Child Maltreatment
In 2020, Kansas had 48,213 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 28,343 were referred for investigation.¹

There were 2,386 child victims of abuse or neglect in Kansas in 2020, at a rate of 3.4 children per 1,000. This translates to a 0.7% decrease since 2016.³

Of the 2,386 children, 2,142 were first time victims.³

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 187 of the 2,386 cases.iv

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2020
- Medical Neglect 19%
- Neglect 15%
- Other 23%
- Physical Abuse 0%
- Psychological Maltreatment 0%
- Sexual Abuse 0%
- Sex Trafficking 0%
- Unknown 0%

- 66% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child. 34% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.⁶

- 55% of Kansas’s child victims in 2020 were female while 45% were male.⁷

Plans of Safe Care
- In 2020, Kansas reported 48 infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.ix

- Kansas reported eight plans of safe care for screened-in infants.x
Child fatalities decreased in 2020 from 16 in 2019 to 10 in 2020.\textsuperscript{xii}

Kansas reported 10 total child victims of sex trafficking.\textsuperscript{xiii}

1,240 victims received post-response services while 8,302 non-victims received post-response services as well.\textsuperscript{xiii}

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**Foster Care and Adoptions**

- \textbf{10,849} total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- \textbf{7,242} were in care on the day of September 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2020.
- \textbf{3,032} children entered care during the 2020 FY while \textbf{3,607} exited during the same year.
- \textbf{985} of Kansas’s children were adopted while \textbf{2,303} were waiting to be adopted.\textsuperscript{xxi}

There was a \textbf{10.21\%} decrease in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system decreased \textbf{19.7\%} from 2019.\textsuperscript{xvi}

\textbf{432} children in Kansas aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is an increase from \textbf{391} in 2018 and represents an \textbf{10.5\%} increase.\textsuperscript{xvii}

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of \textbf{22.9} months in care.\textsuperscript{xviii}
- The average length of stay in Kansas for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is \textbf{39.2} months.\textsuperscript{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was \textbf{8.7} years old.\textsuperscript{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was \textbf{6.8} years old.\textsuperscript{xxi}
Data from 2019 shows that 3,789 children in foster care in Kansas were living with non-relatives while 2,481 stayed with a relative (See Pie Chart).xxii

623 children were staying in group homes while 83 children were classified as runaways.xxiii

3% of households in Kansas 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 12.1 months.xxv

Child Poverty
Kansas had 147,000 children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 21% of all children.xxvi

xxvii

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

The average number of individuals receiving TANF increased from 3,834 in 2019 to 4,073 in 2020. This represents a 6.2% increase.xxxix xxx

The state spent $16,101,798 on WIC in 2021, serving 44,368 people. This represents a 5.2% decrease in total participants and a 4.1% decrease in spending.xxxi

351,090 people in Kansas were food insecure in 2019, including 120,090 children who struggled with hunger.xxxii

41.4% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Kansas in 2019 had children.xxxiii
Health

Kansas had 2,685 low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 7.6% of infants born in Kansas in 2019.\textsuperscript{xxxiv}

Kansas had a total of 3,574 preterm births in 2019, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 9.64% of all white babies were born premature while 14.73% of black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was 10.10%.\textsuperscript{xxxv}

There were 1,857 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Kansas in 2019, representing a rate of 19 in every 1,000 teen girls. \textsuperscript{xxxvi}

201 infants under one died in Kansas in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of 5.7 per 1,000. \textsuperscript{xxxvii}

5.8% of Kansas’s children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents 43,000 children. Kansas is a Medicaid expansion state.\textsuperscript{xxxix}

240,905 children in Kansas were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents 2.03% decrease from 2019. \textsuperscript{xl}

68,955 children in Kansas were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents an 1.2% decrease from 2019. \textsuperscript{xli}

\textbf{Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2019}\n
- White: 71%
- Black: 18%
- Hispanic: 11%
Juvenile Justice System

- There were 3,632 total arrests for children under 18 in Kansas in 2019.
- 127 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 552 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 621 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 360 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Kansas in 2019. This is a decrease from 423 kids 2017, representing a 14.9% decrease.

Teens & Youth

- 9,000 (5%) of Kansas’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2019.
- In 2020, there were zero reports of children in Kansas aged 10-14 committing suicide, however there were 36 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- 70 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Kansas in 2020.

Child Welfare Services Funding

- Kansas spent $300,842,095 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.
- $98,639,075 were allocated from the federal government and $194,945,276 came from state and local funds.

The breakdown of the $98,639,075 in federal funding received in Kansas in 2018:

- $26,388,501 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- $17,591,688 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Kansas’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was $24,363,672.


xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xx Ibid.

xxi Ibid.


xxiii Ibid.


xxv Ibid.


xxxii Ibid.


xii Ibid.


