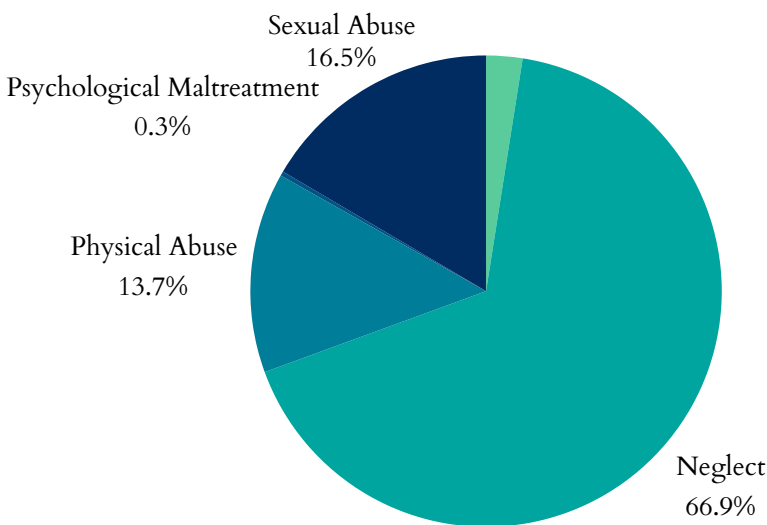


New Jersey's Children

Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, New Jersey **did not report** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. **61,859** referrals were screened in for response by CPS.
- **2,466** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **1.2** children per 1,000 (**32.5%** decrease since 2020).
- Of the **2,466** children, **2,012** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims = **<1years**, representing **307** of the **2,466** cases.

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024

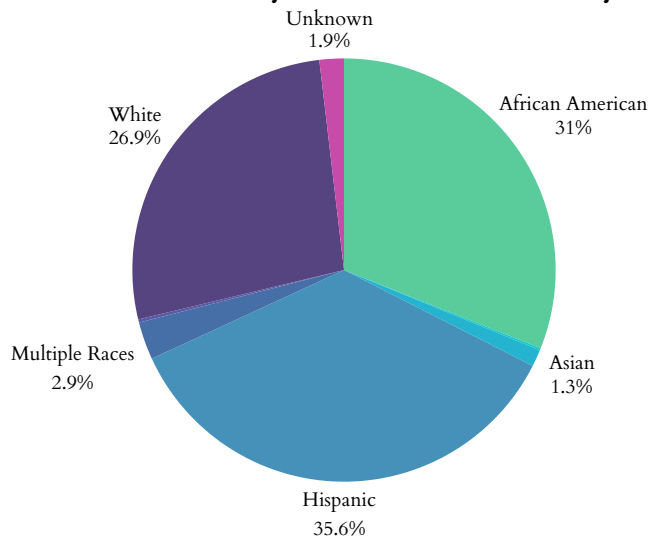


Workforce

There are **6,410** children, family, and school social workers in New Jersey with a mean wage of **\$38.27** (compared to New Jersey's 2024 minimum wage: **\$15.13**)



Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

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

Child victims (2024):

- **54.4%** = female; **45.4%** = male.

- Child fatalities did not change from **14** in 2023 and 2024.
- New Jersey reported 1 total child victim of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **1,378** victims and **15,622** non-victims.

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024

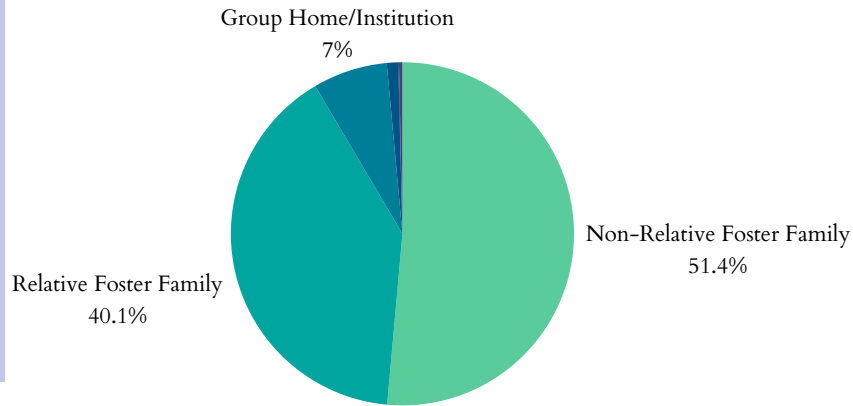


New Jersey's Children

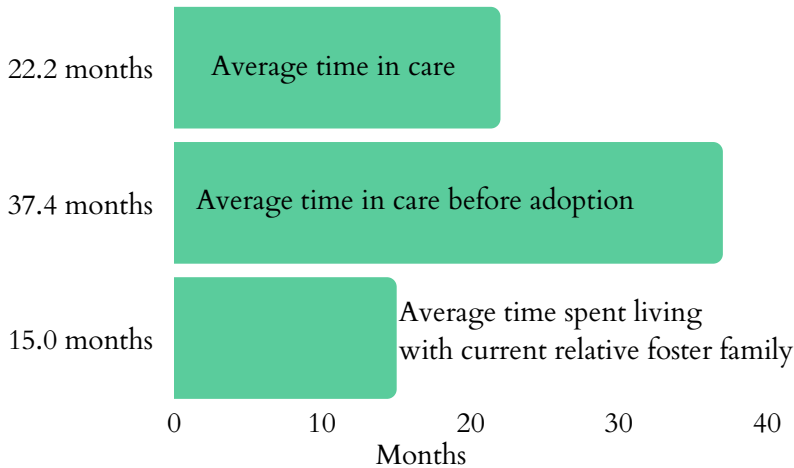
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **4,308** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2024.
- **2,805** children in care as of 09/30/2024.
- During FY 2024, **1,567** children entered care and **1,503** exited.
- **390** children were adopted; **878** were waiting to be adopted.
- **0.7%** increase in the number of children in care and a **8.7%** decrease in the number of children adopted from care from FY 2023-2024.

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2023



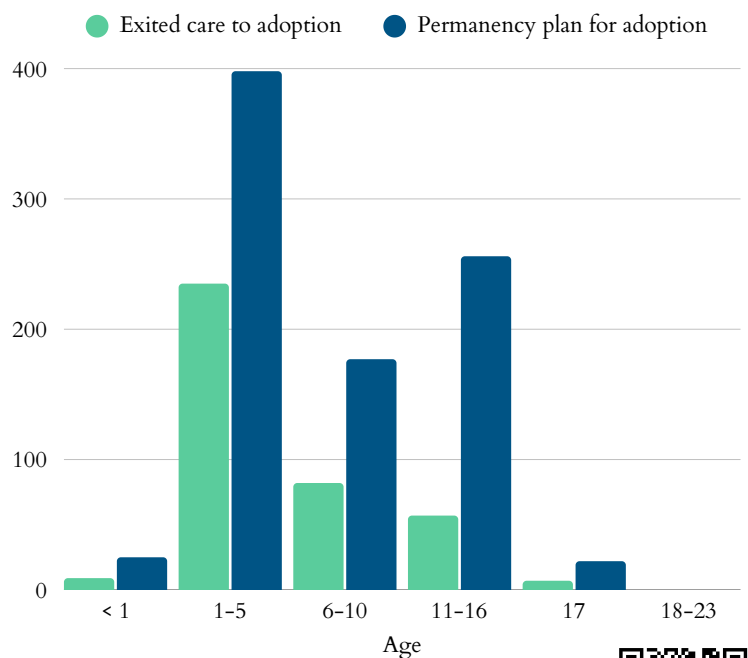
Duration in Care, 2023



- In 2023, **1,442** children were living with non-relative foster families; **1,124** lived with a relative.
- **197** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **2** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **183,472** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of these, **22.1%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

In FY 2024, **154** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **6.1%** decrease from **164** in FY 2023.

Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2024



Juvenile Justice

- **5,970** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **432** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a **14.3%** increase since 2021
 - **5.6%** of the youth are ≤ 14 years old
 - **87.5%** are Black youth
 - **0%** are White youth
 - **94** males and **6%** females
- Black youth represent **71%** of all correctional placements; **6%** for White youth in 2023

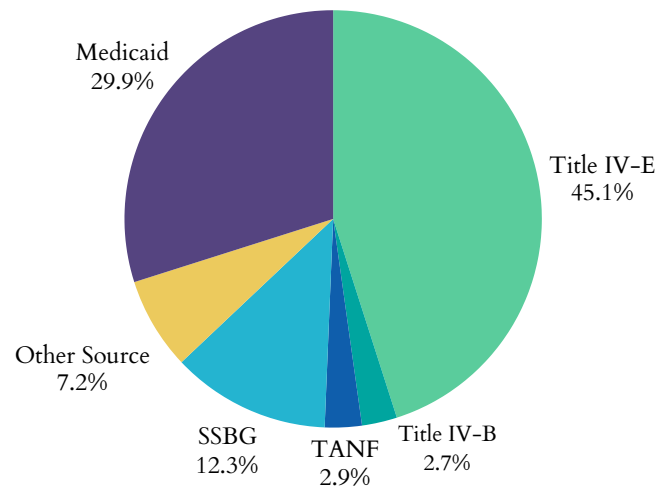


New Jersey's Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- New Jersey spent **\$1,056,213,498** on child welfare services in 2022.
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$426,751,848** = from the federal government
- **\$622,793,298** = from state and local funds

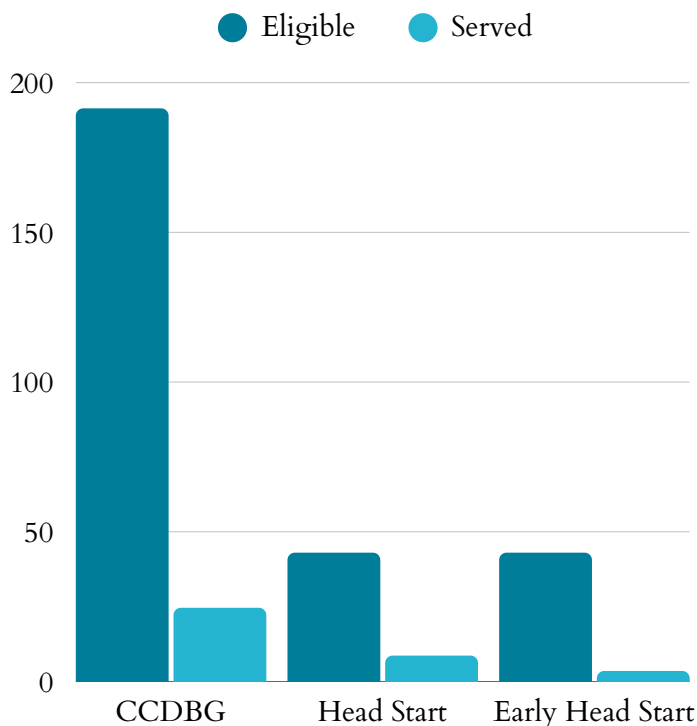
Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$426,751,848** in federal funding received in New Jersey in 2022:

- **\$89,474,289** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$93,277,976** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- New Jersey's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$53,938,771**

Child Care & Early Learning



- **20%** of Head Start eligible children are served
- **8%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served
- **13%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- **\$20,213** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$12,502** annual cost of home-based infant care

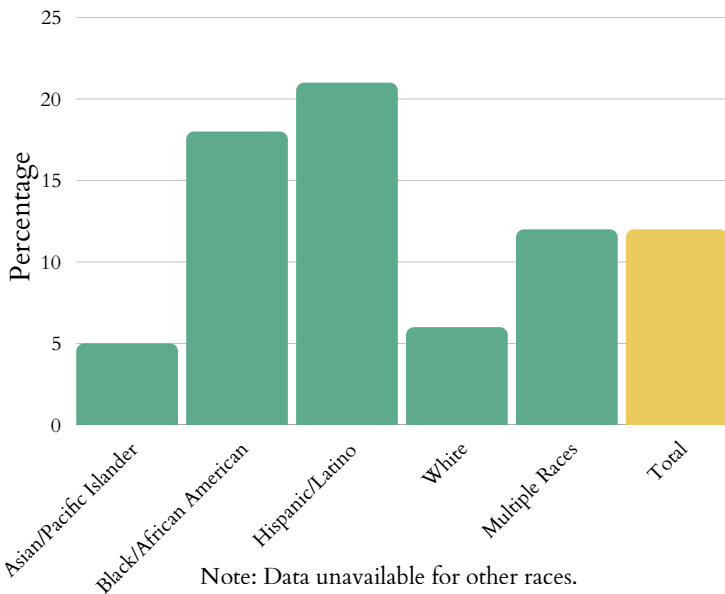


New Jersey's Children

Child Poverty

- **475,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (24% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients fell from **22,827** in 2024 to **20,919** in 2025 (8.4% decrease).

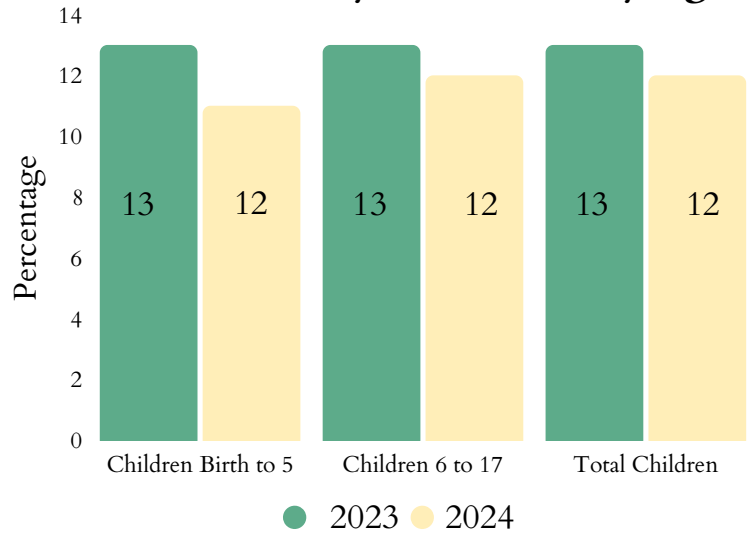
Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



Housing

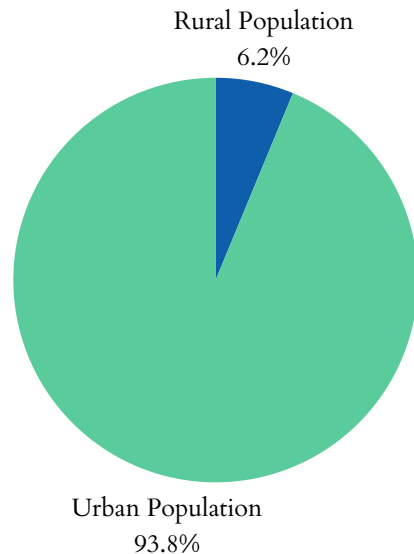
- **5,163** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness in 2023 (1.25%).
- **26.7%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit report having at least one member under 18 in 2023.
- **35%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023.
- **38,889** total New Jersey residents living in public housing in 2025.

Child Poverty Over Time by Age



- The state spent **\$46,351,936** on WIC in 2025, serving **164,368** people: a 12.1% increase in spending and 1.3% increase in total participants since 2024.
- **1,089,190** people were food insecure in 2023, including 271,650 children.
- **38.0%** of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of New Jersey, 2020



New Jersey's Children

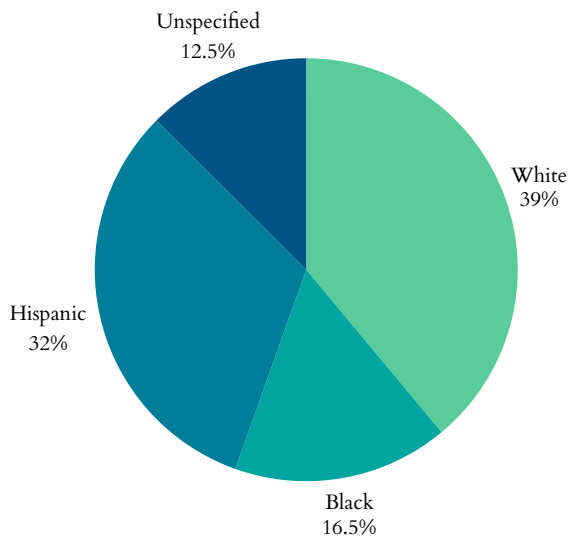
Health

- **7,875** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (7.8% of births).
- **9,368** preterm births (<37wks) in 2023 (9.28% of births).
 - 7.9% of all White babies
 - 12.84% of all Black babies
- **2,153** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023—a rate of 8 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **365** infants aged <1yr died in 2023—a rate of 4 per 1,000.

Maternal Mortality

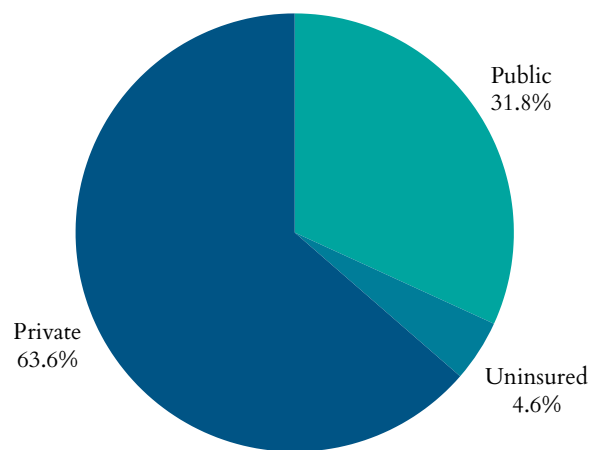
- From 2018 to 2022, **131** New Jersey women died while pregnant, or within 42 days post pregnancy from any cause relating to or aggravated by said pregnancy, excluding accidents and incidents.
- For every 100,000 live births in New Jersey, there is **26** maternal deaths.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



- **102,000** children had no health insurance in 2024 (15.9% increase from 2023).
- **702,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (2.5% decrease from 2023).
- **250,049** children in New Jersey were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (4.6% decrease from 2020).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024



Medicaid Expansion

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

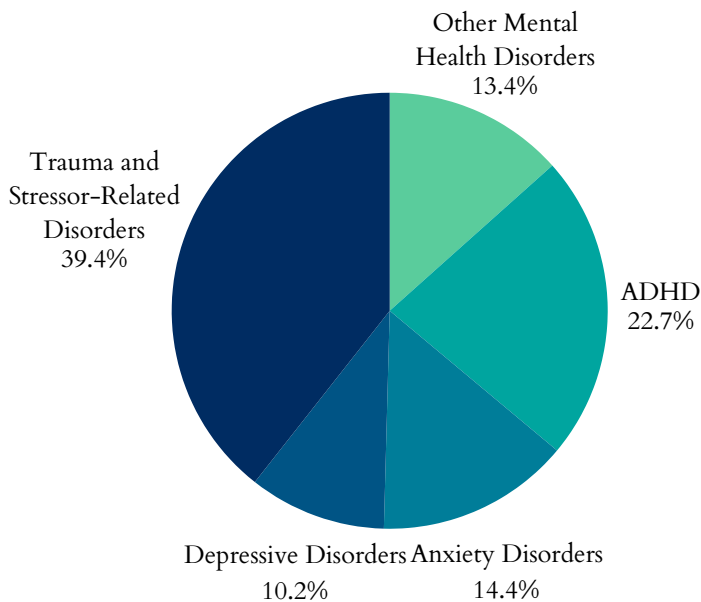


New Jersey's Children

Zero to Three

- **68.2%** of babies live above low-income
- **16.1%** of babies live at low income
- **15.7%** of babies live in poverty
- **7.2%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **81.3%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2023



Prenatal Substance Exposure

- In 2024, New Jersey reported **267** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- New Jersey reported **169** plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

Family First

New Jersey **has a Family First** plan approved by the administration

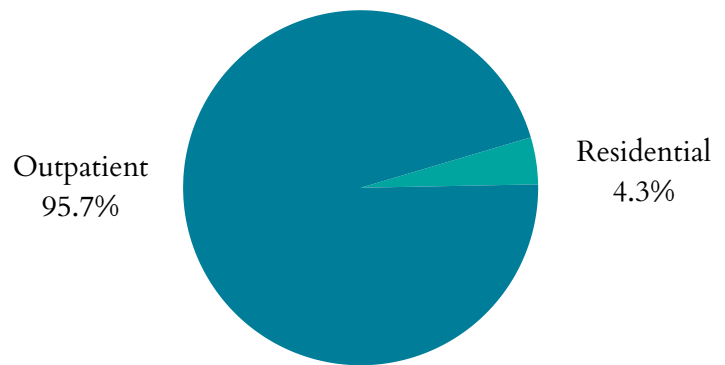
Teens & Youth

- **29,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (6%)
- **22** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in New Jersey in 2024.

Mental Health

- **71,591** children received mental health treatment in New Jersey in 2023 (3.8%)
- From 2021-2023, there were **5.1** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in New Jersey.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2024



Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **31,651** children in New Jersey (2.3% 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

