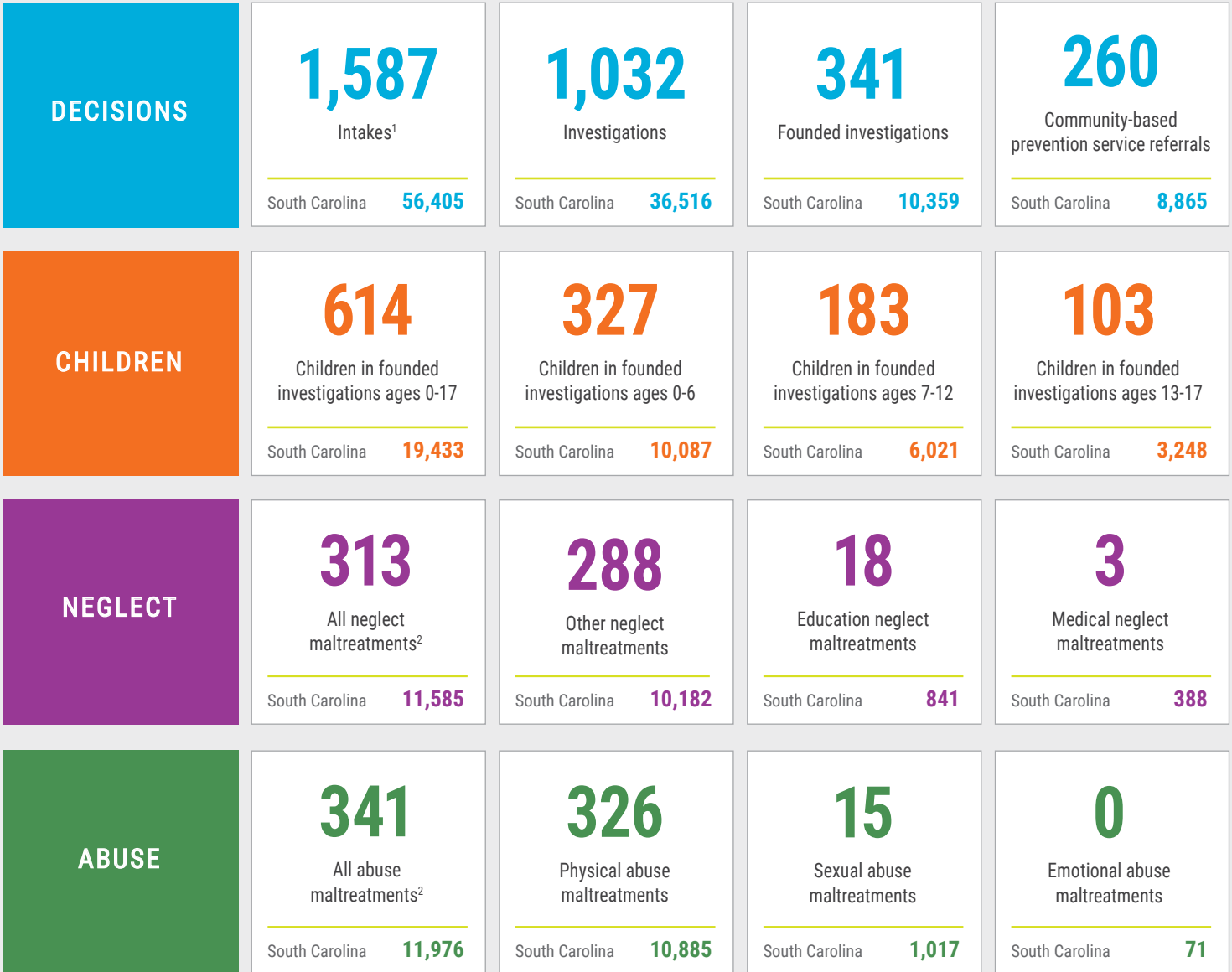


# DORCHESTER COUNTY



**654** Total maltreatments including abuse and neglect

**Intake**  
Report of possible abuse or neglect

**Children in founded investigations**  
Children who are directly or indirectly part of a founded abuse or neglect investigation

**Community-based prevention service referral**  
Risk to the safety and well-being of the children is low to moderate

**Maltreatments**  
Some children in a founded abuse or neglect investigation will not have a maltreatment type.  
Some children may have one or more than one maltreatment type

1. This does not represent a total of the sub-category boxes to the right.  
2. Sub-category boxes to the right may not add up to this total as some types are not disaggregated.

**Source:** Data comes from the South Carolina Department of Social Services and can be found at <https://dss.sc.gov/about/data-and-resources/child-welfare-data/child-protective-services-data/>.

# DORCHESTER COUNTY

## Why is this important?

Children's Trust of South Carolina produces the child maltreatment profiles for each county in South Carolina. They provide us with a snapshot into the state of reported maltreatment of children in South Carolina.

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. Child maltreatment affects all children, families and communities within South Carolina. Harm from child abuse and neglect comes in many forms, including child health and educational attainment, family health and financial security, community health and state prosperity.

However, child maltreatment is preventable. 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?

You can build strong families and empower your community to prevent child maltreatment.

- Educate others by raising 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 (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.