

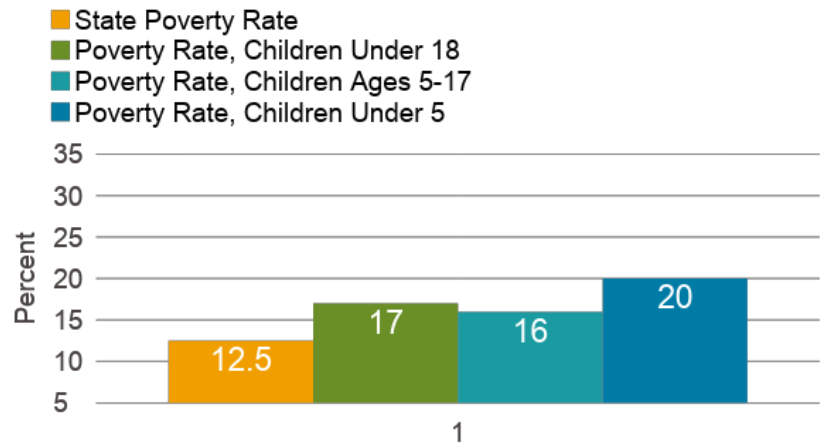
PENNSYLVANIA'S CHILDREN 2019

State Population: 12,807,060 | Population of Children Under 18: 2,663,868

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 9,661 children exiting out-of-home care in 2017 in Pennsylvania, 48% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- 2,077 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Pennsylvania in 2017, an increase of 7.7% from 1,917 in 2016.¹⁶
- Of the 16,891 children in out-of-home care in 2017, there were 3,711 or 21.9% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2017, approximately 86,628 grandparents in Pennsylvania had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- 5,605 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, Pennsylvania had 46,208 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 46,208 reports were referred for investigation.⁹
- In 2017, there were 4,625 victims of abuse or neglect in Pennsylvania, a rate of 1.7 per 1,000 children, an increase 41.9% from 2013. Of these children, 8% were neglected, 42.4% were physically abused, and 45.8% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 41.9% in comparison to the number of victims in 2013.¹⁰



- In 2017, there were 42 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Pennsylvania.¹¹
- 16,891 children in Pennsylvania lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2017, compared with 16,086 children in 2016. Of the children living apart from their families in 2016, there were 6,083 aged 5 or younger, and 3,209 were 16 or older.¹²

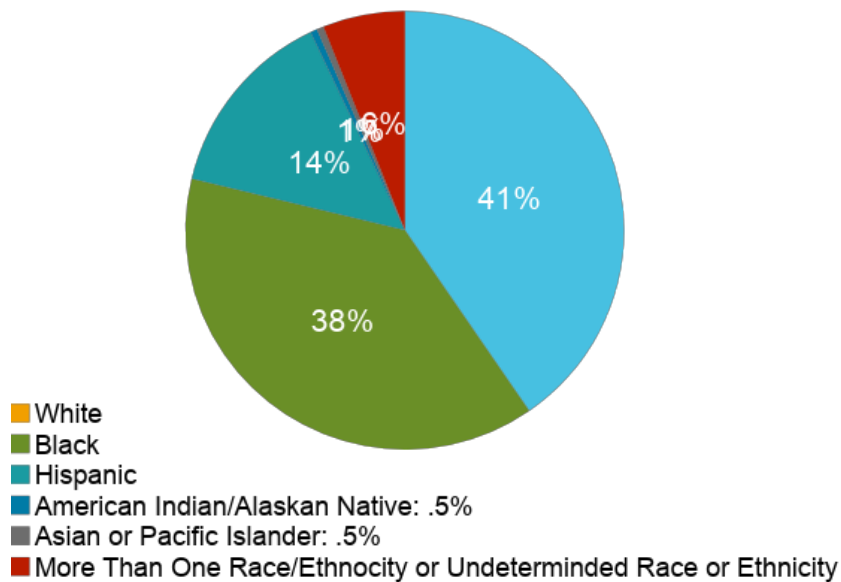
CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2017, Pennsylvania had a monthly average of 92,300 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 91,300 children received subsidized child care per month in 2016 and 93,500 were recipients in 2015.²⁸
- In 2017, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Pennsylvania, a family of three could make no more than \$40,320 at application, which is equivalent to 56% of the state’s median income.²⁹
- As of early 2017, Pennsylvania had 12,520 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2017, Head Start served 35,886 children in Pennsylvania, a decrease of 2% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2017, home visitors in Pennsylvania made 40,090 home visits to 6,492 participants in 3,203 households.⁶⁵

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased .50% 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 Pennsylvania decreased from 126,884 in 2016 to 116,641 in 2018, an 8.1% change. There was a 47,101-monthly average of families received TANF in 2018, a decrease of 7.8% from 2017.²⁰
- In Pennsylvania in 2018, 946,000 children lived below 200% of poverty.²¹
- \$717,124,957 was spent in 2017 on TANF assistance in Pennsylvania, including 21.0% on basic assistance, 26.1% on child care, 0.8% on transportation, and 5.5% on non-assistance.²²

- \$114,729,546 was spent in 2018 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Pennsylvania, serving 218,188 participants.²³
- In 2017, Pennsylvania distributed \$1,213,348,917 in child support funds, a decrease of 2.2% from 2016.²⁴
- 775,000 children in Pennsylvania lived in households with a high housing burden in 2016, where more than 29% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁵
- In December of 2018, the unemployment rate in Pennsylvania was 4.2. ²⁶
- 12.5% of households in Pennsylvania were food insecure on average from 2014 to 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

- 1,589,165 children in Pennsylvania were enrolled in Medicaid in 2017, a increase of 1.4% from 2016.³²
- In 2017, Pennsylvania had 363,323 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 5.8% from 2016, when 342,268 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2017, Pennsylvania had 136,386 uninsured children.³⁴
- 11,311 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Pennsylvania in 2016.³⁵
- 857 infants under age 1 died in Pennsylvania in 2016.³⁶
- In 2017, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Pennsylvania was 6.5 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 25.9 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 16 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2017, there were 42,919 adults and adolescents and 373 children younger than 372 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Pennsylvania.³⁸

- In 2017, an estimated 14,000 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 526,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in Pennsylvania.³⁹
- In 2017, approximately 13,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2017, approximately 20,000 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 Pennsylvania reached \$873,738,730.⁶⁴

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 760 children in Pennsylvania aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2016.⁴²
- 84.8% of high school students in Pennsylvania graduated on time at the end of the 2014-15 year.⁴³
- 38,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Pennsylvania 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
- 38.1% of young adults in Pennsylvania ages 25 to 34 had a bachelor's degree or higher from 2015 to 2017.⁴⁶
- In 2017, there were 14 reports of children in Pennsylvania aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 83 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 129 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Pennsylvania in 2017, compared to 129 in 2016.⁴⁸

- 43,800 children younger than 18 were arrested in Pennsylvania in 2017. Violent crimes were the reason for 3,049 of the arrests in 2017.⁴⁹
- 2,826 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Pennsylvania 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, Pennsylvania's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$64,529,652. The most utilized service in Pennsylvania was Day Care for Children totaling \$31,015,821.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S CHILDREN

- In 2016, Pennsylvania spent \$1,726,104,237 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$377,682,023 was from federal funds and \$1,348,422,214 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2016, of the \$377,682,023 in federal funds received for child welfare, 72.7% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 4.8% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0.3% was from Medicaid, 3.2% came from Social Services Block Grant, 15.4% was from TANF, and 3.7% came from other federal sources.⁶²
- Pennsylvania received \$274,408,401 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2016, including \$131,716,032 for maintenance payments and \$142,692,369 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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6 U.S. Census Bureau (2018). Selected Economic Characteristics, 2018 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2019 from <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>.

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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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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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