

# ALASKA'S CHILDREN 2003

---

## State Population (2001)<sup>1</sup>

634,892\*

## State Population, Children Under 18 (2000)<sup>2</sup>

190,717\*

## State Poverty Rate (2001)<sup>3</sup>

7.1%

## State Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2001)<sup>4</sup>

11.8%

## State Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 (2001)<sup>5</sup>

10.3%

\*Estimated

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2000, 12,832 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Alaska, a rate of 67.3 per 1,000 children—a 51% increase from 1990.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2000, 6,957 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Alaska, a rate of 36.5 per 1,000 children—a 15% increase from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 22.1 were neglected, 9.7 were physically abused, and 4.4 were sexually abused.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2000, 8 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>8</sup>
- On September 30, 2000, 2,193 children in Alaska lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 35.5% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 8.8% were 16 or older.<sup>9</sup>

## CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individual TANF recipients in Alaska increased from 17,343 in December 2001 to 18,045 in June 2002, an increase of 4.0%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 6,174, a 4.6% increase from December 2001.<sup>10</sup>
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Alaska was 17% below the federal poverty level.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2000, Alaska spent \$93,427,035 in TANF funds, including 59.3% on cash assistance, 11.3% on child care, and 1.2% on transportation and support activities.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2000, 1,099 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.<sup>13</sup>
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Alaska was \$842 per month, or 93.1% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage.<sup>14</sup>

## CHILD CARE, HEALTH, AND FAMILY SUPPORT

- In 1999, 6,260 Alaska children were in subsidized child care—13% of all eligible children.<sup>15</sup>
- In 2001, 1,586 Alaska children were served by Head Start, an 18.2% increase from 2000.<sup>16</sup>
- In 1999, 90.4% of high school seniors graduated in Alaska, compared with 90.6% in 1998.<sup>17</sup>
- In 1998, 52,428 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—59.7% of the state's total enrollees.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2001, Alaska had 21,831 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—a 38.6% increase from 2000, when 13,413 children were enrolled.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 20 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.<sup>20</sup>
- As of December 2001, 490 adults and adolescents, as well as 5 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Alaska.<sup>21</sup>
- In 2000, an estimated 10,381 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Alaska.<sup>22</sup>

**P E R M A N E N T F A M I L I E S F O R C H I L D R E N**

- Of the 913 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 67.8% were reunited with their birthfamilies.<sup>23</sup>
- Of the 2,193 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 30.6% were living with relatives while in care.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2001, 202 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Alaska, a .32% increase from 2000.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2001, more than 5,738 Alaska grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.<sup>26</sup>

**For additional child welfare statistics, references, and pertinent notes, visit CWLA's National Data Analysis System at <http://ndas.cwla.org>.**

## REFERENCES

- 1 U.S. Census Bureau. (2002, September). *State and county QuickFacts*. Available online at <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/01000.html>. Washington, DC: Author.
- 2 U.S. Census Bureau. (2002). Table 25: Poverty status by state and ten large metropolitan areas in 2001, People under 18. *Annual demographic survey, March supplement*. Available online at [http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25\\_000.htm](http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25_000.htm). Washington, DC: Author.
- 3 U.S. Census Bureau. (2002). Table 25: Poverty status by state and ten large metropolitan areas in 2001, Families. *Annual demographic survey, March supplement*. Available online at [http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25\\_000.htm](http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25_000.htm). Washington, DC: Author.
- 4 U.S. Census Bureau. (2002). Table 25: Poverty status by state and ten large metropolitan areas in 2001, Related children under 18. *Annual demographic survey, March supplement*. Available online at [http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25\\_000.htm](http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25_000.htm). Washington, DC: Author.
- 5 U.S. Census Bureau. (2002). Table 25: Poverty status by state and ten large metropolitan areas in 2001, Related children 5 to 17. *Annual demographic survey, March supplement*. Available online at [http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25\\_000.htm](http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/pov/new25_000.htm). Washington, DC: Author.
- 6 U.S. Children's Bureau. (2002). *Child maltreatment 2000*. Available online at [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cm00/outcover.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cm00/outcover.htm). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 Ibid.
- 9 U.S. Children's Bureau. (2002, August). *The AFCARS report: Interim FY 2000 estimates as of August 2002*. Available online at [www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/afcars/report7.htm](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/afcars/report7.htm). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families.
- 10 Administration for Children & Families. (2002). *Percent change in TANF families and recipients Dec 2001–June 2002*. Available online at [www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/stats/newstat2.shtml](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/stats/newstat2.shtml). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
- 11 Calculations by CWLA, based on U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. (2000). *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program: Fourth annual report to Congress*. Washington, DC: Author; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. (2001). *The 2001 HHS poverty guidelines*. Available online at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/01poverty.htm>. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services; and Food Research & Action Center. (2000). *Federal food programs: Food Stamp Program fiscal year 2003—Monthly allotments and deductions*. Available online at [www.frac.org/html/federal\\_food\\_programs/programs/fsp\\_limits2002.html](http://www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/programs/fsp_limits2002.html). Washington, DC: Author.
- 12 Administration for Children & Families. (2000). Table F: Combined total of federal and states funds expended in FY 2000. *TANF program expenditures in FY 2000 through the 4th quarter*. Available online at [www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ofs/data/q400/index.htm](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ofs/data/q400/index.htm). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
- 13 Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children & Families. (2000). Table 51: Children Requiring Paternity Determination Services by Current, Former, and Never Assistance, FY 2000. *Annual statistical report for fiscal years 1999 and 2000*. Available online at [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2002/reports/datareport](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2002/reports/datareport). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
- 14 National Low Income Housing Coalition. (2002). *Rental housing for America's poor families: Farther out of reach than ever*. Available online at [www.nlihc.org/oor2002/index.htm](http://www.nlihc.org/oor2002/index.htm). Washington, DC: Author.
- 15 Administration for Children & Families. (1999). *Child care and development block grant/child care and development fund: Children served in fiscal year 1999*. Available online at [www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/press/2000/cctable.htm](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/press/2000/cctable.htm). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
- 16 Year 2000 data from National Child Care Information Center. (2001). *State child care profiles*. Available online at [www.nccic.org/statepro.html](http://www.nccic.org/statepro.html). Washington, DC: Washington, DC: Administration for Children & Families; Year 2001 data from Head Start Bureau. (2002). *2002 Head Start Fact Sheet*. Available online at [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/factsheets/02\\_hsf.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/factsheets/02_hsf.htm). Washington, DC: Administration for Children & Families.
- 17 National Center for Education Statistics. (2002). Data file: CCD state non-fiscal survey of public elementary/secondary education, 2000–01. (NCES 2002363). Available online at [www.nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2002363](http://www.nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2002363). Washington, DC: Author.
- 18 American Academy of Pediatrics. (1998). *1998 Medicaid state reports*. Available online at [www.aap.org/research/medic98.htm](http://www.aap.org/research/medic98.htm). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education.
- 19 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2001). *The state children's health insurance program annual enrollment report: Federal fiscal year 2001: October 1, 2000–September 30, 2001*. Available online at [www.cms.hhs.gov/schip/schip01.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/schip/schip01.pdf). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
- 20 U.S. Census Bureau. (2000). General demographic characteristics. *Census 2000 supplementary survey*. Available online at <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/c2ss.html>. Washington, DC: Author.
- 21 Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. (2002, September). Table 2: AIDS cases and annual rates per 100,000 population, by area and age group. *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 13 (2)*. Available online at [www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats/hasr1302.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats/hasr1302.htm).
- 22 Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration. (2000). *(NHSDA) National household survey on drug abuse*. Available online at [www.drugabusestatistics.samhsa.gov](http://www.drugabusestatistics.samhsa.gov). Washington, DC: Author.
- 23 U.S. Children's Bureau. (2002, August). *The AFCARS report*.
- 24 Ibid.
- 25 Children's Bureau. (2002, August). *Baselines for the Adoption Incentive Program for adoptions finalized in FY 2001*. Available from [www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/dis/adoptbase.htm](http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/dis/adoptbase.htm). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families.
- 26 U.S. Census Bureau. (2001, March). American Community Survey: *Supplementary survey change 2000–2001*. Available online at <http://blue.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/Chg/2001/SS01/index.htm>. Washington, DC: Author.