

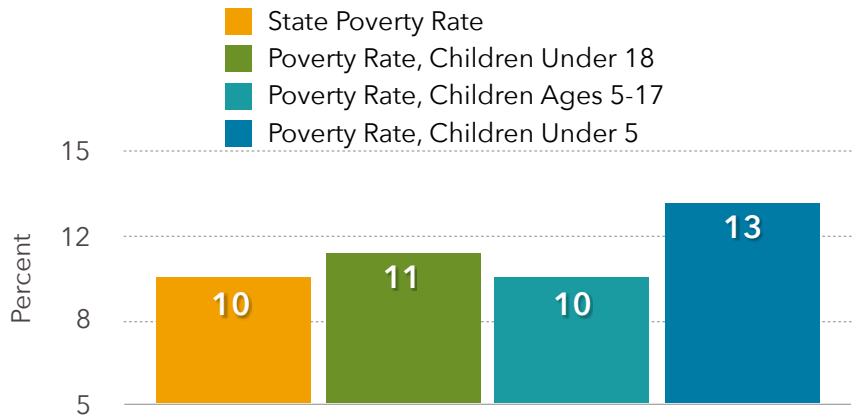
UTAH'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 2,948,427 | Population of Children Under 18: 910,019

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **2,159** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Utah, 41% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **632** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Utah in 2016, a decrease of 9.1% from **695** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **2,838** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **630** or 22.2% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **19,253** grandparents in Utah had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **624** 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, Utah had 38,237 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 20,250 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 9,614 victims of abuse or neglect in Utah, a rate of 10.4 per 1,000 children, an increase of 0.5% from 2015. Of these children, 28.7% were neglected, 45.4% were physically abused, and 17.4% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 0.5% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰



CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

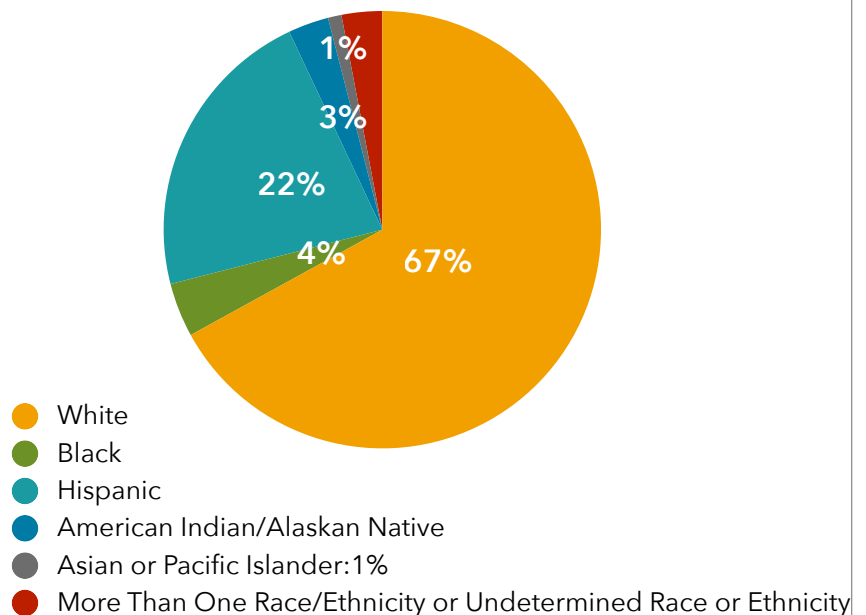
- In 2015, Utah had a monthly average of 10,800 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 12,200 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 12,300 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Utah, a family of three could make no more than \$35,676 at application, which is equivalent to 60% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Utah had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 5,978 children in Utah, a decrease of 5.8% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Utah made 4,842 home visits to 925 parents and children in 551 families, as well as enrolled 427 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁴

• In 2016, there were 12 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Utah.¹¹

• 2,838 children in Utah lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 2,704 children in 2015. Of the children living apart from their families in 2014, there were 870 aged 5 or younger, and 666 were 16 or older.¹²

• The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 5% 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 Utah decreased from 9,018 in 2015 to 8,617 in 2016, a 4.7% change. There was a 3,625 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 2.1% from 2015.²⁰

- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 9 received TANF cash assistance.²¹
- \$90,278,920 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Utah, including 19.8% on basic assistance, 1.4% on child care, and 0.1% on transportation.²²
- \$15,407,547 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Utah, serving 56,584 participants.²³
- 16.4 of households in Utah 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

- 253,551 children in Utah were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 0.48% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, Utah had 58,410 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 5.7% from 2015, when 55,285 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Utah had 76,810 uninsured children.³⁴
- 3,622 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Utah in 2016.³⁵
- 274 infants under age 1 died in Utah in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Utah was 6.9 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 34.5 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 18 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 2,924 adults and adolescents and 21 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Utah.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Utah reached \$237,756,799.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 182 children in Utah aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 12,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Utah were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴

- 37,000 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 10 reports of children in Utah aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 41 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 Utah in 2016, compared to 39 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 13,187 children younger than 18 were arrested in Utah in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 268 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 453 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Utah 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, Utah's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$16,128,987. The most utilized service in Utah was Case Management totaling \$3,936,444.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR UTAH'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Utah spent \$177,970,322 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$71,465,107 was from federal funds and \$106,505,215 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2014, of the \$71,465,107 in federal funds received for child welfare, 44.4% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 8.3% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 20.1% was from Medicaid, 21.8% came from Social Services Block Grant, 0% was from TANF, and 5.3% came from other federal sources.⁶²
- Utah received \$8,103,989 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$895,675 for maintenance payments and \$7,208,314 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

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System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

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 3-8: Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2015.pdf>.

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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- 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.

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