

# I O W A ' S C H I L D R E N 2 0 0 3

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

2,923,179\*

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

733,638\*

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

6.8%

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

7.4%

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

6.1%

\*Estimated

**C H I L D A B U S E A N D N E G L E C T**

- In 2000, 21,276 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Iowa, a rate of 29 per 1,000 children—a 24% decrease from 1990.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2000, 10,822 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Iowa, a rate of 14.8 per 1,000 children—a 11% increase from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 10.0 were neglected, 3.3 were physically abused, and 1.3 were sexually abused.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2000, 13 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>8</sup>
- On September 30, 2000, 5,068 children in Iowa lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 4,854 children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 19.9% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 25.2% were 16 or older.<sup>9</sup>

**C H I L D P O V E R T Y A N D I N C O M E S U P P O R T**

- The total number of individual TANF recipients in Iowa declined from 54,643 in December 2001 to 52,447 in June 2002, a decrease of 4.0%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 19,870, a 3.1% decrease from December 2001.<sup>10</sup>
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Iowa was 37% below the federal poverty level.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2000, Iowa spent \$165,411,110 in TANF funds, including 47.6% on cash assistance and 0.6% on transportation and support activities.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2000, 9,889 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.<sup>13</sup>
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Iowa was \$518 per month, or 62.9% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the federal minimum wage.<sup>14</sup>

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

- In 1999, 15,720 Iowa children were in subsidized child care—8% of all eligible children.<sup>15</sup>
- In 2001, 7,689 Iowa children were served by Head Start, a 5.9% increase from 2000.<sup>16</sup>
- In 1999, 89.7% of high school seniors graduated in Iowa, compared with 87.7% in 1998.<sup>17</sup>
- In 1998, 172,238 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—53.6% of the state's total enrollees.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2001, Iowa had 23,270 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—a 14.2% increase from 2000, when 19,958 children were enrolled.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 15 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.<sup>20</sup>
- As of December 2001, 1,392 adults and adolescents, as well as 10 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Iowa.<sup>21</sup>
- In 2000, an estimated 32,845 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Iowa.<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 5,414 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 78.4% were reunited with their birthfamilies.<sup>23</sup>
- Of the 5,068 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 0.7% were living with relatives while in care.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2001, 751 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Iowa, a .01% increase from 2000.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2001, more than 14,834 Iowa 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>.**

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