

VIRGINIA'S CHILDREN 2003

State Population (2001)¹

7,187,734*

State Population, Children Under 18 (2000)²

1,738,262*

State Poverty Rate (2001)³

7.2%

State Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 (2001)⁴

7.9%

State Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 (2001)⁵

7.4%

*Estimated

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2000, 22,511 children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Virginia, a rate of 13 per 1,000 children—a 56% decrease from 1990.⁶
- In 2000, 7,416 children were substantiated or indicated as abused or neglected in Virginia, a rate of 4.3 per 1,000 children—a 10% decrease from 1999. Of every 1,000 children, 2.5 were neglected, 1.2 were physically abused, and 0.5 were sexually abused.⁷
- In 2000, 29 children died as a result of abuse or neglect.⁸
- On September 30, 2000, 7,380 children in Virginia lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with 7,264 children on September 30, 1999. In 2000, 19.3% of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and 27.8% were 16 or older.⁹

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The total number of individual TANF recipients in Virginia declined from 67,156 in December 2001 to 67,012 in June 2002, a decrease of 0.2%. The number of families receiving TANF in June 2002 was 29,943, a 0.2% decrease from December 2001.¹⁰
- In 2001, a family of three receiving only TANF and food stamp benefits in Virginia was 48% below the federal poverty level.¹¹
- In 2000, Virginia spent \$221,869,459 in TANF funds, including 45.3% on cash assistance.¹²
- In 2000, 17,634 children needed paternity determination services to receive child support.¹³
- In 2002, the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Virginia was \$753 per month, or 91.4% of the average monthly income for a worker earning the federal minimum wage.¹⁴

CHILD CARE, HEALTH, AND FAMILY SUPPORT

- In 1999, 27,120 Virginia children were in subsidized child care—8% of all eligible children.¹⁵
- In 2001, 13,612 Virginia children were served by Head Start, a 7.1% increase from 2000.¹⁶
- In 1999, 86.6% of high school seniors graduated in Virginia, compared with 82.6% in 1998.¹⁷
- In 1998, 412,235 children under 21 were enrolled in Medicaid—59.8% of the commonwealth's total enrollees.¹⁸
- In 2001, Virginia had 73,102 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program—a 48.5% increase from 2000, when 37,681 children were enrolled.¹⁹
- In 2000, the rate of births to teen mothers was 34 for every 1,000 girls ages 15–19.²⁰
- As of December 2001, 13,842 adults and adolescents, as well as 176 children under age 13, were living with HIV/AIDS in Virginia.²¹
- In 2000, an estimated 87,768 residents age 12 or older needed alcohol or substance abuse treatment in Virginia.²²

P E R M A N E N T F A M I L I E S F O R C H I L D R E N

- Of the 1,614 children exiting out-of-home care in 2000, 56.8% were reunited with their birthfamilies.²³
- Of the 7,380 children in out-of-home care in 2000, 2.9% were living with relatives while in care.²⁴
- In 2001, 321 children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Virginia.²⁵
- In 2001, more than 58,902 Virginia grandparents had primary responsibility caring for their grandchildren.²⁶

For additional child welfare statistics, references, and pertinent notes, visit CWLA's National Data Analysis System at <http://ndas.cwla.org>.

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