

**EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE**  
July 27, 2010, 12:01 a.m., EDT

**CONTACT:** Kim Varner  
202-842-3600, Ext. 254  
[kidscount@hagerssharp.com](mailto:kidscount@hagerssharp.com)

Ellen Fineberg  
603-225-2264

**News from the 2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book  
New Hampshire's Kids – Opportunities and Well-Being Status**

Our ability to progress as a state depends on the degree to which we can create opportunities for all children to succeed. New Hampshire ranks first nationally in the *2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, a state-by-state study on the well-being of America's children. The *Data Book* reveals that New Hampshire improved on four of the 10 measures affecting child well-being since 2000. Yet on two other measures, conditions worsened for New Hampshire's kids. Conditions remained unchanged on two measures, and two others were not comparable to previous years.

The 21st annual *Data Book* is complemented by the expanded KIDS COUNT Data Center, which contains hundreds of measures of child well-being and allows users to create maps and graphs of the data at the national, state, county, and city level. To access information for New Hampshire go to <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/nh>.

**New Hampshire leads the nation on four of 10 indicators.**

New Hampshire ranked first nationally on four measures. The state had the lowest teen birth rate at 20 births per 1,000 females ages 15-19, as well as the lowest child poverty rate at 9 percent. New Hampshire tied three other states, all at 3 percent, on teens aged 16 – 19 years who were not enrolled in school and were not high school graduates. Also, 4 percent of New Hampshire teens aged 16 – 19 not in school and not working, tied four other states for first on that measure. In addition, New Hampshire ranked in the top 10 states on the other six KIDS COUNT indicators.

**Child poverty rate increases.**

Despite being the lowest in the country, the child poverty rate in New Hampshire increased from 6 percent in 2000 to 9 percent in 2008. (Under federal guidelines, a family of two adults and two children were considered to be in deep poverty if their income in 2008 fell below \$21,834.)

**Teens not in school and not high school graduates.**

The percent of 16 to 19 year olds dropped from 9 percent in 2000 to three percent in 2008, a 67 percent decrease over 8 years. This mirrors the national trend but bests it by 22 percent.