

# INDIANA'S CHILDREN 2005

## Indiana's Children At a Glance

State Population (2003) <sup>1</sup> .....	6,195,643
State Population, Children Under 18 (2003) <sup>2</sup> .....	1,603,901
State Poverty Rate (2003) <sup>3</sup> .....	10.6%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2003) <sup>4</sup> .....	13.5%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17 (2003) <sup>5</sup> .....	11.5%
Poverty Rate, Children Birth to Age 4 (2003) <sup>6</sup> .....	17.9%

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2002, 50,163 children were referred for investigation of child abuse and neglect in Indiana, a rate of 31.4 per 1,000 children.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2002, 20,416 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Indiana, a rate of 12.8 per 1,000 children, representing a 3% decrease from 2000. Of these children, 66.6% were neglected, 17.8% were physically abused, and 20.6% were sexually abused.<sup>8</sup>
- In 2002, 58 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Indiana.<sup>9</sup>
- On September 30, 2002, 8,640 children in Indiana lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 8,383 children on September 30, 2001. In 2002, 34.6% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 16.0% were 16 or older.<sup>10</sup>
- On September 30, 2002, 55.0% white children, 35.8% black children, 5.0% Hispanic children, 0.3% American Indian/Alaskan Native children, and 4.0% children of other races and ethnicities were living in out-of-home care in Indiana.<sup>11</sup>

## PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 4,590 children exiting out-of-home care in 2002, 57.8% were reunited with their birthfamilies.<sup>12</sup>
- In 2002, 920 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Indiana, a 4.8% increase from 878 in 2001.<sup>13</sup>
- Of the 8,640 children in out-of-home care in 2002, 2,364 or 27.4% were waiting to be adopted.<sup>14</sup>

## KINSHIP SUPPORT

- In 2003, more than 44,734 Indiana grandparents had primary responsibility for caring for their grandchildren.<sup>15</sup>
- Of the 8,640 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2002, 13.3% were living with relatives while in care.<sup>16</sup>
- Of all Indiana children in kinship care on September 30, 2002, 38.4% were white, 53.8% were black, 2.3% were Hispanic, 0.3% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 5.3% were other races.<sup>17</sup>

## CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of *individuals* receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Indiana increased from 138,460 in March 2002 to 140,571 in March 2003, an increase of 1.5%. The number of *families* receiving TANF in March 2003 was 52,796, a 7.3% increase from March 2002.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamps in Indiana was 48% below the federal poverty guideline.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2003, Indiana spent \$313,333,869 in TANF funds, including 44.4% on cash assistance, -4.5% on transportation and support activities, and 60.1% on nonassistance.<sup>20</sup> (A negative percentage could represent funds the state has carried over from a previous year; therefore, it may appear the state has overspent its annual funds.)

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- In 2002, Indiana collected and distributed \$430,195,033 in child support funds, an increase of 17.3% from 2001.<sup>21</sup>
- In 2003, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Indiana was \$572 per month, or 69% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour.<sup>22</sup>

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

- In 2001, Indiana served an estimated monthly average of 38,100 children with subsidized child care, an increase from 2000, when 24,500 children were served, and in 1999, when 20,200 children were served.<sup>23</sup>
- In 2003, a family of three could make no more than 37% of Indiana's median income, or \$26,484, to be eligible for subsidized child care.<sup>24</sup>
- In 2001, Indiana had 14,043 children on the waiting list for subsidized child care.<sup>25</sup>
- In 2003, 14,148 Indiana children were served by Head Start, the same as in 2002.<sup>26</sup>

#### H E A L T H A N D S U B S T A N C E A B U S E

- In 2001, 459,769 Indiana children under age 19 were enrolled in Medicaid, representing 59.6% of the total number of enrollees.<sup>27</sup>
- In 2003, Indiana had 73,762 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an 11.4% increase from 2002, when 66,225 children were enrolled.<sup>28</sup>
- In 2002, 170 babies were born to girls younger than 15 in Indiana. In 2002, the number of babies born to teens ages 15–19 was 9,594, reflecting a rate of 44.6 births per 1,000 girls.<sup>29</sup>
- As of December 2002, 6,950 adults and adolescents, as well as 53 children under age 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Indiana.<sup>30</sup>
- In 2001, 44 children under age 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.49 per 100,000 children in the population.<sup>31</sup>
- In 2002, an estimated 58,000 children ages 12–17, and 441,000 adults 18 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol.<sup>32</sup>

#### V U L N E R A B L E Y O U T H

- In 2003, 11% of teens ages 16–19 were high school dropouts, a 2% decrease from 2000.<sup>33</sup>
- In 2002, 17% of young adults ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.<sup>34</sup>

#### 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, 14 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Indiana, compared with 18 in 2000.<sup>35</sup>
- In 2003, 33,746 children under age 18 were arrested in Indiana, a decrease from 33,841 arrests in 2002. Of the 2003 arrests, 1,716 were for violent crimes and 151 were for possession of weapons.<sup>36</sup>
- A 2001 census of juvenile offenders showed 3,235 children in juvenile correction facilities in Indiana.<sup>37</sup>

#### 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 I N D I A N A ' S C H I L D R E N

- In 2002, Indiana spent \$383,761,912 for child welfare services. Child welfare services refer to all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families.<sup>38</sup> Of this amount, 28% was from federal funds, 5% was from state funds, and 67% was from local funds.<sup>39</sup>

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## C H I L D W E L F A R E L E A G U E O F A M E R I C A

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- In 2002, of the \$383,761,912 spent for child welfare, 17% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 2% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 4% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 3% was from TANF, 2% was from Survivors Benefits, and 1% was from other federal sources. The remaining funds (72%) came from state and local sources.<sup>40</sup>
- Out of 8,640 children in out-of-home care in Indiana on September 30, 2002, only 3,706 or 43% received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.<sup>41</sup>

## INDIANA'S CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

- A 2003 General Accounting Office (GAO) report documented that staff shortages, high caseloads, high worker turnover and low salaries impinge on delivering services to achieve safety, permanence, and well being for children.<sup>42</sup>
- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have clearly demonstrated that the more time a caseworker spends with a child and family, the better the outcomes for those children and families.<sup>43</sup>
- According to the 2003 GAO report, the average caseload for child welfare/foster care caseworkers is 24–31 children and that these high caseloads contribute to high worker turnover and insufficient services being provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.<sup>44</sup>

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