

Puerto Rico's Children

Child Maltreatment

- In 2023, Puerto Rico had **17,499** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **10,307** were screened in for response by CPS.
- **4,446** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **8.9** children per 1,000 (6.2% decrease since 2019).
- Of the **4,446** children, **4,092** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **13 years**, representing **296** of the **4,446** cases.

Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2023):

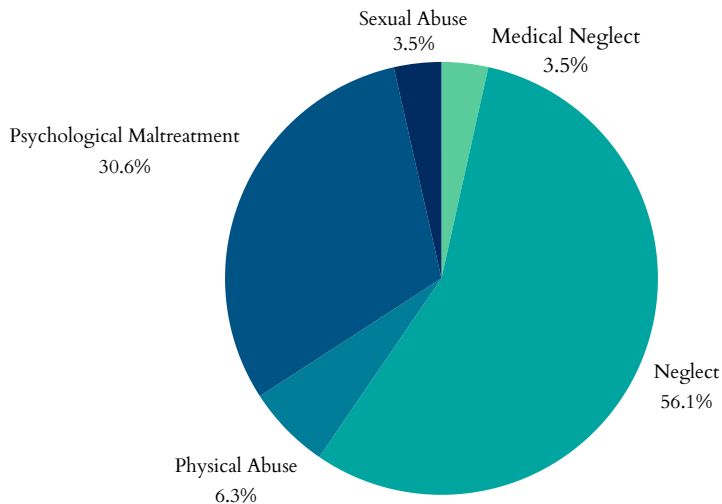
- **70.6%** = parents of the child.
- **29.3%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

Child victims (2023):

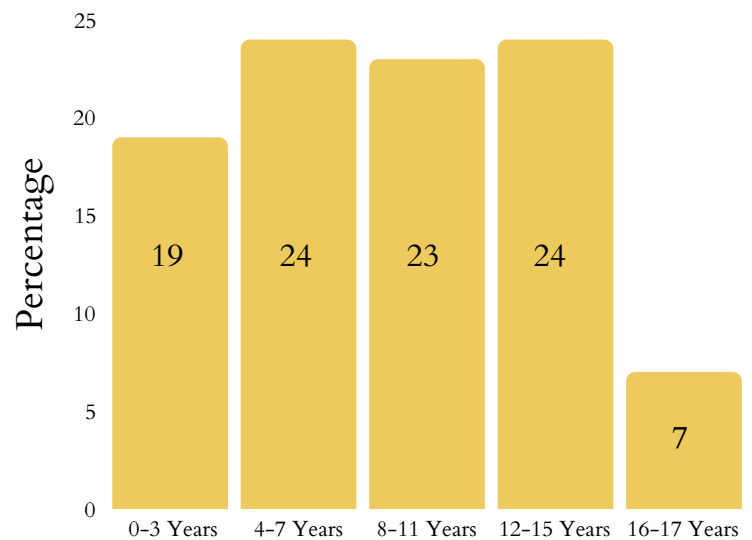
- **51.0%** = female; **48.8%** = male.

- Child fatalities increased from **4** in 2022 to **5** in 2023.
- Puerto Rico reported **0** total child victim of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **5,245** victims and **14,098** non-victims.

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2023



Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2023



Workforce

There are **6,000** children, family, and school social workers in Puerto Rico with a mean wage of **\$14** (compared to Puerto Rico's minimum wage: **\$10.50**)

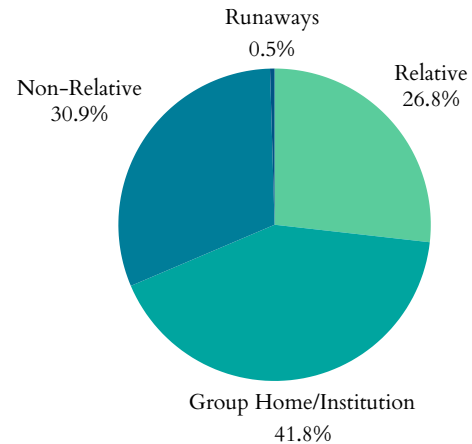


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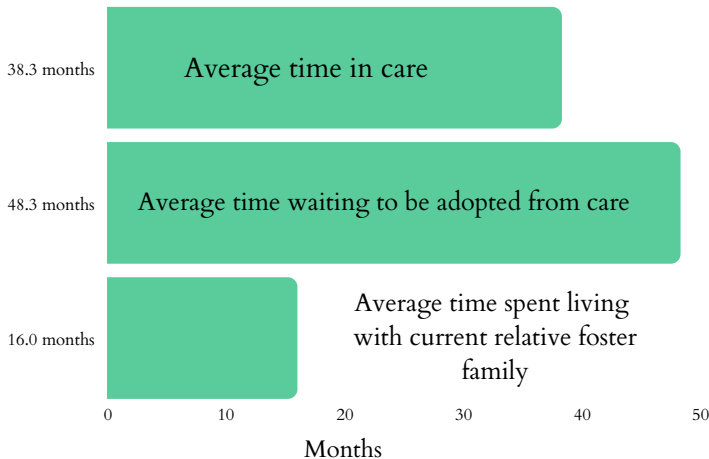
Foster Care and Adoptions

- 2,540 total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2022.
- 2,136 in care as of 09/30/2022.
- During 2022, 621 children entered care and 404 exited.
- 86 children were adopted; 396 were waiting to be adopted.
- 0.05% increase in the number of children in care between 2021-2022. Adoptions from the system decreased by 33.3% from 2021.

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2021

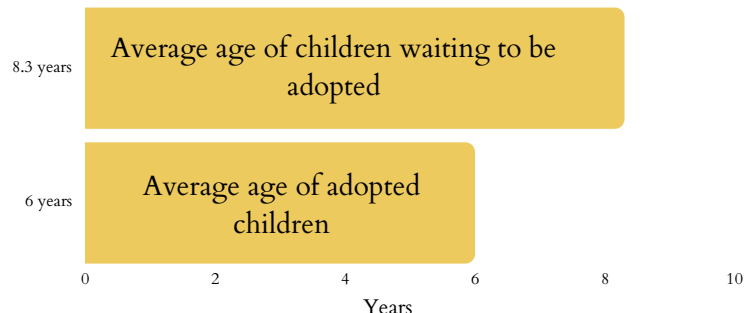


Duration in Care, 2021



- In 2021, 2 children exited foster care due to age (50% decrease from 2020).
- 597 children were living with non-relatives; 517 stayed with a relative.
- 807 children were staying in group homes or institutions; 9 children classified as runaways.
- 3% of households had a grandparent living with a grandchild.

Adoption, 2020



50%

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

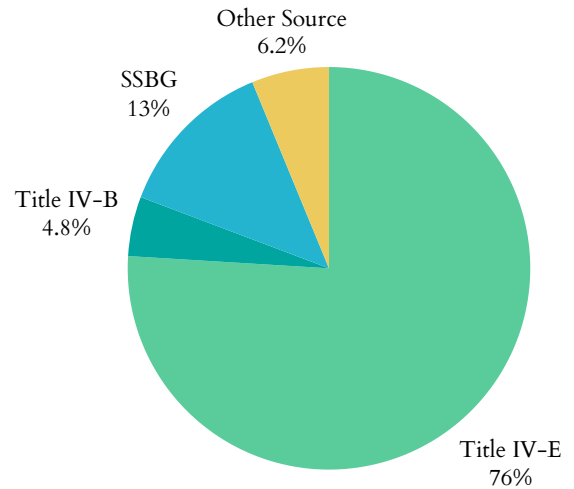


Puerto Rico's Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Puerto Rico spent \$200,118,344.75 on child welfare services in 2020.
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- \$111,103,505.11 = from the federal government
- \$89,014,839.64 = from state and local funds.

Federal Funding Sources, 2020



The significant funding sectors of the \$111,103,505.11 in federal funding received in Puerto Rico in 2020:

- \$81,080,568 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$2,127,824 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Puerto Rico's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was \$15,424,533

Child Care & Early Learning

- 19,381 annual enrollment for Head Start Preschool
- \$220,910,561 Head Start Preschool Annual Operations Funded
- 5,158 enrollment for Early Head Start
- \$99,424,548 Early Head Start Operations Funded Amount

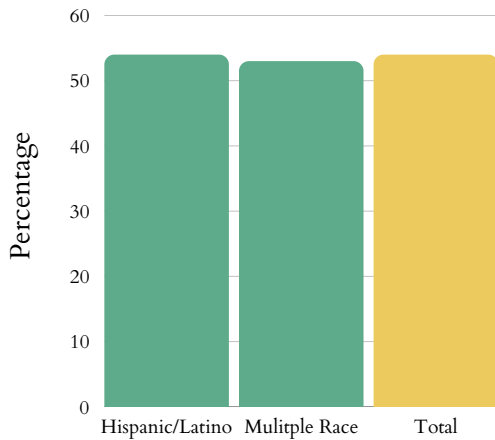


Puerto Rico's Children

Child Poverty

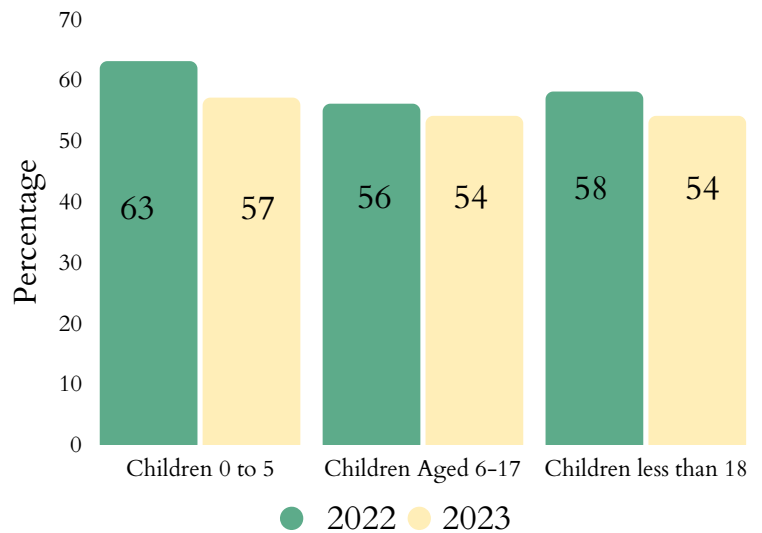
- 256,000 children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2022 (49% of all children).
- 29% of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.
- Average number of TANF recipients fell from 12,000 in 2021 to 9,844 in 2022 (17.97% decrease).

Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



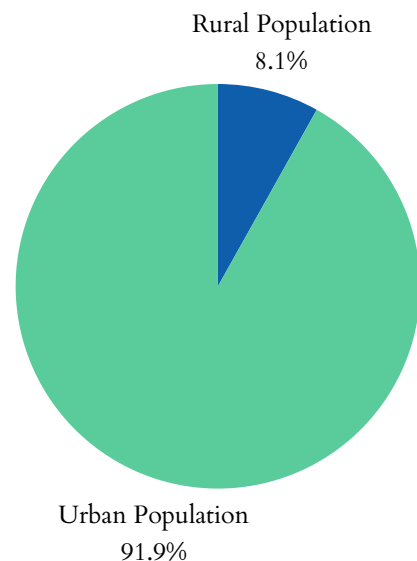
Note: Data unavailable for other races.

Child Poverty Over Time



- Puerto Rico spent \$137,801,720 on WIC in 2023, serving 84,979 people: a 7.59% decrease in total participants and 13% increase in spending since 2022.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Puerto Rico, 2020



HOUSING

- 1,100 children, from birth to three-years-old, are experiencing homelessness (1.40%)
- 34.2% of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18
- 27% of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.
- 225,568 total Puerto Rican residents living in public housing projects.

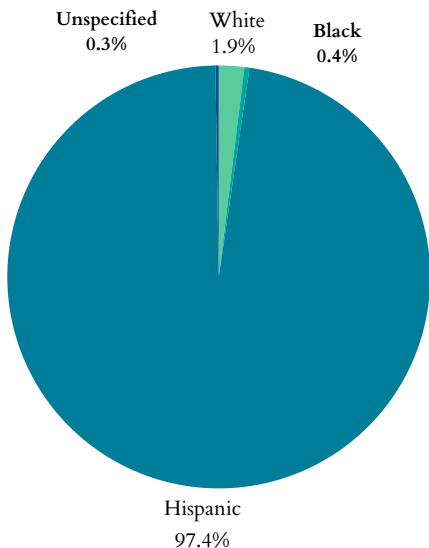


Puerto Rico's Children

Health

- 1,133 low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (12% of births).
- 2,322 preterm births (<37wks) in 2021 (12% of births).
 - 12% of all White babies
 - 19.2% of all Black babies
- 1,265 births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2021 -- a rate of 13 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- 132 infants aged <1yr died in 2021 -- a rate of 6.8 in every 1,000 infants.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Medicaid Expansion

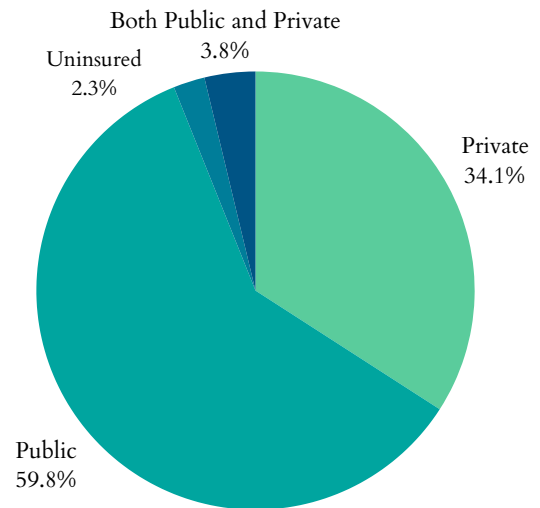
Puerto Rico has adopted Medicaid expansion since 2016.

Maternal Mortality

- Puerto Rico reported 34.0 maternal deaths per every 100,000 live births in 2020. A 61.9% increased since 2019.

- 13,000 children had no health insurance in 2022 (18.75% decrease from 2021).
- 335,000 children were enrolled in public health insurance in 2022 (3.7% decrease from 2021).
- 21,000 children in Puerto Rico had both public and private health insurance in 2022 (5% increase from 2021).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2021

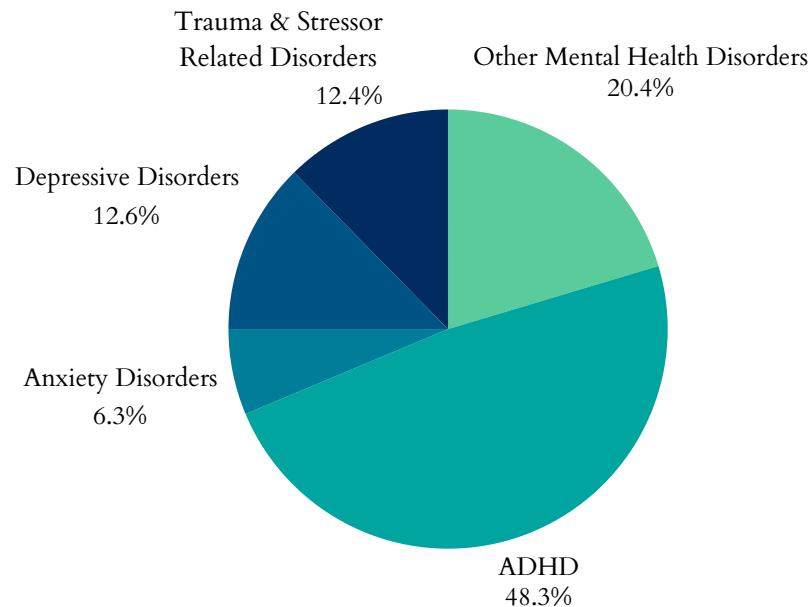


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Zero to Three

- 17.6% of babies live above low-income
- 25.0% of babies live at low income
- 57.4% of babies live in poverty
- 39.3% of babies live in deep poverty

Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2022



Plans for Safe Care

- In 2023, Puerto Rico reported 22 infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Puerto Rico reported 21 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

Puerto Rico has a Family First plan approved by the administration.

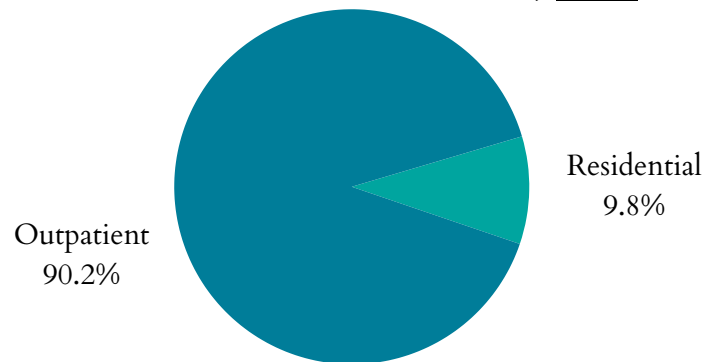
Teens & Youth

- 18,000 youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2023 (12%)
- 58 children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Puerto Rico in 2020.

Mental Health

- 626 children received mental health treatment in Puerto Rico in 2022 (0.0%)
- In 2019, 12% of children in Puerto Rico grades 9th through 12th seriously considered suicide.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2023



Substance Use

- On March 31st, 2023, 51 clients 18 and under were in treatment for substance use disorder

