Child Maltreatment
In 2018, Wyoming had 7,254 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 2,777 were referred for investigation.

There were 1,044 child victims of abuse or neglect in Wyoming in 2018, at a rate of 7.7 children per 1,000. This translates to an 21.3% increase since 2014.

Of the 1,044 children, 856 were first time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 137 of the 1,044 cases.

- 84% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. 16% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 52% of Wyoming’s child victims in 2017 were female while 48% were male.

Plans of Safe Care
- In 2018, Wyoming did not report the number of infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- Wyoming reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **2,098** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- **1,091** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2018.
- **1,068** children entered care during the 2018 FY while **1,007** exited during the same year.
- **75** of Wyoming’s children were adopted while **122** were waiting to be adopted.\(^{xv}\)

There was a **0.5%** increase in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased **8.5%** from 2017.\(^{xvi}\)

**13** children in Wyoming aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is the same number of children as in 2016 and represents no change.\(^{xvii}\)

- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of **12.6** months in care.\(^{xviii}\)
- The average length of stay in Wyoming for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in **39.4** months.\(^{xix}\)
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was **10.1** years old.\(^{xx}\)
- The average age of adopted children was **5.9** years old.\(^{xv}\)

\(^{xi}\) Child fatalities decreased in 2018 from **4** in 2017 to **1** in 2018.

\(^{xii}\) Wyoming did not report the number of sex trafficking victims for 2018.

\(^{xiii}\) **865** victims received postresponse services while **3,657** non-victims received postresponse services as well.

\(^{xiv}\) 8.5% Increase since 2017 in adoptions from the system

\(^{xv}\) 13 children in Wyoming aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is the same number of children as in 2016 and represents no change.

\(^{xvi}\) There was a 0.5% increase in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased 8.5% from 2017.

\(^{xvii}\) 13 children in Wyoming aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is the same number of children as in 2016 and represents no change.

\(^{xviii}\) Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of 12.6 months in care.

\(^{xix}\) The average length of stay in Wyoming for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in 39.4 months.

\(^{xx}\) The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was 10.1 years old.

\(^{x}v\) The average age of adopted children was 5.9 years old.
Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?

- Data from 2017 shows that 439 children in foster care within Wyoming were living with non-relatives while 342 stayed with a relative. xxii
- 201 children were staying in group homes while the number of children classified as runaways was 0.xxiii
- 5% of households in Wyoming 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 months.xxv

Child Poverty

Wyoming had 33,000 children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 24% of all children.xxvi

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

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from 1,250 in 2017 to 1,253 in 2018. This represents a 0.2% increase.xxviii

The state spent $2,926,473 on WIC in 2019, serving 7,961 people. This represents a 12.1% decrease in total participants and a 16% decrease in spending. xxix

71,060 people in Wyoming were food insecure in 2017, including 23,960 children who struggled with hunger.xxx

49.8% of households in Wyoming that received SNAP benefits in 2017 had children.xxxi
Health

Wyoming had 600 low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.7% of infants born in Wyoming in 2017.**xxxii**

Wyoming had a total of 646 preterm births in 2018, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 10.1% of all white babies were born premature while 8.58% of hispanic babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was 9.9%.**xxxiii**

There were 424 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Wyoming in 2017, representing a rate of 25 in every 1,000 teen girls.**xxxiv**

32 infants under 1 died in Wyoming in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of 4.6 per 1,000.**xxxv**

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018

- 71% of Wyoming’s children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents 10,000 children. Wyoming is not a Medicaid expansion state.**xxxvii**
- 40,674 children in Wyoming were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents a 5.8% decrease from 2017.**xxxviii**
- 7,102 children in Wyoming were in the state Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents a 0.2% increase from 2017.**xxxix**
Juvenile Justice System
- There were 3,191 total arrests for children under 18 in Wyoming in 2018.
- 104 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 391 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 580 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 183 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Wyoming in 2018. This is an increase from 177 kids in 2015, representing a 3.4% increase.

Teens & Youth
- 3,000 (8%) of Wyoming’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.
- In 2017, there were no reports of children in Wyoming aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 13 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- No children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Wyoming in 2017.

Child Welfare Services Funding
- Wyoming spent $51,768,183 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.
- $20,106,898 were allocated from the federal government and $31,661,285 came from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources
- The breakdown of the $20,106,898 in federal funding received in Wyoming in 2016.
  - $2,467,129 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
  - $747,378 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
  - Wyoming’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was $2,873,944.


xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xx Ibid.

xxi Ibid.


xxiii Ibid.

xxiv Ibid.


xxvii Ibid.


xxx Ibiden.


