

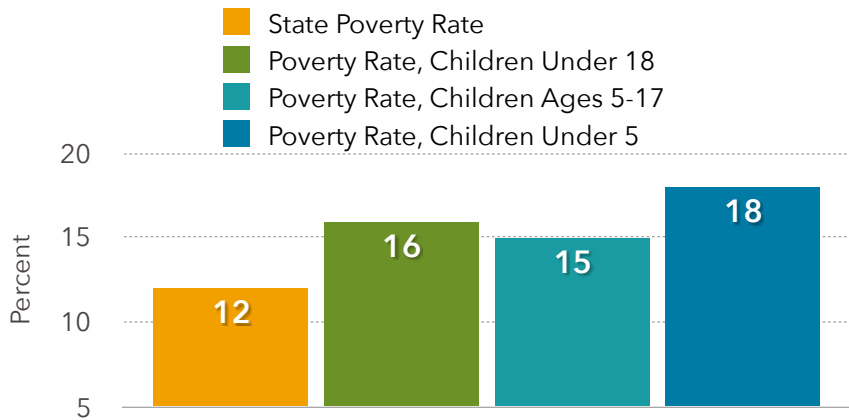
WISCONSIN'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 5,754,798 | Population of Children Under 18: 1,260,543

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **4,239** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Wisconsin, 57% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **669** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Wisconsin in 2016, an increase of 4% from **643** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **7,382** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **1,389** or 18.8% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **24,115** grandparents in Wisconsin had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **2,571** 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, Wisconsin had 78,398 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 26,991 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 4,822 victims of abuse or neglect in Wisconsin, a rate of 3.7 per 1,000 children, a decrease of 0.4% from 2015. Of these children, 67.1% were neglected, 17.4% were physically abused, and 20.8% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 0.4% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰
- In 2016, there were 25 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect



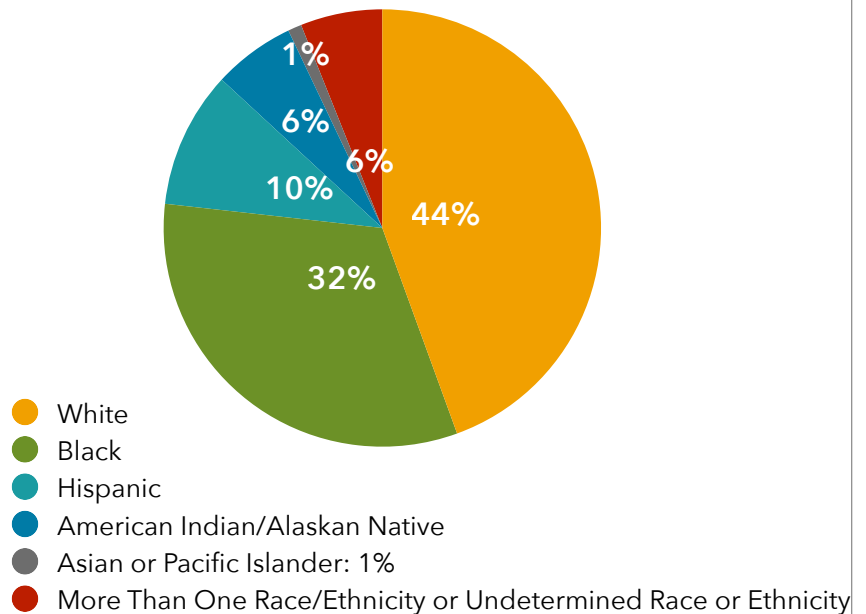
CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Wisconsin had a monthly average of 27,700 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 24,300 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 28,800 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Wisconsin, a family of three could make no more than \$37,164 at application, which is equivalent to 54% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Wisconsin had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 13,954 children in Wisconsin, a decrease of 4.1% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Wisconsin made 20,758 home visits to 2,682 parents and children in 1,405 families, as well as enrolled 1,318 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁴

reported in Wisconsin.¹¹

- 7,382 children in Wisconsin lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 7,091 children in 2015.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 4.1% 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 Wisconsin decreased from 53,771 in 2015 to 41,243 in 2016, a 30.4% change. There was a 18,669 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 23.7% from 2015.²⁰
- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 20 received TANF.²¹

- \$471,678,454 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Wisconsin, including 1.7% on basic assistance, 24.9% on child care, and 0.4% on transportation.²²
- \$28,357,686 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Wisconsin, serving 100,152 participants.²³
- 17% of households in Wisconsin 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

- 541,145 children in Wisconsin were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 0.99% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, Wisconsin had 171,552 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 1.8% from 2015, when 168,576 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Wisconsin had 54,033 uninsured children.³⁴
- 4,925 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Wisconsin in 2016.³⁵
- 422 infants under age 1 died in Wisconsin in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Wisconsin was 6.4 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 30.4 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 16 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 5,977 adults and adolescents and 38 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Wisconsin.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Wisconsin reached \$408,893,103.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 315 children in Wisconsin aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 15,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Wisconsin were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴

- 52,000 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 Wisconsin aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 61 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 57 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Wisconsin in 2016, compared to 46 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 41,813 children younger than 18 were arrested in Wisconsin in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 1,111 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 762 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Wisconsin 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, Wisconsin's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$28,617,681. The most utilized service in Wisconsin was Other Services totaling \$5,890,807.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR WISCONSIN'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Wisconsin spent \$444,821,878 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$148,072,612 was from federal funds and \$269,749,266 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2014, of the \$148,072,612 in federal funds received for child welfare, 75.0% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 6.4% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 1.3% was from Medicaid, 7% came from Social Services Block Grant, 3.1% was from TANF, and 7.2% came from other federal sources.⁶²
- Wisconsin received \$56,937,627 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$17,800,107 for maintenance payments and \$39,137,520 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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3 Ibid.

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7 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>.

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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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- 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.

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