South Carolina 2025-2026

# Child Maltreatment Data Profile

## *Sumter County*

**RANK** ↓30

| Children under 18 years of age (2024) | |
|---|---|
| Sumter County | 24,823 |
| South Carolina | 1,135,421 |

### INTAKES[1]
Rate per 1,000 children

**58.1** — INCREASED

South Carolina 61.0

### Percent of intakes investigated

**61.7%** — INCREASED

South Carolina 58.1%

### Percent of investigations substantiated[2]

**16.7%** — DECREASED

South Carolina 18.3%

### Percent of intakes referred to Family Centered Community Support Services[3]

**14.5%** — DECREASED

South Carolina 16.0%

### Percent of intakes where no action was taken

**23.8%** — DECREASED

South Carolina 26.0%

### SUBSTANTIATED INVESTIGATIONS
Rate per 1,000 families

**12.4** — WORSENED

South Carolina 14.9
County Ranking ↓26

### All children in founded investigations
Rate per 1,000

**9.7** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 11.2
County Ranking ↑16

### Children ages 0-6
Rate per 1,000

**39.5** — WORSENED

South Carolina 0.6
County Ranking ↓45

### Children ages 7-12
Rate per 1,000

**25** — WORSENED

South Carolina 0.4
County Ranking ↓44

### Children ages 13-17
Rate per 1,000

**20.1** — WORSENED

South Carolina 0.3
County Ranking ↑46

### ALL TYPES OF ABUSE[4]
Rate per 1,000

**1.57** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 2.11
County Ranking ↑14

### Physical abuse[5]
Rate per 1,000

**1.25** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 1.21
County Ranking ↓20

### Sexual abuse[6]
Rate per 1,000

**0.24** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 0.31
County Ranking ↑14

### Emotional abuse
Rate per 1,000

**0** — UNCHANGED

South Carolina 0.23
County Ranking ↔1

### Human trafficking[7]
Rate per 1,000

**0.04** — WORSENED

South Carolina 0.09
County Ranking ↓22

### ALL TYPES OF NEGLECT[8]
Rate per 1,000

**4.03** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 6.28
County Ranking ↑7

### Physical neglect
Rate per 1,000

**2.78** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 4.90
County Ranking ↓7

### Medical neglect
Rate per 1,000

**0.24** — IMPROVED

South Carolina 0.30
County Ranking ↑25

### Educational neglect
Rate per 1,000

**0.85** — WORSENED

South Carolina 0.92
County Ranking ↓31

### Substantial risk for injury[9]
Rate per 1,000

**5.28** — WORSENED

South Carolina 4.54
County Ranking ↑33

Lower county rankings (e.g. #1) indicates better outcomes. There are 46 counties in South Carolina.



Children's Trust OF SOUTH CAROLINA

# *Sumter County*



## South Carolina County Rankings

All 46 counties are ranked from first (1) to last (46). In addition to the overall ranking, each county has a domain and indicator ranking.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | McCormick | 17 | Berkeley | 33 | Williamsburg |
| 2 | Calhoun | 18 | Greenville | 34 | Charleston |
| 3 | Edgefield | 19 | Marlboro | 35 | Horry |
| 4 | Bamberg | 20 | Jasper | 36 | Chester |
| 5 | York | 21 | Lexington | 37 | Marion |
| 6 | Abbeville | 22 | Barnwell | 38 | Darlington |
| 7 | Beaufort | 23 | Chesterfield | 39 | Cherokee |
| 8 | Fairfield | 24 | Florence | 40 | Oconee |
| 9 | Lancaster | 25 | Georgetown | 41 | Lee |
| 10 | Allendale | 26 | Orangeburg | 42 | Clarendon |
| 11 | Richland | 27 | Colleton | 43 | Hampton |
| 12 | Dorchester | 28 | Greenwood | 44 | Union |
| 13 | Anderson | 29 | Kershaw | 45 | Dillon |
| 14 | Aiken | **30** | **Sumter** | 46 | Laurens |
| 15 | Spartanburg | 31 | Saluda | | |
| 16 | Pickens | 32 | Newberry | | |

## Why is this important?

Children's Trust of South Carolina produces the child maltreatment profiles for each county in South Carolina. They are a resource for policymakers, researchers and organizations to understand the scope and nature of child maltreatment.

Child maltreatment is abuse and neglect that occurs to children under 18 years of age. It includes all types of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse in addition to all forms of neglect, negligence, and exploitation of children. This information can help community and state leaders develop strategies and policies to prevention maltreatment, protect child and support families in needs. They can also help allocate resources more effectively and tailor interventions to address specific issues. Child maltreatment is preventable when there are protective and promotive factors that support families. It takes all of us working together to prevent child abuse and neglect. It is possible to build protective and promotive factors that benefit children, families, and communities in general, and to prevent child maltreatment.

## How can this data be used?

Raise awareness about these statistics in your workplace, organization, and community.

Collaborate with your community to make data-driven decisions using this profile, including when developing a plan for action to prevent and address child maltreatment.

Advocate by using this profile for grant writing, policy statements, and presentations to key policy stakeholders in your community.

## Where does the data come from?

County-level child maltreatment data comes from the South Carolina Department of Social Services (S.C. DSS). Data is released annually by the South Carolina DSS and can be found at https://dss.sc.gov/about/data-and-resources/child-welfare-data/child-protective-services-data/. Child maltreatment is likely to be underreported, suggesting that the true prevalence of child maltreatment is much higher.

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**1. Intake -** Report to DSS of possible abuse or neglect. **2. Founded Investigation -** Maltreatment of children was founded (substantiated) based on investigation. **3. Family Centered Community Support Services -** Intake staff determined (1) there wasn't a safety threat to the child but (2) the family might benefit from some voluntary services to address potential risk factors. **4. All Abuse -** Includes excessive corporal punishment, emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and human trafficking. **5. Physical Abuse -** Includes physical abuse and excessive corporal punishment. **6. Sexual Abuse -** Does not include sex trafficking which is included in human trafficking. **7. Human Trafficking -** Includes sex trafficking and labor trafficking. **8. All Neglect -** All Neglect Includes abandonment, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, educational neglect, medical neglect, and physical neglect. **9. Substantial risk for injury -** According to S.C. DSS, this category is separate from evidence of neglect or abuse and is not included in the rate for either neglect or abuse.