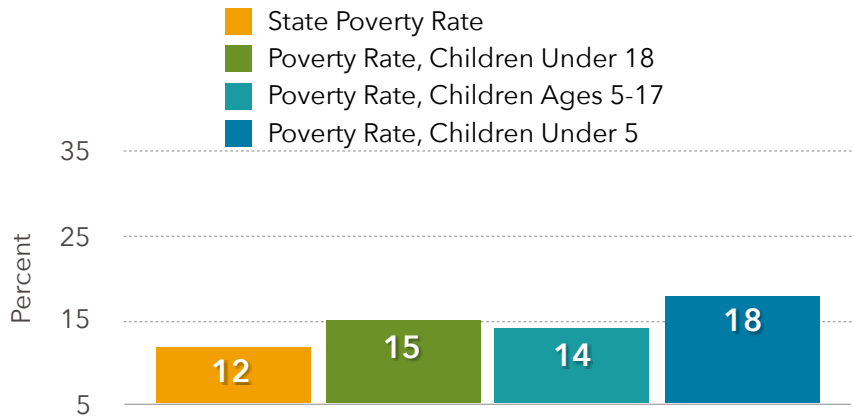# IOWA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 3,106,589 | Population of Children Under 18:711,566

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **3,982** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Iowa, 57% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.[15]

- **992** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Iowa in 2016, a decrease of 2.5% from **1,017** in 2015.[16]

- Of the **6,004** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **1,071** or 17.84% waiting to be adopted.[17]

- In 2016, approximately **16,681** grandparents in Iowa had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.[18]

- **1,727** of the children in out-of-home care in 2015 were living with relatives while in care.[19]

Poverty Rates

Legend:
- State Poverty Rate
- Poverty Rate, Children Under 18
- Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17
- Poverty Rate, Children Under 5

Category	Percent
State Poverty Rate	12
Poverty Rate, Children Under 18	15
Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5-17	14
Poverty Rate, Children Under 5	18

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2016, Iowa had 49,066 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 24,923 reports were referred for investigation.[8]

- In 2016, there were 8,555 victims of abuse or neglect in Iowa, a rate of 11.7 per 1,000 children, an increase of 8.6% from 2015. Of these children, 82.5% were neglected, 13.9% were physically abused, and 6.7% were sexually abused.[9]

- The number of child victims has increased 8.6% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.[10]
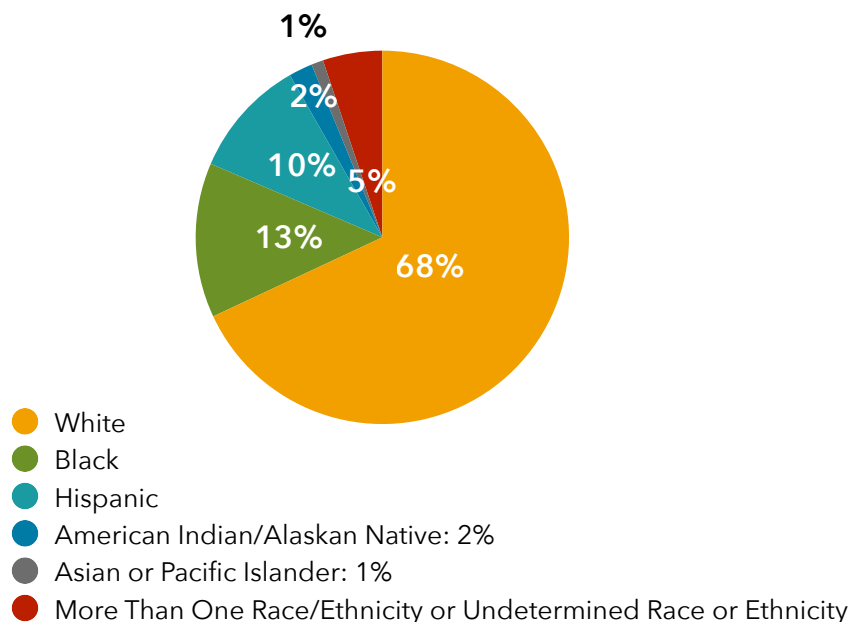
CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Iowa had a monthly average of 16,500 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 17,400 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 15,500 were recipients in 2013. [28]

- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Iowa, a family of three could make no more than $29,136 at application, which is equivalent to 44% of the state's median income. [29]

- As of early 2016, Iowa had no children on it's waiting list for child care assistance. [30]

- In 2016, Head Start served 7,449 children in Iowa, a decrease of 4.0% from 2015. [31]

- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Iowa made 17,010 home visits to 2,420 parents and children in 1,275 families, as well as enrolled 850 new parents and children to the program. [64]

- In 2016, there were 12 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Iowa. [11]

- 6,004 children in Iowa lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 5,918 children in 2015.[12]

- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 1.5% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2015.[13]

Children in Out-of-Home Care 2015

- ⬤ White
- ⬤ Black
- ⬤ Hispanic
- ⬤ American Indian/Alaskan Native: 2%
- ⬤ Asian or Pacific Islander: 1%
- ⬤ More Than One Race/Ethnicity or Undetermined Race or Ethnicity

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Iowa decreased from 28,565 in 2015 to 25,960 in 2016, a 10.0% change. There was a 10,668 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 9.4% from 2015.[20]

- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 22 received

TANF cash assistance.[21]

- $174,186,421 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Iowa, including 2.8% on basic assistance, 7.8% on child care, and 1.1% on transportation.[22]

- $15,529,493 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Iowa, serving 61,163 participants.[23]

- 16.7% of households in Iowa were food insecure in 2015, meaning that the family experienced difficulty providing enough food due to lack of resources at some point during the year.[27]

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 341,610 children in Iowa were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, an increase of 2.2% from 2015.[32]

- In 2016, Iowa had 84,989 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 2.8% from 2015, when 82,657 children were enrolled.[33]

- In 2016, Iowa had 25,009 uninsured children.[34]

- 2,661 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Iowa in 2016.[35]

- 240 infants under age 1 died in Iowa in 2016.[36]

- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Iowa was 7.7 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 33.5 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 19 births for girls ages 15 to 19.[37]

- Cumulative through 2016, there were 2,456 adults and adolescents and 15 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Iowa.[38]

- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Iowa reached $121,049,678.[39]

YOUTH WHO ARE VULNERABLE

- 382 children in Iowa aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.[42]

- 8,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Iowa were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.[44]

- 24,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2016.[45]

- In 2016, there were less than 10 reports of children in Iowa aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 22 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.[47]

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 28 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Iowa in 2016, compared to 24 in 2015.[48]

- 10,671 children younger than 18 were arrested in Iowa in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 558 of the arrests in 2016.[49]

- 675 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Iowa in 2015.[50]

CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE

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.[52]

- According to a 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.[53]

- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%.[54] Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.[55]

Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care.[56]

- According to the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being II baseline report, 75% of caseworkers earned a salary between $30,000 and $49,999.[57]

- The majority of caseworkers hold a bachelor's degree (52.3%) or a bachelor of social work degree (21.9%). Only 25% of caseworkers hold a master's degree.[58]

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

- In 2014, Iowa's sum of expenditures for services totaled $23,037,421. The most utilized service in Iowa was Protective Services for Children totaling $8,873,178.[60]

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR IOWA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Iowa spent $268,519,612 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, $136,755,535 was from federal funds and $147,350,866 was from state and local funds.[61]

- In 2014, of the $134,535,982 in federal funds received for child welfare, 29.8% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 8.2% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 34.4% was from Medicaid, 14.3% came from Social Services Block Grant, 11.2% was from TANF, and 2.0% came from other federal sources.[62]

- Iowa received $19,535,193 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including $9,427,818 for maintenance payments and $10,107,375 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training. [63]

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        Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's

        Bureau. (2018). Child Maltreatment 2016: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-8:

        Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2016. Retrieved February 6, 2018 from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2015.pdf.

Note: The percentage difference is a CWLA calculation. Overlap in the percentages of types of abuse is possible as a child may have experienced

        more than one type of abuse.

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        Child Victims, 2012-2016. Retrieved February 06, 2018 from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2016.pdf.

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        Children's Bureau. (2017). Trends in Foster Care and Adoption, AFCARS State data tables 2007 through 2016. Retrieved February 12, 2018

        from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption

13 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families,

        Children's Bureau. (2017). Trends in Foster Care and Adoption, AFCARS State data tables 2007 through 2016. Retrieved February 12, 2018

        from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption

        Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

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33 Ibid.

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