NORTH CAROLINA'S CHILDREN

North Carolina's Children At a Glance¹

State Population ²	
Population, Children	Under 18^3 2,289,142
State Poverty Rate ⁴	

Poverty Rate, Children Under 18^525.6% Poverty Rate, Children Ages $5-17^6$23.5% Poverty Rate, Children Under 5^730.3%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2011, 22,940 children were victims of abuse or neglect in North Carolina, a rate of 10.0 per 1,000 children, representing a 4.4% decrease from 2010. Of these children, 86.5% were neglected, 9.7% were physically abused, and 8.3% were sexually abused.⁸
- The number of child victims has decreased 11.7% in comparison to the number of victims in 2007.⁹
- North Carolina responds to lower risk, higher safety reports through alternative response services to address family issues. 109,456 reports were responded to in this way in 2011.¹⁰
- In 2011, 19 children in North Carolina died as a result of abuse or neglect.¹¹
- In 2011, 8,601 children in North Carolina lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 8,828 children in 2010. In 2011, 3,319 of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 1,147 were 16 or older.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 20.6% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2007.¹³
- Of North Carolina children in out-of-home care in 2011, 46.6% were white, 36.5% black, 8.7% Hispanic, 1.9% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.4% Asian or Pacific Islander and 5.2% of more than one race or ethnicity.¹⁴

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 4,803 children exiting out-of-home care in North Carolina in 2011, 44.2% were reunited with their parents or other family members.¹⁵
- In 2011, 1,463 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in North Carolina, a 9.4% decrease from 1,615 in 2010.¹⁶
- Of the 8,601 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 2,183 or 25.4% were waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2011, approximately 101,577 North Carolina grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- Of the 8,601 children in out-of-home care in 2011, 2,048 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹
- Of all North Carolina children in kinship care in 2010, 11.2% were white, 8.9% black, 1.5% Hispanic, 0.7% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 0.0% Asian or Pacific Islander, and 8.9% 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 North Carolina decreased from 47,120 in 2010 to 43,923 in 2011, an decrease of 6.8%. The number of families receiving TANF in 2011 was 22,893, a 6.5% decrease from 2010.²¹
- From 2009-10, for every 100 North Carolina families living in poverty, only 10 received TANF benefits.²²
- In 2011, \$628,657,903 was spent in North Carolina on TANF assistance, including 9% on basic assistance, 3% on child



care, 0% on transportation, and 88% on nonassistance.²³

- In 2011, 142,747,196 was spent on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in North Carolina, serving 265,856 participants.²⁴
- In 2011, North Carolina distributed \$662,975,022 in child support funds, a 1.3% increase from 2010.²⁵
- In 2011 in North Carolina, 287,650 low income renter households paid more than half their monthly income in housing costs, 29% of them are families with children.²⁶

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2010, North Carolina had a monthly average of 86,200 children served by subsidized child care; 78,500 children received subsidized child care in 2009 and 74,000 in 2008.²⁷
- In 2012, to be eligible for subsidized child care in North Carolina, a family of three could make no more than \$42,818, which is equivalent to 75% of the state's median income.²⁸
- As of early 2012, North Carolina had 42378 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.²⁹
- In 2011, Head Start served 20,901 North Carolina children, a 10.6% increase from 2010.³⁰

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- In 2011, 777,000 children younger than 19 were enrolled in Medicaid in North Carolina—56% of the total number of enrollees in the state.³¹
- In 2011, North Carolina had 254,460 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a 0.2% increase from 2010, when 253,892 children were enrolled.³²
- In 2011, North Carolina had 215,000 uninsured children, representing 9% of its child population.³³
- In 2010, 11,109 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in North Carolina.³⁴
- In 2010, 883 infants under age 1 died in North Carolina.³⁵
- In 2010, the birth rate for teens 15–17 in North Carolina was 20 births per 1,000 girls; for teens 18–19, the rate was 64. This reflects a total rate of 38 births per 1,000 girls ages 15–19.³⁶
- Cumulative through 2011, 21,288 adults and adolescents, as well as 133 children younger than 13, were reported as having AIDS in North Carolina.³⁷
- In 2009 and 2010, an estimated 43,000 children ages 12–17 and 555,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in North Carolina.³⁸

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- In 2011, 515 children aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in North Carolina.³⁹
- In 2011, 52,000 North Carolina teens ages 16–19 were not enrolled in school and were not working.⁴⁰
- In 2011, 182,000 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 28,000 children ages 12–17 in North Carolina needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴²
- In 2009 and 2010, approximately 26,000 children ages 12–17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴³
- In 2010, 50 North Carolina children younger than 20 committed suicide, a rate of 1.95 per 100,000 children.⁴⁴



JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- In 2010, 79 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in North Carolina, a 10% decrease from 88 in 2009.⁴⁵
- In 2011, 40,803 children younger than 18 were arrested in North Carolina, a 11.0% increase from 36,762 arrests in 2010. Of the arrests in 2011, 1,795 were for violent crimes.⁴⁶
- In 2010, 849 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in North Carolina.⁴⁷

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 NORTH CAROLINA'S CHILDREN

- Out of 8,601 children in out-of-home care in North Carolina in 2011, only 3,038, or 35%, received Title IV-E federal foster care assistance.⁵²
- In 2010, North Carolina spent \$497,223,583 for child welfare services. Of this amount, \$249,037,676 was from federal funds, \$93,683,625 from state funds, and \$154,502,282 from local funds.⁵³
- In 2010, of the \$249,037,676 in federal funds received for child welfare, \$135,643,126 was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, \$15,168,958 came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, \$9,035 was from Medicaid, \$18,137,897 came from Social Services Block Grant, \$76,939,904 was from TANF, and \$3,138,756 came from other federal sources.⁵⁴
- North Carolina received \$76,340,378 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2011, including \$22,157,733 for maintenance payments, \$29,153,109 for administration and child placement, and \$928,038 for training.⁵⁵
- North Carolina received \$47,957,220 in federal funds for IV-E adoption assistance expenditures in 2011, including \$45,402,175 for assistance payments, \$2,498,276 for administration and child placement, and \$56,769 for staff and provider training.⁵⁶



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Richard M. Burr (R) <i>Finance</i> <i>H.E.L.P.</i>	217 Russell	224-3154	228-2981	Burr.senate.gov	2016
Kay Hagan (D) <i>H.E.L.P.</i>	521 Dirksen	224-6342	224-1100	Hagan.senate.gov	2014
House:					
G.K. Butterfield (D-1 st) Energy & Commerce	2305 Rayburn	225-3101	225-3354	Butterfield.house.gov	2014
Renee L. Ellmers (R-2 nd) Energy & Commerce	426 Cannon	225-4531	225-5662	Ellmers.house.gov	2014
Walter B. Jones (R-3 rd)	2333 Rayburn	225-3415	225-3286	Jones.house.gov	2014
David E. Price (D-4 th) Appropriations	2162 Rayburn	225-1784	225-2014	Price.house.gov	2014
Virginia Foxx (R-5 th) Education & Workforce	2350 Rayburn	225-2071	225-2995	Foxx.house.gov	2014
Howard Coble (R-6 th) Judiciary	2188 Rayburn	225-3065	225-8611	Coble.house.gov	2014
Mike McIntyre (D-7 th)	2428 Rayburn	225-2731	225-5773	McIntyre.house.gov	2014
Richard Hudson (R-8 th) <i>Education & Workforce</i>	429 Cannon	225-3715	225-4036	Hudson.house.gov	2014
Robert Pittenger (R-9 th)	224 Cannon	225-1976	225-3389	Pittenger.house.gov	2014
Patrick T. McHenry (R-10 th)	2334 Cannon	225-2576	225-0316	Mchenry.house.gov	2014
Mark Meadows (R-11 th)	1516 Longworth	225-6401	226-6422	Meadows.house.gov	2014
Melvin Watt (D-12 th) Judiciary	2304 Rayburn	225-1510	225-1512	Watt.house.gov	2014



George Holding (R-13 th) Judiciary	507 Cannon	225-3032	225-0181	Holding.house.gov	2014				
Key Committee Jurisdictions									
Senate <i>H.E.L.P.</i> : 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 percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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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. 56 Ibid.

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

