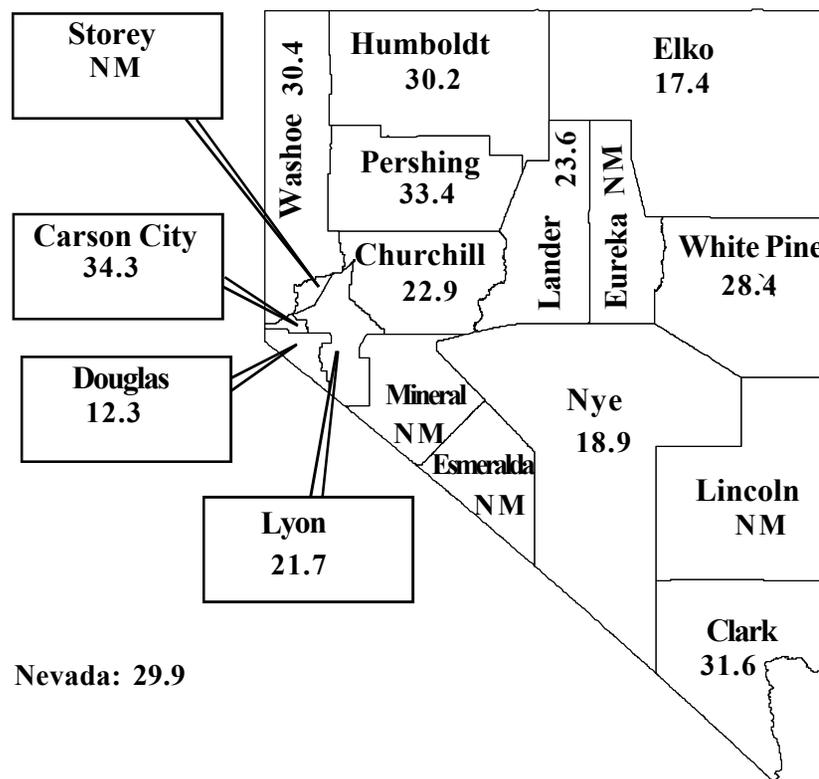
Significant Factors

The teen birth rate for U.S. teens ages 15 to 17 fell from 24.7 per 1,000 females in 2001 to 23.2 in 2002.² Although the data are promising, the nation should not be complacent.^{3,4} The U.S. continues to have one of the highest rates among developed countries—almost twice that of Canada and Great Britain, more than four times that of France, and three times that of Sweden.⁵ An investigation as to why the U.S. lags other developed countries and why its decrease in birth rate is not as steep revealed that U.S. teens are less likely to use contraceptives and to use effective contraceptives than their counterparts in other counties and “society’s ambivalence and conflict about sexual issues leads to difficulties for teenagers in accessing contraceptive services.”⁶

Definition

The Teen Birth Rate is the number of births to teenage females between the ages of 15 and 17, per 1,000 females.

**Nevada Average Teen Birth Rate: 2000-2002
(Per 1,000 females)**



Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable. Rates are not shown for counties with less than 10 births. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

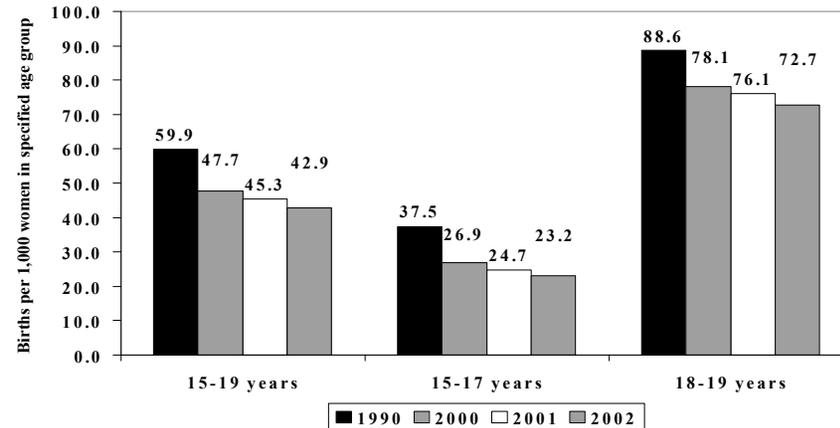
Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.

Teen Births Continued

In a *KIDS COUNT Indicator Brief*, Shore for the Annie E. Casey Foundation described six strategies that can contribute to preventing teen pregnancy:

- “• Address the underlying causes of teen pregnancy.
 - Help parents succeed in their role as sex educators.
 - Broaden the scope of pregnancy prevention efforts.
 - Provide accurate, clear and consistent information about how to reduce risk-taking behaviors.
 - Create community-wide plans of action for teen pregnancy prevention, including adolescent reproductive health services.
 - Give young people a real vision of a positive future by investing time and resources to help them acquire good decision-making, communication, and work skills that prepare them for the adult world.”⁷

U.S. Birth Rates for Teenagers 15-19 Years by Age of Mother: 1990, 2000, 2001, and 2002



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, June 25, 2003, “Births: Preliminary Data for 2002,” by Brady E. Hamilton, Joyce A. Martin, and Paul D. Sutton, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 51, No. 11, available online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr51/nvsr51_11.pdf> as of 9/17/03.

Teen Birth Rates in Nevada by Mother’s Race/Ethnicity: 1998-2000, 1999-2001, 2000-2002

Race/Ethnicity	1998-2000 Number of Births	1998-2000 Average Teen Birth Rate*	1999-2001 Number of Births	1999-2001 Average Teen Birth Rate*	2000-2002 Number of Births	2000-2002 Average Teen Birth Rate*
Hispanic	1,742	90.1	1,770	70.6	1,794	56.4
Black (African American)	497	56.1	508	53.6	503	47.9
Native American	70	40.4	66	37.1	67	34.7
Asian	105	27.2	105	21.4	110	19.1
White	1,429	19.5	1,301	18.3	1,136	16.2
TOTAL	3,843	35.6	3,750	33.2	3,610	29.9

*Rates are per 1,000 age-specific female population and are adjusted for other/unknown race/ethnicity.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1998-2002.

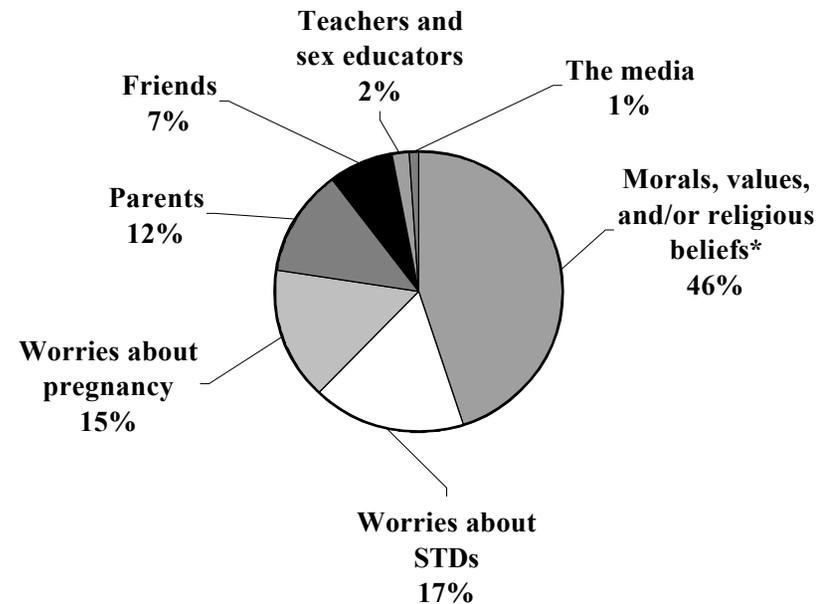
Teen Births Continued

Sexual Behavior of Nevada High School Students: 2001 and 2003

<i>Behavior</i>	2001	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Ever had sexual intercourse	49.1	46.4
Had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13	8.4	7.5
During their lifetime, has had sexual intercourse with 4 or more partners	16.5	19.0
In past 3 months, had sexual intercourse	34.7	32.6
Of those who are sexually active, drank alcohol or used drugs before the last time they had sexual intercourse	26.0	22.0
Of those who are sexually active, used a condom or partner used a condom the last time they had sex	63.0	64.2
Of those who are sexually active, used withdrawal or no method at all to prevent pregnancy the last time they had sex	27.0	21.3
Ever been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant	7.0	5.7

Source: Nevada State Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition and School Health, Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001, 2003.

Influences on Teen Pregnancy in the U.S. (Ages 15-19): 2002



*Percentage varies slightly from original source due to rounding.

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, December 2002, "With One Voice 2002: America's Adults and Teens Sound Off about Teen Pregnancy: An Annual National Survey," ED472 568, available online at: <<http://www.edrs.com/Webstore/Download.cfm?ID=722061>> as of 9/19/03.

Births to Mothers Lacking Adequate Prenatal Care

Nevada

Approximately 43.0 percent of Nevada mothers ages 19 and younger in 2002 had delayed care (began in second or third trimester) or no prenatal care. The average number of prenatal-care visits for teens ages 15 to 17 was 8.9 visits. Of the racial/ethnic groups, whites were the most likely to have received prenatal care in the first trimester (66.9 percent), followed by Native Americans (56.7 percent), blacks (African Americans) (54.4 percent), Asians (51.5 percent), and Hispanics (50.5 percent).¹

Significant Factors

Prenatal care increases the likelihood that mothers will have healthy babies. In the U.S., the use of early prenatal care, care in the first trimester of pregnancy, rose from 83.4 percent in 2001 to 83.8 percent in 2002.²

Percentage of Nevada Mothers Ages 19 and Less with Inadequate Prenatal Care: 2002

<i>Number of Women with Delayed Prenatal Care*</i>	<i>Percent of Women with Delayed Prenatal Care*</i>	<i>Number of Women with No Prenatal Care</i>	<i>Percent of Women with No Prenatal Care</i>
1,289	37.6	193	5.6

Note: Of the 3,685 live births to teen mothers in 2002, information regarding prenatal-care status is not available for 6.8 percent (252). Therefore, the figures presented are based on the number of live births in which prenatal-care status is available (3,433).

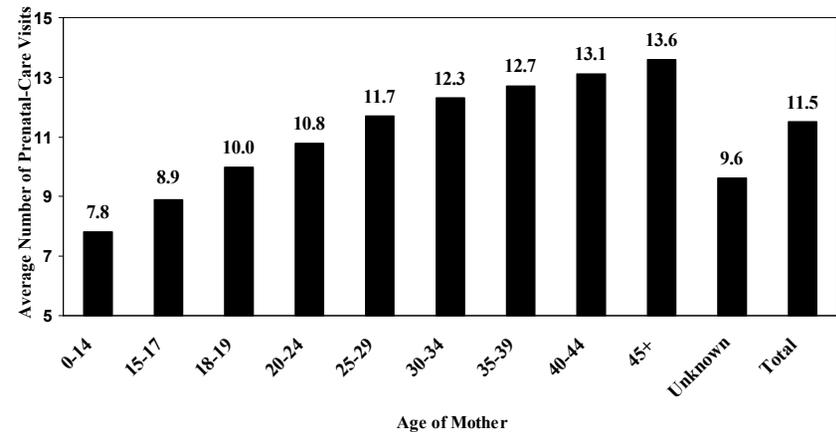
*Delayed prenatal care is defined as prenatal care begun by mothers in the second or third trimester.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Definition

Births to Mothers Lacking Adequate Prenatal Care is defined as the percentage of mothers beginning prenatal care in the second or third trimester of pregnancy or receiving no prenatal care at all. Data are reported by place of mother's residence, not place of infant's birth, and include only those women who gave birth, not all women who were pregnant.

Average Number of Prenatal-Care Visits by Age of Mother, Nevada Residents: 2002



Note: Births for which the total number of prenatal-care visits are unknown are not included in this graph.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Births to Mothers Lacking Adequate Prenatal Care Continued

Nevada Teen (Ages 19 and under) Births by Mother's Race/Ethnicity and Trimester Beginning Prenatal Care: 2002

<i>Mother's Race/Ethnicity</i>	<i>Trimester Beginning Prenatal Care</i>								<i>Total Births</i>
	<i>No Care</i>		<i>First Trimester</i>		<i>Delayed Prenatal Care*</i>		<i>Unknown</i>		
	<i>Births</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Black (African American)	34	7.7	239	54.4	166	37.8	40	---	479
Hispanic	91	5.8	786	50.5	679	43.6	122	---	1,678
White	51	4.3	803	66.9	347	28.8	66	---	1,267
Asian	7	---	69	51.5	58	43.3	11	---	145
Native American	2	---	34	56.7	24	40.0	2	---	62
Other /Unknown	8	---	19	44.2	16	37.2	11	---	54
TOTAL	193	5.6	1,950	56.8	1,290	37.6	252	---	3,685

*Delayed prenatal care is defined as prenatal care begun by mothers in the second or third trimesters.

Note: Percentages are adjusted for unknown trimesters. The percentages for those categories where the number of births was less than 10 are not shown.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Public-Health Programs

Nevada

Nevada has two state-level programs which can assist children from low-income households who need health care.

Medicaid (Healthy Kids)

The Medicaid program, authorized by the Social Security Act in 1965, is a health-insurance program for low-income individuals and families. Medicaid provides comprehensive, preventive coverage with some benefits designed specifically for children, including immunizations; well-child checkups; school physicals; and hearing, dental, and vision-screening services. In calendar year 2002, an estimated 78,624 children 18 years of age and younger were Medicaid-eligible.¹

Nevada Check Up (CHIP)

New federal funds became available after Congress enacted the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP, also called S-CHIP). The 1997 Nevada Legislature passed enabling legislation to authorize the development and implementation of Nevada Check Up, which began October 1, 1998.

Uninsured children ages birth to 18, from families with incomes that are too high for Medicaid and too low to afford private insurance coverage, can be covered by Nevada Check Up. Families with income levels up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level may qualify. Program quarterly premiums, based on income and family size, range from \$10, \$25, and \$50 per quarter (per family). Families have no co-payments or deductibles. As of January 8, 2004, children covered by Nevada Check Up numbered 25,250.

Number of Children Enrolled in Nevada Check Up by County and Age: 2004

<i>County</i>	<i>Less Than 1 Year</i>	<i>1 to 6 Years</i>	<i>7 to 13 Years</i>	<i>14 to 18 Years</i>	<i>Total Children</i>
Carson City	39	397	416	177	1,029
Churchill	7	116	124	56	303
Clark	742	6,667	6,855	2,350	16,614
Douglas	13	132	203	115	463
Elko	23	227	298	161	709
Esmeralda	0	5	11	1	17
Eureka	0	3	3	1	7
Humboldt	6	109	169	89	373
Lander	1	26	52	22	101
Lincoln	1	6	17	20	44
Lyon	17	228	306	196	747
Mineral	2	21	29	20	72
Nye	14	104	173	99	390
Pershing	0	22	32	29	83
Storey	0	1	2	2	5
Washoe	135	1,485	1,832	728	4,180
White Pine	1	24	51	37	113
NEVADA	1,001	9,573	10,573	4,103	25,250

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, January 2004, "Nevada Check Up: Number of Children Receiving Coverage by County and Age," available online at: <<http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us/Statistics/ChildEnrByCountyAge20040101.pdf>> as of January 8, 2004.

Public-Health Programs Continued

**Number of Children Enrolled in Nevada Check Up
by County and Race/Ethnicity: 2004**

<i>County</i>	<i>Native American</i>	<i>Black (African American)</i>	<i>Asian</i>	<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total Children</i>
Carson City	23	6	16	648	311	25	1,029
Churchill	36	2	3	95	156	11	303
Clark	102	1,399	576	10,172	3,669	696	16,614
Douglas	12	4	5	135	297	10	463
Elko	53	0	7	401	227	21	709
Esmeralda	0	0	0	15	2	0	17
Eureka	0	0	0	5	2	0	7
Humboldt	12	2	6	198	135	20	373
Lander	2	0	3	21	72	3	101
Lincoln	0	0	0	3	41	0	44
Lyon	59	6	4	260	388	30	747
Mineral	33	0	0	5	33	1	72
Nye	4	9	1	133	224	19	390
Pershing	8	1	0	46	28	0	83
Storey	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Washoe	122	80	89	2,637	1,118	134	4,180
White Pine	13	0	0	11	87	2	113
NEVADA	479	1,509	710	14,785	6,795	972	25,250

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, January 2004, “Nevada Check Up: Number of Children Receiving Coverage by County and Ethnic Status,” available online at: <<http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us/Statistics/ChildEnrEthnicity20040101.pdf>> as of January 8, 2004.

**Enrollment in Nevada Check Up:
1998 to 2004**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Number</i>
1998 December	2,832
1999 June	5,927
2000 December 1	14,245
2001 December 12	18,577
2002 January 7	22,850
2003 January 7	25,523
2004 January 8	25,250

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Nevada Check Up; and Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, January 2004, “Nevada Check Up: Number of Children Receiving Coverage by County and Ethnic Status,” available online at: <http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us/Statistics/ChildEnrEthnicity20040101.pdf> as of January 8, 2004.

Public-Health Programs Continued

Medicaid Eligibles by Children Ages 0-18 by Program for Nevada Counties: Calendar Year 2002

	Age Group	TANF *	CHAP **	SVK ***	Disabled ****	CW XIX *****	Medicaid Eligible
Carson City	0-5	469	310	164	15	31	989
	6-12	270	140	189	27	54	680
	13-18	156	61	99	22	33	371
Churchill	0-5	260	102	79	8	28	477
	6-12	170	63	88	19	34	374
	13-18	99	37	54	19	25	234
Clark	0-5	14,146	8,848	2,872	711	735	27,312
	6-12	10,521	4,051	3,196	1,370	1,014	20,152
	13-18	4,862	2,006	1,819	1,066	808	10,561
Douglas	0-5	155	103	41	8	17	324
	6-12	122	53	67	13	34	289
	13-18	64	43	46	15	22	190
Elko	0-5	265	239	138	8	16	666
	6-12	155	95	126	26	24	426
	13-18	71	45	59	20	26	221
Esmeralda	0-5	4	3	1	0	0	8
	6-12	9	4	3	2	0	18
	13-18	5	2	3	1	0	11
Eureka	0-5	3	0	0	0	0	3
	6-12	1	1	1	1	0	4
	13-18	2	0	0	0	0	2
Humboldt	0-5	111	75	50	6	6	248
	6-12	79	26	47	16	9	177
	13-18	26	16	23	7	2	74
Lander	0-5	32	14	7	0	0	53
	6-12	23	4	15	4	2	48
	13-18	16	5	6	0	4	31

	Age Group	TANF *	CHAP **	SVK ***	Disabled ****	CW XIX *****	Medicaid Eligible
Lincoln	0-5	36	20	6	0	1	63
	6-12	28	10	14	2	3	57
	13-18	12	8	9	2	1	32
Lyon	0-5	213	110	70	8	18	419
	6-12	204	71	105	29	45	454
	13-18	102	38	51	14	25	230
Mineral	0-5	76	18	21	4	2	121
	6-12	40	19	36	3	2	100
	13-18	26	7	15	2	1	51
Nye	0-5	420	144	126	14	45	749
	6-12	363	100	141	35	35	674
	13-18	208	66	98	28	17	417
Pershing	0-5	37	21	21	2	0	81
	6-12	28	13	26	5	0	72
	13-18	15	4	20	3	1	43
Storey	0-5	1	2	0	1	1	5
	6-12	3	1	0	1	5	10
	13-18	0	1	2	1	3	7
Washoe	0-5	2,519	1,796	663	128	137	5,243
	6-12	1,710	816	641	259	231	3,657
	13-18	722	328	371	196	194	1,811
White Pine	0-5	74	43	42	3	7	169
	6-12	47	27	40	2	15	131
	13-18	30	16	30	7	2	85
STATEWIDE	0-5	18,821	11,848	4,301	916	1,044	36,930
	6-12	13,773	5,494	4,735	1,814	1,507	27,323
	13-18	6,416	2,683	2,705	1,403	1,164	14,371
TOTAL*****	0-18	39,010	20,025	11,741	4,133	3,715	78,624

Note: For estimating purposes only--not official NSWDC caseload history. NSWDC LEGACY Monthly Report WL-00427 is a snapshot in time as of the monthly run data for CW. NSWDC NOMADS Monthly Report AME44A is a snapshot in time of the monthly run data for all other programs. Both are estimates only.

*TANF = Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Unemployed Parent Program (TANF-UP), and Medical (TANF-MED).

**CHAP = Child Health Assurance Program.

***SVK = Sneed vs. Kizer (an individual child's income cannot be used against the entire family's eligibility for Medicaid assistance).

****Disabled = Blind and Disabled combined.

*****CW XIX = Child Welfare Category 19. Medicaid-eligible children through foster care, adoptions, etc.

*****The total number of Medicaid eligibles may not be equal to the Nevada Department of Human Resources' due to rounding.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Research & Statistics, Welfare Division, 2002.

Health Insurance

Nevada

Using three years of Current Population Survey data (2000-2002) to estimate the uninsured by state, the Annie E. Casey Foundation estimated that 17.5 percent of children ages 17 and under in Nevada were uninsured!

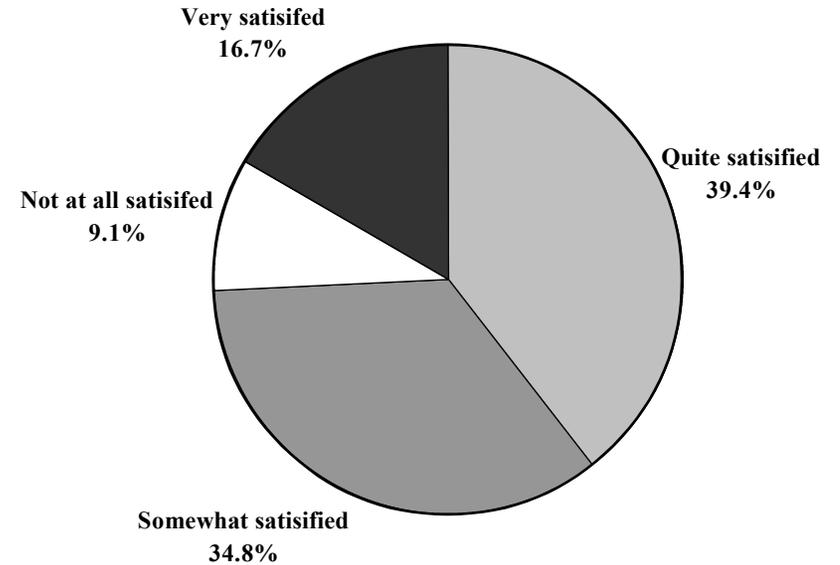
The Las Vegas Perspective, an annual survey of Clark County residents conducted by CBER, included a few questions on health care in 2003. The following summarizes 497 respondents' responses:²

- ❖ Nearly 83 percent of the households with children in southern Nevada had all members currently covered by some form of health insurance or health plan in the fall of 2003.
- ❖ Overall, respondents were satisfied with the health care that they receive. However, of the 90.9 percent that expressed some level of satisfaction, only 16.7 were very satisfied.

Significant Factors

Based on U.S. Census data, about 12.0 percent of children younger than 19 were uninsured in 2002, basically unchanged from 2001.³ The decline in employment-based health insurance, mainly responsible for the drop in the percentage of population covered by health insurance, was offset by public coverage such as Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.⁴ The decline in private coverage was contributed to three reasons: (1) an increase in the unemployment rate resulted in the loss of employee-sponsored health insurance, (2) some businesses discontinued covering employees due to rising health-care costs, and (3) employees declined coverage for themselves and dependents after businesses asked them to pay more for health insurance.⁵

Southern Nevadans' Satisfaction with the Quality of Health Care They Receive: 2003



Source: CBER, Las Vegas Perspective Survey, 2003.

Health Insurance Continued

Health-Insurance Coverage for Children Ages 0-17 in the U.S., Nevada, and Surrounding States: 2001-2003

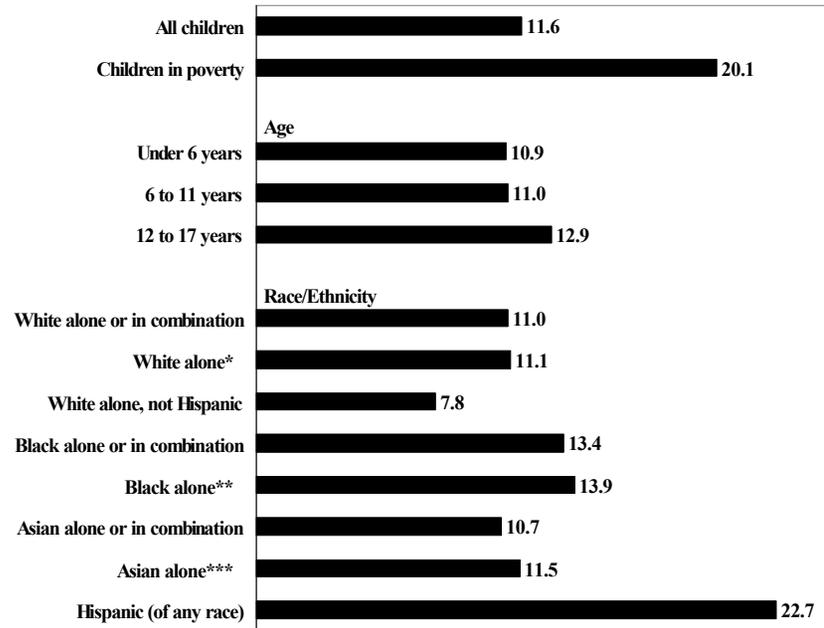
Category	Percentage without Insurance						
	U.S. Percent	Nevada Percent	Arizona Percent	California Percent	Idaho Percent	Oregon Percent	Utah Percent
Children ages 0-17	12	17	16	15	13	11	10
Children ages 0-5	11	17	14	13	13	10	11
Children ages 6-17	12	16	16	16	14	12	9
Children ages 0-17 below 100% poverty	22	39	29	24	23	25	19
Children ages 0-17 between 100-200% of poverty	18	22	22	21	20	16	17
Related children ages 0-17 with parent(s) who worked at least 26 weeks in the previous year	11	15	14	13	13	10	10
Related children ages 0-17 below 200% of poverty with parent(s) who worked at least 26 weeks in the previous year	19	26	25	22	21	20	19
Own* children ages 0-17 below 150% of poverty with parent(s) who worked at least 50 weeks in the previous year	21	32	27	24	27	24	20

*Own children are never-married children under age 18 who are related to the householder (head of household) by birth, marriage, or adoption (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2002, *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002*, Baltimore, MD, p. 187.)

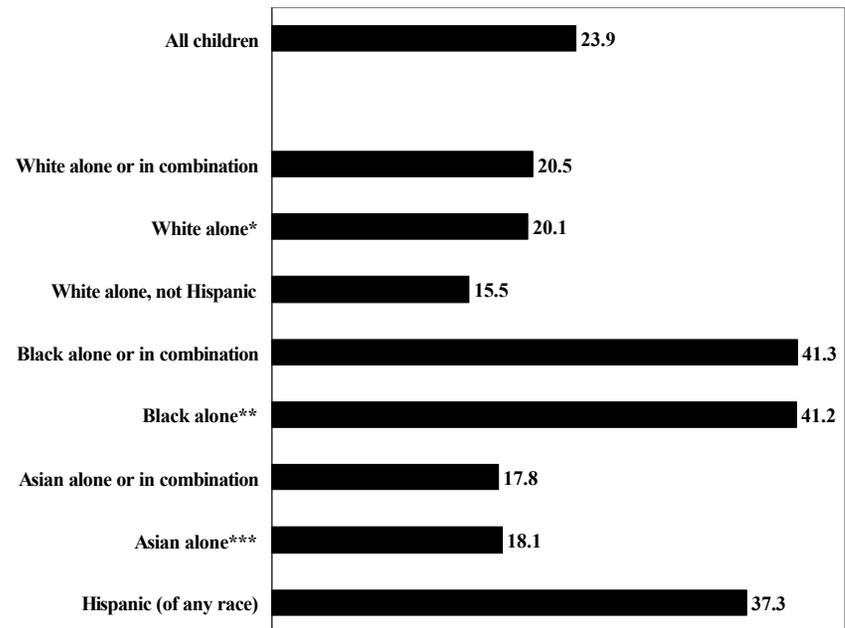
Source: Average of Census Bureaus' March Current Population Survey files from 2001 through 2003, created for the KIDS COUNT project at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, October 10, 2003.

Health Insurance Continued

Percentage of Uninsured Children in the U.S. by Race/Ethnicity and Age: 2002



Percentage of Children in the U.S. Covered by Medicaid by Race/Ethnicity: 2002



*“The 2003 CPS asked respondents to choose one or more races. White alone refers to people who reported White and did not report any other race category. The use of this single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as ‘White and American Indian and Alaskan native’ or ‘Asian and black or African American,’ is available from Census 2000 through American Factfinder. About 2.6 percent of people reported more than one race in 2000.”

**“Black alone refers to people who reported black or African American and did not report any other race category.”

***“Asian alone refers to people who reported Asian and did not report any other race category.”

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, September 2003, “Health Insurance Coverage in the United States,” by Robert J. Mills and Shailesh Bhandari, *Current Population Reports*, p. 8, available online at: <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/p60-223.pdf>> as of 9/2/03.

*“The 2003 CPS asked respondents to choose one or more races. White alone refers to people who reported White and did not report any other race category. The use of this single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as ‘White and American Indian and Alaskan native’ or ‘Asian and black or African American,’ is available from Census 2000 through American Factfinder. About 2.6 percent of people reported more than one race in 2000.”

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, September 2003, “Health Insurance Coverage in the United States,” by Robert J. Mills and Shailesh Bhandari, *Current Population Reports*, p. 9, available online at: <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/p60-223.pdf>> as of 9/2/03.

Immunizations

Nevada

In 2002, 64.1 percent of two-year-olds in Nevada were immunized compared to 76.3 percent for the nation.¹

Counties

Immunization rates ranged from a high of 93.5 percent in Lander County to a low of 47.6 percent in Lincoln County.

Significant Factors

- ❖ Childhood vaccinations are successful because they help prevent the spread of disease. Thus, it is important to vaccinate children before they enter preschool.²
- ❖ In the U.S. children below the poverty level were more likely not to have received routinely recommended vaccinations than children at or above the poverty level for all racial/ethnic groups.³

Nevada Immunizations Rates: 2000-2002

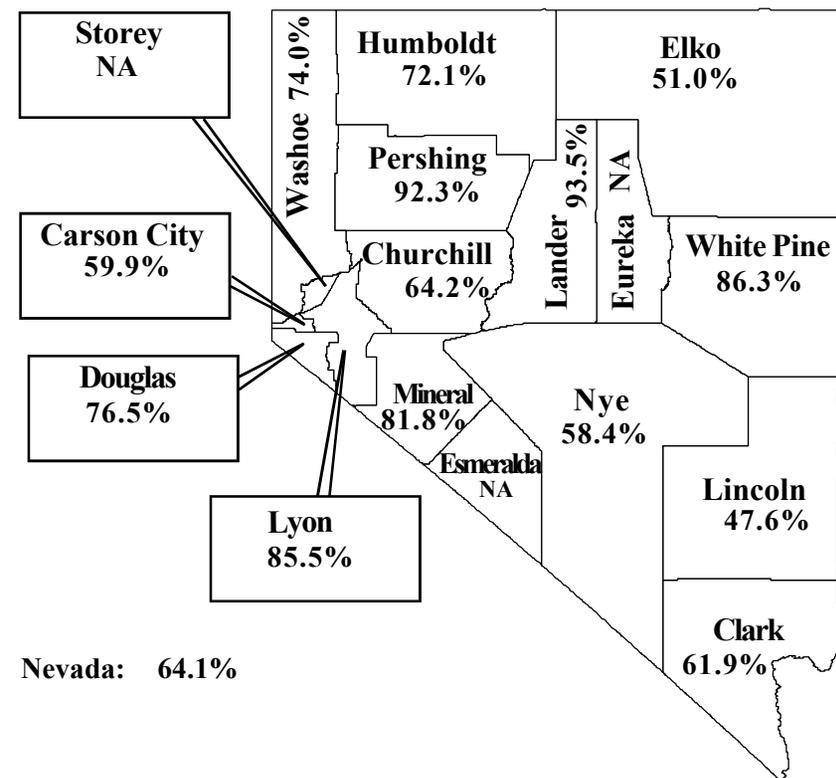
2000	2001	2002
Percent	Percent	Percent
66.1	67.0	64.1

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Community Health, 2002.

Definition

The Immunization Rate measures the percentage of two-year-old children who are immunized with 4 diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP) shots; and 1 measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) shot.

Nevada Public-Health Immunization Rates: 2002



Note: NA = Not Available.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Community Health, 2002.

Mental Health

Nevada

In calendar year 2002, 978 children ages 17 and under received mental-health services in Washoe County by Northern Nevada Child & Adolescent Services.¹ Eighty-five percent of the clients lived in Washoe County, and 61.9 percent were males and 38.1 percent were females. Whites (72.9 percent) were most likely to have received treatment, followed by Hispanics (12.4 percent), blacks (African Americans) (6.5 percent), and American Indians/Alaskan Natives (3.1 percent) (4.3 percent were other or unknown racial/ethnic group). Approximately 12.5 percent of the children and youth received at least one bed day of residential treatment. Twelve percent of the children were treated for depression.

The Rural Clinics in calendar year 2002 admitted 684 children and youth to outpatient services, 362 were ages 12 and under and 322 were ages 13 to 17.² Of the 684 children and youth, 327 were classified as seriously emotionally disturbed (SED) and 357 were non-SED. The Rural Clinics provide mental-health services in Carson City, Minden, South Lake Tahoe, Dayton, Silver Springs, Fernley, Yerington, Hawthorne, Fallon, Lovelock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain, Elko, Ely, Mesquite, Pahrump, Tonopah, Caliente, and Overton.

Significant Factors

Not all children and youth with mental-health problems are receiving mental-health services. Many barriers prevent them from getting the care they need:

- Stigma,
- Fragmented services,

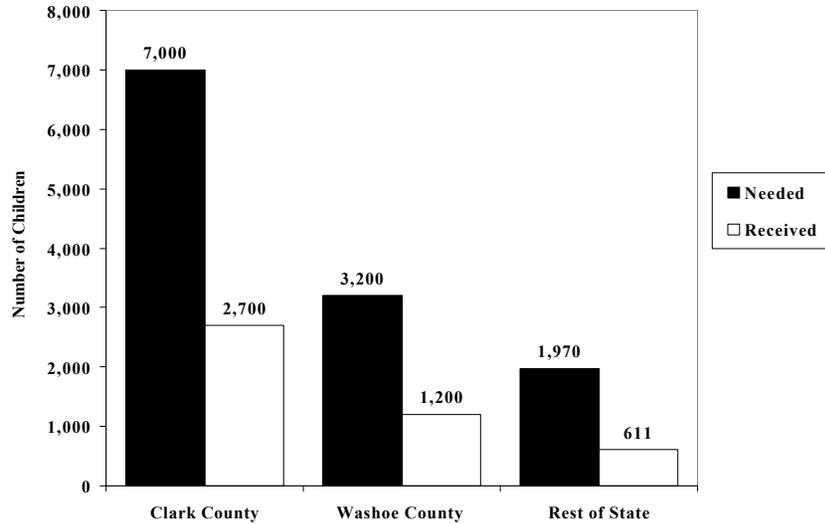
- Cost,
- Workforce shortages,
- Unavailable services, and
- Not knowing where or how to get care.”³

Stigma has been found to be a concern of parents. One researcher found 73 percent of a small group of parents/guardians indicated they would be concerned if another person found out that their children were being seen by health-care professionals and 70 percent were concerned that their children would not be respected.⁴ According to the 2003 report by the President’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health, “When people have a personal understanding of the facts, they will be less likely to stigmatize mental illnesses and more likely to seek help for mental health problems.”⁵

In 2002, 19.3 percent of U.S. youth ages 12 to 17 received treatment or counseling. The youth were most likely to have received treatment for depression (49.5 percent).⁶ Treatment by age groups varied slightly—19.8 percent were 12 or 13, 19.9 percent were 14 or 15, and 18.2 percent were 16 or 17 years of age.⁷

Mental Health Continued

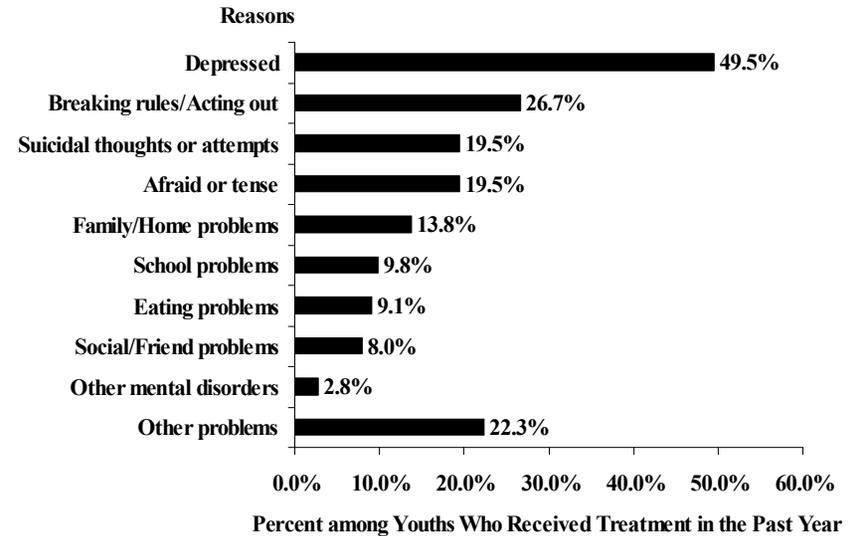
Number of Nevada Children and Youth Enrolled in Medicaid* Who Were Estimated to Need Behavioral-Health Services and the Number Who Received Them by Region: 2001



*Encounter data for Medicaid programs.

Source: "Clark County Mental Health Consortium Annual Plan," August 2002, available online at: <<http://dcfs.state.nv.us/AnnualPlan2002Clark>> as of 4/5/04; "Washoe County Mental Health Consortium Annual Plan," August 2002, available online at: <<http://dcfs.state.nv.us/AnnualPlan2002Washoe>> as of 4/5/04; and "Rural Mental Health Consortium First Annual Plan," 2002, available online at: <<http://dcfs.state.nv.us/AnnualPlan2002Rural>> as of 4/5/04.

Reasons for Mental-Health Treatment in the Past Year among U.S. Youths Ages 12 to 17: 2002



Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, Office of Applied Statistics, "Results from the 2002 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings," available online at: <<http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/2k2NSDUH/Results/2k2results.htm>> as of 1/13/04.

Health Issues

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

The AIDS epidemic is a global concern, not just a U.S. concern, as its impact on young people is expected to grow.¹ Young people are at-risk for contracting HIV/AIDS due to their age and biological and emotional development.²

The number of cumulative reported human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) [not yet AIDS] and AIDS cases among Clark County children and youth less than 18 years of age through October 31, 2003, was 66. The rest of the state reported nine cases.³

Cumulative Reported HIV (Not Yet AIDS) and AIDS Cases among Nevada Children and Youth 17 and under by Age and Risk:* Through October 2003

Clark County							
Age	Risk*						Total
	Homosexual or Bisexual	Injecting Drug Use	Heterosexual Contact	Transfusion	Mother w/ HIV	Not Specified	
<5	0	0	0	1	44	0	45
5-12	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
13-17	6	0	8	0	0	4	18
TOTAL	6	0	8	2	46	4	66
Rest of State							
Age	Risk*						Total
	Homosexual or Bisexual	Injecting Drug Use	Heterosexual Contact	Transfusion	Mother w/ HIV	Not Specified	
<5	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
5-12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13-17	0	1	1	0	1	3	6
TOTAL	0	1	1	0	4	3	9

*Means by which HIV or AIDS was contracted.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Community Health, 2003.

Estimated Numbers of U.S. Children Ages 14 and under Living with AIDS by Year and Selected Characteristics: 1998-2002

Age as of End of Year (yrs)	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<13	3,128	3,006	2,816	2,571	2,292
13-14	372	438	513	642	732
TOTAL	3,500	3,444	3,329	3,213	3,024

Note: "These numbers do not represent actual cases in persons living with AIDS. Rather, these numbers are point estimates of persons living with AIDS that have been adjusted for reporting delays and for redistribution of cases in persons initially reported without an identified risk. The estimates have not been adjusted for incomplete reporting."

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2002, "HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report," Vol. 14, available online at: <<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats/hasrlink.htm>> as of 10/28/03.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

Chlamydia and gonorrhea are common STDs. In the U.S., chlamydia is estimated to infect 308.4 per 100,000 males aged 15-19 and 2,359.4 per 100,000 females aged 15-19.⁴ "Gonorrhea rates are highest among females between the ages of 15 and 19 and males between the ages of 20 and 24."⁵

The tables on page 30 show that in 2002, 261 and 1,028 gonorrhea and chlamydia cases, respectively, were reported in Nevada among children and youth ages 10 to 17.

Health Issues Continued

Reported Gonorrhea Cases in Nevada for Ages 10-17 by Gender and Race/Ethnicity: 2002

<i>Demographics</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>Washoe</i>	<i>Rest of State</i>	<i>Total</i>
Female				
Hispanic				
White	21	3		24
Non-Hispanic				
Black (African American)	36	6		42
White	22	7	3	32
Native American		1	1	2
Unknown				
Black (African American)	1			1
White	1			1
Unknown race	93			93
TOTAL FEMALES	174	17	4	195
Male				
Hispanic				
White	8	1		9
Non-Hispanic				
Black (African American)	17	3		20
White	6	2		8
Native American			1	1
Unknown				
White	1			1
Unknown race	26			26
TOTAL MALES	58	6	1	65
Unclassified	1			1
TOTAL	233	23	5	261

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Bureau of Community Health, 2002.

Reported Chlamydia Cases in Nevada for Ages 10-17 by Gender and Race/Ethnicity: 2002

<i>Demographics</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>Washoe</i>	<i>Rest of State</i>	<i>Total</i>
Female				
Hispanic				
White	83	26	14	123
Black (African American)	1			1
Native American	1	1		2
Other		1		1
Unknown race			1	1
Non-Hispanic				
White	134	30	17	181
Black (African American)	104	14	14	132
Native American	5			5
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	5		9
Other	2			2
Unknown				
White	3		1	4
Black (African American)	3			3
Asian/Pacific Islander			1	1
Unknown race	328	33	30	391
TOTAL FEMALES	668	110	78	856
Male				
Hispanic				
White	18	5	3	26
Non-Hispanic				
White	25	5	9	39
Black (African American)	15	5	3	23
Native American	4	1		5
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	5		6
Unknown				
White	2			2
Unknown race	57	8	5	70
TOTAL MALES	122	29	20	171
Unclassified	1			1
TOTAL	791	139	98	1,028

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Bureau of Community Health, 2002.

Health Issues Continued

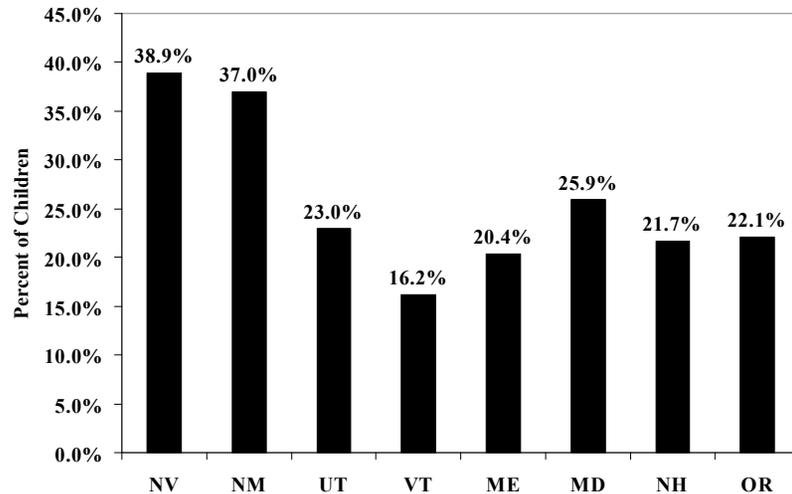
Oral Health

Some key findings from a 2003 survey of third-grade children in Nevada revealed that about 39 percent of the children had untreated dental decay and about 33 percent had dental sealants. (“A dental sealant [also called a pit and fissure sealant] is a plastic, professionally-applied material that is put on the chewing surfaces of back teeth to prevent cavities. Sealants provide a physical barrier so that cavity causing bacteria cannot invade the pits and fissures on the chewing surfaces of the teeth.”⁶) By region, Washoe County had the highest percentage (58.0) of children who had dental sealants, followed by the rest of the state (46.9 percent) and Clark

County (24.2 percent).⁷ Compared to children from other states, which used the same protocols for collecting oral-health data, Nevada children did not fare as well.

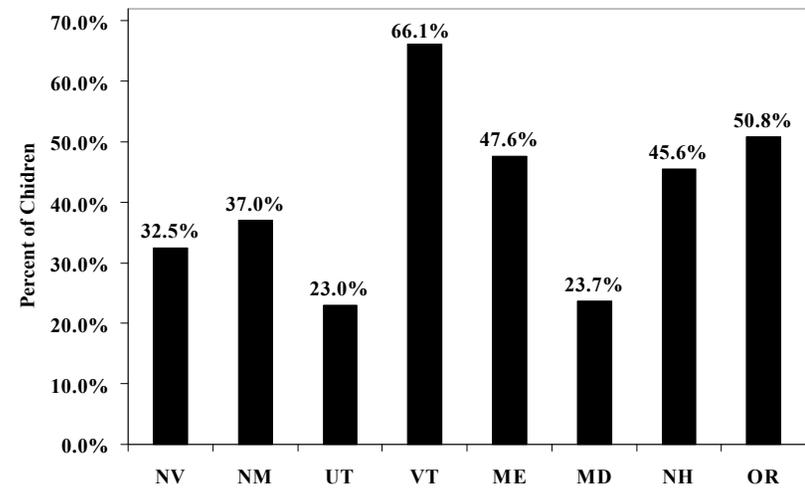
The most prevalent of childhood diseases is tooth decay. Fine tooth decay begins early--17 percent of two- to four-year-olds have had decay.^{8,9} Over half of the children by age 8 have had decay and by age 17, 78 percent.¹⁰ Low-income children are nearly twice as likely to have had unmet dental needs compared to higher-income children.¹¹

Prevalence of Untreated Decay in Nevada’s Third-Grade Children Compared to Children from Other States: 2003



Source: Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Family and Health Services, June 2003, *Oral Health Survey Nevada 2003*.

Prevalence of Dental Sealants in Nevada’s Third-Grade Children Compared to Children from Other States: 2003



Source: Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Family and Health Services, June 2003, *Oral Health Survey Nevada 2003*.

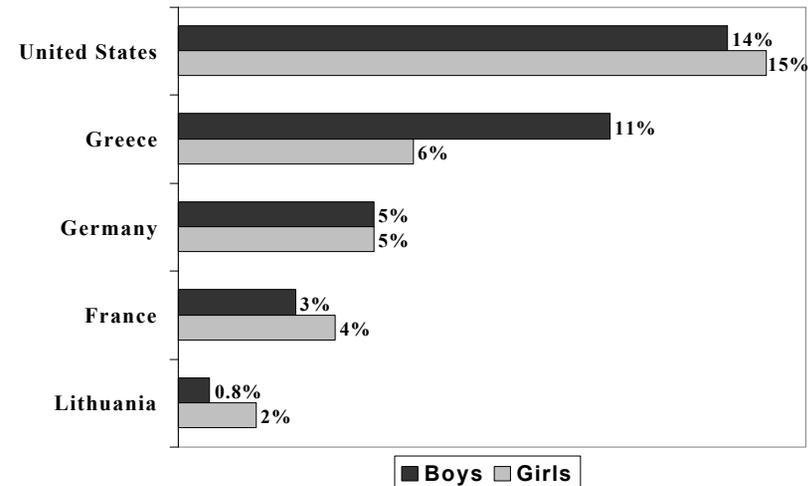
Health Issues Continued

Percentage of Nevada Students Who Believe They Are Slightly or Very Overweight and Who Are Trying to Lose Weight: 2001 and 2003

Behavior	2001		2003	
	Middle School %	High School %	Middle School %	High School %
Believe they are slightly or very overweight	24.0	29.5	24.9	30.0
Are trying to lose weight	44.9	47.5	45.1	47.0

Source: Nevada State Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition and School Health, Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001, 2003.

Percentage of Obese 15-Year-Olds by Country: 1997-1998



Note: "Weight calculations were based on teens' body-mass index, a height-weight ratio."

Source: Tanner, Lindsey, January 7, 2004, "Teen Obesity Rate Highest in America: U.S. Leads 14 Other Industrialized Countries," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, p. 22A.

Health Issues Continued

Cigarette and Illegal Substance Use among Nevada Students: 2001 and 2003

<i>Behavior</i>	<i>2001</i>		<i>2003</i>	
	<i>Middle School Percent</i>	<i>High School Percent</i>	<i>Middle School Percent</i>	<i>High School Percent</i>
Ever tried smoking a cigarette	36.5	66.5	34.5	57.3
Smoked first cigarette before age 13	19.5	23.3	16.4	18.8
In past 30 days, smoked cigarettes on 1 or more days	13.0	25.3	10.4	19.6
In past 30 days, of those who reported current cigarette use, smoked more than 10 cigarettes per day on the days they smoked	NA	12.0	NA	8.0
In past 30 days, used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on 1 or more days	3.9	7.0	3.4	3.6
During their life, had at least 1 drink of alcohol on 1 or more days	49.5	80.2	49.7	75.6
Had first drink of alcohol before age 13	36.0	32.9	36.0	31.9
In past 30 days, drank alcohol on 1 or more days	NA	47.7	NA	43.4
In past 30 days, had 5 or more drinks in a row on 1 or more days	14.4	32.6	13.5	27.8
Of those who drink alcohol, usually get their alcoholic beverages from home with or without parental knowledge	66.0	32.0	65.3	33.9
Ever used marijuana	NA	50.8	NA	46.6
Used marijuana for first time before age 13	11.3	17.7	11.7	12.4
In past 30 days, used marijuana on 1 or more days	9.9	26.6	9.5	22.3
Ever used any form of cocaine (powder, crack, freebase, etc.)	6.3	12.0	5.6	10.9
In past 30 days, used any form of cocaine	NA	5.6	NA	4.4
Ever used methamphetamines (speed, crystal, crank, ice)	5.6	15.7	5.5	12.5
Ever used other illegal drugs (heroin, hallucinogens, depressants, tranquilizers, etc.)	5.7	17.3	5.2	15.0
Ever used steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription	NA	6.4	NA	6.5

Note: NA = Not Applicable.

Source: Nevada State Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition and School Health, Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001, 2003.

Health Issues Continued

Percentage of Nevada Children and Youth Ages 5 to 15 by County with a Disability:* 2000

County	Disabled	Disabled Males	Disabled Females
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Carson City	5.0	5.9	4.1
Churchill	4.3	5.3	3.2
Clark	4.8	5.7	3.8
Douglas	5.4	7.9	2.8
Elko	4.1	5.1	3.0
Esmeralda	4.2	3.1	5.7
Eureka	6.4	9.4	2.9
Humboldt	2.6	4.2	0.9
Lander	2.2	4.2	0.0
Lincoln	8.7	9.9	7.3
Lyon	6.1	7.5	4.5
Mineral	7.8	12.8	2.0
Nye	3.8	5.8	1.9
Pershing	8.6	9.1	8.0
Storey	8.3	8.5	8.0
Washoe	4.3	5.2	3.3
White Pine	3.8	3.5	4.1
NEVADA	4.7	5.7	3.6

*“The Census Bureau defines disability as a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition. This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering.” U.S. Census, “Disability,” available online at: <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def/Disabili.htm>> as of 10/8/03.

Source: CBER calculations, U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, Table PCT34, 2000.

Percentage of Nevada Children and Youth Ages 5 to 15 with a Disability of a Certain Type by Race/Ethnicity: 2000

Disability Type	White Alone	Black or African American Alone	American Indian & Alaska Native Alone	Asian Alone	Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander Alone	Some Other Race Alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino	White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino
Sensory	12.6	12.7	20.3	22.3	22.5	16.9	15.9	17.3	12.3
Physical	12.1	18.1	12.0	11.6	10.0	19.0	18.9	15.5	11.9
Mental	62.9	56.6	58.5	51.4	67.5	45.7	52.1	48.1	65.4
Self-Care	12.4	12.6	9.2	14.7	0.0	18.4	13.1	19.1	10.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: CBER calculations, U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, Table PCT67 A-I, 2000.

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5. Ibid.

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Economic Well-Being

*Story courtesy of Dr. Sally Martin,
Nevada KIDS COUNT Advisory Council*

Several representatives from state government were touring a child-care center in Reno that had a sliding-fee scale. Many of the children who attended came from families struggling to make ends meet. Part of the tour included having a snack with the children. As one of the tall state representatives carefully lowered himself onto a child-sized chair, his knees sticking up above the table, the teacher told the children that he was a visitor for the day. A three-year-old, smiling in a friendly manner, asked, "Does your mom work?" The administrator said, "No, my mom is retired." As he tried to explain what retired meant, the three-year-old looked increasingly worried. Finally, he blurted out, "Well if your mom doesn't work, how will you buy food to eat?" No one could have explained the need for child care more eloquently.



Children in Poverty

Nevada

The Census Bureau estimated that 13.6 percent of Nevada children under age 18 were in poverty in 2000.¹ Nevada ranked 39th among the states and the District of Columbia in 2000 on the percent of children under age five in poverty.²

Counties

The percent of children in poverty ranged from a low of 7.0 in Storey County to 25.1 in Mineral County.

Significant Factors

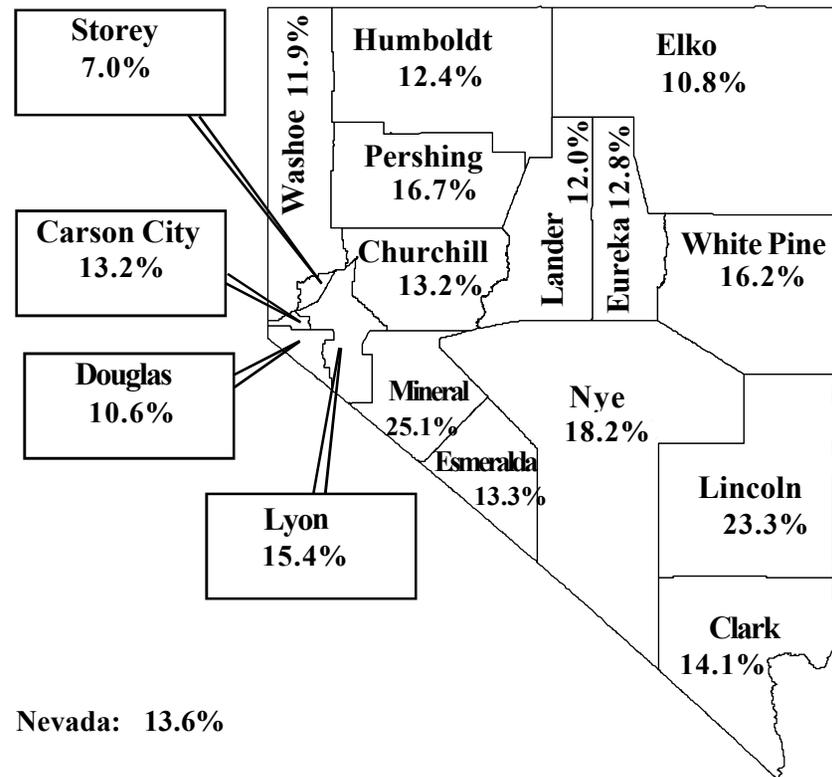
Recent poverty statistics are disturbing. Estimates from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey show that the U.S. poverty rate increased from 11.7 percent in 2001 to 12.1 percent in 2002.³ The poverty rate for children under age 18 was basically unchanged, from 16.3 to 16.7 percent. The number of children in poverty, however, increased from 11.7 million to 12.1 million.⁴

Findings from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 1998-99, reveal that hardship for a family "does not drop off until family incomes reach twice the poverty line—\$36,800 for a family of four in 2003."⁵ To illustrate, the figure on page 39 shows that 23 percent of families with incomes between 0 to 100 percent of the federal poverty line had insufficient food in the previous year. The percentage drops to 10 for families who earn between 100 to 200 percent of the federal poverty line.

Definition

The Percent of Children in Poverty is the percentage of children under the age of 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. In 2000, the U.S. poverty threshold for a family of 4, 2 adults and 2 children, was \$17,463.⁶

Estimated* Percent of Children under Age 18 in Poverty by Nevada County: 2000



*Estimates model 2000 income reported in the Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2001.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, Small Area Estimates Branch, October 28, 2003, TableD00-32. Estimated Number and Percent People under Age 18 in Poverty by County: Nevada 2000, available online at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saie/stcty/d00_32.htm> as of 10/30/03.

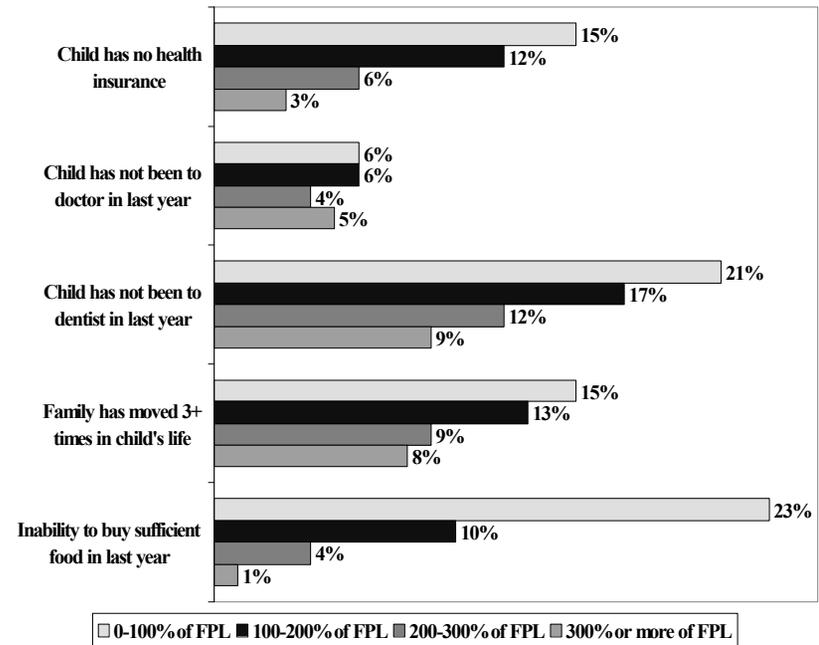
Children in Poverty Continued

U.S. Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family and Number of Related Children under 18 Years: 2000

Size of Family Unit	Weighted Average Thresholds	Related Children under 18 Years		
		None	One	Two
One person	\$8,794			
Householder under 65 years	8,959	\$8,959		
Householder 65 years and older	8,259	8,259		
Two persons	11,239			
Householder under 65 years	11,590	11,531	\$11,869	
Householder 65 years and over	10,419	10,409	11,824	
Three persons	13,738	13,470	13,861	13,874
Four persons	17,603	17,761	18,052	17,463

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Poverty 2000," available online at: <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/threshld/thresh00.html>> as of 11/3/03.

Experiences of Hardship within Income Groups in the U.S.: 1998

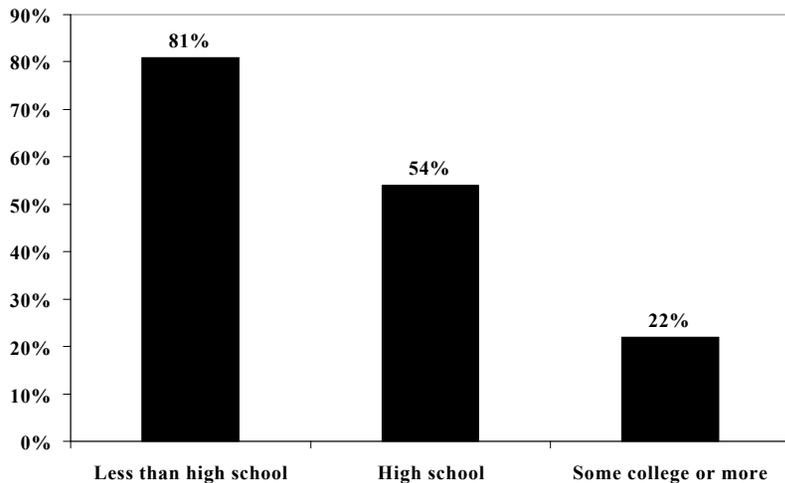


Note: FPL = Federal Poverty Line.
 Source: National Center for Children in Poverty, September 2003, "Low Income and Hardship Among America's Kindergartners," by Elizabeth Gershoff, *Living at the Edge Research Brief 3*, available online at: <<http://www.nccp.org/media/lat03c-text.pdf>> as of 11/3/03.

Children in Poverty Continued

The effect of higher education on family security is substantial. Twenty-six percent of low-income children’s parents do not have a high school degree.⁷ Without a higher degree, families are less likely to have high earnings. The following graph illustrates a significant difference in the percentage of children who live in poverty based on parents’ attainment of higher education.

Percentage of Children in the U.S. Who Live in Low-Income* Families by Level of Parental Education**



*“Low-income is defined as twice the federal poverty level, or \$36,800 for a family of four (2003).”

**“Parental education is defined as the education level of the most highly educated parent who lives with the child.”

Note: Estimates were prepared by Heather Koball and Ayana Douglas-Hall of National Center for Children in Poverty, based on the Current Population Survey, March supplement, 2002.

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty, September 2003, “The Effects of Parental Education on Income,” available online at: <<http://www.nccp.org/media/pei03-text.pdf>> as of 11/15/03.

Shore for the Annie E. Casey Foundation identifies five strategies to help reduce the child-poverty rate:

- Build Political Will to Reduce Child Poverty
- Make Wages Work
- Strengthen the Safety Net
- Help Low-Income Families Keep More of What They Earn
- Help Low-Income Families Amass Savings and Assets.”⁸

Affordable Housing for Low-Income Families

An affordable housing unit is one that costs no more than 30 percent of a household’s income. The tables from the National Low-Income Housing Coalition (see page 41) provide data on housing affordability and fair market rents. In Nevada, a very low-income household earning 30 percent of the area median income (\$56,168) can only afford a monthly housing cost of no more than \$421.⁹ This is significantly lower than the fair market rent of \$836 for a two-bedroom unit. As a result, a family with one full-time worker earning minimum wage, that is \$5.15 per hour, would be able to afford no more than \$268 per month, based on cost at 30 percent of income. For families living in poverty, affordable housing may be out of reach.

Fair market rents for a two-bedroom unit in Nevada as shown on the following page range from \$663 in Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, and White Pine counties to a high of \$856 in Clark County.

Children in Poverty Continued

Affordable Monthly Housing Cost in Nevada by Family Income and County: 2003

County	2003 Estimated Median Family Income (HUD)*	Maximum Affordable Monthly Housing Cost by Percent of Family AMI**	
	Annual	30%	50%
Carson City	\$55,600	\$417	\$695
Churchill	\$50,500	\$379	\$631
Clark	\$54,700	\$410	\$684
Douglas	\$63,900	\$479	\$799
Elko	\$59,600	\$447	\$745
Esmeralda	\$42,300	\$317	\$529
Eureka	\$55,700	\$418	\$696
Humboldt	\$57,000	\$428	\$713
Lander	\$59,400	\$446	\$743
Lincoln	\$50,900	\$382	\$636
Lyon	\$50,400	\$378	\$630
Mineral	\$48,600	\$365	\$608
Nye	\$54,700	\$410	\$684
Pershing	\$50,800	\$381	\$635
Storey	\$64,300	\$482	\$804
Washoe	\$62,100	\$466	\$776
White Pine	\$44,800	\$336	\$560
NEVADA	\$56,168	\$421	\$702

*Developed by Housing and Urban Development (HUD), based on 1990 Census family-income estimates.

**AMI = Area Median Income.

Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition, "Out of Reach 2003: America's Housing Wage Climbs: Nevada," available online at: <http://www.nlihc.org/oor2003/da...ounty%5B%SD=_all&state%5B%5D=NV> as of 9/29/03.

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
<http://kidscount.unlv.edu>

Fair Market Rents* in Nevada by County and by Number of Bedrooms: 2004

County	Zero Bedroom	One Bedroom	Two Bedrooms
Carson City	\$380	\$520	\$696
Churchill	\$489	\$498	\$664
Clark	\$606	\$719	\$856
Douglas	\$439	\$640	\$804
Elko	\$444	\$509	\$677
Esmeralda	\$472	\$589	\$663
Eureka	\$361	\$589	\$663
Humboldt	\$530	\$557	\$671
Lander	\$365	\$564	\$663
Lincoln	\$362	\$544	\$663
Lyon	\$431	\$516	\$663
Mineral	\$367	\$501	\$666
Nye	\$606	\$719	\$856
Pershing	\$502	\$509	\$677
Storey	\$509	\$515	\$677
Washoe	\$556	\$644	\$828
White Pine	\$362	\$499	\$663
NEVADA	\$580	\$688	\$836

*Fair market rent estimates include shelter rent paid to the landlord and the cost of utilities, but not telephone. Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development, May 28, 2003, "Fair Market Rents for the Housing Choice Voucher Program and Moderate Single Room Occupancy Program—Fiscal Year 2004; Notice," *Federal Register*, available online at: <http://www.huduser.org/Datasets/FMR/FMR2004P/NV_FY2004F_FMR.pdf> as of 9/29/03.

Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition, "Out of Reach 2003: America's Housing Wage Climbs: Nevada," available online at: <http://www.nlihc.org/oor2003/da...ounty%5B%SD=_all&state%5B%5D=NV> as of 9/29/03.

Child Care

Nevada

During January 1, 2003, to June 30, 2003, 1,041 licensed child-care facilities operated in Nevada. The two most common types were family home and child-care centers (560 and 340, respectively). See table at right. Based on data from the Current Population Survey, in 2000, 28 percent of children under age six in Nevada were in paid child care while their parents worked. The corresponding percentage for the nation was 26.¹

The 2003 Las Vegas Perspective Survey, conducted by CBER, queried southern Nevadans about their child care. In 2003, 54 households paid, on average, \$85.48 per week for child care. Households were most likely to have paid for child care provided by the family (70.9 percent), followed by preschool facility (21.3 percent) and care provided in home, but not family (7.8 percent).²

Significant Factors

Findings from the 2002 National Survey of America’s Families showed that children, especially three- and four-year-olds, in low-income families were more likely to be cared for by relatives; whereas, children in higher-income families were more likely to be in center-based arrangements.³

The Nevada Child Care Work Force Study identified a relationship between quality child care and children’s outcomes using the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale.⁴ Better language and premath skills, better command of basic knowledge, and more positive social skills were found in children receiving care in highly rated classrooms where the interaction between children and teachers was positive.

Definition

“‘Child care’ . . . means the full range of services used by families to educate and nurture children--services that also allow parents to work or go to school.”⁵

Comparison of the Number of Child-Care Licenses in Nevada by Type of Facility: January 1 - June 30, 2000 and 2003

<i>Type of Facility*</i>	<i>Licenses 2000</i>	<i>Licenses 2003</i>
Family home	590	560
Child-care center	352	340
Accommodation facility	35	38
Group home	33	31
Preschool	38	49
On-site child-care facility	7	9
Nursery for infants and toddlers	5	8
Child-care institution	4	4
Special-needs facility	1	2
TOTAL	1,065	1,041
TOTAL SPACES	40,480	46,372

*Definitions of facilities are in the Notes section.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, Bureau of Services for Child Care, *Statewide Child Care Licensing Report, 2000 and 2003*.

Child Care Continued

Child-Care Subsidies

The child-care subsidy program in Nevada, funded through the Child Care Development Fund, provides “. . . subsidies for individuals who are in 1) “Applicant Job Search (AJS) status (actually looking for a job while eligibility for cash assistance is being determined), 2) [New Employees of Nevada] NEON training status (actually in a training program and receiving cash assistance), 3) NEON Disregard status (working and receiving cash assistance and earnings are being either totally or partially disregarded), 4) [Assistance with Childcare for the Employed] ACE status (working but no longer receiving cash), 5) At-Risk status (working but still at-risk of needing cash assistance), 6) Discretionary status (either a student, a foster child or no longer at-risk of needing cash assistance).”⁶

Families may be eligible for subsidy support if their “income is at or below 75% of the State’s Median Income for a family of that size.”⁷ Families are expected to pay a co-payment based on this income.

In Nevada, 6,035 children received child-care support services during June 2003. Most children were served in licensed care (75.9 percent). Overwhelmingly, families cite employment (82.9 percent) as the reason for receiving child-care assistance. The average monthly expenditure for child care during June of 2003 was \$294.00 (monthly subsidy + parent fee). Clark County, by far, had the highest percentage of families (67.0) and children (68.9) who received subsidies for child care.

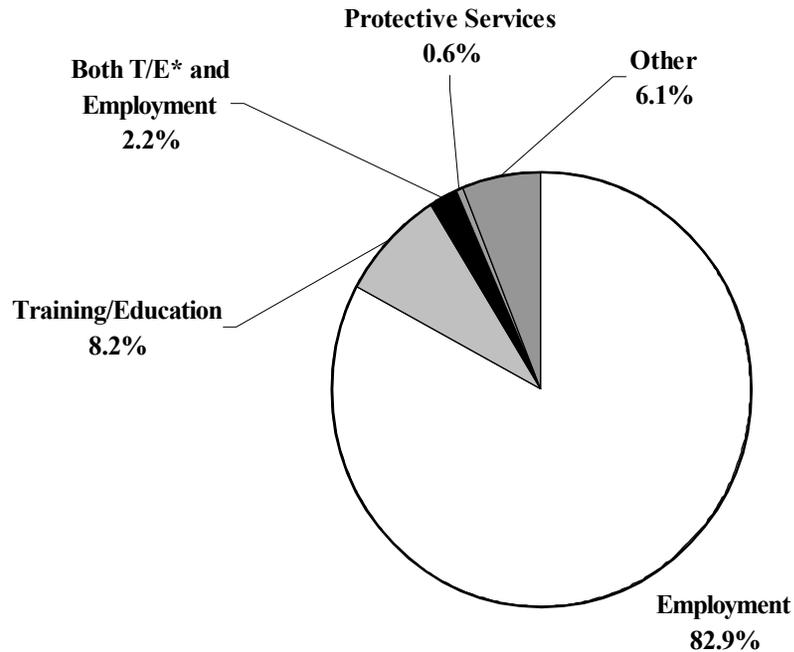
**Race/Ethnicity of Children in the Nevada Child-Care Subsidy Program:*
June 2003**

Race	Latino		Not Latino		Total Race	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Native American/ Alaskan Native	21	0.3	68	1.1	89	1.5
Asian	11	0.2	62	1.0	73	1.2
Black (African American)	69	1.1	1,879	31.1	1,948	32.3
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	5	0.1	44	0.7	49	0.8
White	1,115	18.5	2,443	40.5	3,558	59.0
Multiraces	84	1.4	234	3.9	318	5.3
ALL RACES	1,305	21.6	4,730	78.4	6,035	100.0

*Child-care subsidy programs receive state and federal funds to subsidize low-income parents’ purchase of child care. Such child-care subsidies most commonly take the form of vouchers to clients or direct payments to providers that offset some or all of the cost of care.
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, *Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet*.

Child Care Continued

Nevada Families' Reasons for Receiving Child-Care Assistance: June 2003



*T/E = Training and Education.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, *Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet*.

Nevada Average Monthly Expenditures* for Child Care by Age of Child and Type of Care: June 2003

Age	In-Home \$	Family Home \$	Group Home \$	Center \$	All Types \$
0-11 months	286	351	462	364	355
12-23 months	279	353	388	352	347
24-35 months	273	375	346	370	364
36-47 months	277	348	374	329	326
48-59 months	272	335	340	333	333
60-71 months	270	341	384	320	320
72-155 months	248	310	352	198	215
156+ months	259	420	--	133	228
ALL AGES	263	336	362	292	294

*Monthly subsidy + parent fee.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, *Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet*.

Child Care Continued

Number and Percentage of Nevada Families and Children Who Received Subsidies for Child Care by County: June 2003

<i>County</i>	<i>Number of Families</i>	<i>Percent of Families</i>	<i>Number of Children</i>	<i>Percent of Children</i>
Carson City	188	5.3	295	4.9
Churchill	61	1.7	117	1.9
Clark	2,364	67.0	4,159	68.9
Douglas	57	1.6	94	1.6
Elko	32	0.9	37	0.6
Esmeralda	0	0.0	0	0.0
Eureka	1	0.0	1	0.0
Humboldt	8	0.2	14	0.2
Lander	1	0.0	1	0.0
Lincoln	0	0.0	0	0.0
Lyon	65	1.8	109	1.8
Mineral	5	0.1	8	0.1
Nye	30	0.9	49	0.8
Pershing	11	0.3	20	0.3
Storey	2	0.1	3	0.0
Washoe	696	19.7	1,119	18.5
White Pine	8	0.2	9	0.1
NEVADA	3,529	100.0	6,035	100.0

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet.

Child Support

Nevada

Nevada's total child-support collections (withholding, voluntary payment, unemployment compensation, and income tax withholding) have increased over the past four years as shown in the upper right table.

Counties

Nevada collected and distributed 47 percent of current child support due in fiscal year 2002, an increase from 45.8 percent reported in 2001.¹ Three state child-support offices are located in Elko, Las Vegas, and Reno. Each of Nevada's counties, with the exception of Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, and Storey, provide child-support services. The state office in Elko manages child-support cases in Eureka County. Las Vegas state office now manages child-support cases from Esmeralda County. Reno state office continues to manage Storey County and a portion of Douglas County child-support cases. Elko's District Attorney's office and Elko's state office share in the management of Lander County's child-support cases.

Significant Factors

The Urban Institute reported that there was a significant increase in the percentage of low-income children who received child support in the U.S. during 2001 compared to 1996 (36 versus 31).² Although gains were made in the percentage of children who received child support, significant gains were not made in the amount of the support received. Accounting for inflation, the average amount of support in 2001 was \$4,650, a slight increase over the \$4,390 in 1996.³

Definition

Child Support is financial support paid by parents to help support a child or children of whom they do not have custody.

Total Child-Support Collections in Nevada: Four State Fiscal Years

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Amount of Child-Support Collection</i>
2000	\$106,516,115
2001	110,863,315
2002	115,087,601
2003	122,489,778

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, Child Support Enforcement Program, 2000-2003.

Nevada Child-Support Enforcement Data: Federal Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002

<i>Category</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>
Total number of children and youth with open child-support cases at the end of the fiscal year	103,997	125,681
Total amount of current support due	\$159,370,979	\$164,678,836
Total amount of current support distributed	\$72,989,111	\$77,389,230
Annual percentage of current support amount due which was distributed	45.8%	47.0%
Total cumulative amount of unpaid prior support due for all fiscal years	\$661,150,884	\$706,356,236
Total amount of unpaid prior support distributed	\$34,100,380	\$32,949,885
Annual percentage of unpaid prior support due which was distributed	5.2%	4.7%

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, Child Support Enforcement Program, 2002.

Child Support Continued

Child Support Received from Noncustodial Fathers for Children Living with Their Mothers in the U.S. by Family Income: 1996 and 2001

Family Income (% of Poverty Thresholds)	Families Receiving Child Support (%)		Among Families Receiving Child Support			
			Average Annual Amount of Support (\$)		Average Share of Family Income (%)	
	1996	2001	1996*	2001	1996	2001
Less than 100%	30.8	35.5**	2,280	2,550	27.3	30.0
100-200%	44.6	50.1**	3,870	3,980	15.6	15.5
200-300%	53.9	56.3	5,140	5,240	12.7	13.0
300% or more	62.2	60.9	6,620	6,760	9.5	9.5
TOTAL	43.7	48.9**	4,390	4,650	16.8	16.8

*Adjusted for inflation in 2001 dollars.

**Increase between 1996 and 2001 is significant at the 0.10 level.

Note: Data from 1997 and 2002 National Survey of America's Families.

Source: Urban Institute, October 2003, "Child Support Fains Some Ground," by Elaine Sorensen, *Snapshots of America's Families III*, No. 11, available online at: <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/310860_snapshots3_no.11.pdf> as of 12/1/03.

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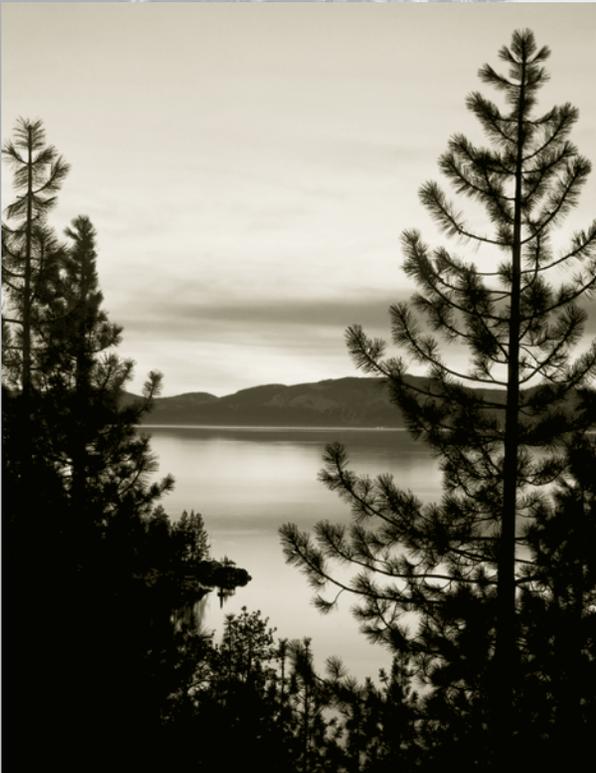
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Education and Achievement

*Story courtesy of Brian Kunzi,
Nevada KIDS COUNT Advisory Council*

Many Nevada high schools adopt unique nicknames based on local history or lore. We have the miners, muckers, buckaroos, vaqueros, and railroaders to name a few. None are more unique than my alma mater the Mineral County High School Serpents. “Cecil” is based on an ancient Native American legend. A sea serpent was believed to swim the waters of Walker Lake, one of the last remnants of prehistoric Lake Lahontan, which once covered much of the Great Basin. The U.S. Navy, which operated an ammunition base in Hawthorne, brought Cecil to life. Cecil was placed on a series of pontoon boats. As part of homecoming festivities in the 60s Cecil would invade a pep rally on the beach from his hiding place in nearby cliffs. Cecil had fiery red eyes and spit pyrotechnics out his enormous mouth. A few years later Cecil was placed on trailers and became land based. Today he still is a popular attraction at local parades and remains the largest, fiercest mascot around.



“Hot” Education Issue

Probably the most-talked about issue in public-school education is the *No Child Left Behind* program. The federal *No Child Left Behind* program is a framework for bipartisan education reform which President Bush describes as the cornerstone of his administration.¹ No child will be left behind means that by 2012-2013, every child must be learning proficient. States are expected to reach this goal by setting standards for reading, math, and science (there are no national exams or standards).² In addition, they must provide annual report cards on:

- “• student academic achievement disaggregated by subgroups,
 - comparison of students at basic, proficient, and advanced levels of academic achievement,
 - graduation rates,
 - professional qualifications of teachers,
 - whether the school has been identified as ‘in need of improvement.’”³

Schools that fail to demonstrate adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting their goals will be placed on a “watch list.” Two consecutive years of not making AYP will move a school to the “improvement list.” These schools may be “subject to improvement, corrective action, and restructuring measures aimed at getting them back on course to meet State standards.”⁴ Examples include allowing students to transfer to another public school with transportation provided, offering “supplemental services” such as tutoring, after-school help, and summer school, and restructuring of the school by the Department of Education.

Nevada will receive more than \$192.4 million from the federal government to ensure that no child is left behind.⁵ As of November 2003, 194 public schools in Nevada were designated as schools that had not made AYP for one year.⁶ Twenty-seven schools made the “in need of improvement” list.

Number of Nevada Schools Not Making Adequate Yearly Progress for One Year by School District: 2001-2002

<i>School District</i>	<i>Number of School Districts Not Making AYP</i>	<i>Total Number of Schools in District*</i>
Carson City	7	12
Churchill	4	9
Clark	132	268
Douglas	4	15
Elko	6	26
Esmeralda	2	3
Humboldt	1	13
Lyon	5	16
Mineral	1	5
Nye	4	16
Pershing	1	4
Washoe	25	88
White Pine	2	8
NEVADA	194	483

*Charter schools are included. Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, and Storey school districts did not make the list.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, November 5, 2003, “Nevada Department of Education Releases *Watch List* of Nevada Schools Not Making *Adequate Yearly Progress* for One Year and Schools Designated as *Needing Improvement*,” News Release.

Characteristics of the Formal Education System in Nevada

Summary Data on the Formal Education System: 2001-2002

In Nevada’s 17 school districts there were 506 public schools: 311 elementary schools, 76 junior/middle schools, 77 high schools, 32 special schools, and 10 charter schools. Special schools were in Clark (21), Douglas (3), Churchill (1), Lincoln (1), Lyon (1), Washoe (1), and White Pine (1) counties, as well as Carson City (3). Charter schools were in Clark (5), Washoe (4), and Churchill (1) counties.

Public-school enrollment was 356,814, a 4.7 percent increase over 340,706 in 2000-2001.

A total of 16,857 students were enrolled in Nevada private schools. Approximately one-half of the counties reported private-school enrollment. By far, Clark County reported the highest enrollment with 12,095 students, followed by Washoe County with 3,711 students.

The percentage of white students enrolled in Nevada public schools was 54.5. Storey County reported the highest percentage of white students (88.3) and Clark County, the lowest (47.7). As with other southwestern states, the percentage of Hispanic students has increased. In 2001-2002, the Hispanic student population in Nevada was 27.4 percent, an increase over the 25.7 percent reported in 2000-2001.

Nevada Public-School Enrollment (PK*-12) by School District: 2000-2001 and 2001-2002

School District	Enrollment** Number		Change in Enrollment*** Percent
	2000-2001	2001-2002	2000-2001 to 2001-2002
Carson City	8,431	8,763	3.9
Churchill	4,808	4,724	-1.7
Clark	231,655	245,659	6.0
Douglas	7,033	6,989	-0.6
Elko	10,100	9,847	-2.5
Esmeralda	107	89	-16.8
Eureka	305	285	-6.6
Humboldt	3,805	3,616	-5.0
Lander	1,449	1,355	-6.5
Lincoln	1,018	1,014	-0.4
Lyon	6,666	7,046	5.7
Mineral	872	774	-11.2
Nye	5,290	5,279	-0.2
Pershing	900	898	-0.2
Storey	445	480	7.9
Washoe	56,268	58,532	4.0
White Pine	1,554	1,464	-5.8
NEVADA	340,706	356,814	4.7

*PK (kindergarten) refers to 3- and 4-year-old children receiving special education.

**End of the first school month.

***Change in enrollment is the percentage increase or decrease in total student enrollment from the year prior to the previous school year.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, March 2002, “Student Enrollment and Licensed Personnel Information,” *Research Bulletin*, Volume 43.

Characteristics of the Formal Education System in Nevada Continued

**Nevada Public-School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity
and School District: 2001-2002**

School District	Total Students					
	NA/AN*	Asian/PI**	Hispanic	Black***	White	Total
Carson City	290	201	1,856	76	6,340	8,763
Churchill	340	245	444	104	3,591	4,724
Clark	2,061	17,297	75,064	34,054	117,183	245,659
Douglas	191	153	673	51	5,921	6,989
Elko	669	97	2,245	61	6,775	9,847
Esmeralda	12	1	18	0	58	89
Eureka	20	4	25	0	236	285
Humboldt	166	31	831	13	2,575	3,616
Lander	58	8	289	1	999	1,355
Lincoln	11	24	68	37	874	1,014
Lyon	349	59	908	60	5,670	7,046
Mineral	165	8	70	42	489	774
Nye	145	100	685	122	4,227	5,279
Pershing	62	13	240	5	578	898
Storey	1	9	46	0	424	480
Washoe	1,532	3,341	14,215	2,095	37,349	58,532
White Pine	86	57	105	16	1,200	1,464
NEVADA	6,158	21,648	97,782	36,737	194,489	356,814
PERCENT	1.7%	6.1%	27.4%	10.3%	54.5%	100.0%

Note: End of the first school month.

*NA = Native American and AN = Alaskan Native.

**PI = Pacific Islander.

***African American.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, March 2002, "Student Enrollment and Licensed Personnel Information," *Research Bulletin*, Volume 43.

**Nevada Private-School Enrollment by Grade
and School District: 2001-2002**

School District	Grades					
	K-3	4-6	7-8	9-12	Ungraded*	Totals
Carson	301	171	71	24	0	567
Churchill	50	9	5	2	0	66
Clark	5,785	2,806	1,487	2,017	0	12,095
Douglas	65	18	4	28	0	115
Elko	35	33	24	20	0	112
Lyon	13	13	14	13	0	53
Nye	60	40	20	18	0	138
Washoe	1,391	600	424	777	519	3,711
NEVADA	7,700	3,690	2,049	2,899	519	16,857

*Ungraded refers to multiple-grade grouping.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, March 2002, "Student Enrollment and Licensed Personnel Information," *Research Bulletin*, Volume 43.

Homeschooling

Abraham Lincoln, Margaret Mead, General Douglas MacArthur, and Mark Twain are a few notables who were homeschooled.^{1,2} Less well-known homeschoolers are teenagers Evelyn Blacklock and James Williams. Evelyn was the runner-up in the 2003, 76th Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee. James won the 2003 National Geographic Bee.^{3,4}

While a current trend in public schools is standardization, homeschooling and other nontraditional educational systems that provide more flexibility are emerging, such as on-line education.⁵ In addition to flexibility, homeschooling: (1) allows for the incorporation of family values and beliefs into the curriculum, (2) offers tailor-made curriculum designed to accommodate students' style of learning, (3) provides a supportive, safe teaching environment, (4) promotes learning for the sake of learning, (5) provides one-on-one instruction leading to higher academic performance, (6) encourages development of closer parent-child relationships and opportunities for high-quality interaction with adults, (7) offers an environment without negative peer pressure, and (8) promotes enhanced self-concept and social skills.^{6,7}

As with other alternative forms of education, homeschooling has its limitations. The lack of socialization opportunities is the most often cited. Others include lack of peer interaction in the classroom, lack of resources for delivering a well-rounded education, lack of qualified teachers, and inability of students to develop organizational skills and study habits.⁸ Some critics view homeschooling as a subversive activity, others as fanaticism.⁹ Critics lament that homeschoolers do not benefit from the physical and mental-health role that public schools play in providing scoliosis and tuberculosis screening, offering sports physicals, and discovering abuse and neglect.¹⁰

Definition

*Homeschoolers are students whose "parents reported them being schooled at home instead of a public or private school, . . ."*¹¹

Homeschool Attendance by School District in Nevada: 2001-2002

School District	Number K-3	Number 4-6	Number 7-8	Number 9-12	Ungraded*	Total Number
Carson	27	40	14	24	0	105
Churchill	40	35	25	26	0	126
Clark	723	701	597	657	163	2,841
Douglas	57	66	65	110	0	298
Elko	46	48	41	45	1	181
Esmeralda	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eureka	9	4	6	7	0	26
Humboldt	13	20	19	27	0	79
Lander	4	5	3	4	0	16
Lincoln	8	3	2	4	0	17
Lyon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mineral	4	6	2	6	0	18
Nye	46	54	48	52	1	201
Pershing	6	10	4	2	1	23
Storey	8	5	3	1	0	17
Washoe	287	248	182	179	0	896
White Pine	4	6	4	2	0	16
NEVADA						4,872

Note: NA = Not Available.

*The new Nevada homeschool forms do not have a place to mark grade. It is optional.

Source: Nevada School Districts, 2001-2002.

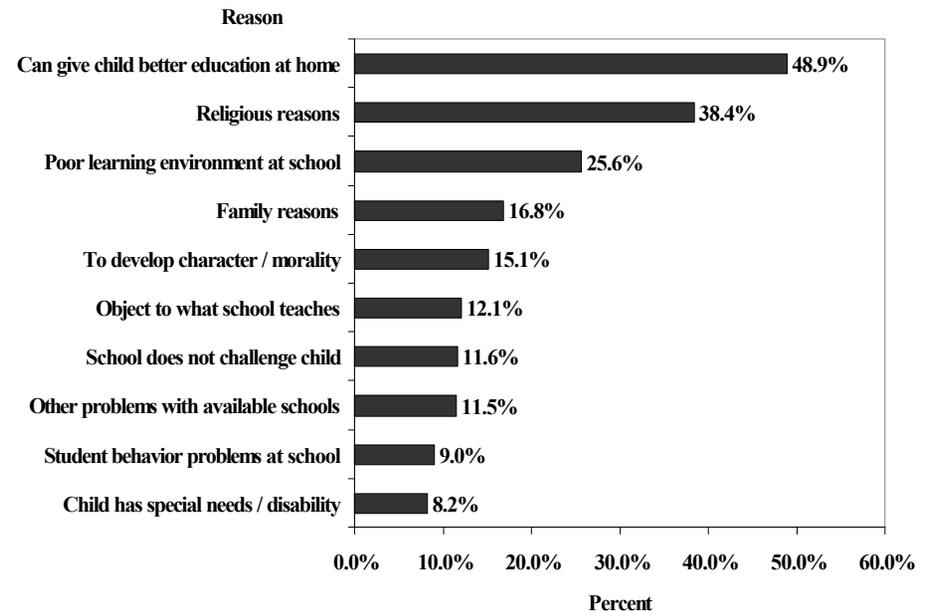
Homeschooling Continued

Estimates of the number of homeschooled students vary by source. The U.S. Department of Education estimated that 850,000 students were homeschooled in 1999.¹² The U.S. Census estimated about 791,000 students.¹³ The president of the National Home Education Research Institute estimated 1.5 to 1.9 million students were homeschooled in 2001-2002.¹⁴ Homeschooling in the U.S. is a growing force that educational institutions will have to deal with as the *No Child Left Behind* legislation exempts homeschooled students from federal-testing requirements that govern public-school students and forbids the federal government from overseeing homeschools.¹⁵ New technology, such as the Internet, which allows parents access to teaching materials online¹⁶ and perceived lack of safety in public schools¹⁷ have also spurred the homeschool movement. After the Columbine massacre, the number of homeschoolers rose 10 percent in Colorado.¹⁸

Homeschooled students generally perform well academically. One study, using test scores from a national testing service, found that homeschoolers' scores were well above those of public- and Catholic/private-school students.¹⁹ ACT test results for 2000 placed homeschoolers' scores above the national average score (22.8 versus 21.0).²⁰

Although hundreds of universities accept homeschooled students, some universities are hesitant to admit homeschooled students for fear that doing so would prevent their students from receiving federal student aid under the Higher Education Act.²¹ Others may be more accepting. Stanford University acknowledges in its homeschooling and admission policy that homeschooled students may have an advantage over traditional students in the area of intellectual growth and quest for knowledge as "they have consciously chosen and pursued an independent course of study."²²

Ten Reasons for Homeschooling: Parent Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program: 1999



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, July 2001, "Homeschooling in the United States: 1999," by Stacey Bielick, Kathryn Chandler, and Stephen P. Broughman, *Statistical Analysis Report*, available online at: <<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2001/2001033.pdf>> as of 8/27/03.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts

High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE)

Of the 15 school districts that participated in all the HSPE testing administrations, Douglas, Eureka, and Pershing had the highest percentage of pass rates in reading. Douglas (98.2), Carson City (96.1), and Churchill (95.8) school districts had the highest percentage of pass rates in math. Males were more likely to have passed the math exam than were females. Of the racial/ethnic groups, whites were the most likely to pass the math exam and blacks (African Americans) were the least likely to pass.

HSPE Frequency of Pass Rates Among Nevada Students by Race/Ethnicity and Gender: 2003

<i>Group</i>	<i>Reading Percent</i>	<i>Math Percent</i>
Female	98.3	89.4
Male	98.1	92.8
White	99.2	94.4
American Indian/Alaskan Native	98.0	91.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	97.7	93.0
Black (African American)	95.8	77.8
Hispanic	95.1	82.3
TOTAL	98.0	90.5

Notes: See Notes section for discussion of HSPE rates.
Source: Nevada State Department of Education, 2003.

HSPE Frequency of Pass Rates among Nevada Students by School District: 2003

<i>District</i>	<i>Pass Rates</i>	
	<i>Reading (Percent)</i>	<i>Math (Percent)</i>
Carson City	99.2	96.1
Churchill	99.7	95.8
Clark	97.6	89.1
Douglas	100.0	98.2
Elko	98.9	93.1
Eureka	100.0	90.9
Humboldt	99.6	92.3
Lander	94.1	84.3
Lincoln	98.7	85.9
Lyon	99.3	95.2
Mineral	94.3	94.1
Nye	97.9	89.2
Pershing	100.0	91.1
Storey	96.9	84.0
Washoe	98.7	92.3
White Pine	NA	NA
NEVADA*	98.0	90.5

Notes: See Notes section for discussion of HSPE rates.

*White Pine School District did not participate in the May testing, therefore, estimates are not available. Esmeralda County students attend schools in Nye County.

Source: Nevada State Department of Education, 2003.

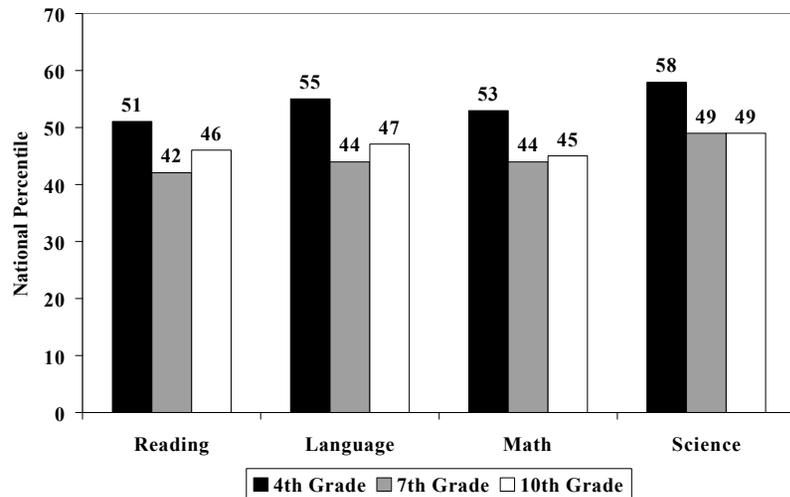
Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)

The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), developed by the University of Iowa's Testing Program, is a norm-referenced achievement test for students.

- ❖ At the fourth-grade level, Nevada students performed above the national 50th percentile in all four areas.
- ❖ At the seventh- and tenth-grade levels, Nevada students scored below the national average in all four areas.

Nevada ITBS Scores: FY 2002-2003
National Average = 50th National Percentile



Source: Nevada Department of Education, 2003, "2003 Nevada Education Data Book," available online at: <<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/71st/Interim/StatCom/Education/Data%20Book/SEC1>> as of 9/17/03.

Clark County test scores revealed that gains were made by special-education students on their ITBS scores from 2002 to 2003. Students in grades three through five appear to have made the most significant gains.

Clark County School District Iowa Test of Basic Skills/Educational Development Special Education: 2002-2003

Grades 3-5

	READING			LANGUAGE			MATH			SCIENCE		
	3	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	5
2003	32	30	26	30	29	25	36	30	27	42	35	34
2002	27	24	18	19	17	14	23	20	18	36	29	24

Grades 6-8

	READING			LANGUAGE			MATH			SCIENCE		
	6	7	8	6	7	8	6	7	8	6	7	8
2003	14	15	13	14	15	14	15	14	15	20	21	20
2002	10	12	12	8	12	11	10	13	13	16	18	17

Grades 9-10

	READING		LANGUAGE		MATH		SCIENCE	
	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10
2003	12	13	16	16	18	16	19	19
2002	10	13	12	15	15	15	16	18

Source: Clark County School District data cited in "Clark County Students Make Gains in Test Scores," January 14, 2004, by Juliet V. Casey, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, available online at: <http://www.reviewjournal.com/lvrj_home/2004/Jan-14-Wed-2004/news/22968120.html> as of 1/15/04.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

College-Entrance Examinations

The average verbal and math scores for the class of 2002 in Nevada on the Scholastic Assessment Exam (SAT) were 509 and 518, respectively. The corresponding national average scores were 504 and 516.¹ The class of 2002 in Nevada earned a composite score of 21.3 on the American College Exam (ACT), which is slightly above the national average composite score of 20.8.² The highest possible score was 36.

The percentage of Nevada students taking the ACT decreased over the 2000-2001 to 2001-2002 school years from 39.0 to 36.0. A different trend was evident for the SAT. A slightly higher percentage of students took the exam over the one-year period, 33.0 to 34.0.

Nevada High School Performance on ACT and SAT:* 2000-2001 and 2001-2002

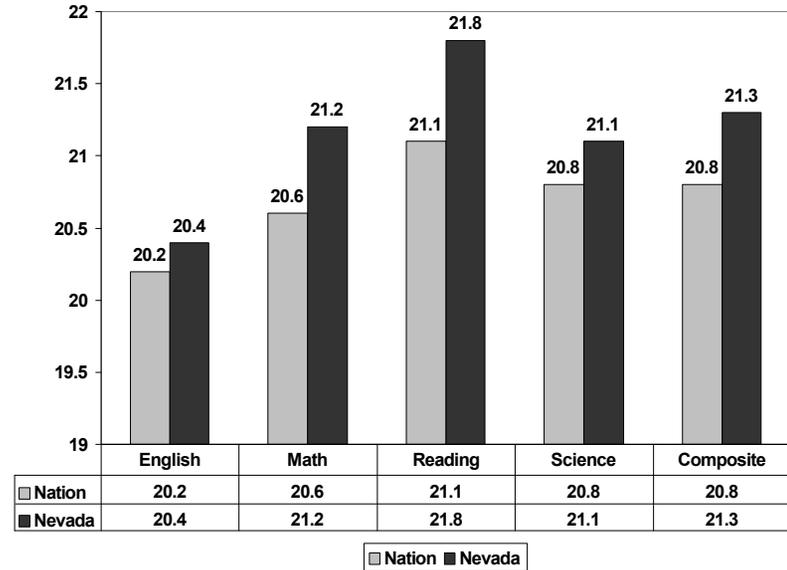
<i>ACT & SAT Performance</i>	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>
Percent of seniors taking ACT**	39.0	36.0
ACT composite average	21.3	21.3
Percent of seniors taking SAT**	33.0	34.0
SAT verbal average	509	509
SAT math average	515	518

*See Notes section for a description of the ACT and SAT exams.

**Includes the juniors who took the tests in the previous year.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, 2000-2002; and ACT Inc., 2003, "2002 ACT National and State Scores," available online at: <<http://www.act.org/news/data/02/states.html>> as of 9/20/02.

ACT Score Comparison Nevada and the Nation: 2002



Source: Nevada Department of Education, October 7, 2002, "Nevada's ACT College Entrance Exam Results Released," News Release.

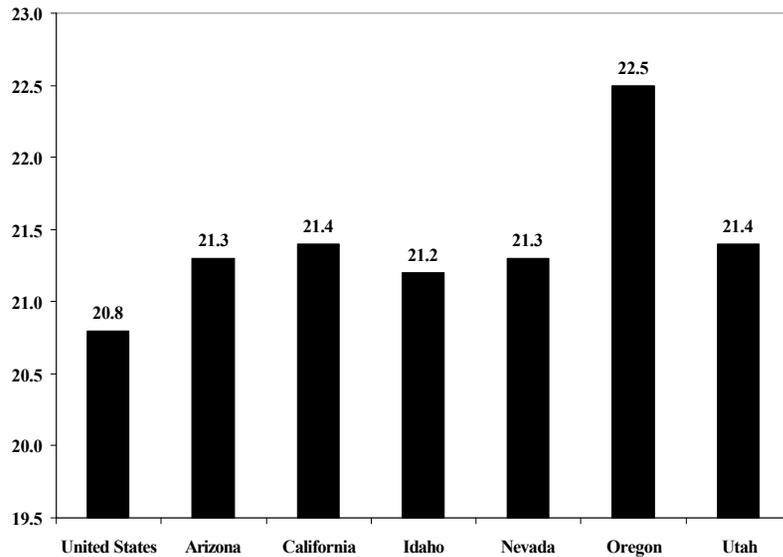
SAT Score Comparison Nevada and the Nation: 2002

<i>Region</i>	<i>Verbal</i>	<i>Math</i>
Nevada	509	518
United States	504	516

Source: Nevada Department of Education, October 7, 2002, "Nevada's SAT College Entrance Exam Results Released," News Release.

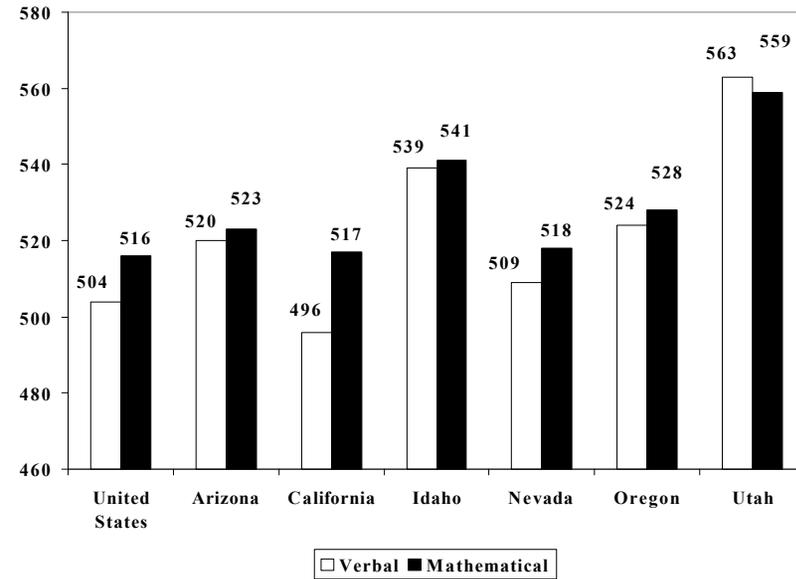
Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

ACT Average Composition Scores for the U.S., Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2002



Source: ACT, Inc., 2003, "2002 ACT National and State Scores," available online at: <http://www.act.org/news/data/02/states.html> as of 10/30/03.

SAT Test Score Averages for the U.S., Nevada, and Adjacent States: 2000-2001



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2002, "Digest of Education Statistics," Table 136. Scholastic Assessment Test Score Averages, by State: 1987 to 2001-02, available online at: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/digest02/tables/dt136.asp> as of 8/22/03.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

Millennium Scholarships

In 1999, NRS 396.911 created the Millennium Scholarship trust fund, which was initiated by Governor Guinn and approved by Nevada's legislators. The trust fund is administered by the state treasurer. It is derived from the state's share of the settlement from tobacco companies over health-care costs related to smoking. The University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN) Board of Regents adopted policy guidelines for the administration of the scholarship.

Nevada's high school students are eligible for the Millennium Scholarship if they meet the following conditions:³

- ❖ graduation with a diploma from a public or private high school in Nevada after May 1, 2000, or later
- ❖ completion of high school with at least a 3.0 grade-point average (weighted or unweighted) using all high school credit-granting courses
- ❖ passing all areas of the Nevada HSPE
- ❖ Nevada resident for at least two years of high school

To receive the benefits, students must enroll in a public institution of higher learning in Nevada. (For homeschooling requirements, see Notes section.) Receiving a Millennium Scholarship, however, does not guarantee admission to the institutions, nor does it guarantee admission to all programs at the universities or community colleges.⁴ According to the *Millennium Scholarship Baseline Study*, the Millennium Scholarship increases students' accessibility to college. Fifty-eight percent of students "who were planning to use the scholarship in Fall 2002 reported that they would not have been able to attend college without the scholarship."⁵

Number of Eligible Students for the Millennium Scholarship by Nevada School District: High School Graduation Year 2003

<i>School District</i>	<i>Number Eligible for Scholarship</i>
Carson City	287
Churchill	146
Clark	5,194
Douglas	232
Elko	267
Esmeralda*	NI
Eureka	11
Humboldt	100
Lander	44
Lincoln	37
Lyon	176
Mineral	21
Nye	120
Pershing	15
Storey	10
Washoe	1,765
White Pine	80
TOTAL	8,505

Note: NI = No Instruction.

*Esmeralda County students attend high schools in the neighboring Nye County school district. The actual number of Esmeralda County students eligible for the Millennium Scholarship is not available.

Source: Office of the State Treasurer, Millennium Scholarship, 2003.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

Nevada Millennium Scholarship Program Students with Funds Disbursed by County and Institution: Spring Semester 2003

<i>County</i>	<i>Community College of Southern Nevada</i>	<i>Great Basin College</i>	<i>Nevada State College at Henderson</i>	<i>Sierra Nevada College</i>	<i>Truckee Meadows Community College</i>	<i>University of Nevada, Las Vegas</i>	<i>University of Nevada, Reno</i>	<i>Western Nevada Community College</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Carson City	2	0	0	0	26	7	194	114	343
Churchill	2	0	0	0	24	5	74	50	155
Clark	2,262	1	33	5	31	3,053	887	9	6,281
Douglas	3	1	0	2	18	23	226	61	334
Elko	8	125	0	0	14	28	150	0	325
Eureka	1	1	0	0	3	1	12	0	18
Humboldt	1	22	0	1	16	7	71	0	118
Lander	2	8	0	0	7	4	23	0	44
Lincoln	12	0	0	0	2	10	6	0	30
Lyon	1	0	0	0	45	7	118	55	226
Mineral	0	0	0	1	5	3	11	8	28
Nye	30	4	0	1	8	43	42	3	131
Pershing	1	0	0	0	3	4	15	7	30
Storey	0	1	0	1	6	0	14	6	28
Washoe	10	0	0	3	680	83	1,578	10	2,364
White Pine	5	9	0	0	3	17	18	1	53
NEVADA	2,340	172	33	14	891	3,295	3,439	324	10,508

Source: Office of the State Treasurer, Millennium Scholarship, 2003.

High School Dropout and Graduation Information

Nevada

Nevada’s dropout rate for grades 9 through 12 increased from 5.0 percent in 2000-2001 to 6.3 percent in 2001-2002. The graduation rate (high school, adjusted, and adult diploma count divided by a total 12th-grade enrollment count) decreased from 77.2 percent in 2000-2001 to 76.4 percent in 2001-2002.¹ Of the racial/ethnic categories, Hispanics had the highest percentage of high school dropouts followed by blacks (African Americans), Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, whites, and Asians/Pacific Islanders. Additionally, 12th graders were more likely to leave school than students in grades 9 through 11; and males were more likely to dropout than were females.²

Counties

Among the 17 counties in Nevada, the percentage of students in grades 9 through 12 who dropped out of school during the 2001-2002 school year ranged from a low of 0.5 in Douglas County to a high of 11.6 in Storey County. Clark County, the state’s largest school district with 62,665 students enrolled in high school, saw its dropout rate increase slightly over the previous year. Washoe County, on the other hand, the state’s second largest school district with 15,939 students, experienced a decrease.

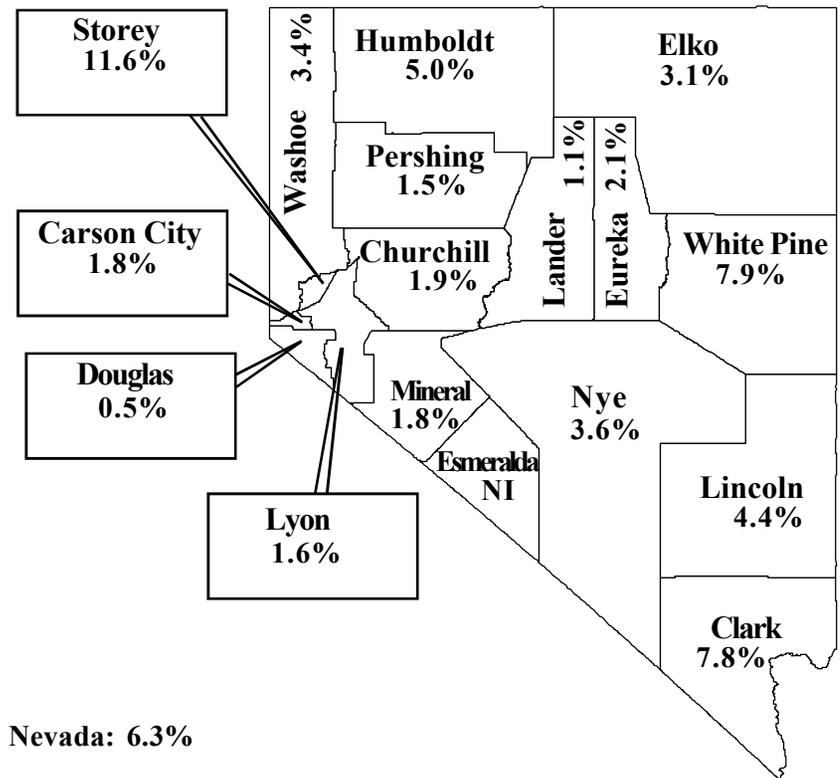
Significant Factors

Having a high school degree will be essential for obtaining good-paying jobs.³ To illustrate, the earnings gap between high school graduates and nongraduates has grown significantly, even over the past few decades. In 1975, the mean earnings of non-high school graduates 18 years and older was \$6,198; whereas, the corresponding figure for a high school graduate was \$7,843, a 26.5 percent difference.⁴ In contrast, the mean earnings of

Definition

Dropouts are students who had withdrawn from school after the first day of fall enrollment, or who had completed the previous school year, but did not return for the start of the new school year.⁵

Nevada Dropout Rate by County: 2001-2002



Note: NI = No Instruction. The Esmeralda School District does not provide instruction for grades 9-12.
Source: Nevada Department of Education, May 2003, *Nevada Public School Dropouts School Year 2001-2002*, by Orval K. Nutting.

High School Dropout and Graduation Information Continued

a non-high school graduate in 2001 was \$18,793 and \$26,795 for graduates, a 42.6 percent difference.⁶

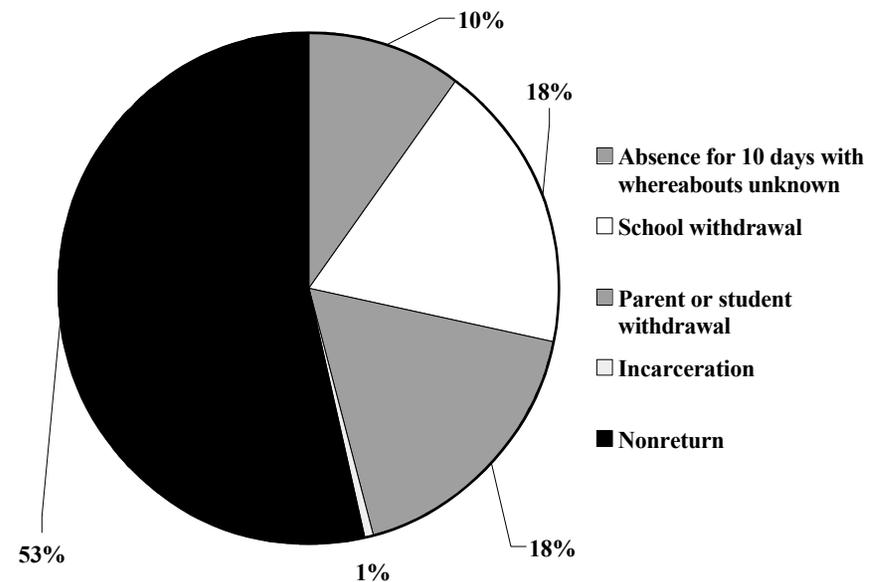
Keeping students in school to realize their full earnings potential has been the topic of many studies. Shore for the Annie E. Casey Foundation summarizes five strategies for reducing the dropout rate:

- “• Make it harder for students to drop out of school
 - Address the underlying causes of dropping out.
 - Address the needs of the groups at highest risk of dropping out.
 - Strengthen school readiness.
 - Strengthen the skills and understanding of the adults who affect teens’ motivation and ability to stay in school.”⁷

Dropout rates will vary depending upon the criteria used to measure them. The Annie E. Casey Foundation, for example, defines dropouts as the percentage of 16- to 19-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates (students who earned a GED are considered graduates).⁸ They use Current Population Survey data and base their rates on three-year averages. This type of dropout rate is referred to as status rate. Based on these criteria, they estimate Nevada’s high school dropout rate for 2000 at 14 percent.⁹

Nevada KIDS COUNT reports rates using Nevada State Department of Education data. The department uses an event rate which reports the “percentage of students who leave school each year without completing a high school program.”¹⁰ Grades, not ages of students, are used in calculating the rates (see definition page 61), and rates are based on one academic school year, not an average of three years.

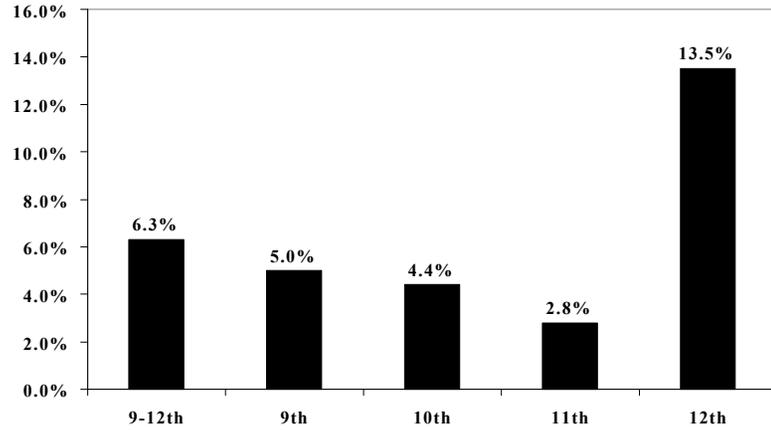
**Nevada Dropouts by Withdrawal Category:
2001-2002**



Note: School Withdrawal = Withdrawal at the request of the school.
 Parent or Student Withdrawal = Withdrawal at the request of the student or the student’s parent/guardian.
 Nonreturn = This is also known as a summer dropout. The student has completed the previous school year, but did not return to school by December 1 of the current year.
Source: Nevada Department of Education, May 2003, *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2000-2001* by Orval K. Nutting.

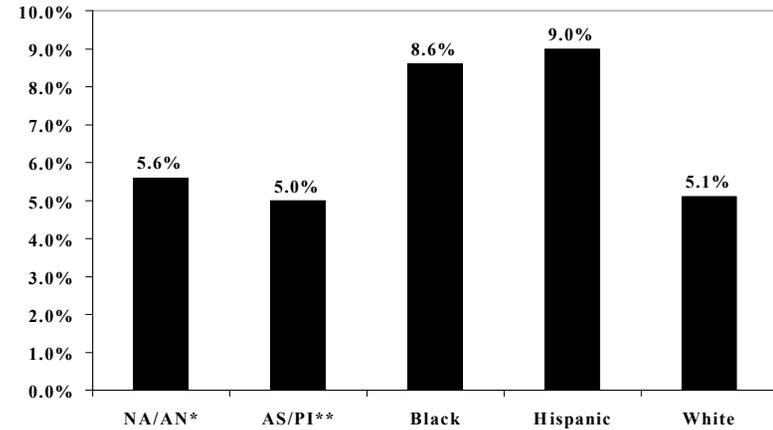
High School Dropout and Graduation Information Continued

Nevada Dropout Rates by Grade: 2001-2002



Source: Nevada Department of Education, May 2003, *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2001-2002*, by Orval K. Nutting.

Nevada Dropout Rates by Race/Ethnicity: 2001-2002

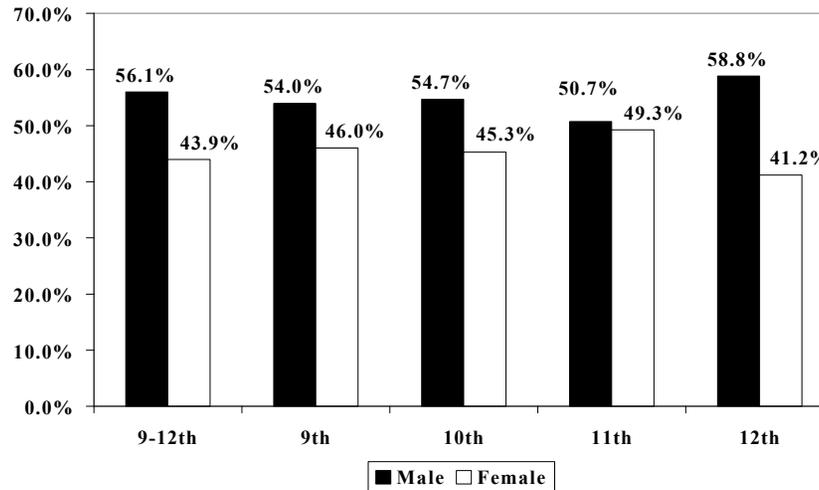


*NA/AN = Native American/Alaskan Native.

**AS/PI= Asian/Pacific Islander.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, May 2003, *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2001-2002*, by Orval K. Nutting.

Nevada Dropout Rates by Gender: 2001-2002



Source: Nevada Department of Education, May 2003, *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2001-2002*, by Orval K. Nutting.

Profile of Children and Youth Enrolled in Special Education

Nevada

On December 1, 2002, 42,532 children ages 3 to 21 were enrolled in special education. The most prevalent disability among Nevada students was a learning disability. About 53 percent of the special-education students ages 17 to 19 received a regular diploma (22.7 percent) or an adjusted diploma or certificate (30.0 percent) in 2001-2002.

Counties

Clark and Washoe counties had the highest numbers of students enrolled in special education, 27,713 and 7,369, respectively.

Significant Factors

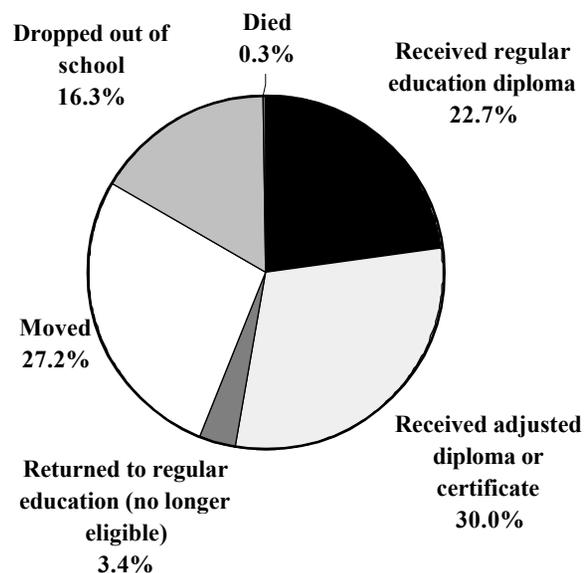
A recent article which summarized the progress of special education over a 25-year period revealed that the high school graduation and college enrollment rates of students with disabilities have increased.¹

Many factors play a role in children's academic achievement, including parents' expectations.² However, for parents of children with disabilities ". . . finding the appropriate balance between high expectations for achievement and a realistic assessment of aptitude and potential, in light of students' disabilities, may be particularly challenging . . ."³ Findings from the Special Education Elementary Longitudinal Study (SEELS), a six-year study (1999-2005) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, revealed that in 2000, 65.1 and 19.5 percents of parents, respectively, definitely expected their child with disabilities to graduate from high school and to definitely graduate from a four-year college.⁴ Parents of children with a speech/language impairment were the most likely to expect their child to graduate.⁵

Definition

*"Special education' means instruction designed to meet the unique needs of a pupil with a disability."*⁶

**Percentage of Special-Education Students
Ages 17, 18, and 19 Exiting Special
Education in Nevada: 2001-2002**



Source: Nevada Department of Education, Office of Special Education, February 2003, "2003 Nevada Education Book," available online at: <<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/71st/Interim/StatCom/Education/Data%20Book/SEC1>> as of 9/17/03.

Profile of Children and Youth Enrolled in Special Education Continued

Enrollment of Special-Education Students Ages 3-21 in Nevada by Disability Categories: December 1, 2002

School District	Learning Disabled	Speech	Developmentally Delayed	Emotionally	Mentally	Autistic	Aurally	Orthopedically Impaired	Visually	Traumatic Brain Injured	Deaf/Blind	Other Health Impaired	Multiple	Total
Carson City	708	254	41	46	42	12	22	13	5	1	0	58	14	1,216
Churchill	378	100	60	39	25	15	7	5	2	2	0	33	2	668
Clark	15,151	4,983	1,699	1,448	1,299	682	326	260	104	120	4	1,031	606	27,713
Douglas	485	197	25	29	35	18	9	6	7	2	0	49	14	876
Elko	693	245	25	8	61	11	6	8	6	3	1	25	15	1,107
Esmeralda	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Eureka	29	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	35
Humboldt	361	65	51	11	14	4	4	6	0	2	0	4	2	524
Lander	92	17	12	1	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	6	2	139
Lincoln	62	20	11	7	6	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	113
Lyon	503	242	120	33	34	14	20	4	7	8	0	76	27	1,088
Mineral	103	38	5	2	3	4	0	1	0	2	0	5	0	163
Nye	577	100	73	79	32	9	1	4	5	0	0	58	22	960
Pershing	120	24	16	3	7	0	1	7	1	0	0	5	2	186
Storey	66	8	3	8	4	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	96
Washoe	4,169	911	459	328	380	127	113	54	38	40	0	637	113	7,369
White Pine	153	53	7	1	9	2	1	2	2	2	0	5	3	240
NYTC*	20	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	28
NEVADA	23,679	7,264	2,607	2,048	1,959	904	511	374	178	182	5	1,998	823	42,532

*NYTC = Nevada Youth Training Center.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, 2003, "Student Bulletin and Licensed Personnel Information," *Research Bulletin*, available online at: <<http://www.nde.state.nv.us/admin/deptsuper/fiscal/research.html>> as of 12/1/03.

Head Start

Nevada

Nevada Head Start served 2,951 children and their families.¹ However, only 23 percent of the children who were economically eligible for Head Start received services.² Nevada received \$20,987,340 from the federal government to fund Head Start programs.³ Eight grantees in Nevada received funding in 2002: Community Services Agency Head Start; Economic Opportunity Board; Head Start of Northeastern Nevada; Inter-Tribal Council Head Start; Little People’s Head Start; Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; University of Nevada Reno–Early Head Start; and Washoe Tribe Head Start.⁴ Head Start serves children and families in Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Humboldt, Lyon, Pershing, Storey, Washoe, and White Pine counties.⁵

Significant Factors

Head Start, established in 1965, aims to increase the school readiness of young children in low-income families.⁶ The criterion for enrollment in Head Start is family income, which must be at or below the federal poverty level.⁷ There is also an overincome qualifying category reserved for children with disabilities. Head Start, which serves children ages three to five; and Early Head Start, which serves children ages zero to three, deliver services in the areas of education, health, parental involvement and education, child and family development, nutrition, and social services.^{8,9}

Nationwide, grants were awarded to 1,570 organizations/agencies—18,865 Head Start centers served 912,345 children in FY 2002.¹⁰ The average cost per child was \$6,934.¹¹

Definition

“Head Start is a national program which provides comprehensive developmental services for America’s low-income, pre-school children ages three to five and social services for their families.”¹²

Percentage of U.S. Children Enrolled in Head Start by Race/Ethnicity: FY 2002

<i>Racial/Ethnic Composition</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Black (African American)	32.6
Hispanic	29.8
White	28.4
Native American	2.9
Asian	2.0
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1.0
Multiple/Other	3.3
TOTAL	100.0

Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, “Head Start Fact Sheet FY 2002,” available online at: <<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/2003.htm>> as of 6/17/03.

Head Start Continued

Head Start and Early Head Start in Nevada: 2002

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Number</i>
Program figures		Children with	
Funded enrollment	2,500	Health insurance at enrollment	1,646
Actual served	2,951	Health insurance at end of year	2,255
Total number of centers	49	Regular medical care at enrollment	1,061
Total staff	548	Regular medical care at end of year	2,645
Staff previously Head Start parents	173	Up-to-date health exams	2,706
Total program volunteers	5,136	Children	
Children with		Needing medical treatment	672
IEPs (special needs population)	330	Receiving medical treatment	597
2-parent families	1,399	Immunizations up-to-date at enrollment	2,405
1-parent families	1,395	Immunizations up-to-date at end of year	2,886
Number of homeless families	79	Regular dental care at enrollment	888
Number of homeless families acquiring housing while in Head Start	34	Regular dental care at end of year	2,511
Primary languages in the home		Race/Ethnicity	
English	1,937	Hispanic or Latino	1,326
Spanish	986	White	545
Mid Eastern	11	Black/African American	417
Far Eastern	4	Native American	303
Pacific Islander	2	Multiracial	272
Other	1	Asian	67
		Pacific Islander	11

Source: Nevada Head Start State Collaboration Office, *Nevada Head Start 2002*.

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Child and Youth Safety/Welfare



*Story courtesy of Peggy Jackman,
CBER Research Associate*

As a child growing up in Ely, Nevada, fall meant school started and it was time to harvest pine cones from the piñon pine trees. After the pine cones were picked, we would build a campfire and roast the pine cones, which burst open to reveal pine nuts. Pine cones have a lot of pitch on them so our hands got very sticky. (The hand cleaner Goop was great for cleaning sticky hands.) While we sat around the campfire eating the pine nuts, all the hard work of gathering the cones was forgotten.

Infant Mortality

Nevada

Between 2000 and 2002, the infant mortality rate in Nevada was 6.0 per 1,000 live births. Of the 93,850 babies born during this period, 561 infants died before they reached their first birthday. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*, the 2000 rate for the U.S. was 6.9.¹

Counties

The infant mortality rate ranged from a low of 3.2 in Carson City to a high of 10.8 in Nye County. Statistically reliable rates could not be calculated for eight counties due to a low number of births between 2000 and 2002.

Significant Factors

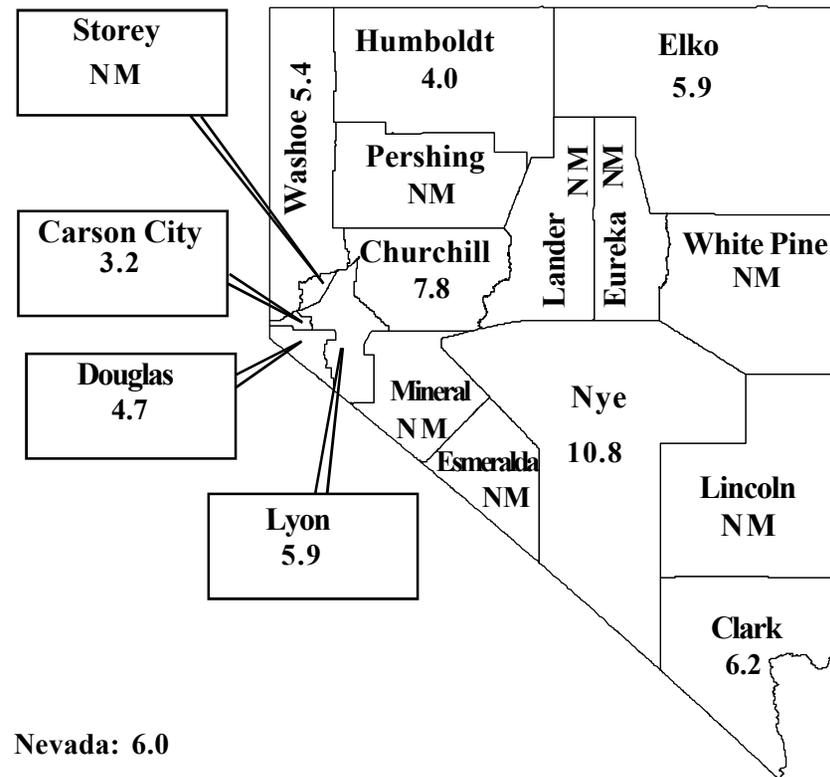
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released U.S. infant mortality statistics for 2001. Some highlights include:²

- ❖ The three major causes of infant mortality in the U.S., congenital malformations, low birthweight, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), accounted for 44 percent of all infant deaths.
- ❖ The infant-mortality rate for the U.S. fell to 6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2001 from 6.9 in 2000. This decline was partially due to an 11 percent reduction in SIDS deaths between 2000 and 2001. In 2001, the infant-mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) for males was greater than that for females, 7.5 and 6.1, respectively.
- ❖ Tobacco use during pregnancy can impair a growing infant's oxygen supply and can lead to detrimental pregnancy and birth outcomes. These outcomes include infant mortality and low birthweight. The oxygen impairment is due to the passage of nicotine, carbon monoxide, and hydrogen cyanide into the fetal blood supply. In 2001, the infant-mortality rate for smokers was 10.5, compared to 6.5 for nonsmokers.

Definition

The Infant Mortality Rate measures the number of babies who die during their first year of life per 1,000 live births. The data are reported by county of residence, rather than place of death.

**Nevada Infant Mortality Rate: 2000-2002
(Per 1,000 live births)**



Nevada: 6.0

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable. Rates are not shown for counties with less than 600 births. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.

Child Deaths

Nevada

Between 2000 and 2002, the child death rate in Nevada was 21.0 per 100,000 children. During this period, 265 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in Nevada. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*, the 2000 child death rate in the U.S. was 22 per 100,000 children.¹

Counties

Of the four counties for which reliable rates could be calculated, Washoe County had the highest child death rate, 21.8, followed by Clark County, 20.3. Statistically reliable rates could not be calculated for the remaining 13 counties due to small population numbers for the 1 to 14 age group. However, the rate of the combined 13 counties was 30.7.

Significant Factors

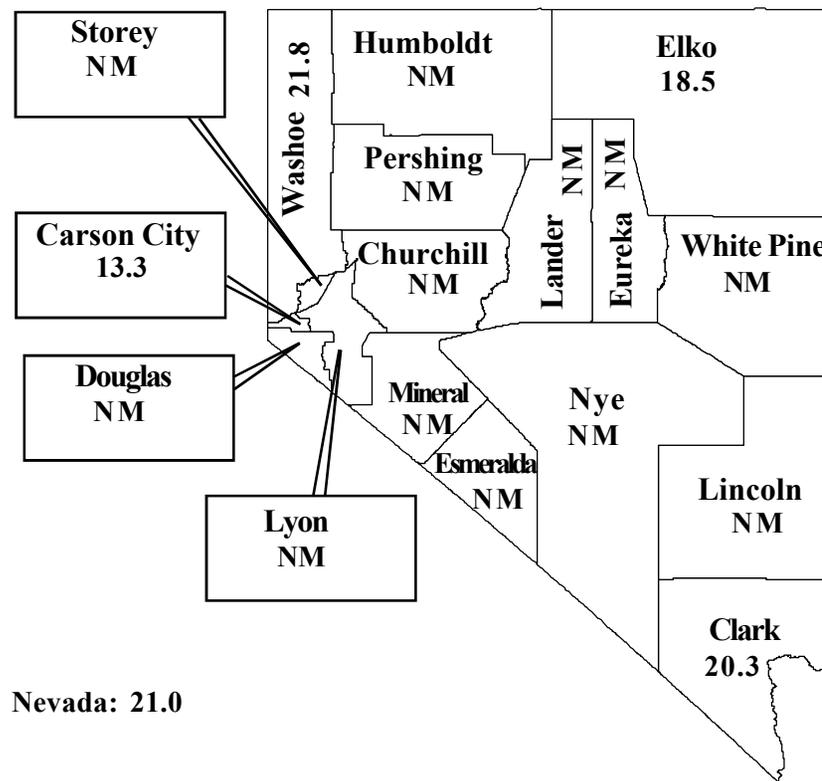
Based on preliminary data in 2001, the leading cause of death for U.S. children ages 1-4 and 5-14 was accidents (unintentional injury).² The leading cause of fatal unintentional injury to children 14 years and younger was motor-vehicle accidents.³ Boys are at a greater risk of unintentional death and injury than are girls. The unintentional injury death rate for boys is about 1.5 times higher than for girls.⁴

In 2003, 42 children died from hyperthermia in the U.S. after being left in hot cars, and two children have already died in 2004.⁵ A General Motors and National SAFE KIDS Campaign study revealed that at least 120 children died from heat injuries nationwide between 1996 and 2000, seven of the deaths were in Nevada.⁶

Definition

The *Child Death Rate* is the number of deaths (from all causes) of children between the ages of 1 and 14, per 100,000 children. The data are reported by the child's county of residence, rather than by place of death.

**Nevada Child Death Rate: 2000-2002
(Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)**



Nevada: 21.0

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable. Only rates for counties with an age-specific population of 10,000 or more are shown. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.

Child Deaths Continued

The National SAFE KIDS Campaign reminds parents and caregivers to take the following safety precautions to avoid unintentional injuries:

“• Never leave children unattended in a motor vehicle - even for a few minutes. Children can suffer heat-related illness and death rapidly.

- Teach children not to play in or around cars.
- Keep the doors and trunk of your car locked when parked in the driveway or near home. Never leave rear seat folds open. This will prevent children from climbing into unlocked cars and finding their way into the trunk from the inside.
- Put car keys out of children’s reach and sight.
- Be wary of child-resistant locks. Teach children how to disable the driver’s door locks if they unintentionally become entrapped in a motor vehicle.”⁷

Causes of Child Death (Ages 1-14) in Nevada: 2002

Region	Accidents	Cancer	Homicide & Legal Intervention	Diseases of the Heart	Other	Total
Clark County	19	4	4	2	32	61
Washoe County	0	0	1	0	4	5
Rest of State	6	0	1	1	9	17
NEVADA	25	4	6	3	45	83

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2003.

Child/Youth Deaths (Ages 1-14) in the U.S. by the Leading Causes: 2001

Cause of Death	Number
All causes	12,249
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	4,503
Motor-vehicle accidents	2,240
All other accidents	2,264
Malignant neoplasms	1,415
Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities	918
Assault (homicide)	716
Diseases of heart	481
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	272
Influenza and pneumonia	207
In situ neoplasms, benign neoplasms, and neoplasms of uncertain or unknown behavior	164
Cerebrovascular disease	129
Septicemia	107
Chronic lower respiratory disease	97
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	71
All other causes (residual)	3,169

Note: “Figures are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals.”

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, March 14, 2003, “Deaths: Preliminary Data for 2001,” by Elizabeth Arias and Betty L. Smith, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 51, No. 5, available online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr52/nvsr52_13.pdf> as of 3/4/04.

Teen Violent Deaths

Nevada

Nevada’s teen violent death rate from 2000 to 2002 was 51.8 deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15 to 19. During this period, 219 teens died as a result of homicide, suicide, or accident. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*, the 2000 rate for the U.S. was 51 per 100,000.¹

Counties

Two counties had an age-specific population of 10,000 or more which allowed for calculation of teen violent death rates. The teen violent death rates per 100,000 teens ages 15 to 19 in Clark County and Washoe County were 50.1 and 48.6, respectively. The rate of the combined remaining 15 counties, each with a population of under 10,000, was 66.2.

Significant Factors

“Violence is a part of every child’s life in America. Violence originates in many places—self, family, peers, the community, and the media—and violence affects children and youth at every age, even the newborns.”²

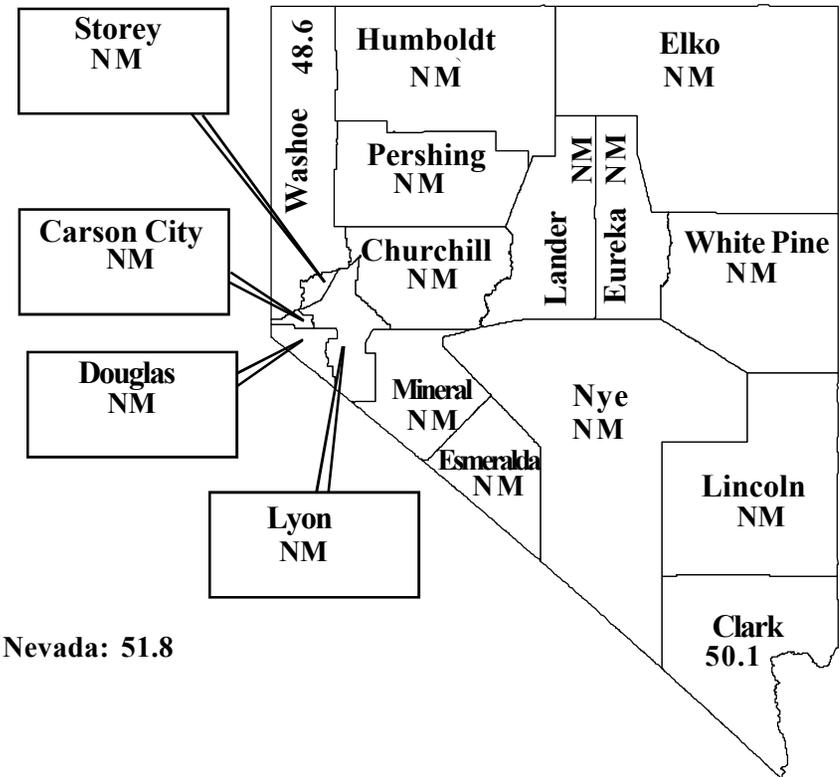
In 2002, 5,933 teenagers ages 13 to 19 died in motor vehicle crashes.³The majority, 66.1 percent, were males.

The National Consumers League identifies five jobs as being particularly hazardous to teens. These jobs are listed as driver/operator: forklifts and tractors; working alone and late-night work; construction laborer; work at heights: ladders and scaffolds; and traveling youth crews.⁴

Definition

The Teen Violent Death Rate is the number of deaths from suicide, homicide, accident, and unclassified death, per 100,000 teens, ages 15 to 19. The data are reported by the youths’ county of residence, rather than by place of death.

**Nevada Teen Violent Death Rate: 2000-2002*
(Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)**



Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Only rates for counties with an age-specific population of 10,000 or more are shown. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.
**Teen Violent Deaths include homicide, suicide, and accident.
 Source:* CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.

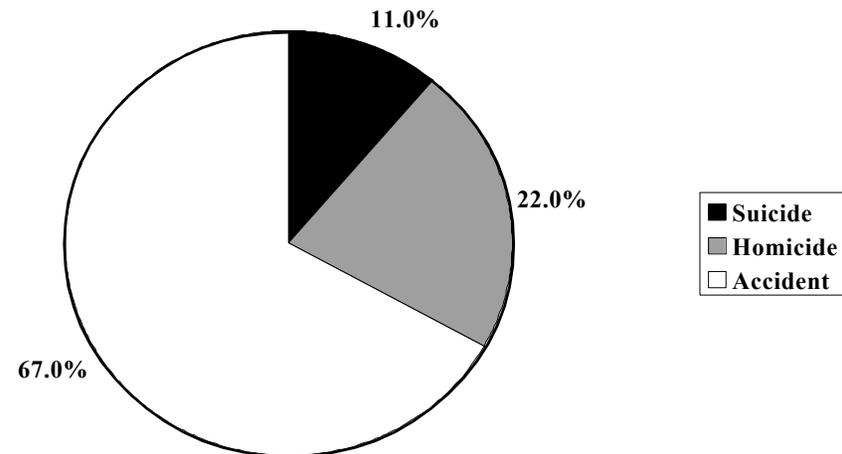
Teen Violent Deaths Continued

Shore for the Annie E. Casey Foundation offers broad strategies for reducing the teen death rate:

“• Support the Adults Who Play Significant Roles in the Lives of Teens

- Strengthen the Capacity of Communities to Support Teens’ Healthy Development
- Focus Intensively on Motor Vehicle Safety
- Develop Policies and Programs Aimed at Preventing Violence
- Address Teen Suicide by Bolstering the Capacity of Families and Communities to Recognize and Treat Teens in Emotional Distress”⁵

Teen Violent Deaths (Ages 15-19) in Nevada by Cause: 2002



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Suicidal Behavior of Nevada Students: 2001 and 2003

Behavior	2001		2003	
	Middle School Percent	High School Percent	Middle School Percent	High School Percent
In past year, felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities	27.1	29.7	28.5	29.9
In past 12 months, seriously considered attempting suicide	16.4	19.6	16.4	18.1
In past 12 months, made a specific plan about how they would attempt suicide	NA	16.4	NA	15.1
In past 12 months, actually attempted suicide 1 or more times	11.9	10.7	10.8	8.8
Of those who attempted suicide in past 12 months, attempts resulted in injury, poisoning, or overdose that required treatment by a doctor or nurse	NA	32.1	NA	33.2

Note: NA = Not Applicable.

Source: Nevada State Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition and School Health, Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001, 2003.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Nevada

From 2001 to 2002, Nevada saw a 0.4 percent increase in the number of substantiated child-abuse and neglect reports. See table in next column.

Of the 13,195 total reports of suspected child abuse and neglect received in 2002, 2,875 or 21.8 percent were substantiated. (See page 78.) The percentage of substantiated child-abuse reports received ranged from 0 in Eureka County to 25.4 in Washoe County. Almost 13 percent of the total reports received in the rural counties were substantiated.

The number of child-abuse and neglect reports decreased by 1.0 percent in Nevada from 2001 to 2002. Ten counties saw increases in the number of reports, and the remaining seven counties saw a decrease. Esmeralda County experienced the largest increase (66.7 percent) in the number of total reports over the one-year period. Refer to page 79.

Physical neglect, physical abuse, and lack of supervision were the three most common types of child maltreatment (see page 79).

Significant Factors

In 2001, about 903,000 children in the U.S. were victims of child maltreatment, which translates into a victimization rate of 12.4 per 1,000 children in the population.¹ Younger children were at the greatest risk of maltreatment. Over one-half (51.8 percent) of the victims were seven years of age or younger. The majority of the victims, 57.0 percent, suffered from neglect.²

Definition

“Abuse or neglect’ of a child means: physical or mental injury of a non-accidental nature; sexual abuse or sexual exploitation; or negligent treatment or maltreatment caused or allowed by a person responsible for his welfare under circumstances which indicate that the child’s health or welfare is harmed or threatened with harm. Child abuse is investigated by child protective service (CPS) agencies.”³

Types of Child-Abuse and Neglect Reports

Substantiated: “The reported abusive or neglectful situation/incident is confirmed through the investigation/assessment or court process.”

Unsubstantiated: “The abusive or neglectful situation was not confirmed through the investigation.”

Unknown: “The receiving/investigating agency was unable to locate the alleged perpetrator and/or interview the child, there was insufficient information or evidence, or the information was too old to pursue. In some instances, these reports are false and malicious. Clark County does not use the term ‘unknown’ as a disposition.”⁴

Nevada Child-Abuse and Neglect Report Trends: 2001 and 2002

Type of Report	2001	2002	Change Percent
Unknown	448	283	-36.8
Unsubstantiated	10,012	10,037	+0.3
Substantiated	2,865	2,875	+0.4
TOTAL	13,325*	13,195	-1.0

*Total reflects revised Washoe County data.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*.

Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Number of Child-Abuse and Neglect Reports in Nevada by County/Region: 2002
(Ages 17 and under)

County	Total Reports	Unknown	Unsubstantiated	Substantiated	Substantiated Child Abuse Reports as a Percent of Total Reports*
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Percent
Carson City	486	3	408	75	15.4
Churchill	330	11	274	45	13.6
Clark	8,174	198	6,064	1,912	23.4
Douglas	199	3	155	41	20.6
Elko	356	1	317	38	10.7
Esmeralda	10	0	8	2	20.0
Eureka	8	0	8	0	0.0
Humboldt	81	3	74	4	4.9
Lander	75	1	68	6	8.0
Lincoln	30	0	23	7	23.3
Lyon	312	7	282	23	7.4
Mineral	42	0	36	6	14.3
Nye	329	9	281	39	11.9
Pershing	51	0	46	5	9.8
Storey	24	1	22	1	4.2
Washoe	2,566	46	1,869	651	25.4
White Pine	122	0	102	20	16.4
Rural NV**	2,455	39	2,104	312	12.7
NEVADA	13,195	283	10,037	2,875	21.8

Note: Reported by county of occurrence.

*Percentages based on small numbers should be used with caution.

**All counties excluding Clark and Washoe.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*.

Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Increases/Decreases in Child-Abuse and Neglect Reports in Nevada by County: 2001 and 2002

County	2001	2002	Difference	Percent (+/-)
Carson City	525	486	-39	-7.4
Churchill	301	330	29	+9.6
Clark	8,316	8,174	-142	-1.7
Douglas	207	199	-8	-3.9
Elko	298	356	58	+19.5
Esmeralda	6	10	4	+66.7
Eureka	9	8	-1	-11.1
Humboldt	106	81	-25	-23.6
Lander	64	75	11	+17.2
Lincoln	27	30	3	+11.1
Lyon	291	312	21	+7.2
Mineral	45	42	-3	-6.7
Nye	211	329	118	+55.9
Pershing	38	51	13	+34.2
Storey	20	24	4	+20.0
Washoe*	2,740	2,566	-174	-6.4
White Pine	121	122	1	+0.8
Rural NV**	2,269	2,455	186	+8.2
NEVADA	13,325*	13,195	-130	-1.0

*Numbers reflect revised Washoe County data.

**All counties excluding Clark and Washoe.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*.

Nevada Child-Abuse and Neglect Substantiated Cases: 2002 (Percentage and type of child maltreatment)

Type of Maltreatment	Nevada Number of Incidents	Clark County Number of Incidents	Washoe County Number of Incidents	Rural Nevada Number of Incidents
Physical neglect	1,620	322	1,038	260
Physical abuse	880	595	220	65
Lack of supervision	714	539	120	55
Sex abuse/Exploitation	244	162	63	19
Educational neglect	178	164	10	4
Abandonment	122	81	27	14
Emotional abuse/Neglect	123	96	5	22
Medical neglect	102	44	37	21
Fatal	3	1	1	1
Other*	2,442	2,437	1	4
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	6,428	4,441	1,522	465

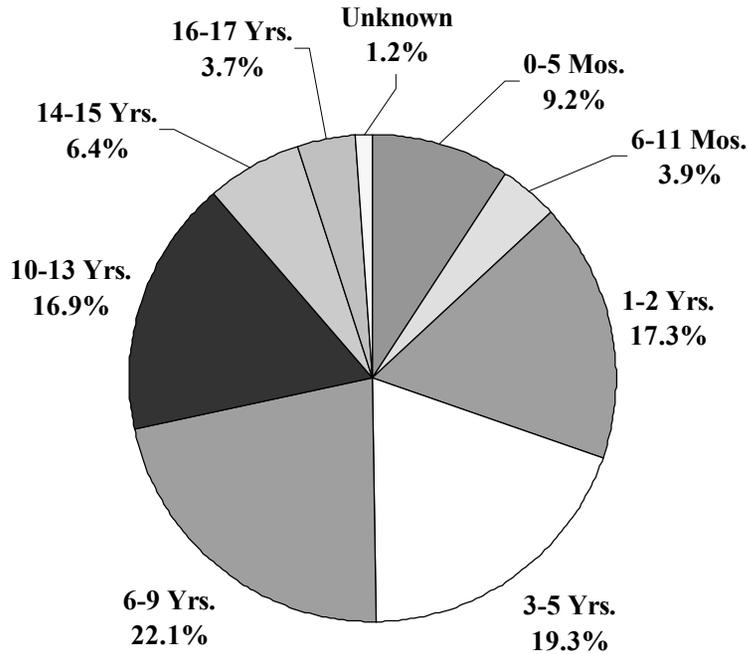
*“Clark County uses ‘other’ as a category to include domestic violence and substance abuse.”

Note: Reports frequently include multiple types of maltreatment and more than a single incident.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*, pp. 24-25.

Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Child-Abuse and Neglect Victims in Nevada by Age (Substantiated cases): 2002



Age in Years	Number
0-5 Mos.	461
6-11 Mos.	197
1-2 Yrs.	867
3-5 Yrs.	966
6-9 Yrs.	1,109
10-13 Yrs.	844
14-15 Yrs.	320
16-17 Yrs.	184
Unknown	60
TOTAL	5,008

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*.

Family Stress Factors, Nevada: 2002

Factor	Number of Factors	Percent Total Factors	Percent Total Reports*
Alcohol/Drug dependency	2,298	10.0	17.4
Parents cannot cope	2,042	8.9	15.5
Insufficient income	1,584	6.9	12.0
Transience	1,473	6.4	11.2
Marital problems	1,361	5.9	10.3
Domestic violence	989	4.3	7.5
New baby/Pregnancy	979	4.3	7.4
Job-related problem	774	3.4	5.9
Inadequate housing	760	3.3	5.8
Health problem child	702	3.1	5.3
Health problem caretaker	660	2.9	5.0
Mismanaged income	448	2.0	3.4
Social isolation	385	1.7	2.9
Family violence	267	1.2	2.0
Mentally retarded caretaker	175	0.8	1.3
Mentally retarded child	160	0.7	1.2
Limited intellectual	117	0.5	0.9
None/Unknown	2,384	10.4	18.1
Other stress factors	5,384	23.5	40.8
TOTAL	22,942		

*“More than one factor may be reported in a case finding and, as a result, the number of factors does not reflect the total number of open reports, nor the number of children.”

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*, p. 27.

Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Nevada Reporters of Child Abuse/Neglect: 2002

<i>Source</i>	<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Unsubstantiated</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual Percent*</i>
School personnel	316	2,229	17	2,562	19.0
Law-enforcement personnel	746	1,526	42	2,314	17.2
Friend/Neighbor	155	1,304	62	1,521	11.3
Social-service personnel	228	767	30	1,025	7.6
Medical personnel	364	626	27	1,017	7.6
Other relative	162	798	32	992	7.4
Parent/Caretaker	91	873	19	983	7.3
Anonymous	37	427	12	476	3.5
Mental-health personnel	48	306	3	357	2.7
Child-care provider	25	195	3	223	1.7
Juvenile probation	24	84	3	111	0.8
Victim	6	27	2	35	0.3
Clergy	2	8	0	10	0.1
Substitute-care provider	3	5	1	9	0.1
Other	668	1,137	30	1,835	13.6
TOTAL	2,875	10,312	283	13,470	

*Total may not equal 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2002*.

Children in Substitute Care

Nevada

The Division of Child & Family Services (DCFS) coordinated substitute care for 4,729 children during state fiscal year 2003. The majority of the children were in DCFS custody (see table footnotes in adjacent column for definition).

Significant Factors

Placement instability is a concern of children in long-term out-of-home care. One study showed that children who were moved more than once were more likely to have placement instability than those who moved once or who did not move during their first year in care.¹ Age, gender, and reasons for removal were related to the likelihood of placement instability in long-term care. For example, males were more likely to have experienced placement instability than girls.²

Nevada, which is undergoing federal review of its child foster-care system, plans to streamline its operations, that is, integrate its child-protection services with its state child-welfare system to reduce the number of times a child is moved from one foster home to another.³ Theresa Anderson, deputy administrator for Nevada’s Division of Child & Family Services, stated in an interview on the federal-review process that “stability of placement is one area needing improvement.”⁴

Definition

Substitute Care involves temporary out-of-home placement for children found by a court to be in need of protection. Substitute care includes emergency shelter, foster family care (including placement with relatives), group-home care, therapeutic foster care, respite care, residential treatment care (both in-home and out-of-state), and independent living services (transitional services for youth who are age 18 at the time they leave foster care). These services may be provided through contract or community placement.⁵

Types and Number of DCFS Substitute-Care Case Placements in Nevada: State Fiscal Year 2003 (Annual month-end average)

Type of Placement	Number
Total DCFS child-welfare caseload	4,729
DCFS child-welfare caseload in custody*	2,413
DCFS child welfare in custody by type	
Lower levels of care**	1,225
Higher levels of care***	725
DCFS child-welfare caseload noncustody****	2,316

*Custody = those children for whom DCFS has legal custody and responsibility for their well-being.

**Lower levels = family foster care.

***Higher levels = therapeutic foster care (medical institutions, etc.).

****Noncustody = those children in the legal custody of another agency or individual (e.g., juvenile probation, relative, parents, etc.) while DCFS is providing services.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services information Management Services, 2003.

Children in Substitute Care Continued

Number of Children in the U.S. in Foster Care: September 30, 2001*

<i>Age</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent**</i>
Under 1 year	22,957	4.0
1-5 years	130,857	24.0
6-10 years	127,711	24.0
11-15 years	160,419	30.0
16-18 years	89,632	17.0
19 or more years	10,424	2.0
TOTAL	542,000	99.0

*Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the fiscal year 2001, 10/1/00 through 9/30/01.

**Total may not equal 100 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, "The AFCARS Report: Preliminary FY Estimates as of March 2003," available online at <www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cbpublications/afcars/report8.pdf> as of 4/1/04.

Placement Settings of U.S. Children in Foster Care: September 30, 2001*

<i>Placement Settings</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Preadoptive home	20,289	4.0
Foster-family home (relative)	130,869	24.0
Foster-family home (nonrelative)	260,384	48.0
Group home	43,084	8.0
Institution	56,509	10.0
Supervised independent living	5,068	1.0
Runaway	9,112	2.0
Trial home visit	16,685	3.0
TOTAL	542,000	100.0

*Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the fiscal year 2001, 10/1/00 through 9/30/01.

Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, "The AFCARS Report: Preliminary FY Estimates as of March 2003," available online at <www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cbpublications/afcars/report8.pdf> as of 4/1/04.

Adoption

Nevada

For the first time, the 2000 Census included a new category of relationship to the householder, “adopted son/daughter.” As a result, the Census was able to provide a profile of adopted children. In Nevada, 2.3 percent of all children under age 18 were adopted.¹

The Nevada Department of Human Resources reports that during fiscal year 2003, 276 children and youth were adopted in Nevada. The corresponding figure for 2002 was 239.²

Significant Factors

Approximately 1.6 million children, or 2.5 percent of all children in the U.S. under age 18 were adopted, according to the 2000 Census.³ About 87.0 percent of the children were native born and 12.6 were foreign born.⁴

Most people have family members or close friends who were adopted, adopted a child, or placed a child for adoption.⁵ Americans, overall, have a very favorable opinion towards adoption.⁶ They are, however, divided over what is best for a teenage mom. The 1997 Benchmark Adoption Survey found that 39 percent of respondents thought it was best for a teenage mother to raise the baby herself, and 37 percent thought she should put the baby up for adoption.⁷

Definition

*Adoption is a service provided for children who cannot be reared by their birth parents and who need and can benefit from new and permanent family ties established through legal adoption.*⁸

Adoption in Nevada: Fiscal Year 2003

<i>Adoptions</i>	<i>Number</i>
Eligible for subsidy*	1,747
Receiving subsidy*	1,386
Finalized adoptions**	276

*Annual month-end average.

**Year-end total.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services Information Management Services, 2003.

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Juvenile Justice



*Story courtesy of Fernando Serrano,
Nevada KIDS COUNT Advisory Council*

Our department, a Juvenile Probation and Youth Services Agency, facilitates a *Guardian Ad Litem* program, which is statutorily acceptable under Nevada Revised Statutes. Recently, two children who are involved in our *Guardian Ad Litem* program were asked by a teacher at school, “What is a *Guardian Ad Litem*?” I was present at the time of this question and curiously waited for a response from the four-year-old and/or the six-year-old, as I too wanted to know the definition of my role in their lives. Quickly, the six-year-old girl stated, “Our *Guardian Ad Litem* loves, us, colors with us, plays games, and gives us hugs.” The four-year-old boy said, “And makes me feel safe.” Needless to say, the Latin definition of *Guardian Ad Litem*, a child advocate, could not have been clearer.

Juvenile Crime

Nevada

Nevada experienced a drop in its juvenile violent crime arrest rate during a comparative three-year period. The juvenile violent crime arrest rate in Nevada from 2000 to 2002 was 242.4 arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10 to 17. During this period, there were 1,692 juvenile violent crime arrests. The 1999 to 2001 rate was 258.9.¹

Of the 23,551 juvenile referrals (ages 10-17) in 2002, 574 were for violent crimes (see page 91). The large majority of arrests were for nonviolent crimes.

About 25,000 juveniles ages 8 to 17 were referred into the juvenile-justice system during fiscal year 2002. Males were about twice as likely to be referred as were females (66.6 versus 33.4 percent). See page 90.

Counties

Two counties had an age-specific population of 10,000 or more which allowed for calculation of the juvenile violent crime arrest rate. The juvenile violent crime arrest rates for Clark and Washoe counties were 244.0 and 336.2, respectively. The rate of the combined 15 counties, each with a population of under 10,000, was 92.2.

Significant Factors

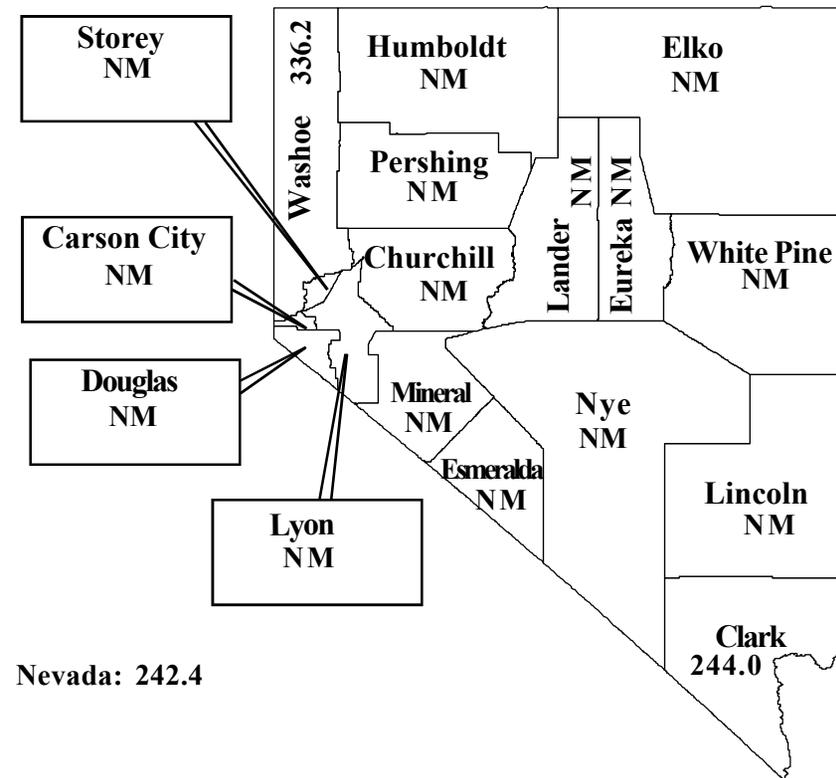
Findings from the FBI's Uniform Crime Program, to which local law enforcement agencies submit data, include the following for 2001:²

- ❖ The juvenile Violent Crime Index arrest rate was 320, the lowest since 1983.
- ❖ Juveniles accounted for 15 percent of all violent crime arrests.

Definition

The *Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate* measures the rate at which youths (per 100,000) between the ages of 10 and 17 are arrested for violent crimes. In Nevada, juvenile violent crime includes murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Nevada Average Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate: 2000-2002 (Arrests per 100,000 youths ages 10-17)



Nevada: 242.4

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Only rates for counties with an age-specific population of 10,000 or more are shown. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety data, Nevada Highway Patrol Records and Identification Services, 2000-2002.

Juvenile Crime Continued

- ❖ Juveniles were involved in 10 percent of murder arrests, 14 percent of aggravated assault arrests, 31 percent of burglary arrests, 24 percent of robbery arrests, and 23 percent of weapon arrests.
- ❖ Although the disparity in the juvenile arrest rate for violent crime declined from 1980 to 2001 among the racial groups, black youth were still overrepresented in the arrests. Of the 2001 violent crime arrests, 55 percent were white youth, 43 were blacks (African Americans), 1 percent were Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 1 percent were American Indians.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reports that children arrested at an early age are more likely to become violent offenders (commit murder, kidnapping, violent sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) than those arrested at an older age. “Of those referred to juvenile court for the first time at age 9, 16 percent had at least one referral for a violent offense before they turned 19.”³

Number of Nevadans Ages 17 and under Referred by Age Category: 1999-2002

Age Category	Number of Persons Referred			
	1999	2000	2001	2002
0-9	341	305	280	236
10-12	2,005	2,042	2,079	1,888
13-14	6,341	6,163	6,092	5,696
15	5,095	4,941	5,118	4,450
16	6,186	5,682	5,556	5,142
17	5,730	6,597	6,113	6,375
TOTAL	25,698	25,730	25,238	23,787

Note: Nevada Division of Investigations (NDI) Drug, Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP) Drug, and Driving under the Influence (DUI) arrest totals are not included.

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *2002 Crime and Justice in Nevada*.

Juvenile Violent Crime Referrals in Nevada by Sex and Race: 2002

Offense	Sex		Race			
	M	F	White	Black*	AI/AN**	A/PI***
Murder	10	1	7	4	0	0
Manslaughter by negligence	0	1	1	0	0	0
Forcible rape	28	0	20	6	1	1
Robbery	253	16	127	128	0	14
Aggravated assault	203	62	NA	NA	NA	NA
TOTAL	494	80				
PERCENT	86	14				

Note: NA = Data were not available at time of publication.

*African American.

**American Indian or Alaskan Native.

***Asian or Pacific Islander.

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *2002 Crime and Justice in Nevada*; and Tenna Herman, Uniform Crime Reporting, Records and Identification Bureau.

Juvenile Crime Continued

County and Municipal Drug and Liquor Juvenile Referrals in Nevada by Age: 2002

Age	Drug Referrals		Liquor Referrals		Total Drug & Liquor Referrals
	Sales & Manufacturing	Possession	DUI	Liquor Laws	
Under 10	0	6	1	2	9
10-12	7	37	0	11	55
13-14	42	238	3	161	444
15	29	252	7	219	507
16	60	326	22	347	755
17	61	397	48	635	1,141
TOTAL	199	1,256	81	1,375	2,911

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *2002 Crime and Justice in Nevada*.

Number of Referrals* of Children and Youth Ages 8-17 into the Nevada Juvenile Justice System by Racial/Ethnic Group: Fiscal Year 2002

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Referrals					
	Male			Female		
	Clark	Washoe	Rural	Clark	Washoe	Rural
White	4,223	2,843	2,260	2,266	1,605	1,195
Black**	2,047	261	46	862	172	19
American Indian	27	83	112	11	26	73
Hispanic	2,576	1,089	381	1,076	473	165
Asian	42	109	23	24	62	18
Other	331	7	4	192	9	12
TOTAL	9,246	4,392	2,826	4,431	2,347	1,482

*Includes all juveniles that came in contact with the juvenile justice system and does not just constitute referrals.

**African American.

Source: Division of Child & Family Services, Juvenile Justice Programs Office, 2002.

Number of Referrals* of Children and Youth Ages 8-17 into the Nevada Juvenile Justice System by County: Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002

Region	Number of Referrals			
	2001		2002	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Clark County	9,742	4,199	9,246	4,431
Washoe County	4,796	2,662	4,392	2,347
Rest of State	3,079	1,562	2,826	1,482
NEVADA	17,617	8,423	16,464	8,260

*Includes all juveniles that came in contact with the juvenile justice system and does not just constitute referrals.

Source: Division of Child & Family Services, Juvenile Justice Programs Office, 2001, 2002.

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
<http://kidscount.unlv.edu>

Juvenile Crime Continued

Statewide Arrests in Nevada by Offense and Age: 2002

<i>Offense</i>	<i>10-12 Years of Age</i>	<i>13-14 Years of Age</i>	<i>15 Years of Age</i>	<i>16 Years of Age</i>	<i>17 Years of Age</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent of All Arrests*</i>
Murder	0	0	1	4	6	11	0.05
Manslaughter by negligence	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.004
Forcible rape	3	12	4	3	6	28	0.1
Robbery	9	51	44	74	91	269	1.1
Aggravated assault	23	57	39	61	85	265	1.1
Other assaults	313	668	468	501	602	2,552	10.8
Burglary	69	192	160	153	157	731	3.1
Larceny-theft	393	978	619	643	800	3,433	14.6
Motor-vehicle theft	8	73	129	144	173	527	2.2
Arson	29	40	7	3	6	85	0.4
Forgery and counterfeiting	0	1	3	10	5	19	0.1
Fraud	5	12	6	16	32	71	0.3
Embezzlement	0	0	0	7	12	19	0.1
Stolen property-buy, possess, receive	9	55	43	38	64	209	0.9
Vandalism	116	248	156	148	122	790	3.4
Weapons-carrying, possession	33	74	65	70	85	327	1.4
Prostitution and commercialized vice	0	5	9	13	50	77	0.3
Other sex offenses	26	56	20	22	24	148	0.6
Drug-abuse violations	44	280	281	386	458	1,449	6.2
Gambling	1	0	1	0	1	3	0.01
Offenses against family and children	0	13	8	5	8	34	0.1
Driving under the influence	0	3	7	22	48	80	0.3
Liquor laws	11	161	219	347	635	1,373	5.8
Drunkenness	1	3	8	12	13	37	0.2
Disorderly conduct	115	237	137	158	135	782	3.3
Vagrancy	0	10	2	8	12	32	0.1
All other offenses (except traffic)	537	1,518	1,123	1,070	1,049	5,297	22.5
Suspicion	13	57	73	75	155	373	1.6
Curfew and loitering law violations	78	543	581	859	1,338	3,399	14.4
Runaway	51	349	237	290	203	1,130	4.8
TOTAL	1,888	5,696	4,450	5,142	6,375	23,551	

*CBER calculations.

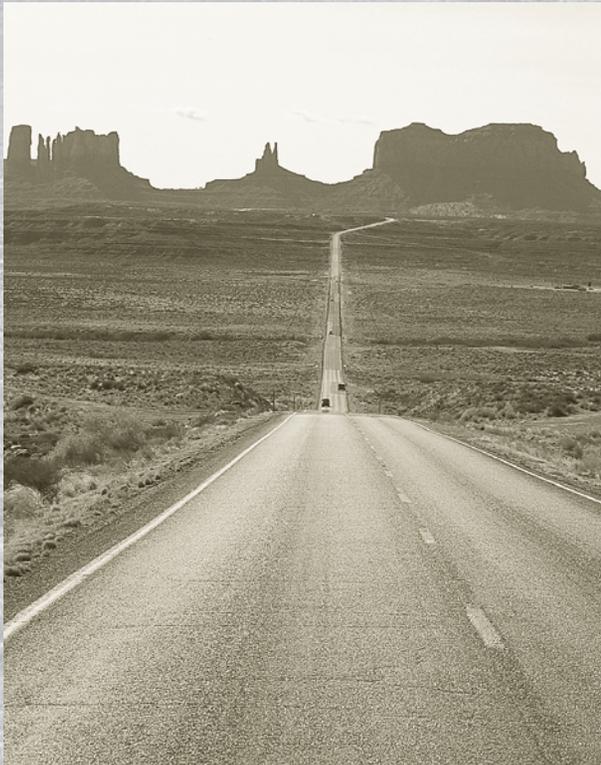
Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *Crime and Justice in Nevada*.

References

Juvenile Justice

1. Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*, by Rennae Daneshvary, R. Keith Schwer, William Cope, Freda Klein, and Robert Potts.
2. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, December 2003, "Juvenile Arrests 2001," by H.N. Snyder, *OJJDP Bulletin*, available online at: <<http://www.ncjrs.org/html/ojjdp/201370/intro.html>> (accessed 2/11/04).
3. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, June 2003, "Juveniles in Court," by Melissa Sickmund, *Juvenile Offenders and Victims National Report Series Bulletin*, available online at: <<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/195420.pdf>> (accessed 10/13/02).

Appendix



*Story courtesy of Angela Panos,
John R. Beatty Elementary School*

I grew up in Las Vegas and have lived in Nevada for more than thirty years. When I was a child, the only language spoken in my home was Greek. Learning how to speak English, make friends, and succeed in school was quite a challenge. I remember feeling lost in school and not being able to fit into any certain group because of my particular language barrier. At times, the embarrassment of not being able to read or follow the teacher's instruction was overwhelming.

I am now a special education teacher. In my classroom, I often work with students that face similar language struggles. I share a special bond with these young students. My current work brings my own life experiences full circle.

Nevada County Data: 2002

County	Health Conditions and Health Care					Economic Well-Being	Education				
	Total Births	Births <2,500g	Births to Teens Ages 15-17	Births to Unmarried Teens* Ages 15-17	Female Population Ages 15-17	2000 Number of Children Below Poverty Level Ages 0-17	9th Grade Dropouts	10th Grade Dropouts	11th Grade Dropouts	12th Grade Dropouts	Number of Graduates
Carson City	721	60	36	30	1,059	1,666	3	7	18	21	541
Churchill County	340	17	14	10	584	950	0	6	3	16	239
Clark County	23,756	1,796	839	665	30,687	53,676	1,356	888	357	2,492	10,175
Douglas County	407	30	10	8	860	1,057	1	5	0	6	425
Elko County	585	44	21	8	1,127	1,574	16	26	20	24	563
Esmeralda County	5	0	1	0	17	24	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eureka County	14	1	1	0	41	59	1	0	1	0	19
Humboldt County	225	11	15	9	352	608	13	12	7	25	241
Lander County	68	4	1	1	130	217	1	0	1	2	80
Lincoln County	40	1	1	0	81	249	1	3	4	4	78
Lyon County	463	21	17	11	767	1,483	4	7	7	15	393
Mineral County	39	4	4	1	75	293	1	0	2	1	52
Nye County	307	30	13	7	630	1,440	23	13	10	6	292
Pershing County	63	7	5	3	161	280	1	1	0	2	53
Storey County	11	1	0	0	73	44	3	8	4	5	33
Washoe County	5,302	404	192	157	6,562	10,588	172	108	50	208	2,834
White Pine County	77	5	4	3	124	336	13	11	6	6	96
NEVADA	32,423	2,436	1,174	913	43,330	74,544	1,609	1,095	490	2,833	16,114

Note: NA = Not Applicable.

*Births to unmarried teens include those mothers who were never married, divorced, separated, or widowed.

Source: Nevada State Demographer; Nevada Department of Human Resources; U.S. Census Bureau; and Nevada Department of Education.

Nevada County Data: 2002 Continued

County	Child and Youth Safety/Welfare								Juvenile Justice	
	Infant Mortality (Less than 1 Year Old)	Child Deaths Ages 1-14	Population Ages 1-14	Teen Violent Deaths Ages 15-19	Teen Suicide Deaths Ages 15-19	Teen Homicide Deaths Ages 15-19	Teen Accident Deaths Ages 15-19	Population Ages 15-19	Juvenile Violent Crime Ages 10-17	Population Ages 10-17
Carson City	1	3	10,081	0	0	0	0	3,494	9	5,737
Churchill County	6	1	5,636	0	0	0	0	1,977	12	3,230
Clark County	145	61	312,271	59	7	17	35	107,147	429	171,980
Douglas County	2	0	6,584	3	1	0	2	2,935	2	4,838
Elko County	4	3	10,812	5	1	0	4	4,107	2	6,514
Esmeralda County	0	0	142	0	0	0	0	69	0	103
Eureka County	1	0	328	0	0	0	0	124	0	223
Humboldt County	1	1	3,872	0	0	0	0	1,243	0	2,047
Lander County	0	0	1,486	0	0	0	0	491	1	842
Lincoln County	0	0	578	0	0	0	0	371	0	441
Lyon County	5	4	7,049	5	0	0	5	2,643	0	4,346
Mineral County	0	1	863	0	0	0	0	281	3	542
Nye County	3	2	6,185	1	0	0	1	2,171	0	3,793
Pershing County	0	1	1,143	0	0	0	0	525	2	790
Storey County	0	1	453	0	0	0	0	252	0	412
Washoe County	20	5	65,557	9	0	1	8	22,681	113	36,809
White Pine County	2	0	1,487	0	0	0	0	469	1	838
NEVADA	190	83	434,527	82	9	18	55	150,980	574	243,485

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources; Nevada Department of Education; and Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety.

Notes

Nevada Demographics

A household includes all the persons who occupy a family unit.

A family consists of a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Summary Tape File 3, Technical Documentation, Appendix B. Definitions of Subject Characteristics, available online at: <http://www.census.gov/td/append_b.html#HOUSEHOLD> as of February 27, 2003.

Child Care

Useful descriptions for Nevada child-care facilities are defined by law and may be found in NAC-432A-Services for Facilities for Care of Children.

Accommodation facility means a facility which is operated: 1. By a business that is licensed to conduct a business other than the provision of care to children; and 2. As an auxiliary service provided for the customers of the primary business. (NAC 432A.012)

Child-care center means any facility in which the licensee regularly provides day or night care for more than 12 children. (NAC 432A.050)

Child-care institution means a facility in which the licensee provides care during the day and night and provides developmental guidance to 16 or more children who do not routinely return to the homes of their parents or guardians. (NAC 432A.070)

Family home means any facility in which the licensee regularly provides care without the presence of parents, for at least five and not more than six children. (NAC 432A.100)

Group home means any facility in which the licensee regularly provides care for no less than seven and no more than twelve children. (NAC 432A.110)

Nursery for infants and toddlers means a child care facility in which the licensee provides care for five or more children who are under 2 years of age. (NAC 432A.145)

Preschool means a facility in which the licensee has established specific goals to enhance each child's cognitive, social, emotional, physical and creative development. (NAC 432A.160)

Special-needs facility means a child care facility providing care to children with special needs in which those children comprise 40 percent or more of the total number of children for whom the facility is licensed to provide care. (NAC 432A.165)

On-site child-care facility means an establishment that: 1. is licensed pursuant to this

chapter; 2 provides care to the children of employees of a business at the place of employment; 3 provides care on a temporary or permanent basis, during the day or overnight, to five or more children who are under the age of 18 years and who are not related within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity to an owner or manager of the business; and 4 is owned, operated, subsidized, managed, contracted for or staffed by the business. (NRS 432A.0275)

Source: "Chapter 432A-Services and Facilities for Care of Children," available online at: <<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-432A.html>> (as of 4/12/04).

Education

Millennium Scholarship

Eligibility requirements for students who are not high school graduates. (e.g., home schooled students and students receiving a graduate equivalency diploma) "To be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship, a student who is not a high school graduate must meet all of the following requirements: a. would have graduated from high school after May 1, 2000 had the student been enrolled in high school; b. received an enhanced ACT composite score of 21 or higher or a combined reentered SAT score of 990 or higher; c. have at least a 3.0 weighted or unweighted grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale in all courses completed in a Nevada high school as defined in section 17.1.2; d. pass all areas of the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination; and e. have been a resident of Nevada, as defined by the residency requirements in Title 4, Chapter 15, for at least two years of the normal high school attendance." Item "b" ACT or SAT requirement equates with the grade point average; For the SAT, sign up for the "reasoning" test not the "subject" test. Item "c" refers to the grade point average received if a home-schooled student was enrolled in a public school or private high school at some point.

Source: University and College System of Nevada, "Millennium Scholarship Policy and Procedures of the Board of Regents," June 15, 2001, Revised, available online at: <http://www.nde.state.nv.us/sca/home_school/Millennium%20Scholarship.htm> as of 02/25/04.

High School Proficiency Examination

The key features of the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) are: In addition to meeting the minimum credit requirements for graduation from high school, Nevada students must also pass each portion of the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE). Although most recently based on the 1994 Nevada Course of Study, students

Notes Continued

in the graduating class of 2003 are the first to be tested on examinations aligned with the 1998 Nevada State Content Standards. The HSPE currently covers the subject areas of reading, mathematics, and writing. Beginning with the graduating class of 2005, students will also be required to pass an examination in science in order to receive a standard high school diploma.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, electronic memo from Carol Crothers, May 6, 2002.

Passing scores for the examination are set by the State Board of Education. Assembly Bill 523 of the 1997 Legislative Session directed the State Board of Education to set a “moderate” passing score for the first class to take the new examination (Class of 1999) and to increase the score to a higher level for students to whom the examination is administered during subsequent years.

Source: The Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation; Legislative Council Bureau, Fiscal Analysis Division; and Nevada Department of Education, Accountability and Finance Division, Oct. 2000, “State of Nevada School Accountability Data Tables 1998-99 School Year,” p. 2, no longer available online at: <<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/fiscal/SchDtaTbl/DataTableCover.htm>>.

The pass rates reflect the number of students passing the HSPE subject area test in any of 6 administrations for a traditional cohort. The provided rates reflect performance for the class of 2003. Their performance is based on the 10th grade administration in April, 2001, the 11th grade administration in April, 2002, the 12th grade administration in November, 2002, the 12th grade administration in February, 2003, the 12th grade administration in April, 2003, and the 12th grade administration in May, 2003.

Cumulative pass rates are estimated by summing the number of students to [sic] pass the subject test area in any of the 6 administrations and dividing that number of students by the number of students who failed the last administration AND all those who passed on any of the 6 administrations.

It is difficult to speculate as to why students who had failed to pass the HSPE prior to May did not attempt the test in May. Some students had not earned the requisite number of credit hours to graduate in June and therefore were not eligible to test. As defined by state policy, the last administration in May is provided for students who meet all other requirements for graduation except for passing the HSPE. In practice, some students who do not have the requisite credits to graduate are participating in May; making cumulative pass rates only an estimate of students who did not earn a diploma due to failing the HSPE.

Other students who previously failed an HSPE subject test but did not participate in May could have transferred out of state or dropped out. At this time, it is not possible to track

such students and correct our estimates to account for drop-outs. Therefore, the cumulative pass rates as indicated provides our best estimate of students who did not obtain a diploma due to failing one or more portions of the HSPE. However, a large number of these students will continue in the educational system as a 5th year senior or enroll in an Adult educational program and will go on to earn their diploma.

Source: David Lamitina, electronic correspondence, November 17, 2003.

American College and Scholastic Assessment Exams

The American College (ACT™) exam and the Scholastic Assessment (SAT®) exam are college-entrance exams.

The ACT Assessment® is designed to assess high school students’ general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science.

Source: ACT™, “ACT Assessment®,” available online at: <<http://www.act.org/aap/index.html>> as of 4/14/04.

The SAT® is a three-hour test that measures verbal and mathematical reasoning skills students have developed over time and skills they need to be successful academically.

Source: The College Board, “SAT I,” available online at: <<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about/SATI.html>> as of 4/14/04.

Resources

Health Conditions and Health Care

The Alan Guttmacher Institute
(202) 296-4012
<http://www.agi-usa.org>

American Academy of Pediatrics
<http://www.aap.org>

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
(202) 863-2518
<http://www.acog.org>

American Psychological Association
<http://www.apa.org>

The Campaign for Our Children, Inc.
(401) 576-9015
<http://www.cfoc.org>

Centers for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office on Smoking and Health
(404) 639-7230
<http://www.cdc.gov/health/Tobacco.htm>

Covering Kids Initiative
<http://www.coveringkids.org>

Healthy People Initiative
http://web.health.gov/healthy_people

Medicaid and Nevada Check Up
1100 E. William Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 684-3676
<http://dhcfs.state.nv.us>
<http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us>

National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health
<http://www.ncemch.org>

National Center for Health Statistics
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs>

National Institutes of Health
<http://www.nih.gov>

Nevada Dental Association
<http://www.nvda.org>

Nevada Health Division
505 E. King Street, Room 201
Carson City, NV 89701-4797
(775) 684-4200
<http://www.state.nv.us/health>

Nevada Public Health Foundation
Teen Pregnancy Prevention
<http://www.nphf.org/programs.htm>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Programs
(301) 594-4004
<http://opa.osophs.dhhs.gov/titlexx/oapp.html>

U.S. Public Health Service's Office on Women's Health
(202) 690-7650
<http://www.4woman.gov/owh>

Economic Well-Being

Bureau of Services for Child Care
Division of Child and Family Services
711 East 5th Street
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 684-4400
<http://dcfs.state.nv.us/page23.html>

The Center for Law and Social Policy
1616 P Street, NW Suite 150
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 328-5140
<http://www.clasp.org>

Center for the Child Care Workforce
733 15th Street, NW Suite 1037
Washington, DC 20005-2112
(202) 737-7700
<http://www.ccw.org/home>

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
820 First Street, NE, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 408-1080
<http://www.cbpp.org>

Child Trends
(202) 362-5580
<http://www.childtrends.org>

Food Stamp Program: Food and Nutrition Services
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp>

Fragile Families and Child Well-Being Study, Princeton University Center for Research on Child Well-Being and Columbia University's Social Indicators Survey Center
(609) 258-5894 Princeton
(212) 854-9046 Columbia
<http://crcw.princeton.edu/fragilefamilies>

Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.
(609) 275-2341
<http://www.mathematica-mpr.com>

National Center for Children in Poverty
<http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/index.html>

National Center on Fathers and Families
(215) 573-5500
<http://www.ncoff.gse.upenn.edu>

National Child Care Association
1016 Rosser Street
Conyers, GA 30012
(800) 543-7161
<http://www.nccanet.org>

National Fatherhood Initiative
(301) 948-0599
<http://www.fatherhood.org>

National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care
<http://nrc.uchsc.edu>

National School Lunch Program: Food and Nutrition
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/lunch>

Nevada Welfare Division
2527 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 684-0500
<http://welfare.state.nv.us>

School Health, Safety, & Nutrition Team
Nevada Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89701-5096
(775) 687-9150
<http://www.nde.state.us/hlthsaf/index.html>

TANF: Office of Family Assistance
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ofa>
Carson City, NV 89701-5096
(775) 684-0500

Welfare Information Network
(202) 587-1000
<http://www.financeprojectinfo.org/win>

Resources Continued

Education and Achievement

Head Start Bureau
Administration on Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C. Street SW
Washington, DC 20447
(202) 205-8572
<http://www2.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/hsb/index.htm>

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
1509 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-1426
(202) 232-8777
<http://www.naeyc.org/naeyc>

National Center for Education Statistics
<http://www.nces.ed.gov/index.html>

National Dropout Prevention Center
College of Health, Education, and Human Development
Clemson University
209 Martin Street,
Clemson, SC 29631-1555
(864) 656-2599
<http://www.dropoutprevention.org>

National Education Association
<http://www.nea.org>

Nevada Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89701-5096
(775) 687-9200
<http://www.nde.state.nv.us>

Office of Community Connections
Nevada Head Start
State Collaboration Office
Early Intervention Services/State of Nevada DHS
3987 South McCarran Blvd.
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 688-2284
<http://www.nvcommunityconnections.com>

U.S. Department of Education
<http://www.ed.gov>

Child and Youth Safety/Welfare

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
3615 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016-3007
(202) 966-7300
<http://www.aacap.org>

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
(888) 333-AFSP
<http://www.afsp.org>

Awareness\Voices of Education
(612) 946-7998
<http://www.save.org>

Center for the Prevention of School Violence
<http://www.ncsu.edu/cpsv>

Child Welfare League of America
440 First Street, NW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20001-2085
(202) 638-2952
<http://www.cwla.org>

MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)
P.O. Box 541688
Dallas, TX 75354-1688
(800) GET-MADD
<http://www.madd.org>

National CASA Association (Court Appointed Special Advocates)
<http://www.nationalcasa.org>

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
4770 Buford Highway, NE
Atlanta, GA 30341-3724
(770) 488-1506
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc>

The National SAFE KIDS Campaign
1301 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20004-1707
(202) 662-0600
<http://www.safekids.org>

National School Safety Center
<http://www.nsscl.org>

Nevada Division of Child & Family Services
711 E. Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 684-4400
<http://dcfs.state.nv.us>

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
(800) 230-1955

Prevent Child Abuse America
<http://www.preventchildabuse.org>

Juvenile Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Uniform Crime Reports
<http://www.fbi.gov>

Juvenile Justice Programs Office
400 West King Street Room 230
Carson City, NV 89701-3092
(775) 687-3982

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
<http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org>

Youth Development

American Youth Policy Forum
1836 Jefferson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20036-2505
(202) 775-9731
<http://aypf.org>

Children's Defense Fund
(202) 628-8787
<http://www.childrensdefense.org>

Forum for Youth Investment
(301) 270-6250
<http://www.forumforyouthinvestment.org>

Institute for Youth Development
(703) 471-8750
<http://www.youthdevelopment.org>

National Youth Development Information Center (NYDIC)
<http://www.nydic.org>

Search Institute
<http://www.search-institute.org>

Resources Continued

Multi-Issue

Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/acyf>

American Public Human Services Association
<http://www.aphsa.org>

The Annie E. Casey Foundation
<http://www.aecf.org>

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
<http://www.cbpp.org>

Children, Youth, and Families Education and Research Network (CYFERnet)
<http://www.cyfernet.org>

Children's Defense Fund
<http://www.childrensdefense.org>

Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics
<http://www.childstats.gov>

Forum on Child and Family Statistics
<http://childstats.gov>

The Future of Children
<http://www.futureofchildren.org>

I Am Your Child
<http://www.iamyourchild.org>

National Association of Child Advocates
<http://www.childadvocacy.org>

National Association of Counties
<http://www.naco.org>

Nevada Attorney General
Carson City Office
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4717
(775) 684-1100

Nevada's Official Web Site
<http://www.nv.gov/>

Population Reference Bureau (PRB)
<http://www.prb.org>

United Way of America
<http://national.unitedway.org>

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
<http://www.unce.unr.edu>

The Urban Institute
<http://www.urban.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Safe, and Drug Free Schools
<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS>

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
<http://www.hhs.gov>

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\$50 or less

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Lincoln County: Lorell Bleak

Mineral County: Michelle Glazier

Nye County: John Francis

Pershing County: Carol Shank

Storey County: Toni Givante

Washoe County: Isabella Scott

White Pine County: Colleen Goff

Nevada KIDS COUNT Partners

The University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) is an educational outreach unit of the University of Nevada, Reno. UNCE provides educational programs throughout the state by conducting needs assessments, designing and delivering educational programs, and conducting evaluation studies. Known for its 4-H youth work, UNCE also offers a number of award-winning programs for vulnerable children and families.

The Nevada Title IV-B, Family Preservation and Family Support Steering Committee, a statewide committee established as a result of federal legislation, has inclusive geographical and organizational representation. The Title IV-B Committee developed and guided the implementation of the Nevada Title IV-B *Family Preservation and Family Support Five-Year Plan* that was submitted to the United States Department of Health and Human Services in 1995, with annual updates thereafter.

The Nevada KIDS COUNT Advisory Council, formally established in 1995, is a dedicated, 30-member council that includes statewide representation from a wide range of diverse organizations working with children or families in Nevada. This broad-based representation encompasses state government, county governments, public and Nevada agencies, Nevada KIDS COUNT partners, data providers, and the business community.

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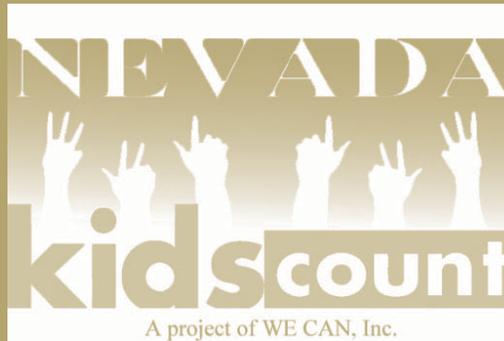
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