



HAWAII'S CHILDREN 2010

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Hawaii's Children At a Glance*

State Population ¹	1,288,198
Population, Children Under 18 ²	284,604
State Poverty Rate ³	9.9%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	14.3%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁵	15.4%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	12.5%

*All statistics are for 2008.

- Hawaii was one of several states without a final tally of 2007 referrals for child abuse and neglect.⁷
- In 2007, 2,075 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Hawaii, a rate of 7.3 per 1,000 children, representing a 1.5% increase from 2006. Of these children, 58 were neglected, 58 were physically abused, and 36 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2007, 4 children in Hawaii died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁹
- In 2007, 1,940 children in Hawaii lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 2,355 children in 2006. In 2007, 694 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 301 were 16 or older.¹⁰
- Of Hawaii children in out-of-home care in 2007, 11.3% were white, 0.7% black, 4.2% Hispanic, 21.2% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 47.8% were more than one race (including Native Hawaiian), 0.2% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 14.6% children of other races and ethnicities.¹¹

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 1,785 children exiting out-of-home care in Hawaii in 2007, 62.2% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹²
- In 2007, 338 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Hawaii, a 14.9% decrease from 397 in 2006.¹³
- Of the 1,940 children in out-of-home care in 2007, 733 or 37.8% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- In 2008, approximately 11,660 Hawaii grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁵
- Of the 1,940 children in out-of-home care in 2007, 41.3% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁶
- Of all Hawaii children in kinship care in 2007, 7.0% were white, 4.0% were black, 4.9% were Hispanic, 0.1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 87.7% were other races.¹⁷

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Hawaii increased from 13,739 in March 2008 to 14,507 in March 2009, an increase of 5.6%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2009 was 5,776, a 2.7% increase from March 2008.¹⁸
- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Hawaii was at 54.0% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁹
- In 2007, Hawaii spent \$201,773,934 in TANF funds, including 57.0% on basic assistance, 0.0% on child care, 0.0% on transportation, and 43% on nonassistance.²⁰
- In 2008, Hawaii spent \$24,428,156 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), serving 34,050 participants.²¹
- In 2008, Hawaii collected and distributed \$99,363,991 in child support funds, an increase of 9.5% from 2007.²²
- In 2009, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Hawaii was \$1,536 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$29.53 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²³

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2007, Hawaii had a monthly average of 10,000 children served by subsidized child care; 8,600 children received subsidized child care in 2006, and 8,900 in 2005.²⁴
- In 2009, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Hawaii, a family of three could make no more than \$47,124, which is equivalent to 66% of the state's median income.²⁵
- As of early 2009, Hawaii had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁶
- In 2007, Head Start served 3,049 Hawaii children, a 0.8% increase from 2001.²⁷

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2006, 95,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Hawaii—43.7% of the total number of enrollees.²⁸
- The number of children enrolled in Medicaid in Hawaii on the basis of being in foster care during 2007 was not available.²⁹
- The number of children enrolled in Medicaid on the basis of being in foster care and receiving either Targeted Case Management services or Rehabilitative Services in 2007 was not available.³⁰
- In 2008, Hawaii had 18,787 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 9.1% increase from 2007, when 17,226 children were enrolled.³¹
- In 2008, Hawaii had 15,000 uninsured children, representing 5.2% of its child population.³²
- In 2006, 1,531 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Hawaii a rank of 21 nationally in percent of low-weight births (a rank of 1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³³
- In 2006, 107 infants under age 1 died in Hawaii, giving it a rank of 10 nationally in terms of infant mortality rates (a rank of 1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³⁴
- In 2006, the birthrate for teens 15–17 in Hawaii was 21 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 73. This reflects a total rate of 41 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁵
- Cumulative through 2007, 3,002 adults and adolescents, as well as 17 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Hawaii.³⁶
- In 2007, an estimated 9,000 children ages 12–17, and 68,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Hawaii.³⁷

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2007, 152 children aged out of out-of-home care in Hawaii.³⁸
- In 2008, 5,000 Hawaii teens ages 16–19 were high-school dropouts.³⁹
- In 2008, 6,000 teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2007, 17,000 people ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴¹
- In 2007, approximately 4,000 children ages 12–17 in Hawaii needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2007, approximately 5,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2006, 15 Hawaii children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 4.45 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2006, no children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Hawaii, for the second year in a row.⁴⁵
- In 2008, 12,029 children younger than 18 were arrested in Hawaii. Of the arrests in 2008, 288 were for violent crimes and 24 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁶
- A 2006 census of juvenile offenders showed 123 children in juvenile correction facilities in Hawaii.⁴⁷

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR HAWAII'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, Hawaii spent \$113,837,471 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 47% was from federal funds, 53% from state funds, and 0.0% from local funds.⁴⁸
- In 2006, of the \$53,812,835 in federal funds received for child welfare, 57% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 6% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0% was from Medicaid, 23% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 13% was from TANF, and 1% came from other federal sources.⁴⁹
- Out of 1,940 children in out-of-home care in Hawaii in 2007, only 1,010 or 52.1% received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵⁰

HAWAII'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 that child and family.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 Hawaii was \$42,348; the median income for a family of four in Hawaii was \$66,014.⁵⁴

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