

**Florida Department of Children and Families**

**Accountability Metrics Methodology Documentation**

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Key Terms

Several key terms related to the measures are defined here. These definitions are for determining performance on these metrics, and may not exactly match with official policy or practice definitions.

**Closure of Services**: There is a gap of at least one calendar day between closure of one service and the opening of another service. Services include *out-of-home care*, *in-home services*, and *family support services*. The follow-up period after discharge from a *removal episode* does not begin until after any period of *post-placement supervision*.

**Cohort**: A group of children who share a common characterisitic or event in a period or a point in time. Cohorts can be defined by a child’s status on a given date, an event (e.g., a *removal date* or *permanency date*), or by the child revicing a type of service within a date range.

**Closure Determination**: The decision by the child protective investigator as to how to classify the investigation upon completion of a thorough and comprehensive investigation.

**Discharge Date**: The date a child leaves out-of-home care and marks the end of a removal episode.

**Face-to-Face Visit:** Visits which occur when a caseworker has contact with a child, face-to-face, regardless of where the visit takes place and documents this activity in FSFN as a case note where the child is selected as a participant and the Face-to-Face Contact has been Completed, regardless of the type of note. The date of the visit is also documented in the case note.

**Family Support Services: A**ffirmative outreach and efforts provided to engage families in order to prevent the occurrence of a future child abuse investigation or child maltreatment when children have a Safety Determination of Safe but are at high risk or very high risk for future maltreatment. Provision of Family Support Services are based on the entry of an active Family Support case in FSFN

**Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN)**: The department's electronic system of record for child welfare investigation and service related information.

**Follow-Up Period**: The period of twelve (12) months used to measure safety, timely permanency, or re-entry for a cohort of children.

**Hotline Intake Decision Date/Time**: The date and time the report is accepted by the Hotline staff and referred for investigation.

**In-Home Episode**: A series of consecutive living arrangements where there is no more than a full calendar day gap between the ending of one and the beginning of a subsequent living arrangement. Any gaps of more than a full calendar day between individual living arrangements indicates a different in-home episode.

**In-Home Investigation**: An investigation in which the child’s parent, legal guardian, paramour, or other adult household member with significant caregiver responsibility for care and protection of the child is the alleged person responsible for the maltreatment.

**In-Home Services**: Case managed services where the child remains with their parent(s) or primary caretakers but the Department maintains supervision. This status is defined by the entry of a living arrangement in FSFN.

**Incident Date**: The date the verified maltreatment occurred based on the findings entered in FSFN.

**Institutional Investigation**: An investigation which involves alleged abuse by an “Other Persons Responsible for a Child’s Welfare” (as defined in s.39.01, F.S.) which typically occur in institutional settings such as schools, daycares, licensed foster care, group care facilities, etc.

**Intake**: The process for information collection and assessment the Florida Abuse Hotline for allegations of abuse, neglect, or abandonment of children. Intakes are subcategorized as one of the following:

 Initial- This is the original or first contact with the hotline which resulted in an investigation due to an allegation of abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

 Additional- This is a subsequent contact with the hotline which contains new information about one or more participants of an existing report. This is usually a new allegation of abuse, neglect, or abandonment to an existing report or a new participant pertaining to an existing report.

 Supplemental- This is a subsequent contact with the hotline that provides enhanced information to an existing report. This is usually improvements on what is already known such as a more precise address, different name spelling, or additional sources.

**Intake County**: The county where the alleged victim is located at the time the report is accepted for investigation by the hotline.

**Investigation County**: The county in which the focus household-where the alleged maltreating caregiver resides- at the time the report is accepted for investigation by the hotline.

**Investigation Completion Period**: The two (2) month period following the end of the cohort selection period and/or the follow-up period for child safety indicators. This is necessary to allow up to sixty (60) days for completion of a child protective investigation that may have commenced near the end of the cohort selection period and/or the follow-up period and entry of findings into FSFN.

**Legally Free for Adoption**: The status of a child who does not have a legal parent due to the parental rights having been terminated by the court or the parents being deceased.

**Length of Stay**: The duration a child is in out-of-home care and is measured as the time between their removal date and either their discharge date or some other defined date (e.g., the end of the report period).

**Licensed Foster Care**: The following placement service categories: *Foster Home*, *Residential*, and *Residential Treatment Center*.

**Living Arrangement**: A period of time in which a child is receiving in-home services.

**Other Investigation**: An investigation which involves alleged abuse by a relative, non-relative, paramour, or adult babysitter temporarily entrusted with a child’s care who does not reside in the home with the parent and child.

**Out-of-Home Care**: Substitute care provided for children placed away from their parents or guardians regardless of placement type or custodian, including those in licensed foster care, kinship (relative or nonrelative) care, or any other placement where the State agency has placement and care responsibility. This status is defined by the entry of a removal episode in FSFN.

**Permanency:** The discharge of a child from out-of-home care to a permanent home, indicating reunification, adoption, or permanent guardianship. Specific permanency discharge reasons include: Adoption, Guardianship, Guardianship to Non-Relative, Guardianship to Relative, Living with Other Relatives, Reunification with Parent(s)/Primary Caretaker.

**Permanency Date**: The discharge date when a child is discharged from out-of-home care to permanency. Placement Service Category(ies) are out-of-home care placement types

**Post-Placement Supervision:** An in-home service provided within one calendar day following the child’s exiting from out-of-home care due to reunification, living with other relatives, or long-term custody to relative.

**Removal Date**: The date a child is initially placed in out-of-home care during a removal episode.

**Removal Episode**: A period of time where a child is placed in out-of-home care, beginning with a removal date and ending with a discharge date. A removal episode may include multiple placements, so the end of a placement may not be the end of a removal episode.

**Report Period**: The period of time used for selecting a cohort of children to be included in the calculation of a specific measure.

**Report Received Date**: The date that the initial report regarding allegations of abuse or neglect was received by the Department.

**Safety Determination**: The decision, after completion of a Family Functioning Assessment-Investigation, as to whether a child can be safely maintained in the home.

**Service Episode**: The period of time where the child is receiving services: family support services, in-home services, or out-of-home care. Services provided consecutively, with one calendar day or less between the closure of one service and the opening of another service are considered a single service episode. For example, services provided to a child which end July 1st at 8am with a new service beginning on July 2nd at 11pm would be considered the same service episode. Services provided to a child which end on July 1st at 8am with a new service beginning on July 3rd at 1am would be considered separate service episode, as one full calendar day (i.e., July 2nd) separated the end and beginning of services.

**Sibling**: Any child in the same case as another child.

**Sibling Group**: Any case with two or more children in out-of-home care.

**Termination of Supervision:** When there is a gap of at least one calendar day between closure of one service and the opening of another service. For example, a child who ends one service on July 1st at 8am and begins another on July 2nd at 11pm would not be considered to have services terminated on July 1st. A child who ends services July 1st at 8am and begins another on July 3rd at 1am would be considered has having services terminated on July 1st as one full calendar day (i.e., July 2nd) separated the end and beginning of services. Services include both out-of-home care and in-home services, but do not include family support services. The follow-up period after discharge from a removal episode does not begin until after any period of post-placement supervision.

**Verified Maltreatment:** When a child had at least one verified finding of abuse or neglect during the measurement period

Metrics

Percentage of Children with No Recurrence of Verified maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the percentage of children with no verified maltreatment within 12 months of a prior verified maltreatment |
| *Report Period* | The month ending 15 months prior to the end of the report month. (e.g. March 1,2020 - March 31, 2020 for the month ending June 30, 2021). |
| *Performance Target* | >=90.3% |
| *Denominator* | Number of children with a verified maltreatment of abuse or neglect in a report received during the report period. |
| *Numerator* | The number of children in the denominator who did not have a subsequent verified maltreatment within twelve (12) months of the initial report identified in the denominator. |
| *Algorithm* | Select all child victims where the initial report received date is in the report period and the child had at least one allegation where the finding was verified. For reports received prior to July 30, 2007, the report received date is the used to determine inclusion in the report period. For reports received on or after July 30, 2007 the Hotline Intake Decision Date is used to determine inclusion in the report period. Only reports where the investigation has been completed are included. For investigations completed on or after July 30, 2007, they must have a Closure Determination of: “Closing – Services”, “Closing – No Services”, or “Closing – Open Ongoing Case Management Services”. For investigations completed prior to July 30, 2007, there must be no Closure Determination. If a child has multiple reports in the report period which meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator, select only the first report which meets the criteria. Children age 18 or more as of the report date are excluded. The numerator is the count of children in the denominator who do not have a subsequent report where the child had at least one allegation where the finding was verified and the subsequent report received date was within twelve (12) months of the received date of the report included in the denominator. If the incident date of the subsequent allegation indicates that it had the same incident date as the allegation in the denominator, it is not included in determining the numerator. If the subsequent report has an initial received date that is within fourteen (14) days of the report included in the denominator, it will not be included for the purposes of calculating the numerator.Geographic areas/entities are assigned based on the Investigation County of the investigation included in the denominator. If Investigation County is not available, Intake County will be used. |

Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the percentage of children who achieved permanency within 12 months of entering OHC |
| *Report Period* | The month ending 12 months prior to the end of the report month. (e.g. June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020 for the month ending June 30, 2021). |
| *Performance Target* | >=35.2% |
| *Denominator* | The number of children who entered out-of-home care during the report period. |
| *Numerator* | The subset of children in the denominator where the child achieved permanency within twelve (12) months of their removal date. |
| *Algorithm* | Select all children with a new removal episode during the report period where the removal episode was at least eight (8) days in duration. Exclude any removal episode ending with a discharge reason of “Dismissed by Court” (including a discharge reason of “Reunification” where the placement ending reason is "Dismissed by Court"). Exclude any removal episode where the child was eighteen (18) years of age before the beginning of the report period. If a child has multiple removal episodes that meet the above criteria, select only the first such removal episode in the report period. The child must have a valid date of birth entered in FSFN.The numerator is the count of children in the denominator where the child achieved permanency such that their permanency date is less than twelve (12) months from the removal date of the removal episode.Children in the denominator are assigned to region, circuit, CBC Lead Agency, and county based on the county of primary caseworker assigned to the case as of the earlier of the permanency date of the removal episode or twelve (12) months after the removal date. Only episodes with a primary worker whose agency type is CBC Lead Agency are included for these entities. The statewide data includes all children that meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator regardless of the primary caseworker assignment. |

Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in OHC 12-23 Months

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in OHC 12-23 Months |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the percentage of children who achieved permanency within 12 months for those who had been in OHC for 12-23 months |
| *Report Period* | The beginning of the day 12 months prior to the end of the report month (e.g. July 1, 2019 for the report month ending June 30, 2020)  |
| *Performance Target* | >=43.8% |
| *Denominator* | The number of children in out-of-home care between twelve (12) and twenty-three (23) months as of the beginning of the report period. |
| *Numerator* | The subset of children in the denominator where the child achieved permanency within 12 months of the report period. |
| *Algorithm* | Select all children in a removal episode as of the report period where the removal episode was at least twelve (12) months but less than twenty-four (24) months in duration. Exclude any removal episode ending with a discharge reason of “Dismissed by Court” (including a discharge reason of “Reunification” where the placement ending reason is "Dismissed by Court"). Exclude any removal episode where the child was eighteen (18) years of age prior to or on the date of the report period. The child must have a valid date of birth entered in FSFN.The numerator is the count of children in the denominator where the child achieved permanency such that their permanency date is within 12 months of the report period and prior to their eighteenth (18) birthday. Note that children in the denominator who turn 18 in less than 12 months from the report period are not excluded.Children in the denominator are assigned to region, circuit, CBC Lead Agency, and county based on the county of primary caseworker assigned to the case as of the earlier of the permanency date of the removal episode or twelve (12) months from the report period. Only episodes with a primary worker whose agency type is CBC Lead Agency are included for these entities. The statewide data includes all children that meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator regardless of the primary caseworker assignment. |

Rate of Children of Abuse Per 100,000 Bed Days During Out-of-Home Care

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| *Measure Title* | Rate of Children Not Abused During Out-of-Home Care |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the rate of children not abused during out of home care. |
| *Report Period* | The month ending three months prior to the end of the report month. (e.g. June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020 for the month ending September 30, 2020).  |
| *Performance Target* | <=9.07 |
| *Denominator* | The total number od days for all children receiving services where the overall length of service was eight days or more in the overall service episode. |
| *Numerator* | The total number of reports received with at least one instance of verified maltreatment during the report period and while the child was receiving service.The result of this calculation is multiplied by 100,000 for the rate of abuse per 100,000 bed days.  |
| *Algorithm* | Select all children who had a service episode of out-of-home care for at least 8 days. Any services provided after the child turns eighteen (18) years of age are excluded from this measure (i.e., the child’s service is considered to have ended the day prior to their 18th birthday). The denominator total number od days for all children receiving services where the overall length of service was eight days or more in the overall service episode. The numerator is total number of reports received with at least one instance of verified maltreatment during the report period and while the child was receiving service and was prior to the child’s eighteenth (18th) birthday.If the incident date of the verified maltreatment indicates that the abuse or neglect was prior to the child’s time receiving services or the report period, that verified maltreatment is not included in determining the numerator. Only reports where the investigation has been completed are included. For investigations completed on or after July 30, 2007, they must have a Closure Determination of: Closing – Services, Closing – No Services, or Closing – Open Ongoing Case Management Services. For investigations completed prior to July 30, 2007, there must be no Closure  |
|  | Determination. All such reports with verified maltreatment which meet these criteria are included in the numerator regardless of the perpetrator responsible.Service episodes are assigned to region, circuit, CBC Lead Agency, and county based on the county of the primary case worker as of the earlier of the end of the removal episode or at the end of the report period. Only episodes with a primary worker whose agency type is CBC Lead Agency are included for these entities. The statewide data includes all children that meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator regardless of the primary caseworker assignment. service. |

Percentage of Children Not Abused During In-Home Services

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children Not Abused During In-Home Services |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the percentage of in-home service episode during the report period where the child did not have a verified maltreatment while receiving services |
| *Report Period* | The month ending three months prior to the end of the report month. (e.g. June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020 for the month ending September 30, 2020).  |
| *Performance Target* | >=98% |
| *Denominator* | The number of children’s in-home service episodes that lasted at least 24 consecutive hours within the report period. |
| *Numerator* | The subset of in-home service episodes in the denominator where the child had no verified maltreatment while receiving in-home services during the report period. |
| *Algorithm* | Select all children who had an in-home service episode, including post-placement supervision, where the episode lasted at least twenty-four (24) consecutive hours during the report period. If a child received multiple episodes of in-home services during the period, they are counted once for each such episode of service. Any in- home services provided after the child turns eighteen (18) years of age are excluded from this measure (i.e., the child’s in-home service episode is considered to have ended the day prior to their 18th birthday).The numerator is the count of all children in in-home service episodes in the denominator where the child did NOT have a verified maltreatment while receiving the in-home service where the report received date was both in the report period and during the child’s in-home service episode; was prior to the child’s eighteenth (18th) birthday; and was not the same date as the date the in-home service episode began. If the incident date of the verified maltreatment indicates that the abuse or neglect was prior or equal to the date the in-home service episode began or prior to the report period, that verified maltreatment is not included in determining the numerator.Only reports where the investigation has been completed and for reports closed are included. For investigations completed on or after July 30, 2007, they must have a Closure Determination of: Closing – Services, Closing – No Services, or Closing – Open Ongoing Case Management Services. For investigations completed prior to July 30, 2017, there must be no Closure Determination. All such reports with verified maltreatment which meet these criteria are included in the numerator regardless of the perpetrator responsible.In-home service episodes in the denominator are assigned to region, circuit, CBC Lead Agency, and county based on the county of the primary case worker as of the earlier of the termination of the in-home service episode or at the end of the report period. Only episodes with a primary worker whose agency type is CBC Lead Agency are included for these entities. The statewide data includes all children that meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator regardless of the primary caseworker assignment. |

Placement Moves per 1,000 Bed Days

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| *Measure Title* | Placement Moves per 1,000 Bed Days |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the rate at which children change placements while in OHC during the report period. |
| *Report Period* | The twelve (12) month period ending as of the end of the report month (e.g. June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 for the month ending June 30, 2021).  |
| *Performance Target* | <=4.5 |
| *Denominator* | The total number of days in OHC during the report period |
| *Numerator* | The total number of placements moves during the report period for all children in the denominator |
| *Algorithm* | Select all removal episodes for children in OHC during the report period. If a child has no active placements in the removal episode during the report period, they are excluded from the denominator. A child who is only placed in placements not considered a placement move for the purposes of calculating the numerator (e.g., a child only placed in visitation placement service category) are excluded from the denominator regardless of the child’s length of stay. Any days in OHC care after the child turns 18 are excluded from this measure.The numerator is the total number of placements moves for all removal episodes included in the denominator. All placements are entered into FSFN but not every placement change is considered a placement move for the purposes of this measure. Any placement in the following placement service categories is excluded from the count of placement moves: Child Activity, Missing Child, Respite Placement, Visitation, or a medical placement (Routine/Emergency Medical Services, Routine/Emergency Mental Health Services, Routine/Emergency Services, Hospitalization – Medical, Hospital – Mental) where a single or combination of consecutive medical placements had a duration of fifteen (15) days or less. If two or more consecutive valid placements are with the same provider, the subsequent placement is not considered a placement move. For example, if a child was placed with Provider A, had a placement change to Missing Child, and then returned to Provider A, these three would all be considered a single placement with no placement moves. If a child was placed in an Approved Relative placement with Provider B and the placement changed to a Foster Home placement but was still with Provider B, that would not be considered a placement move. The first placement in the removal episode is not considered a placement move for the purpose of calculating the numerator. All other placements, regardless of the time in the placement, are included.The measure is the total number of placement moves divided by the total number of days in out-of-home care with the result multiplied by one-thousand (1,000) to calculate the rate of placement moves per one-thousand (1,000) days in out-of-home care and provide a larger and more meaningful number.Removal episodes are assigned to region, circuit, CBC Lead Agency, and county based on the county of primary caseworker assigned to the case as of the earlier of the discharge date of the removal episode or the end of the report period. Only episodes with a primary worker whose agency type is CBC Lead Agency are included for these entities. The statewide data includes all children that meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator regardless of the primary caseworker assignment. |

Percentage of Children Under Supervision who are Seen Every 30 Days

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children Under Supervision who are Seen Every 30 Days |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the rate at which children are seen every 30 days while in OHC or receiving in-home services during the report period. |
| *Report Period* | The month ending with the end of the report month. (e.g. June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020 for the month ending June 30, 2020).  |
| *Performance Target* | >=99.5% |
| *Denominator* | The total number of days that children were in OHC care or receiving in-home services during the report period. |
| *Numerator* | The total number of days that children in the denominator had been seen in the 30 days immediately prior |
| *Algorithm* | Select all days a child was in out-of-home care or receiving in-home services as of the end of the day for any day during the report period. If the child was receiving services for less than thirty (30) days and did not have a face-to-face visit with a caseworker, those days are not included in the denominator. Any days during the first thirty (30) days of service where the child had a face-to-face visit are included in the denominator. If the child was assigned to the CBC Lead Agency for less than three (3) days and did not have a face-to-face visit with a caseworker, those days are not included in the denominator. Any days during the first three (3) days of assignment to the CBC Lead Agency where the child had a face-to-face visit are included in the denominator. Any days during which the child did not reside in the state of Florida or had an active alert indicating the child has runaway or absconded or has been abducted are not included in the denominator. In addition, once the child no longer meets one of these three conditions, their days are not included in the denominator until the third day after not meeting the condition unless they have had a face-to-face visit with a caseworker. If the child had a face-to-face visit during this period, those days are included in the denominator. Once a child turns eighteen (18) years of age, their days are no longer included in the denominator. The total number of days that meet the above criteria is the denominator.The numerator is the subset of total days in the denominator where the child had had at least one face-to-face visit in the thirty (30) day period immediately preceding the day.Currently, Children in the denominator are assigned to the region, circuit, CBC lead agency, and county based on the primary caseworker assigned to the child’s case as of the end of the each day the child is under supervision.Beginning July 1, 2022, Children in the denominator are assigned to the region, circuit, CBC lead agency, and county based on the Out- of-County Caseworker assigned to the child as of the end of each day the child is under supervision. If multiple Out-of-County caseworkers are assigned to the child, the most recently assigned is selected. If no Out-of- County caseworker is assigned to the child, this is based on the primary caseworker assigned to the child's case as of the end of each day the child is under supervision. Only children with a worker whose agency type is “CBC Lead Agency” are included for these entities. The statewide data includes all children that meet the criteria for inclusion in the denominator regardless of the caseworker assignment. |

Percentage of Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the percentage of children in OHC who are placed with relatives or non-relatives |
| *Report Period* | The last day of the report month (e.g. June 30, 2020 for the report month ending June 30, 2020).  |
| *Performance Target* | >=60% |
| *Denominator* | The total number of children in OHC |
| *Numerator* | The total number of children who are placed with relatives/non-relatives |
| *Algorithm* | Select all children who are in OHC as of the end of the report month and the child is between the ages of 0 and 17 as of the end of the report month.The numerator is the number of children in OHC whose placement service category is;Relative or Non-relative,or Whose placement service category is Foster Home and the Service Type Specifics on the Maintain Services page in FSFN include License Type Required of “Level I Child Specific.”placed with relatives/non-relatives; this includes those placed in Level 1 licensed homes. A child is counted in the region and CBC lead agency based on the primary caseworker assigned to the child’s case as of the end of the month. |

Percentage of Children Placed with Siblings

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Sibling Groups Where All Siblings are Placed Together |
| *Measure Description* | This measure is the percent of sibling groups with two or more children in out-of-home care as of the end of the report period where all siblings are placed together. |
| *Report Period* | The last day of the report month (e.g. June 30, 2020 for the report month ending June 30, 2020).  |
| *Performance Target* | >=65% |
| *Denominator* | The number of sibling groups with two or more children in out-of-home care as of the report period. |
| *Numerator* | The subset of sibling groups in the denominator where all siblings in out-of-home care are placed together. |
| *Algorithm* | Select all sibling groups with two or more children in out-of-home care. The numberator is the count of sibling groups in the denominator where all siblings in out-of-home care are placed with the same provider as of the end of the report period. If siblings in a group where all siblings are placed together have different placement types, the placement type with the most siblings placed is displayed. If more than one placement type has the same number of siblings placed, the type with the youngest sibling placed is displayed. A sibling group is counted in the region, circuit, Community-Based-Care (CBC) lead agency, and county based on the primary caseworker assigned as of the end of the report period.  |

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months

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| *Measure Title* | Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency and not Re-Entering Care withing 12 Months |
| *Measure Description* | The percent of exits from out-of-home care to permanency for a cohort of children who entered out-of-home care during the report period and exited within twelve (12) months of entering and no not re-enter out-of-home care within twelve (12) months of their permanency date. |
| *Report Period* | The twelve month period ending twenty-four months prior to the end of the report month (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 for report quarter of SFY 2017-2018, Q4)  |
| *Performance Target* | >=94.4% |
| *Denominator* | The number of children who entered out-of-home care during the report period and achieved permanency within twelbe months of their removal date. |
| *Numerator* | The subset of children in the denominator where the child did not re-enter out-of-home care within twelve months of their permanency date.  |
| *Algorithm* | Select all children who entered out-of-home care during the report period and achieved permamency within twelve months of their removal date. The numerator is the subset of children in the denominator who did not re-enter out-of-home care within twelve months of achieving permanency. Only one re-entry can occur for each exit from out-of-home care. Removal episodes which are ended with a discharge reason of “Dismissed by court” (including discharge reason of Reunification where the placement ending reason is “Dismissed by Court”) are not considered a re-entry into care.  |