COVID-19 has placed a further burden on low-income families. 6% decrease in employment for working mothers from 2019 to 2020.

Limitations in federal and state funding prohibit Georgia Head Start from serving all children in need.

Georgia’s Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) helps provide:
- relief
- healthcare
- child care coverage, and
- early education services

for low-income families. It manages Georgia Head Start, Pre-K, and Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), among other programs.

$54.2 million was budgeted for DECAL for FY 2021, a $7.3 million reduction from the previous year.

Only 15% of Georgia’s low-income children are enrolled in Head Start due to funding and enrollment capacity.

Children received:
- Medical care
- Dental care
- Mental health services
- Health insurance

56.7% of Georgia children receive food stamps (SNAP).

More than 24,000 were served by Georgia Head Start and 6,000 children in 2019 enrolled in Pre-K classes.

facts about: CHILDHOOD POVERTY IN GEORGIA

Childhood poverty can affect ...

... due to chronic stress from:

IN GEORGIA

33% rural children are living in poverty compared to 18% national average.

21% urban

SOCIAL development

PHYSICAL development

MENTAL development

ACADEMIC success

housing insecurity

food insecurity

lack of access to healthcare

lack of access to education

Images from IMGBIN.com, Vecteezy.com, and others.