NEW YORK’S CHILDREN 2017

New York’s Children at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Population</th>
<th>19,795,791</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population, Children Under 18</td>
<td>4,213,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Poverty Rate</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Rate, Children Under 18</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Rate, Children Under 5</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2015, New York had 156,994 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 156,994 reports were referred for investigation.

- In 2015, there were 66,676 victims of abuse or neglect in New York, a rate of 15.8 per 1,000 children, a 2.5% increase from 2014. Of these children, 95.3% were neglected, 9.7% were physically abused, and 3% were sexually abused.

- The number of child victims has decreased 8.2% in comparison to the number of victims in 2011.

- In 2015, there were 108 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in New York.

- 20,921 children in New York lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2015, compared with 24,962 children in 2011. Of the children living apart from their families in 2014, there were 7,168 aged 5 or younger, and 5,859 were 16 or older.

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 16.2% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2011.

- In 2015, of children in out-of-home care in New York, 20% were white, 29% were black, 12% were Hispanic, < .5% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, < .5% were Asian or Pacific Islander and 39% were of more than one race or ethnicity/undetermined race or ethnicity.

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 9,854 children exiting out-of-home care in 2014 in New York, 50% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.

- 1,933 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in New York in 2015, a decrease of 3.2% from 1,997 in 2014.

- Of the 20,921 children in out-of-home care in 2015, there were 5,172 or 24.7% waiting to be adopted.
In 2015, approximately 116,646 grandparents in New York had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.\textsuperscript{18}

4,012 of the children in out-of-home care in 2014 were living with relatives while in care.\textsuperscript{19}

**CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT**

The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in New York decreased from 256,741 in 2015 to 244,480 in 2016, a 5.0\% change. There was a 106,518 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 4.4\% from 2015.\textsuperscript{20}

In New York in 2015, 1,726,000 children lived below 200\% of poverty.\textsuperscript{21}

$4,971,951,123 was spent in 2015 on TANF assistance in New York, including 28.8\% on basic assistance, 6.1\% on child care, 0.1\% on transportation, and 0.7\% on nonassistance.\textsuperscript{22}

$305,594,867 was spent in 2015 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in New York, serving 471,869 participants.\textsuperscript{23}

In 2014, New York distributed $1,697,340,934 in child support funds, an increase of 0.2\% from 2013.\textsuperscript{24}

1,859,000 children in New York lived in households with a high housing burden in 2014, where more than 30\% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.\textsuperscript{25}

In December of 2016, the unemployment rate in New York was 4.9.\textsuperscript{26}

14.4\% of households in New York 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.\textsuperscript{27}

**CHILD CARE AND HEAD START**

In 2015, New York had a monthly average of 109,000 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 92,200 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 113,200 were recipients in 2013.\textsuperscript{28}

In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in New York, a family of three could make no more than $40,180 at application, which is equivalent to 55\% of the state’s median income.\textsuperscript{29}

As of early 2016, New York had children on waiting lists for child care assistance which is calculated at the local level but not statewide.\textsuperscript{30}

In 2015, Head Start served 50,987 children in New York, an increase of 1.5\% from 2014.\textsuperscript{31}

Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in New York made 37,343 home visits to 5,336 parents and children in 3,012 families, as well as enrolled 2,010 new parents and children to the program.
HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 2,293,708 children in New York were enrolled in Medicaid in 2015, an increase of 4.4% from 2014.32

- In 2015, New York had 630,732 children enrolled in its State Children’s Health Insurance Program, an increase of 4.1% from 2014, when 604,566 children were enrolled.33

- In 2015, New York had 103,643 uninsured children.34

- 18,507 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in New York in 2015.35

- 1,087 infants under age 1 died in New York in 2015.36

- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in New York was 6.8 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 25.4 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 15 births for girls ages 15 to 19.37

- Cumulative through 2015, there were 203,021 adults and adolescents and 2,366 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in New York.38

- In 2015, an estimated 15,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 630,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in New York.39

- In 2014, approximately 36,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.40

- In 2014, approximately 44,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.41

- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in New York reached $1,255,668,294.

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 474 children in New York aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.42

- 77% of high school students in New York graduated on time at the end of the 2012-13 year.43

- 70,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in New York were not enrolled in school and not working in 2015.44

- 249,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2015.45

- 50.8% of young adults in New York ages 25 to 34 had an associate’s degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.46

- In 2015, there were 11 reports of children in New York aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 53 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.47
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

- 73 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in New York in 2015, compared to 49 in 2014.48
- 21,248 children younger than 18 were arrested in New York in 2015. Violent crimes were the reason for 1,765 of the arrests in 2015.49
- 1,650 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in New York in 2013.50

Child Welfare Workforce51

- 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.52
- 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.53
- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%.54 Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.55
- Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care.56
- According to the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being II baseline report, 75% of caseworkers earned a salary between $30,000 and $49,999.57
- 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.59

Social Services Block Grant

- In 2014, New York’s sum of expenditures for services totaled $96,338,890. The most utilized service in New York was Protective Services for Adults totaling $66,000,000.60

Funding Child Welfare Services for New York’s Children

- In 2014, New York spent $2,829,814,542 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, $1,097,576,554 was from federal funds and $1,732,237,988 was from state and local funds.61
• In 2014, of the $1,097,576,554 in federal funds received for child welfare, 50.0% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 2.7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0.3% was from Medicaid, 15.9% came from Social Services Block Grant, 30.5% was from TANF, and 0.7% came from other federal sources.62

• New York received $334,551,201 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including $155,752,342 for maintenance payments and $178,798,859 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.63

1 “At A Glance” statistics are from 2014.
3 Ibid.
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid
7 Ibid.


Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.


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27 Ibid.

Ibid.


Ibid.


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 funding component streams may not be equal the total, depending on additional child support and demonstration funds for this state.

Ibid.

Ibid.