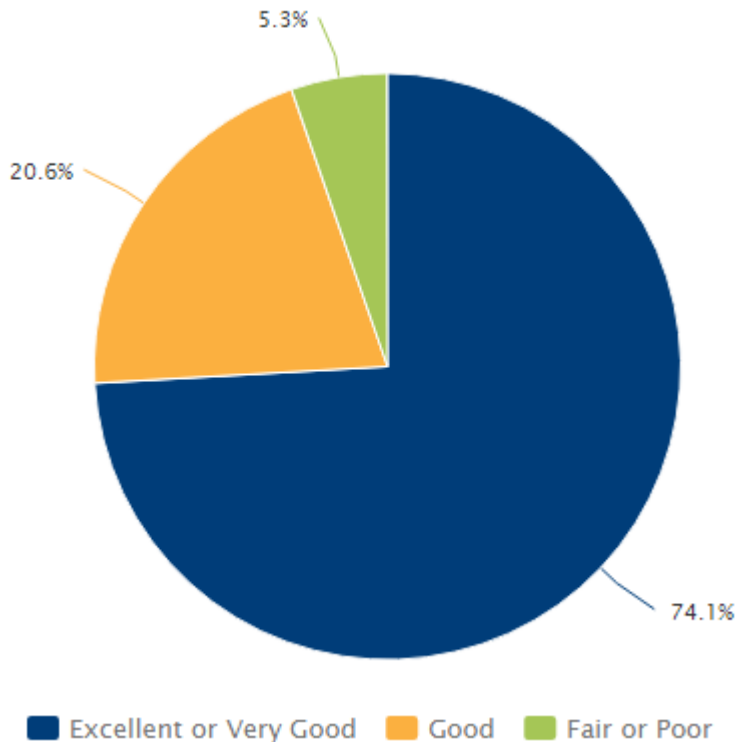


Children's Health Status in California

Children's Health Status: 2013-2014
California



Definition: Self-reported (or parent-reported, for younger children) health status of children under age 18 (e.g., in 2013-2014, an estimated 74.1% of California children were in excellent or very good health).

Data Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, [California Health Interview Survey](#) (Sep. 2016).

Children's Health Status, by Income Level: 2013-2014

California	Percent		
	Excellent or Very Good	Good	Fair or Poor
Income Level			
0-199% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	66.7%	26.4%	6.9%
200% of FPL or Higher	80.9%	15.2%	3.8%

Definition: Self-reported (or parent-reported, for younger children) health status of children under age 18, by income level (e.g., in 2013-2014, an estimated 66.7% of California children living below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level were in excellent or very good health).

Data Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, [California Health Interview Survey](#) (Sep. 2016).

What It Is

On kidsdata.org, estimates of children's health status come from self-reports (or parent-reports, for younger children) of being generally in excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor health. Data are available for children ages 0-17 overall, by income level, and by race/ethnicity.

Why This Topic Is Important

Health status during childhood sets young people on a path toward good or poor health in adulthood (1, 2). Each stage of life influences the next, with the early years in particular providing a foundation for future health and development (1, 2, 3). Children who face disadvantage—whether in education, family functioning, exposure to traumatic events, family or neighborhood resources, or other social factors—tend to fare worse on measures of health than other children (1, 4).

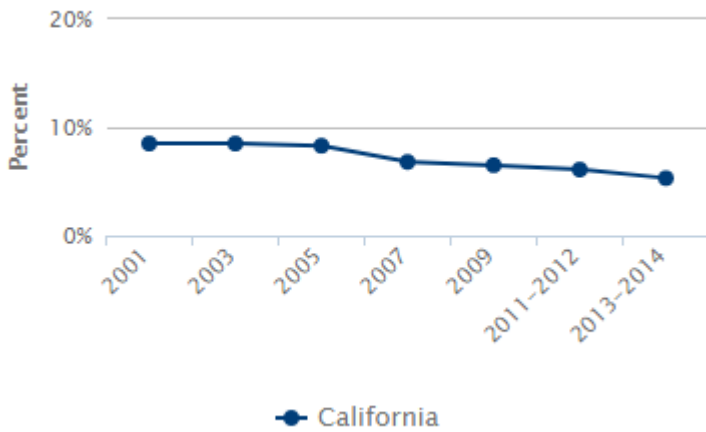
Promoting child health not only improves the lives of individual children and their families, it also strengthens the health of the next generation, which may have significant social and economic impacts (1, 2, 5). Healthy young people tend to become healthier and more educated adults who are better able to contribute to society than those who struggle with health problems, which means a stronger workforce and reduced strain on public service systems (2, 5). Thus, nurturing California's children today may improve the state's future social and economic well being (2, 6).

How Children Are Faring

It is estimated that nearly three-quarters (74%) of California children ages 0-17 were in excellent or very good health in 2013-14, up from approximately two-thirds (66%) in 2001. Among counties with data, estimates of children in very good to excellent health ranged from 54% in Mendocino County to 87% in San Mateo County. In 2001, more than 1 in 12 California children (9%) were in fair or poor health; in 2013-14 this proportion was about 1 in 20 (5%).

Children's health status varies by family income and race/ethnicity. In 2013-14, an estimated 67% of California children living below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level were in excellent or very good overall health, compared to 81% of children from higher-income families. Among racial/ethnic groups with data, rates of excellent or very good health status were highest for multiracial and white children (83%)

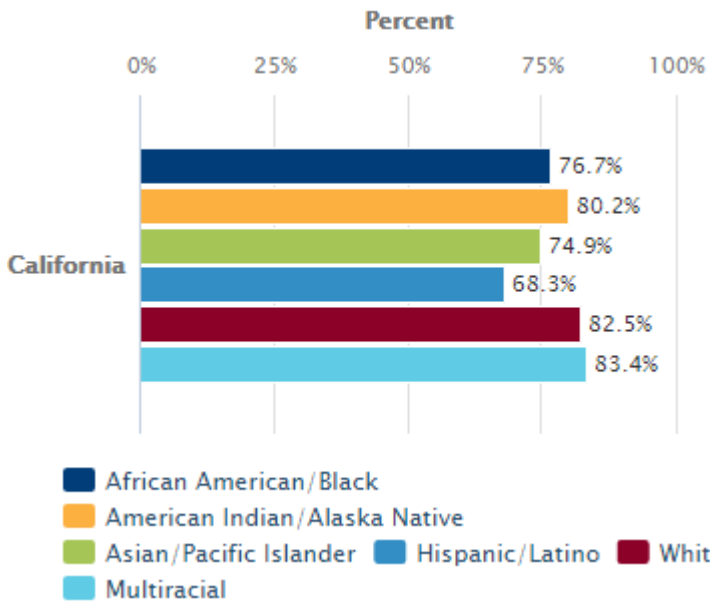
Children in Fair/Poor Health



Definition: Self-reported (or parent-reported, for younger children) health status of children under age 18 (e.g., in 2013-2014, an estimated 74.1% of California children were in excellent or very good health).

Data Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Sep. 2016).

Children in Excellent/Very Good Health, by Race/Ethnicity: 2013-2014



Definition: Self-reported (or parent-reported, for younger children) health status of children under age 18, by race/ethnicity (e.g., in 2013-2014, an estimated 83.4% of multiracial children in California were in excellent or very good health).

Data Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey (Sep. 2016).

and lowest for Hispanic/Latino children (68%) in 2013-14.

View references for this text and additional research on this topic:
<https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/97/health-status/summary>



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