

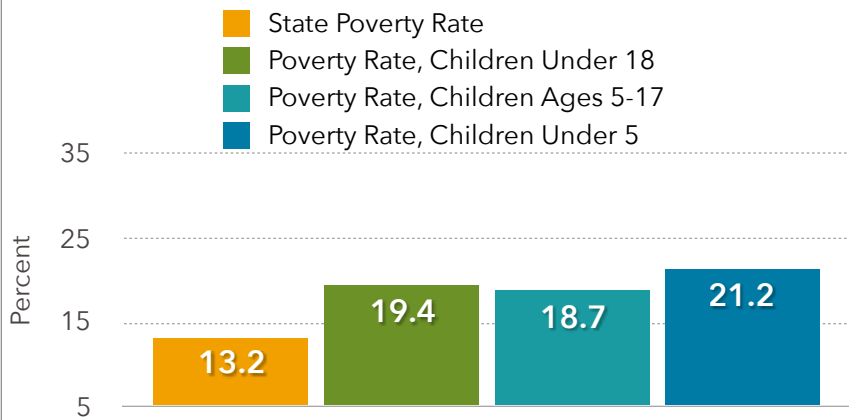
# PENNSYLVANIA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 12,783,977 | Population of Children Under 18: 2,624,826

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

- Of the **9,736** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Pennsylvania, 50% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.<sup>15</sup>
- **1,917** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Pennsylvania in 2016, an increase of 4.6% from **1,832** in 2015.<sup>16</sup>
- Of the **16,086** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **3,092** or 19.22% waiting to be adopted.<sup>17</sup>
- In 2016, approximately **81,884** grandparents in Pennsylvania had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.<sup>18</sup>
- **5,156** 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, Pennsylvania had 43,264 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 43,264 reports were referred for investigation.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2016, there were 4,355 victims of abuse or neglect in Pennsylvania, a rate of 1.6 per 1,000 children, an increase of 13.0% from 2015. Of these children, 5.9% were neglected, 42.0% were physically abused, and 48.0% were sexually abused.<sup>9</sup>
- The number of child victims has increased 20% in comparison to



### CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

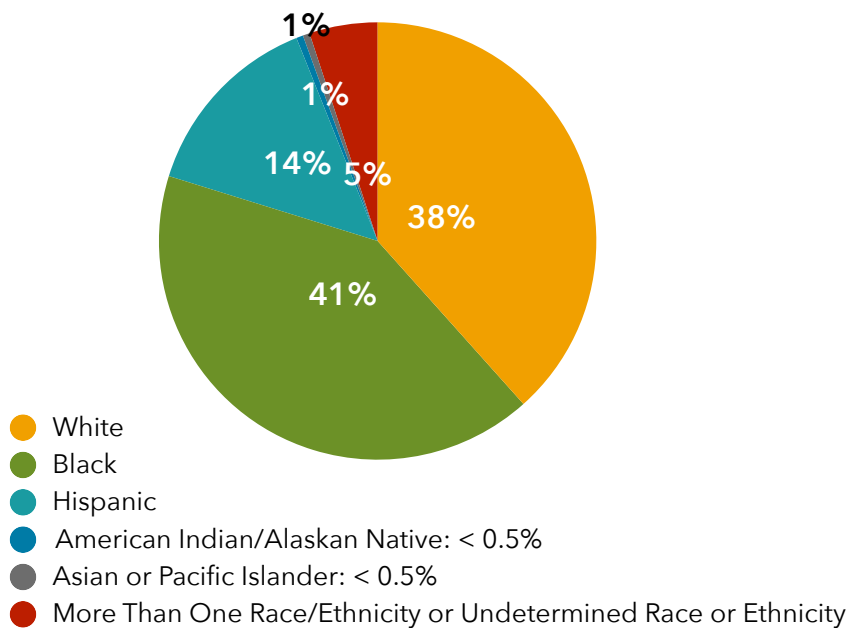
- In 2015, Pennsylvania had a monthly average of 93,500 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 91,400 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 92,800 were recipients in 2013.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Pennsylvania, a family of three could make no more than \$40,180 at application, which is equivalent to 57% of the state's median income.<sup>29</sup>
- As of early 2016, Pennsylvania had 6,473 children on it's waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2016, Head Start served 36,013 children in Pennsylvania, a decrease of 1.6% from 2015.<sup>31</sup>
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Pennsylvania made 39,027 home visits to 6,208 parents and children in 3,169 families, as well as enrolled 2,105 new parents and children to the program.

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the number of victims in 2015.<sup>10</sup>

- In 2016, there were 47 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Pennsylvania.<sup>11</sup>
- 16,086 children in Pennsylvania lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 16,081 children in 2015.<sup>12</sup>
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 0.3% 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 Pennsylvania decreased from 162,233 in 2015 to 144,087 in 2016, a 12.6% change. There was a 57,897 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 12.7% from 2015.<sup>20</sup>
- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 30 received

TANF cash assistance.<sup>21</sup>

- \$944,442,330 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Pennsylvania, including 23.6% on basic assistance, 2.7% on child care, 0.8% on transportation, and 4.9% on non-assistance.<sup>22</sup>
- \$57,856,034 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Pennsylvania, serving 237,205 participants.<sup>23</sup>
- 17.9% of households in Pennsylvania 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

- 1,224,916 children in Pennsylvania were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 1.3% from 2015.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2016, Pennsylvania had 342,268 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 16.3% from 2015, when 294,342 children were enrolled.<sup>33</sup>
- In 2016, Pennsylvania had 129,883 uninsured children.<sup>34</sup>
- 11,331 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Pennsylvania in 2016.<sup>35</sup>
- 857 infants under age 1 died in Pennsylvania in 2016.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Pennsylvania was 8.2 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 30.3 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 18 births for girls ages 15 to 19.<sup>37</sup>
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 42,470 adults and adolescents and 374 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Pennsylvania.<sup>38</sup>
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Pennsylvania reached \$873,738,730.<sup>39</sup>

## VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 807 children in Pennsylvania aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.<sup>42</sup>
- 38,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Pennsylvania were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.<sup>44</sup>

- 141,000 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 18 reports of children in Pennsylvania aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 79 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.<sup>47</sup>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 129 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Pennsylvania in 2016, compared to 106 in 2015.<sup>48</sup>
- 40,826 children younger than 18 were arrested in Pennsylvania in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 2,678 of the arrests in 2016.<sup>49</sup>
- 2,826 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Pennsylvania 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, Pennsylvania's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$64,255,313. The most utilized service in Pennsylvania was Other Services totaling \$17,812,937.<sup>60</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Pennsylvania spent \$1,752,747,125 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$367,270,894 was from federal funds and \$1,385,476,231 was from state and local funds.<sup>61</sup>
- In 2014, of the \$367,270,894 in federal funds received for child welfare, 67.9% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5.1% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0.3% was from Medicaid, 3.3% came from Social Services Block Grant, 15.9% was from TANF, and 7.6% came from other federal sources.<sup>62</sup>
- Pennsylvania received \$122,290,016 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$38,536,495 for maintenance payments and \$83,753,521 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.
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- Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.
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