

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN VIRGINIA

July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

How many children were reported as victims of maltreatment in Virginia?

During SFY 07, there were **46,511** children reported as possible victims of abuse and/or neglect in **30,554** reports completed by Virginia's city and county departments of social services.

What were the outcomes of these reports?

There were **6,487** children and **5,839** caretakers involved in founded investigations. Founded means that a review of the facts gathered during an investigation met the preponderance of the evidence standard.

There were **8,475** children and **7,916** caretakers involved in unfounded investigations.

There were **30,289** children were involved in reports that received a family assessment. This means that a Child Protective Services worker completed a family services needs assessment with these families and developed a written safety plan if needed.

How many children died as a result of child abuse/neglect?

In SFY 07 there were **60** reports of child deaths due to abuse or neglect.

29 children died as a result of abuse or neglect and **27** of these children were age 4 years or younger.

What were the types of maltreatment?

In some reports, more than one type of maltreatment may have occurred. Of all the instances of maltreatment in completed founded investigations*:

- **61.1%** of the maltreatment was due to physical neglect, a failure to provide food, clothing, shelter or supervision to the child to the extent that the child's health was endangered.
- **27.9%** of the maltreatment was due to physical abuse.
- **13.9%** of the maltreatment was due to sexual abuse.
- **2.5%** of the maltreatment was due to medical neglect.
- **1.1%** of the maltreatment was due to mental abuse/neglect.

*Percentages total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

Who were the children in founded investigations?

AGE*

- **55%** of all victims in founded investigations were children aged 7 or younger.
- **21%** of all victims were children aged 8 -12.
- **21%** of all victims were children aged 13-18.

*The age of 3% of the victims was unknown.

RACE

- **59.0%** of all victims were white.
- **34.5%** of all victims were black.
- **5.7%** of all victims were multiracial.
- **0.8%** all victims were Asian.

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- The number of completed CPS reports decreased slightly in SFY 07 to 30,554 from 31,943 in SFY 06.
- The number of founded investigations decreased in SFY 07 to 4,230 from 4,471 in SFY 06.
- The number of unfounded investigations decreased in SFY 07 to 6,138 from 6,575 in SFY 06.
- The number of family assessments decreased in SFY 07 to 20,186 from 20,337 in SFY 06.

Central Registry Searches			CPS Hotline	
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Searches</u>	<u>Matches</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Calls</u>
2002	117,895	753	2002	64,404
2003	135,167	807	2003	64,256
2004	136,539	643	2004	71,300
2005	151,293	820	2005	79,200
2006	155,967	786	2006	82,200
2007	156,799	815	2007	82,400