

The Child Well-Being Index (CWI) offers a look back at how children's well-being has improved or deteriorated since 1975. The CWI analyzes national data from 28 Key Indicators, grouped into the seven Quality-of-Life/Well-Being Domains seen above. The 2012 edition of the NATIONAL CWI Report focuses on changes over the past ten years, illustrating how American children have fared during the first decade of the new century. It reveals that a sharp increase in poverty, together with declines in secure parental employment and median family income, is not simply due to the Great Recession, but instead began in 2001. The graph along the top of the page plots the overall CWI values from 1975-2011, showing how children's quality of life has changed over the last 36 years. The second set of graphs highlights the seven Quality-of-Life Domains from 2001-2011. The CWI was developed by Kenneth Land, Vicki Lamb, and colleagues at Duke University, and funded by the Foundation for Child Development.