

UTAH'S CHILDREN 2003

State Population (2001)¹

2,269,789*

State Population, Children Under 18 (2000)²

718,698*

State Poverty Rate (2001)³

8.7%

State Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2001)⁴

12.3%

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

10.8%

*Estimated

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2000, 15,680 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Utah, a rate of 21.8 per 1,000 children—a 35% decrease from 1990.⁶
- In 2000, 8,729 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Utah, a rate of 12.1 per 1,000 children—a 1% increase from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 3.6 were neglected, 1.9 were physically abused, and 2.4 were sexually abused.⁷
- In 2000, 12 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁸
- On September 30, 2000, 1,805 children in Utah lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 2,273 children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 25.1% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 19.2% were 16 or older.⁹

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individual TANF recipients in Utah declined from 20,003 in December 2001 to 19,346 in June 2002, a decrease of 3.3%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 7,585, a 2.7% decrease from December 2001.¹⁰
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Utah was 35% below the federal poverty level.¹¹
- In 2000, Utah spent \$90,567,489 in TANF funds, including 43.6% on cash assistance, 6.4% on child care, and 0.1% on transportation and support activities.¹²
- In 2000, 2,221 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.¹³
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Utah was \$683 per month, or 82.9% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the federal minimum wage.¹⁴

CHILD CARE, HEALTH, AND FAMILY SUPPORT

- In 1999, 13,260 Utah children were in subsidized child care—10% of all eligible children.¹⁵
- In 2001, 5,403 Utah children were served by Head Start, a 6.0% increase from 2000.¹⁶
- In 1999, 90.7% of high school seniors graduated in Utah, compared with 89.3% in 1998.¹⁷
- In 1998, 126,290 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—63.5% of the state's total enrollees.¹⁸
- In 2001, Utah had 34,655 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—a 27.0% increase from 2000, when 25,294 children were enrolled.¹⁹
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 21 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.²⁰
- As of December 2001, 2,076 adults and adolescents, as well as 21 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Utah.²¹
- In 2000, an estimated 36,474 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Utah.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 2,264 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 63.7% were reunited with their birthfamilies.²³
- Of the 1,805 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 3.3% were living with relatives while in care.²⁴
- In 2001, 369 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Utah.²⁵
- In 2001, more than 16,305 Utah 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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