



State of Connecticut  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Commission on Children



# Media Advisory

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## How Is the Social Health of Connecticut?

Latest collection of quality-of-life indicators at highest level since 1970, yet some worsening indicators portend further downturns in recession

**What:** The release of the 2008 edition of “The Social State of Connecticut,” which provides an overview of the state’s social performance since 1970. Each of the 11 indicators of the Index represents an important area of social well-being, including health, employment, income, education, and security. Taken together, they tell us much about the quality of life in Connecticut.

**Where:** Room 1-E of the Legislative Office Building, Hartford

**When:** 1 to 3 p.m., Thursday, November 20, 2008

**Who:** Presented by the Connecticut Commission on Children, the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, and the Tow Foundation

**The news:** Overall, the Index is at its highest level since 1970. We have significantly reduced the rates of infant mortality, teen pregnancy, and high school dropouts. Juvenile arrests for all crimes are down. But we are faring poorly in unemployment, birth weight, affordable housing, and income variation. The proportion of personal income spent on health care is at its highest rate yet. Hate crimes increased by 28 per cent.

**Visuals:** In addition to presentations by the researchers who compiled the Index -- Sarah Meadows of the RAND Corporation and Ken Land of Duke University -- a response panel of economists, pediatricians, policy analysts, and appointed and elected leaders will discuss what the findings mean for the state’s future.