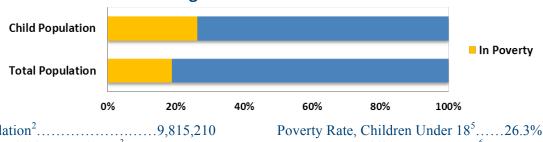
GEORGIA'S CHILDREN





Poverty Rate, Children Under 18³.....26.3% Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17⁶....24.8% Poverty Rate, Children Under 5⁷....29.8%

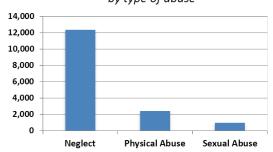
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, Georgia had 33,723 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 22,194 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2011, 18,541 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Georgia, a rate of 7.4 per 1,000 children, representing a 10.9% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 66.5% were neglected, 12.8% were physically abused, and 5.1% were sexually abused.
- The number of child victims has decreased 48.1% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.¹⁰
- In 2011, 65 children in Georgia died as a result of abuse or neglect.¹¹
- In 2011, 7,591 children in Georgia lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 6,895 children in 2010. In 2011, 2,920 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 776 were 16 or older.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 37.8% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.
- Of Georgia children in out-of-home care in 2011, 43.1% were white, 45.1% black, 6.4% Hispanic, 0.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.1% Asian or Pacific Islander and 5.1% of more than one race or ethnicity.¹⁴

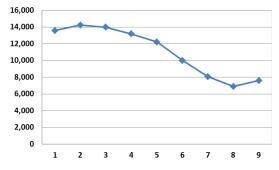
ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 5,612 children exiting out-of-home care in Georgia in 2011,
 44.8% were reunited with their parents or other family members.
- In 2011, 1,071 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Georgia, a 10.5% decrease from 1,196 in 2010. 16
- Of the 7,591 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 1,530 or 20.2%

Number of Child Victims, 2011 by type of abuse

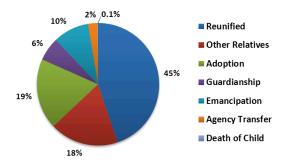


Number of Children in Foster Care, 2003-2011



Children Exiting Foster Care, 2011

by reason





were waiting to be adopted. 17

- In 2011, approximately 117,354 Georgia grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.
- Of the 7.591 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 1.331 were living with relatives while in care. 19
- Of all Georgia children in kinship care in 2010, 8.3% were white, 7.6% black, 0.7% Hispanic, 0.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.0% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 7.6% of more than one race or ethnicity.²⁰

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Georgia decreased from 37,958 in 2010 to 37,201 in 2011, an decrease of 2.0%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 19,876, a 3.4% decrease from 2010.²¹
- From 2009-10, for every 100 Georgia families living in poverty, only 8 received TANF benefits. 22
- In 2011, \$561,502,767 was spent in Georgia on TANF assistance, including 9% on basic assistance, 4% on child care, 2% on transportation, and 85% on nonassistance. ²³
- In 2011, 179,739,304 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Georgia, serving 250,578 participants.²⁴
- In 2011, Georgia distributed \$632,448,613 in child support funds, a 4.8% increase from 2010. 25
- In 2011 in Georgia, 322,364 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 34% of them are families with children. 26

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2010, Georgia had a monthly average of 70,600 children served by subsidized child care; 54,800 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 54,000 in 2008.²⁷
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Georgia, a family of three could make no more than \$28,160, which is equivalent to 49% of the state's median income. 28
- As of early 2012, Georgia had frozen intake for child care assistance.²⁹
- In 2011, Head Start served 25,040 Georgia children, a 7.2% increase from 2010.³⁰

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2011, 892,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in Georgia—59% of the total number of enrollees in the state.³¹
- In 2011, Georgia had 248,536 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 0.1% increase from 2010, when 248,268 children were enrolled.³²
- In 2011, Georgia had 278,000 uninsured children, representing 11% of its child population.
- In 2010, 12,912 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Georgia.³⁴
- In 2010, 859 infants under age 1 died in Georgia.³⁵
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in Georgia was 21 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 71. This reflects a total rate of 41 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.
- Cumulative through 2011, 41,814 adults and adolescents, as well as 254 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in Georgia.³⁷
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 48,000 children ages 12–17 and 543,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Georgia. 38



VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2011, 535 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in Georgia.³⁹
- In 2011, 63,000 Georgia teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working. 40
- In 2011, 211,000 young adults ages 18–24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school.⁴¹
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 29,000 children ages 12–17 in Georgia needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 29,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.
- In 2010, 57 Georgia children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 2.05 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, 112 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Georgia, a 22% increase from 92 in 2009.
- In 2011, 38,046 children younger than 18 were arrested in Georgia, a 3.0% decrease from 39,326 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 1,805 were for violent crimes. 46
- In 2010, 2,133 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Georgia.

CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE⁴⁸

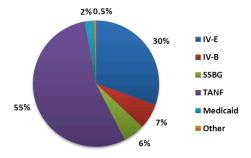
- A 2003 General Accounting Office (GAO) report documented that staff shortages, high caseloads, high worker turnover and low salaries impinge on delivering services to achieve safety, permanence, and well being for children.⁴⁹
- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have clearly demonstrated 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

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR GEORGIA'S CHILDREN

- Out of 7,591 children in out-of-home care in Georgia in 2011, only 2,609, or 34%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵²
- In 2010, Georgia spent \$546,398,590 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$361,531,054 was from federal funds, \$181,072,501 from state funds, and \$3,795,035 from local funds.⁵³
- In 2010, of the \$361,531,054 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$109,996,653 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$23,606,597 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$8,699,685 was from Medicaid, \$19,871,178 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$197,626,129 was from TANF, and \$1,730,812 came from other federal sources.⁵⁴
- Georgia received \$79,789,503 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$34,168,093 for maintenance payments, \$40,509,202 for administration and child placement, and \$5,921,791 for the statewide automated child welfare information system.⁵⁵
- Georgia received \$37,499,648 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$33,291,274 for assistance payments, and \$4,208,374 for administration and child placement.⁵⁶



Breakdown of Federal Funding, FY 2011





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	Office	Phone	Fax	Website	Next Election
Senate:					
Saxby Chambliss (R)	416 Russell	224-3521	224-0103	Chambliss.senate.gov	2014
Johnny Isakson (R) Finance H.E.L.P.	131 Russell	224-3643	228-0724	Isakson.senate.gov	2016
House:					
Jack Kingston (R-1 st) Appropriations	2372 Rayburn	225-5831	226-2269	Kingston.house.gov	2014
Sanford D. Jr. Bishop (D-2 nd) Appropriations	2429 Rayburn	225-3631	225-2203	Bishop.house.gov	2014
Lynn Westmoreland (R-3 rd)	2433 Rayburn	225-5901	225-2515	Westmoreland.house.gov	2014
Hank Johnson (D-4 th) <i>Judiciary</i>	2240 Rayburn	225-1605	226-0691	Hankjohnson.house.gov	2014
John Lewis (D-5 th) <i>Ways & Means</i>	343 Cannon	225-3801	225-0351	Johnlewis.house.gov	2014
Tom Price (R-6 th) Ways & Means Education & Workforce	100 Cannon	225-4501	225-4656	Tomprice.house.gov	2014
Rob Woodall (R-7 th)	1725 Longworth	225-4272	225-4696	Woodall.house.gov	2014
Austin Scott (R-8 th)	516 Cannon	225-6531	225-3013	Austinscott.house.gov	2014
Doug Collins (R-9 th) Judiciary	513 Cannon	225-9893		Dougcollins.house.gov	2014
Paul Broun (R-10 th)	2437 Rayburn	225-4101	226-0776	Broun.house.gov	2014



Phil Gingrey (R-11 th) Energy & Commerce	442 Cannon	225-2931	225-2944	Gingrey.house.gov	2014
John Barrow (D-12 th) Energy & Commerce	2202 Rayburn	225-2823	225-3377	Barrow.house.gov	2014
David Scott (D-13 th)	225 Cannon	225-2939	225-4628	Davidscott.house.gov	2014
Tom Graves (R-14 th) Appropriations	432 Cannon	225-5211	225-8272	Tomgraves.house.gov	2014

Key Committee Jurisdictions

Senate H.E.L.P.: CAPTA; Child Care & Head Start; ESEA

Senate Judiciary: Juvenile Justice

Senate Finance: Child Welfare Reform; Medicaid & Mental Health; SSBG Child Welfare Services & Promoting

Safe and Stable Families; TANF

House Education & the Workforce: CAPTA; Child Care & Head Start; ESEA

House Judiciary: Juvenile Justice

House Ways & Means: Child Welfare Reform, SSBG, CWS & PSSF, TANF

House Energy & Commerce: Medicaid & Mental Health



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Note: The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional child support, pre-placement, and demonstration funds for this state.

Note: The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional partner training funds.



⁴⁸ Note: The dearth in current state-by-state workforce data makes clear the need for critical data on compensation, working conditions including safety issues, academic degrees held, education and training received, and factors contributing to turnover. To address this, CWLA is calling for Congress to authorize the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to conduct an updated study on the child welfare workforce. It would make recommendations regarding caseloads and workloads, education levels, and training requirements. In addition, the study would examine data reporting and collection and make recommendations on how states might improve these efforts.

Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (2012). Foster Care FY2003–FY2011 Entries, Exits, and Numbers of Children In Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal year. Retrieved February 28, 2013 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/entryexit2011.pdf.

⁵⁵ Special Children's Bureau data on state IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance.