



COMMITTEE *on* CHILDREN

2026 Data Reference Book



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On behalf of the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children and its staff at the University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law Children's Law Center, we are pleased to present the 2026 Data Reference Book.

The Committee on Children collects and analyzes data to inform legislative and policy decisions affecting South Carolina's children. This publication tracks key indicators in child welfare, health, education, juvenile justice, and safety. The 2026 edition includes four years of statewide data, along with county and national comparisons where available, to highlight both progress and continuing challenges.

Several indicators improved in 2025. The Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities served 3% more children, increasing from 9,510 to 9,807. Referrals of juvenile delinquency cases to the Department of Juvenile Justice declined by 9%, while child deaths decreased by 7%. Department of Public Health data also continue to show downward trends in motor vehicle fatalities and child homicides.

Significant challenges remain. Child suicides increased from 21 in 2024 to 36 in 2025, the highest number reported since 2020. Gun deaths rose from 64 to 68, making firearms the leading cause of death among South Carolina children ages 1 to 17. School districts identified 17,156 students as homeless during the 2024–2025 school year, an 8% increase. Although child poverty declined to 18.1%, South Carolina remains above the national rate of 15.5%.

These data demonstrate both meaningful progress and continued areas of concern. The Committee remains committed to working with the Governor, General Assembly, state agencies, and stakeholders to improve outcomes for South Carolina's children.

We thank the many agencies and staff who contributed to this publication and hope it serves as a valuable resource in advancing the well-being of South Carolina's children.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Reichenbach".

Mike Reichenbach, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carla M. Schuessler".

Carla Schuessler, Vice-chair

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Data Overview

South Carolina was ranked 38th in the nation on overall child well-being by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in its 2025 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*.¹ More than 1.1 million children under age 18 live in South Carolina, which is 21% of the total population.² The most recent available data show that in South Carolina³:

- **703** children died in 2025, including **68** or **10%** deaths by gun.
- **87,143** child non-fatal injuries occurred, requiring a hospital or emergency room visit in 2025.
- **11,318** children/youth were victims of maltreatment in 2025.
- **5,755** children/youth were served in foster care in 2025.
- **2,328** child care facilities regulated by the South Carolina Department of Social Services' child care licensing division were open in 2025.
- **28,014** children received mental health services provided by the South Carolina Office of Mental Health in 2025.
- **4,658** children received treatment services provided by the County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Authorities in 2025.
- **731,412** children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2025.
- **9,807** children received services provided by the South Carolina Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in 2025.
- **12,305** juvenile delinquency cases were referred to the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice in 2025.
- **789,086** students were enrolled in South Carolina public school districts in the 2025-2026 school year, and **41,421** students were enrolled in South Carolina private schools in the 2024-2025 school year.
- **17,156** students were identified as homeless in South Carolina public school districts in the 2024-2025 school year.
- **205,764** or **18.1%** of children under age 18 lived in poverty, higher than the national level (15.5%) in 2024.

For more data and related sources, please see individual indicators of the Data Reference Book.

¹ The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2025 KIDS COUNT Data Book, <https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/Aecf-2025kidscountdatabook.pdf> (last visited, April 29, 2026).

² U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2024 Population Estimates.

³ Data are by calendar years unless otherwise specified.

Demographics

Children Under 18 Years of Age by Race / Ethnicity in South Carolina, 2024

County	Non-Hispanic White Alone		Non-Hispanic Black Alone		Non-Hispanic Other Race Alone		Hispanic		Total under 18 Years of Age	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
South Carolina	605,751	53.3%	320,185	28.2%	75,937	6.7%	134,021	11.8%	1,135,894	100.0%
Abbeville	3,146	65.5%	1,265	26.4%	225	4.7%	164	3.4%	4,800	100.0%
Aiken	20,286	54.4%	10,380	27.8%	2,292	6.1%	4,329	11.6%	37,287	100.0%
Allendale	178	13.4%	1,025	76.9%	70	5.3%	60	4.5%	1,333	100.0%
Anderson	32,617	68.5%	8,189	17.2%	2,874	6.0%	3,932	8.3%	47,612	100.0%
Bamberg	795	33.2%	1,419	59.3%	110	4.6%	67	2.8%	2,391	100.0%
Barnwell	2,205	44.9%	2,247	45.8%	233	4.7%	223	4.5%	4,908	100.0%
Beaufort	16,981	49.6%	7,230	21.1%	2,176	6.4%	7,837	22.9%	34,224	100.0%
Berkeley	31,047	53.3%	14,681	25.2%	4,563	7.8%	7,932	13.6%	58,223	100.0%
Calhoun	1,314	49.7%	1,049	39.7%	103	3.9%	178	6.7%	2,644	100.0%
Charleston	45,551	55.6%	22,093	27.0%	4,353	5.3%	9,866	12.1%	81,863	100.0%
Cherokee	8,221	64.1%	2,825	22.0%	674	5.3%	1,096	8.6%	12,816	100.0%
Chester	3,580	50.2%	2,764	38.7%	428	6.0%	363	5.1%	7,135	100.0%
Chesterfield	4,857	50.1%	3,364	34.7%	597	6.2%	884	9.1%	9,702	100.0%
Clarendon	2,400	42.7%	2,652	47.2%	241	4.3%	330	5.9%	5,623	100.0%
Colleton	4,279	48.7%	3,276	37.3%	436	5.0%	796	9.1%	8,787	100.0%
Darlington	6,413	45.9%	6,316	45.2%	673	4.8%	578	4.1%	13,980	100.0%
Dillon	2,580	36.6%	3,441	48.8%	595	8.4%	431	6.1%	7,047	100.0%
Dorchester	21,773	54.4%	10,728	26.8%	3,322	8.3%	4,215	10.5%	40,038	100.0%
Edgefield	2,428	54.0%	1,489	33.1%	214	4.8%	362	8.1%	4,493	100.0%
Fairfield	1,085	29.6%	2,210	60.3%	210	5.7%	161	4.4%	3,666	100.0%
Florence	13,478	41.6%	15,483	47.8%	1,747	5.4%	1,703	5.3%	32,411	100.0%
Georgetown	5,737	52.7%	4,003	36.7%	374	3.4%	782	7.2%	10,896	100.0%
Greenville	71,335	56.5%	24,017	19.0%	9,021	7.1%	21,797	17.3%	126,170	100.0%
Greenwood	7,357	47.3%	5,305	34.1%	777	5.0%	2,127	13.7%	15,566	100.0%
Hampton	1,428	38.4%	1,955	52.6%	178	4.8%	155	4.2%	3,716	100.0%
Horry	40,567	62.0%	10,450	16.0%	4,793	7.3%	9,593	14.7%	65,403	100.0%
Jasper	1,497	25.4%	2,145	36.4%	251	4.3%	2,005	34.0%	5,898	100.0%
Kershaw	9,543	60.4%	3,807	24.1%	924	5.8%	1,531	9.7%	15,805	100.0%
Lancaster	13,495	59.9%	4,760	21.1%	1,696	7.5%	2,584	11.5%	22,535	100.0%
Laurens	8,709	58.3%	3,774	25.3%	723	4.8%	1,721	11.5%	14,927	100.0%
Lee	844	27.2%	2,005	64.7%	112	3.6%	138	4.5%	3,099	100.0%
Lexington	43,325	61.8%	12,839	18.3%	4,994	7.1%	8,971	12.8%	70,129	100.0%
McCormick	344	35.0%	567	57.6%	47	4.8%	26	2.6%	984	100.0%
Marion	1,888	30.0%	3,810	60.5%	316	5.0%	281	4.5%	6,295	100.0%
Marlboro	1,840	35.3%	2,612	50.2%	639	12.3%	117	2.2%	5,208	100.0%
Newberry	3,902	47.3%	2,579	31.3%	348	4.2%	1,413	17.1%	8,242	100.0%

Demographics

County (Continued)	Non-Hispanic White Alone		Non-Hispanic Black Alone		Non-Hispanic Other Race Alone		Hispanic		Total under 18 Years of Age	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Oconee	11,553	75.4%	1,197	7.8%	861	5.6%	1,719	11.2%	15,330	100.0%
Orangeburg	4,899	27.5%	11,131	62.4%	864	4.8%	936	5.2%	17,830	100.0%
Pickens	19,340	77.6%	1,841	7.4%	1,401	5.6%	2,338	9.4%	24,920	100.0%
Richland	27,606	30.3%	47,939	52.7%	6,671	7.3%	8,804	9.7%	91,020	100.0%
Saluda	1,889	45.0%	886	21.1%	152	3.6%	1,271	30.3%	4,198	100.0%
Spartanburg	47,244	58.2%	16,990	20.9%	5,927	7.3%	11,042	13.6%	81,203	100.0%
Sumter	9,268	37.6%	12,248	49.7%	1,446	5.9%	1,700	6.9%	24,662	100.0%
Union	3,259	58.3%	1,701	30.5%	426	7.6%	200	3.6%	5,586	100.0%
Williamsburg	1,757	30.3%	3,726	64.2%	183	3.2%	141	2.4%	5,807	100.0%
York	41,911	60.3%	13,772	19.8%	6,677	9.6%	7,122	10.3%	69,482	100.0%

DATA SOURCE

U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2024 Population Estimates

Census data for 2024 utilize the U.S. Census Bureau’s proprietary county resident population estimates by single year of age, race, and Hispanic origin provided by the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program.⁴ Data estimates were calculated for July 1, 2024. These data are not public and are published here by special permission granted by the U.S. Census Bureau in February 2026. The U.S. Census Bureau limits release of estimates by single year of age at the county level to a “by request only” basis due to concerns about the reliability of these estimates, especially when crossed by additional demographic characteristics. Users of the single-year-of-age county-level population estimates should carefully consider the limited reliability of these estimates. Due to rounding, percentages may not always appear to add up to 100%.

⁴ The Vintage 2024 Population Estimates methodology statement is located at this URL:
<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology/2020-2024/methods-statement-v2024.pdf>

Demographics

2024 American Community Survey⁵

Five-Year Estimates

±(90 Percent Margin of Error)

South Carolina	Total	In Married-Couple Family Household	In Male Householder, No Spouse Present, Family Household	In Female Householder, No Spouse Present, Family Household
Children under 18 years in households	1,132,430 ±526	712,745 ±8,009	81,545 ±3,964	330,132 ±6,367
AGE				
Under 6 years	30.9% ±0.2%	31.2% ±0.4%	30.9% ±1.6%	30.2% ±0.8%
6 to 11 years	33.6% ±0.4%	34.0% ±0.5%	30.6% ±1.4%	33.2% ±0.7%
12 to 17 years	35.6% ±0.3%	34.7% ±0.5%	38.5% ±1.9%	36.6% ±0.8%
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN				
One race	87.9% ±0.3%	87.7% ±0.4%	86.7% ±1.3%	88.7% ±0.6%
White	54.5% ±0.2%	66.1% ±0.4%	50.7% ±2.5%	30.3% ±0.9%
Black or African American	27.2% ±0.2%	15.0% ±0.5%	26.2% ±2.3%	54.0% ±0.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.5% ±0.1%	0.4% ±0.1%	1.2% ±0.6%	0.5% ±0.1%
Asian	1.6% ±0.1%	2.1% ±0.1%	0.8% ±0.3%	0.6% ±0.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1% ±0.1%	0.0% ±0.1%	0.1% ±0.1%	0.1% ±0.1%
Some other race	4.1% ±0.2%	4.0% ±0.3%	7.8% ±1.1%	3.2% ±0.4%
Two or more races	12.1% ±0.3%	12.3% ±0.4%	13.3% ±1.3%	11.3% ±0.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	11.9% ±0.1%	12.4% ±0.3%	16.7% ±1.7%	9.5% ±0.6%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	52.1% ±0.1%	63.7% ±0.4%	48.1% ±2.6%	28.0% ±0.9%

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, 2024 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates. Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. The degree of uncertainty for an estimate arising from sampling variability is represented using a margin of error. The value shown here is the 90 percent margin of error. For example, 1,100,762 ±556 indicates 90 percent confidence that the true number of children under age 18 in households in South Carolina is between 1,100,206 and 1,101,318. "N/A" indicates the estimate is not applicable or not available. Due to rounding, percentages may not always appear to add up to 100%.

<https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2024.S0901?q=children&g=040XX00US45> (last visited, April 29, 2026).

Demographics

2024 American Community Survey

Five-Year Estimates

±(90 Percent Margin of Error)

South Carolina	Total	In Married-Couple Family Household	In Male Householder, No Spouse Present, Family Household	In Female Householder, No Spouse Present, Family Household
RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSEHOLDER				
Own child (biological, step or adopted)	86.0% ±0.4%	91.2% ±0.5%	81.5% ±1.6%	78.1% ±1.0%
Grandchild	10.0% ±0.4%	6.9% ±0.4%	10.6% ±1.3%	16.8% ±0.9%
Other relatives	2.4% ±0.2%	1.3% ±0.1%	5.9% ±0.9%	4.1% ±0.5%
Foster child or other unrelated child	1.6% ±0.2%	0.7% ±0.1%	2.0% ±0.4%	1.0% ±0.2%
NATIVITY				
Native	98.1% ±0.1%	97.9% ±0.2%	97.6% ±0.7%	98.8% ±0.2%
Foreign born	1.9% ±0.1%	2.1% ±0.2%	2.4% ±0.7%	1.2% ±0.2%
PRESENCE OF OTHER ADULTS				
Unmarried partner of householder present	7.7% ±0.4%	N/A N/A	43.7% ±2.4%	14.7% ±1.0%
DISABILITY STATUS				
Civilian children under 18 years in households	1,132,419 ±529	712,734 ±8,011	81,545 ±3,964	330,132 ±6,367
With any disability	5.2% ±0.2%	4.3% ±0.2%	6.4% ±0.9%	6.6% ±0.4%
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT				
Children 3 to 17 years in households	962,177 ±2,832	606,410 ±7,554	67,632 ±3,238	281,423 ±5,799
Enrolled in school	858,864 ±3,024	545,541 ±6,873	60,381 ±3,091	247,206 ±5,295
Public	84.4% ±0.4%	79.9% ±0.6%	90.7% ±1.3%	92.7% ±0.6%
Private	15.6% ±0.4%	20.1% ±0.6%	9.3% ±1.3%	7.3% ±0.6%
Not enrolled in school	103,313 ±2,887	60,869 ±2,323	7,251 ±895	34,217 ±2,054
MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2024 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS) FOR FAMILIES WITH OWN CHILDREN				
Median income (dollars)	\$83,847 ±\$1,178	\$115,642 ±\$1,236	\$51,123 ±1,696	\$35,507 ±\$782

Demographics

2024 American Community Survey

Five-Year Estimates

±(90 Percent Margin of Error)

South Carolina	Total	In Married-Couple Family Household	In Male Householder, No Spouse Present, Family Household	In Female Householder, No Spouse Present, Family Household
Children under 18 years in households	1,132,430 ±526	712,745 ±8,009	81,545 ±3,964	330,132 ±6,367
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS				
Children living in households with Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash public assistance income, or Food Stamp/SNAP benefits	24.6% ±0.6%	13.3% ±0.7%	28.9% ±2.0%	48.2% ±1.3%
POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS				
Children in households for whom poverty status is determined	1,118,496 ±1,543	708,977 ±7,940	80,263 ±4,012	327,553 ±6,276
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	19.4% ±0.6%	7.7% ±0.5%	24.4% ±2.1%	43.1% ±1.4%
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	80.6% ±0.6%	92.3% ±0.5%	75.6% ±2.1%	56.9% ±1.4%
HOUSING TENURE				
Children under 18 years in occupied housing units	1,132,430 ±526	712,745 ±8,009	81,545 ±3,964	330,132 ±6,367
In owner-occupied housing units	69.2% ±0.7%	82.7% ±0.6%	59.7% ±2.2%	42.7% ±1.2%
In renter-occupied housing units	30.8% ±0.7%	17.3% ±0.6%	40.3% ±2.2%	57.3% ±1.2%

Demographics

Child Poverty (2024)⁶

±(90 Percent Margin of Error)

In South Carolina, **205,764** or **18.1%** of children under age 18 lived in poverty, higher than the national level (15.5%) in 2024.

County	Number of Children in Poverty	Percent of Children in Poverty	County	Number of Children in Poverty	Percent of Children in Poverty	County	Number of Children in Poverty	Percent of Children in Poverty	County	Number of Children in Poverty	Percent of Children in Poverty
Abbeville	975 ±299	20.9% ±6.4%	Chesterfield	2,484 ±677	25.7% ±7.0%	Hampton	1,052 ±339	28.9% ±9.3%	Oconee	4,422 ±580	29.5% ±3.9%
Aiken	8,087 ±1,634	21.3% ±4.3%	Clarendon	1,286 ±430	24.4% ±8.2%	Horry	15,423 ±2,391	23.2% ±3.6%	Orangeburg	4,975 ±1,363	29.0% ±7.9%
Allendale	578 ±190	44.7% ±14.7%	Colleton	2,558 ±703	29.2% ±8.0%	Jasper	1,599 ±523	26.5% ±8.7%	Pickens	3,747 ±1,073	15.1% ±4.3%
Anderson	8,141 ±1,612	17.1% ±3.4%	Darlington	4,224 ±925	30.8% ±6.7%	Kershaw	2,670 ±788	16.4% ±4.8%	Richland	17,919 ±3,190	20.0% ±3.6%
Bamberg	759 ±252	33.4% ±11.1%	Dillon	2,160 ±650	31.9% ±9.6%	Lancaster	3,149 ±856	13.3% ±3.6%	Saluda	918 ±301	21.5% ±7.1%
Barnwell	1,425 ±453	30.0% ±9.5%	Dorchester	5,169 ±1,397	12.7% ±3.4%	Laurens	3,871 ±854	25.9% ±5.7%	Spartanburg	13,360 ±3,006	15.9% ±3.6%
Beaufort	4,489 ±1,450	13.4% ±4.3%	Edgefield	987 ±257	21.3% ±5.6%	Lee	999 ±325	32.5% ±10.6%	Sumter	5,821 ±1,555	24.2% ±6.5%
Berkeley	7,420 ±1,931	12.4% ±3.2%	Fairfield	939 ±313	26.3% ±8.8%	Lexington	10,503 ±1,977	15.0% ±2.8%	Union	1,401 ±375	26.7% ±7.1%
Calhoun	554 ±183	21.5% ±7.1%	Florence	6,848 ±1,600	21.7% ±5.1%	McCormick	282 ±93	28.9% ±9.5%	Williamsburg	1,848 ±546	33.9% ±10.0%
Charleston	11,161 ±3,010	13.7% ±3.7%	Georgetown	2,957 ±578	28.1% ±5.5%	Marion	2,964 ±433	49.0% ±7.2%	York	7,197 ±1,593	10.4% ±2.3%
Cherokee	2,819 ±767	22.1% ±6.0%	Greenville	16,796 ±3,288	13.3% ±2.6%	Marlboro	1,803 ±488	36.5% ±9.9%	South Carolina	205,764 ±10,106	18.1% ±0.9%
Chester	1,480 ±474	21.5% ±6.9%	Greenwood	3,380 ±937	22.5% ±6.2%	Newberry	2,167 ±480	26.7% ±5.9%	United States	11,116,682 ±126,951	15.5% ±0.2%

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (90% Confidence Interval) https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/saie/#/?s_state=45&s_county=45001,45003,45005,45007,45009,45011,45013,45015,45017,45019,45021,45023,45025,45027,45029,45031,45033,45035,45037,45039,45041,45043,45045,45047,45049,45051,45053,45055,45057,45059,45061,45063,45067,45069,45065,45071,45073,45075,45077,45079,45081,45083,45085,45087,45089,45091&s_district=&s_geography=county&s_measures=u18 (last visited, January 29, 2026).

Safety Indicators

Child Deaths

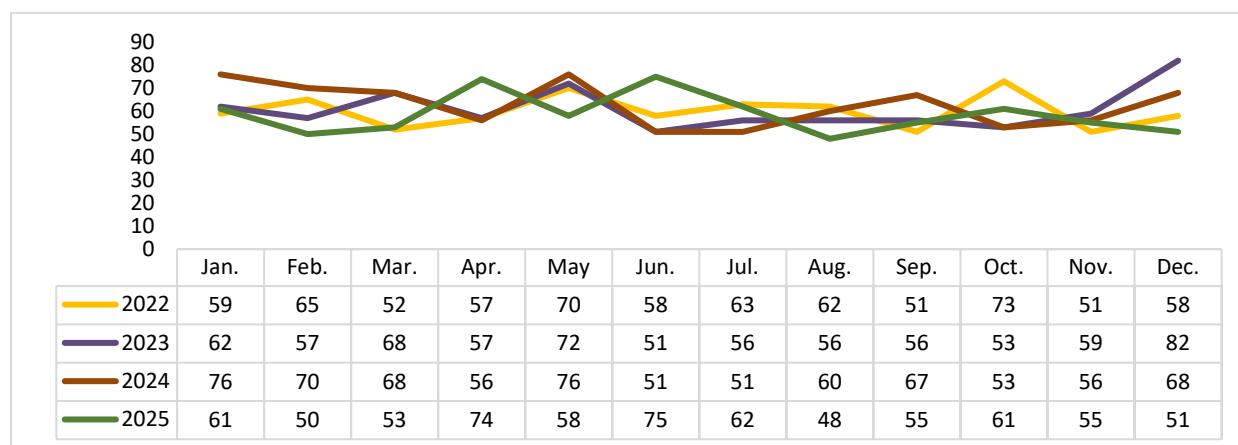
S.C. CHILD DEATHS



703 children died in 2025,
49 deaths or **7% decrease** from 2024 (n=752).

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change. 2024 data are updated by the South Carolina Department of Public Health to reflect data revisions since the data were published in the Committee's 2025 Data Reference Book.

S.C. CHILD DEATHS BY MONTH



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA (2024)

S.C. child death rate
(Ages 0-17):
65.4 per 100,000 children



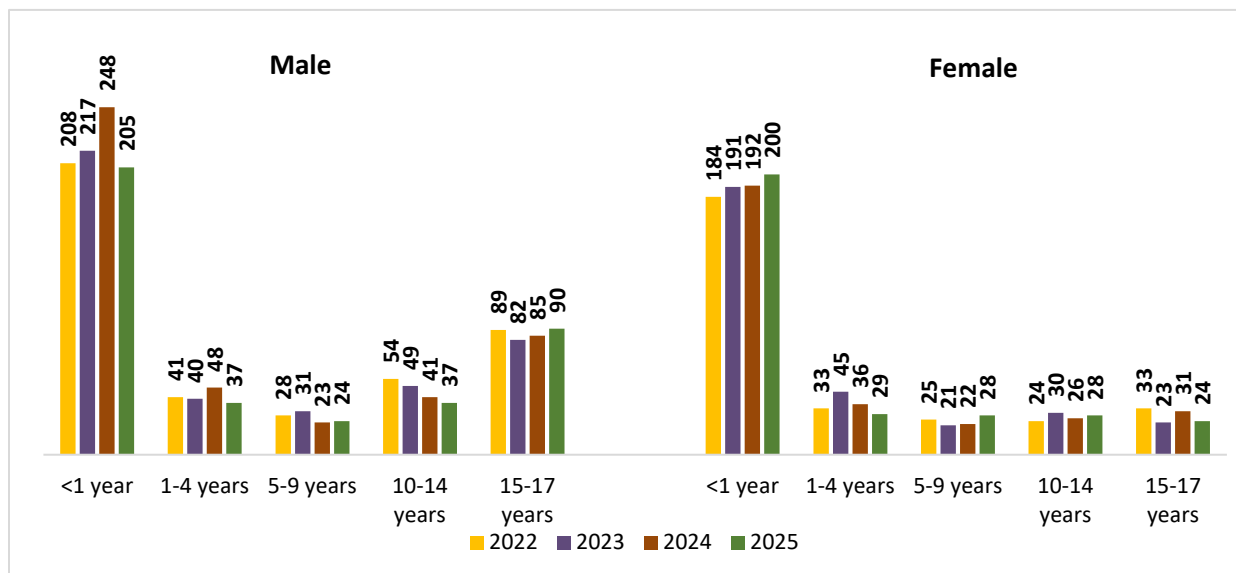
National rate:
48.2 per 100,000 children

S.C. CHILD DEATHS BY AGE GROUP: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

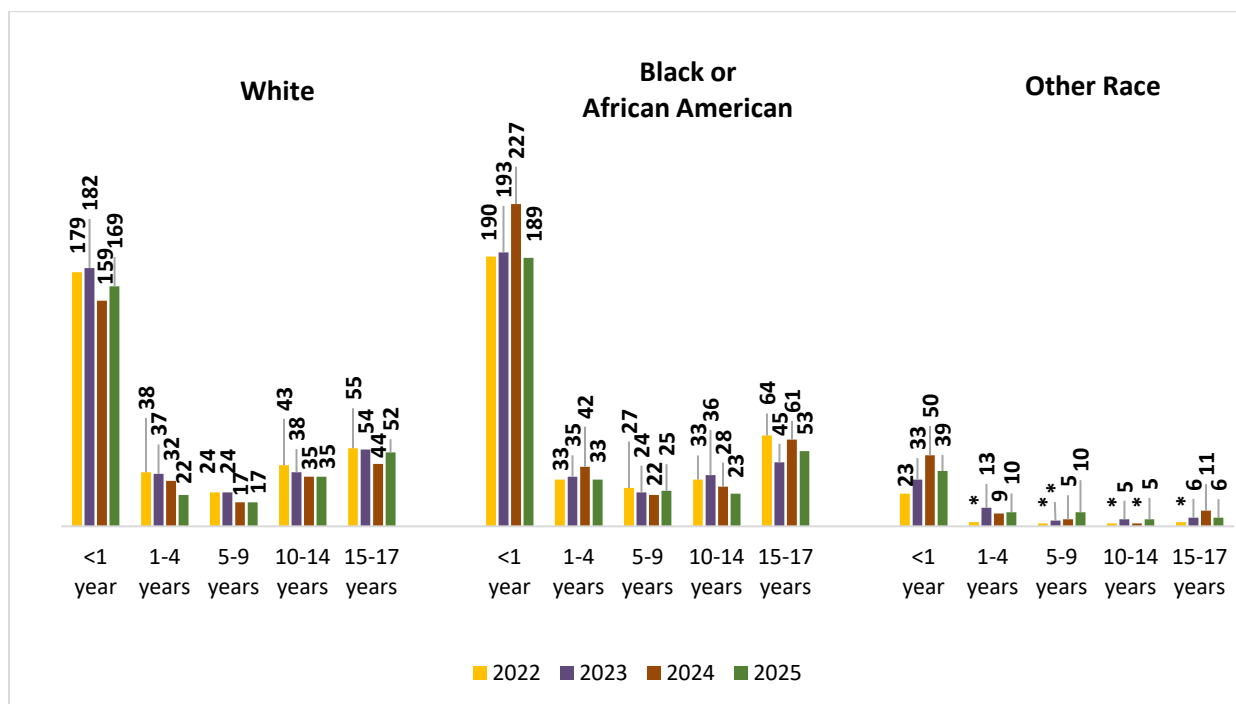
Age Groups	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
<1 year	392	408	440	406	-37 (-8%)	-2 (-0.5%)	+14 (+4%)
1-4 years	74	85	84	66	-18 (-21%)	-19 (-22%)	-8 (-11%)
5-9 years	53	52	45	52	+7 (+16%)	0 (0%)	-1 (-2%)
10-14 years	78	79	67	65	-2 (-3%)	-14 (-18%)	-13 (-17%)
15-17 years	122	105	116	114	-2 (-2%)	+9 (+9%)	-8 (-7%)
Total	719	729	752	703	-49 (-7%)	-26 (-4%)	-16 (-2%)

Safety Indicators

S.C. CHILD DEATHS BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

Safety Indicators

S.C. CHILD DEATH CAUSES BY AGE GROUP

	2022	2023	2024	2025
< 1 year	Conditions from perinatal period (n=188) Congenital malformations (n=71) Accidental suffocation (n=31) Homicide (n=6) Causes above (n=296) accounted for 76% of deaths for this age group	Conditions from perinatal period (n=209) Congenital malformations (n=58) Accidental suffocation (n=28) Homicide (n=10) Cerebrovascular disease (n=7) Causes above (n=312) accounted for 76% of deaths for this age group	Conditions from perinatal period (n=207) Congenital malformations (n=78) Accidental suffocation (n=42) Homicide (n=8) Disease of heart (n=7) Causes above (n=342) accounted for 78% of deaths for this age group	Conditions from perinatal period (n=187) Congenital malformations (n=65) Accidental suffocation (n=18) Disease of heart (n=6) Causes above (n=276) accounted for 68% of deaths for this age group
1-4 years	Motor vehicle accidents (n=12) Accidental drowning (n=10) Congenital malformations (n=9) Causes above (n=31) accounted for 42% of deaths for this age group	Motor vehicle accidents (n=14) Accidental drowning (n=14) Congenital malformations (n=8) Homicide (n=6) Accidental suffocation (n=6) Causes above (n=48) accounted for 56% of deaths for this age group	Accidental drowning (n=13) Motor vehicle accidents (n=10) Congenital malformations (n=6) Homicide (n=6) Accidental fire/flame (n=6) Causes above (n=41) accounted for 49% of deaths for this age group	Accidental drowning (n=10) Homicide (n=6) Disease of heart (n=5) Causes above (n=21) accounted for 32% of deaths for this age group
5-9 years	Motor vehicle accidents (n=8) Causes above (n=8) accounted for 15% of deaths for this age group	Motor vehicle accidents (n=8) Congenital malformations (n=5) Homicide (n=5) Causes above (n=18) accounted for 35% of deaths for this age group	Cancer (n=8) Motor vehicle accidents (n=8) Causes above (n=16) accounted for 36% of deaths for this age group	Cancer (n=6) Accidental fire/flame (n=6) Congenital malformations (n=5) Motor vehicle accidents (n=5) Causes above (n=22) accounted for 42% of deaths for this age group
10-14 years	Motor vehicle accidents (n=17) Homicide (n=15) Suicide (n=9) Congenital malformations (n=6) Causes above (n=47) accounted for 60% of deaths for this age group	Cancer (n=14) Motor vehicle accidents (n=13) Homicide (n=12) Suicide (n=8) Congenital malformations (n=5) Disease of heart (n=5) Causes above (n=57) accounted for 72% of deaths for this age group	Suicide (n=11) Homicide (n=10) Motor vehicle accidents (n=8) Cancer (n=5) Causes above (n=34) accounted for 51% of deaths for this age group	Suicide (n=12) Motor vehicle accidents (n=11) Cancer (n=6) Homicide (n=5) Causes above (n=34) accounted for 52% of deaths for this age group

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

Deaths ≥5 are included.

Safety Indicators

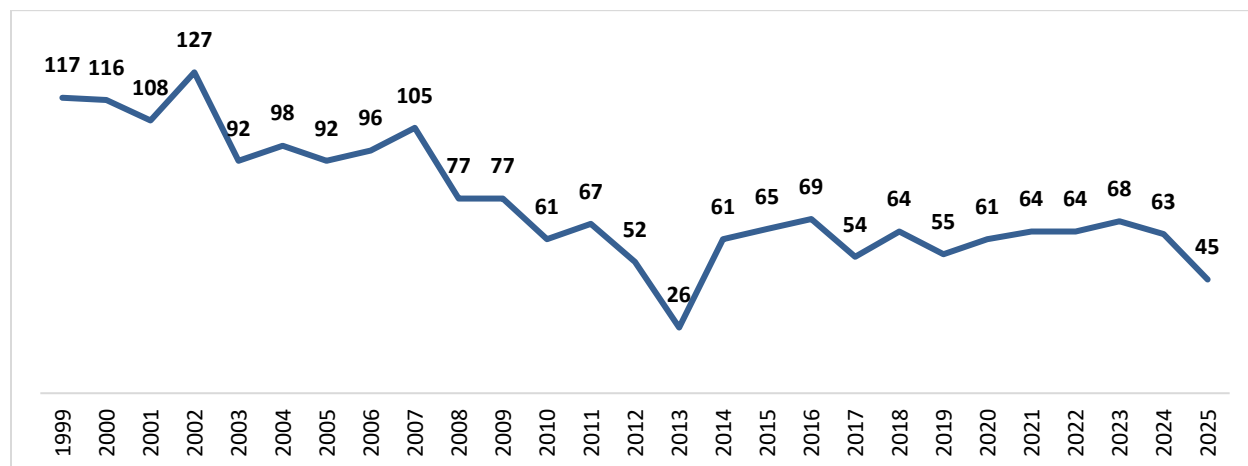
	2022	2023	2024	2025
15-17 years	Homicide (n=42) Motor vehicle accidents (n=24) Accidental Poisoning (n=15) Suicide (n=10) Cancer (n=5) Causes above (n=96) accounted for 79% of deaths for this age group	Motor vehicle accidents (n=30) Homicide (n=26) Suicide (n=11) Cancer (n=6) Accidental poisoning (n=5) Causes above (n=78) accounted for 74% of deaths for this age group	Motor vehicle accidents (n=33) Homicide (n=30) Suicide (n=10) Accidental poisoning (n=6) Disease of heart (n=5) Causes above (n=84) accounted for 72% of deaths for this age group	Homicide (n=27) Suicide (n=24) Motor vehicle accidents (n=23) Disease of heart (n=5) Causes above (n=79) accounted for 69% of deaths for this age group
0-17 years	Conditions from perinatal period (n=189) Congenital malformations (n=94) Homicide (n=71) Motor vehicle accidents (n=64) Accidental suffocation (n=35) Suicide (n=19) Accidental poisoning (n=18) Cancer (n=17) Accidental drowning (n=16) COVID-19 (n=9) Pneumonia and Influenza (n=9) Disease of heart (n=8) Chronic lower respiratory disease (n=5) Diabetes Mellitus (n=5) Causes above (n=559) accounted for 78% of deaths for this age group	Conditions from perinatal period (n=212) Congenital malformations (n=76) Motor vehicle accidents (n=68) Homicide (n=59) Accidental suffocation (n=36) Cancer (n=28) Accidental drowning (n=19) Suicide (n=19) Disease of heart (n=13) Cerebrovascular Disease (n=12) Accidental poisoning (n=9) Pneumonia and Influenza (n=6) Accidental firearms death (n=6) Septicemia (n=6) Causes above (n=569) accounted for 78% of deaths for this age group	Conditions from perinatal period (n=209) Congenital malformations (n=89) Motor vehicle accidents (n=63) Homicide (n=56) Accidental suffocation (n=44) Accidental drowning (n=25) Cancer (n=23) Suicide (n=21) Disease of heart (n=16) Pneumonia and Influenza (n=10) Accidental firearms (n=10) Accidental fire/flare (n=8) Accidental poisoning (n=8) Cerebrovascular Disease (n=7) Septicemia (n=7) Chronic lower respiratory disease (n=6) Causes above (n=602) accounted for 80% of deaths for this age group	Conditions from perinatal period (n=188) Congenital malformations (n=80) Motor vehicle accidents (n=45) Homicide (n=42) Suicide (n=36) Disease of heart (n=24) Accidental suffocation (n=21) Cancer (n=18) Accidental drowning (n=14) Accidental fire/flare (n=9) Pneumonia and Influenza (n=5) Chronic lower respiratory disease (n=5) Causes above (n=494) accounted for 70% of deaths for this age group

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

Deaths ≥5 are included.

Safety Indicators

S.C. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN BY YEAR (1999-2025)



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

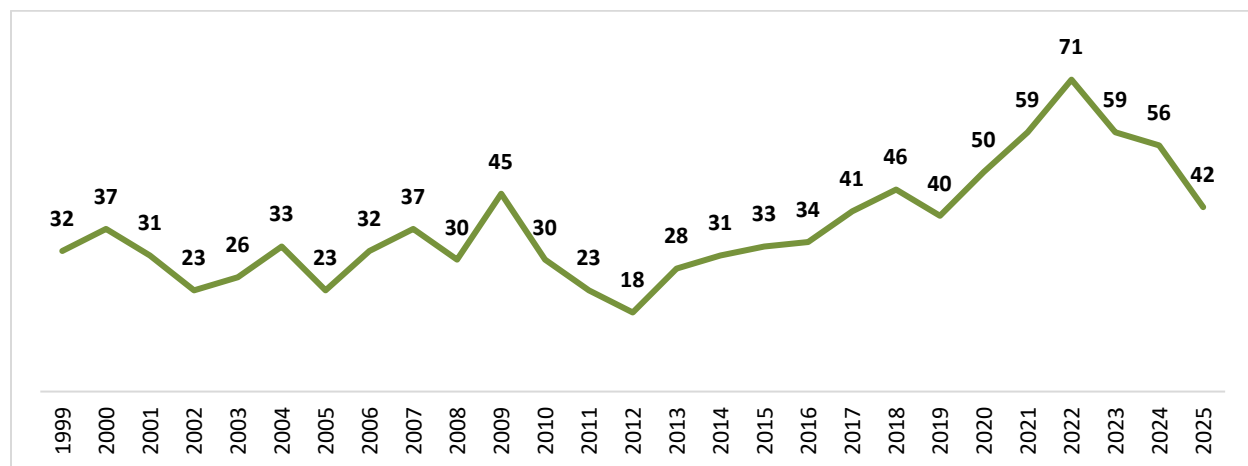
S.C. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN: COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA (2024)

S.C. child motor vehicle accident death rate (Ages 0-17):
5.0 per 100,000 children



National rate:
3.0 per 100,000 children

S.C. HOMICIDE DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN BY YEAR (1999-2025)



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

S.C. HOMICIDE DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN: COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA (2024)

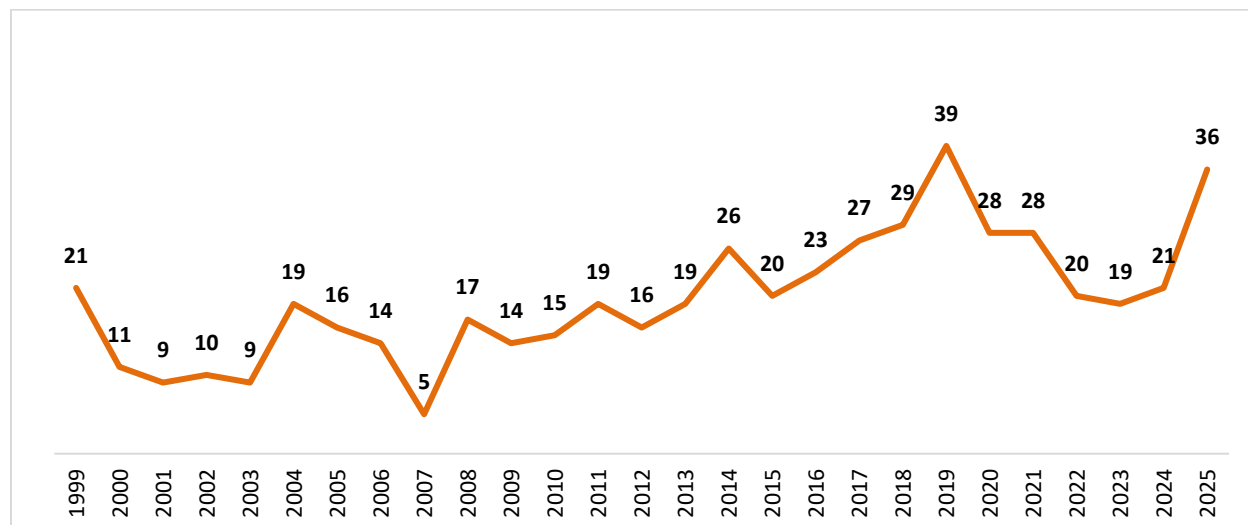
S.C. child homicide death rate (Ages 0-17):
4.9 per 100,000 children



National rate:
2.7 per 100,000 children

Safety Indicators

S.C. SUICIDE DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN BY YEAR (1999-2025)



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

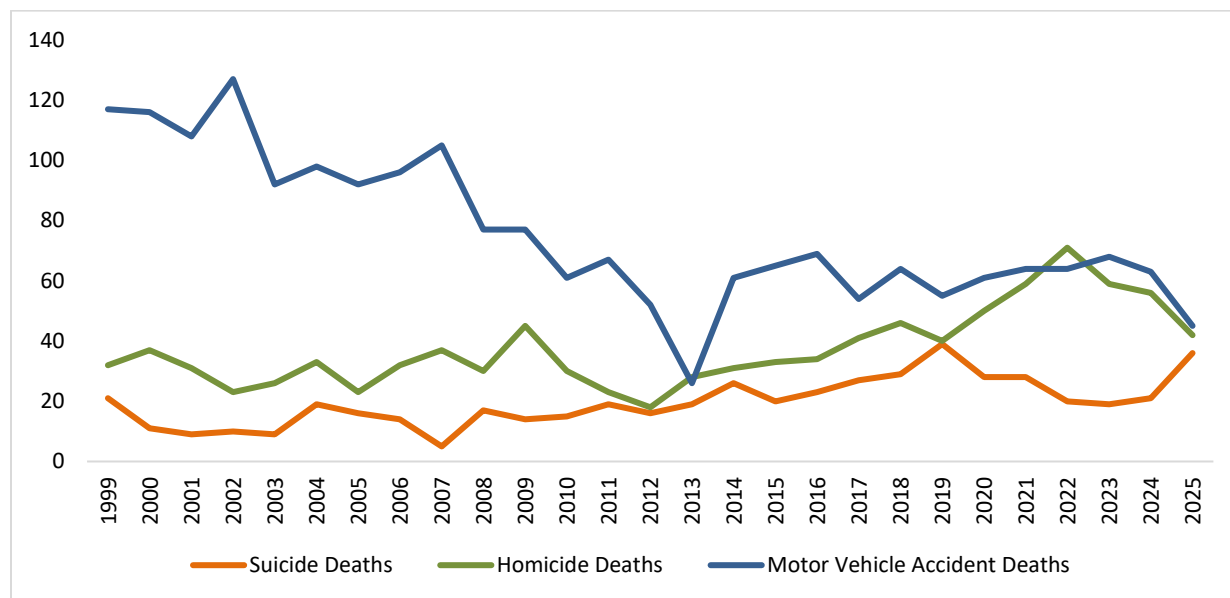
S.C. SUICIDE DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN: COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA (2024)

S.C. child suicide death rate
(Ages 0-17):
1.8 per 100,000 children



National rate:
2.1 per 100,000 children

S.C. SUICIDE DEATHS, HOMICIDE DEATHS, AND MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT DEATHS AMONG CHILDREN BY YEAR (1999-2025)



Safety Indicators

S.C. CHILD DEATHS BY COUNTY

County	2022	2023	2024	2025
Abbeville	0	*	*	*
Aiken	23	23	16	26
Allendale	*	0	*	0
Anderson	25	30	32	*
Bamberg	*	*	0	28
Barnwell	*	*	*	*
Beaufort	14	21	20	22
Berkeley	41	34	39	29
Calhoun	*	*	*	*
Charleston	65	51	42	49
Cherokee	9	8	13	13
Chester	9	7	12	7
Chesterfield	14	*	7	10
Clarendon	6	*	8	6
Colleton	9	13	8	9
Darlington	10	16	12	18
Dillon	*	8	9	7
Dorchester	19	27	20	21
Edgefield	*	*	*	*
Fairfield	5	*	*	*
Florence	36	27	26	30
Georgetown	*	9	10	9
Greenville	60	58	70	54
Greenwood	7	12	14	12
Hampton	*	6	5	*
Horry	42	33	42	43
Jasper	7	7	8	*
Kershaw	8	12	15	13
Lancaster	11	14	6	10
Laurens	9	16	10	10
Lee	*	*	7	*
Lexington	37	34	45	33
McCormick	0	*	*	0
Marion	*	13	8	*
Marlboro	9	*	*	*
Newberry	12	*	6	*
Oconee	12	10	8	9
Orangeburg	17	22	20	16
Pickens	15	13	14	7
Richland	59	63	58	56
Saluda	5	*	*	*

Safety Indicators

County (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Spartanburg	48	45	40	56
Sumter	24	19	26	19
Union	5	*	5	9
Williamsburg	5	*	9	*
York	24	39	38	31
Total	719	729	752	703

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

DATA SOURCES

1. S.C. Department of Public Health, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, March 2024, April 2025, and February 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified. 2024 data are updated by the agency to reflect data revisions since last published in the Committee's 2025 Data Reference Book.
2. Deaths of motor vehicle accidents, homicide, and suicide among children by year (1999-2018): S.C. Department of Public Health, Death Certificate Data, https://apps.dhec.sc.gov/Health/SCAN_BDP/tables/death2table.aspx (last visited, May 12, 2026).
3. Overall child death rate, child motor vehicle accident death rate, and child homicide death rate: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Underlying Cause of Death, 2018-2024, Single Race on CDC WONDER Online Database, released in 2026. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 2018-2024, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program, <https://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10-expanded.html> (last visited, May 12, 2026).

Safety Indicators

Non-Fatal Injuries to Children

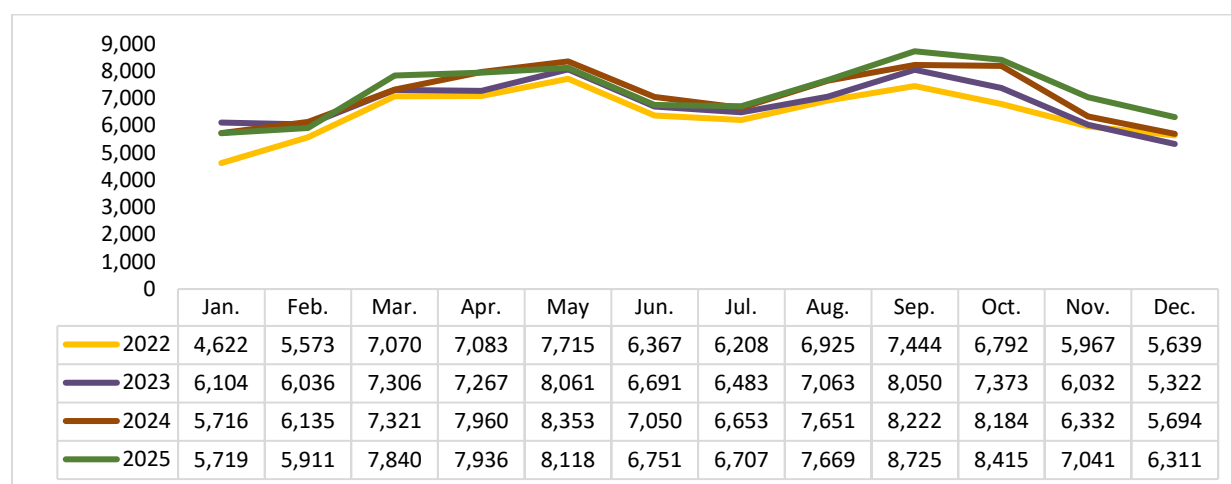
S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS



87,143 non-fatal injury emergency department (E.D.) visits for children in 2025, **1,872** injury visits or **2% increase** from 2024.

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS BY MONTH



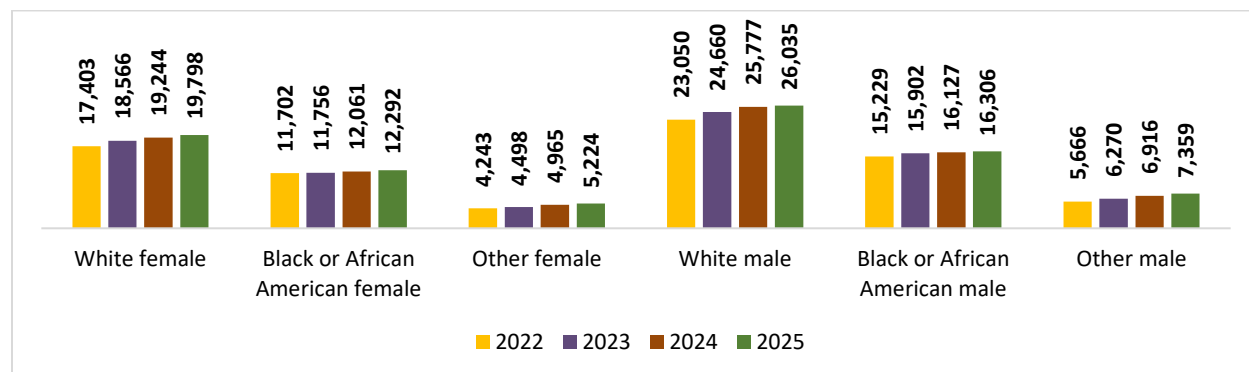
Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS BY AGE GROUP: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

Age Groups	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
<1 year	2,694	2,886	3,137	3,454	+317 (+10%)	+568 (+20%)	+760 (+28%)
1-4 years	19,218	20,309	21,634	22,290	+656 (+3%)	+1,981 (+10%)	+3,072 (+16%)
5-11 years	25,677	27,454	28,903	29,730	+827 (+3%)	+2,276 (+8%)	+4,053 (+16%)
12-17 years	29,816	31,139	31,597	31,669	+72 (+0.2%)	+530 (+2%)	+1,853 (+6%)
Total	77,405	81,788	85,271	87,143	+1,872 (+2%)	+5,355 (+7%)	+9,738 (+13%)

Safety Indicators

S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS BY SEX AND RACE



TOP FIVE INJURY DIAGNOSES FOR S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS

Federal Fiscal Year 2022	Federal Fiscal Year 2023	Federal Fiscal Year 2024	Federal Fiscal Year 2025
Unspecified injury of head (n=5,342)	Unspecified injury of head (n=6,403)	Unspecified injury of head (n=6,641)	Unspecified injury of head (n=6,428)
Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (n=3,386)	Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (n=3,704)	Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (n=3,757)	Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (n=3,755)
Laceration without foreign body of scalp (n=1,786)	Laceration without foreign body of scalp (n=1,854)	Contusion of other part of head (n=1,990)	Contusion of other part of head (n=2,264)
Contusion of other part of head (n=1,655)	Contusion of other part of head (n=1,741)	Laceration without foreign body of scalp (n=1,932)	Laceration without foreign body of scalp (n=2,096)
Sprain of unspecified ligament of right ankle (n=1,468)	Sprain of unspecified ligament of right ankle (n=1,613)	Laceration without foreign body of lip (n=1,588)	Laceration without foreign body of lip (n=1,577)

Note. S.C. pediatric emergency department visits (ages 0-17), including emergency department visits that resulted in an in-patient admission. Federal fiscal year 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

TOP FIVE HOSPITAL CHARGES FOR S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS

Federal Fiscal Year 2022	Federal Fiscal Year 2023	Federal Fiscal Year 2024	Federal Fiscal Year 2025
Unspecified injury of head (\$15,351,541)	Unspecified injury of head (\$18,223,449)	Unspecified injury of head (\$19,652,384)	Unspecified injury of head (\$20,102,488)
Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (\$8,270,606)	Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (\$9,710,038)	Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (\$10,405,867)	Laceration without foreign body of other part of head (\$11,039,448)
Laceration without foreign body of scalp (\$4,439,812)	Laceration without foreign body of scalp (\$5,018,640)	Contusion of other part of head (\$5,917,092)	Contusion of other part of head (\$6,775,973)
Contusion of other part of head (\$4,357,091)	Concussion without loss of consciousness (\$4,989,581)	Concussion without loss of consciousness (\$5,579,301)	Laceration without foreign body of scalp (\$6,718,849)
Concussion without loss of consciousness (\$4,115,771)	Contusion of other part of head (\$4,773,549)	Laceration without foreign body of scalp (\$4,969,492)	Concussion without loss of consciousness (\$6,439,580)

Safety Indicators

TOP FIVE CAUSES FOR S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS BY AGE GROUP

	Federal Fiscal Year 2022	Federal Fiscal Year 2023	Federal Fiscal Year 2024	Federal Fiscal Year 2025
< 1 year	Fall (n=1,450) Struck by/against (n=257) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=135) Cut/pierce (n=76) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=48) Causes above (n=1,966) accounted for 73% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=1,652) Struck by/against (n=259) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=146) Cut/pierce (n=85) Fire/burn category (n=66) Causes above (n=2,208) accounted for 77% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=1,799) Struck by/against (n=330) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=144) Cut/pierce (n=73) Poisoning category (n=73) Causes above (n=2,419) accounted for 77% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=1,986) Struck by/against (n=329) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=159) Cut/pierce (n=74) Fire/burn category (n=67) Poisoning category (n=67) Causes above (n=2,682) accounted for 78% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group
1-4 years	Fall (n=7,233) Struck by/against (n=2,879) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,426) Cut/pierce (n=972) Fire/burn category (n=579) Causes above (n=13,089) accounted for 68% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=8,051) Struck by/against (n=3,050) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,467) Cut/pierce (n=1,054) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=595) Causes above (n=14,217) accounted for 70% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=8,814) Struck by/against (n=3,068) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,726) Cut/pierce (n=1,129) Poisoning category (n=745) Causes above (n=15,482) accounted for 72% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=9,110) Struck by/against (n=3,091) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,718) Cut/pierce (n=1,045) Poisoning category (n=748) Causes above (n=15,712) accounted for 70% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group
5-11 years	Fall (n=8,371) Struck by/against (n=4,872) Cut/pierce (n=1,932) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=1,730) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,644) Causes above (n=18,549) accounted for 72% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=9,006) Struck by/against (n=5,586) Cut/pierce (n=2,079) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=1,857) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,687) Causes above (n=20,215) accounted for 74% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=9,643) Struck by/against (n=5,829) Cut/pierce (n=2,217) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=1,951) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,855) Causes above (n=21,495) accounted for 74% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=9,781) Struck by/against (n=5,984) Cut/pierce (n=2,140) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=1,885) Natural/environmental category (e.g., bites and stings) (n=1,855) Causes above (n=21,645) accounted for 73% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group
12-17 years	Struck by/against (n=6,192) Fall (n=5,411) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=3,717) Overexertion (n=2,798) Cut/pierce (n=2,295) Causes above (n=20,413) accounted for 68% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Struck by/against (n=6,972) Fall (n=5,775) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=3,722) Overexertion (n=3,228) Cut/pierce (n=2,341) Causes above (n=22,038) accounted for 71% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Struck by/against (n=7,451) Fall (n=5,895) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=3,726) Overexertion (n=3,264) Cut/pierce (n=2,462) Causes above (n=22,798) accounted for 72% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Struck by/against (n=7,319) Fall (n=5,880) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=3,532) Overexertion (n=3,268) Cut/pierce (n=2,544) Causes above (n=22,543) accounted for 71% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group

Safety Indicators

	Federal Fiscal Year 2022	Federal Fiscal Year 2023	Federal Fiscal Year 2024	Federal Fiscal Year 2025
0-17 years	Fall (n=22,465) Struck by/against (n=14,200) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=6,039) Cut/pierce (n=5,275) Overexertion (n=4,271) Causes above (n=52,250) accounted for 68% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=24,484) Struck by/against (n=15,867) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=6,227) Cut/pierce (n=5,559) Overexertion (n=5,029) Causes above (n=57,166) accounted for 70% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=26,151) Struck by/against (n=16,678) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=6,304) Cut/pierce (n=5,881) Overexertion (n=5,198) Causes above (n=60,212) accounted for 71% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group	Fall (n=26,757) Struck by/against (n=16,723) Motor vehicle traffic category (n=6,018) Cut/pierce (n=5,803) Overexertion (n=5,329) Causes above (n=60,630) accounted for 70% of non-fatal injury causes for this age group

Note. Federal fiscal year 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL INJURY E.D. VISITS BY COUNTY

County of Patient Residence	Federal Fiscal Year 2022 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Hospital Charges	Federal Fiscal Year 2023 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Hospital Charges	Federal Fiscal Year 2024 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Hospital Charges	Federal Fiscal Year 2025 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Hospital Charges
Abbeville	455	\$908,305	462	\$2,207,424	463	\$977,761	413	\$1,445,090
Aiken	1,277	\$4,545,887	1,979	\$7,013,174	2,170	\$8,660,026	2,046	\$9,008,194
Allendale	265	\$188,534	251	\$178,179	256	\$283,226	337	\$408,192
Anderson	2,053	\$9,632,912	2,423	\$12,629,987	2,735	\$11,734,564	2,900	\$12,660,267
Bamberg	313	\$1,317,098	247	\$1,179,865	311	\$819,985	405	\$1,506,987
Barnwell	438	\$868,569	346	\$930,108	344	\$979,546	271	\$741,031
Beaufort	2,601	\$10,447,248	2,741	\$11,491,999	2,603	\$11,655,601	2,477	\$14,178,096
Berkeley	5,382	\$20,932,767	5,721	\$24,654,195	6,147	\$31,538,496	6,247	\$32,539,237
Calhoun	132	\$516,251	133	\$660,821	220	\$866,470	286	\$1,307,796
Charleston	5,899	\$25,672,650	5,823	\$27,673,484	6,336	\$31,995,339	6,200	\$32,729,086
Cherokee	1,017	\$2,835,565	1,075	\$4,374,334	1,013	\$3,980,799	1,112	\$5,465,997
Chester	766	\$2,839,674	741	\$2,446,222	717	\$2,735,102	691	\$2,711,777
Chesterfield	690	\$2,624,987	602	\$2,735,684	757	\$2,458,298	766	\$4,447,300
Clarendon	546	\$1,854,590	521	\$1,642,351	580	\$2,696,579	545	\$1,954,971
Colleton	1,135	\$5,137,502	1,248	\$5,000,727	1,199	\$6,458,759	1,133	\$7,332,684
Darlington	1,002	\$4,975,730	980	\$5,312,303	1,200	\$7,438,740	1,183	\$7,486,562
Dillon	725	\$3,500,286	749	\$3,659,332	707	\$3,200,672	762	\$3,668,396
Dorchester	3,291	\$15,265,462	3,573	\$19,527,095	3,643	\$17,007,940	3,601	\$17,531,225
Edgefield	315	\$814,922	436	\$1,239,199	469	\$1,186,610	396	\$1,296,503
Fairfield	423	\$1,304,769	428	\$1,347,307	526	\$1,679,643	578	\$2,051,679
Florence	2,198	\$12,026,910	2,048	\$11,016,826	2,111	\$13,284,501	2,348	\$12,577,297
Georgetown	985	\$4,481,913	1,013	\$3,041,028	1,063	\$2,354,569	1,270	\$6,104,570
Greenville	7,484	\$27,929,339	8,278	\$33,024,509	8,824	\$32,593,774	8,928	\$37,524,930

Safety Indicators

County of Patient Residence (Continued)	Federal Fiscal Year 2022 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Hospital Charges	Federal Fiscal Year 2023 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Hospital Charges	Federal Fiscal Year 2024 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Hospital Charges	Federal Fiscal Year 2025 ED Visits	Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Hospital Charges
Greenwood	1,229	\$3,139,380	1,101	\$3,239,436	1,130	\$3,373,319	1,229	\$3,717,408
Hampton	607	\$1,438,101	635	\$1,390,511	581	\$1,805,704	611	\$2,155,461
Horry	6,606	\$35,866,490	7,049	\$32,571,391	7,491	\$38,071,707	7,539	\$47,280,043
Jasper	567	\$2,364,994	604	\$2,839,593	573	\$2,823,854	649	\$6,058,685
Kershaw	1,278	\$5,333,634	1,213	\$5,445,456	1,211	\$4,719,283	1,321	\$6,169,967
Lancaster	1,007	\$5,489,293	1,047	\$5,115,978	964	\$4,497,246	998	\$4,762,323
Laurens	1,327	\$4,250,520	1,429	\$4,245,982	1,470	\$5,452,800	1,462	\$4,922,584
Lee	236	\$850,855	211	\$1,007,521	243	\$1,524,088	252	\$967,676
Lexington	3,024	\$16,406,560	2,956	\$17,158,430	3,054	\$16,598,242	3,428	\$19,481,546
McCormick	63	\$112,879	74	\$138,506	65	\$123,721	90	\$203,622
Marion	667	\$4,658,656	667	\$2,145,993	680	\$2,953,013	705	\$3,402,030
Marlboro	346	\$2,422,781	297	\$1,099,999	269	\$1,364,042	312	\$1,882,046
Newberry	809	\$2,668,462	866	\$2,179,431	895	\$1,935,253	926	\$2,218,752
Oconee	1,282	\$4,744,016	1,479	\$4,599,649	1,679	\$5,129,120	1,592	\$4,907,940
Orangeburg	1,410	\$7,364,182	1,251	\$6,267,287	1,392	\$7,100,928	1,379	\$9,826,260
Pickens	2,245	\$6,553,563	2,262	\$7,294,767	2,458	\$8,397,478	2,672	\$10,572,407
Richland	4,483	\$21,313,940	4,859	\$26,368,983	4,941	\$20,187,439	5,165	\$21,733,090
Saluda	183	\$966,714	169	\$1,296,413	201	\$576,630	227	\$1,343,127
Spartanburg	5,080	\$20,324,991	5,542	\$20,385,333	5,698	\$27,905,635	5,656	\$25,389,381
Sumter	1,922	\$8,065,578	1,978	\$8,079,692	1,846	\$9,121,761	2,033	\$7,013,453
Union	757	\$2,465,623	824	\$3,258,086	656	\$2,740,647	648	\$3,179,816
Williamsburg	578	\$1,201,315	547	\$3,092,330	534	\$4,800,773	571	\$2,405,214
York	2,307	\$10,579,574	2,910	\$13,520,253	2,846	\$15,105,708	2,783	\$15,864,233
South Carolina	77,405	\$329,203,971	81,788	\$355,727,174	85,271	\$382,895,391	87,143	\$422,134,929

Note. Federal fiscal year 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

DATA SOURCE

S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. S.C. pediatric emergency department visits, including emergency department visits that resulted in an in-patient admission, non-fatal injuries for South Carolina residents. Unpublished reports generated in March 2023, February 2024, February 2025, and January 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.

Safety Indicators

Gun Violence Among Children

S.C. CHILD GUN DEATHS



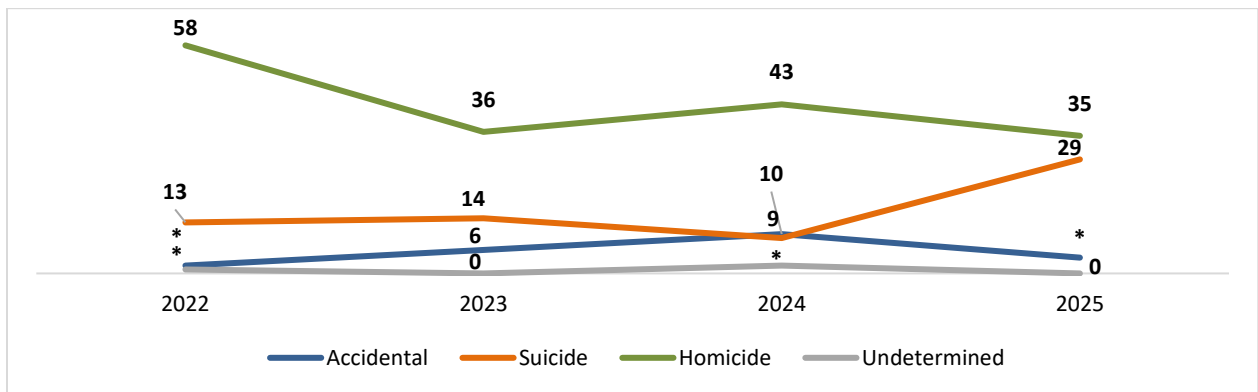
68 children died by guns in 2025, **4** death or **6% increase** from 2024.

35 or **51%** were homicides.

29 or **43 %** were suicides.

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

S.C. CHILD GUN DEATHS BY YEAR AND INTENT



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

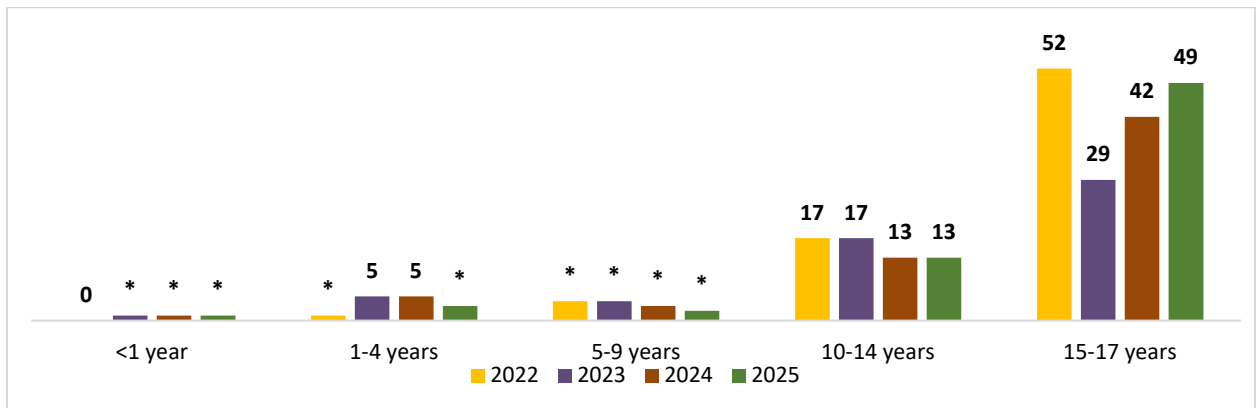
COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA (2024)

S.C. child gun death rate
(Ages 0-17):
5.6 per 100,000 children



National rate:
3.0 per 100,000 children

S.C. CHILD GUN DEATHS BY YEAR AND AGE GROUP (ALL INTENTS)



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

Safety Indicators

S.C. CHILD DEATHS BY GUN (ALL INTENTS, EXCLUDING CHILDREN UNDER AGE ONE): COMPARED AMONG TOP FIVE DEATH CAUSES

Rank	2022 (Total child deaths: n=327, ages 1-17)	2023 (Total child deaths: n=321, ages 1-17)	2024 (Total child deaths: n=312, ages 1-17)	2025 (Total child deaths: n=297, ages 1-17)
1	Guns (n=73, accounted for 22% of deaths for this age group)	Motor vehicle accidents (n=65, accounted for 20% of deaths for this age group)	Guns (n=63, accounted for 20% of deaths for this age group)	Guns (n=67, accounted for 23% of deaths for this age group)
2	Motor vehicle accidents (n=61, accounted for 19% of deaths for this age group)	Guns (n=55, accounted for 17% of deaths for this age group)	Motor vehicle accidents (n=59, accounted for 19% of deaths for this age group)	Motor vehicle accidents (n=43, accounted for 14% of deaths for this age group)
3	Congenital malformations (n=23, accounted for 7% of deaths for this age group)	Cancer (n=28, accounted for 9% of deaths for this age group)	Accidental drowning (n=23, accounted for 7% of deaths for this age group)	Diseases of heart (n=18, accounted for 6% of deaths for this age group)
4	Accidental poisoning (n=17, accounted for 5% of deaths for this age group) Cancer (n=17, accounted for 5% of deaths for this age group)	Accidental drowning and submersion (n=19, accounted for 6% of deaths for this age group)	Cancer (n=21, accounted for 7% of deaths for this age group)	Cancer (n=17, accounted for 6% of deaths for this age group)
5	Accidental drowning (n=16, accounted for 5% of deaths for this age group)	Congenital malformations (n=18, accounted for 6% of deaths for this age group)	Suicide unrelated to guns (n=12, accounted for 4% of deaths for this age group)	Congenital malformations (n=15, accounted for 5% of deaths for this age group)

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

Safety Indicators

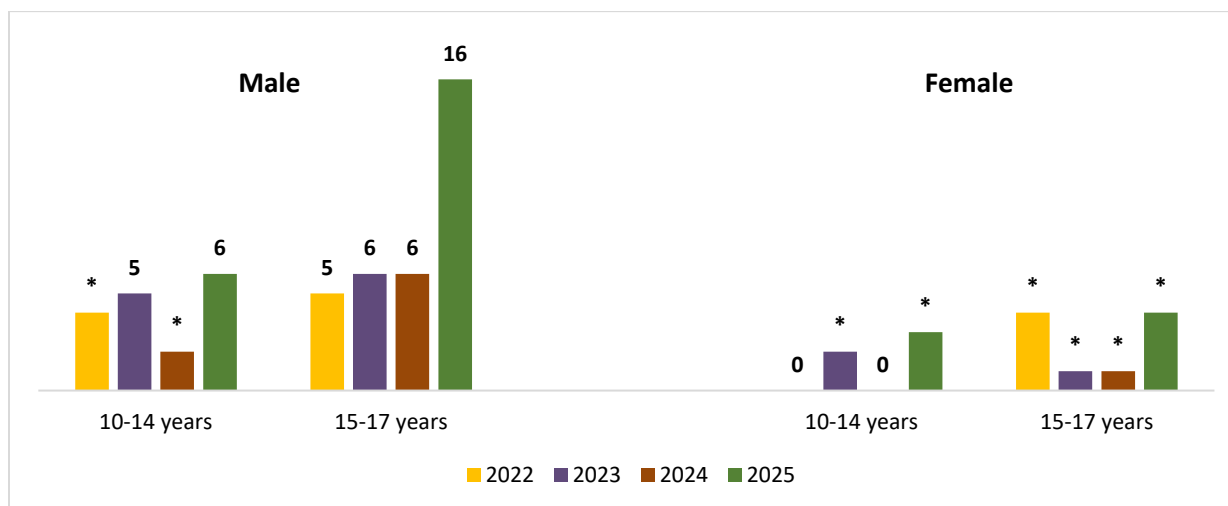
S.C. CHILD GUN DEATHS BY AGE GROUP AND INTENT

Age Groups	Intent	2022	2023	2024	2025
< 1 year	Homicide	0	*	*	*
1-4 years	Accidental	*	*	*	*
	Homicide	0	*	*	*
5-9 years	Accidental	*	*	*	0
	Homicide	*	*	*	*
10-14 years	Accidental	0	*	*	0
	Suicide	*	7	*	9
	Homicide	13	9	8	*
15-17 years	Accidental	0	0	*	*
	Suicide	9	7	7	20
	Homicide	42	22	29	27
	Undetermined	*	0	*	0

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

S.C. CHILD SUICIDE DEATHS BY GUNS: AGE GROUP AND SEX

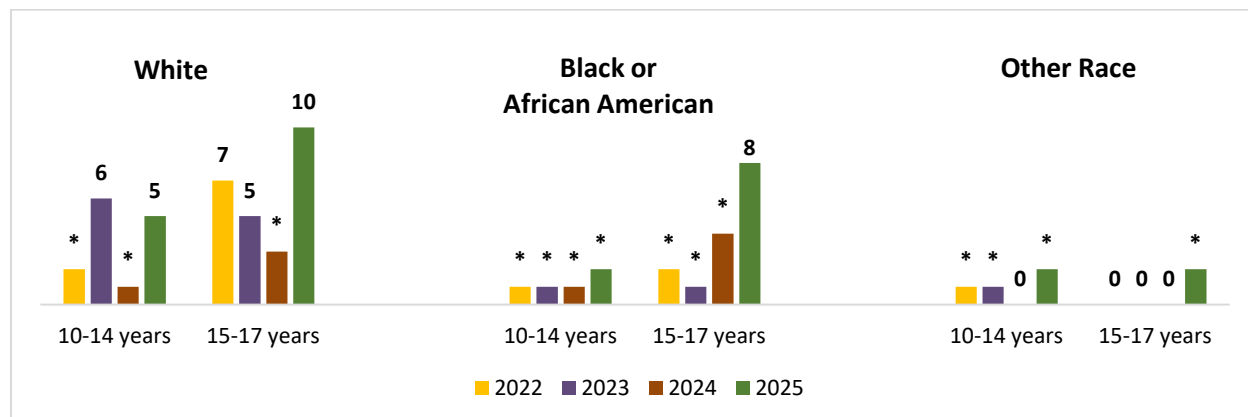


Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

Safety Indicators

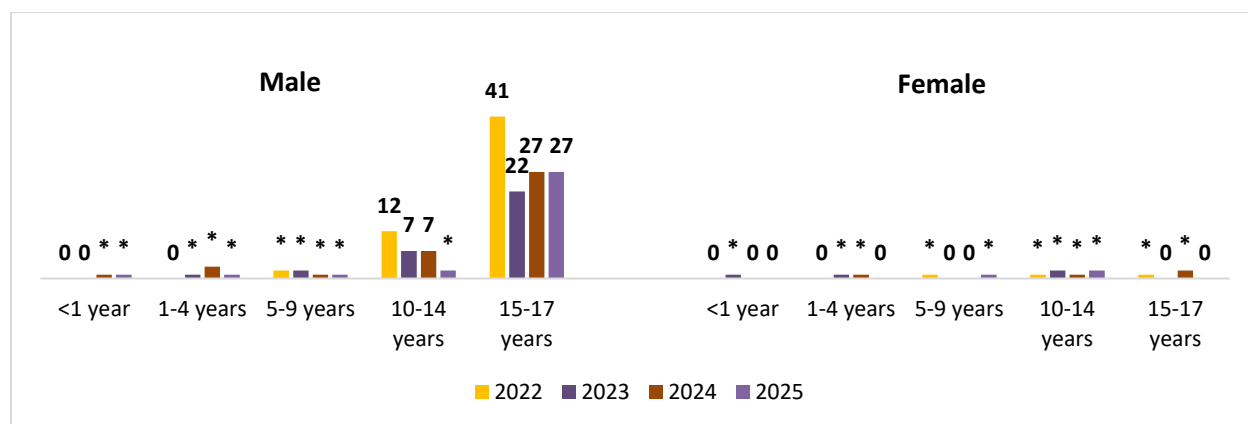
S.C. CHILD SUICIDE DEATHS BY GUNS: AGE GROUP AND RACE



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

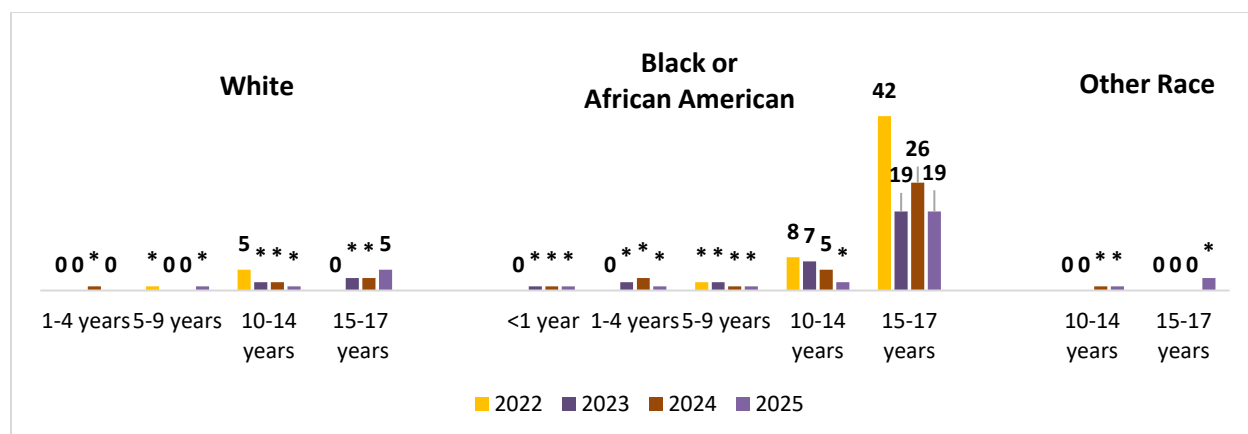
S.C. CHILD HOMICIDE DEATHS BY GUNS: AGE GROUP AND SEX



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

S.C. CHILD HOMICIDE DEATHS BY GUNS: AGE GROUP AND RACE



Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

Safety Indicators

S.C. CHILD GUN DEATHS BY COUNTY

County	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022-2025
Abbeville	0	0	0	0	0
Aiken	*	*	*	*	9
Allendale	0	0	*	*	*
Anderson	*	*	*	*	8
Bamberg	*	*	0	0	*
Barnwell	0	0	0	0	0
Beaufort	*	*	*	*	9
Berkeley	7	*	*	5	20
Calhoun	0	0	0	0	0
Charleston	*	0	*	*	10
Cherokee	*	*	0	0	*
Chester	*	0	*	*	6
Chesterfield	*	*	*	0	*
Clarendon	0	0	0	0	0
Colleton	*	*	*	*	*
Darlington	*	*	*	*	10
Dillon	*	*	*	0	*
Dorchester	*	*	*	*	7
Edgefield	0	0	0	0	0
Fairfield	0	0	0	*	*
Florence	6	*	*	*	12
Georgetown	*	*	*	0	*
Greenville	5	*	*	6	18
Greenwood	0	*	*	*	*
Hampton	0	0	*	0	*
Horry	*	*	*	*	10
Jasper	*	*	0	0	*
Kershaw	*	*	0	*	*
Lancaster	*	0	0	*	*
Laurens	0	*	*	0	*
Lee	0	0	*	*	*
Lexington	*	*	*	*	6
McCormick	0	0	0	0	0
Marion	0	*	0	*	*
Marlboro	*	0	0	0	*
Newberry	*	*	*	*	5
Oconee	*	0	0	*	*
Orangeburg	*	*	*	*	8

Safety Indicators

County (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022-2025
Pickens	0	0	*	0	*
Richland	12	7	10	6	35
Saluda	0	0	0	0	0
Spartanburg	*	*	*	6	9
Sumter	*	6	*	*	13
Union	0	*	*	*	*
Williamsburg	0	0	*	*	*
York	5	*	*	*	11
Total	74	56	64	68	262

Note. 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL GUN INJURY E.D. VISITS



333 non-fatal gun injury emergency department (E.D.) visits for children in federal fiscal year 2025, the same number of visits as federal fiscal year 2024.

- **273** or **82%** were unintentional.
- **50** or **15%** were assaults.
- **7** or **2%** were self-harm.
- **Less than 5** or less than **2%** were undetermined (intent).

Note. Federal fiscal year 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

S.C. CHILD NON-FATAL GUN INJURY E.D. VISITS BY AGE GROUP

Age Groups	Intent	Federal Fiscal Year 2022	Federal Fiscal Year 2023	Federal Fiscal Year 2024	Federal Fiscal Year 2025
<1 year	Unintentional	*	0	0	0
1-4 years	Unintentional	23	13	11	14
	Assault	*	*	*	*
5-11 years	Unintentional	27	25	27	17
	Assault	5	*	*	7
	Undetermined	0	*	*	*
12-17 years	Unintentional	199	230	218	242
	Self-harm	8	6	*	7
	Assault	85	72	59	42
	Undetermined	14	10	6	*
0-17 years	All injury intents	364	361	333	333

Note. Federal fiscal year 2025 data are provisional and subject to change.

0<*<5

Safety Indicators

DATA SOURCES

1. S.C. Department of Public Health, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, February 2024, March 2025, and February 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.
2. S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. S.C. pediatric emergency department visits (ages 0-17), including emergency department visits that resulted in an in-patient admission, non-fatal injuries for South Carolina residents. Unpublished reports generated in March 2023, February 2024, February 2025, and January 2026.
3. Compared to national data: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Underlying Cause of Death, 2018-2024, Single Race on CDC WONDER Online Database, released in 2026. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 2018-2024, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program, <https://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10-expanded.html> (last visited, May 15, 2026).

Child Welfare Indicators

Child/Youth Maltreatment

S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT REPORTS



69,145 child/youth maltreatment reports were received by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) in 2025, **426** or **1% increase** from 2024.

- **38,561** or **56%** accepted for investigation (safety issues alleged) in 2025, **2,151** or **6% increase** from 2024.
- **7,280** or **19%** founded investigations in 2025, **188** or **3% decrease** from 2024.
- **11,318** victims of child/youth maltreatment in 2025, **600** or **5% decrease** from 2024.
- 5,290** or **47%** were victims ages 0 to 6 in 2025, **662** or **11% decrease** from 2024.
- 3,464** or **31%** were victims ages 7 to 12 in 2025, **48** or **1% decrease** from 2024.
- 2,564** or **23%** were victims ages 13 to 17 in 2025, **110** or **4% increase** from 2024.

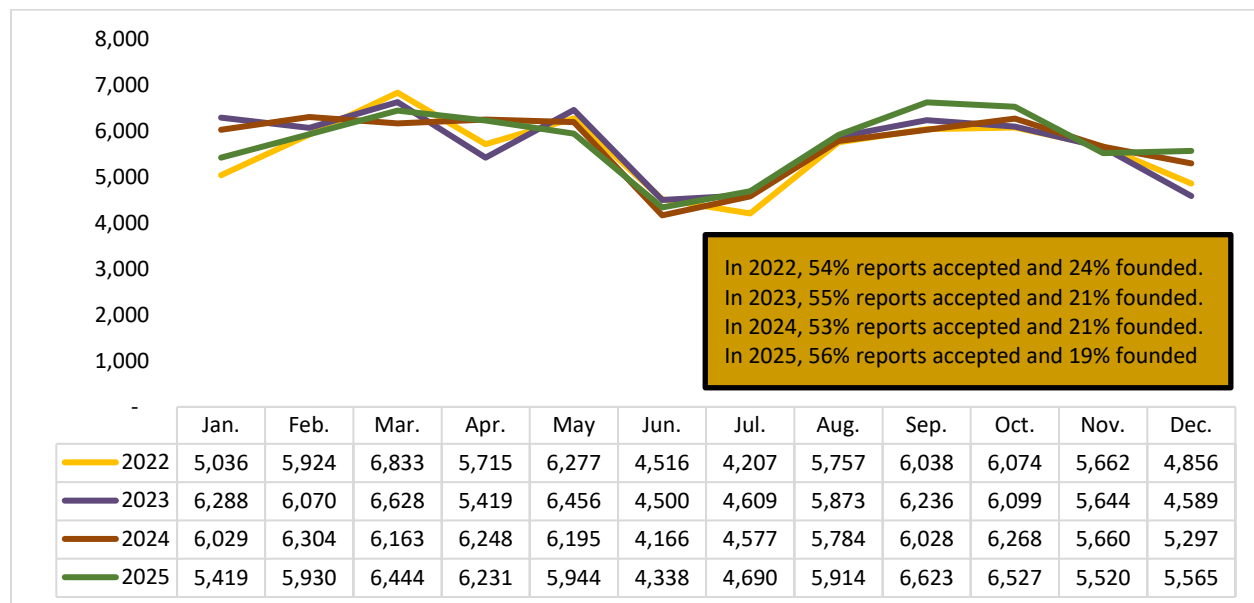
Note. Investigators have up to 45 days and, with approved extensions, have up to 60 days to complete an investigation. Therefore, data in December 2025 may be incomplete. Due to rounding, percentages may not always appear to add up to 100%.

S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT REPORTS: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

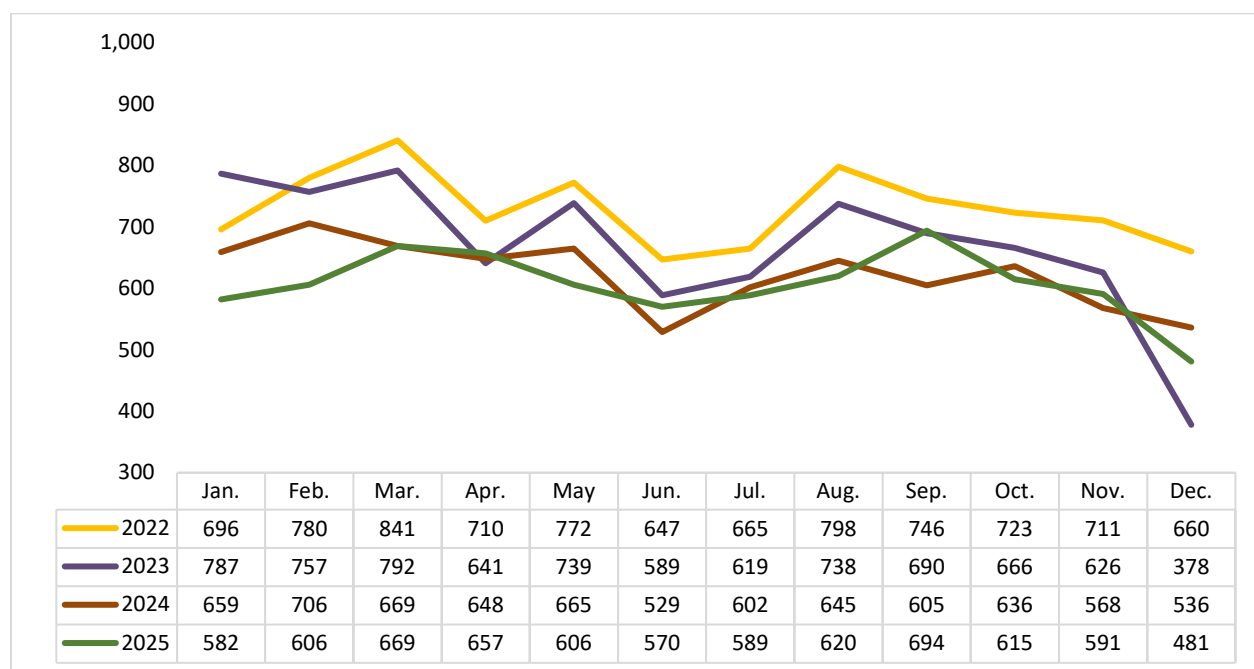
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Maltreatment reports received by DSS	66,895	68,411	68,719	69,145	+426 (+1%)	+734 (+1%)	+2,250 (+3%)
○ Accepted for investigation	36,269	37,766	36,410	38,561	+2,151 (+6%)	+795 (+2%)	+2,292 (+6%)
○ Founded investigations	8,749	8,022	7,468	7,280	-188 (-3%)	-742 (-9%)	-1,469 (-17%)
Maltreatment victims	14,004	14,012	11,918	11,318	-600 (-5%)	-2,694 (-19%)	-2,686 (-19%)
○ Ages 0 to 6	7,012	6,231	5,952	5,290	-662 (-11%)	-941 (-15%)	-1,722 (-25%)
○ Ages 7 to 12	3,438	4,925	3,512	3,464	-48 (-1%)	-1,461 (-30%)	+26 (+1%)
○ Ages 13 to 17	3,554	2,856	2,454	2,564	+110 (+4%)	-292 (-10%)	-990 (-28%)

Child Welfare Indicators

S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT REPORTS RECEIVED BY DSS BY MONTH



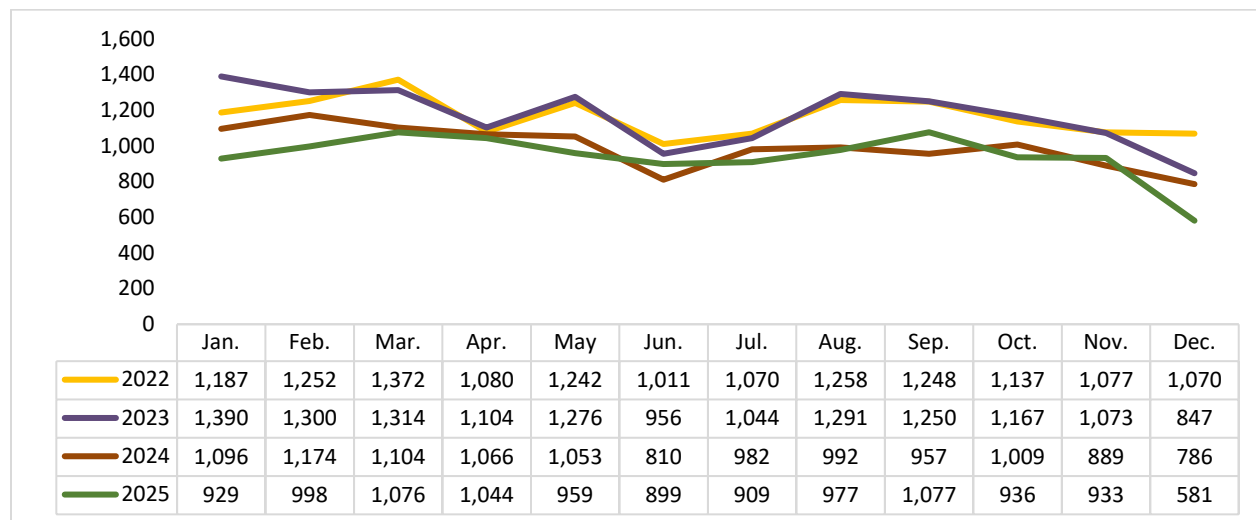
S.C. FOUNDED CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT REPORTS BY MONTH



Note. Investigators have up to 45 days and, with approved extensions, have up to 60 days to complete an investigation. Therefore, data in December 2025 may be incomplete.

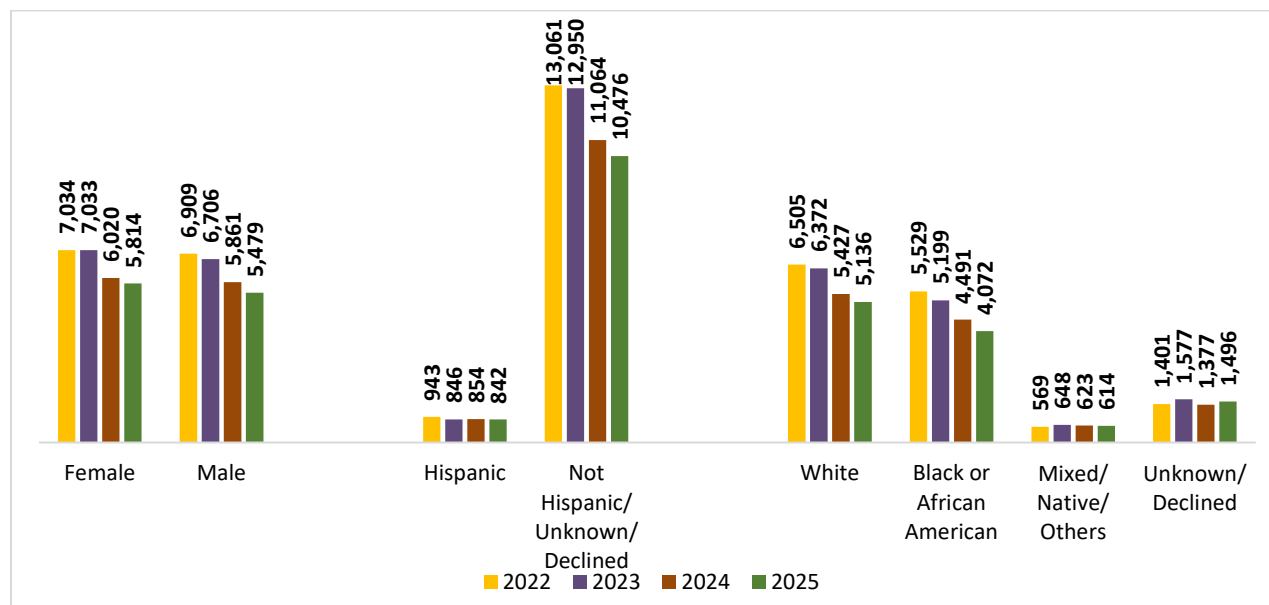
Child Welfare Indicators

S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT VICTIMS BY MONTH



Note. Investigators have up to 45 days and, with approved extensions, have up to 60 days to complete an investigation. Therefore, data in December 2025 may be incomplete.

S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT VICTIMS BY SEX, ETHNICITY, AND RACE



S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT VICTIMS: COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA (OCTOBER 1, 2023-SEPTEMBER 30, 2024)

S.C. child/youth
maltreatment victim rate:
10.8 per 1,000 children



National rate:
7.2 per 1,000 children

Child Welfare Indicators

S.C. FOUNDED CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT REPORTS BY TYPE

Maltreatment Type	2022	2023	2024	2025
Abandonment	196	192	174	200
Contributing to the delinquency of a minor	71	67	73	82
Educational neglect	1,055	1,057	947	1,045
Excessive corporal punishment	447	343	339	307
Human trafficking	112	101	87	71
Medical neglect	228	283	266	318
Mental injury	490	371	316	255
Physical abuse	2,247	2,028	1,817	1,435
Physical neglect	7,345	7,253	6,464	5,518
Sexual abuse	438	345	308	365
Substantial risk of physical or mental injury	5,059	4,631	4,552	4,943
Total	17,688	16,671	15,343	14,539

Note. The number of founded maltreatment reports is greater than the number of children in founded investigations since more than one maltreatment per child may be indicated in an investigation.

S.C. CHILD/YOUTH MALTREATMENT VICTIMS BY REGION AND COUNTY

Region/County	2022	2023	2024	2025
Lowcountry Total	3,137	3,196	2,693	2,567
Allendale	15	5	6	8
Beaufort	226	234	189	222
Berkeley	483	621	571	540
Calhoun	31	25	29	*
Charleston	1,429	1,266	1,074	1,103
Colleton	165	106	141	110
Dorchester	452	485	351	270
Hampton	60	94	48	50
Jasper	87	96	81	54
Orangeburg	189	264	203	210
Midlands Total	3,384	3,310	2,673	2,594
Aiken	284	227	224	254
Bamberg	30	11	22	11
Barnwell	16	52	28	47
Chester	169	180	163	121
Edgefield	33	31	44	31
Fairfield	47	53	37	37
Kershaw	152	280	278	171
Lancaster	217	240	242	208

0<*<5

Child Welfare Indicators

Region/County (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Lexington	453	421	407	598
McCormick	22	7	*	*
Richland	1,428	1,233	850	693
Saluda	48	40	44	59
York	485	535	334	364
Pee Dee Total	2,629	2,755	2,511	2,250
Chesterfield	127	130	120	94
Clarendon	76	75	98	64
Darlington	396	400	402	296
Dillon	131	122	164	102
Florence	335	366	269	286
Georgetown	122	136	139	92
Horry	707	822	801	763
Lee	38	58	46	41
Marion	122	136	87	103
Marlboro	137	121	105	48
Sumter	338	288	190	282
Williamsburg	100	101	90	79
Upstate Total	4,854	4,751	4,037	3,901
Abbeville	63	85	28	29
Anderson	715	620	468	446
Cherokee	267	255	207	153
Greenville	1,608	1,665	1,440	1,496
Greenwood	225	281	216	191
Laurens	337	297	363	318
Newberry	132	124	107	77
Oconee	238	319	270	298
Pickens	285	250	219	183
Spartanburg	891	744	619	617
Union	93	111	100	93
Grand Total	14,004	14,012	11,914	11,318

Note. 0<*<5. The region total and grand total values do not include masked values (*) where there is only one masked value (*) per region for a given year. Total may not match due to unknown or missing information. County data are reported based on office of the case management.

DATA SOURCES

1. S.C. Department of Social Services, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, February 2024, February 2025, and March 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.
2. Compared to national data: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau. (2026). *Child Maltreatment 2024*. Table 3-3. A child is defined as a person who has not attained (a) the age of 18 or (b) the age specified by the child protection law of the state in which the child resides. For sex trafficking victims only, a state may define a child as a person who has not attained the age of 24. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment> (last visited, March 19, 2026).

Child Welfare Indicators

Children/Youth in Foster Care

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE



2,795 children/youth entered foster care in 2025, **52** or **2% increase** from 2024.

2,483 children/youth exited foster care in 2025, **210** or **8% decrease** from 2024.

5,755 children/youth were served in foster care in 2025, **155** or **3% decrease** from 2024.

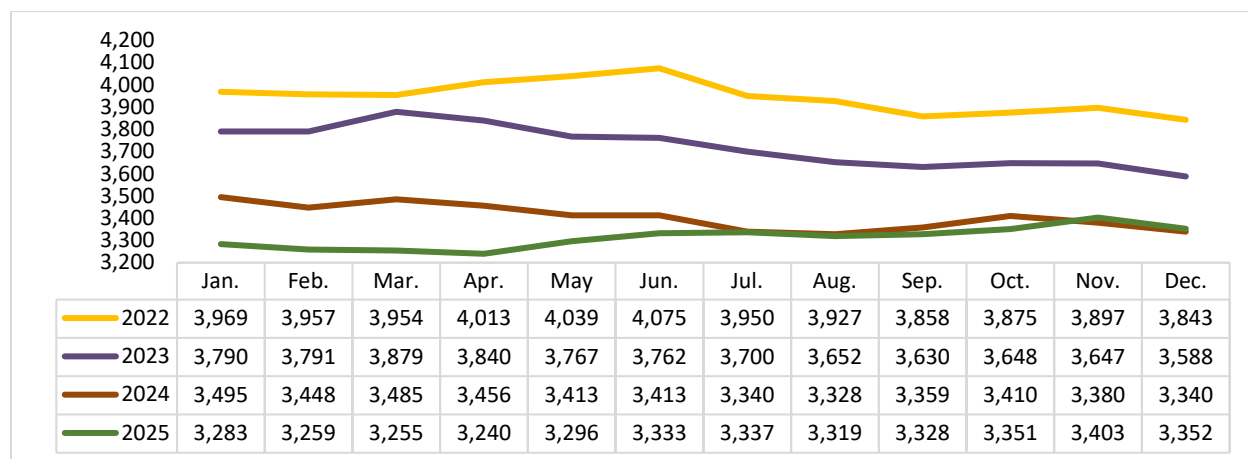
- **2,278** or **40%** were children/youth ages 0 to 6 in 2025, **95** or **4% decrease** from 2024.
- **1,650** or **29%** were children/youth ages 7 to 12 in 2025, **5** or **0.3% increase** from 2024.
- **1,827** or **32%** were children/youth ages 13 to 17 in 2025, **65** or **3% decrease** from 2024.

Note. Children are under age 18 as of 12/31/2025, or the close date of their service, whichever is earlier.

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE: COMPARING 2025 to 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

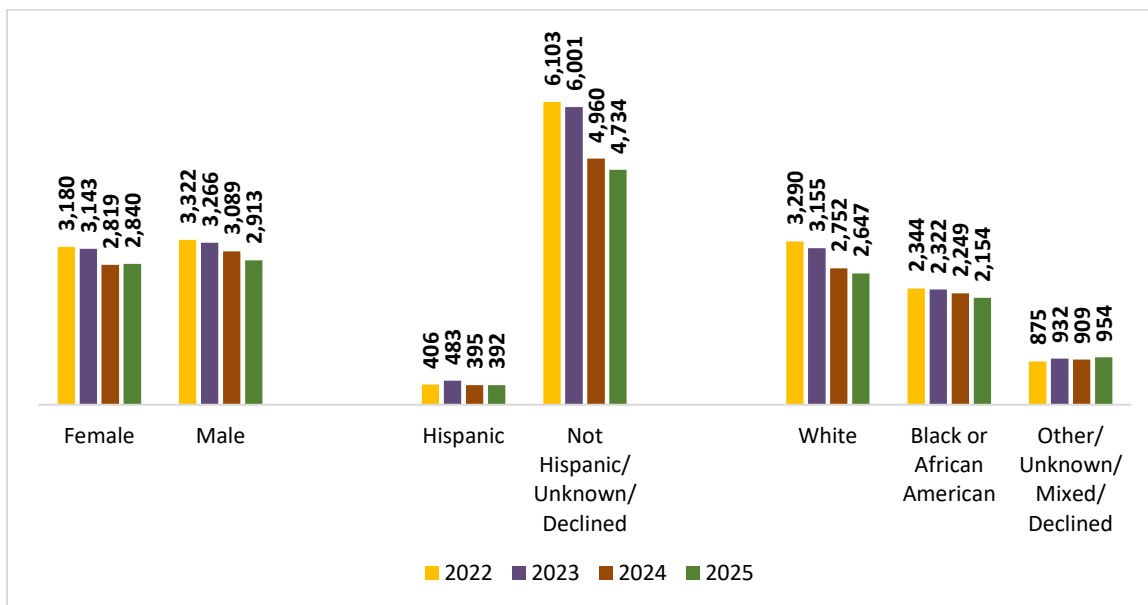
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Children/youth entered foster care	2,904	2,940	2,743	2,795	+52 (+2%)	-145 (-5%)	-109 (-4%)
Children/youth exited foster care	2,840	3,155	2,693	2,483	-210 (-8%)	-672 (-21%)	-357 (-13%)
Children/youth served in foster care	6,509	6,409	5,910	5,755	-155 (-3%)	-654 (-10%)	-754 (-12%)
○ Ages 0 to 6	2,564	2,684	2,373	2,278	-95 (-4%)	-406 (-15%)	-286 (-11%)
○ Ages 7 to 12	1,763	1,773	1,645	1,650	+5 (+0.3%)	-123 (-7%)	-113 (-6%)
○ Ages 13 to 17	2,182	1,952	1,892	1,827	-65 (-3%)	-125 (-6%)	-355 (-16%)

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE BY MONTH



Child Welfare Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE BY SEX, ETHNICITY, AND RACE



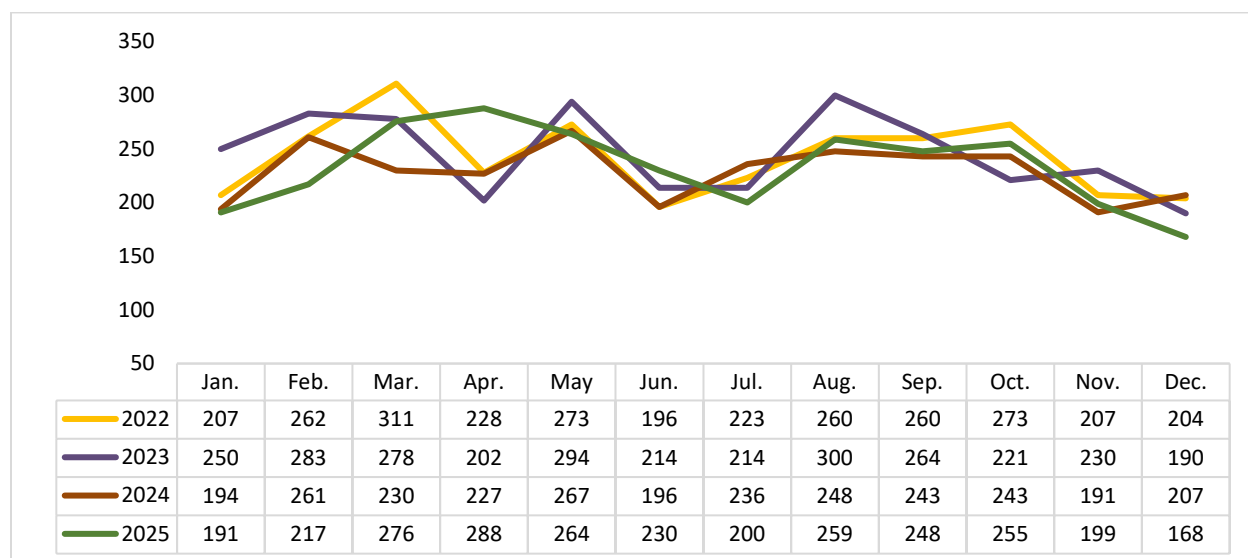
S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE: COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA

S.C. children/youth in foster care on
September 30, 2025:
2.9 per 1,000 children/youth



National rate:
4.8 per 1,000 children/youth

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH ENTERED FOSTER CARE BY MONTH



Child Welfare Indicators

REASON CHILDREN/YOUTH ENTERED FOSTER CARE IN S.C.

Reason Entered Foster Care	2024	2025
24-hr Medical Hold (Child)	*	*
Abandonment	147	168
Caretaker's Alcohol Use	75	71
Caretaker's Drug Use	297	331
Caretaker's Significant Impairment Cognitive	43	34
Caretaker's Significant Impairment-Physical/Emotional	47	54
Child Alcohol Use	*	*
Child Behavior Problem	104	81
Child Drug Use	15	8
Child Requested Placement	7	*
Death of Caretaker	20	8
Diagnosed Condition	7	*
Domestic Violence	149	154
Education Neglect	151	107
Failure to Return	*	5
Family Conflict Related to Child's Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, or Gender Expression	6	N/A
Homelessness	95	89
Inadequate Access to Medical Services	16	*
Inadequate Access to Mental Health Services	15	6
Inadequate Housing	139	118
Incarceration of Caretaker	86	103
Medical Neglect	101	66
Neglect	1,762	1,880
Parental Immigration Detainment or Deportation	N/A	*
Physical Abuse	489	575
Prenatal Alcohol Exposure	*	*
Prenatal Drug Exposure	62	78
Psychological or Emotional Abuse	N/A	34
Public Agency Title IV-E Agreement	*	N/A
Runaway	45	39
Sex Trafficking	21	16
Sexual Abuse	121	211
Voluntary Relinquishment for Adoption	*	*
Whereabouts Unknown	10	*
Grand Total	4,041	4,255

Note. Due to coding differences for reasons entered foster care, data for 2022 and 2023 are not included in the table for comparison.

0<*<5; N/A: Data not applicable/available

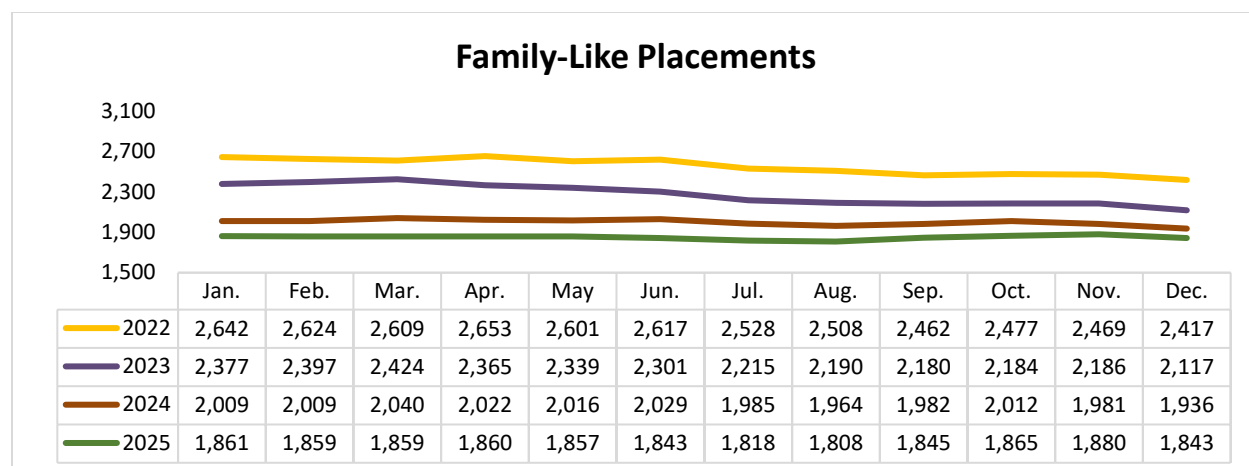
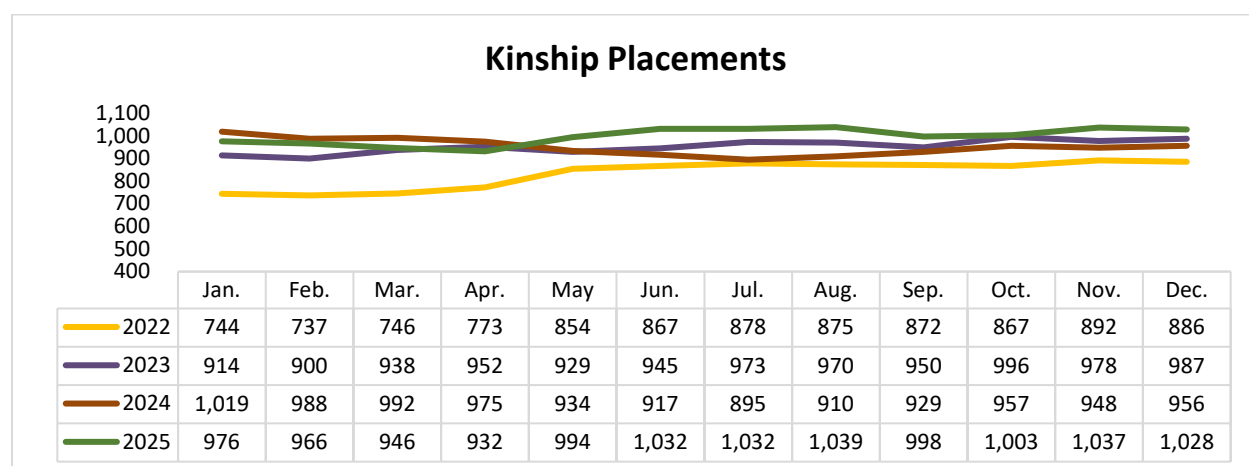
Child Welfare Indicators

LENGTH OF STAY FOR FOSTER CHILDREN/YOUTH ON A GIVEN DATE IN S.C.

	0-2 Months	3-5 Months	6-8 Months	9-11 Months	12-17 Months	18-23 Months	24+ Months	All Children/Youth
2022	1,122 (17%)	1,113 (17%)	658 (10%)	498 (8%)	708 (11%)	556 (9%)	1,854 (28%)	6,509 (100%)
2023	1,088 (17%)	1,141 (18%)	634 (10%)	544 (8%)	713 (11%)	592 (9%)	1,697 (26%)	6,409 (100%)
2024	1,052 (18%)	1,075 (18%)	613 (10%)	496 (8%)	690 (12%)	589 (10%)	1,395 (24%)	5,910 (100%)
2025	995 (17%)	1,028 (18%)	707 (12%)	484 (8%)	741 (13%)	527 (9%)	1,273 (22%)	5,755 (100%)

Note. A child's length of service is the length of time between their open date, and either their service close date or 12/31, whichever is earlier. Children are under age 18 as of the close date of their service, or 12/31, whichever is earlier. A child's time in care is rounded down to the nearest whole number. For example, a child in care 2.8 months is listed in the "0-2 months" category.

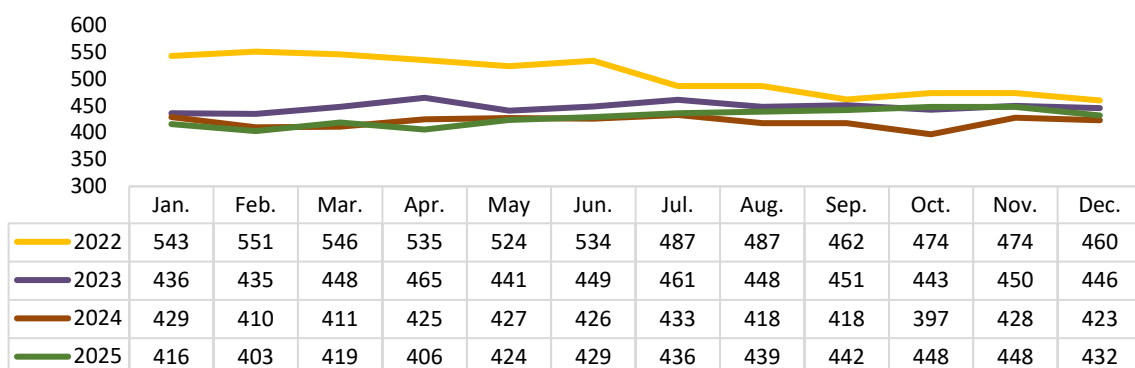
FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS IN S.C.



Note. Family-like placements include foster homes, pre-adoptive or adoptive placements, and therapeutic foster homes.

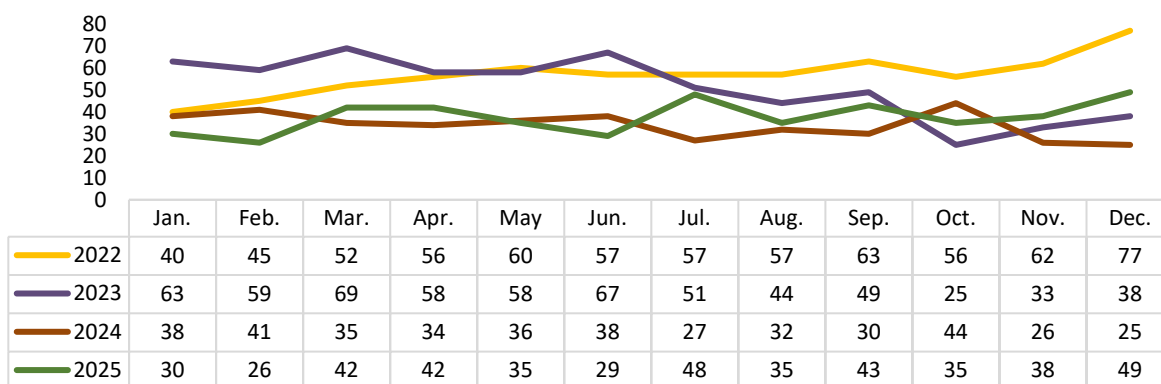
Child Welfare Indicators

Congregate Care Placements



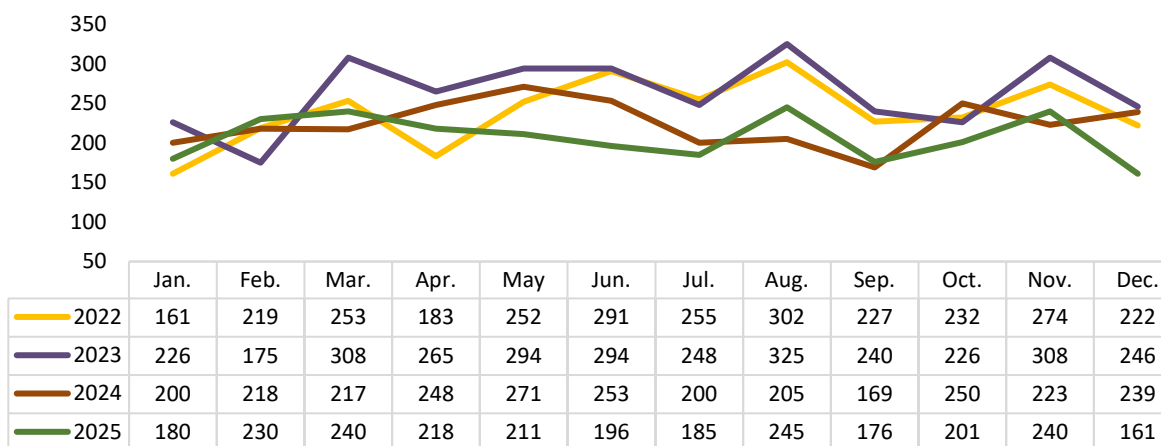
Note. Congregate care placements include congregate care, emergency shelters, and residential treatment facilities.

Other Placements



Note. Other placements include correctional facilities, DJJ, hospitals, and schools/colleges.

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH EXITED FOSTER CARE BY MONTH



Child Welfare Indicators

REASON CHILDREN/YOUTH EXITED FOSTER CARE IN S.C.

Reason Exited Foster Care	2022	2023	2024	2025
Adoption	559	640	544	498
Aged out	8	*	7	7
Guardianship	107	115	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Legal Guardianship	N/A	N/A	43	83
Unsubsidized Legal Guardianship	N/A	N/A	42	29
Living with other relatives	632	591	617	520
Returned to custody of parent/guardian	1,516	1,488	1,402	1,323
Other	18	38	38	23
Total	2,840	2,872	2,693	2,483

Note. The totals do not include masked values (*) where there is only one masked value (*) for a given year.

0<*<5; N/A: Data not applicable/available

S.C. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE BY REGION AND COUNTY

Region/Office	2022	2023	2024	2025
Lowcountry Total	1,128	1,201	1,195	1,172
Adoption Services Lowcountry Charleston	129	143	110	135
Allendale County DSS	7	6	6	12
Beaufort County DSS	57	76	94	63
Berkeley County DSS	239	273	241	260
Calhoun County DSS	19	*	*	N/A
Charleston County DSS	388	342	319	316
Colleton County DSS	56	60	72	87
Dorchester County DSS	93	94	114	70
Hampton County DSS	13	26	27	41
Jasper County DSS	27	33	46	45
Orangeburg County DSS	100	148	166	143
Midlands Total	2,182	2,203	1,943	1,862
Adoption Services Midlands Columbia	165	167	164	163
Adoption Services Midlands Orangeburg	81	77	64	48
Adoption Services Midlands Rock Hill	69	107	143	130
Aiken County DSS	161	140	139	131
Bamberg County DSS	18	15	5	*
Barnwell County DSS	13	17	9	16
Chester County DSS	50	61	71	55
Edgefield County DSS	12	18	27	11
Fairfield County DSS	37	25	18	25
Kershaw County DSS	132	139	111	104
Lancaster County DSS	99	84	73	116

Child Welfare Indicators

Region/Office (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Lexington County DSS	262	220	197	192
McCormick County DSS	*	5	7	9
Richland County DSS	815	876	729	648
Saluda County DSS	36	22	13	20
TSS Division – Midlands	N/A	N/A	N/A	*
York County DSS	232	230	173	190
Pee Dee Total	1,207	1,157	1,094	1,145
Adoption Services Pee Dee Florence	167	195	210	165
Chesterfield County DSS	50	33	15	18
Clarendon County DSS	66	36	36	33
Darlington County DSS	152	126	106	112
Dillon County DSS	45	43	60	58
Florence County DSS	127	119	105	107
Georgetown County DSS	43	38	35	34
Horry County DSS	351	362	319	359
Lee County DSS	14	12	23	25
Marion County DSS	91	85	80	91
Marlboro County DSS	18	37	19	20
Sumter County DSS	68	52	55	71
TSS Division – Pee Dee	N/A	N/A	*	N/A
Williamsburg County DSS	15	19	31	52
Upstate Total	1,988	1,844	1,672	1,574
Abbeville County DSS	36	36	21	14
Adoption Services Upstate Greenville	484	397	375	337
Anderson County DSS	247	186	155	143
Cherokee County DSS	96	51	48	49
Greenville County DSS	359	343	364	372
Greenwood County DSS	87	101	73	53
Laurens County DSS	167	172	131	117
Newberry County DSS	23	31	30	15
Oconee County DSS	87	78	79	91
Pickens County DSS	56	62	60	65
Spartanburg County DSS	315	360	305	290
TSS Division – Upstate	N/A	N/A	*	*
Union County DSS	31	27	31	28
Grand Total	6,505	6,405	5,879	5,755

Note. The region total and grand total values do not include masked values (*) where there is only one masked value (*) per region for a given year. Total may not match due to unknown or missing information.

0<*<5; N/A: Data not applicable

Child Welfare Indicators

DATA SOURCES

1. S.C. Department of Social Services, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, February 2024, February 2025, and March 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.
2. Compared to national data: The foster care data were obtained from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Dashboard. This dashboard is published publicly by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, https://tableau-public.acf.gov/views/afcars_dashboard_main_page/mainpage?%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y (last visited May 28, 2026).

Child Welfare Indicators

Family Court Hearings and Continuances in Child Protection Cases

S.C. HEARINGS AND CONTINUANCES IN CHILD PROTECTION CASES



14,302 probable cause, merits, judicial review, and permanency planning hearings were scheduled in 2025, **250** or **2% decrease** from 2024.

- **32%** of the scheduled probable cause, merits, judicial review, and permanency planning hearings were continued in 2025, **1%** (continuance rate) *increase* from 2024.

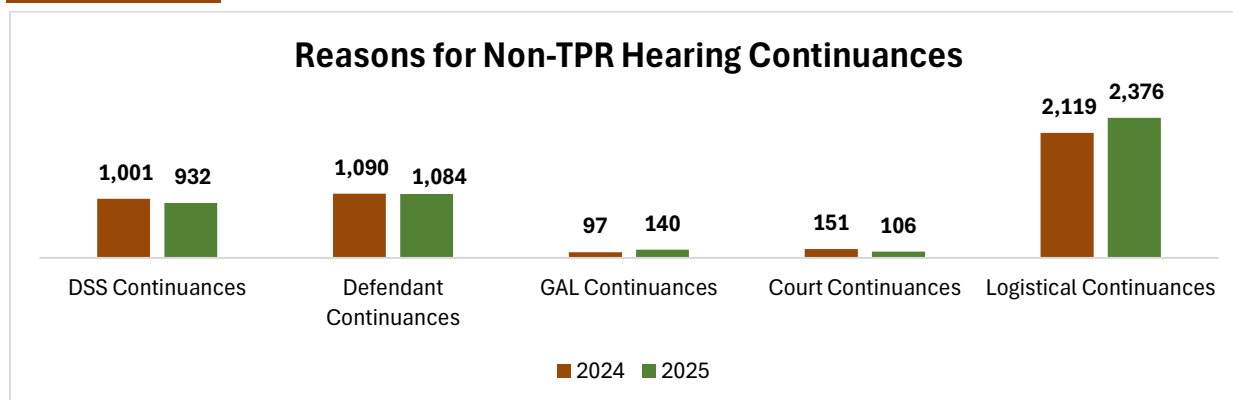
862 termination of parental rights (TPR) merits, pre-trials, and motion hearings were scheduled in 2025, **76** or **8% decrease** from 2024.

- **35%** of the scheduled TPR merits, pre-trials, and motion hearings were continued in 2025, **3%** (continuance rate) *increase* from 2024.

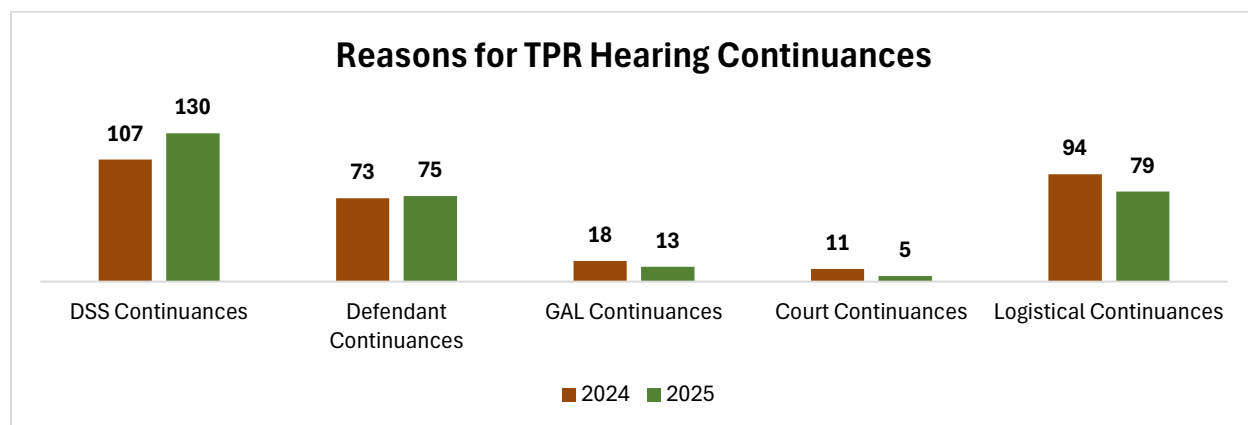
S.C. HEARINGS AND CONTINUANCES IN CHILD PROTECTION CASES: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Number of probable cause, merits, judicial review, and permanency planning hearings scheduled	17,325	16,461	14,552	14,302	-250 (-2%)	-2,159 (-13%)	-3,023 (-17%)
Percent of the scheduled hearings continued	32%	31%	31%	32%	+1%	+1%	0
Number of TPR merits, pre-trial, and motion hearings scheduled	1,212	1,065	938	862	-76 (-8%)	-203 (-19%)	-350 (-29%)
Percent of the scheduled TPR merits, pre-trials, and motion hearings continued	38%	32%	32%	35%	+3%	+3%	-3%

S.C. HEARINGS AND CONTINUANCES IN CHILD PROTECTION CASES: REASONS FOR CONTINUANCES

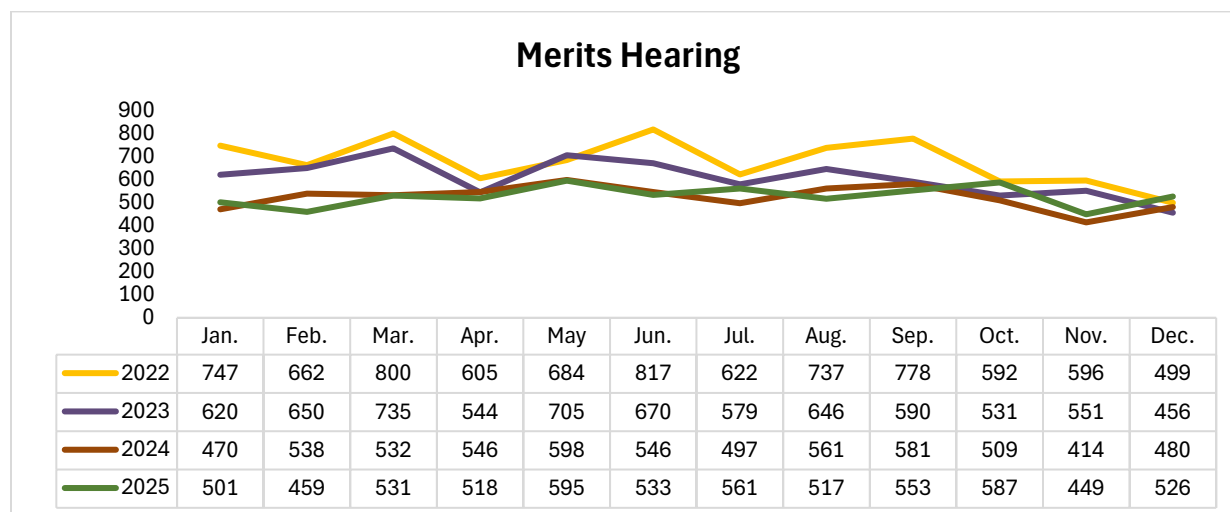
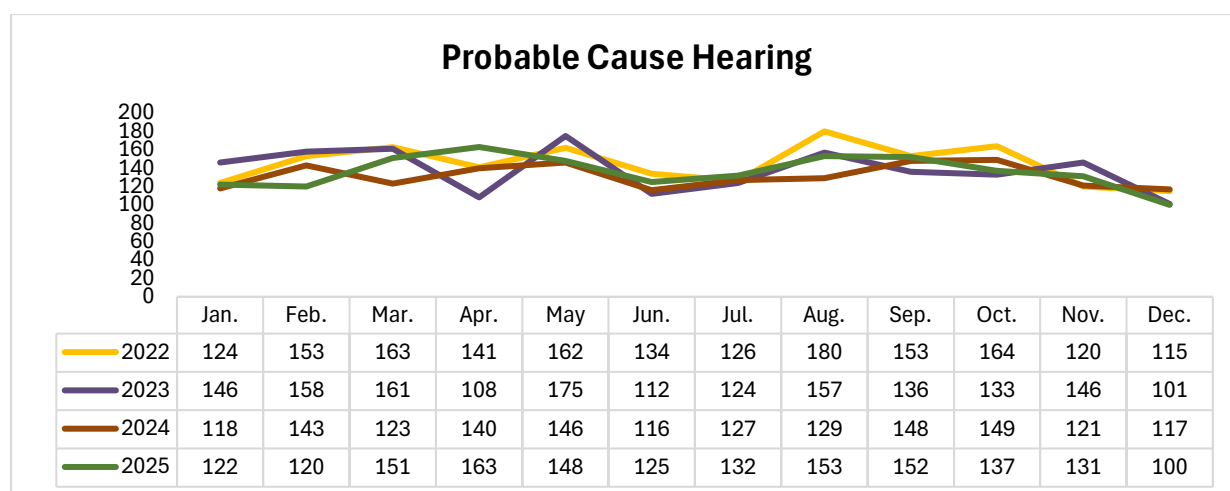


Child Welfare Indicators



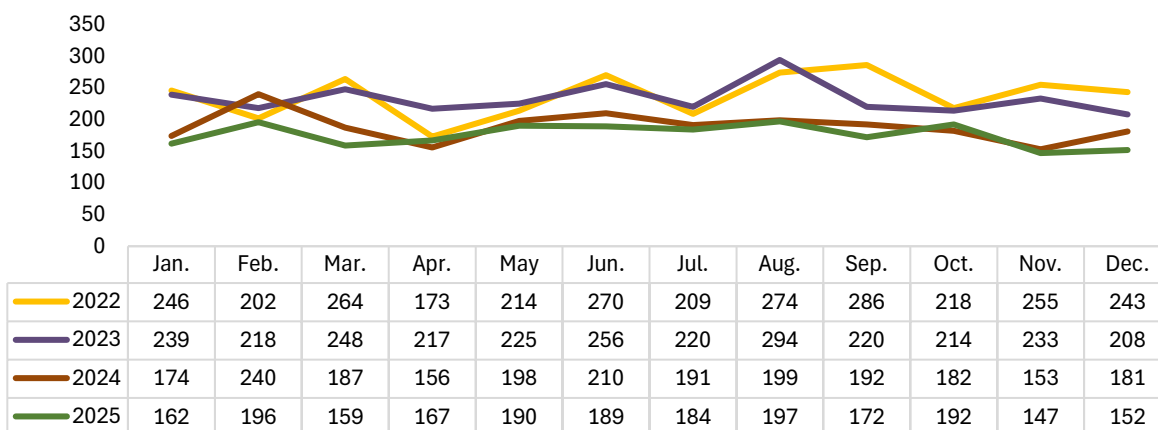
Note. Due to coding differences for hearing continuance reasons, data for 2022 and 2023 are not included in the table for comparison.

S.C. NUMBER OF HEARINGS IN CHILD PROTECTION CASES BY TYPE AND MONTH

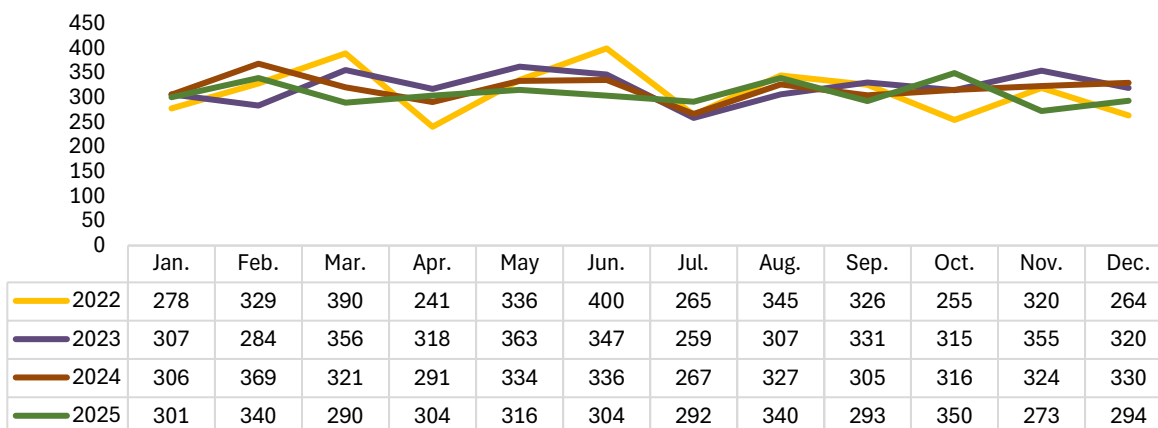


Child Welfare Indicators

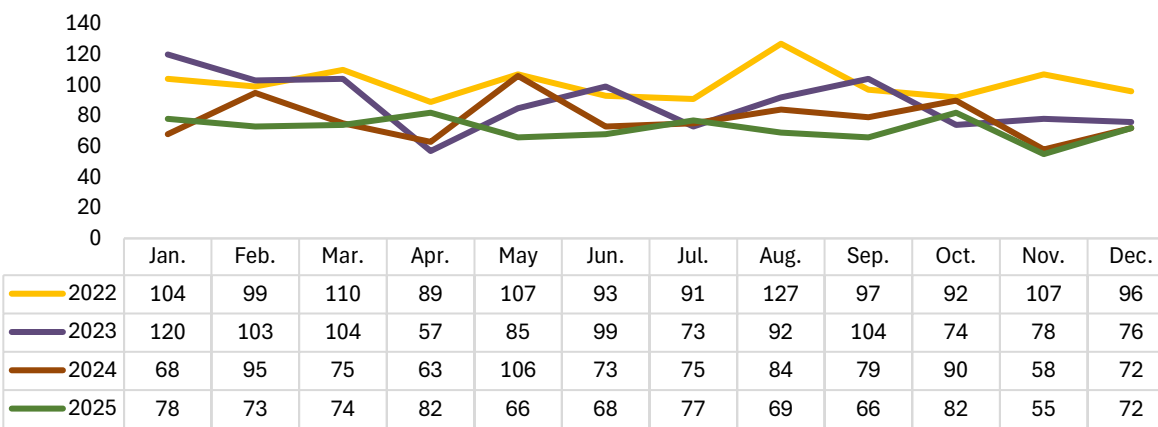
Judicial Review Hearing



Permanency Planning Hearing



Termination of Parental Rights Hearing



Note. Termination of parental rights (TRP) hearings include merits, pre-trials, and motion hearings.

Child Welfare Indicators

S.C. HEARINGS AND CONTINUANCES IN CHILD PROTECTION CASES BY REGION AND COUNTY

Probable Cause, Merits, Judicial Review, and Permanency Planning Hearings								
Region/ County	2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued
Lowcountry Total	3,144	1,096	3,111	1,036	2,862	924	2,748	964
Allendale	13	5	18	8	6	*	5	*
Beaufort	179	79	222	86	276	89	240	84
Berkeley	617	222	600	203	540	173	588	213
Calhoun	61	28	51	13	22	*	19	5
Charleston	1,306	441	1,206	409	974	339	939	329
Colleton	159	57	188	77	170	59	192	82
Dorchester	373	107	277	71	300	89	238	72
Hampton	68	30	73	20	57	20	74	22
Jasper	79	35	77	34	98	34	91	39
Orangeburg	289	92	399	115	419	116	362	118
Midlands Total	5,578	2,100	5,260	1,868	4,591	1,603	4,683	1,627
Aiken	635	190	449	88	395	102	421	153
Bamberg	36	13	44	13	29	12	39	23
Barnwell	67	29	55	24	54	25	56	20
Chester	199	68	225	74	182	52	184	58
Edgefield	67	34	54	14	51	17	37	11
Fairfield	99	27	84	19	55	10	60	15
Kershaw	330	93	320	93	335	104	303	90
Lancaster	178	46	194	40	219	60	246	75
Lexington	859	367	750	241	618	196	675	246
McCormick	25	8	17	8	15	5	12	*
Richland	2,279	930	2,378	1,040	1,932	758	1,767	646
Saluda	64	22	42	9	38	11	64	21
York	740	273	648	205	668	251	819	269
Pee Dee Total	2,907	811	2,839	779	2,406	629	2,697	836
Chesterfield	166	48	141	33	112	28	92	25
Clarendon	133	28	114	26	127	36	113	39
Darlington	382	68	326	62	304	34	387	45
Dillon	163	35	139	25	140	41	112	32

Child Welfare Indicators

	2022		2023		2024		2025	
Region/ County (Continued)	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued
Florence	382	121	429	133	299	85	321	112
Georgetown	113	20	117	27	118	28	128	38
Horry	894	248	900	254	747	198	867	298
Lee	67	30	55	16	80	33	81	30
Marion	221	75	240	76	136	43	209	81
Marlboro	76	29	91	31	82	21	60	19
Sumter	218	80	195	64	168	49	192	72
Williamsburg	92	29	92	32	93	33	135	45
Upstate Total	5,696	1,516	5,251	1,435	4,693	1,302	4,174	1,207
Abbeville	93	37	101	28	72	23	30	8
Anderson	796	132	675	144	551	111	402	88
Cherokee	377	104	237	68	286	83	227	51
Greenville	1,522	386	1,364	349	1,373	372	1,332	404
Greenwood	374	130	356	119	305	123	261	83
Laurens	487	149	572	182	426	84	377	82
Newberry	121	48	98	45	67	30	64	27
Oconee	243	56	267	64	249	55	223	68
Pickens	303	64	278	67	229	45	207	45
Spartanburg	1,269	393	1,165	345	962	343	944	321
Union	111	17	138	24	173	33	107	30
Grand Total	17,325	5,523	16,461	5,118	14,552	4,458	14,302	4,638

Note. The region totals do not include masked values (*) where there is only one masked value per region for a given year. Data include motion hearings and pre-trial hearings for each hearing type. 0<*<5.

Child Welfare Indicators

TPR Merits, Pre-trials, and Motion Hearings								
Region/ County	2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued
Lowcountry Total	229	111	128	42	159	48	194	61
Allendale	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beaufort	12	*	*	*	14	*	27	15
Berkeley	26	*	28	9	35	10	30	6
Calhoun	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charleston	129	78	51	20	58	20	63	21
Colleton	18	12	20	6	8	*	30	9
Dorchester	13	5	9	*	12	6	10	*
Hampton	*	*	0	0	0	0	*	0
Jasper	0	0	0	0	10	*	13	*
Orangeburg	26	8	20	*	22	*	21	5
Midlands Total	316	104	354	101	324	102	238	99
Aiken	45	14	61	13	61	14	35	13
Bamberg	*	0	0	0	*	*	0	0
Barnwell	5	*	*	*	0	0	0	0
Chester	9	0	14	6	7	0	14	6
Edgefield	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	0
Fairfield	5	0	7	*	5	*	5	0
Kershaw	21	9	33	14	29	9	20	5
Lancaster	40	17	27	9	12	*	12	*
Lexington	54	21	62	14	23	6	28	16
McCormick	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	*
Richland	99	35	64	24	125	46	79	34
Saluda	8	0	5	0	7	*	*	*
York	25	8	75	16	48	17	38	20
Pee Dee Total	183	71	185	80	156	59	117	45
Chesterfield	7	*	6	*	18	7	*	*
Clarendon	20	6	21	11	*	0	9	*
Darlington	20	*	32	12	27	7	14	*
Dillon	11	*	9	5	24	12	6	*
Florence	21	*	19	*	16	*	20	5

Child Welfare Indicators

Region/ County (Continued)	2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued	Number of hearings scheduled	Number of the scheduled hearings continued
Georgetown	5	0	7	*	*	0	*	0
Horry	71	39	75	36	36	16	22	13
Lee	7	*	*	*	5	*	6	*
Marion	7	*	5	*	5	*	10	6
Marlboro	8	5	*	0	6	*	0	0
Sumter	*	*	*	*	11	6	14	6
Williamsburg	6	0	*	0	*	*	13	5
Upstate Total	477	170	390	113	299	94	311	97
Abbeville	*	0	16	*	*	0	6	*
Anderson	54	11	50	7	46	12	37	*
Cherokee	33	5	22	5	24	9	20	8
Greenville	186	79	117	32	86	27	107	39
Greenwood	8	*	6	*	14	*	22	8
Laurens	44	15	49	19	44	14	20	*
Newberry	6	*	*	*	*	0	*	0
Oconee	12	*	23	*	16	*	20	11
Pickens	19	*	15	*	10	*	15	*
Spartanburg	109	49	86	33	49	24	57	15
Union	6	*	6	*	6	*	*	*
Grand Total	1,212	457	1,065	336	938	303	862	302

Note. The region totals do not include masked values (*) where there is only one masked value per region for a given year. Data include motion hearings and pre-trial hearings for each hearing type. 0<*<5.

DATA SOURCE

Children's Law Center, University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law. Court Liaison Program, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, March 2024, March 2025, and February 2026.

Child Welfare Indicators

Child Care

S.C. DSS-REGULATED CHILD CARE FACILITIES



2,328 open child care facilities were regulated by the South Carolina Department of Social Services' (DSS) child care licensing division in 2025, **153** or **7% increase** from 2024.

211 newly-opened facilities, **82** or **28% decrease** from 2024.

213,442 capacity, or the maximum number of children these open facilities were licensed to serve, **15,872** or **8% increase** from 2024.

S.C. DSS-REGULATED CHILD CARE FACILITIES BY OPERATIONAL STATUS AND CAPACITY

Operational Status	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Open	2,266	2,145	2,175	2,328	+153 (+7%)	+183 (+9%)	+62 (+3%)
○ Newly opened	261	237	293	211	-82 (-28%)	-26 (-11%)	-50 (-19%)
Closed	26	381	438	282	-156 (-36%)	-99 (-26%)	+256 (+985%)
Capacity							
Open	190,311	193,235	197,570	213,442	+15,872 (+8%)	+20,207 (+10%)	+23,131 (+12%)
○ Newly opened	14,222	17,399	15,138	17,199	+2,061 (+14%)	-200 (-1%)	+2,977 (+21%)
Closed	1,535	18,165	20,969	11,760	-9,209 (-44%)	-6,405 (-35%)	+10,225 (+666%)

S.C. DSS-REGULATED CHILD CARE FACILITIES BY COUNTY

County	2022 Total Open		2023 Total Open		2024 Total Open		2025 Total Open	
	Facility Count	Capacity	Facility Count	Capacity	Facility Count	Capacity	Facility Count	Capacity
Abbeville	12	317	9	207	7	237	11	391
Aiken	57	5,810	50	5,330	52	5,635	56	6,021
Allendale	2	146	2	147	1	103	2	150
Anderson	77	6,402	75	6,060	70	6,198	73	6,447
Bamberg	7	568	6	497	6	497	6	497
Barnwell	12	633	11	439	11	711	11	711
Beaufort	72	6,514	63	6,022	61	6,291	63	6,546
Berkeley	111	7,807	100	7,683	105	8,292	118	9,147
Calhoun	2	99	2	99	2	99	2	99
Charleston	174	20,272	192	24,650	183	23,435	196	24,740

Child Welfare Indicators

County (Continued)	2022 Total Open		2023 Total Open		2024 Total Open		2025 Total Open	
	Facility Count	Capacity	Facility Count	Capacity	Facility Count	Capacity	Facility Count	Capacity
Cherokee	21	1,269	23	1,418	25	1,565	26	1,627
Chester	19	1,049	18	1,068	20	907	19	901
Chesterfield	21	1,156	21	1,204	17	1,104	18	1,110
Clarendon	16	836	15	861	16	904	17	928
Colleton	21	1,002	20	925	23	1,092	25	1,180
Darlington	37	2,537	34	2,499	37	2,387	36	2,381
Dillon	22	956	21	1,071	23	1,074	21	1,063
Dorchester	72	4,501	67	5,192	71	5,532	77	5,733
Edgefield	10	527	10	527	8	515	10	526
Fairfield	14	449	15	495	14	462	15	569
Florence	153	6,671	145	6,990	151	7,104	160	7,257
Georgetown	44	2,221	46	2,340	44	2,353	46	2,417
Greenville	213	25,172	198	23,935	204	25,285	210	27,032
Greenwood	24	2,424	21	2,113	22	2,294	22	2,294
Hampton	10	494	8	463	8	463	8	463
Horry	78	8,900	76	9,145	80	9,086	89	9,836
Jasper	28	905	28	928	26	820	30	1,119
Kershaw	27	2,413	28	2,657	31	2,973	35	3,513
Lancaster	27	3,463	25	3,598	25	3,445	28	3,960
Laurens	16	1,504	11	1,208	12	1,409	12	1,409
Lee	5	425	6	478	6	483	6	483
Lexington	110	9,842	99	9,998	102	10,379	111	11,504
Marion	34	1,608	31	1,554	30	1,469	31	1,481
Marlboro	13	493	12	478	14	520	13	515
McCormick	3	177	3	138	3	168	3	168
Newberry	9	1,102	9	1,091	12	1,285	15	1,513
Oconee	22	2,088	19	2,027	18	2,081	18	2,081
Orangeburg	50	3,272	44	3,191	42	2,924	45	3,151
Pickens	42	3,893	38	3,791	41	4,021	39	4,320
Richland	217	18,084	206	18,136	218	19,044	241	22,195
Saluda	6	556	5	619	7	771	6	663
Spartanburg	120	10,863	122	11,395	127	11,202	144	12,745
Sumter	64	5,540	66	5,459	61	5,675	66	5,893
Union	9	815	9	815	8	809	9	897
Williamsburg	41	1,091	34	1,009	30	943	31	949
York	118	13,264	102	13,285	101	13,524	108	14,817
Grand Total	2,266	190,311	2,145	193,235	2,175	197,570	2,328	213,442

Child Welfare Indicators

COUNTS OF CHILDREN SERVED BY FIRST STEPS

	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25
Total number of children directly served	57,435	54,241	64,678	66,818
○ By local partnerships	54,092	50,689	60,727	62,540
○ By First Steps 4K*	3,343	3,650	4,119	4,278
Total number of children directly served by a high-intensity program**	7,856	11,548	11,412	12,738
○ By local partnerships	4,513	7,898	7,461	8,460
○ By First Steps 4K*	3,343	3,650	4,119	4,278
Estimated number of children in centers where child care quality enhancement and training have occurred via local partnerships	50,000	63,000	80,000	73,000

*Total served for at least one day through day 180. **High-intensity programs are defined relevant to the child.

Local partnerships: Across the state in every county, First Steps works to ensure that every child has the opportunity to benefit from quality early childhood programs. Through a network of county-level local partnerships, we offer direct services to families and caregivers, share knowledge of community resources and referrals, and mobilize partners in building a more efficient and effective early childhood system. **First Steps 4K:** First Steps 4K offers free, full-day four-year-old kindergarten to qualifying children in South Carolina. We partner with licensed child care centers and private schools across the state, making it easy for families to find a high-quality program that meets their needs. First Steps 4K is publicly funded and curriculum driven as part of the state's Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP).

Proportion of children who were served by First Steps	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25
Proportion of eligible children served directly	37.1%	36.9%	45.5%	46.0%
Proportion of eligible children served directly by a high-intensity program	5.1%	7.9%	8.0%	9.0%
Proportion of children under age 6 who benefit from local partnership child care quality enhancement and training	14.6%	18.7%	23.9%	21.0%

Note. Denominator data from Five-Year Estimates from the American Community Survey (Table B17024). Eligible children defined as children under age six <185% federal poverty level. (FY21-22: 2016-20 data; FY22-23: 2017-21 data; FY23-24: 2018-22 data; FY24-25: 2019-2023 data).

DATA SOURCES

1. S.C. DSS-regulated child care facilities data: S.C. Department of Social Services, unpublished report generated in March 2023, March 2024, February 2025, and March 2026.
2. First Steps data: S.C. First Steps, unpublished report generated in February 2026.

Health Indicators

Mental Health Services

S.C. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHILDREN



327,759 mental health services were provided to children by the South Carolina Office of Mental Health (OMH) in 2025, **28,811** or **8% decrease** from 2024.

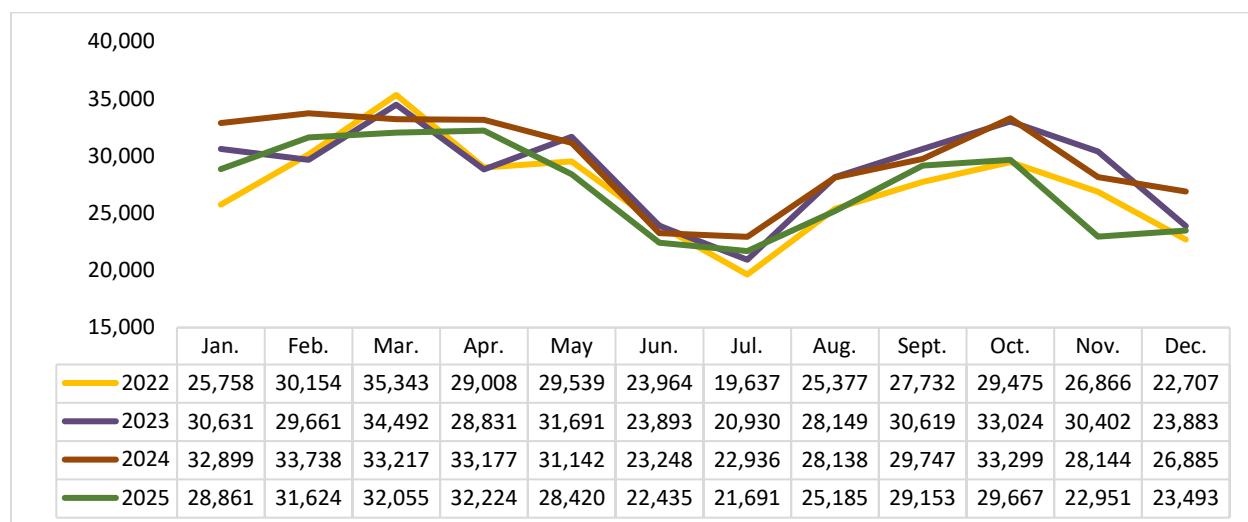
28,014 children (unduplicated count) received the provided mental health services in 2025, **2,059** or **7% decrease** from 2024.

Note. Data included in the report are limited to services provided through community outpatient facilities.

S.C. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY OMH TO CHILDREN: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

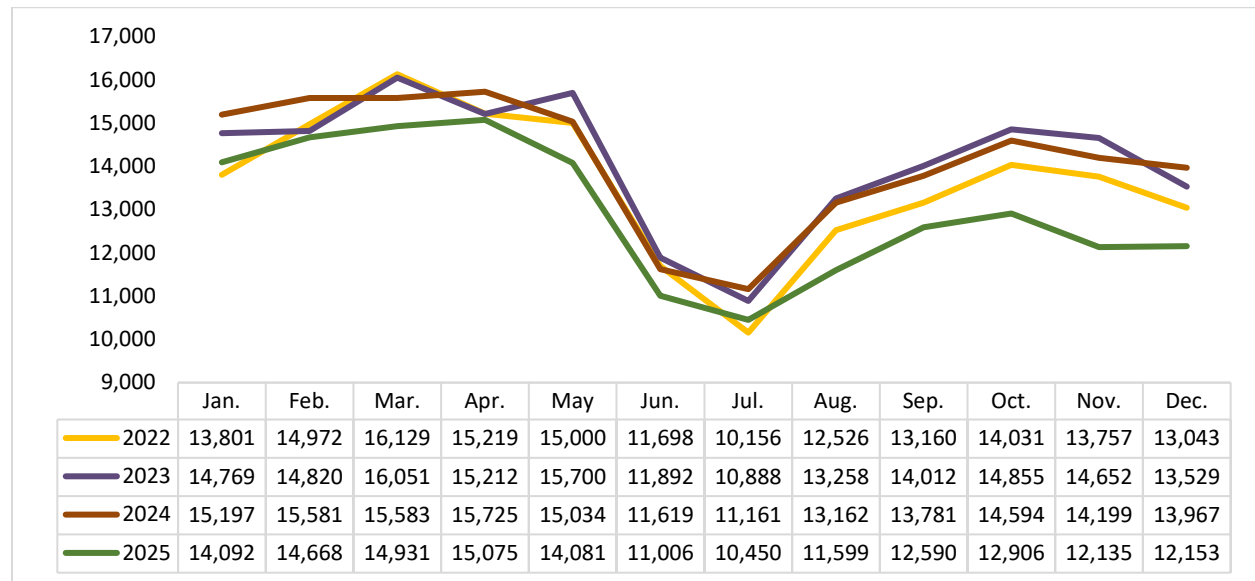
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Number of mental health services provided to children by OMH	325,560	346,206	356,570	327,759	-28,811 (-8%)	-18,447 (-5%)	+2,199 (+1%)
Number of children received mental health services provided by OMH	31,234	31,292	30,073	28,014	-2,059 (-7%)	-3,278 (-10%)	-3,220 (-10%)

S.C. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY OMH TO CHILDREN BY MONTH



Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY OMH BY MONTH (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)

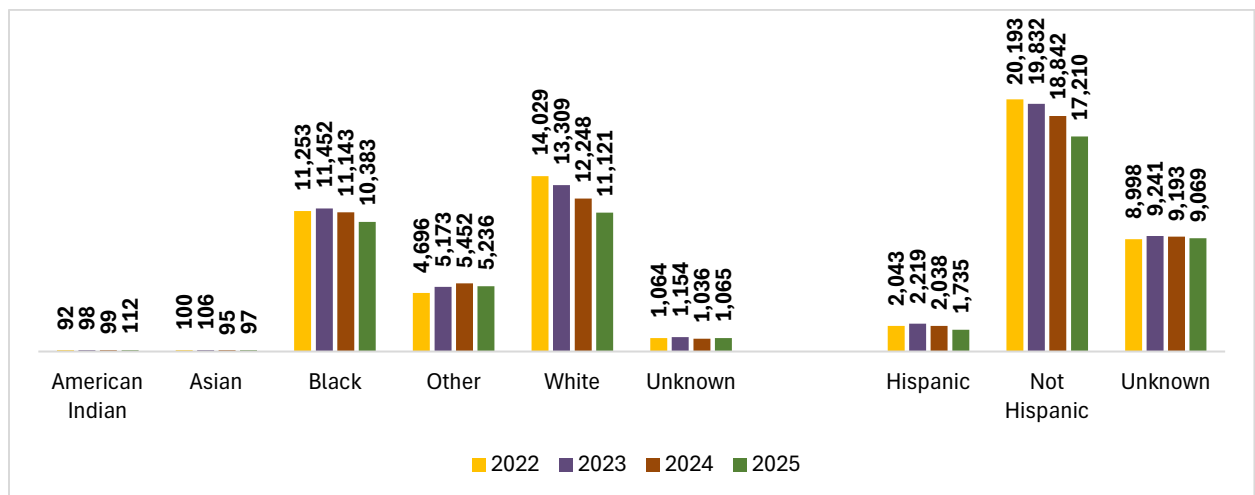
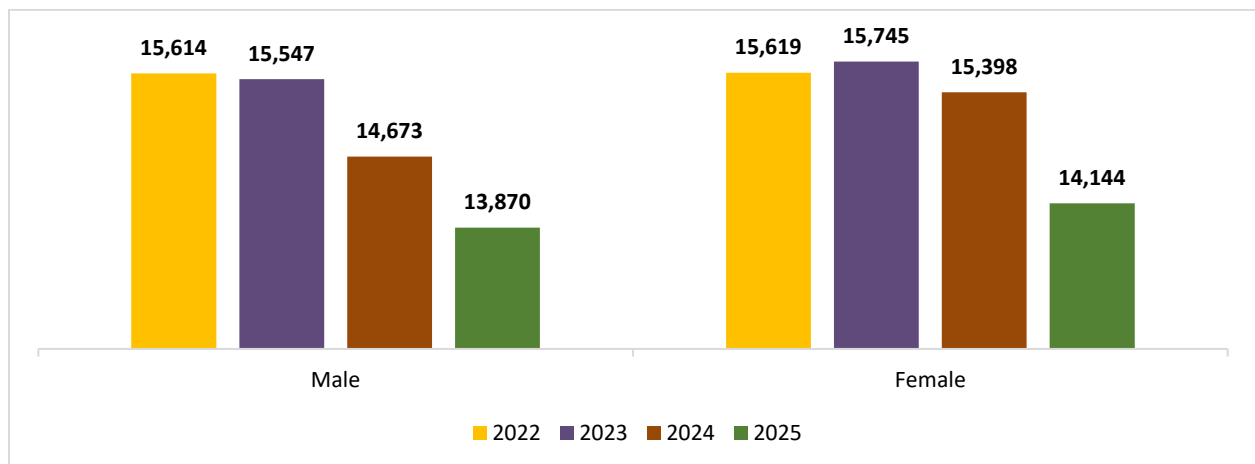
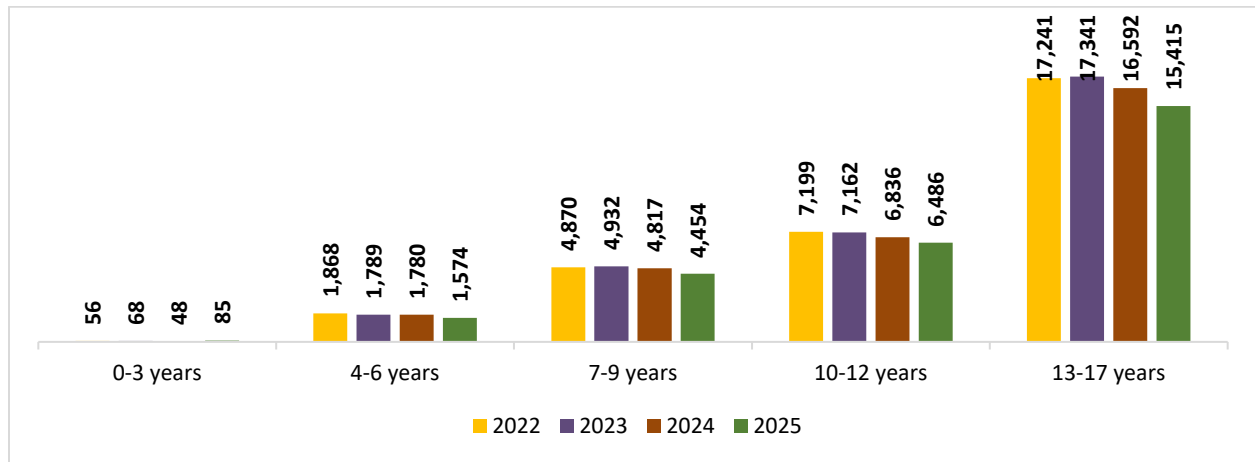


S.C. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY OMH TO CHILDREN BY PLACE OF SERVICE

Place of Service Categories	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Telehealth	49,522	41,495	39,756	38,191	-1,565 (-4%)	-3,304 (-8%)	-11,331 (-23%)
School	165,003	182,565	195,381	170,006	-25,375 (-13%)	-12,559 (-7%)	+5,003 (+3%)
Community mental health center clinic	97,691	111,054	111,576	110,114	-1,462 (-1%)	-940 (-1%)	+12,423 (+13%)
Patient's home	7,286	6,984	6,182	5,949	-233 (-4%)	-1,035 (-15%)	-1,337 (-18%)
Outpatient health care provider	31	147	68	101	+33 (+49%)	-46 (-31%)	+70 (+226%)
Hospital emergency department	76	35	14	9	-5 (-36%)	-26 (-74%)	-67 (-88%)
Other location	5,951	3,926	3,593	3,389	-204 (-6%)	-537 (-14%)	-2,562 (-43%)
Total	325,560	346,206	356,570	327,759	-28,811 (-8%)	-18,447 (-5%)	+2,199 (+1%)

Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY OMH BY AGE GROUP, SEX, RACE, AND ETHNICITY (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)



Health Indicators

TOP 10 MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES AMONG S.C. CHILDREN

	2022	Number of Diagnoses	2023	Number of Diagnoses	2024	Number of Diagnoses	2025	Number of Diagnoses
1	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, combined presentation	72,059	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, combined presentation	76,509	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, combined presentation	78,718	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, Combined presentation	72,137
2	Posttraumatic stress disorder	23,282	Posttraumatic stress disorder	26,207	Posttraumatic stress disorder	25,238	Generalized anxiety disorder	26,784
3	Generalized anxiety disorder	19,107	Generalized anxiety disorder	22,255	Generalized anxiety disorder	23,692	Posttraumatic stress disorder	21,755
4	Oppositional defiant disorder	14,374	Oppositional defiant disorder	15,363	Oppositional defiant disorder	15,730	Oppositional defiant disorder	13,446
5	Unspecified depressive disorder	12,710	Adjustment disorder, with mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct	14,275	Unspecified anxiety disorder	15,066	Adjustment disorder, With mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct	12,568
6	Adjustment disorder, with mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct	12,551	Unspecified anxiety disorder	13,420	Adjustment disorder, with mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct	14,473	Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder	12,191
7	Unspecified anxiety disorder	11,772	Unspecified depressive disorder	12,362	Unspecified depressive disorder	13,646	Unspecified anxiety disorder	11,264
8	Unspecified disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorder	11,204	Unspecified trauma and stressor related disorder	11,158	Unspecified trauma and stressor related disorder	13,569	Unspecified disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorder	11,002
9	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, predominantly inattentive presentation	10,477	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, predominantly inattentive presentation	11,156	Unspecified disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorder	11,500	Unspecified trauma- and stressor-related disorder	10,927
10	Major depressive disorder, single episode, moderate	10,056	Unspecified disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorder	10,950	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, predominantly inattentive presentation	11,190	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, predominantly inattentive presentation	10,310
Total	197,592 (61% out of total services provided by OMH to children in 2022, n=325,560)		213,655 (62% out of total services provided by OMH to children in 2023, n=346,206)		222,822 (62% out of total services provided by OMH to children in 2024, n=356,570)		202,384 (62% out of total services provided by OMH to children in 2025, n=327,759)	

Note. Patient and service counts limited to outpatient facilities.

Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY OMH BY COUNTY (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)

County	2022	2023	2024	2025
Abbeville	246	249	212	209
Aiken	1,189	1,184	1,070	1,014
Allendale	68	61	59	60
Anderson	1,420	1,412	1,259	1,172
Bamberg	115	112	114	101
Barnwell	165	175	237	238
Beaufort	467	579	603	605
Berkeley	1,532	1,699	1,859	1,853
Calhoun	141	146	150	148
Charleston	1,716	1,700	1,797	1,742
Cherokee	312	269	309	327
Chester	235	240	222	217
Chesterfield	208	183	182	179
Clarendon	325	331	317	286
Colleton	301	305	337	336
Darlington	418	427	423	408
Dillon	213	193	204	227
Dorchester	1,523	1,565	1,570	1,666
Edgefield	150	142	164	147
Fairfield	87	97	101	91
Florence	738	770	810	839
Georgetown	294	283	235	183
Greenville	5,098	5,163	4,293	3,174
Greenwood	622	636	576	550
Hampton	158	148	171	168
Horry	1,065	874	746	632
Jasper	109	127	135	127
Kershaw	241	194	181	220
Lancaster	268	258	207	186
Laurens	331	252	304	361
Lee	84	96	125	125
Lexington	2,500	2,577	2,500	2,483
Marion	223	250	252	219
Marlboro	216	217	211	201
McCormick	57	45	47	39
Newberry	360	356	324	246
Oconee	277	318	388	517

Health Indicators

County (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Orangeburg	703	744	786	771
Pickens	557	566	566	602
Richland	2,226	2,230	2,154	2,144
Saluda	33	44	46	49
Spartanburg	1,319	1,459	1,493	1,096
Sumter	877	779	723	669
Union	333	275	243	198
Williamsburg	271	268	258	229
York	1,258	1,110	984	882
Out-of-state	15	6	14	5
Missing data	14	19	13	9
Unknown	156	159	99	64
Total	31,234	31,292	30,073	28,014

Note. Patient and service counts limited to outpatient facilities.

DATA SOURCE

S.C. Office of Mental Health, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, March 2024, February 2025, and February 2026. Patient and service counts are limited to outpatient facilities. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.

Substance Use Disorder and Treatment Services

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND TREATMENT SERVICES AMONG S.C. CHILDREN AND PARENTS



68,580 treatment services for a primary or secondary substance use disorder were provided to South Carolina children in 2025, **3,036** or **5% increase** from 2024.
4,865 children (unduplicated count) received the provided treatment services in 2025, **1** or **0.02% decrease** from 2024.
190,644 treatment services for a primary or secondary substance use disorder were provided to parents (who had children under age 18) in 2025, **10,264** or **5% decrease** from 2024.
8,934 parents (unduplicated count) received the provided treatment services in 2025, **282** or **3% decrease** from 2024.

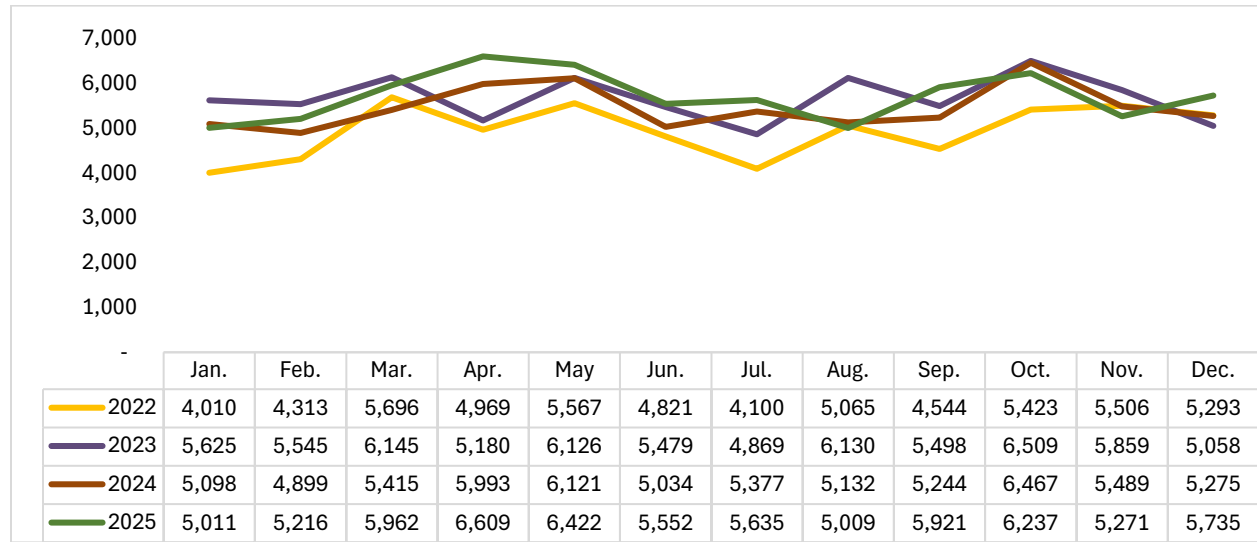
Note. Data included in this section are limited to services rendered by the County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Authorities. S.C. Department of Health and Human Services in recent years has made policy changes and significant investments in school-based substance use treatment services, and schools are delivering direct care, or contracting with other private providers to deliver services. Where data in this section shows decreases in service delivery, it may primarily be due to the market shift where children are now receiving school-based care. Please see Medicaid Enrolled Children section of the data book for information regarding substance use treatment services provided to Medicaid enrolled children, and be mindful about potential data duplication between numbers reported in this section and among Medicaid enrolled children.

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND TREATMENT SERVICES: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

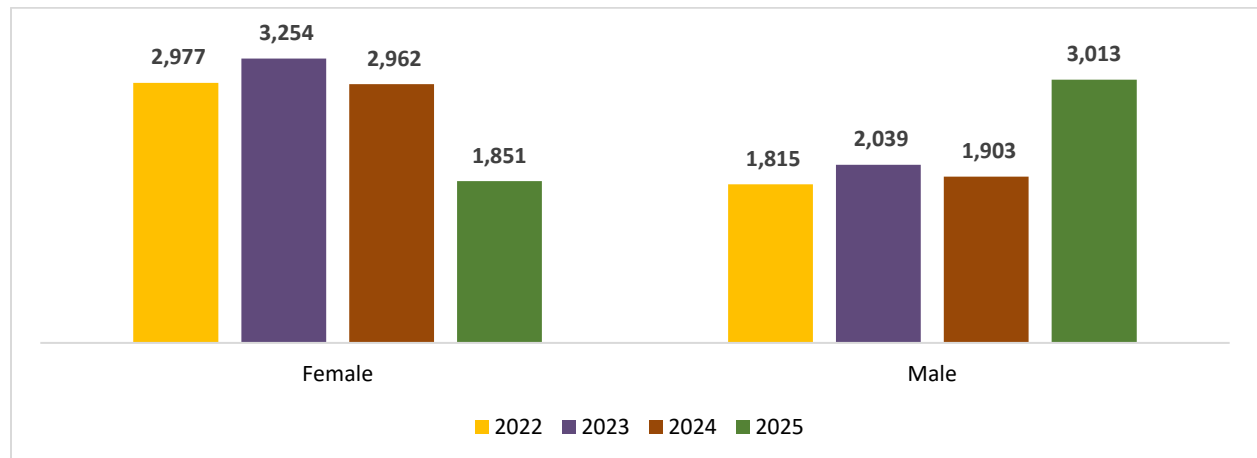
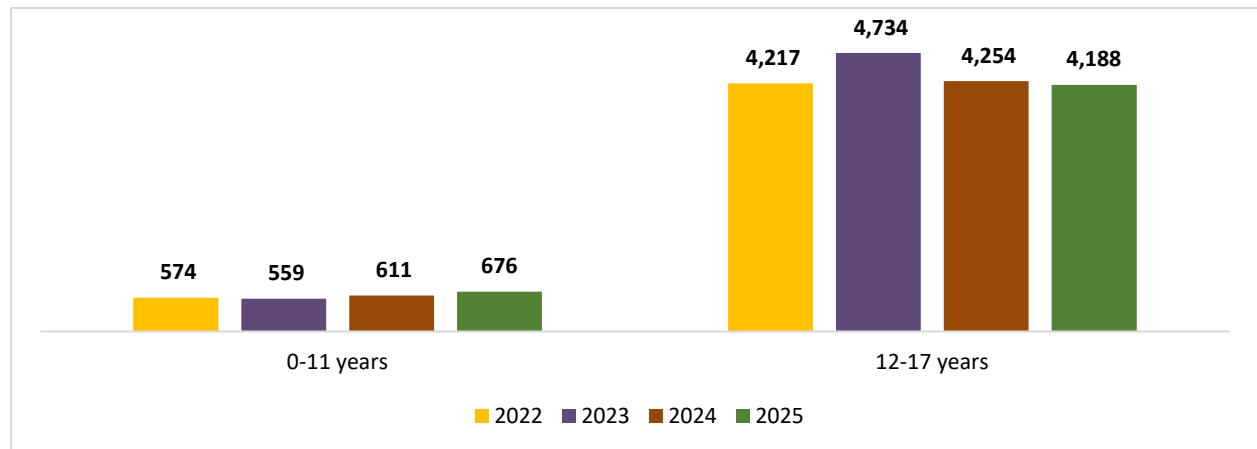
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Number of treatment services provided to children	59,307	68,023	65,544	68,580	+3,036 (+5%)	+557 (+1%)	+9,273 (+16%)
Number of children (unduplicated count) who received the provided treatment services	4,793	5,294	4,866	4,865	-1 (-0.02%)	-429 (-8%)	+72 (+2%)
Number of treatment services provided to parents	220,129	208,207	200,908	190,644	-10,264 (-5%)	-17,563 (-8%)	-29,485 (-13%)
Number of parents (unduplicated count) who received the provided treatment services	10,290	9,487	9,216	8,934	-282 (-3%)	-553 (-6%)	-1,356 (-13%)

Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES BY MONTH

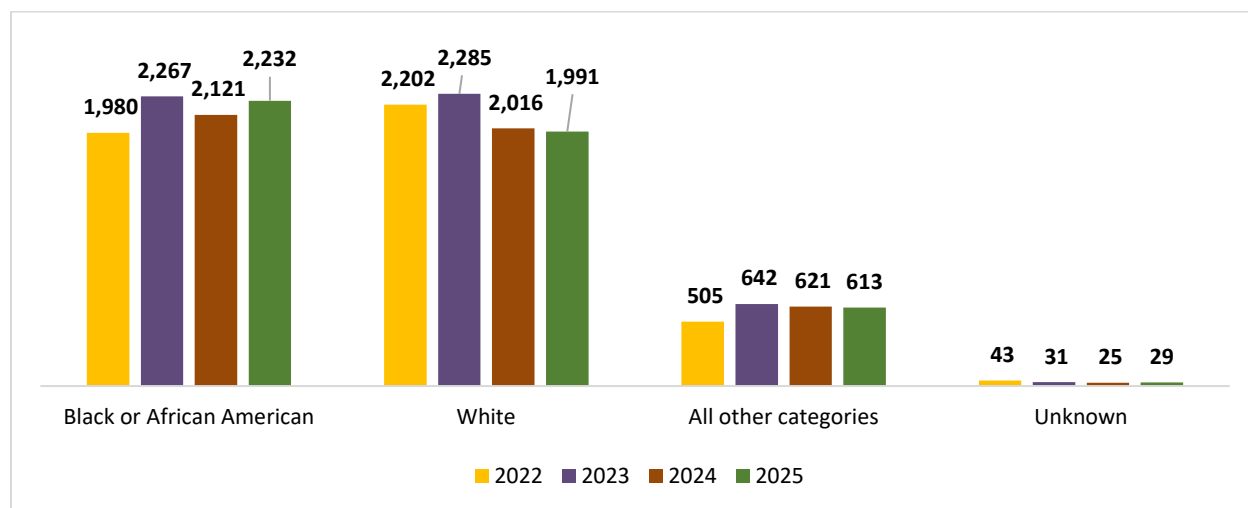


S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES BY AGE GROUP AND SEX



Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES BY RACE



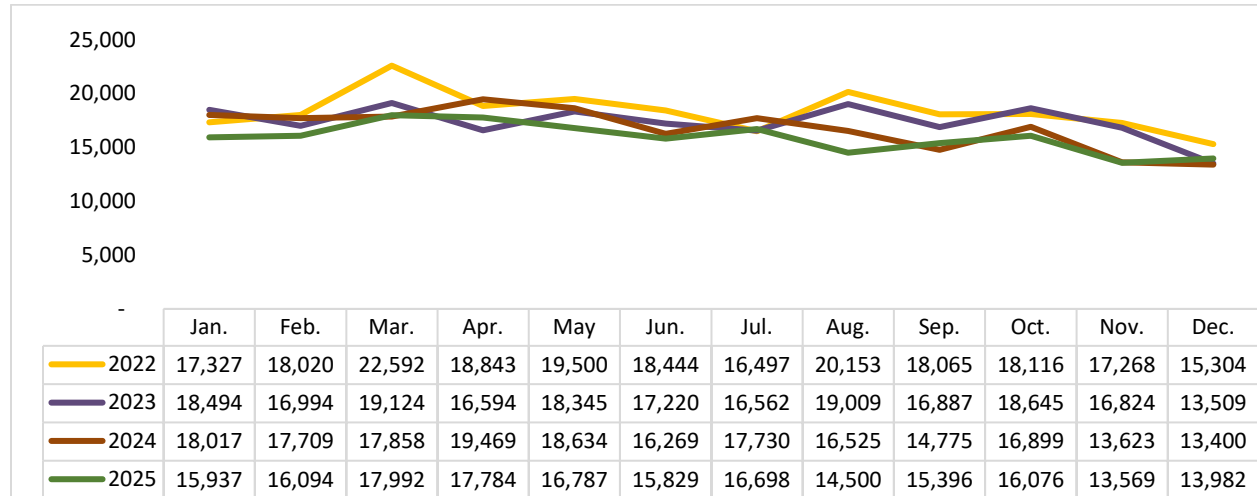
S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES BY DIAGNOSIS

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Marijuana use disorder	2,545	2,916	2,666	2,754
Alcohol use disorder	741	742	645	674
Tobacco use disorder	1,012	1,330	1,283	1,371
Amphetamine use disorder	77	63	54	38
Opiate use disorder	110	189	65	52
Cocaine use disorder	43	30	21	31
Stimulant use disorder	N/A	N/A	N/A	65

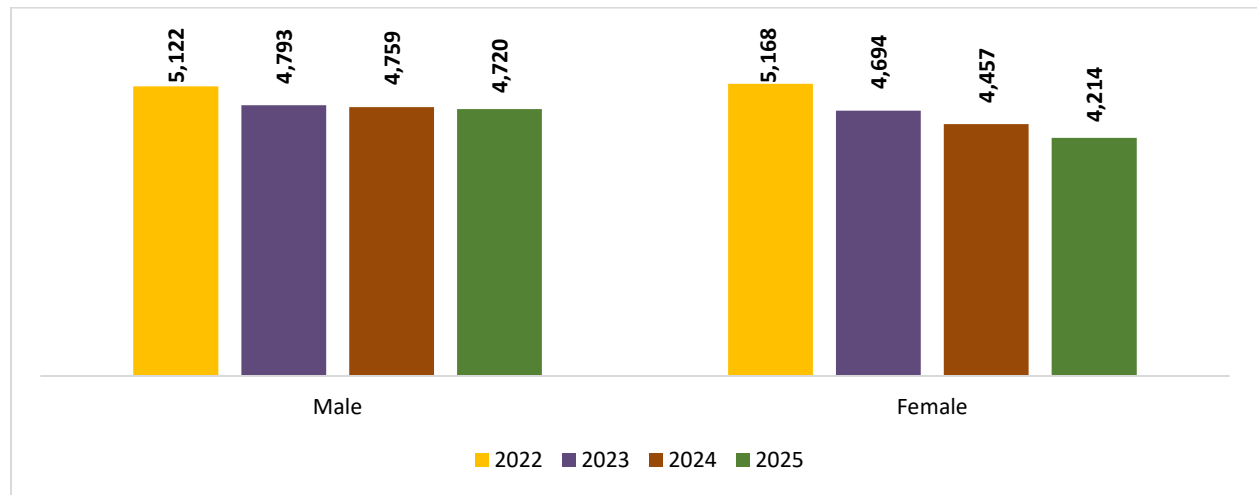
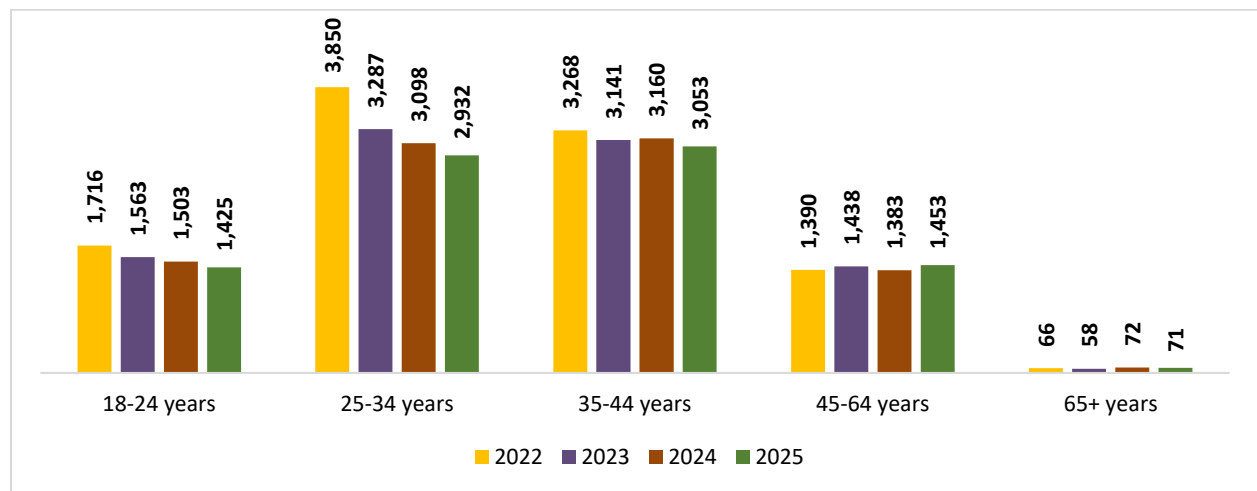
N/A: Data not available

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES PROVIDED TO S.C. PARENTS BY MONTH

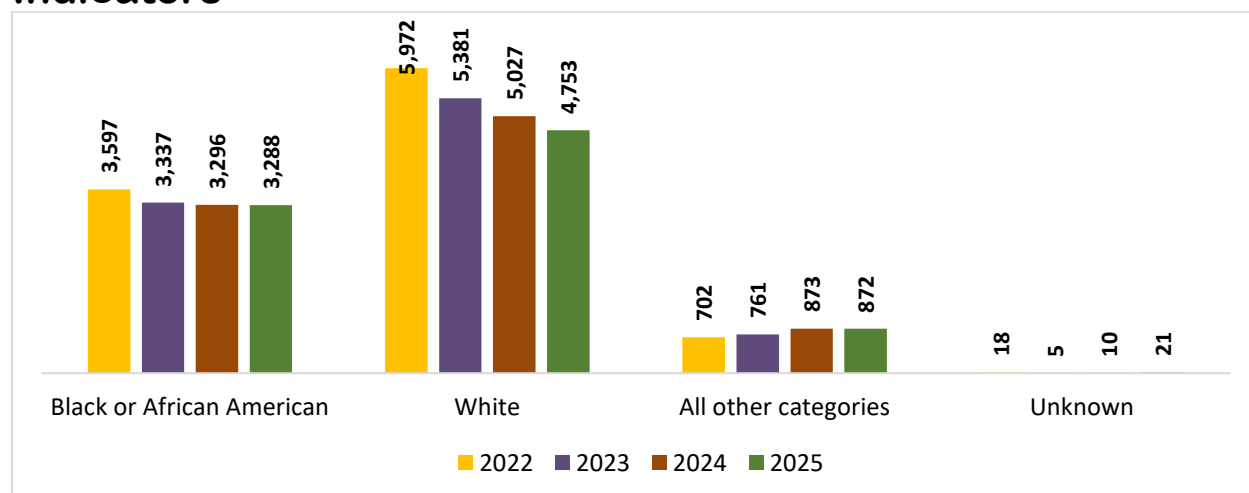
Health Indicators



S.C. PARENTS RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



Health Indicators



S.C. PARENTS RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES BY DIAGNOSIS

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Alcohol use disorder	5,431	5,181	4,996	4,880
Marijuana use disorder	4,754	4,390	4,210	4,169
Tobacco use disorder	1,625	1,432	1,446	1,453
Opiate use disorder	2,136	1,954	1,766	1,705
Cocaine use disorder	1,042	944	899	798
Amphetamine use disorder	1,501	1,324	1,286	1,243
Stimulant use disorder	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,914

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES PROVIDED BY AGENCY

Agency	2022	2023	2024	2025
Aiken Center	119	164	75	69
ALPHA Center	370	288	253	239
Anderson/Oconee Behavioral Health Services	135	180	140	128
Axis 1 Center of Barnwell	12	23	19	21
Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department	125	142	136	134
Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County	339	322	365	482
Charleston Center	165	209	171	216
Cherokee County Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	50	66	51	71
Circle Park Behavioral Health Services	81	100	134	169
Clarendon Behavioral Health Services	45	55	44	49
Colleton County Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	34	32	27	26
Cornerstone	83	70	65	68
Counseling Services of Lancaster	68	73	55	63
Dorchester Alcohol and Drug Commission	216	210	218	196

Health Indicators

Ernest E. Kennedy Center	238	261	308	319
Fairfield Behavioral Health Services	31	39	26	33
Gateway Counseling Center	65	81	135	130
Georgetown Alcohol & Drug Abuse Commission	41	53	47	49
Hazel Pittman Center	24	18	17	32
Keystone Substance Abuse Services	182	208	193	177
LRADAC	439	449	371	334
New Life Center	34	23	23	22
Phoenix Center	320	373	335	302
Rubicon Family Counseling Services	82	71	78	92
Shoreline Behavioral Health Services	388	550	533	323
Sumter Behavioral Health Services	163	232	210	241
The Forrester Center for Behavioral Health	132	129	115	155

Agency (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Tri-County Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	424	429	332	303
Trinity Behavioral Care	227	303	276	291
Union County Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	107	83	62	79
Westview Behavioral Health Services	84	88	82	82

DATA SOURCE

S.C. Office of Substance Use Services, unpublished report generated in March 2023, April 2024, May 2025, and July 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified. Please note that services are provided by subgrantees and contractors; OSUS does not directly deliver services.

Health Indicators

Medicaid Enrolled Children

S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN

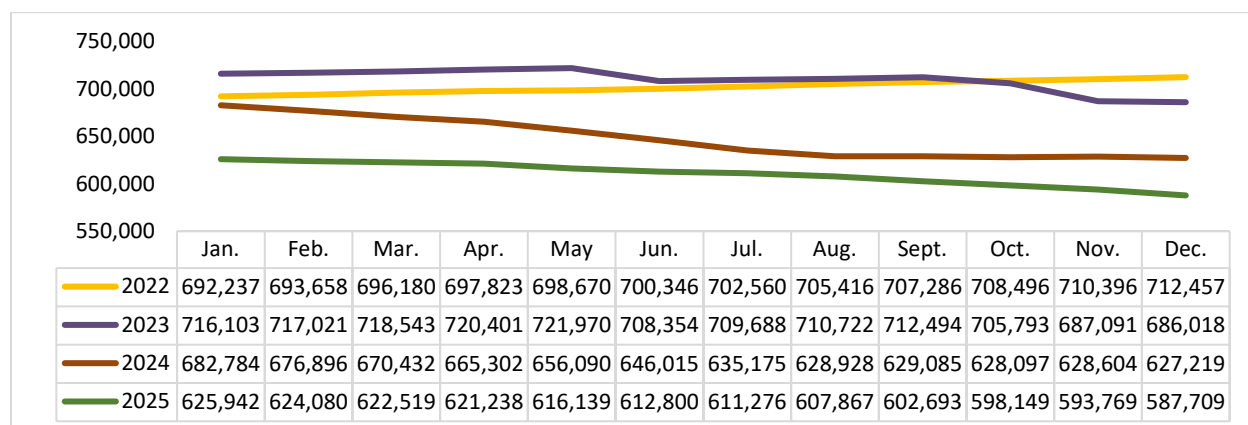


731,412 children enrolled in Medicaid in 2025,
87,396 children or **11% decrease** from 2024.

S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Medicaid enrolled children	755,568	778,666	818,808	731,412	-87,396 (-11%)	-47,254 (-6%)	-24,156 (-3%)

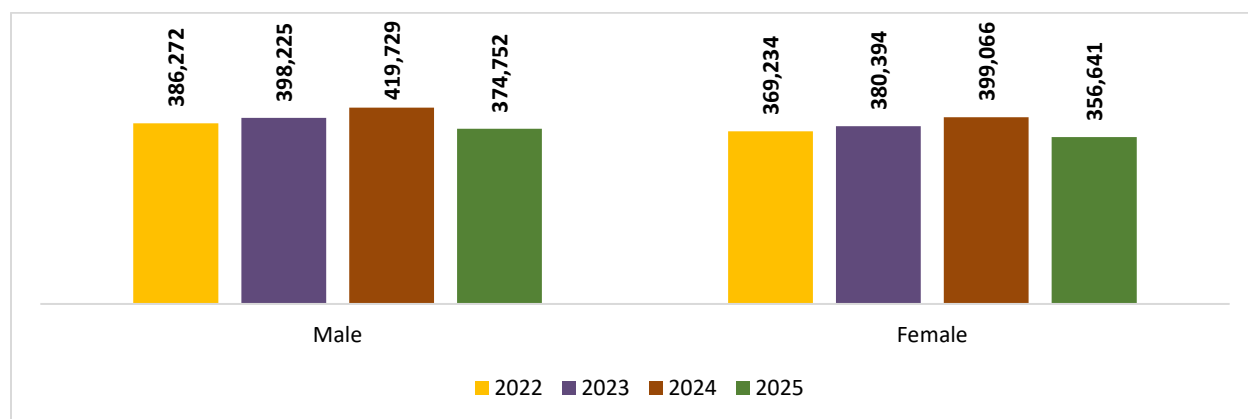
S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN BY MONTH



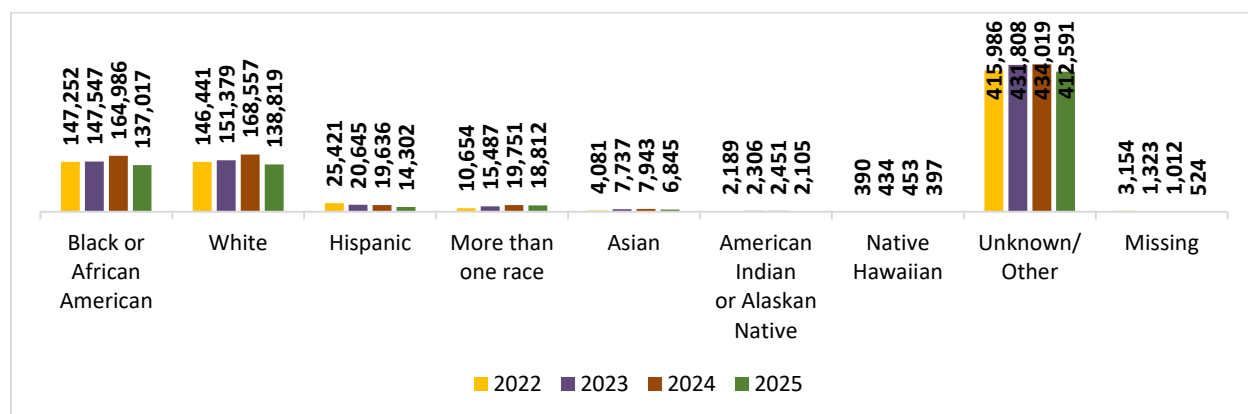
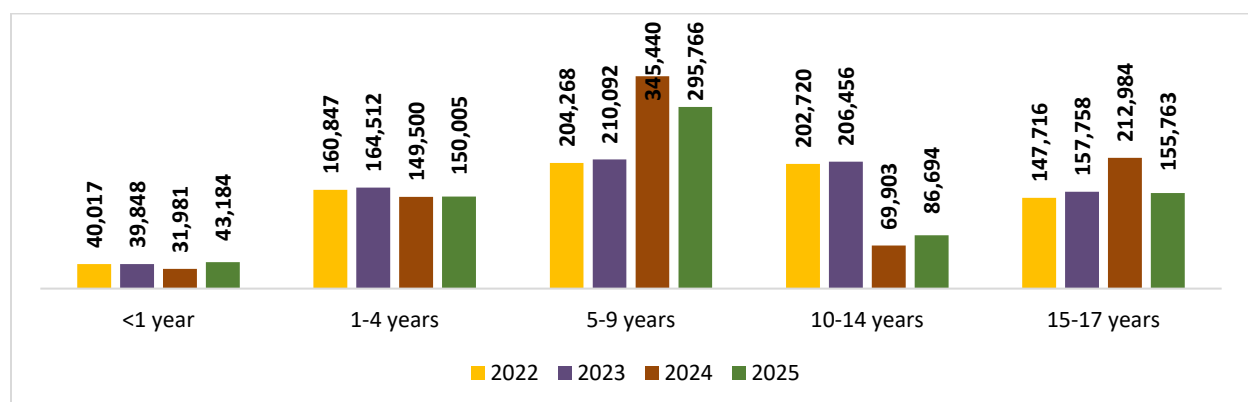
Note. Children under age 18 in the month of active eligibility. Age group is determined by the age in the latest month of eligibility in a year. Data exclude those with family planning benefits only, emergency benefits only, and BabyNet only.

S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN BY SEX

Health Indicators



S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN BY AGE GROUP AND RACE



Note. Federal guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) indicates states may not mandate collection of race and ethnicity data. Such data is optional, and, therefore, the Unknown/Other race category is disproportionately high.

S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN RECEIVING SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
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Health Indicators

S.C. Medicaid enrolled children (unduplicated count) who received school mental health services	44,255	50,219	49,286	51,354	+2,068 (+4%)	+1,135 (+2%)	+7,099 (+16%)
Number of school mental health services provided to Medicaid enrolled children	1,123,843	1,254,618	1,197,712	1,333,023	+135,311 (+11%)	+78,405 (+6%)	+209,180 (+19%)
S.C. Medicaid enrolled children (unduplicated count) who received substance use services	2,576	2,979	2,842	2,708	-134 (-5%)	-271 (-9%)	+132 (+5%)
Number of substance use services provided to Medicaid enrolled children	20,272	22,337	22,742	23,159	+417 (+2%)	+822 (+4%)	+2,887 (+14%)

Health Indicators

TOP 10 MEDICAID SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHILDREN BY SERVICE TYPE

		2022		2023		2024		2025				
	Service Type	Number of Patients	Number of Services	Service Type	Number of Patients	Number of Services	Service Type	Number of Patients	Number of Services	Service Type	Number of Patients	Number of Services
1	Office Visit - Established Patient	445,517	1,848,712	Office Visit - Established Patient	453,846	1,953,249	Office Visit - Established Patient	431,915	1,829,082	Office Visit - Established Patient	407,756	1,710,689
2	Laboratory	407,761	2,299,782	Laboratory	405,609	2,414,293	Laboratory	385,556	2,391,469	Laboratory	358,214	2,223,662
3	Dental	357,277	3,007,667	Dental	363,464	3,083,567	Dental	349,892	2,995,894	Dental	341,655	3,012,911
4	Preventive Visit - Established	331,303	569,076	Preventive Visit - Established	351,073	623,800	Preventive Visit - Established	332,772	604,675	Preventive Visit - Established	324,376	564,181
5	Vaccines	282,374	1,837,667	Vaccines	283,638	1,987,063	Vaccines	262,744	1,913,848	Vaccines	255,299	1,887,087
6	Medicaid Waiver Services	242,120	4,402,184	Medicaid Waiver Services	249,447	4,013,102	Medicaid Waiver Services	250,985	4,040,611	Medicaid Waiver Services	241,317	3,670,064
7	Emergency Department	190,277	585,098	Emergency Department	193,051	591,034	Emergency Department	190,258	605,535	Emergency Department	177,675	562,471
8	Other / Unclassified	188,854	397,115	Surgery / Procedures	164,172	423,813	Surgery / Procedures	176,126	560,330	Surgery / Procedures	175,095	538,200
9	Surgery / Procedures	153,040	371,320	Behavioral Health Evaluation	152,445	289,352	Behavioral Health Evaluation	160,158	310,908	Behavioral Health Evaluation	171,344	325,976
10	Office Visit - New Patient	151,159	201,028	Office Visit - New Patient	149,109	195,399	Vision Services	144,851	315,349	Vision Services	144,391	308,339

Note. Ranking is by number of patients. These tables exclude the “Pharmacy - Prescription” category, which reflects patients picking up medications from a pharmacy rather than receiving a healthcare service. The number of patients with these claims is still reported for each year; however, this category is not included in the rankings because it does not represent a service in the same way as the other categories.

Health Indicators

S.C. MEDICAID ENROLLED CHILDREN BY COUNTY

County	2022	2023	2024	2025
Abbeville	3,469	3,527	3,727	3,188
Aiken	25,254	25,984	27,389	24,531
Allendale	1,557	1,575	1,673	1,517
Anderson	29,909	31,076	32,789	29,584
Bamberg	2,440	2,422	2,496	2,216
Barnwell	4,420	4,438	4,564	4,096
Beaufort	20,935	21,312	21,797	19,046
Berkeley	30,551	32,569	34,434	30,709
Calhoun	2,040	2,078	2,196	1,924
Charleston	47,143	47,266	48,635	43,013
Cherokee	10,216	10,455	11,069	10,176
Chester	6,292	6,386	6,635	5,880
Chesterfield	8,126	8,317	8,670	7,757
Clarendon	5,742	5,746	5,930	5,172
Colleton	7,558	7,668	7,947	7,011
Darlington	11,922	12,076	12,905	11,621
Dillon	7,155	7,232	7,609	6,879
Dorchester	22,094	23,304	24,475	21,560
Edgefield	3,303	3,395	3,507	3,181
Fairfield	3,593	3,611	3,897	3,466
Florence	25,322	25,981	27,368	24,434
Georgetown	8,668	8,719	9,145	8,058
Greenville	72,455	74,789	77,899	69,613
Greenwood	12,016	12,266	12,892	11,526
Hampton	3,585	3,587	3,739	3,278
Horry	50,837	52,681	55,535	49,938
Jasper	5,695	5,961	6,216	5,702
Kershaw	10,417	10,939	11,786	10,542
Lancaster	12,291	12,597	13,267	11,858
Laurens	11,508	11,950	12,567	11,371
Lee	3,163	3,112	3,255	2,863
Lexington	39,405	41,138	43,445	38,712
Marion	6,607	6,635	6,969	6,225
Marlboro	5,276	5,415	5,677	5,110
McCormick	1,051	1,021	1,040	925
Newberry	6,598	6,691	6,907	6,166
Oconee	10,572	10,927	11,565	10,316
Orangeburg	16,929	16,869	17,714	15,712
Pickens	15,501	16,171	17,038	15,279
Richland	62,141	64,209	68,363	60,911
Saluda	3,678	3,642	3,785	3,442
Spartanburg	54,827	58,454	62,631	56,870

Health Indicators

County (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Sumter	19,476	19,928	20,919	18,826
Union	4,799	4,795	5,111	4,581
Williamsburg	5,594	5,548	6,038	5,404
York	33,409	34,175	35,593	31,223
Total	755,568	778,666	818,808	731,412

Note. Total child count for 2022 (n=755,568) includes 29 data points with unknown county information. Total child count for 2023 (n=778,666) includes 29 data points with unknown county information.

DATA SOURCE

S.C. Department of Health and Human Services, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, March 2024, March 2025, and March 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.

Health Indicators

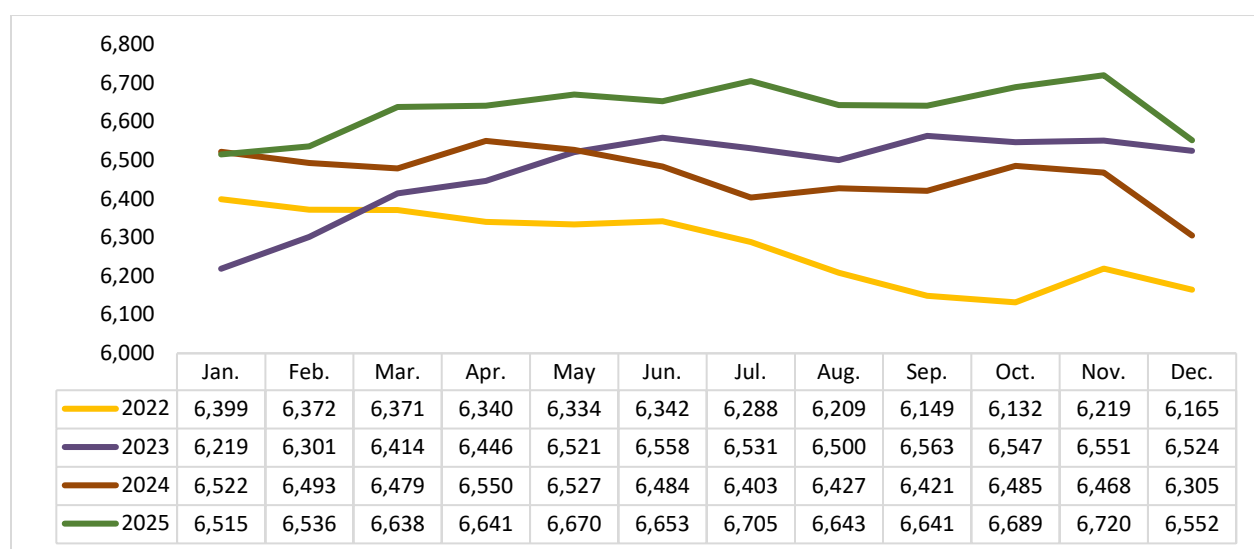
Children Receiving Services Provided by the South Carolina Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES



9,807 children (unduplicated count) received services provided by the South Carolina Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD) in 2025, **280** or **3%** increase from 2024.

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES BY MONTH (DUPLICATED COUNT)



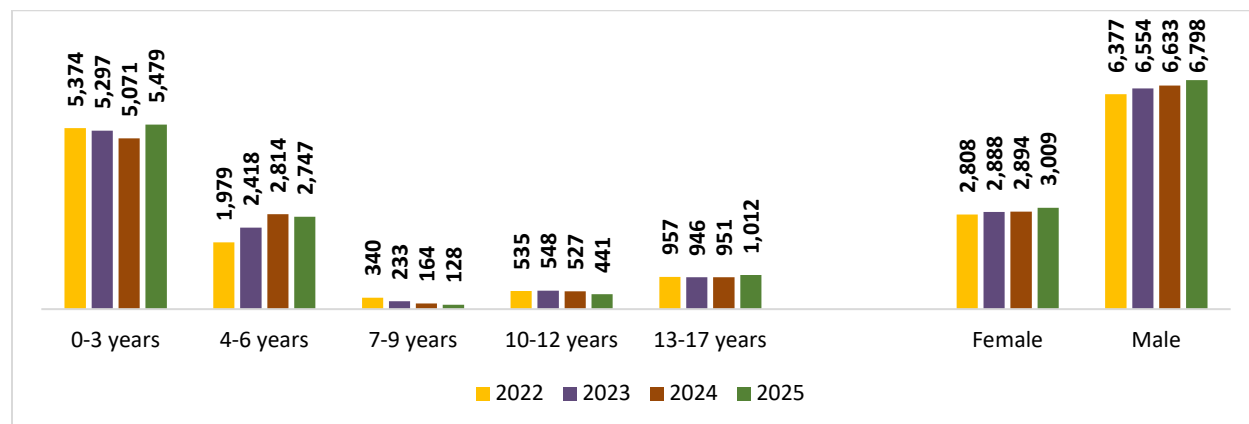
Note. The monthly data represent children under age 18 who are receiving one or more services from OIDD. It should be noted that Medicaid offers a robust package of services to children with disabilities in the state, and children ages 3 to 18 have the right to be served by their local school district under funding provided by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C.

S.C. CHILDREN AND ADULTS ON AN OIDD WAIVER WAITLIST (ESTIMATES AS OF JANUARY 31, 2026, DUPLICATED COUNT)

	Under Age 21 Estimates	Age 21 and Over Estimates	Total Estimates
Intellectual disability and related disabilities (ID/RD) waiver	14,467	7,204	21,671
Community supports (CS) waiver	12,947	5,297	18,244
Head and spinal cord injury (HASCI) waiver	30	282	312
Total estimates (duplicated count)	27,444	12,783	40,227

Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES BY AGE GROUP AND SEX (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)



Note. Age as of beginning of calendar year.

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES BY PRIMARY DISABILITY TYPE (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)

Primary Disability	2022	2023	2024	2025
Intellectual disability and related disabilities (ID/RD)	8,889	9,173	9,276	9,576
Autism	277	250	235	210
Head and spinal cord injury (HSCI)	19	19	16	21
Total	9,185	9,442	9,527	9,807

Note. Due to legacy decisions at OIDD, individuals have been historically categorized by disability type based on the type of case manager they had, what was considered a major disability, and other factors. These decisions were developed for fiscal and not policy reasons. It is recognized that some but not all individuals served may have more than one type of disability. These data points may be artificially inflated or deflated due to historical record keeping methods.

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES BY SERVICE PROGRAM (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)

Service Program	2022	2023	2024	2025
Waiver and state Medicaid plan	1,871	1,728	1,640	1,559
100% state funded	11	22	18	33
BabyNet and Early Intervention	7,303	7,692	7,869	8,215
Total	9,185	9,442	9,527	9,807

Note. In South Carolina, Medicaid funds services for children ages 3 to 6 who are OIDD and Medicaid eligible. OIDD covers services with state funds for children ages 3 to 6 who are OIDD eligible but not Medicaid eligible. BabyNet is funded and regulated through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C, and managed through DHHS. Early Intervention is a family-focused, in-home service for children ages 0 to 6. Family Training and Service Coordination is provided in accordance with an Individualized Family Service Plan for children ages 0 to 3 or a Family Service Plan for children ages 3 to 6.

Health Indicators

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES BY SERVICE TYPE (DUPLICATED COUNT)

Service Type	2022	2023	2024	2025
Adult audiology services	0	0	N/A	N/A
Adult day health care nursing	0	0	N/A	*
Adult day health care services	0	*	*	10
Adult day health care transportation	0	0	N/A	N/A
Adult dental services	998	926	852	796
Adult vision services	293	238	228	216
Assistive technology/specialized medical equipment, supplies	51	N/A	N/A	N/A
Attendant care/personal assistance-board billed	*	*	N/A	N/A
Attendant care/personal assistance-UAP (university affiliated program)	*	*	N/A	*
Audiology services	626	540	470	563
BabyNet and early intervention*	7,303	7,692	7,869	8,215
Behavior support services	14	15	12	12
Career preparation	*	*	*	*
Case management	1,859	1,706	1,613	1,545
Children's personal care	593	575	572	571
Community services	N/A	N/A	N/A	*
Conditioning play audiometry/hearing	0	0	N/A	N/A
Day activity	0	0	N/A	*
Drugs	1,467	1,333	1,262	1,181
Employment services-individual	*	0	N/A	*
Ear impression	N/A	*	*	N/A
Enhanced nursing services	N/A	109	135	122
Environmental modifications	6	6	5	*
Greenwood genetics metabolic	792	737	633	592
Greenwood genetics testing	17	14	10	N/A
Group care intensive services**	11	17	17	31
Group Respite	N/A	N/A	N/A	5
Hearing and check monaural	0	0	N/A	N/A
Homemaker service not otherwise specified per 15 minutes	N/A	7	*	N/A
In-home support services/direct billed HASCI (head and spinal cord injury) attend care	496	437	334	292
Incontinence supplies	765	704	679	601
Institutional respite	0	6	*	*
Nursing services	N/A	11	7	7
Nursing services-LPN (licensed practical nurses)	8	*	N/A	N/A
Nursing services-LPN (for clients under age 21)	173	92	N/A	N/A
Nursing services-RN (registered nurses)	*	6	N/A	N/A
Nursing services-RN (for clients under age 21)	49	30	N/A	N/A

Health Indicators

Service Type (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Occupational therapy	282	228	172	390
Occupational therapy evaluations	104	94	70	82
Office or other outpatient services	N/A	831	787	697
Otorhinolaryngologic	0	344	N/A	N/A
Personal care	7	6	N/A	N/A
Personal emergency response systems	*	*	N/A	*
Pest control bed bugs	5	*	*	*
Pest control treatment	183	198	218	250
Physical therapy	628	567	471	206
Physical therapy evaluations	157	139	126	109
Private vehicle modifications	*	5	*	*
Psychiatric residential treatment facility (comprehensive residential services)***	0	5	*	*
Residential habilitation-daily R02-R05	10	11	N/A	N/A
Respite care	1,072	701	1,101	1,136
Registered nurse services, up to 15 minutes	N/A	412	272	278
Specialized medical supplies, equipment, and assistive technology	0	45	285	35
Speech and hearing services	380	346	293	277
Support center services	0	0	N/A	N/A
Other	1,691	1,553	1,452	1,353
Total (Duplicated Count)	20,060	20,705	19,963	19,598

Note. A child may receive multiple services during a year, which could result in duplicate counts of services for the same child. Please be cautious when interpreting the data.

0<*<5; N/A: Data not available

*BabyNet is South Carolina's interagency early intervention system for infants and toddlers under three years of age with developmental delays, or who have conditions associated with developmental delays. BabyNet matches the special needs of infants and toddlers who have developmental delays with the professional resources available within the community. BabyNet is funded and regulated through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C, and managed through South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Early Intervention is a family-focused, in-home service for children from birth to age six. Family Training and Service Coordination are provided in accordance with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for children birth to three or a Family Service Plan (FSP) for children three to six years of age. In South Carolina, Medicaid funds services for children three to six who are OIDD and Medicaid eligible. OIDD covers services with state funds for children ages three to six who are OIDD eligible but not Medicaid eligible.

**Group care intensive services (GCIS) provides lodging, food, and the attentive and responsible care of children. GCIS are highly structured residential services with intensive staff supervision and programs for children who are experiencing relational or behavioral problems and are not able to function successfully in a less restrictive community environment. For OIDD clients, they are 100% state funded. The program must be operational 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year. The goal of GCIS is to assist children and address their needs to the degree they may be safely stepped down to a less restrictive environment. Intensive management refers to the level of supervision and intensity of programming required to manage children who present severe behavior management problems. Programming is tailored to the needs of the children served.

Health Indicators

***Psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTF) (comprehensive residential services) are licensed in-patient psychiatric treatment facilities available for those under age 21 who meet admissions criteria and are prior approved by the beneficiary's Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MCO) or DHHS for those who have fee for service Medicaid. Some PRTFs accept private payment and some private insurance plans. OIDD clients are 100% state funded. In order to access a PRTF, the individual must have a psychiatric diagnosis. A developmental diagnosis within itself is not sufficient. PRTFs are licensed and monitored by the South Carolina Department of Public Health. PRTFs are not considered a long-term placement and are designed to provide stabilization and facilitate discharge back to the community as soon as clinically feasible.

S.C. CHILDREN RECEIVING OIDD SERVICES BY COUNTY (DUPLICATED COUNT)

County	2022	2023	2024	2025
Abbeville	16	17	16	16
Aiken	335	358	395	370
Allendale	16	16	17	20
Anderson	427	433	410	395
Bamberg	11	26	25	24
Barnwell	49	52	49	36
Beaufort	170	157	170	165
Berkeley	360	373	405	398
Calhoun	21	21	17	15
Charleston	468	485	490	500
Cherokee	239	225	200	174
Chester	24	28	35	40
Chesterfield	42	32	43	46
Clarendon	48	39	32	36
Colleton	21	29	46	48
Darlington	135	134	134	131
Dillon	41	38	37	40
Dorchester	233	217	242	239
Edgefield	35	30	37	43
Fairfield	33	17	18	20
Florence	233	232	228	236
Georgetown	51	54	68	78
Greenville	1,137	1,132	1,099	1,181
Greenwood	120	123	101	85
Hampton	23	28	32	35
Horry	445	541	577	597
Jasper	26	38	36	36
Kershaw	127	124	119	124
Lancaster	126	131	130	128
Laurens	112	106	116	131
Lee	12	13	13	13
Lexington	739	754	696	778
Marion	53	42	41	64
Marlboro	39	45	44	35

Health Indicators

County (Continued)	2022	2023	2024	2025
McCormick	7	*	*	*
Newberry	58	59	54	62
Oconee	135	149	152	131
Orangeburg	100	116	112	157
Pickens	179	198	183	192
Richland	1,116	1,183	1,147	1,190
Saluda	37	36	31	33
Spartanburg	888	906	952	1,004
Sumter	153	149	142	149
Union	44	58	63	74
Williamsburg	38	41	32	38
York	526	539	579	539
Total (Duplicated Count)	9,248	9,524	9,565	9,846

Note. Children were counted in each county in which they resided during a calendar year. A child may reside in multiple counties during the year, which could result in duplicate counts of the same child. Please be cautious when interpreting the data. The total value for years 2023, 2024, and 2025 do not include the masked value (*).

0<*<5

DATA SOURCE

S.C. Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, unpublished report generated in March 2023, March 2024, February 2025, and February 2026. Data are by calendar years for children under age 18 unless otherwise specified.

Health Indicators

National Survey of Children's Health

Child and Family Health Measures	South Carolina			Nationwide		
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Children in excellent or very good health, ages 0-17	91.7% ±2.1%	91.9% ±2.2%	90.5% ±2.1%	89.9% ±0.5%	90.0% ±0.4%	89.9% ±0.4%
Children ever breastfed or fed breast milk, ages 0-5	73.5% ±5.3%	77.1% ±5.1%	77.7% ±4.6%	81.5% ±0.9%	82.0% ±0.8%	82.7% ±0.9%
Child overweight or obese (85th percentile or above), ages 6-17	38.2% ±4.4%	34.2% ±4.4%	35.5% ±3.7%	33.8% ±0.8%	32.2% ±0.8%	31.3% ±0.7%
Child had one or more mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral problems, ages 3-17	25.8% ±3.1%	27.5% ±3.4%	29.8% ±3.0%	24.5% ±0.6%	25.8% ±0.6%	26.4% ±0.6%
Child was not covered by health insurance or health coverage plans at time of survey, ages 0-17	7.1% ±2.4%	5.2% ±1.9%	6.0% ±1.7%	6.9% ±0.4%	6.6% ±0.4%	7.5% ±0.4%
Child received a vision screening from a provider other than an eye doctor ever (for children ages 0-5 years)/in the past 2 years (for children ages 6-17 years)	51.0% ±3.4%	53.6% ±3.5%	54.0% ±3.0%	53.7% ±0.7%	55.0% ±0.6%	55.9% ±0.6%
During the Past 12 Months:						
Children had oral health problems such as toothaches, bleeding gums, or decayed teeth or cavities, ages 1-17	14.6% ±2.8%	14.5% ±2.8%	14.4% ±2.5%	14.3% ±0.5%	14.1% ±0.5%	14.2% ±0.5%
Children saw a dentist or other oral health care provider for dental or oral health care, ages 1-17	81.1% ±2.7%	82.3% ±2.8%	82.9% ±2.5%	80.4% ±0.6%	82.6% ±0.5%	83.3% ±0.5%
Child received treatment or counseling from a mental health professional, ages 3-17	9.2% ±2.0%	9.3% ±2.1%	11.1% ±2.1%	11.6% ±0.5%	12.2% ±0.4%	12.5% ±0.4%
Family had problems paying for any of child's medical or health care bills, ages 0-17	9.0% ±1.9%	11.2% ±2.3%	12.7% ±2.1%	8.3% ±0.4%	9.2% ±0.4%	9.7% ±0.4%

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)	South Carolina			Nationwide		
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
No adverse childhood experiences	66.2% ±3.4%	59.0% ±3.5%	60.0% ±3.0%	69.4% ±0.6%	61.2% ±0.7%	61.4% ±0.6%
One adverse childhood experience	20.0% ±2.9%	24.0% ±3.2%	22.3% ±2.8%	18.6% ±0.6%	21.6% ±0.5%	21.5% ±0.5%
Two or more adverse childhood experiences	13.8% ±2.8%	17.0% ±3.0%	17.6% ±2.5%	12.0% ±0.4%	17.2% ±0.5%	17.1% ±0.5%
Categories of ACEs:						
Somewhat often hard or very often hard to get by on family income	12.2% ±4.2%	15.4% ±4.8%	16.3% ±3.8%	12.9% ±0.7%	14.1% ±0.7%	14.7% ±0.7%
Parent or guardian who got divorced or separated	24.9% ±3.2%	22.8% ±3.2%	20.8% ±2.7%	22.0% ±0.6%	21.6% ±0.5%	21.3% ±0.5%
Parent or guardian died	4.2% ±1.8%	3.9% ±1.7%	3.5% ±1.2%	3.0% ±0.2%	3.0% ±0.2%	3.2% ±0.3%
Parent or guardian served time in jail	8.8% ±2.5%	6.7% ±2.3%	5.9% ±1.8%	6.2% ±0.4%	6.0% ±0.3%	5.8% ±0.3%
Witnessed domestic violence	6.7% ±2.1%	5.4% ±2.0%	5.2% ±1.6%	5.1% ±0.3%	5.2% ±0.3%	4.6% ±0.3%

Health Indicators

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) (Continued)	South Carolina			Nationwide		
	2021- 2022	2022- 2023	2023- 2024	2021- 2022	2022- 2023	2023- 2024
Victim or witness of neighborhood violence	3.9% ±1.7%	3.5% ±2.0%	3.3% ±1.5%	3.6% ±0.3%	3.8% ±0.3%	3.8% ±0.3%
Lived with anyone who was mentally ill, suicidal, or severely depressed	7.9% ±2.2%	7.7% ±2.2%	8.1% ±1.8%	8.3% ±0.4%	8.6% ±0.4%	8.3% ±0.3%
Lived with anyone who had a problem with alcohol or drugs	8.1% ±2.0%	8.1% ±2.1%	8.4% ±1.9%	8.1% ±0.4%	8.2% ±0.3%	7.9% ±0.4%
Treated or judged unfairly because of their race or ethnic group	5.3% ±1.6%	4.9% ±1.6%	5.3% ±1.5%	4.4% ±0.3%	4.4% ±0.3%	4.6% ±0.3%
Treated or judged unfairly because of their health condition or disability, ages 6-17	N/A	2.5% ±1.2%	2.6% ±1.1%	N/A	2.8% ±0.2%	2.8% ±0.2%

Note. Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. The degree of uncertainty for an estimate arising from sampling variability is represented using a margin of error. The value shown here is the 95 percent margin of error. For example, 91% ±2% indicates 95 percent confidence that the true percentage of children under age 18 in South Carolina who have excellent or very good health is between 89% and 93%. “N/A” indicates the estimate is not applicable or not available. Some confidence intervals are asymmetrical; in these cases, the widest of the confidence interval bounds was used to estimate the margin of error.

DATA SOURCE

Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health, 2021-2022 (two years combined), 2022-2023 (two years combined), and 2023-2024 (two years combined). National Survey of Children's Health, South Carolina vs. Nationwide, <http://childhealthdata.org/browse/survey#> (last visited, February 9, 2026). Indicators included: Indicator 1.1: Health status; Indicator 1.3: Breastfed ever, age 0-5 years; Indicator 1.4a: Weight status (based on Body Mass Index [BMI]-for-age) in 3 categories, age 6-17 years; Indicator 2.10: Mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral problems, age 3-17 years; Indicator 3.1: Current health insurance status; Indicator 4.6b: Received a vision screening from a provider other than eye doctor; Indicator 1.2a: Oral health problems, age 1-17 years; Indicator 4.2: Dentist visit, age 1-17 years; Indicator 4.4: Received mental health care, age 3-17 years; Indicator 4.19: Problems paying medical bills; Indicator 6.13: Children experienced one or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) from a list of 10 ACEs. The National Survey of Children's Health provides rich data on multiple, intersecting aspects of children's lives—including physical and mental health, access to quality health care, and the child's family, neighborhood, school, and social context. The survey is funded and directed by the Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. A revised version of the survey was conducted as a mail and web-based survey by the Census Bureau in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Juvenile Justice Indicators

Juvenile Justice

S.C. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES



12,305 juvenile delinquency cases were referred to the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in 2025, **1,193** or **9% decrease** from 2024.

1,471 cases were referred with a status offense as the most serious offense in 2025, **295** or **17% decrease** from 2024.

634 cases were referred with a violent offense in 2025, the same number as in 2024.

1,332 community based services (i.e., camps) were provided to youth by DJJ in 2025, **9** or **1% increase** from 2024.

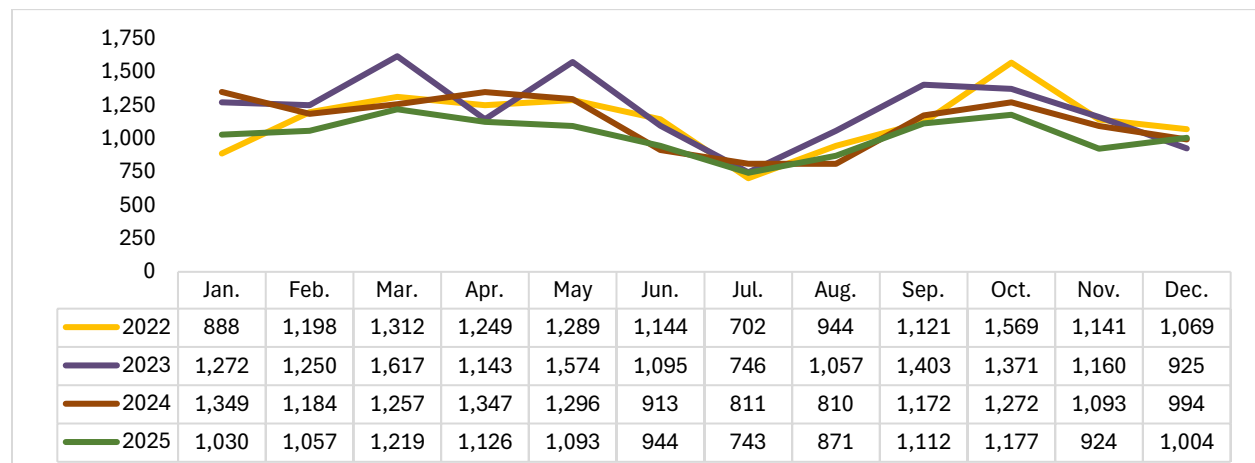
2,588 juvenile detentions occurred in 2025, **143** or **6% increase** from 2024.

1,030 juvenile commitments occurred in 2025, **34** or **3% increase** from 2024.

S.C. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

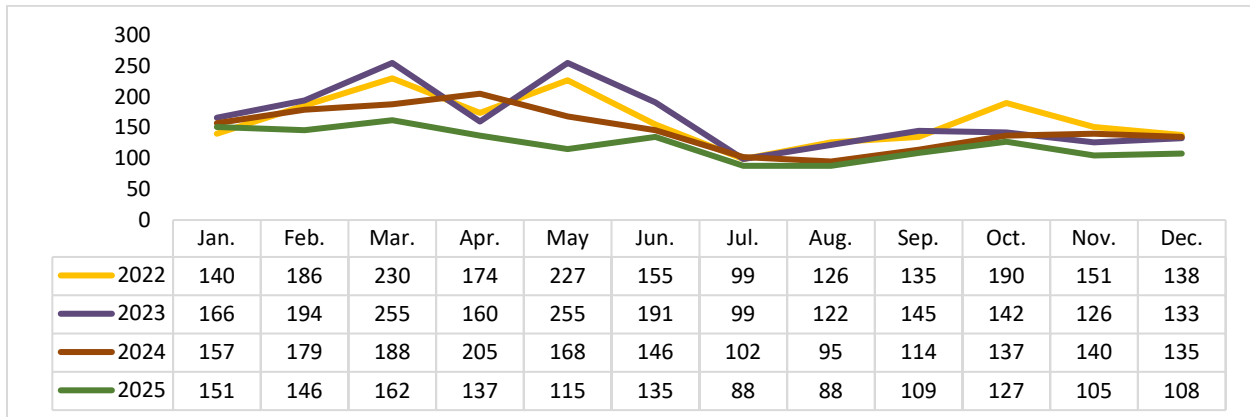
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Number of juvenile delinquency cases referred to DJJ	13,607	14,563	13,498	12,305	-1,193 (-9%)	-2,258 (-16%)	-1,302 (-10%)
Number of cases referred with a status offense as the most serious offense	1,951	1,988	1,766	1,471	-295 (-17%)	-517 (-26%)	-480 (-25%)
Number of cases referred with a violent offense	610	650	634	634	0 (0%)	-16 (-2%)	+24 (+4%)
Number of community based services (camps) provided by DJJ	1,391	1,509	1,323	1,332	+9 (+1%)	-177 (-12%)	-59 (-4%)
Number of juvenile detentions	2,151	2,440	2,445	2,588	+143 (+6%)	+148 (+6%)	+437 (+20%)
Number of juvenile commitments	1,059	1,199	996	1,030	+34 (+3%)	-169 (-14%)	-29 (-3%)

S.C. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES REFERRED TO DJJ BY MONTH

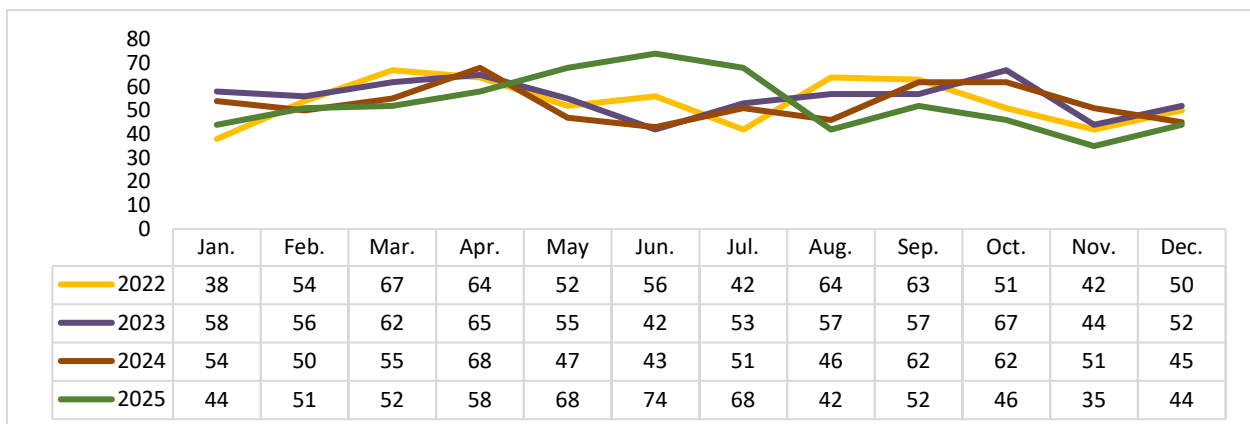


Juvenile Justice Indicators

S.C. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES REFERRED TO DJJ WITH A STATUS OFFENSE AS MOST SERIOUS OFFENSE BY MONTH

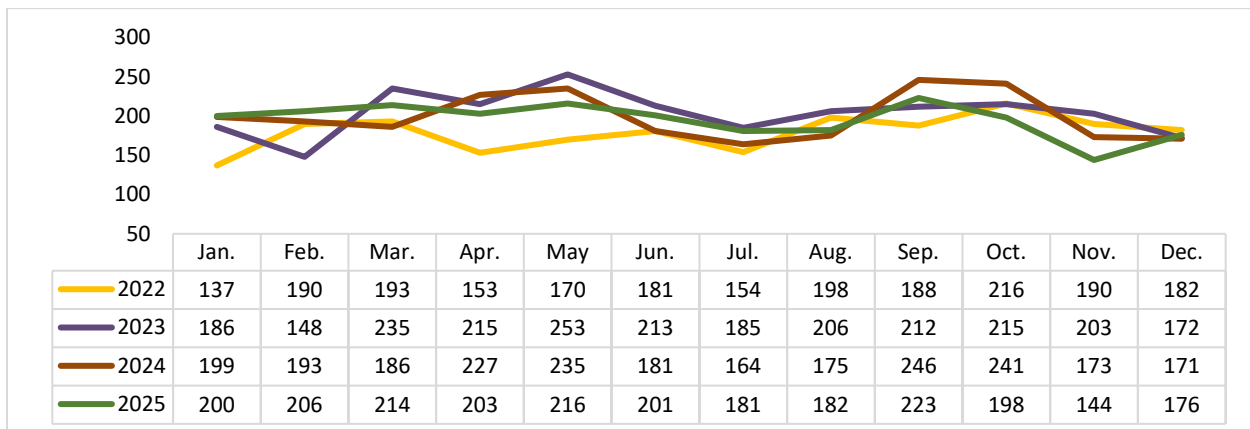


S.C. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES REFERRED TO DJJ WITH A VIOLENT OFFENSE BY MONTH



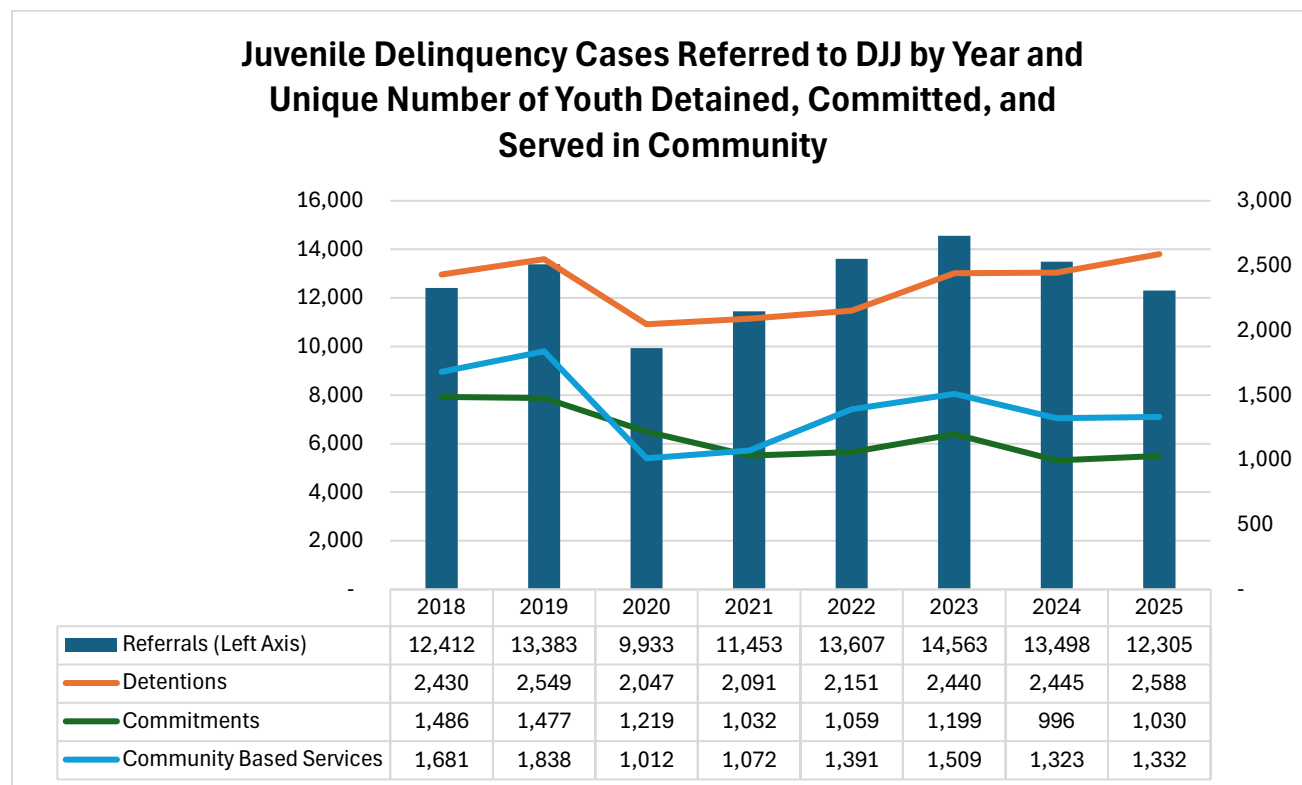
Note. Data differed from previous reporting due to the change of definition on this data point to align with SC Code of Laws Section 16-1-60. Only violent charges are reported here, not violent and serious charges.

S.C. JUVENILE DETENTIONS BY MONTH



Juvenile Justice Indicators

S.C. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES REFERRED TO DJJ BY YEAR AND UNIQUE NUMBER OF YOUTH DETAINED, COMMITTED, AND SERVED IN COMMUNITY



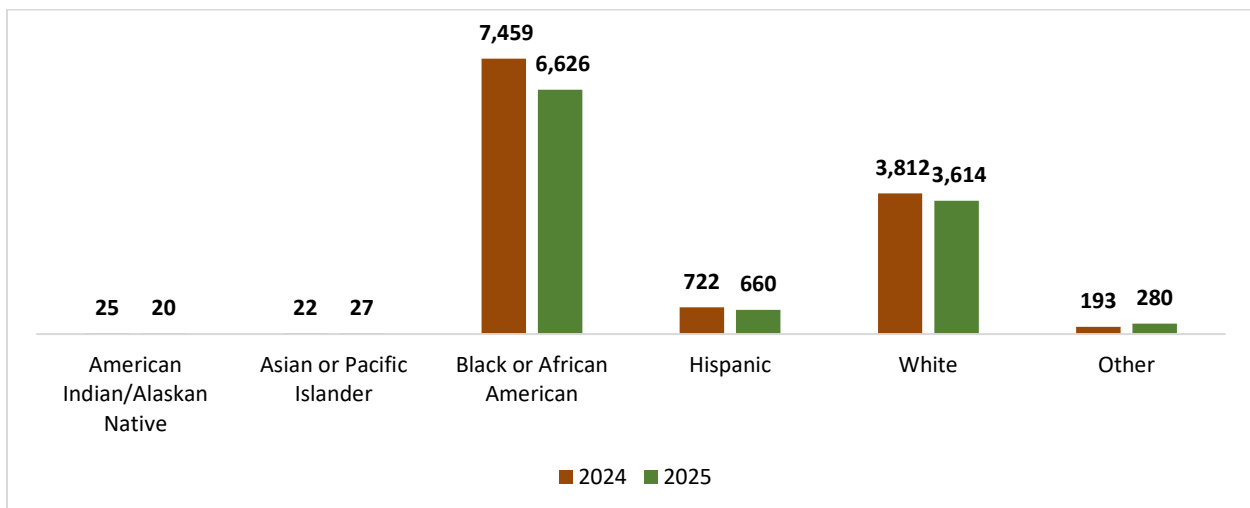
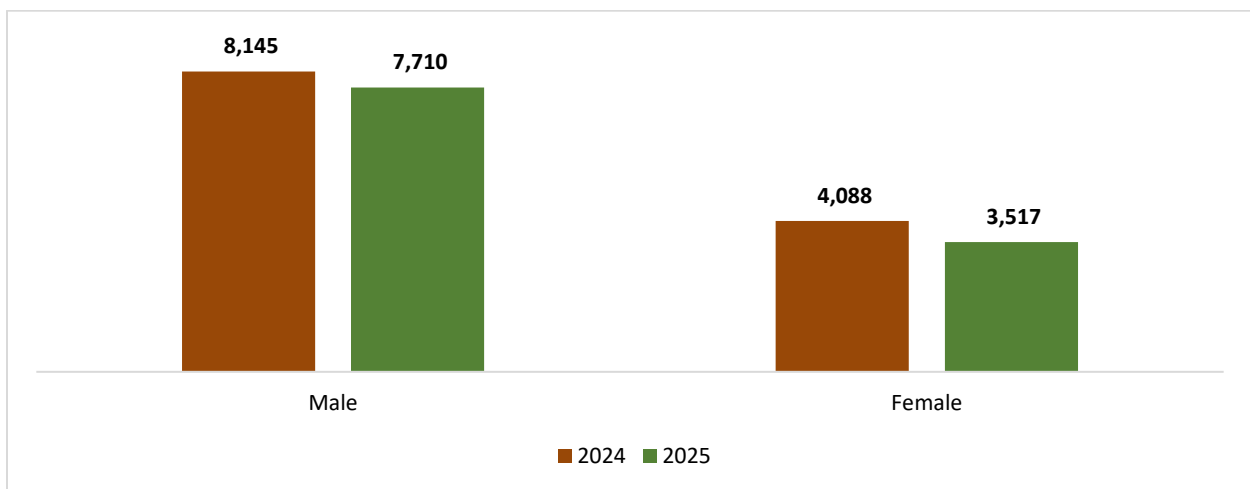
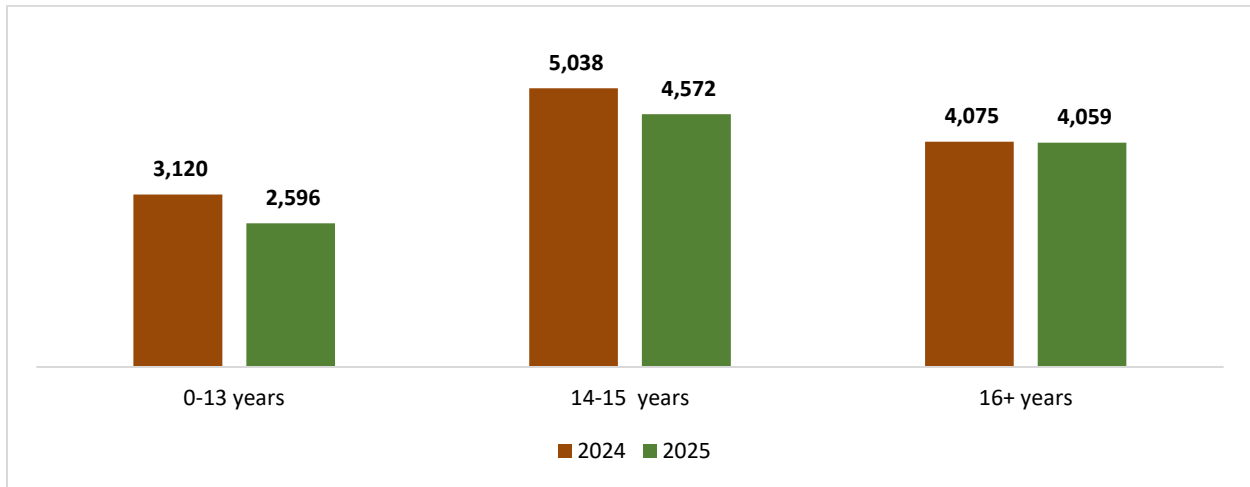
S.C. YOUTH Dually Served by DSS and DJJ: COMPARING 2025 TO 2024, 2023, AND 2022 DATA

	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Youth served by DSS	6,762	6,528	6,129	5,927	-202 (-3%)	-601 (-9%)	-835 (-12%)
Youth dually served by DSS and DJJ	552	547	501	404	-97 (-19%)	-143 (-26%)	-148 (-27%)
Males	297	292	266	216	-50 (-19%)	-76 (-26%)	-81 (-27%)
Females	255	255	235	188	-47 (-20%)	-67 (-26%)	-67 (-26%)
Percent of Youth Dually Served	8%	8%	8%	7%	-1%	-1%	-1%

Note. Any youth in both agencies at the same time is counted.

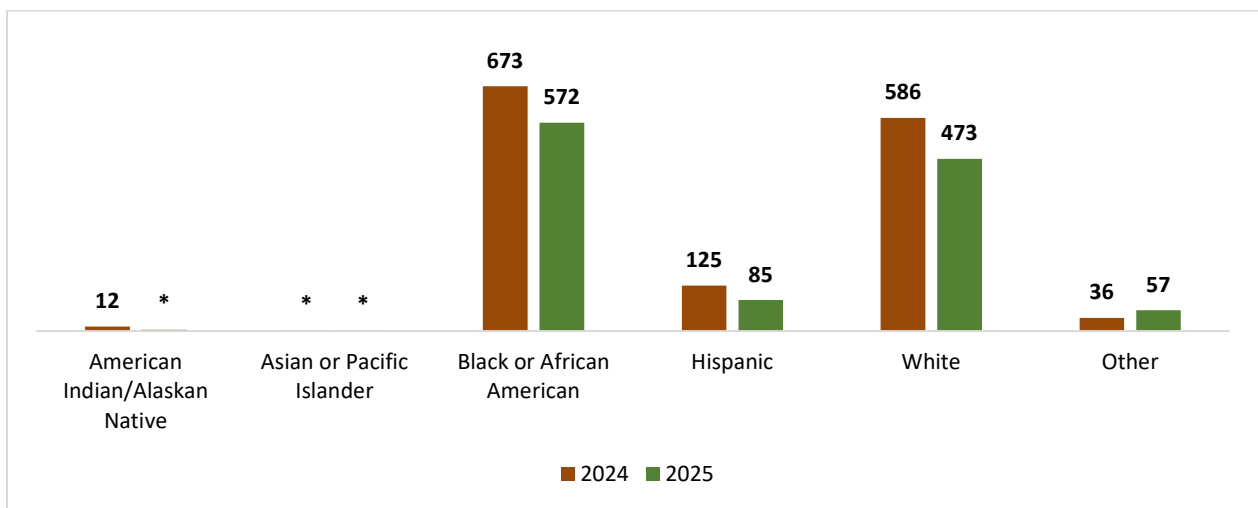
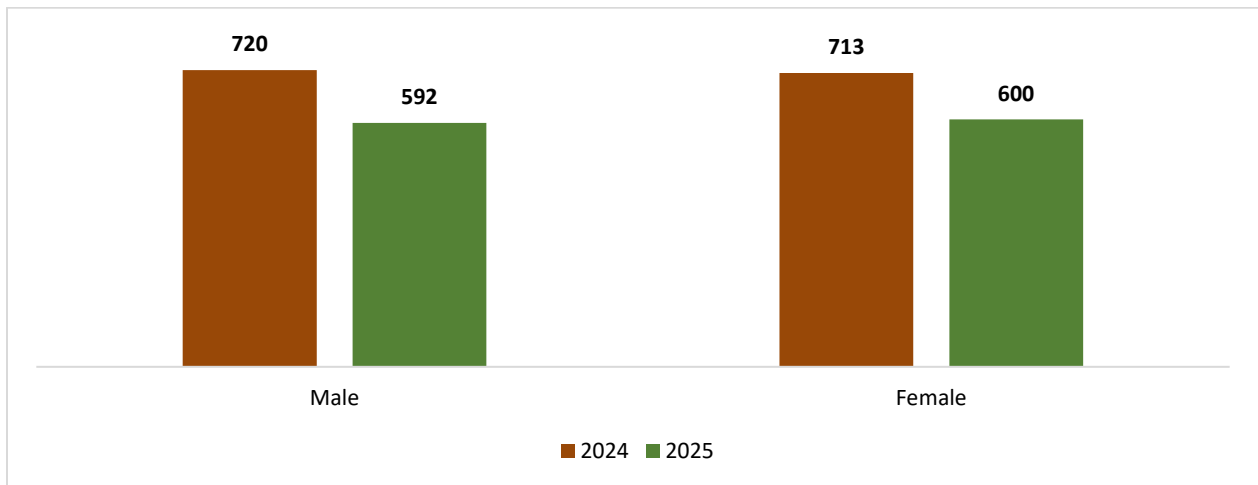
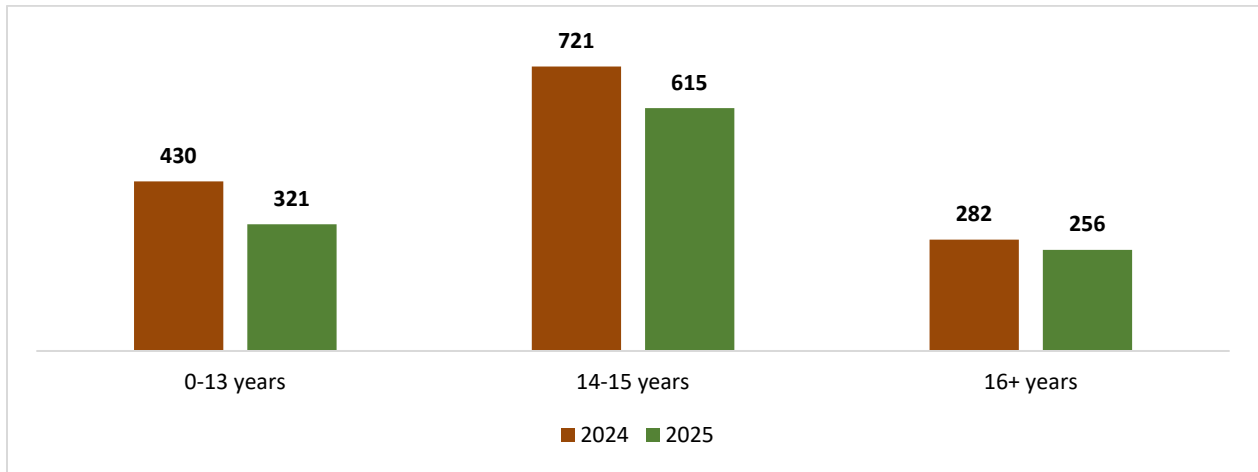
Juvenile Justice Indicators

S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) INVOLVED IN DELINQUENCY CASES REFERRED TO DJJ BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



Juvenile Justice Indicators

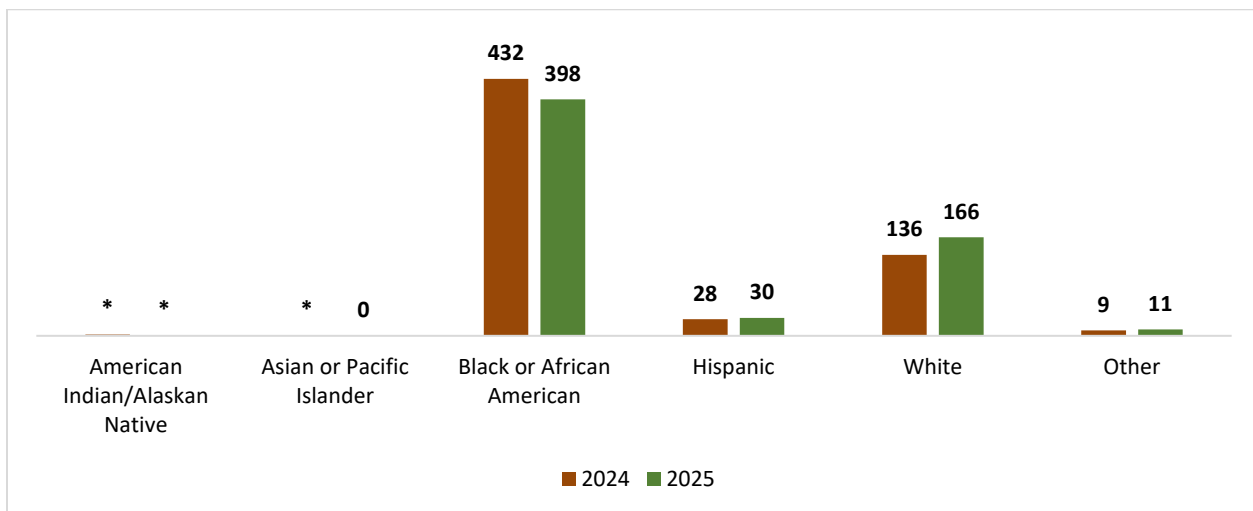
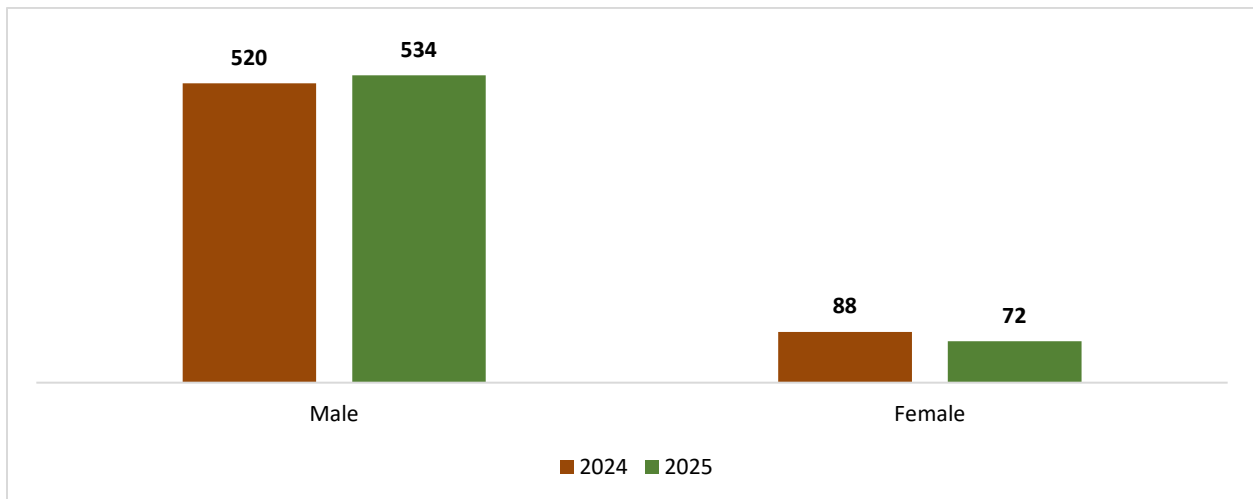
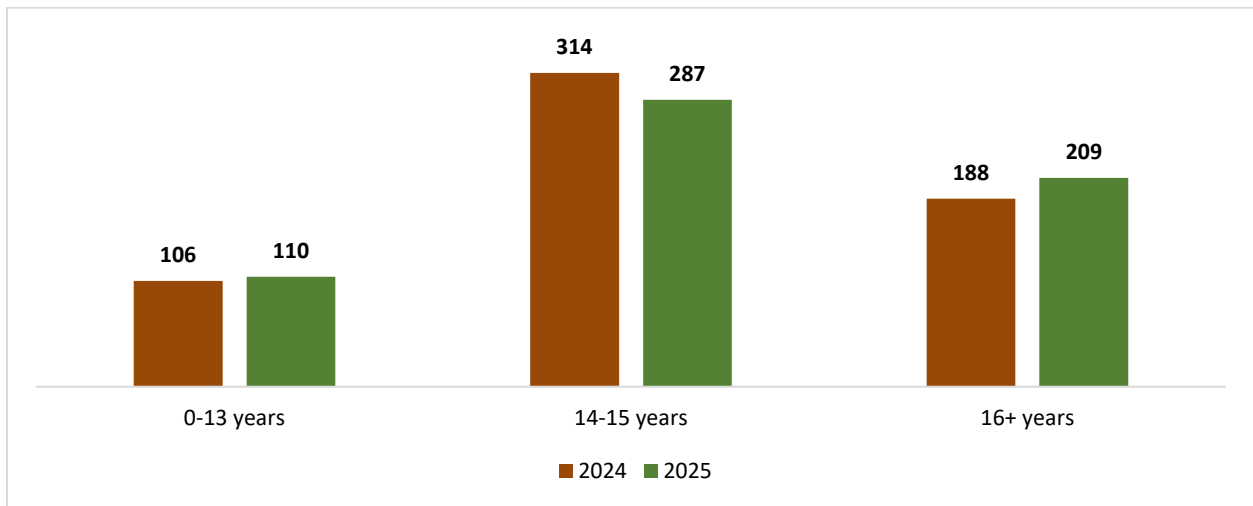
S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) INVOLVED IN STATUS OFFENSES (AS THE MOST SERIOUS CHARGE) BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



0<*<5

Juvenile Justice Indicators

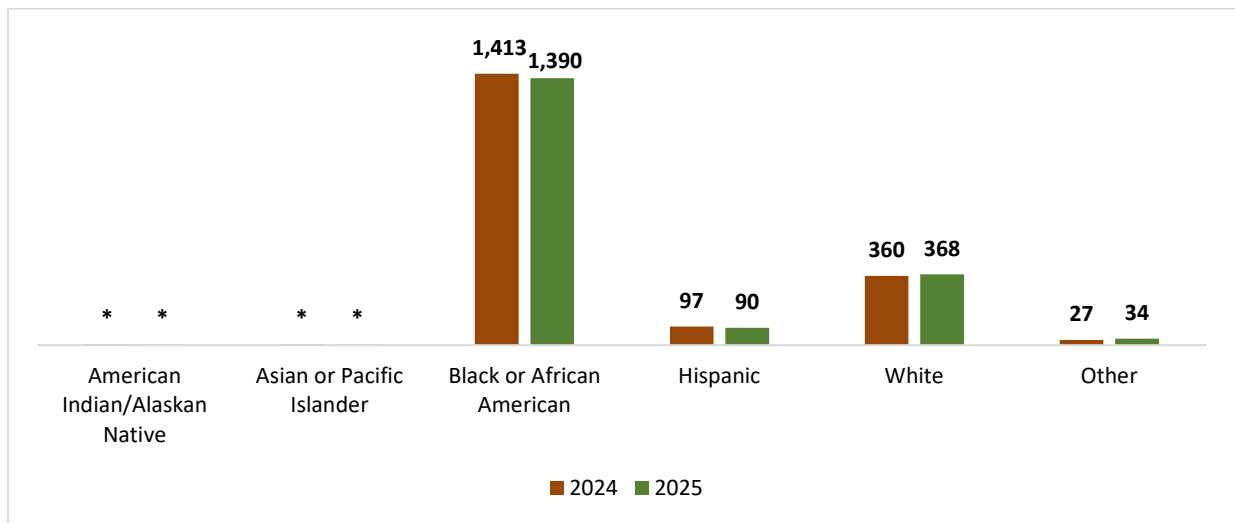
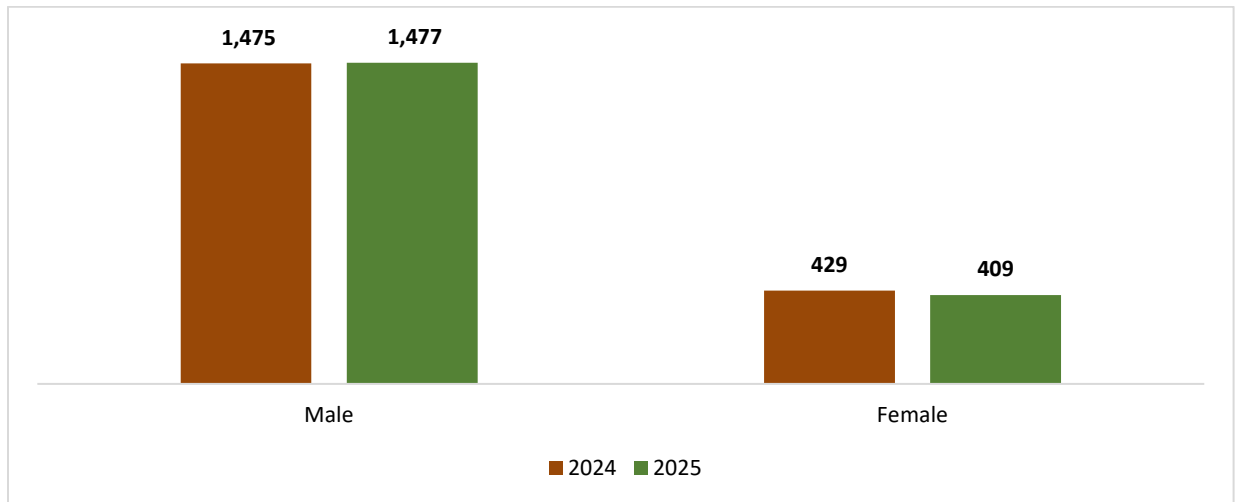
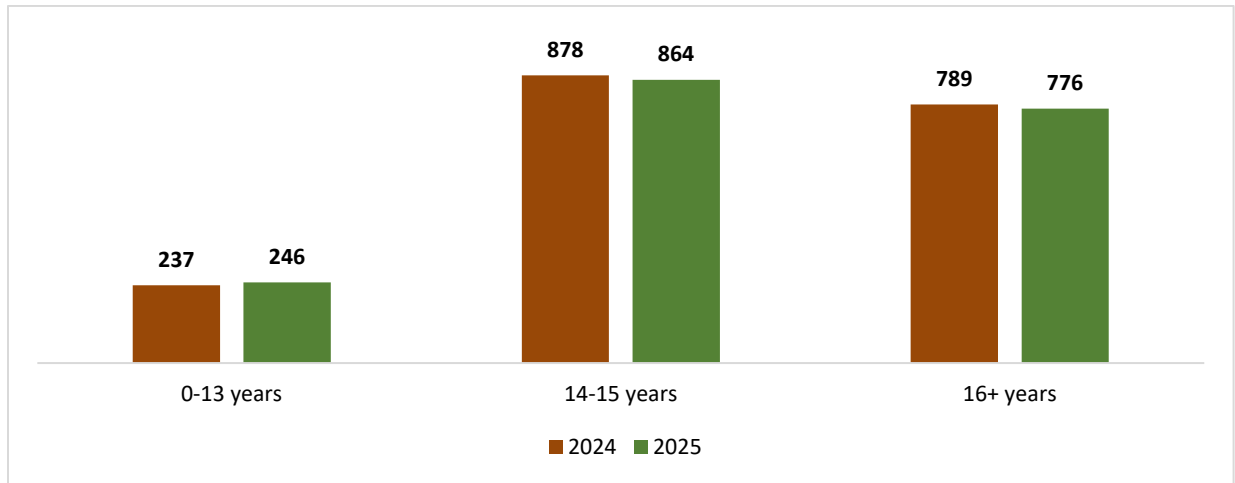
S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) INVOLVED IN VIOLENT OFFENSES BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



0<*<5

Juvenile Justice Indicators

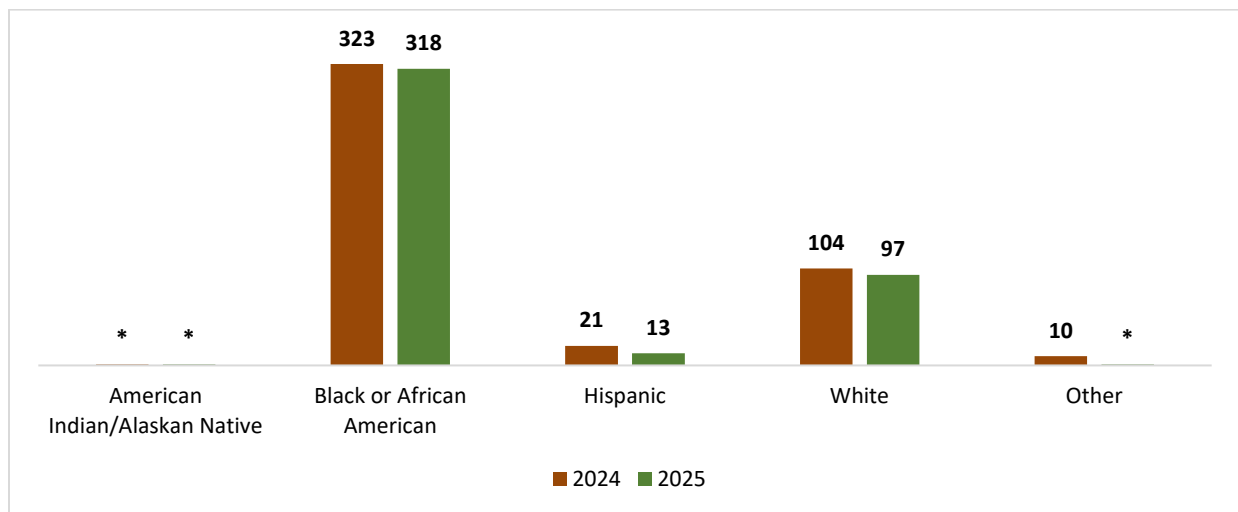
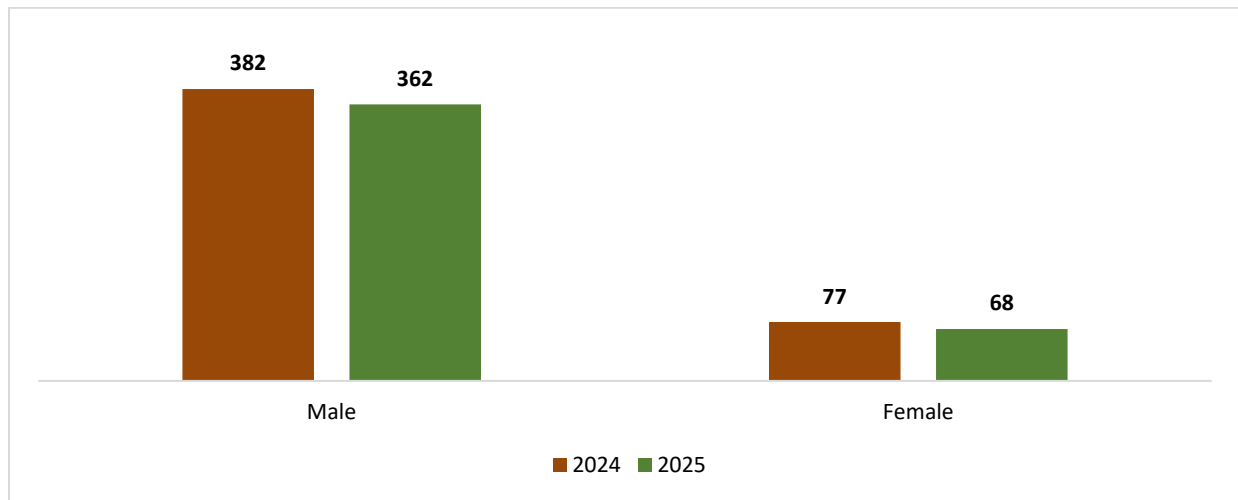
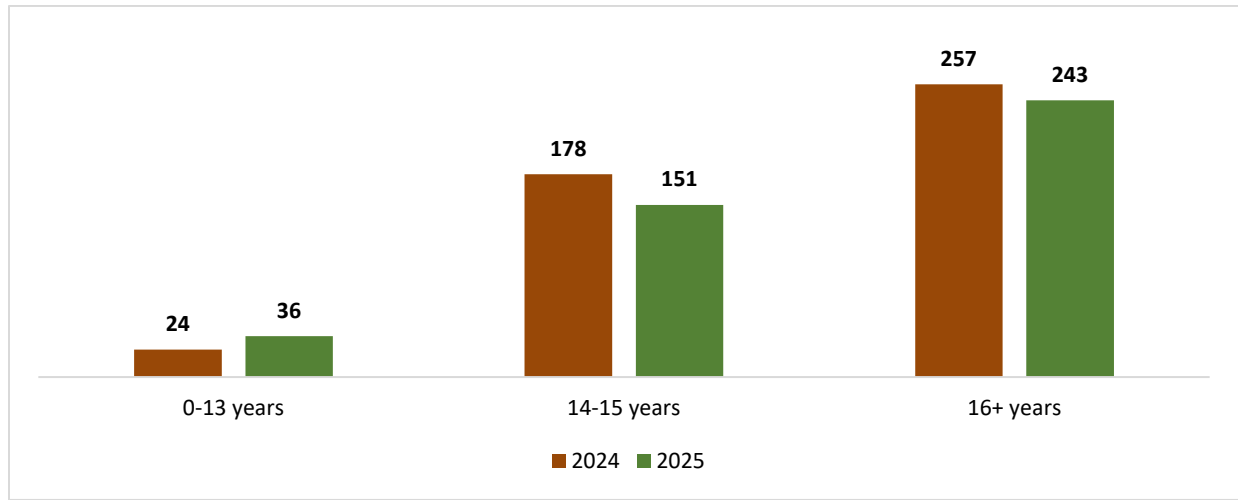
S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) DETAINED BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



0<*<5

Juvenile Justice Indicators

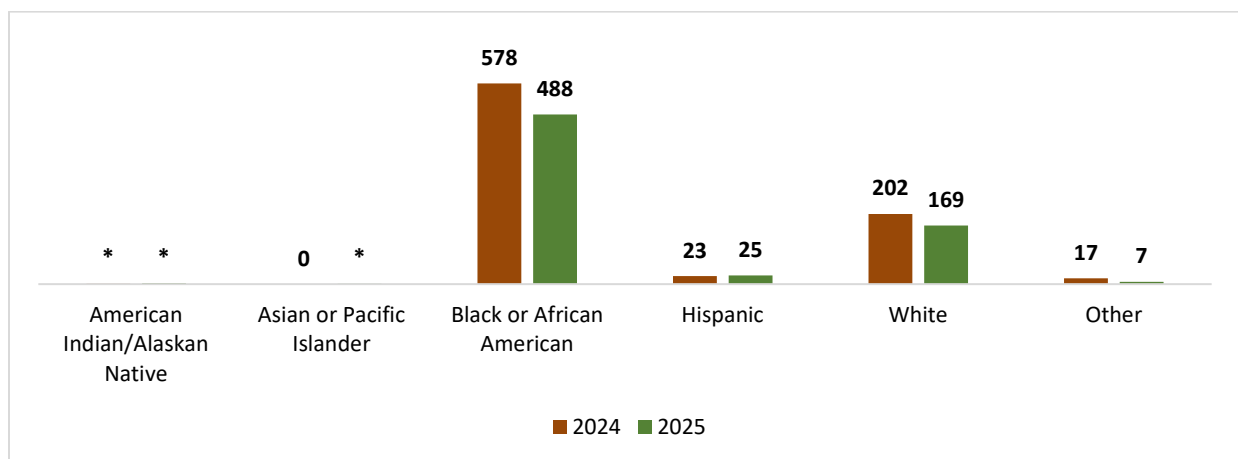
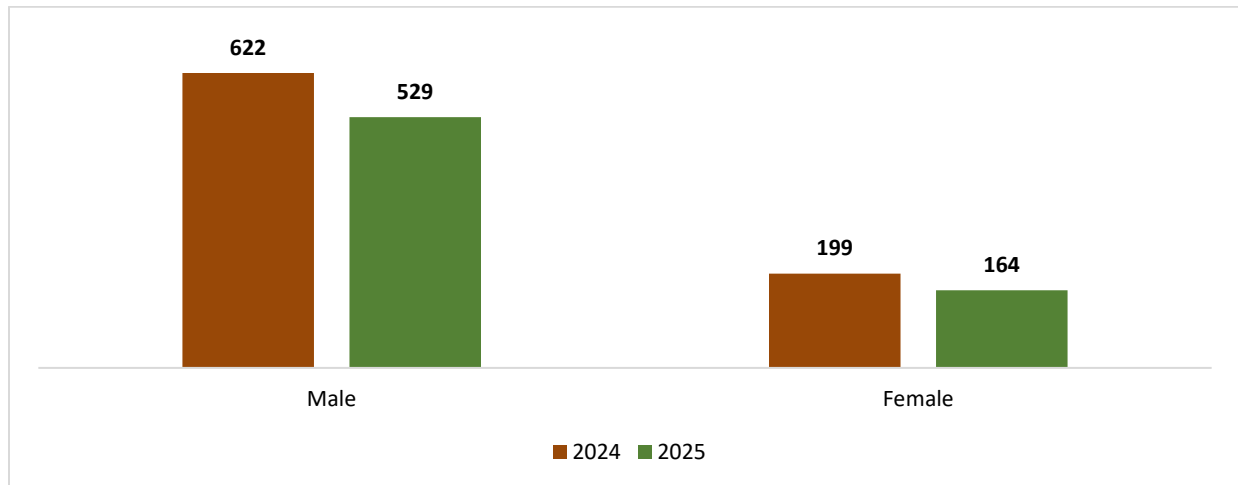
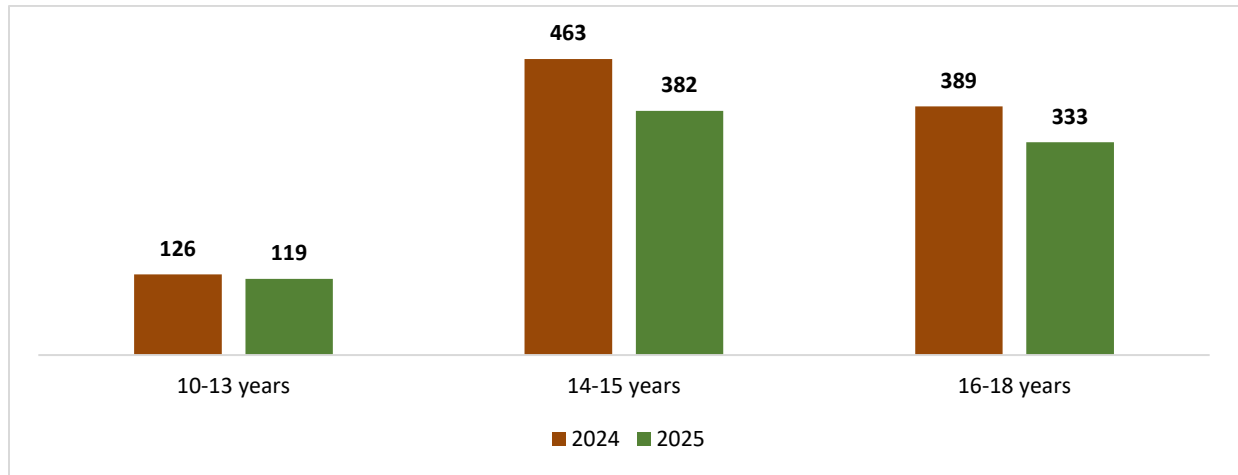
S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) COMMITTED BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



0<*<5

Juvenile Justice Indicators

S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) WHO RECIDIVATED BY AGE GROUP, SEX, AND RACE



Note. Recidivism is defined by DJJ as when a youth commits a new criminal offense after completing or while participating in a prior program (such as Arbitration, Probation, Commitment, or other court ordered sanctions), and that new offense results in an adjudication (found guilty) within one year. 0<*<5.

Juvenile Justice Indicators

S.C. TOP 10 JUVENILE DETENTION OFFENSES

2022 Offense or Order (Number of Detentions)	2023 Offense or Order (Number of Detentions)	2024 Offense or Order (Number of Detentions)	2025 Offense or Order (Number of Detentions)
Assault: Assault & Battery 3rd degree (n=198)	Assault: Assault & Battery 3rd degree (n=261)	Assault: Assault & Battery 3rd degree (n=342)	Assault: Assault & Battery 3rd degree (n=289)
Burglary: Burglary (After June 20, 1985) - First degree (n=163)	Larceny: Breaking into motor vehicle or tanks, pumps, where fuel, lubricants stored (n=246)	Larceny: Breaking into motor vehicle or tanks, pumps, where fuel, lubricants stored (n=245)	Burglary: Burglary (Non-Violent) - Second degree (n=238)
Murder: Attempted Murder (n=148)	Larceny: Grand Larceny, value \$10,000 or more (n=169)	Larceny: Grand Larceny, value \$10,000 or more (n=134)	Contempt: Contempt of Court by Child (Criminal) (n=179)
Murder: Murder (n=130)	Murder: Attempted Murder (n=126)	Murder: Attempted Murder (n=110)	Larceny: Grand Larceny, value \$10,000 or more (n=156)
Pickup Order (n=99)	Pickup Order (n=115)	Pickup Order (n=78)	Murder: Attempted Murder (n=107)
Robbery: Armed Robbery, robbery while armed or allegedly armed with a deadly weapon (n=92)	Robbery: Armed Robbery, robbery while armed or allegedly armed with a deadly weapon (n=79)	Robbery: Armed Robbery, robbery while armed or allegedly armed with a deadly weapon (n=74)	Murder: Murder (n=105)
Status: Runaway (n=57)	Status: Runaway (n=79)	Status: Runaway (n=67)	Pickup Order (n=67)
Weapons: Carrying weapons on school property (n=48)	Vehicle: Possess, conceal, sell, or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 or more (n=63)	Vehicle: Possess, conceal, sell, or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 or more (n=65)	Status: Runaway (n=63)
Weapons: Sale or delivery of pistol to, and possession by, certain persons unlawful; stolen pistol (n=48)	Weapons: Sale or delivery of pistol to, and possession by, certain persons unlawful; stolen pistol (n=60)	Weapons: Sale or delivery of pistol to, and possession by, certain persons unlawful; stolen pistol (n=60)	Vehicle: Possess, conceal, sell, or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 or more (n=60)
Weapons: Unlawful carrying of pistol (n=47)	Weapons: Unlawful carrying of pistol (n=51)	Weapons: Unlawful carrying of pistol (n=60)	Weapons: Sale or delivery of pistol to, and possession by, certain persons unlawful; stolen pistol (n=54)

Juvenile Justice Indicators

S.C. YOUTH (UNIQUE COUNT) INVOLVED IN DELINQUENCY CASES REFERRED TO DJJ BY COUNTY

County	2024 Total Youth Referred	2025 Total Youth Referred	2024 Youth Referred for Status Offenses	2025 Youth Referred for Status Offenses	2024 Youth Referred for Violent Offenses	2025 Youth Referred for Violent Offenses	2024 Youth Detained	2025 Youth Detained	2024 Youth Committed	2025 Youth Committed	2024 Youth Who Recidivated	2025 Youth Who Recidivated
Abbeville	30	44	*	5	*	6	*	7	*	*	5	*
Aiken	324	339	12	5	18	14	30	23	12	11	16	21
Allendale	49	38	*	0	5	*	12	15	*	0	0	0
Anderson	353	329	44	48	17	21	60	49	21	16	25	22
Bamberg	21	8	0	0	*	0	*	*	*	*	0	*
Barnwell	36	32	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Beaufort	404	313	73	66	31	12	40	43	11	7	5	6
Berkeley	777	800	108	137	24	29	99	106	11	11	36	32
Calhoun	23	31	*	6	*	*	*	*	0	0	0	0
Charleston	835	806	63	76	41	35	264	233	30	21	83	67
Cherokee	82	64	12	*	7	8	26	22	6	*	5	6
Chester	47	57	*	*	13	7	23	19	7	*	*	*
Chesterfield	79	104	13	9	9	13	14	20	*	*	10	6
Clarendon	56	59	0	0	*	0	*	*	0	0	0	*
Colleton	112	44	*	0	9	*	14	10	*	0	*	0
Darlington	259	224	41	13	*	23	35	27	6	15	35	28
Dillon	133	85	50	36	7	*	23	13	11	17	36	23
Dorchester	537	329	134	86	14	9	38	30	20	17	30	34
Edgefield	23	19	6	*	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fairfield	23	18	*	5	0	*	*	7	*	*	*	*
Florence	439	351	16	12	34	24	64	71	7	6	14	8
Georgetown	219	199	6	19	*	*	11	13	5	0	13	11
Greenville	1,274	1,264	79	48	48	71	175	193	32	20	50	29
Greenwood	324	276	42	44	14	8	23	29	26	21	36	31
Hampton	42	26	0	*	0	*	*	12	*	0	*	0
Horry	1,264	1,131	284	170	41	35	107	110	31	38	72	62

Juvenile Justice Indicators

County (Continued)	2024 Total Youth Referred	2025 Total Youth Referred	2024 Youth Referred for Status Offenses	2025 Youth Referred for Status Offenses	2024 Youth Referred for Violent Offenses	2025 Youth Referred for Violent Offenses	2024 Youth Detained	2025 Youth Detained	2024 Youth Committed	2025 Youth Committed	2024 Youth Who Recidivated	2025 Youth Who Recidivated
Jasper	61	54	9	9	*	*	17	13	*	0	*	0
Kershaw	63	45	7	*	*	*	8	*	*	*	6	*
Lancaster	315	316	*	*	10	33	16	27	11	6	10	14
Laurens	161	196	12	21	14	14	30	36	8	5	8	12
Lee	6	14	0	0	0	2	*	*	0	0	0	0
Lexington	438	356	37	36	18	16	43	52	18	24	27	21
Marion	108	81	9	7	*	7	8	12	*	0	*	5
Marlboro	117	83	46	19	7	*	13	8	*	7	21	11
McCormick	17	11	*	*	0	*	5	5	0	*	*	*
Newberry	74	74	*	*	*	*	10	9	*	*	*	5
Oconee	138	155	26	18	13	12	24	25	*	*	5	5
Orangeburg	220	202	36	40	10	10	46	45	10	14	22	18
Pickens	287	270	20	31	6	16	11	11	*	*	18	14
Richland	893	743	46	50	92	60	315	305	45	54	77	67
Saluda	10	12	*	*	0	*	*	*	0	*	0	0
Spartanburg	363	441	20	23	21	32	100	105	10	18	30	37
Sumter	218	266	23	10	27	29	58	66	7	13	21	13
Union	225	221	49	50	8	*	21	21	14	9	35	20
Williamsburg	85	64	*	*	8	5	18	7	*	0	*	0
York	669	633	78	66	16	20	78	68	55	46	84	83
Total	12,233	11,227	1,433	1,192	608	606	1,904	1,886	459	430	861	735

Note. Recidivism is defined by DJJ as when a youth commits a new criminal offense after completing or while participating in a prior program (such as Arbitration, Probation, Commitment, or other court ordered sanctions), and that new offense results in an adjudication (found guilty) within one year. 0<*<5.

DATA SOURCE

S.C. Department of Juvenile Justice, unpublished reports generated in March 2023, March 2024, February 2025, and March 2026. Data are not comparable to previous data book reporting due to data updates provided by DJJ in 2026.

Education Indicators

Education

S.C. SCHOOL HEADCOUNTS



789,086 students were enrolled in South Carolina public school districts in the 2025-2026 school year (45-day headcount), **7,694** or **1.0% decrease** from 2024-2025:

- **26,904** or **3.4%** of students enrolled in child development programs (PK) in 2025-2026.
- **52,969** or **6.7%** of students enrolled in kindergarten (5-year-old) in 2025-2026.
- **170,898** or **21.7%** of students enrolled in Grades 1-3 in 2025-2026.
- **296,382** or **37.6%** of students enrolled in Grades 4-8 in 2025-2026.
- **241,933** or **30.7%** of students enrolled in Grades 9-12 in 2025-2026.

47,295 teachers were in South Carolina public school districts in the 2024-2025 school year, **609** or **1% increase** from 2023-2024.

41,421 students were enrolled in South Carolina private schools in the 2024-2025 school year, **833** or **2% decrease** from 2023-2024.

5,437 teachers were in South Carolina private schools in the 2024-2025 school year, **696** or **15% increase** from 2023-2024.

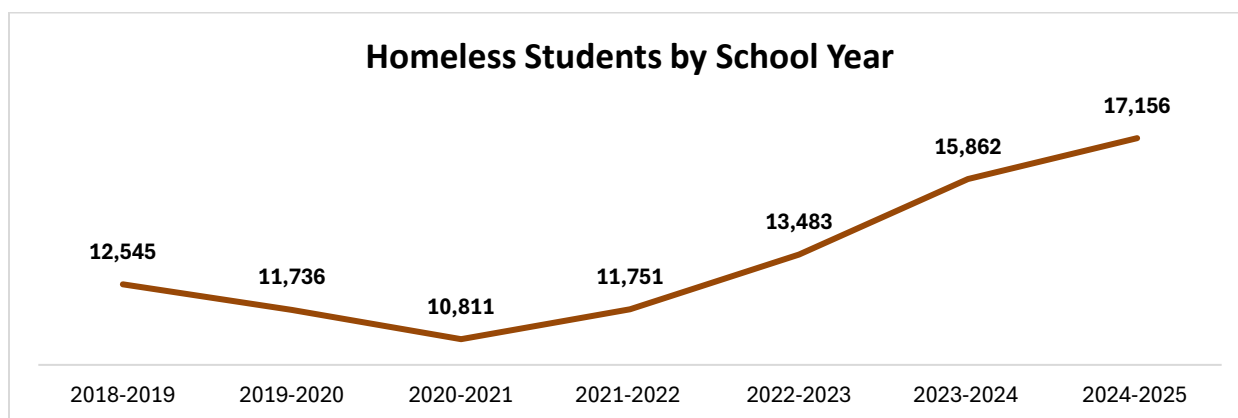
	2022- 2023 School Year	2023- 2024 School Year	2024- 2025 School Year	2025- 2026 School Year	Compared 2025-2026 to 2024-2025 School Year	Compared 2025-2026 to 2023-2024 School Year	Compared 2025-2026 to 2022-2023 School Year
Students enrolled in public school districts	789,231	793,860	796,780	789,086	-7,694 (-1%)	-4,774 (-1%)	-145 (-0.0%)
PK	26,944	27,463	26,926	26,904	-22 (-0.1%)	-559 (-2%)	-40 (-0.1%)
Kindergarten	54,526	54,402	54,278	52,969	-1,309 (-2%)	-1,433 (-3%)	-1,557 (-3%)
Grades 1-3	171,428	172,418	173,394	170,898	-2,496 (-1%)	-1,520 (-1%)	-530 (-0.3%)
Grades 4-8	295,870	294,942	296,578	296,382	-196 (-0.1%)	+1,440 (+0.5%)	+512 (+0.2%)
Grades 9-12	240,463	244,635	245,604	241,933	-3,671 (-1%)	-2,702 (-1%)	+1,470 (+0.6%)
	2021- 2022 School Year	2022- 2023 School Year	2023- 2024 School Year	2024- 2025 School Year	Compared 2024-2025 to 2023-2024 School Year	Compared 2024-2025 to 2022-2023 School Year	Compared 2024-2025 to 2021-2022 School Year
Teachers in public school districts	53,306	49,892	46,686	47,295	+609 (+1%)	-2,597 (-5%)	-6,011 (-11%)
Students enrolled in private schools	37,258	49,016	42,254	41,421	-833 (-2%)	-7,595 (-15%)	+4,163 (+11.2%)
Teachers in private schools	3,981	5,403	4,741	5,437	+696 (+15%)	+34 (+1%)	+1,456 (+36.6%)

Education Indicators

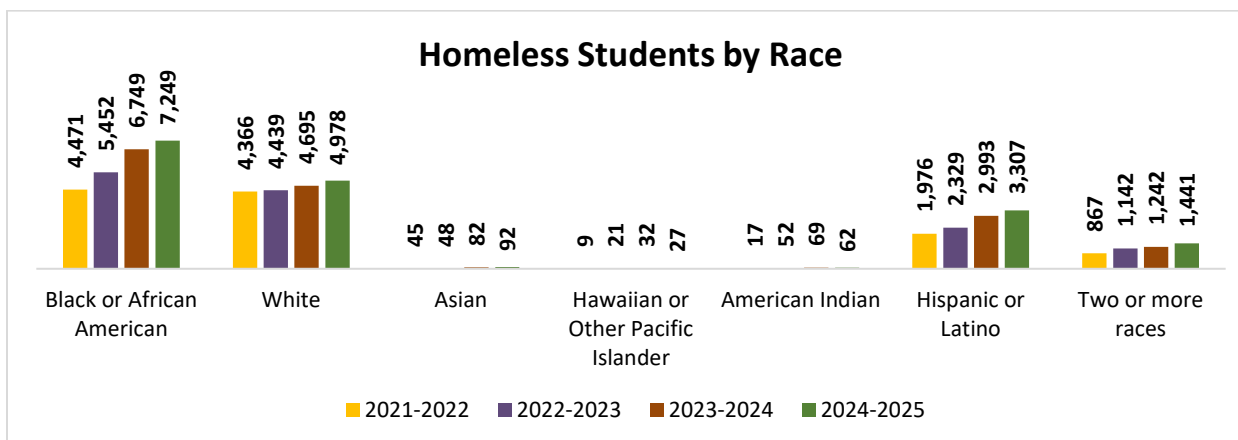
S.C. HOMELESS STUDENTS



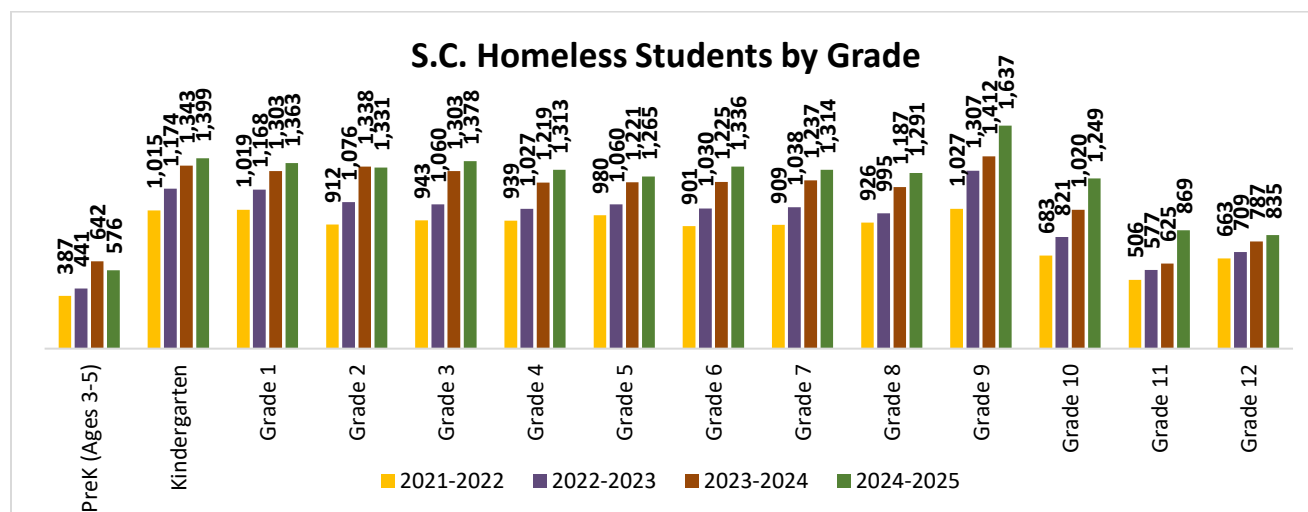
17,156 students enrolled in a South Carolina public school district during the 2024-2025 school year were identified as homeless, **1,294** or **8% increase** from 2023-2024, **3,673** or **27% increase** from 2022-2023, **5,405** or **46% increase** from 2021-2022, and **6,345** or **59% increase** from 2020-2021.



Note. The state educational agency (SEA) level McKinney-Vento student data are the unduplicated number of identified homeless students enrolled in public schools at any time during the school year. All students are counted only once. The Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as homeless. This includes students who: share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as “doubled-up”); live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; live in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; live in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing (e.g., housing that lacks any one of the fundamental utilities, does not have a working kitchen or plumbing, is overcrowded, or infested), bus or train stations, or similar settings; migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above; and unaccompanied youth who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above. Students whose living situations meet this definition have educational rights and are eligible to receive services under the McKinney-Vento Act.



Education Indicators



S.C. HOMELESS STUDENTS BY COUNTY

County	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	County	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Abbeville	46	58	76	99	Greenwood	329	278	247	202
Aiken	216	322	321	354	Hampton	90	144	136	108
Allendale	5	*	24	14	Horry	261	427	417	459
Anderson	749	791	855	965	Jasper	6	49	102	76
Bamberg	*	10	33	50	Kershaw	12	38	54	94
Barnwell	22	8	6	29	Lancaster	35	37	96	141
Beaufort	277	438	335	273	Laurens	80	89	115	237
Berkeley	315	461	551	749	Lee	18	26	8	*
Calhoun	24	26	59	15	Lexington	794	618	998	938
Charleston	311	414	547	564	McCormick	28	23	18	34
Cherokee	78	83	69	105	Marion	14	*	18	23
Chester	25	19	16	18	Marlboro	13	50	73	65
Chesterfield	111	112	127	108	Newberry	52	109	119	171
Clarendon	12	12	120	117	Oconee	91	142	170	180
Colleton	123	98	147	101	Orangeburg	37	56	271	336
Darlington	150	113	142	122	Pickens	2,913	2,679	2,631	2,604
Dillon	*	26	45	34	Richland	918	1,070	1,362	1,303
Dorchester	104	200	253	223	Saluda	26	41	29	32
Edgefield	19	31	54	59	Spartanburg	1,001	1,080	1,424	1,570
Fairfield	190	96	146	132	Sumter	130	156	165	128
Florence	173	371	408	442	Union	35	20	36	25
Georgetown	10	15	32	82	Williamsburg	19	*	26	26
Greenville	1,417	1,610	2,087	2,173	York	363	610	884	969

Note. The number of homeless students identified in the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties (n=213) was included in the numbers of both Lexington and Richland counties in the table. 0<*=5.

Education Indicators

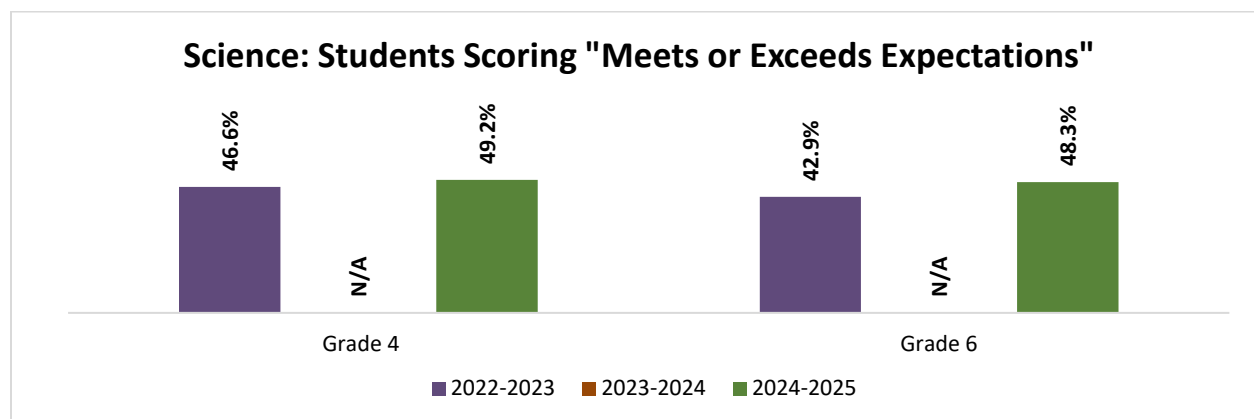
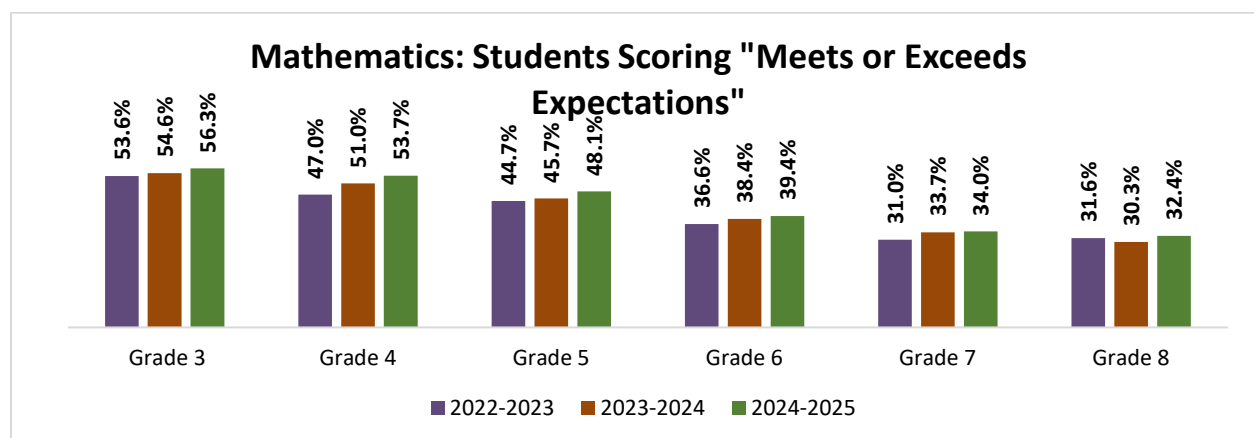
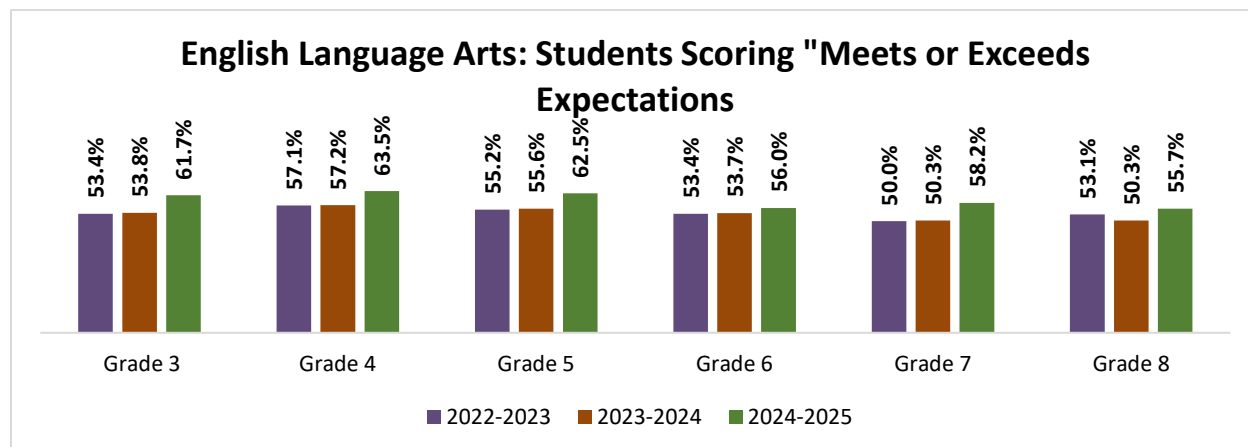
S.C. SCHOOL REPORT CARD DATA (PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS)

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Multilingual learners	67,169	70,761	76,960	79,099
Percent of students served by gifted and talented program	18.7%	19.4%	20.0%	19.7%
Students ages 3 to 17 with disabilities in special education and related services	104,977	107,880	110,189	110,070
Percent of students retained	1.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%
Dropout rate	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.1%
Dropout recovery rate	6.4%	6.0%	4.1%	7.6%
Four-year graduation rate	83.8%	83.8%	85.4	86.7%
Students in the graduation cohort who are college ready	32.0%	32.6%	32.5%	33.0%
Students in the graduation cohort who are career ready	62.8%	61.4%	69.6%	73.3%
Students in the graduation cohort who are college AND career ready	29.0%	29.4%	30.6%	31.2%
Percentage of graduates from the prior year's graduating cohort who were enrolled in an in-state or out-of-state two- or four-year college in the Fall immediately following their graduation year	62.1%	62.7%	54.7%	53.5%
Preparing for Success				
Overall Kindergarten Readiness	36.0%	38.3%	40.8%	38.9%
By domains:				
Social foundation	52.2%	49.4%	51.0%	51.1%
Language and literacy	29.8%	34.6%	37.1%	34.9%
Mathematics	28.1%	35.2%	37.0%	34.0%
Physical well-being	51.5%	53.4%	55.4%	55.6%
First grade students who are on track for success in English Language Arts at the second grade	53.2%	53.0%	53.9%	53.3%
First grade students who are on track for success in mathematics at the second grade	58.8%	54.4%	54.5%	52.6%
Second grade students who are on track for success in English Language Arts at the third grade	51.9%	51.2%	51.2%	53.0%
Second grade students who are on track for success in mathematics at the third grade	54.7%	50.3%	50.3%	51.1%
Percent of students enrolled in a U.S. Government course who score at or above the designated passing score on the civics test	87.2%	85.7%	85.6%	88.2%

Note. Dropout rate measures annual rate of students in grades 7 through 12 who leave the school or district for any reason, other than death, prior to graduation without transferring to another school, district, or institution. Dropout recovery rate reflects the proportion of students in grades 9 through 12 from each school and district who, having dropped out during a particular academic year, reenrolled in a public school or reenrolled in an Adult Education high school diploma granting program within the first 135 days of the next academic year. The cut score for "Overall Kindergarten Readiness" was used across all domains in order to provide comparative information. It does not necessarily reflect domain level readiness.

Education Indicators

SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE- AND CAREER- READY ASSESSMENTS (SCREADY) TEST SCORES



Note. SCREADY are statewide assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science that will meet all of the requirements of Acts 155 and 200, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, and the Assessments Peer Review guidance. In 2023, the science assessment was transitioned from SCPASS to SCREADY. There was no science assessment in 2024.

Education Indicators

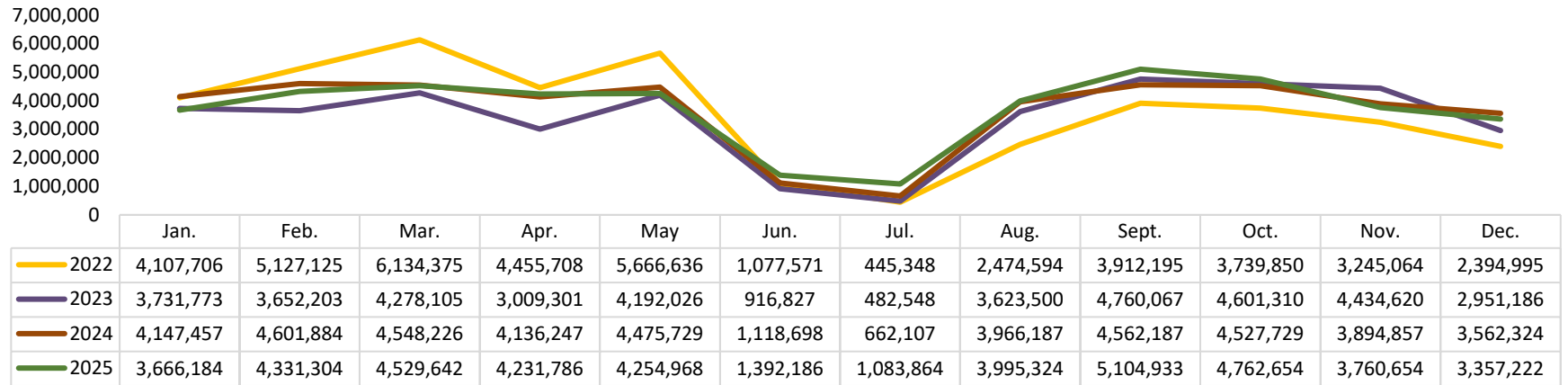
FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS SERVED TO S.C. STUDENTS BY CALENDAR YEAR

Meals Served	2022	2023	2024	2025	Compared 2025 to 2024	Compared 2025 to 2023	Compared 2025 to 2022
Free Breakfast Served	42,187,033	39,784,800	43,888,856	44,166,267	+277,411 (+1%)	+4,381,467 (+11%)	+1,979,234 (+5%)
Reduced Price Breakfast Served	594,134	848,666	314,776	304,454	-10,322 (-3%)	-544,212 (-64%)	-289,680 (-49%)
Total Free and Reduced Price Breakfast Served	42,781,167	40,633,466	44,203,632	44,470,721	+267,089 (+1%)	+3,837,255 (+9%)	+1,689,554 (+4%)
Free Lunch Served	68,500,365	64,589,325	73,752,459	75,604,634	+1,852,175 (+3%)	+11,015,309 (+17%)	+7,104,269 (+10%)
Reduced Price Lunch Served	1,287,436	1,903,729	755,875	682,527	-73,348 (-10%)	-1,221,202 (-64%)	-604,909 (-47%)
Total Free and Reduced Price Lunch Served	69,787,801	66,493,054	74,508,334	76,287,161	+1,778,827 (+2%)	+9,794,107 (+15%)	+6,499,360 (+9%)
Total Free and Reduced Price Breakfast and Lunch Served	112,568,968	107,126,520	118,711,966	120,757,882	+2,045,916 (+2%)	+13,631,362 (+13%)	+8,188,914 (+7%)

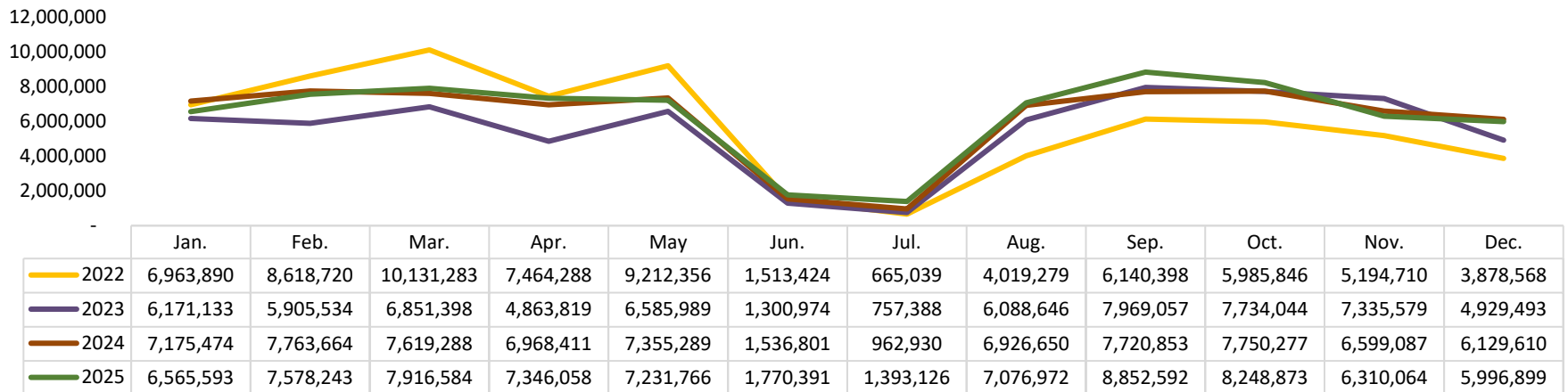
Education Indicators

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS SERVED TO S.C. STUDENTS BY MONTH

Free and Reduced Price Breakfast Served



Free and Reduced Price Lunch Served



Education Indicators

DATA SOURCES

1. S.C. school headcounts: S.C. Department of Education, student headcount is a "snap-shot" count of the actively-enrolled students taken at three points during the year: the 45th day, 135th day, and 180th day. These counts satisfy state and federal data reporting needs: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/other/student-counts/active-student-headcounts/>.
Number of teachers in public school districts: S.C. School Report Card: <https://screportcards.com/overview/school-environment/class-environment/?q=eT0yMDI0JnQ9UyZzaWQ9OTk5OTk5OQ>
S.C. private school headcounts: Private School Headcounts: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/other/student-counts/private-school-headcounts/> The Private School Report is sent out on a yearly basis for teacher and student count for K5 through 12th grade (last visited, May 7, 2026).
2. S.C. homeless students: S.C. Department of Education, unpublished report generated in February 2026. Definition of homeless students was cited from the S.C. Department of Education website: <https://ed.sc.gov/policy/federal-education-programs/every-student-succeeds-act-essa-title-ix-part-a-mckinney-vento-homeless-assistance-act/> (last visited, May 19, 2025).
3. Multilingual Learners: S.C. Department of Education, S.C. School Report Card, Multilingual Learners' Progress: <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/english-language-learners-progress/?q=eT0yMDIyJnQ9UyZzaWQ9MDAwMA> (last visited, January 30, 2026).
4. Percent of students served by gifted and talented program, percent of students retained: S.C. Department of Education, S.C. School Report Card, School Climate: <https://screportcards.com/overview/school-environment/school-climate/?q=eT0yMDIyJnQ9UyZzaWQ9MDAwMA> (last visited, January 30, 2026).
5. Students ages 3 to 17 with disabilities in special education and related services: S.C. Department of Education, IDEA Child Count Data, unpublished report generated in February 2026. These data are reflective of students with disabilities in special education and related services through Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) under the coverage of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 2004. These counts would not include children with disabilities who do not have IEPs.
6. Four-year graduation rate, dropout rate and dropout recovery rate: S.C. Department of Education, S.C. School Report Card, Graduation Rate: <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/graduation-rate/?q=eT0yMDIyJnQ9UyZzaWQ9MDAwMA> (last visited, January 30, 2026).
7. College and career readiness: S.C. Department of Education, S.C. School Report Card, College and Career Readiness: <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/college-career-readiness/?q=eT0yMDIyJnQ9UyZzaWQ9MDAwMA> (last visited, January 30, 2026).
8. Preparing for success: S.C. Department of Education, S.C. School Report Card, Preparing for Success. Percent of students enrolling in kindergarten and demonstrating readiness to learn refers to percent of students demonstrating foundational skills and behaviors that prepare them for instruction based on kindergarten standards.
Beginning with the graduating class of 2020, all students of public or charter schools must take the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service test as part of the U.S. government required credit (no required minimum score): <https://screportcards.com/overview/academics/preparing-for-success/?q=eT0yMDIyJnQ9UyZzaWQ9MDAwMA> (last visited, January 30, 2026).
9. South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Assessments test scores: S.C. Department of Education, SCREADY: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/state-assessments/sc-ready/> (last visited, January 30, 2026).
10. Free and reduced-price meals served to S.C. students: S.C. Department of Education, unpublished report generated in March 2023, April 2024, March 2025, and February 2026.

Acknowledgments

The 2026 Data Reference Book of the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children is the result of countless hours of hard work, and the collaboration of many agencies and individuals. Much assistance was provided to the Committee with its data collection, analysis, research, policy review, and editing to ensure that issues affecting children in South Carolina are accurately and clearly presented.

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the many agency staff whose work contributed to this Data Reference Book. The members of the Committee are especially grateful for the contributions and efforts of the following agencies:

South Carolina Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities:

Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Office of Mental Health

Office of Substance Use Services

South Carolina Department of Education

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice

South Carolina Department of Public Health

South Carolina Department of Social Services

South Carolina First Steps

South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

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Nurturing our state's future.

SC JOINT CITIZENS AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

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