

KANSAS'S CHILDREN 2011

KANSAS'S Children At a Glance

State Population ¹	2,818,747
Population, Children Under 18 ²	695,712
State Poverty Rate ³	13.7%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	18.0%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁵	14.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	22.0%

All "At a Glance" statistics are for 2008.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- Kansas had 33,238 total referrals for child abuse and neglect in 2009. Of those, 17,942 reports were referred for investigation.⁷
- In 2009, 1,016 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Kansas, a rate of 3.5 per 1,000 children, representing a 1.7% decrease from 2006. These children experience varied—sometimes multiple—forms of maltreatment; 17.5% were neglected, 22% were physically abused, and 35.4% were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2009, 8 Kansas children died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁹
- In 2009, 5,691 children in Kansas lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 5,756 children in 2008. In 2009, 2,204 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 1,070 were 16 or older.¹⁰
- Of Kansas children in out-of-home care in 2009, 3,704 were white, 1,172 black, 518 Hispanic, 58 American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 189 of other races and ethnicities.¹¹

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 3,615 children exiting out-of-home care in Kansas in 2009, 1,926 were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹²
- In 2009, 836 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Kansas, a 15% decrease from 825 in 2008.¹³
- Of the 5,691 children in out-of-home care in 2009, 1,852 or 32.5% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- In 2009, approximately 20,648 Kansas grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁵
- Of the 5,691 children in out-of-home care in 2009, 1,317 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁶
- Of all Kansas children in kinship care in 2009, 920 were white, 236 were black, 103 were Hispanic, 9 were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 49 were other races.¹⁷

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Kansas increased from 37,771 in September 2009 to 40,352 in September 2010, a 6.4% increase. The number of families receiving TANF in September 2010 was 15,554, a 6% increase from September 2009.¹⁸
- In 2006, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Kansas was at 52% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁹
- In 2009, Kansas spent \$64,854,859 in TANF funds, including 72% on basic assistance, 13% on child care, 12% on transportation, and 54% on nonassistance.²⁰
- In 2010, Kansas spent \$32,880,037 on the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), serving 77,363 participants.²¹
- In 2009, Kansas collected and distributed \$181,226,810 in child support funds, a 0.3% decrease from 2007.²²



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- In 2010, the fair-market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Kansas was \$678 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$13.03 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²³

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2009, Kansas had a monthly average of 22,500 children served by subsidized child care; 21,500 children received subsidized child care in 2008, and 20,900 in 2007.²⁴
- In 2010, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Kansas, a family of three could make no more than \$33,876, which is equivalent to 58% of the state's median income.²⁵
- As of early 2010, Kansas had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁶
- In 2009, Head Start served 8,178 Kansas children, no change from 2007.²⁷

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2007, 200,300 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Kansas—56.8% of total enrollees.²⁸
- In 2008, 15,657 children were enrolled in Medicaid in Kansas on the basis of being in foster care.²⁹
- Of these 15,657 children, 1,613 received Targeted Case Management services, and 2,138 received Rehabilitative Services.³⁰
- In 2008, Kansas had 38,731 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 1.8% increase from 2007, when 38,047 children were enrolled.³¹
- In 2009, Kansas had 41,000 uninsured children, representing 5.5% of its child population.³²
- In 2008, 3,005 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Kansas a rank of 17 nationally in percent of low-weight births (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³³
- In 2007, 333 infants under age 1 died in Kansas, giving it a rank of 40 nationally in terms of infant mortality rates (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³⁴
- In 2008, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Kansas was 22 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 80. This reflects a total rate of 46 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁵
- Cumulative through 2009, 3,284 adults and adolescents, as well as 16 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Kansas.³⁶
- In 2008, an estimated 21,000 children ages 12–17, and 82,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Kansas.³⁷

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2009, 476 children aged out of out-of-home care in Kansas.³⁸
- In 2009, 8,000 Kansas teens ages 16–19 were high school dropouts.³⁹
- In 2009, 7% of Kansas teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2009, 39,000 people ages 18–24 in Kansas were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴¹
- In 2008, approximately 9,000 children ages 12–17 in Kansas needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2008, approximately 15,000 children ages 12–17 in Kansas needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³



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- In 2007, 33 Kansas children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.98 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2007, 13 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Kansas, a 62% increase from 5 in 2006.⁴⁵
- In 2009, 9,585 children younger than 18 were arrested in Kansas, a 14.3% decrease from 11,183 arrests in 2008. Of the arrests in 2009, 284 were for violent crimes and 99 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁶
- A 2007 census of juvenile offenders showed 1,146 children in juvenile correction facilities in Kansas.⁴⁷

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR KANSAS'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, Kansas spent \$288,966,692 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 27% was from federal funds, 73% from state funds, and 0% from local funds.⁴⁸
- In 2006, of the \$76,927,836 in federal funds received for child welfare, 60% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0% was from Medicaid, 9% came from Social Services Block Grant, 16% was from TANF, and 7% came from other federal sources.⁴⁹
- Out of 5,691 children in out-of-home care in Kansas in 2009, only 1,728, or 30.4%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵⁰

KANSAS'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.⁵¹
- 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.⁵²
- According to the 2003 GAO report, the average caseload for child welfare/foster care caseworkers is 24–31 children; these high caseloads contribute to high worker turnover and insufficient services being provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.⁵³
- In 2009, the median annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect in Kansas was \$39,780; the median income for a family of four in Kansas was \$68,154.⁵⁴

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