

Texas' Children

Child Maltreatment

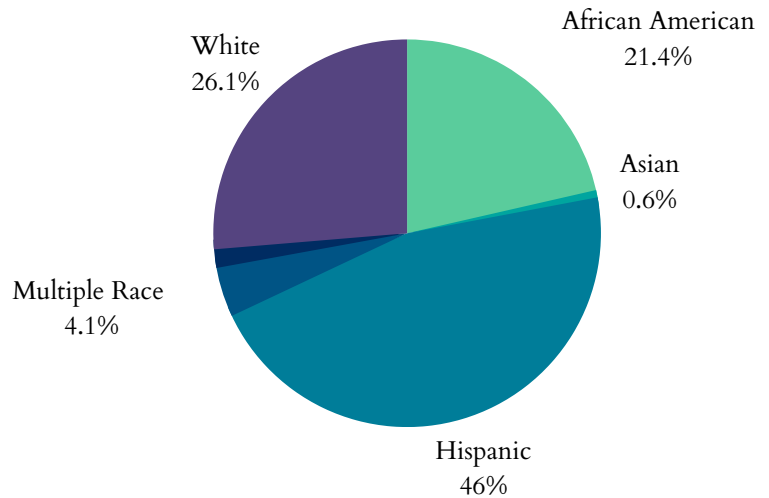
In 2021, Texas had 228,140 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 194,256 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 65,253 child victims of abuse or neglect in Texas in 2021, at a rate of 8.7 children per 1,000. This translates to a 6.1% increase since 2017.

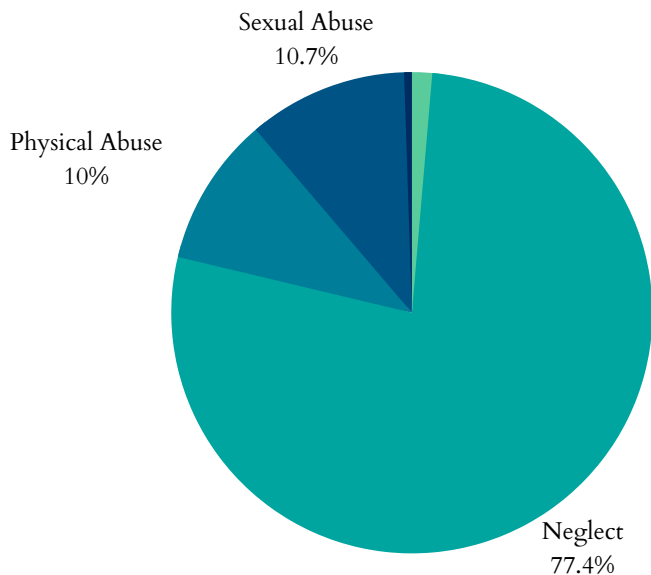
Of the 65,253 children, 52,345 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 12,141 of the 65,253 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



- 76% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child.
- 24% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 52% of Texas's child victims in 2020 were female while 48% were male.

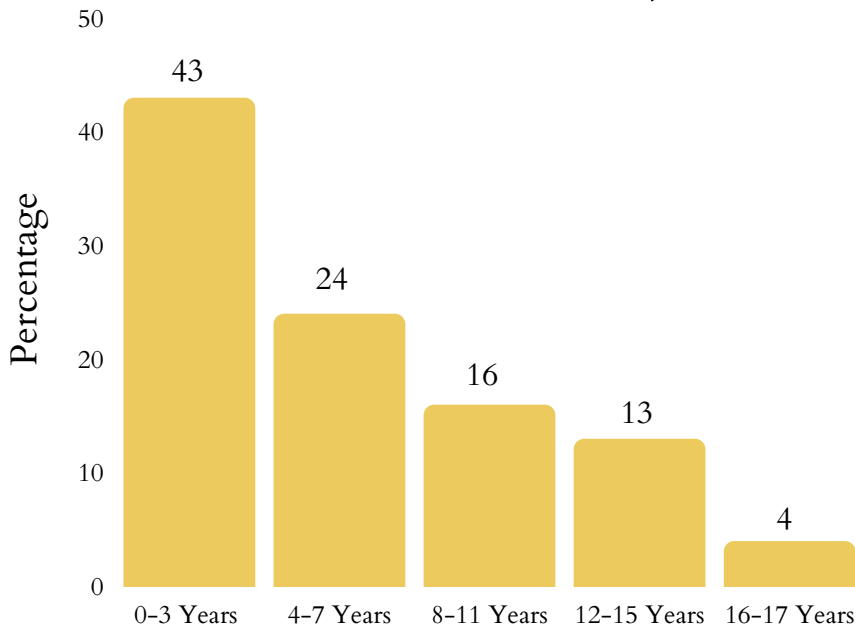
Plans for Safe Care

- In 2021, Texas reported 1,521 infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- Texas reported 1,521 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.



Texas' Children

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities have decreased from 255 in 2020 to 206 in 2021.
- Texas reported 34 total child victims of sex trafficking.
- 26,974 victims received post-response services while 10,204 non-victims received post-response services as well.

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- Texas has not submitted a family first plan.

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 44,929 total children were served by the foster care system in Texas in FY 2021.
- 28,042 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 15,127 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 16,887 exited during the same year.
- 4,647 of Texas's children were adopted while 11,639 were waiting to be adopted.

5.45%

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

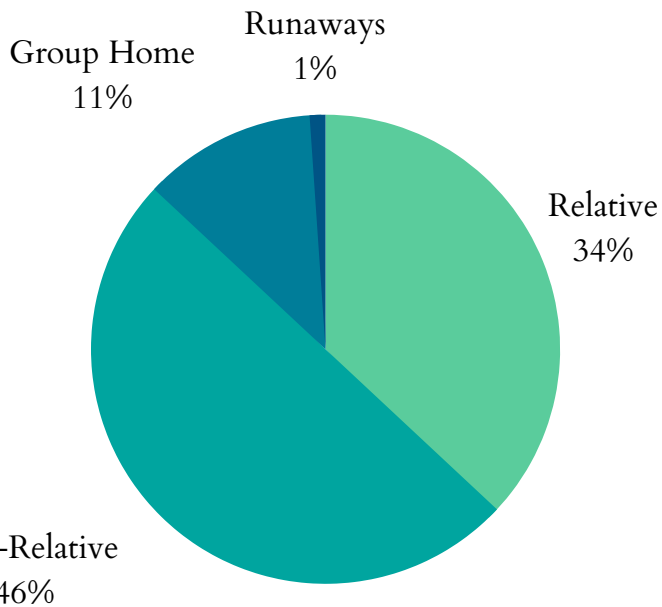
There was a 6.5% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system also decreased by 11.47% from 2020.

1,230 children in Texas aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is an increase from 1,163 in 2019 and represents a 5.45% increase.

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 17.9 months in care.
- The average length of stay in Texas for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 26.8 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.5 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 5.6 years old.

Texas' Children

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2020



Data from 2020 shows that 13,776 children in foster care within Texas were living with non-relatives while 9,960 stayed with a relative.

3,294 children were staying in group homes while 289 children were classified as runaways.

4% of households in Texas 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 6.9 months.

Child Poverty

Texas had 2,111,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 28% of all children.

32% of Texas's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2021.

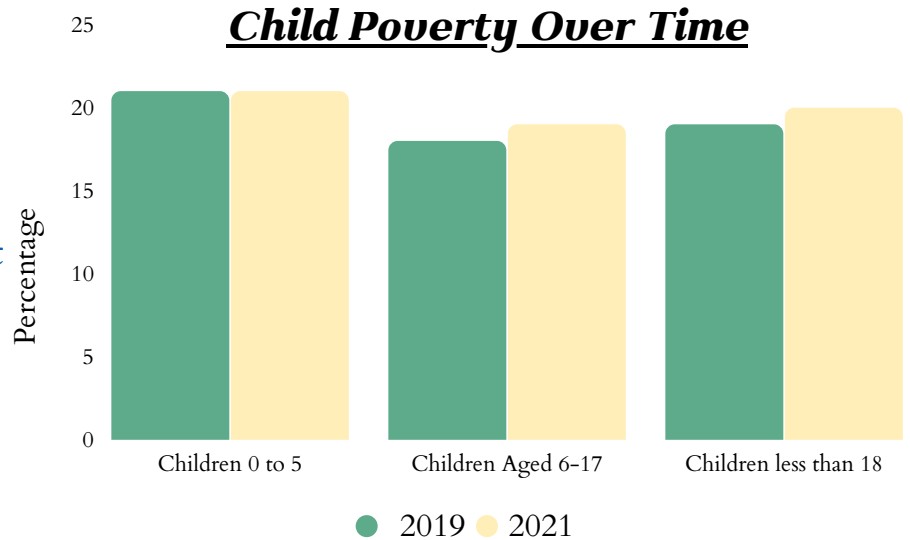
The average number of TANF recipients fell from 37,211 in 2021 to 22,152 in 2022. This represents an 40.47% decrease.

Texas spent \$228,656,024 on WIC in 2022, serving 698,986 people. This represents a 4.54% increase in total participants and a 2.86% increase in spending.

3,720,710 people in Texas were food insecure in 2020, including 1,395,890 children who struggled with hunger.

53.4% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Texas in 2020 had children.

Child Poverty Over Time



Texas' Children

Health

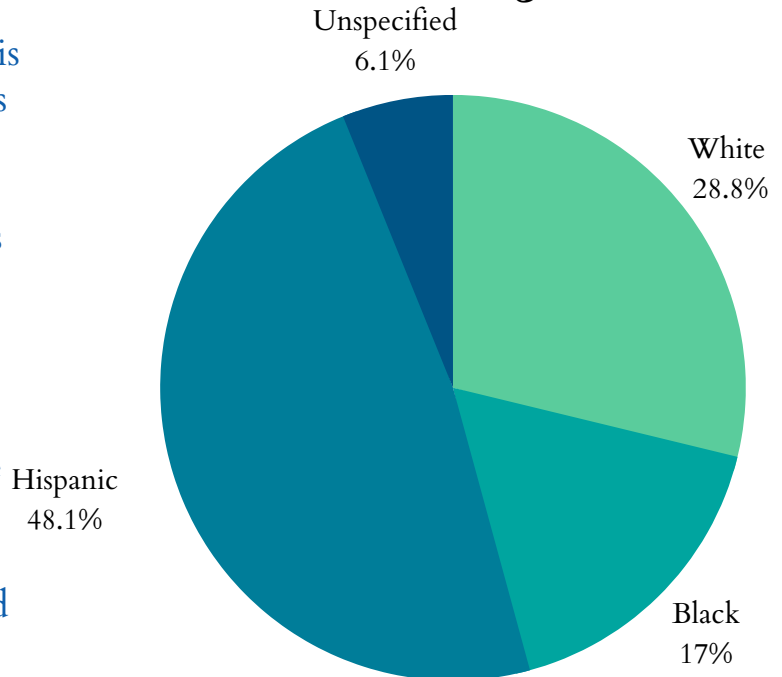
Texas had 30,299 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 8.2% of infants born in Texas in 2020.

Texas had a total of 39,711 preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 9.5% of all White babies were born prematurely while 14.45% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 10.79%.

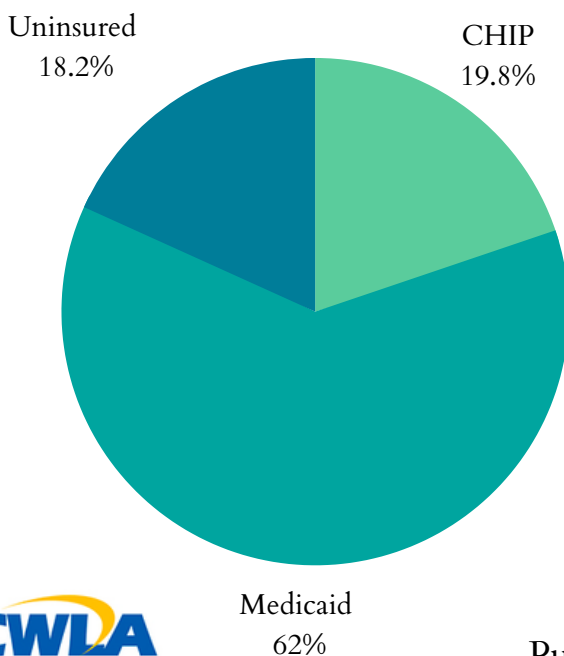
There were 22,641 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Texas, representing 22 of every 1,000 babies in 2020.

1,968 infants under 1 died in Texas 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, 2020



930,000 of Texas's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 6.53% decrease from 2019.

3,348,893 children in Texas were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 0.91% decrease from 2019.

905,649 children in Texas were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 16.1% decrease from 2019.

Texas has not adopted Medicaid expansion.

Texas' Children

Juvenile Justice

- There were 49,409 total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- 960 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 9,351 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 8,464 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 3,699 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Texas in 2019. This is decreased from 3,963 kids in 2017, representing a 6.6% decrease.

6.6%

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

Teens & Youth

- 143,000 (8%) of Texas's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, there were 57 reports of children in Texas aged 10-14 committing suicide, and there were 656 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 485 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Texas in 2020.

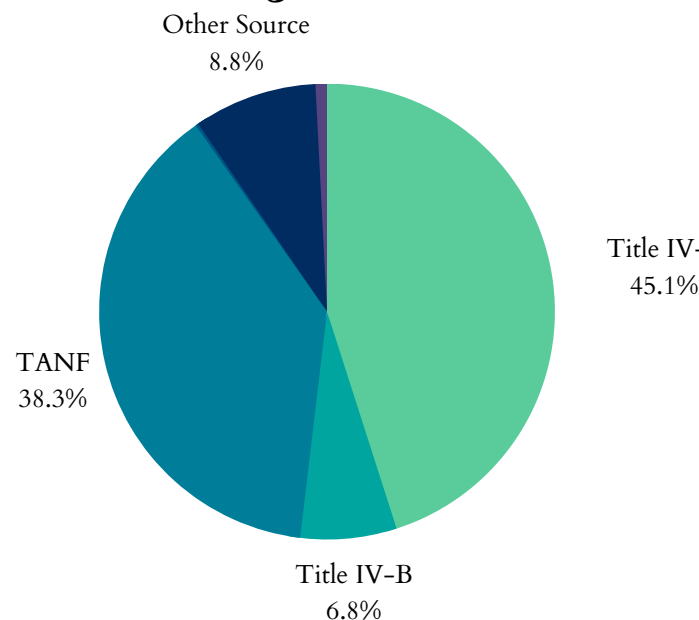
Child Welfare Services Funding

- Texas spent \$1,787,487,613 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.
- \$746,648,125 were allocated from the federal government and \$1,019,157,956 came from state and local funds.

The significant funding sectors of the \$746,648,125 in federal funding received in Texas in 2018:

- \$177,029,686 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$134,753,932 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Texas's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$169,903,340.

Federal Funding Sources, 2018



Texas' Children

TEXAS STATE FACT SHEET

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



NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS

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



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