THE STATE OF BABIES IN OHIO

Thank you to the Health Policy Institute of Ohio (HPIO) for analyzing and compiling all data shared in this factsheet. The data is from HPIO’s 2021 Health Value Dashboard and a presentation prepared and delivered by HPIO at the 2021 State of Babies convening hosted by Groundwork Ohio on Friday, March 12, 2021.

1. Ohio ranks poorly on key indicators of early child health and well-being.

**Health & Healthcare Outcomes**

- **Infant Mortality:** 42nd out of 51
- **Low Birth Weight:** 31st out of 51
- **Prenatal care:** 25th out of 51

**Social & Economic Outcomes**

- **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs):** 39th out of 51
- **Child Poverty:** 36th out of 51

41.2% of Ohio children entered kindergarten demonstrating readiness in the 2019-2020 school year.

**Physical Environment Outcomes**

- **Housing with a Lead Risk:** 43rd out of 51
- **Child in household with a person who smokes:** 36th out of 51
Large disparities exist across key indicators.

**Infant Mortality:**
Ohio’s Rate per 1,000 births, by race

- Black: 14.2
- White: 6.4

State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) target: 6

**Low Birth Weight:**
Ohio, 2019

- Black: 13.6%
- White: 10%
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 9.9%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 7.8%
- Hispanic: 7.3%

Black: 1.9 times more
White: 1.9 times more
American Indian or Alaskan Native: 1.4 times more
Asian or Pacific Islander: 1.4 times more
Hispanic: 1.4 times more

**Child Poverty:**
% of Ohio children in a household with income below the federal poverty threshold, 2015-2019

- Black: 43.1%
- Hispanic: 32.3%
- White: 14.5%

Black: 3 times more
Hispanic: 1.8 times more
White: 1.8 times more

**Food Insecurity:**
Ohio Families that “sometimes” or “often” cannot afford enough to eat, 2016-2019

- By race/ethnicity:
  - Black: 17.5%
  - Hispanic: 12.5%
  - White: 4.5%

Black: 3.9 times more
Hispanic: 3.9 times more
White: 3.9 times more

- By income:
  - Black: 21%
  - Hispanic: 12.5%
  - White: 4%

Black: 13.1 times more
Hispanic: 13.1 times more
White: 13.1 times more

**Adverse Childhood Experiences:**
% of Ohio children who experienced two or more ACEs Ohio, 2016-2019

- Black: 42.9%
- Hispanic: 36.8%
- White: 23.8%

Black: 1.8 times more
Hispanic: 1.8 times more
White: 1.8 times more

**Kindergarten Readiness:**
% of Ohio kindergarteners not demonstrating readiness, 2019-2020

- Black: 74.3%
- Hispanic: 72.1%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 57.8%
- White: 52.6%

Black: 1.4 times more
Hispanic: 1.4 times more
Asian or Pacific Islander: 1.4 times more
White: 1.4 times more
3. **Childhood adversity & trauma have long-term health & economic impacts.**

**ACEs with significant health impacts:**

**ABUSE**
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse

**HOUSEHOLD CHALLENGES**
- Substance use in the household
- Mental illness in the household
- Incarcerated member of household

**NEGLECT**
- Emotional neglect
- Physical neglect

---

**Many of Ohio’s children experience early adversity & trauma.**
Ohio’s rank compared to other states (and D.C.):

- **ACEs:** Percent of children who have experienced two or more adverse experiences (2018-2019)
  - 39th out of 51
- **Child Abuse & Neglect:** Number of reported and substantiated child maltreatment victims, per 1,000 children (FY 2018)
  - 28th out of 51
- **Adult Poverty:** Percent of people, ages 18 and older, in households with incomes below the federal poverty level (2019)
  - 32nd out of 51
- **Child Poverty:** Percent of people under age 18, in households with incomes below the federal poverty level (2019)
  - 36th out of 51

**Potential impact of preventing exposure to ACEs on six health outcomes in Ohio**

- Depression: 36% potentially preventable
- Smoking: 33% potentially preventable
- Inability to afford care: 25% potentially preventable
- Asthma: 24% potentially preventable
- COPD: 20% potentially preventable
- Heavy drinking: 19% potentially preventable

**If adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) were eliminated:**

- More than **$10 billion a year** in healthcare spending could be saved in Ohio.
- **$319 million in lost wages** could be eliminated each year in Ohio.

**Data source:**
- Health Policy Institute of Ohio, 2021 Health Value Dashboard

Join us & explore more resources! ReadySetSoarOH.org @ReadySetSoarOH