

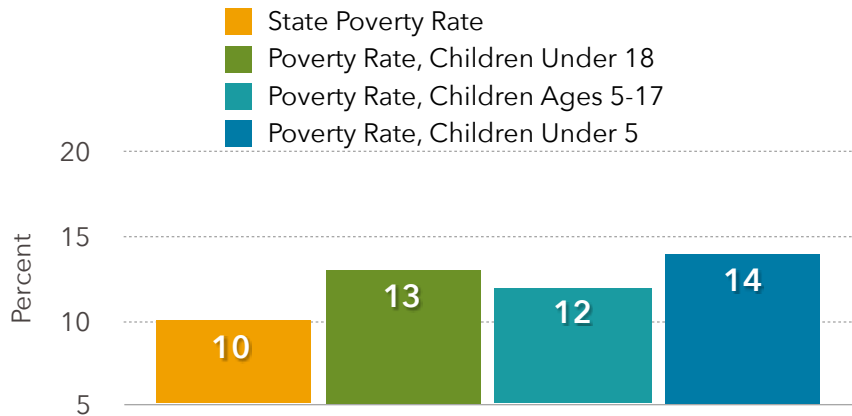
MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 5,450,868 | Population of Children Under 18: 1,266,718

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **5,788** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Minnesota, 65% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **899** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Minnesota in 2016, an increase of 22.3% from **17.53%** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **8,793** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **1,541** or 17.53% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **19,638** grandparents in Minnesota had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **2,371** 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, Minnesota had 86,328 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 31,060 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 7,941 victims of abuse or neglect in Minnesota, a rate of 6.2 per 1,000 children, an increase of 55.1% from 2015. Of these children, 62.6% were neglected, 32.0% were physically abused, and 16.2% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 55.1% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰



CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

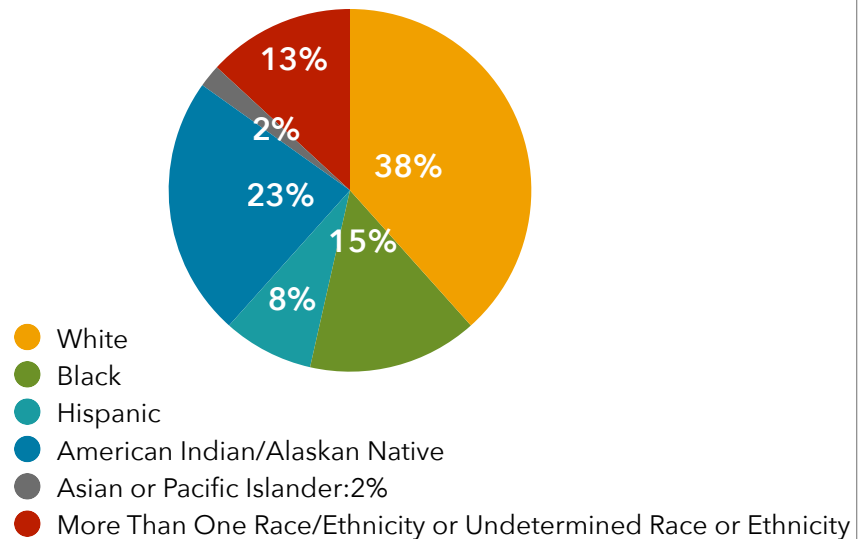
- In 2015, Minnesota had a monthly average of 23,400 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 25,000 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 25,700 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Minnesota, a family of three could make no more than \$36,365 at application, which is equivalent to 47% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Minnesota had 7,200 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 11,364 children in Minnesota, a decrease of 0.7% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Minnesota made 14,309 home visits to 3,640 parents and children in 1,880 families, as well as enrolled 1,443 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁴

• In 2016, there were 28 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Minnesota.¹¹

• 8,793 children in Minnesota lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 7,610 children in 2015.¹²

• The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 15.6% 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 Minnesota an increase from 43,155 in 2015 to 45,000 in 2016, a 4.1% change. There was a 19,296 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, an increase of 0.6% from 2015.²⁰

• In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 57 received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$529,056,104 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Minnesota, including 13.6% on basic assistance and 0.5% on transportation.²²
- \$31,059,813 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Minnesota, serving 116,031 participants.²³
- 13.8% of households in Minnesota 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

- 631,115 children in Minnesota were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, an increase of 5.2% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, Minnesota had 3,876 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 1.1% from 2015, when 3,835 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Minnesota had 53,651 uninsured children.³⁴
- 4,570 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Minnesota in 2016.³⁵
- 356 infants under age 1 died in Minnesota in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Minnesota was 5.7 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 25.7 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 14 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 6,813 adults and adolescents and 33 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Minnesota.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Minnesota reached \$375,689,480.³⁹

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 417 children in Minnesota aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 13,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Minnesota were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴

- 42,000 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 Minnesota aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 39 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 33 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Minnesota in 2016, compared to 42 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 19,648 children younger than 18 were arrested in Minnesota in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 900 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 852 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Minnesota 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, Minnesota's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$23,037,421. The most utilized service in Minnesota was Protective Services for Children totaling \$8,873,178.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Minnesota spent \$518,253,200 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$158,486,599 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
- Minnesota received \$34,937,407 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$13,454,928 for maintenance payments and \$21,482,479 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

1 Population and Child Abuse and Neglect statistics are from 2016.

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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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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.

62 Ibid.

63 Ibid.

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