

**NEWARK**



**kids**

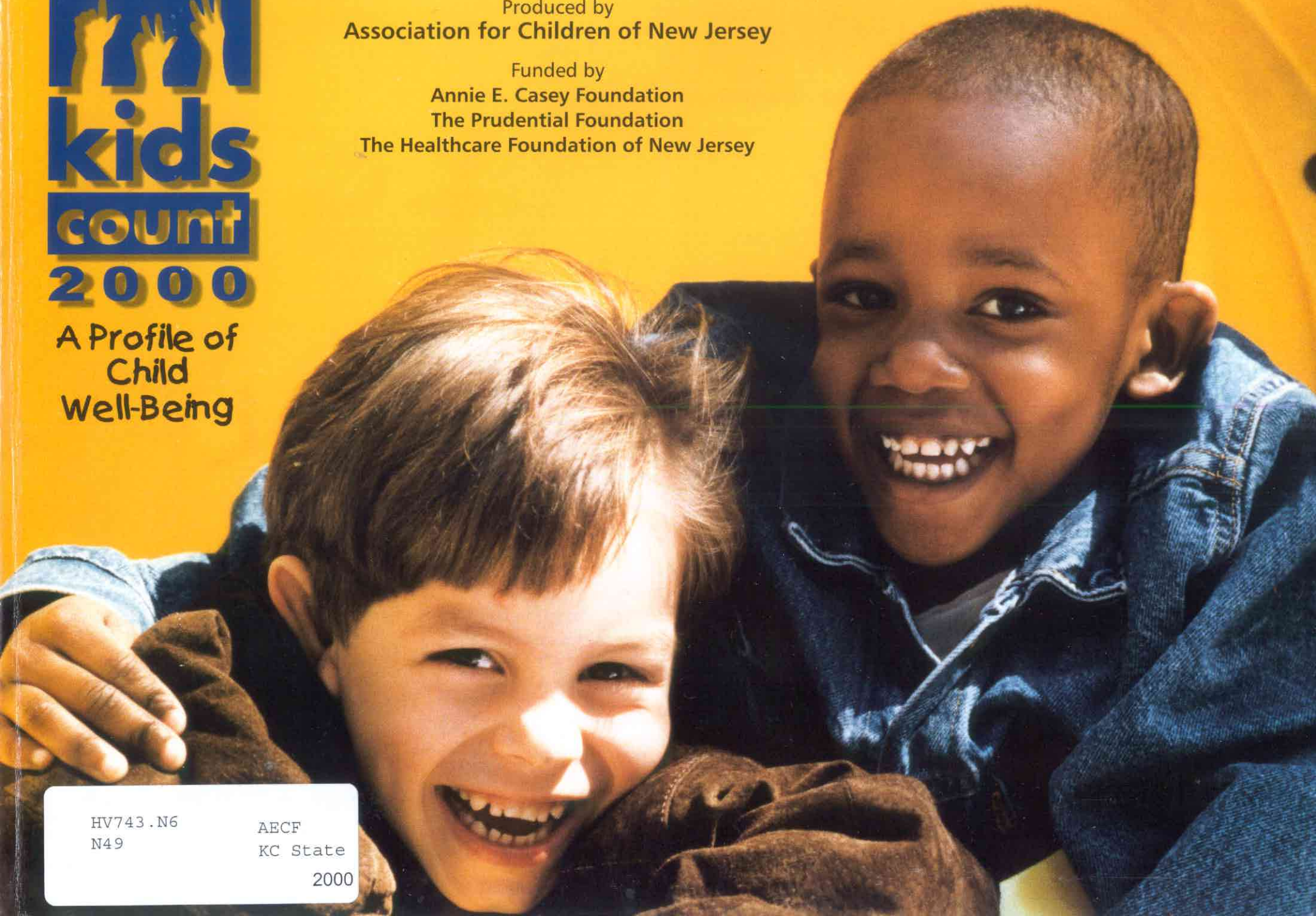
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**2000**

A Profile of  
Child  
Well-Being

Produced by  
Association for Children of New Jersey

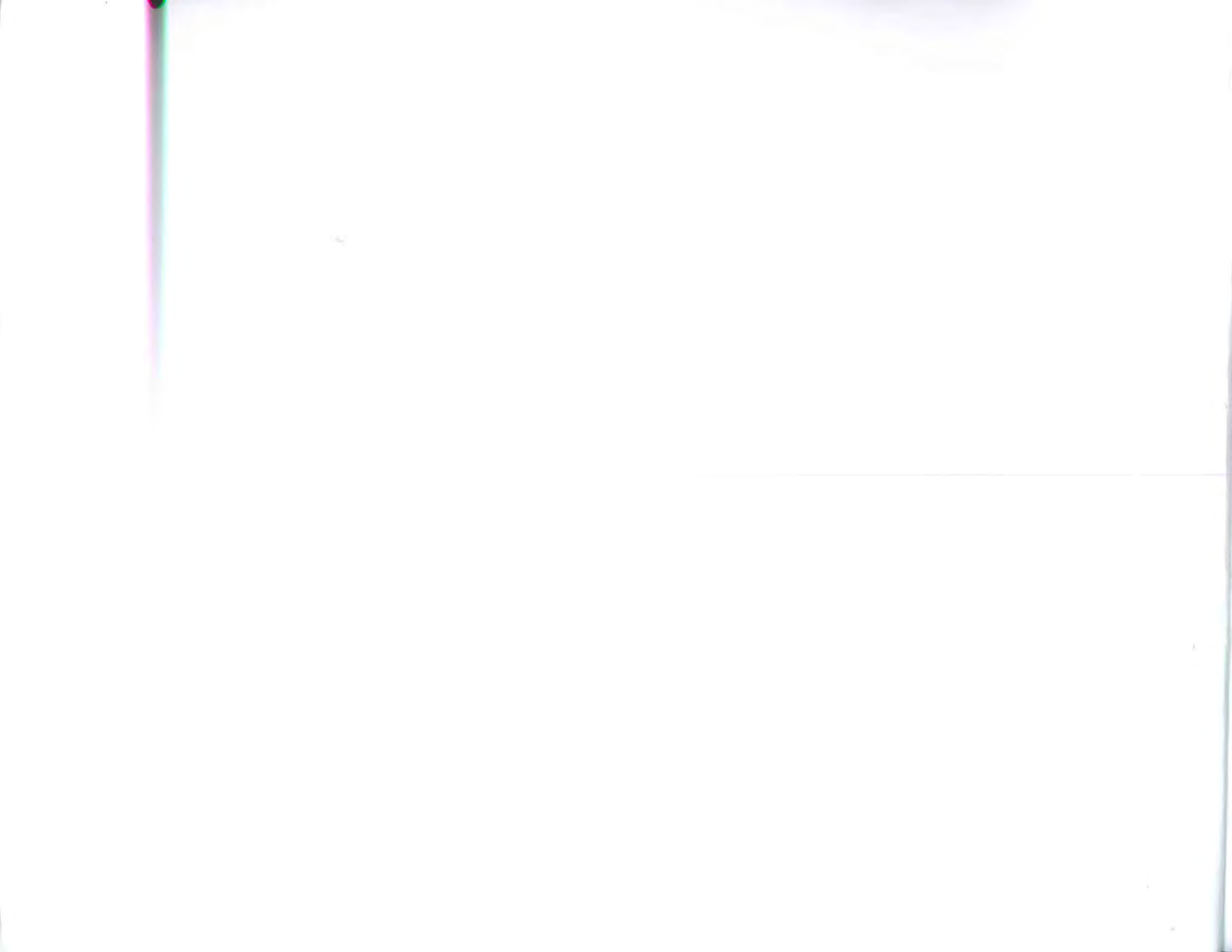
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Annie E. Casey Foundation  
The Prudential Foundation  
The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey



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# NEWARK KIDS COUNT 2000

## A Profile of Child Well-Being

Association for Children of New Jersey  
Stuart Grant, President, ACNJ Board of Trustees  
Ciro A. Scalera, Executive Director  
Cecilia Zalkind, Associate Director

*Funding for Newark Kids Count provided by*  
The Annie E. Casey Foundation  
The Prudential Foundation  
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Coordinated by Gina Lucas, Newark Outreach Coordinator  
Prepared by Becky Cheslow, Newark Outreach Associate  
with assistance from Eloisa Hernandez, Kids Count Coordinator

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35 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 643-3876  
[www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)

*NEWARK KIDS COUNT IS PRODUCED WITH ASSISTANCE FROM:*

**Nima Abrary**

Greater Newark Conservancy

**Sandra Accomando**

The Apostles' House

**Karen Arrowood**

STD Prevention and Control Program  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Michelle J. Baldwin**

Office of Public Information  
Newark Public Schools

**Larry Bemby**

Newark Fighting Back Partnership, Inc.

**Andrew Benesch**

NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Suzanne Borys**

Division of Mental Health Services  
NJ Department of Human Services

**Phil Burch**

Center for Government Services, Edward J.  
Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy  
Rutgers University

**Detective James Chiappa**

Office of the Police Director  
Newark Police Department

**Beth Connolly**

Division of Economic Assistance  
NJ Department of Human Services

**Pam Costa**

Special Child Health Services  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Dick Crane**

Division of Youth and Family Services  
NJ Department of Human Services

**Anthony DeBarros**

Division of Sewers and Water Supply  
Newark Department of Water and Sewer  
Utilities

**Jay Duco**

Division of Family Health Services  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Len Feldman**

Division of Youth and Family Services  
NJ Department of Human Services

**Sandy Feldman**

Division of Youth and Family Services  
NJ Department of Human Services

**Theresa Garcia**

Office of Health Services  
Newark Public Schools

**Cathy Jackson**

Division of Epidemiology, Environmental and  
Occupational Health  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Deborah Jones**

Division of Family Health Services  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Dr. Souqun Liu**

NJ AIDS Surveillance  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Kevin McNally**

Division of Family Health Services  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Claudia Ocello**

New Jersey Historical Society

**Kenneth Ryan**

Division of Youth and Family Services  
NJ Department of Human Services

**Kenneth Shilkret**

Division of Epidemiology, Environmental and  
Occupational Health  
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

**Rose Smith**

Community Clinical Services Department  
Children's Hospital of New Jersey

**Sandy Susten**

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease  
Registry

**Donna Taafe**

Programs for Parents, Inc.

**Elnardo Webster**

After School Youth Development Program  
Newark Public Schools

**Steve Wiessner**

Greater Newark Conservancy

**Vince Yarmlack**

NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

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Ad House, Inc.	Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies	Salvation Army Ironbound Boys and Girls and Senior Club
Affordable Housing Network of NJ	Hispanic Development Corporation	The Leaguers, Inc.
The Apostles' House	International Youth Organization	The Ready Foundation
ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey	Ironbound Community Corporation	The Salvation Army
Babyland Family Services, Inc.	La Casa de Don Pedro	The Wight Foundation, Inc.
Bessie Green Community, Inc.	New Community Corporation	SHARE New Jersey
Boys' & Girls' Clubs of Newark	New Jersey Community Loan Fund	St. Columba Neighborhood Club, Inc.
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	New Jersey Historical Society	South Ward Cultural Center
Catholic Community Services	Newark Day Center	Student Conservation Association
Communities In Schools of Newark	Newark Emergency Services for Families	Tri-City Peoples Corporation
Communities In Schools of New Jersey	Newark Fighting Back Partnership	Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral
Community Agencies Corporation	Newark Literacy Campaign	Unified Vailsburg Services Organization
Community Partners for Youth	Newark Preschool Council Head Start Program	United Community Corporation
Covenant House New Jersey	Newark Public Schools Office of Community Development	United District Neighborhood Coalition
Do Something	Newark YMWCA	United Way of Essex and West Hudson
Episcopal Community Development	North Reformed Church	Urban League of Essex County
Family Service Bureau of Newark	Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan NJ	Young Entrepreneurs Merchants and Mentors
Friendly Fuld Neighborhood Centers, Inc.	Protestant Community Centers, Inc.	Youth Consultation Service
Gateway Maternal and Child Health Consortium		Youth Development Clinic
Greater Newark Conservancy		10,000 Mentors



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# INTRODUCTION

*Newark Kids Count 2000* is the fourth annual snapshot of child well-being in Newark, New Jersey. Association for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) publishes *Newark Kids Count* to provide the most recent data available about the status of Newark's children. With support from The Prudential Foundation, The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, ACNJ documents a variety of child well-being indicators. These statistics illustrate progress as well as areas of growing concern for children. *Newark Kids Count* does not offer analysis on the data or indicators outlined in the report.

ACNJ is pleased to note that we have expanded *Newark Kids Count 2000* to include new information and findings in areas such as mental health, school based health clinics, asthma and homelessness among children. Since *Newark Kids Count 2000* gives children a voice through statistics, the report functions as a resource for policymakers, elected officials, citizens and organizations so that they are encouraged by accurate data to monitor child well-being and to generate only positive outcomes for Newark's children.

ACNJ is dedicated to producing *Newark Kids Count* so that we can raise awareness each year about the status of Newark's children and track trends and changes over time. ACNJ encourages you to complete and return the postcard in the back of the report so that we can better respond to the informational needs of the community in future editions of the report.

Newark's children continue to experience a variety of conditions which jeopardize their future. It is our responsibility as a city and a community to design policies and activities which support healthy, safe and nurturing environments for Newark's children. Isn't it time to make all Newark Kids Count?

## In Newark...

**1 of every 3 children live in poverty, at risk of hunger and chronic illness.**

**Each week, 13 children are born with low birth weight.**

**Each month, over 34 babies are born not having received prenatal care.**

**Each month, over 5 infants die before reaching their first birthday.**

**Each month, over 82 babies are born to teenage mothers.**

**Each month, over 34 juveniles are arrested for a violent crime.**

**Each day, we must work harder to make all Kids Count.**

## Data Highlights From Newark Kids Count 2000

- ★ Births to Newark women under 15 have declined 37.5% from 1994 to 1997.
- ★ Newark's 1997 infant mortality rate is double that of New Jersey.
- ★ Reported HIV cases of Newark children have increased by 131.7% from 1996 to 1999.
- ★ Newark children receiving public assistance has declined 38.7% from 1996 to 1999.
- ★ Newark children receiving WIC has increased 34.3% from 1996 to 1999.
- ★ 32% of surveyed homeless children in Newark have changed schools in the last year.
- ★ 97.8% of surveyed Newark Public School nurses identified asthma as a major health problem facing Newark children.
- ★ Total Newark juvenile arrests have declined 35.2% from 1996 to 1998.
- ★ Number of violent incidents/weapon possessions in the Newark Public Schools has declined 36.9% from 1996-1999.

# DEMOGRAPHICS

Population		
North Ward		56,510
East Ward		54,570
West Ward		54,602
South Ward		55,202
Central Ward		54,337
<b>Total 1990 Newark Population</b>		<b>275,221</b>
<i>African American</i>	<i>56.3%</i>	155,055
<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>25.1%</i>	69,204
<i>Other</i>	<i>18.5%</i>	50,962
Newark 1990 Population Under 18		78,493
Percent of Newark 1990 Total Population Under 18		28.5%
Newark 1998 Population Estimate		267,823
Essex County 1999 Population Estimate		747,355
New Jersey 1999 Population Estimate		8,143,412

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Census Data 1990.  
Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 1998, 2000.

The city of Newark has the 60th largest population in the United States.

Newark's density is 11,564 people per square mile.

Note: Newark is the third most dense city in New Jersey. However, if approximately 11 square miles comprised of Air, Rail, and Port Facilities are included in the calculations, then the density in Newark is actually 20,945 people/sq. mile making it one of the most dense cities in the nation.

Source: Newark Police Department, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Census Data, 1990, 1999.

## Number of Registered Voters

1999.....125,203  
1998.....128,013  
1997.....125,887  
1996.....113,405

Change in number of registered voters  
1996-1999  
+11,798

Source: Commissioner of Registrations Office,  
County of Essex.

Dates used: 10/23/96, 9/22/97, 10/98, 12/29/99

<b>Income and Poverty</b>			
	<b>Newark</b>	<b>Essex County</b>	<b>New Jersey</b>
Median Household Income	\$21,650	\$34,518	\$40,927
Per Capita Income	\$9,424	\$17,574	\$18,714
Percent of All Persons Below Poverty Level	26.3%	14.3%	7.6%
Percent of Female Headed Households Below Poverty Level	41.4%	29.2%	20.6%
Percent of Children Living Below Poverty Level	37.2%	21.9%	11.0%
Percent of Children Living With Single Parent	44.0%	31.0%	19.0%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Census Data 1990, 1994.

# FAMILY WELL-BEING

Average Number of Children Receiving Public Assistance						
	AFDC 1996	TANF 1997	TANF 1998	TANF 1999	% Change 1996-1999	% Change 1998-1999
<b>Newark</b>	34,913	29,078	25,305	21,392	-38.7%	-15.5%
<b>Essex County</b>	51,291	42,855	37,089	31,025	-39.5%	-16.3%
<b>New Jersey</b>	199,036	163,997	131,633	101,168	-49.2%	-23.1%
<p>Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving TANF 1999.....69.0%</p> <p>Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving TANF 1998.....68.2%</p> <p>Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving TANF 1997.....67.9%</p> <p>Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving AFDC 1996.....68.1%</p> <p>Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving TANF 1999.....21.1%</p> <p>Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving TANF 1998.....19.2%</p> <p>Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving TANF 1997.....17.7%</p> <p>Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving AFDC 1996.....17.5%</p>						

Source: NJ Department of Human Services

<b>Number of Residents Served by WIC</b>					
	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>% Change 1996-1999</b>
<b>Newark</b>	12,486	14,724	13,791	16,773	+34.3%
<b>Essex County</b>	22,408	27,041	25,056	29,740	+32.7%
<b>New Jersey</b>	128,761	154,213	148,403	173,420	+34.7%
Newark's Share of Essex County WIC Clients 1999.....56.4%					
Newark's Share of Essex County WIC Clients 1998.....55.0%					
Newark's Share of Essex County WIC Clients 1997.....54.5%					
Newark's Share of Essex County WIC Clients 1996.....55.7%					
WIC Estimated Eligibles for Newark 1999.....24,190					
WIC Estimated Eligibles for Newark 1998.....25,158					
WIC Estimated Eligibles for Newark 1997.....25,578					
WIC Estimated Eligibles for Newark 1996.....26,191					
Change in WIC Estimated Eligibles 1996-1999.....-2,001					
Percent of Estimated Eligibles Served in Newark 1999.....69.3%					
Percent of Estimated Eligibles Served in Newark 1998.....54.8%					
Percent of Estimated Eligibles Served in Newark 1997.....57.6%					
Percent of Estimated Eligibles Served in Newark 1996.....47.7%					
Change in Estimated Eligibles Served in Newark 1996-1999.....+21.6%					

Source: NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

## Average Number of Children Receiving Food Stamps

	1996	1997	1998	1999	% Change 1996-1999	% Change 1998-1999
<b>Newark</b>	45,147	40,299	36,856	32,446	-28.1%	-12.0%
<b>Essex County</b>	67,536	59,686	54,280	47,275	-30.0%	-12.9%
<b>New Jersey</b>	267,855	231,089	202,021	175,767	-34.4%	-13.0%

Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving Food Stamps 1999.....	68.6%
Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving Food Stamps 1998.....	67.9%
Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving Food Stamps 1997.....	67.5%
Newark's Share of Essex County Children Receiving Food Stamps 1996.....	66.8%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving Food Stamps 1999.....	18.5%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving Food Stamps 1998.....	18.2%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving Food Stamps 1997.....	17.4%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Children Receiving Food Stamps 1996.....	16.9%

Source: NJ Department of Human Services

<b>Substantiated Child Abuse Cases</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>% Change 1994-1998</b>	<b>% Change 1996-1998</b>
<b>Newark</b>	1,355	1,206	1,624	1,590	1,443	+6.5%	-11.1%
<b>Essex County</b>	1,977	1,841	2,443	2,291	2,178	+10.2%	-10.8%
<b>New Jersey</b>	9,519	9,279	10,537	11,065	9,851	+3.5%	-6.5%
					<b><u>1994</u></b>	<b><u>1996</u></b>	<b><u>1998</u></b>
Newark's Share of Essex County Substantiated Child Abuse Cases					68.5%	66.5%	66.3%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Substantiated Child Abuse Cases					14.2%	15.4%	14.6%

Source: Division of Youth and Family Services, NJ Department of Human Services

<b>Out of Home Placements</b>					
	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>% Change 1995-1999</b>
<b>Newark</b>	1,304	1,369	1,457	1,473	+13.0%
<b>Essex County</b>	1,871	1,667	2,015	2,056	+9.9%
<b>New Jersey</b>	8,347	8,275	9,045	9,398	+12.6%
			<b><u>1996</u></b>	<b><u>1998</u></b>	<b><u>1999</u></b>
Newark's Share of Essex County Out of Home Placements			82.1%	72.3%	71.6%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Out of Home Placements			16.5%	16.1%	15.7%

Source: Division of Youth and Family Services, NJ Department of Human Services



### Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) 1997 Estimates

	Newark	Essex County	New Jersey
Number of Federal Income Tax Filers	89,456	326,119	3,795,625
Number of Federal EITC Claimants	31,558	63,300	455,475

Newark's Share of Essex County's Federal Income Tax Filers.....27.4%  
 Newark's Share of Essex County's Federal EITC Claimants.....49.9%

Percent of Newark Federal Income Tax Filers Who Claimed the Federal EITC.....35%  
 Percent of Essex County Federal Income Tax Filers Who Claimed the Federal EITC.....19%  
 Percent of New Jersey Federal Income Tax Filers Who Claimed the Federal EITC.....12%

The Federal EITC is a tax credit program for low to moderate income working families.

Source: 1999 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Zip Code Data

### Child Care

**Number of licensed child care centers in Newark**

As of January 13, 2000.....184

As of October 30, 1997.....160

**Total capacity for licensed child care centers in Newark**

As of January 13, 2000.....12,551

As of October 30, 1997.....10,093

**Number of registered Family Day Care Providers in Newark**

As of January 27, 2000.....272

**Number of children cared for in Family Day Care in Newark.....952**

Source: Division of Youth and Family Services, NJ Department of Human Services; Programs for Parents, Inc.



## Newark Homeless Survey

Homeless Child Demographics	Newark N=129	Nationwide N=4,141
Sex: Female	40%	49%
Male	61%	52%
Age: Less than five	43%	41%
5-17 years	57%	59%
Race/Ethnicity:		
African American	93%	63%
Asian	0%	1%
Latino	2%	23%
Native American	0%	2%
White	1%	16%
Number of times child was homeless: Once	70%	73%
Twice or More	30%	27%
Percent of children who have Asthma	22%	20%
Percent of children who have witnessed Domestic Violence	37%	40%
Percent of children who have witnessed Community Violence	17%	17%
Percent of children ages 5-17 currently enrolled in school	84%	91%
Percent of children who have changed schools in the last year	32%	55%
Percent of children who have missed more than four weeks of school in the last year	23%	12%

Note: Survey of homeless families in Newark and Nationwide conducted by Homes for the Homeless and the Institute for Children and Poverty. See glossary for more information.

Source: *Homelessness in America: A Children's Story Part One*, Homes for the Homeless and The Institute for Children and Poverty, 1999.



## Newark Homeless Survey

Homeless Parent Demographics	Newark N=64	Nationwide N=1,904
Sex: Female	98%	95%
Male	2%	6%
Percent of homeless parents who are single	91%	80%
Percent of homeless parents who have completed less than a high school education	45%	41%
Reason parent left last residence:		
Could not pay rent/Evicted	48%	30%
Overcrowded/Disagreement	34%	25%
Domestic Violence	8%	12%
Substandard Housing	2%	4%
Transferred from another shelter	2%	15%
Percent of homeless parents with history of substance abuse	72%	46%
Percent of parents currently receiving:		
TANF	91%	57%
Food Stamps	78%	67%
Medicaid	75%	53%

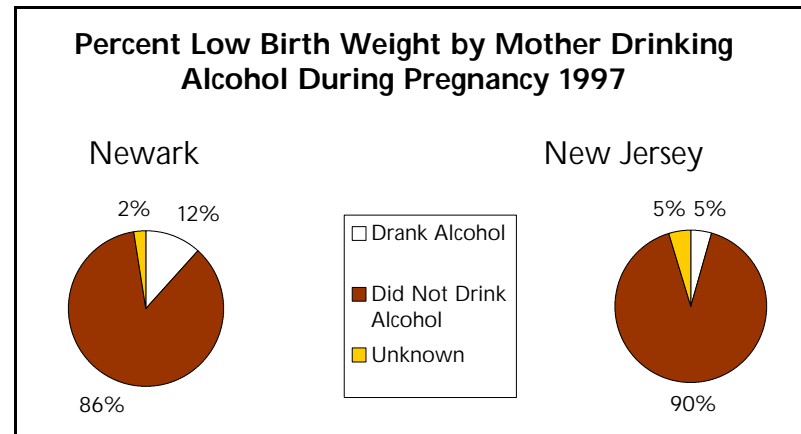
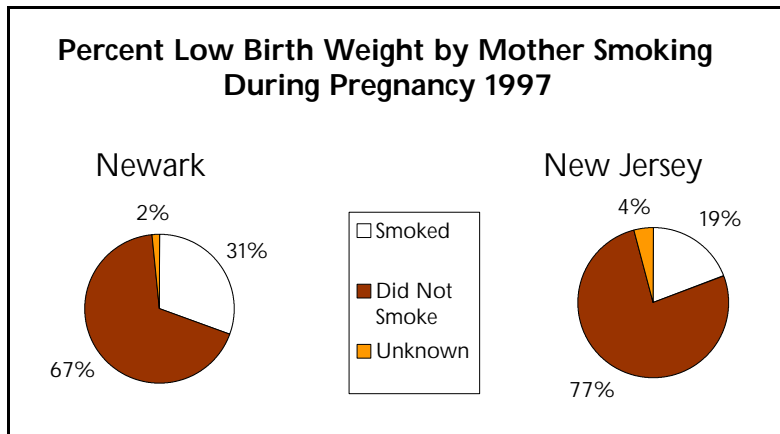
Note: Survey of homeless families in Newark and Nationwide conducted by Homes for the Homeless and the Institute for Children and Poverty. See glossary for more information.  
Source: *Homelessness in America: A Children's Story Part One*, Homes for the Homeless and The Institute for Children and Poverty, 1999.

# CHILD HEALTH

		1994	1995	1996	1997	Change 1994-1997
<b>Newark</b>	Total Number of Births	5,565	5,293	5,086	5,102	-8.3%
	Percent Low Birth Weight	13.5%	13.1%	12.5%	13.2%	-0.3
	Percent Receiving No Prenatal Care	8.0%	7.8%	8.3%	8.1%	+0.1
<b>Essex County</b>	Total Number of Births	13,095	12,647	12,486	12,303	-6.0%
	Percent Low Birth Weight	11.0%	10.4%	11.0%	11.2%	+0.2
	Percent Receiving No Prenatal Care	5.1%	4.8%	5.0%	4.8%	-0.3
<b>New Jersey</b>	Total Number of Births	117,684	114,905	114,365	113,332	-3.7%
	Percent Low Birth Weight	7.4%	7.4%	7.5%	7.7%	+0.3
	Percent Receiving No Prenatal Care	1.3%	1.1%	1.3%	1.2%	-0.1

Note: 1997 New Jersey numbers do not include unknown and institutional births.

Source: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics

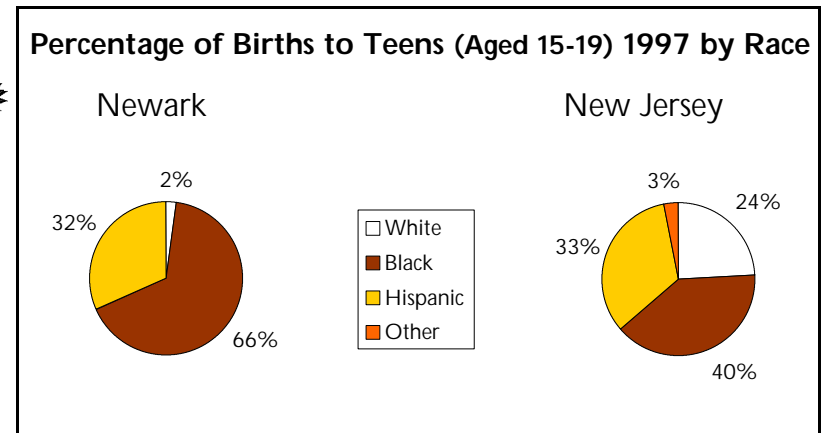
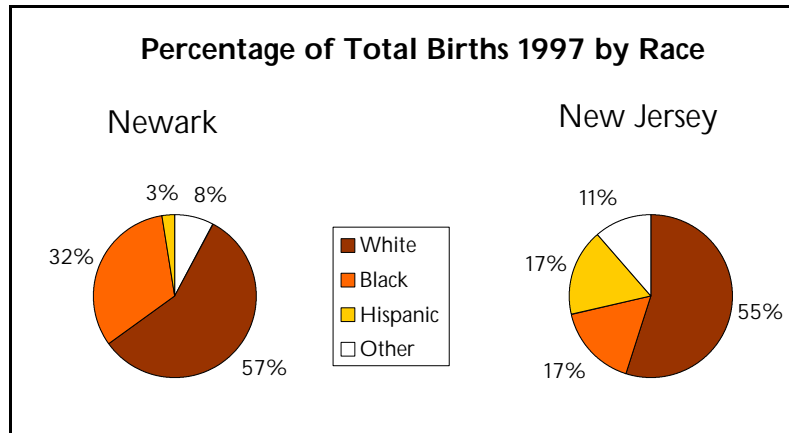


Source: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics

Note: These data are self-reported.

		1994	1995	1996	1997	Change 1994-1997
<b>Newark</b>	Percent of Total Births to Unmarried Mothers	69.9%	68.7%	70.7%	69.2%	-0.7
	Number of Births to Women Under 15	48	29	27	30	-37.5%
	Number of Births to Women 15-19	1,098	1,055	999	960	-12.6%
<b>Essex County</b>	Percent of Total Births to Unmarried Mothers	49.0%	47.5%	48.2%	48.1%	-0.9
	Number of Births to Women Under 15	66	50	36	42	-36.4%
	Number of Births to Women 15-19	1,667	1,618	1,571	1,486	-10.9%
<b>New Jersey</b>	Percent of Total Births to Unmarried Mothers	27.6%	27.2%	27.1%	27.7%	+0.1
	Number of Births to Women Under 15	285	227	208	197	-30.9%
	Number of Births to Women 15-19	9,330	9,117	8,599	8,624	-7.6%

Note: 1997 New Jersey numbers do not include unknown and institutional births.  
Source: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics



Source: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics  
Note: These data are self-reported.

		1994	1995	1996	1997	% Change 1994-1997
<b>Newark</b>	Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000	15.8	12.7	14.9	13.3	-15.8%
	Number of Child Deaths (1-14)	36	31	33	36	0
	Number of Teen Deaths (15-19)	15	34	30	28	+86.7%
<b>Essex County</b>	Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000	12.5	9.3	12.8	9.3	-25.6%
	Number of Child Deaths (1-14)	74	62	55	63	+14.9%
	Number of Teen Deaths (15-19)	44	53	47	47	+6.8%
<b>New Jersey</b>	Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000	7.7	6.7	6.9	6.4	-16.9%
	Number of Child Deaths (1-14)	379	393	341	333	-12.1%
	Number of Teen Deaths (15-19)	264	282	273	280	+6.1%

Note: 1997 New Jersey numbers do not include unknown and institutional births.

Source: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Newark's Share of Essex County Births	42%	42%	41%	41%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Births	5%	5%	4%	5%
Newark's Share of Essex County Births to Women under 15	73%	58%	75%	71%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Births to Women under 15	17%	13%	13%	15%
Newark's Share of Essex County Births to Women 15-19	66%	65%	64%	65%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Births to Women 15-19	12%	12%	12%	11%
Newark's Share of Essex County Child Deaths (1-14)	49%	50%	60%	57%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Child Deaths (1-14)	9%	8%	10%	11%
Newark's Share of Essex County Teen Deaths (15-19)	34%	64%	64%	60%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Teen Deaths (15-19)	6%	12%	11%	10%

Note: 1997 New Jersey numbers do not include unknown and institutional births.

Source: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics


**Vaccination Coverage Levels of Two Year Olds**  
**Percent Receiving 4:3:1 Series**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	Change 1995 to 1998
<b>Newark</b>	60%	63%	70%	66%	+6%
<b>New Jersey</b>	76%	78%	78%	85%	+9%
<b>United States</b>	75%	78%	78%	81%	+6%


**Newark's 1998 estimated coverage level was the second lowest compared to all other states and selected geographic areas.**

Note: The Center for Disease Control defines two year olds as children ages 19-35 months old. The 4:3:1 series includes 4 doses of the tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine; 3 doses of the poliovirus vaccine; and 1 dose of the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine.

Source: Centers for Disease Control, National Immunization Survey, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, June, 1996, July, 1997, July, 1998 and September, 1999.

 <b>ASTHMA</b> <b>Newark Children Admitted into Hospitals</b> <b>Through the Emergency Room with the Diagnosis of Asthma</b>						
Age	Less than 1 year except newborns	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-18 years	Total
<b># of Children in 1998</b>	83	247	147	75	47	599
<b>(% of Total)</b>	(13.9%)	(41.2%)	(24.5%)	(12.5%)	(7.9%)	(100%)
<b>Note: These data do not include all asthma cases admitted to the emergency room. Please see glossary for further explanation.</b>						

Source: NJ Department of Health & Senior Services

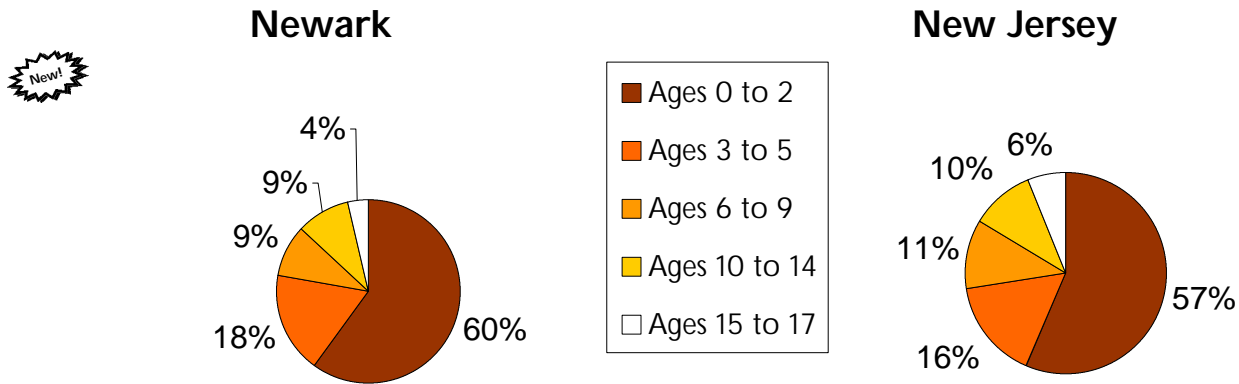
 <b>Number of Cases of Children Under 18 with Active Tuberculosis</b>			
	1996	1997	1998
Newark	8	12	10
New Jersey	66	70	61
Newark's share of New Jersey active tuberculosis cases in 1998: 16.4% Newark's share of New Jersey active tuberculosis cases in 1997: 17.1% Newark's share of New Jersey active tuberculosis cases in 1996: 12.1%			

Source: NJ Department of Health & Senior Services, TB Program

Number of Reported Cases of Children Under 18 with AIDS					
	1996	1997	1998	1999	Percent Change 1996 to 1999
Newark	151	159	166	173	+14.6%
New Jersey	696	752	781	805	+15.7%

Note: Numbers may represent different months in each year. See glossary for exact dates.  
 Source: New Jersey Division of AIDS Prevention and Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

### 1999 Reported AIDS Cases by Age



Source: New Jersey Division of AIDS Prevention and Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

## Number of Reported Cases of Children Under 18 with HIV

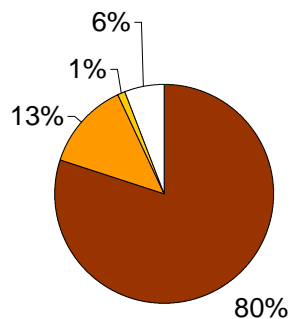
	1996	1997	1998	1999	Percent Change 1996 to 1999
Newark	183	270	386	424	+131.7%
New Jersey	817	1,171	1,494	1,645	+101.3%

Note: Numbers may represent different months in each year. See glossary for exact dates.  
 Source: New Jersey Division of AIDS Prevention and Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

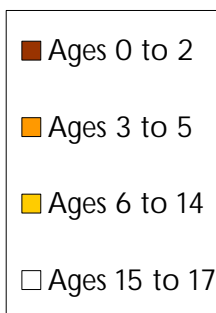
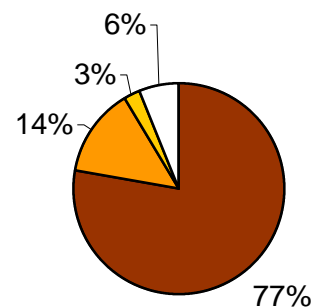
## 1999 Reported HIV Cases by Age



**Newark**



**New Jersey**



Source: New Jersey Division of AIDS Prevention and Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

## Reported Cases of Sexually Transmitted Diseases for Children 19 and Under

		1996	1997	1998	% Change 1996 to 1998
<b>Newark</b>	<b>Chlamydia</b>	863	917	837	-3.0%
	<b>Gonorrhea</b>	246	728	566	+130.1%
	<b>Syphilis</b>	14	50	48	+242.9%
	<b>Total</b>	1,123	1,695	1,451	+29.2%
<b>Essex County</b>	<b>Chlamydia</b>	1,330	1,444	1,380	+3.8%
	<b>Gonorrhea</b>	387	1,048	840	+117.1%
	<b>Syphilis</b>	18	71	72	+300.0%
	<b>Total</b>	1,735	2,563	2,292	+32.1%
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>Chlamydia</b>	5,266	5,532	5,208	-1.1%
	<b>Gonorrhea</b>	1,490	2,921	2,487	+66.9%
	<b>Syphilis</b>	57	180	153	+168.4%
	<b>Total</b>	6,813	8,633	7,848	+15.2%

Source: STD Prevention and Control Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

Newark's Share of Essex County's Chlamydia Cases in 1998.....				60.6%
Newark's Share of Essex County's Gonorrhea Cases in 1998 .....				67.4%
Newark's Share of Essex County's Syphilis Cases in 1998.....				66.7%
Newark's Share of New Jersey's Chlamydia Cases in 1998 .....				16.1%
Newark's Share of New Jersey's Gonorrhea Cases in 1998.....				22.8%
Newark's Share of New Jersey's Syphilis Cases in 1998 .....				31.4%
		<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>
Newark's Share of Essex County's Total STD Cases	64.7%	66.1%	63.3%	
Newark's Share of New Jersey's Total STD Cases	16.5%	19.6%	18.5%	

Source: STD Prevention and Control Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services



# ACNJ Child Health Survey in the Newark Public Schools

<b>Major Health Problems and Issues Facing Children as Identified by School Nurses in the Newark Public Schools</b>	
<b>Problem/Issue</b>	<b>% of Nurses Who Identified the Problem/Issue</b>
Asthma	97.8%
Dental Health	82.6%
Vision Problems	73.9%
Headaches	67.4%
Poor Hygiene	65.2%
Mental Health	58.7%
Cold/Flu	58.7%
Lack of Health Insurance	56.5%
Allergy	52.2%
Accidental Injuries	50.0%
Dressed Inappropriately	50.0%
Malnutrition/Hunger	50.0%
Stress	47.8%
Lack of Immunizations	45.7%

## Most Frequently Occurring Child Health Conditions

Top four child health conditions identified by Newark Public Schools nurses that occur with the most frequency:

1. Asthma
2. Headaches
3. Dental Health
4. Vision Problems

## Child Health Conditions Needing Immediate Attention

Top two child health conditions identified by Newark Public Schools nurses as needing immediate and increased attention due to their severity and/or growing frequency:

1. Asthma
2. Dental Health

## Recommendations

Most frequent recommendations made by Newark Public Schools nurses to effectively address health problems facing Newark's children:

1. Increased parental education and involvement in child's health care.
2. Better access to health care services for children.
3. Increased and improved dental/vision care for children.

Source: Child Health Survey of Newark Public Schools Nurses, Association for Children of New Jersey, 1999.

Note: See glossary for further information about this survey.



## Communities That Care (CTC)<sup>®</sup> Newark School District Survey of 7th and 8th Grade Students

Percent of 7th and 8th Grade Students in the Newark School District Who Have Used or Currently Use Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana and/or Inhalants		
	Newark School District	CTC Matched Comparison
Alcohol, Lifetime	46%	58%
Alcohol, 30 Days	20%	28%
Cigarettes, Lifetime	42%	45%
Cigarettes, 30 Days	9%	19%
Marijuana, Lifetime	10%	23%
Marijuana, 30 Days	5%	13%
Inhalants, Lifetime	5%	21%
Inhalants, 30 Days	3%	12%

Note: The Communities That Care<sup>®</sup> Youth Survey of the Newark Public School District was conducted in May 1999. A total of 2,541 students in the 7th and 8th grades completed valid survey forms. This survey was compared to data from two surveys, University of Michigan's 1997 Monitoring the Future survey and the Center for Substance Abuse and Prevention's 1993-1997 Six-State Study. These two surveys are referred to in the CTC study as the "National Comparison Data". The Newark School District survey results have been compared to the "CTC Matched Comparison", a sample that shows results based on data collected from "National Comparison Data" students whose demographic characteristics match Newark School District students exactly in terms of their age, ethnicity and gender. See glossary for further details about the survey.

Source of Cigarettes - Newark School District	
From vending machines	3%
I buy them over the counter	6%
Someone else buys them for me	3%
From home	3%
From friends	7%
Other	3%
I don't smoke	76%

Source of Alcohol - Newark School District	
From home	9%
From liquor store	6%
From friends	9%
From bars/restaurants/lounges	1%
Other	5%
I don't drink	69%

Source: Communities That Care<sup>®</sup> Youth Survey, © 1995, 1999 Developmental Research and Programs, Inc., Newark Fighting Back Partnership, Inc.



**Newark School Based Youth Services Program Health Clinic Data**  
December 1998 - December 1999

Total Number of Medical Contacts	1,680
Total Number of Dental Contacts	1,293
Total Number of Social Contacts*	1,626
Average Percentage of Children Enrolled in School Based Youth Services Program (Parental Consent for Services Provided)	92%


The School Based Youth Services Program provides health care services to students from Pre-K to 8th Grade including medical and dental care, as well as health education and prevention programs. All children in each school are eligible for services as long as a parental consent form is provided. Health Clinics are located at Quitman Street School, Dayton Street School and George Washington Carver School.

Source: Community Clinical Services Department, Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Note: The number of contacts may include multiple contacts per child.

\* Social Contacts refer to visits with a social worker. A child can initiate a social contact, or can be referred to a social worker by parents, principals or teachers.

# MENTAL HEALTH

 <b>Children Served by State Funded Mental Health Programs*</b>												
		1996					1998					
NEWARK	Primary Presenting Problem (PPP)	# of cases 0-3 yrs.	# of cases 4-5 yrs.	# of cases 6-12 yrs.	# of cases 13-18 yrs.	Total # of cases (% of total overall cases)	# of cases 0-3 yrs.	# of cases 4-5 yrs.	# of cases 6-12 yrs.	# of cases 13-18 yrs.	Total # of cases (% of total overall cases)	Total # of Cases Percent Change 1996-1998
	Assaultive Behavior/Threat	3	12	55	42	112 (7.6%)	2	7	86	68	163 (13.5%)	+45.5%
	Depression/Mood Disorder	11	8	85	162	266 (18.1%)	3	1	79	125	208 (17.2%)	-21.8%
	Developmental Disability	1	4	11	5	21 (1.4%)	1	1	2	0	4 (0.3%)	-81.0%
	Marital/Family Problem	7	23	89	74	193 (13.1%)	6	12	65	37	120 (10.0%)	-37.8%
	School Problems	0	18	210	63	291 (19.8%)	0	9	123	41	173 (14.3%)	-40.5%
	Sexual Abuse/Rape Victim	1	6	18	11	36 (2.4%)	0	3	11	7	21 (1.7%)	-41.7%
	Suicide Attempt	2	0	6	27	35 (2.4%)	0	0	14	27	41 (3.4%)	+17.1%
	Suicide Threat	4	0	38	37	79 (5.4%)	1	4	45	50	100 (8.3%)	+26.6%
	Other	29	34	187	188	438 (29.8%)	16	23	153	184	376 (31.2%)	-14.2%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>1,471 (100%)</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>1,206 (99.9%)</b>	<b>-18.0%</b>

\* NOTE: These numbers represent the primary presenting problem of children who received services from fully or partially state funded mental health programs.

These numbers do not represent the total number of children in Newark with mental health problems. See glossary for further explanation.

SOURCE: Division of Mental Health Services, NJ Department of Human Services

## Children Served by State Funded Mental Health Programs

<u>Primary Presenting Problems (PPP) at Intake*</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1998</u>
Newark's Share of Essex County Assaultive Behaviors/Threats	50.9%	58.4%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Assaultive Behaviors/Threats	4.3%	5.1%
Newark's Share of Essex County Depression/Mood Disorders	53.5%	48.9%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Depression/Mood Disorders	5.7%	3.9%
Newark's Share of Essex County Developmental Disabilities	52.5%	50.0%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Developmental Disabilities	8.4%	2.3%
Newark's Share of Essex County Marital/Family Problems	58.5%	55.3%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Marital/Family Problems	5.5%	4.0%
Newark's Share of Essex County School Problems	65.1%	47.4%
Newark's Share of New Jersey School Problems	13.8%	7.8%
Newark's Share of Essex County Sexual Abuse/Rape Victims	46.8%	45.7%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Sexual Abuse/Rape Victims	7.2%	5.3%
Newark's Share of Essex County Suicide Attempts	41.7%	51.3%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Suicide Attempts	2.1%	2.4%
Newark's Share of Essex County Suicide Threats	46.5%	57.8%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Suicide Threats	2.1%	2.6%
Newark's Share of Essex County Other PPP	50.1%	55.9%
Newark's Share of New Jersey Other PPP	5.3%	4.7%
Newark's Share of Total Essex County PPP	53.7%	53.2%
Newark's Share of Total New Jersey PPP	5.4%	4.3%

\*NOTE: These numbers represent the primary presenting problem of children who received services from fully of partially state funded mental health programs. These numbers do not represent the total number of children in Newark, Essex County and New Jersey with mental health problems. See glossary for further explanation.

SOURCE: Division of Mental Health Services, NJ Department of Human Services

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

## Newark's Children and Lead Poisoning

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
<b>Number of Children with Elevated Blood Lead (EBL)</b>	622	378	366	656	456

Essex County reported 740 children with EBL in 1999. Newark's share of Essex County children with EBL in 1999 was 61.6%. Essex County reported 1,016 children with EBL in 1998. Newark's share of Essex County children with EBL in 1998 was 64.6%.

New Jersey reported 1,604 children with EBL in 1999. Newark's share of New Jersey children with EBL in 1999 was 28.4%. New Jersey reported 2,071 children with EBL in 1998. Newark's share of New Jersey children with EBL in 1998 was 31.7%.

Note: These children were screened and tested for lead in their blood. Venous blood sample test results for these cases indicated 20 micrograms or higher of lead per deciliter of blood.

Source: "Childhood Lead Poisoning in New Jersey: Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1999", NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

## Lead Levels in Newark's Drinking Water

<b>March-April, 1998</b>	<b>0.0126 mg of Lead Per 1 L of Water (mg/L)</b>
<b>November, 1997</b>	<b>0.0096 mg of Lead Per 1 L of Water (mg/L)</b>
<b>January - June, 1992</b>	<b>0.0271 mg of Lead Per 1 L of Water (mg/L)</b>
<b><i>Acceptable Limit for Lead in Drinking Water.....0.0150 mg of Lead Per 1 L of Water (mg/L)</i></b>	

Source: Division of Sewers and Water Supply, Newark Department of Water and Sewer Utilities

### Number of Waste Sites Reported to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>% Change 1996 to 1999</u>
Newark	9	10	12	8	-11.1%
New Jersey	169	186	204	214	+26.6%

The ATSDR has the responsibility to conduct public health related activities at these sites.

***113 out of the 214 sites in New Jersey are on the National Priorities List, meaning that they are most in need of cleanup. Two (2) of these 113 sites are in Newark.***

Note: 1996 data as of April 30, 1996. 1997 data as of November 20, 1997. 1998 data as of January 26, 1999 and may include data from January, 1999. 1999 data as of December 1, 1999.

"HazDat is a scientific and administrative database developed to provide information on the release of hazardous substances from Superfund sites or from emergency events and on the health effects of hazardous substances on human populations. HazDat contains environmental and health data found in the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry public health assessments, health consultations, toxicological profiles, and other documents." - Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, July 1995.

Source: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, HazDat

### Number of Newark Vacant Lots Converted Into Active Community or School Gardens

<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
18	27	37

The Greater Newark Conservancy and collaborating partners coordinated these vacant lot conversions into gardens.

Note: These numbers are cumulative.

Source: The Greater Newark Conservancy

# EDUCATION

Number of Students Enrolled In the Newark Public Schools			
	Elementary School	High School	Total Enrollment*
<b>1998-1999</b>	33,454	9,738	43,924
<b>1997-1998</b>	33,762	10,032	44,573
<b>1996-1997</b>	34,759	10,222	44,981
<b>1995-1996</b>	34,783	11,022	45,805
<b>% Change 1995-1999</b>	-3.8%	-11.6%	-4.1%

\* Note: The Total Enrollment includes Newark evening students, home instruction and pre-Kindergarten students.

Source: The Newark Public Schools

Student Ethnic Breakdown in Newark Public Schools					% Change
	<u>1995-1996</u>	<u>1996-1997</u>	<u>1997-1998*</u>	<u>1998-1999*</u>	<u>1997 to 1999</u>
<b>Black</b>	29,018	28,614	28,102	27,935	-0.6%
<b>Hispanic</b>	12,458	12,219	12,018	12,055	-0.3%
<b>White</b>	3,956	3,757	3,651	3,575	-2.1%
<b>Other</b>	373	391	802	359	-55.2%

\* Student ethnic breakdown for 1997-1998 and 1998-1999 includes Newark evening students, home instruction and pre-Kindergarten students in the Newark Public Schools which calculates to a total enrollment of 44,573 for the 1997-1998 school year and 43,924 for the 1998-1999 school year.

Source: The Newark Public Schools

**Newark Public Schools Attendance Rate**

<u>1996-1997</u>	<u>1997-1998</u>	<u>1998-1999</u>
90.2%	90.9%	90.5%

**Number of Newark Public School Students Receiving a Reduced or Free Breakfast/Lunch at School**

1998-1999.....	35,172
1997-1998.....	36,437
1996-1997.....	27,483
1995-1996.....	33,080

% Change 1995 to 1999.....+6.3%

*80.1% of Newark Public School Students Received a Free or Reduced Breakfast/Lunch in the 1998-1999 School Year.*

**Number of Gifted and Talented Students in the Newark Public Schools**

<u>1997-1998</u>	<u>1998-1999</u>	<u>% Change 1997-1999</u>
725	1,977	+172.6%

**Number of Violent Incidents and Weapon Possessions in the Newark Public Schools**

1998-1999.....	231
1996-1997.....	366
% Change 1996 to 1999.....	-36.9%

**Student Suspensions in the Newark Public Schools**

<u>1995-1996</u>	<u>1996-1997</u>	<u>1997-1998</u>	<u>1998-1999</u>	<u>% Change 1995-1999</u>
1,855	2,354	2,410	2,402	+29.5%

**Number of Homeless Students in the Newark Public Schools**

<u>1995-1996</u>	<u>1996-1997</u>	<u>1997-1998</u>	<u>1998-1999</u>	<u>% Change 1995-1999</u>
418	421	476	490	+17.2%

**Number of Students in Newark Public Schools After School Youth Development Program**

1999-2000.....	8,000
1998-1999.....	6,500
1997-1998.....	6,500

Source: The Newark Public Schools

## Newark Public Schools Proficiency Test Scores

<b>Elementary School Proficiency Assessment (ESPA) 1998-1999</b> The ESPA is administered to 4th grade students.			
	<b>Partially Proficient</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced Proficient</b>
<b>Language Arts - Newark</b>	79%	21%	0%
<b>Language Arts - New Jersey</b>	59%	41%	1%
<b>Mathematics - Newark</b>	71%	23%	6%
<b>Mathematics - New Jersey</b>	40%	44%	16%
<b>Science - Newark</b>	46%	47%	7%
<b>Science - New Jersey</b>	14%	52%	34%

Note: "Partially Proficient" means that a child's score did not meet the state's minimum level of proficiency, based on this test administration, and may need some type of additional instructional support. The ESPA and GEPA are not promotion tests. Students do not have to "pass" the ESPA or GEPA to proceed to the next grade. The scores above are for general education and do not include special education students or limited English proficient students. See glossary for further information.


Source: The Newark Public Schools, NJ School Report Card 1998-1999 Update, NJ Department of Education

<b>Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA) 1998-1999</b> The GEPA is administered to 8th grade students.			
	<b>Partially Proficient</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced Proficient</b>
<b>Language Arts - Newark</b>	47%	52%	1%
<b>Language Arts - New Jersey</b>	22%	71%	7%
<b>Mathematics - Newark</b>	76%	22%	3%
<b>Mathematics - New Jersey</b>	38%	43%	19%

**High School Proficiency Test (HSPT)** The HSPT is administered to 11th grade students.  
The state specifies that a score of 85% is considered the minimum level of proficiency.

	1995-1996		1996-1997		1997-1998		1998-1999	
	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
<b>Reading</b>	61%	39%	61%	40%	63%	37%	54%	46%
<b>Writing</b>	67%	33%	63%	37%	61%	39%	66%	34%
<b>Mathematics</b>	60%	40%	62%	38%	50%	50%	57%	43%

Source: The Newark Public Schools, NJ School Report Card 1998-1999 Update, NJ Department of Education

 <b>Newark Public Schools Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Average Scores 1998-1999 School Year</b>		
School	Math SAT Score	Verbal SAT Score
Arts High School	408	417
Barringer High School	364	347
Central High School	350	323
East Side High School	406	377
West Kinney Alternative High School	344	354
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	349	347
Science High School	489	489
Technology High School	370	357
University High School	464	442
Weequahic High School	366	362
West Side High School	338	346

Note: 1998-1999 New Jersey Average SAT Scores: Math - 513, Verbal - 496  
Source: NJ School Report Card 1998-1999 Update, NJ Department of Education

<b>Dropout Report for High Schools in the Newark Public Schools</b>			
<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Enrollment</u>	<u>Total No. of Dropouts</u>	<u>Percent of Dropouts</u>
<b>1998-1999</b>	9,738	779	8.0%
<b>1997-1998</b>	10,032	712	7.1%
<b>1996-1997</b>	10,222	715	7.0%
<b>1995-1996</b>	11,022	881	8.0%
<b>1994-1995</b>	10,830	914	8.4%
<b>1993-1994</b>	10,803	886	8.2%
<b>1992-1993</b>	11,360	1,103	9.7%

Note: This report indicates the number of students in all high school grades who dropped out of high school in each given year.

Source: The Newark Public Schools

<b>Newark Public Schools High School Graduation Rates</b>	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1997 -1998 Average	45%
1995-1996 Average	43%
1993-1994 Average	51%

Note: This data indicates the average graduation rates for Newark High School students. Calculation for rates is as follows: number of graduates for a given year divided by the number of ninth grade students enrolled as of October 15th, four years earlier. The number of students enrolled four years earlier does not include self-contained special education students, nor does it account for inter-district transfer students (data unavailable from NJDOE). The number of graduates includes some special education students.

Source: Center for Government Services, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University

**Number of Newark Children Who Participated in Hands-on Education Programs at the New Jersey Historical Society**

<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
<b>5,392</b>	<b>6,373</b>

Source: New Jersey Historical Society

Post Graduation Plans of Newark Public Schools 1999 High School Graduates								
	4 Year College/ University	2 Year College/ University	Other College	Other Post Secondary School	Military	Full Time Employment	Unemployed	Other/ Unknown
Arts High School	65%	10%	0%	16%	0%	6%	0%	3%
Barringer High School	31%	41%	3%	12%	0%	9%	0%	4%
Central High School	17%	8%	0%	25%	0%	24%	13%	13%
East Side High School	19%	37%	0%	7%	0%	24%	0%	13%
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	35%	26%	0%	7%	0%	8%	0%	24%
Science High School	75%	8%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	15%
Technology High School	23%	38%	1%	9%	0%	13%	9%	7%
University High School	72%	10%	0%	6%	0%	4%	0%	8%
Weequahic High School	21%	27%	0%	13%	0%	12%	0%	27%
West Kinney Alternative High School	6%	50%	0%	6%	0%	28%	6%	4%
West Side High School	31%	11%	0%	13%	0%	35%	7%	3%

Note: These numbers are self reported.

Source: NJ School Report Card, 1998-1999 Update, NJ Department of Education

# JUVENILE JUSTICE

	Newark			Essex County			New Jersey		
	Part 1 Juvenile Arrests	Total Juvenile Arrests	Total Arrests	Part 1 Juvenile Arrests	Total Juvenile Arrests	Total Arrests	Part 1 Juvenile Arrests	Total Juvenile Arrests	Total Arrests
<b>1998</b>	419	2,658	33,146	1,706	8,535	49,933	17,611	76,793	439,249
<b>1997</b>	593	3,554	36,785	1,994	9,664	55,690	20,518	83,417	448,647
<b>1996</b>	614	4,102	28,851	2,214	10,366	49,666	23,085	87,906	431,710
<b>1995</b>	815	4,156	26,401	2,537	11,178	53,946	24,048	91,831	438,502
<b>1994</b>	828	3,777	23,955	2,606	11,410	47,046	23,845	90,201	410,668

Percent change in Newark Total Juvenile Arrests from 1996 to 1998.....-35.2%  
 Percent change in Newark Total Juvenile Arrests from 1994 to 1998.....-29.6%  
 Percent change in Newark Part 1 Juvenile Arrests from 1994 to 1998.....-49.4%

Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of Newark's Total Arrests in 1998.....8.0%  
 Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of Newark's Total Arrests in 1997.....9.6%  
 Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of Newark's Total Arrests in 1996.....14.2%

Newark's Part 1 Juvenile Arrests % share of Essex County's Part 1 Juvenile Arrests in 1998.....24.6%  
 Newark's Part 1 Juvenile Arrests % share of Essex County's Part 1 Juvenile Arrests in 1997.....29.7%  
 Newark's Part 1 Juvenile Arrests % share of Essex County's Part 1 Juvenile Arrests in 1996.....27.7%

Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of Essex County's Total Juvenile Arrests in 1998.....31.1%  
 Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of Essex County's Total Juvenile Arrests in 1997.....36.8%  
 Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of Essex County's Total Juvenile Arrests in 1996.....39.6%

Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of New Jersey's Total Juvenile Arrests in 1998.....3.5%  
 Newark's Total Juvenile Arrests % share of New Jersey's Total Juvenile Arrests in 1997.....4.2%

Note: Part 1 crimes are murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft. These are indictable offenses, and are punishable with at least 1 year or more in jail. The perpetrator must go in front of a Grand Jury in the County Superior Court. Total arrests represent crimes committed by both juveniles and adults.

Source: Newark Police Department, NJ Uniform Crime Reports 1994-1998.

# GLOSSARY/SOURCES

**ACNJ Child Health Survey of Newark Public School Nurses** - This survey was conducted by Association for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) in the fall of 1999 with permission from the Newark Public Schools. The purpose of the survey was to identify the current issues and concerns in child health in Newark. The survey was given to all of the Newark Public School nurses (94 nurses). There was a 49% return of the surveys (46 surveys returned).

**Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)** - Number of cases of children under 18 reported to the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services as of June 30, 1996, September 30, 1997, December 31, 1998, and September 30, 1999 (NJ Division of AIDS Prevention and Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**AFDC, Aid to Families with Dependent Children** - The number of children receiving AFDC benefits in 1996 - January, February, March average (NJ Department of Human Services).

**Asthma** - Number of children under 18 who are Newark residents who have been admitted into hospitals through the emergency room with the diagnosis of asthma in 1998. This does not include all asthma cases admitted to the emergency room (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Birth Data** - The total number of births in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997. The 1997 birth data is from a preliminary 1997 data file. All births to New Jersey residents may not be included in these preliminary numbers (Center for Health Statistics, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Births to Teens** - The number of women under 15 and 15-19 who gave birth in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services). Children born to adolescents are more likely to be of low birth weight, to have health problems, and to suffer child abuse and neglect. Adolescent parents have fewer educational and career opportunities, thus perpetuating poverty for themselves and their children.

**Child Abuse and Neglect** - The number of substantiated abuse and neglect cases in 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998. Data in 1996 may reflect changes in DYFS case handling standards. Modifications to case handling at screening and intake due primarily to workers' new consciousness of risk to children living with substance abusing parents - has increased the proportion of reports classified as abuse and neglect relative to those classified as family problems. (Division of Youth and Family Services, NJ Department of Human Services). A substantiated case is determined when a DYFS social worker establishes that a child has been physically, sexually, mentally, or emotionally abused by a parent, guardian or other adult who has control or custody of the child, and that the abuse can cause or create a substantial risk of impairment or death to the child ("Children at Risk 1993 and 1994", "Children at Risk 1995 and 1996").

**Child Deaths** - The number of children ages 1-14 who died in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services). Over one-third of child deaths are caused by motor-vehicle related injuries, infectious diseases, and other injuries, including those related to fires. These causes are related to risks in families and communities, such as the lack of well-developed interventions and services. (See Death Data). Note: Most counties and cities have relatively low numbers of child deaths.

**Children Receiving Free and Reduced Lunch/Breakfast** - Number of school age children participating in the National School Lunch Program. This benefit is based on family income guidelines and is not offered in every school district (Newark Public Schools, Bureau of Child Nutrition, NJ Department of Education).

**Communities That Care® Youth Survey Newark School District Survey of 7th and 8th Grade Students** - This report describes the conduct and findings of a survey of 7th and 8th grade students in Newark School District. The Survey was sponsored by the Newark Fighting Back program, who contracted with Developmental Research and Programs, Inc., of Seattle, Washington, to conduct the survey. The survey data were collected in May 1999. For more information or to obtain a copy of the report, call Developmental Research and Programs at (206) 286-1805.

**Density** - Number of people per square mile (Newark Police Department, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census Data, 1990).

**Death Data** - The 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 death data are from preliminary files. All 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 deaths may not be reflected in the preliminary data (Center for Health Statistics, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Elementary School Proficiency Assessment (ESPA)** - Given to 4th grade students. The ESPA measures what students know and can do in language arts literacy (reading and writing), math and science, three of the content areas covered by the state's higher core curriculum content standards. For more information about the ESPA, visit the NJ Department of Education's website at <http://www.state.nj.us/njded/cccs/index.html> (Newark Public Schools, NJ School Report Card 1998-1999 Update, NJ Department of Education).

**Family Day Care Providers** - A Family Day Care Provider may care for up to five non-resident children in her own home. Programs for Parents recruits, trains, monitors and registers Family Day Care Providers for Newark and Essex County. The registration process is voluntary. Programs for Parents is designated by the NJ Department of Human Services as the Essex County Unified Child Care Agency.

**Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** - A tax credit pro-

gram for very low income working individuals, and low to moderate income working families. For example, a family with two or more children, who earned less than \$30,580 in 1999 can earn a maximum of \$3,816 in EITC (1999 IRS Zip Code Data).

**Food Stamps** - The number of children receiving Food Stamp benefits in 1996 - January, February, March average; 1997, 1998 and 1999 - March, July, November average (NJ Department of Human Services).

**Grade Eight Proficiency Exam (GEPA)** - Given to 8th Grade students. The GEPA measures what students know and can do in language arts literacy (reading and writing) and math, two of the content areas covered by the state's higher core curriculum content standards. For more information about the GEPA, visit the NJ Department of Education's website at <http://www.state.nj.us/njded/cccs/index.html> (Newark Public Schools, NJ School Report Card 1998-1999 Update, NJ Department of Education).

**High School Graduation Rate** - This data indicates the average graduation rates for Newark High School students. Calculation for rates are as follows: number of graduates for a given year, divided by the number of ninth grade students enrolled as of October 15th, four years earlier (Center for Government Services, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University).

**High School Proficiency Test (HSPT)** - A statewide assessment test taken in grade 11. It consists of three sections-reading, writing and math. It must be passed as a requirement for a high school diploma. Data represent cumulative percentage of enrolled, eligible students and excludes special education and limited English proficiency students (Newark Public Schools).

**Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)** - Number of cases of children under 18 reported to the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services as of June 30, 1996, September 30, 1997, December 31, 1998, and September 30, 1999 (NJ Division of AIDS Prevention and Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Homelessness in America: A Children's Story Part 1** - This survey was conducted by Homes for the Homeless and the Institute for Children and Poverty in early 1999. It is a national report on the status of homeless children which explores homeless children's educational experiences, physical and emotional health, hunger and nutrition, and exposure to violence. The Institute for Children and Poverty is the research and training division of Homes for the Homeless, which operates residential and family-based educational programs at its four American Family Inns in New York City (Homes for the Homeless and the Institute for Children and Poverty, 1999).

**Infant Mortality Rate** - The number of infants per 1,000 who died before their first birthday in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (Center for Health Statistics, NJ Department of Health and

Senior Services). High rates of infant mortality are indicative of poor access to health care, lack of prenatal care, birth defects (including those caused by prenatal exposure to alcohol and drugs), and high rates of poverty.

**Juvenile Arrest** - The number of juveniles arrested (ages 10-17) in 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998. The increase in Newark total arrests or the decline in Newark juvenile arrests could be attributed to increased numbers of police officers patrolling the city ("Crime in New Jersey, Uniform Crime Report" and Newark Police Department).

**Lead Poisoning** - Children who have tested at or above 20 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood are considered to have unacceptably high levels of lead in their blood. Lead poisoning in children can lead to several health and developmental problems in life (Newark Department of Health, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Licensed Child Care Centers** - Number of licensed child care centers in Newark that are currently licensed by the NJ Bureau of Licensing at the Division of Youth and Family Services (Division of Youth and Family Services, NJ Department of Human Services).

**Low Birth Weight** - Percentage of babies born weighing below 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.) in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services). These babies have a higher death rate (see Infant Mortality Indicator) and are more likely to develop disabilities which create a greater need for medical services, special education, and lifelong support services.

**Low Birth Weight by Mother Drinking Alcohol During Pregnancy** - Number of low birth weight babies in 1997 whose mothers reported drinking alcohol during the pregnancy. These numbers are self reported (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services Birth Certificate File and Center for Health Statistics).

**Low Birth Weight by Mother Smoking During Pregnancy** - Number of low birth weight babies in 1997 whose mothers reported smoking during the pregnancy. These numbers are self reported (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services Birth Certificate File and Center for Health Statistics).

**Median Household Income** - U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 1990.

**No Prenatal Care** - Percentage of all children born in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 whose mothers reported receiving no prenatal medical care (Center for Health Statistics, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services). Such children are more likely to be of low birth weight (see Low Birth Weight indicator). Mothers who do not receive prenatal care have higher rates of maternal death, illness and complications, all of which have adverse implications for the child.

**Out of Home Placements** - The number of children placed in settings such as foster care, residential care or other out of home placements in 1995, 1996, 1998 and 1999. Newark data

represent numbers as of July, 1995, 1996, 1998 and 1999 (Division of Youth and Family Services, NJ Department of Human Services). Children who are placed in such a setting often lack the stability of a nurturing home life.

**Per Capita Income** - U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census 1990.

**Population Statistics** - U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Census Data, 1990 and Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 1998, 2000.

**Poverty Level** - Defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as the threshold for the distribution of AFDC/TANF and Food Stamp Benefits.

**Primary Presenting Problem (PPP)** - The Primary Presenting Problem of children admitted to mental health programs partially or fully funded by the state of New Jersey in 1996 and 1998. These numbers do not represent all children in mental health facilities, or the number of children in need of mental health services (Division of Mental Health Services, NJ Department of Human Services).

**Registered Voters** - Commissioner of Registrations Office, County of Essex, as of October 23, 1996, September 22, 1997, October, 1998 and December 29, 1999.

**Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)** - Data represent average scores for high schools for the 1998-1999 school year. This test is used as selection criteria for admittance into most colleges and universities (New Jersey School Report Card 1998-1999 Update, NJ Jersey Department of Education).

**School Based Youth Service Health Clinic Data** - The School Based Youth Services Program provides health care services to students from Pre-K to 8th Grade including medical and dental care, as well as health education and prevention programs. All children in each school are eligible for services as long as a parental consent form is provided. Health Clinics are located at Quitman Street School, Dayton Street School and George Washington Carver School (Community Clinical Services Department, Children's Hospital of NJ at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center).

**Sexually Transmitted Diseases** - Reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases for children under 19 to the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services for 1996, 1997 and 1998. These were obtained directly from the lab reports regardless of whether children received treatment. In other words, the data show all reported cases, not just those receiving treatment (Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Program, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Student Enrollment** - Number of students and ethnic breakdown in the Newark Public Schools in 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 (Newark Public Schools).

**TANF, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families** - The number of children receiving TANF benefits in 1997, 1998 and

1999 - March, July, November average (NJ Department of Human Services).

**Teen Deaths** - The number of adolescents (ages 15-19) who died in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (Center for Health Statistics, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services). A high percentage of adolescent deaths are caused by motor vehicle-related injuries, homicide, suicide, and other high risk behaviors. These causes are associated with risks in their families and communities, such as the lack of well-developed interventions and services. (See Death Data). Note: Most counties and cities have relatively low numbers of teen deaths.

**Tuberculosis** - Number of children under 18 who meet the Centers for Disease Control criteria for verified active tuberculosis cases per 100,000 in 1996, 1997 and 1998 (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, TB Program).

**Unmarried Mothers** - Percentage of births in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 to unmarried mothers (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**Vaccination Coverage Levels** - Percent of two year old children receiving the complete series of 4 doses of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine; 3 doses of the poliovirus vaccine; and 1 dose of the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine. Two-year olds are defined as children ages 19-35 months (Centers for Disease Control, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, June, 1996, July, 1997, July, 1998 and September, 1999).

**Violent Incidents and Weapon Possessions in the Newark Public Schools** - Violent Incidents are defined as simple assaults, aggravated assaults, fighting, verbal threats and teacher confrontations. Weapon Possessions are defined as possession of a firearm or other weapon (Newark Public Schools).

**Wastes Sites** - Number of reported wastes sites to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), HazDat as of April 30, 1996 and November 20, 1997. 1998 data as of January 26, 1999 and may include early 1999 data. 1999 data as of December 1, 1999. These listed sites may not necessarily be hazardous to the public. Anyone concerned about the hazardous or nonhazardous status of a particular site should contact the ATSDR.

**Water Lead Levels** - The acceptable limit for lead in drinking water is 0.0150 mg of Lead per 1 L of water (Division of Sewers and Water Supply, Newark Department of Water and Sewer Utilities).

**WIC** - A special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children which provides food and nutrition screening and education to at-risk, low-income pregnant women, new mothers, infants and children under age five. Data is for the quarter ending June 30, 1996, the quarter ending June 30, 1997, the quarter ending June 30, 1998 and the quarter ending January 1, 1999 (NJ Department of Health and Senior Services).

**For more information about  
the Newark Kids Count Initiative, please contact  
Gina Lucas or Becky Cheslow at ACNJ at  
(973) 643-3876, or E-mail at [ginal@acnj.org](mailto:ginal@acnj.org)**

**Newark Kids Count 2000 is also  
available at ACNJ's website at  
[www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)**

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