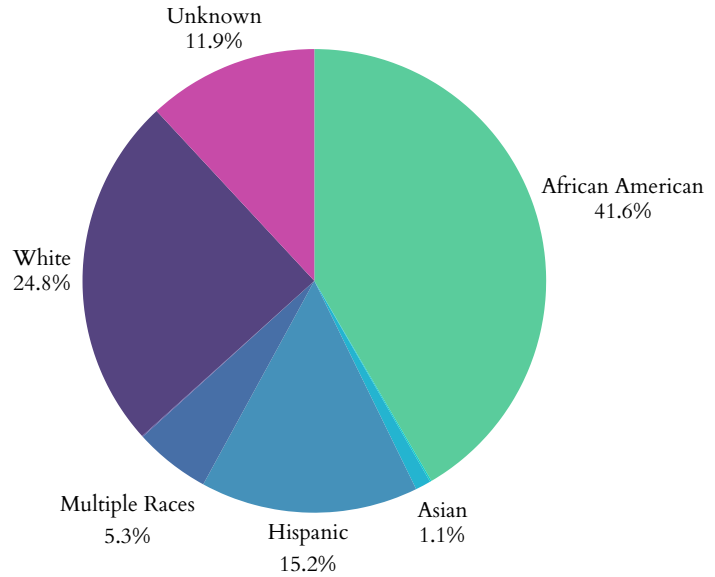


Maryland's Children

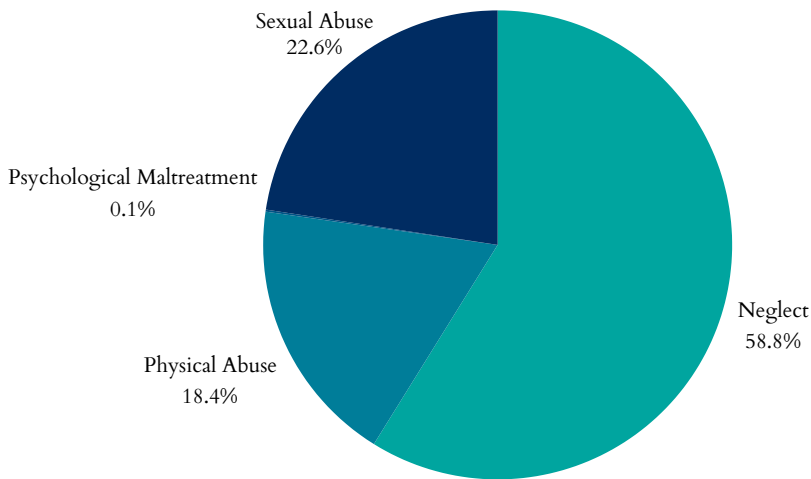
Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, Maryland had **67,147** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those referrals, **19,180** were screened in for response by CPS.
- **6,272** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **4.6** children per 1,000 (**13.4%** decrease since 2020).
- Of the **6,272** children, **4,459** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1 years**, representing **439** of the **6,272** cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

- **60.5%** = parents of the child.
- **39.5%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

Child victims (2024):

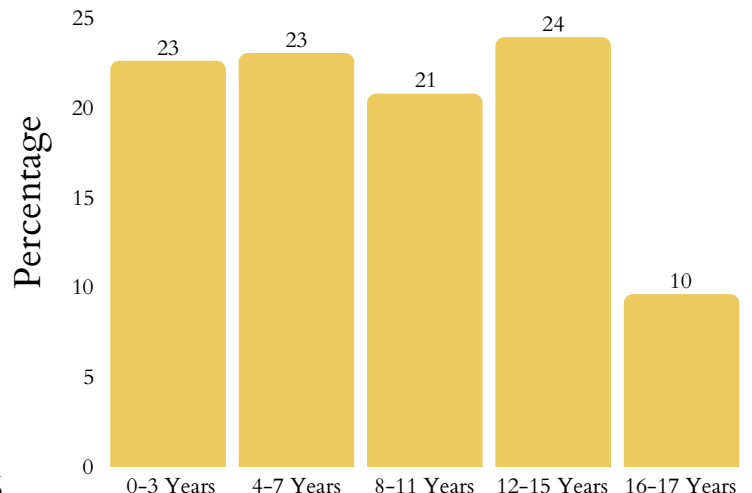
- **55.8%** = female; **43.8%** = male.

- Child fatalities decreased from **83** in 2023 to **46** in 2024.
- Maryland reported **0** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **1,906** victims and **2,110** non-victims.

Workforce

There are **5,030** children, family, and school social workers in Maryland with a mean wage of **\$35.33** (compared to Maryland's 2024 minimum wage: **\$15.00**)

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024

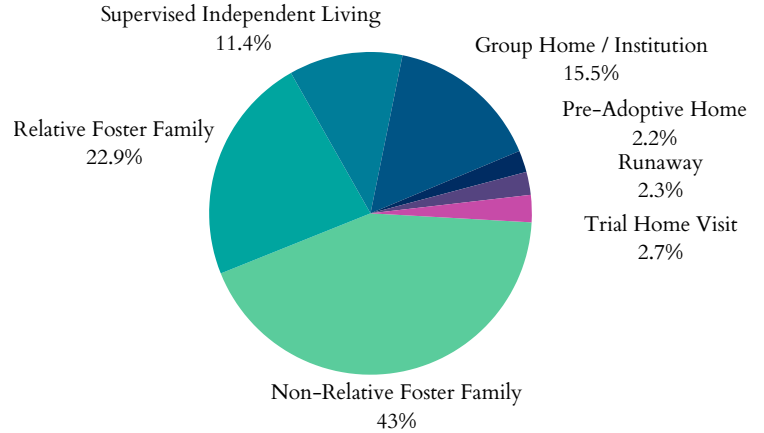


Maryland's Children

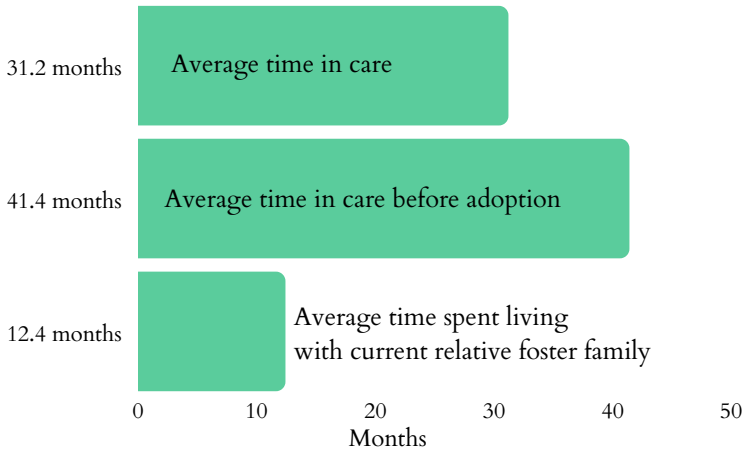
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **5,078** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2024.
- **3,827** children in care as of 09/30/2024.
- During FY 2024, **1,268** children entered care and **1,483** exited.
- **333** children were adopted; **341** had a permanency plan for adoption.
- **6.1%** decrease in the number of children in care and a **1.2%** 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



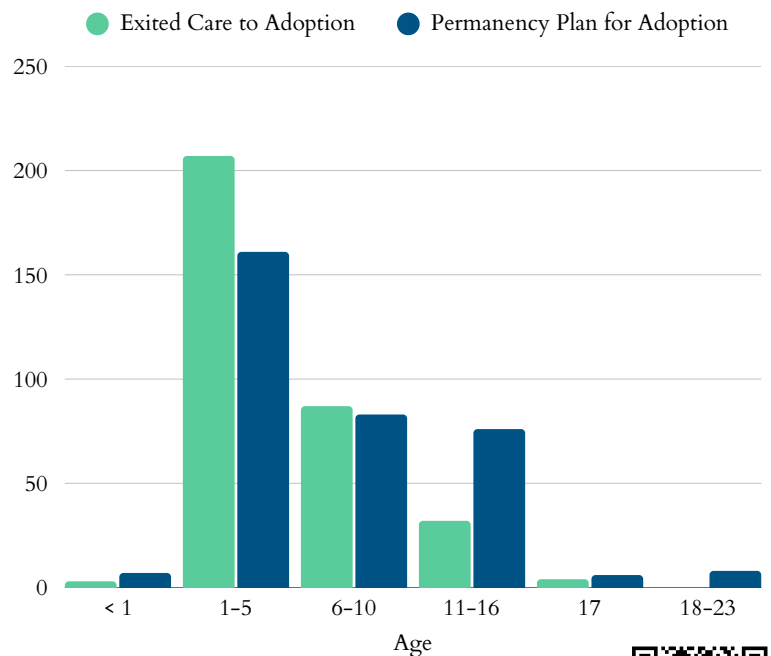
- In 2023, **1,643** children were living with non-relative foster families; **873** stayed with a relative.
- **592** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **83** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **137,693** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of those, **27%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

In FY 2024, **252** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **38.5%** increase from **182** in FY 2023

Juvenile Justice

- **10,061** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **270** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a **36.4%** increase since 2021
 - **6.7%** of the youth are ≤ 14 years old
 - **66.7%** are Black youth
 - **16.7%** are White youth
 - **92.2%** males and **7.8%** females
- Black youth represent **75.6%** of all correctional placements; **11.1%** for White youth in 2023

Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2024

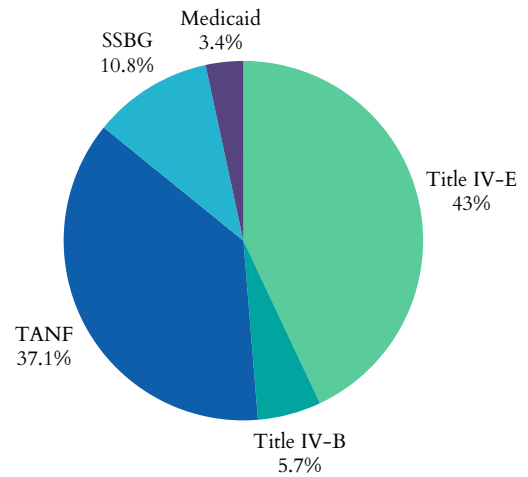


Maryland's Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Maryland spent **\$588,713,322.00** on child welfare services in 2022.
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$196,021,117.00** = from the federal government
- **\$391,436,624.00** = from state and local funds.

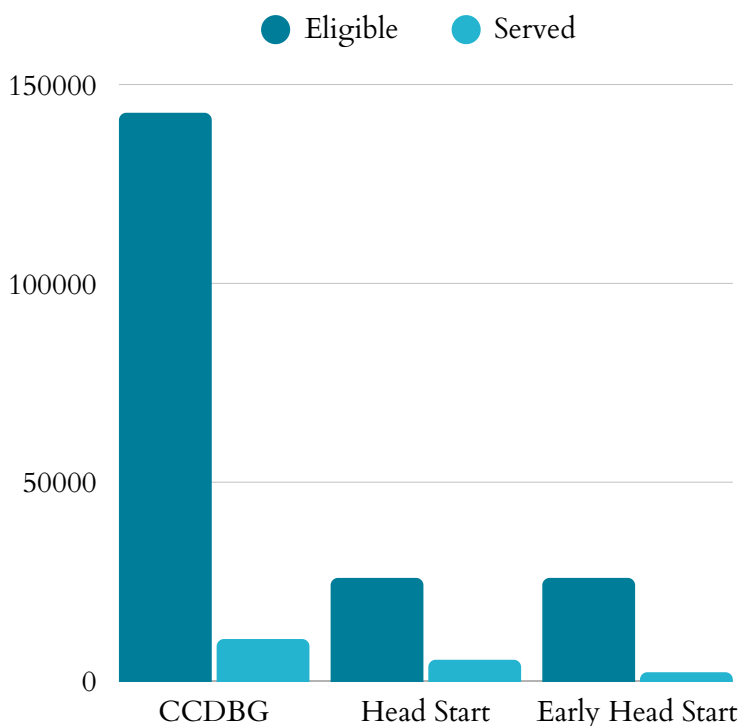
Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$196,021,117.00** in federal funding received in Maryland in 2022:

- **\$58,792,332** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$20,488,037** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Maryland's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$52,544,253**

Child Care & Early Learning



- **21%** of Head Start eligible children are served
- **9%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served
- **7%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- **\$25,231** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$15,919** annual cost of home-based infant care

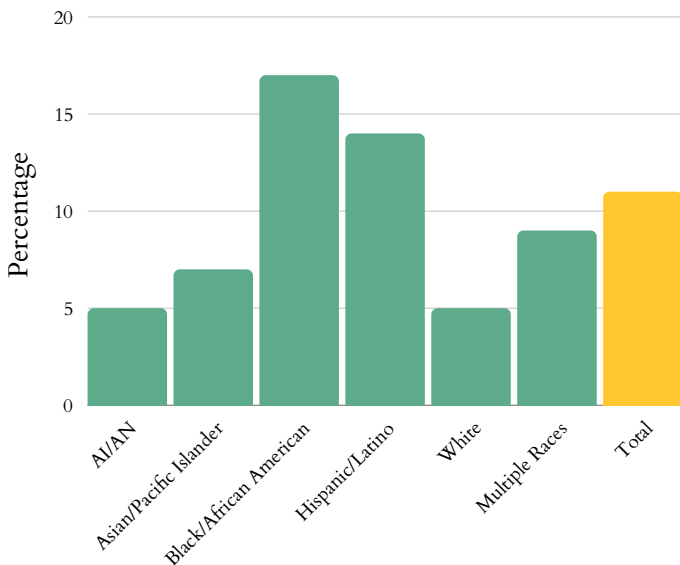


Maryland's Children

Child Poverty

- **273,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (20% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients rose from **36,000** in 2024 to **38,917** in 2025 (8.1% increase).

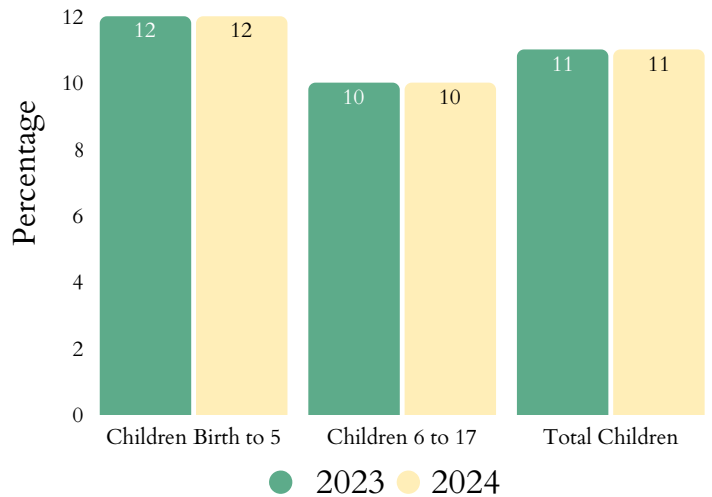
Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



Housing

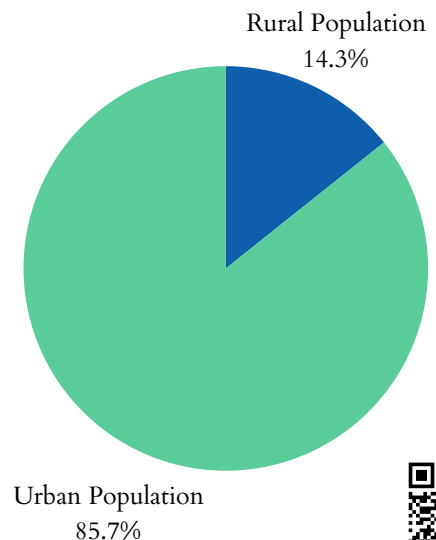
- **6,073** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness (2.19%) in 2023.
- **24.1%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18 in 2023.
- **29%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023.
- **17,131** total Maryland residents living in public housing in 2025.

Child Poverty Over Time by Age



- The state spent **\$96,416,081** on WIC in 2025, serving **122,574** people: a 1.1% increase in total participants and an 10.5% increase in spending since 2024.
- **824,930** people were food insecure in 2023, including 219,040 children.
- **37.1%** of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Maryland, 2020

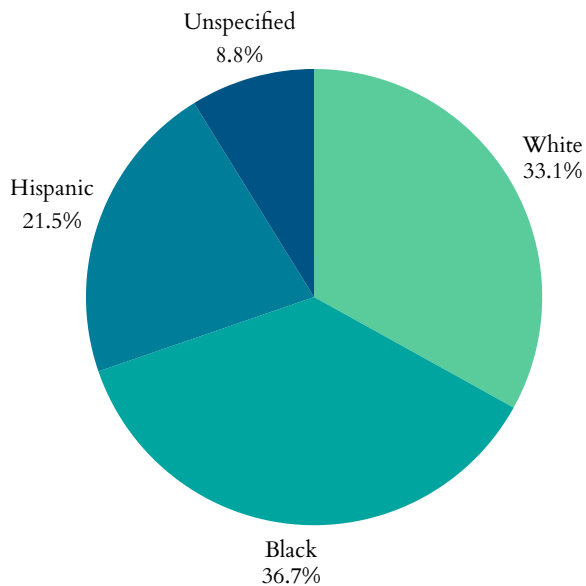


Maryland's Children

Health

- **5,623** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (8.6% of births).
- **6,714** preterm births (<37wks) in 2023 (10.24% of births).
 - 8.62% of all White babies
 - 13.01% of all Black babies
- **2,105** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023—a rate of 11 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **374** infants aged <1yr died in 2023—a rate of 5.7 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



Medicaid Expansion

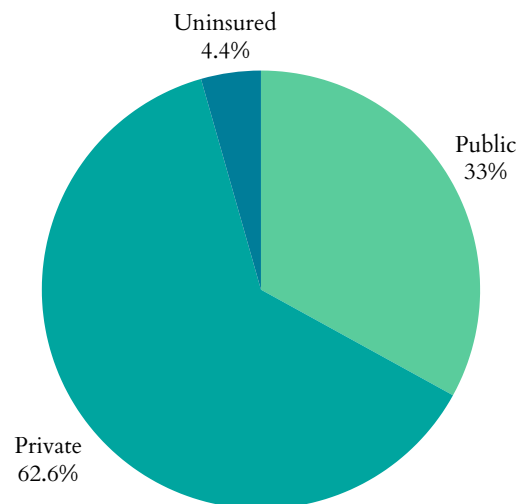
Maryland has been a **Medicaid expansion** state since 1/1/2014.

Maternal Mortality

- From 2018 to 2022, **74** Maryland 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 Maryland, there are **21** maternal deaths.

- **67,000** children had no health insurance in 2024 (no change from 2023).
- **491,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (4.03% increase from 2023).
- **118,616** children in Maryland were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (9.95% decrease from 2020).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024

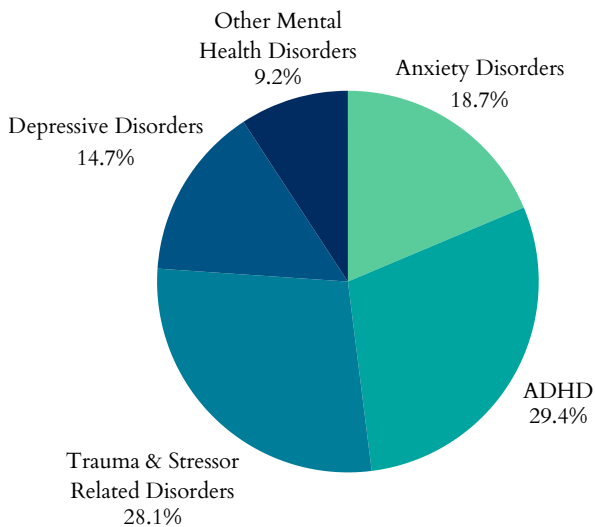


Maryland's Children

Zero to Three

- **69.5%** of babies live above low-income
- **16.5%** of babies live at low income
- **14%** of babies live in poverty
- **7%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **81.2%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2023



Prenatal Substance Exposure

- In 2024, Maryland reported **869** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Maryland reported **434** plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

Family First

- Plan approved on **October 1, 2019**
- **0** children were served in 2023
- **\$5,855,737** pulled down in federal dollars from Title IV-E
 - **\$5,855,737** (100% in admin/training costs)

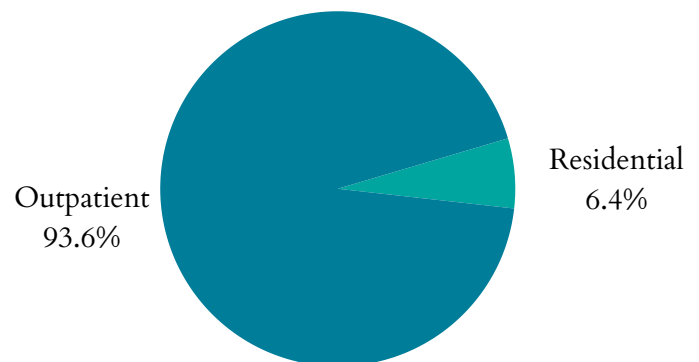
Teens & Youth

- **20,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (6%)
- **54** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Maryland in 2024.

Mental Health

- **80,718** children received mental health treatment in Maryland in 2023 (4.3%)
- From 2021 to 2023, there were **7.7** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in Maryland.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2024



Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **25,536** children in Maryland (1.3% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 29, 2024, **818** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD.

