**Maine’s Children 2022**

**Child Maltreatment**

In 2020, Maine had 22,883 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 11,292 were referred for investigation.\(^1\)

There were 4,726 child victims of abuse or neglect in Maine in 2020, at a rate of 19.0 children per 1,000. This translates to a 37.1% increase since 2016.\(^ii\)

Of the 4,726 children, 3,099 were first time victims.\(^iii\)

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 527 of the 4,726 cases.\(^iv\)

**Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2020**

- 80% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child. 20% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.\(^vi\)

- 50% of Maine’s child victims in 2020 were female while 50% were male.\(^vii\)

**Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2020**

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

**Plans of Safe Care**

- In 2020, Maine reported zero infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.\(^ix\)

- Maine reported zero plans of safe care for screened-in infants.\(^x\)
Child fatalities decreased in 2020 from three in 2019 to one in 2020.\textsuperscript{xii}

Maine reported one total child victim of sex trafficking.\textsuperscript{xii}

1,568 victims received post-response services while 375 non-victims received post-response services as well.\textsuperscript{xiii}

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 3,183 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- 2,291 were in care on the day of September 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2020.
- 1,115 children entered care during the 2020 FY while 892 exited during the same year.
- 247 of Maine’s children were adopted while 610 were waiting to be adopted.\textsuperscript{ xv}

There was a 9.3\% increase in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system also decreased 16.0\% from 2019.\textsuperscript{xvi}

54 children in Maine aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is a decrease from 63 in 2018 and represents an 14.3\% decrease.\textsuperscript{ xvii}

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of 18.4 months in care.\textsuperscript{xviii}
- The average length of stay in Maine for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in 2020 was 33.4 months.\textsuperscript{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.5 years old.\textsuperscript{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was 6.0 years old.\textsuperscript{xxi}
Data from 2019 shows that 960 children in foster care within Maine were living with non-relatives while 796 stayed with a relative (See Pie Chart). xxii

98 children were staying in group homes while six children were classified as runaways. xxiii

2% of households in Maine 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 11.2 months. xxv

Child Poverty

Maine had 67,000 children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 27% of all children. xxvi

23% of Maine’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden. xxvii

The average number of individuals receiving TANF rose from 7,298 in 2019 to 8,129 in 2020. This represents a 11.4% increase. xxviii xxx

The state spent $7,307,116 on WIC in 2021, serving 16,808 people. This represents a 0.99% increase in total participants and a 4.0% decrease in spending. xxix xxxi

166,910 people in Maine were food insecure in 2019, including 44,520 children who struggled with hunger. xxxii

33.2% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Maine in 2019 had children. xxxiii
**Health**

Maine had 867 low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 7.4% of infants born in Maine in 2019.\(^{xxxiv}\)

Maine had a total of 1,062 preterm births in 2019, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.98% of all white babies were born premature while 8.87% of black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was 9.02%.\(^{xxxv}\)

There were 339 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Maine in 2019, representing a rate of nine in every 1,000 teen girls.\(^{xxxvi}\)

63 infants under one died in Maine in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of 5.3 per 1,000.\(^{xxxvii}\)

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**Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2019**

- **White**: 93%
- **Black**: 5%
- **Hispanic**: 2%

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**Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2020**

- **Medicaid**: 18%
- **CHIP**: 2%
- **Uninsured**: 80%

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- **5.6%** of Maine’s children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents **3,000** children. Maine is a Medicaid expansion state.\(^{xxxx}\)

- **146,043** children in Maine were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents **0.22%** increase from 2019.\(^{x}\)

- **32,127** children in Maine were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents an **9.3%** increase from 2019.\(^{xii}\)
Juvenile Justice System

- There were **2,470** total arrests for children under 18 in Maine in 2019.
- **67** of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- **543** arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **282** were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.\textsuperscript{xlii}
- **60** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Maine in 2019. This is a decrease from **93** kids in 2017, representing a **35.5\%** decline.\textsuperscript{xiii}

Teens & Youth

- **3,000** (5\%) of Maine’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2019.\textsuperscript{xliiv}
- In 2020, there were **zero** reports of children in Maine aged 10-14 committing suicide, and **13** reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.\textsuperscript{xlv}
- **Zero** children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Maine in 2020.\textsuperscript{xlvi}

Child Welfare Services Funding

- Maine spent **$130,058,888** 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.
- **$46,998,275** were allocated from the federal government and **$81,276,419** came from state and local funds.\textsuperscript{xlvii}

**Federal Funding Sources**

- **Title IV-E**
- **Title IV-B**
- **TANF**
- **SSBG**
- **Medicaid**
- **Other Sources**

- The breakdown of the **$46,998,275** in federal funding received in Maine in 2018: \textsuperscript{xlviii}
  - **$1,645,791** as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
  - **$18,533,903** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.\textsuperscript{xlix}
- Maine’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was **$12,704,326.**\textsuperscript{l}
Maine’s Children 2022


Based on Calculations from the CWLA


Ibid.

Ibid.


Ibid.


Ibid.


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