Delaware Kids and COVID-19
ABOUT THE DATA

This edition of the Fact Book assesses trends in the overall health and well-being of children before the coronavirus pandemic began. The latest data reflect conditions prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic – whose effects on society have been wide ranging – because of the lag time in statistics.

Supplemental data, gathered by the Census Bureau’s Household Pulse Survey beginning in April 2020, is presented to show some of the immediate impacts of COVID-19. The survey queried one adult in the household (age 18 and older) and asked whether children lived in the household. Household Pulse Survey data described in this report are for respondents who reported having one or more children in the household.

Supplemental data from local partners post COVID-19 are also presented when available.
COVID-19 Timeline

**Testing**
Statewide testing strategy implemented which becomes more robust over time, including tracking and hotspot analysis.

**Contact Tracing**
Plans unveiled to start contact tracing, Delaware National Guard joins effort.

**Facemasks**
Recommendation made for children in kindergarten and above to wear facemasks.

**Mobile App**

**1,000 Deaths**
Delaware exceeds 1,000 deaths from COVID-19, changes in federal leadership re-introduce a nationally coordinated approach to managing the pandemic.

**Goals**
Set and enforce data-driven policies to save lives and protect well-being.

- **April 2020**
- **May 2020**
- **August 2020**
- **September 2020**
- **January 2021**

[Get more data from datacenter.kidscount.org]
Federal Relief for COVID-19

March 2020:
- Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

December 2020:
- Bipartisan-Bicameral Omnibus COVID Relief Deal

March 2021:
- American Rescue Plan
The Changing Face of Delaware’s Children

Children 19 and Under by Race/Hispanic Origin, Delaware

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Population Projection Series 2020.0
The Diversity of Delaware’s Youth
By Race/Hispanic Origin, Total Population and Children 19 and Under, 2020

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Population Projection Series 2020.0
The Diversity of Delaware’s Youth
By Race/Hispanic Origin, Total Population and Children 19 and Under, 2020

New Castle County

Wilmington

Kent County

Sussex County

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Population Projection Series 2020.0
HEALTH & HEALTH BEHAVIORS TIMELINE

TESTING
Statewide testing strategy implemented which becomes more robust over time, including tracking and hotspot analysis

CONTACT TRACING
Plans unveiled to start contact tracing, Delaware National Guard joins effort

FACEMASKS
Recommendation made for children in kindergarten and above to wear facemasks

MOBILE APP
Launch of COVID Alert Delaware App

1,000 DEATHS
Delaware exceeds 1,000 deaths from COVID-19; changes in federal leadership re-introduce a nationally coordinated approach to managing the pandemic

GOALS
Set and enforce data-driven policies to save lives and protect well-being

April 2020
May 2020
August 2020
September 2020
January 2021
next
Fewer Children Lack Health Insurance

Children Ages 0-17 Without Health Insurance, U.S. and Delaware

Source: Current Population Survey 2016-2018 and prior provided by Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research 2017-2019 and future provided by Center for Community Research and Service, University of Delaware
Medicaid/CHIP Enrollment Spiked at Start of COVID-19 Pandemic

Delaware Medicaid/CHIP Monthly Enrollment for Children age 0-18

Source: Center for Community Research & Service, produced from data from the data.Medicaid.gov monthly enrollment
COVID-19 Delayed Medical Care in One-Third of Households with Children

Adults living in households with children who delayed getting medical care because of the coronavirus pandemic, Delaware by race, Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
Two in Five Adults in Households with Children Experienced Anxiety During Pandemic

Adults living in households with children who felt nervous, anxious, or on edge for more than half of days or nearly every day in the past week, Delaware by race, Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
Three Quarters of Delaware Children Were Up To Date on Vaccines Prior to COVID-19

Vaccination coverage with selected individual vaccines and a combined vaccine series by age 24 months among children born 2016-2017, U.S. and Delaware

Source: Delaware Division of Public Health- Immunization and Vaccines for Children
Almost One Third of Delaware Adolescents were Overweight or Obese Prior to Pandemic

Weight status of Delaware children 10-17 based on Body Mass Index, Delaware 2018-19

EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT & ACHIEVEMENT TIMELINE

**SUPPORT**
Federal funding is awarded to enhance Early Care and K12 systems for strength and quality; student assessment waiver approved for 2020

**EARLY CARE FUNDING**
Implementation of childcare enhanced reimbursement with call to consider funding method as a permanent infrastructure support

**K12 PLAN**
School reopening guidance shared; K-12 schools open in various formats: virtual, hybrid, and in-person

**REMOTE ACCESS**
Efforts to expand internet access and distribute hardware combat technology barriers faced by households statewide

**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**
Approval for high school sports to commence and recommendations made for citizens to stay active

**GOALS**
Utilize creative, non-punitive approaches to strengthen communities of students, including disconnected youth

- March 2020
- April 2020
- August 2020
- September 2020
- October 2020
- next
High Quality Early Care Has Been Linked to Lifelong Positive Impacts

Early care and education programs in Delaware by quality rating, Delaware Stars for Early Success

Source: The Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood, University of Delaware
Delaware’s Public School System Educates the Majority of Delaware’s Children

Number of students enrolled by school type in Delaware, 2020/21

Source: Delaware Department of Education
Distance Learning Was the Most Common Method to Engage Students During COVID-19

Change in how households with children received education due to the coronavirus pandemic in Delaware, Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
Public Libraries Fill Gap During COVID-19 Related School Library Closures

Public library cards, circulation, and programs for Delaware, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Juvenile Library Cards</th>
<th>Youth Items in Circulation</th>
<th>Youth Programs</th>
<th>Attendees at Youth Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62,672</td>
<td>1,308,304</td>
<td>7,124</td>
<td>130,065</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Delaware Division of Libraries
Students From Low-Income Families Have Lower Proficiency Levels for 3rd Grade Reading than Peers

Third Grade Reading Proficiency by Family Income, Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Not Meeting the Standard</th>
<th>Low-Income Meeting the Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/16</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/17</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/18</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/19</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Due to social distancing and remote learning instituted during the COVID-19 pandemic, Delaware schools were granted a waiver by the U.S. Department of Education that excused all students from statewide standardized testing requirements for the 2019-2020 school year.

Source: Delaware Department of Education

Disparities by Race/Ethnicity Exist for 11th Grade Math Proficiency

Eleventh Grade Math Proficiency by Race/Ethnicity, Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>White: 39.8%</th>
<th>All Students: 28.3%</th>
<th>Hispanic: 16.8%</th>
<th>Black: 12.7%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/16</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/17</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/18</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Due to social distancing and remote learning instituted during the COVID-19 pandemic, Delaware schools were granted a waiver by the U.S. Department of Education that excused all students from statewide standardized testing requirements for the 2019-2020 school year.

Source: Delaware Department of Education
Electronic Resources Available to Most Delaware Students

Households in which internet and/or a computer or digital device are usually or always available to children for education purposes in Delaware, Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
Disconnected Youth Are at Risk for Poor Outcomes
Percentage of teens 16-19 not graduated, not enrolled, and not working, U.S. and Delaware

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
**ECONOMIC SECURITY TIMELINE**

- **March 2020**
  - **BASIC NEEDS**
    - Federal relief allocates funds to support basic needs; increase in state efforts to combat food insecurity, homelessness, and overall financial uncertainty
  - **HOUSING**
    - Announcement of Housing Assistance Program

- **March 2020**
  - **STIMULUS**
    - Launch of Payroll Protection Program; distribution begins of first set of stimulus checks

- **April 2020**
  - **UNEMPLOYMENT**
    - Expansion of unemployment eligibility and compensation

- **May 2020**
  - **RELIEF**
    - Additional federal relief includes renewed unemployment assistance, nutrition emphasis, and a second set of stimulus checks

- **December 2020**
  - **GOALS**
    - Employ compassion to support those hurting the most

Get more data from datacenter.kidscount.org
Unemployment Spiked to a High of 15.9% for Delaware in Response to Pandemic Related Business Closings

Percent Unemployed by Month, U.S. and Delaware

Source: Delaware Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
More Than Half of Adults Living in Households With Children Lost Employment Since March 13, 2020

Employment & income status during pandemic in Delaware, Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
One-Quarter of Households With Children in Delaware Are Headed by a Single Mother

Single mother-headed households as a percentage of households with children under 18 years, U.S. and Delaware

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
Half of Delaware Families Struggled With Expenses During COVID-19

Percent of adults living in households with children who had difficulty paying for usual household expenses in the past week by race/ethnicity in Delaware, Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
About 35,000 Delaware Children Were Living in Poverty Pre-Pandemic

Percent of children under 18 years in poverty, Delaware and Counties

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
1 in 5 Delaware Children Experienced Hunger Pre-Pandemic

Food insecurity, Delaware and Counties, 2018

Source: Feeding America analysis of Current Population Survey data on food insecure households and survey data by the American Community Survey on household income, unemployment, poverty, race & ethnicity, and homeownership
COVID-19 Has Impacted Food Security Among Adults Living in Households With Children

Food insecurity during pandemic in Delaware Nov 25-Dec 21

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020
SNAP Enables Children to Receive Nutrition They Need to Flourish

Average monthly number of households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in Delaware

Note: The 2019 monthly average is depressed due to a federal government shutdown in February 2019, which severely impacted the number of households served by SNAP during that time period; October 2020 and November 2020 are preliminary data. December 2020 data are not yet available. Therefore 2020 data are averaged over 11 months.

Source: Delaware Health and Social Services
Food Bank of Delaware Fills Need During COVID-19 Pandemic

Food Bank and pantry data March thru December 2020

2,737,517 Pounds of Food to:
- 35,799 households at
  27 mass drive-thru
distributions

15,021,552 Pounds of Food
Distributed via
- Mobile Pantries
- Community Food Pantries
- On-Site Pantries
  28,185 visits
to on-site pantries

Source: Food Bank of Delaware
Many Students Rely on Schools for Nutritious Meals
Public School Feeding Program Food Distribution Sites by Zip Code
January 2021

Key
- No Data
- 1-3
- 4 to 7
- 8 to 29
- 30 to 60

Source: Delaware Department of Education
Note: Data reflects feeding program as of January 2021. This map is updated regularly online. Families can visit any of the meal sites. Children do not need to be present. The site does not need to be in your home district or at the school your student attends.
https://www.doe.k12.de.us/page/4237

Get more data datacenter.kidscount.org
**FAMILY & COMMUNITY TIMELINE**

**TELEHEALTH**
Heightened use of telehealth combined with waivers for substance use management pre-dispensing allows patients to maintain continuity of treatment

**EVICTION MORATORIUM**
Federal action establishes a 120-day moratorium for evictions based on non-payment of rent for certain covered properties

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION**
Innovative methods implemented by many groups to detect unrecognized child abuse/neglect while mandated reporters interactions are decreased

**SUBSTANCE USE**
Dialogues focus on emotional and physical well-being as well as link to substance use during pandemic

**YOUNG ADULTS**
Recognition of basic need assistance and other supports vital to young adult independence emerge

**GOALS**
Racial equity impact analysis is fundamental to policy and program formation so that all children have opportunity for success

- **March 2020**
- **March 2020**
- **April 2020**
- **July 2020**
- **December 2020**
- **next**
Child Abuse and Neglect Has Long Been Recognized as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE)

Child abuse and neglect, number of substantiated cases, Delaware

Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families
Abuse and Neglect Can Have Far Reaching Effects for Youth and Their Communities

Child abuse and neglect by type, Delaware 2020

Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families
Pre-Pandemic, About Half of Young Adults Sought Higher Education

Young adults ages 18 to 24 who are enrolled in or have completed college, U.S. and Delaware

Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
A Bachelor’s Degree in Delaware Costs an Average of $54,400 in Tuition Alone

Annual Cost of College Tuition, Delaware and Region, 2019/20

Source: College Board http://trends.collegeboard.org/
Less Than One in Ten Delaware 8th Graders Reported Using Alcohol or Marijuana Pre-Pandemic

Past 30 day use of alcohol and marijuana, Delaware 8th graders

About One-Quarter of Delaware 11th Graders Reported Using Alcohol or Marijuana Pre-Pandemic

Past 30 day use of alcohol and marijuana, Delaware 11th Graders

Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the data collection for the Delaware School Survey was temporarily suspended. This suspension has resulted in a gap in Delaware School Survey data for the 2020 survey year. However, due to an early administration approach that started in the 2019-2020 school year for the 8th grade survey, CDHS was able to collect enough surveys in the 2019-2020 school year to report out 8th grade data. Data on 9th and 11th grade students for the 2020 school year will not be available.

Source: Delaware School Survey, Center for Drug and Health Studies, University of Delaware
Janice Barlow
Director, KIDS COUNT in Delaware
Policy Scientist, Center for Community Research & Service
Biden School of Public Policy and Administration
University of Delaware
jls@udel.edu

kids-count@udel.edu
www.dekidscount.org