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## Schuyler Center Releases New Data on the State of New York’s Children

*The 2026 report highlights policies needed to make New York work for families and protect children from the harm of federal actions.*

Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy has released the [2026 State of New York’s Children Data Book](#). The data book highlights progress made alongside the challenges and opportunities facing New York’s children and families as the 2026 State Legislative Session begins.

**The new report includes the most recent data and state policy recommendations in the areas of: child poverty reduction, universal child care, economic opportunity, food security, children’s health, oral health, child welfare.**

A briefing was held in Albany on Tuesday morning ahead of the Governor’s State of the State address. *View the full [2026 State of New York’s Children Data Book and presentation slides here.](#)*

### **New York Must Remain Steadfast in its Commitment to Children Amid Federal Change**

In 2026, New York State faces significant headwinds from federal actions pushing against New York’s movement to reduce child poverty and support families. *That makes New York’s commitment to children all the more important.*

New York made real progress in 2025: A historic expansion of the state child tax credit, passage and implementation of universal school meals, funding for housing access and child care assistance, and a commitment to making New York more affordable for families. Now is the time to build on that momentum, despite forces seeking to slow us down.

"Last year’s state budget made significant and meaningful investments in our children with an unprecedented expansion of the child tax credit, universal school meals, and filling emergency gaps in child care assistance," said Kate Breslin, Schuyler Center President and CEO. "The data shows us just how important it will be for state leaders to build on those investments in 2026 and beyond. As the federal government pulls support away from children in low-income families, state investment is crucial for the systems that families and children rely on. We know which policies work, and we are calling on state leaders to enact them this year."

Schuyler Center’s 2026 Data Book illustrates that New York can—and must — continue to enact policy and budget decisions that prioritize and protect children and families.

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**Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy** is a leading statewide, nonpartisan, policy analysis and advocacy organization based in Albany. Schuyler Center works to shape policies to improve economic security, health, welfare, and human services for all New Yorkers, especially those impacted by poverty and inequitable systems. Learn more at [www.scaany.org](http://www.scaany.org).