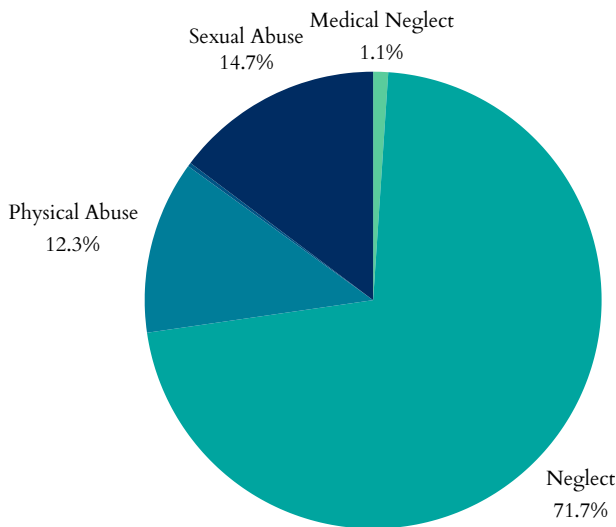


New Jersey's Children

Child Maltreatment

- In 2023, New Jersey had **60,869** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, all **60,869** were screened in for response by CPS.
- **2,951** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of 1.5 children per 1,000 (42.5% decrease since 2019).
- Of the **2,951** children, **2,393** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1 years**, representing **346** of the **2,951** cases.

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2023



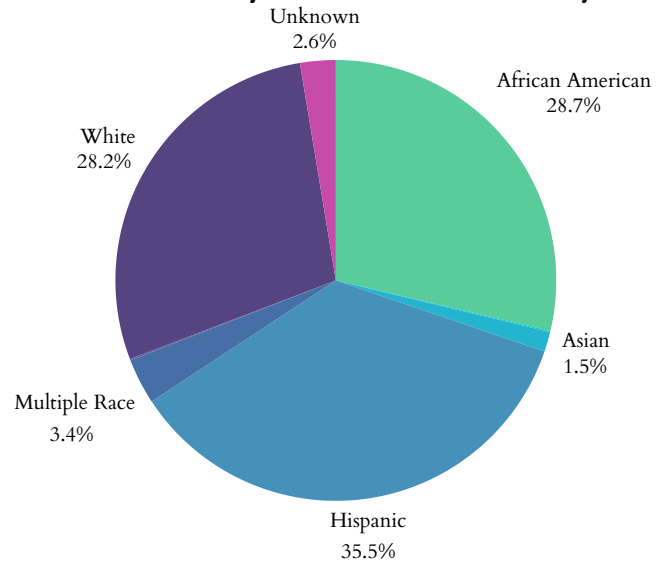
Workforce

There are **6,990** children, family, and school social workers in New Jersey with a mean wage of **\$35.42** (compared to New Jersey's minimum wage: **\$15.49**)



Published March 2025

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2023):

- **77.7%** = parents of the child.
- **22.3%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

Child victims (2023):

- **52.2%** = female; **47.5%** = male.

- Child fatalities decreased from **19** in 2022 to **14** in 2023.
- New Jersey reported **0** total child victim of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **3,065** victims and **92,650** non-victims.

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2023

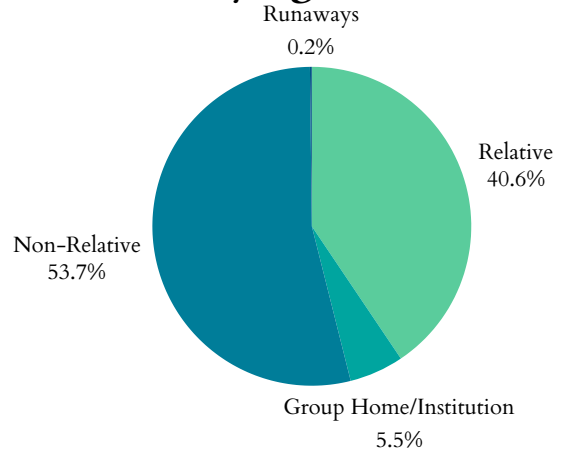


New Jersey's Children

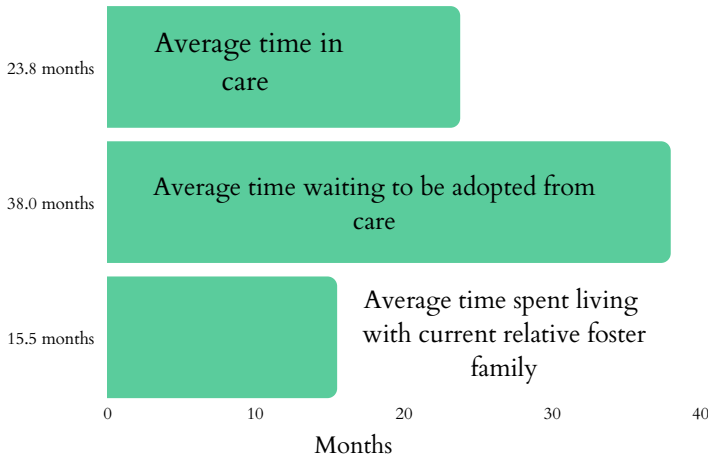
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **4,625** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2022.
- **2,786** in care as of 09/30/2022.
- During 2022, **1,468** children entered care and **1,844** exited.
- **569** children were adopted; **1,061** were waiting to be adopted.
- **12.6%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2021-2022. Adoptions from the system also decreased by **11%** from 2021.

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2021



Duration in Care, 2021



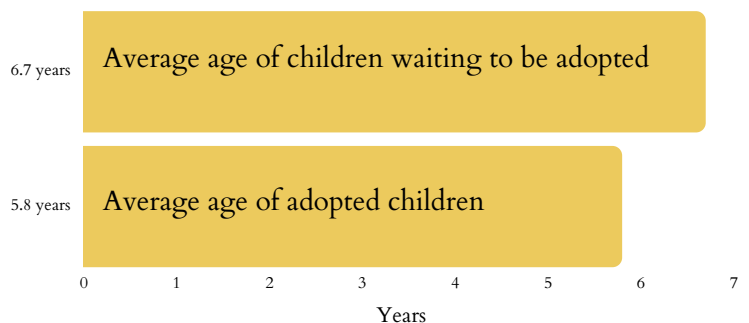
- In 2021, **173** children exited foster care due to age (**13.9%** decrease from 2020).
- **1,698** children were living with non-relatives; **1,282** stayed with a relative.
- **174** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **6** children classified as runaways.
- **4%** of households had a grandparent living with a grandchild.

13.9% The decrease since 2020 in children transitioning from foster care to independence.

Juvenile Justice

- **13,360** total arrests for children under 18 in 2019.
- **1,101** for Disorderly Conduct.
- **2,199** for Property Crimes.
- **2,959** for Drug Abuse Violations.
- **378** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in 2021 (decrease from 513 kids in 2019; **26%** decline).

Adoption, 2020



26% The decline since 2019 of children living in juvenile correction facilities.

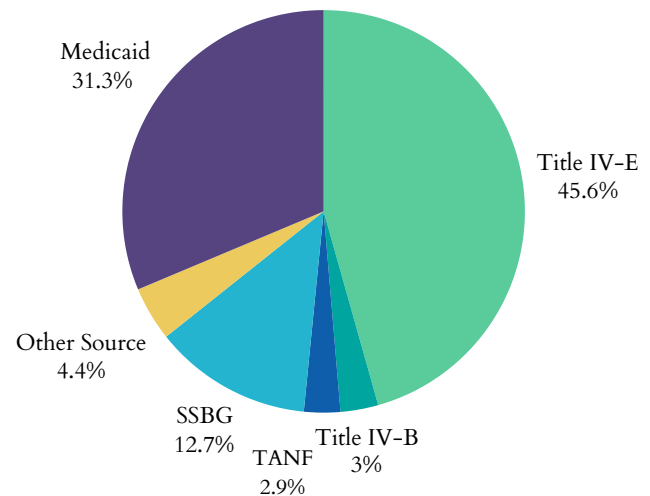


New Jersey's Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- New Jersey spent **\$1,101,390,224** on child welfare services in 2020.
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$420,941,309** = from the federal government
- **\$669,991,030** = from state and local funds.

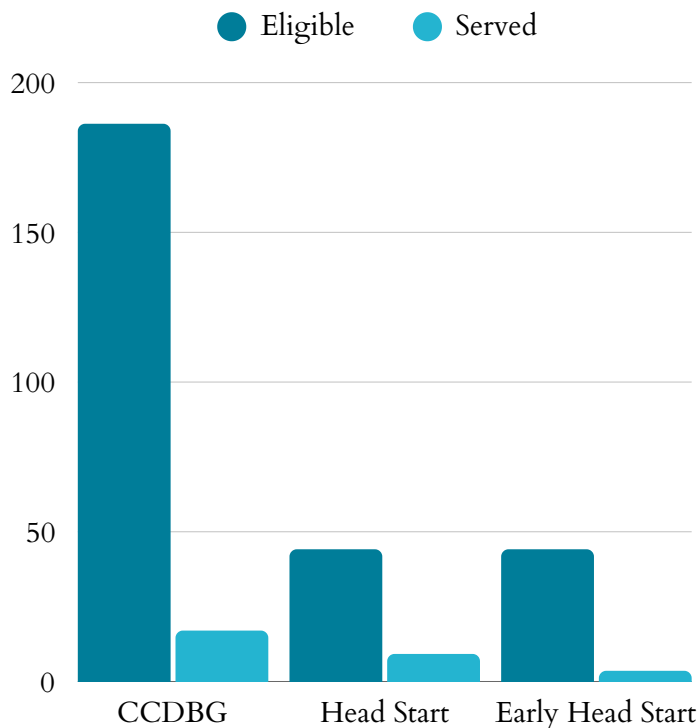
Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$420,941,309.00** in federal funding received in New Jersey in 2020:

- **\$100,247,544** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$85,055,793** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- New Jersey's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$53,938,771**

Child Care & Early Learning



- **21%** of Head Start eligible children are enrolled
- **8%** of Early Head Start eligible children are enrolled
- **9%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- **\$19,634** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$12,144** annual cost of home-based infant care

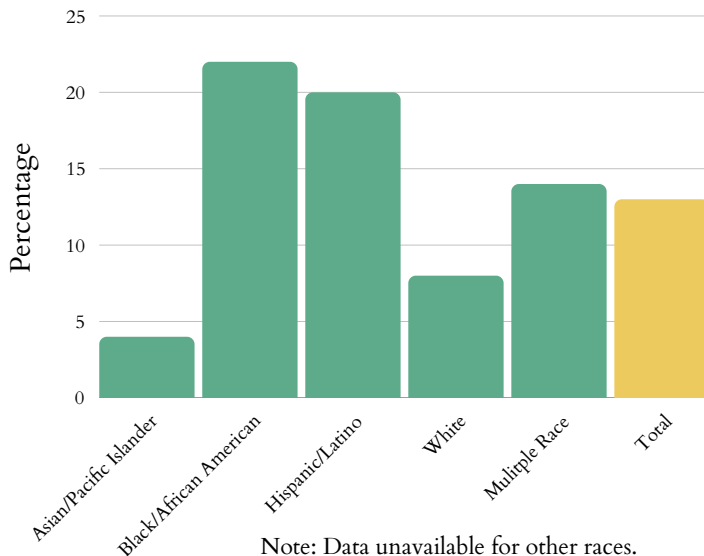


New Jersey's Children

Child Poverty

- **483,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2022 (24% of all children).
- **35%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.
- Average number of TANF recipients rose from **21,645** in 2021 to **22,670** in 2022 (4.7% decrease).

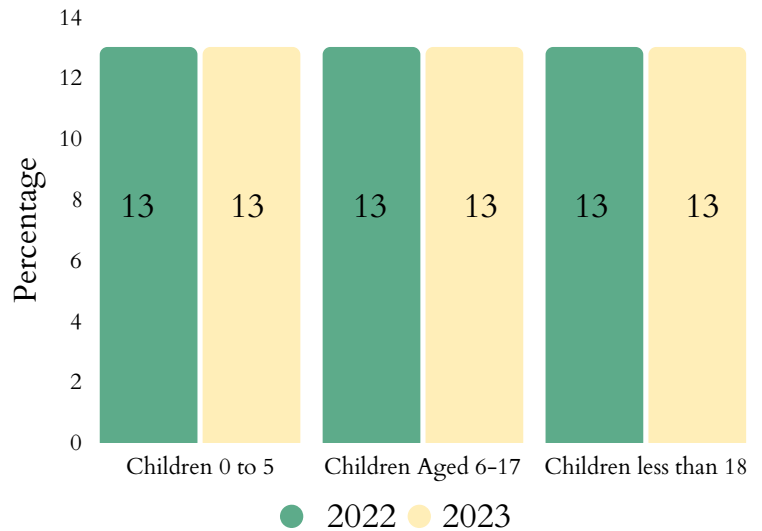
Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



HOUSING

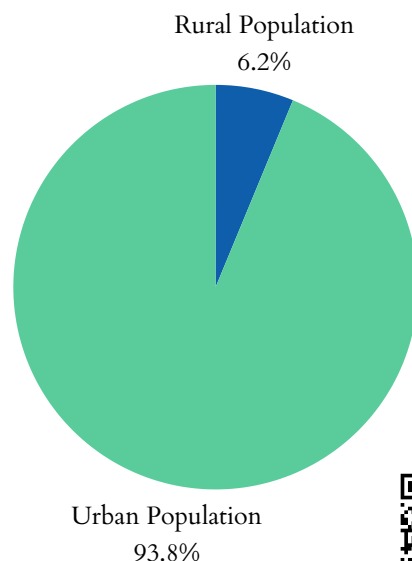
- **3,503** children, from birth to three-years-old, are experiencing homelessness (0.86%)
- **27.2%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18
- **35%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.
- **40,831** total New Jersey residents living in public housing

Child Poverty Over Time



- The state spent **\$148,795,192** on WIC in 2023, serving **162,462** people: a 10.7% increase in total participants and 37.6% increase in spending since 2022.
- **994,800** people were food insecure in 2021, including 263,260 children.
- **38.0%** of households receiving SNAP benefits in 2021 had children.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of New Jersey, 2020

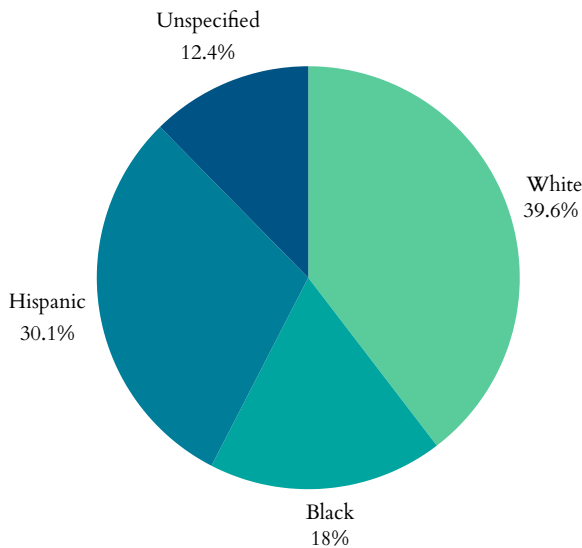


New Jersey's Children

Health

- **7,875** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (7.8% of births).
- **9,313** preterm births (<37wks) in 2021 (9.2% of births).
 - 7.8% of all White babies
 - 13.05% of all Black babies
- **2,153** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023 -- a rate of 8 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **365** infants aged <1yr died in 2023; a rate of 4 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Medicaid Expansion

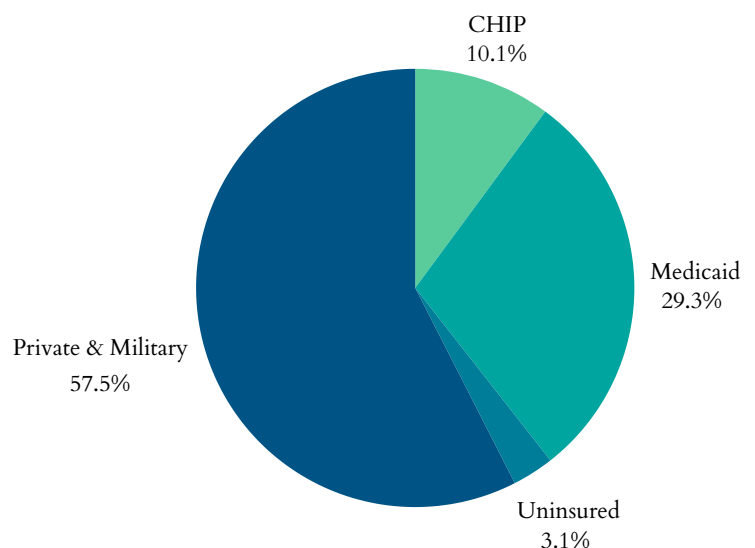
New Jersey has been a Medicaid expansion state since 01/01/2014.

Maternal Mortality

- **131** New Jersey 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 New Jersey, there is **26** maternal deaths

- **82,000** children had no health insurance in 2022 (7.89% increase from 2021).
- **724,704** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2021 (5.2% increase from 2020).
- **250,049** children in New Jersey were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (4.6% decrease from 2020).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2021

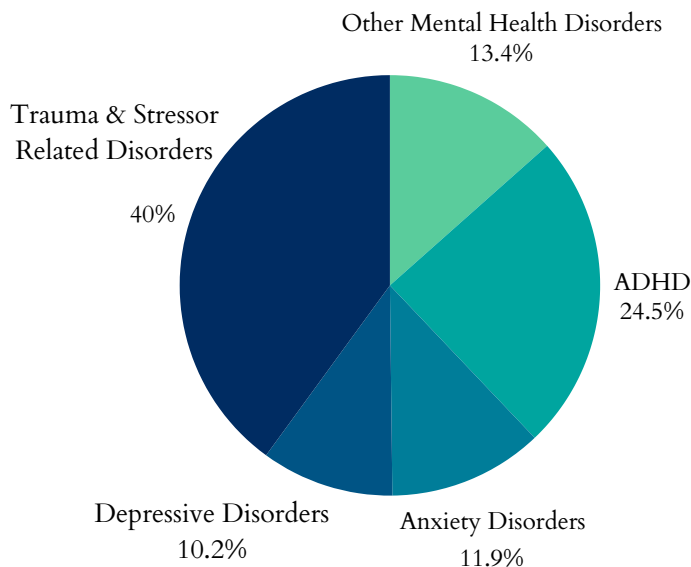


New Jersey's Children

Zero to Three

- **68.2%** of babies live above low-income
- **16.1%** of babies live at low income
- **15.7%** of babies live in poverty
- **12.1%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **81.3%** 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, New Jersey reported **364** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- New Jersey reported **219** plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

New Jersey has a Family First plan submitted to the administration and is now waiting approval.

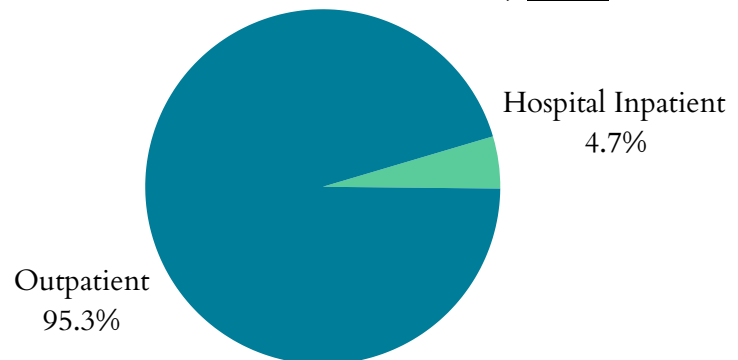
Teens & Youth

- **23,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2023 (5%)
- **31** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in New Jersey in 2020.

Mental Health

- **69,131** children received mental health treatment in New Jersey in 2022 (3.7%)
- In 2022, there were **5.3** suicide deaths per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in New Jersey.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2023



Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **31,651** children in New Jersey (2.3% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 31st, 2023, **611** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD

