

# NEVADA'S CHILDREN 2003

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

2,106,074\*

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

511,799\*

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

4.5%

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

8.7%

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

8.9%

\*Estimated

**CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

- In 2000, 12,797 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Nevada, a rate of 25 per 1,000 children—a 45% decrease from 1990.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2000, 5,775 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Nevada, a rate of 11.3 per 1,000 children—a 30% decrease from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 4.8 were neglected, 2.0 were physically abused, and 0.5 were sexually abused.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2000, 3 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>8</sup>
- On September 30, 2000, 1,615 children in Nevada lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 39.2% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 10.5% were 16 or older.<sup>9</sup>

**CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT**

- The total number of individual TANF recipients in Nevada increased from 25,589 in December 2001 to 28,655 in June 2002, an increase of 12.0%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 11,743, a 17.5% increase from December 2001.<sup>10</sup>
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Nevada was 43% below the federal poverty level.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2000, Nevada spent \$55,936,537 in TANF funds, including 31.3% on cash assistance, 3.1% on child care, 2.3% on transportation and support activities, and 63.3% on a range of other services.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2000, 970 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.<sup>13</sup>
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Nevada was \$808 per month, or 98.1% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the federal minimum wage.<sup>14</sup>

**CHILD CARE, HEALTH, AND FAMILY SUPPORT**

- In 1999, 5,900 Nevada children were in subsidized child care—6% of all eligible children.<sup>15</sup>
- In 2001, 2,694 Nevada children were served by Head Start, a 24.5% increase from 2000.<sup>16</sup>
- In 1999, 82.8% of high school seniors graduated in Nevada, compared with 89.1% in 1998.<sup>17</sup>
- In 1998, 80,747 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—61.8% of the state's total enrollees.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2001, Nevada had 28,026 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—a 43.1% increase from 2000, when 15,946 children were enrolled.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 30 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.<sup>20</sup>
- As of December 2001, 4,637 adults and adolescents, as well as 28 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Nevada.<sup>21</sup>
- In 2000, an estimated 27,941 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Nevada.<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 387 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 38.0% were reunited with their birthfamilies.<sup>23</sup>
- Of the 1,615 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 3.0% were living with relatives while in care.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2001, 229 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Nevada, a .08% increase from 2000.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2001, more than 13,397 Nevada 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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