

South Carolina's Children 2022

Child Maltreatment

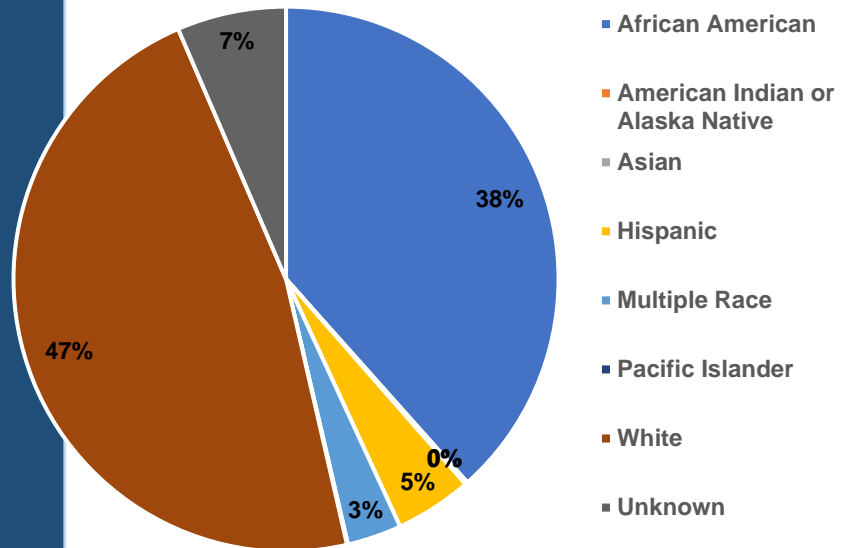
In 2020, South Carolina had **53,514** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **34,078** were referred for investigation.ⁱ

There were **14,263** child victims of abuse or neglect in South Carolina in 2020, at a rate of **12.8** children per 1,000. This translates to a **17.7%** decrease since 2016.ⁱⁱ

Of the **14,263** children, **10,083** were first time victims.ⁱⁱⁱ

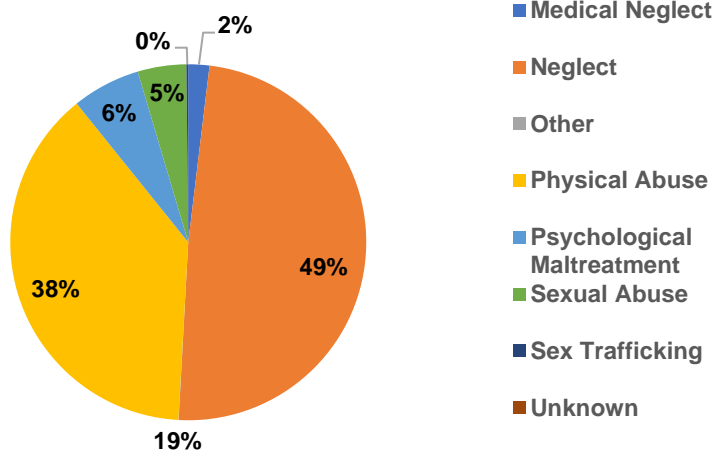
The largest age group of victims was children under one, representing **2,098** of the **14,263** cases.^{iv}

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



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Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



86% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child. **14%** were non-parents or had an unknown relationship.^{vi}

49% of South Carolina's child victims in 2020 were female and **50%** were male. **1%** of child victims are unknown or not reported.^{vii}

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Plans of Safe Care

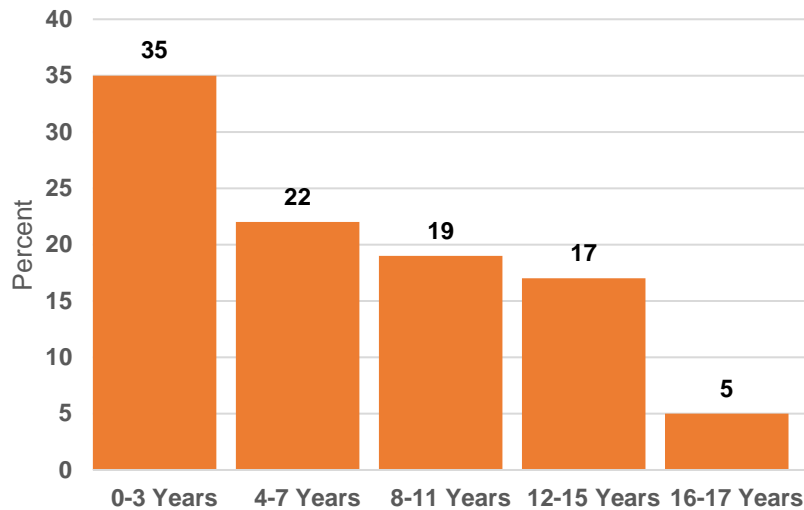
In 2020, South Carolina reported **451** infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.^{ix}

South Carolina reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.^x



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



Child fatalities decreased from **60** in 2019 to **36** in 2020.^{xi}

South Carolina reported **28** total child victims of sex trafficking in 2020.^{xii}

5,008 victims received post-response services while **7,490** non-victims received post-response services as well.^{xiii}

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Foster Care and Adoptions

- **7,419** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- **4,070** were in care on the day of September 30th, 2020.
- **2,961** children entered care during the 2020 FY while **3,349** exited during the same year.
- **551** of South Carolina's children were adopted while **1,623** were waiting to be adopted.^{xv}

There was a **9.9%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2018 and 2019. Adoptions from the system also decreased **3.9%** from 2018.^{xvi}

260 children in South Carolina aged out and exited foster care in 2019. This is an increase from **257** in 2018 and represents a **1.1%** increase.^{xvii}

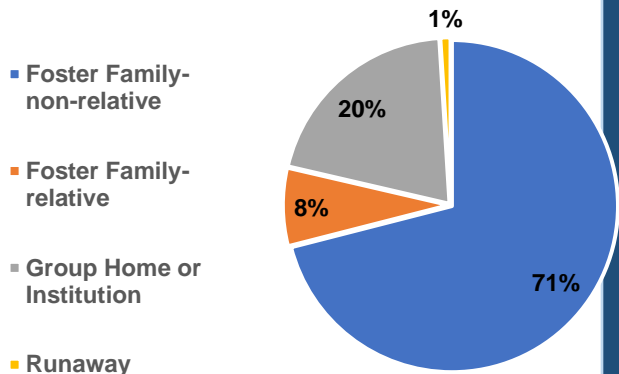
- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of **20.6** months in care.^{xviii}
- The average length of stay in South Carolina for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is **34.1** months.^{xix}
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was **8.8** years old.^{xx}
- The average age of adopted children was **6.2** years old.^{xxi}

1.1%
Increase since
2018 in children
aging out of
foster care



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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?



Data from 2019 shows that **3,023** children in foster care within South Carolina were living with non-relatives while **324** stayed with a relative (See Pie Chart).^{xxii}

868 children were staying in group homes while **42** children were classified as runaways.^{xxiii}

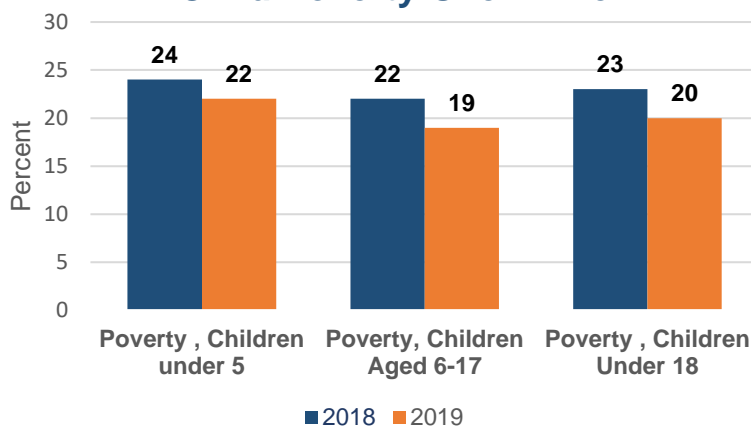
4% of households in South Carolina in 2020 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.^{xxiv}

The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was **6.9** months.^{xxv}

Child Poverty

South Carolina had **311,000** children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing **28%** of all children.^{xxvi}
xxvii

Child Poverty Over Time



26% of South Carolina's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.^{xxviii}

The average number of individuals receiving TANF decreased from **17,829** in 2019 to **17,527** in 2020. This represents a **1.6%** decrease.^{xxix xxx}

The state spent **\$32,818,881** on WIC in 2021, serving **86,819** people. This represents a **7.2%** increase in total participants and a **22.9%** decrease in spending.^{xxxi}

555,630 people in South Carolina were food insecure in 2019, including **161,030 children** who struggled with hunger.^{xxxii}

48.3% of households receiving SNAP benefits in South Carolina in 2019 had children.^{xxxiii}



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Health

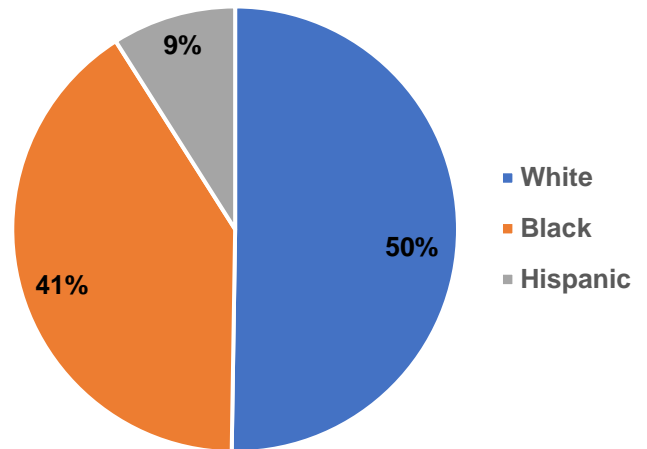
South Carolina had **5,610** low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to **9.8%** of infants born in South Carolina in 2019.^{xxxiv}

South Carolina had a total of **6,539** preterm births in 2019, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. **9.8%** of all white babies were born premature while **15.1%** of black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was **11.4%**.^{xxxv}

There were **3,425** births to mothers aged 15-19 in South Carolina in 2019, representing a rate of **22** in every 1,000 teen girls.^{xxxvi}

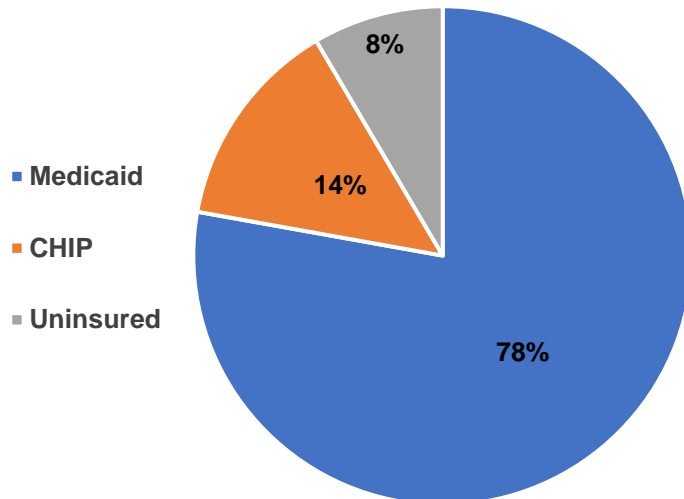
391 infants under 1 died in South Carolina in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of **6.9** per 1,000.^{xxxvii}

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2019



xxxviii

Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2020



5.8% of South Carolina's children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents **69,000** children.^{xxxix}

633,762 children in South Carolina were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a **1.8%** decrease from 2019.^{xl}

111,645 children in South Carolina were in the state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a **1.6%** decrease from 2019.^{xli}



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15.9%

Increase since 2017 of children living in juvenile correction facilities

Juvenile Justice System

- There were **9,403** total arrests for children under 18 in South Carolina in 2019.
- **865** of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- **1,918** arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **1,375** were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.^{xlii}
- **633** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in South Carolina in 2018. This is an increase from **546** kids in 2017, representing a **15.9%** increase.^{xliii}

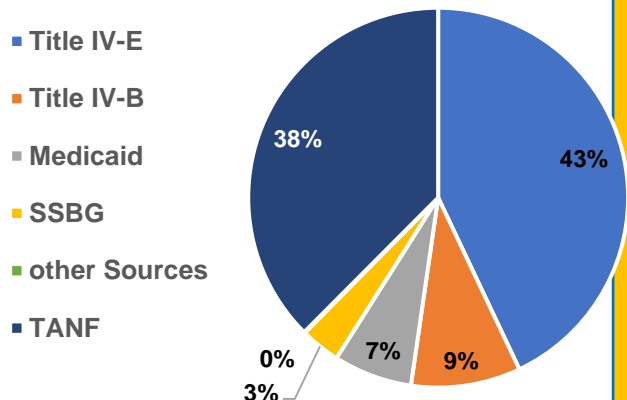
Teens & Youth

- **21,000** (8%) of South Carolina's youth were both not in school and not working in 2018.^{xliv}
- In 2020, there were **no** reports of children in South Carolina aged 10-14 committing suicide, and **48** reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.^{xlv}
- **127** children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in South Carolina in 2020.^{xlvi}

Child Welfare Services Funding

- South Carolina spent **\$258,656,956** on child welfare services in 2018. Child welfare services are all of the direct and administrative services that state agencies provide to children and families.
- **\$147,204,741** were allocated from the federal government and **\$95,078,201** came from state and local funds.^{xlvii}

Federal Funding Sources



The breakdown of the **\$147,204,741** in federal funding received in South Carolina in 2018: ^{xlviii}

- **\$41,264,169** as part of the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.
- **\$20,732,391** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program ^{xlix}
- South Carolina's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was **\$24,538,241** ^l



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- ⁱⁱⁱ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-4: First-Time Victims, 2020. Retrieved January 24, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>
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- ^v U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-7 Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2020. Retrieved January 24, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>
- ^{vi} Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Child Maltreatment, Child Maltreatment Perpetrators, 2020. Retrieved March 7, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>
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- ^{viii} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-8 Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2020. Retrieved January 24, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>
- ^{ix} U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020. Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-10 Infants with Prenatal Substance Exposure by Submission Type, 2020. Retrieved January 24, 2022 from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf>
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- ^{xvii} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2021). Children exiting foster care by exit reason. Retrieved January 25, 2022 from <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6277-children-exiting-foster-care-by-exit-reason?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-53/false/1729,37/2632/13050,13051>.
- ^{xviii} Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Foster Care, 2020. Retrieved March 7, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>
- ^{xix} Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Adoption from Foster Care, 2020. Retrieved March 7, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>
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- ^{xxi} Ibid.
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- ^{xxiii} Ibid
- ^{xxiv} Child Trends, (2022). State-level data for understanding child welfare in the United States, Kinship Caregiving, 2020. Retrieved March 7, 2022 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-level-data-for-understanding-child-welfare-in-the-united-states>
- ^{xxv} Ibid.
- ^{xxvi} Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book. (2021). State Trends in Child Well-Being: Appendix B, Economic Well-Being Indicators, 2021. Retrieved January 25, 2022 from <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2021-kids-count-data-book>
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^{xxxv} Martin J., Hamilton B., Osterman M., and Driscoll A. (2021). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports, Births: Final Data for 2019: Table 1-19. Preterm births, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, each state and territory, 2019, 2021. Retrieved January 25, 2022 from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>

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^{xlii} U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2022). Crime in the United States 2019: Table 69: Arrests by State, 2019. Retrieved January 27, 2022 from <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-69>

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