#### **Child Maltreatment**

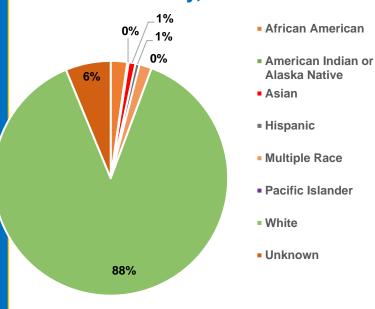
In 2020, Vermont had **81,867** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **33,216** were referred for investigation.

There were **530** child victims of abuse or neglect in Vermont in 2020, at a rate of **4.7** children per 1,000. This translates to a 4.8% decrease since 2016.<sup>ii</sup>

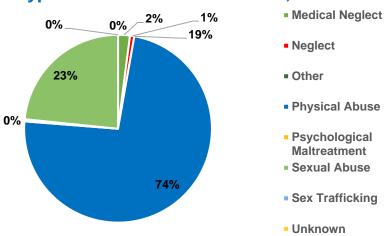
Of the **530** children, **433** were first time victims.<sup>iii</sup>

The largest age group of victims was children aged **one**, representing **38** of the **530** cases.iv

# Child Victims by Race or Ethinicity, 2020



#### **Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2020**



- 63% of child maltreatment perpetrators in 2020 were parents of the child. 37% were non-parents or had an unknown
- **54%** of Vermont's child victims in 2020 were female while **46%** were male.<sup>vii</sup>

relationship.vi

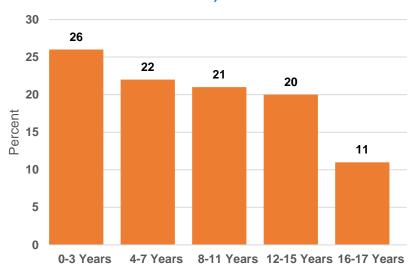
Viii

#### Plans of Safe Care

- In 2020, Vermont did not report the number of infants who were screened-in with prenatal substance abuse exposure.<sup>ix</sup>
- Vermont reported no plans of safe care for screened-in infants.<sup>x</sup>



### Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities decreased in 2020 from **one** in 2019 to **zero** in 2020.<sup>xi</sup>
- Vermont did not report the number of sex trafficking victims for 2020.xiii
- •166 victims received postresponse services while 416 non-victims received post-response services as well.xiii

xiv

### **Foster Care and Adoptions**

- **1,741** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2020.
- **1,078** were in care on the day of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- 556 children entered care during the 2020 FY while
   665 exited during the same year.
- 263 of Vermont's children were adopted while 308 were waiting to be adopted.xv

There was a **13.4%** decrease in the number of children in care between 2019 and 2020. Adoptions from the system increased **1.2%** from 2019 to 2020. xvi

17.4%
Decrease since 2019 in children aging out of

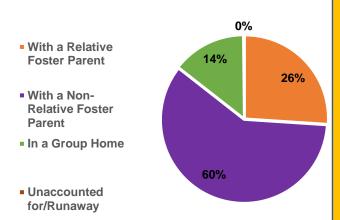
foster care

**57** children in Vermont aged out and exited foster care in 2020. This is a decrease from **69** in 2019 and represents a **17.4%** decrease.xvii

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average of 19.3 months in care. xviii
- The average length of stay in Vermont for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is **33.0** months.xix
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 8.4 years old.xx
- The average age of adopted children was 6.4 years old.xxi



## Where are Children in Foster Care Staying?



Data from 2019 shows that **672** children in foster care in Vermont were living with non-relatives, while **294** stayed with a relative (See Pie Chart). xxiii

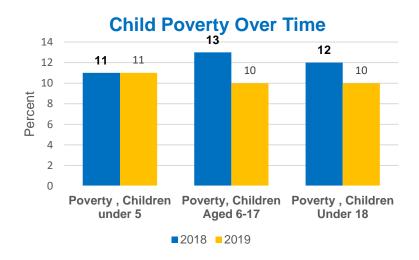
**164** children were staying in group homes while **2** children were classified as runaways.\*xiii

**4%** of households in Vermont in 2020 had a grandparent living with a grandchild.\*\*

The average length of time a child in care spent living with their current relative foster family was **10.9** months.\*\*v

### **Child Poverty**

Vermont had **28,000** children in 2019 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing **25%** of all children.<sup>xxvi</sup>



**24%** of Vermont's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden.\*\*xxviii

The average number of individuals receiving TANF fell from **4,557** in 2019 to **4,169** in 2020. This represents a **8.5%** decrease.\*\*xix xxx

The state spent \$4,822,923 on WIC in 2021, serving 11,413 people. This represents a 1.9% decrease in total participants and a 1.7% increase in spending. xxxi

**68,590** people in Vermont were food insecure in 2019 including **15,730 children** who struggled with hunger.<sup>xxxii</sup>

29.6% of households receiving SNAP benefits in Vermont in 2019 had children. XXXIII



#### Health

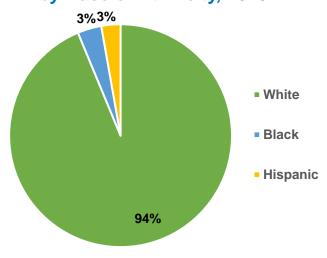
Vermont had **351** low birth-weight babies born in 2019 which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to **6.6%** of infants born in Vermont in 2019.\*\*

Vermont had a total of **452** preterm births in 2019, meaning completed less than 37 weeks of gestation. **8.4%** of all white babies were born premature while **11.3%** of all black babies arrived prematurely in 2019. The total premature birth rate was **8.4%**.xxxv

There were **152** births to mothers aged 15-19 in Vermont in 2019, representing a rate of **8** in every 1,000 teen girls. xxxvi

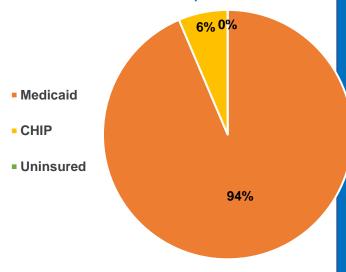
**15** infants under one died in Vermont in 2019, representing an infant mortality rate of which reporting standards were not met. \*xxxvii\*

## Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2019



xxxviii

## Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2018



**2.1%** of Vermont's children had no health insurance in 2019. This represents **3,000** children. Vermont is a Medicaid expansion state. xxxix

**69,528** children in Vermont were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents 1.9% decrease from 2019. XI

**4,748** children in Vermont were in the state Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents an **11.0%** decrease from 2019. \*\*



0%

change since 2017 in children living in juvenile correction facilities

### **Juvenile Justice System**

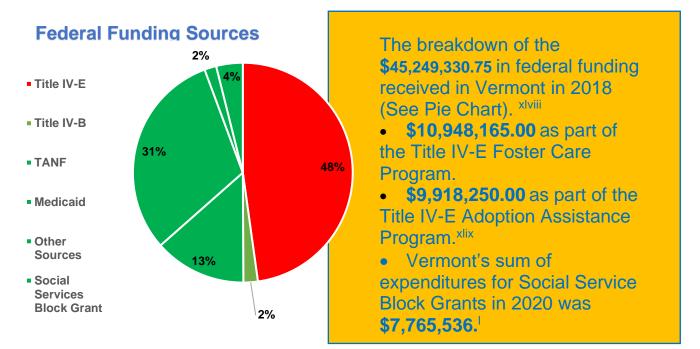
- There were **803** total arrests for children under 18 in Vermont in 2019.
- 101 of these arrests were for Disorderly Conduct.
- 135 arrests were made for Property Crimes.
- **27** were arrested under the charge of Drug Abuse Violations.<sup>xlii</sup>
- **18** children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Vermont in 2019. This represents no change from 2017. XIIII

#### **Teens & Youth**

- **2,000** (4%) of Vermont's youth were both not in school and not working in 2019. Xliv
- In 2020, there were no reports of children in Vermont aged 10-14 committing suicide, and no reports of suicide among children aged 15-19.xlv
- No children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Vermont in 2020.xlvi

### **Child Welfare Services Funding**

Vermont spent **\$106,259,448.75** 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. **\$45,249,330.75** were allocated from the federal government and **\$60,007,718.00** came from state and local funds.xlvii





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- "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 3-3: Child Victims, 2016-2020. Retrieved January 24, 2022 from <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf</a>
- <sup>III</sup> 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 <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf</a>
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- \* 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 3-11 Screened-in Infants with Prenatal Substance Exposure Who Have a Plan of Safe Care, 2020. Retrieved January 24, 2022 from <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2020.pdf</a>
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