

# Definitions, Notes and Sources

## Adequate Prenatal Care

Percentage of births wherein prenatal care was begun by the fourth month of pregnancy and 80.0 percent or more of the recommended prenatal visits were made. This indicator is also known as the "adequacy of prenatal care utilization index." For more information see, M. Kotelchuck, "An Evaluation of the Kessner Adequacy of Prenatal Care Index and a Proposed Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index," *American Journal of Public Health*, 1994, 84[9]:1,414-1,420.

Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, *Selected Maternal and Child Health Statistics*, 1999, Table 9 and *Alabama Vital Statistics*, 2009, Table 11.

## Births to Unmarried Teens

The number of live births to unmarried females aged 10 through 19 expressed as a percentage of live births to women of all ages.

Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics. *County Health Profiles* (1999-2009).

## Child Care Facilities

The number of licensed or exempt child care facilities located within a specified county as of June, 2011. "Licensed facilities" are those that are licensed with the Alabama Department of Human Resources (hereinafter referred to as DHR). This indicator encompasses family child care homes (serving six children or less), group child care homes (serving 7-12 children), and licensed child care centers (serving more than 12 children). "Exempt child care centers" are faith-based programs/schools that have submitted required documents to DHR and have received a letter of exemption. Homes where children are cared for by relatives or friends, as well as those that operate as businesses but are not licensed by DHR, are not included in these numbers.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division.

## Child Death Rate

Number of deaths from all causes to children aged 1 through 14 per 100,000 children of those ages.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics.

## Children with Indication of Abuse or Neglect

Number of children with indication of abuse or neglect per 1,000 children under 18. This measure involves instances of child abuse or neglect where both credible evidence and the professional judgment of the social worker substantiate that an alleged perpetrator is responsible for harming the child. Data appearing in *Kids Count Data Books* prior to 2004 are for calendar years, while those reported thereafter are for fiscal years.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama Department of Human Resources, Family Services Division, Office of Data Analysis.

## Children in Poverty

Children under 18 living below the federal poverty threshold expressed as a percentage of all children under 18.

U. S. Census Bureau, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates for School Districts, Counties, and States, 1999 and 2009*, Released December, 2010. The poverty threshold for a family of four (two adults and two related children under 18) was \$16,895 in 1999 and \$21,756 in 2009. Caution should be exercised in comparing poverty data from model-based estimates (as reported herein for 1999 and 2009) between counties and over time (see *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, General Cautions about Comparisons of Estimates, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)).

## Children in Single-Parent Families

Percent of *own children* under 18 years of age residing with only one parent. Since data reported are for "own children," they do not include children who live in households with a single grandparent, aunt, uncle, or another person who is not the parent.

U. S. Census Bureau, *2000 Census of Population*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Summary File 1, Tables 28, 28A, and 28B, Released 2001; and U.S. Census Bureau, *2010 Census of Population*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Summary

File 1, Tables P31, P31A, and P31B, Released, June, 2011.

## Employed Mothers with Young Children

Percent of mothers with children under six either employed or serving in the armed forces. Data reported for 2000 represent a single year only while those reported for 2005-2009 reflect a five-year average.

U. S. Census Bureau, *2000 Census of Population*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Summary File 3, Table P45, Released 2002; and U. S. Census Bureau, *2005-2009 American Community Survey*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Table B23003, Released December, 2010.

## First Grade Retention

The number of students enrolled in the first grade during the specified school year who were not promoted to the second grade expressed as a percentage of the total number of students enrolled in the first grade. Data are reported for public schools only.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama State Department of Education.

## Graduation Rate

Estimated percentage of public high school students who graduated on time with one of five diplomas (advanced, regular, career tech advanced, career tech regular, or advanced academic *and* advanced career tech). The number of students receiving these five diplomas was divided by the size of the ninth grade class four years earlier multiplied by 100. The size of the ninth grade class was estimated by summing the enrollment in the eighth grade in the prior year, the enrollment in the ninth grade in the next year, and enrollment in the tenth grade in the subsequent year and dividing by three. This procedure for estimating graduation is referred to as the "averaged freshman graduation rate." Due to changes in the types of diplomas that were awarded by Alabama public high schools beginning with the 2007-2008 academic year, graduation-rate data reported in this year's *Data Book* may not be totally comparable to those reported in *Data Books* prior to 2009. Therefore, caution should be used in making comparisons between these sets of data.

Alabama State Department of Education, *Enrollment by Ethnicity and Gender* (system level), Department of Education Website, <http://www.alsde.edu/PublicDataReports/Default.aspx>, Accessed June, 2011, and special tabulations provided by the Alabama State Department of Education.

### **Infant Mortality Rate**

Number of deaths to infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics. *County Health Profiles* (1999-2009).

### **Juvenile Violent Crime Court Petition Rate**

Number of juvenile court petitions filed for the commission of violent crimes divided by the total population of youth aged 10 through 17 multiplied by 1,000.

*Violent crimes* include homicide, rape, robbery, assault (first, second and third degree), domestic violence, and other selected crimes. For purposes of this report, a *juvenile petition* is a sworn, written document signed by a person 18 years of age or older who has knowledge of specific facts or is informed of facts alleging that a child is delinquent and believes that those facts are true. A petition gives the juvenile court jurisdiction once it is filed with the clerk of the court. A petition is only filed with the clerk of the court after an intake officer has determined that the court has subject matter jurisdiction, venue, probable cause and the filing of the petition is in the best interest of the public and/or the child. Allegations of a juvenile delinquency petition are treated by the same standards of sufficiency as a criminal complaint or indictment, i.e., it is a charging instrument placing the accused on due process notice of the nature of the pending charge against him or her.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama Administrative Office of Courts, Family Court Division. *Note: Data for St. Clair County for 2005 may be underreported.*

### **Low Weight Births**

Percentage of all live births recorded as low birth weight (under 5.5 pounds or 2,500 grams).

Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics. *County Health Profiles* (1999-2009).

### **Median Household Income**

The point at which half of the households are above a specified income level and half of the households are below.

U. S. Census Bureau, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates for School Districts, Counties, and States, 1999 and 2009*, Released December, 2010. Incomes for 1999 have been adjusted for inflation so that they are comparable with 2009 dollars. Caution should be exercised in comparing income data from model-based estimates (as reported herein for 1999 and 2009) between counties and over time (see *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, General Cautions about Comparisons of Estimates, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)).

### **Persons below Poverty Level**

The number of persons living below the federal poverty threshold expressed as a percentage of the total population.

U. S. Census Bureau, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates for School Districts, Counties, and States, 1999 and 2009*, Released December, 2010. The poverty threshold for a family of four (two adults and two related children under 18) was \$16,895 in 1999 and \$21,756 in 2009. Caution should be exercised in comparing poverty data from model-based estimates (as reported herein for 1999 and 2009) between counties and over time (see *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*, General Cautions about Comparisons of Estimates, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)).

### **Population**

Unless otherwise noted, "children" refers to persons under 20 years of age.

U. S. Census Bureau, *2000 Census of Population*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Summary File 1, Tables P14 and PCT12H-PCTI20, Released 2001; and U. S. Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), *2010 Census of Population*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Summary File 1, Tables P12, P12H-P120, and P14, Released June, 2011.

### **Prenatal Care in First Trimester**

Percent of mothers who started prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy.

Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, *Alabama Vital Statistics, 1999* (Table 10) and *2009* (Table 10).

### **Preventable Teen Death Rate**

Number of deaths from homicide, suicide, and accidents to persons aged 15 through 19 per 100,000 persons in that age group.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics.

### **Teens Not Attending School and Not Working**

Percent of youth aged 16-19 who are not enrolled in school and who are unemployed or not in the labor force.

U. S. Census Bureau, *2000 Census of Population*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Summary Tape File 3, Table P38, Released 2002; and U.S. Census Bureau, *2005-2009 American Community Survey*, Census Bureau Website, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Table B14005, Released December, 2010.

### **Vulnerable Families**

First births to unmarried teenage mothers not finishing high school as a percentage of first births to women of all ages. Includes only births where the birth order is known.

Special tabulations provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics.