

The Nation's Children 2020

Child Maltreatment

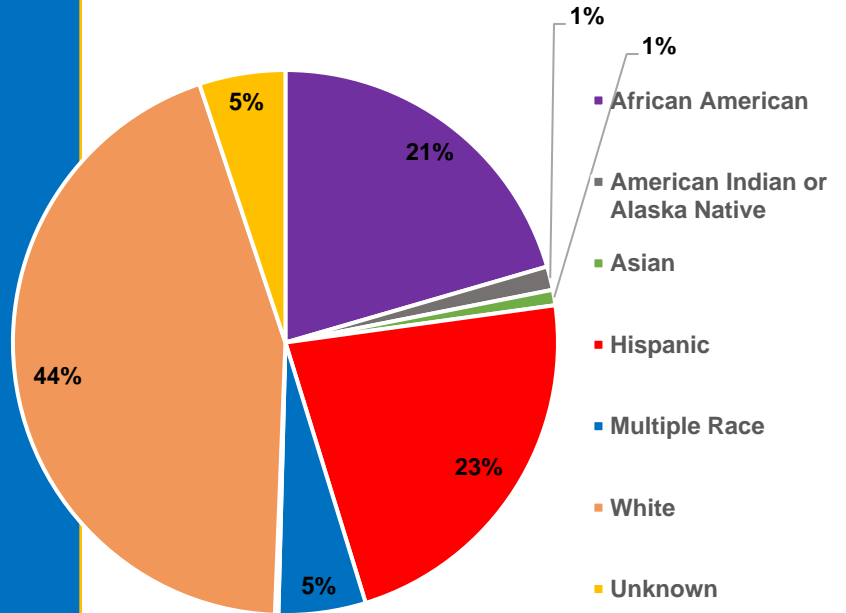
In 2018, the US had **3,960,823** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **2,402,827** were referred for investigation.ⁱ

There were **677,529** child victims of maltreatment in the US in 2018, at a rate of **9.2** children per 1,000. This translates to an **0.3%** increase since 2013.ⁱⁱ

Of the **677,529** children, **469,126** were first time victims.ⁱⁱⁱ

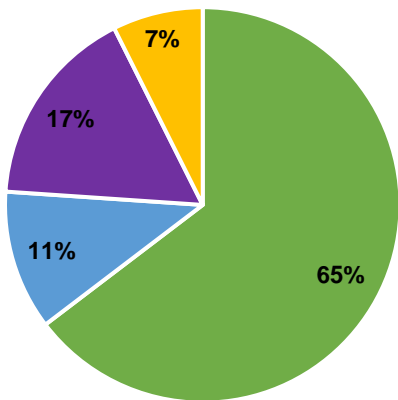
The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing **103,478** of the **677,529** cases.^{iv}

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2018



v

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2018



- Neglect Only
- Physical Abuse Only
- Multiple Maltreatment Types
- Sexual Abuse Only

- **76%** of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. **24%** were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.^{vi}

- **54%** of the Nation's child victims in 2017 were female while **46%** were male.^{vii}

viii

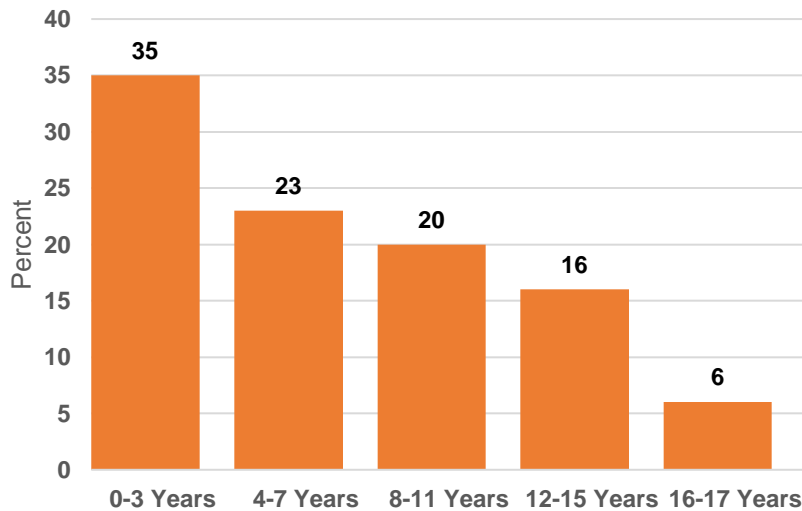
Plans of Safe Care

- In 2018, the US reported **24,342** infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.^{ix}
- The United States reported **9,674** plans of safe care for screened-in infants from 11 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.^x



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2017



- Child fatalities increased in 2018 from **1,720** in 2017 to **1,738** in 2018.^{.xi}

- The Nation reported **741** total child victims of sex trafficking with **664** females and **77** males.^{.xii}

- **391,661** victims received postresponse services while **951,678** non-victims received postresponse services as well.^{.xiii}

xiv

Foster Care and Adoptions

- **687,345** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- **437,283** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2018.
- **262,956** children entered care during the 2018 FY while **250,103** exited during the same year.
- **63,123** of the Nation's children were adopted while **125,422** were waiting to be adopted.^{.xv}

There was a **0.9%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions out of foster care increased **6.1%** from 2017.^{.xvi}

6.1%
Increase since
2016 in children
adopted out of
foster care

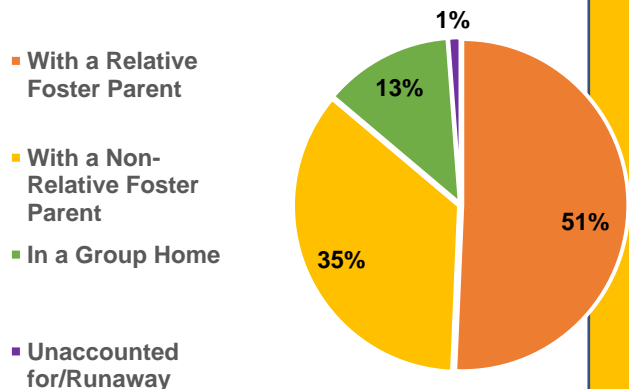
20,455 children in the US aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is a slight decrease from **20,532** in 2016 and represents an **0.4%** decrease.^{.xvii}

- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of **20.1** months in care. ^{.xviii}
- The average length of stay in the United States for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in **30.9** months.^{.xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was **7.2** years old.^{.xx}
- The average age of adopted children was **5.8** years old.^{.xxi}



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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?

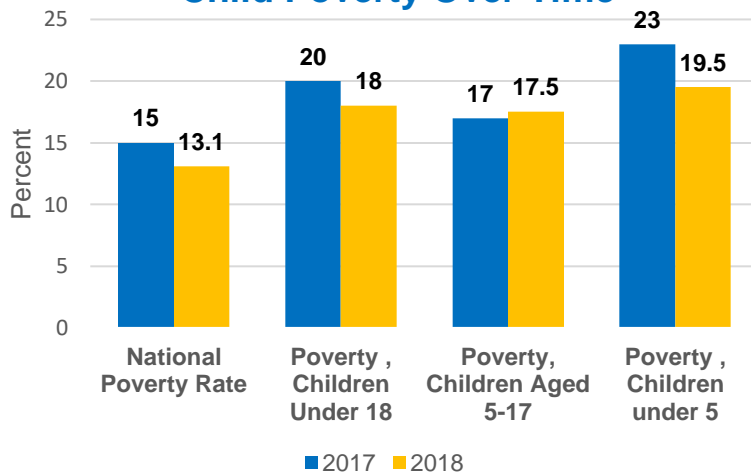


- Data from 2017 shows that **200,667** children in foster care within the US were living with non-relatives while **140,485** stayed with a relative. .xxii
- **50,090** children were staying in group homes while **4,732** children were classified as runaways. .xxiii
- **4%** of households in the United States in 2017 had a grandparent living with a grandchild. .xxiv
- The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was **9.9** months. .xxv

Child Poverty

The United States had **20,075,000** children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing **27%** of all children. .xxvi

Child Poverty Over Time



31% of the Nation's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden. .xxvii

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from **2,565,104** in 2017 to **2,258,668** in 2018. This represents a **11.9%** decrease. .xxviii

The country spent **\$3,142,292,903** on WIC in 2019, serving **6,400,238** people. This represents a **6.8%** decrease in total participants and a **6.9%** decrease in spending. .xxix

37,227,000 people in the United States were food insecure in 2017, including **11,174,000** children who struggled with hunger. .xxx

Children accounted for **44%** of all SNAP recipients nationwide in 2017. .xxxi



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Health

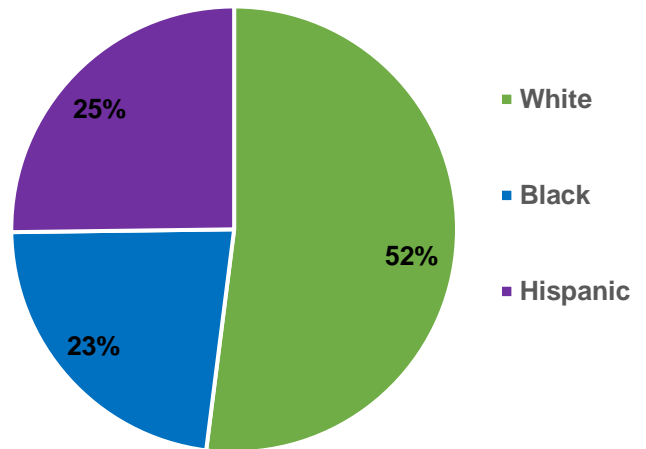
The Nation had **318,873** low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to **8.3%** of infants born in the United States in 2017. ^{.xxxii}

The US had a total of **379,777** preterm births in 2018, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. **9.1%** of all white babies were born premature while **14.1%** of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was **10%**. ^{.xxxiii}

There were **194,377** births to mothers aged 15-19 in the Nation in 2017, representing a rate of **19** in every 1,000 teen girls. ^{.xxxiv}

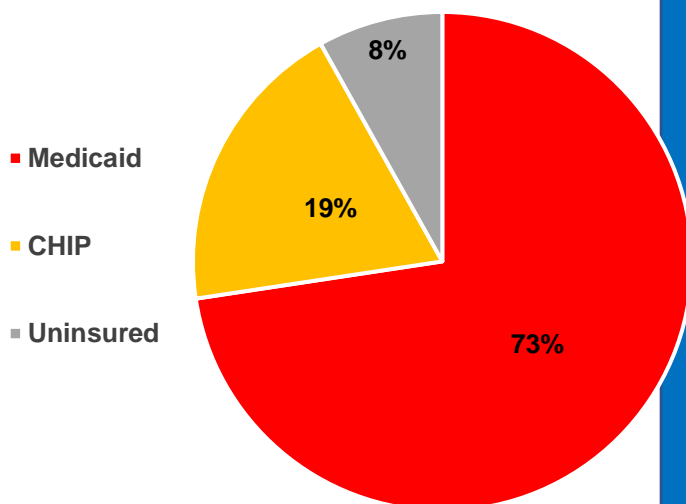
22,335 infants under 1 died in in the US in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of **5.8** per 1,000. ^{.xxxv}

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2018



^{.xxxvi}

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018



- **5.2%** of the Nation's children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents **4,055,000** children. ^{.xxxvii}

- **36,287,063** children in the US were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents **1.8%** decrease from 2017. ^{.xxxviii}

- **9,632,367** children in the Nation were in the Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents an **1.8%** increase from 2017. ^{.xxxix}



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9.3%
decline since
2015 of children
living in juvenile
correction
facilities

Juvenile Justice System

- There were **553,620** total arrests for children under 18 in the United States in 2018.
- **44,074** of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- **100,743** arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **68,612** children were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.^{xi}
- **43,580** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in the Nation in 2017. This is a decrease from **48,043** kids in 2015, representing a **17.3%** decline.^{xii}

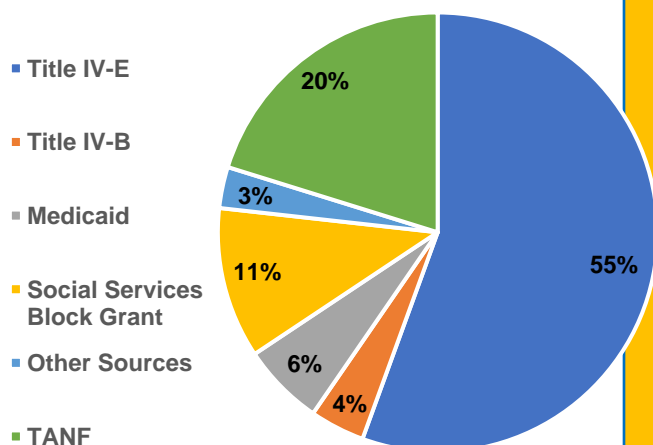
Teens & Youth

- **1,171,000** (7%) of the United States' youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.^{xlii}
- In 2017, there were **517** reports of children in the US aged 10-14 committing suicide, and **2,491** reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.^{xliii}
- **2,479** children aged 18 and under were killed by a firearm in the Nation in 2017.^{xliv}

Child Welfare Services Funding

- The United States spent **\$29,886,155,998** 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.
- **\$13,502,063,156** were allocated from the federal government and **\$16,384,092,843** came from state and local funds.^{xlv}

Federal Funding Sources



- The breakdown of the **\$13,502,063,156** in federal funding spent in 2016. ^{xlvi}
- **\$2,666,814,920** as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- **\$2,512,120,200** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program ^{xlvii}
- The United States' sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was **\$1,564,529,526**. ^{xlviii}



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- iv U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-5 Victims by Age, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf>
- v U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-7 Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf>
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- vii Child Trends, (2019). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Child Maltreatment, Gender of maltreatment victims, 2017. Retrieved January 27, 2020 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>
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- x U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 7-8 Screened-in Infants with Prenatal Substance Exposure Who Have a Plan of Safe Care, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf>



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^{xi} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 4-1 Child Fatalities, 2014-2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf>

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^{xiii} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 6-2 Children Who Received Post Response Services, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf>

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^{xvii} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2019). Children exiting foster care by exit reason. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6277-children-exiting-foster-care-by-exit-reason?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-53/false/871/2632/13050>.

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^{xx} Ibid.

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^{xxii} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2019). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Placement Type, 2017, Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6247-children-in-foster-care-by-placement-%20type#detailed/2/2-53/true/871/2622,2621,2623,2625/12994>.

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^{xxiv} Ibid.



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