

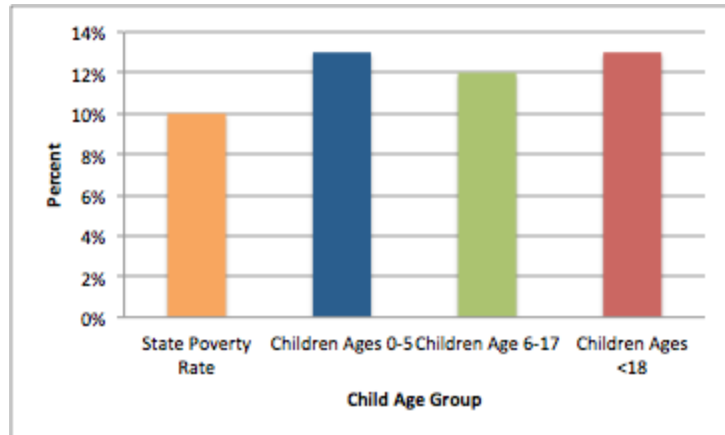
CONNECTICUT'S CHILDREN 2019

State Population: 3,572,665 | Population of Children Under 18: 739,541

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- 4,135 children exiting out-of-home care in 2017 in Connecticut. Of the 1,483 children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Connecticut, 41% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- 488 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Connecticut in 2017, a decrease of 7.7% from 2016.¹⁶
- Of the 4,135 children in out-of-home care in 2017, there were 1,157 waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2017, approximately 18,660 grandparents in Connecticut had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- 2,040 of the children in out-of-home care in 2016 1,529 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹

Poverty Rates



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

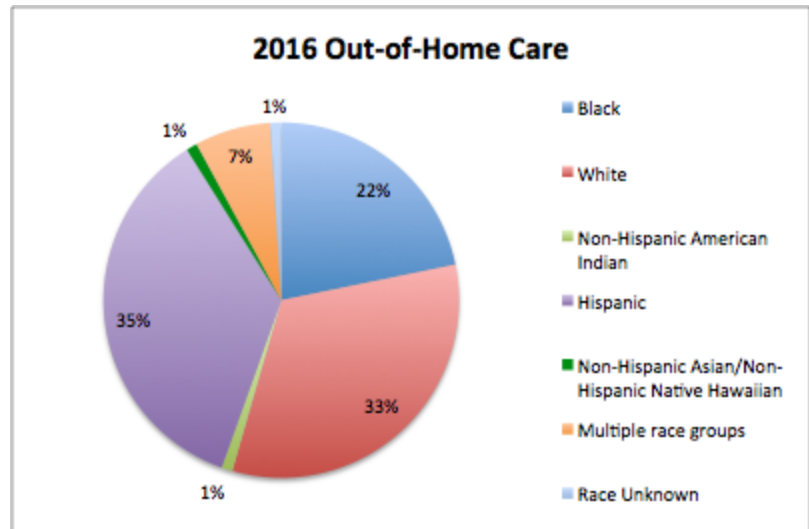
- In 2017, Connecticut had 41,361 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 20,021 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2017, there were 8,442 victims of abuse or neglect in Connecticut, a rate of 11.3 per 1,000 children, an increase of 1.3% from 2016. Of these children, 7,166 were neglected, 519 were physically abused, and 401 were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 15.9% in comparison to the number of victims in 2013.¹⁰



CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2017, Connecticut had a monthly average of 8,800 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 12,800 children received subsidized child care per month in 2016 and 8,500 were recipients in 2015.²⁸
- In 2018, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Connecticut, a family of three could make no more than \$46,263 at application, which is equivalent to 50% of the state’s median income.²⁹
- As of early 2018, Connecticut had no children on it’s waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2017, Head Start served 7,696 children in Connecticut, a increase of 3% from 2016.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Connecticut made 14,633 home visits to 2,303 participants in 1,270 households.⁶⁴

- In 2017, there were 11 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Connecticut.¹¹
- 4,135 children in Connecticut lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2017, compared with 4,119 children in 2016.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased .4% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2016.¹³



CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Connecticut decreased from 22,548 in 2016 to 23,554 in 2018, a 4.4% change. There was a 10,109 monthly average of families received TANF in 2018, a decrease of 11.3% from 2016.²⁰

- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 23 received TANF cash assistance.²¹
- \$154,407,967 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Connecticut. Top 3 Services utilized in 2016 with TANF funds were 1) Emergency assistance 2) Child welfare services and 3) Family preservation services.²²
- \$24,727,956 was spent in 2018 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Connecticut, serving 47,297 participants.²³
- In 2017, Connecticut distributed \$240,197,387 in child support funds, a decrease of 2.7% from 2016.²⁴
- 258,000 children in Connecticut lived in households with a high housing burden in 2016, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁵
- In December of 2017, the unemployment rate of parents in Connecticut was 3%.²⁶
- 15.6% of children in Connecticut were food insecure in 2016, 1.9% less than the national average.²⁷

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 349,080 children in Connecticut were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, a increase of .9% from 2016.³²
- In 2017, Connecticut had 28,889 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 13% from 2016, when 25,551 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Connecticut had 21,000 uninsured children.³⁴
- 2,813 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Connecticut in 2016.³⁵
- 174 infants under age 1 died in Connecticut in 2016.³⁶
- In 2016, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Connecticut was 4 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 17 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 9 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷

- Cumulative through 2017, there were 16,943 adults and adolescents and 184 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Connecticut.³⁸
- In 2017, an estimated 7,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 179,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol in Connecticut.³⁹
- In 2017, approximately 7,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2017, approximately 9,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴¹
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Connecticut reached \$294,149,772.⁶⁴

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 111 children in Connecticut aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2016.⁴²
- 87% of high school students in Connecticut graduated on time at the end of the 2015-16 year.⁴³
- 10,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Connecticut were not enrolled in school and not working in 2017.⁴⁴
- 33,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.⁴⁵
- 49% of young adults in Connecticut ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.⁴⁶
- In 2016 and 2017, there were 30 reports of children in Connecticut aged 0-18 who committed suicide.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- Less than 10 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Connecticut in 2017.^{.48}
- 8,133 children younger than 18 were arrested in Connecticut in 2017. Violent crimes were the reason for 436 of the arrests in 2017.^{.49}
- 141 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Connecticut 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 2016, Connecticut's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$19,131,102. The most utilized service in Connecticut was Housing Services totaling \$6,524,928.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR CONNECTICUT'S CHILDREN

- In 2016, Connecticut spent \$772,872,248 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$303,400,169 was from federal funds and \$469,472,079 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
 - In 2016, of the \$303,400,169 in federal funds received for child welfare, 14% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 1% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 3% was from Medicaid, <1% came from Social Services Block Grant, 20% was from TANF, and 1% came from other federal sources.⁶²
 - Connecticut received \$62,762,539 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2016, including \$22,376,490 for maintenance payments and \$40,386,049 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³
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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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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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