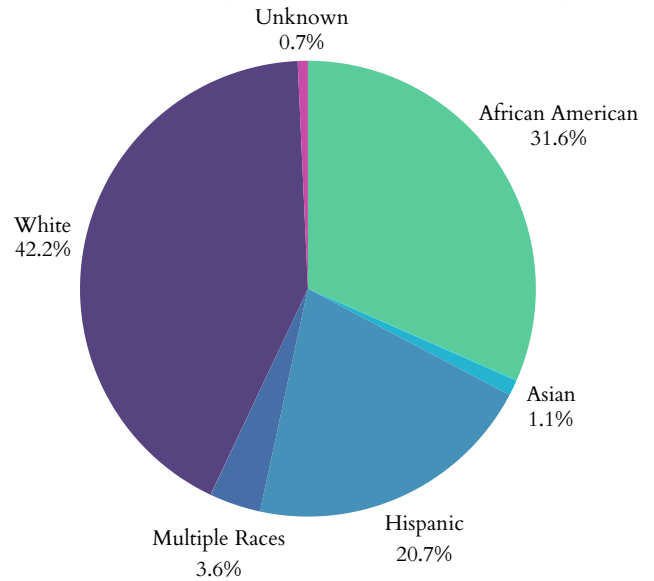


# Illinois's Children

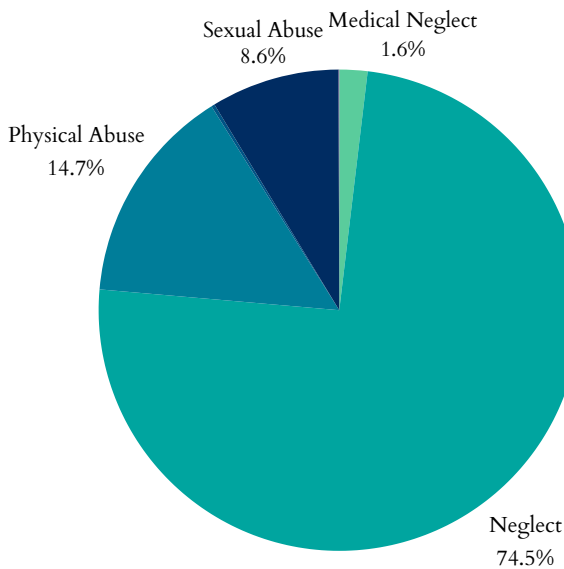
## Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, Illinois had **166,821** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. **94,554** referrals were screened in for response by CPS.
- **31,611** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of 11.7 children per 1,000 (10.8% decrease since 2020).
- Of the 31,611 children, **19,387** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1 years**, representing **3,614** of the 31,611 cases.

## Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



## Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



## Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

- **81.8%** = parents of the child.
- **18.2%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

## Child victims (2024):

- **49.8%** = female; **49.8%** = male.

- Child fatalities decreased from **83** in 2023 to **64** in 2024.
- Illinois reported **14** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **15,918** victims and **28,174** non-victims.

## Workforce

There are **17,790** children, family, and school social workers in Illinois with a mean wage of **\$33.38** (compared to Illinois's 2024 minimum wage: **\$14.00**)

## Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



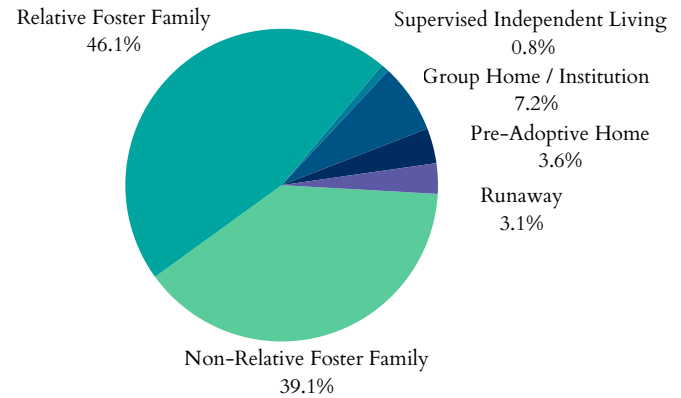
Published March 2026

# Illinois's Children

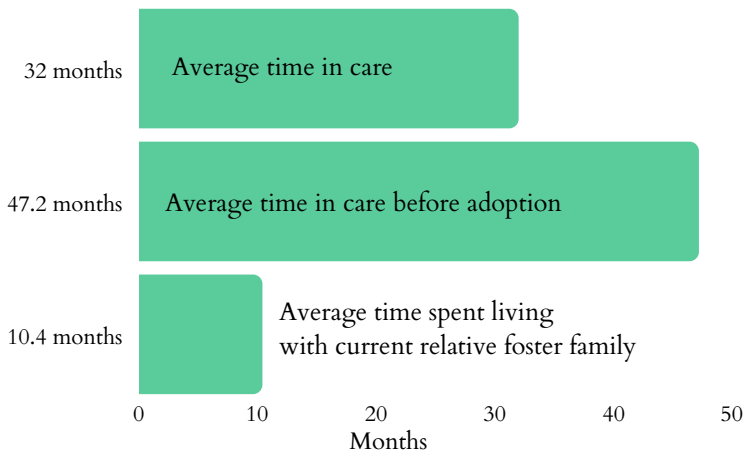
## Foster Care and Adoptions

- **25,158** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2024.
- **18,524** children in care as of 09/30/2024.
- During FY 2024, **5,682** children entered care and **6,634** exited.
- **2,203** children were adopted; **3,038** had a permanency plan for adoption.
- **5.4%** decrease in the number of children in care and a **9.8%** increase in the number of children adopted from care from FY 2023-2024.

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



### Duration in Care, 2023



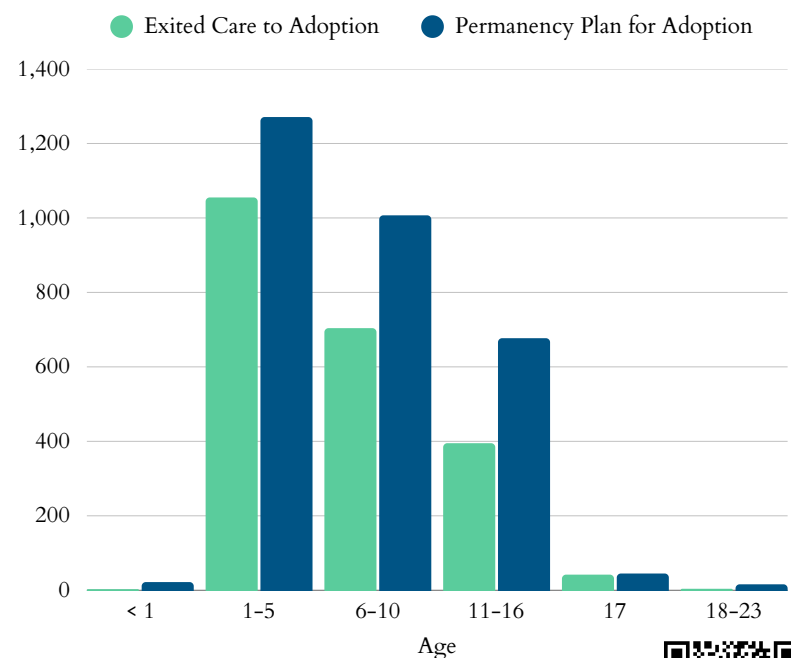
- In 2023, **7,614** children were living with non-relative foster families; **8,964** stayed with a relative.
- **1,397** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **612** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **228,305** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of those, **28.6%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

In FY 2024, **258** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **6.6%** increase from **242** in FY 2023

### Juvenile Justice

- **13,348** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **672** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a **30.2%** increase since 2021
  - **8.9%** of these youth are ≤ 14 years old
    - **55.5%** are Black youth
    - **30%** are White youth
  - **92.4%** males and **7.6%** females
- Black youth represent **66.1%** of all correctional placements; **17.4%** for White youth in 2023

### Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2024

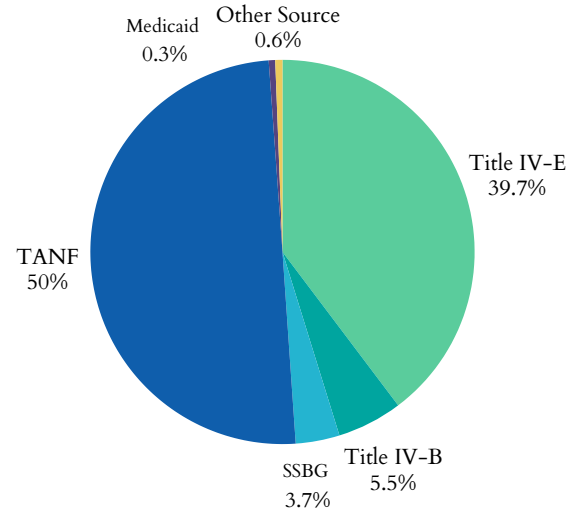


# Illinois's Children

## Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Illinois spent **\$1,355,041,003.28** on child welfare services in 2022.
  - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$634,247,398.28** = from the federal government
- **\$694,993,521** = from state and local funds

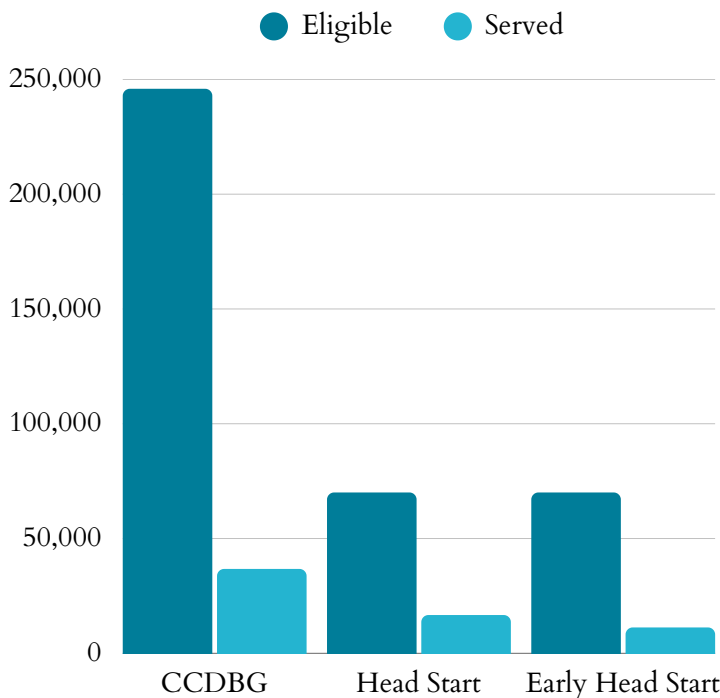
## Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$634,247,398.28** in federal funding received in Illinois in 2022:

- **\$121,495,676** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program
- **\$97,050,373** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program
- Illinois's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$55,535,390**.

## Child Care & Early Learning



- **24%** of Head Start eligible children are served.
- **16%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served.
- **15%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served.

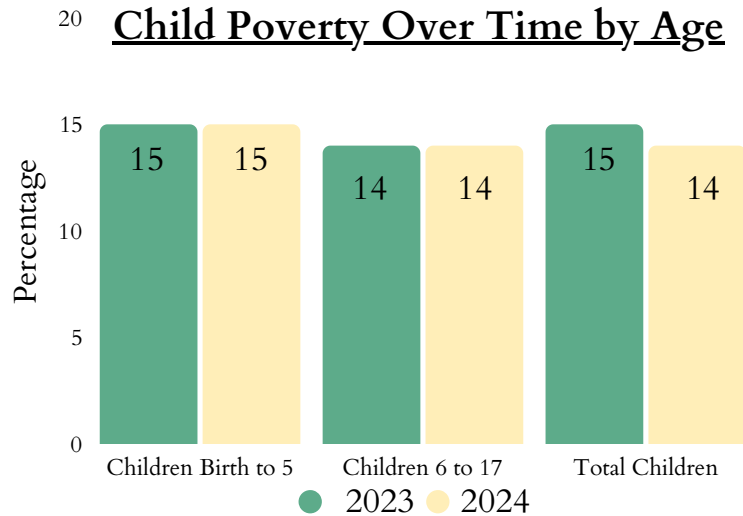
- **\$19,807** = annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$12,283** = annual cost of home-based infant care



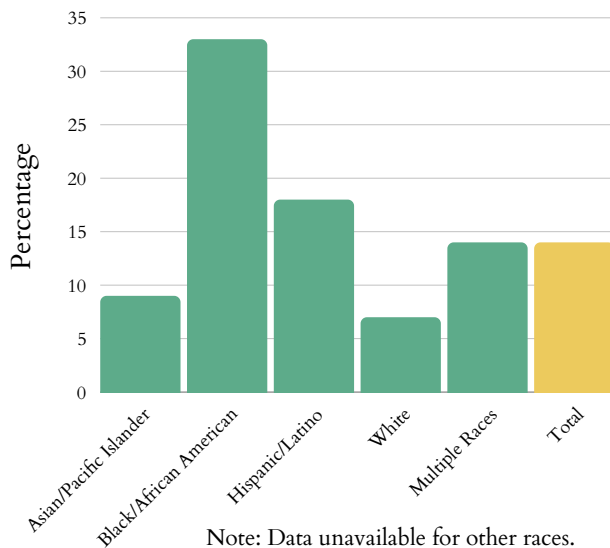
# Illinois's Children

## Child Poverty

- **654,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (24% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients rose from **20,022** in 2024 to **21,172** in 2025 (5.74% increase).



### Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2024

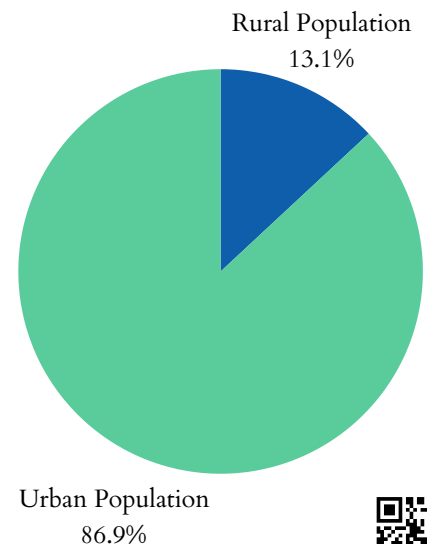


- The state spent **\$137,003,774** on WIC in 2025, serving **175,003** people: a 3.67% increase in total participants and 4.55% increase in spending since 2024.
- **1,647,630** people were food insecure in 2023, including **419,180** children.
- **38.3%** of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

## Housing

- **16,866** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness in 2023 (3.22%)
- **24.8%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18 in 2023
- **26%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023
- **64,435** total Illinois residents living in public housing in 2025

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



# Illinois's Children

## Health

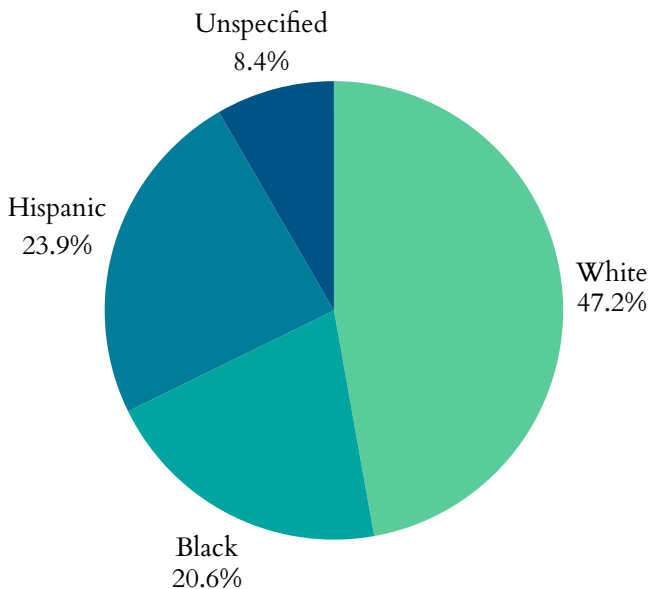
- **11,071** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (8.9% of births).
- **13,422** preterm births (<37wks) in 2024 (10.76%).
  - 9.8% of all White babies
  - 15.33% of all Black babies
- **4,324** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023 — a rate of 11 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **731** infants aged <1yr died in 2023 — a rate of 5.9 per 1,000.

## Maternal Mortality

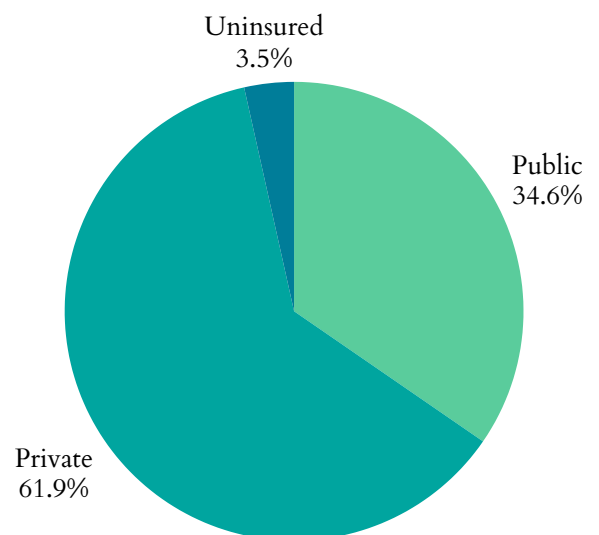
- From 2018 to 2022, **123** Illinois women died while pregnant, or within 42 days post pregnancy from any cause relating to or aggravated by said pregnancy, excluding accidents and incidents.
- For every 100,000 live births in Illinois, there are **18** maternal deaths.

- **104,000** children had no health insurance in 2024 (11.8% increase from 2023).
- **1,019,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (1.5% decrease from 2023).
- **336,655** children in Illinois were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (1.9% increase from 2020).

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



### Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024



## Medicaid Expansion

Illinois has been a **Medicaid expansion** state since 01/01/2014.

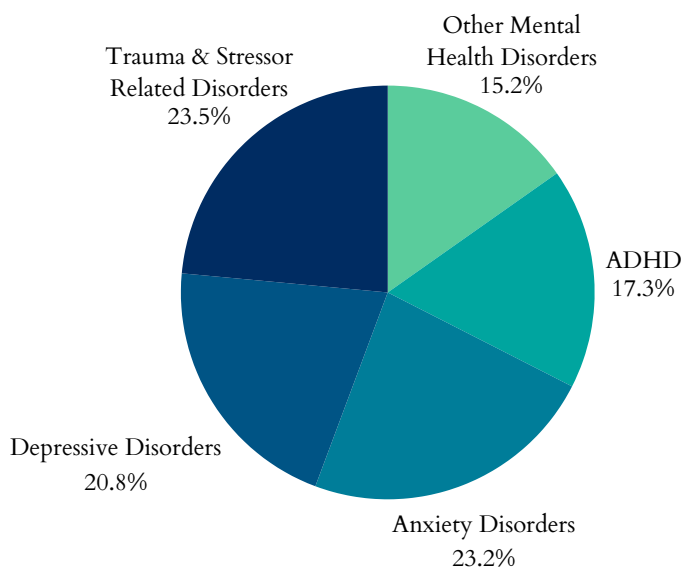


# Illinois's Children

## Zero to Three

- **63.4%** of babies live above low-income
- **19.4%** of babies live at low income
- **17.2%** of babies live in poverty
- **9.2%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **80.4%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

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



### Prenatal Substance Exposure

- In 2024, Illinois reported **565** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Illinois did not report the number of plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

### Family First

Illinois has a **Family First plan** approved by the administration.

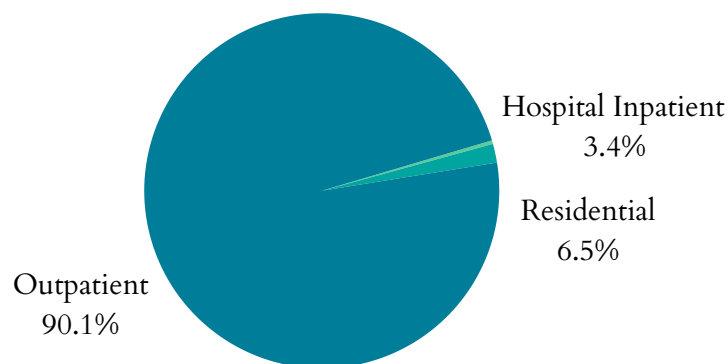
## Teens & Youth

- **42,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (6%)
- **138** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Illinois in 2024.

## Mental Health

- **3,995** children received mental health treatment in Illinois in 2023 (0.2%)
- From 2021-2023, there were **8.4** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in Illinois.

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



### Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **49,402** children in Illinois (1.1% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 29, 2024, **2,107** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD

