

M I C H I G A N ' S C H I L D R E N 2 0 0 9

Michigan's Children At a Glance*

State Population ¹	10,071,822
Population, Children Under 18 ²	2,446,856
State Poverty Rate ³	10.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁴	15.8%
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁵	15.1%
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁶	18.6%

*All statistics are for 2007.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2006, 27,148 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Michigan, a rate of 11.0 per 1,000 children, representing a 10.3% increase from 2005. Of these children, 20,637 were neglected, 4,728 were physically abused, and 1,227 were sexually abused.⁷
- In 2006, 20,142 children in Michigan lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 20,498 children in 2005. In 2006, 32.4% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 22.6% were 16 or older.⁸
- Of Michigan children in out-of-home care in 2006, 41.9% were white, 47.9% black, 4.6% Hispanic, 1.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 4.7% children of other races and ethnicities.⁹

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 8,695 children exiting out-of-home care in Michigan in 2006, 48% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹⁰
- In 2006, 2,591 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Michigan, a 10% decrease from 2,883 in 2005.¹¹
- Of the 20,142 children in out-of-home care in 2006, 6,319 or 31.4% were waiting to be adopted.¹²
- In 2007, approximately 69,008 Michigan grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹³
- Of the 20,142 children in out-of-home care in 2006, 35.3% were living with relatives while in care.¹⁴
- Of all Michigan children in kinship care in 2006, 40.0% were white, 50.4% were black, 4.7% were Hispanic, 0.6% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 4.3% were other races.¹⁵

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Michigan decreased from 194,991 in March 2007 to 173,760 in March 2008, a decrease of 10.9%. The number of families receiving TANF in March 2008 was 66,837, an 11.1% decrease from March 2007.¹⁶
- In 2003, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Michigan was at 44.7% of the federal poverty guideline.¹⁷



- In 2006, Michigan spent \$1,186,564,912 in TANF funds, including 35.6% on basic assistance, 2.80% on child care, and 68.2% on nonassistance.¹⁸
- In 2007, Michigan spent \$107,403,702 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), serving 232,206 participants.¹⁹
- In 2007, Michigan collected and distributed \$1,415,729,990 in child support funds, a 1.2% increase from 2006.²⁰
- In 2008, the fair-market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Michigan was \$740 per month. The wage needed to afford this rent was \$14.22 per hour, working a 40-hour week.²¹

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2006, Michigan had a monthly average of 87,800 children served by subsidized child care; 79,300 children received subsidized child care in 2005, and 44,500 in 2004.²²
- In 2008, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Michigan, a family of three could make no more than \$23,880, which is equivalent to 40% of the state's median income.²³
- As of early 2008, Michigan had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁴
- In 2007, Head Start served 35,067 Michigan children, a 0.1% decrease from 2001.²⁵

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2005, 925,100 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Michigan—52.3% of the total number of enrollees.²⁶
- In 2005, 41,341 children were enrolled in Medicaid in Michigan on the basis of being in foster care.²⁷
- In 2005, of the 41,341 children enrolled in Medicaid on the basis of being in foster care, 16 received Targeted Case Management services, and 1 received Rehabilitative Services.²⁸
- In 2007, Michigan had 43,375 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 9.1% decrease from 2006, when 47,710 children were enrolled.²⁹
- In 2007, Michigan had 149,000 uninsured children, representing 6.2% of its child population.³⁰
- In 2005, 10,615 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams, giving Michigan a rank of 41 nationally in percent of low-weight births (1 being the best, and 50 the worst).³¹
- In 2005, 1,012 infants under age 1 died in Michigan, giving it a rank of 41 nationally in terms of infant mortality rates (a rank of 1 being the best and 50 the worst).³²
- In 2005, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Michigan was 17 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 57. This reflects a total rate of 32 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³³
- Cumulative through 2006, 14,941 adults and adolescents, as well as 113 children younger than 13, were reported as having HIV/AIDS in Michigan.³⁴



- In 2006, an estimated 67,000 children ages 12–17, and 757,000 adults age 26 and older, were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Michigan.³⁵

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2006, 718 children aged out of out-of-home care in Michigan.³⁶
- In 2007, 33,000 Michigan teens ages 16-19 were high-school dropouts.³⁷
- In 2007, 7% of teens ages 16-19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.³⁸
- In 2006, 16% of people ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.³⁹
- In 2006, approximately 36,000 children ages 12–17 in Michigan needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2006, approximately 45,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴¹
- In 2005, 82 Michigan children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.79 per 100,000 children.⁴²

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2005, 52 children under age 18 were killed in firearm homicides in Michigan, a 21% increase from 43 in 2004.⁴³
- In 2007, 41,319 children younger than 18 were arrested in Michigan, a 6.1% decrease from 44,002 arrests in 2006. Of those arrests, 2,431 were for violent crimes and 965 were for possession of a weapon.⁴⁴
- A 2006 census of juvenile offenders showed 2,760 children in juvenile correction facilities in Michigan.⁴⁵

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR MICHIGAN'S CHILDREN

- In 2006, Michigan spent \$829,794,181 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, 60% was from federal funds, 33% from state funds, and 6.5% from local funds.⁴⁶
- In 2006, of the \$500,944,497 in federal funds received for child welfare, 38% came from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 5% from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 13% from the Social Services Block Grant, 42% from TANF, and 2% from other federal sources.⁴⁷
- Out of 20,142 children in out-of-home care in Michigan in 2006, only 4,647, or 23.1%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁴⁸



MICHIGAN'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 clearly demonstrated 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 being provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.⁵¹

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