

Michigan Adoption Facts 2021

The goal of Michigan’s Adoption Services Program is to place children with forever families through adoption following termination of parental rights. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) contracts with 46 child placing agencies (CPAs) to provide adoption services to children and their families before and after the adoption.

Approximately 11,000 children are in foster care in Michigan, including more than 200 children who are in need a forever family through adoption. More than 1,650 children were adopted from Michigan’s child welfare system in fiscal year 2021.

Michigan’s Adoption Assistance Program provides financial support to families who adopt children from foster care through the Michigan public child welfare system. Each year, that amount totals about \$200 million. Based on each child’s situation or needs, one or more adoption assistance benefits may be available to support the adoption. Approximately 95 percent of children who are available for adoption qualify for Michigan’s adoption assistance program. There are approximately 24,000 children who were adopted who are receiving ongoing adoption assistance. Additionally, Michigan’s Adoption Medical Subsidy Program assists in the reimbursement of certain physical or behavioral health services for children adopted through the Michigan public child welfare system who have an identified physical, mental or emotional condition which existed, or the cause of which existed, before the adoption petition was filed.

Michigan is committed to responding to the needs of children and families who adopt them and understands the value of post-adoption services to families. Post-adoption services are available statewide through eight Post Adoption Resource Centers (PARCs) and offer: case management, including short-term and emergency in-home intervention; coordination of community services; information dissemination; education; training; advocacy; and family recreational activities and support.

Children in foster care as of Sept. 30:	Children legally ready for adoption as of Sept. 30*:
2017: 13,298	2017: 2,867
2018: 13,710	2018: 3,045
2019: 13,141	2019: 3,009
2020: 12,087	2020: 2,470
2021: 10,996	2021: 2,160**
Licensed foster homes in Michigan as of Sept. 30:	Adoptions from foster care each fiscal year:
2017: 6,231	2017: 1,998
2018: 6,344	2018: 2,002
2019: 5,830	2019: 2,191
2020: 5,620	2020: 1,887
2021: 5,461	2021: 1,651***

*Includes children with an identified adoptive family.

** Data as of September 2021: final data available Jan. 2022

***Preliminary data: final data available Jan. 2022

For more information about adopting in Michigan, visit <https://www.mare.org>.