

Conditions of Children in or at Risk of Foster Care in Illinois

FY2018 MONITORING REPORT
OF THE *B.H.* CONSENT DECREE

I ILLINOIS

Children & Family Research Center

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



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A REPORT BY THE

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Children & Family Research Center
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

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The Children and Family Research Center is an independent research organization created jointly by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to provide independent evaluation of outcomes for children who are the responsibility of the Department. Funding for this work is provided by the Department of Children and Family Services. The views expressed herein should not be construed as representing the policy of the University of Illinois or the Department of Children and Family Services.

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Executive Summary

Since its inception in 1996, the Children and Family Research Center (CFRC) has produced an annual report that monitors the performance of the Illinois child welfare system in achieving its stated goals of child safety, permanency, and well-being. The FY2018 monitoring report uses child welfare administrative data through March, 2018¹ to describe the conditions of children in or at risk of foster care in Illinois. Following an introductory chapter, the results are presented in three chapters that examine critical child welfare outcomes:

- The first chapter on **Child Safety** examines if children are kept safe from additional maltreatment after they have been involved in a child protective services (CPS) investigation. Rates of maltreatment are examined among several different groups of children: 1) all children with substantiated reports during the fiscal year, 2) children served in intact family cases, 3) children who do not receive post-investigation services, and 4) children in substitute care.
- The second chapter, **Family Continuity, Placement Stability, and Length of Time in Care**, examines the experiences of children from the time they enter substitute care until the time they exit the child welfare system. Once removed from their homes, the public child welfare system and its private agency partners have a responsibility to provide children with living arrangements that maintain connections with their family members (including other siblings in care) and community and provide stability. In addition, substitute care should be a temporary solution and children should live in substitute care settings for the shortest period necessary to ameliorate the issues which brought the children into care. This chapter examines how well the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services performs in providing substitute care living arrangements that meet these standards. It is organized into three sections: 1) Family Continuity, 2) Placement Stability, and 3) Length of Time in Substitute Care.

¹ The data used to compute these indicators come from two Illinois DCFS data systems: the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) and the Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS). The SACWIS data were extracted on December 31, 2017, and the CYCIS data were extracted on March 31, 2018.

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- The third chapter examines **Legal Permanence: Reunification, Adoption and Guardianship** with in-depth analyses of each of these three exit types. The chapter examines the likelihood that a child will exit substitute care to reunification, adoption, or guardianship within 24 and 36 months of entry. For those children who achieve permanence, the stability of their permanent living arrangement at one year (reunification only), two years, five years, and ten years after exiting the child welfare system is also assessed. This chapter also examines the population of children that remain in care longer than three years, as well as those who exit substitute care without achieving a legally permanent family (e.g., running away from their placement, incarceration, aging out of the substitute care system). In addition, this year's report includes the CFSR permanency indicators, which examine the combined percentages of children who exit to all types of permanence.

Each of the chapters begins with a summary of the indicators used to measure the Illinois child welfare system's progress toward achieving positive outcomes for children and families, as well as a metric that we have developed that measures the amount of change that has occurred on that indicator between the most recent two years of data that are available. The metric used is the "percent change" and is calculated by subtracting the older value of the indicator from the newer value of the indicator (to find the relative difference), dividing the resulting number by the old value, and then multiplying by 100. If the result is positive, it is a percentage increase and if negative, it is a percentage decrease. In this report, changes of 5% or more are noted as significant. Changes of this magnitude are pictured with an upward or downward arrow, while changes less than 5% are denoted with an equal sign.

Changes in Child Safety at a Glance

Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children with Substantiated Reports (CFSR)

↑ Of all children with a substantiated report, the percentage that had another substantiated report within 12 months increased from 11.1% in 2015 to 11.8% in 2016 (+6% change).

Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Family Cases

↔ Of all children served in intact family cases, the percentage that had a substantiated report within 12 months remained stable and was 13.6% in 2016.

Maltreatment Recurrence Among Substantiated Children Who Do Not Receive Services

↑ Of all children with substantiated reports who did not receive services, the percentage that had another substantiated report within 12 months increased from 9.2% in 2015 to 10.2% in 2016 (+11% change).

Rate of Victimization Per 100,000 Days Among Children in the Substitute Care (CFSR)

↑ Of all children in substitute care during the year, the rate of substantiated maltreatment per 100,000 days in substitute care increased from 12.4 in 2016 to 13.1 in 2017 (+6% change).

Changes in Continuity and Stability in Care at a Glance

Restrictiveness of Initial Placement Settings

↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in the home of parents decreased from 4.1% in 2016 to 3.5% in 2017 (-15% change).

↔ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a kinship foster home remained stable and was 63.2% in 2017.

↑ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a traditional foster home increased from 21.9% in 2016 to 24.6% in 2017 (+12% change).

↑ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a specialized foster home increased from 1.5% in 2016 to 2.2% in 2017 (+47% change).

↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home decreased from 2.8% in 2016 to 2.0% in 2017 (-29% change).

↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an institution or group home decreased from 6.2% in 2016 to 4.4% in 2017 (-29% change).

Restrictiveness of End of Year Placement Settings

↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in the home of parents decreased from 6.2% in 2016 to 5.4% in 2017 (-13% change).

↑ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a kinship foster home increased from 45.4% in 2016 to 48.0% in 2017 (+6% change).

↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a traditional foster home remained stable and was 26.0% in 2017.

↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a specialized foster home remained stable and was 14.0% in 2017.

↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home decreased from 0.3% in 2016 to 0.2% in 2017 (-33% change).

↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an institution or group home decreased from 7.1% in 2016 to 6.4% in 2017 (-10% change).

Placement with Siblings

Of all children entering substitute care and placed in a kinship or traditional foster home, the percentage that was initially placed in the same foster home with all their siblings in care:

For children with one or two siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children initially placed in kinship foster homes and was 79.7% in 2017.

↓ decreased for children initially placed in traditional foster homes from 69.2% in 2016 to 65.6% in 2017 (-5% change).

For children with 3 or more siblings in care:

↓ decreased for children initially placed in kinship foster from 48.6% in 2016 to 44.3% in 2017 (-9% change).

↑ increased for children initially placed in traditional foster homes from 8.4% in 2016 to 13.4% in 2017(+60% change).

Of all children living in kinship or traditional foster homes at the end of the year, the percentage that was placed in the same foster home with all their siblings in care:

For children with one or two siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children in kinship foster homes and was 71.7% in 2017.

↑ increased for children in traditional foster homes from 56.3% in 2016 to 60.4% in 2017 (+7% change).

For children with 3 or more siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children in kinship foster homes and was 35.8% in 2017.

↑ increased for children in traditional foster homes from 7.2 % in 2016 to 9.5% in 2017 (+32% change).

Placement Stability (CFSR)

↔ Of all children entering substitute care during the year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days in care remained stable and was 4.1 in 2017.

Children Who Run Away From Substitute Care

↓ Of all children entering substitute care between the ages of 12 and 17 years, the percentage that ran away from a placement within one year of entry decreased from 21.7% in 2015 to 19.0% in 2016 (-12% change).

Length of Stay In Substitute Care

↔ Of all children entering substitute care, the median length of stay remained stable and was 34 months for children who entered care in 2014.

Changes in Permanence at a Glance

Children Achieving Permanence (CFSR)

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months remained stable and was 14.0% of children who entered care in 2016.

↓ Of all children who had been in care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months decreased from 27.3% of children in care at the beginning of 2015 to 23.8% of children in care at the beginning of 2016 (-13% change).

↓ Of all children who had been in care 24 months or more, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months decreased from 23.8% of children in care at the beginning of 2015 to 21.1% of children in care at the beginning of 2016 (-11% change).

↓ Of all children who achieved permanence within 12 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge decreased from 8.5% of children who exited care in 2015 to 7.4% of children who exited care in 2016 (-13% change).

↑ Of all children who achieved permanence after living in substitute care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge increased from 1.0% of children who exited care in 2015 to 2.2% of children who exited care in 2016 (+120% change).

↑ Of all children who achieved permanence after living in substitute care 24 months or more, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge increased from 0.8% of children who exited care in 2015 to 2.0% of children who exited care in 2016 (+150% change).

Children Achieving Reunification

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 12 months remained stable and was 13.9% of children who entered care in 2016.

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 24 months remained stable and was 27.5% of children who entered care in 2015.

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 36 months decreased from 38.3% of children who entered care in 2013 to 34.4% of children who entered care in 2014 (-10% change).

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↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 1 year post-reunification remained stable and was 92.9% of children who were reunified in 2016.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 2 years post-reunification remained stable and was 93.1% of children who were reunified in 2015.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 5 years post-reunification remained stable and was 88.4% of children who were reunified in 2012.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 10 years post-reunification remained stable and was 85.9% of children who were reunified in 2007.

Children Achieving Adoption

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months increased from 3.7% of children who entered care in 2014 to 4.4% of children who entered care in 2015 (+19% change).

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months increased from 11.8% of children who entered care in 2013 to 12.5% of children who entered care in 2014 (+6% change).

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at 2 years post-adoption remained stable and was 97.4% of children who were adopted in 2015.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at 5 years post-adoption remained stable and was 94.1% of children who were adopted in 2012.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at 10 years post-adoption remained stable and was 92.3% of children who were adopted in 2007.

Children Achieving Guardianship

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 24 months increased from 0.8% of children who entered care in 2014 to 0.9% of children who entered care in 2015 (+13% change).

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 36 months increased from 2.8% of children who entered care in 2013 to

3.0% of children who entered care in 2014 (+7% change).

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at 2 years post-guardianship remained stable and was 96.7% of children who attained guardianship in 2015.

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at 5 years post-guardianship remained stable and was 87.7% of children who attained guardianship in 2012.

↑ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at 10 years post-guardianship increased from 74.9% of children who attained guardianship in 2006 to 84.1% of children who attained guardianship in 2007 (+12% change).



Introduction

i

The Evolution of Child Welfare Monitoring in Illinois

Since its inception in 1996, the Children and Family Research Center (CFRC, the Center; see Box I.1) has been responsible for the annual report that monitors the performance of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS, the Department) in achieving its stated goals of child safety, permanency, and well-being. The *Monitoring Report of the B.H. Consent Decree* (the *B.H.* report) is the culmination of the Center's efforts to provide clear and comprehensive data to a variety of stakeholders who are concerned with the outcomes of abused and neglected children in Illinois. This report is not an evaluation of the Department, the juvenile courts, private providers and community-based partners, or other human systems responsible for child protection and welfare. Rather, it is a monitoring report that examines specific performance indicators and identifies trends on selected outcomes of interest to the federal court, the Department, members of the *B.H.* class, and their attorneys. It is our hope that this report will be used as a catalyst for dialogue between child welfare stakeholders at the state and local levels about the meanings behind these reported numbers and the strategies needed for quality improvement.

The Children and Family Research Center

BOX I.1

The Children and Family Research Center is dedicated to supporting and conducting “research with a purpose” to improve outcomes for children who are either currently involved in the child welfare system or at high risk for future involvement. The Center was created in 1996 through a cooperative agreement between the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Social Work and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The original mission of the Center was to conduct research that was responsive to the needs and responsibilities of the Department and contribute to scientific knowledge about child safety, permanency, and child and family well-being. In the two decades since its creation, the Center has emerged as a national leader in conducting research that informs child welfare policy and improves child welfare practice. Center activities are organized around four core areas: 1) outcome monitoring and needs assessment; 2) program evaluation and data analysis; 3) training and technical assistance to advance best practice; and 4) knowledge dissemination.

Outcome monitoring and needs assessment

The Center was created, in part, to monitor the performance of the Illinois child welfare system pursuant to the ***B.H. Consent Decree***. Each year since 1997, the Center has compiled a comprehensive report that describes over 40 child welfare indicators related to child safety and permanence. Analyses for the *B.H.* report utilize a large, longitudinal database that contains DCFS administrative data on every Illinois child protective investigation and every child welfare case (both in-home and substitute care) dating back to the 1980s. The *B.H.* report is widely distributed to child welfare administrators, researchers, and policy makers throughout Illinois and the nation.

Program evaluation and data analysis

One of the key elements of the success of the child welfare reforms in Illinois and other states has been the ability of child welfare administrators to rely on scientifically rigorous research that demonstrates the effectiveness of the program innovations being implemented. The Children and Family Research Center engages in rigorously-designed experimental and quasi-experimental evaluations of innovative child welfare demonstration projects which have national implication and scope. For instance, CFRC served as the evaluator for three of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services **Title IV-E waiver demonstration projects** and in 2013, CFRC began a new partnership with the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) as the evaluator of its Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project. The Wisconsin waiver evaluation, which runs through 2019, will test the effectiveness of a post-reunification support program, known as the P.S. Program, by comparing the rates of maltreatment recurrence and re-entry into substitute care of children who receive P.S. Program services compared to those who did not. In addition to the outcome evaluation, a process evaluation will document the implementation process using the National

Implementation Research Network (NIRN) framework, and a cost analysis will compare the costs and savings associated with the program.

In 2009, the Children and Family Research Center, in partnership with DCFS, applied for and received funding from the National Quality Improvement Center on Differential Response (QIC-DR) to implement and evaluate a **Differential Response (DR)** program in Illinois. This comprehensive, 4-year evaluation consisted of a randomized controlled trial that compared outcomes for families randomly assigned to either a traditional child protective services investigation (control group) or non-investigative child protective services response known as a family assessment (treatment group). The evaluation also documented the implementation process so that other states considering Differential Response can learn from the Illinois experience. Finally, a cost evaluation compared the short-term and long-term costs associated with the two CPS responses.

The CFRC was also selected to design and conduct an evaluation of the Oregon Differential Response Initiative that included process, outcome, and cost evaluations. Mixed-methods data collection strategies were utilized to gather data from CPS caseworkers, supervisors, administrators, screeners, coaches, service providers, community partners, and parents involved in the child protection system to answer a comprehensive list of research questions related to the effectiveness of the implementation strategies used and the impact of DR on child and family outcomes.

CFRC researchers also have expertise in **predictive analytics**. As part of our work on the Wisconsin waiver demonstration evaluation, CFRC researchers developed a predictive model that identified which families were at highest risk of having a child re-enter substitute care within 12 months of reunification. The model, known as the Re-entry Prevention Model or RPM, was integrated into the Wisconsin SACWIS and generates a score that corresponds to a family's risk of re-entry. Families whose scores fall above a threshold are eligible to enroll in a post-reunification support program that provides case management and supportive services to families for a year after reunification. Following the success of this predictive tool, the CFRC is currently developing a second predictive model for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families that will identify which children are at highest risk for being re-referred to child protective services in the near future.

Training and technical assistance to advance best practice

For almost 20 years, CFRC's Foster Care Utilization Review Program (FCURP) has worked with DCFS to prepare for, conduct, and respond to the federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). The CFSR is the means by which the federal government ensures state compliance with federal mandates. Using a continuous quality improvement process, FCURP has played a vital role in building and maintaining a viable public-private framework for supporting ongoing efforts to enhance child welfare outcomes in Illinois. FCURP supports DCFS and its private sector partners by 1) monitoring and reporting

Illinois' progress toward meeting the safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes outlined in the Federal Child and Family Services Review; 2) providing training and education to help child welfare practitioners translate federal regulations and state policies into quality practice; and 3) providing technical assistance regarding the enhancement of child welfare organizational systems to promote system reform and efficiency of operations.

More recently, CFRC has collaborated with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to provide Quality Service Reviews (QSR) in the four immersion sites throughout the state. QSRs are a case-based practice improvement approach designed to assess current outcomes and system performance by gathering information from a randomly selected sample of case file as well as interviews with children, families, and service team members. The Illinois QSR review instrument will examine the Family-centered, Trauma-focused, Strength-based (FTS) model of practice that includes a model of supervision and utilization of Child and Family Team meetings.

Knowledge dissemination

Dissemination of the Center's research findings is widespread to multiple audiences within Illinois and throughout the country. Using a variety of information sharing strategies, the Center's researchers strive to put knowledge into the hands of both policy makers and practitioners, including:

- The Children and Family Research Center website, through which interested parties can access and download all research and technical reports, research briefs on specific topics, and presentations given at state and national conferences.
- The CFRC Data Center, which provides summarized tables of DCFS performance data on child safety, stability, continuity, and family permanence. Each of the indicators reported on in the *B.H.* report (with the exception of the well-being indicators) can be examined by child demographics (age, race, and gender) and geographic area (Illinois total, DCFS region, DCFS service area, County, and Chicago Community Area). Outcome data for each indicator are displayed over a seven-year period, so that changes in performance can be tracked over time. In addition to the outcome indicator data, CFRC's Data Center also provides interested individuals with information on the number of child reports, family reports, and substantiation rates for the entire state and each county (see Box I.2 for additional information about CFRC's Data Center).
- Data summits and forums on topics of interest to DCFS and the child welfare community. Previous summits have focused on the nexus between juvenile justice and child welfare, effective early childhood and child abuse prevention programs, and the use of risk adjustment in performance outcomes for children's residential centers.
- Publication of research findings in peer-reviewed academic journals and presentations at state and national professional conferences.

The Origin and Purpose of Child Welfare Outcome Monitoring in Illinois

The foundation of this report can be traced directly to the *B.H.* consent decree, which was approved by United States District Judge John Grady on December 20, 1991, and required extensive reforms of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services over the subsequent two and a half years.¹ According to the Decree:

“It is the purpose of this Decree to assure that DCFS provides children with at least minimally adequate care. Defendant agrees that, for the purposes of this Decree, DCFS’s responsibility to provide such care for plaintiffs includes an obligation to create and maintain a system which assures children are treated in conformity with the following standards of care:

- a. Children shall be free from foreseeable and preventable physical harm.
- b. Children shall receive at least minimally adequate food, shelter, and clothing.
- c. Children shall receive at least minimally adequate health care.
- d. Children shall receive mental health care adequate to address their serious mental health needs.
- e. Children shall be free from unreasonable and unnecessary intrusions by DCFS upon their emotional and psychological well-being.
- f. Children shall receive at least minimally adequate training, education, and services to enable them to secure their physical safety, freedom from emotional harm, and minimally adequate food, clothing, shelter, health and mental health care.

In order to meet this standard of care, it shall be necessary for DCFS to create and maintain a system which:

- a. Provides that children will be timely and stably placed in safe and appropriate living arrangements;
- b. Provides that reasonable efforts, as determined based on individual circumstances (including consideration of whether no efforts would be reasonable) shall be made to prevent removal of children from their homes and

¹ *B.H. et al. v. Suter*, No. 88-cv-5599 (N.D. Ill., 1991). It should be noted that the name of the Defendant changes over time to reflect the name of the DCFS Director appointed at the time of the entry of a specific order. Susan Suter was the appointed Director at the time of the entry of the original consent decree in this case.

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to reunite children with their parents, where appropriate and consistent with the best interests of the child;

- c. Provides that if children are not to be reunited with their parents, DCFS shall promptly identify and take the steps within its power to achieve permanency for the child in the least restrictive setting possible;
- d. Provides for the prompt identification of the medical, mental health and developmental needs of children;
- e. Provides timely access to adequate medical, mental health and developmental services;
- f. Provides that while in DCFS custody children receive a public education of a kind and quality comparable to other children not in DCFS custody;
- g. Provides that while in DCFS custody children receive such services and training as necessary to permit them to function in the least restrictive and most homelike setting possible; and
- h. Provides that children receive adequate services to assist in the transition to adulthood.”

Under the terms of the *B.H.* Consent Decree, implementation of the required reforms was anticipated to occur by July 1, 1994. However, it became clear to the Court and to both parties that this ambitious goal would not be achieved in the two and a half years specified in the agreement. Consultation with a panel of child welfare and organizational reform experts led to the recommendation, among other things, to shift the focus of the monitoring from technical compliance (process) to the desired outcomes the parties hoped to achieve.² Both the plaintiffs and the defendants were in favor of a more results-oriented monitoring process, and together decided on three outcome categories: permanency, well-being, and safety.³ The two sides jointly moved to modify the decree in July 1996,⁴ outlining a series of new strategies based on measurable outcomes:

“The parties have agreed on outcome goals for the operation of the child welfare system covering the three areas of child safety, child and family well-being, and permanency of family relations.

² Mezey, S.G. (1998). Systemic reform litigation and child welfare policy: The case of Illinois. *Law & Policy*, 20, 203-230.

³ Puckett, K.L. (2008). *Dynamics of organizational change under external duress: A case study of DCFS's responses to the 1991 consent decree mandating permanency outcomes for wards of the state*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University of Chicago.

⁴ *B.H. et al. v. McDonald* (1996). Joint Memorandum in Support of Agreed Supplemental Order, No 88-C-5599 (N.D. Ill 1996).

- a) The outcome goals agreed upon by the parties include the following:
- i) Protection: Promptly and accurately determine whether the family care of children reported to DCFS is at or above a threshold of safety and child and family well-being, and if it exceeds that threshold, do not coercively interfere with the family.
 - ii) Preservation: When the family care of the child falls short of the threshold, and when consistent with the safety of the child, raise the level of care to that threshold in a timely manner.
 - iii) Substitute care: If the family care of the child cannot be raised to that threshold within a reasonable time or without undue risk to the child, place the child in a substitute care setting that meets the child's physical, emotional, and developmental needs.
 - iv) Reunification: When the child is placed in substitute care, promptly enable the family to meet the child needs for safety and care and promptly return the child to the family when consistent with the safety of the child.
 - v) Permanency: If the family is unable to resume care of the child within a reasonable time, promptly arrange for an alternative, permanent living situation that meets the child's physical, emotional, and developmental needs."⁵

In addition to specifying the outcomes of interest, the Joint Memorandum outlined the creation of a Children and Family Research Center "responsible for evaluating and issuing public reports on the performance of the child welfare service system operated by DCFS and its agents. The Research Center shall be independent of DCFS and shall be within an entity independent of DCFS."⁶ The independence of CFRC was an essential component of the settlement which was consistent with a growing national trend first identified by Senator Orrin Hatch as a means by which the autonomy of research universities would ensure that governmental programs could be held accountable for ensuring that authorized work is actually being done and whether programs were successful in addressing the perceived needs of the clients the program served.⁷ CFRC was also tasked, in consultation with the Department and counsel for the plaintiff class, with the development of outcome indicators to provide quantitative measures of progress toward meeting the goals set forth in the consent decree: "The Research Center will develop technologies and methods for collecting data to accurately report and analyze these outcome

⁵ Ibid, p. 2-4

⁶ Joint Memorandum, p. 2

⁷ Hatch, O. (1982). Evaluations of government programs. *Evaluation and Program Planning*, 5, 189-191.

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indicators. The Research Center may revise these outcome indicators after consultation with the Department and counsel for the plaintiff class to the extent necessary to improve the Center's ability to measure progress toward meeting the outcome goals."⁸

The Joint Memorandum also specified the process through which the results of the outcomes monitoring would be disseminated: "The Research Center shall also provide to the parties and file with this Court an annual report summarizing the progress toward achieving the outcome goals and analyzing reasons for the success or failure in making such progress. The Center's analysis of the reasons for the success or failure of DCFS to make reasonable progress toward the outcome goals shall include an analysis of the performance of DCFS (including both DCFS operations and the operations of private agencies), and any other relevant issues, including, where and to the extent appropriate, changes in or the general conditions of the children and families or any other aspects of the child welfare system external to DCFS that affect the capacity of the Department to achieve its goals, and changes in the conditions and status of children and plaintiffs' counsel as the outcome indicators and data collection methods are developed..."⁹

The Evolution of Outcome Monitoring in Illinois

Safety, Stability, and Permanence

The *B.H.* parties agreed to give discretion to the Center in developing the specific indicators used to measure progress in achieving the agreed upon outcome goals. They also recognized the importance of exploring the systemic and contextual factors that influence outcomes, as well as the need for outcome indicators to change over time as data technology grows more sophisticated and additional performance issues emerge. The first *B.H.* monitoring report was filed with the Court in FY1998 and included information on outcomes for children in the custody of the Department through FY1997. The indicators in the first monitoring report were simple, and included safety indicators of 1) maltreatment recurrence among intact family cases at 30, 180, and 300 days, and 2) maltreatment reports on children in substitute care (overall rate and rates by living arrangement, region, child age, child race, and perpetrator). The indicators for permanence in the first report included: 1) rate of children who entered substitute care from intact cases; 2) percentage of children returned home from substitute care within 6, 12, 18, and 24 months; 3) percentage of reunified children who re-enter foster care; 4) percentage of children adopted from substitute care and median length of time to adoption; 5) adoption disruptions; and 6) percentage of children moved to legal guardianship from substitute care.

The indicators included in the *B.H.* monitoring report were significantly expanded and the overall organization of the report was given a major overhaul in FY2005. Indicators were added that examined placement stability in substitute care, running away from placement,

⁸ Joint Memorandum, p. 4

⁹ Joint Memorandum, p. 4

placements with kin, placements in group homes and institutions (both within Illinois and outside of Illinois), placement with siblings, and placement close to home. In FY2010, the indicator that examined the placements outside of Illinois was eliminated from the report because the number of children placed outside the state had been negligible for several years and it no longer provided useful information.

Following this major update in FY2005, only minor changes were made to the indicators in the *B.H.* monitoring report through FY2017. Careful thought goes into the selection of the indicators that are used to monitor system performance in the report, and we strive to keep the indicators as consistent as possible from year to year so that any changes in the results reported in the chapters and appendices signify actual changes in performance. However, occasionally it is necessary to make changes to how certain indicators are measured, either because the administrative data used in the analysis has changed, because the Department's policies or procedures have changed, or because of special requests made by the plaintiff or defendant attorneys or the court. When deciding whether to modify, add, or eliminate indicators in the *B.H.* monitoring report, the benefits of the change are weighed against the loss of continuity and potential for confusion in interpreting the results.

With that in mind, this year's (FY2018) report includes several significant changes that impact the results in ways that make them non-comparable to those presented in previous reports. The most significant changes are outlined here, and a more complete list of changes to the indicators in this report is included in Appendix E.

1. Since its inception, the CFRC has utilized DCFS administrative data provided to us by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago to monitor the Department's performance. These data were contained in a series of tables known as the Integrated Database (IDB); updates to the IDB were sent to the CFRC on a quarterly basis. In FY2016, the CFRC was given direct access to the DCFS data warehouse, which contains information from the numerous data systems currently in use at the Department. After spending nearly a year becoming familiar with the data tables available in the warehouse, the CFRC has switched from using the IDB to using DCFS data to compute the indicators in the current report. Although the data contained in the two databases are similar, they are not equivalent. Therefore, the results presented in the current report—including those for previous years—will not be the same as those in previous reports.
2. Several years after the CFRC began monitoring the Department's performance on child safety and permanence in the *B.H.* monitoring report, the Children's Bureau implemented a review process to monitor state child welfare programs' conformity with the requirements in titles IV-B (Child and Family Services) and IV-E (Federal Payments for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance) of the Social Security Act. These reviews, known as the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR), are used to assess performance on seven outcomes and seven systemic factors. There have been three rounds of CFSR to date: Round 1 (2001–2004), Round 2 (2007–2010), and Round 3 (2015–2018). As part of the CFSR process, the Children's Bureau has developed statewide data indicators to

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determine if states are in substantial conformity with certain child welfare outcomes based on national standards. Statewide data indicators are aggregate measures that are calculated using administrative data available from the state's submissions to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), or an approved alternate source of safety-related data. The statewide data indicators have changed in each round of the CFSR (see Box I.2 for more information).

This year, the Department asked the CFRC if we could include the Round 3 CFSR statewide data indicators in the *B.H.* monitoring report. We accommodated this request by:

- a. replacing our existing measure of maltreatment recurrence with the Round 3 CFSR measure of maltreatment recurrence;
- b. replacing our existing measure of maltreatment in care with the Round 3 CFSR measure of maltreatment in care;
- c. replacing our existing measure of placement stability with the Round 3 CFSR measure of placement stability;
- d. adding the three Round 3 CFSR measures of permanence to our existing measures of permanence;
- e. adding the Round 3 CFSR measure of re-entry into substitute care to our existing measures of stability of permanence; and
- f. adding two additional measures of re-entry into substitute care based on a request from the *B.H.* Expert Panel.

Although we recognize the value in including the CFSR statewide data indicators in the *B.H.* monitoring report, these indicators are limited and do not provide any information on outcomes of critical interest to the Department, such as child safety in intact family cases, the number and percentage of children placed in institutions and emergency shelters, and the number and percentage of children who run away from their substitute care placements. We therefore have kept the indicators used in previous *B.H.* monitoring reports in the current report. The CFSR measures are noted in parentheses in the appendix tables. Please note that the results presented for the CFSR indicators in this report will not be identical to those reported by the Children's Bureau; the Children's Bureau applies risk-adjustment strategies to the indicator data that the CFRC does not. In addition, this report uses the state fiscal year as the reporting period and the federal outcome report uses the federal fiscal year.

3. Based on conversations with the Department, data on children's legal status is now taken into consideration when computing indicators related to permanence. Reunifications are now counted if the child returns home *and* legal custody is transferred back to the parents. In prior reports, all children returned home were counted as reunifications, regardless of whether legal custody was transferred back to the parents. A number of children each year are returned home and their cases are closed without legal custody transferring back to the parent(s). These cases are also

counted as reunifications in the current report. The inclusion of legal custody affected several other indicators in the report; these are discussed in more detail in Appendix E.

4. Based on the consideration of children's legal status, we added "home of parent" as an additional type of placement in this year's report. Children were included in a home of parent placement if they were placed in the home of their parent(s) but legal custody was placed with the Department. In previous years, children placed in home of parent placements were not included in the overall population of children in substitute care.
5. This year's report excludes substantiated reports of Allegation 60 that occurred October 1, 2001 to July 12, 2012; July 13, 2012 to December 31, 2013; and May 31, 2014 to June 11, 2014, as a result of the *Julie Q.* and *Ashley M.* court decisions. This affects the indicators related to maltreatment recurrence and is explained in more detail in Appendix D. Previous *B.H.* reports did not exclude these reports.

The CFSR Statewide Data Indicators

BOX I.2

The first round of Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR), which occurred during FFY2001-2004, included six statewide data indicators:

- 1) *Recurrence of maltreatment*: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse or neglect during the first six months of the period under review, the percent that had another substantiated or indicated report within six months.
- 2) *Incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care*: Of all children in foster care during the reporting period under review, the percentage that were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff.
- 3) *Foster care re-entries*: Of all children entering care during the year under review, the percent of those children that had a prior entry within 12 months of the most recent entry date.
- 4) *Stability of foster care placements*: Of all children who have been in foster care less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal, the percent of children experiencing no more than two placement settings.
- 5) *Length of time to achieve reunification*: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, the percent reunified within less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home.
- 6) *Length of time to achieve adoptions*: Of all children exiting foster care to adoption during the year under review, the percent of children exiting care in less than 24 months from the time of the latest removal from the home.

For the second round of the CFSR, which occurred during FFY2007-2010, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) replaced the six data indicators used in

the first round with four data composite measures and two single measures. The two single measures included in the second round of CFSR were:

- 1) *Maltreatment of recurrence*: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect during the first six months of the reporting year, the percent that did not experience another incident of substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect within a six month period.
- 2) *Maltreatment of children in foster care*: Of all children in foster care during the reporting period, the percent that were not victims of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by foster parents or facility staff members.

In addition, four data composites were used to assess stability and permanence. Each composite is comprised of one or more components that contribute to the composite score. Each component is comprised of one or more measures. The contribution of each measure to the component score was determined by principal components factor analysis.

Composite 1: Timeliness and permanency of reunifications

Component A: Timeliness of reunification

Measure C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the target 12-month period and who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer, the percent reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal.

Measure C1.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period and who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer, the median length of stay from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification.

Measure C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period prior to the target 12-month period and who remained in foster care for 8 days or longer, the percent discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal.

Component B: Permanency of reunification

Measure C1.4: Of all children who were discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the target 12-month period, the percent that re-entered foster care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge.

Composite 2: Timeliness of adoptions

Component A: Timeliness of adoptions of children exiting foster care

Measure C2.1: Of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the 12-month target period, the percent that were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from the home.

Measure C2.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the 12-month target period, the median length of stay in foster

care from the date of the latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption.

Component B: Progress toward adoption of children who have been in foster care for 17 months or longer

Measure C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the 12-month target period who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, the percent that were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the 12-month target period.

Measure C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the 12-month target period who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, the percent that became legally free for adoption during the first six months of the target 12-month period.

Component C: Timeliness of adoptions of children who are legally free for adoption

Measure C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption during the 12 months prior to the target 12-month period, the percent that was discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free.

Composite 3: Achieving permanency for children in foster care

Component A: Achieving permanency for children in foster care for extended periods of time

Measure C3.1: Of all children who were in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the 12-month target period, the percent that was discharged to a permanent home by the last day of the 12-month period and prior to their 18th birthday.

Measure C3.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the 12-month target period and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge, the percent that was discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday.

Component B: Children growing up in foster care

Measure C3.3: Of all children who either were (1) prior to age 18, discharged from foster care during the 12-month target period with a discharge reason of emancipation or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care but had not yet been discharged from foster care, the percent in foster care for 3 years or longer.

Composite 4: Placement stability

Measure C4.1: Of all children who were served in foster care during the 12-month target period and who were in foster care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.

Measure C4.2: Of all children who were served in foster care during the 12-month target period and who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.

Measure C4.3: Of all children who were served in foster care during the 12-month target period and who were in foster care for at least 24 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.

Following criticism of the composite measured used in the second round of the CFSR, the ACF proposed six new, simplified statewide data indicators for the third round of CFSR.

- 1) *Maltreatment in foster care*: Of all children in foster care during a 12-month period, the rate of victimization per day in foster care.
- 2) *Recurrence of maltreatment*: Of all children who were victims of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment report during a 12-month reporting period, the percent of victims of another substantiated or indicated maltreatment report within 12 months of the initial report.
- 3) *Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care*: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, the percent that are discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care. Permanency includes discharges to reunification with parents or caregivers, living with a relative, adoption, or guardianship.
- 4) *Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12 to 23 months*: Of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months, the percent discharged from foster care to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period.
- 5) *Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or longer*: Of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) for 24 months or more, the percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period.
- 6) *Re-entry to foster care in 12 months*: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period who were discharged within 12 months to reunification, living with a relative, or guardianship, the percent that re-enter foster care within 12 months of their discharge.
- 7) *Placement stability*: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, the rate of placement moves per day of foster care.

Child Well-Being

The measurement of child well-being has experienced a dramatic evolution since the publication of the first *B.H.* report. The earliest reports contained no information about child well-being at all, because the child welfare administrative data systems did not contain information on child physical and mental health, development, and education. In 2001, the Department was court-ordered to fund a comprehensive study that examined the well-being of children in substitute care. Three rounds of data were collected for the *Illinois Child Well-Being*

Studies, conducted by the Children and Family Research Center in 2001, 2003, and 2005. This comprehensive study collected interview data from caseworkers, caregivers, and the children themselves, in addition to data collection from school records and child welfare case files. Information was collected on a variety of well-being domains, including development, mental health, physical health, and education. The results of the Illinois Child Well-Being Studies were included in the *B.H.* monitoring reports published in FY2005–FY2009.

In 2009, data collection began on a new study called the *Illinois Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (ISCAW)*. ISCAW was a component of the second cohort of the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW), a longitudinal probability study of well-being and service delivery of children involved with the child welfare system. The sample for ISCAW included 818 children sampled to be representative of the entire population of Illinois children involved in substantiated investigations. Two waves of data were collected on the children in the ISCAW sample—baseline data were collected approximately 4 months following the substantiated investigation and follow-up data were collected approximately 18 months later. During both waves of data collection, data were collected from several informants on a variety of well-being domains. Caregivers (biological parents or foster parents) completed measures of child health, development, social skills, and behavior. School-aged children completed measures of depression, anxiety, relationships with peers and adults, substance use, sexual activity, extra-curricular activities, and future expectations. Teachers completed measures of academic progress and behavior in school. The results of the ISCAW data collection were included in the *B.H.* monitoring reports published in FY2010–FY2014.

Following the conclusion of ISCAW, there has been no systematic data collection effort in Illinois focused on the well-being of all children in substitute care, and the *B.H.* monitoring reports published in FY2015 through this year do not contain information on the Department's performance in this area. However, in October 2015, Judge Jorge Alonso ordered the Department to “restore funding for the Illinois Survey of Child and Adolescent Wellbeing that uses standardized instruments and assessment scales modeled after the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Wellbeing to monitor and evaluate changes in the safety, permanence, and well-being of children for a representative sample of DCFS-involved children and their caregivers.”¹⁰ This order followed the recommendation of a panel of child welfare experts that was convened after the *B.H.* plaintiff attorneys filed an emergency motion to enforce the Consent Decree in February 2015 (for more information on the recent court activity involving the *B.H.* Consent Decree, see Box I.3). A steering committee, chaired by CFRC senior researcher Theodore Cross, was formed to design and implement the new well-being study. Data collection for the 2017 Illinois Study of Child Well-Being will be completed in August 2018, and a comprehensive report will follow in FY2019.

¹⁰ Testa, M.F., Naylor, M.W., Vincent, P., & White, M. (2015). *Report of the Expert Panel: B.H. vs. Sheldon Consent Decree*.

B.H. Consent Decree Implementation Plan

BOX I.3

In February 2015, the plaintiffs' attorneys for the *B.H.* Consent Decree filed an emergency motion with the Court in order to require DCFS to comply with the terms of the Consent Decree, alleging that DCFS was in "gross violation of numerous, critically important provisions of the Decree."¹¹ More specifically, the plaintiffs' attorneys claimed that "severe shortages of necessary services and placements for children have risen to crisis proportions" and that children were being placed in "dangerously inadequate residential treatment facilities," "warehoused in temporary shelters, psychiatric hospitals and correctional facilities for extended periods of time," and "waiting months and even years to receive the essential mental health services and specialized placements that DCFS itself has determined they need." In the motion, the plaintiffs asked that DCFS take specific actions to address these problems, including the retention of child welfare experts to make additional recommendations and the use of independent clinicians to monitor the adequacy of services and conditions at residential treatment facilities.

On April 10, 2015, Judge Jorge L. Alonso appointed a panel of four experts to make recommendations to assist the Court in determining how to improve the placements and services provided to children in the *B.H.* Consent Decree plaintiff class.¹² After reviewing data and interviewing stakeholders, the expert panel made several recommendations for reforms to improve the safety, permanence, and social-emotional well-being of children in the care and custody of the Department:

1. Initiate a children's system of care demonstration program that permits child welfare agencies and DCFS sub-regions to waive selected policy and funding restrictions on a trial basis in order to reduce the use of residential treatment and help children and youth succeed in living in the least restrictive, most family-like setting.
2. Engage in a staged immersion process of retraining and coaching front-line staff in a cohesive model of practice that provides children and their families with access to a comprehensive array of services, including intensive home-based services, designed to enable children to live with their families or to achieve timely permanence with adoptive parents or legal guardians.
3. Fund a set of permanency planning initiatives to improve permanency outcomes for adolescents who enter state custody at age 12 or older either by transitioning youth to permanent homes or preparing them for reconnecting with their birth families.
4. Retain an organizational consultant to aid the Department in rebooting a

¹¹ B.H. et al. vs. Tate. (February 23, 2015). *Plaintiffs' Emergency Order to Enforce Consent Decree*, No. 88-cv-5599 (N.D. Ill 2015), p.1.

¹² Testa, M.F., Naylor, M.W., Vincent, P., & White, M. (2015). *Report of the Expert Panel: B.H. vs. Sheldon Consent Decree*.

number of stalled initiatives that are intended to address the needs of children and youth with psychological, behavioral, or emotional challenges.

5. Restore funding to the Illinois Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being that uses standardized instruments and assessment scales modeled after the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being to monitor and evaluate changes in the safety, permanence, and well-being of children for a representative sample of DCFS-involved children and their caregivers.

The Court approved these recommendations, either in part or in whole, on October 20, 2015.¹³ It also extended the role of the expert panel to provide assistance to the Department in the development of an implementation plan for reform and assess the Department's progress in making the required reforms. The Department was ordered to develop an enforceable implementation plan that identifies the tasks, responsibilities, and timeframes necessary to accomplish the objectives of the Consent Decree as addressed in the expert panel's findings and recommendations. The Department submitted its *B.H. Implementation Plan* to the Court on February 23, 2016.¹⁴ The plan outlines the Department's strategies to address each of the expert panel recommendations.

i

The Current Monitoring Report of the *B.H.* Consent Decree

The FY2018 *B.H.* monitoring report¹⁵ is organized into three chapters. **Child Safety** is the first chapter. A child's first contact with the child welfare system is typically through a Child Protective Services (CPS) investigation. Investigators make several decisions related to child safety, including whether the child is in immediate danger of a moderate to severe nature, whether there is credible evidence that maltreatment has occurred, whether to remove the child from the home and take the child into protective custody, and whether the family's needs indicate that they would benefit from ongoing child welfare services. Regardless of whether additional child welfare services are provided, the child welfare system has a responsibility to keep children from additional maltreatment once they have been investigated. The first chapter of the report examines the Department's performance in fulfilling this obligation by examining indicators related to maltreatment that occurs *after* a screened-in and investigated report of maltreatment. It is organized into four sections: 1) Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children with Substantiated Reports, 2) Maltreatment Among Children in Intact Family Cases, 3) Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Who Do Not Receive Services, and 4) Maltreatment in Substitute Care.

¹³ *B.H., et al. vs. Sheldon*. (October 20, 2015). *Order*, No. 88-cv-5599 (N.D. Ill 2015).

¹⁴ *B.H., et al. vs. Sheldon*. (2016). *DCFS B.H. Implementation Plan*. No. 88-cv-5599 (N.D. Ill 2015).

¹⁵ There is typically a one year lag time between the most recent administrative data used for the *B.H.* monitoring report and the publication date. For instance, this year's report, published in FY2018, monitors outcomes through the end of FY2017.

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The second chapter, **Family Continuity, Placement Stability, and Length of Time in Care**, examines the experiences of children from the time they enter substitute care until the time they exit the child welfare system. Once removed from their homes, the public child welfare system and its private agency partners have a responsibility to provide children with living arrangements that maintain connections with their family members (including other siblings in care) and community and provide stability. In addition, substitute care should be a temporary solution and children should live in substitute care settings for the shortest period necessary to ameliorate the issues which brought the children into care. This chapter examines how well the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services performs in providing substitute care living arrangements that meet these standards. It is organized into three sections: 1) Family Continuity, 2) Placement Stability, and 3) Length of Time in Substitute Care.

The third chapter examines **Legal Permanence: Reunification, Adoption, and Guardianship** with in-depth analyses of each of these three exit types. The chapter examines the likelihood that a child will exit substitute care to reunification, adoption, or guardianship within 12, 24, and 36 months of entry. For those children who achieve permanence, the stability of their permanent living arrangement at one year (reunification only), two years, five years, and ten years after exiting the child welfare system is also assessed. This chapter also examines the population of children that remain in care longer than three years, as well as those who exit substitute care without achieving a legally permanent family (e.g., running away from their placement, incarceration, aging out of the substitute care system). In addition, this year's report includes the CFSR permanency indicators.

Each chapter contains numerous figures that allow the reader to easily visualize Illinois' performance on the indicator over time. Readers interested in examining the results of the analyses more closely will find additional information in the technical Appendices to this report. Appendix A contains detailed **Indicator Definitions** for each of the indicators presented in the report. Appendix B contains the **Outcome Data** for each indicator over the past seven years for the state, along with breakdowns by child age, race, gender, and geographical region. Appendix C contains **Outcome Data by Sub-Region** for a selected number of indicators. The data provided in Appendices B and C are also available online via the CFRC Data Center (<https://cfrc.illinois.edu/outcome-indicator-tables.php>).

Each chapter also contains a summary of the indicators used to track the Department's progress in achieving positive outcomes for children and families, and the amount of change that has occurred on that indicator between the two most recent years that data are available. These summaries, titled **Changes at a Glance**, are presented near the beginning of each chapter and list each of the outcome indicators in that chapter and an icon that denotes whether the indicator has significantly increased, decreased, or remained stable during the most recent monitoring period. To create these summaries, two decisions were made: 1) What time period is of *most* interest to policy-makers and other child welfare stakeholders? 2) How large must a change be to be a "significant" change?

- Improvements in administrative data now allow us to track outcomes over long periods of time—some data can be traced back decades. Many of the figures in the chapters present outcome data over a 20-year period to show long-term trends. However, when trying to determine which child welfare outcomes may be starting to improve or decline, a more recent time frame is informative. Therefore, the summaries focus on the amount of change that has occurred during the *most recent 12 month period* for which data are available on a particular indicator. Significant changes (defined below) in either direction may indicate the beginning of a new trend or may be random fluctuation, but either way it is worthy of attention.
- To measure the change in each indicator, we calculated the “percentage change” in the following manner: the older value of the indicator was subtracted from the more recent value of the indicator (to find the relative difference), divided by the older value, and then multiplied by 100 to determine the percentage change. To illustrate this process, if the percentage of children who achieve reunification within 12 months was 16% in 2016 and 24% in 2017, the percentage change would be:

$$\frac{\text{new value} - \text{old value}}{\text{old value}} \times 100 \quad \text{OR} \quad \frac{24 - 16}{16} \times 100 = 50\%$$

If the result is positive, it is a percentage increase; if negative, it is a percentage decrease. In this fictional example, the change from 2016 to 2017 represents a 50% increase in the percentage of children reunified within 12 months.

- Looking at the percentage difference ($a - b / a$) rather than the actual difference ($a - b$) allows us to compare indicators of different “sizes” using a common metric, so that differences in indicators with very small values (such as the percentage of children maltreated in substitute care) are given the same attention as those of larger magnitude.
- Determining what counts as a “significant” amount of change in one year is subjective. In the current report, increases or decreases of 5% *or more* were noted as significant. Changes of this magnitude are pictured with an upward or downward arrow, while changes of *less than 5%* are pictured with an equal sign and described with the term “remained stable.” Please note that the phrase “remained stable” does not mean that the indicator did not change at all, only that the percent change was less than 5% in either direction. In addition, though the word “significant” is used to describe the percentage changes, this does not mean that tests of statistical significance were completed; it merely suggests that the amount of change is noteworthy.

The Continued Importance of the *B.H.* Monitoring Report in Illinois

In 1991, the *B.H.* consent decree required extensive reforms of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services in order to create and maintain a child welfare system that provides children with safe and appropriate living arrangements; reasonable efforts to reunite them with their families; timely permanence through other means if reunification is not possible; timely access to adequate medical, mental health, and developmental services; public education that is of similar quality to other children not in DCFS custody; and services and training to permit them to function in the least restrictive and most homelike setting possible. After several years of efforts failed to produce any appreciable changes in the Department's performance, the *B.H.* parties agreed to a more results-oriented monitoring process as well as the creation of a Children and Family Research Center that would be "responsible for evaluating and issuing public reports on the performance of the child welfare service system operated by DCFS and its agents."¹⁶ The independence of the Research Center from the Department was seen as a critical component of its mission to analyze data and produce an unbiased "annual report summarizing the Department's progress toward achieving the outcome goals and analyzing the reasons for the success or failure in making such progress."¹⁷

The *B.H.* consent decree and the establishment of an independent research center laid the foundation for a results-oriented process for reform in Illinois. The results of the Department's data-driven approach to reform were impressive. By implementing and rigorously evaluating innovative reforms such as subsidized guardianship, performance-based contracting, and structured safety assessment, Illinois safely and effectively reduced the number of children in care from 51,596 in FY1997 to 16,726 at the end of FY2017.¹⁸ This was accomplished by both reducing the number of children who were taken into substitute care and by increasing the number of children who exited the system to reunification, adoption, and subsidized guardianship. The transformation of the Illinois child welfare system from one of the worst in the country to one considered to be the "gold standard" was held as a model for other states' efforts to improve performance.¹⁹

The Department's successes in the late 1990s and early 2000s in moving children to safe and permanent homes have not been sustained in more recent years. Rates of reunification, which were not as strongly impacted by the permanency initiatives implemented in the late 1990s, lag far behind the national average and have seen little change in the last 15 years. Following their peak in the late 1990s, rates of adoption have fallen to around 3–4% within 24 months of entering care; this rate has not seen appreciable change in the past decade. The use of subsidized guardianship, which was promoted as a form of legal permanence and an alternative to long-term foster care, has dwindled in the past decade and is now rarely used—only 44 of

¹⁶ Joint Memorandum, p. 2

¹⁷ Joint Memorandum, p. 4

¹⁸ The number of children in care at the end of FY2017 was taken from the DCFS FY2019 Budget Briefing, available at https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/newsandreports/Documents/FY19_BudgetBriefing.pdf

¹⁹ Price, T. (2005). Child welfare reform. *The CQ Researcher*, 11, 345-367.

the 5,090 children who entered substitute care in 2015 exited care to guardianship within 2 years.

In addition to the gradual erosion of progress in moving children to permanent homes, the annual *B.H.* monitoring reports have highlighted several areas of concern in the past 7 years. For instance, as early as FY2011, the CFRC reported that congregate care placement types (including emergency shelters and residential treatment centers) were increasingly being used as the first placement setting for children in substitute care. These children were at increased risk of later placement instability and running away from care. This trend continued through FY2012 but has since reversed; initial placements in both emergency shelters and institutions have declined dramatically and are now at their lowest levels in the past 10 years (see Chapter 2 for more details).

Another trend that was first noted in the FY2015 monitoring report was the increase in substantiated maltreatment among children being served in intact family cases. This trend was also reported in the FY2016 and FY2017 monitoring reports, noted as a “serious concern.” The FY2017 report also noted that “even more worrisome, the youngest children are at highest risk: 18.5% of children ages 0 to 2 served in an intact family case experienced indicated maltreatment recurrence within 12 months of their initial report” (p. 1-11).²⁰ The CFRC recommended additional study of the specific factors that increased children’s risk of maltreatment in intact families well before a Chicago Tribune article speculated that the increase in child deaths among intact family cases was related to the privatization of the agencies providing the services.²¹ In addition, a recent analysis conducted by the CFRC suggests that there are no differences in the risk of child death among children in intact family cases served by the Department versus those served by private agencies (see Chapter 1 for more information).

The *B.H.* monitoring reports have also highlighted serious concerns about the rates of maltreatment in substitute care, which have been increasing each year for the past seven years. The monitoring reports noted that maltreatment rates were highest in kinship foster homes, which prompted the Department to request two special analyses that examined the factors that increased a child’s risk of maltreatment in substitute care. These reports, which are available on the CFRC website, found that younger children, African American children, children with mental health diagnoses, children in unlicensed kinship foster homes, children with prior indicated reports, and children that did not have any contact with their caseworkers within the past 60 days were at higher risk for maltreatment in care.²² Rates of maltreatment in substitute care have continued to climb since the publication of these reports, which suggests that additional intervention may be required to reverse the trend.

²⁰ Children and Family Research Center. (2017). *Conditions of Children in or at Risk of Foster Care in Illinois: 2016 Monitoring Report of the B.H. Consent Decree*. Urbana, IL: Author.

²¹ Jackson, D., & Marx, G. (October 23, 2017). Child deaths spike after DCFS privatizes intact family services. *Chicago Tribune*.

²² Nieto, M., Lei, X., & Fuller, T. (2015). *Predicting maltreatment in substitute care*. Urbana, IL: Children and Family Research Center.

INTRODUCTION

As these three examples demonstrate, the importance of the annual *B.H.* monitoring report in identifying worrisome trends in child welfare outcomes cannot be overstated. By examining the a set of indicators that has been developed specifically for the Illinois child welfare system at frequent intervals over long periods of time, we are able to identify trends as they emerge, track them over time, and highlight areas that need additional scrutiny. Our hope is that the *B.H.* report both serves its intended purpose of informing the *B.H.* parties on the performance of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, and that also it provides other child welfare stakeholders within the State with information that is useful to them and encourages further discussion on how to improve outcomes for children and families. We welcome feedback on the report, as well as suggestions for additional areas of study.²³

²³ Contact information for the Children and Family Research Center can be found on the Acknowledgements page.



Chapter 1

Child Safety

Child safety is the paramount concern of the child protection and welfare systems. According to the most recent federal child welfare monitoring report, “Public child welfare agencies are responsible for ensuring that children who have been found to be victims of abuse or neglect are protected from further harm. Whether the child is placed in out-of-home care or maintained in the home, the child welfare agency’s first concern must be to ensure the safety of the child” (p. 18).¹ Once a child becomes involved in a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect, the child welfare system assumes partial responsibility for the safety and protection of the child from additional abuse or neglect.

1

Measuring Child Safety

In some ways, child safety is the most straightforward of all child welfare outcomes—safety is the *absence* of child maltreatment. Even so, there are many different ways to measure child safety, which can lead to inconsistencies in results and confusion when comparing or interpreting them. With that in mind, it is important to specify the way child safety is measured in this chapter (see Appendix A for detailed definitions of the indicators used in this report).

Maltreatment recurrence is the most common indicator used to assess child safety within the context of public child welfare. Typically, a recurrence is defined as a substantiated² maltreatment report following a prior substantiated report that involves the same child or

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau. (2017). *Child Welfare Outcomes 2010–2014: Report to Congress*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare Information Gateway.

² In Illinois, maltreatment reports are indicated or unfounded, rather than substantiated or unsubstantiated. The current report uses the more widely used term “substantiated” instead of “indicated” and “unsubstantiated” instead of “unfounded.”

family. Other measures, called re-referrals or re-reports, take a broader view and include *all* subsequent reports following an initial report, regardless of whether the subsequent report was substantiated. Although recognizing the importance of all future contacts with child welfare, the current chapter uses the definition of maltreatment recurrence used in the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSRs), which includes additional substantiated maltreatment reports that occur within 12 months of an initial substantiated maltreatment report.

Changes in Child Safety at a Glance

Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children with Substantiated Reports (CFSR)

↑ Of all children with a substantiated report, the percentage that had another substantiated report within 12 months increased from 11.1% in 2015 to 11.8% in 2016 (+6% change).

Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Family Cases

↔ Of all children served in intact family cases, the percentage that had a substantiated report within 12 months remained stable and was 13.6% in 2016.

Maltreatment Recurrence Among Substantiated Children Who Do Not Receive Services

↑ Of all children with substantiated reports who did not receive services, the percentage that had another substantiated report within 12 months increased from 9.2% in 2015 to 10.2% in 2016 (+11% change).

Rate of Victimization Per 100,000 Days Among Children in the Substitute Care (CFSR)

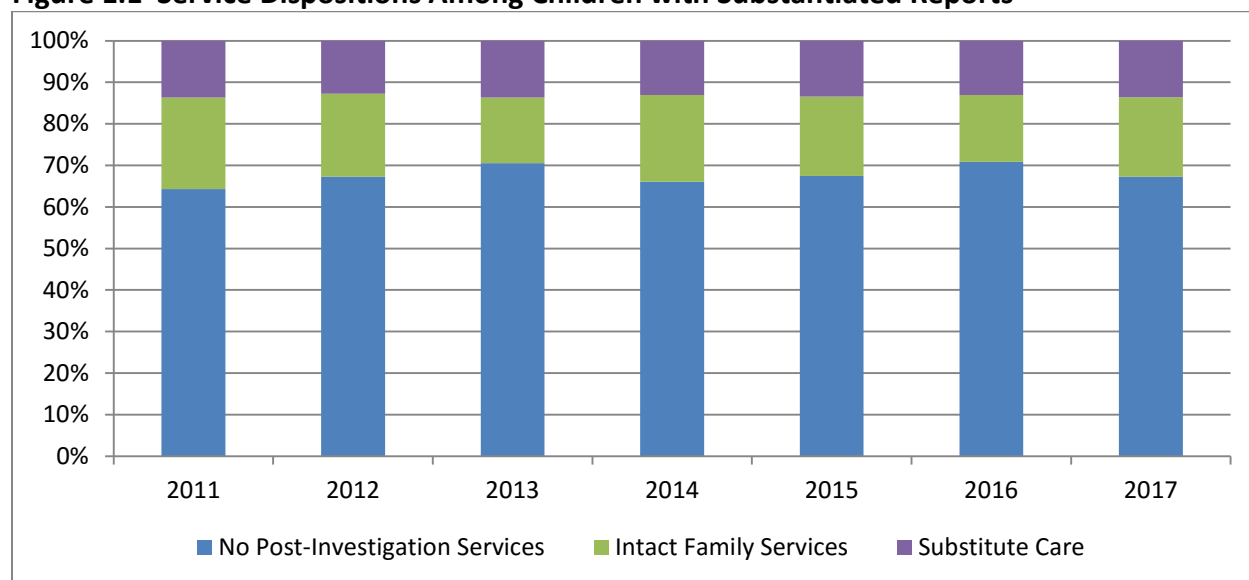
↑ Of all children in substitute care during the year, the rate of substantiated maltreatment per 100,000 days in substitute care increased from 12.4 in 2016 to 13.1 in 2017 (+6% change).

An additional consideration when selecting indicators of child safety is the population to be monitored. In Illinois, the mandate for ensuring child safety extends to all children investigated by the Department, regardless of whether post-investigation services are offered. Not all families—even those in which maltreatment is substantiated—receive post-investigation services. Figure 1.1 shows the service dispositions of children with substantiated reports each year from 2011 to 2017. The majority of children with substantiated reports do not receive any post-investigation services, and this percentage has fluctuated between a low of 64.3% in 2011 to a high of 70.8% in 2016; in 2017, it was 67.3%. The percentage of children served at home in what are known as intact family cases has declined from 22.1% in 2011 to 19.2% in 2017.³

³ This percentage includes those children with substantiated reports that occurred while the child was already being served in an intact family case as well as children served in an intact family case within 60 days of the initial substantiated report.

About 13% of children with substantiated maltreatment are placed in substitute care, a percentage that has remained steady over the past 7 years.⁴

Figure 1.1 Service Dispositions Among Children with Substantiated Reports



The relationship between post-investigation service provision and risk of maltreatment recurrence is complex. Many studies have found that families who receive child welfare services are at higher risk of maltreatment recurrence than those who are not provided with services; this may seem counter-intuitive, since services are provided to reduce family risk factors and decrease future maltreatment. The relationship between child welfare service provision and increased recurrence has been attributed to both increased surveillance by caseworkers and to the fact that families who receive services typically have more risk factors than families not recommended for services.⁵ Monitoring child safety without regard to service disposition ignores the fact that children served in one setting may be more or less safe than those served in another. Therefore, in this chapter, we use separate indicators to examine child safety among 1) all children with substantiated reports; 2) children served in intact family cases; 3) children who do not receive any post-investigation services; and 4) children removed from the home and placed into substitute care (see Appendix A for the technical definition of these indicators).

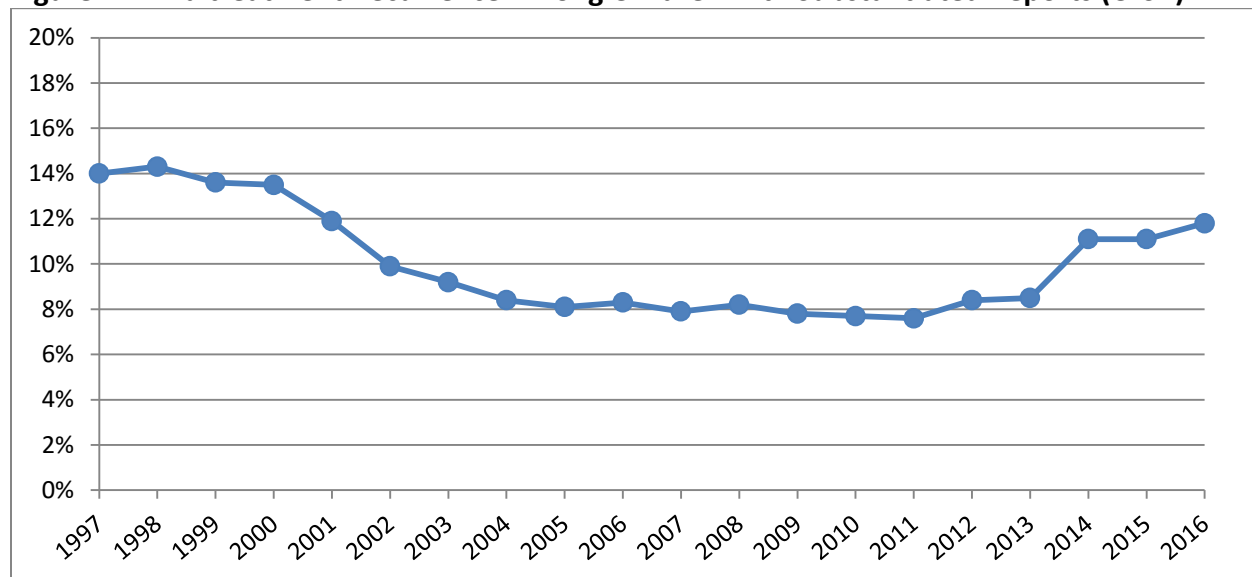
⁴ This percentage includes those children with substantiated reports that occurred while the child was in substitute care as well as children placed in substitute care within 60 days of a substantiated report.

⁵ Fuller, T., & Nieto, M. (2014). Child welfare services and risk of child maltreatment rereports: Do services ameliorate initial risk? *Children and Youth Services Review*, 47, 46-54.

Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children with Substantiated Reports (CFSR)

Figure 1.2 displays the 12-month maltreatment recurrence rate for all children with a substantiated maltreatment report over the past 20 years (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.A). The recurrence rate was highest in 1998 (14.3%) and then began a steady decline until 2011. The rate reached its lowest point of the past 20 years in 2011 (7.6%) but has steadily increased since then. The maltreatment recurrence rate among children with substantiated reports in 2016 was 11.8%, which was the highest it has been in the past 15 years.⁶

Figure 1.2 Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children with Substantiated Reports (CFSR)



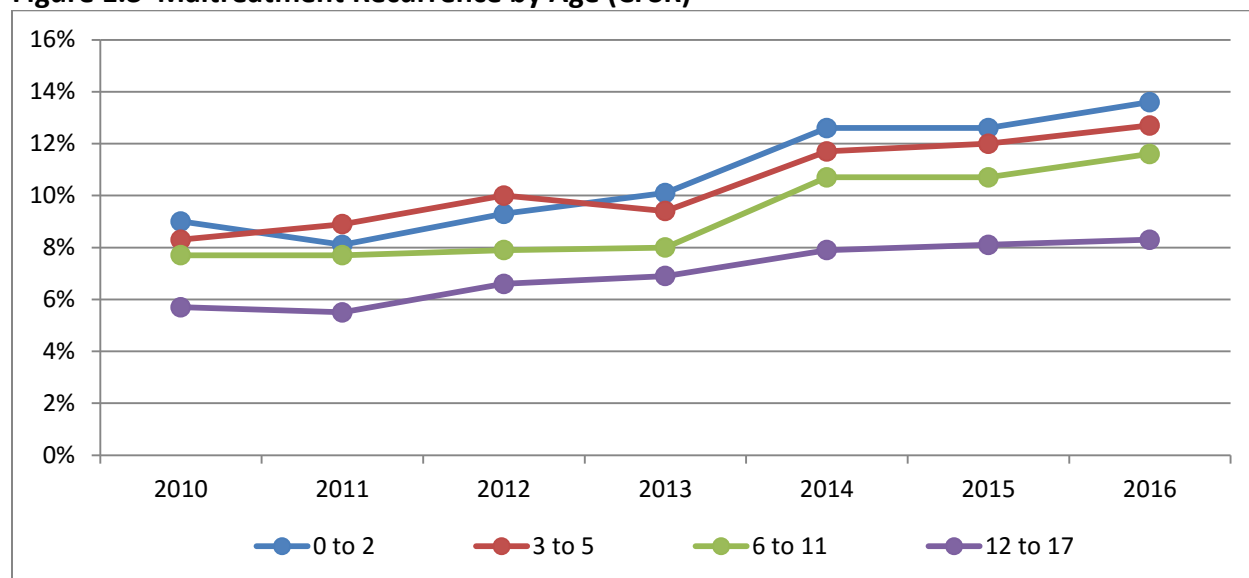
Past research has found that younger children are much more likely to experience maltreatment recurrence than older children,⁷ a finding which is also true in Illinois. For example, of children with a substantiated report in 2016, 13.6% of children 0 to 2 years had an additional substantiated report within 12 months, compared to 12.7% of children 3 to 5 years,

⁶ As the result of a class-action lawsuit (*Julie Q. v. Department of Children and Family Services*), DCFS was required to remove all substantiated maltreatment reports involving allegation 60 (Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare) from its State Central Register during the time periods of October 1, 2001 – July 12, 2012, July 13, 2012 – December 31, 2013, and May 31, 2014 – June 11, 2014. The removal of these substantiated reports likely impacted maltreatment recurrence rates during these time periods; the potential impact is analyzed in detail in Appendix D.

⁷ Bae, H., Solomon, P.L., & Gelles, R.J. (2009). Multiple child maltreatment recurrence relative to single recurrence and no recurrence. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31, 617-624. Connell, C.M., Bergeron, N., Katz, K.H., Saunders, L., & Tebes, J.K. (2007). Re-referral to child protective services: The influence of child, family, and case characteristics on risk status. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 31, 573-588. Kahn, J.M., & Schwalbe, C. (2010). The timing to and risk factors associated with child welfare system recidivism at two decision-making points. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 32, 1035-1044. Fluke, J.D., Shusterman, G.R., Hollinshead, D.M., & Yuan, Y.T. (2008). Longitudinal analysis of repeated child abuse reporting and victimization: Multistate analysis of associated factors. *Child Maltreatment*, 13, 76-88.

11.6% of those 6 to 11 years, and 8.3% of those 12 to 17 years (see Figure 1.3 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.A). Maltreatment recurrence has increased among all age groups over the past three years.

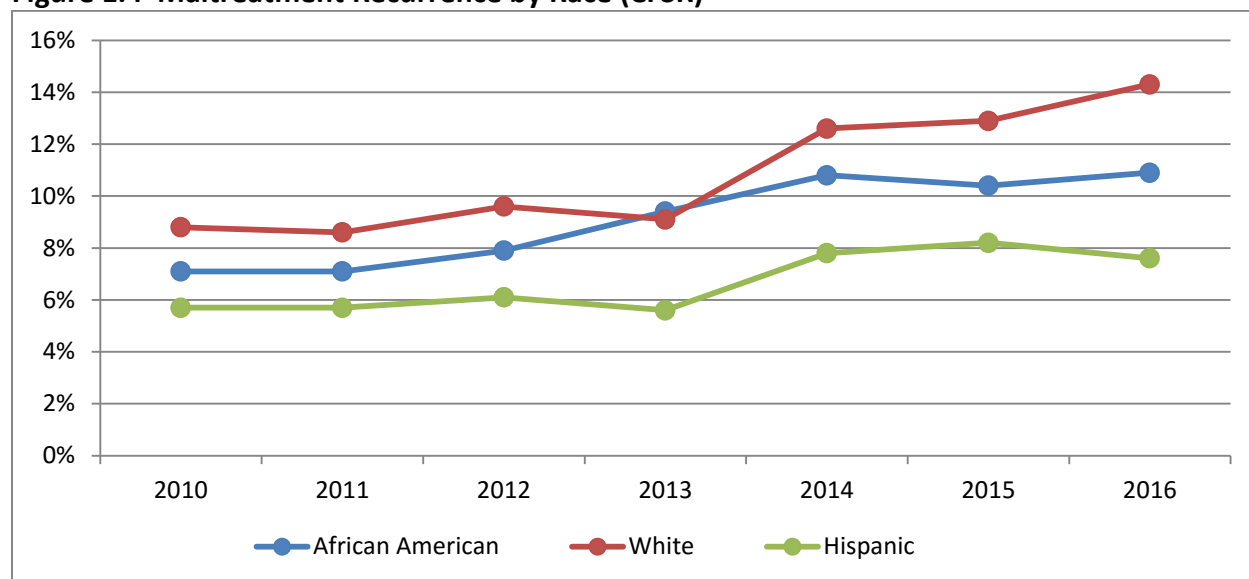
Figure 1.3 Maltreatment Recurrence by Age (CFSR)



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When recurrence rates are examined by child race, White children generally have higher rates of maltreatment recurrence than African American children and Hispanic children (see Figure 1.4 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.A). The increase in maltreatment recurrence rates is seen most noticeably among White children; rates increased in this group from 9.1% of those with initial substantiated maltreatment reports in 2013 to 14.3% of those with initial reports in 2016.

Figure 1.4 Maltreatment Recurrence by Race (CFSR)



Recurrence rates among children with substantiated reports in 2016 were higher in the Southern region (15.8%) and Central region (13.5%) compared to the Northern region (10.5%) and Cook region (9.0%), a pattern that has persisted for many years (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.A). To gain a more complete picture of these regional differences, Figure 1.5 displays a sub-regional “heat map” showing 12-month maltreatment recurrence rates among all children with a substantiated report (see Appendix C, Indicator 1.A for corresponding data). To create the heat map, recurrence rates in each sub-region of Illinois for each year in the 7-year period were compared to one another and ranked. The sub-regions and years in the top 25th percentile—those with the *best performance* on this indicator—are shown in the lightest shade. Those sub-regions and years in the bottom 25th percentile—those with the *worst performance* on this indicator—are shown in the darkest shade. Those that performed in the middle—between the 26th and 74th percentiles—are shown in the medium shade. The heat map provides a visually simple way to compare a large amount of information on sub-regional performance both over time and across the state. It is possible to quickly tell if a region or sub-region is doing well (relative to the other regions in the state over the past 7 years) by looking for the areas with the lightest shade. It is important to note that these “rankings” are relative only to the performance within the ten sub-regions over the 7-year timespan and not to any national or state benchmarks. Thus, even though a given sub-region may be performing “well” compared to other sub-regions in the state (as indicated by a light shade on the heat map), this does not necessarily mean that its performance should be considered “good” or “excellent” compared to a standard or benchmark.

Examination of Figure 1.5 reveals that the highest recurrence rates (i.e., the worst performance) in the state are in the Marion and Springfield sub-regions; performance has been consistently poor in Marion throughout the 7-year observation period. In addition, the highest recurrence rates are concentrated in the past three years. Conversely, the lowest recurrence rates are in the Cook North and Cook Central sub-regions and occurred between 2010 and 2013 (see Appendix C, Indicator 1.A).

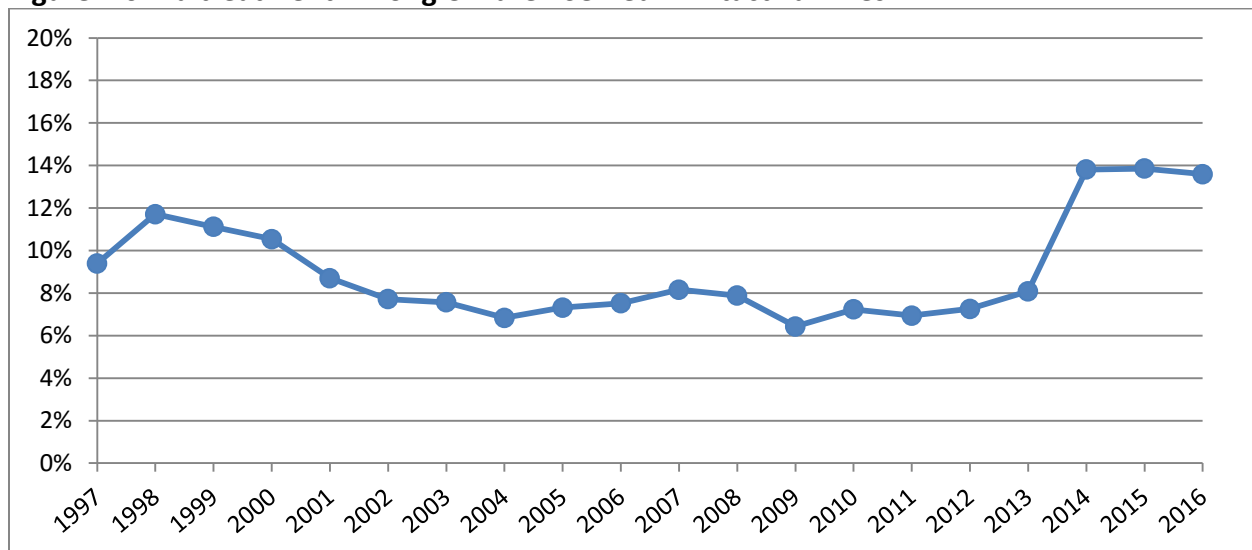
Figure 1.5 Maltreatment Recurrence Sub-region Heat Map (CFSR)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cook North							
Cook Central							
Cook South							
Aurora							
Rockford							
Champaign							
Peoria							
Springfield							
East St. Louis							
Marion							

Maltreatment Among Children in Intact Family Cases

In some instances, the Department will substantiate child maltreatment in a family but decide that it is in the best interest of the child(ren) to remain at home while the family receives supportive services rather than place them into substitute care. Families in these intact family cases are of special interest to the Department because their history of substantiated maltreatment places them at increased risk of repeat maltreatment compared to families with no history of maltreatment (see Box 1.1 for a special analysis of child deaths among intact family cases). Figure 1.6 displays the percentage of children served in intact family cases that experienced a substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months of their case open date (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.B). Maltreatment rates among children served in intact family cases increased sharply in fiscal year 2014 (from 8.1% of children in intact family cases in 2013 to 13.8% of children in 2014) and has remained at that level for the past three years.

Figure 1.6 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families



Child Deaths and Intact Family Services

BOX 1.1

At the request of the *B.H.* Expert Panel, CFRC conducted analyses to examine the relationship between the “privatization” of intact family services (IFS) by DCFS between 2012 and 2017 and child deaths due to abuse or neglect while in these placements. The need for these analyses stems largely in part due to recent public concern that DCFS had completely privatized IFS in 2012, which led to a spike in child deaths. An article in the *Chicago Tribune*⁸ asserted that 15 children died from abuse or neglect between 2012 and “last year” while receiving IFS compared to only one child death during the previous five-year period (2007 – 2011). CFRC fulfilled the *B.H.* Expert Panel’s inquiry by:

- 1) examining the number of child deaths that occurred among children that were receiving IFS or had received IFS within the 12 months prior to their deaths; and
- 2) examining child deaths in cases served by DCFS versus those served by private child welfare agencies to determine if privatization of IFS was associated with higher rates of child deaths.

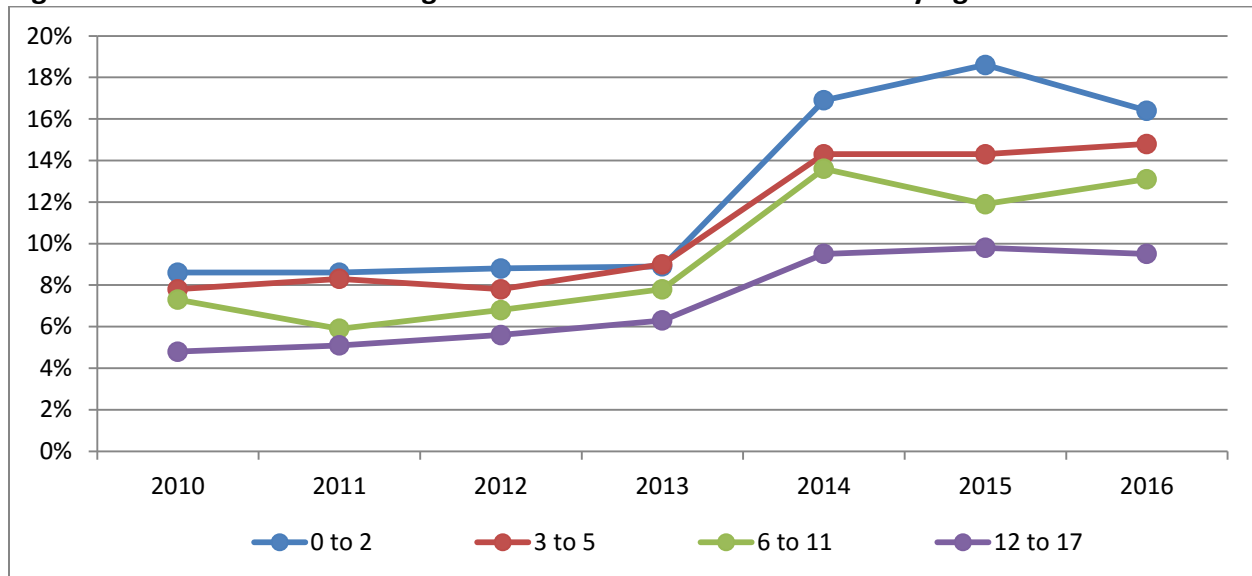
Initial analyses were conducted to assess the assumption that DCFS had “completely privatized” IFS in 2012. We examined the percentage of children that had ever received IFS by a private agency between 2000 and 2017. The findings indicated that, while the use of private agencies to provide IFS has increased in recent years, IFS were not completely privatized in 2012. Prior to 2012, between 50-60% of children received IFS through private agencies; this percentage increased to as high as 83% in 2014, but has never exceeded that level.

Next, penalized regression analyses were conducted to compare the risk of death among children receiving IFS by DCFS vs. private agencies in two groups of children: 1) children with screened-in maltreatment reports even if the death allegations were not substantiated and 2) children in substantiated child death investigations. The results revealed that between 142 and 248 child deaths are reported to DCFS every year and about half of these reports are substantiated. Our analyses also revealed that the vast majority of child deaths (80-92%) had no prior involvement with IFS; this was true for all children with screened-in maltreatment reports with allegations involving child death (regardless of whether the death allegations were substantiated), as well as for children with substantiated death investigations. The analyses also revealed **no differences in risk of either investigated or substantiated child deaths among children served by DCFS and those served by private agencies**. Taken together, these findings do not support the assertion that IFS were completely privatized, or that the IFS provided by private agencies were related to a higher risk of child deaths.

⁸ Jackson, D., & Marx, G. (October 23, 2017). Child deaths spike after DCFS privatizes “intact family services.” *Chicago Tribune*. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/watchdog/ct-dcfs-verna-intact-family-services-met-20171022-story.html>

Maltreatment among children served in intact family cases is more likely to occur among younger children (see Figure 1.7 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.B). Maltreatment increased for children of all age groups in 2014, with the biggest increase occurring among children 0 to 2 years. Rates of maltreatment among this group increased from 8.9% in 2013 to 18.6% in 2015; this rate declined to 16.4% in 2016.

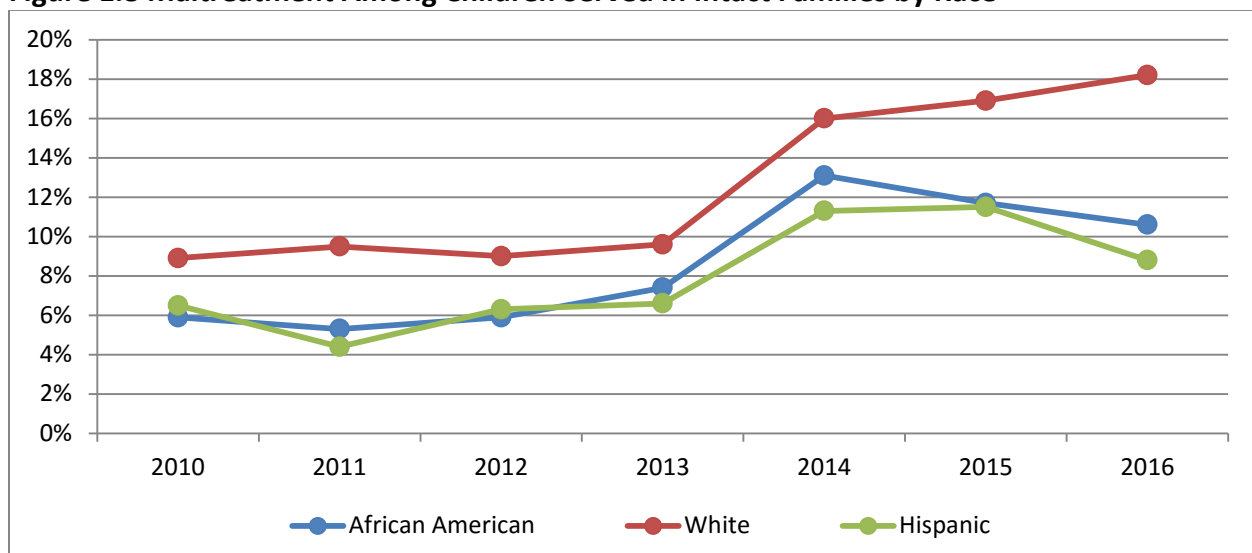
Figure 1.7 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families by Age



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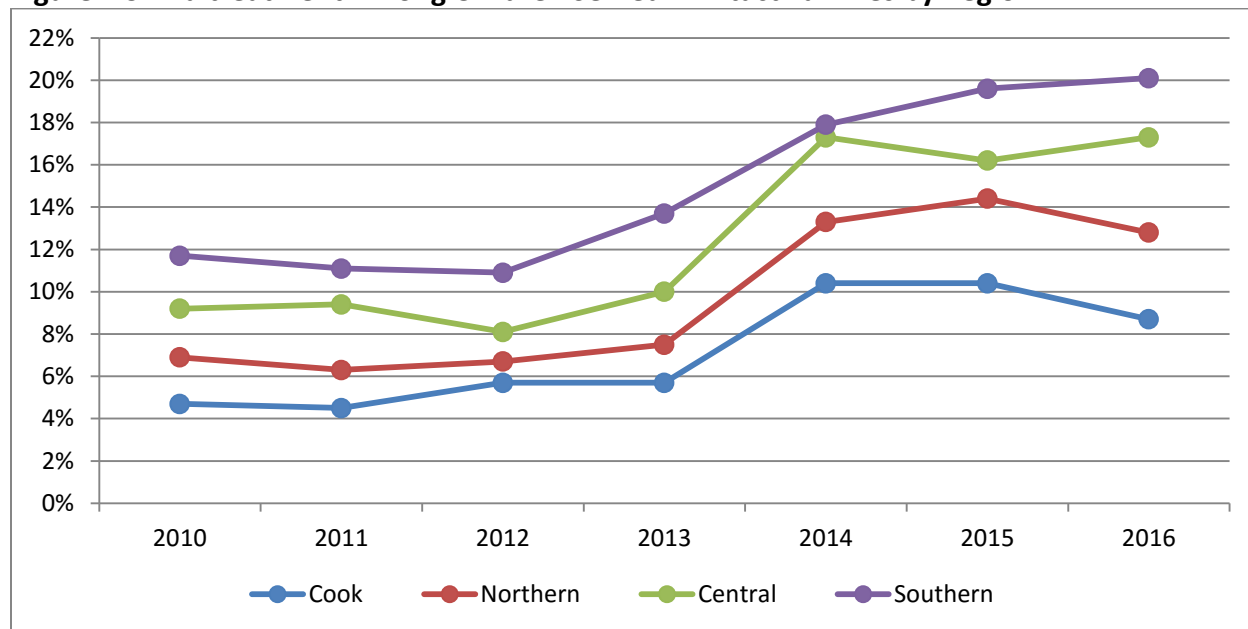
Figure 1.8 displays the maltreatment rates by race for children served in intact families. White children served in intact families were more likely to experience maltreatment than African American children and Hispanic children. In addition, rates have increased for White children but decreased for African American and Hispanic children in the past several years (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.B).

Figure 1.8 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families by Race



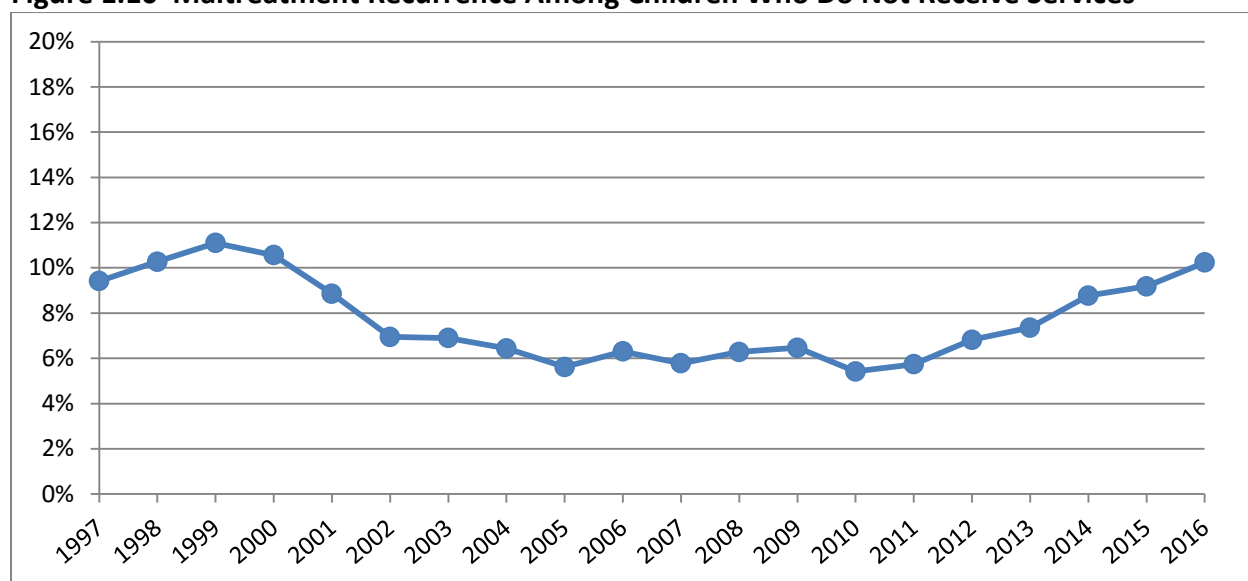
Examination of the regional differences in maltreatment rates among children in intact families reveals that are highest in the Southern region, followed by the Central region, the Northern region, and then the Cook region (see Figure 1.9 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.B). The increase in maltreatment rates that occurred after 2013 are seen most noticeably in the Central and Southern regions of the state.

Figure 1.9 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families by Region



Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Who Do Not Receive Services

Almost three quarters (70.8%) of the children that had substantiated reports of maltreatment in 2016 did not receive any post-investigation child welfare services (see Figure 1.1). Figure 1.10 displays the 12-month maltreatment recurrence rates for children with a substantiated report who did not receive services (either intact family services or substitute care) following the investigation (i.e., the case was substantiated and closed; see Appendix B, Indicator 1.C). The 20 year trend is similar to those for the other groups of children: rates were highest in the late 1990s, followed by a decline until the early 2000s, relative stability for several years, and an upward trend since 2010. The maltreatment recurrence rate in the most recent year (10.9%) is at its highest point in the past 15 years. Examination of the recurrence rates by subgroup reveals that similar to the other safety indicators, rates are highest among children 0 to 2 years, White children, and children living in the Southern region of the state (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.C).

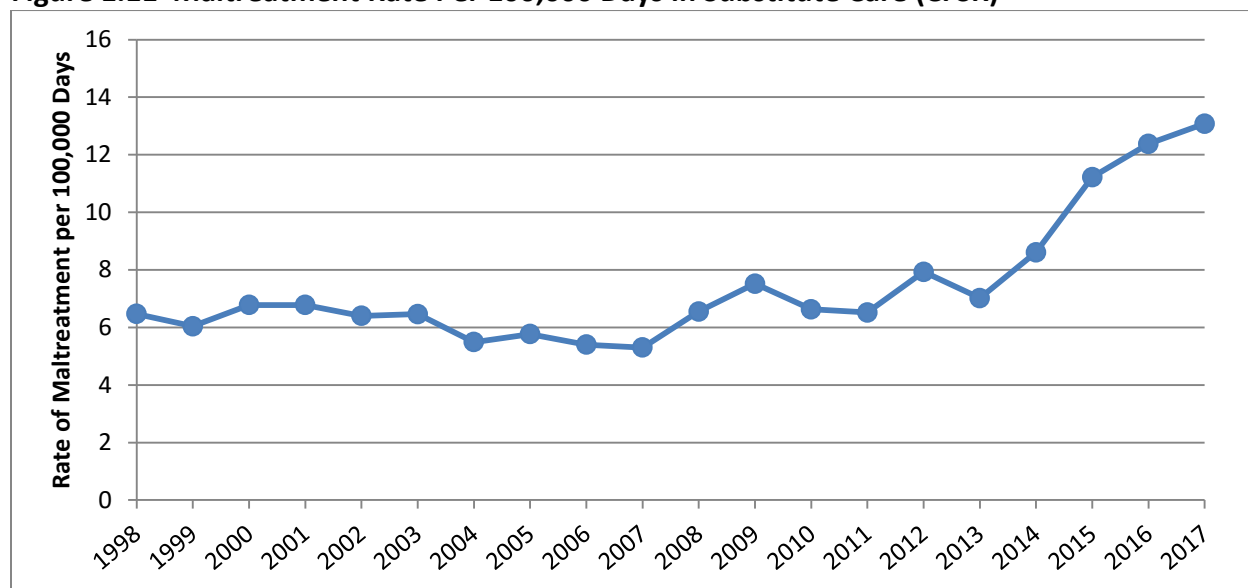
Figure 1.10 Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Who Do Not Receive Services

Maltreatment in Substitute Care (CFSR)

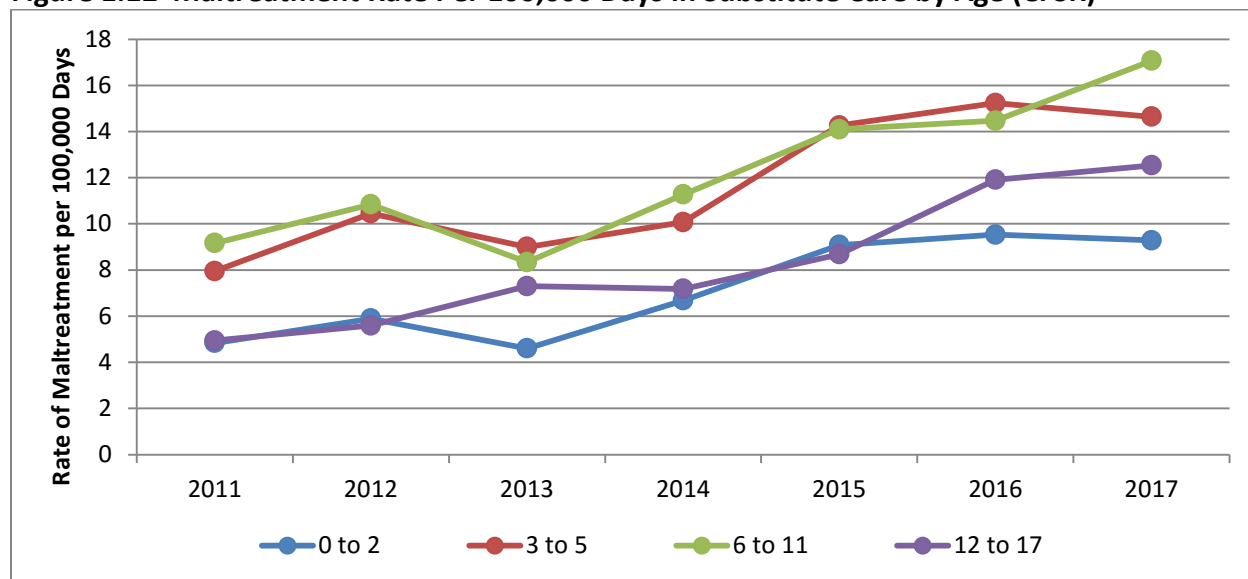
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Children should only be removed from their parents' care and placed into substitute care when it is necessary to protect their well-being and safety, and it is essential that children are safe while they are in state care. In order to assess child safety in substitute care, we use the measure that has been developed for the round 3 Child and Family Service Reviews.⁹ This measure looks at the children in substitute care during the fiscal year and calculates the total number of days these children were in substitute care. Then, the total number of substantiated reports of maltreatment for these children within this period is determined. In order to make the results easier to interpret, the results are multiplied by 100,000 and are described as the rate of maltreatment per 100,000 days of substitute care (see Appendix A for the technical definition). Figure 1.11 shows the rate of substantiated reports per 100,000 days in care over the past 20 years; the rate has been increasing over the past decade, from 5.3 in 2007 to 13.1 in 2017.

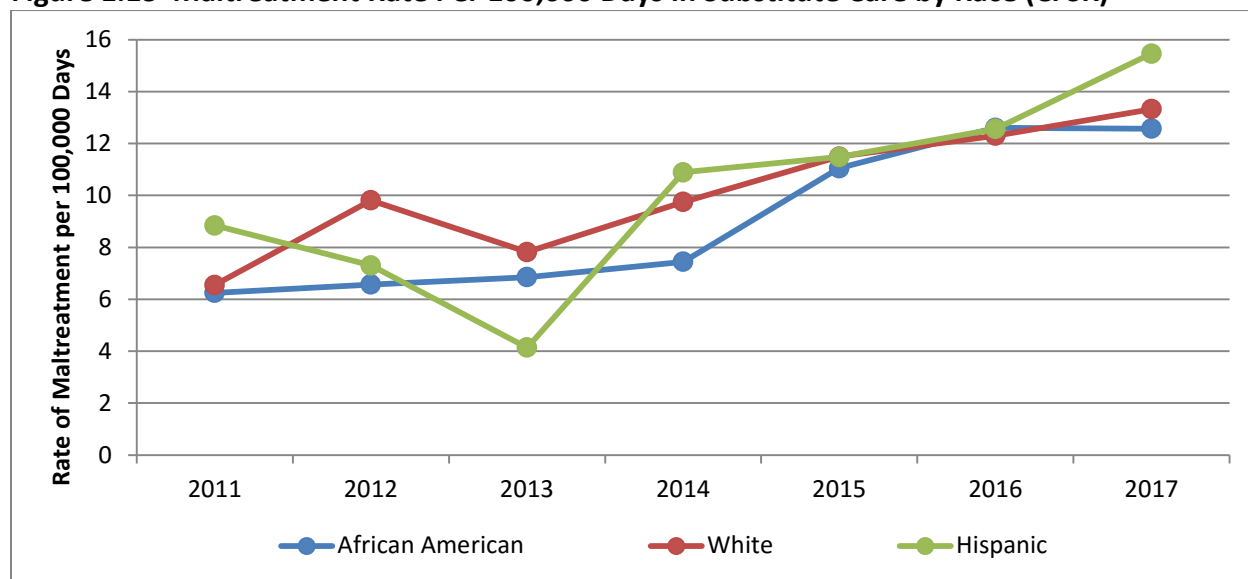
⁹ Children's Bureau (n.d.). CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Maltreatment in Foster Care. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/maltxtfc.pdf>

Figure 1.11 Maltreatment Rate Per 100,000 Days in Substitute Care (CFSR)

Unlike other indicators of maltreatment, children ages 0 to 2 years are less likely to experience maltreatment in substitute care than other age groups (see Figure 1.12 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.D).

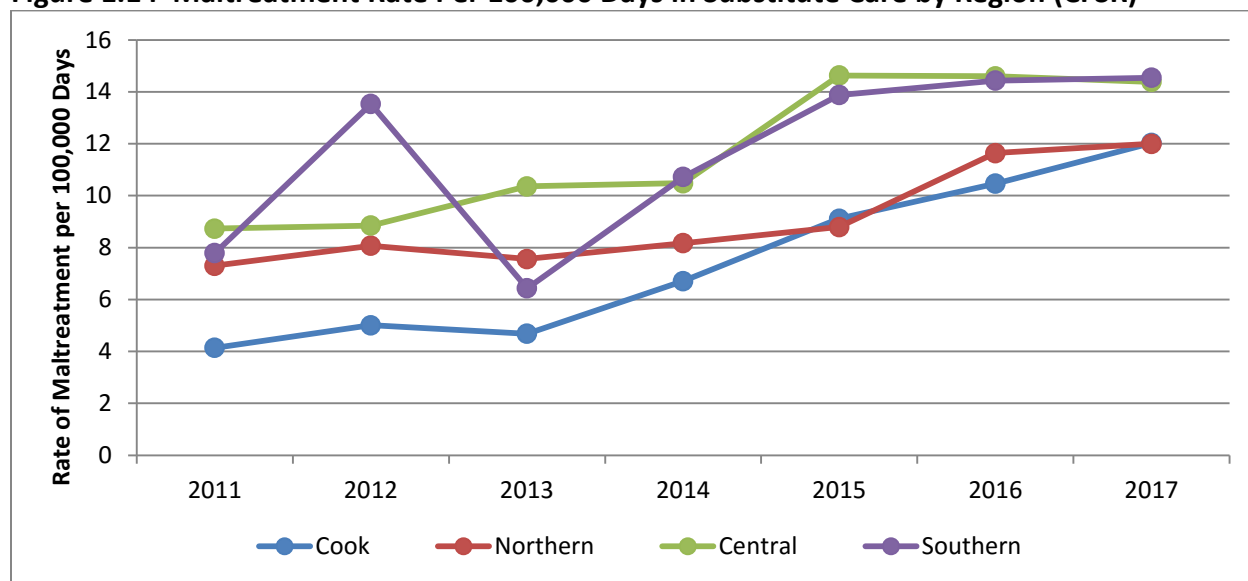
Figure 1.12 Maltreatment Rate Per 100,000 Days in Substitute Care by Age (CFSR)

There are no clear differences in the rates of maltreatment in care between the different racial groups (Figure 1.13 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.D). Rates among all three groups have been increasing over the past four years.

Figure 1.13 Maltreatment Rate Per 100,000 Days in Substitute Care by Race (CFSR)

Regional differences in maltreatment in substitute care were small (see Figure 1.14 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.D).

1

Figure 1.14 Maltreatment Rate Per 100,000 Days in Substitute Care by Region (CFSR)

Discussion and Conclusions: Child Safety

One of the most important goals of the public child welfare system is to ensure that child maltreatment victims are safe from additional harm. In some cases, this is done by removing children from their homes and placing them into substitute care until they can safely return home. In the vast majority of cases, however, children remain in their homes at the conclusion of an investigation, even if they were found to be the victims of maltreatment. Some of these families receive formal child welfare services following the investigation, but in Illinois, most do not.

Deciding which families should be provided with ongoing child welfare services is one of the most complex decisions child protective services (CPS) workers must make. In order to make this decision, they must consider multiple factors at once, such as the immediate safety threats in the household, the long-term risk factors, the protective capacities and supports of the parents, the availability of services in the community, and the parents' ability to utilize services. Informal and formal agency policies regarding which families should receive services also influence CPS worker decision-making.

The percentage of families with substantiated reports of maltreatment that receive intact family services has fluctuated over the past 7 years, but in most years was around 19-20%. These fluctuations may be tied to changes in the Department's policies regarding eligibility for services. Regardless of the eligibility requirements, there is a reasonable expectation that intact services should reduce the risk of maltreatment for children. Last year's *B.H.* monitoring report highlighted a concern with the percentage of children in intact family cases who experience maltreatment, and the results of this year's report reinforce this concern. Maltreatment rates among children served in intact family cases have increased from 6.9% in 2011 to 13.6% in 2016. Even more worrisome is the age of the children at highest risk: 16.4% of children ages 0 to 2 years who were being served in an intact family case in 2016 experienced a substantiated maltreatment report within one year of their case open date. The *Chicago Tribune* raised concerns about a recent increase in child deaths among children served in intact family cases, linking the increase to the "complete privatization" of intact family services that occurred in 2012.¹⁰ Our analyses of the data revealed that although the use of private agencies to provide intact family services has increased in recent years, there are no observed differences in the risk of child death between children served by DCFS and private agencies.

There are several plausible explanations for the increase in recurrence rates among children in intact family cases. The needs of Illinois families in general, and those provided with intact family services in particular, may be increasing or changing. The prolonged budget problems in the State of Illinois may have impacted service availability, especially in rural regions of the state. This may limit the effectiveness of the services provided through intact family cases.

¹⁰ Jackson, D., & Marx, G. (October 23, 2017). Child deaths spike after DCFS privatizes "intact family services." *Chicago Tribune*. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/watchdog/ct-dcfs-verna-intact-family-services-met-20171022-story.html>

Without additional information about the families served and the services provided, we cannot explore the factors that may have produced the recent increase in recurrence rates. We advise the Department to conduct a comprehensive analysis of child and family risks, service provision, and maltreatment recurrence among families provided with intact family services.

Maltreatment among children living in substitute care is a major concern for the child welfare system. In Illinois, the rate of substantiated maltreatment reports that occur among children in substitute care has been increasing over the past decade. Even more alarming is that the maltreatment rate is increasing more rapidly than ever before, almost doubling in the past four years. At the Department's request, the CFRC developed a model to predict which children were most likely to be maltreated while in substitute care.¹¹ The results of that analysis, which was conducted in 2015, revealed that children in foster home placements who had a face-to-face contact with a caseworker within the previous 60 days were less likely to experience a substantiated maltreatment report compared to children who did not have recent caseworker contacts. Approximately 40% of the children in the sample had not received a visit from their caseworker within the prior 60 days, which suggests an area in need of additional training and supervision. The findings also suggested that children in unlicensed foster homes were at higher risk of maltreatment in care, as were younger children, children with mental health diagnoses, and children with prior substantiated reports. Given the recent concerning increases in the maltreatment rate in substitute care, these analyses should be replicated to determine if the risk factors have changed.

¹¹ Nieto, M., Lei, X., & Fuller, T. (2015). Predicting maltreatment in substitute care. Urbana, IL: Children and Family Research Center.



Chapter 2

Family Continuity, Placement Stability, and Length of Time in Care

Children should only be removed from their parents and placed in substitute care when it is necessary to ensure their safety and well-being. Once removed from their homes, the public child welfare system and its private agency partners have a responsibility to provide children with living arrangements that ensure that they are safe from additional harm, maintain connections with their family members (including other siblings in care) and community, and provide stability. In addition, substitute care should be a temporary solution and children should live in substitute care settings for the shortest period necessary to ameliorate the issues that brought them into care. Child safety in substitute care living arrangements was examined in the previous chapter. This chapter examines 1) Continuity with Family and Community, 2) Placement Stability, and 3) Length of Time in Substitute Care. The indicators used to measure the Department's performance on these standards are described in the chapter sections and technical definitions of each indicator are provided in Appendix A.

Two of the indicators in this chapter (placement restrictiveness and placement with siblings) are examined for children's initial placements in substitute care and their placements at the end of the fiscal year. It is important to keep in mind that the children in these two samples are not the same: "initial placements" include children who entered care within a given fiscal year (counting each entry only once). Since children who enter and stay only a few months have the same weight as children who enter and stay for years, initial placement samples over-represent children who are in care for a short period of time. The "end of year placement" sample includes all children in care on the last day of the state fiscal year (June 30th). Children who are in care for several years are counted in several "end of year" samples, while children who enter after June 30th and exit before June 30th of the following year are not counted at all. Thus, end of year samples over-represent children who have been in care for a long time. The other

indicators in this chapter (placement stability and length of time in substitute care) do not differentiate between initial and end of year placements. As in the other chapters of this report, performance on each indicator is examined by child gender, age, race, and geographic region, and noteworthy differences are presented in the chapter.

Changes in Continuity and Stability in Care at a Glance

Restrictiveness of Initial Placement Settings

- ↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in the home of parents decreased from 4.1% in 2016 to 3.5% in 2017 (-15% change).
- ↔ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a kinship foster home remained stable and was 63.2% in 2017.
- ↑ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a traditional foster home increased from 21.9% in 2016 to 24.6% in 2017 (+12% change).
- ↑ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a specialized foster home increased from 1.5% in 2016 to 2.2% in 2017 (+47% change).
- ↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home decreased from 2.8% in 2016 to 2.0% in 2017 (-29% change).
- ↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an institution or group home decreased from 6.2% in 2016 to 4.4% in 2017 (-29% change).

Restrictiveness of End of Year Placement Settings

- ↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in the home of parents decreased from 6.2% in 2016 to 5.4% in 2017 (-13% change).
- ↑ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a kinship foster home increased from 45.4% in 2016 to 48.0% in 2017 (+6% change).
- ↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a traditional foster home remained stable and was 26.0% in 2017.
- ↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a specialized foster home remained stable and was 14.0% in 2017.
- ↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home decreased from 0.3% in 2016 to 0.2% in 2017 (-33% change).

↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an institution or group home decreased from 7.1% in 2016 to 6.4% in 2017 (-10% change).

Placement with Siblings

Of all children entering substitute care and placed in a kinship or traditional foster home, the percentage that was initially placed in the same foster home with all their siblings in care:

For children with one or two siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children initially placed in kinship foster homes and was 79.7% in 2017.

↓ decreased for children initially placed in traditional foster homes from 69.2% in 2016 to 65.6% in 2017 (-5% change).

For children with 3 or more siblings in care:

↓ decreased for children initially placed in kinship foster from 48.6% in 2016 to 44.3% in 2017 (-9% change).

↑ increased for children initially placed in traditional foster homes from 8.4% in 2016 to 13.4% in 2017(+60% change).

Of all children living in kinship or traditional foster homes at the end of the year, the percentage that was placed in the same foster home with all their siblings in care:

For children with one or two siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children in kinship foster homes and was 71.7% in 2017.

↑ increased for children in traditional foster homes from 56.3% in 2016 to 60.4% in 2017 (+7% change).

For children with 3 or more siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children in kinship foster homes and was 35.8% in 2017.

↑ increased for children in traditional foster homes from 7.2 % in 2016 to 9.5% in 2017 (+32% change).

Placement Stability (CFSR)

↔ Of all children entering substitute care during the year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days in care remained stable and was 4.1 in 2017.

Children Who Run Away From Substitute Care

↓ Of all children entering substitute care between the ages of 12 and 17 years, the percentage that ran away from a placement within one year of entry decreased from 21.7% in 2015 to 19.0% in 2016 (-12% change).

Length of Stay In Substitute Care

↔ Of all children entering substitute care, the median length of stay remained stable and was 34 months for children who entered care in 2014.

Family Continuity

Restrictiveness of Placement Settings

When it is in the best interest of a child to be placed in substitute care, it is both federal and state policy to place children in the least restrictive, most family-like setting possible. The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 states “to place a child in the least restrictive and most family-like setting that will meet the needs of the child.”¹ In 1996, Congress required states to include in their Title IV-E state plans a provision that indicated the state shall consider giving preference to an adult relative over a non-related caregiver when determining a placement for a child, provided that the relative caregiver meets all relevant child protection standards.

In Illinois, Department policy states that “when children are removed from the care of a custodial parent, the Department shall explore whether the non-custodial parent would be a suitable caregiver for the children. If placement with the non-custodial parent is not consistent with the best interests and special needs of the children or if the non-custodial parent is not a suitable caregiver for the children, a substitute care placement shall be sought (p. 39).” In addition, “placement in a family home is the least restrictive and thus the preferable placement choice for a child when a family will be able to meet the needs of the child. However, if a child needs treatment which can best be provided in a group home or child care institution, the child need not be placed in a foster family home prior to placement in a treatment setting (p. 39).”² Box 2.1 describes the different placement types that are used in Illinois.

¹ Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-272.

² Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (October, 2016). *Procedures 301 Placement and Visitation Services*. Springfield, IL: Author.

Placement Type Terminology

BOX 2.1

Home of parents involves placement of children with the non-custodial parent or in the home of the parent(s) prior to reunification or termination of child welfare services. When home of parent is used as a placement, DCFS retains legal responsibility for the child.³

Kinship foster care involves placement of children with relatives in the relatives' homes. Relatives are the preferred placement for children who must be removed from their birth parents, as this kind of placement maintains the children's connections with their families. In Illinois, kinship care providers may be licensed or unlicensed.

Traditional foster care involves placement of children with non-relatives in the non-relatives' homes. These traditional foster parents have been trained, assessed, and licensed to provide shelter and care.

Specialized or treatment foster care involves placement of children with foster families who have been specially trained to care for children with certain medical or behavioral needs. Examples include medically fragile children, children with emotional or behavioral disorders, and HIV+ children. Treatment foster parents generally require more training to become licensed, provide more support for children than regular family foster care, and have lower limits on the number of children that can be cared for in their home.

Emergency shelters provide temporary living arrangements for children as a last resort if all other possible foster home placements cannot be arranged.⁴ Placements in emergency shelters should not exceed 30 calendar days.

Many states, including Illinois, use the term **group home** to refer to a non-family, community-based residence that houses more children than are permitted to reside in a foster family home, but fewer than reside in a residential treatment center (in Illinois, the number of children in a group home is limited to 10 or fewer). Group homes are operated by professional staff who work in rotating shifts.

All other non-family settings are combined into a broad category called **institutions in the current chapter**. This category includes a variety of congregate care placements such as residential treatment centers, detention centers, hospitals and other health facilities. Since the number of children placed in group homes is relatively small, these children are sometimes combined with those in other congregate care settings in several of the

³ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (November, 2016). *Procedures 315.250 Reunification, Planning for After Care and Termination of Services*. Springfield, IL: Author.

⁴ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (October, 2014). *Procedures 301 Appendix G Temporary Placement to the DFCS Statewide Emergency Shelter System*. Springfield, IL: Author.

analyses in this chapter. In these instances, the combined term “Institution/Group Home” is used.

One advantage of the least restrictive family-like setting is that it increases bonding capital. Bonding capital refers to strong social ties that exist between people who share a key attribute such as family, friendship, church membership, residence, and so forth. At the individual level, bonding capital is measured as a person's primary source of social support.⁵ One advantage of placement with kin is that it builds on a child's existing bonding capital. However, research finds that children in traditional foster care eventually develop bonds with foster parents comparable to those who are placed with kin.⁶

Placement restrictiveness is examined in two different groups of children: 1) initial placements of children entering care in a given year and 2) children in care at the end of the year. The first indicator (initial placements) over-represents children who are in care for a short period of time but provides important information about initial placements, which can influence a child's trajectory through substitute care. The second indicator (end of year placements) over-represents children who have been in care for a long time but provides a better sense of the overall population of children in care than initial placements. Figures for the two indicators are presented side by side so readers can compare the patterns for initial and end-of-year placements.

Initial placement types for children entering care during fiscal years 2011 through 2017 are shown in Figure 2.1. In the past 7 years, between 3.5% and 6.1% of children were initially placed in the home of their parent(s) after DCFS took legal responsibility for the children (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.1). Most children entering care were initially placed in kinship foster homes, and that percentage has increased from 47.7% in 2011 to 63.2% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.2). The percentage of children initially placed in traditional foster homes decreased from 25.4% in 2011 to 21.9% in 2016; it rose to 24.6% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.3). The percentage of children initially placed in specialized foster homes was small compared to other types of placements, between 1.5% and 2.4% in the past 7 years (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.4). The percentage of children initially placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes has been decreasing since 2014 and was at its lowest point (2.0%) in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.5). The reduced number of children placed in emergency shelters in the recent years might be the result of DCFS initiatives to reduce the use of emergency shelters and develop alternative emergency foster homes.⁷ The percentage of

⁵ Putnam, R. (2000). *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

⁶ Testa, M., Bruhn, C. M. & Helton, J. (2010). Comparative safety, stability, and continuity of children's placements in formal and informal substitute care. In M. B. Webb, et al., *Child Welfare and Child Well-being: New Perspectives from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-being*, (pp. 159-191). New York: Oxford.

⁷ Sheldon, G.H. (March, 2017). *Memo on the initiatives undertaken in the last year*. Springfield, IL: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

children with an initial placement in group homes or institutions has stayed fairly steady until 2015 (8.6%). Since then, the percentage has been decreasing and was at its lowest point (4.4%) in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.6).

Among children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year (Figure 2.2), the percentages of children placed with their parent(s) were between 5.4% and 8.0% in the past 7 years (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.1). Placing a child in the home of parents at the end-of-year likely indicates that a family is going through reunification related services. The percentage of children in kinship foster homes at the end-of-year increased from 39.3% in 2011 to 48.0% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.2). The percentage of children in traditional foster homes decreased from 28.0% in 2015 to 26.0% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.3). The percentage of children in specialized foster homes at the end-of-year has been decreasing gradually each year in the past 7 years and was at its lowest point (14.0%) in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.4). The percentage of children placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes at the end of the year was small compared to other types of placements, 0.2% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.5). The percentage of children in group homes and institutions at the end of the year decreased from 7.9% in 2015 to 6.4% in 2017, a relative decrease of 18% (see Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.6 and 2.B.7). DCFS initiatives have emphasized the need to move long-staying youth out of congregate care settings.

Figure 2.1 Initial Placement Types

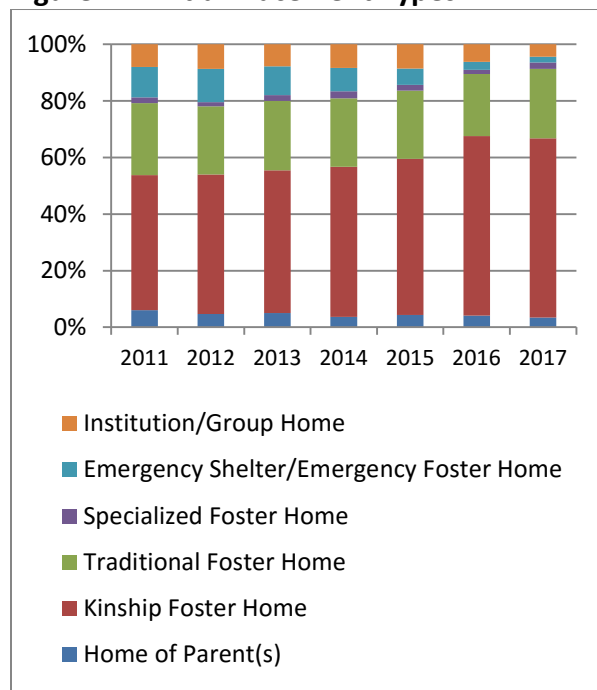
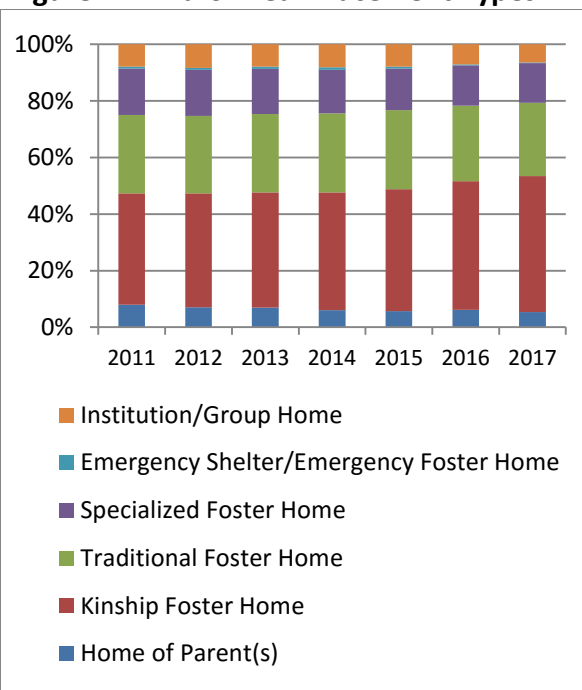


Figure 2.2 End-of-Year Placement Types



The use of different placement types for both initial placements and later placements varies by child age, gender, race, and geographical region of the state. These relationships are explored in more detail by examining the initial and end-of-year placements during the most recent fiscal year for which data are available (2017). Over 97% of children 11 years and younger were

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

initially placed in less restrictive settings such as home of parent(s), kinship, traditional, or specialized foster homes as compared to 70.9% of youth 12 to 17 years old (see Figure 2.3 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.A.1–2.A.6). The proportion of children initially placed in more restrictive settings increased with child age. Around 29% of youth 12 to 17 years old were initially placed in a congregate care setting (emergency shelter, group home, or institution); these placements were much less common for younger children (2.2% of children 6 to 11 years old, 1.0% of children 3 to 5 years old, and 0.7% of children 0 to 2 years old).

Similar to initial placements, a child's placement at the end of the year is strongly associated with his or her age (see Figure 2.4 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.1–2.B.7). In 2017, over half of children 11 years and younger were living in a kinship foster home at the end of the year, compared to 34.5% of youth 12 to 17 years old. Similarly, the percentage of children living in traditional foster homes decreased as child age increased: 36.3% of children 0 to 2 years old were in traditional foster homes at the end of the year compared to 14.2% of youth 12 to 17 years old. In contrast, the proportion of children placed in specialized foster homes, institutions, and group homes at the end of year increased as child age increased. For example, less than 3% of children 6 to 11 years old were living in group homes or institutions at the end of 2017, compared to 21.6% of children 12 to 17 years old.

Figure 2.3 Initial Placement Types by Age - 2017

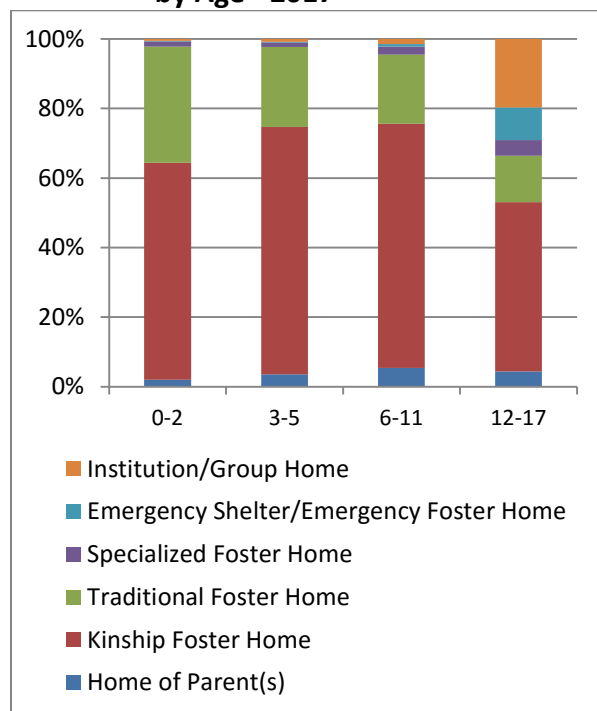
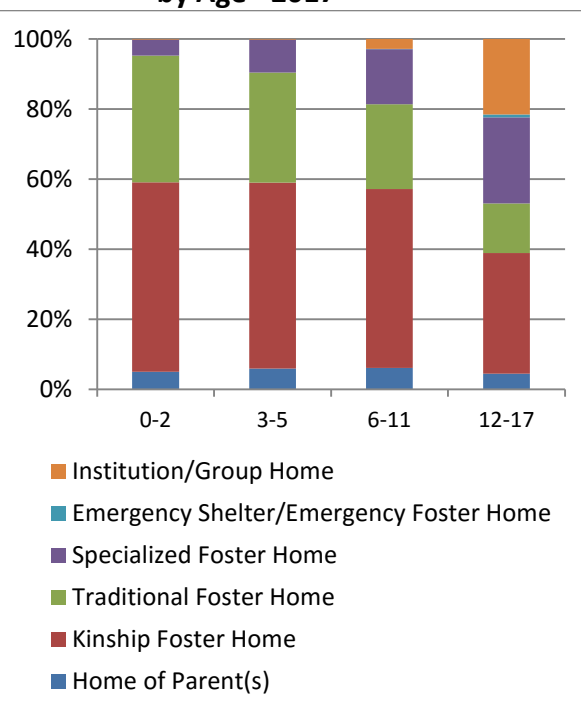


Figure 2.4 End-of-Year Placement Types by Age - 2017



Certain initial placement types varied slightly by child race (see Figure 2.5 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.A.1–2.A.6). White children were more likely than Black children and Hispanic children to be initially placed in a kinship foster home (66.4% compared to 59.0% and 64.5%

respectively) and were less likely to be initially placed in a specialized foster home (0.8% compared to 3.7% and 3.5% respectively) or in group homes and institutions (2.8% compared to 6.7% and 4.2% respectively). When end-of-year placements were compared by child race (see Figure 2.6 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.1–2.B.7), African American children were less likely than both White children and Hispanic children to be living in a kinship foster home (43.5% compared to 51.7% and 52.1% respectively). They were more likely to be living in a traditional foster home (17.4% compared to 10.5% and 14.6% respectively), a specialized foster home (7.4% compared to 6.7% and 3.5% respectively).

Figure 2.5 Initial Placement Types by Race - 2017

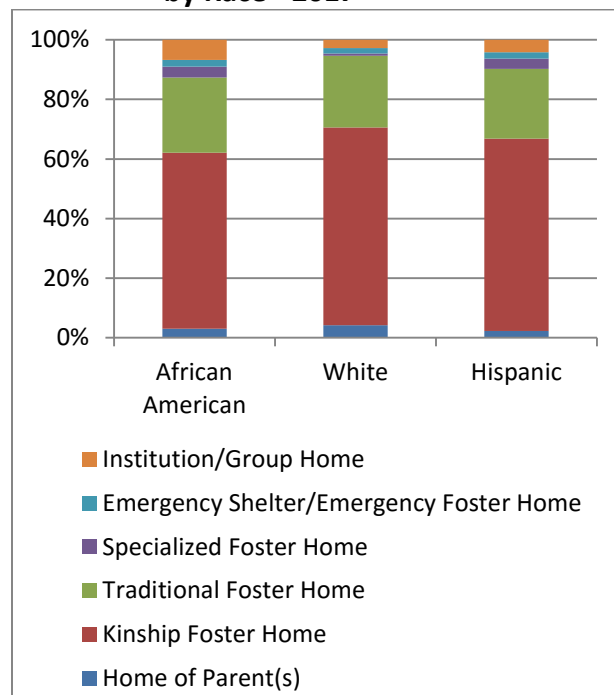
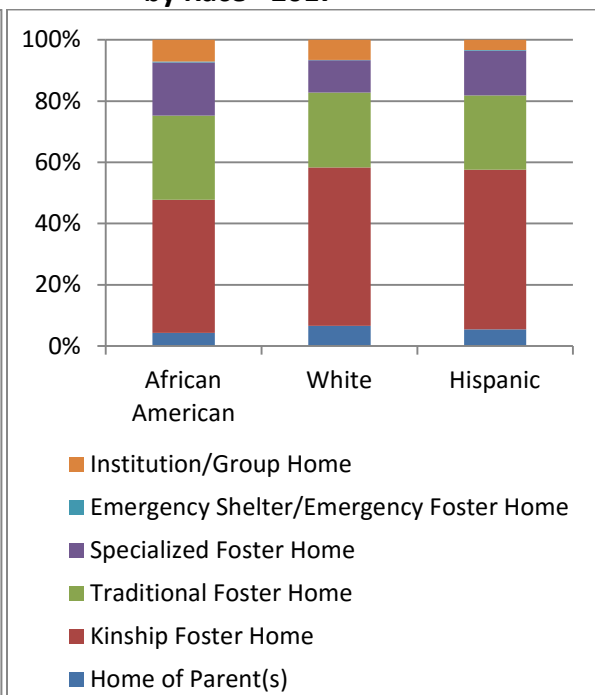


Figure 2.6 End-of-Year Placement Types by Race - 2017



Initial placement types also varied by region (see Figure 2.7 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.A.1–2.A.6). The Central (6.6%) and Southern (3.6%) regions had higher percentages of children initially placed in home of parent(s) as compared to the Northern (0.9%) and Cook (0.8%) regions. The Cook region (58.9%) had the lowest proportion of children initially placed in kinship foster homes in 2017 compared to other regions (Northern = 68.7%; Central = 62.3%; Southern = 65.4%) and had a much higher proportion of initial placements in specialized foster homes (7.0% compared to 0.8%, 0.6%, and 0.5% respectively) and institutions/group homes (8.9% compared to 3.1%, 3.0%, and 2.6% respectively). Although the percentage of children initially placed in emergency shelters and emergency foster homes is higher in the Cook region compared to the other regions, the percentage has dropped dramatically over the past seven years – from 25.8% in 2011 to 3.0% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.5). Another large decrease has occurred in the percentage of children initially placed in group home or

institutions in Cook region – from 23.4% in 2011 to 8.9% in 2017 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.6).

The regional analyses of children’s placement settings at the end of the year show a similar pattern (see Figure 2.8 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.1–2.B.7). The Central (8.0%) and Southern (8.2%) regions had higher percentages of children living in the home of parent(s) (Cook = 3.1%; Northern = 2.9%). The children in the Cook region were least likely to live in kinship foster homes (44.9% compared to 46.3% in the Northern region, 49.2% in the Central region, and 53.9% in the Southern region) but were most likely to live in specialized foster homes (20.4% compared to 15.4% in the Northern region, 10.6% in the Central region, and 5.9% in the Southern region).

Figure 2.7 Initial Placement Types by Region - 2017

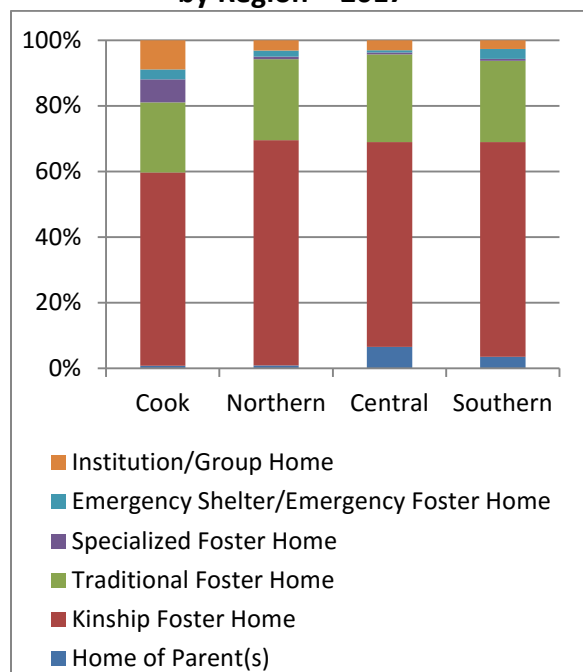
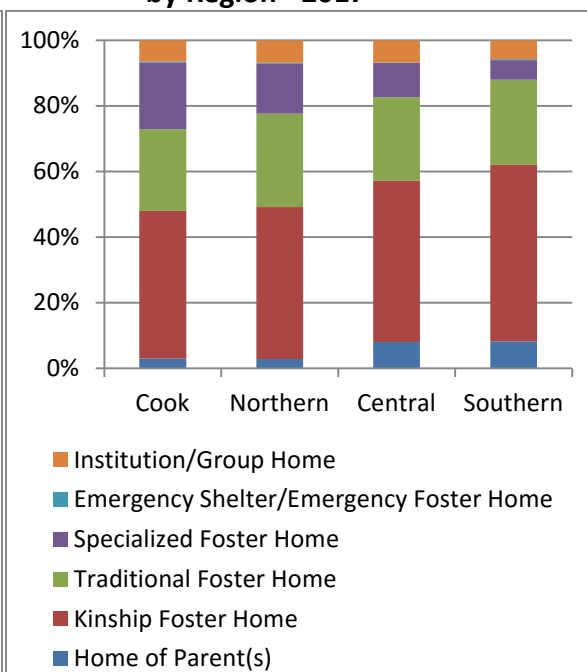


Figure 2.8 End-of-Year Placement Types by Region - 2017



Placement with Siblings

Siblings provide one another with emotional support, a sense of connection, and continuity when they are removed from what is familiar to them and placed into substitute care.⁸

Research has shown that children who are placed with siblings are less likely to experience placement disruptions,⁹ more likely to be reunified with their parents,¹⁰ and less at risk for

⁸ McBeath, B., Kothari, B. H., Blakeslee, J., Lamson-Siu, E., Bank, L., Linares, L. O., & Schlonsky, A. (2014). Intervening to improve outcomes for siblings in foster care: Conceptual, substantive, and methodological dimensions of a prevention science framework. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 39, 1-10.

⁹ Leathers, S. J. (2005). Separation from siblings: Associations with placement adaptation and outcomes among adolescents in long-term foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 27, 793-819.

internalizing problems such as depression.¹¹ The benefit of being placed with siblings is stronger for the children who have resided in their foster homes for shorter periods of time.¹²

The importance of maintaining sibling connections among children in substitute care is reflected in several pieces of legislation at the national and state level. The 2008 Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act (P.L. 110-135) instructs states to make “reasonable efforts” to place siblings together. In Illinois, the importance of sibling relationships among children in DCFS care was reinforced when the Preserving Sibling Relationships for Children in State Care and Adopted through DCFS Public Act (P.A. 97-1076) was enacted in 2012. This act amended the Children and Family Services Act and specified that when placing a child into a substitute care placement, “the Department shall place the child with the child’s sibling or siblings [...] unless the placement is not in each child’s best interest, or is otherwise not possible under the Department’s rules. If the child is not placed with a sibling under the Department’s rules, the Department shall consider placements that are likely to develop, preserve, nurture, and support sibling relationships, where doing so is in each child’s best interest.”¹³

Despite the strong preference for placing siblings together in substitute care, sometimes it may be better to place siblings apart, for example, to protect a vulnerable sibling from sibling abuse or bullying. However, sometimes siblings are separated simply because not enough foster families are willing to take sibling groups. It is more difficult to find foster families who have the resources (physical, emotional, and financial) to provide for a sibling group. Some members of sibling groups may have physical or emotional disabilities that require specialized foster care. Additionally, some foster parents prefer one gender or a specific age range of children.

2

The likelihood of a child being initially placed with all of his or her siblings is mainly related to two factors: the size of the sibling group and the type of foster home (kinship or traditional foster home). As mentioned above, other types of placements, such as specialized foster homes or congregate care settings, are designed to serve children with special needs. DCFS usually does not place siblings together in those placements when kinship or traditional foster homes are available and suitable for some of the sibling members. Therefore, the following analyses focus on children placed in kinship or traditional foster homes. Of the 4,767 children who entered care in 2017, 4,188 (87.9%) were initially placed in kinship or traditional foster homes. Of these children, 45.3% had 1 or 2 siblings and 20.3% had 3 or more siblings who were also in care.

As might be expected, the percentages of children with fewer siblings (1 or 2) initially placed in these two types of placement with all their siblings (76.2% in 2017) were higher than children

¹⁰ Albert, V. N., & King, W. C. (2008). Survival analyses of the dynamics of sibling experiences in foster care. *Families in Society*, 89, 533-541.

¹¹ Hegar, R. L., & Rosenthal, J. A. (2009). Kinship care and sibling placement: Child behavior, family relationships, and school outcomes. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31, 670-679.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ The full text of P.A. 97-1076 is available online: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/97/HB/PDF/09700HB5592lv.pdf>

with 3 or more siblings (36.7% in 2017). Additionally, children initially placed with kin were more likely to be placed with siblings than children initially placed in traditional foster homes. In 2017, 79.7% of children with 1 or 2 siblings were initially placed together in kinship foster homes compared to 65.6% of children who were initially placed in traditional foster homes. For children with 3 or more siblings, 44.3% were initially placed together in kinship foster homes, compared to only 13.4% of children initially placed in traditional foster homes in 2017 (see Figure 2.9 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.C). When the percentage of children placed with all their siblings in care was examined at the end of each fiscal year, the overall pattern was the same: smaller siblings groups and placement with kin increased the likelihood of sibling groups being placed together (see Figure 2.10, and Appendix B, Indicator 2.D).

Figure 2.9 Initial Placements with Siblings

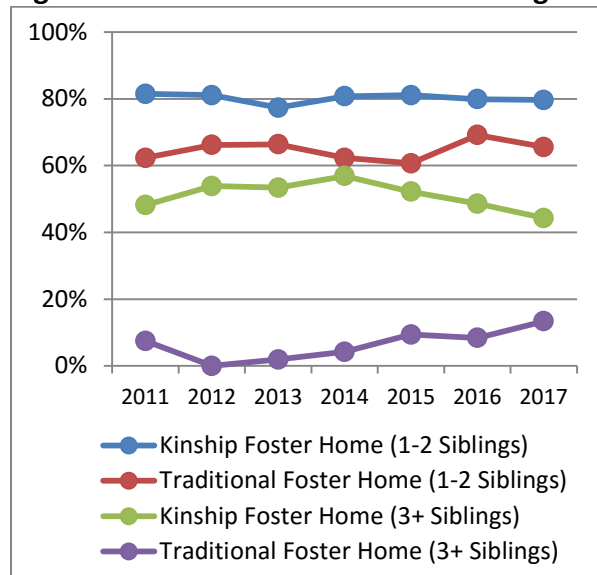
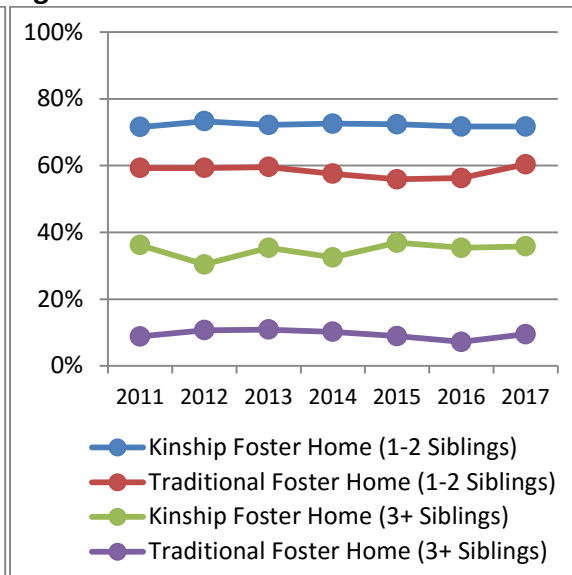


Figure 2.10 End-of-Year Placements with Siblings



Placement Stability

Placement stability is important for children in substitute care, and placement instability has numerous negative consequences for a child's well-being and likelihood of achieving permanence. For example, placement instability during the first year of care has been tied to later negative outcomes such as increased mental health costs¹⁴ and increased emergency department visits.¹⁵ Two measures of placement stability are included in this monitoring report. The first measure was adapted from the round 3 CFSR measure and examines the number of placement moves per 1,000 days in substitute care. The second measure examines children

¹⁴ Rubin, D. M., Alessandrini, E. A., Feudtner, C., Mandell, D. S., Localio, A. R., & Hadley, T. (2004). Placement stability and mental health costs for children in foster care. *Pediatrics*, 113, 1336-1341.

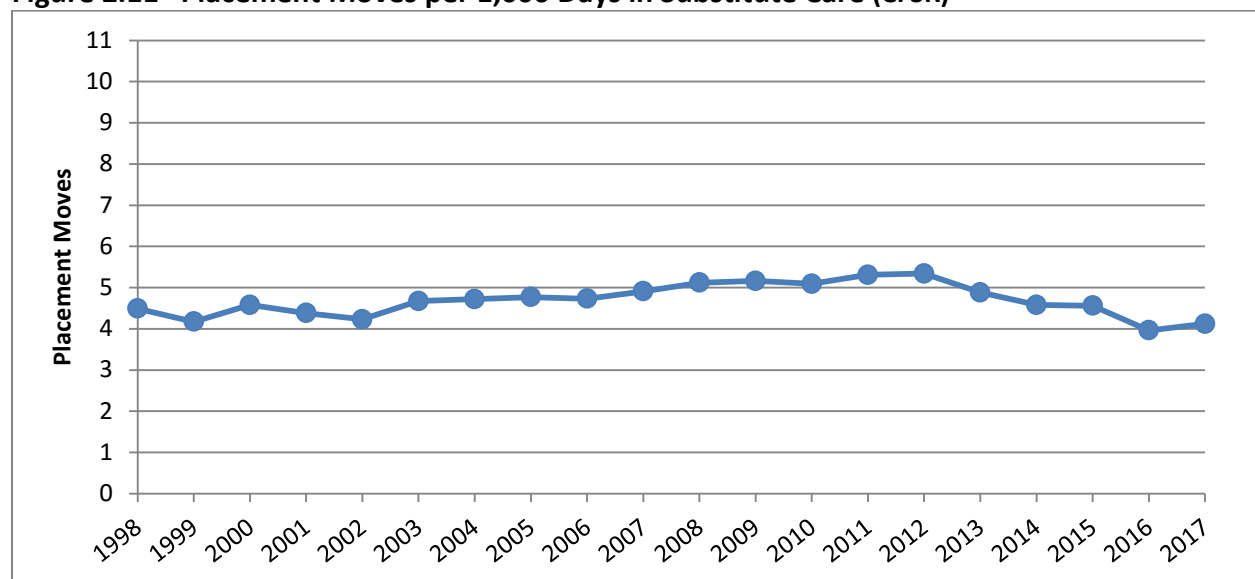
¹⁵ Rubin, D. M., Alessandrini, E. A., Feudtner, C., Localio, A. R., & Hadley, T. (2004). Placement changes and emergency department visits in the first year of foster care. *Pediatrics*, 114, 354-360.

(ages 12 to 17) who run away from substitute care during their first year in care (see Appendix A for technical definitions of the indicators used in the report).

Placement Moves Per 1,000 Days in Substitute Care (CFSR)

The definition of placement stability that states use for the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR) is the rate of placement moves per day of substitute care among all children who enter substitute care in a 12-month period.¹⁶ Although the measure used in this report is similar to the CFSR measure, the results are not risk-adjusted and will therefore not be the same as those reported in federal reports. Using the definition of placement stability described in Appendix A, the placement moves per 1,000 days reached its highest point in 2012 (5.3 moves per 1,000 days) and has been slowly decreasing since then to the current rate of 4.1 moves per 1,000 days in 2017 (see Figure 2.11 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E).

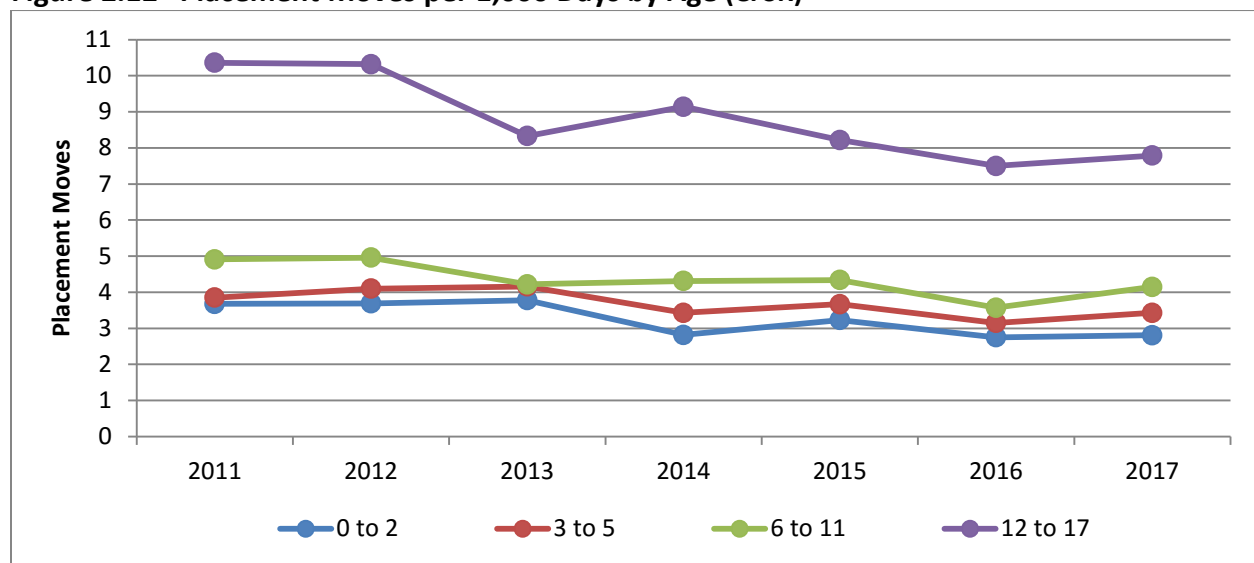
Figure 2.11 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days in Substitute Care (CFSR)



Consistent with past research,¹⁷ placement stability decreases as child age increases (see Figure 2.12 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E). In 2017, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days for children 0 to 2 years old was 2.8 compared to 7.8 for youth 12 to 17 years old. The biggest improvement in placement stability has occurred among children 12 to 17 years old.

¹⁶ Children's Bureau (n.d.). CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Placement Stability. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/placement_stability.pdf

¹⁷ Barth, R. P, Lloyd, E. C., Green, R. L., James, S., Leslie, L. K., & Landsverk, J. (2007). Predictors of placement moves among children with and without emotional and behavioral disorders. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 15, 46-55.

Figure 2.12 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days by Age (CFSR)


Since 2013, African American children have been less likely to experience placement stability compared to White and Hispanic children (see Figure 2.13 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E). The rate of placement moves per 1,000 days for Hispanic children has significantly decreased from 6.9 in 2011 to about 3.9 since 2014.

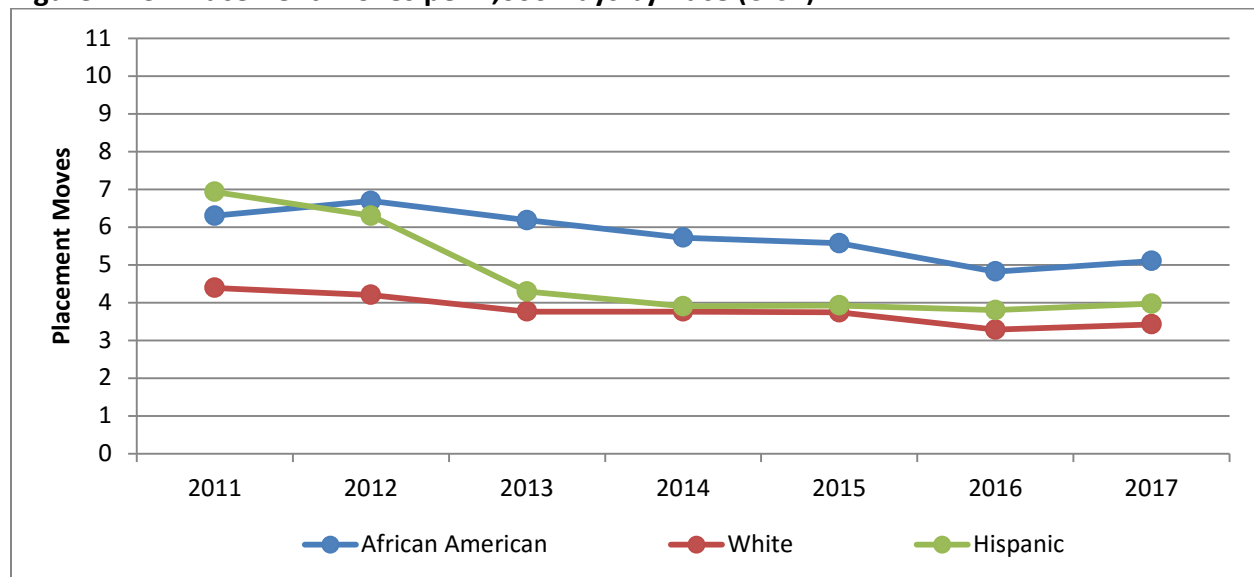
Figure 2.13 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days by Race (CFSR)


Figure 2.14 shows the sub-region heat map for the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days (see Appendix C, Indicator 2.E). To create the heat map, rates of placement stability were compared and ranked for each of the 10 sub-regions over the past seven years. The sub-regions and years in the top 25th percentile – those with the best performance – are shown in the lightest shade; those in the bottom 25th percentile – which indicates the worst performance – are shown in the darkest shade. The heat map provides a visually simple way to tell which sub-

regions are performing well in comparison to other sub-regions over the past seven years. These rankings are relative only to the performance within the 10 sub-regions over time and do not compare to any state or national benchmarks. Even if a sub-region is performing well compared to other sub-regions in the state, this does not necessarily mean that its performance surpasses any standard or benchmark. The results in Figure 2.14 show that the sub-regions performed better in the recent two years than earlier fiscal years. For the majority of the seven-year period, children in the Peoria and Rockford sub-regions had higher placement stability compared to other sub-regions.

Figure 2.14 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days Sub-Region Heat Map (CFSR)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cook North							
Cook Central							
Cook South							
Aurora							
Rockford							
Champaign							
Peoria							
Springfield							
East St Louis							
Marion							

Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care

2

Children who run away from substitute care are different from typical runaways. Although some children in care report that they dislike their placements, most are running away to live with others, usually family or friends.¹⁸ Running away puts children at risk for victimization, sexual exploitation, and substance use. It also limits their access to school and services, such as counseling, medication, and substance abuse treatment. Children who run away are more likely to do so early in their placement, often in their first few months in care. Instability increases the likelihood of children running away from care. For example, children who have two placements are 70% more likely to run away than those who are in their first placement.¹⁹

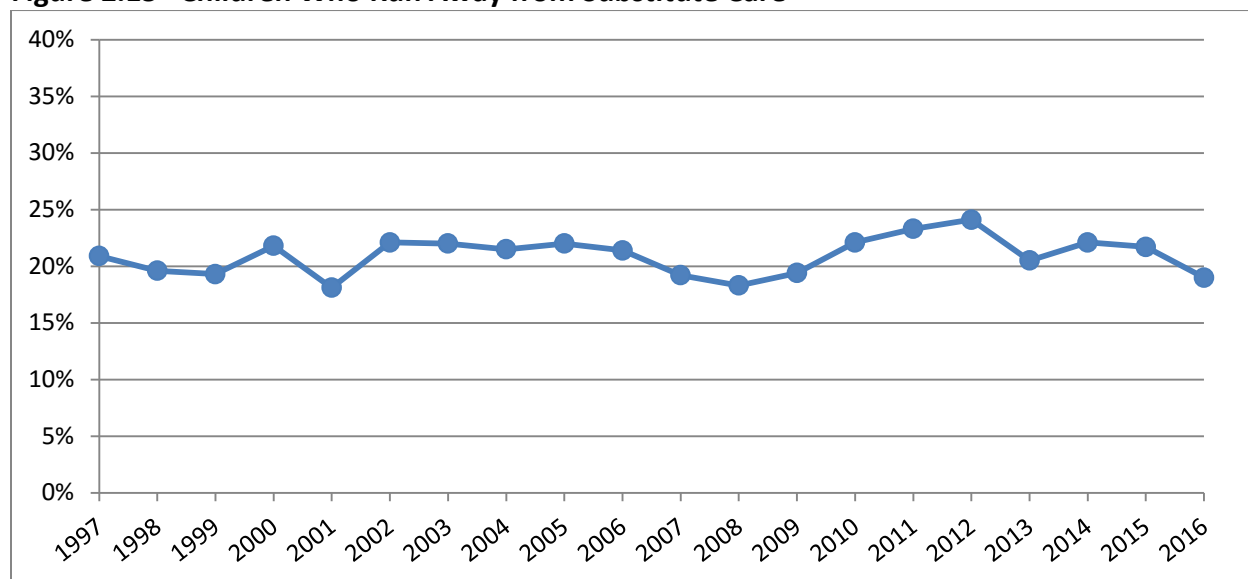
We track the rates of running away for children within one year of entry into substitute care. Since running away occurs most frequently among older children, this indicator includes children who are 12–17 years old when they enter care. The percentage of children who run away from substitute care was highest in 2012 (24.1%) and has been decreasing since then and was 19.0% in 2016 (see Figure 2.15).

¹⁸ National Runaway Switchboard Executive Summary. (2010). Running away from foster care: Youths' knowledge and access of services. Retrieved on April 20, 2011 from

http://www.nrscrisisline.org/media/whytheyrun/report_files/042111_Part%20C%20Exec%20Summary.pdf

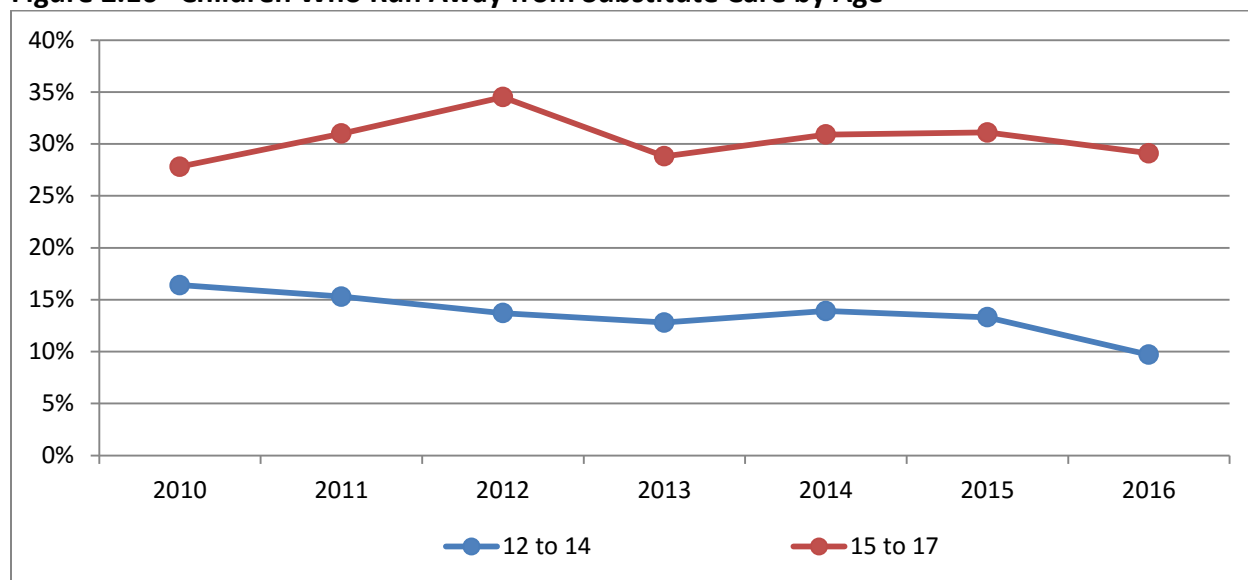
¹⁹ Courtney, M. E. & Zinn, A. (2009). Predictors of running away from out-of-home care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31, 1298-1306.

Figure 2.15 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care

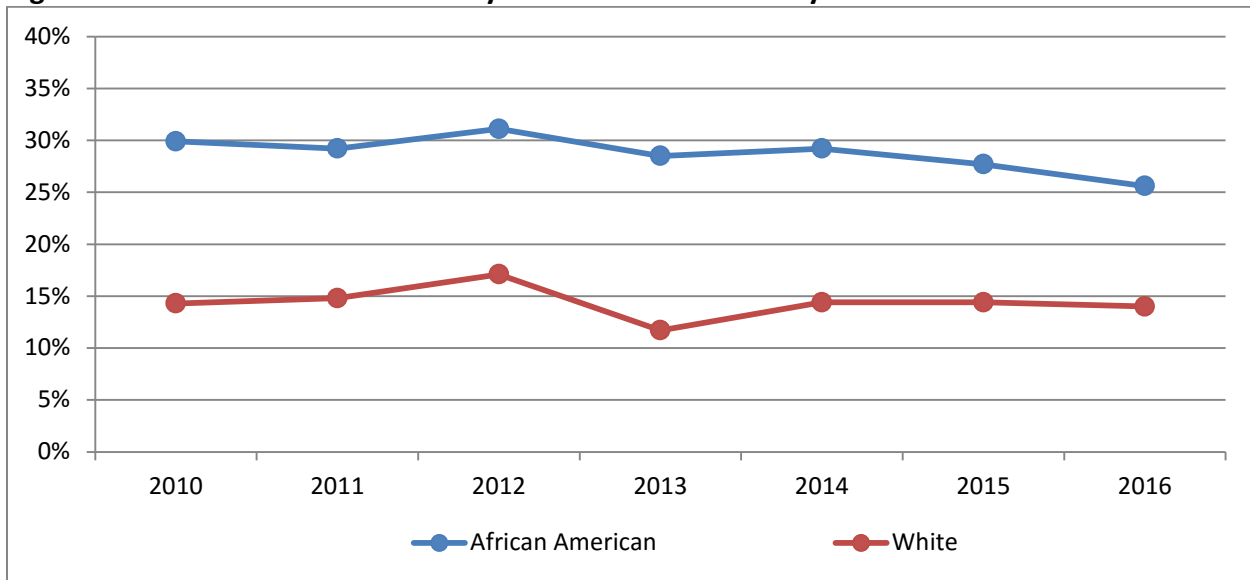


Similar to other research on children who run away from substitute care,²⁰ child age and race were related to the likelihood of running away from substitute care, with older youth (see Figure 2.16 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.F) and African American youth (see Figure 2.17 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.F) more likely to run away.

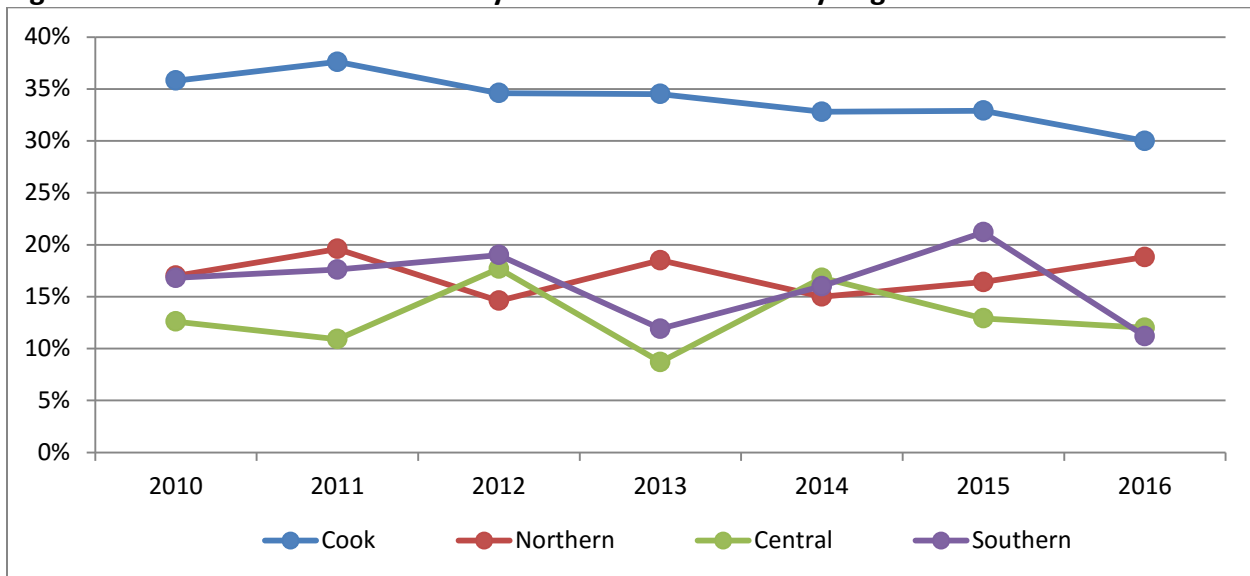
Figure 2.16 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care by Age



²⁰ Courtney, M. E. & Zinn, A. (2009). Predictors of running away from out-of-home care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31, 1298-1306.

Figure 2.17 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care by Race

Youth in the Cook region were more likely to run away from their placements than those in other regions. Among youth entering substitute care in the Cook region in 2016, 30.0% ran away during their first year, compared to 18.8% in the Northern region, 12.0% in the Central region, and 11.2% in the Southern region (see Figure 2.18 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.F). The percentage of youth who run away in the Cook region has shown a gradual decrease over the past 6 years, from 37.6% in 2011 to 30.0% in 2016, a relative decrease of 20%.

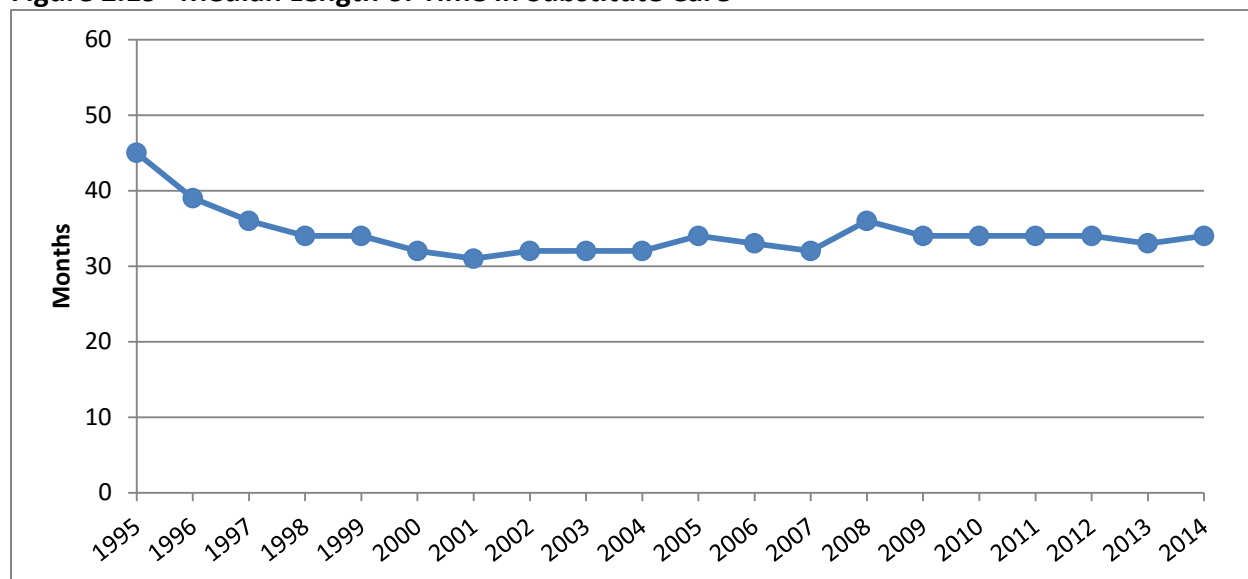
Figure 2.18 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care by Region

Length of Time in Substitute Care

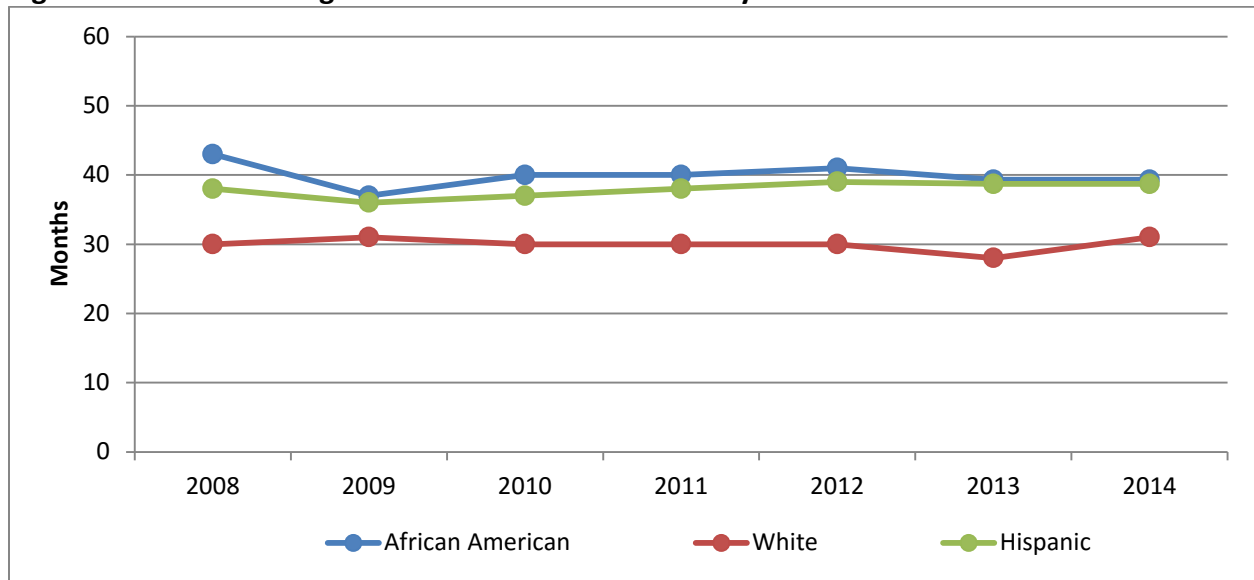
Children should not languish in foster care. The state may need to take custody of children to keep them safe, but they should not be raised in a substitute care setting for long periods of time. Once a child is placed in substitute care, the goal is to move them out of care as quickly as it is safe and reasonable to do so. The length of time a child spends in substitute care is affected by a variety of factors, including their permanency goal, the type of placement in which they live, and the type of maltreatment that brought them into care.

In this report, length of time in substitute care is measured by calculating the median length of stay for all children who enter substitute care in a given fiscal year; in other words, the median length of stay is the number of months it takes for 50% of those children to exit substitute care. Some children might enter substitute care more than once in a given fiscal year. The analysis here only examines the length of their first spell during the year. Because this measure only includes children that entered care within a given fiscal year and excludes children that entered care in previous year(s) and remained in care, it over-represents children that are in care for a short period of time. The most recent year for which median length of stay in substitute care can be calculated is 2014, since there needs to be enough time for 50% of the children that enter in a given year to exit care. There has been very little variability in the median length of stay in substitute care over the past decade; it has been 34 months for the past several years (see Figure 2.19).

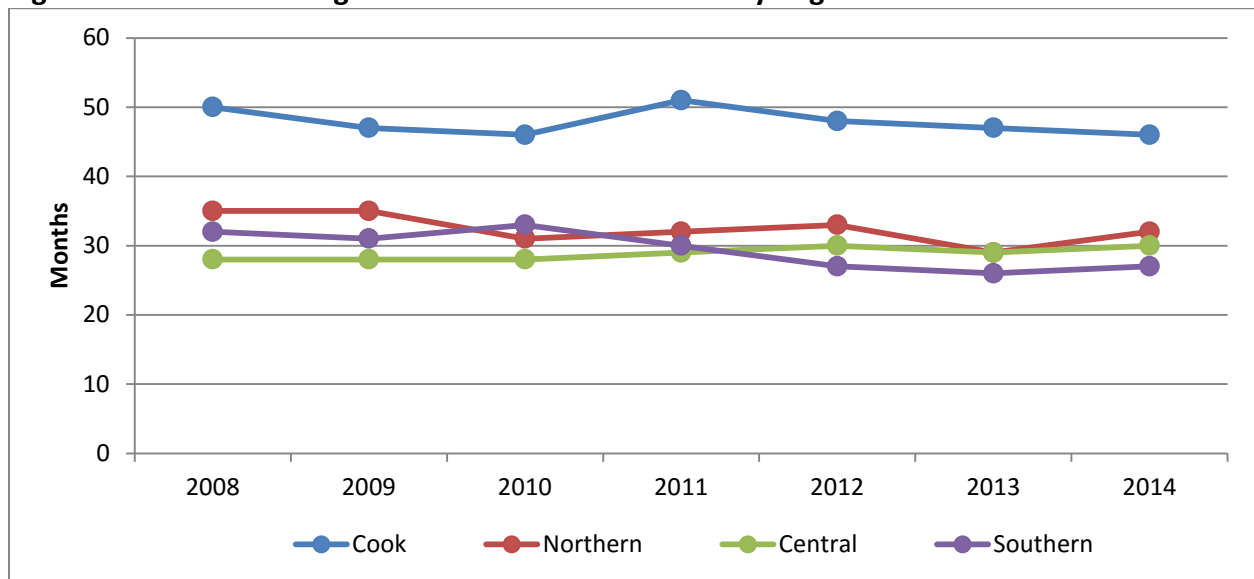
Figure 2.19 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care



The median length of stay in substitute care varies by race and was lower for White children (31 months in 2014) compared to African American (39 months in 2014) and Hispanic children (39 months in 2014) (see Figure 2.20 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.G).

Figure 2.20 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care by Race

There are notable regional differences in the median length of stay: children in the Cook region spent substantially longer time in substitute care (46 months for children who entered care in 2014) than children who resided in other regions (see Figure 2.21 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.G).

Figure 2.21 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care by Region

Discussion and Conclusions: Family Continuity, Placement Stability and Length of Time in Care

Once the state decides that it must take legal custody of children to protect them from future harm, the child welfare system has a responsibility to provide them with safe and stable substitute living arrangements that ensure they maintain connections with their family members and siblings in care. The most recent data on substitute care placements in Illinois reveal some encouraging news. Less restrictive placement settings are increasingly used in both initial and end-of-year placements, especially for children 11 years old and younger. As a result, congregate care settings, such as group homes and institutions, were used less frequently in recent years. The rate of initial placements in group homes and institutions has decreased from 8.0% in 2011 to 4.4% in 2017. The decrease has been particularly striking in the Cook region – which has decreased from 23.4% to 8.9% during that same time span. Initial placements in emergency shelters have also had a noteworthy decrease: 8.3% of the children who entered care in 2014 were placed in an emergency shelter compared to 2.0% of all children who entered care in 2017. The Department’s efforts on this front appear to have resulted in the desired outcome – fewer children are being placed in emergency shelters when they enter substitute care.

This year, we examined the CFSR measure of placement stability, which was defined as the number of placement moves per 1,000 days in substitute care. Looking at this indicator over the past several years reveals that the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days has been decreasing since 2012 – a positive trend. This trend is reflected in all sub-regions of the state. However, placement stability for youth 12 to 17 years old is still a concern; youth in this age group experienced about 8 placement moves per 1,000 days in care, compared to about 3 placement moves for children 0 to 2 years. An unstable placement experience for older children can lead to running away from care and negative well-being outcomes.

The findings related to youth who run away from substitute care are mixed. Although the overall rate of children who run away from placement during their first year in care decreased from 21.7% in 2015 to 19.0% in 2016, African American youth and youth in the Cook region were at elevated risk of running away compared to other youth. We have highlighted the concerns in previous *B.H.* monitoring reports and research briefs.²¹ These concerns are echoed in media reports about the frequency of youth running away and the dangers they face when they do so, including engaging in criminal behavior or being sexually exploited during runaway episodes.²² DCFS should continue their efforts to reduce the use of congregate care settings for youth of any age, as this is likely to reduce the number of youth who run away from care. It is important to understand youths’ needs and the underlying factors that predict running away.

²¹ Cross, T.P., Zhang, S., & Lei, X. (2016). *Youth who run away from substitute care in Illinois: Frequency, case characteristics, and post-run placements*. Urbana, IL: Children and Family Research Center.

²² Chicago Tribune. (January 25, 2015). *Harsh treatment*. Retrieved from <http://www.chicagotribune.com>



Chapter 3

Legal Permanence: Reunification, Adoption, and Guardianship

All children deserve permanent homes. Although abuse and neglect sometimes make it necessary to place children temporarily in “substitute” homes, federal and state child welfare policies mandate that permanency planning should begin at the time of placement and that children should be placed in safe, nurturing, permanent homes within a reasonable timeframe. In Illinois, there are three processes through which children can exit substitute care and attain a permanent home: reunification with parents, adoption, and guardianship.

Reunification with parents is the preferred method for achieving permanence for children in substitute care, and it is the most common way that children exit care, accounting for 51% of care exits nationwide.¹ Reunification is possible if parents are able to rectify the issues that endangered their children, often with the help of child welfare and other services. In some cases, parents are not able to provide a safe, nurturing home for their children, even with the aid of services. In these instances, child welfare professionals must find alternative placements for children as quickly as possible. A second permanency option is **adoption**, in which kin or non-kin adoptive parents legally commit to care for children. Adoptive parents have identical rights and responsibilities as biological parents; they may also receive financial support from the state. In FY2016, adoptions made up 23% of foster care exits nationally.² Many more children wait each year for adoption. **Guardianship** is a third permanency option in which caregivers, almost always kin, assume legal custody and permanent care of children and receive

3

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). *The AFCARS report: Preliminary FY 2016 estimates*. Retrieved from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcarsreport24.pdf>

² Ibid.

financial assistance from the state. This form of permanence allows caregivers to provide a permanent home for children while not requiring them to terminate the parental rights of the biological parent, who is typically a close relative of the guardian. Guardianship is less common than reunification and adoption, accounting for 10% of foster care exits nationally in FY2016.³

Measuring Legal Permanence

There are a number of different ways to measure the performance of the child welfare system in achieving permanence for children in substitute care. Good indicators are tied to the system's critical performance goals, which in this case involve moving children from temporary placements in substitute care to permanent homes and doing so in a timely manner. Thus, permanency indicators should measure both the **likelihood** of achieving permanence as well as the **timeliness** in which it is achieved. In addition, the **stability** of the permanent placements should be monitored to ensure that the children who exit substitute care do not re-enter care.

One consideration when selecting indicators for measuring permanency outcomes is whether to combine the different types of permanency (reunification, adoption, and guardianship) into a single measure or examine the likelihood and timeliness of each type separately. The measures used in the third round of the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR) combine reunification, adoption, guardianship, and living with relatives into an overall permanency rate. The CFSR permanency indicators examine the overall permanency rate in three different groups of children: 1) children who enter substitute care during a 12-month period;⁴ 2) children who have been in care between 12 and 23 months;⁵ and 3) children who have been in care 24 months or more.⁶ In addition, the round 3 CFSR indicators include one measure of re-entry into substitute care for the children that achieve permanence within 12 months.⁷ For the first time, this year's *B.H.* monitoring report includes the four CFSR permanency indicators plus two additional indicators of re-entry that are based on CFSR measures (see Appendix A for technical definitions of these indicators). Please note that although we have adapted the CFSR measures for use in this report, we do not use the same data extraction method for computing the results, nor do we apply any risk adjustment strategies that are used by the Children's Bureau to calculate state performance. Therefore, the results presented in this report will not exactly match those produced in the federal child welfare outcomes reports.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Foster Care*. Retrieved from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/perm12mos.pdf>

⁵ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 12 to 23 Months*. Retrieved from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/perm12to23.pdf>

⁶ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 24 Months or More*. Retrieved from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/perm24.pdf>

⁷ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Re-Entry to Foster Care*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/reentry.pdf>

In an effort to provide a more nuanced understanding of the dynamics associated with children’s exits to permanence, this report also includes additional indicators that look at the likelihood and timeliness of each type of permanence (reunification, adoption, and guardianship) separately. Policy and practice changes may affect one type of exit positively while negatively impacting another; examining only the overall permanency rate would mask such effects. This chapter therefore includes measures of the percentages of children in each yearly entry cohort that exit substitute care to reunification, adoption, and guardianship within 24 and 36 months.⁸ For each type of permanence, the percentage of children exiting within 36 months is further examined by child age, gender, race, and geographic region; notable differences in subgroups are described in the chapter. The stability of each permanence type is measured by the percentage that remain intact (i.e., the children do not re-enter substitute care) within 1 year (reunification only), 2 years, 5 years, and 10 years following the child’s exit from substitute care (see Appendix A for definitions of all indicators included in this report).

Child welfare systems strive to find permanent homes for all children in care, but this goal is not achieved for all children. Many children remain in care for much longer than 36 months, and others exit substitute care without a legally permanent parent or guardian—they run away, they are incarcerated, and they emancipate or “age out” of the child welfare system. In an effort to monitor the permanency outcomes of all children in substitute care, this chapter also examines “other exits” from care and pays special attention to those children who remain in care longer than 36 months.

Changes in Permanence at a Glance

Children Achieving Permanence (CFSR)

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months remained stable and was 14.0% of children who entered care in 2016.

↓ Of all children who had been in care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months decreased from 27.3% of children in care at the beginning of 2015 to 23.8% of children in care at the beginning of 2016 (-13% change).

↓ Of all children who had been in care 24 months or more, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months decreased from 23.8% of children in care at the beginning of 2015 to 21.1% of children in care at the beginning of 2016 (-11% change).

⁸ The report also includes an indicator of the percentage of children who are reunified within 12 months. Because adoptions and guardianships are seldom finalized within 12 months of a child’s entry into care, the 12-month rate is only used for reunifications. Please also note that, because entry cohorts are used to examine permanency rates over time, the most recent entry cohort available to examine permanence within 36 months is the 2014 entry cohort.

↓ Of all children who achieved permanence within 12 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge decreased from 8.5% of children who exited care in 2015 to 7.4% of children who exited care in 2016 (-13% change).

↑ Of all children who achieved permanence after living in substitute care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge increased from 1.0% of children who exited care in 2015 to 2.2% of children who exited care in 2016 (+120% change).

↑ Of all children who achieved permanence after living in substitute care 24 months or more, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge increased from 0.8% of children who exited care in 2015 to 2.0% of children who exited care in 2016 (+150% change).

Children Achieving Reunification

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 12 months remained stable and was 13.9% of children who entered care in 2016.

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 24 months remained stable and was 27.5% of children who entered care in 2015.

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 36 months decreased from 38.3% of children who entered care in 2013 to 34.4% of children who entered care in 2014 (-10% change).

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 1 year post-reunification remained stable and was 92.9% of children who were reunified in 2016.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 2 years post-reunification remained stable and was 93.1% of children who were reunified in 2015.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 5 years post-reunification remained stable and was 88.4% of children who were reunified in 2012.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at 10 years post-reunification remained stable and was 85.9% of children who were reunified in 2007.

Children Achieving Adoption

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months increased from 3.7% of children who entered care in 2014 to 4.4% of children who entered care in 2015 (+19% change).

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months increased from 11.8% of children who entered care in 2013 to 12.5% of children who entered care in 2014 (+6% change).

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at 2 years post-adoption remained stable and was 97.4% of children who were adopted in 2015.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at 5 years post-adoption remained stable and was 94.1% of children who were adopted in 2012.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at 10 years post-adoption remained stable and was 92.3% of children who were adopted in 2007.

Children Achieving Guardianship

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 24 months increased from 0.8% of children who entered care in 2014 to 0.9% of children who entered care in 2015 (+13% change).

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 36 months increased from 2.8% of children who entered care in 2013 to 3.0% of children who entered care in 2014 (+7% change).

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at 2 years post-guardianship remained stable and was 96.7% of children who attained guardianship in 2015.

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at 5 years post-guardianship remained stable and was 87.7% of children who attained guardianship in 2012.

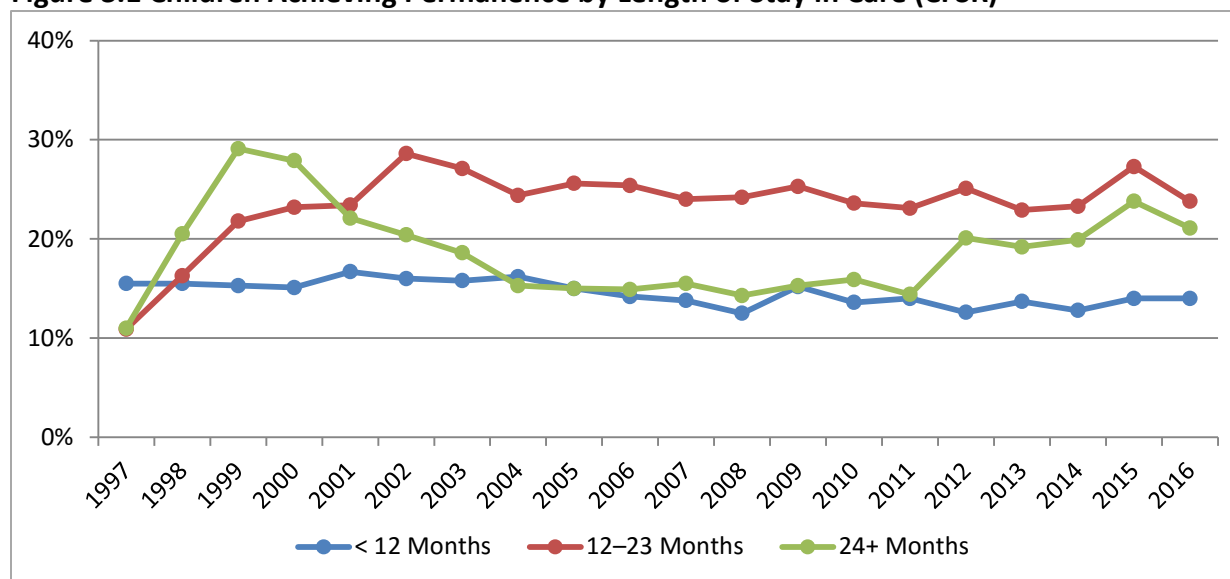
↑ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at 10 years post-guardianship increased from 74.9% of children who attained guardianship in 2006 to 84.1% of children who attained guardianship in 2007 (+12% change).

Children Achieving Permanence (CFSR)

The CFSR permanency indicators measure whether the child welfare agency “reunifies or places children in safe and permanent homes as soon as possible after removal.”⁹ Figure 3.1 shows the percentages of children that exit substitute care through reunification, living with relatives, adoption, and guardianship each year over the past 20 years. Permanency rates are shown for three different groups of children: 1) children who enter substitute care during the fiscal year; 2) children who have been in care between 12 and 23 months on the first day of the fiscal year; and 3) children who have been in care 24 months or more on the first day of the fiscal year (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.G, 3.H, and 3.I).

Around 13-16% of children who enter substitute care during the year achieve permanence within 12 months of entering care (blue line in Figure 3.1); this percentage has been stable over the past 20 years. The permanency rate among children who had been in care for 12 to 23 months or more (red line) increased during the late 1990s and early 2000s and peaked at 28.6% in 2002. Although it declined slightly in the later 2000s, it peaked again in 2015 before declining to 23.8% in 2016. Permanency rates for children in substitute care for 24 or more months (green line) saw a rapid increase in the late 1990s, most likely as the result of several permanency initiatives that were implemented in 1997. After peaking at 29.1% in 1999, permanency rates in this group slowly declined over the next several years and levelled off in 2004 at around 15% and stayed there until 2011. The rate has climbed since then and was 21.1% in 2016.

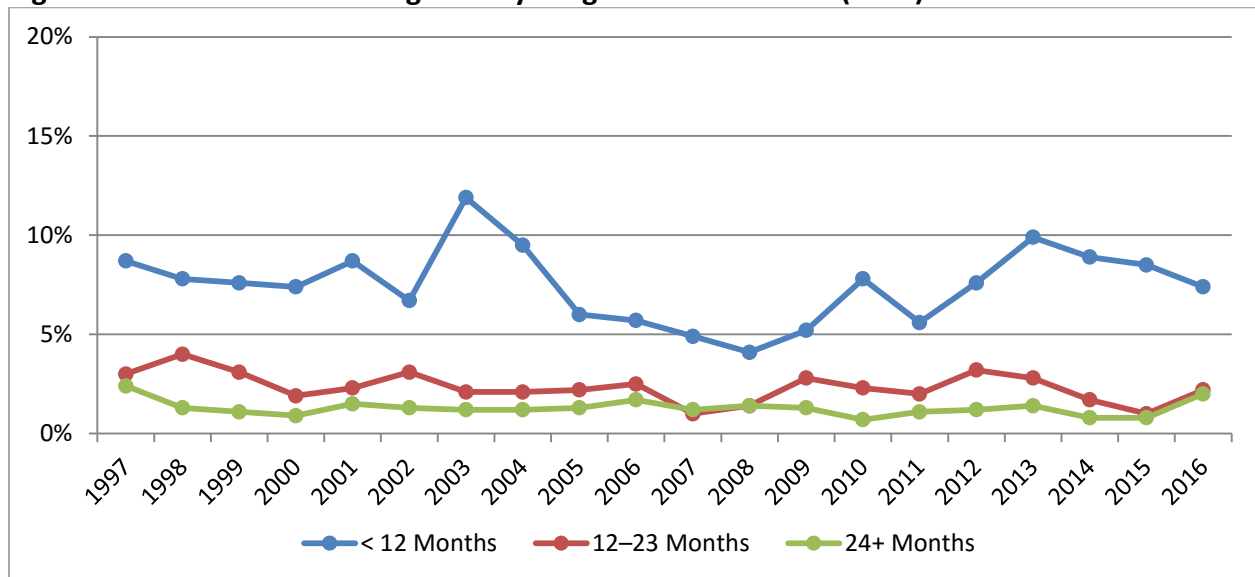
Figure 3.1 Children Achieving Permanence by Length of Stay in Care (CFSR)



⁹ Children’s Bureau. (May 13, 2015). *Executive Summary of the Final Notice of Statewide Data Indicators and National Standards for Child and Family Service Reviews*. Accessed from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/round3_cfsr_executive_summary.pdf

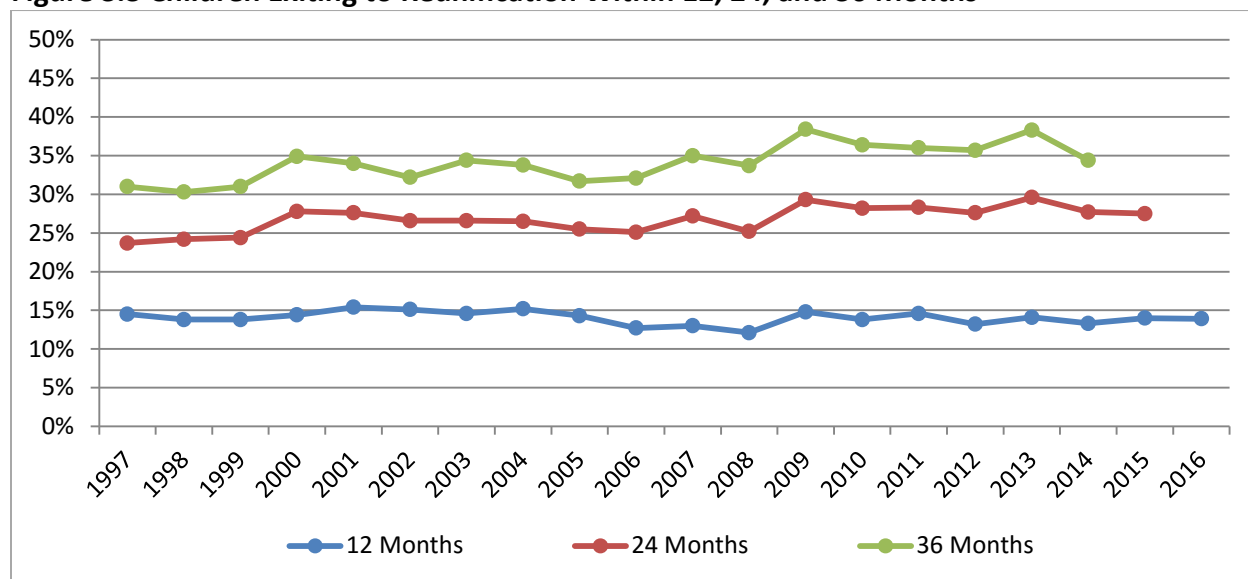
The percentages of children in each of these three groups that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their exit are shown in Figure 3.2 (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.J, 3.K, and 3.L). Children in care less than 12 months prior to achieving permanence (blue line) have the highest rates of re-entry into substitute care; between 4% and 10% of the children who achieved permanence in the past 10 years re-entered substitute care within a year. Children who were in substitute care for 12 to 23 months (red line) and 24 months or more (green line) prior to achieving permanence had lower rates of re-entry into substitute care; typically 1-2% of those children re-entered care within 12 months of achieving permanence.

Figure 3.2 Children Re-Entering Care by Length of Time in Care (CFSR)

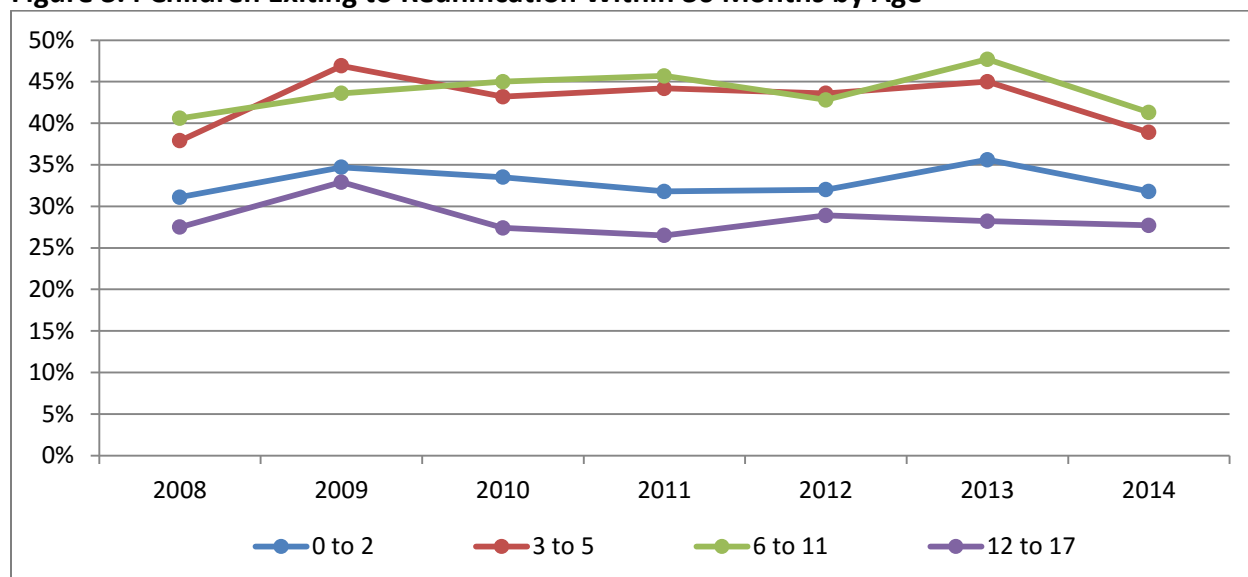


Children Achieving Reunification

Figure 3.3 examines the percentage of children exiting substitute care to reunification within 12, 24, and 36 months of their entry into care (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.A.1, 3.A.2, and 3.A.3). For the 2016 entry cohort, 13.9% of children exited care to reunification within 12 months. For the 2015 entry cohort, 27.5% of children exited care within 24 months, and for the 2014 entry cohort, 34.4% exited within 36 months. The rate for 12-month reunifications was unchanged in the 2016 cohort, as was the 24-month rate. The 36-month rate declined a relative 10.2% from 38.3% for the 2013 entry cohort to 34.4% for the 2014 entry cohort.

Figure 3.3 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 12, 24, and 36 Months

One factor that influences a child's likelihood of reunification within 36 months is his or her age (see Figure 3.4 and Appendix B, Indicator 3.A.3). Children ages 3 to 11 years old when they entered care were most likely to be reunified—38.9% of children ages 3 to 5 years old and 41.3% of children ages 6 to 11 who entered care in FY2014 were reunified within 36 months. Youth ages 12 to 17 years old were least likely to be reunified; 27.7% of those who entered care in FY2014 were reunified within 3 years of entering care.¹⁰

Figure 3.4 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 36 Months by Age

¹⁰ Youth in Illinois can opt to stay in the child welfare system until age 21. Further, because of the Foster Youth Successful Transition to Adulthood Act, children who exit the system can voluntarily return before age 21 to receive services and support.

Race may also influence a child's likelihood of achieving reunification; in general, White and Hispanic children are more likely to be reunified than African American children (see Figure 3.5 and Appendix B, Indicator 3.A.3).

Figure 3.5 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 36 Months by Race

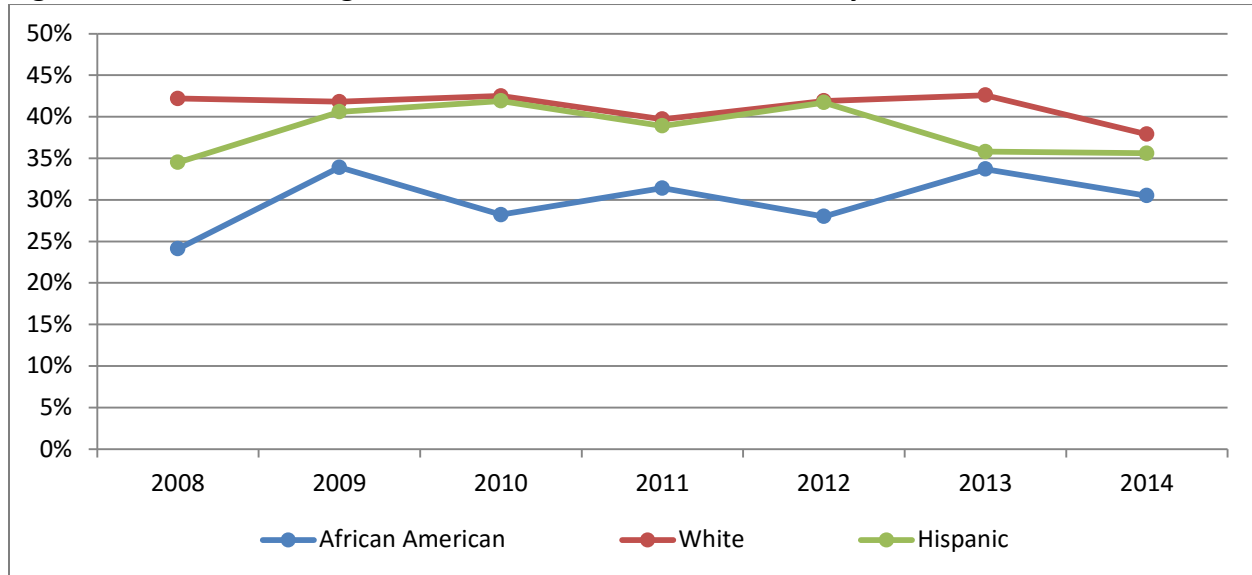
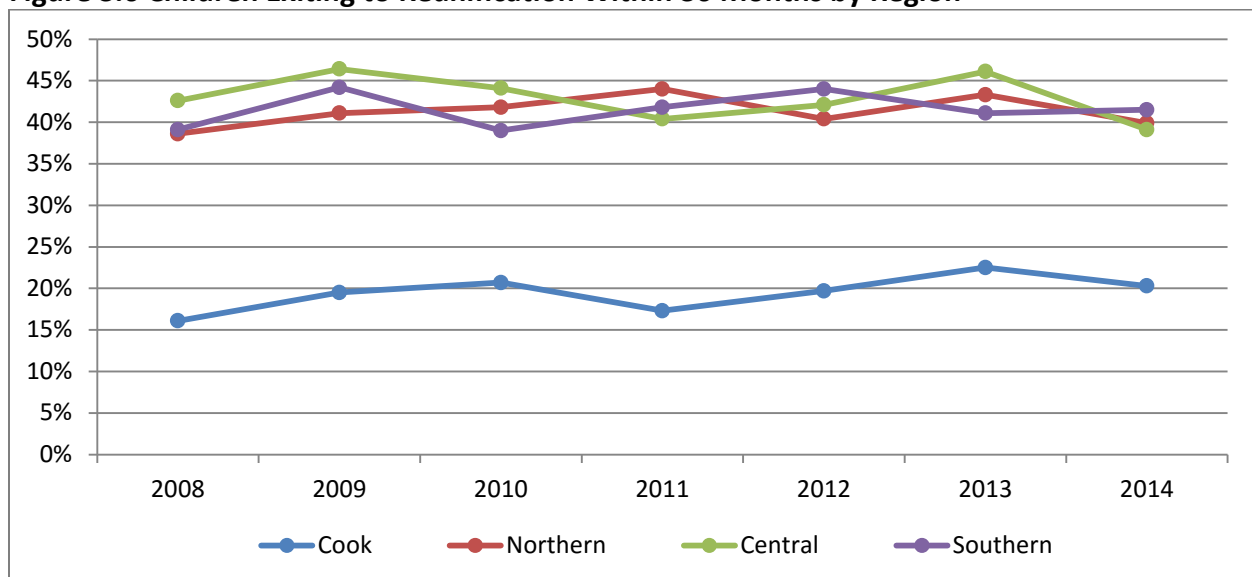


Figure 3.6 shows the 36-month reunification rate by region (see Appendix B, Indicator 3.A.3). Reunification rates in the Cook region are much lower than in any other region; only 20.3% of children who entered care in the Cook region in FY2014 were reunified with their families within 36 months, compared to 39.9% of children in the Northern region, 39.1% of children in the Central region, and 41.5% of children in the Southern region.

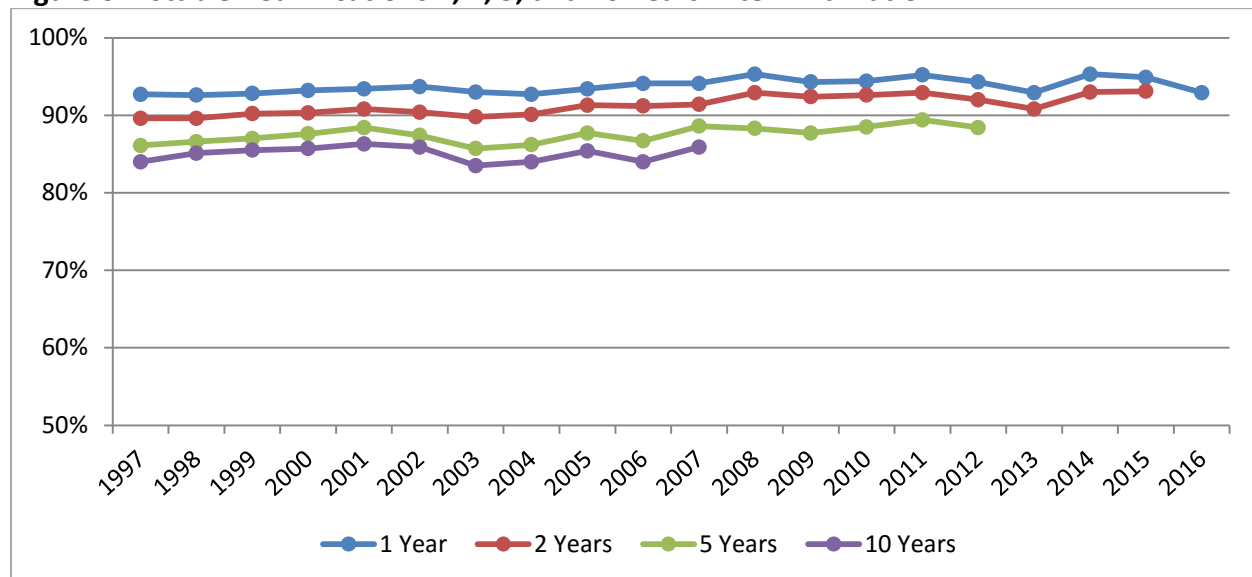
Figure 3.6 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 36 Months by Region



Stability of Reunification

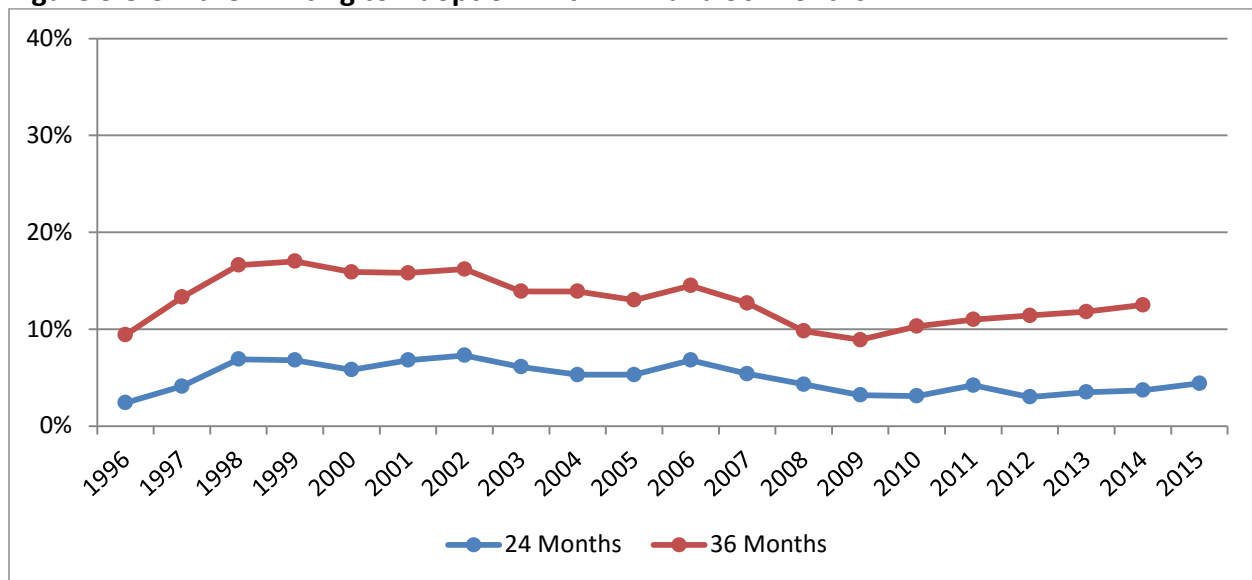
Reunification is only truly permanent if children can remain safely in their homes and are not removed again. Figure 3.7 displays the percentage of children that remain stable in their homes (and do not re-enter care) within 1, 2, 5, and 10 years following reunification with their parents (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.B.1, 3.B.2, 3.B.3, and 3.B.4). As expected, the stability of reunifications declines over time. For example, of the children who were reunified in FY2007, 94.1% remained one year after reunification, while only 85.9% remained at home after 10 years. Rates of stability following reunification have been relatively level over the past decade.

Figure 3.7 Stable Reunifications 1, 2, 5, and 10 Years After Finalization

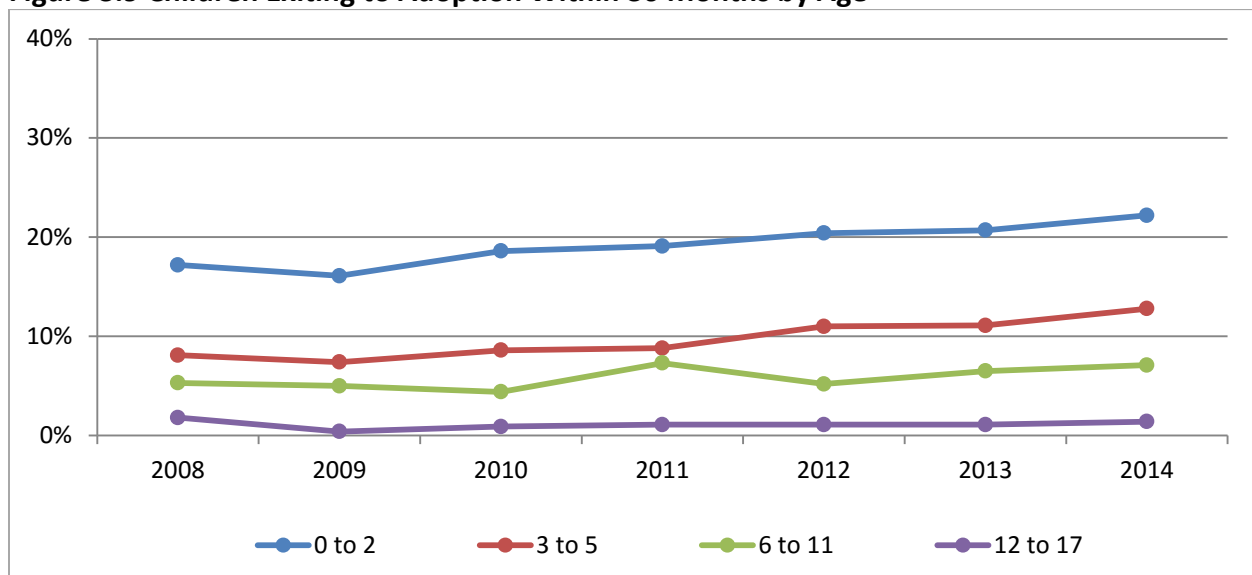


Children Achieving Adoption

Adoption, in which a child's biological parents' rights are terminated and new adults assume this role, is another form of legal permanence available to children in substitute care. Adoption is generally considered a secondary option for permanence, and is only available after reasonable efforts to achieve reunification have failed or become impossible. As such, it is unlikely to occur within 12 months of entry into care; Figure 3.8 therefore presents the percentages of children adopted within 24 and 36 months of entry into care (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.C.1 and 3.C.2). Rates of adoption within 24 months have been relatively stable for the past several years, averaging around 3.5% over the past seven years. The rate of adoptions within 36 months has been steadily increasing since the FY2009 entry cohort.

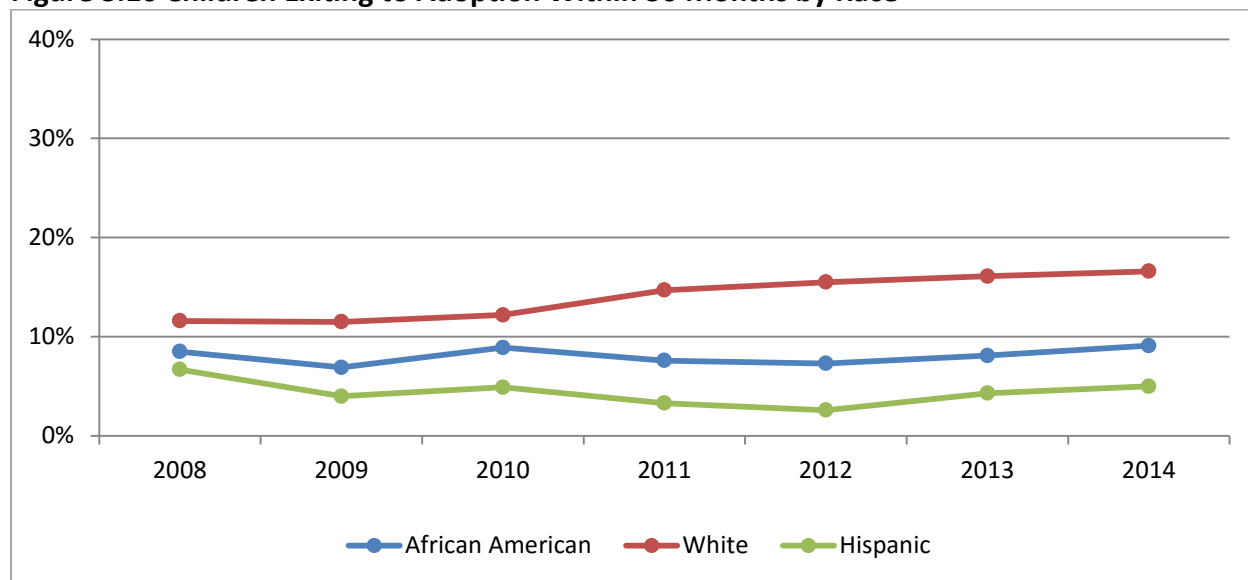
Figure 3.8 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 24 and 36 Months

Age plays an important role in understanding which children are most likely to be adopted; children 0 to 2 years of age are more likely to exit care to adoption than older children. Figure 3.9 shows the 36-month rates of exit to adoption by age group (see Appendix B, Indicator 3.C.2) and highlights the gap between the adoption rate for children 0 to 2 and all other age groups—22.2% of children 0 to 2 entering care in FY2014 were adopted within 36 months, compared to 12.8% of children 3 to 5 years old, 7.1% of children 6 to 11 years old, and 1.4% of youth 12 to 17 years old. Children 12 years and older when they enter care are very unlikely to be adopted within 3 years; their adoption rates have been less than 2% each of the past seven years.

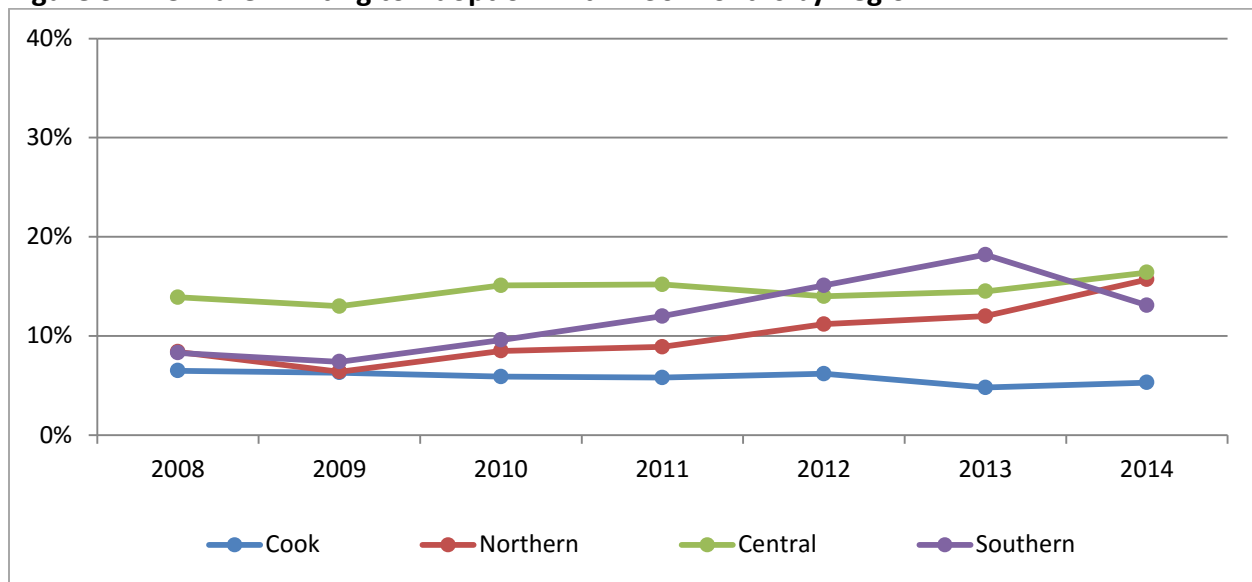
Figure 3.9 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 36 Months by Age

Race is another important factor when understanding how likely children are to be adopted. White children are consistently more likely to exit care to adoption within 36 months than are African American and Hispanic children, as shown in Figure 3.10 (see also Appendix B, Indicator 3.C.2). For children entering care in FY2014, 16.6% of White children exited care to adoption within 36 months, compared to 9.1% of African American children and 5.0% for Hispanic children.

Figure 3.10 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 36 Months by Race

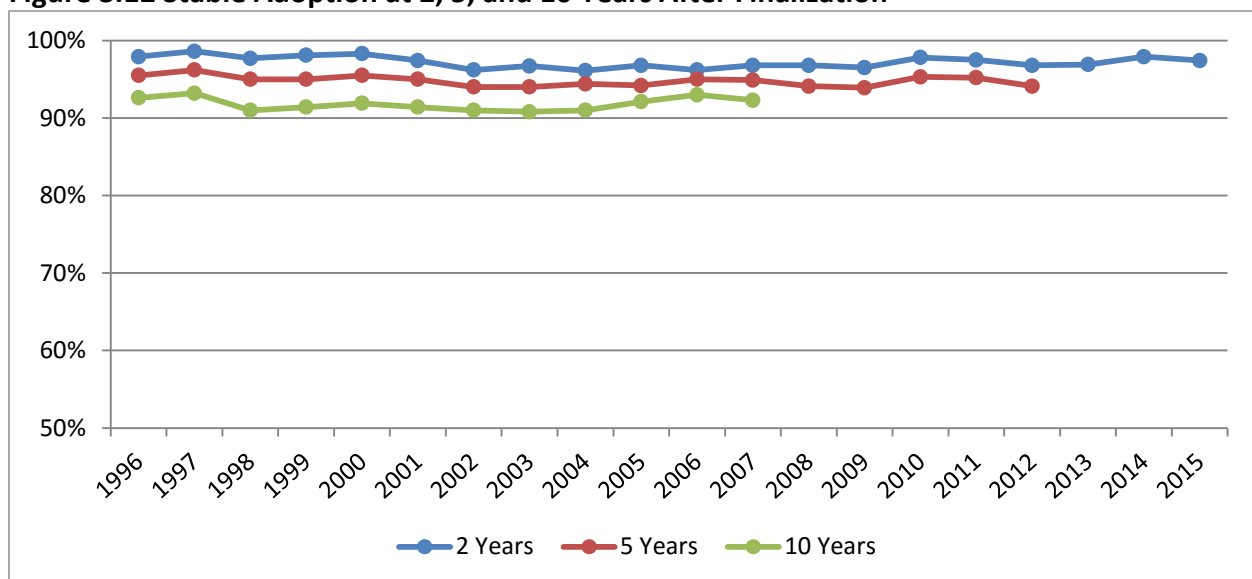


Adoption rates by region are shown in Figure 3.11 (see also Appendix B, Indicator 3.C.2). As with reunifications, adoption rates in the Cook region are markedly lower than other regions. This low rate has remained unchanged for years, even as the Northern and Southern regions—which had similar rates to Cook in for their 2008 and 2009 entry cohorts—showed increases.

Figure 3.11 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 36 Months by Region

Stability of Adoption

Rates of post-adoption stability after 2, 5, and 10 years are presented in Figure 3.12 (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.D.1, 3.D.2, and 3.D.3). Of children adopted in FY2007, 96.8% of them remained in their adoptive homes after 2 years, 94.9% after 5 years, and 92.3% after 10 years. There has been little variability in the stability of adoptions over the past several years.

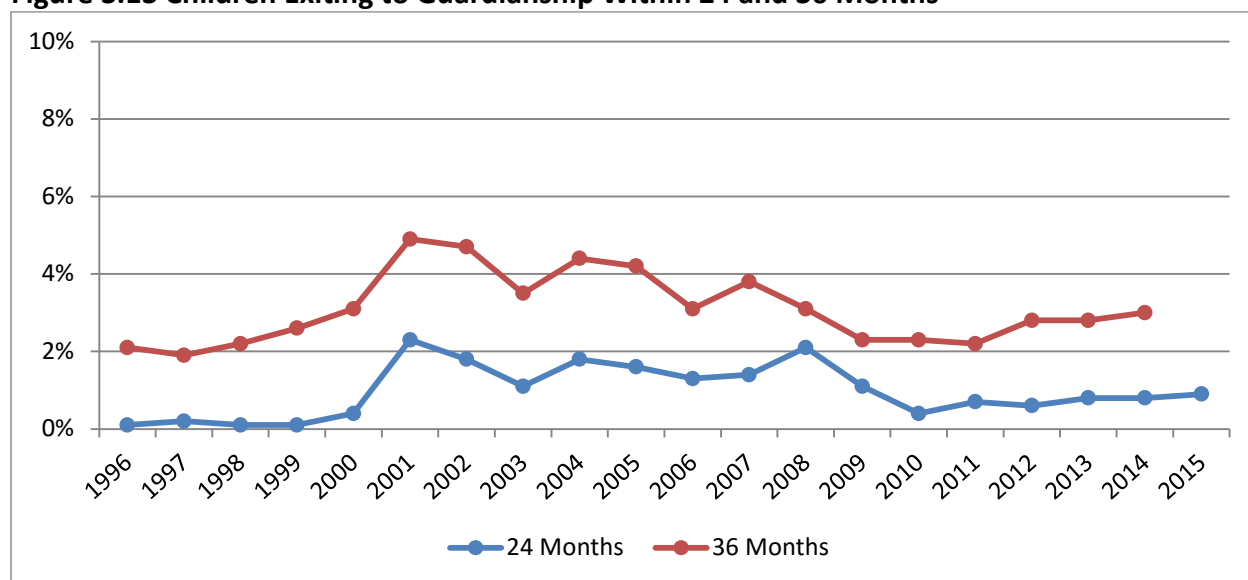
Figure 3.12 Stable Adoption at 2, 5, and 10 Years After Finalization

Children Achieving Guardianship

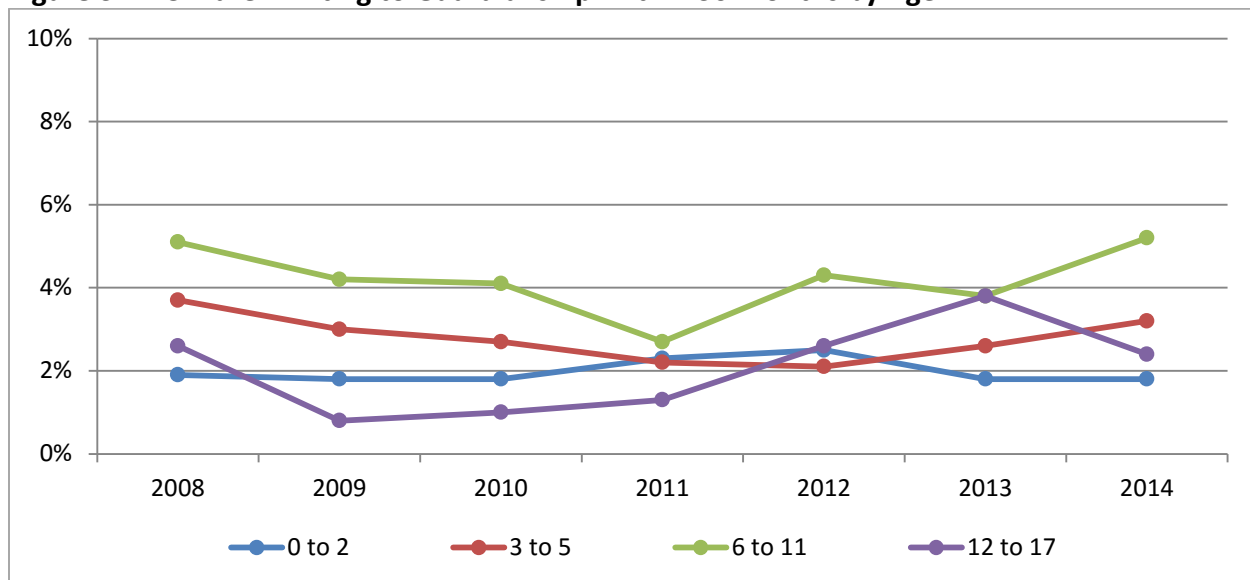
The next type of exit from care that this report explores in depth is guardianship, in which an adult or adults other than the child's biological parents assume legal guardianship of the child and receives support from the state to help pay for that child's care. A fourth type of permanence known as "living with relatives" is included in the federal permanency measures. In this type of permanence, relatives assume legal guardianship of a child without receiving a subsidy or becoming licensed foster parents. This type of permanence is infrequently used in Illinois (see Box 3.1 for additional information).

As with adoption, guardianships are generally considered as an option for permanence only after attempts at reunification have been exhausted; rates of guardianship after 24 and 36 months of entering care are shown in Figure 3.13 (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.E.1 and 3.E.2). The percentage of children exiting to guardianship within 36 months reached its peak of 4.9% among children in the FY2001 entry cohort. The trend over the next several years was one of decline, reaching its lowest point of 2.2% for the FY2011 entry cohort. Since then, the rates have increased to 3.0% for the most recent entry cohort (FY2014). Exits to guardianships within 24 months of entry have been less than 1.0% for the past six entry cohorts.

Figure 3.13 Children Exiting to Guardianship Within 24 and 36 Months



Unlike adoption, which is most likely to occur among the youngest children in care, guardianship is most likely to occur among children who enter care between 6 and 11 years old (see Figure 3.14 and Appendix B, Indicator 3.E.2).

Figure 3.14 Children Exiting to Guardianship Within 36 Months by Age

Stability of Guardianship

The stability of guardianship after 2, 5, and 10 years is shown in Figure 3.15 (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.F.1, 3.F.2, and 3.F.3). Using this information we can see how children who exited care to guardianship in 2007 have fared over the past 10 years. Of children who exited care to guardianship in 2007, 96.0% remained with their guardian after 2 years, 89.4% after 5 years, and 84.1% after 10 years. Looking at the most recent cohorts, the 2-year and 5-year stability rate was unchanged, but the 10-year rate reversed previous declines and is up a relative 12.3% this year (74.9% in 2006 and 84.1% in 2007).

Figure 3.15 Stable Guardianships 2, 5, and 10 Years After Finalization

Living with Relatives

BOX 3.1

Living with relatives is a unique form of permanent exit used less commonly in Illinois than nationally (7% of children exiting care in FY2016)¹¹ and less often than reunification, adoption, or guardianship. Exiting to relative care is most similar to guardianship, except that the relative caregivers do not receive a subsidy nor are they required to become licensed foster parents. As such, it is worth exploring the use of this exit type, especially the stability of these placements.

Figure 3.16 shows the number of children exiting to live with relatives within 24 and 36 months. The overall trend for this permanency type is downward; the 24-month rate (0.7%) and 36-month rate (0.8%) are the lowest they have ever been.

3.16 Children Exiting to Relatives Within 24 and 36 Months

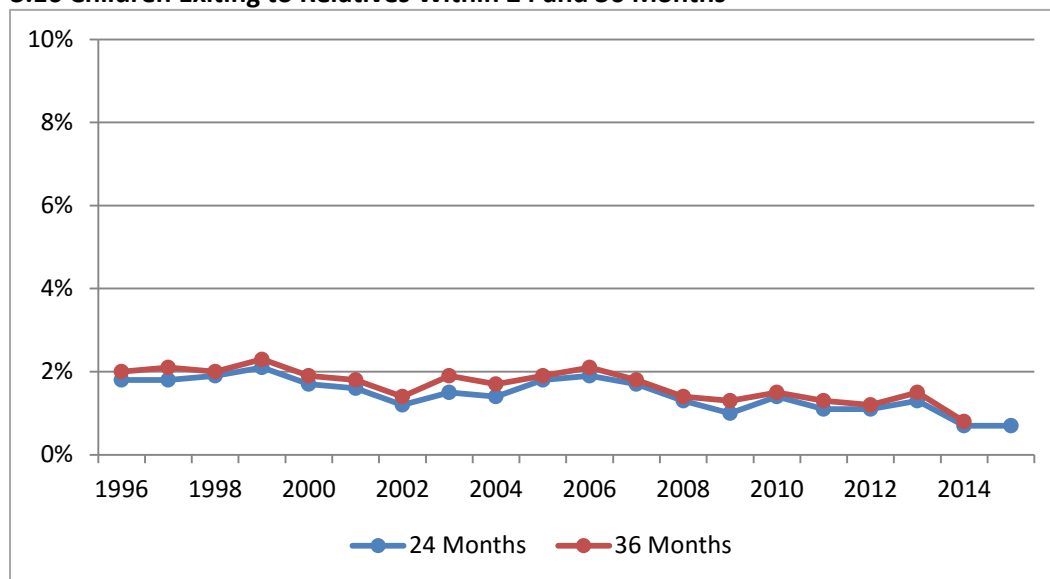
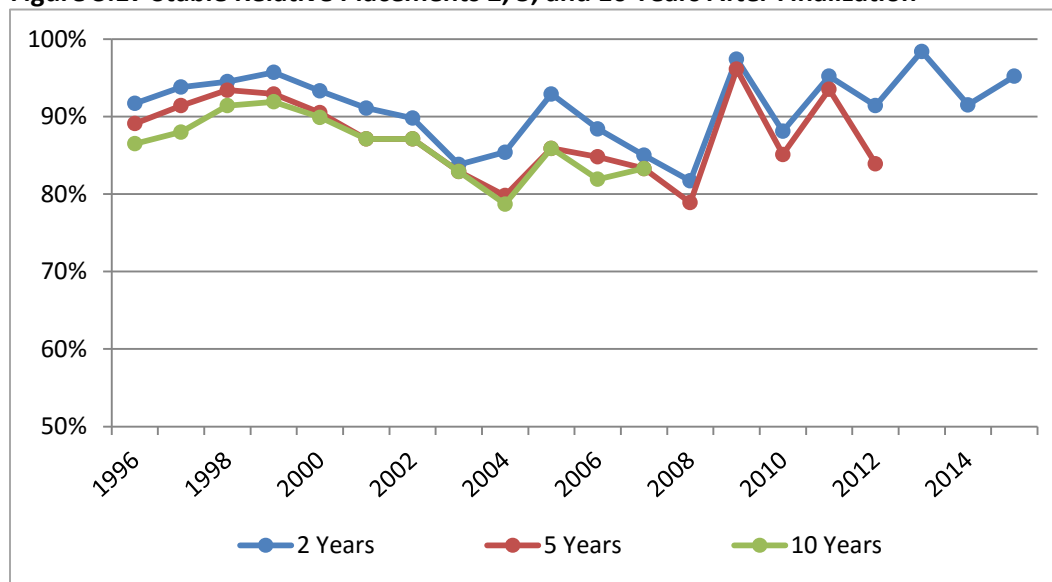


Figure 3.17 shows the stability rates for relative placements. Looking at the children who exited to live with relatives in 2007, we see that 85.0% remain in their homes after 2 years, and 83.3% after 5 and 10 years. Because of the overall small number of children exiting to the permanency type, the stability rates are more variable than other types of permanency.

¹¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). *The AFCARS report: Preliminary FY 2016 estimates*. Retrieved from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcarsreport24.pdf>

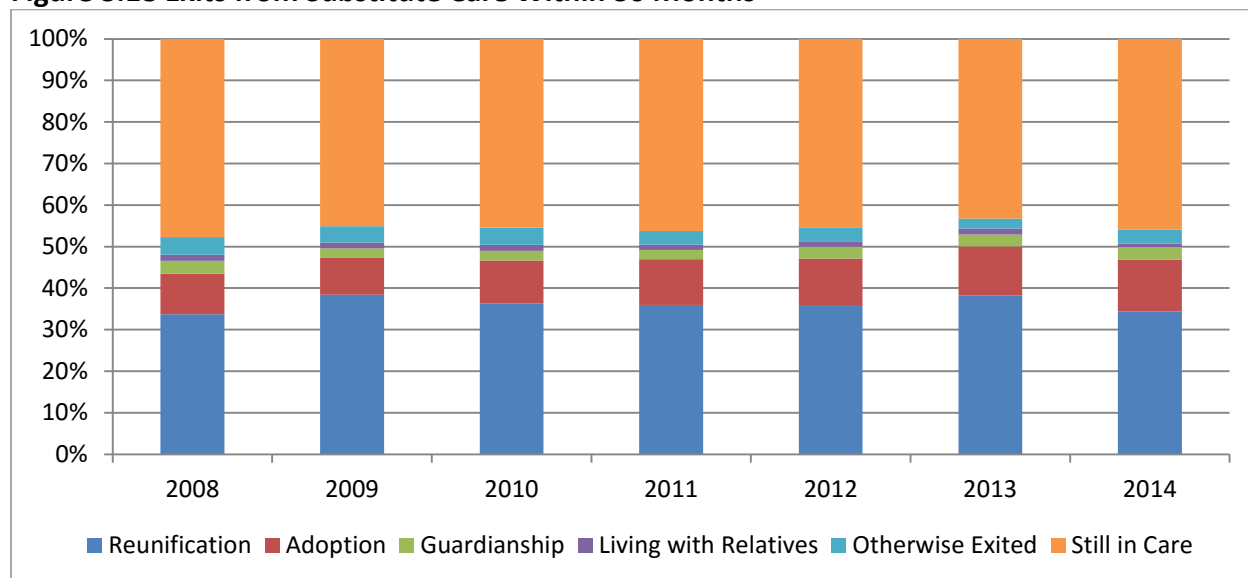
Figure 3.17 Stable Relative Placements 2, 5, and 10 Years After Finalization

Because living with relatives is a similar permanency type to guardianship—except without subsidy or licensure—we compared the rates of stability between the two placement types by averaging the rates for the past 5 years. The average stability rate two years after exiting was 96.6% for guardianships and 93.8% for living with relatives. The stability rates 5 years after exiting care were 87.6% for guardianships and 86.5% for children living with relatives. Ten years after exiting care, an average of 79.6% of children in subsidized guardianships remained at home, compared to 82.6% of children living with relatives. From these numbers, there is no evidence to conclude that living with relatives is a less stable type of permanence than subsidized guardianship. Instead, it may offer an alternative path to permanence for relatives who are uninterested in receiving a stipend or meeting the requirements of foster parent licensure.

Children Who Do Not Achieve Legal Permanence

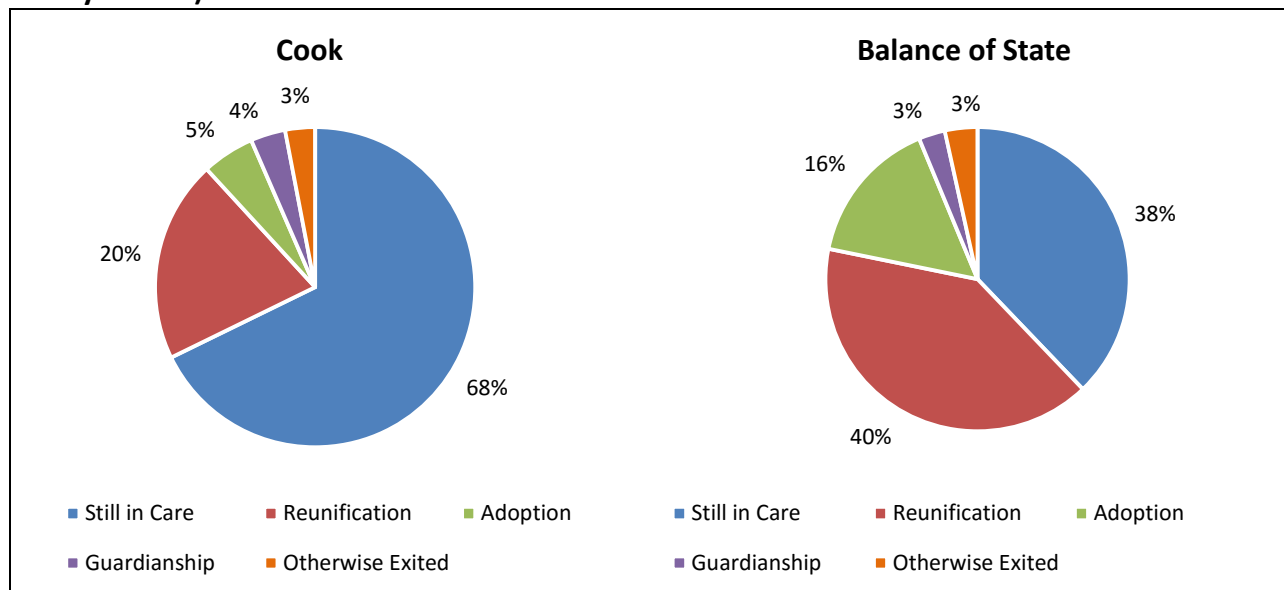
In the sections above, we explored four ways children exit care to legal permanence: reunification with their family of origin, adoption, guardianship, and living with relatives. Slightly over half (50.8%) of the children in the 2014 entry cohort exited care within 36 months to one of these permanency options. However, a significant portion of the children in this entry cohort remained in care longer than 36 months (46.0%) and others exited substitute care without ever achieving legal permanence (3.3%). Figure 3.18 shows the permanency outcomes for all children in each entry cohort over the past seven years. An average of 45.6% of children remained in care more than 36 months during this period. A small percentage of each entry cohort (between 2.4% and 4.3%) exit substitute care without ever achieving legal permanence; these “non-permanency exits” include aging out, incarceration, and running away.

Figure 3.18 Exits from Substitute Care Within 36 Months



There are large regional differences in the achievement of timely permanence for children in care. Figure 3.19 compares the outcomes for children in care after 36 months in the Cook region versus the rest of the state. Nearly 70% of children in care in the Cook region remain in care after 36 months, 20.4% are reunified, 5.3% are adopted, and 3.5% are in guardianships. In the balance of the state, less than 40% of children are still in care after 36 months, 40.3% are reunified, 15.5% are adopted, and 2.8% are in guardianships.

Figure 3.19 Exits from Substitute Care Within 36 Months: Cook versus Balance of State (2014 Entry Cohort)



Discussion and Conclusions: Legal Permanence

State child welfare agencies are not meant to be long-term caregivers for children. Once a child is removed from his or her home, the goal is to find a safe and permanent home in which he or she can develop normally and thrive. In Illinois, about half of the children who enter substitute care achieve family permanence within three years, either through reunification, adoption, or guardianship; this rate has been consistent for the past decade.

Reunification remains the most common exit type, followed by adoption and then, for a small number of children, guardianship or living with relatives. Age, race, and region continue to influence a child's likelihood of achieving permanence. Children who enter care when older, children who are African American, and children who live in Cook County are less likely to achieve permanence than children who are younger, children who are White, and children who live elsewhere in the state.

Regional differences in the achievement of timely permanence are striking. Nearly 70% of children taken into substitute care in the Cook region can expect to stay there longer than 3 years. In contrast, other regions of the state keep less than 40% of children in care that long. Recent permanency initiatives launched in the Cook region have yet to make a noticeable impact on the length of time children spend in care. Additional investigation of the barriers to achieving timely permanence in the Cook region is needed, so that these dismal numbers can be improved.



Appendix A

Indicator Definitions

Appendix A provides definitions for each of the outcome indicators used in the report. For each indicator, the overall definition is provided, followed by the denominator, the numerator, and any children that were excluded from the calculations. In this report, all indicators are calculated based on the state fiscal year, which spans the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30. All indicators exclude youth who were 18 years and older. Indicators used in the Child and Family Service Reviews are designated by (CFSR) in the indicator title.

Chapter 1: Child Safety

Indicator 1.A: Maltreatment Recurrence (CFSR)¹

Definition: Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment report during the fiscal year, the percentage that were victims of another substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months.

Denominator: The number of children with at least one substantiated maltreatment report during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that had another substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months of their initial report.

Exclusions: 1) subsequent reports of maltreatment within 14 days of the initial report are excluded; 2) multiple reports on the same incident date are excluded; 3) substantiated reports of allegation 60 (Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare) between October 1, 2001-December 31, 2013 and May 31, 2014-June 11, 2014 are excluded.

Indicator 1.B: Maltreatment Among Children in Intact Family Cases

Definition: Of all children served in intact family cases during the fiscal year, the percentage that had a substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months.

Denominator: The number of children served in intact family cases during the fiscal year. Intact family cases are defined as those in which all children in the family are at home at the time the family case opens.

Numerator: The number of children who had a substantiated report within 12 months of the case open date.

Exclusions: 1) intact family cases open 7 days or fewer are excluded; 2) intact family cases with any child who enters substitute care within 30 days of case open date are excluded; 3) subsequent reports within 14 days of the initial maltreatment report are excluded; 4) multiple reports on the same incident date are excluded; 5) substantiated reports of allegation 60 (Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare) between October 1, 2001-December 31, 2013 and May 31, 2014-June 11, 2014 are excluded.

Indicator 1.C: Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Receiving No Services

Definition: Of all children with a substantiated report who did not receive intact family or substitute care services, the percentage that had another substantiated report within 12 months.

Denominator: The number of children with a substantiated maltreatment report during the fiscal year who were not in an intact family case or placed into substitute care within 60 days of the maltreatment report date.

Numerator: The number of children who had another substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months of their initial report.

¹ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Recurrence of Maltreatment*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/maltxtrecr.pdf>

Exclusions: 1) subsequent reports of maltreatment within 14 days of the initial report are excluded; 2) multiple reports on the same incident date are excluded; 3) substantiated reports of allegation 60 (Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare) between October 1, 2001-December 31, 2013 and May 31, 2014-June 11, 2014 are excluded.

Indicator 1.D: Maltreatment in Substitute Care (CFSR)²

Definition: Of all children in substitute care during the fiscal year, the rate of maltreatment per 100,000 days of substitute care.

Denominator: The total number of days children were in substitute care placements, including trial home visits, during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The total number of substantiated maltreatment reports that occurred during substitute care placements.

Adjustments: The results are multiplied by 100,000 to produce larger numbers that are easier to understand.

Exclusions: 1) substitute care episodes less than 8 days are excluded; 2) if a youth turns age 18 during the period, any time in care and maltreatment reports that occur after the 18th birthday are excluded; 3) maltreatment reports that occur within the first 7 days of removal are excluded; 4) subsequent reports that occur within 1 day of the initial report are excluded; 5) records with disposition or report dates falling outside of the 12-month period are excluded; 6) incident dates occurring outside of the removal episode are excluded, even if the report dates fall within the episode; 7) substantiated reports of allegation 60 (Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare) between October 1, 2001-December 31, 2013 and May 31, 2014-June 11, 2014 are excluded.

² Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Maltreatment in Foster Care*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/maltxtfc.pdf>

Chapter 2: Family Continuity, Placement Stability, and Length of Time in Care

Indicator 2.A.1: Initial Placement—Home of Parents

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in the home of their parent(s) in their first placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children initially placed in the home of parents (HMP).

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.A.2: Initial Placement—Kinship Foster Home

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in kinship foster homes in their first placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children initially placed in kinship foster homes. The Kinship Foster Home category includes Delegated Relative Authority (DRA) and Home of Relative (HMR).

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.A.3: Initial Placement—Traditional Foster Home

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in traditional foster homes in their first placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children initially placed in traditional foster homes. The Traditional Foster Home category includes Foster Home Boarding DCFS (FHB), Foster Home Indian (FHI), Foster Home Boarding Private Agency (FHP), and Foster Home Adoption (FHA).

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.A.4: Initial Placement—Specialized Foster Home

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in specialized foster homes in their first placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children initially placed in specialized foster homes. The Specialized Foster Home category includes Foster Home Specialized (FHS) and Foster Home Treatment (FHT).

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.A.5: Initial Placement—Emergency Shelter/Emergency Foster Care

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes in their first placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children initially placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster care. The Emergency Shelter or Emergency Foster Care category includes Youth Emergency Shelters (YES), Agency Foster Care/Shelter Care, Emergency Shelters Institutions, Emergency Shelters Group Homes, and Emergency Foster Care (EFC).

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.A.6: Initial Placement—Group Home/Institution

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that placed in group homes or institutions in their first placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children initially placed in group homes or institutions. The Group Home or Institution category includes Group Home (GRH), Detention Facility/Jail (DET), Institution DCFS (ICF), Institution Department of Corrections (IDC), Institution Department of Mental Health (IMH), Institution Private Child Care Facility (IPA), Institution Rehabilitation Services (IRS), and Nursing Care Facility (NCF).

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.B.1: End of Year Placement—Home of Parents

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in the home of their parent(s).

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children placed in the home of parents (HMP).

Indicator 2.B.2: End of Year Placement—Kinship Foster Home

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in kinship foster homes.

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children placed in kinship foster homes. The Kinship Foster Home category includes Delegated Relative Authority (DRA) and Home of Relative (HMR).

Indicator 2.B.3: End of Year Placement—Traditional Foster Home

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in traditional foster homes.

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children placed in traditional foster homes. The Traditional Foster Home category includes Foster Home Boarding (FHB), Foster Home Indian (FHI), Foster Home Boarding Private Agency (FHP), and Foster Home Adoption (FHA).

Indicator 2.B.4: End of Year Placement—Specialized Foster Home

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in specialized foster homes.

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children placed in specialized foster homes. The Specialized Foster Home category includes Foster Home Specialized (FHS) and Foster Home Treatment (FHT).

Indicator 2.B.5: End of Year Placement —Emergency Shelter/Emergency Foster Care

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes.

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

INDICATOR DEFINITIONS

Numerator: The number of children placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster care. The Emergency Shelter or Emergency Foster Care category includes Youth Emergency Shelters (YES), Agency Foster Care/Shelter Care, Emergency Shelters Institutions, Emergency Shelters Group Homes, and Emergency Foster Care (EFC).

Indicator 2.B.6: End of Year Placement—Group Home

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in group homes.

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children placed in group homes. The Group Home category includes Group Home (GRH).

Indicator 2.B.7: End of Year Placement—Institution

Definition: Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in institutions.

Denominator: The number of children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children placed in institutions. The Institution category includes Detention Facility/Jail (DET), Institution DCFS (ICF), Institution Department of Corrections (IDC), Institution Department of Mental Health (IMH), Institution Private Child Care Facility (IPA), Institution Rehabilitation Services (IRS), and Nursing Care Facility (NCF).

Indicator 2.C: Initial Placement with Siblings

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care and initially placed in kinship or traditional foster homes, the percentage that was placed with their siblings in their initial placement.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year who had siblings in substitute care and were initially placed into kinship or traditional foster homes. Siblings are defined as children who belong to a common family based on the ID number of the family.

Numerator: The number of children placed in the same foster home as all of their siblings in substitute care in their initial placement.

Exclusions: 1) Children with no siblings in substitute care are excluded; 2) children who enter substitute care and stay 7 or fewer days are excluded.

Indicator 2.D: End of Year Placement with Siblings

Definition: Of all children in kinship or traditional foster homes at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed with their siblings.

Denominator: The number of children in kinship or traditional foster homes at the end of the fiscal year who had siblings in substitute care. Siblings are defined as children who belong to a common family based on the ID number of the family.

Numerator: The number of children placed in the same foster home as all of their siblings in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Exclusions: Children with no siblings in substitute care excluded.

Indicator 2.E: Placement Stability (CFSR)³

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the fiscal year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of care.

Denominator: Among the children who entered substitute care during the year, the total number of days they were in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of placement moves during the fiscal year.

Adjustment: The result is multiplied by 1,000 to produce larger numbers that are easier to understand.

Exclusions: 1) Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded; 2) for youth who enter at age 17 and turn 18 during the period, any time in substitute care beyond the 18th birthday or placement changes after that date are excluded; 3) the initial removal from the home is not counted as a placement move.

Indicator 2.F: Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care

Definition: Of all children ages 12 to 17 entering substitute care, the percentage that run away from a substitute care placement during their first year.

Denominator: The number of children ages 12 to 17 entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that run away from their substitute care placement within one year from the case opening date. Runaway includes: Runaway, Abducted, and Whereabouts Unknown.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 2.G: Median Length of Stay in Substitute Care

Definition: The median length of stay in substitute care of all children who enter substitute care during the fiscal year.

Population: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Measure: The median number of months children stay in substitute care. The median represents the amount of time that it took half of children who entered substitute care in a fiscal year to exit care, either through permanence (reunification, living with relatives, adoption, or guardianship) or emancipation. If the child has more than one out-of-home spell during the fiscal year, the first spell is selected.



³ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Placement Stability*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/placement_stability.pdf

Chapter 3: Legal Permanence—Reunification, Adoption, and Guardianship

Indicator 3.A.1: Reunification Within 12 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 12 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that were reunified within 12 months of the date of entry into substitute care. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.A.2: Reunification Within 24 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 24 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that were reunified within 24 months of the date of entry into substitute care. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.A.3: Reunification Within 36 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 36 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that were reunified within 36 months of the date of entry into substitute care. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.B.1: Stability of Reunification at One Year

Definition: Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at one year.

Denominator: The number of children reunified during the fiscal year. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within one year of reunification.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.B.2: Stability of Reunification at Two Years

Definition: Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.

Denominator: The number of children reunified during the fiscal year. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within two years of reunification.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.B.3: Stability of Reunification at Five Years

Definition: Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.

Denominator: The number of children reunified during the fiscal year. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within five years of reunification.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.B.4: Stability of Reunification at Ten Years

Definition: Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.

Denominator: The number of children reunified during the fiscal year. Reunification is defined as when the child is returned home and legal custody is transferred back to parent(s) or the placement case is closed.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within ten years of reunification.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.C.1: Adoption Within 24 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that were adopted within 24 months of the date of entry into substitute care.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.C.2: Adoption Within 36 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that were adopted within 36 months of the date of entry into substitute care.

INDICATOR DEFINITIONS

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.D.1: Stability of Adoption at Two Years

Definition: Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.

Denominator: The number of children adopted during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within two years of adoption.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.D.2: Stability of Adoption at Five Years

Definition: Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.

Denominator: The number of children adopted during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within five years of adoption.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.D.3: Stability of Adoption at Ten Years

Definition: Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.

Denominator: The number of children adopted during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within ten years of adoption.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.E.1: Guardianship Within 24 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was taken into guardianship within 24 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children taken into guardianship within 24 months of the date of entry into substitute care.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.E.2: Guardianship Within 36 Months

Definition: Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was taken into guardianship within 36 months.

Denominator: The number of children entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children taken into guardianship within 36 months of the date of entry into substitute care.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.F.1: Stability of Guardianship at Two Years

Definition: Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.

Denominator: The number of children taken into guardianship during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within two years of guardianship.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.F.2: Stability of Guardianship at Five Years

Definition: Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.

Denominator: The number of children taken into guardianship during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within five years of guardianship.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.F.3: Stability of Guardianship at Ten Years

Definition: Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.

Denominator: The number of children taken into guardianship during the fiscal year.

Numerator: The number of children that did not re-enter substitute care within ten years of guardianship.

Exclusions: Children that re-entered substitute care and stayed 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.G: Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Substitute Care (CFSR)⁴

Definition: Of all children who enter substitute care during the fiscal year, the percentage that are discharged to permanency within 12 months.

Denominator: Number of children who enter substitute care during the fiscal year.

Numerator: Number of children who are discharged to permanency (reunification, living with relative, adoption, or guardianship) within 12 months of entering substitute care.

Exclusions: 1) Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded; 2) youth entering care at age 17 who turn 18 while in care or discharge at age 18 are excluded from the numerator.

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⁴ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Foster Care*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/perm12mos.pdf>

Indicator 3.H: Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 12 to 23 Months (CFSR)⁵

Definition: Of all children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage that are discharged to permanency within 12 months.

Denominator: Number of children in substitute care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in substitute care between 12 and 23 months.

Numerator: Number of children who are discharged to permanency (reunification, living with relative, adoption, or guardianship) within 12 months of the first day of the fiscal year.

Exclusions: Youth entering care at age 17 who turn 18 while in care or discharge at age 18 are excluded from the numerator.

Indicator 3.I: Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 24 Months or More (CFSR)⁶

Definition: Of all children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care for 24 months or more, the percentage that are discharged to permanency within 12 months.

Denominator: Number of children in substitute care on the first day of the fiscal year period who had been in substitute care for 24 months or more.

Numerator: Number of children who are discharged to permanency (reunification, living with relative, adoption, or guardianship) within 12 months of the first day of the fiscal year.

Exclusions: Youth entering care at age 17 who turn 18 while in care or discharge at age 18 are excluded from the numerator.

Indicator 3.J: Re-Entry to Substitute Care Among Children in Care Less Than 12 Months (CFSR)⁷

Definition: Of all children who entered foster care during the fiscal year and attained permanency within 12 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their discharge.

Denominator: Number of children who entered substitute care during the fiscal year and were discharged within 12 months to reunification, living with a relative, adoption, or guardianship.

Numerator: Number of children who re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge. If a child had multiple re-entries within 12 months of discharge, only his/her first re-entry is selected.

Exclusions: Children who enter care and stay 7 days or fewer are excluded.

⁵ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 12 to 23 Months*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/perm12to23.pdf>

⁶ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 24 Months or More*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/perm24.pdf>

⁷ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Re-Entry to Foster Care*. Retrieved on April 27, 2018 from <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/reports/reentry.pdf>

Indicator 3.K: Re-Entry to Substitute Care Among Children in Care 12 to 23 Months

Definition: Of all children who had been in substitute care between 12 and 23 months and exited to permanency during the fiscal year, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their discharge.

Denominator: Number of children in substitute care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in substitute care between 12 and 23 months and who were discharged to permanency (reunification, living with a relative, adoption, or guardianship) during the fiscal year.

Numerator: Number of children who re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge. If a child had multiple re-entries within 12 months of discharge, only his/her first re-entry is selected.

Exclusions: Children in care 7 days or fewer are excluded.

Indicator 3.L: Re-Entry to Substitute Care Among Children in Care 24 Months or More

Definition: Of all children who had been in substitute care 24 months or more and exited to permanency during the fiscal year, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their discharge.

Denominator: Number of children in substitute care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care for 24 months or more who were discharged to permanency (reunification, living with a relative, adoption, or guardianship) within 12 months.

Numerator: Number of children who re-enter substitute care within 12 months of discharge. If a child has multiple re-entries within 12 months of discharge, only his/her first re-entry is selected.

Exclusions: Children in care 7 days or fewer are excluded.



Appendix B

Outcome Data by Region, Gender, Age, and Race

Appendix B provides data on each of the outcome indicators defined in Appendix A. For each indicator, data are presented for the state, followed by breakdowns by DCFS administrative region, child gender, age, and race. The data used to compute these indicators come from two Illinois DCFS data systems: the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) and the Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS). The SACWIS data were extracted on December 31, 2017 and the CYCIS data were extracted on March 31, 2018. All indicators are calculated based on the state fiscal year, which spans the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30.

Maltreatment Recurrence (CFSR)

Indicator 1.A	Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment report during the fiscal year, the percentage that were victims of another substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children with a substantiated maltreatment report	17,670	16,673	19,643	18,666	25,043	30,770	29,741
Children with another substantiated report within 12 months	1,360	1,260	1,647	1,579	2,774	3,428	3,506
Percent	7.7%	7.6%	8.4%	8.5%	11.1%	11.1%	11.8%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	304	5.9%	266	5.5%	401	6.8%	402	7.2%	674	8.8%	811	9.0%	708	9.0%
Northern	242	5.4%	273	6.5%	313	6.1%	302	6.3%	700	10.4%	872	10.0%	879	10.5%
Central	478	9.1%	438	8.7%	617	11.0%	532	9.7%	919	12.9%	1,148	13.1%	1,185	13.5%
Southern	336	12.2%	283	10.7%	313	11.0%	343	12.3%	481	13.8%	597	14.0%	734	15.8%

Male	672	8.0%	626	7.8%	820	8.5%	777	8.6%	1,425	11.6%	1,723	11.4%	1,749	11.9%
Female	688	7.5%	633	7.4%	824	8.3%	802	8.4%	1,348	10.6%	1,702	11.0%	1,752	11.7%

0 to 2	354	9.0%	298	8.1%	409	9.3%	401	10.1%	672	12.6%	881	12.6%	956	13.6%
3 to 5	301	8.3%	297	8.9%	403	10.0%	365	9.4%	587	11.7%	732	12.0%	722	12.7%
6 to 11	423	7.7%	399	7.7%	490	7.9%	471	8.0%	872	10.7%	1,035	10.7%	1,077	11.6%
12 to 17	193	5.7%	184	5.5%	244	6.6%	257	6.9%	364	7.9%	430	8.1%	425	8.3%

African American	406	7.1%	380	7.1%	481	7.9%	556	9.4%	915	10.8%	1,103	10.4%	1,053	10.9%
White	807	8.8%	741	8.6%	956	9.6%	848	9.1%	1,476	12.6%	1,803	12.9%	1,999	14.3%
Hispanic	119	5.7%	121	5.7%	182	6.1%	153	5.6%	321	7.8%	442	8.2%	408	7.6%
Other Ethnicity	28	4.1%	18	3.1%	28	4.5%	22	3.3%	62	7.8%	80	9.4%	46	6.8%

Maltreatment Among Children in Intact Family Cases

Indicator 1.B	Of all children served in intact family cases during the fiscal year, the percentage that had a substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children in intact family cases	14,521	16,082	16,963	10,623	13,531	11,234	10,292
Children with substantiated reports	1,050	1,116	1,231	859	1,869	1,557	1,399
Percent	7.2%	6.9%	7.3%	8.1%	13.8%	13.9%	13.6%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	286	4.7%	304	4.5%	387	5.7%	275	5.7%	571	10.4%	491	10.4%	338	8.7%
Northern	193	6.9%	206	6.3%	246	6.7%	137	7.5%	356	13.3%	344	14.4%	287	12.8%
Central	308	9.2%	331	9.4%	328	8.1%	266	10.0%	568	17.3%	408	16.2%	419	17.3%
Southern	263	11.7%	275	11.1%	270	10.9%	181	13.7%	374	17.9%	314	19.6%	355	20.1%

Male	528	7.3%	577	7.1%	625	7.3%	439	8.3%	974	14.1%	812	14.2%	698	13.5%
Female	522	7.2%	538	6.8%	606	7.3%	420	7.9%	895	13.5%	745	13.5%	701	13.8%

0 to 2	335	8.6%	362	8.6%	378	8.8%	264	8.9%	594	16.9%	579	18.6%	450	16.4%
3 to 5	236	7.8%	272	8.3%	267	7.8%	209	9.0%	400	14.3%	327	14.3%	301	14.8%
6 to 11	334	7.3%	310	5.9%	387	6.8%	266	7.8%	625	13.6%	449	11.9%	462	13.1%
12 to 17	145	4.8%	172	5.1%	199	5.6%	120	6.3%	250	9.5%	202	9.8%	186	9.5%

African American	350	5.9%	337	5.3%	401	5.9%	348	7.4%	653	13.1%	496	11.7%	387	10.6%
White	588	8.9%	679	9.5%	676	9.0%	413	9.6%	945	16.0%	797	16.9%	835	18.2%
Hispanic	92	6.5%	82	4.4%	132	6.3%	82	6.6%	227	11.3%	230	11.5%	161	8.8%
Other Ethnicity	20	3.6%	18	2.8%	22	3.7%	16	4.3%	44	7.3%	34	11.8%	16	7.0%

Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Receiving No Services

Indicator 1.C	Of all children with a substantiated report who did not receive intact family or substitute care services, the percentage that had another substantiated report within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children receiving no services	11,156	10,714	13,214	13,167	16,545	20,752	21,060
Children with substantiated reports	605	615	901	969	1,451	1,906	2,156
Percent	5.4%	5.7%	6.8%	7.4%	8.8%	9.2%	10.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	157	4.9%	152	4.9%	265	6.4%	256	6.2%	364	7.0%	443	7.4%	435	7.6%
Northern	114	3.7%	129	4.5%	158	4.3%	186	5.3%	402	8.5%	503	7.9%	597	9.3%
Central	232	6.9%	237	7.3%	333	9.1%	341	9.0%	477	10.3%	692	11.8%	780	12.7%
Southern	102	7.1%	97	6.5%	142	8.6%	186	10.6%	208	10.4%	268	10.7%	344	12.5%

Male	292	5.6%	310	6.2%	450	7.0%	467	7.5%	729	9.1%	938	9.3%	1,075	10.5%
Female	313	5.3%	304	5.4%	448	6.7%	502	7.3%	721	8.5%	965	9.1%	1,076	10.1%

0 to 2	148	6.4%	115	5.3%	204	7.4%	219	8.4%	323	9.7%	460	10.2%	584	11.9%
3 to 5	138	5.9%	141	6.5%	214	7.9%	226	8.2%	315	9.5%	442	10.4%	442	10.8%
6 to 11	176	4.8%	211	6.0%	281	6.4%	312	7.1%	476	8.4%	591	8.6%	687	9.9%
12 to 17	115	4.8%	110	4.6%	149	5.5%	174	6.0%	227	6.8%	269	6.8%	263	6.7%

African American	168	5.0%	192	5.9%	258	6.6%	333	8.3%	479	8.9%	586	8.4%	638	9.4%
White	365	6.2%	354	6.4%	500	7.6%	534	8.2%	780	10.2%	1,036	11.1%	1,236	12.8%
Hispanic	59	4.0%	59	4.0%	124	5.5%	93	4.4%	163	5.6%	237	6.2%	250	6.2%
Other Ethnicity	13	2.8%	10	2.3%	19	3.9%	9	1.8%	29	5.0%	47	7.3%	32	6.0%

Maltreatment in Substitute Care (CFSR)

Indicator 1.D	Of all children in substitute care during the fiscal year, the rate of maltreatment per 100,000 days of substitute care.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care	20,657	20,646	20,075	20,037	20,352	19,622	19,633
Days in substitute care	5,841,289	5,725,582	5,540,292	5,566,408	5,536,162	5,411,803	5,322,170
Substantiated maltreatment reports	381	454	389	479	621	670	696
Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	6.5	7.9	7.0	8.6	11.2	12.4	13.1

	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days
Cook	4.1	5.0	4.7	6.7	9.1	10.5	12.0
Northern	7.3	8.1	7.6	8.2	8.8	11.6	12.0
Central	8.7	8.9	10.4	10.5	14.6	14.6	14.4
Southern	7.8	13.5	6.4	10.7	13.9	14.4	14.5

Male	6.3	7.5	5.9	7.9	11.1	11.9	12.3
Female	6.8	8.4	8.3	9.4	11.4	12.9	13.9

0 to 2	4.8	5.9	4.6	6.7	9.1	9.5	9.3
3 to 5	7.9	10.5	9.0	10.1	14.3	15.2	14.6
6 to 11	9.2	10.8	8.3	11.3	14.1	14.5	17.1
12 to 17	4.9	5.6	7.3	7.2	8.7	11.9	12.5

African American	6.3	6.6	6.8	7.4	11.1	12.6	12.6
White	6.6	9.8	7.8	9.7	11.5	12.3	13.3
Hispanic	8.8	7.3	4.1	10.9	11.5	12.6	15.5
Other Ethnicity	6.1	3.8	3.5	5.9	9.0	8.7	10.3

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

Initial Placement: Home of Parents

Indicator 2.A.1	Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in the home of their parent(s) in their first placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635	4,767
Children placed in home of parents	290	224	238	179	219	189	169
Percent	6.1%	4.7%	5.0%	3.7%	4.3%	4.1%	3.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	17	1.5%	10	0.7%	10	0.8%	12	0.9%	16	1.1%	11	0.9%	9	0.8%
Northern	42	4.2%	21	2.0%	17	1.4%	18	1.7%	6	0.6%	4	0.4%	8	0.9%
Central	188	11.4%	148	10.2%	171	11.0%	111	7.2%	161	9.7%	140	8.8%	117	6.6%
Southern	43	4.6%	45	5.1%	39	5.3%	38	4.5%	36	4.1%	34	3.9%	35	3.6%

Male	143	5.9%	125	5.1%	124	5.1%	90	3.6%	120	4.7%	107	4.5%	88	3.6%
Female	147	6.4%	99	4.2%	114	4.9%	89	3.8%	99	3.9%	82	3.7%	81	3.5%

0 to 2	65	3.5%	43	2.3%	63	3.3%	47	2.6%	56	2.7%	39	2.1%	39	2.0%
3 to 5	72	8.5%	53	6.2%	43	5.4%	27	3.4%	34	3.9%	43	5.6%	30	3.6%
6 to 11	88	8.6%	63	6.2%	83	7.9%	56	4.7%	76	6.7%	69	6.5%	61	5.4%
12 to 17	65	6.7%	65	6.4%	49	4.9%	49	4.7%	53	5.1%	38	4.1%	39	4.4%

African American	99	4.8%	86	4.2%	67	3.3%	63	2.9%	75	3.4%	55	2.9%	56	3.1%
White	172	7.4%	123	5.3%	155	6.9%	108	4.8%	120	5.3%	122	5.4%	99	4.2%
Hispanic	19	7.8%	11	4.1%	11	3.2%	8	2.4%	16	3.5%	5	1.2%	10	2.3%
Other Ethnicity	0	0.0%	4	3.3%	5	4.1%	0	0.0%	8	5.6%	7	6.9%	4	2.9%

Initial Placement: Kinship Foster Home

Indicator 2.A.2	Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in kinship foster homes in their first placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635	4,767
Children placed in kinship foster homes	2,253	2,349	2,393	2,566	2,815	2,940	3,014
Percent	47.7%	49.3%	50.4%	53.0%	55.3%	63.4%	63.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	361	32.2%	508	37.3%	514	40.2%	568	41.5%	697	46.5%	722	57.9%	698	58.9%
Northern	563	55.7%	609	57.5%	742	62.5%	670	62.1%	673	64.2%	634	69.8%	585	68.7%
Central	815	49.5%	733	50.5%	750	48.4%	874	56.4%	919	55.2%	976	61.1%	1,097	62.3%
Southern	514	54.7%	499	56.2%	387	53.0%	454	54.0%	526	60.0%	608	68.9%	634	65.4%

Male	1,130	46.7%	1,147	47.2%	1,191	48.8%	1,265	51.2%	1,371	53.1%	1,473	61.5%	1,521	61.8%
Female	1,123	48.8%	1,201	51.5%	1,202	52.2%	1,301	55.0%	1,444	57.5%	1,467	65.6%	1,493	64.7%

0 to 2	978	52.1%	973	51.8%	977	51.5%	977	53.4%	1,125	54.9%	1,152	61.7%	1,188	62.4%
3 to 5	434	51.1%	495	57.6%	461	57.5%	489	62.1%	543	62.9%	542	70.4%	595	71.0%
6 to 11	543	53.1%	561	55.3%	608	58.2%	746	63.1%	716	62.7%	778	73.1%	799	70.3%
12 to 17	298	30.7%	320	31.7%	347	34.7%	354	34.0%	431	41.6%	468	50.1%	432	48.7%

African American	932	45.6%	935	45.5%	967	47.7%	983	46.0%	1,152	51.5%	1,140	60.4%	1,074	59.0%
White	1,181	50.8%	1,234	53.2%	1,205	53.6%	1,345	59.8%	1,307	58.2%	1,469	65.4%	1,580	66.4%
Hispanic	82	33.6%	131	49.2%	178	51.0%	172	50.6%	275	59.4%	277	69.1%	278	64.5%
Other Ethnicity	58	52.3%	49	40.5%	43	35.5%	66	58.9%	81	56.3%	54	53.5%	82	59.9%



Initial Placement: Traditional Foster Home

Indicator 2.A.3	Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in traditional foster homes in their first placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635	4,767
Children placed in traditional foster homes	1,199	1,148	1,170	1,173	1,221	1,016	1,174
Percent	25.4%	24.1%	24.6%	24.2%	24.0%	21.9%	24.6%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	154	13.7%	133	9.8%	156	12.2%	252	18.4%	249	16.6%	226	18.1%	253	21.4%
Northern	315	31.2%	339	32.0%	321	27.0%	278	25.8%	272	25.9%	206	22.7%	210	24.6%
Central	531	32.2%	494	34.0%	539	34.8%	476	30.7%	493	29.6%	398	24.9%	470	26.7%
Southern	199	21.2%	180	20.3%	154	21.1%	167	19.9%	207	23.6%	186	21.1%	241	24.8%

Male	603	24.9%	573	23.6%	594	24.3%	585	23.7%	619	24.0%	515	21.5%	608	24.7%
Female	596	25.9%	575	24.7%	576	25.0%	588	24.8%	602	24.0%	500	22.4%	566	24.5%

0 to 2	612	32.6%	618	32.9%	636	33.5%	655	35.8%	700	34.2%	610	32.7%	637	33.4%
3 to 5	217	25.5%	188	21.9%	190	23.7%	183	23.3%	189	21.9%	155	20.1%	193	23.0%
6 to 11	231	22.6%	210	20.7%	213	20.4%	200	16.9%	204	17.9%	158	14.8%	226	19.9%
12 to 17	139	14.3%	132	13.1%	131	13.1%	135	13.0%	128	12.4%	93	9.9%	118	13.3%

African American	460	22.5%	435	21.1%	472	23.3%	569	26.6%	529	23.6%	429	22.7%	459	25.2%
White	644	27.7%	648	27.9%	585	26.0%	499	22.2%	568	25.3%	493	21.9%	572	24.0%
Hispanic	74	30.3%	39	14.7%	72	20.6%	79	23.2%	88	19.0%	67	16.7%	101	23.4%
Other Ethnicity	21	18.9%	26	21.5%	41	33.9%	26	23.2%	36	25.0%	27	26.7%	42	30.7%

Initial Placement: Specialized Foster Home

Indicator 2.A.4	Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in specialized foster homes in their first placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635	4,767
Children placed in specialized foster homes	97	70	97	117	108	71	106
Percent	2.1%	1.5%	2.0%	2.4%	2.1%	1.5%	2.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	37	3.3%	35	2.6%	61	4.8%	74	5.4%	69	4.6%	56	4.5%	83	7.0%
Northern	11	1.1%	9	0.8%	10	0.8%	13	1.2%	14	1.3%	0	0.0%	7	0.8%
Central	38	2.3%	9	0.6%	20	1.3%	16	1.0%	14	0.8%	11	0.7%	11	0.6%
Southern	11	1.2%	17	1.9%	6	0.8%	14	1.7%	11	1.3%	4	0.5%	5	0.5%

Male	48	2.0%	34	1.4%	48	2.0%	54	2.2%	48	1.9%	41	1.7%	53	2.2%
Female	49	2.1%	36	1.5%	49	2.1%	63	2.7%	60	2.4%	30	1.3%	53	2.3%

0 to 2	31	1.7%	26	1.4%	39	2.1%	46	2.5%	38	1.9%	22	1.2%	29	1.5%
3 to 5	13	1.5%	6	0.7%	10	1.2%	15	1.9%	15	1.7%	9	1.2%	11	1.3%
6 to 11	23	2.2%	13	1.3%	18	1.7%	13	1.1%	21	1.8%	14	1.3%	26	2.3%
12 to 17	30	3.1%	25	2.5%	30	3.0%	43	4.1%	34	3.3%	26	2.8%	40	4.5%

African American	50	2.4%	33	1.6%	60	3.0%	62	2.9%	55	2.5%	39	2.1%	68	3.7%
White	39	1.7%	27	1.2%	28	1.2%	43	1.9%	38	1.7%	17	0.8%	18	0.8%
Hispanic	4	1.6%	6	2.3%	7	2.0%	7	2.1%	10	2.2%	11	2.7%	15	3.5%
Other Ethnicity	4	3.6%	4	3.3%	2	1.7%	5	4.5%	5	3.5%	4	4.0%	5	3.6%

Initial Placement: Emergency Shelter/Emergency Foster Home

Indicator 2.A.5	Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes in their first placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635	4,767
Children placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes	506	557	482	403	290	131	94
Percent	10.7%	11.7%	10.2%	8.3%	5.7%	2.8%	2.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	290	25.8%	369	27.1%	286	22.3%	188	13.7%	147	9.8%	58	4.6%	36	3.0%
Northern	40	4.0%	37	3.5%	47	4.0%	48	4.4%	40	3.8%	29	3.2%	16	1.9%
Central	20	1.2%	22	1.5%	20	1.3%	29	1.9%	19	1.1%	12	0.8%	12	0.7%
Southern	156	16.6%	129	14.5%	129	17.7%	138	16.4%	84	9.6%	32	3.6%	30	3.1%

Male	282	11.7%	305	12.5%	268	11.0%	235	9.5%	158	6.1%	80	3.3%	53	2.2%
Female	224	9.7%	252	10.8%	214	9.3%	168	7.1%	132	5.3%	51	2.3%	41	1.8%

0 to 2	127	6.8%	154	8.2%	118	6.2%	51	2.8%	52	2.5%	10	0.5%	1	0.1%
3 to 5	81	9.5%	82	9.5%	73	9.1%	44	5.6%	31	3.6%	6	0.8%	2	0.2%
6 to 11	90	8.8%	103	10.1%	85	8.1%	102	8.6%	53	4.6%	14	1.3%	8	0.7%
12 to 17	208	21.4%	218	21.6%	205	20.5%	206	19.8%	154	14.9%	101	10.8%	83	9.4%

African American	251	12.3%	311	15.1%	241	11.9%	215	10.1%	148	6.6%	61	3.2%	41	2.3%
White	203	8.7%	180	7.8%	171	7.6%	154	6.9%	108	4.8%	59	2.6%	43	1.8%
Hispanic	39	16.0%	44	16.5%	51	14.6%	29	8.5%	27	5.8%	10	2.5%	9	2.1%
Other Ethnicity	13	11.7%	22	18.2%	19	15.7%	5	4.5%	7	4.9%	1	1.0%	1	0.7%

Initial Placement: Group Home/Institution

Indicator 2.A.6	Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that placed in group homes or institutions in their first placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635	4,767
Children placed in group homes or institutions	376	415	367	400	437	288	210
Percent	8.0%	8.7%	7.7%	8.3%	8.6%	6.2%	4.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	263	23.4%	306	22.5%	253	19.8%	274	20.0%	322	21.5%	175	14.0%	106	8.9%
Northern	40	4.0%	45	4.2%	50	4.2%	52	4.8%	44	4.2%	35	3.9%	26	3.1%
Central	56	3.4%	46	3.2%	49	3.2%	45	2.9%	59	3.5%	60	3.8%	53	3.0%
Southern	17	1.8%	18	2.0%	15	2.1%	29	3.5%	12	1.4%	18	2.0%	25	2.6%

Male	212	8.8%	247	10.2%	218	8.9%	242	9.8%	264	10.2%	181	7.6%	138	5.6%
Female	164	7.1%	168	7.2%	149	6.5%	158	6.7%	173	6.9%	105	4.7%	72	3.1%

0 to 2	65	3.5%	66	3.5%	65	3.4%	52	2.8%	78	3.8%	33	1.8%	11	0.6%
3 to 5	33	3.9%	36	4.2%	25	3.1%	29	3.7%	51	5.9%	15	1.9%	7	0.8%
6 to 11	48	4.7%	65	6.4%	38	3.6%	66	5.6%	72	6.3%	31	2.9%	17	1.5%
12 to 17	230	23.7%	248	24.6%	239	23.9%	253	24.3%	236	22.8%	209	22.4%	175	19.7%

African American	250	12.2%	257	12.5%	222	10.9%	246	11.5%	279	12.5%	162	8.6%	122	6.7%
White	85	3.7%	107	4.6%	104	4.6%	99	4.4%	104	4.6%	87	3.9%	67	2.8%
Hispanic	26	10.7%	35	13.2%	30	8.6%	45	13.2%	47	10.2%	31	7.7%	18	4.2%
Other Ethnicity	15	13.5%	16	13.2%	11	9.1%	10	8.9%	7	4.9%	8	7.9%	3	2.2%

End of Year Placement: Home of Parents

Indicator 2.B.1	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in the home of their parent(s).						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in home of parents	1,216	1,047	1,015	891	822	880	747
Percent	8.0%	7.1%	6.9%	6.1%	5.7%	6.2%	5.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	188	3.6%	227	4.5%	187	3.7%	164	3.2%	162	3.2%	170	3.4%	146	3.1%
Northern	309	9.9%	190	6.2%	206	6.3%	187	5.7%	104	3.3%	108	3.7%	77	2.9%
Central	488	10.8%	376	9.0%	451	10.9%	403	9.8%	374	9.1%	447	10.8%	330	8.0%
Southern	231	9.6%	254	10.5%	171	7.6%	137	6.2%	182	8.6%	155	7.0%	194	8.1%

Male	647	7.9%	552	7.1%	552	7.1%	470	6.1%	418	5.5%	438	5.8%	409	5.6%
Female	569	8.0%	495	7.2%	463	6.7%	421	6.0%	404	5.9%	442	6.5%	338	5.1%

0 to 2	216	6.6%	189	5.9%	216	6.7%	183	5.7%	187	5.6%	180	5.5%	160	5.0%
3 to 5	303	8.7%	275	8.2%	247	7.6%	209	6.6%	174	5.9%	199	6.6%	176	5.8%
6 to 11	432	9.9%	377	9.0%	348	8.3%	299	6.8%	268	6.3%	281	6.7%	253	6.1%
12 to 17	265	6.4%	206	5.2%	204	5.1%	200	5.0%	193	4.9%	220	5.8%	158	4.4%

African American	474	6.2%	397	5.5%	371	5.2%	381	5.3%	314	4.5%	346	5.1%	273	4.3%
White	647	10.0%	572	9.0%	558	8.9%	430	7.0%	433	7.3%	452	7.6%	397	6.6%
Hispanic	69	7.8%	58	6.8%	58	6.3%	64	6.3%	46	4.1%	57	4.8%	65	5.2%
Other Ethnicity	26	10.0%	20	6.8%	28	8.8%	16	5.1%	29	8.5%	25	7.5%	12	3.4%

End of Year Placement: Kinship Foster Home

Indicator 2.B.2	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in kinship foster homes.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in kinship foster homes	6,011	5,923	5,979	6,120	6,215	6,489	6,710
Percent	39.3%	40.2%	40.7%	41.6%	43.1%	45.4%	48.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	1,817	34.5%	1,762	35.0%	1,833	36.7%	1,942	38.4%	2,026	40.4%	2,149	43.3%	2,137	44.9%
Northern	1,305	42.0%	1,386	45.0%	1,534	46.7%	1,469	44.5%	1,407	45.1%	1,335	45.4%	1,241	46.3%
Central	1,822	40.5%	1,696	40.5%	1,579	38.0%	1,661	40.2%	1,758	42.7%	1,854	44.8%	2,036	49.2%
Southern	1,065	44.4%	1,079	44.8%	1,033	46.2%	1,038	47.3%	1,011	47.5%	1,144	51.4%	1,291	53.9%

Male	3,057	37.5%	2,980	38.2%	3,000	38.5%	3,072	39.7%	3,095	40.8%	3,213	42.9%	3,308	45.1%
Female	2,951	41.4%	2,941	42.6%	2,978	43.3%	3,047	43.7%	3,119	45.7%	3,276	48.2%	3,402	51.2%

0 to 2	1,585	48.1%	1,526	47.9%	1,532	47.3%	1,502	47.0%	1,603	48.1%	1,646	50.7%	1,740	54.2%
3 to 5	1,634	47.0%	1,637	48.8%	1,575	48.3%	1,603	50.8%	1,486	50.5%	1,564	52.0%	1,600	53.1%
6 to 11	1,760	40.3%	1,737	41.5%	1,812	43.2%	1,966	45.0%	2,015	47.6%	2,087	49.7%	2,125	51.1%
12 to 17	1,032	24.9%	1,023	25.6%	1,060	26.6%	1,049	26.3%	1,111	28.4%	1,192	31.2%	1,245	34.5%

African American	2,829	36.9%	2,712	37.5%	2,768	38.5%	2,778	38.6%	2,814	40.3%	2,830	41.8%	2,785	43.5%
White	2,743	42.4%	2,744	43.3%	2,678	42.9%	2,764	44.7%	2,701	45.4%	2,890	48.3%	3,101	51.7%
Hispanic	319	36.0%	343	40.5%	402	43.7%	445	43.9%	539	47.5%	613	51.1%	647	52.2%
Other Ethnicity	120	46.3%	124	41.9%	131	41.1%	133	42.2%	161	47.2%	156	47.0%	177	50.9%

End of Year Placement: Traditional Foster Home

Indicator 2.B.3	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in traditional foster homes.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in traditional foster homes	4,234	4,033	4,068	4,104	4,032	3,817	3,631
Percent	27.7%	27.4%	27.7%	27.9%	28.0%	26.7%	26.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	1,338	25.4%	1,247	24.8%	1,271	25.4%	1,309	25.9%	1,297	25.9%	1,271	25.6%	1,183	24.9%
Northern	879	28.3%	860	27.9%	879	26.8%	944	28.6%	917	29.4%	846	28.8%	764	28.5%
Central	1,280	28.5%	1,207	28.8%	1,230	29.6%	1,179	28.5%	1,173	28.5%	1,070	25.9%	1,050	25.4%
Southern	734	30.6%	719	29.8%	686	30.7%	667	30.4%	629	29.6%	625	28.1%	621	26.0%

Male	2,117	26.0%	1,989	25.5%	2,010	25.8%	2,004	25.9%	2,048	27.0%	1,945	26.0%	1,848	25.2%
Female	2,115	29.7%	2,044	29.6%	2,057	29.9%	2,099	30.1%	1,983	29.1%	1,869	27.5%	1,780	26.8%

0 to 2	1,281	38.9%	1,282	40.2%	1,322	40.8%	1,316	41.2%	1,367	41.1%	1,258	38.7%	1,165	36.3%
3 to 5	1,151	33.1%	1,091	32.5%	1,119	34.3%	1,069	33.9%	1,033	35.1%	982	32.6%	948	31.5%
6 to 11	1,178	27.0%	1,082	25.9%	1,070	25.5%	1,158	26.5%	1,077	25.5%	1,069	25.5%	1,006	24.2%
12 to 17	624	15.1%	578	14.5%	557	14.0%	561	14.1%	555	14.2%	508	13.3%	512	14.2%

African American	2,065	27.0%	1,947	26.9%	1,942	27.0%	1,989	27.6%	1,983	28.4%	1,892	27.9%	1,752	27.4%
White	1,840	28.4%	1,761	27.8%	1,779	28.5%	1,731	28.0%	1,640	27.6%	1,515	25.3%	1,473	24.6%
Hispanic	260	29.3%	233	27.5%	245	26.6%	281	27.7%	308	27.1%	308	25.7%	301	24.3%
Other Ethnicity	69	26.6%	92	31.1%	102	32.0%	103	32.7%	101	29.6%	102	30.7%	105	30.2%

End of Year Placement: Specialized Foster Home

Indicator 2.B.4	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in specialized foster homes.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in specialized foster homes	2,508	2,396	2,348	2,265	2,113	2,029	1,965
Percent	16.4%	16.3%	16.0%	15.4%	14.7%	14.2%	14.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	1,342	25.5%	1,237	24.6%	1,197	24.0%	1,135	22.4%	1,035	20.7%	998	20.1%	972	20.4%
Northern	368	11.8%	394	12.8%	389	11.8%	408	12.4%	427	13.7%	414	14.1%	413	15.4%
Central	583	13.0%	570	13.6%	574	13.8%	543	13.1%	505	12.3%	472	11.4%	437	10.6%
Southern	214	8.9%	195	8.1%	188	8.4%	175	8.0%	141	6.6%	144	6.5%	141	5.9%

Male	1,467	18.0%	1,405	18.0%	1,379	17.7%	1,314	17.0%	1,202	15.9%	1,174	15.7%	1,165	15.9%
Female	1,040	14.6%	990	14.3%	969	14.1%	950	13.6%	911	13.3%	855	12.6%	800	12.0%

0 to 2	204	6.2%	178	5.6%	164	5.1%	184	5.8%	161	4.8%	160	4.9%	143	4.5%
3 to 5	377	10.8%	336	10.0%	309	9.5%	265	8.4%	237	8.1%	259	8.6%	282	9.4%
6 to 11	850	19.5%	819	19.6%	809	19.3%	771	17.6%	699	16.5%	625	14.9%	654	15.7%
12 to 17	1,077	26.0%	1,063	26.6%	1,066	26.8%	1,045	26.2%	1,016	26.0%	985	25.8%	886	24.6%

African American	1,559	20.4%	1,457	20.1%	1,423	19.8%	1,325	18.4%	1,226	17.5%	1,153	17.0%	1,113	17.4%
White	754	11.6%	756	11.9%	737	11.8%	741	12.0%	688	11.6%	682	11.4%	628	10.5%
Hispanic	170	19.2%	146	17.2%	153	16.6%	155	15.3%	161	14.2%	158	13.2%	181	14.6%
Other Ethnicity	25	9.7%	37	12.5%	35	11.0%	44	14.0%	38	11.1%	36	10.8%	43	12.4%

End of Year Placement: Emergency Shelter/Emergency Foster Home

Indicator 2.B.5	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes	97	99	98	130	83	48	33
Percent	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	53	1.0%	45	0.9%	37	0.7%	54	1.1%	38	0.8%	13	0.3%	16	0.3%
Northern	22	0.7%	18	0.6%	27	0.8%	32	1.0%	13	0.4%	7	0.2%	6	0.2%
Central	8	0.2%	13	0.3%	16	0.4%	23	0.6%	17	0.4%	13	0.3%	4	0.1%
Southern	14	0.6%	23	1.0%	18	0.8%	21	1.0%	15	0.7%	14	0.6%	7	0.3%

Male	64	0.8%	63	0.8%	57	0.7%	73	0.9%	45	0.6%	29	0.4%	17	0.2%
Female	33	0.5%	36	0.5%	41	0.6%	57	0.8%	38	0.6%	19	0.3%	16	0.2%

0 to 2	0	0.0%	4	0.1%	4	0.1%	7	0.2%	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
3 to 5	2	0.1%	5	0.1%	2	0.1%	2	0.1%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
6 to 11	10	0.2%	13	0.3%	25	0.6%	33	0.8%	9	0.2%	0	0.0%	3	0.1%
12 to 17	85	2.1%	77	1.9%	67	1.7%	88	2.2%	71	1.8%	48	1.3%	30	0.8%

African American	60	0.8%	64	0.9%	44	0.6%	73	1.0%	42	0.6%	24	0.4%	21	0.3%
White	30	0.5%	29	0.5%	46	0.7%	47	0.8%	31	0.5%	23	0.4%	7	0.1%
Hispanic	7	0.8%	5	0.6%	4	0.4%	8	0.8%	10	0.9%	0	0.0%	3	0.2%
Other Ethnicity	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	4	1.3%	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	2	0.6%

End of Year Placement: Group Home

Indicator 2.B.6	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in group homes.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in group homes	189	184	181	165	158	132	102
Percent	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	0.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	104	2.0%	90	1.8%	80	1.6%	77	1.5%	71	1.4%	54	1.1%	37	0.8%
Northern	42	1.4%	35	1.1%	47	1.4%	37	1.1%	35	1.1%	40	1.4%	23	0.9%
Central	41	0.9%	55	1.3%	48	1.2%	41	1.0%	43	1.0%	31	0.7%	34	0.8%
Southern	2	0.1%	4	0.2%	6	0.3%	10	0.5%	9	0.4%	7	0.3%	8	0.3%

Male	117	1.4%	128	1.6%	124	1.6%	107	1.4%	89	1.2%	68	0.9%	61	0.8%
Female	72	1.0%	56	0.8%	57	0.8%	58	0.8%	69	1.0%	64	0.9%	41	0.6%

0 to 2	3	0.1%	3	0.1%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	4	0.1%	3	0.1%	2	0.1%
3 to 5	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	2	0.1%	3	0.1%
6 to 11	16	0.4%	13	0.3%	17	0.4%	15	0.3%	12	0.3%	13	0.3%	12	0.3%
12 to 17	169	4.1%	167	4.2%	162	4.1%	149	3.7%	141	3.6%	114	3.0%	85	2.4%

African American	107	1.4%	102	1.4%	100	1.4%	97	1.3%	81	1.2%	72	1.1%	47	0.7%
White	64	1.0%	62	1.0%	67	1.1%	55	0.9%	66	1.1%	46	0.8%	46	0.8%
Hispanic	15	1.7%	17	2.0%	11	1.2%	8	0.8%	10	0.9%	12	1.0%	8	0.6%
Other Ethnicity	3	1.2%	3	1.0%	3	0.9%	5	1.6%	1	0.3%	2	0.6%	1	0.3%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

End of Year Placement: Institution

Indicator 2.B.7	Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in institutions.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children in substitute care at end of year	15,277	14,717	14,674	14,711	14,408	14,283	13,989
Children in institutions	1,022	1,035	985	1,036	985	888	801
Percent	6.7%	7.0%	6.7%	7.0%	6.8%	6.2%	5.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	425	8.1%	427	8.5%	392	7.8%	382	7.5%	382	7.6%	313	6.3%	266	5.6%
Northern	182	5.9%	200	6.5%	202	6.2%	225	6.8%	214	6.9%	188	6.4%	158	5.9%
Central	277	6.2%	272	6.5%	257	6.2%	282	6.8%	248	6.0%	249	6.0%	246	5.9%
Southern	138	5.8%	136	5.6%	134	6.0%	147	6.7%	141	6.6%	138	6.2%	131	5.5%

Male	675	8.3%	694	8.9%	664	8.5%	691	8.9%	684	9.0%	621	8.3%	528	7.2%
Female	347	4.9%	341	4.9%	320	4.6%	345	4.9%	301	4.4%	267	3.9%	273	4.1%

0 to 2	6	0.2%	6	0.2%	3	0.1%	4	0.1%	6	0.2%	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
3 to 5	8	0.2%	8	0.2%	8	0.2%	6	0.2%	8	0.3%	4	0.1%	3	0.1%
6 to 11	122	2.8%	141	3.4%	111	2.6%	128	2.9%	149	3.5%	124	3.0%	105	2.5%
12 to 17	886	21.4%	880	22.0%	863	21.7%	898	22.5%	822	21.0%	758	19.8%	691	19.2%

African American	563	7.4%	557	7.7%	541	7.5%	558	7.7%	526	7.5%	457	6.7%	411	6.4%
White	397	6.1%	414	6.5%	381	6.1%	414	6.7%	387	6.5%	370	6.2%	348	5.8%
Hispanic	46	5.2%	45	5.3%	47	5.1%	52	5.1%	61	5.4%	51	4.3%	34	2.7%
Other Ethnicity	16	6.2%	19	6.4%	16	5.0%	12	3.8%	11	3.2%	10	3.0%	8	2.3%

Initial Placement with Siblings

Indicator 2.C	Of all children entering substitute care and initially placed in kinship or traditional foster homes, the percentage that was placed with their siblings in their initial placement.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Kinship Foster Care	1–2 siblings						
Children with 1–2 siblings	1,087	1,137	1,124	1,298	1,371	1,370	1,437
Children initially placed with all siblings	886	922	870	1,049	1,112	1,094	1,145
Percent	81.5%	81.1%	77.4%	80.8%	81.1%	79.9%	79.7%
Traditional Foster Care	1–2 siblings						
Children with 1–2 siblings	472	477	420	408	471	370	459
Children initially placed with all siblings	294	316	279	254	286	256	301
Percent	62.3%	66.2%	66.4%	62.3%	60.7%	69.2%	65.6%
Kinship Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	446	490	509	531	584	638	641
Children initially placed with all siblings	215	264	272	302	305	310	284
Percent	48.2%	53.9%	53.4%	56.9%	52.2%	48.6%	44.3%
Traditional Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	212	148	210	215	170	143	209
Children initially placed with all siblings	16	0	4	9	16	12	28
Percent	7.5%	0.0%	1.9%	4.2%	9.4%	8.4%	13.4%

B

End of Year Placement with Siblings

Indicator 2.D	Of all children in kinship or traditional foster homes at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed with their siblings.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Kinship Foster Care	1–2 siblings						
Children with 1–2 siblings	2,987	3,042	2,983	3,103	3,116	3,306	3,430
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	2,139	2,230	2,153	2,253	2,257	2,372	2,458
Percent	71.6%	73.3%	72.2%	72.6%	72.4%	71.7%	71.7%
Traditional Foster Care	1–2 siblings						
Children with 1–2 siblings	2,125	1,970	1,948	1,970	2,003	1,896	1,768
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	1,260	1,168	1,161	1,134	1,120	1,068	1,067
Percent	59.3%	59.3%	59.6%	57.6%	55.9%	56.3%	60.4%
Kinship Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	1,448	1,346	1,436	1,521	1,546	1,527	1,561
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	524	409	509	494	570	540	559
Percent	36.2%	30.4%	35.4%	32.5%	36.9%	35.4%	35.8%
Traditional Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	1,027	1,046	1,059	1,139	1,023	950	945
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	90	112	115	116	91	68	90
Percent	8.8%	10.7%	10.9%	10.2%	8.9%	7.2%	9.5%

Placement Stability (CFSR)

Indicator 2.E	Of all children who entered substitute care during the fiscal year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of care.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,279	4,318	4,355	4,494	4,741	4,389	4,563
Days in substitute care	670,391	678,418	668,206	713,756	763,706	704,770	725,209
Placement moves	3,560	3,626	3,259	3,271	3,485	2,790	2,991
Placement moves per 1,000 days in substitute care	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.0	4.1

	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days
Cook	7.5	8.0	6.3	5.5	5.3	4.6	4.1
Northern	4.8	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.3	3.7	4.1
Central	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.2	3.7	3.6	4.2
Southern	5.6	4.9	4.9	4.7	5.3	3.8	4.0

Male	5.4	5.5	4.8	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.2
Female	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.1	4.1

0 to 2	3.7	3.7	3.8	2.8	3.2	2.8	2.8
3 to 5	3.8	4.1	4.2	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.4
6 to 11	4.9	5.0	4.2	4.3	4.3	3.6	4.1
12 to 17	10.4	10.3	8.3	9.1	8.2	7.5	7.8

African American	6.3	6.7	6.2	5.7	5.6	4.8	5.1
White	4.4	4.2	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.4
Hispanic	6.9	6.3	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0
Other Ethnicity	4.7	4.9	6.2	3.9	3.8	3.6	4.6

Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care

Indicator 2.F	Of all children ages 12 to 17 entering substitute care, the percentage that run away from a substitute care placement during their first year.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children entering substitute care between age 12 to 17	1,017	970	1,008	1,001	1,040	1,036	935
Children who run away during their first year	225	226	243	205	230	225	178
Percent	22.1%	23.3%	24.1%	20.5%	22.1%	21.7%	19.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	126	35.8%	130	37.6%	141	34.6%	121	34.5%	124	32.8%	117	32.9%	92	30.0%
Northern	35	17.0%	38	19.6%	30	14.6%	44	18.5%	32	15.0%	37	16.4%	33	18.8%
Central	39	12.6%	29	10.9%	45	17.7%	24	8.7%	47	16.8%	39	12.9%	34	12.0%
Southern	25	16.8%	29	17.6%	27	19.0%	16	11.9%	27	16.0%	32	21.2%	19	11.2%

Male	119	21.9%	123	25.7%	132	25.1%	92	18.8%	113	20.9%	117	23.5%	79	16.9%
Female	106	22.4%	103	20.9%	111	23.0%	113	22.1%	117	23.4%	108	20.1%	99	21.2%

12 to 14	83	16.4%	73	15.3%	69	13.7%	67	12.8%	75	13.9%	73	13.3%	47	9.7%
15 to 17	142	27.8%	153	31.0%	174	34.5%	138	28.8%	155	30.9%	152	31.1%	131	29.1%

African American	151	29.9%	145	29.2%	156	31.1%	134	28.5%	150	29.2%	142	27.7%	103	25.6%
White	61	14.3%	58	14.8%	71	17.1%	51	11.7%	62	14.4%	61	14.4%	61	14.0%
Hispanic	8	15.4%	18	29.5%	9	13.8%	15	22.1%	15	19.7%	21	26.9%	12	14.8%
Other Ethnicity	5	15.2%	5	23.8%	7	26.9%	5	19.2%	3	15.8%	1	4.3%	2	12.5%

Median Length of Stay in Substitute Care

Indicator 2.G	The median length of stay in substitute care of all children who enter substitute care during the fiscal year.						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Children entering substitute care	5,252	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838
Median length of stay (in months)	36	34	34	34	34	33	34

	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months
Cook	1,499	50	1,166	47	1,351	46	1,122	51	1,361	48	1,280	47	1,368	46
Northern	1,057	35	1,154	35	1,000	31	1,011	32	1,060	33	1,187	29	1,079	32
Central	1,885	28	1,762	28	1,734	28	1,648	29	1,452	30	1,549	29	1,551	30
Southern	811	32	840	31	902	33	940	30	888	27	730	26	840	27

Male	2,727	36	2,486	35	2,633	34	2,418	34	2,431	35	2,443	32	2,471	35
Female	2,516	35	2,433	32	2,353	34	2,303	35	2,331	34	2,304	33	2,367	34

0 to 2	2,089	35	1,974	35	2,065	33	1,878	34	1,880	34	1,898	32	1,828	33
3 to 5	921	33	810	30	859	30	850	31	860	32	802	30	787	33
6 to 11	1,184	32	1,121	32	1,046	30	1,023	29	1,015	33	1,045	30	1,183	33
12 to 17	1,058	43	1,017	39	1,017	44	970	44	1,008	41	1,001	43	1,040	42

African American	2,400	43	2,204	37	2,162	40	2,042	40	2,057	41	2,029	39	2,138	39
White	2,420	30	2,329	31	2,447	30	2,324	30	2,319	30	2,248	28	2,248	31
Hispanic	313	38	276	36	267	37	244	38	266	39	349	39	340	39
Other Ethnicity	119	21	113	28	111	28	111	32	121	27	121	29	112	30

Reunification Within 12 Months

Indicator 3.A.1	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children entering substitute care	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090	4,635
Children reunified within 12 months	688	687	628	669	644	713	642
Percent	13.8%	14.6%	13.2%	14.1%	13.3%	14.0%	13.9%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	85	6.3%	51	4.5%	82	6.0%	79	6.2%	77	5.6%	108	7.2%	57	4.6%
Northern	164	16.4%	207	20.5%	155	14.6%	197	16.6%	210	19.5%	178	17.0%	166	18.3%
Central	299	17.2%	261	15.8%	213	14.7%	250	16.1%	199	12.8%	265	15.9%	288	18.0%
Southern	140	15.5%	168	17.9%	178	20.0%	143	19.6%	158	18.8%	162	18.5%	131	14.9%

Male	366	13.9%	363	15.0%	301	12.4%	350	14.3%	318	12.9%	348	13.5%	340	14.2%
Female	322	13.7%	324	14.1%	327	14.0%	319	13.8%	326	13.8%	365	14.5%	302	13.5%

0 to 2	246	11.9%	218	11.6%	202	10.7%	246	13.0%	210	11.5%	269	13.1%	246	13.2%
3 to 5	131	15.3%	141	16.6%	136	15.8%	131	16.3%	112	14.2%	129	14.9%	117	15.2%
6 to 11	186	17.8%	200	19.6%	159	15.7%	185	17.7%	197	16.7%	189	16.5%	172	16.2%
12 to 17	125	12.3%	128	13.2%	131	13.0%	107	10.7%	125	12.0%	126	12.2%	107	11.4%

African American	229	10.6%	266	13.0%	194	9.4%	238	11.7%	233	10.9%	276	12.3%	226	12.0%
White	387	15.8%	373	16.0%	381	16.4%	370	16.5%	339	15.1%	347	15.5%	342	15.2%
Hispanic	42	15.7%	33	13.5%	36	13.5%	38	10.9%	52	15.3%	63	13.6%	56	14.0%
Other Ethnicity	30	27.0%	15	13.5%	17	14.0%	23	19.0%	20	17.9%	27	18.8%	18	17.8%

Reunification Within 24 Months

Indicator 3.A.2	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 24 months.						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Children entering substitute care	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090
Children reunified within 24 months	1,440	1,408	1,334	1,314	1,407	1,339	1,402
Percent	29.3%	28.2%	28.3%	27.6%	29.6%	27.7%	27.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	159	13.6%	179	13.2%	133	11.9%	168	12.3%	172	13.4%	185	13.5%	229	15.3%
Northern	340	29.5%	349	34.9%	354	35.0%	334	31.5%	416	35.0%	374	34.7%	361	34.4%
Central	654	37.1%	619	35.7%	534	32.4%	493	34.0%	554	35.8%	483	31.1%	541	32.5%
Southern	287	34.2%	261	28.9%	313	33.3%	319	35.9%	264	36.2%	297	35.4%	271	30.9%

Male	698	28.1%	738	28.0%	697	28.8%	658	27.1%	740	30.3%	661	26.8%	699	27.1%
Female	740	30.4%	670	28.5%	637	27.7%	656	28.1%	667	28.9%	678	28.6%	703	28.0%

0 to 2	498	25.2%	523	25.3%	458	24.4%	450	23.9%	533	28.1%	461	25.2%	546	26.6%
3 to 5	283	34.9%	286	33.3%	284	33.4%	286	33.3%	273	34.0%	248	31.5%	263	30.5%
6 to 11	390	34.8%	369	35.3%	378	37.0%	338	33.3%	390	37.3%	396	33.5%	358	31.3%
12 to 17	269	26.5%	230	22.6%	214	22.1%	240	23.8%	211	21.1%	234	22.5%	235	22.7%

African American	564	25.6%	468	21.6%	514	25.2%	409	19.9%	513	25.3%	515	24.1%	547	24.4%
White	773	33.2%	819	33.5%	707	30.4%	794	34.2%	768	34.2%	699	31.1%	670	29.8%
Hispanic	65	23.6%	80	30.0%	81	33.2%	82	30.8%	83	23.8%	90	26.5%	147	31.7%
Other Ethnicity	38	33.6%	41	36.9%	32	28.8%	29	24.0%	43	35.5%	35	31.3%	38	26.4%

Reunification Within 36 Months

Indicator 3.A.3	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 36 months.						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Children entering substitute care	5,252	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838
Children reunified within 36 months	1,770	1,889	1,813	1,698	1,701	1,817	1,664
Percent	33.7%	38.4%	36.4%	36.0%	35.7%	38.3%	34.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	242	16.1%	227	19.5%	279	20.7%	194	17.3%	268	19.7%	288	22.5%	278	20.3%
Northern	408	38.6%	474	41.1%	418	41.8%	445	44.0%	428	40.4%	514	43.3%	430	39.9%
Central	803	42.6%	817	46.4%	764	44.1%	666	40.4%	612	42.1%	714	46.1%	607	39.1%
Southern	317	39.1%	371	44.2%	352	39.0%	393	41.8%	391	44.0%	300	41.1%	349	41.5%

Male	914	33.5%	907	36.5%	954	36.2%	886	36.6%	867	35.7%	950	38.9%	830	33.6%
Female	854	33.9%	980	40.3%	859	36.5%	812	35.3%	834	35.8%	867	37.6%	834	35.2%

0 to 2	649	31.1%	685	34.7%	692	33.5%	597	31.8%	601	32.0%	676	35.6%	581	31.8%
3 to 5	349	37.9%	380	46.9%	371	43.2%	376	44.2%	375	43.6%	361	45.0%	306	38.9%
6 to 11	481	40.6%	489	43.6%	471	45.0%	468	45.7%	434	42.8%	498	47.7%	489	41.3%
12 to 17	291	27.5%	335	32.9%	279	27.4%	257	26.5%	291	28.9%	282	28.2%	288	27.7%

African American	578	24.1%	748	33.9%	609	28.2%	642	31.4%	575	28.0%	684	33.7%	652	30.5%
White	1,022	42.2%	973	41.8%	1,039	42.5%	923	39.7%	972	41.9%	958	42.6%	851	37.9%
Hispanic	108	34.5%	112	40.6%	112	41.9%	95	38.9%	111	41.7%	125	35.8%	121	35.6%
Other Ethnicity	62	52.1%	56	49.6%	53	47.7%	38	34.2%	43	35.5%	50	41.3%	40	35.7%

Stability of Reunification at One Year

Indicator 3.B.1	Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at one year.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children reunified	2,056	2,154	2,164	1,988	1,967	2,108	1,923
Children stable at one year	1,940	2,051	2,040	1,846	1,874	2,001	1,786
Percent	94.4%	95.2%	94.3%	92.9%	95.3%	94.9%	92.9%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	341	91.2%	313	96.3%	342	93.4%	339	95.0%	321	94.7%	363	90.8%	332	92.0%
Northern	422	93.0%	471	93.5%	511	90.9%	431	92.3%	497	95.4%	579	95.7%	414	94.3%
Central	852	97.4%	876	95.5%	780	97.1%	628	91.7%	662	95.8%	684	96.1%	724	92.8%
Southern	325	92.1%	391	95.8%	407	94.0%	448	93.5%	394	94.7%	375	95.9%	316	92.1%

Male	970	94.4%	1,038	95.5%	1,030	93.3%	962	93.2%	1,013	95.7%	1,006	94.9%	948	93.9%
Female	970	94.3%	1,010	94.9%	1,008	95.3%	884	92.5%	861	94.8%	995	94.9%	838	91.8%

0 to 2	394	91.8%	401	94.1%	388	93.9%	333	90.2%	369	91.6%	429	93.7%	401	91.8%
3 to 5	480	95.8%	525	96.2%	512	94.3%	465	93.4%	469	96.3%	468	95.3%	411	93.0%
6 to 11	637	95.5%	695	96.3%	694	94.7%	680	93.4%	663	96.8%	685	95.4%	586	94.4%
12 to 17	429	93.5%	430	93.5%	446	93.9%	368	93.6%	373	95.2%	419	95.0%	388	91.7%

African American	780	95.2%	816	94.9%	782	91.9%	663	92.3%	683	95.9%	817	93.9%	751	92.8%
White	1,004	93.9%	1,060	95.0%	1,080	95.5%	1,011	93.0%	1,009	94.2%	973	95.7%	839	92.6%
Hispanic	94	93.1%	120	97.6%	136	98.6%	122	93.8%	129	100.0%	170	94.4%	148	94.9%
Other Ethnicity	62	92.5%	55	100.0%	42	95.5%	50	94.3%	53	96.4%	41	100.0%	48	92.3%

Stability of Reunification at Two Years

Indicator 3.B.2	Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Children reunified	1,966	2,056	2,154	2,164	1,988	1,967	2,108
Children stable at two years	1,816	1,903	2,000	1,991	1,805	1,830	1,962
Percent	92.4%	92.6%	92.9%	92.0%	90.8%	93.0%	93.1%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	352	93.1%	333	89.0%	313	96.3%	336	91.8%	336	94.1%	312	92.0%	358	89.5%
Northern	425	92.8%	413	91.0%	457	90.7%	495	88.1%	417	89.3%	483	92.7%	564	93.2%
Central	740	91.0%	843	96.3%	848	92.5%	767	95.5%	614	89.6%	652	94.4%	672	94.4%
Southern	299	94.3%	314	89.0%	382	93.6%	393	90.8%	438	91.4%	383	92.1%	368	94.1%

Male	952	92.6%	958	93.3%	1,017	93.6%	1,006	91.1%	938	90.9%	992	93.7%	988	93.2%
Female	859	92.2%	945	91.8%	980	92.1%	983	92.9%	867	90.7%	838	92.3%	974	92.9%

0 to 2	342	91.0%	387	90.2%	384	90.1%	377	91.3%	323	87.5%	356	88.3%	419	91.5%
3 to 5	428	92.8%	468	93.4%	516	94.5%	504	92.8%	460	92.4%	460	94.5%	458	93.3%
6 to 11	637	93.0%	622	93.3%	678	93.9%	674	92.0%	662	90.9%	647	94.5%	675	94.0%
12 to 17	409	92.1%	426	92.8%	422	91.7%	436	91.8%	360	91.6%	367	93.6%	410	93.0%

African American	688	92.0%	763	93.2%	797	92.7%	765	89.9%	646	90.0%	667	93.7%	808	92.9%
White	926	91.9%	984	92.0%	1,033	92.6%	1,052	93.0%	988	90.9%	986	92.1%	945	92.9%
Hispanic	158	97.5%	94	93.1%	115	93.5%	134	97.1%	121	93.1%	124	96.1%	168	93.3%
Other Ethnicity	44	91.7%	62	92.5%	55	100.0%	40	90.9%	50	94.3%	53	96.4%	41	100.0%

Stability of Reunification at Five Years

Indicator 3.B.3	Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.						
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Children reunified	1,968	1,866	1,840	1,966	2,056	2,154	2,164
Children stable at five years	1,707	1,653	1,625	1,724	1,819	1,926	1,912
Percent	86.7%	88.6%	88.3%	87.7%	88.5%	89.4%	88.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	416	87.9%	375	86.2%	257	89.2%	334	88.4%	328	87.7%	303	93.2%	319	87.2%
Northern	329	89.4%	381	88.2%	320	88.6%	406	88.6%	391	86.1%	445	88.3%	476	84.7%
Central	587	85.4%	571	91.7%	708	89.5%	702	86.3%	807	92.2%	809	88.2%	742	92.4%
Southern	375	85.2%	326	86.7%	340	85.0%	282	89.0%	293	83.0%	369	90.4%	375	86.6%

Male	859	86.7%	860	88.3%	859	88.4%	899	87.5%	923	89.9%	987	90.8%	969	87.8%
Female	847	86.8%	793	88.9%	762	88.3%	820	88.0%	896	87.1%	936	88.0%	941	88.9%

0 to 2	321	85.4%	273	84.5%	314	83.3%	325	86.4%	370	86.2%	365	85.7%	360	87.2%
3 to 5	384	83.5%	366	88.4%	391	90.7%	395	85.7%	440	87.8%	492	90.1%	482	88.8%
6 to 11	563	87.4%	571	90.1%	512	87.7%	604	88.2%	589	88.3%	650	90.0%	641	87.4%
12 to 17	439	90.0%	443	89.5%	408	91.1%	400	90.1%	420	91.5%	419	91.1%	429	90.3%

African American	676	84.1%	657	85.4%	561	87.4%	636	85.0%	732	89.4%	764	88.8%	728	85.5%
White	901	88.7%	855	90.2%	892	88.1%	898	89.1%	935	87.5%	995	89.2%	1,014	89.7%
Hispanic	109	85.8%	86	92.5%	107	92.2%	147	90.7%	91	90.1%	113	91.9%	130	94.2%
Other Ethnicity	21	100.0%	55	98.2%	65	94.2%	43	89.6%	61	91.0%	54	98.2%	40	90.9%

Stability of Reunification at Ten Years

Indicator 3.B.4	Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children reunified	2,740	2,763	2,438	2,025	2,052	1,968	1,866
Children stable at ten years	2,364	2,374	2,035	1,701	1,753	1,654	1,602
Percent	86.3%	85.9%	83.5%	84.0%	85.4%	84.0%	85.9%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	934	86.0%	789	83.6%	627	82.1%	518	84.2%	461	83.2%	408	86.3%	365	83.9%
Northern	449	88.2%	427	90.1%	374	92.6%	318	88.3%	326	87.9%	322	87.5%	370	85.6%
Central	722	86.1%	869	86.0%	768	81.8%	566	83.5%	652	87.4%	559	81.4%	549	88.1%
Southern	259	84.6%	289	86.5%	266	80.4%	299	80.4%	314	82.4%	365	83.0%	318	84.6%

Male	1,160	85.3%	1,253	85.8%	1,068	83.0%	901	84.0%	905	84.7%	837	84.5%	839	86.1%
Female	1,203	87.2%	1,121	86.1%	965	83.9%	799	83.9%	846	86.2%	816	83.6%	763	85.5%

0 to 2	360	85.3%	364	77.6%	340	80.2%	280	78.7%	309	81.7%	310	82.4%	259	80.2%
3 to 5	435	81.8%	451	83.4%	377	79.9%	311	79.9%	345	80.4%	361	78.5%	348	84.1%
6 to 11	859	85.1%	835	87.0%	703	82.7%	551	83.6%	586	85.5%	544	84.5%	552	87.1%
12 to 17	710	91.4%	724	91.3%	615	88.9%	559	90.0%	513	91.6%	439	90.0%	443	89.5%

African American	1,236	85.7%	1,158	84.5%	969	82.5%	700	84.4%	703	82.4%	653	81.2%	633	82.3%
White	896	85.9%	971	87.0%	858	84.0%	804	82.4%	860	86.8%	871	85.7%	833	87.9%
Hispanic	169	91.8%	171	90.0%	152	87.4%	129	87.8%	129	91.5%	109	85.8%	82	88.2%
Other Ethnicity	63	90.0%	74	85.1%	56	83.6%	68	93.2%	61	91.0%	21	100.0%	54	96.4%

Adoption Within 24 Months

Indicator 3.C.1	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months.						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Children entering substitute care	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090
Children adopted within 24 months	156	156	196	142	164	178	225
Percent	3.2%	3.1%	4.2%	3.0%	3.5%	3.7%	4.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	36	3.1%	33	2.4%	36	3.2%	35	2.6%	31	2.4%	25	1.8%	29	1.9%
Northern	25	2.2%	17	1.7%	18	1.8%	25	2.4%	36	3.0%	21	1.9%	62	5.9%
Central	80	4.5%	81	4.7%	98	5.9%	41	2.8%	65	4.2%	82	5.3%	92	5.5%
Southern	15	1.8%	25	2.8%	44	4.7%	41	4.6%	32	4.4%	50	6.0%	42	4.8%

Male	81	3.3%	78	3.0%	102	4.2%	64	2.6%	80	3.3%	100	4.0%	107	4.1%
Female	75	3.1%	78	3.3%	94	4.1%	78	3.3%	84	3.6%	78	3.3%	118	4.7%

0 to 2	109	5.5%	115	5.6%	133	7.1%	101	5.4%	128	6.7%	132	7.2%	164	8.0%
3 to 5	25	3.1%	27	3.1%	30	3.5%	21	2.4%	19	2.4%	27	3.4%	32	3.7%
6 to 11	19	1.7%	12	1.1%	26	2.5%	17	1.7%	13	1.2%	13	1.1%	22	1.9%
12 to 17	3	0.3%	2	0.2%	7	0.7%	3	0.3%	4	0.4%	6	0.6%	7	0.7%

African American	62	2.8%	55	2.5%	68	3.3%	40	1.9%	64	3.2%	55	2.6%	80	3.6%
White	87	3.7%	95	3.9%	118	5.1%	85	3.7%	90	4.0%	113	5.0%	134	6.0%
Hispanic	5	1.8%	4	1.5%	5	2.0%	3	1.1%	3	0.9%	3	0.9%	7	1.5%
Other Ethnicity	2	1.8%	2	1.8%	5	4.5%	14	11.6%	7	5.8%	7	6.3%	4	2.8%

Adoption Within 36 Months

Indicator 3.C.2	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months.						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Children entering substitute care	5,252	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838
Children adopted within 36 months	516	438	514	519	542	560	606
Percent	9.8%	8.9%	10.3%	11.0%	11.4%	11.8%	12.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	98	6.5%	73	6.3%	80	5.9%	65	5.8%	85	6.2%	61	4.8%	72	5.3%
Northern	89	8.4%	74	6.4%	85	8.5%	90	8.9%	119	11.2%	142	12.0%	169	15.7%
Central	262	13.9%	229	13.0%	262	15.1%	251	15.2%	204	14.0%	224	14.5%	255	16.4%
Southern	67	8.3%	62	7.4%	87	9.6%	113	12.0%	134	15.1%	133	18.2%	110	13.1%

Male	257	9.4%	226	9.1%	262	10.0%	261	10.8%	252	10.4%	279	11.4%	310	12.5%
Female	259	10.3%	211	8.7%	252	10.7%	258	11.2%	290	12.4%	281	12.2%	296	12.5%

0 to 2	359	17.2%	318	16.1%	385	18.6%	358	19.1%	383	20.4%	392	20.7%	406	22.2%
3 to 5	75	8.1%	60	7.4%	74	8.6%	75	8.8%	95	11.0%	89	11.1%	101	12.8%
6 to 11	63	5.3%	56	5.0%	46	4.4%	75	7.3%	53	5.2%	68	6.5%	84	7.1%
12 to 17	19	1.8%	4	0.4%	9	0.9%	11	1.1%	11	1.1%	11	1.1%	15	1.4%

African American	204	8.5%	153	6.9%	192	8.9%	156	7.6%	150	7.3%	165	8.1%	195	9.1%
White	281	11.6%	267	11.5%	299	12.2%	342	14.7%	360	15.5%	363	16.1%	373	16.6%
Hispanic	21	6.7%	11	4.0%	13	4.9%	8	3.3%	7	2.6%	15	4.3%	17	5.0%
Other Ethnicity	10	8.4%	7	6.2%	10	9.0%	13	11.7%	25	20.7%	17	14.0%	21	18.8%

Stability of Adoption at Two Years

Indicator 3.D.1	Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Children adopted	1,457	1,368	1,217	1,757	1,500	1,540	1,870
Children stable at two years	1,406	1,338	1,186	1,700	1,454	1,507	1,822
Percent	96.5%	97.8%	97.5%	96.8%	96.9%	97.9%	97.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	520	93.2%	452	95.8%	334	97.4%	452	94.6%	381	94.3%	313	96.3%	486	95.9%
Northern	214	99.5%	288	99.0%	202	99.0%	331	99.4%	280	98.2%	363	99.2%	402	98.3%
Central	472	97.5%	425	99.1%	430	96.4%	647	98.8%	531	98.0%	548	97.9%	575	98.6%
Southern	200	100.0%	173	98.3%	220	98.2%	270	92.8%	262	97.4%	283	97.9%	359	96.8%

Male	701	96.6%	689	98.0%	569	96.8%	884	97.0%	727	97.6%	796	97.8%	920	97.1%
Female	699	96.4%	643	97.6%	616	98.1%	814	96.4%	727	96.3%	711	97.9%	902	97.7%

0 to 2	276	100.0%	234	99.2%	180	99.4%	238	97.5%	206	99.0%	214	99.5%	269	99.6%
3 to 5	481	99.0%	482	99.2%	432	98.6%	616	98.9%	531	98.3%	546	99.1%	658	99.4%
6 to 11	497	96.5%	471	96.9%	433	97.5%	647	97.1%	545	97.5%	555	98.6%	710	97.7%
12 to 17	152	84.4%	151	94.4%	141	91.6%	199	88.8%	172	89.1%	192	91.0%	185	87.7%

African American	751	94.6%	679	96.4%	518	95.9%	768	95.8%	644	95.7%	621	97.5%	763	96.3%
White	547	99.5%	567	99.3%	591	98.5%	818	97.4%	713	97.9%	793	98.5%	944	98.3%
Hispanic	73	94.8%	66	98.5%	63	100.0%	95	100.0%	67	98.5%	53	94.6%	67	97.1%
Other Ethnicity	35	97.2%	26	100.0%	14	100.0%	19	95.0%	30	96.8%	40	95.2%	48	98.0%

Stability of Adoption at Five Years

Indicator 3.D.2	Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.						
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Children adopted	1,744	1,783	1,568	1,457	1,368	1,217	1,757
Children stable at five years	1,656	1,692	1,476	1,368	1,304	1,159	1,654
Percent	95.0%	94.9%	94.1%	93.9%	95.3%	95.2%	94.1%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	765	91.5%	657	91.4%	543	90.7%	509	91.2%	435	92.2%	330	96.2%	442	92.5%
Northern	249	98.0%	301	95.6%	274	98.2%	211	98.1%	284	97.6%	197	96.6%	325	97.6%
Central	444	98.0%	527	97.2%	492	95.5%	461	95.2%	418	97.4%	424	95.1%	624	95.3%
Southern	194	98.5%	202	100.0%	167	95.4%	187	93.5%	167	94.9%	208	92.9%	263	90.4%

Male	842	94.7%	876	94.0%	755	94.0%	683	94.1%	676	96.2%	558	94.9%	857	94.1%
Female	813	95.2%	815	95.9%	719	94.2%	679	93.7%	622	94.4%	600	95.5%	795	94.2%

0 to 2	316	99.4%	328	96.8%	297	98.0%	270	97.8%	233	98.7%	179	98.9%	235	96.3%
3 to 5	555	98.1%	627	98.1%	502	97.1%	473	97.3%	477	98.1%	424	96.8%	605	97.1%
6 to 11	556	93.0%	542	94.8%	518	93.3%	473	91.8%	446	91.8%	420	94.6%	620	93.1%
12 to 17	229	87.4%	195	83.7%	159	82.4%	152	84.4%	148	92.5%	136	88.3%	194	86.6%

African American	947	92.8%	875	92.1%	739	91.3%	732	92.2%	662	94.0%	510	94.4%	739	92.1%
White	600	98.2%	671	98.2%	595	96.6%	529	96.2%	554	97.0%	573	95.5%	802	95.5%
Hispanic	74	98.7%	94	95.9%	89	100.0%	72	93.5%	62	92.5%	62	98.4%	94	98.9%
Other Ethnicity	35	92.1%	52	100.0%	53	98.1%	35	97.2%	26	100.0%	14	100.0%	19	95.0%

Stability of Adoption at Ten Years

Indicator 3.D.3	Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children adopted	4,378	3,525	2,963	2,290	1,977	1,744	1,783
Children stable at ten years	4,002	3,209	2,690	2,084	1,820	1,622	1,645
Percent	91.4%	91.0%	90.8%	91.0%	92.1%	93.0%	92.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	2,727	90.0%	2,078	89.1%	1,653	87.6%	1,172	88.1%	937	87.5%	738	88.3%	630	87.6%
Northern	497	94.5%	398	97.3%	399	96.1%	278	96.9%	241	97.2%	249	98.0%	293	93.0%
Central	587	94.8%	584	94.7%	463	96.7%	456	93.4%	436	97.3%	439	96.9%	517	95.4%
Southern	187	94.4%	146	90.7%	171	96.1%	171	96.6%	204	98.1%	193	98.0%	200	99.0%

Male	2,018	91.6%	1,604	91.0%	1,357	90.9%	1,044	90.6%	937	91.8%	827	93.0%	851	91.3%
Female	1,979	91.2%	1,602	91.1%	1,329	90.7%	1,040	91.4%	883	92.4%	794	93.0%	793	93.3%

0 to 2	486	92.4%	526	98.0%	439	94.6%	387	96.0%	329	94.5%	315	99.1%	327	96.5%
3 to 5	1,156	93.2%	902	93.1%	791	92.7%	608	93.8%	561	93.8%	540	95.4%	608	95.1%
6 to 11	1,764	89.8%	1,281	88.1%	1,057	89.7%	743	88.7%	667	90.5%	538	90.0%	516	90.2%
12 to 17	595	92.2%	500	88.5%	403	86.3%	346	86.3%	263	89.5%	229	87.4%	194	83.3%

African American	3,049	90.2%	2,320	89.1%	1,786	88.3%	1,362	88.0%	1,088	89.0%	915	89.7%	846	89.1%
White	678	95.5%	655	97.2%	689	97.0%	581	96.8%	589	97.8%	598	97.9%	664	97.2%
Hispanic	183	93.8%	181	93.8%	128	94.8%	82	97.6%	92	96.8%	74	98.7%	89	90.8%
Other Ethnicity	92	98.9%	53	96.4%	87	91.6%	59	100.0%	51	89.5%	35	92.1%	46	88.5%

Guardianship Within 24 Months

Indicator 3.E.1	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was taken into guardianship within 24 months.						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Children entering substitute care	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838	5,090
Children taken into guardianship within 24 months	54	22	33	29	36	37	44
Percent	1.1%	0.4%	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	41	3.5%	6	0.4%	6	0.5%	9	0.7%	8	0.6%	12	0.9%	10	0.7%
Northern	6	0.5%	1	0.1%	6	0.6%	2	0.2%	9	0.8%	4	0.4%	17	1.6%
Central	5	0.3%	14	0.8%	13	0.8%	4	0.3%	9	0.6%	10	0.6%	12	0.7%
Southern	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	8	0.9%	14	1.6%	10	1.4%	11	1.3%	5	0.6%

Male	30	1.2%	15	0.6%	16	0.7%	17	0.7%	11	0.5%	20	0.8%	22	0.9%
Female	24	1.0%	7	0.3%	17	0.7%	12	0.5%	25	1.1%	17	0.7%	22	0.9%

0 to 2	12	0.6%	8	0.4%	14	0.7%	9	0.5%	8	0.4%	8	0.4%	7	0.3%
3 to 5	14	1.7%	5	0.6%	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	7	0.9%	5	0.6%	6	0.7%
6 to 11	25	2.2%	9	0.9%	9	0.9%	8	0.8%	6	0.6%	10	0.8%	12	1.1%
12 to 17	3	0.3%	0	0.0%	8	0.8%	11	1.1%	15	1.5%	14	1.3%	19	1.8%

African American	42	1.9%	7	0.3%	12	0.6%	8	0.4%	9	0.4%	12	0.6%	13	0.6%
White	12	0.5%	14	0.6%	17	0.7%	19	0.8%	25	1.1%	22	1.0%	28	1.2%
Hispanic	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	4	1.6%	1	0.4%	2	0.6%	2	0.6%	1	0.2%
Other Ethnicity	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	2	1.4%

Guardianship Within 36 Months

Indicator 3.E.2	Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was taken into guardianship within 36 months.						
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Children entering substitute care	5,252	4,922	4,987	4,721	4,763	4,747	4,838
Children taken into guardianship within 36 months	161	114	114	104	135	134	144
Percent	3.1%	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%	2.8%	2.8%	3.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	72	4.8%	63	5.4%	43	3.2%	30	2.7%	46	3.4%	38	3.0%	48	3.5%
Northern	27	2.6%	21	1.8%	16	1.6%	21	2.1%	15	1.4%	29	2.4%	27	2.5%
Central	50	2.7%	24	1.4%	49	2.8%	36	2.2%	32	2.2%	41	2.6%	44	2.8%
Southern	12	1.5%	6	0.7%	6	0.7%	17	1.8%	42	4.7%	26	3.6%	25	3.0%

Male	79	2.9%	55	2.2%	62	2.4%	49	2.0%	69	2.8%	65	2.7%	82	3.3%
Female	82	3.3%	59	2.4%	52	2.2%	55	2.4%	66	2.8%	69	3.0%	62	2.6%

0 to 2	40	1.9%	35	1.8%	38	1.8%	44	2.3%	47	2.5%	35	1.8%	33	1.8%
3 to 5	34	3.7%	24	3.0%	23	2.7%	19	2.2%	18	2.1%	21	2.6%	25	3.2%
6 to 11	60	5.1%	47	4.2%	43	4.1%	28	2.7%	44	4.3%	40	3.8%	61	5.2%
12 to 17	27	2.6%	8	0.8%	10	1.0%	13	1.3%	26	2.6%	38	3.8%	25	2.4%

African American	101	4.2%	72	3.3%	49	2.3%	42	2.1%	59	2.9%	50	2.5%	64	3.0%
White	45	1.9%	37	1.6%	60	2.5%	51	2.2%	70	3.0%	66	2.9%	66	2.9%
Hispanic	9	2.9%	2	0.7%	5	1.9%	8	3.3%	3	1.1%	14	4.0%	11	3.2%
Other Ethnicity	6	5.0%	3	2.7%	0	0.0%	3	2.7%	3	2.5%	4	3.3%	3	2.7%

Stability of Guardianship at Two Years

Indicator 3.F.1	Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Children taken into guardianship	519	542	206	310	346	315	456
Children stable at two years	501	513	197	296	332	311	441
Percent	96.5%	94.6%	95.6%	95.5%	96.0%	98.7%	96.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	307	95.9%	265	97.1%	112	96.6%	135	96.4%	144	99.3%	128	100.0%	206	98.1%
Northern	73	94.8%	99	93.4%	46	95.8%	52	94.5%	56	96.6%	68	97.1%	86	94.5%
Central	95	100.0%	110	90.9%	30	93.8%	93	95.9%	94	94.9%	72	98.6%	78	94.0%
Southern	26	96.3%	39	92.9%	9	90.0%	16	88.9%	38	86.4%	43	97.7%	71	98.6%

Male	257	95.2%	272	94.1%	101	95.3%	160	94.1%	183	96.8%	168	99.4%	226	95.8%
Female	244	98.0%	241	95.3%	96	96.0%	136	97.1%	149	94.9%	143	97.9%	215	97.7%

0 to 2	18	100.0%	19	100.0%	12	100.0%	19	100.0%	20	100.0%	11	100.0%	22	100.0%
3 to 5	82	98.8%	75	96.2%	43	97.7%	70	98.6%	66	97.1%	82	100.0%	91	96.8%
6 to 11	172	98.3%	191	96.5%	89	97.8%	107	95.5%	143	96.6%	116	100.0%	178	98.9%
12 to 17	229	94.2%	228	92.3%	53	89.8%	100	92.6%	103	93.6%	102	96.2%	150	93.8%

African American	325	95.6%	313	94.8%	128	95.5%	158	95.2%	181	98.9%	159	98.8%	246	96.1%
White	152	98.1%	153	95.0%	54	94.7%	121	95.3%	126	91.3%	124	98.4%	156	96.9%
Hispanic	18	100.0%	34	94.4%	8	100.0%	16	100.0%	20	100.0%	22	100.0%	30	100.0%
Other Ethnicity	6	100.0%	13	86.7%	7	100.0%	1	100.0%	5	100.0%	6	100.0%	9	100.0%

Stability of Guardianship at Five Years

Indicator 3.F.2	Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.						
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Children taken into guardianship	578	578	473	519	542	206	310
Children stable at five years	499	517	408	466	475	175	272
Percent	86.3%	89.4%	86.3%	89.8%	87.6%	85.0%	87.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	329	87.3%	294	89.6%	240	87.6%	289	90.3%	244	89.4%	95	81.9%	124	88.6%
Northern	53	82.8%	69	94.5%	56	82.4%	69	89.6%	90	84.9%	42	87.5%	49	89.1%
Central	70	83.3%	105	84.7%	69	84.1%	82	86.3%	104	86.0%	29	90.6%	86	88.7%
Southern	47	88.7%	49	92.5%	43	87.8%	26	96.3%	37	88.1%	9	90.0%	13	72.2%

Male	271	87.1%	272	89.5%	208	85.2%	235	87.0%	252	87.2%	92	86.8%	147	86.5%
Female	228	85.4%	245	89.4%	199	87.3%	231	92.8%	223	88.1%	83	83.0%	125	89.3%

0 to 2	26	89.7%	27	100.0%	17	89.5%	18	100.0%	17	89.5%	10	83.3%	19	100.0%
3 to 5	71	88.8%	81	92.0%	61	93.8%	76	91.6%	72	92.3%	40	90.9%	66	93.0%
6 to 11	191	83.8%	172	85.1%	138	85.2%	157	89.7%	172	86.9%	78	85.7%	98	87.5%
12 to 17	211	87.6%	237	90.8%	192	84.6%	215	88.5%	214	86.6%	47	79.7%	89	82.4%

African American	361	85.3%	338	90.1%	283	85.0%	299	87.9%	287	87.0%	111	82.8%	147	88.6%
White	116	89.2%	158	87.8%	98	88.3%	143	92.3%	143	88.8%	52	91.2%	109	85.8%
Hispanic	20	87.0%	10	90.9%	22	100.0%	18	100.0%	34	94.4%	5	62.5%	15	93.8%
Other Ethnicity	2	100.0%	11	91.7%	5	71.4%	6	100.0%	11	73.3%	7	100.0%	1	100.0%

Stability of Guardianship at Ten Years

Indicator 3.F.3	Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children taken into guardianship	1,134	1,077	912	669	651	578	578
Children stable at ten years	916	911	716	556	506	433	486
Percent	80.8%	84.6%	78.5%	83.1%	77.7%	74.9%	84.1%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	698	81.3%	700	86.6%	467	79.4%	382	85.8%	356	76.4%	285	75.6%	275	83.8%
Northern	81	72.3%	81	76.4%	98	76.6%	69	75.8%	40	74.1%	40	62.5%	66	90.4%
Central	101	83.5%	119	78.8%	109	74.7%	73	81.1%	77	85.6%	65	77.4%	98	79.0%
Southern	36	85.7%	11	91.7%	42	84.0%	32	74.4%	33	80.5%	43	81.1%	47	88.7%

Male	481	82.1%	463	84.5%	399	82.1%	252	84.0%	233	75.9%	233	74.9%	254	83.6%
Female	435	79.4%	448	84.7%	317	74.4%	304	82.4%	273	79.4%	200	74.9%	232	84.7%

0 to 2	11	84.6%	16	72.7%	20	80.0%	19	95.0%	20	90.9%	24	82.8%	24	88.9%
3 to 5	96	75.6%	116	85.3%	97	77.0%	82	89.1%	55	67.9%	56	70.0%	73	83.0%
6 to 11	335	73.3%	333	80.6%	227	68.6%	158	73.5%	159	67.9%	142	62.3%	152	75.2%
12 to 17	474	88.3%	446	88.1%	372	86.5%	297	86.8%	272	86.6%	211	87.6%	237	90.8%

African American	723	79.8%	727	84.3%	511	77.0%	412	82.9%	361	77.8%	310	73.3%	317	84.5%
White	150	84.3%	131	82.9%	157	82.6%	118	83.1%	113	79.6%	102	78.5%	150	83.3%
Hispanic	35	89.7%	39	100.0%	30	81.1%	20	95.2%	28	68.3%	19	82.6%	10	90.9%
Other Ethnicity	8	72.7%	14	77.8%	18	85.7%	6	66.7%	4	100.0%	2	100.0%	9	75.0%

Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Substitute Care (CFSR)

Indicator 3.G	Of all children who enter substitute care during the fiscal year, the percentage that are discharged to permanency within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children entering substitute care	4,902	4,670	4,708	4,708	4,811	5,044	4,616
Children discharged to permanency within 12 months	665	656	594	647	617	704	645
Percent	13.6%	14.0%	12.6%	13.7%	12.8%	14.0%	14.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	85	6.6%	45	4.2%	78	5.9%	74	5.9%	78	5.8%	109	7.4%	54	4.4%
Northern	167	16.8%	208	20.6%	144	13.7%	183	15.5%	187	17.3%	178	17.1%	174	19.1%
Central	270	15.6%	244	14.9%	198	13.7%	232	15.0%	194	12.6%	251	15.1%	282	17.7%
Southern	143	16.0%	159	17.0%	174	19.6%	158	21.6%	158	19.0%	166	19.0%	135	15.3%

Male	346	13.3%	335	14.0%	287	11.9%	335	13.8%	308	12.5%	342	13.4%	340	14.3%
Female	319	13.9%	321	14.1%	307	13.3%	312	13.6%	309	13.1%	362	14.6%	305	13.7%

0 to 2	230	11.2%	210	11.2%	195	10.5%	235	12.4%	205	11.3%	267	13.1%	237	12.8%
3 to 5	126	15.7%	131	16.0%	129	15.4%	122	15.7%	99	12.8%	127	15.2%	120	15.8%
6 to 11	178	17.5%	184	18.3%	148	14.8%	189	18.2%	181	15.4%	183	16.3%	172	16.3%
12 to 17	131	12.8%	131	13.4%	122	12.1%	101	10.1%	132	12.7%	127	12.2%	116	12.3%

African American	224	10.7%	262	13.1%	180	8.9%	234	11.7%	224	10.6%	274	12.4%	223	12.0%
White	369	15.1%	347	15.0%	365	15.8%	363	16.2%	332	14.8%	352	15.8%	345	15.4%
Hispanic	39	14.7%	35	14.3%	32	12.0%	31	9.0%	46	13.5%	54	11.7%	58	14.5%
Other Ethnicity	33	29.5%	12	10.8%	17	14.2%	19	16.0%	15	13.3%	24	16.6%	19	17.9%

Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Substitute Care 12 to 23 Months (CFSR)

Indicator 3.H	Of all children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage that are discharged to permanency within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care between 12 and 23 months	3,967	3,547	3,692	3,442	3,516	3,511	3,561
Children discharged to permanency within 12 months	937	820	926	789	818	958	846
Percent	23.6%	23.1%	25.1%	22.9%	23.3%	27.3%	23.8%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	139	11.4%	107	11.9%	141	13.3%	122	13.3%	134	12.2%	171	16.2%	161	14.2%
Northern	203	25.0%	191	22.5%	208	28.3%	152	21.8%	202	25.4%	243	28.0%	166	22.9%
Central	453	33.2%	377	31.4%	414	33.6%	324	27.6%	306	29.8%	387	34.5%	347	30.7%
Southern	142	24.9%	145	24.3%	163	24.6%	191	29.1%	176	29.8%	156	33.6%	172	30.1%

Male	473	23.0%	384	21.4%	496	25.2%	413	23.6%	431	23.5%	484	26.8%	439	23.9%
Female	464	24.3%	435	24.8%	430	25.0%	376	22.2%	387	23.0%	474	27.8%	407	23.6%

0 to 2	324	26.2%	270	24.8%	343	28.7%	265	24.4%	287	26.0%	346	30.7%	309	29.0%
3 to 5	195	24.3%	205	26.9%	218	27.3%	182	24.5%	177	24.0%	191	27.8%	164	23.8%
6 to 11	263	27.1%	214	24.4%	238	27.2%	235	28.2%	233	26.7%	243	28.7%	237	24.7%
12 to 17	155	16.3%	131	16.0%	127	15.5%	107	13.8%	121	15.1%	178	21.0%	136	16.1%

African American	360	18.6%	283	17.7%	311	19.0%	250	16.9%	242	15.3%	335	21.5%	298	18.4%
White	520	29.8%	458	27.5%	559	31.3%	475	27.9%	505	30.8%	542	34.0%	478	29.8%
Hispanic	31	14.2%	52	25.4%	41	20.1%	46	25.3%	42	20.0%	63	22.6%	49	19.0%
Other Ethnicity	26	37.7%	27	36.5%	15	21.4%	18	22.8%	29	33.7%	18	23.1%	21	25.9%

Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Substitute Care 24 Months or More (CFSR)

Indicator 3.I	Of all children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care for 24 months or more, the percentage that are discharged to permanency within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care for 24 months or more	11,801	11,598	11,162	10,429	9,988	9,740	9,225
Children discharged to permanency within 12 months	1,876	1,673	2,243	2,003	1,985	2,318	1,943
Percent	15.9%	14.4%	20.1%	19.2%	19.9%	23.8%	21.1%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	740	11.0%	517	8.4%	691	12.5%	626	12.6%	514	11.4%	755	17.2%	581	14.1%
Northern	408	23.3%	310	17.2%	489	25.2%	408	22.3%	473	26.1%	493	27.4%	479	26.7%
Central	508	22.2%	559	22.6%	725	29.0%	626	26.4%	651	27.0%	644	28.0%	587	26.4%
Southern	220	20.9%	287	24.7%	338	28.5%	343	27.6%	347	27.2%	424	33.8%	296	27.3%

Male	977	15.8%	842	13.7%	1,153	19.4%	1,044	18.6%	1,056	19.8%	1,196	23.0%	997	20.2%
Female	893	15.9%	828	15.2%	1,086	20.9%	959	19.9%	929	20.0%	1,122	24.7%	944	22.0%

0 to 2	171	35.0%	169	28.5%	193	38.0%	196	36.0%	203	38.7%	233	44.4%	188	35.9%
3 to 5	593	32.4%	557	29.1%	772	37.7%	676	34.5%	698	36.2%	800	42.5%	603	36.4%
6 to 11	726	20.8%	665	18.7%	902	25.2%	811	24.5%	763	23.1%	930	28.1%	813	25.9%
12 to 17	386	6.4%	282	5.1%	376	7.5%	320	6.9%	321	7.6%	355	8.8%	339	8.7%

African American	1,009	12.7%	821	10.9%	1,093	15.7%	964	15.4%	899	15.6%	1,125	20.3%	927	18.0%
White	699	22.9%	743	22.6%	976	28.6%	884	25.9%	954	27.4%	1,012	29.5%	861	26.5%
Hispanic	129	20.4%	87	13.4%	149	23.4%	117	20.1%	96	17.3%	129	22.2%	119	18.9%
Other Ethnicity	39	26.0%	22	15.0%	25	16.4%	38	22.6%	36	19.8%	52	27.2%	36	19.6%

Re-Entry to Substitute Care Among Children in Care Less Than 12 Months (CFSR)

Indicator 3.J	Of all children who entered foster care during the fiscal year and attained permanency within 12 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their discharge.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children who entered care and exited to permanency within 12 months	665	656	594	647	617	704	645
Children re-entering substitute care within 12 months	52	37	45	64	55	60	48
Percent	7.8%	5.6%	7.6%	9.9%	8.9%	8.5%	7.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	14	16.5%	9	20.0%	10	12.8%	7	9.5%	14	17.9%	17	15.6%	8	14.8%
Northern	17	10.2%	15	7.2%	16	11.1%	30	16.4%	13	7.0%	8	4.5%	10	5.7%
Central	13	4.8%	8	3.3%	10	5.1%	22	9.5%	12	6.2%	22	8.8%	14	5.0%
Southern	8	5.6%	5	3.1%	9	5.2%	5	3.2%	16	10.1%	13	7.8%	16	11.9%

Male	25	7.2%	17	5.1%	24	8.4%	30	9.0%	28	9.1%	33	9.6%	29	8.5%
Female	27	8.5%	20	6.2%	21	6.8%	34	10.9%	27	8.7%	27	7.5%	19	6.2%

0 to 2	16	7.0%	11	5.2%	14	7.2%	23	9.8%	17	8.3%	30	11.2%	20	8.4%
3 to 5	5	4.0%	3	2.3%	7	5.4%	12	9.8%	10	10.1%	9	7.1%	12	10.0%
6 to 11	20	11.2%	11	6.0%	10	6.8%	19	10.1%	14	7.7%	10	5.5%	5	2.9%
12 to 17	11	8.4%	12	9.2%	14	11.5%	10	9.9%	14	10.6%	11	8.7%	11	9.5%

African American	17	7.6%	17	6.5%	25	13.9%	26	11.1%	24	10.7%	36	13.1%	18	8.1%
White	26	7.0%	18	5.2%	15	4.1%	32	8.8%	23	6.9%	19	5.4%	20	5.8%
Hispanic	5	12.8%	2	5.7%	2	6.3%	4	12.9%	6	13.0%	4	7.4%	8	13.8%
Other Ethnicity	4	12.1%	0	0.0%	3	17.6%	2	10.5%	2	13.3%	1	4.2%	2	10.5%

Re-entry to Substitute Care Among Children in Care 12 to 23 Months

Indicator 3.K	Of all children who had been in substitute care between 12 and 23 months and exited to permanency during the fiscal year, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their discharge.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children who exited to permanency within 12 and 23 months	937	820	926	789	818	958	846
Children who re-entered substitute care within 12 months	22	16	30	22	14	10	19
Percent	2.3%	2.0%	3.2%	2.8%	1.7%	1.0%	2.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	6	4.3%	3	2.8%	4	2.8%	5	4.1%	3	2.2%	6	3.5%	7	4.3%
Northern	8	3.9%	4	2.1%	14	6.7%	2	1.3%	5	2.5%	0	0.0%	5	3.0%
Central	4	0.9%	5	1.3%	5	1.2%	7	2.2%	4	1.3%	2	0.5%	5	1.4%
Southern	4	2.8%	4	2.8%	7	4.3%	8	4.2%	2	1.1%	2	1.3%	2	1.2%

Male	11	2.3%	10	2.6%	15	3.0%	12	2.9%	6	1.4%	7	1.4%	7	1.6%
Female	11	2.4%	6	1.4%	15	3.5%	10	2.7%	8	2.1%	3	0.6%	12	2.9%

0 to 2	1	0.3%	5	1.9%	5	1.5%	4	1.5%	4	1.4%	2	0.6%	7	2.3%
3 to 5	6	3.1%	0	0.0%	8	3.7%	6	3.3%	5	2.8%	4	2.1%	1	0.6%
6 to 11	3	1.1%	3	1.4%	8	3.4%	9	3.8%	2	0.9%	0	0.0%	6	2.5%
12 to 17	12	7.7%	8	6.1%	9	7.1%	3	2.8%	3	2.5%	4	2.2%	5	3.7%

African American	10	2.8%	7	2.5%	13	4.2%	9	3.6%	4	1.7%	4	1.2%	11	3.7%
White	9	1.7%	8	1.7%	16	2.9%	13	2.7%	10	2.0%	6	1.1%	7	1.5%
Hispanic	2	6.5%	1	1.9%	1	2.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Ethnicity	1	3.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.8%

Re-entry to Substitute Care Among Children in Care 24 Months or More

Indicator 3.L	Of all children who had been in substitute care 24 months or more and exited to permanency during the fiscal year, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of their discharge.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children who exited to permanency after 24 months or more in care	1,876	1,673	2,243	2,003	1,985	2,318	1,943
Children who re-entered substitute care within 12 months	13	19	26	28	15	19	39
Percent	0.7%	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	0.8%	0.8%	2.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	6	0.8%	3	0.6%	7	1.0%	3	0.5%	2	0.4%	5	0.7%	9	1.5%
Northern	6	1.5%	3	1.0%	11	2.2%	3	0.7%	4	0.8%	4	0.8%	6	1.3%
Central	0	0.0%	8	1.4%	5	0.7%	13	2.1%	5	0.8%	6	0.9%	18	3.1%
Southern	1	0.5%	5	1.7%	3	0.9%	9	2.6%	4	1.2%	4	0.9%	6	2.0%

Male	6	0.6%	11	1.3%	19	1.6%	14	1.3%	6	0.6%	11	0.9%	17	1.7%
Female	7	0.8%	8	1.0%	7	0.6%	14	1.5%	9	1.0%	8	0.7%	22	2.3%

0 to 2	0	0.0%	3	1.8%	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	5	2.7%
3 to 5	2	0.3%	4	0.7%	9	1.2%	6	0.9%	3	0.4%	3	0.4%	12	2.0%
6 to 11	6	0.8%	6	0.9%	8	0.9%	16	2.0%	5	0.7%	5	0.5%	15	1.8%
12 to 17	5	1.3%	6	2.1%	7	1.9%	6	1.9%	7	2.2%	10	2.8%	7	2.1%

African American	9	0.9%	11	1.3%	16	1.5%	12	1.2%	7	0.8%	10	0.9%	12	1.3%
White	4	0.6%	8	1.1%	9	0.9%	15	1.7%	7	0.7%	9	0.9%	24	2.8%
Hispanic	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.9%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	3	2.5%
Other Ethnicity	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%



Appendix C

Outcome Data by Sub-Region

Appendix C provides data for outcome indicators analyzed at the sub-regional level in Chapters 1, 2, and 3. For each indicator, data are presented for the state as a whole and each sub-region for the past seven state fiscal years. The data used to compute these indicators come from two Illinois DCFS data systems: the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) and the Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS). The SACWIS data were extracted on December 31, 2017 and the CYCIS data were extracted on March 31, 2018. All indicators are calculated based on the state fiscal year, which spans the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30.

Maltreatment Recurrence (CFSR)

Indicator 1.A	Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment report during the fiscal year, the percentage that were victims of another substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months.						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Children with a substantiated maltreatment report	17,670	16,673	19,643	18,666	25,043	30,770	29,741
Children with another substantiated report within 12 months	1,360	1,260	1,647	1,579	2,774	3,428	3,506
Percent	7.7%	7.6%	8.4%	8.5%	11.1%	11.1%	11.8%

SUB-REGION	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook North	73	5.2%	60	5.1%	105	6.4%	91	6.5%	160	8.2%	234	9.3%	188	7.7%
Cook Central	92	4.7%	89	4.6%	142	5.8%	167	6.9%	290	8.8%	298	8.4%	231	8.4%
Cook South	139	7.8%	117	6.8%	154	8.6%	144	8.2%	224	9.2%	279	9.6%	289	10.7%
Aurora	142	4.7%	192	6.7%	223	5.9%	210	6.1%	469	10.1%	561	9.5%	538	9.6%
Rockford	100	6.8%	81	6.1%	90	6.5%	92	6.8%	231	10.9%	311	11.1%	341	12.3%
Champaign	168	8.7%	153	8.5%	217	10.6%	188	9.3%	337	12.6%	385	11.9%	427	13.7%
Peoria	160	8.3%	127	7.1%	204	10.1%	193	10.0%	273	11.2%	349	10.8%	387	12.0%
Springfield	150	10.6%	158	11.1%	196	12.6%	151	10.0%	309	15.5%	414	18.0%	371	15.0%
East St. Louis	123	10.4%	70	6.9%	87	8.3%	90	8.6%	128	9.3%	204	12.3%	243	12.6%
Marion	213	13.6%	213	13.1%	226	12.5%	253	14.5%	353	16.8%	393	15.0%	491	18.1%

Placement Stability (CFSR)

Indicator 2.E	Of all children who entered substitute care during the fiscal year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of care.						
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children entering substitute care	4,279	4,318	4,355	4,494	4,741	4,389	4,563
Days in substitute care	670,391	678,418	668,206	713,756	763,706	704,770	725,209
Placement moves	3,560	3,626	3,259	3,271	3,485	2,790	2,991
Placement moves per 1,000 days in substitute care	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.0	4.1

SUB-REGION	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days	Moves per 1,000 days
Cook North	5.6	8.0	6.2	4.9	5.2	4.9	3.5
Cook Central	7.8	8.9	6.0	6.1	5.0	4.4	4.8
Cook South	8.5	7.4	6.8	5.2	5.8	4.6	4.1
Aurora	5.0	4.1	4.8	4.5	4.3	3.9	4.5
Rockford	4.7	4.8	3.5	3.7	4.3	3.5	3.9
Champaign	3.8	4.3	4.4	4.4	3.3	3.2	4.2
Peoria	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.3	3.5	4.0	3.7
Springfield	4.5	4.2	4.3	5.2	4.8	3.2	4.7
East St. Louis	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.0	5.4	3.6	4.2
Marion	6.6	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.3	4.0	3.9





Appendix D

Julie Q./Ashley M. v. Department of Children and Family Services:

What Implications Do These Rulings Have for Outcome Monitoring in Illinois?

Appendix D provides technical details about the *Julie Q.* and *Ashley M.* court decisions and their effects on data used in the *B.H.* report.

On March 21, 2013, the Illinois Supreme Court issued a ruling in the case of *Julie Q. v. Department of Children and Family Services* (2013 IL 113783), holding that the Department exceeded its statutory authority by adding an allegation of neglect to its allegation system that included the term “environment injurious” to a child’s health and welfare; more specifically, when it added Allegation #60 – Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare – to its allegation system in October 2001. At the time that the incidents in the *Julie Q.* case took place (2009), the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) provided a definition of a “neglected child” that included the following four circumstances:

- 1) a child not receiving adequate medical care or “other care necessary for his or her well-being including adequate food, clothing, or shelter,”
- 2) a child abandoned by his or her parents,
- 3) a child who has been provided with interim crisis intervention services under the juvenile Court Act of 1987 and whose parents refuse to allow the child to return home, and
- 4) a newborn born with a controlled substance in his or her system.

Prior to 1980, ANCRA included in its definition of neglect “an environment injurious to the child’s welfare,” but this language was deleted in 1980 due to concerns that the language was too ambiguous (Public Act 81-1077). Although the legislature removed the language with the intent to create a clearer, more concise definition of this type of neglect, at the time the *Julie Q.* case was filed (2009), such additional language had *not* been reinserted into ANCRA. Therefore, the Illinois Supreme Court ruled that when DCFS added Allegation 60 (Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare) to its administrative rule and procedure in October 2001, it did so without authority, and that Allegation 60 was therefore “void.”

Although the Illinois legislature amended ANCRA in 2012 with language that included the “environment injurious” definition of neglect, a later class action lawsuit (*Ashley M., et al. v. Illinois Department of Children and Family Services*) argued that the Department failed to re-promulgate Allegation #60 in order to reinstate its use, and that its use after July 12, 2012 was in violation of the Procedure Act and outside the scope of its authority. The Illinois Supreme Court ruled in favor of plaintiffs *Ashley M., et al* and ordered DCFS to expunge all indicated findings of Allegation #60 that occurred between July 13, 2012 and December 31, 2013 as well as between May 31, 2014 and June 11, 2014.

A revised version of Allegation #60 was re-promulgated and reinserted into DCFS procedures effective on June 12, 2014. The revised definition of Allegation #60 included in ANCRA is: “Environment injurious means that a child’s environment creates a likelihood of harm to the child’s health, physical well-being, or welfare and the likely harm to the child is the result of a blatant disregard of parent or caretaker responsibilities....Blatant disregard is defined as an incident where the real, significant and imminent risk of harm would be so obvious to a reasonable parent or caretaker that it is unlikely that a reasonable parent or caretaker would

have exposed the child to the danger without exercising precautionary measures to protect the child from harm.”

The *Julie Q.* and *Ashley M.* rulings impacted outcome monitoring in Illinois in a number of ways. Individuals who were indicated for Allegation #60 between October 1, 2001 –July 12, 2012; July 13, 2012 – December 31, 2013; or May 31, 2014 – June 11, 2014 were to be removed from the State Central Register and the indicated findings in SACWIS were to be expunged. Once these indicated reports were removed from SACWIS, the total numbers of children with indicated reports of maltreatment in Illinois during these time periods were reduced. Table E.1 compares the total number of children with indicated reports using administrative data before and after the removal of indicated Allegation #60. Once the indicated reports of Allegation #60 are removed, the overall number of indicated reports each year decreases between 23-35%.

In addition to decreasing the overall number of indicated reports each year, the removal of indicated Allegation #60 reports may influence maltreatment recurrence rates *if* Allegation #60 is more or less likely to recur than other allegation types. Table E.2 compares the 12-month recurrence rates of children with initial indicated reports of Allegation #60 only and those with initial indicated reports of all other allegations. Results show that in each year except 2012, children with indicated reports of Allegation #60 were more likely to experience a maltreatment recurrence (of any type) than those with indicated reports of other allegation types.

Because recurrence rates are higher for children with indicated reports of Allegation #60, *removing these reports from the overall population will reduce recurrence rates.* Table E.3 compares the 12-month recurrence rates using data with and without initial indicated reports of Allegation #60 and confirms that this is true. This means that recurrence rates during the time periods covered by Julie Q. and Ashley M. (October 1, 2001 –July 12, 2012; July 13, 2012 – December 31, 2013; or May 31, 2014 – June 11, 2014) will be lower than those before and after simply because indicated reports of Allegation #60 have been removed.

Table E.1 Number of Children with Indicated Reports Before and After *Julie Q.*

Fiscal Year	Number of Children with Indicated Reports (Pre- <i>Julie Q.</i>)	Number of Children with Indicated Reports (Post- <i>Julie Q.</i>)	Difference	
			n	%
2005	26,020	20,047	5,973	23.0%
2006	24,947	18,379	6,568	26.3%
2007	26,617	19,352	7,265	27.3%
2008	27,957	19,754	8,203	29.3%
2009	27,452	18,745	8,707	31.7%
2010	26,959	17,847	9,112	33.8%
2011	26,058	16,768	9,290	35.7%
2012	26,520	19,711	6,809	25.7%

Table E.2 12-month Recurrence for Indicated Reports of Allegation #60 Versus Other Allegations

Fiscal Year	Children with Indicated Reports (Pre-Julie Q)	Indicated Report Type	n	% recurrent within 12 months
2005	26,020	Allegation 60	6,770	12.94
		Other allegations	19,250	10.91
2006	24,947	Allegation 60	7,315	12.71
		Other allegations	17,632	11.01
2007	26,617	Allegation 60	8,016	12.82
		Other allegations	18,601	10.98
2008	27,957	Allegation 60	8,864	12.36
		Other allegations	19,093	11.30
2009	27,452	Allegation 60	9,365	11.88
		Other allegations	18,087	10.70
2010	26,959	Allegation 60	9,705	11.68
		Other allegations	17,254	10.37
2011	26,058	Allegation 60	9,788	11.70
		Other allegations	16,270	10.38
2012	26,520	Allegation 60	7,437	10.19
		Other allegations	19,083	11.24

Table E.3 12-month Recurrence Rates Including and Excluding Allegation #60

Fiscal Year	Including Allegation #60		Excluding Allegation #60	
	Children with Indicated Reports	% recurrent within 12 months	Children with Indicated Reports	% recurrence within 12 months
2005	26,020	11.4	20,047	9.0
2006	24,947	11.5	18,379	9.0
2007	26,617	11.5	19,352	8.8
2008	27,957	11.6	19,754	8.8
2009	27,452	11.1	18,745	8.3
2010	26,959	10.9	17,847	7.9
2011	26,058	10.9	16,768	8.0
2012	26,520	10.9	19,711	10.2



Appendix E

Indicator Changes

Appendix E provides a listing of the changes that were made to the indicators included in this year's *B.H.* monitoring report. The table in this appendix includes a list of the indicators that were added or changed, a description of how they are derived in the current (FY2018) report, a description of how they were derived in previous reports (if applicable), and a list of the indicator numbers that are affected by the change or addition. See Appendix A for the corresponding list of indicator numbers and definitions.

INDICATOR CHANGES

Change	FY2018 Report	Previous Reports	Indicators Affected
Home of Parent	Home of Parent (HMP) was added as a placement type in the calculation of several indicators related to placement in substitute care. Children in home of parent placements with an open code of “AA” (adoption assistance) were excluded. Children were included in the Home of Parent placement category if DCFS obtained legal custody.	Home of Parent was not considered as a placement type. Children in the home of parents were counted as reunifications.	1.D 2.A.1—2.A.6 2.B.1—2.B.7 2.C 2.D 2.F 2.G All indicators in Chapter 3
Legal Custody	Child’s legal status was taken into consideration when defining substitute care placements and exits to permanence. If a child was in a Home of Parent placement and legal custody was with DCFS, he/she was included in the substitute care population. If a child was in a Home of Parent placement and legal custody was with parent(s), he/she was included in the reunification population.	Legal custody was not considered.	2.B 2.D 2.F 2.G All indicators in Chapter 3
Living with Relatives	Living with relatives was added as a new type of legal permanence. Children were included in this type of permanence if the placement type was listed as “kinship home” when exiting care or if the placement ended with the “home of parent” but legal custody was with relatives.	Cases where a child exited to relative guardianship were treated as “otherwise exit.” For some cases they were considered as “reunification” if the child returned to the home of parent(s) and legal custody was given to a relative.	3.G 3.H 3.I 3.J 3.K 3.L
Independent Living	Children in Independent Living were excluded from all substitute care	Children in Independent Living were included in all substitute care indicators in Chapter 2	All chapter 2 indicators except 2.E

	indicators in Chapter 2 and the (non-CFSR) permanence indicators in Chapter 3.	and 3.	3.A.1—3.A.3 3.B.1—3.B.4 3.C.1—3.C.2 3.D.1—3.D.3 3.E.1—3.E.2 3.F.1—3.F.3
Allegation 60	Children with indicated allegations of Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare (Allegation #60) between Oct 1, 2001 – July 12, 2012, July 13, 2012 – Dec 31, 2013, and May 31, 2014 – June 11, 2014 were removed from SACWIS and not included in the calculations of child maltreatment.	Children with indicated allegations of Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare (Allegation #60) between Oct 1, 2001 – July 12, 2012, July 13, 2012 – Dec 31, 2013, and May 31, 2014 – June 11, 2014 were included in the calculations of child maltreatment.	1.A 1.B 1.C 1.D
Adoption disruption	Cases with open code 'AA' (adoption assistance) that started with home of parent (HMP) and were later placed in 'FHA' (foster home adoption) were counted as adoption disruption.	These cases were not counted as adoption disruptions.	3.D.1 3.D.2 3.D.3
Region codes	Each placement case can have more than one region code if the child changed regions during placement; for example, a child may have different region codes at case opening and case closing. To compute the regional subgroups, the following region codes were selected for each indicator: 1B Region at the case opening date 1D Region of the 1 st placement for the fiscal year	One region code was available per placement case.	All indicators except 1.A and 1.C

INDICATOR CHANGES

	2A1-2A6	Region at the case opening date		
	2B1-2B7	Region at the end of the fiscal year		
	2C	Region at the case opening date.		
	2D	Region at the end of the fiscal year		
	2E	Region at the case opening date		
	2F	Region at the case opening date		
	2G	Region at the case opening date		
	3A1 – 3A3	Region at the case opening date		
	3B1 – 3B4	Region where the reunification happened		
	3C1, 3C2	Region at the case opening date		
	3D1 – 3D3	Region of adoption assistance case opening date		
	3E1, 3E2	Region at the case opening date		
	3F1 – 3F3	Region where the guardianship becomes effective		
	3G	Region at the case opening date		
	3H	Region at the case opening date		
	3I	Region at the case opening date		
	3J	Region at the case opening date		
	3K	Region at the case opening date		
	3L	Region at the case opening date		



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