

# The Cost of Child Maltreatment to the Alabama Economy 2018

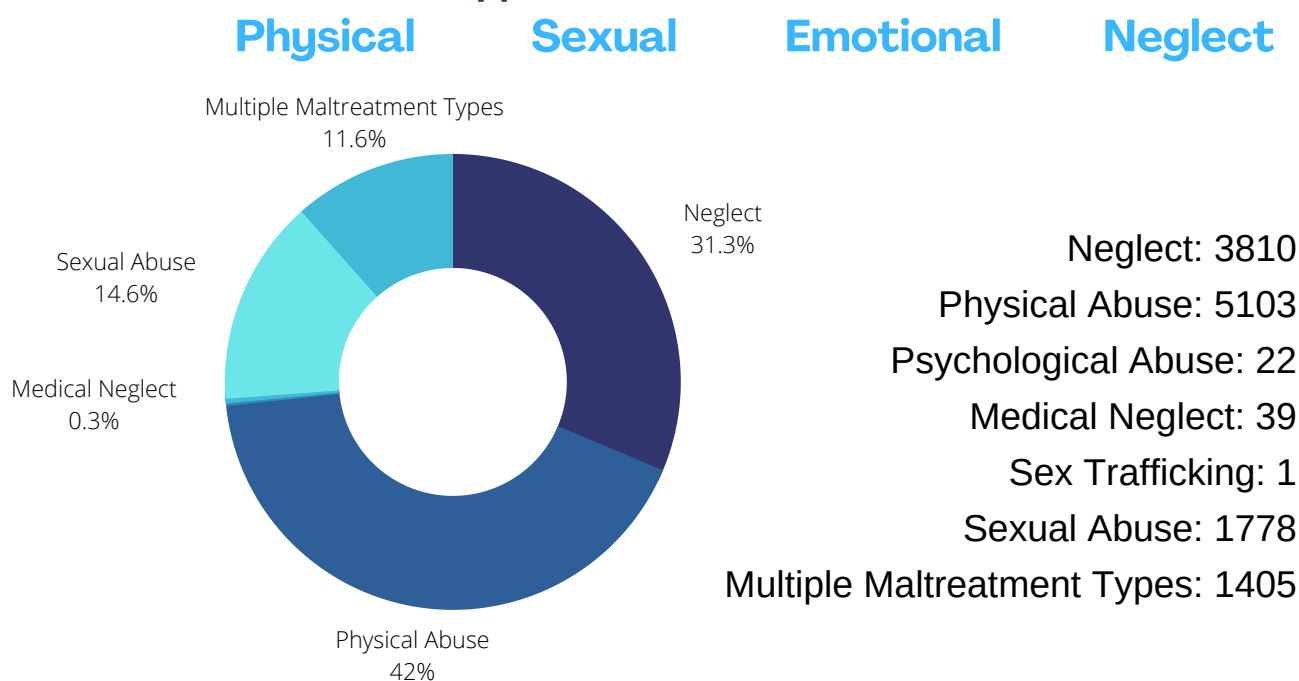
**This report presents the tangible cost of child maltreatment (or child abuse and neglect) to the Alabama economy in 2018.**

The focus is on tangible costs only for the substantiated first-time victim cohort and so does not include associated intangible costs—pain, suffering, and grief—to victims, their families, and communities that are known to occur.

Child abuse is defined as any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or an act or failure to act that presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

(Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act)

## Types of Child Maltreatment



## Child Maltreatment Causes

**Preventable Infant Mortality**

**Low Birth-Weight**

**Chronic Health & Mental Health Issues**

**Developmental & Educational Delays**

**Lower Work Productivity**

**Higher Involvement with Criminal Justice System**

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# \$3.7 Billion

is the estimated cost of child maltreatment to the Alabama economy in 2018

## Child Maltreatment Cost to Alabama 2018

Category	Cost (2018 dollars)
Low Birth Weight	91,371,123
Chronic Illness (Childhood Asthma)	23,675,543
Childhood Mental Health Care	20,194,646
Child Welfare System	281,886,848
Law Enforcement for Intervention	784,794
Other Medical Costs of Children	2,471,114
Special Education	21,984,215
Juvenile Delinquency	26,486,404
Adult Criminality	109,469,664
Adult Mental Health and Health Care	431,701,155
Adult Homelessness	4,103,763
Lost Worker Productivity of Victims	2,629,685,802
Lost Worker Productivity due to Mortality	58,410,656

- The \$3.7 billion is based on just the first-time child maltreatment victim cohort for 2018 and does not include associated costs to families (including extended ones) and communities that are known to occur.
- Preventing child maltreatment in Alabama will reduce the cost on the state economy and contribute to economic growth.
- The FY2018 budget for the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention/The Children's Trust Fund (CTF) was about \$7.6 million.
- The \$3.7 billion cost of child maltreatment to the state economy is roughly 1.7 percent of the \$221.0 billion Alabama gross domestic product (GDP) in 2018.

## Reference

Usdan, S., Kendrick, A., Addy, S., Ijaz, A., Black, N., Robihaux, S. (2018). The cost of child maltreatment to the Alabama Economy in 2018.

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Prepared for the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention The Children's Trust Fund

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