

INDIANA'S CHILDREN 2006

Indiana's Children At a Glance

State Population (2004) ¹	6,237,569
Population, Children Under 18 (2004) ²	1,600,295
State Poverty Rate (2004) ³	11.6
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2004) ⁴	18.5
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17 (2004) ⁵	16.3

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2003, there were 50,928 total referrals of child abuse and neglect. Of these, 34,388 reports were referred for investigation.⁶
- In 2003, 21,205 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Indiana, a rate of 13.2 per 1,000 children, representing a 3.9% increase from 2002. Of these children, 66.9% were neglected, 17.6% were physically abused, and 20.3% were sexually abused.⁷
- In 2003, 49 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Indiana.⁸
- On September 30, 2003, 8,899 children in Indiana lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 8,640 children on September 30, 2002. In 2003, 36.4% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 15.2% were 16 or older.⁹
- Of all Indiana children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2005, 55.6% were white, 34.3% were black, 5.5% were Hispanic, 0.2% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 4.4% were of other races and ethnicities.¹⁰

PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 4,902 children exiting out-of-home care in 2003, 62.1% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹¹
- In 2003, 761 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Indiana, a 17.3% decrease from 920 in 2002.¹²
- Of the 8,899 children in out-of-home care in 2003, 2,417 or 27.2% were waiting to be adopted.¹³

KINSHIP SUPPORT

- In 2004, approximately 56,026 Indiana grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁴
- Of the 8,899 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2003, 13.2% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁵
- Of all Indiana children in kinship care on September 30, 2003, 43.5% were white, 47.2% were black, 4% were Hispanic, 0.2% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 5.1% were other races.¹⁶

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Indiana decreased from 131,964 in March 2004 to 124,007 in March 2005, a decrease of 6%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2005 was 48,389, a 5.3% decrease from March 2004.¹⁷
- In 2002, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Indiana was at 37.6% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁸
- In 2004, Indiana spent \$313,987,026 in TANF funds, including 38.8% on basic assistance, 1.4% on transportation, and 59.8% on nonassistance.¹⁹

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- In 2004, Indiana collected and distributed \$442,638,880 in child support funds, an increase of 6.1% from 2003.²⁰
- In 2004, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Indiana was \$612 per month, or 74.3% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour.²¹

C H I L D C A R E A N D H E A D S T A R T

- In 2004, an estimated monthly average of 34,100 of Indiana's children received subsidized child care; 34,300 children received subsidized child care in 2003, and 41,400 in 2002.²²
- In 2005, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Indiana, a family of three could make no more than \$19,380, which is equivalent to 37% of the state's median income.²³
- In 2005, Indiana had 7,975 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁴
- In 2004, Head Start served 14,234 Indiana children, a 0.6% increase from 2003.²⁵

H E A L T H A N D S U B S T A N C E A B U S E

- In 2001, 496,100 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid, representing 60.1% of the total number of enrollees in Indiana.²⁶
- In 2001, 12,056 children in foster care were enrolled in Medicaid, representing 2.4% of all children enrolled in Medicaid in Indiana.²⁷
- Indiana spent \$3,803 per enrollee in 2001 on Medicaid services for children in foster care.²⁸
- In 2004, Indiana had 80,698 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 9.4% increase from 2003, when 73,762 children were enrolled.²⁹
- In 2003, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Indiana was 21.6 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 77.2 births. This reflects a total rate of 43.5 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁰
- As of December 2003, 7,450 adults and adolescents, as well as 54 children younger than 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Indiana.³¹
- In 2003, an estimated 48,000 children ages 12–17, and 422,000 adults 18 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol.³²

V U L N E R A B L E Y O U T H

- In 2004, 13% of Indiana teens ages 16–19 were high school dropouts, the same as in 2000.³³
- In 2004, 10% of teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.³⁴
- In 2003, an estimated 22,000 children ages 12–17 in Indiana needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.³⁵
- In 2003, an estimated 30,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.³⁶
- In 2002, 42 children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.37 per 100,000 children in the population.³⁷

J U V E N I L E J U S T I C E A N D D E L I N Q U E N C Y P R E V E N T I O N

- In 2002, 19 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Indiana, a 35.7% increase from 14 in 2001.³⁸

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- In 2004, 34,024 children younger than 18 were arrested in Indiana, a 0.8% increase from 33,746 arrests in 2003. Of the arrests in 2004, 1,733 were for a violent crime and 155 were for possession of a weapon.³⁹
- A 2001 census of juvenile offenders showed 3,235 children in juvenile correction facilities in Indiana.⁴⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR INDIANA'S CHILDREN

- In 2002, Indiana spent \$383,761,912 for child welfare services. *Child welfare services* refer to all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this number, 28.3% was from federal funds, 4.7% was from state funds, and 66.9% was from local funds.⁴¹
- In 2002, of the \$108,725,458 in federal funds received for child welfare, 59.8% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 8.3% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 13% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 8.9% was from TANF, 7.3% was from Social Security Survivors Benefits, and 2.6% came from other federal sources.⁴²
- Out of 8,899 children in out-of-home care in Indiana on September 30, 2003, only 3,452 children, or 38.8%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴³

INDIANA'S CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

- A 2003 General Accounting Office (GAO) report documented that staff shortages, high caseloads, high worker turnover, and low salaries impinge on delivering services to achieve safety, permanence, and well-being for children.⁴⁴
- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have clearly demonstrated that the more time a caseworker spends with a child and family, the better the outcomes for those children and families.⁴⁵
- According to the 2003 GAO report, the average caseload for child welfare/foster care caseworkers is 24–31 children and that these high caseloads contribute to high worker turnover and insufficient services provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.⁴⁶

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