

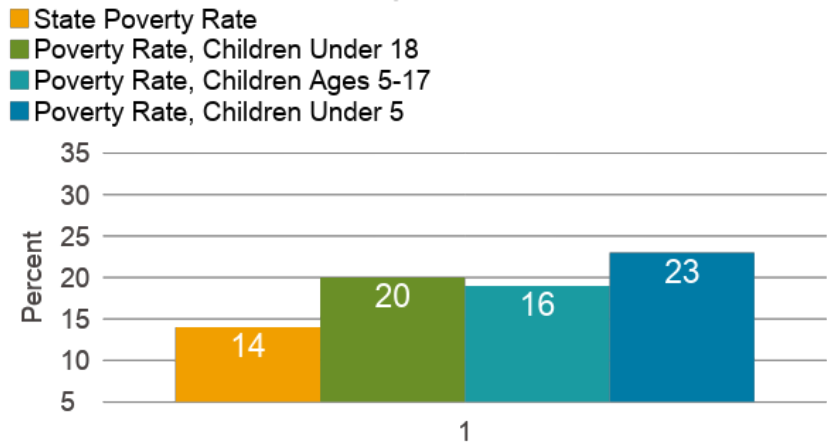
OHIO'S CHILDREN 2019

State Population: 11,689,442 | Population of Children Under 18: 2,606,745

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 10,234 children exiting out-of-home care in 2017 in Ohio, 45% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- 1,538 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Ohio in 2017, an increase of 5.8% from 1,449 in 2016.¹⁶
- Of the 14,961 children in out-of-home care in 2017, there were 3,373 or 22.5% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2017, approximately 95,211 grandparents in Ohio had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- 2,551 of the children in out-of-home care in 2016 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹

Poverty Rates



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2017, Ohio had 182,576 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 83,750 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2017, there were 24,987 victims of abuse or neglect in Ohio, a rate of 9.6 per 1,000 children, a decrease 9.7% from 2013. Of these children, 38.9% were neglected, 41.2% were physically abused, and 15% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 9.7% in comparison to the number of victims in 2013.¹⁰
- In 2017, there were 73 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Ohio.¹¹



- 14,961 children in Ohio lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2017, compared with 13,725 children in 2016. Of the children living apart from their families in 2014, there were 5,518 aged 5 or younger, and 2,015 were 16 or older.¹²

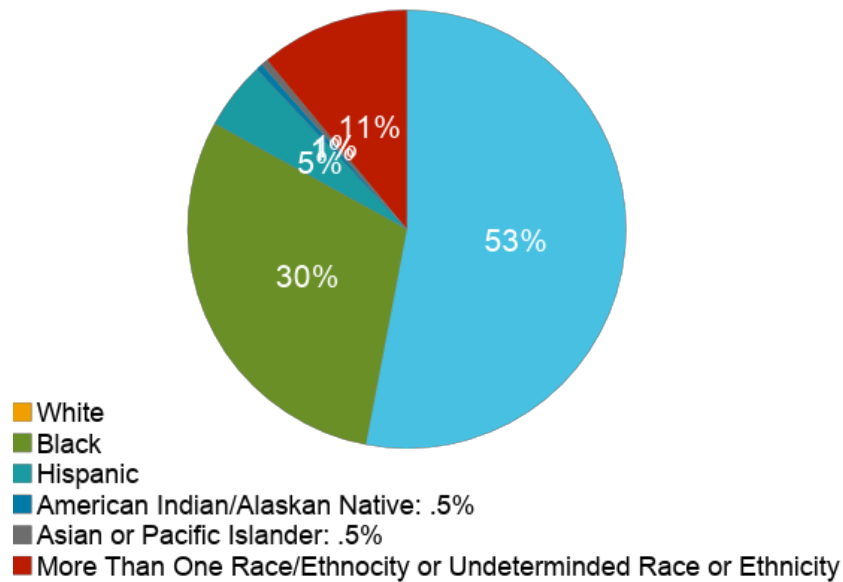
CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2017, Ohio had a monthly average of 48,900 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 47,700 children received subsidized child care per month in 2016 and 47,200 were recipients in 2015.²⁸
- In 2017, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Ohio, a family of three could make no more than \$26,208 at application, which is equivalent to 40% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2017, Ohio had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2017, Head Start served 35,365 children in Ohio, a decrease of 4.7% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Ohio made 22,231 home visits to 4,086 participants in 2,147 households.⁶⁵

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 8.3% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2016.¹³

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

Children in Out-of-Home Care 2016



- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Ohio decreased from 101,392 in 2017 to 92,017 in 2018, a 9.2% change. There was a 50,383-monthly average of families received TANF in 2018, a decrease of 8% from 2017.²⁰
- In Ohio in 2017, 1,043,000 children lived below 200% of poverty.²¹
- \$725,565,965 was spent in 2017 on TANF assistance in Ohio, including 25.1% on basic assistance, 35.0% on child care, 1.6% on transportation, and 0.0% on non-assistance.²²

- \$77,599,714 was spent in 2018 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Ohio, serving 208,995 participants.²³
- In 2017, Ohio distributed \$1,612,205,996 in child support funds, a decrease of 2.4% from 2016.²⁴
- 657,000 children in Ohio lived in households with a high housing burden in 2016, where more than 25% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁵
- In December of 2018, the unemployment rate in Ohio was 4.6%.²⁶
- 13.3% of households in Ohio were food insecure on average from 2015 to 2017, 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

- 1,549,162 children in Ohio were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, a decrease of 1% from 2016.³²
- In 2017, Ohio had 250,195 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 11.9% from 2014, when 223,583 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2017, Ohio had 128,387 uninsured children.³⁴
- 11,981 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Ohio in 2016.³⁵
- 1,023 infants under age 1 died in Ohio in 2016.³⁶
- In 2018, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Ohio was 8.3 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 39.4 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 22 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2017, there were 21,444 adults and adolescents and 151 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Ohio.³⁸
- In 2017, an estimated 15,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 531,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in Ohio.³⁹

- In 2017, approximately 15,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2017, approximately 24,000 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 Ohio reached \$1,075,753,413.⁶⁴

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 1,027 children in Ohio aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2017.⁴²
- 80.7% of high school students in Ohio graduated on time at the end of the 2014-15 year.⁴³
- 35,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Ohio were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴
- 141,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.⁴⁵
- 32.7% of young adults in Ohio ages 25 to 34 had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2017.⁴⁶
- In 2017, there were 25 reports of children in Ohio aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 97 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 136 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Ohio in 2017, compared to 119 in 2016.⁴⁸
- 22,865 children younger than 18 were arrested in Ohio in 2015. Violent crimes were the reason for 870 of the arrests in 2017.⁴⁹
- 2,163 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Ohio 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, Ohio's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$52,888,263. The most utilized service in Ohio was Protective Services for Children totaling \$39,552,602.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR OHIO'S CHILDREN

- In 2016, Ohio spent \$1,299,295,490 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$566,612,445 was from federal funds and \$732,683,045 was from state and local funds.⁶¹

- In 2016, of the \$566,612,445 in federal funds received for child welfare, 84.4% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 3.7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0% was from Medicaid, 8% came from Social Services Block Grant, 2.8% was from TANF, and 1.1% came from other federal sources.⁶²

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- Ohio received \$478,459,097 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2016, including \$354,059,732 for maintenance payments and \$124,399,365 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

1 "At A Glance" statistics are from 2018.

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4 Ibid.

5 Ibid

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7 Ibid.

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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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Numbers of Children Exiting Foster Care by State FY 2008– FY 2017. Retrieved February 14, 2019 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>.

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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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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.

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