

# Utah's Children

## Child Maltreatment

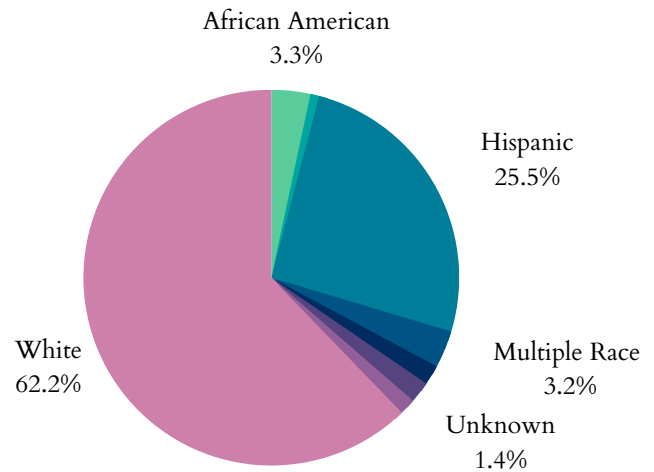
In 2021, Utah had 40,845 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 19,721 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 9,233 child victims of abuse or neglect in Utah in 2021, at a rate of 9.7 children per 1,000. This translates to a 7.2% decrease since 2017.

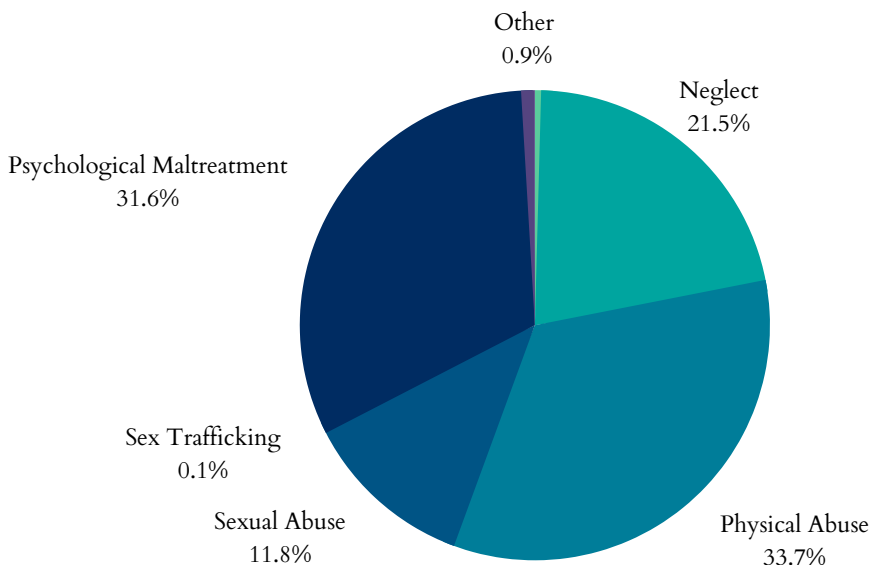
Of the 9,233 children, 6,339 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 844 of the 9,233 cases.

## Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



## Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



- 66% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child.
- 34% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 54% of Utah's child victims in 2020 were female while 46% were male.

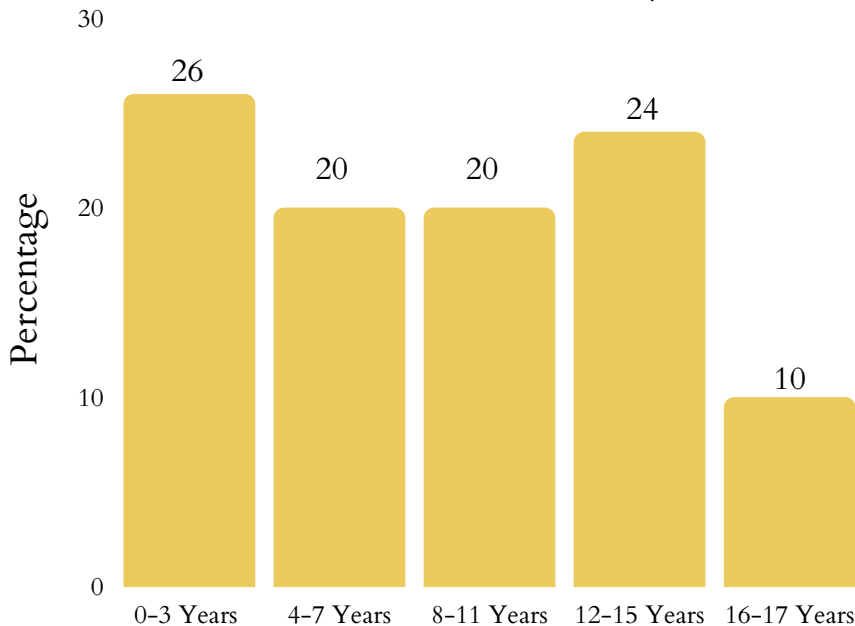
## Plans for Safe Care

- In 2021, Utah reported 265 infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- Utah reported 94 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.



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## Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities have decreased from 6 in 2020 to 4 in 2021.
- Utah reported 10 total child victims of sex trafficking.
- 8,563 victims received post-response services while 14,277 non-victims received post-response services as well.

### FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- Utah has submitted a Family First Plan, approved in December 2021.
- Utah's Family First Plan

## Foster Care and Adoptions

- 3,870 total children were served by the foster care system in Utah in FY 2021.
- 2,119 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 1,522 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 1,751 exited during the same year.
- 560 of Utah's children were adopted while 698 were waiting to be adopted.

**13%**

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

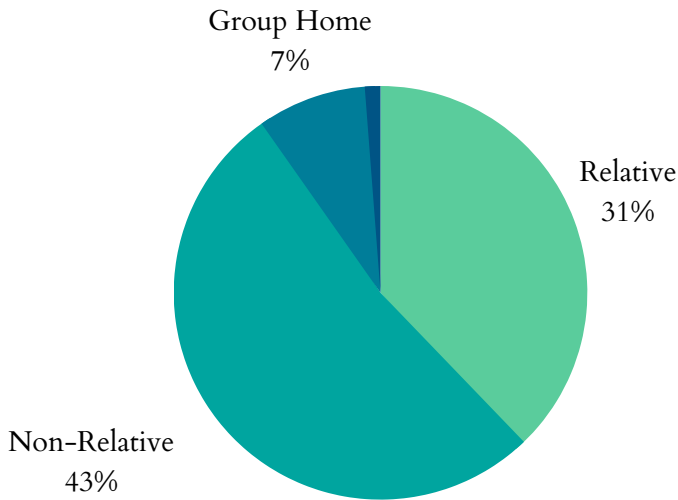
There was an 10.7% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system also increased by 8.1% from 2020.

139 children in Utah aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is an increase from 123 in 2019 and represents a 13% increase.

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 16 months in care.
- The average length of stay in Utah for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 24.4 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.9 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 5.6 years old.

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## Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2020



Data from 2020 shows that 1,010 children in foster care within Utah were living with non-relatives while 747 stayed with a relative.

163 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 29 children were classified as runaways.

2% of households in Utah 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 6.7 months.

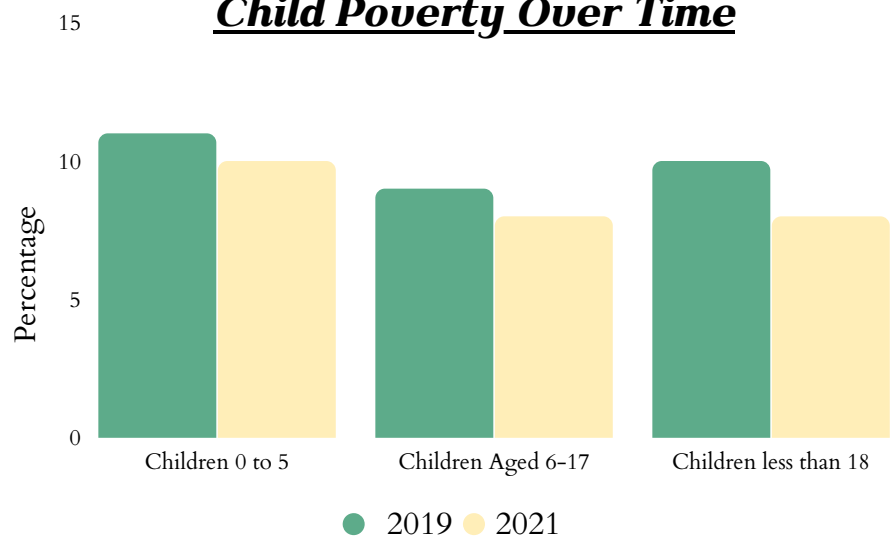
## Child Poverty

Utah had 176,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 19% of all children.

22% of Utah's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2021

The average number of TANF recipients fell from 5,361 in 2021 to 4,357 in 2022. This represents a 18.73% decrease.

## Child Poverty Over Time



Utah spent \$14,542,897 on WIC in 2022, serving 37,457 people. This represents a 0.45% increase in total participants and a 7.1% increase in spending.

288,970 people in Utah were food insecure in 2020, including 104,840 children who struggled with hunger.

51.3% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Utah in 2019 had children.

# Utah's Children

## Health

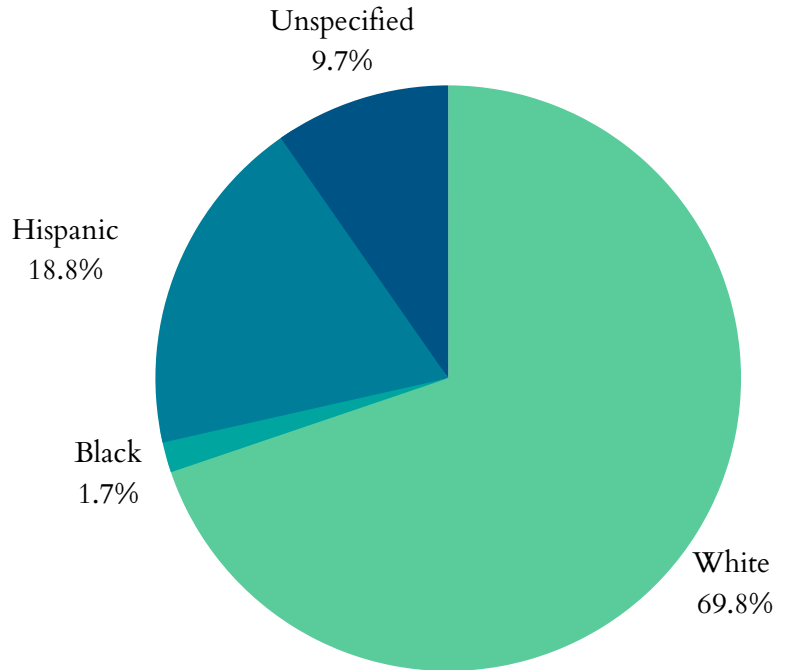
Utah had 3,216 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 7% of infants born in Utah in 2020.

Utah had a total of 4,241 preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.93% of all White babies were born prematurely while 12.33% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 9.28%.

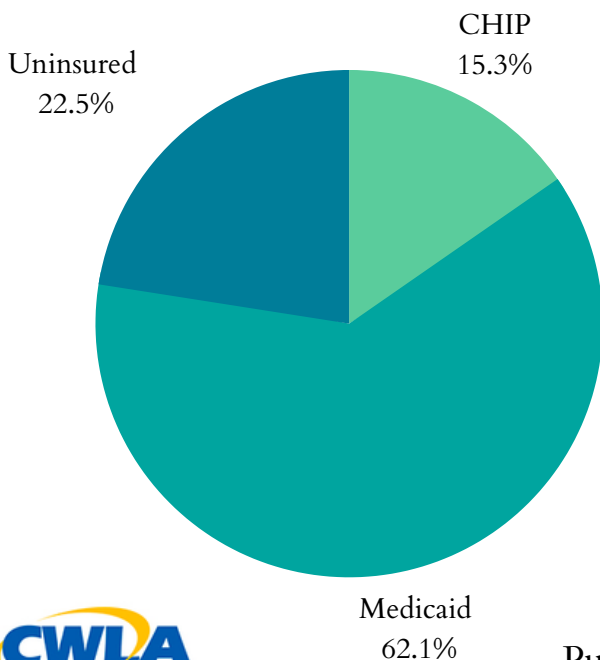
There were 1,363 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Utah, representing 11 of every 1,000 babies in 2020.

251 infants under 1 died in Utah in 2020, representing an infant mortality rate of 5.5 per 1,000.

### ***Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020***



### ***Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019***



79,000 of Utah's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 3.66% decrease from 2019.

214,602 children in Utah were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 5.14% decrease from 2019.

49,592 children in Utah were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 11.2% decrease from 2019.

Utah adopted Medicaid expansion in January 2020.

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## Juvenile Justice

- There were 11,334 total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- 330 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 2,330 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 1,968 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 246 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Utah in 2019.  
This number has increased since 2017, representing a 9.8% increase.

9.8%

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

## Teens & Youth

- 13,000 (6%) of Utah's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, there were 12 reports of children in Utah aged 10-14 committing suicide, and there were 116 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 46 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Utah in 2020.

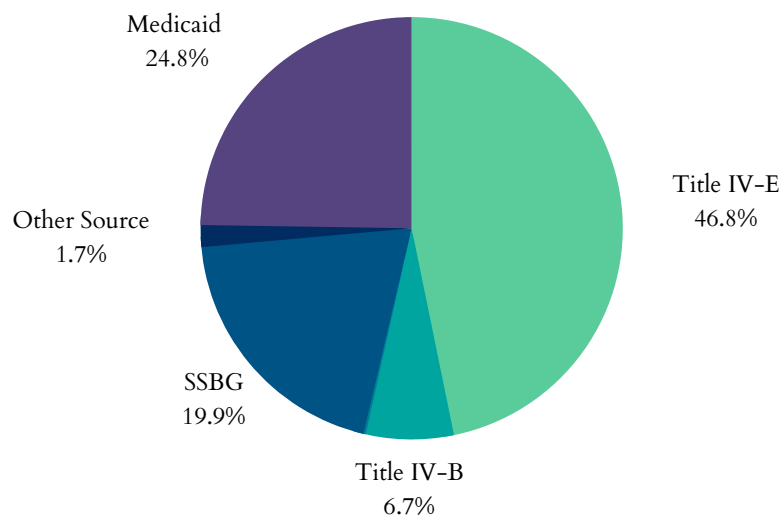
## Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Utah spent \$193,300,757 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.
- \$82,585,046 were allocated from the federal government and \$108,102,529 came from state and local funds.

### ***Federal Funding Sources, 2018***

The significant funding sectors of the \$82,585,046 in federal funding received in Utah in 2018:

- \$4,144,621 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$10,799,812 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Utah's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$22,373,088.



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## UTAH STATE FACT SHEET

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



## NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS

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



## CWLA

[www.cwla.org/](http://www.cwla.org/)

