



WHO ARE THE YOUTH (AND VULNERABLE YOUTH) IN CALIFORNIA?

SNAPSHOT OF CALIFORNIA YOUTH

ALL YOUTH* (2021)

- Youth in California: 9 million
- Hispanic or Latino: 50%
- 1+ foreign-born parent: 47%
- Enrolled in Medi-Cal/CHIP**: 6M

* This section includes data on children and youth under 18 years old

** Medi-Cal: California's version of the national health care program Medicaid- geared for those impoverished CHIP: Children's Health Insurance program which expands health coverage for youth with low to moderate incomes (up to 322% of the federal poverty level)

YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS (2021)

BY SEX

- Female: 49%
- Male: 51%
- Male youth slightly outnumber female youth

BY RACE/ETHNICITY

- Asian: 11%
- Black: 5%
- Hispanic/Latino: 49%
- Multiracial: 4.4%
- Native American: 0.4%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 0.3%
- White: 30%
- Hispanic or Latino make up nearly 50% of 0-17 youth in California

BY AGE

- Ages 0 to 2: 15%
- Ages 3 to 5: 16%
- Ages 6 to 10: 28%
- Ages 11 to 13: 17%
- Ages 14 to 17: 24%
- Youth ages 6 to 10 constitute largest share of 0 to 17 in California

IMPOVERISHED YOUTH (2021) *

- Children live in poverty: 9%
- Barriers to nutritious food: 24%
- Housing cost burdened: 40%
- Employment insecure: 32%

* Section includes data on children and youth under 18 years old living in poverty according to the California Poverty Measure (CPM)- caution should be taken when comparing to 2017-2019 and earlier due to methodology changes

IMPOVERISHED YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS* (2021)

* Section includes data on children and youth under 18 years old living in poverty according to the California Poverty Measure (CPM)- caution should be taken when comparing to 2017-2019 and earlier due to methodology changes

BY RACE/ETHNICITY

- Black: 9%
- Asian: 8%
- Hispanic/Latino: 11%
- White: 6%



- Other: 6%
- Among Hispanic/Latino youth in families, over 11% live in poverty

BY FAMILY EDUCATION LEVEL

- Did not finish high school: 16%
- High school diploma: 10%
- Some college: 7%
- At least 4-year degree: 5%
- Of children in families where eldest member did not finish high school, 16% live in poverty

BY FAMILY TYPE

- Married: 7%
- Unmarried couple: 9%
- Single parent: 19%
- Of children in single-parent families, nearly 1 in 5 live in poverty

BY FAMILY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Not in labor force: 20%
- Full-Time/Full-Year: 4%
- Full-time/Part-Year: 10%
- Part-time: 13%
- Unemployed: 21%
- Of children in families where eldest member is unemployed, over 1 in 5 live in poverty

BY CITIZENSHIP STATUS

- Citizen: 7%
- Non-citizen: 16%
- Of children in families where eldest member is not a citizen, nearly 16% live in poverty

CALIFORNIA'S CHILD WELFARE AND JUVENILE JUSTICE YOUTH

YOUTH IN THE CHILD WELFARE AND PROBATION SYSTEMS (2022) *

* Section includes data on children and youth in child-supervised welfare under 21 years of age

CHILD WELFARE STATISTICS

- Children 0-20 in foster care: 53K
- Children 0-20 placed through probation: 3%
- Rate of placement moves per 1,000 care days*: 4
- Children in non-relative placements: 50-70%
- In congregate care as predominant placement: 3%

* Data point includes children and youth under 18 years old and excludes youth supervised by the probation department

ALL YOUTH V. CHILD WELFARE/PROBATION SUPERVISED YOUTH: IN CARE BY RACE/ETHNICITY (POINT-IN-TIME)

BLACK

- 0-20 Population: 6%
- Child Welfare: 21%
- Probation: 29%

WHITE:

- 0-20 Population: 32%
- Child Welfare: 21%
- Probation: 20%

HISPANIC/LATINO

- 0-20 Population: 50%



- Child Welfare: 55%
- Probation: 49%

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER:

- 0-20 Population: 12%
- Child Welfare: 2%
- Probation: 2%

NATIVE AMERICAN:

- 0-20 Population: 0.4%
- Child Welfare: 1%
- Probation: 1%

RACIAL/ETHNIC DISPARITIES*

- Black, Hispanic or Latino and Native American youth continue to be overrepresented among children in foster care
- Compared with White youth:
 - Black youth are 5 times as likely to be in foster care
 - Native American youth are 5 times as likely to be in foster care
 - Hispanic or Latino youth are 61% more likely to be in foster care

* Chart includes data on children and youth under 21 years of age and excludes youth supervised by the probation department

YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (2022) *

JUVENILE JUSTICE STATISTICS

- Juvenile Arrests: 26K
- Felony offenses: 46%
- Probation referrals: 63%
- Petitions filed: 48%
- Juveniles detained: 28%
- Petitions to wardship: 51%

* Section includes data on children and youth under 25 years of age, except for arrests data (includes data on children and youth under 18 years of age)

ALL YOUTH V. JUVENILE JUSTICE YOUTH: JUSTICE SYSTEM INDICATORS BY RACE/ETHNICITY

- Disproportionate share of youth involved in the justice system is Hispanic or Latino and Black

0-17 POPULATION VS. ARRESTS

WHITE

- Population: 30%
- Arrests: 18%

HISPANIC/LATINO

- Population: 48%
- Arrests: 55%

BLACK

- Population: 5%
- Arrests: 20%

OTHER

- Population: 16%
- Arrests: 6%

0-25 POPULATION VS. REFERRALS AND PETITIONS FILED

WHITE



STATEWIDE MENTAL HEALTH YOUTH SERVICES

WHO ARE THE YOUTH (AND VULNERABLE YOUTH) IN CALIFORNIA?

- Population: 30%
- Referrals: 18%
- Petitions: 16%

HISPANIC/LATINO

- Population: 48%
- Referrals: 56%
- Petitions: 57%

BLACK

- Population: 6%
- Referrals: 18%
- Petitions: 21%

OTHER

- Population: 16%
- Referrals: 8%
- Petitions: 7%

RACIAL/ETHNIC DISPARITIES (2020)

- Black and Hispanic or Latino juveniles most likely to:
 - Have a petition filed on them
 - Become wards of the state
 - Be detained in a secure facility
- White juveniles most likely to:
 - Be counseled and released
 - Have case closed at intake
 - Receive informal probation

SOURCES

California Child Welfare Indicators Project
 California Department of Justice
 Kidsdata.org (Population Reference Bureau)
 National Survey of Children’s Health
 The Annie E. Casey Foundation (Kids Count Data Center)

