CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2017, Maine had 15,915 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 8,016 reports were referred for investigation.  

- In 2017, there were 3,475 victims of abuse or neglect in Maine, a rate of 13.8 per 1,000 children, an increase of .8% from 2016. Of these children, 63.1% were neglected, 29.4% were physically abused, and 8.2% were sexually abused.  

- The number of child victims has increased .8% in comparison to the number of victims in 2016.
CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2016, Maine had a monthly average of 3,400 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 2,800 children received subsidized child care per month in 2015 and 2,600 were recipients in 2014.  
- In 2018, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Maine, a family of three could make no more than $56,227 at application, which is equivalent to 84% of the state’s median income.  
- As of early 2018, Maine had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.  
- In 2017, Head Start served 4,038 children in Maine, an increase of 28.7% from 2015.  
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Maine made 20,538 home visits to 4,817 participants in 2,139 households.  

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- In 2017, there were 0 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Maine.  
- 1,837 children in Maine lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 1,873 children in 2015.  
- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Maine decreased from 8,503 in 2016 to 7,513 in 2018, an 11.6% change. There was a 3,305 monthly average of families received TANF in 2018, a decrease of 17.8% from 2016.  
- In 2017, for every 100 poor families with children, only 19 received TANF cash assistance.  
- $92,000,000 was spent in 2017 on TANF assistance in Maine, including 28% on basic assistance.
$9,157,282 was spent in 2018 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Maine, serving 18,320 participants.23

In 2017, Maine distributed $97,795,280 in child support funds, a 1388.5% change from 2014.24

68,000 children in Maine 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 2016, the unemployment rate in Maine was 3.8. 26

20% of households in Maine 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.27

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

146,637 children in Maine were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, a decrease of 3.9% from 2015.32

In 2017, Maine had 22,318 children enrolled in its State Children’s Health Insurance Program, an increase of .26% from 2015, when 23,257 children were enrolled.33

In 2016, Maine had 12,000 uninsured children.34

897 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Maine in 2016.35

74 infants under age 1 died in Maine in 2016.36

In 2016, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Maine was 5 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 29 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 15 births for girls ages 15 to 19.37

Cumulative through 2016, there were 1,417 adults and adolescents and 9 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Maine.38

In 2015, an estimated 1,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 33,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in Maine.39
In 2014, approximately 2,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.

In 2014, approximately 3,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.

In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Maine reached $92,736,966.

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE


87% of high school students in Maine graduated on time at the end of the 2015-16 year.

4,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Maine were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.

12,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.

39.3% of young adults in California ages 25 to 34 had an associate’s degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

In 2017, there were 0 reports of children in Maine aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 0 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

0 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Maine in 2017, compared to less than 10 in 2015.

3,160 children younger than 18 were arrested in Maine in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 45 of the arrests in 2016.

81 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Maine in 2015.
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._

- 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.

- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%. Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.

_Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care._

- 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.

- 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.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

- In 2016, Maine’s sum of expenditures for services totaled $7,113,166. The most utilized service in Maine was Foster Care Services for Children totaling $6,222,231.

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR CALIFORNIA’S CHILDREN

- In 2016, Maine spent $133,346,192 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, $40,602,294 was from federal funds and $92,743,898 was from state and local funds.
In 2016, of the $40,602,294 in federal funds received for child welfare, 23% 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, 0% was from Medicaid, 5% came from Social Services Block Grant, 0% was from TANF, and 1% came from other federal sources.62

Maine received $10,919,748 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2016, including $3,666,693 for maintenance payments and $7,253,055 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training. 63
1 Population and Child Abuse and Neglect statistics are from 2018.
3 Ibid.
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
6 Ibid.
7 Ibid.
17 Ibid.


Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.


Note: Some states allow families, once they begin receiving assistance, to continue receiving assistance up to a higher income level than the initial limit.
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).

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation. Children who switched between CHIP and Medicaid are represented in both data sets.

33 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.
63 Ibid.