



# ILLINOIS' S CHILDREN 2010

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

### Illinois's Children At a Glance\*

State Population <sup>1</sup> .....	12,901,563
Population, Children Under 18 <sup>2</sup> .....	3,180,764
State Poverty Rate <sup>3</sup> .....	12.3%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 <sup>4</sup> .....	19.3%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 <sup>5</sup> .....	17.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 <sup>6</sup> .....	20.3%

\*All statistics are for 2008.

- Illinois was one of several states without a final tally of 2007 referrals for child abuse and neglect.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2007, 31,058 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Illinois, a rate of 9.7 per 1,000 children, representing a 11.9% increase from 2006. Of these children, 17,897 were neglected, 4,264 were physically abused, and 4,484 were sexually abused.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2007, 74 children in Illinois died as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>9</sup>
- In 2007, 17,873 children in Illinois lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 18,371 children in 2006. In 2007, 5,856 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 5,066 were 16 or older.<sup>10</sup>
- Of Illinois children in out-of-home care in 2007, 30.7% were white, 60.9% black, 6.1% Hispanic, 0.2% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 2.1% children of other races and ethnicities.<sup>11</sup>

## ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 5,913 children exiting out-of-home care in Illinois in 2007, 38.2% were reunited with their parents or other family members.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2007, 1,693 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Illinois, a 2.7% decrease from 1,740 in 2006.<sup>13</sup>
- Of the 17,873 children in out-of-home care in 2007, 4,407 or 24.7% were waiting to be adopted.<sup>14</sup>
- In 2008, approximately 93,671 Illinois grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.<sup>15</sup>
- Of the 17,873 children in out-of-home care in 2007, 33.8% were living with relatives while in care.<sup>16</sup>
- Of all Illinois children in kinship care in 2007, 34.4% were white, 57.1% were black, 6.3% were Hispanic, 0.1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 2.0% were other races.<sup>17</sup>

## CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Illinois decreased from 56,473 in March 2008 to 51,835 in March 2009, a decrease of 8.2%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2009 was 19,501, a 20.6% decrease from March 2008.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Illinois was at 26.7% of the federal poverty guideline.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2007, Illinois spent \$1,024,658,435 in TANF funds, including 9.3% on basic assistance, 0.0% on child care, <1% on transportation, and 90% on nonassistance.<sup>20</sup>
- In 2008, Illinois spent \$154,166,784 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), serving 294,685 participants.<sup>21</sup>
- In 2008, Illinois collected and distributed \$769,531,768 in child support funds, an increase of 13.4% from 2007.<sup>22</sup>
- In 2009, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Illinois was \$893 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$17.17 per hour, working a 40-hour week.<sup>23</sup>

## CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2007, Illinois had a monthly average of 76,200 children served by subsidized child care; 82,200 children received subsidized child care in 2006, and 84,000 in 2005.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2009, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Illinois, a family of three could make no more than \$35,208, which is equivalent to 56% of the state's median income.<sup>25</sup>
- As of early 2009, Illinois had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.<sup>26</sup>
- In 2007, Head Start served 39,640 Illinois children, a 0.4% increase from 2001.<sup>27</sup>

## HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2006, 1,271,600 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Illinois—52.5% of the total number of enrollees.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2007, 68,064 children were enrolled in Medicaid in Illinois on the basis of being in foster care.<sup>29</sup>
- In 2007, of the 68,064 children enrolled in Medicaid on the basis of being in foster care, 33,785 received Targeted Case Management services, and 8,393 received Rehabilitative Services.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2008, Illinois had 186,107 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 6.3% increase from 2007, when 175,145 children were enrolled.<sup>31</sup>
- In 2008, Illinois had 205,000 uninsured children, representing 6.4% of its child population.<sup>32</sup>
- In 2006, 15,577 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Illinois a rank of 32 nationally in percent of low-weight births (a rank of 1 being the best, and 50 the worst).<sup>33</sup>
- In 2006, 1,309 infants under age 1 died in Illinois, giving it a rank of 31 nationally in terms of infant mortality rates (a rank of 1 being the best, and 50 the worst).<sup>34</sup>
- In 2006, the birthrate for teens 15–17 in Illinois was 22 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 65. This reflects a total rate of 39 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.<sup>35</sup>
- Cumulative through 2007, 34,783 adults and adolescents, as well as 283 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Illinois.<sup>36</sup>
- In 2007, an estimated 88,000 children ages 12–17, and 593,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Illinois.<sup>37</sup>

## VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2007, 1,245 children aged out of out-of-home care in Illinois.<sup>38</sup>
- In 2008, 44,000 Illinois teens ages 16–19 were high-school dropouts.<sup>39</sup>
- In 2008, 58,000 teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.<sup>40</sup>
- In 2007, 182,000 people ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.<sup>41</sup>
- In 2007, approximately 44,000 children ages 12–17 in Illinois needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.<sup>42</sup>
- In 2007, approximately 60,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.<sup>43</sup>
- In 2006, 65 Illinois children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 1.73 per 100,000 children.<sup>44</sup>

## JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2006, 94 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Illinois, a 23.7% increase from 76 in 2005.<sup>45</sup>
- In 2008, 33,161 children younger than 18 were arrested in Illinois, a 3.2% decrease from 34,250 arrests in 2007. Of the arrests in 2008, 3,503 were for violent crimes and 1,098 were for possession of a weapon.<sup>46</sup>
- A 2006 census of juvenile offenders showed 2,631 children in juvenile correction facilities in Illinois.<sup>47</sup>

## FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR ILLINOIS'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, Illinois spent \$1,241,370,233 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 49% was from federal funds, 51% from state funds, and 0.0% from local funds.<sup>48</sup>
- In 2006, of the \$602,811,625 in federal funds received for child welfare, 52% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 5% was from Medicaid, 4% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 31% was from TANF, and 4% came from other federal sources.<sup>49</sup>
- Out of 17,873 children in out-of-home care in Illinois in 2007, only 7,757, or 43.4%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.<sup>50</sup>

## ILLINOIS'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.<sup>51</sup>
- 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.<sup>52</sup>
- 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.<sup>53</sup>
- In 2004, the minimum annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect in Illinois was not available, but the median income for a family of four in Illinois was \$66,507.<sup>54</sup>

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## NOTES AND REFERENCES

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