

**PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON CHILD MALTREATMENT DEATH
INVESTIGATIONS
IN VIRGINIA
DURING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2019**

Prepared by:
Child Protective Services Program

July 2020



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

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CHILD MALTREATMENT DEATH INVESTIGATIONS DURING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a preliminary report on child deaths that were reported to local departments of social services (LDSS) and investigated during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019. This report includes a synopsis of data for all reported child abuse or neglect fatalities for SFY 2019, including demographic information pertaining to the victims, alleged abuser/neglector (s) and households impacted by those fatalities. It also highlights changes or trends from previous years. The information is used to evaluate and modify Virginia's child welfare policies, guidance, procedures and best practices where warranted.

The purpose of this report is to provide information on all child deaths that were investigated, with an emphasis on those deaths that occurred as a result of substantiated abuse or neglect. This report includes two appendices. Appendix A provides details for investigations that resulted in a founded disposition; Appendix B provides details of investigations that resulted in unfounded dispositions. A founded disposition means that a preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that child maltreatment occurred. This determination is based primarily upon first source, or direct evidence. A disposition of unfounded means there was not a preponderance of the evidence to warrant a founded disposition.

Five regional Child Fatality Review Teams throughout the state utilize a multidisciplinary approach to review all child deaths investigated by LDSS. In SFY 2019, these teams conducted reviews of all child deaths, which occurred in SFY 2018.

Preliminary Summary of Findings

In SFY 2019:

- LDSS investigated 144 child deaths suspected of being caused by abuse or neglect.
- There were 51 children whose deaths were the result of abuse or neglect.
- There were 89 investigations that resulted in an unfounded disposition.
- Four investigations were incomplete at the time of this report.
- Fifty-nine LDSS conducted at least one child death investigation.
- The child death rate in Virginia was 2.7 deaths per 100,000 children in SFY 2019. This rate is slightly above the national death rate of 2.4 deaths per 100,000 children.
- The Eastern Region investigated the most child deaths (48), while the Western Region experienced the highest rate of child deaths (10.2 deaths per 100,000 children).
- Children who died as a result of abuse or neglect ranged in age from birth to 17 years with more than 74% who were age three and under.
- More male children (32) died from abuse or neglect than female children (19).

- The race of the children who died as a result of abuse or neglect included 57% who were White; 37.2% who were African American; 4% who were Multi-Racial, and 2% Asian.
- Seventy-four caretakers were determined to be responsible for the death of 51 children.
- Forty-three of the caretakers were female and 31 were male.
- Seventy-five percent (75%) of the 74 caretakers were biological parents, and 39 (53%) of them were less than 30 years of age.
- Thirty-seven percent (73%) of the 51 abuse or neglect related child deaths involved physical neglect, and 14 (28%) child deaths involved physical abuse. Some children died from more than one type of abuse and/or in combination with physical neglect or medical neglect.
- Sixteen siblings were placed into foster care in six households out of the 35 families who had other children in the home at the time of the child death.
- There were 51 households where child deaths were found to be the result of abuse or neglect.
- Thirty-four (34) families (67%) had prior or active child welfare involvement.

Noteworthy Trends

The percent of children who were under the age of one and died as a result of abuse or neglect decreased fourteen percent from SFY 2017. The percent of families who had prior child welfare involvement increased seven percent from SFY 2018. There was a six percent increase from SFY 2017 in the number of male child deaths.

I. CHILD DEATHS

Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) conducted 144 investigations involving 144 child deaths suspected of being caused by child maltreatment in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019). The increase (18% from SFY 2018) resulted from improved monitoring of reported child deaths and the encouragement of more investigations by LDSS. LDSS determined that 51 children died as a result of abuse or neglect; 89 children were in unfounded reports; and four reports were pending at the time of this report.

The Eastern Region investigated the most reports (48) followed by Central (33), Piedmont (29), Northern (17) and Western (17).

As highlighted in Table 1, 59 (49%) of the 120 LDSS investigated at least one child death. Virginia Beach (12), Henrico (9), Norfolk (7) and Richmond City (7) had the highest number of investigations, not all of which were founded.

**Table 1: Dispositions of CPS Complaints with a Child Death by Locality
SFY 2019**

LDSS	Founded	Unfounded	Pending/Appeal	Grand Total
Accomack	1	1		2
Albemarle	1	2		3
Appomattox		1		1
Bristol	1			1
Buchanan		1		1
Campbell		1		1

Charlotte		1		1
Charlottesville	1	1		2
Chesapeake		5		5
Chesterfield	2	3	1*	6
Danville	1	1	1	3
Fairfax Co.		1		1
Fauquier		1		1
Fluvanna		1		1
Franklin Co.		1		1
Giles		1		1
Goochland		1		1
Grayson	1			1
Greensville	2			2
Halifax		1	1	2
Hampton	1	3		4
Henrico	4	5		9
Henry	2	1		3
Hopewell	1			1
Loudon		1		1
Louisa	1			1
Lynchburg	1			1
Lunenburg	1			1
Mecklenburg		1		1
Montgomery	1	1		2
New Kent	1			1
Newport News		6		6
Norfolk	4	3		7
Northampton	1			1
Petersburg	2	2		4
Pittsylvania	1	1		2
Portsmouth		4		4
Powhatan		1		1
Prince Edward		1		1
Prince George	2			2
Prince William		5		5
Pulaski	1			1
Radford	1			1
Richmond City	3	4		7
Roanoke		4		4
Roanoke Co.	2			2
Rockbridge		1		1
Russell	1			1
Scott		1		1
Shenandoah	1			1
Smyth	1	1		2
Spotsylvania	2	2		4
Stafford		4		4
Suffolk		2		2
Tazewell	2			2
Virginia Beach	2	10		12
Washington	2			2
Wise			1	1
York		1		1
GRAND TOTAL	51	89	4	144

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS

One investigation could not be completed due to relocation (unknown) of alleged abuser during the investigation

As exhibited in Table 2, the percentages of **founded** versus **unfounded** dispositions involving child fatalities increased slightly for both founded (35.4%) and unfounded (62%) dispositions. In comparison, the percentage of **all** child maltreatment investigations in SFY 2018 was approximately 37% founded and 62% unfounded.¹

**Table 2: Dispositions of Child Death Investigations
SFY 2017 - SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Founded	46	37.1	40	34.0	51	35.4
Unfounded	69	55.6	71	60.1	89**	62.0
Pending/Appealed	9	7.3	7	6.0	4*	2.7
Total	124	100.0	118	100.0	144**	100.0

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

One investigation could not be completed due to relocation (unknown) of the alleged abuser during the investigation.

There was a child death that was not reported when this report was created

As shown in Table 3, the death rate for children who died from abuse or neglect increased from SFY 2018. According to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) 2018 [Child Maltreatment Report](#) the national estimate of child deaths due to maltreatment has increased 11% since Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014. While there are fluctuations from year to year, the increase is attributed to the implementation of child death reviews, expansion of the scope of existing reviews, improved monitoring as well as consultation of data sources outside of Child Protective Services (CPS). Due to the relatively low frequency of child fatalities, the national rate is sensitive to which states report this data and changes in the child population estimates produced by the U. S. Census Bureau.²

Table 3: Death Rate of Children in Virginia Due to Abuse or Neglect SFY 2009 – SFY 2019

SFY	Death Reports Investigated	Deaths Due to Abuse/Neglect	Virginia Death Rate (per 100,000)	National Death Rate**
2009	72	34	1.7	2.3
2010	78	44	2.4	2.3
2011	86	30	1.6	2.0
2012	107	37	2.0	2.1
2013	105	33	1.8	2.2
2014	124	47	2.5	2.0
2015	131	52	2.8	2.1
2016	129	46	2.5	2.3
2017	124	46	2.5	2.3
2018	118	40	2.1	2.3
2019	144	51	2.7	2.4

*Death rate is calculated as number of deaths due to abuse/neglect divided by the state child population (2018 = 1,869,792)

Sources: VDSS, June 2020, Kids Count Data Center from the Annie E Casey Foundation

** Source: *Child Maltreatment 2018*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

¹ 11,201 investigations completed; 4,211 founded (37.6%); 6,961 unfounded (62.1%); and 29 other (0.2%). Source: Virginia Child Welfare Outcome Reports Version 4.76 (June 2019).

² Source: *Child Maltreatment 2018*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

As highlighted in Table 4, the Eastern Region conducted the most investigations of child deaths. The percentage of founded versus unfounded child death investigations varied by region, as well as the percentage of founded versus unfounded in *all* investigations.³

**Table 4: Child Fatality Investigations and Outcomes by Region
SFY 2019**

	Founded		Unfounded		Pending		Appealed		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Central	14	42.4	18	55.0	1	3.0	0	0.0	33	100.0
Eastern	13	27.1	35*	73.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	48*	100.0
Northern	3	18.0	14	82.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	17	100.0
Piedmont	10	34.4	17	58.6	2	6.9	0	0.0	29	100.0
Western	11	64.7	5	29.4	0	0.0	1	5.9	17	100.0
Statewide	51	35.4	89	62.0	3	2.1	1	0.7	144*	100.0

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

There was a child death that was not reported when this report was created

There were four pending investigations in SFY 2019. The *Code of Virginia*, specifically § 63.2-1505 B5, grants certain exceptions to completing child death investigations, which require reports or records that are generated outside of the local department, such as an autopsy report. The time needed to obtain these reports or records is not counted towards the 45/60/90 day timeframes. The records must be necessary to complete the investigation and not available due to circumstances beyond the control of the local department; this accounted for the pending investigations.

As exhibited in Table 5, the rate of child deaths per 100,000 children has increased in the Central and Piedmont Regions since SFY 2017; the Western Region continues to have the highest rate. It should be noted that an increase of one or two child deaths would have a more significant impact on regions with a low child population (i.e. the Western Region) versus a region with a high child population (i.e. the Eastern Region).

**Table 5: Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect and Rates by Region
SFY 2017-SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Deaths	Rate (Per 100,000)	Deaths	Rate (Per 100,000)	Deaths	Rate* (Per 100,000)
Central	9	3.0	7	2.3	14	4.8
Eastern	16	3.9	14	3.4	13	3.2
Northern	6	0.7	7	0.8	3	3.8
Piedmont	7	3.0	8	3.4	10	4.8
Western	8	7.4	4	3.8	11	10.2

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS. Kids Count Data Center from the Annie E Casey Foundation. *The population data used to determine rate per 100,000 for children <18 years of age by region are: Central: 290,734; Eastern: 408,472; Northern: 793,054; Piedmont: 206,366; Western: 107,064.

³ The percentages for founded investigations by region: Central- 10.15%; Eastern- 12.02%; Northern- 9.93%; Piedmont-9.37%; Western- 11.40%. Source: Virginia Child Welfare Outcome Reports Version 4.76 (June 2019).

II. CHILDREN

LDSS investigated the deaths of 144 children in SFY 2019; and 51 children were found to have died as a result of abuse or neglect. This section provides detailed demographic information and trends for the children involved in child death investigations and whose deaths were determined to be the result of abuse or neglect.

As highlighted in Table 6, children from birth to three years continue to be the most vulnerable to die as the result of abuse or neglect. Virginia's percentage for SFY 2019 was 74%, which is slightly higher than the percentage throughout the country. Nationally, 71% of all child fatalities in FFY 2019 were children younger than three years of age.⁴

**Table 6: Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Age
SFY 2017 – SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Birth to 12 months	28	61.1	19	48.0	24	47.0
13 months to 3 years	10	22.0	11	28.0	14	27.4
4 to 7 years	4	8.7	4	10.0	5	10.0
8 to 12 years	0	0.0	3	7.0	3	5.9
13 to 17 years	4	8.7	3	7.0	5	10.0
Total	46	100.5	40	100.0	51	100.0

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

As shown in Table 7, there were significantly more male child deaths than female in SFY 2019. This is consistent with the national data which indicates that boys experienced a higher fatality rate (2.87 per 100,000) than girls (2.19 per 100,000).⁵

**Table 7: Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Gender
SFY 2017 – SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017			SFY 2018			SFY 2019		
	#	%	Rate (per 100,000)	#	%	Rate* (per 100,000)	#	%	Rate* (per 100,000)
Female	20	43.4	2.1	11	28.0	1.2	19	37.3	2.1
Male	26	57.0	2.7	29	73.0	3.0	32	63.0	3.3
Total	46	100.4	2.5	40	100.0	2.1	51	100.3	2.7

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS. Kids Count Data Center from the Annie E Casey Foundation.

*The population data used to determine rate per 100,000 for children <18 years of age was females: 915,144 and males: 954,032.

^{4,5} Source: *Child Maltreatment 2018*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau.

As exhibited in Table 8, 57% of the child fatalities in Virginia were White and 37.2% were African-American. The disproportionate rate of African-American child deaths in Virginia (almost 2 times greater) is consistent with the national data (more than 2 times greater).⁶

**Table 8: Children Who Died From Abuse or Neglect by Race
SFY 2017 – SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019		Rate* (per 100,000)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
African-American	19	41.3	18	45.0	19	37.2	51.0
White	24	52.2	20	50.0	29	57.0	29.1
Multi-racial	2	4.3	1	2.5	2	4.0	18.0
Asian	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.0	8.1
Unknown	1	2.2	1	2.5	0	0.0	n/a
Total	46	100.0	40	100.0	51	100.0	3.1

Sources: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS. Kids Count Data Center f/t Annie E Casey Foundation. *The population data used to determine rate per 100,000 for children <18 years of age was African American: 372,752; White: 994,142; multi-racial: 107,348 Asian: 124,014; total: 1,598,256.

III. CARETAKERS

As shown in Table 9, LDSS determined that there were 74 caretakers responsible for the deaths of 51 children that were the result of abuse or neglect in SFY 2019. Twenty-two victims were abused or neglected by two different caretakers and one victim was abused or neglected by three different caretakers. The majority of caretakers (75%) were the parents, which is below the national data (80.3%) that indicates the parents acted alone, together or with other individuals. Caretakers include childcare providers who are both regulated (licensed) and unregulated (unlicensed).

CPS investigates child fatalities that are suspicious for abuse or neglect committed by a caretaker **only**.

⁶ Source: *Child Maltreatment 2018*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

**Table 9: Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2017 – SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Mother	22	35.4	29	52.0	33	45.0
Father	24	38.7	8	14.2	22	30.0
Stepparent	1	1.6	1	1.8	3	4.0
Grandparent	0	0.0	3	5.4	2	2.7
Uncle/Aunt	1	1.6	2	3.6	1	1.3
Paramour	1	1.6	7	13.0	6	8.1
Childcare Provider	4	6.5	0	0.0	3	4.0
Foster Parent	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Legal Guardian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other adult in home	5	8.1	4	7.1	4	5.4
Unknown	4	6.5	2	3.6	0	0.0
Total Caretakers	62	100.0	56	100.0	74	100.0

Source: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

Nationally, fewer than 15 percent (14.6%) of fatalities did not have a parental relationship to their perpetrator.⁷ Sometimes the identity of a caretaker is unknown. Unknown is used when an investigation reveals that the child was physically abused or neglected, but the LDSS is unable to establish the identity of the responsible caretaker. If new information is received regarding the identity of the caretaker, a new investigation may be conducted.

As highlighted in Table 10, the race of the majority of caretakers was White (55.4%), which is consistent with previous years.

**Table 10: Race of Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2017- SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2018	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African-American	25	40.3	22	39.2	26	35.1
White	33	53.2	28	50.0	41	55.4
Asian	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.7
Unknown	4	6.5	6	11.0	5	6.8
Multi-racial	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total Caretakers	62	100.0	56	100.0	74	100.0

Source: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

⁷Source: *Child Maltreatment 2018*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau.

As shown in Table 11, there are typically more female perpetrators of child maltreatment than male perpetrators.

**Table 11: Gender of Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2017-SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	32	51.6	35	63.0	43	58.1
Male	26	42.0	20	36.0	31	42.0
Unknown	4*	6.5	1*	2.0	0	0.0
Total Caretakers	62	100.0	56	100.0	74	100.0

Source: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

As exhibited in Table 12, the ages of caretakers ranged from 18 to 58 years in SFY 2019. The majority of the caretakers (50%) were between 20 and 29 years of age.

**Table 12: Age of Caretakers in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect
SFY 2017- SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 20 years	2	3.2	3	5.3	2	2.7
20 to 29 years	26	42.0	28	50.0	37	50.0
30 to 39 years	17	27.4	16	29.0	25	34.0
40 to 49 years	8	13.0	7	13.0	7	9.4
50 or older	3	4.8	1	1.8	1	1.3
Unknown	6	10.0	1	1.8	2	2.7
Total	62	100.0	56	100.0	74	100.0

Source: VDSS June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

IV. CATEGORIES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

In SFY 2019, 51 children died as a result of at least one type of abuse or neglect. Some children were abused or neglected in more than one way and by more than one caretaker. Of the children who died, 28 (55%) had been physically neglected and 14 (28%) had been physically abused. Nine (18%) children were medically neglected.

The type of abuse or neglect is not necessarily the *cause of death* for the child. For example, a child drowned in a body of water. The cause of death (determined by the medical examiner) would be drowning (accidental); the type of abuse or neglect (determined by CPS) would be neglect (failing to do something on behalf of the child).

As highlighted in Table 13, 37 (73%) of the child deaths involved some type of physical neglect. The two most prevalent types of neglect were Inadequate Supervision and Other/Unspecified sub-type. When determining the validity of a report, the alleged inaction by the caretaker may not clearly fit into the pre-defined sub-categories but still encompasses physical neglect so the Other/Unspecified sub-type is utilized by the LDSS.

**Table 13: Types of Neglect in Child Deaths
SFY 2017- SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
Abandonment	0	0	0
Inadequate Supervision	23	8	14*
Inadequate Shelter	0	1	0
Inadequate Food	0	0	0
Failure to Thrive	0	0	0
Medical Neglect	1	3	9
Other/Unspecified sub-type	3	13	14*

Source: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

There were three gun-related deaths that were founded for physical neglect; one of them specifically for inadequate supervision

Medical neglect directly caused or contributed to the death of nine (18%) children. Medical neglect involves a caretaker’s failure to obtain a child’s necessary medical care or to follow a doctor-recommended medical regimen for the child. See the Table of Founded Child Deaths in **Appendix A** for further details.

As illustrated in Table 14, 14 (28%) children died as a result of physical abuse in SFY 2019.

**Table 14: Types of Abuse in Child Deaths
SFY 2017 – SFY 2019**

	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
Asphyxiation (accidental or intentional)	5	1	0
Bone Fracture	3	0	0
Burns	1	1	0
Bruises	3	3	1
Gunshot	2	2	1
Poisoning	1	1	0
Abusive Head Trauma	2	3	0
Stabbing	0	0	0
Internal Injuries	0	0	0
Head Injury	4	3	2
Chronic Physical Abuse ¹	0	0	0
Other or Unspecified Type	4	1	10

Source: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

¹Chronic Physical Abuse, formerly known as Battered Child Syndrome.

V. FAMILIES AND THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

When initiating a response to a child fatality report, CPS conducts an assessment of immediate harm or threat of harm toward any sibling(s) or other child(ren) in the home. Based on this initial safety assessment, a safety plan may be developed with the family for a course of action to mitigate any danger(s) or threat(s) of harm. The following information identifies those families with sibling (s) or other child (ren) in the home and the resulting protective action taken by the LDSS.

As shown in Table 15, there were 51 households that involved 51 child death investigations resulting in founded dispositions for SFY 2019; 35 (69%) of those households had other children for whom initial safety was assessed. All of the remaining households had no other children in the home.

**Table 15: Initial Safety Outcomes for Other Children in the Household
SFY 2017-2019**

	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
	# Families	# Families	# Families
Safety plan with family	20	5	14
Safety plan with relatives	7	12	15
Emergency removal/foster care	5	6	6
Total Families	32	23	35

Source: VDSS, June 2020. Information obtained from LDSS.

The grandparent had custody of the siblings in one household

In SFY 2019, a safety plan was developed with 14 households that allowed the siblings to remain in their own homes. An additional 15 households were able to develop a safety plan with the LDSS that allowed the siblings to remain with relatives, while remaining in the legal custody of the caretakers. LDSS assessed siblings living in six households as unsafe and therefore 16 children were placed in foster care.

As a result of CPS involvement, families were referred for services that include: grief counseling; burial assistance; home visiting; parent education; mental health services; substance use assessments and treatment; intimate partner violence services; protective orders and Family Partnership Meetings (FPM). Family Partnership Meetings are usually held when a child is at serious risk of being removed or removed from the home. These meetings present an opportunity for family and community participation in the decision making process for children.

As exhibited in Table 16, there were 51 victims (51 households) in founded CPS fatality investigations for SFY 2019; 34 families (67.0%) had prior or active child welfare involvement. Four families were active with the LDSS at the time of the fatality.

Table 16: Prior Family Child Welfare Involvement in Child Deaths from Abuse or Neglect SFY 2017- SFY 2019

	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	# Families	Percent	# Families	Percent	# Families	Percent
Yes	24	52.1*	24	60.0*	34	67.0*
No	22	48.0	16	40.0	17	33.0
Total	46	100.1	40	100.0*	51	100.0*

Source: VDSS, June 2020 Information obtained from LDSS.

Some families had prior history in more than one locality

Prior involvement means that the alleged abuser, victim child or siblings were previously the subject of a family assessment, an investigation or an ongoing services or foster care case. It does not include any caretaker's history of abuse or neglect that occurred as a child or any reports of suspected child abuse or neglect that did not meet validity criteria. Prior involvement also includes any open family assessment, investigation or case at the time of the child's death. It may also have occurred in more than one locality or a locality different from where the child died. The following summarizes the prior or current child welfare involvement of the families with founded fatality victims:

- 1. Henrico:** In October 2015, a report was received for physical abuse by the father involving the deceased child.
- 2. Louisa:** In July 2018, a report was received for neglect by the mother for substance-exposed infants (the deceased child and twin sibling).
- 3. Virginia Beach:** In May 2014, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving siblings of the deceased child. Services were provided. Joint custody was granted by the courts to both parents. In September 2015, a report was received for abuse by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child. The siblings were diverted via a safety plan and placed with the father. Services were provided.
- 4. Greenville/Emporia:** In January 2018, a report was received for neglect by the mother for a substance-exposed infant (the deceased child).
- 5. Lynchburg:** In November 2016, a report was received for abuse by the mother involving the deceased child. The investigation was founded and the deceased child was removed and placed into foster care. An alternative placement was identified; the court denied the placement request and the deceased child was returned home.
- 6. Henry:** In December 2016, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the siblings of the deceased child. Services were provided; in 2017, custody of the siblings was granted to a relative.
- 7. Roanoke City:** In January 2012, a report was received and investigated for neglect by the mother involving the first sibling of the deceased child, resulting in a founded case. The sibling was removed and placed into foster care. Services were provided and the sibling was later adopted. In November 2013, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving a second sibling of the deceased child, who was born substance-exposed. The investigation was unfounded and services were provided. In August 2015, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving a second sibling of the deceased child. Services were

provided; the sibling was later removed and adopted. In July 2018, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child (born substance-exposed) and was open at the time of death.

8. **Portsmouth:** In June 2017, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child.
9. **Norfolk:** In December 2017, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child. Services were provided.
10. **Chesterfield:** In December 2004, a report was received for physical abuse by the father involving the deceased child. The investigation was founded.
11. **Hopewell:** In February 2005, services were provided as the result of a founded investigation and the medical needs of the deceased child.
12. **Virginia Beach:** In June 2018, a short-term prevention assessment was initiated and was open at the time of death.
13. **Smyth:** In August 2013, a report was received for sexual abuse by the father of the deceased child involving a non-familial child. The investigation was founded and the father was criminally charged. Services were provided. In June 2017, two reports were received for neglect by the parents involving the siblings of the deceased child. In December 2017, a report was received for neglect by the father. The investigation was unfounded and services were provided. A grandparent filed for and later was awarded custody of the siblings.
14. **Richmond City:** In July 2016, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child and siblings. In June 2017, a report was received for physical abuse by the parents involving the deceased child and siblings. The investigation was unfounded.
15. **Richmond City:** In June 2017, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child (born substance-exposed). Services were provided; custody of the deceased child was later awarded to a relative.
16. **Washington:** In June 2017, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving a sibling of the deceased child. In January 2018, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving a sibling of the deceased child.
17. **Shenandoah:** In August 2013, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving a sibling of the deceased child. In November 2014, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving a sibling of the deceased child. Services were provided. In July 2016, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving the deceased child (born substance-exposed). Services were provided.
18. **Lunenburg:** A report was received for abuse by the father involving a sibling of the deceased child. The investigation was unfounded.
19. **Norfolk:** In October 2018, a report was received for physical abuse by the father involving the deceased child and a sibling; it was open at the time of death.
20. **Rockingham/Harrisonburg:** In July 2015, a report was received for neglect by the mother and stepfather involving the deceased child and a sibling. In April 2017, a report was received for neglect by the mother and stepfather involving the deceased child and a sibling. Services were already being provided. In July 2017, a report was received for neglect by the mother and stepfather involving the deceased child and a sibling. The investigation was founded and services were provided. The deceased child and siblings were later placed into foster care. Services were provided and trial visits were initiated with the father; it was open at the time of death.

21. **Pulaski:** In May 2018, a report was received for abuse by the mother and paramour involving the deceased child and her siblings. The investigation was unfounded. Services were intermittently provided from 2014-2017.
22. **Prince George:** In February 2016, a report was received for neglect by the father involving the deceased child and siblings. The investigation was founded; services were provided.
23. **Danville:** In October 2018, a courtesy assessment was completed for another locality.
24. **Northampton:** In July 2017, a report was received for abuse by the biological father of a sibling of the deceased child. The father was incarcerated; the family declined services.
25. **Charlottesville:** In June 2015, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving a sibling of the deceased child.
26. **Accomack:** In March 2016, services were provided to the mother and the deceased child at her request.
27. **Montgomery:** In July 2017, a report was received for neglect by the parents involving the deceased child. Services were already being provided.
28. **Charlottesville:** In November 2016, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child (born substance-exposed). The sibling was placed with a relative, who later adopted the sibling.
29. **Bristol:** In September 2016, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child (born substance-exposed). In December 2018, a report was received for neglect by the mother.
30. **Henrico:** In July 2011, services were provided for a substance-exposed infant (sibling of the deceased child). Services were also provided in 2013. Prevention services were provided in 2018. In February 2019, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child (born substance-exposed). Services were provided.
31. **Russell:** In June 2015, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child. Services were provided.
32. **Tazewell:** In September 2017, a report was received for abuse by the mother involving the sibling of the deceased child. In November 2018, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the sibling of the deceased child. Services were already being provided.
33. **Henry:** In February 2019, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child (born substance-exposed).
34. **Roanoke County:** In August 2017, a report was received for abuse by the parents involving the sibling of the deceased child.
35. **Henrico:** In May 2017, a report was received for abuse by the mother's paramour involving one of his children. The investigation was founded.
36. **Newport News:** In 2011, a report was received for abuse and neglect by the mother involving the siblings of the deceased child. The children were diverted from foster care by being placed with relatives; custody of three siblings was awarded to relatives and the other two siblings were adopted.
37. **Hampton:** In 2016, services were requested and provided to the mother and siblings of the deceased child. In 2017, a report was received for neglect by the mother involving the deceased child (born substance-exposed). The deceased child and a sibling were removed and placed into foster care. The investigation was founded; services were provided. The LDSS and court monitored trial home visits; it was open at the time of death.
38. **Out of State:** In May 2018, a report was received for abuse by the mother involving a sibling of the deceased child. The siblings were removed and placed into foster care. Services were provided and relatives of the siblings were later awarded custody.

VI. UNFOUNDED REPORTS

In SFY 2019, there were 89 (62%) child fatality reports and investigations with an unfounded disposition. An unfounded disposition means the investigation lacked a preponderance of the evidence to warrant a disposition of founded.

Of the 89 unfounded reports:

- Sixty-six of the reports (74%) involved a child less than one year of age.
- Thirty-two of the 89 reports (36%) were sleep-related. This means the actual surface the child slept on, with whom the child was sleeping, or how the child was sleeping. This includes children who suffocated or accidentally asphyxiated due to their sleep environment.

Many of the sleep-related child deaths resulted in a determination by a medical examiner that the cause of death was Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID). SUID is a diagnosis of exclusion, made when there is an absence of pathological findings revealing injury, violence, disease, or other fatal medical condition. A SUID diagnosis recognizes a host of confounding factors, most importantly, the presence of unsafe sleep factors and/or medical problems such as pneumonia, prematurity or congestion⁵.

VII. NEAR-FATALITIES

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) defines a “near fatality” *as an act that, as certified by a physician, places the child in serious or critical condition.* (22VAC40-705-10) *“Life-threatening condition” means a condition that if left untreated, more likely than not will result in death and for which the recommended medical treatments carry a probable chance of impairing the health of the individual or a risk of terminating the life of the individual.*

There were 12 near-fatalities reported and investigated by LDSS for possible abuse or neglect. Six of the 12 children were under the age of one; the other six children were ranged from 16-22 months old as well as 3 and 7 years old. Eighty-three percent (10) of the children were male and 17% female. The race of the children was 58% African-American; 33% White and the race of one child was Multi-Racial. Seven of the 12 investigations (58.3%) were founded for abuse or neglect; two of the families had prior child welfare involvement and one family declined services.

VIII. APPENDICES

A. Table of Child Death Investigations with a Founded Disposition

B. Table of Child Death Investigations with an Unfounded Disposition

⁸ Excerpt from Sleep-Related Infant Deaths in Virginia, a report from the Virginia State Child Fatality Review Team. <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medExam/childfatality-reports.htm>

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2019
Appendix A: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Henrico	7/8/2018	12/10/2005	12.6	F	W	father stepparent	46 37	Asian White	M F	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was diabetic ketoacidosis due to diabetes mellitus. The father and stepmom were criminally charged.
Louisa	8/7/2018	6/13/2018	0.2	M	W	mother	27	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.
Virginia Beach	8/8/2018	8/6/2015	3.0	M	W	father	24	W	M	Physical Neglect	yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Greensville	8/10/2018	1/19/2018	0.6	M	AA	mother	30	AA	F	Physical Neglect	yes	Child found unresponsive in a car. Cause of death was hyperthermia. The mother was criminally charged.
Chesterfield	8/13/2018	1/27/2018	0.5	F	AA	mother father	29 37	AA AA	F M	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. The cause of death was undetermined. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Virginia Beach	8/15/2018	3/16/2018	0.4	M	Multi	child care worker-unreg	38	AA	F	Physical Abuse	no	Child found unresponsive in the home of the child care provider. Cause of death was SUID.
Lynchburg	8/6/2018	10/22/2016	1.8	F	AA	mother	21	Unk	F	Physical Abuse	yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was complications of severe hypernatremia. The mother was criminally charged.
Henry	8/17/2018	8/2/2018	0.0	M	W	mother	34	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed.
Roanoke Co	8/23/2018	7/23/2018	0.1	M	W	mother	27	W	F	Physical Neglect	yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Prince George	8/29/2018	4/25/2018	0.3	M	W	mother	23	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a bathtub. Cause of death was drowning.
Norfolk	8/30/2018	10/12/2015	2.9	M	AA	mother father	27 25	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a car. Cause of death was accidental heatstroke.
Hopewell	9/2/2018	12/6/2004	13.7	M	W	mother mother's paramour	36 34	W W	F M	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was neglect and starvation. The mother was criminally charged.

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Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Petersburg	9/8/2018	2/29/2016	2.5	M	AA	other	25	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a bathtub. Cause of death was drowning.
Russell	9/8/2018	6/7/2018	0.3	F	W	mother father	22 26	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Richmond City	9/9/2018	7/26/2013	5.1	F	AA	mother father	30 32	AA Unk	F M	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was morphine toxicity. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Smyth	9/20/2018	11/6/2015	2.9	F	W	father	26	W	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child was struck by a golf cart. Cause of death was blunt force trauma of chest.
Greensville	9/21/2018	1/17/2018	0.7	M	AA	mother other	38 38	AA AA	F M	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Henrico	10/8/2018	10/3/2013	5.0	F	AA	grandfather	58	AA	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child sustained an accidental, fatal gunshot wound to the neck.
Richmond City	10/9/2018	6/6/2017	1.3	M	AA	grandmother	43	AA	F	Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was fentanyl and heroin toxicity. Currently, there are no criminal charges.
Washington	10/9/2018	8/10/2018	0.2	M	W	father	22	W	M	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was accidental suffocation, associated with co-sleeping.
Shenandoah	10/10/2018	6/30/2016	2.3	M	W	mother	25	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child was involved in a motor vehicle accident and was not properly restrained. The mother was criminally charged.
Grayson	10/10/2018	12/3/2002	15.9	M	W	other other	31 Unk	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child was involved in a motor vehicle accident. Cause of death was blunt force injury to the head and neck. The driver of the car was criminally charged.
Lunenburg	10/12/2018	4/28/2016	2.5	M	AA	mother father father's paramour	23 48 33	AA AA AA	F M F	All Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Currently, there are no criminal charges.

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2019
Appendix A: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Tazewell	10/19/2018	7/8/2003	15.3	M	W	mother stepparent	41 40	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home; he sustained a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound.
Norfolk	10/23/2018	4/12/2017	1.5	M	AA	child care worker-unreg	35	Unk	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive at the home of the babysitter. Cause of death was blunt force head injury. The babysitter was criminally charged.
Petersburg	10/29/2018	10/15/2017	1.0	F	AA	father mother	29 23	AA AA	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Norfolk	11/12/2018	6/9/2014	4.4	M	W	stepparent father	34 39	W AA	F M	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head and abdomen. The father and stepmother were criminally charged.
Pulaski	11/13/2018	2/7/2010	8.8	F	W	mother's paramour mother	28 35	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was complications of acute viral gastroenteritis.
Norfolk	11/13/2018	2/2/2018	0.8	F	AA	father	28	AA	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head. The father was criminally charged.
Prince George	11/19/2018	1/22/2013	5.8	M	W	father aunt	32 46	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child sustained fatal injuries after ejection from a motor vehicle collision.
Danville	11/24/2018	9/11/2018	0.2	F	W	father mother	27 26	W W	M F	Physical Abuse Physical Neglect	yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was acute heroin and cocaine intoxication in the setting of co-sleeping. Parents were criminally charged.
Northampton	12/24/2018	12/23/2001	17.0	M	AA	mother's paramour	38	Unk	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child sustained fatal injuries after motor vehicle accident.
Chesterfield	12/27/2018	5/15/2018	0.6	F	W	child care worker-unreg	unk	Unk	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the babysitter's home. The death was due to inflicted head trauma. The babysitter was criminally charged.
Pittsylvania	1/5/2019	12/16/2006	12.1	M	AA	father	37	AA	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child sustained fatal gunshot wound by parent, who also sustained fatal gunshot wound.

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2019
Appendix A: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Charlottesville	1/10/2019	4/30/2017	1.7	M	AA	mother	25	AA	F	Medical Neglect Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was blunt force injury to the head. The mother was criminally charged.
Accomack	1/11/2019	12/17/2012	6.1	M	AA	mother	23	AA	F	Medical Neglect	Yes	Child became unresponsive in a vehicle. Cause of death was an acute asthma attack, with viruses contributing.
Montgomery	1/13/2019	7/14/2016	2.5	M	W	mother's paramour mother	25 25	W W	M F	Physical Abuse Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Child sustained fatal physical injuries. The mother and her paramour were criminally charged.
Albemarle	1/22/2019	11/25/2018	0.2	M	AA	father	37	AA	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
New Kent	2/18/2019	11/21/2018	0.2	F	W	mother	24	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Washington	2/19/2019	8/23/2018	0.5	M	W	mother	20	W	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was suffocation.
Bristol	2/22/2019	12/3/2018	0.2	M	W	mother father	24 30	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was accidental asphyxiation, associated with a hazardous sleep environment.
Radford	3/6/2019	1/15/2019	0.1	M	W	father mother	19 18	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Spotsylvania	3/17/2019	12/13/2018	0.3	F	Multi	mother	25	W	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head. The mother was criminally charged.
Henrico	3/29/2019	2/4/2019	0.2	F	W	mother father	30 35	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was acute methamphetamine toxicity in the setting of co-sleeping.
Tazewell	4/5/2019	1/18/2019	0.2	F	W	mother father	27 25	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was from accidental positional asphyxia.

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Appendix A: Table of Founded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Henrico	4/23/2019	11/1/2018	0.5	F	Asian	mother	29	Asian	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the bathtub. Cause of death was accidental drowning.
Henry	4/28/2019	2/14/2019	0.2	M	W	father mother	28 29	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was accidental suffocation.
Roanoke Co	5/4/2019	1/5/2005	14.3	M	W	father	40	W	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.
Richmond City	5/10/2019	11/24/2017	1.5	F	AA	mother mother's paramour	25 25	AA AA	F M	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a hotel room. Cause of death was complication of blunt force trauma to the torso. Currently, no criminal charges.
Hampton	6/24/2019	5/2/2017	2.1	M	W	mother	34	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found in a steam plant. Cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head and battered child syndrome. The mother was criminally charged.
Spotsylvania	6/30/2019	3/24/2019	0.3	F	W	mother	23	Unk	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was undetermined.

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Appendix B: Table of Unfounded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Chesapeake	7/1/2018	4/15/2018	0.2	M	W	Mother Father	26 29	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was undetermined.
Chesapeake	7/14/2018	6/8/2018	0.1	M	AA	Mother Father	29 29	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a bassinet. Cause of death was SUID, associated with prematurity, an unsafe sleep environment and human parainfluenza virus.
Prince William	7/21/2018	6/8/2018	0.1	M	W	Mother Father	26 31	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a bassinet.
Scott	7/23/2018	4/11/2018	0.3	F	W	Mother Father	20 20	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a bouncer seat. Cause of death was SUID.
Norfolk	7/29/2018	3/15/2018	0.4	F	AA	Mother	25	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive on a couch. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep; mild respiratory tract infection contributing.
Newport News	7/31/2018	11/29/2017	0.7	M	Multi	Mother	32	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in pack and play.
Fairfax Co	8/6/2018	8/2/2018	0.0	M	Asian	Mother	36	Asian	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child died while being monitored in a hospital. The medical examiner declined jurisdiction and an autopsy was not completed.
Goochland	8/8/2018	2/20/2017	1.5	M	AA	Father	35	Asian	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a car. Cause of death was hyperthermia.
Albemarle	8/14/2018	4/11/2018	0.3	F	AA	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in crib. Cause of death was SUID/SIDS.
Suffolk	8/15/2018	4/27/2018	0.3	M	AA	Mother	24	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep.
Danville	8/16/2018	11/6/2009	8.8	M	AA	Mother	29	AA	F	Medical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was complications from a medical condition.

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Appendix B: Table of Unfounded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Spotsylvania	8/23/2018	4/19/2018	0.3	F	W	Mother Father	31 31	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Stafford	8/26/2018	7/24/2018	0.1	M	W	Father	28	W	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive on a couch. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Hampton	8/27/2018	6/26/2018	0.2	M	AA	Child care workr-unreg	Unk	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a pack and play. Cause of death was SUID.
Chesapeake	8/29/2018	5/15/2018	0.3	F	W	Mother	29	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping environment.
Virginia Beach	8/31/2018	8/22/2018	0.0	F	Multi	Mother Father	34 35	W AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID in neonatal period, associated with unsafe sleep.
Charlottesville	9/2/2018	4/5/2018	0.4	F	W	child care worker-reg	45	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive at a daycare center (regulated). Cause of death was undetermined.
Stafford	9/7/2018	8/31/2016	2.0	M	W	Mother	47	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the family pool. Cause of death was accidental drowning.
Chesterfield	9/9/2018	8/9/2007	11.1	F	AA	Mother	38	AA	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home, it was ruled a suicide.
Virginia Beach	9/16/2018	5/5/2017	1.4	F	AA	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was sudden unexplained death in childhood associated with respiratory infection with multiple viral agents.
Suffolk	9/17/2018	10/19/2006	11.9	M	AA	Mother Father	36 37	AA AA	F M	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was natural causes.
Halifax	9/19/2018	2/7/2018	0.6	F	AA	Mother	23	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive on an adult bed.

Preliminary Report on Child Deaths Due to Abuse or Neglect in Virginia During State Fiscal Year 2019
Appendix B: Table of Unfounded Investigations with a Child Death

Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Mecklenburg	9/20/2018	3/7/2018	0.5	M	W	Mother	27	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Newport News	10/3/2018	8/17/2018	0.1	F	Multi	Mother Father	21 24	W AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Prince William	10/3/2018	10/3/2018	0.0	M	W	Mother	28	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Medical examiner declined to accept the case.
Richmond City	10/12/2018	8/16/2017	1.2	F	AA	Mother	23	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Fluvanna	10/20/2018	9/14/2018	0.1	F	W	Mother Father	30 30	W Unk	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Campbell	10/30/2018	9/27/2018	0.1	F	Multi	Mother	21	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was Acute Streptococcus Agalactiae (Strep Group B) Meningitis.
Montgomery	10/31/2018	6/10/2018	0.4	M	Multi	Mother Father	Unk Unk	W Multi	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Portsmouth	11/1/2018	9/28/2018	0.1	F	W	Mother	28	W	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with respiratory and nerve inflammation.
Portsmouth	11/4/2018	10/5/2018	0.1	M	AA	Grandfather Father's Paramour	45 25	AA AA	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.
Prince William	11/4/2018	9/27/2018	0.1	M	W	Father Mother	25 29	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was asphyxiation.
Richmond City	11/4/2018	6/9/2007	11.4	F	AA	Mother	30	AA	F	Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Child died of natural causes.

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Locality	Date of Death	Date of Birth	Age (years)	Child Sex	Race	Abuser (s)	Age	Race	Sex	Abuse Type	Previous History	Summary (SUID stands for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death)
Prince Edward	11/16/2018	12/9/2014	3.9	M	AA	Mother Father	30 28	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child became lethargic in the home and died of natural causes.
Virginia Beach	11/21/2018	6/19/2018	0.4	M	W	Father	21	W	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep.
Hampton	11/30/2018	10/19/2017	1.1	M	AA	Child Care Worker- Unreg	62	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the babysitter's home. Cause of death was accidental asphyxiation associated with wedging.
Loudon	12/3/2018	10/15/2018	0.1	F	Unk	All Childcare Workers-Reg	45 32 38	Unk Unk Unk	F F F	All Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive at a daycare center. Cause of death was undetermined.
Accomack	12/6/2018	7/3/2018	0.4	M	W	Mother	24	W	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep surface and co-sleeping.
Newport News	12/11/2018	10/22/2018	0.1	F	AA	Mother	33	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was accidental asphyxia due to unsafe sleep and soft bedding.
Roanoke	12/12/2018	7/7/2018	0.4	F	W	Father Mother	Unk 26	Unk W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.
Virginia Beach	12/13/2018	10/29/2018	0.1	F	W	Mother	36	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep and soft bedding.
Smyth	12/27/2018	8/20/2018	0.4	F	W	Mother Father	Unk 31	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was complications from RSV.
Chesterfield	1/14/2019	9/28/2018	0.3	M	Unk	Father	Unk	Unk	M	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Giles	1/10/2019	1/25/2018	1.0	F	W	Mother Father	23 30	W W	F M	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a crib. Cause of death was SUID associated with unsafe sleep and viral pneumonitis.

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Norfolk	1/13/2019	7/6/2018	0.5	M	AA	Father	34	AA	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep surface, co-sleeping and soft bedding.
Richmond City	1/18/2019	12/13/2018	0.1	M	AA	Mother	28	AA	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Virginia Beach	1/20/2019	9/27/2018	0.3	M	W	Father	40	W	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep environment and prematurity.
Stafford	1/24/2019	1/19/2019	0.0	M	W	Mother	41	W	F	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Petersburg	1/31/2019	6/25/2018	0.6	M	AA	Mother Aunt	19 14	AA AA	F F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was accidental asphyxiation due to wedging.
Henrico	2/5/2019	10/12/2018	0.3	F	W	Mother Father	32 27	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Roanoke	2/6/2019	11/24/2015	3.2	F	AA	Mother	29	AA	F	Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was accidental asphxia due to choking.
Henrico	2/10/2019	8/27/2017	1.5	M	AA	Mother	29	AA	F	Medical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Child died of natural causes.
Albemarle	2/14/2019	1/10/2019	0.1	F	W	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home.
Chesapeake	2/20/2019	12/16/2018	0.2	M	AA	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with soft bedding.
Rockbridge	2/20/2019	10/13/2018	0.4	M	W	Mother's Paramour Mother	33 24	W W	M F	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.

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Buchanan	2/26/2019	1/19/2019	0.1	F	W	Mother Father	31 30	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.
Portsmouth	2/28/2019	9/26/2018	0.4	F	AA	Mother Father	21 21	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping and an unsafe sleep surface.
Fauquier	3/4/2019	11/3/2018	0.3	F	W	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the babysitter's home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Spotsylvania	3/11/2019	2/7/2019	0.1	M	W	Mother Father	29 35	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child was found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Chesterfield	3/23/2019	1/23/2019	0.2	F	Unk	Mother	30	Multi	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Henrico	3/24/2019	12/8/2014	4.3	F	W	Mother	27	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was accidental hanging.
Newport News	3/29/2019	1/19/2019	0.2	M	AA	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
Norfolk	3/29/2019	1/6/2019	0.2	F	AA	Mother Father	31 Unk	AA AA	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed.
Powhatan	3/31/2019	10/2/2018	0.5	M	W	Childcare Worker- Unreg	Unk	Unk	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the babysitter's home. Cause of death was Interstitial pneumonitis with multinucleated giant cells with patchy pneumonia.
Henry	3/31/2019	11/30/2017	1.3	F	AA	Mother Father	30 30	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Child died of natural causes.
Prince William	4/3/2019	7/30/2018	0.7	M	W	Mother	29	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was accidental choking.

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Franklin Co	4/4/2019	10/3/2018	0.5	F	W	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a crib. Cause of death was accidental suffocation.
Petersburg	4/6/2019	4/2/2019	0.0	M	AA	Father	25	AA	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive on a couch. Cause of death was SUID, associated with an unsafe sleep environment.
Virginia Beach	4/7/2019	2/13/2019	0.2	M	AA	Unk	Unk	AA	Unk	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with unsafe sleep.
Charlotte	4/15/2019	4/17/2016	3.0	F	AA	Mother	36	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. An autopsy was not completed.
Henrico	4/17/2019	9/14/2018	0.6	M	W	Mother Father	Unk Unk	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was undetermined.
York	4/17/2019	2/19/2019	0.2	F	AA	Father	29	AA	M	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.
Henrico	4/20/2019	9/5/2016	2.6	M	AA	Mother	31	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was sudden unexplained death in childhood, associated with lymphocytic epiglottitis and bronchitis.
Newport News	4/20/2019	10/25/2018	0.5	M	AA	Mother Father	25 25	AA AA	F M	Physical Abuse Physical Abuse	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was anoxic brain injury and pneumonia.
Prince William	4/22/2019	11/1/2018	0.5	M	AA	Mother	19	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was sudden unexpected death in infancy, associated with unsafe sleep and prematurity.
Appomattox	5/2/2019	3/26/2019	0.1	F	Multi	Mother	35	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was accidental suffocation.
Roanoke	5/4/2019	2/7/2018	1.2	M	Asian	Mother	19	Asian	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in an apartment parking lot. Cause of death was accidental blunt force trauma to head and chest.

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Portsmouth	5/9/2019	2/9/2019	0.3	M	AA	Mother	17	AA	F	Physical Abuse	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Roanoke	5/9/2019	8/9/2018	0.8	M	W	Mother	31	W	F	Medical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a shelter. The medical examiner declined to complete an autopsy.
Pittsylvania	5/13/2019	4/16/2019	0.1	F	W	Mother Father	31 30	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID.
Virginia Beach	6/8/2019	6/5/2012	7.0	M	W	Mother Father	30 34	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was suffocation, due to entrapment.
Richmond City	6/9/2019	4/9/2019	0.2	M	W	Mother Father	23 27	W W	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in an adult bed. Cause of death was SUID, associated with co-sleeping.
Chesapeake	6/10/2019	4/12/2019	0.2	F	W	Father	30	W	M	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the home. Cause of death was SUID, associated with cerebral gliosis.
Virginia Beach	6/15/2019	10/20/2012	6.7	M	Unk	Mother Father	42 36	Unk Asian	F M	Physical Neglect Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in a canal. Cause of death was accidental drowning.
Stafford	6/17/2019	1/25/2019	0.4	M	W	Childcare Worker- Unreg	50	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the daycare provider's home. Cause of death was sudden unexpected death in infancy associated with unsafe sleep environment and congenital heart disease.
Newport News	6/18/2019	6/17/2019	0.0	M	AA	Mother	33	AA	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child died from complications after delivery.
Hampton	6/20/2019	2/14/2017	2.4	M	Multi	Mother	24	AA	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in the family pool. Cause of death was accidental drowning.
Virginia Beach	6/24/2019	11/26/2015	3.6	F	W	Mother	23	W	F	Physical Neglect	Yes	Child found unresponsive in a family friend's pool. Cause of death was accidental drowning. No evidence of abuse or neglect.

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Virginia Beach	6/24/2019	11/26/2018	0.6	M	W	Childcare Worker- Unreg	43	W	F	Physical Neglect	No	Child found unresponsive in the babysitter's home. Cause of death was SUID associated with klebsiella variicola, human parainfluenza virus 2, and human rhinovirus; contributing to unsafe sleep (prone position and soft bedding).