

MASSACHUSETTS'S CHILDREN 2009

Massachusetts's Children At a Glance*

State Population¹ 6,449,755

Population, Children

Under 18² 1,432,856

State Poverty Rate³ 11.2%

Poverty Rate,

Children Under 18⁴ 17.1%

Poverty Rate,

Children Ages 5–17⁵ 15.0%

Poverty Rate,

Children Under 5⁶ 11.1%

**All statistics are for 2007.*

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2006, Massachusetts had 65,192 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 38,918 reports were referred for investigation.⁷
- In 2006, 36,151 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Massachusetts, a rate of 25.0 per 1,000 children, representing a 0.7% increase from 2005. Of these children, 33,096 were neglected, 4,677 were physically abused, and 981 were sexually abused.⁸
- In 2006, 12,081 children in Massachusetts lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 12,197 children in 2005. In 2006, 22.9% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 28.0% were 16 or older.⁹
- Of Massachusetts children in out-of-home care in 2006, 49.1% were white, 16.8% black, 24.9% Hispanic, 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 9.1% children of other races and ethnicities.¹⁰

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 6,747 children exiting out-of-home care in Massachusetts in 2006, 55% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹¹
- In 2006, 874 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Massachusetts, a 5% increase from 832 in 2005.¹²
- Of the 12,081 children in out-of-home care in 2006, 2,723 or 23.7% were waiting to be adopted.¹³
- In 2007, approximately 28,911 Massachusetts grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁴
- Of the 12,081 children in out-of-home care in 2006, 16.6% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁵
- Of all Massachusetts children in kinship care in 2006, 55.8% were white, 13.4% were black, 20.6% were Hispanic, 0.1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 10.1% were other races.¹⁶

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Massachusetts increased from 89,968 in March 2007 to 90,531 in March 2008, an increase of 0.6%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2008 was 45,389, a 1.8% increase from March 2007.¹⁷



- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Massachusetts was at 54.2% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁸
- In 2006, Massachusetts spent \$794,151,201 in TANF funds, including 40.3% on basic assistance, 1.90% on child care, and 57.7% on nonassistance.¹⁹
- In 2007, Massachusetts spent \$57,740,848 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), serving 118,072 participants.²⁰
- In 2007, Massachusetts collected and distributed \$503,899,504 in child support funds, a 4.4% increase from 2006.²¹
- In 2008, the fair-market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Massachusetts was \$1,193 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$22.94 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²²

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2006, Massachusetts had a monthly average of 32,100 children served by subsidized child care; 34,900 children received subsidized child care in 2005, and 35,300 in 2004.²³
- In 2008, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Massachusetts, a family of three could make no more than \$35,876, which is equivalent to 50% of the state's median income.²⁴
- As of early 2008, Massachusetts had 17,840 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁵
- In 2007, Head Start served 12,807 Massachusetts children, a 1.5% decrease from 2001.²⁶

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2005, 481,400 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Massachusetts—39.7% of the total number of enrollees.²⁷
- In 2005, 724 children were enrolled in Medicaid in Massachusetts on the basis of being in foster care.²⁸
- In 2005, of the 724 children enrolled in Medicaid on the basis of being in foster care, 13 received Targeted Case Management services, and 19 received Rehabilitative Services.²⁹
- In 2007, Massachusetts had 92,506 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 23.3% increase from 2006, when 75,019 children were enrolled.³⁰
- In 2007, Massachusetts had 43,000 uninsured children, representing 3% of its child population.³¹
- In 2005, 6,063 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Massachusetts a rank of 30 nationally in percent of low-weight births (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³²
- In 2005, 396 infants under age 1 died in Massachusetts, giving it a rank of 25 nationally in terms of infant mortality rates (a rank of 1 being the best and 50 the worst).³³
- In 2005, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Massachusetts was 11 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 38. This reflects a total rate of 22 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁴



- Cumulative through 2006, 19,181 adults and adolescents, as well as 214 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts.³⁵
- In 2006, an estimated 46,000 children ages 12–17, and 492,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Massachusetts.³⁶

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2006, 1,283 children aged out of out-of-home care in Massachusetts.³⁷
- In 2007, 20,000 Massachusetts teens ages 16-19 were high-school dropouts.³⁸
- In 2007, 6% of teens ages 16-19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.³⁹
- In 2006, 10% of people ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴⁰
- In 2006, approximately 26,000 children ages 12–17 in Massachusetts needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴¹
- In 2006, approximately 28,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2005, 30 Massachusetts children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 1.72 per 100,000 children.⁴³

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2005, 16 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Massachusetts, a 6% decrease from 17 in 2004.⁴⁴
- In 2007, 18,407 children younger than 18 were arrested in Massachusetts, a 3.1% increase from 17,862 arrests in 2006. Of those arrests, 1,897 were for violent crimes and 286 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁵
- A 2006 census of juvenile offenders showed 1,164 children in juvenile correction facilities in Massachusetts.⁴⁶

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MASSACHUSETTS'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, Massachusetts spent \$719,765,059 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 36% was from federal funds, and 64% from state funds.⁴⁷
- In 2006, of the \$257,013,278 in federal funds received for child welfare, 38% came from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 4% from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 23% from Medicaid, 32% from the Social Services Block Grant, and 3% from other federal sources.⁴⁸
- Out of 12,081 children in out-of-home care in Massachusetts in 2006, only 3,012, or 26.2%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴⁹



MASSACHUSETTS' 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 caseloads of 12–15 children.⁵²
- In 2004, the minimum annual salary for a caseworker responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect in Massachusetts was \$38,000; the median income for a family of four in Massachusetts was \$82,561.⁵³

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. U.S. Census Bureau. (2007). *Table 1: Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States and States, and for Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000, to July 1, 2007 (NST-EST2007-01)*. Retrieved October 15, 2008, www.census.gov/popest/states/tables/NST-EST2007-01.xls. Washington, DC: Author.
2. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008). *Annual State Population Estimates by Demographic Characteristics with 6 Race Groups (5 Race Alone Groups and One Group with Two or more Race Groups): April 1, 2000, to July 1, 2007*. Retrieved October 21, 2008, http://ndas.cwla.org/data_stats/access/predefined/Report.asp?ReportID=177. Washington, DC: Author.
3. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008). *Current Population Survey, 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Poverty Status by State: 2007*. Retrieved October 15, 2008, http://pubdb3.census.gov/macro/032008/pov/new46_100125_01.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
4. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008). *Current Population Survey, 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Poverty Status by State: 2007: People Under 18 Years of Age*. Retrieved October 15, 2008, http://pubdb3.census.gov/macro/032008/pov/new46_100125_03.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
5. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008). *Current Population Survey, 2007 Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Poverty Status by State: 2007: Related Children 5 to 17 Years of Age*. Retrieved October 15, 2008, http://pubdb3.census.gov/macro/032008/pov/new46_100125_02.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
6. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008). *2007 American Community Survey, Data Profile. Selected Population Profiles: 2007*. Retrieved October 29, 2008, http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=datasets_2&_lang=en. Washington, DC: Author.
7. Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2008). *Child Maltreatment 2006: Reports From the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System*. Retrieved October 16, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm06/table2_1.htm. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
8. Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. (2008). *Child Maltreatment 2006: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System*. Retrieved October 16, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm06/table3_3.htm and www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm06/table3_6.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
9. CWLA. (2008). Special tabulation from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS). Arlington, VA: Author.
10. *Other races and ethnicities* includes Asian, Pacific Islander, Hawaiian Native, unknown or unable to determine, missing data, and two or more races. CWLA, special tabulation from AFCARS.
11. Ibid.



12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008). *2007 American Community Survey, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics: 2007*. Retrieved October 21, 2008, http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetTableListServlet?_ds_name=ACS_2007_1YR_G00_&_type=table&_program=ACS&_lang=en&_ts=242749244945. Washington, DC: Author.
15. CWLA, special tabulation from AFCARS.
16. Ibid.
17. U.S. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2008). *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Separate State Program—Maintenance of Effort Aid to Families with Dependant Children: Caseload Data*. Retrieved October 16, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/data-reports/caseload/caseload_current.htm#2008. Washington, DC: HHS.
18. Calculations by CWLA, based on HHS. (2006). *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program: Sixth Annual Report to Congress*. Retrieved February 2, 2009, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/data-reports/annualreport6/ar6index.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
U.S. Food and Nutrition Service. (2005). Food Stamp Program—Annual State Level Data—State Level Participation. *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: FY 2003*. Retrieved February 2, 2009, www.fns.usda.gov/oane/menu/Published/SNAP/FILES/Participation/2003Characteristics.htm. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. (2003). *The 2003 HHS Poverty Guidelines*. Retrieved February 2, 2009, <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/03poverty.htm>. Washington, DC: HHS.
19. *Nonassistance* is benefits provided to TANF recipients that are not considered assistance as defined by law and thus do not trigger the clock for lifetime limits on TANF benefits. Administration for Children and Families. (2007). *Combined Spending of Federal and State Funds Expended in FY 2006*. Retrieved October 21, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofs/data/2006/tableF_2006.html. Washington, DC: HHS.
20. Food and Nutrition Service. (2008). *WIC Program Participation and Cost*. Retrieved November 24, 2008, [www.fns.usda.gov/pd/24wicfood\\$.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/24wicfood$.htm). Washington, DC: USDA.
21. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement. (2008). *Preliminary Data Report FY 2007 (Preliminary)*. Retrieved October 21, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2008/preliminary_report_fy2007/state.html. Washington, DC: HHS.
22. National Low Income Housing Coalition. (2008). *Out of Reach*. Retrieved, October 21, 2008, www.nlihc.org/oor/oor2008/data.cfm?getstate=on&state=_all&CFID=39961440&CFTOKEN=15638621. Washington, DC: Author.
23. Administration on Children and Families, Child Care Bureau. (2008). *FFY 2006 CCDF Data Tables (Final, July 2008); Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Children and Families Served*. Retrieved November 10, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/06acf800/table1.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
Administration on Children and Families, Child Care Bureau. (2007). *FFY 2005 CCDF Data Tables and Charts; Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Children and Families Served*. Retrieved November 22, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/05acf800/table1.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
Administration on Children and Families, Child Care Bureau. (2006). *FFY 2004 CCDF Data Tables and Charts; Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Children and Families Served*. Retrieved November 22, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/04acf800/table1.htm. Washington, DC: HHS.
24. Schulman, K. & Blank, H. (2008). *State Child Care Assistance Policies 2008: Too Little Progress for Children & Families*. Retrieved November 10, 2008, www.nwlc.org/pdf/StateChildCareAssistancePoliciesReport08.pdf. Washington, DC: National Women's Law Center.
25. Ibid.
26. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. (2008). *Head Start Program Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2008*. Retrieved October 6, 2008, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/about/fy2008.html. Washington, D.C.: HHS.
27. Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. (n.d.). *State Medicaid Fact Sheets*. Retrieved October 6, 2008, www.statehealthfacts.org/medicaid.jsp. Washington, DC: Author.
28. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (n.d.). Medicaid Statistical Information System. Retrieved November 21, 2007, <http://msis.cms.hhs.gov>. Washington, DC: HHS.



29. Ibid.
30. Smith, V.; Rousseau, D.; Marks, C.; & Rudowitz, R. (2008) *SCHIP Enrollment in June 2007: An Update on Current Enrollment and SCHIP Policy Directions*. Retrieved December 3, 2008, www.kff.org/medicaid/upload/7642_02.pdf. Washington, DC: Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured.
31. U.S. Census Bureau. (2008.) *Current Population Survey, 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplement*. Retrieved October 27, 2008, http://pubdb3.census.gov/macro/032008/health/h05_000.htm. Washington, DC: Author.
32. Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Low birthweight babies: Number: 2005*. Retrieved November 21, 2008, www.kidscount.org/datacenter/compare_results.jsp?i=50&dt=1&rt=2&yr=16&s=a&dtype=&rtype=&x=137&y=4. Baltimore: Author.
Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Low birthweight babies: Percent: 2005*. Retrieved November 21, 2008, www.kidscount.org/sld/compare_results.jsp?i=50. Baltimore: Author.
33. Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Infant Mortality: Number: 2005*. Retrieved November 21, 2008, www.kidscount.org/datacenter/compare_results.jsp?i=70&dt=1&rt=2&yr=16&s=a&dtype=&rtype=&x=135&y=6. Baltimore: Author.
Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Infant Mortality: Rate: 2005*. Retrieved November 21, 2008, www.kidscount.org/sld/compare_results.jsp?i=70. Baltimore, MD: Author.
34. Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Teen Births, by Age Group, Rate per 1,000: 2005*. Retrieved November 21, 2008, www.kidscount.org/sld/compare_results.jsp?i=10. Baltimore: Author.
35. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2008). *HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2006. Vol. 17*. Retrieved October 6, 2008, www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/reports/2006report/table14.htm. Atlanta: Author.
36. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Office of Applied Studies. (2008). *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2005–2006 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*. Retrieved November 10, 2008, www.oas.samhsa.gov/statesList.cfm. Rockville, MD: Author.
37. Children who age out of foster care are captured by the AFCARS emancipation data element. Children who exit care to emancipation are those who reach the age of majority according to state law by virtue of age, marriage, etc. CWLA, Special AFCARS tabulation.
38. Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Teens who are high school dropouts: Number: 2008*. Retrieved November 10, 2008, www.kidscount.org/datacenter/compare_results.jsp?i=440&dt=1&rt=2&yr=8&s=a&dtype=&rtype=&x=148&y=2. Baltimore: Author.
39. Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Teens not attending school and not working: Percent: 2007*. Retrieved November 10, 2008, www.kidscount.org/datacenter/compare_results.jsp?i=120. Baltimore: Author.
40. Annie E. Casey Foundation (2008). *Kids Count. State Level Data Online: Comparisons by Topic: Persons Age 18–24 not attending school, not working, and no degree beyond High School: Percent 2006*. Retrieved November 10, 2008, www.kidscount.org/datacenter/compare_results.jsp?i=130. Baltimore: Author.
41. SAMHSA, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2005–2006 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*.
42. Ibid.
43. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (2008). *Injury Mortality Reports, 1999–2005*. Retrieved November 5, 2008, http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
44. Ibid.
45. Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2008). *Crime in the United States 2007 (Table 69)*. Retrieved November 5, 2008, www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2007/data/table_69.html. Washington, DC: Author.
Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2007). *Crime in the United States 2006 (Table 69)*. Retrieved November 5, 2008, www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2006/data/table_69.html. Washington, DC: Author.
46. Sickmund, M.; Sladky, T.J., & Kang, W. (2008). *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook*. Retrieved November 5, 2008, www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/cjrp/asp/State_Adj.asp. Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.



47. Examples of direct services include child abuse/neglect investigations, foster care, community-based programs, case management, and all such services required for the safety, permanency, and well-being of children. Examples of administrative services include management information systems, training programs, eligibility determination processes, and all services that provide the infrastructure supports for the public agency. DeVooght, K.; Allen, T.; & Geen, R. (2008). *Federal, State, and Local Spending to Address Child Abuse and Neglect in SFY 2006*. Washington, DC: Child Trends.
48. Ibid.
49. CWLA, Special AFCARS tabulation.
50. U.S. General Accounting Office. (2003). *Child Welfare: HHS Could Play a Greater Role in Helping Child Welfare Agencies Recruit and Retain Staff*. Retrieved January 27, 2009, www.gao.gov/new.items/d03357.pdf. Washington, DC: Author.
51. Ibid.
52. Ibid.
53. CWLA. (2006). *State Child Welfare Agency Survey*. Washington, DC: Author.
U.S. Census Bureau. (2005). *Median Income for 4-Person Families, by State*. Retrieved, October 3, 2006, www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/4person.html. Washington, DC: Author.

