

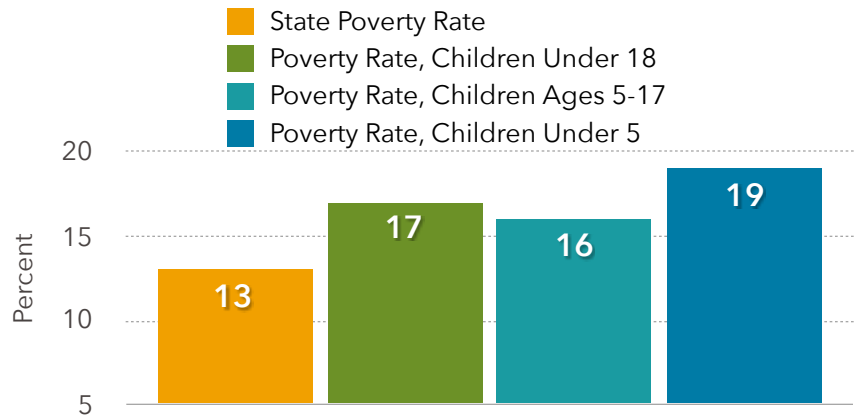
SOUTH DAKOTA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 851,058 | Population of Children Under 18: 209,680

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **961** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in South Dakota, 55% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **110** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in South Dakota in 2016, a decrease of 9.1% from **121** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **1,416** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **361** or 25.49% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **5,265** grandparents in South Dakota had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **286** 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, South Dakota had 16,025 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 2,504 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 1,246 victims of abuse or neglect in South Dakota, a rate of 5.8 per 1,000 children, an increase of 16.1% from 2015. Of these children, 89.6% were neglected, 11.2% were physically abused, and 4.5% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 16.1% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰

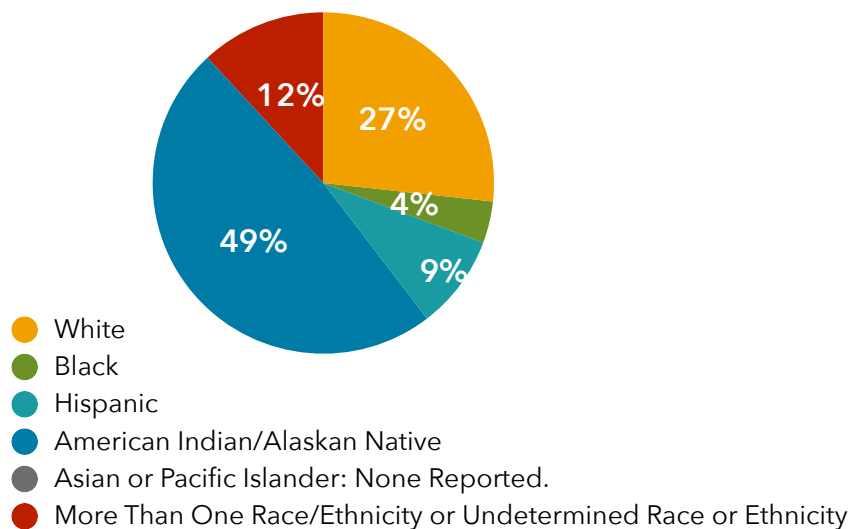


CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, South Dakota had a monthly average of 4,100 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 4,300 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 4,900 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in South Dakota, a family of three could make no more than \$36,625 at application, which is equivalent to 59% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, South Dakota had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 2,874 children in South Dakota, a decrease of 1.3% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in South Dakota made 3,055 home visits to 249 parents and children in 178 families, as well as enrolled 144 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁴

- In 2016, there were 4 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in South Dakota.¹¹
- 1,416 children in South Dakota lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 1,280 children in 2015. Of the children living apart from their families in 2014, there were 537 aged 5 or younger, and 138 were 16 or older.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 10.6% 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 South Dakota increased from 5,935 in 2015 to 6,015 in 2016, a 1.3% change. There was a 3,044 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, an increase of 1% from 2015.²⁰
- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 17 received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$26,149,879 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in South Dakota, including 29.9% on basic assistance and 0.3% on transportation.²²
- \$7,761,751 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in South Dakota, serving 19,120 participants.²³
- 18% of households in South 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

- 79,832 children in South Dakota were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 1.2% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, South Dakota had 18,507 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 14.1% from 2015, when 16,216 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, South Dakota had 12,125 uninsured children.³⁴
- 830 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in South Dakota in 2016.³⁵
- 59 infants under age 1 died in South Dakota in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in South Dakota was 9.7 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 50.2 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 26 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 401 adults and adolescents and 7 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in South Dakota.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in South Dakota reached \$27,820,116.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 49 children in South Dakota aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 3,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in South Dakota were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴

- 9,000 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 South Dakota aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 18 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 12 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in South Dakota in 2016, same as in 2015.⁴⁸
- 5,016 children younger than 18 were arrested in South Dakota in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 106 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 228 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in South 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, South Dakota's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$6,287,365. The most utilized service in South Dakota was Home-Based Services totaling \$2,714,795.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR SOUTH DAKOTA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, South Dakota spent \$56,259,561 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$25,157,334 was from federal funds and \$31,102,227 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2014, of the \$25,157,334 in federal funds received for child welfare, 39.9% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5.0% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 25.2% was from Medicaid, 13.8% came from Social Services Block Grant, 10.6% was from TANF, and 5.5% came from other federal sources.⁶²
- South Dakota received \$5,563,145 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$2,456,356 for maintenance payments and \$3,106,789 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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9 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 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

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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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Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: Some states allow families, once they begin receiving assistance, to continue receiving assistance up to a higher income level than the initial limit.

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Note: A family that is eligible for child care assistance may not necessarily receive it. States may place families on waiting lists, or freeze intake (turning away eligible families without adding them to a waiting list).

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