

KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN 2004

Kentucky's Children At a Glance

State Population (2002) ¹	4,092,891
State Population, Children	
Under 18 (2001) ²	997,000
State Poverty Rate (2002) ³	14.2%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Under 18 (2002) ⁴	21.4%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Ages 5-17 (2002) ⁵	18.9%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Birth to Age 4 (2002) ⁶	24.0%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2001, 37,080 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Kentucky, a rate of 37.2 per 1,000 children.⁷
- In 2001, 15,826 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Kentucky, a rate of 16.6 per 1,000 children, representing a 15% decrease from 2000. Of every 1,000 children, 11.8 were neglected, 4.0 were physically abused, and 1.2 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2001, 37 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Kentucky.⁹
- On September 30, 2001, 6,141 children in Kentucky lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 6,152 children on September 30, 2000. In 2001, 27.2% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 19.3% were 16 or older.¹⁰
- On September 30, 2001, 4,549 white children, 1,172 black children, 55 Hispanic children, 6 American Indian/Alaskan Native children, and 189 children of other races and ethnicities were in out-of-home care in the state.¹¹

PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 3,599 children leaving out-of-home care in 2001, 70% were reunited with their families.¹²
- In 2001, 573 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Kentucky, a 158% increase from 222 in 1997.¹³
- Of the 6,141 children in out-of-home care in 2001, 2,503 or 41% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- Of the 6,141 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2001, 11% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁵
- In 2002, more than 39,911 Kentucky grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁶

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The number of people receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Kentucky declined from 77,477 in March 2002 to 76,688 in March 2003, a decrease of 1%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2003 was 34,861, a 0.1% decrease from March 2002.¹⁷
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and Food Stamp benefits in Kentucky was 51% below the federal poverty guideline.¹⁸
- In 2002, Kentucky spent \$206,644,157 in TANF funds, including 48.8% on cash assistance, 3.8% on child care, 2.3% on transportation and support activities, and 45.1% on nonassistance.¹⁹
- In 2001, Kentucky collected and distributed \$248,957,397 in child support funds, an increase of 9.9% from 2000.²⁰
- In 2003, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Kentucky was \$499 per month, or 61% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour.²¹

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Headquarters: 440 First Street NW, Third Floor, Washington DC 20001-2085 • 202/638-2952 • Fax 202/638-4004 • www.cwla.org

C H I L D C A R E A N D H E A D S T A R T

- In 2001, an estimated monthly average of 37,700 of Kentucky's children received subsidized child care, an increase from 36,100 in 2000 and 26,200 in 1999.²²
- In 2003, a family of three could make no more than 55% of Kentucky's median income, or \$24,144, to be eligible for subsidized child care.²³
- Due to the state budget shortfall, health care benefits for Head Start staff were suspended. Local programs are now forced to rely on their own budgets for the cost of these benefits, which means approximately 700 children from Head Start and 35 from early Head Start will not be served next year.²⁴
- In 2002, Head Start served 16,190 Kentucky children, a 1.4% decrease from 2001.²⁵
- In 2000, 75% of all 18- to 24-year-olds in Kentucky had at least a high school degree or equivalent.²⁶

H E A L T H , M E N T A L H E A L T H , A N D S U B S T A N C E A B U S E

- In 2000, 382,894 children younger than 18 were enrolled in Medicaid in Kentucky, representing 39.8% of Kentucky's total enrollees.²⁷
- In 2002, Kentucky had 93,941 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 40.6% increase from 2001, when 66,796 children were enrolled.²⁸
- In 2001, 91 babies in Kentucky were born to girls younger than 15. In 2001, the number of babies born to teens ages 15–19 was 7,120—a rate of 51 births per 1,000 girls.²⁹
- As of December 2002, 3,946 adults and adolescents, as well as 30 children younger than 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Kentucky.³⁰
- In 2002, 18 Kentucky children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 1.67 per 100,000 children in the population.³¹
- In 2001, an estimated 16,000 children ages 12–17, and 61,000 adults 18 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol.³²

J U V E N I L E J U S T I C E A N D D E L I N Q U E N C Y P R E V E N T I O N

- In 2001, two children younger than 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Kentucky, a 71% decrease from seven in 2000.³³
- In 2002, 5,717 children younger than 18 were arrested in Kentucky, a 19% decrease from 7,077 arrests in 1998. Of the arrests in 2002, 1,925 were for violent crimes and 60 were for possession of a weapon.³⁴
- A 1999 census of juvenile offenders showed 1,188 children in juvenile correction facilities in Kentucky.³⁵

F U N D I N G C H I L D W E L F A R E S E R V I C E S F O R K E N T U C K Y ' S C H I L D R E N

- In 2000, Kentucky spent \$270,772,981 for child welfare services—all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families.³⁶ Of this amount, 38% came from federal funds, and 62% from state funds; none came from local funds.³⁷
- In 2000, of the \$102,178,520 in federal funds received for child welfare, 53% came from the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance program, 8% from the Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs, 23% from the Social Services Block Grant, 10% from TANF, 4% from Supplemental Security Income, 1% from Survivors Benefits, and 1% from other federal sources.³⁸
- Of the 6,141 children in out-of-home care in Kentucky on September 30, 2001, only 3,192, or 52.0%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.³⁹

KENTUCKY'S CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

- The child welfare workforce is facing challenges in every state. A combination of high caseloads, high worker turnover, and low salaries impinges on the delivery of services to achieve safety, permanency, and child well-being.
- In 2000, the national average starting salary for child protective service workers was \$26,900; for direct service workers, \$27,500. The yearly turnover rate for these workers was 15.6% and 19.5%, respectively.⁴⁰
- In 2002, the median income in Kentucky for a family of four was \$51,249.⁴¹

Additional child welfare statistics, references, and pertinent notes are available on CWLA's National Data Analysis System at <http://ndas.cwla.org>.

REFERENCES

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census. (2002, September). *State and county quickfacts*. Available online at www.census.gov. Washington, DC: Author.
2. Children's Bureau. (2003). *Child maltreatment 2001*. Available online at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cm01/outcover.htm. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
3. U.S. Bureau of the Census. (2002). *POV46: Poverty status by state: 2002*. Available online at http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032003/pov/new46_100125_01.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. U.S. Bureau of the Census. (2003). *American community survey change profile 2001–2002*. Retrieved online, January 5, 2004, from www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/Chg/2002/0102/Tabular/040/04000US013.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
7. Children's Bureau, *Child maltreatment 2001*.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Children's Bureau. (2002, August). *The AFCARS report: Interim estimates for FY 2000 as of August 2002*. Available online at www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/afcars/report7.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
11. National Data Analysis System. (n.d.). Number of children in out-of-home care by race and ethnicity. Table available online at <http://ndas.cwla.org>. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America (CWLA).
12. Children's Bureau, *The AFCARS report*.
13. Children's Bureau. (2003, October). *Adoptions of children with public child welfare agency involvement by state FY 1995–FY 2002*. Available online at www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/dis/adoptchild03b.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
14. Ibid.
15. Ibid.
16. U.S. Bureau of the Census. (2002). *American factfinder*. Available online at http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en. Washington, DC: Author.
17. Administration for Children and Families. (2003, March). *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: Total number of families and recipients*. Table available online at www.acf.hhs.gov/news/stats/Mar02-Mar03.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
18. Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation. (2002). *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program: Fourth annual report to Congress*. Available online at www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/ar2001/indexar.htm. Washington, DC: HHS; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. (2001). *The 2001 HHS poverty guidelines*. Available online at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/01poverty.htm>. Washington, DC: HHS; Food Research and Action Center. (2000). *Federal food program fiscal year 2004 eligibility limits*. Available online at www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/programs/fsp_limits2002.html. Washington, DC: Author.
19. Administration for Children and Families. (2002). *TANF financial data: Table F—Combined spending of federal and states funds expended in FY 2002 through the fourth quarter*. Available online at www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ofs/data/tableF_2002.html. Washington, DC: HHS.
20. Office of Child Support Enforcement. (2002). *State box scores: FY 2001 annual statistical report*. Available online at www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2003/reports/statistical_report/statebox.html. Washington, DC: HHS.
21. Pitcoff, W.; Crowley, S.; Schaffer, K.; & Dolbeare, C.N. (2002). *Rental housing for America's poor families: Farther out of reach than ever*. Available online at www.nlihc.org/oor2002. Washington, DC: National Low Income Housing Coalition; Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division. (2003, July). *Minimum wage laws in the states*. Table available online at www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/america.htm. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor.
22. Child Care Bureau. (2003). *FFY 2001 CCDF Data tables and charts*. Available online at www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ccb/research/01acf800/childser1.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
23. Ibid.
24. Children's Defense Fund. (2002, September 5). *Low-income families bear the burden of state child care cutbacks*. Available online at www.childrensdefense.org/head-resources.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
25. Head Start Bureau. (2003). *Head Start program fact sheet*. Available online at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/2003.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
26. U.S. Bureau of the Census, *American factfinder*.
27. Tang, S.S., & Yudkowsky, B.K. (2003). *Medicaid (Title XIX and Title XXI) state reports—FY 2000*. Available online at www.aap.org/research/medic00.htm. Washington, DC: American Academy of Pediatrics.

28. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (2003). SCHIP preliminary annual enrollment report for fiscal year 2002. Table available online at www.cms.hhs.gov/schip/enrollment. Washington, DC: HHS.
29. Martin, J.A.; Hamilton, B.E.; Ventura, S.J.; Menaker, F.; Park, M.M.; & Sutton, P.D. (2002). Births: Final data for 2001 (Table 10). *National Vital Statistics Reports*, 51 (2). Available online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/nvsr/51/51-12.htm. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.
30. National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, Divisions of HIV/AIDS Prevention. (2002, December). Table 14: AIDS cases and rates (per 100,000 population), by area of residence and age category, reported through December 2002—United States. Available online at www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats/hasr1402/table14.htm. Atlanta: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
31. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (2004). *Injury mortality reports, 1999–2001*. Available online at http://webapp.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_fy.html. Atlanta: CDC.
32. Office of Applied Studies, National Household Survey on Drug Abuse. (2000). *Substance abuse and mental health statistics*. Available online at www.drugabusestatistics.samhsa.gov. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.
33. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, *Injury mortality reports, 1999–2001*.
34. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). (2003). *Crime in the United States*. Available online at www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius_02/xl/02tbl69.xls. Washington, DC: Author; FBI. (1999). *Crime in the United States*. Available online at www.fbi.gov/ucr/Cius_98/98crime/98cius28.pdf. Washington, DC: Author.
35. Adapted from Sickmund, M. (in press). *Juveniles in corrections*. Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
36. Examples of direct services include child abuse and neglect investigations, foster care, community-based programs, case management, and all such services required for the safety, permanency, and well-being of children. Examples of administrative services include management information systems, training programs, eligibility determination processes, and all services that provide the infrastructure supports for the public agency.
37. Urban Institute. (2001). *Protecting vulnerable children: Changes in state financing of child welfare services (1998–2000)*. Table available online at www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/900609.pdf. Washington, DC: Author.
38. Ibid.
39. National Data Analysis System. (n.d.). Number of children in out-of-home care. Table available online at <http://ndas.cwla.org>. Washington, DC: CWLA.
40. Drais-Parillo, A. (2002). *2001 salary study*. Washington, DC: CWLA Press.
41. U.S. Bureau of the Census. (2003, October). *Median income for 4-person families, by state*. Available online at www.census.gov/hhes/income/4person.html. Washington, DC: Author.