

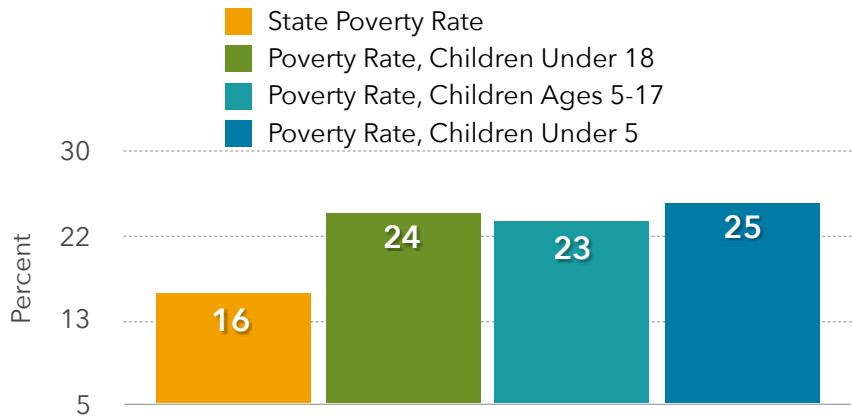
ARIZONA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 6,728,577 | Population of Children Under 18: 1,602,166

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **11,972** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Arizona, 53% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **3,654** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Arizona in 2016, an increase of 12.9% from **27.53%** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **17,118** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **4,713** or 27.53% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2015, approximately **73,870** grandparents in Arizona had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **8,222** of the children in out-of-home care in 2015 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹

Poverty Rates



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2016, Arizona had 75,981 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 54,530 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 10,841 victims of abuse or neglect in Arizona, a rate of 6.6 per 1,000 children, a decrease of 9.3% from 2015. Of these children, 92.7% were neglected, 8.3% were physically abused, and 3.5% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 9.2% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰

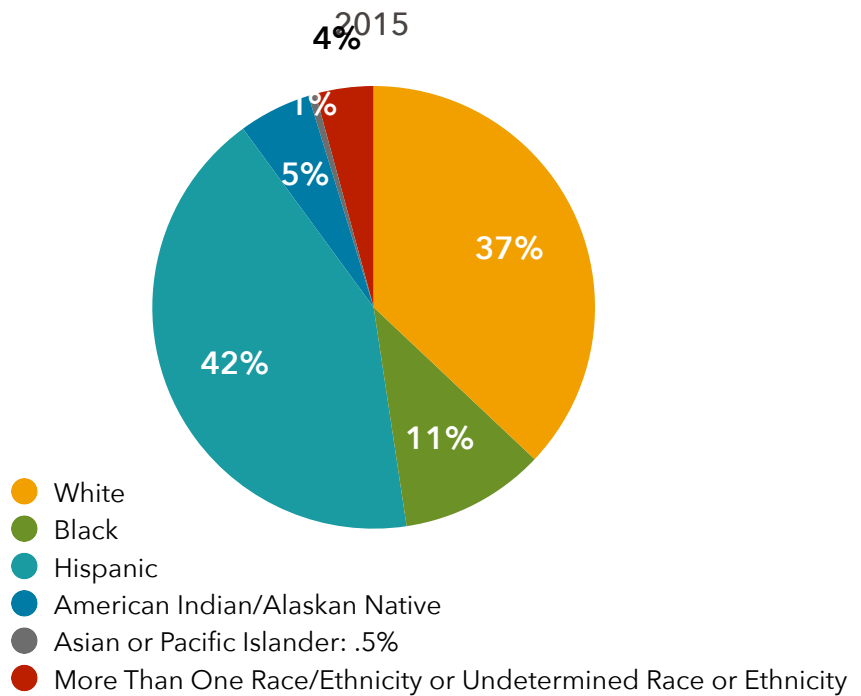


CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Arizona had a monthly average of 24,400 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 21,000 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 22,800 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Arizona, a family of three could make no more than \$33,168 at application, which is equivalent to 61% of the state’s median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Arizona had 4,865 children on it’s waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2015, Head Start served 13,678 children in Arizona, a decrease of 5.1% from 2014.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Arizona made 30,167 home visits to 4,394 parents and children in 2,261 families, as well as enrolled 1,963 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁴

- In 2016, there were 48 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Arizona.¹¹
- 17,118 children in Arizona lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 17,738 children in 2015.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 3.5% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2015.¹³

Children in Out-of-Home Care



CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Arizona decreased from 24,869 in 2015 to 20,512 in 2016, a 21.2% change. There was a 9,922 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 16.4% from 2015.²⁰
- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 6 received

TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$363,144,033 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Arizona, including 8.7% on basic assistance, 0.7% on child care, 3.0% on transportation, and 10.9% on non-assistance.²²
- \$44,459,322 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Arizona, serving 163,998 participants.²³
- In 2014, Arizona distributed \$317,199,298 in child support funds, a decrease of 1.7% from 2013.²⁴
- 545,000 children in Arizona lived in households with a high housing burden in 2014, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁵
- In December of 2016, the unemployment rate in Arizona was 4.8. ²⁶
- 24 of households in Arizona were food insecure in 2015, meaning that the family experienced difficulty providing enough food due to lack of resources at some point during the year.²⁷

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 904,347 children in Arizona were enrolled in Medicaid in 2015, a decrease of 4.0% from 2014.³²
- In 2015, Arizona had 88,224 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 127.3% from 2014, when 38,811 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2015, Arizona had 161,185 uninsured children.³⁴
- 6,177 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Arizona in 2015.³⁵
- 456 infants under age 1 died in Arizona in 2015.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Arizona was 11.8 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 48.2 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 26 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2015, there were 14,272 adults and adolescents and 49 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Arizona.³⁸

- In 2015, an estimated 6,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 227,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in Arizona.³⁹
- In 2014, approximately 17,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2014, approximately 22,000 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 Arizona reached \$698,537,803. ⁶⁴

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 943 children in Arizona aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 75% of high school students in Arizona graduated on time at the end of the 2012-13 year.⁴³
- 34,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Arizona were not enrolled in school and not working in 2015..⁴⁴
- 99,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.⁴⁵
- 34.9% of young adults in Arizona ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.⁴⁶
- In 2015, there were less than 10 reports of children in Arizona aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 56 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 62 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Arizona in 2015, compared to 59 in 2014.⁴⁸
- 22,997 children younger than 18 were arrested in Arizona in 2015. Violent crimes were the reason for 1,020 of the arrests in 2015.⁴⁹
- 717 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Arizona in 2015.⁵⁰

CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

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

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

- In 2014, Arizona's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$23,578,305. The most utilized service in Arizona was Foster Care Services for Children totaling \$6,007,373.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR ARIZONA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Arizona spent \$613,625,800 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$374,053,600 was from federal funds and \$239,572,200 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2014, of the \$374,053,600 in federal funds received for child welfare, 54.6% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 3.7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0% was from Medicaid, 8.2% came from Social Services Block Grant, 29.6% was from TANF, and 3.9% came from other federal sources.⁶²

- Arizona received \$97,323,800 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$48,034,100 for maintenance payments and \$49,289,700 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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6 Ibid.

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8 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau. (2018). Child Maltreatment 2016: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2016. Retrieved February 06, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.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.

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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

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18 U.S. Census Bureau. (2017). American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2016. Retrieved January 22, 2018 from https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_16_1YR_DP02&prodType=table.

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21 Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2018) 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

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Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.

23 USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2018). Program Data: WIC Program: Monthly Data – State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs: Table: WIC Program—Total Number of Participants. Retrieved February 27, 2018 from <https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/pd/26wifypart.pdf>

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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.

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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).

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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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- 35 Centers for Disease Control. (2018) Births: Final data for 2016. National Vital Statistics Reports. 67(1). Retrieved February 20, 2018 from https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_01_tables.pdf
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- 51 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.
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