

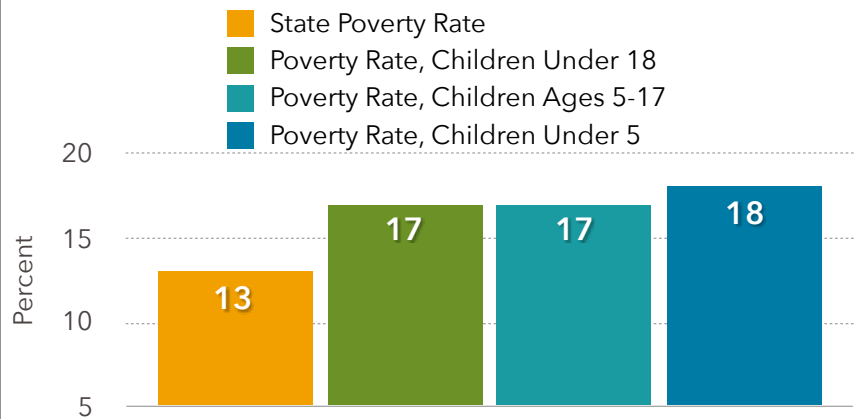
# OREGON'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 3,892,267 | Population of Children Under 18: 851,463

## ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **2,974** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Oregon, 51% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.<sup>15</sup>
- **768** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Oregon in 2016, a decrease of 8% from **835** in 2015.<sup>16</sup>
- Of the **7,625** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **1,666** or 21.9% waiting to be adopted.<sup>17</sup>
- In 2016, approximately **21,001** grandparents in Oregon had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.<sup>18</sup>
- **2,038** of the children in out-of-home care in 2015 were living with relatives while in care.<sup>19</sup>

## Poverty Rates



## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2016, Oregon had 79,289 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 40,818 reports were referred for investigation.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2016, there were 11,851 victims of abuse or neglect in Oregon, a rate of 13.6 per 1,000 children, an increase of 13.6% from 2015. Of these children, 53.0% were neglected, 10.7% were physically abused, and 8.9% were sexually abused.<sup>9</sup>
- The number of child victims has increased 13.7% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.<sup>10</sup>



## CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

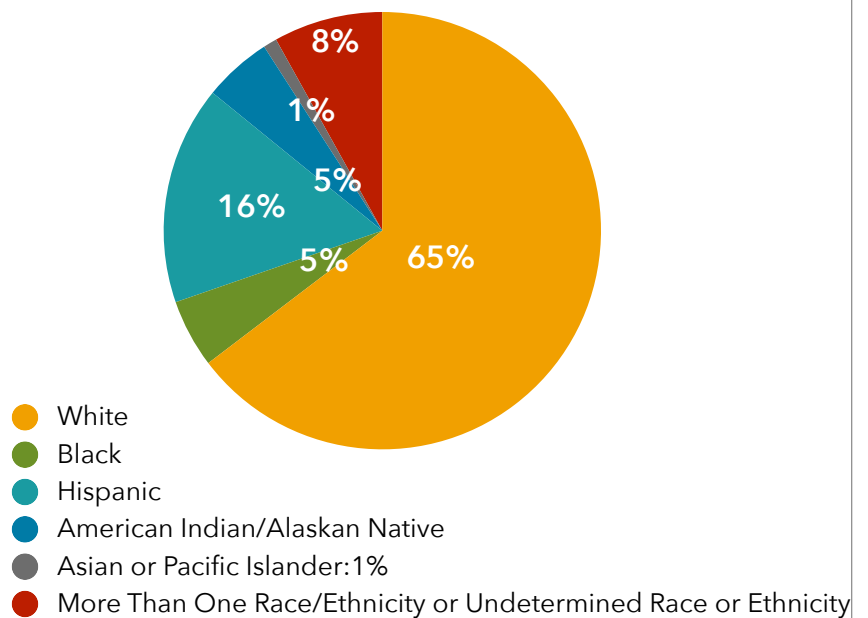
- In 2015, Oregon had a monthly average of 15,300 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 15,600 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 15,000 were recipients in 2013.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Oregon, a family of three could make no more than \$37,188 at application, which is equivalent to 63% of the state's median income.<sup>29</sup>
- As of early 2016, Oregon had 5,675 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2016, Head Start served 13,045 children in Oregon, a decrease of 0.8% from 2015.<sup>31</sup>
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Oregon made 14,085 home visits to 1,783 parents and children in 969 families, as well as enrolled 1,109 new parents and children to the program.<sup>65</sup>

- In 2016, there were 19 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Oregon.<sup>11</sup>

- 7,625 children in Oregon lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 7,369 children in 2015.<sup>12</sup>

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 3.5% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2015.<sup>13</sup>

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 Oregon decreased from 46,128 in 2015 to 38,000 in 2016, a 21.4% change. There was a 17,269 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 18.8% from 2015.<sup>20</sup>

- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 37 received TANF cash assistance.<sup>21</sup>

- \$310,344,191 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Oregon, including 13.1% on basic assistance, 1.1% on child care, and 1.0% on transportation.<sup>22</sup>
- \$25,098,247 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Oregon, serving 92,792 participants.<sup>23</sup>
- 22.5% of households in Oregon 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.<sup>27</sup>

## HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 467,757 children in Oregon were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 4.0% from 2015.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2016, Oregon had 140,786 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 15.5% from 2015, when 121,869 children were enrolled.<sup>33</sup>
- In 2016, Oregon had 40,218 uninsured children.<sup>34</sup>
- 2,974 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Oregon in 2016.<sup>35</sup>
- 211 infants under age 1 died in Oregon in 2016.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Oregon was 7.9 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 36.1 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 19 births for girls ages 15 to 19.<sup>37</sup>
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 7,647 adults and adolescents and 19 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Oregon.<sup>38</sup>
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Oregon reached \$614,523,965.<sup>39</sup>

## VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 328 children in Oregon aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.<sup>42</sup>
- 13,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Oregon were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.<sup>44</sup>

- 49,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.<sup>45</sup>
- In 2016, there were less than 10 reports of children in Oregon aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 29 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.<sup>47</sup>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 23 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Oregon in 2016, compared to 28 in 2015.<sup>48</sup>
- 10,407 children younger than 18 were arrested in Oregon in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 307 of the arrests in 2016.<sup>49</sup>
- 1,113 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Oregon in 2015.<sup>50</sup>

## 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.<sup>52</sup>*

- 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.<sup>53</sup>
- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%.<sup>54</sup> Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.<sup>55</sup>

*Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care.<sup>56</sup>*

- 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.<sup>57</sup>
- 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.<sup>58</sup>

## SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

- In 2014, Oregon's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$22,261,010. The most utilized service in Oregon was Prevention and Intervention totaling \$14,211,444.<sup>60</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR OREGON'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Oregon spent \$454,155,295 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$238,025,817 was from federal funds and \$216,129,478 was from state and local funds.<sup>61</sup>
- In 2014, of the \$238,025,817 in federal funds received for child welfare, 51.7% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 3.4% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 9% was from Medicaid, 9.1% came from Social Services Block Grant, 23.7% was from TANF, and 3.2% came from other federal sources.<sup>62</sup>
- Oregon received \$76,366,927 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$18,219,650 for maintenance payments and \$58,147,277 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.<sup>63</sup>

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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.
- 10 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 06, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.
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- Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.
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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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