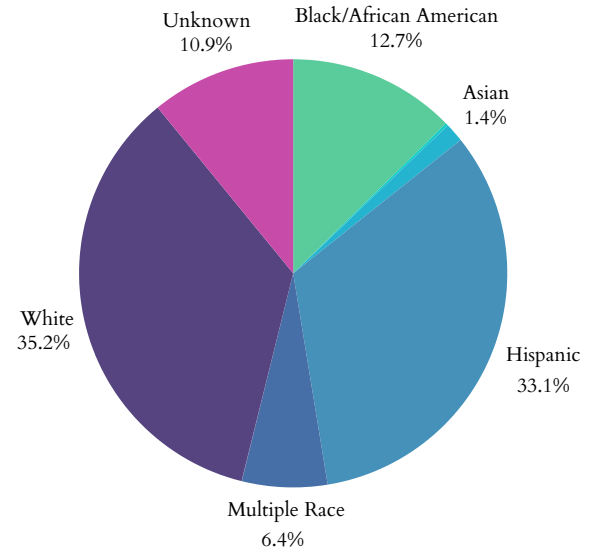


Massachusetts' Children

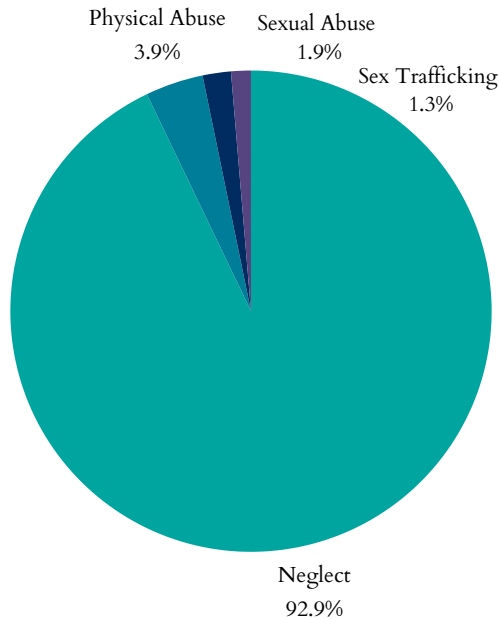
Child Maltreatment

- In 2023, Massachusetts had **83,461** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **37,685** were screened in for response by CPS.
- **21,710** were child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of 16.2 children per 1,000 (13.3% decrease since 2019).
- Of the **21,710** children, **12,161** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1 years**, representing 2,084 of the 21,710 cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2023



Workforce

There are **10,380** child, family, and school social workers in Massachusetts with a median wage of **\$31.13** (compared to Massachusetts' minimum wage: **\$15.00**)



Published March 2025

Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2023):

- **79%** = parents of the child.
- **20%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

Child victims (2023):

- **50.2%** = female; **47.5%** = male.

- Massachusetts did not report any child fatalities from 2022-2023.
- Massachusetts reported **302** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **23,976** victims and **52,624** non-victims.

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2023

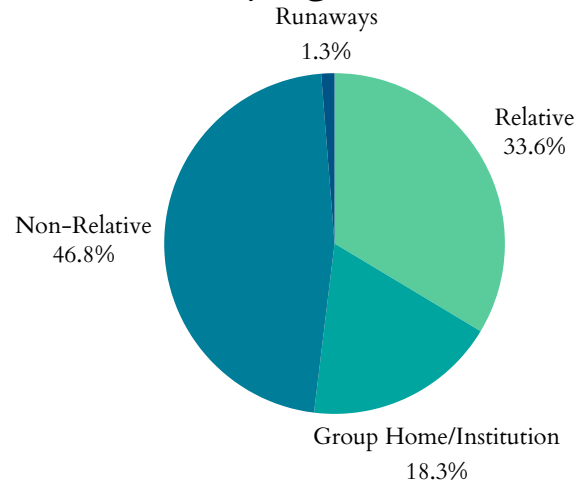


Massachusetts' Children

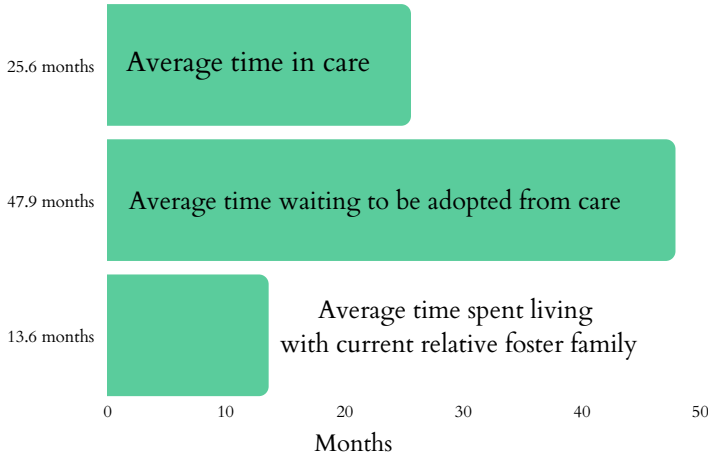
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **12,906** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2022.
- **8,824** in care as of 09/30/2022.
- During 2022, **3,836** children entered care and **4,082** exited.
- **835** children were adopted; **3,342** were waiting to be adopted.
- **4%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2021-2022. Adoptions from the system also increased by **10.6%** from 2021.

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2021



Duration in Care, 2021



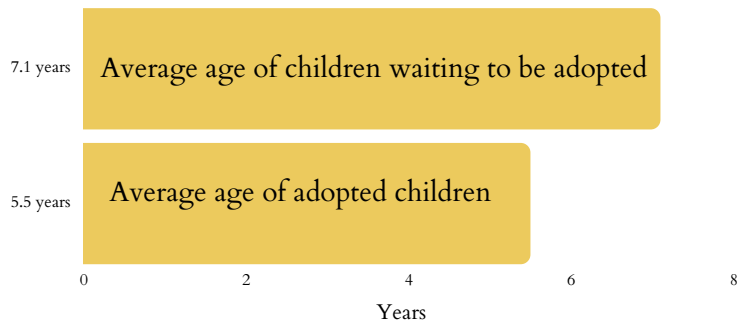
- In 2021, **623** children exited foster care due to age (**16.2%** decrease from 2020).
- **3,537** children were living with non-relatives; **2,539** stayed with a relative.
- **1,384** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **95** children classified as runaways.
- **4.5%** of households had a grandparent living with a grandchild.

16.2% The decrease since 2020 in children transitioning from foster care to independence.

Juvenile Justice

- **4,141** total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- **167** for Disorderly Conduct.
- **652** for Property Crimes.
- **110** for Drug Abuse Violations.
- **204** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in 2021 (decrease from **288** kids in 2019; **29.2%** decline).

Adoption, 2020



29.2% The decline since 2019 of children living in juvenile correction facilities.

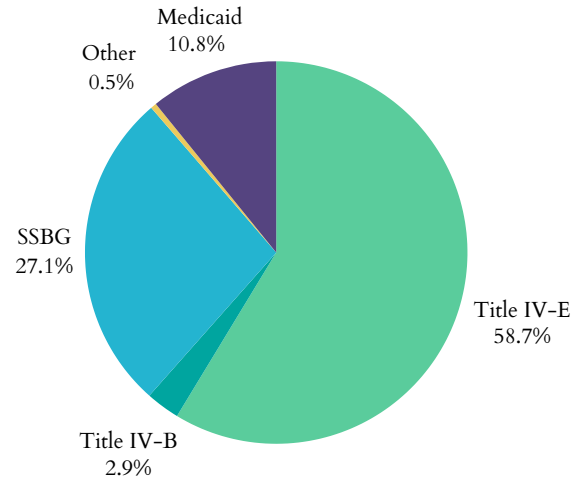


Massachusetts' Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Massachusetts spent **\$1,053,787,651.00** on child welfare services in 2020.
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- \$289,816,360.31** = from the federal government
- \$757,604,423.69** = from state and local funds.

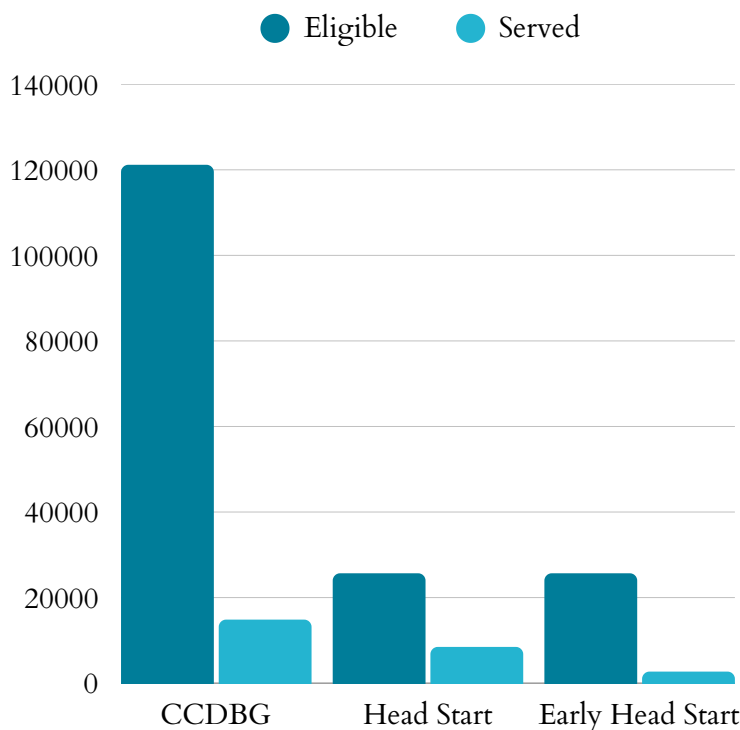
Federal Funding Sources, 2020



The significant funding sectors of the **\$289,816,360.31** in federal funding received in Massachusetts in 2020:

- \$123,790,999.22** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$34,584,209.10** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Massachusetts' sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2021 was **\$78,965,341**

Child Care & Early Learning



- 33%** of Head Start eligible children are enrolled
- 10%** of Early Head Start eligible children are enrolled
- 12%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- \$24,005** annual cost of center-based infant care
- \$15,129** annual cost of home-based infant care

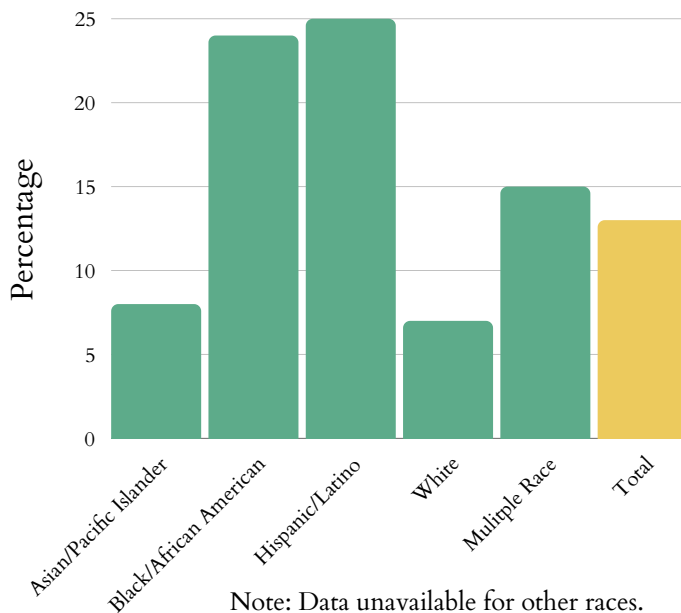


Massachusetts' Children

Child Poverty

- 317,000 children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2022 (24% of all children).
- 32% of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.
- Average number of TANF recipients rose from 56,841 in 2021 to 75,706 in 2022 (33.19% increase).

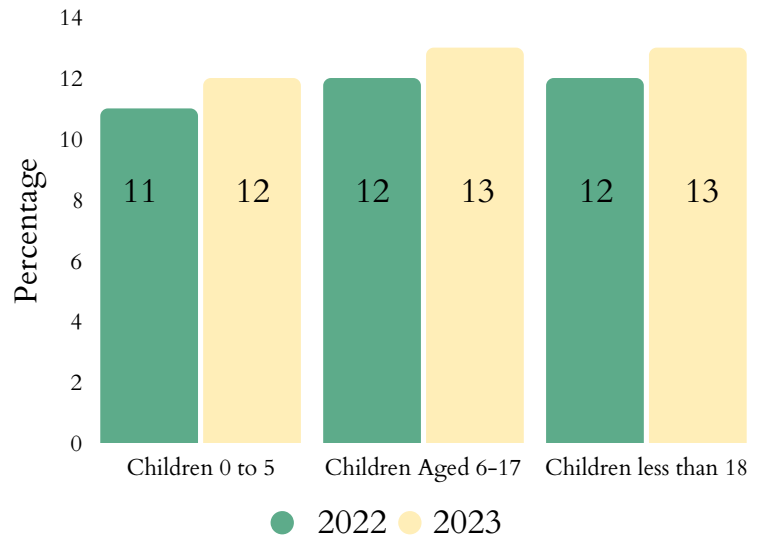
Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



HOUSING

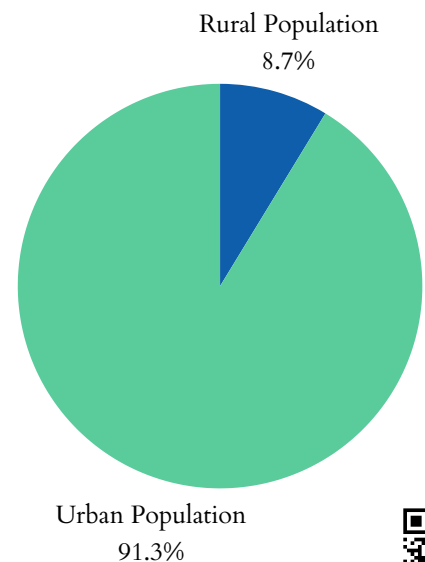
- 6,245 children, from birth to three-years-old, are experiencing homelessness (2.28%)
- 28.4% of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18
- 34% of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.
- 52,012 total Massachusetts residents living in public housing

Child Poverty Over Time



- The state spent \$28,996,845 on WIC in 2023, serving 123,522 people: a 6.8% increase in total participants and 6.5% increase in spending since 2022.
- 713,870 people were food insecure in 2022, including 169,800 children.
- 30.9% of households receiving SNAP benefits in 2021 had children.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Massachusetts, 2020

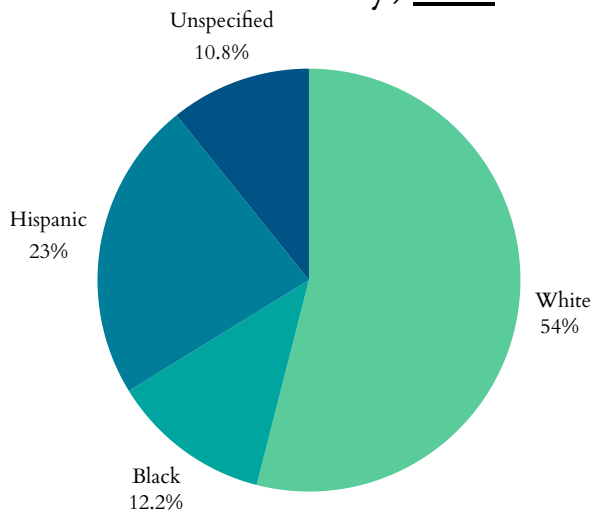


Massachusetts' Children

Health

- **5,081** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (7.6% of births).
- **6,176** preterm births (<37wks) in 2021 (9% of births).
 - 8.41% of all White babies
 - 11.37% of all Black babies
- **1,311** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023 -- a rate of 6 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **227** infants aged <1yr died in 2023; a rate of 3.0 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Medicaid Expansion

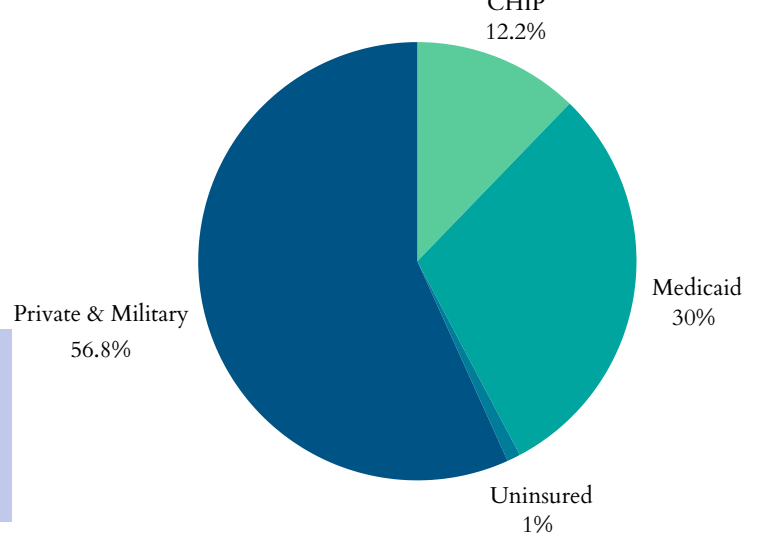
Massachusetts has been a Medicaid expansion state since 01/01/2014.

Maternal Mortality

- **56** Massachusetts women died while pregnant, or within 42 days post pregnancy from any cause relating to or aggravated by said pregnancy, excluding accidents and incidents
- For every 100,000 live births in Massachusetts, there is **16** maternal deaths

- **22,000** children had no health insurance in 2022 (22.2% increase from 2021).
- **497,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2022 (4.24% decrease from 2021).
- **222,537** children in Massachusetts were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (1.59% increase from 2020).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2021

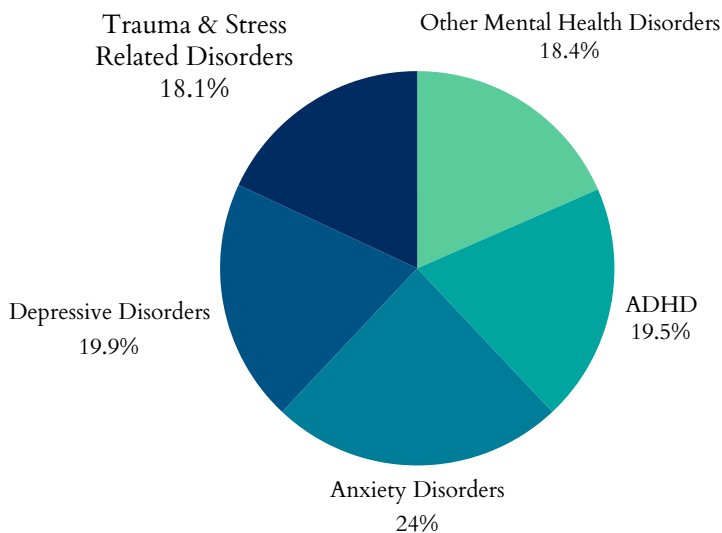


Massachusetts' Children

Zero to Three

- 74.5% of babies live above low-income
- 12.8% of babies live at low income
- 12.7% of babies live in poverty
- 7.3% of babies live in deep poverty
- 72.2% of new parents have at least one parent working full time

Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2022



Plans for Safe Care

- In 2023, Massachusetts reported 6,048 infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Massachusetts reported 5,874 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

Massachusetts has a Family First plan approved by the administration.

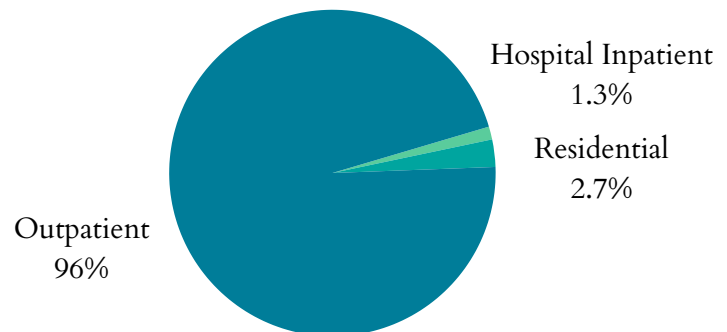
Teens & Youth

- 19,000 youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2023 (5%)
- Zero children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Massachusetts in 2020.

Mental Health

- 2,150 children received mental health treatment in Massachusetts in 2022 (0.1%)
- In 2022 there were 5.9 deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in Massachusetts.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2023



Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of 29,350 children in Massachusetts (1.5% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 31st, 2023, 3,356 clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD.

