

MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN 2019

State Population: 5,577,000 | Population of Children Under 18: 1,298,657

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 6,225 children exiting out-of-home care in 2017 in Minnesota, 63% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- 946 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Minnesota in 2017, an increase of 5.2% from 899 in 2016.¹⁶
- Of the 9,651 children in out-of-home care in 2017, there were 1,990 or 20.6% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2017, approximately 21,933 grandparents in Minnesota had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- 3,343 of the children in out-of-home care in 2016 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

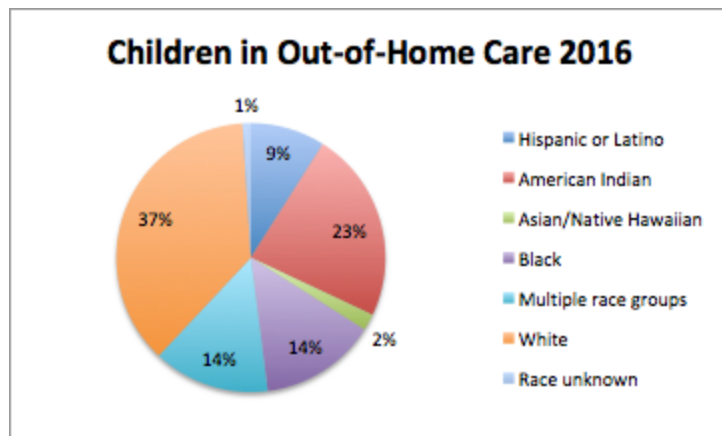
- In 2017, Minnesota had 90,720 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 32,477 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2017, there were 8,709 victims of abuse or neglect in Minnesota, a rate of 6.7 per 1,000 children, an increase of 9.7% from 2016. Of these children, 65.1% were neglected, 30.4% were physically abused, and 17.5% were sexually abused.⁹



CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2016, Minnesota had a monthly average of 20,000 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 23,400 children received subsidized child care per month in 2015 and 25,000 were recipients in 2014.²⁸
- In 2018, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Minnesota, a family of three could make no more than \$37,961 at application, which is equivalent to 47% of the state’s median income.²⁹
- As of early 2018, Minnesota had 2,376 families on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2017, Head Start served 17,732 children in Minnesota, an increase of 56% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Minnesota made 14,187 home visits to 3,782 participants in 1,983 households.⁶⁴

- The number of child victims has increased 9.7% in comparison to the number of victims in 2016.¹⁰
- In 2017, there were 24 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Minnesota.¹¹
- 8,793 children in Minnesota lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 7,610 children in 2015.¹²



- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 15.6% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2015.¹³

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Minnesota decreased from 45,000 in 2016 to 41,868 in 2018, a 7% change. There was a 17,649 monthly average of families received TANF in 2018, a decrease of 8.5% from 2016.²⁰
- In 2017, for every 100 poor families with children, only 47 received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$589,000,000 was spent in 2017 on TANF assistance in Minnesota, including 17% on basic assistance.²²
- \$53,361,035 was spent in 2018 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Minnesota, serving 105,961 participants.²³
- In 2017, Minnesota distributed \$561,127,628 in child support funds, a 4% change from 2014.²⁴
- 290,000 children in Minnesota 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 Minnesota was 3.9%.²⁶
- 15% of households in Minnesota 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

- 662,979 children in Minnesota were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, an increase of 5% from 2015.³²
- In 2017, Minnesota had 4,051 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 4.5% from 2015, when 3,876 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Minnesota had 43,000 uninsured children.³⁴
- 4,570 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Minnesota in 2016.³⁵
- 356 infants under age 1 died in Minnesota in 2016.³⁶
- In 2016, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Minnesota was 5 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 24 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 13 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 6,813 adults and adolescents and 33 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Minnesota.³⁸

- In 2015, an estimated 4,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 137,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in Minnesota.³⁹
- In 2014, approximately 10,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2014, approximately 11,000 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 Minnesota reached \$375,689,480. ⁶⁴

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 416 children in Minnesota aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2016.⁴²
- 82% of high school students in Minnesota graduated on time at the end of the 2015-16 year.⁴³
- 13,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Minnesota were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴
- 42,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.⁴⁵
- 51.5% of young adults in Minnesota ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.⁴⁶
- In 2017, there were 0 reports of children in Minnesota aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 56 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 47 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Minnesota in 2017, compared to 33 in 2015.⁴⁸

- 19,648 children younger than 18 were arrested in Minnesota in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 900 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 852 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Minnesota 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, Minnesota's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$31,694,752. The most utilized service in Minnesota was Case Management totaling \$8,571,707.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN

- In 2016, Minnesota spent \$563,139,419 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$158,581,003 was from federal funds and \$404,558,416 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
 - In 2016, of the \$158,581,003 in federal funds received for child welfare, 11% 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, 10% was from Medicaid, 4% came from Social Services Block Grant, 0% was from TANF, and 2% came from other federal sources.⁶²
 - Minnesota received \$36,387,172 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2016, including \$14,474,537 for maintenance payments and \$21,912,635 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training. ⁶³
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1 Population and Child Abuse and Neglect statistics are from 2018.

2 U.S. Census Bureau (2017). ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2016 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved February 12, 2019 from <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkmk>.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

8 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2019). Child Maltreatment 2017: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2016. Retrieved February 06, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

9 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2019). Child Maltreatment 2017: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2019). Child Maltreatment 2017: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-8: Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2015.pdf>.

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.

10 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2019). Child Maltreatment 2017: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 14, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

11 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2019). Child Maltreatment 2017: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 14, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf>.

12 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2018). Trends in Foster Care and Adoption, AFCARS State data tables 2007 through 2017. Retrieved February 14, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>

13 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2018). Trends in Foster Care and Adoption, AFCARS State data tables 2007 through 2017. Retrieved February 14, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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15 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2019). FY 2005 – FY 2017 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year. Retrieved February 1, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/fy2005-2014-foster-care-entries-exits>.

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Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

17 Ibid.

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.

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- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2019). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2017: Table: Total Recipients. Retrieved February 20, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/resource/tanf-caseload-data-2016>.
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- 21 Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2018) A State by State Look at TANF: State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Programs Do Not Provide Adequate Safety Net for Poor Families: TANF Provides a Safety Net to Few Poor Families: Map TANF-to-poverty ratio: # of families receiving TANF benefits for every 100 poor families with children (2015-2016). Retrieved April 16, 2018 from <https://www.cbpp.org/research/family-income-support/state-fact-sheets-how-states-have-spent-federal-and-state-funds-under>
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Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.
- 23 USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2018). Program Data: WIC Program: Monthly Data – State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs: Table: WIC Program—Total Number of Participants. Retrieved February 27, 2018 from <https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/pd/26wifypart.pdf>
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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).
- 31 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center, Office of Head Start. (2017). Head Start Program Facts Fiscal Year 2016. Retrieved January 29, 2019 from <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hs-program-fact-sheet-2016.pdf>.
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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.
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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation. Children who switched between CHIP and Medicaid are represented in both data sets.
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- 42 Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2017). Children exiting foster care by exit reason. Retrieved February 27, 2019 from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6277-children-exiting-foster-care-by-exit-reason?loc=1&loc=2#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/2632/13050>.
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- 51 Note: The dearth in current state-by-state workforce data makes clear the need for critical data on compensation, working conditions including safety issues, academic degrees held, education and training received, and factors contributing to turnover. To address this, CWLA is calling for Congress to authorize the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to conduct an updated study on the child welfare workforce. It would make recommendations regarding caseloads and workloads, education levels, and training requirements. In addition, the study would examine data reporting and collection and make recommendations on how states might improve these efforts.
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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.
- 62 Ibid.

63 Ibid.

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<https://mchb.hrsa.gov/maternal-child-health-initiatives/home-visiting/home-visiting-program-state-fact-sheets>