

# WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO BE NUMBER ONE?



## A CLOSER LOOK AT THE KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK 2014 RANKINGS

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Every year, the Annie E. Casey Foundation releases the *Kids Count Data Book*, a comprehensive, 50-state look at child welfare. Arkansas made gains in health coverage and education over the last year, but the child poverty rate went up to 29 percent. Those ups and downs are consistent with national trends, but what would it take for Arkansas to climb all the way up to the top? The tables below show the numbers Arkansas would have to reach to meet the U.S. average, and to be number one.

### CHILDREN IN POVERTY (2012)

	Total Children	Children in Poverty	Percent in poverty	Target to reach US average	Target to Be #1
U.S.	-	16,397,000	23	-	-
Arkansas	689,655	200,000	29	158,621	89,655
#1 – North Dakota	-	20,000	13	-	-

### CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS LACK SECURE EMPLOYMENT (2012)

	Total Children	Children whose parents lack S.E.	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	23,101,000	31	-	-
Arkansas	715,152	236,000	33	221,697	135,879
#1 – North Dakota	-	30,000	19	-	-

### CHILDREN IN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH A HIGH HOUSING COST BURDEN (2012)

	Total Children	Children Living in HHCB	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	27,761,000	38	-	-
Arkansas	716,667	215,000	30	N/A	114,667
#1 – North Dakota	-	25,000	16	-	-

### TEENS NOT IN SCHOOL AND NOT WORKING

	Total Teens	Teens not attending school or working	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	1,404,000	8	-	-
Arkansas	154,545	17,000	11	12,364	6182
#1 – South Dakota (Wyoming)	-	2,000 (1,000)	4	-	-

## CHILDREN AGES 3 AND 4 NOT ATTENDING PRESCHOOL

	Total Children	Children not in pre-school	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	4,307,000	54	-	-
Arkansas	79,245	42,000	53	N/A	30,113
#1 – New Jersey	-	82,000	38	-	-

## LOW-BIRTHWEIGHT BABIES

	Total	LWB Babies	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	315,709	8	-	-
Arkansas	38,299	3,332	8.7	3,064	2,183
#1 – Alaska	-	632	5.7	-	-

## CHILDREN WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE

	Total Children	Children w/o Health Insurance	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	5,264,000	7	-	-
Arkansas	700,000	42,000	6	N/A	7,000
#1 – Massachusetts	-	20,000	1	-	-

## TEENS WHO ABUSED ALCOHOL OR DRUGS IN THE PAST YEAR

	Total	Teens who abused alcohol or drugs	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	1,618,000	6	-	-
Arkansas	233,333	14,000	6	N/A	11,667
#1 – Utah	-	12,000	5	-	-

## CHILDREN IN FAMILIES WHERE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD LACKS A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

	Total Children	Children where HoH lacks HS diploma	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	10,887,000	15	-	-
Arkansas	726,667	109,000	15	N/A	36,333
#1 – North Dakota	-	7,000	5	-	-

## CHILDREN IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

	Total Children	Children in Single-Parent Families	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	24,725,000	35	-	-
Arkansas	675,676	250,000	37	236,487	135,135
#1 – Utah	-	172,000	20	-	-

## CHILDREN LIVING IN HIGH-POVERTY AREAS

	Total Children	Children in Single-Parent Families	Percent	To reach US average	To Be #1
U.S.	-	8,362,000	13	-	-
Arkansas	793,333	119,000	15	103,133	1,190
#1 – Alaska (New Hampshire)	-	2,000 (3,000)	1	-	-

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