

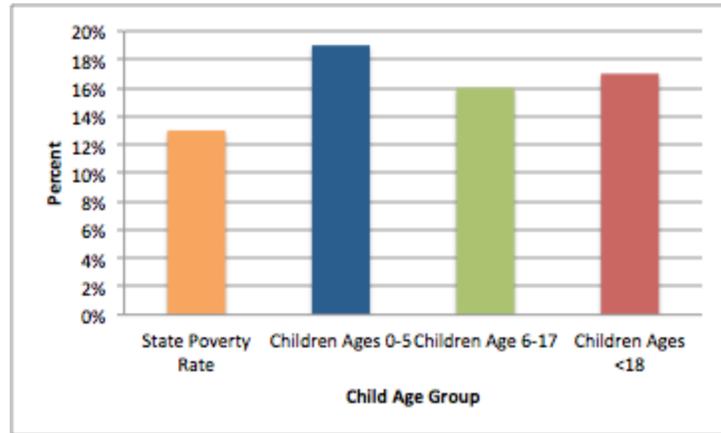
# ILLINOIS'S CHILDREN 2019

State Population: 12,741,080 | Population of Children Under 18: 2,879,484

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

- Of the 3,992 children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Illinois, 48% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers. 3,793 exited care in 2017<sup>15</sup>
- 1,777 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Illinois in 2017, an increase of 14.5% from 2016.<sup>16</sup>
- Of the 15,930 children in out-of-home care in 2017, there were 2,848 waiting to be adopted.<sup>17</sup>
- In 2017, approximately 84,799 grandparents in Illinois had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.<sup>18</sup>
- 6,437 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, Illinois had 74,353 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 74,353 reports were referred for investigation.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2017, there were 28,751 victims of abuse or neglect in Illinois, a rate of 9.9 per 1,000 children, a decrease of 3.1% from 2015. Of these children, 20,740 were neglected, 5,660 were physically abused, and 4,140 were sexually abused.<sup>9</sup>
- The number of child victims has increased 55.7 in comparison to the number of victims in 2013.<sup>10</sup>



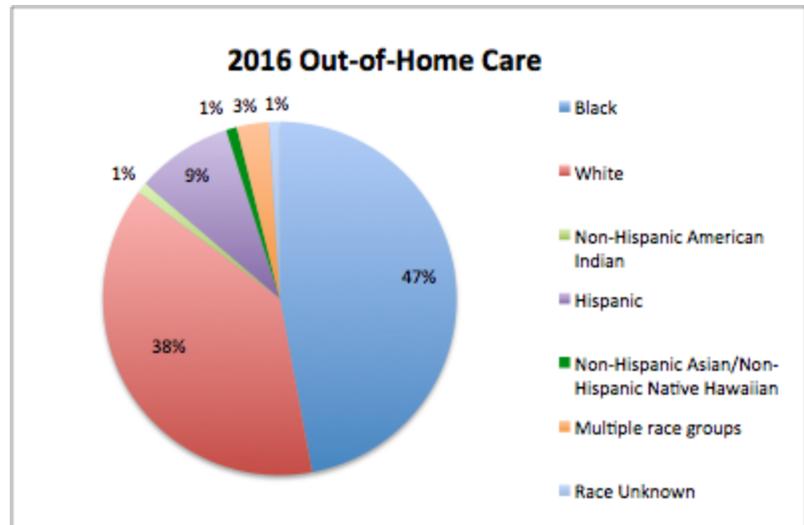
### CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2017, Illinois had a monthly average of 43,500 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 37,600 children received subsidized child care per month in 2016 and 46,200 were recipients in 2015.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2018, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Illinois, a family of three could make no more than \$37,788 at application, which is equivalent to 52% of the state's median income.<sup>29</sup>
- As of early 2018, Illinois had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2017, Head Start served 47,705 children in Illinois, an increase of .25% from 2016.<sup>31</sup>
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Illinois made 13,178 home visits to 2,187 participants in 1,100 households.<sup>65</sup>

- In 2017, there were 74 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Illinois.<sup>11</sup>

- 15,930 children in Illinois lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2017, compared with 16,113 children in 2016.<sup>12</sup>

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 1.1% 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 Illinois decreased from 34,881 in 2016, to 23,285 in 2018, a 33.2% change. There was a 11,658 monthly average of families received TANF in 2018, a decrease of 25.7% from 2016.<sup>20</sup>

- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 16 received TANF assistance.<sup>21</sup>
- \$277,980,785 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Illinois. The Top 3 services utilized with TANF dollar were: 1) Emergency assistance 2) Child welfare services and 3) Other.<sup>22</sup>
- \$121,902,284 was spent in 2018 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Illinois, serving 199,360 participants.<sup>23</sup>
- In 2017, Illinois distributed \$787,682,797 in child support funds, a decrease of 2.97% from 2016.<sup>24</sup>
- 900,000 children in Illinois 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 2017, the unemployment rate in Illinois was 5.0%.<sup>26</sup>
- 14% of households in Illinois 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

- 1,436,356 children in Illinois were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, a decrease of 3.5% from 2016.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2017, Illinois had 324,282 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a decrease of .52% from 2016, when 325,990 children were enrolled.<sup>33</sup>
- In 2017, Illinois had 89,000 uninsured children.<sup>34</sup>
- 12,987 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Illinois in 2016.<sup>35</sup>
- 980 infants under age 1 died in Illinois in 2016.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2016, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Illinois was 8 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 36 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 19 births for girls ages 15 to 19.<sup>37</sup>
- Cumulative through 2017, there were 44,109 adults and adolescents and 288 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Illinois.<sup>38</sup>

- In 2017, an estimated 24,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 645,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol in Illinois.<sup>39</sup>
- In 2017, approximately 23,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.<sup>40</sup>
- In 2014, approximately 27,000 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 Illinois reached \$887,402,938.<sup>64</sup>

## YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 243 children in Illinois aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2016.<sup>42</sup>
- 85% of high school students in Illinois graduated on time at the end of the 2015-16 year.<sup>43</sup>
- 25,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Illinois were not enrolled in school and not working in 2017.<sup>44</sup>
- 146,000 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>
- 59% of young adults in Illinois ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher in 2017.<sup>46</sup>
- In 2017, there were less than 21 reports of children in Illinois aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 92 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.<sup>47</sup>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 152 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Illinois in 2017, compared to 217 in 2015.<sup>48</sup>
- 8,587 children younger than 18 were arrested in Illinois in 2017. Violent crimes were the reason for 842 of the arrests in 2017.<sup>49</sup>
- 1,524 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Illinois 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 2016, Illinois's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$64,845,969. The most utilized service in Illinois was Home-Based Services for Children totaling \$23,199,745.<sup>60</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR ILLINOIS CHILDREN

- In 2016, Illinois spent \$1,085,562,575 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$637,728,372 was from federal funds and \$447,834,203 was from state and local funds.<sup>61</sup>

- In 2016, of the \$637,728,372 in federal funds received for child welfare, 27% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 3% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 1% was from Medicaid, 1% came from Social Services Block Grant, 26% was from TANF, and 2% came from other federal sources.<sup>62</sup>
  - Illinois received \$174,329,464 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$71,432,430 for maintenance payments and \$102,897,034 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training. <sup>63</sup>
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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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- 18 U.S. Census Bureau. (2017). American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2017. Retrieved January 22, 2019 from [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_16\\_1YR\\_DP02&prodType=table](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_16_1YR_DP02&prodType=table).
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- 30 Ibid.  
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- 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.
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