

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CHILDREN 2009

New Hampshire's Children At a Glance*

State Population ¹	1,315,828
Population, Children Under 18 ²	298,186
State Poverty Rate ³	5.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	6.5%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17 ⁵	4.7%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	7.9%

*All statistics are for 2007.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2006, New Hampshire had 15,999 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 6,640 reports were referred for investigation.⁷
- In 2006, 822 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in New Hampshire, a rate of 2.8 per 1,000 children, representing a 12.7% decrease from 2005. Of these children, 565 were neglected, 138 were physically abused, and 161 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2006, three children in New Hampshire died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁹
- In 2006, 1,146 children in New Hampshire lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 1,178 children in 2005. In 2006, 26.3% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 25.5% were 16 or older.¹⁰
- Of New Hampshire children in out-of-home care in 2006, 80.9% were white, 4.1% black, 6.7% Hispanic, 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 8.2% children of other races and ethnicities.¹¹

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 557 children exiting out-of-home care in New Hampshire in 2006, 35% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹²
- In 2006, 135 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in New Hampshire, a 9% increase from 124 in 2005.¹³
- Of the 1,146 children in out-of-home care in 2006, 254 or 22.2% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- In 2007, approximately 6,889 New Hampshire grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁵
- Of the 1,146 children in out-of-home care in 2006, 17.4% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁶
- Of all New Hampshire children in kinship care in 2006, 83.4% were white, 2.5% were black, 8.0% were Hispanic, and 6.1% were other races.¹⁷

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in New Hampshire decreased from 10,971 in March 2007 to 9,886 in March 2008, a decrease of 9.9%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2008 was 4,731, an 8.1% decrease from March 2007.¹⁸



- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in New Hampshire was at 51.6% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁹
- In 2006, New Hampshire spent \$70,312,922 in TANF funds, including 49.7% on basic assistance, and 40.4% on nonassistance.²⁰
- In 2007, New Hampshire spent \$7,926,142 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), serving 17,411 participants.²¹
- In 2007, New Hampshire collected and distributed \$83,804,870 in child support funds, a 1.8% increase from 2006.²²
- In 2008, the fair-market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in New Hampshire was \$1,012 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$19.45 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²³

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2006, New Hampshire had a monthly average of 7,500 children served by subsidized child care; 7,100 children received subsidized child care in 2005, and 6,600 in 2004.²⁴
- In 2008, to be eligible for subsidized child care in New Hampshire, a family of three could make no more than \$32,628, which is equivalent to 48% of the state's median income.²⁵
- As of early 2008, New Hampshire had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁶
- In 2007, Head Start served 1,632 New Hampshire children, the same as in 2001.²⁷

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2005, 85,100 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in New Hampshire—61.3% of the total number of enrollees.²⁸
- In 2005, 2,626 children were enrolled in Medicaid in New Hampshire on the basis of being in foster care.²⁹
- In 2005, of the 2,626 children enrolled in Medicaid on the basis of being in foster care, none received Targeted Case Management services, but 101 received Rehabilitative Services.³⁰
- In 2007, New Hampshire had 7,415 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 3.6% decrease from 2006, when 7,688 children were enrolled.³¹
- In 2007, New Hampshire had 19,000 uninsured children, representing 6.5% of its child population.³²
- In 2005, 1,001 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving New Hampshire a rank of 9 nationally in percent of low-weight births (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³³
- In 2005, 76 infants under age 1 died in New Hampshire, giving it a rank of 5 nationally in terms of infant mortality rates (a rank of 1 being the best and 50 the worst).³⁴
- In 2005, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in New Hampshire was 7 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 35. This reflects a total rate of 18 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁵



- Cumulative through 2006, 1,074 adults and adolescents, as well as 10 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in New Hampshire.³⁶
- In 2006, an estimated 11,000 children ages 12–17, and 95,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in New Hampshire.³⁷

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2006, 63 children aged out of out-of-home care in New Hampshire.³⁸
- In 2007, 3,000 New Hampshire teens ages 16-19 were high-school dropouts.³⁹
- In 2007, 5% of teens ages 16-19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2006, 8% of people ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴¹
- In 2006, approximately 6,000 children ages 12–17 in New Hampshire needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2006, approximately 7,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2005, seven New Hampshire children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 1.95 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2005, one child under age 18 was killed in a firearm homicide in New Hampshire, compared with none in 2004.⁴⁵
- In 2007, 6,602 children younger than 18 were arrested in New Hampshire, a 20.6% decrease from 8,314 arrests in 2006. Of those arrests, 85 were for violent crimes and 30 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁶
- A 2006 census of juvenile offenders showed 189 children in juvenile correction facilities in New Hampshire.⁴⁷

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, New Hampshire spent \$81,554,399 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 59% was from federal funds, 33% from state funds, and 8.2% from local funds.⁴⁸
- In 2006, of the \$48,316,595 in federal funds received for child welfare, 36% came from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 4% from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 34% from Medicaid, 9% from the Social Services Block Grant, 13% from TANF, and 5% from other federal sources.⁴⁹
- Out of 1,146 children in out-of-home care in New Hampshire in 2006, only 525, or 46.8%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵⁰



NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

- A 2003 General Accounting Office (GAO) report documented that staff shortages, high caseloads, high worker turnover and low salaries impinge on delivering services to achieve safety, permanence, and well being for children.⁵¹
- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have clearly demonstrated that the more time a caseworker spends with a child and family, the better the outcomes for those children and families.⁵²
- According to the 2003 GAO report, the average caseload for child welfare/foster care caseworkers is 24–31 children; these high caseloads contribute to high worker turnover and insufficient services being provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.⁵³
- In 2004, the minimum annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect in New Hampshire was \$25,798; the median income for a family of four in New Hampshire was \$79,339.⁵⁴

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