Children of Jefferson County 2009

Poverty/Housing/Education
- 20% of children under age 18 live in poverty
- Two-thirds of babies are born to low-income women (Medicaid-paid maternity care)
- The number of new families with children age 3-18 using food banks increased an estimated 147% between 2007/08 and 2008/09
- Children age 0-17 made up 30% of the homeless counted during the January 2009 Point in Time Count
- 83% of high school students graduate on-time (in 4 years); 89% of high school students graduate in 4 or more years

General Health
- Nearly nine in ten children (88%) have some kind of health insurance
- One-quarter of 8th and 10th graders are overweight or at risk for becoming overweight
- 82% of 8th and 71% of 10th graders report vigorous physical activity at least 3 times per week

Mental Health
- More than one-quarter of 8th (27%) and one-third of 10th (30%) graders report having felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks in a row in the past year that they stopped some usual activities
- One in ten 8th (11%) and one in five 10th (19%) graders report having seriously considered suicide in the past year
- Sixty-nine percent of 8th and 52% of 10th graders report having adults to turn to when they’re feeling sad or hopeless
- Thirty-nine percent of 8th graders and 33% of 10th graders report never, seldom, or only sometimes enjoying school
- Sixteen percent of Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) pregnant women have a history of mental illness, compared with five percent nationally

Violence/Abuse/Neglect
- About one in three 8th (31%) and 10th (28%) graders report having been bullied at least one time in the past month
- More than one in three 8th (37%) and 10th (35%) graders report having been in one or more physical fights in the past year
- About one in five 8th (21%) and 10th (16%) graders report not feeling safe at school
- Fifty-nine percent of NFP pregnant women have a history of physical or emotional abuse/violence, compared to 29% nationally
- About 5 in 100 children was involved in an accepted child abuse and neglect referral (CPS)
Substance Use
- Ten percent of 8th and 30% of 10th graders report using marijuana in the past 30 days\(^6\).
- Seventeen percent of 8th and 44% of 10th graders report drinking alcohol in the past 30 days\(^6\).
- Nine percent of 8th and 28% of 10th graders report being drunk at school in the past year\(^6\).
- More than one in three (37%) pregnant teens report smoking during pregnancy compared to 1 in 5 pregnant women age 20 and older\(^9\).
- 2\(^{nd}\) highest youth publicly funded marijuana treatment admission rate among Washington State counties\(^10\).

Reproductive Health
- Over forty percent of Jefferson County females age 15-19 access reproductive health services at JCPH\(^11\).
- Jefferson County teen pregnancy rate is significantly lower than Washington State, Kitsap and Clallam Counties (2005-07)\(^9\).

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7 Jefferson County Public Health Nurse Family Partnership data
9 Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. VistaPHw 7.3.0.4.
11 Jefferson County Public Health