

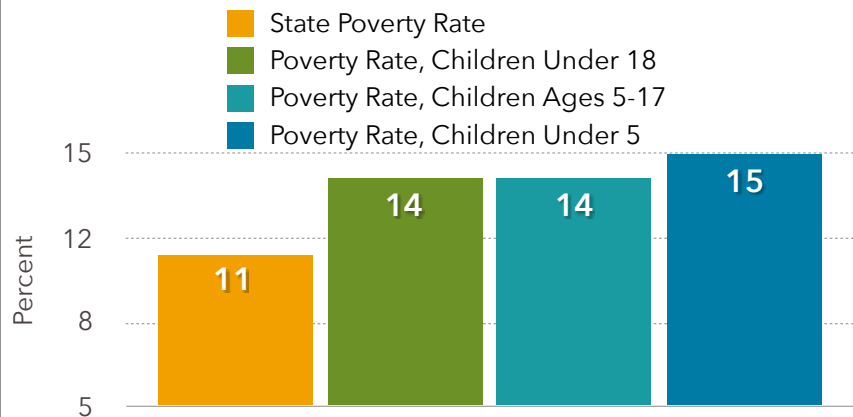
VIRGINIA'S CHILDREN 2018

State Population: 8,310,301 | Population of Children Under 18: 1,835,772

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the **2,892** children exiting out-of-home care in 2016 in Virginia, 30% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- **627** children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Virginia in 2016, an increase of 11.6% from **562** in 2015.¹⁶
- Of the **4,890** children in out-of-home care in 2016, there were **1,886** or 38.57% waiting to be adopted.¹⁷
- In 2016, approximately **72,464** grandparents in Virginia had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- **275** of the children in out-of-home care in 2015 were living with relatives while in care.¹⁹

Poverty Rates



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2016, Virginia had 75,420 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 33,661 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2016, there were 5,941 victims of abuse or neglect in Virginia, a rate of 3.2 per 1,000 children, a decrease of 2.8% from 2015. Of these children, 63.4% were neglected, 31.0% were physically abused, and 11.7% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has decreased 2.8% in comparison to the number of victims in 2015.¹⁰

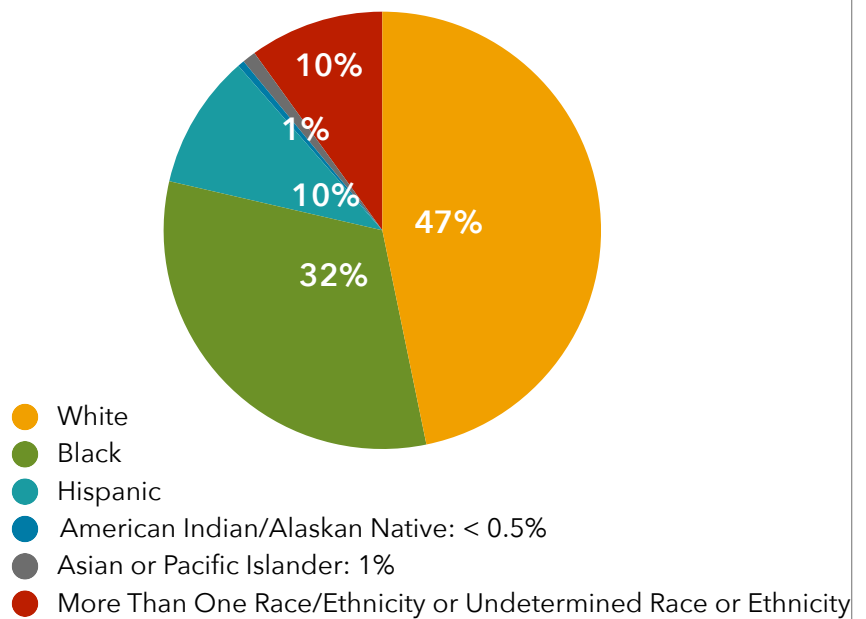


CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Virginia had a monthly average of 24,800 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 24,300 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 25,000 were recipients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Virginia, a family of three could make no more than \$ at application, which is equivalent to of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Virginia had 17,516 children on it's waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2016, Head Start served 14,397 children in Virginia, a decrease of 0.2% from 2015.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Virginia made 15,374 home visits to 2,373 parents and children in 1,449 families, as well as enrolled 1,025 new parents and children to the program.⁶⁴

- In 2016, there were 45 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Virginia.¹¹
- 4,890 children in Virginia lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2016, compared with 4,735 children in 2015.¹²
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 3.3% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2015.¹³

Children in Out-of-Home Care 2015



CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Virginia decreased from 51,341 in 2015 to 46,180 in 2016, a 11.2% change. There was a 21,620 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, a decrease of 10.2% from 2015.²⁰
- In 2016, for every 100 poor families with children, only 19 received TANF cash assistance.²¹

- \$235,958,098 was spent in 2016 on TANF assistance in Virginia, including 14.4% on basic assistance and 2.9% on transportation.²²
- \$33,835,484 was spent in 2016 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Virginia, serving 132,404 participants.²³
- 14.4% of households in Virginia 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

- 651,578 children in Virginia were enrolled in Medicaid in 2016, a decrease of 3.6% from 2015.³²
- In 2016, Virginia had 192,831 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, an increase of 1.8% from 2015, when 189,366 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2016, Virginia had 98,740 uninsured children.³⁴
- 8,263 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Virginia in 2016.³⁵
- 595 infants under age 1 died in Virginia in 2016.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Virginia was 6.9 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 31.3 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 17 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2016, there were 22,317 adults and adolescents and 192 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Virginia.³⁸
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Virginia reached \$546,523,496.³⁹

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 502 children in Virginia aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.⁴²
- 26,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Virginia were not enrolled in school and not working in 2016.⁴⁴

- 87,000 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 14 reports of children in Virginia aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 55 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 78 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Virginia in 2016, compared to 73 in 2015.⁴⁸
- 16,838 children younger than 18 were arrested in Virginia in 2016. Violent crimes were the reason for 735 of the arrests in 2016.⁴⁹
- 1,227 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Virginia 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, Virginia's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$40,908,881. The most utilized service in Virginia was Protective Services for Children totaling \$9,037,507.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR VIRGINIA'S CHILDREN

- In 2014, Virginia spent \$617,208,810 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$211,791,362 was from federal funds and \$405,417,448 was from state and local funds.⁶¹
- In 2014, of the \$211,791,362 in federal funds received for child welfare, 44.2% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 4.7% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 15.3% was from Medicaid, 18.4% came from Social Services Block Grant, 15.9% was from TANF, and 1.5% came from other federal sources.⁶²
- Virginia received \$50,241,072 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$21,532,734 for maintenance payments and \$28,708,338 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

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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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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.

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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.
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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.

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