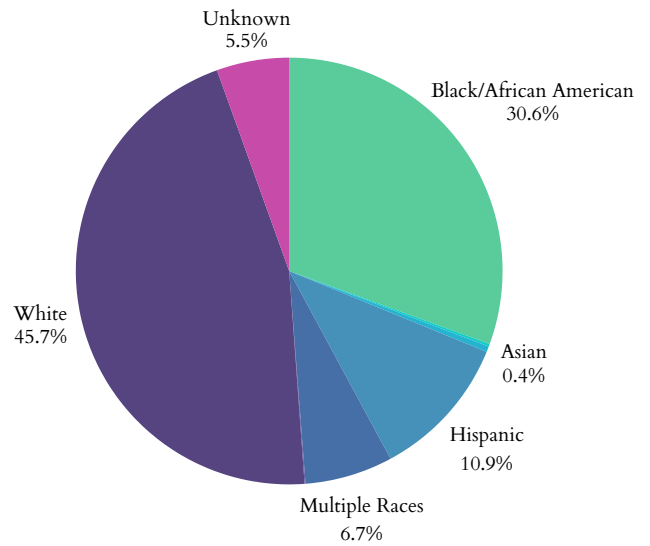


Florida's Children

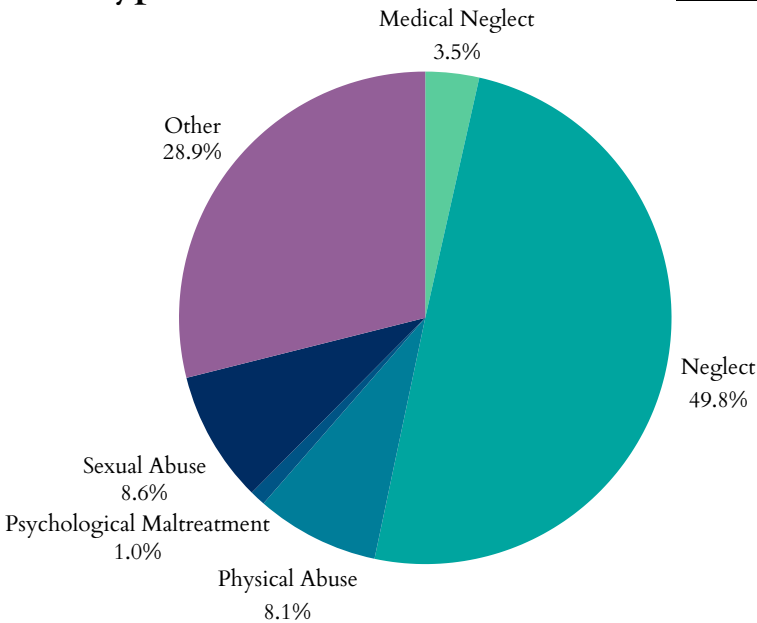
Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, Florida had **246,648** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **135,011** were screened-in for response by CPS.
- **18,455** were child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **4.1** children per 1,000 (**3.47%** decrease since 2020).
- Of the **18,455** children, **8,343** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1 years**, representing **2,662** of the **18,455** cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

- **71%** = parents of the child.
- **29%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

Child victims (2024):

- **52%** = female; **47%** = male.

- Child fatalities decreased from **75** in 2023 to **72** in 2024.
- Florida reported **0** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **6,499** victims and **8,838** non-victims.

Workforce

There are **16,160** child, family, and school social workers in Florida with a median wage of **\$27.28** (compared to Florida's 2024 minimum wage: **\$13.00**)



Published March 2026

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024

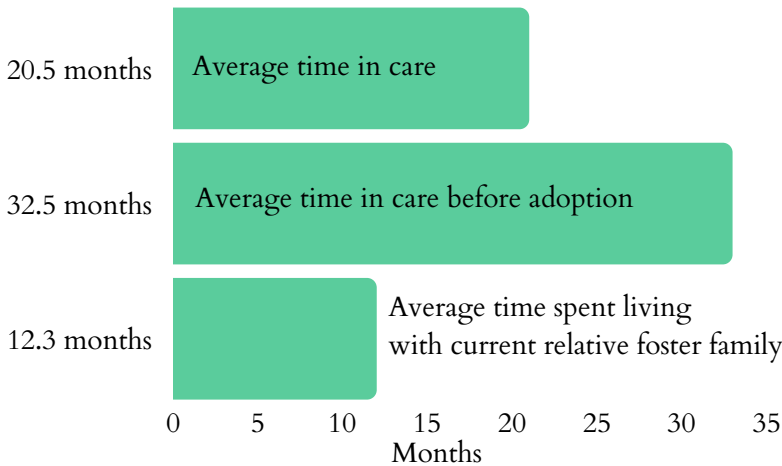


Florida's Children

Foster Care and Adoptions

- **28,179** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2024.
- **17,198** children in care as of 09/30/2024.
- During FY 2024, **8,244** children entered care and **10,981** exited.
- **4,060** children were adopted; **6,673** were waiting to be adopted.
- **15.1%** decrease in the number of children in care and a **13.4%** increase in the number of children adopted from care from FY 2023-2024.

Duration in Care, 2023

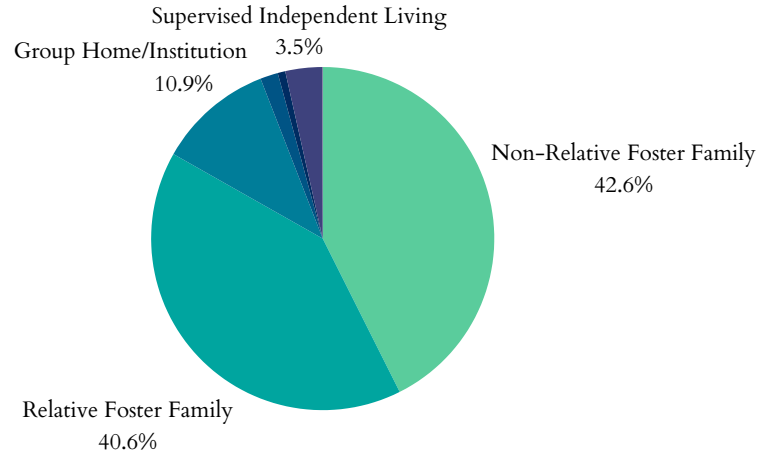


In FY 2024, **739** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **5.6%** decrease from **783** in FY 2023.

Juvenile Justice

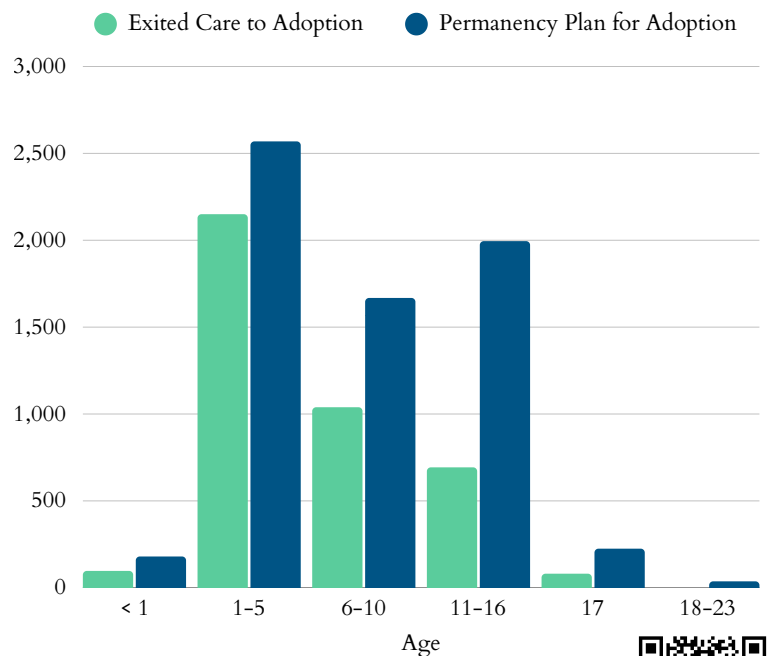
- **20,133** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **1749** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a **43.2%** increase since 2021
 - **16.1%** of the youth are ≤ 14 years old
 - **55.3%** are Black youth
 - **39.3%** are White youth
 - **83%** males and **17%** females
- Black youth represent **58%** of all correctional placements; **35%** for White youth in 2023

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2023



- In 2023, **8,408** children were living with non-relative foster families; **8,015** lived with a relative.
- **2,152** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **141** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **477,487** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of these, **27.8%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2024

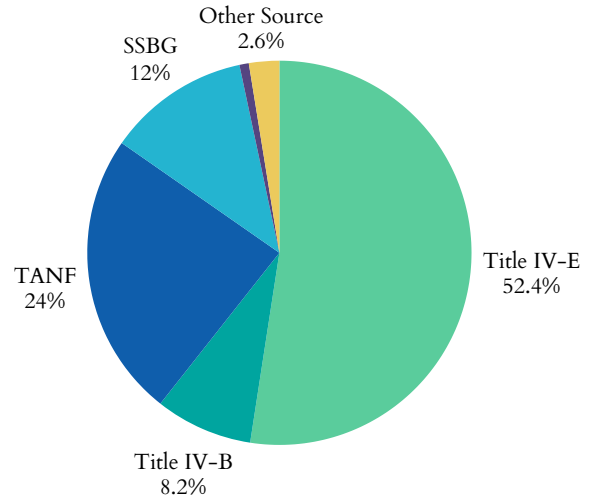


Florida's Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Florida spent **\$1,449,105,946.32** on child welfare services in 2022
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$689,680,810** = from the federal government
- **\$751,163,834** = from state and local funds

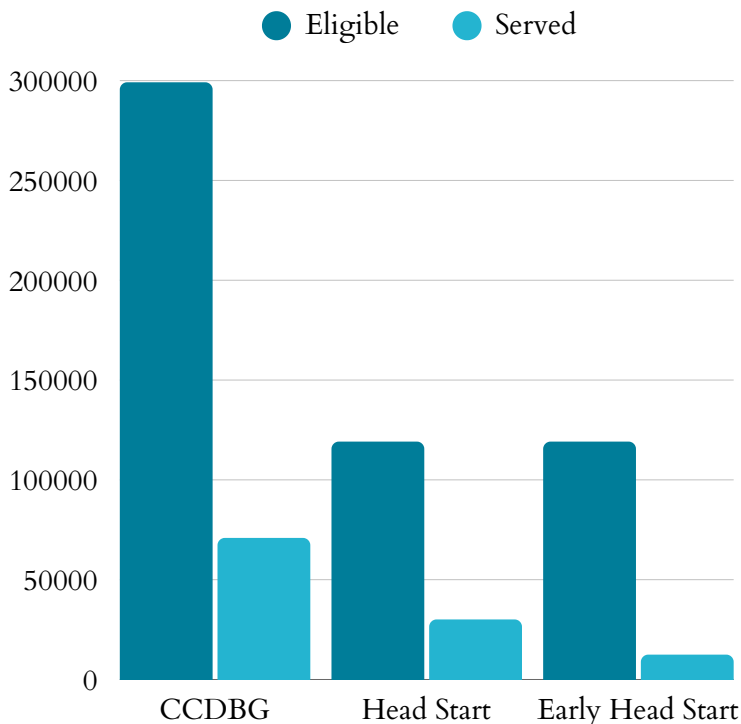
Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$689,680,810** in federal funding received in Florida in 2022:

- **\$147,518,238** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$176,953,021** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Florida's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$159,845,474**

Child Care & Early Learning



- **25%** of Head Start eligible children are served
- **10%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served
- **24%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- **\$13,011** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$11,201** annual cost of home-based infant care

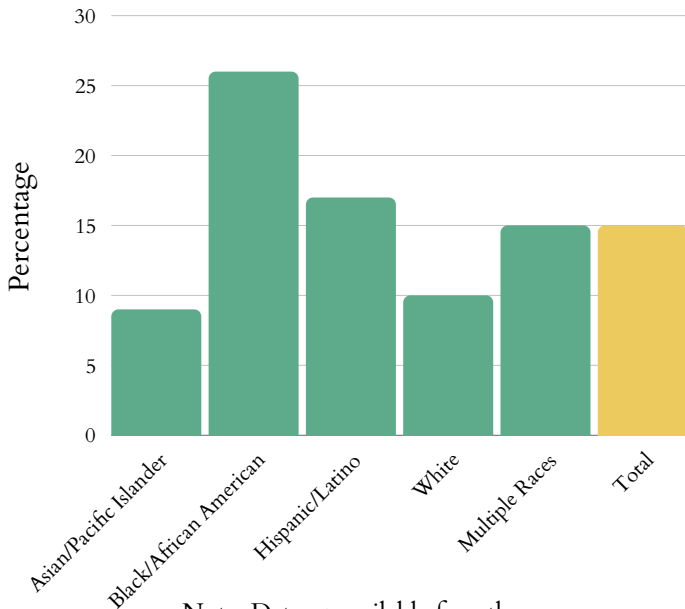


Florida's Children

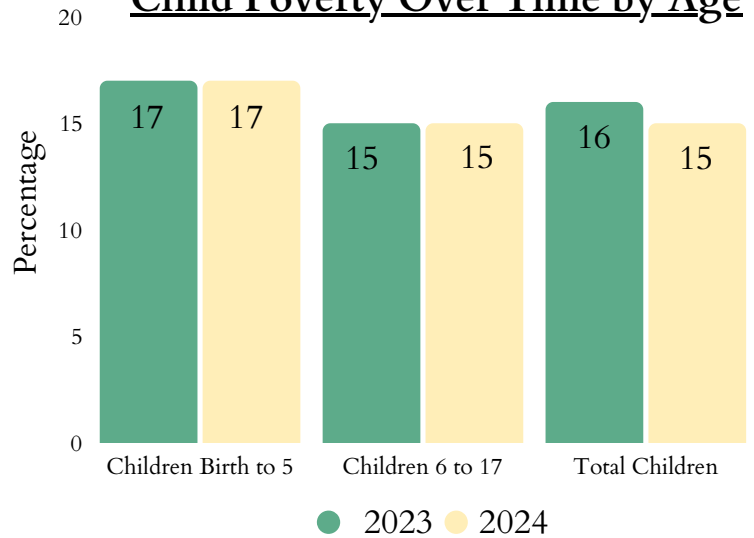
Child Poverty

- **1,125,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (26% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients fell from **59,806** in 2024 to **41,411** in 2025 (30.8% decrease).

Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



Child Poverty Over Time by Age

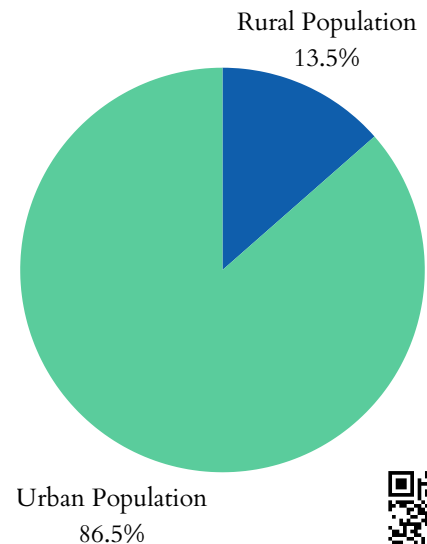


- The state spent **\$124,208,707** on WIC in 2025, serving **425,321** people: a 3.4% increase in spending and 1% increase in total participants since 2024.
- **3,247,180** people were food insecure in 2023, including **806,870** children.
- **38.3%** of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

Housing

- **35,788** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness in 2023 (4.01%).
- **None** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18 in 2023.
- **38%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023.
- **44,040** total Florida residents living in public housing in 2025.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Florida, 2020



Florida's Children

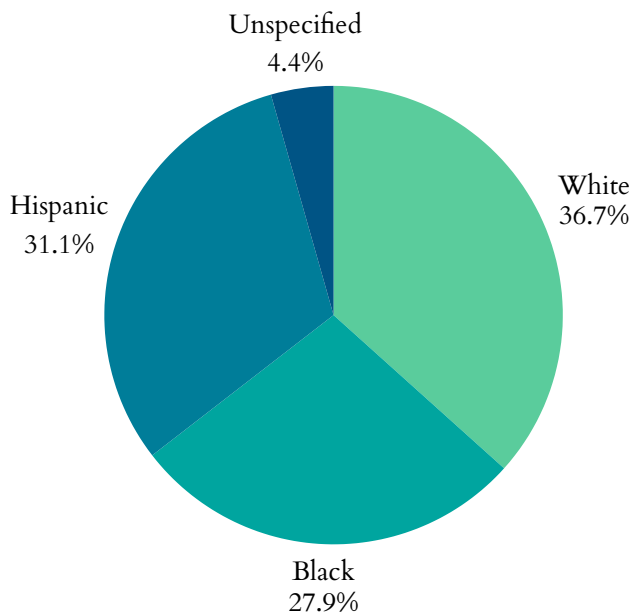
Health

- **20,003** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (9.0% of births).
- **23,732** preterm births (<37wks) in 2023 (10.72% of births).
 - 9.66% of all White babies
 - 14.74% of all Black babies
- **8,108** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023—a rate of 13 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **1,336** infants aged <1yr died in 2023—a rate of 6.0 per 1,000.

Maternal Mortality

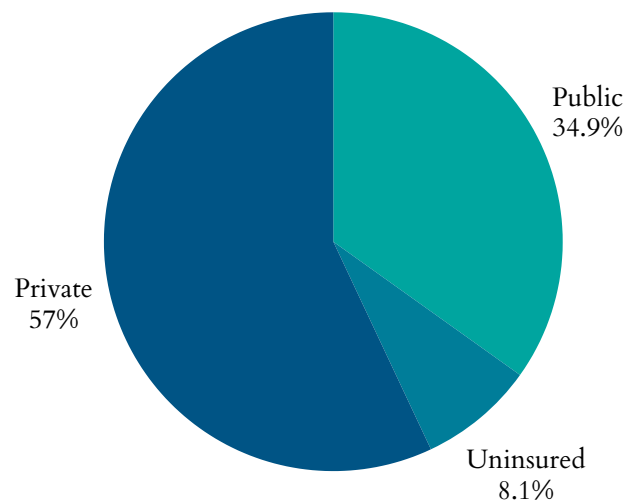
- From 2018 to 2022, **263** Florida women died while pregnant, or within 42 days post pregnancy from any cause relating to or aggravated by said pregnancy, excluding accidents and incidents
- For every 100,000 live births in Florida, there is **24** maternal deaths

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



- **403,000** children had no health insurance in 2024 (14.8% increase from 2023).
- **1,700,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (7% decrease from 2023).
- **399,577** children in Florida were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (13% decrease from 2020).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024



Medicaid Expansion

Florida is not a Medicaid expansion state.

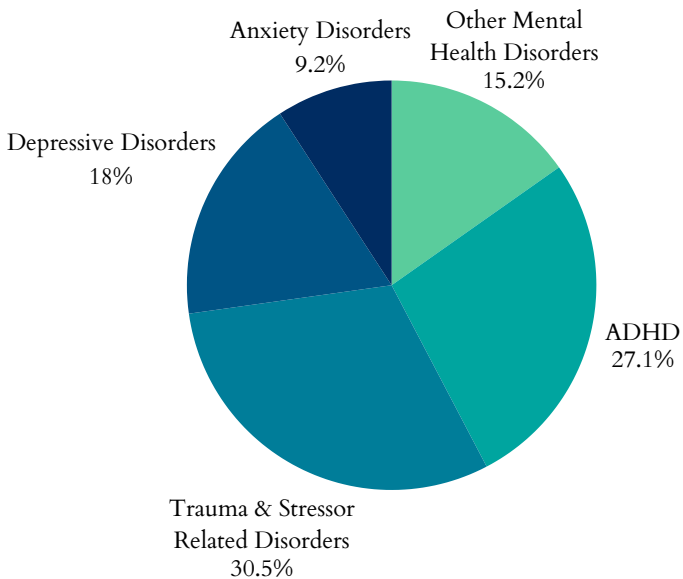


Florida's Children

Zero to Three

- **56.9%** of babies live above low-income
- **24.0%** of babies live at low income
- **19.2%** of babies live in poverty
- **9.2%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **72.6%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2023



Prenatal Substance Exposure

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

Family First

Florida's Family First plan was approved on **March 30, 2023**.

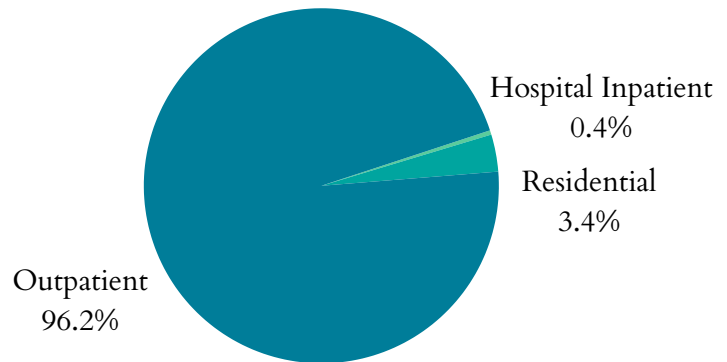
Teens & Youth

- **81,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (7%)
- **155** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Florida in 2024.

Mental Health

- **54,161** children received mental health treatment in Florida in 2023 (2.9%)
- In 2021-2023 there were **8.2** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in Florida.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2024



Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **115,010** children in Florida (1.9% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 29, 2024, **3,604** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD.

