



**“There’s a big  
difference between  
rhetoric and  
delivering, and the  
fact that there is  
still a problem  
speaks volumes.”**

—George W. Bush, criticizing Governor Richards  
in 1994 for failing to improve conditions  
for the residents of Texas’ *colonias*.



Many Texans confront the low priority that state politicians put on health and human services before they are even born. Texas ranks No. 46 in the percentage of babies whose mothers received prenatal care. It ranks No. 48 in the percentage of children who receive immunizations and it is No. 2 in the percentage of poor children who lack health insurance.

Children are not the only ones left behind. Texas is No. 1 in the percentage of all Texans who lack health

ing federal funds for Medicaid outreach have left 600,000 eligible children without this government health care support. Just three states provide lower welfare benefits than Texas, which led the nation by slashing its food stamp payments by \$1 billion after welfare reform.

Far too many Texans fall into the shadows of the glimmering prosperity seen in affluent sections of Houston, Dallas and Austin. Some of the worst living conditions in the United States

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# HUMAN SERVICES

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insurance (24 percent). The state ranks No. 2 in the percentage of people who go hungry and No. 3 in the percentage of malnourished citizens. Texas ranks No. 2 in the total incidence of infectious diseases, including its No. 2 ranking in the rate of leprosy, rubella, brucellosis and cryptosporidiosis.

On a per capita basis, just five other states spend less than Texas on public health. Bureaucratic barriers and the state's failure to spend exist-

are found in the Rio Grande Valley's *colonias*, where 350,000 people inhabit poor subdivisions that lack such First-World amenities as water and sewage services. Bush criticized then-Governor Ann Richards in 1994 for not eliminating this problem altogether. After serving one and a half terms himself, Bush's *colonias* policy boils down to \$25 million in federal grants and a scant \$5.6 million state-funded loan program.

While the Texas Legislature has

long neglected less-fortunate Texans, Governor Bush has hardly bucked this trend. Repeatedly he has turned a deaf ear to calls for help that did not emanate from the powerful business lobby. In 1999, when Texas was flush with a budget surplus, Bush initially fought to block some 250,000 children from receiving affordable health insurance through the Children's Health Insurance Program. While

fighting this insurance program, Bush declared a legislative emergency to push through a \$45 million tax break for oil well owners, saying, "People are hurting out there."

"You'd think the governor would have heard if there are pockets of hunger," Bush said in an insightful response to a U.S. Department of Agriculture report that found widespread hunger in Texas.



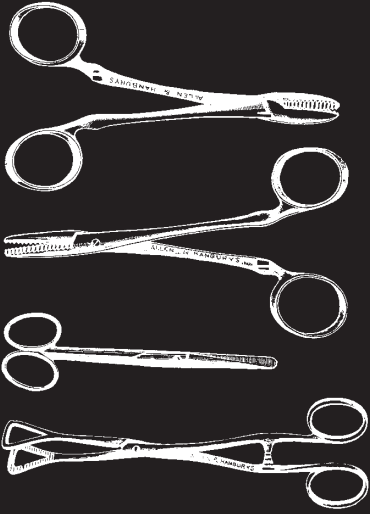
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## HUMAN SERVICES INDICATORS

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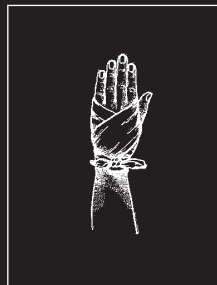
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# HUMAN SERVICES



INDICATORS





1

INFANT MORTALITY & LOW BIRTH WEIGHTS

Births in Texas go better than they do in most states, though the outcomes were not good enough to rank Texas among the best states in which to be born from 1995 through 1997. Texas loses 6.4 babies for every 1,000 births. Thirteen states accounting for 23 percent of the U.S. population deliver better results.

Rank	State	Deaths Per 1,000 Births	
	1	Mississippi	10.6
	2	Alabama	9.9
	3	Louisiana	9.4
	4-5	North Carolina (tied)	9.2
	4-5	South Carolina (tied)	9.2
<b>37</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>6.4</b>	
	45-47	Oregon (tied)	5.8
	45-47	Utah (tied)	5.8
	45-57	Washington (tied)	5.8
	48	Maine	5.3
	49	Massachusetts	5.1
	50	New Hampshire	4.8

Texas ranked No. 29 in the percentage of babies born with low birth weights (under 5.5 pounds) from 1996 through 1998. These results are better than what experts generally would expect, given Texas' low levels of prenatal care (see next page). The explanation may lie in the so-called "Hispanic Paradox," whereby Hispanic women with relatively low levels of income, education and health care produce much healthier babies than their socio-economic status predicts.

Rank	State	Low-Birth Weights (%)	
	1	Louisiana	10.05 %
	2	Mississippi	10.03 %
	3	South Carolina	9.30 %
	4	Alabama	9.26 %
	5	Tennessee	8.89 %
<b>29</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>7.30 %</b>	
	46	Alaska	5.78 %
	47	South Dakota	5.73 %
	48	Washington	5.63 %
	49	New Hampshire	5.44 %
	50	Oregon	5.39 %



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "Health, United States, 2000," Hyattsville, MD, Tables 14 and 24.

Website: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf)



## 2

## PRENATAL CARE &amp; IMMUNIZATIONS

Texas might rise from decent to excellent birth outcomes if more of its mothers received prenatal care. Texas ranked No. 46 in the percentage of babies whose mothers received this care (79 percent) from 1996 through 1998.

	Rank	State	Babies Who Got Prenatal Care
	1	Rhode Island	89.6 %
	2	New Hampshire	89.5 %
	3	Maine	89.3 %
	4	Connecticut	88.4 %
	5	Maryland	88.3 %
	<b>46</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>78.6 %</b>
	47-48	Arkansas (tied)	76.1 %
	47-48	Nevada (tied)	76.1 %
	49	Arizona	74.7 %
	50	New Mexico	69.2 %

Unfortunately, the poor health care that Texas fetuses receive continues after birth. Texas ranked No. 48 in its child immunization rate, with 26 percent of its kids lacking disease-preventing immunizations in 1998.

	Rank	State	Kids Immunized
	1	Connecticut	90 %
	2	South Carolina	88 %
	3	Massachusetts	87 %
	4-5	Maine (tied)	86 %
	4-5	Rhode Island (tied)	86 %
	46	Oklahoma	75 %
	47-48	South Dakota (tied)	74 %
	<b>47-48</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>74 %</b>
	49	Arkansas	73 %
	50	New Mexico	71 %





# 3

## POOR KIDS LACKING HEALTH INSURANCE



Texas ranked No. 2 in the percentage of its poor children who lacked health insurance (18 percent) from 1996 through 1998. Poor children are defined as those living in households that earn no more than twice the federal poverty level.

	Rank	State	Uninsured Poor Kids
	1	Arizona	21.5 %
	<b>2</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>18.1 %</b>
	3	Arkansas	16.9 %
	4	Mississippi	15.4 %
	5	Louisiana	14.5 %
	46-47	Hawaii (tied)	4.5 %
	46-47	Massachusetts (tied)	4.5 %
	48	Nebraska	3.9 %
	49	Wisconsin	3.3 %
	50	Vermont	1.9 %



Source: U. S. Census Bureau, "Low-Income Uninsured Children by State: 1996-1998," on-line database in Current Population Survey.

Website: [www.census.gov/hhes/hlthins/liuc98.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/hlthins/liuc98.html)



## 4

## CHILD &amp; TEEN DEATH RATES

Eighteen states had a higher 1997 child death rate than Texas, which tied with six other states that had child death rates of 27 kids per 100,000. Some 59 percent of the U.S. population lives in states with a lower child death rate.

	Rank	State	Child Deaths Per 100,000
	1	Alaska	42
	2	Arkansas	38
	3	Idaho	37
	4-5	Alabama (tied)	36
	4-5	Mississippi (tied)	36
	<b>19-25</b>	<b>Texas (7-way tie)</b>	<b>27</b>
	46-47	Connecticut (tied)	20
	46-47	New Hampshire (tied)	20
	48	Hawaii	19
	49-50	Massachusetts (tied)	15
	49-50	Rhode Island (tied)	15

Seventeen states had a higher 1997 teenage death rate than Texas, which tied with three other states that had a death rate of 66 teens per 100,000. Some 74 percent of the U.S. population lives in states with lower teenage death rates.



	Rank	State	Teen Deaths Per 100,000
	1-2	Arkansas (tied)	90
	1-2	Mississippi (tied)	90
	3	Alaska	85
	4	Louisiana	84
	5	South Dakota	83
	<b>18-21</b>	<b>Texas (4-way tie)</b>	<b>66</b>
	46	New Jersey	35
	47	Massachusetts	33
	48-49	Hawaii (tied)	27
	48-49	New Hampshire (tied)	27
	50	Vermont	26

5

TEEN BIRTH RATE



Texas was No. 2 after Mississippi in its 1998 teenage birth rate. Nationally, these births have declined by 18 percent since 1991. After Rhode Island, however, Texas had the second-lowest decline in its teen birthrate (10 percent).



	Rank	State	Teen Births Per 1,000 Births
	1	Mississippi	73.0
	<b>2</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>70.9</b>
	3	Arkansas	70.8
	4	Arizona	70.5
	5	New Mexico	69.0
	46	Minnesota	30.6
	47-48	Maine (tied)	30.4
	47-48	North Dakota (tied)	30.4
	49	New Hampshire	27.1
	50	Vermont	24.4

# 1

## OVERALL HEALTH INDEX





The UnitedHealth Group, an insurance consortium, annually ranks the overall health of state populations based on rates of such indicators as smoking, heart disease, public health spending, sick days and the death rate. Texas ranks No. 35. Some 65 percent of the U.S. population lives in states with healthier populations.

	Rank	State	Health Index Score
	1	Minnesota	23.0
	2	New Hampshire	21.7
	3	Massachusetts	15.7
	4	Wisconsin	15.6
	5	Vermont	15.0
	<b>35</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>-3.9</b>
	46	Nevada	-12.9
	47	South Carolina	-13.8
	48	Louisiana	-17.9
	49	Mississippi	-18.2
	50	Arkansas	-19.2

## 2

## PEOPLE WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE

Texas is No. 1 in the percentage of its population that lacks health insurance (24 percent).



	Rank	State	Population Lacking Health Insurance (%)
	<b>1</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>24.4 %</b>
	2	Arizona	24.3 %
	3	New Mexico	22.0 %
	4	Arkansas	21.6 %
	5	California	21.2 %
	46-47	Pennsylvania (tied)	10.0 %
	46-47	Rhode Island (tied)	10.0 %
	48	Minnesota	9.6 %
	49	Wisconsin	9.4 %
	50	Hawaii	8.7 %

# 3



## PEOPLE WITHOUT MEDICAL/DENTAL CARE



Due in part to its poor rate of health insurance coverage, a high percentage of the Texas population lacks access to medical and dental care. Texas ranked No. 21 in the percentage of people without access to primary medical care in 1998. Some 69 percent of the U.S. population lives in states where people have better access to such care.

Rank	State	No Medical Care (%)	
	1	Louisiana	24.1 %
	2	Mississippi	22.1 %
	3	Utah	21.7 %
	4	Idaho	21.0 %
	5	South Dakota	20.1 %
<b>21</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>11.1 %</b>	
	46	New Jersey	5.1 %
	47	Delaware	4.7 %
	48	Minnesota	4.2 %
	49	Hawaii	3.0 %
	50	Maryland	2.2 %



Texas ranked No. 9 in the percentage of people without access to dental care in 1998.

Rank	State	No Dental Care (%)	
	1	New Mexico	17.8 %
	2	Tennessee	17.2 %
	3	Oregon	15.8 %
	4	Nevada	14.6 %
	5	Idaho	14.3 %
<b>9</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>8.7 %</b>	
	46	Wyoming	0.5 %
	47	Minnesota	0.2 %
	48-50	Alaska (tied)	0 %
	48-50	Montana (tied)	0 %
	48-50	New Hampshire (tied)	0 %



## 4

## PHYSICIAN &amp; HOSPITAL BED RATES

Texas ranked No. 36 in the number of patient-care physicians it had for every 10,000 people (18) in 1998. Some 74 percent of the U.S. population lives in states with a higher ratio of such physicians to the general population.

	Rank	State	Doctors Per 10,000 People
	1	Massachusetts	34.2
	2	New York	33.1
	3	Maryland	31.3
	4	Connecticut	30.5
	5	Rhode Island	29.7
	<b>36</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>18.1</b>
	46	Wyoming	15.4
	47	Oklahoma	15.3
	48	Alaska	15.2
	49	Mississippi	14.9
	50	Idaho	14.4

Texas ranked No. 31 in the number of hospital beds it had for every 100,000 people (287) in 1998.

	Rank	State	Beds Per 100,000 People
	1	Vermont	679
	2	North Dakota	624
	3	South Dakota	602
	4	Minnesota	599
	5	Michigan	575
	<b>31</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>287</b>
	46	Alaska	202
	47	New Mexico	200
	48	Washington	189
	49	Mississippi	132
	50	Utah	80



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, "Health, United States, 2000," Hyattsville, MD, Table 101; American Hospital Association, "Hospital Statistics," 2000 Edition, Chicago, IL, Table 8.

Website: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf)



## 5

## DEATH RATE &amp; OCCUPATIONAL DEATHS

Texas ranked No. 22 in its age-adjusted death rate (data are normalized to account for the varying ages of the deceased) in 1998. Texas has a low rate of death from pneumonia, influenza and kidney disease and a high death rate from diabetes, liver disease, Alzheimer's and auto and other accidents. The Texas death rate is slightly higher than the national average.

	Rank	State	Deaths Per 100,000
	1	Mississippi	607
	2	Louisiana	575
	3	Alabama	566
	4	Tennessee	557
	5	Arkansas	551
	<b>22</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>475</b>
	46	Colorado	419
	47	North Dakota	415
	48	Utah	405
	49	Minnesota	395
	50	Hawaii	370

Texas ranked No. 2 in the total number of occupation-related deaths and No. 23 in its *rate* of occupation-related deaths in 1998. Some 72 percent of the U.S. population lives in states with lower occupational death rates.

	Rank	State	Occupational Deaths
	1	California	617
	<b>2</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>523</b>
	3	Florida	384
	4	New York	243
	5	Pennsylvania	235
	46	New Hampshire	23
	47	Vermont	16
	48-49	Rhode Island (tied)	12
	48-49	Hawaii (tied)	12
	50	Delaware	11

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Division of Vital Statistics, "Deaths: Final Data for 1998," Vol. 48, No. 11, Atlanta, GA, July 24, 2000, Table 26, pp. 83-86; Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Fatal Occupational Injuries by State and Event or Exposure," 1998, online chart.



Websites: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvs48\\_11.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvs48_11.pdf) and <http://stats/bls.gov:80news.release/cfoi.t05.htm>





## 6

## MALNOURISHMENT &amp; HUNGER

Texas ranked No. 3 after New Mexico and Mississippi in the *percentage* of its population that was malnourished (13 percent) from 1996 through 1998. It is second only to California in its total number of malnourished people (2.5 million).

	Rank	State	Malnourished People (%)
	1	New Mexico	15.1 %
	2	Mississippi	14.0 %
	<b>3</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>12.9 %</b>
	4-5	Arizona (tied)	12.8 %
	4-5	Louisiana (tied)	12.8 %
	46	Minnesota	6.9 %
	47	Delaware	6.8 %
	48	South Dakota	6.4 %
	49	Massachusetts	6.3 %
	50	North Dakota	4.6 %



Texas ranks No. 2 after Oregon in the *percentage* of its population that goes hungry (5 percent). It is second only to California in its total number of hungry people (967,771).

	Rank	State	Hungry People (%)
	1	Oregon	5.8 %
	<b>2</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>5.0 %</b>
	3	New Mexico	4.7 %
	4-5	Arkansas (tied)	4.6 %
	4-5	Washington (tied)	4.6 %
	46-47	Wisconsin (tied)	2.3 %
	46-47	Pennsylvania (tied)	2.3 %
	48	South Dakota	2.1 %
	49	Massachusetts	2.0 %
	50	North Dakota	1.4 %



## 7

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Texas ranks No. 2 in its *total* infectious disease case load. It is No. 1 in the number of cases of brucellosis, cryptosporidiosis, gonorrhea, hepatitis, leprosy and shigelosis dysentery.

	Rank	State	No. of Cases
	1	California	125,737
	<b>2</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>118,313</b>
	3	New York	76,076
	4	Florida	61,234
	5	Illinois	57,693
	46	Maine	1,805
	47	New Hampshire	1,794
	48	North Dakota	1,495
	49	Wyoming	1,195
	50	Vermont	921



Texas ranks No. 9 in the *rate* of these diseases per 100,000 residents. Texas is No. 2 in the rate of leprosy, rubella, brucellosis and cryptosporidiosis. Its shigelosis dysentery rate is No. 3 and its tuberculosis rate is No. 4.

	Rank	State	Rate Per 100,000 People
	1	Mississippi	880
	2	South Carolina	870
	3	Louisiana	748
	4	Georgia	714
	5	Delaware	643
	<b>9</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>599</b>
	46	Montana	208
	47	Utah	184
	48	Vermont	156
	49	New Hampshire	151
	50	Maine	145

## 8

## OVERWEIGHT ADULTS

Texas is No. 8 in the percentage of its adults who are overweight. Obesity aggravates a variety of health problems, including heart disease and diabetes.



	Rank	State	Percentage of Adults
	1	West Virginia	37.8 %
	2	Mississippi	37.5 %
	3	Alaska	36.2 %
	4	Louisiana	36.1 %
	5	Alabama	35.8 %
	<b>8</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>34.9 %</b>
	46	Vermont	27.4 %
	47	Colorado	27.2 %
	48	Nevada	27.0 %
	49	Massachusetts	26.9 %
	50	Arizona	22.5 %

# 9

## SMOKING





Texas, which ranks a respectable No. 36 in the percentage of its population that smokes, has an unusually pronounced gender split among its smokers. While it ranks No. 47 in the percentage of women who smoke, it ranks No. 12 in its percentage of male smokers.

	Rank	State	Smokers
	1	Kentucky	30.8 %
	2	Nevada	30.4 %
	3	West Virginia	27.9 %
	4	Michigan	27.4 %
	5	South Dakota	27.2 %
	<b>36</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>21.9 %</b>
	46	Hawaii	19.5 %
	47	California	19.2 %
	48	New Jersey	19.1 %
	49	Minnesota	18.0 %
	50	Utah	14.2 %

## 10

## DRUG &amp; ALCOHOL ABUSE TREATMENT

Texas has a serious drug and alcohol abuse problem but ranks No. 45 in the rate at which its population receives treatment for these problems. Almost one out of every three arrests in the state involve alcohol-related driving and disorderly conduct charges. One-fourth of the inmates in Texas prisons in 1998 were there on drug or drunk-driving charges.



	Rank	State	Drug & Alcohol Treatment Patients per 100,00 People
	1	Massachusetts	824
	2	Maine	808
	3	Rhode Island	771
	4	New York	768
	5	Colorado	733
	<b>45</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>297</b>
	46	Idaho	288
	47	Tennessee	284
	48	Minnesota	266
	49	Georgia	251
	50	Alabama	246

# 12

## WOMEN UNTESTED FOR BREAST CANCER



Texas ranks No. 4 in the percentage of women age 19 or older who have never had a breast exam. It also ranks among the top 10 in its rate of failure to test for virtually every other major women's health diagnostic, including mammograms and cervical cancer tests.



	Rank	State	Percentage of Untested Women
	1	Oklahoma	20.5 %
	2	Arizona	18.7 %
	3	Arkansas	17.5 %
	<b>4</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>17.4 %</b>
	5	New Jersey	17.3 %
	45	North Carolina	8.0 %
	46	Washington	7.7 %
	47	Montana	7.2 %
	48	Minnesota	7.1 %
	49	Delaware	5.5 %

Note: California was not included in this survey.

## 12

## ABORTION ACCESS

A recent National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League report ranks and grades states on the extent to which they restrict access to abortion information and services. Texas and Florida, which were tied, received a C- and ranked below 22 other states. The same study also found that Texas and Michigan led the nation in the severity of anti-choice measures passed by their legislatures and signed by their governors in 1999. Between 1994 and 1998, Texas' per capita expenditures on family planning also declined 39 percent.



	Rank	State	Restrictive Index	Grade
	1	Washington	0	A
	2-3	Oregon	4	A
	2-3	Vermont	4	A
	4	Connecticut	5	A
	5-6	California	9	A
	5-6	New York	9	A
	23-24	Florida (tied)	45	C-
	<b>23-24</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>C-</b>
	46	Pennsylvania	84	F
	47-48	Indiana	87	F
	47-48	Mississippi	87	F
	49	Louisiana	101	F
	50	North Dakota	106	F

Note: Low index scores denote less onerous abortion restrictions.



## 13

## STATE PUBLIC &amp; MENTAL HEALTH SPENDING

Texas and West Virginia both spent \$73 per person on public health in 1998. Just five states invested less per person in public health.

Rank	State	Per Capita Public Health Spending	
	1	Alaska	\$262
	2	Delaware	\$247
	3	Massachusetts	\$227
	4	Hawaii	\$226
	5	Michigan	\$224
<b>44-45</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>\$73</b>	
44-45	West Virginia (tied)	\$73	
46	Indiana	\$72	
47-48	North Dakota (tied)	\$71	
47-48	Colorado (tied)	\$71	
	49	Iowa	\$68
	50	Nevada	\$53

Texas and Nebraska both spent \$39 per person on mental health in 1997. Just seven states invested less per person in mental health.

Rank	State	Per Capita Mental Health Spending	
	1	New York	\$113
	2-3	Connecticut (tied)	\$99
	2-3	New Hampshire (tied)	\$99
	4	Montana	\$93
	5	Vermont	\$92
41-42	Nebraska (tied)	\$39	
<b>41-42</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>\$39</b>	
46-47	Idaho (tied)	\$29	
46-47	Iowa (tied)	\$29	
48	Utah	\$28	
	49-50	Tennessee (tied)	\$23
	49-50	West Virginia (tied)	\$23

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "1996 State and Local Finance Estimates," online database; U.S. Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, "Health, United States, 2000," Hyattsville, MD, Table 142.



Websites: [www.census.gov/govs/www/estimate.html](http://www.census.gov/govs/www/estimate.html) and [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf)



## 14

## STATE &amp; LOCAL HOSPITAL SPENDING



Texas ranks No. 12 in state and local government spending on hospitals. Government hospital expenditures can be beneficial, but they raise red flags in states with horrible rates of health insurance coverage. In Texas, extremely costly emergency rooms are often the only place to turn for health care for the quarter of the population that has no health insurance.

	Rank	State	Per Capita Spending
	1	Wyoming	\$635.94
	2	Alabama	\$523.42
	3	South Carolina	\$522.70
	4	Louisiana	\$506.07
	5	Mississippi	\$488.42
	<b>12</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>\$318.54</b>
	46	Arizona	\$71.55
	47	North Dakota	\$66.89
	48	Maryland	\$61.50
	49	New Hampshire	\$34.22
	50	Vermont	\$15.60

## 1

## MEDICAID RECIPIENTS



Medicaid provides health care for the poor through both federal and state funding. Each state has its own eligibility and spending limits. One way to measure Medicaid coverage is to compare the number of Medicaid participants to the total number of people living below the poverty line (though people above this level are eligible for Medicaid in some states). By this measure, Texas ranks No. 44 in Medicaid coverage. Only 77 Texans receive Medicaid for every 100 Texans who live below the federal poverty line. Texas and four other states lead the nation in the number of administrative hurdles that must be cleared before an eligible person can receive Medicaid.

	Rank	State	Recipients Per 100 People Below Poverty Line
	1	Tennessee	212
	2	Vermont	208
	3	Washington	196
	4	Hawaii	133
	5	Maine	132
	<b>44</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>77</b>
	46	Idaho	68
	47-48	Montana (tied)	67
	47-48	North Dakota (tied)	67
	49	Arizona	65
	50	Nevada	61



## 2

## MEDICAID SPENDING &amp; OUTREACH

Texas ranked No. 39 in the average annual amount that it spent per Medicaid recipient (\$3,071) in 1998.

	Rank	State	Average Annual Amount
	1	New York	\$7,907
	2	New Hampshire	\$6,449
	3	Connecticut	\$6,350
	4	Rhode Island	\$6,004
	5	North Dakota	\$5,476
	<b>39</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>\$3,071</b>
	46	New Mexico	\$2,617
	47	Georgia	\$2,465
	48	California	\$2,010
	49	Tennessee	\$1,718
	50	Washington	\$1,447

Many people who have stopped receiving welfare payments (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) do not realize that they are still entitled to Medicaid. The federal government provides funding to contact eligible Medicaid recipients. Texas is one of six states that had not spent any of this federal money according to the most recent information available from the U.S. Health and Human Services Department in September 2000.

	Rank	State	Outreach Expenditures (%)
	1	New Jersey	101 %
	2	Nevada	100 %
	3	Kansas	97 %
	4	Minnesota	84 %
	5	Iowa	78 %
	45-50	Georgia (tied)	0 %
	45-50	Hawaii (tied)	0 %
	45-50	Louisiana (tied)	0 %
	45-50	Nebraska (tied)	0 %
	45-50	Tennessee (tied)	0 %
	<b>45-50</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>0 %</b>



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, "Health, United States, 2000," Hyattsville, MD, Table 144, U.S. Health & Human Services Department data through year-end 1999.

Website: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf)

## 3

## FOOD STAMP ELIGIBILITY &amp; RECIPIENTS

An estimated 22 percent of the population of Texas and Montana are eligible for food stamps. Only six states have greater percentages of their population eligible for this aid.

Rank	State	Eligibility (%)	
	1	New Mexico	28.6 %
	2	Mississippi	26.0 %
	3	Arkansas	25.0 %
	4	Louisiana	24.2 %
	5	West Virginia	24.1 %
7-8	Montana (tied)	21.7 %	
<b>7-8</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>21.7 %</b>	
46	New Jersey	12.4 %	
47	Indiana	12.3 %	
48	Alaska	12.1 %	
	49	Utah	12.0 %
	50	Maryland	11.5 %

Although only six states have higher percentages of their populations that are eligible for food stamps, Texas ranks No. 18 in the percentage of its total population that receives this aid. Texas ranks No. 3 after California and New York in the total number of food stamp recipients (1.4 million).

Rank	State	Percentage of People Receiving Food Stamps
1	West Virginia	13.7 %
2	Louisiana	11.8 %
3	Hawaii	10.6 %
4	Mississippi	10.4 %
5	New Mexico	10.3 %
<b>18</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>7.0 %</b>
46	Massachusetts	4.2 %
47	Utah	4.1 %
48	Wisconsin	3.5 %
49	Nevada	3.4 %
50	New Hampshire	3.1 %

Source: Estimated eligibility data from U. S. Census Bureau (percentage of population at or below 125% of poverty level for 1996-1998); U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service recipient data for 1999.

## 4

## FOOD STAMP DECLINE

Due to welfare reform, the number of food stamp recipients fell in every state except Hawaii. After Arizona, Texas and Ohio had the steepest percentage decline in food stamp recipients from 1994 to 1999 (49 percent in both states). Texas was No. 1 in the total number of food stamp recipients that it dropped (1.3 million). This was due to economic improvements, as well as the high number of post-reform hurdles that applicants must clear to receive this aid.

Rank	State	Decline in Recipients (%)
1	Arizona	49.7 %
2-3	Ohio (tied)	48.6 %
<b>2-3</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>48.6 %</b>
4	Wisconsin	44.8 %
5	Mississippi	43.6 %
46	Nebraska	16.6 %
47	Montana	14.7 %
48	Arkansas	10.5 %
49	Alaska	10.0 %
50	Hawaii	+9.2 %



After welfare reform, spending on food stamps in Texas dropped by more than \$1 billion from 1994 to 1999. No other state approached this dollar drop in food stamps. Texas was No. 2 after Ohio in the inflation-adjusted percentage decline in its food stamp spending (52 percent).

Rank	State	Funding Decline (%)
1	Ohio	56.7%
<b>2</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>51.8%</b>
3	Kansas	50.7%
4	Arizona	50.0%
5	Wisconsin	49.5%
46	Alaska	8.9%
47	Montana	7.1%
48	Connecticut	1.9%
49	Arkansas	1.2%
50	Hawaii	-19.7%



## 5

## TOTAL WELFARE BENEFITS PAID

Texas ranks No. 47 in the amount of welfare and food stamp benefits that it pays to a three-person, one-parent family. The maximum total amount of these benefits that one Texas family can receive is \$503 a month.

Rank	State	Welfare & Food Stamps	Top Welfare Grant
	1	Alaska	\$1,246
	2	Hawaii	\$1,184
	3	New York	\$922
	4	Vermont	\$878
	5	Connecticut	\$875
46	Louisiana	\$505	\$190
<b>47</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>\$503</b>	<b>\$188</b>
48	Tennessee	\$500	\$185
	49	Alabama	\$479
	50	Mississippi	\$435

Texas, Tennessee and Louisiana each pay welfare and food stamp benefits that cover 45 percent of the poverty level for a three-person, one-parent family. Only the benefits paid by Alabama and Mississippi cover a smaller share of the poverty level.

Rank	State	% Covered by Welfare & Food Stamps	% of Poverty Level Covered by Welfare
	1	Hawaii	93 %
	2	Alaska	90 %
	3	New York	83 %
	4-5	Connecticut (tied)	79 %
	4-5	Vermont (tied)	79 %
46-48	Louisiana (tied)	45 %	17 %
46-48	Tennessee (tied)	45 %	17 %
<b>46-48</b>	<b>Texas (tied)</b>	<b>45 %</b>	<b>17 %</b>
	49	Alabama	43 %
	50	Mississippi	39 %