2020 NEVADA CHILDREN’S REPORT CARD

Overall Grade: D
2020 Summary of Grades

**Health D**
- Access to Health Care: F
- Prenatal/Infant Health: D
- Immunizations: C-
- Childhood Obesity: C-
- Dental Health: F-
- Mental Health: C
- Sexual Health

**SAFETY: C+**
- Child Maltreatment: C-
- Youth Homelessness: D
- Juvenile Violence: C-
- Child Deaths & Injuries: C+
- Substance Abuse: B+

**EDUCATION: F**
- School Readiness: F-
- Student Achievement: D
- High School Completion: D+
- Funding: F-

**ECONOMIC WELL-BEING: D+**
- Employment: C
- Housing: D
- Poverty: C-
- Income: F

*Data included in this Report Card does not reflect the current COVID-19 pandemic

**How Grades are Determined: By State Ranking (Where Available)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>11-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>14-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>18-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>21-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>F+</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>44-47</td>
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<tr>
<td>F-</td>
<td>48-51</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The following symbols indicate Nevada’s progress on the indicators, not necessarily where the state ranked compared to other states. There are instances where Nevada’s indicator has improved, but our rank has gone down (due to other state’s improving more than Nevada). Because the grades are based on Nevada’s rank, this may result in a lower grade, despite improvements on the indicator.
About CAA

Making a Difference in a Child’s Life

Children’s Advocacy Alliance (CAA) is an independent voice dedicated to achieving public policy wins in the areas of child safety, health and school readiness. CAA creates lasting change by tackling the biggest issues that kids and families face in Nevada.

Serving as a leading advocate for children in Nevada since 1998, the CAA is comprised of community leaders dedicated to improving the lives of children and families. To achieve our goals, CAA:

» Brings people together to build consensus around priorities and to leverage our collective strength towards real reform;

» Collects, analyzes and shares research and information with people who make decisions impacting Nevada’s children and families; and

» Builds public will through education, outreach and advocacy to solve expansive and chronic problems facing kids and families.

When we come together to face the biggest issues for kids and families, we can create more and longer-lasting change. By pooling our resources to put government on the side of Nevada’s children, we can make a bigger difference together than we could have done alone.

How You Can Help:

Become a friend of CAA by supporting our work on the issues you care most about, like ensuring our kids are safe from abuse and neglect, that every child enters school ready to learn, and that all of our kids are healthy. We share your passion for change, and by joining our team, you’ll see your investments go further and reach more kids with advocacy.

Go online at www.caanv.org and click “donate” to make a contribution today.

The CAA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization – all donations and contributions to CAA may be tax deductible. Please contact your financial advisor for additional information.

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ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE: F

Access to Health Care grade considers: the number of children without insurance; children who have a medical home; and patient to provider ratios (per 100,000). In 2019, Nevada ranked 45th in the nation for percentage of children without health insurance at 8%. An estimated 58,000 Nevada children lacked health coverage in 2019. This estimate increased 16% from 50,000 in 2016. Nevada ranks 51st in the percentage of children with a medical home and 48th in patient provider ratios at 65 per 100,000, a decrease of 5 from the previous period.

PREGNATAL/INFANT HEALTH: D

Prenatal/infant health is based upon: the percentage of pregnant women receiving late or no prenatal care; infant and child mortality; and low birth weight babies. Nevada’s ranking dropped for the second year in its infant and child mortality rates, increasing from 5.7 per 1,000 to 6.1 per 1,000, decreasing its ranking from 17th to 30th in the nation. There was also a slight increase in the percentage of low birth weight babies, for the second year in a row, increasing from 8.5% to 8.7%, and decreasing its ranking from 30th to 33rd overall. Nevada also regressed in the percentage of women receiving late or no prenatal care, which increased from 8.2% to 9% in 2018 with a U.S. average of 6%. Despite these statistics, Nevada’s prenatal care ranking improved nationally from 46th to 44th.

IMMUNIZATIONS: C-

The immunizations grade is based on the percentage of children aged 19 to 35 months receiving recommended doses of DTaP, polio, MMR, Hib, hepatitis B, varicella, and PCV vaccines, and adolescents who completed all 3 doses of the HPV vaccine who are Up to Date (UTD) on the HPV vaccinations. In 2019, Nevada ranked 20th in the nation for children aged 19 to 35 months receiving recommended doses of DTaP, polio, MMR, Hib, hepatitis B, and PCV vaccines, with a percentage of 71.3%, a small decrease from 2016 where Nevada ranked 24th with a percentage of 71.9%. Nevada ranked 34th in the nation for adolescents who completed all 3 doses of the HPV at 66%, a significant increase from the 2018 percentage of 49%.
CHILDHOOD OBESITY: C- 🔻
Childhood Obesity consists of: the percentage of 9th-12th grade students whose Body Mass Index (BMI) is at/or above the 85th percentile but not higher than the 95th percentile (overweight) and whose BMI is higher than the 95th percentile (obese); students not physically active 5 days per week for 60+ minutes; and those students who reported that they did not consistently eat fruit. Nevada ranked 29th in the nation for the percentage of students who are overweight at 17% and 21st for those who are obese at 13.1%. Both obese and overweight percentages increased significantly from the previous report card. Inactivity increased from 53.6% in 2017 to 60.8% in 2019. In Nevada, 7.3% of youth reported not consistently eating fruit, compared to the U.S. average of 6.3%.

DENTAL HEALTH: F- 🔻
Since the previous report card, the dental health indicator has changed to reflect the preventative dental health care of children 0-18 instead of 9th-12th graders and includes the percentage of children who have had no preventative dental care visits in the past year and whose teeth were described as being in fair or poor condition. Nevada saw a decrease in rankings and outcomes for both indicators with 6.9% of children having fair to poor teeth in (2017-2018) compared to 6.1% in 2016 and 27.7% of our children receiving no preventive dental care in (2017-2018) compared to 20.1% in 2016.

MENTAL HEALTH: C 🔻
The Mental Health grade is based upon: mental health treatment; attempted suicides; and teen suicide rates. Nevada ranks 21st in the nation for mental health treatment in which children needed mental health treatment or counseling in the past 12 months and did not receive it. Nevada’s attempted suicide rate increased from the previous year, moving from 7.4% in 2017 to 8.3% in 2019, decreasing our rank from 9th to 16th. Nevada’s suicide rate also increased from 4.2 to 5.43 (per 100,000 children ages 0-18). Even with this increase, Nevada’s rank remained the same at 32nd in the nation.

SEXUAL HEALTH: C 🔺
Sexual Health is based upon five indicators: teen birth rate; sexual activity; condom use; any birth control use; and sexually transmitted disease rates. With 13.5% of Nevada school students not using any type of birth control, the state ranks 21 out of 42 states. However, the teen birth rate in Nevada has decreased, creating a national ranking of 35th and moving from 24 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19 in 2017 to 21 births per 1,000 females in 2019. Nevada ranks 11 out of 43 states for condom use and is above average for STI rates for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea, but has increased ranking for Chlamydia rates and decreased in Gonorrhea from the previous report card at 29th and 39th respectively. The Syphilis rate for teens in Nevada has decreased from 22.9 per 100,000 in 2017 to 9.4 per 100,000 in 2019, but still is above the U.S. average of 7.7 per 100,000.
CHILD MALTREATMENT: C-

Nevada’s child maltreatment grade is based upon total child maltreatment, but also looks at physical, sexual and neglectful maltreatment. Nevada’s grade has remained stable over the past few report cards, going from 17th to 19th in the nation. For physical, sexual and neglectful maltreatment, Nevada ranked 29th, 21st, and 38th respectively. This contributed to Nevada’s ranking of 33rd in the nation for Foster Care Placement, in which an average of 5 children were removed from their homes and placed in foster care per 1,000 children in 2018.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS: D

In 2019, Nevada placed 51st in the nation for child and youth homelessness, with 1,285 unaccompanied homeless children and youth (90 per 10,000) reported in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s 2019 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress. Nevada had the second highest rate of unsheltered, unaccompanied children and youth under 25 living in the streets in the United States with some improvement at 79% from 89.2% during the 2019 Point-In-Time Count. These statistics continue to show that Nevada severely lacks adequate shelter for unaccompanied homeless youth in Nevada. Nevada ranked 13th in the nation for the total share of homeless families.

JUVENILE VIOLENCE: C-

The Juvenile Violence ranking is based upon: high school violence; weapons on school property; dating violence; fear of violence; and juvenile justice. In 2019, 14.5% of Nevada’s high school students felt unsafe attending school; 41st in the nation. Nevada ranked 38th out of 40 states for students reporting to have brought a weapon to school at 7.3% and 35th in the nation for the percentage of students who have been in a fight on campus at 10.4%, an increase from 5.9% in 2017. Nevada ranked 25th out of 39 and 36th out of 37 states, respectively, for both physical and sexual dating violence with 8.2% experiencing physical and 14.6% experiencing sexual dating violence (both increases from 2017). Nevada ranked 44th for juvenile justice with 191 per 100,000 youth residing in juvenile detention, correctional and/or residential facilities, an improvement from 209 per 100,00 in 2015.

CHILD DEATHS AND INJURIES: C+

Child deaths and injuries is based upon: overall child deaths; road traffic injuries and deaths; and new to this report card, combined unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide. In 2018, Nevada ranked 17th in the nation for child deaths with 16 deaths per 100,000 children, a decrease from 2016. This number is at the national average of 16 deaths per 100,000. Nevada ranked 17th in the nation for transportation related deaths in 2018— a decrease from 10th in 2016. In 2018, Nevada ranked 24th in the nation for combined unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide rates at 9.1 per 100,000 deaths, differing from the national average of 8.01 per 100,000 deaths.
SCHOOL READINESS: F-

The School Readiness grade consists of preschool enrollment, availability, and spending per capita. Nevada is currently 47th in the nation for preschool enrollment, a slight improvement from the last report card; only 37.5% of 3- and 4-year olds are currently enrolled. Of the 37.5% of enrolled students, only 11.6% are enrolled in State preschool, Special Education, or Head Start, ranked 48th in the nation. Nevada ranks 42nd for spending per capita for states that offer preschool programs, currently investing $103.05, a significant improvement from $65.79 in 2017, but still significantly below the national average of $1,085.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: D

Student Achievement is based upon 4th grade reading, 8th grade math and postsecondary participation. There has been little movement in the percent of reading and math scores at or above proficiency; reading scores stayed the same at 31% and math scores saw a slight decrease from 26.1% to 26%. Nevada still remains near the bottom for both rankings, 42nd for reading and 45th for math. Nevada ranks 49th overall for postsecondary participation, with just 33% of young adults enrolled in postsecondary education or with a degree. This is a significant decrease from 41% in the previous year.

HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION: D+

Nevada ranked 16th in the nation for high school dropouts (teens age 16 to 19 who are not in school and have not yet graduated from high school) in 2018 at 4%- a significant decrease from the last report card at 7%. High school graduation rates continue to increase greatly, from 73.6% for the class of 2016 to 81% for the class of 2019. However, Nevada still remains near the bottom ranking at 40th in the nation, and is below the national average of 85%. It is hopeful Nevada will continue to see these positive trends as we increase investments in education.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: B+

Nevada continues to improve in the percentage of high school students who smoke cigarettes (3.6%) and who use smokeless tobacco (3.8%), ranking 3rd and 11th respectively in 2019. Nevada remained the same in students who use any type of tobacco at 11.5% in 2017, ranking 6th in the nation. Nevada ranks 6th out of 45 states in electronic vapor usage among high school students at 44.5%. Nevada ranked 24th in alcohol use with 25.1% of students reporting they currently consume alcohol. Approximately 19.8% of high schoolers smoke marijuana, ranking Nevada 28th out of 47 states. Nevada continues to rank low for ecstasy use, which comes in at 25th out of 35 states and has done slightly worse in prescription drug use at 36th out of 42 states. For inhalants and heroin use, Nevada ranks 20th out of 30 and 22nd out of 36, respectively. Overall, substance abuse has declined in the state but it is important to note that the use of electronic vapor products continues to be on the rise.
EMPLOYMENT: C

The employment grade consists of the percentage of children whose parents are unemployed and/or lack secure employment. In 2018, Nevada ranked 28th in the nation for the percentage of children whose parents lack secure employment at 28%, a slight improvement from 30% in 2016. We also saw the unemployment rate for parents remain the same at 3% in 2019.

HOUSING: D

In 2018, 33% of children lived in a household with a high housing cost burden, where more than 30 percent of the monthly income was spent on rent, mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and/or related expenses. For children in low-income households with a high housing cost burden, Nevada saw an increase in 2018 at 63% compared to 61% in 2016.

POVERTY: C-

The poverty grade is based upon the percentage of children in poverty (100 percent poverty) and children in extreme poverty (50 percent poverty), and new to this report card, children who live in households that were food insecure at some point during the year. Nevada ranked 30th for children in poverty (100 percent poverty) at 17%. This is the same as the national average. Children in extreme poverty has slightly improved from 7% in 2017 to 6% in 2019 and ranks 14th in the nation. In 2020, 19.5% of children in Nevada were food insecure at some point during the year, ranking 43rd in the nation.

INCOME: F

The income grade is determined by the number of teens ages 16-19 not attending school and not working and low-income working families with children. Nevada is currently 46th in the nation for teens aged 16-19 not attending school and not working at 10%, an increase from 6% in 2017. In 2018, Nevada ranked 35th in the nation for low-income working families with children at 25%, a slight increase from 24% in 2016.

FUNDING: F-

Per pupil expenditures is calculated for grades pre-kindergarten through 12th grade for public elementary and secondary education. Actual expenditures for the 2018-2019 fiscal year were $9,417 compared to $12,612 nationally. Nevada ranked 45th in this category, a slight decrease from the last report card. Nevada’s low per pupil expenditure continues to cause high student-teacher ratios. Nevada is ranked 48th in the nation with a continuing average of 21.45 compared to 16 nationally. The Nevada Legislature continues to have conversations surrounding Nevada’s funding formula and it is hopefully that these numbers will increase in the coming years.
We Can Improve Our Grades

To ensure the safety and well-being of our children, and their families, the Children’s Advocacy Alliance supports policies to:

» Increase prevention programs and interventions that reduce the need for child welfare and juvenile justice engagement.

» Improve programs and practice necessary to support children and families involved in child welfare or juvenile justice.

» Protect children from violence, abuse, injury or death within their homes and communities.

To ensure that every child in Nevada has the opportunity to enter school ready to learn, the Children’s Advocacy Alliance supports policies to:

» Increase access to high quality, affordable child care for all children.

» Improve parent education and family support programs designed to enhance the confidence and competency of all parents and support them in their role as their children’s first and most important teachers.

» Ensure a highly qualified and appropriately compensated early childhood workforce.

To ensure that children have every opportunity to grow up healthy, the Children’s Advocacy Alliance supports policies to:

» Increase access to high quality, affordable health care, including oral health and mental health.

» Promote on-time, recommended childhood immunizations.

» Improve access to food that supports good nutrition, including an adequate supply of fruits and vegetables.

» Enable communities to provide a safe place to run and play, offering ample opportunities for physical activity.

» Increase access to high quality, and on-time, prenatal care.