

M I C H I G A N ' S C H I L D R E N 2 0 0 5

Michigan's Children At a Glance

State Population (2003) ¹	10,079,985
State Population, Children	
Under 18 (2003) ²	2,538,920
State Poverty Rate (2003) ³	11.4%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Under 18 (2003) ⁴	16.0%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Ages 5-17 (2003) ⁵	13.7%
Poverty Rate, Children	
Birth to Age 4 (2003) ⁶	19.3%

C H I L D A B U S E A N D N E G L E C T

- In 2002, 190,164 children were referred for investigation of child abuse and neglect in Michigan, a rate of 74.3 per 1,000 children.⁷
- In 2002, 28,830 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Michigan, a rate of 11.2 per 1,000 children, representing a 1% increase from 2000. Of these children, 69.2% were neglected, 19.8% were physically abused, and 5.8% were sexually abused.⁸
- On September 30, 2002, 21,251 children in Michigan lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 20,896 children on September 30, 2001. In 2002, 30.2% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 18.5% were 16 or older.⁹
- On September 30, 2002, 39.8% white children, 52.1% black children, 3.5% Hispanic children, 1.2% American Indian/Alaskan Native children, and 3.5% children of other races and ethnicities were living in out-of-home care in Michigan.¹⁰

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 9,827 children exiting out-of-home care in 2002, 61.0% were reunited with their birthfamilies.¹¹
- In 2002, 2,847 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Michigan, a 4.4% decrease from 2,979 in 2001.¹²
- Of the 21,251 children in out-of-home care in 2002, 6,871 or 32.3% were waiting to be adopted.¹³

K I N S H I P S U P P O R T

- In 2003, more than 64,061 Michigan grandparents had primary responsibility for caring for their grandchildren.¹⁴
- Of the 21,251 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2002, 28.4% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁵
- Of all Michigan children in kinship care on September 30, 2002, 33.2% were white, 59.7% were black, 3.2% were Hispanic, 0.9% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 3.0% were other races.¹⁶

C H I L D P O V E R T Y A N D I N C O M E S U P P O R T

- The total number of *individuals* receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Michigan declined from 215,764 in March 2002 to 202,469 in March 2003, a decrease of 6.2%. The number of *families* receiving TANF in March 2003 was 75,706, a 4.1% decrease from March 2002.¹⁷
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamps in Michigan was 34% below the federal poverty guideline.¹⁸
- In 2003, Michigan spent \$1,204,714,792 in TANF funds, including 32.3% on cash assistance, 2.2% on child care, and 65.5% on nonassistance.¹⁹
- In 2002, Michigan collected and distributed \$1,443,730,382 in child support funds, an increase of 4.2% from 2001.²⁰
- In 2003, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Michigan was \$692 per month, or 84% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the state minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour.²¹

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

- In 2001, Michigan served an estimated monthly average of 50,100 children with subsidized child care, an increase from 2000, when 28,000 children were served, and in 1999, when 52,300 children were served.²²
- In 2003, a family of three could make no more than 41% of Michigan's median income, or \$26,064, to be eligible for subsidized child care.²³
- In 2001, Michigan had no children on the waiting list for subsidized child care.²⁴
- In 2003, 35,099 Michigan children were served by Head Start, a 0.5% decrease from 2002.²⁵

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, 741,491 Michigan children under age 19 were enrolled in Medicaid, representing 54.8% of the total number of enrollees.²⁶
- In 2003, Michigan had 77,467 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 7.8% increase from 2002, when 71,882 children were enrolled.²⁷
- In 2002, 111 babies were born to girls younger than 15 in Michigan. In 2002, the number of babies born to teens ages 15–19 was 12,261, reflecting a rate of 34.8 births per 1,000 girls.²⁸
- As of December 2002, 12,535 adults and adolescents, as well as 110 children under age 13, had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Michigan.²⁹
- In 2001, 72 children under age 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.52 per 100,000 children in the population.³⁰
- In 2002, an estimated 86,000 children ages 12–17, and 786,000 adults 18 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol.³¹

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

- In 2003, 6% of teens ages 16–19 were high school dropouts, a 4% decrease from 2000.³²
- In 2002, 14% of young adults ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.³³

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, 30 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Michigan, compared with 26 in 2000.³⁴
- In 2003, 43,681 children under age 18 were arrested in Michigan, a 5% decrease from 46,096 arrests in 2002. Of the 2003 arrests, 1,922 were for violent crimes and 616 were for possession of weapons.³⁵
- A 2001 census of juvenile offenders showed 3,504 children in juvenile correction facilities in Michigan.³⁶

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

- In 2002, Michigan spent \$760,995,545 for child welfare services. Child welfare services refer to all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families.³⁷ Of this amount, 61% was from federal funds, 35% was from state funds, and 4% was from local funds.³⁸
- In 2002, of the \$760,995,545 spent for child welfare, 32% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 3% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 6% came from the Social Services Block Grant, 19% was from TANF, and 1% was from other federal sources. The remaining funds (39%) came from state and local sources.³⁹

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- Out of 21,251 children in out-of-home care in Michigan on September 30, 2002, only 7,564 or 36% received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴⁰

M I C H I G A N ' S C H I L D W E L F A R E W O R K F O R C E

- 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.⁴¹
- 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.⁴²
- 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.⁴³

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