How Are We Doing By Our Kids?

U.S. has highest first-day infant mortality out of industrialized world, group reports

Associated Press
Jeremiah Harker listens as names of families cut from the Head Start program were called out during a meeting in Columbus, Ind., last week.

Published: March 13, 2013 3:00 a.m.

Strapped by sequester, Head Starts drop kids

PAMELA ENGEL | Associated Press

As Congress debates food stamp cuts, moms fret about feeding kids

Child care cuts bleed forever
Student Debt and the Crushing of the American Dream

By JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ

U.S. Kids Exposed to High Rate of Violence

CHILDREN'S HEALTH | MAY 14, 2013 | BY: SHARON GLOGER FRIEDMAN

U.S. Child Poverty Is On The Rise

A big new report shows one in four children in America lives in poverty. We ask why and look at solutions.

Claire Pomeroy
Dean, School of Medicine at the University of California, Davis

Foster Care Youth: The Faces of a Nation's Soul in Crisis

Posted: 05/22/2013 4:09 pm

Children play basketball at a park in Baltimore. (Patrick Semansky/AP)
Children Face Real Challenges

- More than 1 in 5 in poverty
- 1 in 5 live with hunger
- 6.3 million live with an unemployed parent
- 8 million affected by foreclosures
Spending on children in the federal budget declined 16% in last 3 years.
The share of the federal budget in 2013 for children fell nearly 8% from 2010.
Real World Impacts:

- Nearly 7.4 million students affected
- 58,000 kids lost after school supports
- 65,000 fewer Head Start slots
- 100,000 families could face homelessness
- 5 days of furloughs for DoD Schools
- Thousands of teachers, support staff, and education jobs lost

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Long-Term Disinvestment in Kids

- 24%

2.5% Of GDP

1.9% Of GDP

Source: Kids Share
WHERE IS AMERICA INVESTING?

- **State & Local**:
  - Children: $8,000
  - Elderly: $901

- **Federal**:
  - Children: $3,822
  - Elderly: $25,455

The ratio of investment is approximately 7x more for the Elderly compared to the Children.
WHERE IS AMERICA INVESTING?

- **State & Local**
  - $8,000
  - $3,822
  - $11,822

- **Federal**
  - $26,356
  - $901
  - $25,455

2x

Children | Elderly
TURNING IT AROUND
A majority say the last decade has not been beneficial to children.

“Compared to ten years ago, do you think the lives of American children have gotten better, gotten worse, or not changed?”

Gotten Worse 57%
Not Changed 27%
Gotten Better 13%

Voters Want to Invest in Kids

- Kids’ Share: 8%
- What Voters Think: 18%
- What Voters Want: 31%
Intensity is all one sided — no to cuts in these programs

Medicaid, which provides health care to lower income seniors, the disabled, and children

**AV: 26-71**

Education programs aimed at kindergarten to twelfth grade

**AV: 23-74%**

Programs to prevent child abuse and neglect

**AV: 18-77%**

Source: Public Opinion Strategies
**Intensity is all one sided — no to cuts in these programs**

The Children’s Health Insurance Program or CHIP

**AV: 21-67%**

Tax credits for working families with children, like the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit

**AV: 26-68%**

Head Start programs for pre-school children

**AV: 31-64%**

Source: Public Opinion Strategies
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We Can Do It – CHIP & Medicaid

Percent of Uninsured Children

CHIP
Protected kids from the recession

CHIP
Enacted 1997

U.S. Census Bureau
POVERTY RATES BY AGE (1968-2011)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Figure 1: Absolute Poverty in the U.S. & U.K. 1989–2009


Smeeding & Waldfogel, 2010
Thank You!

First Focus
Making Children & Families the Priority

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