Child Abuse and Neglect in Georgia, 2016

Child Maltreatment Reporting

Nationally, 4.1 million referrals were made to Child Protective Services (CPS) involving 7.4 million children

676,000 Unique victim counts of child abuse and neglect nationally

115,311 reports were received by CPS in Georgia

21,635 Child victims in Georgia

97 Fatalities in GA

70% of fatalities were 3-years old or younger

63.4% of reports to CPS nationally were made by professionals that serve children and families

Number of Child Maltreatment Victims in Georgia by Year

In 2014, the number of victims in Georgia increased in part due to a change that allowed reports to be made 24 hours a day online and by phone. In 2016, new policies called for in-person responses to all reports before deciding if the case would be investigated or given an alternative response.

Georgia ranked 42nd in the nation for child well-being in 2017.

Types of Maltreatment

**Physical Abuse** 2,219 victims
The non-accidental physical injury of a child.

**Sexual Abuse** 876 victims
Child exploitation for sexual gratification of an adult or older child.

**Psychological (Emotional) Abuse** 4,433 victims
Excessive or aggressive behavior that places unreasonable demands on a child, usually occurs as verbal abuse.

**Neglect** 16,421 victims
Failure to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, medical care, education, supervision or failure to meet emotional or psychological needs; neglect is the most common form of child abuse.

*Victim counts for Georgia in 2016*
Cost of Child Maltreatment

The estimated annual cost of child abuse and neglect in Georgia in 2012 ranges from $2 Billion to $3 Billion. The national estimated total of direct costs of child maltreatment for 2012 is more than $33 Billion and for indirect costs it is more than $44 Billion.

Resources in your Community

1800CHILDREN (1-800-244-5373) Helpline
Prevent Child Abuse Georgia's helpline is an information and referral phone number designed to address a parent's or professional's concerns and provide local support. Callers will be connected to appropriate resources in their communities Monday through Friday from 9 am to 6 pm. You can find support and programs in your area by using our interactive map, abuse.publichealth.gsu.edu/map/.

To Report Child Maltreatment
Suspected child abuse or neglect can be reported to the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Please call 1-855-GACHILD (1-855-422-4453) or email a completed mandated reporter form to cpsintake@dhr.state.gs.us. Reports are taken 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you have an emergency, please call 911 or your local police department.

Mandated Reporter Training
For in-person training, please contact the Program Coordinator of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, Naeshia McDowell, at nmcdowell2@gsu.edu; for free online mandated reporter training visit www.preventchildabusega.org.


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