

NEBRASKA'S CHILDREN 2003

State Population (2001)¹

1,713,235*

State Population, Children Under 18 (2000)²

450,242*

State Poverty Rate (2001)³

7.3%

State Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2001)⁴

13%

State Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 (2001)⁵

12.5%

*Estimated

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2000, 6,186 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Nebraska, a rate of 13.7 per 1,000 children—a 60% decrease from 1990.⁶
- In 2000, 3,701 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Nebraska, a rate of 8.2 per 1,000 children—a 7% increase from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 5.8 were neglected, 1.9 were physically abused, and 0.9 were sexually abused.⁷
- In 2000, 0 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁸
- On September 30, 2000, 5,674 children in Nebraska lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 5,532 children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 20.4% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 29.6% were 16 or older.⁹

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individual TANF recipients in Nebraska increased from 24,935 in December 2001 to 25,738 in June 2002, an increase of 3.2%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 10,469, a 3.9% increase from December 2001.¹⁰
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Nebraska was 42% below the federal poverty level.¹¹
- In 2000, Nebraska spent \$77,341,397 in TANF funds, including 53.3% on cash assistance and 8.4% on child care.¹²
- In 2000, 2,525 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.¹³
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Nebraska was \$532 per month, or 64.6% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the federal minimum wage.¹⁴

CHILD CARE, HEALTH, AND FAMILY SUPPORT

- In 1999, 12,140 Nebraska children were in subsidized child care—11% of all eligible children.¹⁵
- In 2001, 4,982 Nebraska children were served by Head Start, an 8.2% increase from 2000.¹⁶
- In 1999, 90.4% of high school seniors graduated in Nebraska, compared with 87.7% in 1998.¹⁷
- In 1998, 132,063 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—62.8% of the state's total enrollees.¹⁸
- In 2001, Nebraska had 13,933 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—an 18.2% increase from 2000, when 11,400 children were enrolled.¹⁹
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 46 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.²⁰
- As of December 2001, 1,157 adults and adolescents, as well as 10 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Nebraska.²¹
- In 2000, an estimated 22,267 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Nebraska.²²

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 2,514 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 62.6% were reunited with their birthfamilies.²³
- Of the 5,674 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 12.2% were living with relatives while in care.²⁴
- In 2001, 282 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Nebraska, a .32% increase from 2000.²⁵
- In 2001, more than 9,658 Nebraska grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.²⁶

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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