Child Maltreatment

In 2018, Kansas had 25,018 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 17,270 were referred for investigation.¹

There were 3,188 child victims of abuse or neglect in Kansas in 2018, at a rate of 4.5 children per 1,000. This translates to an 59.6% increase since 2014.²

Of the 3,188 children, 2,824 were first time victims.³

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 183 of the 3,188 cases.⁴

- 63% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. 37% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.⁵

- 53% of child victims in 2017 were female while 47% were male.⁶

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2018

- Medical Neglect only
- Neglect only
- Physical Abuse Only
- Psychological Maltreatment only
- Sexual Abuse Only
- Multiple Maltreatment Types

Plans of Safe Care

- In 2018, Kansas reported 7 infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance exposure, 5 of which were screened-in.⁷

- Kansas reported 1 infant with a plan of safe care of the 5 screened-in infants.⁸
Child fatalities decreased in 2018 from 15 in 2017 to 9 in 2018.\textsuperscript{xii}

Kansas reported 1 total child victim of sex trafficking with 1 female.\textsuperscript{xii}

1,940 victims received postresponse services while 8,950 non-victims received postresponse services as well.\textsuperscript{xiii}

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 11,764 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- 8,068 were in care on the day of September 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2018.
- 4,227 children entered care during the 2018 FY while 3,696 exited during the same year.
- 936 of Kansas’s children were adopted while 2,616 were waiting to be adopted.\textsuperscript{xv}

There was a 4.1\% increase in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased 38.8\% from 2017.\textsuperscript{xvi}

426 children in Kansas aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is an increase from 349 in 2016 and represents a 22.1\% increase.\textsuperscript{xvii}

- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of 20.7 months in care. \textsuperscript{xviii}
- The average length of stay in Kansas for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in 36.4 months.\textsuperscript{xx}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was 8.2 years old.\textsuperscript{xxi}
- The average age of adopted children was 6.7 years old.\textsuperscript{xxi}
Data from 2017 shows that 3,853 were living with non-relatives while 2,307 stayed with a relative.

552 children were staying in group homes while 79 children were classified as runaways.

3% of households in Kansas in 2017 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.

The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was 11.7 months.

Child Poverty
Kansas had 146,000 children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 21% of all children.

22% of Kansas’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from 10,520 in 2017 to 4,317 in 2018. This represents a 58.9% decrease.

The state spent $20,000,440 on WIC in 2019, serving 48,536 people. This represents a 4.2% decrease in total participants and a 9.2% decrease in spending.

370,860 people in Kansas were food insecure in 2017, including 130,210 children who struggled with hunger.

44.8% of households in Kansas with children received SNAP benefits in 2017.
Health
Kansas had 2,685 low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 7.4% of infants born in Kansas in 2017.

Kansas had a total of 3,440 preterm births in 2018, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 9.2% of all white babies were born premature while 13.6% of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was 9.49%.

There were 2,057 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Kansas in 2017, representing a rate of 21 in every 1,000 teen girls.

221 infants under 1 died in Kansas in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of 6.1 per 1,000.

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018

- 5.1% of Kansas’s children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents 38,000 children. Kansas is not a Medicaid expansion state.

- 265,946 children in Kansas were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents 6.7% decrease from 2017.

- 63,850 children in Kansas were in the state Chip Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents an 1.2% decrease from 2017.
Juvenile Justice System

- There were 1,639 total arrests for children under 18 in Kansas in 2018.
- 108 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 105 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 202 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 423 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Kansas in 2018. This is a decrease from 564 kids in 2015, representing a 25% decrease.

Teens & Youth

- 9,000 (5%) of Kansas’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.
- In 2017, there were 0 reports of children in Kansas aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 38 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- 47 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Kansas in 2017.

Child Welfare Services Funding

- Kansas spent $258,713,107 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.
- $89,921,802 were allocated from the federal government and $168,791,305 came from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources

- The breakdown of the $89,921,802 in federal funding received in Kansas in 2016:
  - $21,705,787 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
  - $16,952,363 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
  - Kansas’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was $14,280,204.
Kansas’s Children 2020


xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xx Ibid.

xxi Ibid.


xxiii Ibid.


xxvi Ibid.


xxx Ibid.


