



## Infants & Toddlers in Texas

- Texas has 1.1 million children under the age of 3.<sup>i</sup>
- **1 in 5 pregnant women** in Texas misses out on prenatal care in their first trimester.<sup>ii</sup>
- **Half of the births** delivered in Texas are covered by **Medicaid**.<sup>iii</sup>
- Texas has the **highest teen birthrate** in the nation.<sup>iv</sup>
- Over **one in every four** (27%) children under the age of five in Texas is **living in poverty**.<sup>v</sup>
- Nearly **one in five children** under the age of six in Texas (18%) has **no health insurance**.<sup>vi</sup>
- In 2005, almost **70% of infants** in Texas were **enrolled in WIC**; 33% of children aged one to four were enrolled in the nutritional program.<sup>vii</sup>
- **More than half** (52%) of **mothers** with children younger than 3 are **in the workforce**.<sup>viii</sup>
- **Half of children** in Texas under the age six experience **multiple risk factors**.<sup>ix</sup>
- Of all the confirmed cases of **child abuse and neglect**, **36%** of the victims are **under the age of four**.<sup>x</sup>
- Nationally, **more than half** of all **infants in foster care** have **developmental delays or disabilities**.<sup>xi</sup>
  - Nearly **80%** are **exposed to substance abuse** before they are born.
  - Nearly **40%** are born with **low birth-weight** and/or are **premature**.
- For every \$1 of **public funds** spent for the **education and development** of a school age child in Texas, less than **7 cents is spent on an infant or toddler**.<sup>xii</sup>

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- <sup>i</sup> National Center for Children in Poverty. *Texas State Early Childhood Profile*. Updated October 2007. [www.nccp.org](http://www.nccp.org). Accessed January 24, 2008.
- <sup>ii</sup> Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundations. Percentage of Mothers Beginning Prenatal Care in the First Trimester, 2004. [www.statehealthfacts.org](http://www.statehealthfacts.org). Accessed January 24, 2008.
- <sup>iii</sup> National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, Health Division. *Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Update 2005: States Make Modest Expansions to Health Care Coverage*. (2006).
- <sup>iv</sup> Center for Public Policy Priorities. *The State of Texas Children 2007*. Texas Kids Count Annual Data Book.
- <sup>v</sup> The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT State Level Data Online, [www.kidscount.org](http://www.kidscount.org). Accessed January 24, 2008.
- <sup>vi</sup> National Center for Children in Poverty.
- <sup>vii</sup> Center For Public Policy Priorities.
- <sup>viii</sup> U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Statistics. *Women in the Labor Force: A Databook*. 2005. <http://www.bls.gov/cps/wlf-databook2005.htm> Accessed January 24, 2008.
- <sup>ix</sup> Ibid. Note: Risk factors include any combination of the following: single parent, living in poverty, parents do not speak English well, parents have less than a high school diploma, and parents and have no paid employment.
- <sup>x</sup> Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. "Profile of Confirmed Child Abuse/Neglect Victims Fiscal Year 2006." *2006 Data Book*.
- <sup>xi</sup> Dicker, S., Gordon, E. & Kintzer, J. (2001) *Improving the odds for the healthy development of young children in foster care*. National Center for Children in Poverty.
- <sup>xii</sup> Child and Family Policy Center, Voices For Americas Children, and Texans Care For Children. *Early Learning Left Out: Closing the Investment Gap for America's Youngest Children, 2nd Ed*. Texas Data: Investments by Child Age and on Education and Development. 2005