

Delaware's Children

Child Maltreatment

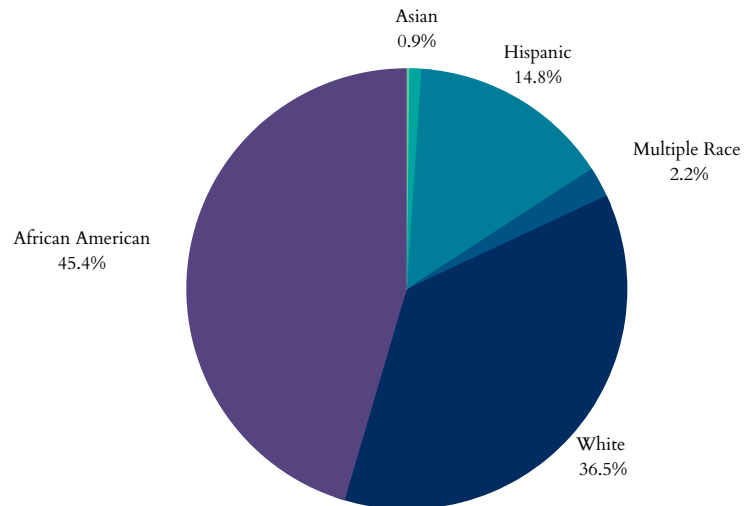
In 2021, Delaware had 18,694 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 4,729 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 1,131 child victims of abuse or neglect in Delaware in 2021, at a rate of 5.4 children per 1,000. This translates to a 26.7% decrease since 2017.

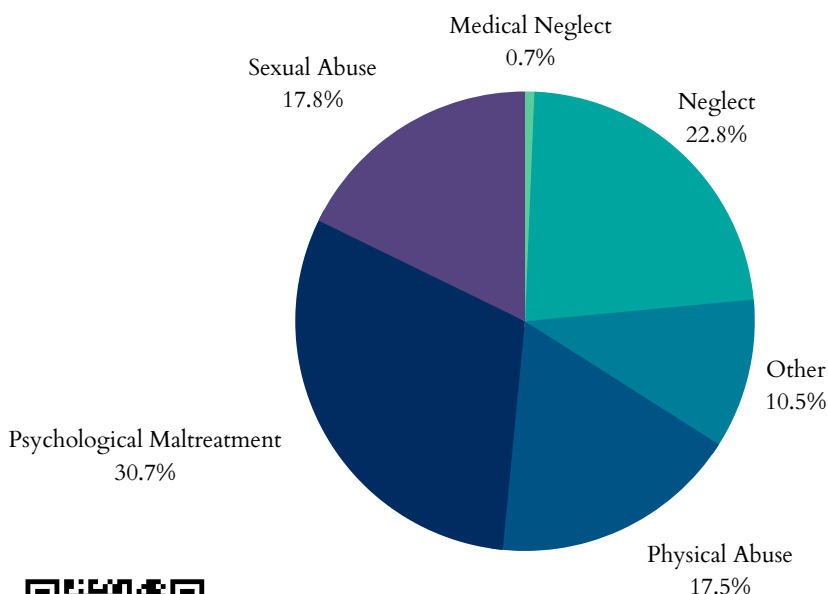
Of the 1,131 children, 952 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 108 of the 1,131 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



- 67% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child.
- 33% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 52% of Delaware's child victims in 2020 were female while 48% were male.

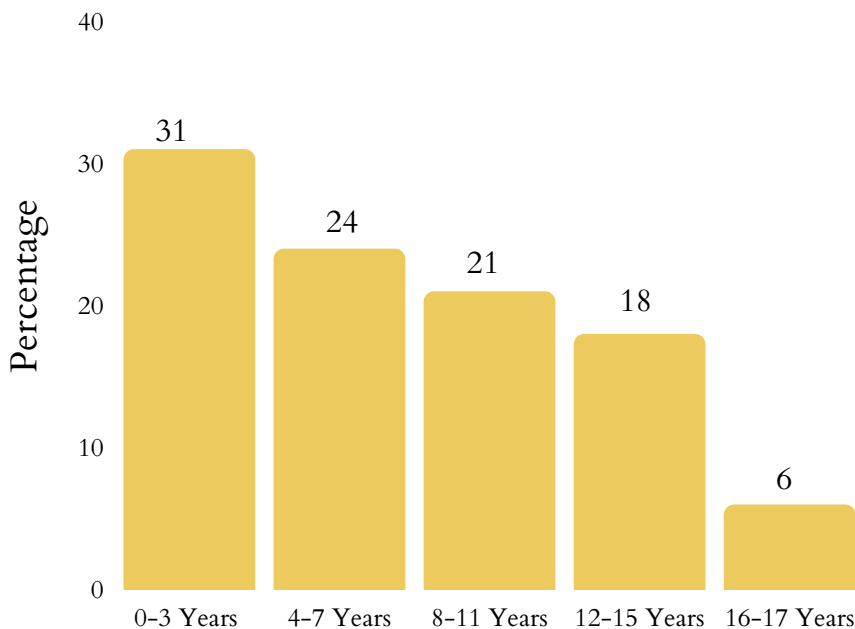
Plans for Safe Care

- In 2021, Delaware reported 416 infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- Delaware reported 404 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities have increased from 5 in 2020 to 7 in 2021.
- Delaware did not report a number of child victims of sex trafficking.
- 323 victims received post-response services while 890 non-victims received post-response services as well.

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- Delaware does not have a plan approved by the administration.
- The plan was submitted.
- Delaware's Family First Plan

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 724 total children were served by the foster care system in Delaware in FY 2021.
- 444 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 294 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 280 exited during the same year.
- 88 of Delaware's children were adopted while 107 were waiting to be adopted.

2.5%

The decrease since 2019 in children aging out of foster care.

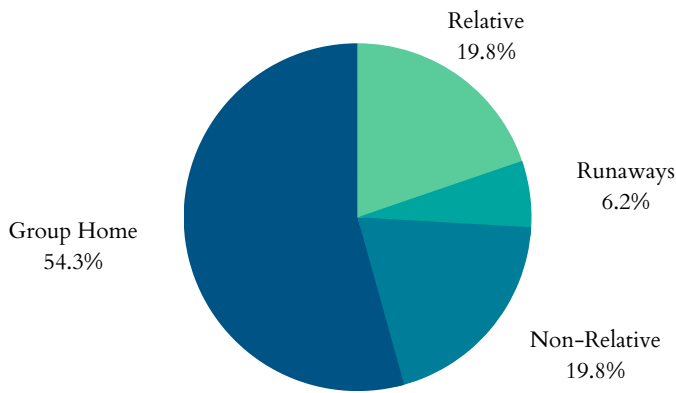
There was a 4.9% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system also decreased by 24.1% from 2020.

79 children in Delaware aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is a decrease from 81 in 2019 and represents a 2.5% decrease.

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 20.2 months in care.
- The average length of stay in Delaware for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 29.9 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 8.5 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 5.3 years old.

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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?, 2020



Data from 2020 shows that 312 children in foster care within Delaware were living with non-relatives while 32 stayed with a relative.

88 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 10 children were classified as runaways.

4% of households in Delaware in 2020 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.

The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was 11.5 months.

Child Poverty

Delaware had 62,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 29% of all children.

31% of Delaware's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.

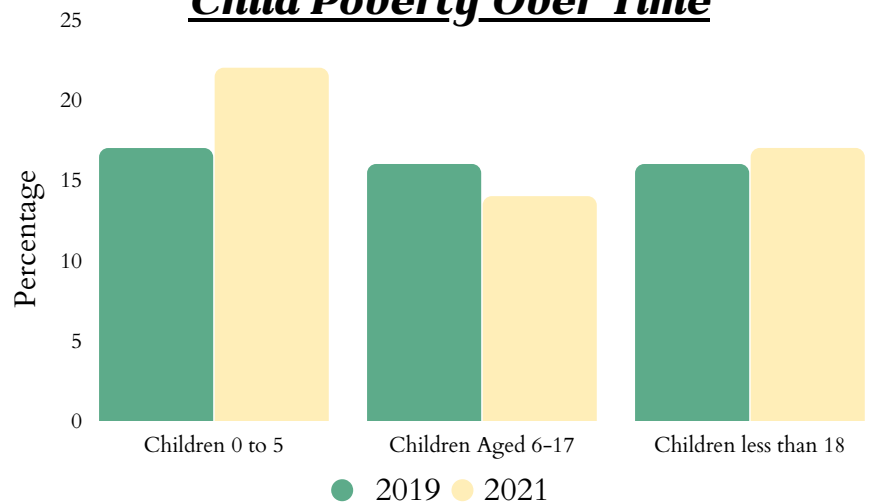
The average number of TANF recipients rose from 7,383 in 2021 to 7,845 in 2022. This represents a 6.3% increase.

The state spent \$5,331,910.00 on WIC in 2022, serving 17,722 people. This represents a 3.0% increase in total participants and a 0.3% decrease in spending.

93,900 people in Delaware were food insecure in 2020, including 30,920 children who struggled with hunger.

43.7% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Delaware in 2019 had children.

Child Poverty Over Time



Delaware's Children

Health

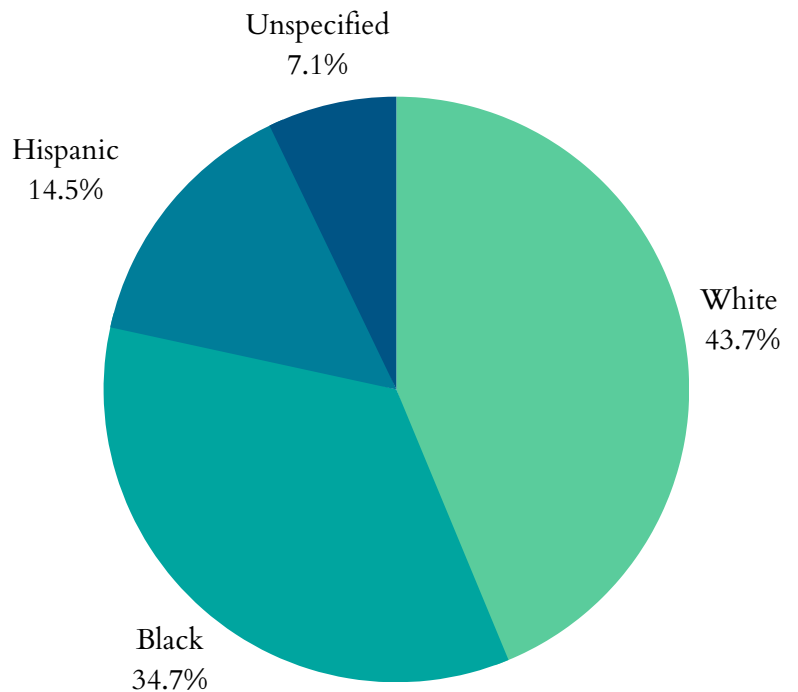
Delaware had 928 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.9% of infants born in Delaware in 2020.

Delaware had 1,079 of preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 9.5% of all White babies were born prematurely while 12.5% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 10.39%.

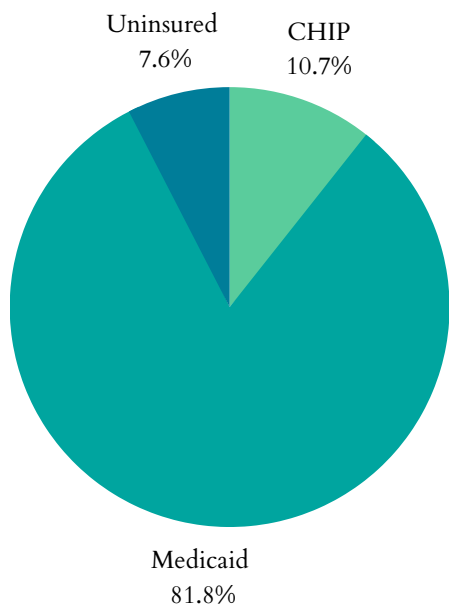
There were 439 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Delaware in 2020, representing a rate of 15 in every 1,000 teen girls.

58 infants under 1 died in Delaware in 2020, representing an infant mortality rate of 5.6 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019



8,000 of Delaware's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 20% decrease from 2019.

Delaware is a Medicaid expansion state as of January 2014.

107,871 children in Delaware were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 0.1% decrease from 2019.

13,573 children in Delaware were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 3.6% decrease from 2019.

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Juvenile Justice

- There were 2,924 total arrests for children under 18 in Delaware in 2019.
- 214 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 551 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 256 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 129 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Delaware in 2019. This is the same as 2017.

0%

The change since 2017 of children living in juvenile correction facilities.

Teens & Youth

- 3,000 (5%) of Delaware's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, there were 0 reports of children in Delaware aged 10-14 committing suicide and 12 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 15 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Delaware in 2020.

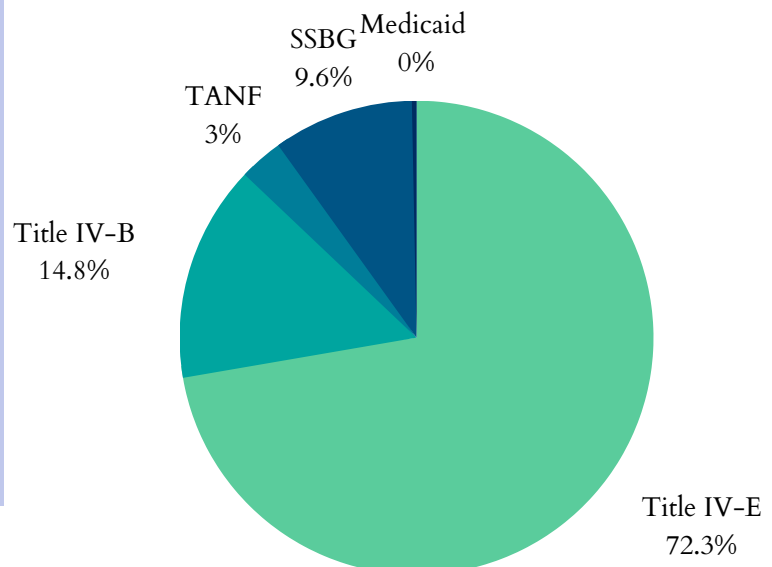
Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Delaware spent \$75,636,023 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.
- \$12,260,477 were allocated from the federal government and \$62,276,637 came from state and local funds.

The significant funding sectors of the \$12,260,477.00 in federal funding received in Delaware in 2018:

- \$6,332,018.00 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$1,994,367.00 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Delaware's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$3,736,289.00

Federal Funding Sources, 2018



Delaware's Children

Delaware STATE FACT SHEET

<https://www.cwla.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Delawares-Children.pdf>



NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS

<https://www.cwla.org/our-work/advocacy/national-and-state-fact-sheets/>



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