### **Child Maltreatment**

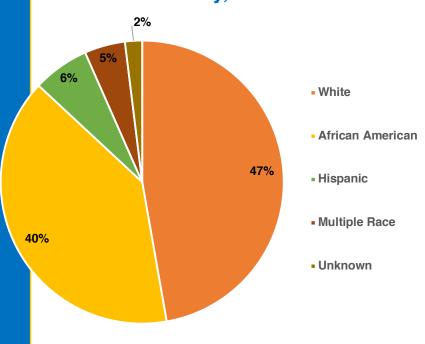
In 2018, Georgia had **126,013** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **87,589** were referred for investigation.

There were **11,090** child victims of abuse or neglect in Georgia in 2018, at a rate of **4.4** children per 1,000. This translates to an **50%** decrease since 2013.

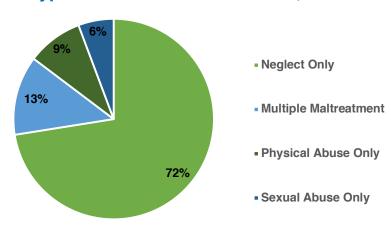
Of the 11,090 children, 9,131 were first time victims.<sup>iii</sup>

The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing **2,420** of the **11,090** cases.iv

### Child Victims by Race or Ethinicity, 2018



#### **Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2018**



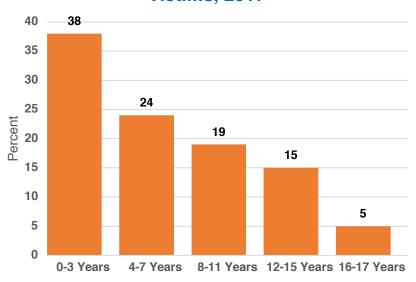
- 83% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. 17% were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.vi
- **50%** of Georgia's child victims in 2017 were female while **50%** were male.<sup>vii</sup>

#### **Plans of Safe Care**

- In 2018, Georgia reported **2,329** infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.<sup>ix</sup>
- Georgia reported 1,404 plans of safe care for screened-in infants.x



### Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2017



- Child fatalities decreased in 2018 from 94 in 2017 to 86 in 2018.xi
- Georgia reported 40 total child victims of sex trafficking with 34 female and 6 males.xii
- 8,548 victims received postresponse services while 109,292 non-victims received postresponse services as well.xiii

xiv

### **Foster Care and Adoptions**

- **21,050** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- 13,793 were in care on the day of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- **8,082** children entered care during the 2018 FY while **7,257** exited during the same year.
- 1,469 of Georgia's children were adopted while
   3,633 were waiting to be adopted.xv

There was a **4.9**% increase in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased **4.8**% from 2017.<sup>xvi</sup>

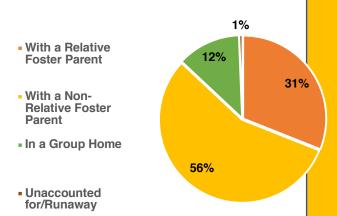
11.9%
Increase since 2016 in children aging out of foster care

**598** children in Georgia aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is an increase from **534** in 2016 and represents an **11.9%** increase.xvii

- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of 34.2 months in care. xviii
- The average length of stay in Georgia for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in 32.4 months.xix
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was **7.9** years old.\*x
- The average age of adopted children was 5.9 years old.xxi



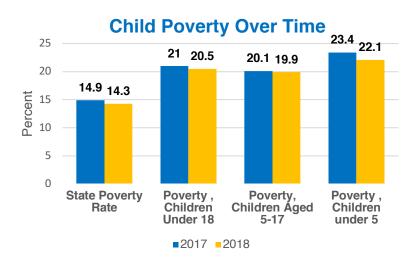
### Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?



- Data from 2017 shows that **7,233** children in foster care within Georgia were living with non-relatives while **4,008** stayed with a relative.
- 1,601 children were staying in group homes while 81 children were classified as runaways.\*xxii
- 5% of households in Georgia in 2017 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.xxiii
- The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was 10.2 months.xxiv

### **Child Poverty**

Georgia had **689,000** children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing **27%** of all children.xxv



**30%** of Georgia's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.<sup>xxvi</sup>

The average number of individuals receiving TANF rose from **17,133** in 2017 to **21,151** in 2018. This represents a **23.45** increase.xxxii

The state spent \$99,830,772 on WIC in 2019, serving 202,915 people. This represents a 6.7% decrease in total participants and a 2.5% decrease in spending. xxviii

**1,501,680** people in Georgia were food insecure in 2017, including **503,370 children** who struggled with hunger.<sup>xxix</sup>

45.9% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Georgia in 2017 had children.xxx



#### Health

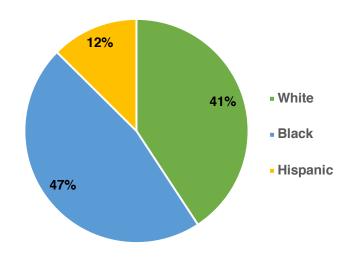
Georgia had **12,772** low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to **9.9%** of infants born in Georgia in 2017.xxxi

Georgia had a total of **14,509** preterm births in 2017, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. **9.9%** of all white babies were born premature while **14.5%** of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was **11.5%**.xxxiii

There were **7,778** births to mothers aged 15-19 in Georgia in 2017, representing a rate of **22** in every 1,000 teen girls. \*\*xxiii

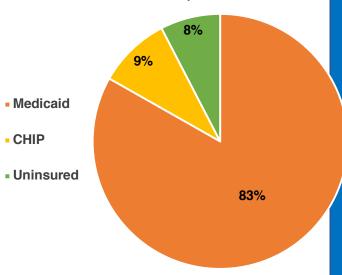
**932** infants under 1 died in Georgia in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of **7.2** per 1,000. \*\*xxiv\*

### Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2018



XXXV

### Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018



- **8.1%** of Georgia's children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents **12,000** children. Georgia is not a Medicaid expansion state \*\*xxxvi\*\*
- 1,315,810 children in Georgia were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents 0.03% decrease from 2017. xxxvii
- 262,135 children in Georgia were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents an 10.6% increase from 2017. xxxviii



3.7%

decline since
2015 of children
living in juvenile
correction
facilities

### **Juvenile Justice System**

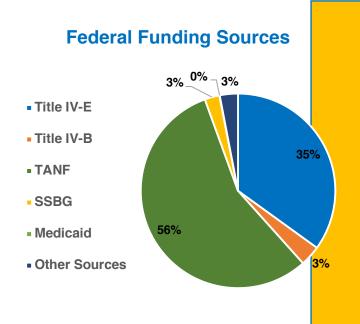
- There were **15,400** total arrests for children under 18 in Georgia in 2018.
- **1,387** of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- **3,161** arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **2,053** were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.\*\*xxxix
- 1,068 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Georgia in 2017. This is a decrease from 1,110 kids in 2015, representing a 3.7% decline.xl

#### **Teens & Youth**

- 48,000 (8%) of Georgia's youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.xli
- In 2017, there were 19 reports of children in Georgia aged 10-14 committing suicide, and 73 reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.xlii
- 148 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Georgia in 2017.xliii

### **Child Welfare Services Funding**

- Georgia spent \$712,243,067 on child welfare services in 2016. Child welfare services are all of the direct and administrative services that state agencies provide to children and families.
- \$359,861,953 were allocated from the federal government and \$352,381,114 came from state and local funds.xliv



- The breakdown of the \$359,861,953 in federal funding received in Georgia in 2016: xlv
- \$42,822,890 as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- \$36,475,940 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program xlvi
- Georgia's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was \$52,643,215 xlvii



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf</a>

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- <sup>v</sup> U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). Child Maltreatment 2018. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-7 Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2020 from <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2018.pdf</a>
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