



**UNDER EMBARGO Until June 14, 2023 at 12:01 a.m. ET**

Contact: [David Sandler David.Sandler@caany.org](mailto:David.Sandler@caany.org) 818-251-6558

## **Nevada's Child Well-Being Ranks 47th Amidst Inaccessible and Unaffordable Child Care Crisis, Leaving Parents Struggling to Cope**

*Child Care Challenges Cost U.S. Economy \$122 Billion Annually as Parents Face Work Disruptions, Annie E. Casey Foundation Finds*

**LAS VEGAS**— According to the *2023 KIDS COUNT® Data Book*, released this morning, Nevada ranks 47th in child well-being among all states. The comprehensive report, developed by the esteemed Annie E. Casey Foundation, analyzes recent household data to assess how children and families are faring across the nation.

Additionally, findings in this year's report shed light on a significant issue plaguing our community: the lack of affordable and accessible child care. As a result, children in Nevada are being short-changed, and parents are forced to navigate a challenging landscape, frequently missing work or even quitting their jobs due to the absence of reliable child care options. For those fortunate enough to secure child care, the financial burden is often overwhelming.

The repercussions of these child care challenges extend beyond individual families, with the American economy bearing a hefty cost. The strain on parents' employment has resulted in billions of dollars lost each year. Additionally, women, in particular, face professional obstacles, impeding their growth and potential.

To combat this child care crisis, Children's Advocacy Alliance and its partners are advocating for comprehensive solutions. These include increased funding for subsidized child care programs, expanding access to quality early childhood education, and implementing policies that support working parents. Collaboration between public and private sectors is crucial to ensure sustainable and equitable solutions for all families.

“The child care crisis in Nevada can no longer be seen as merely a family issue. It is an issue that impacts the entire state and warrants consistent, sustainable investments to see the educational and economic growth necessary in Nevada.” said Jamelle Nance, Director of Strong Start Initiatives at Children’s Advocacy Alliance, Nevada’s member of the KIDS COUNT network.

The *2023 KIDS COUNT® Data Book* serves as a wake-up call, emphasizing the urgency to address the child care challenges faced by Nevada families. Around 28,000 children in Nevada lived in families that faced job-related disruptions, including job loss and quitting due to child care issues. The report also highlights the financial strain on families, with child care costs comprising a significant portion of their income. Child care workers are poorly compensated compared to other professions. **Married couples with children in Nevada have the highest child care cost burden of any state (15%).** The crisis has far-reaching implications for the economy, resulting in a loss of \$122 billion annually. Children’s Advocacy Alliance and its partners are advocating for solutions, including increased investment in child care programs and improved compensation for workers. The release of the *Data Book* is a call to action to address these challenges and prioritize the well-being of children.

Each year, the KIDS COUNT Data Book ranks the states according to how children are faring, presenting overall national and state data from 16 indicators in four domains: economic well-being (Nevada ranked 48th), education (46th), health (38th), and family and community factors (44th). Nevada’s overall rank of 47th points to ways the state can bolster its policies that support child well-being.

For more information on *2023 KIDS COUNT® Data Book* head to [Children's Advocacy Alliance](https://www.childrensadvocacyalliance.org) website.

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#### **RELEASE INFORMATION**

The *2023 KIDS COUNT® Data Book* will be available at [www.aecf.org](https://www.aecf.org). Additional information is available at [www.aecf.org/databook](https://www.aecf.org/databook). Journalists interested in creating maps, graphs and rankings in stories about the Data Book can use the KIDS COUNT Data Center at [datacenter.aecf.org](https://datacenter.aecf.org).

#### **About CAA:**

*Children’s Advocacy Alliance (CAA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that advocates for children’s well-being in the areas of education, health, safety, and economic well-being. CAA is a community-based nonprofit organization that mobilizes people, resources and reason to ensure every child has a chance to thrive and to make Nevada a better place to live and raise a family.*

**ABOUT THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION**

The Annie E. Casey Foundation creates a brighter future for the nation's young people by developing solutions to strengthen families, build paths to economic opportunity and transform struggling communities into safer and healthier places to live, work and grow. For more information, visit [www.aecf.org](http://www.aecf.org). KIDS COUNT® is a registered trademark of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

**Media Contact:**

David Sandler

818-251-6558

David.Sandler@caanv.org