

Navigating the Data Center Part 1: Data Center Overview

- Welcome to the second video in the Data Center series, if you haven't already, please check out our first video "Data 101: The KIDS COUNT Data Center" as it will have great information to support you as you learn to navigate the Data Center. Let's dive into the main event and walk through the Data Center together...

1. Homepage to Illinois Page

- The Data Center home page is here at datacenter.kidscount.org. This will show you a map of the US and you can select the state for data you would like to review. For example, you might want to compare Illinois to Michigan, Indiana, or Wisconsin.
- I personally click the state of Illinois and bookmark this page so I can easily access Illinois KIDS COUNT indicators.
- At the time of this recording, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is updating and providing data for 84 indicators. In addition, the National KIDS COUNT project provides data on another 100 or so indicators through the Population Reference Bureau and some other national organizations. For those indicators provided by national organizations, the data are only available at the state level.

2. Filters on Home Page

- So you could CTRL+F for a keyword on this page to find different indicators [example of CTRL + F poverty], but a



better way to navigate the indicator page would be to use the filters on the left-hand side. So let's review these...

- You can filter for indicators by location such as those by state or county, which when selected will show only indicators that have data by state or county.
- You can filter by Topics or Special Topics. Currently, only two special topics exist: COVID-19 and Youth & Young Adults. Other topics include KIDS COUNT topics, such as Demographics, Economic well-being, Health, and others.
- And within these topics are subtopics. For example, in the topic, Economic Well-being, the subtopics include Employment and Income, Public Assistance, Poverty, and Housing to name a few.
- You can also filter by characteristics such as indicators provided by age group, race/ethnicity, or family nativity. This will provide you with indicators that are disaggregated, which means broken into groups, by the characteristic.
- When you select these topics, subtopics, or characteristics, they will appear at the top. You can use the X by the topic name to remove the filter or you can manually uncheck the items you want to remove from your search, and if you want to start completely over you can select "Clear All."

3. Example of Indicator



- Let's see an example of an indicator, Children in poverty-by-poverty level in Illinois is a good indicator to show the capabilities of the Data Center.
- On the Left-hand side you can select to see data by State or by County
- You could also select up to 10 years of data or less
- And you can select by category, which for this indicator would be the different poverty levels
- You could select percent or number or both

4. Review Table Page

- Moving past the view/filter options of the indicator, you'll find on the indicator page each indicator will have a title and you can select table type, such as a detailed table, or you can sort and rank, which comes in handy for comparing counties.
- For each indicator there is ability to download the raw data, by selecting "Raw Data" and you can also print or save the indicator page as a PDF, OR you can email the indicator page, OR you can share the page via Facebook, Twitter and more.
- Don't forget to click or scroll down to Definitions & Sources which includes the definition of the indicator, source, as well as any notes on how the data are calculated.

5. Closing

- This is just one indicator page, and we invite you to explore the Data Center for the Data you may need to advocate in



your communities. I hope you enjoyed this quick overview of the Data Center's ins & outs, and I'm excited to share the Data Center has even more to offer so stay tuned for the next video to learn more about the Data Center's data visualizations and reports!

