



Children's Advocacy
ALLIANCE
an independent voice
for nevada's children

2016 NEVADA CHILDREN'S REPORT CARD



Overall
Grade

D

2016 Summary of Grades

Health D

Access to Health Care	F-
Prenatal/Infant Health	C-
Immunizations	D
Childhood Obesity	B-
Dental Health	F
Mental Health	D-
Sexual Health	D+

D

SAFETY: D+

Child Maltreatment	C-
Youth Homelessness	D
Juvenile Violence	D+
Child Deaths & Injuries	C-
Substance Abuse	C-

D+

EDUCATION: F

School Readiness	F
Student Achievement	F
High School Completion	D+
Funding	F

F

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING: D-

Employment	D-
Housing	D
Poverty	C-
Income	F+

D-

How Grades are Determined: By State Ranking (Where Available)

1-3 = A+	11-13 = B+	21-23 = C+	31-33 = D+	41-43 = F+
4-7 = A	14-17 = B	24-27 = C	34-37 = D	44-47 = F
8-10 = A-	18-20 = B-	28-30 = C-	38-40 = D-	48-51 = F-



The following symbols indicate Nevada's progress on the indicators, not necessarily where the state ranked compared to other states. There are instances where Nevada's indicator has improved, but our rank has gone down (due to other state's improving more than Nevada). Because the grades are based on Nevada's rank, this may result in a lower grade, despite improvements on the indicator.

Making a Difference in a Child's Life

Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA) is an independent voice dedicated to achieving public policy wins in the areas of child safety, health and school readiness. CAA creates lasting change by tackling the biggest issues that kids and families face in Nevada.

Serving as a leading advocate for children in Nevada since 1997, the CAA is comprised of community leaders dedicated to improving the lives of children and families. To achieve our goals, CAA:

- » Brings people together to build consensus around priorities and to leverage our collective strength towards real reform;
- » Collects, analyzes and shares research and information with people who make decisions impacting Nevada's children and families; and
- » Builds public will through education, outreach and advocacy to solve expansive and chronic problems facing kids and families.

When we come together to face the biggest issues for kids and families, we can create more and longer-lasting change. By pooling our resources to put government on the side of Nevada's children, we can make a bigger difference together than we could have done alone.

How You Can Help:

Become a friend of CAA by supporting our work on the issues you care most about, like ensuring our kids are safe from abuse and neglect, that every child enters school ready to learn, and that all of our kids are healthy. We share your passion for change, and by joining our team, you'll see your investments go further and reach more kids with advocacy.

Please use the attached form to make a contribution today. Or go online at www.caanv.org and click "donate".

The CAA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization – all donations and contributions to CAA may be tax deductible. Please contact your financial advisor for additional information.

Children's Advocacy Alliance

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Health

D

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE: F- ↑

Access to Health Care grade considers the number of children without insurance, children who have a medical home, and patient to provider ratios (per 100,000). In 2014, Nevada ranked 48th in the nation for the percentage of children without health insurance at 9.6%, a significant decrease from 16.6% in 2012. This decrease is due primarily to the implementation of the ACA; Nevada had the largest percent decrease in uninsured children than any other state in 2014. Nevada ranks 50th in the percentage of children with a medical home* and 48th in patient provider ratios at 69.8 per 100,000, an increase of only .4 from the previous period. **This indicator reflects the most up-to-date data but does not differ from the previous report card.*

PRENATAL/INFANT HEALTH: C- ↑

Prenatal/infant health is based upon the percentage of pregnant women receiving late or no prenatal care, infant and child mortality, and low birth weight babies. Nevada improved in its infant and child mortality rates, decreasing from 5.72% to 5.1%, increasing its ranking from 18th to 13th in the nation. There was also a slight improvement in the percentage of low birth weight babies, dropping from 8.2% to 8.0%, and increasing its ranking from 27th to 23rd overall. Most significant in this area was women receiving late or no prenatal care, which dropped from 11% in 2012 to 9% in 2014. Despite this decrease, Nevada's ranking dropped from 38th to 43rd, primarily because other states saw more significant reductions in this same time period, with a U.S. average of 6%.

IMMUNIZATIONS: D ↑

The immunizations grade is based on the percentage of children aged 19 to 35 months receiving recommended doses of DTaP, polio, MMR, Hib, hepatitis B, varicella, and PCV vaccines. Since the previous Nevada's Children Report Card, America's Health Rankings has adjusted its data collection from individuals receiving individual shots to each individual receiving a full series of shots. With this adjustment Nevada ranked 37th with a percentage of 67.7% for 2015, a substantial increase from the 60.6% reported in 2014.





CHILDHOOD OBESITY: B- ↓

Childhood Obesity consists of the percentage of 9th-12th grade students whose Body Mass Index (BMI) is at or above the 85th percentile but not higher than the 95th percentile (overweight) and whose BMI is higher than the 95th percentile (obese), students not physically active 5 days per week for 60+ minutes, and those students who reported that they did not consistently eat vegetables. Nevada ranked 15th in the nation for the percentage of students who are overweight at 15% and 8th for those who are obese at 12.2% (an increase from 14.6% and 11.4%, respectively, in 2013). Inactivity decreased from 55% in 2013 to 49% in 2015, however more youth reported not consistently eating vegetables, an increase from 6.4% to 7.2%.

DENTAL HEALTH: F ↔

Since the previous report card the dental health indicator has changed to reflect the preventative dental health care visits of 9th-12th graders instead of children 0-18. Nevada ranks 29th in the nation for the percentage of 9th -12th grade students who have had a preventative dental care visit within the past year. Currently 68.9% of students have had a dentist visit within the past year which is less than the national average of 74.4% reported for 2015, but up slightly from 68.3% in 2013 for Nevada.

MENTAL HEALTH: D- ↔

The Mental Health grade is based upon mental health treatment, attempted suicides, and teen suicide rates. Nevada ranks 49th in the nation for mental health treatment in which children

receive needed mental health treatment or counseling in the past 12 months*. While Nevada's attempted suicide rank plummeted from 16th in 2013 to 30th in 2015, with a significant increase in attempts – 10.7% in 2015 compared to 6.8% in 2013 – our actual suicide rate has dropped from 3.88 to 2.29 (per 100,000 children ages 0-18), increasing our rank from 36th to 16th. **This indicator reflects the most up-to-date data but does not differ from the previous report card.*

SEXUAL HEALTH: D+ ↑

Sexual Health is based upon five indicators: teen birth rate; sexual activity; condom use; any birth control use; and sexually transmitted disease rates. With 12.4% of Nevada high school students not using any type of birth control, the state ranks 14 out of 33. This directly effects the teen birth rate of 29 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19 and ranks Nevada 38th in the nation; an average five births higher than the national average. Nevada ranks 28 out of 38 states for condom use and is about average for STD rates for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea at 22nd and 26th respectively, but has seen a sharp increase in Syphilis from 9.7 (per 100,000 15 to 24 year olds) in 2011 to 25.1 in 2014.



Safety

D+

CHILD MALTREATMENT: C- ↔

Nevada's child maltreatment grade is based upon total child maltreatment, but also looks at physical, sexual and neglectful maltreatment. Nevada remained relatively stable in overall maltreatment, going from 19th to 15th in the nation. For physical, sexual and neglectful maltreatment, Nevada ranked 45th, 17th, and 27th respectively. This contributed to Nevada's ranking of 31st in the nation for Foster Care Placement, in which an average of 5 children were removed from their homes and placed in foster care per 1,000 children.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS: D ↔

In 2015, Nevada placed 47th in the nation for child and youth homelessness, with 2,310 unaccompanied homeless children and youth reported in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress. Again, Nevada had the highest rate of unsheltered unaccompanied children and youth in the United States, with 87.5% of unaccompanied homeless children and youth under 25 found living in the streets-rather than in shelters- during the 2015 Point-In-Time Count. These statistics point to a severe lack of adequate shelter for unaccompanied homeless youth in Nevada. Nevada ranked 11th in the nation for the total share of homeless families.

JUVENILE VIOLENCE: D+ ↔

The Juvenile Violence ranking is based upon: high school violence; weapons on school property; dating violence; fear of violence; and juvenile justice. In 2015, 8.5% of Nevada's high school students felt unsafe attending school; 30th in the nation. Nevada ranked 7th out of 33 states for students reporting to have brought a weapon to school at 3.7% and 11th in the nation for the percentage of students who have been in a fight on campus at 6.8%. Nevada ranked 22nd out of 36 and 29th out of 31 states, respectively, for both physical and sexual dating violence with 9.6% experiencing physical and 11.5% experiencing sexual violence (both slight decreases from 2013). Nevada ranked 37th for juvenile justice with 201 per 100,000 youth residing in juvenile detention, correctional and/or residential facilities.

CHILD DEATHS AND INJURIES: C- ↔

In 2014, Nevada ranked 25th in the nation for child deaths with just over 17 deaths per 100,000 children, relatively unchanged from 2011. This number is slightly above the national average of 14 deaths per 100,000. Nevada ranked 13th in the nation for transportation related deaths – sliding from 7th in 2011 - and 25th out of 30 states reporting child drowning with just over 1 child per 100,000 children.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: C- ↑

Compared to other states, Nevada fares very well in percentage of high school students who smoke cigarettes (7.5%) or use smokeless tobacco (5.1%), ranking 2nd and 4th respectively in 2015. However, those who use of any type of tobacco has significantly increased from 14.8% to 30.4%, dropping our ranking from 2nd to 15th. This may be due to the growing popularity of electronic vapor products. Nevada ranked 26th in alcohol use with 33.5% of students reporting they consume. Approximately 19% of high schoolers smoke marijuana, ranking us 20th out of 36. We rank among the worst for ecstasy use, which comes in at 23rd out of 37 states and prescription drug use at 30th out of 32 states. For inhalants and heroin use Nevada ranks 15th out of 29 and 18th out of 32, respectively. Overall, substance abuse has declined, but only slightly from 2013 to 2015.



Education

F

SCHOOL READINESS: F ↑

The School Readiness grade is comprised of preschool enrollment, availability, and spending per capita. Nevada is currently 50th in the nation for preschool enrollment; only 32.8% of 3- and 4-year olds are currently enrolled. Of the 32.8% of enrolled students, only 12% are enrolled in State preschool, Special Education, or Head Start- ranked 47th in the nation. Nevada ranks 42nd for state spending per capita for states that offer preschool programs, currently investing \$46.35 compared to the national average of \$773.63. Despite the low numbers and rankings, these are all slight improvements from the previous reporting period.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: F ↓

Student Achievement is based upon 4th grade reading, 8th grade math and postsecondary participation. There has been a decrease in the percent of reading and math scores at or above proficiency; reading scores have dropped from 34% to

29% and math scores from 30.3% to 26.1%. Nevada still remains near the bottom for both rankings, 45th for reading and 42nd for math. Nevada ranks 50th overall for postsecondary participation, with just 40.1% of young adults enrolled in postsecondary education or with a degree.

HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION: D+ ↑

Nevada ranked 15th in the nation (with 21 other states) for high school dropouts (teens age 16 to 19 who are not in school and have not yet graduated from high school) in 2014 at 4% - showing steady improvement since the inception of this report card, with the highest ranking yet seen for NV. High school graduation rates took a slight decline, from 62.7% with the class of 2010, compared to 60% for the class of 2012, decreasing Nevada's ranking from 48th to 51st. Given the recent investments in education, it is anticipated that this number will increase over the next several years.

FUNDING: F ↔

Per pupil expenditures is calculated for grades pre-kindergarten through 12th grade for public elementary and secondary education. Actual expenditures for the 2013-2014 fiscal year were \$8,414 compared to \$11,000 nationally. Nevada ranked 46th in this category, a slight decrease from the last report card. Nevada's low per pupil expenditure causes high student-teacher ratios. Nevada is ranked 47th in the nation with an average ratio of 20.6 compared to 16.1 nationally. In 2015, Nevada's Legislature voted to change Nevada's funding formula which could increase the state's ranking in future years.



Economic Well-Being

D-

EMPLOYMENT: D- ↑

The employment grade is comprised of the percentage of children whose parents lack secure employment and the unemployment rate of parents. In 2014, Nevada ranked 33rd in the nation for the percentage of children whose parents lack secure employment at 32%, a slight improvement from 34% in 2013. We also saw a slight decline in unemployment for parents, dropping from 7% in 2013 to 6% in 2014.

HOUSING: D ↑

In 2014, 37% of children in Nevada lived in a household with a high housing cost burden, where more than 30 percent of the monthly income was spent on rent, mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and/or related expenses. This is a decrease from 2013 and 2012 at 39% and 45%, respectively. For children in low-income households with a high housing cost burden Nevada averages the same as the national average at 63% and ranks 29th in the nation overall.

POVERTY: C- ↔

The poverty grade is based upon the percentage of children in poverty (100 percent poverty) and children in extreme poverty (50 percent poverty). Nevada ranked 29th for children in poverty (100 percent poverty) at 22%. This is the same as the national average, but a slight increase from the 23% reported in 2013. Children in extreme poverty has stayed consistent from 2013 to 2014 at 10% and ranks 24th in the nation.

INCOME: F+ ↑

The income grade is determined by the number of teens ages 16-19 not attending school and not working and low-income working families with children. Nevada is currently 40th in the nation for teens ages 16-19 not attending school and not working at 9%, a decrease from 11% in 2013. In 2014, Nevada ranked 41st in the nation for low-income working families with children at 26%, a slight increase from 24% in 2013.

Become a Friend of CAA

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- Enclosed is my donation for \$ _____
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If you would like to be contacted or added to our distribution list, please complete the following information & return to CAA:

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