

Washington's Children

Child Maltreatment

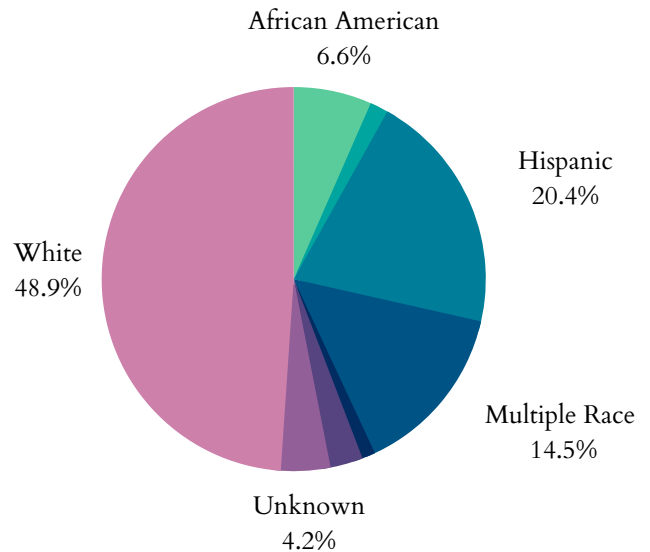
In 2021, Washington had 98,934 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 38,405 were screened in for CPS response.

There were 3,487 child victims of abuse or neglect in Washington in 2021, at a rate of 2.1 children per 1,000. This translates to a 20.5% decrease since 2017.

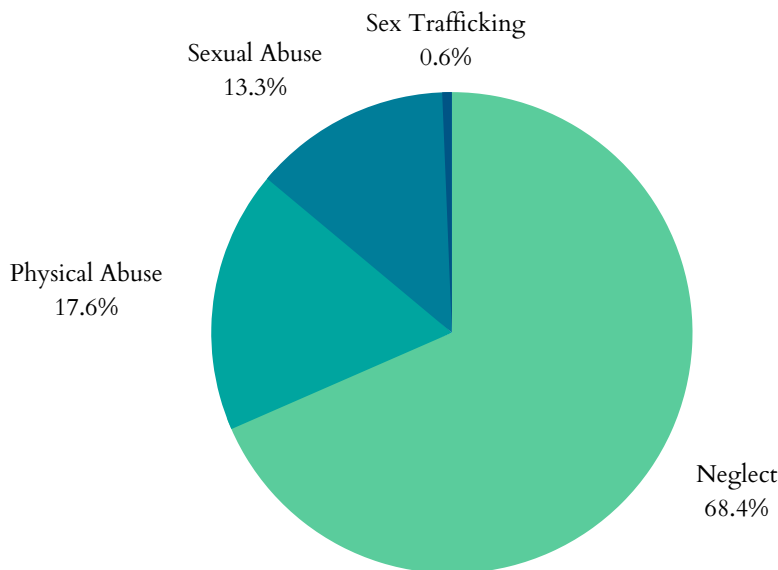
Of the 3,487 children, 1,627 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing 343 of the 3,487 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



- 84% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2021 were parents of the child.
- 16% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.
- 51% of Washington's child victims in 2021 were female while 48% were male.

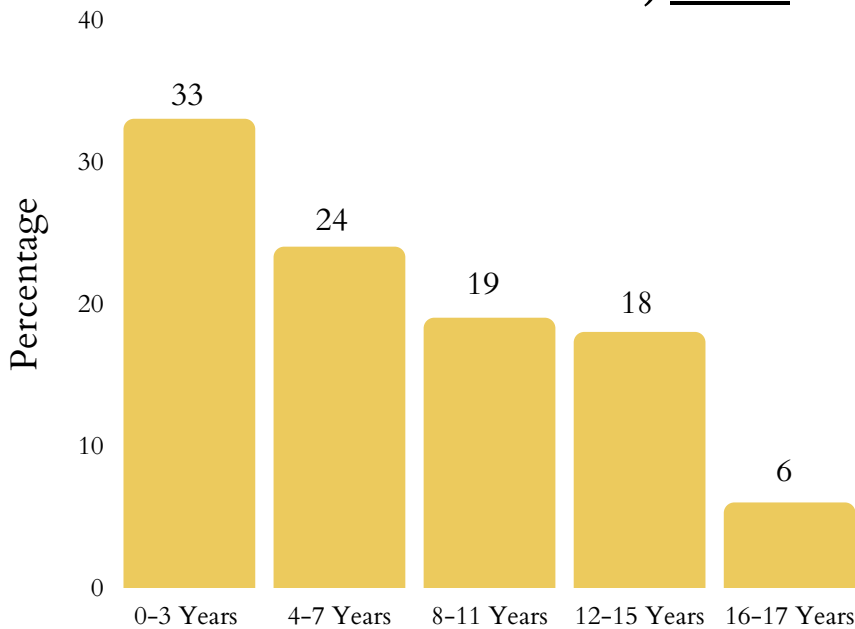
Plans for Safe Care

- Washington reported 285 infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- 98 screened-in IPSE have a plan of safe care.



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities have increased from 14 in 2020 to 19 in 2021.
- Washington reported 25 total child victims of sex trafficking.
- 2,086 victims received post-response services while 3,695 non-victims received post-response services as well.

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- Washington has a plan approved by the administration.
- The plan was implemented in 2019.
- Washington's Family First Plan

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 13,354 total children were served by the foster care system in Washington in FY 2021.
- 8,894 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 3,849 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 4,460 exited during the same year.
- 1,077 of Washington's children were adopted while 2,582 were waiting to be adopted.

There was an 7.5% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system also decreased by 24.4% from 2020.

184 children in Washington aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is an increase from 180 in 2019 and represents a 2.2% increase.

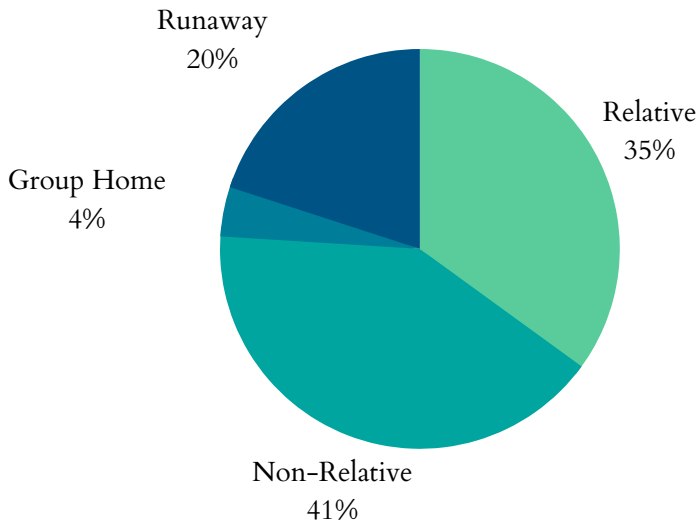
- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 26.6 months in care.
- The average length of stay in Washington for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 36.9 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 7.1 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 6.0 years old.

2.2%

The increase 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 3,913 children in foster care within Washington were living with non-relatives while 3,351 stayed with a relative.

397 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 98 children were classified as runaways.

4% of households in Washington 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 14.2 months.

Child Poverty

Washington had 476,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 28% of all children.

30% of Washington's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.

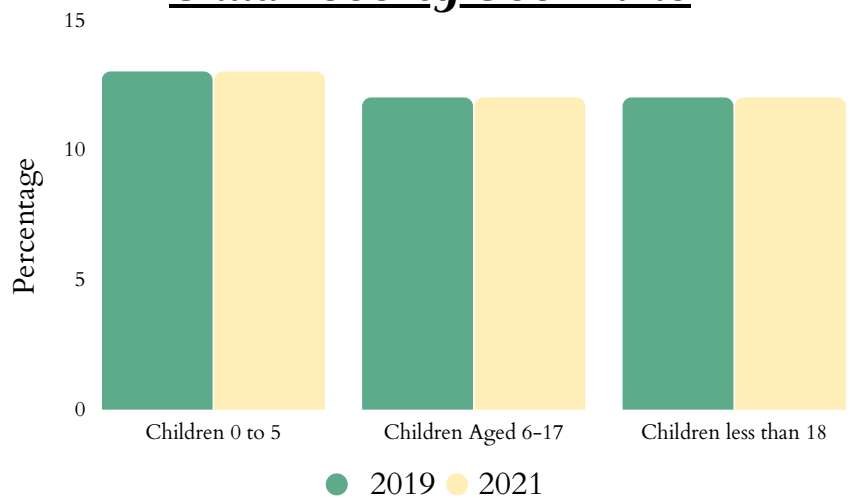
The average number of TANF recipients rose from 64,912 in 2021 to 71,372 in 2022. This represents a 9.95% increase.

The state spent \$64,991,444 on WIC in 2022, serving 121,663 people. This represents a 1% decrease in total participants but a 57.1% increase in spending since 2021.

638,210 people in Washington were food insecure in 2022, including 203,430 children who struggled with hunger.

30% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Washington in 2019 had children.

Child Poverty Over Time



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Health

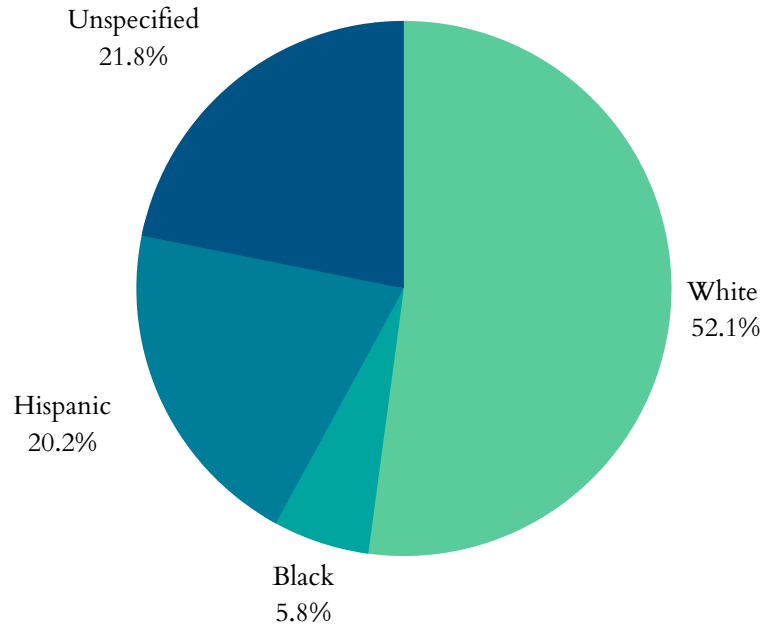
Washington had 5,558 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 6.7% of infants born in Washington in 2020.

Washington had a total of 7,167 preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 8.1% of all White babies were born prematurely while 8.5% of Black babies arrived prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 8.64%.

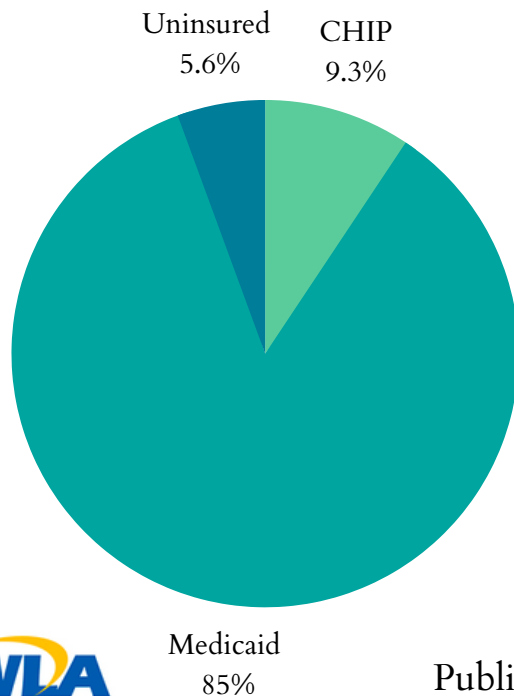
There were 2,478 births to mothers aged 15-19 in Washington in 2020, representing a rate of 11 in every 1,000 teen girls.

373 infants under 1 died in Washington in 2020, representing an infant mortality rate of 4.5 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019



55,000 of Washington's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 1.9% increase from 2019.

Washington is a Medicaid expansion state as of January 2014.

815,701 children in Washington were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 30.5% decrease from 2019.

80,322 children in Washington were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 10.9% decrease from 2019.

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Juvenile Justice

- There were 10,101 total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- 168 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 1,905 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- 852 were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.
- 693 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Washington in 2019. This number has decreased from 834 in 2017, representing a 17% decrease.

17%

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

Teens & Youth

- 26,000 (7%) of Washington's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, there were 18 reports of children in Washington aged 10-14 committing suicide, however, there were 154 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 66 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Washington in 2020.

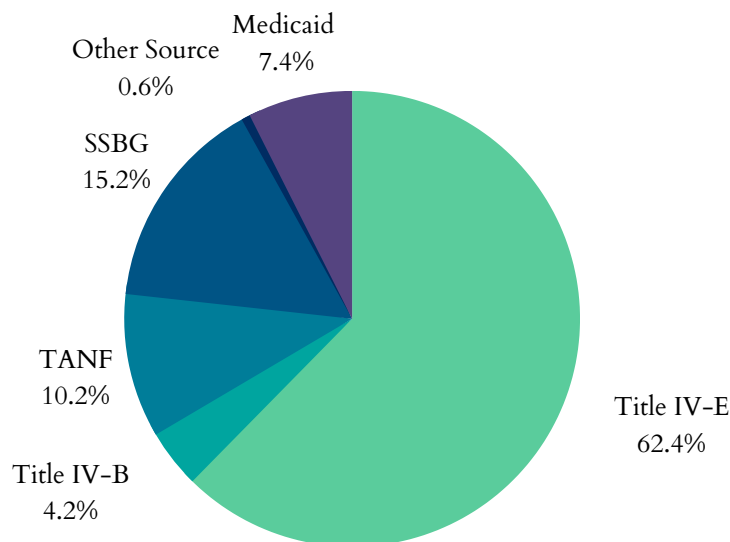
Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Washington spent \$606,653,148.58 on child welfare services in 2018. Child welfare services are significant funding sectors of the direct and administrative services that state agencies provide to children and families.
- \$277,567,062.09 were allocated from the federal government and \$320,015,161.74 came from state and local funds.

The significant funding sectors of the \$277,567,062 in federal funding received in Washington in 2018:

- \$8,225,554 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$50,026,319.00 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Washington's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$42,208,155.17

Federal Funding Sources, 2018



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WASHINGTON STATE FACT SHEET



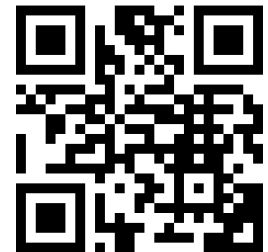
<https://www.cwla.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Washington-Children.pdf>

NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS



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

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