



Virginia Quick Facts: Children & Families

2026

Children in Virginia

273,772	Children Under Age 3
471,473	Children Under Age 5
410,926	Children Age 5 - 8 Years
319,545	Children Age 9 - 11 Years
384,976	Children under age 6 with Working Parents
519,266	School-age children (6-12) with Working Parents

Families in Virginia

1,014,382	Families with Children Under Age 18
647,853	Married Couples with Children Under 18
40,320	Dads Raising Children Under 18
160,410	Moms Raising Children Under 18
48,297	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Under 18

Low Income Working Families in Virginia

12.3%	% of Children under Age 5 Living in Poverty
11.1%	% of Children Age 5-17 Living in Poverty
8.4%	% of Families with Children Under 5 Only in Poverty
9.9%	% of Families with Children Under 18 in Poverty
28.3%	% of Families with Children Under 5 Living with a Single Mom in Poverty
538,054	Children Living Below 200% of Poverty
29.1%	% of Children Living Below 200% of Poverty
261,730	Children under 18/Food Insecurity
14%	% of Children under 18/Food Insecurity

Education Related Stats for Virginia

22,988	Virginia Preschool Initiative Slots (FY2026)
13,691	Children in Head Start (includes 3,561 in Early Head Start)
33%	% of White 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade Level
59%	% of Hispanic 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade
57%	% of Black 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade
55%	% of Low-Income 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade
68,286	Children 6-17 Who Repeated a Grade (2022-2023)
5%	% of Children 6-17 Who Repeated a Grade
92.8%	High School on Time Graduation Rate (2023)
89.6%	High School Graduation Rate, Economically Disadvantaged (2024)

Census Household Pulse Survey Results

133,785

Virginia parents not working due to caring for children not in school or child care

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey,
[August 20 – September 16, 2024](#)

988,210

Virginia households with children had difficulty paying for usual household expenses in the past week

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey,
[August 20 – September 16, 2024](#)

65,787

Virginia households with children behind on monthly rent payments

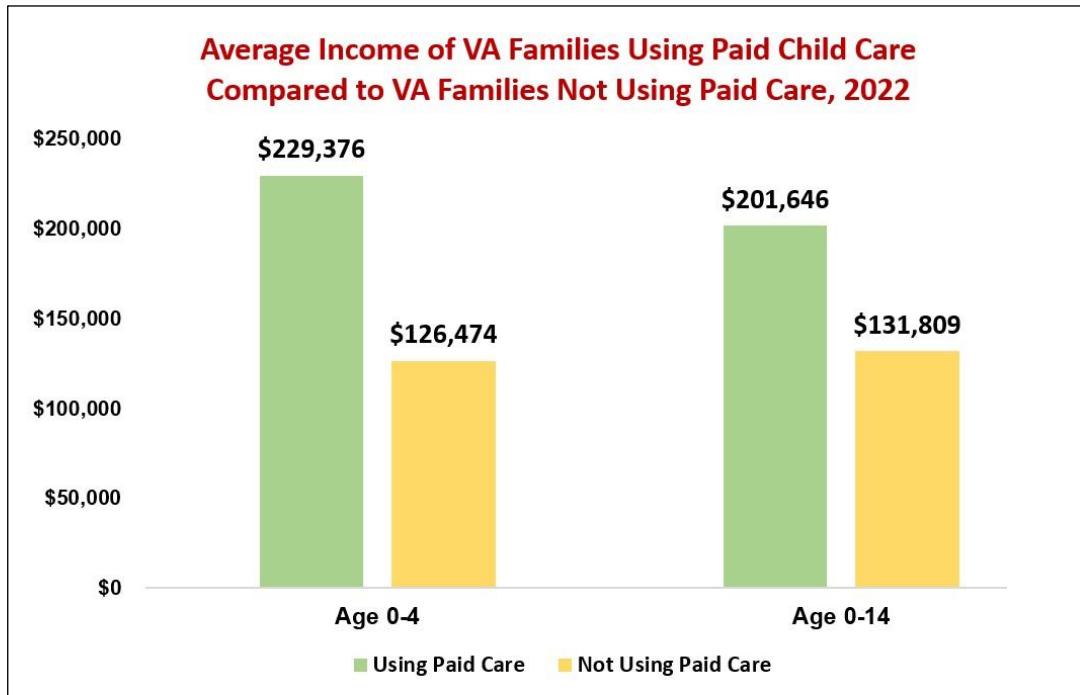
Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey,
[August 20 – September 16, 2024](#)

Child Care Subsidy in Virginia

2025 Child Care Annual Fees Charged to VA Parents

53,977	Unduplicated count of children w/subsidy (FY2025)
12,144	Child care subsidy waitlist (December 1, 2025)
6,807	Subsidy waitlist children under age 5
5,337	Subsidy waitlist school-age children
3,101	Providers in child care subsidy program (FY2025)
47%	% of Providers Participating in subsidy program

\$17,264	Center-based Infant Care Annual Average Fee
\$14,352	Center-based Preschool-age Annual Average Fee
\$13,728	Family Child Care Home Infant Average Fee
\$12,258	Family Child Care Home Preschool Average Fee
\$16,095	VA Annual Cost of College Tuition & Related Fees



Source: IPUMS-CPS, University of Minnesota

Sources:

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- U.S. Census Bureau, [Table B23008, Age of Own Children Under 18 in Families by Living Arrangement & Employment Status](#), 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.
- U.S. Census Bureau, [School-age Children with Working Parents](#), 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata
- U.S. Census Bureau, [Table DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics](#), 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
- U.S. Census Bureau, [Table DP02 Selected Social Characteristics](#), 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
- Feeding America,
- U.S. Census Bureau, [Table B17024 Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months](#), 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
- Feeding America, Food Insecurity for under age 18, [Virginia](#), 2023.
- Annie E. Casey, Kids Count Data Center, Virginia Profile, [Children Age 6-17 Who Repeated One or More Years of School](#), 2022-2023.
- Virginia Department of Education, [VPI Enrollment](#) and [2024 High School Graduation Rates](#).
- Office of Head Start - [Program Information Report \(PIR\)](#), Summary Report - 2024 - State Level, Virginia
- National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment for Educational Progress, [4th Grade Reading Scores](#), 2024
- [VDOE Annual Report on Early Childhood Education and Care](#) (December 31, 2025)
- Child Care Aware of Virginia, Child Care Price Data, 2025
- U.S. College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges, [Public 4-Year Universities, Average 2025 Tuition and Fees at Public Four-Year Institutions by State](#)
- U.S. Census Bureau, Household Weekly Pulse Survey, [August 20 – September 16, 2024](#)