

What's New in Research January 2010

The Report: "State Budget Cuts: America's Kids Pay the Price"

Where It's From: NACCRRA, Every Child Matters Education Fund, and Voices for America's Children, January, 2010

The Findings: As state and city budgets have suffered during the recession of the past two years, services to children and youth have suffered as well.

Some Specifics:

- Services such as child care assistance, mentoring programs, job corps, head start, and after-school programs have all been cut.
- In Maryland specifically, funding for a pilot school breakfast program, math and science initiatives, child care subsidies, and funding from the Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund have all been cut.

The Full Report Is Available At: <http://www.naccrra.org/policy/economic-stimulus-briefing-room/docs/January6FinalNACECMVOI.pdf>

The Report: "A Matter of Time"

Where It's From: Catalyst Chicago, January, 2010

The Findings: This article, focused primarily on schools in Chicago, points out that many schools serving low income, minority students have shorter school days and years than national averages. Often, these shortened days and years are focused primarily and math and reading, and time for recess, arts, lunch, and other subjects has been cut.

Some Specifics:

- Adding more time to the school day and year can improve student behavior and achievement.
- Such changes, however, require not only resources and teacher's union negotiations, but creativity in how the time is used and training for teachers on how to use that time.

The Full Report Is Available At: <http://www.catalyst-chicago.org/news/index.php?item=2616&cat=23>

The Report: "Food Hardship: A Closer Look at Hunger"

Where It's From: Food Research and Action Center, January, 2010

The Findings: This study asked households the question "Have there been times in the past twelve months when you did not have enough money to buy food that you or your family needed?" It found the answer to be "yes" for nearly 1 in 5 households.

Some Specifics:

- For households with children specifically, the number was 1 in 4.
- The answer was "yes" for more than 15% percent of households in 45 states – showing that food hardship affects nearly every state in the country.

The Full Report Is Available At: http://www.frac.org/pdf/food_hardship_report_2010.pdf