Indiana’s Children 2022

Child Maltreatment

In 2020, Indiana had 165,705 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 111,868 were referred for investigation.¹

There were 22,648 child victims of abuse or neglect in Indiana in 2020, at a rate of 14.5 children per 1,000. This translates to an 1.4% decrease since 2016.²

Of the 22,648 children, 16,032 were first time victims.³

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 4,900 of the 22,648 cases.⁴

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2020

- Medical Neglect
- Neglect
- Physical Abuse
- Psychological Maltreatment
- Sexual Abuse
- Sex Trafficking
- Unknown

- 77% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child. 23% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.⁵

- 52% of Indiana’s child victims in 2020 were female while 48% were male.⁶

Plans of Safe Care

- In 2020, Indiana reported 634 of infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.⁷

- Indiana reported 239 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.⁸

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2020
Indiana’s Children 2022

**Foster Care and Adoptions**
- 24,302 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- 15,084 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2020.
- 8,426 children entered care during the 2020 FY while 9,219 exited during the same year.
- 2,149 of Indiana’s children were adopted while 3,575 were waiting to be adopted.\textsuperscript{xv}

There was a 7.5% decrease in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system also decreased 13.7% from 2019.\textsuperscript{xvi}

341 children in Indiana aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is a decrease from 392 in 2018 and represents a 13% decrease.\textsuperscript{xvii}

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of 19.9 months in care.\textsuperscript{xviii}
- The average length of stay in Indiana for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 38.2 months.\textsuperscript{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.8 years old.\textsuperscript{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was 6.5 years old.\textsuperscript{xxi}

---

\textsuperscript{xi} Child fatalities decreased in 2020 from 116 in 2019 to 56 in 2020.

\textsuperscript{xii} Indiana reported 32 sex trafficking victims for 2018.

\textsuperscript{xiii} 13,695 victims received post-response services while 13,043 non-victims received post-response services as well.

\textsuperscript{xiv} 341 children in Indiana aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is a decrease from 392 in 2018 and represents a 13% decrease.

\textsuperscript{xv} 2,149 of Indiana’s children were adopted while 3,575 were waiting to be adopted.

\textsuperscript{xvi} There was a 7.5% decrease in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system also decreased 13.7% from 2019.

\textsuperscript{xvii} 341 children in Indiana aged out and exited foster care in 2019.

\textsuperscript{xviii} Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of 19.9 months in care.

\textsuperscript{xix} The average length of stay in Indiana for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 38.2 months.

\textsuperscript{xx} The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.8 years old.

\textsuperscript{xxi} The average age of adopted children was 6.5 years old.
Indiana’s Children 2022

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?

- With a Relative Foster Parent: 5,266 (42%)
- With a Non-Relative Foster Parent: 6,167 (49%)
- In a Group Home: 1,035 (8%)
- Unaccounted for/Runaway: 71 (0%)

Data from 2019 shows that 6,167 children in foster care within Indiana were living with non-relatives while 5,266 stayed with a relative. xxii

1,035 children were staying in group homes while the number of children classified as runaways was 71. xxii

3% of households in Indiana in 2020 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 9.6 months. xxv

Child Poverty

Indiana had 419,000 children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 27% of all children. xxvi

Child Poverty Over Time

- Poverty, Children 0 to 5: 19 (2018) vs 17 (2019)

21% of Indiana’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden. xxvii

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from 19,329 in 2020 to 18,111 in 2021. This represents a 6.3% decrease. xxviii

The state spent $42,105,966 on WIC in 2021, serving 153,131 people. This represents a 5.2% increase in total participants and a 16% decrease in spending. xxix

834,530 people in Indiana were food insecure in 2019, including 239,540 children who struggled with hunger. xxx

46.3% of households in Indiana that received SNAP benefits in 2019 had children. xxxi
Health
Indiana had 6,607 low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.2% of infants born in Indiana in 2019.\textsuperscript{xxxii}

Indiana had a total of 8,207 preterm births in 2019, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 9.7% of all white babies were born premature while 9.9% of hispanic babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was 10.2%.\textsuperscript{xxxiii}

There were 4,641 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Indiana in 2019, representing a rate of 21 in every 1,000 teen girls. \textsuperscript{xxxiv}

525 infants under 1 died in Indiana in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of 6.5 per 1,000. \textsuperscript{xxxv}

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2020

- Medicaid: 41%
- CHIP: 50%
- Uninsured: 9%

8.7% of Indiana’s children had no health insurance in 2019. Indiana is a Medicaid expansion state. \textsuperscript{xxxvii}

698,678 children in Indiana were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents 4.7% increase from 2019. \textsuperscript{xxxviii}

123,134 children in Indiana were in the state Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents an 10.5% decrease from 2019. \textsuperscript{xxxix}
Juvenile Justice System
- There were 5,211 total arrests for children under 18 in Indiana in 2019.
- 292 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 902 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 780 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.\textsuperscript{xli}
- 1,155 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Indiana in 2019. This is a decrease from 1,335 kids in 2017, representing a 13.5\% decrease.\textsuperscript{xlii}

Teens & Youth
- 25,000 (7\%) of Indiana’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2019.\textsuperscript{xliii}
- In 2020, there were 21 reports of children in Indiana aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 149 reports of suicide among children aged 15-24.\textsuperscript{xliii}
- 155 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Indiana in 2020.\textsuperscript{xliv}

Child Welfare Services Funding
- Indiana spent $1,138,046,715 on child welfare services in 2018. Child welfare services are all of the direct and administrative services that state agencies provide to children and families.
- $198,425,094 were allocated from the federal government and $930,612,708 came from state and local funds.\textsuperscript{xlv}

Federal Funding Sources

The breakdown of the $198,425,094 in federal funding received in Indiana in 2018\textsuperscript{xlvi}
- $5,496,516 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- $61,370,059 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.\textsuperscript{xlvii}
- Indiana’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was $32,062,837.\textsuperscript{xlviii}


xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xx Ibid.

xx Ibid.


xix Ibid.


xviii Ibid.
Indiana’s Children 2022


xxxii Ibid.


xxxix Ibid


