

## Highlights from the 2005 North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book

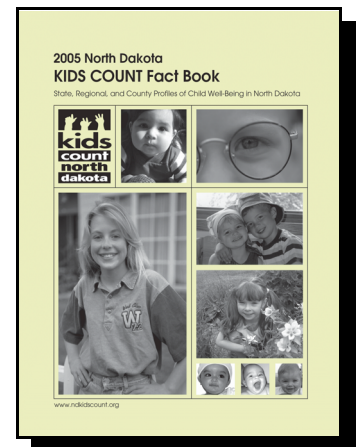


The 2005 *North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book* marks the 11<sup>th</sup> annual publication produced by the North Dakota KIDS COUNT program, part of a 50-state network founded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to collect information about the status of children in communities across the United States. Data included in the annual *North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book* cover issues affecting children from birth through adolescence and are widely used by a variety of audiences in planning, needs assessments, and grant writing activities on behalf of North Dakota children. *Fact Book* data offer a road map to better understanding the challenges facing North Dakota children in the communities where they live, and quantify the numbers of children affected by respective areas of concern.

The 2005 *North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book* provides state, regional, and county profiles based on seven categories of data representing multiple indicators of child health and well-being. In addition to accessing this full publication online at [www.ndkidscount.org](http://www.ndkidscount.org), interactive access of North Dakota's indicators are available through the Casey Foundation's CLIKS (County-City-Community Level Data on Kids) website, [www.aecf.org/kidscount/cliks](http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/cliks). CLIKS offers historical trends, profiles, graphs, maps and rankings, as well as data for other participating states.

When compared to other states, North Dakota ranks well in child well-being due to low rates in the following areas: low-birthweight babies, high school dropouts, children living in single-parent families, and children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment. The *Fact Book*, however, raises some important issues concerning the well-being of North Dakota's children.

- Despite ranking well compared to other states with regard to the rate of low-birthweight babies, North Dakota has reported the highest number of low-birthweight babies in nearly 20 years. In 2003, low-birthweight babies totaled 533 statewide. Not since 1985, when North Dakota reported 577 low-birthweight babies, has the state seen this many low-birthweight births. Much of the change is due to increases in Cass County beginning in the mid 1990s.
- Despite ranking well compared to other states with regard to the percent of children living in single-parent families, 30,695 children lived with a single parent in North Dakota in 2000, a 23.3 percent increase from 24,886 in 1990. This is cause for concern because the poverty rate for North Dakota children living with one parent (39.4 percent) is nearly six times the rate for children living with two parents (6.9 percent).
- Despite declining school enrollments throughout North Dakota, Head Start and special education enrollments continue to increase. During the past four years, the number of North Dakota children enrolled in Head Start has increased 11.5 percent and the number of North Dakota children enrolled in special education has increased 7.6 percent. During the same time, average daily enrollment in public schools has decreased by 8.5 percent.



Bound copies of the 2005 *North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book* are not available. Electronic copies are available at [www.ndkidscount.org](http://www.ndkidscount.org). For more information regarding the North Dakota KIDS COUNT findings and highlights, please contact Richard Rathge, Executive Director of North Dakota KIDS COUNT (701) 231-8621 or [richard.rathge@ndsu.edu](mailto:richard.rathge@ndsu.edu) - or Helen Danielson, Coordinator of North Dakota KIDS COUNT (701) 231-5931 or [ndkidscount@yahoo.com](mailto:ndkidscount@yahoo.com) - or visit the North Dakota KIDS COUNT website at [www.ndkidscount.org](http://www.ndkidscount.org).

**Table 1. Select Indicators from the 2005 North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book**

Note: NR indicates a situation in which data were not reported due to the event number being five or less. NA indicates that no data are available.

Source: North Dakota KIDS COUNT, 2005 North Dakota KIDS COUNT Fact Book, [www.ndkidscount.org](http://www.ndkidscount.org)

Area	Total Persons Ages 0 to 17: 2003		Persons Ages 0 to 17 Living in Single Parent Families: 2000		Low-Birthweight Babies: 2003		Head Start Enrollment: 2005	
	Number	% of Total Population	Number	% of Total Persons Ages 0 to 17	Number	% of Total Live Births	Number	% of Total Children Eligible for Head Start
North Dakota	148,012	23.35%	30,695	19.08%	533	6.68%	2,760	69.05%
Adams	477	19.04%	97	16.14%	NR	NR	4	50.00%
Barnes	2,317	20.91%	477	18.18%	14	12.50%	59	96.72%
Benson	2,310	33.57%	860	34.22%	13	8.97%	104	78.79%
Billings	182	21.41%	11	4.98%	0	0.00%	2	22.22%
Bottineau	1,366	20.03%	191	12.04%	NR	NR	12	66.67%
Bowman	635	20.85%	80	10.26%	0	0.00%	6	75.00%
Burke	389	18.54%	75	16.06%	0	0.00%	17	73.91%
Burleigh	16,292	22.72%	3,297	19.20%	60	6.54%	205	64.67%
Cass	29,211	22.98%	5,529	19.17%	129	7.00%	257	47.77%
Cavalier	975	21.74%	120	10.10%	NR	NR	12	54.55%
Dickey	1,253	22.82%	198	14.46%	NR	NR	11	78.57%
Divide	387	17.22%	59	12.77%	0	0.00%	NA	NA
Dunn	859	24.27%	172	17.44%	0	0.00%	12	85.71%
Eddy	541	20.82%	90	13.82%	NR	NR	7	87.50%
Emmons	894	22.32%	126	11.72%	NR	NR	6	66.67%
Foster	815	23.32%	125	12.69%	NR	NR	5	100.00%
Golden Valley	455	24.89%	78	14.31%	0	0.00%	4	80.00%
Grand Forks	15,320	23.67%	3,298	20.96%	52	6.02%	289	59.47%
Grant	536	20.11%	65	9.76%	0	0.00%	29	76.32%
Griggs	481	18.66%	58	9.34%	NR	NR	9	100.00%
Hettinger	494	19.39%	71	11.20%	0	0.00%	14	77.78%
Kidder	512	19.87%	81	12.70%	NR	NR	2	28.57%
LaMoure	931	20.63%	130	11.42%	NR	NR	25	100.00%
Logan	453	21.00%	31	5.94%	NR	NR	2	66.67%
McHenry	1,204	21.04%	209	14.57%	10	17.54%	38	65.52%
McIntosh	549	17.28%	86	13.11%	NR	NR	17	100.00%
McKenzie	1,486	26.46%	394	22.44%	NR	NR	53	88.33%
McLean	1,804	20.19%	340	15.37%	7	8.75%	34	89.47%
Mercer	2,042	24.17%	298	11.86%	6	8.96%	31	70.45%
Morton	6,059	24.11%	1,338	19.61%	18	5.73%	119	75.80%
Mountrail	1,679	25.91%	498	26.77%	7	7.78%	81	71.68%
Nelson	659	19.08%	104	12.68%	NR	NR	18	81.82%
Oliver	438	22.99%	78	13.78%	NR	NR	0	0.00%
Pembina	1,774	21.63%	283	13.22%	NR	NR	12	57.14%
Pierce	972	21.70%	183	16.41%	NR	NR	18	72.00%
Ramsey	2,771	23.86%	727	24.08%	11	8.15%	78	61.90%
Ransom	1,287	22.05%	197	13.39%	7	10.00%	6	35.29%
Renville	493	19.94%	89	14.61%	NR	NR	17	73.91%
Richland	4,158	23.63%	693	15.62%	6	3.21%	34	61.82%
Rolette	4,636	33.76%	1,990	39.92%	15	5.38%	310	96.57%
Sargent	1,053	24.92%	158	13.68%	NR	NR	12	37.50%
Sheridan	277	17.99%	42	11.48%	0	0.00%	12	75.00%
Sioux	1,482	36.41%	576	35.34%	6	5.61%	143	100.00%
Slope	152	20.38%	21	10.82%	NR	NR	4	50.00%
Stark	5,235	23.65%	990	17.13%	19	7.06%	86	71.67%
Steele	478	22.97%	72	11.54%	NR	NR	3	100.00%
Stutsman	4,525	21.29%	991	19.80%	14	6.36%	93	96.88%
Towner	528	19.80%	94	13.28%	NR	NR	3	75.00%
Traill	1,856	22.42%	301	14.31%	NR	NR	42	93.33%
Walsh	2,618	22.34%	563	18.21%	10	7.94%	34	59.65%
Ward	14,323	25.25%	2,816	18.26%	60	6.64%	225	52.20%
Wells	927	19.72%	151	13.14%	0	0.00%	29	72.50%
Williams	4,462	23.10%	1,094	21.15%	10	4.69%	115	97.46%