

HAWAII'S CHILDREN 2007

Hawaii's Children At a Glance

State Population ¹	1,275,194
Population, Children Under 18 ²	299,852
State Poverty Rate ³	8.6
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	12.7
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17 ⁵	12.4
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	11.8

All statistics are for 2005.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2004, Hawaii had 6,808 total referrals of child abuse and neglect. Of those, 3,608 reports were referred for investigation.⁷
- In 2004, 3,629 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Hawaii, a rate of 12.1 per 1,000 children, and representing a 10.3% decrease from 2003. Of these children, 15.1% were neglected, 11.0% were physically abused, and 5.4% were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2004, six children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Hawaii.⁹
- On September 30, 2004, 2,953 children in Hawaii lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 2,967 children on September 30, 2003. In 2004, 37.7% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 11.3% were 16 or older.¹⁰
- Of the children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2004, 8.6% were white, 0.9% were black, 2.3% were Hispanic, 0.3% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 87.9% were children of other races and ethnicities.¹¹

PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 2,199 children exiting out-of-home care in 2004, 61.9% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹²
- In 2004, 375 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Hawaii, a 15.2% increase from 318 in 2003.¹³
- Of the 2,953 children in out-of-home care in 2004, 934 or 31.6% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴

KINSHIP SUPPORT

- In 2005, approximately 14,233 Hawaii grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁵
- Of the 2,953 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2004, 39.2% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁶
- Of all Hawaii children in kinship care on September 30, 2004, 5.0% were white, 0.2% were black, 2.2% were Hispanic, 0.3% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 92.2% were of other races.¹⁷

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CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Hawaii decreased from 20,713 in March 2005 to 17,407 in March 2006, a decrease of 19.0%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2006 was 6,935 , a 17.8% decrease from March 2005.¹⁸
- In 2002, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Hawaii was at 54.3% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁹
- In 2004, Hawaii spent \$127,601,295 in TANF funds, including 68.4% on basic assistance, and 31.6% on nonassistance.²⁰
- In 2005, Hawaii collected and distributed \$83,583,548 in child support funds, an increase of 3.4% from 2004.²¹
- In 2005, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Hawaii was \$1,159 per month. The wage necessary to afford this two-bedroom apartment was \$22.30 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²²

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2005, Hawaii had an estimated monthly average of 8,900 children served by subsidized child care; 10,000 children received subsidized child care in 2004, and 11,200 in 2003.²³
- In 2006, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Hawaii, a family of three could make no more than \$47,124, which is equivalent to 79% of the state's median income.²⁴
- In 2006, Hawaii had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁵
- In 2005, Head Start served 3,049 Hawaii children, a 0.5% decrease from 2004.²⁶

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2002, 92,200 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Hawaii, representing 46.5% of the total number of enrollees.²⁷
- In 2001, 5,045 foster and adopted children were enrolled in Medicaid in Hawaii, representing 5.7% of all children in Medicaid.²⁸
- In 2001, Hawaii spent \$7,817,237 on Medicaid services for children in foster care, and \$1,550 on Medicaid services per foster care enrollee.²⁹
- In 2005, Hawaii had 20,602 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 7.1% increase from 2004, when 19,237 children were enrolled.³⁰
- In 2003, 1,554 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Hawaii a ranking of 12 nationally in number of low-weight births (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³¹

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- In 2003, 136 infants younger than 1 year died in Hawaii, giving the state a ranking of 11 nationally in infant mortality rates (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³²
- In 2004, the birth rate for teens age 15–17 in Hawaii was 18.5 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 61.8. This reflects a total rate of 36.1 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³³
- Cumulative through 2004, 2,753 adults and adolescents, as well as 17 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Hawaii.³⁴
- In 2004, an estimated 10,000 children age 12–17, and 53,000 adults 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Hawaii.³⁵

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2004, 147 children aged-out of out-of-home care in Hawaii.³⁶
- In 2004, 2,000 Hawaii teens age 16–19 were high school dropouts.³⁷
- In 2004, 10% of teens age 16–19 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.³⁸
- In 2004, approximately 6,000 children age 12–17 in Hawaii needed, but had not received, treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.³⁹
- In 2004, approximately 7,000 children age 12–17 needed, but had not received, treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2003, 10 children and youth younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 3.02 per 100,000 children.⁴¹

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2003, one child under age 18 was killed in firearm homicides in Hawaii, compared with none in 2002.⁴²
- In 2005, 8,261 children younger than 18 were arrested in Hawaii, a 13.4% decrease from 9,542 arrests in 2004. Of the arrests in 2005, 232 were for violent crimes and 33 were for possession of a weapon.⁴³
- A 2003 census of juvenile offenders showed 129 children in juvenile correction facilities in Hawaii.⁴⁴

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR HAWAII'S CHILDREN

- In 2004, Hawaii spent \$94,984,135 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families.⁴⁵ Of this amount, 43% was from federal funds, and 57% was from state funds.⁴⁶

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- In 2004, of the \$40,690,441 in federal funds received for child welfare, 64% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 18% came from the Social Services Block Grant, and 3% came from other federal sources.⁴⁷
- Out of 2,953 children in out-of-home care in Hawaii on September 30, 2004, only 1,253, or 42.4%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴⁸

HAWAII'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.⁴⁹
- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have demonstrated clearly that the more time a caseworker spends with a child and family, the better the outcomes for those children and families.⁵⁰
- According to the 2003 GAO report, the average caseload for child welfare/foster care caseworkers is 24–31 children; these high caseloads contribute to high worker turnover and insufficient services provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.⁵¹
- In 2004, the minimum annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect in Hawaii was \$42,348; the median income for a family of four was \$71,320.⁵²

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