

Maine's Children

Child Maltreatment

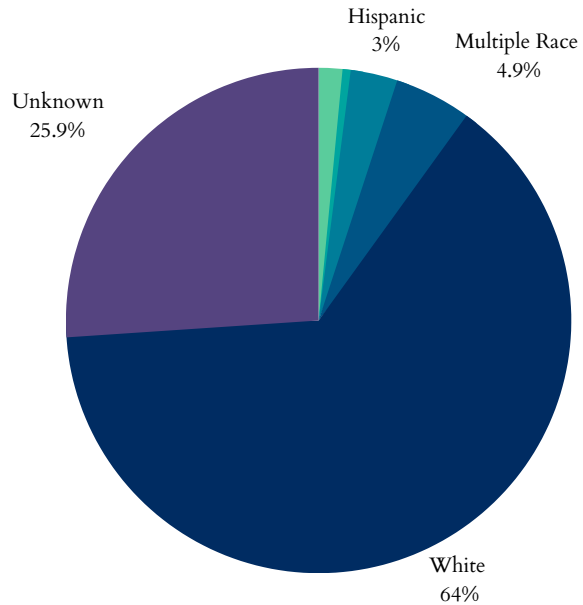
In 2021, Maine had 24,764 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 10,488 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 4,228 child victims of abuse or neglect in Maine in 2021, at a rate of 16.8 children per 1,000. This translates to a 21.7% increase since 2017.

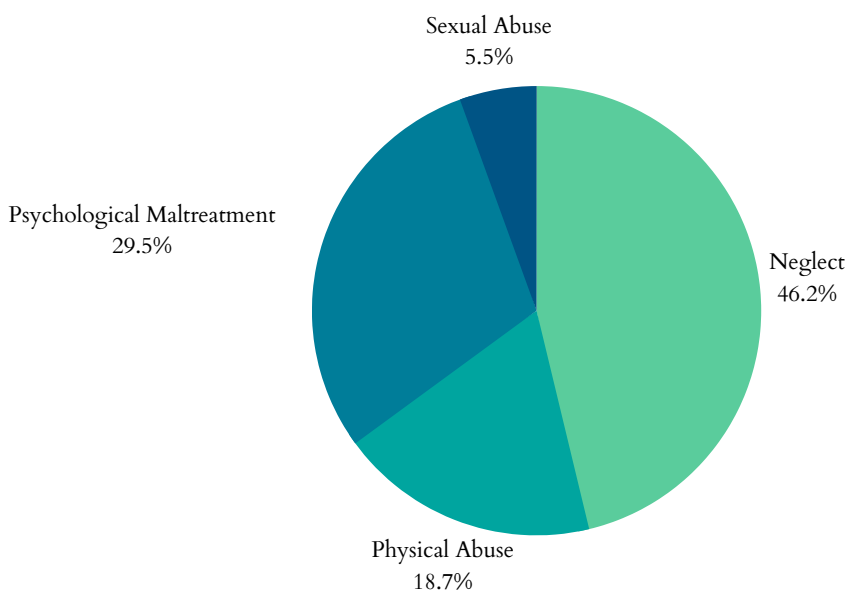
Of the 4,228 children, 2,664 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 485 of the 4,228 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



- 80% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child.
- 20% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 50% of Maine's child victims in 2020 were female while 50% were male.

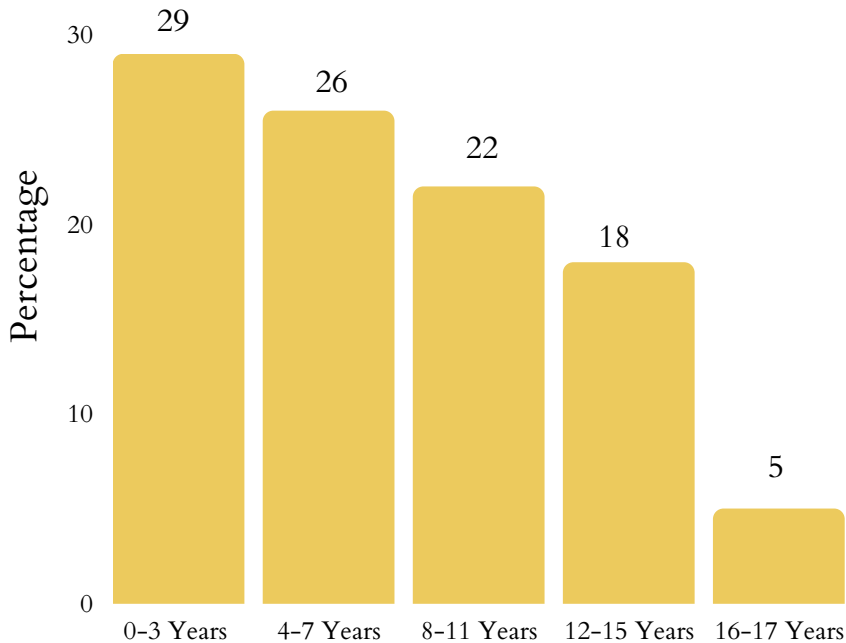
Plans for Safe Care

- In 2021, Maine did not report infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- Maine did not report plans of safe care for screened-in infants.



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



Child fatalities have increased from 1 in 2020 to 8 in 2021.

Maine reported 1 child victim of sex trafficking.

1,143 victims received postresponse services while 313 non-victims received post-response services as well.

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- Maine has a plan approved by the administration.
- The plan was implemented on September 2021.
- Maine's Family First Plan

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 3,181 total children were served by the foster care system in Maine in FY 2021.
- 2,202 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 909 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 979 exited during the same year.
- 339 of Maine's children were adopted while 756 were waiting to be adopted.

There was a 3.88% decrease in the number of children in care between 2021 and 2020. Adoptions from the system also increased by 37.25% from 2020.

45 children in State aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This number represents a 16.7% decrease since 2019.

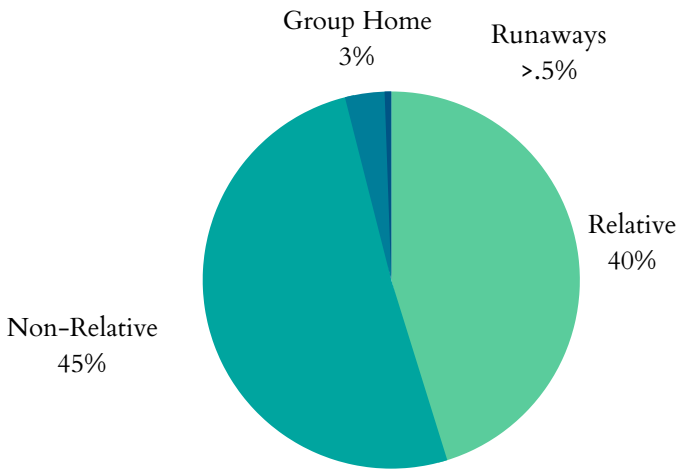
- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 18.4 months in care.
- The average length of stay in Maine for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 33.4 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.5 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 6 years old.

16.7%

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

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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2020



Data from 2020 shows that 1,014 children in foster care within Maine were living with non-relatives while 896 stayed with a relative.

76 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 4 children were classified as runaways.

2% of households in Maine 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 11.2 months.

Child Poverty

Maine had 66,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 26% of all children.

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

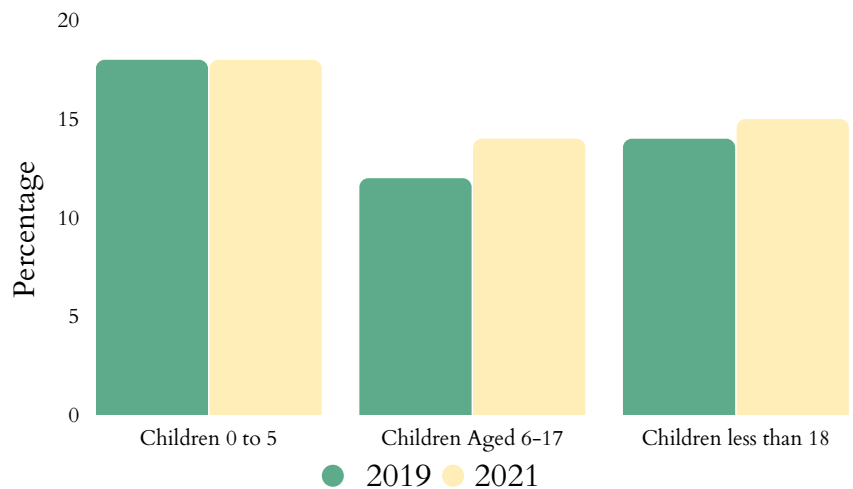
The average number of TANF recipients increased from 7,895 in 2021 to 8,397 in 2022. This represents a 6.36% increase.

Maine spent \$6,968,497 on WIC in 2022, serving 16,925 people. This represents a 0.7% increase in total participants and a 13.27% increase in spending.

139,410 people in Maine were food insecure in 2020, including 39,990 children who struggled with hunger.

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

Child Poverty Over Time



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Health

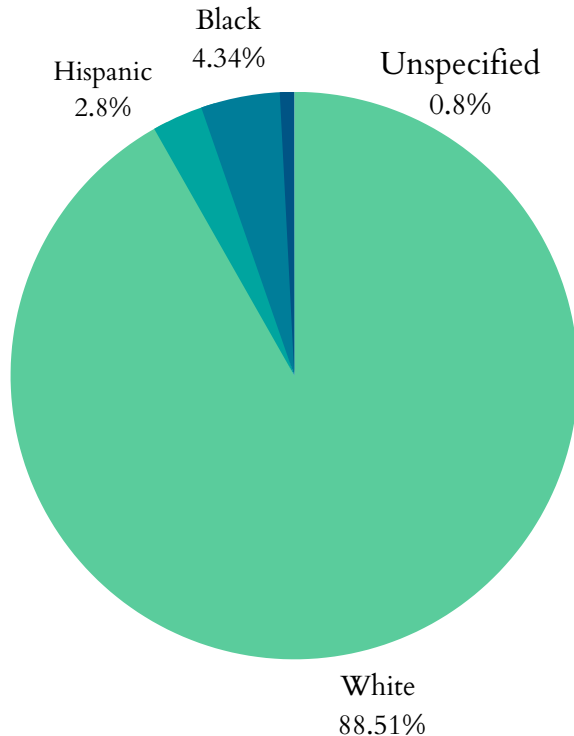
Maine had 862 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 7.5% of infants born in Maine in 2020.

Maine had 1,036 of preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.97% of all White babies were born prematurely while 8.77% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 8.99%.

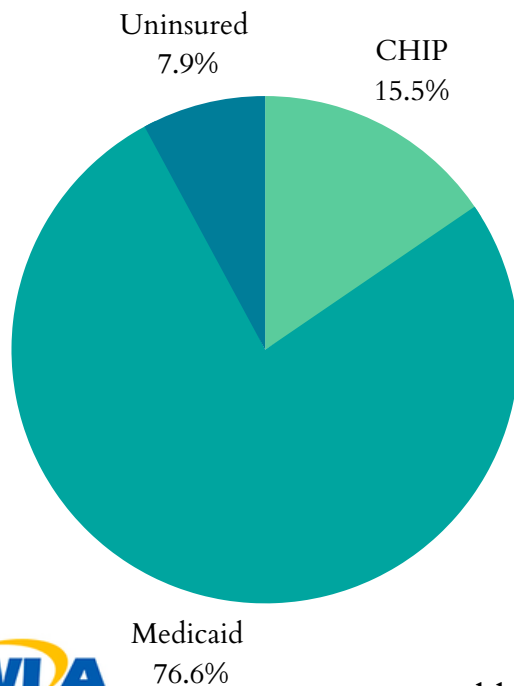
There were 396 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Maine in 2020, representing a rate of 11 in every 1,000 teen girls.

72 infants under 1 died in Maine in 2020, representing an infant mortality rate of 6.2 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019



11,000 of Maine's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 26.7% decrease from 2019.

Maine is a Medicaid expansion state as of January 2019.

146,043 children in Maine were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 0.22% increase from 2019.

32,127 children in Maine were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 9.28% increase from 2019.

Maine's Children 2023

Juvenile Justice

- There were 2,470 total arrests for children under 18 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.
- 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.

35.5%

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

Teens & Youth

- 4,000 (6%) of Maine's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, there were no reports of children in Maine aged 10-14 committing suicide and 26 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 0 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Maine in 2020.

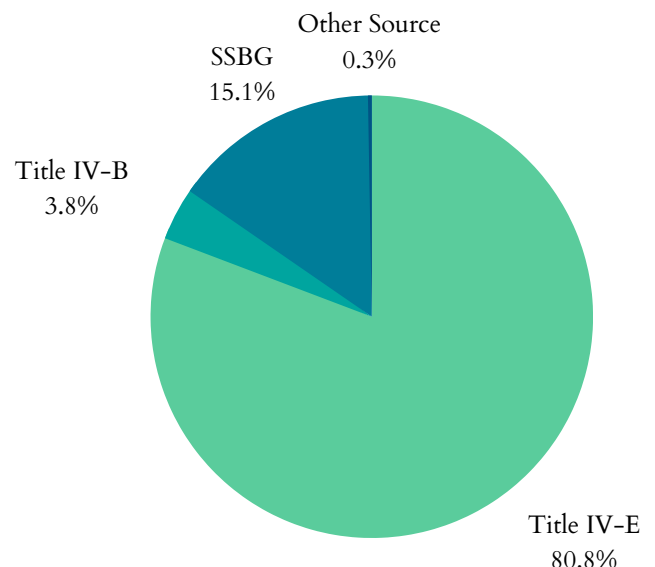
Funding for Child Welfare Services

- 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.

The significant funding sectors of the \$46,998,275 in federal funding received in Maine in 2018:

- \$1,645,791 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$18,533,903 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Maine's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$12,704,326.

Federal Funding Sources, 2018



Maine's Children

MAINE FACT SHEET

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



NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS

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



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