



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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www.childrenscouncil.com

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Adam Christianson, Sheriff
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Child Development Local Planning Council
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Karen Poppen, Keyes Union School District
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Children and Families Commission
Jan Viss, Community Services Agency
Roy Wasden
Domestic Violence Task Force
Ka Yang, Community Representative

Council Releases Comparison Report on Condition of Children and Youth in Stanislaus County

(Modesto, CA) – Following the “Condition of Children and Youth Report 2007” released this past January, the Stanislaus County Children’s Council, has released a second report, the “Condition of Children and Youth Report 2008” comparing 2006 to 2007 data.

While some areas like child health and child abuse and neglect indicate improvement, such as the percentage of child abuse reports substantiated decreasing by 2.59%. Other statistics are not as encouraging:

- Children living in poverty in Stanislaus County have increased 1.2%.
- Children receiving food stamps have increased 8%.
- Juveniles arrested by law enforcement have increased from 3,629 to 3,753.

The availability of licensed child care for children with parents in the labor force continues to rank second lowest in the state.

Data was compiled from various agencies to measure the health and well being of children and youth in our community.

The purpose of the report is to raise community awareness of the problems facing children and youth today. The Council also plans to use this community report as part of their yearly presentation to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

The Stanislaus County Children’s Council was created in 1992. Members are appointed by the County Board of Supervisors from various County agencies and community groups. The purpose of the Council is to advocate for and support the interests of all children and families in Stanislaus County.

(Attached please find a copy of the report. For more information, please contact Cheryl Heppner, Children’s Council Coordinator at 620-6390).

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Stanislaus County Children's Council

Condition of Children & Youth Report 2008



The purpose of this report is to raise community awareness of the problems facing children and youth today.



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Juvenile Crimes & Delinquency

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Total Juvenile Arrests (includes violations of probation and warrants)	3,629	3,753
Juvenile Hall Admissions:	2,005	2,088
Juvenile Felonies (percentage of all new juvenile crimes)	23%	26%
Juvenile Diversion Referrals (percentage of all new juvenile crimes)	23%	31%
Gang Members (documented gang members between the ages of 12—17, which accounts for 30% of the documented gang members in the county.)	1,150	not available
Community Service (hours completed by probation youth)	not available	3,423

More local and state crime statistics are available through the California Department of Justice website located at <http://ag.ca.gov/cjsc>. Local crime statistics are also available through the Stanislaus County Probation Department Annual Report located at <http://www.costanislaus.ca.us/probatn/index.htm>.

Education

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Total Number of Student Enrollment (K—12)	106,994	107,712
Expulsion Rate	.46%	.54%
Total Number of High School Enrollment (9-12)	33,281	33,682
High School Graduation Rate (does not include GED)	82% enrolled 7,352 graduated 6,034	78% enrolled 7,667 graduated 5,965
Number of After School Programs (7,278 students attending)	81 sites	92 sites

For after school programs contact your child's school directly or you can access information through:
www.stancoe.org/scoe/iss/prevprog/prevention/pdfs/RegionSixDirectory.pdf
www.stancoelorg/scoe/iss/prevprog/prevention/AfterschoolProgramsIndex.htm

Child Poverty

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Percentage of Children Living in Poverty	18.9%	20.1%
Percentage of Children Receiving CalWORKS	12 %	13%
Percentage of Children Receiving Food Stamps	16%	24%

Data obtained from <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

“Poverty” is defined as the US Census Federal Poverty Level (<httpwww.census.gov/hwww/poverty.html>).

Child Health

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Births to Mothers Under 17 Years of Age (per every 1000 teen females)	15.5	12.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per every 1000 births)	5.5	4.8
Immunization Rate (for children under 2)	67.8%	66.7%

Childhood obesity is a current health concern for our children and a concern for the health and life expectancy for all the members of our community. As data becomes available this health concern will be monitored. Further information available at www.HSAhealth.org.

Child Care

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Total Licensed Family Child Care Homes	695	628
Total Licensed Private Child Care Centers	58	61
Total Licensed Subsidized Child Care Centers	77	83
Total Exempt Child Care Centers	68	68
Cost of Child Care And Family Income	\$28,080	\$30,720

Stanislaus County ranks 2nd lowest in the state for 2006 and 2007 in its availability of licensed child care for children with parents in the labor force.

(annual income with 2 minimum wage earners)

Care for one infant in a licensed family child care home would total approximately 21% of total income (2006 and 2007).

2006 2007

Need for Subsidized Child Care	50%	49%
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(percentage of preschool age children on the Stanislaus Centralized Eligibility List hoping to receive help in paying their child care)

Need for Preschool Programs	52%	52%
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(estimated number of 4 year olds in Stanislaus County not receiving services in a state or federally funded program.)

Further information available at www.stancoe.org

Child Abuse & Neglect

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Initial Child Abuse Reports	11,078	10,248
Percentage of Child Abuse Reports Substantiated	17.36%	14.77%
Average Number of Children in Foster Care	525	546
Adoption Within 24 Months of Entering Foster Care (when unable to reunify with biological parents)	76.8%	73.7%

Data obtained from UC Berkeley website (<http://cssr.berkeley.edu>). Numbers may differ from previous reports due to changes in methodologies implemented July/August 2007.