

# APPENDIX

## REFERENCES, DATA SOURCES, DEFINITIONS, & NOTES

### MOVING MISSISSIPPI FORWARD: WHAT WOULD IT TAKE?

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#### Definition(s):

##### °Percent of Children in Single-parent Families:

The percentage of children under age 18 who live with their own single parent, either in a family or subfamily. In this definition, single-parent families may include cohabiting couples and do not include children living with married stepparents. The estimates are made from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

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# APPENDIX

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# APPENDIX

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### Definition(s):

#### <sup>a</sup>Children in Poverty:

The percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 100 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition and is updated every year to account for inflation. In calendar year 2006, a family of two adults and two children fell in the "poverty" category if their annual income fell below \$20,444. Poverty status is not determined for people living in group quarters, such as military barracks, prisons, and other institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey.

#### <sup>b</sup>Children in Extreme Poverty:

The percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below 50 percent of the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In calendar year 2006, a family of two adults and two children were below 50 percent of the poverty level if their annual income fell below \$10,222.

#### <sup>c</sup>Under Age 18 in Poverty:

The percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition was adjusted based on the size of the family. The estimates were made from the American Community Survey.

#### <sup>d</sup>All Ages in Poverty:

The percentage of individuals of all ages who live below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The estimates were made from the American Community Survey.

#### <sup>e</sup>Per Capita Personal Income:

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "personal income is the income that is



# APPENDIX

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# APPENDIX

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### Definition(s):

#### <sup>a</sup>Infant Mortality Rate:

Infant deaths are deaths of children under one year of age. Infant mortality rate is deaths per 1,000 live births.

#### <sup>b</sup>Low-birthweight Babies:

Live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.) at birth.

### Note(s):

<sup>c</sup>Values shown in the Infant mortality rate graph for 2000 - 2005 are not directly comparable to the Infant Mortality Rate by County map for 2002-2006 because two different sources were used for data. For state-level data (i.e., infant mortality (rate per 1,000 live births)): 2000-2005, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics were used. For county-level data (i.e., Infant Mortality Rate by County), data from the Mississippi State Department of Health were used.

<sup>d</sup>Values shown in the low-birthweight babies graph for 2000 - 2005 are not directly comparable to the Low-birthweight by County map for 2006 because two different sources were used for data. For state-level data (i.e., Low-birthweight babies: 2000-2005)), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics were used. For county-level data (i.e., Low-birthweight Babies by County), data from the Mississippi State Department of Health were used.

#### <sup>e</sup>Determining Statistical Significance (YRBSS):

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) is a state-level survey. Statistically significant differences between two years for one location (e.g., MS 2003 vs. MS 2007) or between two survey locations (e.g., MS 2007 vs. U.S. 2007) were determined using the YRBSS "Youth Online: Comprehensive Results" comparison feature available at <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/yrbss>.

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# APPENDIX

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### Definition(s):

#### <sup>a</sup>Graduation Rates by School District:

The values reported are 4-year cohort graduation rates with the cohort being students who entered 9th grade for the first time in 2003/2004. According to the Mississippi Department of Education, "a full cohort of students is constructed beginning with ninth graders. Additional students entering 9th grade that year plus students entering the next higher grade each successive year for four years are added. Students in the cohort who transfer out of the Mississippi public schools or die are subtracted from the total, to yield a denominator. The number of students in the cohort earning a diploma within four years is divided by the denominator to calculate the 4-Year cohort graduation rate."<sup>3</sup>

#### <sup>b</sup>Dropout Rates by School District:

According to the Mississippi Department of Education, the 4-year cohort method tracks the same group of students from 9th grade through 12th grade. It accounts for students who leave the school district during that time and incoming students who are new to the class.

#### <sup>c</sup>Teens Who Are High School Dropouts:

The percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates. Those who have a GED or equivalent are included as high school graduates in this measure. The measure used here is defined as a "status dropout" rate. Inclusion of the group quarters population in the 2006 ACS could have a noticeable impact on the universe population for this age group. Therefore, the 2006 and 2005 ACS estimates might not be fully comparable.

#### <sup>d</sup>Teens Not Attending School And Not Working:

The percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full- or part-time) and not employed (full- or part-time). This measure is sometimes referred to as "Idle Teens" or "Disconnected Youth." Inclusion of the group quarters population in the 2006 ACS could have a noticeable impact on the universe population for this age group. Therefore, the 2006 and 2005 ACS estimates might not be fully comparable.

#### <sup>e</sup>ACT Composite Scores:

The ACT composite score is the average of the four test scores in the subjects of English, Math, Reading and Science. In each of the four subjects being tested, a student can earn a score of 1-36.<sup>8</sup>

#### <sup>f</sup>8th Graders Who Scored At or Above Basic Level on NAEP for Writing, Math, Reading, and Science:

The percentage of 8th grade public school students who reached either the Basic, Proficient or Advanced level in [subject

area], as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

**4th Graders Who Scored At or Above Basic Level on NAEP for Math, Reading, and Science:**

The percentage of 4th grade public school students who reached either the Basic, Proficient or Advanced level in [subject area], as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which is conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

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123456789101112131415161718192021222324252627282930313233343536373839404142434445464748495051525354555657585960616263646566676869707172737475767778798081828384858687888990919293949596979899100101102103104105106107108109110111112113114115116117118119120121122123124125126127128129130131132133134135136137138139140141142143144145146147148149150151152153154155156157158159160161162163164165166167168169170171172173174175176177178179180181182183184185186187188189190191192193194195196197198199200

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[www.kidscount.org/cgi-bin/cliks.cgi](http://www.kidscount.org/cgi-bin/cliks.cgi)

This Web site brings together data on the well-being of children collected by KIDS COUNT grantees from state and local sources. The unique system allows users to access state-specific inventories of data from local sources, such as health departments, human services agencies, and schools. The content of state pages is determined by a participating KIDS COUNT partner using data from local jurisdictions. We believe that CLIKS can be a powerful new tool for community leaders, policymakers, service providers, parents and others who want to take a closer look at the local factors that affect the lives of children and families.

The screenshot shows the CLIKS website interface for Mississippi. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'ABOUT US', 'MAJOR INITIATIVES', 'CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES', 'KNOWLEDGE CENTER', 'NEWSROOM', and 'ORDER PUBLICATIONS'. Below this is a sub-navigation for 'CLIKS: Community-Level Information on Kids' with options like 'CLIKS HOME', 'PROFILES', 'LINE GRAPHS', 'MAPS', 'RANKINGS', and 'RAW DATA'. The main content area is titled 'Profile for Mississippi (state)' and lists various data categories such as 'Child Health: County Data', 'Population Demographics: County Data', and 'Child Well-Being'. It features several data tables with trend data from 2000 to 2004.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Low Birth-Weight Babies as % of all Births	13%	11%	11%	12%	12%
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) 5-Year Average	11	10	10	11	10
Births to Single Teens as % of all Births	15%	15%	14%	16%	13%
Child Deaths Ages 1-14 by Rate (per 100,000 Children)	218	206	218	197	180
Teen Deaths Ages 15-19 by Rate (per 100,000 Teens)	37	35	37	33	31
Teen Deaths Ages 15-19 by Number (per 100,000 Teens)	201	190	218	191	220
Teen Deaths Ages 15-19 by Rate (per 100,000 Teens)	88	89	90	88	102
% Births to all Singles as an Indicator of Single Parent Families	46%	48%	47%	47%	48%
% Students Eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch as an Indicator of Child Poverty	64%	64%	65%	75%	75%
Graduation Rate	75	76	-	81	84
Annual Unemployment Rate	6	7	7	7	6
Births to Teens 15-19 as % of all Births	18%	17%	17%	16%	15%

  

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Estimated Population Under Age 20	873,214	857,496	851,131	849,883	838,132
Estimated Preschool Population 0-4	204,364	206,078	209,456	210,550	208,354
Estimated Total Population	2,844,658	2,859,723	2,871,782	2,883,283	2,902,966

This tilted screenshot shows the introductory text of the CLIKS website. It explains that the system is a web-based tool for accessing state-specific inventories of data from local sources. It lists the types of reports that can be generated, including profiles, maps, rankings, and raw data. The text is partially obscured by a colorful, repeating pattern of numbers.







[www.ssrc.msstate.edu/mkidscount](http://www.ssrc.msstate.edu/mkidscount)



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