

KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN

Kentucky's Children At a Glance¹

State Population ²	4,369,356	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁵	27.4%
Population, Children Under 18 ³	1,024,999	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁶	25.1%
State Poverty Rate ⁴	19.1%	Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁷	32.0%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, Kentucky had 69,360 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 49,459 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2011, 16,994 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Kentucky, a rate of 16.6 per 1,000 children, representing a 7.9% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 96.4% were neglected, 8.6% were physically abused, and 4.0% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 9.5% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.¹⁰
- Kentucky responds to lower risk, higher safety reports through alternative response services to address family issues. 22,761 reports were responded to in this way in 2011.¹¹
- In 2011, 32 children in Kentucky died as a result of abuse or neglect.¹²
- In 2011, 6,659 children in Kentucky lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 6,983 children in 2010. In 2011, 2,159 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 1,060 were 16 or older.¹³
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 7.6% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.¹⁴
- Of Kentucky children in out-of-home care in 2011, 74.3% were white, 12.9% black, 5.1% Hispanic, 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.1% Asian or Pacific Islander and 4.5% of more than one race or ethnicity.¹⁵

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 5,108 children exiting out-of-home care in Kentucky in 2011, 42.3% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹⁶
- In 2011, 824 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Kentucky, a 9.3% increase from 754 in 2010.¹⁷
- Of the 6,659 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 1,892 or 28.4% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁸
- In 2011, approximately 54,671 Kentucky grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁹
- Of the 6,659 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 480 were living with relatives while in care.²⁰
- Of all Kentucky children in kinship care in 2010, 6.2% were white, 0.6% black, 0.1% Hispanic, 0.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.0% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 0.6% of more than one race or ethnicity.²¹

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Kentucky increased from 61,278 in 2010 to 63,073 in 2011, an increase of 2.9%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 30,920, a 2.4% increase from 2010.²²
- From 2009-10, for every 100 Kentucky families living in poverty, only 24 received TANF benefits.²³

- In 2011, \$246,939,849 was spent in Kentucky on TANF assistance, including 43% on basic assistance, 16% on child care, 6% on transportation, and 35% on nonassistance.²⁴
- In 2011, 68,861,184 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Kentucky, serving 141,647 participants.²⁵
- In 2011, Kentucky distributed \$391,856,211 in child support funds, a 0.4% decrease from 2010.²⁶
- In 2011 in Kentucky, 125,781 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 30% of them are families with children.²⁷

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2010, Kentucky had a monthly average of 30,900 children served by subsidized child care; 30,900 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 31,200 in 2008.²⁸
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Kentucky, a family of three could make no more than \$27,795, which is equivalent to 52% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2012, Kentucky had no waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2011, Head Start served 16,938 Kentucky children, a 6.1% increase from 2010.³¹

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2011, 383,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Kentucky—48% of the total number of enrollees in the state.³²
- In 2011, Kentucky had 84,551 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 6.5% increase from 2010, when 79,380 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2011, Kentucky had 47,000 uninsured children, representing 5% of its child population.³⁴
- In 2010, 5,044 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Kentucky.³⁵
- In 2010, 344 infants under age 1 died in Kentucky.³⁶
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Kentucky 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 15–19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2011, 5,828 adults and adolescents, as well as 38 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Kentucky.³⁸
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 22,000 children ages 12–17 and 251,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Kentucky.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2011, 658 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Kentucky.⁴⁰
- In 2011, 18,000 Kentucky teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴¹
- In 2011, 77,000 young adults ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴²
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 14,000 children ages 12–17 in Kentucky needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 14,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁴
- In 2010, 26 Kentucky children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.27 per 100,000 children.⁴⁵

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, 39 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Kentucky, a 18% increase from 33 in 2009.⁴⁶
- In 2011, 8,042 children younger than 18 were arrested in Kentucky, a 10.0% increase from 7,334 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 399 were for violent crimes.⁴⁷
- In 2010, 852 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Kentucky.⁴⁸

CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE⁴⁹

- 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.⁵⁰
- 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.⁵¹
- 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.⁵²

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN

- Out of 6,659 children in out-of-home care in Kentucky in 2011, only 2,631, or 40%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵³
- In 2010, Kentucky spent \$500,349,497 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$197,547,452 was from federal funds, \$302,802,045 from state funds, and \$0 from local funds.⁵⁴
- In 2010, of the \$197,547,452 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$92,899,871 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$10,947,558 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$0 was from Medicaid, \$21,598,130 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$58,264,592 was from TANF, and \$13,837,301 came from other federal sources.⁵⁵
- Kentucky received \$37,814,061 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$22,191,098 for maintenance payments, \$8,258,436 for administration and child placement, \$1,629,112 for the statewide automated child welfare information system, and \$4,257,606 for training.⁵⁶
- Kentucky received \$43,509,502 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$42,718,955 for assistance payments, \$171,670 for administration and child placement, and \$618,877 for staff and provider training.⁵⁷

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Senate:					
Rand Paul (R) <i>H.E.L.P.</i>	208 Russell	224-4343	228-1373	Paul.senate.gov	2016
Mitch McConnell (R) <i>Minority Leader</i>	317 Russell	224-2541	224-2499	Mcconnell.senate.gov	2014
House:					
Ed Whitfield (R-1 st) <i>Energy & Commerce</i>	2184 Rayburn	225-3115	225-3547	Whitfield.house.gov	2014
Brett Guthrie (R-2 nd) <i>Education & Workforce Energy & Commerce</i>	308 Cannon	225-3501	226-2019	Guthrie.house.gov	2014
John Yarmuth (D-3 rd) <i>Education & Workforce</i>	403 Cannon	225-5401	225-5776	Yarmuth.house.gov	2014
Thomas Massie (R-4 th)	314 Cannon	225-3465	225-0003	Massie.house.gov	2014
Harold Rogers (R-5 th) <i>Appropriations, Chair</i>	2406 Rayburn	225-4601	225-0940	Halrogers.house.gov	2014
Garland "Andy" Barr (R-6 th)	1432 Longworth	225-4706	225-2122	Barr.house.gov	2014

Key Committee Jurisdictions

Senate **H.E.L.P.:** CAPTA; Child Care & Head Start; ESEA

Senate Judiciary: Juvenile Justice

Senate Finance: Child Welfare Reform; Medicaid & Mental Health; SSBG Child Welfare Services & Promoting Safe and Stable Families; TANF

House Education & the Workforce: CAPTA; Child Care & Head Start; ESEA

House Judiciary: Juvenile Justice

House Ways & Means: Child Welfare Reform, SSBG, CWS & PSSF, TANF

House Energy & Commerce: Medicaid & Mental Health

NOTES AND REFERENCES

¹ “At A Glance” statistics are from 2011.

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⁴ 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/>.

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⁷ Ibid.

⁸ 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>.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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¹⁶ Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

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²⁰ Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

²¹ 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.

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Note: The percent differences are CWLA special tabulations.

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²⁴ 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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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.

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³⁷ Martin, J., Hamilton, B., Ventura, S., Osterman, M., Wilson, E., Mathew, T.J.. (2012). *National Vital Statistics Report: Births: Final Data for 2010- Table 12. Birth rate, by age of mother : United States, each state and territory, 2010--*. Retrieved March 7, 2013 from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61_01.pdf.

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³⁹ 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 20-Dependence or Abuse of Illicit Drugs or Alcohol in the Past Year, by Age Group and State: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2009 and 2010 NSDUHs*. Retrieved March 1, 2013 from <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH/2k10State/NSDUHsae2010/NSDUHsaeCountTabs2010.htm>.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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⁴⁹ 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.

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

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⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ 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.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

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