



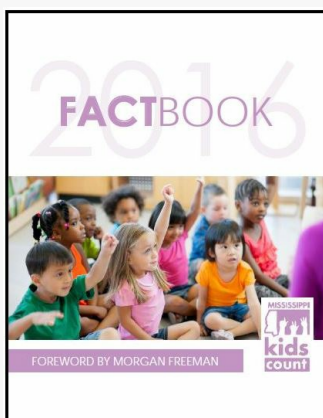
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Free Access & Reliable Data

Looking for the most current data on child well-being?

Our National KIDS COUNT data center provides state rankings for four domains: Economic Well-Being, Education, Health, and Family & Community.

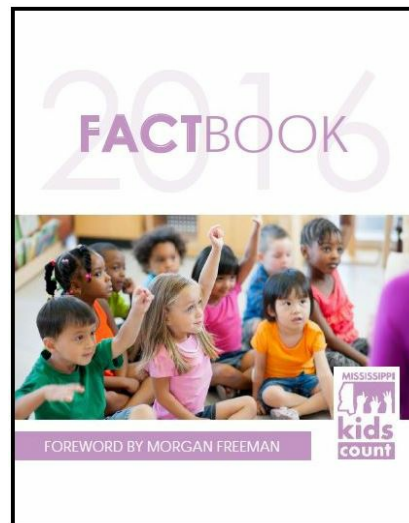
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**MS Fact Book
Access Online!**

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Mississippi KIDS COUNT Latest News!



The 2016 Mississippi KIDS COUNT Fact Book is here!

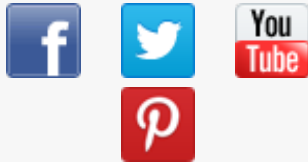
The release of the 2016 Mississippi KIDS COUNT Fact Book marks the tenth year Mississippi State University's Social Science Research Center has been the Mississippi grantee for the state-based network, sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. For the second consecutive year, the Fact Book provides a data snapshot on the status of education for Mississippi's children. Included in the book are sections on the cost benefits of early



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childhood education and the health determinants of early school success.

The 2016 foreword was written by actor Morgan Freeman, a Mississippi native. He shared his thoughts on the importance of investing in quality early care and education.

[Download your copy here!](#)

New Policy Brief



In February, Mississippi KIDS COUNT released a new report on chronic absenteeism which reveals that chronic absenteeism among Mississippi public school students in the lower elementary grades can be linked to student achievement. [Counting the Future: Early Attendance Charts a Path for Future Success in Mississippi Schools](#) marks the first time student-level data has been used to compare achievement levels of

Mississippi public school students in K-3 based on their patterns of attendance.

Mississippi KIDS COUNT Chronic Absenteeism Event



In coordination with the release of the MSKC report on chronic absenteeism Mississippi KIDS COUNT, in cooperation with the Mississippi Association of Grantmakers, hosted a day at the Mississippi Capitol with guest speakers Ms. Hedy Chang - Executive Director of Attendance Works, and the Honorable Barbara O'Brien - Former Lt. Governor of Colorado and Current Denver City School Board Member as well as Senior Policy Advisor to the Campaign for Grade Level Reading. They shared valuable information about the importance of school attendance and successful strategies for addressing chronic absenteeism. Members of the MS Senate and House Education Committees, State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carey Wright, school administrators, parents and other stakeholders were in attendance.

Other News...

Capitol Day



Mississippi KIDS COUNT staff and several advisory board members enjoyed a day in the rotunda of the Mississippi Capitol for the release of our 2016 Fact Book. The Fact Book was distributed to all members of the Mississippi State Senate and House.

Mississippi KIDS COUNT Advisory Board Update

We welcome new members to our MS KIDS COUNT Advisory Board:

- Ms. Portia Espy - *Director of Community Building, Winter Institute*
- Mr. Lloyd Gray - *Executive Director of The Phil Hardin Foundation*
- Judge John Hudson - *Jurist in Residence, Mississippi Youth Courts*

- Mr. Sanford Johnson - *Deputy Director Mississippi First*
- Dr. Brian Pugh - *Director of Finance, Office of the Governor*
- Dr. D.D. Sidhu - *CEO & Medical Director, Desoto Children's Clinic*
- Dr. Corey Wiggins - *Director of the Hope Policy Institute*

COMING SOON. . .

Watch for the release of the latest Annie E. Casey Foundation policy report. *A Shared Sentence: The Devastating Toll of Parental Incarceration on Kids, Families and Communities* will be released on Monday, April 25th.

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For the latest data and news from Mississippi KIDS COUNT follow us on Twitter @MSKidsCount and [Facebook](#). Share our Facebook posts to spread the information about Mississippi's children!

Our Data is Here to Help You!

Use our data to apply for grants, inform your legislative representatives, compare counties, and much more!

Find the data your are looking for on our [website](#) today!



MISSISSIPPI kids count is the leading resource for comprehensive information on Mississippi's children and serves as a catalyst for improving outcomes for **children, families, and communities.**

