

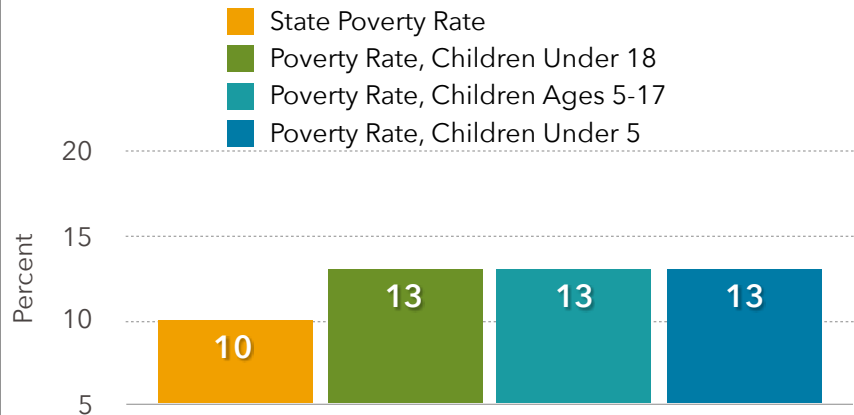
MARYLAND'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 5,959,902 | Population of Children Under 18: 248,446

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **2,176** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Maryland, 43% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **361** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Maryland in 2016, an increase of 22.8% from **294** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **3,841** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **468** or 12.18% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **46,036** grandparents in Maryland had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **1,445** 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, Maryland had 49,919 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 21,152 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 6,993 victims of abuse or neglect in Maryland, a rate of 5.2 per 1,000 children, an increase of 3.0% from 2015. Of these children, 59.9% were neglected, 22.8% were physically abused, and 24.3% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 3% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰



CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Maryland had a monthly average of 17,400 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 18,300 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 17,300 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Maryland, a family of three could make no more than \$29,990 at application, which is equivalent to 33% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Maryland had 3,407 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 10,120 children in Maryland, a decrease of 2.9% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Maryland made 16,346 home visits to 2,047 parents and children in 1,175 families, as well as enrolled 869 new parents and children to the program.

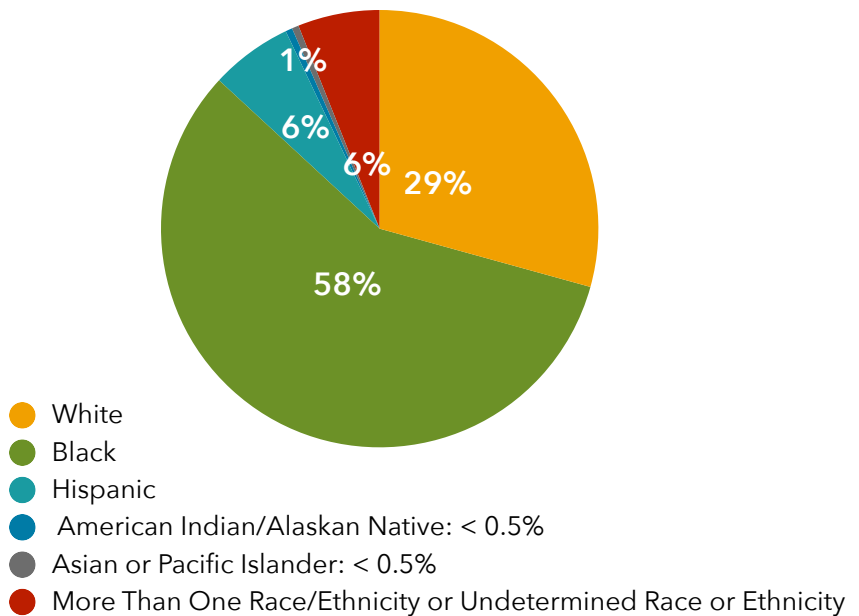
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• In 2016, there were 32 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Maryland.¹¹

• 3,841 children in Maryland lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 3,914 children in 2015.¹²

• The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 1% 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 Maryland increased from 46,480 in 2015 to 52,738 in 2016, a 11.9% change. There was a 21,240 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, an increase of 8.9% from 2015.²⁰

• In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 30

received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$535,740,162 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Maryland, including 16.6% on basic assistance, 1.3% on child care, and 1.2% on transportation.²²
- \$29,063,773 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Maryland, serving 139,576 participants.²³
- 16.3% of households in Maryland 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

- 531,786 children in Maryland were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 0.06% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, Maryland had 137,592 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a decrease of 3.3% from 2015, when 142,327 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Maryland had 49,771 uninsured children.³⁴
- 6,248 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Maryland in 2016.³⁵
- 480 infants under age 1 died in Maryland in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Maryland was 8.4 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 29.6 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 17 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 40,172 adults and adolescents and 341 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Maryland.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Maryland reached \$451,018,165.³⁹

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 420 children in Maryland aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²

- 17,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Maryland were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴
- 64,000 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 Maryland aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 26 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 64 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Maryland in 2016, compared to 44 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 19,506 children younger than 18 were arrested in Maryland in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 1,935 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 612 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Maryland 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, Maryland's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$23,037,421. The most utilized service in Maryland was Protective Services for Children totaling \$8,873,178.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MARYLAND'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Maryland spent \$542,939,363 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$138,549,734 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
- Maryland received \$53,361,149 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$29,063,325 for maintenance payments and \$24,297,824 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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3 Ibid.

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5 Ibid

6 Ibid.

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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 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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