



# Hawaii Kids Count E-BULLETIN

## August 2005 Issue

Center on the Family • University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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### [1\) 2005 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK has been released](#)

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, the Annie E. Casey foundation released its annual KIDS COUNT data book. The *2005 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK* reveals that from 2000–2003, Hawaii has improved on only three of the ten measures of child well-being, experienced set backs on six measures, and saw no change on one measure. This year Hawaii's overall ranking fell from 21<sup>st</sup> in the nation to 24<sup>th</sup>.

Other highlights from the report include:

- 3% of Hawaii's children (about 10,000 children) live in households where no adult worked in the past year, compared to 5% nationwide
- 13% of Hawaii teens aged 16-19 are not in school and not working, compared to 9% nationwide. Hawaii is ranked 48<sup>th</sup> in the nation for this indicator, known as the "idle teen rate". This is Hawaii's worst ranking on any measure.
- Hawaii's teen birth rate decreased by 17% from 2000 to 2002
- Hawaii's poverty rate increased from 13% in 2000 to 15% in 2002.

The full report can be accessed at:

[http://www.uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii\\_kids\\_count/kids\\_count.asp](http://www.uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/kids_count.asp) or  
<http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/sld/databook.jsp>

To request a hard copy of the *2005 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK*, please send an email with your address and # of copies requested to [marika@hawaii.edu](mailto:marika@hawaii.edu).

### [2\) Family Day: A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children is September 26th](#)

The 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of September has been proclaimed "Family Day: A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children" by the State of Hawaii. This year Family Day is September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Approximately 7 out of 10 families in Hawaii report eating dinner together 5 to 6 times per week.

Benefits of sharing family meals include:

- Parent-child bonding

- Increased parent-child communication
- Reduced youth delinquent behavior, including drug use
- Promotion of healthy eating habits

For online access to the Family Day Brochure, which contains information about planning family meals and the benefits of families eating together regularly, please visit:

<http://www.uhfamily.hawaii.edu/publications/brochures/FamilyDay.pdf>

Hard copies of the brochure will be available at Zippy's Restaurants on Oahu in September. Neighbor island residents can request a brochure by e-mailing Ann Tom at [tomann@hawaii.edu](mailto:tomann@hawaii.edu) or faxing their request to 956-4147 with their name or agency name, address, phone #, and number of copies needed.

### [3\) New Brochure: Keeping Children Drug Free](#)

The Center on the Family, in conjunction with the Hawaii State Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) announces the release of a new guide for parents and other adults who work with children ages 8–11. The six-page brochure focuses on the developmental characteristics of middle childhood and shows that many of the factors leading to teen drug and alcohol use are actually set in motion earlier in childhood. Risk and protective factors are identified based on the physical, intellectual, and social/emotional development of middle childhood. The brochure, which includes data on drug and alcohol use by Hawaii's 6<sup>th</sup> graders, as well as the latest research on the effects of drug use and underage drinking, highlights two dozen practical things that adults can do to build resilience in young children.

Data from this report include:

- The average age of first use is 12 years for alcohol and 14 years for marijuana
- In 2003, about 13% of Hawaii's 6<sup>th</sup> graders reported that they had tried alcohol at least once
- Girls use substances for different reasons than boys
- In Hawaii, a higher percentage of girls than boys smoke cigarettes.

To access and download this report online, please visit the Center on the Family Web site at <http://www.uhfamily.hawaii.edu/index.asp>. For hard copies of the brochure, contact Ann Tom at 956-4133 or by e-mail at [tomann@hawaii.edu](mailto:tomann@hawaii.edu).

### [4\) New KIDS COUNT State-Level Data On-line System now available](#)

The Annie E. Casey Foundation announces the launch of the *KIDS COUNT State-Level Data On-line System*. This system contains state-level data for over 75 measures of child well-being. This easy-to-use on-line database allows you to generate custom reports for a geographic area (profiles) or to compare geographic areas on a topic (ranking, maps, and line graphs). Any comments or questions can be directed to Laura Beavers at [lbeavers@aecf.org](mailto:lbeavers@aecf.org) or Jean D'Amico at [jdamico@prb.org](mailto:jdamico@prb.org).

You can access the system at: <http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/sld/index.jsp>

### [5\) New 2005 Assets and Opportunity Scorecard](#)

The CFED has released the *2005 Assets and Opportunity Scorecard*, a state-level snapshot of how the country is performing on 31 measures in six key areas: financial security, business development, homeownership, health care, education, and tax policy and accountability. The

Scorecard uses a broad array of outcome and policy measures to assess states' asset-building and asset-protection capacity. Letter grades are assigned for the outcome measures. State policies are assessed separately and are rated as either "favorable," "standard," or "substandard."

Hawaii earned an overall letter grade of "B." Other highlights include:

- Hawaii ranks in the top 10 for high household net worth (9<sup>th</sup>) and few bankruptcy filings (4<sup>th</sup>)
- Hawaii ranks 49<sup>th</sup> in households with checking accounts
- Hawaii earned a letter grade of "A" in the area of health care, with top 15 rankings in all related outcomes measures
- Hawaii received a "C" in homeownership, the result of a first-place ranking in homeownership by race offset by a last-place ranking in home value and a 49<sup>th</sup> ranking in homeownership rate.

To view Hawaii's scorecard online, please visit:

<http://www.cfed.org/focus.m?parentid=31&siteid=504&id=526&stateid=11>

### [6\) New Small Area Health Insurance Estimates \(SAHIE\)](#)

The Census Bureau recently released data from their experimental program Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE). The data provides estimates for counties and states for 2000.

The data tables include:

- Total population with and without health insurance coverage
- Children under age 18 with and without health insurance coverage
- Measures of uncertainty of the estimates

This data can be accessed at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/sahie/>

Any questions regarding the data or methodology should be directed to Joanna Turner at the Census Bureau at 301-763-3193 or [hhes.sahie.@census.gov](mailto:hhes.sahie.@census.gov).

### [7\) Hawaii Kids Count E-Bulletin Subscription Information](#)

Below are instructions on subscribing and unsubscribing to future issues.

#### ***SUBSCRIBING:***

If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a colleague and you would like to receive future newsletters, you may subscribe to this newsletter by sending an email to [cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu](mailto:cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu) with the phrase "Subscribe Hawaii Kids Count Newsletter" in the subject field.

#### ***UNSUBSCRIBING:***

If we have reached you in error, or if you would prefer not to hear from us in the future, simply send an e-mail to [cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu](mailto:cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu) with the phrase "Unsubscribe Hawaii Kids Count Newsletter" in the subject field.

### [8\) Printable and Archived Versions of E-bulletins](#)

A printable version of this e-bulletin can be accessed as a pdf file at:

[http://cofserv/hawaii\\_kids\\_count/newsletter/newsletter.asp](http://cofserv/hawaii_kids_count/newsletter/newsletter.asp)

Archived versions of e-bulletins can be found at: [http://cofserv/hawaii\\_kids\\_count/archive.asp](http://cofserv/hawaii_kids_count/archive.asp)