VIRGINIA'S CHILDREN 2016

Virginia's Children at a Glance¹

State Population ²	8,326,289	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ⁵	15.8%
Population, Children Under 18 ³	1,867,537	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁶	14.9%
State Poverty Rate ⁴	11.8%	Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁷	16.9%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2014, Virginia had 71,679 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 32,874 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2014, there were 6,464 victims of abuse or neglect in Virginia, a rate of 3.5 per 1,000 children, increasing 10.3% from 2013. Of these children, 64.6% were neglected, 29.9% were physically abused, and 12.4% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 0.2% in comparison to the number of victims in 2010. 10
- In 2014, there were 37 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Virginia. 11
- 4,597 children in Virginia lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2014, compared with 5,414 children in 2010. Of the children living apart from their families in 2013, there were 1,282 aged 5 or younger, and 935 were 16 or older.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has decreased 15.1% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2010.¹³
- In 2013, of children in out-of-home care in Virginia, 49% were white, 31% were black, 10% were Hispanic, less than 1% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, 1% were Asian or Pacific Islander and 10% were of more than one race or ethnicity/undetermined race or ethnicity. ¹⁴

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 2,856 children exiting out-of-home care in 2013 in Virginia, 28% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- 632 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Virginia in 2014, decreasing 10.9% from 709 in 2013.¹⁶
- Of the 4,597 children in out-of-home care in 2014, there were 1,532 or 33.3% waiting to be adopted. 17
- In 2014, approximately 63,777 grandparents in Virginia had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren. ¹⁸
- 264 of the children in out-of-home care in 2013 were living with relatives while in care. 19



CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Virginia decreased from 56,546 in 2014 to 51,812 in 2015, a 8.4% change. 24,053 families received TANF in 2015, decreasing 8.1% from 2014.²⁰
- From 2013 to 2014, for every 100 of families living in poverty in Virginia, 26 received TANF benefits.²¹
- \$255,438,645 was spent in 2014 on TANF assistance in Virginia, including 39% on basic assistance, 0% on child care, 0% on transportation, and 61% on nonassistance. 22
- \$65,801,329 was spent in 2014 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Virginia, serving 144,598 participants.²³
- In 2014, Virginia distributed \$611,649,574 in child support funds, increasing 0.8% from 2013.²⁴
- 639,000 children in Virginia lived in households with a high housing burden in 2013, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁵
- In 2014, the unemployment rate in Virginia was 5.2%.²⁶
- 10.1% of households in Virginia were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that the family experienced difficulty providing enough food due to lack of resources at some point during the year.²⁷

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2014, Virginia had a monthly average of 24,300 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 25,000 children received subsidized child care per month in 2013 and 21,200 were recepients in 2012.²⁸
- In 2014, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Virginia, a family of three could make no more than \$29,295 at application, which is equivalent to 38% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2015, Virginia had 5,811 children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2014, Head Start served 14,590 children in Virginia, increasing 6.02% from 2013.31

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 656,094 children in Virginia were enrolled in Medicaid in 2014, increasing 1.2% from 2013.³²
- In 2014, Virginia had 186,513 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, decreasing 5.3% from 2013, when 196,911 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2014, Virginia had 107,102 uninsured children.³⁴
- 8,130 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Virginia in 2014.³⁵



- 634 infants under age 1 died in Virginia in 2013.³⁶
- In 2014, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Virginia was 7.7 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 33.2 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 18.4 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2014, there were 21,356 adults and adolescents and 185 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Virginia.³⁸
- In 2014, an estimated 29,000 children ages 12 to 17 and 538,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on or abusing illicit drugs or alcohol in Virginia.³⁹
- In 2014, approximately 16,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2014, approximately 17,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴¹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 580 children in Virginia aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2013.⁴²
- 84% of high school students in Virginia graduated on time at the end of the 2012-13 year. 43
- 27,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Virginia were not enrolled in school and not working in 2014.⁴⁴
- 113,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school
 in 2013.⁴⁵
- 46.5% of young adults in Virginia ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.
- In 2014, there were 10 reports of children in Virginia aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 56 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 66 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Virginia in 2014, compared to 42 in 2013.⁴⁸
- 20,131 children younger than 18 were arrested in Virginia in 2014. Violent crimes were the reason for 699 of the arrests in 2014.⁴⁹
- 1,563 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Virginia in 2013.⁵⁰



CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE⁵¹

- 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
- A workload model in Colorado found that approximately 574 additional caseworkers were needed in their state to adequately provide child welfare services, due to estimated time requirements for meaningful services. This number represents a 49% increase that is needed on top of hours already spent on case related tasks.⁵⁹

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR VIRGINIA'S CHILDREN

- In 2012, Virginia spent \$680,665,410 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$186,256,192 was from federal funds, \$301,150,896 from state funds, and \$193,258,322 from local funds.⁶⁰
- In 2012, of the \$186,256,192 in federal funds received for child welfare, 48.2% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 6% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 18.3% was from Medicaid, 8% came from Social Services Block Grant, 17.5% was from TANF, and 2% came from other federal sources.⁶¹
- Virginia received \$54,113,877 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2012, including \$24,809,575 for maintenance payments and \$29,304,302 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶²



¹ "At A Glance" statistics are from 2014.

² U.S. Census Bureau (2016). ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.

³ Ibid

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau (2016). Selected Economic Characteristics, 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.

- ⁹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2010-2014.* Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.
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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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- ¹² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). FY 2005 FY 2014 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year: Numbers of Children In Foster Care on September 30th, by State FY 2005–FY 2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children in care 2014.pdf.
- Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center.(2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Age Group, 2013, <1 and 1-5 age groups (Number). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6244-children-in-foster-care-by-age-group#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/1889,2616/12988.
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 Note: The five and younger number is a CWLA calculation.
- 13 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). Fy 2005 Fy 2014 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year: Numbers of Children In Foster Care on September 30th, by State Fy 2005–Fy 2014. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children in care 2014.pdf.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

- ¹⁴ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center.(2015). *Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2013(Percent).* Retrieved February 24, 2016 from <a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6246-children-in-foster-care-by-race-and-hispanic-origin?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/2638,2601,2600,2598,2603,2597,2602,1353/12992,12993.
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- ¹⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). *Table: Adoptions of Children with Public Child Welfare Agency Involvement By State: FY 2005 FY 2014*. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children_adopted2014.pdf.

Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

¹⁷ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). *Children in Public Foster Care Waiting to be Adopted: FY 2005 – FY 2014: Table: Children in Public Foster Care on September 30th of Each Year Waiting to be Adopted: FY 2005 – FY 2014.* Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children-waiting2014.pdf.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

¹⁸ U.S. Census Bureau. (2016). American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2014.



⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals*, 2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.

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- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2015: Table: Total Recipients. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-caseload-data-2015. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2015: Table: Total Families. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-caseload-data-2015. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2014: Table: Total Recipients. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/caseload-data-2014. Note: The percent differences are CWLA calculations.
- ²¹ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2015) A State by State Look at TANF: State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Programs Do Not Provide Adequate Safety Net for Poor Families: TANF Provides a Safety Net to Few Poor Families: Map TANF-to-poverty ratio: # of families receiving TANF benefits for every 100 poor families with children (2013-2014). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.cbpp.org/state-temporary-assistance-for-needy-families-programs-do-not-provide-adequate-safety-net-for-poor.
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Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.

- ²³ USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2016). Program Data: WIC Program: Monthly Data State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs: Table: WIC Program—Total Number of Participants. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program.
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- ²⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement. (2015). FY2014 Preliminary Report. Retrieved February 2, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/css/resource/fy-2014-preliminary-report.
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- ²⁶ Center for American Progress. (2015). *State of the states report 2015*. Retrieved March 10, 2016 from https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/22120741/2015_states_all.pdf.
- ²⁷ Ibid.
- ²⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2015). *FY 2014 Preliminary Data Table 1 Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Families and Children Served.* Retrieved February 2, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fy-2014-preliminary-data-table-1.
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- Note: Some states allow families, once they begin receiving assistance, to continue receiving assistance up to a higher income level than the initial limit. ³⁰ Ibid.
- Note: A family that is eligible for child care assistance may not necessarily receive it. States may place families on waiting lists, or freeze intake (turning away eligible families without adding them to a waiting list).
- ³¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Early Childhood Learning &Knowledge Center, Office of Head Start. (2015). *Head Start Program Facts Fiscal Year 2014*. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/factsheets/2014-hs-program-factsheet.html.
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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

32 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2015, May 3). FY 2014 Unduplicated Number of Children Ever Enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. Retrieved February 16, 2016 from Medicaid.Gov: https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/downloads/fy-2014-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf.

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation. Children who switched between CHIP and Medicaid are represented in both data sets.

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 Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation. Children who switched between CHIP and Medicaid are represented in both data sets.
- ³⁴ U.S. Census Bureau. (2014). Types of Health Insurance Coverage By Age, Civilian noninstitutionalized population: 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from

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- ³⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2016). HIV Surveillance Report, 2014. Vol. 26: Retrieved February 6, 2016 from $\underline{http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-report-us.pdf.}$
- ³⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2016). Estimated Totals by State of Substance Use & Mental Health from the 2013-2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Model-Based Estimated Totals (in Thousands) (50 States and the District of Columbia): Table 20: Dependence or Abuse of Illicit Drugs or Alcohol in the Past Year, by Age Group and State: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2013 and 2014 NSDUHs. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from $\underline{http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsaeTotals2014.pdf}.$
- ⁴⁰ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2016). 2013-2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Model-based estimated totals (in thousands) (50 States and the District of Columbia): Table 22: Needing but not receiving treatment for alcohol use in the past year, by age group and state: Estimated numbers (in thousands), annual averages based on 2013 and 2014 NSDUHs. Retrieved February 22, 2016 from http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsaeTotals2014.pdf.
- ⁴¹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2016). 2013-2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Model-based estimated totals (in thousands) (50 States and the District of Columbia): Table 21: Needing but no receiving treatment for illicit drug use in the past year, by age group and state: Estimated numbers (in thousands), annual averages based on 2013 and 2014 NSDUHs. Retrieved February 22, 2016 from http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsaeTotals2014.pdf.
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- ⁵⁰ Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., & Puzzanchera, C. (2015). Easy access to the census of juveniles in residential placement. Retrieved February 26, 2016 from http://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/asp/State_Facility.asp.
- ⁵¹ 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.

- ⁵² U.S. General Accounting Office. (2003). *Child welfare: HHS could play a greater role in helping child welfare agencies recruit and retain staff.* Retrieved March 9, 2016 from www.gao.gov/new.items/d03357.pdf.
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- ⁵⁵ Gallant, M. (2013). *Does your organization have a healthy employee turnover rate?* Retrieved March 7, 2016 from http://www.halogensoftware.com/blog/does-your-organization-have-healthy-employee-turnover.
- ⁵⁶ Strolin-Goltzman, J., Kollar, S., & Trinkle, J. (2009). Listening to the voices of children in foster care: Youths speak out about child welfare workforce turnover and selection. *Social Work*, 55(1), 47-53.
- ⁵⁷ Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families (2011). NSCAW II baseline report caseworker characteristics, child welfare services, and experiences of children placed in out-of-home care. Washington, DC. Retrieved February 19, 2016 from www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/nscaw2_cw.pdf.
- ⁵⁸ Ibid.
- ⁵⁹ Colorado Department of Human Services. (2014). *Colorado child welfare county workload study*. Retrieved March 7, 2016 from http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/E5214710B77C878487257D320050F29A/\$FILE/1354S%20-%20Colorado%20Childrens%20Welfare%20Workload%20Study%20Report%20August%202014.pdf.
- ⁶⁰ DeVooght, K., Fletcher, M., & Cooper, H. (2014). Federal, State, and Local spending to address child abuse and neglect in SFY 2012: Appendix A:SFY 2012 State-by-State Data.2008/2010 Casey Child Welfare Financing Survey and 2012 Casey Child Welfare Financing Survey. Washington, DC. Retrieved February 26, 2016 from http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/2014-61ChildWelfareSpending-2012-2nd-revision-march.pdf. Note: Examples of direct services include child abuse/neglect investigations, foster care, community-based programs, case management, and all such services required for the safety, permanency, and well-being of children. Examples of administrative services include management information systems, training programs, eligibility determination processes, and all services that provide the infrastructure supports for the public agency. The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional child support and demonstration funds for this state.

 61 Ibid.
- 62 Ibid.

