

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CHILDREN 2004

New Hampshire's Children At a Glance

State Population (2002) ¹	1,275,056
State Population, Children	
Under 18 (2001) ²	314,000
State Poverty Rate (2002) ³	5.8%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Under 18 (2002) ⁴	5.8%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Ages 5-17 (2002) ⁵	6.1%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Birth to Age 4 (2002) ⁶	8.3%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2001, 8,426 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in New Hampshire, a rate of 26.8 per 1,000 children.⁷
- In 2001, 1,102 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in New Hampshire, a rate of 3.5 per 1,000 children, representing a 31% increase from 2000. Of every 1,000 children, 2.2 were neglected, 0.7 were physically abused, and 0.8 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2001, one child died as a result of abuse or neglect in New Hampshire.⁹
- On September 30, 2001, 1,288 children in New Hampshire lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 1,342 children on September 30, 2000. In 2001, 22.1% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 16.6% were 16 or older.¹⁰
- On September 30, 2001, 1,158 white children, 51 black children, 65 Hispanic children, 4 American Indian/Alaskan Native children, and 69 children of other races and ethnicities were in out-of-home care in the state.¹¹

PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 468 children leaving out-of-home care in 2001, 55% were reunited with their families.¹²
- In 2001, 95 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in New Hampshire, a 296% increase from 24 in 1997.¹³
- Of the 1,288 children in out-of-home care in 2001, 320 or 25% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴
- Of the 1,288 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2001, 11% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁵
- In 2002, more than 5,901 New Hampshire 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 New Hampshire increased from 14,823 in March 2002 to 15,061 in March 2003, an increase of 1.6%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2003 was 6,321, a 2.8% increase from March 2002.¹⁷
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and Food Stamp benefits in New Hampshire was 25% below the federal poverty guideline.¹⁸
- In 2002, New Hampshire spent \$72,197,488 in TANF funds, including 40.4% on cash assistance, 11.5% on a range of other services, and 48.1% on nonassistance.¹⁹
- In 2001, New Hampshire collected and distributed \$73,225,761 in child support funds, an increase of 2.6% from 2000.²⁰
- In 2003, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in New Hampshire was \$857 per month, or 104% 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 6,600 of New Hampshire's children received subsidized child care, an increase from 3,900 in 2000 and 6,800 in 1999.²²
- In 2003, a family of three could make no more than 62% of New Hampshire's median income, or \$31,776, to be eligible for subsidized child care.²³
- Despite the state budget shortfall, New Hampshire has not implemented nor proposed any child care cuts.²⁴
- In 2002, Head Start served 1,632 New Hampshire children.²⁵
- In 2000, 78% of all 18- to 24-year-olds in New Hampshire 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, 64,580 children younger than 18 were enrolled in Medicaid in New Hampshire, representing 21.2% of New Hampshire's total enrollees.²⁷
- In 2002, New Hampshire had 8,138 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 36.0% increase from 2001, when 5,982 children were enrolled.²⁸
- In 2001, seven babies in New Hampshire were born to girls younger than 15. In 2001, the number of babies born to teens ages 15–19 was 914—a rate of 21 births per 1,000 girls.²⁹
- As of December 2002, 951 adults and adolescents, as well as 9 children younger than 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in New Hampshire.³⁰
- In 2002, 13 New Hampshire children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.79 per 100,000 children in the population.³¹
- In 2001, an estimated 7,000 children ages 12–17, and 18,000 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, no children younger than 18 were killed in firearm homicides in New Hampshire, compared with one in 2000.³³
- In 2002, 7,165 children younger than 18 were arrested in New Hampshire, a 14% increase from 6,308 arrests in 1998. Of the arrests in 2002, 1,146 were for violent crimes and 15 were for possession of a weapon.³⁴
- A 1999 census of juvenile offenders showed 216 children in juvenile correction facilities in New Hampshire.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 N E W H A M P S H I R E ' S C H I L D R E N

- In 2000, New Hampshire spent \$63,621,487 for child welfare services—all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families.³⁶ Of this amount, 43% came from federal funds, 41% from state funds, and 17% from local funds.³⁷
- In 2000, of the \$27,051,867 in federal funds received for child welfare, 47% came from the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance program, 3% from the Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs, 2% from Medicaid, 8% from the Social Services Block Grant, 36% from TANF, 2% from Supplemental Security Income, 2% from Survivors Benefits, and 1% from other federal sources.³⁸
- Of the 1,288 children in out-of-home care in New Hampshire on September 30, 2001, only 499, or 38.7%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.³⁹

NEW HAMPSHIRE'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 2000, a caseworker in New Hampshire responsible for investigating and assessing child abuse and neglect carried an estimated caseload of 74 families.⁴¹
- In 2000, the minimum annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of child abuse and neglect in New Hampshire was \$24,239.⁴²
- In 2002, the median income in New Hampshire for a family of four was \$71,661.⁴³

**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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