Children's Economic Condition 2: Family Income as a Percent of Poverty: 1990 - 2000

Change in Percent of Children in Families in Poverty:
(Income Below Poverty Level): 1990 - 2000

- U.S. Change: -1.7

Percentage-Point Change:
- Increase (0.7 to 6.2) (6)
- Decrease of 1.6 or less (13)
- Decrease of 1.7 or more (27)
- No Significant Change (5)

Change in Percent of Children in Low-Income Families:
(100 - 199 Percent of Poverty Level): 1990 - 2000

- U.S. Change: -0.2

Percentage-Point Change:
- Increase (0.2 to 2.5) (17)
- Decrease of 1.9 or less (15)
- Decrease of 2.0 or more (10)
- No Significant Change (9)

Change in Percent of Children in Middle-Income Families:
(200 - 399 Percent of Poverty Level): 1990 - 2000

- U.S. Change: -2.5

Percentage-Point Change:
- Increase (0.6 to 2.5) (6)
- Decrease of 2.4 or less (22)
- Decrease of 2.5 or more (27)
- No Significant Change (1)

Change in the Percent of Children in High-Income Families:
(400+ Percent of Poverty Level): 1990 - 2000

- U.S. Change: 4.0

Percentage-Point Change:
- Increase of 6.6 or more (7)
- Increase of 4.1 to 6.5 (19)
- Increase of 4.0 or less (21)
- Decrease or No Significant Change (4)
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- Child poverty decreased for the nation as a whole from 17.7 percent in 1990 to 16.0 percent in 2000. Despite the national decrease, the percentage of children in poverty increased significantly over the decade in California, Hawaii, Nevada, New York, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia.

- The Midwest had both the largest percentage-point decrease in children in poverty and largest increase of children in the highest income group (3.2 percentage points and 6.4 percentage points respectively).

- Of the four family income groups, the largest change nationally was the 4.0 percentage point increase seen in children in families in the highest income group, those with incomes of 400 percent or more of the poverty level.

- The percentage of children in high income families decreased only in Alaska and California. Among the other states, Colorado, Minnesota, Utah and Wisconsin had some of the larger percentage-point increases in this family income group.

- Minnesota simultaneously had a 3.2 percentage-point decrease in children in poverty and a 9.4 percentage point increase in children in the highest income category. Utah had a 5.3 percentage point decline in children living in low-income (100 - 199 percent of poverty level) families and a 8.9 percentage point gain in children in the highest income category.