Dear Colleagues:

In our eleventh annual KIDS COUNT Data Report for the US Virgin Islands, the Community Foundation continues to work with many community partners to compile and provide the best data available on the well-being of children and families in the territory.

This year we are pleased to announce an exciting way for our readers to gain additional data on the twelve key areas of child well-being that KIDS COUNT USVI Data Book has tracked and reported for more than a decade.

Each indicator page of this 2010 KIDS COUNT USVI Data Book now guides readers to access our newly-expanded online reporting at the national KIDS COUNT Data Center website, datacenter.kidscount.org, where more than 100 old and new data indicators and trends for VI children and families can be found by following links to the “Virgin Islands” pages. We encourage you to visit this interactive site, to customize your search, compare VI data with current national or state data, generate charts, maps, timelines and more.

Meanwhile, for a quick overview of this year’s findings on the well-being of VI children, see our data Summary page, at right.

We call your attention this year to several alerts:

• Despite a drop in the percentage of children living in poverty this year (28% or 7669 children), one out of every four VI children still lives below the poverty threshold
• 15,201 VI children (or 55.6%) are growing up without their second parent in the household
• Hundreds of VI children are entering kindergarten unprepared for school learning by their early care providers or programs (see pages 26-27)
• The VI juvenile violent crime rate has spiked this year (see page 22)
• The VI teen death rate continues to be far higher than the national rate.

We believe that it has never been more important to have meaningful and reliable data to ensure that our territory’s programs and policies are doing all they can to help struggling children and their families.

Working together with other committed stakeholders, we must craft strategic responses to the challenges facing our community, to help ensure our children’s future success.

Welcome to KIDS COUNT USVI 2010.

Dee Baecher Brown
President, CFVI

Ricardo J. Charaf
Board Chair, CFVI

We encourage readers to take and return the enclosed survey, so we might continue to improve our reporting on KIDS COUNT children’s issues.

Find the survey online also, at cfvi.net, under the KIDS COUNT menu item. A simple click submits it back to us!
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Summary of VI KIDS COUNT Findings and Alerts 2010**

**Population**

*M Population Changes '08:*
- Number of VI children (birth to age 18) decreased to 27,335, or 24% of total VI population ...(in 1997: 36,179 children or 32% of total VI population).

**Children in Families**

*M Children in Families Challenges '08:*
- 46% of all VI families with children are now single-mother families ...(US rate:19%).
- 10,957 children (40% of VI children) now live in single-mother families ...(in 1997: 31% of VI children).
- 55.6% of VI children now live in single-parent families (ie. with single mother or single father).

**Economic Security**

*M Economic Security Positives '08:*
- VI family median income rose to $43,949 in 2008 ...(in 1997: $30,530).
- VI family median income level in '08 was the highest measured.

*M Economic Security Challenges '08:*
- 25% of all VI families with children live in poverty.
- VI family median income is $19,000 lower than the nation's ...(US family median income: $63,211).

*USVI KIDS COUNT 2010 Data Book* reports data for the most recent year available (2008).

**Children/Families in Poverty**

*M Children/Families in Poverty Positives '08:*
- The VI child poverty rate lowered to 28%, far below the territory's average rate of 35%.

*M Children/Families in Poverty Challenges '08:*
- More than one out of every four VI children is living in poverty – 7,669 children.
- 31% of all St. Croix children live below the poverty level; 24% of all St. Thomas-St. John children.
- 72% of VI families with children living in poverty are headed by single mothers.

**Teen Births**

*M Teen Births Positives '08:*
- The VI teen birth rate lowered to 50.7/1000 girls age 15-19, after a two-year rise.

*M Teen Births Challenges '08:*
- 221 babies born to VI teens represent 12% of all live births in 2008.
- The VI teen birth rate exceeds the rate for US girls this age ...(US rate: 42.5/1000).

**Teen Deaths**

*M Teen Deaths Challenges '08:*
- 8 deaths of VI teens age 15-19 (ie. a rate of 94.7 deaths/100,000) contrasts with the national rate of 62 deaths/100,000. *VI rate in 1997: 82 deaths/100,000.*

**Juvenile Violent Crime**

*M Juvenile Violent Crime Challenges '08:*
- 2008 saw a dramatic spike in juvenile violent crime arrests, for a rate of 743 arrests per 100,000 youth age 10-17 (last year: 539/100,000 ... in '97: 310/100,000).
- The VI rate contrasts with the nation's rate of 306/100,000.

**Early Care in the VI**

*M Early Care in the VI Challenges '08:*
- There are too few licensed childcare centers of high quality, able to meet children’s needs.
- Almost 60% of representative VI students entering public kindergarten have skills below expected age-levels in areas crucial to learning and reading.
- The high portion of children entering kindergarten without age-expected school-readiness skills is a call for responsive and concerned action by the VI community.

**2008–2009 Territorial Report Card**

- 21% of 7th grade public school students achieved ‘proficiency’ levels (ie. academic performance at or above grade level expectations) in reading.
- 30% of 11th grade public school students achieved ‘proficiency’ levels in reading.
- 44% of 7th grade public school students achieved ‘proficiency’ levels in math.
- 44% of 11th grade public school students achieved ‘proficiency’ levels in math.

**Dropouts age 16-19**

*M Dropouts age 16-19 Positives '08:*
- The estimated dropout rate for teens age 16-19 continues to lower (in 2008: 10% ...in 1997: 22%).

*M Dropouts age 16-19 Challenges '08:*
- One of every ten teens age 16-19 is a school dropout.
- Of all teens age 18-19, 47% do not have a high school diploma.

**'Detached' Teens age 16-19 not in School and not Working**

*M 'Detached' Teens age 16-19 not in School and not Working Challenges '08:*
- 15% of teens 16-19 are not in school and not employed ...(in 1997: 5%).
- The VI detached youth rate of 15% contrasts with the national rate of 9%.
Measuring Well-Being of All Children in the Nation…

The purpose of KIDS COUNT is to open dialogue on children’s issues, and promote community response and action to improve the health, safety and economic status of children, from birth to age eighteen.

It has never been more important to have meaningful and reliable data to ensure that our programs and policies are doing all they can to help struggling children and their families.

For 21 years, the Annie E. Casey Foundation has produced a comprehensive KIDS COUNT National Data Book reporting state-level data, national rankings and trends.

• You can access the KIDS COUNT National Data Book through the CFVI website, www.cfvi.net. Click on the small, colorful badge titled 2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book, or —
  • You can access the KIDS COUNT National Data Book at www.datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/2010

Note: While VI children’s data is not yet included annually in the printed national report above, all US Virgin Islands’ KIDS COUNT data for the years 2000-2008 is included online at the national KIDS COUNT interactive website, www.datacenter.kidscount.org.

... and of Our Children in the US Virgin Islands…

For eleven years, the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) has published an annual USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book, compiling the best data available on the well-being of children and families in the US Virgin Islands.

The 2010 USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book, Measuring What Matters, provides updates on twelve key indicators of VI child well-being, using latest data available (2008 is the data year reported).

• You can access a pdf version of this year’s 2010 USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book at the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands’ home page, www.cfvi.net. Click on “KIDS COUNT” in the left column’s menu listings.

... Now, find even more online…!

Beginning this year, the scope of our data reporting has expanded to include almost seventy new data indicators and trends for VI children in the areas of health, safety, community and education.

This year’s Data Book now steers readers to the expanded data findings located online, as these measurements are too many to include in the printed 2010 USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book.

• You can access the expanded findings of 2010 USVI KIDS COUNT online at the national KIDS COUNT Data Center website: datacenter.kidscount.org.

See directions at right to access all US Virgin Islands information at this site.
The KIDS COUNT Data Center - Where All Measurements Come Together

The KIDS COUNT Data Center (datacenter.kidscount.org) provides easy online access to the latest data on child well-being nationwide.

Find hundreds of indicators on topics such as education, employment and income, health, poverty, and youth risk factors for all US states, many cities and counties, as well as the territories and the District of Columbia.

The KIDS COUNT Data Center contains maps and graphs of the latest data on poverty, health insurance coverage, and more than 100 other indicators of child well-being.

The Data Center offers multiple ways for users to customize and share data, tables, maps, charts and more – as direct downloads to websites or for use in presentations and publications.

Measuring More About Virgin Islands Children

Here’s how to access the most complete set of USVI KIDS COUNT children’s data, at the Virgin Islands page within the online KIDS COUNT Data Center:

1. Go to datacenter.kidscount.org.
2. Click on ‘Data By State’ (in blue box) to open ‘States’ page
3. Click on ‘Virgin Islands,’ (last item on list) to open ‘Virgin Islands Profile’ page
4. To view all VI data charts, click on the words ‘full set’ within the ‘Profiles’ title bar.
5. On the following page, click ‘All Indicators,’ or select specific indicator area from the drop-down menu.

Note: this site allows users to measure and compare VI children’s well-being
- by island district (ie. St. Thomas/St. John, or St. Croix)
- by year (to chart progress or trends by year or over time)
- by children’s status in other states
- by children’s status nationally
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<th>US Virgin Islands Children Indicators*</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>Trend**</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent low birthweight babies</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>Better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child death rate</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>51.9</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen death rate</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>114.3</td>
<td>117.2</td>
<td>122.9</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen birth rate</td>
<td>48.4</td>
<td>47.3</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>53.6</td>
<td>57.4</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>Worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile violent crime arrest rate</td>
<td>458.1</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>Worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16-19)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>Better¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16-19)</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children in poverty</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>35.8</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>Better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children in single parent households²</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40.7</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>Worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse and neglect referral rate (per 1,000 children ages 0-17)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>Worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median income of families</td>
<td>$36,448</td>
<td>$32,613</td>
<td>$37,869</td>
<td>$38,914</td>
<td>$42,673</td>
<td>$43,949</td>
<td>Better</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See Definitions and Data Sources.
**Trend: base year for comparison is 2003
¹Comparison to 2003 unavailable – comparison year is 2004
²Data previous to 2007 reports VI children living with single mother only. 2008 data now reports VI children living with a single parent (ie. mother or father)
NA: Not available
Table 2. US and VI Comparisons of Children Indicators: 2008 Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>US Virgin Islands Children Indicators*</th>
<th>National Rate/%</th>
<th>US Virgin Islands Number</th>
<th>Rate/%</th>
<th>St. Croix Number</th>
<th>Rate/%</th>
<th>St. John Number</th>
<th>Rate/%</th>
<th>St. Thomas Number</th>
<th>Rate/%</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Percent low birthweight babies</td>
<td>8.2¹</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>101</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)</td>
<td>19¹</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen death rate (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)</td>
<td>62¹</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>106.7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females 15-19)</td>
<td>41.5¹</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>42.4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>63.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile violent crime arrest rate (arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17)</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>762</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16-19)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of teens not in school and not working (ages 16-19)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children in poverty</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7,669</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>4,636</td>
<td>31.4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,034</td>
<td>24.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children in single parent households³</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>15,201</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>8,408</td>
<td>56.9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6,273</td>
<td>54.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse and neglect referral rate (per 1,000 children ages 0-18)⁴</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median income of families</td>
<td>$63,211</td>
<td>$43,949</td>
<td>$40,683</td>
<td>$58,751</td>
<td>$47,223</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

*See Definitions and Data Sources
¹ National rate is for 2007
² Included in St. Thomas data
³ Data previous to 2007 reports VI children living with single mother only. 2008 data now reports VI children living with a single parent (ie. mother or father)
⁴ VI data reflects youth ages 0-17
NA: Not available
VI Child Demographics

US Virgin Islands child population, 2008
- Total population (adults and children): estimated at 115,852 (up from 114,744 in 2007)
- Child population (birth up to age eighteen): 27,335 children (568 fewer than in 2007)
- Children are 24% of the VI population… the same portion as in the nation

By location
- St. Croix: 54% of all VI children (14,778* children, or 26% of St. Croix’s total population)
- St. Thomas: 42% of all VI children (11,596* children, or 21% of St. Thomas’ population)
- St. John: 4% of all VI children (962* children, or 21% of St. John’s population)
- Portions of children living among the three major islands in 2008 were almost the same as in 2007.
- Although St John children represent only 4% of the entire territory population, they now represent 21% of St. John’s population, or an increase of 7%.

By race
- Black children: 80.5% of VI children (down slightly from 81% in 2007)
- White children: 5% of VI children (up slightly from 4% in 2007)
- Other-race children: 14.6% of VI children (down from 16% in 2007)
- Children of Hispanic origin (includes black, white and ‘other’ race children): 21.4% of VI children.

By gender.**
- Females: 49.9%
- Males: 50.1%

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Total VI child population (Percent)

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI child population by race (Percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>84.2%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
<td>84.7%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>80.7%</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Community Survey, Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands. Table 1-1

* While the total number is 27,335, when broken down it adds up to 27,336 because of rounding.
** This “gender” demographic measures a slightly larger population – VI children and youth age birth to 20 (representing 15,023 females and 15,056 males, i.e. a total “child” population of 30,079).
How has the Percentage of Children in VI Population Changed, 1990-2008?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>0%</th>
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<td>25%</td>
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How has VI Children’s Racial Mix Changed, 1990-2008?

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>6.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
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</table>

FAMILY & COMMUNITY
Children in Families

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
In 2008, the territory’s 27,335 children lived in a total of 14,295 families structured in many forms.

Children living with two married parents.
• One-third of the child population (33.3% of all VI children, or 9,115 children) lived with two married parents (33.2% in 2007). The number of married-couple families increased (by 904 families from 2007).
• The national rate: 68% of US children lived with both parents – more than twice the VI rate.
• St. Croix: 30% of children (4,444 children) lived with married parents (34% in ’07).
• St. Thomas/St. John: 37% of children (4,671 children) lived with married parents (up from 32% in 2007).

Children with one parent.
• 55.6% of all VI children (15,201 children) lived in single parent families (55.8% in ’07).¹
• The national rate: 32% of all US children live with a single parent. Nationally, 25% of children live with a single mother, 7% with a single father.
• VI children in single mother families: 40.1% of all VI children (10,957 children) lived in families headed by single mothers (41.8% in 2007).
• VI children in single father families: 15.5% of all VI children (4,244 children) lived in families headed by single fathers (14% in 2007).
• St. Croix: 40.8% of St. Croix children (6,029 children) lived with a single mother; 16.1% (2,378 children) with a single father. Total: 56.9% of St. Croix children lived in single parent families.
• St. Thomas/St. John: 39.2% of children (4,928 children) lived with a single mother; 14.9% (1,866 children) with a single father. Total: 54.1% of STT/STJ children lived in single parent families.

• Percent of single mother families: 46% of all VI families with children (unchanged from 2007).
• The national rate: 18.9% of all US families with children.

Children with a non parent.
• The VI rate: 10.6% of VI children (2,894 children) lived with neither parent (up from 10.3% in 2007).
• St. Croix: 12.5% of children (1,850 children) lived with neither parent.
• St. Thomas/St. John: 8.3% of children (1,044 children) lived with neither parent.
• The national rate: 5% of US children lived with neither parent.

...with a grandparent
• 4.8% of VI children age 0-18 lived with a grandparent, with no parent present. 12.8% lived in a household headed by a grandparent, with a parent present.
• St. Croix: 5% (or 745 children) lived with a grandparent
• St. Thomas/St. John: 4.5% (563 children) lived with a grandparent
• The national rate: 5% of US children lived with a grandparent.

...with other relatives
• 5.6% of VI children lived with relatives other than a grandparent or parent (up from 2.3% in 2007).
• St. Croix: 7.3% (1,081 children) lived with other relatives.
• St. Thomas/St. John: 3.6% (452 children) lived with other relatives.

...with a non-relative.
• 53 VI children (0.2%) lived with non-relatives in 2008 (down from 0.8% in 2007).
• St. Croix: 24 children (0.2%)
• St. Thomas/St. John: 29 children (0.2%)

Children in other settings.
• 72 children under age 18 (0.3%) were the householder or spouse in their own households.
• St. Croix: 72 children (no children on St. Thomas/St. John).

55.6% VI children in single parent families
Children in Families, cont.

Find year-by-year data charts for VI Children in Families topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

- VI children in married couple families (number; percent)
- VI children in single-mother families (number; percent)
- VI children in single father families (number; percent)

Definition: Children in single-parent families is the percentage of children age 0-18 who live with their own family, headed by a parent without a spouse present in the home.

Definition: Own children are children related to the householder by birth, adoption or marriage.

12008 American Community Survey, Table S0901and http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/hh-fam.html

2Newly-detailed data in the 2008 VI Community Survey allows KIDS COUNT to identify “single-parent families” as families headed either by a single mother or a single father. Data previous to 2007 on VI single-parent families only reported single-mother families.

32008 American Community Survey, Table S1101: Households and Families
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Economic Well-Being of Families

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
In 2008, recessionary conditions in the US and larger world caused a significant weakening of the US Virgin Islands’ general economy. Throughout the territory, job layoffs and unemployment rose as trade, investment, tourism and government revenues declined. Yet incomes climbed a little higher.

Per capita income, for individuals.
- Individual per capita income increased to $17,545 in 2008 (from $16,662 in 2007).
- The national rate: $40,166 (more than twice the VI per capita income rate).

Poverty rate for individuals.
- The individual poverty rate improved to 26.8% of the VI population (down from 28.5% in 2007).
- St. Croix: 27.9% of individuals reported incomes below the poverty line (31.4% in ’07).
- St. Thomas-St. John: 25.7% (24.5% in ’07).

Income level for families.
- 91.6% of VI families (or 26,720 out of the 29,173 families with and without children) reported earned income (same as in 2007). 
- 8% of families (2,453 families) earned no income.

In 2008:
- 42% of VI families earned $50k or more (up from 40% of families in 2007)
- 58% of families earned less than $50,000 (down from 60% in 2007). Of these:
  - 15% of families earned $35k to less than $50k (same as in 2007)
  - 11% of families earned $25k to less than $35k (same as in 2007)
- 12% of families earned $15k to less than $25k (same as in 2007)
- 20% of families earned less than $15k (21% of families in 2007).
Note: An income of $15,000 is equal to approximately $10 a day per person for a family of four.
- Included in the 20% of families earning less than $15k are 8% of families who earned no income (same as in ’07).

Poverty rate for families.
- The federal poverty threshold for 2008 is set at $21,834 in annual income for a family of four (example: 2 adults and 2 children). Note: the poverty threshold is adjusted for varying family sizes.
- 22.5% of all VI families live below the poverty threshold (23.8% in 2007).
- 24.8% of all VI families with children live in poverty (down 4 percentage points from last year).
- St. Croix: 22.3% poverty rate for black families (23.4% in 2007); 35.3% for white families (up by 21.5 percentage points from 2007)
- St. Thomas: 19.6% poverty rate for black families (down from 22.7% in 2007); 15.1% for white families (up from 12.7% in 2007).

Median income, for families.
- VI median family income also increased in 2008 to $43,949 (from $42,673 in 2007)
- St. Croix: estimated at $40,683 (a $838 increase from last year)
- St. Thomas: estimated at $47,223 (a $2,946 increase from last year)
- St. John: estimated at $58,751 (an increase of $9,583 from last year).
Note: the yearly fluctuation of median income reported for St. John may be a result of a small population sample taken during non-census years.

What is the national family median income?
- $63,211 — still far ahead of the Virgin Islands.

Earnings by race.
- Black median family income: $41,888 (up by $185) … about 70% that of white families
- St. Croix: black family median income was $41,251
- St. Thomas: black family median income was $42,501
- White median family income: $59,907 (lower by $6,443 than in 2007)
- St. Croix: white family income was $63,751
- St. Thomas: white family income was $59,373

Earnings by gender.
- VI women’s median income approached men’s in 2008. VI men’s median income was $27,914 (up $257 from ‘07). VI women’s median income was $24,410 (up $4,608 from ‘07).
- The gender income-gap improved: VI women in 2008 earned 87 cents on the dollar earned by men (an 11 cent increase from last year).
- Income differences persist at all levels of education attainment, but are the greatest between men and women with less than a 12th grade education (a difference of $9,218).

Employment rates.
- 66.9% of all household heads were employed in 2008 (66.6% in 2007)
- 68.6% of single-female household heads were employed (up from 61% in 2007)
- More than one in three families in poverty (34.4%) had employment, compared to 32.5% the previous year. Of these, single-female household heads increased their employment, to 46% in 2008 (from 40%).
- The poverty rate for single-women household heads inched lower to 34.6% (from 36.5% in ’07), while remaining significantly more than the 22.5% poverty rate for families of all types.
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Economic Well-Being of Families, cont.

### Employment of VI family household heads (Percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<td>Value</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
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<td>73%</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td>69.9%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Community Survey, Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands. Table 1-16

Find these charts, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Economic Well-Being topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

- Median family income (currency)
- Median family income by race (currency)
- Per capita income (currency)
- Unemployment rate (percent)
- Unemployment rate by race (percent)
- Employment of family household heads (percent)
- Families in poverty by race (percent)

**Definition:**

Median income is the dollar amount which divides the income distribution in VI households into two equal groups—half of households have incomes above the median and half have incomes below the median. Data is for all families rather than for families with children.

**Definition:**

Per capita income is the mean income computed for every man, woman and child in the USVI.

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25% of all VI families with children live in poverty

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What are VI Family Incomes, 2008?

- 42% $50K and above
- 20% $15K to less than $25K
- 15% $35K to less than $50K
- 11% $25K to less than $35K
- 12% less than $15K
- 1% less than $15K

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How Have VI Incomes Changed, 1996-2008?

- US Family Median Income
- USVI Family Median Income
- USVI Men Median Income
- USVI Women Median Income
**ECONOMIC WELL-BEING**

Find more VI information at: [datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org)

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**Child Poverty**

**What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?**

- In 2008, 28.1% of all VI children (7,669 children) were growing up in households with incomes below the poverty threshold – down significantly from 34.1% or 9,515 children in ‘07.
- **St. Croix:** 31.4% of children (4,636 children) lived below the poverty line (108 fewer children than the previous year).
- **St. Thomas/St. John:** 24.2% of children (3,034 children) lived below the poverty line (738 fewer children than the previous year).
- 35.4% is the average rate of VI child poverty for the 11 years measured by KIDS COUNT.

**What is the child poverty rate in the nation?**

- 18%… (unchanged from 2008).

**Single mother families.**

Child poverty in the VI (as everywhere) is significantly tied to single-motherhood. Non-marriage and father absence significantly weaken income-stability and financial health for families with children. Research confirms that children living without their biological fathers are five times more likely to be poor compared to children living with both parents.\(^1\)

**In 2008:**

- 40% of all VI children lived in families headed by single mothers. **The national rate:** 25%.
- 46.5% of all VI families with children were headed by single mothers. **The national rate:** 18.9%.
- Of all VI single mother families with children, 38% lived in poverty.
- Of all VI families with children living in poverty, 72.3% were headed by single mothers.

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38% of VI single-mother families live in poverty
**Child Poverty, cont.**

**Poverty rate of female-headed families with children (Percent)**

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Community Survey, Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands. Table 1-16

Find this chart, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Child Poverty topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

- VI Children in poverty (percent)
- Employment of family household heads (percent)
- Poverty rate among families with related children (percent)
- Poverty rate among female-headed families with children (percent)

**Definition:** Child poverty is defined as the number and percentage of children birth to age 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level. Income and poverty data are based on the preceding year, thus 2008 poverty levels are based on income earned in 2007.

2008 American Community Survey, Table SO901: Children Characteristics.
Low Birthweight Babies

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
• While low birthweight continues to be a concern in the VI, the percentage of low birthweight babies born this year fell to a rate (8.7%) comparable to the national rate (8.2%).

• Of 1,844 live births in 2008, 8.7% (160 babies) were low birthweight (down from 11.6% or 205 babies in ’07). Of all babies born at low birthweight, 26 babies (1.4% of all live births) were of very low birthweight (less than 1,500 grams, i.e. 3 pounds, 4 ounces).

• St. Croix: 7.2%, or 59 babies (18 less than in ’07) out of 825 live births. Of these, 14 babies were of very low birthweight.

• St. Thomas/St. John: 9.9%, or 101 babies (27 less than in ’07) out of 1,019 live births. Of these, 12 babies were of very low birthweight.

What’s the low birthweight rate in the nation?
• 8.2%

Definition: Low birthweight is the portion of live infants born weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds), compared to the total number of live births. Very low birthweight is the portion of live infants born weighing less than 1,500 grams (3.3 pounds).

1National rate cited is for 2007.

VI low birthweight babies (Percent)

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Department of Health

Find this chart, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Low Birthweight topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

• Preterm births (number, percent)
• Very low birthweight babies (number, percent)
• Births to women receiving late or no prenatal care (number, percent)
• Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy (number, percent)
Infant Mortality

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
• In 2008, 8 infant deaths occurred (4 less than in '07) out of 1,844 live births.
• The VI infant mortality rate is 4.3 deaths per thousand live births.
• The VI infant mortality rate for 2008 dropped lower (i.e. better) than the national rate.

Note: While the VI small sample size reduces the likelihood of seeing a trend, it is worth noting that since 1997 the VI infant mortality rate has remained low, compared to the national rate.

What’s the infant mortality rate in the nation?
• 6.7 infant deaths per 1000 live births.¹

By island.
• St Croix: 6.1 infant deaths per 1000 live births (5 deaths occurred).
• St Thomas/St. John: 2.9 infant deaths per 1000 live births (3 deaths occurred).

Note: VI rates must be interpreted with caution because small fluctuations in absolute numbers can have large effects on the calculated rates.

Definition: Infant mortality is the number of deaths occurring to infants under one year old, per 1,000 live births

¹National rate cited is for 2007.

What is the VI Infant Mortality Rate 1997-2008?

4.3 is better than the US rate
HEALTH & SAFETY

Child Maltreatment

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?

- In 2008, 308 children were reported by the VI Department of Human Services, referred for physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect (down from 380 children in 2007).*
- The 2008 VI rate of child maltreatment is 11.4 per thousand children age birth through seventeen (down from 13.6 in 2007).**
- Numbers of reported cases dropped to 204 child cases in St. Croix (from 229 in 2007), for a rate of 13.8/1,000, and to 104 cases in St. Thomas/St. John (from 151), for a rate of 8.3/1,000.

What is the child maltreatment rate in the nation?
The US rate is 10.3 per 1,000 children.

Residential Care.
- 96 children (same number as in 2008) are currently placed by the VI Department of Human Services into on- and off-island Residential Care facilities: 28 in off-island facilities and 68 in on-island facilities.

Foster Care.
- 108 children were placed temporarily into foster care (101 in 2007), due to abuse and/or neglect. These children were characterized as coming from homes reported for domestic violence and substance abuse. Most school-age children also evidenced need for remedial schooling.
- 80% of children placed in foster care came from single-parent families. 65% were from low-income families.
- St. Croix: 47 children
  St. Thomas St. John: 61 children
- Nearly one fifth (19%) of children placed in foster care were under age 5; half (50%) were age 5-12, and 30% were age 13 or older.
- Boys were 49% of all placements; girls were 51%.

VI child abuse and neglect (Rate per 1,000 children)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>2007</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>11</td>
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</table>

Data Source: V.I. Department of Human Services, Protective Service Statistics

Find this chart, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Child Maltreatment at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

- Child abuse and neglect (number)
- Child maltreatment by type (number; rate)
- Foster care placement (number; rate)

* Child abuse and neglect cases are routinely under-reported in the USVI, as across the nation, as acknowledged by members of territorial not-for-profit and government agencies working in that field. The number of maltreated children, therefore, is likely higher than documented, and the negative impact on the community is likely greater than the figures can show.
** The VI Department of Human Services takes referrals for child abuse and neglect through age seventeen. The child population age 0-17 in 2008 was 27,006 children.

Definition: Child abuse and neglect numbers reflect children age birth up to eighteen years old reported to the VI Department of Human Services as victims of physical or sexual child abuse or neglect, per 1,000 children. These numbers do not include children who are in foster care, who may have been placed due to abuse or neglect.
Definition: Foster care numbers reflect children removed under the authority of the VI Department of Human Services from the custody of a parent or caregiver due to abuse or neglect, and placed temporarily with a family who will provide care.
Child Deaths

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
The VI child death rate dropped sharply this year to 19.2 per 100,000 children (from 50.7/100,000 last year). It is now on par with the national rate.
• 4 children died in 2008 (7 fewer than in 2007, or a 64% decrease)
• St. Croix: 1 child death (in a child population of 11,194… a rate of 9/100,000)
• St. Thomas/St. John: 3 child deaths (in a child population of 9,630… a rate of 31/100,000)
• Despite fewer children age 1-14 than last year, the sharply improved child death rate is due to seven fewer child deaths in 2008.

What’s the child death rate in the nation?
• 9 per 100,000 children.¹

Note: Small absolute numbers of VI child deaths (4 in 2008, as opposed to 11 in 2007) lead to large variations in rates that are population based.

Definition: Child deaths is the number of deaths to children age 1 to 14, per 100,000 children. Deaths from all causes, including illness and injury are included in this figure.

¹National rate cited is for 2007.

VI child deaths (Rate per 1,000 children ages 1-14)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Department of Health

Find this chart, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Child Death topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org
Juvenile Crime Arrests

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?

Juvenile violent crime.
- The territory’s youth population age 10-17 numbered 14,264 in 2008.
- The VI juvenile crime arrest rate climbed to 743 per 100,000 youth this age (from 539/100,000 in 2007).
- Arrests for juvenile violent crime (homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault)* rose 34% in 2008** to 106 arrests (up from 79 in 2007).
- St. Croix: 59 arrests (up from 34 in 2007) represented a 729/100,000 juvenile violent crime arrest rate. One arrest was for murder, 5 for rape, 11 for robbery and 42 for aggravated assault.
- St. Thomas/St. John: 47 arrests (up from 45 in 2007) represented a 762/100,000 rate. Three arrests were for rape, 20 for robbery, and 24 for aggravated assault (none for murder).

What’s the juvenile violent crime arrest rate in the nation?
- 306 per 100,000 youth.

Juvenile property crime.
- The VI juvenile property crime arrest rate was 491/100,000 youth, representing 70 youth arrests.
- St. Croix: 50 youth arrests.
- St. Thomas/St. John: 20 youth arrests.

Find this chart and additional year-by-year data charts at datacenter.kidscount.org:

- VI juvenile violent crime arrests (Number)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>65</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Police Department

Find more VI information at: datacenter.kidscount.org

34% rise in juvenile crime arrests

* For purposes of accurate comparison, KIDS COUNT reports data figures reflecting only violent crime Part 1 Felony offenses: homicide, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault.
** Arrest records are reported for the fiscal year 2008, from October 2007 - September 2008.

Definition: Juvenile violent crime arrests are the number of arrests of youth age 10 to 17 for Part 1 indexed violent offenses per 100,000 youths. Part 1 offenses include homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Juvenile property crime arrests are for offenses including burglary, larceny/theft, auto theft, arson, and destruction of property.
Teen Deaths

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
The teen death rate improved (went down) in 2008, due to fewer deaths and more youth in this age group than in the previous year. While lower, the VI teen death rate is still half again higher than the national rate.
- 8,451 teens age 15-19 lived in the territory (313 more than in 2007).
- 8 teens died in 2008 (two fewer than in 2007). Cause of death was unavailable.

What’s the teen death rate in the nation?
- 62 per 100,000 teens.¹

Note: VI rates must be interpreted with caution because small fluctuations in absolute numbers can have large effects on the calculated rates.

The VI teen death rate was 94.7 per 100,000 teens age 15-19 (down from 122.9/100,000 in 2007).
- St. Croix: 5 teen deaths
- St. Thomas/St. John: 3 deaths.

VI teen deaths (Rate per 100,000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>80.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>82.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>114.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>117.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>122.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>94.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Department of Health

Find this chart, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Teen Death topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org.

Definition: Teen deaths is the number or rate of deaths from all causes to teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19, per 100,000 population.

¹National rate cited is for 2007.
HEALTH & SAFETY

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?

• The VI teen birth rate lowered to 50.7 births per thousand girls age 15-19, after rising for the last two years.
• 221 babies were born to teen mothers, representing 12% of the 1,844 total live births in 2008.
• While only 5 fewer teen births occurred than in the previous year, teen birth rates dropped mainly because of more teenage girls in this age group.
• There were 4,361 girls age 15-19 in 2008, an increase of 425 girls from the previous year (597 more girls in St. Croix and 172 fewer girls in St. Thomas/St. John).¹

What’s the teen birth rate in the nation?

41.5 per thousand.²

By island.

• **St. Croix**: a teen birth rate of 42.4 per 1000 (down from 64.3/1000 in 2007) represented 111 births within a population of 2,618 girls age 15-19 (19 fewer births than in 2007).
• **St. Thomas/St. John**: a teen birth rate of 63.1 per 1000, (up from 50.1/1000 in 2007) represented 110 births in a population of 1,743 girls age 15-19 (14 more births than in 2007).

Definition: **Births to teens** is the number of births to teen girls between the ages of 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group.

¹2007 VI Community Survey
²Center for Disease Control, http://www.cdc.gov/media/pressrel/2010/r100406.htm
Births to Teens, cont.

Births to VI teens, ages 15-19 (Number)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Department of Health

Find this chart and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Birth topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

- Births to unmarried women (number; percent)
- Births to women less than 20 years of age (number; percent)
- Births to women with less than 12 years of education (number; percent)
- Births to women receiving late or no prenatal care (number; percent)
- Births to teen women who were already mothers

What is the VI Teen Birth Rate, 1997-2008?

- USVI Rate
- US Rate

- Rate per 1000

- 1997: 64.0
- 2001: 62.4
- 2002: 48.3
- 2003: 48.4
- 2004: 47.3
- 2005: 47.0
- 2006: 53.6
- 2007: 57.4
- 2008: 50.7
Early Care in the VI

The Alert.
Birth to age 5 are the most critically important years for human development. High quality early care and education programs during these years greatly strengthen children’s development and abilities.

However, there’s an acute need here in the Virgin Islands for better early childcare programs -- and many more of them. Far more children need out-of-home care than our current childcare programs can accommodate. Significantly, a large number of the VI childcare facilities now available are unable to offer high-quality early care and educational readiness to the children enrolled. This is due to inadequate finances, and lack of staff awareness of how young children can best develop their early social, emotional and learning skills.

Results show that our young VI children starting school are unprepared for kindergarten work.

The Evidence. (See chart at right)
VI children’s skills are tested early in their first year of public school. The standard annual assessment* Early Prevention of School Failure (EPSF) has consistently shown that most incoming kindergarteners tested (almost 60%) have skills below age- or grade-level expectation in key areas: in understanding what others are communicating (ie receptive language), and in recognizing differences and likenesses among learned shapes and objects (ie visual discrimination). 25% tested below age-level for expressive language, an ability to express words or ideas.

The high percentage of young children assessed with low skills for kindergarten learning should be a call to action in the VI community.

What is the EPSF Assessment of STT-STJ Public Kindergarten Students’ Proficiency, 2008-2009?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Performance below age level expectations</th>
<th>Performance at or above age level expectations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>auditory discrimination</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expressive language</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>receptive language</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>visual discrimination</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>visual memory</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gross motor skills</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fine motor skills</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI), we are committed to helping provide the best foundation for our children’s success, by enhancing the early learning environment.

The Family Connection (TFC) is CFVI’s initiative to create and foster exemplary programs and practices that provide high quality early care services, and promote family and childcare provider support and skills enhancement.

By working with parents, childcare professionals and the larger community to ensure excellence in the early childhood years, we aim to reduce and eventually eliminate the number of dropouts and detached youth (pages 30-33), and make meaningful improvements to reduce other risks to our children and families.

* The EPSF 2008 assessment measured kindergarteners in St. Thomas/St. John. St. Croix kindergarteners have been measured by an alternate assessment tool, which has not been consistently used in recent years.
Early Care in the VI, cont.

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?

The need for basic, licensed childcare.
- In 2008, there were 8,830 children age birth to 5, of which an estimated 69% (or 6,100) had all custodial parents in the workforce, i.e. were in need of childcare.
- Of these, 3,823 children were enrolled in licensed childcare programs, including:
  - 930 children in [public] Early Head Start and Head Start programs
  - 2,893 children in licensed private childcare programs (with 114 VI licensed centers available).

The need for affordable childcare.
Childcare needs to be affordable. Affordable childcare is a vital requirement for parental (especially maternal) employment, for family economic self-sufficiency and for the stability and continued growth of the VI economy.

Childcare center quality relies on adequate funding – especially for the key elements of center safety, well-qualified caregivers/teachers and small group size.

Most VI parents cannot afford a high-quality childcare program, or even a ‘basic’ high-quality childcare program which meets the minimum of health and safety requirements (for the costs, see chart below).

In 2009, the VI Department of Human Services provided childcare subsidies to low-income parents who were working, or attending school or training programs. Based on the ‘average cost’ of childcare in the territory (see below), these subsidies provided a maximum of $300/month (or $3,600 for a full 12-month year).

In 2009, 1,186 children in 575 families received childcare subsidies -- still far short of need.

According to a 2010 independent study, the estimated cost of high-quality childcare for 185 days (9 months) per year is $13,649. Basic childcare which meets the minimum VI health and safety requirements is estimated to cost $7,887 for the same period. The average cost of VI childcare program is $2,700 (see chart below).

Cost of VI Childcare Programs, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Maximum High-Quality Program</th>
<th>Basic High-Quality Program</th>
<th>Average Cost or VI Childcare Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Childcare Center cost for one child’s care, assuming a 9-hour day for 185 days/year (9 mo.)</td>
<td>$13,649</td>
<td>$7,887</td>
<td>$2,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While costs of high-quality childcare can be high, research shows these costs are outweighed by long-term benefits – to the child and the community served.

Need for VI Licensed Childcare Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>St. Croix</th>
<th>St. Thomas/St. John</th>
<th>VI TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Children age birth through preschool (ie. 0-5 years)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>8830¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Children enrolled in Early Head Start (0-3 years)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>(not offered)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Children enrolled in Head Start (3-5 years)</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>894*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Children enrolled in private licensed childcare (0-5 years)</td>
<td>1061³</td>
<td>1832³</td>
<td>2893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated # Children 0-5 years not in licensed care</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>5007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Estimated number of children born in the USVI from 1/1/05 to 12/31/09. The kindergarten cut-off for the USVI is December 31st. As final numbers were not yet available for 2009 births at print-time, this number was calculated based on an average of the previous 4 years.

² USVI Census 2000

³ This number does not include those enrolled in Head Start, Early Head Start, or licensed kindergarten programs and represents an estimate based on a recent survey of enrollments.
**2008-2009 Territorial Report Card for Public Schools**

The Virgin Islands Territorial Assessment of Learning (VITAL) is the annual measurement report used by the VI Department of Education -- in compliance with the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) -- to assess student and school performance.

The VITAL report measures VI public school students' progress toward proficiency in reading and math. VITAL also charts attendance rates and participation of enrolled public school students, and the qualifications of public school teachers.

**VITAL benchmarks for performance.**
VITAL benchmarks for "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP) are set at the following main criteria:

- **school participation** at 95%
- **student attendance rate** at 95%
- specific percentages of **students to be scoring at or above proficiency** in reading and math, ie:
  - 5th grade reading: 39.2% of students to be at/ above proficiency (ie. reading at expected grade level)
  - 7th grade reading: 34.4% of students to be at/ above proficiency
  - 11th grade reading: 40.8% of students to be at/ above proficiency
  - 5th grade math: 34.4% of students to be at/ above proficiency
  - 7th grade math: 44% of students to be at/ above proficiency
  - 11th grade math: 36% of students to be at/ above proficiency

(See next page, "VI Student Academic Performance, 2008-09," for VI students’ results).

**What are the student and school performance ratings in the US Virgin Islands?**

The following are the VI Department of Education’s own assessments of their VITAL “Adequate Yearly Progress” (AYP) for 2008-09 student and school performance.

**Student performance.**

**Grades 3-8.**

Overall, most targets were met for students, though not met consistently for all subgroups.

- In **reading**, black students met the participation, attendance and proficiency targets. However, students with limited English, Hispanic students, and students with disabilities met participation targets in reading, but did not meet attendance or proficiency targets.
- In **math**, participation targets were met overall. Attendance targets were met by all except students with limited English, Hispanic students and students with disabilities. Proficiency targets were met by all students except those with disabilities.

**Grade 11.**

Overall, AYP targets were not met.

- In **reading**, attendance targets were met by students overall. Participation targets were not met by students with limited English, Hispanic students and students with disabilities. Proficiency targets were met by any group.
- In **math**, attendance targets were met by students overall. Participation and proficiency targets were not met by Hispanic students and students with disabilities.

(See “VI Student Academic Performance,” next page).

**School performance.**

**Elementary schools (K-6).**

14 out of 23 elementary schools (up from 4 in 2007) met AYP targets for teaching and learning.

- **St. Croix**: 4 of 10 (ie. 40%) of St. Croix’s elementary schools met AYP targets for both reading and math
- **St. Thomas/St. John**: 10 of 13 (ie. 77%) of this district’s elementary schools met AYP targets in both reading and math.

**Middle/junior high schools (grades 6/7-8).**

- None of the 6 middle/junior high schools in St. Croix or St. Thomas met AYP targets (down from 1 last year).

**High schools (grades 9-12).**

3 of the 4 high schools met AYP targets in math. No high school met targets in reading.

- **St. Croix**: 1 of 2 schools met AYP targets in math. Neither met reading targets.
- **St. Thomas/St. John**: 2 of 2 schools met AYP math targets; neither met reading targets.

**Teacher qualifications.**

- 44.8% of core classes (up from 11.5% the previous year) were taught by a teacher held as "highly qualified," based on requirements including bachelor’s-degree education, state certification and subject matter competency standards adopted by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and the Board of Education.*
- In the VI, 55.8% of public school teachers were certified; 57.1% had a bachelor’s degree, while 37.5% had a master’s degree.

*A “highly qualified teacher” as defined by NCLB and US Virgin Islands Board of Education is one who:

- has a full state certification
- holds a minimum of a bachelor's degree
- has demonstrated subject matter competency in each core academic subject(s) he or she teaches (ie. English, Math, Science, Foreign Languages, Civics and Government, Economics, Arts, History, and Geography).
**2008-2009 Report Card, cont.**

**VI student academic performance, 2008-2009**

**For Grade 5 reading proficiency:**
- Advanced level: 10.5% of students
- Proficient level: 32.3%... (target: 39.2%)
- Basic level: 50.0%
- Below basic: 7.3%

**For Grade 7 reading proficiency:**
- Advanced level: 3.1%
- Proficient level: 17.5%... (target: 34.4%)
- Basic level: 66.7%
- Below basic: 12.6%

**For Grade 11 reading proficiency:**
- Advanced level: 3.0%
- Proficient level: 26.8%... (target: 40.8%)
- Basic level: 48.6%
- Below basic: 21.6%

**For Grade 5 math proficiency:**
- Advanced level: 19.1%
- Proficient level: 33.3%... (target: 34.4%)
- Basic level: 43.7%
- Below basic: 3.9%

**For Grade 7 math proficiency:**
- Advanced level: 3.3%
- Proficient level: 40.5%... (target: 44%)
- Basic level: 53%
- Below basic: 3.3%

**For Grade 11 math proficiency:**
- Advanced level: 8.5%
- Proficient level: 35.6%... (target: 36%)
- Basic level: 55.2%
- Below basic: 0.7%

---

**What is the VI Territorial Assessment of Learning (VITAL) Student Academic Performance Report for 2008-2009?**

- academic performance below or not at grade-level expectations (basic & below-basic levels)
- academic performance at grade level expectations (advanced & proficient levels)
Public School Dropouts

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?

VI public high schools (grades 9-12):
- 10.2% of VI teens age 16-19 (650 teens) were high school dropouts in 2008-09, as estimated by USVI KIDS COUNT (based on data from VI Dept. of Education and the VI Community Survey).
- 206 fewer teens were estimated to be high school dropouts in 2008-09 than in the previous year (in 2007-08, there were 856 estimated dropouts).

VI public secondary schools (grades 7-12)*:
- 5.35% (423 students) were reported to be dropouts (down from 5.85%, or 462 students, in 2007-08)
- Twice as many males as females (286 vs. 137)
- St. Croix: 185 students represent a 4.6% district dropout rate (or 44% of the 423 public secondary school dropouts reported).

St. Thomas/St. John: 238 students represent a 6.2% district dropout rate (or 56% of the 423 public secondary school dropouts reported).

What is the national dropout rate?
- An estimated 6% of US teens age 16-19

Note: Data following is solely from VI Dept. of Education. Rates and numbers reported are for VI public school students, not youth in private or parochial schools, or youth not in school.

VI public junior high schools (grades 7-8):
- 1.3% of enrolled junior high school students were reported as dropouts.

USVI KIDS COUNT also includes VI Community Survey data on teens age 16-19 who report no longer being enrolled in school, having attained less than the 6th or the 9th grade.

1.3% of enrolled junior high school students were reported as dropouts.
- 0.8% of enrolled 7th grade students (or 9 students).
- 2.2% of enrolled 8th grade students (or 27 students).

VI public high schools (grades 9-12):
- 10.4% of enrolled 9th grade students (or 196 students)
- 6.8% of enrolled 10th grade students (or 80 students)
- 5.6% of enrolled 11th grade students (62 students)
- 5.1% of enrolled 12th grade students (49 students)

VI teen dropouts ages 16-19 (Percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Department of Education

Find this chart and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Dropouts at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:
- Secondary public school dropouts (percent)
- Years/grades of highest dropout risk (number, percent)

* The VI Department of Education reports the number of dropouts age 16-19 in 2008-09 as 343 students.

Definition: Teen high school dropouts is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates. Definition: Public secondary school dropouts is the percentage of children enrolled in public schools in 7th to 12th grades inclusively who did not report for class at the beginning of the school year, graduate or meet the exclusionary conditions of transfer to another school, suspension, illness or death in the new school year.

www.kidscount.org

1.3% of enrolled junior high school students were reported as dropouts.
- 0.8% of enrolled 7th grade students (or 9 students).
- 2.2% of enrolled 8th grade students (or 27 students).

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- 1.3% of enrolled junior high school students were reported as dropouts.
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VI public high schools (grades 9-12).
- 10.4% of enrolled 9th grade students (or 196 students)
- 6.8% of enrolled 10th grade students (or 80 students)
- 5.6% of enrolled 11th grade students (62 students)
- 5.1% of enrolled 12th grade students (49 students)

650 VI teens age 16-19 were dropouts
Public School Dropouts, cont.

What are VI Secondary Public School Dropouts (Grades 7-12) as a Percentage of Enrollment, 1997-98 to 2008-09?

What Percent of VI Teens (age 16-19) are High School Dropouts, 1997-98 to 2008-09?
Detached Youth, Employed Youth

What’s the situation in the US Virgin Islands?
- The 6,398 youth who were age 16-19 in 2008 (119 less than in the previous year) represented more than one-fifth of the VI child/youth population.
- 15.2% of all 16-19 year olds in the Virgin Islands — 975 youth — were not attending school and not working, down from 17% the previous year.

What’s the ‘detached’ youth rate in the nation?
- 9%1

Employment attainment, age 16-19.
- 5% of this age group (or 296 youth) reported working full-time in 2008 (down from 6% or 410 youth in ’07).
- The unemployment rate for youth who were looking for work increased to 36% in 2008 (from 30.6% in 2007).
- Female rates of high school completion increased to 6.8% (from 3.5% in 2007).

Educational attainment, age 18-19.
- Of the 2,744 VI youth age 18-19 in 2008, 47% (almost half or 1,297 youth) reportedly lacked a high-school diploma (down from 58% in 2007).

Educational attainment for older youth, age 18-24.
- Of the 8,438 youth age 18-24 (68 fewer than in 2007), 72% had completed high school by 2008 (up from 63% in 2007); 28% had not.
- Female rates of high school completion rose to 79.4% (from 62.7% in 2007).
- Of high school graduates age 18-24, 5.2% earned a bachelor’s degree or above by 2008 (up from 4.6% in ’07).
- Female rates of college completion increased to 6.8% (from 3.5% in 2007).

Employment attainment for older youth, age 18-24.
- 62.9% of youth age 18-24 (or 5,309 youth) were employed (up from 55.7% in ’07).
- Female employment rate increased to 57.2% (up from 50.4% in 2007).
- Of employed youth, 48% worked full-time, at least 40 hours a week (down from 58.5% in 2007).
- Of full-time employed youth, 84.9% had a high school diploma or above (up from 72.2% in 2007).
- Of unemployed youth age 18-24, 64.3% reported having completed high school or above (62% in ’07).
- The unemployment rate was 25.7% for all youth age 18-24 (up from 13.4% in 2007).

Definition: Teens not in school and not working is the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and not employed. Employment may include part-time or full-time work.

1www.kidscount.org

Detached Youth Numbers and Portion in the VI Youth Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>number of all VI youth age 16-19</td>
<td>6,398</td>
<td>6,517</td>
<td>6,128</td>
<td>6,985</td>
<td>6,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number of ‘detached youth’ age 16-19 (not enrolled or employed)</td>
<td>1,225</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>935</td>
<td>974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of detached youth within all VI youth age 16-19</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: By accessing figures for youth age 16-19 who reported in the VI Community Survey (VICS) tables having attained some college, and youth 16-19 who reported some employment (but are not in the work force), KIDS COUNT is now able to document a smaller number of detached youth in the VI youth population than previously expected. Our improved formula revises and updates rates for detached youth published in KIDS COUNT for years ’06 and ’05. Data from ’04 and before is unchanged.
Detached Youth, Employed Youth, cont.

**VI youth educational attainment, ages 18-24 (Percent)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma or higher</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>64.1%</td>
<td>64.1%</td>
<td>51.5%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
<td>72.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Virgin Islands Community Survey, Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands, Table 1-9

Find this chart, and additional year-by-year data charts for VI Detached Youth topics at the Kids Count Data Center website datacenter.kidscount.org:

- Teens age 16-19 not in school and not working (percent)
- Teens age 16-19 employed full-time (percent)
- Unemployed teens age 16-19 (percent)

What Percent of VI Teens Age 16-19 are Not Enrolled in School, and Not Employed?
Overview of Data Collection for the 2010 Data Book

This book compiles information available on US Virgin Islands children for the year 2008. Comparison is made with data for previous years to reveal trends in the status of Virgin Islands children.

Population statistics are drawn from the 2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey, conducted by the Eastern Caribbean Center (ECC) of the University of the Virgin Islands. Other local data is from Virgin Islands government sources, particularly the VI Departments of Health, Human Services, Education and Police.

Data on national rates and other research is obtained from various sources, including online publications of the US Census Bureau, including the 2008 American Community Survey, the US Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the non-profit organization Child Trends.

Statistics in this book are reported as rates and percentages. Like percentages, rates convert the actual numbers of an indicator into a number that can be compared with the same indicator in other jurisdictions and across collection time periods, regardless of differences in the size of the population. Rates may be reported per 1,000 or 100,000 of a defined subset of the population.

The rates for specific indicators in this data book are selected because of their use in the national KIDS COUNT Data Book published by The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Rates are also used when a percentage is very small, often well below 1%, due to the small number of incidences.

Caution must be used in interpreting rates, as small changes in the actual numbers of an indicator can result in large changes in rates, given the small population base of the US Virgin Islands.

All surveys are subject to error from several sources. Sampling error is the result of studying a subset of the whole population in order to make quantitative inferences about the population surveyed. In the 2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey, 5% of VI households were selected using standard scientific sampling techniques and a random selection method, for a total sample size of 2,500 households. Efforts are made to minimize human and machine-related errors, such as non-participation by selected respondents, item omissions and inconsistencies in the data, through careful editing and follow-up telephone or personal interviewing.

Caution should be used when comparing data across various censuses and surveys, because specific questions, measures and definitions may change over time. When comparing income figures in particular, the time period for reporting, number of questions asked, and age of selected respondents may have changed over time. Please see the 2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey for further details.
Definitions and Data Sources

**Median Income Of Families With Children.** The median annual income for families with related children under age 18 living in the household. Virgin Islands data is available only for all families, irrespective of related children. 
*SOURCE: “2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands.*

**Per Capita Income.** The mean income computed for every man, woman and child in the USVI. 
*SOURCE: “2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands.*

**Percent of Children In Poverty.** The percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the US poverty guidelines, as defined by the US Office of Management and Budget. ‘Related children’ of households with reported income are included in this analysis. 
*SOURCE: “2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands.*

**Percent of Children Under Age 18 in Single Female Parent Families.** Percentage of ‘own children’ under age 18 living in a household headed by a single, female householder. 
*SOURCE: “2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands.*

**Percent of Low Birth-weight Babies.** The portion of infants born alive weighing 2500 grams or less, compared to total number of live births. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Health.*

**Infant Mortality Rate.** The rate of deaths occurring to infants under 1 year old per 1,000 live births. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Health.*

**Child Abuse and Neglect Rate.** The rate or number of children ages birth through 17 who have been reported as abused or neglected. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Human Services.*

**Foster Care Rate.** The rate or number of children moved under the authority of the Department of Human Services from the custody of a parent or caregiver due to abuse or neglect, and placed temporarily with a family providing care. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Human Services.*

**Child Death Rate.** The rate or number of deaths to children between ages 1 and 14, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age group. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Health.*

**Teen Death Rate.** The rate or number of deaths from all causes to teenagers between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teenagers in this age group. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Health.*

**Teen Birth Rate.** The rate or number of births to teens between ages 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Health.*

**Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate.** The rate or number of arrests of youth under the age of 18 for indexed violent offenses (homicide, forcible rape, robbery or aggravated assault) per 100,000 youth between ages 10 and 17. Data may include repeated arrests of the same individual at different times and for different offenses. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Police Department.*

**Percent of Teens Who Are High School Dropouts.** The percentage of teens between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and not high school graduates. Teens with a GED or equivalent are included as high school dropouts. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Education; “2008 Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands. (Data not available by island).*

**Public Secondary School Dropouts.** The number of children enrolled in public schools in the 7th to 12th grades inclusively, who did not report for class at the beginning of the school year, graduate, or meet the exclusionary conditions of suspension, illness, death, or transfer to another school in the new school year. 
*SOURCE: Virgin Islands Department of Education; “2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands.*

**Percent of 16-19 Year-Olds Not In School And Not Working.** The percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school and not employed, either full- or part-time. This number is calculated from data on school enrollment, educational attainment and labor force status of persons in the 16 to 19 year old population. 
*SOURCE: “2008 United States Virgin Islands Community Survey,” Eastern Caribbean Center, University of the Virgin Islands. (Data not available by island).*
Acknowledgments

The US Virgin Islands KIDS COUNT Data Book for 2010 was made possible by the generous financial support and technical assistance of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. For their collaboration in preparing this book, we are grateful to: Don Crary, associate director, Jann Jackson, senior fellow, Laura Beavers, national co-ordinator, Flo Gutierrez, research associate, KIDS COUNT – all at the Annie E. Casey Foundation; Mark Mather, program director, Population Reference Bureau; Mark Gregor, president and founder, Velir Studios; David Murphy, senior associate, Child Trends.

This eleventh USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book is the result of a sustained partnership involving the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI), the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI), the Virgin Islands government, community organizations, and service-providing agencies.

USVI KIDS COUNT Data Sources Team and Project Partners
- Judith Richardson, project director, USVI KIDS COUNT; Kim Holdsworth, editor, USVI KIDS COUNT; Verna Christian-Garcia, community outreach co-ordinator, USVI KIDS COUNT; Alda Monsanto, CFVI director and chairperson, Our Children Now!; Anna Wheatley, research associate, CFVI; Laurie Blake, data analyst; Ellie Hirsh, director, The Family Connection (TFC); Donnalle Edwards-Cabey, outreach co-ordinator, TFC
- Dr. Frank Mills, director, Eastern Caribbean Center (ECC) at University of the Virgin Islands; Dr. David Hall, president, University of the Virgin Islands
- Lisa Donastorg, Carla Benjamin, Marcella Grizzelle, Diane Jeffers, Janet Turnbull-Krigger, Olga Santos, and Chris Finch, commissioner, Department of Human Services

University of the Virgin Islands

The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) is a four-year, liberal arts, coeducational, multi-cultural, land-grant institution. Founded in 1963, it has two campuses (St. Thomas, St. Croix).

Within the University of the Virgin Islands, the Research Institute at the Eastern Caribbean Center (an outreach division of UVI engaged in domestic and international research, and regional collaboration), supports the work of the US Bureau of the Census, compiling and carrying out scientific sample surveys. Annually the Eastern Caribbean Center (ECC) produces the US Virgin Islands Community Survey and provides social and economic data results and analysis which are vital sources for the USVI KIDS COUNT Data Books.
The United States Virgin Islands

The United States Virgin Islands (USVI) include 68 islands and cays located in the Caribbean Sea, 50 miles east of Puerto Rico. St. Croix, St. Thomas (including Water Island), and St. John are the three principal islands, with a total area of 144 square miles.

US citizenship was granted to the islands’ inhabitants in 1927. Today, the US Virgin Islands are an organized, unincorporated territory of the United States. The territory’s population in 2008 was reported as 115,852. Tourism is the territory’s primary economic activity, with 2 million visitors each year, many arriving on cruise ships. St. Croix is the site of one of the world’s largest petroleum refineries.
Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands

Established in 1990, the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands (CFVI) administers an endowment of more than $7 million. The income from its 104 named funds and scholarships is disbursed to enhance the well-being of the people of the US Virgin Islands. In 2009, CFVI gave out over $2,010,000 in direct support to community organizations and individuals in St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John through grants, scholarships, and a wide range of other types of assistance to the not-for-profit community.

CFVI’s annual grants and programs include:

- The Family Connection, a comprehensive early-learning enrichment initiative
- A mini-grants program to support innovative programs benefiting VI children and families
- Scholarships to Virgin Islands students for undergraduate and graduate study
- Grants to high school students to attend summer enrichment programs
- Grants to teachers to enhance their work in the classroom in the public schools
- Rapid Response Fund grants to families in crisis
- CFVI Junior Angels community service program for high school student volunteers
- The Fatherhood Collaborative for encouraging responsible fatherhood in the VI community
- Voices for VI Children to promote child advocacy
- USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book, funded by The Annie E. Casey Foundation

CFVI is a member of:

National:
- Council on Foundations
- Association of Small Foundations
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Annie E. Casey Foundation/Kids Count Network
- CF Leads, Community Foundations Leading Change
- National Fatherhood Institute

Regional/Local:
- Caribbean Philanthropy Network
- Chamber of Commerce, St. Thomas/St. John
- Chamber of Commerce, St. Croix
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Committee
- Governor’s Children and Families Council
- League of Women Voters
- Regional Education Laboratory, Northeast and Islands

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Leah Casteel, financial controller
Mona Charles, programs administrator
Ellie Hirsh, director, TFC*
Patricia Varlack, early childhood specialist, TFC*

*The Family Connection, see page 26
How to use this book

Utilizing the Data: Perhaps you need to find information hinted at but not provided directly in the text, such as rates per thousand when only a percentage rate was provided? For additional information about VI children, you can employ simple, workable formulas to perform the necessary calculations, using 2010 USVI KIDS COUNT Data Book baseline data.

Calculating a percentage: A percent means per 100. For example, 5% means 5 out of 100, and 75% means 75 out of 100. To calculate a percent you must divide the number in a sub-group by the number in the total group and multiply by 100.

Percent = (Number in a sub-group / Number in the whole group) x 100

Example: Percent of maltreated children in the VI
Formula: (Number of maltreated children / All VI children age 0-17) x 100
Calculation: (308 / 27,006) x 100 = 1.1%

Calculating a rate: To calculate a rate you need three pieces of information: the total group number, the number in your sub-group, and the number of the multiplier (usually 100, 1,000, 10,000, etc).

Rate = (Number in sub-group / Number in whole group) x multiplier

Example: Rate of maltreated children per 1000 VI children
Formula: (Number of maltreated children / All VI children age 0-17) x 1000
Calculation: (308 / 27,006) x 1000 = 11.4 per 1000

Calculating a ratio: A ratio is simply one number divided by another. It indicates the magnitude of difference between the two numbers. You can use this kind of comparison if you have the same measure for two groups for the same year, or one group with data for two different years.

Ratio = (Number or rate in group A / Number or rate in group B)

Example: Difference between the number of maltreated children, and the number of all VI children age 0-17
Formula: number of maltreated children / number of all VI children age 0-17
Calculation: (308 / 27,006) = .01/1 or .01:1 or 1:100. This tells us that the number of maltreated children is about one in every hundred children.

Calculating change over time: See how a data element changes over the years.

Rate of Change = {(Newer year percentage minus older year percentage)/older year percentage} x 100
Example: Changing percent of maltreated children from 1997 to 2008
Formula: {((2008 % of maltreated children minus 1995 % of maltreated children) / 1997 %) x 100
Calculation: {(.11 – .08) / .08} x 100 = 41 -- or a 41% increase
Measuring What Matters
US Virgin Islands Kids Count Data Book 2010

Ten previous USVI KIDS COUNT Data Books document challenges to the well-being of children and families in the US Virgin Islands.

(2009) How Do We Compare?
(2008) Moving Forward by 10%
(2007) Our Children Matter!
(2005) Stepping Up to the Challenge
(2004) Mapping a Road to Success
(2003) Getting off to a Good Start
(2002) Where Is Our Commitment?
(2001) Views from the Community
(2000) A Call to Action!

Additionally, a special KIDS COUNT/Population Reference Bureau report on Census 2000, titled "A First Look at Children in the US Virgin Islands," elaborated on the findings reported in the USVI KIDS COUNT Data Books, focusing on the negative impact of social and economic trends for children in the USVI.

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