

Fact Sheet *(continued)*

In addition, **33,809** 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; developed a written safety plan if needed; and, provided or arranged for services, if needed.

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

In State Fiscal Year 2015 there were 128 completed investigations of child deaths due to suspected abuse or neglect. Forty-eight (**48**) children died as a result of abuse or neglect and 38 of these children were age 4 years or younger.* *Fifteen cases (15) are still pending and six (6) cases are under appeal as of 12-17-2015.

Who were the children?

31.74% of all victims in founded investigations of child abuse and neglect were children younger than age 4. **42.96%** of all victims were children ages 4 through 11. Most victims, **67.86%**, were white, **32.53%** were black, and **1.12%** were Asian.

What were the types of maltreatment in founded investigations?

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

- **56.45%** 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.
- **26.13%** of the maltreatment was due to physical abuse.
- **10.84%** of the maltreatment was due to sexual abuse.
- **3.28%** of the maltreatment was due to mental abuse/neglect.
- **2.29%** of the maltreatment was due to medical neglect.

Who are the abusers?

Abusive parents can be your friends, your neighbors or your relatives. Child maltreatment affects all economic, racial, social, ethnic and religious groups.

What is the cost of child abuse and neglect in monetary and human terms?

The cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States is estimated at \$258 million per day, according to a study by Prevent Child Abuse America.

How can child abuse and neglect be prevented?

Recognize the warning signs: parents under chronic stress, children exhibiting negative and anxious behaviors, signs of physical abuse.

{ Encourage families under stress to seek out support services.
Call the **800-CHILDREN** parent helpline for guidance. Report
suspected child abuse and neglect by calling your local social
services department or call the **Virginia Child Abuse and
Neglect Hotline at 1-800-552-7096**, *(Language line available)*. }



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1-800-552-7096 Virginia Child Abuse Hotline (language line available)

800-Children (800-244-5373) Parent Helpline