Morris County

2012 County Rank: 1

2012 Kids Count County Profiles

2011 County Rank: 2

	Year	County	NJ	2011 Rank	2012 Rank
Demographics					
Child Population	2010	117,695	2,065,214	10	**10**
Total Population	2010	492,694	8,801,624	10	**10**
Family Economics					
Percentage of Children in Poverty	2010	6	14	1	**2**
Median Income of Families with Children	2010	$114,754	$83,208	2	**3**
Percentage Unemployed	2011	6.3	8.7	2	**2**
Percentage of HH Spending More Than 30% of Income on Rent	2010	45	51	1	**2**
Percentage of Eligible Children Receiving Free/Reduced Price School Breakfast	2010-11	17	30	18	**18**
Health and Safety					
Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care	2008	87	76	4	**2**
Percentage of Births to Girls 10-19	2008	2	6	2	**1**
Infant Mortality (rate per 1,000 live births)	2008	5	5	7	**11**
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations*	2010	31	45	4	**4**
Children in Out-of-Home Placement*	2011	2	3	3	**1**
Juvenile Arrests*	2010	14	20	3	**5**

*Rate per 1,000 children under 18.

Early Care and Education					
Licensed Center-Based Child Care Supply (slots per 1,000 0-4)	2011	798	652	5	**5**
Percentage of Students Passing 4th Grade Tests	2010-11	87	77	2	**2**
Percentage of Students Passing 8th Grade Tests	2010-11	89	78	2	**2**
Percentage of Students Passing 11th Grade Tests	2010-11	91	82	2	**2**

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

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Giving Every Child A Chance

35 Halsey Street, 2nd Floor, Newark, NJ 07102 • (973) 643-3876 • Fax (973) 643-9153 • advocates@acnj.org • www.acnj.org

NEWS

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Contact: Nancy Parello, (973) 643-3876 or (908) 399-6031, nparello@acnj.org

Morris Claims 1st Place in NJ Kids Count Rankings

Morris County claimed the first place spot in the annual **New Jersey Kids Count** rankings, which measure progress in improving the lives of children in 15 critical areas. Last year, the county ranked 2nd.

On nearly all of the Kids Count indicators, Morris County children fared better than children across the state. Morris ranks in the top three counties for several measures of child well-being, including low child poverty, students passing state tests, prenatal care and births to teens.

The county did see its child poverty rate increase from 3 percent in 2009 to 6 percent in 2010, but that is still far lower than the statewide child poverty rate of 14 percent. The county was 2nd statewide on this measure of family economic security.

"As more families struggle economically, the Kids Count profiles give us a clearer picture of the progress and challenges in improving the lives of thousands of children," said Cecilia Zalkind, executive director of Advocates for Children of New Jersey, which publishes the Kids Count reports.

"Local, county and state leaders are increasingly using Kids Count data to inform decisions and formulate responses to the needs of children across New Jersey," Zalkind added.

"Overall, Morris County children continue to benefit from low poverty and generally positive outcomes," Zalkind said. "The increase in child poverty, however, is concerning, as is the fact that just 17 percent of eligible children receive school breakfast."

Key Morris County findings follow.

Child Poverty. While Morris County's child poverty rate is far below the statewide average at 6 percent in 2010, that rate doubled from 3 percent in 2009. The county ranked 2nd statewide, down from 1st last year.

Health. With just 2 percent of births to teenagers, Morris ranked 1st statewide on this indicator and 2nd for the 87 percent of women who received early prenatal care in 2008, the latest year for which data are available.

Juvenile Arrests. While Morris County's juvenile arrest rate dropped from 15 arrests per 1,000 youth under 18 in 2009 to 14 in 2010, the county slipped from 3rd to 5th in the Kids Count rankings on this indicator. That's because other counties saw steeper drops in the juvenile arrest rate.

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.