Child Maltreatment
In 2018, Florida had 253,124 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 169,557 were referred for investigation.¹

There were 36,795 child victims of abuse or neglect in Florida in 2018, at a rate of 8.7 children per 1,000. This translates to an 19.6% decrease since 2013.²

Of the 36,795 children, 16,937 were first time victims.³

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 5,929 of the 36,795 cases.iv

70% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. 30% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.iv

51% of Florida’s child victims in 2017 were female while 49% were male.vi

Plans of Safe Care
• In 2018, Florida did not report any infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.ix

• Therefore, Florida did not report any plans of safe care for screened-in infants.x
Child fatalities increased in 2018 from 101 in 2017 to 111 in 2018.\textsuperscript{i}

Florida did not report any numbers regarding child victims of sex trafficking.\textsuperscript{ii}

13,783 victims received postresponse services while 10,419 non-victims received postresponse services as well.\textsuperscript{iii}

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 39,909 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- 24,404 were in care on the day of September 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2018.
- 16,175 children entered care during the 2018 FY while 15,505 exited during the same year.
- 4,455 of Florida’s children were adopted while 9,144 were waiting to be adopted.\textsuperscript{iv}

There was a 0.9\% decrease in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased 16.2\% from 2017.\textsuperscript{v}

3.3\% Decrease since 2016 in children aging out of foster care

931 children in Florida aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is a decrease from 963 in 2016 and represents an 3.3 \% decrease.\textsuperscript{vi}

- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of 25.2 months in care.\textsuperscript{vii}
- The average length of stay in Florida for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in 25.1 months.\textsuperscript{viii}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was 7.1 years old.\textsuperscript{ix}
- The average age of adopted children was 5.8 years old.\textsuperscript{x}

\textsuperscript{i} Child fatalities increased in 2018 from 101 in 2017 to 111 in 2018.
\textsuperscript{ii} Florida did not report any numbers regarding child victims of sex trafficking.
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Florida’s Children 2020

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?

- Data from 2017 shows that 10,540 children in foster care within Florida were living with non-relatives while 10,811 stayed with a relative.
- 2,714 children were staying in group homes while 198 children were classified as runaways.xxii
- 4% of households in Florida in 2017 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.xxiii
- The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was 9 months.xxiv

Child Poverty
Florida had 1,219,000 children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 29% of all children.xxv

Child Poverty Over Time

- 38% of Florida’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.xxvi
- The average number of individuals receiving TANF increased from 67,602 in 2017 to 74,440 in 2018. This represents a 10.1% increase.xxvii
- The state spent $236,295,286 on WIC in 2019, serving 429,378 people. This represents a 4.7% decrease in total participant and a .3% increase in spending.xxviii

2,806,770 people in Florida were food insecure in 2017, including 854,880 children who struggled with hunger.xxix

38.5% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Florida in 2017 had children.xxx
Health
Florida had 19,653 low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.8% of infants born in Florida in 2017.xxxi

Florida had a total of 22,701 preterm births in 2017, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 9.2% of all white babies were born premature while 14% of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was %.xxxii

There were 10,708 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Florida in 2017, representing a rate of 18 in every 1,000 teen girls. xxxiii

1,358 infants under 1 died in Florida in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of 6.1 per 1,000. xxxiv

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2018

- White: 28%
- Black: 41%
- Hispanic: 31%

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018

- Medicaid: 31%
- CHIP: 49%
- Uninsured: 20%

- 7.6% of Florida’s children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents 339,000 children. Florida is not a Medicaid expansion state.xxxvi

- 538,567 children in Florida were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents .1% increase from 2017. xxxvii

- 222,072 children in Florida were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents an 6.5% increase from 2017. xxxviii
Juvenile Justice System

- There were 48,213 total arrests for children under 18 in Florida in 2018.
- 0 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 12,686 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 5,399 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 2,712 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Florida in 2017. This is a decrease from 2,853 kids in 2015, representing a 4.9% decline.

Teens & Youth

- 74,000 (7%) of Florida’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.
- In 2017, there were 17 reports of children in Florida aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 109 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- 205 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Florida in 2017.

Child Welfare Services Funding

- Florida spent $1,278,664,588 on child welfare services in 2016. Child welfare services are all of the direct and administrative services that state agencies provide to children and families.
- $736,366,057 were allocated from the federal government and $542,298,531 came from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources

- The breakdown of the $736,366,057 in federal funding received in Florida in 2016:
  - $23,290,480 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
  - $118,743,217 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
  - Florida’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was $135,257,317.
Florida’s Children 2020


Based on Calculations from the CWLA


Ibid.

Ibid.


Ibid.


Ibid.


Florida’s Children 2020


