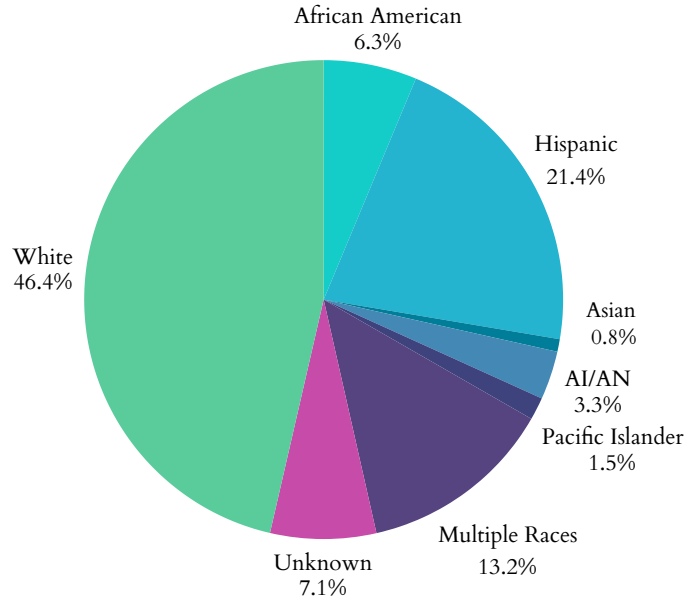


Washington's Children

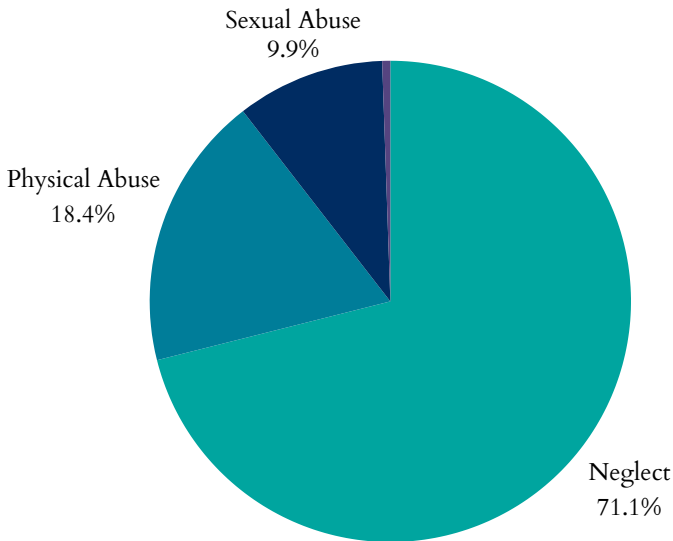
Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, Washington had **117,792** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **41,428** were screened in for response by CPS.
- **3,416** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **2.1** children per 1,000 (**13.6%** decrease since 2020).
- Of the **3,416** children, **1,481** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims **<1 years**, representing **348** of the **3,416** cases.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

- **85%** = parents of the child.
- **15%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

Child victims (2024):

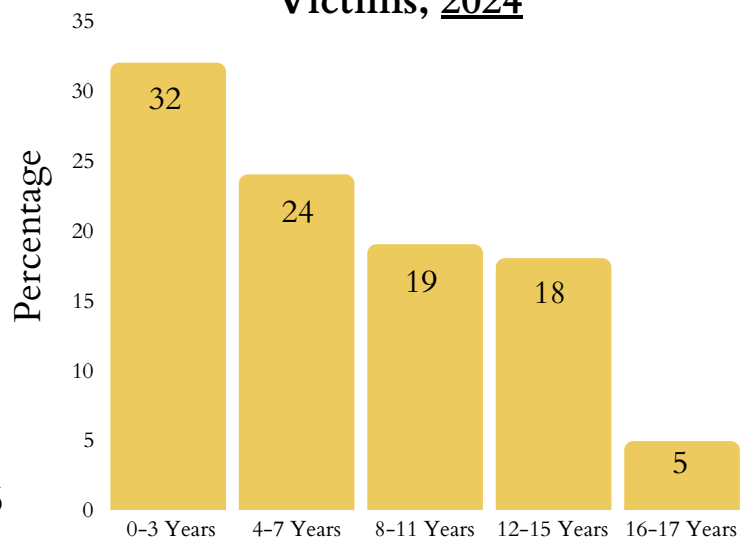
- **53%** = female; **47%** = male.

- Child fatalities decreased from **31** in 2023 to **24** in 2024
- Washington reported **25** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **2,103** victims and **3,819** non-victims.

Workforce

There are **10,570** children, family, and school social workers in Washington with a mean wage of **\$35.14** (compared to 2024 Washington's minimum wage: **\$16.28**)

Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024

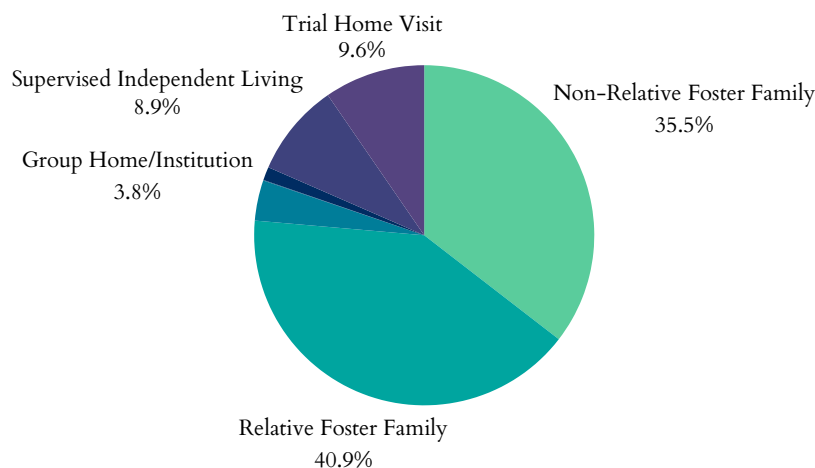


Washington's Children

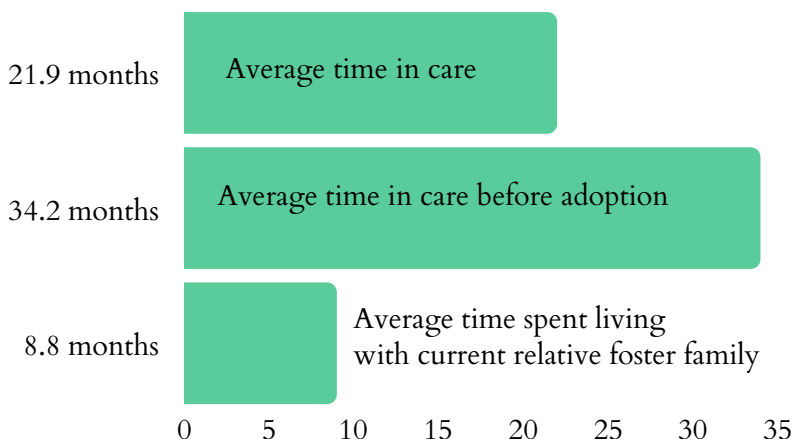
Foster Care and Adoptions

- **12,349** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2022.
- **8,049** in care as of 09/30/2022.
- During FY 2022, **3,518** children entered care and **4,300** exited.
- **864** children were adopted; **2,450** were waiting to be adopted.
- **9.5%** decrease in the number of children in care between and **19.8%** decrease in the number of children adopted from care in from FY 21 to 22

Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2023



Duration in Care, 2023



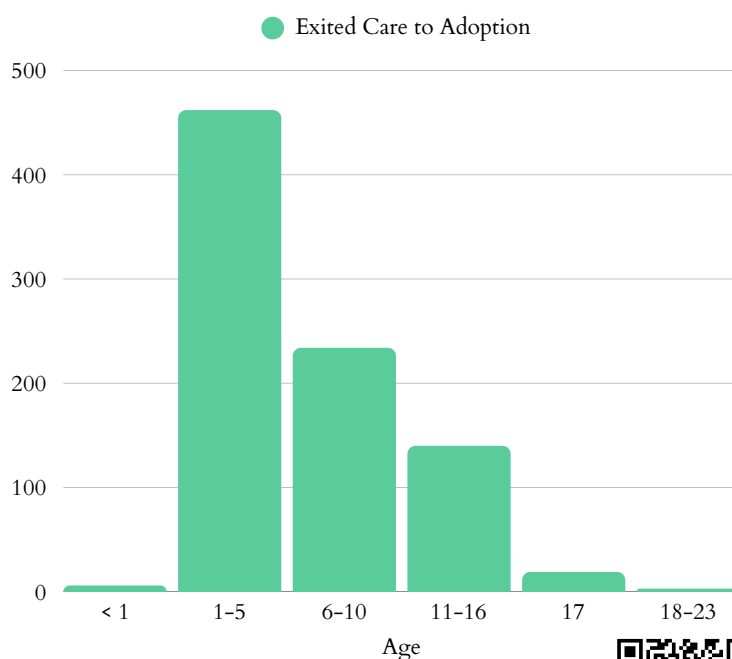
- In 2023, **2,435** children were living with non-relative foster families; **2,866** lived with a relative.
- **269** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **89** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **139,816** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of these, **22.7%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

In FY 2022, **230** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **28.12%** decrease from **320** in FY 2021.

Juvenile Justice

- **7,428** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **543** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a increase of **37.12%** since 2021
 - **14.4%** of the youth are ≤ 14 years old
 - **30.77%** are Black youth
 - **44.87%** are White youth
 - **85.7%** males and **14.3%** females
- Black youth represent **26.51%** of all correctional placements; **34.25%** for White youth in 2023

Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2022

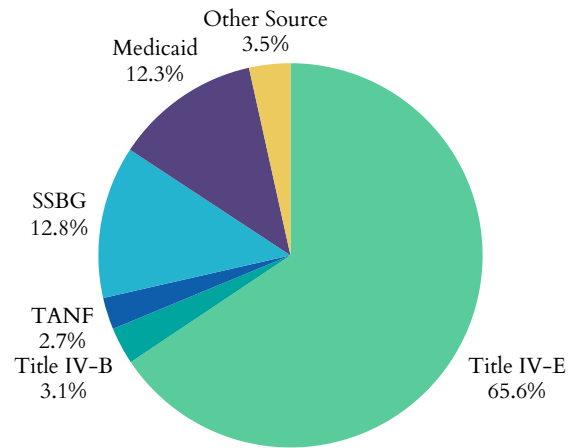


Washington's Children

Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Washington spent **\$972,429,241.29** on child welfare services in 2022.
 - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$649,564,132.34** = from the federal government
- **\$312,978,519.95** = from state and local funds.

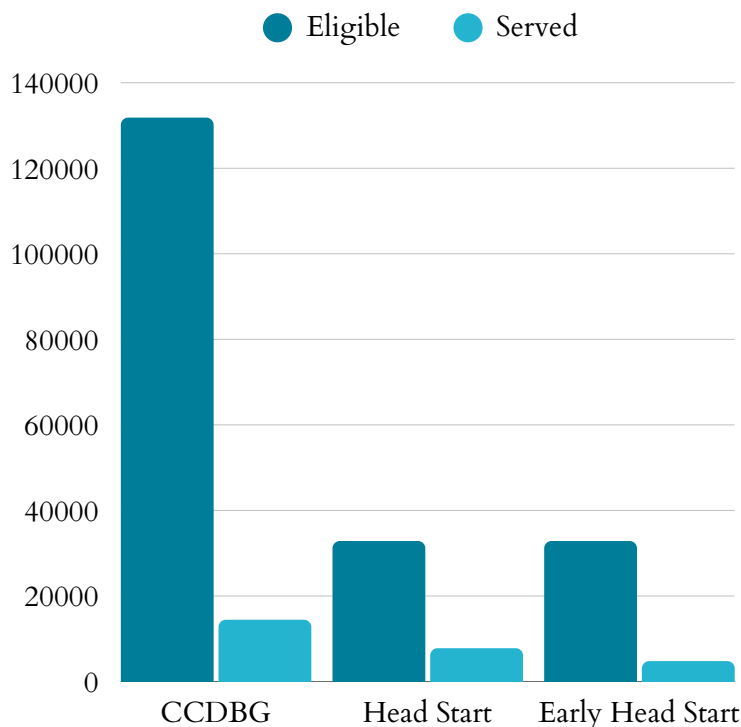
Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$649,564,132.34** in federal funding received in Washington in 2022:

- **\$125,440,103** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$58,402,622** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Washington's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$42,734,401**

Child Care & Early Learning



- **24%** of Head Start eligible children are served
- **15%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served
- **11%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

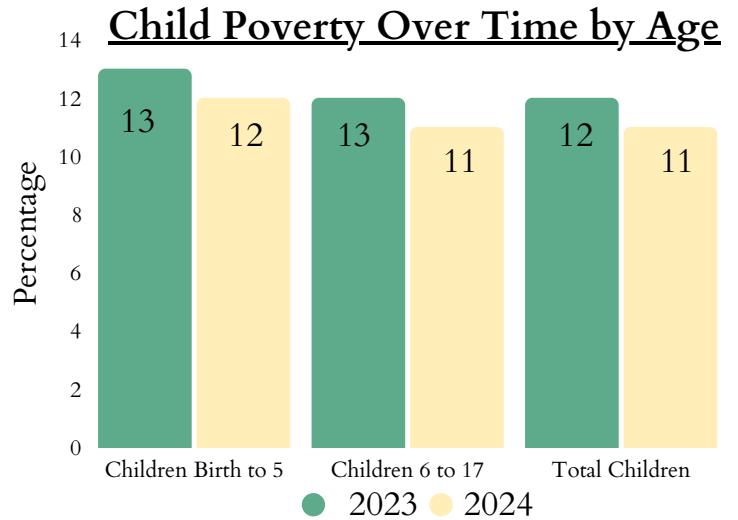
- **\$21,348** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$18,000** annual cost of home-based infant care



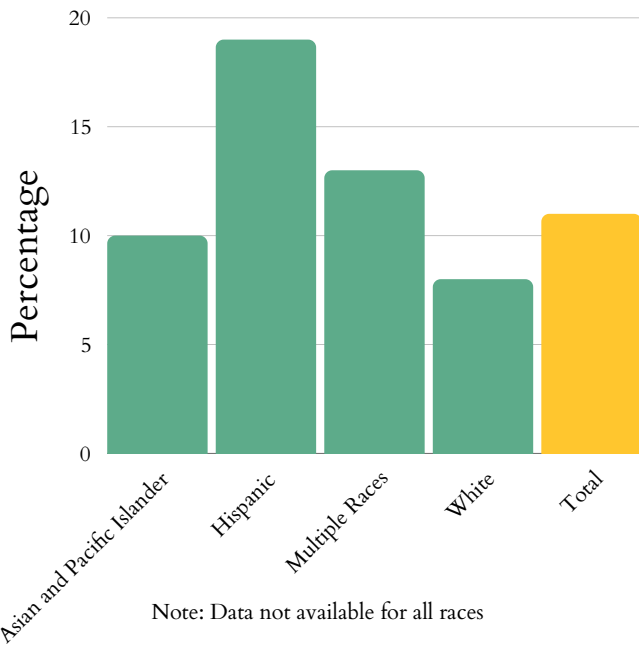
Washington's Children

Child Poverty

- **419,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (25% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients fell from **88,196** in 2024 to **83,349** in 2025 (4.33% decrease).

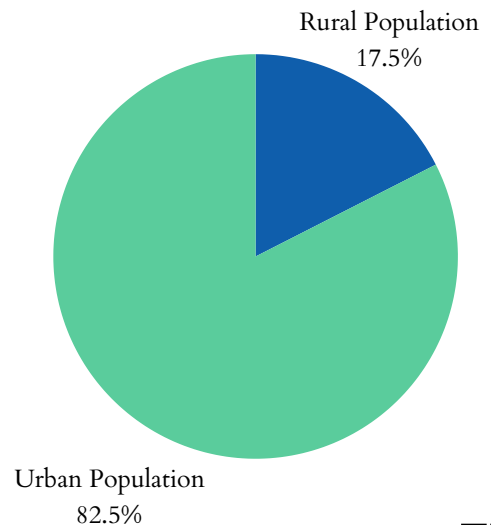


Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



- The state spent **\$99,590,551** on WIC in 2025, serving **141,367** people: a 5% increase in total participants and a 14.55% increase in spending since 2024.
- **1,027,920** people were food insecure in 2023, including **281,010** children.
- 30% of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Washington, 2020



Housing

- **13,876** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness in 2023 (4.14%)
- **33.1%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit reported having at least one member under 18 in 2023
- **31%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023
- **16,854** total Washington residents living in public housing in 2025

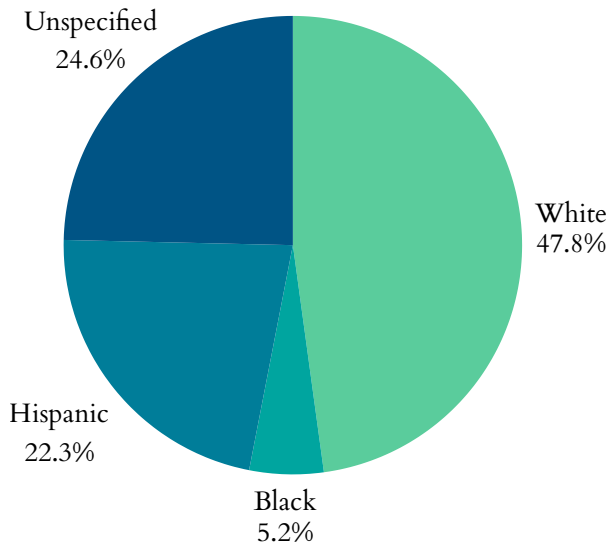


Washington's Children

Health

- **5,633** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (7% of births).
- **7,026** preterm births (<37wks) in 2023 (8.7%).
 - 7.98% of all White babies
 - 10.1% of all Black babies
- **2,226** births to mothers aged 15-19 in 2023 — a rate of 10 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **403** infants aged <1yr died in 2023 — a rate of 5 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



Medicaid Expansion

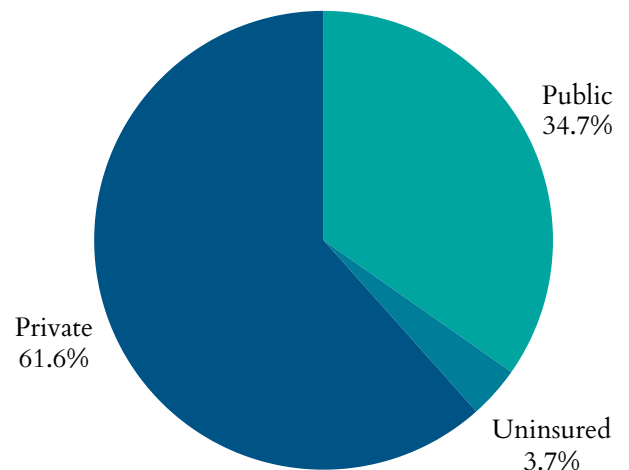
Washington has been a **Medicaid expansion** state since 1/1/2014.

Maternal Mortality

- From 2018 to 2022, **76** Washington 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 Washington, there are **18** maternal deaths

- **68,000** children had no health insurance in 2024 (a 17.2% increase from 2023).
- **636,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (5.8% decrease from 2023).
- **81,870** children in Washington were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (1.9% increase from 2020).

Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024

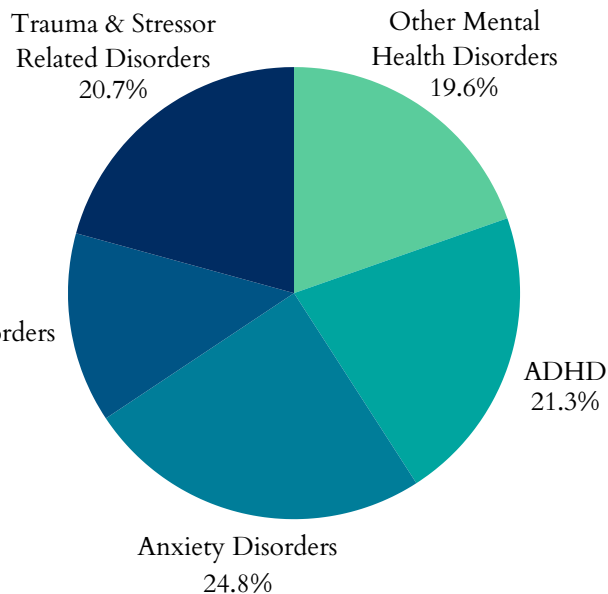


Washington's Children

Zero to Three

- **69.4%** of babies live above low-income
- **16.6%** of babies live at low income
- **14.0%** of babies live in poverty
- **7.9%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **80.1%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2023



Prenatal Substance Exposure

- In 2023, Washington reported **301** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Washington reported **134** plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

Family First

- Plan approved on **October 1, 2019**
- In 2023, 0 children were served
- **\$0** pulled down in federal dollars from Title IV-E

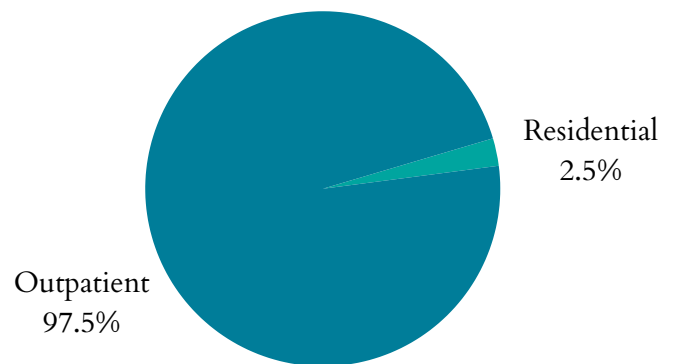
Teens & Youth

- **27,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (7%)
- **66** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Washington in 2024.

Mental Health

- **94,429** children received mental health treatment in Washington in 2023 (5%)
- From 2021 to 2023, there were **12.4** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19.

Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2024



Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **44,444** children in Washington (1.9% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 29, 2024, **1,671** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD.

