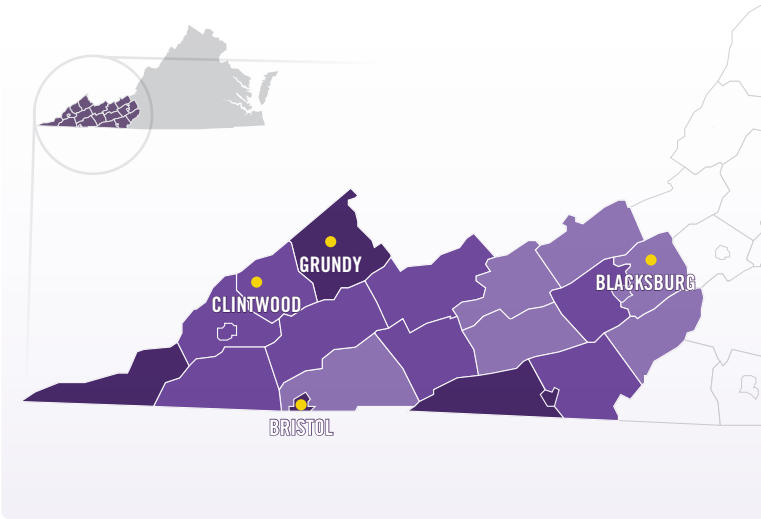


# 1 IN 2 children are economically disadvantaged in the Southwest Region

31-44%   45-59%   60-75%



Children living below 200% of the poverty level are economically disadvantaged and live in families that struggle to meet basic needs: food, housing, utilities, child care, and transportation.

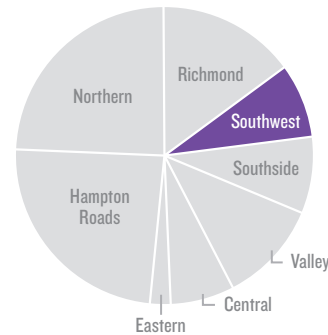
THAT'S

**49,856** children

ENOUGH TO FILL

**997** SCHOOL BUSES

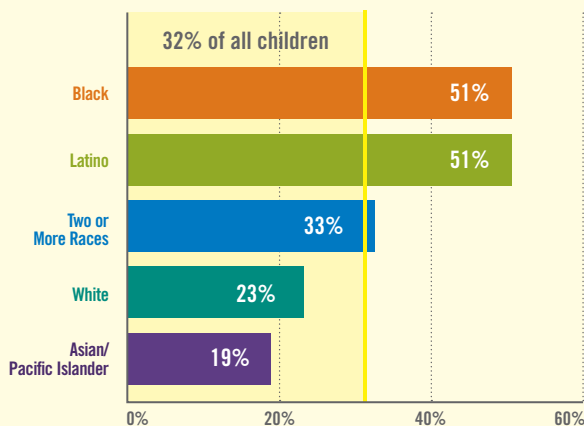
WHICH REPRESENTS



**8%**  
of Virginia's economically disadvantaged children

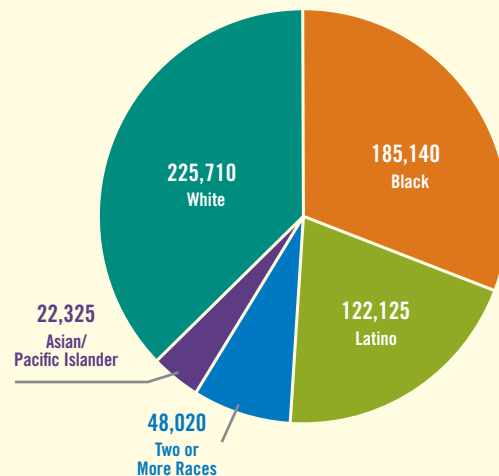
## Virginia children of every race and ethnicity face hardship

### BLACK AND LATINO CHILDREN ARE MORE LIKELY TO GROW UP IN FAMILIES THAT STRUGGLE TO MEET BASIC NEEDS



Percent of Children Living Below 200% of Poverty by Race and Ethnicity

### WHITE CHILDREN MAKE UP THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN IN THE COMMONWEALTH



Number of Children Living Below 200% of Poverty by Race and Ethnicity

Over time, a variety of federal, state, and local policy choices have had disproportionate impacts on families living in certain regions or belonging to certain races and ethnicities. Those effects are still felt today. To improve economic opportunity, we must recognize children have different starting points, which may require different policy solutions.

# SOUTHWEST REGION

| DEMOGRAPHIC           |                                    | ECONOMIC WELL-BEING   |  | EDUCATION  |  |                                | HEALTH   |   | SAFETY   |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Locale                | Total Child Population (Ages 0-17) | Number of Children Economically Disadvantaged (Below 200% FPL*) | Percent of Children Economically Disadvantaged (Below 200% FPL*) | Pass Rate of Kindergarteners on PALS-K Exam (Fall Kindergarten Readiness Exam) | Pass Rate of Third Graders on SOL Reading Exam |                                | Number of Low-Income Children without Health Insurance (Below 200% FPL*) | Percent of Prenatal Care Beginning in 1st Trimester | Rate of Children Entering Foster Care (Per 1,000 Children) |
|                       |                                    |   |  |  | Economically Disadvantaged                     | Not Economically Disadvantaged |  |   |  |
| Bland                 | 1,070                              | 353   | 33%  | 67%  | 87%  | 79%                            | 33   | 86%   | 3.8  |
| Bristol               | 3,686                              | 2,483   | 67%  | 86%  | 62%  | 78%                            | 71   | 88%   | 9.2  |
| Buchanan              | 4,172                              | 2,312   | 55%  | 75%  | 58%  | 76%                            | 128  | 88%   | 6.1  |
| Carroll               | 5,778                              | 2,679   | 46%  | 82%  | 75%  | 82%                            | 197  | 81%   | 3.7  |
| Dickenson             | 3,127                              | 1,634   | 52%  | 84%  | 82%  | 85%                            | 96   | 92%   | 10.8   |
| Floyd                 | 3,216                              | 1,385   | 43%  | 80%  | 66%  | 86%                            | 128  | 88%   | 4.4  |
| Galax                 | 1,489                              | 911   | 61%  | 83%  | 60%  | 89%                            | 51   | 93%   | 7.2  |
| Giles                 | 3,544                              | 1,267   | 36%  | 74%  | 60%  | 86%                            | 81   | 74%   | 9.1  |
| Grayson               | 2,707                              | 1,486   | 55%  | 88%  | 77%  | 83%                            | 103  | 92%   | 3.6  |
| Lee                   | 4,706                              | 2,915   | 62%  | 75%  | 70%  | 78%                            | 170  | 92%   | 7.9  |
| Montgomery            | 15,550                             | 5,218   | 34%  | 87%  | 66%  | 87%                            | 561  | 89%   | 0.9  |
| Norton                | 808                                | 353   | 44%  | 74%  | 74%  | 81%                            | 13   | 89%   | 7.5  |
| Pulaski               | 6,353                              | 3,157   | 50%  | 73%  | 65%  | 78%                            | 144  | 91%   | 6.6  |
| Radford               | 1,951                              | 819   | 42%  | 85%  | 67%  | 88%                            | 62   | 90%   | 3.5  |
| Russell               | 5,531                              | 2,712   | 49%  | 85%  | 77%  | 91%                            | 152  | 76%   | 6.2  |
| Scott                 | 4,212                              | 2,111   | 50%  | 72%  | 70%  | 85%                            | 98   | 79%   | 8.5  |
| Smyth                 | 6,297                              | 3,302   | 52%  | 77%  | 70%  | 82%                            | 157  | 89%   | 3.3  |
| Tazewell              | 8,430                              | 4,298   | 51%  | 77%  | 76%  | 92%                            | 209  | 83%   | 2.8  |
| Washington            | 10,333                             | 3,944   | 38%  | 87%  | 81%  | 95%                            | 258  | 84%   | 2.5  |
| Wise                  | 8,103                              | 3,890   | 48%  | 76%  | 82%  | 91%                            | 176  | 76%   | 9.8  |
| Wythe                 | 5,910                              | 2,627   | 44%  | 80%  | 73%  | 91%                            | 168  | 94%   | 2.4  |
| <b>Regional Total</b> | <b>106,973</b>                     | <b>49,856</b>   | <b>47%</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>                                       | <b>-</b>                       | <b>3,056</b>   | <b>88%</b>  | <b>5.7</b>   |
| <b>State Total</b>    | <b>1,865,556</b>                   | <b>620,201</b>  | <b>33%</b>   | <b>84%</b>   | <b>62%</b>                                     | <b>75%</b>                     | <b>48,166</b>  | <b>85%</b>  | <b>1.5</b>   |

\*FPL stands for Federal Poverty Level. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In 2016, a 200% poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$48,600.

Data helps us ask more questions about what is happening in a community and often does not provide any direct answers. To learn more about the data, sources, or child well-being in your community, please contact KIDS COUNT Director Beth Nolan at [beth@vakids.org](mailto:beth@vakids.org).

**We champion public policies that improve the lives of Virginia's children.**

Voices is the home to the KIDS COUNT Data Center, which is generously funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

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**To learn more or get involved, visit [www.vakids.org](http://www.vakids.org).**

**Sources:**  
U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey & Small Area Estimates 2016, UVA Curry School of Education Academic Year 2017, Virginia Department of Education Academic Year 2016, Virginia Department of Health 2015, Virginia Department of Social Services State Fiscal Year 2017

The data reflects the most recently available information, which results in some variation of years by indicator.

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