

# M A R Y L A N D ' S C H I L D R E N 2 0 0 3

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

5,375,156\*

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

1,356,172\*

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

5.5%

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

7%

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

6.8%

\*Estimated

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

- In 2000, 30,985 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Maryland, a rate of 22.8 per 1,000 children—a 34% decrease from 1990.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2000, 16,500 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Maryland, a rate of 12.2 per 1,000 children—a 7% increase from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 0.0 were neglected, 0.0 were physically abused, and 0.0 were sexually abused.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2000, 0 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>8</sup>
- On September 30, 2000, 13,113 children in Maryland lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 13,455 children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 23.3% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 20.4% 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 Maryland declined from 69,095 in December 2001 to 62,297 in June 2002, a decrease of 9.8%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 25,983, an 8.9% decrease from December 2001.<sup>10</sup>
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Maryland was 38% below the federal poverty level.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2000, Maryland spent \$332,954,840 in TANF funds, including 58.8% on cash assistance.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2000, 21,106 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.<sup>13</sup>
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Maryland was \$875 per month, or 106.2% 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, 22,070 Maryland children were in subsidized child care—8% of all eligible children.<sup>15</sup>
- In 2001, 10,487 Maryland children were served by Head Start, a 4.9% increase from 2000.<sup>16</sup>
- In 1999, 85.7% of high school seniors graduated in Maryland, compared with 84.7% in 1998.<sup>17</sup>
- In 1998, 338,566 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—56.1% of the state's total enrollees.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2001, Maryland had 109,983 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—a 15.4% increase from 2000, when 93,081 children were enrolled.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 39 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.<sup>20</sup>
- As of December 2001, 23,228 adults and adolescents, as well as 309 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Maryland.<sup>21</sup>
- In 2000, an estimated 80,734 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Maryland.<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 3,110 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 60.4% were reunited with their birthfamilies.<sup>23</sup>
- Of the 13,113 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 38.0% were living with relatives while in care.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2001, 528 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Maryland.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2001, more than 45,757 Maryland 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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