

New Mexico's Children

Child Maltreatment

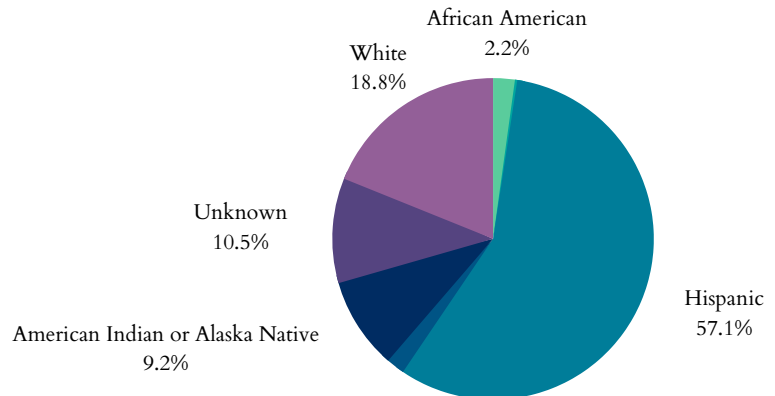
In 2021, New Mexico had 39,057 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 18,846 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 5,964 child victims of abuse or neglect in New Mexico in 2021, at a rate of 12.6 children per 1,000. This translates to a 30.5% decrease since 2017.

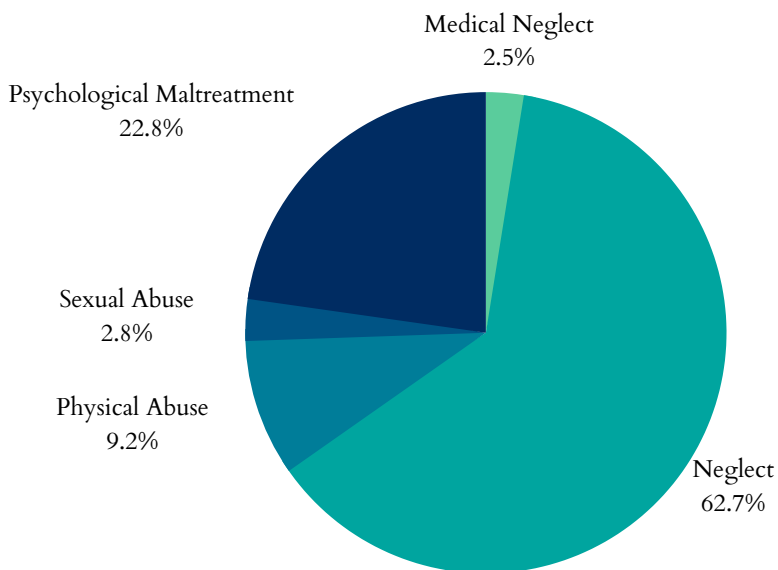
Of the 5,964 children, 4,071 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 655 of the 5,964 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



- 86% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child.
- 14% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 50% of New Mexico's child victims in 2020 were female while 49% were male, and 1% were unknown or unidentified.

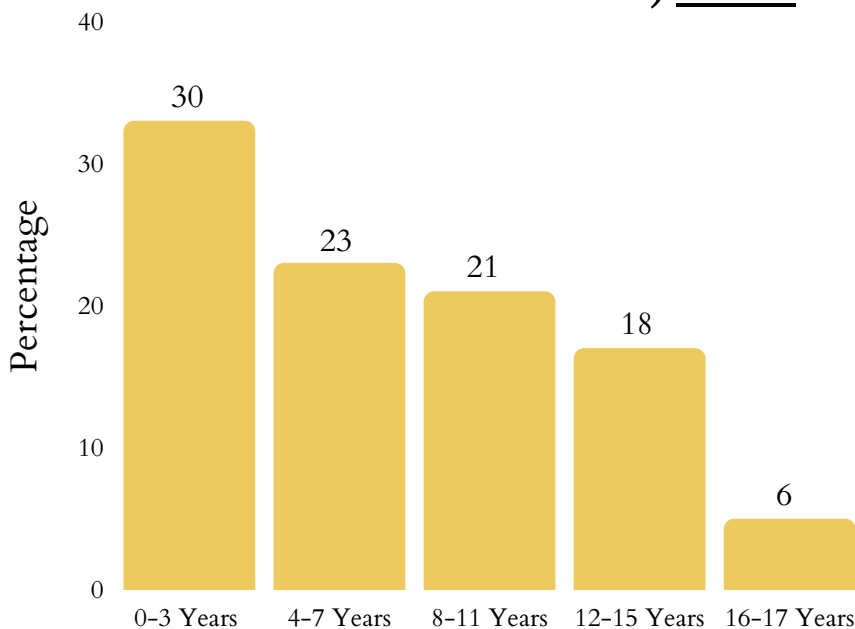
Plans for Safe Care

- In 2021, New Mexico reported 146 infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- New Mexico 16 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities have decreased from 13 in 2020 to 10 in 2021.
- New Mexico did not report total child victims of sex trafficking.
- 1,839 victims received post-response services while 1,719 non- victims received post-response services as well.

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- New Mexico has submitted a Family First plan.

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 3,027 total children were served by the foster care system in New Mexico in FY 2021.
- 1,841 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 929 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 1,188 exited during the same year.
- 319 of New Mexico's children were adopted while 785 were waiting to be adopted.

12.3%

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

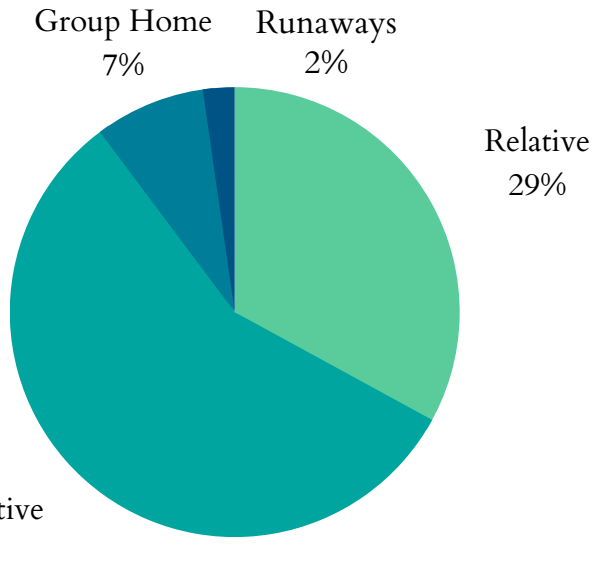
There was a 13.2% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system also increased by 13.5% from 2020.

91 children in New Mexico aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is an increase from 81 in 2019 and represents an 12.3% increase.

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 25.7 months in care.
- The average length of stay in New Mexico for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 38.2 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 8.2 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 7.3 years old.

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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2021



Data from 2021 shows that 1,054 children in foster care within New Mexico were living with non-relatives while 624 stayed with a relative.

150 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 49 children were classified as runaways.

4% of households in New Mexico 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 10.1 months.

Child Poverty

New Mexico had 165,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 35% of all children.

26% of New Mexico's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.

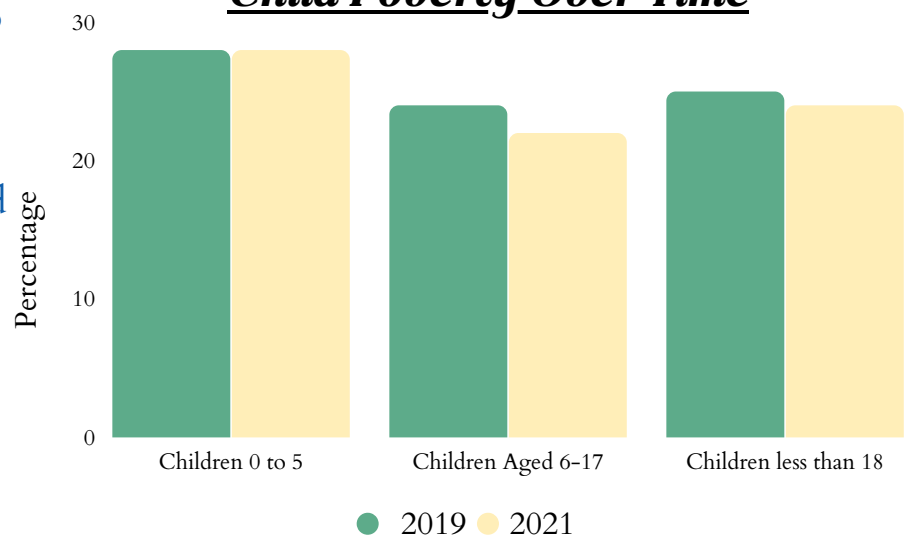
The average number of TANF recipients fell from 29,944 in 2021 to 27,996 in 2022. This represents a 6.5% decrease.

New Mexico spent \$20,505,406 on WIC in 2022, serving 34,497 people. This represents a 4.2% decrease in total participants and a 1.3% decrease in spending.

271,210 people in New Mexico were food insecure in 2020, including 99,100 children who struggled with hunger.

41.1% of households receiving SNAP benefits in New Mexico in 2019 had children.

Child Poverty Over Time



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Health

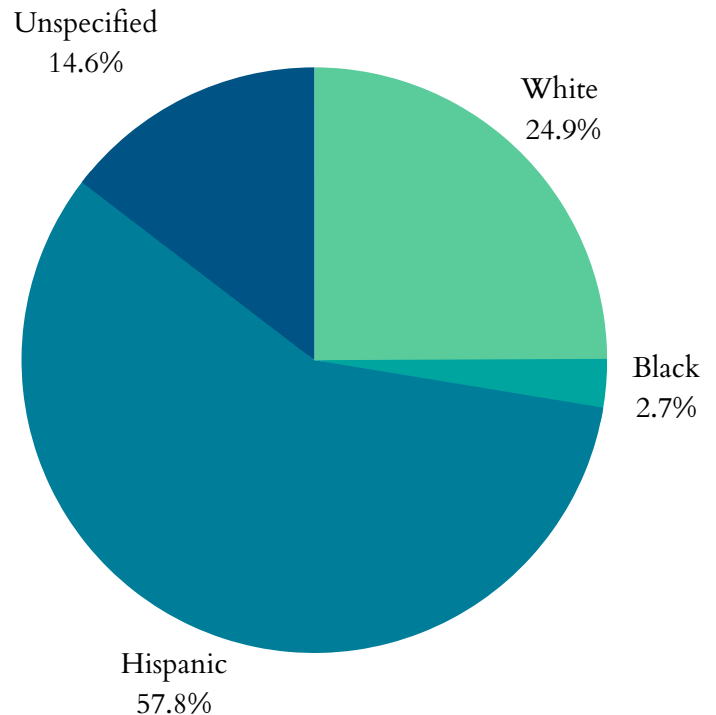
New Mexico had 1,938 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.9% of infants born in New Mexico in 2020.

New Mexico had a total of 2,455 preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.93% of all White babies were born prematurely while 13.9% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was 9.6%.

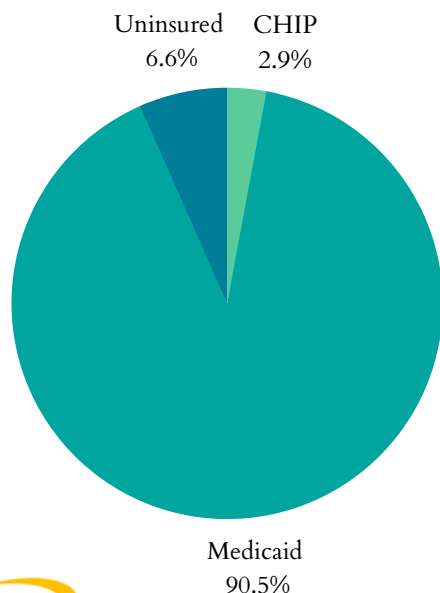
There were 1,485 births to mothers aged 15-19 in New Mexico in 2020, representing a rate of 22 for every 1,000 teen girls.

115 infants under 1 died in New Mexico in 2020, representing an infant mortality rate of 5.3 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019



32,000 of New Mexico's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 10.3% increase from 2019.

397,180 children in New Mexico were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 0.2% increase from 2019.

9,613 children in New Mexico were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 24.9% decrease from 2019.

New Mexico implemented Medicaid expansion in January 2014.

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Juvenile Justice

- There were 2,852 total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- 219 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 265 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 438 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 270 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in New Mexico in 2019. This number has decreased from 318 kids in 2017, representing a 17.7% decrease.

17.7%

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

Teens & Youth

- 14,000 (12%) of New Mexico's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, there were 12 reports of children in New Mexico aged 10-14 committing suicide, and there were 81 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 41 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in New Mexico in 2020.

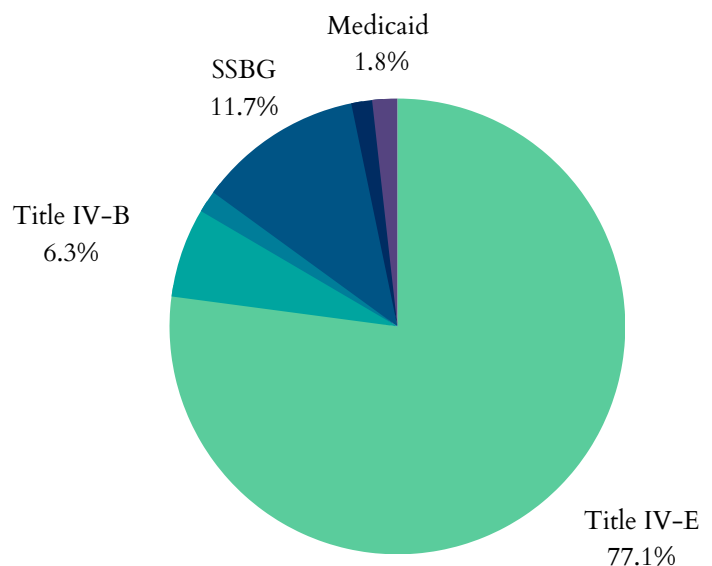
Funding for Child Welfare Services

- New Mexico spent \$104,546,039 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.
- \$57,491,227 were allocated from the federal government and \$38,811,730 came from state and local funds.

The significant funding sectors of the \$57,491,227 in federal funding received in New Mexico in 2018:

- \$21,377,772 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$23,830,833 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- New Mexico's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$8,705,836.

Federal Funding Sources, 2018



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NEW MEXICO STATE FACT SHEET



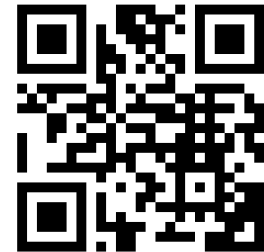
<https://www.cwla.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/New-Mexico-Children.pdf>

NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS



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

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