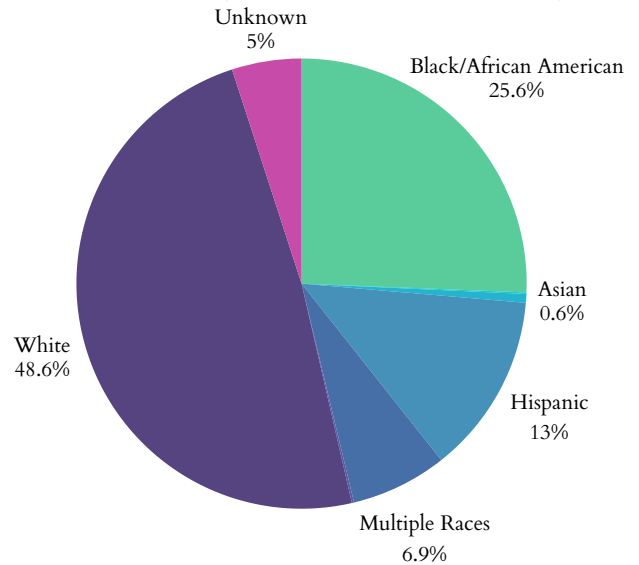


# Virginia's Children

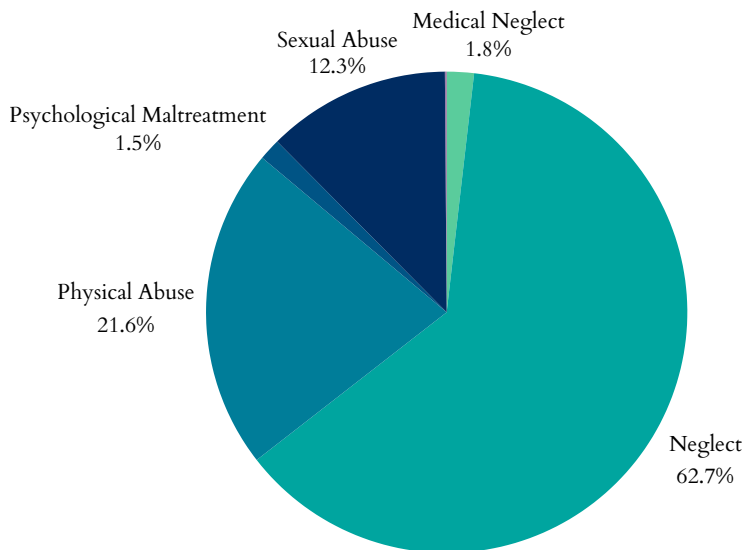
## Child Maltreatment

- In 2024, Virginia had **93,753** total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, **34,871** were screened in for response by CPS.
- **4,4484** child victims of abuse or neglect, at a rate of **2.4** children per 1,000 (**20.7%** decrease since 2020).
- Of the **4,484** children, **4,253** were first-time victims.
- Largest age group of victims **<1 years**, representing **530** of the **4,4484** cases.

## Child Victims by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



## Types of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



## Perpetrators of child maltreatment (2024):

- **69%** = parents of the child.
- **31%** = non-parents or unknown relationship.

## Child victims (2024):

- **52.4%** = female; **47.6%** = male.

- Child fatalities decreased from **55** in 2023 to **40** in 2024.
- Virginia reported **178** total child victims of sex trafficking.
- Post-response services given to **1,622** victims and **13,395** non-victims.

## Workforce

There are **8,160** children, family, and school social workers in Virginia with a mean wage of **\$31.27** (compared Virginia's 2024 minimum wage: **\$12.00**)

## Age Distribution of Maltreatment Victims, 2024



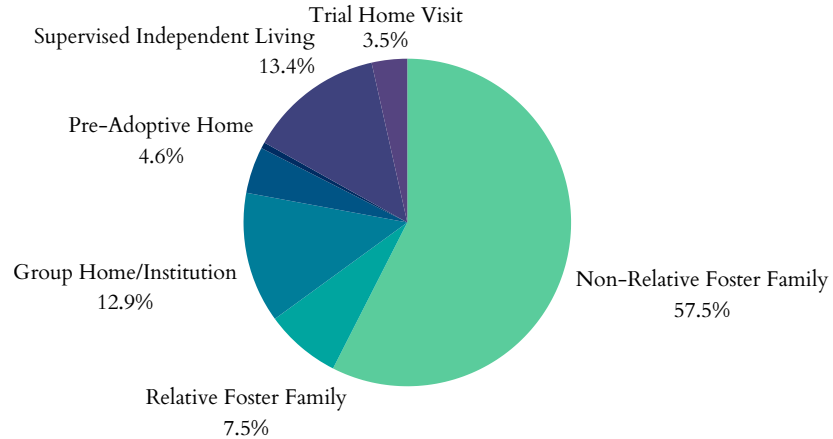
Published March 2026

# Virginia's Children

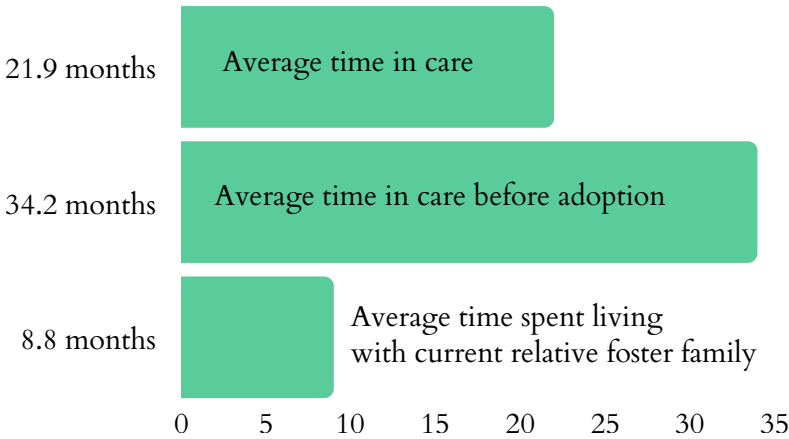
## Foster Care and Adoptions

- **7,479** total children were served by the foster care system in FY 2024.
- **5,249** children in care as of 09/30/2024.
- During FY 2024, **2,688** children entered care and **2,330** exited.
- **603** children were adopted; **1,614** were waiting to be adopted.
- **19.05%** increase in the number of children in care and a **16.52%** decrease in the number of children adopted from care from FY 2023 to 2024.

### Where are Children in Foster Care Staying? 2023



### Duration in Care, 2023



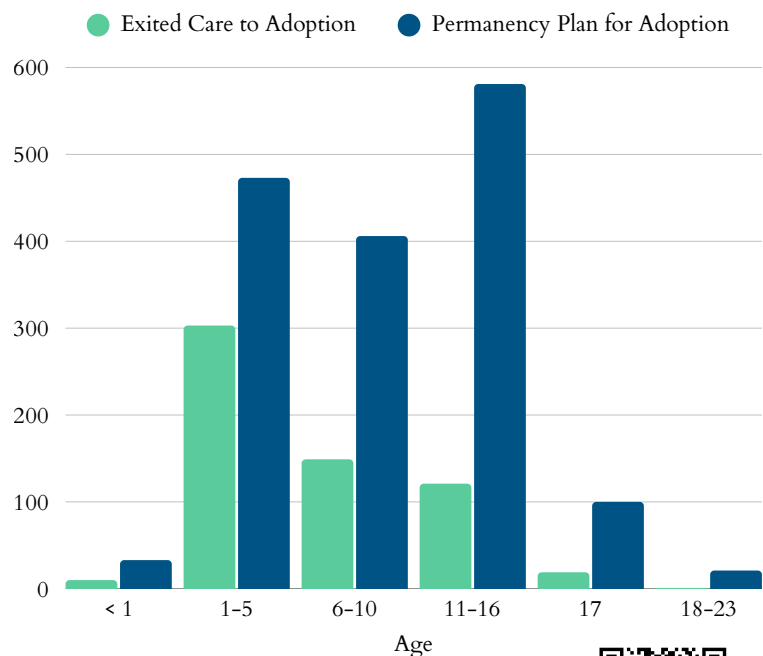
- In 2023, **2,839** children were living with non-relative foster families; **370** lived with a relative.
- **638** children were staying in group homes or institutions; **30** children were classified as runaways.
- There are **168,148** grandparents living with their grandchildren under 18. Of these, **33.9%** are responsible for their grandchildren.

In FY 2024, **455** children transitioned from foster care to independence. This is a **0.88%** increase from **451** in FY 2023.

### Juvenile Justice

- **11,481** total arrests for youth under 18 in 2023
- A total of **879** youth were in a correctional placement in 2023; a increase of **57.7%** since 2021
  - **12.6%** of the youth are ≤ 14 years old
    - **59.5%** are Black youth
    - **27%** are White youth
  - **85.7%** males and **14.3%** females
- Black youth represent **63%** of all correctional placements; **20%** for White youth in 2023

### Age Distribution of Adoptions, 2024

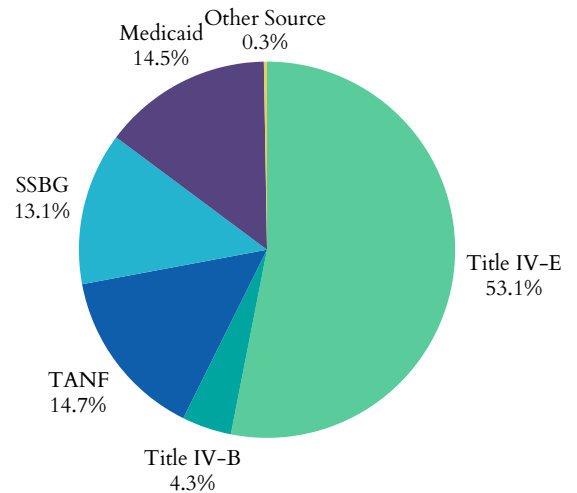


# Virginia's Children

## Funding for Child Welfare Services

- Virginia spent **\$774,616,624.32** on child welfare services in 2022
  - Child welfare services = direct and administrative services
- **\$293,759,413.32** = from the federal government
- **\$480,084,477** = from state and local funds

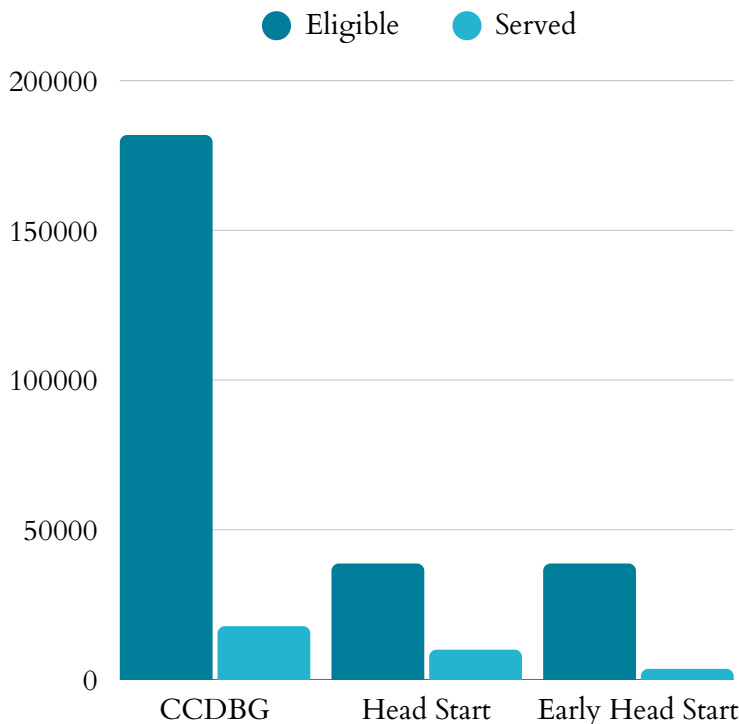
## Federal Funding Sources, 2022



The significant funding sectors of the **\$293,759,413.32** in federal funding received in Virginia in 2022:

- **\$74,282,747** as part of the Title IV-E Total Foster Care Program.
- **\$83,718,362** as part of the Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program.
- Virginia's sum of expenditures for Social Service Block Grants in 2022 was **\$57,289,922**

## Child Care & Early Learning



- **26%** of Head Start eligible children are served
- **9%** of Early Head Start eligible children are served
- **10%** of Child Care & Development Block Grant eligible children 5 and under are served

- **\$16,796** annual cost of center-based infant care
- **\$13,052** annual cost of home-based infant care

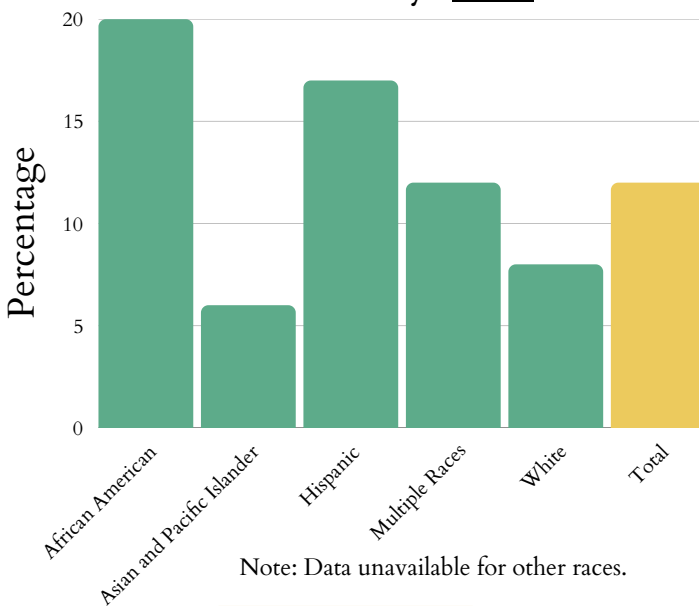


# Virginia's Children

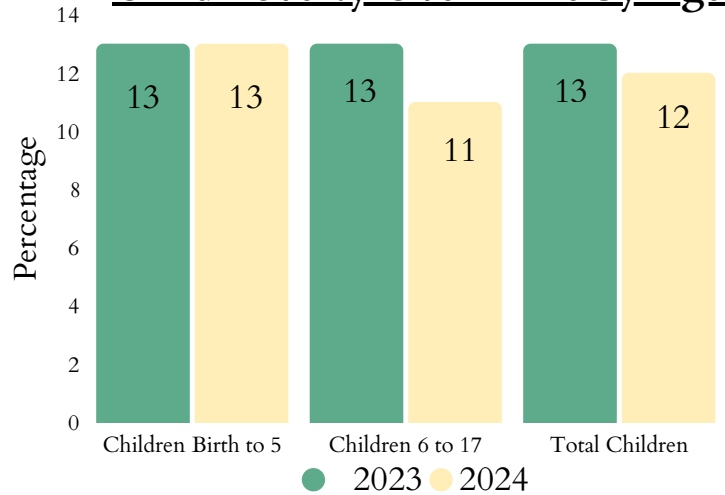
## Child Poverty

- **407,000** children lived with parents who lacked secure employment in 2023 (22% of all children).
- Average number of TANF recipients fell from **29,762** in 2024 to **26,634** in 2025 (11.3% decrease).

### Child Poverty by Race or Ethnicity, 2024



### Child Poverty Over Time by Age

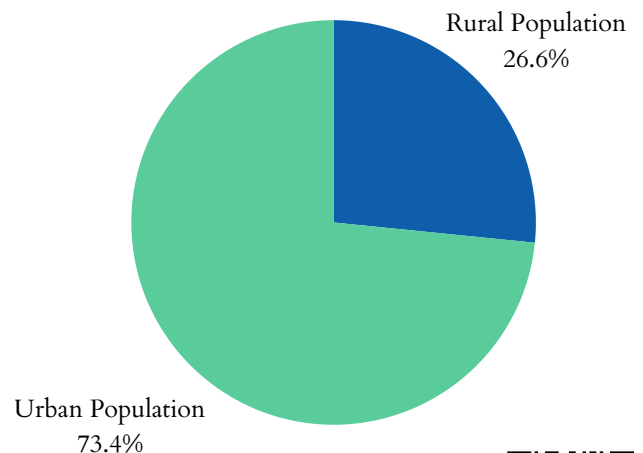


- The state spent **\$68,392,228** on WIC in 2025, serving **104,762** people: a 2.8% increase in total participants and a 2.95% increase in spending since 2024.
- **1,050,300** people were food insecure in 2023, including 261,730 children.
- **44.9%** of households receiving SNAP benefits had children.

## Housing

- **6,355** children, from birth to three-years-old, experienced homelessness in 2023 (1.65%)
- **37.5%** of households receiving the Low Income Housing Tax Credit reported having at least one member under 18 in 2023
- **28%** of children lived in households with a high housing cost burden in 2023
- **24,215** total Virginia residents living in public housing in 2025

### Total Urban vs. Rural Population of Virginia, 2020

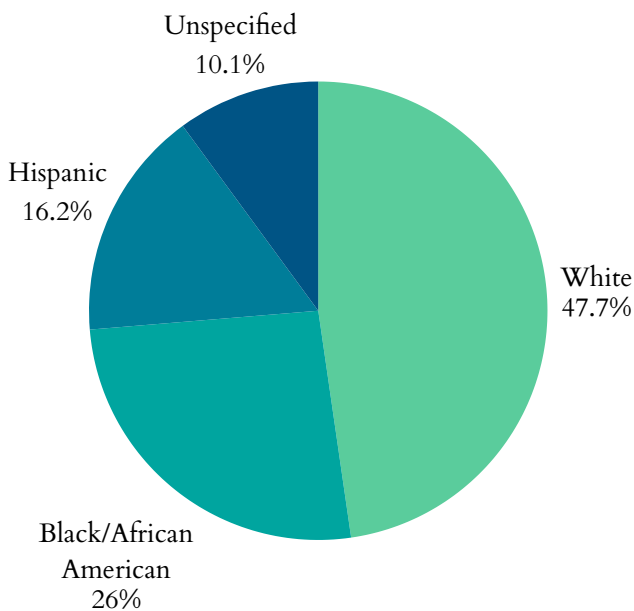


# Virginia's Children

## Health

- **7,812** low birth-weight babies (<5.5lbs) born in 2023 (8.4% of births)
- **9,076** preterm births (<37wks) in 2023 (9.8%)
  - 8.8% of all White babies
  - 13.4% of all Black babies
- **3,037** births to mothers aged 15–19 in 2023 – a rate of 11 in every 1,000 teen girls.
- **534** infants aged <1yr died in 2023 – a rate of 6 per 1,000.

### Percentage of All Preterm Births by Race or Ethnicity, 2023



## Medicaid Expansion

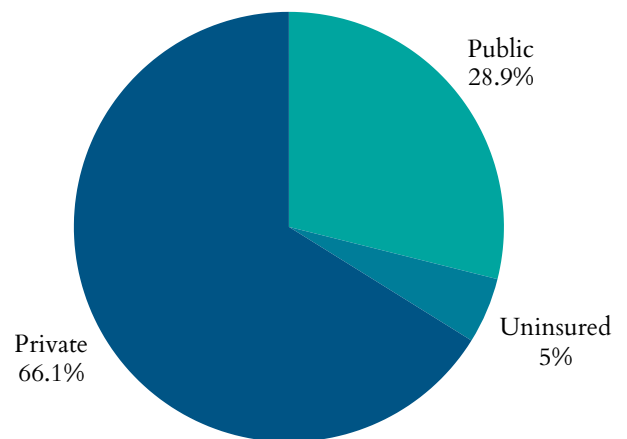
Virginia has been a **Medicaid expansion** state since 1/1/2019.

## Maternal Mortality

- From 2018 to 2022, **158** Virginia women died while pregnant, or within 42 days post pregnancy from any cause relating to or aggravated by said pregnancy, excluding accidents and incidents
- For every 100,000 live births in Virginia, there are **33** maternal deaths

- **103,000** children had no health insurance in 2024 (a 11.9% increase from 2023).
- **579,000** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2024 (6.6% decrease from 2023).
- **221,231** children in Virginia were in the state Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 2021 (7.6% decrease from 2020).

## Health Insurance Coverage for Children, 2024

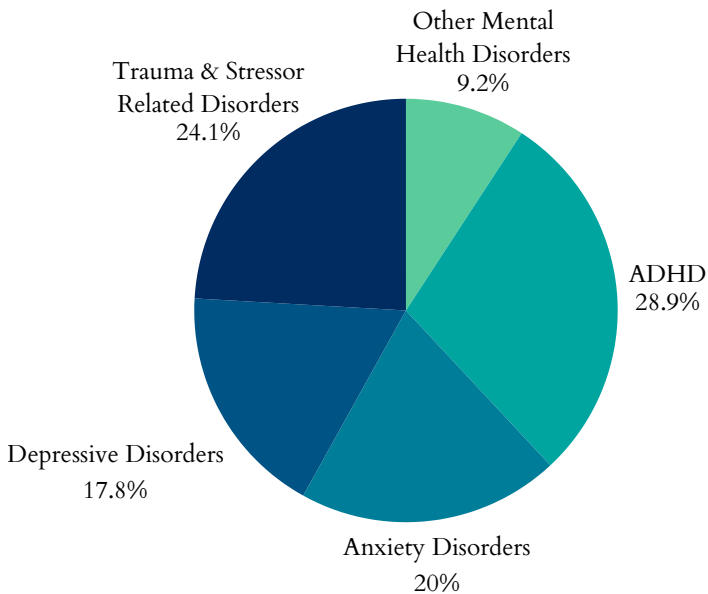


# Virginia's Children

## Zero to Three

- **69.4%** of babies live above low-income
- **16.1%** of babies live at low income
- **14.5%** of babies live in poverty
- **8%** of babies live in deep poverty
- **81.4%** of new parents have at least one parent working full time

### Top 5 Mental Health Diagnoses Among Children, 2023



### Prenatal Substance Exposure

- In 2024, Virginia reported **12** infants screened in with prenatal substance exposure.
- Virginia reported **10** plans of safe care for screened-in infants.

### Family First

- Plan approved on **July 1, 2021**
- In 2023, **6** children were served
  - **\$3,210.32** spent per child on direct-services
- **\$1,707,552** pulled down in federal dollars from Title IV-E
  - **\$1,601,611 (93.80%)** in admin/training costs
  - **\$105,941 (6.20%)** in direct-service costs

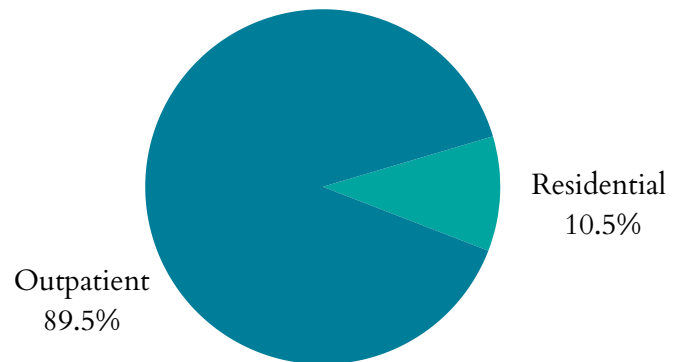
## Teens & Youth

- **31,000** youth (16-19yrs) were not in school nor working in 2024 (7%)
- **79** children <19yrs were killed by a firearm in Virginia from in 2024.

## Mental Health

- **34,425** children received mental health treatment in Virginia in 2023 (1.8%)
- From 2021 to 2023, there were **10.8** deaths from suicide per 100,000 adolescents aged 15-19 in Virginia.

### Treatment Type for Youth with Substance Use Disorder, 2024



### Substance Use

- From 2015 to 2019, an average of **33,438** children in Virginia (1.3% of the state's child population) lived with parents having a substance use disorder.
- On March 29 2024, **488** clients 18 and under were in treatment for SUD

