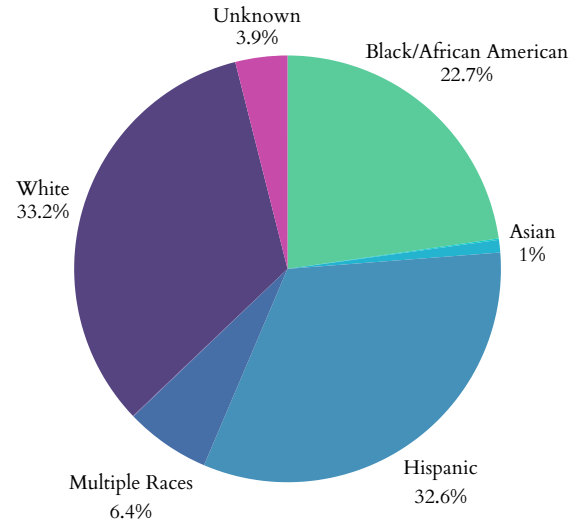


# Connecticut's Children

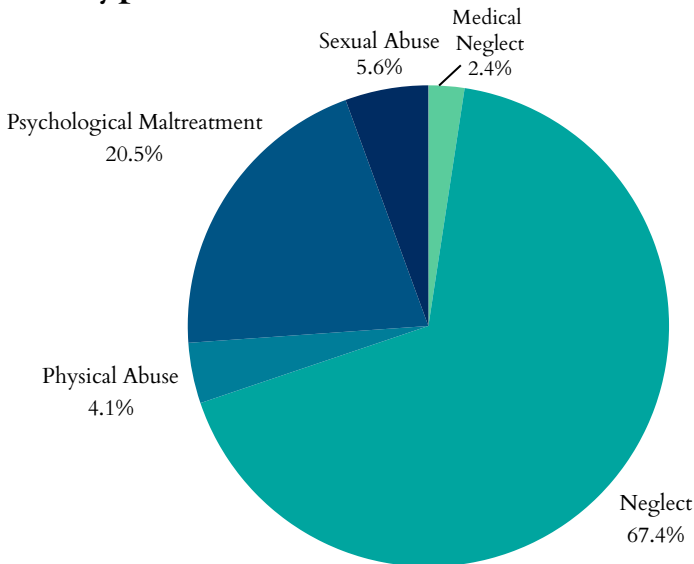
## Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, Connecticut had **50,340** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **14,447** were screened-in for response by CPS.
- **5,576** were child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **7.7** children per 1,000 (**12.1%** decrease since 2020).
- Of the 5,576 children, **4,073** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1 years**, representing **613** of the 5,576 cases.

## Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



## Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



## Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

- **77%** = parents of the child.
- **23%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

## Child victims (2024):

- **51.4%** = female; **47.5%** = male.

- Child fatalities increased from **11** in 2023 to **16** in 2024.
- Connecticut reported **1** total child victim of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **5,876** victims and **13,509** non-victims.

## Workforce

There are **5,360** child, family, and school social workers in Connecticut with a mean wage of **\$38.55** (compared to Connecticut's 2024 minimum wage: **\$15.69**)

## Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024

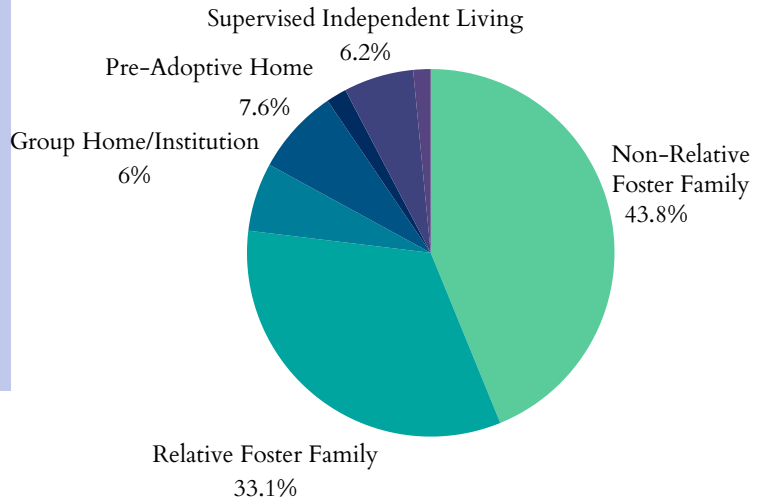


# Connecticut's Children

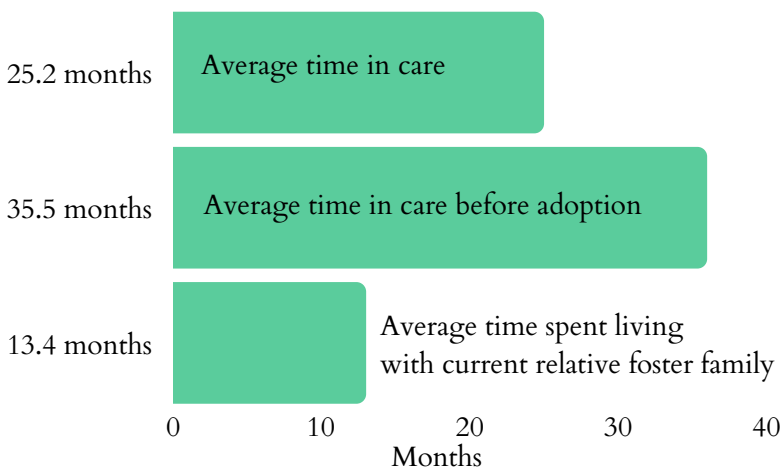
## Foster Care and Adoptions

- **4,559** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2024.
- **3,212** children in care as of 09/30/2024.
- During FY 2024, **1,494** children entered care and **1,343** exited.
- **395** children were adopted; **657** were waiting to be adopted.
- **4.1%** increase in the number of children in care and a **13.8%** decrease in the number of children adopted from care from FY 2023-2024.

### Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2023



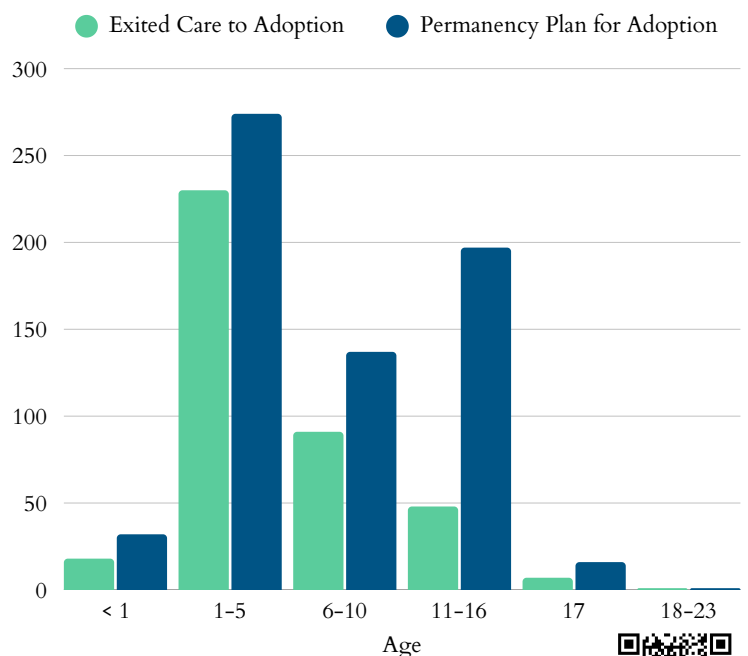
### Duration in Care, 2023



- In 2023, **1,316** children were living with non-relative foster families; **994** lived with a relative.
- **181** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **54** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **58,947** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of these, **26.6%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

In FY 2024, **136** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **60%** increase from **85** in FY 2023.

### Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2024



### Juvenile Justice

- **4,924** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **69** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a **9.5%** increase since 2021
  - **17.4%** of the youth are ≤ 14 years old
    - **50%** are Black youth
    - **0%** are White youth
  - **78%** males and **22%** females
- Black youth represent **52%** of all correctional placements; **13%** for White youth in 2023

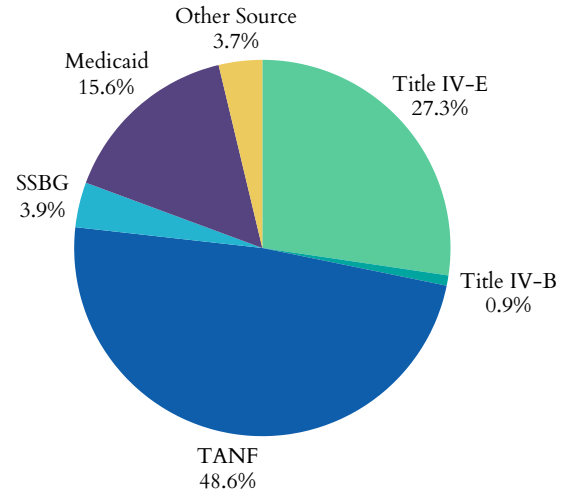


# Connecticut's Children

## Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Connecticut spent **\$764,325,728.48** on child welfare services in 2022
  - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$398,214,835.52** = from the federal government
- **\$363,885,435.25** = from state and local funds

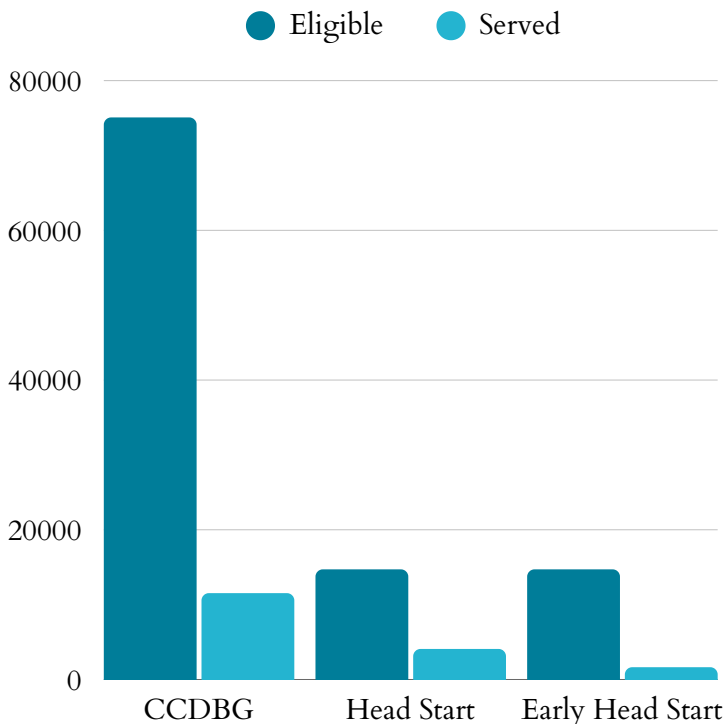
## Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$398,214,835.52** in federal funding received in Connecticut in 2022:

- **\$54,202,587** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$52,168,551** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Connecticut's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$16,059,102**

## Child Care & Early Learning



- **28%** of Head Start eligible children are served
- **11%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served
- **15%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- **\$18,492** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$14,305** annual cost of home-based infant care

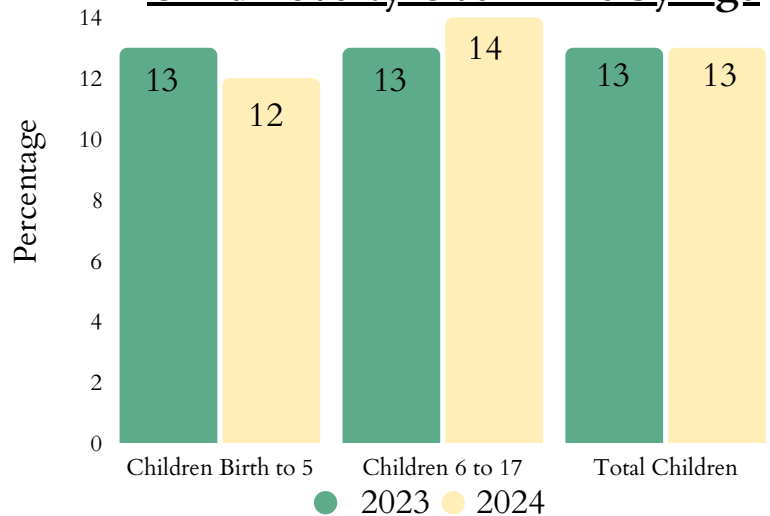


# Connecticut's Children

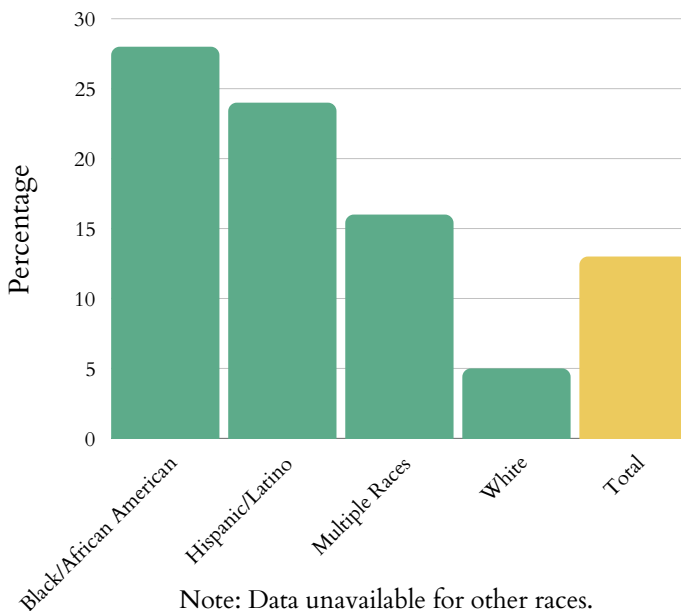
## Child Poverty

- **169,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (23% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients rose from **12,396** in 2024 to **12,736** in 2025 (2.7% increase).

### Child Poverty Over Time by Age



### Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2024

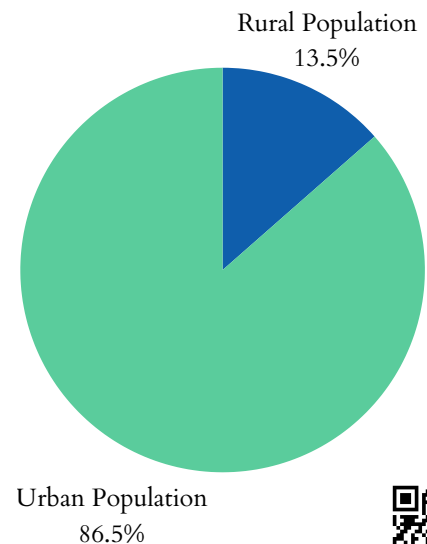


- The state spent **\$13,910,675** on WIC in 2025, serving **52,553** people: a 8.5% decrease in spending and 3.8% increase in total participants since 2024.
- **516,640** people were food insecure in 2023, including **122,660** children.
- **31.4%** of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

## Housing

- **1,644** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness in 2023 (1.15%).
- **29.8%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18 in 2023.
- **34%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023.
- **20,459** total Connecticut residents living in public housing in 2025.

### Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Connecticut, 2020

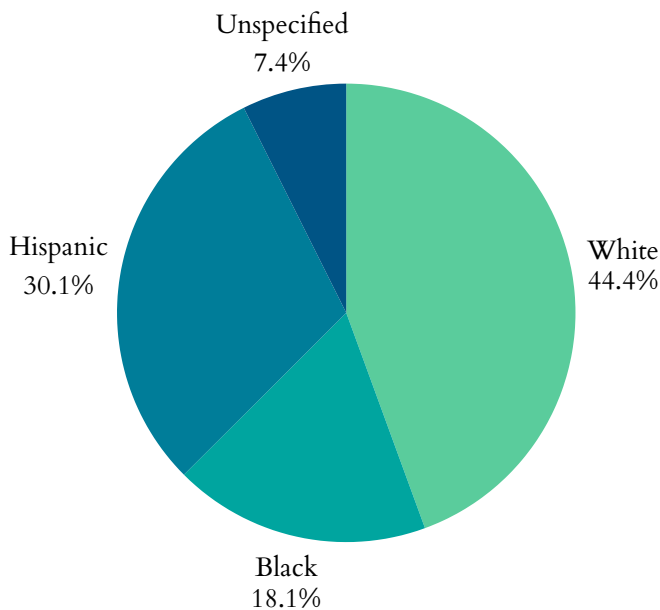


# Connecticut's Children

## Health

- 2,732 low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (7.9% of births).
- 3,226 preterm births (<37wks) in 2023 (9.34% of births).
  - 7.98% of all White babies
  - 14.43% of all Black babies
- 799 births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023—a rate of 7 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- 159 infants aged <1yr died in 2023—a rate of 4.6 per 1,000.

### Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



## Medicaid Expansion

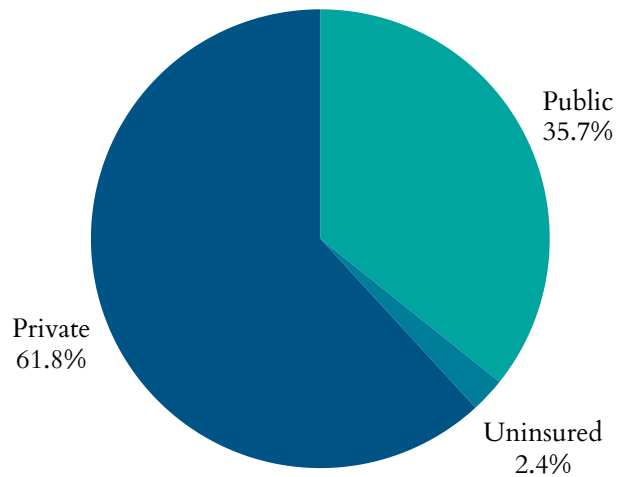
Connecticut has been a Medicaid expansion state since 1/1/2014.

## Maternal Mortality

- From 2018 to 2022, 27 Connecticut 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 Connecticut, there is 16 maternal deaths

- 20,000 children had no health insurance in 2024 (25.9% decrease from 2023).
- 292,000 children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (2.1% increase from 2023).
- 20,410 children in Connecticut were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (6% decrease from 2020).

### Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024

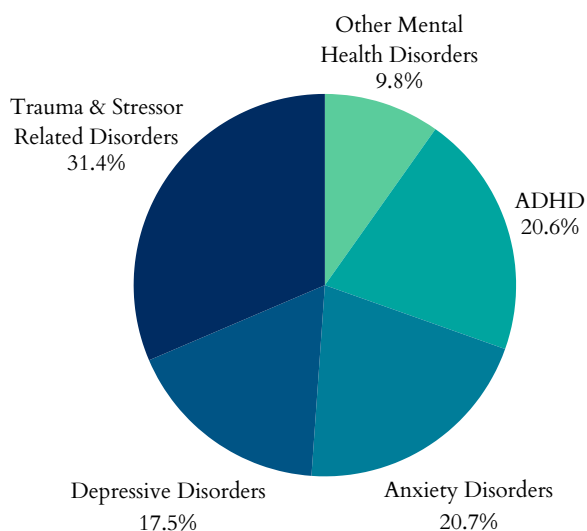


# Connecticut's Children

## Zero to Three

- **68.6%** of babies live above low-income
- **17.4%** of babies live at low income
- **14.0%** of babies live in poverty
- **8.2%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **77.7%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

### Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2023



### Prenatal Substance Exposure

- In 2024, Connecticut **did not report on** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Plans of safe care for screened-in infants were not reported.

### Family First

- Plan approved on **October 1, 2021**
- In 2023, **0** children were served
- **\$0 pulled down** in federal dollars from Title IV-E

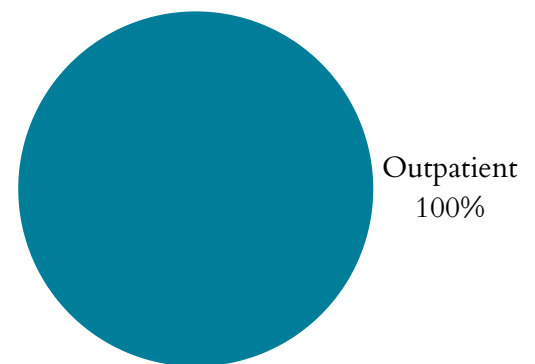
## Teens & Youth

- **9,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (5%)
- **10** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Connecticut in 2024.

## Mental Health

- **36,597** children received mental health treatment in Connecticut in 2023 (1.9%)
- In 2021-2023 there were **5.5** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in Connecticut.

### Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2024



### Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **22,580** children in Connecticut (2.0% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 29, 2024, **2,522** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD.

