

Virginia's Children 2020

Child Maltreatment

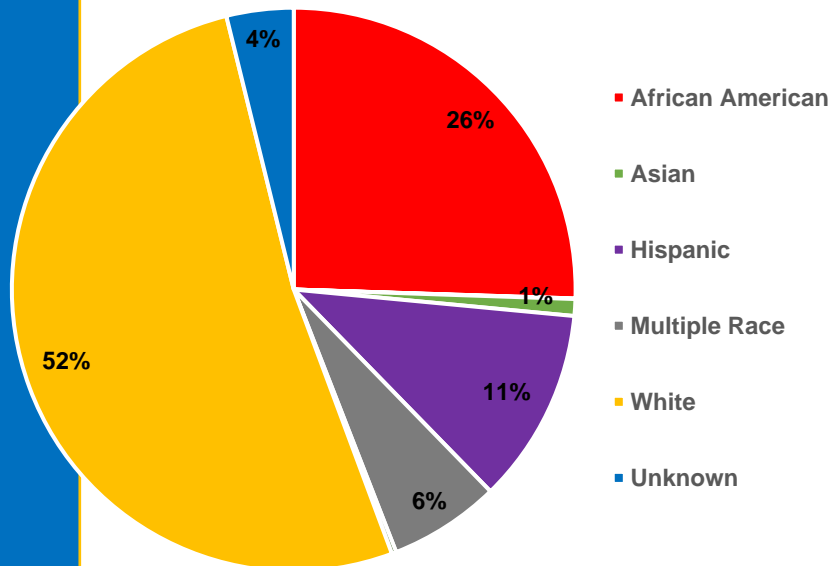
In 2018, Virginia had **85,194** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **36,543** were referred for investigation.ⁱ

There were **6,132** child victims of maltreatment in Virginia in 2018, at a rate of **3.3** children per 1,000. This translates to an **5.1%** decrease since 2014.ⁱⁱ

Virginia did not report the number of first-time victims.ⁱⁱⁱ

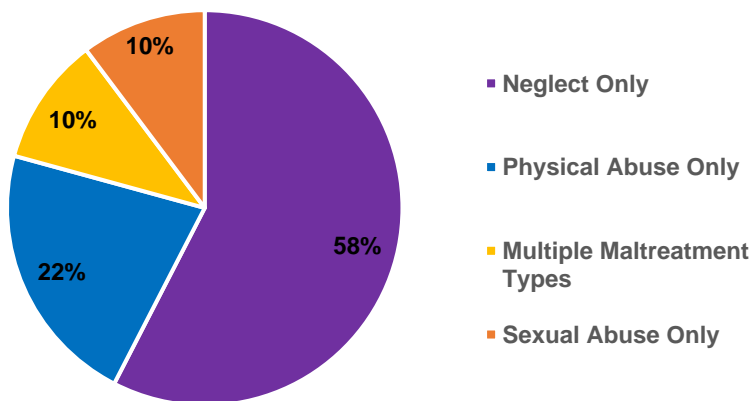
The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing **746** of the **6,132** cases.^{iv}

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2018



v

Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2018



- **74%** of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2017 were parents of the child. **26%** were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.^{vi}

- **52%** of Virginia's child victims in 2017 were female while **48%** were male.^{vii}

viii

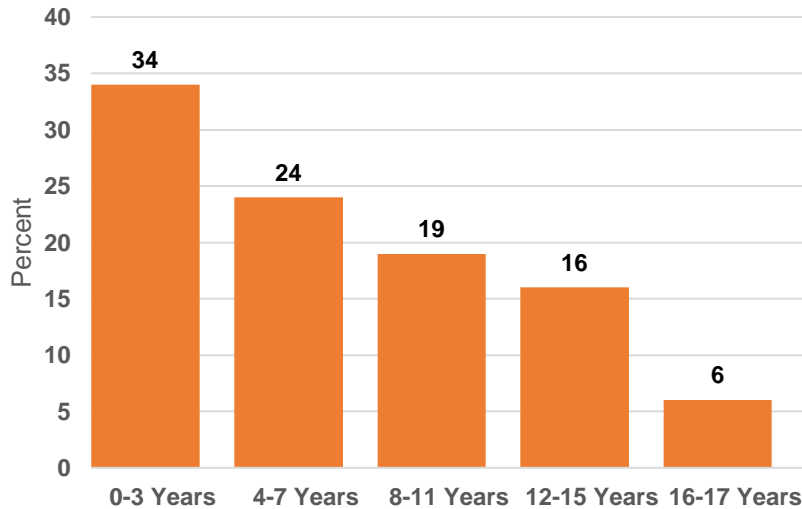
Plans of Safe Care

- In 2018, Virginia did not report the number of infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.^{ix}
- Virginia reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.^x



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2017



• Child fatalities decreased in 2018 from **41** in 2017 to **37** in 2018.^{xi}

• Virginia did not report of the number of sex trafficking victims for 2018.^{xii}

• **1,774** victims received postresponse services while **2,264** non-victims received postresponse services as well.^{xiii}

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Foster Care and Adoptions

- **7,754** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2018.
- **4,915** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2018.
- **2,940** children entered care during the 2018 FY while **2,849** exited during the same year.
- **879** of Virginia's children were adopted while **1,766** were waiting to be adopted.^{xv}

There was a **2.5%** increase in the number of children in care between 2017 and 2018. Adoptions from the system also increased **9.7%** from 2017.^{xvi}

20.3%
decrease since
2016 in children
aging out of
foster care

427 children in Virginia aged out and exited foster care in 2017. This is a decrease from **536** in 2016 and represents an **20.3%** decrease.^{xvii}

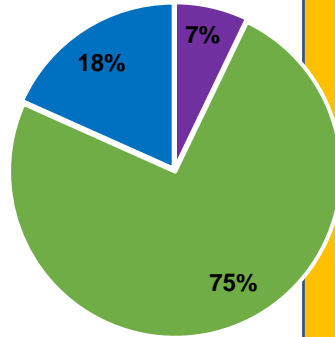
- Children in foster care in 2017 spent an average of **19.9** months in care. ^{xviii}
- The average length of stay in Virginia for children waiting to be adopted from foster care in **31.1** months.^{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2017 was **8.7** years old.^{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was **7** years old.^{xxi}



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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?

- With a Relative Foster Parent
- With a Non-Relative Foster Parent
- In a Group Home

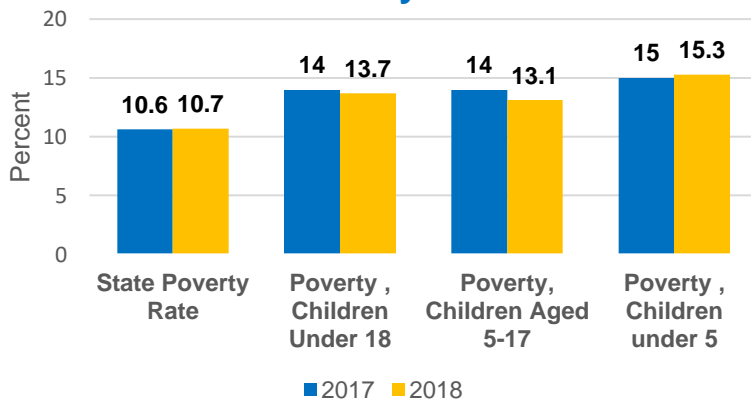


- Data from 2017 shows that **3,335** children in foster care within Virginia were living with non-relatives while **319** stayed with a relative. ^{xxii}
- 819** children were staying in group homes while the number children that were classified as runaways was not reported. ^{xxiii}
- 2%** of households in Virginia in 2017 had a grandparent living with a grandchild. ^{xxiv}
- The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was **10.3** months. ^{xxv}

Child Poverty

Virginia had **439,000** children in 2017 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing **23%** of all children. ^{xxvi}

Child Poverty Over Time



29% of Virginia's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden. ^{xxvii}

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from **35,703** in 2017 to **34,421** in 2018. This represents a **3.6%** decrease. ^{xxviii}

The state spent **\$42,590,635** on WIC in 2019, serving **109,469** people. This represents a **3.9%** decrease in total participants and

a **1.2%** increase in spending. ^{xxix}

863,390 people in Virginia were food insecure in 2017, including **247,470 children** who struggled with hunger. ^{xxx}

44.2% of households in Virginia that received SNAP benefits in 2017 had children. ^{xxxi}



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Health

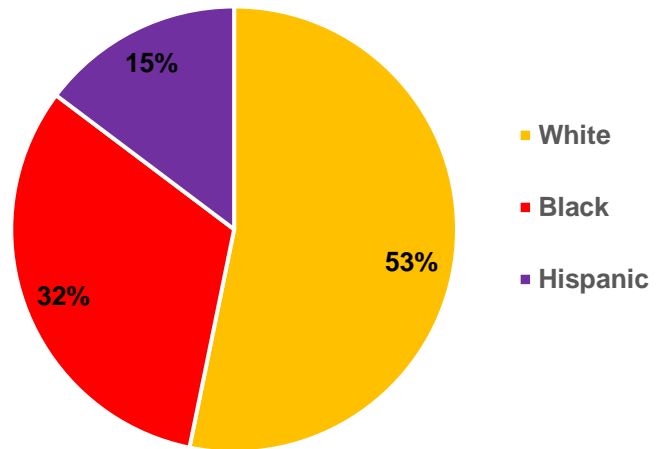
Virginia had **8,393** low birth-weight babies born in 2017 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to **8.4%** of infants born in Virginia in 2017. ^{xxxii}

Virginia had a total of **9,401** preterm births in 2018, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. **8.4%** of all white babies were born premature while **13.2%** of black babies arrived prematurely in 2018. The total premature birth rate was **9.4%**. ^{xxxiii}

There were **3,987** births to mothers aged 15-19 in Virginia in 2017, representing a rate of **15** in every 1,000 teen girls. ^{xxxiv}

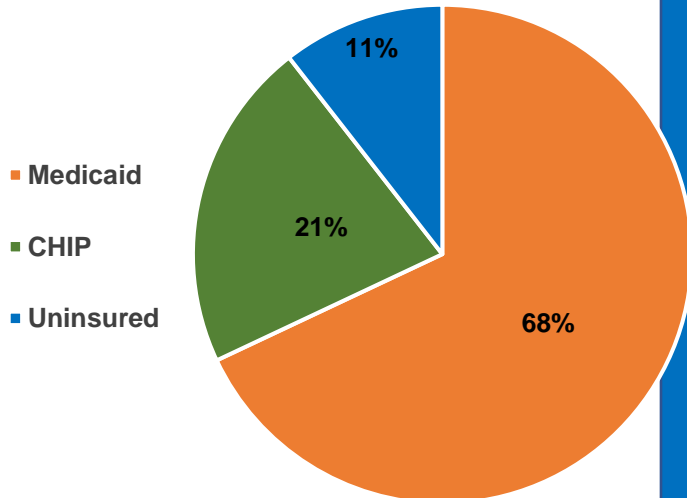
592 infants under 1 died in Virginia in 2017, representing an infant mortality rate of **5.9** per 1,000. ^{xxxv}

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2018



xxxvi

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018



- **5.1%** of Virginia's children had no health insurance in 2018. This represents **102,000** children. Virginia is a Medicaid expansion state. ^{xxxvii}
- **658,138** children in Virginia were enrolled in Medicaid in 2018. This represents a **2%** decrease from 2017. ^{xxxviii}
- **207,974** children in Virginia were in the state Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2018. This represents an **2.3%** increase from 2017. ^{xxxix}



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13.4%
decline since
2015 of children
living in juvenile
correction
facilities

Juvenile Justice System

- There were **15,864** total arrests for children under 18 in Virginia in 2018.
- **588** of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- **2,994** arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **2,132** were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.^{xi}
- **1,062** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Virginia in 2017. This is a decrease from **1,227** kids in 2015, representing a **13.4%** decline.^{xii}

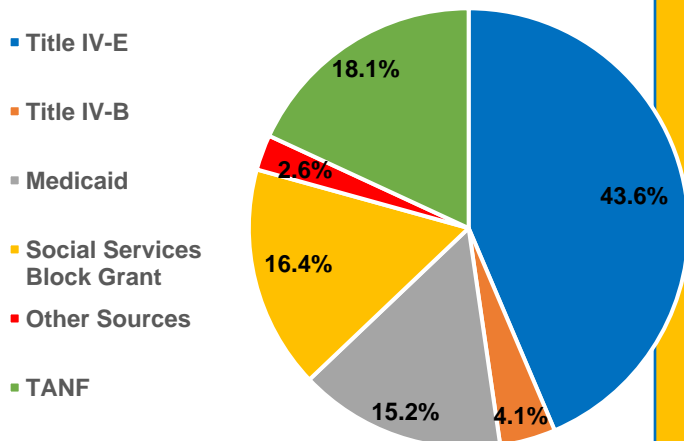
Teens & Youth

- **23,000** (5%) of Virginia's youth were both not in school and not working in 2017.^{xiii}
- In 2017, there were **no** reports of children in Virginia aged 10-14 committing suicide, and **58** reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.^{xiii}
- **87** children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Virginia in 2017.^{xiv}

Child Welfare Services Funding

- Virginia spent **\$673,096,671** 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.
- **\$255,191,084** were allocated from the federal government and **\$417,905,587** came from state and local funds.^{xv}

Federal Funding Sources



- The breakdown of the **\$255,191,084** in federal funding received in Virginia in 2016.^{xvi}
- **\$61,072,862** as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- **\$48,593,998** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.^{xvii}
- Virginia's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2017 was **\$41,048,102**.^{xviii}



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^{xx} Ibid.

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