**Child Maltreatment**

In 2020, Oklahoma had **76,309** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **37,398** were referred for investigation.¹

There was **14,685** child victims of abuse or neglect in Oklahoma in 2020, at a rate of **15.4** children per 1,000. This translates to a 2.6% increase since 2016.²

Of the **14,685** children, **11,374** were first time victims.³

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing **2,435** of the **14,685** cases.⁴

**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.⁵

- **51%** of Oklahoma’s child victims in 2020 were female while **49%** were male.⁶

**Plans of Safe Care**

- In 2020, Oklahoma reported **2,218** infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.⁷

- Oklahoma reported **71** plans of safe care for screened-in infants.⁸
Oklahoma’s Children 2022

Foster Care and Adoptions

- **12,325** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- **8,052** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2020.
- **4,045** children entered care during the 2020 FY while **4,273** exited during the same year.
- **1,820** of Oklahoma’s children were adopted while **3,614** were waiting to be adopted.\(^{xv}\)

There was a **3.1%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system also decreased **12.7%** from 2019.\(^{xvi}\)

**171** children in Oklahoma aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is a decrease from **203** in 2018 and represents a **15.7%** decrease.\(^{xvii}\)

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of **18.5** months in care.\(^{xviii}\)
- The average length of stay in Oklahoma of children waiting to be adopted from foster care in **27.2** months.\(^{xix}\)
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was **6.8** years old.\(^{xx}\)
- The average age of adopted children was **6.1** years old.\(^{xvi}\)
Data from 2019 shows that 4,075 children in foster care within Oklahoma were living with non-relatives while 2,446 stayed with a relative (See Pie Chart). xxii

526 children were staying in group homes while 42 children were classified as runaways. xxiii

4% of households in Oklahoma 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 10.6 months. xxv

Child Poverty

Oklahoma had 244,000 children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 26% of all children. xxvi xxvii

25% of Oklahoma’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden. xxviii

The average number of individuals receiving TANF decreased from 13,304 in 2019 to 12,607 in 2020. This represents a 5.2% decrease. xxix xxx

The state spent $27,717,191 on WIC in 2021, serving 88,632 people. This represents a 3.3% decrease in total participants and a 16.5% decrease in spending. xxxi

583,570 people in Oklahoma were food insecure in 2019, including 194,880 children who struggled with hunger. xxii

45.2% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Oklahoma in 2019 had children. xxxiii
Health

Oklahoma had **4,045** 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 Oklahoma in 2019. **xxxiv**

Oklahoma had a total of **5,646** preterm births in 2019, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. **10.7%** of all white babies were born premature while **16.2%** of black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was **11.4%**. **xxxv**

There were **3,520** births to mothers aged 15-19 in Oklahoma in 2019, representing a rate of **27** in every 1,000 teen girls. **xxxvi**

**343** infants under 1 died in Oklahoma in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of **7.0** per 1,000. **xxxvii**

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2020

- **Medicaid**: 11%
- **CHIP**: 27%
- **Uninsured**: 62%

**8.6%** of Oklahoma’s children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents **86,000** children. **xxxix**

**504,439** children in Oklahoma were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a **0.6%** decrease from 2019. **x**

**219,541** children in Oklahoma were in the state Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a **4.1%** increase from 2019. **xii**
Juvenile Justice System

- There were 7,195 total arrests for children under 18 in Oklahoma in 2019.
- 552 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 1,513 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 1,022 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 345 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Oklahoma in 2019. This is a decrease from 426 kids in 2017, representing a 19.0% decrease.

Teens & Youth

- 18,000 (8%) of Oklahoma’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2019.
- In 2020, there were 18 reports of children in Oklahoma aged 10-14 committing suicide; and 51 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- 73 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Oklahoma in 2020.

Child Welfare Services Funding

- Oklahoma spent $480,226,117 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.
- $222,224,594 were allocated from the federal government and $253,389,367 came from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources

- Title IV-E: 11%
- Title IV-B: 2%
- Medicaid: 13%
- SSBG: 12%
- Other Sources: 60%
- TANF: 2%

The breakdown of the $222,224,594 in federal funding received in Oklahoma in 2018:

- $180,935,732 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- $67,510,922 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Oklahoma’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was $32,998,531.


xv Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xx Controlled Data

xii Based on Calculations from the CWLA

xii Based on Calculations from the CWLA

xvi Based on Calculations from the CWLA


xxxiii Ibid.


xii Ibid.


