



Where children are born can affect their chances for a strong start in life. Babies need good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences to foster their healthy brain development and help them realize their full potential.

This fact sheet provides a snapshot of how infants, toddlers, and their families are faring with respect to these three developmental domains. For each domain, selected child or family indicators and policy indicators are highlighted and compared to national averages. Important demographic information is also included. A summary table of all indicators is provided on the last page, for reference.



Demographics

Infants and toddlers in New York

Overview

New York is home to 703,115 infants and toddlers, representing 3.5 percent of the state's population. As many as 43 percent live in households with incomes less than twice the federal poverty line (in 2017, about \$50,000 a year for a family of four), placing them at economic disadvantage. America's youngest children are diverse and are raised in a variety of family contexts. A broad array of policies and services are required to ensure that all of them have an equitable start in life.

NEW YORK NATIONAL AVERAGE

Race/ethnicity of infants and toddlers

Non-Hispanic White
 NEW YORK: 45.0%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 49.3%

Hispanic
 NEW YORK: 26.8%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 26.1%

Non-Hispanic Black
 NEW YORK: 15.4%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 13.8%

Non-Hispanic Asian
 NEW YORK: 8.4%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 4.9%

Non-Hispanic other
 NEW YORK: 4.2%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 5.1%

American Indian/Alaska Native
 NEW YORK: 0.3%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 0.8%

Working moms

Mothers in the Labor Force
 NEW YORK: 58.7%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 61.5%

Poverty status of infants and toddlers

Above Low-Income
 NEW YORK: 57.3%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 55.4%

In Poverty
 NEW YORK: 23.4%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 22.7%

Low-Income
 NEW YORK: 19.3%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 22.0%

Infants and toddlers in poverty, by race

Hispanic
 NEW YORK: 32.2%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 30.8%

Non-Hispanic Black
 NEW YORK: 31.3%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 39.5%

Non-Hispanic Other
 NEW YORK: 18.4%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 20.0%

Non-Hispanic White
 NEW YORK: 17.6%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 14.6%

Family structure

2-Parent Family
 NEW YORK: 80.7%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 76.3%

1-Parent Family
 NEW YORK: 17.8%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 21.5%

No Parents Present
 NEW YORK: 1.5%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 2.2%

Grandparent-headed households

NEW YORK: 8.7%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 9.4%

Rural/Non-metro area

Living Outside of a Metro Area
 NEW YORK: 3.3%
 NATIONAL AVERAGE: 8.7%



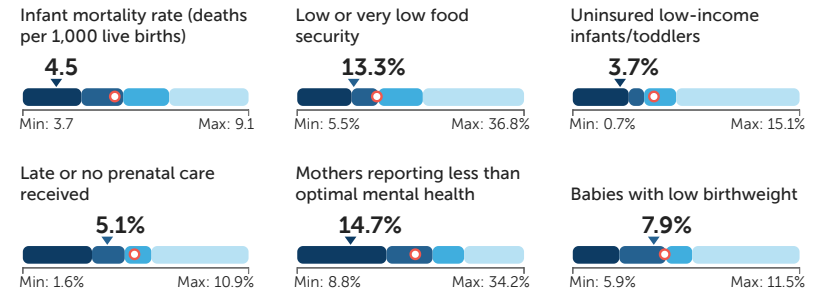
What is Good Health?

Good physical and mental health provide the foundation for babies to develop physically, cognitively, emotionally, and socially. The rate of brain growth is faster in the first 3 years than at any other stage of life, and this growth sets the stage for subsequent development. Access to good nutrition and affordable maternal, pediatric, and family health care are essential to ensure that babies receive the nourishment and care they need for a strong start in life.

New York falls in the Improving Outcomes (O) tier of states when it comes to the overall health of infants and toddlers. The state's high ranking in the Good Health domain primarily reflects its indicators in the Working Effectively (W) and Improving Outcomes (O) tiers. On indicators of food security and nutrition, the state is in the Improving Outcomes (O) tier. However, indicators for preventive medical and dental care for infants and toddlers in the past year are in the Getting Started (G) and Reaching Forward (R) tiers, respectively.

Six Key Indicators of Good Health

KEY ← Range of all state values → ▼ New York ○ National average
G Getting Started R Reaching Forward O Improving Outcomes W Working Effectively



Good Health Policy in New York

Medicaid expansion state	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Medicaid policy for maternal depression screening in well-child visits	Allowed
Medicaid plan covers social-emotional screening for young children	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid plan covers IECMH services at home	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid plan covers IECMH services at pediatric/family medicine practices	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid plan covers IECMH services at ECE programs	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



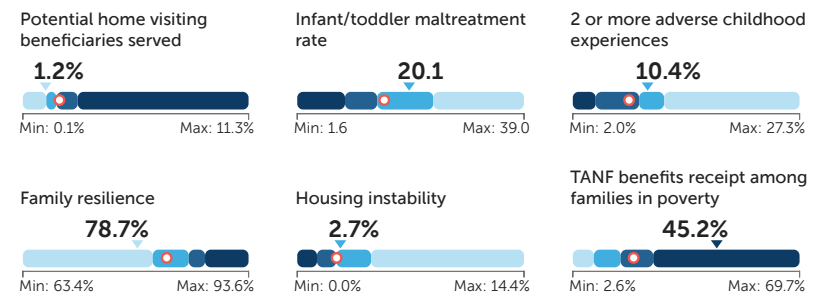
What Defines Strong Families?

Young children develop in the context of their families, where stability and supportive relationships nurture their growth. All families of infants and toddlers benefit from support with parenting, and many—particularly those challenged by economic instability—need access to resources that help them meet their children's daily and developmental needs. Important supports include home visiting services, child welfare systems that are responsive to young children's needs, and family-friendly employer policies that provide paid sick and family leave.

New York falls in the Getting Started (G) tier of states when it comes to indicators of Strong Families. The state's low ranking in this domain primarily reflects indicators in the Getting Started (G) tier, including indicators across the home visiting and child welfare subdomains. However, a few indicators are in the Working Effectively (W) tier, such as the percentage of infants and toddlers exiting foster care to permanency, and the percentage of families with infants and toddlers living in poverty that receive TANF benefits.

Six Key Indicators of Strong Families

KEY ← Range of all state values → ▼ New York ○ National average
G Getting Started R Reaching Forward O Improving Outcomes W Working Effectively



Strong Families Policy in New York

Paid sick time that covers care for child	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paid family leave	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



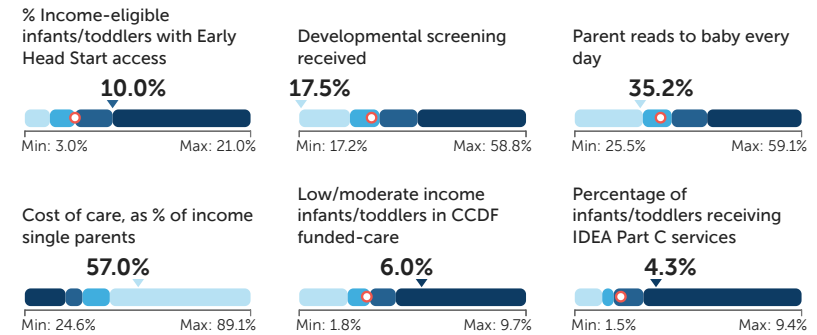
What Defines Positive Early Learning Experiences?

Infants and toddlers learn through play, active exploration of their environment, and, most importantly, through interactions with the significant adults in their lives. The quality of babies' early learning experiences at home and in other care settings has a lasting impact on their preparedness for life-long learning and success. Parents who require child care while they work or attend school need access to affordable, high-quality care options that promote positive development.

New York scores in the Reaching Forward (R) tier of states when considering key indicators related to early care and education and early intervention for infants and toddlers. The state's low ranking in the Positive Early Learning Experiences domain reflects that nearly half of the indicators fall in the Getting Started (G) tier. These indicators include the percentage of parents who read to their babies daily, and the state's average infant care costs as a percentage of single parents' and married parents' incomes. However, New York is in the Working Effectively (W) tier for the percentage of young children receiving IDEA Part C services, and in the Improving Outcomes (O) tier for the percentage of income-eligible infants and toddlers with access to Early Head Start.

Six Key Indicators of Positive Early Learning Experiences

KEY ← Range of all state values → ▼ New York ○ National average
G Getting Started R Reaching Forward O Improving Outcomes W Working Effectively



Positive Early Learning Experiences Policy in New York

Families above 200% of FPL eligible for child care subsidy No ❌

All indicators for New York

G Getting Started R Reaching Forward O Improving Outcomes W Working Effectively

Good Health

W Eligibility limit (% FPL) for pregnant women in Medicaid	223.0	<i>National average: 200.0</i>	W Uninsured low-income infants/toddlers	3.7%	<i>National average: 5.8%</i>
O Low or very low food security	13.3%	<i>National average: 16.5%</i>	O Infants ever breastfed	85.1%	<i>National average: 83.2%</i>
O Infants breastfed at 6 months	59.5%	<i>National average: 57.6%</i>	O Late or no prenatal care received	5.1%	<i>National average: 6.2%</i>
W Mothers reporting less than optimal mental health	14.7%	<i>National average: 22.0%</i>	G Preventive medical care received	84.0%	<i>National average: 90.7%</i>
R Preventive dental care received	26.4%	<i>National average: 30.0%</i>	O Babies with low birthweight	7.9%	<i>National average: 8.2%</i>
W Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	4.5	<i>National average: 5.9</i>	O Received recommended vaccines	72.3%	<i>National average: 70.7%</i>

Strong Families

R Housing instability	2.7% <i>National average: 2.5%</i>	G Crowded housing	26.4% <i>National average: 15.6%</i>
W TANF benefits receipt among families in poverty	45.2% <i>National average: 20.6%</i>	R Infant/toddler maltreatment rate	20.1 <i>National average: 16.0</i>
G Unsafe neighborhoods	11.0% <i>National average: 6.3%</i>	G Family resilience	78.7% <i>National average: 82.6%</i>
G 1 adverse childhood experience	31.3% <i>National average: 21.9%</i>	R 2 or more adverse childhood experiences	10.4% <i>National average: 8.3%</i>
W Infants/toddlers exiting foster care to permanency	99.6% <i>National average: 98.4%</i>	G Potential home visiting beneficiaries served	1.2% <i>National average: 1.9%</i>

Positive Early Learning Experiences

G Parent reads to baby every day	35.2% <i>National average: 38.2%</i>	R Parent sings to baby every day	54.8% <i>National average: 56.4%</i>
O % Income-eligible infants/toddlers with Early Head Start access	10.0% <i>National average: 7.0%</i>	G Cost of care, as % of income married families	15.7% <i>National average: N/A</i>
G Cost of care, as % of income single parents	57.0% <i>National average: N/A</i>	W Low/moderate income infants/toddlers in CCDF funded-care	6.0% <i>National average: 4.2%</i>
G Developmental screening received	17.5% <i>National average: 30.4%</i>	O Infants/toddlers with developmental delay	0.0% <i>National average: 1.1%</i>
W Percentage of infants/toddlers receiving IDEA Part C services	4.3% <i>National average: 3.1%</i>		