# **SOUTH CAROLINA'S CHILDREN 2016**

## South Carolina's Children at a Glance<sup>1</sup>

State Population <sup>2</sup>	4,832,482	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 <sup>5</sup>	27.1%
Population, Children Under 18 <sup>3</sup>	1,083,684	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 <sup>6</sup>	25.7%
State Poverty Rate <sup>4</sup>		Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 <sup>7</sup>	29.6%

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2014, South Carolina had 29,862 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 23,936 reports were referred for investigation.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2014, there were 12,439 victims of abuse or neglect in South Carolina, a rate of 11.5 per 1,000 children, increasing 19.6% from 2013. Of these children, 63.9% were neglected, 43.1% were physically abused, and 6.2% were sexually abused.
- The number of child victims has increased 5.4% in comparison to the number of victims in 2010. 10
- In 2014, there were 32 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in South Carolina. 11
- 3,461 children in South Carolina lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2014, compared with 4,487 children in 2010. Of the children living apart from their families in 2013, there were 1,130 aged 5 or younger, and 502 were 16 or older. 12
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 22.9% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2010. 13
- In 2013, of children in out-of-home care in South Carolina, 49% were white, 37% were black, 5% were Hispanic, less than 1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, less than 1% were Asian or Pacific Islander and 8% were of more than one race or ethnicity/undetermined race or ethnicity. 14

# ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 2,801 children exiting out-of-home care in 2013 in South Carolina, 44% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.<sup>15</sup>
- 449 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in South Carolina in 2014, decreasing 11.3% from 506 in 2013.<sup>16</sup>
- Of the 3,461 children in out-of-home care in 2014, there were 1,211 or 35% waiting to be adopted. <sup>17</sup>
- In 2014, approximately 55,708 grandparents in South Carolina had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren. <sup>18</sup>



• 192 of the children in out-of-home care in 2013 were living with relatives while in care. 19

## CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in South Carolina decreased from 25,356 in 2014 to 23,844 in 2015, a 6% change. 10,557 families received TANF in 2015, decreasing 6.2% from 2014. 20
- From 2013 to 2014, for every 100 of families living in poverty in South Carolina, 13 received TANF benefits.<sup>21</sup>
- \$271,161,678 was spent in 2014 on TANF assistance in South Carolina, including 8% on basic assistance, 0% on child care, 1% on transportation, and 91% on nonassistance.<sup>22</sup>
- \$63,440,335 was spent in 2014 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in South Carolina, serving 113,179 participants.<sup>23</sup>
- In 2014, South Carolina distributed \$259,070,133 in child support funds, increasing 6.9% from 2013.<sup>24</sup>
- 349,000 children in South Carolina lived in households with a high housing burden in 2013, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2014, the unemployment rate in South Carolina was 6.4%.<sup>26</sup>
- 13.9% of households in South Carolina 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.<sup>27</sup>

#### CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2014, South Carolina had a monthly average of 12,000 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 13,800 children received subsidized child care per month in 2013 and 15,500 were recepients in 2012.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2014, to be eligible for subsidized child care in South Carolina, a family of three could make no more than \$29,685 at application, which is equivalent to 56% of the state's median income.<sup>29</sup>
- As of early 2015, South Carolina had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2014, Head Start served 12,860 children in South Carolina, decreasing 0.05% from 2013.31

## **HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

- 608.415 children in South Carolina were enrolled in Medicaid in 2014, increasing 4.5% from 2013.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2014, South Carolina had 79,740 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, increasing 4.7% from 2013, when 76,191 children were enrolled.<sup>33</sup>



- In 2014, South Carolina had 59,983 uninsured children.<sup>34</sup>
- 5,435 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in South Carolina in 2014.<sup>35</sup>
- 389 infants under age 1 died in South Carolina in 2013.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2014, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in South Carolina was 13.4 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 50.1 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 28.5 births for girls ages 15 to 19.<sup>37</sup>
- Cumulative through 2014, there were 17,755 adults and adolescents and 117 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in South Carolina.<sup>38</sup>
- In 2014, an estimated 18,000 children ages 12 to 17 and 287,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in South Carolina.<sup>39</sup>
- In 2014, approximately 9,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.<sup>40</sup>
- In 2014, approximately 11,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.<sup>41</sup>

#### **VULNERABLE YOUTH**

- 226 children in South Carolina aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2013.42
- 78% of high school students in South Carolina graduated on time at the end of the 2012-13 year. 43
- 19,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in South Carolina were not enrolled in school and not working in 2014.
- 83,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2013.<sup>45</sup>
- 36% of young adults in South Carolina ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.46
- In 2014, there were less than 10 reports of children in South Carolina aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 30 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.<sup>47</sup>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 52 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in South Carolina in 2014, compared to 48 in 2013. 48
- 13,059 children younger than 18 were arrested in South Carolina in 2014. Violent crimes were the reason for 570 of the arrests in 2014.<sup>49</sup>



• 672 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in South Carolina in 2013.<sup>50</sup>

## CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE<sup>51</sup>

- 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.<sup>52</sup>
- 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.<sup>53</sup>
- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%.<sup>54</sup> Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.<sup>55</sup>
- Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care. <sup>56</sup>
- 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.<sup>57</sup>
- 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. 58
- 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.<sup>59</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR SOUTH CAROLINA'S CHILDREN

- In 2012, South Carolina spent \$226,109,373 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$136,705,569 was from federal funds, \$83,647,730 from state funds, and \$5,756,074 from local funds.
- In 2012, of the \$136,705,569 in federal funds received for child welfare, 30.9% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 7.7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 26.6% was from Medicaid, 6.1% came from Social Services Block Grant, 25.7% was from TANF, and 3% came from other federal sources.<sup>61</sup>
- South Carolina received \$26,285,496 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2012, including \$10,748,280 for maintenance payments and \$15,537,216 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (2016). ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from <a href="http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/">http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/</a>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "At A Glance" statistics are from 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

- <sup>8</sup> 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: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.
- 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 <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf</a>.
- 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 3-7: Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.

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

- <sup>10</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf</a>.
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- 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 January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children\_in\_care\_2014.pdf.

Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data

Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Age Group, 2013, <1 and 1-5 age groups (Number). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6244-children-in-foster-care-by-age-group#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/1889,2616/12988.

Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Age Group, 2013, 16-20 age group (Number). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6244-children-in-foster-care-by-age-group#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/2619/12988. Note: The five and younger number is a CWLA calculation.

13 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.

- 14 Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2013(Percent). Retrieved February 24, 2016 from  $\underline{http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6246-children-in-foster-care-by-race-and-hispanic-origin?loc=1\&loct=2\#detailed/2/2-loct=2\#detailed$ 52/false/36/2638,2601,2600,2598,2603,2597,2602,1353/12992,12993.
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<sup>16</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). Table: Adoptions of Children with Public Child Welfare Agency Involvement By State: FY 2005 - FY 2014. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children\_adopted2014.pdf. Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). Children in Public Foster Care Waiting to be Adopted: FY 2005 - FY 2014: Table: Children in Public Foster Care on September 30th of



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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/.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2016). *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2014*. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from <a href="http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/">http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/</a>.
- <sup>19</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center.(2015). *Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Placement Type, 2013, Foster Family Home Relative (Number).* Retrieved February 1, 2016 from <a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6247-children-in-foster-care-by-placement-type#detailed/2/2-52/true/36/2621/12994">http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6247-children-in-foster-care-by-placement-type#detailed/2/2-52/true/36/2621/12994</a>.
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   Note: The percent differences are CWLA calculations.
- <sup>21</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.cbpp.org/state-temporary-assistance-for-needy-families-programs-do-not-provide-adequate-safety-net-for-poor">http://www.cbpp.org/state-temporary-assistance-for-needy-families-programs-do-not-provide-adequate-safety-net-for-poor</a>.
- <sup>22</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). *TANF Financial Data FY 2014: Table B.1.: Federal TANF and State MOE Expenditures on Assistance in FY 2014*. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-financial-data-fy-2014">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-financial-data-fy-2014</a>.
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Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.

- <sup>23</sup> USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2016). Program Data: WIC Program: Monthly Data State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs: Table: WIC Program—Total Number of Participants. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from <a href="http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program">http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program</a>. USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2016). Program Data: WIC Program: Monthly Data State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs: Table: WIC Program—Food Costs. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from <a href="http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program">http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program</a>.
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- <sup>26</sup> Center for American Progress. (2015). State of the states report 2015. Retrieved March 10, 2016 from <a href="https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/22120741/2015">https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/22120741/2015</a> states all.pdf.
- <sup>27</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>28</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2015). *FY 2014 Preliminary Data Table 1 Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Families and Children Served.* Retrieved February 2, 2016 from <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fy-2014-preliminary-data-table-1">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fy-2014-preliminary-data-table-1</a>.
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- <sup>29</sup> Schulman, K. & Blank, H. (2015). *National Women's Law Center, Building blocks, state child care assistance policies 2015*. Retrieved March February 16, 2016 from <a href="http://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/CC">http://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/CC</a> RP\_Building Blocks Assistance Policies 2015.pdf.
- Note: Some states allow families, once they begin receiving assistance, to continue receiving assistance up to a higher income level than the initial limit. <sup>30</sup> 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).
- <sup>31</sup> 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 <a href="http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/factsheets/2014-">http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/factsheets/2014-</a>



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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

- <sup>32</sup> 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: <a href="https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2014-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf">https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2014-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf</a>.
- Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation. Children who switched between CHIP and Medicaid are represented in both data sets.
- <sup>33</sup> 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: <a href="https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2014-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf">https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2014-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf</a>.

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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http://www.factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\_14\_1YR\_B27010&prodType=table.

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- <sup>59</sup> Colorado Department of Human Services. (2014). Colorado child welfare county workload study. Retrieved March 7, 2016 from <a href="http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/E5214710B77C878487257D320050F29A/\$FILE/1354S%20-%20Colorado%20Childrens%20Welfare%20Workload%20Study%20Report%20August%202014.pdf.</a>
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