

Children's Defense Fund

Children in Virginia



January 2011

1,847,182 children live in Virginia:
 7,196 are American Indian/Alaska Native
 68,940 are two or more races
 97,838 are Asian/Pacific Islander
 197,128 are Hispanic
 414,029 are Black
 1,088,469 are White, non-Hispanic

In Virginia:

A child is abused or neglected every 1 hour.
 A child dies before his or her first birthday every 10 hours.
 A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 5 days.

Virginia Ranks:*

19th among states in per pupil expenditures.
 Best state is New Jersey; worst state is Utah
 25th among states in percent of babies born at low birthweight.
 Best state is Alaska; worst state is Mississippi
 39th among states in its infant mortality rate.
 Best state is Washington; worst is the District of Columbia

[*1st represents the best state for children and 51st represents the worst state for children in the country]

Child Poverty in Virginia

Number of poor children (and percent poor)	253,068 (13.9%)
Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty)	121,538 (6.7%)
Number of adults and children receiving cash assistance from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	83,131
Maximum monthly TANF cash assistance for a family of three	\$389

Child Health in Virginia

Number of children without health insurance (and percent uninsured)	169,000 (8.6%)
Number of children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*	167,589**
CHIP eligibility: 200 percent of federal poverty (\$44,100 for a family of four)	
Number of children enrolled in Medicaid	475,706**
Medicaid and CHIP participation rate	80.5%
Children as a percent of total Medicaid enrollment	54.9%
Medicaid expenditures on children as a percent of total Medicaid expenditures	28.5%
Percent of two-year-olds not fully immunized	30.4%

*States may have a different name for CHIP

**The number of enrolled children throughout the year rather than on a given day

Child Hunger in Virginia

Number of children who receive food stamps	254,592
Percent of eligible persons who receive food stamps	65%
Number of children in the School Lunch Program (free and reduced price only)	343,019
Number of children in the Summer Food Service Program	50,870
Number of women and children receiving WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	150,820

Early Childhood Development in Virginia

Percent of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force	64.9%
Number of children served by Head Start	16,072
Number of children served by the Child Care Development Fund/CCDBG	24,000
Average annual cost of child care for a four-year-old in a center	\$8,268
Percent of 3-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	8.0%
Percent of 4-year-olds enrolled in state pre-k, Head Start, or special education programs	24.3%

Education in Virginia

Annual expenditure per prisoner	\$21,380
Annual expenditure per public school pupil	\$9,452
Percent of public school fourth graders: unable to read at grade level	62%
unable to do math at grade level	57%
Percent of public school eighth graders: unable to read at grade level	68%
unable to do math at grade level	64%
Number of high school students who drop out of school annually	16,794

Child Welfare in Virginia

Number of children who are victims of abuse and neglect	6,068
Number of children in foster care	5,927
Number of children adopted from foster care	663
Number of grandparents raising grandchildren	60,675

Youth at Risk in Virginia

Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds not enrolled in school who are not high school graduates	3.6%
Averaged freshman high school graduation rate	77.0%
Percent of 16- to 19-year-olds unemployed	22.9%
Number of juvenile arrests	33,789
Number of children and teens in juvenile residential facilities	2,124
Ratio of cost per prisoner to cost per public school pupil	2.3
Number of children and teens killed by firearms: 76 57 homicides; 19 suicides; 0 accidents; and 0 undetermined	

Compiled from the most up-to-date data available as of January 2011. For data sources, please visit www.childrensdefense.org/cits

For more information on the state of America's children contact:

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