

The background of the entire slide is the New Mexico state flag, which features a large red Zia sun symbol on a yellow field, with red and yellow wavy stripes at the top and bottom. The text is overlaid on this background.

2021 New Mexico KIDS COUNT Data Book

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New Mexico Voices for Children

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www.nmvoices.org

#NMKIDSCOUNT

A photograph of four diverse children (two boys and two girls) sitting outdoors on the ground, smiling and playing with bubbles. The background is a soft-focus natural setting with trees and foliage. The text is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font.

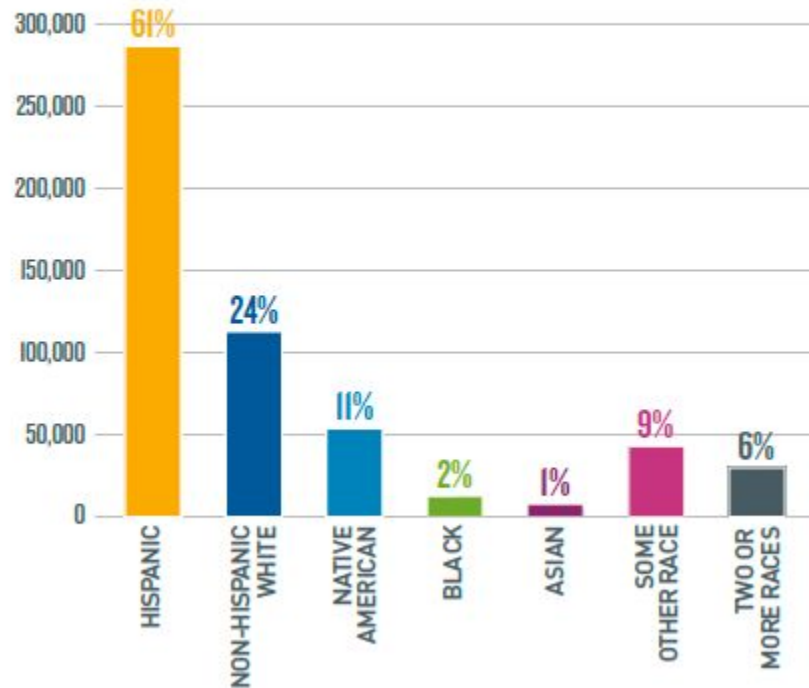
**Our mission is to
champion public
policies that improve
the well-being of
New Mexico's
children, families,
and communities.**

A silhouette of a person holding a child against a sunset sky. The person is standing and holding the child up in the air. The sky is filled with clouds, and the colors range from dark blue at the top to orange and yellow near the horizon. The text "KIDS COUNT data tells a story of opportunity." is overlaid on the image in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**KIDS COUNT data tells a
story of opportunity.**

Most NM kids are children of color

CHILD POPULATION BY RACE AND ETHNICITY 2019



Policy changes set us up for success in the future

- Tax cut for 70% of families with children
- Improved higher education affordability and access
- New early childhood department
- New funding source for ECE programs
- Minimum wage increase
- K-12 funding and teacher pay increases
- Crucial COVID-19 relief for families, workers, and businesses

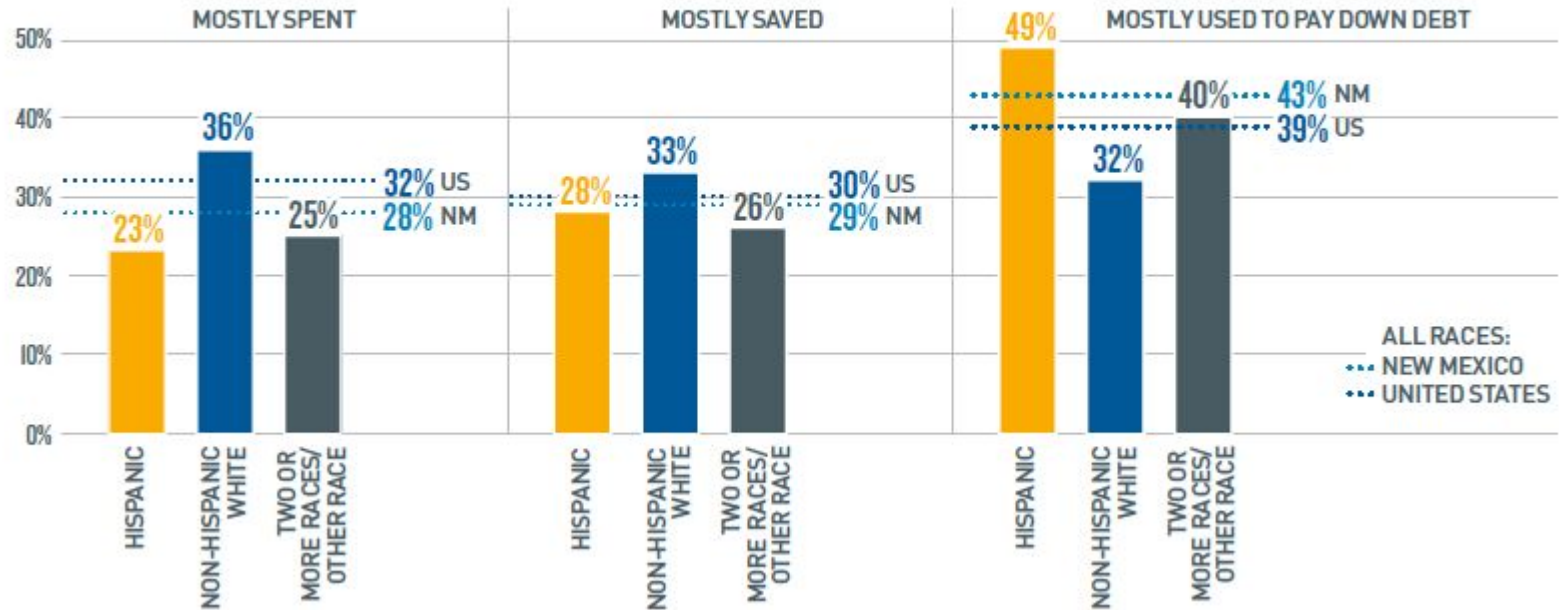
A desert landscape at sunset. In the background, a large, rugged rock formation (likely Shiprock) is illuminated by the warm, orange light of the setting sun. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the horizon shows a few smaller rock formations. The foreground is a flat, arid plain with sparse, dry vegetation and patches of sand.

Most of the data still shows how children were doing *pre-pandemic*

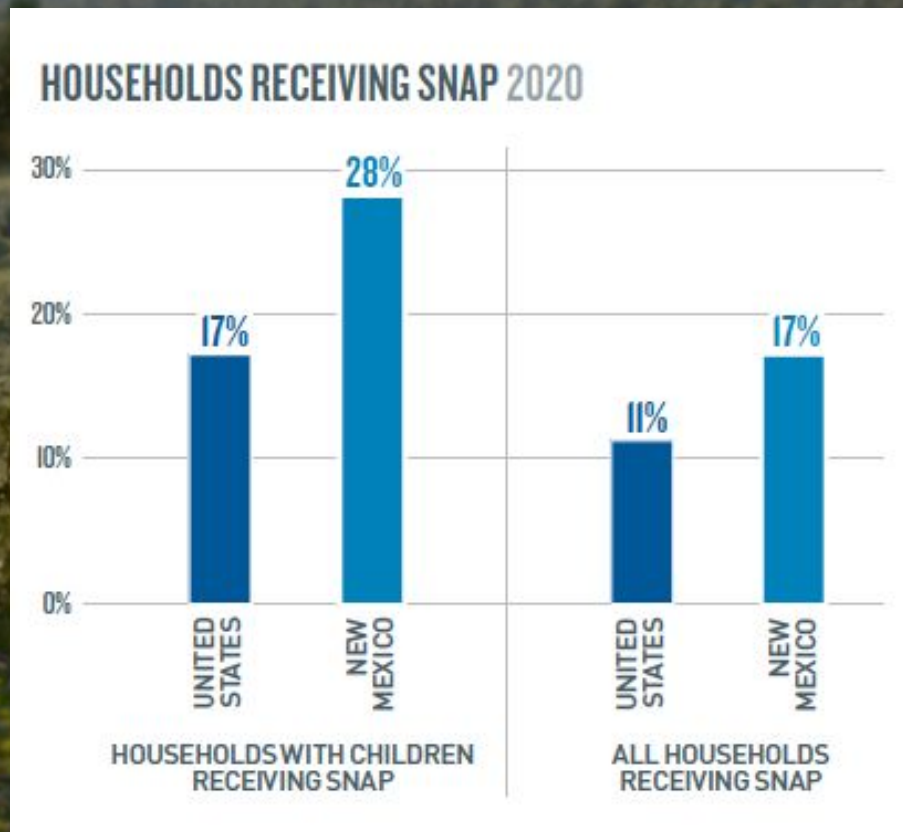
- Most indicators show slight improvements or no change
- Added more disaggregation by race and ethnicity where possible
- Hardship data for 2021 and some 2020 data point to the serious impact of COVID-19 on children and families

Many NM families used the CTC to pay down debt

HOW HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN ARE SPENDING THEIR FEDERAL CHILD TAX CREDIT BY RACE AND ETHNICITY 2021



More children were food insecure



More kids were enrolled in Medicaid

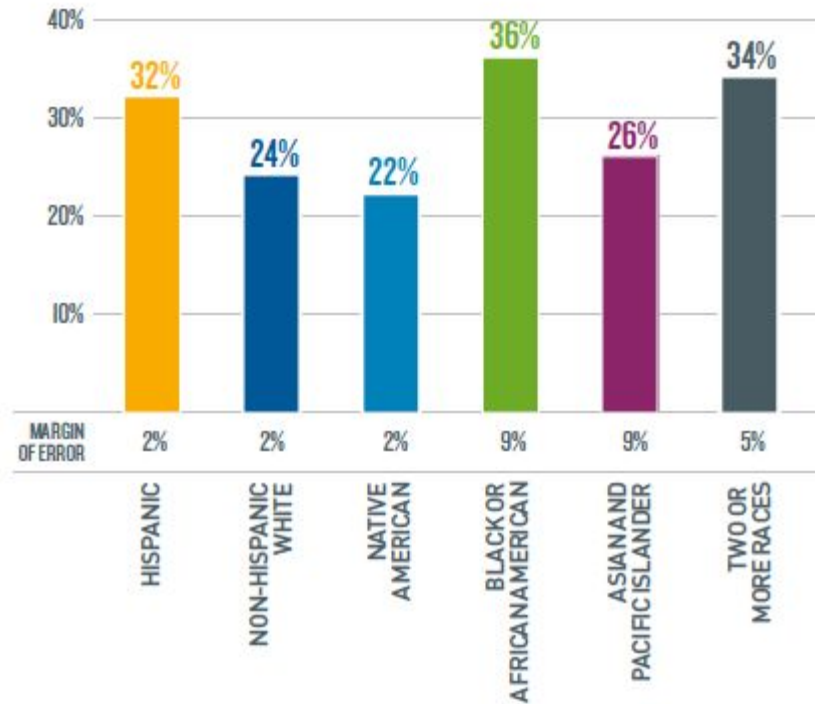
CHILDREN AND YOUTH (YOUNGER THAN 21 YEARS) ENROLLED IN MEDICAID BY COUNTY OCTOBER 2021

| Location | All Youth Enrolled | Native American Youth Enrolled |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| New Mexico | 355,783 | 58,335 |

**Disparities exist in nearly
every indicator**



CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLDS IN NEW MEXICO
WITH A HIGH HOUSING COST BURDEN
BY RACE AND ETHNICITY 2015-2019



More Hispanic,
Black, and
multi-racial
children live in
families with
high housing
costs

A photograph of four children running happily through a park with autumn foliage. The child on the left is a girl in a bright pink puffer jacket and light pink pants. The child in the center is a girl in a dark blue puffer jacket, a grey scarf, and leopard-print leggings. Behind her is a boy in a teal and blue jacket. On the right is a boy in a blue and white puffer jacket and blue pants. The text "Moving forward" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Moving forward



Prioritize families in public policy

- Provide immediate economic relief to essential workers and those still struggling
- Combat food insecurity
- Invest in early childhood education and care programs and protect their funding sources
- Extend postpartum Medicaid coverage
- Fully fund and support classrooms and the programs that matter most for children of color
- Diversify, stabilize, and protect revenue

A photograph of four children running joyfully on a dirt path in a forest. The children are of diverse backgrounds and are all smiling. The path is covered in dry leaves and pine needles, and the background shows large trees and lush green foliage. The overall tone is warm and positive.

Thank you!

New Mexico Voices for Children

www.nmvoices.org

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>