New York's Children

Child Maltreatment

In 2021, New York had 141,745 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 141,745 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 56,760 child victims of abuse or neglect in New York in 2021, at a rate of 13.8 children per 1,000. This translates to a 20.3% decrease since 2017.

Of the 56,760 children, 32,248 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 5,276 of the 56,760 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021

- White: 34.8%
- Hispanic: 29.4%
- African American: 27.3%
- Asian: 2.5%
- Multiple Race: 4.8%
- Other: Not Shown

Not Shown: American Indian or Alaskan Native .36%
Pacific Islander .08%

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021

- Physical Abuse: 6.3%
- Medical Neglect: 4.3%
- Neglect: 82.8%
- 83% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child.
- 17% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 50% of New York’s child victims in 2020 were female and 50% were male.

Plans for Safe Care

- In 2020, New York reported 836 infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- New York reported 690 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **21,697** total children were served by the foster care system in New York in FY 2021.
- **14,657** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- **6,353** children entered care during the 2021 FY while **7,040** exited during the same year.
- **1,145** of New York’s children were adopted while **3,570** were waiting to be adopted.

There was a 5.4% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system increased by 17.6% from 2020.

**1,586** children in New York aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is an increase from **1,306** in 2019 and represents an **17.7%** increase.

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 26.7 months in care.
- The average length of stay in New York for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 45.4 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.9 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 6.4 years old.

**Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020**

- Child fatalities have increased from **105** in 2020 to **126** in 2021.
- New York reported **20** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- New York did not report victims and non-victims who received post-response services.

**FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION**

- New York's Family First plan was approved by the administration in 2022.

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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2020

Data from 2020 shows that 6,894 children in foster care within New York were living with non-relatives while 4,643 stayed with a relative.

1,758 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 293 children were classified as runaways.

4% of households in New York in 2019 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 14.7 months.

Child Poverty

New York had 1,384,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 34% of all children.

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

The average number of TANF recipients rose from 166,672 in 2020 to 173,080 in 2021. This represents a 3.7% increase.

New York spent $302,515,624 on WIC in 2022, serving 387,415 people. This represents a 5% increase in total participants and a 28% increase in spending.

1,882,580 people in New York were food insecure in 2020, including 596,060 children who struggled with hunger.

32.4% of households receiving SNAP benefits in New York in 2019 had children.

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Health

New York had 17,079 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 New York in 2019.

New York had a total of 19,279 preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 7.67% of all White babies were born prematurely while 13.31% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 9.22%.

There were 5,681 births to mothers aged 15–19 in New York in 2020, representing a rate of 10 in every 1,000 teen girls.

853 infants under 1 died in New York in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of 4.1 per 1,000.

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020

115,000 of New York’s children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 12.2% increase since 2019.

2,044,688 children in New York were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 1.5% decrease from 2019.

751,094 children in New York were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 5.1% decrease from 2019.


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Juvenile Justice

- There were 11,606 total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- 257 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 3,263 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 1,510 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 837 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in New York in 2019. This number has decreased from 870 kids in 2017, representing a 3.8% decrease.

Teens & Youth

- 64,000 (6%) of New York’s youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2020.
- In 2020, there were 12 reports of children in New York aged 10-14 committing suicide, however, there were 166 reports of suicide among children aged 15-24.
- 82 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in New York in 2020.

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- New York spent $2,256,127,759 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.
- $800,249,473 were allocated from the federal government and $1,455,878,285 came from state and local funds.

The significant funding sectors of the $800,249,473 in federal funding received in New York in 2018:

- $152,165,659 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- $160,601,134 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- New York’s sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was $303,278,931.

Federal Funding Sources, 2018

- Title IV-E 73.7%
- Title IV-B 0.1%
- SSBG 24.8%
- Other Source 1.1%
NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET


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