KANSAS’ CHILDREN

Kansas’s Children At a Glance

State Population: 2,871,238
Population, Children Under 18: 722,413
State Poverty Rate: 13.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18: 18.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17: 16.0%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5: 24.6%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

• In 2011, Kansas had 34,395 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 20,566 reports were referred for investigation.

• In 2011, 1,729 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Kansas, a rate of 2.4 per 1,000 children, representing a 10.2% increase from 2010. Of these children, 17.4% were neglected, 20.7% were physically abused, and 39.3% were sexually abused.

• The number of child victims has decreased 23.9% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.

• In 2011, 10 children in Kansas died as a result of abuse or neglect.

• In 2011, 5,852 children in Kansas lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 5,979 children in 2010. In 2011, 2,091 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 730 were 16 or older.

• The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 11.7% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.

• Of Kansas children in out-of-home care in 2011, 64.4% were white, 16.9% black, 11.1% Hispanic, 0.8% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.6% Asian or Pacific Islander and 5.5% of more than one race or ethnicity.

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

• Of the 3,467 children exiting out-of-home care in Kansas in 2011, 53.7% were reunited with their parents or other family members.

• In 2011, 781 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Kansas, a 12.5% increase from 694 in 2010.

• Of the 5,852 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 1,813 or 31.0% were waiting to be adopted.

• In 2011, approximately 19,461 Kansas grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.
• Of the 5,852 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 1,557 were living with relatives while in care.19
• Of all Kansas children in kinship care in 2010, 17.6% were white, 4.6% black, 2.8% Hispanic, 0.3% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.1% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 4.6% 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 Kansas increased from 37,588 in 2010 to 38,451 in 2011, an increase of 2.3%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 14,864, a 1.9% increase from 2010.21
• From 2009-10, for every 100 Kansas families living in poverty, only 21 received TANF benefits.22
• In 2011, $213,316,638 was spent in Kansas on TANF assistance, including 26% on basic assistance, 5% on child care, 4% on transportation, and 55% on nonassistance.23
• In 2011, 36,948,504 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Kansas, serving 75,212 participants.24
• In 2011, Kansas distributed $183,157,867 in child support funds, a 3.0% increase from 2010.25
• In 2011 in Kansas, 72,373 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 26% of them are families with children.26

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START
• In 2010, Kansas had a monthly average of 20,700 children served by subsidized child care; 20,900 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 21,500 in 2008.27
• In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Kansas, a family of three could make no more than $34,272, which is equivalent to 57% of the state’s median income.28
• As of early 2012, Kansas had no waiting list for child care assistance.29
• In 2011, Head Start served 8,776 Kansas children, a 7.3% increase from 2010.30

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
• In 2011, 194,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Kansas—60% of the total number of enrollees in the state.31
• In 2011, Kansas had 60,431 children enrolled in its State Children’s Health Insurance Program, a 7.2% increase from 2010, when 56,384 children were enrolled.32
• In 2011, Kansas had 68,000 uninsured children, representing 9% of its child population.33
• In 2010, 2,881 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Kansas.34
• In 2010, 217 infants under age 1 died in Kansas.35
• In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Kansas was 19 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 68. This reflects a total rate of 39 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.36
• Cumulative through 2011, 3,424 adults and adolescents, as well as 16 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Kansas.37
• In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 17,000 children ages 12–17 and 190,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Kansas.38

VULNERABLE YOUTH
• In 2011, 444 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Kansas.39
• In 2011, 10,000 Kansas teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.40
• In 2011, 37,000 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 8,000 children ages 12–17 in Kansas needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.42

• In 2009 and 2010, approximately 11,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.43

• In 2010, 30 Kansas children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.7 per 100,000 children.44

**JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION**

• In 2010, 25 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Kansas, a 7% decrease from 27 in 2009.45

• In 2011, 7,729 children younger than 18 were arrested in Kansas, a 5.0% decrease from 8,127 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 254 were for violent crimes.46

• In 2010, 843 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Kansas.47

**CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE**48

• 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 KANSAS’S CHILDREN**

• Out of 5,852 children in out-of-home care in Kansas in 2011, only 1,797, or 31%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.52

• In 2010, Kansas spent $246,160,553 for child welfare services. Of this amount, $93,748,177 was from federal funds, $152,412,376 from state funds, and $0 from local funds.53

• In 2010, of the $93,748,177 in federal funds received for child welfare, $43,695,580 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, $5,388,343 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, $19,280 was from Medicaid, $13,508,172 came from Social Services Block Grant, $25,273,887 was from TANF, and $5,862,915 came from other federal sources.54

• Kansas received $25,945,914 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including $12,925,779 for maintenance payments, $12,424,971 for administration and child placement, and $207,818 for training.55

• Kansas received $14,525,491 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including $13,268,308 for assistance payments, $1,231,236 for administration and child placement, and $1,851 for staff and provider training.56
### Governor: Sam Brownback (R)

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#### 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.
3 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
6 Ibid
7 Ibid

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.
14 Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.
15 Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

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17 Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.

19 Special tabulation of AFCARS by NDACAN and CWLA.
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.


Note: The percent differences are CWLA special tabulations.


Note: The percent are CWLA calculations.


Note: All program data can be accessed at http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wicmain.htm.

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.


Ibid.

Ibid.


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


Ibid.

Ibid.

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