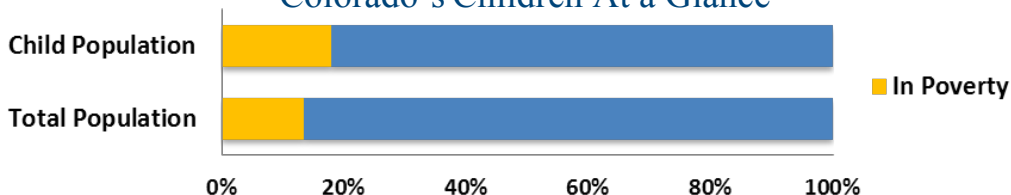


# COLORADO'S CHILDREN

## Colorado's Children At a Glance<sup>1</sup>



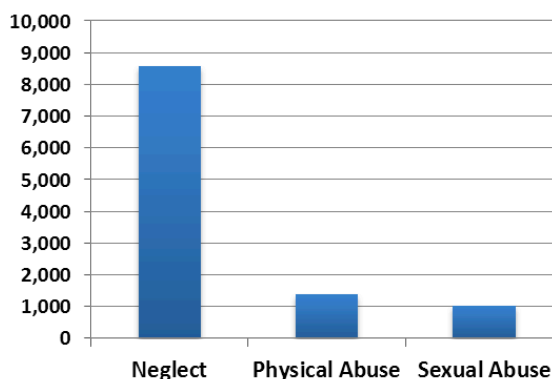
State Population<sup>2</sup> .....5,116,796  
 Population, Children Under 18<sup>3</sup> .....1,228,577  
 State Poverty Rate<sup>4</sup> .....13.5%

Poverty Rate, Children Under 18<sup>5</sup> .....17.9%  
 Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17<sup>6</sup> .....15.9%  
 Poverty Rate, Children Under 5<sup>7</sup> .....21.6%

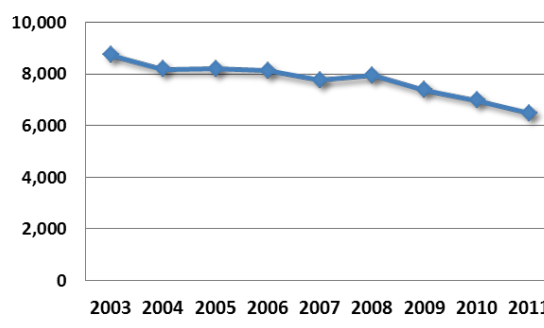
### CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, Colorado had 70,747 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 31,603 reports were referred for investigation.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2011, 10,604 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Colorado, a rate of 8.6 per 1,000 children, representing a 10.5% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 81.1% were neglected, 13.1% were physically abused, and 9.9% were sexually abused.<sup>9</sup>
- The number of child victims has increased 0.2% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.<sup>10</sup>
- Colorado responds to lower risk, higher safety reports through alternative response services to address family issues. 2,936 reports were responded to in this way in 2011.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2011, 31 children in Colorado died as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2011, 6,488 children in Colorado lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 6,980 children in 2009. In 2010, 1,509 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 2,174 were 16 or older.<sup>13</sup>
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 16.6% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.<sup>14</sup>
- Of Colorado children in out-of-home care in 2011, 42.7% were white, 13.6% black, 35.8% Hispanic, 0.9% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 1.2% Asian or Pacific Islander and 4.4% of more than one race or ethnicity.<sup>15</sup>

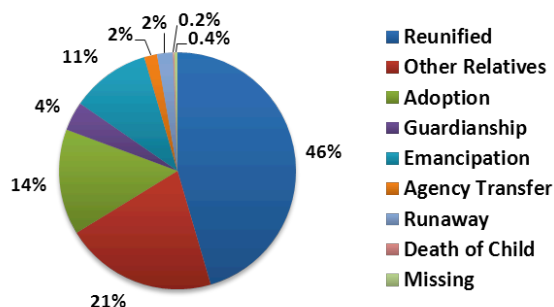
Number of Child Victims, 2011  
by type of abuse



Number of Children in Care, 2003-2011



Children Exiting Foster Care, 2011  
by reason



### ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 5,502 children exiting out-of-home care in Colorado in 2011, 45.5% were reunited with their parents or other family members.<sup>16</sup>
- In 2011, 934 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Colorado, a 5.0% decrease from 983 in 2010.<sup>17</sup>
- Of the 6,488 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 1,094 or

16.9% were waiting to be adopted.<sup>18</sup>

- In 2011, approximately 37,189 Colorado grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.<sup>19</sup>
- Of the 6,488 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 897 were living with relatives while in care.<sup>20</sup>
- Of all Colorado children in kinship care in 2010, 5.3% were white, 1.7% black, 6.0% Hispanic, 0.2% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.0% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 1.7% of more than one race or ethnicity.<sup>21</sup>

## **CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT**

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Colorado increased from 29,367 in 2010 to 30,668 in 2011, an increase of 4.4%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 11,936, a 3.6% increase from 2010.<sup>22</sup>
- From 2009-10, for every 100 Colorado families living in poverty, only 13 received TANF benefits.<sup>23</sup>
- In 2011, \$318,107,617 was spent in Colorado on TANF assistance, including 25% on basic assistance, 0% on child care, 1% on transportation, and 74% on nonassistance.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2011, 49,719,657 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Colorado, serving 103,937 participants.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2011, Colorado distributed \$289,106,557 in child support funds, a 2.3% increase from 2010.<sup>26</sup>
- In 2011 in Colorado, 165,165 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 27% of them are families with children.<sup>27</sup>

## **CHILD CARE AND HEAD START**

- In 2010, Colorado had a monthly average of 16,700 children served by subsidized child care; 17,700 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 18,900 in 2008.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Colorado, a family of three could make no more than \$24,086-\$57,492, which is equivalent to 36%-85% of the state's median income.<sup>29</sup>
- As of early 2012, Colorado had 677 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2011, Head Start served 10,899 Colorado children, a 11.0% increase from 2010.<sup>31</sup>

## **HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

- In 2011, 336,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Colorado—57% of the total number of enrollees in the state.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2011, Colorado had 105,255 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 1.3% decrease from 2010, when 106,643 children were enrolled.<sup>33</sup>
- In 2011, Colorado had 131,000 uninsured children, representing 10% of its child population.<sup>34</sup>
- In 2010, 5,811 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Colorado.<sup>35</sup>
- In 2010, 422 infants under age 1 died in Colorado.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Colorado was 18 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 57. This reflects a total rate of 33 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.<sup>37</sup>
- Cumulative through 2011, 10,348 adults and adolescents, as well as 33 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Colorado.<sup>38</sup>
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 36,000 children ages 12–17 and 385,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Colorado.<sup>39</sup>

## **VULNERABLE YOUTH**

- In 2011, 596 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Colorado.<sup>40</sup>

- In 2011, 21,000 Colorado teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.<sup>41</sup>
- In 2011, 75,000 young adults ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.<sup>42</sup>
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 22,000 children ages 12–17 in Colorado needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.<sup>43</sup>
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 20,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.<sup>44</sup>
- In 2010, 49 Colorado children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.59 per 100,000 children.<sup>45</sup>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, 36 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Colorado, a 3% decrease from 37 in 2009.<sup>46</sup>
- In 2011, 28,675 children younger than 18 were arrested in Colorado, a 11.0% decrease from 32,054 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 571 were for violent crimes.<sup>47</sup>
- In 2010, 1,530 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Colorado.<sup>48</sup>

## CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE<sup>49</sup>

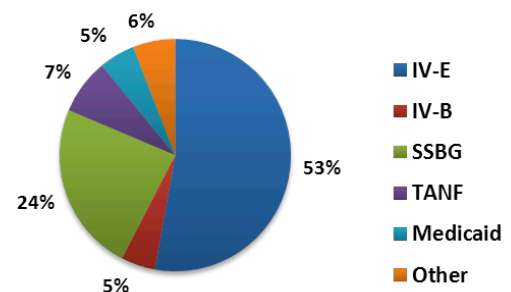
- A 2003 General Accounting Office (GAO) report documented that staff shortages, high caseloads, high worker turnover and low salaries impinge on delivering services to achieve safety, permanence, and well being for children.<sup>50</sup>
- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have clearly demonstrated that the more time a caseworker spends with a child and family, the better the outcomes for those children and families.<sup>51</sup>
- 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.<sup>52</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR COLORADO'S CHILDREN

- Out of 6,488 children in out-of-home care in Colorado in 2011, only 1,880, or 29%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.<sup>53</sup>
- In 2010, Colorado spent \$424,287,080 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$162,572,334 was from federal funds, \$180,289,372 from state funds, and \$81,425,374 from local funds.<sup>54</sup>
- In 2010, of the \$162,572,334 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$85,879,917 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$7,771,670 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$8,123,527 was from Medicaid, \$38,645,695 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$12,500,000 was from TANF, and \$9,651,525 came from other federal sources.<sup>55</sup>
- Colorado received \$57,546,378 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$15,362,381 for maintenance payments, \$38,689,272 for administration and child placement, \$2,269,407 for the statewide automated child welfare information system, and \$1,886,734 for training.<sup>56</sup>
- Colorado received \$21,226,233 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$16,628,828 for assistance payments, \$2,794,986 for administration and child placement, and \$1,802,419 for staff and provider training.<sup>57</sup>



**Breakdown of Federal Funding, FY 2011**



<p><b>Governor: John Hickenlooper (D)</b>  www.colorado.gov  136 State Capitol, Denver, CO 80203-1792  Next Election: 2014  Tel: 303-866-2471 Fax: 303-866-2003</p>					
	<b>Office</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>Website</b>	<b>Next Election</b>
<b>Senate:</b>					
Michael Bennet (D) <i>Finance</i> <i>H.E.L.P.</i>	458 Russell	224-5852	228-4083	Bennet.senate.gov	2016
Mark Udall (D)	328 Hart	224-5941	224-6471	Markudall.senate.gov	2014
<b>House:</b>					
Diana DeGette (D-1 <sup>st</sup> ) <i>Energy &amp; Commerce</i>	2368 Rayburn	225-4431	225-5657	Degette.house.gov	2014
Jared Polis (D-2 <sup>nd</sup> ) <i>Education &amp; Workforce</i>	1433 Longworth	225-2161	226-7840	Polis.house.gov	2014
Scott Tipton (R-3 <sup>rd</sup> )	218 Cannon	225-4761	226-9669	Tipton.house.gov	2014
Cory Gardner (R-4 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>Energy &amp; Commerce</i>	213 Cannon	225-4676	225-5870	Gardner.house.gov	2014
Doug Lamborn (R-5 <sup>th</sup> )	2402 Rayburn	225-4422	225-1942	Lamborn.house.gov	2014
Mike Coffman (R-6 <sup>th</sup> )	2443 Rayburn	225-7882	226-4623	Coffman.house.gov	2014
Ed Perlmutter (D-7 <sup>th</sup> )	1410 Longworth	225-2645	225-5278	Perlmutter.house.gov	2014
<b>Key Committee Jurisdictions</b>					
Senate <i>H.E.L.P.</i> : CAPTA; Child Care & Head Start; ESEA					
<i>Senate Judiciary</i> : Juvenile Justice					
<i>Senate Finance</i> : Child Welfare Reform; Medicaid & Mental Health; SSBG Child Welfare Services & Promoting Safe and Stable Families; TANF					
<i>House Education &amp; the Workforce</i> : CAPTA; Child Care & Head Start; ESEA					
<i>House Judiciary</i> : Juvenile Justice					
<i>House Ways &amp; Means</i> : Child Welfare Reform, SSBG, CWS & PSSF, TANF					
<i>House Energy &amp; Commerce</i> : Medicaid & Mental Health					

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## NOTES AND REFERENCES

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<sup>1</sup> “At A Glance” statistics are from 2011.

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (2011). Quick Links to Nation or State level Profiles: *Selected Economic Characteristics, 2011 American Community Survey 1-year estimates*. Retrieved January 18, 2013 from <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2012). *Child Maltreatment 2011: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2011*. Retrieved January 23, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm11.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2012). *Child Maltreatment 2012: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2011 & Table 3-8: Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2011*. Retrieved February 13, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm11.pdf>

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

<sup>10</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2012). *Child Maltreatment 2011: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2011*. Retrieved January 25, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm11.pdf>.

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Note: The percentage difference is a CWLA calculation.

<sup>11</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2012). *Child Maltreatment 2011: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-1: Children Who Received a CPS Response by Disposition, 2011*. Retrieved January 25 2012 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm11.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2012). *Child Maltreatment 2011: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 4-2, Child Fatalities, 2007-2011*. Retrieved January 25, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm11.pdf>.

<sup>13</sup> Special tabulation of the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS) by National Data Archive for Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) and CWLA.

<sup>14</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (n.d.). *Foster Care FY2003-FY2011 Entries, Exits, and Numbers of Children In Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal year*. Retrieved February 11, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/entrEXIT2011.pdf>.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

<sup>15</sup> Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

<sup>16</sup> Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

<sup>17</sup> Administration for Children and Families. (2012). *Adoptions of children with public child welfare agency involvement by state*. Retrieved February 11, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/adoptchild11.pdf>.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

<sup>18</sup> Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2011). Quick Links to Nation or State level Profiles: *American Community Survey, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2011*. Retrieved February 11, 2013 from <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>.

<sup>20</sup> Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid. Note: Total percentage may not equal 100 because the race/ethnicity of some children was not reported or missing. Percentages are a CWLA calculation.

<sup>22</sup> U.S. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2012). TANF: Total Number of Recipients. Retrieved February 11, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/2011-recipient-tanf>.

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Note: The percent differences are CWLA special tabulations.

<sup>23</sup> Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2012) *TANF Weakening as a Safety Net for Poor Families: Appendix Table B1: TANF Cases to Families with Children in Poverty Ratios, 1994-95 to 2009-10*. Retrieved January 30, 2013 from <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3700>.

<sup>24</sup> Administration for Children and Families. (2012). *Fiscal Year 2011 TANF Financial Data: Table B.1: Summary of Federal TANF and State MOE Expenditures in FY 2011*. Retrieved January 30, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-financial-data-fy-2011>.

Administration for Children and Families. (2012). *Fiscal Year 2010 TANF Financial Data: Table B.2: Federal TANF and State MOE Expenditures on Assistance in FY2011*. Retrieved December 21, 2011 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-financial-data-fy-2011>.

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Note: The percents are a CWLA calculation.

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<sup>26</sup> Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement. (2012). *Preliminary Report FY 2011: State Boxscores for FY 2011*. Retrieved January 30, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/css/resource/fy2011-preliminary-report-state-box-scores>.

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Note: Factsheet retrieved from <http://www.cbpp.org/files/2011-state-fact-sheets-public.xls> and data tabulated by CBPP from 2011 American Community Survey data.
- <sup>28</sup> Administration on Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2011). *2010 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary Estimates); Table 1: Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Children and Families Served*. Retrieved January 30, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/ccdf-data-10acf800-preliminary>.
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- <sup>34</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2012). *Table HIB-5. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State—Children Under 18: 1999 to 2011*. Retrieved March 1, 2013 from <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/hlthins/data/historical/files/hihist5B.xls>
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- <sup>42</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation (n.d.). *Kids Count. Data Across States: Rankings/Maps/Trends by Topic: Persons Age 18–24 not attending school, not working, and no degree beyond High School (Number) - 2011*. Retrieved February 14, 2013 from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrossstates/Rankings.aspx?loct=2&by=a&order=a&ind=5063&dtm=11484&tf=867>.
- <sup>43</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies. (n.d.). *State Estimates of Substance Use & Mental Health from the 2009-2010 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Table 21-Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Illicit Drug Use in the Past Year, by Age Group and State: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2009 and 2010 NSDUHs*. Retrieved February 20, 2013 from <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH/2k10State/NSDUHsae2010/NSDUHsaeCountTabs2010.htm>.
- <sup>44</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies. (n.d.). *State Estimates of Substance Use & Mental Health from the 2009-2010 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Table 22 - Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Alcohol Use in the Past Year, by Age Group and State: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2009 and 2010 NSDUHs*. Retrieved February 20, 2013 from <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH/2k10State/NSDUHsae2010/NSDUHsaeCountTabs2010.htm>.
- <sup>45</sup> National Center for Injury Prevention and Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS). (n.d.). *Suicide Injury Deaths and Rates per 100,000: All Races, Both Sexes, Ages 0 to 19*. Retrieved March 13, 2013, from [http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal\\_injury\\_reports.html](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal_injury_reports.html).
- <sup>46</sup> National Center for Injury Prevention and Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS). (n.d.). *Firearm Deaths and Rates per 100,000: All Races, Both Sexes, Ages 0 to 19*. Retrieved March 18, 2013 from [http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal\\_injury\\_reports.html](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal_injury_reports.html).
- Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.
- <sup>47</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2012). *Crime in the United States 2011: Table 69: Arrests by State, 2011*. Retrieved February 27, 2013 from [http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/tables/table\\_69\\_arrest\\_by\\_state\\_2011.xls](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/tables/table_69_arrest_by_state_2011.xls).
- Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2011). *Crime in the United States 2010: Arrests by States, 2010*. Retrieved February 27, 2013 from <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2010/crime-in-the-u.s.-2010/tables/10tbl69.xls>.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

<sup>48</sup> Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., & Puzanchera, C. (2011). *Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement*. Retrieved February 14, 2013 from [www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacirp](http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacirp).

<sup>49</sup> Note: The dearth in current state-by-state workforce data makes clear the need for critical data on compensation, working conditions including safety issues, academic degrees held, education and training received, and factors contributing to turnover. To address this, CWLA is calling for Congress to authorize the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to conduct an updated study on the child welfare workforce. It would make recommendations regarding caseloads and workloads, education levels, and training requirements. In addition, the study would examine data reporting and collection and make recommendations on how states might improve these efforts.

<sup>50</sup> U.S. General Accounting Office. (2003). *Child Welfare: HHS Could Play a Greater Role in Helping Child Welfare Agencies Recruit and Retain Staff*. Retrieved January 19, 2012 from [www.gao.gov/new.items/d03357.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d03357.pdf).

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

<sup>53</sup> Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (2012). *Foster Care FY2003–FY2011 Entries, Exits, and Numbers of Children In Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year*. Retrieved February 28, 2013 from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/entryexit2011.pdf>.

Note: The penetration rate is a CWLA calculation of special Children's Bureau data on state IV-E Foster Care expenditures.

<sup>54</sup> DeVooght, K., Fletcher, M., Vaughn, B., & Cooper, H. (2012). *Federal, State, and Local Spending to Address Child Abuse and Neglect in SFYs 2008 and 2010*. Washington, DC: Child Trends. Retrieved March 18, 2013 from [http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child\\_Trends-2012\\_06\\_20\\_FR\\_CaseyCWFinancing.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2012_06_20_FR_CaseyCWFinancing.pdf).

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> Special Children's Bureau data on state IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance.

Note: The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional child support, pre-placement, and demonstration funds for this state.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

Note: The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional partner training funds.