Bergen County

2011 County Rank: 3

2011 Kids Count County Profiles

2010 County Rank: 4

	Year	County	NJ	2010 Rank	2011 Rank
Demographics					
Child Population	2009	198,585	2,045,848	1	**1**
Total Population	2009	895,250	8,707,739	1	**1**
Family Economics					
Percentage of Children in Poverty	2009	8	13	5	**5**
Median Income of Families with Children	2009	$102,247	$83,742	5	**5**
Percentage Unemployed	2010	7.3	8.7	5	**4**
Percentage of HH Spending More Than 30% of Income on Rent	2009	47	50	6	**5**
Percentage of Eligible Children Receiving Free/Reduced Price School Breakfast	2009-10	19.8	28.7	N/A	**15**
Health and Safety					
Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care	2007	82.8	76.8	8	**8**
Percentage of Births to Girls 10-19	2007	2.31	6.59	2	**3**
Infant Mortality (rate per 1,000 live births)	2007	3	5	2	**4**
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations*	2009	23	44	1	**2**
Children in Out-of-Home Placement*	2010	1.5	3.47	2	**1**
Juvenile Arrests *	2009	18	24	5	**7**
Early Care and Education					
Licensed Center-Based Child Care Supply (slots per 1,000 0-4)	2010	773	640	5	**6**
Percentage of Students Passing 4th Grade Tests	2009-10	85	77	3	**3**
Percentage of Students Passing 8th Grade Tests	2009-10	86	78	5	**5**
Percentage of Students Passing 11th Grade Tests	2009-10	88	82	4	**4**

*Rate per 1,000 children under 18.

To view data sources and for more information, visit www.acnj.org

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Giving Every Child A Chance

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NEWS

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Bergen Moves Up to 3rd in NJ Kids Count Rankings

Bergen County moved up a notch to 3rd place in the annual **New Jersey Kids Count** rankings, which measures 15 areas of child well-being, after ranking 4th last year.

The county posted its best mark for a lower-than-average rate of foster care placements, ranking first in the state, with an average of 1.5 per 1,000 children in foster care, less than half the state average of roughly 3.5 percent.

The county received its worst mark for the percentage of eligible children who receive school breakfast. The county ranked 15th on this indicator, with just under 20 percent of eligible children receiving this healthy start to their school day.

"We have been encouraged by the counties' increased interest in using the information presented in Kids Count to improve child well-being," said Cecilia Zalkind, executive director of Advocates for Children of New Jersey, which publishes the Kids Count reports. "Their commitment to children in these tough economic times is both critical and commendable."

"Bergen County held relatively steady on most measures," Zalkind said. "But, the county saw a fairly substantial jump in the percent of its children growing up in poverty, " Zalkind said.

Despite the increase, Bergen still ranked 5th statewide on this measure because child poverty in other counties increased even more.

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Some key Bergen County findings follow.

Child Poverty. The county's child poverty rate rose from 5 to 8 percent but the county's ranking on this indicator remained unchanged at 5th.

Unemployment. The county's unemployment rate showed signs of improvement, dropping from 8 in 2009 to 7.3 percent in 2010, moving the county from 5th to 4th place.

Prenatal Care. Bergen saw a jump in the percentage of women receiving early prenatal care, going from 77 percent in 2006 to nearly 83 percent in 2007.

In addition to the county profiles, which measure progress over a 1-year period, ACNJ also released ***New Jersey Kids Count: The State of Our Counties,*** a pocket guide that provides a 5-year comparison of various measures of child well-being, including poverty, health, education and child protection.

"We encourage county leaders to use Kids Count data to understand the state of children in their county and to target resources to meet children's most pressing needs," Zalkind said. "Using data to drive decisions results in better outcomes for children and families."

To view the county profiles and the pocket guide, go to www.acnj.org.

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KIDS COUNT is a national and state-by-state statistical effort to track the state of children in the United States, sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Advocates for Children of New Jersey is a statewide child research and action organization and the New Jersey Kids Count grantee.