Child Maltreatment

In 2018, New Hampshire had 17,611 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 11,168 were referred for investigation.

There were 1,331 child victims of abuse or neglect in New Hampshire in 2018, at a rate of 5.2 children per 1,000. This translates to a 106% increase since 2013.

Of the 1,331 children, 1,132 were first time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 174 of the 1,331 cases.

• 87% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. 13% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.

• 50% of New Hampshire’s child victims in 2017 were female while 50% were male.

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2018

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

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2018

- African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Hispanic
- Multiple Race
- White
- Unknown

- In 2018, New Hampshire reported 81 infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.

- New Hampshire reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

Plans of Safe Care
• Child fatalities decreased in 2018 from 2 in 2017 to 0 in 2018.xi

• New Hampshire had no reports of child victims of sex trafficking.xii

• 727 victims received post-response services while 938 non-victims received post-response services as well.xiii

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Foster Care and Adoptions

• 2,255 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
• 1,531 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2018.
• 868 children entered care during the 2018 FY while 724 exited during the same year.
• 204 of New Hampshire’s children were adopted while 129 were waiting to be adopted.xv

There was a 4.8% increase in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased 90.7% from 2017.xvi

97 children in New Hampshire aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is an decrease from 112 in 2016 and represents a 13.4% decrease.xvii

• Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of 14.7 months in care. xviii
• The average length of stay in New Hampshire for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 32.7 months.xix
• The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was 7.9 years old.xx
• The average age of adopted children was 5.8 years old.xxi
Data from 2017 shows that 508 children in foster care within New Hampshire were living with non-relatives while 426 stayed with a relative.

- 315 children were staying in group homes while 16 children were classified as runaways.xxii

- 3% of households in New Hampshire 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 9.7 months.xxiv

### Child Poverty

New Hampshire had 65,000 children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 25% of all children.xxv

26% of New Hampshire’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.xxvi

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from 4,737 in 2017 to 6,536 in 2018. This represents a 27.5% decrease.xxvii

The state spent $3,983,236 on WIC in 2019, serving 12,163 people. This represents a 1.4% decrease in total participants and a 13.4% decrease in spending. xxviii

112,860 people in New Hampshire were food insecure in 2017, including 31,640 children who struggled with hunger.xxix

40.6% of households in New Hampshire with children received SNAP benefits in 2017.xxx
Health

New Hampshire had 839 low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 6.9% of infants born in New Hampshire in 2017.\(^{xxi}\)

New Hampshire had a total of 995 preterm births in 2018, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.1% of all white babies were born premature while 9.1% of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was 8.3%.\(^{xxii}\)

There were 353 births to mothers aged 15-19 in New Hampshire in 2017, representing a rate of 8 in every 1,000 teen girls.\(^{xxiii}\)

51 infants under 1 died in New Hampshire in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of 4.2 per 1,000.\(^{xxiv}\)

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018

- 2% of New Hampshire’s children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents 7,000 children. New Hampshire is not a Medicaid expansion state.\(^{xxvi}\)
- 92,007 children in New Hampshire were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents a 2.9% decrease from 2017.\(^{xxvii}\)
- 17,781 children in New Hampshire were in the state Chip Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents a 0.2% increase from 2017.\(^{xxviii}\)
Juvenile Justice System
- There were 3,283 total arrests for children under 18 in New Hampshire in 2018.
- 68 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 349 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 344 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 69 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in New Hampshire in 2017. This data has remained the same at 69 children in 2015.

Teens & Youth
- 4,000 (5%) of New Hampshire’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.
- In 2017, there were 0 reports of children in New Hampshire aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 13 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- There were no reports of children under age 19 killed by a firearm in New Hampshire in 2017.

Child Welfare Services Funding
- New Hampshire spent $84,997,119 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.
- $42,704,096 were allocated from the federal government and $42,272,023 came from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources
- The breakdown of the $42,704,096 in federal funding received in New Hampshire in 2016:
- $10,926,063 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- $3,058,103 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- New Hampshire’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was $7,110,604.
New Hampshire’s Children 2020


xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xx Ibid.

xxi Ibid.


xxiii Ibid.


xxvi Ibid.


xxx Ibid.


