

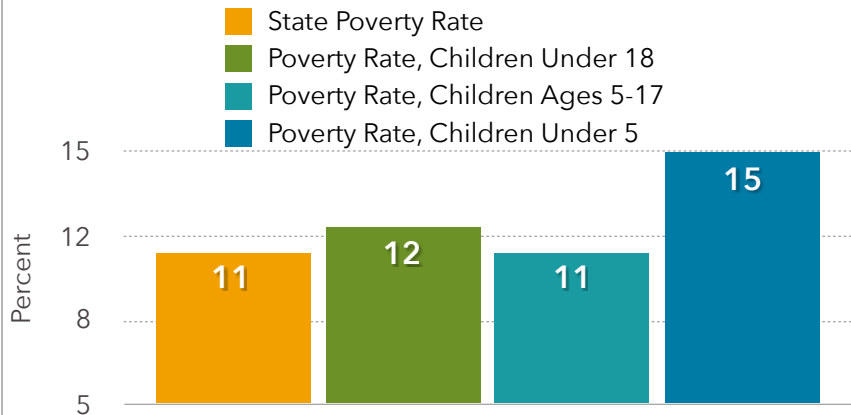
NORTH DAKOTA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 756,928 | Population of Children Under 18: 171,314

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **991** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in North Dakota, 56% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **132** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in North Dakota in 2016, a decrease of 0.8% from **133** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **1,407** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **355** or 25.23% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **3,292** grandparents in North Dakota had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **231** 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, North Dakota had 3,986 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 3,986 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 1,805 victims of abuse or neglect in North Dakota, a rate of 10.2 per 1,000 children, an increase of 2.6% from 2015. Of these children, 76.5% were neglected, 9.8% were physically abused, and 2.9% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has an increase of 2.6% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰



CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, North Dakota had a monthly average of 2,200 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 3,200 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 2,200 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in North Dakota, a family of three could make no more than \$63,348 at application, which is equivalent to 85% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, North Dakota had no children on it's waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 2,147 children in North Dakota, a decrease of 12.1% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in North Dakota made 1,746 home visits to 375 parents and children in 216 families, as well as enrolled 297 new parents and children to the program.

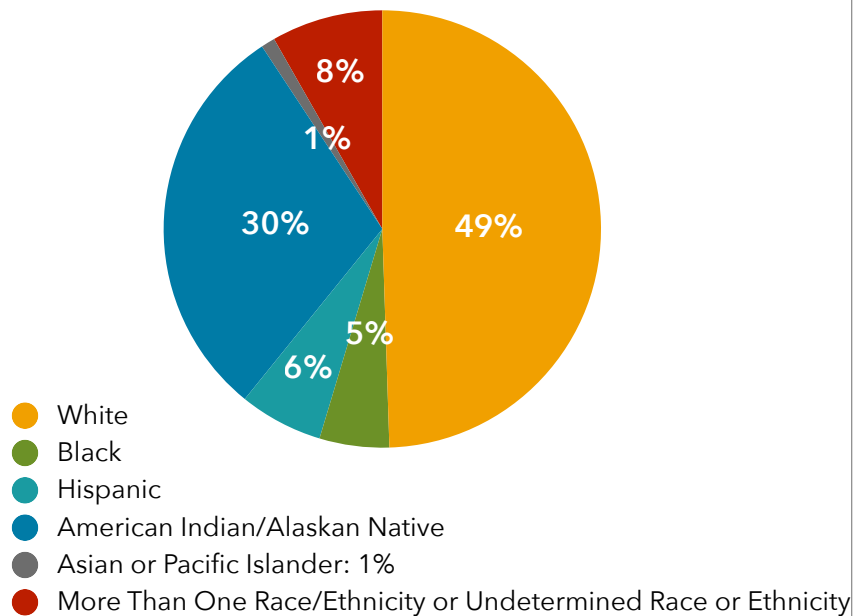
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• In 2016, there were 4 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in North Dakota.¹¹

• 1,407 children in North Dakota lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 1,359 children in 2015.¹²

• The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 8.2% 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 North Dakota decreased from 2,917 in 2015 to 2,707 in 2016, a 7.8% change. There was a 1,105 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 6.4% from 2015.²⁰

• In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 8 received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$39,932,503 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in North Dakota, including 5.0% on basic assistance, 3.0% on transportation, and 10.0% on non-assistance.²²
- \$4,815,967 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in North Dakota, serving 12,884 participants.²³
- 9.4% of households in North Dakota 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

- 61,525 children in North Dakota were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, experiencing no change from 2015.³²
- In 2016, North Dakota had 4,955 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, no change from 2015.³³
- In 2016, North Dakota had 12,674 uninsured children.³⁴
- 752 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in North Dakota in 2016.³⁵
- 74 infants under age 1 died in North Dakota in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in North Dakota was 10.0 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 36.6 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 22 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 236 adults and adolescents and 2 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in North Dakota.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in North Dakota reached \$33,219,499.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 67 children in North Dakota aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 2,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in North Dakota were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴

- 7,000 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 North Dakota 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

- Less than 10 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in North Dakota in 2016, compared to less than 10 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 3,788 children younger than 18 were arrested in North Dakota in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 53 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 144 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in North Dakota 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, North Dakota's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$3,496,392. The most utilized service in North Dakota was Counseling Services totaling \$3,496,392.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR NORTH DAKOTA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, North Dakota spent \$69,376,190 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$41,271,545 was from federal funds and \$28,104,645 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2014, of the \$41,271,545 in federal funds received for child welfare, 44.9% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 1.7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 4.8% was from Medicaid, 0% came from Social Services Block Grant, 45.2% was from TANF, and 3.3% came from other federal sources.⁶²
- North Dakota received \$12,031,072 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$5,604,141 for maintenance payments and \$6,426,931 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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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 percent difference is a CWLA calculation.
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- 17 Ibid.
- 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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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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64 Health Resources & Services Administration. (2017). Home Visiting Program: State Factsheets. Retrieved March 28, 2018 online from: <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/maternal-child-health-initiatives/home-visiting/home-visiting-program-state-fact-sheets>