

MARYLAND'S CHILDREN 2004

Maryland's Children At a Glance

State Population (2002) ¹	5,458,137
State Population, Children	
Under 18 (2001) ²	1,372,000
State Poverty Rate (2002) ³	7.4%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Under 18 (2002) ⁴	7.4%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Ages 5-17 (2002) ⁵	7.7%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Birth to Age 4 (2002) ⁶	13.1%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2001, 32,259 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Maryland, a rate of 23.5 per 1,000 children.⁷
- In 2001, 19,750 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Maryland, a rate of 14.4 per 1,000 children, representing a 20% increase from 2000. Of every 1,000 children, 8.2 were neglected, 4.5 were physically abused, and 1.8 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2001, 27 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Maryland.⁹
- On September 30, 2001, 12,564 children in Maryland lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 13,113 children on September 30, 2000. In 2001, 23.3% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 20.4% were 16 or older.¹⁰
- On September 30, 2001, 2,449 white children, 9,784 black children, 167 Hispanic children, 17 American Indian/Alaskan Native children, and 314 children of other races and ethnicities were in out-of-home care in the state.¹¹

PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 3,064 children leaving out-of-home care in 2001, 60% were reunited with their families.¹²
- In 2001, 815 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Maryland, a 181% increase from 290 in 1997.¹³
- Of the 12,564 children in out-of-home care in 2001, 4,189 or 33% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- Of the 12,564 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2001, 35% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁵
- In 2002, more than 48,410 Maryland 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 Maryland declined from 67,220 in March 2002 to 62,066 in March 2003, a decrease of 7.7%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2003 was 26,008, a 6.7% decrease from March 2002.¹⁷
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and Food Stamp benefits in Maryland was 38% below the federal poverty guideline.¹⁸
- In 2002, Maryland spent \$427,766,845 in TANF funds, including 53.0% on cash assistance and 47.0% on nonassistance.¹⁹
- In 2001, Maryland collected and distributed \$379,403,201 in child support funds, an increase of 3.1% from 2000.²⁰
- In 2003, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Maryland was \$980 per month, or 119% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour.²¹

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 21,200 of Maryland's children received subsidized child care, an increase from 19,500 in 2000 and 22,200 in 1999.²²
- In 2003, a family of three could make no more than 40% of Maryland's median income, or \$25,140, to be eligible for subsidized child care.²³
- Due to the state budget shortfall, the Maryland Child Care Administration saw its proposed FY 2003 budget cut by \$3.5 million, and it lost five staff positions. This agency is responsible for administering Maryland's child care subsidy program.²⁴
- In 2002, Head Start served 10,527 Maryland children, a 0.4% increase from 2001.²⁵
- In 2000, 80% of all 18- to 24-year-olds in Maryland 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, 403,372 children younger than 18 were enrolled in Medicaid in Maryland, representing 30.6% of Maryland's total enrollees.²⁷
- In 2002, Maryland had 125,180 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 13.8% increase from 2001, when 109,983 children were enrolled.²⁸
- In 2001, 161 babies in Maryland were born to girls younger than 15. In 2001, the number of babies born to teens ages 15–19 was 6,756—a rate of 38 births per 1,000 girls.²⁹
- As of December 2002, 25,045 adults and adolescents, as well as 313 children younger than 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Maryland.³⁰
- In 2002, 32 Maryland children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.12 per 100,000 children in the population.³¹
- In 2001, an estimated 23,000 children ages 12–17, and 80,000 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, 29 children younger than 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Maryland, a 16% increase from 25 in 2000.³³
- In 2002, 25,518 children younger than 18 were arrested in Maryland, a 50% decrease from 50,982 arrests in 1998. Of the arrests in 2002, 7,229 were for violent crimes and 500 were for possession of a weapon.³⁴
- A 1999 census of juvenile offenders showed 1,579 children in juvenile correction facilities in Maryland.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 M A R Y L A N D ' S C H I L D R E N

- In 2000, Maryland spent \$355,526,643 for child welfare services—all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families.³⁶ Of this amount, 46% came from federal funds, and 54% from state funds; none came from local funds.³⁷
- In 2000, of the \$164,003,824 in federal funds received for child welfare, 65% came from the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance program, 5% from the Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs, 5% from Medicaid, 11% from the Social Services Block Grant, 12% from TANF, and 1% from other federal sources.³⁸
- Of the 12,564 children in out-of-home care in Maryland on September 30, 2001, only 5,514, or 43.9%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.³⁹

MARYLAND'S CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

- The child welfare workforce is facing challenges in every state. A combination of high case-loads, 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 2000, a caseworker in Maryland responsible for investigating and assessing child abuse and neglect carried an estimated caseload of 14 families. A caseworker responsible for providing in-home services carried an estimated caseload of 7 families. In-home services include parent support programs, child day care, community-based counseling, and other services to enable children to live safely in their own homes.⁴¹
- In 2000, the minimum annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of child abuse and neglect in Maryland was \$29,484.⁴²
- In 2002, the median income in Maryland for a family of four was \$77,562.⁴³

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

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