

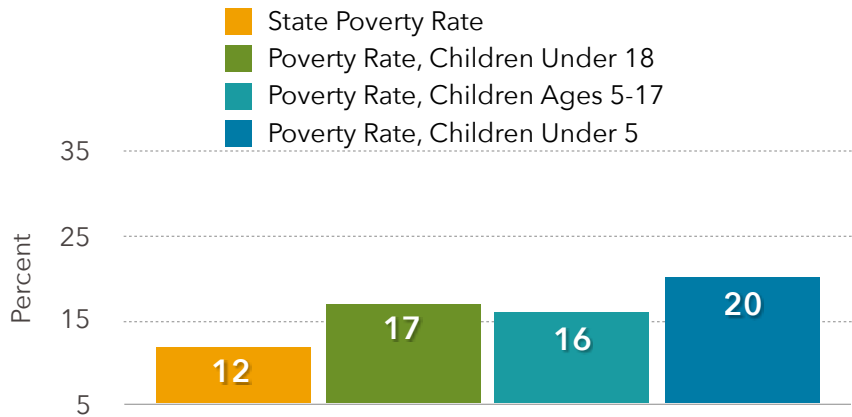
DELAWARE'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 934,695 | Population of Children Under 18: 201,224

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **383** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Delaware, 30% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **99** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Delaware in 2016, an increase of 25.3% from **79** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **780** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **254** or 32.56% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **7,183** grandparents in Delaware had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **76** 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, Delaware had 19,699 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 6,971 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 1,572 victims of abuse or neglect in Delaware, a rate of 7.7 per 1,000 children, an increase of 2.2% from 2015. Of these children, 28.7% were neglected, 19.2% were physically abused, and 9.0% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 2.2% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰

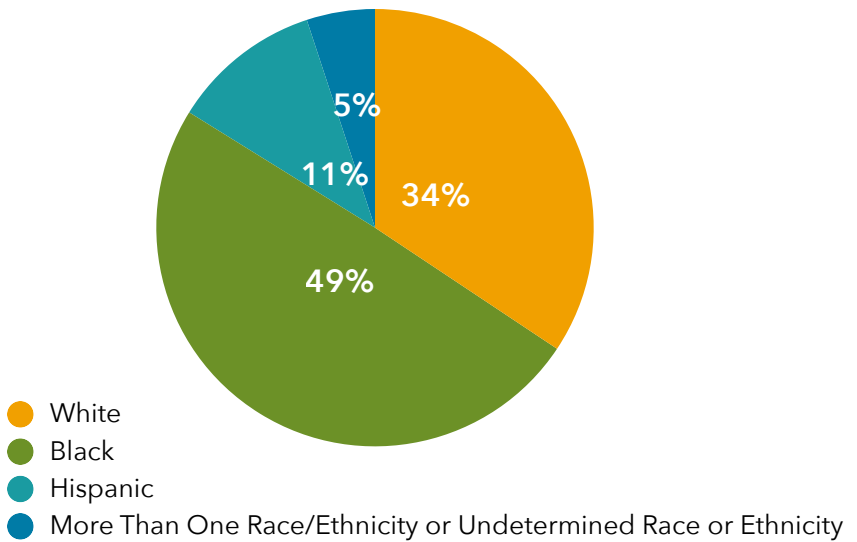


CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Delaware had a monthly average of 7,200 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 7,400 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 7,700 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Delaware, a family of three could make no more than \$40,188 at application, which is equivalent to 56% of the state’s median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Delaware had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016 Head Start served 2,242 children in Delaware, a decrease of 1.7% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Delaware made 8,857 home visits to 1,811 parents and children in 1,098 families, as well as enrolled 866 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁵

- In 2016, there were no child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Delaware.¹¹
- 780 children in Delaware lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 682 children in 2015.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 14.4% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2015.¹³

Children in Out-of-Home Care
2015



CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Delaware decreased from 12,789 in 2015 to 12,014 in 2016, a 6.5% change. There was a 4,254 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 6.6% from 2015.²⁰
- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 38

received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$116,567,674 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Delaware, including 0.3% on basic assistance and 18.2% on child care.²²
- \$5,428,293 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Delaware, serving 18,097 participants.²³
- 17.3% of households in Delaware 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

- 108,577 children in Delaware were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, an increase of 8.3% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, Delaware had 17,784 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 8.8% from 2015, when 16,341 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Delaware had 8,286 uninsured children.³⁴
- 982 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Delaware in 2016.³⁵
- 87 infants under age 1 died in Delaware in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Delaware was 8.2 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 31.5 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 18 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 4,544 adults and adolescents and 29 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Delaware.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Delaware reached \$109,439,642.³⁹

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 87 children in Delaware aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²

- 4,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Delaware were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴
- 14,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.⁴⁵
- In 2016, there were less than 10 reports of children in Delaware aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and less than 10 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 10 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Delaware in 2016, compared to 10 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 3,704 children younger than 18 were arrested in Delaware in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 348 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 162 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Delaware 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, Delaware's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$23,037,421. The most utilized service in Delaware was Protective Services for Children totaling \$8,873,178.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR DELAWARE'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Delaware spent \$67,474,477 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$14,154,577 was from federal funds and \$147,350,866 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
 - In 2014, of the \$134,535,982 in federal funds received for child welfare, 29.8% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 8.2% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 34.4% was from Medicaid, 14.3% came from Social Services Block Grant, 11.2% was from TANF, and 2.0% came from other federal sources.⁶²
 - Delaware received \$7,907,363 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$934,864 for maintenance payments and \$6,972,499 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³
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1 Population and Child Abuse and Neglect statistics are from 2016.

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3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

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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. (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>.

9 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: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

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: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-8: Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2015.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 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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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: 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.

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