

TEXAS' CHILDREN

Texas's Children At a Glance¹

State Population ²	25,674,681	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁵	26.6%
Population, Children Under 18 ³	6,957,682	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁶	25.0%
State Poverty Rate ⁴	18.5%	Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁷	30.1%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, Texas had 211,949 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 178,605 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2011, 63,474 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Texas, a rate of 9.1 per 1,000 children, representing a 6.0% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 83.0% were neglected, 19.8% were physically abused, and 9.8% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 10.7% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.¹⁰
- In 2011, 246 children in Texas died as a result of abuse or neglect.¹¹
- In 2011, 30,109 children in Texas lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 28,954 children in 2010. In 2011, 13,288 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 2,242 were 16 or older.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 0.1% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.¹³
- Of Texas children in out-of-home care in 2011, 28.2% were white, 23.6% black, 42.1% Hispanic, 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.3% Asian or Pacific Islander and 4.2% of more than one race or ethnicity.¹⁴

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 15,717 children exiting out-of-home care in Texas in 2011, 39.8% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹⁵
- In 2011, 4,718 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Texas, a 0.2% increase from 4,709 in 2010.¹⁶
- Of the 30,109 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 13,146 or 43.7% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2011, approximately 328,712 Texas grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- Of the 30,109 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 9,706 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹
- Of all Texas children in kinship care in 2010, 8.5% were white, 7.9% black, 14.1% Hispanic, 0.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.1% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 7.9% 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 Texas decreased from 115,349 in 2010 to 112,777 in 2011, an decrease of 2.2%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 49,637, a 1.9% decrease from 2010.²¹
- From 2009-10, for every 100 Texas families living in poverty, only 6 received TANF benefits.²²
- In 2011, \$810,494,208 was spent in Texas on TANF assistance, including 13% on basic assistance, 0% on child care, 0% on transportation, and 80% on nonassistance.²³

- In 2011, 367,891,514 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Texas, serving 993,498 participants.²⁴
- In 2011, Texas distributed \$3,106,894,956 in child support funds, a 9.7% increase from 2010.²⁵
- In 2011 in Texas, 710,175 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 35% of them are families with children.²⁶

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2010, Texas had a monthly average of 140,700 children served by subsidized child care; 122,700 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 120,500 in 2008.²⁷
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Texas, a family of three could make no more than \$27,807-\$46,773, which is equivalent to 51-85% of the state's median income.²⁸
- As of early 2012, Texas had 17,161 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁹
- In 2011, Head Start served 72,776 Texas children, a 7.7% increase from 2010.³⁰

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2011, 2,604,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Texas—72% of the total number of enrollees in the state.³¹
- In 2011, Texas had 972,715 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 4.8% increase from 2010, when 928,483 children were enrolled.³²
- In 2011, Texas had 1,073,000 uninsured children, representing 15% of its child population.³³
- In 2010, 32,486 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Texas.³⁴
- In 2010, 2,390 infants under age 1 died in Texas.³⁵
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Texas was 29 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 87. This reflects a total rate of 52 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁶
- Cumulative through 2011, 85,710 adults and adolescents, as well as 396 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Texas.³⁷
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 147,000 children ages 12–17 and 1,478,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Texas.³⁸

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2011, 1,351 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Texas.³⁹
- In 2011, 139,000 Texas teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2011, 460,000 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 87,000 children ages 12–17 in Texas needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 93,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2010, 164 Texas children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.15 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, 204 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Texas, a 16% decrease from 244 in 2009.⁴⁵
- In 2011, 121,237 children younger than 18 were arrested in Texas, a 16.0% decrease from 145,129 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 3,609 were for violent crimes.⁴⁶
- In 2010, 5,352 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Texas.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 TEXAS'S CHILDREN

- Out of 30,109 children in out-of-home care in Texas in 2011, only 13,204, or 44%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵²
- In 2010, Texas spent \$1,363,971,355 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$808,476,585 was from federal funds, \$541,065,168 from state funds, and \$14,429,602 from local funds.⁵³
- In 2010, of the \$808,476,585 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$347,057,849 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$64,309,157 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$3,705,212 was from Medicaid, \$1,059,909 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$365,554,323 was from TANF, and \$26,790,135 came from other federal sources.⁵⁴
- Texas received \$250,996,825 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$142,178,928 for maintenance payments, \$98,196,065 for administration and child placement, and \$8,130,839 for training.⁵⁵
- Texas received \$91,321,121 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$87,163,325 for assistance payments, \$4,066,930 for administration and child placement, and \$90,866 for staff and provider training.⁵⁶

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Next Election: 2014

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	Office	Phone	Fax	Website	Next Election
Senate:					
John Cornyn (R) <i>Finance Judiciary</i>	517 Hart	224-2934	228-2856	Cornyn.senate.gov	2014
Ted Cruz (R) <i>Judiciary</i>	B40B Dirksen	224-5922	224-0776	Cruz.senate.gov	2018
House:					
Louie Gohmert (R-1 st) <i>Judiciary</i>	2440 Rayburn	225-3035	226-1230	Gohmert.house.gov	2014
Ted Poe (R-2 nd) <i>Judiciary</i>	2412 Rayburn	225-6565	225-5547	Poe.house.gov	2014
Sam Johnson (R-3 rd) <i>Ways & Means</i>	1211 Longworth	225-4201	225-1485	Samjohnson.house.gov	2014
Ralph M. Hall (R-4 th) <i>Energy & Commerce</i>	2405 Rayburn	225-6673	225-3332	Ralphhall.house.gov	2014
Jeb Hensarling (R-5 th)	2228 Rayburn	225-3484	226-4888	Hensarling.house.gov	2014
Joe L. Barton (R-6 th) <i>Energy & Commerce</i>	2107 Rayburn	225-2002	225-3052	Joebarton.house.gov	2014
John Culberson (R-7 th) <i>Appropriations</i>	2352 Rayburn	225-2571	225-4381	Culberson.house.gov	2014
Kevin Brady (R-8 th) <i>Ways & Means</i>	301 Cannon	225-4901	225-5524	House.gov/brady	2014
Al Green (D-9 th)	2201 Rayburn	225-7508	225-2947	House.gov/algreen	2014
Michael McCaul (R-10 th)	131 Cannon	225-2401	225-5955	Mccaul.house.gov	2014
K. Michael Conaway (R-11 th)	2430 Rayburn	225-3605	225-1783	Conaway.house.gov	2014
Kay Granger (R-12 th) <i>Appropriations</i>	1026 Longworth	225-5071	225-5683	Kaygranger.house.gov	2014
William M. "Mac" Thornberry (R-13 th)	2329 Rayburn	225-3706	225-3486	Thornberry.house.gov	2014
Randy Weber (R-14 th)	510 Cannon	225-2831	226-6553	Weber.house.gov	2014

Ruben Hinojosa (D-15 th) <i>Education & Workforce</i>	2262 Rayburn	225-2531	225-5688	Hinojosa.house.gov	2014
Beto O'Rourke DR-16 th)	1721 Longworth	225-4831	225-2016	Orourke.house.gov	2014
Bill Flores (R-17 th)	1030 Cannon	225-6105	225-0350	Flores.house.gov	2014
Sheila Jackson Lee (D-18 th) <i>Judiciary</i>	2160 Rayburn	225-3816	225-3317	Jacksonlee.house.gov	2014
Randy Neugebauer (R-19 th)	1424 Longworth	225-4005	225-9615	Randy.house.gov	2014
Joaquin Castro (D-20 th)	212 Cannon	225-3236	225-1915	Castro.house.gov	2014
Lamar Smith (R-21 st) <i>Judiciary</i>	2409 Rayburn	225-4236	225-8628	Lamarsmith.house.gov	2014
Pete Olson (R-22 nd) <i>Energy & Commerce</i>	312 Cannon	225-5951	225-5241	Olson.house.gov	2014
Pete Gallego (D-23 rd)	431 Cannon	225-4511	225-2237	Gallego.house.gov	2014
Kenny Marchant (R-24 th) <i>Education & Workforce Ways & Means</i>	1110 Longworth	225-6605	225-0074	Merchant.house.gov	2014
Roger Williams (R-25 th)	1122 Longworth	225-9896		Williams.house.gov	2014
Michael Burgess (R-26 th) <i>Energy & Commerce</i>	2336 Rayburn	225-7772	225-2919	Burgess.house.gov	2014
Blake Farenthold (R-27 th) <i>Judiciary</i>	117 Cannon	225-7742	226-1134	Farenthold.house.gov	2014
Henry Cuellar (D-28 th) <i>Appropriations</i>	2431 Rayburn	225-1640	225-1641	Cuellar.house.gov	2014
Gene Green (D-29 th) <i>Energy & Commerce</i>	2470 Rayburn	225-1688	225-9903	House.gov/green	2014
Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-30 th)	2468 Rayburn	225-8885	226-1477	Ebjohnson.house.gov	2014
John Carter (R-31 st) <i>Appropriations</i>	409 Cannon	225-3864	225-5886	Carter.house.gov	2014
Pete Sessions (R-32 nd)	2233 Rayburn	225-2231	225-5878	Sessions.house.gov	2014
Marc Veasey (D-33 rd)	414 Cannon	225-9897	225-9072	Veasey.house.gov	2014
Filemon Vela (D-34 th)	437 Cannon	225-9901	225-9770	Vela.house.gov	2014
Lloyd Doggett (D-35 th) <i>Ways & Means</i>	201 Cannon	225-4865	225-3073	Doggett.house.gov	2014
Steve Stockman (R-36 th)	326 Cannon	225-1555		Stockman.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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³ Ibid.

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⁷ Ibid.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: The percentage difference is a CWLA calculation.

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¹³ 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/entryexit2011.pdf>.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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¹⁵ Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

¹⁷ Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

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²⁰ 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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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 percent difference is a CWLA calculation.
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- ⁴³ 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>.
- ⁴⁴ 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.
- ⁴⁵ 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.
- Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

⁴⁶ 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.

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>.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

⁴⁷ 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/ezacjrp.

⁴⁸ 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.

⁴⁹ 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.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² 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/entrEXIT2011.pdf>.

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

⁵³ 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.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ 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.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

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