PENNSYLVANIA'S CHILDREN 2016

Pennsylvania's Children at a Glance¹

State Population ²	12,787,209	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁵	19.4%
Population, Children Under 18 ³	2,700,178	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁶	18%
State Poverty Rate ⁴	13.6%	Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁷	21.8%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2014, there were 3,262 victims of abuse or neglect in Pennsylvania, a rate of 1.2 per 1,000 children, increasing 0.1% from 2013. Of these children, 3.4% were neglected, 32.6% were physically abused, and 61.7% were sexually abused.
- The number of child victims has decreased 8.2% in comparison to the number of victims in 2010.9
- In 2014, there were 34 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Pennsylvania. 10
- 14,840 children in Pennsylvania lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2014, compared with 15,179 children in 2010. Of the children living apart from their families in 2013, there were 4,925 aged 5 or younger, and 3,798 were 16 or older.¹¹
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 2.2% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2010.¹²
- In 2013, of children in out-of-home care in Pennsylvania, 40% were white, 42% were black, 13% were Hispanic, less than 1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, less than 1% were Asian or Pacific Islander and 5% were of more than one race or ethnicity/undetermined race or ethnicity. ¹³

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 8,686 children exiting out-of-home care in 2013 in Pennsylvania, 51% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁴
- 1,849 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Pennsylvania in 2014, decreasing 2.3% from 1,892 in 2013.¹⁵
- Of the 14,840 children in out-of-home care in 2014, there were 1,896 or 12.8% waiting to be adopted. 16
- In 2014, approximately 91,531 grandparents in Pennsylvania had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren. 17
- 3,677 of the children in out-of-home care in 2013 were living with relatives while in care. 18



CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Pennsylvania decreased from 171,544 in 2014 to 164,022 in 2015, a 4.4% change. 66,001 families received TANF in 2015, decreasing 4.8% from 2014. 19
- From 2013 to 2014, for every 100 of families living in poverty in Pennsylvania, 31 received TANF benefits. 20
- \$874,691,237 was spent in 2014 on TANF assistance in Pennsylvania, including 29% on basic assistance, 0% on child care, 1% on transportation, and 70% on nonassistance.²¹
- \$124,741,327 was spent in 2014 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Pennsylvania, serving 248,761 participants.²²
- In 2014, Pennsylvania distributed \$1,263,370,002 in child support funds, decreasing 2.9% from 2013.²³
- 866,000 children in Pennsylvania lived in households with a high housing burden in 2013, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁴
- In 2014, the unemployment rate in Pennsylvania was 5.8%.²⁵
- 11.3% of households in Pennsylvania were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that the family experienced difficulty providing enough food due to lack of resources at some point during the year. ²⁶

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2014, Pennsylvania had a monthly average of 91,400 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 92,400 children received subsidized child care per month in 2013 and 95,600 were recepients in 2012.²⁷
- In 2014, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Pennsylvania, a family of three could make no more than \$39,580 at application, which is equivalent to 58% of the state's median income. ²⁸
- As of early 2015, Pennsylvania had 1,811 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁹
- In 2014, Head Start served 36,626 children in Pennsylvania, increasing 6.76% from 2013.³⁰

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 1,313,820 children in Pennsylvania were enrolled in Medicaid in 2014, increasing 0.3% from 2013.31
- In 2014, Pennsylvania had 258,455 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, decreasing 3.2% from 2013, when 267,073 children were enrolled.³²
- In 2014, Pennsylvania had 139,117 uninsured children.³³



- 11,713 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Pennsylvania in 2014.³⁴
- 938 infants under age 1 died in Pennsylvania in 2013.³⁵
- In 2014, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Pennsylvania was 9 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 32.7 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 19.3 births for girls ages 15 to 19.36
- Cumulative through 2014, there were 41,157 adults and adolescents and 371 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Pennsylvania.³⁷
- In 2014, an estimated 44,000 children ages 12 to 17 and 853,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Pennsylvania.³⁸
- In 2014, approximately 24,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.³⁹
- In 2014, approximately 26,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴⁰

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 804 children in Pennsylvania aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2013.⁴¹
- 86% of high school students in Pennsylvania graduated on time at the end of the 2012-13 year. 42
- 44,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Pennsylvania were not enrolled in school and not working in 2014. 43
- 178,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2013.⁴⁴
- 45.3% of young adults in Pennsylvania ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.
- In 2014, there were less than 10 reports of children in Pennsylvania aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 55 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.46

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 80 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Pennsylvania in 2014, compared to 105 in 2013.⁴⁷
- 57,639 children younger than 18 were arrested in Pennsylvania in 2014. Violent crimes were the reason for 3,164 of the arrests in 2014.⁴⁸
- 2,781 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Pennsylvania in 2013.⁴⁹



CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE⁵⁰

- 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 a 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
- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%.⁵³ Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.⁵⁴
- Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care. 55
- According to the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being II baseline report, 75% of caseworkers earned a salary between \$30,000 and \$49,999.⁵⁶
- The majority of caseworkers hold a bachelor's degree (52.3%) or a bachelor of social work degree (21.9%). Only 25% of caseworkers hold a master's degree.⁵⁷
- A workload model in Colorado found that approximately 574 additional caseworkers were needed in their state to
 adequately provide child welfare services, due to estimated time requirements for meaningful services. This number
 represents a 49% increase that is needed on top of hours already spent on case related tasks.⁵⁸

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S CHILDREN

- In 2012, Pennsylvania spent \$1,702,034,451 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$421,343,242 was from federal funds, \$917,150,308 from state funds, and \$363,540,901 from local funds.⁵⁹
- In 2012, of the \$421,343,242 in federal funds received for child welfare, 71.6% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0.3% was from Medicaid, 2.9% came from Social Services Block Grant, 13.9% was from TANF, and 6.4% came from other federal sources.⁶⁰
- Pennsylvania received \$191,888,410 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2012, including \$70,395,229 for maintenance payments and \$121,493,181 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶¹

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau (2016). Selected Economic Characteristics, 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.



¹ "At A Glance" statistics are from 2014.

² U.S. Census Bureau (2016). ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.

³ Ibid.

- ⁵ Ibid.
- ⁶ Ibid
- ⁷ Ibid.
- ⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2010-2014.* Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.
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- Note: The percentage difference is a CWLA calculation. Overlap in the percentages of types of abuse is possible as a child may have experienced more than one type of abuse.
- ⁹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2010-2014.* Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.
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 Note: The five and younger number is a CWLA calculation.
- ¹² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). FY 2005 FY 2014 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year: Numbers of Children In Foster Care on September 30th, by State FY 2005–FY 2014. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children_in_care_2014.pdf.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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- ²⁰ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2015) A State by State Look at TANF: State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Programs Do Not Provide Adequate Safety Net for Poor Families: TANF Provides a Safety Net to Few Poor Families: Map TANF-to-poverty ratio: # of families receiving TANF benefits for every 100 poor families with children (2013-2014). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.cbpp.org/state-temporary-assistance-for-needy-families-programs-do-not-provide-adequate-safety-net-for-poor.
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Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.

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²⁶ Ibid.

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- Note: Some states allow families, once they begin receiving assistance, to continue receiving assistance up to a higher income level than the initial limit. ²⁹ Ibid.
- Note: A family that is eligible for child care assistance may not necessarily receive it. States may place families on waiting lists, or freeze intake (turning away eligible families without adding them to a waiting list).
- ³⁰ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Early Childhood Learning &Knowledge Center, Office of Head Start. (2015). *Head Start Program Facts Fiscal Year 2014*. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/factsheets/2014-hs-program-factsheet.html.
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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

³¹ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2015, May 3). FY 2014 Unduplicated Number of Children Ever Enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. Retrieved February 16, 2016 from Medicaid.Gov: https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2014-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf.



- Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation. Children who switched between CHIP and Medicaid are represented in both data sets.
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- ³⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2016). 2013-2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Model-based estimated totals (in thousands) (50 States and the District of Columbia): 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 2013 and 2014 NSDUHs. Retrieved February 22, 2016 from http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsaeTotals2014.pdf.
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- ⁴⁸ U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2015). *Crime in the United States 2014: Table 69: Arrests by State, 2014.* Retrieved February 8, 2016 from https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2014/crime-in-the-u.s-2014/tables/table-69.
- ⁴⁹ Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., & Puzzanchera, C. (2015). Easy access to the census of juveniles in residential placement. Retrieved February 26, 2016 from http://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/asp/State_Facility.asp.
- ⁵⁰ 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.

- ⁵¹ U.S. General Accounting Office. (2003). Child welfare: HHS could play a greater role in helping child welfare agencies recruit and retain staff. Retrieved March 9, 2016 from www.gao.gov/new.items/d03357.pdf.
 ⁵² Ibid.
- ⁵³ National Child Welfare Workforce Institute. (2011). *Child welfare workforce demographics* (2000-2010): Snapshot of the frontline child welfare caseworker. Albany, NY. Retrieved March 7, 2016 from https://www.ncwwi.org/files/Workforce_Demographic_Trends_May2011.pdf.
- ⁵⁴ Gallant, M. (2013). *Does your organization have a healthy employee turnover rate?* Retrieved March 7, 2016 from http://www.halogensoftware.com/blog/does-your-organization-have-healthy-employee-turnover.
- 55 Strolin-Goltzman, J., Kollar, S., & Trinkle, J. (2009). Listening to the voices of children in foster care: Youths speak out about child welfare workforce turnover and selection. *Social Work*, 55(1), 47-53.
- ⁵⁶ Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families (2011). NSCAW II baseline report caseworker characteristics, child welfare services, and experiences of children placed in out-of-home care. Washington, DC. Retrieved February 19, 2016 from www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/nscaw2_cw.pdf.
 ⁵⁷ Ibid
- ⁵⁸ Colorado Department of Human Services. (2014). *Colorado child welfare county workload study*. Retrieved March 7, 2016 from http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/E5214710B77C878487257D320050F29A/\$FILE/1354S%20-%20Colorado%20Childrens'%20Welfare%20Workload%20Study%20Report%20August%202014.pdf.
- DeVooght, K., Fletcher, M., & Cooper, H. (2014). Federal, State, and Local spending to address child abuse and neglect in SFY 2012: Appendix A:SFY 2012 State-by-State Data. 2008/2010 Casey Child Welfare Financing Survey and 2012 Casey Child Welfare Financing Survey. Washington, DC. Retrieved February 26, 2016 from http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/2014-61ChildWelfareSpending-2012-2nd-revision-march.pdf. Note: Examples of direct services include child abuse/neglect investigations, foster care, community-based programs, case management, and all such services required for the safety, permanency, and well-being of children. Examples of administrative services include management information systems, training programs, eligibility determination processes, and all services that provide the infrastructure supports for the public agency. The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional child support and demonstration funds for this state.
- 61 Ibid.

