

MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN

Minnesota's Children At a Glance¹

State Population ²	5,344,861	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁵	15.4%
Population, Children Under 18 ³	1,277,661	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁶	13.7%
State Poverty Rate ⁴	11.9%	Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁷	18.4%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, Minnesota had 58,185 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 18,186 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2011, 4,342 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Minnesota, a rate of 3.4 per 1,000 children, representing a 7.5% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 72.2% were neglected, 21.6% were physically abused, and 18.5% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 36.6% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.¹⁰
- Minnesota responds to lower risk, higher safety reports through alternative response services to address family issues. 16,984 reports were responded to in this way in 2011.¹¹
- In 2011, 15 children in Minnesota died as a result of abuse or neglect.¹²
- In 2011, 4,995 children in Minnesota lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 5,050 children in 2010. In 2011, 1,375 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 856 were 16 or older.¹³
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 25.6% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.¹⁴
- Of Minnesota children in out-of-home care in 2011, 42.4% were white, 17.8% black, 9.5% Hispanic, 16.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 2.2% Asian or Pacific Islander and 9.5% of more than one race or ethnicity.¹⁵

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 5,709 children exiting out-of-home care in Minnesota in 2011, 63.8% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹⁶
- In 2011, 580 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Minnesota, a 7.5% decrease from 627 in 2010.¹⁷
- Of the 4,995 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 923 or 18.5% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁸
- In 2011, approximately 27,092 Minnesota grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁹
- Of the 4,995 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 917 were living with relatives while in care.²⁰
- Of all Minnesota children in kinship care in 2010, 7.5% were white, 2.9% black, 1.5% Hispanic, 4.3% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.5% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 2.9% 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 Minnesota decreased from 49,260 in 2010 to 49,203 in 2011, an decrease of 0.1%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 23,057, a 0.5% increase from 2010.²²

- From 2009-10, for every 100 Minnesota families living in poverty, only 40 received TANF benefits.²³
- In 2011, \$434,204,017 was spent in Minnesota on TANF assistance, including 22% on basic assistance, 0% on child care, 0% on transportation, and 78% on nonassistance.²⁴
- In 2011, 73,482,264 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Minnesota, serving 131,255 participants.²⁵
- In 2011, Minnesota distributed \$582,918,142 in child support funds, a 0.2% decrease from 2010.²⁶
- In 2011 in Minnesota, 133,422 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 27% of them are families with children.²⁷

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2010, Minnesota had a monthly average of 28,600 children served by subsidized child care; 22,400 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 24,800 in 2008.²⁸
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Minnesota, a family of three could make no more than \$33,992, which is equivalent to 47% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2012, Minnesota had 7,490 families on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2011, Head Start served 11,371 Minnesota children, a 12.1% increase from 2010.³¹

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2011, 385,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Minnesota—46% of the total number of enrollees in the state.³²
- In 2011, Minnesota had 4,461 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 13.6% decrease from 2010, when 5,164 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2011, Minnesota had 82,000 uninsured children, representing 6% of its child population.³⁴
- In 2010, 4,415 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Minnesota.³⁵
- In 2010, 328 infants under age 1 died in Minnesota.³⁶
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Minnesota was 10 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 41. This reflects a total rate of 23 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2011, 6,040 adults and adolescents, as well as 29 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Minnesota.³⁸
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 29,000 children ages 12–17 and 367,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Minnesota.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2011, 565 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Minnesota.⁴⁰
- In 2011, 14,000 Minnesota teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴¹
- In 2011, 55,000 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 16,000 children ages 12–17 in Minnesota needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 19,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁴

- In 2010, 45 Minnesota children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.14 per 100,000 children.⁴⁵

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, 28 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Minnesota, a 0% change from 28 in 2009.⁴⁶
- In 2011, 34,171 children younger than 18 were arrested in Minnesota, a 0.0% decrease from 34,201 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 861 were for violent crimes.⁴⁷
- In 2010, 912 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Minnesota.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 MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN

- Out of 4,995 children in out-of-home care in Minnesota in 2011, only 1,550, or 31%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵³
- In 2010, Minnesota spent \$494,207,883 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$159,257,217 was from federal funds, \$103,270,285 from state funds, and \$231,680,381 from local funds.⁵⁴
- In 2010, of the \$159,257,217 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$72,692,227 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$8,038,824 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$54,252,843 was from Medicaid, \$15,535,168 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$0 was from TANF, and \$8,738,155 came from other federal sources.⁵⁵
- Minnesota received \$45,191,796 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$13,301,305 for maintenance payments, \$22,864,364 for administration and child placement, \$5,357,677 for the statewide automated child welfare information system, and \$3,362,950 for training.⁵⁶
- Minnesota received \$32,763,544 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$25,021,892 for assistance payments, \$6,638,593 for administration and child placement, and \$722,433 for staff and provider training.⁵⁷

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Next Election: 2014

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	Office	Phone	Fax	Website	Next Election
Senate:					
Al Franken (D) <i>H.E.L.P.</i> <i>Judiciary</i>	309 Hart	224-5641	224-1152	Franken.senate.gov	2014
Amy Klobuchar (D) <i>Judiciary</i>	302 Hart	224-3244	228-2186	Klobuchar.senate.gov	2018
House:					
Tim Walz (D-1 st)	1034 Longworth	225-2472	225-3433	Walz.house.gov	2014
John Kline (R-2 nd) <i>Education & Workforce,</i> <i>Chair</i>	2439 Rayburn	225-2271	225-2595	Kline.house.gov	2014
Erik Paulsen (R-3 rd) <i>Ways & Means</i>	127 Cannon	225-2871	225-6351	Paulsen.house.gov	2014
Betty McCollum (D-4 th) <i>Appropriations</i>	1714 Longworth	225-6631	225-1968	McCollum.house.gov	2014
Keith Ellison (D-5 th)	2244 Rayburn	225-4755	225-4886	Ellison.house.gov	2014
Michele Bachmann (R-6 th)	2417 Rayburn	225-2331	225-6475	Bachmann.house.gov	2014
Collin C. Peterson (D-7 th)	2109 Rayburn	225-2165	225-1593	Collinpeterson.house.gov	2014
Rick Nolan (D-8 th)	2247 Rayburn	225-6211	225-0699	Nolan.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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⁶ Ibid.

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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.

¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

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.

²³ 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>.

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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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⁵² Ibid.

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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.