MAINE'S CHILDREN

Maine's Children At a Glance¹

State Population21,328,188Population, Children Under 18^3 270,322State Poverty Rate414.1%

Poverty Rate, Children Under 18⁵.....18.8% Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17⁶....16.3% Poverty Rate, Children Under 5⁷....24.3%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, Maine had 15,516 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 6,513 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2011, 3,118 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Maine, a rate of 11.6 per 1,000 children, representing a 11.7% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 73.3% were neglected, 16.5% were physically abused, and 5.4% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 24.3% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.¹⁰
- In 2011, 1 children in Maine died as a result of abuse or neglect.¹¹
- In 2011, 1,296 children in Maine lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 1,546 children in 2010. In 2011, 573 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 134 were 16 or older.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 34.2% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.¹³
- Of Maine children in out-of-home care in 2011, 69.6% were white, 1.2% black, 10.0% Hispanic, 1.4% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.6% Asian or Pacific Islander and 6.6% of more than one race or ethnicity.¹⁴

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 785 children exiting out-of-home care in Maine in 2011, 39.7% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹⁵
- In 2011, 296 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Maine, a 7.2% increase from 276 in 2010.¹⁶
- Of the 1,296 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 512 or 39.5% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2011, approximately 7,300 Maine grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- Of the 1,296 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 336 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹
- Of all Maine children in kinship care in 2010, 17.8% were white, 0.0% black, 2.6% Hispanic, 0.5% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.1% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 0.0% of more than one race or ethnicity.²⁰

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Maine increased from 25,877 in 2010 to 26,306 in 2011, an increase of 1.7%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 11,240, a 2.0% increase from 2010.²¹
- From 2009-10, for every 100 Maine families living in poverty, only 66 received TANF benefits.²²
- In 2011, \$129,562,449 was spent in Maine on TANF assistance, including 62% on basic assistance, 5% on child care, 9% on transportation, and 24% on nonassistance.²³



- In 2011, 13,359,146 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Maine, serving 26,105 participants.²⁴
- In 2011, Maine distributed \$101,125,421 in child support funds, a 0.5% decrease from 2010.²⁵
- In 2011 in Maine, 40,674 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 22% of them are families with children.²⁶

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2010, Maine had a monthly average of 2,300 children served by subsidized child care; 2,600 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 3,100 in 2008.²⁷
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Maine, a family of three could make no more than \$46,325, which is equivalent to 81% of the state's median income.²⁸
- As of early 2012, Maine had frozen intake for child care assistance.²⁹
- In 2011, Head Start served 3,707 Maine children, a 1.1% decrease from 2010.³⁰

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2011, 110,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Maine—39% of the total number of enrollees in the state.³¹
- In 2011, Maine had 32,994 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 0.0% increase from 2010, when 32,994 children were enrolled.³²
- In 2011, Maine had 17,000 uninsured children, representing 6% of its child population.³³
- In 2010, 814 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Maine.³⁴
- In 2010, 73 infants under age 1 died in Maine.³⁵
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Maine was 8 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 40. This reflects a total rate of 21 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁶
- Cumulative through 2011, 1,309 adults and adolescents, as well as 9 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Maine.³⁷
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 6,000 children ages 12–17 and 84,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Maine.³⁸

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2011, 82 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Maine.³⁹
- In 2011, 4,000 Maine teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2011, 17,000 young adults ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴¹
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 4,000 children ages 12–17 in Maine needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 4,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2010, 11 Maine children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.54 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴



JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, fewer than 10 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Maine, as was the case in 2009.⁴⁵
- In 2011, 5,342 children younger than 18 were arrested in Maine, a 19.0% decrease from 6,557 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 73 were for violent crimes.⁴⁶
- In 2010, 186 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Maine.⁴⁷

CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE⁴⁸

- 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.⁴⁹
- 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.⁵⁰
- 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.⁵¹

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MAINE'S CHILDREN

- Out of 1,296 children in out-of-home care in Maine in 2011, only 569, or 44%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵²
- In 2010, Maine spent \$122,635,500 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$43,385,500 was from federal funds, \$79,250,000 from state funds, and \$0 from local funds.⁵³
- In 2010, of the \$43,385,500 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$36,023,000 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$2,750,000 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$0 was from Medicaid, \$1,900,000 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$0 was from TANF, and \$2,712,500 came from other federal sources.⁵⁴
- Maine received \$17,991,668 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$5,741,091 for maintenance payments, \$7,369,395 for administration and child placement, \$1,354,844 for the statewide automated child welfare information system, and \$1,769,604 for training.⁵⁵
- Maine received \$13,085,080 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$12,766,477 for assistance payments, \$1,996,025 for administration and child placement, and \$ for staff and provider training.⁵⁶



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	Office	Phone	Fax	Website	Next Election
Senate:					
Susan Collins (R) Appropriations	413 Dirksen	224-2523	224-2693	Collins.senate.gov	2014
Angus S. King, Jr. (I)	188 Russell	224-5344	224-1946	King.senate.gov	2018
House:					
Chellie Pingree (D-1 st) Appropriations	1318 Longworth	225-6116	225-5590	Pingree.house.gov	2014
Michael H. Michaud (D-2 nd)	1724 Longworth	225-6306	225-2943	Michaud.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					



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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional child support, pre-placement, and demonstration funds for this state. 56 Ibid.

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

