**Child Maltreatment**

In 2020, Wyoming had 6,618 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 2,418 were referred for investigation.1

There were 992 child victims of abuse or neglect in Wyoming in 2020, at a rate of 7.5 children per 1,000. This translates to a 1.5% increase since 2016.ii

Of the 992 children, 768 were first time victims.iii

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 136 of the 992 cases.iv

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**Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2018**

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

- 83% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child. 17% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.ivi

- 51% of Wyoming’s child victims in 2020 were female while 49% were male.vii

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**Plans of Safe Care**

- In 2020, 12 infants were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.ix
- Wyoming reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.x

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Child fatalities increased in 2020 from zero in 2019 to 3 in 2020.

Wyoming did not report the number of sex trafficking victims for 2020.

837 victims received post-response services while 2,908 non-victims received post-response services as well.

Foster Care and Adoptions

• 1,787 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
• 815 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2020.
• 854 children entered care during the 2020 FY while 972 exited during the same year.
• 98 of Wyoming’s children were adopted while 131 were waiting to be adopted.

There was a 18% increase in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system also decreased 18.3% from 2019 to 2020.

14 children in Wyoming aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is an increase from 11 in 2019 and represents a 27.3% increase.

Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of 14.2 months in care.

The average length of stay in Wyoming for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 32.6 months.

The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.0 years old.

The average age of adopted children was 6.5 years old.
Data from 2019 shows that 382 children in foster care in Wyoming were living with non-relatives while 290 stayed with a relative. xxii

182 children were staying in group homes while the number of children classified as runaways was 2. xxiii

4% of households in Wyoming 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 9.1 months. xxv

Child Poverty
Wyoming had 25,000 children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 19% of all children. xxvi xxvii

17% of Wyoming’s children lived in households with a high housing cost burden. xxviii

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from 1,197 in 2019 to 1,160 in 2020. This represents a 3.1% increase. xxix xxx

The state spent $2,409,858 on WIC in 2021, serving 7,137 people. This represents a 5.6% decrease in total participants and a 10.9% decrease in spending. xxx

67,750 people in Wyoming were food insecure in 2019, including 19,370 children who struggled with hunger. xxxii

48.7% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Wyoming in 2019 had children. xxxiii
Health

Wyoming had 643 low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 9.8% of infants born in Wyoming in 2019.\(^{xxxiv}\)

Wyoming had a total of 648 preterm births in 2019, meaning completed less than 37 weeks of gestation. 10.0% of all white babies were born premature while 14.8% of hispanic babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was 9.9%.\(^{xxxv}\)

There were 338 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Wyoming in 2019, representing a rate of 19 in every 1,000 teen girls. \(^{xxxvi}\)

46 infants under one died in Wyoming in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of 7.0 per 1,000. \(^{xxxvii}\)

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2020

- Medicaid: 26%
- CHIP: 10%
- Uninsured: 64%

10.6% of Wyoming’s children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents 15,000 children.\(^{xxxviii}\)

37,371 children in Wyoming were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents 3.0% decrease from 2019. \(^{xxxix}\)

6,129 children in Wyoming were in the state Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents an 12.9% decrease from 2019. \(^{xl}\)
Juvenile Justice System
- There were 3,117 total arrests for children under 18 in Wyoming in 2019.
- 129 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 323 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 489 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 147 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Wyoming in 2019. This is a decrease from 183 kids in 2017, representing a 19.7% decrease.

Teens & Youth
- 2,000 (7%) of Wyoming’s youth were both not in school and not working in 2019.
- In 2020, there were no reports of children in Wyoming aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 18 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.
- No children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Wyoming in 2020.

Child Welfare Services Funding
Wyoming spent $11,305,513.00 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. $10,742,526.00 were allocated from the federal government and the state was not able to provide information as to the amount that came from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources
- Title IV-E: 47%
- Title IV-B: 24%
- TANF: 21%
- Social Services Block Grant: 5%
- Other Sources: 3%
- Medicaid: 0%

The breakdown of the $20,106,898 in federal funding received in Wyoming in 2018 (See Pie Chart).
- $3,636,481 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- $803,805 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Wyoming’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was $2,829,285.


Ibid.


Ibid


