

Vermont's Children

Child Maltreatment

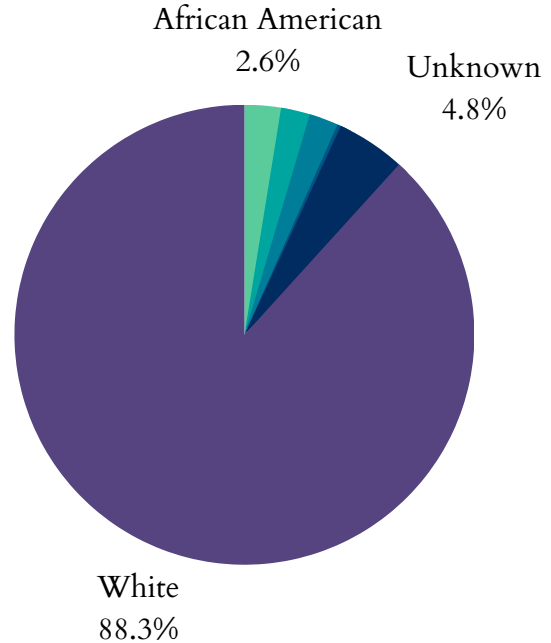
In 2021, Vermont had 16,029 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 2,490 were screened in for response by CPS.

There were 392 child victims of abuse or neglect in Vermont in 2021, at a rate of 3.4 children per 1,000. This translates to a 55% decrease since 2017.

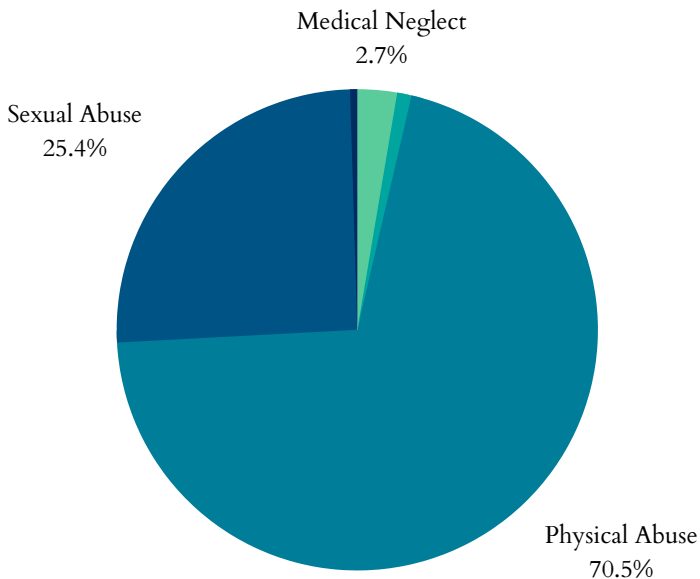
Of the 392 children, 331 were first-time victims.

The largest age group of victims was children aged one and aged five, representing 36 of the 392 cases respectively.

Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2021



Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2021



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

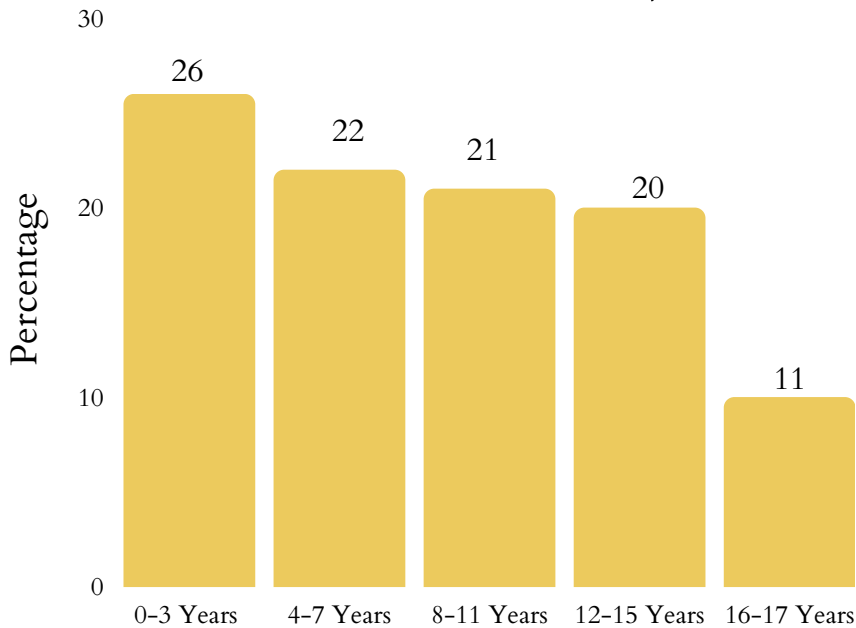
Plans for Safe Care

- In 2021, Vermont did not report infants screened with prenatal substance abuse exposure.
- Vermont did not report plans of safe care for screened-in infants.



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Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2020



- Child fatalities have increased from 0 in 2020 to 1 in 2021.
- Vermont did not report total child victims of sex trafficking.
- 159 victims received post-response services while 478 non-victims received post-response services as well.

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION

- Vermont has submitted a Family First Plan, approved in October 2021.
- Vermont's Family First Plan

Foster Care and Adoptions

- 1,634 total children were served by the foster care system in Vermont in FY 2021.
- 1,054 were in care on the day of September 30th, 2021.
- 591 children entered care during the 2021 FY while 580 exited during the same year.
- 202 of Vermont's children were adopted while 266 were waiting to be adopted.

17.4%

The decrease since 2019 in children aging out of foster care.

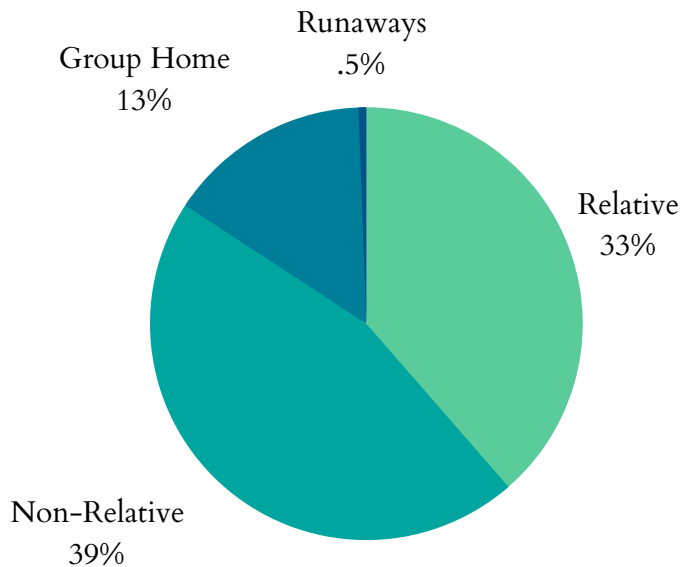
There was an 2.23% decrease in the number of children in care between 2020 and 2021. Adoptions from the system also decreased by 23.19% from 2020.

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.

- Children in foster care in 2020 spent an average length of 19.3 months in care.
- The average length of stay in Vermont for children waiting to be adopted from foster care is 33 months.
- The average age of children waiting to be adopted in 2020 was 8.4 years old.
- The average age of adopted children was 6.4 years old.

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Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2020



Data from 2020 shows that 490 children in foster care within Vermont were living with non-relatives while 334 stayed with a relative.

143 children were staying in group homes or institutions while 1 child was classified as runaway.

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 11.4 months.

Child Poverty

Vermont had 28,000 children in 2021 who lived with parents who lacked secure employment, representing 24% of all children.

24% of Vermont's children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2021.

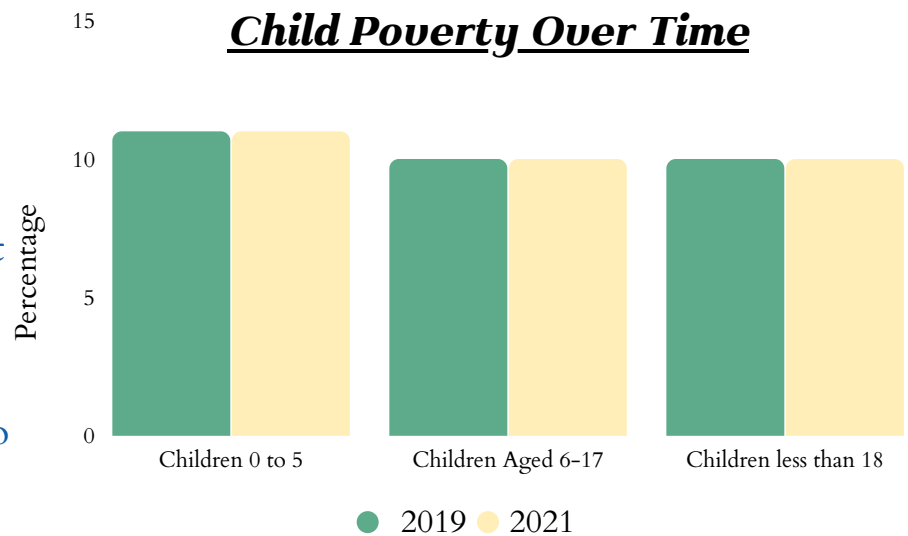
The average number of TANF recipients rose from 3,269 in 2021 to 3,657 in 2022. This represents a 11.87% decrease.

Vermont spent \$5,155,507 on WIC in 2022, serving 11,199 people. This represents a 1.88% decrease in total participants and a 0.95% decrease in spending.

56,010 people in Vermont were food insecure in 2020, including 13,610 children who struggled with hunger.

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

Child Poverty Over Time



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Health

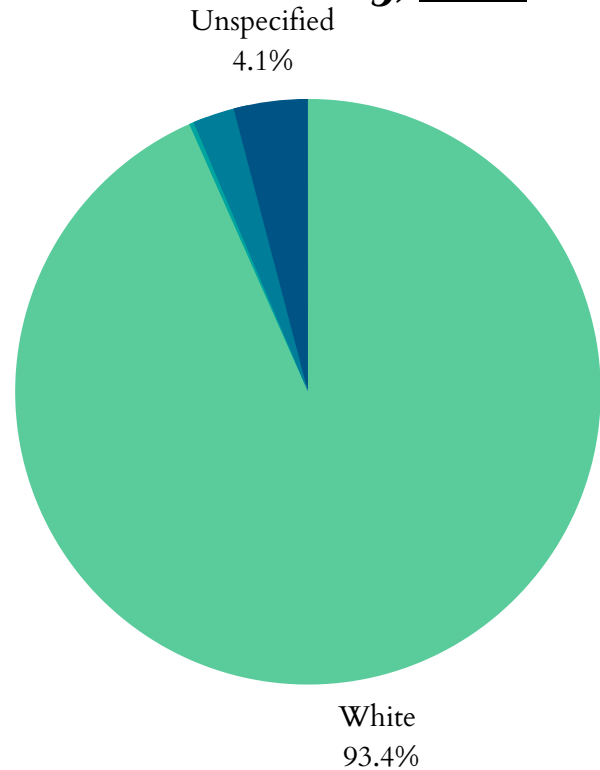
Vermont had 357 low birth-weight babies born in 2020, which is constituted as babies weighing less than 5.5 pounds. This translates to 7% of infants born in Vermont in 2020.

Vermont had a total of 391 preterm births in 2020, meaning less than 37 completed weeks of gestation. 7.86% of all White babies were born prematurely while the state did not report a number of Black babies arriving prematurely in 2020. The total premature birth rate was 7.62%.

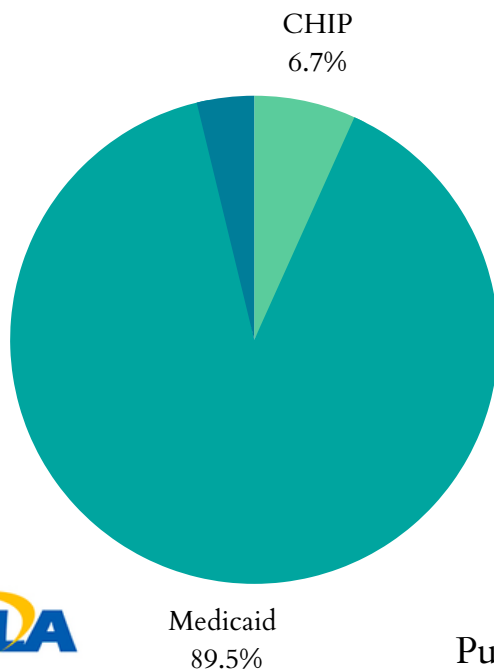
There were 139 births to mothers aged 15-19 in reported in Vermont in 2020, representing a rate of 7 in every 1,000 girls.

18 infants under 1 died in Vermont in 2020, representing an infant mortality rate of <1 per 1,000.

Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2020



Public Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2019



2,000 of Vermont's children had no health insurance in 2021. This represents a 33.33% decrease from 2019.

69,528 children in Vermont were enrolled in Medicaid in 2020. This represents a 1.89% decrease from 2019.

4,748 children in Vermont were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2020. This represents a 10.97% decrease from 2019.

Vermont adopted Medicaid expansion in January 2014.

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Juvenile Justice

- There were 803 total arrests for children under 18 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.
- 18 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Vermont in 2019. This number has not changed since 2017.

0%

The change since 2017 of children living in juvenile correction facilities.

Teens & Youth

- 2,000 (5%) of Vermont's youth, ages 16-19, were not in school nor working in 2021.
- In 2020, Vermont did not report children aged 10-14 committing suicide, but there were 15 reports of suicide among children and young adults aged 15-24.
- 0 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Vermont in 2020.

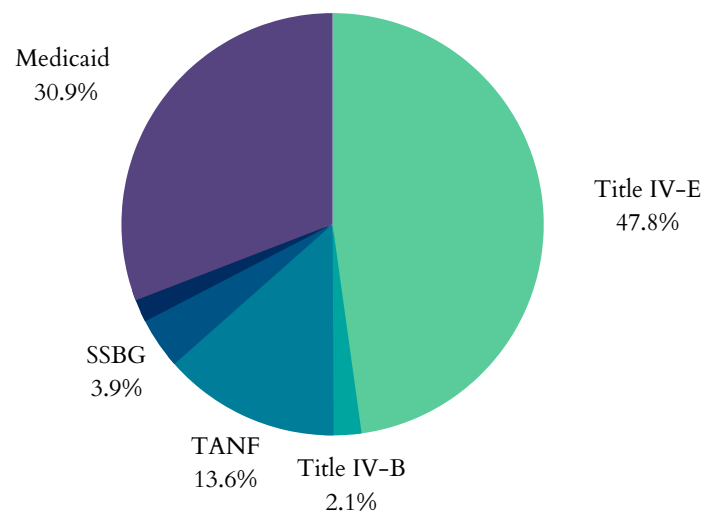
Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Vermont spent \$106,259,448 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 were allocated from the federal government and \$60,007,718 came from state and local funds.

The significant funding sectors of the \$45,249,330 in federal funding received in Vermont in 2018:

- \$10,948,165 as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- \$9,918,250 as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Vermont's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2020 was \$7,765,536.

Federal Funding Sources, 2018



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VERMONT STATE FACT SHEET

<https://www.cwla.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Vermonts-Children.pdf>



NATIONAL AND STATE FACT SHEETS

<https://www.cwla.org/our-work/advocacy/national-and-state-fact-sheets/>



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