**Child Maltreatment**

In 2018, Pennsylvania had 45,279 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. All were referred for investigation.¹

There were 4,695 child victims of abuse or neglect in Pennsylvania in 2018, at a rate of 1.8 children per 1,000. This translates to a 43.9% increase since 2014.²

Pennsylvania did not report the number of first time victims.³

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 398 of the 4,695 cases.⁴

- 54% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents on the child. 46% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.⁵
- 61% of Pennsylvania’s child victims in 2017 were female while 39% were male.⁶

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**Plans of Safe Care**

- In 2018, Pennsylvania reported 1 infant who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.⁷
- Pennsylvania reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.⁸
Child fatalities decreased in 2018 from 31 in 2017 to 24 in 2018.\textsuperscript{xii}

Pennsylvania reported 14 total child victims of sex trafficking. All 14 reported were female.\textsuperscript{xii}

1,357 victims received post-response services while 2,936 non-victims received post-response services as well.\textsuperscript{xiii}

Foster Care and Adoptions

- \textbf{26,497} total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- \textbf{16,566} were in care on the day of September 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2018.
- \textbf{10,155} children entered care during the 2018 FY while \textbf{9,931} exited during the same year.
- \textbf{2,628} of Pennsylvania’s children were adopted while \textbf{3,763} were waiting to be adopted.\textsuperscript{ xv}

There was a \textbf{1.9\%} decrease in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased \textbf{26.5\%} from 2017.\textsuperscript{xvi}

874 children in Pennsylvania aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is an increase from 760 in 2016 and represents a \textbf{15\%} increase.\textsuperscript{xvii}

- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of \textbf{18.1} months in care. \textsuperscript{xviii}
- The average length of stay in Pennsylvania for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in \textbf{30.8} months.\textsuperscript{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was \textbf{7.1} years old.\textsuperscript{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was \textbf{5.7} years old.\textsuperscript{xxi}

\textsuperscript{xiv}
• Data from 2017 shows that 6,863 children in foster care within Pennsylvania were living with non-relatives while 6,359 stayed with a relative.

• 2,469 children were staying in group homes while 139 children were classified as runaways.\textsuperscript{xxii}

• 3% of households in Pennsylvania in 2017 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.\textsuperscript{xxiii}

• The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was 11.5 months.\textsuperscript{xxiv}

\textbf{Child Poverty}

Pennsylvania had 696,000 children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 26% of all children.\textsuperscript{xxv}

\textbf{Child Poverty Over Time}

27% of Pennsylvania’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.\textsuperscript{xxvi}

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from 126,884 in 2017 to 116,641 in 2018. This represents an 8.1% decrease.\textsuperscript{xxvii}

The state spent $105,157,588 on WIC in 2019, serving 202,167 people. This represents a 7.3% decrease in total participants and an 8.3% decrease in spending.\textsuperscript{xxviii}

1,534,710 people in Pennsylvania were food insecure in 2017, including 437,340 children who struggled with hunger.\textsuperscript{xxix}

36.2% of households in Pennsylvania with children received SNAP benefits in 2017.\textsuperscript{xxx}
Health
Pennsylvania had 11,580 low birthweight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.4% of infants born in Pennsylvania in 2017.\textsuperscript{xxi}

Pennsylvania had a total of 12,915 preterm births in 2018, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.6% of all white babies were born premature while 13.7% of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was 9.5%.\textsuperscript{xxii}

There were 5,899 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Pennsylvania in 2017, representing a rate of 15 in every 1,000 teen girls.\textsuperscript{xxiii}

841 infants under 1 died in Pennsylvania in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of 6.1 per 1,000.\textsuperscript{xxiv}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{preterm_births_by_race_2018.png}
\caption{Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2018}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{public_health_insurance_coverage_2018.png}
\caption{Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018}
\end{figure}

- 4.4% of Pennsylvania’s children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents 124,000 children. Pennsylvania is a Medicaid expansion state.\textsuperscript{xxvi}
- 1,229,049 children in Pennsylvania were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents a 0.3% increase from 2017.\textsuperscript{xxvii}
- 369,172 children in Pennsylvania were in the state Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents a 1.6% increase from 2017.\textsuperscript{xxviii}
Juvenile Justice System
- There were 36,034 total arrests for children under 18 in Pennsylvania in 2018.
- 6,882 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 4,540 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 3,231 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.xxxix
- 1,791 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Pennsylvania in 2018. This is a decrease from 2,826 kids in 2015, representing a 36.6% decline.xl

Teens & Youth
- 41,000 (6%) of Pennsylvania’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.xli
- In 2017, there were 14 reports of children in Pennsylvania aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 83 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.xlii
- 135 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Pennsylvania in 2017.xliii

Child Welfare Services Funding
- Pennsylvania spent $1,726,104,237 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.
- $377,682,023 were allocated from the federal government and $1,348,422,214 came from state and local funds.xliv

Federal Funding Sources
- The breakdown of the $377,682,023 in federal funding received in Pennsylvania in 2016: xlv
  - $92,678,639 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
  - $106,311,751 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program xlvi
- Pennsylvania’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was $65,352,353 xlvii


xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


x Ibid.

xxi Ibid.


xxiii Ibid.


xxvi Ibid.


xxx Ibid.


childrens-enrollment-report.pdf

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xlii Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control: Data & Statistics
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xliii Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control: Data & Statistics
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