



Foster Care Program Data

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Facts about Virginia's Foster Care Program

- Virginia is in the lowest rates for foster care entry in the nation (based on KidsCount data for FY2016). For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018, Virginia maintained a foster care entry rate of 1.5 children per 1,000 children in Virginia entered foster care.
- In 2018, there were 4576 children in foster care.
 - Children who entered care: 2743
 - Children who exited care: 2469 (1772 exited to permanency)
 - Children and youth who were placed in congregate care (group homes): 1046
- In 2018, the most common reason for entry into foster care was neglect (50%)
- Parental drug abuse as a reason for entry into foster care increased from 17% in 2010 to 31% in 2018.
- Virginia consistently has a low rate of children returning to foster care after being discharged to permanency. Re-entry into foster care within 12 months - 3.3% (February 2019).
- In 2018, a record number of 820 children were adopted.

Foster Care in Virginia

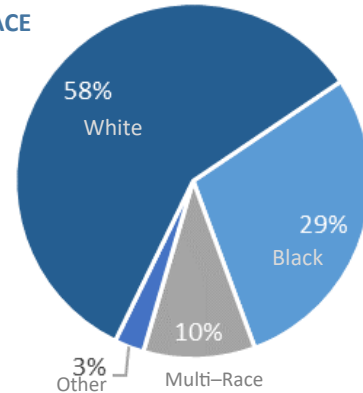
Foster Care Entries & Exits:

On December 1, 2018, there were **4,576** (0-17 year olds) children in foster care throughout the state. There were 738 young adults (18-21 year olds) that continued to receive services. There were **562** youth enrolled in the Fostering Futures program.

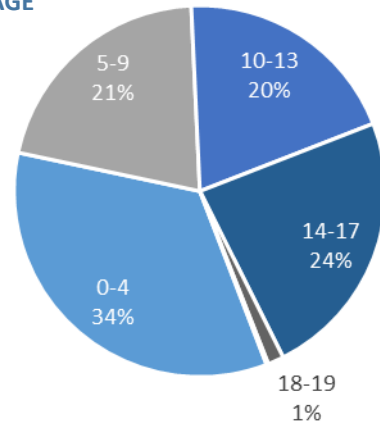
There were 7,501 children who spent at least one day in foster care in Virginia in CY 2018. During CY 2018, there were 2,743 children who entered and 2,469 children who exited care. Out of the 2,469 children who exited care, 1,772 children exited to permanency (i.e. reunification, relative custody transfer, or adoption.)

Demographics of Children in Foster Care (CY 2018)

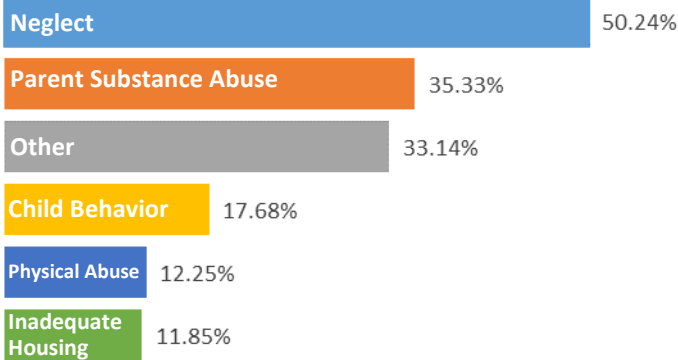
RACE



AGE

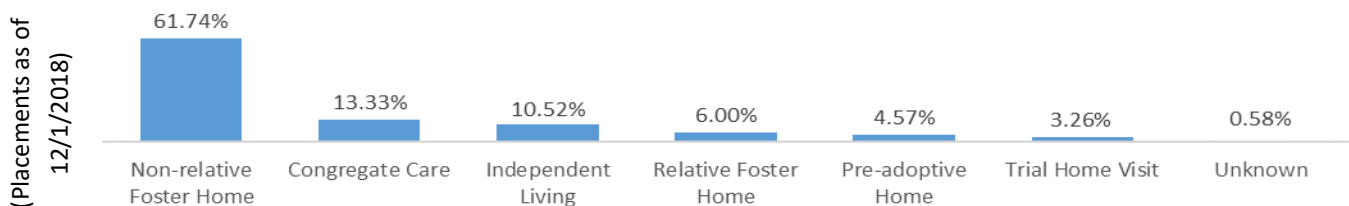


Reasons for Entry (CY 2018):



*Clients can have more than one reason of removal listed. Other includes: Caretaker Unable to Cope, Parent Incarceration, Relinquishment, Abandonment, Sexual Abuse, Child Substance Abuse, Child Disability, Parent Death

Placement Data:



Exits from Foster Care for CY 2018:

Discharges to Permanency

71.77% of the discharges in calendar year 2018 were to permanency.

- 760 children reunified with their families.
- 250 children exited care to the custody of a relative.
- 762 children were adopted.

606 children exited through emancipation.

91 children exited care through other avenues (includes custody transfers to non-relatives, exits to other agencies such as DJJ).











SYSTEM SUCCESSES

SafeMeasures

SafeMeasures is a data analysis tool currently provided to state and local staff through contract between VDSS and SafeMeasures. It compiles and analyzes information extracted directly from OASIS (Online Automated State Information System, the child welfare information system) and presents it in a series of reports. These reports help assess whether federal, state, and local requirements are being met, track agency, unit, and worker performance over time, and monitor workload. SafeMeasures is updated twice a week, on Monday and Wednesday, allowing workers access to current caseload data. SafeMeasures also has drill-down capability on each measure which allows supervisors and caseworkers to look at a process outcome measure and see exactly which cases are on track according to that measure.

Program Improvement Outcomes

One set of outcomes SafeMeasures tracks is our program improvement outcomes and provides progress on a critical outcomes scorecard. Below is an example of our February 2019 outcomes scorecard.

Transformation Outcomes	Performance	Performance Standard
 Discharges to Permanency <i>[Feb, 2019]</i>	96.5% 	↑ 86%
 Congregate Care Placements <i>[Feb, 2019]</i>	14.6% 	↓ 16%
 Family-Based Placements <i>[Feb, 2019]</i>	85.4% 	↑ 85%
 Foster Care Out-of-Home Visits <i>[Feb, 2019]</i>	96.1% 	↑ 95%
 Foster Care Visits in Child's Residence <i>[Feb, 2019]</i>	79.4% 	↑ 50%

Foster Care Entry

Due in part to a combination of child protective services, prevention, and diversion efforts, Virginia is in the lowest rates for foster care entry in the nation (based on KidsCount data for FY2016). For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018, Virginia maintained a foster care entry rate of 1.5 children per 1,000 children in Virginia entered foster care.

One of the ways children are protected in their homes is through timely response to CPS complaints. Virginia has been successful in achieving high rates of timely contact within response priority.

CPS Referral Contacts within Response Priority - 90.1% for February 2019

Timeliness of Contact	Count	%
Contact Timely 	2,906	90.1%
Contact Not Timely 	318	9.9%
Total	3,224	100%

Monthly Worker Visits

For monthly worker visits, SafeMeasures shows that workers completed 96.1% of the required visits (the federal performance standard is 95%). For visits in the home, workers completed 79.6% in the home (the federal performance standard is 50%). Monthly worker visits are to be completed on all children under 18 in foster care as well as any youth are who are participating in Fostering Futures.

Percentage: 96.1%
 Case Clients: 5,911
 Contacts Made: 47,147
 Contacts Required: 49,072

Percentage: 79.6%
 Case Clients: 5,911
 Number of Contacts in Residence: 37,542
 Number of Contacts Recorded: 47,147

Family-Based Placement Settings

For placements in a family-based setting, 85.4% of placements in February 2019 were family-based placements (i.e. kinship foster homes, foster homes, therapeutic foster homes, and trial home placements). This report shows workers' cases that had a family based placement at any point in that month.

Family-based Care	Count	%
Family-Based 	4,014	85.4%
Not Family-Based 	687	14.6%
State Goal 	3,996	85.0%
Total	4,701	100%

Setting Stability

SafeMeasures also allows staff to track placements, placement settings, and view placement stability. For February 2019 outcomes scorecard, 83.4% of children in foster care for less than 12 months have two or fewer placements.

Recurrence of Maltreatment

Children in foster care have a low rate of substantiated CPS complaints while in foster care. Virginia remains above the state goal.

Recurrence of maltreatment (February 2019)

Recurrence of Maltreatment	Count	%
No Recurrence	21,291	99.3%
Recurrence	150	0.7%
State Goal	20,283	94.6%
Total	21,441	100%

Increase in Discharges to Adoption

Virginia has been able to increase the number of discharges from foster care to adoption significantly in the last two years. The adoption numbers had been averaging around 600 children discharging from foster care to adoption from SFY2014-2016. In SFY2017 those numbers increased to 747 and in SFY2018, a record number of 820 children were adopted.

SFY2018	820
SFY2017	747
SFY2016	568
SFY2015	620
SFY2014	647

Discharges to Permanency

Discharges to Permanency in a 12 month period ending in February 2019 reached 96.5%. This statistic is further broken down by discharge reason that workers, supervisors, and state staff can further review their discharge reason types.

Discharge Reason Type	Count	%
Reunification	769	36.8%
Adoption	749	35.9%
Custody Transfer to Other...	161	7.7%
Custody Transfer w/ Kin Gap	3	0.1%
Custody Transfer w/o Kin Gap	333	15.9%
Emancipation	4	0.2%
Committed to Corrections	17	0.8%
Other	52	2.5%
State Goal	1,796	86.0%
Total	2,088	100%

Re-Entry into Foster Care

Virginia consistently has a low rate of children returning to foster care after being discharged to permanency.

Re-entry into foster care within 12 months - 3.3% (February 2019)

Reentry	Count	%
First Time in Care	164	90.1%
Reentry w/in 12 Mos	6	3.3%
Reentry After 12+ Mos	8	4.4%
Reentry w/in 12 Mos: Other	2	1.1%
12+ Months: Other	2	1.1%
State Goal	17	9.6%
Total	182	100%

REASONS FOR ENTRY INTO FOSTER CARE

The most substantial change in the reason for entry into foster care from 2010 to 2018 is the increase in Parental Drug Abuse.

Reasons for entry (by percentage):

Reason for Removal*	CY								
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Physical Abuse	16%	16%	18%	17%	15%	15%	16%	14%	12%
Sexual Abuse	5%	4%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%
Neglect	51%	52%	53%	49%	51%	49%	52%	49%	50%
Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	6%	6%	5%	8%	6%	7%	7%	6%	5%
Drug Abuse (Parent)	17%	20%	20%	23%	22%	25%	29%	30%	31%
Alcohol Abuse (Child)	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Drug Abuse (Child)	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Child Disability	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Child Behavior Problem	18%	20%	19%	18%	18%	19%	18%	18%	18%
Parent Death	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Parent Incarceration	8%	7%	6%	8%	6%	7%	8%	7%	6%
Caretaker Unable to Cope	11%	11%	9%	10%	9%	10%	8%	8%	7%
Abandonment	5%	5%	4%	6%	5%	5%	6%	5%	5%
Relinquishment	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%
Inadequate Housing	12%	12%	13%	15%	14%	16%	15%	15%	12%

**Clients can have more than 1 reason for removal*

Percentages based on total foster care entries for the year.

Data Source: VCWOR > OASIS Rolling Year > Any Client in Care at Least 1 Day > DOS = CY 2010 - 2018

LENGTH OF STAY IN FOSTER CARE

Review of length of stay data from calendar years 2010 to 2018 shows substantial reductions in months spent in foster care for all children by demographic categories or race, gender, and age of entry.

Average length of stay in foster care by race and gender:

Average Time in Care (in Months)				
CY	Black	Multi-Race	Other	White
2010	33	26	23	23
2011	31	24	22	22
2012	28	22	21	21
2013	26	21	17	20
2014	22	20	15	19
2015	22	20	16	19
2016	23	20	17	19
2017	23	19	18	19
2018	23	20	17	19

Average Time in Care (in Months)		
CY	Female	Male
2010	26	28
2011	24	27
2012	22	25
2013	21	22
2014	19	21
2015	20	20
2016	19	21
2017	20	21
2018	20	20

Average stay in care by age at entry:

Average Time in Care (in Months)									
Age at Entry	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
0	21	19	18	17	16	16	16	16	16
1	25	22	20	19	17	18	17	18	17
2	23	22	20	18	16	16	18	18	18
3	24	23	20	20	18	18	18	18	17
4	29	27	25	24	23	22	23	23	22
5	35	31	28	22	21	23	25	25	24
6	36	33	31	27	24	25	26	26	24
7	36	36	34	33	29	27	26	26	28
8	38	36	32	30	26	26	24	25	22
9	37	37	34	31	28	28	25	25	25
10	35	32	29	28	28	26	25	27	24
11	33	32	33	30	27	25	27	26	28
12	34	33	29	27	25	25	25	26	26
13	29	28	26	23	23	24	24	25	24
14	23	22	21	20	19	19	20	20	22
15	18	16	16	16	15	15	16	17	18
16	12	12	12	11	10	11	12	12	13
17	6	6	5	6	5	5	6	8	8

Data Source: VCWOR > OASIS Rolling Year > Any Client in Care at Least 1 Day > DOS = CY 2010 - 2018

AGE OF CHILDREN PLACED IN CONGREGATE CARE

To understand the challenges which must be addressed to reduce the number of placements into congregate care (group homes, hospitals, and residential treatment facilities), VDSS is reviewing information about the children who have been placed in these settings.

Congregate Care Data by age at time of placement:

Age at Time of Placement	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
0	5	4	5	10	8	9	12	11	5
1	4	2	2	3	1	2	2		1
2	3	2	2	1	1	2		1	2
3	2							4	
4	1				1	2	2		
5	2	2	3	3	6	7	6	6	4
6	2	1	5	5	8	7	5	5	8
7	9	8	10	10	11	13	17	13	9
8	20	15	14	15	12	19	15	20	18
9	22	13	16	21	17	22	19	20	34
10	29	37	24	25	31	38	28	33	35
11	36	36	25	22	35	30	30	35	36
12	55	49	68	59	56	62	53	54	60
13	83	81	69	99	85	92	98	81	85
14	139	122	125	121	142	138	127	134	140
15	210	154	174	152	178	184	193	177	169
16	265	219	196	229	237	219	233	224	227
17	294	262	222	210	227	230	259	226	196
18	32	26	31	24	13	6	13	14	16
19		1	1	1					1
Grand Total	1213	1034	992	1010	1069	1082	1112	1058	1046

Data Source: VCWOR > OASIS Rolling Year > Any Client in Care at Least 1 Day > DOS = CY 2010 - 2018

DISCHARGE DATA

Virginia continues to work towards increasing the rate at which permanency is achieved for children exiting foster care. Data outcomes indicate that permanency efforts should be focused on improving outcomes for 13 to 17 year olds.

Discharges from foster care by age at entry into foster care:

CY 2018								
Age at Entry	Reunification	Relative	Adoption	Emancipation	Other	Grand Total	Permanency*	Percentage of discharges to permanency
0	90	47	217		17	371	354	95.42%
1	47	20	70	1	7	145	137	94.48%
2	42	21	72		2	137	135	98.54%
3	45	18	42		4	109	105	96.33%
4	43	13	44		2	102	100	98.04%
5	34	9	39	5	2	89	82	92.13%
6	35	10	47	3	3	98	92	93.88%
7	22	10	34	6		72	66	91.67%
8	33	12	37	1	3	86	82	95.35%
9	33	13	32	2	1	81	78	96.30%
10	38	14	27	8		87	79	90.80%
11	33	11	24	23	2	93	68	73.12%
12	52	10	32	20	1	115	94	81.74%
13	42	7	17	28	7	101	66	65.35%
14	53	7	19	52	8	139	79	56.83%
15	49	14	8	88	7	166	71	42.77%
16	48	9		139	13	209	57	27.27%
17	19	5		141	11	176	24	13.64%

Data Source: VCWOR > OASIS Rolling Year > Any Client in Care at Least 1 Day > DOS = CY 2010 - 2018