



2018 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2017-18

OFFICE OF CHILD WELFARE

OCTOBER 2018

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Department of Children and Families Service Structure

Regions, Circuits, Counties, and CBC Lead Agencies

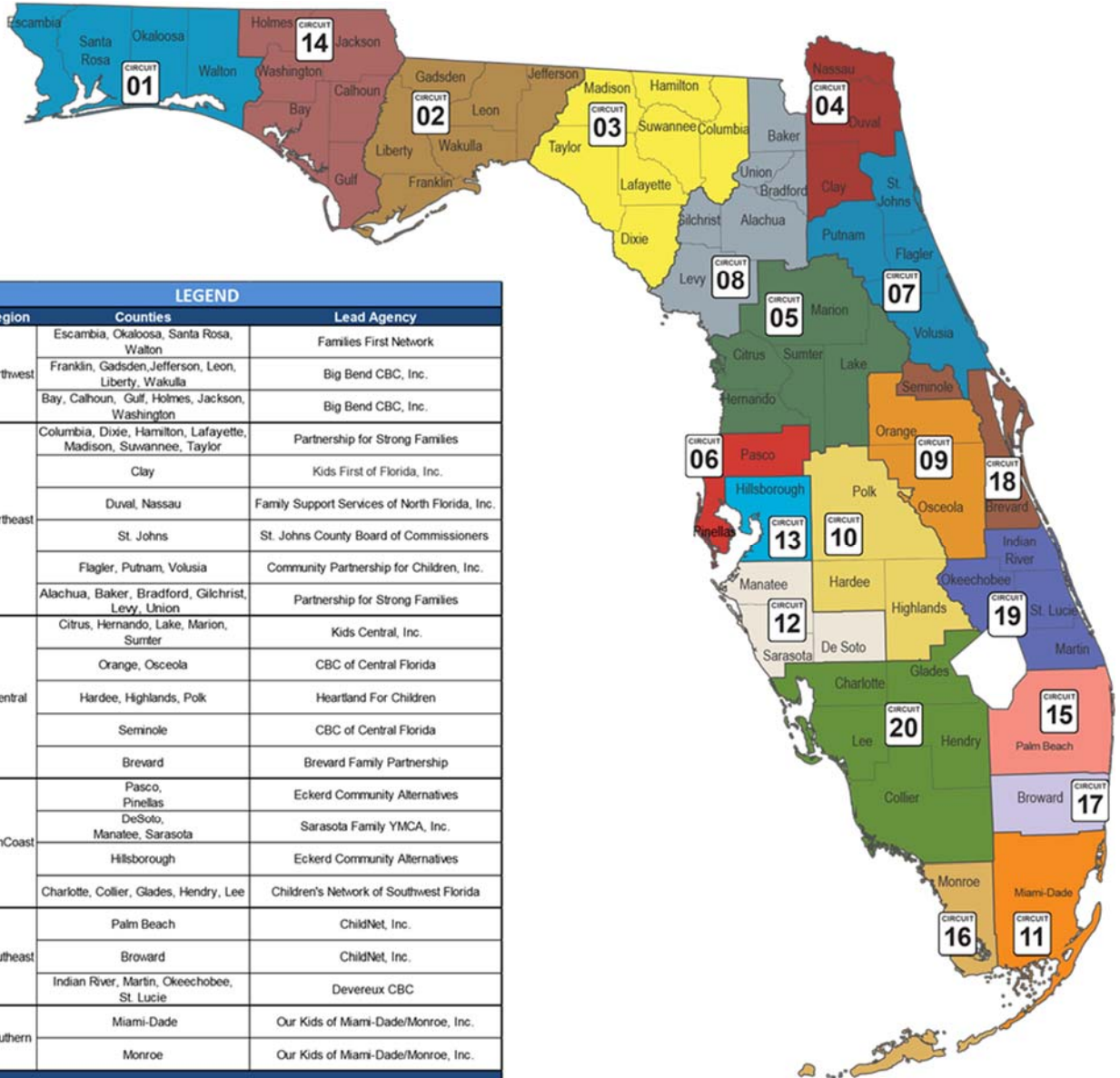


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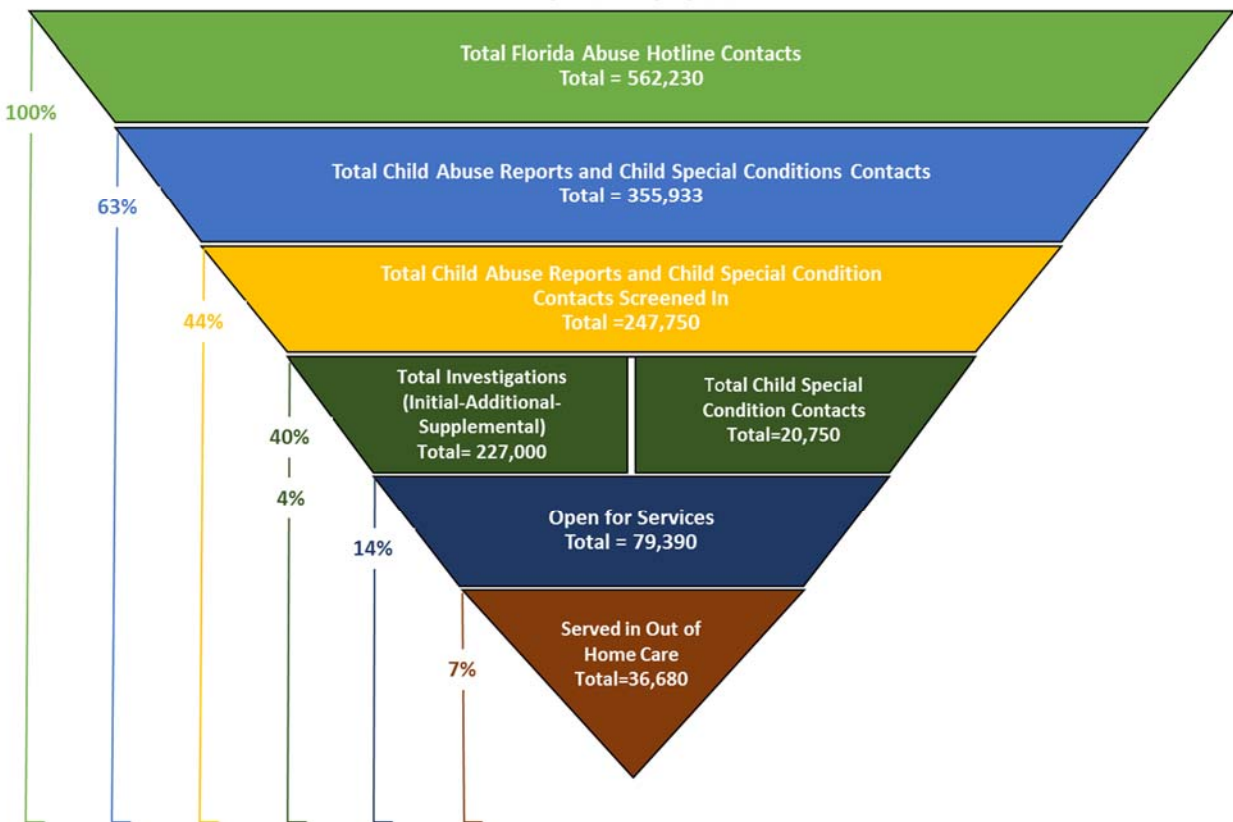
Abbreviations included in this Report

- Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)
- Child Protective Investigator (CPI)
- DCF Office of Child Welfare (OCW)
- Family Support Services (FSS)
- Florida Continuous Quality Improvement Reviews (FL CQI)
- Florida Department of Children and Families (department) (DCF)
- Florida Institute for Child Welfare (FICW)
- Foster Care (FC)
- Foster Home (FH)
- Lead Agency for Community-Based Care (CBC)
- Out-of-Home Care (OHC)
- Quality Assurance (QA)
- Quality Improvement (QI)
- Rapid Safety Feedback Reviews (RSF)
- Results-Oriented Accountability Program (ROA)
- State Fiscal Year (SFY)

Child Welfare in Florida

Florida’s community-based child welfare system was created to prevent child abuse, neglect, and abandonment through a partnership between the Department of Children and Families, other state agencies, the courts, law enforcement agencies, service providers, and local communities. It is designed to provide equal protection to children through consistent intake decision-making regarding the children served and local systems of care to meet varying community needs, matching the needs of children and families to community resources, and allowing flexible development of evidence-based and promising approaches to the protection of children.

Florida Child Protection System Overview 2017-18 SFY



Intake for the community-based system of care is provided by the department and county sheriffs’ offices, which determine whether children and families should receive services and what kind of services:

- The Florida Abuse Hotline receives more than 300,000 child-related calls, web reports, and faxes annually and screens-in those which meet the requirements for investigation or assessment of special conditions with no alleged maltreatment.
- Child Protective Investigations (CPI) are conducted by county sheriffs’ offices in seven counties and the department in the other 60 counties. Investigators determine the need for post-investigation services, including protecting the child through removal and placement in

OHC, or through case-managed, in-home services (by court order or non-judicially), or through informal voluntary family support services.

Section 409.986(1), Florida Statutes, requires that post-investigation services be provided through contracting with Community-Based Care Lead Agencies (CBCs) and emphasizes that:

- Communities have responsibility for and participation in ensuring safety, permanence, and well-being for all children in the state.
- Outsourcing must be accompanied by comprehensive oversight of the programmatic, administrative, and fiscal operation of those entities. The appropriate care of children is ultimately the responsibility of the state and outsourcing such care does not relieve the state of its responsibility to ensure that appropriate care is provided.

Section 409.997, Florida Statutes, requires the department to develop and implement a comprehensive, results-oriented accountability program (ROA), which includes monitoring outcomes. Florida's complex child welfare system has many entities sharing responsibility for child welfare outcomes. ROA includes data analysis; research review and evaluation; and an assessment of performance of individual entities and groups of entities working together to provide an integrated system of care. ROA incorporates a limited number of outcome measures using available data to quantify outcomes as children move through the system of care. Results are transparent for all parties in the child welfare system, policymakers, and the public. This report includes some of the ROA outcomes and other key outcome and process indicators.

Child Welfare Results-Oriented Accountability Program

The Child Welfare Results-Oriented Accountability Program was enacted by Chapter 2014-161, Laws of Florida, established in section 409.997(1), Florida Statutes, and is charged with the following primary purposes:

- Produce an assessment of individual entities' performance, as well as the performance of groups of entities working together on a local, regional, and statewide basis to provide an integral system of care.
- Monitor and measure the use of resources, the quality and amount of services provided, and child and family outcomes.
- Develop and maintain an inclusive, interactive, and evidence-supported program of quality improvement that is informed by data analysis and promotes individual skill building and organizational learning.

Pursuant to section 409.997, Florida Statutes, the ROA program includes the establishment of a technical advisory panel to advise the department on the implementation of the program.

Members of the technical advisory panel include:

- A Florida Senate legislative liaison;
- A Florida House of Representatives legislative liaison;
- A representative of the Florida Institute for Child Welfare at Florida State University
- Community-based care providers, including lead agency and community alliance representatives;
- Florida family representatives;
- Contract provider representatives; and
- Florida child advocate representatives.

An ROA Governance Committee was established in 2015. The Committee is chaired by the Secretary of the department. The focus of the Governance Committee is to set strategies for attaining the program's goals and gives authority for the use of resources to implement defined strategies to achieve identified outcomes. Members of the governance committee include:

- A representative of the Florida Institute for Child Welfare at Florida State University;
- Community-based care providers, including lead agency and community alliance representatives;
- Florida child advocate representatives;
- Sheriff Office representatives;
- Office of State Courts Administrator representatives;
- Florida family representatives; and
- Contract provider representatives.

Statutory Requirements for the Annual Report

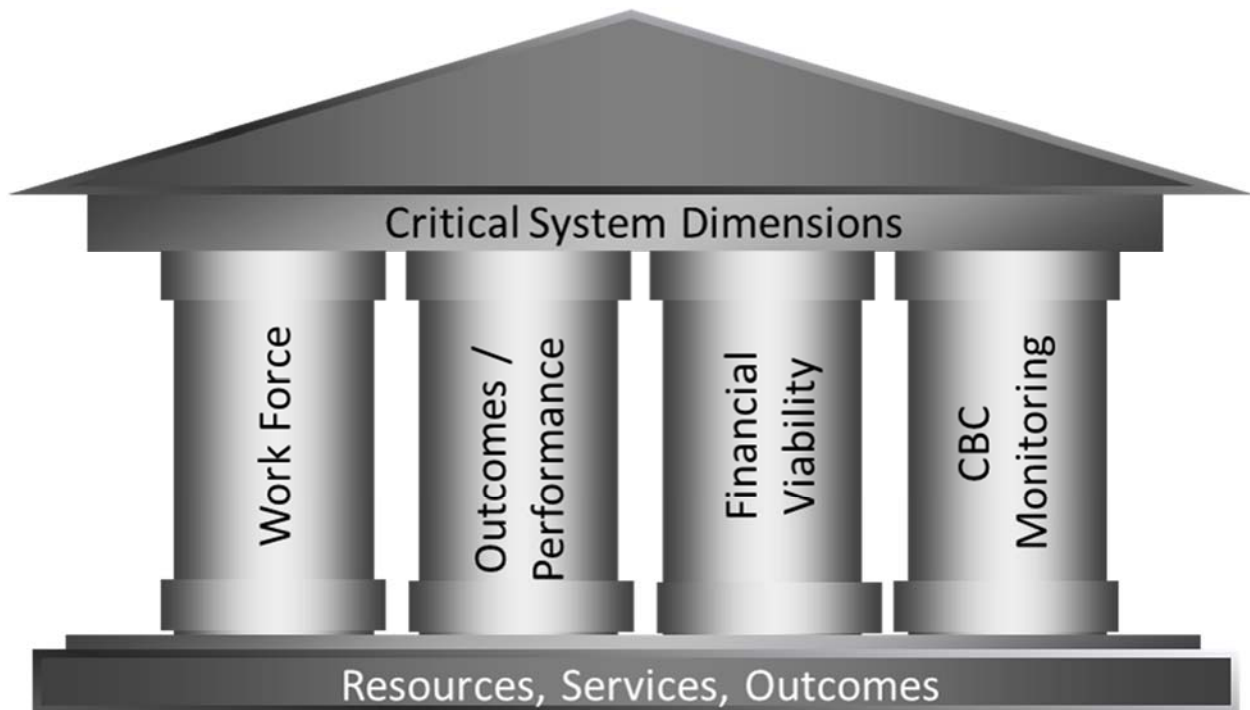
Pursuant to section 409.997, Florida Statutes, the department shall submit an annual ROA performance report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by October 1 of each year.

Results-Oriented Accountability – Critical System Dimensions

As ROA has evolved in Florida, the department has developed a critical system dimension framework that takes a holistic view of performance and the health of the system and has developed corresponding metrics to these critical system dimensions as outlined below.

This critical system dimension framework developed out of the department’s various performance monitoring efforts. The Florida child welfare system currently measures performance and overall system health through several distinct and separate monitoring processes (both formal and informal). These monitoring processes often work independently of each other and only focus on those aspects of the child welfare system that fall under the purview of that particular monitoring process. For example, financial viability monitoring only looks at those aspects of the child welfare system which impact financial viability, while CPI workforce monitoring looks at completely different aspects of the system.

Taking a holistic view of system components and monitoring efforts, the department developed four critical system dimensions: 1) Workforce, 2) Outcomes / Performance, 3) Financial Viability, and 4) CBC Monitoring.



The vast majority of all monitoring activities within the department’s child welfare system fall into one of these four critical system dimensions. These critical system dimensions represent the key aspects of the child welfare system and provide a comprehensive picture of overall system health.

The Florida ROA program distills the findings of the separate and distinct monitoring processes in each of the critical system dimensions into an overall system view of the measures/metrics identified as needing improvement, continued focus, or identified as an important driver or indicator of system health that should be kept front and center. The model takes the monitoring results of these critical system dimensions and presents the areas of concern to leadership during monthly performance management meetings. In these performance management meetings, department leadership helps to identify and prioritize which measures/metrics are areas in need of improvement.

The identified areas of improvement (key indicators) in each of the critical system dimensions are monitored with the help of measures/metrics which speak to each of these key indicators. Each of these key indicators are also assigned an owner as part of the performance improvement process.

The owner of the key indicator is responsible for carrying out (or ensuring that it occurs) a more detailed analysis of the problem, researching and taking actions to develop interventions for any identified root causes, and maintaining a continuous quality improvement process around this key indicator.

In this way, the ROA process, building on the performance management process, is following the ROA cycle of accountability.

Cycle of Accountability

Outcome Monitoring includes activities required to define, validate, implement and monitor outcome measures throughout the child welfare community.

Data Analysis encompasses approaches and procedures required to critically analyze performance results to determine if variances noted are in fact issues which should be explored further.

Research Review is a series of activities employed to gather and to validate evidence to support interventions to address results not meeting expectations.

Evaluation includes the activities and procedures required to consider promising interventions for children and families to determine if implementation on a wider basis is warranted.

Quality Improvement is an integrated series of actions required to implement interventions across new domains, or to challenge, modify, and test new assumptions about the underlying goals supporting the child welfare practice model.



Following the Cycle of Accountability, new measures may be added to the list of key indicators and pulled into the monthly performance management process, while other measures may be removed as performance increases.

Executive Summary

The Results-Oriented Accountability Annual Report for SFY 2017-18 describes the current status of Florida's community-based child welfare system. The report follows the flow of Florida's child welfare system from the Florida Abuse Hotline to child protective investigations to case management. The report uses trend charts that show change over time and comparison charts that show Florida in relation to other states and each circuit or area in Florida in relation to other areas.

A snapshot of key system health measures is included in this annual report on the following page. The Health of the System Snapshot is a high-level look at the key trends and metrics as of the last day of SFY 2017-18. This snapshot is intended to show the interaction of many of the measures included in this longer report.

Following the case flow pathway, this snapshot shows how lower hotline screen-in volume helps to drive lower investigative workload. This lower workload, however, does not necessarily correspond with higher retention of Child Protective Investigators, as may be expected.

The statewide count of cumulative removals dropped significantly over last SFY, but this did not correspond with a higher utilization of in-home services, or Family Support Services (FSS). The reduction in shelters also did not lead to a reduction in the overall out-of-home care population.

Florida's out-of-home care population grew despite fewer removals in SFY 2017-18. This is due to discharges falling for the second straight year. Even though removal rates are at a four-year low, discharge rates remain largely below removal rates. Reunification rates also dropped for the second straight year, which has negatively impacted Florida's performance on achieving permanency within 12 months and has slowed Florida's discharge rate. This reduction in reunification also means that less families are involved in the required post-placement supervision that accompanies reunification. This may be one of the reasons that in-home services numbers are at an all-time low, but it cannot account for the majority of the decrease in this service type.

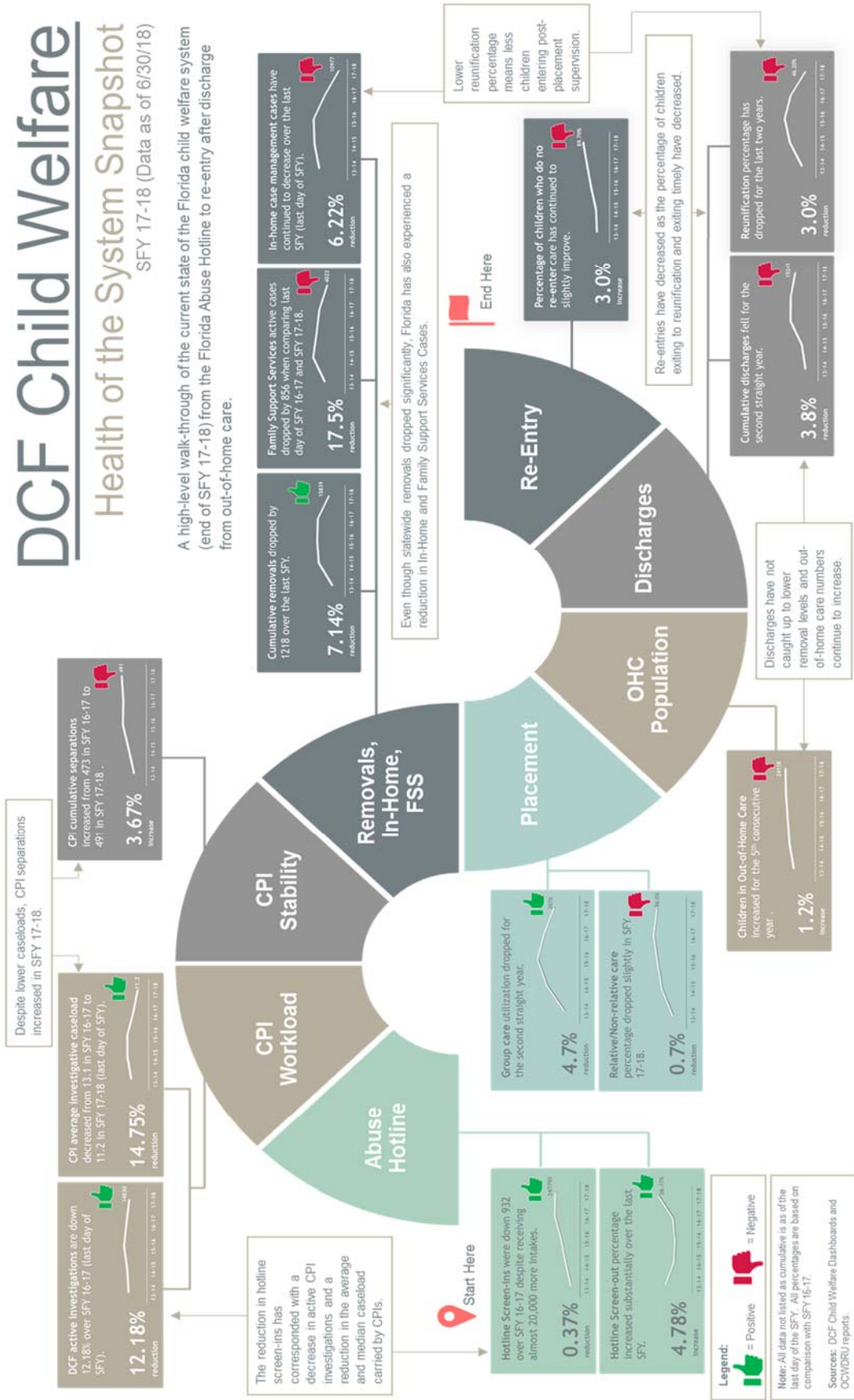
Finally, re-entry into out-of-home care within 12 months for children who achieved permanency within 12 months increased for the third straight year.

Florida Health of the System Snapshot

DCF Child Welfare Health of the System Snapshot

SFY 17-18 (Data as of 6/30/18)

A high-level walk-through of the current state of the Florida child welfare system (end of SFY 17-18) from the Florida Abuse Hotline to re-entry after discharge from out-of-home care.



This system health snapshot shows some key metrics and tells the overall high-level story of the current state of the child welfare system as of the last day of SFY 2017-18. It follows a general case flow from Hotline through discharge and (potentially) re-entry into out-of-home care.

The remainder of this report—beginning first with demographic information—also follows the flow of Florida’s child welfare system from the Florida Abuse Hotline to child protective investigations to case management. The following bullet points and federal measures provide a summary of this data.

Demographics:

- Florida’s child population increased by 4.24% from 4,031,098 in 2007 to 4,201,983 in 2017, compared to a 0.5% decrease in the United States’ child population during the same period.
- Florida’s poverty rate for 2015 was 2% higher than the comparable national average. Statewide, Florida’s poverty rate has dropped since 2012 and rates vary when stratified by area (circuit/county).

Intake into the Child Welfare System:

- Florida’s child maltreatment reporting rate exceeds the national average (including twice the national average in SFY 2012-13) and Florida is in the top 10 states in the nation for reporting by calculating children investigated per 1,000 children in the general population. Statewide, reporting rates vary considerably by area with the highest rate area more than three times the size of the lowest rate area.
- Reports to the Florida Abuse Hotline follow a seasonal trend and, in 2016, the Hotline’s acceptance of allegations of child maltreatment was higher than the national average (and in the lowest quartile). However, the Hotline screen-in rate has steadily decreased during the last two SFYs.

Child Protective Investigators:

- Incoming and active investigative workload decreased during SFY 2017-18, as did investigations that are open over 60 days. All three of these measures were at a three-year low as of the last day of the SFY. However, statewide performance in completing investigations within 60 days is still currently below the 99% standard, though 18 circuits and sheriffs’ offices completed over 90% of investigations within 60 days in SFY 2015-16, and two met the 99% standard target.
- Florida has consistently maintained high timeliness in responding to alleged maltreatment within 24 hours compared to the national average. In 2016, Florida had the fastest response time of all states that reported.
- There is variation among circuits and sheriff’s offices in making a safe/unsafe determination using the department’s safety practice guidelines, as well as in the proportion of families receiving services after the conclusion of an investigation, with the use of Family Support Services having the highest variation. The majority (54.7%) of children determined “unsafe” were removed from their home and 39.1% received in-home services, totaling 93.8% of children determined to be “unsafe” receiving ongoing case management. Of children who were determined to be safe, 91.0% did not receive ongoing case management services, 1.0% received ongoing case management, and 1.0% were in OHC.

Children Removal Rates:

- Removal rates per 1,000 children in the general population and per 100 children in investigations are both calculated in the ROA Annual Report. Florida's entry rate into foster care per 1,000 children in the general population has been historically higher than the national average. Florida's rates have been steadily increasing, ranging from 3.7 to 4.3 per 1,000 in the last four state fiscal years. There is a wide variation when comparing historical removal rates for circuits and sheriffs' offices.
- Florida's removal rate per 100 children investigated stayed comparatively high based on historical performance. Florida's rate is historically much lower than the national rate, and remains so, despite the higher rates.

Community-Based Care:

- The gap between the number of children in OHC and the number of children protected in their own homes continues to widen with increases in OHC and decreases in in-home services. There is high variation statewide in the mix of services provided and the relationship between the number of children being actively protected and children in investigations. The number of children in OHC nationally has increased since 2013 with Florida's rise sharper than the nation. Florida's OHC rate per 1,000 children in 2016 (the most recent year available) is comparable to the national average. Several states have rates that are twice as high as Florida's. The rate of children in care compared to the general population has increased over the last three state fiscal years to 5.7 per 1,000, but is still below the 7 per 1,000 level that was the norm in SFY 2004-05 through SFY 2006-07.
- The increase in OHC in Florida is primarily due to a decrease in discharge rates, rather than an increase in removal rates. There is wide variation around the state, with the highest rates more than twice the lowest rates. The recent increase in OHC was driven by increases in removals with no increase in discharges. Florida's discharge rate in the last three state fiscal years has been at the lowest point in the last decade with wide variation across the state. Using national data to compare total discharges each Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) to children in care at the end of the FFY, Florida's rate has been consistently above the national average from 2003 through 2015. The last available national data was for FFY 2016, ending September 30, 2016. Florida's exit rate of 64.8 per 100 children in care is above the national average of 59.5.

Federal Measures:

The ROA Annual Report presents seven data indicators established by the United States Children's Bureau (Children's Bureau) for Round 3 of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR-3) to support the three Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA) goals and outcomes, as well as the nine outcomes established in section 409.986, Florida Statutes. The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are currently being revised by the Children's Bureau.

Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect. The most recent national data (2015) indicates that Florida's observed performance of 8.4% recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months was better than the initial standard and national average of 9.1%. Florida presents performance on this indicator positively as "non-recurrence." The percent has been trending

upwards and began to exceed the initial standard in 2013-14. There has been overall improvement across the state since 2009-10, with 19 areas exceeding the target in the SFY 2016-17 cohort. The percent of children in investigations with at least one finding of verified maltreatment has been declining over the last five state fiscal years. As only verified maltreatment is included in the measurement of recurrence, the decline in percent verified may have had a significant impact in lowering the rates of measured recurrence of maltreatment. Variation in verification rates statewide affects variation in measured recurrence of maltreatment.

Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care. Maltreatment in foster care is measured as a rate per 100,000 days in care. The most recent national data (2015) indicates that Florida's observed rate of 9.02 for the period under review does not meet the initial standard. Florida's calculated rates are somewhat different from the rate appearing in the federal data profile used for CFSR-3, which uses Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and National Child Abuse and Neglect Data (NCANDS) files submitted by states. Florida's calculated rates are higher and have shown overall improvement in the last six years with strong declines in 2016-17 and 2017-18 (meeting the measure for the first time in the last seven years).

The percent of children with no verified maltreatment *during* case-managed, in-home services remained steady at around 94%. The percent of children with no verified maltreatment within six months *after termination* of case-managed services improved to 96.7% for the SFY 2016-17 cohort.

Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care. The three indicators of timely permanency measure achievement of permanency within 12 months for three different cohorts of children, based on a certain period or date (12 months, 12-23 months, and 24+ months). Florida's performance on the 12-month permanency measure has steadily declined over the last five years and is no longer meeting the national standard. The two other permanency cohorts are still meeting the corresponding national standards.

Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry. National comparison data on the CFSR federal measure is older data and has been replaced in this report with a proxy measure of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of exiting care, regardless of their original length of stay in foster care. In this measure, Florida is slightly below the national average. More recent data shows that the state is not meeting the national target, despite five years of increasing performance.

Florida is consistently one of the top states for **case management visits** with children in care. Florida is also consistently in the top nationwide when comparing the percentage of monthly visits that were made to the child's home. Florida's exemplary performance is consistent throughout the state. Florida's indicator measures percent of visits completed within 30 days of the last visit and is consistently near 100%.

Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption. There is wide variation among Florida circuits on judicial handling time. Florida's statewide average for children with a goal of reunification and no termination of parental rights activity after 15 months was 6.8% on June 30, 2018, with wide variation among circuits. The statewide median of timeliness of termination of parent rights, from petition to order, was 160 days in SFY 2017-18, with wide variation among the circuits. The

statewide median for time from removal date to disposition order was 57 days in SFY 2017-18, with wide variation, compared to a statewide target of 90 days.

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability. The recent growth in children in OHC has been met primarily by increased use of kinship placements, the benefits of which include reduced trauma, maintained familial connections, and reduced costs of care. Until SFY 2016-17, statewide performance had been slightly better than the initial national standard of 4.12 placement moves per 1,000 days in foster care. Florida has failed to meet this measure the last two years.

Statewide performance for the percent of siblings placed together slightly peaked June 30, 2013, at 66.88% but has declined since then and is consistently below Florida's own standard of 65%. Only eight of Florida's 19 CBCs are at or above the 65% standard.

In the last few years, there has been a slight reduction in the percent of children placed outside their removal circuit over the last two years, while the percent placed outside their removal county has remained stable. Children in licensed OHC placed outside of their removal county show wide variation across Florida circuits, with urban areas generally placing more children *within* their removal county, and circuits with larger rural areas placing more children outside their removal county. The percent of children placed outside of their removal circuit is lower than the percent of children placed out-of-county, as many children not placed in their home county are placed in a neighboring county within the same circuit.

Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions. The proportion of children of all ages in licensed care who are placed in group care averages 8.57% statewide. Overall, the percentage of very young children (ages 0-5 years) placed in group care is generally quite low (0.56%). The percentage of children in group care increases with age, with a statewide average of 9.16% of children ages 6-12 and 29.5% of children ages 13-17 placed in a group home environment as of June 30, 2018.

Statewide performance on children in OHC who receive medical services improved from less than 80% in 2011 to a stable 97% over the last few years. All but one Florida area is above the 95% target on this indicator. Statewide performance on children in OHC who receive dental services improved from around 65% in 2011 to more than 90% in the last few years, but still under the state target. Eight areas are above the statewide target of 95%, with another five areas falling above the 90% level.

All but three Florida areas are above the statewide target of 80% on young adults who age out of foster care and have completed or are enrolled in a secondary education, vocational training, or adult education program. Florida has exceeded the state target since SFY 2012-13.

Indicators Presented in this Report

This report provides charts for a set of indicators describing the current status of Florida's community-based child welfare system. The sequence follows the flow of Florida's child welfare system from the Florida Abuse Hotline to child protective investigations to case management. CBC indicators are structured around the three national goals of Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being.

This report uses trend and comparison charts. Trend charts show change over time. Comparison charts show Florida in relation to other states, and each area in Florida in relation to other areas. Such comparisons are included to provide appropriate context. For example, if Florida appears to be trending in the wrong direction on a given indicator, it is useful to see Florida's performance in relation to the nation.

The indicators in this report show wide variation from state to state and community to community. Many of the measured differences between states reflect differences in laws and reporting systems, as well as differences in populations served. Variation within Florida may also be due in part to varying demographics of populations served and different levels of community resources to support children and families. The flexibility to meet varying community needs means that Florida's varying systems of care will have different mixes of services, which may lead to varying levels of performance on outcome measures.

Caution should be used in comparing states, circuits, and CBCs. Comparisons may trigger celebration of high performance or signal a need for improvement. More often, recognition of differences will trigger questions about how the state is different from others and how Florida's communities are different.

Demographic Context of the Child Welfare System

Wide variation on various indicators, including removals and discharges, service mix, and measured outcome performance, are present throughout the report. There are also some important context differences between communities, including wide variations in the proportion of children living in poverty and the public response to maltreatment measured through maltreatment reporting rates. Both indicators are included on the following pages.

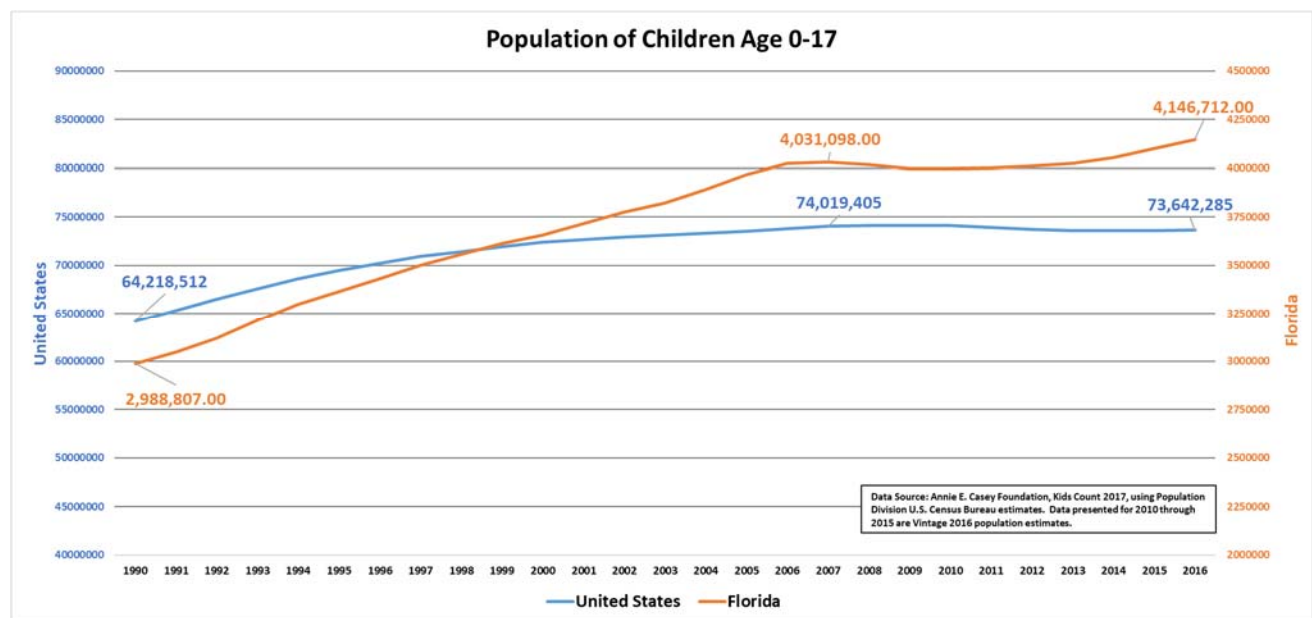
Although additional indicators, such as teen births, employment, education, crime, etc., are not included in this report, such indicators can contribute toward a broader understanding of how such variations might affect community-level indicators in this report. Other variables to consider include:

- The allocation of resources to various components by CBCs, including the mix of case management, residential placement (e.g., foster family homes vs. group care), safety management, and other direct services.
- The availability of additional resources devoted to child welfare, such as those with Children’s Services Councils supported by local taxes.
- Indicators such as median income, the number of children compared to the general population, and income inequality.

Growth in Child Population

Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Estimates

The United States’ child population decreased by 0.05% from 74,019,405 in 2007 to 73,655,378 in 2017. In contrast, Florida’s child population increased by 4.24% from 4,031,098 in 2007 to 4,201,983 in 2017.

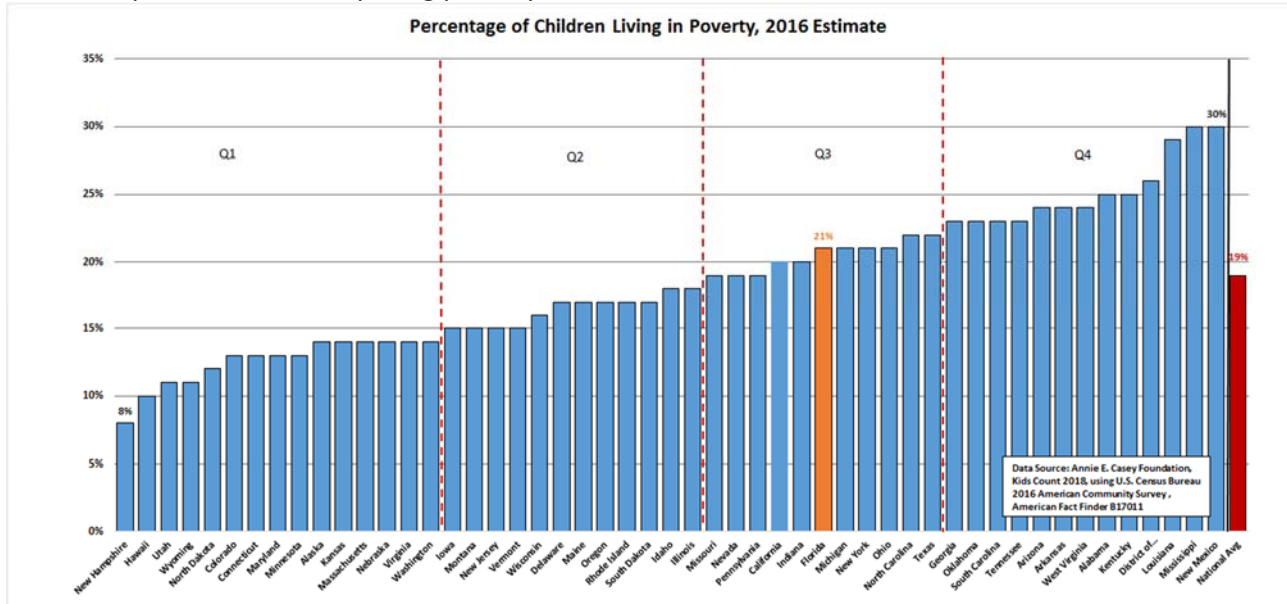


Children Living in Poverty

When comparing communities on various child welfare indicators, poverty is an important factor to consider, including its relationship to reporting rates and implications for service needs.

Florida Compared to Other States

Florida's child poverty rate of 21% in 2016 was higher than the 19% national average. Florida was in the third quartile when comparing poverty rates of all states.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Statewide, Florida's poverty rate has dropped slightly since 2012 with higher percentages in Circuits 3, 8, and 10 (26%); and lower percentages in Circuits 7 (9%), 4 and 18 (14%).

Estimated Percentage of Children Living in Poverty by Calendar Year					
Area	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Families First Network-Circuit 01	24%	24%	21%	22%	20%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	26%	28%	26%	27%	24%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	31%	30%	28%	28%	26%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	15%	14%	16%	16%	14%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	26%	25%	26%	25%	20%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	12%	12%	11%	10%	9%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	32%	27%	28%	26%	22%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	30%	27%	27%	27%	24%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	25%	25%	24%	22%	21%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	23%	22%	22%	21%	22%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	29%	30%	28%	28%	26%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	27%	24%	23%	21%	20%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	20%	22%	21%	20%	19%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	24%	26%	22%	22%	20%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	26%	27%	26%	25%	22%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	28%	27%	26%	24%	24%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	23%	23%	22%	21%	19%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	21%	20%	20%	20%	18%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	30%	28%	28%	27%	25%
Statewide	26%	25%	24%	23%	21%

Data Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation County Health Rankings

Intake into the Child Welfare System

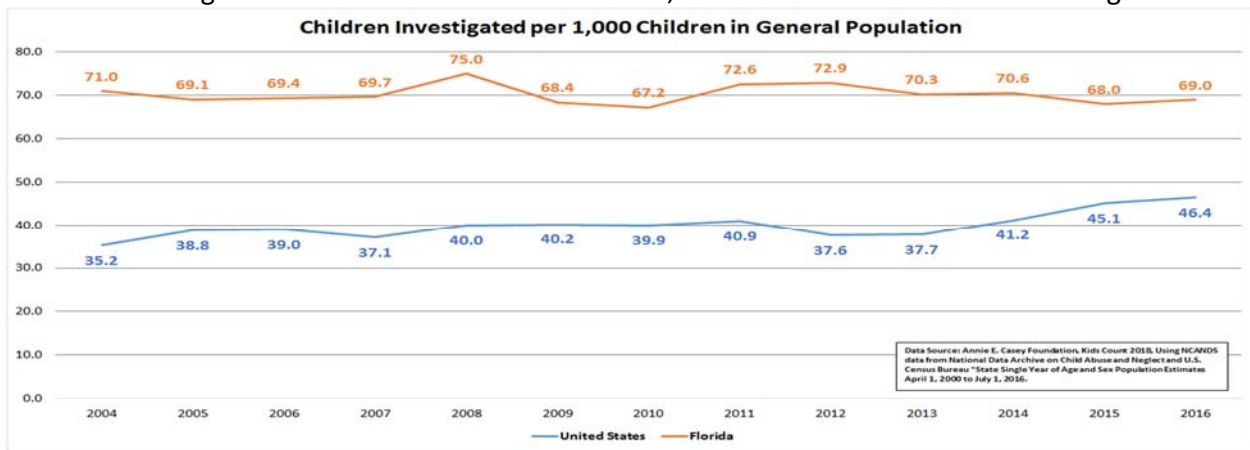
Maltreatment Reporting

Reporting Rate: Children Investigated Compared to Population

In 1971, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Abuse Hotline and child protective investigations in each of Florida’s 67 counties. Since that time, Florida has used this intake system as the “front door” of its child welfare system. According to a 2016 Florida study by the SAS Institute that followed a 2005 birth cohort for 10 years, *approximately one in every five children born in Florida in 2005 were reported at least once to the child welfare system within 60 months from birth.*

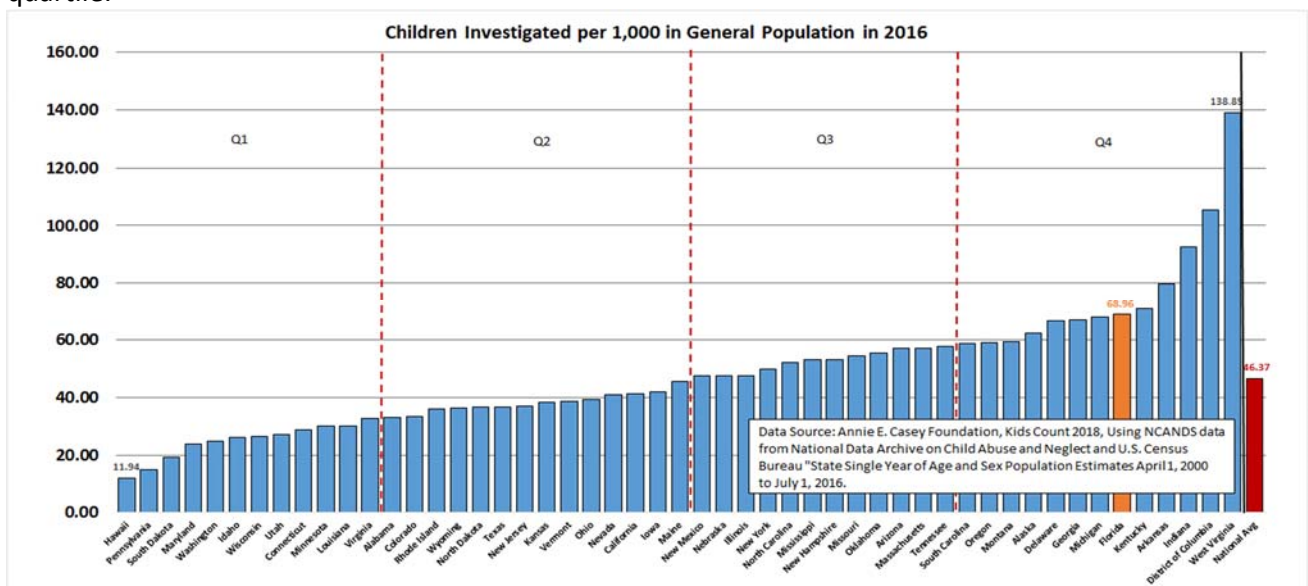
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

Florida’s investigation rate has been flat for a decade, but far exceeds the national average.



Florida Compared to Other States

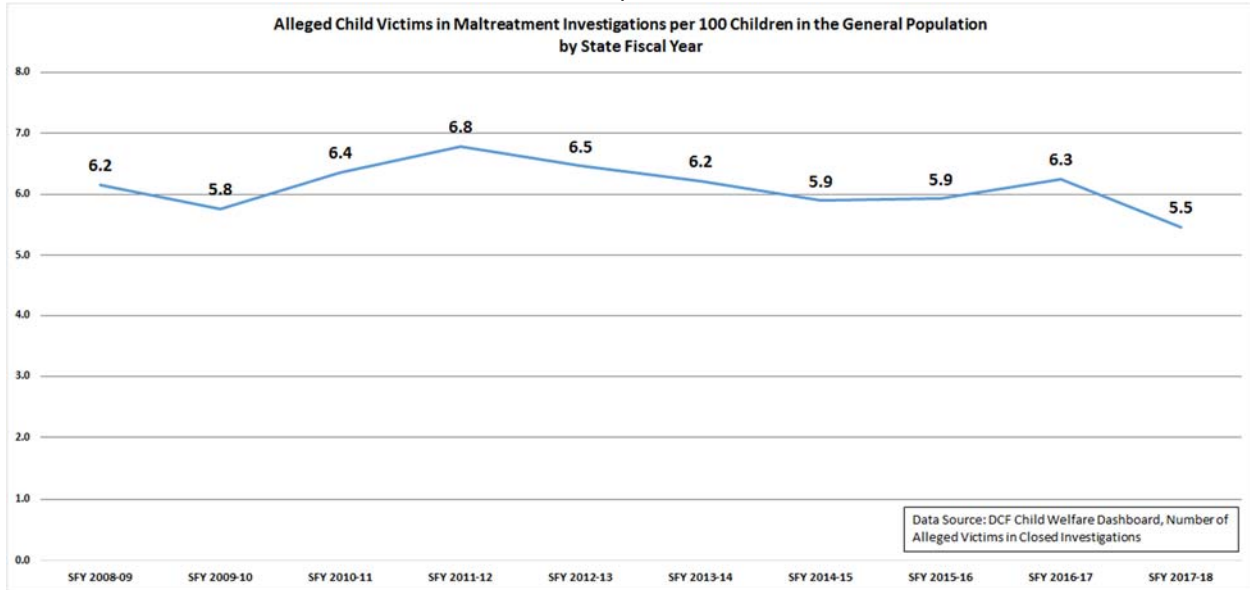
Florida’s investigation rate was the sixth highest in the nation in 2016, placing it in the lowest quartile.



Reporting Rate: Children Investigated Compared to Population

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida’s maltreatment reporting rate declined in SFY 2017-18. The dip in SFYs 2008-09 and 2009-10 was due to handling some allegations to the Hotline as “Parent Needs Assistance” special conditions referrals, rather than maltreatment reports.



Circuit Comparisons

Maltreatment reporting rates are extremely variable, with the highest rate (9.2) more than three times the size of the lowest rate (2.5).

Alleged Child Victims in Maltreatment Investigations per 100 Children in the General Population by State Fiscal Year 2017-18

Entity	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
DCF-Circuit 01	8.5	8.1	8.2	8.6	7.8
DCF-Circuit 02	6.4	6.5	6.4	7.6	6.0
DCF-Circuit 03	9.2	9.0	10.1	10.5	8.7
DCF-Circuit 04	7.4	6.9	7.1	7.4	6.4
DCF-Circuit 05	8.5	8.1	8.5	9.2	8.5
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	7.3	6.6	6.6	8.1	7.1
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	8.1	7.8	7.6	7.8	6.7
DCF-Circuit 07	7.5	6.9	7.7	8.1	7.0
DCF-Circuit 08	9.5	8.4	8.8	9.6	9.2
DCF-Circuit 09	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.4	4.8
DCF-Circuit 10	8.2	7.7	7.9	8.5	7.4
DCF-Circuit 11	3.2	3.1	2.8	3.0	2.5
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.5	5.8
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	8.6	7.8	7.9	8.4	6.8
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.4	4.7
DCF-Circuit 14	9.2	9.0	9.2	10.2	9.1
DCF-Circuit 15	5.2	4.8	4.6	4.7	3.9
DCF-Circuit 16	7.9	7.5	6.3	7.2	4.9
SO-Broward Circuit 17	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	3.7
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	8.0	7.7	7.8	8.7	7.7
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.4
DCF-Circuit 19	5.7	5.8	5.7	6.1	5.5
DCF-Circuit 20	6.5	5.9	6.1	6.6	5.8
Statewide	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.3	5.5

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Number of Alleged Victims in Closed Investigations

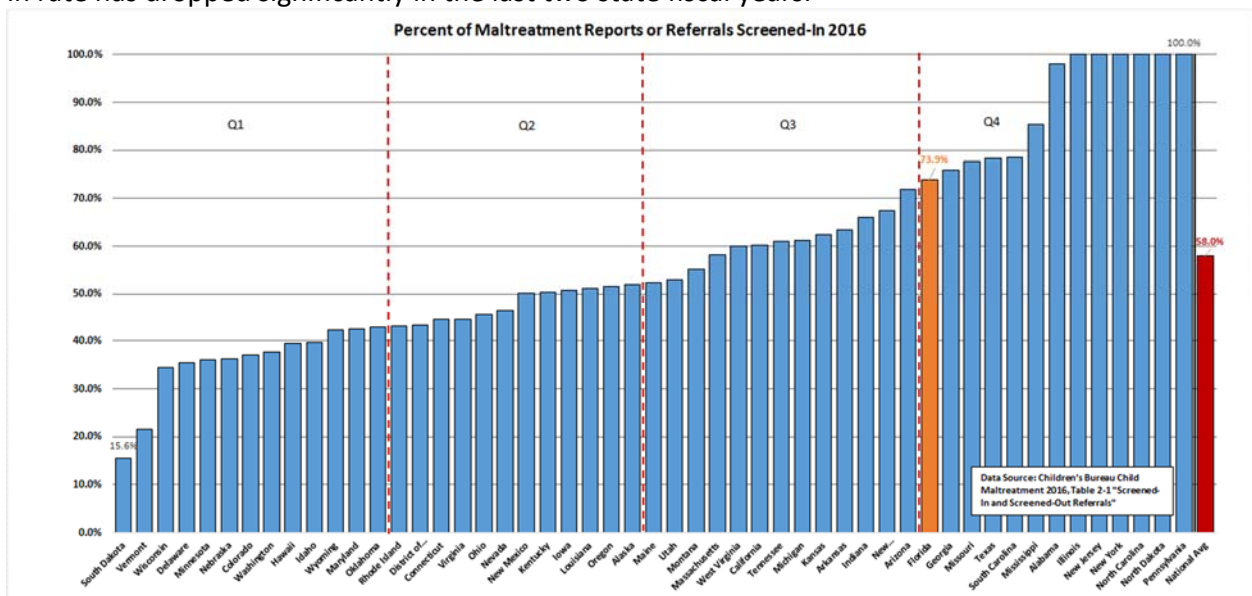
Florida Abuse Hotline

Intake Screening Rates

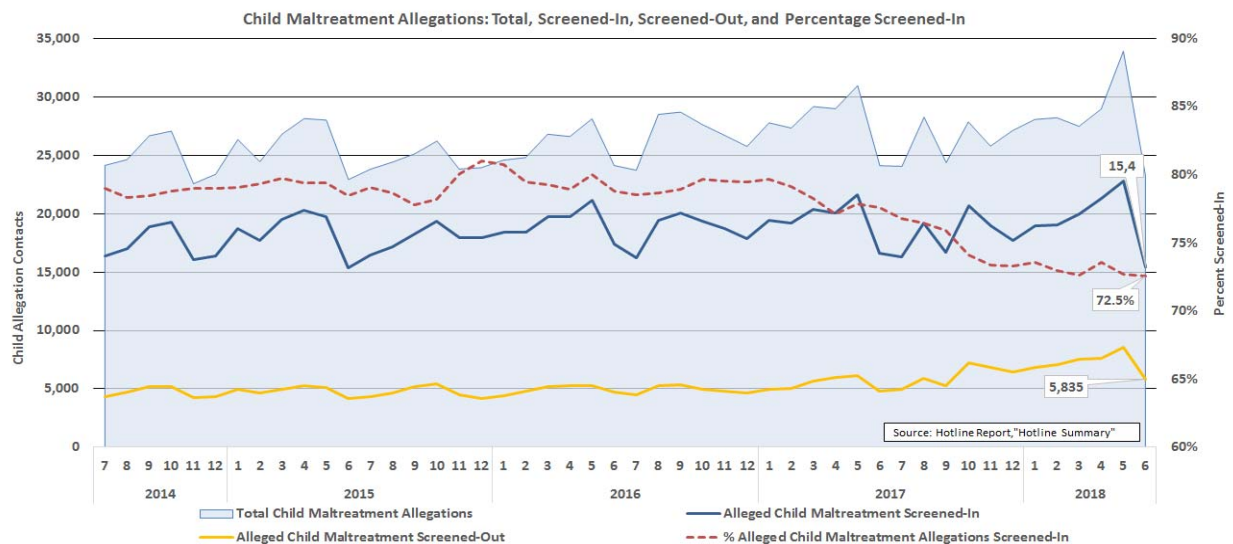
The first decision point in Florida’s child welfare system is the decision as to whether a reporter’s allegation(s) of maltreatment meet(s) the criteria to be accepted for investigation. Caution should be used in comparing states, due to varying laws, reporting mechanisms, and information systems, but Florida has traditionally had one of the highest screen-in rates.

Florida Compared to Other States

The most recent national data for the percentage of allegations screened-in is for 2016. Florida’s rate was above the national average and in the lowest quartile in 2016. However, Florida’s screen-in rate has dropped significantly in the last two state fiscal years.



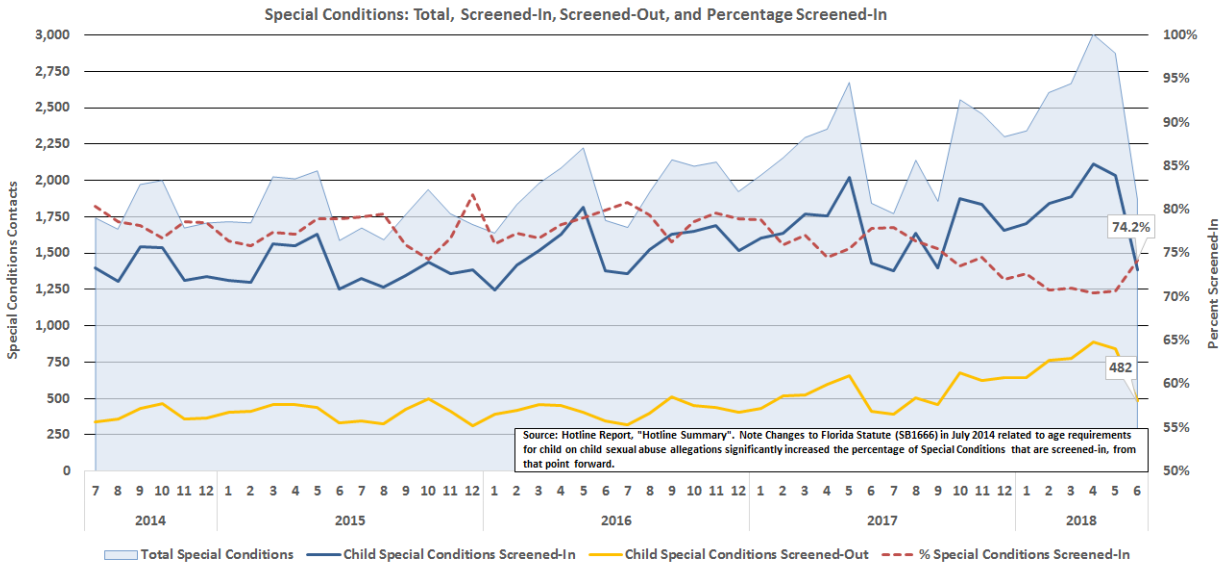
Florida Trend



Intake Screening Rates

Florida Trend

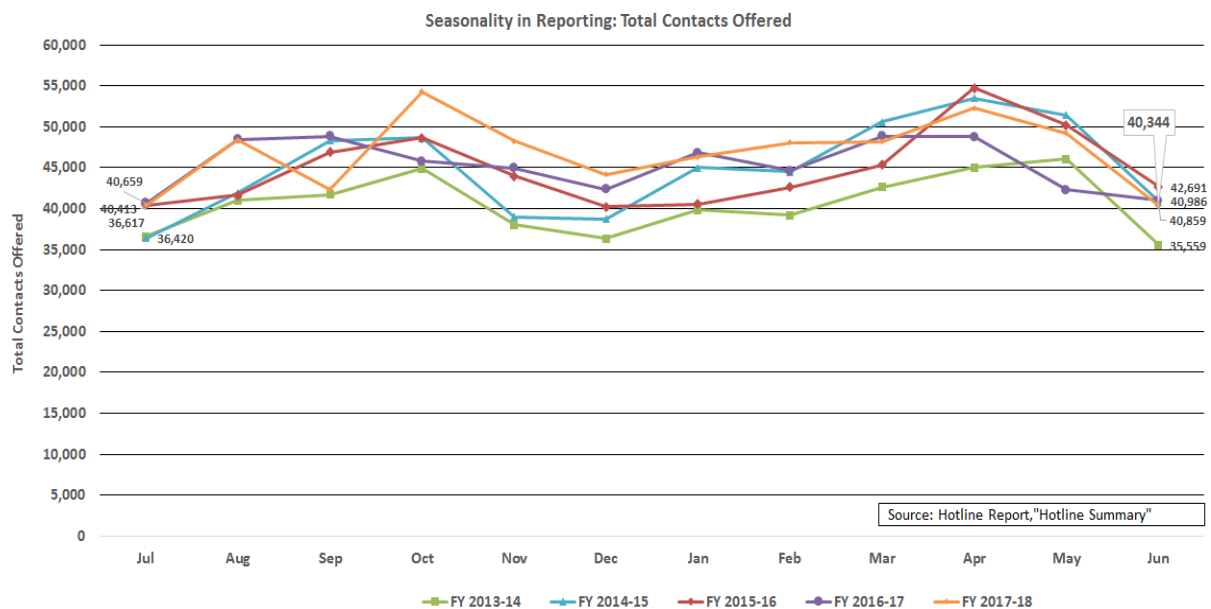
Florida's screen-in rate, which was above the national average in 2016, has decreased in the two subsequent years.



Seasonality of Reporting

Florida Trend

Reporting levels follow a fairly predictable seasonal pattern. Year-to-year fluctuations in the pattern may be due to wait times experienced by reporters to the Florida Abuse Hotline that may result in multiple contacts.



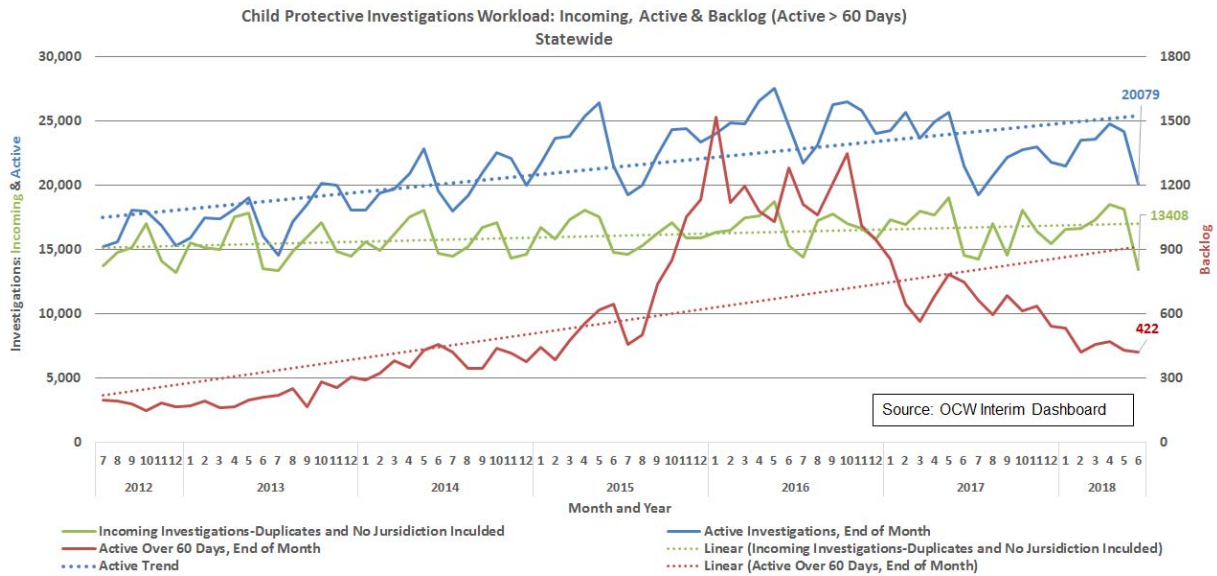
Child Protective Investigations

Workload Indicators

Florida Statewide Trends

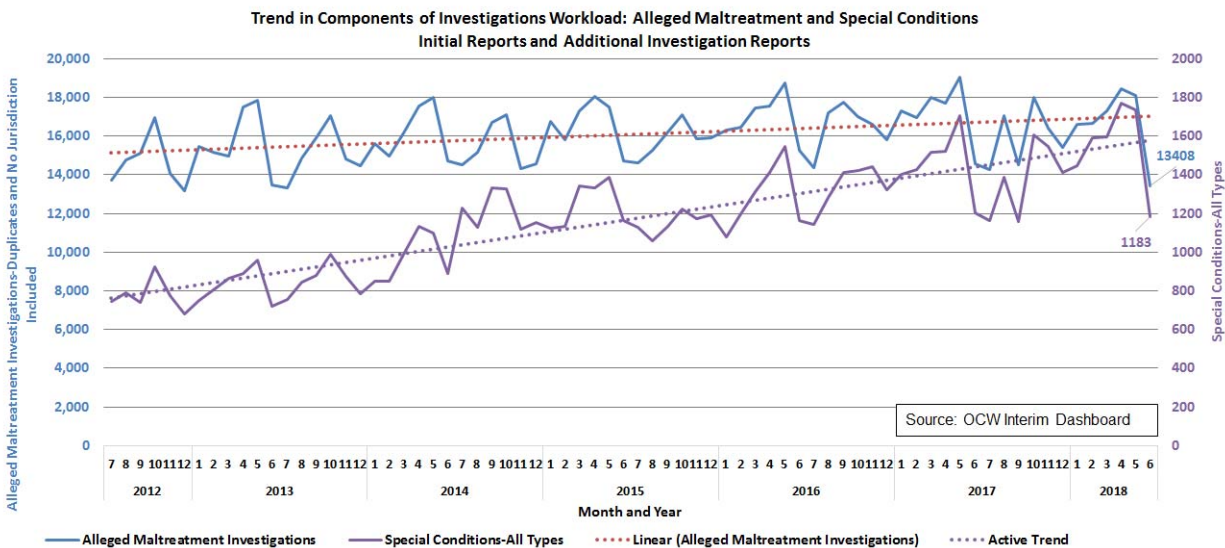
Incoming, Active, and Backlog Investigations

After a multi-year upward trend in incoming and active investigative workload, the trend over the last state fiscal year has been downward. The trend for active investigations open over 60 days (backlog) has been noticeably decreasing at a higher rate over the last two state fiscal years.



Maltreatment Investigations and Special Conditions Assessments

The relative growth in special conditions referrals—due to 2014 statutory changes related to child-on-child sexual abuse referrals—is greater than the growth in alleged maltreatment.

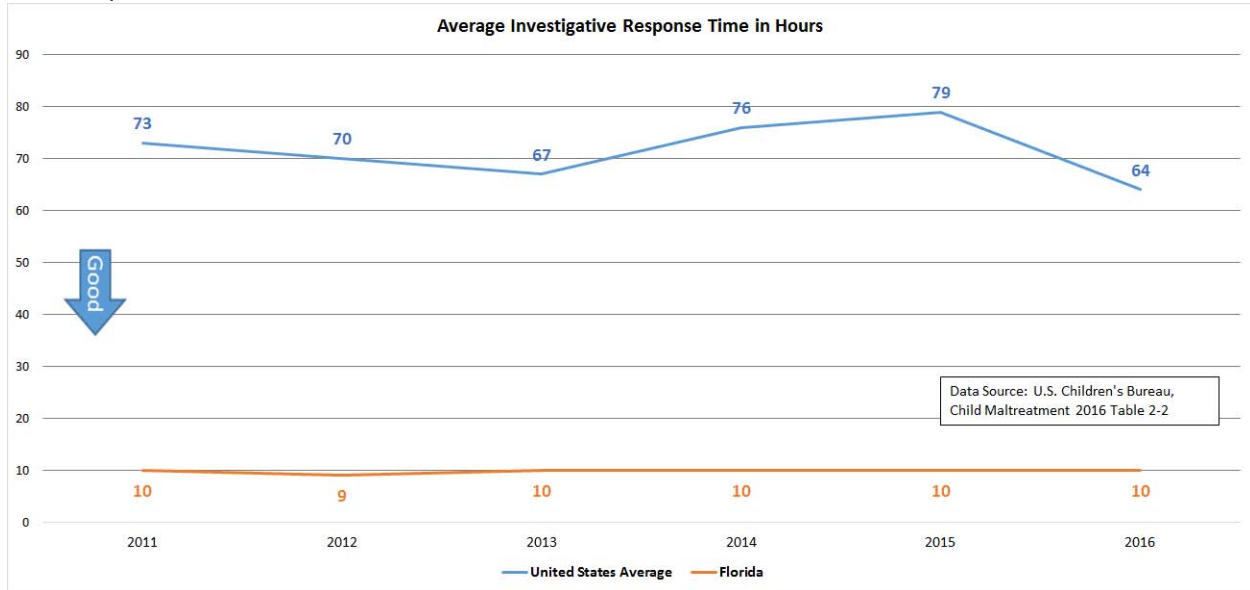


Average Investigative Response Time in Hours

Timeliness in responding to alleged maltreatment is important. Florida law requires that some investigations be commenced immediately while others are to be commenced within 24 hours. These requirements have contributed to Florida having an extremely fast investigative response time when compared to the national average.

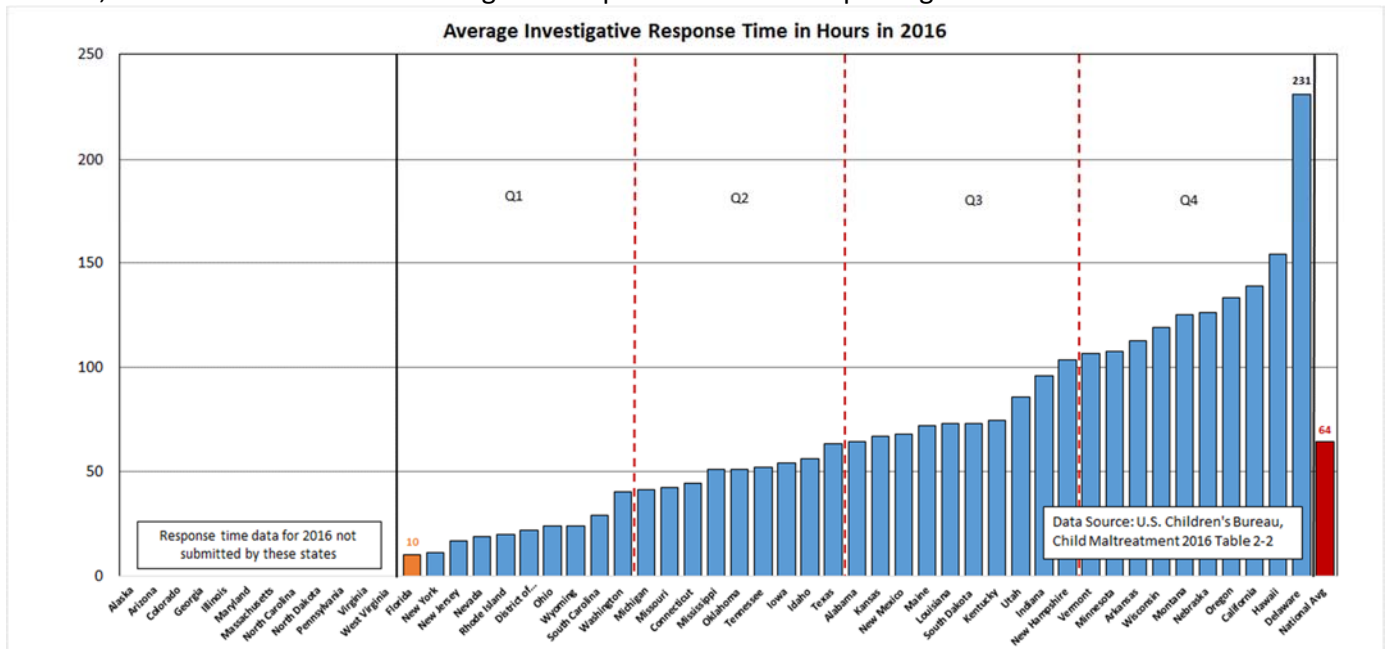
Trend: Florida vs. National Average

Florida has maintained consistently high performance over the years, including 2011 through 2016, the last year with available national data.



Florida Compared to Other States

In 2016, Florida had the fastest investigative response time of all reporting states.



Percent of Alleged Victims Seen within 24 Hours

In addition to initiating investigations in a timely manner, Florida also requires that investigators make timely face-to-face contact with each alleged victim.

Florida Statewide Trend

Although Florida's performance in timely investigative response has traditionally been high, performance in seeing all alleged victims within 24 hours continues to decline.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

Fifteen circuits and sheriffs' offices were at or above the statewide target of 85% or higher of alleged victims seen within 24 hours in SFY 2016-17.

Percent of Children Seen in 24 Hours by SFY																
DCF Standard is 85% or Higher																
Area	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18											
					7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
DCF-Circuit 01	91.6%	92.6%	88.9%	82.2%	80.6%	84.7%	90.0%	86.3%	86.1%	84.5%	86.8%	83.7%	81.1%	85.5%	83.2%	
DCF-Circuit 02	91.1%	88.2%	85.7%	78.7%	87.3%	91.9%	86.2%	86.7%	92.0%	81.5%	87.8%	86.7%	85.8%	88.0%	90.5%	
DCF-Circuit 03	91.4%	87.1%	78.4%	86.1%	88.9%	89.0%	88.7%	89.9%	81.5%	91.4%	89.9%	92.1%	93.8%	87.6%	95.7%	
DCF-Circuit 04	93.5%	91.6%	89.8%	87.0%	86.9%	87.1%	82.3%	88.8%	86.2%	87.4%	86.0%	87.2%	85.8%	85.1%	84.9%	
DCF-Circuit 05	96.3%	94.3%	93.4%	86.9%	85.9%	89.3%	89.1%	90.6%	90.0%	89.0%	94.4%	95.3%	92.9%	92.6%	91.5%	
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	94.5%	92.5%	90.0%	86.7%	89.9%	89.2%	87.8%	90.3%	91.2%	92.2%	91.8%	92.1%	89.2%	88.0%	89.7%	
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	97.0%	96.4%	94.8%	93.0%	88.5%	94.0%	87.4%	93.0%	91.0%	90.4%	92.8%	93.1%	90.4%	93.0%	91.6%	
DCF-Circuit 07	96.0%	93.8%	89.7%	87.2%	88.0%	88.4%	87.2%	88.7%	88.8%	88.4%	91.6%	88.9%	90.1%	92.1%	94.5%	
DCF-Circuit 08	93.5%	88.1%	81.6%	81.2%	85.1%	83.5%	85.6%	82.6%	84.0%	80.3%	84.4%	80.9%	81.0%	78.1%	83.4%	
DCF-Circuit 09	93.9%	92.8%	90.3%	85.8%	81.7%	83.9%	84.8%	90.3%	88.1%	89.2%	89.7%	93.3%	93.3%	92.3%	93.4%	
DCF-Circuit 10	95.1%	95.1%	93.0%	90.2%	90.6%	90.5%	93.6%	93.3%	93.8%	94.5%	94.2%	95.8%	95.6%	95.2%	93.6%	
DCF-Circuit 11	91.0%	89.3%	87.7%	80.6%	82.7%	83.3%	82.6%	83.9%	85.3%	83.6%	83.4%	83.6%	83.0%	85.2%	81.2%	
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	91.1%	87.6%	83.4%	84.3%	71.4%	86.5%	67.7%	74.8%	76.8%	78.6%	78.5%	82.8%	81.1%	82.1%	86.3%	
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	96.1%	94.0%	92.9%	93.9%	91.3%	93.3%	92.7%	95.8%	93.5%	94.5%	98.0%	95.1%	94.7%	95.8%	94.7%	
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	95.0%	94.9%	91.6%	90.1%	89.5%	92.1%	92.5%	92.1%	90.8%	90.8%	92.6%	92.6%	92.7%	90.9%	91.2%	
DCF-Circuit 14	95.4%	91.7%	87.7%	84.3%	85.4%	85.1%	89.4%	82.7%	84.6%	86.9%	87.7%	82.0%	84.1%	83.4%	86.3%	
DCF-Circuit 15	95.6%	95.5%	93.8%	90.6%	90.3%	91.0%	90.7%	90.5%	89.9%	91.1%	90.6%	91.2%	88.9%	90.8%	86.7%	
DCF-Circuit 16	96.1%	95.8%	88.2%	84.4%	93.6%	94.3%	78.6%	93.9%	96.2%	91.8%	88.5%	92.0%	83.8%	85.7%	87.7%	
SO-Broward Circuit 17	90.0%	89.1%	88.4%	83.1%	86.5%	85.1%	84.9%	90.7%	89.9%	87.3%	89.3%	87.0%	89.1%	90.7%	88.0%	
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	96.3%	94.3%	93.5%	88.2%	90.8%	91.1%	88.3%	92.7%	93.2%	88.2%	93.7%	96.5%	93.3%	95.6%	94.3%	
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	92.3%	92.9%	90.9%	87.8%	85.4%	90.8%	89.4%	92.4%	90.7%	91.5%	91.1%	93.7%	94.2%	90.6%	92.5%	
DCF-Circuit 19	96.2%	96.0%	94.5%	92.6%	88.7%	90.5%	93.0%	92.0%	91.8%	92.6%	94.2%	93.8%	94.4%	92.5%	91.7%	
DCF-Circuit 20	91.6%	89.3%	87.2%	87.9%	84.1%	88.9%	72.0%	88.2%	91.5%	89.4%	90.6%	87.7%	91.0%	91.4%	91.3%	
Statewide	93.9%	92.5%	90.1%	86.8%	86.2%	88.2%	86.7%	89.4%	89.0%	88.6%	90.1%	90.0%	89.5%	89.9%	89.6%	

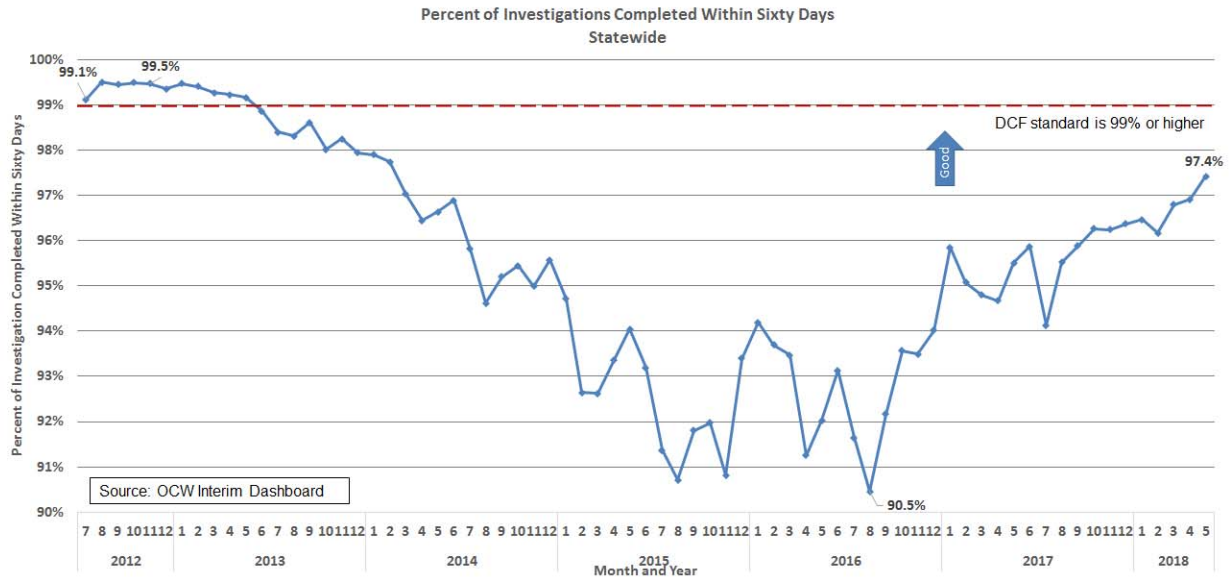
Data Source: OCW Interim Dashboard

Percent of Investigations Completed within 60 Days

Florida has a statutory requirement to complete all but a few types of investigations (death, missing children, and those with a specified concurrent criminal investigation) within 60 days.

Florida Statewide Trend

Statewide performance in completing investigations within 60 days has been increasingly steadily over the last two years, but is still below the 99% standard.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

Eighteen circuits and sheriffs' offices completed over 90% of investigations within 60 days in SFY 2016-17, and two met the 99% target.

Area	Percent of Investigations Completed in 60 Days				2017-18											
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4		
DCF-Circuit 01	98.9%	98.1%	86.5%	84.3%	87.5%	91.0%	86.9%	85.4%	86.3%	85.1%	85.2%	84.8%	93.4%			
DCF-Circuit 02	94.1%	59.4%	55.3%	81.3%	93.8%	95.2%	95.0%	92.9%	91.2%	92.5%	96.2%	94.0%	91.7%			
DCF-Circuit 03	97.8%	83.0%	78.5%	90.1%	86.2%	81.8%	90.8%	90.9%	98.0%	93.6%	97.5%	97.5%	95.9%			
DCF-Circuit 04	99.4%	97.0%	95.8%	96.9%	96.0%	95.5%	95.0%	96.3%	93.6%	95.2%	96.9%	96.0%	96.2%			
DCF-Circuit 05	98.5%	93.3%	96.2%	90.7%	93.9%	94.6%	95.7%	96.9%	97.8%	97.5%	97.8%	98.3%	98.9%			
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	99.2%	97.0%	97.1%	98.1%	98.5%	98.6%	98.6%	97.6%	99.8%	98.8%	99.0%	98.1%	98.8%			
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	99.7%	99.1%	99.3%	99.5%	98.8%	99.6%	99.3%	99.3%	99.9%	99.8%	100.0%	100.0%	99.6%			
DCF-Circuit 07	98.9%	82.7%	78.0%	94.2%	97.1%	94.8%	95.7%	95.2%	95.4%	95.3%	95.7%	96.1%	95.6%			
DCF-Circuit 08	98.1%	85.7%	86.3%	93.2%	91.2%	90.9%	93.0%	96.5%	94.4%	99.4%	96.0%	97.2%	94.7%			
DCF-Circuit 09	97.7%	94.9%	95.2%	93.6%	95.0%	95.0%	98.4%	97.7%	98.4%	98.4%	98.8%	98.4%	98.3%			
DCF-Circuit 10	98.1%	95.9%	95.4%	96.5%	96.9%	96.8%	98.4%	98.3%	98.9%	98.5%	98.5%	98.3%	99.0%			
DCF-Circuit 11	91.2%	96.6%	92.6%	94.5%	89.5%	95.1%	96.1%	96.3%	95.5%	96.7%	95.4%	92.5%	94.6%			
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	95.6%	96.0%	89.5%	85.8%	72.1%	93.4%	94.7%	93.7%	98.3%	93.9%	87.2%	95.6%	88.9%			
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	99.1%	94.2%	91.4%	96.1%	95.0%	98.7%	99.3%	99.1%	98.1%	97.7%	99.3%	99.4%	99.4%			
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	98.9%	98.6%	97.7%	98.8%	99.3%	99.3%	99.0%	98.9%	98.9%	99.3%	99.3%	99.3%	98.8%			
DCF-Circuit 14	90.5%	87.3%	73.1%	81.7%	84.4%	84.7%	86.1%	89.3%	84.2%	83.0%	83.2%	81.2%	89.9%			
DCF-Circuit 15	99.3%	98.5%	96.8%	92.4%	92.8%	92.2%	90.4%	94.3%	94.5%	94.1%	93.6%	96.2%	96.1%			
DCF-Circuit 16	94.7%	97.6%	79.4%	97.7%	84.8%	91.9%	100.0%	100.0%	97.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	97.9%			
SO-Broward Circuit 17	97.9%	99.0%	99.3%	99.0%	99.0%	99.5%	98.9%	98.7%	99.7%	99.1%	99.0%	98.9%	99.3%			
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	97.3%	89.1%	90.0%	89.3%	95.4%	97.0%	97.9%	98.0%	97.1%	97.4%	99.4%	98.4%	97.4%			
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	94.0%	91.1%	93.9%	96.1%	97.8%	98.5%	99.3%	98.0%	96.1%	97.7%	97.6%	96.1%	96.6%			
DCF-Circuit 19	99.4%	97.4%	96.1%	94.7%	94.4%	99.1%	99.5%	98.8%	98.1%	96.2%	95.4%	93.4%	94.6%			
DCF-Circuit 20	98.6%	98.5%	96.9%	97.4%	92.4%	97.9%	98.0%	97.4%	98.4%	98.4%	98.7%	97.6%	97.8%			
Statewide	97.7%	94.3%	92.3%	94.0%	94.1%	95.5%	95.9%	96.3%	96.2%	96.4%	96.5%	96.2%	96.8%			

Data Source: OCW Interim Dashboard

Safety Outcome Indicator: Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment

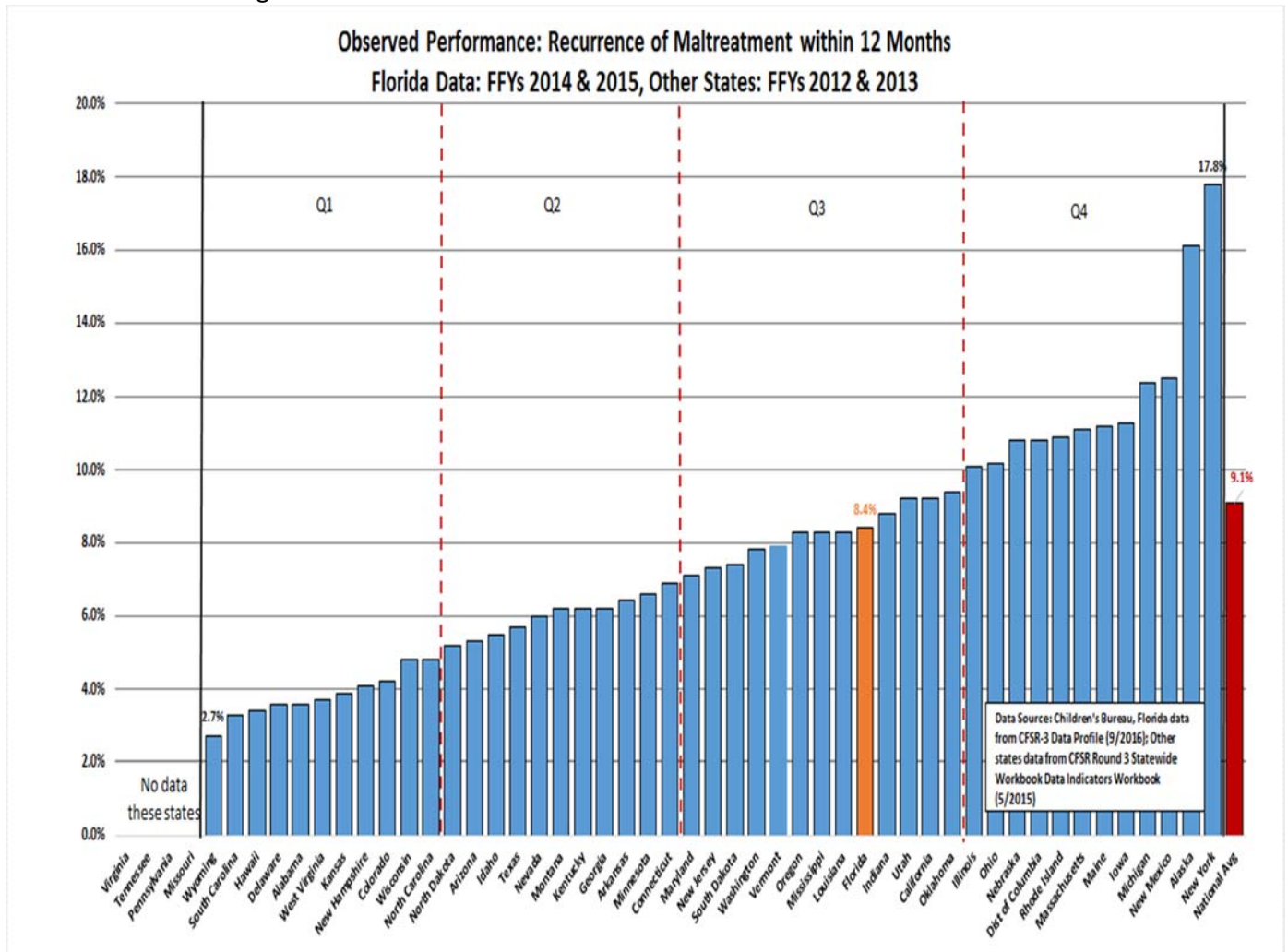
The first safety outcome indicator in this report measures recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months of verified maltreatment, regardless of whether services were provided. This national data indicator for Round 3 of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR-3), answers the question, “Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment report during a 12-month period, what percent were victims of another substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months?”

Denominator: Number of children with at least one substantiated or indicated maltreatment report in a 12-month period.

Numerator: Number of children in the denominator that had another substantiated or indicated maltreatment report within 12 months of their initial report.

Florida Compared to Other States

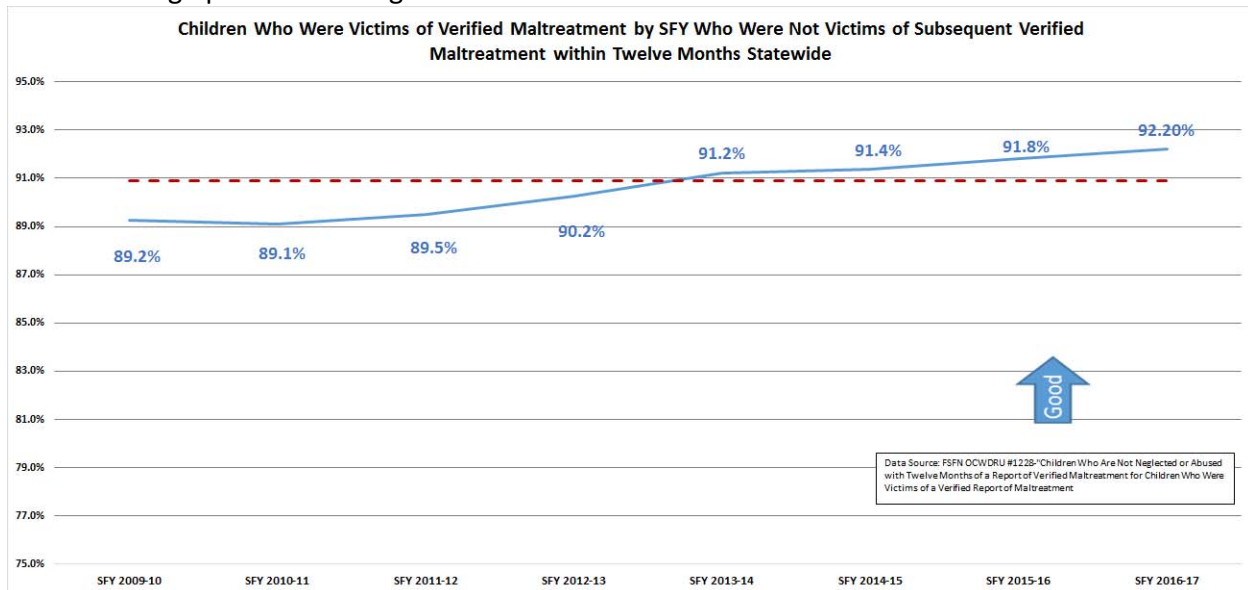
The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised by the Children’s Bureau; however, the most recent national data (2015) indicates that Florida’s observed performance of 8.4% was better than the initial standard and national average of 9.1%. “Risk standardized performance,” not presented here, is adjusted by the Children’s Bureau according to each state’s median age.



Safety Outcome Indicator: Non-Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida presents performance on this indicator positively as “non-recurrence.” The percent has been trending upwards and began to exceed the initial standard in SFY 2013-14.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

There has been overall improvement across the state since SFY 2009-10, with 19 areas now exceeding the target.

Children Who Were Victims of Verified Maltreatment by SFY of Verified Maltreatment Who Were Not Victims of a Subsequent Verified Maltreatment within Twelve Months (Target 90.9%)

Area	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17
DCF-Circuit 01	87.8%	87.8%	88.3%	89.3%	90.7%	92.4%	90.7%	92.20%
DCF-Circuit 02	89.4%	88.7%	92.5%	90.0%	91.8%	91.2%	97.5%	95.00%
DCF-Circuit 03	84.8%	87.6%	88.9%	89.4%	86.3%	91.8%	92.5%	93.90%
DCF-Circuit 04	88.6%	88.6%	89.3%	89.1%	92.1%	89.7%	90.4%	92.60%
DCF-Circuit 05	88.4%	88.0%	87.8%	90.8%	92.4%	90.4%	91.9%	93.60%
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	88.6%	90.6%	87.7%	88.0%	89.6%	90.3%	90.5%	91.50%
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	85.4%	84.8%	84.8%	87.7%	88.1%	88.9%	90.0%	90.20%
DCF-Circuit 07	87.6%	86.6%	87.8%	88.2%	91.3%	88.2%	90.0%	89.10%
DCF-Circuit 08	87.5%	87.2%	88.6%	89.9%	91.1%	91.4%	93.1%	91.80%
DCF-Circuit 09	90.7%	91.3%	91.4%	92.7%	92.1%	92.2%	93.1%	92.20%
DCF-Circuit 10	89.6%	89.6%	89.9%	92.2%	94.0%	93.1%	93.6%	94.30%
DCF-Circuit 11	93.8%	91.8%	93.9%	92.4%	93.0%	93.8%	94.1%	95.00%
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	86.8%	84.7%	90.2%	88.0%	92.0%	88.6%	91.0%	92.49%
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	89.4%	90.6%	90.6%	92.6%	90.0%	90.8%	92.4%	91.40%
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	91.2%	91.6%	91.7%	91.2%	91.4%	92.5%	93.1%	92.30%
DCF-Circuit 14	88.1%	91.7%	88.6%	89.2%	92.7%	93.9%	92.2%	94.70%
DCF-Circuit 15	90.1%	90.3%	91.7%	89.0%	92.9%	94.0%	92.7%	94.00%
DCF-Circuit 16	86.7%	87.4%	85.3%	87.4%	85.5%	89.6%	92.3%	86.10%
SO-Broward Circuit 17	90.8%	90.7%	90.8%	89.8%	89.3%	90.4%	91.2%	91.30%
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	86.4%	85.5%	86.4%	91.2%	91.0%	90.8%	89.0%	89.70%
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	90.5%	93.6%	90.1%	93.1%	90.1%	91.8%	90.0%	91.20%
DCF-Circuit 19	88.0%	86.1%	87.9%	92.7%	89.6%	92.1%	92.0%	92.00%
DCF-Circuit 20	91.1%	90.4%	88.3%	90.2%	92.6%	92.5%	92.1%	92.30%
Statewide	89.2%	89.1%	89.5%	90.2%	91.2%	91.4%	91.8%	92.20%

Data Source: FSFN OCWDRU #1228-"Children Who Are Not Neglected or Abused with Twelve Months of a Report of Verified Maltreatment for Children Who Were Victims of a Verified Report of Maltreatment"

Investigative Decisions and Flow to Services

Evidence of Maltreatment

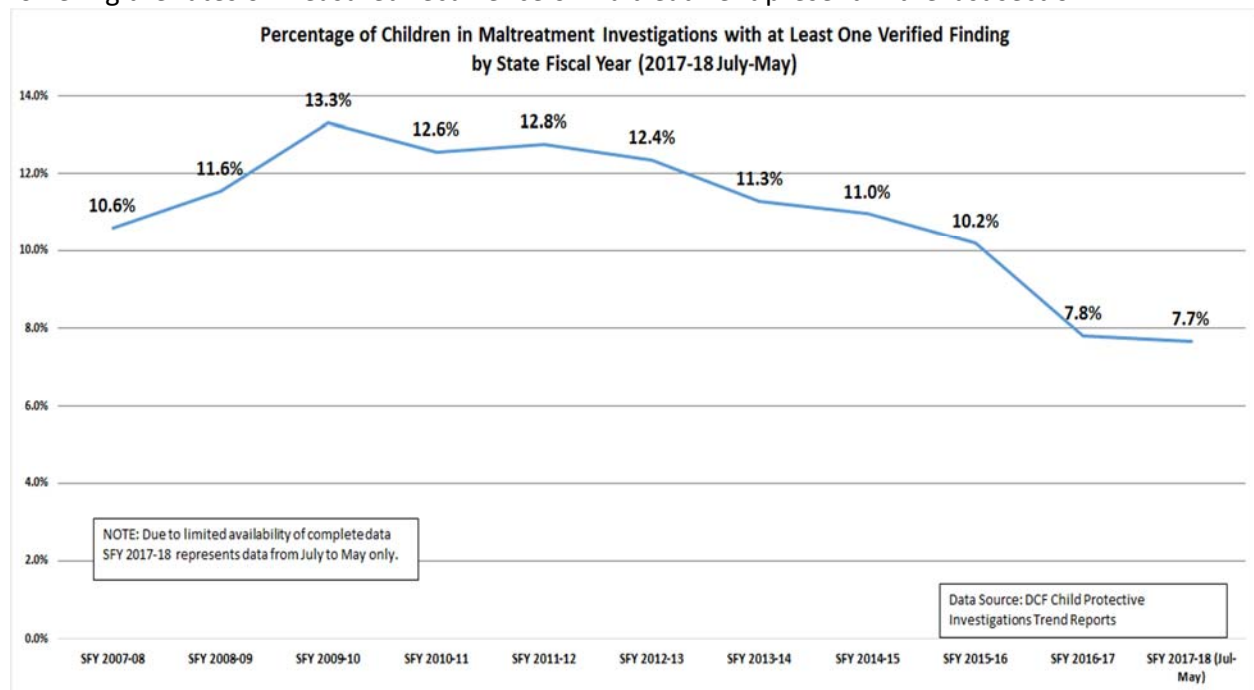
Chapter 39, Florida Statutes, requires that “Protective investigations shall . . . perform the following child protective investigation activities to determine child safety . . . Determine whether there is any indication that any child in the family or household has been abused, abandoned, or neglected; the nature and extent of present or prior injuries, abuse, or neglect; and any evidence thereof.”

Verification Rates

While evidence of maltreatment is important, the decisions to provide post-investigation services should be based on safety determinations and service needs rather than simply verified evidence of maltreatment, regardless of danger to the child or the family’s need for services. Decision-making based on safety determinations are presented in the indicators in the next section.

Florida Statewide Trend

The percent of children in investigations with at least one finding of "verified" maltreatment has been declining over the last seven state fiscal years. As only verified maltreatment is included in the measurement of recurrence, the decline in percent verified may have had a significant impact in lowering the rates of measured recurrence of maltreatment present in the last section.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

The wide range of percentages in the figure below suggests that there is variation in local practice, rather than simply variation in evidence of maltreatment. Variation in verification rates affects variation in measured recurrence of maltreatment.

Percentage of Children in Maltreatment Investigations with at Least One Verified Finding by State Fiscal Year											
Entity	SFY 2007-08	SFY 2008-09	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
DCF-Circuit 01	9.7%	12.1%	12.9%	12.5%	13.3%	12.8%	11.0%	12.0%	10.5%	8.1%	9.5%
DCF-Circuit 02	9.6%	10.6%	12.0%	12.7%	11.6%	9.8%	9.3%	8.0%	6.5%	5.0%	6.9%
DCF-Circuit 03	9.2%	10.1%	13.7%	12.3%	12.3%	11.6%	12.0%	11.5%	8.8%	7.2%	6.6%
DCF-Circuit 04	11.0%	11.3%	13.5%	12.3%	12.3%	12.2%	11.8%	10.9%	9.7%	7.5%	9.2%
DCF-Circuit 05	13.3%	12.3%	12.6%	11.3%	12.1%	11.8%	8.8%	8.3%	8.1%	5.4%	6.6%
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	6.7%	8.1%	12.5%	10.4%	13.9%	14.2%	14.3%	12.5%	11.3%	10.4%	10.5%
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	13.2%	14.5%	18.0%	18.2%	17.9%	17.4%	15.5%	14.4%	13.7%	10.7%	11.3%
DCF-Circuit 07	7.7%	8.2%	9.8%	10.3%	12.3%	11.6%	9.5%	10.6%	9.4%	7.5%	8.6%
DCF-Circuit 08	14.3%	18.5%	18.4%	17.5%	14.8%	15.3%	11.4%	10.9%	9.5%	6.1%	4.9%
DCF-Circuit 09	10.4%	12.1%	14.6%	13.8%	13.3%	12.3%	9.2%	9.6%	9.5%	7.7%	7.6%
DCF-Circuit 10	9.1%	10.2%	10.5%	9.7%	9.3%	8.3%	6.8%	6.6%	7.4%	6.0%	6.5%
DCF-Circuit 11	10.5%	11.2%	13.7%	13.9%	12.8%	13.6%	14.8%	13.7%	10.0%	7.1%	6.9%
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	11.7%	12.3%	14.1%	14.9%	15.0%	14.2%	11.0%	11.3%	11.4%	8.9%	7.4%
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	11.9%	13.4%	12.9%	11.9%	11.9%	11.1%	11.7%	14.1%	13.6%	10.5%	10.3%
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	10.2%	12.0%	13.1%	11.5%	11.6%	11.2%	10.8%	10.7%	11.2%	8.7%	9.1%
DCF-Circuit 14	10.0%	9.0%	9.7%	7.1%	7.6%	9.4%	8.5%	7.3%	8.2%	5.4%	6.6%
DCF-Circuit 15	11.2%	11.0%	13.3%	11.6%	12.1%	12.2%	12.7%	8.6%	6.8%	5.0%	6.4%
DCF-Circuit 16	16.9%	17.1%	17.5%	16.5%	13.6%	16.3%	19.3%	17.5%	14.7%	8.8%	11.1%
SO-Broward Circuit 17	11.3%	12.9%	17.2%	17.4%	18.6%	19.1%	17.9%	17.0%	17.4%	14.0%	14.2%
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	11.6%	12.4%	12.4%	11.1%	11.4%	8.1%	7.0%	9.5%	9.8%	6.5%	7.9%
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	7.1%	7.5%	8.7%	9.0%	8.1%	8.5%	7.3%	9.2%	8.8%	5.9%	6.5%
DCF-Circuit 19	12.1%	14.3%	16.6%	15.4%	13.4%	11.4%	11.2%	11.5%	9.3%	7.8%	8.8%
DCF-Circuit 20	8.6%	8.6%	9.6%	8.5%	9.7%	9.6%	9.6%	9.0%	9.4%	7.5%	9.1%
Statewide	10.6%	11.6%	13.3%	12.6%	12.8%	12.4%	11.3%	11.0%	10.2%	7.8%	8.5%

Data Source: DCF Child Protective Investigations Trend Reports

Safety Methodology and Flow to Services

Section 39.301, Florida Statutes, defines requirements for assessment of safety and development of safety plans.

Section 39.301 (9), Florida Statutes, states in part: “Protective investigations shall . . . perform the following child protective investigation activities to determine child safety . . . Complete assessment of immediate child safety for each child based on available records, interviews, and observations . . . Document the present and impending dangers to each child based on the identification of inadequate protective capacity through utilization of a standardized safety assessment instrument. If present or impending danger is identified, the child protective investigator must implement a safety plan or take the child into custody. If present danger is identified and the child is not removed, the child protective investigator shall create and implement a safety plan before leaving the home or the location where there is present danger. If impending danger is identified, the child protective investigator shall create and implement a safety plan as soon as necessary to protect the safety of the child. The child protective investigator may modify the safety plan if he or she identifies additional impending danger.

“If the child protective investigator implements a safety plan, the plan must be specific, sufficient, feasible, and sustainable in response to the realities of the present or impending danger. A safety plan may be an in-home plan or an out-of-home plan, or a combination of both. A safety plan may include tasks or responsibilities for a parent, caregiver, or legal custodian. However, a safety plan may not rely on promissory commitments by the parent, caregiver, or legal custodian who is currently not able to protect the child or on services that are not available or will not result in the safety of the child. A safety plan may not be implemented if for any reason the parents, guardian, or legal custodian lacks the capacity or ability to comply with the plan. If the department is not able to develop a plan that is specific, sufficient, feasible, and sustainable, the department shall file a shelter petition.

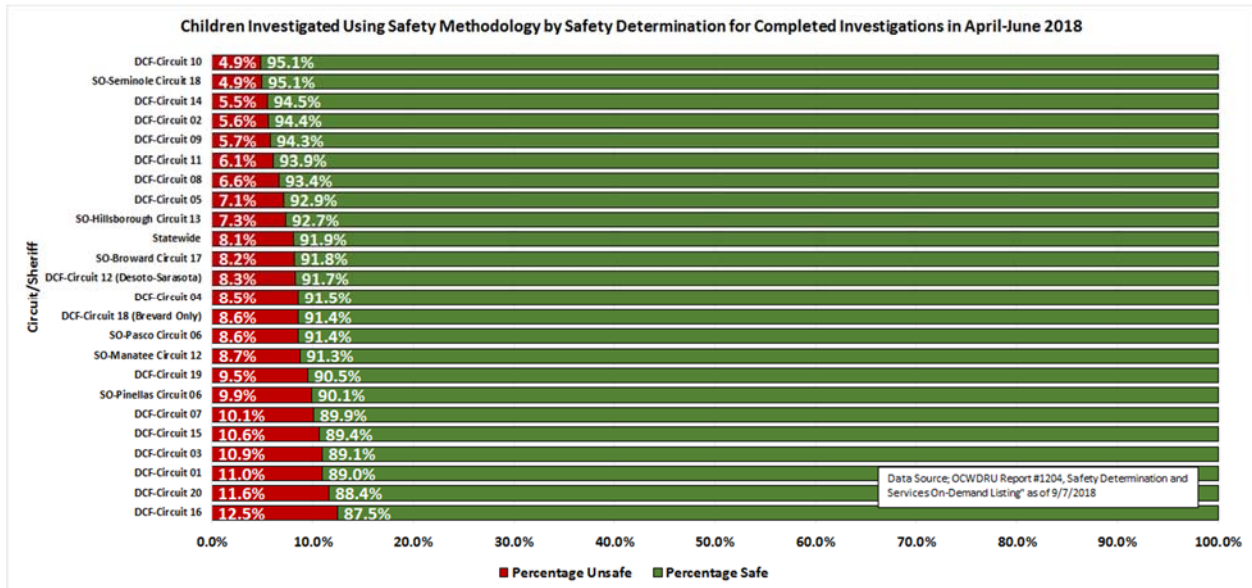
“The child protective investigator shall collaborate with the community-based care lead agency in the development of the safety plan as necessary to ensure that the safety plan is specific, sufficient, feasible, and sustainable. The child protective investigator shall identify services necessary for the successful implementation of the safety plan. The child protective investigator and the community-based care lead agency shall mobilize service resources to assist all parties in complying with the safety plan.”

Section 39.301 (14), Florida Statutes, states in part: “If the department or its agent determines that a child requires immediate or long-term protection through . . . services to stabilize the home environment . . . such services shall first be offered for voluntary acceptance unless . . . there are high-risk factors that may impact the ability of the parents or legal custodians to exercise judgment. Such factors may include the parents’ or legal custodians’ young age or history of substance abuse, mental illness, or domestic violence; or there is a high likelihood of lack of compliance with voluntary services, and such noncompliance would result in the child being unsafe.”

The department’s safety practice guides selection of appropriate post-investigative services, including removal and placement in OHC, case-managed in-home services, and family support services.

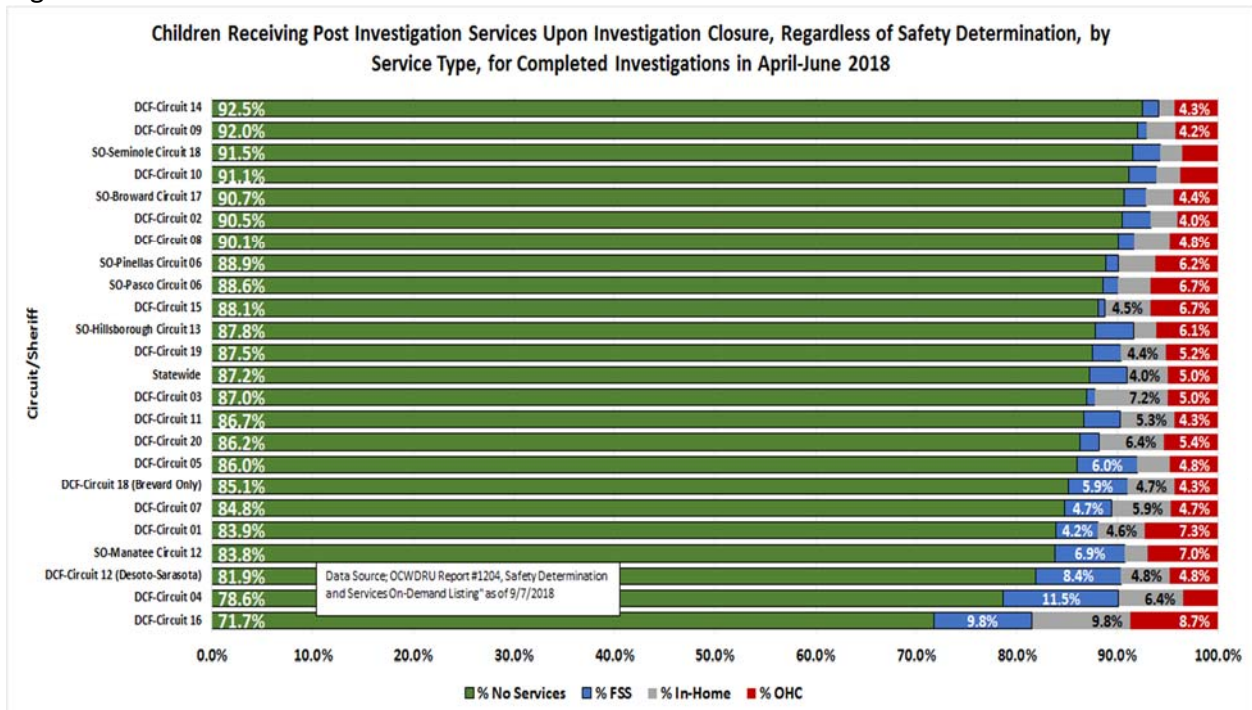
Safe/Unsafe Determinations

The statewide percent of children determined “unsafe” was 8.1% in the last quarter. This was a decrease from 8.4% in SFY 2017-18. Variation is wide between circuits, but the range of this variation is less than in SFY 2017-18.



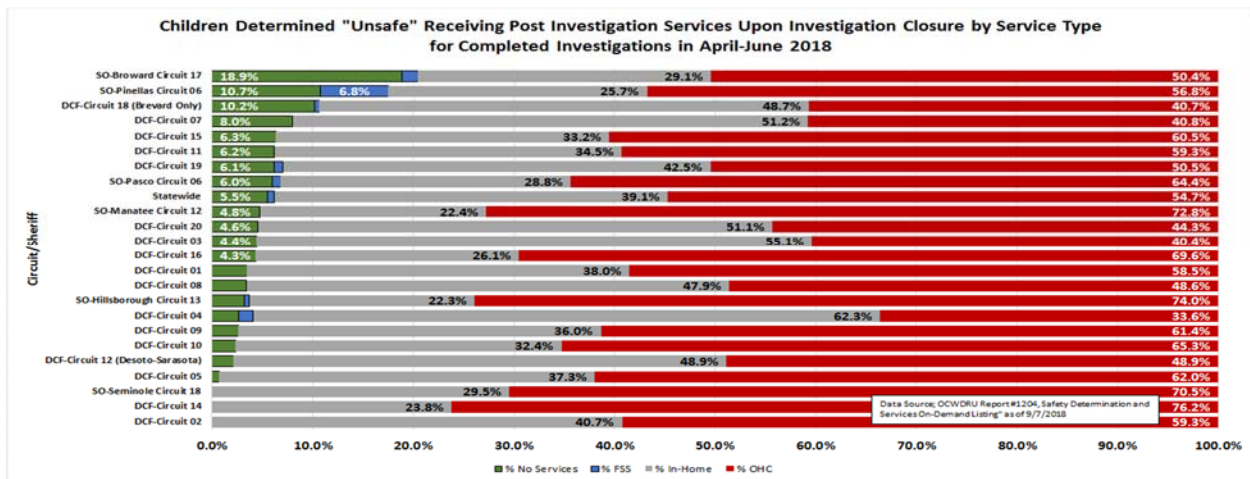
Flow to Services, Regardless of Safe/Unsafe Determinations

There is wide variation among circuits and sheriffs’ offices in the proportion of families receiving services after the conclusion of an investigation, with the use of Family Support Services having the highest variation.



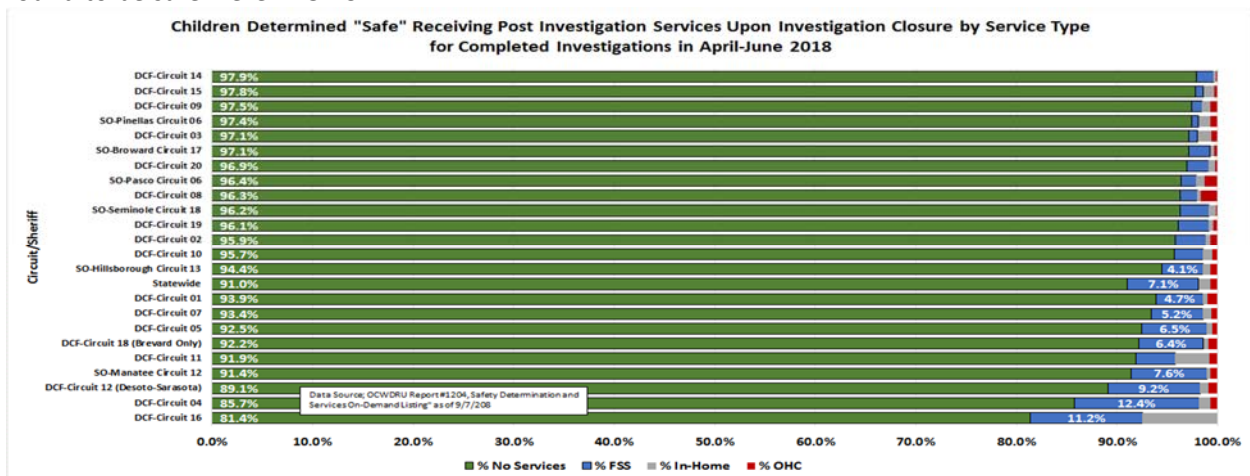
Children Determined "Unsafe" Receiving Post-Investigation Services

Florida's practice model requires that children who are determined to be unsafe receive ongoing case management. The majority (54.7%) of children determined unsafe were removed from their homes and a smaller group received services in-home (39.1%), totaling 93.8% of children determined to be unsafe receiving ongoing case management. This means there is a small portion of children determined to be unsafe who were not receiving ongoing case management services (5.5%). The data around these unsafe children who do not receive ongoing case management services is influenced by localized time lag in the entry and documentation of unsafe child services within FSFN and local practice related to the categorization of unsafe child services within FSFN that may result in the exclusion of the delivery of child services from these counts.



Children Determined "Safe" Receiving Post-Investigation Services

The chart below presents the reverse, the number of children who have been determined to be safe and what, if any, services they are receiving after the conclusion of the investigation. The expectation would be that children who are found to be safe would not be receiving ongoing case management services. This was true for almost all children (91.0%); however, a small percent of children (1.0%) found to be safe are receiving ongoing case management and specifically, a very small percent (1.0%) of children found to be safe were in OHC.



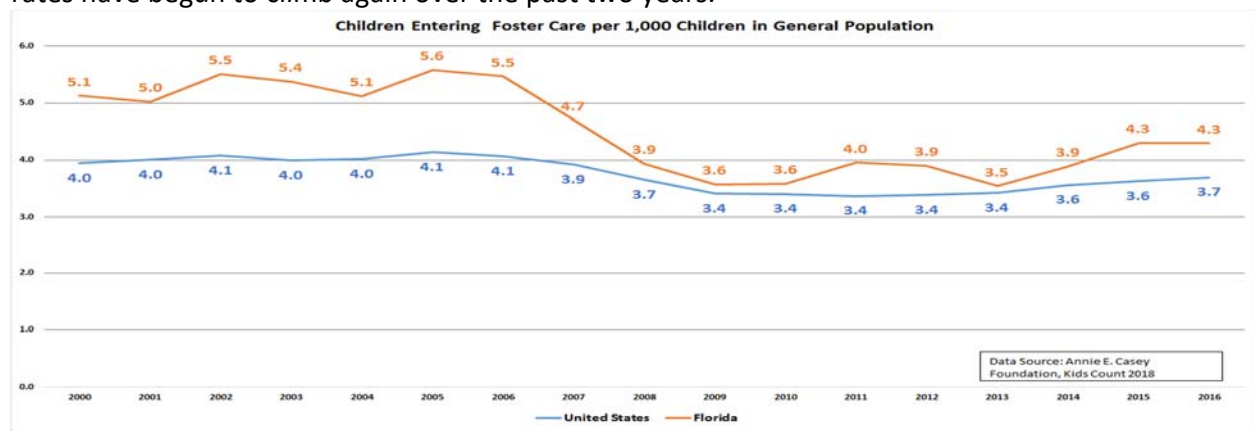
Children Removed from their Families

In order to compare removals in different areas, removal rates per 1,000 children in the general population and per 100 children in investigations are calculated. The rate per 1,000 children in the general population indicator does not consider how many children were investigated with a chance of removal. The removal rate per 100 children in investigations indicator is limited to children with a chance of being removed, so it is more directly related to investigative decision-making.

Removal Rates per 1,000 Children in General Population

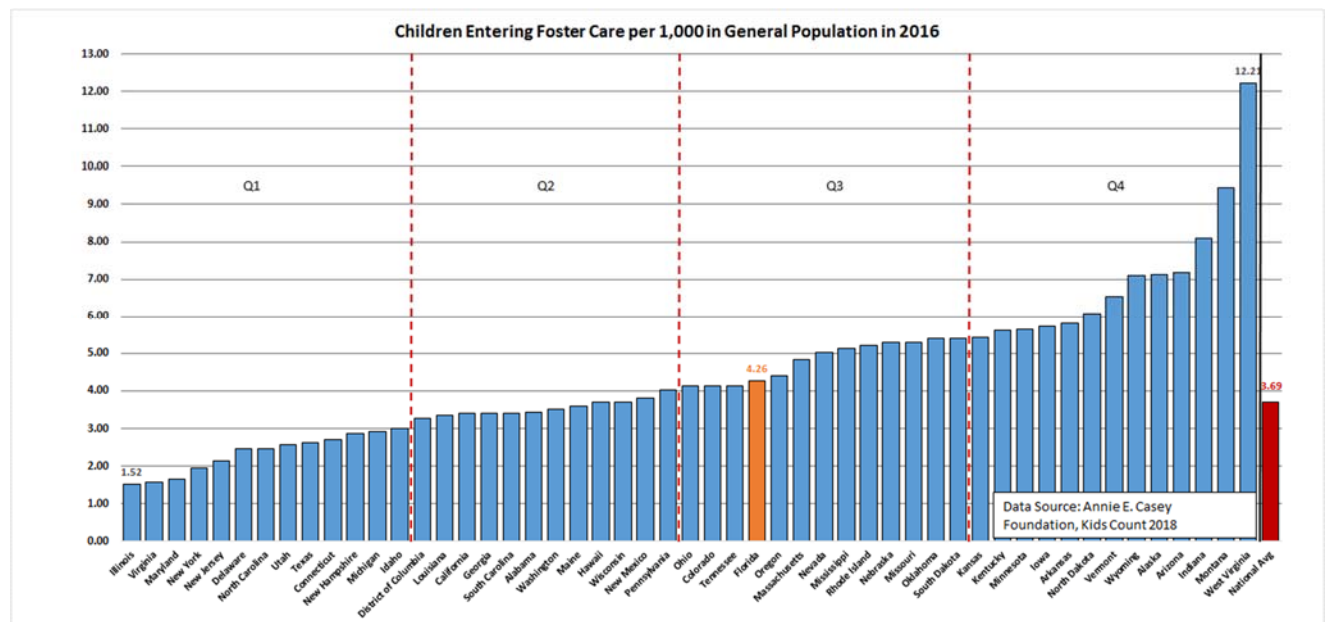
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

Note that Florida’s entry rate into foster care per 1,000 children in the general population has been higher than the national average, except for a period of convergence beginning in 2008. Florida’s rates have begun to climb again over the past two years.



Florida Compared to Other States

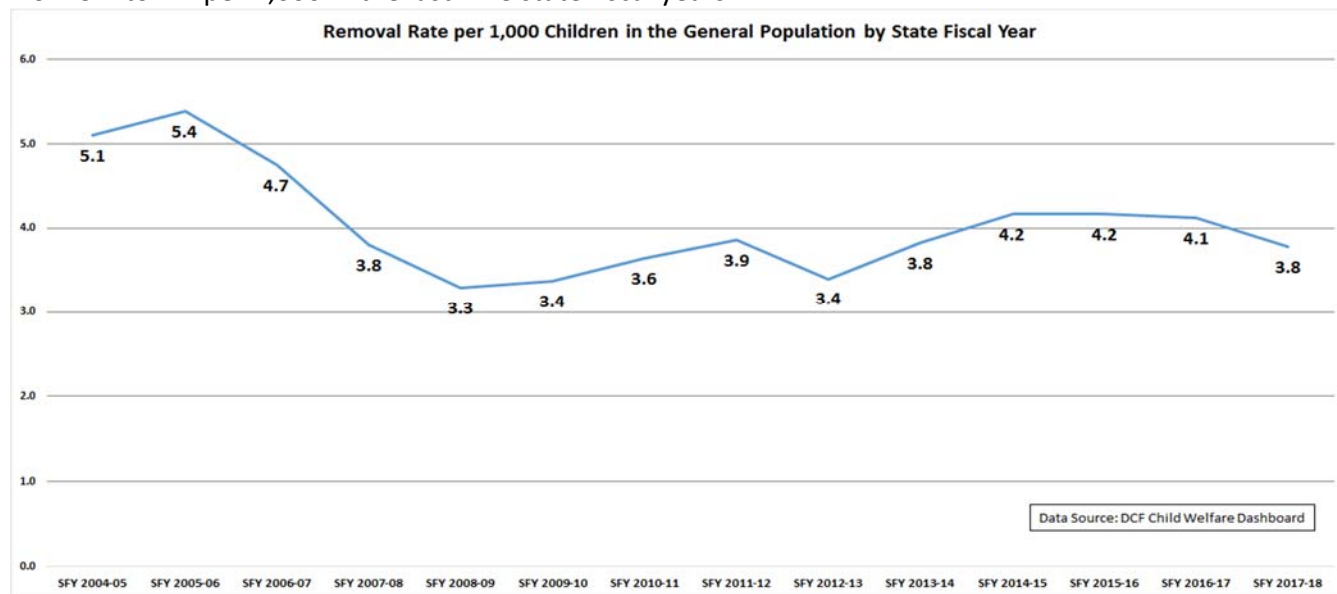
Florida’s rate in 2016 was higher than the national average, as several large states with low removal rates (e.g., TX and NY) affected the national average.



Removal Rates per 1,000 Children in General Population

Florida Statewide Trend

Removal rates per 1,000 children in the general population declined rapidly from 5.4 per 1,000 in SFY 2005-06 to 3.3 per 1,000 in 2008-10. However, the rate has since slightly increased, ranging from 3.4 to 4.2 per 1,000 in the last nine state fiscal years.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

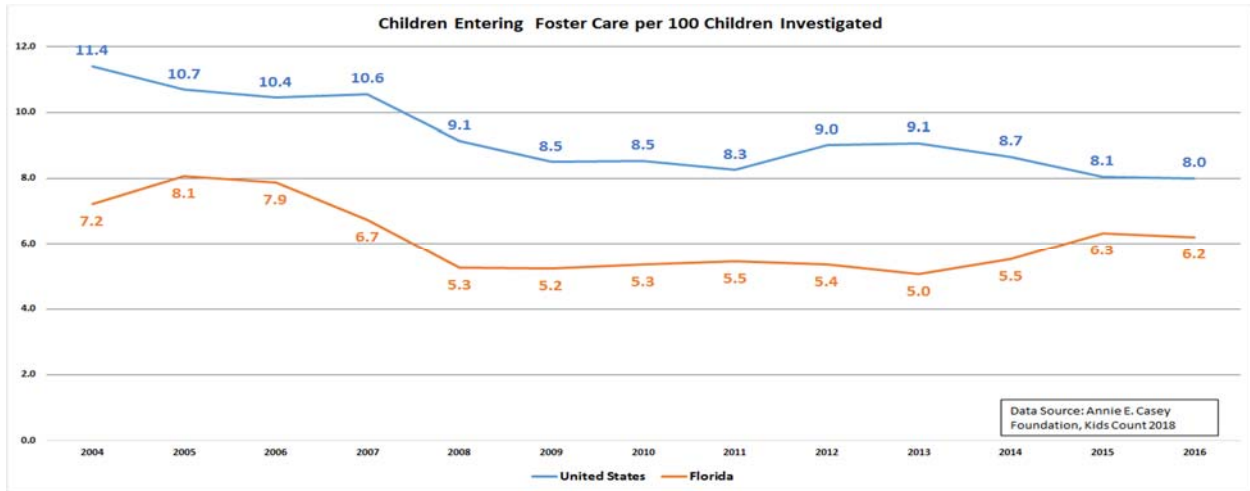
There is a wide variation when comparing historical removal rates for circuits and sheriffs' offices. During SFY 2017-18, one area had removal rates of more than 6.0 per 1,000 child population and three areas had rates of less than 3.0 per 1,000 child population.

Removal Rate per 1,000 Children in the General Population													
Area	SFY 2005-06	SFY 2006-07	SFY 2007-08	SFY 2008-09	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
DCF-Circuit 01	10.2	8.4	6.5	5.3	5.2	6.1	6.7	4.4	5.4	6.8	5.6	5.4	6.0
DCF-Circuit 02	5.1	5.6	5.3	4.3	2.7	3.4	3.6	2.1	2.6	2.8	2.4	2.8	3.1
DCF-Circuit 03	9.0	8.7	5.8	4.0	4.7	4.6	5.2	5.8	5.4	6.9	7.9	8.1	6.3
DCF-Circuit 04	6.9	6.8	5.2	3.7	3.0	3.4	3.4	2.6	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.0
DCF-Circuit 05	10.1	7.3	6.1	4.6	4.8	4.7	5.7	5.1	5.0	5.2	6.5	5.7	5.5
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	5.3	3.3	3.2	4.9	5.0	5.1	6.9	4.8	5.8	5.3	5.2	6.5	6.0
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	6.8	6.1	5.4	5.1	5.5	6.3	7.0	6.1	4.5	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.2
DCF-Circuit 07	6.0	5.0	4.9	3.6	4.9	4.8	5.1	3.4	3.0	4.8	5.9	4.5	4.1
DCF-Circuit 08	8.5	9.4	7.2	4.4	4.9	5.7	5.1	5.1	5.9	5.6	6.9	6.2	4.9
DCF-Circuit 09	3.6	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.7	3.1	2.6	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.3
DCF-Circuit 10	8.8	8.2	4.5	4.1	4.5	5.4	5.3	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.0	6.0	4.9
DCF-Circuit 11	2.4	2.6	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.1	3.1	3.1	2.4	2.3	1.8
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	4.9	3.6	4.8	3.2	4.0	6.3	5.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.8	5.8	4.6
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	5.5	6.5	4.0	4.1	4.4	5.0	3.9	3.1	3.7	6.0	8.4	6.3	5.9
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	6.8	4.7	3.6	3.8	4.3	4.2	5.1	4.6	4.4	4.6	5.6	5.5	4.6
DCF-Circuit 14	12.8	10.1	7.7	6.6	7.5	5.5	5.7	5.3	5.1	4.9	6.5	5.5	6.0
DCF-Circuit 15	4.1	3.5	2.2	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.8	3.9	3.8	3.0	2.5	3.1
DCF-Circuit 16	7.1	8.1	7.1	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.2	5.1	7.5	5.0	6.1	5.1	4.4
SO-Broward Circuit 17	3.3	2.9	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	3.5	3.3	2.8
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	5.3	4.1	4.1	3.2	3.1	3.7	4.8	4.0	4.4	5.5	4.5	4.8	5.0
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	3.8	3.6	2.9	1.9	1.9	2.4	1.6	1.5	1.9	3.3	3.1	2.4	3.1
DCF-Circuit 19	6.5	5.1	4.5	3.6	3.8	4.4	4.0	3.4	3.7	4.4	3.7	4.1	5.0
DCF-Circuit 20	3.0	4.1	3.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.2	4.1	3.9	4.4	5.5	4.2
Statewide	5.4	4.7	3.8	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.9	3.4	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.8

Removal Rates per 100 Children Investigated

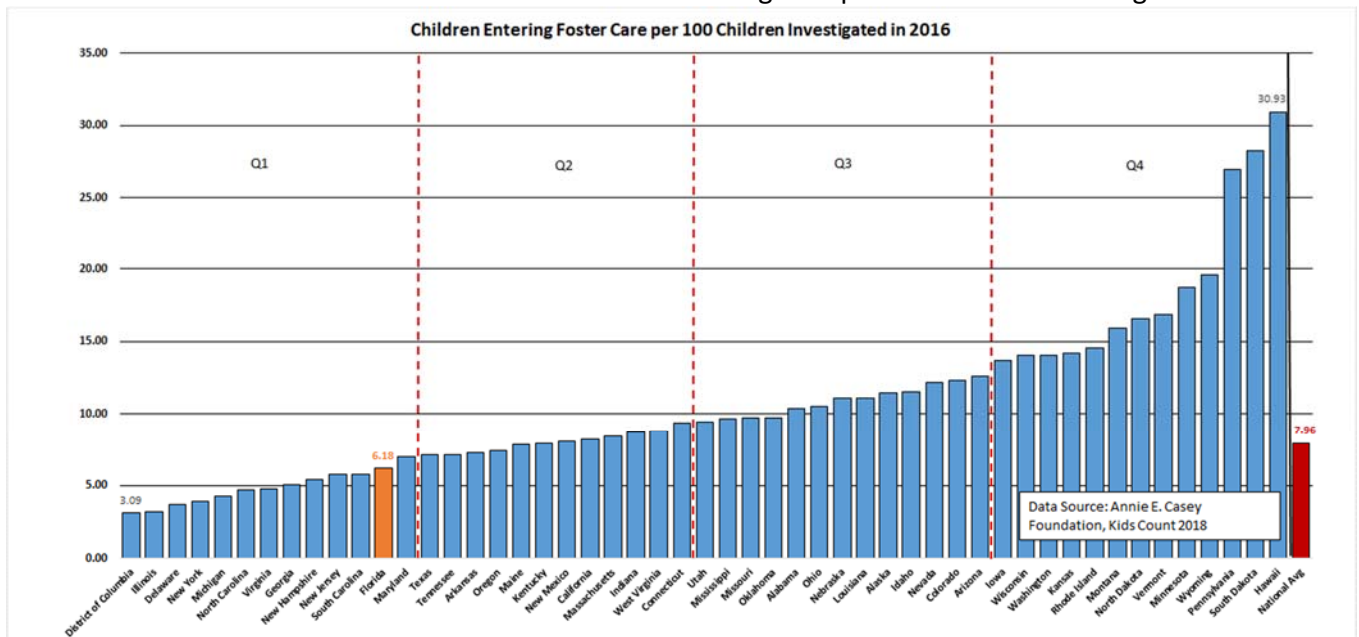
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

Children investigated include those who are the subject of at least one alleged maltreatment and/or alternative response report. Florida’s rate is historically much lower than the national rate, but both the state and national rate declined through 2008 and plateaued for several years. Florida’s rate has increased over the last three years, but remains much lower than the national rate.



Florida Compared to Other States

State differences in policies and practices—including variations in the legal definitions of maltreatment—affect rates, so interpretation of trends and state-by-state comparisons should be made with caution. Some differences in rates are related to differences in other indicators. For example, states with very low reporting rates (e.g. Pennsylvania) tend to have a relatively high removal rate; states with a very high reporting rate (e.g. Florida) tend to have a relatively low removal rate. Florida ranked 12th in 2016 in children entering care per 100 children investigated.



Removal Rates per 100 Children Investigated

Florida Statewide Trend

There has been a steady rise in the removal rate per 100 children investigated in Florida since SFY 2012-13. In the last state fiscal year this rate reached a high of 6.4%.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

Statewide level removals have increased, but trends in each area are different. In order to compare communities, the rate of removals per 100 children in investigations is used. Note the wide variation from a high of 9.4 to a low of 3.9 in the current SFY.

Rate of Children Removed from their Families per 100 Alleged Victims in Closed Investigations by State Fiscal Year

Entity	SFY 2008-09	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
DCF-Circuit 01	5.3	5.1	5.7	6.2	3.9	4.8	6.8	5.4	5.5	6.4
DCF-Circuit 02	4.8	4.1	3.9	3.6	2.2	3.4	2.8	3.3	3.2	4.5
DCF-Circuit 03	3.1	3.7	3.8	4.4	4.2	4.8	6.4	5.4	6.4	6.2
DCF-Circuit 04	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.8	2.9	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.9
DCF-Circuit 05	4.0	4.3	4.0	5.1	4.7	5.0	5.2	6.1	5.5	6.2
SO-Pasco Circuit 06	4.1	4.9	4.1	6.3	4.9	7.0	6.5	6.3	7.1	8.1
SO-Pinellas Circuit 06	5.4	6.5	6.6	6.9	6.6	4.6	5.9	6.2	6.4	7.0
DCF-Circuit 07	3.2	4.6	4.1	4.7	3.3	2.9	4.9	5.9	4.9	5.2
DCF-Circuit 08	3.9	4.7	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.9	6.0	5.5	4.9	4.7
DCF-Circuit 09	3.4	3.8	4.1	3.7	3.0	3.2	4.1	3.4	3.8	4.8
DCF-Circuit 10	3.8	3.9	5.5	5.0	4.2	4.2	4.5	5.2	5.9	6.7
DCF-Circuit 11	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.9	7.3	8.5	6.2	6.1	6.2
DCF-Circuit 12 (Desoto-Sarasota)	4.5	5.4	7.1	7.7	5.8	5.2	5.3	7.0	8.2	7.9
SO-Manatee Circuit 12	4.4	4.6	5.1	3.8	3.0	3.3	6.8	8.6	7.6	7.9
SO-Hillsborough Circuit 13	5.5	6.6	6.1	7.6	7.1	6.8	7.9	9.7	9.1	9.4
DCF-Circuit 14	5.6	5.5	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.0	3.5	5.7	5.2	6.3
DCF-Circuit 15	4.5	3.6	3.0	3.7	4.4	5.9	6.2	5.2	4.6	7.6
DCF-Circuit 16	4.6	3.9	5.1	5.3	5.5	10.2	5.8	6.1	7.2	9.1
SO-Broward Circuit 17	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.9	6.6	7.2	6.9	6.6	7.2
DCF-Circuit 18 (Brevard Only)	2.9	3.0	3.5	4.3	4.3	4.4	6.1	5.2	4.5	6.4
SO-Seminole Circuit 18	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.7	5.1	5.2	3.4	5.4
DCF-Circuit 19	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.0	3.9	5.6	4.9	5.9	8.1
DCF-Circuit 20	4.1	4.1	3.4	3.6	3.9	5.3	5.7	6.2	6.8	7.1
Statewide	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.4	4.9	5.8	5.8	5.6	6.4

Community-Based Care

Source of Indicators in this Section

The remaining outcome indicators in this report are based primarily on the seven federal outcomes related to three goals of Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being established by ASFA and the nine outcomes established by Florida's Community-Based Care statutes, which contain the requirements for Results-Oriented Accountability.

The Children's Bureau established seven national outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect
- Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care
- Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care
- Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry
- Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption
- Outcome 6: Increase placement stability
- Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

Section 409.986, Florida Statutes, established the following nine outcomes "...to protect the best interest of children by achieving the following outcomes in conjunction with the community-based care lead agency, community-based subcontractors, and the community alliance:

- (a) Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect.
- (b) Children are safely maintained in their homes, if possible and appropriate.
- (c) Services are provided to protect children and prevent their removal from their home.
- (d) Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangements.
- (e) Family relationships and connections are preserved for children.
- (f) Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- (g) Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- (h) Children receive services to meet their physical and mental health needs.
- (i) Children develop the capacity for independent living and competence as an adult."

The Children's Bureau established seven data indicators for Round 3 of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR-3) to support the three ASFA goals and outcomes. The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised by the Children's Bureau, but the initial standards and measured performance of Florida, other states, and areas within Florida are presented in this report as important indicators of safety and permanency. The Children's Bureau measures both "observed" (actual) performance and "risk standardized" performance, which is adjusted according to the median age of children served and entry rates into foster care. Only observed performance is presented in this report.

CFSR Safety Outcome 1: Children Are, First and Foremost, Protected from Abuse and Neglect
Maltreatment in Foster Care
Recurrence of Maltreatment

CFSR Permanency Outcome 1: Children Have Permanency and Stability in Their Living Situations
Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care
Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12 to 23 months

Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or more
Re-entry to foster care in 12 months
Placement stability

Organization of Indicators in this Section

The indicators in this section of the report are grouped into the following sections:

Caseload Indicators

Mix of Services: In-Home and Out-of-Home

Out-of-Home Care Population in Context: General Population and Children Investigated

Out-of-Home Care, Removals and Discharges

Safety Outcome Indicators

Maltreatment in Foster Care

Maltreatment during Services

Maltreatment after Termination of Services

Permanency Outcome Indicators

Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care

Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12 to 23 months

Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or more

Re-entry to foster care in 12 months

Drivers of Timely Permanency

Caseworker Visits

Children's Legal Services

Well-Being of Children in Care

Trends in Placement Types

Maintaining Connections: Placement Stability

Maintaining Connections: Siblings

Maintaining Connections: Proximity of Placement

CBC Caseload Indicators

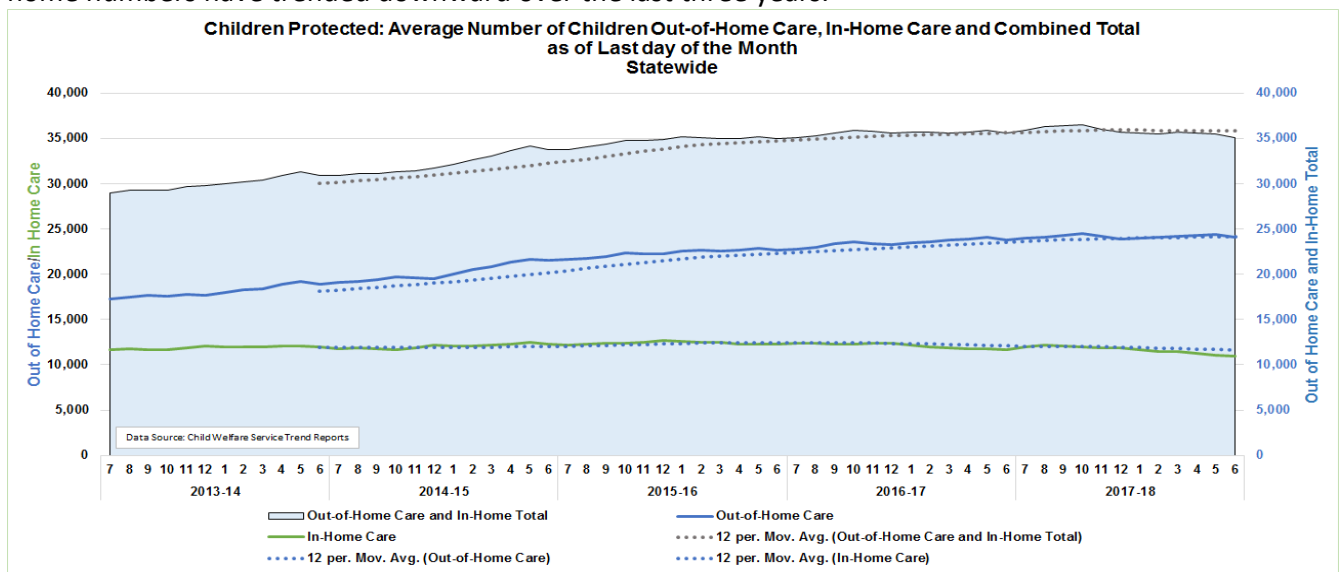
Protection of Children in their Own Homes

Mix of Case-Managed Services: In-Home Services vs. Out-of-Home Care

Two CBC outcomes required by law are “Children are safely maintained in their homes, if possible and appropriate” and “Services are provided to protect children and prevent their removal from their home,” so more unsafe children should be protected in their own homes.

Florida Statewide Trend

In late 2013, the number of children in OHC began to increase while the number of children protected in their own homes remained flat. The gap between the two continues to widen, as in-home numbers have trended downward over the last three years.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is high variation in the service mix and the relationship between the number of children being actively protected and one of the best indicators of need – children in investigations.

Rate of Children Actively Receiving Services per 1,000 Children in the General Population by State Fiscal Year

Area	SFY2013-14		SFY2014-15		SFY2015-16		SFY2016-17		SFY2017-18	
	In-Home	Out of Home	In-Home	Out of Home	In-Home	Out of Home	In-Home	Out of Home	In-Home	Out of Home
Families First Network-Circuit 01	5.1	6.1	4.4	7.6	5.2	7.7	4.6	8.5	4.3	8.4
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	3.3	4.9	2.5	5.0	2.4	5.2	2.3	5.9	2.1	6.5
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	2.6	3.4	3.2	4.0	2.4	3.5	1.8	3.3	1.6	3.4
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	5.5	5.4	4.4	5.4	4.2	7.2	3.9	8.2	3.5	8.7
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	1.5	2.1	1.1	2.9	1.5	3.9	1.4	4.3	1.5	3.8
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	2.3	4.9	2.3	5.4	2.3	7.0	2.8	7.9	3.1	8.0
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	2.6	5.3	2.8	5.8	4.5	8.3	3.7	9.0	3.7	8.6
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	3.1	5.9	2.5	6.0	2.9	6.5	3.5	7.3	3.1	7.6
CBC of Central Florida-Seminole-Circuit 18 (Seminole County Only)	1.8	3.0	1.9	3.3	2.2	3.6	2.2	3.4	1.8	3.5
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	3.2	4.7	3.3	6.1	4.3	6.9	4.2	7.1	4.3	6.4
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	4.0	3.2	4.1	3.5	3.0	3.8	3.1	3.8	3.6	3.9
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	2.8	5.5	2.3	5.3	2.2	5.5	2.2	6.1	2.5	6.8
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	3.6	6.5	3.8	6.8	4.7	7.6	5.3	8.7	4.3	9.2
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	3.9	5.8	3.8	6.0	4.6	7.3	3.7	7.9	3.6	7.8
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	1.2	2.4	1.8	3.2	2.3	4.3	2.5	3.9	1.9	4.1
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	4.4	5.1	4.4	6.0	3.1	5.8	3.1	5.1	3.1	5.8
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	1.9	3.1	2.0	3.3	2.2	3.4	2.1	3.3	1.8	3.4
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	2.7	4.4	2.7	5.3	2.9	5.8	3.6	6.3	3.7	6.7
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	2.4	3.5	2.6	3.8	3.4	4.8	2.3	4.9	1.8	5.4
Statewide	4.1	6.1	4.1	6.2	5.8	7.1	3.9	6.6	2.4	6.4

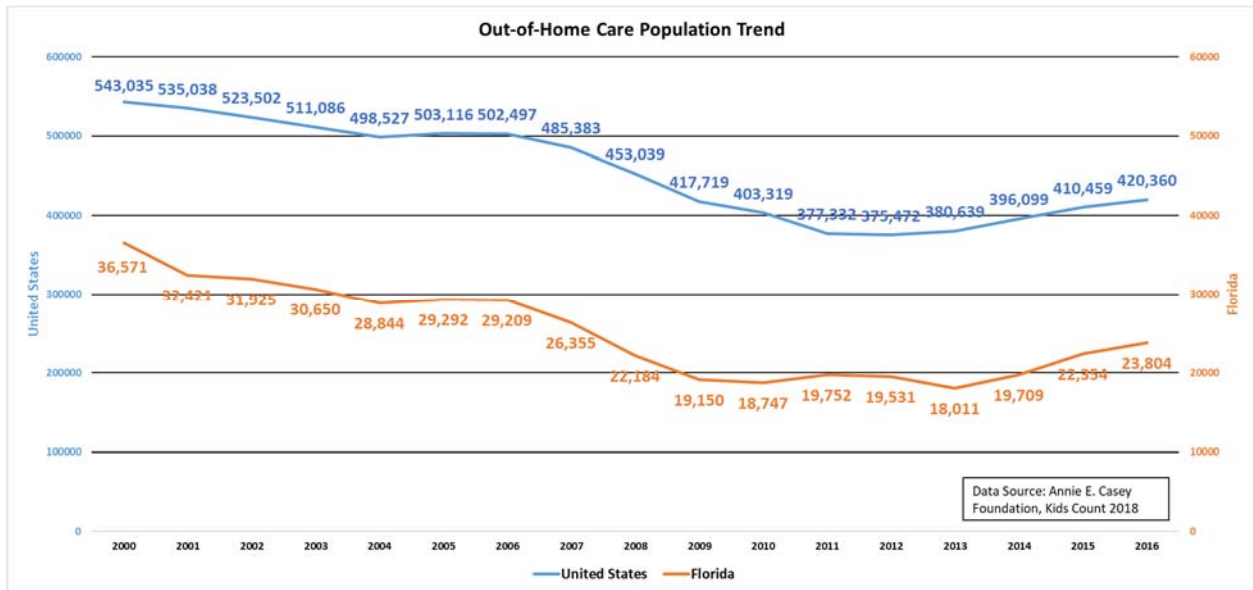
Florida's Out-of-Home Care Population in Context

Florida's OHC population has grown since 2013. Changes in Florida parallel changes nationally. These charts show trends and the relative size of Florida's OHC population to the general population of children and children in investigations, an indicator of need.

Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

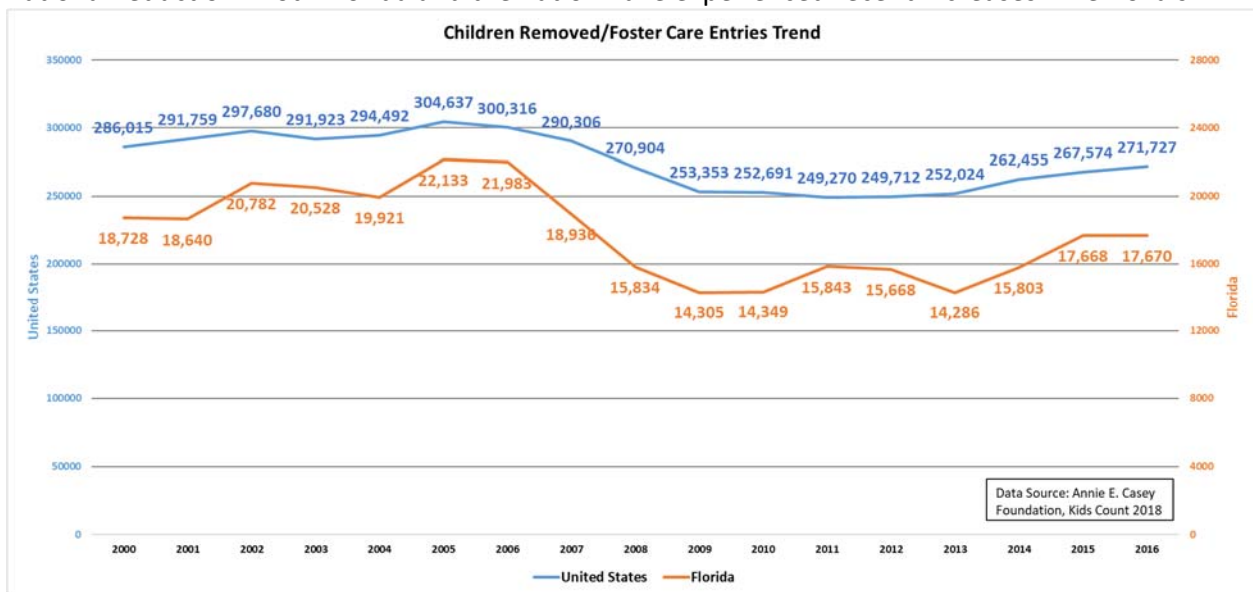
Children in Out-of-Home Care Population Trend

The number of children in OHC nationally dropped sharply during 2000-10, but Florida's decrease was sharper than the decrease for the nation as a whole. The numbers have been increasing since 2013.



Children Removed/Foster Care Entries Trend

Florida's reduction in removals from 2007 to 2010 was much more dramatic than the gradual national reduction. Both Florida and the nation have experienced recent increases in removals.

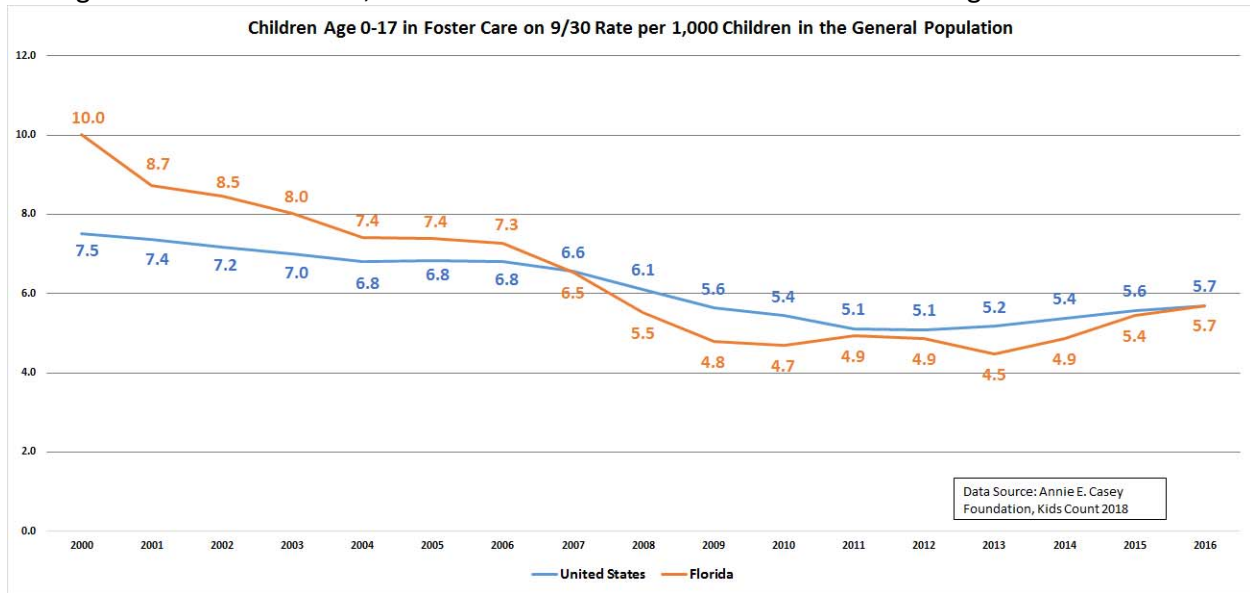


Children in Out-of-Home Care Compared to Child Population

Although states have differing populations (e.g., income and poverty) and maltreatment reporting requirements, comparing the OHC population to the general child population is one way to see the relative size of Florida’s OHC population.

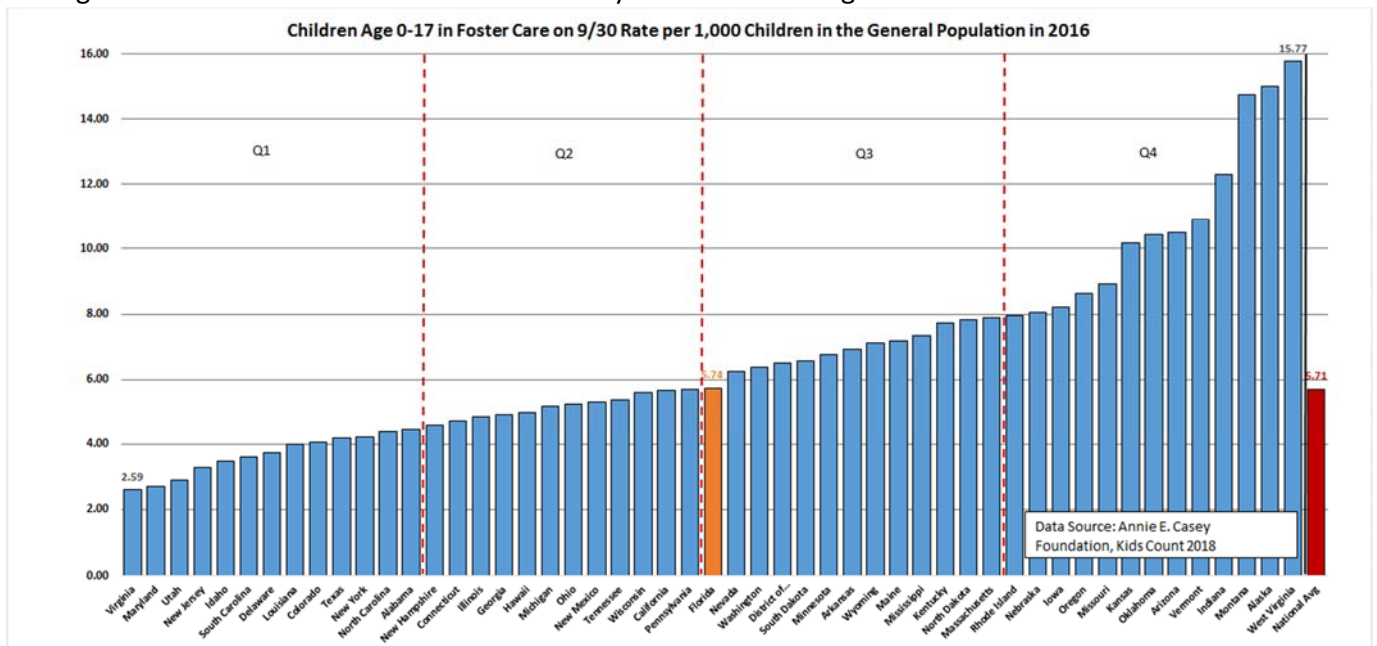
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

In 2000-06, Florida’s OHC rate per 1,000 children in the general population was above the national average. From 2007 to 2016, Florida has been below or at the national average.



Florida Compared to Other States

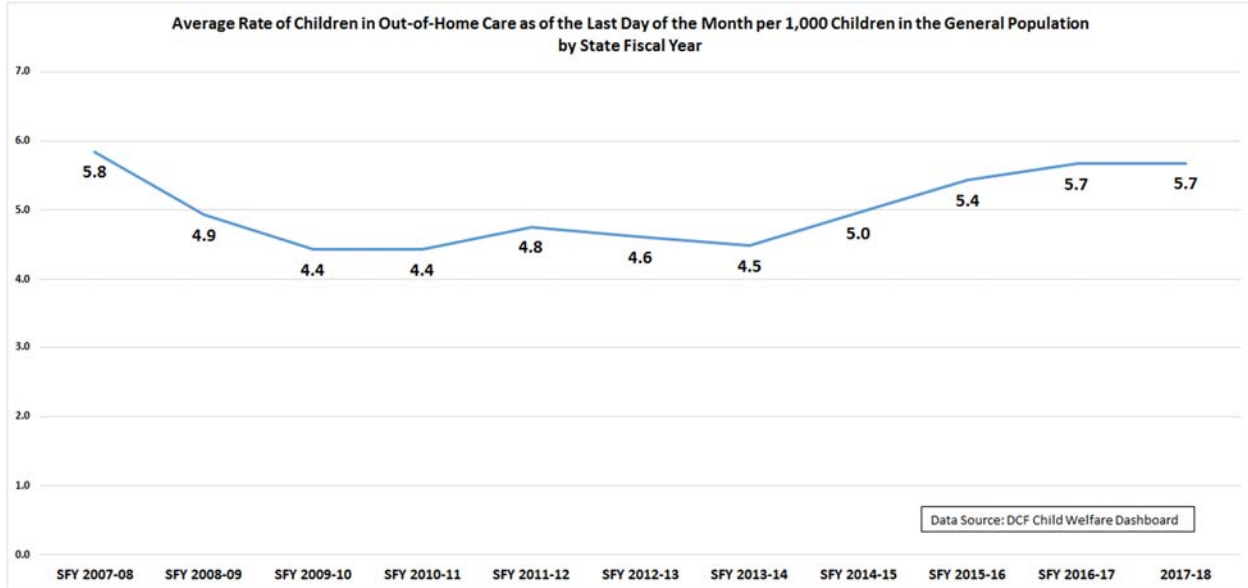
Florida’s OHC rate per 1,000 children in 2016 (the most recent year available) matched the national average. Several states have rates that are nearly three times as high as Florida’s rate.



Children in Out-of-Home Care Compared to Child Population

Florida Statewide Trend

Children in care compared to the general population declined in the last decade from around 7 per 1,000 in SFY 2004-05 through 2006-07 to around 4.5 per 1,000 in SFY 2009-10 through 2013-14. The rate has increased over the last three fiscal years to 5.7 per 1,000, but is still below the 7 per 1,000 level that was the norm in SFY 2004-05 through 2006-07.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Although the statewide rate for the last fiscal year was 5.7 per 1,000 children in the general population, there is wide variation across CBCs.

Average Rate of Children in Out-of-Home Care as of the Last Day of the Month per 1,000 Children in the General Population

Area	SFY 2007-08	SFY 2008-09	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	8.1	6.7	5.9	6.5	8.1	6.7	6.1	7.6	7.7	8.5	8.6
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	7.7	6.3	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.9	6.0
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	9.0	6.7	5.5	5.5	6.0	5.5	5.8	6.0	7.3	7.9	7.9
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	6.6	5.1	4.4	3.5	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.8	4.8	4.9	4.9
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	7.3	4.9	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.8
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	4.2	2.8	3.1	3.9	3.9	2.9	2.1	2.9	3.9	4.3	4.2
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	7.3	6.1	6.1	6.9	7.6	7.3	5.3	5.8	8.3	9.0	8.9
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	7.0	5.9	5.5	5.2	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.4	7.2	8.2	8.2
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.4
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	4.4	4.1	3.6	3.8	4.3	4.8	4.7	6.1	6.9	7.1	7.0
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	7.5	5.9	5.3	6.4	6.4	6.3	5.9	6.0	6.5	7.3	7.3
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	9.0	7.2	6.2	6.0	6.4	6.3	5.6	5.7	6.3	7.2	7.2
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	8.0	7.4	7.0	7.1	7.5	8.0	6.4	6.3	6.6	7.4	7.5
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	6.4	5.3	5.2	5.7	6.4	5.8	4.9	5.4	7.0	7.9	7.9
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	4.6	4.3	4.0	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.4	5.3	5.8	6.3	6.4
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	6.1	5.3	5.3	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.1	6.0	5.8	5.1	5.1
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.9	4.2	4.3	3.8	3.7
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	4.3	5.3	6.1	5.8	5.7
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	4.3	3.5	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.4	4.0	3.5	3.3	3.3
Statewide	5.8	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.5	5.0	5.4	5.7	5.7

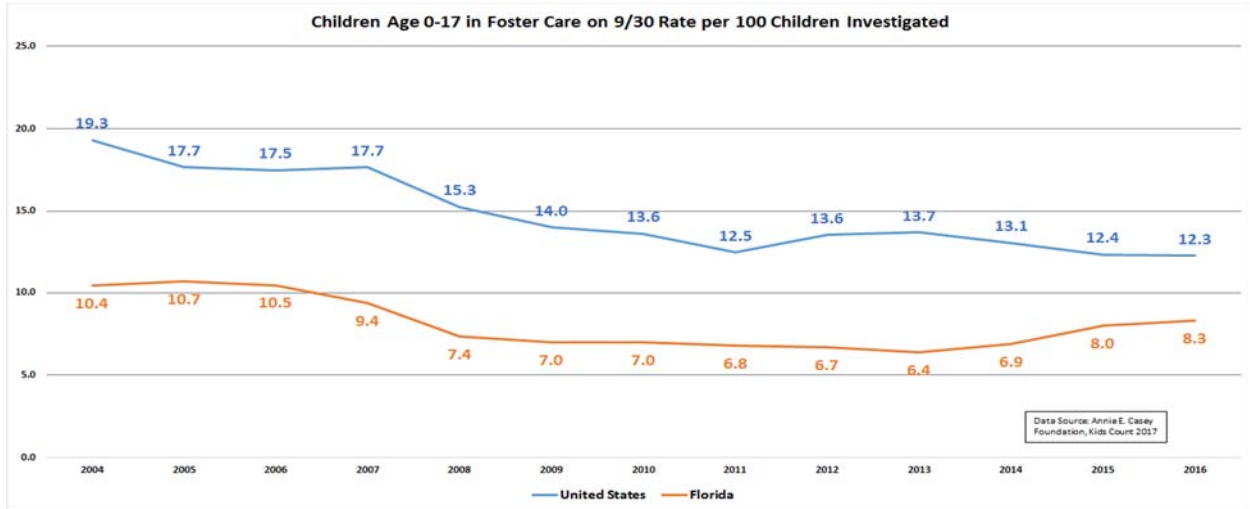
Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard

Children in Out-of-Home Care Compared to Children Investigated

Children removed and placed in OHC are not taken from the general population, but from those in investigations. The number of children investigated is a better indicator of need. However, the relative size of the OHC population is affected by permanency performance as much as removal rate.

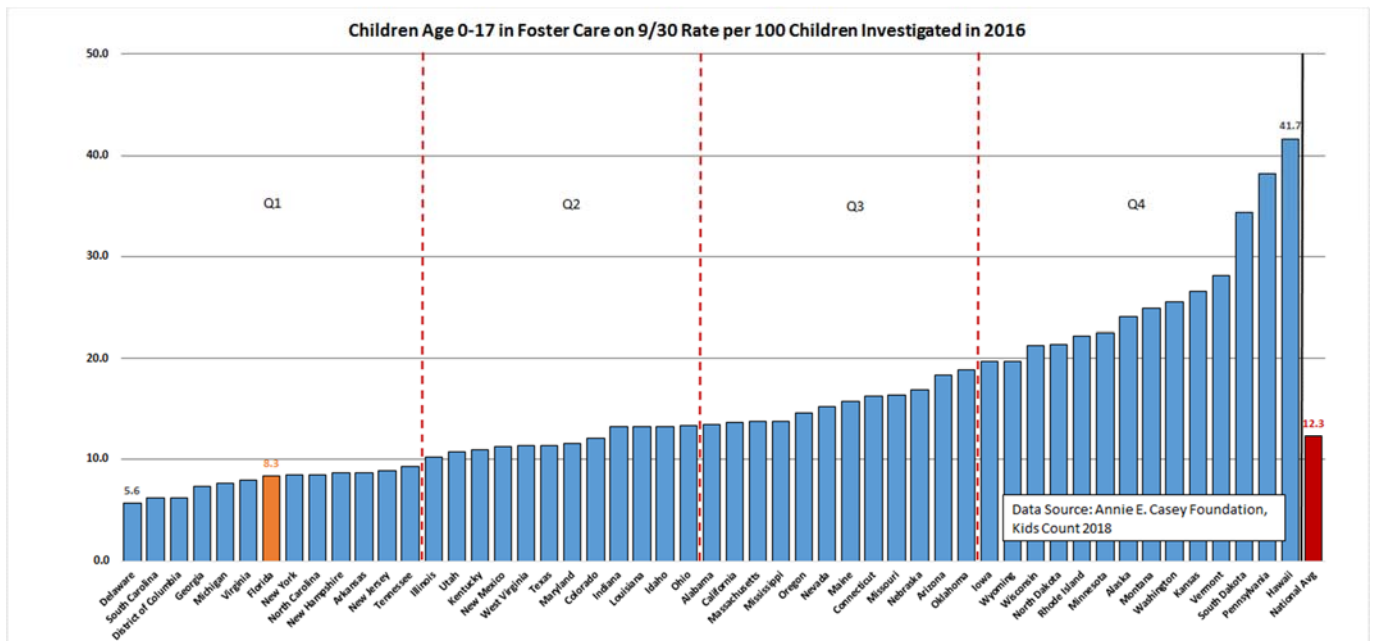
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

The Florida and national OHC rate per 100 children investigated has been increasing over the last three years, but Florida's rate is still much lower than the national average.



Florida Compared to Other States

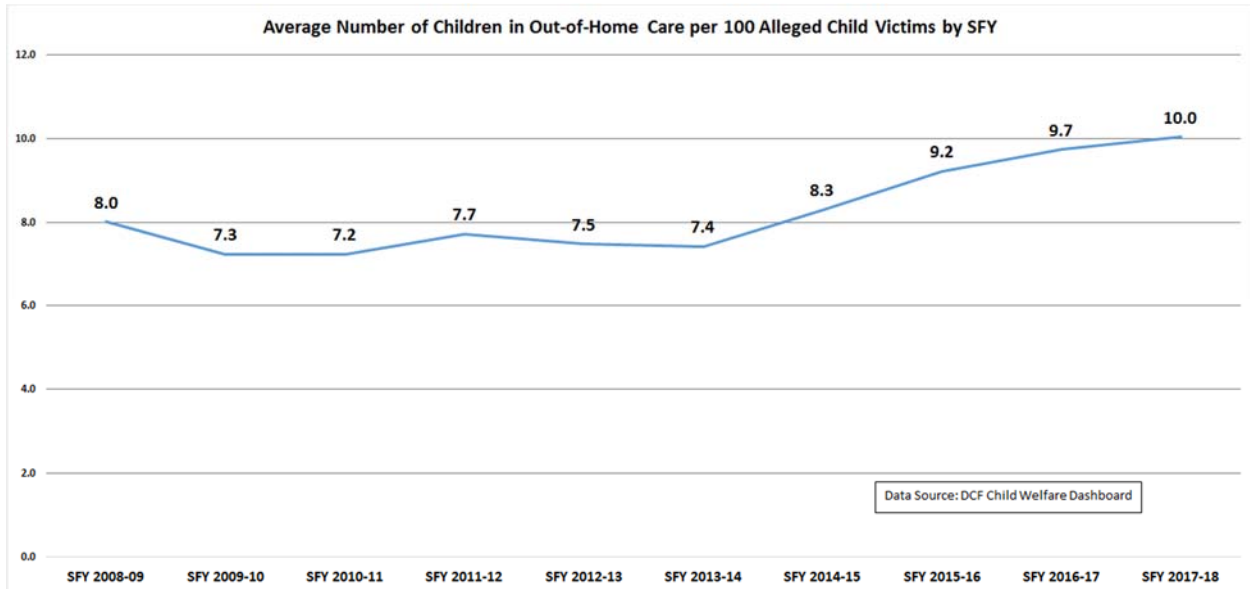
Florida's OHC rate per 100 children investigated was one of the lowest in the nation in 2016, due in part to Florida's high reporting rate. Conversely, Pennsylvania's low reporting (children investigated) rate impacts its high rate of children in foster care per 100 children investigated.



Children in Out-of-Home Care Compared to Children Investigated

Florida Statewide Trend

The OHC rate has increased for the last three fiscal years, with the last two state fiscal years surpassing the SFY 2006-07 level. Although this comparison is for children investigated, it is important to remember that the increase in OHC is primarily due to a decrease in discharge rates, rather than an increase in removal rates.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is wide variation around the state, with the highest rates over four times as high as the lowest rates.

Average Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care per 100 Alleged Child Victims by SFY

Area	SFY 2008-09	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	8.1	7.3	8.0	9.9	8.1	7.4	9.4	9.7	10.7	10.6
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	7.8	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.6	7.0	8.1	9.0
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	7.6	6.5	6.6	7.0	6.4	6.6	6.9	8.5	9.2	9.2
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	7.4	6.5	5.1	6.1	6.1	5.5	5.9	7.6	8.0	8.9
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	7.4	5.5	5.6	5.8	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.8	6.0	6.2
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	5.1	5.9	7.5	8.2	6.7	4.8	6.7	9.6	10.9	9.9
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	7.1	7.0	7.8	8.6	8.3	6.0	6.6	9.5	10.4	10.1
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	6.3	6.0	5.6	6.4	6.3	5.9	6.1	8.0	9.4	10.1
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	3.0	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.3
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	4.8	4.2	4.2	4.8	5.3	5.2	6.7	7.6	7.9	7.2
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	7.3	6.7	7.9	8.2	8.2	7.7	7.8	8.6	9.8	10.3
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	13.7	11.7	11.3	12.2	12.0	10.9	11.5	13.0	15.0	16.1
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	9.2	8.6	8.6	9.3	10.1	8.1	8.0	8.6	9.7	11.0
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	7.1	7.1	7.8	8.7	8.0	6.8	7.6	10.0	11.4	11.8
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	7.2	6.8	6.0	6.3	6.9	7.6	9.4	10.2	11.1	12.0
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	8.4	8.4	9.1	9.0	8.7	8.8	10.5	10.2	9.0	10.2
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	7.5	6.7	5.9	6.5	6.4	7.5	8.0	8.1	7.3	7.4
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	9.2	8.6	8.5	8.1	8.2	10.3	12.8	14.8	13.8	12.7
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	12.4	10.4	9.6	10.4	10.0	11.8	14.2	12.7	12.1	12.3
Statewide	8.1	7.3	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.4	8.3	9.3	9.8	10.1

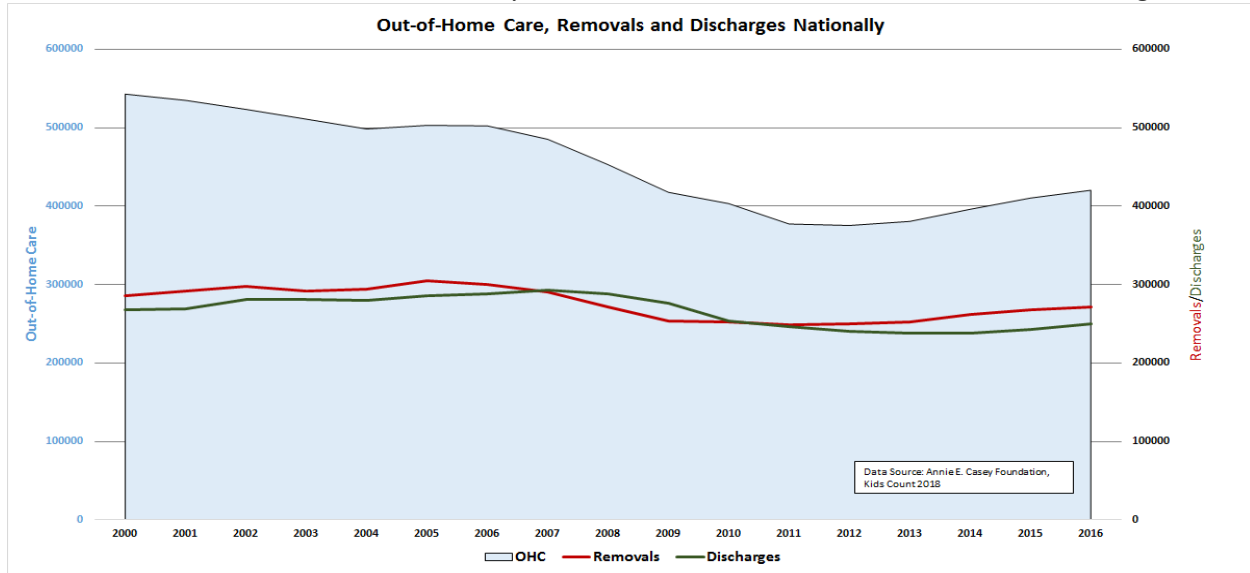
Relationship between Out-of-Home Care, Removals, and Discharges

Changes in the children in OHC population -- up or down -- are driven by changes in removals/entries and discharges/exits. Note the gaps between the two lines:

- Removals (red) above discharges (green) result in OHC increase.
- Discharges (green) above removals (red) result in OHC decrease.

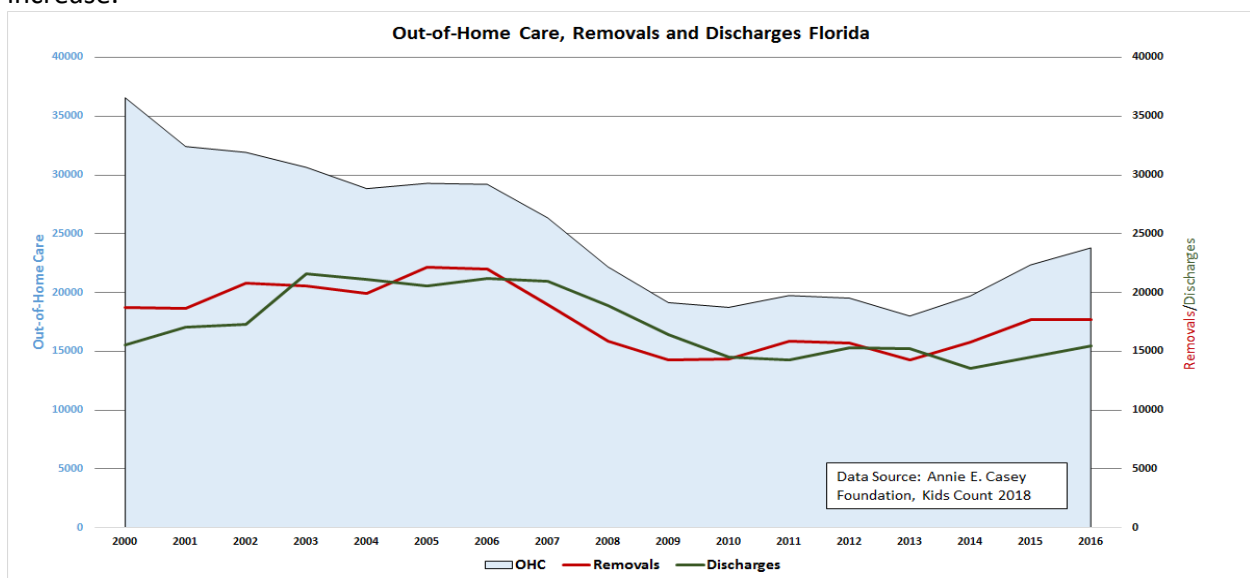
National Trend

This chart shows that the national reduction in OHC 2007-11 was driven by reduction in removals. The recent increase in OHC was driven by increases in removals with no increase in discharges.



Florida Statewide Trend

Florida was similar to the national trend, but with steep reductions in removals and OHC in SFY 2007-09. Simultaneous increase in removals and decrease in discharges in 2014 has driven the OHC increase.

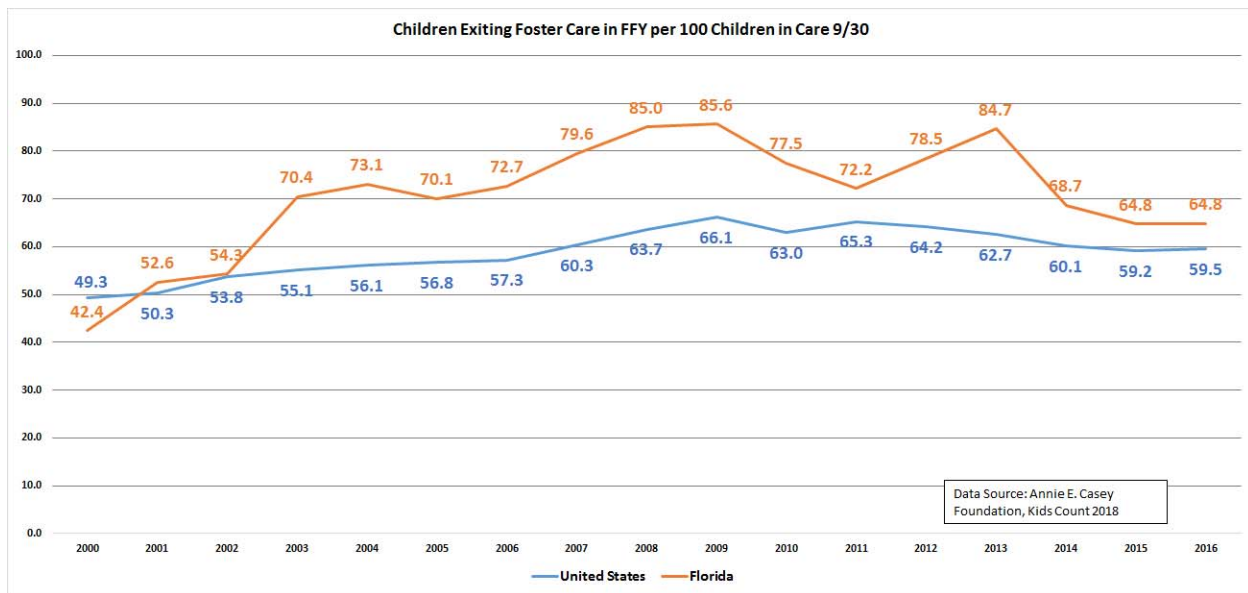


Children Exiting Foster Care per 100 in Care

In order to compare states and communities, discharges in a period are compared to the number of children in care at the end of the period.

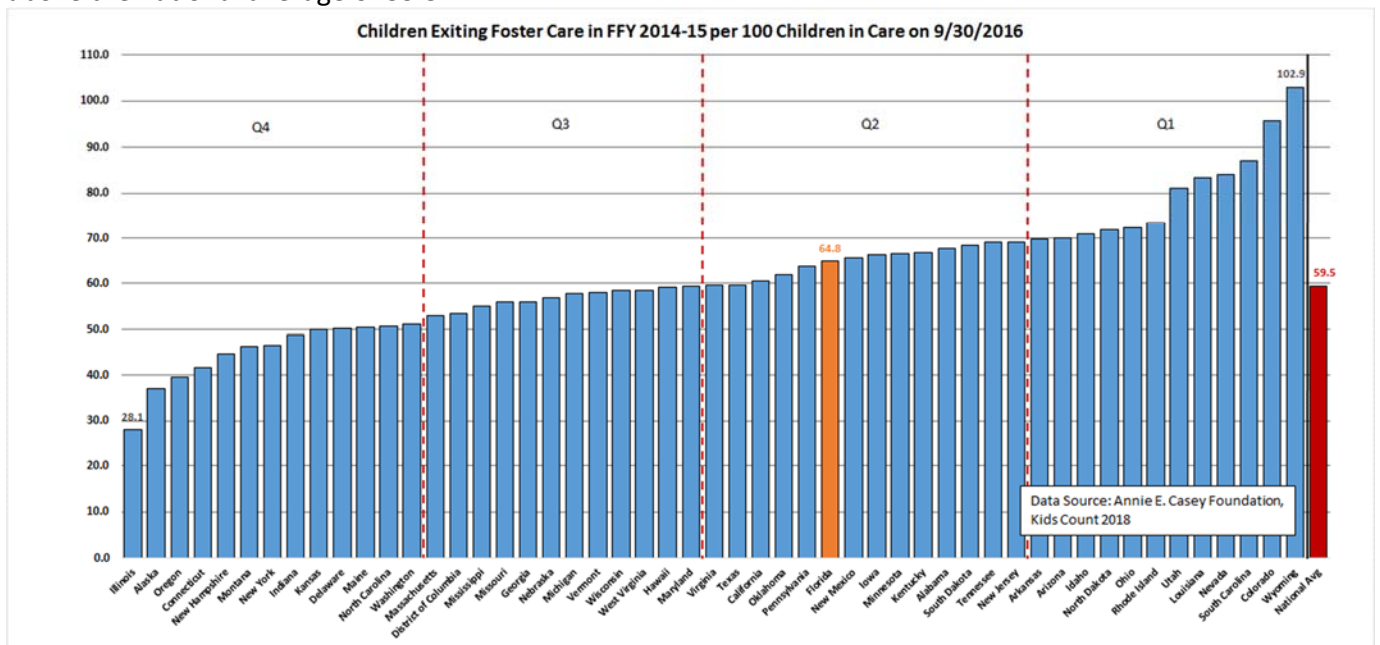
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

Using national data to compare total exits each Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) to children in care at the end of the FFY, Florida's rate was just below the national average in 2000, but has been consistently above the national average from 2001 through 2016.



Florida Compared to Other States

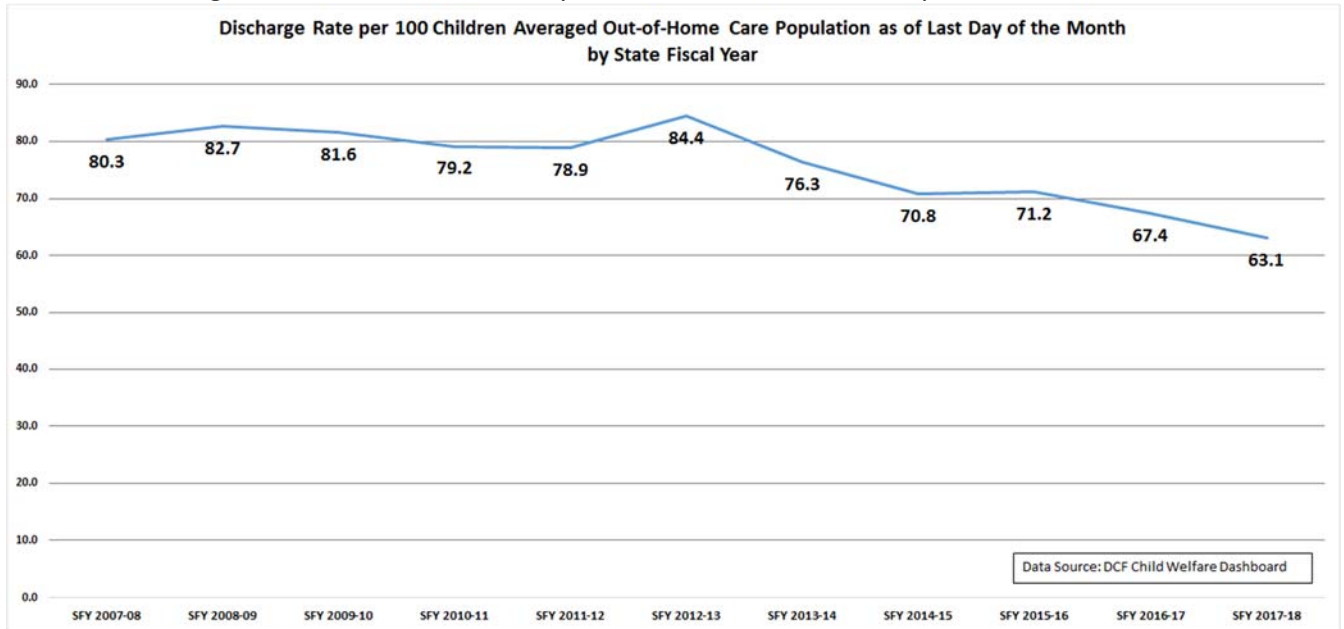
The last available national data was for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016, ending September 30, 2016. Comparing all exits in FFY 2016 to children in care September 30, 2016, Florida's exit rate of 64.8 is above the national average of 59.5.



Children Exiting Foster Care per 100 in Care

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida's discharge rate in the last two fiscal years has been at the lowest point in the last decade.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is wide variation in discharge rates across the state.

Discharge Rate per 100 Children Averaged Out-of-Home Care Population as of Last Day of the Month

Area	SFY 2007-08	SFY 2008-09	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	91.1	102.4	94.4	77.8	75.1	94.7	78.0	68.0	75.6	58.8	60.2
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	96.5	112.2	103.4	94.3	81.1	84.1	69.9	67.2	72.4	62.7	56.9
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	87.1	95.3	90.1	93.7	90.6	103.2	90.7	81.8	80.5	82.2	69.2
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	84.7	86.4	82.2	110.4	63.3	87.7	58.9	78.6	66.6	50.8	45.7
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	109.8	108.2	101.1	81.5	97.9	113.9	82.8	97.6	80.8	83.5	70.3
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	98.3	105.7	75.3	82.3	97.4	108.0	130.0	56.4	57.3	68.3	65.3
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	78.3	84.3	73.5	73.1	63.8	76.1	88.7	59.2	58.5	52.4	55.2
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	95.3	97.8	88.7	93.3	86.7	106.4	94.0	78.7	65.0	66.4	55.1
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	37.3	33.9	37.4	42.2	39.3	39.4	33.2	30.2	32.8	35.7	33.7
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	90.8	99.1	98.8	87.2	93.1	93.8	79.0	52.7	59.7	68.5	95.6
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	104.5	81.5	82.3	72.3	87.7	78.7	77.6	77.1	69.7	68.4	67.2
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	58.1	73.7	76.8	69.8	73.6	84.7	77.4	77.1	75.3	64.4	57.2
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	68.7	70.0	81.3	83.4	79.2	80.6	91.8	81.9	77.1	62.1	58.5
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	74.8	92.1	75.1	85.0	83.5	76.5	83.2	76.3	72.1	66.6	67.3
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	81.5	81.4	84.6	80.1	74.7	78.2	69.7	61.7	67.4	71.9	65.4
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	90.6	84.5	69.2	71.0	85.3	66.2	65.9	59.9	81.0	86.2	70.0
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	89.8	74.7	87.8	74.7	72.8	82.8	79.6	80.6	76.7	76.0	71.3
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	64.8	71.3	71.4	73.3	79.0	80.5	53.7	53.1	54.3	64.8	65.0
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	63.5	70.4	70.9	68.0	67.9	74.5	69.0	75.6	88.7	67.5	57.3
Statewide	80.3	82.7	81.6	79.2	78.9	84.4	76.3	70.8	71.2	67.4	63.1

CBC Safety Outcome Indicators

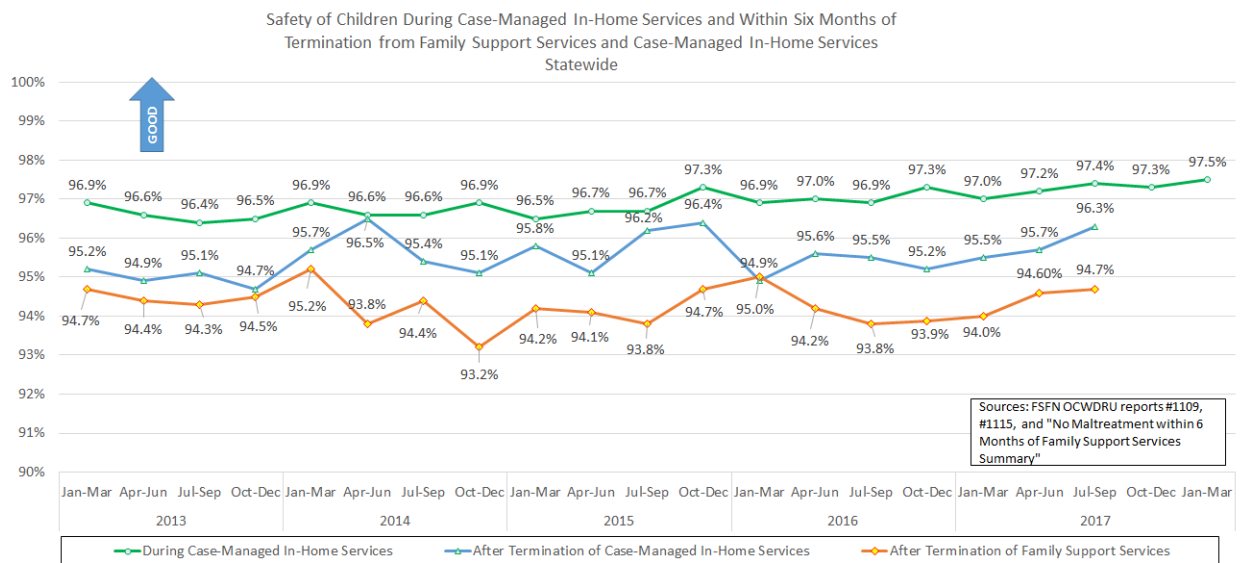
Relative Safety by Status of Services

Child Safety Trends: Comparison of Three Indicators

Children continue to be safer while receiving services than after termination of services, as evidenced by the relative percentages of the three indicators on the following chart. The following trends are also shown:

- The percent of children with no verified maltreatment *during* case-managed in-home services has remained steady at around 97% and was 97% in January-March 2017.
- The percent of children with no verified maltreatment within six months *after termination* of case-managed in-home services improved for those closures in July-September 2017 to 96.3%.
- The percent of children with no verified maltreatment within six months of termination of Family Support Services improved for July-September 2017 closures to 94.7%.

Measuring safety performance requires follow-up periods for maltreatment after termination of services plus two months for completion of any subsequent investigations. This chart and others in this section include the most recent available quarters.



Individual Safety Indicators

Maltreatment in Foster Care

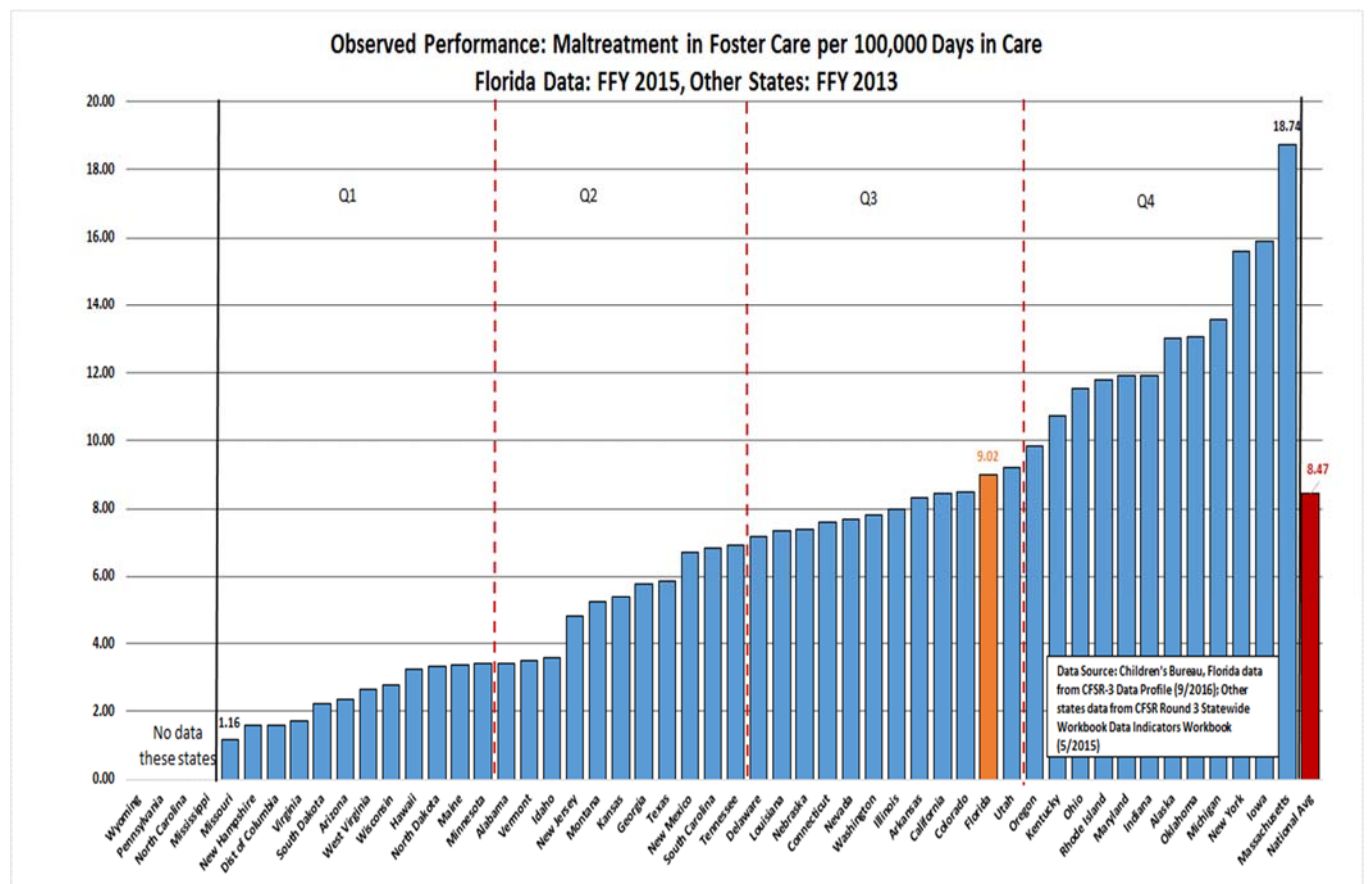
Maltreatment in foster care is a rare event compared to the three safety indicators in the last chart, so it is measured as a rate per 100,000 days in care in the federal CFSR-3. It answers the question, “Of all children in foster care during a 12-month period, what is the rate of victimization, per day of care?”

Denominator: Of children in care during a 12-month period, total number of days these children were in care as of the end of the 12-month period.

Numerator: Of children in the denominator, total number of substantiated or indicated reports of maltreatment (by any perpetrator) during a foster care episode within the 12-month period.

Florida Compared to Other States

The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised by the Children’s Bureau; however, Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) rate of 9.02 for the period under review does not meet the initial standard. The data below is the most recent data available.

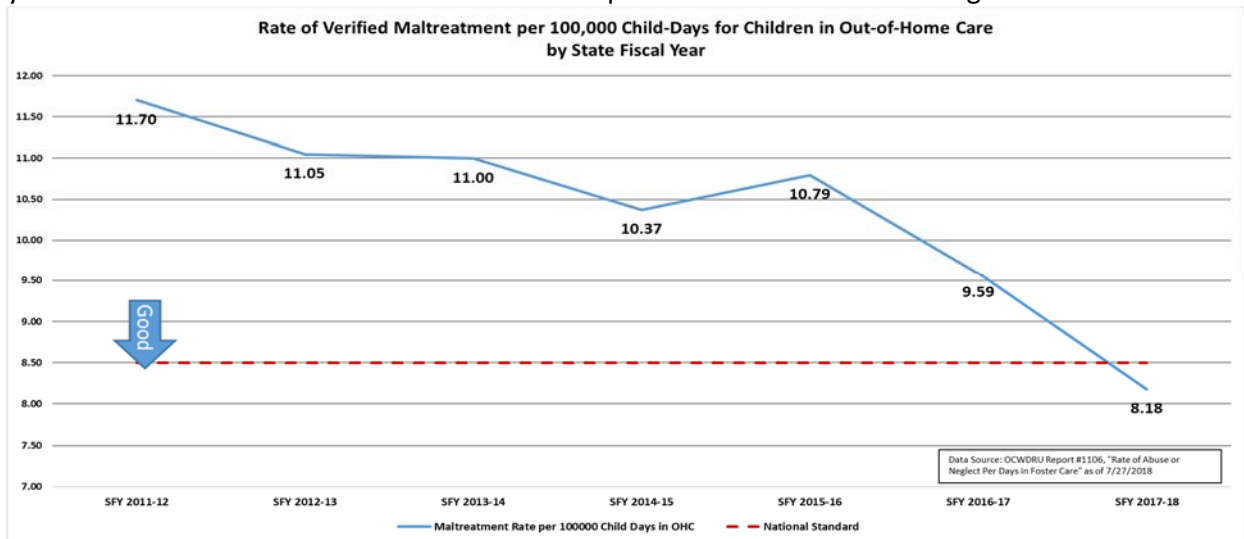


Maltreatment in Foster Care

The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised by the Children’s Bureau. Florida’s calculated rates are somewhat different from the rate appearing in the federal data profile used for CFSR-3, which uses AFCARS and NCANDS files submitted by states. Florida’s rates are higher than on the last page, but useful for making internal comparisons and measuring progress.

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida has shown overall improvement in the last six years with a decline in the last two state fiscal years. Maltreatment in OHC is a rare event compared to maltreatment during in-home services.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is wide variation around the state on this indicator. Some differences of this indicator are likely due to differences in reporting maltreatment to the Hotline, differences in verification rates, and use of kinship care, which is typically higher than licensed care.

Area	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	11.5	7.8	9.1	12.4	8.9	8.1	5.1
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	7.8	10.6	7.5	6.3	7.8	10.9	8.9
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	9.6	12.4	20.6	11.3	8.3	7.8	6.4
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	9.5	9.6	9.2	8.7	7.9	5.4	13.7
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	16.3	14.7	7.4	7.7	6.4	6.3	7.3
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	14.6	12.2	8.4	10.6	10.4	9.1	13.1
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	14.7	7.7	5.0	5.1	9.3	9.7	6.2
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	13.5	12.4	12.7	9.3	12.4	6.4	8.2
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	14.9	15.8	9.4	10.9	10.5	8.4	8.7
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	26.2	16.2	20.5	12.2	14.8	9.8	11.5
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	9.6	7.6	7.1	8.9	13.5	6.8	6.6
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	9.0	11.1	12.1	10.5	11.3	10.7	10.4
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	16.3	10.7	13.3	9.1	9.9	7.5	6.8
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	8.9	10.2	5.0	9.4	15.8	14.4	9.1
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	9.5	7.9	9.3	7.8	12.3	19.5	10.3
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	13.0	10.0	4.9	14.3	7.3	11.7	6.6
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	3.5	8.2	13.3	12.3	8.5	11.3	7.8
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	12.3	15.7	15.8	12.4	12.1	9.7	9.2
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	7.2	9.6	10.0	11.7	11.3	7.1	6.7
Statewide	11.7	11.0	11.0	10.4	10.8	9.6	8.2

Maltreatment during Case-Managed Services

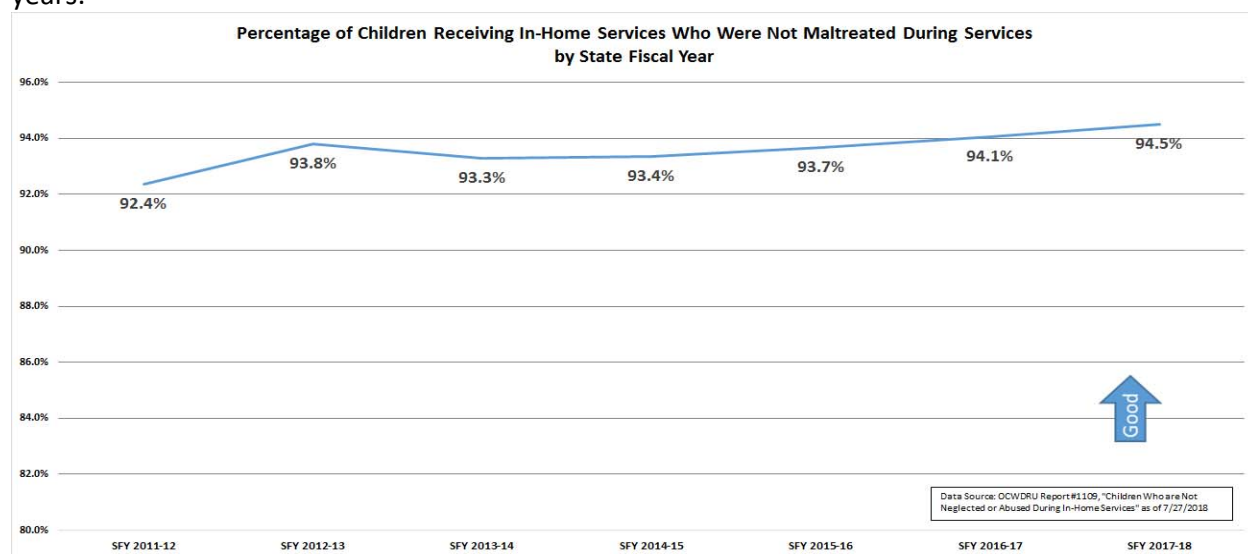
Children receiving case-managed in-home services include:

- Children found to be unsafe and needing ongoing assessment, planning, services, and frequent case manager visits to ensure safety while preventing removal and placement.
- Children receiving post-placement supervision.

As this service is for unsafe children with potential for removal, it is not surprising that some may have verified maltreatment while receiving these services. As with other recurrence indicators, measurement is influenced by verification rates.

Florida Statewide Trend

There is no standard for this indicator, but performance has been trending upward the last few years.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Statewide, there is a narrow range when comparing children receiving in-home services by area.

Percentage of Children Receiving In-Home Services Who Were Not Maltreated During Services by State Fiscal Year

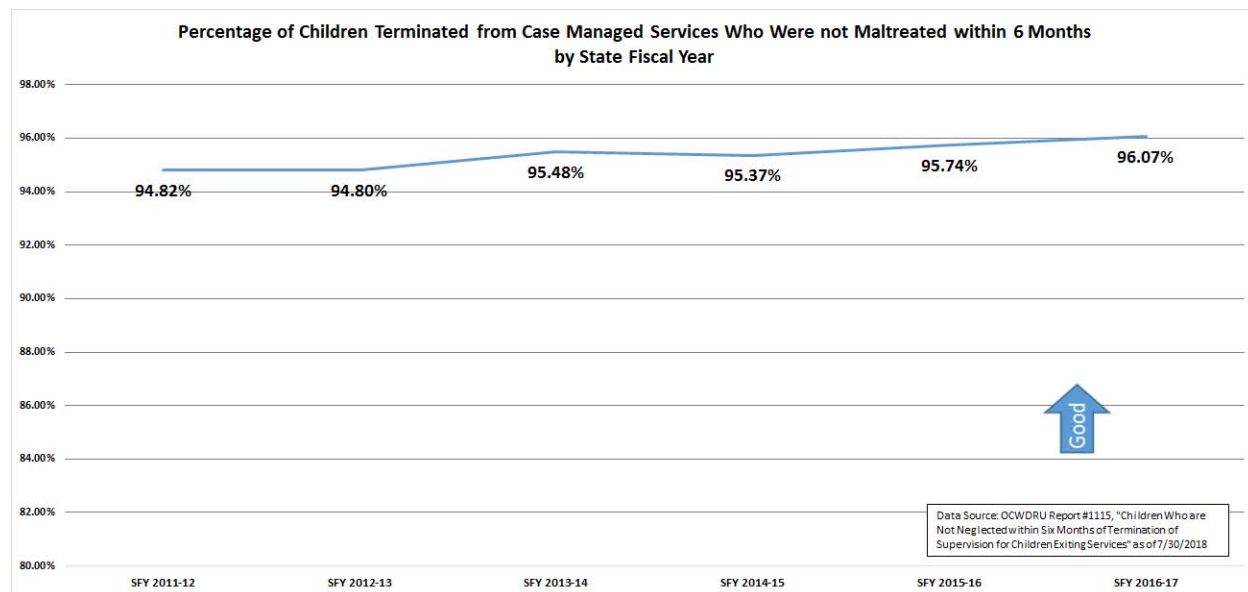
Area	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	89.6%	89.8%	91.2%	90.7%	92.2%	93.2%	92.9%	92.4%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	91.8%	93.8%	93.4%	93.2%	94.2%	95.9%	94.2%	98.3%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	89.6%	91.8%	92.2%	91.8%	90.7%	93.1%	95.8%	95.6%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	85.2%	90.4%	91.8%	93.6%	90.9%	92.4%	93.4%	95.3%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	90.8%	89.7%	93.2%	91.5%	92.9%	92.7%	92.4%	95.2%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	100.0%	86.6%	91.4%	94.2%	93.6%	95.1%	88.1%	96.7%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	90.6%	92.7%	94.3%	95.2%	92.8%	91.0%	91.0%	92.6%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	93.2%	93.4%	95.5%	95.2%	95.4%	92.4%	95.4%	93.6%
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	93.1%	92.7%	93.7%	93.5%	93.9%	93.4%	94.0%	94.6%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	91.0%	91.7%	92.7%	92.5%	93.5%	94.7%	93.0%	93.9%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	92.1%	95.3%	93.2%	95.2%	95.4%	94.6%	96.7%	96.3%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	93.1%	91.6%	94.4%	94.3%	93.0%	93.9%	93.3%	95.6%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	89.9%	89.7%	90.0%	93.3%	93.0%	93.1%	95.6%	93.7%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	93.0%	93.5%	93.4%	95.3%	91.9%	92.0%	94.1%	94.4%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	89.7%	88.6%	91.5%	92.8%	94.1%	93.3%	94.5%	94.8%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	90.5%	90.7%	91.4%	94.2%	91.4%	93.7%	94.5%	93.1%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	95.1%	92.2%	94.7%	92.2%	94.1%	97.4%	95.4%	96.1%
ChildNet-Brvoard-Circuit 17	91.5%	92.6%	96.3%	90.5%	89.0%	91.3%	91.8%	92.1%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	96.3%	96.4%	96.9%	94.2%	95.3%	96.6%	96.6%	95.9%
Statewide	91.9%	92.4%	93.8%	93.3%	93.4%	93.7%	94.1%	94.5%

Maltreatment after Termination of Case-Managed Services

Just as it is important to ensure safety of children receiving services, it is also important that supervision not be terminated prematurely, if the risk of subsequent maltreatment remains high.

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida has shown steady progress on this indicator.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

The high rate of non-recurrence on this indicator indicates that children are generally safe after termination of services. Data for the entire fiscal year is used in the chart below.

Percentage of Children Terminated from Case Managed Services Who Were not Maltreated within 6 Months by State Fiscal Year

Area	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17
Families First Network-Circuit 01	93.43%	96.36%	95.47%	95.67%	96.37%	95.63%	96.38%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	94.99%	95.98%	92.92%	96.54%	95.77%	94.93%	93.78%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	94.04%	93.67%	94.43%	92.45%	93.55%	95.47%	97.46%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	89.64%	91.50%	96.84%	99.02%	94.26%	93.10%	95.45%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	94.90%	94.42%	95.59%	96.17%	94.51%	93.91%	95.97%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	85.71%	88.89%	94.55%	93.02%	87.13%	93.08%	90.08%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	94.66%	95.22%	95.28%	93.89%	94.82%	95.06%	95.54%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	95.10%	93.75%	94.98%	95.81%	95.62%	94.67%	97.60%
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	96.58%	95.51%	94.65%	97.67%	94.67%	95.50%	95.75%
Brevard family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	92.10%	92.42%	95.65%	93.33%	91.54%	94.86%	93.88%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	95.45%	95.65%	96.72%	98.53%	96.28%	95.91%	95.85%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	96.83%	94.56%	100.00%	96.01%	96.64%	96.33%	96.11%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	92.99%	91.53%	91.67%	94.50%	94.18%	95.13%	94.26%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	94.91%	95.90%	95.59%	93.28%	92.59%	94.84%	97.27%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	96.70%	94.79%	94.66%	95.68%	96.86%	95.96%	96.19%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	93.68%	94.15%	93.70%	96.41%	96.25%	96.12%	97.02%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	96.48%	96.68%	95.98%	93.04%	96.05%	95.59%	96.20%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	96.11%	96.21%	85.71%	96.36%	96.52%	97.57%	96.92%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	96.02%	95.80%	95.57%	95.41%	96.08%	97.83%	96.70%
Statewide	94.91%	94.82%	94.80%	95.48%	95.37%	95.74%	96.07%

Permanency Indicators

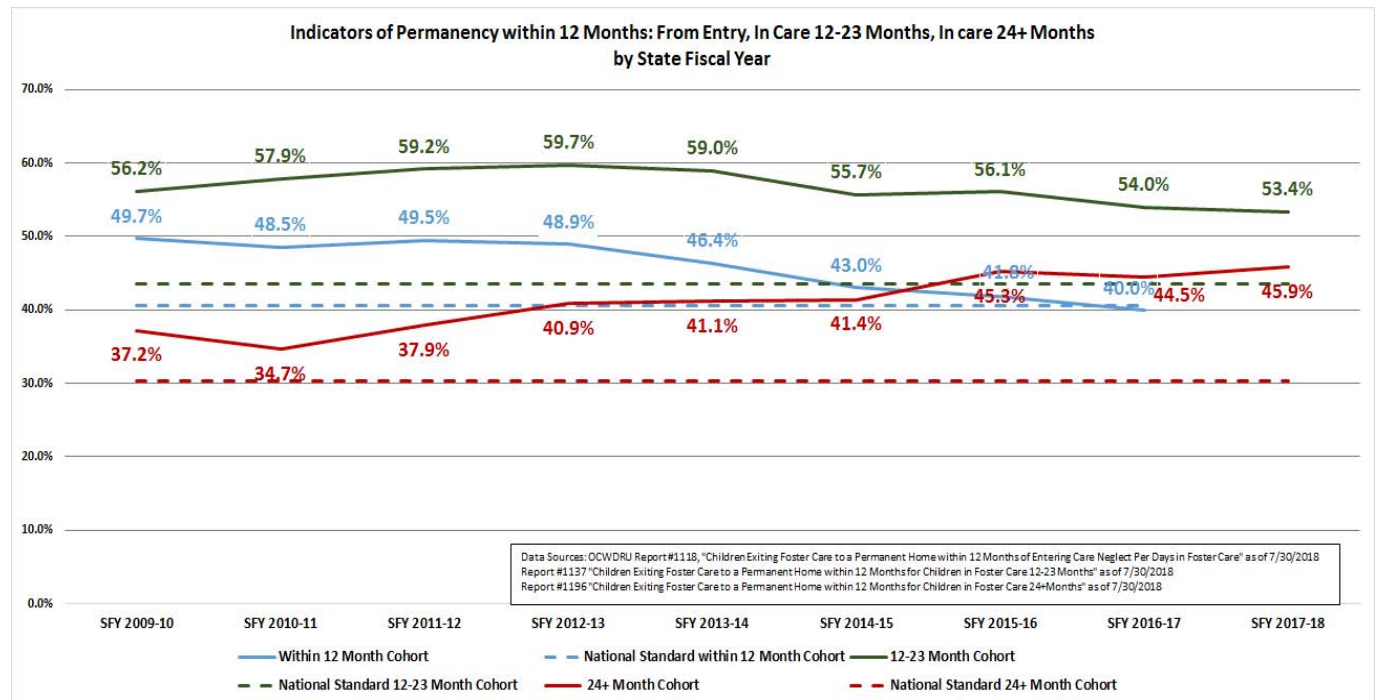
Timely Achievement of Permanency

Permanency within 12 Months from Three Starting Points

The federal CFSR-3 includes three indicators of timely permanency, plus a companion indicator of re-entry into care after discharge. Each of the three timely permanency indicators measures achievement of permanency within 12 months for a different cohort of children, based on a certain period or date.

- Entry Cohort.** This indicator measures the proportion of children in a cohort of children who were removed and entered care in the same period and achieved permanency within 12 months of removal.
- In Care 12-23 Months Cohort.** This indicator measures the proportion of children in a cohort of children who were in care 12-23 months on the same date and achieved permanency within 12 months of the reporting period.
- In Care 24+ Months Cohort.** This indicator measures the proportion of children in a cohort of children who were in care 24 or more months on the same date and achieved permanency within 12 months of the reporting period.

The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised by the Children’s Bureau. Performance on the entry cohort indicator has declined in the last few years, with Florida not meeting the permanency within 12 months standard in 2017-18. Performance on the in-care 12-23 months indicator is consistently above the national standard, but has trended lower over the last few years. Performance on the in-care 24+ months cohort has remained stable and constantly above the national standard.



Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Care

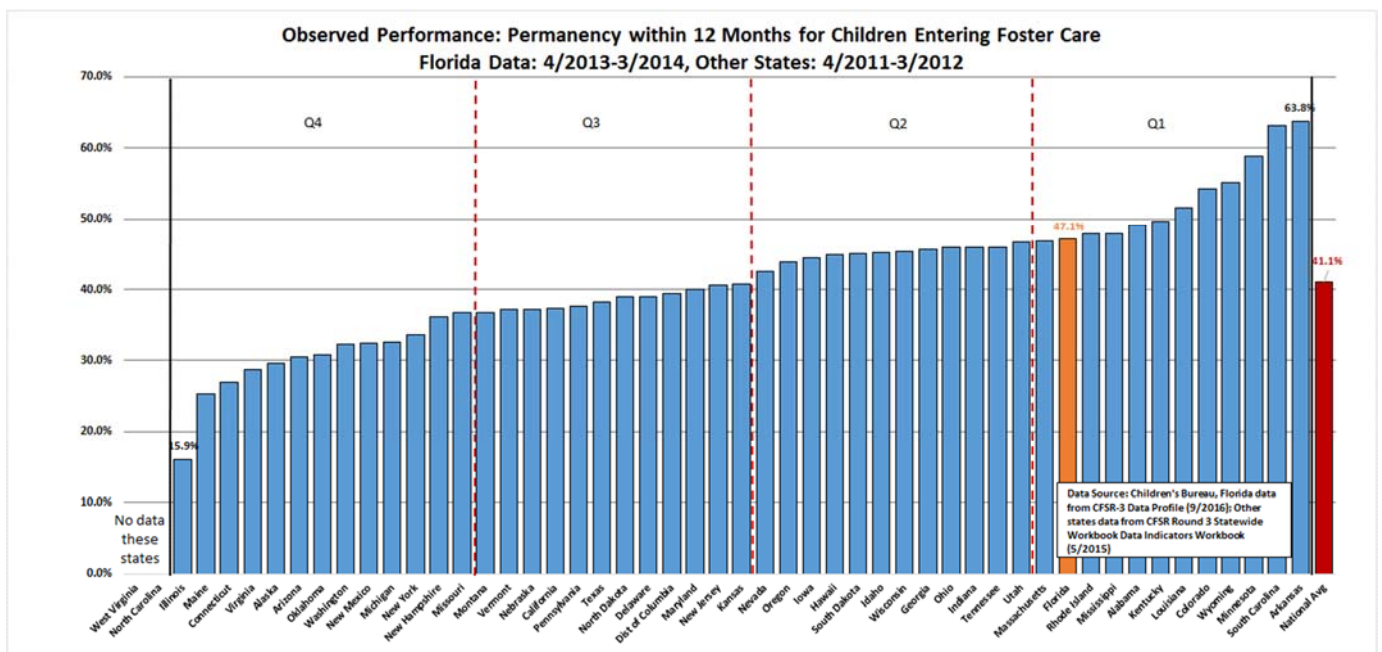
The first of the CFSR-3 permanency indicators answers the question, “Of all children who enter care in a 12-month period, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering care?”

Denominator: Number of children who enter care in a 12-month period.

Numerator: Number of children in the denominator who discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering care.

Florida Compared to Other States

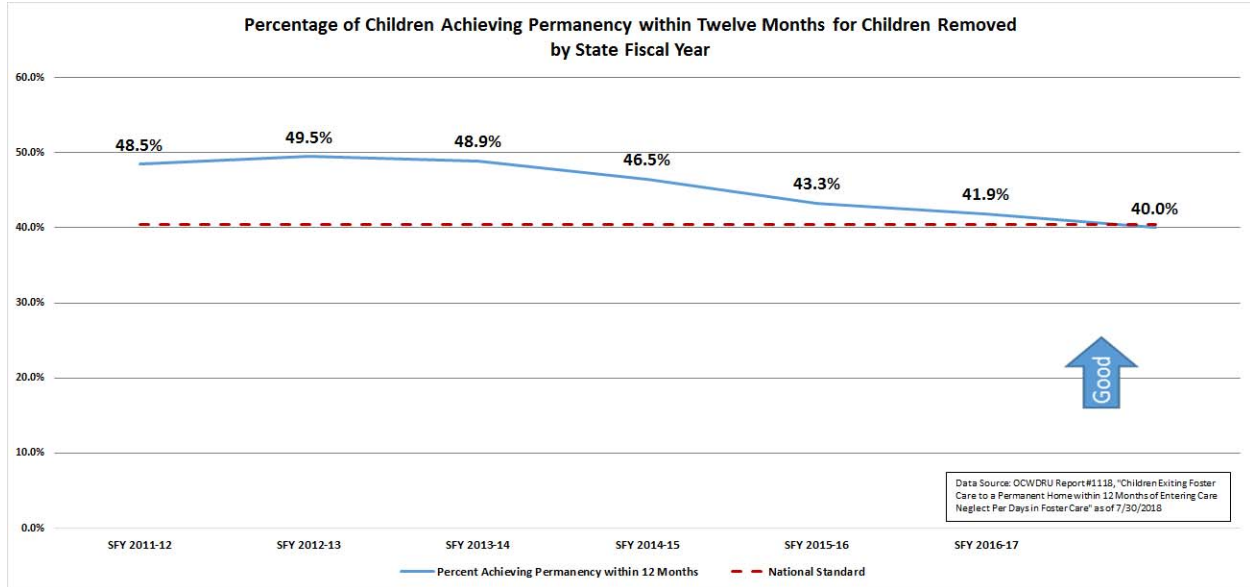
Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) performance of 47.1% for children removed in April 2013 – March 2014 was above the initial national standard and was among the top states in the nation in the period used for CFSR-3. The figure below includes the most recent data available for this indicator.



Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Care

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida's performance has been declining during the period used for CFSR-3, and dropped below the initial national standard of 40.5% in SFY 2016-17 for the children removed in SFY 2016-17.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Florida's statewide performance is currently below the CFSR-3 initial national standard, with more than half the CBCs below the standard.

Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within Twelve Months for Children Removed by State Fiscal Year							
Area	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17
Families First Network-Circuit 01	48.3%	54.4%	47.2%	44.3%	47.6%	37.2%	38.3%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	52.3%	48.6%	43.9%	37.6%	38.4%	33.7%	30.3%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	54.8%	59.6%	54.7%	54.3%	52.4%	52.9%	43.9%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	48.0%	44.8%	28.7%	37.8%	36.9%	34.1%	17.5%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	54.5%	57.7%	54.5%	58.9%	54.2%	45.1%	39.5%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	52.5%	57.1%	62.5%	54.5%	34.2%	32.9%	31.6%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	35.3%	34.2%	41.0%	27.4%	37.9%	30.6%	27.8%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	50.8%	58.0%	58.3%	51.8%	40.3%	42.5%	40.2%
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	46.1%	44.6%	42.1%	38.4%	30.7%	37.5%	39.8%
Brevard family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	58.6%	52.6%	51.7%	46.2%	37.5%	33.9%	53.5%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	53.4%	49.2%	48.4%	50.3%	47.5%	41.3%	44.4%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	42.8%	51.7%	50.8%	52.4%	44.7%	48.4%	41.7%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	55.5%	46.8%	59.3%	53.7%	51.4%	47.1%	38.4%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	56.5%	49.1%	48.9%	48.9%	48.0%	47.5%	40.4%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	49.0%	52.2%	47.1%	43.8%	40.7%	45.5%	43.1%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	45.9%	42.9%	44.2%	36.8%	39.0%	43.3%	46.3%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	41.0%	44.6%	48.7%	54.9%	46.9%	48.5%	44.8%
ChildNet-Brwoard-Circuit 17	47.8%	48.0%	42.4%	35.5%	30.9%	33.6%	42.4%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	38.2%	47.5%	41.5%	43.1%	50.9%	40.7%	34.7%
Statewide	48.5%	49.5%	48.9%	46.5%	43.3%	41.9%	40.0%

Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 12-23 Months

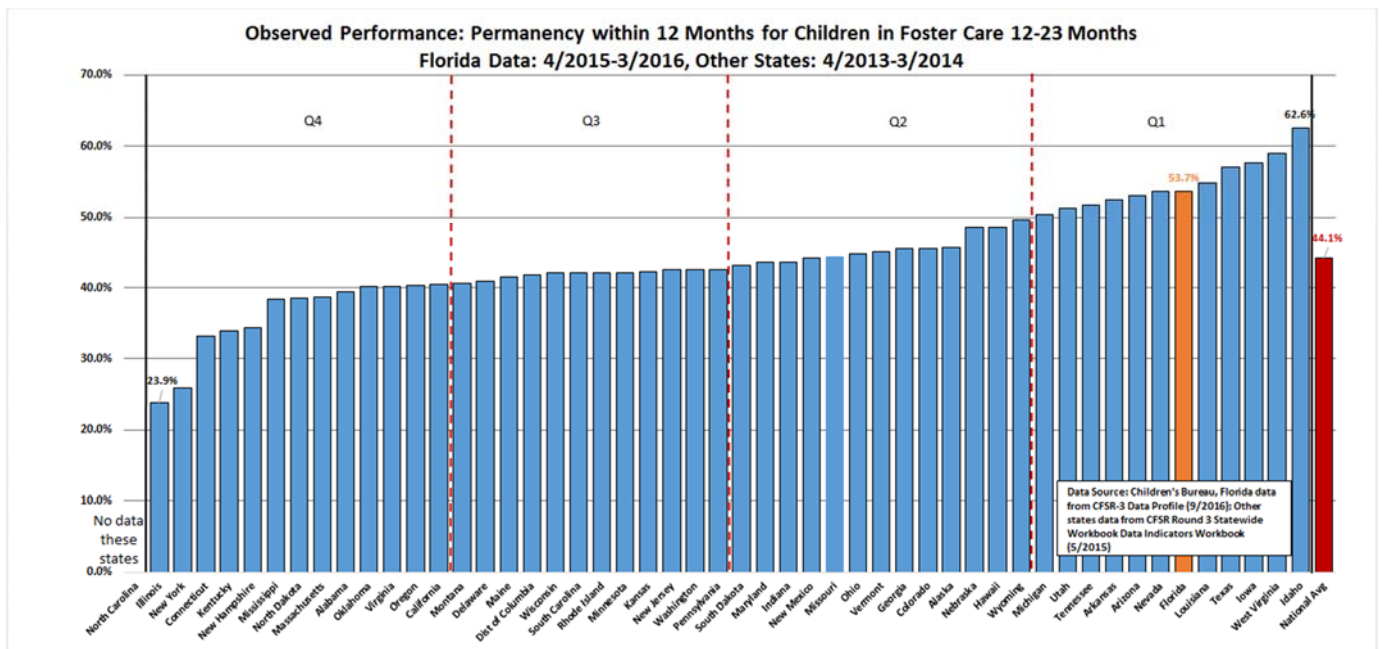
This permanency indicator answers the question, “Of all children in care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day?”

Denominator: Number of children in care on the first day of a 12-month period, who had been in care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months.

Numerator: Number of children in the denominator who discharged to permanency within 12 months of the 1st day.

Florida Compared to Other States

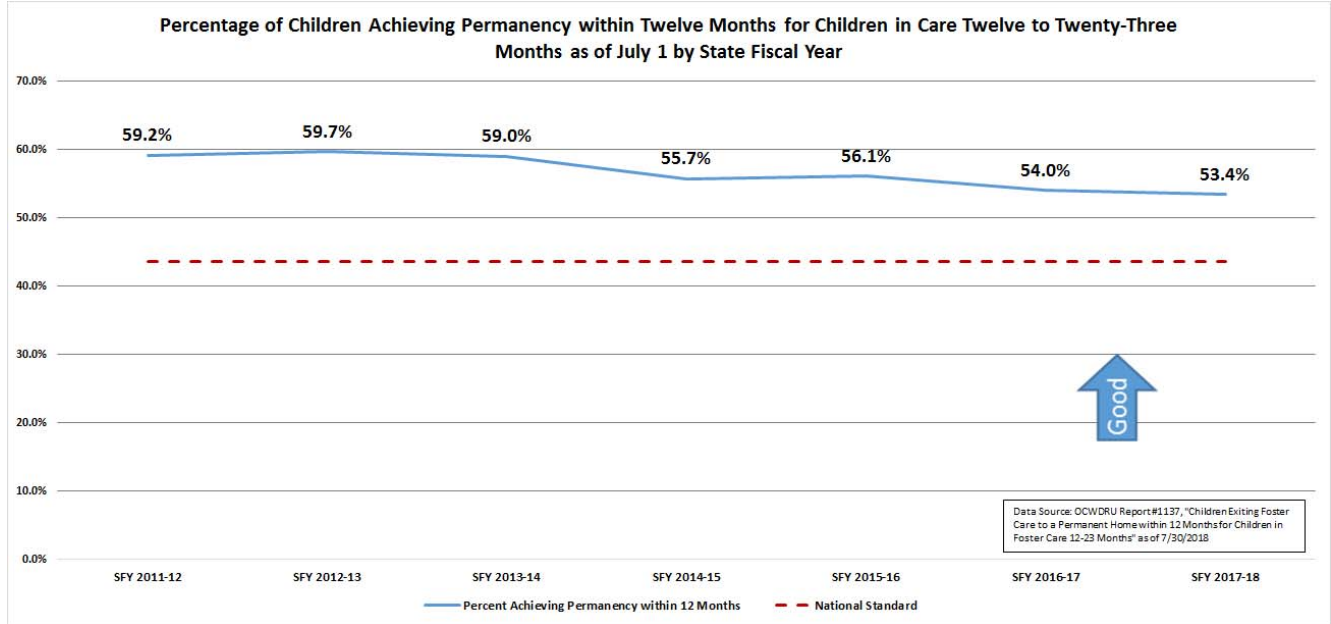
National standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised; however, Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) performance in 2015-16 was above the CFSR-3 initial standard and higher than most states in the nation in the comparison period. This is the most recent data available for this indicator.



Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 12-23 Months

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida's performance has declined since the 2013 cohort used for the CFSR-3, but continues to exceed the initial national standard.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is high performance with every CBC exceeding the national standard.

Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within Twelve Months for Children in Care Twelve to Twenty-Three Months as of July 1 by State Fiscal Year

Area	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	64.0%	64.8%	68.0%	59.1%	52.9%	51.8%	52.9%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	60.7%	55.2%	56.4%	63.0%	63.6%	53.4%	53.0%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	75.2%	67.6%	76.2%	65.2%	64.6%	66.7%	66.7%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	40.9%	69.8%	63.5%	75.6%	84.2%	50.0%	62.7%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	65.3%	68.4%	63.0%	62.8%	60.5%	78.2%	79.3%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	58.1%	79.3%	82.1%	61.5%	48.1%	65.6%	56.7%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	54.7%	62.2%	70.7%	60.0%	55.3%	49.7%	53.6%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	64.5%	72.1%	59.4%	60.5%	57.3%	46.8%	44.2%
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	50.3%	60.5%	54.5%	56.1%	58.4%	60.3%	57.4%
Brevard family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	62.1%	64.3%	63.4%	38.5%	41.2%	52.6%	57.1%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	64.4%	58.2%	55.2%	65.0%	48.1%	58.0%	50.2%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	62.3%	63.7%	63.8%	60.1%	52.0%	50.4%	45.7%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	62.8%	57.2%	65.8%	59.3%	55.6%	54.6%	49.8%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	66.0%	62.9%	65.2%	66.9%	60.4%	49.3%	54.7%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	58.5%	59.3%	52.6%	46.2%	50.9%	55.7%	55.1%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	65.7%	51.4%	39.7%	59.2%	69.6%	64.2%	60.9%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	46.4%	53.0%	61.6%	55.6%	59.7%	47.0%	63.6%
ChildNet-Brwoard-Circuit 17	54.0%	53.4%	39.0%	45.6%	51.2%	50.7%	53.6%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	48.2%	49.8%	51.8%	44.5%	59.8%	52.5%	47.1%
Statewide	59.2%	59.7%	59.0%	55.8%	56.2%	54.1%	53.4%

Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 24+ Months

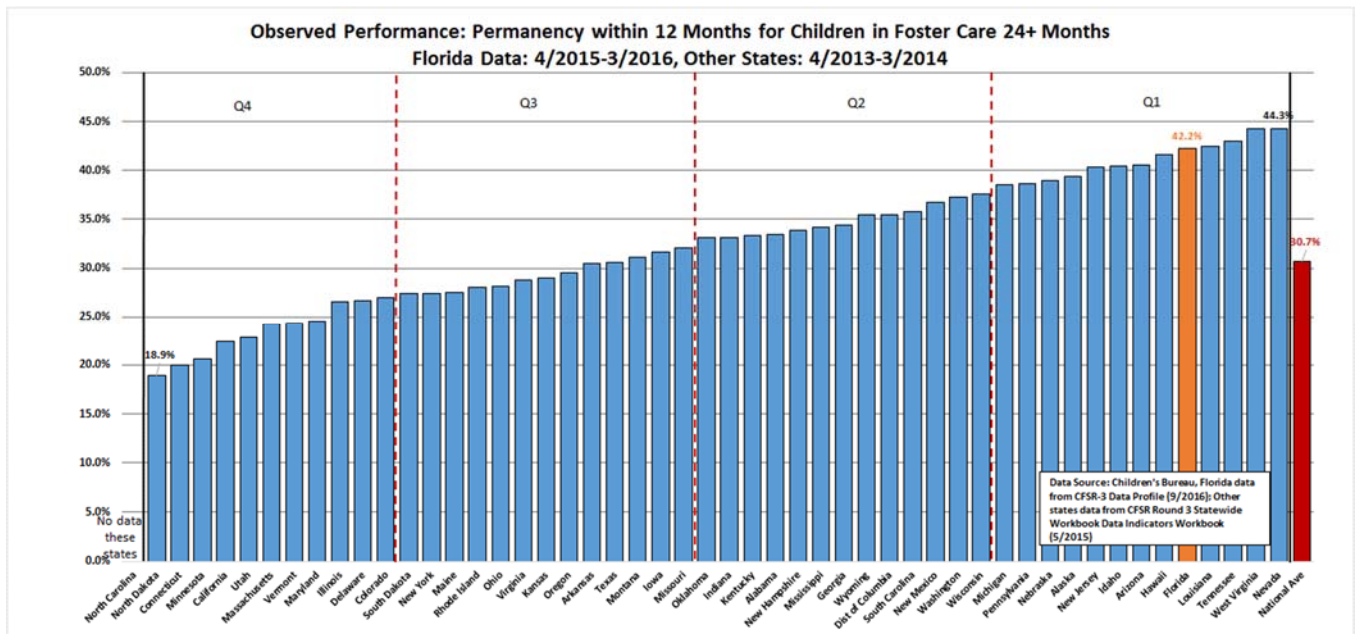
This permanency indicator answers the question, “Of all children in care on the first day of a 12-month period, who had been in care (in that episode) for 24 months or more, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day?”

Denominator: Number of children in care on the first day of a 12-month period, who had been in care (in that episode) for 24 months or more.

Numerator: Number of children in the denominator who discharged to permanency within 12 months of the 1st day.

Florida Compared to Other States

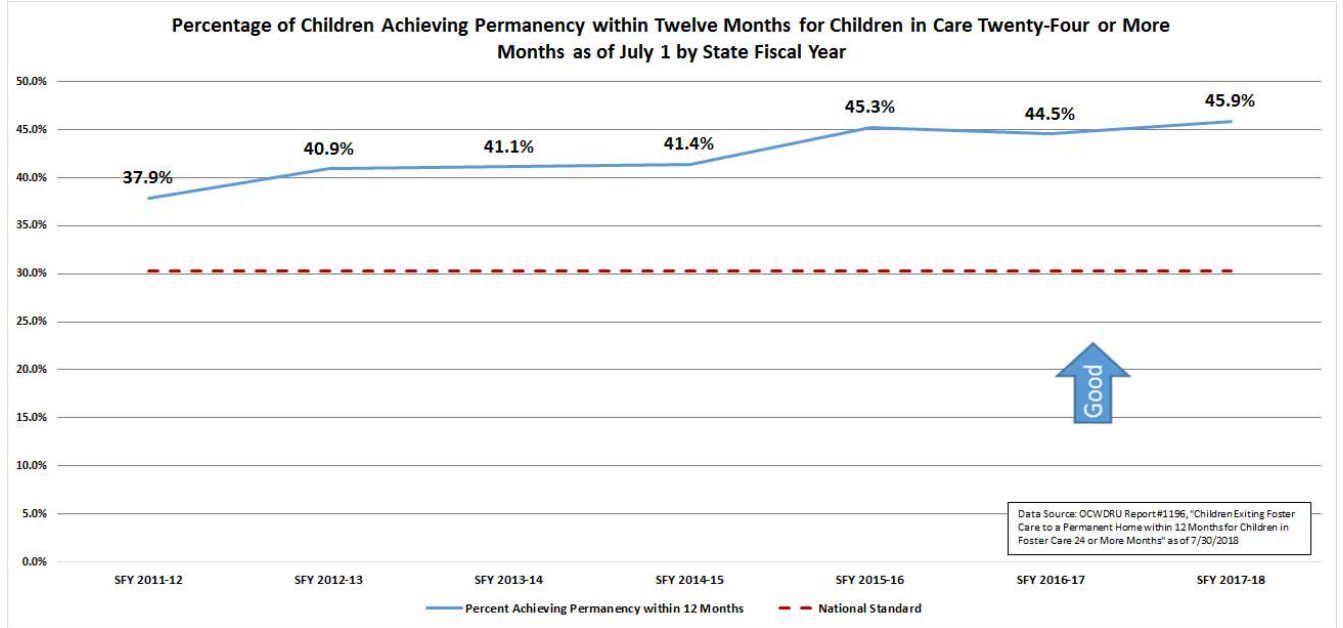
The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised; however, Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) performance in 2015-16 was above the CFSR-3 initial standard and higher than most states in the comparison period. This is the most recent data available for this indicator.



Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 24+ Months

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida's performance has improved since the 2013 cohort used for CFSR-3, and is continually above the national standard.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is high performance throughout the state on this measure, with every CBC exceeding the national standard.

Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Care 24+ Months as of July 1 by State Fiscal Year

Area	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	43.7%	50.0%	60.0%	47.9%	49.0%	46.5%	57.0%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	40.0%	40.0%	40.7%	42.5%	53.6%	52.6%	48.5%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	28.9%	41.1%	43.7%	32.0%	29.9%	33.3%	34.8%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	41.7%	40.9%	30.8%	44.1%	26.1%	38.9%	62.8%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	29.3%	41.3%	29.2%	32.3%	45.5%	45.7%	36.9%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	55.6%	46.7%	45.5%	10.0%	41.7%	42.9%	48.1%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	43.0%	49.3%	55.2%	48.8%	51.2%	52.6%	47.1%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	52.1%	48.7%	54.0%	51.2%	41.2%	46.4%	45.2%
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	39.4%	38.2%	35.6%	45.1%	52.7%	44.0%	49.5%
Brevard family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	23.1%	27.8%	37.7%	23.8%	41.9%	46.9%	52.4%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	39.7%	46.8%	45.0%	48.9%	41.4%	48.6%	54.4%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	38.3%	38.9%	36.9%	42.0%	51.8%	43.9%	50.8%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	39.5%	47.3%	52.2%	55.0%	44.7%	42.4%	48.4%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	50.0%	45.6%	43.4%	52.3%	50.6%	43.2%	49.7%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	44.1%	40.8%	42.6%	35.3%	50.3%	52.7%	44.2%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	46.8%	39.1%	36.4%	49.7%	49.2%	49.5%	53.1%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	36.3%	44.2%	35.4%	25.6%	36.3%	36.5%	38.9%
ChildNet-Brwoard-Circuit 17	38.4%	33.7%	24.0%	31.7%	38.6%	44.5%	39.7%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	26.1%	35.4%	38.4%	31.7%	43.4%	37.9%	36.0%
Statewide	37.9%	40.9%	41.1%	41.4%	45.3%	44.5%	45.9%

Re-entry to Foster Care

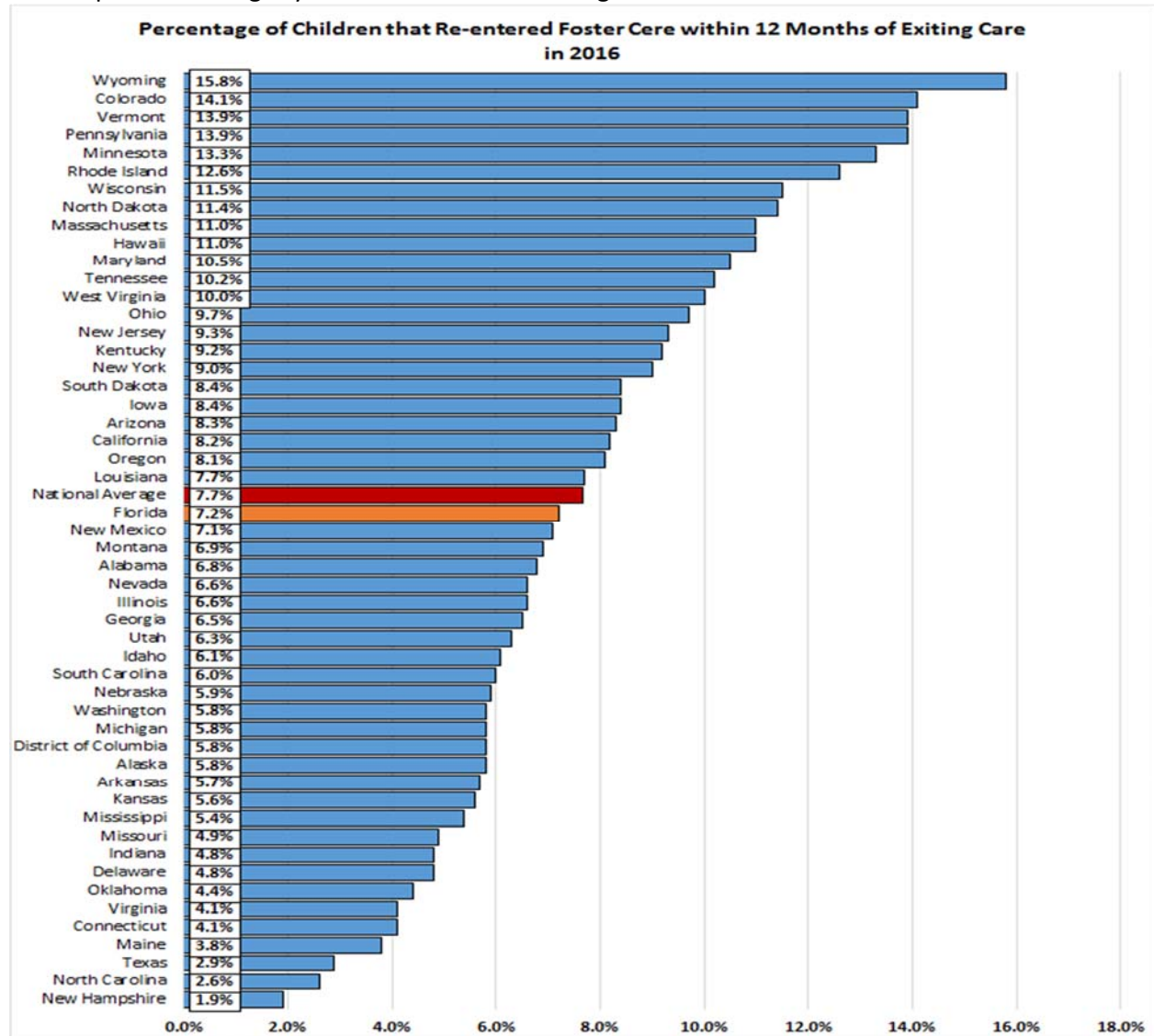
Areas with high performance on the entry cohort indicator tend to have high re-entry rates.

Re-entry to Foster Care in 12 Months

In October 2016, the Children’s Bureau issued Technical Bulletin #9 (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/cfsr-technical-bulletin-9>), which alerted states to the fact that there were technical errors in the syntax used to calculate the national and state performance data related to the percentage of children that re-entered foster care within twelve months of achieving permanency. State comparison data associated with the percentage of children that re-entered care within twelve months for all children entering for FFY 2016 is provided below as a surrogate measure for state to state comparison around the issue of foster care re-entry within 12 months.

Florida Compared to Other States

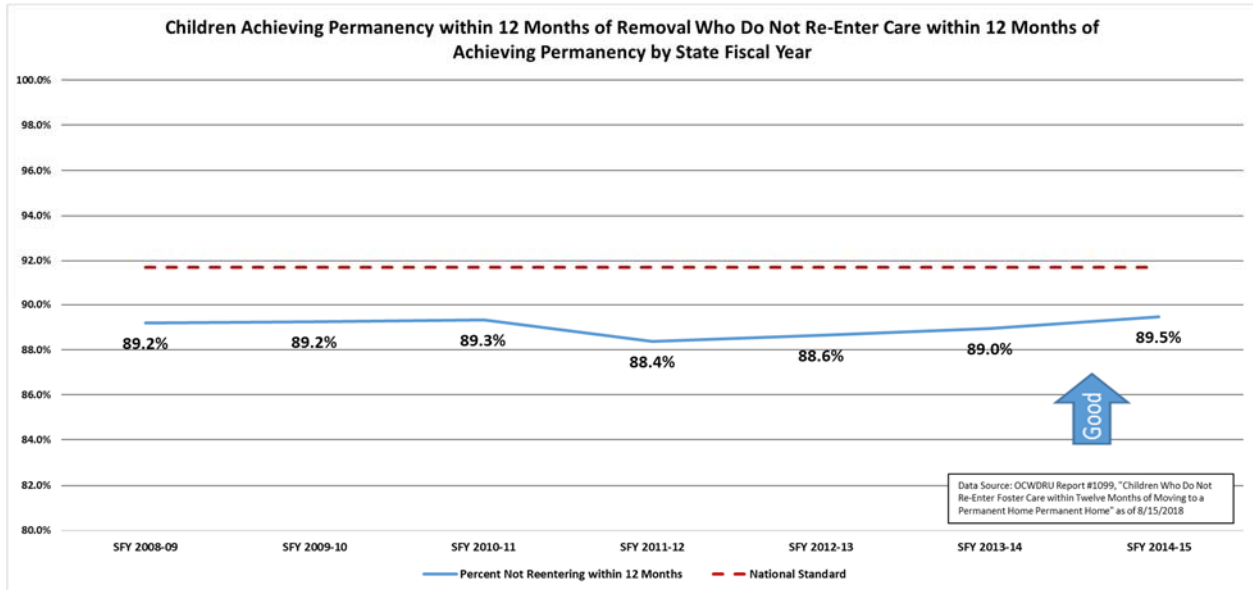
Florida performed slightly below the national average for this measure.



Re-entry to Foster Care in 12 Months

Florida Statewide Trend

Although the national CFSR-3 indicator is the percent that re-entered care (initial standard 8.3%), Florida displays the indicator positively as the percent that did not re-enter care (initial standard 91.7%). Florida's performance in the 2015-16 entry cohort has continued to be below the initial standard, but has improved each of the last five years.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Unlike the timely permanency indicators, Florida's low performance on this indicator is observed in most of the state.

Area	SFY 2009-10	SFY 2010-11	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16
Families First Network-Circuit 01	84.9%	87.3%	89.2%	83.3%	92.2%	91.2%	87.4%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	90.9%	93.2%	87.4%	86.4%	86.4%	92.1%	91.1%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	94.7%	89.5%	90.5%	92.8%	89.9%	96.5%	92.6%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	93.3%	94.4%	95.0%	93.8%	92.7%	90.0%	92.7%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	89.3%	89.8%	87.7%	88.9%	87.7%	88.8%	91.7%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	95.2%	89.7%	98.8%	92.5%	86.4%	93.3%	88.4%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	86.9%	93.3%	82.1%	91.5%	86.7%	82.8%	82.6%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	92.5%	91.8%	87.8%	89.5%	92.1%	86.0%	88.4%
CBC of Central Florida-Combined Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	91.1%	91.5%	92.0%	89.5%	86.1%	90.9%	91.0%
Brevard family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	84.0%	83.0%	87.8%	86.2%	84.8%	88.7%	89.5%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	89.9%	91.3%	87.4%	84.5%	88.1%	85.2%	85.9%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	86.5%	86.2%	88.5%	85.3%	86.2%	91.2%	88.4%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	86.2%	85.7%	88.5%	90.2%	87.2%	87.9%	90.8%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	88.5%	88.9%	91.6%	97.4%	91.2%	91.7%	91.8%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	89.6%	90.0%	86.2%	91.4%	93.6%	88.3%	92.1%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	89.1%	89.8%	86.8%	86.4%	89.0%	92.1%	84.7%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	90.9%	88.3%	82.2%	89.4%	87.4%	88.4%	94.5%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	91.1%	90.6%	87.7%	85.7%	92.3%	90.3%	89.7%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	90.7%	90.1%	89.8%	90.3%	89.3%	88.4%	90.1%
Statewide	89.2%	89.3%	88.4%	88.6%	89.0%	89.3%	89.8%

Drivers of Timely Permanency

Caseworker Visits with Children in Care

According to the Children’s Bureau, achieving permanency in a timely manner for children in foster care can be linked in part to the frequency and quality of caseworker visits with children. During the first and second rounds of the CFSR, an association was found between caseworker visits measures and positive outcomes for children in foster care. For example, frequent contact between the caseworker and the child was associated with better ratings on the CFSR Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

Title IV-B of the Social Security Act requires states to collect data on monthly caseworker visits for children in foster care. The caseworker visits data include the percentage of children visited each full month they were in care, as well as the proportion of those visits that occurred in the homes where the children were then living.

Percentage of Children Receiving Monthly Caseworker Visits

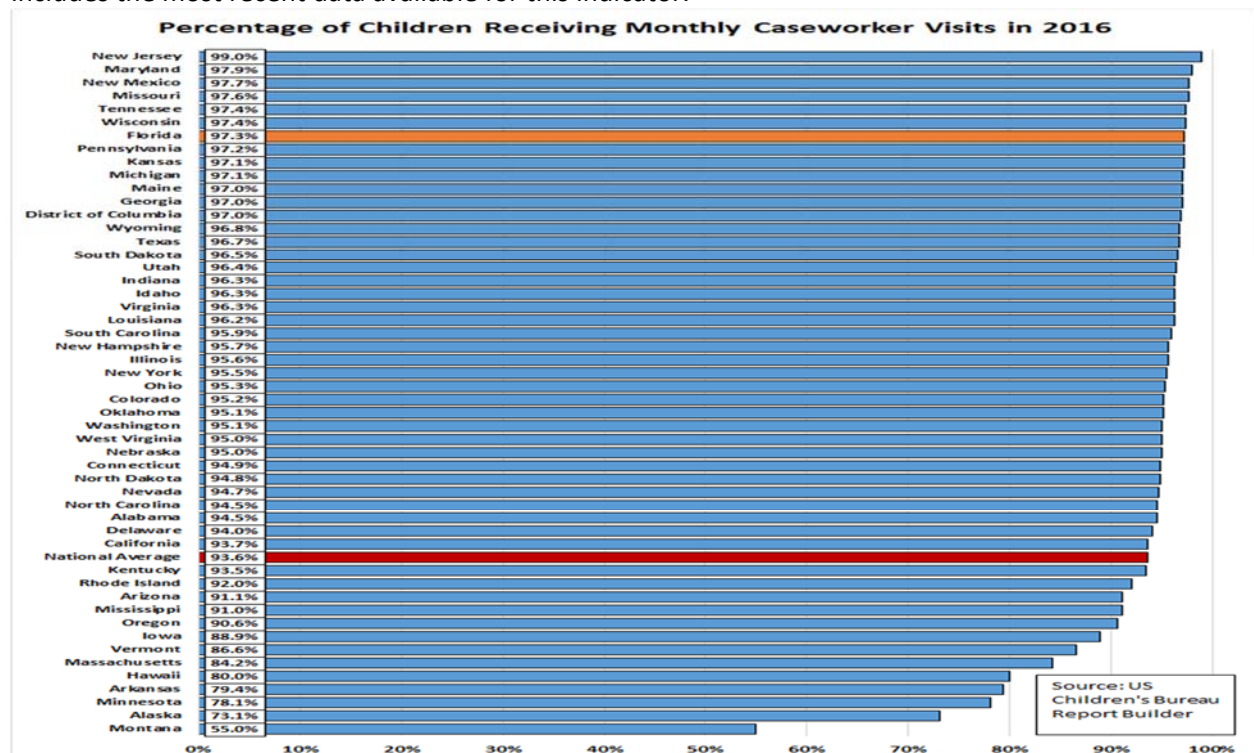
This federal indicator answers the question, “Of the children in care, what percent received monthly caseworker visits?”

Denominator: The number of complete calendar months all children in the reporting population spent in care. This denominator, expressed in “visit months,” is aggregated over all children and refers to the number of months in which visits should have occurred.

Numerator: The number of monthly caseworker visits made to the children in the reporting population, where if a child is visited more than once in a month, only one visit is counted.

Florida Compared to Other States

Florida is consistently one of the top states for case management visits with the children. Below includes the most recent data available for this indicator.



Percentage of Monthly Visits that Occurred in the Home of the Child

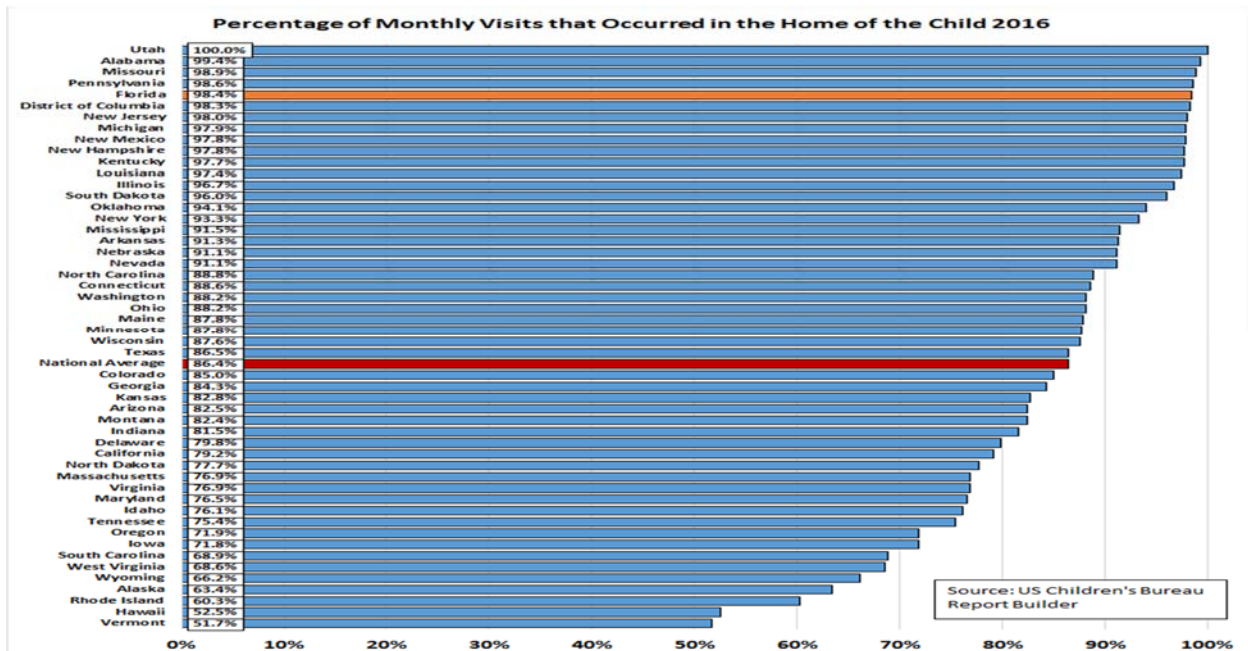
This related federal indicator answers the question, “Of the children visited, what percent of the visits were in the home of the child?”

Denominator: The number of monthly caseworker visits made to children in the reporting population – the numerator of the last indicator.

Numerator: The number of monthly visits made to children in the reporting population that occurred in the child’s home.

Florida Compared to Other States

Florida is also consistently in the top nationwide when comparing the percentage of monthly visits that were made to the child’s home. Below includes the most recent data available for this indicator.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Florida’s exemplary performance is consistent throughout the state. Florida’s similar indicator measures percent of visits completed within 30 days of the last visit and is consistently near 100%.

Area	Percentage of Children Under Supervision Who Are Seen Every Thirty Days									
	DCF Target 99.8%									
	SFY 15-16 Q3	SFY 15-16 Q4	SFY 16-17 Q1	SFY 16-17 Q2	SFY 16-17 Q3	SFY 16-17 Q4	SFY 17-18 Q1	SFY 17-18 Q2	SFY 17-18 Q3	SFY 17-18 Q4
Families First Network-Circuit 01	99.7%	99.7%	99.3%	99.5%	99.7%	99.7%	99.4%	99.4%	99.5%	99.5%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%	99.6%	99.5%	99.6%	99.7%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	99.8%	99.7%	99.6%	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	99.7%	99.7%	99.3%	99.2%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.7%	99.5%	99.8%	99.8%	99.8%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.7%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	99.5%	99.2%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	99.1%	99.5%	99.5%	99.5%	99.4%	99.6%	99.1%	99.3%	99.2%	99.5%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	99.6%	99.6%	99.5%	99.6%	99.8%	99.9%	99.7%	99.2%	99.5%	99.5%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	99.7%	99.7%	99.6%	99.6%	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%	99.8%	99.7%	99.6%	99.3%	99.6%	99.8%	99.7%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.7%	99.8%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	99.9%	99.8%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%	99.5%	99.6%	99.5%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	99.7%	99.5%	99.6%	99.8%	99.7%	99.7%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	99.9%	99.8%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	99.8%	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	99.8%	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	99.6%	99.6%	99.4%	99.6%	99.5%	99.6%	99.3%	99.5%	99.6%	99.5%
Statewide	99.7%	99.7%	99.7%	99.8%	99.8%	99.8%	99.7%	99.7%	99.7%	99.7%

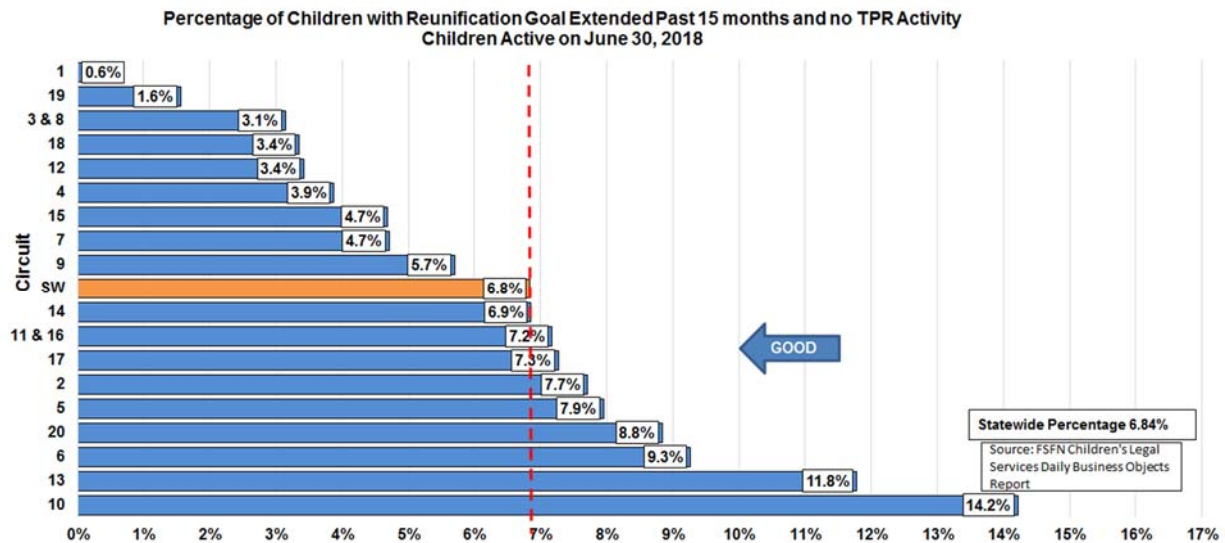
Children’s Legal Services Indicators

Judicial handling time is key to timely permanency and there is wide variation among the circuits.

Reunification Goal after 15 Months & No Termination of Parental Rights Activity

Circuit Comparisons

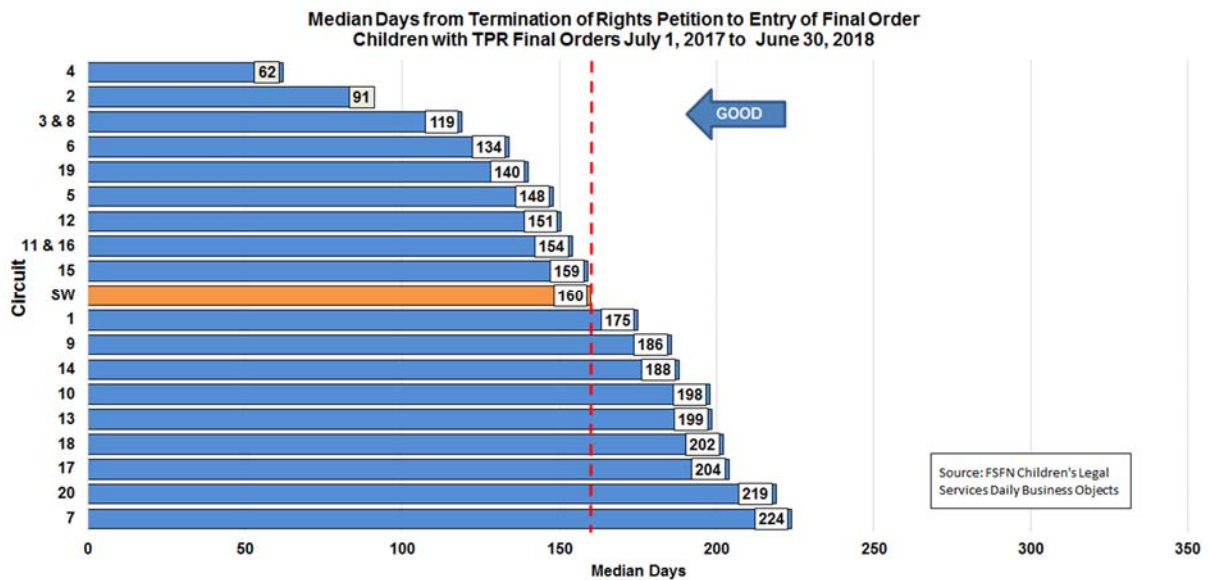
The statewide average was 6.8% on June 30, 2018, with wide variation among the circuits.



Timeliness of Termination of Parental Rights, from Petition to Order

Circuit Comparisons

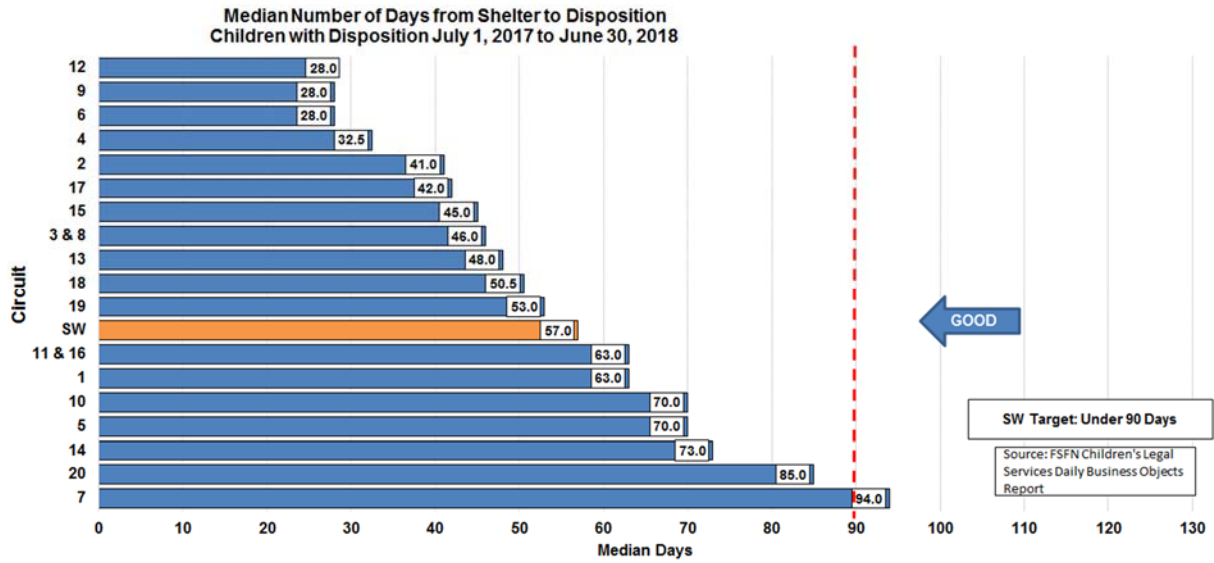
The statewide median was 160 days in SFY 2017-18, with wide variation among the circuits.



Time from Removal Date to Disposition Order

Circuit Comparisons

The statewide median was 57 days in SFY 2017-18, with wide variation, compared to a statewide target of 90 days.



Well-Being of Children in Out-of-Home Care

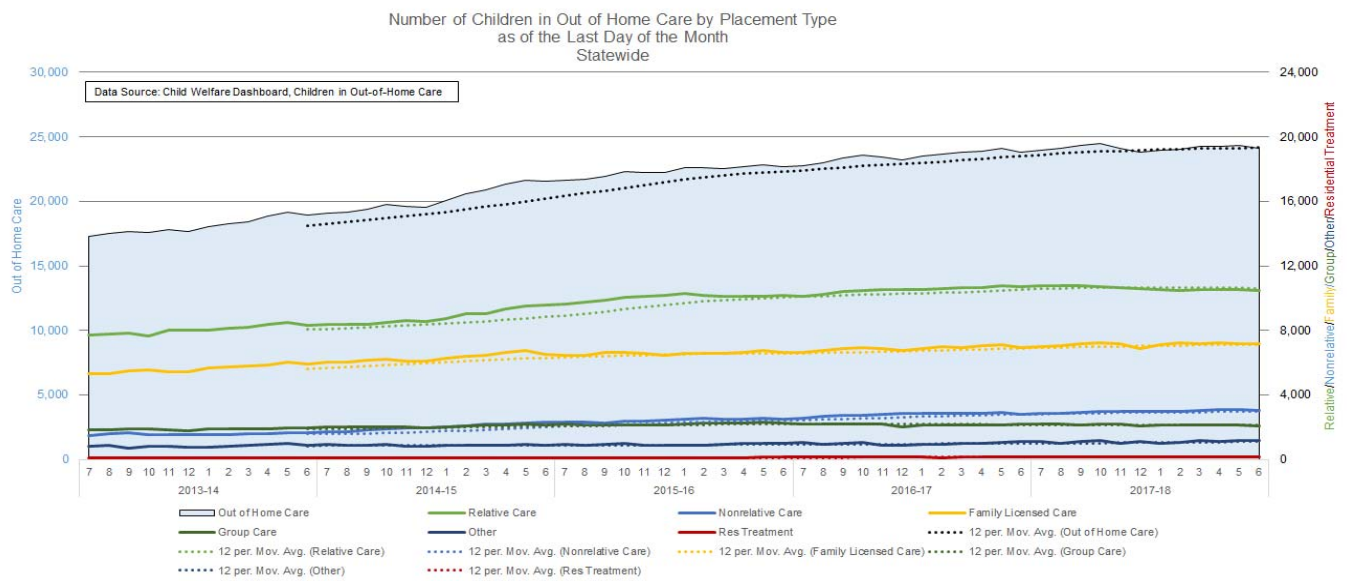
Appropriate Placements for Children Removed from Families

Trends and Variations in Placement Types

Federal law requires that a case plan be designed to achieve a safe placement in the least restrictive (most family-like) setting available and in close proximity to the home of the parent(s) when the goal is reunification. When children must be removed, priority is given to placement with kin, both relatives and unrelated persons, with significant relationship to the child before removal.

Florida Statewide Trend

The recent growth in OHC has been met primarily by increased use of kinship placements.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Statewide, there is a wide range in use of kinship care, the benefits of which include reduced trauma, maintained familial connections, and reduced costs of care. Stratification by use of group care is displayed in the chart below.

Entity	SFY 2013-14			SFY 2014-15			SFY 2015-16			SFY 2016-17			SFY 2017-18		
	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family and Facility Licensed	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family and Facility Licensed	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family and Facility Licensed	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family and Facility Licensed	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family and Facility Licensed	Percentage Other
Families First Network-Circuit 01	53.8%	40.6%	5.6%	49.7%	43.6%	6.7%	51.9%	42.2%	5.9%	50.1%	43.8%	6.1%	51.1%	43.8%	5.0%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	56.3%	40.1%	3.6%	53.8%	43.2%	3.0%	52.5%	43.9%	3.7%	54.4%	41.9%	3.7%	60.8%	36.5%	2.7%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	67.4%	28.6%	4.0%	66.1%	30.1%	3.8%	64.2%	32.8%	2.9%	65.3%	30.5%	4.2%	68.0%	27.4%	4.7%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	53.0%	43.5%	3.5%	56.4%	40.5%	3.2%	59.1%	37.2%	3.7%	59.5%	36.5%	4.0%	62.3%	34.1%	3.6%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	47.0%	45.0%	8.0%	48.7%	44.7%	6.6%	45.2%	49.0%	5.8%	49.0%	45.0%	6.0%	49.0%	44.1%	6.9%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	64.8%	32.0%	3.2%	53.9%	41.5%	4.6%	51.0%	43.4%	5.6%	63.1%	33.2%	3.7%	65.0%	31.4%	3.6%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	59.2%	34.3%	6.5%	54.5%	39.0%	6.5%	54.5%	41.0%	4.5%	60.8%	35.4%	3.8%	61.9%	34.5%	3.6%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	65.8%	31.1%	3.1%	61.4%	34.7%	3.8%	58.2%	39.2%	2.6%	63.3%	34.8%	1.8%	57.0%	41.2%	1.8%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	53.3%	42.7%	4.0%	55.7%	40.4%	3.9%	57.3%	39.4%	3.3%	59.2%	37.3%	3.5%	59.3%	37.4%	3.3%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	58.1%	36.9%	5.0%	55.3%	40.0%	4.6%	57.2%	39.1%	3.7%	61.2%	35.8%	3.0%	62.2%	33.9%	3.9%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	57.8%	38.4%	3.8%	55.1%	41.0%	3.9%	54.7%	41.2%	4.1%	57.9%	38.2%	3.9%	63.6%	33.6%	2.8%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	52.9%	43.7%	3.4%	51.4%	45.6%	3.0%	55.9%	41.2%	3.0%	57.3%	39.4%	3.3%	59.5%	37.8%	2.7%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	57.8%	38.5%	3.7%	52.6%	41.1%	6.3%	50.3%	42.9%	6.8%	52.4%	43.0%	4.6%	53.3%	42.0%	4.7%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	56.2%	39.6%	4.2%	51.7%	43.4%	4.9%	53.7%	41.3%	5.0%	59.6%	36.8%	3.6%	61.9%	34.2%	3.9%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	49.7%	46.2%	4.0%	48.8%	47.6%	3.4%	50.3%	47.4%	2.3%	53.6%	43.4%	2.9%	52.9%	43.2%	3.9%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	59.7%	33.8%	6.5%	56.3%	38.0%	5.7%	56.3%	37.7%	6.0%	58.7%	33.5%	7.8%	56.5%	36.0%	7.5%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	47.8%	46.4%	5.8%	52.9%	42.7%	4.4%	50.8%	43.6%	5.6%	49.7%	44.0%	6.3%	51.0%	42.3%	6.7%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	43.5%	51.2%	5.3%	46.5%	48.7%	4.7%	48.9%	46.1%	5.1%	51.8%	43.6%	4.7%	52.1%	42.3%	5.7%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	52.3%	44.0%	3.7%	53.5%	41.8%	4.7%	55.6%	40.4%	4.1%	53.4%	42.3%	4.4%	51.9%	43.3%	4.8%
Statewide	54.7%	40.8%	4.5%	53.2%	42.2%	4.6%	53.7%	41.9%	4.4%	55.9%	39.9%	4.2%	56.7%	39.1%	4.2%

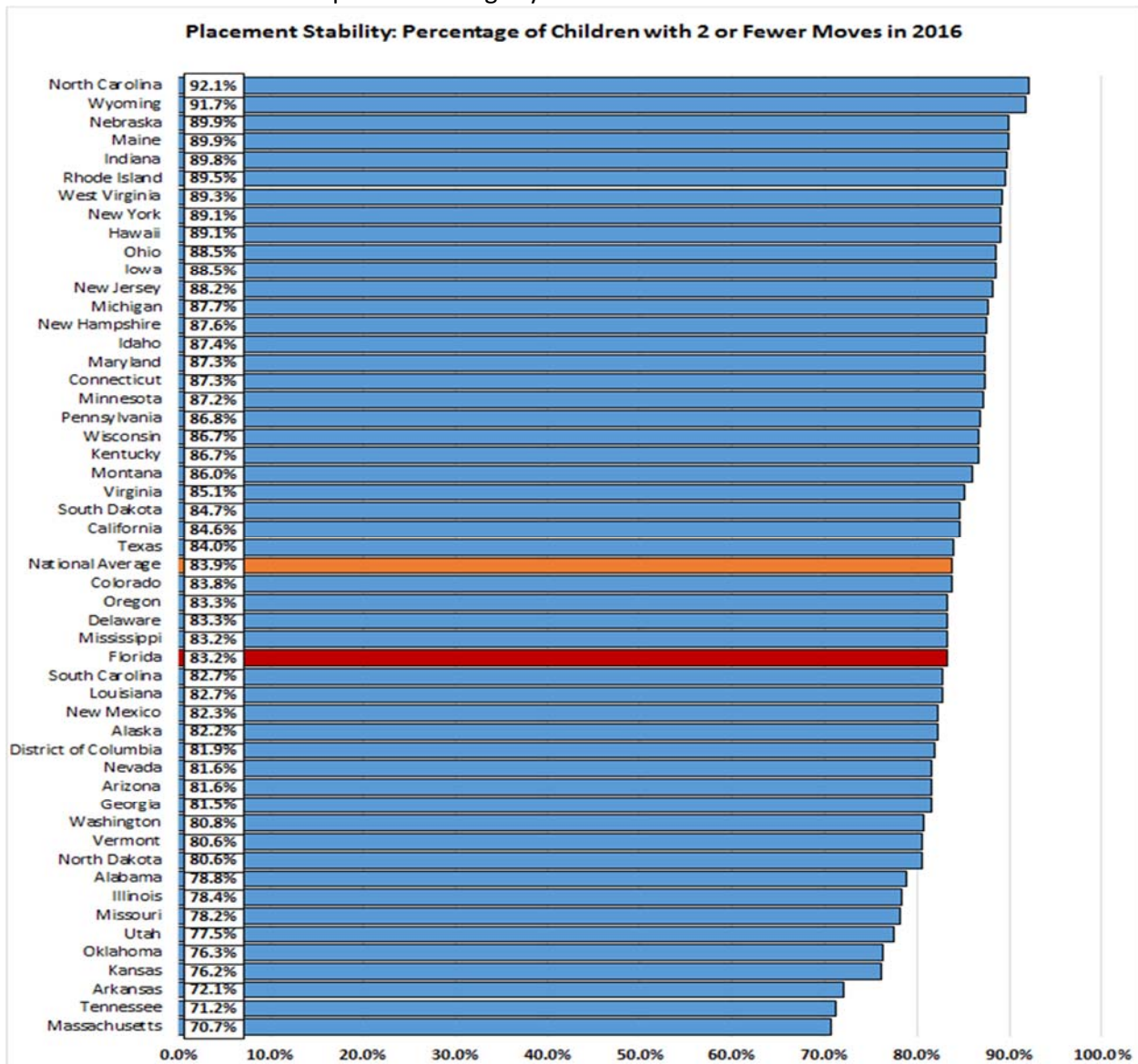
Stable Placements that Maintain Connections

Placement Stability

In October 2016, the Children’s Bureau issued Technical Bulletin #9 (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/cfsr-technical-bulletin-9>), which alerted states to the fact that there were technical errors in the syntax used to calculate the national and state performance data related to placement moves per 1,000 days in foster care. State comparison data associated with the percentage of children with two or fewer placement moves as of 9/30/2016 is provided below as a surrogate measure for state to state comparison around the issue of placement stability while in foster care.

Florida Compared to Other States

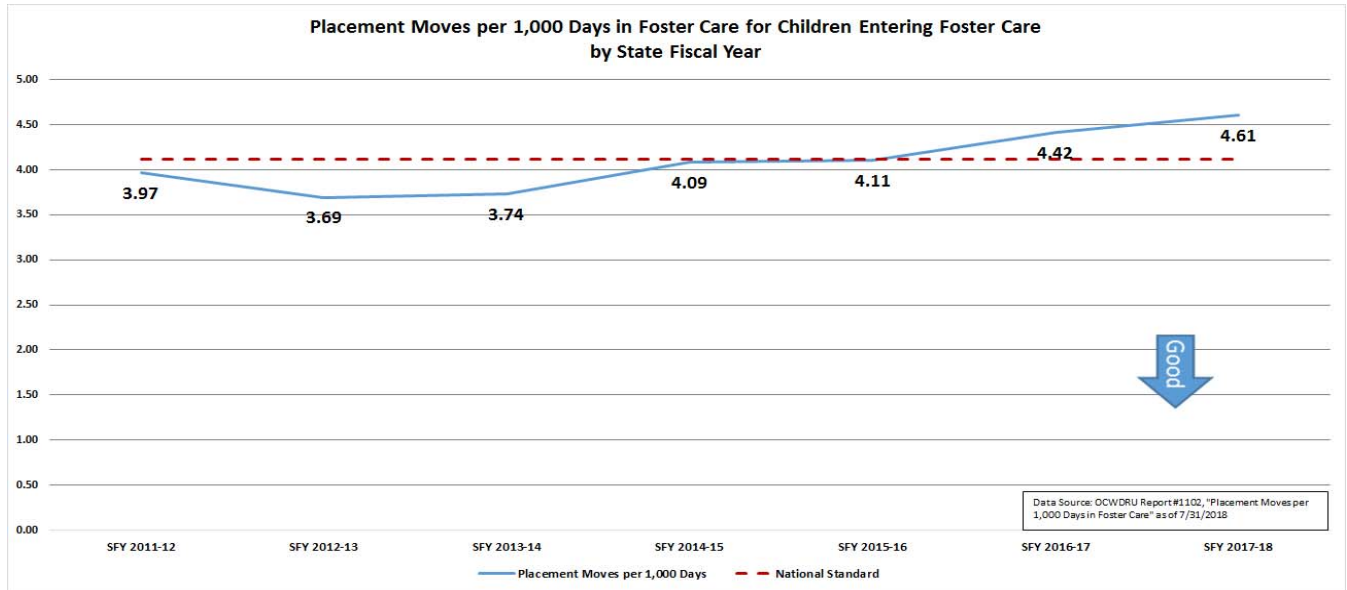
Placement stability as measured by the percentage of children in care with two or fewer placement moves indicates that Florida performed slightly below the national mean for this measure.



Placement Stability

Florida Statewide Trend

Until SFY 2016-17, statewide performance had been slightly better than the initial national standard of 4.12 moves per 1,000 days in foster care over the last six years. In SFY 2017-18, 11 of the 19 CBCs (58%) are meeting or surpassing the national standard.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Although 11 of the 19 areas below are below the target of 4.12 and the statewide average, there is a wide range statewide.

Placement Moves per 1,000 Days in Foster Care for Children Entering Care July 1 to June 30

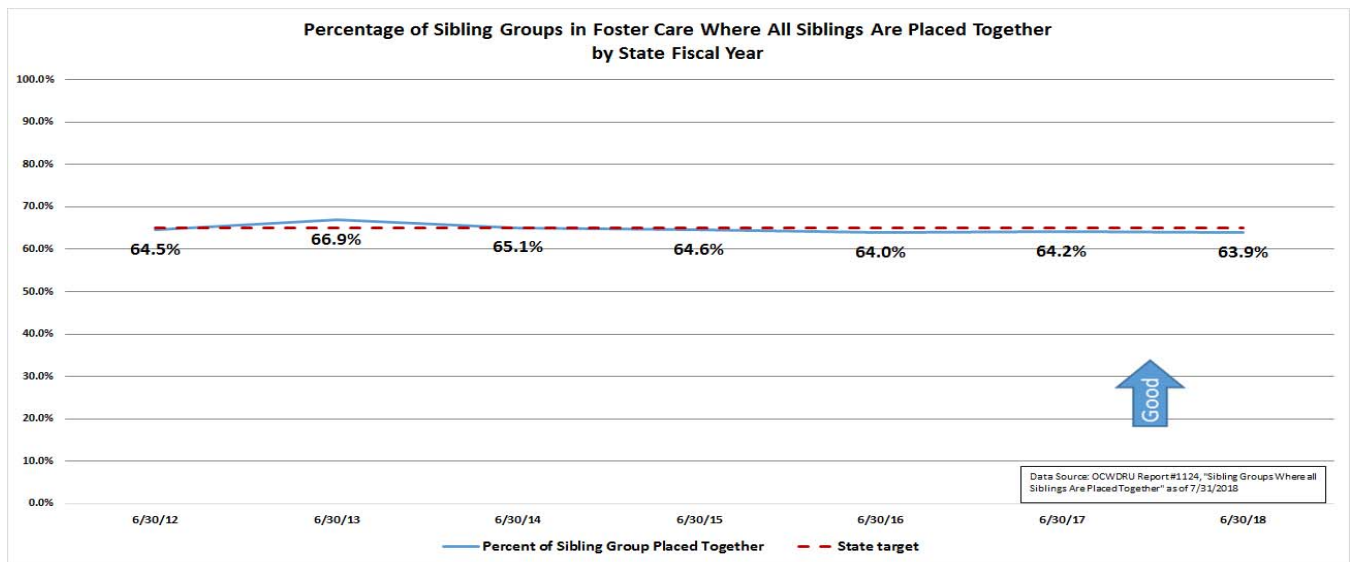
Area	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	3.21	3.48	4.65	4.44	5.63	6.08	6.60
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	3.88	3.28	3.35	4.29	3.39	3.45	4.24
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	3.05	3.54	3.50	3.96	3.35	4.12	3.86
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	3.41	2.33	3.38	2.86	2.48	1.44	3.99
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	4.15	2.94	2.86	2.85	3.87	3.97	3.28
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	2.12	1.86	3.53	4.69	2.78	3.76	3.13
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	2.74	2.56	3.65	2.87	3.20	3.57	3.68
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	3.68	3.62	3.26	4.34	3.73	4.49	3.98
CBC of Central Florida Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	3.64	3.25	3.45	4.22	3.64	4.47	4.40
Brevard family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	3.53	3.56	4.79	3.36	3.61	3.25	3.27
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	5.29	3.68	3.82	4.04	3.07	2.85	2.86
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	4.58	4.40	5.84	4.73	5.63	5.29	6.99
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	3.74	4.25	2.96	3.57	3.71	4.45	4.68
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	3.66	3.84	3.60	4.07	4.32	4.31	3.87
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	4.86	3.98	2.52	5.78	5.66	6.45	5.24
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	3.83	4.77	4.07	5.34	3.59	3.98	3.34
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	4.46	3.16	5.96	2.59	3.34	3.59	4.92
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	4.52	3.05	4.94	3.16	3.54	3.35	3.58
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	4.64	4.57	3.38	5.27	5.28	5.20	6.18
Statewide	3.97	3.69	3.74	4.09	4.11	4.42	4.61

Percent of Siblings Placed Together

Our understanding of sibling relationships and the role they play in the lives of children in foster care has deepened over the past decade. Research has demonstrated that sibling relationships are important to children’s development and emotional well-being. Sibling relationships are now understood as playing a vital role in helping children achieve developmental milestones and in providing emotional support, companionship, and comfort in times of change. These relationships are crucial for children and youth in foster care as siblings often are the “family” that they can claim and that can provide them with a sense of identity and belonging.

Florida Statewide Trend

Statewide performance for this measure slightly peaked June 30, 2013 at 66.9% but has declined since then and is consistently slightly below Florida’s own standard of 65%.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Only eight of the 19 CBCs are at or above the 65% standard.

Area	SFY 2011-12	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	74.5%	73.5%	74.3%	70.8%	65.8%	64.0%	62.7%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	61.6%	67.1%	72.2%	61.4%	70.4%	69.5%	64.3%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	68.6%	64.4%	69.1%	65.7%	64.9%	66.4%	65.1%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	66.7%	61.9%	70.5%	63.0%	62.3%	69.7%	70.7%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	75.9%	76.2%	68.2%	68.3%	71.4%	71.4%	71.1%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	56.8%	60.9%	69.2%	77.8%	65.4%	69.6%	66.7%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	68.8%	73.7%	72.9%	68.2%	62.6%	59.9%	61.8%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	66.0%	71.1%	63.9%	73.8%	75.0%	71.6%	74.4%
CBC of Central Florida-Seminole-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	59.8%	61.4%	60.4%	63.1%	61.8%	62.7%	65.8%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	70.1%	66.7%	54.6%	67.0%	64.1%	59.9%	61.0%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	61.0%	60.1%	65.1%	59.4%	58.8%	62.7%	55.6%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	65.6%	70.9%	68.9%	68.4%	62.7%	66.6%	60.6%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	64.9%	70.0%	67.9%	67.8%	69.1%	63.6%	64.3%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	70.8%	62.8%	67.7%	71.8%	71.7%	70.9%	63.4%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	64.2%	70.3%	58.4%	66.2%	63.5%	61.1%	71.5%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	63.7%	65.8%	74.5%	67.4%	68.2%	72.2%	61.1%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	56.8%	66.1%	62.6%	64.3%	58.2%	56.6%	78.4%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	62.3%	65.3%	58.9%	57.4%	57.5%	57.6%	59.6%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	53.4%	57.2%	59.1%	53.2%	55.4%	59.9%	58.7%
Statewide	64.5%	66.9%	65.1%	64.6%	64.0%	64.2%	63.9%

Proximity of Placement to Community of Removal

Normalcy for foster children, maintenance of family connections, parent-child visitation, and school stability require that children be placed in proximity of the neighborhood or community of removal. Keeping the child in the same community from which the child was removed will also promote family reunification.

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 674) requires:

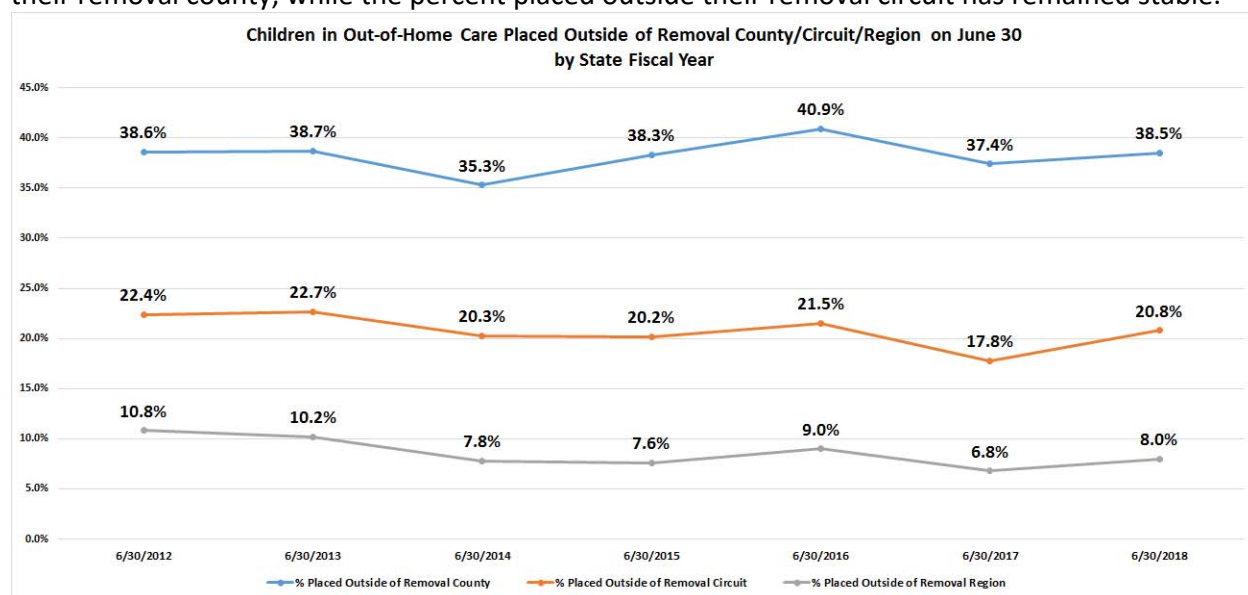
“A plan for ensuring the educational stability of the child while in foster care, including . . . assurances that each placement of the child in foster care takes into account the appropriateness of the current educational setting and the proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement; and an assurance [of coordination with] local educational agencies . . . to ensure that the child remains in the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of each placement,” and that “each child has a case plan designed to achieve placement in a safe setting that is the least restrictive (most family like) and most appropriate setting available and in close proximity to the parents' home, consistent with the best interest and special needs of the child.”

Some states use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to organize and analyze data in terms of geographic location. Most often a visual representation of the data is developed by plotting the data points on a map. For many foster care agencies nationwide, GIS is a powerful tool: it can help agency staff track the location of available foster homes, map the locations of schools and their catchment areas, and allow foster family recruiters to focus their efforts on the areas with the greatest need. Other states focus on recruiting and maintaining foster families within the school districts, with a focus on recruiting in the towns with the highest removal rates, reaching out to principals and administrators of schools to help raise awareness about the need for foster families.

Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed Outside Removal Circuit and County

Florida Statewide Trend

In the last few years, there has been a slight reduction in the percent of children placed outside their removal county, while the percent placed outside their removal circuit has remained stable.



Proximity of Placement to Community of Removal

Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed Outside Removal County

There is wide variation across circuits, with urban areas generally placing more children *within* their removal county, and circuits with larger rural areas placing more children *outside* their removal county.

Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed Outside Removal County on June 30

Region	Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Northwest	Circuit 01	43.7%	53.0%	52.0%	58.4%	52.9%	55.3%	53.8%
Northwest	Circuit 02	54.0%	41.0%	40.8%	42.2%	48.3%	40.8%	47.6%
Northwest	Circuit 14	72.4%	74.1%	67.3%	56.6%	63.6%	67.0%	68.1%
Northeast	Circuit 03	89.6%	88.6%	94.4%	88.2%	82.0%	92.5%	95.3%
Northeast	Circuit 04	31.2%	31.4%	27.9%	23.0%	22.9%	19.6%	18.5%
Northeast	Circuit 07	35.0%	30.7%	30.4%	38.2%	33.8%	30.7%	41.0%
Northeast	Circuit 08	74.2%	80.6%	70.4%	72.5%	67.9%	77.1%	70.4%
Central	Circuit 05	60.4%	65.6%	62.3%	65.6%	60.4%	62.5%	63.2%
Central	Circuit 09	63.3%	57.3%	61.2%	58.4%	56.3%	49.4%	53.9%
Central	Circuit 10	38.1%	38.2%	36.6%	29.1%	32.1%	25.3%	25.8%
Central	Circuit 18	24.5%	27.1%	28.2%	23.9%	27.1%	22.9%	27.0%
SunCoast	Circuit 06	48.3%	47.7%	45.3%	43.9%	46.2%	47.2%	48.9%
SunCoast	Circuit 12	60.1%	58.8%	52.0%	54.2%	61.3%	52.0%	55.0%
SunCoast	Circuit 13	22.4%	25.7%	22.7%	23.6%	24.5%	20.0%	21.3%
SunCoast	Circuit 20	39.6%	33.3%	32.9%	42.6%	44.2%	39.8%	39.9%
Southeast	Circuit 15	32.4%	31.2%	30.5%	26.1%	25.0%	20.3%	20.4%
Southeast	Circuit 17	10.9%	12.5%	14.0%	15.0%	18.8%	16.0%	11.8%
Southeast	Circuit 19	68.2%	65.6%	64.5%	75.0%	64.5%	66.2%	58.8%
Southern	Circuit 11	9.9%	12.5%	12.9%	11.9%	10.5%	9.8%	7.3%
Southern	Circuit 16	36.8%	31.0%	41.1%	29.2%	40.0%	31.1%	25.0%
Statewide	Statewide	37.9%	38.4%	36.7%	37.1%	37.7%	35.9%	36.8%

Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed Outside Removal Circuit

The percent of children placed outside of their removal circuit is lower than the percent of children placed out-of-county, as many children who are not placed in their home county are placed in a neighboring county within the same circuit.

Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed Outside Removal Circuit on June 30

Region	Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Northwest	Circuit 01	11.0%	16.0%	12.6%	15.2%	10.1%	16.7%	15.1%
Northwest	Circuit 02	36.7%	26.9%	25.0%	21.6%	20.7%	17.3%	22.9%
Northwest	Circuit 14	35.1%	43.9%	39.6%	28.6%	34.0%	43.2%	45.5%
Northeast	Circuit 03	68.8%	75.9%	72.2%	71.4%	66.7%	72.9%	82.2%
Northeast	Circuit 04	15.6%	18.1%	17.3%	12.6%	11.5%	11.4%	10.8%
Northeast	Circuit 07	13.2%	15.0%	11.5%	16.2%	10.1%	12.7%	16.0%
Northeast	Circuit 08	59.7%	69.0%	61.0%	59.9%	57.0%	54.9%	50.3%
Central	Circuit 05	13.3%	19.7%	12.0%	12.1%	16.3%	11.7%	14.4%
Central	Circuit 09	42.4%	38.8%	44.6%	40.9%	39.2%	36.4%	38.4%
Central	Circuit 10	28.4%	29.4%	28.7%	19.0%	21.0%	16.3%	13.9%
Central	Circuit 18	23.0%	26.0%	26.3%	22.9%	25.7%	21.2%	25.4%
SunCoast	Circuit 06	22.8%	24.5%	23.7%	24.1%	20.9%	19.3%	25.8%
SunCoast	Circuit 12	27.2%	26.3%	21.2%	23.2%	31.7%	22.2%	22.1%
SunCoast	Circuit 13	22.4%	25.7%	22.7%	23.6%	24.5%	20.0%	21.3%
SunCoast	Circuit 20	18.0%	11.3%	11.5%	9.5%	12.0%	10.1%	12.5%
Southeast	Circuit 15	32.4%	31.2%	30.5%	26.1%	25.0%	20.3%	20.4%
Southeast	Circuit 17	10.9%	12.5%	14.0%	15.0%	18.8%	16.0%	11.8%
Southeast	Circuit 19	22.4%	29.4%	23.1%	27.3%	19.2%	19.0%	14.2%
Southern	Circuit 11	9.9%	12.5%	12.9%	11.9%	10.5%	9.8%	7.3%
Southern	Circuit 16	36.8%	31.0%	41.1%	29.2%	40.0%	31.1%	25.0%
Statewide	Statewide	22.2%	24.0%	22.3%	21.1%	20.9%	19.0%	19.7%

Placement in Family Setting

Federal law mandates that a case plan include a discussion of how the plan is designed to achieve a safe placement for the child in the least restrictive (most family-like) setting available.

Although there is an appropriate role for group care in the continuum of foster care settings, there is consensus across multiple stakeholders that most children and youth, but especially young children, are best served in a family setting. Stays in group care should be based on the specialized behavioral and mental health needs or clinical disabilities of children. It should be used only for as long as is necessary to stabilize the child or youth so they can return to a family-like setting. One of the original seven ASFA outcomes was “Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions.”

A December 2014 report by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability described the process for determining placement in group care as follows. “Lead agencies must place all children in OHC in the most appropriate available setting after conducting an assessment using child-specific factors. Lead agencies must consider placement in residential group care if specific criteria are met—the child is 11 or older, has been in licensed family foster care for six months or longer and removed from family foster care more than once, and has serious behavioral problems or has been determined to be without the options of either family reunification or adoption. In addition, the assessment must consider information from several sources, including psychological evaluations, professionals with knowledge of the child, and the desires of the child concerning placement.”

Percent of Children in Licensed Care Placed in Group Care

Circuit/CBC Comparisons

The proportion of children of all ages in licensed care who are placed in group care ranges from 2.73% to over 12.92%.

Percentage of Children in Out-of-Home Care that are Age 0-17 that are Placed in Group Care on June 30 by State Fiscal Year

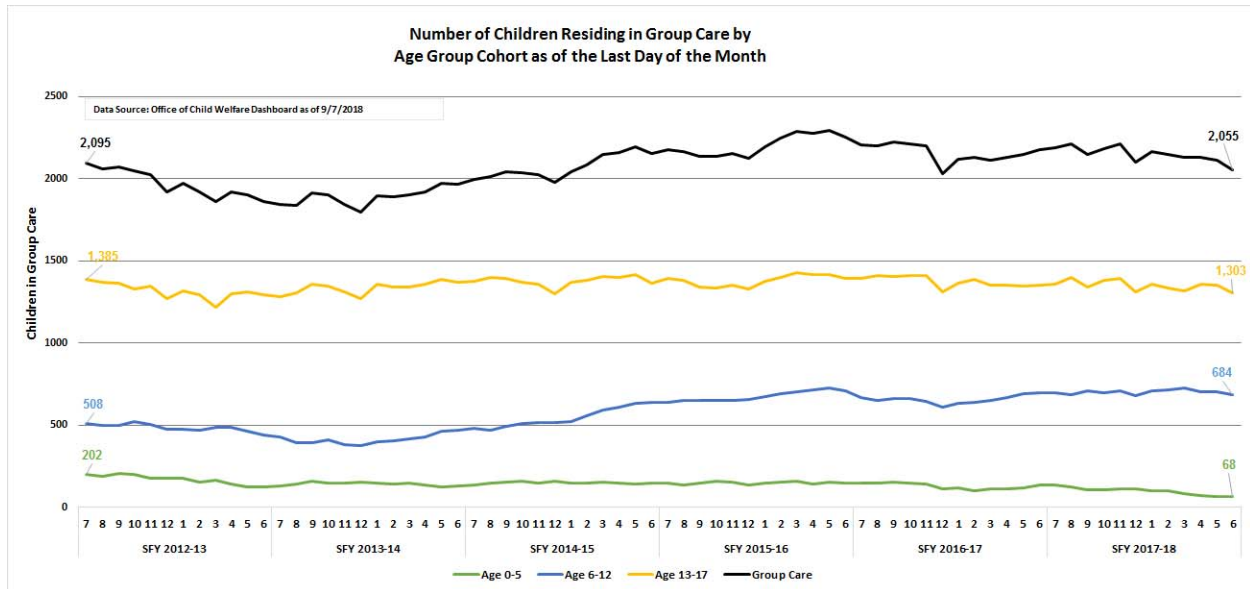
Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Families First Network-Circuit 01	6.15%	7.94%	6.18%	7.36%	8.13%	9.46%	8.78%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	14.23%	12.09%	12.69%	10.88%	12.42%	10.88%	12.92%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	5.51%	6.20%	6.35%	7.71%	7.17%	5.70%	3.34%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	11.16%	12.12%	6.22%	3.29%	4.85%	3.04%	2.73%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	9.88%	7.11%	6.17%	5.32%	4.49%	4.98%	3.94%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	6.37%	2.63%	13.04%	7.27%	5.03%	4.69%	4.05%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	7.21%	7.35%	7.42%	6.47%	6.46%	6.44%	7.58%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	6.70%	7.94%	8.31%	6.57%	7.90%	8.09%	6.72%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	10.89%	10.95%	10.18%	10.06%	9.34%	10.92%	8.82%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	6.96%	7.76%	5.88%	6.37%	6.98%	5.22%	5.34%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	10.46%	12.36%	14.07%	10.85%	10.63%	8.68%	8.36%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	12.70%	10.60%	11.02%	10.78%	9.83%	10.05%	9.57%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	8.91%	10.69%	9.76%	8.36%	7.94%	8.07%	10.32%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	8.74%	9.33%	8.61%	9.72%	14.53%	10.02%	9.06%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	5.46%	7.59%	7.52%	7.23%	7.98%	6.44%	6.03%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	10.75%	12.83%	15.60%	14.91%	15.57%	14.20%	11.76%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	20.09%	19.09%	16.32%	17.94%	16.42%	11.07%	12.03%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	15.36%	12.94%	10.36%	11.29%	12.52%	11.37%	10.53%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	14.79%	13.68%	13.86%	13.60%	12.27%	11.72%	8.54%
Statewide	10.59%	10.76%	10.45%	10.02%	9.95%	9.11%	8.57%

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard

Children in Group Care by Age Group

Florida Statewide Trend

The statewide number of children ages 6-12 in group care has increased sharply since 2014.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Children Ages 0-5 Years in Licensed Care Placed in Group Care

One of the original seven ASFA outcomes was Outcome 7: “Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions.” Overall the percentage of very young children placed in group care is generally quite low, with 9 areas having no children between the ages of 0-5 placed in group care.

Percentage of Children in Out-of-Home Care that are Age 0-5 that are Placed in Group Care on June 30 by State Fiscal Year							
Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Families First Network-Circuit 01	0.00%	0.23%	0.00%	0.31%	0.16%	0.28%	0.00%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	1.17%	0.63%	1.54%	1.10%	0.49%	1.14%	0.44%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.21%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	0.00%	0.00%	2.44%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	0.37%	0.25%	0.32%	0.22%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	0.35%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.25%	0.36%	0.00%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	0.29%	0.00%	0.43%	0.00%	0.12%	0.47%	0.00%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.26%	0.51%	0.53%	0.68%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	0.21%	0.65%	2.24%	0.97%	0.54%	0.30%	0.00%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	4.67%	1.33%	1.24%	1.68%	1.62%	1.84%	0.86%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	2.44%	3.24%	1.12%	0.87%	0.00%	0.55%	0.36%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	1.41%	0.84%	0.29%	0.25%	4.64%	1.05%	0.38%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	0.22%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.61%	0.13%	0.00%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	3.83%	5.08%	8.11%	5.41%	5.94%	2.48%	0.27%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	2.89%	2.05%	1.59%	2.15%	1.92%	0.00%	2.42%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	1.38%	0.81%	0.23%	1.06%	1.74%	2.05%	1.95%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	7.55%	5.42%	5.56%	6.60%	5.29%	6.36%	1.57%
Statewide	1.96%	1.47%	1.46%	1.41%	1.31%	1.15%	0.56%

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard

Children Ages 6-12 Years in Licensed Care Placed in Group Care

The proportion of children ages 6 to 12 in licensed care who are placed in group care ranges from 1.0% to over 16.67%.

Percentage of Children in Out-of-Home Care that are Age 6-12 that are Placed in Group Care on June 30 by State Fiscal Year

Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Families First Network-Circuit 01	6.38%	6.25%	6.43%	11.42%	11.06%	14.98%	15.72%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	12.13%	9.05%	13.18%	14.66%	13.58%	11.31%	15.11%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	8.23%	6.28%	7.41%	9.96%	15.64%	12.64%	10.42%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	10.00%	11.54%	1.72%	3.08%	2.47%	1.14%	1.00%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	6.58%	3.57%	6.50%	3.33%	4.56%	5.18%	2.38%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	4.17%	2.70%	10.71%	2.17%	2.86%	7.14%	1.72%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	7.36%	4.91%	2.48%	3.16%	6.13%	4.34%	6.82%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	6.61%	6.05%	4.61%	6.68%	9.64%	7.78%	7.56%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	7.60%	6.82%	7.77%	8.73%	6.21%	7.35%	5.15%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	1.90%	3.87%	1.97%	5.31%	7.26%	5.43%	6.28%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	7.05%	11.90%	13.66%	8.95%	12.29%	9.29%	9.79%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	11.13%	6.73%	7.92%	9.46%	9.91%	10.81%	12.07%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	7.63%	9.16%	6.47%	6.11%	4.87%	7.47%	11.86%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	8.23%	6.28%	7.41%	9.96%	15.64%	12.64%	10.42%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	5.16%	5.38%	5.38%	7.00%	6.16%	6.26%	6.45%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	14.92%	10.73%	16.89%	19.84%	20.69%	20.38%	16.67%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	16.46%	14.89%	11.46%	15.20%	13.89%	4.55%	3.99%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	13.65%	12.76%	8.19%	10.51%	14.45%	12.40%	8.36%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	14.69%	13.29%	11.93%	14.35%	11.64%	11.99%	11.27%
Statewide	9.06%	8.47%	8.20%	9.59%	9.93%	9.23%	9.16%

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard

Children Ages 13-17 Years in Licensed Care Placed in Group Care

The proportion of children ages 13 to 17 in licensed care who are placed in group care ranges from 15.65% to over 44.64%.

Percentage of Children in Out-of-Home Care that are Age 13-17 that are Placed in Group Care on June 30 by State Fiscal Year

Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Families First Network-Circuit 01	21.34%	30.46%	23.20%	20.36%	25.11%	27.91%	26.42%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	44.24%	41.96%	34.15%	27.85%	41.94%	40.43%	41.34%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	28.32%	32.65%	36.27%	32.19%	30.52%	26.38%	19.55%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	36.54%	53.85%	26.19%	11.63%	20.00%	16.67%	13.73%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	27.83%	21.76%	19.88%	21.33%	19.05%	19.30%	16.47%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	29.63%	11.11%	34.78%	25.58%	22.22%	12.50%	21.43%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	29.17%	29.75%	30.88%	30.77%	29.61%	31.94%	31.19%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	33.72%	38.50%	36.67%	37.74%	35.47%	32.16%	29.91%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	35.57%	37.58%	35.76%	36.55%	37.54%	41.48%	35.01%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	26.89%	28.85%	22.31%	25.00%	23.81%	16.67%	15.65%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	33.72%	38.50%	36.67%	37.74%	35.47%	32.16%	29.91%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	35.79%	41.19%	42.51%	34.49%	31.02%	32.68%	33.16%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	28.43%	34.74%	35.67%	28.77%	30.03%	29.32%	34.37%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	31.47%	36.57%	33.87%	35.92%	40.34%	30.39%	30.98%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	20.00%	30.06%	29.46%	24.70%	28.78%	22.33%	22.02%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	21.71%	36.97%	34.78%	32.17%	29.66%	35.96%	36.97%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	46.76%	50.20%	47.40%	47.71%	49.22%	41.60%	44.64%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	33.73%	32.89%	32.81%	37.58%	36.75%	34.52%	36.34%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	27.61%	28.44%	31.88%	25.32%	24.49%	20.72%	18.12%
Statewide	31.18%	34.62%	33.90%	31.20%	31.73%	29.95%	29.50%

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard

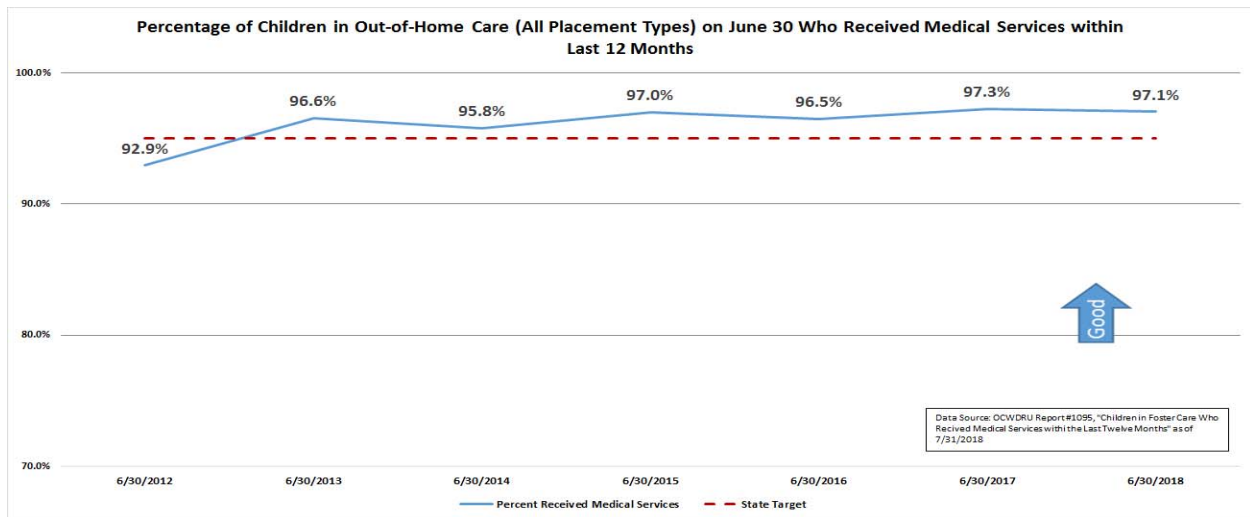
Physical and Mental Health Needs

One of Florida’s nine statutory CBC outcomes is “Children Receive Services to Meet their Physical and Mental Health Needs.” Considerable progress has been made in the last few years in providing regular medical and dental services.

Medical Services

Florida Statewide Trend

Statewide performance improved from less than 80% in 2011 to a stable 97% over the last few years.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

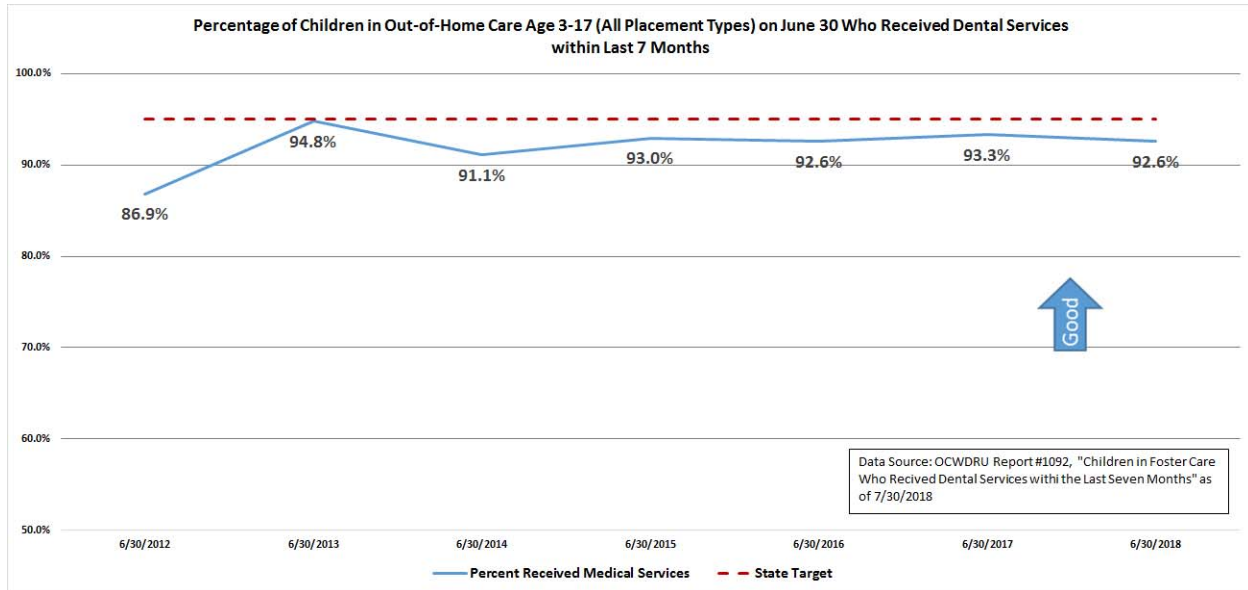
All but one area is above the 95% target on this indicator.

Area	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017
Families First Network-Circuit 01	95.5%	96.3%	97.5%	94.6%	92.9%	97.8%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	93.4%	95.4%	95.1%	96.8%	99.2%	99.2%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	90.4%	94.2%	93.4%	97.8%	97.5%	98.7%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	87.6%	96.9%	95.3%	98.5%	99.1%	98.4%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	92.4%	94.8%	98.1%	97.4%	98.2%	98.9%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	87.3%	98.2%	92.0%	96.2%	97.4%	97.9%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	85.7%	96.3%	93.2%	95.4%	93.0%	93.6%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	94.2%	95.8%	95.5%	97.0%	95.1%	95.7%
CBC of Central Florida-Seminole-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	87.7%	95.7%	95.2%	95.9%	95.6%	96.4%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	97.6%	97.2%	93.6%	96.3%	96.7%	95.6%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	92.6%	96.5%	96.4%	96.6%	98.2%	99.0%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	93.4%	95.9%	95.2%	99.0%	97.7%	98.7%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	92.0%	96.7%	97.7%	98.7%	98.5%	98.5%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	95.1%	99.0%	99.0%	99.4%	97.3%	95.8%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	95.6%	96.6%	95.9%	97.1%	93.4%	95.7%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	93.2%	94.0%	93.6%	96.3%	98.3%	97.3%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	90.4%	98.1%	96.9%	97.6%	96.1%	98.2%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	96.6%	98.3%	96.2%	96.3%	96.9%	96.8%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	97.1%	98.1%	94.6%	97.0%	97.3%	97.2%
Statewide	92.9%	96.6%	95.8%	97.0%	96.5%	97.3%

Dental Services

Florida Statewide Trend

Statewide performance improved from around 65% in 2011 to more than 90% in the last few years, but remains below the statewide target of 95%.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Eight areas are above the statewide target of 95%, with another five areas falling above the 90% level on this indicator.

Percentage of Children in Out-of-Home Care Age 3-17 (All Placement Types) on June 30 Who Received Dental Services within Last 7 Months (State Target 95.0%)

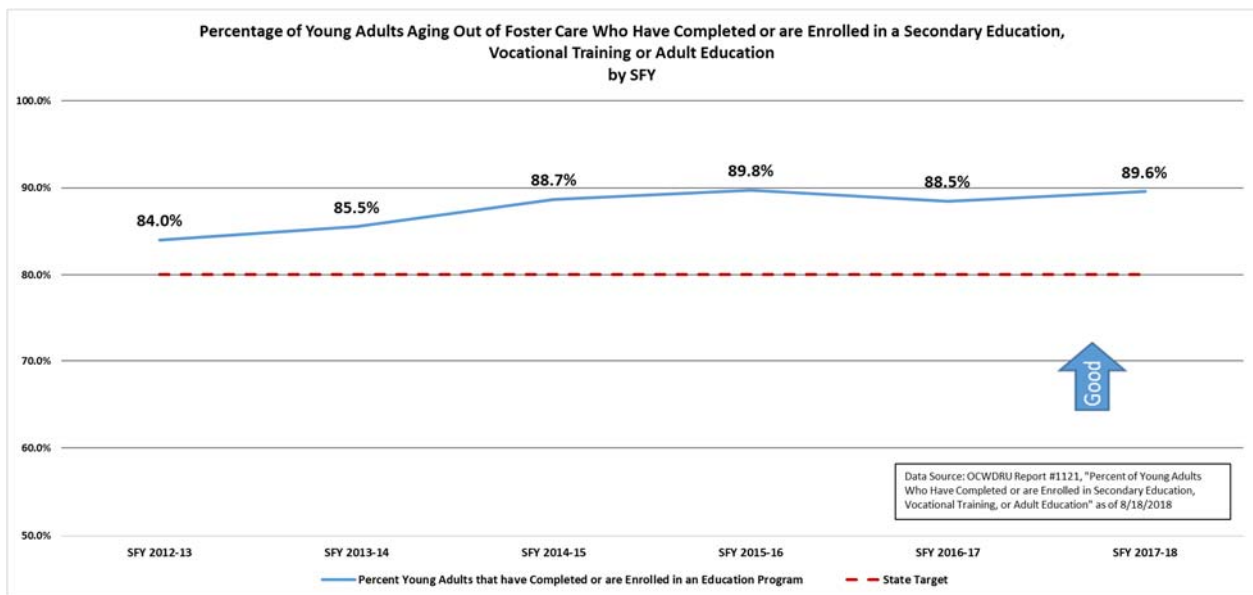
Area	6/30/2011	6/30/2012	6/30/2013	6/30/2014	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018
Families First Network-Circuit 01	55.0%	87.4%	95.0%	93.6%	79.7%	81.9%	91.2%	87.6%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	59.7%	93.0%	91.4%	87.8%	91.5%	97.5%	98.5%	96.5%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	80.9%	84.1%	94.6%	87.0%	92.6%	95.3%	95.9%	91.9%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	81.8%	73.8%	96.3%	88.3%	91.2%	96.2%	98.2%	72.8%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	89.4%	85.8%	95.8%	92.6%	97.1%	95.5%	96.4%	94.5%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	64.2%	77.1%	89.7%	87.8%	84.1%	97.5%	94.1%	94.7%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	54.1%	73.7%	90.1%	84.4%	87.0%	82.7%	81.5%	89.2%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	53.4%	90.6%	95.7%	95.0%	96.4%	92.6%	94.9%	97.1%
CBC of Central Florida-Seminole-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	46.3%	83.3%	95.4%	95.3%	97.3%	94.1%	97.9%	95.9%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	69.4%	95.9%	95.2%	90.8%	90.0%	92.7%	94.8%	94.4%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	37.8%	83.2%	92.0%	91.2%	94.3%	92.5%	94.3%	94.6%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	70.6%	87.8%	95.1%	92.7%	96.4%	96.6%	96.1%	80.6%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	67.6%	90.3%	96.0%	95.4%	97.4%	97.4%	96.5%	96.9%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	68.6%	84.9%	94.7%	95.0%	92.4%	81.4%	71.5%	89.0%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	65.8%	91.9%	86.8%	90.9%	91.5%	84.9%	95.2%	98.1%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	57.0%	85.2%	93.0%	91.4%	90.6%	95.6%	94.8%	97.3%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	55.5%	71.4%	96.7%	91.2%	95.0%	94.7%	95.4%	97.2%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	69.3%	91.7%	97.7%	93.7%	91.1%	92.9%	90.8%	89.4%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	81.4%	93.1%	97.8%	81.5%	94.3%	96.4%	94.5%	95.0%
Statewide	64.4%	86.9%	94.8%	91.1%	93.0%	92.6%	93.3%	92.6%

Preparation for Independent Living as Adults

Two of Florida’s nine statutory CBC outcomes are “Children Receive Appropriate Services to Meet their Educational Needs” and “Children Develop the Capacity for Independent Living and Competence as an Adult.”

Young Adults Aging Out Enrolled in Education Programs

For children who don’t achieve permanency prior to reaching adulthood, it is crucial that they are prepared for life after foster care by the time they “age out” of care. While education is one indicator of preparation for adulthood, it does not control for any of the many variables that further influence this, including time in care and the child’s education level when entering care.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

All but three areas are above the statewide target of 80%.

Percentage of Young Adults Aging Out of Foster Care Who Have Completed or are Enrolled in a Secondary Education, Vocational Training or Adult Education by SFY (State Target 80.0%)

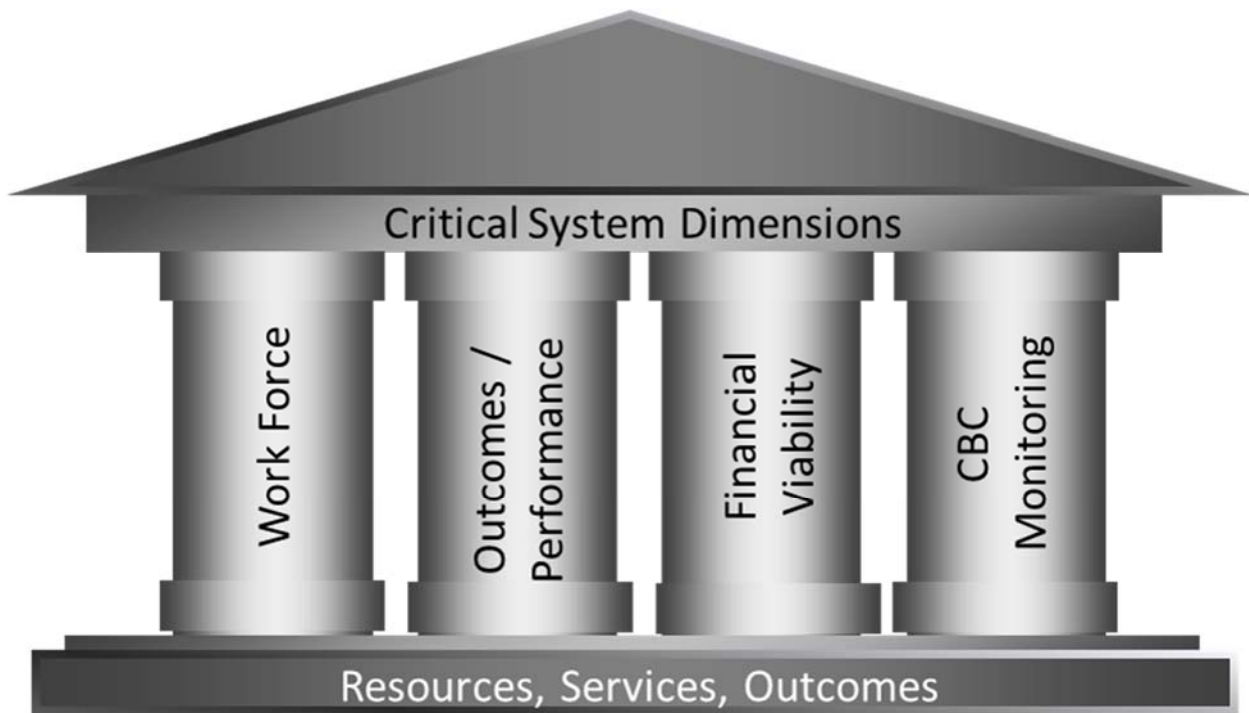
Area	SFY 2012-13	SFY 2013-14	SFY 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18
Families First Network-Circuit 01	93.9%	84.6%	81.1%	86.7%	85.2%	85.0%
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	86.8%	86.1%	73.5%	80.0%	81.8%	100.0%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	100.0%	91.3%	90.9%	100.0%	89.5%	82.6%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	87.5%	100.0%	88.9%	100.0%	100.0%	87.5%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	74.5%	85.0%	100.0%	93.9%	96.9%	96.3%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	64.3%	100.0%	75.0%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	82.8%	70.3%	66.7%	88.2%	75.8%	67.7%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	68.2%	82.1%	82.9%	92.5%	84.9%	94.6%
CBC of Central Florida-Seminole-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	90.7%	84.4%	82.5%	75.9%	85.9%	89.3%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	80.5%	76.2%	76.7%	86.7%	90.3%	96.3%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	85.5%	77.4%	87.3%	93.2%	92.3%	86.0%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	85.2%	87.7%	95.8%	98.9%	95.8%	94.1%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	87.5%	93.8%	93.7%	95.7%	88.3%	86.1%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	100.0%	86.4%	100.0%	96.2%	90.9%	79.4%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	88.9%	78.6%	90.0%	94.0%	91.2%	93.2%
Devereux CBC-Circuit 19	72.5%	96.7%	92.3%	84.0%	90.5%	83.3%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	73.7%	90.2%	92.4%	94.1%	88.7%	98.4%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	71.3%	77.7%	95.0%	92.6%	91.7%	92.5%
Our Kids-Circuits 11 & 16	94.3%	92.5%	88.0%	84.5%	83.8%	87.2%
Statewide	84.0%	85.5%	88.7%	89.8%	88.5%	89.6%

Summary

There are both promising and concerning trends in Florida’s SFY 2017-18 child welfare performance, but the overall health of the system is improved compared with SFY 2016-17. Positive “front door” trends of lower screen-in rates and fewer cumulative removals are a promising sign for currently higher OHC population and child permanency trends. As fewer cases flow from investigations to OHC, CBCs can hopefully make the transition from triaging entries to focusing on cases in care and timely permanency. More discharges are needed to lower the OHC population, which should reduce pressure on placement measures (placement moves, group care, placed with siblings, placed in home county). With Florida’s promising “front door” trends, “back door” trends are in a better position to recover.

There are also positive trends with maltreatment in OHC, during in-home care, and after termination of services as well. This safety trend includes lower re-entry rates after exiting OHC. This indicates that children are being protected from abuse and neglect while under CBC case-managed services. It is promising that CBCs are performing better on these measures even though caseloads remain high.

Through the ROA model, many of the critical statewide trends discussed in this report are being prioritized for SFY 2018-19 by department leadership for enhanced focus and targeted efforts to improve these key system aspects.



Going forward, this annual report will follow the ROA model to present SFY performance data, identify what has been prioritized as a key indicator in need of analysis and enhanced focus, and detail what is being done to address the identified gap in performance.

NOTICE OF FILING

Reporting Agency:	Department of Children and Families
Recipient Agency:	GOVERNOR, SENATE PRESIDENT, HOUSE SPEAKER, MINORITY LEADERS
Subject:	2018 Annual Performance Report
Report Due Date:	10/01/18
Statutory Requirement:	s. 409.997(3)(g)
Abstract:	<p>Florida's child protection system was created to prevent the occurrence of child abuse, neglect and abandonment via a partnership between the Department of Children and Families, other agencies, the courts, law enforcement agencies, service providers and local communities (s. 39.001(1), F.S.).</p> <p>The community-based system of care (CBC) is designed to provide equal protection for children under the law through consistent intake decision-making regarding those to be served at the front end of the system, developing local systems of care to meet varying community needs, matching the needs of children and families to community resources and allowing the flexible development of evidence-based and promising approaches to the protection of children.</p> <p>The non-profit CBCs contract with the state to handle all prevention, foster care, adoption and independent living services to children and families in the child welfare system.</p> <p>This report provides a statewide summary of CBC agency performance on outcome indicators for safety, permanency and well-being as established by the Federal Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA, Public Law 105-89), and as indicated, below:</p> <p>Safety Indicators: Focus on whether children referred to the child welfare system for maltreatment experience subsequent maltreatment, especially while receiving services and after termination of services.</p> <p>Permanency Indicators: Focus on whether children removed from their families have timely reunification or other permanent living arrangement(s) such as adoption or permanent guardianship.</p> <p>Well-being Indicators: Focus on quality of life for children in out-of-home care, including having stable placements that allow for continuing important connections and preparation for adulthood.</p>
<p>Copies of this report may be obtained by contacting: Department of Children and Families Office of Child Welfare 1317 Winewood Blvd. Tallahassee, FL32399-0700 Attn: Ginger Griffeth (850) 717- 4654, email: Ginger.Griffeth@myflfamilies.com CF 1610, Oct 96</p>	