



NEW YORK'S CHILDREN 2010

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

New York's Children At a Glance*

State Population ¹	19,490,297
Population, Children Under 18 ²	4,408,800
State Poverty Rate ³	14.2%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	20.3%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁵	19.5%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	20.3%

*All statistics are for 2008.

- New York was one of several states without a final tally of 2007 referrals for child abuse and neglect.⁷
- In 2007, 83,502 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in New York, a rate of 18.9 per 1,000 children, representing a 4.3% increase from 2006. Of these children, 47,880 were neglected, 1,231 were physically abused, and 576 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2007, 96 children in New York died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁹
- In 2007, 30,072 children in New York lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 29,973 children in 2006. In 2007, 8,009 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 8,776 were 16 or older.¹⁰
- Of New York children in out-of-home care in 2007, 17.7% were white, 46.2% black, 20.8% Hispanic, 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 15.1% children of other races and ethnicities.¹¹

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 12,964 children exiting out-of-home care in New York in 2007, 52.2% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹²
- In 2007, 2,482 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in New York, a 11.7% decrease from 2,810 in 2006.¹³
- Of the 30,072 children in out-of-home care in 2007, 7,659 or 25.5% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- In 2008, approximately 128,865 New York grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁵
- Of the 30,072 children in out-of-home care in 2007, 18.9% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁶
- Of all New York children in kinship care in 2007, 8.0% were white, 56.1% were black, 25.6% were Hispanic, <.1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 10.3% were other races.¹⁷

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in New York increased from 257,416 in March 2008 to 258,954 in March 2009, an increase of 0.6%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2009 was 116,474, a 0.8% decrease from March 2008.¹⁸
- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in New York was at 54.8% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁹
- In 2007, New York spent \$4,399,712,173 in TANF funds, including 33.5% on basic assistance, 2.3% on child care, 0.0% on transportation, and 58% on nonassistance.²⁰
- In 2008, New York spent \$292,296,689 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), serving 497,327 participants.²¹
- In 2008, New York collected and distributed \$1,580,997,452 in child support funds, an increase of 4.7% from 2007.²²
- In 2009, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in New York was \$1,207 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$23.21 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²³

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2007, New York had a monthly average of 115,500 children served by subsidized child care; 123,700 children received subsidized child care in 2006, and 127,600 in 2005.²⁴
- In 2009, to be eligible for subsidized child care in New York, a family of three could make no more than \$35,200, which is equivalent to 55% of the state's median income.²⁵
- Statewide data for the number of children on waiting lists for child care assistance were not available. In New York, waiting lists are maintained by each county.²⁶
- In 2007, Head Start served 48,818 New York children, a 0.3% decrease from 2001.²⁷

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2006, 2,053,300 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in New York—40.1% of the total number of enrollees.²⁸
- In 2007, 55,782 children were enrolled in Medicaid in New York on the basis of being in foster care.²⁹
- In 2007, of the 55,782 children enrolled in Medicaid on the basis of being in foster care, 987 received Targeted Case Management services, and 4,850 received Rehabilitative Services.³⁰
- In 2008, New York had 365,311 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 7.3% decrease from 2007, when 394,164 children were enrolled.³¹
- In 2008, New York had 310,000 uninsured children, representing 7.1% of its child population.³²
- In 2006, 20,790 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving New York a rank of 25 nationally in percent of low-weight births (a rank of 1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³³
- In 2006, 1,407 infants under age 1 died in New York, 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 New York was 13 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 44. This reflects a total rate of 26 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁵
- Cumulative through 2007, 179,116 adults and adolescents, as well as 2,345 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in New York.³⁶
- In 2007, an estimated 111,000 children ages 12–17, and 798,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in New York.³⁷

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2007, 1,506 children aged out of out-of-home care in New York.³⁸
- In 2008, 62,000 New York teens ages 16–19 were high-school dropouts.³⁹
- In 2008, 85,000 teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2007, 270,000 people ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴¹
- In 2007, approximately 63,000 children ages 12–17 in New York needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2007, approximately 72,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2006, 76 New York children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 1.42 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2006, 68 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in New York, a 65.9% increase from 41 in 2005.⁴⁵
- In 2008, 40,142 children younger than 18 were arrested in New York, a 13.2% decrease from 46,232 arrests in 2007. Of the arrests in 2008, 2,497 were for violent crimes and 575 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁶

- A 2006 census of juvenile offenders showed 4,197 children in juvenile correction facilities in New York.⁴⁷

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR NEW YORK'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, New York spent \$1,932,987,349 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 51% was from federal funds, 49% from state funds, and 0.0% from local funds.⁴⁸
- In 2006, of the \$984,765,670 in federal funds received for child welfare, 59% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 4% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0% was from Medicaid, 12% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 23% was from TANF, and 1% came from other federal sources.⁴⁹
- Out of 30,072 children in out-of-home care in New York in 2007, only 14,962, or 49.8%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵⁰

NEW YORK'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 New York was not available, but the median income for a family of four in New York was \$66,498.⁵⁴

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