



2020 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2019-20

OFFICE OF CHILD WELFARE

OCTOBER 2020

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Secretary

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Department of Children and Families Service Structure

Regions, Circuits, Counties, and CBC Lead Agencies



Community-Based Care Lead Agency Map

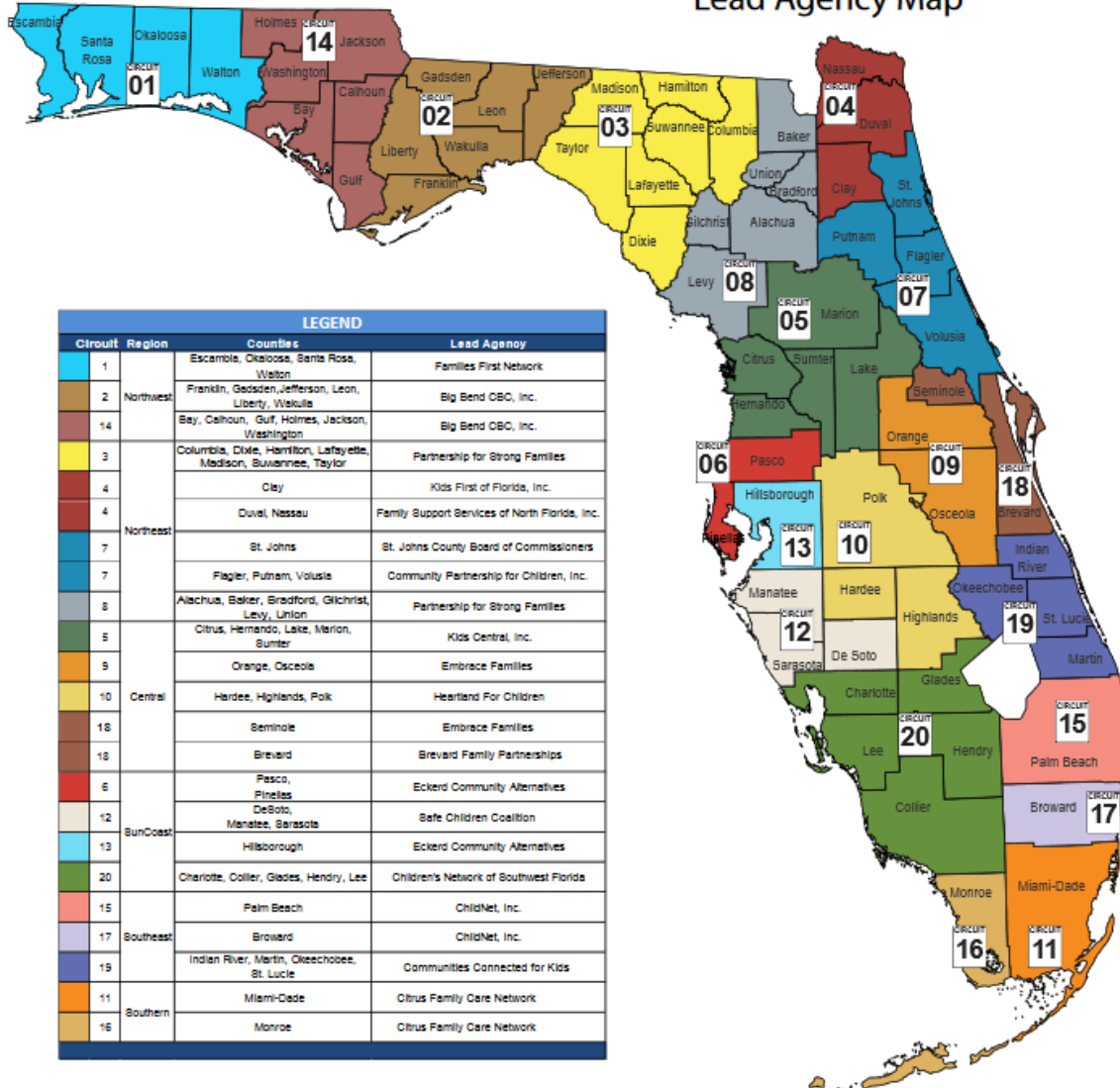


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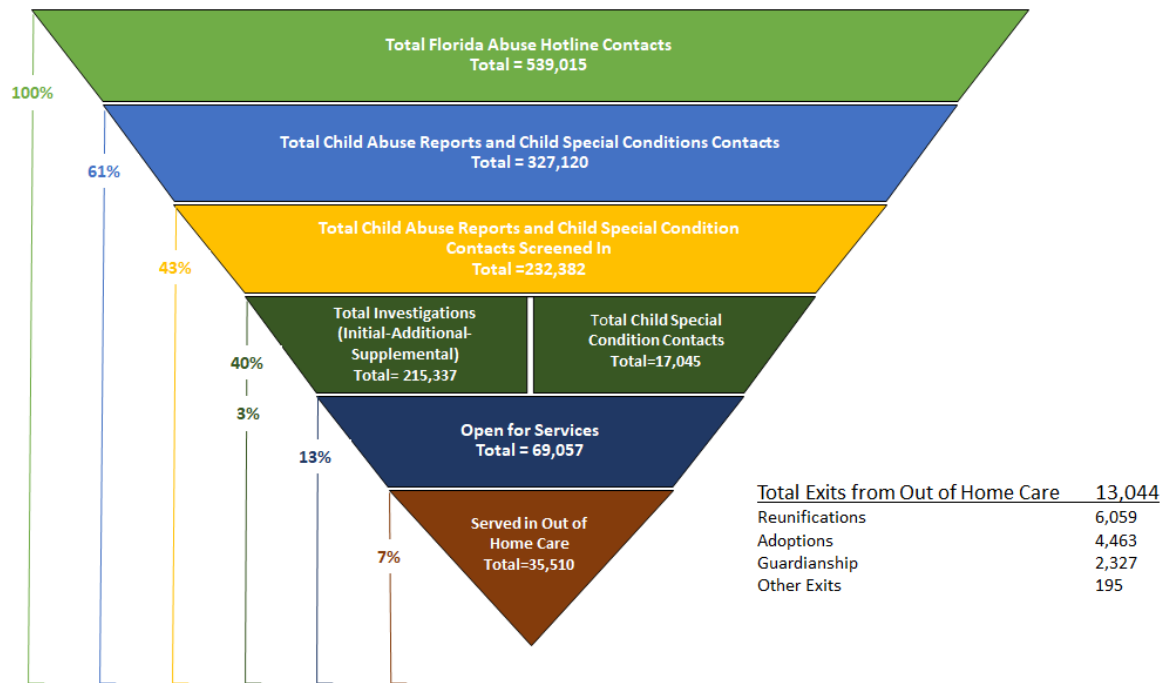
Abbreviations included in this Report

- Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)
- Child Protective Investigator (CPI)
- Family Support Services (FSS)
- Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)
- Florida Continuous Quality Improvement Reviews (FL CQI)
- Florida Department of Children and Families (department)
- Florida Institute for Child Welfare (FICW)
- Foster Care (FC)
- Foster Home (FH)
- Lead Agency for Community-Based Care (CBC)
- Office of Child Welfare (OCW)
- 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 (department), 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
2019-20 SFY



Intake for the community-based system of care is provided by the department and county sheriffs’ offices that conduct child protective investigations, 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 are conducted by sheriffs’ offices in seven counties (Broward, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Seminole, and Walton 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 out-of-home care (OHC), or through case-managed in-home services (by court order or non-judicially), or through informal voluntary family support services (FSS).

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, 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 integrated 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.

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.

A 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.

Executive Summary

The Results-Oriented Accountability Annual Report for state fiscal year (SFY) 2019-20 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 (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.

The following bullet points and federal measures provide a summary of this data.

Demographics:

- Florida's child population increased by 4.34 percent from 4,053,127 in 2014 to 4,229,081 in 2017, compared to a 0.3 percent decrease in the United States' child population during the same period.
- Florida's poverty rate of 20 percent for 2018 was 2.0 percent higher than the comparable national average of 18.0 percent. Statewide, Florida's poverty rate has dropped since 2015 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 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 that of the lowest rate area.
- Reports to the Hotline follow a seasonal trend and, in 2018, 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 been steadily decreasing.

Child Protective Investigators:

- Incoming and active investigative workload decreased during SFY 2019-20, as did investigations that were open over 60 days. All three of these measures were at a five-year low as of the last day of the SFY. However, statewide performance in completing investigations within 60 days was still below the 99 percent standard, though 18 circuits and sheriffs' offices completed over 98 percent of investigations within 60 days in SFY 2018-19, and eight circuits met the 99 percent standard target.
- Florida has consistently maintained high timeliness in responding to alleged maltreatment within 24 hours compared to the national average. In 2018, 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 FSS having the highest variation. The most recent available data indicates that 45.43 percent of children determined "unsafe" were removed from their home and 50.25 percent received in-home services, totaling 95.68 percent of children determined to be unsafe receiving ongoing case management. Of children who were determined to be safe, 15.45 percent did not receive

services of any type and of those that received service, 5.61 percent received ongoing case management via OHC.

Children Removal Rates:

- Removal rates per 1,000 children in the general population and per 100 children in investigations are both calculated in this 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 decreasing and closed federal fiscal year (FFY) 2018 at 3.8 per 1,000. This was just 0.2 above the national average. There is a wide variation when comparing historical removal rates for circuits and sheriffs' offices.
- Florida's removal rate per 100 alleged victims in closed investigations has been declining over the last six SFYs.

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 stable OHC numbers 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 the number of children in investigations. The number of children in OHC nationally has increased and stabilized since 2013, while Florida saw a sharp increase that was followed by a decrease within the most recent year of national data. Florida's OHC rate per 1,000 children in 2018 (the most recent year available) was comparable to the national average. Several states had rates that were significantly higher than Florida's.
- Florida's current stability in OHC numbers appears to be the result of decreasing discharge rates, rather than an increase in removal rates. Florida's discharge rate in the last three SFYs declined sharply while in 2017 Florida was solidly above the national average and in the third quartile among ranked states.

Federal Measures:

This 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.

Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect. The most recent national data (2017) indicates that Florida's observed performance of 94.4 percent with no recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months was better than the initial standard and national average of 90.9 percent. The performance has consistently been above the national standard since January 2015. The percent of children in investigations with at least one finding of verified maltreatment has been declining over the last five SFYs. As only verified maltreatment is included in the measurement of recurrence, the decline in the 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. National state level data for the rate of abuse per 100,000 bed days in OHC is not currently available beyond 2017. The 2017 data for the percentage of children not experiencing abuse in foster care indicates that Florida is among the best in the nation at 99.96 percent of children not experiencing abuse, abandonment, or neglect while in foster care. Florida's SFY 2019-20 observed rate of 6.1 successfully achieved the 8.50 or less national standard for the rate of children experiencing abuse, abandonment, or neglect per 100,000 days in OHC. It should be noted that 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.

The percent of children with no verified maltreatment *during* case-managed, in-home services improved to 95.5 percent. The percent of children with no verified maltreatment within six months *after termination* of case-managed services improved to 96.5 percent for the SFY 2018-19 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 less than 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 exceeding 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 increasing performance.

Florida is consistently one of the top states for **case management visits** with children in care. Florida is also consistently in the ranks among the leading states 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 percent.

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 6.2 percent on June 30, 2020, with wide variation among circuits. The statewide median of timeliness of termination of parental rights, from petition to order, was 175 days in SFY 2019-20, with wide variation among the circuits. The statewide median for time from removal date to disposition order was 56 days in SFY 2019-20, with wide variation, compared to the statewide target of 90 days.

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability. As OHC numbers have stabilized so too have the types of placements where children in foster care reside. For example, approximately 51.9 percent of children placed in OHC reside in kinship placements. These placements tend to reduce trauma, help

maintain familial connections, and reduce the cost of care. Until SFY 2016-17, statewide performance had been slightly better than the initial national standard of 4.12 placement moves per 100,000 days in foster care. Florida met the measure in FY 2019-20 with a statewide performance of 3.7.

Statewide performance for the percent of siblings placed together has declined over the last five years and Florida is now below its own standard of 65 percent. Only seven of Florida's 19 CBCs are at or above the 65 percent standard.

Over the last year there has been a slight increase in the percent of children placed outside their removal circuit, county, and region. 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 7.23 percent statewide. Overall, the percentage of very young children (ages 0-5 years) placed in group care is generally quite low (0.59 percent). The percentage of children in group care increases with age, with a statewide average of 8.23 percent of children ages 6-12, and 26.32 percent of children ages 13-17 placed in a group home environment as of June 30, 2020.

Statewide performance on children in OHC who receive medical services has decreased during the last year. Eleven CBCs are currently above the 95 percent target on this indicator. Statewide performance on children in OHC who receive dental services has decreased in the last year. No CBCs are currently meeting the target for this measure.

All but two Florida areas are above the statewide target of 80 percent 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 over the last five SFYs.

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 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 Florida is different from other states and how communities within Florida are different from each other.

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 this 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.

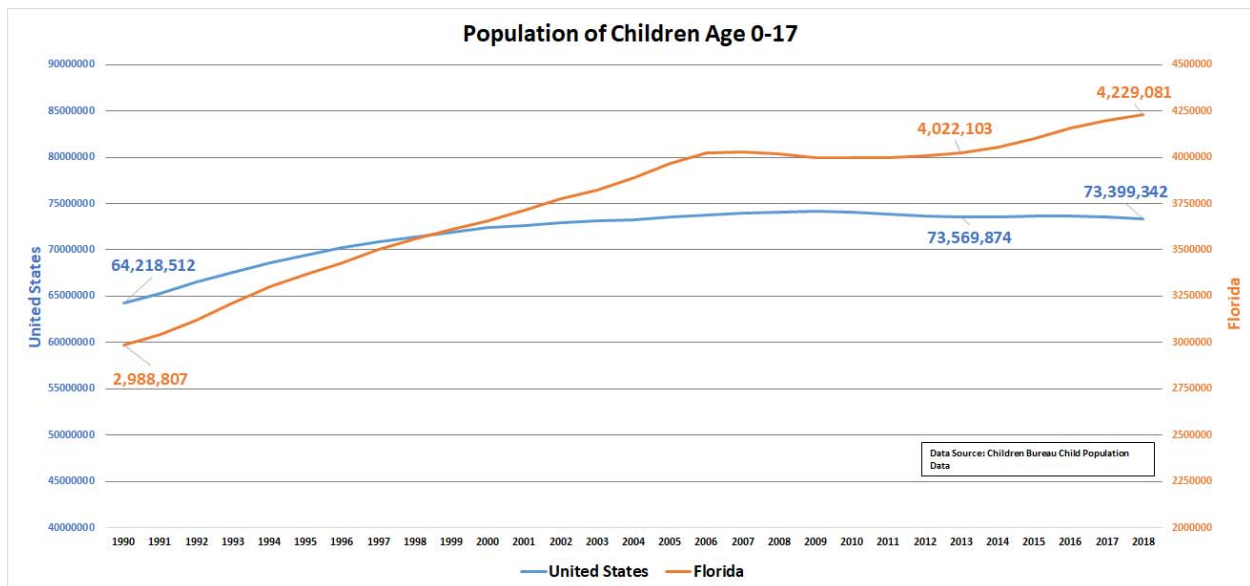
Although additional indicators, such as teen births, employment, education, crime, etc., are not included in this report, such indicators can contribute toward a broader understanding of how such variations might affect community-level indicators in this report. Other variables to consider include:

- 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 0.23 percent from 73,565,092 in 2014 to 73,399,342 in 2018 (the most recent population data currently available). In contrast, Florida’s child population increased by 4.34 percent from 4,053,127 in 2014 to 4,229,081 in FFY 2018.

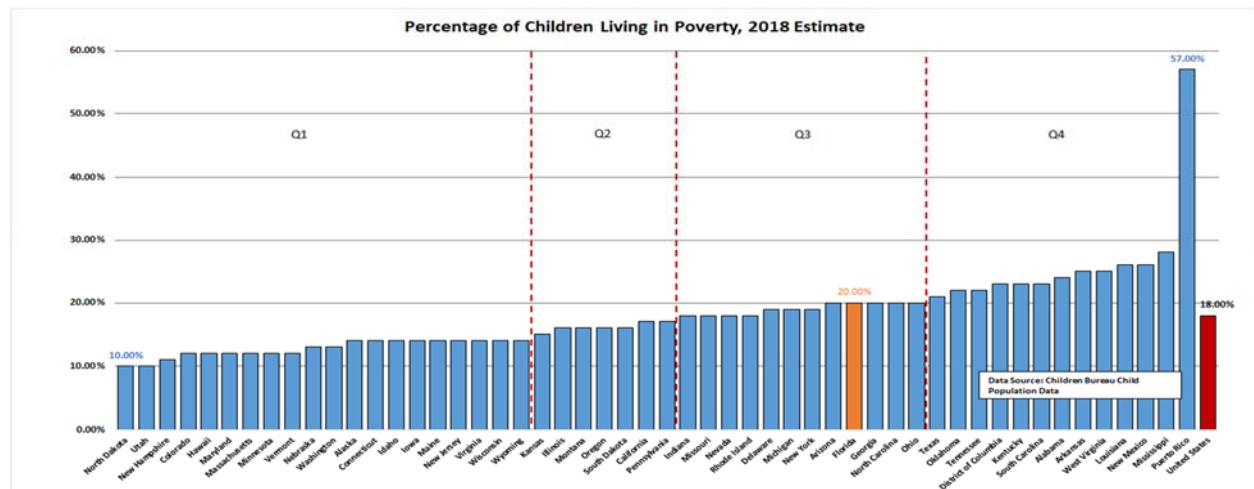


Children Living in Poverty

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

Per child poverty data provided from the Children’s Bureau, Florida’s estimated child poverty rate of 20% in FFY 2018 placed Florida in the third quartile when comparing poverty rates of all states.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Per child poverty data provided by the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, Florida’s estimated poverty rate has dropped since 2016 with the highest percentage in the area served by Heartland for Children (Circuit 10, 26 percent); and lowest percentage in the area served by St Johns County’s Family Integrity Program (part of Circuit 7, 7 percent).

Estimated Percentage of Children Living in Poverty by Calendar Year					
Area	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	26%	27%	24%	22%	24%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	22%	21%	22%	19%	17%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	20%	20%	18%	18%	17%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	22%	21%	19%	17%	19%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	26%	25%	22%	21%	19%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	28%	27%	25%	22%	23%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	26%	24%	24%	19%	19%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	28%	26%	22%	27%	20%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	21%	20%	19%	18%	17%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	23%	21%	20%	21%	20%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	24%	22%	21%	20%	20%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	21%	22%	20%	21%	19%
Family Integrity Program-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	11%	10%	9%	9%	7%
Family Support Services -Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties Only)	26%	25%	20%	22%	21%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	28%	28%	28%	27%	26%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	27%	27%	24%	23%	22%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 04 (Clay County Only)	16%	16%	14%	13%	12%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	28%	28%	26%	25%	24%
Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 20	22%	22%	20%	17%	18%
Statewide	24%	23%	21%	21%	20%

Data Source: Robert Woods Johnson Foundation County Health Rankings

Intake into the Child Welfare System

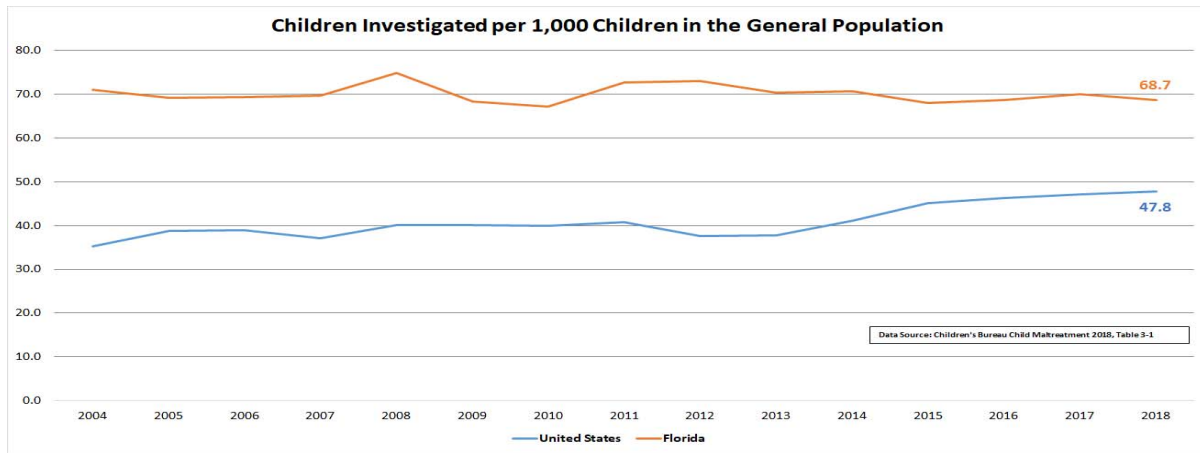
Maltreatment Reporting

Reporting Rate: Children Investigated Compared to the Population

In 1971, the Florida Legislature created the 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 to the child welfare system at least once within 60 months from birth.*

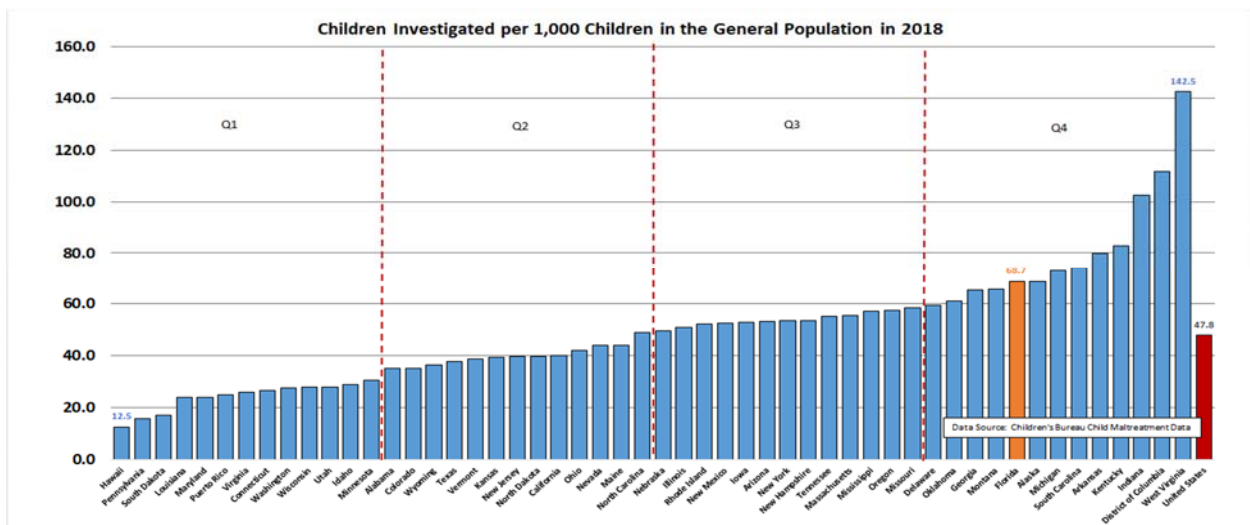
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

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



Florida Compared to Other States

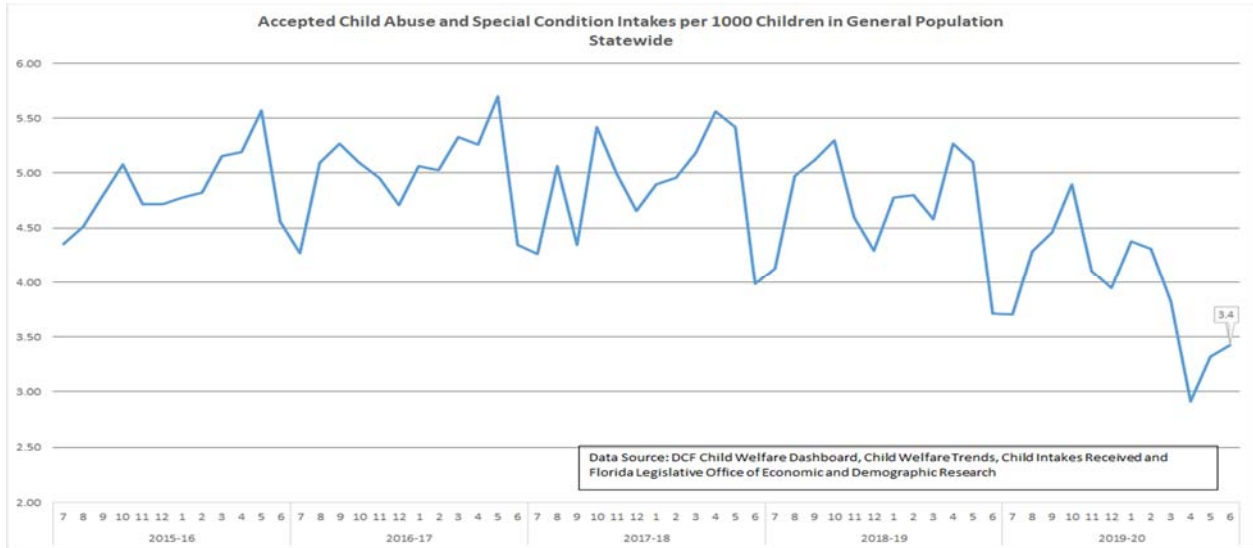
Florida’s investigation rate was the ninth highest in the nation in FFY 2018.



Reporting Rate: Children Investigated Compared to Population

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida’s monthly maltreatment reporting rate has been declining since SFY 2018-19.



Circuit Comparisons

Florida’s annualized maltreatment reporting rates are extremely variable, with the highest rate (7.90) being more than three times that of the lowest rate (2.32).

Accepted Child Abuse Reports and Special Conditions Referrals per 100 Children in the General Population					
Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
DCF Areas	6.02	6.26	6.11	5.88	4.95
SO Areas	5.32	5.36	5.26	5.12	4.24
DCF Circuit 01	7.88	8.21	8.51	7.97	6.76
DCF Circuit 02	7.47	7.44	7.06	7.15	5.88
DCF Circuit 03	9.02	9.02	8.60	8.66	7.90
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	5.94	5.83	5.60	5.45	4.68
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	6.91	7.29	6.83	6.43	5.38
DCF Circuit 05	7.78	8.44	8.98	8.68	7.29
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	4.26	4.28	4.01	4.20	3.60
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	8.69	8.63	8.39	8.07	6.96
DCF Circuit 08	8.45	8.61	8.51	8.73	7.26
DCF Circuit 09	5.94	5.79	5.74	5.48	4.33
DCF Circuit 10	7.20	7.57	7.09	7.17	6.04
DCF Circuit 11	2.95	3.13	2.94	2.79	2.32
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	6.59	6.98	6.26	6.00	5.27
DCF Circuit 14	9.23	9.47	10.03	8.49	7.59
DCF Circuit 15	4.99	5.21	5.01	4.76	4.14
DCF Circuit 16	6.39	6.51	6.32	6.39	4.67
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	7.63	8.38	8.09	7.90	6.56
DCF Circuit 19	5.64	6.13	6.08	5.86	4.71
DCF Circuit 20	5.88	6.35	6.03	5.92	5.34
Broward SO	4.48	4.39	4.26	4.02	3.31
Hillsborough SO	4.75	4.86	4.79	4.62	3.91
Manatee SO	7.56	7.08	6.73	6.32	5.38
Pasco SO	6.49	7.19	7.25	7.02	5.81
Pinellas SO	6.91	6.93	6.85	6.80	5.57
Seminole SO	5.17	5.21	5.04	4.90	3.95
Walton SO	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.64	7.85
Statewide	5.83	6.01	5.88	5.66	4.76
No Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Child Intakes Received and Florida Legislative Office of Economic and Demographic Research

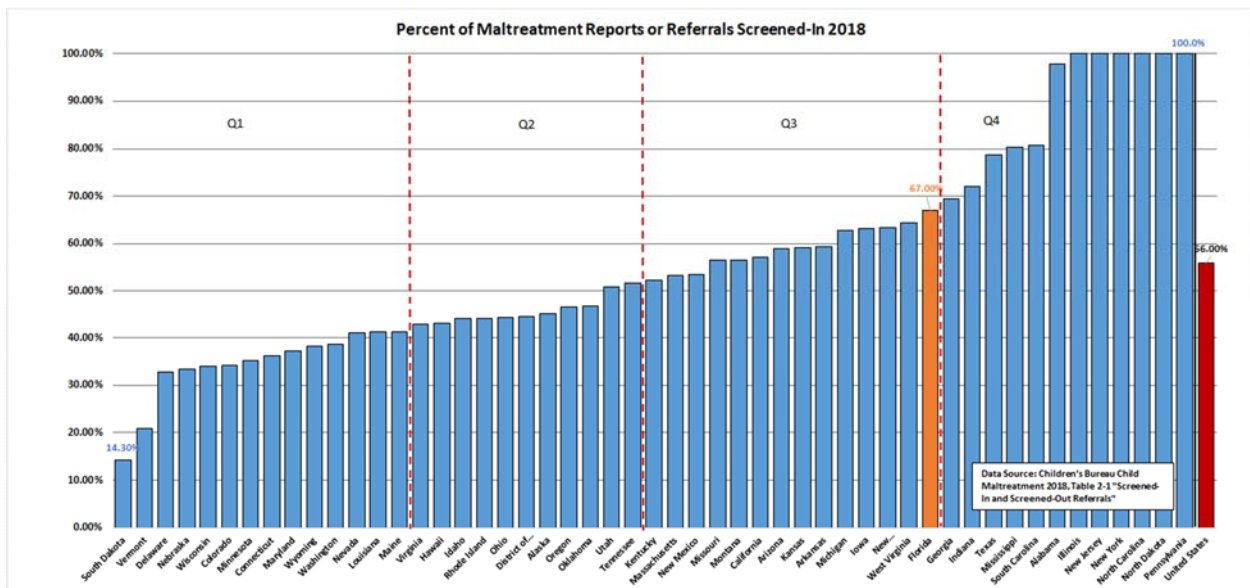
Florida Abuse Hotline

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 meets 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

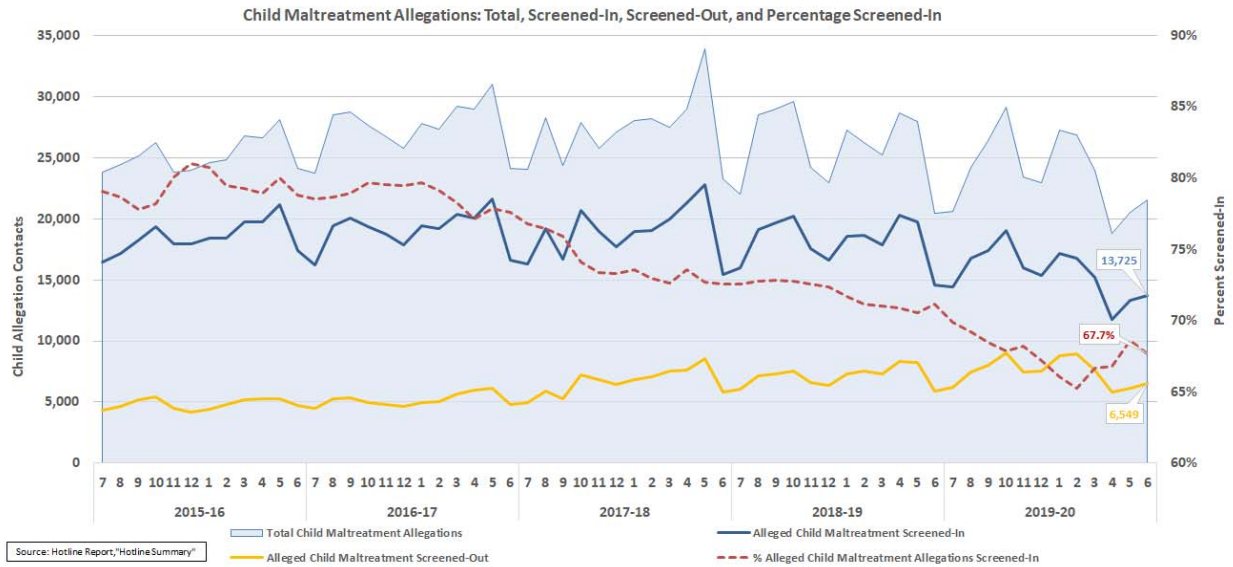
The most recent national data for the percentage of reports screened-in is for FFY 2018. Florida’s rate was above the national average and in the second highest quartile in FFY 2018. However, Florida’s screen-in rate has dropped significantly in the last four fiscal years.



Intake Screening Rates

Florida Trend

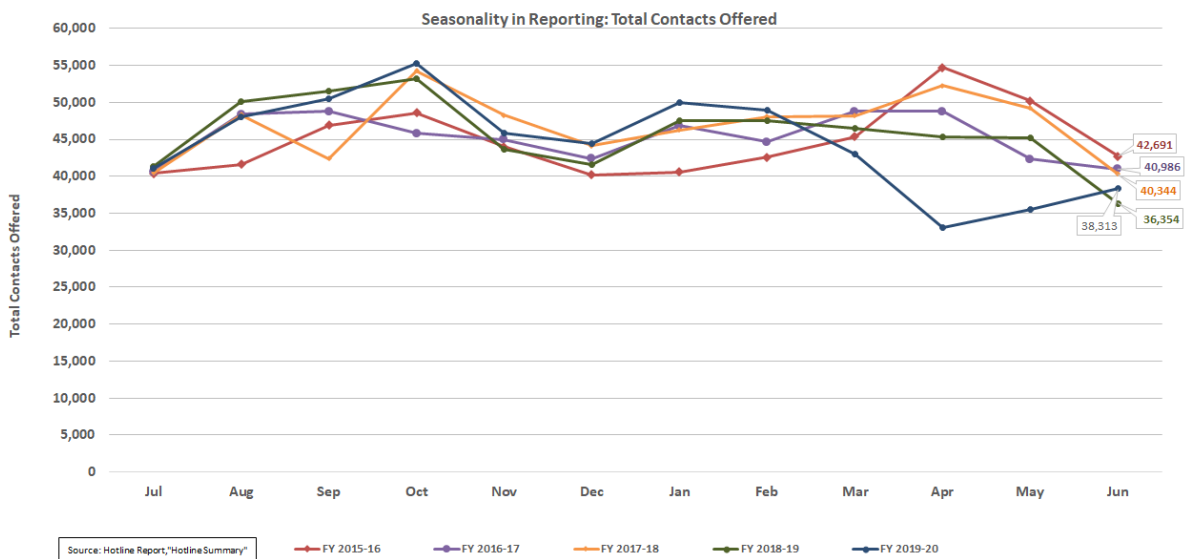
Florida’s screen-in rate, which was above the national average in FFY 2018, has been decreasing since SFY 2016-17.



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 Hotline that may result in multiple contacts. Note the COVID-19 decline in total contacts offered for April and May of 2019.



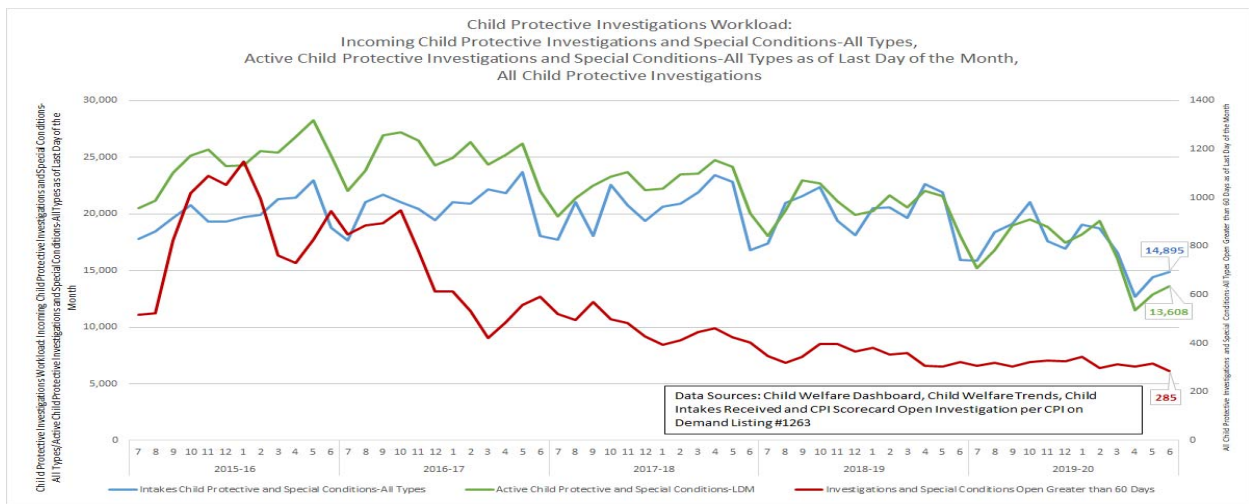
Child Protective Investigations

Workload Indicators

Florida Statewide Trends

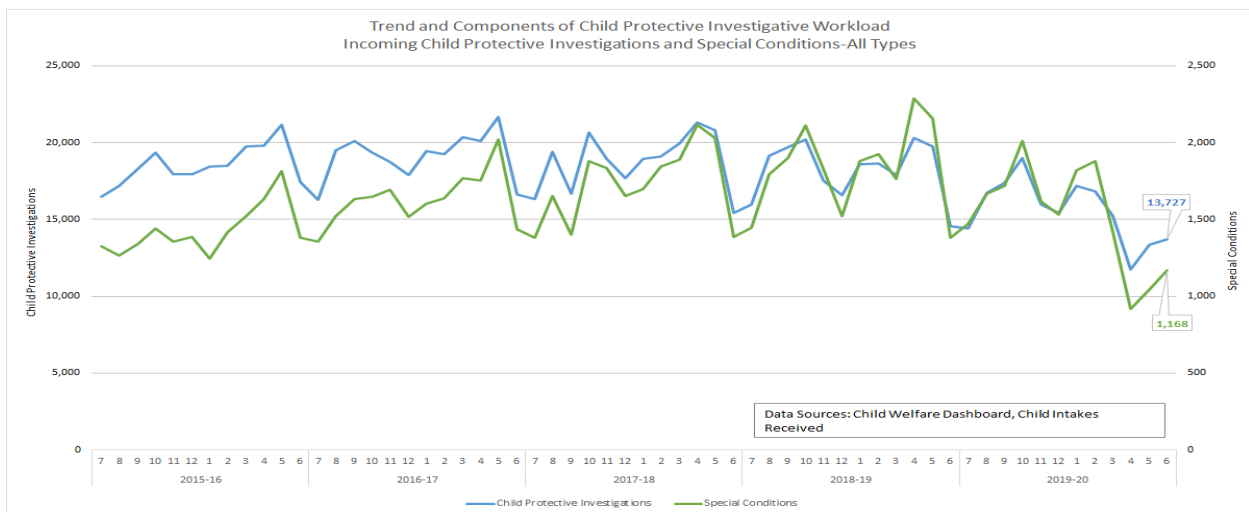
Incoming, Active, and Backlog Investigations

After a multi-year upward trend in incoming and active investigative workload, the trend over the last three state fiscal years has been downward, even if the sharp COVID-19 related drop starting in March 2020 is factored out of the data. The number of active investigations open over 60 days (backlog) as of the last day of the month has decreased over the last four state fiscal years and stabilized at approximately 300 active investigations.



Maltreatment Investigations and Special Conditions Assessments

Over the last two state fiscal years there has been a decline in incoming child protective investigations and special condition referrals. Note the sharp COVID-19 related drop starting in March 2020.

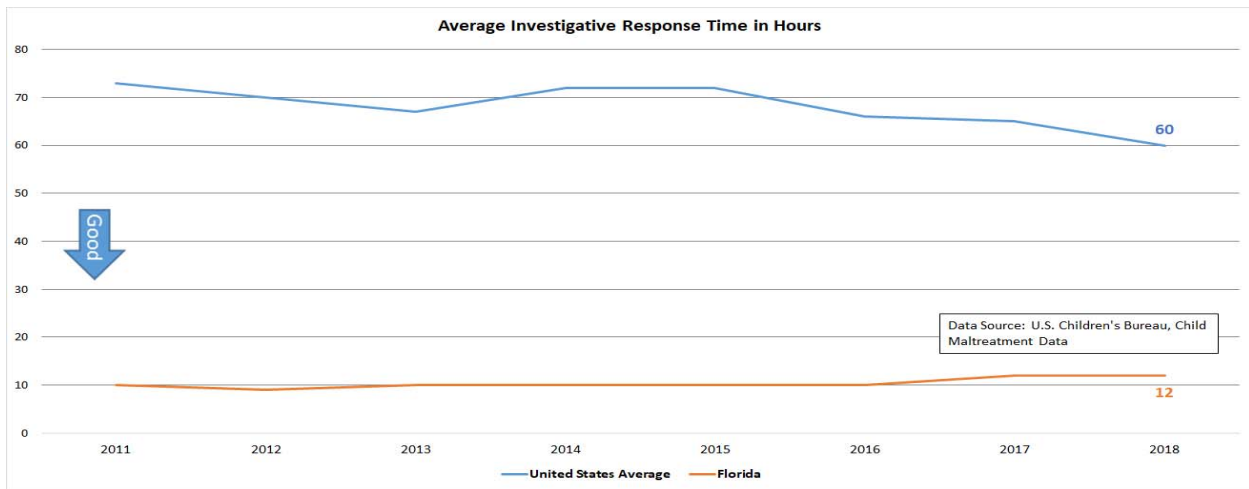


Average Investigative Response Time in Hours

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

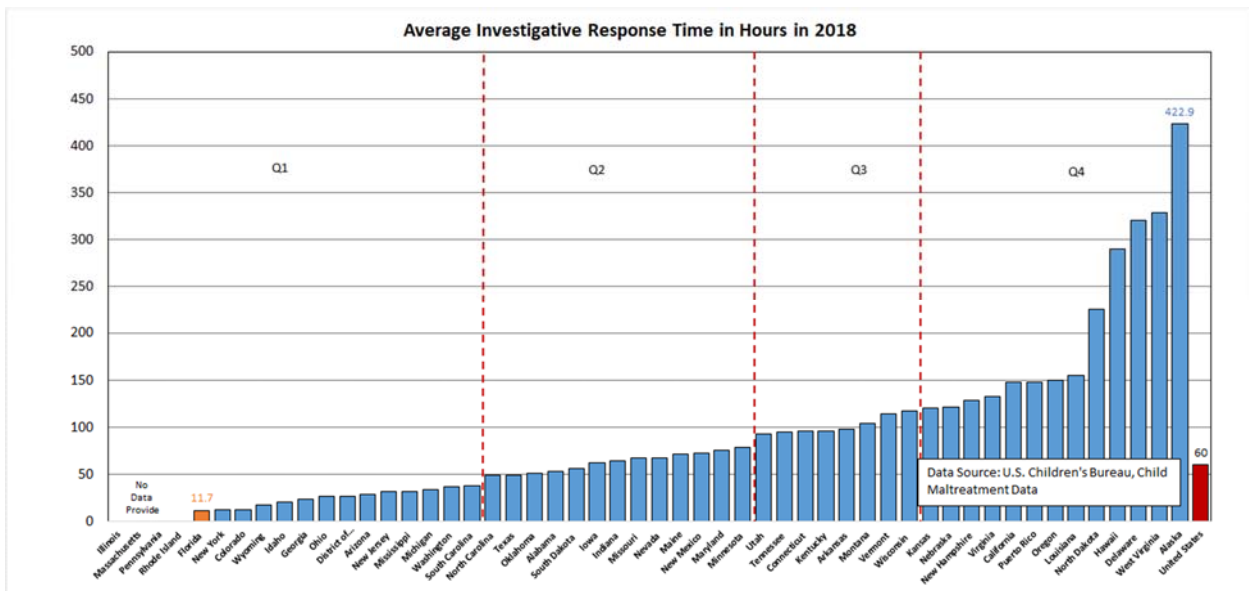
Trend: Florida vs. National Average

Florida has maintained consistently high performance for this metric, including FFY 2011 through FFY 2018, the last year with available national data.



Florida Compared to Other States

In FFY 2018, Florida had the fastest investigative response time of all reporting states.

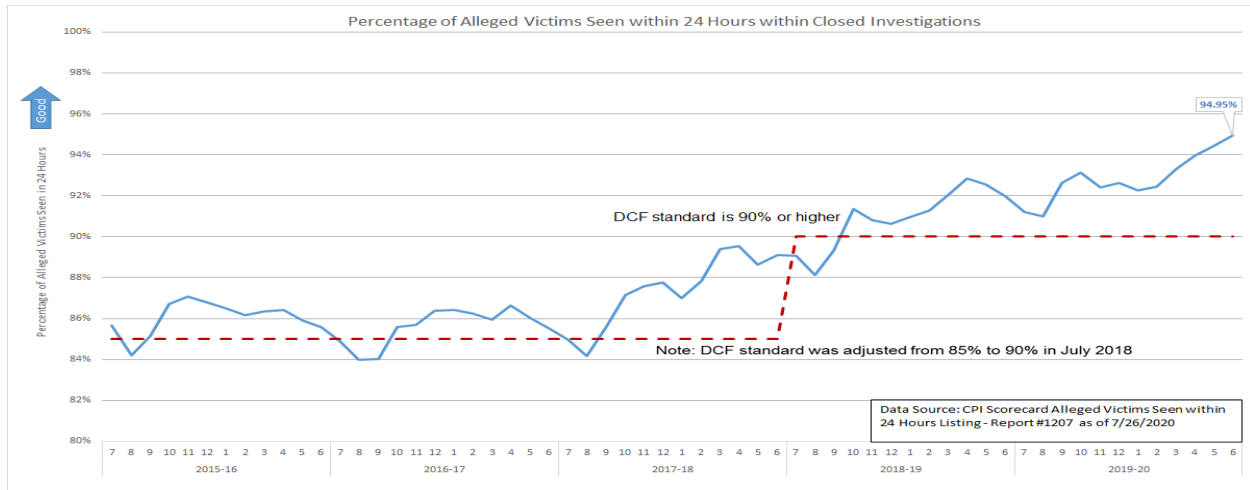


Percent of Alleged Victims Seen within 24 Hours

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 has increased significantly over the last two state fiscal years. This coincided with an adjustment of the target from 85 percent to 90 percent at the start of SFY 2018-19.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

Twenty-four circuits and sheriffs' offices were at or above the statewide target of 90% percent or higher of alleged victims seen within 24 hours in SFY 2019-20.

Percentage of Alleged Victims Seen within 24 Hours					
Investigative Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
DCF Circuit 01	85.01%	81.86%	82.40%	85.15%	92.05%
DCF Circuit 02	79.64%	76.24%	85.15%	87.11%	92.56%
DCF Circuit 03	71.48%	82.43%	87.22%	89.89%	95.16%
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	83.34%	81.33%	79.42%	87.15%	92.41%
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	86.47%	87.44%	85.79%	90.51%	91.45%
DCF Circuit 05	89.60%	85.13%	89.01%	93.75%	94.80%
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	85.51%	86.35%	88.76%	91.33%	93.01%
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	80.83%	77.03%	82.48%	93.46%	93.86%
DCF Circuit 08	75.16%	78.59%	79.93%	86.94%	91.68%
DCF Circuit 09	86.32%	84.57%	86.99%	92.45%	93.01%
DCF Circuit 10	89.17%	89.35%	92.46%	93.81%	93.84%
DCF Circuit 11	84.59%	80.51%	83.10%	89.49%	94.19%
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	77.09%	81.88%	76.87%	88.09%	88.55%
DCF Circuit 14	81.22%	82.50%	83.45%	86.47%	90.98%
DCF Circuit 15	91.65%	89.57%	90.10%	90.93%	93.71%
DCF Circuit 16	84.86%	80.84%	90.18%	92.13%	94.91%
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	88.65%	87.12%	89.94%	93.68%	94.40%
DCF Circuit 19	90.89%	91.59%	92.15%	95.49%	95.52%
DCF Circuit 20	81.90%	86.39%	86.31%	90.85%	90.93%
Broward SO	85.48%	83.69%	88.01%	90.48%	92.45%
Hillsborough SO	87.00%	88.90%	90.61%	90.53%	91.43%
Manatee SO	89.45%	92.56%	92.92%	93.74%	94.22%
Pasco SO	85.12%	85.63%	88.52%	90.87%	89.72%
Pinellas SO	92.37%	92.83%	91.64%	89.93%	90.43%
Seminole SO	88.21%	86.32%	90.72%	94.91%	98.36%
Walton SO	N/A	N/A	N/A	89.70%	92.20%
Statewide	86.05%	85.64%	87.46%	90.97%	92.81%
DCF Target	85.00%	85.00%	85.00%	90.00%	90.00%

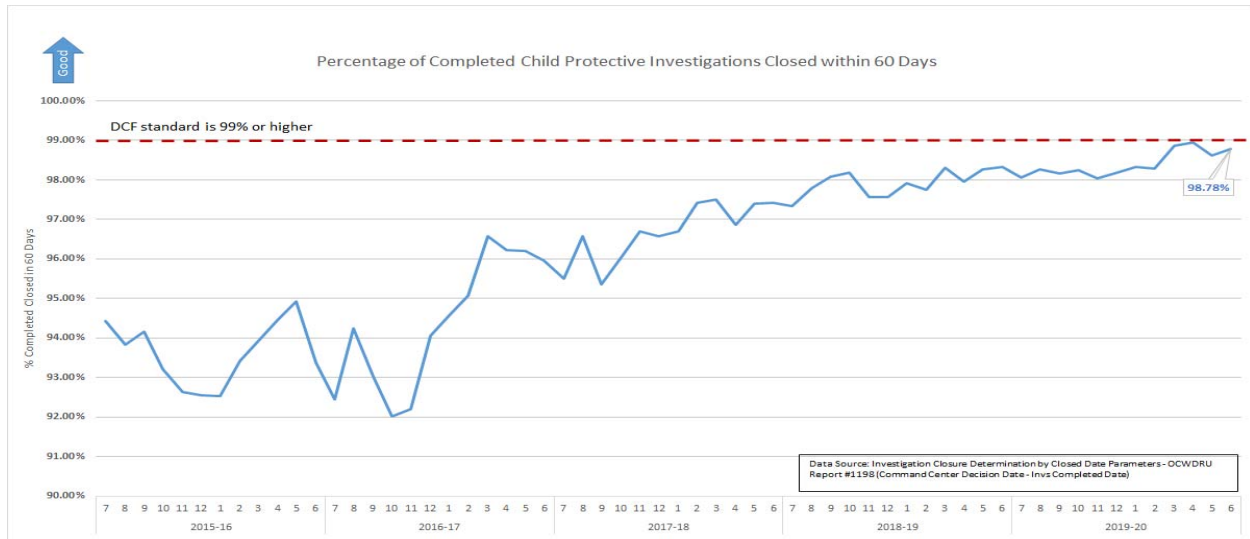
Data Source: CPI Scorecard Alleged Victims Seen within 24 Hours Listing - Report #1207 as of 7/26/2020

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 four state fiscal years but overall performance is still below the department standard of 99 percent.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

There has been steady improvement within this metric and currently eight investigative areas meeting the 99 percent target for completion of closed investigations in 60 days. An additional ten investigative areas are within one percent of the target.

Percentage of Closed Child Protective Investigations (Special Conditions Excluded)					
Closed within 60 Days of Hotline Command Center Decision Date					
Investigative Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2018-19
DCF Circuit 01	94.00%	83.33%	90.23%	96.52%	95.69%
DCF Circuit 02	57.46%	75.88%	94.49%	94.18%	95.43%
DCF Circuit 03	77.39%	91.69%	91.04%	97.14%	98.33%
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	91.40%	94.92%	93.35%	95.98%	98.74%
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	97.19%	98.23%	97.00%	96.92%	97.93%
DCF Circuit 05	97.34%	92.65%	97.15%	99.66%	99.90%
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	73.79%	96.12%	96.93%	97.22%	98.04%
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	91.78%	90.84%	97.26%	97.82%	100.00%
DCF Circuit 08	87.04%	93.76%	95.66%	98.20%	98.97%
DCF Circuit 09	96.26%	95.46%	98.23%	99.14%	98.60%
DCF Circuit 10	96.18%	96.64%	98.66%	99.12%	99.35%
DCF Circuit 11	95.18%	94.54%	96.23%	98.84%	99.90%
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	91.87%	90.40%	89.94%	93.97%	93.24%
DCF Circuit 14	81.34%	79.03%	87.10%	91.96%	93.92%
DCF Circuit 15	98.51%	94.33%	95.39%	96.99%	98.02%
DCF Circuit 16	83.95%	91.74%	98.39%	99.45%	100.00%
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	90.04%	91.28%	97.69%	98.84%	98.55%
DCF Circuit 19	96.97%	95.01%	96.78%	98.44%	99.05%
DCF Circuit 20	98.09%	97.47%	97.96%	98.33%	97.05%
Broward SO	99.58%	99.42%	99.33%	98.94%	98.71%
Hillsborough SO	98.00%	99.31%	99.21%	98.81%	98.87%
Manatee SO	90.31%	96.09%	98.99%	99.67%	98.92%
Pasco SO	98.06%	98.45%	99.15%	99.49%	99.43%
Pinellas SO	99.34%	99.62%	99.58%	99.36%	99.30%
Seminole SO	93.18%	95.15%	97.59%	98.44%	96.88%
Walton SO	N/A	N/A	N/A	59.96%	59.05%
Statewide	93.63%	94.44%	96.70%	97.93%	98.06%
DCF Target	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%

Data Sources: Investigation Closure Determination by Closed Date Parameters - OCWDRU Report #1198 (Hotline Command Center Decision Date - Invs Completed Date)

Safety Outcome Indicator: No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment

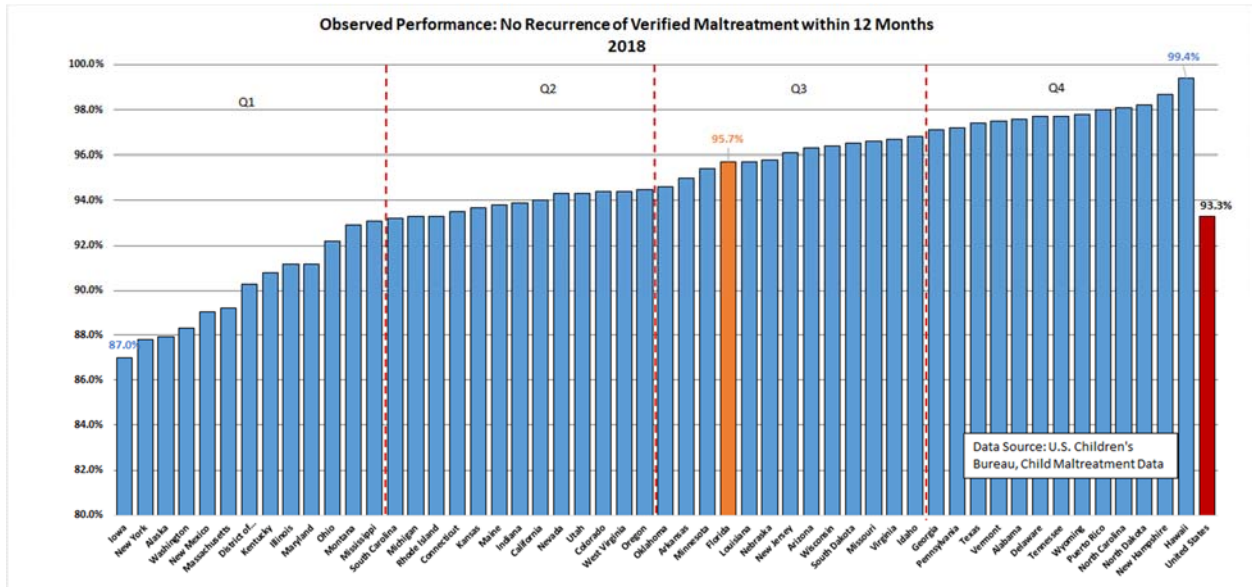
The first safety outcome indicator in this report measures recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months of verified maltreatment, regardless of whether services were provided. This national data indicator for CFSR-3, answers the question, “Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment 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

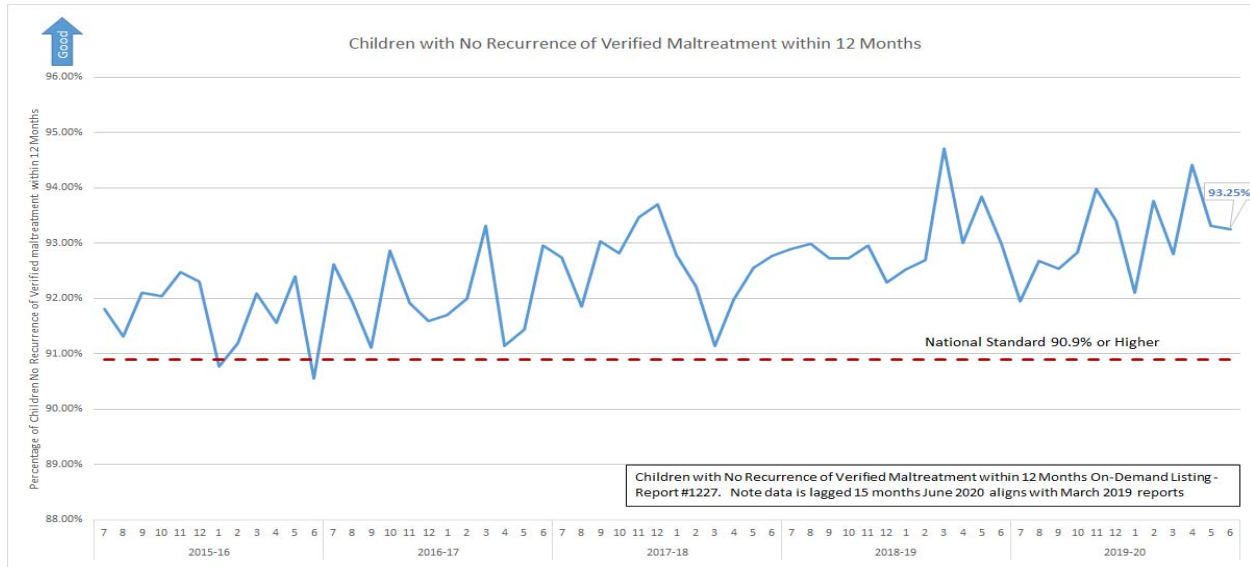
The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised by the Children’s Bureau; however, national data is available for no recurrence of a verified finding within 12 months. This data indicates that Florida’s observed performance of 95.7 percent places the state in third quartile of ranked states.



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 2014-15.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

There has been overall improvement across the state since SFY 2014-15, with 16 areas now exceeding the target.

Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months					
Investigative Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
DCF Circuit 01	92.44%	91.35%	92.93%	91.25%	84.78%
DCF Circuit 02	90.95%	95.90%	95.80%	92.28%	96.15%
DCF Circuit 03	90.84%	93.11%	93.22%	93.78%	97.67%
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	93.10%	87.44%	92.08%	93.03%	95.24%
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	91.08%	91.18%	92.67%	93.47%	90.59%
DCF Circuit 05	91.09%	91.70%	93.42%	93.45%	93.30%
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	90.20%	88.50%	89.41%	90.25%	91.18%
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	90.63%	91.88%	88.25%	92.25%	100.00%
DCF Circuit 08	90.44%	92.74%	92.97%	95.43%	96.00%
DCF Circuit 09	92.63%	93.74%	92.79%	92.57%	95.20%
DCF Circuit 10	92.25%	93.64%	94.24%	94.17%	87.18%
DCF Circuit 11	93.75%	94.73%	95.69%	95.56%	96.40%
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	90.01%	91.16%	91.72%	91.47%	88.89%
DCF Circuit 14	94.51%	90.65%	93.98%	95.58%	93.75%
DCF Circuit 15	93.57%	94.33%	93.12%	94.05%	93.23%
DCF Circuit 16	88.32%	92.31%	92.76%	91.59%	100.00%
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	91.17%	89.32%	90.40%	91.04%	85.26%
DCF Circuit 19	91.08%	92.92%	92.66%	92.33%	88.54%
DCF Circuit 20	92.99%	92.11%	92.81%	92.35%	95.05%
Broward SO	90.55%	91.81%	92.24%	92.98%	93.50%
Hillsborough SO	92.41%	92.55%	92.89%	94.60%	95.24%
Manatee SO	91.27%	92.36%	91.08%	93.82%	88.29%
Pasco SO	91.62%	90.93%	91.39%	92.41%	89.21%
Pinellas SO	89.18%	90.60%	90.85%	91.93%	87.79%
Seminole SO	91.88%	90.21%	92.13%	93.23%	91.78%
*Walton SO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Statewide	91.71%	92.06%	92.61%	93.02%	91.96%
National Standard	90.90%	90.90%	90.90%	90.90%	90.90%
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months On-Demand Listing - Report #1227					
Note: Data is lagged by 15 months					
* Walton SO data for SFY 2019-20 is incomplete					

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 decision 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 declined between SFY 2015-16 and SFY 2017-18 and has stabilized in the range slightly below 10 percent over the last two SFYs.



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 Investigations with a Most Serious Finding of Verified					
Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
DCF Areas	15.24%	13.93%	13.13%	12.71%	12.26%
SO Areas	22.07%	20.91%	18.65%	16.20%	15.81%
DCF Circuit 01	17.63%	17.65%	16.35%	19.62%	19.66%
DCF Circuit 02	11.40%	10.81%	11.19%	12.36%	12.36%
DCF Circuit 03	16.44%	16.23%	12.62%	8.27%	9.00%
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	16.04%	14.42%	15.10%	18.64%	23.55%
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	16.69%	15.02%	15.64%	15.78%	15.66%
DCF Circuit 05	13.60%	11.75%	11.01%	10.46%	8.15%
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	15.35%	16.68%	16.77%	17.69%	14.22%
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	15.80%	14.88%	14.52%	15.01%	15.62%
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	28.87%	23.40%	14.85%	21.21%	16.16%
DCF Circuit 08	17.58%	12.43%	9.17%	8.47%	8.04%
DCF Circuit 09	15.07%	14.61%	12.73%	12.03%	10.49%
DCF Circuit 10	13.06%	12.76%	11.85%	12.55%	11.41%
DCF Circuit 11	16.47%	13.45%	11.22%	10.09%	8.28%
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	18.88%	17.71%	12.89%	12.67%	15.54%
DCF Circuit 14	13.65%	11.84%	11.60%	11.77%	12.20%
DCF Circuit 15	11.21%	9.66%	10.80%	9.67%	10.20%
DCF Circuit 16	19.13%	19.31%	18.06%	11.25%	14.64%
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	16.32%	13.74%	13.74%	12.13%	10.23%
DCF Circuit 19	15.75%	15.89%	15.53%	12.92%	13.60%
DCF Circuit 20	15.79%	15.06%	15.53%	13.57%	14.24%
Broward SO	27.53%	26.50%	23.80%	15.75%	14.25%
Hillsborough SO	19.02%	17.44%	15.91%	14.90%	14.92%
Manatee SO	23.10%	20.78%	18.18%	21.10%	20.74%
Pasco SO	18.92%	21.21%	18.04%	16.33%	17.52%
Pinellas SO	22.41%	21.17%	18.90%	19.61%	18.90%
Seminole SO	15.20%	12.48%	11.33%	9.33%	9.62%
Walton SO	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.37%	19.19%
Statewide	16.99%	15.70%	14.51%	13.59%	13.14%
No Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations by Most Serious Finding

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.”

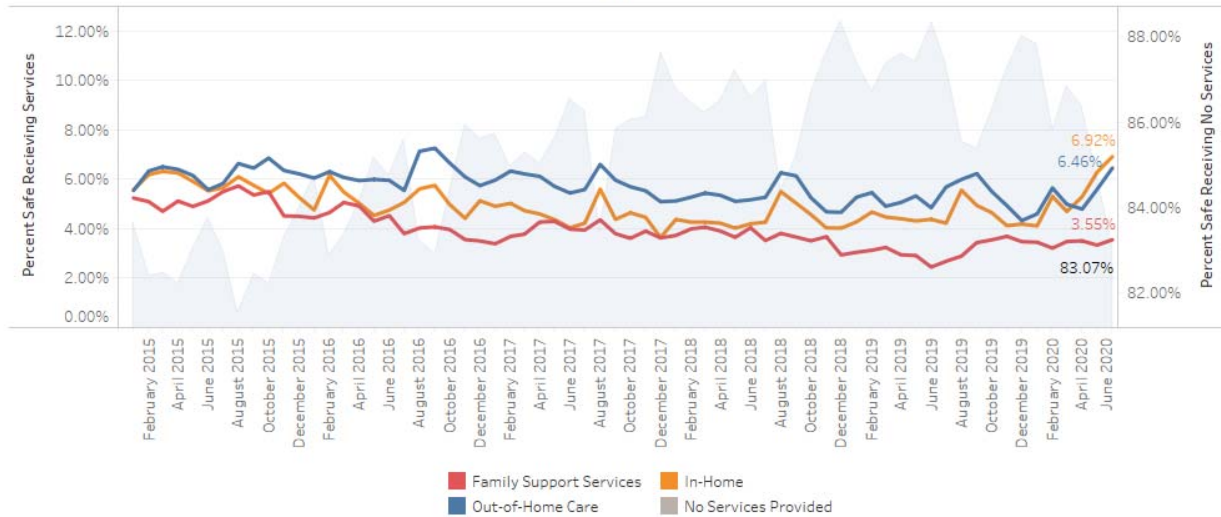
Section 39.301 (14), Florida Statutes, states in part: “If the department or its agent determines that a child requires immediate or long-term protection through . . . services to stabilize the home environment . . . such services shall first be offered for voluntary acceptance unless . . . there are 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 FSS.

Safe Determinations and Services

This chart looks at all children with a safety determination of “safe” in investigations closed during the month and shows what post investigation service (if any) the child is receiving. Due to the overwhelming percentage of children closing “safe” who do not receive post investigation services, the “no services” percentage is displayed on a secondary (right) axis as an area chart.

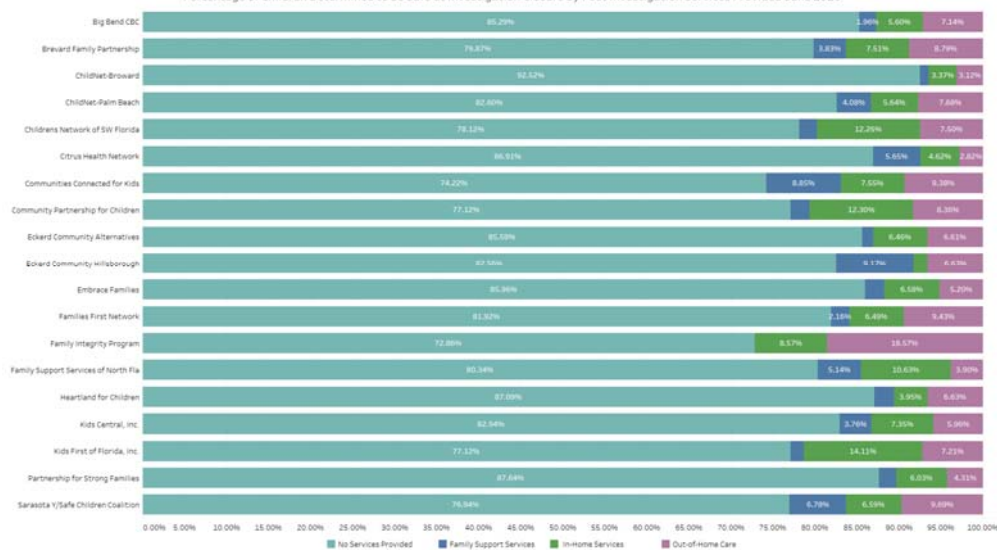
Percentage of Children Determined to be Safe at Investigation Closure by Post Investigation Services Provided



Flow to Services for Safe Children

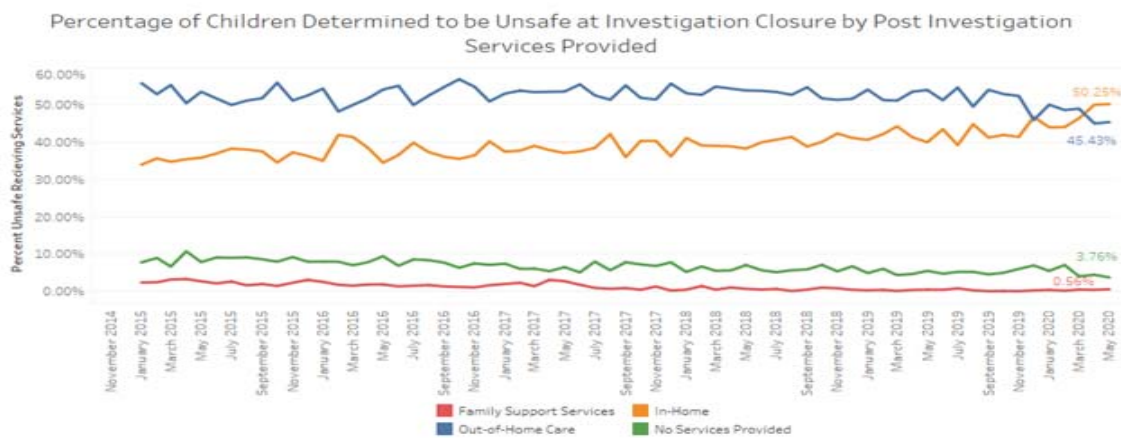
There is great variation between CBCs for service provision for safe children, with some CBCs providing services to over 15% of the safe population in closed investigations, and others providing services to less than 5%.

Percentage of Children Determined to be Safe at Investigation Closure by Post Investigation Services Provided-June 2020



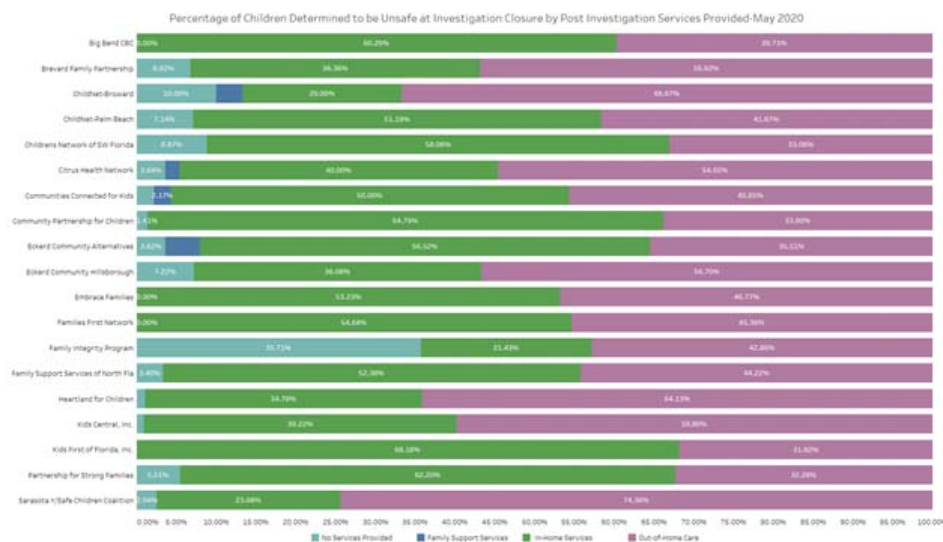
Children Determined "Unsafe" Receiving Post-Investigation Services

Florida’s practice model requires that children who are determined to be unsafe receive ongoing case management. The most recent available data indicates 45.43 percent of children determined unsafe were removed from their homes and 50.25 percent received services in-home, totaling 95.68 percent 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 (4.32 percent). 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.



Flow to Services for Unsafe Children

There is great variation between CBCs for service provision for unsafe children. Safe Children Coalition had the highest percentage of unsafe children entering out-of-home care in May 2020, while Family Integrity Program provided no services to over 35 percent of their unsafe children.



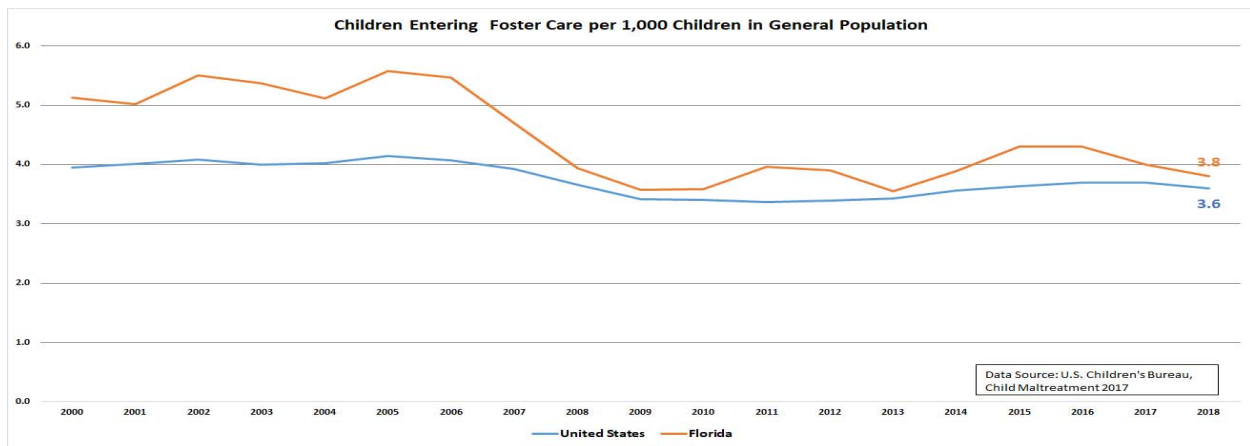
Children Removed from their Families

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 the General Population

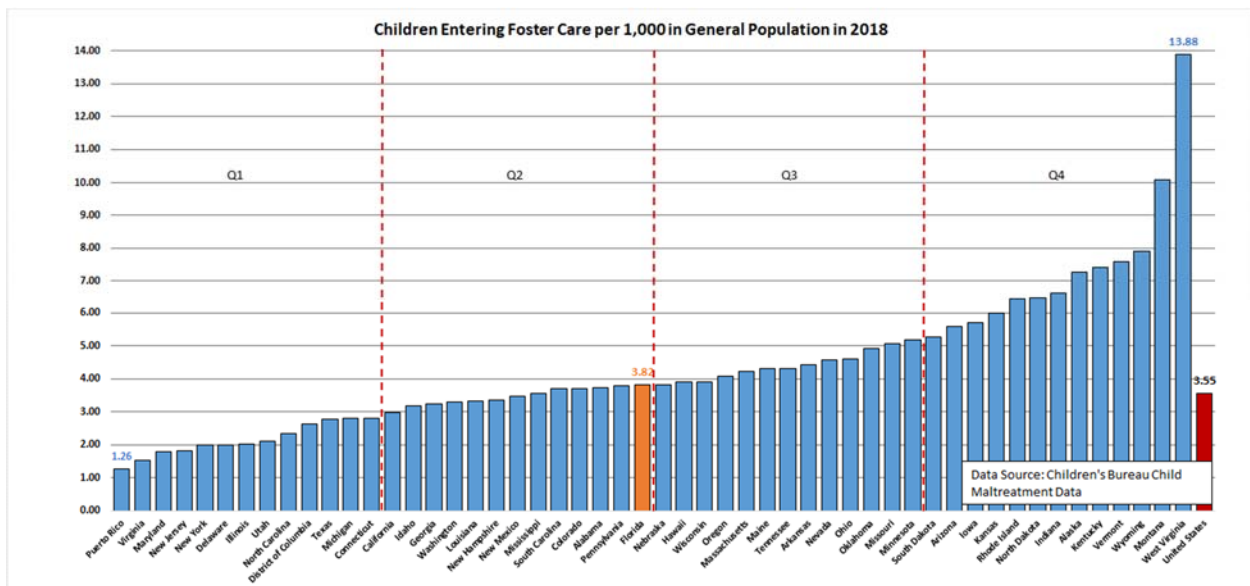
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

Note that Florida’s entry rate into foster care per 1,000 children in the general population has been higher than the national average. Beginning in FFY 2008, Florida’s rate began to drop and in FFY 2018 it was approaching the national average.



Florida Compared to Other States

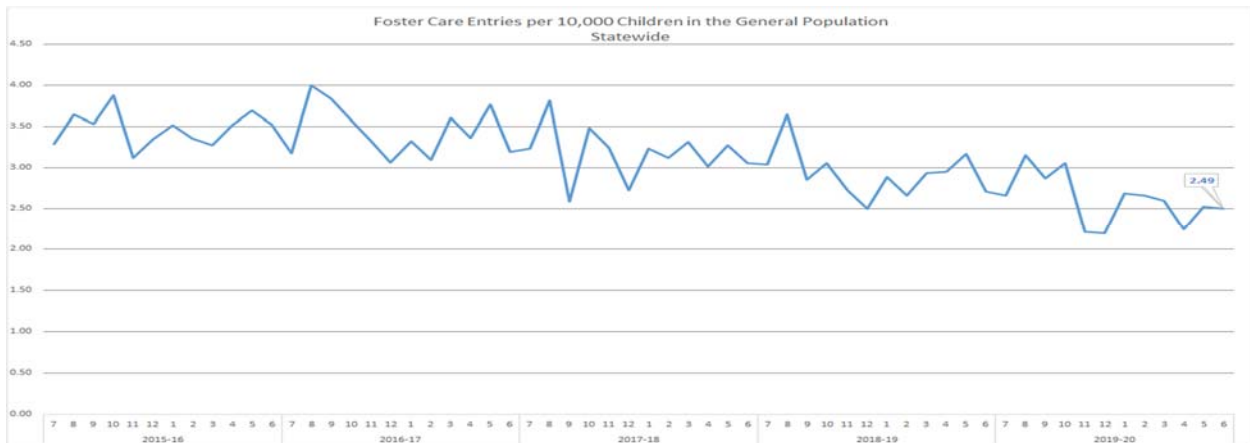
Florida’s rate in FFY 2018 was in the second quartile of ranked states and was comparable with the geographically similar states of Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and Mississippi.



Foster Care Entries per 10,000 Children (Monthly) and per 1,000 in the General Population (Annual)

Florida Statewide Trend

Entry rates per 10,000 children in the general population have decreased steadily over the last three SFYs. This has placed downward pressure on cumulative removals, which are currently at five-year lows.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

There is a wide variation when comparing historical removal rates for circuits and sheriffs' offices. During SFY 2018-19, one area had removal rates of more than 9.0 per 1,000 child population and four areas had rates of less than 3.0 per 1,000 child population.

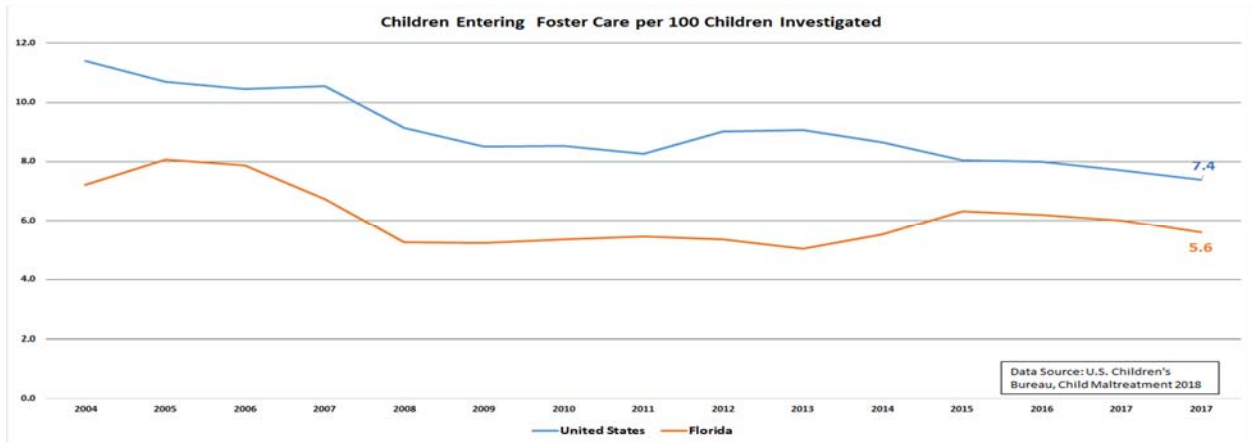
Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2018-20
DCF Areas	3.92	3.92	3.65	3.45	3.16
SO Areas	4.81	4.66	4.22	3.68	3.07
DCF Circuit 01	5.74	5.48	5.99	4.73	4.42
DCF Circuit 02	2.46	2.86	3.05	4.03	4.02
DCF Circuit 03	7.91	8.19	6.45	5.05	5.88
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	3.61	3.27	3.36	4.28	3.28
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	3.40	3.31	2.93	3.06	3.24
DCF Circuit 05	6.42	5.60	5.38	5.29	4.47
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	2.89	2.91	2.25	2.95	2.92
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	6.90	5.04	4.77	5.57	5.50
DCF Circuit 08	6.93	6.18	4.88	4.71	5.20
DCF Circuit 09	2.20	2.54	2.36	2.32	2.08
DCF Circuit 10	5.04	6.02	5.03	5.03	4.68
DCF Circuit 11	2.35	2.30	1.84	1.36	0.90
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	4.80	5.93	4.60	3.84	4.43
DCF Circuit 14	6.41	5.52	6.06	4.25	3.65
DCF Circuit 15	2.96	2.50	3.01	3.05	2.59
DCF Circuit 16	6.32	4.99	4.63	4.63	3.92
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	4.41	4.94	5.07	5.09	4.86
DCF Circuit 19	3.66	4.09	4.99	4.03	3.08
DCF Circuit 20	4.34	5.49	4.33	4.13	4.05
Broward SO	3.50	3.33	2.85	1.87	1.50
Hillsborough SO	5.64	5.54	4.62	4.17	3.23
Manatee SO	8.48	6.33	6.00	5.77	5.13
Pasco SO	5.23	6.49	6.12	4.86	5.13
Pinellas SO	5.60	5.63	5.43	5.79	4.26
Seminole SO	3.10	2.48	3.14	2.32	2.22
Walton SO	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.12	9.52
Statewide	4.17	4.13	3.81	3.51	3.13
No Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Children Entering Foster Care and Florida Legislative Office of Economic and Demographic Research

Removal Rates per 100 Children Investigated

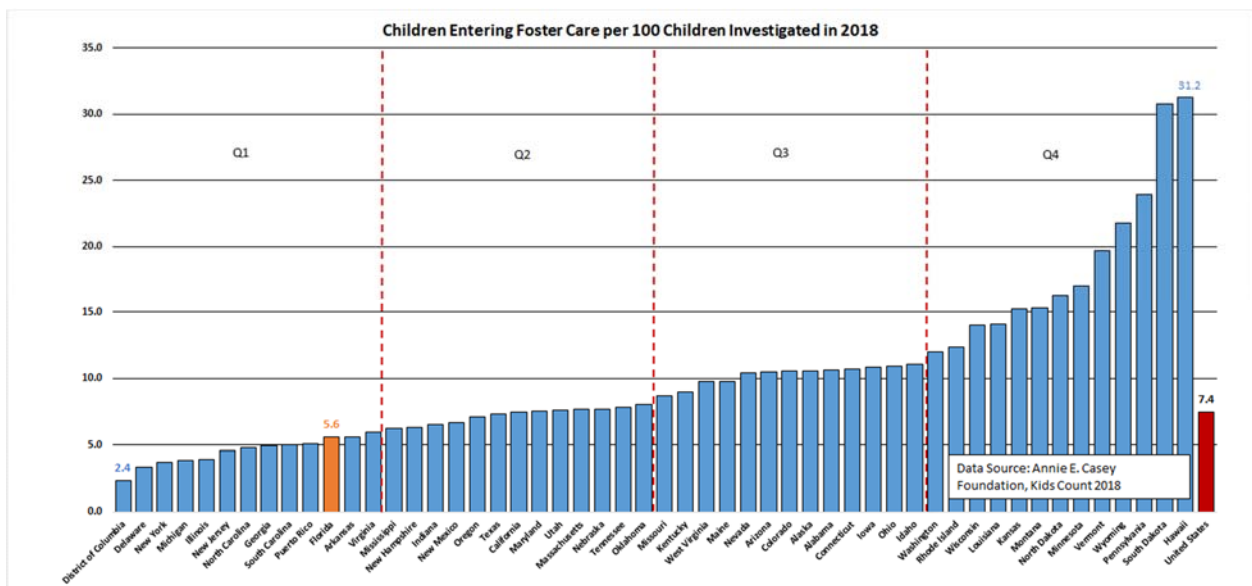
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

For the most recent year of data, 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 FFY 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

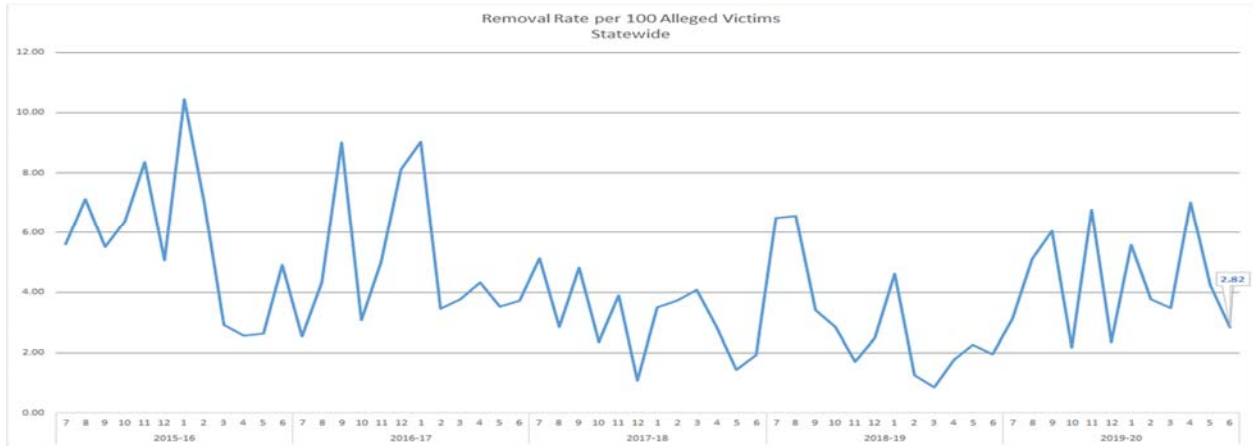
For the most recent year of data, differences in state policies and practices—including variations in the legal definitions of maltreatment—affect rates, so interpretation of trends and state-by-state comparisons should be made with caution. Some differences in rates are related to differences in other 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 eleventh in 2018 (the most recent year available) in children entering care per 100 children investigated.



Removal Rates per 100 Children Investigated

Florida Statewide Trend

As total investigative intakes declined in SFY 2019-20 removal rates per 100 alleged victims increased.



Circuit/Sheriff Comparisons

Statewide the number of removals has 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 10.28 to a low of 3.49 in the current SFY.

Removal Rate per 100 Alleged Victims					
Investigative Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
DCF Circuit 01	5.47	5.78	5.34	5.03	4.97
DCF Circuit 02	3.60	3.19	3.67	5.57	5.11
DCF Circuit 03	5.57	6.35	5.02	3.59	5.29
DCF Circuit 04-Clay	4.63	4.48	4.01	5.87	5.90
DCF Circuit 04-Duval & Nassau	3.89	3.57	3.06	3.48	4.42
DCF Circuit 05	6.09	5.31	4.95	4.80	4.42
DCF Circuit 07-Flagler, Putnam & Volusia	6.15	4.53	4.32	5.55	6.64
DCF Circuit 07-St Johns	5.11	5.87	4.02	5.61	6.11
DCF Circuit 08	5.65	5.00	4.27	3.63	4.57
DCF Circuit 09	3.40	3.78	3.94	4.00	4.15
DCF Circuit 10	5.21	5.89	5.40	5.35	5.80
DCF Circuit 11	6.19	6.00	5.19	3.90	3.13
DCF Circuit 12-Desoto & Sarasota	7.04	8.20	6.48	5.60	7.28
DCF Circuit 14	5.75	5.22	5.29	4.32	3.73
DCF Circuit 15	5.24	4.56	6.13	6.03	6.13
DCF Circuit 16	6.29	6.83	7.43	6.15	6.48
DCF Circuit 18-Brevard	5.18	4.56	5.11	5.01	5.23
DCF Circuit 19	5.05	6.00	6.67	5.47	6.20
DCF Circuit 20	6.17	6.81	5.87	5.57	6.30
Broward SO	6.90	6.54	5.96	4.10	4.05
Hillsborough SO	9.88	9.07	7.67	7.19	6.35
Manatee SO	8.89	7.45	6.58	7.68	7.89
Pasco SO	6.43	7.11	6.68	5.33	7.14
Pinellas SO	6.17	6.42	6.08	6.79	5.93
Seminole SO	5.04	3.61	4.47	3.68	4.69
Walton SO	11.10	8.59	6.84	8.08	10.28
Statewide	5.80	5.64	5.29	5.08	5.31
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Removal Rate per 100 Alleged Victims

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 the three goals of Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being established by ASFA and the nine outcomes established by Florida's CBC statute language, which contain the requirements for ROA.

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 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

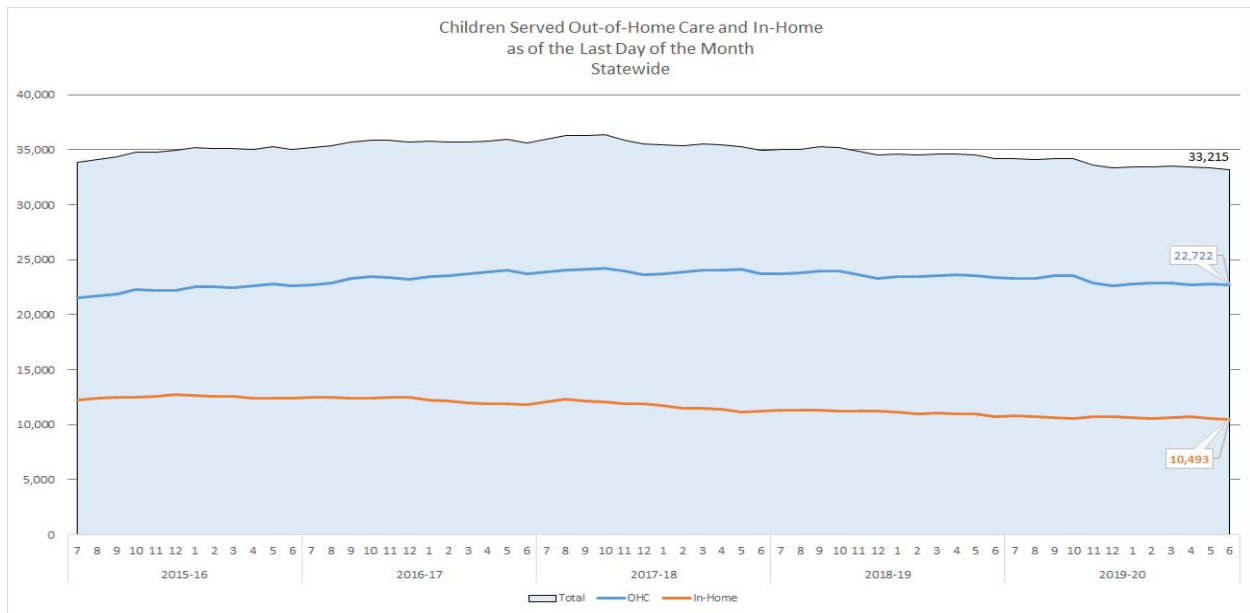
Protection of Children in their Own Homes

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

Since SFY 2015 the number of children in OHC increased while the number of children protected in their own homes has declined. The gap between the two continues to widen, as in-home numbers have continued to trend 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. One of the best indicators of need is the number of children being served under in-home and out-of-home care.

Rate of Children in In-Home and Out-of-Home Care as of the Last Day of the Month per 1,000 Children in the General Population						
Area	Service Type	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19	SFY 2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	In-Home	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.6
	Out-of-Home	5.1	5.8	5.9	6.7	6.9
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	In-Home	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.4	2.9
	Out-of-Home	6.9	7.1	7.0	5.8	6.5
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	In-Home	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.2	1.6
	Out-of-Home	6.1	5.8	5.7	4.3	3.3
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	In-Home	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9
	Out-of-Home	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	In-Home	2.9	3.6	3.6	4.1	3.4
	Out-of-Home	5.8	6.3	6.4	6.1	5.7
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	In-Home	2.4	1.8	1.8	1.2	0.7
	Out-of-Home	3.5	3.3	3.3	2.8	2.2
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	In-Home	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.7
	Out-of-Home	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.8	5.5
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	In-Home	4.5	3.8	3.7	3.7	4.7
	Out-of-Home	8.3	8.9	8.9	9.2	8.9
Families First Network-Circuit 01	In-Home	5.2	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.0
	Out-of-Home	7.8	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.9
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	In-Home	1.5	1.4	1.4	2.3	1.9
	Out-of-Home	3.9	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.1
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	In-Home	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3
	Out-of-Home	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	In-Home	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7
	Out-of-Home	6.6	7.5	7.6	8.7	9.1
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	In-Home	3.9	4.4	4.4	2.6	2.1
	Out-of-Home	6.4	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.1
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	In-Home	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.7
	Out-of-Home	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	In-Home	2.9	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.6
	Out-of-Home	6.5	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	In-Home	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.6
	Out-of-Home	7.0	8.0	7.9	8.6	7.8
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	In-Home	3.5	2.4	2.3	2.9	3.4
	Out-of-Home	4.7	4.9	4.9	5.9	6.7
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	In-Home	4.6	3.7	3.7	4.0	4.2
	Out-of-Home	7.4	7.9	7.9	7.1	6.7
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	In-Home	2.3	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.7
	Out-of-Home	7.0	7.9	7.9	7.3	7.1
Statewide	In-Home	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.5
	Out-of-Home	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.3
No DCF Target	In-Home	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT
	Out-of-Home	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Child In Out-of-Home Care

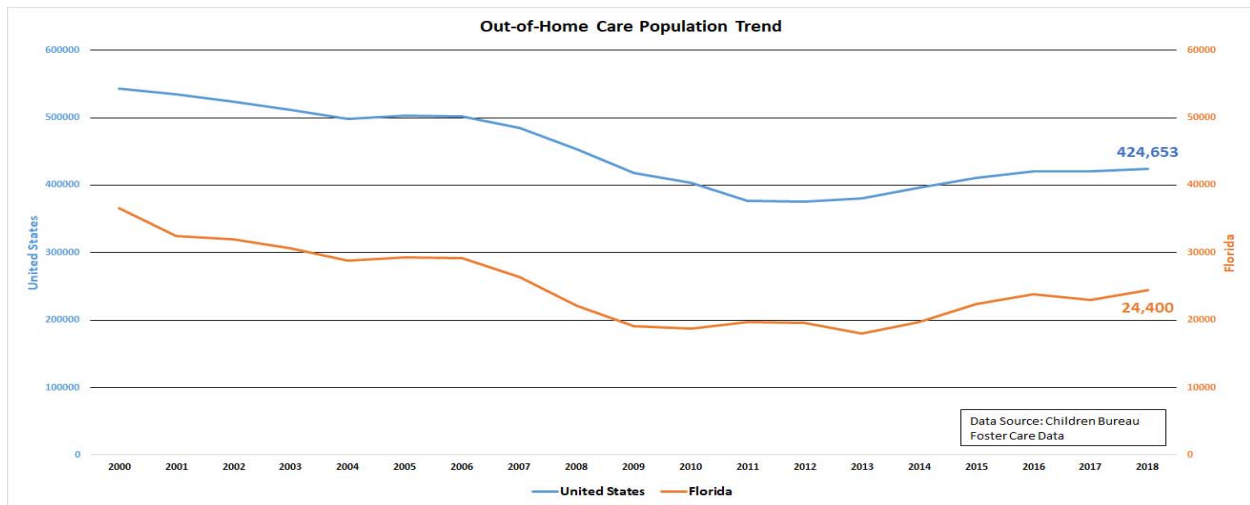
Florida's Out-of-Home Care Population in Context

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

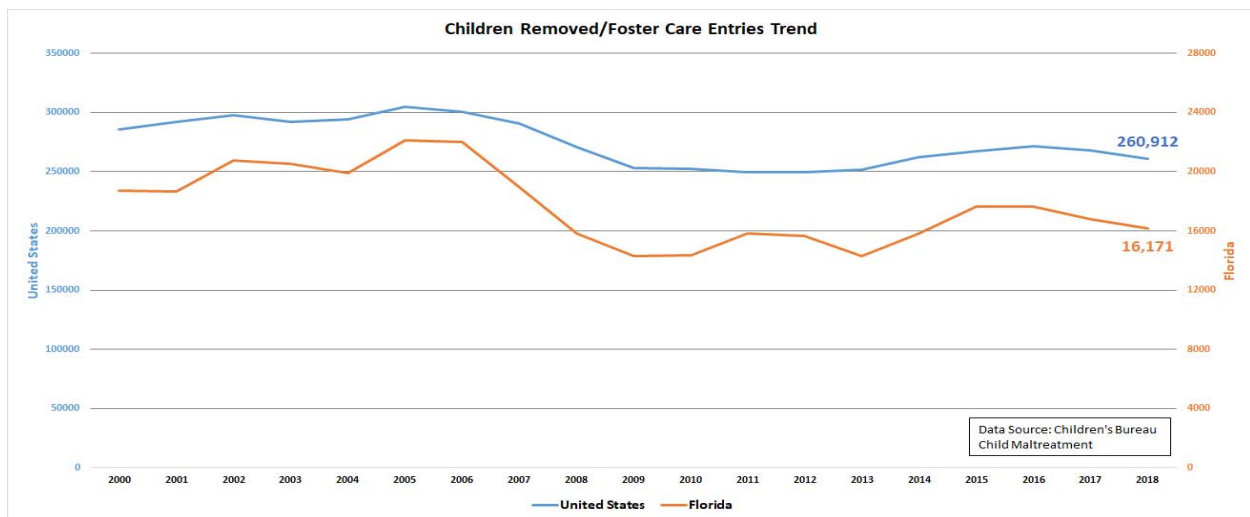
Children in Out-of-Home Care Population Trend

The number of children in OHC nationally dropped sharply from FFY 2000 to FFY 2010, but Florida's decrease was sharper than the decrease for the nation. The numbers have been increasing since FFY 2013.



Children Removed/Foster Care Entries Trend

Florida's reduction in removals from FFY 2007 to FFY 2010 was much more dramatic than the gradual national reduction. After experiencing a three-year increase in removals between FFY 2013 and FFY 2015, Florida removals stabilized and then declined in FFY 2018.

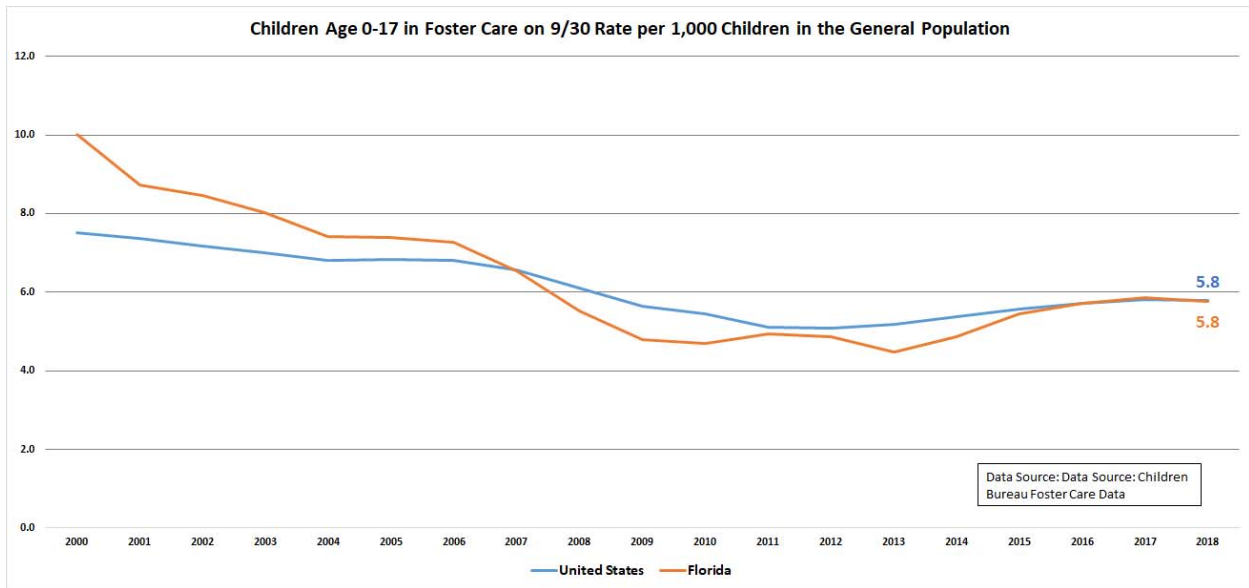


Children in Out-of-Home Care Compared to Child Population

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.

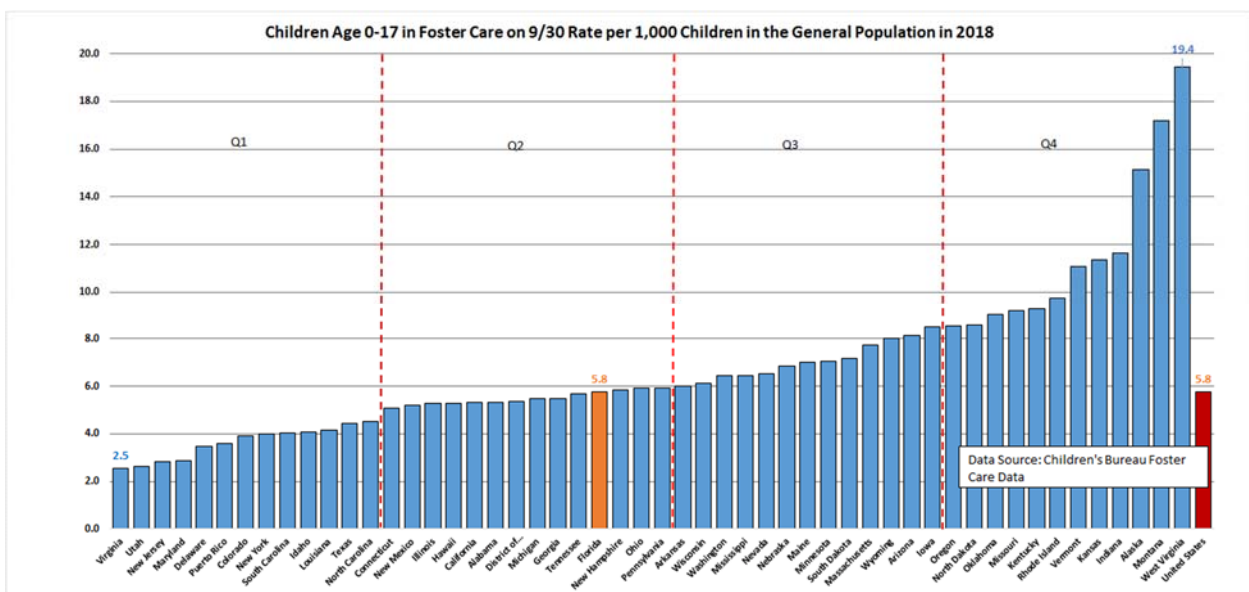
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

In FFY 2000 through FFY 2006, Florida’s OHC rate per 1,000 children in the general population was above the national average. From FFY 2007 to FFY 2018, Florida has been at or below the national average.



Florida Compared to Other States

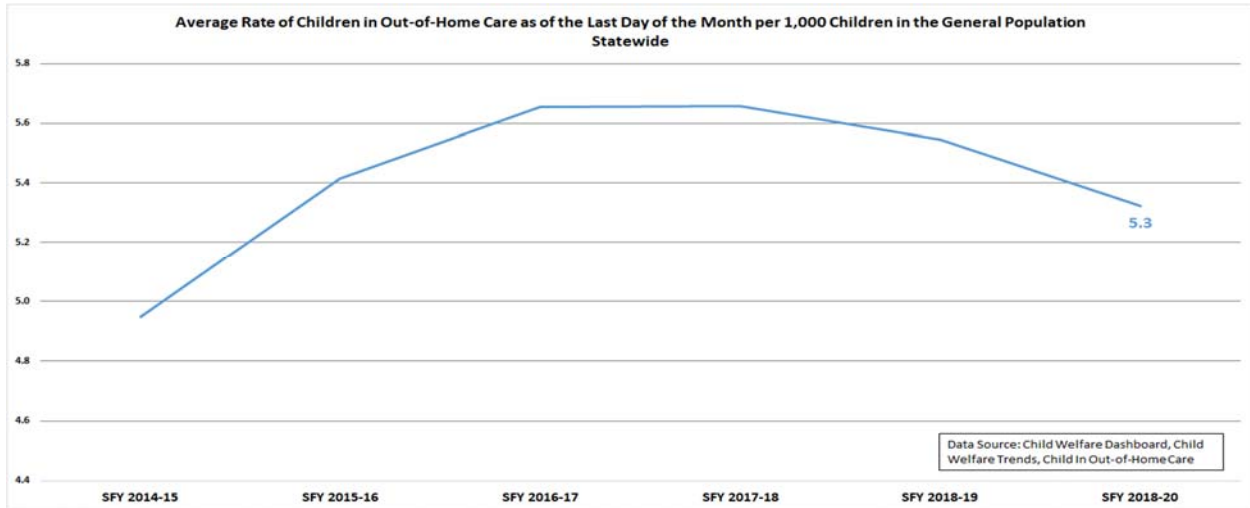
Florida was in the second quartile for the rate of children in OHC per 1,000 children in the general population in FFY 2018. Many states have rates that are nearly four times as high as Florida’s rate.



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

Florida Statewide Trend

The number of children in OHC as a proportion of the overall child population increased significantly from SFY 2014-15 to SFY 2016-17 and began decreasing in SFY 2018-19. Over the last two SFYs it has decreased to the current level of 5.3 per 1,000 children in the general population.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Although the statewide rate of children in OHC for SFY 2019-20 was 5.3 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 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19	SFY 2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	5.1	5.8	5.9	6.7	6.9
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	6.9	7.1	7.0	5.8	6.5
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	6.1	5.8	5.7	4.3	3.3
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	5.8	6.3	6.4	6.1	5.7
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	3.5	3.3	3.3	2.8	2.2
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.8	5.5
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	8.3	8.9	8.9	9.2	8.9
Families First Network-Circuit 01	7.8	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.9
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	3.9	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.1
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	6.6	7.5	7.6	8.7	9.1
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	6.4	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.1
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	6.5	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	7.0	8.0	7.9	8.6	7.8
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	4.7	4.9	4.9	5.9	6.7
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	7.4	7.9	7.9	7.1	6.7
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	7.0	7.9	7.9	7.3	7.1
Statewide	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.3
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

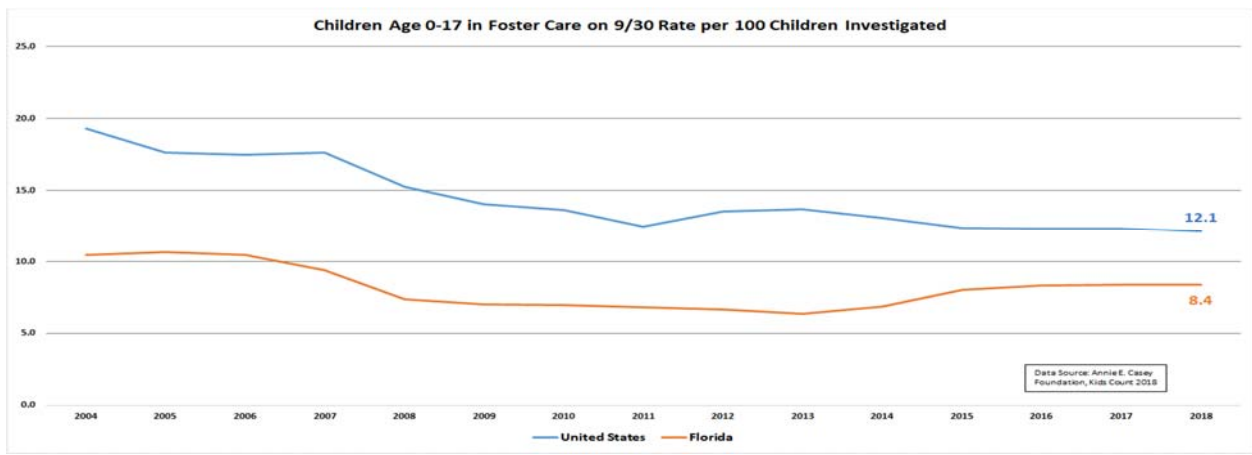
Data Source: Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Child In Out-of-Home Care

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.

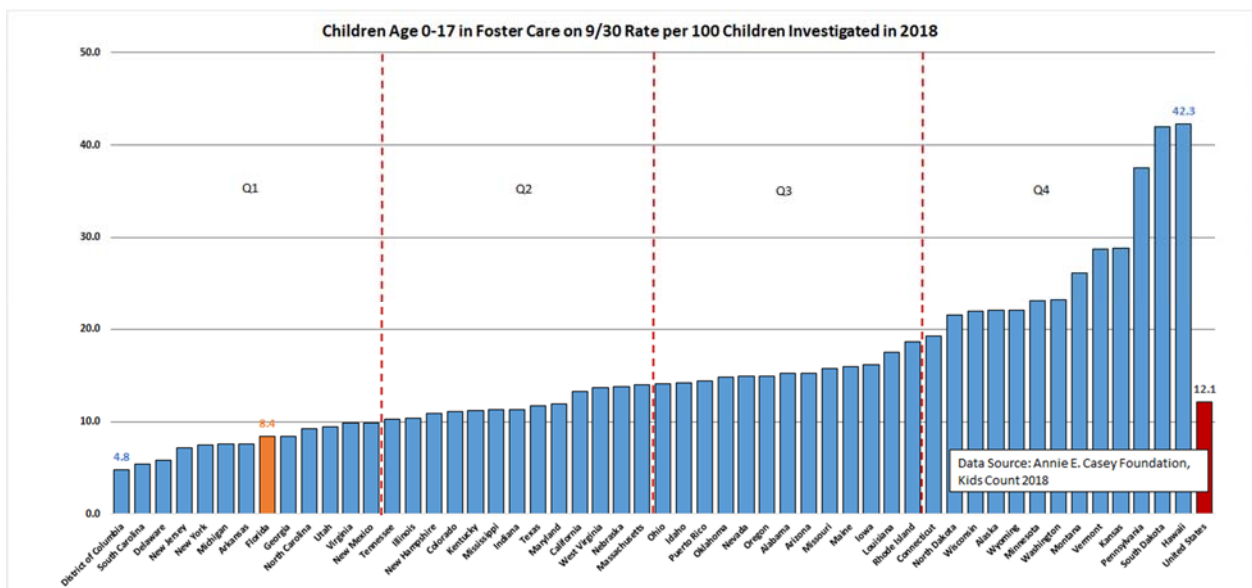
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

The most recent data for this measure indicates that both Florida and national OHC rate per 100 children investigated has been generally stable over the last four years, and Florida's rate remains lower than the national average.



Florida Compared to Other States

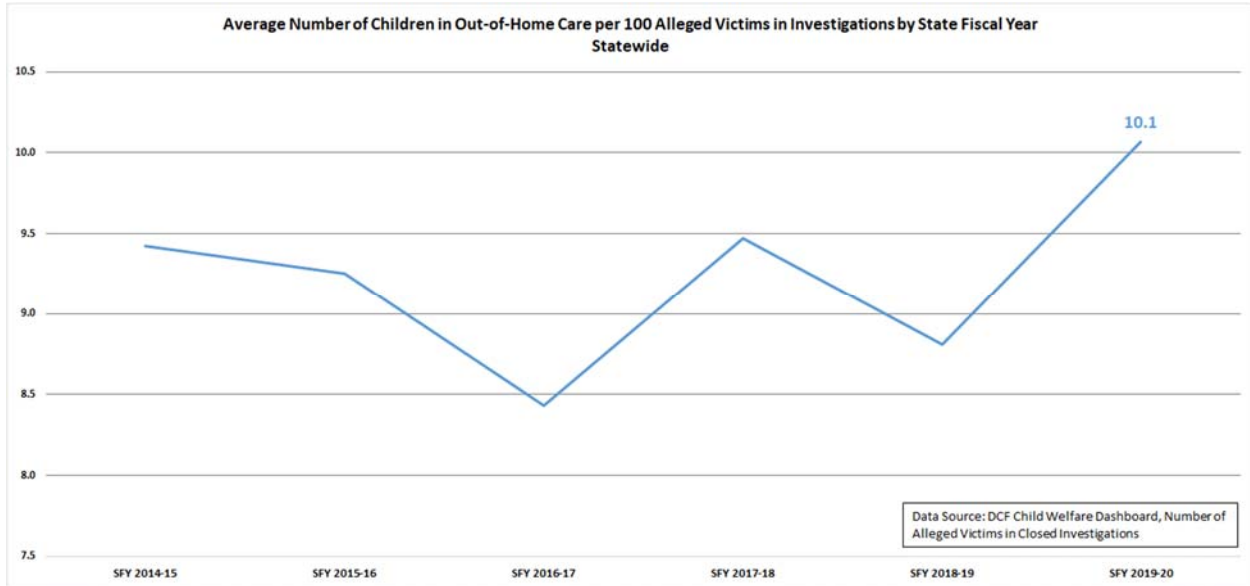
The most recent data for this metric indicates that Florida's OHC rate per 100 children investigated was one of the lowest in the nation in FFY 2018, due in part to Florida's high reporting rate. Conversely, Pennsylvania's low reporting (children investigated) rate impacts its high rate of children in foster care per 100 children investigated.



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

Florida Statewide Trend

The out-of-home care rate per 100 alleged victims has fluctuated over the last five fiscal years. However, the rate had remained in the range of 8.5 to 9.5 per 100 alleged victims until SFY 2019-20.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

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

Entity	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19	SFY 2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	9.14	7.83	9.24	9.54	10.68
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	5.94	5.23	5.64	4.99	5.84
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	9.56	9.16	10.26	10.20	12.09
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	8.21	7.88	9.84	9.42	10.46
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	7.66	6.79	7.63	6.95	7.81
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	14.75	13.02	15.39	14.52	17.51
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	9.68	9.43	10.08	9.48	11.44
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	8.24	7.46	8.45	7.68	8.51
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	10.84	9.63	10.79	9.76	11.73
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	15.25	13.90	15.55	13.81	14.75
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	6.22	6.01	6.90	6.20	7.06
Families First Network-Circuit 01	9.64	8.89	9.49	10.03	11.02
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	6.30	5.58	5.90	5.13	4.87
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	8.68	7.45	8.52	7.95	9.44
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	7.65	6.93	7.73	7.32	8.00
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	7.51	6.86	7.29	6.55	7.33
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	9.48	8.35	8.59	7.99	9.39
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	9.14	8.17	8.95	7.85	8.76
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	8.64	7.99	9.02	8.30	9.89
Statewide	9.25	8.43	9.47	8.81	10.07
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

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

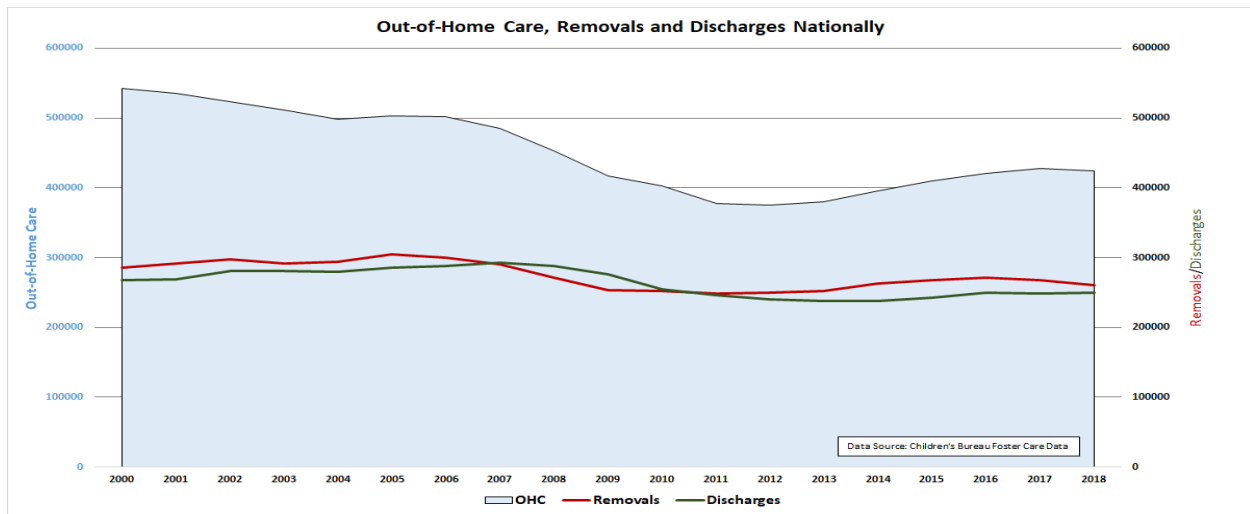
Relationship between Out-of-Home Care, Removals, and Discharges

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.

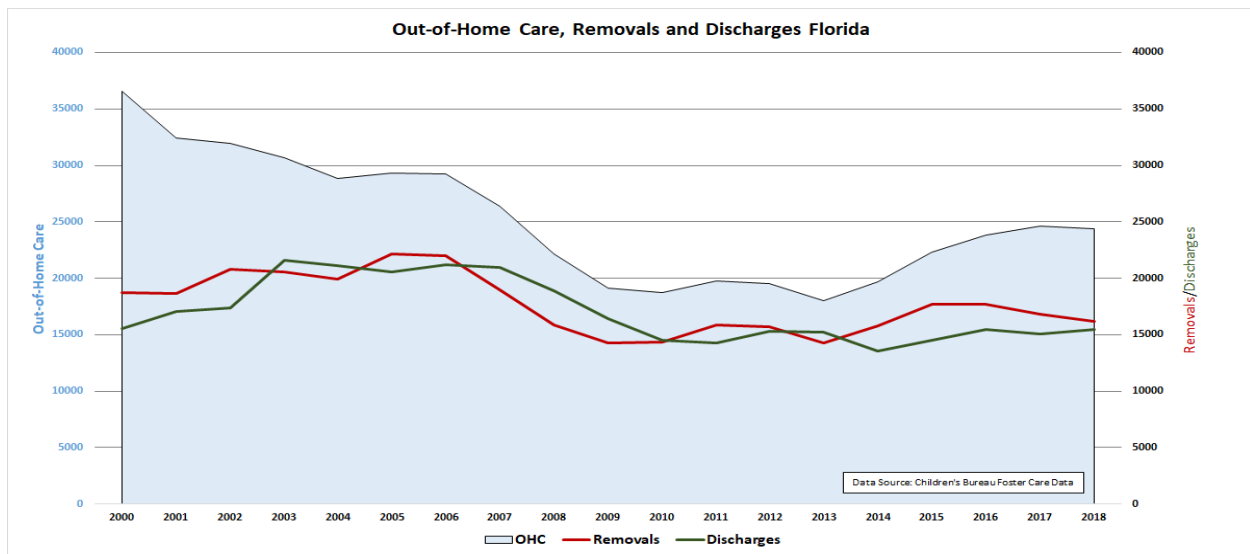
National Trend

This chart shows that the national reduction in OHC from FFY 2007 through FFY 2011 was driven by a 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 FFYs 2007-09. The simultaneous increase in removals and decrease in discharges beginning in FFY 2014 has driven the OHC increase over the last five FFYs of available data.

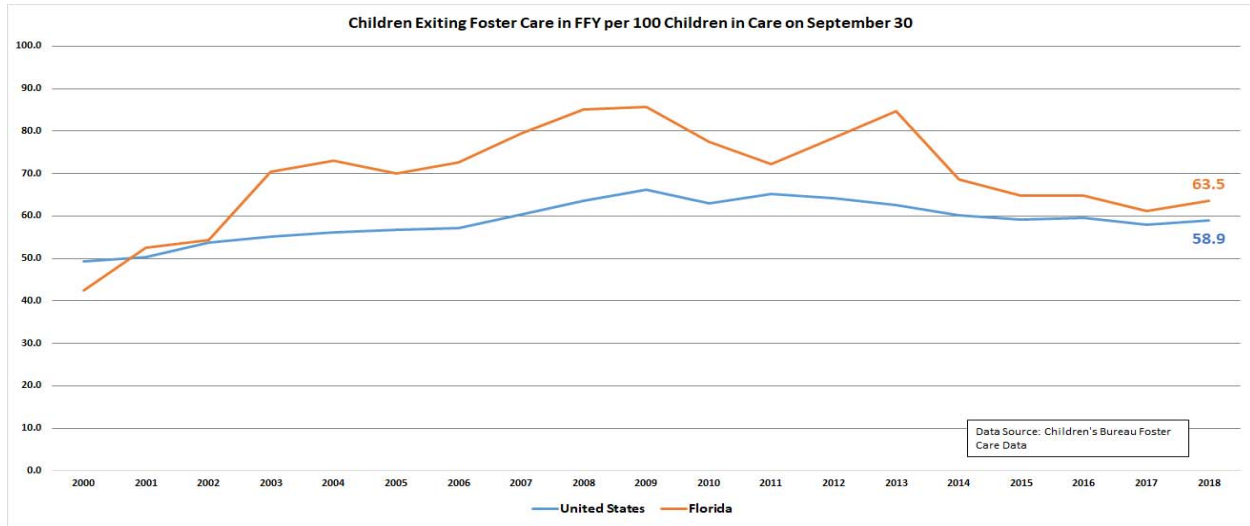


Children Exiting Foster Care per 100 Children in Care

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

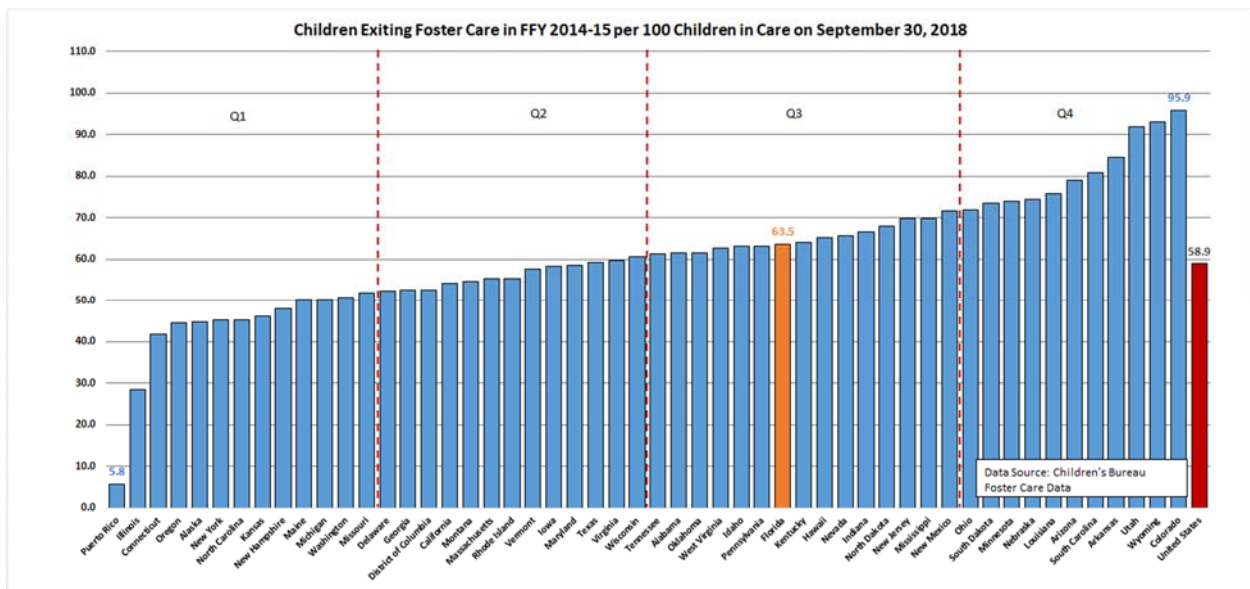
Long-Term Trends: Florida vs. National Average

Using national data to compare total exits each FFY to children in care at the end of the FFY, Florida's rate was below the national average in FFY 2000 but has been consistently above the national average from FFY 2001 through FFY 2018.



Florida Compared to Other States

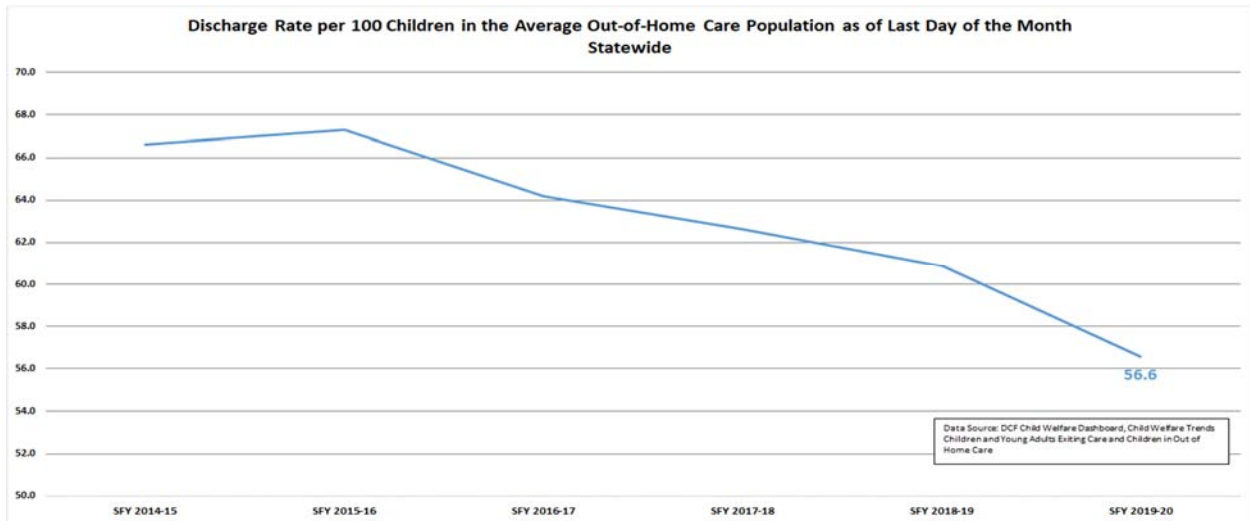
The last available national data for FFY 2018, indicates that Florida's exit rate of 63.5 per 100 children in out-of-home care is solidly in the third quartile of ranked states.



Children Exiting Foster Care per 100 Children in Care

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida's discharge rate has been decreasing over the last four SFYs and is at the lowest point in the last six SFYs.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is wide variation in discharge rates across the state.

Area	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19	SFY 2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	70.27	60.43	56.11	49.16	47.51
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	57.26	66.44	96.94	74.37	53.49
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	49.98	60.32	62.49	65.23	68.41
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	70.40	70.57	67.72	68.63	62.94
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	63.32	68.41	64.96	71.48	64.96
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	81.72	61.24	55.50	63.89	62.82
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	77.45	80.76	68.41	62.27	66.42
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	55.34	51.61	54.53	51.31	61.12
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	73.06	58.48	55.83	50.67	45.13
Eckerd Community Alternatives Hillsborough-Circuit 13	71.41	61.62	55.77	53.99	47.33
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County)	61.71	68.11	66.36	60.30	51.93
Families First Network-Circuit 01	71.89	55.79	60.16	54.30	47.65
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	51.47	67.10	67.21	78.95	78.91
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	77.67	79.59	75.37	79.53	70.15
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	65.74	66.64	66.24	64.05	55.24
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	63.86	64.10	57.18	55.50	61.78
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	63.38	49.12	51.95	49.02	52.15
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	79.01	81.15	72.84	78.68	62.06
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	69.87	65.50	69.72	64.14	60.15
Statewide	67.3	64.2	62.6	60.9	56.6
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends Children and Young Adults Exiting Care and Children in Out of Home Care

CBC Safety Outcome Indicators

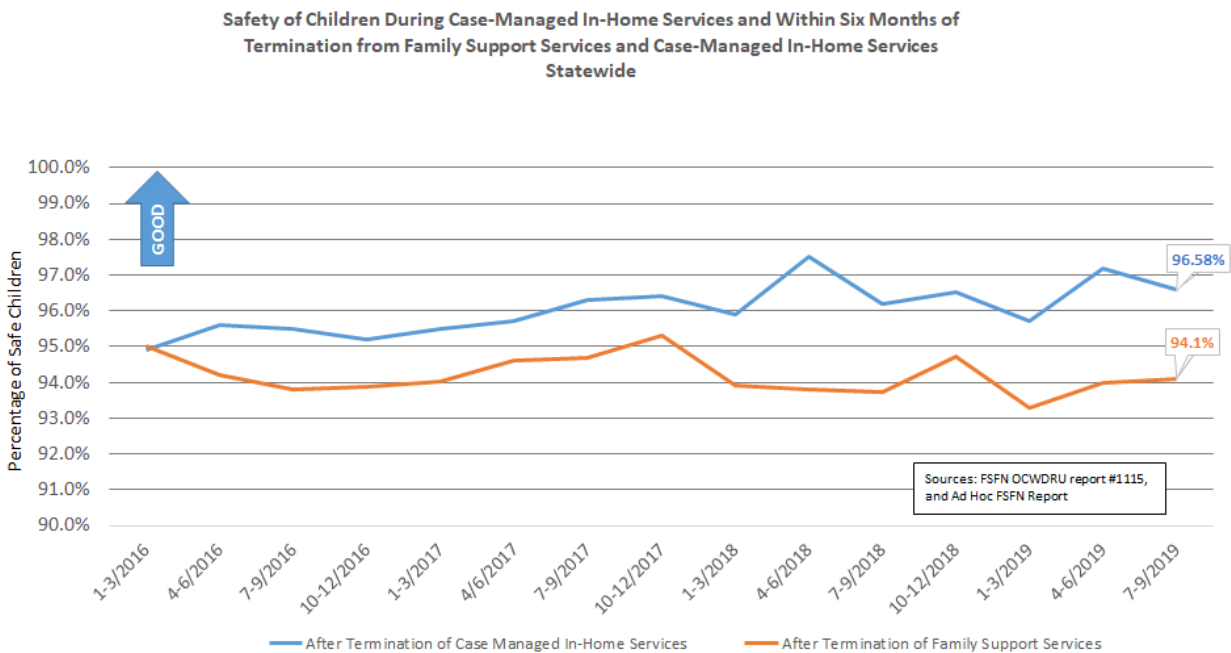
Relative Safety by Status of Services

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 two indicators on the following chart. The following trends are also shown:

- The percent of children with no verified maltreatment within six months *after termination* of case-managed in-home services for those closures in July-September 2019 was 94.1 percent.
- The percent of children with no verified maltreatment within six months of termination of Family Support Services for July-September 2019 closures was 96.58 percent.

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

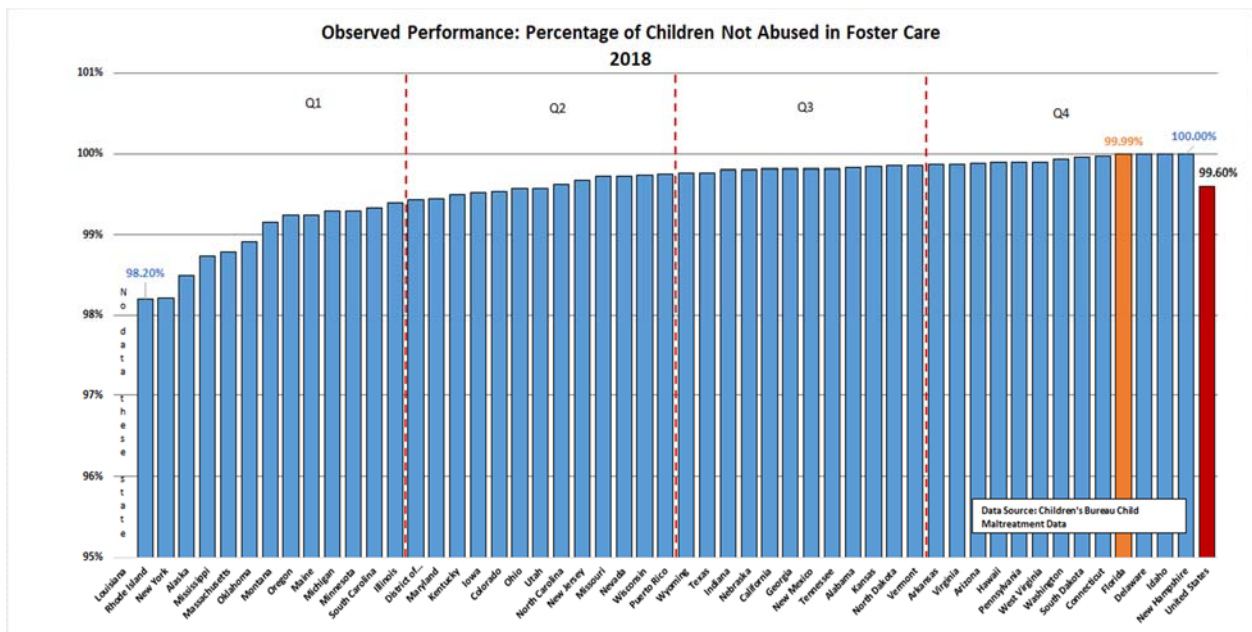
Maltreatment in foster care is a rare event compared to the safety indicators in the last chart, so it is measured as a rate per 100,000 days in care in the federal CFSR-3. It answers the question, “Of all children in foster care during a 12-month period, what is the rate of victimization, per day of 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 did not meet the initial standard. Nevertheless, as a percentage of children not abused in foster care, displayed below, Florida ranked fourth in the nation in FFY 2018 and was above the national average.

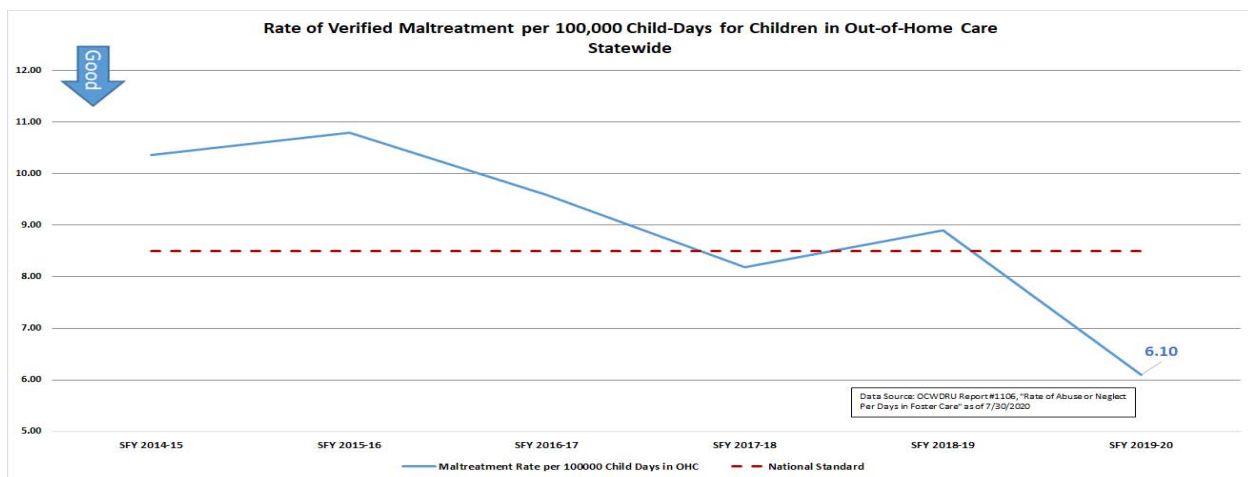


Maltreatment in Foster Care

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 rates appearing in the federal data profile used for CFSR-3, which uses AFCARS and NCANDS files submitted by states. These variation in data sets result in the Florida data appearing higher in the national comparison chart than the state and CBC data displayed below.

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 was significant improvement across the state for this metric over the course of SFY 2019-20. Only three CBCs failed to meet the federal target and all three were within 0.5 per 100,000 of meeting the measure.

Area	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19	SFY 2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	8.9	8.1	5.1	10.9	4.4
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	7.8	10.9	8.9	6.8	3.3
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	8.3	7.8	6.4	5.7	3.6
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	7.9	5.4	13.7	5.2	6.2
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	6.4	6.3	7.3	8.4	8.7
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	10.4	9.1	13.1	7.3	5.1
Communities Connected for Kids -Circuit 19	9.3	9.7	6.2	16.6	5.3
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	12.4	6.4	8.2	5.6	5.9
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	14.8	9.8	11.5	15.2	5.5
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	10.5	8.4	8.7	8.9	7.5
Embrace Families-Circuit 09 & Circuit 18 (Seminole County Only)	13.5	6.8	6.6	4.8	4.2
Families First Network-Circuit 01	11.3	10.7	10.4	9.3	5.2
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	9.9	7.5	6.8	9.8	9.0
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	15.8	14.4	9.1	9.7	6.6
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	12.3	19.5	10.3	8.7	8.6
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	7.3	11.7	6.6	11.2	3.5
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	8.5	11.3	7.8	8.9	5.5
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	12.1	9.7	9.2	8.3	5.1
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	11.3	7.1	6.7	7.1	7.2
Statewide	10.8	9.6	8.2	8.9	6.1
Federal Target 8.5 or Lower	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1106, "Rate of Abuse or Neglect Per Days in Foster Care" as of 7/30/2020

Maltreatment During Case-Managed Services

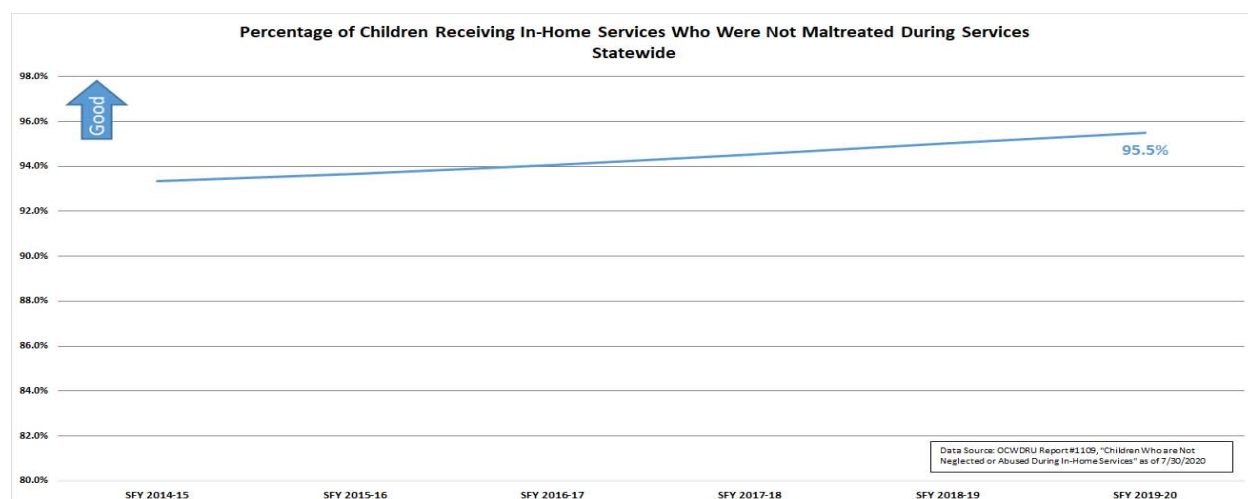
Children receiving case-managed in-home services include:

- 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 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19	SFY 2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	94.2%	95.9%	94.2%	98.3%	96.6%	96.8%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	93.5%	94.7%	93.0%	93.9%	93.6%	93.3%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	89.0%	91.3%	91.8%	92.1%	95.0%	96.0%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	94.1%	97.4%	95.4%	96.1%	95.7%	95.8%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	94.1%	93.3%	94.5%	94.8%	95.7%	96.6%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	95.3%	96.6%	96.6%	95.9%	97.5%	97.5%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	91.4%	93.7%	94.5%	93.1%	97.1%	96.1%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	92.8%	91.0%	91.0%	92.6%	93.4%	94.6%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	93.0%	93.1%	95.6%	93.7%	93.8%	94.8%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	93.0%	93.9%	93.3%	95.6%	96.4%	95.6%
Embrace Families-Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	93.9%	93.4%	94.0%	94.6%	94.5%	94.6%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	92.2%	92.2%	92.9%	92.4%	94.4%	96.5%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	93.6%	95.1%	88.1%	96.7%	95.8%	93.5%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	92.9%	92.7%	92.4%	95.2%	94.2%	94.9%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	95.4%	94.6%	96.7%	96.3%	93.7%	94.3%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	95.4%	92.4%	95.4%	93.6%	95.2%	96.0%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	90.9%	92.4%	93.4%	95.3%	96.3%	94.8%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	90.7%	93.1%	95.8%	95.6%	94.5%	96.3%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	91.9%	92.0%	94.1%	94.4%	95.1%	94.5%
Statewide	93.4%	93.7%	94.1%	94.5%	95.0%	95.5%
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

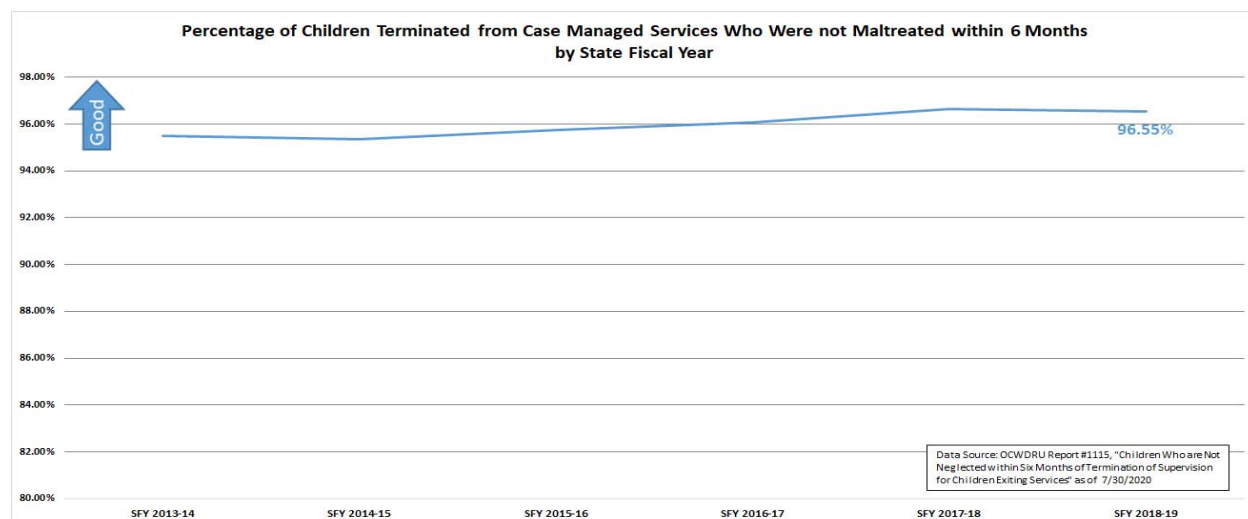
Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1109, "Children Who are Not Neglected or Abused During In-Home Services" as of 7/30/2020

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; otherwise, the risk of subsequent maltreatment remains high.

Florida Statewide Trend

Florida has shown steady progress on this indicator over the last five SFYs.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

The high rate of non-recurrence on this indicator connotes 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 2014-15	SFY 2015-16	SFY 2016-17	SFY 2017-18	SFY 2018-19
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	95.77%	94.93%	93.78%	99.59%	98.39%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	91.54%	94.86%	93.88%	95.57%	94.10%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	96.52%	97.57%	96.92%	97.46%	97.24%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	96.05%	95.59%	96.20%	96.96%	96.97%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	96.86%	95.96%	96.19%	96.02%	96.52%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	96.08%	97.83%	96.70%	98.63%	98.02%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	96.25%	96.12%	97.02%	96.49%	97.95%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	94.82%	95.06%	95.54%	95.93%	93.98%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	94.18%	95.13%	94.26%	95.49%	96.28%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	96.64%	96.33%	96.11%	96.23%	97.16%
Embrace Families-Circuit 09 & 18 (Seminole Only)	94.67%	95.50%	95.75%	96.26%	96.25%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	96.37%	95.63%	96.38%	96.24%	95.64%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	87.13%	93.08%	90.08%	94.44%	98.05%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	94.51%	93.91%	95.97%	96.13%	95.33%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	96.28%	95.91%	95.85%	96.99%	96.90%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	95.62%	94.67%	97.60%	97.38%	96.47%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	94.26%	93.10%	95.45%	95.73%	95.99%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	93.55%	95.47%	97.46%	96.96%	98.05%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	92.59%	94.84%	97.27%	96.72%	97.01%
Statewide	95.37%	95.74%	96.07%	96.63%	96.55%
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1115, "Children Who are Not Neglected within Six Months of Termination of Supervision for Children Exiting Services" as of 7/30/2020

Permanency Indicators

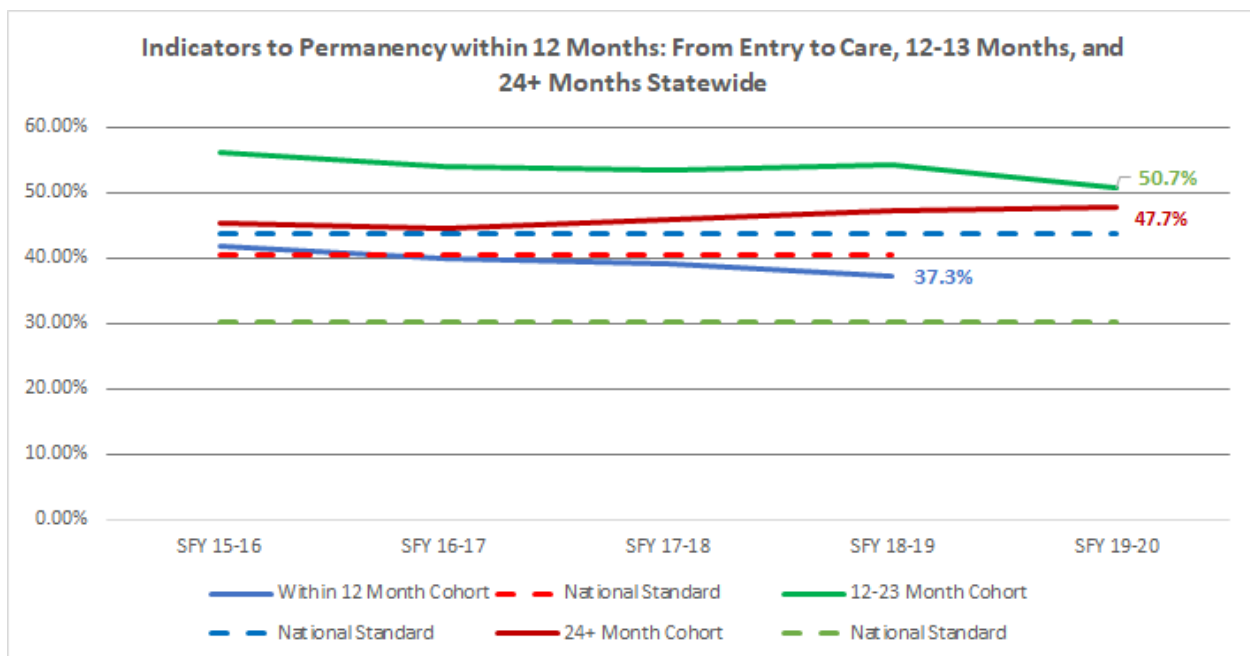
Timely Achievement of Permanency

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 and trending in the wrong direction. Performance on the in-care 12-23 months indicator has been 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

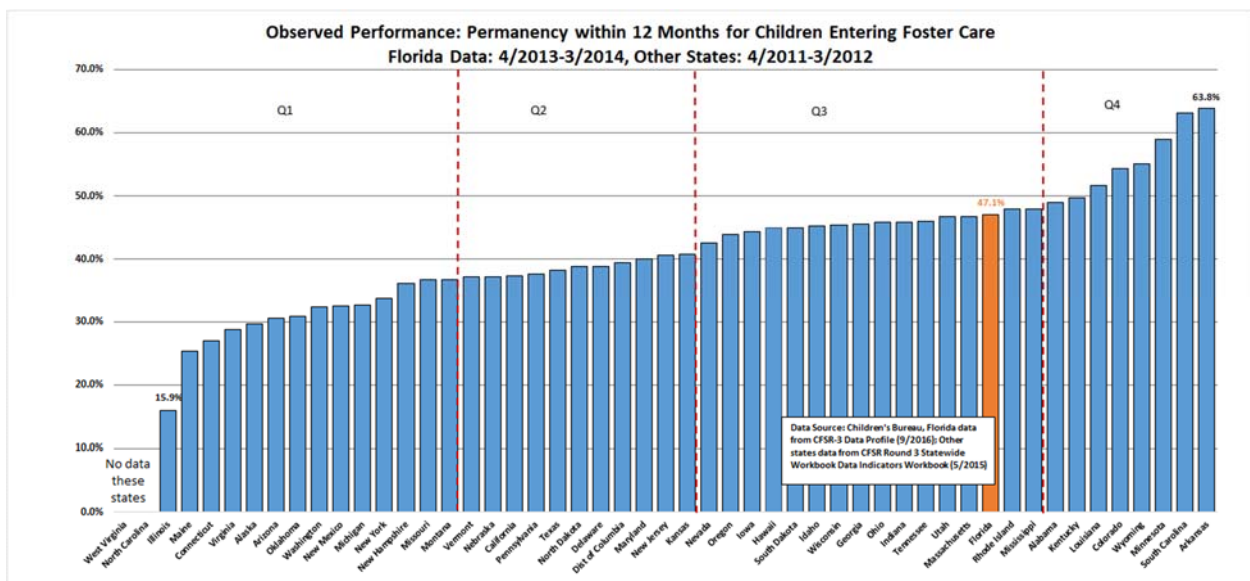
The first of the CFSR-3 permanency indicators answers the question, “Of all children who enter care in a 12-month period, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering care?”

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

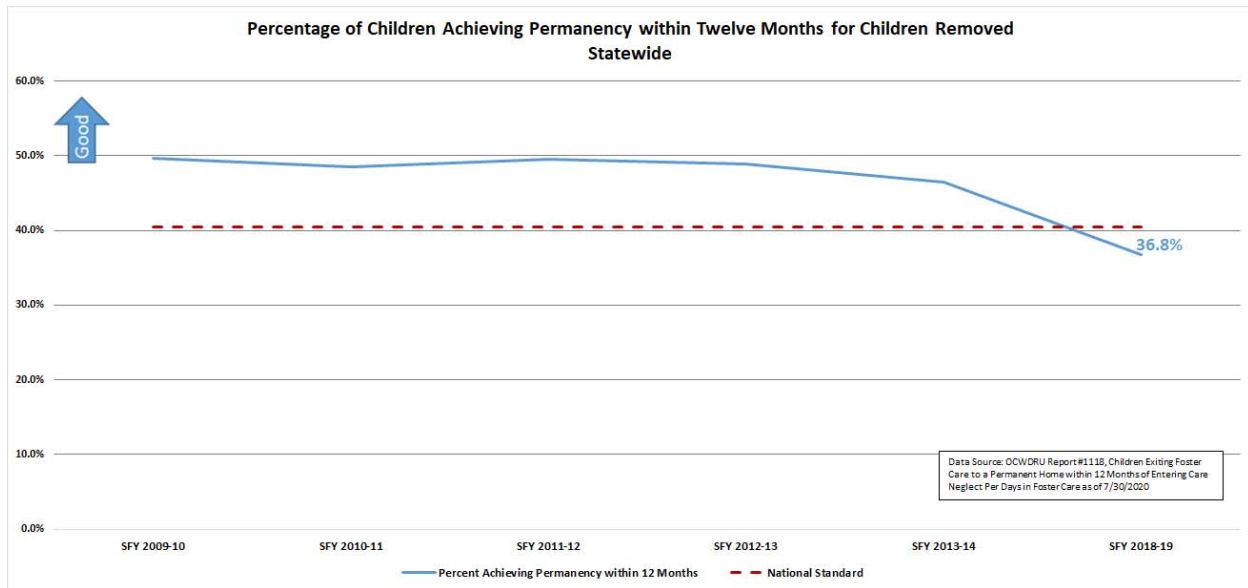
Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) performance of 47.1 percent for children removed in April 2013 – March 2014 was above the initial national standard and was among the top states in the nation in the period used for CFSR-3. The figure below includes the most recent data available for this indicator.



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 was below the initial national standard of 40.5 percent in SFY 2019-20 for the children removed in SFY 2018-19.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

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

Percentage of Children Achieving Permanency within Twelve Months for Children Removed					
Area	2014-15 Entry Cohort	2015-16 Entry Cohort	2016-17 Entry Cohort	2017-18 Entry Cohort	2018-19 Entry Cohort
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	38.4%	33.7%	30.3%	30.8%	26.9%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	37.5%	33.9%	53.5%	54.1%	39.3%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	30.9%	33.6%	42.4%	38.4%	42.3%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	46.9%	48.5%	44.8%	47.1%	42.5%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	40.7%	45.5%	43.1%	45.9%	44.3%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	50.9%	40.7%	34.7%	36.3%	34.1%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	39.0%	43.3%	46.3%	40.8%	34.7%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	37.9%	30.6%	27.8%	23.7%	32.0%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	51.4%	47.1%	38.4%	34.1%	29.0%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	44.7%	48.4%	41.7%	37.2%	32.0%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	30.7%	37.5%	39.8%	42.0%	36.3%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	47.6%	37.2%	38.3%	34.0%	32.3%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	34.2%	32.9%	31.6%	48.1%	51.0%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	54.2%	45.1%	39.5%	43.5%	44.3%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	47.5%	41.3%	44.4%	40.6%	40.0%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	40.3%	42.5%	40.2%	39.2%	40.8%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	36.9%	34.1%	17.5%	32.1%	25.5%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	52.4%	52.9%	43.9%	45.5%	42.3%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	48.0%	47.5%	40.4%	39.8%	39.7%
Statewide	43.3%	42.0%	40.1%	39.2%	36.8%
Federal Target 40.5% or Higher	40.50%	40.50%	40.50%	40.50%	40.50%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1137, "Children Exiting Foster Care to a Permanent Home within 12 Months for Children in Foster Care 12-23 Months" as of 7/30/2020

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

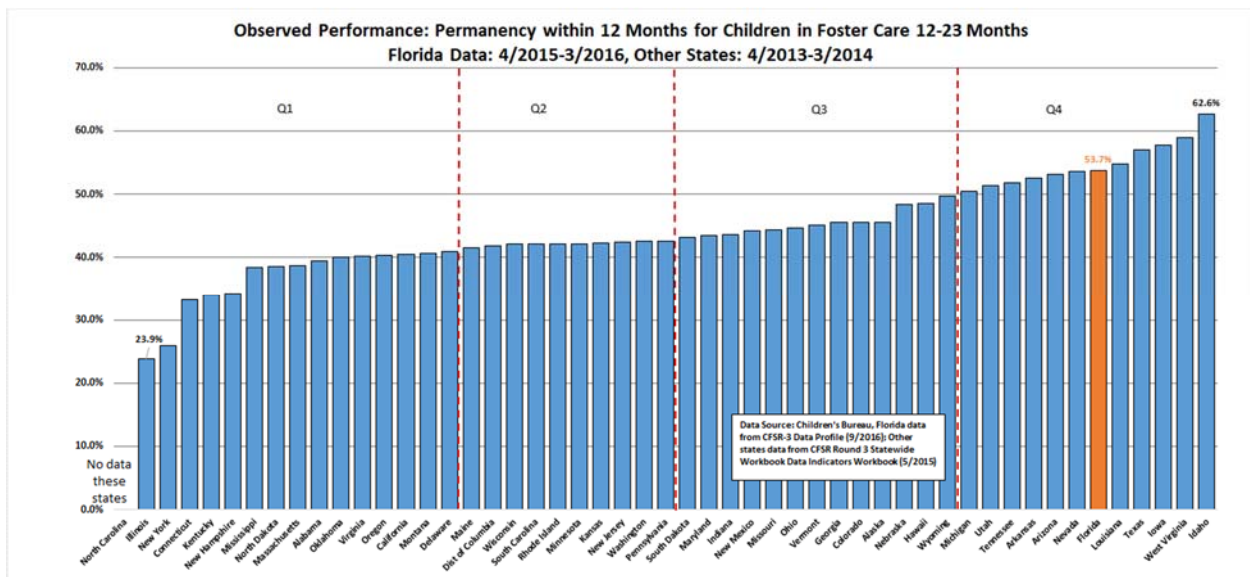
This permanency indicator answers the question, “Of all children in care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day?”

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 first day.

Florida Compared to Other States

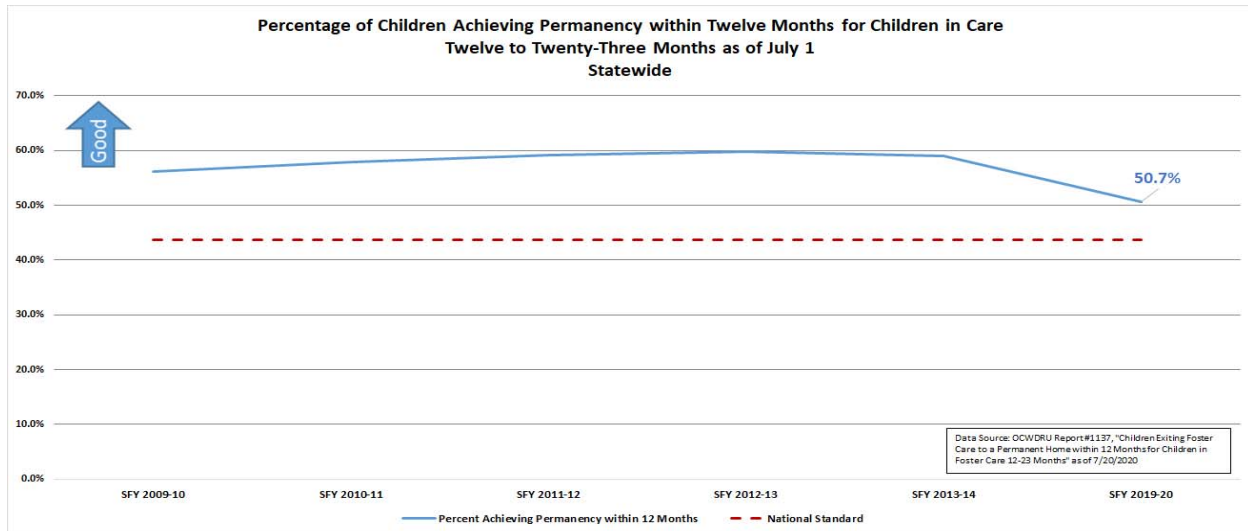
National standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised; however, Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) performance in SFY 2015-16 was above the CFSR-3 initial standard and higher than most states in the nation in the comparison period. This is the most recent data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



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

There is high performance for this metric with all but one CBC exceeding the national standard. This is a 12-23 month lookback, so the 2018-19 column is the focus for this comparison.

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

Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	63.6%	53.4%	53.0%	57.8%	43.5%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	41.2%	52.6%	57.1%	61.9%	46.8%
CBC of Central Florida-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	58.4%	60.3%	57.4%	52.8%	47.5%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	51.2%	50.7%	53.6%	53.4%	57.9%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	59.7%	47.0%	63.6%	52.9%	58.4%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	50.9%	55.7%	55.1%	63.9%	57.7%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	59.8%	52.5%	47.1%	59.7%	56.9%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	69.6%	64.2%	60.9%	56.8%	56.4%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	55.3%	49.7%	53.6%	49.4%	58.2%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	55.6%	54.6%	49.8%	46.5%	41.6%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	52.0%	50.4%	45.7%	50.5%	42.8%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	52.9%	51.8%	52.9%	47.9%	42.1%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	48.1%	65.6%	56.7%	74.2%	78.9%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	60.5%	78.2%	79.3%	74.9%	61.6%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	48.1%	58.0%	50.2%	54.5%	52.0%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	57.3%	46.8%	44.2%	39.5%	46.5%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	84.2%	50.0%	62.7%	48.5%	66.7%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	64.6%	66.7%	66.7%	68.0%	63.3%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	60.4%	49.3%	54.7%	55.7%	51.4%
Statewide	56.2%	54.1%	53.4%	54.3%	50.7%
Federal Target 43.6% or Greater	43.6%	43.6%	43.6%	43.6%	43.6%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1137, "Children Exiting Foster Care to a Permanent Home within 12 Months for Children in Foster Care 12-23 Months" as of 7/20/2020

Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 24+ Months

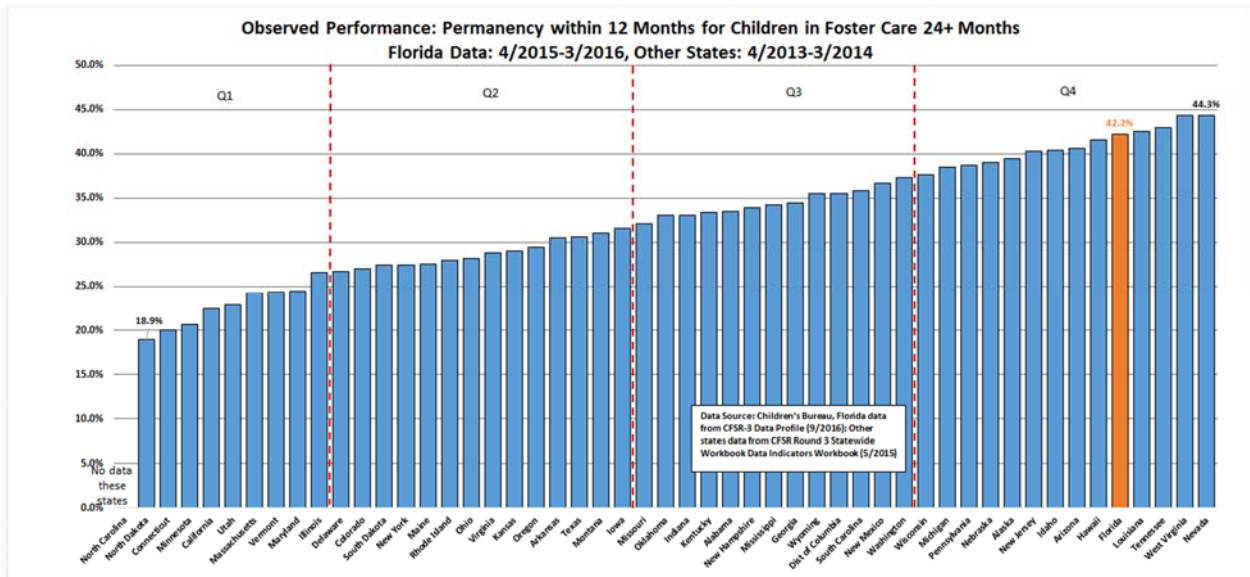
This permanency indicator answers the question, “Of all children in care on the first day of a 12-month period, who had been in care (in that episode) for 24 months or more, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day?”

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 first day.

Florida Compared to Other States

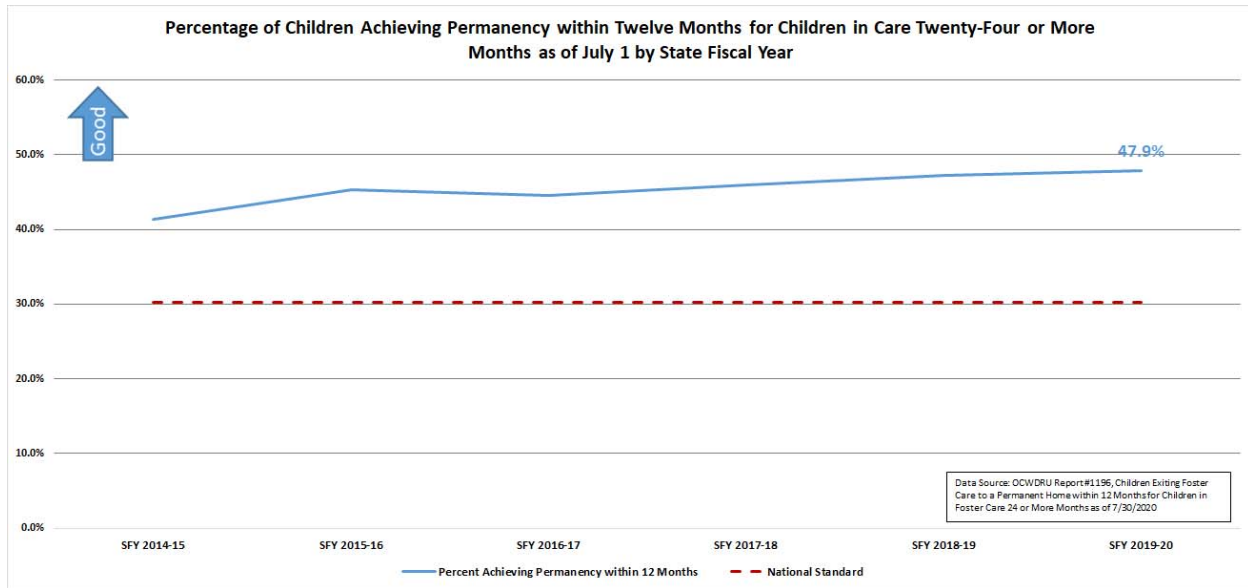
The national standards and calculations of state performance for CFSR-3 are being revised; however, Florida’s observed (not risk standardized) performance in 2015-16 was above the CFSR-3 initial standard and higher than most states in the comparison period. This is the most recent data available for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

Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	53.6%	52.6%	48.5%	58.9%	44.7%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	41.9%	46.9%	52.4%	46.7%	47.1%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	38.6%	44.5%	39.7%	46.2%	47.5%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	36.3%	36.5%	38.9%	44.0%	40.6%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	50.3%	52.7%	44.2%	40.8%	53.3%
Citrus Health Network -Circuits 11 & 16	43.4%	37.9%	36.0%	36.9%	38.3%
Communities Coneted for Kids-Circuit 19	49.2%	49.5%	53.1%	43.0%	59.3%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	51.2%	52.6%	47.1%	54.5%	61.3%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	44.7%	42.4%	48.4%	48.6%	43.5%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	51.8%	43.9%	50.8%	42.1%	44.3%
Embrace Familes-Circuit 09	52.7%	44.0%	49.5%	53.0%	43.6%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	49.0%	46.5%	57.0%	52.6%	54.7%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	41.7%	42.9%	48.1%	52.9%	55.2%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	45.5%	45.7%	36.9%	42.2%	44.7%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	41.4%	48.6%	54.4%	46.5%	49.4%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	41.2%	46.4%	45.2%	47.0%	50.5%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	26.1%	38.9%	62.8%	48.4%	59.3%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	29.9%	33.3%	34.8%	50.0%	50.4%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	50.6%	43.2%	49.7%	61.3%	53.5%
Statewide	45.3%	44.5%	45.9%	47.2%	47.9%
Federal Target 30.3% or Higher	30.30%	30.30%	30.30%	30.30%	30.30%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1137, "Children Exiting Foster Care to a Permanent Home within 12 Months for Children in Foster Care 12-23 Months" as of 7/30/2020

Re-entry to Foster Care

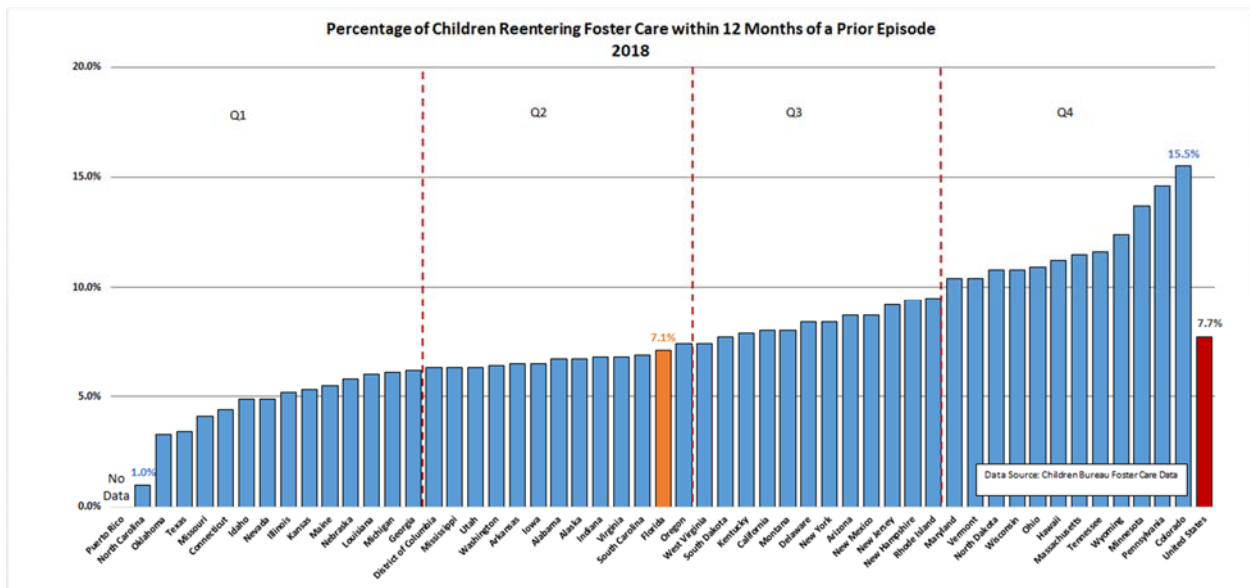
Areas with high performance on the entry cohort indicator tend to have high re-entry rates.

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 12 months for all children entering for FFY 2017 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

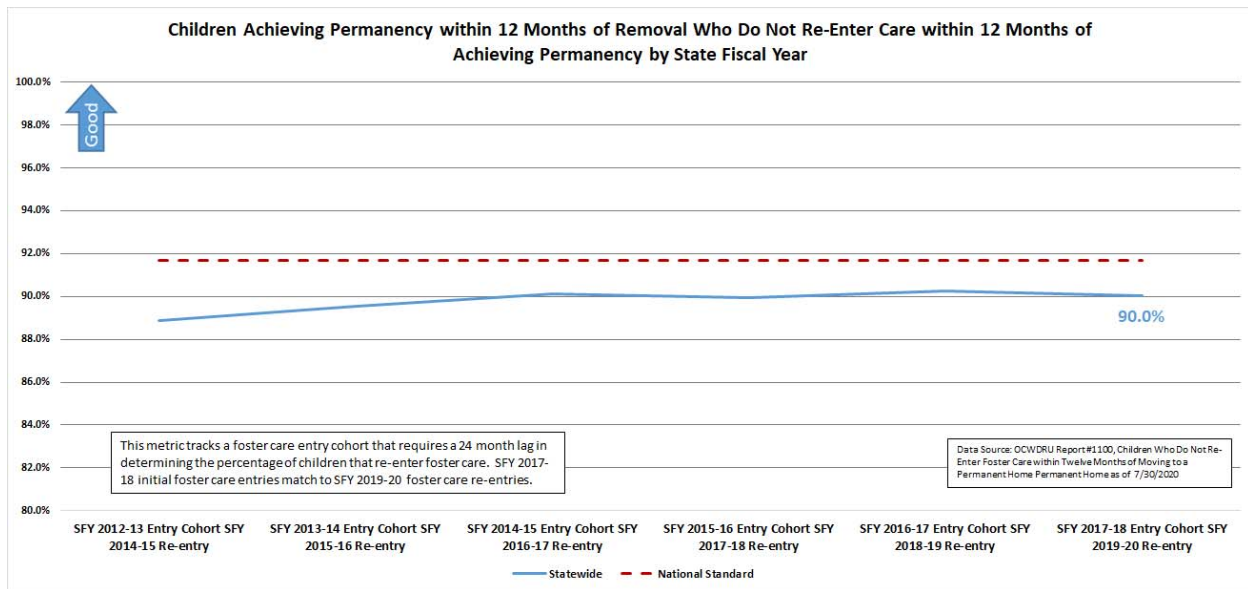
Florida is firmly in the second quartile among ranked states for this measure.



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 percent), Florida displays the indicator positively as the percent that did not re-enter care (initial standard 91.7 percent). Florida's performance in the SFY 2017-18 entry cohort has continued to be below the initial standard.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

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

Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months of Removal Who Do Not Re-Enter Care within 12 Months of Achieving Permanency					
Area	SFY 2013-14 Entries	SFY 2014-15 Entries	SFY 2015-16 Entries	SFY 2016-17 Entries	SFY 2017-18 Entries
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	89.3%	93.0%	90.8%	86.9%	93.2%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	86.9%	89.2%	88.9%	90.4%	89.2%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	91.9%	90.9%	90.3%	90.5%	89.7%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	87.2%	88.6%	93.9%	91.6%	90.2%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	94.1%	88.9%	91.7%	91.8%	86.8%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	89.7%	90.5%	90.0%	91.4%	85.9%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	89.0%	92.4%	85.2%	88.7%	90.7%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	90.9%	82.9%	83.2%	82.7%	85.9%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	87.3%	88.2%	90.6%	89.9%	90.2%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	86.9%	91.6%	88.6%	90.1%	90.6%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	87.2%	90.8%	91.3%	89.2%	92.3%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	94.1%	91.2%	86.9%	83.8%	92.0%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	88.4%	93.3%	90.5%	94.1%	97.7%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	89.3%	90.7%	92.4%	94.7%	89.8%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	88.8%	85.1%	85.9%	88.7%	87.2%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	92.4%	90.7%	90.1%	94.7%	91.8%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	95.0%	90.0%	92.9%	88.9%	97.9%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	89.6%	95.6%	92.6%	92.9%	91.6%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	90.8%	91.8%	91.7%	90.3%	90.2%
Statewide	89.6%	90.1%	89.9%	90.3%	90.0%
Federal Target 91.7% or Higher	91.70%	91.70%	91.70%	91.70%	91.70%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1100, Children Who Do Not Re-Enter Foster Care within Twelve Months of Moving to a Permanent Home Permanent Home as of 7/30/2020

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 visit data includes 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

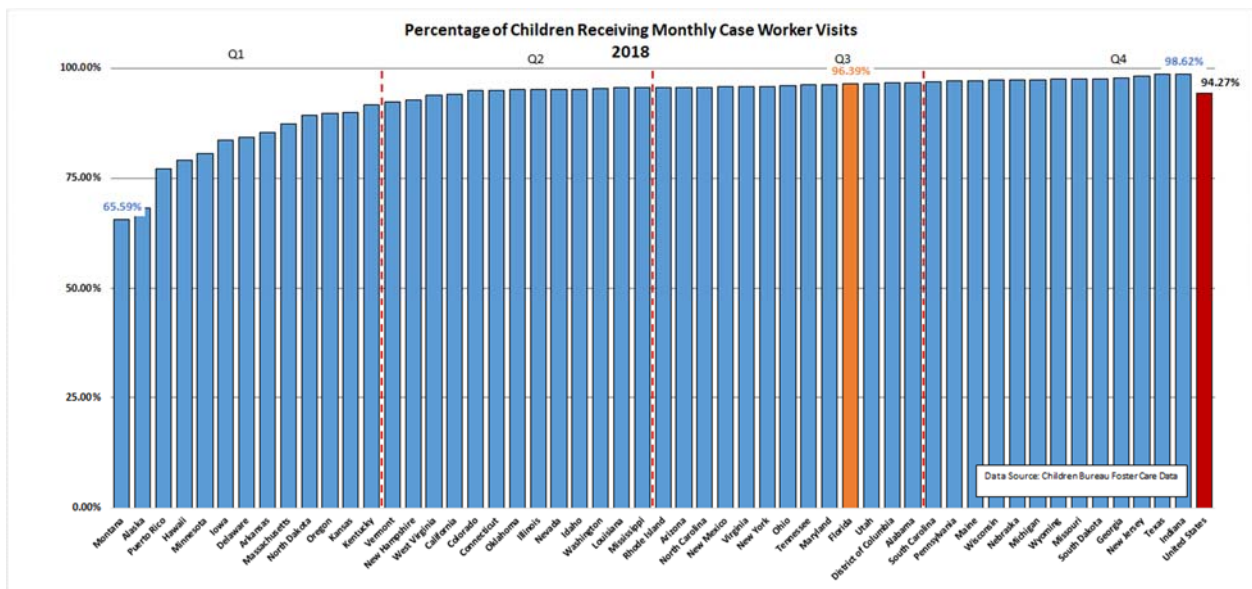
This federal indicator answers the question, “Of the children in care, what percent received monthly caseworker visits?”

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 consistently performs well for case management visits with children. The chart below includes the most recent FFY data available for this indicator.



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

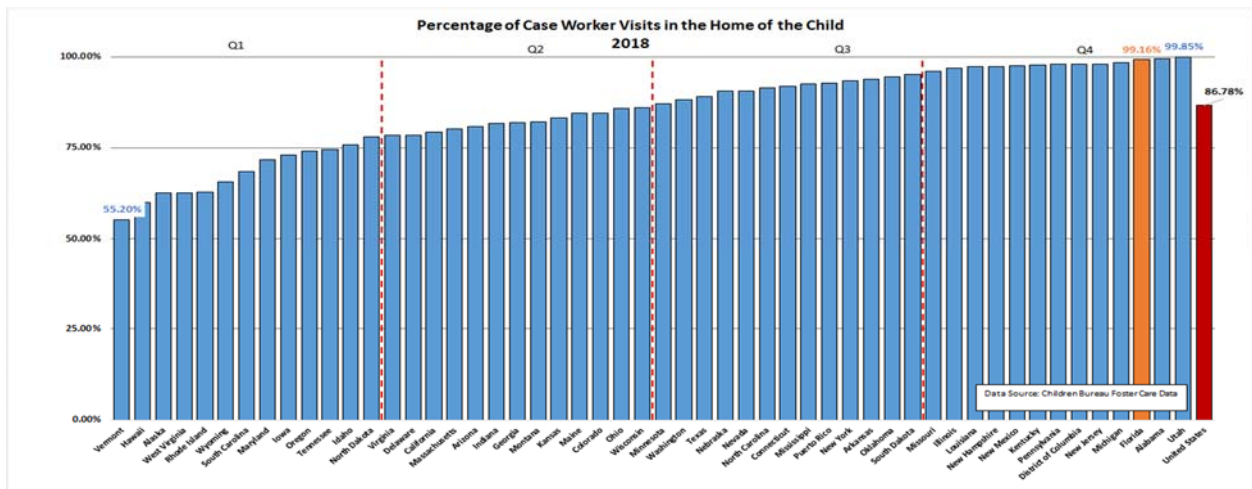
This related federal indicator answers the question, “Of the children visited, what percent of the visits were in the home of the child?”

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 among the nationwide leaders when comparing the percentage of monthly visits that were made in the child’s home. Below includes the most recent FFY 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 hovers at or just slightly below the 99.5% target with the majority of CBCs exceeding the target.

Area	Percentage of Children Under Supervision Who are Seen Every Thirty Days											
	FY 2018 Q1	FY 2018 Q2	FY 2018 Q3	FY 2018 Q4	FY 2019 Q1	FY 2019 Q2	FY 2019 Q3	FY 2019 Q4	FY 2020 Q1	FY 2020 Q2	FY 2020 Q3	FY 2020 Q4
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	99.84%	99.80%	99.73%	99.71%	99.63%	99.48%	99.40%	99.27%	99.24%	99.38%	99.37%	99.42%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	99.49%	99.43%	99.42%	99.45%	99.50%	99.46%	99.42%	99.48%	99.59%	99.75%	99.80%	99.85%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	99.90%	99.91%	99.84%	99.76%	99.73%	99.72%	99.79%	99.86%	99.88%	99.88%	99.89%	99.87%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	99.72%	99.78%	99.81%	99.86%	99.90%	99.93%	99.97%	99.97%	99.91%	99.90%	99.89%	99.89%
Children’s Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	99.72%	99.70%	99.72%	99.75%	99.78%	99.81%	99.85%	99.87%	99.90%	99.87%	99.89%	99.93%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	99.51%	99.49%	99.50%	99.50%	99.53%	99.52%	99.45%	99.35%	99.47%	99.46%	99.61%	99.69%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	99.92%	99.91%	99.88%	99.87%	99.84%	99.80%	99.77%	99.76%	99.54%	99.41%	99.41%	99.52%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	99.16%	99.18%	99.20%	99.17%	99.24%	99.28%	99.36%	99.50%	99.71%	99.78%	99.74%	99.67%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	99.89%	99.85%	99.77%	99.73%	99.71%	99.70%	99.71%	99.71%	99.69%	99.68%	99.69%	99.73%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	99.79%	99.77%	99.76%	99.73%	99.71%	99.68%	99.64%	99.65%	99.69%	99.60%	99.66%	99.67%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	99.53%	99.60%	99.61%	99.60%	99.60%	99.61%	99.59%	99.57%	99.73%	99.62%	99.44%	99.29%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	99.61%	99.65%	99.64%	99.53%	99.40%	99.41%	99.42%	99.52%	99.56%	99.50%	99.50%	99.47%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	99.96%	99.95%	99.95%	99.96%	99.98%	99.99%	99.99%	99.99%	100.00%	99.63%	99.95%	99.95%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	99.72%	99.78%	99.79%	99.77%	99.74%	99.74%	99.74%	99.71%	99.77%	99.76%	99.73%	99.70%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	99.94%	99.94%	99.95%	99.93%	99.93%	99.90%	99.91%	99.92%	99.91%	99.93%	99.93%	99.95%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	99.63%	99.63%	99.59%	99.53%	99.55%	99.60%	99.62%	99.68%	99.73%	99.88%	99.85%	99.82%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	99.58%	99.49%	99.48%	99.58%	99.76%	99.88%	99.92%	99.93%	99.96%	99.93%	99.87%	99.79%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	99.36%	99.36%	99.40%	99.40%	99.46%	99.47%	99.43%	99.37%	99.80%	99.75%	99.79%	99.77%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	99.81%	99.74%	99.68%	99.59%	99.57%	99.64%	99.70%	99.81%	99.85%	99.82%	99.76%	99.76%
Statewide	99.09%	99.09%	99.09%	99.06%	99.09%	99.09%	99.11%	99.16%	99.25%	99.38%	99.43%	99.48%
DCF Target 99.0% or Higher	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%	99.50%

Data Source: DCF Child Welfare Dashboard, Children Under Supervision Who Seen Every Thirty Days



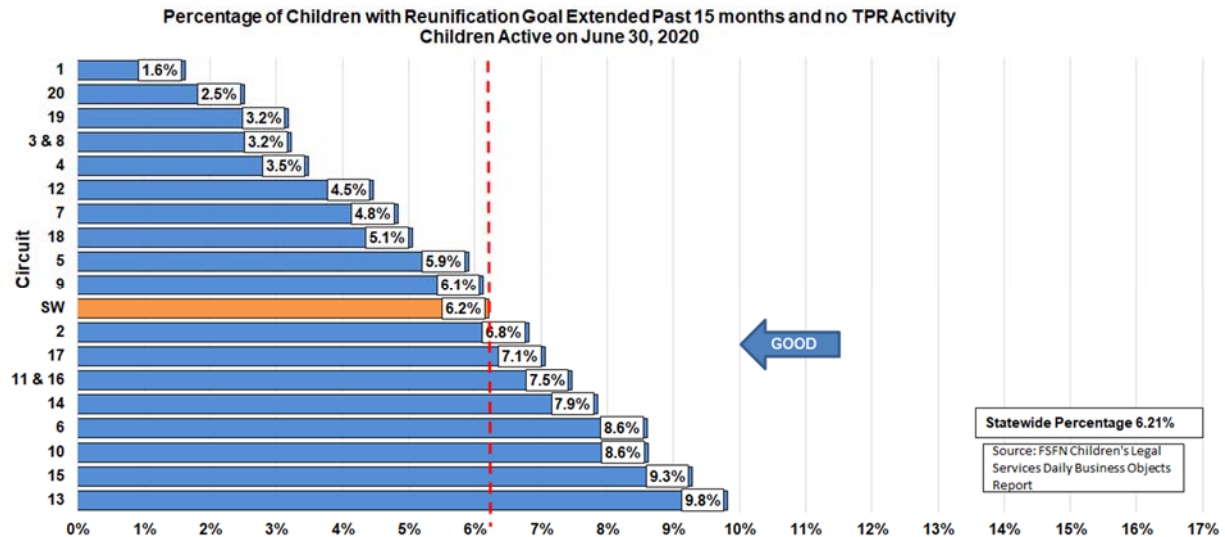
Children’s Legal Services Indicators

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

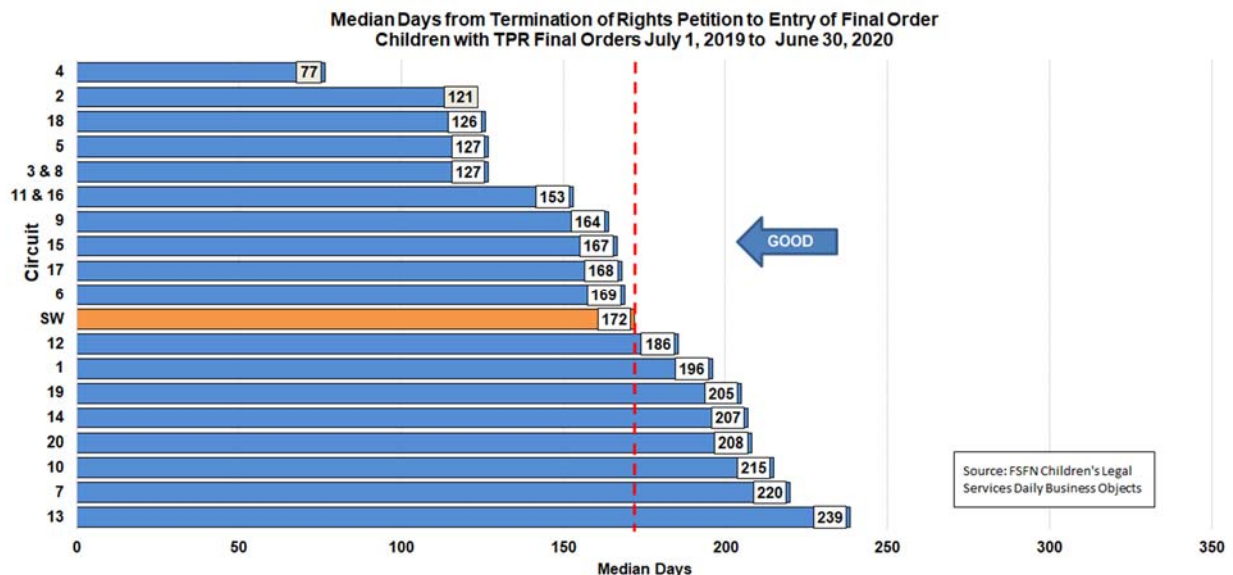
The statewide average was 6.2 percent on June 30, 2020, with wide variation among the circuits.



Timeliness of Termination of Parental Rights, from Petition to Order

Circuit Comparisons

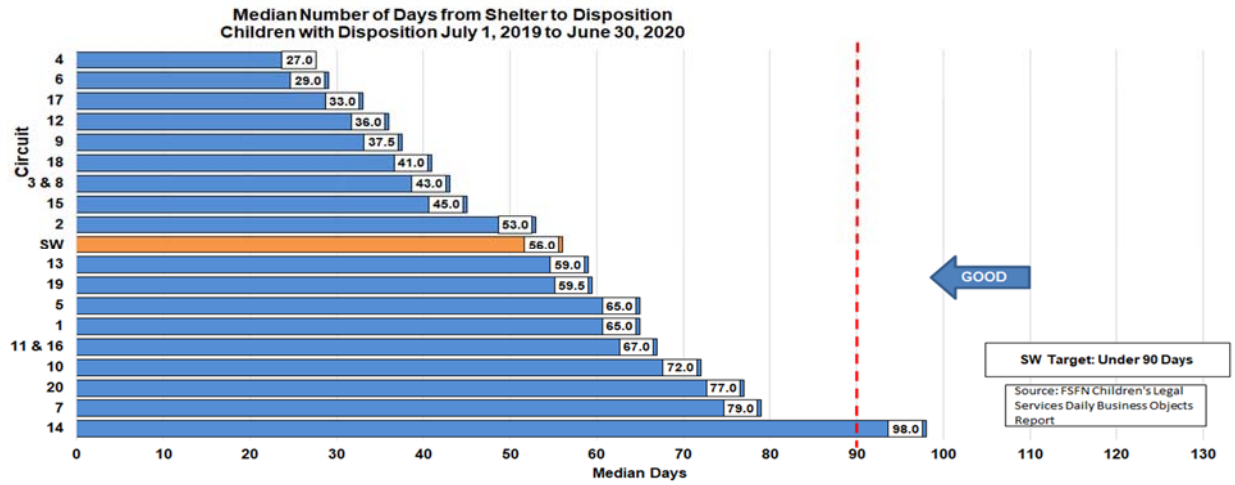
The statewide median was 172 days in SFY 2019-20, with wide variation among the circuits.



Time from Removal Date to Disposition Order

Circuit Comparisons

The statewide median was 56 days in SFY 2019-20, with wide variation, compared to a statewide target of less than 90 days.



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

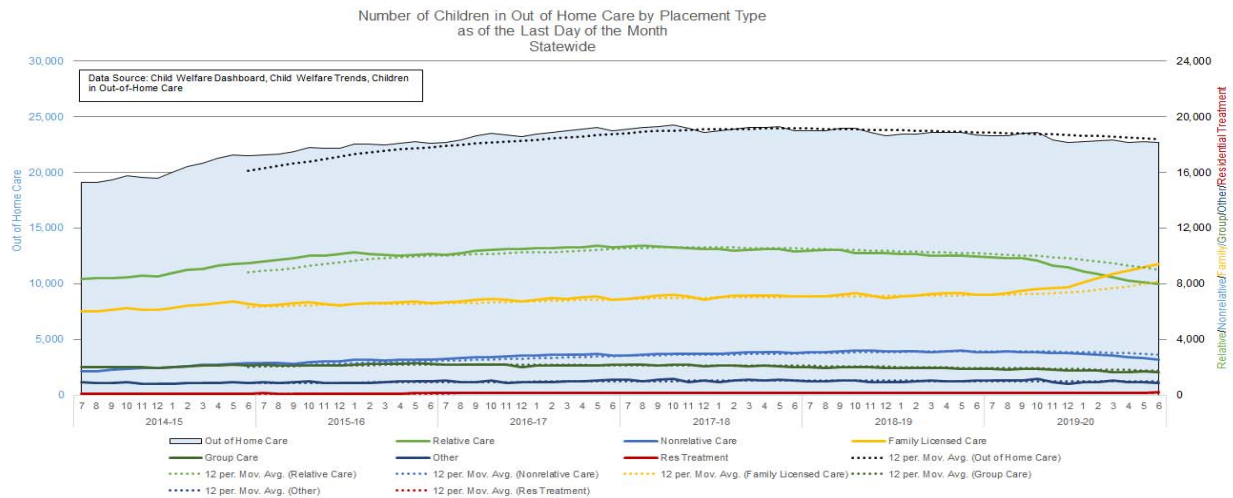
Appropriate Placements for Children Removed from Families

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

Since SFY 2016-17 OHC numbers and placement type usage has been fairly stable. SFY 2019-20 changes related to categorization of licensed relative and nonrelative placements as licensed foster home has created the recent trend of decreasing relative and nonrelative care and increasing family licensed care 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.

Area	SFY 2015-16			SFY 2016-17			SFY 2017-18			SFY 2018-19			SFY 2019-20		
	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family Lic and Facility Lic Care	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family Lic and Facility Lic Care	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family Lic and Facility Lic Care	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family Lic and Facility Lic Care	Percentage Other	Percentage Relative and Nonrelative Care	Percentage Family Lic and Facility Lic Care	Percentage Other
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	54.35%	41.61%	3.03%	60.80%	36.23%	2.96%	59.99%	35.98%	4.04%	59.94%	36.70%	3.97%	54.90%	41.76%	3.34%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	61.64%	34.92%	3.44%	62.83%	33.04%	4.13%	61.61%	33.15%	5.25%	58.90%	36.02%	5.08%	58.86%	36.40%	4.70%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	51.77%	43.57%	4.66%	52.02%	42.46%	5.52%	52.49%	42.50%	5.01%	53.41%	41.94%	4.65%	45.33%	48.22%	5.86%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	49.22%	44.23%	6.55%	50.72%	42.42%	6.86%	48.87%	43.75%	7.39%	53.99%	40.07%	6.54%	53.62%	41.23%	5.16%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	53.63%	42.58%	3.80%	52.83%	42.06%	5.11%	52.96%	42.99%	4.45%	51.53%	43.27%	5.20%	47.24%	47.45%	5.31%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	53.26%	41.16%	5.58%	52.06%	42.10%	5.84%	49.77%	44.22%	6.00%	46.90%	47.36%	5.75%	38.52%	55.35%	5.95%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	58.70%	33.45%	7.85%	56.44%	36.21%	7.34%	59.11%	34.10%	6.80%	58.29%	35.97%	5.74%	55.01%	38.35%	6.63%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	61.05%	34.22%	4.74%	61.83%	33.44%	4.73%	58.37%	36.11%	5.52%	56.20%	38.30%	5.50%	52.48%	40.77%	6.75%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	56.94%	39.46%	3.60%	59.49%	37.47%	3.04%	57.42%	39.25%	3.33%	56.63%	40.36%	3.00%	51.62%	44.30%	4.07%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	52.42%	42.11%	5.47%	53.11%	41.19%	5.70%	55.93%	38.77%	5.30%	53.83%	41.99%	4.77%	53.20%	42.94%	3.86%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	59.02%	36.82%	4.16%	59.19%	36.61%	4.20%	60.06%	35.14%	4.80%	63.80%	31.76%	4.45%	56.91%	38.27%	4.82%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	50.02%	43.54%	6.44%	50.94%	43.71%	5.35%	53.75%	40.53%	5.71%	55.10%	40.83%	4.07%	54.03%	41.24%	4.74%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	63.25%	32.55%	4.20%	65.22%	31.06%	3.71%	54.05%	40.21%	5.74%	64.38%	31.85%	3.77%	51.90%	43.35%	4.75%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	48.97%	44.84%	6.19%	49.06%	43.31%	7.62%	49.20%	41.09%	9.71%	50.38%	39.31%	10.33%	43.47%	46.40%	10.13%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	57.98%	37.00%	5.02%	63.66%	32.50%	3.84%	65.10%	30.65%	4.25%	64.07%	30.85%	5.08%	57.18%	38.81%	4.02%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	63.20%	34.39%	2.42%	57.02%	40.45%	2.50%	55.81%	40.71%	3.48%	57.17%	39.80%	3.03%	51.64%	45.02%	3.32%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	59.96%	35.47%	4.57%	62.90%	33.51%	3.59%	66.95%	28.84%	4.21%	64.15%	32.65%	3.20%	56.11%	39.23%	4.65%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	65.31%	30.01%	4.66%	68.02%	26.24%	5.75%	66.12%	28.01%	5.87%	63.27%	30.18%	6.55%	55.92%	37.34%	6.74%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	59.47%	36.93%	3.60%	61.70%	34.00%	3.90%	60.83%	35.06%	4.09%	59.06%	36.43%	4.52%	52.06%	43.62%	4.32%
Statewide	55.86%	39.99%	4.75%	56.72%	38.48%	4.81%	56.48%	38.43%	5.09%	56.37%	38.78%	4.85%	53.90%	43.12%	4.98%
No DCF Targets	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Children in Out-of-Home Care

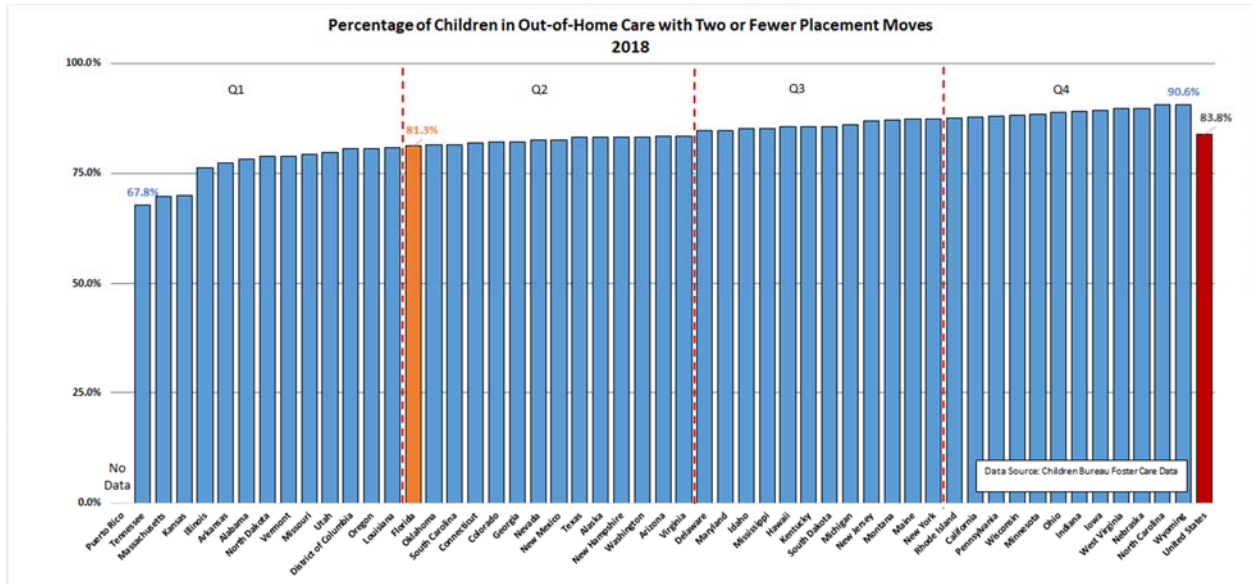
Stable Placements that Maintain Connections

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 September 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

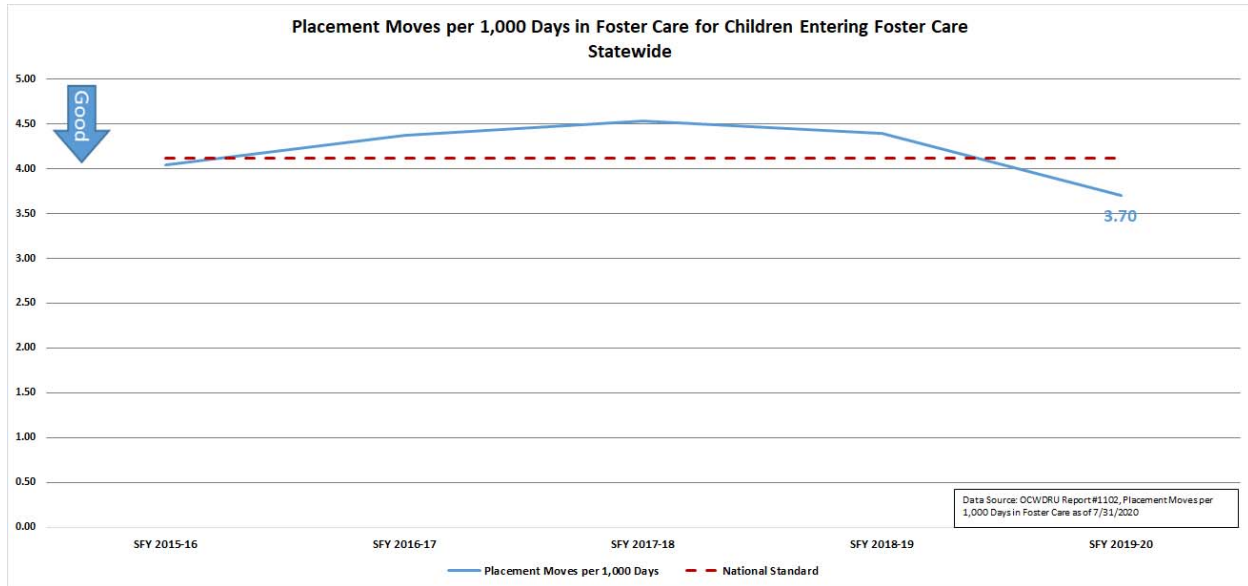
Placement stability as measured by the percentage of children in care with two or fewer placement moves indicates that Florida was firmly in the second quartile of ranked states for the most recent available FFY data.



Placement Stability

Florida Statewide Trend

In SFY 2019-20, statewide performance was better than the initial national standard of 4.12 moves per 1,000 days in foster care.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Although the statewide average and 16 of the 19 areas are below the target of 4.12, 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	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	3.43	3.49	4.20	3.41	3.64
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	3.51	3.08	3.30	3.26	2.95
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	3.46	3.29	3.55	3.33	3.13
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	3.35	3.39	4.90	4.08	2.76
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	5.63	6.56	5.01	4.35	3.77
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	5.13	5.00	5.72	5.10	4.05
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	3.52	3.99	3.29	3.74	3.38
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	3.21	3.58	3.45	3.09	2.70
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	3.60	4.37	4.62	6.46	4.59
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	5.58	5.22	7.09	6.10	5.34
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	3.56	4.42	4.51	3.43	3.26
Families First Network-Circuit 01	5.69	6.16	6.43	7.24	4.75
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	2.72	3.73	3.29	2.28	3.67
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	3.71	3.90	3.26	3.62	3.49
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	3.60	4.47	3.90	3.69	3.61
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	2.44	1.43	3.59	3.27	3.10
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	2.95	2.82	2.82	3.00	2.92
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	3.28	4.12	3.87	3.70	3.08
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	4.33	4.34	3.79	4.36	3.82
Statewide	4.05	4.38	4.53	4.39	3.70
Federal Target of 4.12 or Less	4.12	4.12	4.12	4.12	4.12

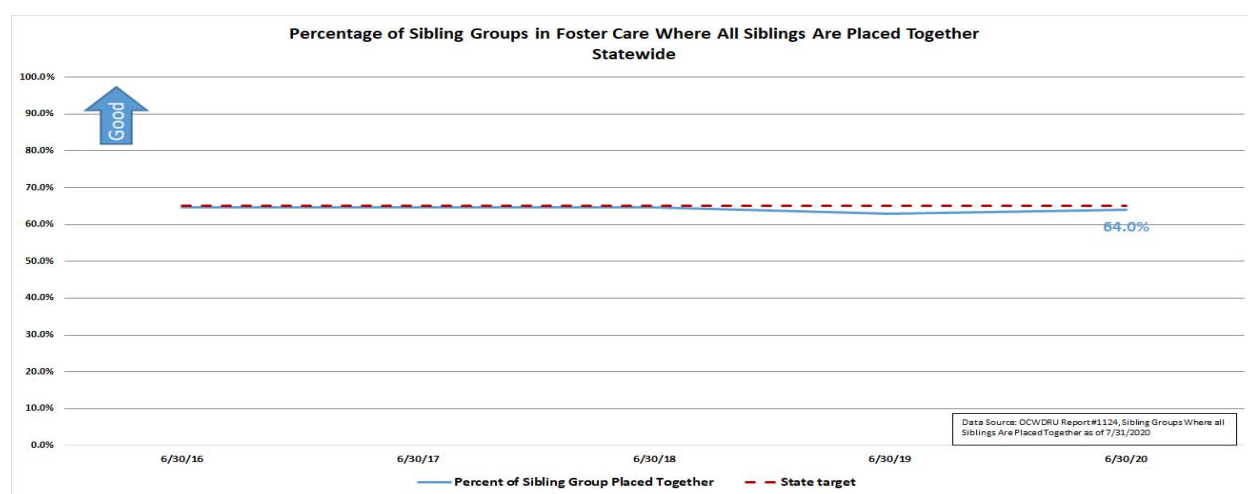
Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1102, Placement Moves per 1,000 Days in Foster Care as of 7/31/2020

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 has been slowly declining over the last five years and it remains below Florida’s own standard of 65 percent.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

Only seven of the 19 CBCs are at or above the 65 percent standard.

Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	67.5%	65.1%	64.6%	61.3%	63.3%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	65.3%	59.4%	56.3%	65.9%	67.2%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	58.4%	58.5%	59.8%	63.7%	61.9%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	59.4%	58.5%	62.0%	57.5%	61.5%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	63.2%	61.5%	61.5%	66.9%	68.3%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	56.3%	60.3%	55.6%	52.8%	57.6%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	69.1%	73.2%	79.4%	68.2%	63.3%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	63.2%	60.3%	60.8%	63.2%	69.7%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	69.6%	63.9%	63.9%	57.3%	60.5%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	62.8%	67.1%	64.6%	60.9%	59.8%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	61.6%	63.2%	66.0%	61.5%	64.3%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	67.5%	65.1%	64.6%	61.3%	63.3%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	68.6%	69.6%	65.9%	71.1%	64.6%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	72.1%	71.6%	73.1%	66.5%	66.7%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	59.6%	63.0%	61.6%	65.6%	60.9%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	75.3%	72.0%	75.0%	72.9%	73.1%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	64.4%	70.8%	72.0%	68.1%	67.4%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	66.0%	66.2%	64.1%	59.4%	65.3%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	72.6%	71.0%	71.6%	63.7%	63.1%
Statewide	64.6%	64.7%	64.6%	62.9%	64.0%
DCF Target of 65.0% or Higher	65.0%	65.0%	65.0%	65.0%	65.0%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1124, Sibling Groups Where all Siblings Are Placed Together as of 7/31/2020

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:

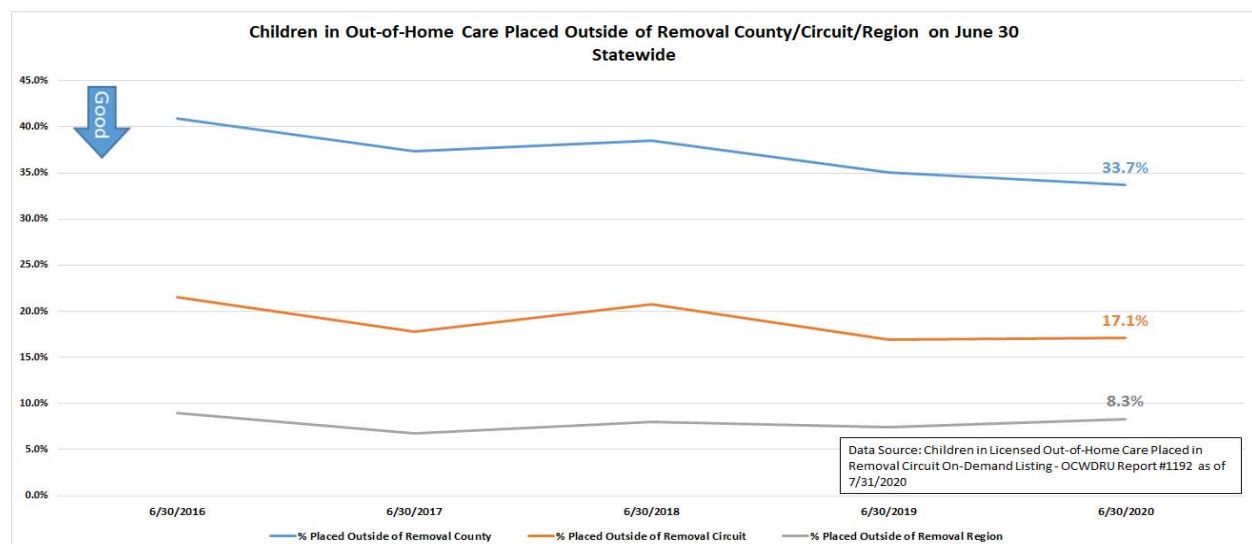
“A plan for ensuring the educational stability of the child while in foster care, including . . . assurances that each placement of the child in foster care takes into account the appropriateness of the current educational setting and the proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the 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 five years, there has been a reduction in the percent of children placed outside their removal county and circuit; though the percent of children placed outside of their removal circuit has not changed since last SFY.



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	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Northwest	Circuit 01	52.9%	55.3%	53.8%	57.4%	51.0%
Northwest	Circuit 02	48.3%	40.8%	47.6%	45.2%	43.9%
Northwest	Circuit 14	63.6%	67.0%	68.1%	70.2%	57.8%
Northeast	Circuit 03	82.0%	92.5%	95.3%	88.1%	66.7%
Northeast	Circuit 04	22.9%	19.6%	18.5%	15.4%	20.0%
Northeast	Circuit 07	33.8%	30.7%	41.0%	41.2%	41.8%
Northeast	Circuit 08	67.9%	77.1%	70.4%	62.5%	44.1%
Central	Circuit 05	60.4%	62.5%	63.2%	55.0%	46.1%
Central	Circuit 09	56.3%	49.4%	53.9%	42.4%	42.5%
Central	Circuit 10	32.1%	25.3%	25.8%	25.8%	23.6%
Central	Circuit 18	27.1%	22.9%	27.0%	22.9%	23.4%
SunCoast	Circuit 06	46.2%	47.2%	48.9%	50.0%	49.9%
SunCoast	Circuit 12	61.3%	52.0%	55.0%	44.2%	47.4%
SunCoast	Circuit 13	24.5%	20.0%	21.3%	17.4%	15.8%
SunCoast	Circuit 20	44.2%	39.8%	39.9%	35.0%	28.7%
Southeast	Circuit 15	25.0%	20.3%	20.4%	15.4%	17.0%
Southeast	Circuit 17	18.8%	16.0%	11.8%	10.0%	13.6%
Southeast	Circuit 19	64.5%	66.2%	58.8%	61.0%	55.2%
Southern	Circuit 11	10.5%	9.8%	7.3%	5.7%	6.9%
Southern	Circuit 16	40.0%	31.1%	25.0%	32.4%	50.0%
Statewide		37.7%	35.9%	36.8%	35.0%	33.7%
No DCF Target		NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed in Removal Circuit On-Demand Listing - OCWDRU Report #1192 as of 7/31/2020

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	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Northwest	Circuit 01	10.1%	16.7%	15.1%	21.7%	16.98%
Northwest	Circuit 02	20.7%	17.3%	22.9%	17.8%	12.56%
Northwest	Circuit 14	34.0%	43.2%	45.5%	40.9%	37.50%
Northeast	Circuit 03	66.7%	72.9%	82.2%	73.3%	54.35%
Northeast	Circuit 04	11.5%	11.4%	10.8%	8.0%	8.37%
Northeast	Circuit 07	10.1%	12.7%	16.0%	16.8%	20.63%
Northeast	Circuit 08	57.0%	54.9%	50.3%	40.8%	32.16%
Central	Circuit 05	16.3%	11.7%	14.4%	8.4%	7.01%
Central	Circuit 09	39.2%	36.4%	38.4%	29.1%	28.21%
Central	Circuit 10	21.0%	16.3%	13.9%	13.5%	10.83%
Central	Circuit 18	25.7%	21.2%	25.4%	19.1%	22.20%
SunCoast	Circuit 06	20.9%	19.3%	25.8%	21.8%	23.76%
SunCoast	Circuit 12	31.7%	22.2%	22.1%	13.6%	14.76%
SunCoast	Circuit 13	24.5%	20.0%	21.3%	16.6%	15.07%
SunCoast	Circuit 20	12.0%	10.1%	12.5%	11.1%	11.06%
Southeast	Circuit 15	25.0%	20.3%	20.4%	15.2%	16.77%
Southeast	Circuit 17	18.8%	16.0%	11.8%	9.7%	13.64%
Southeast	Circuit 19	19.2%	19.0%	14.2%	15.6%	15.66%
Southern	Circuit 11	10.5%	9.8%	7.3%	5.2%	6.59%
Southern	Circuit 16	40.0%	31.1%	25.0%	32.4%	50.00%
Statewide		20.9%	19.0%	19.7%	16.9%	17.08%
No DCF Target		NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source: Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care Placed in Removal Circuit On-Demand Listing - OCWDRU Report #1192 as of 7/31/2020

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 the child. 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 1.23 percent to 11.53 percent.

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

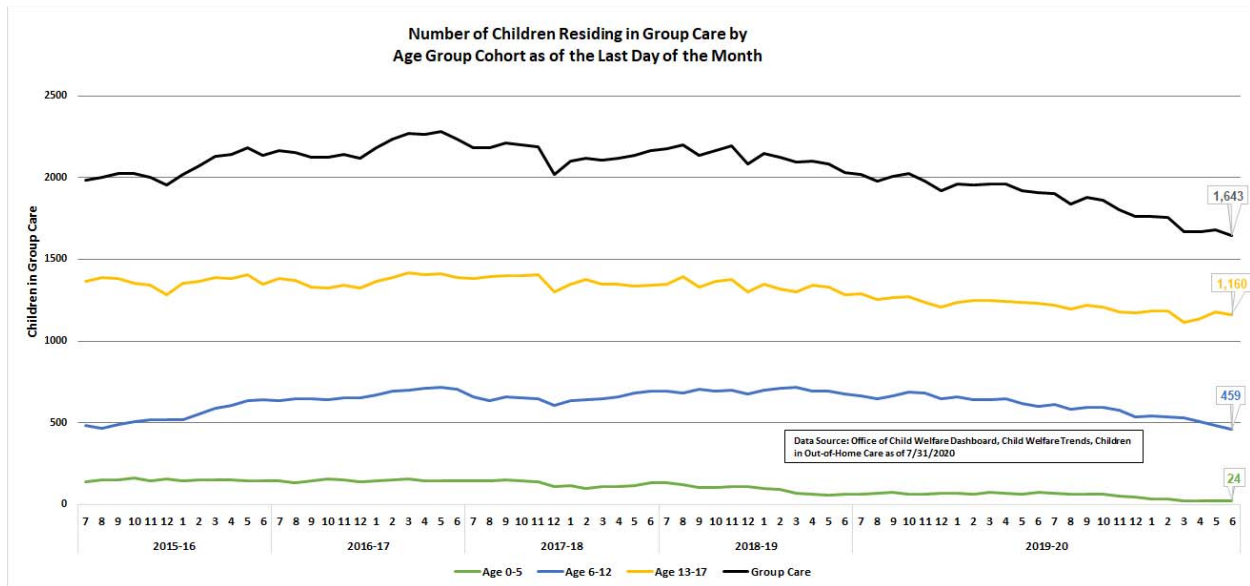
Area	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	12.26%	10.94%	12.86%	9.47%	9.15%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	6.60%	4.92%	5.25%	4.79%	3.35%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	12.47%	11.61%	10.47%	9.84%	9.10%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	16.50%	11.36%	11.95%	9.56%	7.45%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	7.85%	6.45%	6.08%	6.51%	5.40%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	12.15%	11.92%	8.45%	7.63%	5.76%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	15.34%	13.99%	11.62%	13.38%	10.11%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	6.30%	6.38%	7.61%	6.76%	5.56%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	9.71%	9.87%	9.29%	9.19%	8.10%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	7.90%	7.96%	10.35%	10.45%	11.53%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	9.29%	10.84%	8.87%	8.34%	8.64%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	8.09%	9.58%	8.82%	10.75%	8.17%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	4.62%	4.76%	4.14%	3.98%	3.61%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	4.58%	5.35%	4.08%	2.62%	1.23%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	10.58%	8.49%	8.31%	7.42%	7.00%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	7.72%	8.13%	6.86%	5.69%	4.33%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	4.89%	3.15%	2.49%	2.58%	1.85%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	7.18%	5.54%	3.38%	4.08%	3.36%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	14.40%	10.00%	8.84%	9.29%	9.39%
Statewide	9.86%	9.11%	8.54%	8.16%	7.23%
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Children in Out-of-Home Care as of 7/31/2020

Children in Group Care by Age Group

Florida Statewide Trend

The statewide numbers for all age groups of children in group care decreased over the course of SFY 2019-20.



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 17 areas having less than 1 percent of 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

Area	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	0.50%	1.18%	0.44%	0.63%	0.41%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	0.51%	0.52%	0.69%	0.72%	0.72%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	1.65%	2.09%	2.07%	1.89%	2.15%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	1.92%	0.00%	2.26%	1.49%	0.99%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	0.62%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	5.23%	6.21%	1.60%	1.45%	1.96%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	5.63%	2.52%	0.27%	0.55%	0.84%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	1.62%	1.75%	0.71%	0.86%	0.86%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	0.00%	0.55%	0.36%	0.54%	0.64%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	0.12%	0.48%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	0.16%	0.30%	0.00%	0.12%	0.12%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	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%	0.22%	0.22%	0.22%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	0.54%	0.30%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	0.13%	0.37%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.69%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	4.64%	1.07%	0.39%	0.38%	0.36%
Statewide	1.29%	1.13%	0.55%	0.55%	0.59%
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Children in Out-of-Home Care as of 7/31/2020



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 0 percent to 17.00 percent.

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

Area	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	13.14%	10.82%	14.96%	7.96%	9.86%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	7.05%	5.75%	6.31%	4.10%	3.96%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	14.54%	12.45%	8.28%	7.29%	6.08%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	13.98%	5.02%	4.04%	5.30%	4.06%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	6.18%	6.30%	6.56%	6.41%	6.67%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	11.45%	11.72%	11.09%	8.42%	8.17%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	20.79%	20.67%	16.47%	14.56%	14.23%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	5.77%	4.55%	6.90%	6.70%	6.63%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	9.93%	11.18%	11.59%	11.86%	12.09%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	4.87%	8.01%	11.76%	12.11%	12.78%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	6.04%	7.17%	5.17%	4.06%	3.94%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	10.98%	15.02%	15.79%	16.30%	17.00%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	2.86%	7.27%	1.79%	1.85%	0.00%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	4.64%	5.81%	2.40%	1.98%	1.89%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	12.08%	9.31%	9.87%	3.65%	3.86%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	9.73%	8.33%	7.98%	6.94%	7.12%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	2.47%	1.15%	1.08%	2.75%	2.59%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	5.30%	2.51%	1.13%	2.17%	3.49%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	15.53%	12.78%	10.45%	8.36%	8.76%
Statewide	9.85%	9.36%	9.12%	8.10%	8.23%
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Children in Out-of-Home Care as of 7/31/2020

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 4.35 percent to 39.69 percent.

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

Area	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/20/2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	41.83%	40.43%	41.95%	40.23%	38.17%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	22.86%	15.28%	14.91%	17.42%	12.77%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	37.05%	35.34%	36.12%	31.40%	28.77%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	49.61%	42.24%	45.13%	35.11%	31.08%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	27.99%	22.74%	22.34%	23.37%	21.81%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	24.53%	21.93%	17.85%	18.77%	14.14%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	29.37%	34.23%	37.07%	42.55%	35.82%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	29.71%	30.37%	31.00%	26.57%	27.72%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	30.65%	31.44%	33.42%	28.65%	27.48%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	30.08%	28.07%	34.68%	35.92%	39.69%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	37.54%	41.52%	35.31%	34.94%	34.34%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	25.33%	27.57%	26.79%	33.17%	24.41%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	20.00%	12.50%	21.43%	26.09%	15.00%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	20.00%	20.86%	17.16%	10.06%	4.35%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	35.29%	30.57%	29.24%	35.19%	31.15%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	27.46%	30.43%	25.44%	18.97%	15.56%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	20.93%	18.92%	12.24%	9.84%	7.35%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	30.72%	25.77%	19.70%	20.49%	17.78%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	40.00%	30.46%	29.83%	33.85%	33.48%
Statewide	31.69%	29.78%	29.54%	28.57%	26.32%
No DCF Target	NT	NT	NT	NT	NT

Data Source Child Welfare Dashboard, Child Welfare Trends, Children in Out-of-Home Care as of 7/31/2020

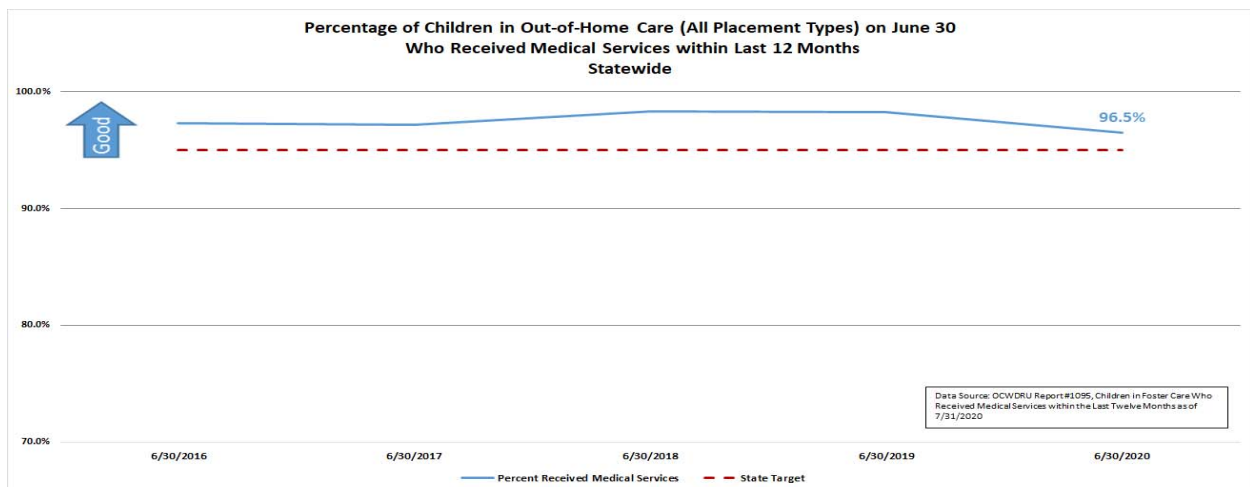
Physical and Mental Health Needs

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 has stabilized in the 96.5 to 98 percent range for this indicator over the last five years



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

COVID-19 restrictions have made it difficult to maintain medical service levels for children in foster care as of June 30, 2019.

Percentage of Children in Out-of-Home Care (All Placement Types) on June 30 Who Received Medical Services within Last 12 Months

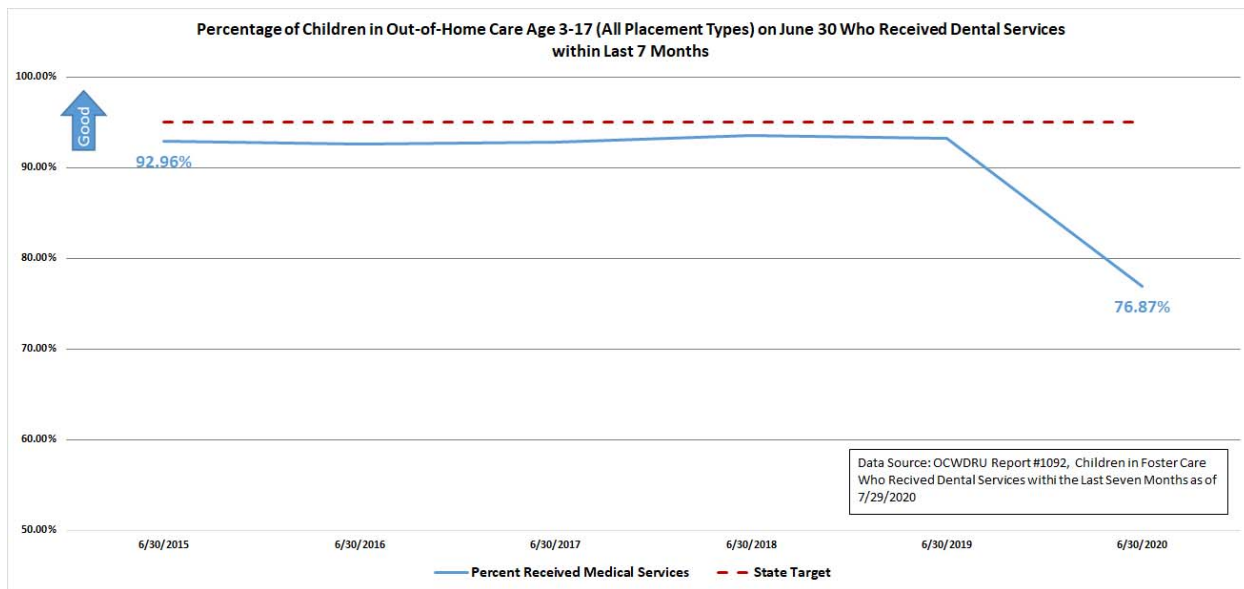
Area	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 &14	99.2%	99.2%	98.3%	95.4%	94.1%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	96.7%	95.6%	98.8%	98.9%	96.8%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	96.9%	96.8%	95.6%	98.0%	98.1%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	96.1%	98.2%	99.1%	98.4%	97.4%
Children’s Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	93.4%	95.7%	99.1%	99.3%	97.8%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	97.3%	97.2%	98.3%	98.2%	96.5%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	98.3%	97.3%	98.7%	97.8%	94.5%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	93.0%	93.6%	96.6%	96.9%	92.7%
Eckerd Community-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	97.7%	98.7%	93.5%	97.2%	97.8%
Eckerd Community-Pasco and Pinellas-Circuit 06	98.5%	98.5%	99.3%	98.7%	90.6%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	95.6%	96.4%	98.0%	97.7%	93.0%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	92.9%	97.8%	93.4%	96.8%	91.6%
St Johns Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	97.4%	97.9%	98.3%	100.0%	98.4%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	98.2%	98.9%	97.5%	95.4%	94.0%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	98.2%	99.0%	98.9%	97.9%	98.2%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	95.1%	95.7%	98.0%	98.0%	96.2%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	99.1%	98.4%	92.2%	96.4%	85.0%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	97.5%	98.7%	97.6%	98.2%	94.3%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	97.3%	95.8%	93.3%	95.6%	97.9%
Statewide	96.5%	97.3%	97.1%	97.6%	95.0%
DCF Target 95.0% or Higher	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1095, Children in Foster Care Who Received Medical Services within the Last Twelve Months as of 8/27/2019

Dental Services

Florida Statewide Trend

COVID-19 restrictions have made it difficult to maintain dental service levels for children in foster care as of June 30, 2019.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

COVID-19 restrictions have made it difficult to maintain dental service levels for children in foster care as of June 30, 2019.

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					
DCF Target 95.0% or Higher					
Area	6/30/2016	6/30/2017	6/30/2018	6/30/2019	6/30/2020
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	97.47%	98.52%	96.42%	92.33%	74.74%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	92.70%	95.29%	94.24%	95.63%	87.28%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	92.94%	91.03%	92.04%	95.71%	85.62%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	94.67%	92.00%	97.63%	95.94%	77.63%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	84.86%	93.77%	97.95%	98.82%	92.66%
Citrus Health Network-Circuits 11 & 16	96.42%	95.21%	94.79%	96.21%	77.52%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	95.61%	93.98%	97.42%	96.03%	82.65%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	82.70%	80.87%	90.45%	90.93%	65.26%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	96.60%	96.84%	85.94%	92.01%	81.86%
Eckerd Community Alternative-Circuit 06	97.43%	96.40%	96.78%	89.48%	57.40%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	94.13%	98.14%	95.45%	95.23%	68.43%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	81.85%	91.37%	89.88%	92.39%	75.98%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	97.54%	94.96%	94.59%	99.11%	57.14%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	95.49%	96.50%	94.62%	88.30%	80.04%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	92.49%	95.04%	94.57%	93.27%	84.92%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	92.63%	95.18%	97.08%	96.61%	85.55%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	96.18%	97.65%	78.66%	81.62%	54.79%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	95.31%	96.24%	92.42%	97.52%	85.16%
Sarasota Y/Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	81.38%	58.82%	89.75%	79.25%	71.19%
Statewide	92.59%	92.81%	93.55%	93.24%	76.87%
DCF Target	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%	95.00%

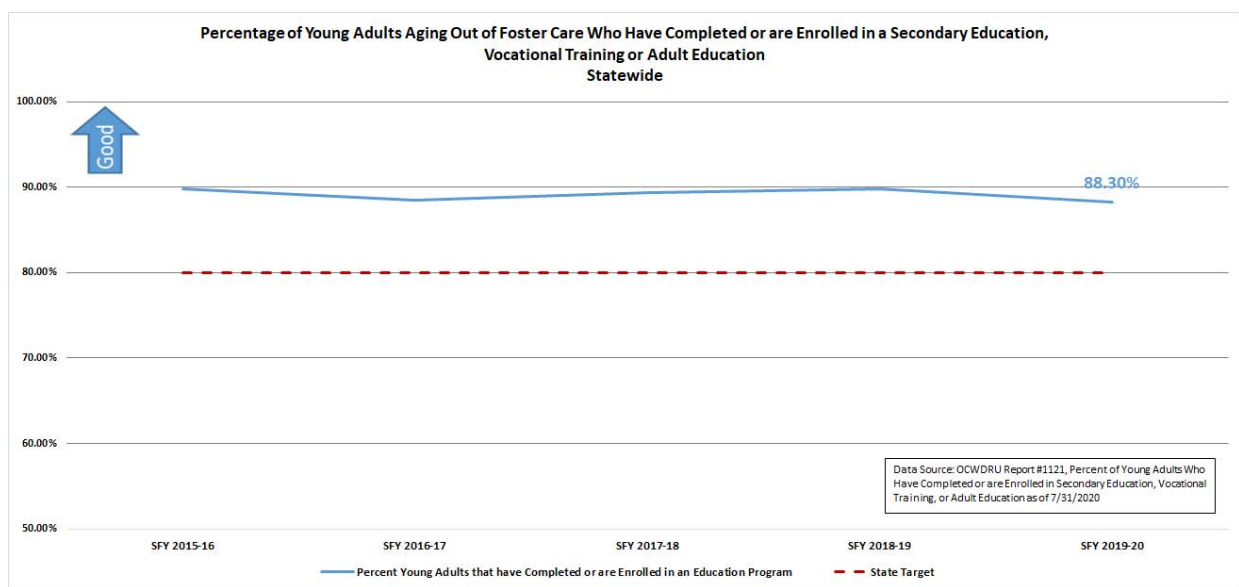
Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1092, Children in Foster Care Who Received Dental Services within the Last Seven Months as of 7/29/2020

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, the child’s education level when entering care, developmental delays, level and type of trauma experienced by the child, etc.



Circuit/CBC Comparisons

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

Area	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Big Bend CBC-Circuits 02 & 14	80.00%	81.82%	100.00%	91.67%	68.75%
Brevard Family Partnership-Circuit 18 (Brevard County Only)	86.67%	87.10%	96.30%	78.57%	96.30%
ChildNet-Broward-Circuit 17	92.59%	91.74%	90.65%	93.75%	98.25%
ChildNet-Palm Beach-Circuit 15	94.12%	95.16%	98.36%	92.45%	98.39%
Children's Network of SW FL-Circuit 20	94.00%	91.18%	95.45%	94.12%	92.31%
Citrus Heath Network-Circuits 11 & 16	84.51%	83.82%	87.25%	91.58%	82.76%
Communities Connected for Kids-Circuit 19	84.00%	88.10%	83.33%	83.33%	82.61%
Community Partnership for Children-Circuit 07 (Flagler, Putnam and Volusia Counties Only)	88.24%	75.00%	64.52%	92.00%	92.59%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Circuit 06	95.65%	88.31%	87.18%	87.80%	83.12%
Eckerd Community Alternatives-Hillsborough-Circuit 13	98.85%	95.83%	91.76%	90.38%	85.23%
Embrace Families-Circuits 09 & 18 (Seminole County Only)	75.95%	85.94%	86.75%	73.68%	89.66%
Families First Network-Circuit 01	86.67%	85.45%	85.37%	90.00%	74.29%
Family Integrity-Circuit 07 (St Johns County Only)	64.29%	75.00%	75.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Family Support Services of North FL-Circuit 04 (Duval & Nassau Counties)	93.94%	96.88%	96.30%	100.00%	93.33%
Heartland for Children-Circuit 10	93.18%	88.46%	90.70%	95.65%	88.24%
Kids Central, Inc.-Circuit 05	92.50%	84.91%	94.64%	93.55%	88.89%
Kids First, Inc.-Circuit 4 (Clay County Only)	100.00%	100.00%	87.50%	100.00%	100.00%
Partnership for Strong Families-Circuits 03 & 08	100.00%	89.47%	86.96%	88.89%	92.86%
Sarasota Safe Children Coalition-Circuit 12	96.15%	90.91%	79.41%	80.95%	82.05%
Statewide	89.76%	88.47%	89.36%	89.79%	88.30%
DCF Target 80.0% or Higher	80.00%	80.00%	80.00%	80.00%	80.00%

Data Source: OCWDRU Report #1121, "Percent of Young Adults Who Have Completed or are Enrolled in Secondary Education, Vocational Training, or Adult Education" as of 7/31/2020