

M I C H I G A N ' S C H I L D R E N 2 0 0 6

Michigan's Children At a Glance

State Population (2004) ¹	10,112,620
Population, Children Under 18 (2004) ²	2,533,439
State Poverty Rate (2004) ³	13.3
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2004) ⁴	19.3
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17 (2004) ⁵	16.0

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

- In 2003, 28,690 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Michigan, a rate of 11.3 per 1,000 children, representing a 0.5% decrease from 2002. Of these children, 70.5% were neglected, 20.1% were physically abused, and 5.5% were sexually abused.⁶
- On September 30, 2003, 21,376 children in Michigan lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 21,251 children on September 30, 2002. In 2003, 30.5% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 18.6% were 16 or older.⁷
- Of all Michigan children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2005, 40.6% were white, 50.7% were black, 4% were Hispanic, 1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 3.7% were of other races and ethnicities.⁸

P E R M A N E N T F A M I L I E S F O R C H I L D R E N

- Of the 8,979 children exiting out-of-home care in 2003, 54.8% were reunited with their parents or other family members.⁹
- In 2003, 2,622 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Michigan, a 7.9% decrease from 2,847 in 2002.¹⁰
- Of the 21,376 children in out-of-home care in 2003, 7,152 or 33.5% were waiting to be adopted.¹¹

K I N S H I P S U P P O R T

- In 2004, approximately 68,962 Michigan grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹²
- Of the 21,376 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2003, 29.6% were living with relatives while in care.¹³
- Of all Michigan children in kinship care on September 30, 2003, 36.4% were white, 55.4% were black, 4.3% were Hispanic, 0.7% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 3.1% were other races.¹⁴

C H I L D P O V E R T Y A N D I N C O M E S U P P O R T

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Michigan increased from 214,883 in March 2004 to 216,726 in March 2005, an increase of 0.9%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2005 was 81,329, a 1.3% increase from March 2004.¹⁵
- In 2002, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Michigan was at 42.9% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁶
- In 2004, Michigan spent \$1,281,075,227 in TANF funds, including 31.3% on basic assistance, 2.6% on child care, and 70.2% on nonassistance.¹⁷
- In 2004, Michigan collected and distributed \$1,414,387,902 in child support funds, an increase of 0.7% from 2003.¹⁸

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- In 2004, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Michigan was \$706 per month, or 85.7% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour.¹⁹

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 44,500 of Michigan's children received subsidized child care; 61,200 children received subsidized child care in 2003, and 38,400 in 2002.²⁰
- In 2005, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Michigan, a family of three could make no more than \$23,880, which is equivalent to 42% of the state's median income.²¹
- In 2005, Michigan had no children on a waiting list for child care assistance.²²
- In 2004, Head Start served 35,124 Michigan children, a 0.1% increase from 2003.²³

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, 785,500 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid, representing 54.9% of the total number of enrollees in Michigan.²⁴
- In 2001, 40,564 children in foster care were enrolled in Medicaid, representing 5.2% of all children enrolled in Medicaid in Michigan.²⁵
- Michigan spent \$1,581 per enrollee in 2001 on Medicaid services for children in foster care.²⁶
- In 2003, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Michigan was 18.2 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 59.3 births. This reflects a total rate of 34.4 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.²⁷
- As of December 2003, 13,215 adults and adolescents, as well as 111 children younger than 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Michigan.²⁸
- In 2003, an estimated 88,000 children ages 12–17, and 745,000 adults 18 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol.²⁹

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

- In 2004, 7% of Michigan teens ages 16–19 were high school dropouts, a 30% decrease from 2000.³⁰
- In 2004, 8% of teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.³¹
- In 2003, an estimated 53,000 children ages 12–17 in Michigan needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.³²
- In 2003, an estimated 56,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.³³
- In 2002, 70 children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.46 per 100,000 children in the population.³⁴

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, 32 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Michigan, a 6.7% increase from 30 in 2001.³⁵
- In 2004, 39,224 children younger than 18 were arrested in Michigan, a 10.2% decrease from 43,681 arrests in 2003. Of the arrests in 2004, 1,646 were for a violent crime and 632 were for possession of a weapon.³⁶
- A 2001 census of juvenile offenders showed 3,504 children in juvenile correction facilities in Michigan.³⁷

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FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MICHIGAN'S CHILDREN

- In 2002, Michigan spent \$760,995,545 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, 61.2% was from federal funds, 34.7% was from state funds, and 4.1% was from local funds.³⁸
- In 2002, of the \$465,605,966 in federal funds received for child welfare, 52.1% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5.1% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 10% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 31% was from TANF, and 1.8% came from other federal sources.³⁹
- Out of 21,376 children in out-of-home care in Michigan on September 30, 2003, only 7,221 children, or 33.8%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴⁰

MICHIGAN'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.⁴¹
- 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.⁴²
- 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.⁴³

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