

# Nebraska

Overall State Rank  
**34**

## America's Youngest Outcasts: State Report Card on Child Homelessness

Nebraska ranks 34th in the nation in child homelessness. This rank is a composite of the number of children currently homeless in the state, an assessment of how children are faring in various domains (e.g., education, health, etc.), the risk of children becoming homeless, and the state's policy and planning efforts.

### Extent of Child Homelessness

More than 4,486 of Nebraska's children go to sleep each night without permanent homes according to the data collected by the McKinney-Vento Educational Programs.<sup>1</sup> Nebraska ranks 13th in the number of homeless children and 23rd in the percentage of children who are homeless.<sup>1</sup> Of the 68,000 children living in poverty in Nebraska, seven out of every one hundred (7%) are homeless.<sup>2</sup>

* NEBRASKA'S RANKS	
	RANK
Extent of child homelessness	23
Child well-being	42
Risk for child homelessness	12
State policy and planning	Inadequate
<b>Overall rank</b>	<b>34</b>

\*States ranked 1–50 with 1 being best and 50 worst.

### Age and Race/Ethnicity

Nebraska has 68,000 children living in poverty. Sixty-five percent of Nebraska's children living in families with incomes below the poverty level are White, non-Hispanic, 20% are Hispanic, and 14% are Black, non-Hispanic.<sup>5</sup>

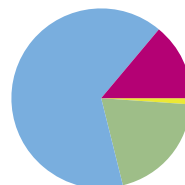
#### Ages of Homeless Children<sup>1</sup>

Under 6 years <sup>3</sup>	1,884
Grades K–8 (enrolled)	1,877
Grades 9–12* (enrolled)	725
<b>Total Homeless Children</b>	<b>4,486</b>

\*These totals DO NOT include approximately 158 homeless, unaccompanied youth.<sup>4</sup>

#### Race/Ethnicity

\*Among children living in poverty. Not available for homeless children.



- White (65%)
- Black (14%)
- Asian (1%)
- Native American (0%)
- Hispanic (20%)

### Housing and Income

Housing is a basic right and essential for the healthy growth and development of children. However, in every state, housing costs outpace wages and public assistance for low income citizens.

- A two-bedroom unit priced at the Fair Market Rent (FMR) falls outside of the financial reach of a full-time worker earning minimum wage in Nebraska.<sup>6</sup> One wage earner earning the state's minimum wage (\$6.55/hour) would need to work 74 hours per week for 52 weeks per year to afford a two-bedroom apartment at FMR.<sup>7</sup>
- Even with two full-time minimum-wage earners, affordable housing is just barely attainable in most places in Nebraska.
- The average-wage earner in Nebraska fares slightly better. One wage earner earning the state's average wage for renters (\$10.74/hour) would need to work 45 hours per week for 52 weeks per year to afford a two-bedroom apartment at FMR.<sup>7</sup>

For a typical homeless family, which consists of a single mother with two children, housing is even more difficult to attain:

- The average monthly income for a single mother in Nebraska who receives public assistance is less than \$557, or less than 50% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).<sup>9</sup>
- This family can afford to pay \$167 per month in rent, leaving a deficit of \$463 from the amount needed to rent a two-bedroom apartment at the state's average FMR.

For families in this situation, even a seemingly minor event can trigger a catastrophic outcome, pushing a family onto the streets.

#### Nebraska's Housing and Income Gap<sup>7</sup>

Minimum hourly wage:	\$.65 <sup>8</sup>
Average hourly wage for renters:	\$10.74 <sup>7</sup>
Hourly wage needed to afford 2-BR apartment:	\$12.11 <sup>7</sup>
Fair Market Rent for 2-BR apartment:	\$.630 <sup>7</sup>

Tell us about your state: visit [www.HomelessChildrenAmerica.org](http://www.HomelessChildrenAmerica.org) to find information, share ideas, and help end child homelessness



# Nebraska



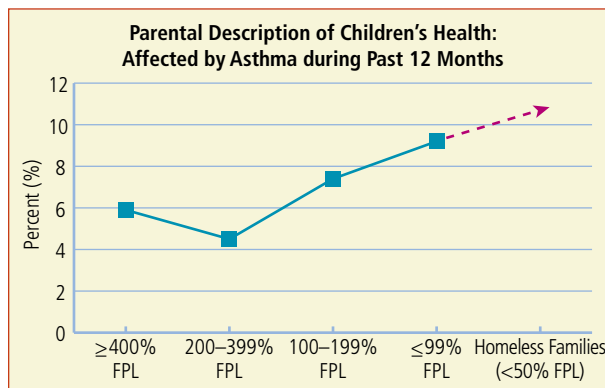
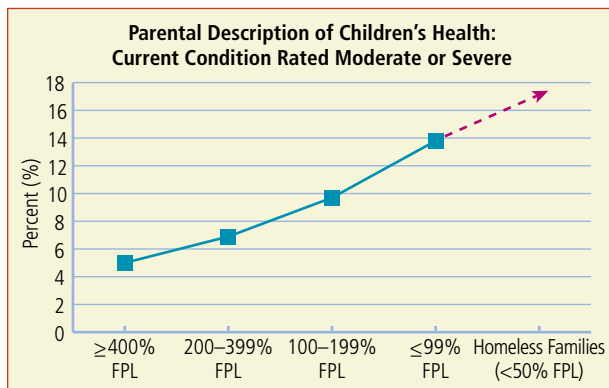
## Food Security

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that one in 25 of Nebraska's households have very low food security, indicating that they have experienced hunger.<sup>10</sup> The prevalence of very low food security in Nebraska is higher than the national average of one in 26. Households living in poverty and headed by a single woman with children are especially vulnerable to very low food insecurity. When these households become homeless, they represent the extreme end of the food insecurity range in Nebraska.<sup>10</sup>



## Health

Compared to middle income families, homeless families in Nebraska suffer proportionately more moderate to severe health problems, including asthma, traumatic stress, and emotional disturbances:

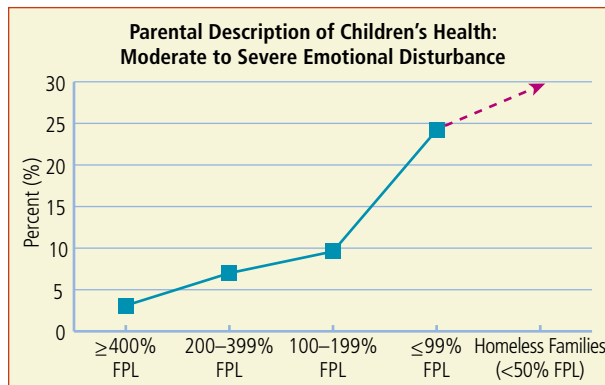
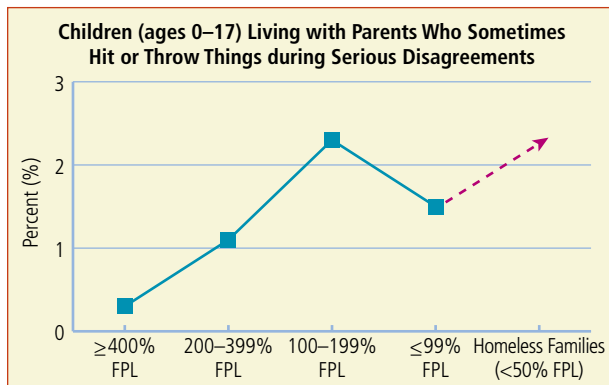


### Overall Health Problems

Homeless families are three times as likely as middle-income families (18% vs. 6%) to report that their children have moderate or severe health problems such as asthma, dental problems, and emotional difficulties.<sup>11</sup>

### Asthma

Nebraska's children without homes are more likely to have asthma than those from middle income families. While five percent of Nebraska's middle-income families report that their children have been affected by asthma in the past year, ten percent or more of homeless families include a child who had asthma during the past 12 months.<sup>12</sup>



### Traumatic Stress and Violence

Homeless children are twice as likely to witness violent behavior by their parents as children in middle-income families (2% vs. 1%).<sup>13</sup>

### Emotional Disturbances

Five percent of children in middle-income families are described by their parents as having moderate to severe emotional disturbances. Six times as many children in homeless families in Nebraska (30%) were reported as having moderate or severe difficulties with emotions, concentration, behavior, and getting along with other people as compared to children from middle-income families.<sup>12</sup>





## Education

The reading and math proficiency data are unavailable for homeless students. As a proxy measure, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data on students who are eligible for the National School Lunch Program (185% of the Federal Poverty Level) are included. These scores suggest that homeless students (included in the National School Lunch Program sample) in Nebraska have significant deficiencies as compared to non-homeless students:

- Twenty percent of students in grades three through eight eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in Nebraska were proficient in reading.<sup>14</sup>
- Similarly, approximately 21% of Nebraska’s high school students eligible for the NSLP were judged proficient in reading.<sup>14</sup>
- Twenty-one percent of students eligible for the school lunch program in grades three through eight in Nebraska were proficient in mathematics.<sup>14</sup>
- Seventeen percent of high school students eligible for the NSLP were judged proficient in mathematics.<sup>14</sup>

Severe economic consequences accompany the lack of educational achievement among Nebraska’s homeless children. Poverty strongly correlates with educational deficiencies. Homeless women with children are

often not well-educated themselves and childhood homelessness has profoundly negative effects on educational opportunities. Researchers at Columbia University have found that:

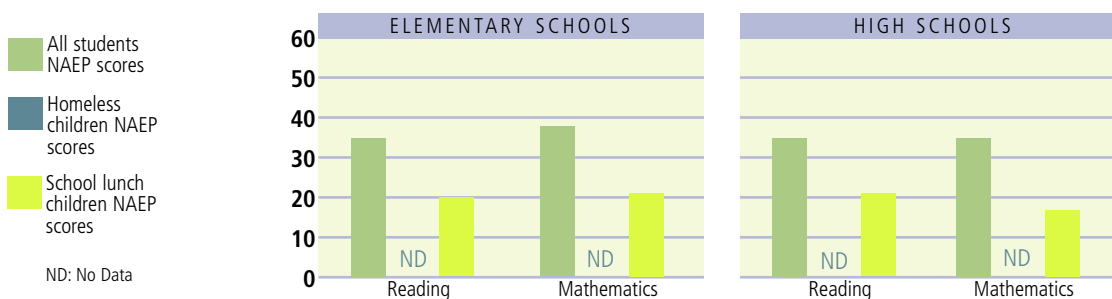
One of the best documented relationships in economics is the link between education and income: more highly educated people have higher incomes. Failure to graduate from high school has both private and public consequences: income is lower, which means lower tax contributions to finance public services.<sup>15</sup>

The difference in lifetime earnings between those with a high school degree and those without is, on average, approximately \$200,000. Researchers have calculated the additional costs of education necessary to achieve higher high school graduation rates and the increases in amounts paid back to society in the form of taxes and the like. The results suggest that net lifetime increased contributions to society associated with high school graduation are about \$127,000 per student.<sup>15</sup>

If we assume on the basis of their test scores a high school graduation rate of less than 25%, then the 725 homeless high school students in Nebraska, as a group, will lose \$110 million in lifetime earnings and society will lose \$70 million in potential contributions from them.<sup>15</sup> Other studies have shown that they will have shorter and less healthy lives, and are very likely to pass on to their own children the diminished opportunities that accompany poverty.<sup>15</sup>

### Educational Achievement

Reading and math proficiency using the Federal NAEP standard



often not well-educated themselves and childhood homelessness has profoundly negative effects on educational opportunities. Researchers at Columbia University have found that:

One of the best documented relationships in economics is the link between education and income: more highly educated people have higher incomes. Failure to graduate from high school has both private and public consequences: income is lower, which means lower tax contributions to finance public services.<sup>15</sup>

The difference in lifetime earnings between those with a high school degree and those without is, on average, approximately \$200,000. Researchers have calculated the additional costs of education necessary to achieve higher high school graduation rates and the increases in amounts paid back to society in the form of taxes and the like. The results suggest that net lifetime increased contributions to society associated with high school graduation are about \$127,000 per student.<sup>15</sup>

If we assume on the basis of their test scores a high school graduation rate of less than 25%, then the 725 homeless high school students in Nebraska, as a group, will lose \$110 million in lifetime earnings and society will lose \$70 million in potential contributions from them.<sup>15</sup> Other studies have shown that they will have shorter and less healthy lives, and are very likely to pass on to their own children the diminished opportunities that accompany poverty.<sup>15</sup>

Difference in lifetime earnings: HS degree vs. without	..... \$200,000
Net lifetime increased contributions to society with HS degree	... (per student) \$127,000
Number of homeless HS students in Nebraska	..... 725
High school graduation rate for homeless children	..... < 25%

**NE loss in lifetime earnings** ..... **\$110 million**  
**NE loss in contributions to society** ..... **\$70 million**



# Nebraska



## Risk Factors for Child Homelessness in Nebraska

To determine the risk of a child becoming homeless in each state, we designed an index that takes into account various state indicators associated with family homelessness. When we consider risk factors for homelessness, we often focus on individual vulnerabilities, such as a recent pregnancy or hospitalization of a parent for a mental health or substance use problem. However, these individual factors only tell us *who* is more likely to be affected by adverse economic and housing factors. *Why* someone becomes homeless is determined by structural factors such as the lack of affordable housing and employment opportunities. As a result, we designed a risk index to focus on the structural determinants of family homelessness. This index is comprised of state-level indicators in three domains: socio-economic descriptors, housing market factors, and generosity of benefits.

To construct the index, nine factors within the three domains were ranked and then states were scored according to their quintile (1 point for the top fifth of the states and up to 5 points for the worst fifth of the states). Domain scores were then combined to create an overall score from 5 to 45 based on the total of the 1–5 rankings for the nine factors. The final step was to rank the states by their overall score. The final ranking provides a picture of which states have structural characteristics that may make them more or less vulnerable to high rates of child homelessness. A lower ranking indicates less vulnerability, while a higher ranking indicates greater vulnerability.

Nebraska ranks 12 out of the 50 states on their vulnerability to high rates of child homelessness.



## Nebraska's Planning and Policy Efforts

### STATE PLANNING

Over the past several years, federal, state and local governments have engaged in planning activities to address and end homelessness. These efforts have taken the form of developing state interagency councils on homelessness and in the development of 10-year plans to end homelessness and are summarized below for Nebraska.

#### What, if any, are the state's interagency efforts on homelessness?

The Nebraska Interagency Council on the Homeless was established in 1994 by Executive Order. In 1998, the Council was consolidated with the Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission and the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee to form the Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH). NCHH has 21 members appointed by the Governor, four standing committees (Executive Committee; Policy and Issues Committee; Education and Awareness Committee; and Continuum of Care Committee), and an ad-hoc committee on creating a 10-year plan to end chronic homelessness. NCHH's objective is to develop ongoing, specific policies and program recommendations to the Governor that address affordable housing and homelessness/near-homelessness issues.<sup>16</sup>

#### What statewide ten-year planning efforts have taken place?

At the time of this publication, no statewide ten-year planning efforts have taken place in Nebraska.

#### State Planning Ranking:

We have classified Nebraska's state planning efforts as "Inadequate." For more information on the state classification process, see *America's Youngest Outcasts: A State Report on Child Homelessness* or visit [www.HomelessChildrenAmerica.org](http://www.HomelessChildrenAmerica.org).



# Nebraska

## STATE POLICIES



### Housing

States can address the housing needs of low-income families through short and long-term strategies. One measure of a state's ability to immediately house families in need is the supply of emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing slots. Nebraska currently has 232 units (i.e., housing or shelter for one family) of emergency shelter, 337 units of transitional housing, and 67 units of permanent supportive housing designated for families.<sup>18</sup>

Section 8 vouchers and public housing are two of the primary ways for homeless families to secure affordable housing. An analysis of waiting list data from Public Housing Authority (PHA) annual plans submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development<sup>19</sup> reveals that over 80% of families on these lists have extremely low incomes and nearly all have children.<sup>20</sup>

- There were no data available to demonstrate how many of the of the people on Nebraska's Section 8 waiting lists and Public Housing waiting lists are families with extremely low incomes.

PHAs may determine which subpopulations, if any, are given priority on their waiting lists. Giving priority to families experiencing homelessness and/or survivors of domestic violence may help to alleviate the negative impacts of homelessness on children and the strain on the shelter system.

- There were no data available to demonstrate if Public Housing Authorities in Nebraska currently give priority to survivors of domestic violence or people experiencing homelessness on their Section 8 or public housing waiting lists.<sup>21</sup>

Over the long term, local and state housing trust funds are one way that states can develop their affordable housing stock. Nebraska is one of 38 states that has a state housing trust fund.<sup>22</sup>

#### What would it cost for the state to house all homeless families at Fair Market Rent?

Section 8 housing vouchers could, if generally available, fill the gap between family income and housing costs. Unfortunately, current funding for the voucher program meets the needs of only one-quarter of homeless families. Providing housing at FMR for homeless families in Nebraska would cost an additional \$5,300 per family, an annual total cost of \$10 million dollars, or less than one percent of the state budget.<sup>17</sup>



### Income

#### Wages

Nebraska's minimum wage is \$6.55/hour.<sup>8</sup> This wage covers only 54% of the hourly wage needed to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Nebraska. Families receiving the maximum TANF benefit would need to spend 173% of their income on rent to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent. Obviously, this is an impossibility.<sup>23</sup>

An Earned Income Tax Credit can give families living in poverty an economic "boost" that may help reduce child poverty and increase a family's take-home earnings.<sup>24</sup> Nebraska is one of 21 states that has a refundable State Earned Income Tax Credit.<sup>25</sup>

#### Child Care

Child care is essential for families seeking to secure and maintain work, search for housing, attend school and job training opportunities and more. The average annual cost for child care for a four-year old in Nebraska is \$5,100, which is lower than the national average of \$5,719.<sup>26</sup>

Every state receives funding through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) to provide child care assistance to low-income families. Nebraska families report that they used their voucher for the following reasons:<sup>27</sup>

- Employment (71%)
- Training/education (14%)
- Both employment and training/education (3%)

These numbers demonstrate that child care vouchers help families engage in work and job training/education activities, a key component of a family's ability to exit homelessness.

Through the Child Care and Development Fund, states are given flexibility in determining how to prioritize the distribution of vouchers.<sup>28</sup> Nebraska currently does not prioritize children who are homeless when distributing its child care vouchers.



# Nebraska

## Food Security

States can help families by conducting outreach and enrollment efforts that help eligible individuals access food stamps, encourage schools to participate in school breakfast programs, and facilitate family enrollment into WIC. This chart describes how Nebraska compares to the rest of the country:

Nebraska is slightly below the national average in terms of the proportion of eligible children enrolled in food stamps, and is below the national average among schools participating in the school breakfast program.

### Nebraska Child Enrollment in Federal Nutrition Programs<sup>29</sup>

	Nebraska	National Average
Food Stamp Enrollment (among eligible children)	61%	61.9%
School Breakfast Participation (among schools providing lunch)	64.2%	84.2%

## Health

Children who are uninsured are more likely than their insured peers to lack a regular source of care, to delay care, or to have an unmet medical need.<sup>30</sup> Their families are more likely to incur medical debts that lead to difficulty paying other monthly expenses such as rent, food, and utilities.<sup>31</sup> Providing children with access to health insurance is essential to helping them grow up safe, healthy, and housed.

Approximately 10.4% of children in Nebraska are uninsured, compared to about 10% nationally. Nebraska spends 23% of its total Medicaid budget on children, compared to the national average of 19.3%.<sup>30</sup>

### Medicaid Eligibility by % of FPL:

Infants: . . . . .	185%
Children ages 1–5 . . . . .	185%
Children ages 6–19 . . . . .	185%

## Education

Under the educational provisions of the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act, states are required to remove barriers to the school enrollment and academic success of children experiencing homelessness.<sup>32</sup> The U.S. Department of Education has identified seven barriers that state McKinney-Vento subgrantees<sup>33</sup> must report on annually. This table illustrates which barriers Nebraska subgrantees encounter.

Nebraska receives an average of \$53 per child from the federal government to address the education needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness.<sup>35</sup> There is currently no state-level funding dedicated to the education of homeless children.

### Reported Barriers to Enrollment<sup>34</sup>

Type of Barrier	% of Subgrantees Nebraska	% of Subgrantees National Average
1. Eligibility for Homeless Services	0	27.4
2. Immunizations	57.1	28.4
3. Other Medical Records	0	18.7
4. Other Barriers	0	26.7
5. School Selection	14.3	23.3
6. School Records	57.1	28.2
7. Transportation	28.6	42.3

## Who is considered to be homeless in Nebraska?

According to the 2008 Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program Application, the State defines homelessness as:

“A person or family who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is (1) a supervised publicly or privately-operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, youth hostels, domestic abuse shelters; and transitional programs for the mentally ill; or (2) an institution that provides a temporary residence for persons intended to be institutionalized; or (3) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.”<sup>36</sup>

# Nebraska

<sup>1</sup> Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program, Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as Amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, *Analysis of 2005–2006 Federal Data Collection and Three-Year Comparison*, National Center for Homeless Education, June 2007. Number of children includes the estimated number of children ages 0–5 who are not yet enrolled in school.

<sup>2</sup> American Community Survey. (2006).

<sup>3</sup> Estimate based on research that 42% of homeless children are ages 0–5. For more information, see Burt, M. et al. (1999). *Homelessness: Programs and the People They Serve*. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. Retrieved from [www.urbaninstitute.org](http://www.urbaninstitute.org).

<sup>4</sup> This number was calculated by taking the total number of children enrolled in school and dividing that by 8.5 (given that kindergarten enrollments are typically half that of the other primary grades). Multiplying this number by 4 gives us the potential high school enrollment. Subtracting the McKinney Vento figure for homeless children enrolled in high school yields the approximate number of homeless, unaccompanied youth not enrolled in high school.

<sup>5</sup> United States Census Bureau. (2007).

<sup>6</sup> Fair Market Rent is defined as “the maximum chargeable gross rent in an area for projects participating in the HUD Section 8 program,” and is set at the 40th percentile of market rents for units at each bedroom size as determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. American Community Survey. (2006).

<sup>7</sup> National Low Income Housing Coalition. (2008). *Out of Reach 2007–2008*. Washington, D.C.: National Low Income Housing Coalition. Retrieved from [www.nlihc.org/oor/oor2008/index.cfm](http://www.nlihc.org/oor/oor2008/index.cfm).

<sup>8</sup> Minimum wages in effect as of July 24, 2008. When federal and state law have different wage rates, the higher standard applies. United States Department of Labor. (2008). Wage and Hour Division. Retrieved from [www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/america.htm](http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/america.htm)

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation. (2007). Policies as of July 2005: Benefits. Retrieved from [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/welfare\\_employ/state\\_tanf/reports/wel\\_rules05/wel05\\_benefits.html](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/welfare_employ/state_tanf/reports/wel_rules05/wel05_benefits.html)

<sup>10</sup> Nord, M., Andrews, M., & Carlson, S. (2006). *Household Food Security in the United States, 2005: Economic Research Report No. ERR-29*. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of Agriculture.

<sup>11</sup> Estimate based on research that 42% of homeless children are ages 0–5. For more information, see Burt, M. et al. (1999). *Homelessness: Programs and the People They Serve*. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. Retrieved from [www.urbaninstitute.org](http://www.urbaninstitute.org); National Center for Health Statistics. (2003). National Survey of Children’s Health. Retrieved from [www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/slaits/nsch.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/slaits/nsch.htm)

<sup>12</sup> National Center for Health Statistics. (2003). National Survey of Children’s Health. Retrieved from [www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/slaits/nsch.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/slaits/nsch.htm)

<sup>13</sup> Sample size too small for statistical reliability. National Center for Health Statistics. (2003). National Survey of Children’s Health. Retrieved from [www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/slaits/nsch.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/slaits/nsch.htm)

<sup>14</sup> National Center for Homeless Education. (2007). *Analysis of 2005–2006 Federal Data Collection and Three-Year Comparison*. Retrieved from [www.serve.org/nche/downloads/data\\_comp\\_03-06.pdf](http://www.serve.org/nche/downloads/data_comp_03-06.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> Levin, H., Belfield, C., Muennig, P. and Rouse, C. (2007). *The Costs and Benefits of an Excellent Education for All of America’s Children*. New York, NY: Columbia University. p. 6. Retrieved from [www.cbse.org/media/download\\_gallery/Leeds\\_Report\\_Final\\_Jan2007.pdf](http://www.cbse.org/media/download_gallery/Leeds_Report_Final_Jan2007.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. (2007). History of NCHH. Retrieved from [www.dhhs.ne.gov/fia/nhap/history\\_of\\_nchh.htm](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/fia/nhap/history_of_nchh.htm)

<sup>17</sup> Sard, B. & Fischer, W. (2003). Housing Voucher Block Grant Bills would jeopardize an effective program and likely lead to cuts in assistance for low-income families. Washington, DC: Center on Budget & Policy Priorities. Retrieved from [www.cbpp.org/5-14-03hous.htm](http://www.cbpp.org/5-14-03hous.htm) National Governors Association, National Association of State Budget Officers. (June 2008). The Fiscal Survey of States. Table A-2, expenditures column.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Homelessness Resource Exchange. (2007). *HUD’s 2007 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Housing Inventory Chart Report*. Retrieved from [www.hudhre.info/CoC\\_Reports/07\\_NatbedInventory.pdf](http://www.hudhre.info/CoC_Reports/07_NatbedInventory.pdf).

<sup>19</sup> Coddington, B. and Pelletiere, D. (2004) A Look at Waiting Lists: What Can We Learn from the HUD Approved Annual Plans? Research Note #04-03 and accompanying data. Washington, D.C.: National Low Income Housing Coalition. Retrieved from [www.nlihc.org/doc/Presentation-Sheets10-1-04.xls](http://www.nlihc.org/doc/Presentation-Sheets10-1-04.xls).

<sup>20</sup> Extremely Low Income refers to families who earn less than 30% of the area median.

<sup>21</sup> Coddington, B. & Pelletiere, D. (2004). A Look at Waiting Lists: What Can We Learn from the HUD Approved Annual Plans? Research Note #04-03 and accompanying data. Washington, D.C.: National Low Income Housing Coalition. Retrieved from [www.nlihc.org/doc/Presentation-Sheets10-1-04.xls](http://www.nlihc.org/doc/Presentation-Sheets10-1-04.xls).

<sup>22</sup> Brooks, M. (2007). *Housing Trust Fund Progress Report 2007*. Frazier Park, CA: Center for Community Change.

<sup>23</sup> Calculation based on Fair Market Rent for this state and TANF benefit for a family of three. See Methodology section for more detail.

<sup>24</sup> Nagle, A. & Johnson, N. (2006). *A Hand Up: How State Earned Income Tax Credits Help Working Families Escape Poverty in 2006*. Washington, D.C.: Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. Retrieved from [www.cbpp.org/3-8-06sfp.htm](http://www.cbpp.org/3-8-06sfp.htm).

<sup>25</sup> State EITC Online Resource Center. Retrieved from [www.stateeitc.org](http://www.stateeitc.org).

<sup>26</sup> Children’s Defense Fund. (2006). Children in the States 2007. Retrieved from [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).

<sup>27</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau. (2006). Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF): Report to Congress for FY 2004 and FY 2005. Retrieved from [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/rtrc/rtrc2004/rtrc\\_2004\\_2005.pdf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/rtrc/rtrc2004/rtrc_2004_2005.pdf).

<sup>28</sup> Child Care Bureau (2006). *Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Report to Congress for FY 2004 and FY 2005*. p. 7. Washington, D.C.: Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Housing and Human Services.

<sup>29</sup> Cooper, J. and Weill, R. (2007). *State of the States 2007: A Profile of Food and Nutrition Programs across the Nation*. Washington, D.C.: Food Research and Action Center.

<sup>30</sup> Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. (2008). *State Medicaid Fact Sheets*. Kaiser Family Fund. Retrieved from [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org).

<sup>31</sup> Kaiser Family Foundation. (2008). *The Uninsured: A Primer—Key Facts about Americans without Health Insurance*. Washington, D.C.: Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. Retrieved from [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org).

<sup>32</sup> 42USCS 11431-34

<sup>33</sup> States may distribute their McKinney-Vento funds to school districts in particular need of financial assistance to serve children who are homeless. These subgrantees are required to report additional information (beyond what non-subgrantee school districts report) about the children they serve.

<sup>34</sup> Data computed from individual state reports submitted to US Department of Education in the Consolidated State Performance Report: Parts I and II for State Formula Grant Programs. School Year 2006–2007. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education. Retrieved from [www.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/consolidated/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/consolidated/index.html)

<sup>35</sup> U.S. Department of Education. *FY 2001–2009 State Tables for the US Department of Education. State Tables By Program*. p. 29. Retrieved from [www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/index.html).

<sup>36</sup> Nebraska DHHS/Division of Children and Family Services Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program 2008–2009 Request for Application for Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and/or Services. p. iv. Retrieved from [www.hhs.state.ne.us/fia/nhap/docs/2008–2009-RFA.doc](http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/fia/nhap/docs/2008–2009-RFA.doc)

