

# Family Environment & Resources

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*Tate's Family 2003*



*Tate's and Taylor's Family 2005*



# Births to Teens 15–17

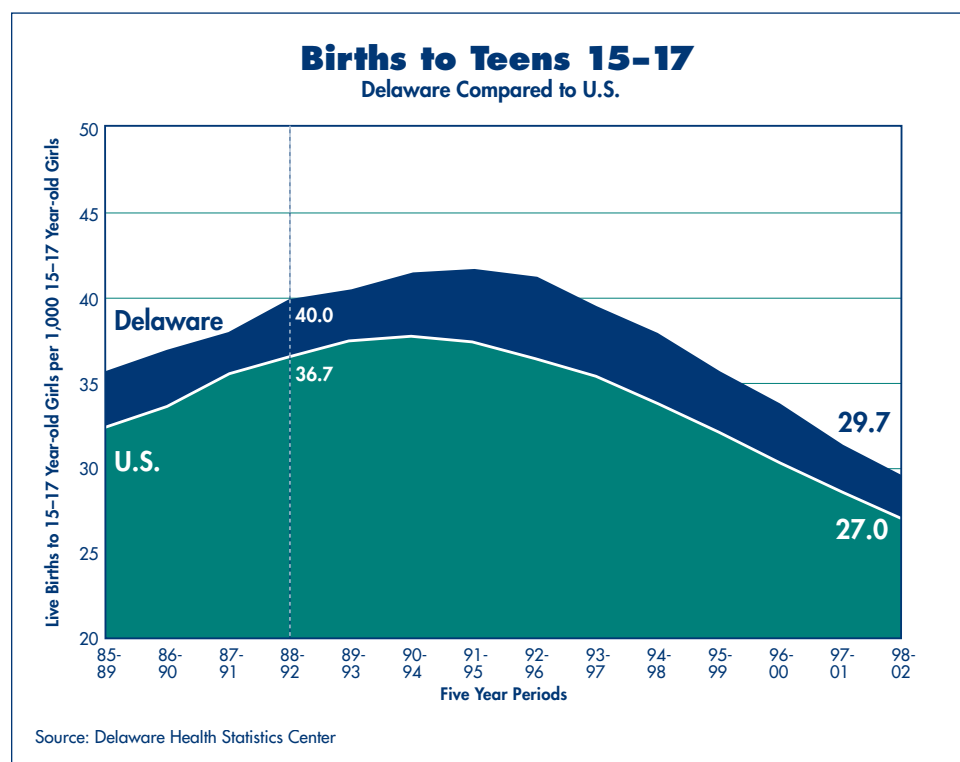
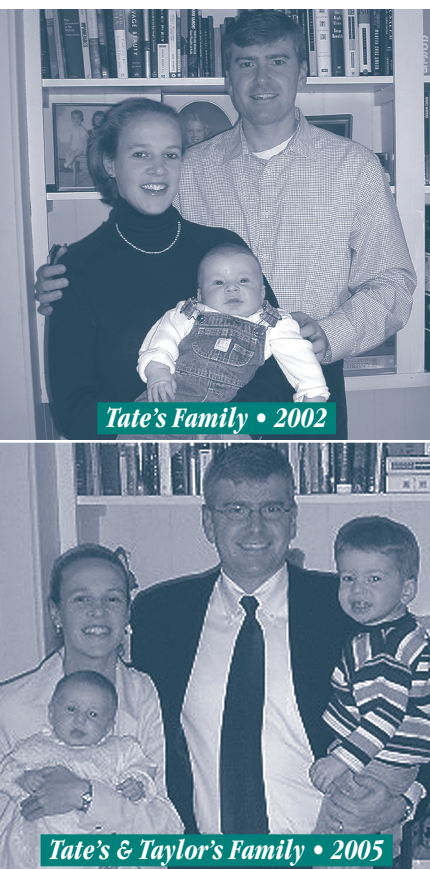


Teen pregnancy not only affects teenagers and their children, but also society as a whole. On average, teenage births costs taxpayers over \$7 billion each year in direct costs associated with health care, foster care, criminal justice, and public assistance, as well as lost tax revenues.<sup>1</sup> A cost benefit analysis suggests that even if the government spent eight times more than it is currently spending now on teen pregnancy prevention, it would still break even.<sup>1</sup> Teen parents, as well as their children, are also less likely to graduate from high school. In fact, less than 4 out of 10 teen mothers who have children before age 18 ever complete high school.<sup>1</sup>

In addition, children of teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely and at low birth weight, raising the probability of infant death, blindness, deafness, chronic respiratory problems, mental retardation, mental illness, cerebral palsy, dyslexia, and hyperactivity.<sup>2</sup> The children generally have less stimulating home environments and poorer academic and behavioral outcomes than children born to older mothers.<sup>2</sup> Males born to teenage mothers are 13% more likely to be incarcerated while females are more likely to initiate sex at an early age, which often results in another teen birth.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Not Just Another Single Issue. (Feb 2002). The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Available at: [www.teenpregnancy.org](http://www.teenpregnancy.org)

<sup>2</sup> Teen Births. Child Trends Data Bank. (2004) Available at: [www.childtrendsdatabank.org](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org).



## Did you know?

- Since 1991, overall teen birth rates have declined by nearly a third and the 2002 birth rate for teen females between the ages of 15 and 19 was the lowest ever reported in the United States.<sup>1</sup>
- 53% of the decline in pregnancy rates may be attributed to a decrease in sexual experience and 47% to improved contraceptive use.<sup>2</sup>
- Despite recent declines in teen birth rates, the United States still has the highest rates of teen pregnancy, birth, and abortion in the world.<sup>3</sup>

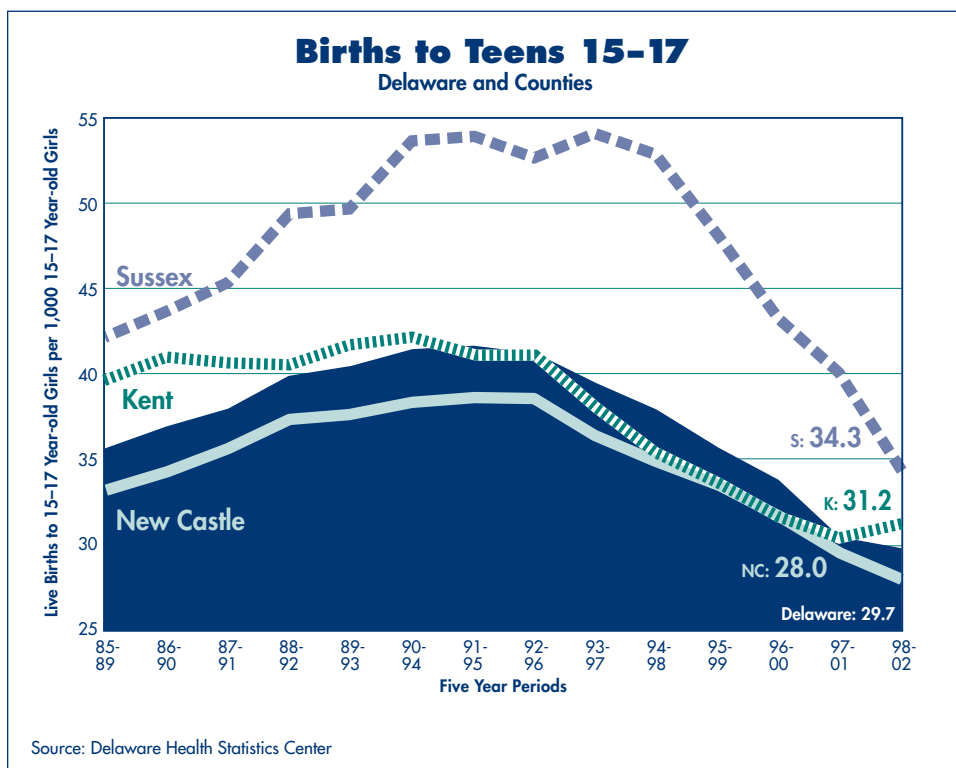
<sup>1</sup> Teen Births. Child Trends Data Bank. (2004) Available at: [www.childtrendsdatabank.org](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org).

<sup>2</sup> Journal of Adolescent Health. (July 2004).

<sup>3</sup> Not Just Another Single Issue. (Feb 2002). The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Available at: [www.teenpregnancy.org](http://www.teenpregnancy.org)

**Definition**  
**Birth Rate**— number of births per 1,000 females in the same group





### Did you know?

Research shows that teenagers who view sexual content on television, even if it only involves characters talking about sex, are twice as likely to begin having intercourse within a year as teens who do not watch such content.

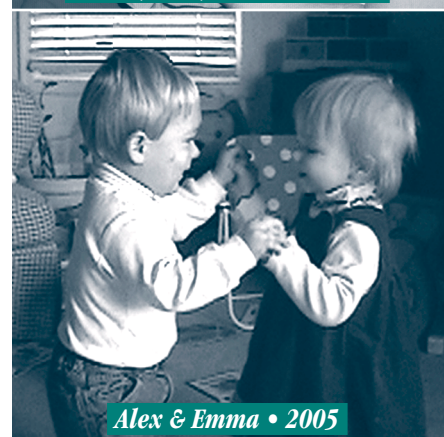
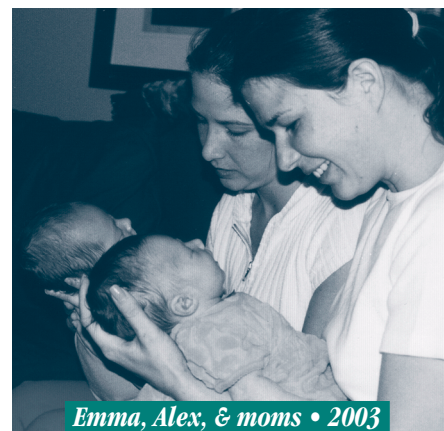
Source: Health Day. Sexual Content on TV Spurs Teens into Action. (Sept 2004). Available at: [www.healthday.com](http://www.healthday.com)

#### put data into action

The following are different ways to help prevent teen pregnancy:

- Create a multi-media awareness campaign. Radio and television can be used to highlight the consequences of teen sex as well as the importance of facilitating open communication between teens and parents.
- Educate parents and the surrounding community. Hold parent workshops at local schools, create or hand out existing guidebooks to parents, and teach strategies that will enable parents to create an open dialog.
- Start a peer education program. Train college aged students about teen pregnancy prevention and allow them to speak at local churches, schools, and community centers.
- Get professional training. Attend workshops held by prominent sexual education speakers or others who can explain new methodologies for decreasing teen pregnancy.
- Ensure supportive health services are available. Allow teens to have knowledge of and access to supportive health services when they need it.
- Work to develop new or enhance existing public policy. Work with other child advocates to create policy statements and information on teen pregnancy.
- Support the 5th Annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (May 5th, 2005). Work with [www.teenpregnancy.org](http://www.teenpregnancy.org) to encourage teens to quiz themselves on their sexual knowledge or start your own program.

Source: Teen Pregnancy Prevention. (2003). Family Health Council, Inc.

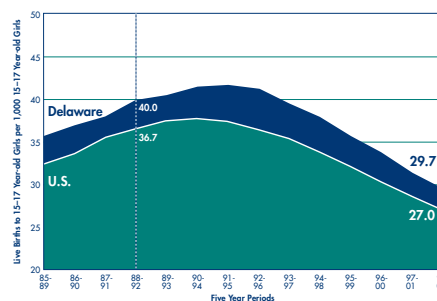




# Births to Teens 15–19

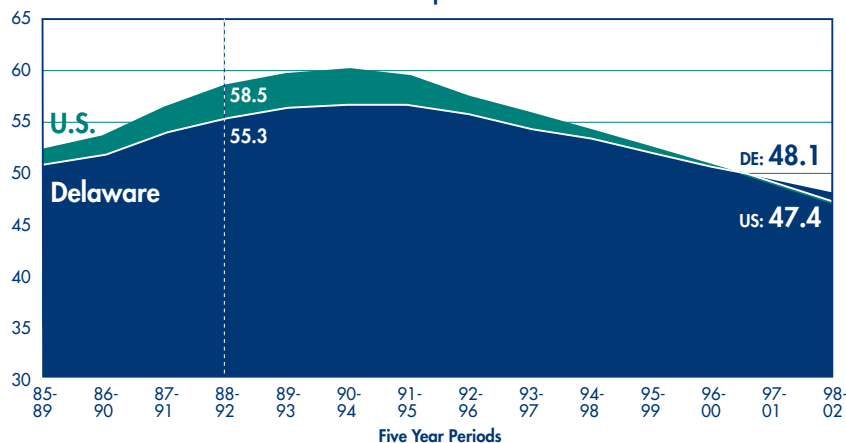
The overall birth rate for Delaware teens ages 15–19 is slightly higher than the United States rate. Birth rates for teens in Sussex County as well as in the City of Wilmington are coming down but continue to be much higher than the Delaware rate.

## Births to Teens 15–17



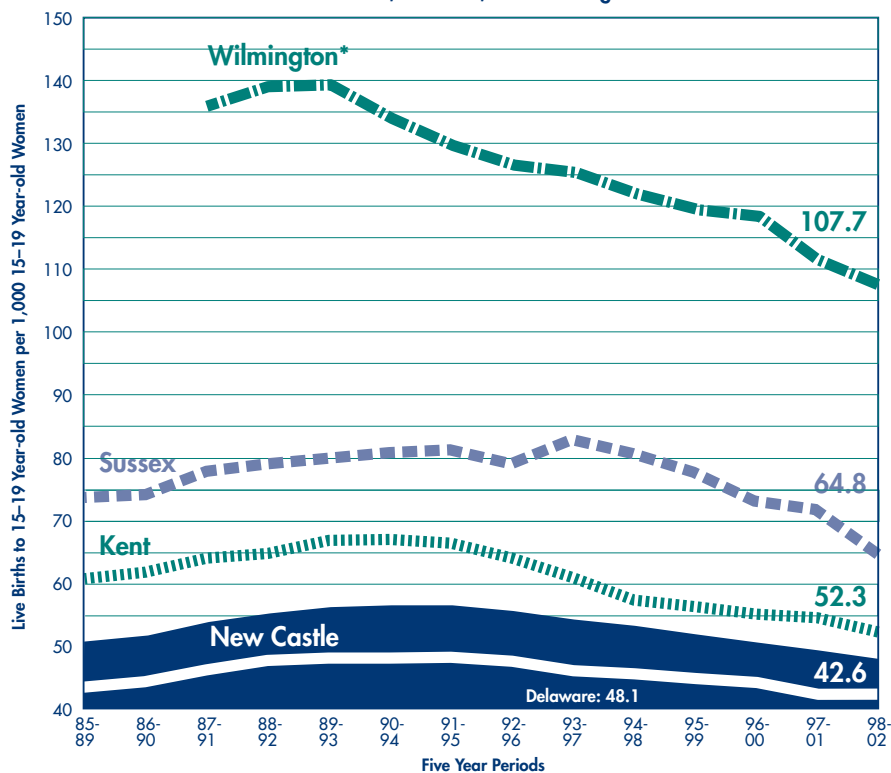
## Births to Teens 15–19

Delaware Compared to U.S.



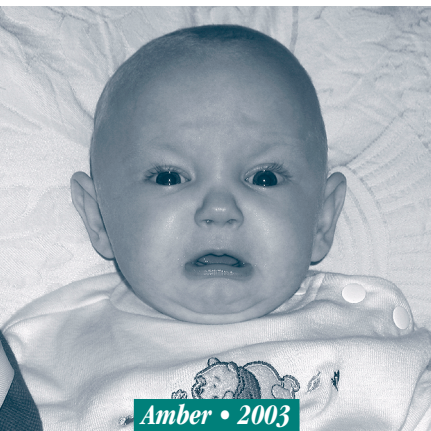
## Births to Teens 15–19

Delaware, Counties, and Wilmington

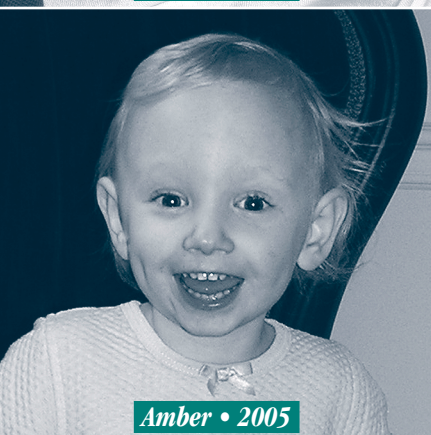


Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

\* Wilmington data are not available before the 1987–1991 period.

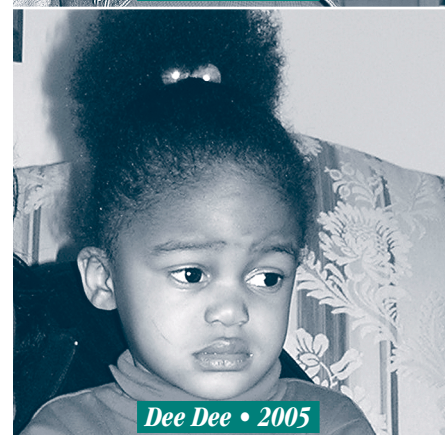
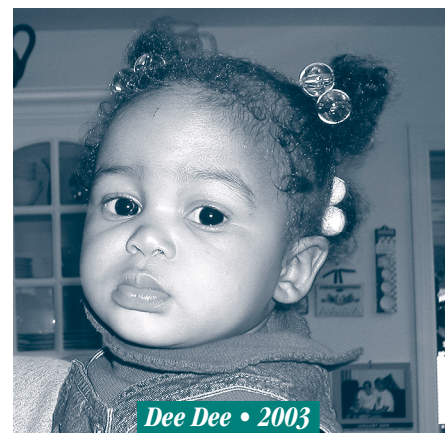
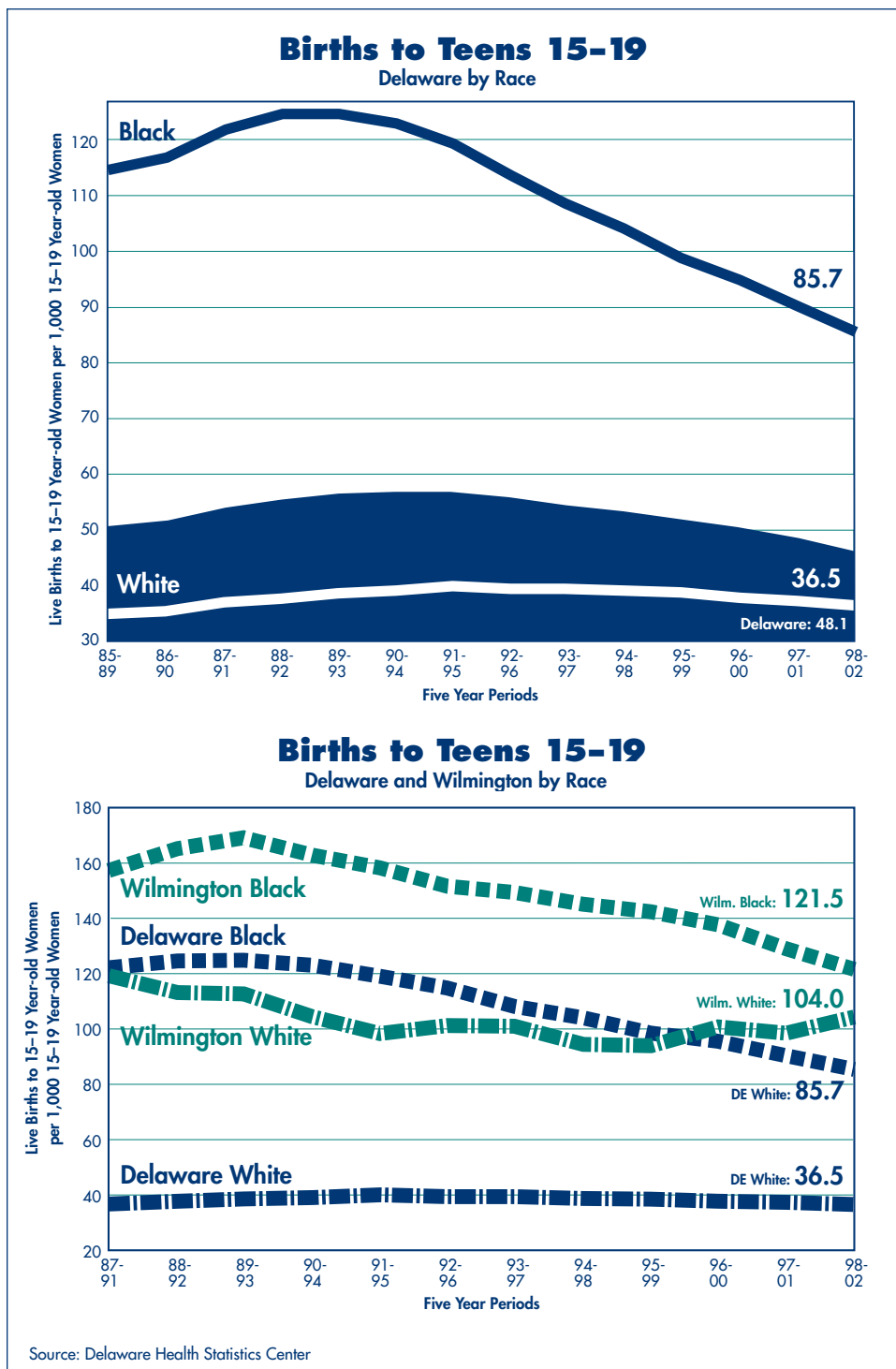


Amber • 2003



Amber • 2005





### Did you know?

- Almost 80% of fathers with children born to teen mothers do not marry the mothers. On average, these fathers pay less than \$800 annually in child support, often due to their own poverty. <sup>1</sup>
- One in five of teen births occur to young women who have already had a baby in their teens. One in four have the second child within 24 months. <sup>2</sup>
- 52% of all mothers on welfare had their first child as a teenager. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Not Just Another Single Issue. (Feb 2002). The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Available at: [www.teenpregnancy.org](http://www.teenpregnancy.org)

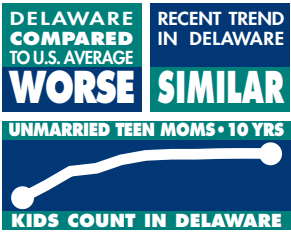
<sup>2</sup> Teen Births. Child Trends Data Bank. (2004) Available at: [www.childtrendsdatabank.org](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org).

#### For more information see

Table 10	p. 125
Tables 14-15	p. 128-129
Table 17	p. 131
Tables 55-60	p. 150-154
Table 66	p. 157
<a href="http://www.teenpregnancy.org">www.teenpregnancy.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.agi-usa.org">www.agi-usa.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.agi-usa.org/sections/youth.html">www.agi-usa.org/sections/youth.html</a>	
<a href="http://www.agi-usa.org/pubs/fb_teen_sex.html">www.agi-usa.org/pubs/fb_teen_sex.html</a>	



# Births to Unmarried Teens



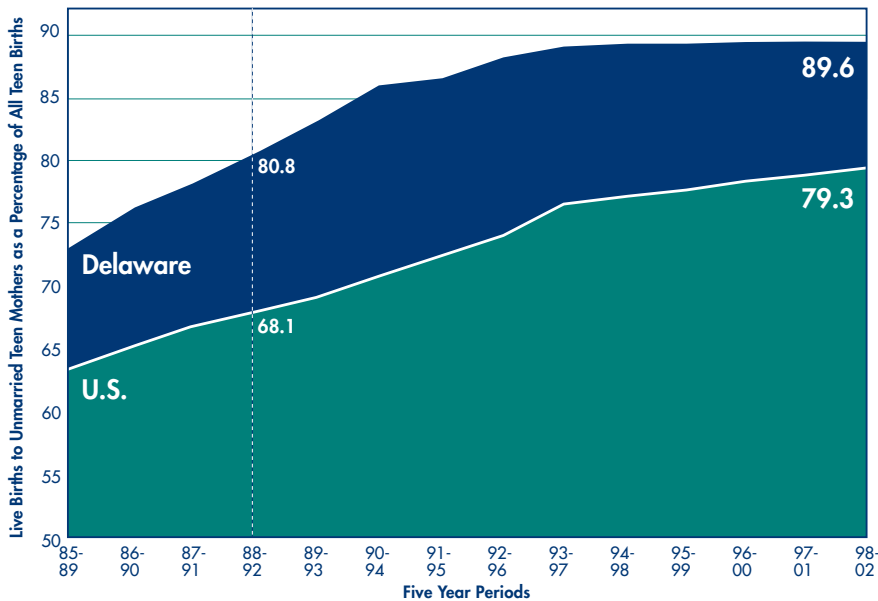
## Did you know?

Children who are born to single females, regardless of age, are considerably more likely than children born to two parents to grow up poor, to spend large portions of their childhood without parents, and to become single parents themselves.

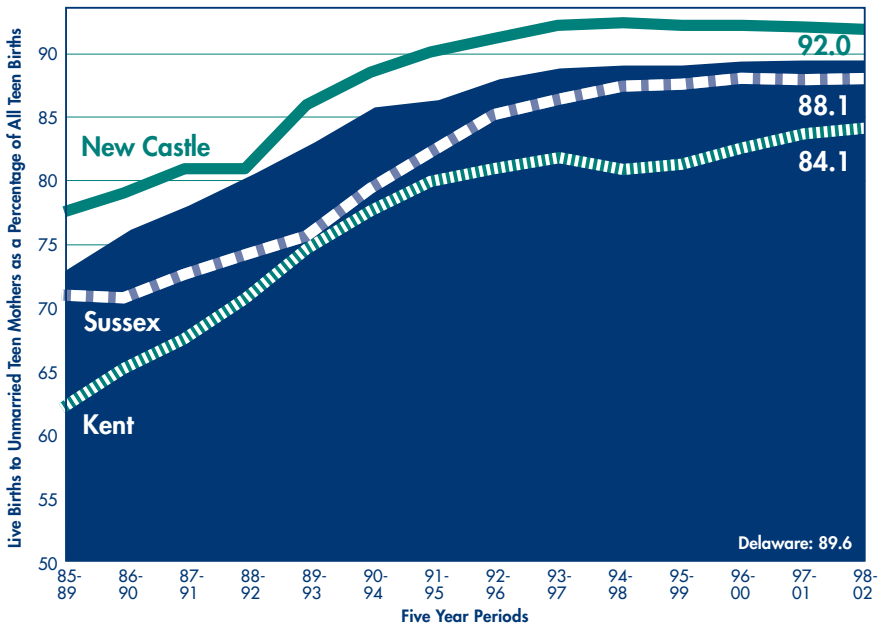
Source: US Department of Health and Human Services (2002). Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth.



**Births to Unmarried Teen Mothers**  
Delaware Compared to U.S.



**Births to Unmarried Teen Mothers**  
Delaware and Counties



Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center

For more information see

Table 52

p. 144



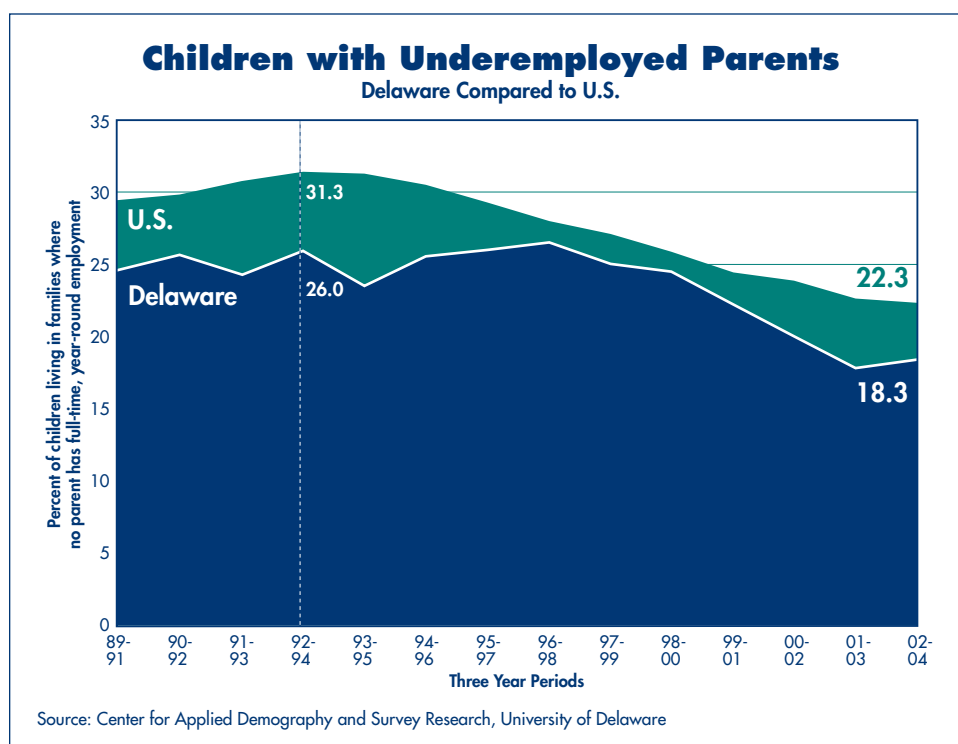
# No Parent with Full-time Employment

*Full-time, year-round employment is a major determinant not only of financial stability, but also of family well-being. Lacking this type of employment can decrease positive child outcomes, including access to health care, adequate and stable housing, proper nutrition, and academic ability and achievement. It also impacts the financial well-being of adults.<sup>1</sup>*

*For the past three years in the U.S., parental unemployment has been on the rise. From June 2002 to June 2003, a 51% increase in parents suffering from long-term unemployment (24 months or longer) was noted. This number is more than triple the level in June 2001. During this same period, the number of unemployed single mothers also increased by 180,000.<sup>2</sup> Without full-time employment for at least one parent, many of a child's basic needs become hard to attain.*

1 Secure Parental Employment (2004). Child Trends Databank. Available at: [www.childtrendsdatabank.org/employment.cfm](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/employment.cfm)

2 Source: Number of families Suffering Long-Term Unemployment Soars (August 2003). Child Defense Fund. Available at: [www.childdefense.org](http://www.childdefense.org)



## Did you know?

- 53% of low-income parents who only worked full-time for part of the year reported they could not find full-year work.
- More than a third (37%) of low-income parents working part-time reported they could not find full-time work.
- 45% of low-income parents with no employment reported they were not working because they were taking care of their families.
- An additional 31% of low-income parents with no employment reported they had an illness or disability that kept them from working.
- In Delaware, 26% (6,834) of low-income families include only parents who are employed either part-year or part-time.

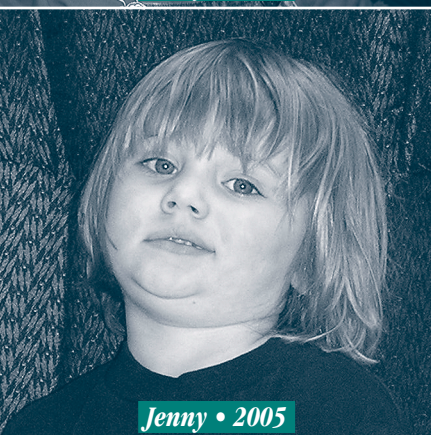
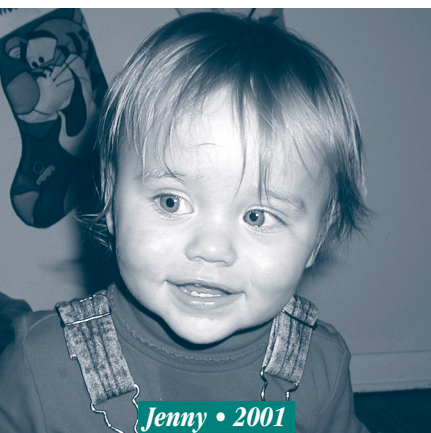
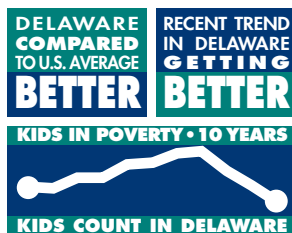
Source: National Center for Children in Poverty (2004). Parental Employment in Low-Income Families: Fact Sheet. Available at: [www.nccp.org/](http://www.nccp.org/)



For more information see

Table 61	p. 155
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# Children in Poverty

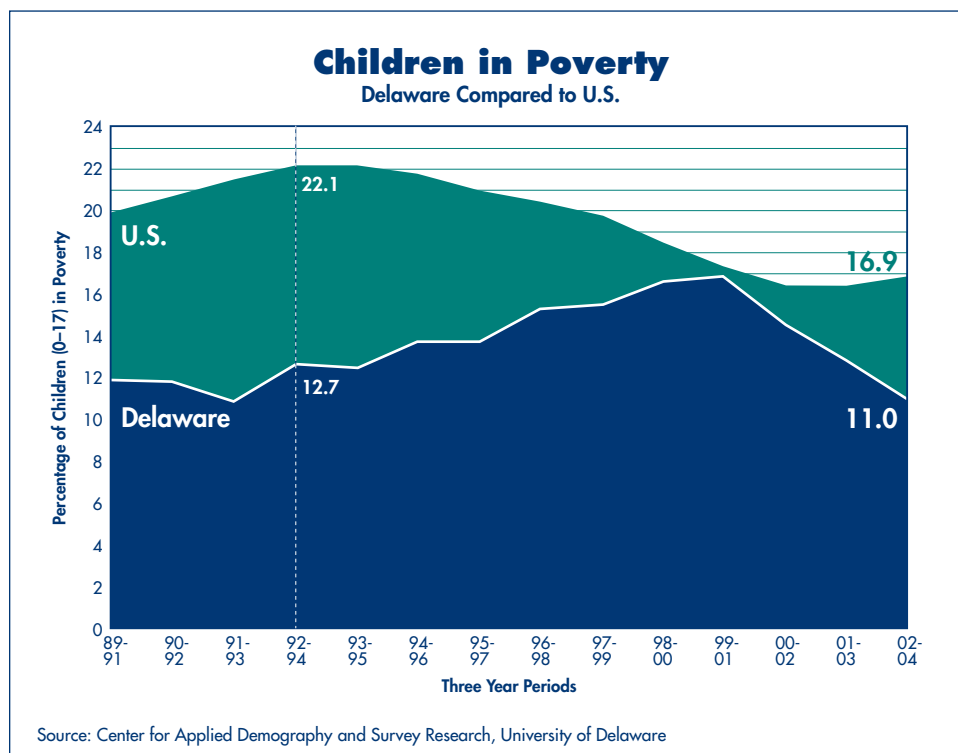


Poverty is not just an issue of income. It represents a myriad of issues, including insufficient income, jobs with limited opportunity, inadequate housing, lack of health insurance, insufficient education, and poor nutrition.<sup>1</sup> Children living in poverty are placed at an unfair disadvantage for future opportunities. In addition, children who are poor are 1.6 times as likely to die in infancy, 1.8 times as likely to be born premature, 1.9 times as likely to have a low birth weight, 2.7 times as likely to have no regular source of health care, 2.8 times as likely to have inadequate prenatal care, and 8 times as likely to have inadequate food within the last 4 months than children not living in poverty.<sup>1</sup>

From 2002 to 2003, the U.S. poverty rate rose from 16.7 to 17.6 percent and the number of children under 18 who live in poverty rose from 12.1 to 12.9 million.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the poverty rate of these children remained higher than that of individuals between the ages of 18 and 64 and those over 65 (10.8 percent and 10.2 percent respectively).<sup>2</sup> In 2003, living in poverty was defined as \$14,824 for a family of three and \$18,660 for a family of four.<sup>1</sup> Studies suggest, however, that these levels of income may still be inadequate to cover a family's basic expenses.<sup>1</sup>

1 Defining Poverty and Why it Matters to Children (Aug 2004). Children's Defense Fund. Available at: <http://www.childrensdefense.org>

2 Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the US (2003). U.S. Census Bureau. Available at: <http://www.census.gov>



## Did you know?

- Children under 18 are more likely than adults to be poor.
- In 2002, 13% of white children and 11% of Asian children lived in poor families, compared with 32 % of black children and 28% of Hispanic children.
- Children have a higher likelihood of being poor if they live in single-mother families than if they live in married-couple families. In 2002, 40% of children living in single-mother families were poor, compared with 9% of children living in married-couple families.
- Children under age six are more likely than children ages 6 to 17 to live below the poverty line (19% versus 15%).

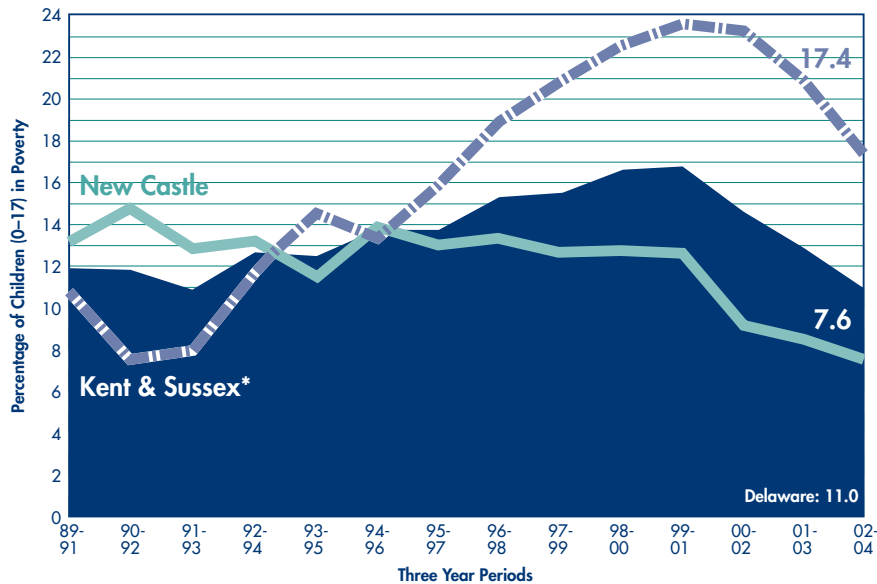
Source: Children in Poverty (2003). Child Trends Data Bank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/4Poverty.cfm>

**Definition**

**Children in Poverty** – in 2004 the poverty threshold for a one-parent, two child family was \$15,219. For a family of four with two children, the threshold was \$19,157.



## Children in Poverty Delaware and Counties

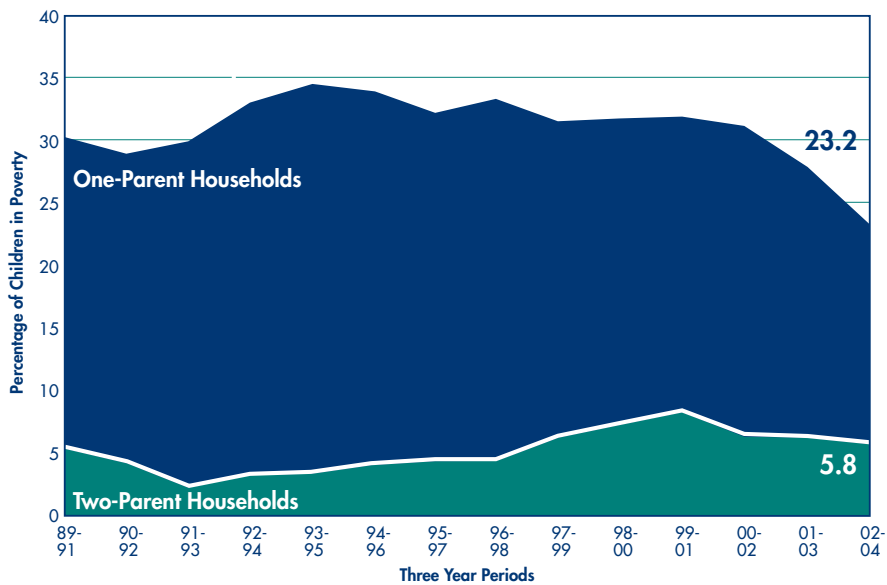


\* Kent and Sussex County data are not available separately.

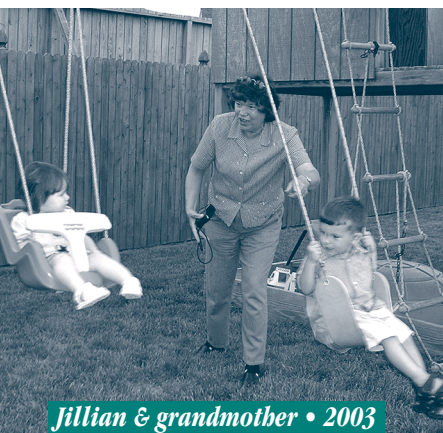
Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware



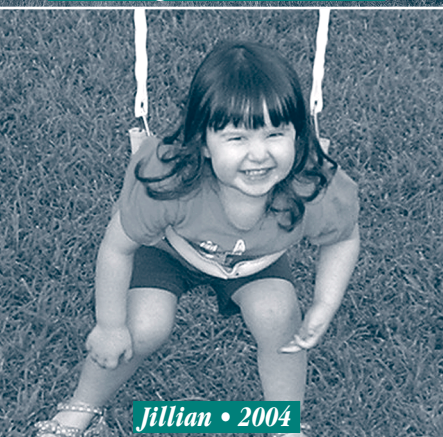
## Children in Poverty by Household Structure Delaware



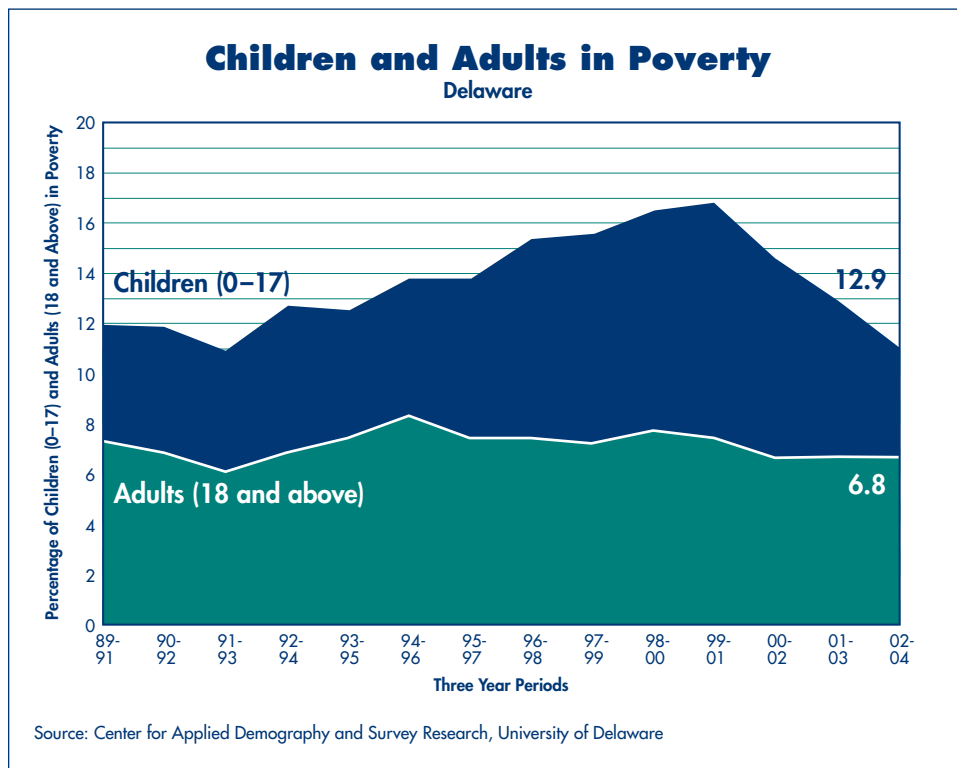
Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware



Jillian & grandmother • 2003



Jillian • 2004



## Did you know?

Childhood poverty is associated with:

- Lower cognitive abilities, lower school achievement, and impaired health and development for younger children.
- Lower probability of graduating from high school.
- Increased likelihood for behavioral and emotional problems.
- Lower adult occupational status and a lower wage rate as an adult.

In addition, these problems are correspondingly worse for children living in severe poverty (less than 50% of the poverty threshold).

Source: Children in Poverty (2003). Child Trends Data Bank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/4Poverty.cfm>

## put data into action

Reducing childhood poverty through public policy involves:

1. Become involved locally, nationally, and internationally – Become involved with policy makers and processes at local, national, and international levels.
2. Work within a range of policy areas – Become aware and involved in anti-poverty policy, as well as policy that can indirectly affect child poverty, such as education, social protection, health, agriculture, and economics.
3. Work with policy makers and implementers – Influencing the content and monitoring the implementation of policies is critical to secure recognition and prioritization of key policy areas that affect poor children's lives.
4. Make use of research findings – Make sure research findings are easily accessible and a priority to a wide range of policy makers and influencers.
5. Seek out institutions, departments, and forums that effect policy – Targets and allies for making change in policies that tackle childhood poverty exist in government, donor, and other institutions.

Source: Policy Engagement. Childhood Policy and Research Center (CHIP). Available at: <http://www.childhoodpoverty.org>

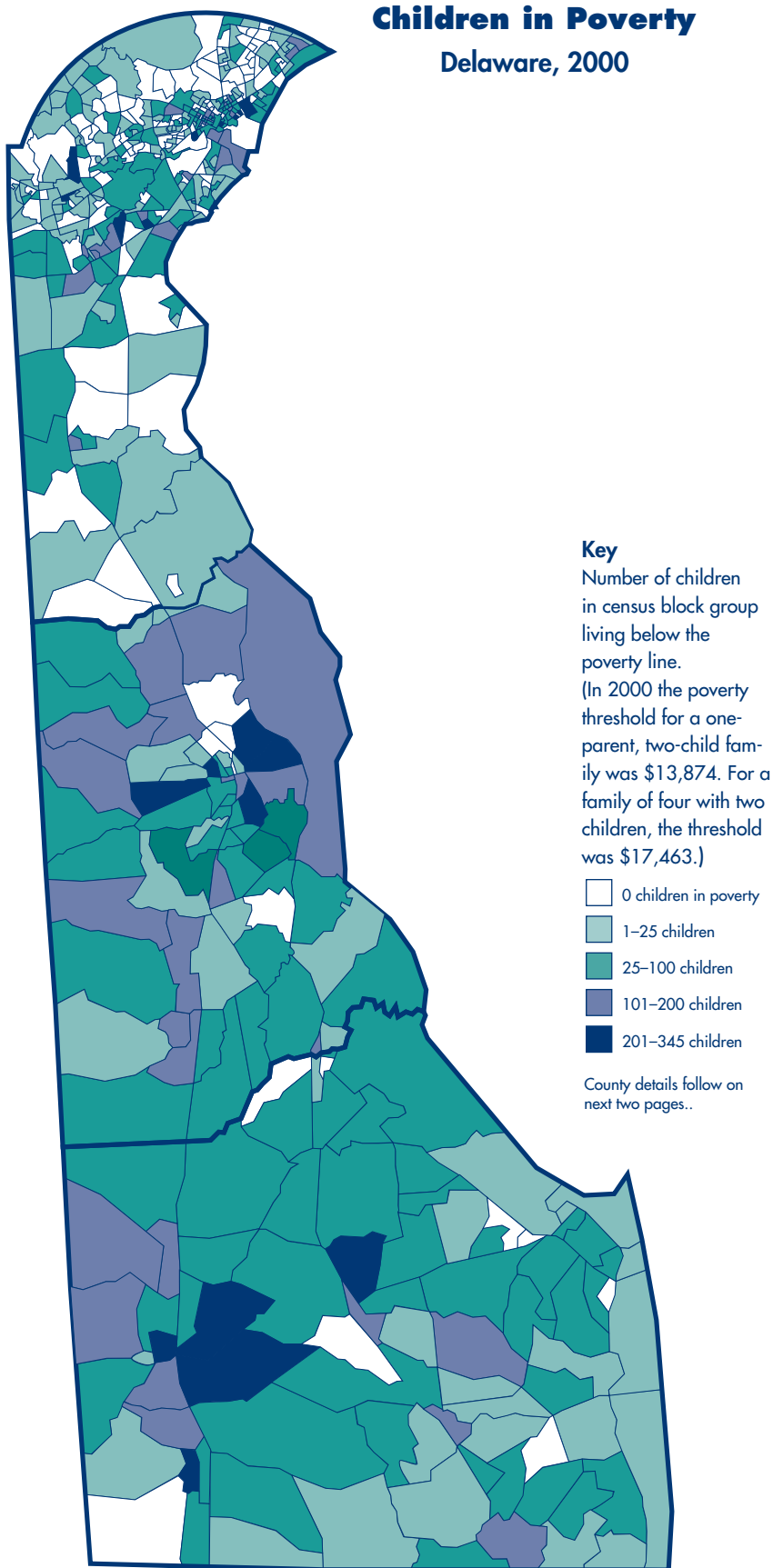
### For more information see

Tables 61-65 p. 155-156  
Table 69-71 p. 159-160  
[www.childrendefense.org](http://www.childrendefense.org)  
[www.nccp.org](http://www.nccp.org)  
[www.mwul.org](http://www.mwul.org)  
[www.jcpr.org](http://www.jcpr.org)

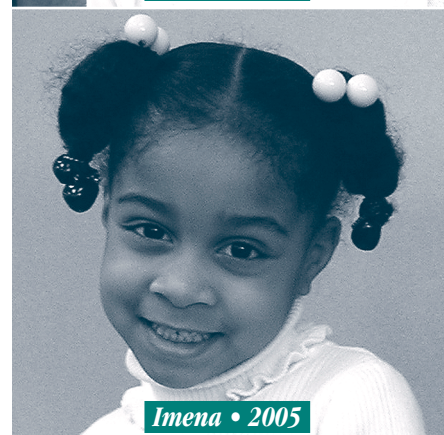


## Children in Poverty

### Delaware, 2000



Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

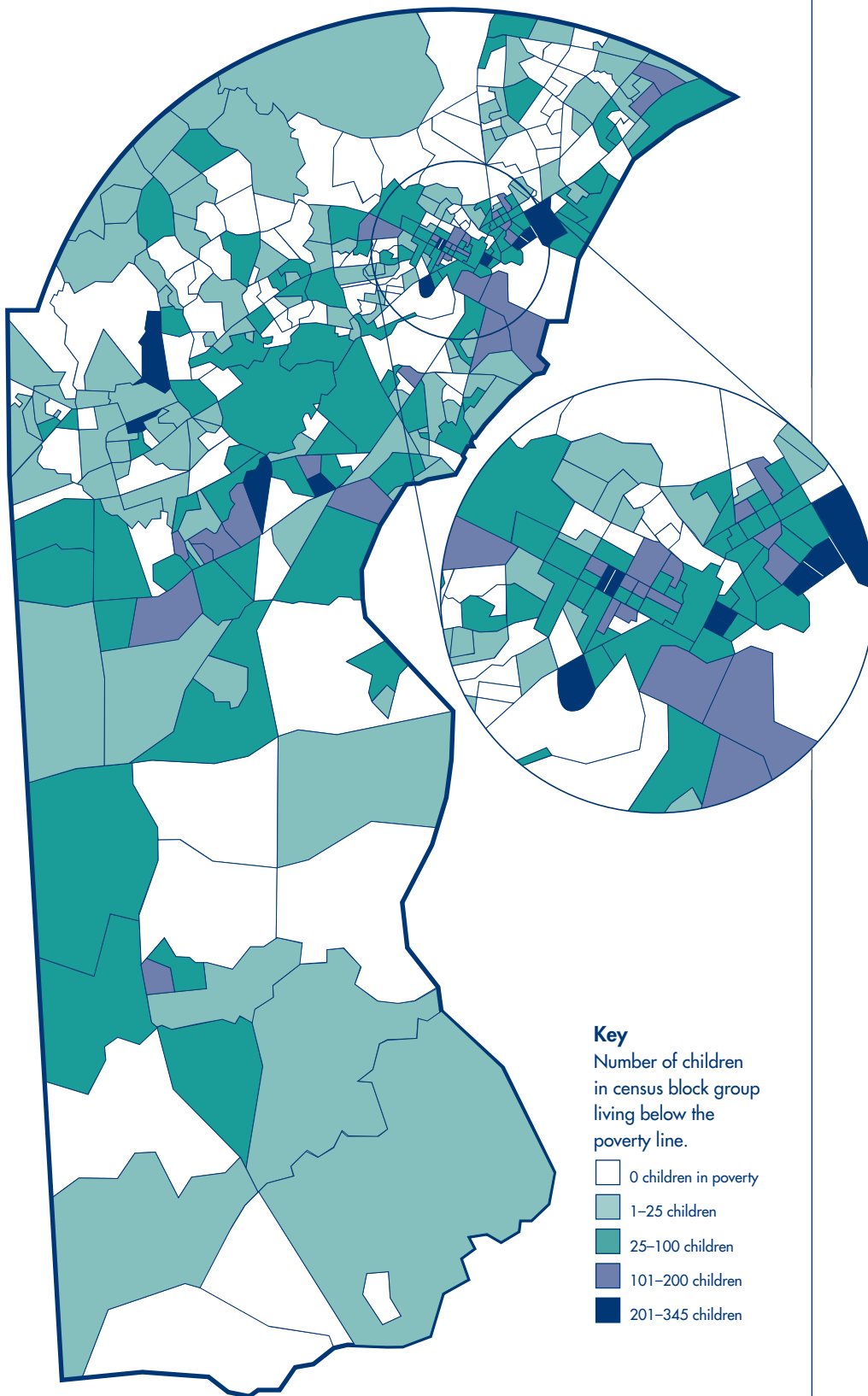


For detailed information on census tracts and blocks: <http://factfinder.census.gov>



For detailed information on census tracts and blocks: <http://factfinder.census.gov>

## Children in Poverty New Castle County, 2000



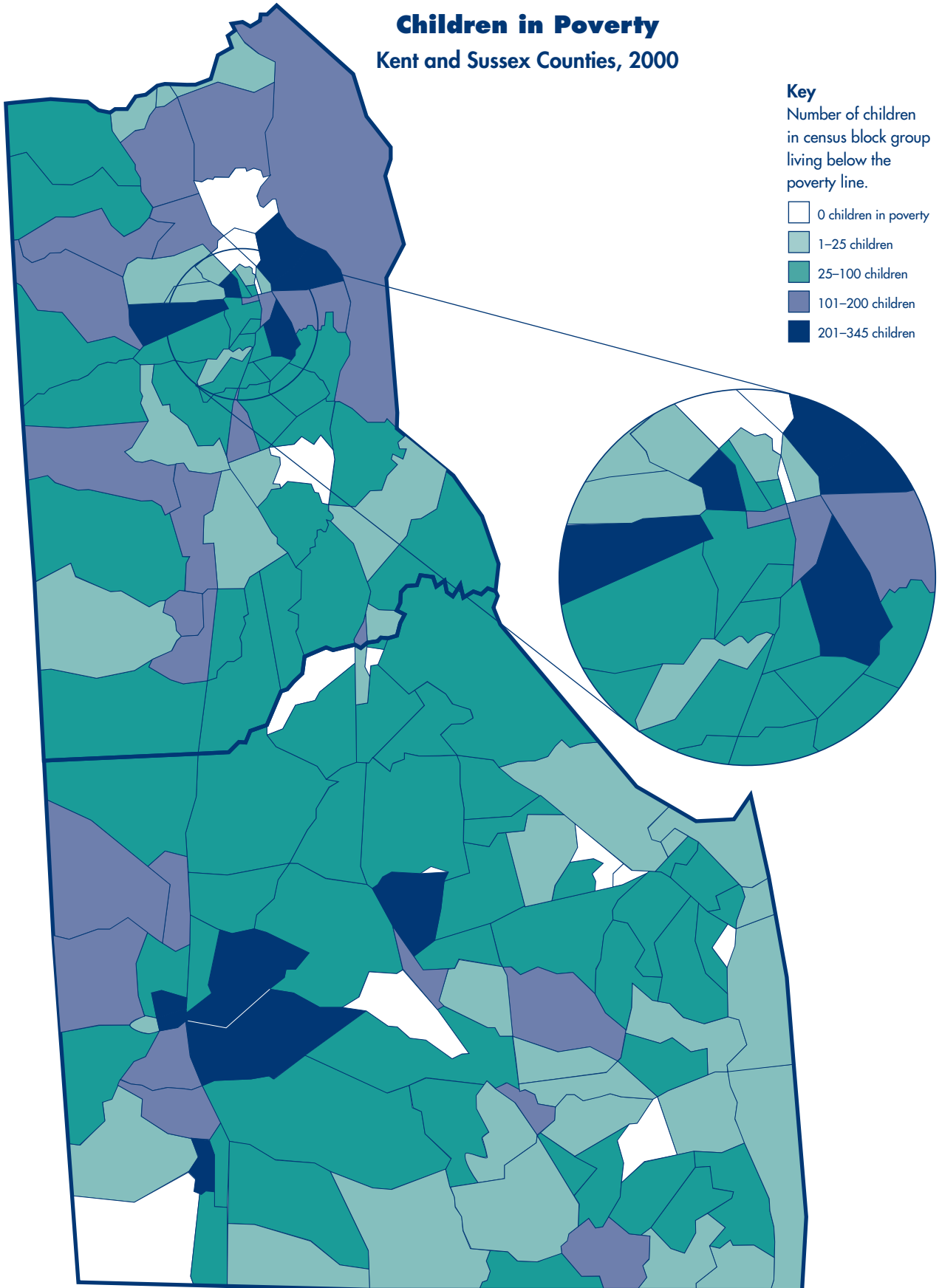
Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware



## Children in Poverty Kent and Sussex Counties, 2000

**Key**  
Number of children  
in census block group  
living below the  
poverty line.

- 0 children in poverty
- 1–25 children
- 25–100 children
- 101–200 children
- 201–345 children

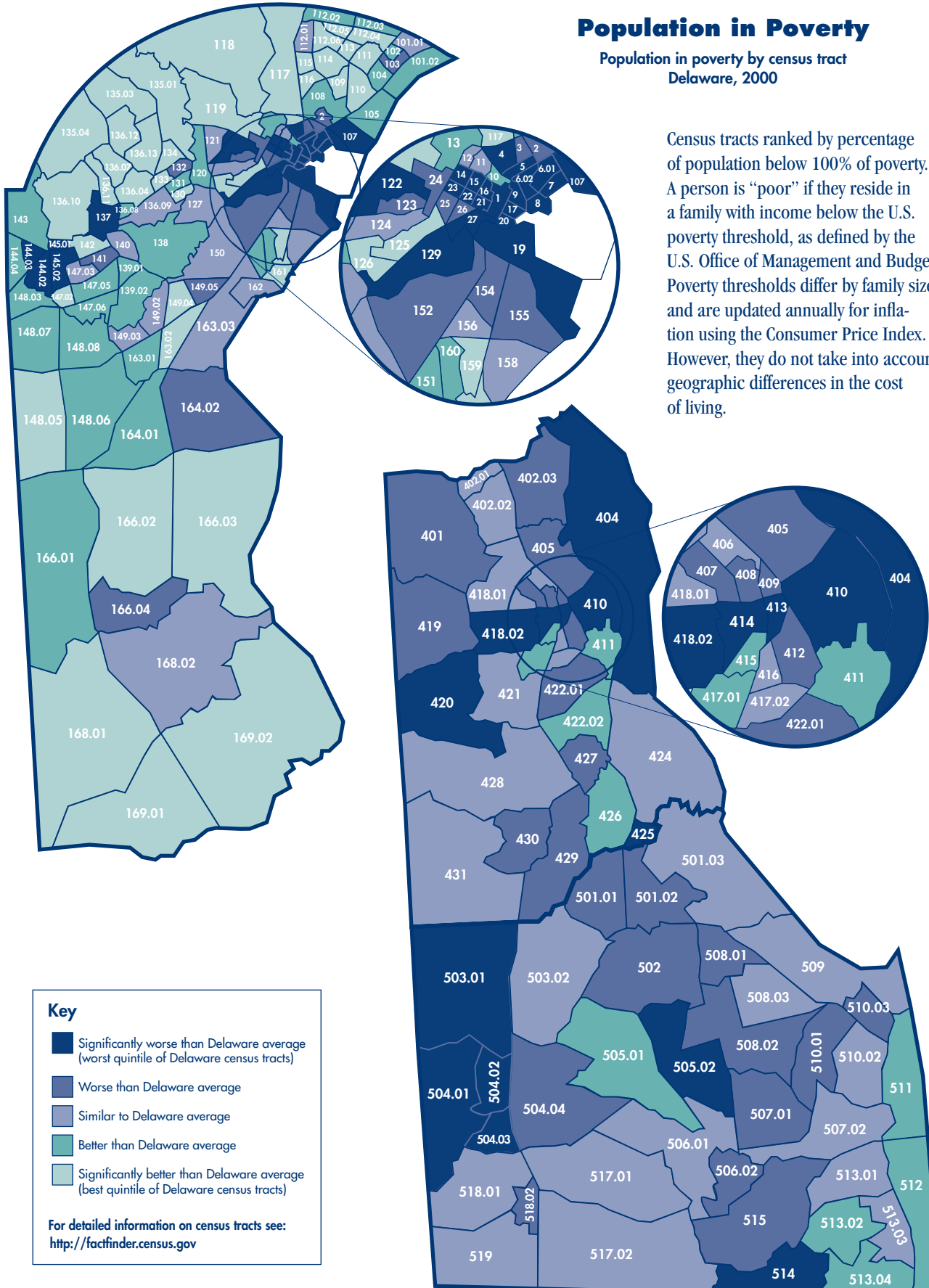


Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

## Population in Poverty

Population in poverty by census tract  
Delaware, 2000

Census tracts ranked by percentage of population below 100% of poverty. A person is "poor" if they reside in a family with income below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Poverty thresholds differ by family size and are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index. However, they do not take into account geographic differences in the cost of living.





# Children in One-Parent Families

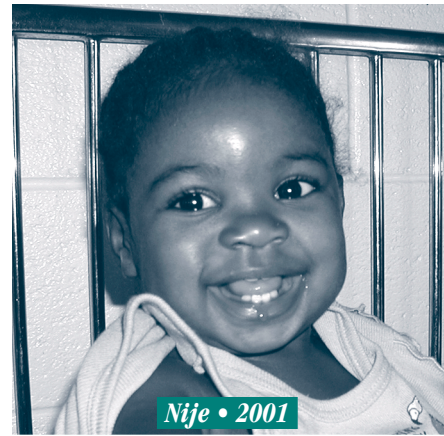
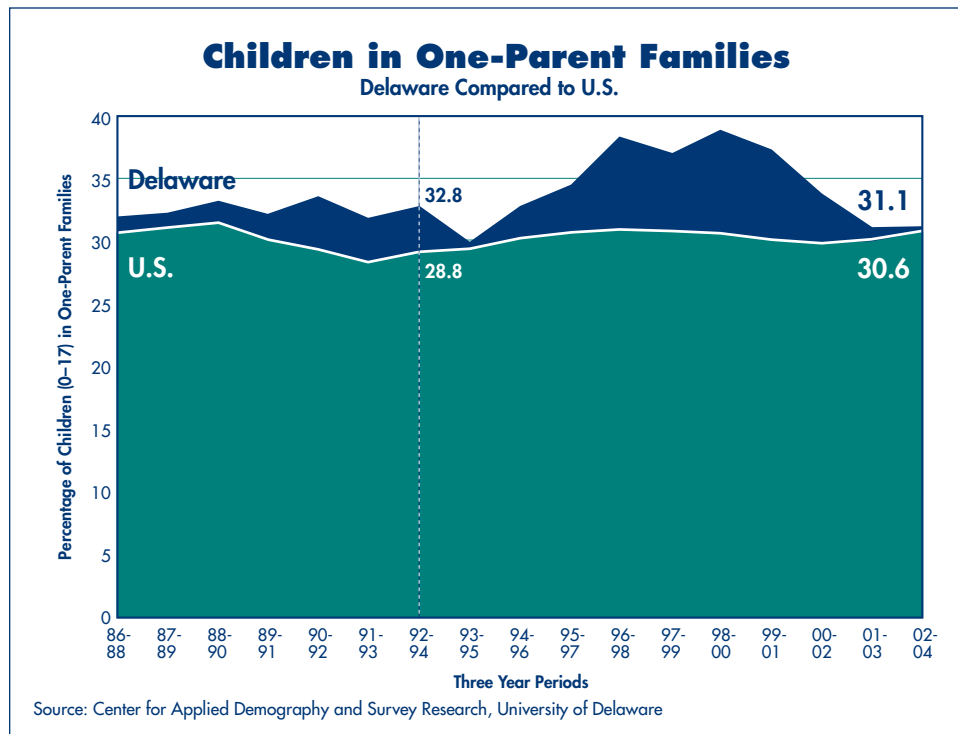
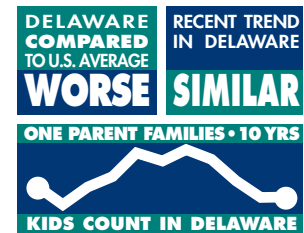


While the majority of children who are not raised by both biological parents manage to grow up without serious problems, on average, children in single-parent families are more likely to have problems than children who live in families headed by two biological parents.<sup>1</sup> Single-parent families tend to have a much lower income than do two-parent families, increasing the likelihood that they are raising children in poverty.<sup>2</sup> Income differences, however, only account for about one-half of the negative effects of parent absence on many areas of child and youth well-being, including health, educational attainment and assessment, behavior problems, and psychological well-being.<sup>2</sup> For example, the rate of youth incarceration is significantly greater for children raised in single-mother and step-family homes than for those raised in two-parent families, even after factoring in parental income and education.<sup>3</sup> Similarly, young children raised in single-parent families are less likely to exhibit behavioral self-control than children who live with two biological parents.<sup>2</sup> They are also more likely to be exposed to high levels of aggravated parenting.<sup>2</sup>

1 Anderson Moore, K. Marriage from a Child's Perspective: How Does Family Structure Affect Children and What Can We Do About It? (2002). Child Trends Databank.

2 Family Structure (2004) Child Trends Data Bank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org>

3 Marshall, J. Marriage: What Social Science Doesn't Say (2004). Heritage Foundation. Available at: [www.heritage.org/Research/Family/wm503.cfm](http://www.heritage.org/Research/Family/wm503.cfm)



## Did you know?

- In 2003, only 36 percent of black children were living with two parents, compared with 77 percent of white children and 65 percent of Hispanic children.<sup>1</sup>
- 3 of the 4 purposes listed for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) in the 1996 welfare reform law involve increasing two-parent families or decreasing unmarried pregnancies.<sup>2</sup>
- 1 in 2 children born in America will live in a single-parent family at some point in childhood and 1 in 4 currently live with only one parent.<sup>3</sup>
- Unmarried women who are in their twenties or older at the time they give birth are just as likely to live in poverty as unmarried women who give birth as teens.<sup>4</sup>

1 Family Structure (2004) Child Trends Data Bank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org>

2 Major TANF Reauthorization Bills (2003). Children's Defense Fund.

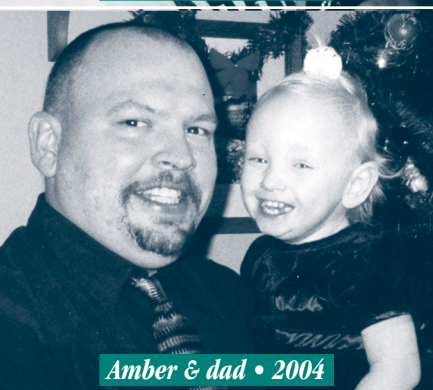
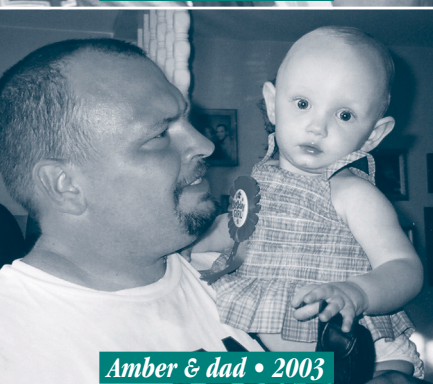
3 Key Facts About America's Children (2004). Children's Defense Fund. Available at: <http://www.childrensdefense.org/data/keyfacts.asp>

4 Increasing the Percentage of Children Living in Two-Parent Families (2003). Kids Count Indicator Brief.

### Definition

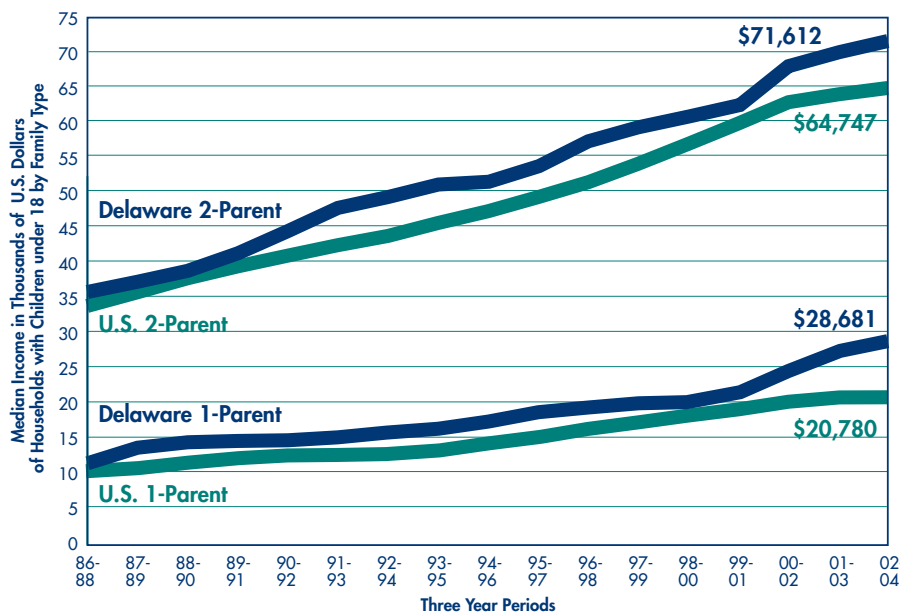
**Children in One-Parent Households** – percentage of all families with “own children” under age 18 living in the household, who are headed by a person – male or female – without a spouse present in the home. “Own children” are never-married children under 18 who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.





## Median Income of Families with Children by Family Type

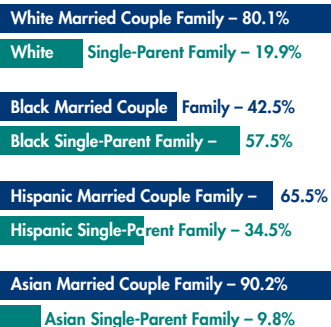
Delaware and U.S.



Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, University of Delaware

## Living Arrangements for Delaware Children

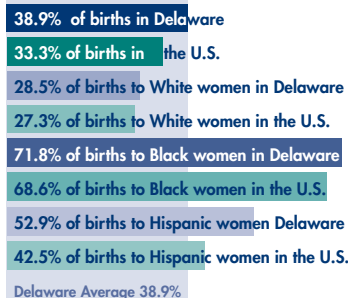
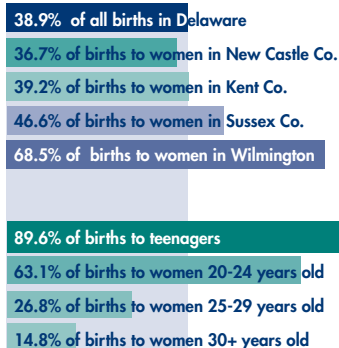
Own Children in Married-Couple or Single-Parent Families by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2000 Census



Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File

## Percentage of Births to Single Mothers

in Delaware by County, Age, and Race  
Five-year Average, 1998-2002



Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

## Did you know?

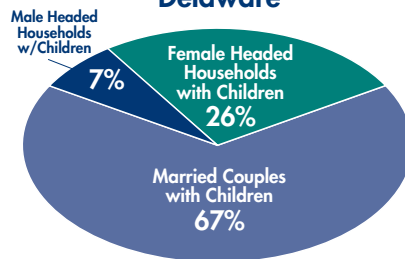
In 2002, nearly one-third of all births in the U.S. occurred to unmarried women. This statistic includes never married, divorced, and widowed women.

Source: Anderson Moore, K. Marriage from a Child's Perspective: How Does Family Structure Affect Children and What Can We Do About It? (2002). Child Trends Databank.

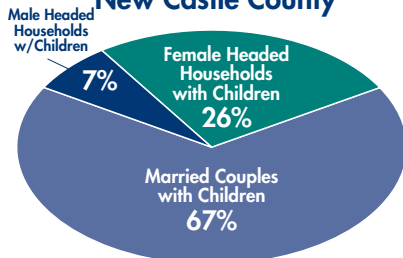
## Families with Children by Household Structure

2000

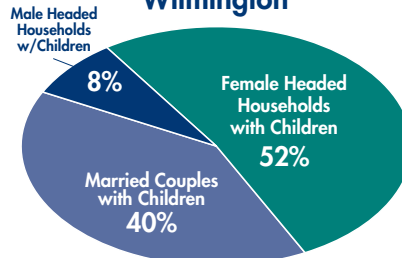
### Delaware



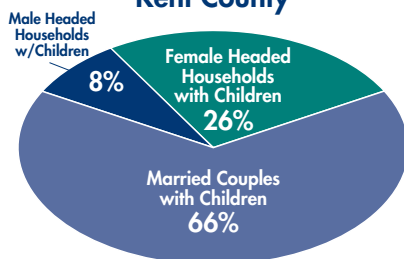
### New Castle County



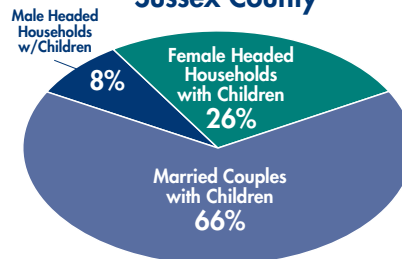
### Wilmington



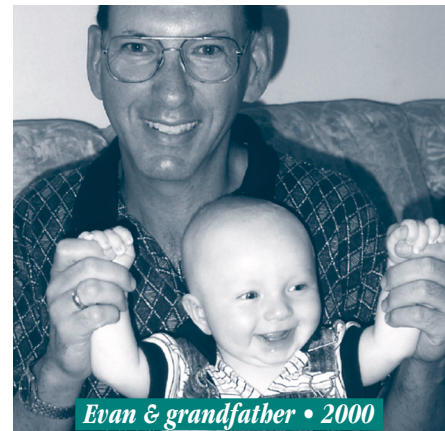
### Kent County



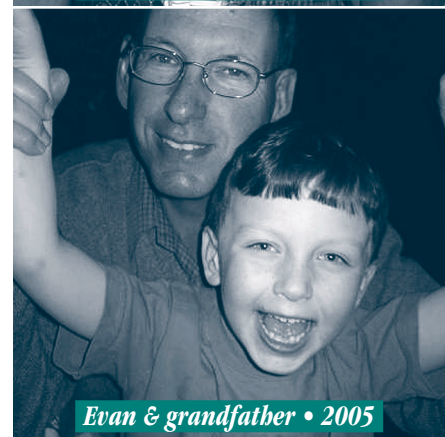
### Sussex County



Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1



Evan & grandfather • 2000



Evan & grandfather • 2005

## Grandparents Living with Grandchildren

Delaware, Counties, and Wilmington, 2000

	Delaware	New Castle	Kent	Sussex	Wilmington
Grandparents living with grandchildren under 18 years	16,689	10,752	2,793	3,144	2,584
Grandparents responsible for their grandchildren	7,204	4,298	1,397	1,509	1,118

Source: 2000 Census

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into  
action**

Policy strategies for decreasing single-parent families include:

- Creating marriage education courses and classes
- Teaching relationship skills to high school students and young adults
- Focusing on "fragile families", or low-income families, newlyweds, second marriages, and couples that live together
- Increasing the knowledge base through research and studies
- Increasing two-parent family access to and usage of TANF

Source: Strengthening Marriage and Two-Parent Families (2003). National Conference of State Legislatures. Available at: <http://www.ncsl.org/statefed/welfare/marriage.pdf>

For more information see

Tables 6-7	p. 122
Table 59	p. 153
Tables 63-64	p. 155-156
Tables 63-72	p. 155-160
<a href="http://www.singlerose.com">www.singlerose.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.makinglemonade.com">www.makinglemonade.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.parentswithoutpartners.org">www.parentswithoutpartners.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.singlefather.org">www.singlefather.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.urban.org">www.urban.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.promisingpractices.net">www.promisingpractices.net</a>	
<a href="http://www.nationalpartnership.org">www.nationalpartnership.org</a>	

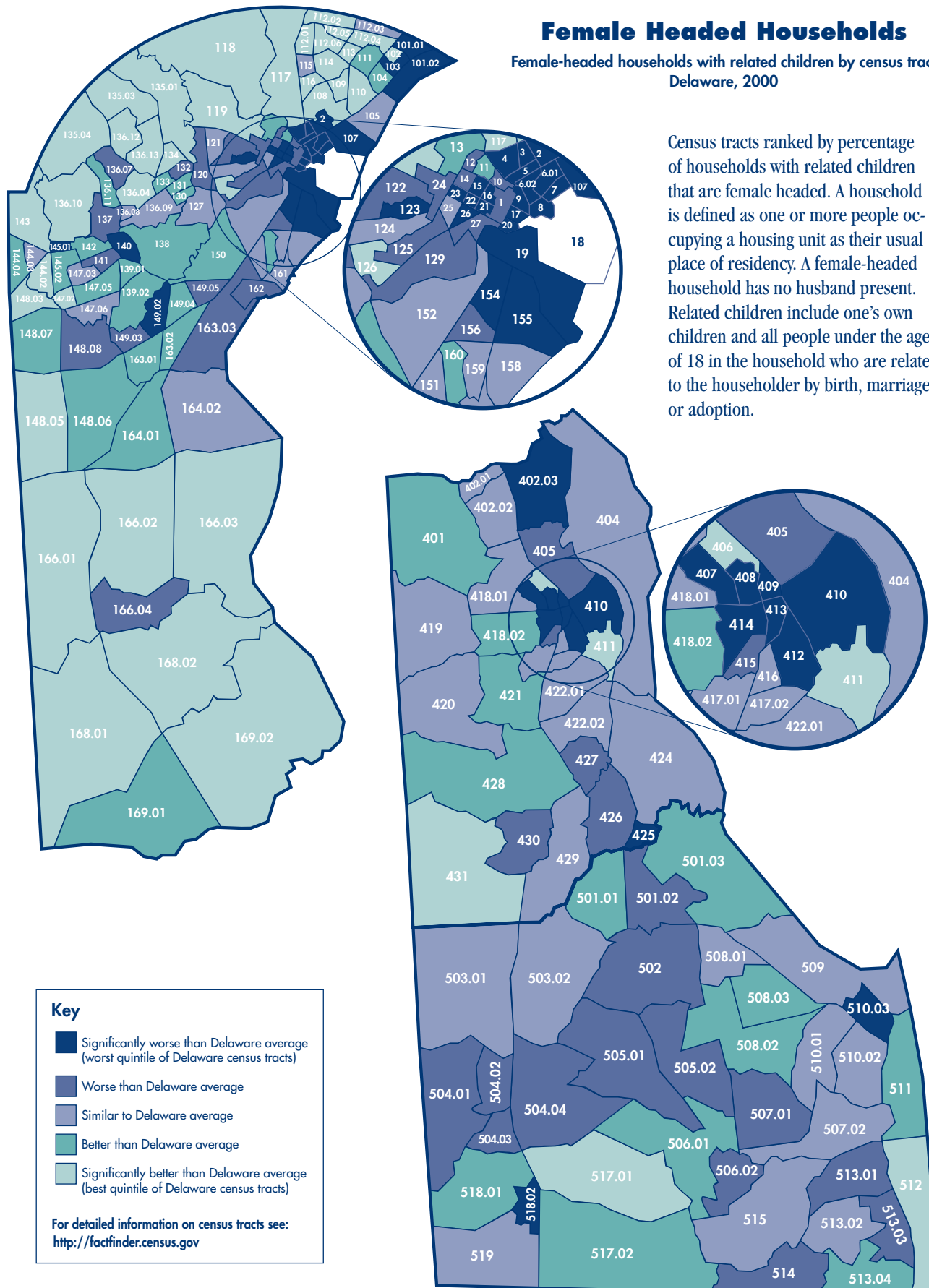


# Children in One-Parent Families

## Female Headed Households

Female-headed households with related children by census tract  
Delaware, 2000

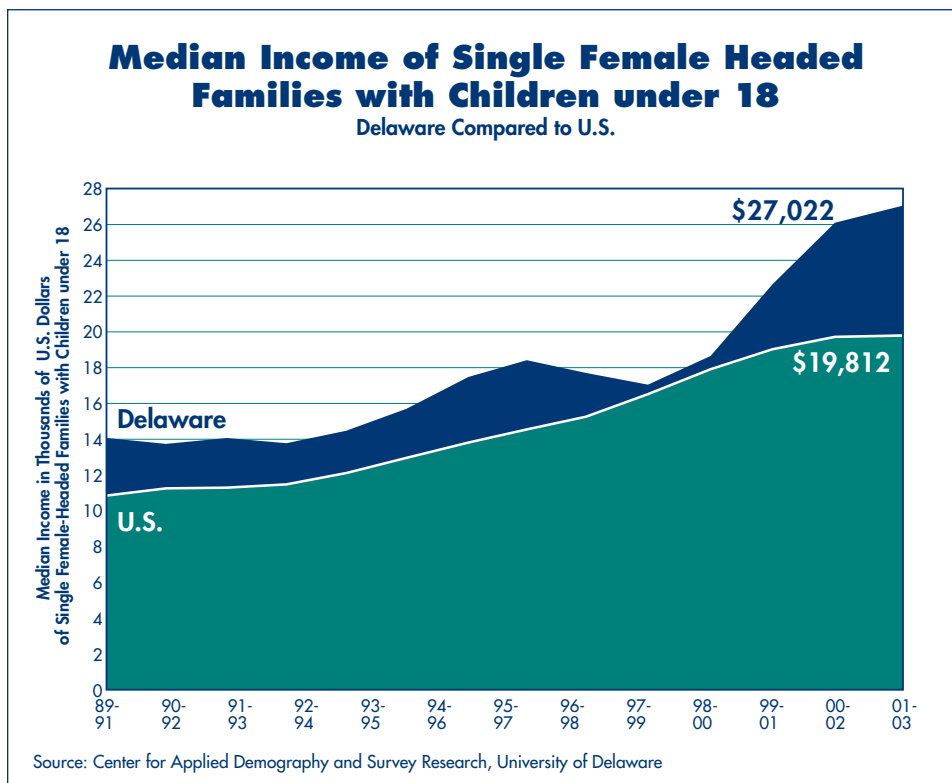
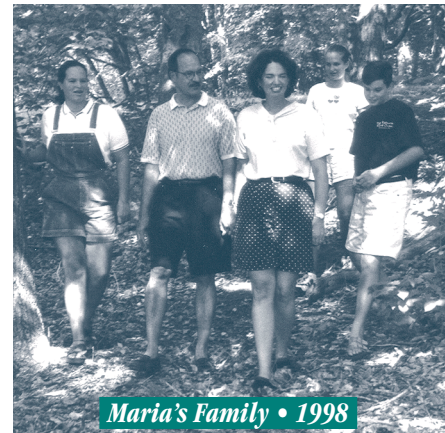
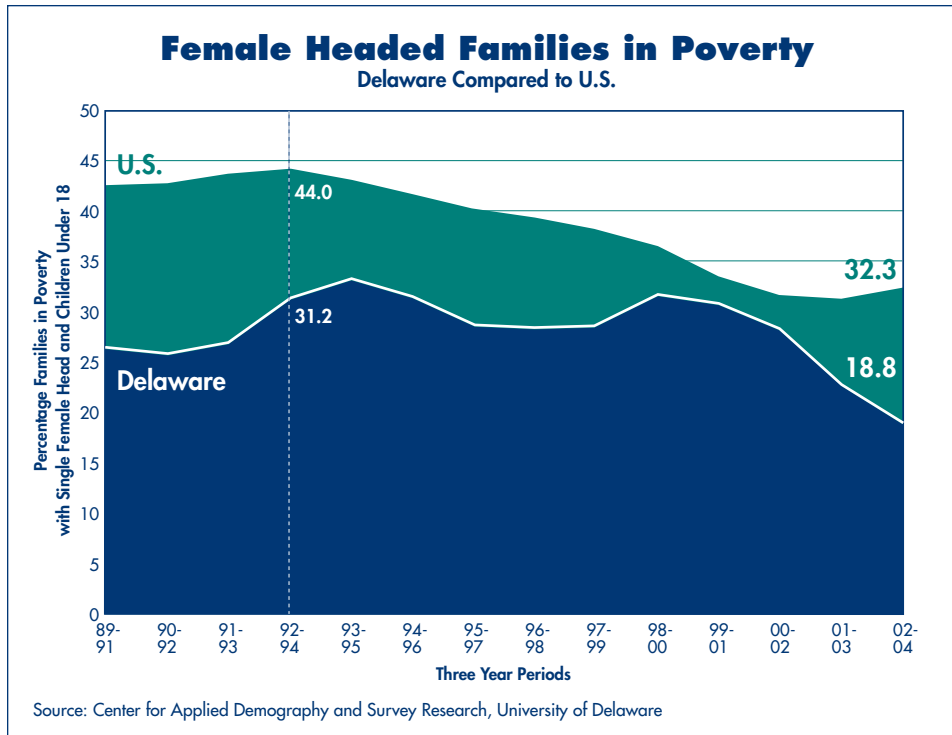
Census tracts ranked by percentage of households with related children that are female headed. A household is defined as one or more people occupying a housing unit as their usual place of residency. A female-headed household has no husband present. Related children include one's own children and all people under the age of 18 in the household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption.



# Female Headed Families in Poverty

Children living in female headed households are more likely than other children to live below the poverty line. In 2003, 53 percent of children under age six who lived in female headed households lived below the poverty line, compared with 10 percent of children living in married couple households, and 29 percent living in male headed households without a wife present.

Source: Early Child Development in a Social Context: A Chartbook (2004). The Commonwealth Fund. Available at: [http://www.cmf.org/usr\\_doc/chartbook\\_quick\\_download.pdf](http://www.cmf.org/usr_doc/chartbook_quick_download.pdf)



For more information see

Table 69-72 p. 159-160

[www.nccp.org](http://www.nccp.org)

[www.childstats.gov](http://www.childstats.gov)

[www.nncc.org](http://www.nncc.org)

[www.voicesforamericaschildren.org](http://www.voicesforamericaschildren.org)

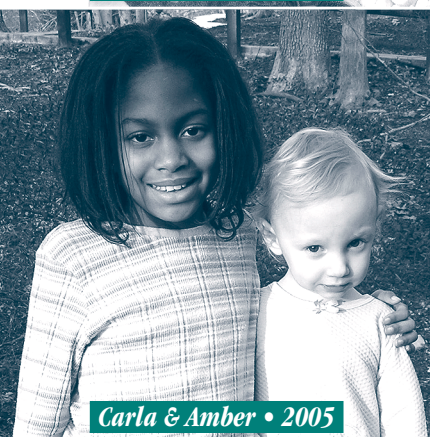
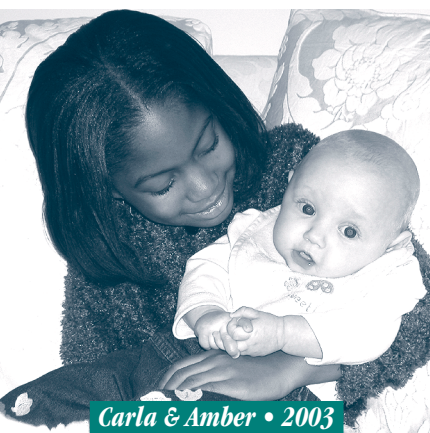
# Child Support



*Increasing household income is not the only positive effect of receiving child support.<sup>1</sup> Research shows that child support increases the well being of children, particularly cognitive development, academic achievement, and behavior.<sup>1</sup> In addition, nonresident fathers who pay child support are more involved with their children, providing them with more emotional, as well as financial, support.<sup>2</sup> One study found that 79 percent of children born to unmarried parents whose fathers have a support order and pay child support see their fathers, compared to only 43 percent of those whose fathers do not have an order and do not pay support.<sup>2</sup>*

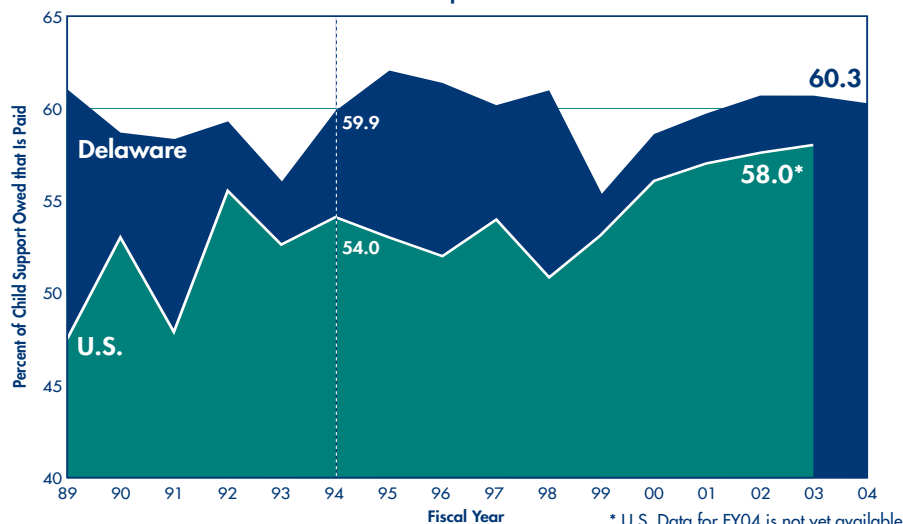
<sup>1</sup> What do Fathers Contribute to Children's Well-Being? (2002). Child Trends. Available at: <http://www.childtrends.org/files/dadchild.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Child Support (2002). Children's Defense Fund.



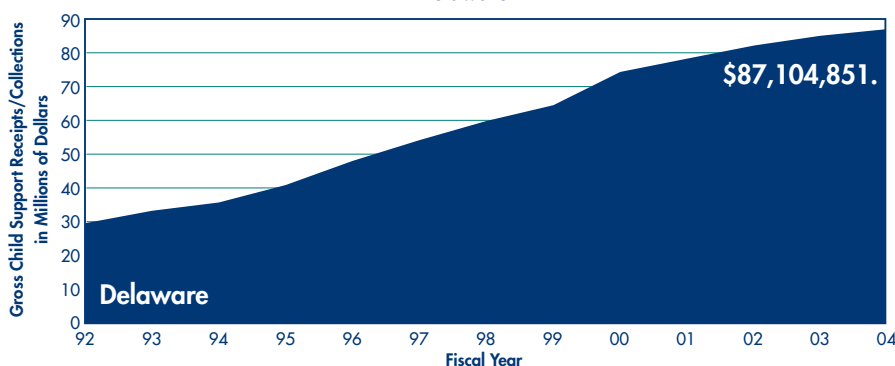
## Current Child Support Owed that Is Paid

Delaware Compared to U.S.



## Child Support Collections

Delaware



## Did you know?

- Over 60% of poor children living with their mothers and who have nonresident fathers do not receive child support.
- In 2002, 32% of never-married custodial parents reported receiving full child support payments in the previous year, compared to 49% of currently or previously married custodial parents.
- Poor families receiving child support increased from 31% in 1996 to 36% in 2001.

Source Child Support Increases for Low Income Families (2004). Urban Institute. Available at: <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/900675.pdf>

For more information see

Table 73 p. 160

[www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/)

[www.state.de.us/dhss/dcse/index.html](http://www.state.de.us/dhss/dcse/index.html)

[www.connectforkids.org](http://www.connectforkids.org)



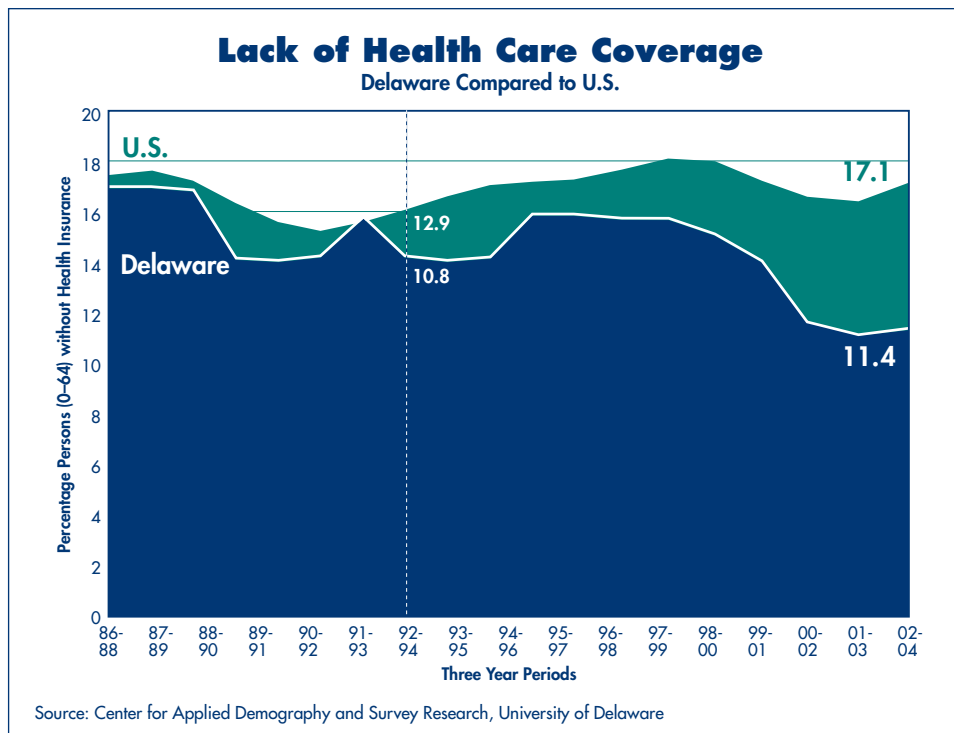
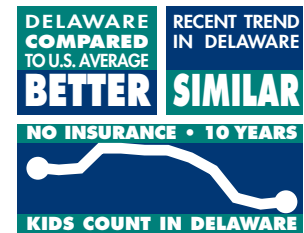


# Health Care Coverage

*Lacking health care coverage is a major deterrent to family well-being. Children who are not covered by health insurance are less likely than the privately insured to have used prescription medicines.<sup>1</sup> Similarly, children without health insurance are more likely than children with health insurance to receive late or no care for health problems, putting them at greater risk for hospitalization.<sup>1</sup> As compared to those with health insurance, the uninsured are 10 times more likely to say they use the emergency room for their health care and are 6 times more likely to say they could not see a doctor because of the cost.<sup>2</sup> A lack of health insurance can also influence children's school attendance and participation in extracurricular activities, and has been shown to increase parental financial and emotional stress.<sup>1</sup>*

1 Health Care Coverage (2004). Child Trends Databank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/26HealthCareCoverage.cfm>

2 Delawareans Without Health Insurance (2002). Delaware Health Care Commission. Available at: <http://www.state.de.us/dhcc/index.htm>



## Did you know?

Single parent families are less likely to have health insurance than married-couple families. In 2003, 91 percent of children in married-couple families had health insurance, while only 80 percent of children in single-father families and 86 percent of children in single-mother families had health insurance coverage.

Source: Health Care Coverage (2004). Child Trends Databank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/26HealthCareCoverage>.

### put data into action

In 2004, the Delaware Health Care Commission recommended the following strategies in order to improve access to affordable, quality health care for all Delawareans:

1. Implement the Uninsured Action Plan
2. Increase the timeliness and reliability of health care information and technology
3. Ensure an adequate number and distribution of health care professionals
4. Develop accurate research and sound health care policy
5. Focus activities around specific health care issues

Source: Annual Report and Strategic Plan (2004). Delaware Health Care Commission.



### For more information see

Table 31	p. 137
Table 78	p. 162
<a href="http://www.familiesusa.org">www.familiesusa.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.state.de.us/dhcc">www.state.de.us/dhcc</a>	
<a href="http://www.cms.gov">www.cms.gov</a>	

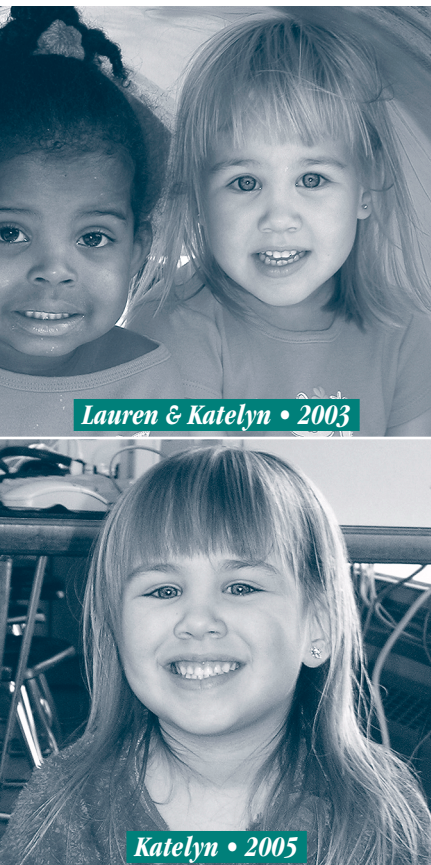
# Child Abuse and Neglect

Each year more than 2.5 million cases of child abuse and neglect are reported.<sup>1</sup> Of these, 35 percent involve physical abuse, 15 percent involve sexual abuse, and 50 percent involve neglect.<sup>2</sup> Young children are more likely than older children to experience abuse and neglect. In 2002, children who were three or younger had child maltreatment rates of 16 per 1,000, as compared to 6 per 1,000 for children ages 16 to 17.<sup>1</sup>

The exact causes of child abuse and neglect are not well understood; however, it is more prevalent in lower income families than in families with higher incomes.<sup>1</sup> The physical problems associated with child abuse or neglect include: physical injuries, delayed physical growth, and neurological damage. In the majority of cases, children who are abused or neglected suffer greater emotional problems than physical damage.<sup>2</sup> Abused or neglected children may exhibit depression, aggression, suicidal tendencies, or withdrawn behavior.<sup>2</sup> Studies also link child maltreatment with an increased risk of substance abuse in later life.<sup>1</sup> In extreme cases, child abuse and neglect can lead to death. Approximately 1,400 children died in 2002 as the result of abuse or neglect.<sup>1</sup>

1 Child Maltreatment (2004). Child Trends Databank. Available at: <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/40ChildMaltreatment.cfm>

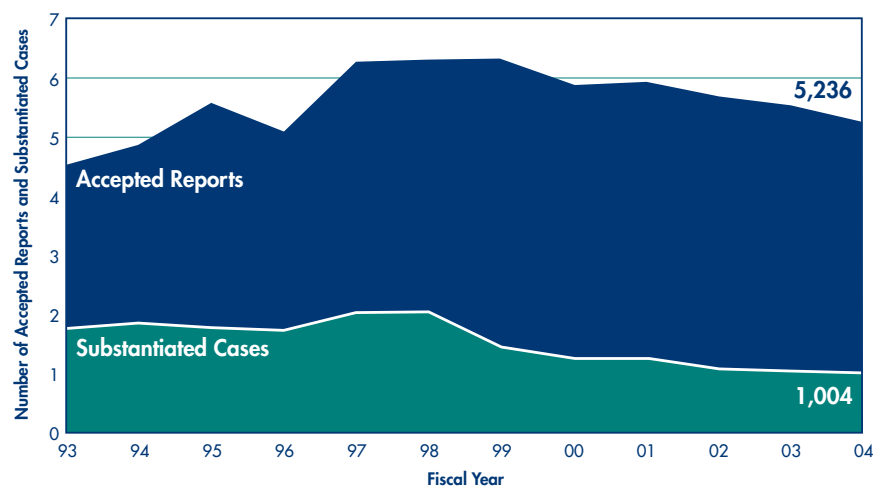
2 Child Abuse and Neglect (2000). American Academy of Pediatrics. Available at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/childabuse.html>



Lauren & Katelyn • 2003

Katelyn • 2005

**Child Abuse & Neglect**  
Number of Accepted Reports and Substantiated Cases, Delaware



Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

## put data into action

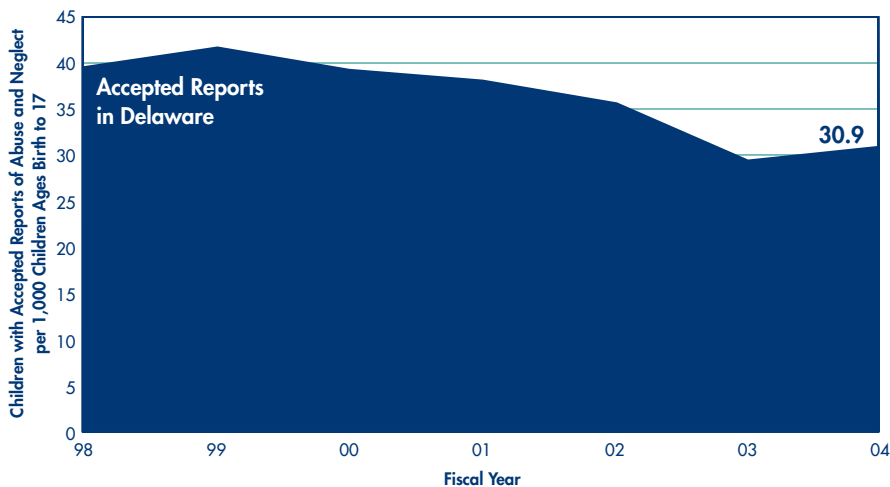
Children that have been physical, sexually, or emotionally abused may exhibit one or more of the following signs:

- Any unexplainable injury (bruise, burn, fracture, abdominal, or head injury)
- Fearful behavior
- Abdominal pain, bedwetting, urinary tract infection, or genital pain
- Extreme sexual behavior that seems inappropriate for the child's age
- Sudden change in self-confidence
- Headaches or stomachaches with no medical cause
- Abnormal fears, increased nightmares
- Attempts to run away

These signs can also be indicators for other problems, such as recent divorce or a psychological disorder. If you suspect a child in Delaware is being abused, you are required by law to call the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Line at 1-800-292-9582.

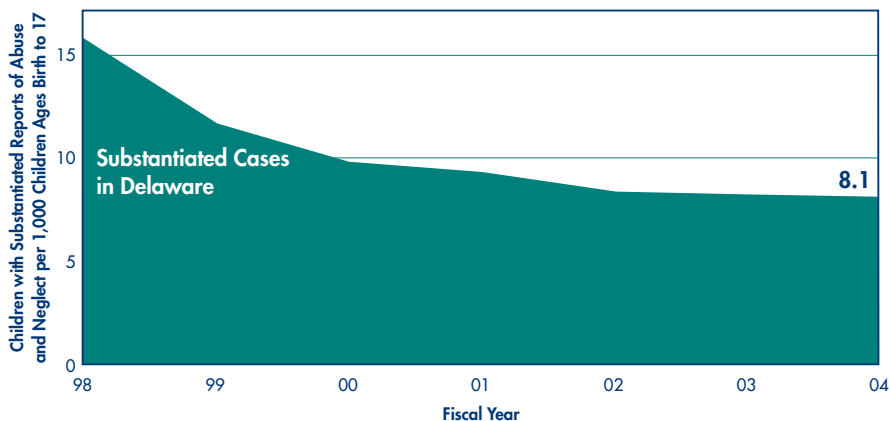
Source: Child Abuse and Neglect (2000). American Academy of Pediatrics. Available at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/childabuse.html>

## Child Abuse Accepted Reports Delaware



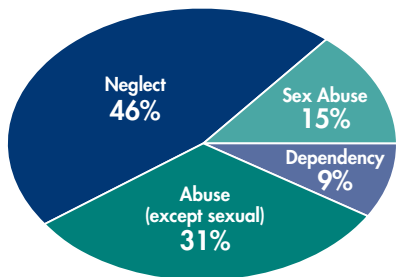
Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

## Child Abuse Substantiated Cases Delaware



Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

## Types of Abuse and Neglect Delaware, Fiscal Year 2004



Types of Abuse and Neglect	Number of Substantiated Cases
Abuse (except sexual)	314
Neglect	448
Sex Abuse	150
Dependency	92
<b>Total Substantiated Cases:</b>	<b>1,004</b>

Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families



### For more information see

Table 18	p. 132
Table 32	p. 138
Table 75	p. 161

[www.preventchildabuse.org](http://www.preventchildabuse.org)

[www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/40childmaltreatment.cfm](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/40childmaltreatment.cfm)

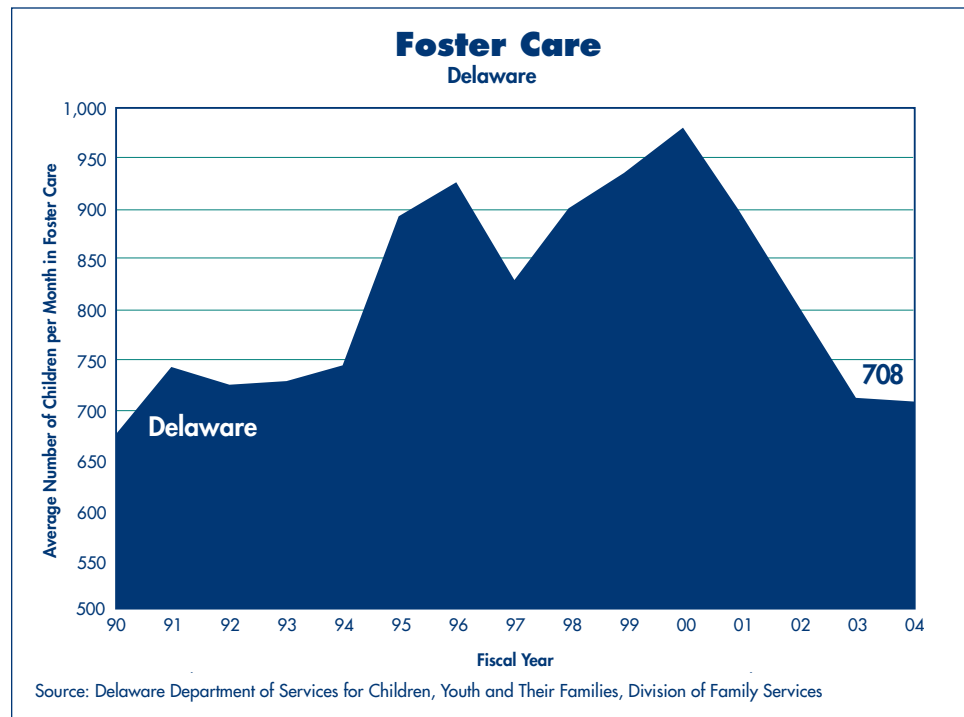
To report suspected abuse or neglect:  
1-800-292-9582



# Foster Care

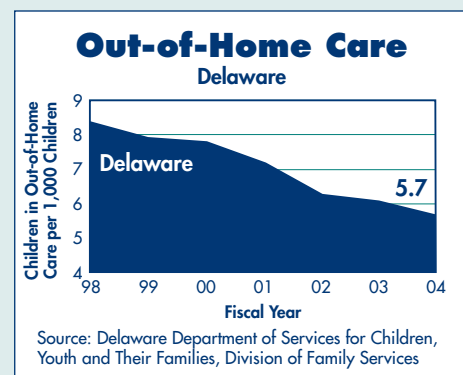
*Due to past abuse and neglect, children in foster care are more likely than other children to exhibit behavioral and emotional problems. Foster children are also more likely to have received mental health services in the past year, to have a limiting physical or learning condition, or to be in poor health. In addition, foster children who turn 18 and left foster care instead of returning home bring with them an accumulated set of problems; thus making a successful transition to adulthood difficult. According a national study of children who turned 18 and left foster care, 38 percent were emotionally disturbed, 50 percent had used illegal drugs, and 25 percent were involved with the legal system. Nevertheless, foster parents can help to give foster children the support they need to grow physically, emotionally, and socially.*

Source: Foster Care (2004). Child Trends Data Bank. Available at: [www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/12FosterCare.cfm](http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/12FosterCare.cfm)



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The number of children in foster care has dropped over the past several years as the Federal Government established a 24-month standard for moving children from foster care to permanency (adoption). In Delaware, as in other states, the number of children in foster care has decreased because foster care children are being adopted by their foster care parents. These adoptive parents are no longer available to be foster parents. So every year, more foster families are needed to help children.



For more information see

Table 76 p. 161  
[www.state.de.us/kids/fostercare.htm](http://www.state.de.us/kids/fostercare.htm)

Interested in becoming a foster parent? Contact DSCYF at 1-800-464-4357 or email them at [foster\\_care.dscyf@state.de.us](mailto:foster_care.dscyf@state.de.us)

Source: Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families

# Juvenile Delinquents in Out-of-Home Care

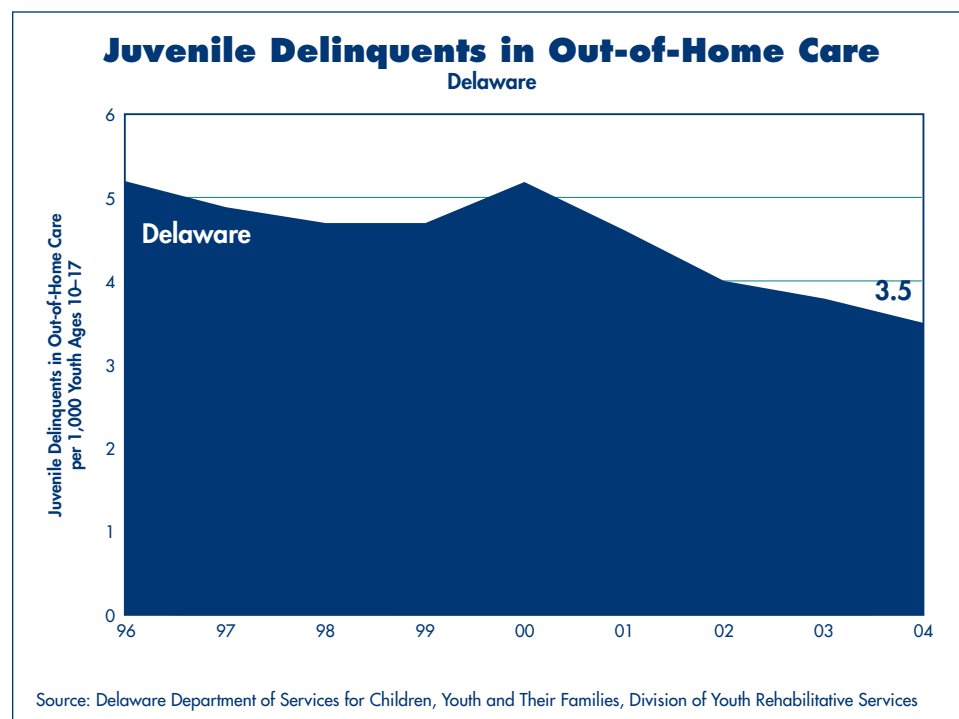
*Delinquency refers to any illegal act (breaking any federal, state, or local laws) committed by a juvenile. Juveniles can also be considered delinquent for committing status offenses, which are behaviors that are not considered crimes for adults (truancy, running away, consuming alcohol, etc.). From 1990 to 1999, the number of adjudicated cases that resulted in out-of-home placement rose from 124,900 to 155,200, or by 24 percent.<sup>1</sup> Despite this fact, the overall proportion of cases that resulted in out-of-home placement declined by 32 percent during this same time period.<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, the number of child delinquents (delinquents between the ages of 7 and 12) handled in juvenile courts over the last decade has increased 33 percent.<sup>2</sup>*

*Child delinquents are two to three times more likely to become serious, violent, and chronic offenders than adolescents whose delinquent behavior begins in their teens.<sup>2</sup> Recent studies also show that drug use and multiple family transitions increase the likelihood of delinquency in juveniles.<sup>3</sup>*

1 Juvenile Court Placement of Adjudicated Youth, 1990-1999 (2003). OJJDP. Available at: <http://www.ncjrs.org>

2 Child Delinquency: Early Intervention and Prevention (2003) Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Available at: <http://www.ncjrs.org/html/ojjdp/186162/contents.html>

3 Family Disruption and Delinquency (1999). OJJDP. Available at: <http://www.ncjrs.org>



## put data into action

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention offers Formula Grants to state and local delinquency prevention programs and intervention efforts. To qualify for a Formula Grant, programs must meet the following requirements:

- Juveniles who commit crimes that are not crimes for adults (truancy, underage drinking, etc) cannot be held in secure juvenile detention or correctional facilities.
- Juveniles must be kept in separate facilities from adult offenders.
- Juveniles cannot be detained or temporarily confined in adult jail facilities.
- States must address the disproportionate amount of minority juveniles in contact with the juvenile justice system.

For more information see

Table 77

[www.edjj.org](http://www.edjj.org)

p. 161

# Home Ownership

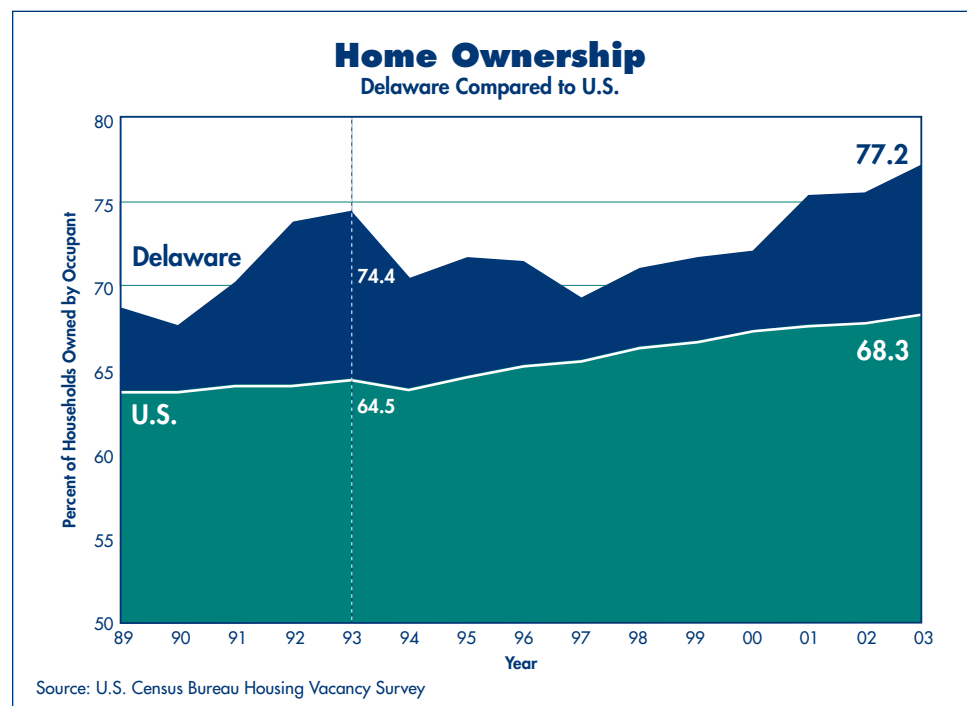


One of the key components of the “American Dream” is home ownership. Studies have shown that home ownership is positively linked to family stability, improved property maintenance, improved residential satisfaction, and neighborhood stability.<sup>1</sup> In the first half of 2004, the U.S. home ownership rate reached 69.2% — the highest rate recorded.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, for the first time ever the majority of minorities own their own homes.<sup>2</sup>

Home ownership can be expanded to low-income families, which will contribute to their individual satisfaction and improve their community.<sup>1</sup> To reduce the cost of home ownership for low-income families, several strategies can be utilized, including reducing down payment requirements, increasing access to credit, reducing monthly payments, and educating potential buyers about the responsibilities of home ownership.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Home Ownership (2002). Pew Partnership. Available at: <http://www.pew-partnership.org/neighborhoods/affordhousing/homeownership.html>

<sup>2</sup> The President's Agenda to Expand Opportunities to Homeownership (2004). The White House. Available at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/homeownership>



## put data into action

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development has several tips for encouraging and promoting home ownership and maintenance. These tips include:

- Speaking out about the benefits of home ownership
- Creating partnerships to educate potential home buyers
- Encouraging families to save for a down payment
- Helping families improve their credit rating
- Teaching young people about financial responsibility
- Holding an open house to educate the community about home ownership
- Encourage professionals in your community to mentor families

Source: 10 Things Your Faith Community Can Do to Encourage Home ownership (2002). U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Available at: <http://www.hud.gov/initiatives/fbci/topten/index.cfm>

For more information see

Table 74 p. 161

[www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)

[www.housingforall.org](http://www.housingforall.org)

[www.hud.gov/buying/index.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/buying/index.cfm)

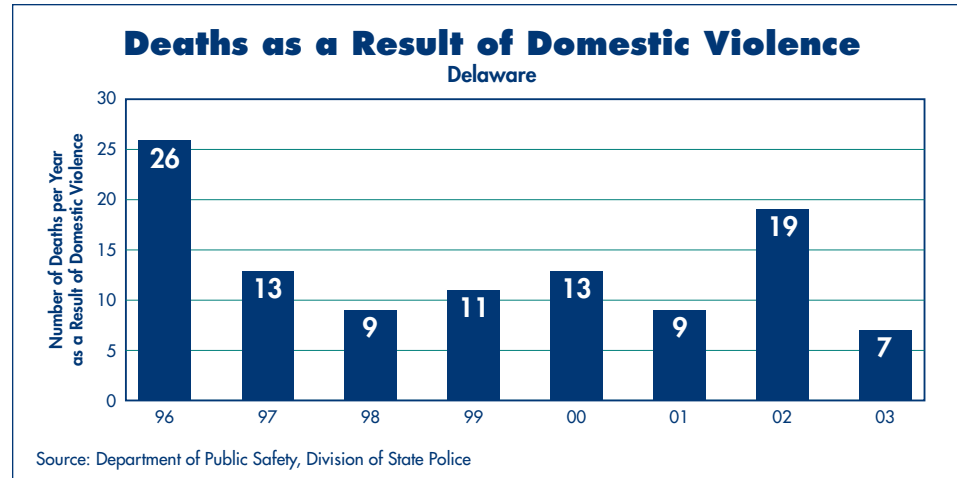
[www.fanniemae.foundation.org](http://www.fanniemae.foundation.org)



# Domestic Violence

*Growing up in a violent home can affect every aspect of a child's life, growth, and development. Children who witness domestic violence are more likely to exhibit depression, anxiety, and violence towards peers. They are also more likely to use drugs, abuse alcohol, run away from home, engage in teenage prostitution, commit sexual assault crimes, and attempt suicide. In addition, men that witness domestic violence while growing up are twice as likely to abuse their wives as men who did not witness domestic violence. Despite these facts, when domestic violence is properly identified and addressed its effects on children can be lessened.*

Source: Children and Domestic Violence (2003). Family Violence Prevention Fund. Available at: <http://endabuse.org/resources/facts/Children.pdf>



**Domestic Incident Reports**  
Delaware, 2003

Criminal Only	16,921 reports
Combined Criminal and Non-criminal	27,776 reports
Percent of Reports with a Child Present	17.6%
Percent of Reports with an Active Protection from Abuse Court Order	4.0%

Source: Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police

## Did you know?

- Domestic violence is often coupled with other family problems. For example, 30% to 60% of families with domestic violence also experience child abuse.<sup>1</sup>
- According to the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse, domestic violence may be the single major precursor to child abuse and neglect fatalities in the U.S.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Domestic Violence and Children (1999). The Future of Children.

<sup>2</sup> Children and Domestic Violence (2004). Family Violence Prevention Fund. Available at: <http://endabuse.org/programs/children/>

## put data into action

The National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women created a toolkit to help end domestic violence. Listed within this toolkit are several ways to protect children from domestic violence, including:

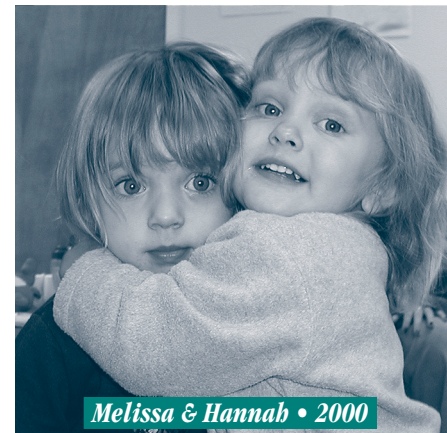
- Identifying and removing disincentives to participation in intervention programs.
- Increase the ability of child protective services, courts, and domestic violence agencies to work collaboratively.
- Designing and expanding programs specifically for children exposed to domestic violence.
- Developing more programs for children and youth during after school hours.
- Defining school policies related to all forms of violence and implementing domestic violence training for all school personnel.
- Make the safety and well-being of adult and child victims a priority for fatherhood programs.

For more information on how to decrease domestic violence, consult the Toolkit to End Violence Against Women at: <http://toolkit.ncjrs.org>.

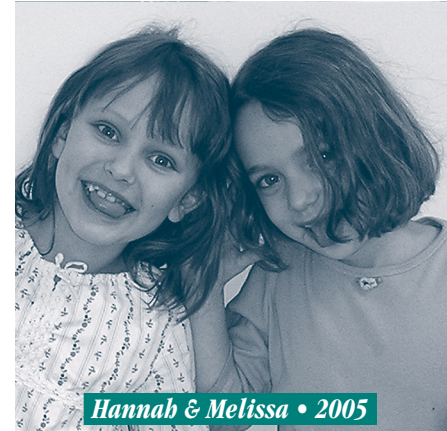
## Definitions

**Domestic Violence** – The defendant or victim in a family violence case may be male or female, child or adult, or may be of the same sex. Family violence is any criminal offense or violation involving the threat of physical injury or harm; act of physical injury; homicide; sexual contact, penetration or intercourse; property damage; intimidation; endangerment, and unlawful restraint.

**Child Present** – A child is present at the time of the incident, as reported by the police.



Melissa & Hannah • 2000



Hannah & Melissa • 2005

## Definition

**Active PFA Order** – Incidents in which there are any active court orders such as Custody, Protection from Abuse orders, No Contact orders, or other court orders.

## For more information see

[www.dcadv.org/](http://www.dcadv.org/)  
[www.stoptheviolence.org](http://www.stoptheviolence.org)

Although it is important to know the weaknesses of American families, such as poverty, abuse, and unemployment, it is also imperative that the strengths of families be addressed.<sup>1</sup> In a time where many mourn a loss of family values, a national survey reported that 73 percent of young teens report that they eat dinner with their family at least five times a week.<sup>2</sup> Similarly, more than half of adolescents (54 percent) state that they would turn to their parents for help solving a problem before they would turn to anyone else.<sup>2</sup> The majority of youth also have parents that usually or always help them do things that are important to them (79 percent of mothers and 67 percent of fathers).<sup>1</sup> According to current research, many families are strong and prospering and many of those that face challenges are doing an excellent job of raising children and supporting each other.<sup>1</sup>

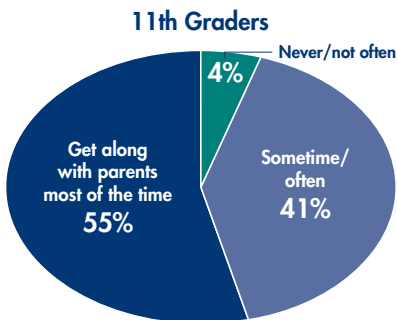
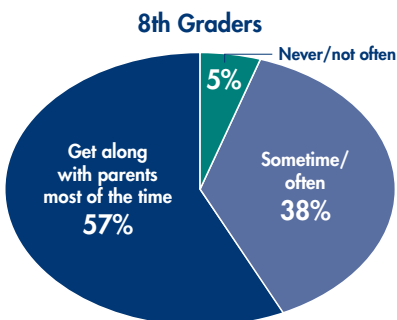
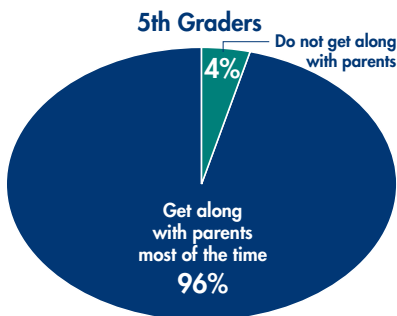
1 Family Strengths: Often overlooked, but real. (2002). Child Trends Research Brief

2 The Strengths of American Families (2004). Child Trends Research Brief. Available at: [www.childtrends.org](http://www.childtrends.org)



## Parents

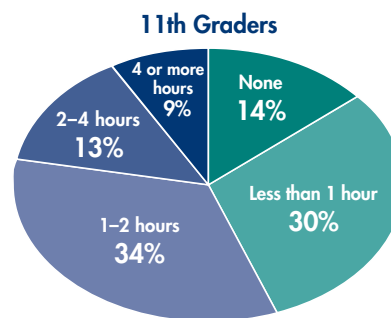
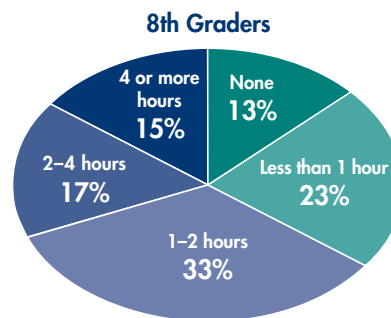
I get along well with my parents/guardians.  
Delaware, 2003



Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses. Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

## Family Time

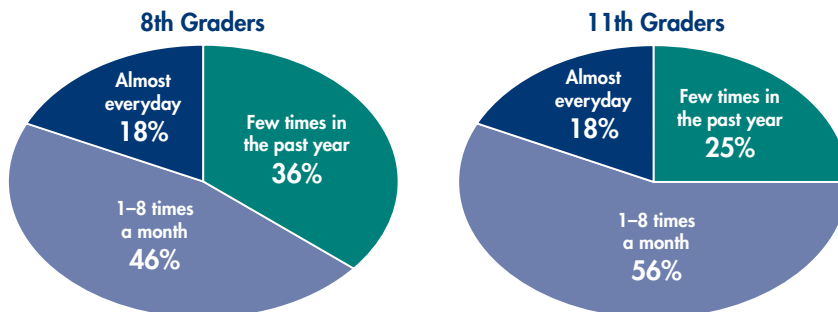
How much time do you spend on a school day (before and after school) spending time with your parents/guardians?  
Delaware, 2003



Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses. Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

## Talking to Parents about Plans

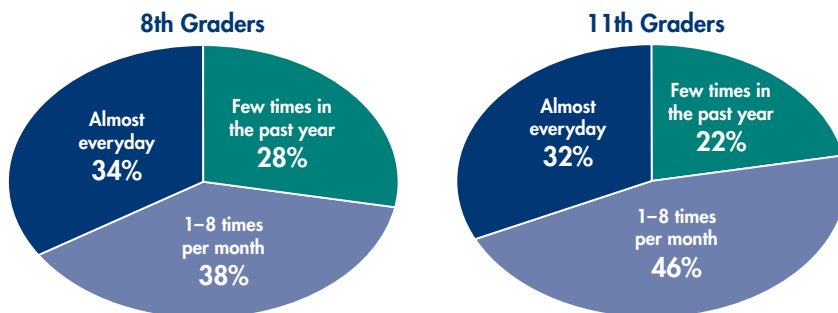
How often do you talk to either of your parents about your future education plans and career plans?  
Delaware, 2004



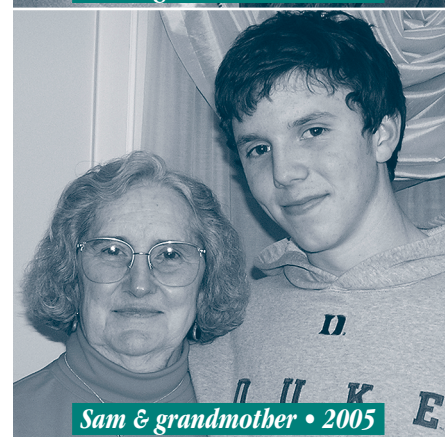
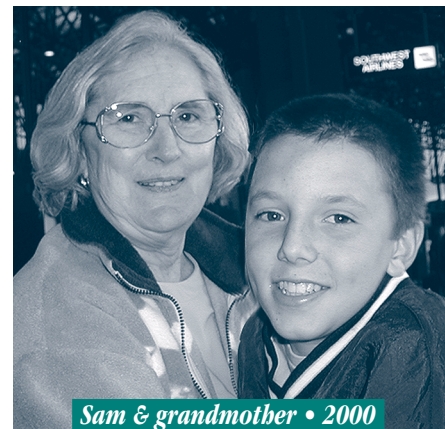
Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses.  
Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

## Talking to Parents about School

How often do you talk to either of your parents about how things are going at school?  
Delaware, 2004



Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses.  
Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

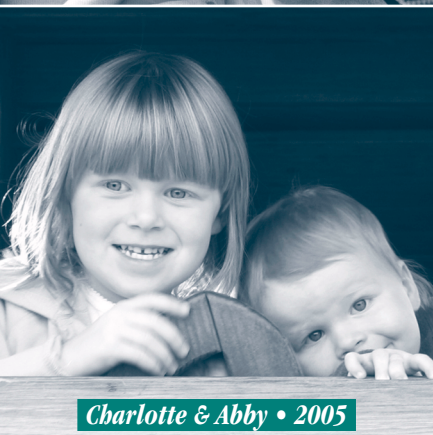


## Did you know?

- 76 percent of adolescents have mothers and 70 percent have fathers who usually or always praise them for doing well.
- 57 percent of mothers and 34 percent of fathers know everything or almost everything about their adolescent's close friends, according to their children.
- 73 percent of mothers and 55 percent of fathers know whom their adolescent is with when he or she is not at home.
- 84 percent of preschoolers go on outings, such as to the park, a grocery store, or a playground, with family members at least several times a week.
- About 48 percent of 12- to 14-year-olds report that they "do something fun" with their families, such as playing a game or going to a sporting event, three or more days a week.

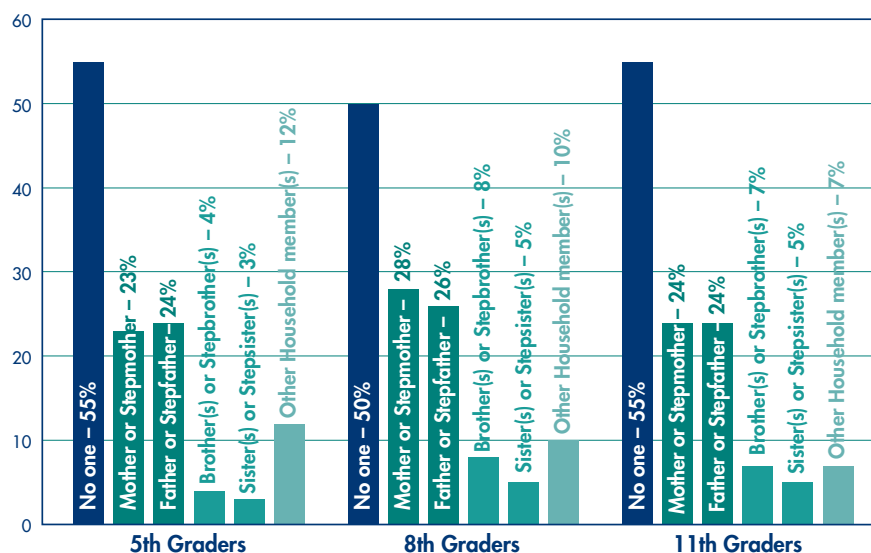
1 The Strengths of American Families (2004). Child Trends Research Brief. Available at: [www.childtrends.org](http://www.childtrends.org)





## Tobacco Use in the Home

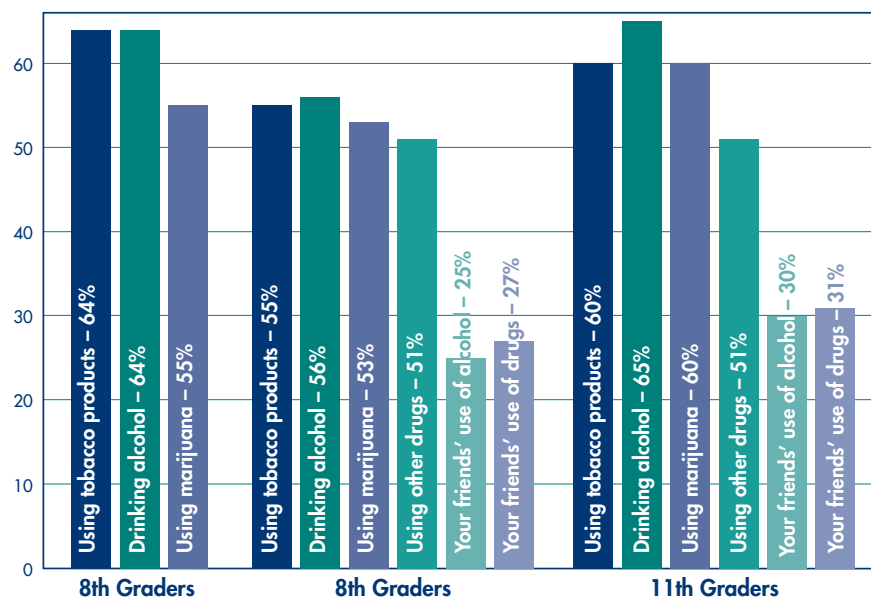
Does anybody living in your home smoke cigarettes or tobacco? (Mark all that apply)  
Delaware, 2004



Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses.  
Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

## Talking with Parents about Drugs

Have either of your parents spoken with you about the risks of: (Mark all that apply)  
Delaware, 2004



Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses.  
Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

For more information see

[www.state.de.us/drugfree/data.htm](http://www.state.de.us/drugfree/data.htm)



# Community Environment & Resources

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Delaware Children Speak about Community .	114



Emma & Alex with moms 2003



Emma & Alex 2004



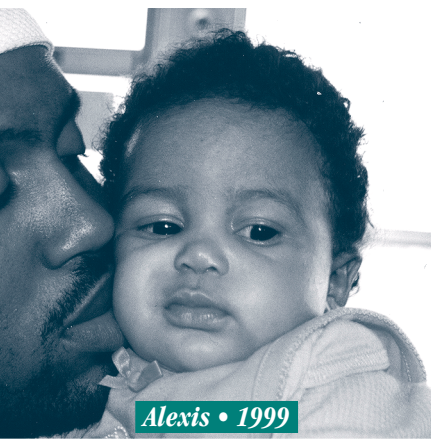
Approximately 3.3 million children between the ages of 6 and 12 do not have any regular after school care and 1 in 10 children regularly spend time alone or with a sibling under 13. <sup>1</sup> Leaving children and adolescents unsupervised, or in “self-care,” has been linked to increased likelihood of accidents, injuries, lower social competence, lower GPAs, and lower achievement test scores. Unsupervised children also have a greater likelihood of participation in delinquent or other high risk activities such as experimentation with alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and sex. <sup>1</sup> Among school-age children, crime and victimization rates are at their highest in the hours directly after school. <sup>2</sup> In addition, teens who are left unsupervised during after school hours are 37 percent more likely to become teen parents. <sup>1</sup>

Although quality child care is important to a child's well-being, it is also expensive. Working families may avoid or defray this cost by obtaining help from relatives, employers, nonresident parents, the government, other organizations, or other individuals. <sup>3</sup> Even with child care help available, 42 percent of low-income families that pay for child care spend an average of \$1 out of every \$7 earned to purchase that care. <sup>3</sup>

1 Making the Case: A Fact Sheet on Children and Youth in Out-of-School Time (2004). National Institute on Out-of-School Time, Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College. Available at: [www.niost.org](http://www.niost.org)

2 Child Care Patterns of School-Age Children with Employed Mothers (2000). Urban Institute. Available at: [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org)

3 Getting Help with Child Care Expenses (2003). Urban Institute. Available at: [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org)



Alexis • 1999



Alexis • 2005

## Accredited Programs

Number of Accredited Programs by Accrediting Organization\*, Delaware and Counties, 2004

	NAFCC	NAEYC	NSACA
Delaware	3	20	0
New Castle	3	18	0
Kent/Sussex	0	2	0

\* NAFCC is the National Association for Family Child Care Providers

\* NAEYC is the National Association for the Education of Young Children

\* NSACA is the National School Age Care Alliance

Source: The Family and Workplace Connection

## Child Care and School Age Programs

Delaware and Counties, 2004

	Total Child Care	School Age Programs	Site-Based* in Schools
Delaware	1,858	1,682	82%
New Castle	1,110	993	90%
Kent/Sussex	758	689	73%

\* Percent of school age child cares in public elementary schools

Source: The Family and Workplace Connection

## Did you know?

- Due to help received from relatives, the government, private organizations, or other sources, 20% of all employed families with children under age 13 pay no child care expenses. At least 8% of families receive child care assistance but still pay for some child care expenses. <sup>1</sup>
- 73% of infants and toddlers of employed mothers are primarily cared for by someone other than a parent while their mother is working. Of these infants and toddlers, 27% are cared for by relatives, 22% by centers, 17% by family child care settings, and 7% by nannies or babysitters. <sup>2</sup>
- Children between the ages of 10 and 12 from lower-income families are 8% less likely to use self-care as the primary child care arrangement than higher-income children. <sup>1</sup>
- Children between the ages of 6 and 9 with mothers who work a traditional schedule (between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.) are three times more likely to be in a before- or after-school program as their primary child care arrangement than children with mothers who work a nontraditional schedule (24% versus 8%). <sup>1</sup>
- Among 10- to 12-year-olds, white children are twice as likely as Hispanic children, and almost three times as likely as black children, to use self-care as the primary form of child care (30% for whites, compared to 15% and 11%, respectively). <sup>1</sup>

1 Child Care Patterns of School-Age Children with Employed Mothers (2000). Urban Institute. Available at: [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org)

2 Who's Caring for Our Youngest Children? Child Care Patterns of Infants and Toddlers (2001). Urban Institute

### Definitions

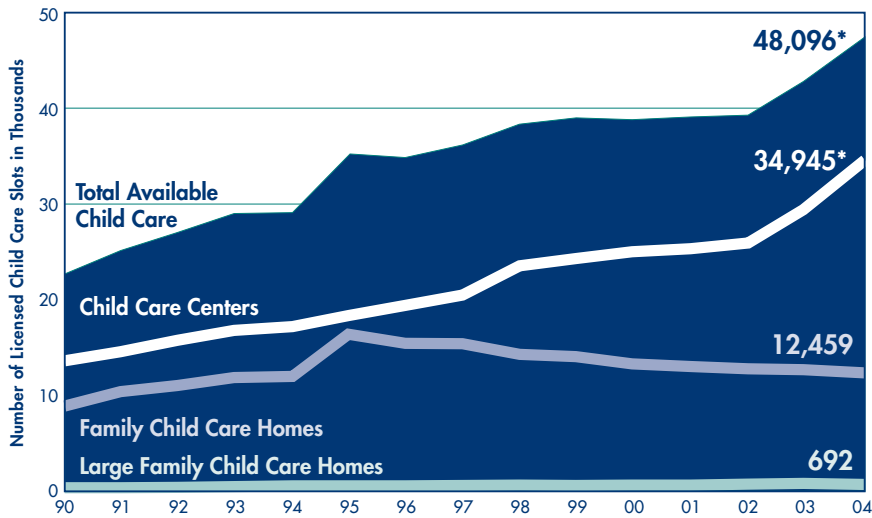
**Welfare Reform** – The welfare reform numbers refer to the number of children in families who received Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) that year or received TANF child care for one year after leaving the TANF program.

**Income Eligible** – The income eligible numbers reflect the working poor families below 200% of poverty.



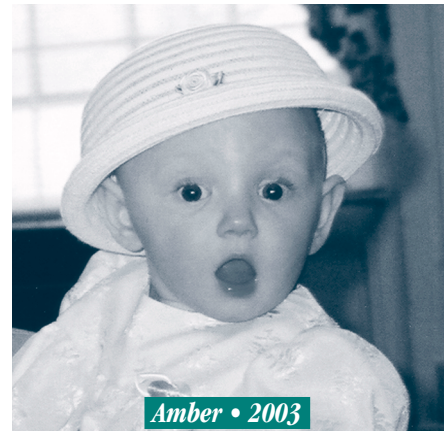
## Available Child Care

Delaware

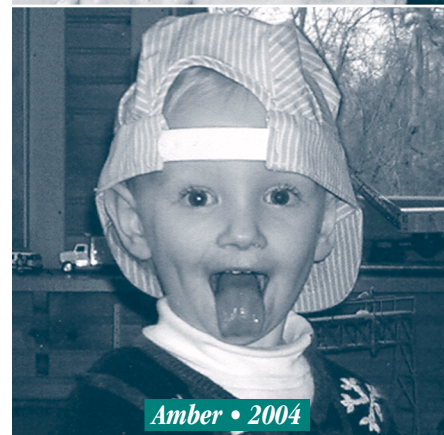


\*Reflects the addition of child care centers providing part time care

Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families



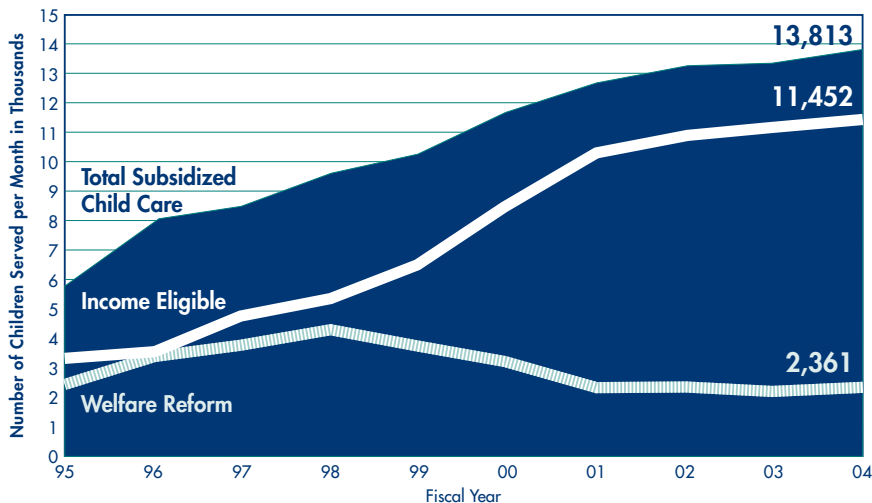
Amber • 2003



Amber • 2004

## Subsidized Child Care

Delaware



Source: Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Social Services

### put data into action

According to Child Care Aware, key indicators of quality child care include:

- **Ratio:** Babies need an adult to child ratio of no more than 1:4 (one adult for four infants), while four-year-olds can do well with a ratio of 1:10.
- **Group Size:** The smaller the group, the better.
- **Caregiver Qualifications:** Caregivers with degrees and/or special training in working with children will be better able to help children.
- **Turnover:** How long caregivers have been at the center or providing care in their homes indicates the quality of care.
- **Accreditation:** Providers that are accredited by a national organization have met voluntary standards for child care that are higher than most state licensing requirements

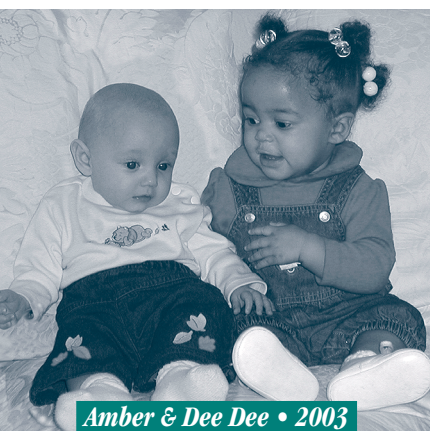
For more information see

Tables 79-83 p. 162-163  
[www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org)  
[www.afterschool.gov](http://www.afterschool.gov)  
[www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org)  
[www.familiesandwork.org](http://www.familiesandwork.org)

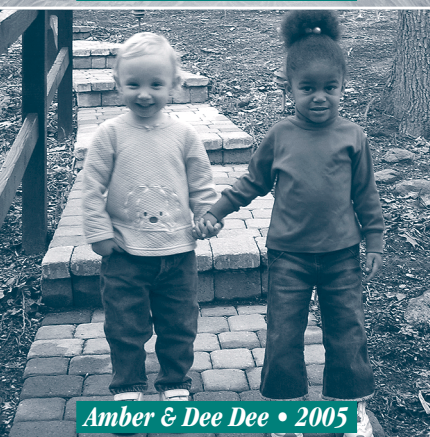
# Juvenile Violent Crime Arrests

*Juvenile violent crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and assault. Violent crimes committed by juveniles peaked in the late 1980's and have since declined dramatically.<sup>1</sup> In 2002, the rate of arrests for juveniles committing violent crimes fell 47 percent, putting the Violent Crime Index for juvenile arrests at the lowest level since at least 1980.<sup>1</sup> However, 15 percent of all violent crimes committed in 2002 were committed by juveniles, indicating the need for parents, law enforcement agencies, and citizens to continue their vigilant efforts to deter youth participation in delinquent activities.<sup>1</sup> This goal can be accomplished by engaging youth in extracurricular activities, after school programs, and community events. Communities also need to focus on reducing the number of repeat offenders among juveniles, so they are able to make a successful reentry into their communities.*

<sup>1</sup> Juvenile Justice Bulletin (2004), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice. Available at: <http://www.ncjrs.org>



Amber & Dee Dee • 2003

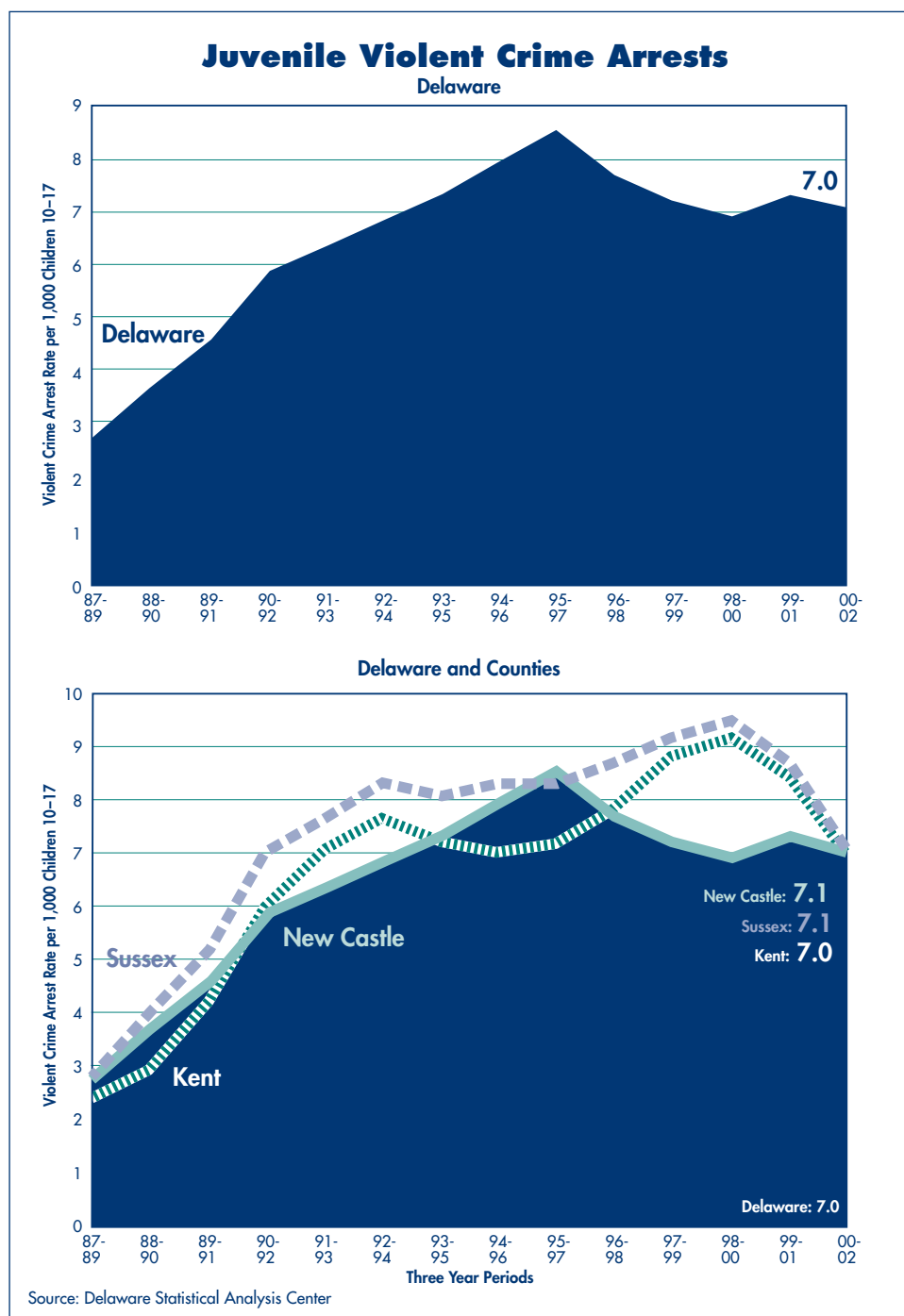


Amber & Dee Dee • 2005

## Definition

### Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate

– number of arrests for violent crimes per 1,000 children 10–17; includes homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault



## School Violence and Possession

Delaware, School Year 2002–2003

### Locations

Location of Student Conduct Offenses		
Location	Number	Percent
Inside school building	1,735	75%
Administrative office	154	7%
Cafeteria	170	7%
Classroom	915	39%
Gymnasium	69	3%
Hall/Stairway	364	16%
Restroom	63	3%
On the school grounds	246	11%
School bus	179	8%
School bus stop	21	1%
Off school grounds	27	1%
Other	33	1%
Unknown	79	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,320</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Weapons

Student Possession and/or Concealment of Weapons/Dangerous Instruments		
Weapon/ Dangerous Instrument	Student Conduct Offenses	
	Number	Percent
Knife	80	58%
Razor blade/box cutter	21	15%
Explosive, incendiary or poison gas	4	3%
Firearm (handgun/rifle/shotgun)	11	8%
Other	21	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: "Annual Report of School Climate and Student Conduct in Delaware Schools, 2001-2002", Delaware Department of Education, 2003.

## Juvenile Violence Arrests

Number of Juveniles Arrested

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Delaware	588	629	549	557	654	627	621	559
New Castle	382	414	334	298	361	378	409	371
Kent	93	102	96	121	147	123	98	100
Sussex	113	113	119	138	146	126	114	88

Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center

### Did you know?

- 16% of high school students in Delaware reported carrying a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property within the last 30 days.
- 9.7% of 9th graders, 8.1% of 10th graders, 7.5% of 11th graders, and 4.3% of 12th graders report that they have been threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property at least once during the past 12 months.

Source: 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. State of Delaware. Available at: [www.state.de.us/drugfree/2003rpt/yrbs\\_2003\\_summaryplussummarytables.pdf](http://www.state.de.us/drugfree/2003rpt/yrbs_2003_summaryplussummarytables.pdf)

### Did you know?

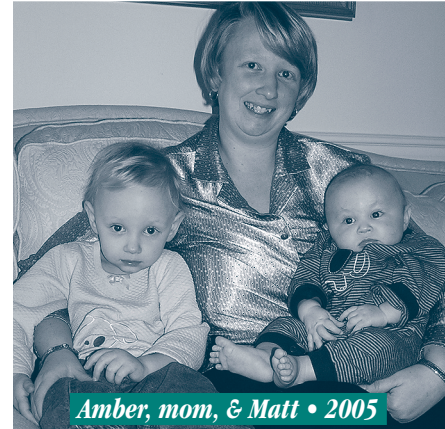
- In 2002, fewer juveniles were murdered in the United States than any year since 1985.
- Between 1980 and 2002, the increase in female juvenile arrest rate was greater than the increase in the male rate for aggravated assault (99% to 14%), simple assault (258% vs. 99%), and weapons law violations (125% vs. 7%).
- From 1980 to 2002 the black-to-white disparity juveniles arrest rates for violent crimes has declined from 6.3 times the white rate to 3.8.

Source: Juvenile Justice Bulletin (2004), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice. Available at: <http://www.ncjrs.org>

### put data into action

Preventing juvenile crime begins with identifying at-risk individuals in their environments before the delinquent behavior occurs. Below is a list of steps recommended by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention that parents or caregivers can take to help prevent juvenile delinquency.

- Build family cohesiveness and parent-child relationships by spending 10–15 minutes alone with your child at least once a week and listening attentively to your child.
- Get to know your child's friends and their families.
- Talk to your child about peer pressure and the physical and emotional changes expected during their teen years.
- Involve children in youth recreational activities or after school programs.



### For more information see

Tables 84-92 p. 164-167  
[www.pledge.org](http://www.pledge.org)  
[www.ncdjjdp.org/cpsv](http://www.ncdjjdp.org/cpsv)  
[www.connectforkids.org](http://www.connectforkids.org)



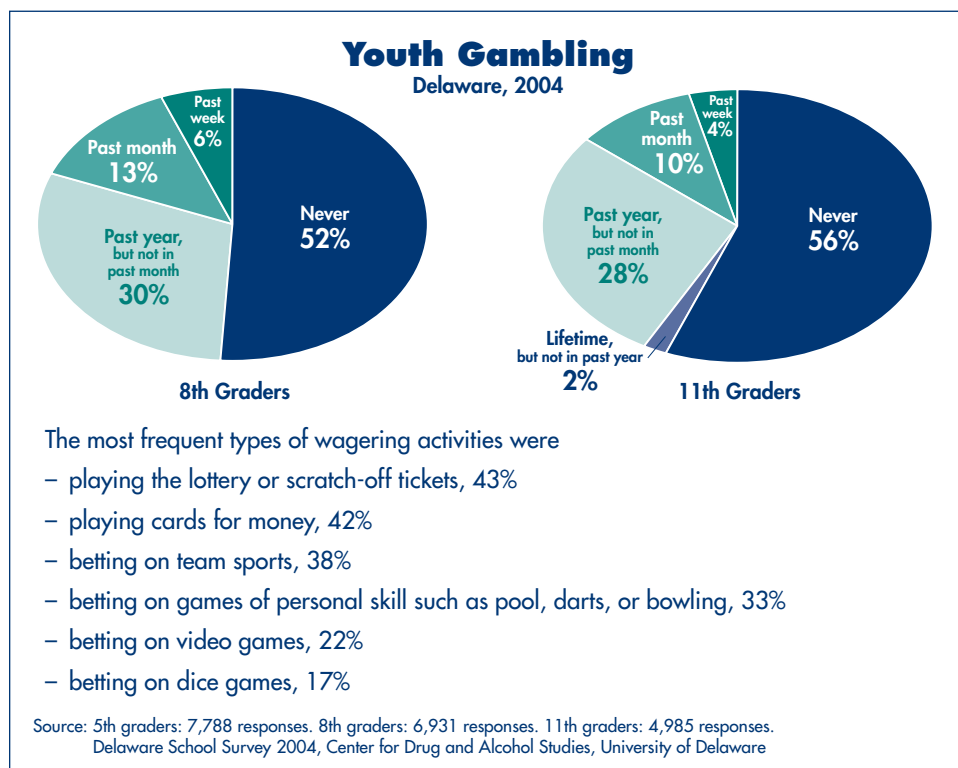
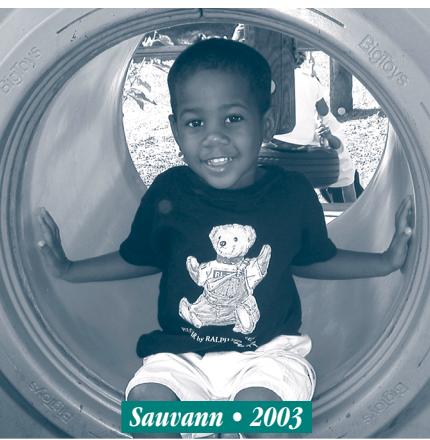
# Gambling

According to the National Council on Problem Gambling, gambling becomes a problem when it causes disruptions in any major area of one's life be it psychological, physical, social, or vocational. Over 70 percent of American adults report gambling at least once in the past year.<sup>1</sup> Approximately 1 percent (3 million) of American adults met criteria for pathological gambling, while another 2-3 percent have a serious problem with their gambling.<sup>1</sup>

Given the constant threat of alcohol and drug use, violence, truancy, and premature or unsafe sexual activity, most people do not believe they need to worry about young people becoming addicted to gambling. Even though this perception is common, according to the Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling, it is dangerously inaccurate and has become a serious problem among youth and typically follows with a variety of negative consequences such as an increased risk of suicide.<sup>2</sup>

1 National Council on Problem Gambling. Available at: [www.ncpgambling.org/media/pdf/g2e\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.ncpgambling.org/media/pdf/g2e_flyer.pdf)

2. Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling, Inc. Available at: [www.gamblinghelp.org](http://www.gamblinghelp.org)



## Did you know?

- Research has shown that adolescents with problem/pathological gambling behaviors have lower self esteem, higher rates of depression, avoid friends and other people when gambling, and are at increased risk for the development of an addiction or multiple addictions.
- Gambling is more popular among males than females.
- Adolescents with serious gambling problems are at heightened risk for contemplating or attempting suicide.

Source: Youth Problem Gambling, McGill University (2004). Available at: [www.education.mcgill.ca/gambling](http://www.education.mcgill.ca/gambling)

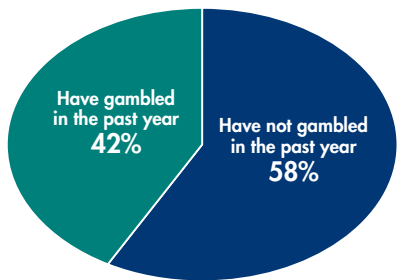
## put data into action

Delaware has a Council on Gambling that provides literature, support meeting information, treatment information, and 24-hour help. More information can be found at [www.dcgpp.org](http://www.dcgpp.org) or they can be reached toll free at 1-888-850-8888.

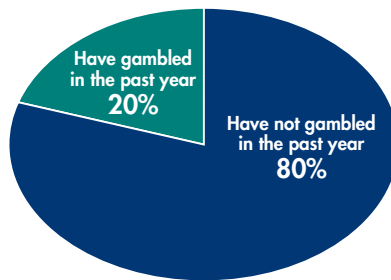
Teens and parents can also receive help with gambling problems by contacting the National Coalition on Problem Gambling at 1-800-522-4700 or by setting up short-term counseling through Gamblers Anonymous, [isomain@gamblersanonymous.org](mailto:isomain@gamblersanonymous.org), which is a long-term support group for people of all ages and all walks of life.

## Youth Gambling by Gender

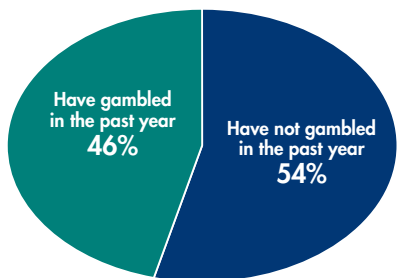
Delaware, 2004



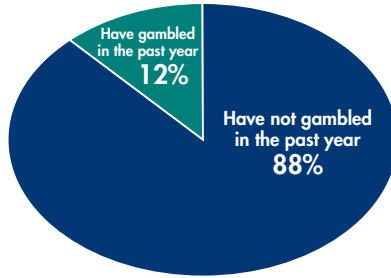
8th Grade Males



8th Grade Females

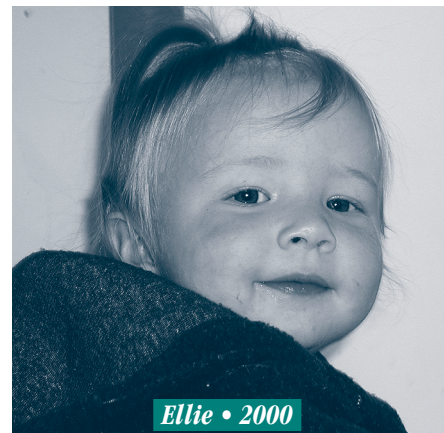


11th Grade Males



11th Grade Females

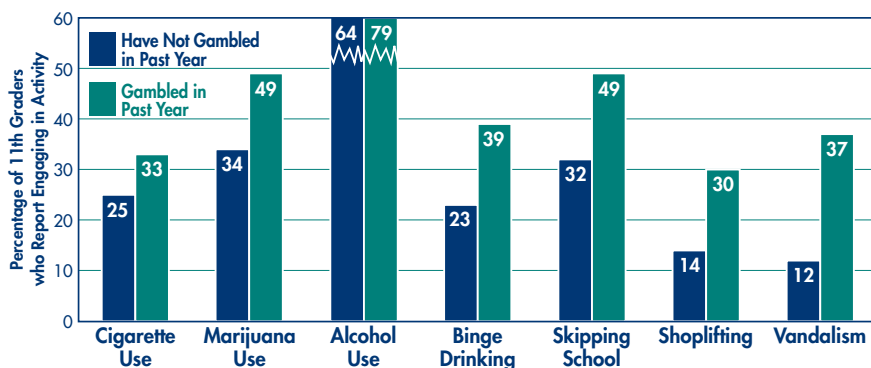
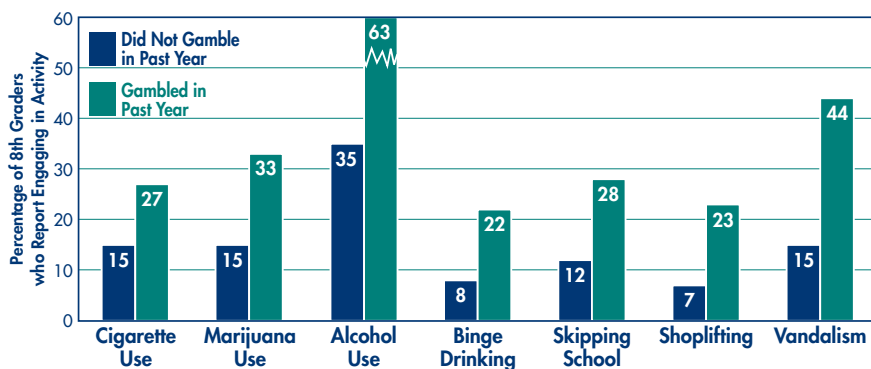
Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses.  
Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware



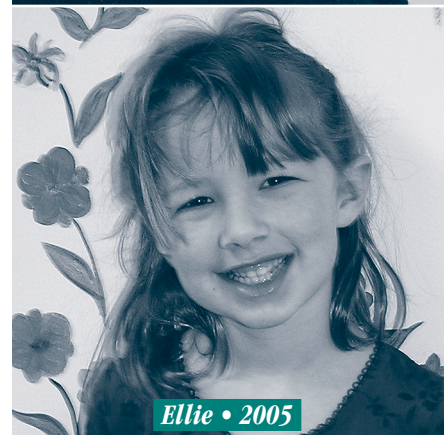
Ellie • 2000

## Risk Behaviors Compared by Youth Gambling

Delaware, 2004



Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses.  
Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware



Ellie • 2005

For more information see

[www.ftc.gov/gamble](http://www.ftc.gov/gamble)

[www.education.mcgill.ca/gambling/](http://www.education.mcgill.ca/gambling/)

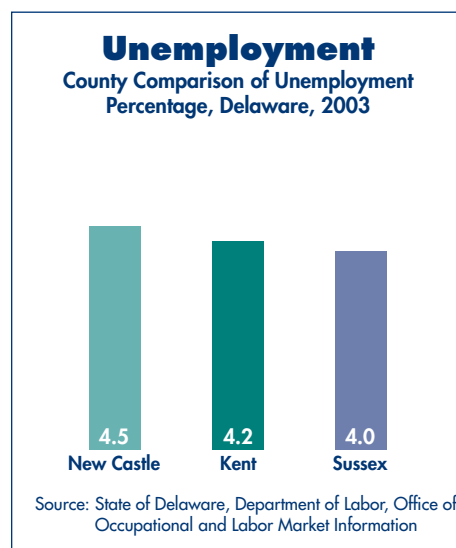
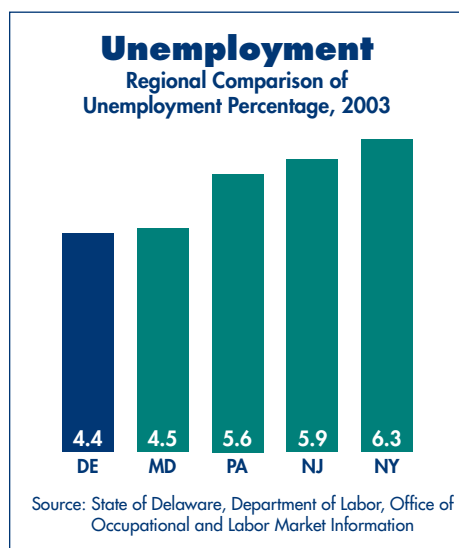
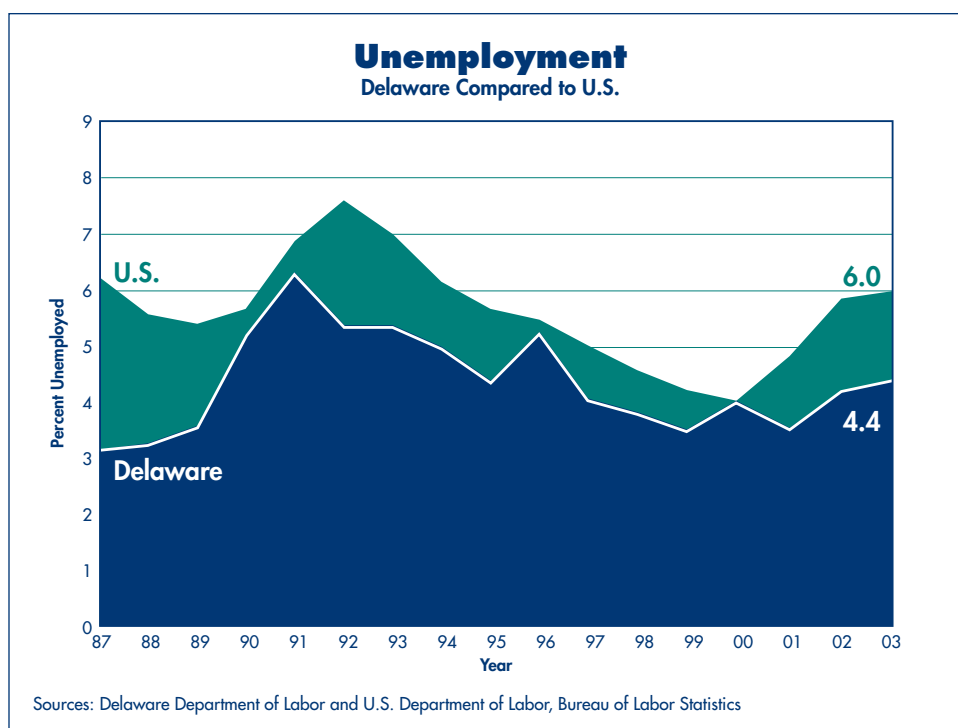
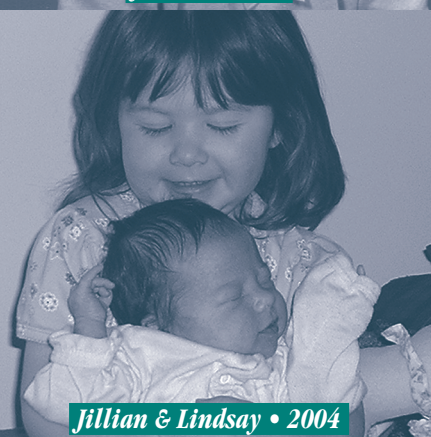
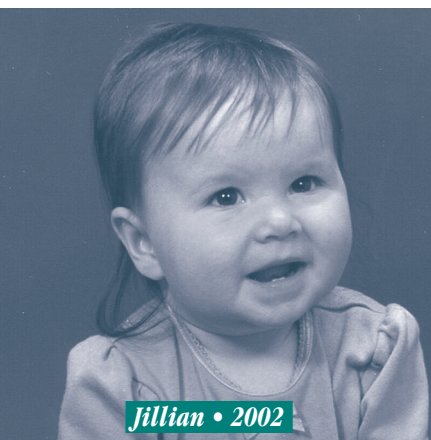
[www.delawareworks.com](http://www.delawareworks.com)

# Unemployment



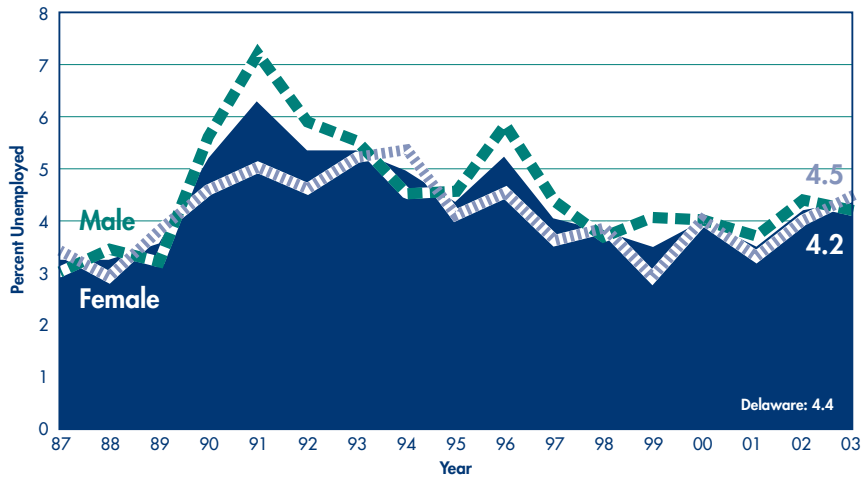
Unfortunately, unemployment is an issue most families face at some point. According to data released by the U.S. Department of Labor in 2004, the percentage of families with an unemployed member has increased from 5.7 percent in 2000 to 8.1 percent in 2003.<sup>1</sup> Also during 2003, at least one member out of 6.1 million families was unemployed in an average week.<sup>1</sup> Asian families experiencing unemployment were the most likely to have at least one member in the family employed, followed by white families, Hispanic families, and black families.<sup>1</sup> Since 1998, the labor force participation rate for mothers of children younger than one year of age has fallen and was recorded at 53.7 percent in 2003.<sup>1</sup> The unemployment rate for unmarried mothers with children under 18 has risen from 9.5 percent in 2002 to 10.2 percent in 2003.<sup>1</sup> Unemployment affects all members of the family no matter who is unemployed and often decreases the chances of the family having good nutrition, stable housing, and adequate health care.

<sup>1</sup> Employment Characteristics of Families United States Department of Labor. Available at [www.bls.gov/news.release/famee.toc.htm](http://www.bls.gov/news.release/famee.toc.htm)

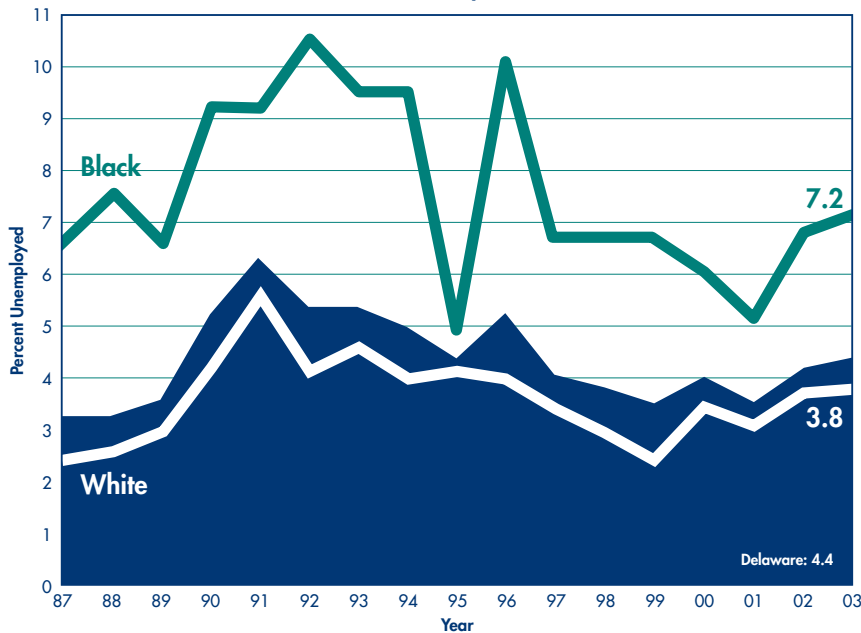




## Unemployment Delaware by Gender



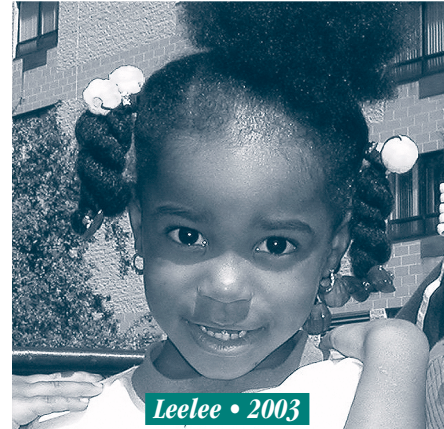
## Delaware by Race



Sources: Delaware Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



Katie & Leelee • 2001



Leelee • 2003

### put data into action

According to the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP), unemployment and underemployment rates are higher now than they have been in almost decade and the number of children living in low-income families is also on the rise. The NCCP outlines four policy strategies for strengthening employment opportunities and supporting families. These strategies include:

- Protecting and expanding the federal Earned Income Tax Credit.
- Raising the minimum wage.
- Helping low-income working parents with child care costs.
- Strengthening unemployment insurance for unemployed low-wage workers.

For additional information about these policy strategies see the National Center for Children in Poverty at [http://www.nccp.org/pub\\_pel04.html](http://www.nccp.org/pub_pel04.html).

#### For more information see

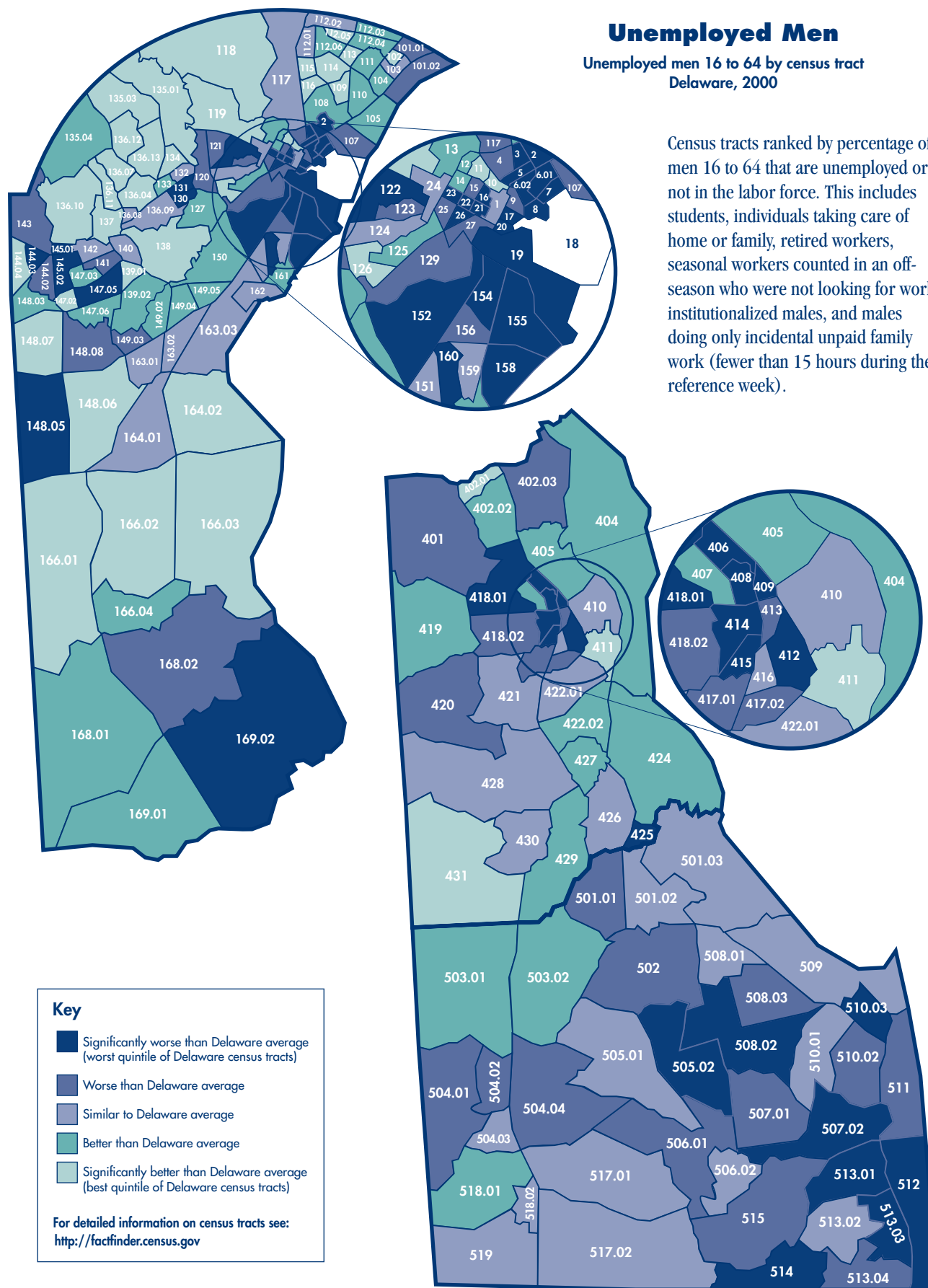
Table 61	p. 155
Table 93	p. 168
<a href="http://www.delawareworks.com">www.delawareworks.com</a>	

# Unemployment

## Unemployed Men

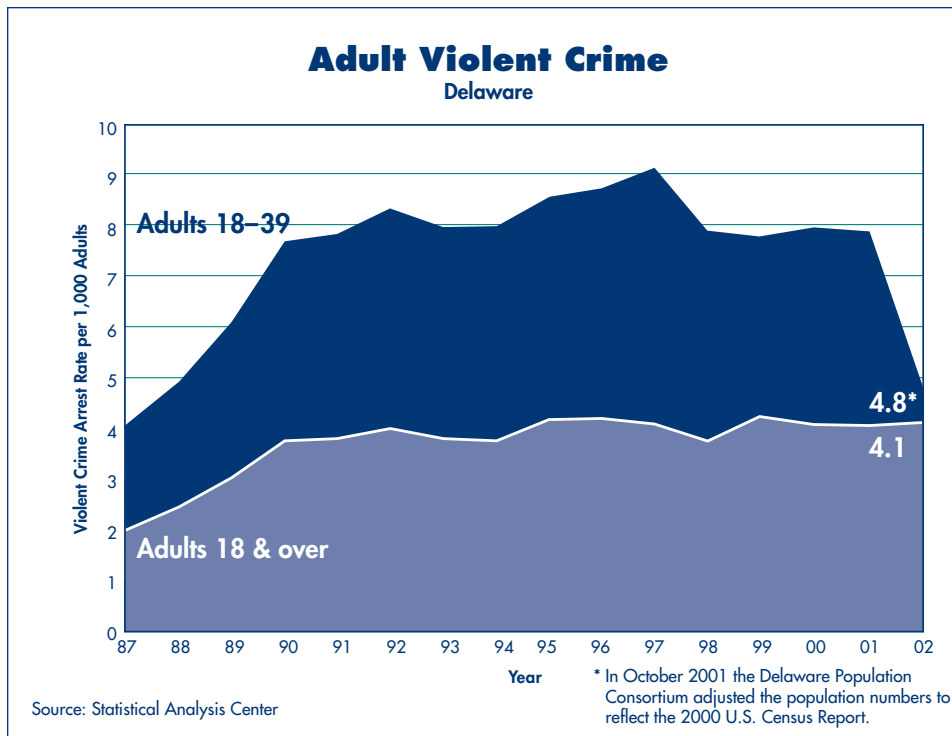
Unemployed men 16 to 64 by census tract  
Delaware, 2000

Census tracts ranked by percentage of men 16 to 64 that are unemployed or not in the labor force. This includes students, individuals taking care of home or family, retired workers, seasonal workers counted in an off-season who were not looking for work, institutionalized males, and males doing only incidental unpaid family work (fewer than 15 hours during the reference week).



*In 1999, there were 1.5 million children with parents currently in prison in the U.S. If released and paroled parents were counted, the number of children dealing with incarcerated parents more than doubles to an estimated 3.2 million children in 2001. Although the majority of incarcerated parents are fathers (93 percent), the number of incarcerated mothers has increased by 87 percent from 1991 to 2000. Having a parent in prison is linked to negative outcomes in children. Studies show that children of incarcerated parents are more likely to exhibit low self-esteem, emotional withdraw from friends and family, and inappropriate or disruptive behavior at home or at school. They are also at a high risk for future delinquency or criminal behavior. In addition, many of these children faced other problems before their parent was incarcerated, such as precarious living conditions caused by poverty, instability, and lack of support.*

Source: Prisoners Once Removed: The Children and Families of Prisoners (2001). Urban Institute Press. Available at: [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org)



## Did you know?

- Black children (7 percent) were almost 9 times more likely to have an incarcerated parent than white children (0.8 percent), while Hispanic children (2.6 percent) were 3 times as likely as white children to have a parent in prison.
- Of the minor children with parents in prison, over half (58 percent) were less than 10 years old.

Source: Incarcerated Children and Their Parents (2004). Bureau of Justice Statistics. Available at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/iptc>.

## put data into action

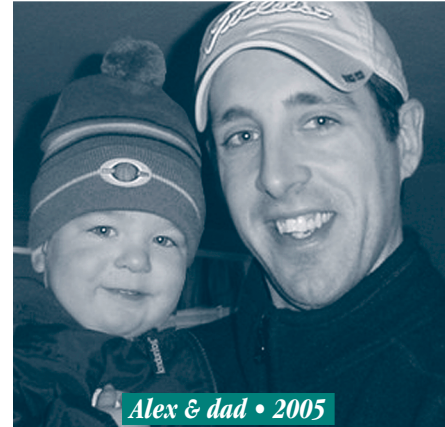
The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has several GO KIDS (Giving Offenders' Kids Incentive and Direction to Succeed) programs to strengthen or foster the relationship between inmates and their children. These programs include:

- Voices of Hope: Inmates record themselves reading a book then mail the book and tape to their child.
- Love Me Tender: Allows mothers and babies to visit for extended periods of time for bonding and feeding.
- InterChange Freedom Initiative: Children and their fathers have lunch and play games together.

For more information on programs, consult the Texas Department of Criminal Justice website at: [www.tdcj.state.tx.us](http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us).



Alex & dad • 2003



Alex & dad • 2005

For more information see

Table 94-95

p. 168

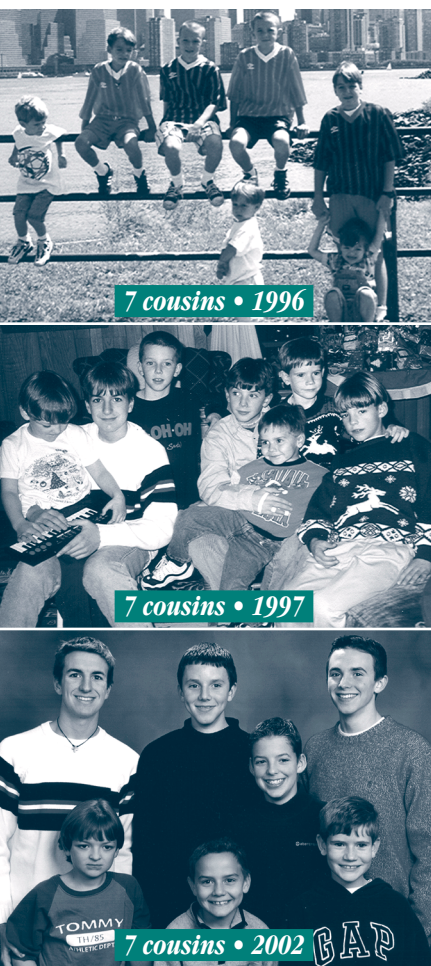
[www.millionmommarch.com](http://www.millionmommarch.com)



# Delaware Children Speak about Community

*In 1999, the Casey Foundation launched Making Connections, a new initiative based on a family-strengthening agenda. The initiative is driven by a simple premise: Children succeed when their families are strong, and families get stronger when they live in neighborhoods that connect them to the economic opportunities, social networks, supports, and services they need. As part of the initiative the Casey Foundation is supporting new data collection efforts to describe and track specific neighborhood conditions that promote or hinder family conditions.*

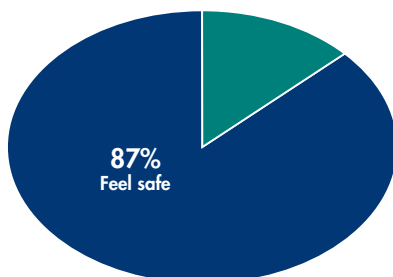
*In Delaware, our children speak about issues that affect their life daily, such as safety, religion, and the buying or using of alcohol and drugs.*



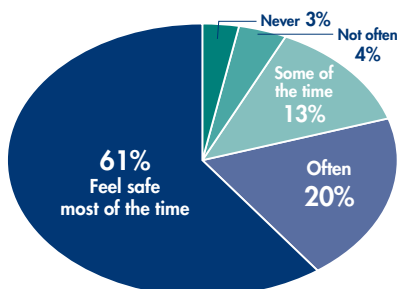
## Neighborhood Safety

I feel safe in my neighborhood.  
Delaware, 2004

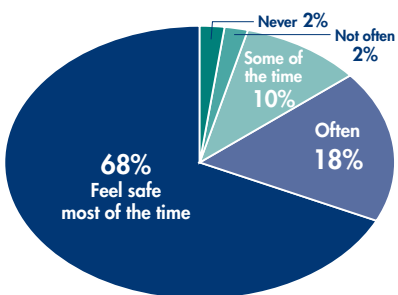
### 5th Graders



### 8th Graders



### 11th Graders

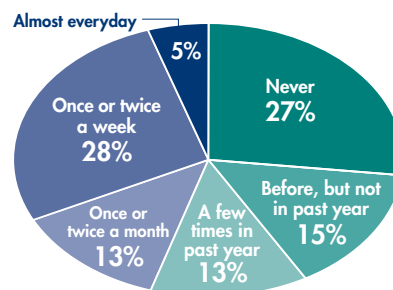


Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses. Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

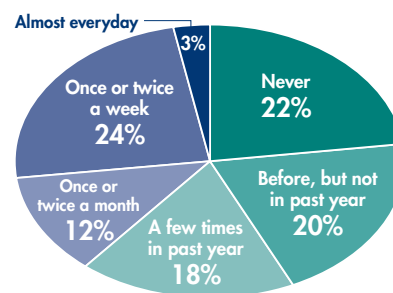
## Religious Services

How often do you attend religious services?  
Delaware, 2004

### 8th Graders



### 11th Graders

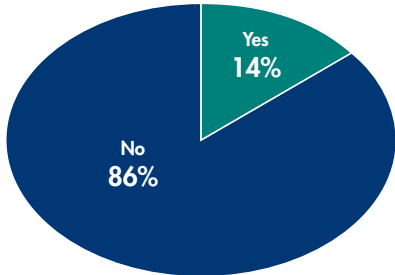


Source: 5th graders: 7,788 responses. 8th graders: 6,931 responses. 11th graders: 4,985 responses. Delaware School Survey 2004, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

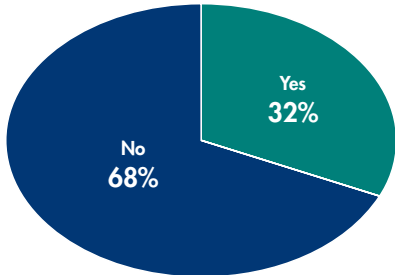
### Buying Cigarettes

Do you know of places where students your age can buy cigarettes?  
Delaware, 2004

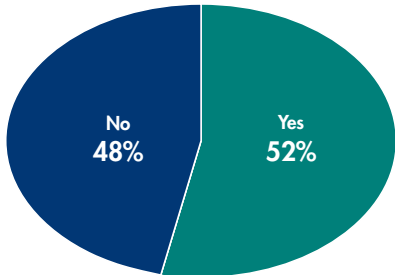
5th Graders



8th Graders



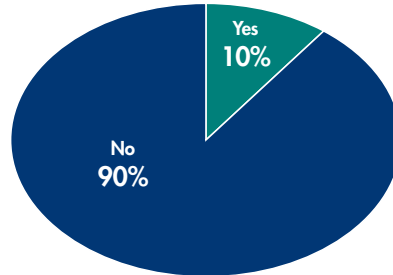
11th Graders



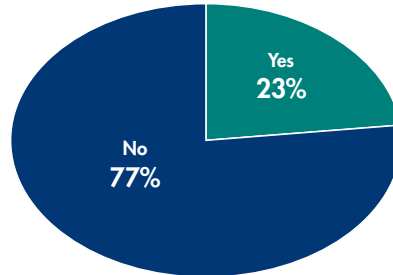
### Buying Alcohol

Do you know of places where students your age can buy alcohol?  
Delaware, 2004

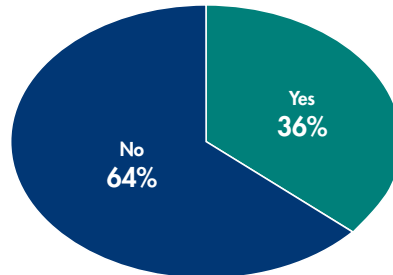
5th Graders



8th Graders



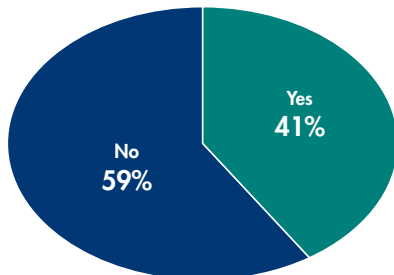
11th Graders



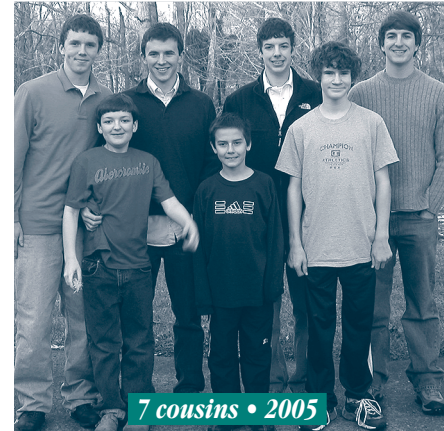
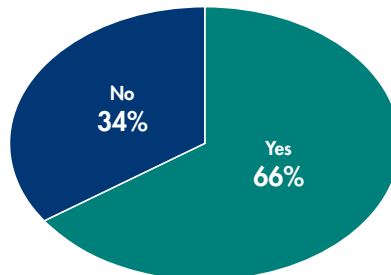
### Buying Marijuana

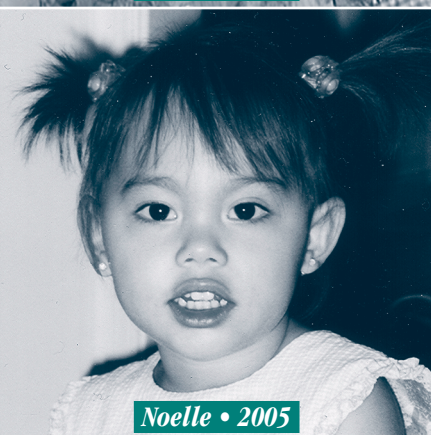
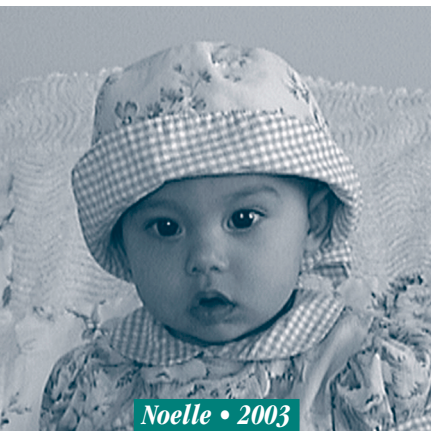
Do you know of places where students your age can buy marijuana?  
Delaware, 2004

8th Graders



11th Graders

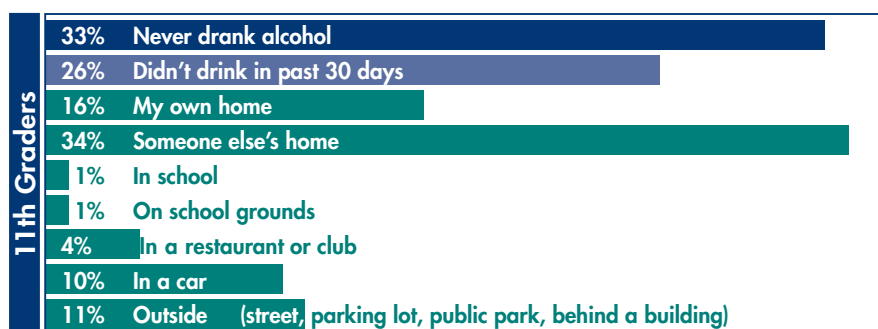




For more information see  
[www.state.de.us/drugfree/data.htm](http://www.state.de.us/drugfree/data.htm)

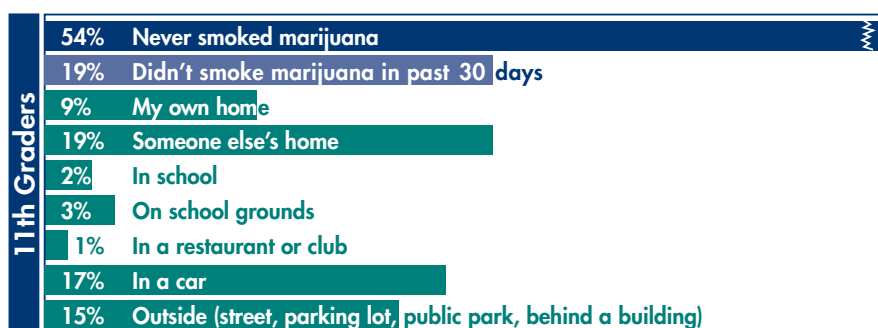
## Drinking Alcohol

In the past 30 days if you drank alcohol, where did you most often drink? (All that apply.)  
 Delaware, 2004



## Smoking Marijuana

In the past 30 days if you smoked marijuana, where did you most often smoke? (All that apply.)  
 Delaware, 2004



Source for all graphs on this page: 8th graders: 7,203 responses. 11th graders: 5,141 responses.  
 Delaware School Survey 2003, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware