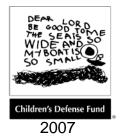
# **Cradle to Prison Pipeline Utah**



# Poverty

Poverty is the largest driving force of the Cradle to Prison Pipeline crisis.

- In Utah, among all children, 1 in 9 (10.9 percent or 79,854) was poor.
  - o For **Latino** children **2 in 7** (27.8 percent or 26,791) were poor.
  - o For **White**, non-Latino children **1 in 13** (7.6 percent or 44,598) was poor.
  - o For American Indian/Alaska Native children 1 in 3 (32.8 percent or 3,346) was poor.
  - o For **Asian** children **1 in 13** (7.5 percent or 772) was poor.
- In Utah, a baby is born poor every hour.
  - o A Latino baby is born poor every 4 hours.
  - o A White, non-Latino baby is born poor every 3 hours.
  - o An American Indian/Alaska Native baby is born poor every 2 days.
  - o An **Asian** baby is born poor every **9 hours**.

# Health Care

Disadvantages in health care increase the risk that poor children and particularly poor children of color will be trapped in the pipeline.

- In 2005, an estimated **86,000 children (11.0%)** were **uninsured** in Utah.
- In 2004, **3,379 babies (6.7%)** were born at **low birthweight** in Utah. This included:
  - o 10.8% of Black, non-Latino babies:
  - o 7.6% of Latino babies; and,
  - o 6.3% of White, non-Latino babies.
- 31.9% of two-year-olds in Utah did not receive all recommended immunizations in 2005.

# Early Childhood

Children who do not participate in high-quality early education have higher rates of juvenile delinquency, arrests, and juvenile court petitions.

- In the 2004-2005 school year, **7.0% of 3-year-olds** and **14.5% of 4-year-olds** were enrolled in **state-funded preschool programs** in **Utah**.
- In 2005, 5,518 children were enrolled in Head Start and Early Head Start in Utah. Of these:
  - o 1.3% were Black, non-Latino;
  - o 39.7% were Latino; and,
  - o 48.3% were White, non-Latino.

# Child Welfare

Children in foster care or with a history of abuse and neglect are at higher risk of being trapped in the pipeline.

- In 2003, there were **2,033 children in foster care** in Utah.
- In 2004, there were **13,559 victims of child maltreatment** in Utah.

# Education

Educational disadvantages make it more likely that children will enter the juvenile justice system.

- In 2005, a disproportionate number of Black and Latino fourth graders could not read at grade level. In Utah:
  - o 86% of Latino and
  - o 62% of White, non-Latino fourth graders could not read at grade level.
- Students who are suspended or expelled are more likely than their peers to drop out of school altogether. In Utah:
  - o For every 100 Black students enrolled, there were 7.5 suspensions.
  - o For every 100 Latino students enrolled, there were 7.5 suspensions.
  - o For every 100 White students enrolled, there were 3.1 suspensions.
  - o For every 100 American Indian/Alaska Native students enrolled, there were 4.9 suspensions.
  - o For every 100 Asian students enrolled, there were 5.4 suspensions.
- In Utah, 8.8% of youth ages 16 to 19 were neither enrolled in school nor high school graduates.

# Juvenile Justice System and Incarceration

Children of color are disproportionately represented in both the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

- In Utah, there were **26,481 juvenile arrests** in 2005.
- Of the estimated **954 youth in residential placement in Utah** in 2003:
  - o 36 (3.8%) were Black, non-Latino;
  - o 186 (19.5%) were Latino; and,
  - o 672 (70.4%) were White, non-Latino.
- There were 168 youth under age 18 incarcerated in adult correctional facilities in Utah.
- Utah spends 7.8 times as much per prisoner as per public school pupil.

# Community Violence

Between 1979 and 2004, gunfire killed 101,413 children and teens in America, destroying countless families and communities.

- In 2004, **15 children and teenagers** in Utah **died of firearm injuries**, including: **4 homicides** and 11 suicides.
- In 2005, 25.9% of Utah's high school students were involved in a physical fight.
- In 2005, 9.8% of Utah's high school students were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property.
- 17.7% of Utah's high school students carried a weapon 2 or more times in the preceding month.

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