

HAWAII'S CHILDREN 2008

Hawaii's Children At a Glance

State Population ¹	1,285,498
Population, Children Under 18 ²	299,852
State Poverty Rate ³	9.2
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	10.5
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17 ⁵	9
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	11

All statistics are for 2006.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2005, Hawaii had 12,656 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 2,733 reports were referred for investigation.⁷
- In 2005, 1,510 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Hawaii, a rate of 9.2 per 1,000 children, and representing a 31.5% decrease from 2004. Of these children, 15% were neglected, 11.1% were physically abused, and 5.6% were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2005, 2 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in Hawaii.⁹
- In 2005, 2,766 children in Hawaii lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 2,953 children in 2004. In 2005, 38.4% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 12.2% were 16 or older.¹⁰
- Of the children in out-of-home care in 2005, 8.6% were white, 0.5% black, 3% Hispanic, 0.4% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 87.6% children of other races and ethnicities.¹¹

PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 2,036 children exiting out-of-home care in 2005, 55.2% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹²
- In 2005, 452 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Hawaii, a 17% increase from 375 in 2004.¹³
- Of the 2,766 children in out-of-home care in 2005, 901, or 32.6%, were waiting to be adopted.¹⁴

KINSHIP SUPPORT

- In 2005, approximately 12,730 Hawaii grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁵
- Of the 2,766 children in out-of-home care in 2005, 41.2% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁶
- Of all Hawaii children in kinship care in 2005, 4.1% were white, 0.3% were black, 3.6% were Hispanic, 0.4% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 91.6% were other races.¹⁷

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Hawaii decreased from 16,894 in March 2006 to 14,376 in March 2007, a decrease of 10.5%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2007 was 5,893, a 23.2% decrease from March 2006.¹⁸

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- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Hawaii was at 54% of the federal poverty level.¹⁹
- In 2006, Hawaii spent \$156,407,754 in TANF funds, including 54.1% on basic assistance, 45.9% on nonassistance, and none on child care and transportation.²⁰
- In 2006, Hawaii collected and distributed \$87,502,455 in child support funds, an increase of 4.7% from 2005.²¹
- In 2006, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Hawaii was \$1,224 per month. The wage necessary to afford this two-bedroom apartment was \$23.53 per hour working a 40-hour week.²²

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

- 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 2007, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Hawaii a family of three could make no more than \$47,124, which is equivalent to 76% of the state's median income.²⁴
- In 2007, no children in Hawaii were on the state's waiting list for child care assistance.²⁵
- In 2006, Head Start served 3,049 Hawaii children, the same as in 2005.²⁶

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

- In 2004, 102,300 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Hawaii, representing 45.8% of the total number of enrollees.²⁷
- In 2004, 6,829 children were enrolled in Medicaid in Hawaii on the basis of being in foster care.²⁸
- In 2004, Hawaii spent \$13,669,563 on Medicaid services for children in foster care, and \$2,002 per foster care enrollee on Medicaid services.²⁹
- Hawaii reported spending \$3,266 of its total Medicaid spending in 2004 for children in foster care on targeted case management services.³⁰
- Hawaii reported spending \$0 of its total Medicaid expenditures in 2004 for foster children on rehabilitative services.³¹
- In 2006, Hawaii had 22,031 children enrolled in its Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), a 6.49% increase from 2005, when 20,602 children were enrolled.³²
- In 2004, 1,442 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Hawaii a rank of 21 nationally in percent of low-weight births (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³³
- In 2004, 104 infants younger than age 1 died in Hawaii, giving it a rank of 15 nationally in infant mortality rates (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³⁴
- In 2004, the birth rate for teens 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 15–19.³⁵

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

- Cumulative through 2005, 1,172 adults and adolescents, as well as 4 children under the age of 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Hawaii.³⁶
- In 2005, an estimated 7,000 children ages 12–17, and 49,000 adults 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Hawaii.³⁷

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2005, 166 children aged out of out-of-home care in Hawaii.³⁸
- In 2005, 2,000 Hawaii teens ages 16–19 were high school dropouts.³⁹
- In 2005, 13% of teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴⁰
- In 2005, approximately 4,000 children ages 12–17 in Hawaii needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴¹
- In 2005, approximately 5,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2004, 8 children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.43 per 100,000 children.⁴³

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2004, no children younger than 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Hawaii, a 100% decrease from 1 in 2003.⁴⁴
- In 2006, 10,315 children younger than 18 were arrested in Hawaii, a 24.86% decrease from 8,261 arrests in 2005. Of the arrests in 2006, 245 were for violent crimes and 40 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁵
- A 2003 census of juvenile offenders showed 129 children in juvenile correction facilities in Hawaii.⁴⁶

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. Of this amount, 43% was from federal funds, and 57% was from state funds.⁴⁷
- 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.⁴⁸
- Out of 2,766 children in out-of-home care in Hawaii in 2005, only 1,356 children, or 49%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴⁹

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.⁵⁰
- 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.⁵¹
- 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 being provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have case-loads of 12–15 children.⁵²
- 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 \$71,320.⁵³

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