

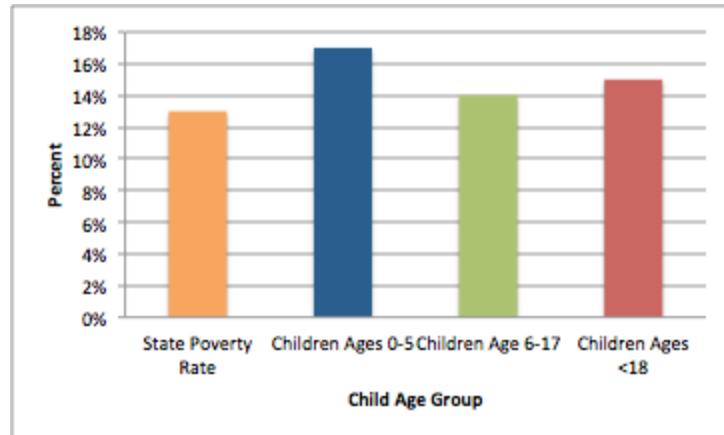
# IDAHO'S CHILDREN 2019

State Population: 1,754,208 | Population of Children Under 18: 452,585

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

- Of the 1,076 children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Idaho, 72% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers. 1,095 children exited care in 2017.<sup>15</sup>
- 258 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Idaho in 2017, an increase of 39.4% from 2016.<sup>16</sup>
- Of the 1,593 children in out-of-home care in 2017, there were 287 waiting to be adopted.<sup>17</sup>
- In 2017, approximately 10,786 grandparents in Idaho had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.<sup>18</sup>
- 463 of the children in out-of-home care in 2016 were living with relatives while in care.<sup>19</sup>

Poverty Rates



## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2017, Idaho had 20,948 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 8,568 reports were referred for investigation.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2017, there were 1,832 victims of abuse or neglect in Idaho, a rate of 4.1 per 1,000 children, an decrease of .81% from 2016. Of these children, 1,427 were neglected, 402 were physically abused, and 79 were sexually abused.<sup>9</sup>
- The number of child victims has decreased 4.6% in comparison to the number of victims in 2016.<sup>10</sup>



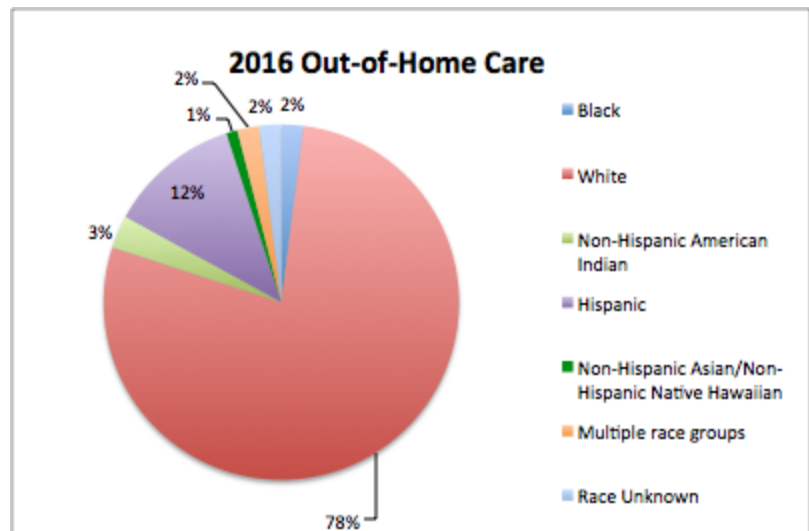
### CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2017, Idaho had a monthly average of 6,200 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 5,900 children received subsidized child care per month in 2016 and 7,700 were recipients in 2015.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2018, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Idaho, a family of three could make no more than \$26,556 at application, which is equivalent to 49% of the state's median income.<sup>29</sup>
- As of early 2018, Idaho had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2017, Head Start served 4,925 children in Idaho, a decrease of 4.6% from 2016.<sup>31</sup>
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Idaho made 6,487 home visits to 1,631 participants in 628 households.<sup>65</sup>

- In 2017, there were 10 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Idaho.<sup>11</sup>

- 1,593 children in Idaho lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2017, compared with 1,518 children in 2016.<sup>12</sup>

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 4.9% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2016.<sup>13</sup>



### CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Idaho increased from 2,801 in 2016, to 2,941 in 2018, a 4.9% change. There was a 2,008 monthly average of families received TANF in 2017, an increase of 4.5% from 2016.<sup>20</sup>

- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 7 received TANF cash assistance.<sup>21</sup>
- \$10,713,659 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Idaho. Top 3 resources utilized with TANF dollars were: 1) Child welfare services 2) Emergency services and 3) Family preservation services.<sup>22</sup>
- \$13,412,184 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Idaho, serving 33,717 participants.<sup>23</sup>
- In 2017, Idaho distributed \$170,006,144 in child support funds, a decrease of .9% from 2016.<sup>24</sup>
- 99,000 children in Idaho lived in households with a high housing burden in 2016, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.<sup>25</sup>
- In December of 2016, the unemployment rate in Idaho was 2%.<sup>26</sup>
- 17% of households in Idaho were food insecure in 2016, 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

- 214,220 children in Idaho were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, an increase of 2.5% from 2016.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2017, Idaho had 36,658 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 1.9% from 2016, when 35,964 children were enrolled.<sup>33</sup>
- In 2016, Idaho had 20,000 uninsured children.<sup>34</sup>
- 1,563 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Idaho in 2016.<sup>35</sup>
- 137 infants under age 1 died in Idaho in 2016.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2016, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Idaho was 8 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 41 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 20 births for girls ages 15 to 19.<sup>37</sup>
- Cumulative through 2017, there were 888 adults and adolescents and 4 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Idaho.<sup>38</sup>

- In 2017, an estimated 3,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 78,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol in Idaho.<sup>39</sup>
- In 2017, approximately 3,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.<sup>40</sup>
- In 2017, approximately 4,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.<sup>41</sup>
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Idaho reached \$156,577,944. <sup>64</sup>

### YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 51 children in Idaho aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2016.<sup>42</sup>
- 6,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Idaho were not enrolled in school and not working in 2017.<sup>44</sup>
- 23,000 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>
- 35% of young adults in Idaho ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher in 2017.<sup>46</sup>
- In 2017, there were less than 26 reports of suicide among children under age 19.<sup>47</sup>

### JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 22 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Idaho in 2017, compared to 15 in 2016.<sup>48</sup>
- 6,260 children younger than 18 were arrested in Idaho in 2017. Violent crimes were the reason for 184 of the arrests in 2017.<sup>49</sup>
- 393 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Idaho 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, Idaho's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$8,881,348. The most utilized service in Idaho was Case Management for Children totaling \$3,671,715.<sup>60</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR IDAHO'S CHILDREN

- In 2016, Idaho spent \$60,694,219 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$39,286,639 was from federal funds and \$21,407,580 was from state and local funds.<sup>61</sup>
- In 2016, of the \$39,286,639 in federal funds received for child welfare, 29% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and

Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 1% was from Medicaid, 10% came from Social Services Block Grant, 18% was from TANF, and 3% came from other federal sources.<sup>62</sup>

- Idaho received \$3,393,043 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2016, including \$969,161 for maintenance payments and \$2,423,882 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.<sup>63</sup>

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- Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.
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- 30 Ibid.  
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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- 60 Rosinsky, K., & Williams, S. C. (2018, December). Child Welfare Financing Survey SFY 2016. Retrieved February 05, 2019, from [https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CWFSReportSFY2016\\_ChildTrends\\_December2018.pdf](https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CWFSReportSFY2016_ChildTrends_December2018.pdf)
- 61 Ibid.
- 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.
- 63 Ibid.
- 64 Health Resources & Services Administration. (2017). Home Visiting Program: State Factsheets. Retrieved March 28, 2018 online from: <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/maternal-child-health-initiatives/home-visiting/home-visiting-program-state-fact-sheets>