The State of Georgia Families

Listed below are some brief facts about family life, health, economics, children, and housing in Georgia.

**Family Life**
Healthy families make healthy communities.
- 148,403 babies were born in 2006.
- 14,209 low-birth weight babies were born in 2006.
- 49.8% of households in 2000 included children under age 18.
- 9.88% of the population was 65 years of age and older in 2007.

**Nutrition and Health**
Healthy eating and exercise help to reduce the risk of chronic disease.
- 16,258 deaths were due to heart disease in 2006.
- 14,322 deaths were due to cancer in 2006.
- 61.7% of adult Georgians are obese or overweight.
- 12% of children 18 & under have no health insurance (2005).

**Children and Parents**
Children need involved adults who care about them.
- 26.5% of the population was under 18 years of age in 2007.
- 43,766 cases of child abuse were investigated in 2007.
- In 2005, all parents worked outside the home in 61% of families with children under age 6.
- In 2000, 47.6% of grandparents living in the same household with a grandchild were responsible for the child’s care.
- 36% of children under 18 lived in families headed by a single parent (2004).

**Adolescents**
Adolescents need opportunities to develop leadership and autonomy.
- 72.3% of teens graduated on time from public high schools in 2007.
- 14,544 births were to unwed teens in 2006.
- 33% of households with children ages 6-17 did not have Internet access at home in 2003.

**Family Economics**
Managing financial resources increases family stability.
- Median household income was $45,564 in 2005.
- Georgia’s bankruptcy rate is one of the highest in the U.S. There were 51,070 bankruptcy filings in Georgia in 2007.

**Housing**
Affordable homeownership and maintenance can prevent household hazards and neighborhood blight.
- The 2008 housing wage in Georgia was $13.98 per hour. Housing wage is the amount a full-time worker must earn to afford a 2-bedroom house.

The State of *Berrien County* Families

**Family Life**
- 263 babies were born in 2006.
- 29 were low-birth weight babies.
- 48.2% of households included children under age 18 in 2000.
- 13.92% of the population was 65 years of age and older in 2007.

**Nutrition and Health**
- 40 deaths were due to heart disease in 2006.
- 34 deaths were due to cancer.

**Children and Parents**
- 26.53% of the population was under 18 years of age in 2007.
- 212 cases of child abuse were investigated in 2007.
- In 2000, all parents worked outside the home in 63% of families with children under age 6.
- In 2000, 61.1% of grandparents living in the same household with a grandchild were responsible for the child’s care.

**Adolescents**
- 77.3% of teens graduated on time from high school in 2007.
- 36 births were to unwed teens in 2006.

**Family Economics**
- Median household income was $33,786 in 2005.
- There were 100 bankruptcy filings in 2007.

**Housing**
- The 2008 housing wage was $9.96 per hour.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, The 2009 Georgia County Guide, National Low Income Housing Coalition, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Centers for Disease Control
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