

The Nation's Children 2022

Child Maltreatment

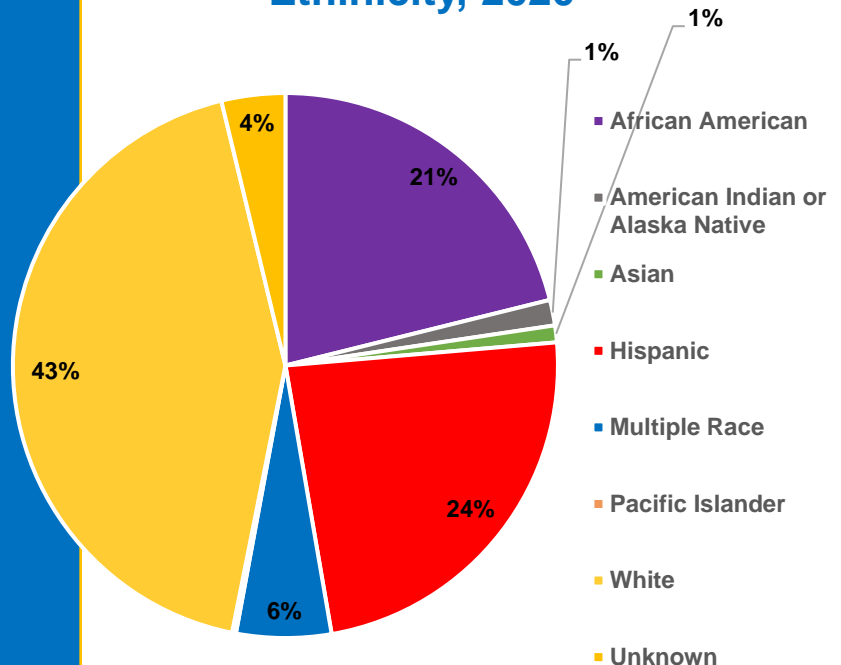
In 2020, the US had **3,643,232** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **2,120,316** were referred for investigation.ⁱ

There were **618,399** child victims of maltreatment in the US in 2020, at a rate of **8.4** children per 1,000. This translates to a **7.9%** decrease since 2016.ⁱⁱ

Of the **618,399** children, **422,217** were first time victims.ⁱⁱⁱ

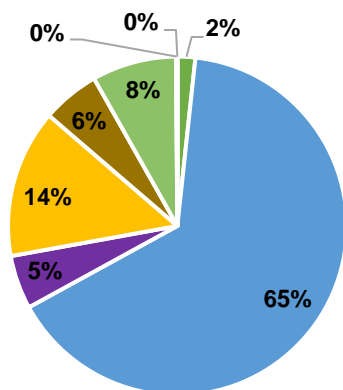
The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing **94,067** of the **618,399** cases.^{iv}

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



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Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Medical Neglect
- Neglect
- Other
- 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.^{vi}

• **52%** of the Nation's child victims in 2020 were female while **48%** were male.^{vii}

viii

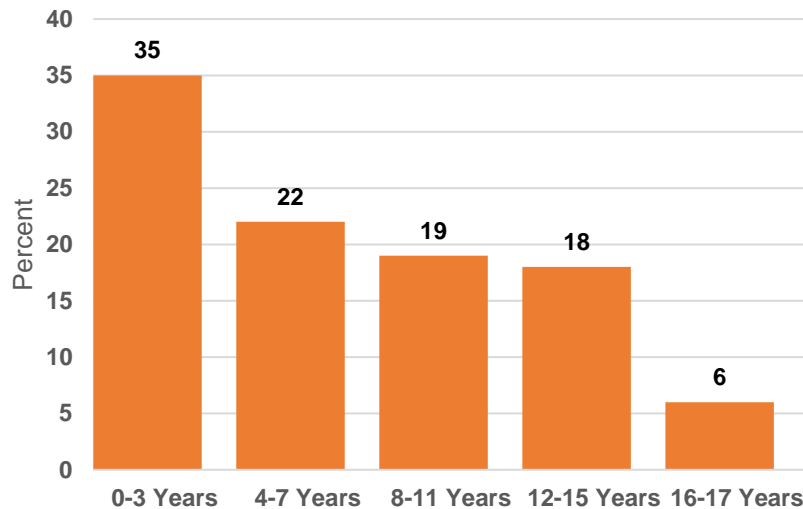
Plans of Safe Care

- In 2020, the US reported **30,774** infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.^{ix}
- The United States reported **21,964** plans of safe care for screened-in infants from 11 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.^x



The Nation's Children 2022

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities decreased in 2020 from **1,825** in 2019 to **1,713** in 2020.^{xi}

- The Nation reported **953** total child victims of sex trafficking.^{xii}

- **357,057** victims received post-response services while **802,237** non-victims received post-response services as well.^{xiii}

xiv

Foster Care and Adoptions

- **631,832** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- **407,493** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2020.
- **216,838** children entered care during the 2020 FY while **224,396** exited during the same year.
- **57,881** of the Nation's children were adopted while **117,470** were waiting to be adopted.^{xv}

There was a **4.5%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions out of foster care decreased **12.6%** from 2019.^{xvi}

14.6%
Increase since
2018 in children
aging out of
foster care

20,455 children in the US aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is an increase from **17,844** in 2018 and represents an **14.6%** increase.^{xvii}

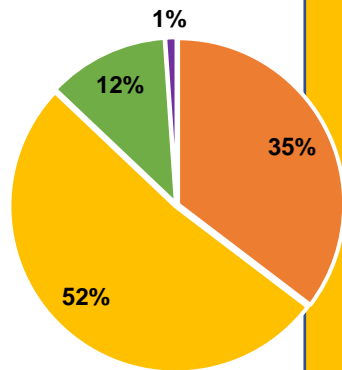
- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of **21.0** months in care.^{xviii}
- The average length of stay in the United States for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is **32.7** months.^{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was **7.5** years old.^{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was **6.0** years old.^{xxi}



The Nation's Children 2022

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?

- With a Relative Foster Parent
- With a Non-Relative Foster Parent
- In a Group Home
- Unaccounted for/Runaway



Data from 2019 shows that **196,139** children in foster care within the US were living with non-relatives while **134,017** stayed with a relative (See Pie Chart).^{xxii}

44,902 children were staying in group homes while **4,129** children were classified as runaways.^{xxiii}

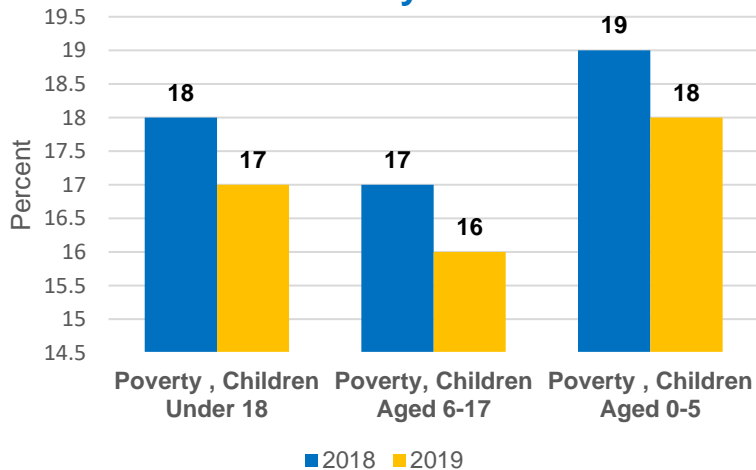
4% of households in the United States in 2020 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.^{xxiv}

The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was **10.3** months.^{xxv}

Child Poverty

The United States had **18,833,000** children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing **26%** of all children.^{xxvi}
xxvii

Child Poverty Over Time



30% of the Nation's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.^{xxviii}

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from **2,044,817** in 2019 to **2,036,512** in 2020. This represents a **0.4%** decrease.^{xxix xxx}

The country spent **\$2,698,397,223** on WIC in 2021, serving **6,244,064** people. This represents a **0.05%** decrease in total participants and a **6.5%** decrease in spending.^{xxxi}

38,300,000 people in the United States were food insecure in 2019, including **11,700,000** children who struggled with hunger.^{xxxii}

Children accounted for **44%** of all SNAP recipients nationwide in 2017.^{xxxiii}



The Nation's Children 2022

Health

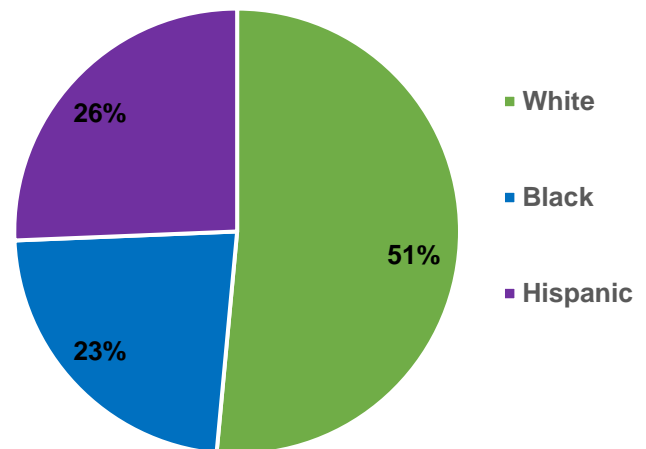
The Nation had **311,245** low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to **8.3%** of infants born in the United States in 2019.^{xxxiv}

The US had a total of **383,061** preterm births in 2019, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. **9.26%** of all white babies were born premature while **14.39%** of black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was **10.23%**.^{xxxv}

There were **171,674** births to mothers aged 15-19 in the Nation in 2019, representing a rate of **17** in every 1,000 teen girls.^{xxxvi}

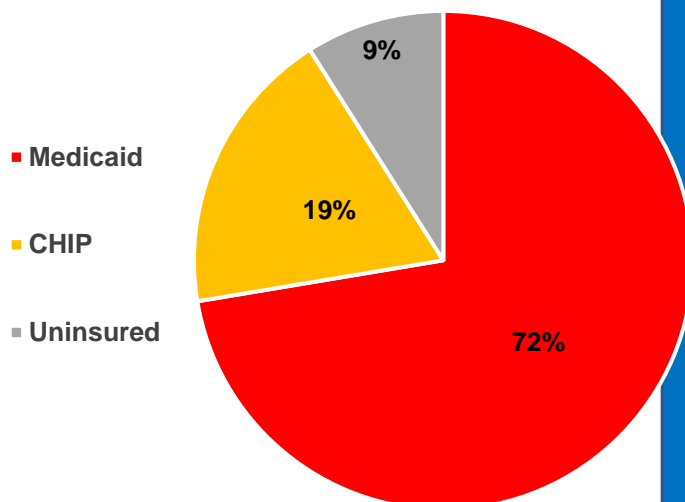
20,921 infants under one died in the US in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of **5.6** per 1,000.^{xxxvii}

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2019



xxxviii

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2020



5.7% of the Nation's children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents **4,375,000** children.^{xxxix}

35,197,225 children in the US were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents **0.8%** decrease from 2019.^{xl}

9,062,750 children in the Nation were in the Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents an **6.14%** decrease from 2019.^{xli}



The Nation's Children 2022

16.3%
decline since
2017 of children
living in juvenile
correction
facilities

Juvenile Justice System

- There were **485,964** total arrests for children under 18 in the United States in 2019.
- **36,877** of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- **87,710** arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **55,701** children were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.^{xlii}
- **36,479** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in the Nation in 2019. This is a decrease from **43,580** kids in 2017, representing a **16.3%** decline.^{xliii}

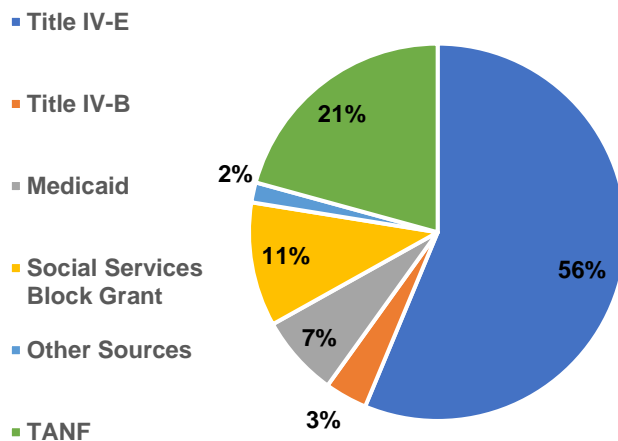
Teens & Youth

- **1,115,000** (7%) of the United States' youth were both not in school and not working in 2019.^{xliv}
- In 2020, there were **581** reports of children in the US aged 10-14 committing suicide, and **2,216** reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.^{xlv}
- **4,368** children aged 18 and under were killed by a firearm in the Nation in 2020.^{xlvi}

Child Welfare Services Funding

- The United States spent **\$33,020,546,153** 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.
- **\$14,513,863,072** were allocated from the federal government and **\$18,237,277,654** came from state and local funds.^{xlvii}

Federal Funding Sources



The breakdown of the **\$14,513,863,072** in federal funding spent in 2018. ^{xlviii}

- **\$2,615,817,974** as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- **\$2,732,057,338** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program ^{xlix}
- The United States' sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was **\$2,774,505,540.** ⁱ



The Nation's Children 2022

ⁱ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

ⁱⁱ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2016-2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>. Calculation by CWLA.

ⁱⁱⁱ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-4: First-Time Victims, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^{iv} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-5 Victims by Age, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^v U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-7 Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^{vi} Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Child Maltreatment, Child Maltreatment Perpetrators, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

^{vii} Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Child Maltreatment, Gender of maltreatment victims, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

^{viii} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-8 Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^{ix} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-10 Infants with Prenatal Substance Exposure by Submission Type, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^x U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-11 Screened-in Infants with Prenatal Substance Exposure Who Have a Plan of Safe Care, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^{xi} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 4-2 Child Fatalities, 2016-2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

^{xii} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child



The Nation's Children 2022

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xiii U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 6-2 Children Who Received Post Response Services, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>

xiv Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Child Maltreatment, Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

xv U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020 Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), FY 2011 – FY 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb>.

xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA

xvii Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2021). Children exiting foster care by exit reason. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6277-children-exiting-foster-care-by-exit-reason?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-53/false/1729,37/2632/13050,13051>

xviii Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Foster Care, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

xix Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Adoption from Foster Care, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

xx Ibid.

xxi Ibid.

xxii Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2021). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Placement Type, 2019, Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6247-children-in-foster-care-by-placement-type#detailed/2/2-53/true/1729/2622,2621,2623,2625/12994>

xxiii Ibid.

xxiv Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Kinship Caregiving, 2020. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>

xxv Ibid.

xxvi Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book. (2021). State Trends in Child Well-Being: Appendix B, Economic Well-Being Indicators, 2021. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2021-kids-count-data-book>

xxvii Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2021). Children in Poverty by Age Group, 2019, Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5650-children-in-poverty-by-age-group?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/32/false/1729/17,18,36/12264>

xxviii Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book. (2021). State Trends in Child Well-Being: Appendix B, Economic Well-Being Indicators, 2021. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2021-kids-count-data-book>



The Nation's Children 2022

^{xxxix} U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2020). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2019: Table: Total Number of Recipients. Retrieved March 11, 2022 https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ofa/fy2019_tanf_caseload_trec.pdf

^{xxx} U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2021). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2020: Table: Total Number of Recipients. Retrieved March 11, 2022 https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ofa/fy2020_tanf_caseload_trec_0.pdf

^{xxxi} USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2022). WIC Data Tables, Annual State Level Data FY 2017-2021: Total Participation and Food Costs, FY 2021. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>

^{xxxii} Feeding America. (2022). Map the Meal Gap 2019. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/the-united-states>

^{xxxiii} Feeding America. (2017). Map the Meal Gap 2017. Retrieved January 29, 2020 from <https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/fact-sheets/snap-factsheet-final.pdf>

^{xxxiv} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book. (2021). State Trends in Child Well-Being: Appendix B, Health Indicators, Low Birth-Weight Babies: 2019, 2021. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2021-kids-count-data-book>

^{xxxv} Martin J., Hamilton B., Osterman M., and Driscoll A. (2021). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports, Births: Final Data for 2019: Table 1-19. Preterm births, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, each state and territory, 2019, 2021. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>

^{xxxvi} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2021). Teen Birth by age group in the United States. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/8125-teen-births-by-age-group?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-53/false/1729,37/2829,6,8,7,251/15589,15590>

^{xxxvii} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2021). Infant Mortality in the United States. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6051-infant-mortality?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-53/false/1729/any/12718,12719>

^{xxxviii} Martin J., Hamilton B., Osterman M., and Driscoll A. (2021). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports, Births: Final Data for 2019: Table 1-19. Preterm births, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, each state and territory, 2019, 2021. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>

^{xxxix} HIC-5. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State--Children Under 19: 2008 to 2019, Health Insurance Historical Tables, U.S. Census Bureau, 1-year American Community Surveys (ACS). Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/health-insurance/historical-series/hic.html>

^{xl} Medicaid.gov, Keeping America Healthy. (2021). Home, CHIP, Reports & Evaluations, Annual Enrollment Reports, 2020 Number of Children Ever Enrolled Report, Unduplicated Number of Children Ever Enrolled in CHIP and Medicaid. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2020-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf>

^{xli} Ibid.

^{xlii} U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2022). Crime in the United States 2019: Table 38: Arrests by Age, 2019. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/tables/table-38>

^{xliii} Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., and Puzzanchera, C. (2022). Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement: 1997-2019, Type of Placement Facility by State, 2019. Retrieved March 11, 2022 from <https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/>

^{xliv} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book. (2021). State Trends in Child Well-Being: Appendix B,



The Nation's Children 2022

Economic Well-Being Indicators, 2021. Retrieved March 14, 2022 from <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2021-kids-count-data-book>

^{xlv} Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS). (2022). NCHS Vital Statistics System for numbers of deaths: Bureau of Census for population estimates. Leading causes of death reports 1999-2020, for national, regional and states, 2020. Retrieved March 14, 2022 from https://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/dataRestriction_lcd.html

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^{xlviii} Rosinky et al., (2021). Child Welfare Financing in SFY 2018: A survey of federal, state, and local expenditures. Appendix B: SFY 2018 federal expenditures by source, by state, Table B1, Table B2. Retrieved March 14, 2022 from https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/ChildWelfareFinancingReport_ChildTrends_March2021.pdf

^{xlix} Rosinky et al., (2021). Child Welfare Financing in SFY 2018: A survey of federal, state, and local expenditures. Appendix C: SFY 2018 Title IV-E expenditures, by state, Table C1, Table C2. Retrieved March 14, 2022 from https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/ChildWelfareFinancingReport_ChildTrends_March2021.pdf

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