

## READY FOR LIFE NEVADA: OUR SHARED YOUTH VISION

### *2011 Youth Well-Being Report Summary*

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As a statewide convener of youth serving organizations, Ready for Life seeks to identify the initiatives, policies and practices impacting quality of life for Nevada's children and youth. By analyzing a composite set of local and statewide data reflecting important changes in the youth serving social services sector, our community can specifically pinpoint and respond to policy areas in need of attention. Since many systems may interact with the same youth population, it is imperative to have a broader understanding of each system and how these systems interact with each other.

The full 2011 Youth Well-Being Report was created to address questions such as the following:

- o How has child and youth well-being in Nevada changed in the last several years?
- o Have conditions improved or deteriorated?
- o By approximately how much?
- o Were certain social domains impacted more than others?

Ready for Life analyzed 27 key indicators across multiple youth serving systems. These indicators were chosen, with direction from the Ready for Life Nevada Statewide Council, because they are easy to understand, based on substantial research connecting them to child well-being, cut across important areas of children's lives, and are measured regularly in order to show trends over time. Additionally, many of the indicators chosen are aligned with Ready for Life target populations, including: high school dropouts, youth in the child welfare system, youth involved with the juvenile justice system, homeless youth, and pregnant and parenting teens.

Viewing the indicators collectively as a measure of overall youth well-being reflects the strength of Nevada's social institutions, families, schools and communities. These quantitative benchmarks provide a starting point to inform legislators, government leaders, and policy makers about the decisions our state is making that affect Nevada as a place to live and call home.

Ready for Life will update this report annually to measure and report on progress over time. Please visit [www.readyforlifenv.org](http://www.readyforlifenv.org) for a full copy of the Ready for Life Nevada: Our Shared Youth Vision 2011 Youth Well-Being Report.



## READY FOR LIFE NEVADA: OUR SHARED YOUTH VISION YOUTH WELL-BEING INDICATORS

	Previous Year		Most Recent		Change*
<b>Education Indicators</b>					
NAEP 4th grade Reading Scores	211	(2007)	211	(2009)	0.0% <span style="color: yellow;">↕</span>
NAEP 8th grade Reading Scores	252	(2007)	254	(2009)	0.8% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
NAEP 4th grade math scores	232	(2007)	235	(2009)	1.3% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
NAEP 8th grade math scores	271	(2007)	274	(2009)	1.1% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
High School Graduation Rates	52.0%	(2007)	51.3%	(2008)	-0.7% <span style="color: red;">▼</span>
Residents who are High School Graduates	83.5%	(2008)	83.9%	(2009)	0.4% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
<b>Workforce Indicators</b>					
Unemployment Rate for Nevada Youth Ages 16-19	23.9%	(2009)	33.4%	(2010)	9.5% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Unemployment Rate for High School Graduates	7.1%	(2009)	11.8%	(2009)	4.7% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
<b>Child Welfare Indicators</b>					
Number of children in out-of-home care	4,779	(2009)	5,089	(2010)	6.5% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Substantiated Reports	2,136	(2009)	1,810	(2010)	-15.3% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
<b>Juvenile Justice Indicators</b>					
Bookings (Arrests)	12,510	(2009)	10,943	(2010)	-12.5% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
Youth Referred Back to DJJS	16.1%	(2008)	13.5%	(2009)	-2.6% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
Habitual Truancy (Discipline Events)	3,612	(2009)	4,205	(2010)	16.4% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
<b>Housing and Economy Indicators</b>					
Number of Homeless Youth	7,734	(2010)	7,916	(2011)	2.4% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Children under 18 Living in Poverty	15.0%	(2008)	17.6%	(2009)	2.6% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Number of Children Receiving TANF	17,028	(2009)	19,991	(2010)	17.4% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
<b>Early Childhood Indicators</b>					
Nursery School, Preschool Enrollment	26,865	(2008)	29,468	(2009)	9.7% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
Percent of Children Age 3-5 Not Enrolled in School	58.0%	(2008)	56.0%	(2009)	-2.0% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
<b>Maternal and Child Health</b>					
Teen Birth Rates	55.3	(2007)	53.5	(2008)	-3.3% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
Enrollment in Medicaid	238,590	(2009)	280,285	(2010)	17.5% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Enrollment in Nevada Check Up	21,515	(2009)	21,002	(2010)	-2.4% <span style="color: green;">▼</span>
Children without Health Insurance	16.0%	(2008)	17.8%	(2009)	1.8% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Pregnant women receiving prenatal care	67.1%	(2007)	67.8%	(2008)	0.7% <span style="color: green;">▲</span>
<b>Behavioral Health</b>					
Dependence on or Abuse of Illicit Drugs or Alcohol	9.4%	(2007)	9.5%	(2008)	0.1% <span style="color: yellow;">↕</span>
Domestic Violence Incidents	21,072	(2008)	24,141	(2009)	14.6% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
Youth Experiencing a Major Depressive Episode	8.1%	(2007)	8.2%	(2008)	0.0% <span style="color: yellow;">↕</span>
Youth reporting alcohol use in the past 30 days	37.0%	(2007)	38.6%	(2009)	1.6% <span style="color: red;">▲</span>

\*Green arrows represent positive change, red arrows indicate negative change, and yellow arrows indicate no change.

