

**Annual Accountability Report
ON THE
Health of Florida's Child Welfare System
Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

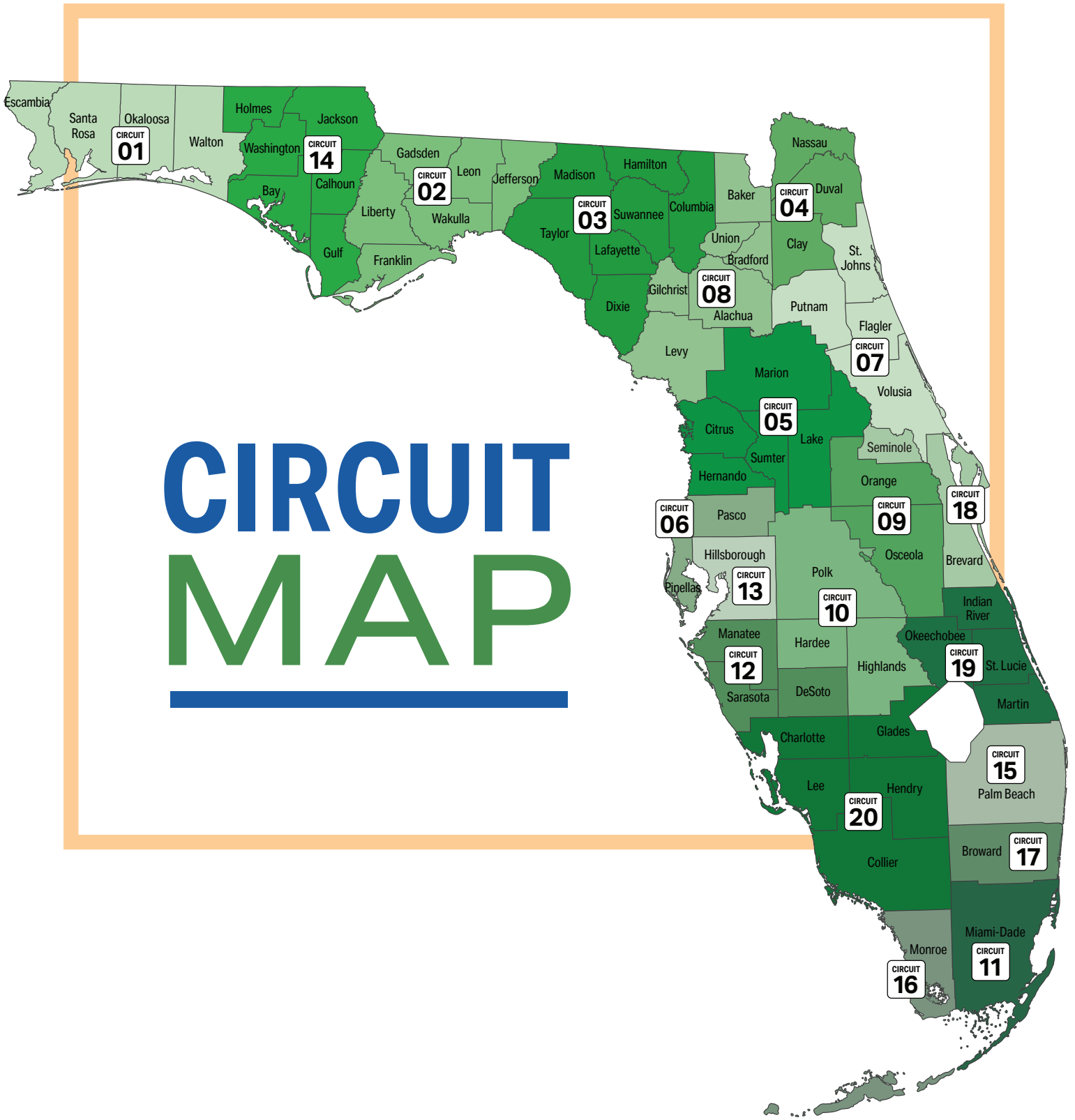


Taylor N. Hatch
Secretary

Ron DeSantis
Governor

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Message from Secretary Hatch

Florida Department of Children and Families

The Florida Department of Children and Families (Department) is honored to serve as steward of the child welfare system for our great state, a responsibility we embrace with compassion, accountability, and a deep belief that every interaction has the power to change a life. Our commitment to strengthening families and communities throughout Florida is reflected in daily efforts to protect the vulnerable, promote stability, and empower children and families to achieve self-sufficiency and long-term success.

Under the bold leadership of Governor Ron DeSantis, and through strong partnerships with our community-based care partners and judicial stakeholders, the Department continues to advance tangible progress across the child welfare continuum. Since 2019 alone, Florida has experienced a 47 percent decrease in children entering out-of-home care.

With this annual report, I am pleased to highlight the Department's continued commitment to improving systems, fostering collaboration, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring the work we do delivers real outcomes for Florida's children and families.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025, Florida achieved significant gains in timely permanency, family preservation, and child safety. Florida continues to lead the nation in investigative response times and has surpassed national averages in several critical safety and prevention metrics. In FY 2024-2025, 94.4 percent of children did not experience recurrent maltreatment within 12 months of an initial finding, exceeding the national target.

Florida ranked among the top three states in the nation for percentage of caseworker visits conducted in the home in SFY 2024-2025, underscoring Florida's commitment to meeting families where they are and prioritizing stability. Nearly 100 percent (99.6) of visits occurred in the child's residence in SFY 2024-2025, 10 percent above the national average.

More children are also exiting out-of-home care to permanent families. During SFY 2024-2025, exits from care exceeded new entries by 12.9 percent, and the percentage of children achieving permanency within twelve months of entering care increased by seven percent. Children in care for twelve to twenty-three months also experienced higher permanency rates, demonstrating success in the department's efforts to bolster supports and ensure timely, meaningful, and lasting outcomes.



Data from SFY 2024-2025 also indicates increased success in families remaining safely together following a child's reunification or other exit from care. Over the past year, the percentage of children who did not reenter out-of-home care within twelve months of exiting increased by two percent, further indicating the effectiveness of supportive services and post-permanency planning. Together, these gains reflect hope restored, families reunited, and brighter futures realized for Florida's children.

Florida's child-welfare system continues to evolve with purpose, innovation, and determination, but our work is not done. The Department is advancing a set of strategic initiatives focused on four priority areas: Safety, to enhance staff capacity to assess and respond to safety threats and improve the connection of families to services and supports within their communities; Placement stability, to increase the use of relative placements, strengthen foster care capacity, and improve supports for foster families and children's educational needs; Permanency to streamline case review processes, improve alignment around reunification standards, and reinforce accountability to expedite permanency; and engagement to strengthen meaningful engagement with parents through improved training, peer support structures, and targeted fatherhood initiatives.

These targeted strategies are grounded in directly addressing the identified root causes and barriers that impact children and families across Florida's child welfare continuum. Each strategy is designed to reinforce, sustain, and accelerate the Department's progress in achieving safety, permanency, and well-being for Florida's children.

We remain profoundly grateful for the continued support and leadership of Governor Ron DeSantis the partnership of the Florida Legislature, and the collaboration of countless advocates and stakeholders who share in this mission. Through a unified vision of partnership, intentionality and the belief that every moment matters, we are building a stronger, more resilient Florida, where families are empowered, communities are connected, and every child has the foundation to flourish for generations to come. Building upon Florida's progress requires a unified vision of partnership, intentionality, and the belief that every moment matters.

Taylor N. Hatch



Secretary



Escambia
Okaloosa
Santa Rosa
Walton

CIRCUIT 01

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

837,218
177,445

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

6,292
488
7.8

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

2,702
608
607
3.4

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.30%
88.6%
22.3
7.9%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Northwest Florida Health Network
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

01

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
91.04%	89.38%	-1.66%	93.32%
30.62%	36.30%	5.68%	31.82%
65.48%	60.15%	-5.33%	51.87%
53.09%	48.30%	-4.84%	50.50%
5.89	6.51	-0.62	4.95
----	60.93%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

94.16%	94.09%	-0.07%	96.93%
11.96	10.37	1.59	5.34
90.01%	92.60%	2.59%	94.41%
----	57.97%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.84%	99.85%	0.01%	99.50%
53.47%	53.06%	-0.41%	57.26%
----	27.72%	----	30.74%



Franklin
Gadsden
Jefferson
Leon
Liberty
Wakulla

CIRCUIT 02

PERMANENCY



SAFETY*



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

418,805
78,064

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

2,852
100
3.5

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

1,190
166
182
2.1

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.60%
78.5%
16.6
13.5%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Northwest Florida Health Network
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

02

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
88.57%	94.44%	5.87%	93.32%
30.58%	23.89%	-6.69%	31.82%
36.27%	45.24%	8.97%	51.87%
55.08%	50.1%	-4.99%	50.50%
5.47	6.97	-1.50	4.95
----	47.47%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

96.41%	96.41%	0.00%	96.93%
6.79	6.61	0.18	5.34
94.65%	91.59%	-3.06%	94.41%
----	55.81%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.82%	99.92%	0.10%	99.50%
47.95%	50.70%	2.75%	57.26%
----	24.55%	----	30.74%



Columbia
Dixie
Hamilton
Lafayette
Madison
Suwannee
Taylor

CIRCUIT 03

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

197,258
40,182

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

1,760
100
5.7

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

774
133
189
3.3

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

4.5%
86.7%
21.9
13.5%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Partnership for Strong Families
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

03

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
98.18%	100.00%	1.82%	93.32%
26.34%	32.67%	6.33%	31.82%
56.20%	33.94%	-22.26%	51.87%
60.91%	52.30%	-8.60%	50.50%
6.46	3.89	2.57	4.95
----	63.12%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

95.73%	98.85%	3.12%	96.93%
11.53	1.52	10.01	5.34
95.42%	93.94%	-1.48%	94.41%
----	56.04%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.77%	99.83%	0.06%	99.50%
47.83%	48.68%	0.85%	57.26%
----	21.00%	----	30.74%



Clay
Duval
Nassau

CIRCUIT 04

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,380,583
301,896

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

9,321
603
6.5

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

3,984
729
725
2.4

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.40%
89.7%
14.4
8.3%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
 Lead Agency: Family Support Services of North Florida, Inc (Duval and Nassau)
 Kids First of Florida (Clay)
 Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

04

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
 Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
 Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in
 Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
 Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
 Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
 Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
95.68%	91.24%	-4.44%	93.32%
22.49%	27.34%	4.85%	31.82%
47.78%	57.61%	9.83%	51.87%
47.92%	42.90%	-5.02%	50.50%
5.75	4.89	0.86	4.95
----	52.11%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
 Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
 Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months
 of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
 Qualitative Index for Safety

96.93%	97.62%	0.69	96.93%
4.99	3.73	1.26	5.34
94.37%	96.76%	2.39%	94.41%
----	56.18%	---	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
 Children Placed with Siblings
 Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.77%	99.67%	-0.10%	99.50%
49.81%	43.46%	-6.35%	57.26%
----	21.72%	----	30.74%



Citrus
Hernando
Lake
Marion
Sumter

CIRCUIT 05

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,325,329
221,296

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

8,941
397
4.4

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

2,588
506
725
2.3

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

4.50%
87.1%
21.2
8.6%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Kids Central, Inc.
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

05

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in
Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
92.37%	89.78%	-2.59%	93.32%
26.23%	28.62%	2.39%	31.82%
37.01%	42.40%	5.39%	51.87%
59.98%	54.9%	-5.11%	50.50%
9.41	6.21	3.20	4.95
----	61.82%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months
of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

96.18%	97.69%	1.51	96.93%
6.14	5.07	1.07	5.34
95.41%	96.04%	0.63%	94.41%
----	57.24%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

97.84%	99.53%	1.69%	99.50%
61.26%	60.82%	-0.44%	57.26%
----	31.05%	----	30.74%



Pasco
Pinellas

CIRCUIT 06

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,589,538
269,168

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

8,555
341
4.0

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

3,060
423
863
1.6

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.50%
89.4%
18.1
7.4%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Family Support Services
Legal Services: State Attorney's Office

CIRCUIT

06

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
92.35%	95.47%	3.12%	93.32%
30.80%	30.71%	-0.09%	31.82%
54.02%	57.58%	3.56%	51.87%
48.62%	42.40%	-6.27%	50.50%
5.39	4.88	0.51	4.95
----	55.73%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

97.26%	96.19%	-1.07%	96.93%
5.92	3.82	2.10	5.34
93.15%	94.51%	1.36%	94.41%
----	63.51%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.75%	99.71%	-0.04%	99.50%
57.59%	60.76%	3.17%	57.26%
----	36.36%	----	30.74%



Flagler
Putnam
St. Johns
Volusia

CIRCUIT 07

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,095,320
201,898

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

7,038
235
3.3

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

1,729
289
378
1.4

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.80%
90.6%
18.2
9.3%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
 Lead Agencies: Community Partnership for Children, Inc. (Flagler, Putnam, Volusia)
 St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners Family Integrity Program
 Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

07

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
 Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
 Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in
 Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
 Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
 Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
 Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
81.90%	90.67%	8.77%	93.32%
26.85%	30.99%	4.14%	31.82%
59.84%	58.78%	-1.06%	51.87%
43.50%	41.40%	-2.14%	50.50%
4.17	3.9	0.27	4.95
-----	63.78	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
 Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
 Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months
 of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
 Qualitative Index for Safety

97.51%	97.66%	0.15%	96.93%
6.10	3.7	2.40	5.34
95.16%	94.95%	-0.21%	94.41%
-----	60.80%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
 Children Placed with Siblings
 Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.88%	99.80%	-0.08%	99.50%
55.92%	60.80%	4.88%	57.26%
-----	36.51%	----	30.74%



Alachua
Baker
Bradford
Gilchrist
Levy
Union

CIRCUIT 08

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

425,894
80,143

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

2,979
124
4.2

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

888
149
208
1.8

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.80%
84.3%
25.4
11.5%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Partnership for Strong Families
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

08

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
94.59%	88.57%	-6.02%	93.32%
22.95%	24.08%	1.13%	31.82%
55.46%	53.40%	-2.06%	51.87%
54.02%	47.10%	-6.97%	50.50%
7.87	5.58	2.29	4.95
----	53.05%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

96.24%	96.19%	-0.05%	96.93%
5.35	5.11	0.24	5.34
95.34%	95.49%	0.15%	94.41%
----	50.91%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.26%	99.76%	0.50%	99.50%
58.76%	60.71%	1.95%	57.26%
----	19.76%	----	30.74%



Orange
Osceola

CIRCUIT 09

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,957,941
419,674

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

10,416
299
2.9

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

1,901
370
660
0.9

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.40%
86.9%
9.0
10.1%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Family Partnerships of Central Florida
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

09

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
90.35%	95.05%	4.70%	93.32%
20.81%	22.34%	1.53%	31.82%
41.33%	51.38%	10.05%	51.87%
54.55%	50.00%	-4.51%	50.50%
5.36	4.39	0.97	4.95
----	58.97%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

94.00%	96.08%	2.08%	96.93%
9.34	4.34	5.00	5.34
94.45%	92.71%	-1.74%	94.41%
----	73.05%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

98.81%	99.47%	0.66%	99.50%
51.31%	52.11%	0.80%	57.26%
----	32.54%	----	30.74%



Hardee
Highlands
Polk

CIRCUIT 10

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

921,375
196,485

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

6,701
449
6.7

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

2,409
561
627
2.9

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

4.50%
79.7%
16.9
14.3%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Heartland For Children
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

10

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
93.23%	94.88%	1.65%	93.32%
35.65%	31.10%	-4.55%	31.82%
48.23%	43.52%	-4.71%	51.87%
62.74%	63.10%	0.32%	50.50%
3.27	2.74	0.53	4.95
----	51.31%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

95.72%	97.54%	1.82%	96.93%
6.10	3.87	2.23	5.34
92.63%	95.70%	3.07%	94.41%
----	64.71%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.71%	99.92%	0.21%	99.50%
59.71%	62.55%	2.84%	57.26%
----	28.37%	----	30.74%



Miami-Dade

CIRCUIT 11

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

2,785,095
549,590

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

7,512
458
6.1

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

2,229
557
655
1.0

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

2.4%
90.3%
7.7
11.4%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Citrus Family Care Network
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

11

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
92.38%	88.39%	-3.99%	93.32%
21.58%	22.76%	1.18%	31.82%
44.83%	47.20%	2.37%	51.87%
52.20%	48.90%	-3.29%	50.50%
5.04	4.87	0.17	4.95
----	52.99%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

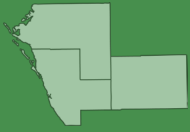
Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

96.79%	98.46%	1.67%	96.93%
4.87	6.19	-1.32	5.34
95.31%	96.37%	1.06%	94.41%
----	69.78%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.69%	99.70%	0.01%	99.50%
60.71%	59.02%	-1.69%	57.26%
----	33.67%	----	30.74%



DeSoto
Manatee
Sarasota

CIRCUIT 12

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

930,984
143,226

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

4,744
269
5.7

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

1,245
302
393
2.1

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.80%
81.7%
12.2
9.9%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Safe Children Coalition
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

12

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
88.20%	94.35%	6.15%	93.32%
41.44%	30.61%	-10.83%	31.82%
52.53%	64.20%	11.67%	51.87%
54.73%	52.20%	-2.52%	50.50%
5.60	3.96	1.64	4.95
----	62.02%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

97.35%	96.91%	-0.44%	96.93%
7.29	3.08	4.21	5.34
94.54%	96.37%	1.83%	94.41%
----	75.40%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.56%	99.76%	0.20%	99.50%
66.67%	60.67%	-6.00%	57.26%
----	37.06%	----	30.74%



Hillsborough

CIRCUIT 13

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,553,742
332,946

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

7,981
388
4.9

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

3,874
497
755
1.5

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.40%
86.2%
13.4
9.6%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Children's Network of Hillsborough
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

13

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
91.39%	96.64%	5.25%	93.32%
18.08%	21.60%	3.52%	31.82%
41.56%	40.58%	-0.98%	51.87%
54.82%	50.50%	-4.34%	50.50%
5.08	5.50	-0.42	4.95
----	51.72%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

97.79%	97.98%	0.19%	96.93%
6.67	5.06	1.61	5.34
92.98%	94.33%	1.35%	94.41%
----	55.97%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.67%	99.61%	-0.06%	99.50%
53.22%	53.35%	0.13%	57.26%
----	25.74%	----	30.74%



Bay
Calhoun
Gulf
Holmes
Jackson
Washington

CIRCUIT 14

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

313,192
62,345

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

3,143
146
4.6

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

922
215
296
3.4

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.60%
83.9%
15.7
12.2%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Northwest Florida Health Network
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

14

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
88.16%	90.41%	2.25%	93.32%
43.84%	37.29%	-6.55%	31.82%
59.62%	66.67%	7.05%	51.87%
57.80%	56.00%	-1.82%	50.50%
4.17	6.15	-1.98	4.95
----	65.04%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

95.35%	94.82%	-0.53%	96.93%
4.76	5.20	-0.44	5.34
93.26%	94.45%	1.19%	94.41%
	70.69%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.95%	99.97%	0.02%	99.50%
64.21%	59.21%	-5.00%	57.26%
----	37.36%	----	30.74%



Palm Beach

CIRCUIT 15

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,538,719
284,065

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

6,895
351
5.1

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

1,810
472
502
1.7

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.30%
90.5%
12.8
7.5%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: ChildNet, Inc.
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

15

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
93.06%	92.66%	-0.40%	93.32%
36.04%	42.66%	6.62%	31.82%
62.07%	57.65%	-4.42%	51.87%
53.15%	50.20%	-2.90%	50.50%
3.83	4.08	-0.25	4.95
----	56.49%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

96.27%	98.56%	2.29%	96.93%
8.71	5.10	3.61	5.34
96.50%	95.01%	-1.49%	94.41%
----	58.97%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.74%	99.88%	0.14%	99.50%
66.67%	60.14%	-6.53%	57.26%
----	23.84	----	30.74%



Monroe

CIRCUIT 16

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

84,572
13,150

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

327
31
9.5

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

164
36
29
2.7

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

2.30%
89.0%
31.6
6.7%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Citrus Family Care Network
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

16

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in
Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
91.30%	100.00%	8.70%	93.32%
46.43%	34.92%	-11.51%	31.82%
57.14%	22.22%	-34.92%	51.87%
54.73%	56.20%	1.50%	50.50%
9.24	3.10	6.14	4.95
----	67.03%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months
of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

100.00%	98.75%	-1.25%	96.93%
14.74	4.15	10.59	5.34
94.52%	95.65%	1.13%	94.41%
----	68.18%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

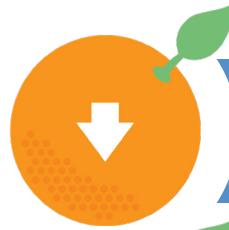
99.92%	99.99%	0.07%	99.50%
66.67%	54.76%	-11.91%	57.26%
----	40.19%	----	30.74%



Broward

CIRCUIT 17

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,987,884
405,369

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

8,175
380
4.6

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

2,059
540
619
1.3

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.20%
88.7%
9.3
9.4%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: ChildNet, Inc.
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

17

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
94.54%	94.51%	-0.03%	93.32%
31.77%	42.51%	10.74%	31.82%
50.34%	47.74%	-2.60%	51.87%
48.71%	51.40%	2.74%	50.50%
4.51	4.63	-0.12	4.95
----	57.10%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

94.96%	97.79%	3.10%	96.93%
7.33	8.72	-1.39	5.34
93.74%	93.90%	0.16%	94.41%
----	73.97%	---	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.77%	99.84%	0.07%	99.50%
61.62%	63.54%	1.92%	57.26%
----	35.23%	----	30.74%



Brevard
Seminole

CIRCUIT 18

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,129,520
212,680

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

7,160
321
4.5

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

1,790
366
608
1.7

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.30%
90.7%
16.5
6.6%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Family Partnerships of Central Florida
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

18

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
86.32%	94.90%	8.58%	93.32%
27.48%	36.08%	8.60%	31.82%
52.36%	58.46%	6.10%	51.87%
60.23%	56.80%	-3.46%	50.50%
5.01	4.62	0.39	4.95
----	54.67%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

94.70%	97.98%	3.28%	96.93%
9.57	7.19	2.38	5.34
93.68%	94.38%	0.70%	94.41%
----	64.39%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.63%	99.88%	0.25%	99.50%
60.50%	56.25%	-4.25%	57.26%
----	31.93%	----	30.74%



Indian River
Martin
Okeechobee
St. Lucie

CIRCUIT 19

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

734,066
128,690

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

4,031
199
4.9

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

980
227
330
1.8

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

3.90%
87.3%
19.9
9.2%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Communities Connected for Kids
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

19

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
91.94%	96.03%	4.09%	93.32%
34.45%	38.15%	3.70%	31.82%
64.80%	64.39%	-0.41%	51.87%
54.63%	50.70%	-3.91%	50.50%
3.95	3.69	0.26	4.95
----	65.59%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

95.86%	93.57%	-2.29%	96.93%
13.44	6.88	6.56	5.34
93.87%	90.37%	-3.50%	94.41%
----	69.23%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.92%	99.89%	-0.03%	99.50%
61.05%	59.70%	-1.35%	57.26%
----	32.91%	----	30.74%



Charlotte
Collier
Glades
Hendry
Lee

CIRCUIT 20

PERMANENCY



SAFETY



WELL-BEING



Circuit Statewide

Total Population
Population Under 18

1,478,548
237,988

22,685,583
4,356,300

Investigations
Removals
Removal Rate Per 1,000 Investigations

7,834
390
5.0

122,657
6,069
4.9

Children Receiving Services
Children Entering Care
Children Exiting Care
Entry Rate Per 1,000 in the General Population

2,498
508
584
2.1

38,796
7,653
9,936
1.8

Unemployment Rate
Graduation Rate
Suicide Rate Per 100,000
Families Below Poverty Level

4.00%
83.9%
18.7
11.5%

3.4%
88.00%
14.1
8.90%

METRIC PERFORMANCE

Investigations: DCF
Lead Agency: Children's Network of Southwest Florida
Legal Services: DCF

CIRCUIT

20

PERMANENCY

Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives
Placement Moves Per 1,000 Bed Days
Qualitative Index for Permanency

FY 23-24 Circuit Performance	FY 24-25 Circuit Performance	Change	Statewide Average Performance
95.24%	94.63%	-0.61%	93.32%
39.63%	36.90%	-2.73%	31.82%
63.28%	57.50%	-5.78%	51.87%
54.84%	50.60%	-4.20%	50.50%
6.03	5.71	0.32	4.95
----	66.95%	----	57.97%

SAFETY

Children Not Abused During In-Home Services
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care
Children with No Recurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment
Qualitative Index for Safety

98.18%	96.54%	-1.64%	96.93%
4.50	4.58	-0.08	5.34
94.97%	95.32%	0.35%	94.41%
----	57.79%	----	63.23%

WELL-BEING

Children Seen Every 30 Days
Children Placed with Siblings
Qualitative Index for Well-Being

99.86	99.93%	0.07%	99.50%
57.14%	60.59%	3.45%	57.26%
----	40.22%	----	30.74%

Appendix 1: Methodology

Metrics

Metrics included in the accountability system focus on child and family outcomes and the quality of services provided by each practice area within a circuit. There is a total of 13 accountability metrics, which have been established across the domains of permanency, safety, and well-being. Three of the accountability metrics are qualitative index measures, representing the percent of all qualitative standards met within each domain.

Each metric has been clearly defined with standard levels of quality prescribed. The majority of measures and performance standards are aligned with federal standards. For the three state-specific metrics without pre-established federal standards, standards were established based on historical statewide performance.

A complete listing of the accountability metrics is provided in Appendix 2 of this report, and a complete listing of the qualitative standards included in the qualitative index scores is provided in Appendix 3 of this report.

In addition to the accountability metrics, provided alongside each of the circuit scores throughout this report is data on relevant contextual factors. While these factors are not a part of the methodology used to score circuit health, they are highly relevant to understanding and interpreting performance on the accountability metrics. The contextual factors considered throughout this report include the following: numbers of total population and the population under age 18; numbers of investigations, removals, and removal rates; numbers of children receiving services, entering care, exiting care, and entry rates; and rates for unemployment, graduation, suicide, and poverty. Circuit-specific and statewide data is provided for each of these contextual factors.

Data Sources

The Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) is the data source for all quantitative measures, and the data source for all qualitative metrics is the Qualtrics CFSR-4 Desk Review Tool, which collects the results of the quality reviews conducted by the Department's Quality Office. Quality review standards were established based on standards outlined in federal Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR).

Reviews are conducted using a representative, random population sample at a volume to provide results at 90 percent confidence with a 10 percent margin of error, by circuit. Additionally, the Department has deployed a quarterly "Benchmarking" process to ensure the inter-rater reliability and agreeability of findings. The results of this process have shown the quality review findings to be above industry standards for reliability.

Scoring

This report presents data reflecting the performance of circuits over the twelve months of State Fiscal Year (FY) 2024–25. The methodology for evaluating circuit performance was updated in last fiscal year to emphasize year-over-year improvements within each circuit. This approach supports a culture of continuous quality improvement by recognizing both progress achieved and opportunities for further growth. Data in this report should not be interpreted as assessing an individual lead agency's performance against contract measures.

Upward, downward, and inward facing arrows are used to illustrate performance trends across the domains of permanency, safety, and well-being. An upward arrow indicates that the majority of measures within a domain improved, while a downward arrow signifies that most measures did not improve. Inward-facing arrows denote that an equal number of measures improved and did not improve.

Qualitative index measures for safety, permanency, and well-being were excluded from this rating due to a change in the quality review tool used to assess these measures between FY 2023–24 and FY 2024–25. Consequently, performance for FY 2023–24 is not displayed throughout the report nor factored into the improvement measures.

Appendix 2: Accountability Metric Targets

PERMANENCY

Measure	Target
Children Achieving Permanency and Not Reentering within 12 Months	94.40%
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months	35.20%
Children Achieving Permanency within 12 Months for Children in Out-of-Home Care 12 to 23 Months	43.80%
Children Placed with Relatives or Non-Relatives*	60.00%
Placement Moves per 1,000 Bed Days	<4.50
Qualitative Index for Permanency	90.00%

SAFETY

Measure	Target
Children Not Abused During In-Home Services*†	95.00%
Rate of Abuse in Out-of-Home Care per 100,000 Days in Care	<9.07
Children with No Reoccurrence of Verified Maltreatment within 12 Months of a Prior Verified Maltreatment	90.30%
Qualitative Index for Safety	90.00%

WELL-BEING

Measure	Target
Children Seen Every 30 Days	99.50%
Children Placed with Siblings*	65.00%
Qualitative Index for Well-Being	90.00%

**State-Specific Metrics*

†The target and calculation for Children Not Abused in In-Home Services were adjusted in this report to reflect the approach historically used in established reporting.

Appendix 3: Qualitative Index Standards by Domain

QUALITATIVE STANDARDS FOR PERMANENCY

CFSR Item

- Item 4: Stability of Foster Care Placement
- Item 5: Permanency Goal for the Child
- Item 6: Achieving Permanency Goal
- Item 7: Placement with Siblings
- Item 8: Visiting with Parents and Siblings in Foster Care
- Item 9: Preserving Connections
- Item 10: Relative Placement
- Item 11: Relationship of Child in Care with Parents

QUALITATIVE STANDARDS FOR SAFETY

CFSR Item

- Item 1: Timeliness of seeing children in an investigation
- Item 2: Services to prevent removal
- Item 3: Risk and Safety Assessment and Management

QUALITATIVE STANDARDS FOR WELL-BEING

CFSR Item

- Item 12: Needs and Services of Child, Parents, and Foster Parents
- Item 13: Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning
- Item 14: Caseworker Visits with the Child
- Item 15: Caseworker Visits with Parents
- Item 16: Educational Needs of the Child
- Item 17: Physical Health of the Child
- Item 18: Mental/Behavioral Health of the Child

For more information and detailed data that was used in the creation of this report, please refer to:
www.MyFLFamilies.com/Accountability.

ENDNOTES: Data for the general population and population under the age of 18, and the graduation, suicide, and poverty rates provided throughout this report were obtained from the Florida Department of Health's Florida Health Charts.

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