

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

**FY2023 Monitoring Report of the
B.H. Consent Decree**



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A REPORT BY THE

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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The Children and Family Research Center is an independent research organization created jointly in 1996 by the School of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The goal of the Center is to identify research needs, support research that is policy and practice relevant, and encourage and facilitate public child welfare research activities through collaborative relationships.

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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 FY2023 monitoring report uses child welfare administrative data through December 31, 2022 to describe the conditions of children in or at risk of foster care in Illinois. Following an introductory chapter, the results are presented in four 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. 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.

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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 12 months (reunification only), 24 months, 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 chapter includes the CFSR permanency indicators, which examine the combined percentages of children who exit to all types of permanence and those that re-enter substitute care within 12 months of exiting care.
- The fourth chapter contains an analysis of **Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality** in the Illinois child welfare system. Racial/ethnic disproportionality refers to the over- or under-representation of a racial or ethnic group in the child welfare system compared to their representation in a base population and is often calculated as a Racial Disproportionality Index (RDI). To gain a better understanding of racial/ethnic disproportionality in the Illinois child welfare system, analyses examine the RDIs for White, Black, Latinx (any race), Asian, Multiracial, Native American/Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander children for ten child welfare outcome indicators: investigations, protective custodies, indicated investigation, intact family services, substitute care entries, placement instability, length of stay in substitute care, permanence through reunification, permanence through adoption, and permanence through guardianship. Each analysis is done for the state as a whole and by DCFS administrative region so that regional differences can be observed.

The first three chapters in this report begin 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. The following sections highlight the changes in each indicator included in the first three chapters. For additional details, please refer to the full chapters and appendices.

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 remained stable and was 14.5% in 2021.

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 18.0% in 2021.

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 remained stable and was 12.5% in 2021.

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

↓ Of all children in substitute care during the year, the rate of substantiated maltreatment per 100,000 days in substitute care decreased from 19.0 in 2021 to 15.9 in 2022 (-16% 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 remained stable and was 3.3% in 2022.

↔ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a kinship foster home remained stable and was 75.1% in 2022.

↑ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a traditional foster home increased from 15.9% in 2021 to 17.7% in 2022 (+11% change).

↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a specialized foster home decreased from 1.0% in 2021 to 0.9% in 2022 (-10% change).

↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home decreased from 0.8% in 2021 to 0.6% in 2022 (-25% change).

↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an institution or group home decreased from 2.7% in 2021 to 2.3% in 2022 (-15% 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 5.3% in 2021 to 4.9% in 2022 (-8% change).

↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a kinship foster home remained stable and was 60.3% in 2022.

↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a traditional foster home remained stable and was 19.8% in 2022.

↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a specialized foster home remained stable and was 10.7% in 2022.

↑ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home increased from 0.2% in 2021 to 0.4% in 2022 (+100% change).

↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an institution or group home decreased from 4.3% in 2021 to 3.9% 2022 (-9% 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 81.7% in 2022.

↔ remained stable for children initially placed in traditional foster homes was 56.7% in 2022.

For children with three or more siblings in care:

↑ increased for children initially placed in kinship foster homes from 50.9% in 2021 to 57.9% in 2022 (+14% change).

↓ decreased for children initially placed in traditional foster homes from 12.0% in 2021 to 10.6% in 2022 (-12% 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 70.0% in 2022.

↔ remained stable for children in traditional foster homes and was 52.8% in 2022.

For children with three or more siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children in kinship foster homes and was 34.7% in 2022.

↓ decreased for children in traditional foster homes from 13.5% in 2021 to 11.8% in 2022 (-13% change).

Placement Stability (CFSR)

↑ Of all children entering substitute care during the year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days in care increased from 3.0 in 2021 to 3.2 in 2022 (+7% change).

Children Who Run Away From Substitute Care

↓ Of all children entering substitute care between the age of 12 and 17 years, the percentage that ran away from a placement within one year of entry decreased from 14.2% in 2020 to 10.3% in 2021 (-27% change).

Length of Stay in Substitute Care

↑ Of all children who exited substitute care, the median length of stay increased from 26 months in 2021 to 29 months in 2022 (+12% change).

Changes in Legal 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 increased from 15% in 2020 to 18.4% in 2021 (+23% change).

↔ Of all children who had been in care between 12 and 23 months on the first day of the fiscal year, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months remained stable and was 24.6% in 2022.

↔ Of all children who had been in care 24 months or more on the first day of the fiscal year, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months remained stable and was 30.5% in 2022.

↑ Of all children who achieved permanence within 12 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge increased from 7.1% of children who exited care in 2019 to 9.5% of children who exited care in 2020 (+34% 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 decreased from 5.1% of children who exited care in 2020 to 3.8% of children who exited care in 2021 (-25% 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 decreased from 2.3% of children who exited care in 2020 to 1.5% of children who exited care in 2021 (-35% 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 increased from 15.9% of children who entered care in 2020 to 19.0% of children who entered care in 2021 (+20% change).

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 24 months increased from 30.6% of children who entered care in 2019 to 33.2% of children who entered care in 2020 (+9% change).

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 36 months remained stable and was 39.2% of children who entered care in 2019.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at one year post-reunification remained stable and was 92.4% of children who were reunified in 2021.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at two years post-reunification remained stable and was 87.8% of children who were reunified in 2020.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at five years post-reunification remained stable and was 86.6% of children who were reunified in 2017.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at ten years post-reunification remained stable and was 83.4% of children who were reunified in 2012.

Children Achieving Adoption

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months decreased from 3.1% of children who entered care in 2019 to 2.2% of children who entered care in 2020 (-29% change).

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months decreased from 12.1% of children who entered care in 2018 to 10.3% of children who entered care in 2019 (-15% change).

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at two years post-adoption remained stable and was 98.6% of children who were adopted in 2020.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at five years post-adoption remained stable and was 98.2% of children who were adopted in 2017.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at ten years post-adoption remained stable and was 95.0% of children who were adopted in 2012.

Children Achieving Guardianship

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 24 months decreased from 1.1% of children who entered care in 2019 to 1.0% of children who entered care in 2020 (-9% change).

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 36 months decreased from 2.8% of children who entered care in 2018 to 2.3% of children who entered care in 2019 (-18% change).

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at two years post-guardianship remained stable and was 98.7% of children who attained guardianship in 2020.

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at five years post-guardianship remained stable and was 93.8% of children who attained guardianship in 2017.

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at ten years post-guardianship remained stable and was 88.5% of children who attained guardianship in 2012.

Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality

Racial and ethnic disproportionality refers to the over- or under-representation of a racial or ethnic group in the child welfare system compared to that group's representation in a relevant base population. There are two commonly used methods for calculating RDI; each uses a different population in the denominator. The first is the "absolute RDI," in which a racial or ethnic group's percentage within the child welfare indicator is divided by that group's



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percentage in the general child population. The same denominator (percentage of the racial/ethnic group in the child population) is used when calculating absolute RDIs for each indicator. Absolute RDI values less than 1.0 indicate under-representation compared to the general child population. RDI values equal or close to 1.0 indicate no disproportionality; children in that group are represented at rates that are proportionate to their representation in the population. RDI values greater than 1.0 indicate over-representation compared to the general population.

A second measure of disproportionality is the “relative RDI,” which is calculated by dividing a racial or ethnic group’s percentage within a child welfare indicator by that group’s percentage within a prior child welfare indicator. The relative RDI tells us if the amount of over-representation or under-representation at an indicator increases or decreases *relative to* the amount that was present in the comparison population. Therefore, when interpreting the meaning of a relative RDI, the amount of disproportionality in the comparison population must also be taken into consideration. A relative RDI of 1.0 means that the amount of over-representation has not increased or decreased at a particular indicator. Relative RDIs greater than 1.0 mean one of two things: 1) the amount of over-representation has increased at the indicator compared to the previous indicator, or 2) the amount of under-representation has decreased compared to the previous indicator. Relative RDIs less than 1.0 indicate that either: 1) the amount of under-representation has increased compared to the previous indicator, or 2) the amount of over-representation has decreased compared to the previous indicator. Descriptions of the base population used to calculate each RDI are provided in Appendix A.

The absolute and relative RDI for the three largest racial/ethnic groups of children in Illinois are shown below. RDI for the other racial groups are reported (when possible) in Chapter 4.

Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality at a Glance (FY2022)						
	Black		White		Latinx	
	<i>Absolute RDI</i>	<i>Relative RDI</i>	<i>Absolute RDI</i>	<i>Relative RDI</i>	<i>Absolute RDI</i>	<i>Relative RDI</i>
Investigations	2.2	-	0.9	-	0.8	-
Protective Custodies	2.3	1.1	1.0	1.2	0.5	0.6
Indicated Investigations	2.2	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.1
Intact Service Services	2.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.0
Substitute Care Entries	2.2	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.4	0.6
Placement Instability		1.4		0.7		0.8
Length of Stay ≥ 48 Months		1.3		0.8		1.0
Reunifications		0.9		1.1		1.1
Adoptions		0.8		1.2		0.6
Guardianships		1.0		1.0		1.0



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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 *B.H.* monitoring 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 service 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 mission of the Center has been 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 and a half 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. In addition, since 2016, the CFRC has produced a report that examines **racial and ethnic disproportionality** within the Illinois child welfare system. The CFRC also produces an annual report in response to Illinois House Bill 2914,¹ which examines racial disproportionality in an expanded set of child welfare indicators. The *B.H.* report and racial disproportionality reports are widely distributed to child welfare administrators, researchers, and policy makers throughout Illinois, and have been cited in several pieces of child welfare legislation since 2020.

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, the 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, the Center began a partnership with the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) as the evaluator of its Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project.

¹ For more details about the bill, see <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=002005050K41.5>

The Wisconsin waiver evaluation, which ended in 2019, tested 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 documented the implementation process using the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN) framework, and a cost analysis compared the costs and savings associated with the program.

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.

Training and technical assistance to advance best practice

For over 20 years, the 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 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 to promote system reform.

More recently, the 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 employ a case-based practice improvement approach to assess outcomes and system performance by gathering information from a random sample of case files 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, which includes utilization of Child and Family Team meetings.

Knowledge dissemination

CFRC disseminates its research findings widely 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. CFRC's dissemination includes:

- The Children and Family Research Center website, through which the public 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 tables of DCFS performance data on child safety, stability, continuity, and family permanence. Each indicator in the *B.H.* report (with the exception of the well-being indicators) can be examined by child demographics (age, race/ethnicity, and gender) and geographic area (Illinois total, DCFS region, DCFS sub-region, and county). 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, the Data Center also provides information on the number of child reports, family reports, and substantiation rates for the entire state and each county.
- 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.² 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

² *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.³ 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.⁴ The two sides jointly moved to modify the decree in July 1996,⁵ 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.

³ Mezey, S.G. (1998). Systemic reform litigation and child welfare policy: The case of Illinois. *Law & Policy*, 20, 203-230.

⁴ 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.

⁵ *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."⁶

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."⁷ The independence of the CFRC was seen as an essential component of the settlement, and locating the CFRC within a research university helped ensure that the Department would be held accountable. The CFRC was tasked with the development of outcome indicators in consultation with the Department and the plaintiff's counsel that 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 indicators. The Research Center may revise these outcome indicators after consultation with the Department and counsel for the plaintiff class to the extent

⁶ Ibid, p. 2-4

⁷ Joint Memorandum, p. 2

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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 to develop the specific indicators used to measure progress in achieving the agreed upon outcome goals. The parties 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-entered 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, placements with kin, placements in group homes and institutions (both within Illinois and

⁸ Joint Memorandum, p. 4

⁹ Joint Memorandum, p. 4

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. Information on this indicator was included in the FY2020 and FY2021 reports because the number of children placed in residential placements outside of Illinois had increased to the point where it was once again a concern.¹⁰

Following the major updates 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.

The most notable change in recent years occurred in FY2018, when the Department asked the CFRC to include the Round 3 CFSR statewide data indicators in the *B.H.* monitoring report. CFRC accommodated this request by:

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

Another recent change was to add "home of parent" as a type of placement. 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 population of children in substitute care. In the past two years several additional minor changes were made to the definitions of indicators and variables used in this report. These changes are described in Appendix F.

¹⁰ Jackson, D., & Eldeib, D. (March 12, 2020). Hurt instead of helped: Foster children victimized in out-of-state facilities where oversight is lacking. *Chicago Tribune*.

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.

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.”¹¹ Data collection for the 2017 Illinois Study of Child Well-Being concluded in September 2018 and a final report is available on the CFRC website.¹² In addition to the Illinois Child Well-Being final evaluation report, the CFRC has produced a series of 18 research briefs based on the findings of the evaluation. These research

¹¹ Testa, M.F., Naylor, M.W., Vincent, P., & White, M. (2015). *Report of the Expert Panel: B.H. vs. Sheldon Consent Decree*.

¹² Cross, T.P., Tran, S.P., Hernandez, A., & Rhodes, E. (2019). *The 2017 Illinois Child Well-Being Study Final Report*. Urbana, IL: Children and Family Research Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

briefs, which are all available on the CFRC website, focus on specific topics such as child safety, child development, resilience, physical health, education, relationships with birth parents, relationships with foster caregivers, and contacts with siblings.

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

The FY2023 *B.H.* monitoring report¹³ is organized into four 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, 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.

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. 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 months (reunification only), 24 months, and 36 months of entering care. 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

¹³ 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 FY2023, monitors outcomes through the end of FY2022.

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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). This chapter also examines the CFSR permanency and re-entry indicators.

The fourth chapter contains an analysis of **Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality** in the Illinois child welfare system. Racial/ethnic disproportionality refers to the over- or under-representation of a racial or ethnic group in the child welfare system compared to their representation in a base population and is often calculated as a Racial Disproportionality Index or RDI. To gain a better understanding of racial/ethnic disproportionality in the Illinois child welfare system, analyses examine the RDIs for seven racial/ethnic groups including White, Black, Latinx (any race), Asian American, Native American/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and Multiracial. RDIs are calculated for several indicators that occur during investigations including screened-in investigations, protective custodies, indicated investigations, intact family services, and substitute care entries. RDIs are also calculated for indicators that occur after children enter substitute care including placement instability, length of stay in care, and permanence through reunification, adoption, and guardianship. Each analysis is done for the state as a whole and by DCFS administrative region so that regional differences can be observed. In addition, RDIs are calculated for the past seven years so that changes over time can be identified.

Chapters 1 through 4 contain figures that allow the reader to easily visualize Illinois' performance on the indicators over time. Readers interested in examining the results more closely will find additional information in the appendices to this report. Appendix A contains detailed **Indicator and Variable Definitions** for each of the indicators included in Chapters 1 through 4 as well as the definition of race/ethnicity used in this report. Appendix B contains the **Outcome Data** for the indicators in Chapters 1-3 over the past seven years for the state, along with breakdowns by child age, race/ethnicity, gender, and geographical region. The data provided in Appendix B are also available online via the CFRC Data Center (<https://cfrc.illinois.edu/data-center.php>).¹⁴ Appendix C provides **Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality Data** for the analyses included in Chapter 4. Appendix D provides **Illinois Child Population Data** for the seven racial/ethnic groups included in Chapter 4. Appendix E presents the **Maltreatment Type Definitions** that were used in Box 1.1. Finally, Appendix F describes the **Data Adjustments** that were made to several of the indicators in the report.

Chapters 1 through 3 also contain 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 each 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 outcome indicator in that chapter and an icon that denotes whether the indicator has significantly increased, decreased, or remained stable during the most recent monitoring

¹⁴ Please note that the indicator outcome data in the CFRC Data Center and those in Appendix B are not exactly the same because the indicator outcome data in the CFRC Data Center are updated quarterly.

period. To create these summaries, two decisions were made: 1) What time period is of *most* interest to policymakers 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 15-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."¹⁵ 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."¹⁶

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 over 50,000 in FY1997 to around 15,000 through much of the 2010s (see Figure 2.1 in Chapter 2). 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.

Unfortunately, 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. Following their peak in the late 1990s, rates of adoption within 24 months fell to around 3% among children who entered substitute care in 2012. Although the rate of adoptions within 24 months had been steadily increasing in recent years to a new high of 5.5% for children who entered care in FY2017, the rate has steadily decreased in each of the past three years and was 2.2% for children who entered care in FY2020 (see Appendix B, Indicator 3.C.1). 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 72 of the 7,376 children who entered substitute care in FY2020 (1.0%) exited to guardianship within 2 years (see Appendix B, Indicator 3.E.1).

¹⁵ Joint Memorandum, p. 2

¹⁶ Joint Memorandum, p. 4

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 serious concern regarding child safety. One ongoing and significant concern first noted by the CFRC in the FY2015 monitoring report is the increase in substantiated maltreatment among children in intact family cases. This concern has been raised in each monitoring report since FY2015, and rates of maltreatment among children in intact family cases reached new high levels of 18% during the last three years. This worrisome trend continues despite the findings and recommendations of a systemic review of intact families conducted by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.¹⁷ Additional actions to improve safety in intact family cases should be implemented and their effects should be evaluated to determine their impact on maltreatment rates.

Recent *B.H.* monitoring reports have also highlighted concerns about the rates of maltreatment in substitute care, which had increased to their highest level in 15 years in FY2020 (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.D). In response to this worrisome increase, the CFRC completed a study that examined the factors that increased a child's risk of maltreatment in substitute care. The results of this study found that the strongest predictors of increased risk of maltreatment in care were: no caseworker contact with the child in the prior 30 days, no caseworker contact with the foster care provider within the prior 30 days, child mental health needs, and placement in an unlicensed foster home or the home of a parent.¹⁸ Following the publication of this study, the CFRC collaborated with the Department to develop a maltreatment in care dashboard that presents data on the number of children with indicated reports of maltreatment in care by year or quarter, as well more than 40 charts that provide information on the characteristics of the child cases involved in the indicated reports. The data in the maltreatment in care dashboard are updated on a quarterly basis and are available to all DCFS staff on their intranet. The charts provide a quick, concise, and easy-to-understand picture of the children who have been maltreated while living in substitute care during a given time period. Continued monitoring of the maltreatment in care indicator show that the rate has decreased 16% in the past two years, which is a positive outcome that we will continue to track.

The *B.H.* monitoring report can also highlight when a worrisome trend is reversed. Several years ago, the CFRC noted an increased use of congregate care settings as initial placements when children first enter substitute care. Additional analyses that separated group homes, institutions, and emergency shelters revealed that the use of all three placement types increased in the early part of the 2010 decade. The percentage of children initially placed in emergency shelters peaked at 11.9% in FY2012 and the percentage initially placed in group homes and institutions peaked at 8.4% in FY2015. Following the publication of these findings, the Department instituted several initiatives and procedural changes that were aimed at reducing the use of emergency shelters and congregate care settings as initial placements. Continued monitoring provided in the *B.H.* reports has shown that the percentage of children

¹⁷ Weiner, D., & Cull, M. (2019). *Systemic review of critical incidents in intact family services*. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

¹⁸ Nieto, M., Wang, S., Fuller, T., & Adams, K. (2020). *Predicting Maltreatment in Substitute Care*. Urbana, IL: Children and Family Research Center.

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placed in emergency shelters has fallen to 0.6% of those who entered care in FY2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.5) and the percentage initially placed in group homes and institutions has decreased to 2.3% in FY2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.6). This is especially impressive because the number of children entering substitute care in Illinois substantially increased during this time period.

Growing concerns about the over-representation of Black children in the Illinois child welfare system prompted the CFRC to add a new chapter to the FY2017 *B.H.* monitoring report that examined racial and ethnic disproportionality at five outcome indicators including investigated reports, protective custodies, indicated investigations, entries into substitute care, and timely exits from substitute care. The results of these monitoring efforts have shown that Black children are over-represented at each child welfare decision point examined and that there is substantial variability in the amount of over-representation within the regions of the state. Data from the CFRC's racial disproportionality analyses have been used in several important pieces of legislation in Illinois since 2020, including Public Act 102-0470¹⁹ which created an advisory commission on reducing the disproportionate representation of African American children in foster care, and Public Act 102-0451,²⁰ which mandated that the Department prepare and submit an annual report on racial disparities for children and families involved in the Illinois child welfare system.

As these examples demonstrate, the importance of the annual *B.H.* monitoring report in identifying worrisome trends in child welfare outcomes cannot be overstated. By examining a set of indicators that has been developed specifically for the Illinois child welfare system and monitoring them 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 it also 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.²¹

¹⁹ <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=102-0470>

²⁰ <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=102-0451>

²¹ Contact information for the Children and Family Research Center can be found on the Acknowledgements page.



Chapter 1

Child Safety

Child safety is one of the primary concerns of the child welfare system. According to the most recent federal child welfare outcome 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. 19).¹ Once a child becomes involved in a substantiated² report of child abuse or neglect, the child welfare system must act to protect the child from additional abuse or neglect.

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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 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 how child safety is measured in this chapter (see Appendix A for detailed definitions of the indicators used in this report).

One of the most common indicators used to assess child safety is maltreatment recurrence, which is typically defined as a substantiated maltreatment report following a prior substantiated report involving the same child or family. Other measures of child safety, 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

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children and Families, Children’s Bureau. (2022). *Child Welfare Outcomes 2019: Report to Congress*. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/report/cwo-2019>

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.”

the definition of maltreatment recurrence used in the Child and Family Services 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 remained stable and was 14.5% in 2021.

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 18.0% in 2021.

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 remained stable and was 12.5% in 2021.

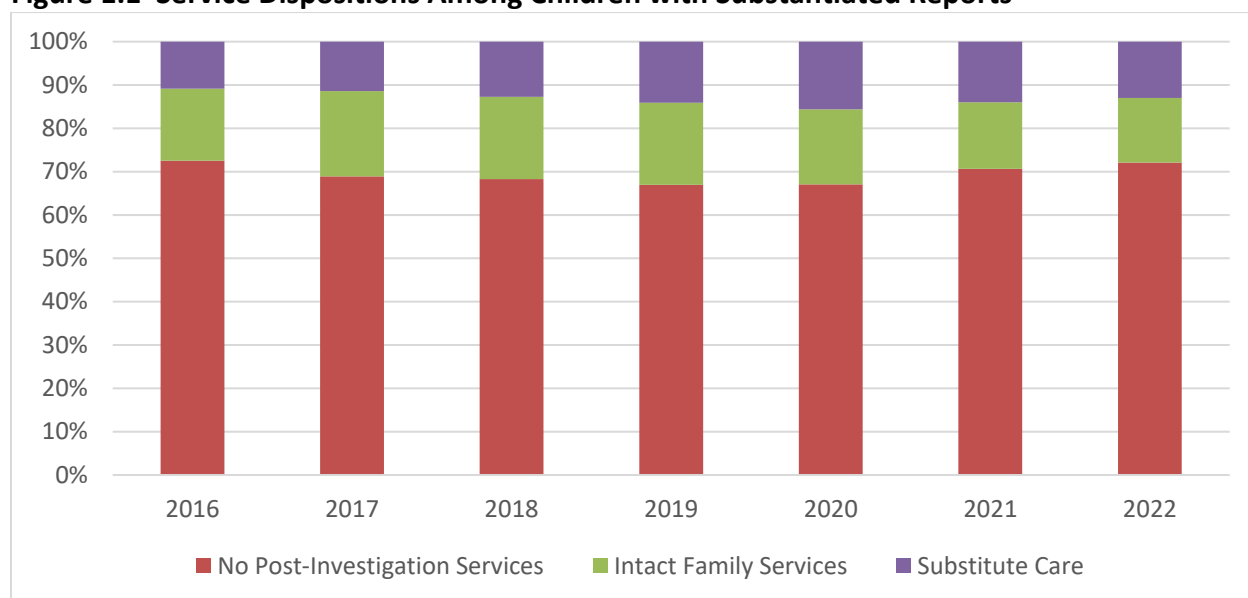
Rate of Victimization Per 100,000 Days Among Children in Substitute Care (CFSR)

↓ Of all children in substitute care during the year, the rate of substantiated maltreatment per 100,000 days in substitute care decreased from 19.0 in 2021 to 15.9 in 2022 (-16% change).

An additional consideration when selecting indicators of child safety is which populations to monitor. In Illinois, the mandate for ensuring child safety extends to all children investigated by the Department, regardless of whether post-investigation services are offered. Figure 1.1 shows the service dispositions of children with substantiated reports each year from 2016 to 2022. The majority of children with substantiated reports in Illinois do not receive any post-investigation services; the percentage in this group has increased from 67% in 2019 to 72.1% in 2022. The percentage of children served at home in intact family cases (i.e., children who remain at home while the family receives supportive services rather than being placed into substitute care) has decreased in recent years, reaching a new low of 14.9% in 2022.³ The percentage of children with a substantiated report who are placed in substitute care has also declined in recent years, from 15.6% in 2020 to 13.0% in 2022.⁴

³ This percentage includes 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.

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.

Figure 1.1 Service Dispositions Among Children with Substantiated Reports

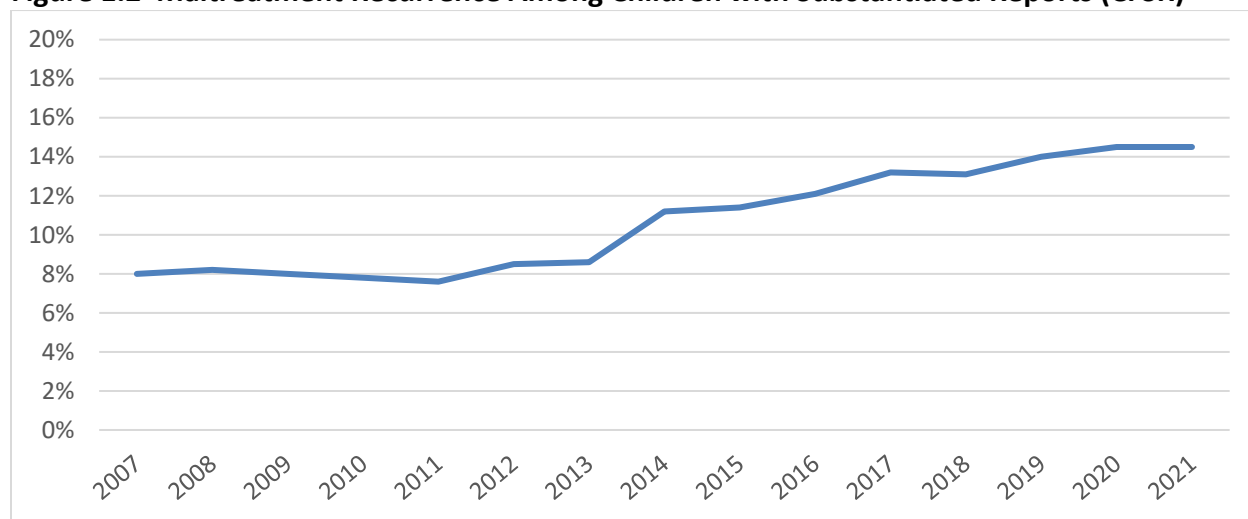
The relationship between post-investigation service provision and risk of maltreatment recurrence is complex. Some studies suggest that families who receive formal post-investigative services have higher rates of maltreatment recurrence than those who are not provided with services. An explanation for this outcome has remained unclear, however, there is some evidence suggesting 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 possibility that children served in one setting may be more or less safe than those served in another. Therefore, this chapter examines separate indicators of 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 technical definitions of these indicators).

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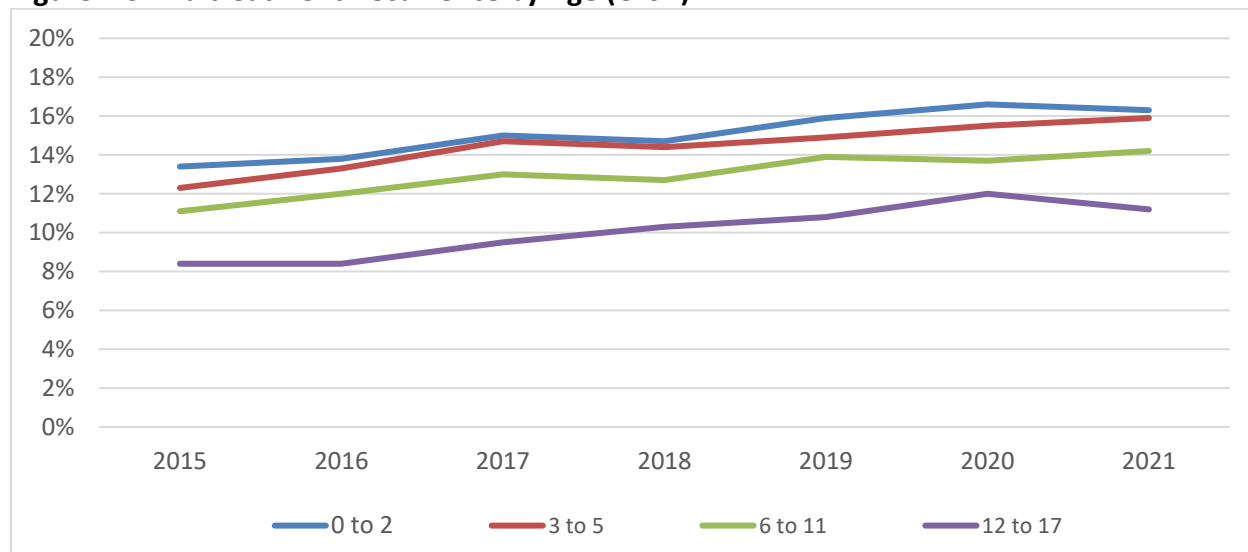
Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children with Substantiated Reports (CFSR)

Figure 1.2 displays the 12-month maltreatment recurrence rate for all children with a substantiated maltreatment report over the past 15 years (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.A). The recurrence rate was lowest in 2011 (7.6%) and has steadily increased since then until it reached a new high rate of 14.5% during the past two years.

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

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

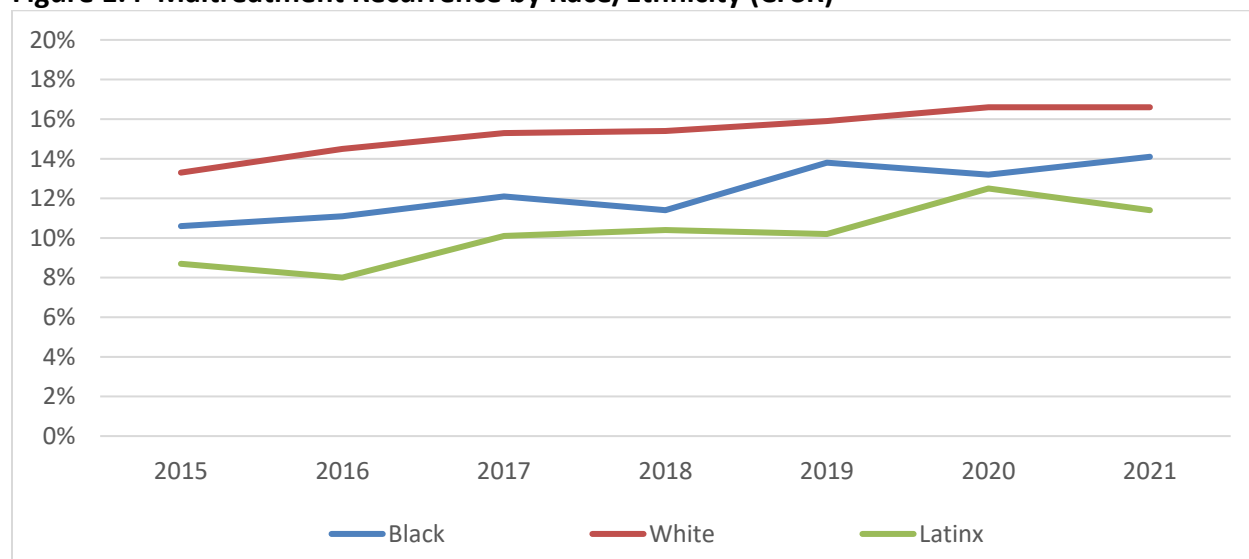
Current research suggests that younger children are more likely to experience maltreatment recurrence than older children,⁶ a pattern consistently observed in Illinois as well. Of children with a substantiated report in 2021, 16.3% of children 0 to 2 years old and 15.9% of children 3 to 5 years old had an additional substantiated report within 12 months, compared to 14.2% of children 6 to 11 years old and 11.2% of children 12 to 17 years old (see Figure 1.3 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.A). Maltreatment recurrence increased for all age groups over the observed period.

Figure 1.3 Maltreatment Recurrence by Age (CFSR)

⁶ Hindley, N., Ramchandani, P. G., & Jones, D. P. (2006). Risk factors for recurrence of maltreatment: a systematic review. *Archives of disease in childhood*, 91(9), 744-752; White, O. G., Hindley, N., & Jones, D. P. (2015). Risk factors for child maltreatment recurrence: An updated systematic review. *Medicine, Science and the Law*, 55(4), 259-277.

When recurrence rates are examined by child race and ethnicity, White children have higher rates of maltreatment recurrence than Black and Latinx children. Rates for all three groups have increased between 2015 and 2021 (see Figure 1.4 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.A).

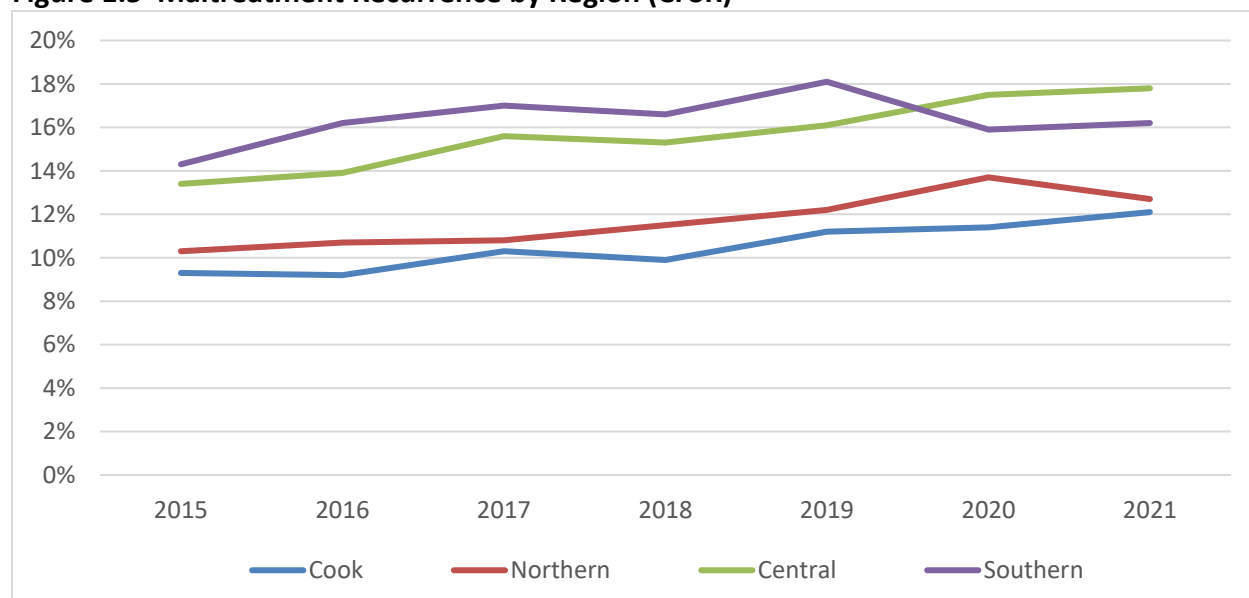
Figure 1.4 Maltreatment Recurrence by Race/Ethnicity (CFSR)



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Recurrence rates among children with substantiated reports were historically highest in the Southern region; however, in 2020 the Central region had the highest recurrence rates, and this remained true in 2021 (17.8%). Maltreatment recurrence rates were lowest in the Cook region across the entire observation period. Recurrence rates in each region, with the exception of the Southern region, have increased over the last seven years (Figure 1.5 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.A).

Figure 1.5 Maltreatment Recurrence by Region (CFSR)

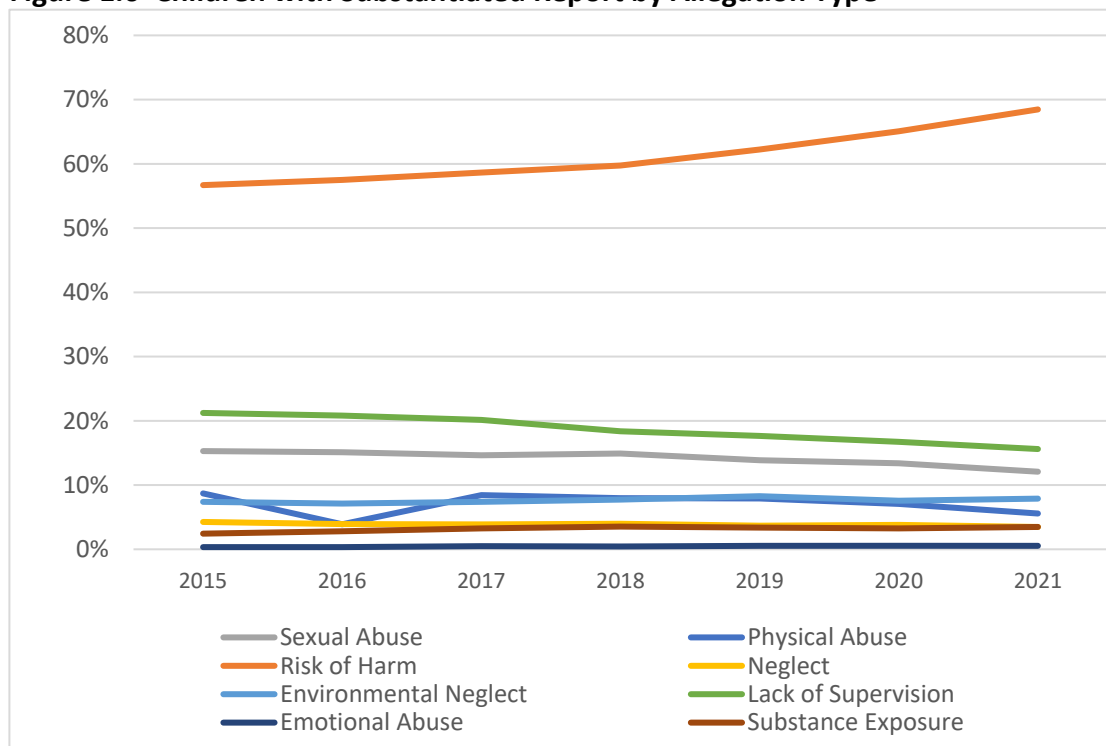


BOX 1.1

Risk of Harm and Maltreatment Recurrence

In the past seven years there has been a steady increase in maltreatment recurrence rates (see Figure 1.2). To further understand this trend, we examined the maltreatment types of children with substantiated reports. The Illinois child welfare system has defined around 60 maltreatment allegations that describe specific types of moderate to severe harm.⁷ In these analyses, the allegations were combined into eight maltreatment types, including Sexual Abuse, Physical Abuse, Risk of Harm, Neglect, Environmental Neglect, Lack of Supervision, Emotional Abuse, and Substance Exposure (see Appendix E for more details). Figure 1.6 shows the frequency of substantiated maltreatment reports by maltreatment type between 2015 and 2021. Risk of harm was the most frequent type of substantiated maltreatment each year and increased from 56.7% of all substantiated reports in 2015 to 68.5% in 2021. Rates of the other substantiated maltreatment types have remained stable or decreased over time.

Figure 1.6 Children with Substantiated Report by Allegation Type



Note. If the report had more than one substantiated allegation included in the same maltreatment type, it was counted once in that group. However, a report can include multiple substantiated maltreatment types, so the percentages of the eight maltreatment types will not add to 100 percent.

⁷ <https://dcfs.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dcf/documents/about-us/policy-rules-and-forms/documents/procedures/procedures-300-appendix-b.pdf>

The Risk of Harm maltreatment type is comprised of four allegations defined in DCFS Procedures 300 Appendix B:⁸ Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare (10); Substantial Risk of Physical Injury Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare - Incidents of Violence or Intimidation (10a); Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare - Medical Child Abuse (Factitious Disorder by Proxy or Munchausen by Proxy Syndrome [10b]); and Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare by Neglect (60). Of the children with substantiated reports of Risk of Harm each year, over 80% were substantiated for Allegation 60 (Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare by Neglect) and the percentage with this allegation has increased over time (see Table 1.1).

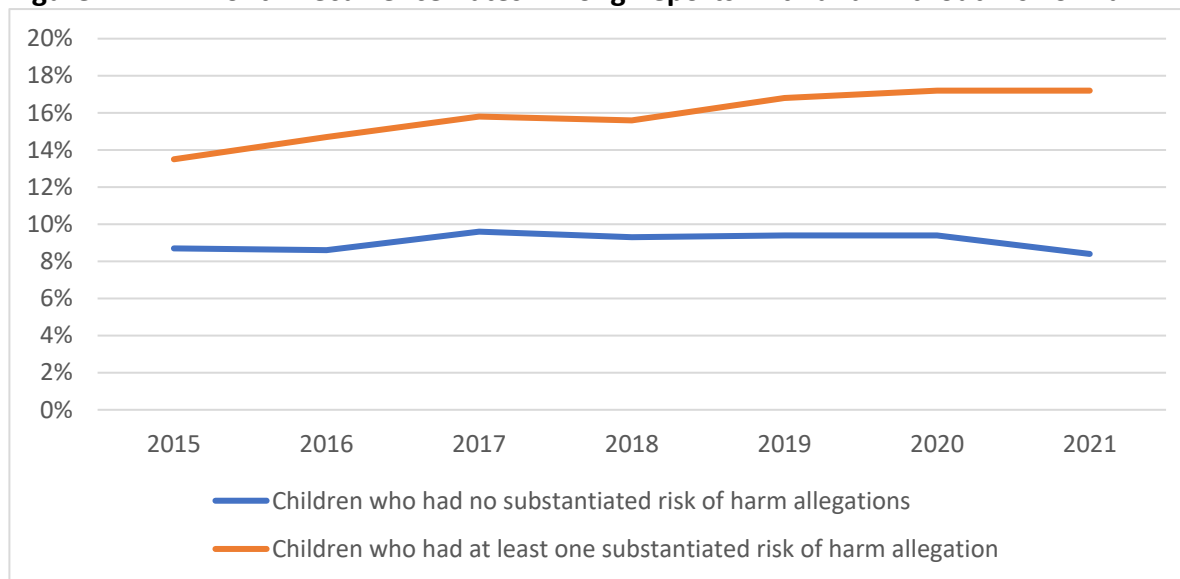
Table 1.1 Risk of Harm by Abuse (Allegation 10) or Neglect (Allegation 60)

FY	Children with Substantiated Risk of Harm Report	Children with Substantiated Allegation 10 ^a	Children with Substantiated Allegation 60	Children with Substantiated Allegation 10 (%) ^b	Children with Substantiated Allegation 60 (%) ^b
2015	17,421	3,996	14,332	22.9%	82.3%
2016	17,078	4,259	13,867	24.9%	81.2%
2017	16,934	3,419	14,520	20.2%	85.7%
2018	19,118	3,518	16,748	18.4%	87.6%
2019	20,772	3,548	18,449	17.1%	88.8%
2020	23,143	3,829	20,723	16.5%	89.5%
2021	25,778	3,926	23,365	15.2%	90.6%

Note. ^aAllegations #10, #10a, and #10b were combined; ^bPercentages do not add to 100% because a child can have more than one substantiated allegation.

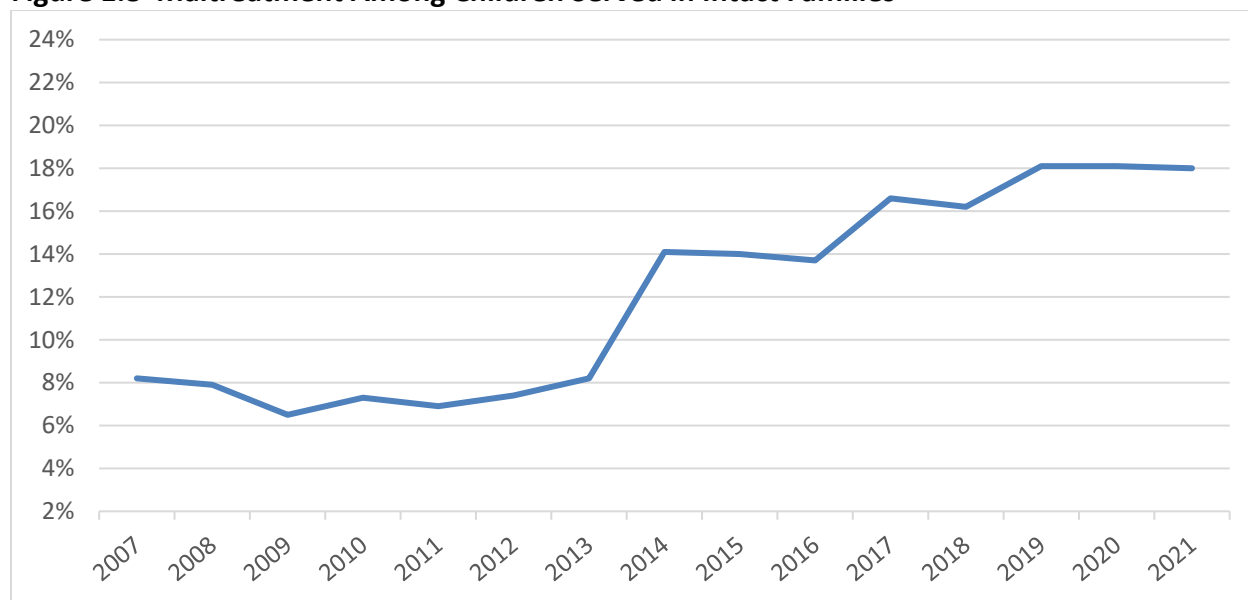
The next analysis examines the relationship between substantiated Risk of Harm allegations and maltreatment recurrence. Children who had substantiated reports were divided into two groups: those who had no substantiated Risk of Harm allegations and those who had at least one substantiated Risk of Harm allegation. The 12-month maltreatment recurrence rates were computed for each of the two groups from FY2015 to FY2021. As shown in Figure 1.7, the maltreatment recurrence rates were lower if the children had no substantiated Risk of Harm allegations (blue line) compared with those who had at least one substantiated Risk of Harm allegation (orange line). The high prevalence of substantiated Risk of Harm maltreatment in Illinois, combined with the fact that reports that include substantiated Risk of Harm are more likely to recur than those without it, suggest that additional study of this maltreatment type is needed.

⁸ <https://dcfs.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dcfcs/documents/about-us/policy-rules-and-forms/documents/procedures/procedures-300-appendix-b.pdf>

Figure 1.7 12-Month Recurrence Rates Among Reports With and Without Risk of Harm

Maltreatment Among Children in Intact Family Cases

Despite some families receiving a substantiated maltreatment allegation, there are instances when keeping the family together is in the best interests of the child. When this occurs, families receive supportive services to prevent the child from entering substitute care. These families are of special interest because their history of substantiated maltreatment places them at increased risk of repeat maltreatment compared to families with no history of maltreatment. Figure 1.8 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 2014 (from 8.2% in 2013 to 14.1% in 2014) and remained at that level for three years. The maltreatment rate increased again from 13.7% in 2016 to 18.0% in 2019, where it has remained stable for the past three years.

Figure 1.8 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families

Younger children served in intact family cases are more likely to be maltreated compared to older children (see Figure 1.9 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.B). In 2021, 21.4% of children ages 0 to 2 and 18.5% of children ages 3 to 5 had a substantiated report within 12 months of their case opening, compared to 12.8% of children 12 to 17. Maltreatment rates have increased among all ages groups since 2016.

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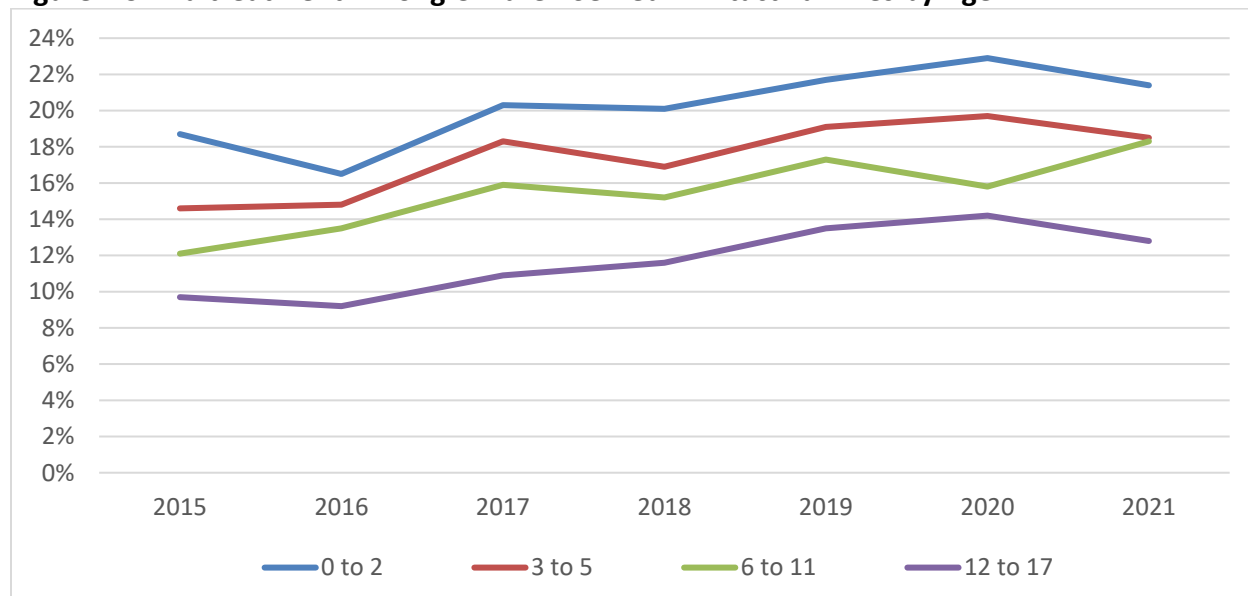
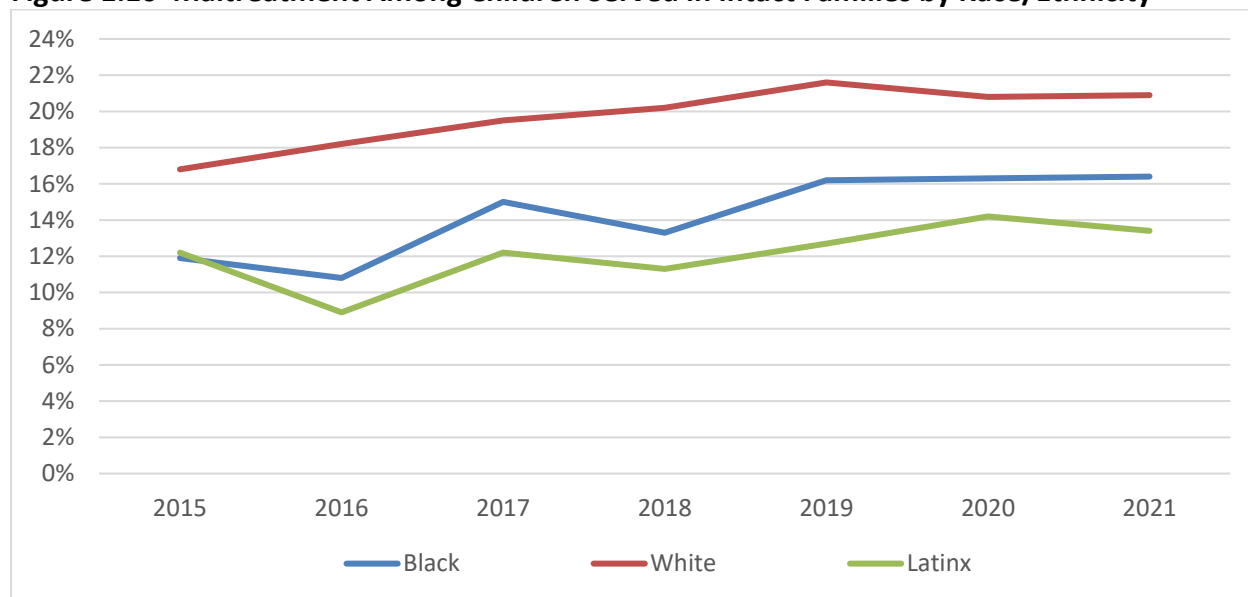
Figure 1.9 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families by Age

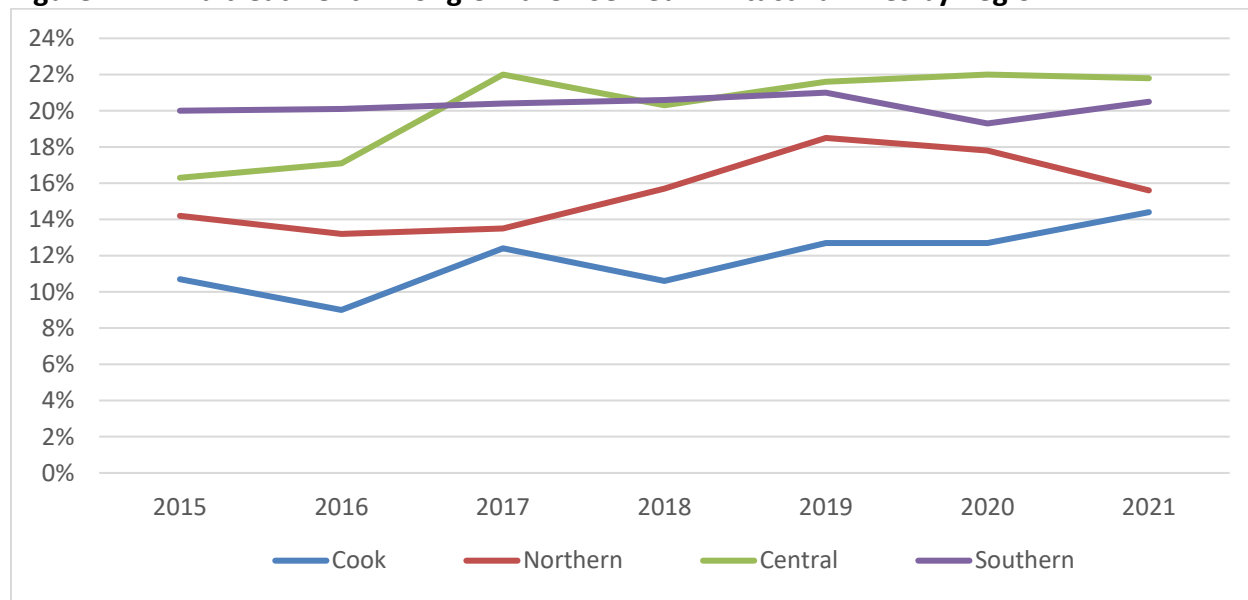
Figure 1.10 displays the maltreatment rates among children served in intact families by racial/ethnic group. White children served in intact families are consistently more likely to experience maltreatment than Black and Latinx children (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.B). Maltreatment among all three groups has risen in the past seven years.

Figure 1.10 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families by Race/Ethnicity



Maltreatment rates among children served in intact family cases have been consistently lower in the Cook and Northern regions compared to those in the Central and Southern regions (see Figure 1.11 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.B).

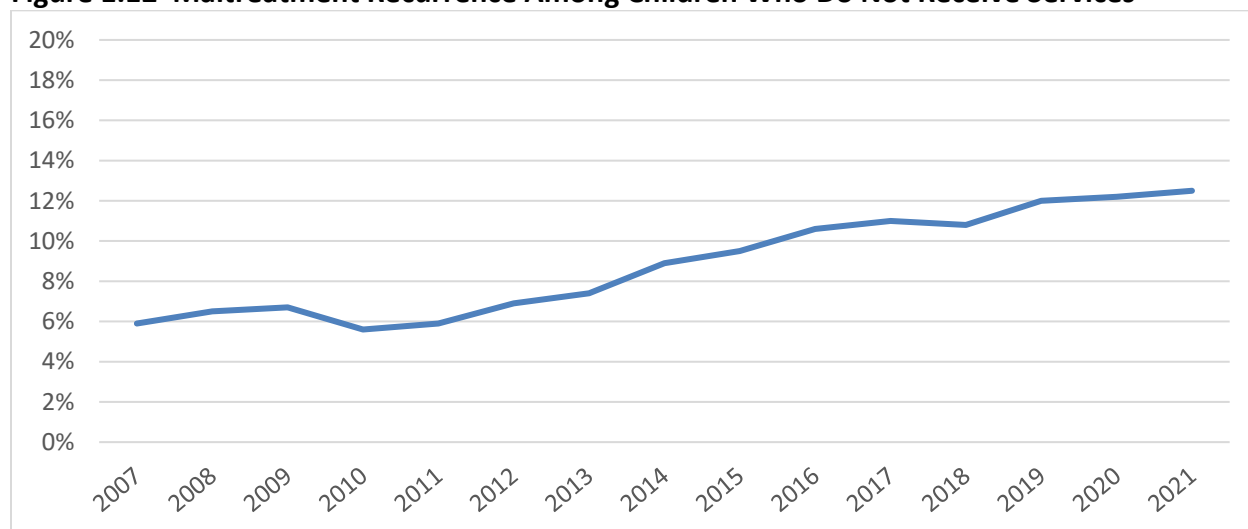
Figure 1.11 Maltreatment Among Children Served in Intact Families by Region



Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Who Do Not Receive Services

The majority of children (72.1%) that had substantiated reports of maltreatment in 2021 did not receive any post-investigation child welfare services (see Figure 1.1). Figure 1.12 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). When observed over the past 15 years, recurrence rates have consistently increased since 2010. There was a slight dip in 2018, but a new high rate of 12.5% was reached in 2021. Examination of recurrence rates by subgroups reveals that rates are highest among children who are ages 5 and younger, White, and living in the Central and Southern regions of the state (see Appendix B, Indicator 1.C).

Figure 1.12 Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Who Do Not Receive Services



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Maltreatment in Substitute Care (CFSR)

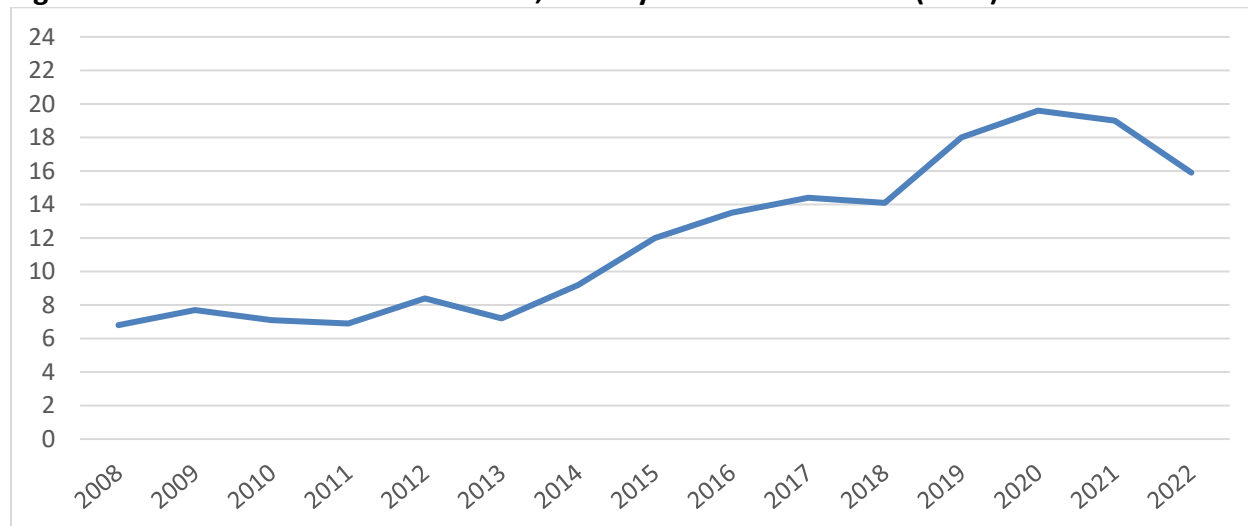
Substitute care is meant to be a safe respite for children whose safety and well-being was compromised. As such, it is essential that children remain protected while they are in state care. To assess child safety in substitute care, this report uses the measure that was developed for Round 3 of the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSRs).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. 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 1.13 shows the rate

⁹ Capacity Building Center for States (2019). CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Maltreatment in Foster Care. Retrieved on March 19, 2022 https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/sites/default/files/media_pdf/recurrence-maltreatment-cfsr3-cp-00008.pdf

CHILD SAFETY

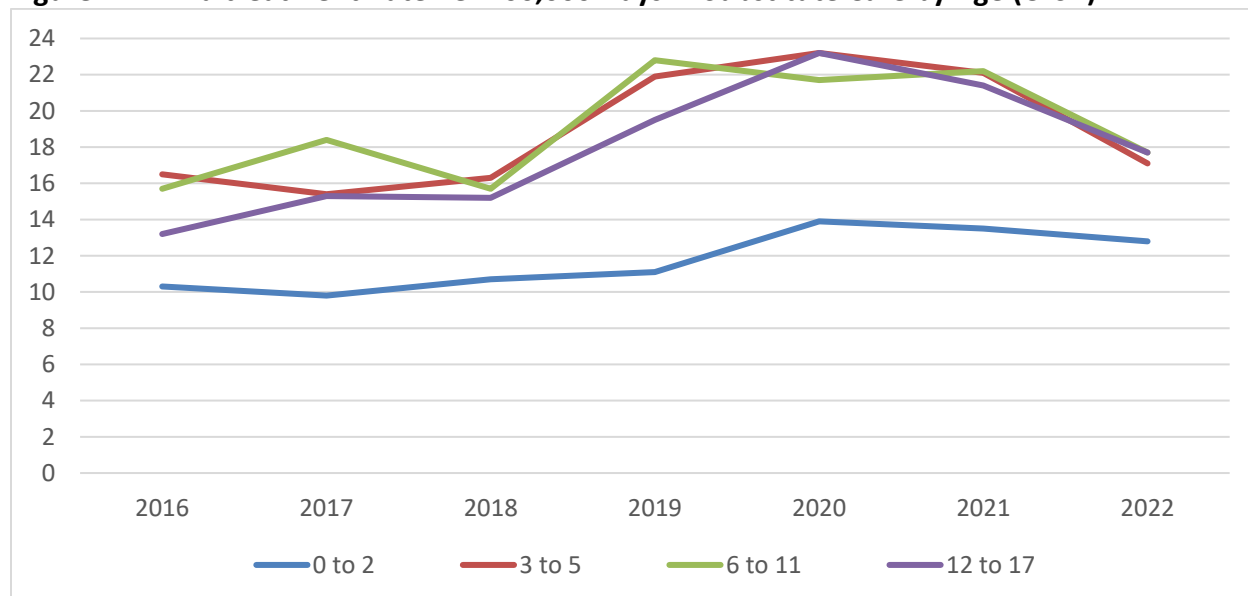
of substantiated reports per 100,000 days in care over the past 15 years. Maltreatment rates more than doubled since 2008 with the peak of 19.6 occurring in 2020. Since then, the rates are in decline, decreasing from 19.6 to 15.9 in 2022 (-19% change).

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



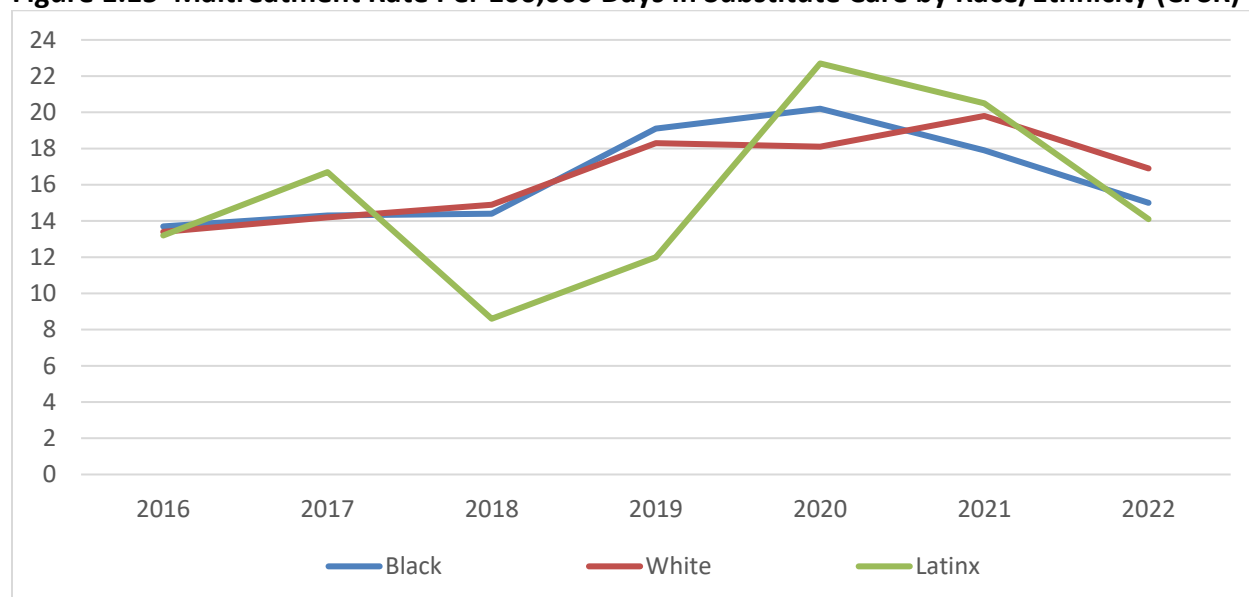
Unlike other indicators of child safety, children ages 0 to 2 years have the lowest rates of maltreatment in substitute care compared with children in other age groups (see Figure 1.14 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.D). Overall, rates of maltreatment in care peaked in 2020 for all age groups, except children 6 to 10, which peaked in 2019. The decrease in maltreatment rates between 2021 and 2022 is seen among all age groups, although the decrease among children age 0 to 2 was slight.

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



In general, the rates of maltreatment in care increased for Black and Latinx children until 2020 and have since seen significant declines. The maltreatment rates for White children increased until 2021 and then declined in 2022 (see Figure 1.15 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.D).

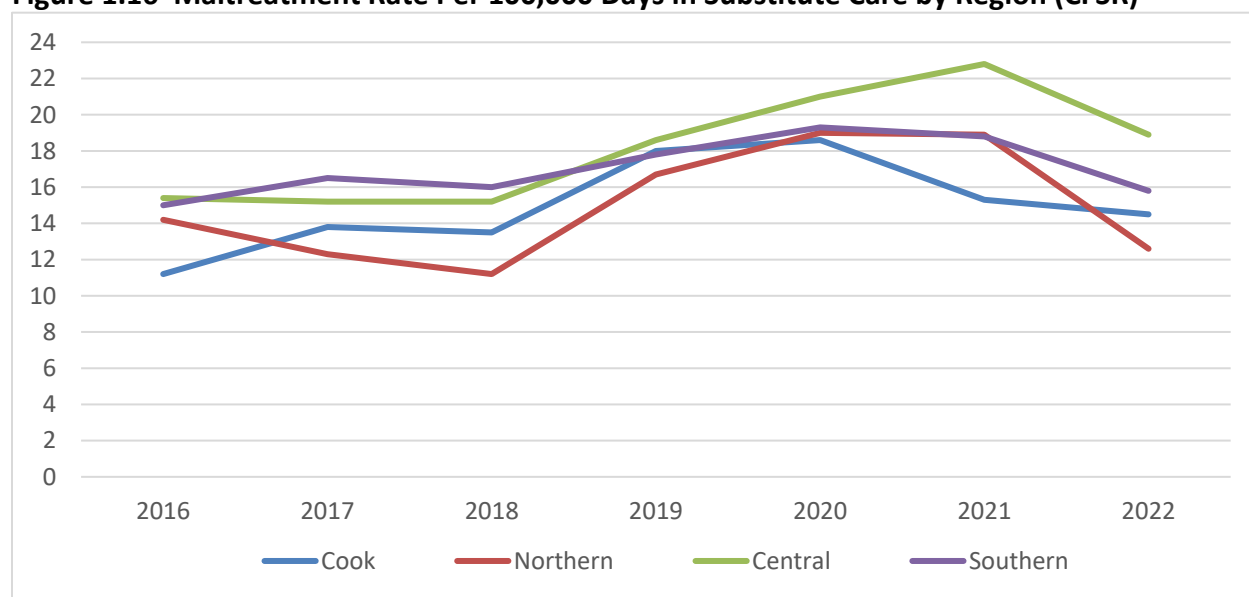
Figure 1.15 Maltreatment Rate Per 100,000 Days in Substitute Care by Race/Ethnicity (CFSR)



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Maltreatment rates increased for all regions between 2016 and 2020 (see Figure 1.16 and Appendix B, Indicator 1.D). Similarly, rates in all regions decreased between 2021 and 2022, with the Northern region showing the largest decline (-33%).

Figure 1.16 Maltreatment Rate Per 100,000 Days in Substitute Care by Region (CFSR)



Discussion and Conclusions: Child Safety

The purpose of child protective services is to ensure the safety of alleged child maltreatment victims. In some cases, this is done by removing children from their homes and placing them into substitute care until it is determined safe for them to return home. In most 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 most in Illinois do not.

On the whole, the results presented in this chapter continue to show persistent and troubling trends related to child safety in Illinois. For three of the four child safety indicators, the percentage of children who experience additional harm is at the highest levels in many years. Although recurrence rates have plateaued in the most recent year on some indicators, serious concerns remain about the safety of children from additional abuse and neglect after they become involved with the child welfare system.

There is a reasonable expectation that intact family services should reduce the risk of maltreatment for children. Past *B.H.* monitoring reports have 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 remain at their highest rate in the last 15 years – 18.0% of the children served in intact family cases in 2021 had an indicated maltreatment report within 12 months of their case opening. Even more worrisome is that the most vulnerable children are at highest risk; 21.4% of children 0 to 2 years being served in an intact family case in 2021 experienced a substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months. Little research has focused on post-investigative services for children that remain in the home. As such, it would be beneficial for the Department to consider the service array available for families and whether these services are matched with the needs of the family.¹⁰

A positive trend was noted related to the rate of maltreatment in substitute care. After many years of increases that peaked in 2020 at 19.6 per 100,000 days, the rate of maltreatment in care has declined to 15.9 per 100,000 days in 2022 (a relative decrease of 19%). Although this decline is positive news, the rate of maltreatment in care is still significantly higher than the goal of 9.0 per 100,000 days set by the Department in collaboration with the B.H. plaintiff attorneys and the Expert Panel. Continued monitoring of this indicator as the Department implements the interventions contained within the Superseding Implementation Plan (SIP) will be important.

¹⁰ Simon, J. D., & Brooks, D. (2019). Targeting services to reduce need after a child abuse investigation: Examining complex needs, matched services, and meaningful change. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 99, 386-394.



Chapter 2

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

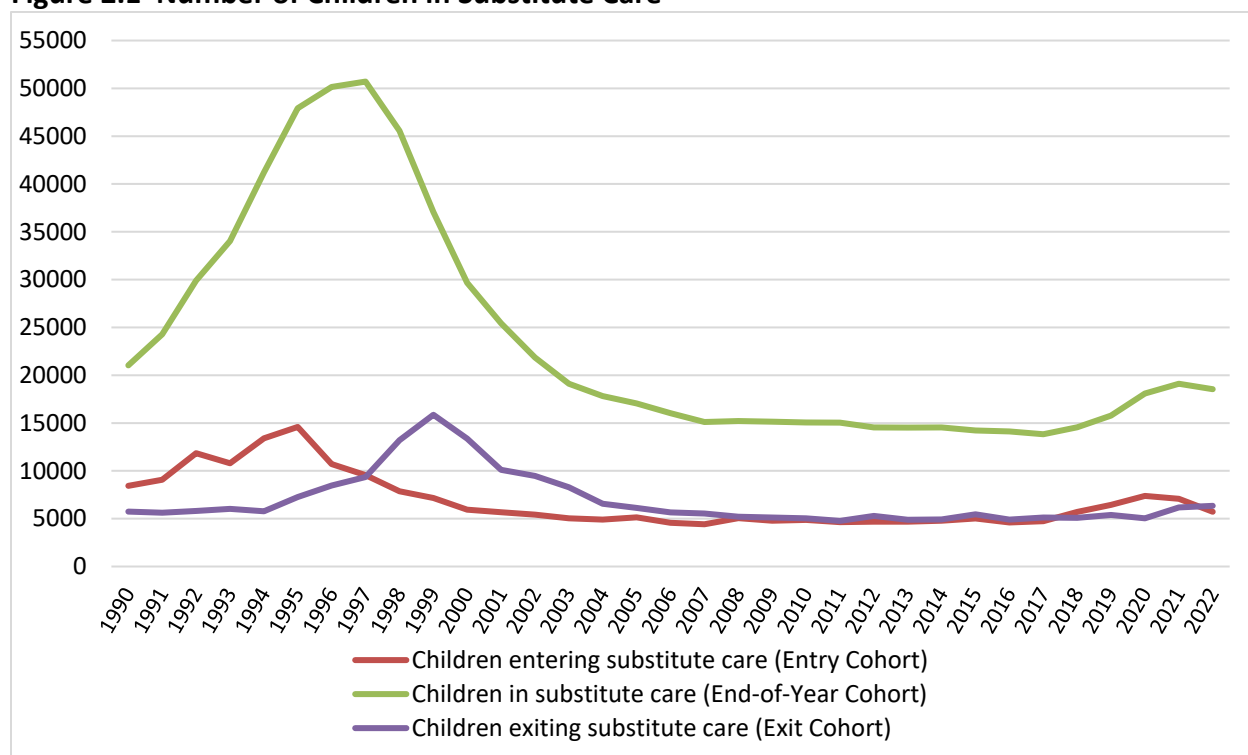
Children should only be removed from their parents and placed in substitute care when it is necessary to ensure their safety and well-being. Once removed from their homes, the public child welfare system and its private agency partners have a responsibility to provide children with living arrangements 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. Moreover, substitute care should be a temporary solution and children should live in substitute care settings for the shortest period necessary. 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 in these areas are described in the chapter sections, and technical definitions 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 (entry cohort) and their placements at the end of the fiscal year (end-of-year cohort). It is important to keep in mind that the children in these two samples are not the same; initial placements examine the first placement for all children who entered care within a given fiscal year, while end-of-year placements examine the placement types of children in care on the last day of the state fiscal year (June 30). 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 in any end-of-year sample. The indicator for length of time in substitute care measures the median length of time in care for all children who exited care during the fiscal year (exit cohort).

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When examining the indicators related to substitute care placements, it is important to understand the number of children who are entering and exiting care during the year. Figure 2.1 shows the distribution of three different samples of children in substitute care: entry cohort (number of children who entered care), end-of-year cohort (a cross-sectional count of the number of children in care on June 30), and exit cohort (number of children who exited care). Beginning in the early 2000s, the number of children entering care each year was relatively stable and fluctuated between 4,500 and 5,500. In 2019, the number of children entering care increased to 6,448, and over 7,000 children entered care in 2020 and 2021. The increased number of children entering care led to an increase in the total number of children in care at the end of the year; after many years of relative stability, the number of children in care at the end of the year increased from 14,563 in 2018 to over 19,000 in 2021. The large increase in the number of children in care during the past few years might have an impact on the indicators examined in this chapter.

Figure 2.1 Number of Children in Substitute Care



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 remained stable and was 3.3% in 2022.
- ↔ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a kinship foster home remained stable and was 75.1% in 2022.
- ↑ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a traditional foster home increased from 15.9% in 2021 to 17.7% in 2022 (+11% change).
- ↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in a specialized foster home decreased from 1.0% in 2021 to 0.9% in 2022 (-10% change).
- ↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home decreased from 0.8% in 2021 to 0.6% in 2022 (-25% change).
- ↓ Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage initially placed in an institution or group home decreased from 2.7% in 2021 to 2.3% in 2022 (-15% 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 5.3% in 2021 to 4.9% in 2022 (-8% change).
- ↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a kinship foster home remained stable and was 60.3% in 2022.
- ↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a traditional foster home remained stable and was 19.8% in 2022.
- ↔ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in a specialized foster home remained stable and was 10.7% in 2022.
- ↑ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an emergency shelter or emergency foster home increased from 0.2% in 2021 to 0.4% in 2022 (+100% change).
- ↓ Of all children in substitute care at the end of the year, the percentage placed in an institution or group home decreased from 4.3% in 2021 to 3.9% in 2022 (-9% 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 81.7% in 2022.

↔ remained stable for children initially placed in traditional foster homes was 56.7% in 2022.

For children with three or more siblings in care:

↑ increased for children initially placed in kinship foster homes from 50.9% in 2021 to 57.9% in 2022 (+14% change).

↓ decreased for children initially placed in traditional foster homes from 12.0% in 2021 to 10.6% in 2022 (-12% 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 70.0% in 2022.

↔ remained stable for children in traditional foster homes and was 52.8% in 2022.

For children with three or more siblings in care:

↔ remained stable for children in kinship foster homes and was 34.7% in 2022.

↓ decreased for children in traditional foster homes from 13.5% in 2021 to 11.8% in 2022 (-13% change).

Placement Stability (CFSR)

↑ Of all children entering substitute care during the year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days in care increased from 3.0 in 2021 to 3.2 in 2022 (+7% change).

Children Who Run Away From Substitute Care

↓ Of all children entering substitute care between the age of 12 and 17 years, the percentage that ran away from a placement within one year of entry decreased from 14.2% in 2020 to 10.3% in 2021 (-27% change).

Length of Stay in Substitute Care

↑ Of all children who exited substitute care, the median length of stay increased from 26 months in 2021 to 29 months in 2022 (+12% change).

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 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 “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.

Placement Type Terminology

BOX 2.1

Home of parents involves placement of children with the non-offending 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 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

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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.

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.

or behavioral disorders, and children with HIV/AIDS. Treatment foster parents are required to obtain additional 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 if no other possible foster home placements can be arranged.⁴ DCFS policy states that placements in emergency shelters should not exceed 30 calendar days.

Two other placement types are non-family settings. **Group home** refers to a community-based residence that houses more children than are permitted to reside in a foster family home, but fewer than a residential treatment center. In Illinois, the number of children in a group home is limited to 10 or fewer. 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, several analyses in this chapter combine children in group homes with children in other congregate care settings. In these instances, the combined term “Institution/Group Home” is used.

One advantage of placing children in the least restrictive, most family-like setting is that it increases bonding capital. Bonding capital is a type of social capital that comes from strong ties to family and friends. 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 fiscal year and 2) children in care at the end of the fiscal 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) provides a snapshot of the overall placement types for all the children in care at the end of each fiscal year.

⁴ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (October, 2015). *Procedures 301 Appendix G Temporary Placement to the DFCS Statewide Emergency Shelter System*. Springfield, IL: Author.

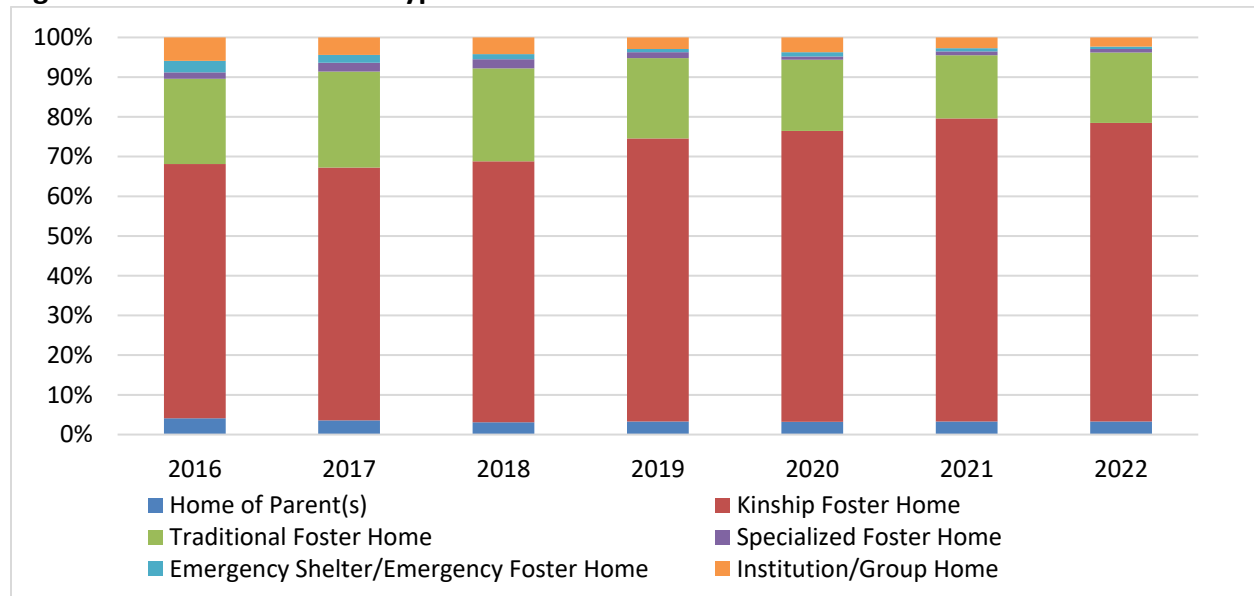
⁵ Putnam, R. (2000). *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York: Simon & Schuster. Granovetter M. S. (1973). The strength of weak ties. *American Journal of Sociology*, 78, 1360-1380.

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.

Initial Placements

Initial placement types for children entering care during fiscal years 2016 through 2022 are shown in Figure 2.2. In the past seven years, between 3.1% and 4.1% of children were initially placed in the home of their parent(s) after DCFS took legal responsibility for them (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.1). Most children entering care were initially placed in kinship foster homes; that percentage has been increasing over time and was 75.1% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.2). Conversely, the percentage of children initially placed in traditional foster homes has been decreasing and was 17.7% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.3). The percentage of children initially placed in specialized foster homes is small compared to other types of placements and has decreased from 2.3% in 2018 to 0.9% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.4). The percentage of children initially placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes has decreased from 2.9% in 2016 to 0.6% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.5). The percentage of children with an initial placement in group homes or institutions has decreased over time and reached its lowest point of 2.3% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.A.6).

Figure 2.2 Initial Placement Types

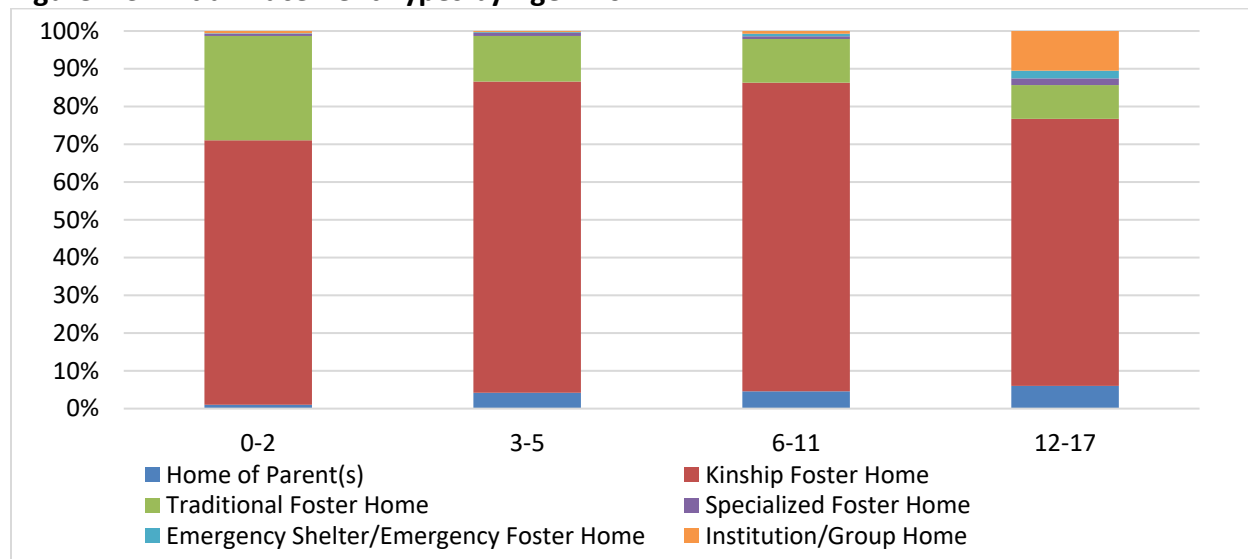


The use of different placement types for initial placements varies by child age, race/ethnicity, and geographical region of the state. These relationships are explored in more detail by examining the initial placements during the most recent fiscal year for which data are available (2022). Over 98% of children 11 years and younger were initially placed in less restrictive settings such as home of parent(s), kinship, traditional, or specialized foster homes, as compared to 87.3% of youth 12 to 17 years old (see Figure 2.3 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.A.1–2.A.6). Conversely, 12.5% of youth 12 to 17 years old were initially placed in a more restrictive settings (emergency shelters, group homes, and institutions); these placements were much less common for younger children. The increased use of kinship homes as initial

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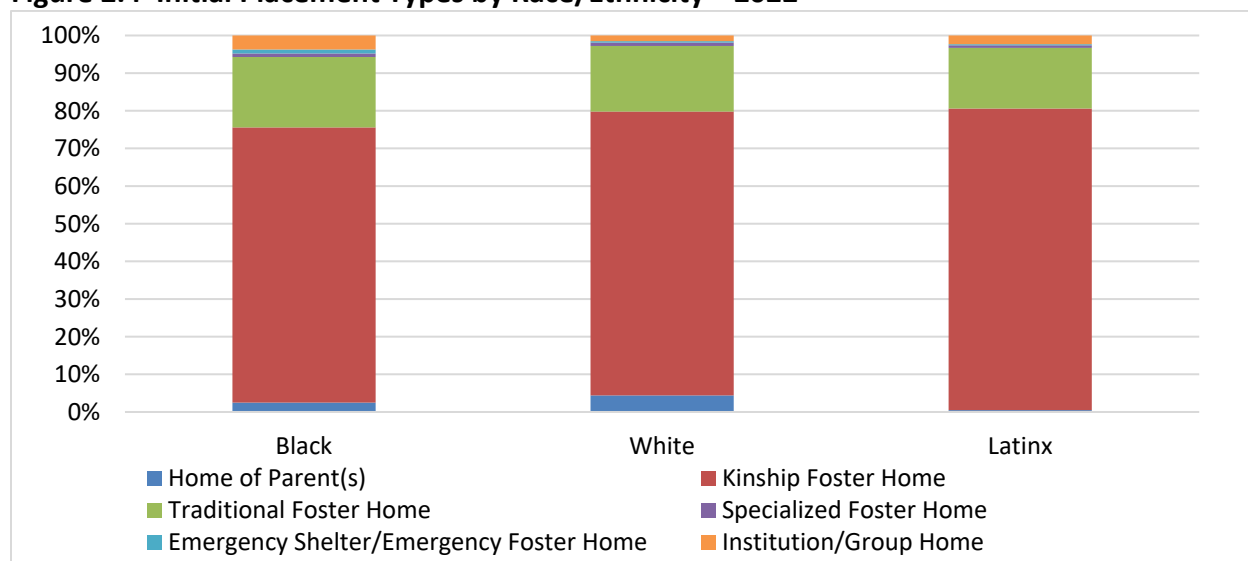
placements over the past seven years has occurred across all age groups but was particularly notable among older children. For children 12 to 17 years old, the percentage initially placed in kinship homes has increased from 50.4% in 2016 to 70.6% in 2022 (see Indicator 2.A.2). The decreased use of traditional homes as initial placements in recent years has occurred across all age groups but was particularly notable among children 5 and younger (see Indicator 2.A.3).

Figure 2.3 Initial Placement Types by Age—2022



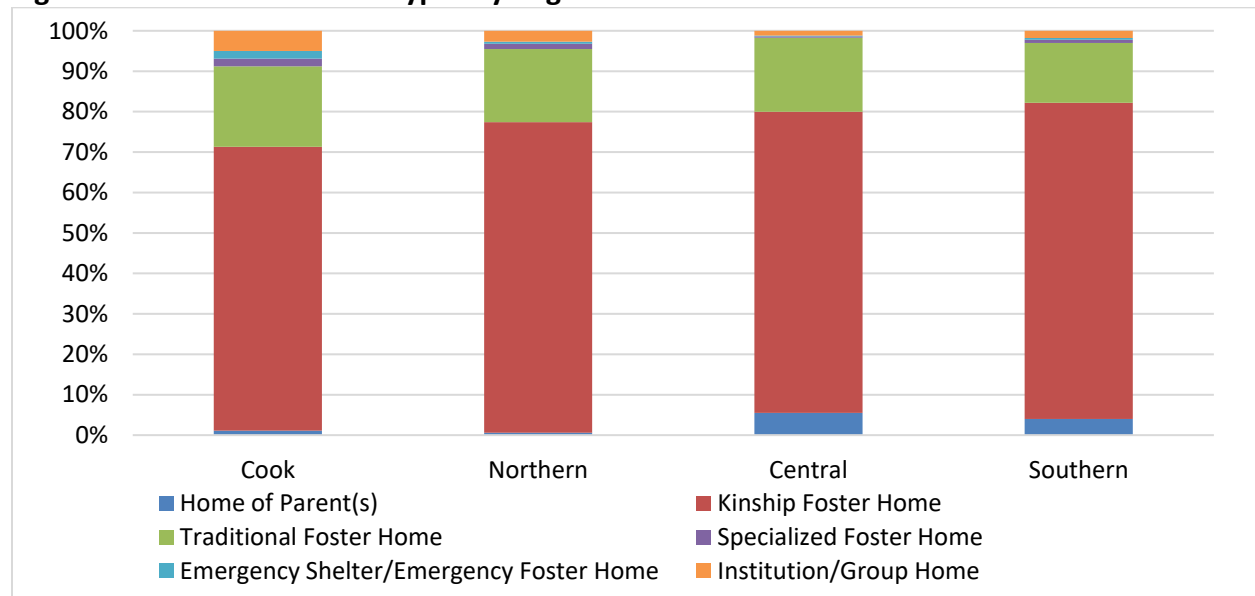
Initial placement types varied slightly by child race/ethnicity (see Figure 2.4 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.A.1–2.A.6). Rates of initial placements in emergency shelters/emergency foster homes are highest for Black children; this is also true for initial placements in group homes and institutions. However, the percentage of Black children initially placed in these placement types has been decreasing over the past seven years (see Indicator 2.A.6).

Figure 2.4 Initial Placement Types by Race/Ethnicity—2022



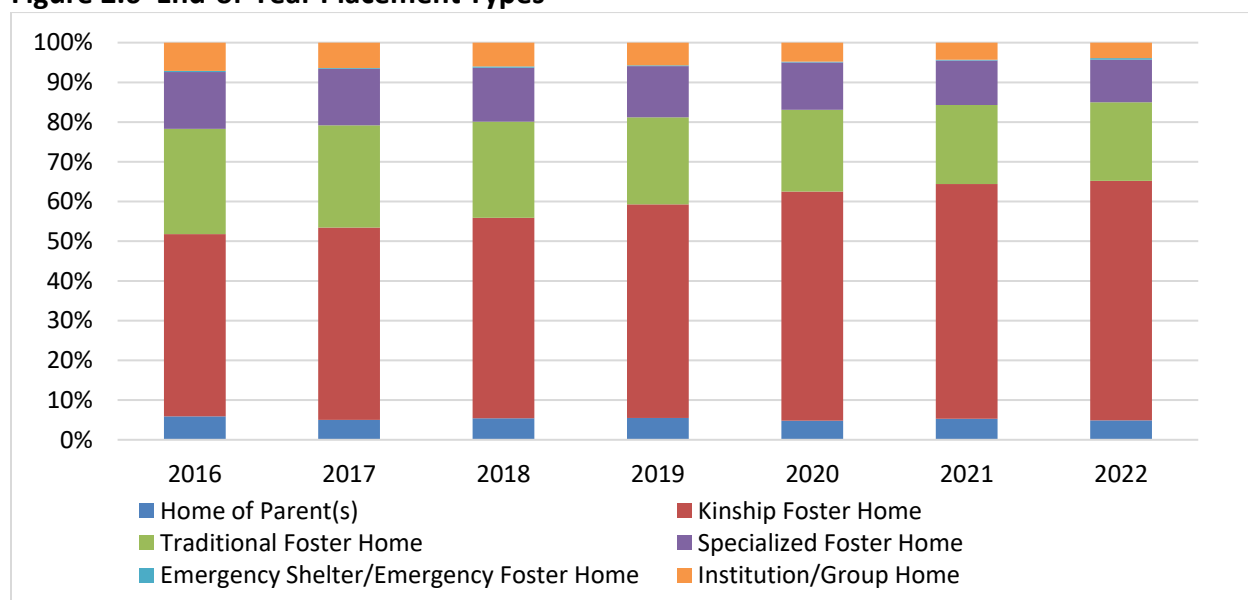
Although the majority of children across all regions were initially placed in either kinship or traditional foster homes, initial placements in more restrictive placement types varied by region (see Figure 2.5 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.A.1–2.A.6). In 2022, the Cook region had a higher percentage of initial placements in emergency shelters/emergency foster homes (1.9% vs. Northern, 0.5%; Central, 0.2%; Southern, 0.4%) and in institutions/group homes (5.0% vs. Northern, 2.7%; Central, 1.2%; and Southern, 1.8%). However, the percentages of children initially placed in emergency shelters/emergency foster and group homes/institutions in the Cook region have decreased over the past seven years, which is a positive trend.

Figure 2.5 Initial Placement Types by Region—2022

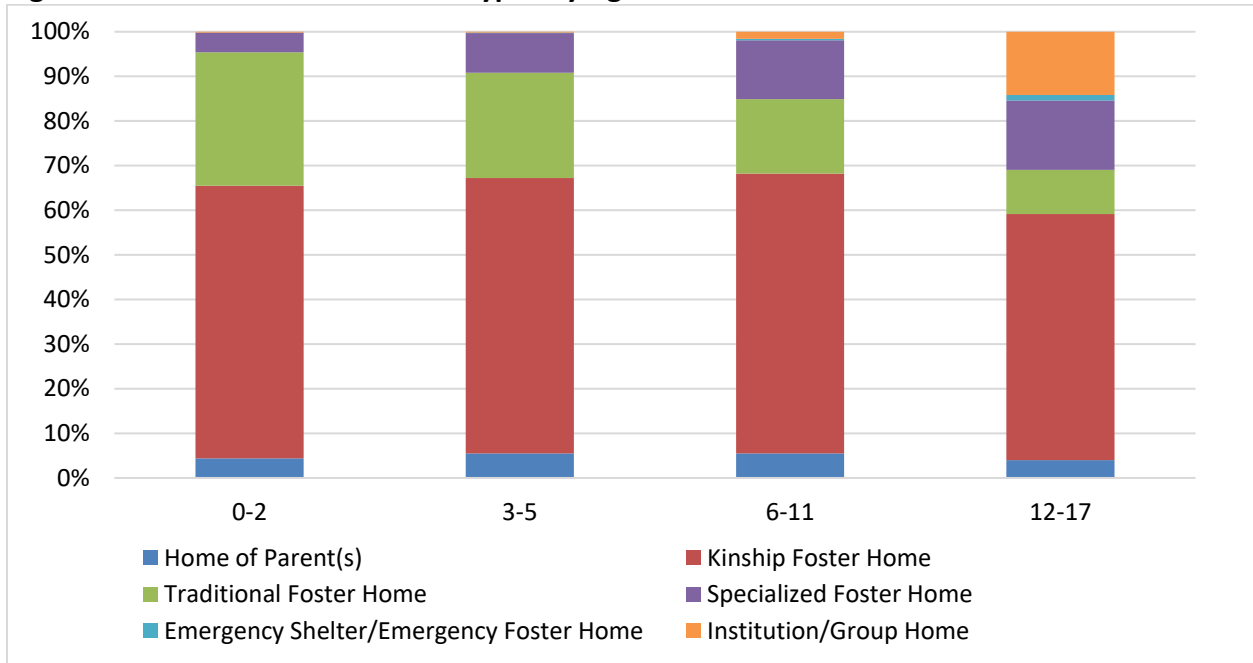


End-of-Year Placements

End-of-year placement types for children in substitute care during fiscal years 2016 through 2022 are shown in Figure 2.6. Among children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, between 4.8-5.9% were placed with their parent(s) over the past seven years (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.1). More than half of the children in care were in kinship foster homes at the end of the year since 2018 and the percentage increased to 60.3% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.2). Conversely, the percentage of children in traditional foster homes has decreased each year and reached its lowest point of 19.8% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.3). The percentage of children in specialized foster homes at the end of the year also decreased gradually over the past seven years and was at its lowest point (10.7%) in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.4). Placement rates in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes at the end of the year have stayed at or below 0.4% in the past seven years (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.5). The percentage of children in group homes at the end of the fiscal year has been less 1% for the past seven years (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.6), and the percentage in institutions has decreased from 6.1% in 2016 to 3.4% in 2022 (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.B.7).

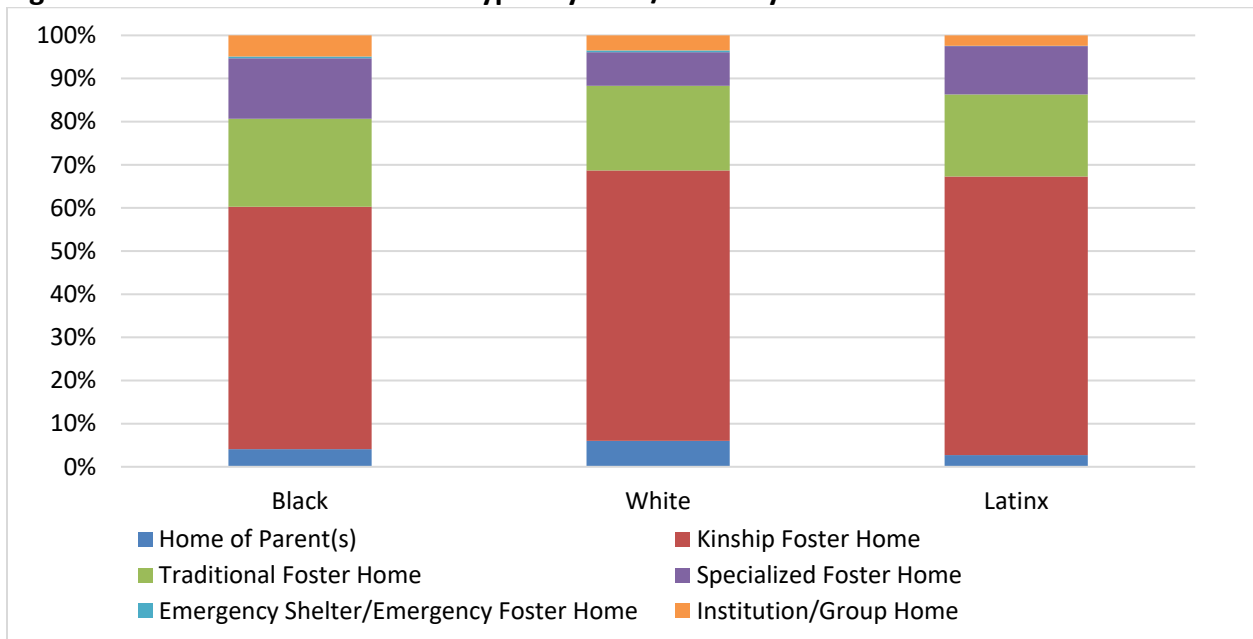
Figure 2.6 End-of-Year Placement Types


Placement types at the end of the year vary by child age, race/ethnicity, and region. These relationships are explored by examining end-of-year placements during the most recent fiscal year for which data are available (2022). A child's placement at the end of the year varied by age (see Figure 2.7 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.1–2.B.7). In 2022, around 62% of children 11 years and younger were living in kinship foster homes at the end of the year, compared to 55.2% of youth 12 to 17 years old. Similarly, the percentage of children living in traditional foster homes at the end of the year was higher for younger children: 29.9% of children 0 to 2 years old were in traditional foster homes compared to 9.9% of youth 12 to 17 years old. Conversely, the proportion of children placed in specialized foster homes, institutions, or group homes at the end of year was larger for older children. For example, 1.6% of children 6 to 11 years old were living in group homes or institutions at the end of 2022, compared to 14.2% of children 12 to 17 years old. There have been positive trends towards less restrictive placements for children 12 to 17 years old during the past seven years. Older youth had the largest increase in kinship foster home placements at the end of year, from 31.9% in 2016 to 55.2% in 2022 (see Indicator 2.B.2), as well as a large decrease in institutional placements (from 19.8% in 2016 to 12.3% in 2022; see Indicator 2.B.7).

Figure 2.7 End-of-Year Placement Types by Age—2022

When placements at the end of FY2022 were compared by race/ethnicity, Black children were less likely than White or Latinx children to be placed in kinship foster homes (56.1% compared to 62.7% and 64.6%, respectively); and more likely to be placed in a specialized foster home (14.0% compared to 7.8% and 11.2%, respectively; see Figure 2.8 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.1–2.B.7).

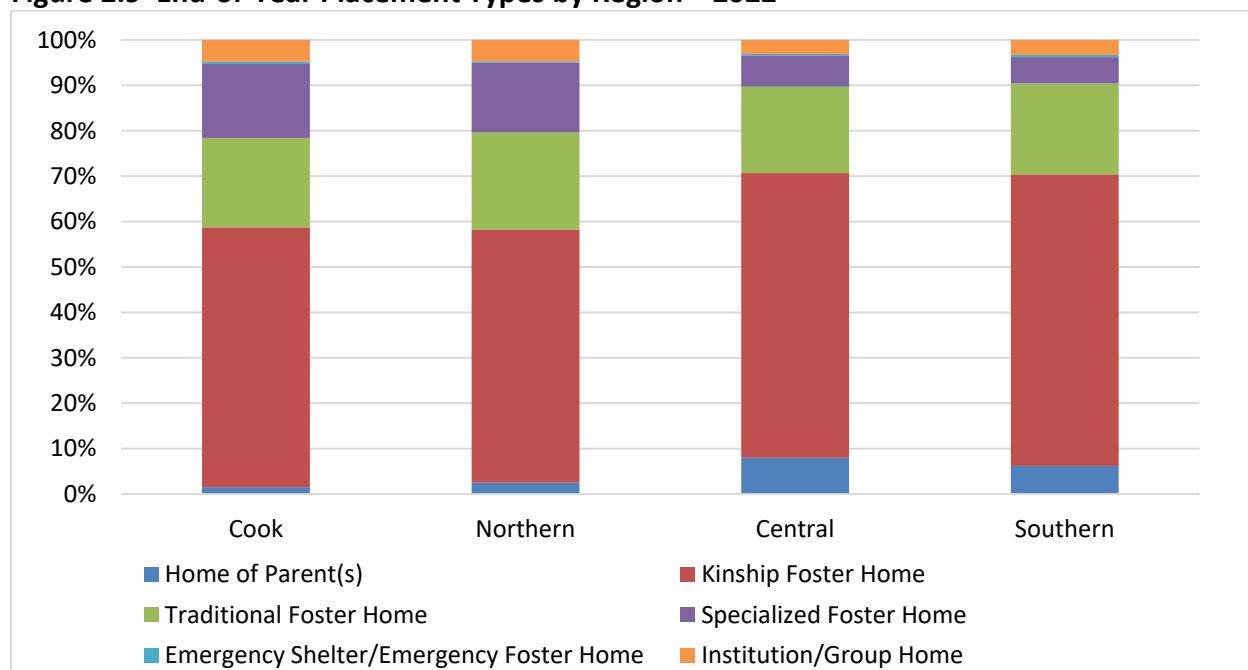
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Figure 2.8 End-of-Year Placement Types by Race/Ethnicity—2022

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Analysis of children's placement settings at the end of FY2022 shows several regional differences (see Figure 2.9 and Appendix B, Indicators 2.B.1–2.B.7). The Central (8.0%) and Southern (6.2%) regions had higher percentages of children living in the home of parent(s) than did the Northern (2.5%) and Cook (1.5%) regions. The Southern region had the highest percentage of children placed in kinship foster homes (64.2%) followed by the Central region (62.7%), the Cook region (57.3%), and the Northern region (55.7%). Children in the Cook (16.3%) and Northern (15.4%) regions were more likely to live in specialized foster homes than those in the Central (6.9%) and Southern (5.8%) regions.

Figure 2.9 End-of-Year Placement Types by Region—2022



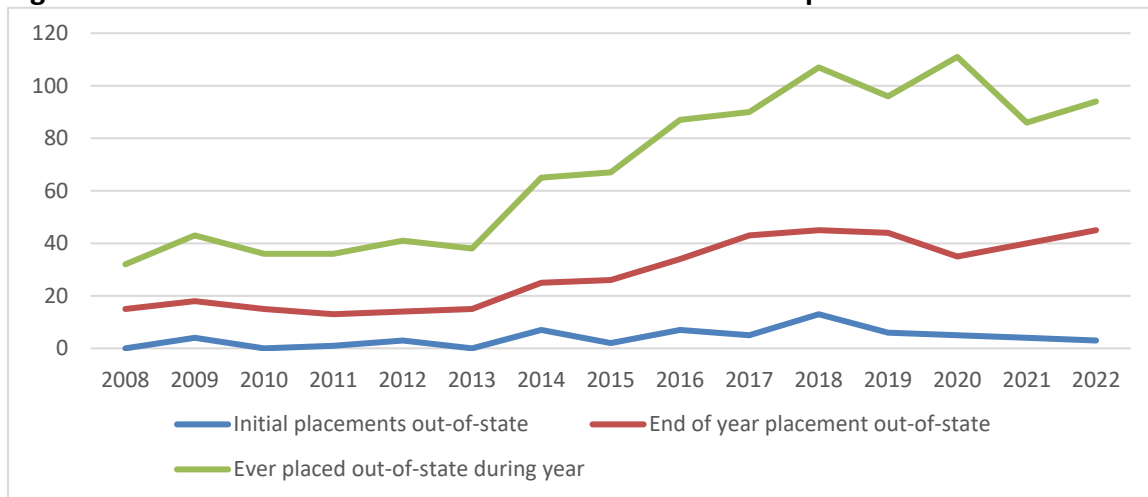
Children Placed in Out-of-State Group Homes or Institutions

BOX 2.2

The *B.H.* monitoring report included an indicator for out-of-state placement of children until FY2010. This indicator was discontinued because the number of children in out-of-state placements had dwindled to near zero for several years. In response to the concerns raised by the *Chicago Tribune* that the number of children DCFS placed in out-of-state care grew from 19 in 2011 to 56 in 2018 and the limited capacity of DCFS to monitor the care and safety of children placed out-of-state institutions,⁷ we now examine the number of children placed in out-of-state group homes and institutions

1) in their initial placements; 2) at the end of each fiscal year; and 3) at any time during the fiscal year (see Figure 2.10). The number of children placed in an out-of-state institution in their initial placement has been small in the past 15 years; there were only three children initially placed out of state in 2022. The number of children placed in out-of-state institutions at the end of the fiscal year has been increasing since 2014 and the number in 2022 (n = 45) was three times more than in 2008 (n = 15). The number of children ever placed out-of-state during the year increased from 67 in 2016 to 111 in 2020, but has since decreased slightly to 94 in 2022.

Figure 2.10 Number of Children Placed in Out-of-State Group Homes or Institutions

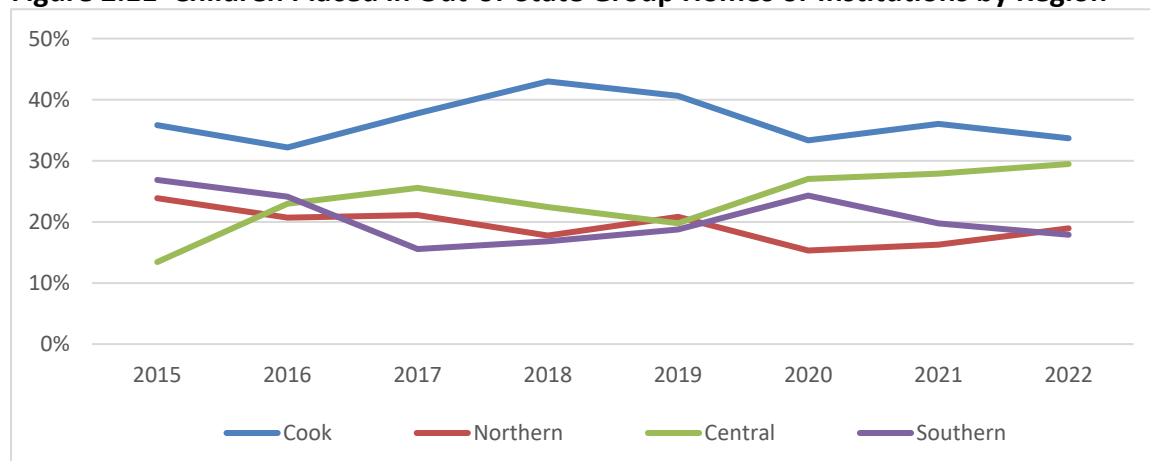


To understand the use of out-of-state group homes and institutions, the following analyses focus on children ever placed out-of-state during the fiscal year. In 2022, the majority of these children were placed in Tennessee (28.7%), Wisconsin (19.1%), or Indiana (10.6%). Also, most of them were 12 to 17 years old (89.5%), and either Black (43.2%) or White (49.5%). Children from the Cook region were most likely to be placed out-of-state as compared to the other regions. Of children placed in out-of-state group homes and institutions in 2022, 34% were from the Cook region, followed by 29% from

⁷ Jackson, D., & Eldeib, D. (March 12, 2021). Hurt instead of helped: Foster children victimized in out-of-state facilities where oversight is lacking. *Chicago Tribune*.

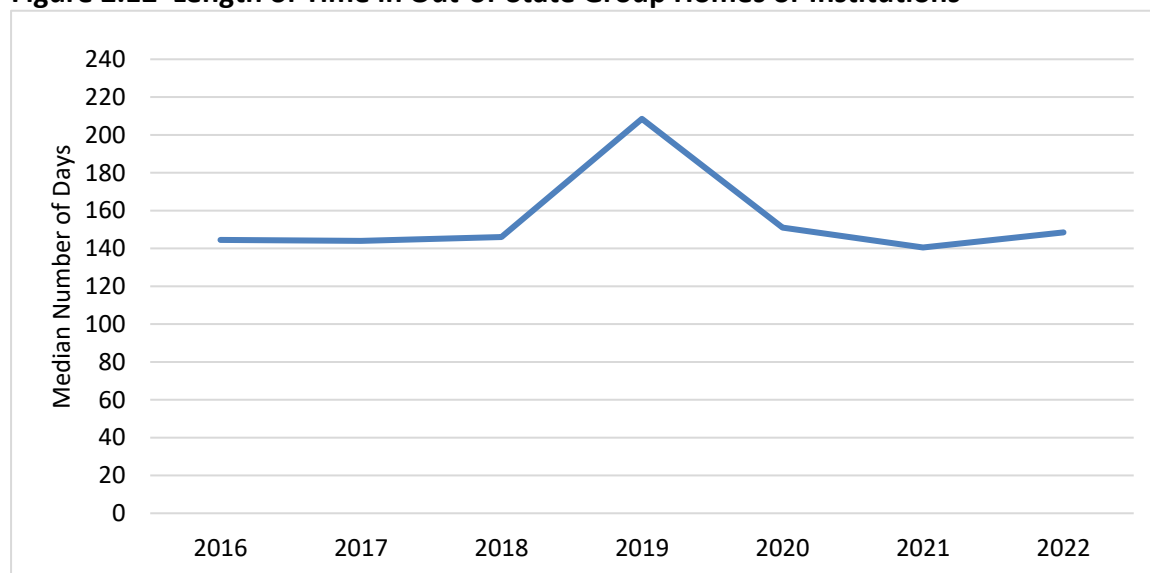
the Central region, 19% from the Northern region, and 18% from the Southern region (see Figure 2.11).

Figure 2.11 Children Placed in Out-of-State Group Homes or Institutions by Region



To examine the length of time children are in out-of-state placements, we calculated the median number of days that children stayed in out-of-state care during that fiscal year.⁸ Figure 2.12 shows the median number of days in out-of-state care was between 141 and 209 over the past seven years. In other words, 50% or more of these children spent more than four and a half months in out-of-state institutions during the year.

Figure 2.12 Length of Time in Out-of-State Group Homes or Institutions



⁸ Because the number of days is constrained to the fiscal year, the maximum stay for each year is 365 days. Some children stay in out-of-state placements longer than one year; their total length of stay would be different from the number reported here.

Placement with Siblings

Research shows that there are many benefits of placing children with their siblings in substitute care when possible. Siblings may 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.⁹ Research has shown that children who are placed with siblings are less likely to experience placement disruptions,¹⁰ more likely to be reunified with their parents,¹¹ and less at risk for experiencing behavioral health problems.¹²

The importance of maintaining sibling connections among children in substitute care is reflected in several pieces of legislation at the national and state levels. 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 preference for placing siblings together in substitute care, sometimes it may be better to place siblings apart. For example, some members of sibling groups may have physical or emotional disabilities that require specialized care. 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. Additionally, some foster parents prefer one gender or a specific age range of children.

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⁹ McBeath, B., Kothari, B. H., Blakeslee, J., Lamson-Siu, E., Bank, L., Linares, L. O., & Schlonsky, A. (2015). 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.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ Albert, V. N., & King, W. C. (2008). Survival analyses of the dynamics of sibling experiences in foster care. *Families in Society*, 89, 533-541.

¹² 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; Winokur, M., Holtan, A., & Batchelder, K. E. (2014). Kinship care for the safety, permanency, and well-being of children removed from the home for maltreatment. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, 1, 242p; Winokur, M. A., Holtan, A., & Batchelder, K. E. (2018). Systematic review of kinship care effects on safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 28(1), 19-32.

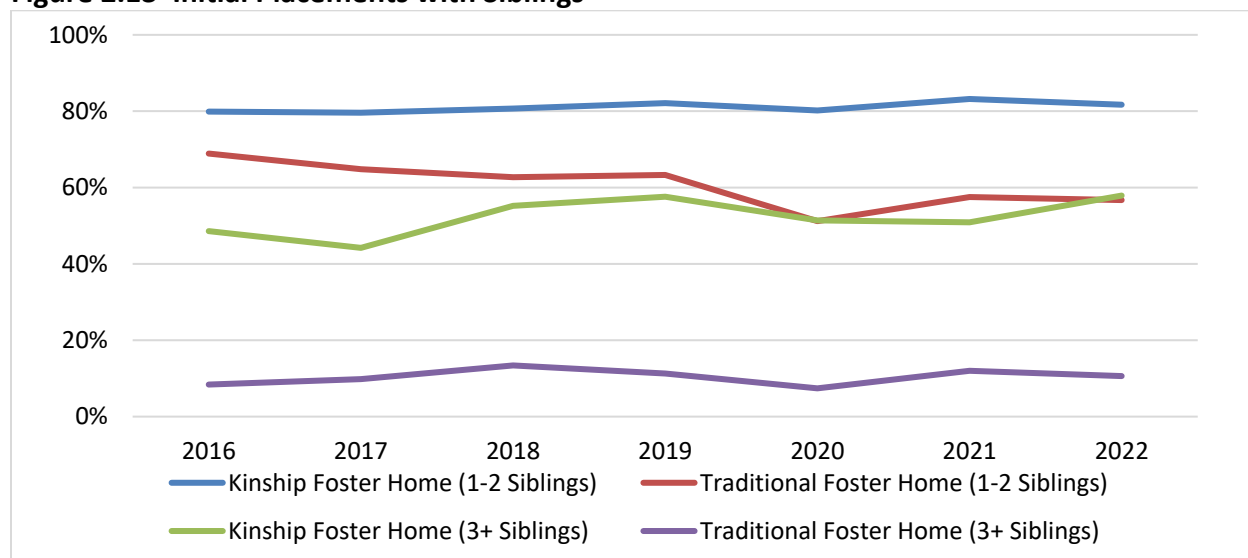
¹³ The full text of P.A. 97-1076 is available online: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/97/HB/PDF/09700HB5592lv.pdf>

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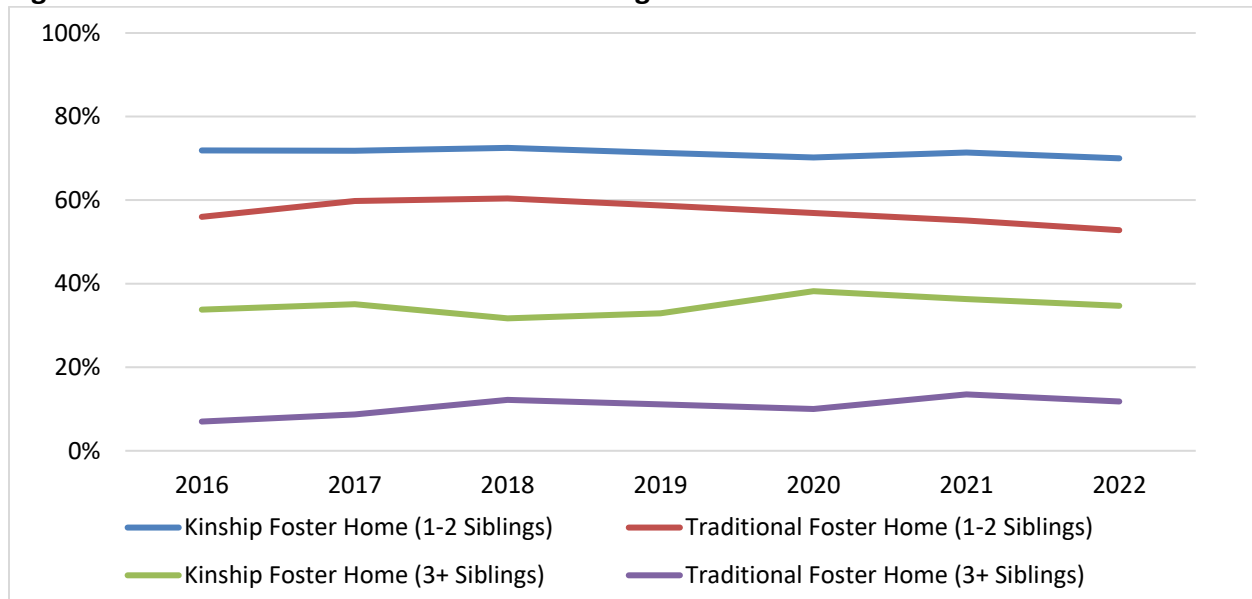
The likelihood of a child being initially placed with all his or her siblings is related to two factors: the size of the sibling group and the type of foster home (kinship or traditional). As mentioned above, other types of placements, such as specialized foster homes or congregate care settings, are designed to serve children with special needs. The Department 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 5,717 children who entered care in 2022, 5,307 (92.8%) were initially placed in kinship or traditional foster homes. Of these children, 2,338 had one or two siblings and 1,039 had three or more siblings who were also in care. In 2022, 81.7% of children with one or two siblings were initially placed together in kinship foster homes compared to 56.7% of children who were initially placed in traditional foster homes. For children with three or more siblings, 57.9% were initially placed together in kinship foster homes compared to only 10.6% of children initially placed in traditional foster homes in 2022. There was a notable decrease in the percentage of children with one or two siblings who were placed with their siblings in traditional foster homes (from 68.9% in 2016 to 56.7% in 2022) and a notable increase in the percentage of children with three or more siblings placed with their siblings in kinship foster homes (from 48.6% in 2016 to 57.9% in 2022; see Figure 2.13 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.C).

Figure 2.13 Initial Placements with Siblings



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 sibling groups and placement with kin increased the likelihood of siblings being placed together (see Figure 2.14 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.D). There has been little change in these percentages in the past seven years, other than a slight increase in the percentage of children with three or more siblings placed together in traditional foster homes, which increased from 7.0% in 2016 to 11.8% in 2022.

Figure 2.14 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 Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) measure¹⁶ and examines the number of placement moves per 1,000 days in substitute care. The second measure examines the percentage of youth age 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 in the CFSR is the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of substitute care among all children who enter substitute care in a 12-month period.¹⁷ Although the measure used in this report is similar to the CFSR measure, the results are not age-adjusted and therefore are not identical to those presented in federal outcome reports.

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.

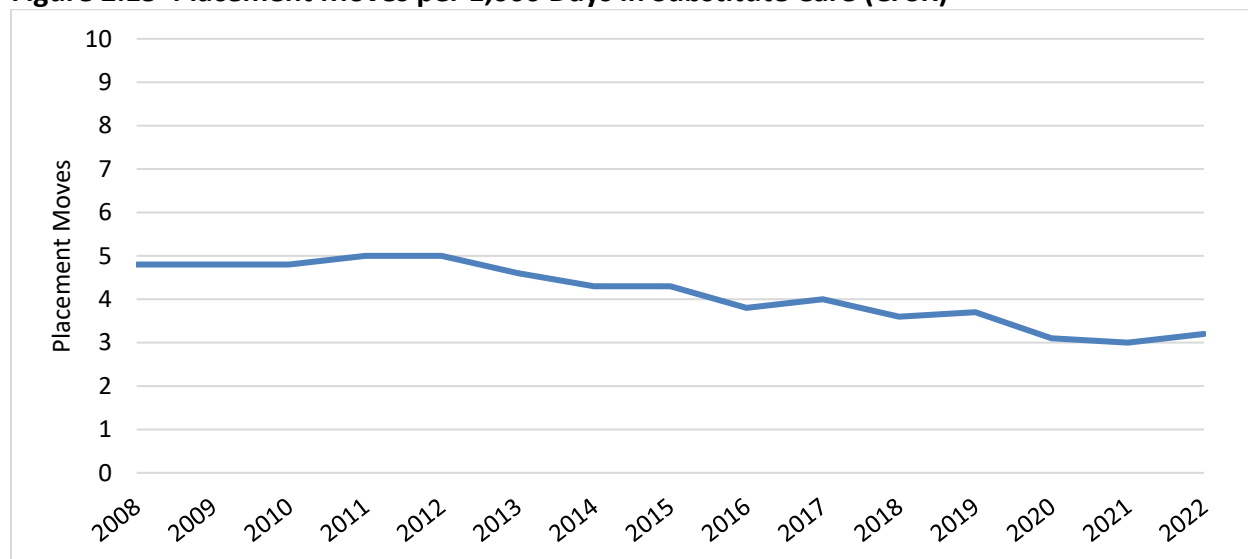
¹⁶ Children's Bureau (n.d.). CFSR Round Statewide Data Indicators. Retrieved from <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/focus-areas/cqi/cfsr-data-syntax-toolkit/>

¹⁷ Ibid.

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

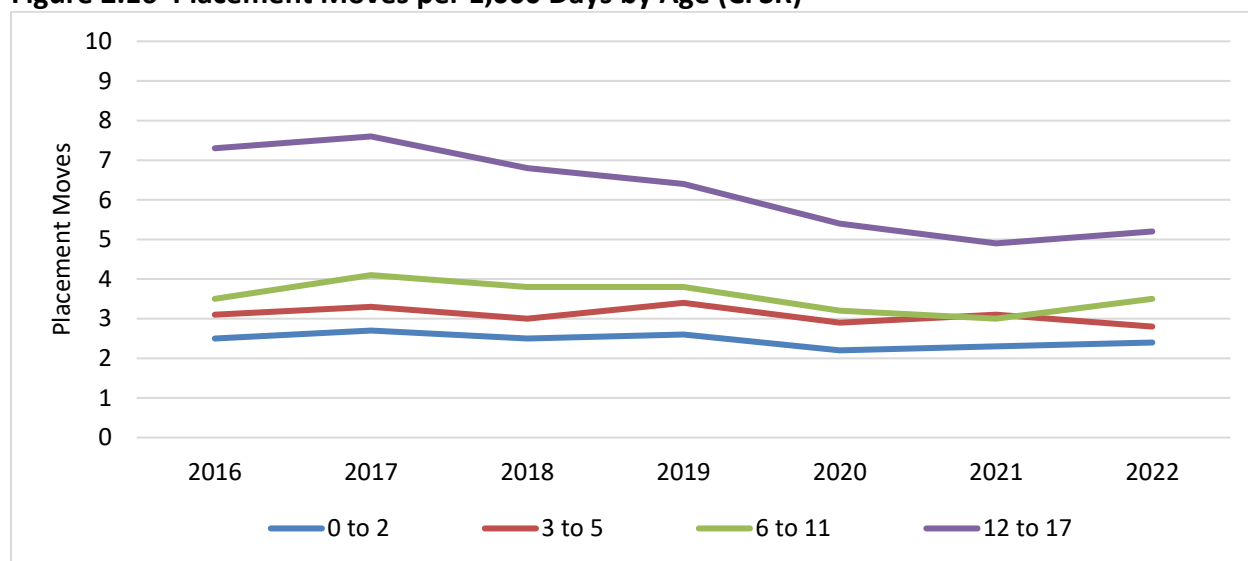
Placement moves per 1,000 days have gradually decreased since 2012 and have been around 3.0 per 1,000 since 2020 (see Figure 2.15 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E).

Figure 2.15 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days in Substitute Care (CFSR)



Consistent with past research,¹⁸ placement stability in Illinois decreases as child age increases (see Figure 2.16 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E). In 2022, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days for children 0 to 2 years was 2.4 compared to 5.2 for youth 12 to 17 years. However, placement stability among youth age 12 to 17 has improved in the past several years, with the number of placement moves decreasing from 7.6 in 2017 to 5.2 in 2022.

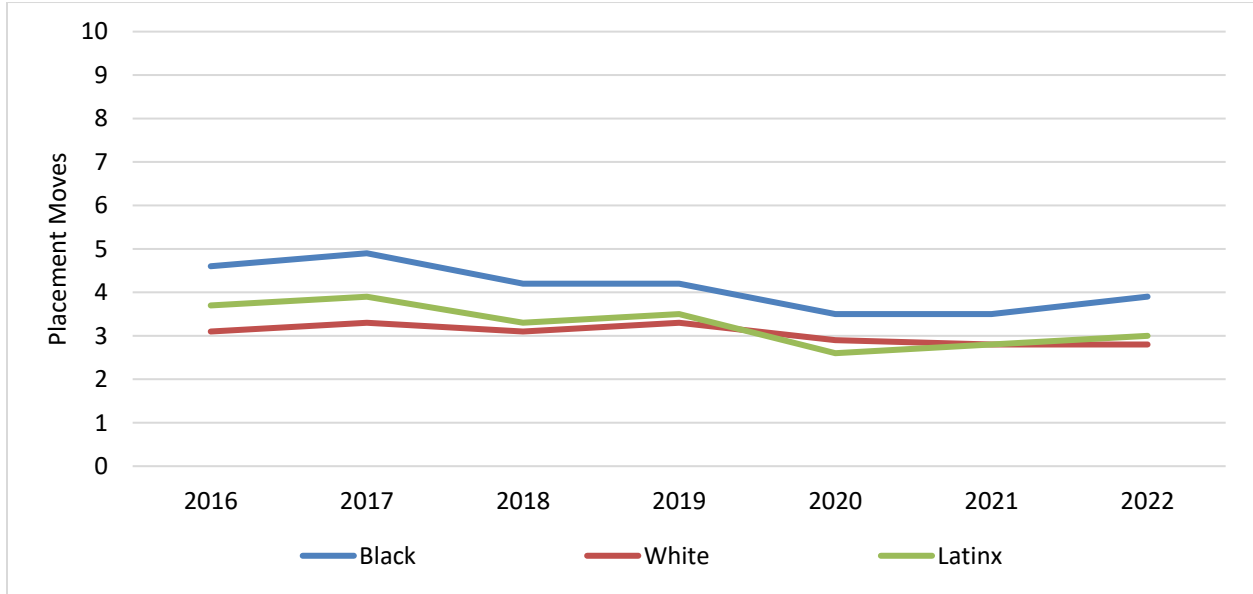
Figure 2.16 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days by Age (CFSR)



¹⁸ 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.

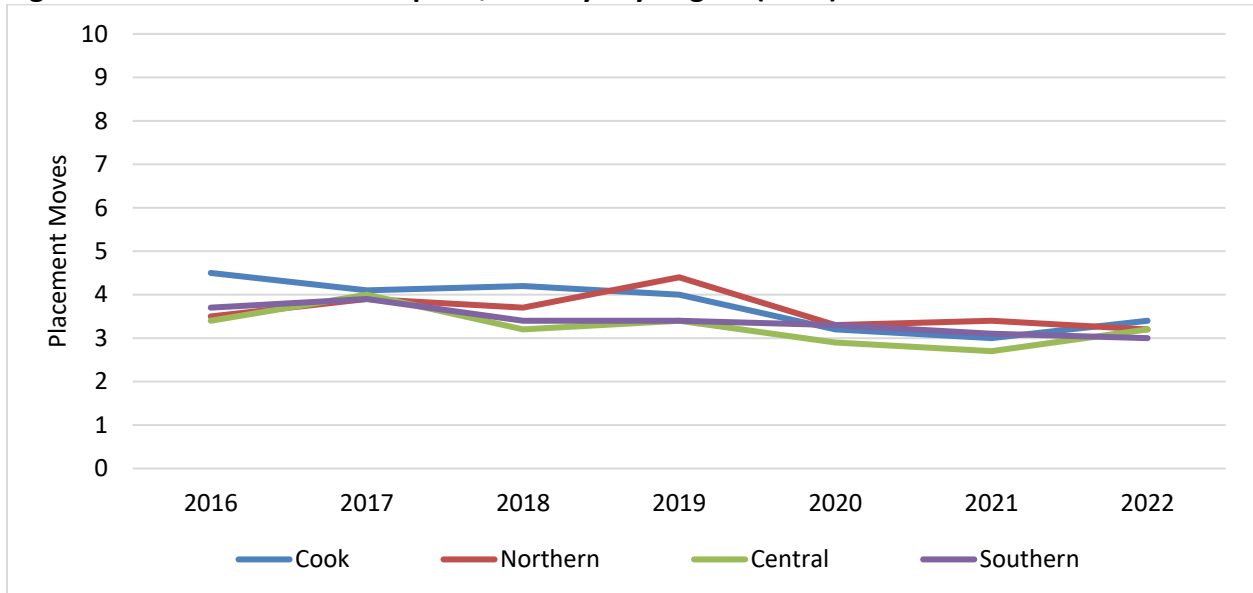
Black children experience less placement stability (3.9 moves per 1,000 days in 2022) compared to White children (2.8 moves per 1,000 days) and Latinx children (3.0 moves per 1,000 days; see Figure 2.17 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E).

Figure 2.17 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days by Race/Ethnicity (CFSR)



In recent years, rates of placement stability in the regions have been similar (see Figure 2.18 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.E).

Figure 2.18 Placement Moves per 1,000 Days by Region (CFSR)

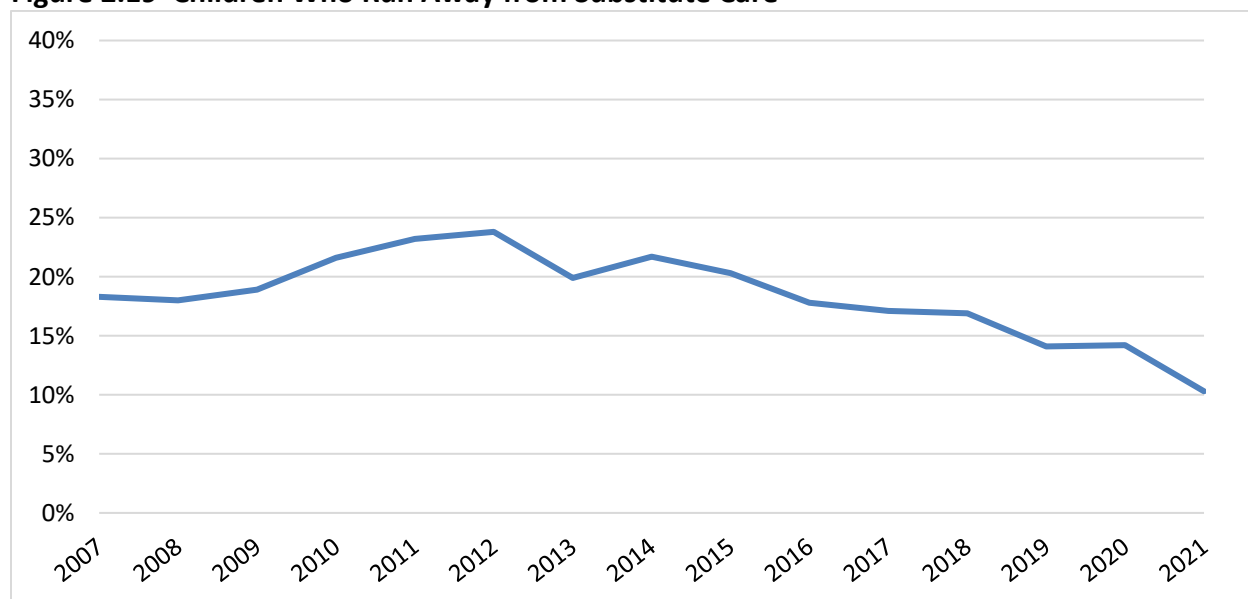


Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care

The nature of runaways from substitute care is different from typical runaways.¹⁹ Most are running away to live with others, usually family or friends.²⁰ Running away puts children at risk for victimization, sexual exploitation, and substance abuse. 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. Placement 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.²¹

This chapter examines the percentage of youth who run away within one year of entry into substitute care. Since running away occurs most frequently among older children, this indicator includes youth who are 12–17 years old when they enter care. In the past 15 years, the percentage of children who run away reached its highest point in 2012 (23.8%) and decreased to its lowest point of 10.3% in 2021 (see Figure 2.19 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.F).

Figure 2.19 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care



¹⁹ Gambon, T. B. & O'Brien, J. R. G. (2021). Runaway Youth: Caring for the Nation's Largest Segment of Missing Children. *Pediatrics*, 145, 1-14. Pergamit, M. R., Ernst, M., Benoit-Bryan J., & Kessel, J. (2010). *Why they run: An in-depth look at America's runaway youth*. Chicago, IL: the National Runaway Switchboard.

²⁰ Crosland, K., Joseph, R., Slattery, L., Hodges, S., & Dunlap, G. (2018). Why youth run: Assessing run function to stabilize foster care placement. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 85, 35-42. Crosland, K., & Dunlap, G. (2015). Running away from foster care: What do we know and what do we do? *Journal of Child & Family Studies*, 24, 1697-1706. Pergamit, M. R., & Ernst, M. (2011). *Running Away from Foster Care: Youths' Knowledge and Access of Services*. Chicago, IL: National Runaway Switchboard. Nesmith A. (2006). Predictors of running away from family foster care. *Child Welfare*, 85, 585-609.

²¹ Courtney, M. E. & Zinn, A. (2009). Predictors of running away from out-of-home care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31, 1298-1306.

The percentage of youth who run away from substitute care differs by age and race/ethnicity, with a higher percentage of older youth (Figure 2.20) and Black youth (Figure 2.21) running away within their first year in care (see Appendix B, Indicator 2.F).

Figure 2.20 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care by Age

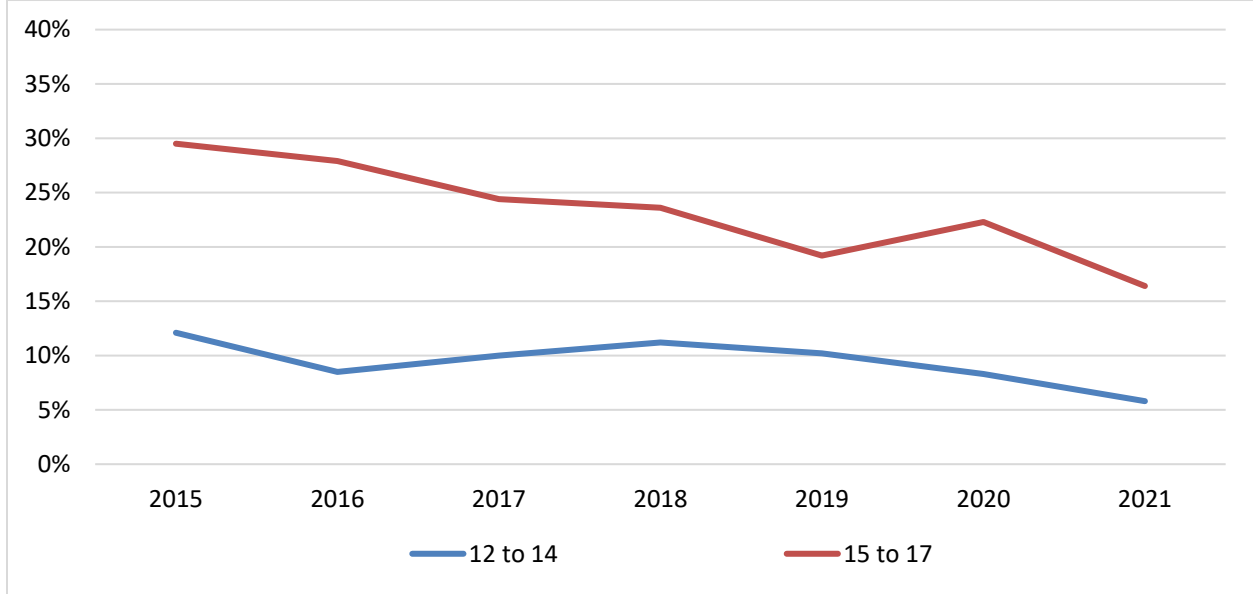
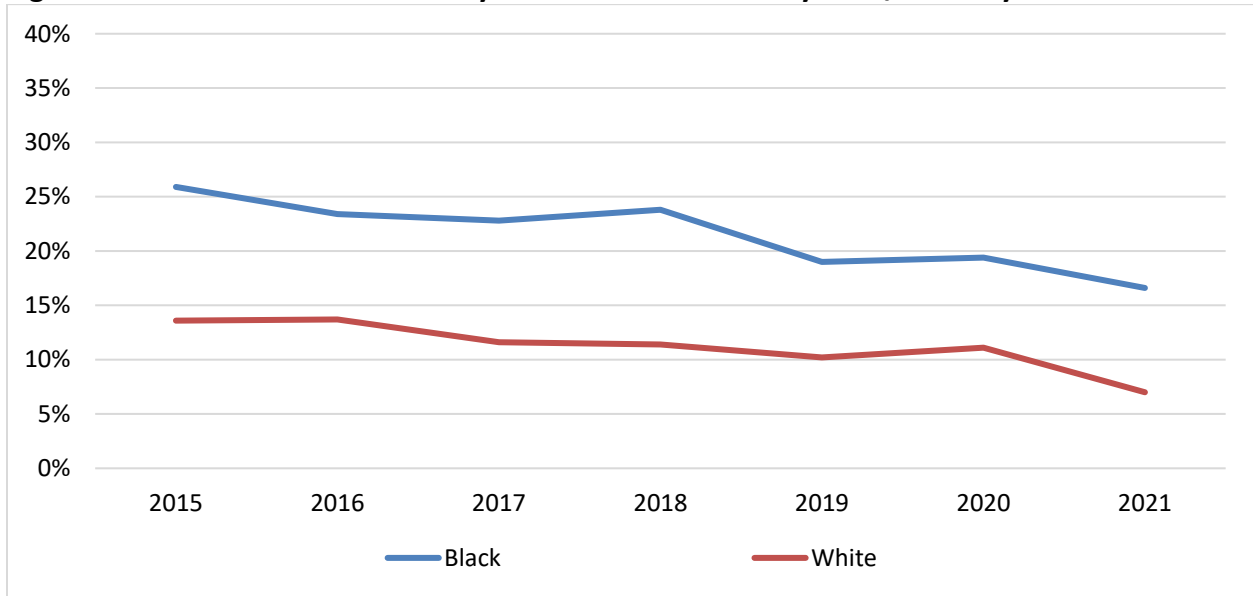
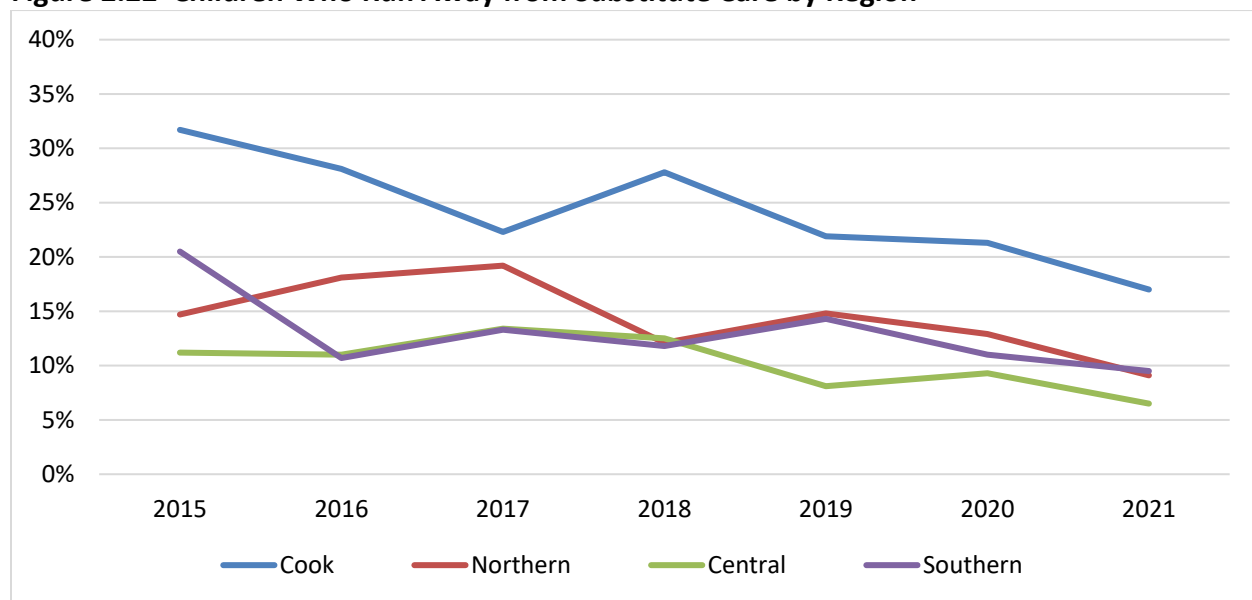


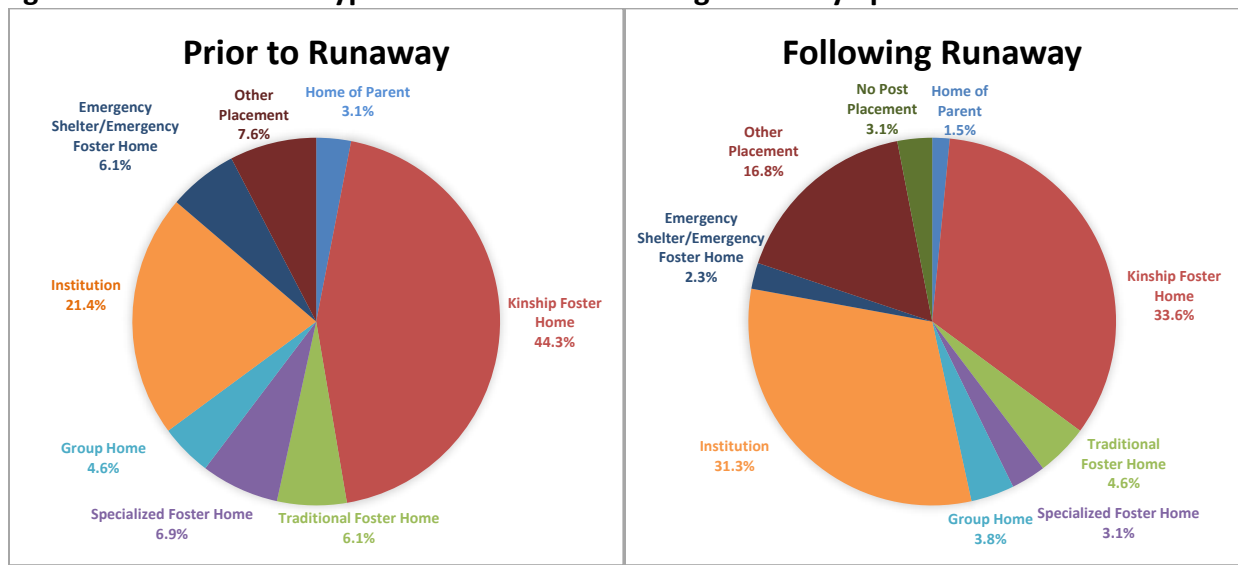
Figure 2.21 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care by Race/Ethnicity



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 2021, 17.0% ran away during their first year, compared to 9.1% in the Northern region, 6.5% in the Central region, and 9.5% in the Southern region (see Figure 2.22 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.F).

Figure 2.22 Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care by Region


To understand more about the youth who run away from their placements, we examined the placement types prior to and after their first runaway episode in 2021. In addition to the placement types used in previous analyses (home of parent, kinship foster home, traditional foster home, specialized foster home, emergency shelter/emergency foster home, group home, and institution), we created another placement type (“other” placement) that includes medical hospitalization, psychiatric hospitalization, independent living, unauthorized placement, and unauthorized home of parent. Even though only 131 youth ran away in 2021, Figure 2.23 shows that the majority of the youth who ran away in 2021 were either living in a kinship foster home (44.3%) or living in an institution (21.4%) prior to running away. After running away, most of the youth were also placed either in a kinship foster home (33.6%) or in an institution (31.3%) in addition to an “other” placement (16.8%). A small number of youth (3.1%) had no placement following the runaway episode, which indicates that their cases were closed immediately after the runaway event.

Figure 2.23 Placement Types Prior to and Following Runaway Episodes—2021

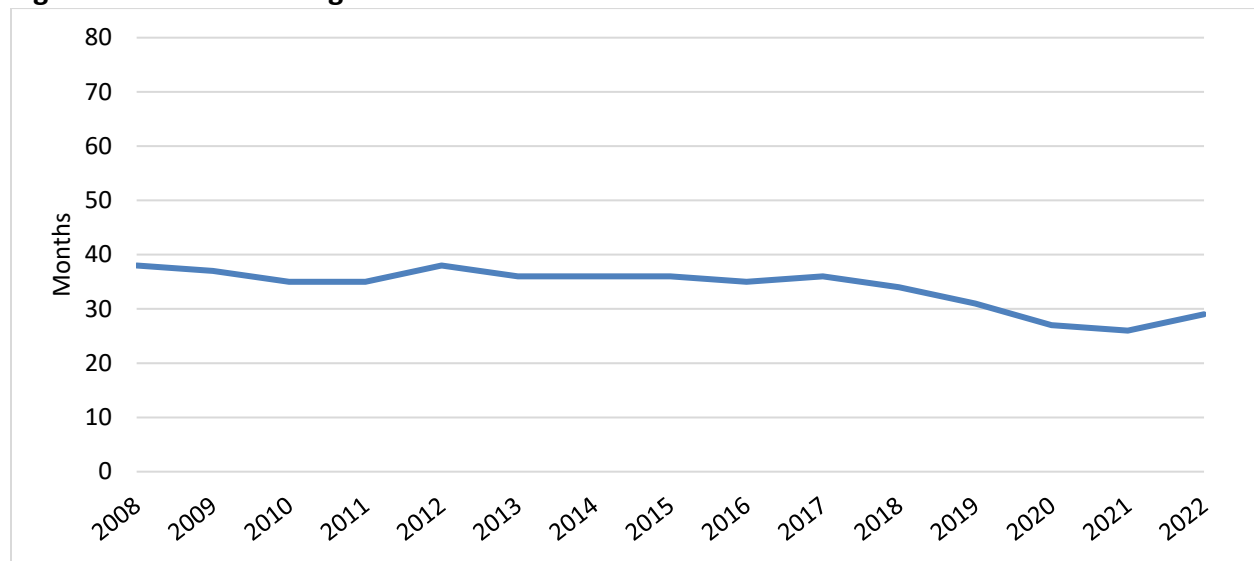
Length of Time in Substitute Care

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.

Unlike previous years, which measured length of stay for all children who entered care in a fiscal year, this year's report measures the median length of time in care for all children who exited care during the fiscal year. The median length of stay is the number of months it takes for 50% of those children to exit substitute care. If the child had more than one spell during the fiscal year, the most recent spell was selected. This indicator also includes youth ages 18 and older since some can stay in substitute care up to their 21st birthday.²² The median length of stay for all children who exited substitute care decreased from 38 months in 2008 to 26 months in 2021, and then increased to 29 months among children who exited care in 2022 (see Figure 2.24 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.G).

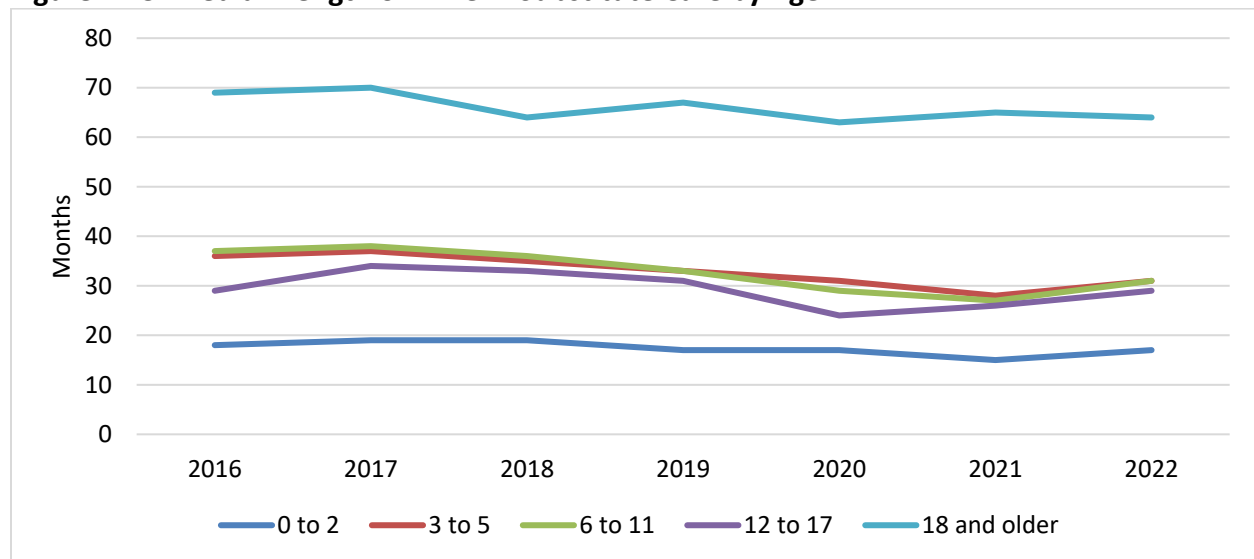
²² Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (June, 2021). *Procedures 301 Placement and Visitation Services*. Springfield, IL: Author.

Figure 2.24 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care



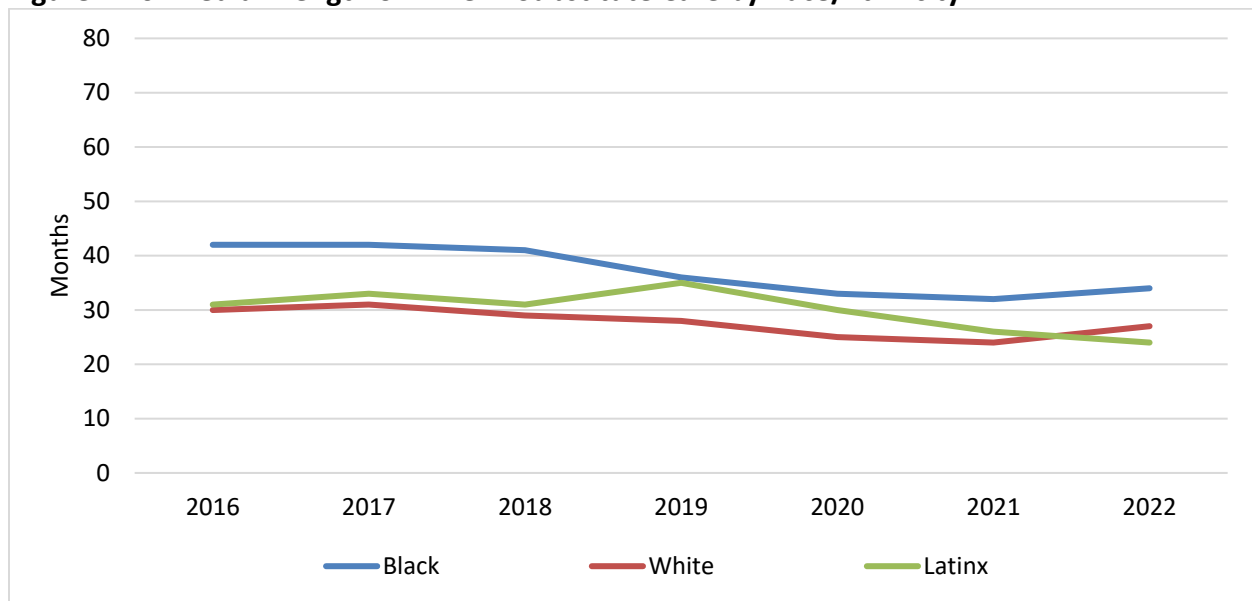
Compared to other age groups, youth age 18 and older had the longest stay and children age 0 to 2 had the shortest stay. The median length of stay for youth 18 years and older was 64 months among those who exited care in 2022, compared to 17 months for children age 0 to 2. For children 3 to 17 years, the median length of stay was between 29 and 31 months for those who exited care in 2022 (see Figure 2.25 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.G).

Figure 2.25 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care by Age



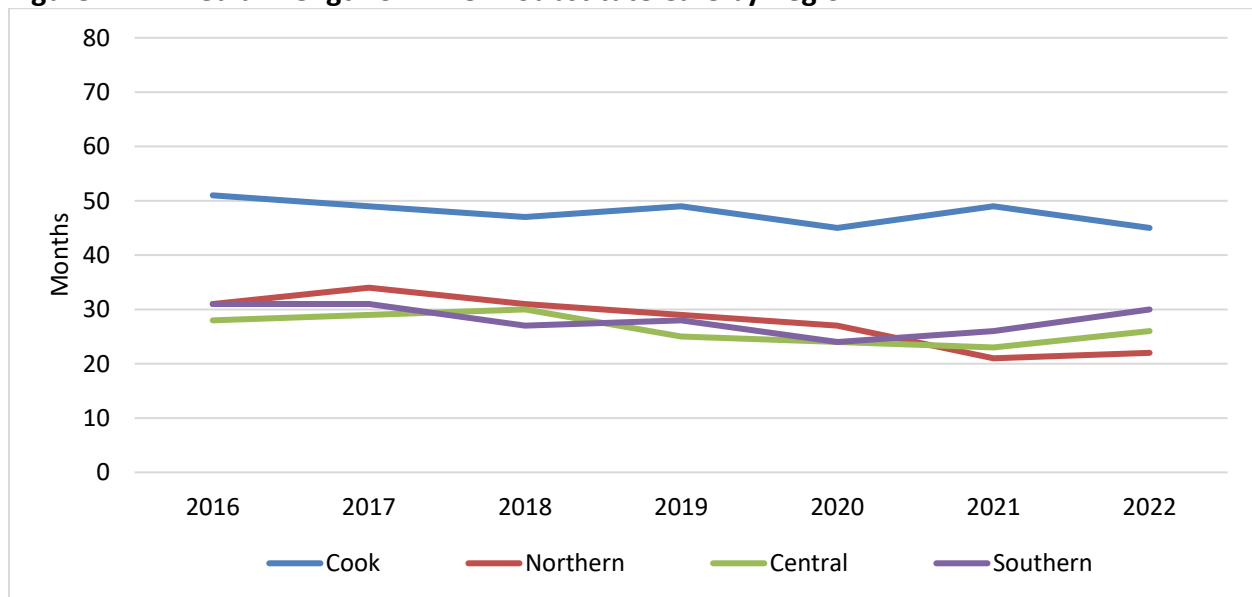
The median length of stay varies by race/ethnicity and was higher for Black children (34 months) compared to White children (27 months) and Latinx children (24 months) among those who exited care in 2022. However, there has been a decrease in the median length of stay among Black children, from 42 months among children who exited care in 2016 to 34 months among those who exited care in 2022 (see Figure 2.26 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.G).

Figure 2.26 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care by Race/Ethnicity



There are regional differences in the median length of stay (see Figure 2.27 and Appendix B, Indicator 2.G). Children in the Cook region spent substantially longer time in substitute care (45 months for children who exited care in 2022) than children who resided in other regions (Northern region: 22 months; Central region: 26 months; Southern region: 30 months).

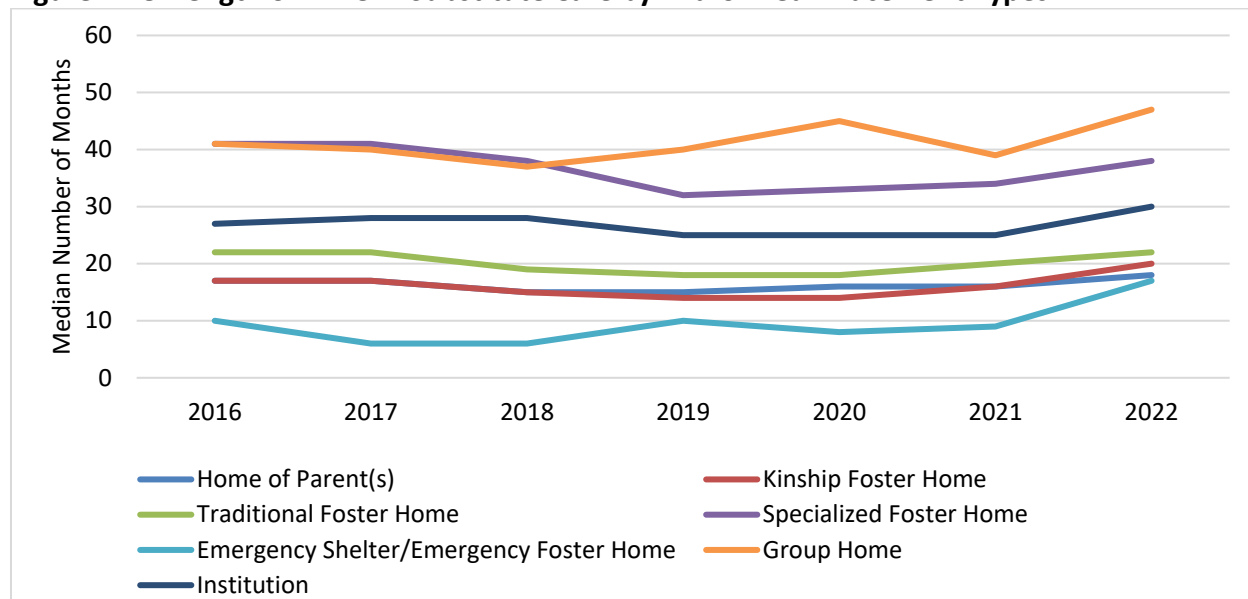
Figure 2.27 Median Length of Time in Substitute Care by Region



Length of time in substitute care was also examined by end-of-year placement type. In this analysis, the length of time in substitute care is measured by calculating the number of months between the case open date of each child and the last day of the state fiscal year (June 30th). The median length of stay (in months) is then calculated for each placement type. Figure 2.28

shows that children who were in an emergency shelter/emergency foster home at the end of the year had the shortest median length of time in substitute care over the past seven years (between 6 and 17 months). Children who were in specialized foster homes (32-41 months) or group homes (37-47 months) at the end of the year had the longest median lengths of time in substitute care.

Figure 2.28 Length of Time in Substitute Care by End-of-Year Placement Types



Children Admitted in Psychiatric Hospitals/Facilities

BOX 2.3

In the past few years, DCFS has come under scrutiny for children who were placed in psychiatric hospitals/facilities and stayed beyond medical necessity.²³ Although CFRC does not have access to the data related to medical necessity of stays in psychiatric hospitals/facilities, we are able to provide a descriptive analysis of the children who were admitted to psychiatric hospitals/facilities while they were in substitute care.

The percentage of children in substitute care who were admitted to psychiatric hospitals/facilities each year decreased from 4.6% in 2018 to 2.9% in 2022 (see Table 2.1). Of the children admitted to psychiatric hospitals/facilities during these years, the majority were between 12 and 17 years old (see Figure 2.29). Over half of the children admitted to psychiatric hospitals in 2018 were Black, but this percentage has been

²³ Eldeib, D. (2018). Hundreds of Illinois children languish in psychiatric hospitals after they're cleared for release. *ProPublica Illinois*. <https://features.propublica.org/stuck-kids/illinois-dcfs-children-psychiatric-hospitals-beyond-medical-necessity/>; Walker, B. J. (2018). *The challenge of youth in psychiatric hospitals*. Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

decreasing each year and was 41.4% in 2022. In contrast, the percentage of White children admitted increased from 37.5% in 2018 to 46.8% in 2022 (Figure 2.30). Between 31.5% and 41.5% of the children admitted to psychiatric hospitals each year were in the Cook region, followed by the Central region (23.7% - 28.4%), the Northern region (18.1% - 19.9%), and the Southern region (15.1% - 18.2%; Figure 2.31).

Table 2.1 Psychiatric Hospital/Facility Admission(s)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care during the fiscal year	19,759	21,244	23,409	25,445	25,132
Number of children with psychiatric hospital/facility admission(s) during year	915	986	939	824	727
Percent	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	3.2%	2.9%

Figure 2.29 Children with Psychiatric Hospital Admission(s) by Age

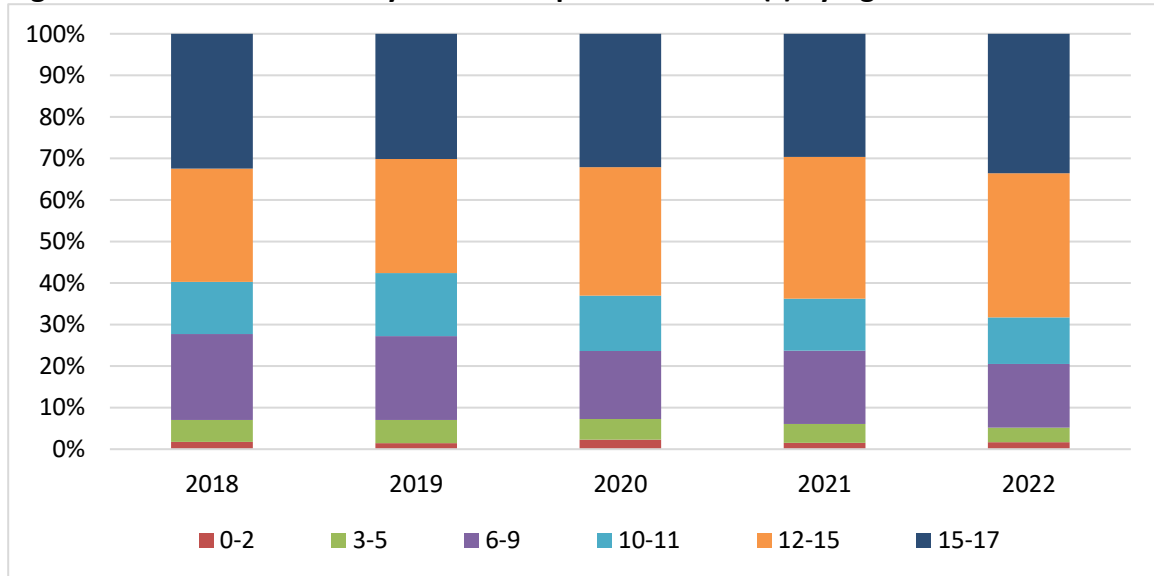
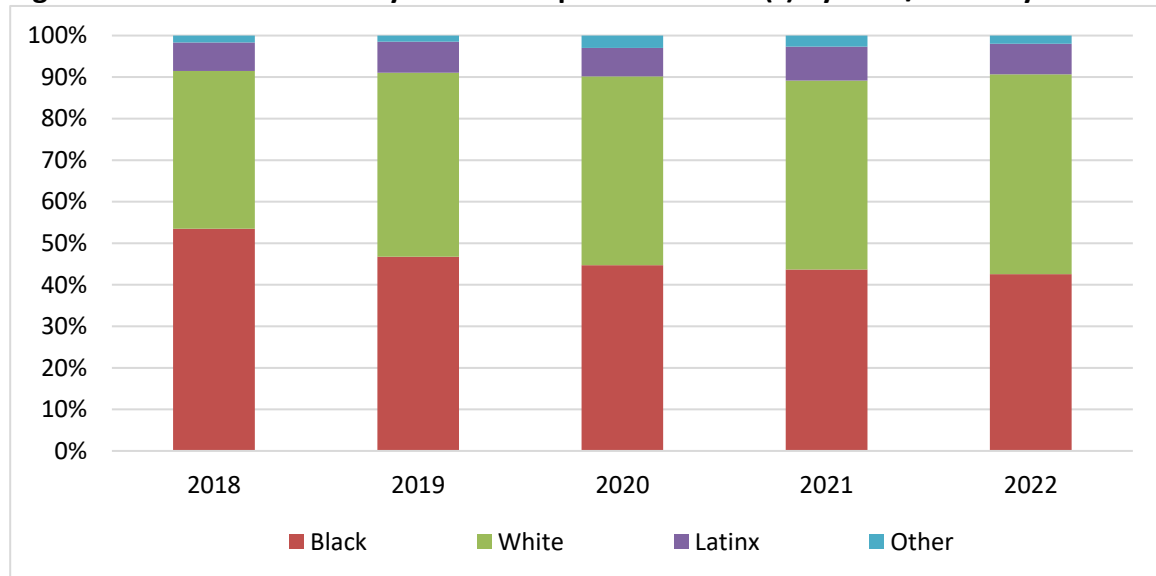
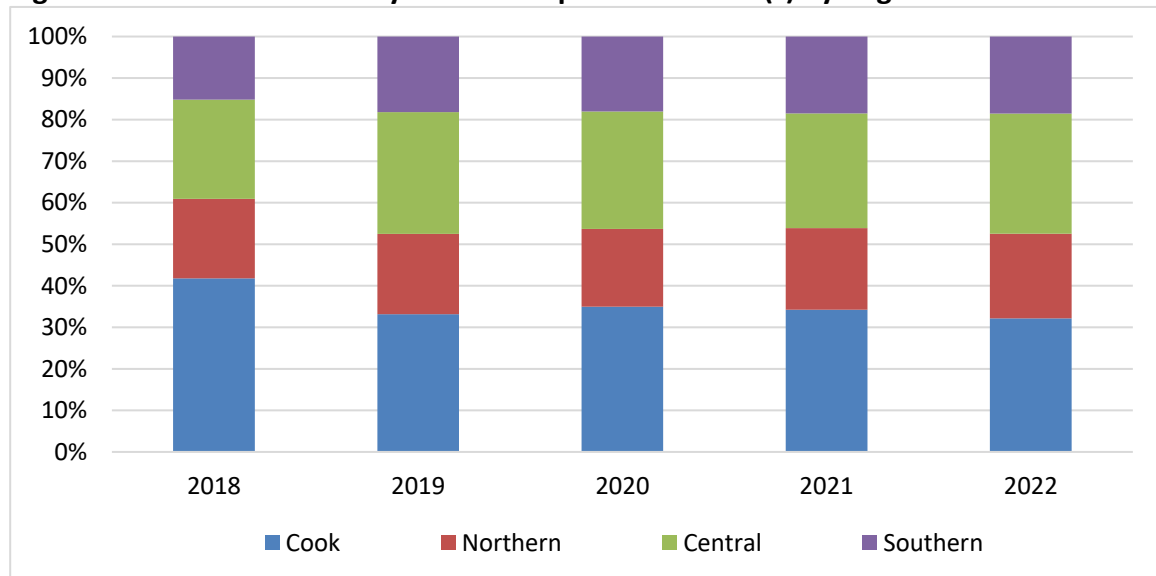


Figure 2.30 Children with Psychiatric Hospital Admission(s) by Race/Ethnicity

Figure 2.31 Children with Psychiatric Hospital Admission(s) by Region


Between 2018 and 2022, around one-third of the children were admitted to psychiatric hospitals or facilities more than once during the year. The median length of time in psychiatric hospital/facility stay per child was between 21 and 26 days. However, between 20.4% and 30.9% of children stayed in psychiatric hospitals/facilities for 60 days or more (see Table 2.2).

Table 2.2 Length of Time in Psychiatric Hospitals/Facilities

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of children with psychiatric hospital/facility admission(s) during year	915	986	939	824	727
Percent of children with two or more psychiatric hospital/facility admissions during year	35.2%	33.2%	28.6%	30.5%	32.6%
Median length of time in psychiatric hospital/facility stay (days)	21	24	23	26	26
Percent of psychiatric hospital/facility stays for 60 days or more	20.4%	23.9%	26.0%	29.6%	30.9%

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

Once the state decides to take legal custody of children to protect them from harm, the child welfare system has a responsibility to provide the children in its care with safe and stable substitute living arrangements and ensure they maintain connections with their family members. In FY2018, after many years of relative stability, the number of children entering substitute care increased significantly, from 4,736 in FY2017 to 7,087 in FY2021 (see Figure 2.1). Although this trend shifted in FY2022 and the number of children entering care decreased to 5,717, it is important to monitor the impact of the increase in children entering care on the quality of substitute care placements. In the past, when the number of children entering care increased rapidly, it led to an increased number of children being placed in emergency shelters, emergency foster homes, group homes, and institutions, especially in their initial placements. Examination of the percentage of children initially placed in these placement types since FY2018 does not show an increase in their use and, in fact, shows the opposite. The percentage of children and youth initially placed in emergency shelters and emergency foster homes has decreased over the past seven years and reached its lowest point of 0.6% in FY2022. The decrease in the use of initial placements in emergency shelters and foster homes has been especially noteworthy among children 12-17 years; rates in this age group have decreased from 11.0% in FY2016 to 2.0% in FY2022. Similarly, initial placements in group homes and institutions for this age group have decreased to a low of 10.5% in 2022.

Several other indicators have also shown improvement. For example, the percentage of children 12 to 17 initially placed in kinship homes increased and reached a new high of 70.6% in FY2022. The percentage of youth ages 12 to 17 who were placed in institutions at the end of the fiscal year decreased and reached its lowest point of 12.3% in FY2022. The percentage of children who run away has decreased and reached to its lowest point of 10.3% in FY2021.

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

Although these improvements are encouraging and should be commended, an ongoing concern for many years has been the lengthy amount of time that children spend in substitute care in Illinois, particularly those that reside in the Cook region. In FY2022, the median length of stay in care for children in the Cook region was 45 months, compared to 22 months for children in the Northern region, 26 months in the Central region, and 30 months in the Southern region. In February 2023, Illinois House Resolution 85 was introduced that urges the Supreme Court of Illinois and Circuit Court of Cook County to examine the reasons for the disparate length of foster care experienced by children in the Cook region and to recommend legislation to reduce this disparity and shorten the duration of foster care experienced by children in the Cook region.²⁴

²⁴ Illinois House Resolution 85, 103rd General Assembly. (2023). <https://legiscan.com/IL/bill/HR0085/2023>



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 47% of 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 2021, adoptions made up 25% of foster care exits nationally,² and many children wait each year for adoption. **Guardianship** is a third permanency option in which allows

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¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2022). *The AFCARS report: Preliminary FY 2021 estimates*. Retrieved from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/afcars-report-29.pdf>

² Ibid.

caregivers, almost always kin, to assume legal custody and permanent care of children while not requiring the terminate the parental rights of the biological parent, who is typically a close relative of the guardian. Legal guardians typically, but not always, receive financial support from the state. Guardianship is less common than reunification and adoption, accounting for 12% of foster care exits nationally in 2021.³

Measuring Legal Permanence

There are several 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 to examine the likelihood and timeliness of each type separately. The measures used in the third round of the Child and Family Services 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 who achieve permanence within 12 months.⁷ The *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).⁸

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 <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/topics/cfsr/cfsr-data-syntax-toolkit>

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 <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/topics/cfsr/cfsr-data-syntax-toolkit>

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 <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/topics/cfsr/cfsr-data-syntax-toolkit>

⁷ Children's Bureau (n.d.). *CFSR Round 3 Statewide Data Indicator Series: Re-Entry to Foster Care*. Retrieved from <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/topics/cfsr/cfsr-data-syntax-toolkit>

⁸ 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 used by the Children's Bureau to calculate state performance. Therefore, the results presented in this report may not be comparable to those produced in the federal child welfare outcomes reports.

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.⁹ For each type of permanence, the percentage of children exiting within 36 months is 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 one year (reunification only), two years, five years, and ten 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.

Changes in Legal 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 increased from 15% in 2020 to 18.4% in 2021 (+23% change).

↔ Of all children who had been in care between 12 and 23 months on the first day of the fiscal year, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months remained stable and was 24.6% in 2022.

↔ Of all children who had been in care 24 months or more on the first day of the fiscal year, the percentage that achieved permanence within 12 months remained stable and was 30.5% in 2022.

↑ Of all children who achieved permanence within 12 months, the percentage that re-entered substitute care within 12 months of discharge increased from 7.1% of children who exited care in 2019 to 9.5% of children who exited care in 2020 (+34% change).

⁹ 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 2017 entry cohort.

↓ 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 decreased from 5.1% of children who exited care in 2020 to 3.8% of children who exited care in 2021 (-25% 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 decreased from 2.3% of children who exited care in 2020 to 1.5% of children who exited care in 2021 (-35% 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 increased from 15.9% of children who entered care in 2020 to 19.0% of children who entered care in 2021 (+20% change).

↑ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 24 months increased from 30.6% of children who entered care in 2019 to 33.2% of children who entered care in 2020 (+9% change).

↔ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was reunified with their parents within 36 months remained stable and was 39.2% of children who entered care in 2019.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at one year post-reunification remained stable and was 92.4% of children who were reunified in 2021.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at two years post-reunification remained stable and was 87.8% of children who were reunified in 2020.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at five years post-reunification remained stable and was 86.6% of children who were reunified in 2017.

↔ Of all children who were reunified during the year, the percentage living with their family at ten years post-reunification remained stable and was 83.4% of children who were reunified in 2012.

Children Achieving Adoption

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months decreased from 3.1% of children who entered care in 2019 to 2.2% of children who entered care in 2020 (-29% change).

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months decreased from 12.1% of children who entered care in 2018 to 10.3% of children who entered care in 2019 (-15% change).

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at two years post-adoption remained stable and was 98.6% of children who were adopted in 2020.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at five years post-adoption remained stable and was 98.2% of children who were adopted in 2017.

↔ Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage living with their family at ten years post-adoption remained stable and was 95.0% of children who were adopted in 2012.

Children Achieving Guardianship

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 24 months decreased from 1.1% of children who entered care in 2019 to 1.0% of children who entered care in 2020 (-9% change).

↓ Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that attained guardianship within 36 months decreased from 2.8% of children who entered care in 2018 to 2.3% of children who entered care in 2019 (-18% change).

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at two years post-guardianship remained stable and was 98.7% of children who attained guardianship in 2020.

↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at five years post-guardianship remained stable and was 93.8% of children who attained guardianship in 2017.

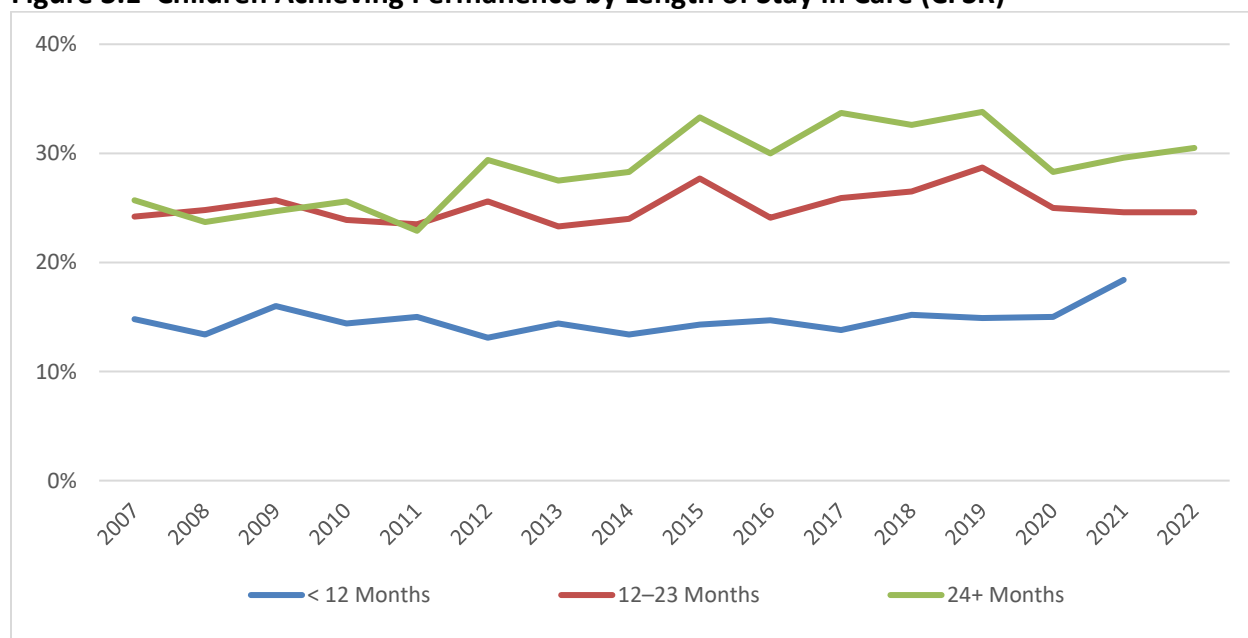
↔ Of all children who attained guardianship during the year, the percentage living with their family at ten years post-guardianship remained stable and was 88.5% of children who attained guardianship in 2012.

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.”¹⁰ 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 15 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 Figure 3.1 and Appendix B, Indicators 3.G, 3.H, and 3.I).

Between 13-18% of children who entered substitute care during the year achieved permanence within 12 months of entering care (blue line in Figure 3.1), and there was a 23% increase between the 2020 and 2021 cohorts. The permanency rate among children who had been in care for 12 to 23 months (red line) has fluctuated between 24-29% over the last seven years. Permanency rates for children in substitute care for 24 or more months (green line) increased from 22.9% in 2011 to 33.8% in 2019; it was 30.5% in 2022.

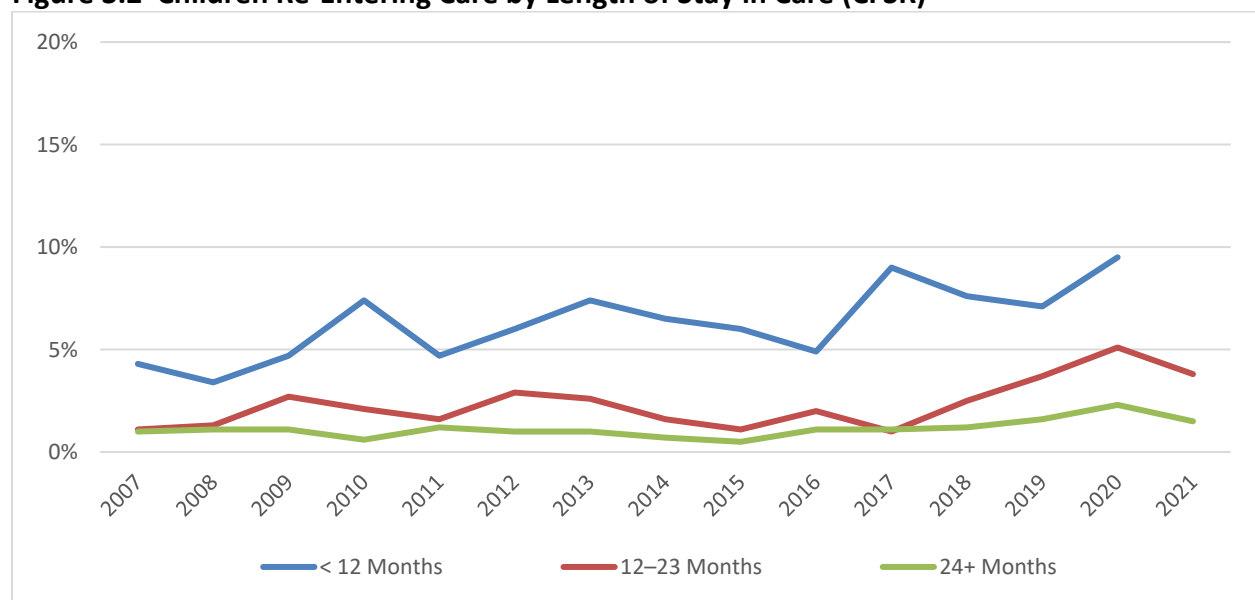
Figure 3.1 Children Achieving Permanence by Length of Stay in Care (CFSR)



¹⁰ 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/documents/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 compared to the other two groups of children; 9.5% of the children who achieved permanence in 2020 re-entered substitute care within 12 months, which was a 34% increase from the previous 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 much lower rates of re-entry into substitute care compared to children in care less than 12 months prior to achieving permanence; between 1-5% of those children re-entered care within 12 months. Re-entry rates for children in these two groups both increased over the past several years and peaked in 2020, but then decreased in 2021.

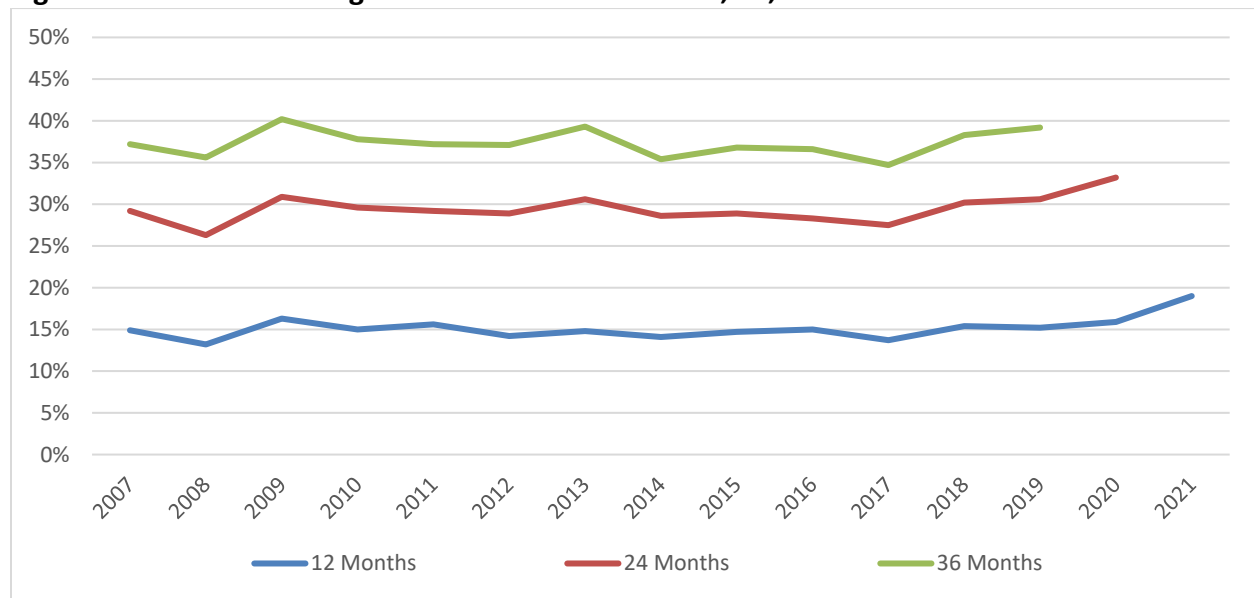
Figure 3.2 Children Re-Entering Care by Length of Stay in Care (CFSR)



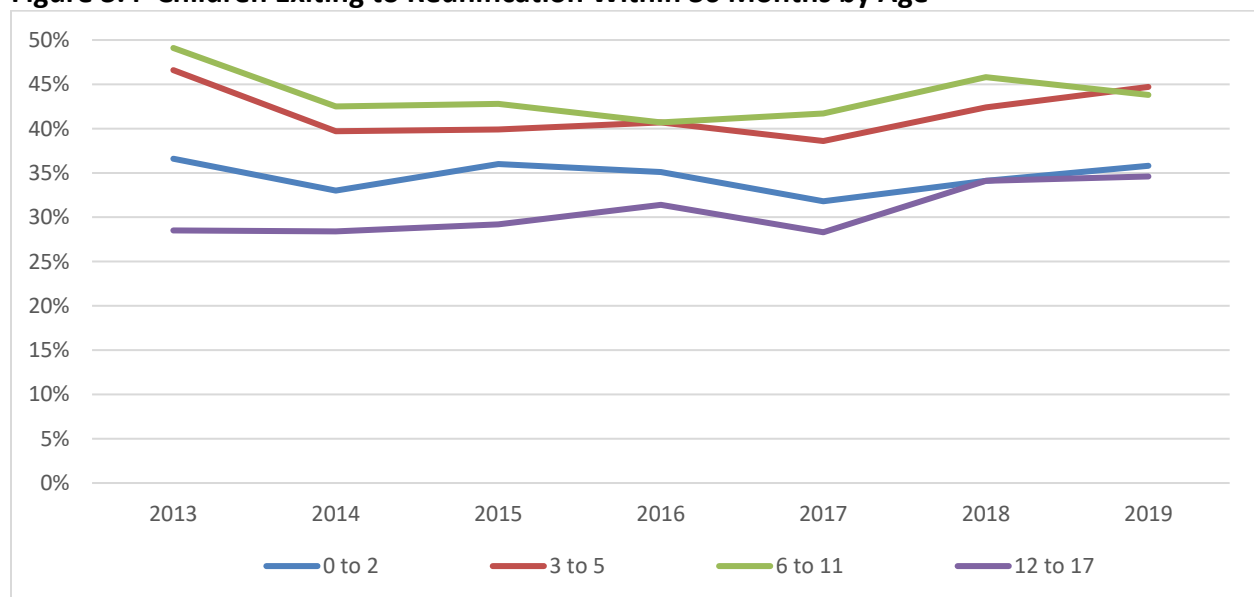
3

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 2021 entry cohort, 19.0% of children were reunified within 12 months. For the 2020 entry cohort, 33.2% of children were reunified within 24 months, and for the 2019 entry cohort, 39.2% were reunified within 36 months. After many years of relative stability, there were increases in the percentage of children reunified within 12 and 24 months in the most recent entry cohorts.

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 their age (see Figure 3.4 and Appendix B, Indicator 3.A.3). Children ages 3 to 11 years old when they entered care were more likely to be reunified—44.7% of children ages 3 to 5 years old and 43.8% of children 6 to 11 who entered care in 2019 were reunified within 36 months. Children ages 0 to 2 and youth ages 12 to 17 years old were less likely to be reunified; for both age groups, between 34-36% of those who entered care in 2019 were reunified within three years of entering care.

Figure 3.4 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 36 Months by Age

Race and ethnicity are also associated with a child's likelihood of achieving reunification within three years of entering care. In general, Black children are less likely to be reunified than either White or Latinx children (see Figure 3.5 and Appendix B, Indicator 3.A.3).

Figure 3.5 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 36 Months by Race/Ethnicity

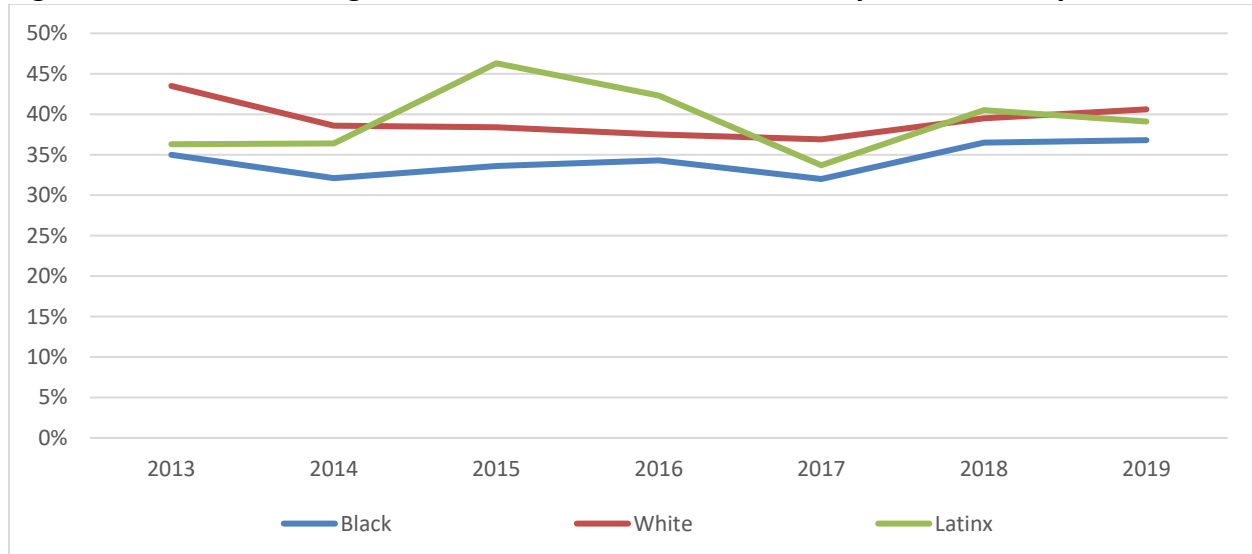
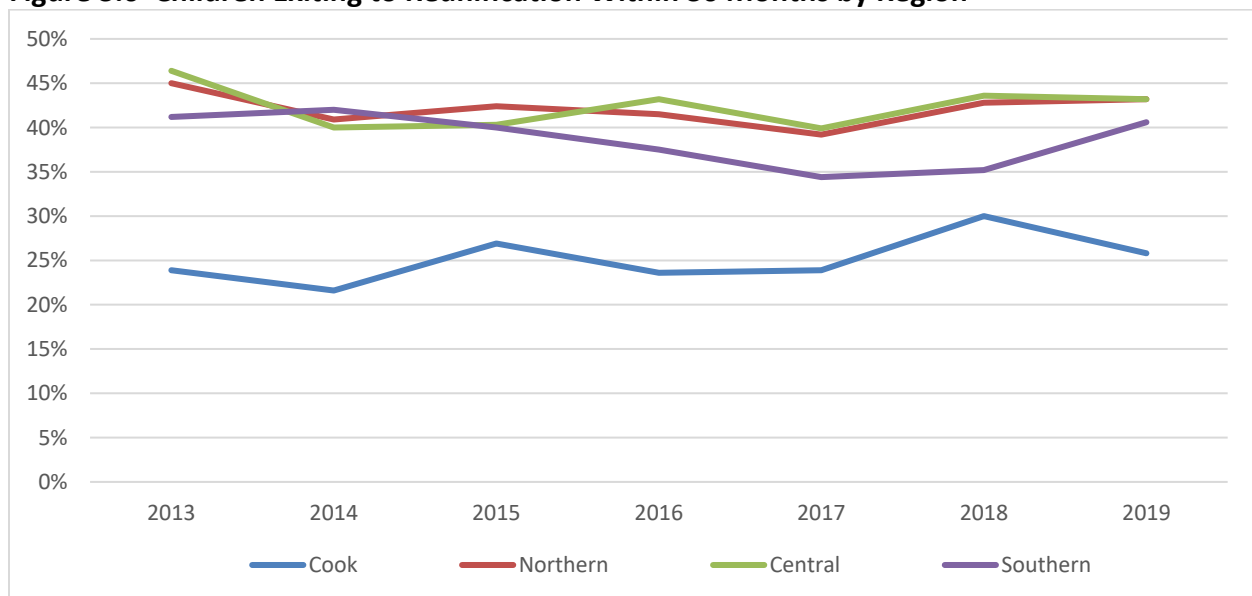


Figure 3.6 shows the 36-month reunification rate by region (see Appendix B, Indicator 3.A.3). Reunification rates in the Cook region are much lower than in any other region. Only 25.8% of children who entered care in the Cook region in 2019 were reunified with their families within 36 months, compared to 43.2% of children in the Northern region, 43.2% of children in the Central region, and 40.6% of children in the Southern region. The 36-month reunification rate in the 2019 cohort for the Cook region decreased a relative 14% from the previous year's cohort.

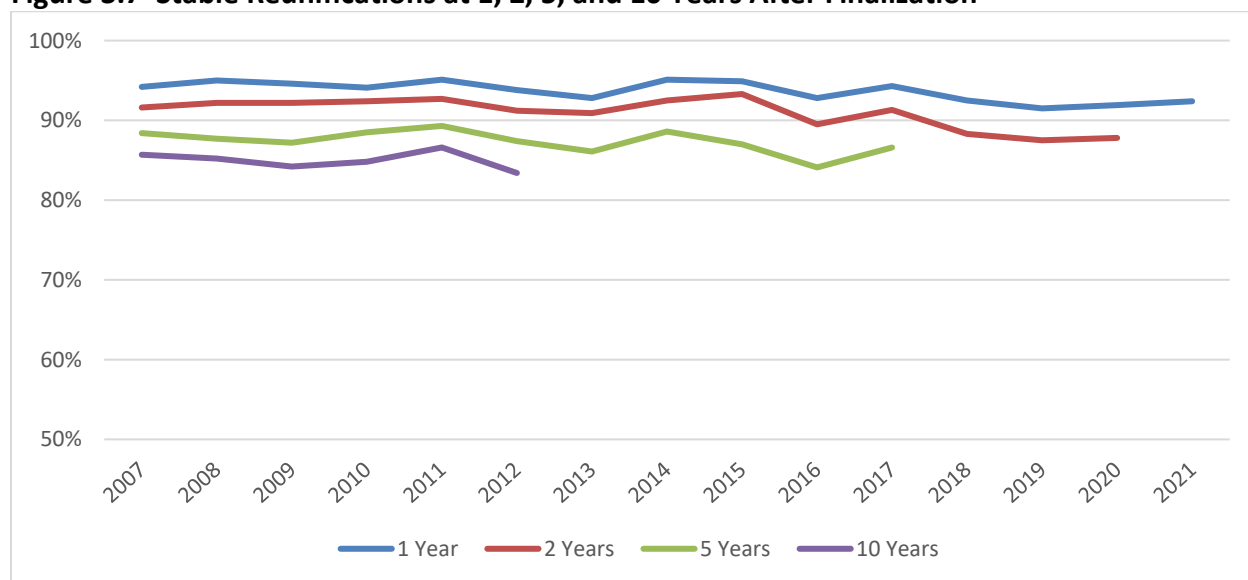
Figure 3.6 Children Exiting to Reunification Within 36 Months by Region



Stability of Reunification

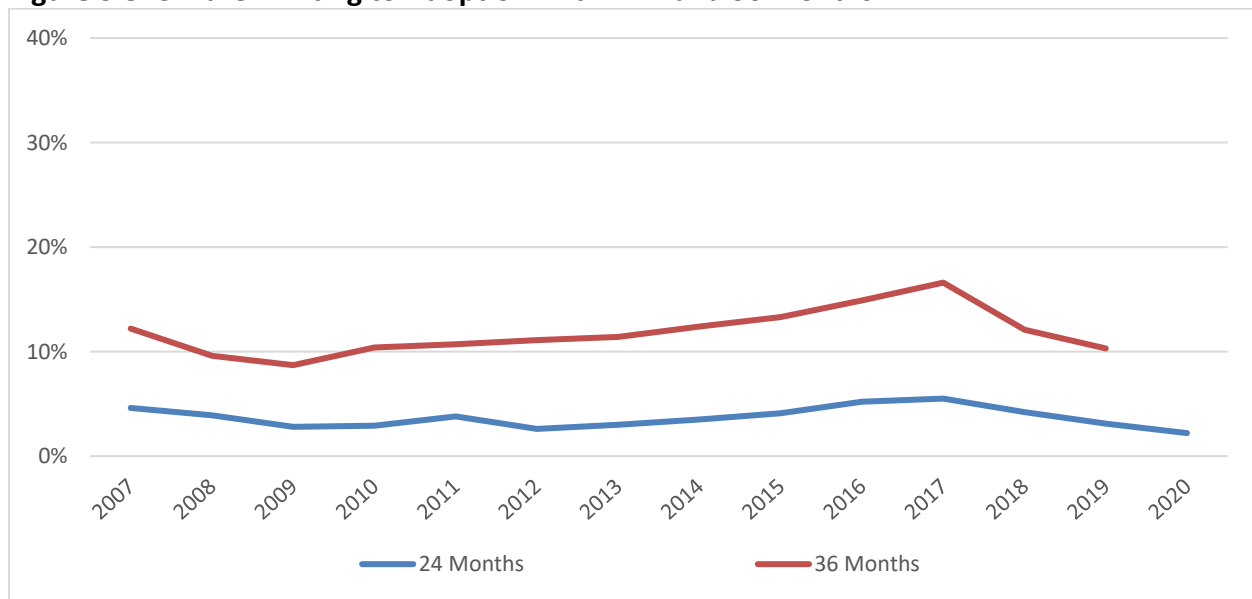
Reunification is only considered permanent if children can remain safely in their homes and are not removed again. Figure 3.7 displays the percentages of children that remain stable in their homes (and do not re-enter care) within 1, 2, 5, and 10 years following reunification with their parents (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.B.1, 3.B.2, 3.B.3, and 3.B.4). As expected, the stability of reunifications decreases over time. For example, of the children who were reunified in 2012, 93.8% remained at home one year after reunification, while only 83.4% remained at home after ten years. There has been little fluctuation in the stability of reunifications over the past decade.

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

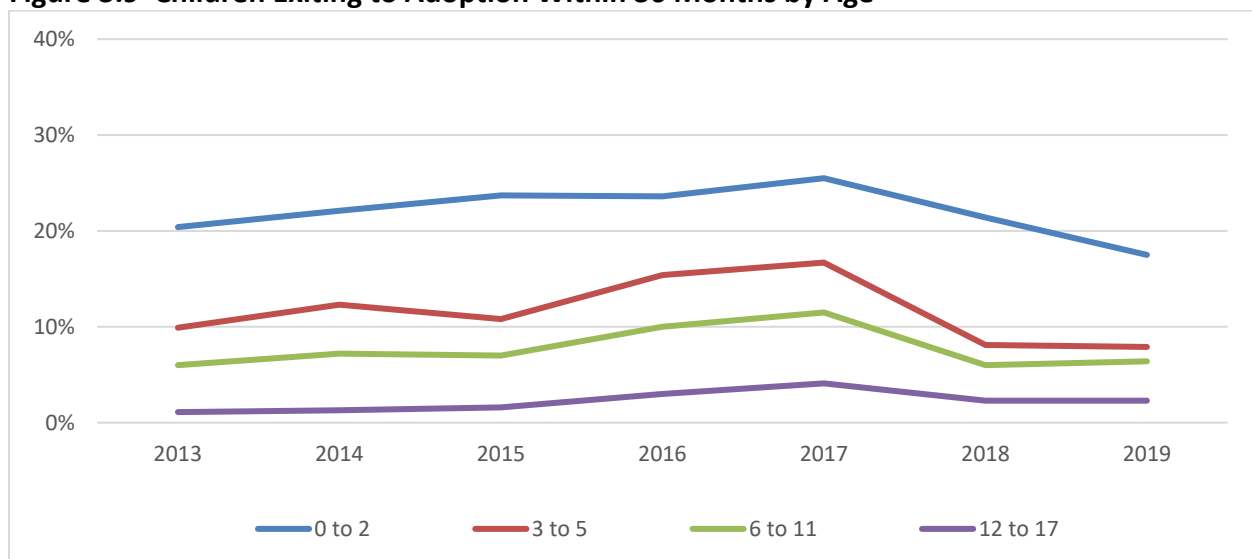


Children Achieving Adoption

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, and Figure 3.8 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). The 24- and 36-month adoption rates have both decreased in the most recent entry cohorts.

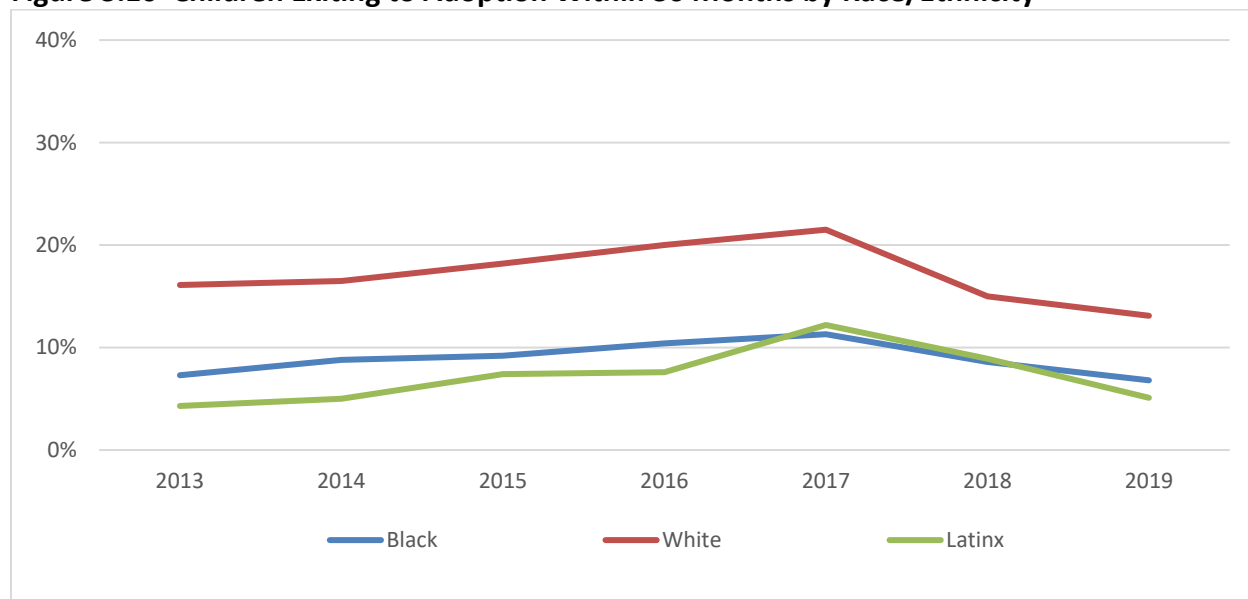
Figure 3.8 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 24 and 36 Months

Age plays an important role in understanding the children most likely to be adopted; children from birth to 2 years of age are more likely to exit care to adoption than older children. Figure 3.9 shows the 36-month adoption rates 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—17.5% of children ages 0 to 2 entering care in 2019 were adopted within 36 months, compared to 7.9% of children ages 3 to 5 years old, 6.4% of children ages 6 to 11 years old, and 2.3% of youth ages 12 to 17 years old. Youth age 12 years and older when they enter care are very unlikely to be adopted within three years. Usually less than 3% of youth ages 12 years and older are adopted each year. Adoption rates among all ages groups have decreased in the past two years.

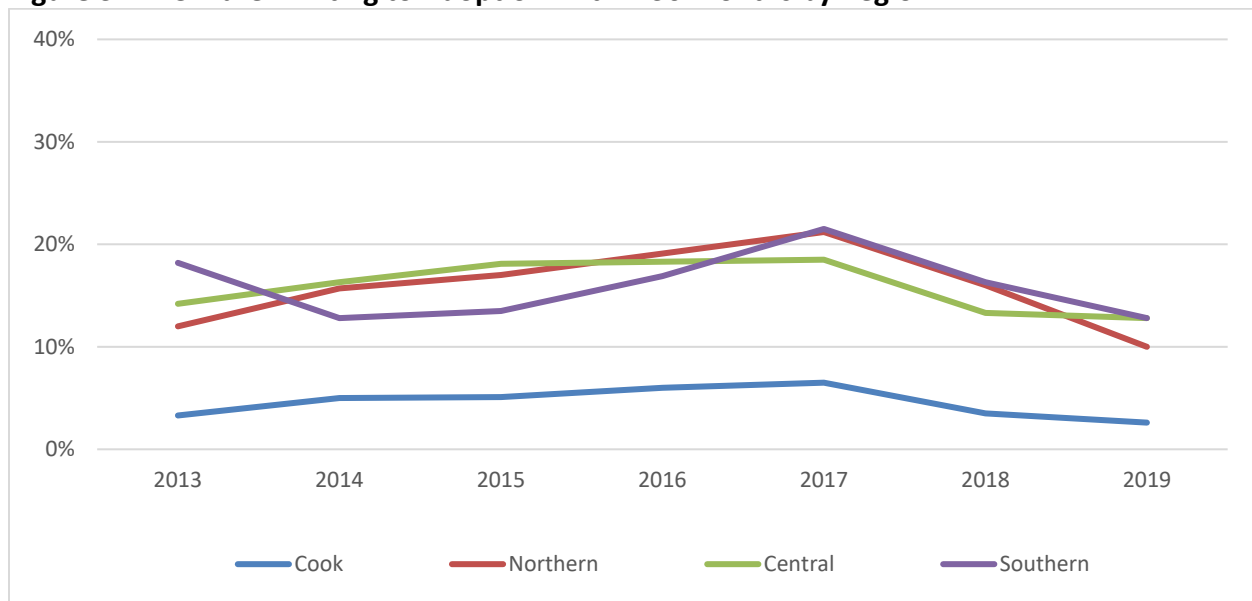
Figure 3.9 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 36 Months by Age

Race and ethnicity are other factors that influence the likelihood of adoption. White children are consistently more likely to exit care to adoption within 36 months than are Black and Latinx children, as shown in Figure 3.10 (see also Appendix B, Indicator 3.C.2). For White children entering care in 2019, 13.1% exited care to adoption within 36 months, compared to 6.8% of Black children and 5.1% of Latinx children. Adoption rates across the three groups have decreased for all racial groups in recent years.

Figure 3.10 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 36 Months by Race/Ethnicity

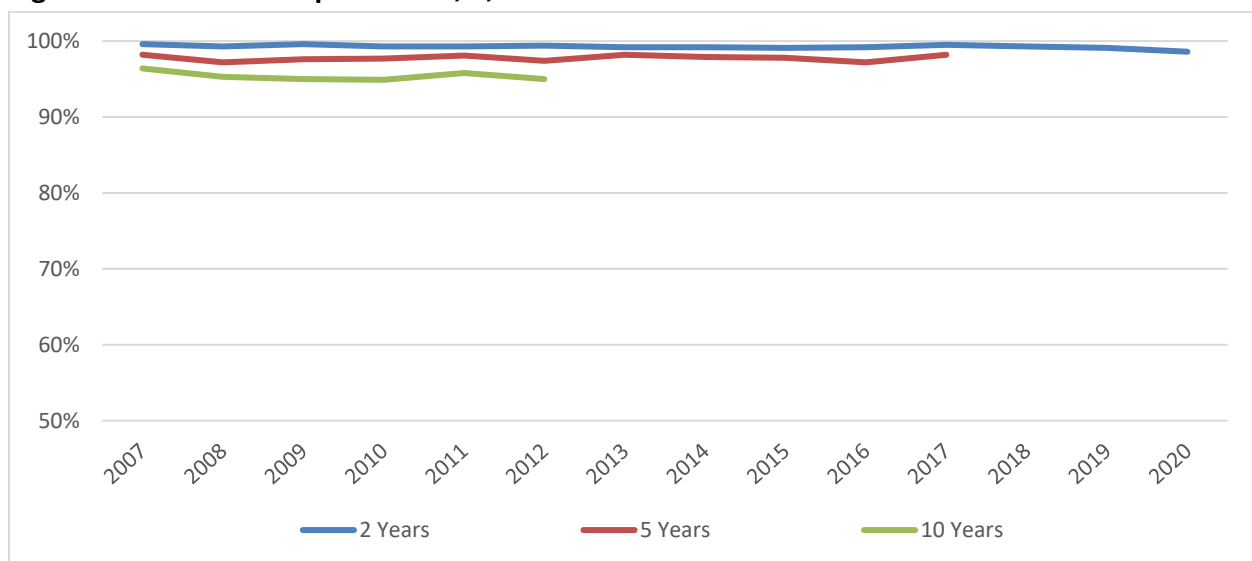


Adoption rates by region are shown in Figure 3.11 (see also Appendix B, Indicator 3.C.2). As with reunifications, adoption rates in the Cook region are markedly lower than other regions; only 2.6% of children who entered care in the Cook region in 2019 were adopted within 36 months, compared to 10.0% of children in the Northern region, 12.8% of children in the Central region, and 12.8% of children in the Southern region. Adoption rates decreased in all regions except the Central region, which remained stable from the prior year.

Figure 3.11 Children Exiting to Adoption Within 36 Months by Region

Stability of Adoption

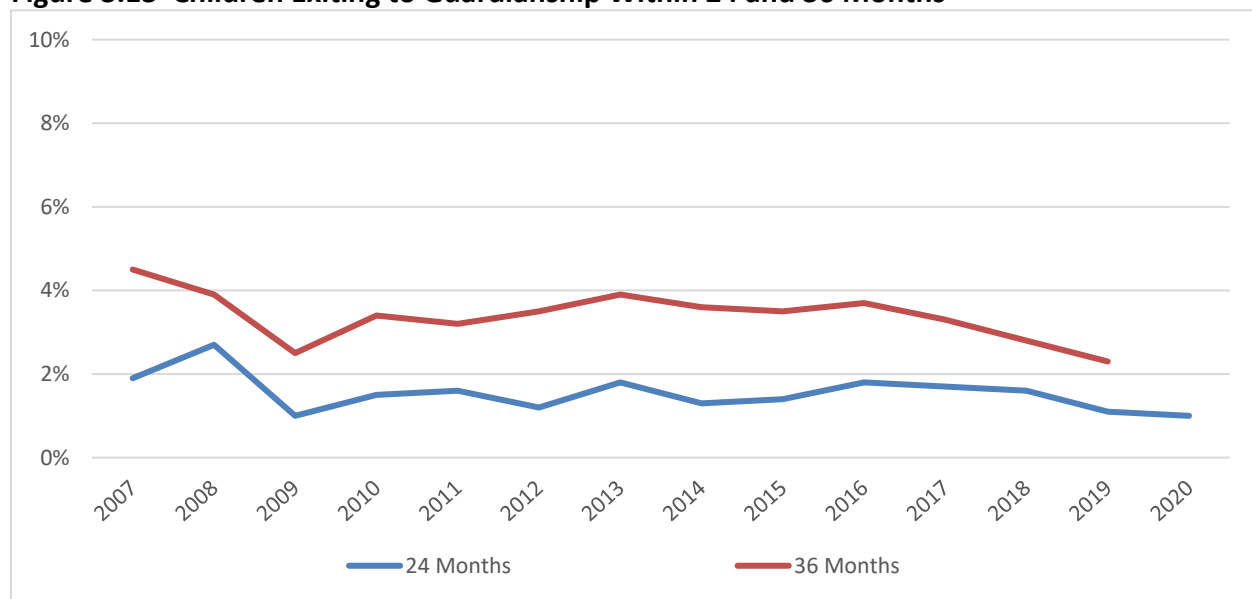
Rates of post-adoption stability after 2, 5, and 10 years are presented in Figure 3.12 (see Appendix B, Indicators 3.D.1, 3.D.2, and 3.D.3). Of children adopted in 2012, 99.4% of them remained in their adoptive homes after 2 years, 97.4% after 5 years, and 95.0% after 10 years. There has been little variability in the stability of adoptions over the past several years.

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

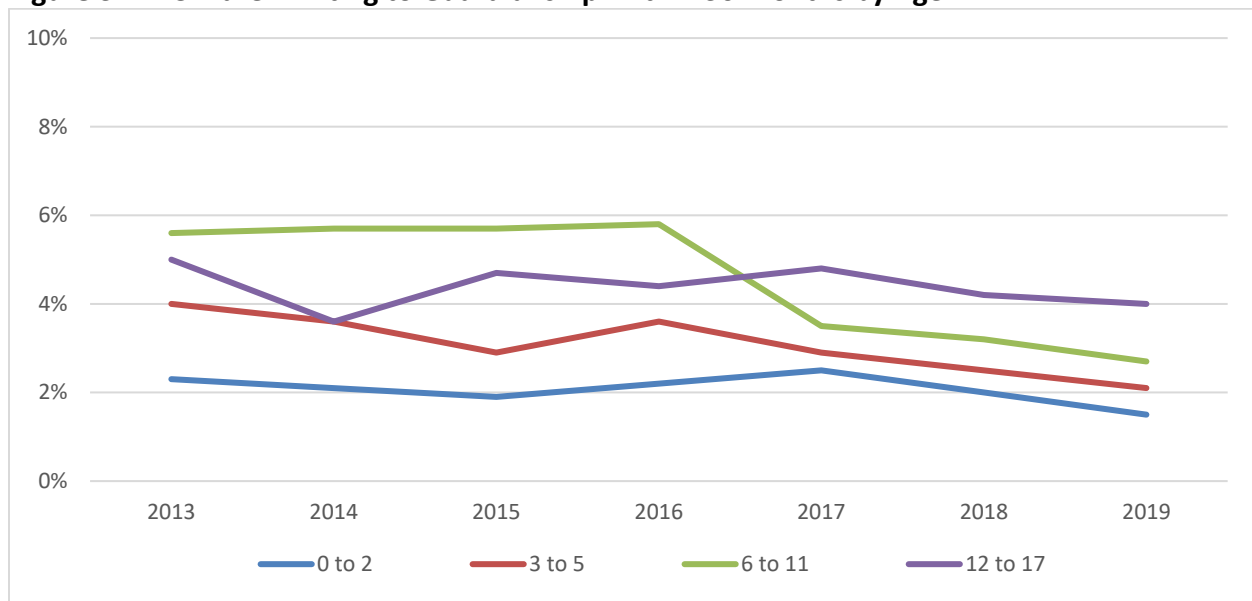
Children Achieving Guardianship

The third type of permanence is guardianship, in which an adult or adults other than the child's biological parents assume legal guardianship of the child and receive support from the state to help pay for that child's care. As with adoption, guardianships generally are 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). Exits to guardianships within 24 months of entry are rare and have ranged between 1.0-2.7% over the observed time period. The percentage of children exiting to guardianship within 36 months has decreased in recent years to a new low of 2.3% in the most recent entry cohort.

Figure 3.13 Children Exiting to Guardianship Within 24 and 36 Months

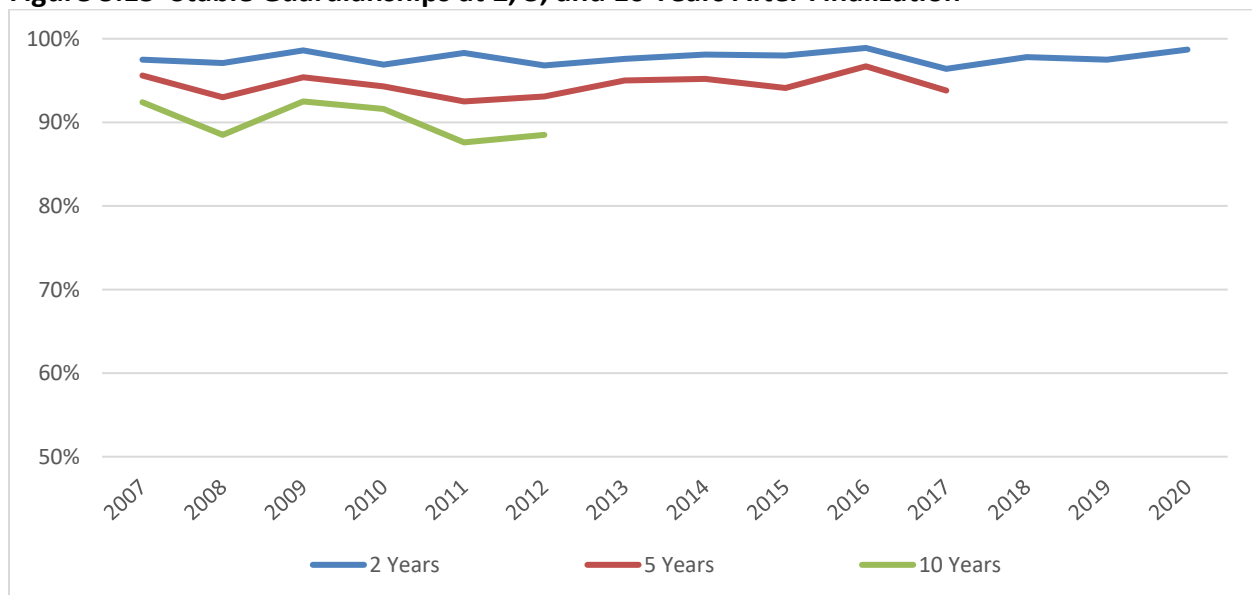


Unlike adoption, which is most likely to occur among the youngest children in care, guardianship within 36 months is most likely to occur among children who enter care between 6 and 17 years old and least likely to occur among children 0 to 5 years (see Figure 3.14 and Appendix B, Indicator 3.E.2). The small total number of children who exit care to guardianship each year means the percentages tend to vary more from year to year than other types of exits.

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). Of children who exited care to guardianship in 2012, 96.8% remained with their guardian after 2 years; 93.1% after 5 years; and 88.5% after 10 years. The rates of stability within 2 and 5 years of exiting substitute care have been relatively unchanged for several years, while the 10-year stability rate has been slightly more variable.

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

Findings from a Recent Study on Permanency Planning

BOX 3.1

CFRC and the Translational Research Team of the DCFS Office of Research and Child Well-Being conducted a study entitled *Exploring the Role of Guardianship in Effective and Equitable Permanency*. The chief motivation for the study was to inform a DCFS effort to improve permanency outcomes through greater use of guardianship, particularly for Black children, who are more likely to remain in substitute care than White children (see Chapter 4). The study gathered data about professionals' and caregivers' experiences with and opinions about guardianship, in order to learn more about how and when to implement it effectively. An advisory group from DCFS originated the idea for the study and advised the research team on implementing the project and understanding the results.

Part of the context of this study is a longstanding debate about the value of adoption versus guardianship. Some experts have claimed that adoption represents a greater commitment and is more stable,¹¹ and a preference for adoption has been codified in Federal and Illinois law¹² and guidelines of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.¹³ But recent research finds no difference in stability between adoption and guardianship.¹⁴ Moreover, some experts argue that the preference for adoption can obstruct stable guardianships with kin caregivers who can provide children with permanent homes within their extended family.¹⁵

This study included interviews and surveys of permanency professionals and long-term kin/fictive kin foster caregivers of Black children. A total of 41 interviews were conducted with permanency caseworkers and supervisors, DCFS attorneys, guardians ad litem, and juvenile court judges, and 267 permanency caseworkers and supervisors completed a survey. The research team also conducted interviews with 11 long-term kin/fictive kin caregivers of Black children and collected survey data from 137 long-term caregivers of Black children with adoption or guardianship goals. There are several

¹¹ Murray, K. J., Bartlett, J. D., & Lent, M. C. (2021). The experience of children and families involved with the child welfare system. In *Handbook of interpersonal violence and abuse across the lifespan: A project of the National Partnership to End Interpersonal Violence Across the Lifespan (NPEIV)*, 1441-1462. Takas, M. (1993). Permanent care options involving kin in child welfare cases. *Current Issues in Pediatric Law, National Association of Counsel for Children*, 91-105.

¹² Testa, M. (2022). Disrupting the foster care to termination of parental rights pipeline: Making a case for kinship guardianship as the next best alternative for children who can't be reunified with their parents. *Family Integrity & Justice Quarterly*, 1 (1), 74-82.

¹³ National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (2000). *Adoption and Permanency Guidelines*. Reno, NV.

¹⁴ Rolock, N., & White, K.R. (2016). Post-permanency discontinuity: A longitudinal examination of outcomes for foster youth after adoption or guardianship. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 70, 419-427.

¹⁵ Creamer, K. & Lee, A. (2022). Reimagining permanency: The struggle for racial equity and lifelong connections, *Family Integrity & Justice Quarterly*, 1(1), 62-71. Gupta-Kagan, J. (2015). The new permanency. *UC Davis Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy*, 19, 1. Milner, J. & Kelly, D. (2022). The need to replace harm with support starts with The Adoption and Safe Families Act. *Family Integrity & Justice Quarterly*, 1(1), 6-7. Sankaran, V.S. (2022). Ending the unnecessary pain inflicted by Federal child welfare policy, *Family Integrity & Justice Quarterly*, 1(1), 26-33.

findings relevant to understanding the infrequent use of guardianship and delays in establishing guardianships and adoptions. Study reports, briefs, and presentations can be found at <https://www.cfrc.illinois.edu/sgs.php>.

Most of the professionals interviewed tailored permanency planning, including the choice between adoption and guardianship, to the unique needs and circumstances of each child. Most chose not to apply a general preference for adoption or guardianship. However, among those who had a preference, more professionals favored adoption than guardianship, particularly for younger children. For many survey items concerning permanence, stability, and protection from abusive parents, more respondents preferred adoption to guardianship, even if the majority chose “it depends on the case” or there is “no difference.” Moreover, half of surveyed professionals thought DCFS favored adoption over guardianship whenever possible, even though DCFS leaders are currently altering the preference for adoption and trying to increase the use of guardianship. In addition, over a quarter of the survey respondents felt the courts favored adoption over guardianship whenever possible.

Data from caregivers provide additional insight into the infrequent use of guardianship and barriers that delay both guardianship and adoption for these children. One issue may be missed opportunities to place children with kin despite policy that prioritizes placement of children with relatives. The study revealed the following:

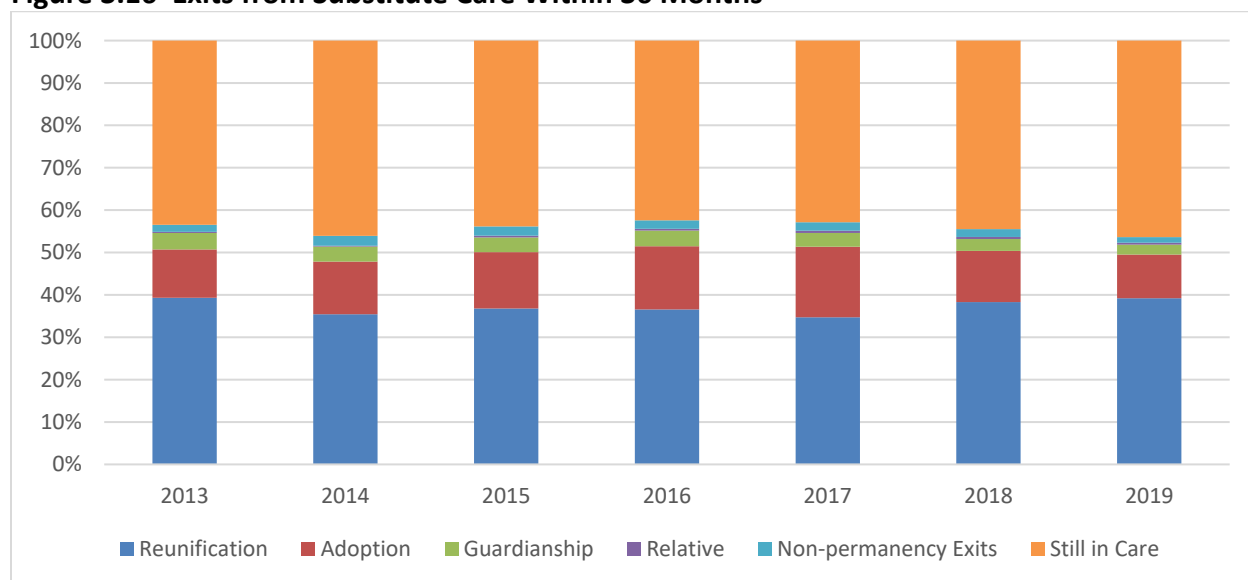
- Among caregiver survey respondents, almost one-third (31%) indicated that they had not been provided information about guardianship or were provided only limited information.
- The survey asked caregivers if they had experienced barriers that delayed permanency for the children in their care. They were provided a list of nine barriers and asked to select all that apply. Over half (52%) reported turnover of caseworkers and other professionals as a barrier that delayed permanency; 28% reported a lack of timely information from caseworkers; 25% reported inadequate information from caseworkers; and 24% reported a lack of services for the child.
- Two of the 11 caregivers who were interviewed reported that caseworkers had initially placed their children in traditional foster homes rather than kin homes even though the kin were available. Over one-third (36%) of the relative caregivers surveyed reported that they, and not the agency, had initiated conversations about placing the children they cared for in their homes. This raises questions about whether current procedures to locate and place children with kin are optimal.

Study findings suggest there is need for public and professional education regarding guardianship and its impact on children, further attention to public policy shaping the use of guardianship, and building of DCFS and private agency capacity to administer guardianship and adoption in the best interest of each child.

Children Who Do Not Achieve Legal Permanence

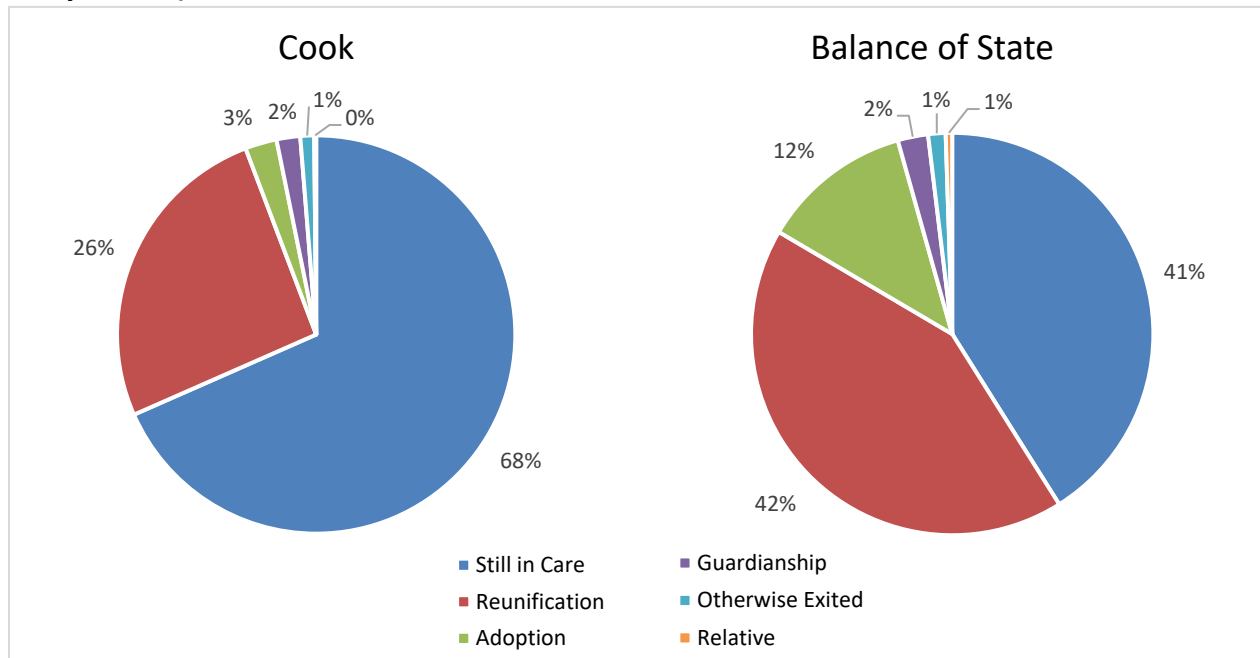
The previous sections explored children's exits to legal permanence through reunification, adoption, and guardianship. More than half (51.8%) of the children in the 2019 entry cohort exited care within 36 months to one of these permanency options. Figure 3.16 shows the permanency outcomes for children in each entry cohort over the past seven years. From 2013 to 2019, between 42.4% and 46.4% of children remained in care more than 36 months. A small percentage of each entry cohort (between 1.3% and 2.3%) exited substitute care within 36 months without ever achieving legal permanence; these "non-permanency exits" include aging out, incarceration, and running away.

Figure 3.16 Exits from Substitute Care Within 36 Months



There are large regional differences in the achievement of timely permanence for children in care. Figure 3.17 compares the outcomes for children in care after 36 months in the Cook region versus the rest of the state. Approximately 68.4% of children in care in the Cook region remain in care after 36 months, 25.8% are reunified, 2.6% are adopted, and 1.9% exit to guardianships. In the rest of the state, 41.0% of children are still in care after 36 months, 42.4% are reunified, 12.2% are adopted, and 2.4% exit to guardianships.

Figure 3.17 Exits from Substitute Care Within 36 Months: Cook Versus Balance of State (2019 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 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 Black, and children who live in the Cook region are less likely to achieve permanence than children who are younger, children who are White, and children who live elsewhere in the state.

In Illinois, there continue to be large regional differences in the achievement of timely permanence for children in care. Over 68% of children in the 2019 cohort taken into substitute care in the Cook region can expect to stay there longer than three years. In contrast, 41% of children in other regions of the state stay in care longer than three years. Another noticeable regional difference was adoption: only 2.6% of the children who entered substitute care in the Cook region in FY2019 were adopted by the end of FY2021, as compared to 12.2% of children in the rest of state. There were large regional differences in reunification as well. A quarter

(25.8%) of children who entered care in 2019 in the Cook region exited to reunification within 36 months compared to 41-43% for the rest of the regions in the state.

There were notable decreases in the percentages of children who exited care to adoption within 24 or 36 months this year compared to the prior year. This mirrors a national trend in a decrease in the number of adoptions over the past several years.¹⁶ The Child Welfare League of America suggested that the historic drop in numbers of adoption occurred across several states may have been related to court delays that occurred during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁷

Stability of the permanent placements is another important indicator to measure the performance of a child welfare system in achieving permanence for children in substitute care. In Illinois, 9.5% of the children who entered foster care in FY2020 and attained permanency within 12 months re-entered substitute care within a year. The re-entry rates for children who had been in care for 12 to 23 months and 24 months or more prior to achieving permanence decreased in the most recent year.

¹⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). *Trends in Foster Care and Adoption: FY2012 – 2021*. Retrieved from: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/trends-fostercare-adoption-11thru20.pdf>

¹⁷ Sciamanna, J. (n.d.). *New AFCARS Data See Drop in Numbers, Maybe Freeze in Courts or Systems*. Retrieved from <https://www.cwla.org/new-afcars-data-see-drop-in-numbers-maybe-freeze-in-courts-or-systems/>



Chapter 4

Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality

Child welfare systems across the nation share the concern that children from some racial and ethnic groups are disproportionately represented in the child welfare system compared to their representation in the general population.¹ Since 2016, it has been a goal of DCFS to track racial equity within the child welfare system to help inform planning and decision-making. This chapter provides information relevant to that goal by examining racial and ethnic disproportionality for ten child welfare outcome indicators:

- A. investigations
- B. protective custodies
- C. indicated investigations
- D. intact family services
- E. substitute care entries
- F. placement instability
- G. length of stay in substitute care
- H. permanence through reunification
- I. permanence through adoption
- J. permanence through guardianship

¹ Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2016). *Racial disproportionality and disparity in child welfare*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau.

Measuring Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality

Racial and ethnic disproportionality refers to the over- or under-representation of a racial or ethnic group in the child welfare system compared to that group's representation in a relevant base population. In this report, it is represented by a Racial Disproportionality Index (RDI), in which the percentage of children in a racial or ethnic group for a child welfare indicator is divided by the percentage of children in a relevant base population.

There are two commonly used methods for calculating RDI; each uses a different population in the denominator. The first is the "absolute RDI," in which a racial or ethnic group's percentage within the child welfare indicator is divided by that group's percentage in the general child population. The same denominator (percentage of the racial/ethnic group in the child population) is used when calculating absolute RDIs for each indicator. This report calculates absolute RDIs for five indicators: investigations, indicated investigations, protective custodies, intact family services, and substitute care entries. To calculate the absolute RDIs, data on race and ethnicity for the Illinois child population were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.²

A second measure of disproportionality is the "relative RDI," which is calculated by dividing a racial or ethnic group's percentage within the child welfare indicator by that group's percentage within a prior child welfare indicator. For example, the denominator for calculating the relative RDI for children in protective custodies is the group's percentage among children who were investigated. Relative RDI are provided for all the indicators in this chapter except for investigations.³ Please see Appendix A for the definitions used to compute the relative RDI for each indicator; Appendix C for the absolute and relative RDIs for the state as a whole and for each DCFS administrative region (Cook, Northern, Central, and Southern) for 2016-2022; and Appendix D for the number and percentage of children in each racial group in the Illinois child population each year (2016-2022).

RDIs are reported for seven mutually exclusive racial/ethnic groups in Illinois: White, Black/African American, Latinx (any race), Asian, Multiracial, Native American/Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. For children of Latinx origin, race/ethnicity is defined as "Latinx" regardless of race, and other races do not include children whose ethnicity

² U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2020). *CC-EST2020-ALLDATA6-17: Annual county resident population estimates by age, sex, 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races), and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019; April, 2020; and July 1, 2020*. Retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2020/counties/asrh/>; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2020). *CC-EST2021-ALLDATA6-17: Annual county resident population estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021*. Retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2020-2021/counties/asrh/>

³ The relative RDI for investigations would compare the percentage of children in investigations (numerator) to the percentage of children in hotline calls. The CFRC does not have access to hotline call data, and therefore cannot compute the relative RDI for investigations.

is Latinx. Appendix A provides information on the creation of race/ethnicity variables from data in the Statewide Automated Child Welfare System (SACWIS) and the Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS). Several of the racial/ethnic groups are quite small in Illinois (see Appendix D, Table D.1). Of the 3.1 million children in the 2022 Illinois population, 50.6% were White, 24.8% were Latinx, and 15.2% were Black. The other racial groups were substantially smaller: 5.6% of the child population were Asian American, 3.6% were Multiracial, 0.1% were Native American, and 0.03% were Pacific Islander. When the Illinois child population is examined by region, the percentages in some racial/ethnic groups are even smaller (see Appendix D, Table D.2). When there is a small base population in the denominator, the RDIs must be interpreted with care. Increases or decreases in numbers of children from a small base population can be proportionately larger than increases or decreases in numbers of children from a larger base population. Therefore, throughout this report, whenever a racial/ethnic group for an indicator contains 20 or fewer children, the RDI for that group is not reported in the figures or appendix tables. In addition, if the base population for calculating an RDI was less than 1%, the RDI for that group is not included in the figures.

Interpreting Racial Disproportionality Indices

Absolute RDI values less than 1.0 indicate under-representation compared to the general child population. For example, an RDI of 0.5 means that children are represented half as much at that indicator as they are in the general population. RDI values equal or close to 1.0 indicate no disproportionality; children in that group are represented at rates that are proportionate to their representation in the population. RDI values greater than 1.0 indicate over-representation compared to the general population. For example, an RDI of 2.0 for an indicator means that children in that group are represented at twice the rate they are in the general population.

Absolute RDIs provide useful information about how children in different racial/ethnic groups are represented in the child welfare system compared to their representation in the general population. However, they do not provide information about whether disproportionality increases or decreases as children move through the child welfare system. The relative RDI provides this information by comparing a group's representation at one child welfare indicator to their representation in a previous part of the child welfare system. The relative RDI tells us if the amount of over-representation at an indicator increases or decreases *relative to* the amount that was present in the comparison population. Therefore, when interpreting the meaning of a relative RDI, the amount of disproportionality in the comparison population must also be taken into consideration.

To provide a concrete example for interpreting absolute and relative RDIs, we can look at the absolute and relative RDIs for Black children entering substitute care. The absolute RDI is calculated by dividing the percentage of Black children entering substitute care (33.3% in 2022) by the percentage of Black children in the Illinois child population (15.2% in 2022), which results in an absolute RDI of 2.2. This means that Black children entered substitute care at over two times their representation in the child population; they were over-represented among

substitute care entries in 2022. The relative RDI for this indicator is calculated by dividing the percentage of Black children entering substitute care (33.3% in 2022) by the percentage of Black children in investigations (33.1% in 2022) to find a relative RDI of 1.0. This means that the amount of disproportionality in substitute care entries did not increase or decrease for Black children in 2022 compared to the amount of disproportionality present in investigations. However, a relative RDI of 1.0 does not mean that disproportionality does not exist among Black children entering substitute care. We know from the absolute RDI of 2.2 that Black children are over-represented; the relative RDI tells us that the amount of over-representation did not increase at this point.

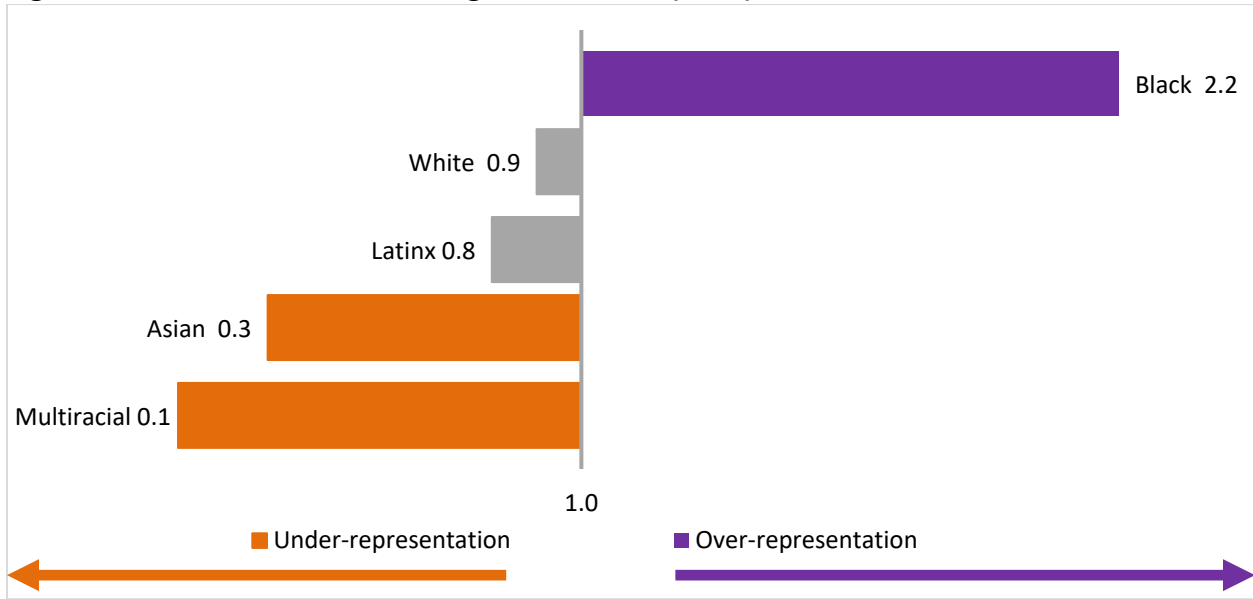
A relative RDI of 1.0 means that the amount of over-representation has not increased or decreased at a particular indicator. Relative RDIs greater than 1.0 mean one of two things: 1) the amount of over-representation has increased at the indicator compared to the previous indicator, or 2) the amount of under-representation has decreased compared to the previous indicator. Relative RDIs less than 1.0 indicate that either: 1) the amount of under-representation has increased compared to the previous indicator, or 2) the amount of over-representation has decreased compared to the previous indicator.

This chapter includes figures to show the differences in RDI between racial/ethnic groups. Because an RDI of 1.0 indicates no disproportionality, 1.0 is set as the baseline in the figures. The length of the bar in the figure directly corresponds to the amount of disproportionality for that group, i.e., longer bars equate to greater disproportionality. In this report, we interpret absolute RDIs greater than 1.2 to show over-representation and an absolute RDIs less than 0.8 to show under-representation. Because relative RDIs indicate a change in the amount of disproportionality, all values above and below 1.0 are interpreted as noteworthy.

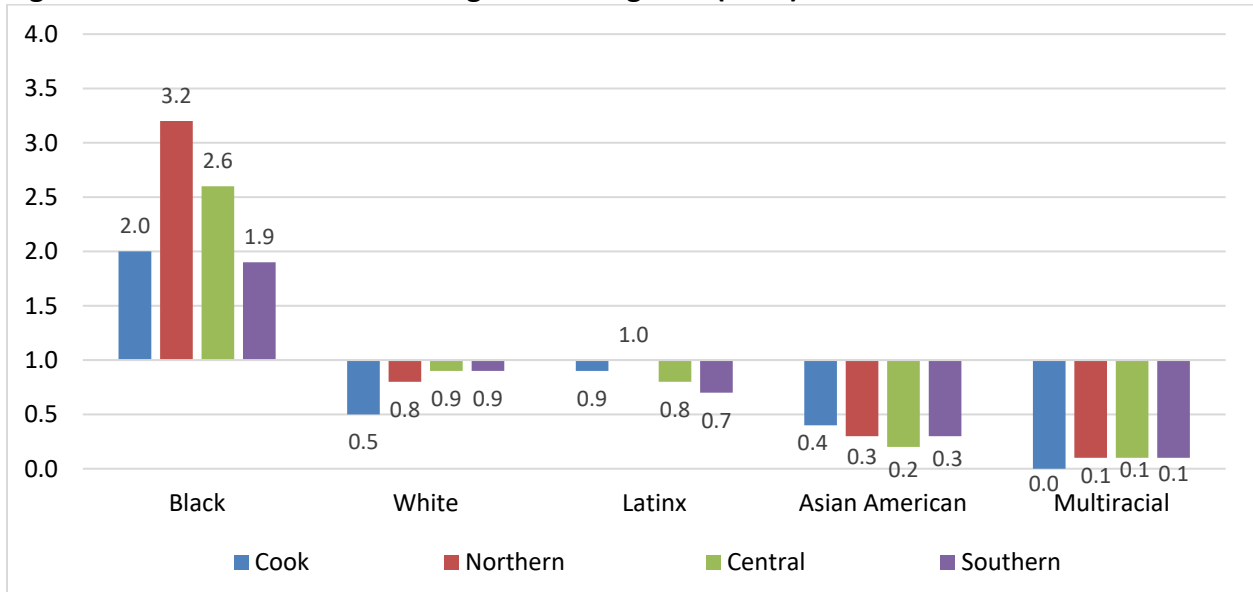
Outcomes for Children in Investigations

Investigations

The first indicator examined is investigations. DCFS staff at the State Central Register (SCR) screen each call that is received from a maltreatment reporter to determine if the circumstances meet the criteria for an investigation. Calls can be either screened in to become investigations or screened out and no further child welfare actions are taken. Figure 4.1 shows the absolute RDI for children in the five racial/ethnic groups for investigations in Illinois in 2022. Black children were over-represented among children in investigations compared to their representation in the general population (RDI = 2.2), White and Latinx children were proportionally represented, and Asian and Multiracial children were under-represented (RDI = 0.3 and 0.1, respectively). There was little change in the RDI for these race/ethnicity groups over the past seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.1).

Figure 4.1 Absolute RDI for Investigations—State (2022)

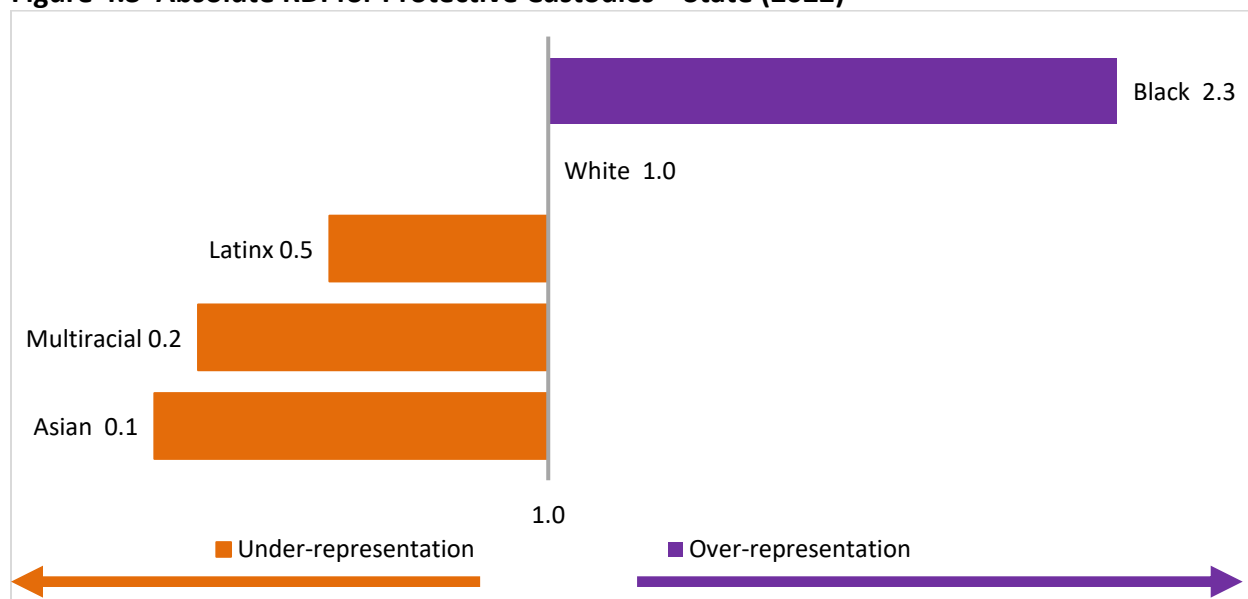
When the absolute RDIs for investigations in 2022 are examined by region, a few regional differences stand out (see Figure 4.2). Black children were over-represented among investigations in all regions, but Black children in the Northern region had an absolute RDI of 3.2, which was greater than any other regions. White children were under-represented in the Cook region (RDI = 0.5) but were proportionally represented in all other regions. The regional RDI patterns for investigations have been consistent over the last seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.2).

Figure 4.2 Absolute RDI for Investigations—Regional (2022)

Protective Custodies

During an investigation, a child protective services worker can take protective custody of a child if they believe the child is unsafe in the home or with the caregiver. If the child is believed to be unsafe, the child is taken into care for up to 48 hours (excluding weekends) until a shelter hearing is convened.⁴ Figure 4.3 shows the absolute RDIs for protective custodies in Illinois in 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.3). Black children were over-represented 2.3 times their percentage in the Illinois child population. The absolute RDI for Black children taken into protective custody had been decreasing in recent years but increased from 2.18 in 2021 to 2.34 in 2022. White children were proportionately represented among protective custodies compared to their representation in the Illinois population in 2022, and the RDI has been stable for the past several years. Latinx, Multiracial, and Asian American children were under-represented among children in protective custodies in 2022 compared to their representation in the Illinois population, and the RDIs for these groups have been stable during the past seven years.

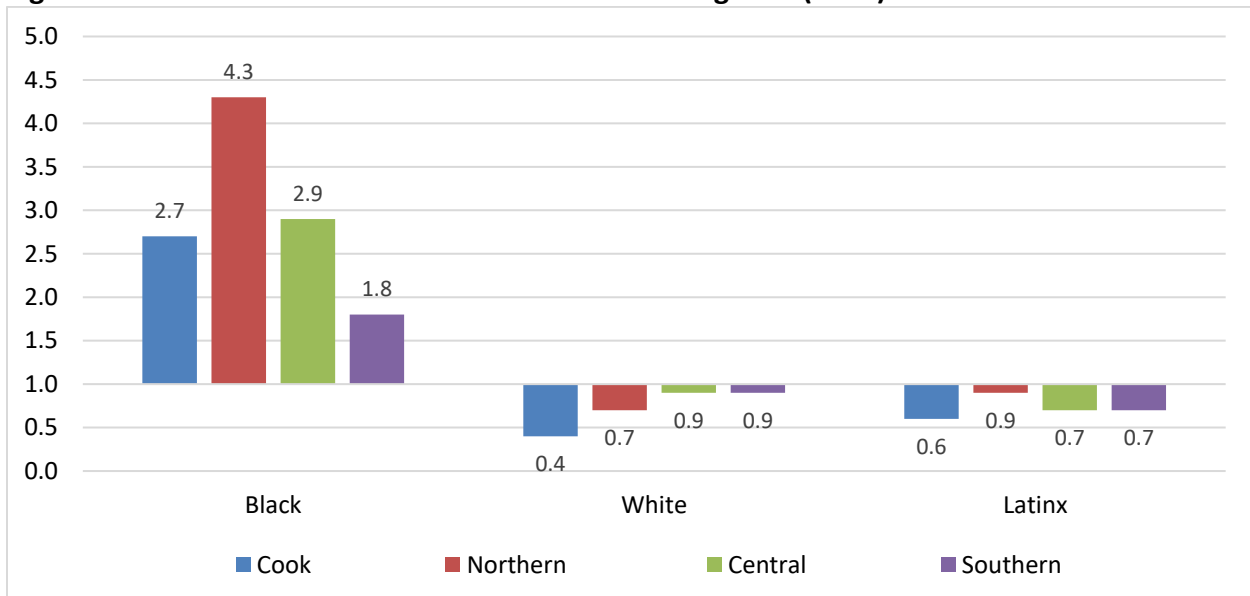
Figure 4.3 Absolute RDI for Protective Custodies—State (2022)



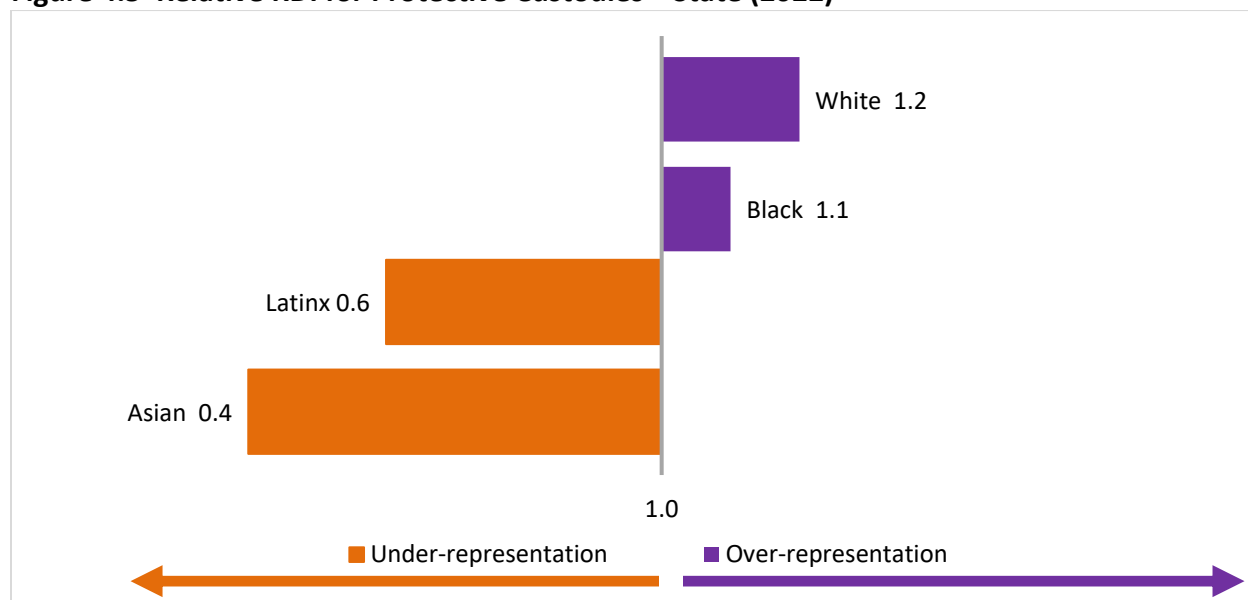
⁴ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (October, 2015). *Procedures 300 Section 120 Taking Children into Protective Custody*. https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/notices/Documents/rules_300.pdf

When the absolute RDIs for children in protective custodies in 2022 are examined by region, there are large differences for Black children (see Figure 4.4). The amount of over-representation in the Northern region (RDI = 4.3) was much higher than that in other regions (Central = 2.9, Cook = 2.7, Southern = 1.8). Although the RDI for Black children in protective custodies in the Northern region had decreased in recent years, from 5.3 in 2016 to 3.8 in 2021, it increased in 2022 to 4.3. There were also regional differences in the RDIs for protective custodies for White children. White children were under-represented in protective custodies in the Cook (RDI = 0.4) and Northern (RDI = 0.7) regions, and proportionally represented in the Central and Southern regions (RDI = 0.9 in both regions). In 2022, Latinx children were under-represented in the Cook, Central, and Southern regions and proportionately represented in the Northern region. The RDIs for Latinx children in the Northern and Southern regions had substantial variability over the last seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.4).

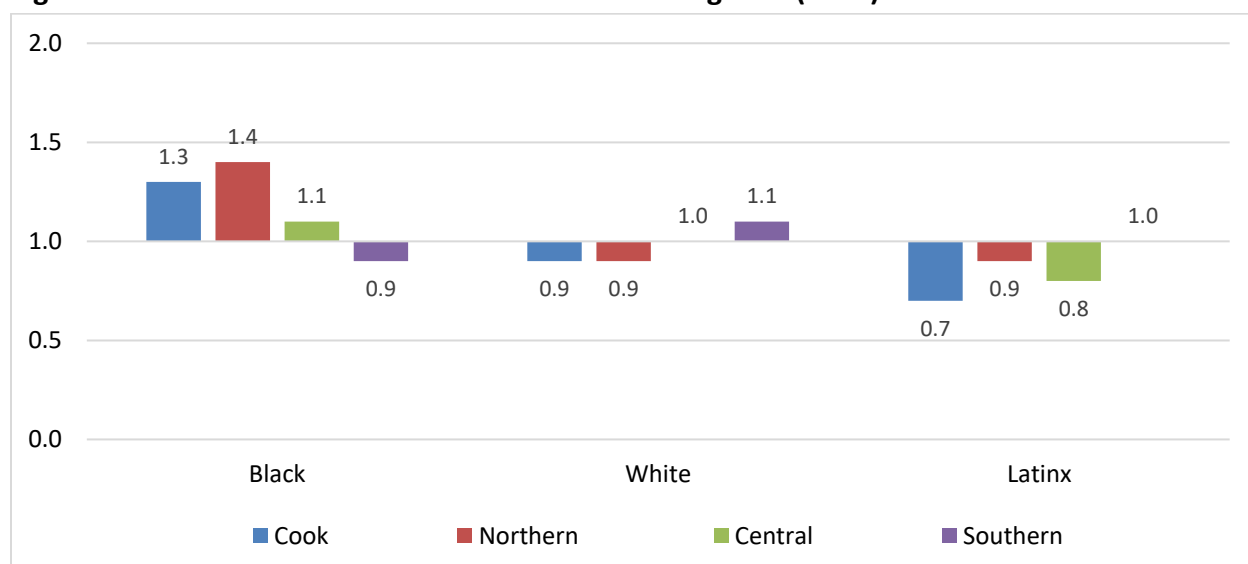
Figure 4.4 Absolute RDI for Protective Custodies—Regional (2022)



The relative RDIs for protective custodies are calculated by dividing the percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group taken into protective custody by their percentage in investigations. Relative RDIs greater than 1.0 indicate that there is a larger percentage of children taken into protective custody when compared to the percentage in investigations; relative RDIs less than 1.0 indicate a smaller percentage in protective custodies when compared to those in investigations. Figure 4.5 shows the relative RDI for protective custodies in 2022 at the state level (see Appendix C, Table C.5). The relative RDI of 1.2 for White children means that the amount of under-representation decreased for protective custodies compared to investigated reports. The relative RDI of 1.1 for Black children means that the amount of over-representation among protective custodies slightly increased when it was compared to investigated reports. The relative RDIs less than 1.0 for Latinx and Asian children mean that the amount of under-representation in protective custodies was greater than that in investigated reports (the under-representation increased at this indicator).

Figure 4.5 Relative RDI for Protective Custodies—State (2022)

Regional relative RDIs for children in protective custodies in 2022 are shown in Figure 4.6. Over-representation among Black children increased for children in protective custodies compared to investigations in the Cook (RDI = 1.3), Northern (RDI = 1.4) and Central (RDI = 1.1) regions. The relative RDI in the Southern region (RDI = 0.9) indicates that disproportionality slightly decreased for Black children in protective custodies compared to investigations. Under-representation for Latinx children in the Cook (RDI = 0.7), Northern (RDI = 0.9) and Central (RDI = 0.8) regions increased compared to the investigation decision. Examination of the regional relative RDIs over the past seven years shows small variations from year to year with no consistent trend (see Appendix C, Table C.6).

Figure 4.6 Relative RDI for Protective Custodies—Regional (2022)

Indicated Investigations

Once an investigation is screened in, the child protection specialist must collect information to make a determination about whether the alleged abuse or neglect occurred. The required actions are outlined in DCFS Procedures 300⁵ and include performing background checks on all adults in the household; interviewing the alleged victims, perpetrator, and all adults in the household; observing the home environment; and performing a structured safety assessment. At the conclusion of the investigation, the child protection specialist determines if there is credible evidence that the alleged abuse or neglect occurred; if so, then the allegation is indicated. Figure 4.7 shows the absolute RDI for children in indicated investigations for each racial/ethnic group in 2022. The RDI for Black children in 2022 was 2.2, which means that Black children were represented among indicated investigations at over twice the rate that they are represented in the Illinois child population. White and Latinx children were proportionately represented in indicated investigations and all other racial and ethnic groups were under-represented among indicated investigations in FY2022. These trends were relatively consistent over the past seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.7).

Figure 4.7 Absolute RDI for Indicated Investigations—State (2022)

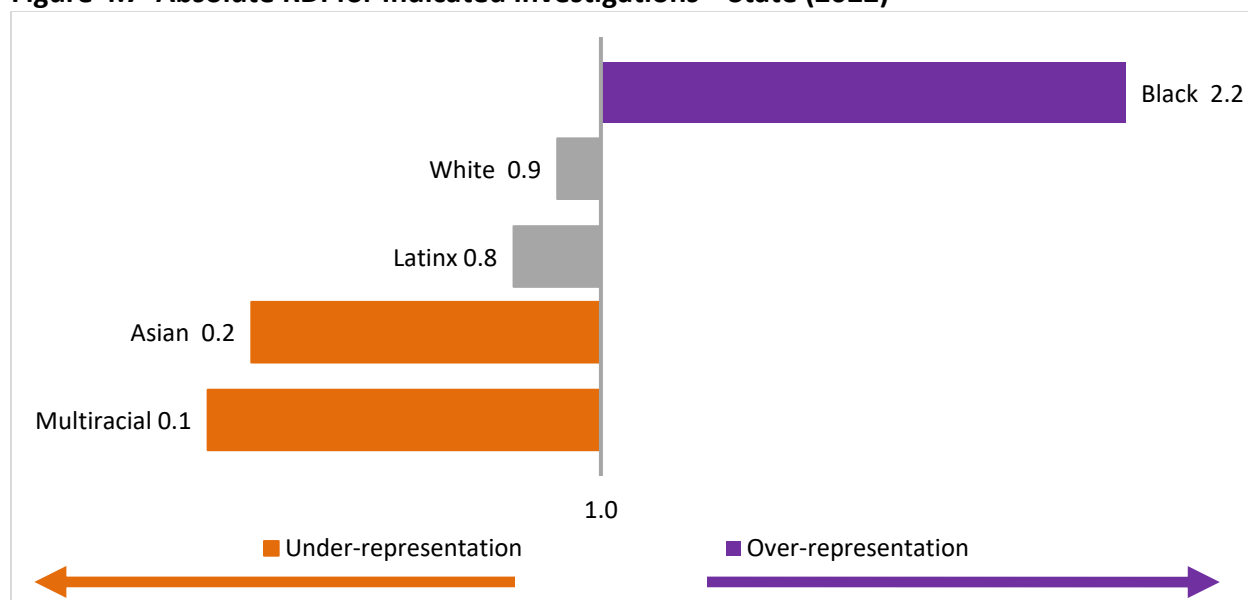
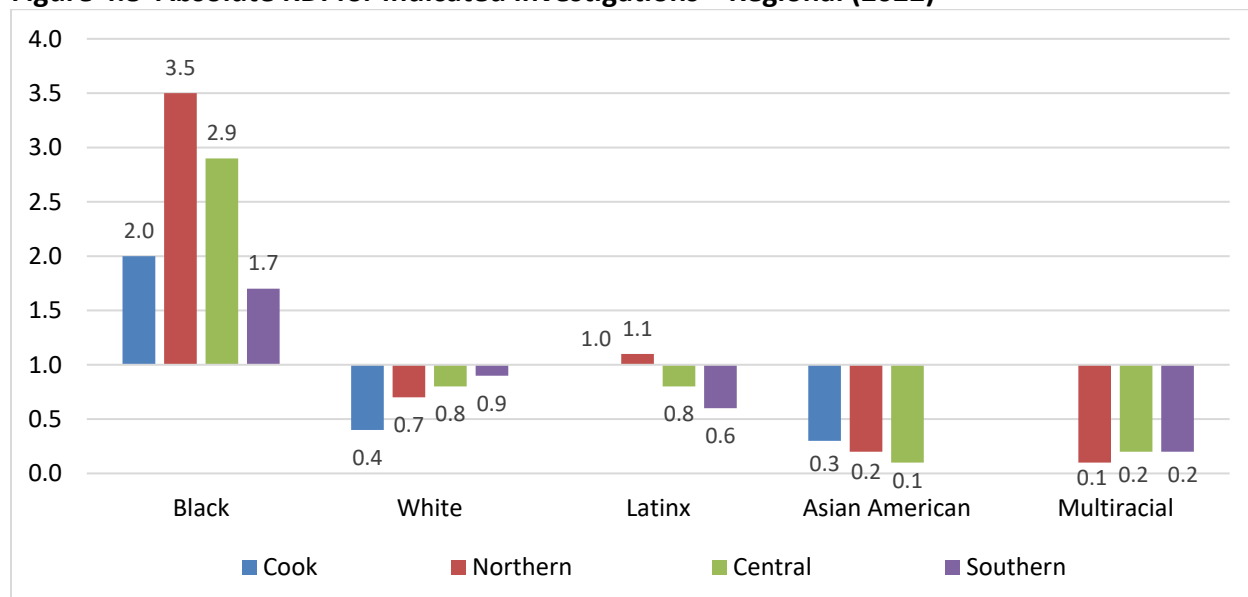


Figure 4.8 provides absolute RDIs for children in indicated investigations by region for 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.8). Black children were over-represented in all regions, with the highest and most disproportionate RDI in the Northern region (RDI = 3.5). White children were proportionally represented among children in indicated investigations in the Central and Southern regions and under-represented in the Cook and Northern regions. Latinx children

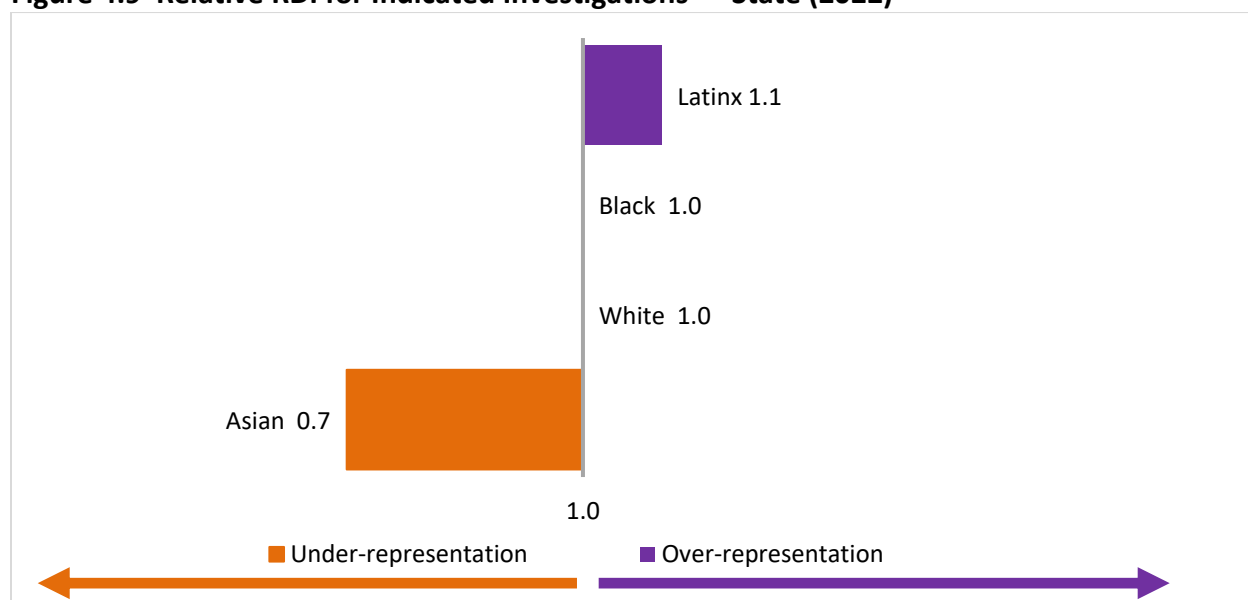
⁵ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (October, 2015). *Procedures 300 Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect*. <https://dcfs.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dcfs/documents/about-us/policy-rules-and-forms/documents/procedures/procedures-300.pdf>

were under-represented in the Southern region (RDI = 0.6) and proportionately represented in the other regions. These regional RDI have been consistent over the past seven years.

Figure 4.8 Absolute RDI for Indicated Investigations—Regional (2022)



The relative RDIs for indicated investigations were calculated by dividing the percentage of children in indicated investigations by the percentage of children in investigated reports for each racial/ethnic group. Relative RDIs greater than 1.0 mean that children in a racial/ethnic group have a higher percentage of children with indicated investigations compared to the percentage in investigated reports; relative RDIs less than 1.0 mean the opposite. Figure 4.9 shows the relative RDIs for children in indicated reports for 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.9). The relative RDI of 1.1 for Latinx children means that the amount of under-representation in this group decreased for indicated investigations compared to investigated reports. The RDI of 1.0 means that the over-representation of Black children and the under-representation of White children in indicated investigations did not change compared to investigated reports. The relative RDI less than one for Asian children means that the amount of under-representation of these children in indicated investigations increased compared to the amount of under-representation among investigations. The relative RDIs for the groups were stable over the last seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.9).

Figure 4.9 Relative RDI for Indicated Investigations — State (2022)

The regional relative RDIs for this indicator for the past seven years can be found in Appendix C, Table C.10. The regional values for some racial groups show some slight variations, but for the most part are similar to the relative RDIs at the state level.

Intact Family Services

At the conclusion of the investigation, the family may be referred for intact family services, in which the children remain at home while the family receives supportive services.⁶ Figure 4.10 shows the absolute RDIs for children receiving intact family services in 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.11). Black children were over-represented, White children were proportionally represented, and Latinx, Multiracial, and Asian American children were under-represented compared to their percentages in the Illinois child population. These patterns were sustained through the 2016-2022 period.

⁶ <https://dcfs.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dcfs/documents/about-us/policy-rules-and-forms/documents/procedures/procedures-302-subpart-c.pdf>

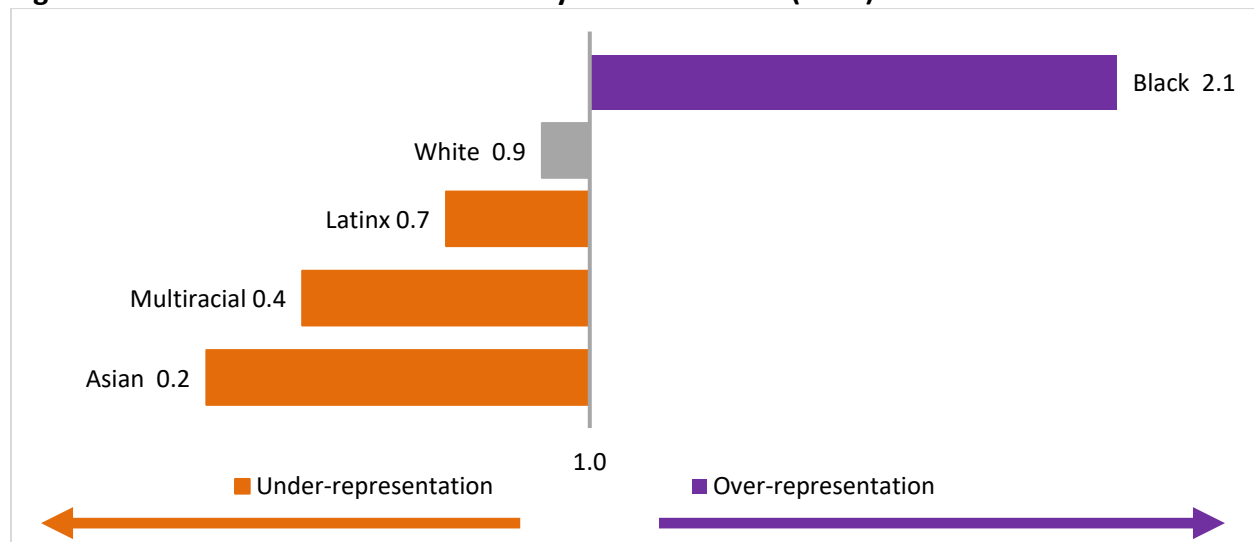
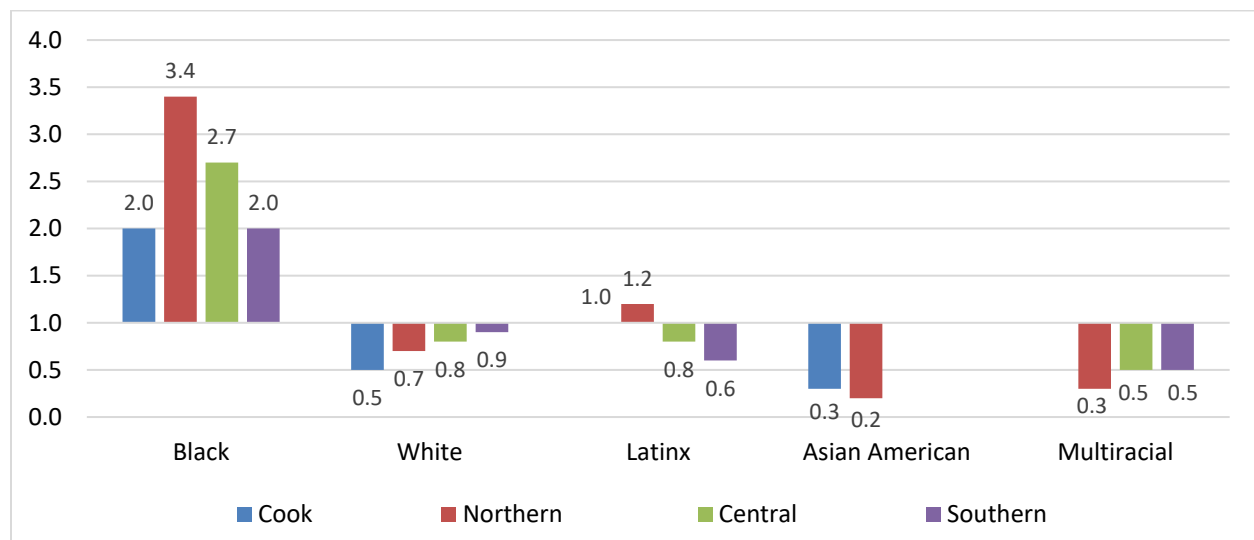
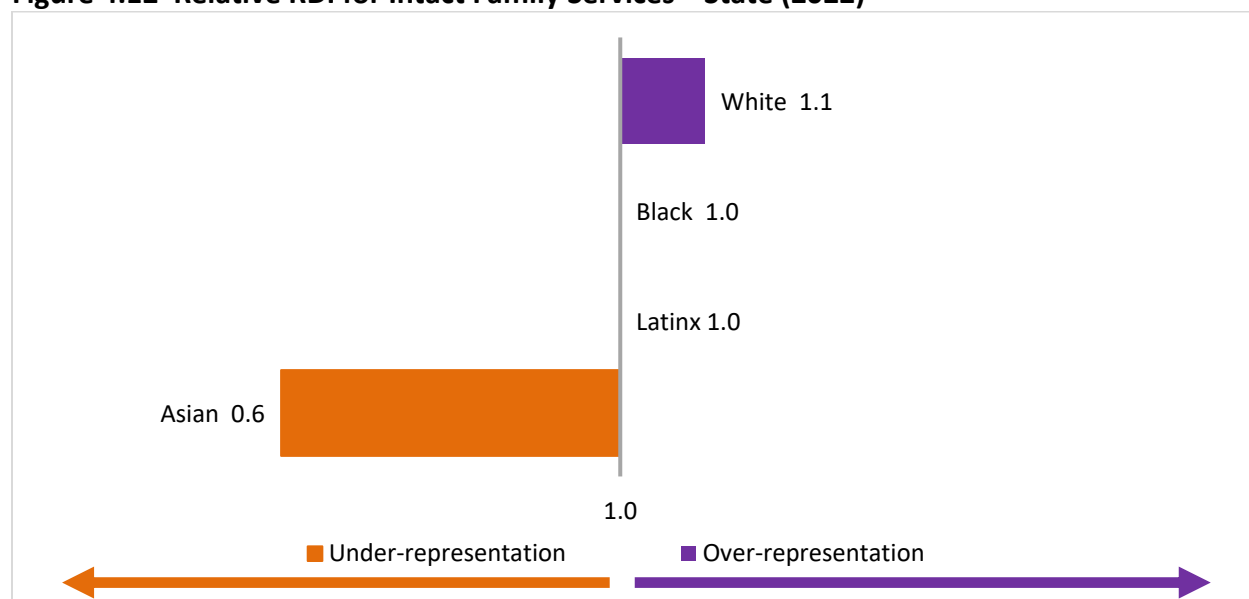
Figure 4.10 Absolute RDI for Intact Family Services—State (2022)

Figure 4.11 shows the absolute RDIs for intact family services at the regional level in 2022. Black children were over-represented in all regions, with the largest over-representation in the Northern region (RDI = 3.4) and lowest in the Southern and Cook regions (RDI = 2.0). White children were under-represented in the Cook and Northern regions and were proportionally represented in the Central and Southern regions. Latinx children were proportionally represented in the Cook, Northern, and Central regions and under-represented in the Southern region (RDI = 0.6). Asian American and Multiracial children were under-represented in all regions in which an RDI was calculated. Examination of the regional RDIs over the past seven years shows small variations from year to year with no consistent trend, except for Latinx children in the Central region, where the amount of under-representation has decreased over time (see Appendix C, Table C.12).

Figure 4.11 Absolute RDI for Intact Family Services—Regional (2022)

The relative RDI for intact family services was calculated by comparing the percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group receiving intact family services to their percentage of children in investigations. Figure 4.12 shows the relative RDIs for children in intact family services in 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.13). The relative RDI of 1.1 for White children means that the amount of under-representation in this group decreased for intact family services compared to investigated reports. The RDI of 1.0 for Black children means that the level of over-representation did not increase or decrease compared to investigated reports, and the RDI of 1.0 for Latinx children means that the amount of under-representation did not change compared to investigated reports. The relative RDI less than 1.0 for Asian children means that the amount of under-representation in intact family services was greater than that in investigated reports (the under-representation increased at this indicator). The relative RDIs for the groups were stable over the last seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.13).

Figure 4.12 Relative RDI for Intact Family Services—State (2022)



The regional relative RDIs for this indicator for the past seven years can be found in Appendix C, Table C.14. The regional values for some racial groups show some slight variations, but for the most part are similar to the regional RDIs at the state level.

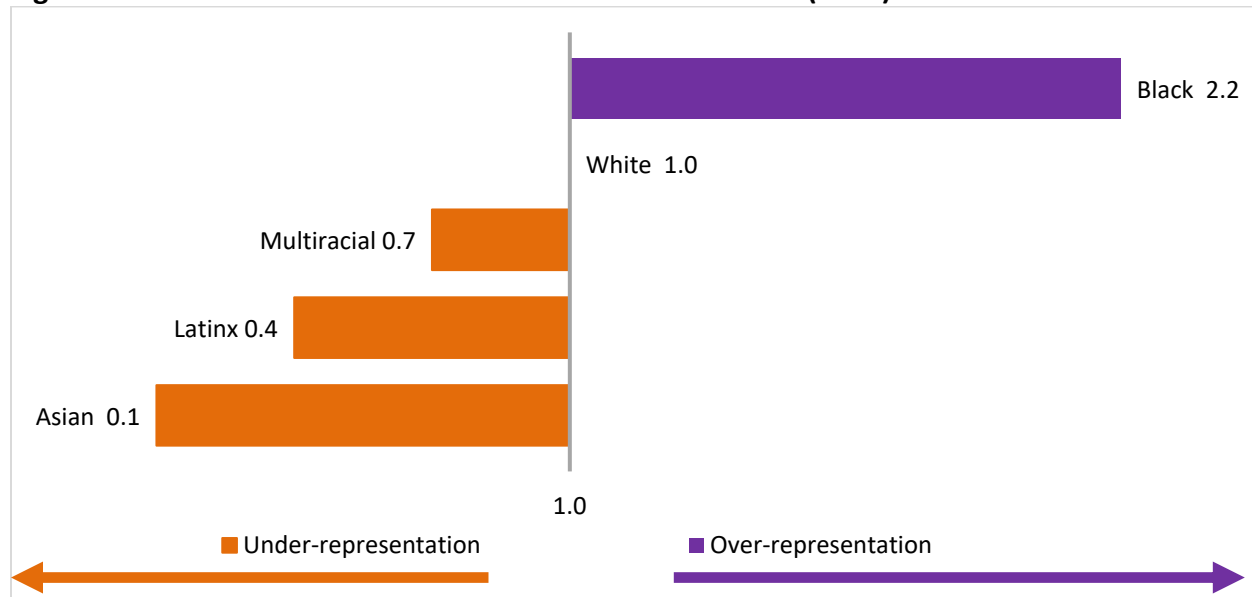
Substitute Care Entries

At the conclusion of the investigation, if the child welfare worker believes that "there are safety threats that cannot be controlled or mitigated through the service provision,"⁷ the child may be removed from their home and placed into substitute care. The absolute RDIs for substitute care entries in 2022 are shown in Figure 4.13 (see Appendix C, Table C.15). In 2022, Black children entered substitute care at a rate over two times higher than their percentage in the Illinois child

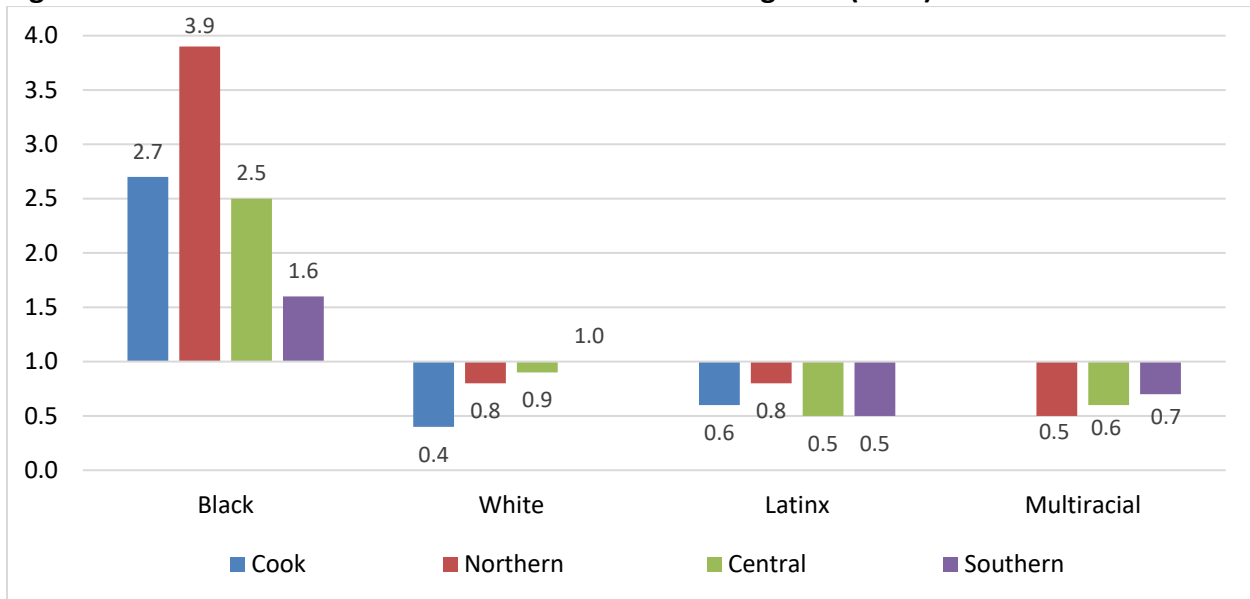
⁷ Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (October, 2015). Procedures 300 Section 130 Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect. https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/notices/Documents/procedures_300.pdf

population. However, the RDI for Black children entering substitute care decreased from 2.60 in 2016 to 2.18 in 2022. White children were proportionately represented (RDI = 1.1) in 2022 and in the preceding six years. Multiracial, Latinx, and Asian American children were under-represented compared to their percentage in the Illinois child population in 2022 and the previous six years.

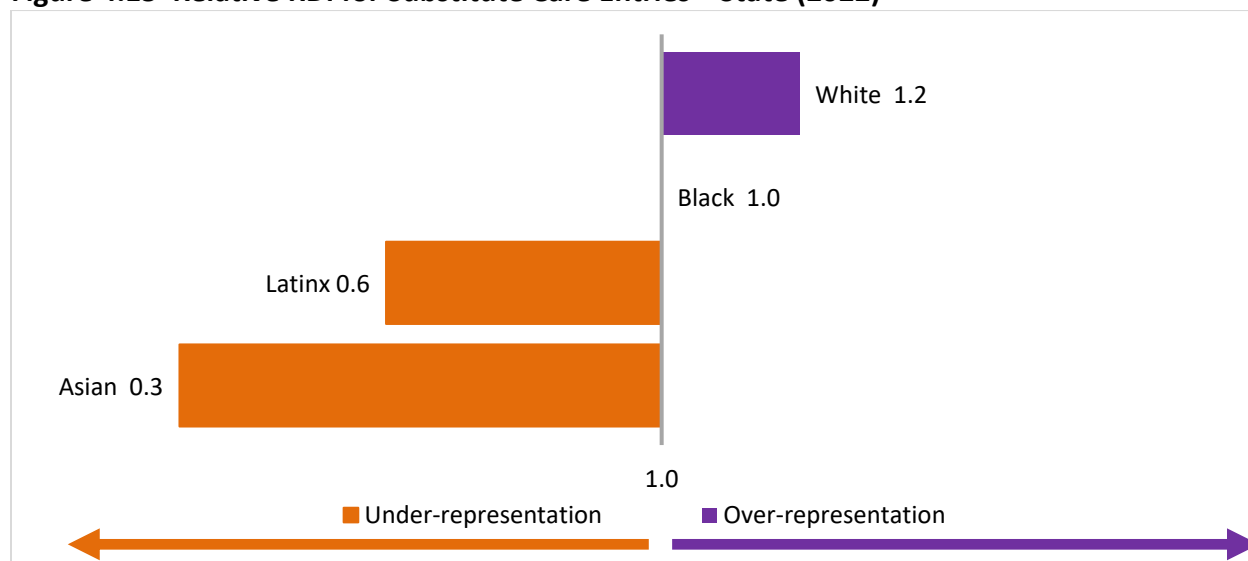
Figure 4.13 Absolute RDI for Substitute Care Entries—State (2022)



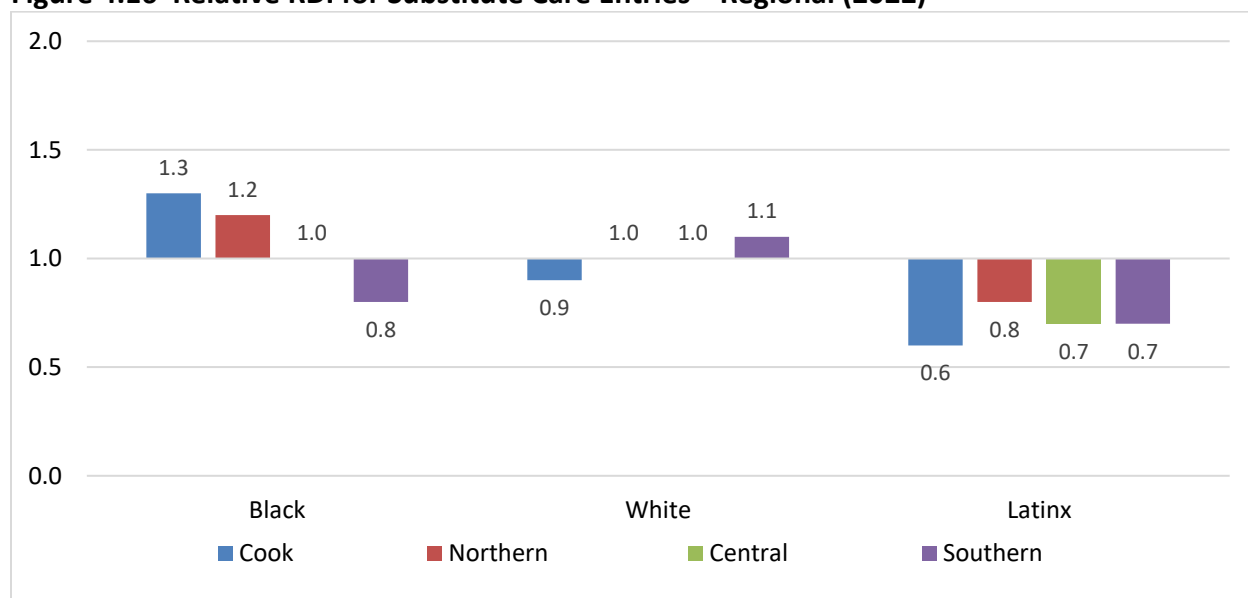
When the absolute RDIs for substitute care entries are examined by region, there are large differences for Black children (see Figure 4.14 and Appendix C, Table C.16). In 2022, the Northern region had the highest RDI (3.9), followed by Cook (RDI = 2.7), Central (RDI = 2.5), and Southern (RDI = 1.6). Although the RDIs for Black children entering substitute care were significantly higher in the Northern region compared to the other regions during the past seven years, the RDI in the Northern region decreased from 5.24 in 2016 to 3.89 in 2022. White children were under-represented in substitute care entries in the Cook region (RDI = 0.4) and Latinx children were under-represented in the Cook, Central, and Southern regions during 2022. The regional RDI were largely stable over the past seven years, with the exception of the decrease in over-representation among Black children noted above and a decrease in the amount of under-representation among Latinx children over time.

Figure 4.14 Absolute RDI for Substitute Care Entries—Regional (2022)

The relative RDIs for substitute care entries at the state level were calculated by comparing the percentage of children entering substitute care in each racial/ethnic group to their percentage in investigations. The relative RDIs for 2022 are shown in Figure 4.15. The relative RDI of 1.2 for White children means that the amount of under-representation in this group decreased for substitute care entries compared to investigated reports. The RDI of 1.0 for Black children means that the level of over-representation did not increase or decrease compared to investigated reports. The relative RDIs less than one for Latinx and Asian children mean that the amount of under-representation in substitute care entries was greater than that in investigated reports (the under-representation increased at this indicator). There have been some changes in the relative RDIs for substitute care entries over the past seven years: the relative RDIs for Black children have decreased and those for White children have increased (see Appendix C, Table C.17).

Figure 4.15 Relative RDI for Substitute Care Entries—State (2022)

Regional relative RDIs for children who entered substitute care in 2022 are shown in Figure 4.16 (see Appendix C, Table C.18). In the Cook (RDI = 1.3) and Northern (RDI = 1.2) regions, relative RDIs indicate that over-representation for Black children increased for children entering substitute care compared to investigations. The relative RDI in the Southern region (RDI = 0.8) indicates that disproportionality decreased for Black children entering substitute care compared to investigations.

Figure 4.16 Relative RDI for Substitute Care Entries—Regional (2022)

Disproportionality Among Black Children in the Northern Subregions

BOX 4.1

Examination of the regional RDI for the investigation indicators shows that the amount of over-representation of Black children is greatest in the Northern region. Therefore, we took a closer look at the absolute and relative RDIs for Black children in the two subregions within the Northern region, the Aurora and Rockford subregions, to determine whether one of this has particularly contributed to this elevated disproportionality (see Table 4.1). The data indicate that both subregions had higher absolute RDIs for Black children than the state as a whole. When absolute RDIs were examined, the indices were consistently higher for the Aurora subregion than for the Rockford subregion. Examination of the relative RDIs reveals that disproportionality increases the most for Black children in the Aurora subregion at the protective custody indicator (relative RDI = 1.5) and at substitute care entries (relative RDI = 1.4). The relative RDI for Black children in the Rockford subregion show that disproportionality increases at protective custodies (relative RDI = 1.2) and indicated investigations (relative RDI = 1.2).

Table 4.1 Disproportionality for Black Children in the Aurora and Rockford Subregions (2022)

Indicator	Aurora Subregion	Rockford Subregion	State
Investigations			
Absolute RDI	3.2	2.7	2.2
Protective Custodies			
Absolute RDI	4.7	3.1	2.3
Relative RDI	1.5	1.2	1.1
Indicated Investigations			
Absolute RDI	3.5	3.1	2.2
Relative RDI	1.1	1.2	1.0
Intact Family Services			
Absolute RDI	3.4	2.8	2.1
Relative RDI	1.1	1.1	1.0
Substitute Care Entries			
Absolute RDI	4.5	2.4	2.2
Relative RDI	1.4	0.9	1.0

Outcomes for Children in Substitute Care

We examine the racial/ethnic proportionality of five outcomes for children in substitute care, including placement instability, length of time in care, and the achievement of family permanence through reunification, adoption, and guardianship. For each of these outcomes, a relative RDI is computed that compares the percentage of each racial/ethnic group that experiences the outcome to their representation among children who entered or were in substitute care during that year. Similar to the reporting in the first section of this chapter, if there were 20 or fewer children in a racial/ethnic group for an outcome indicator, the RDI for that racial/ethnic group was not reported in the figures or appendix tables.

Placement Instability

To examine the racial/ethnic proportionality of placement instability in substitute care, we compared the percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group with three or more placements in their first year of care to the percentage of children who entered substitute care that year (see Figure 4.17 and Appendix C, Table C.19). In 2022, Black children were over-represented among those who had three or more placements in their first year in care compared to their already disproportionate representation in substitute care (RDI = 1.4). The RDI for Black children experiencing placement instability in the six years prior to 2022 was 1.2. White and Latinx children were both under-represented among children with three or more placements in their first year in care relative to their representation among children who entered substitute care in 2022.

Figure 4.17 Relative RDI for Placement Instability—State (2022)

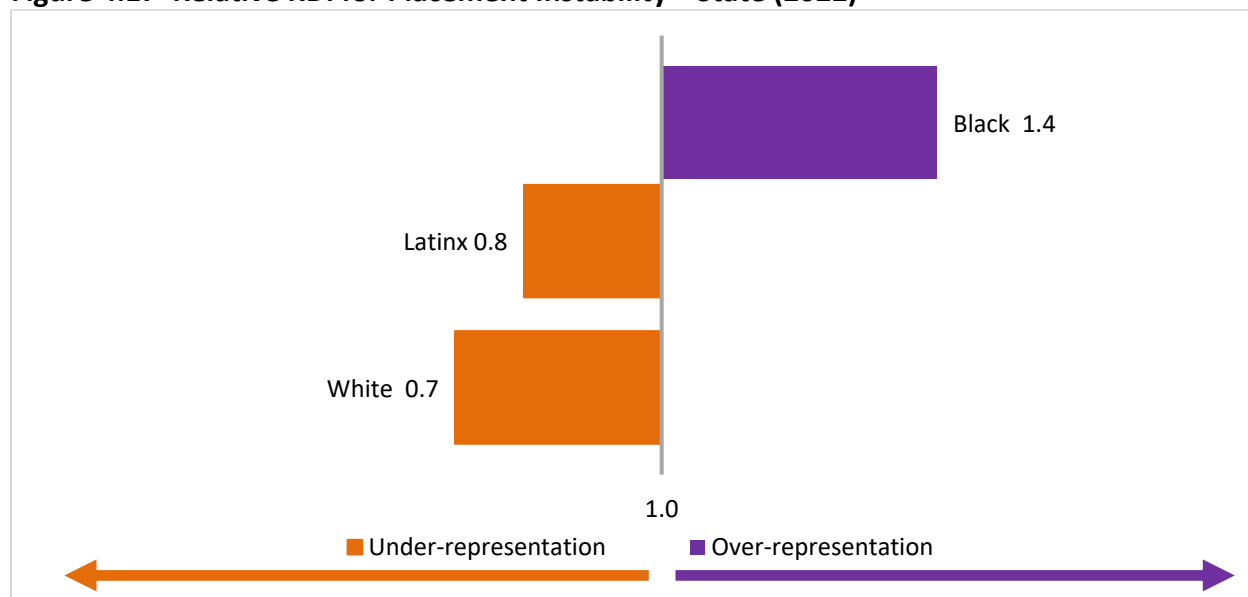
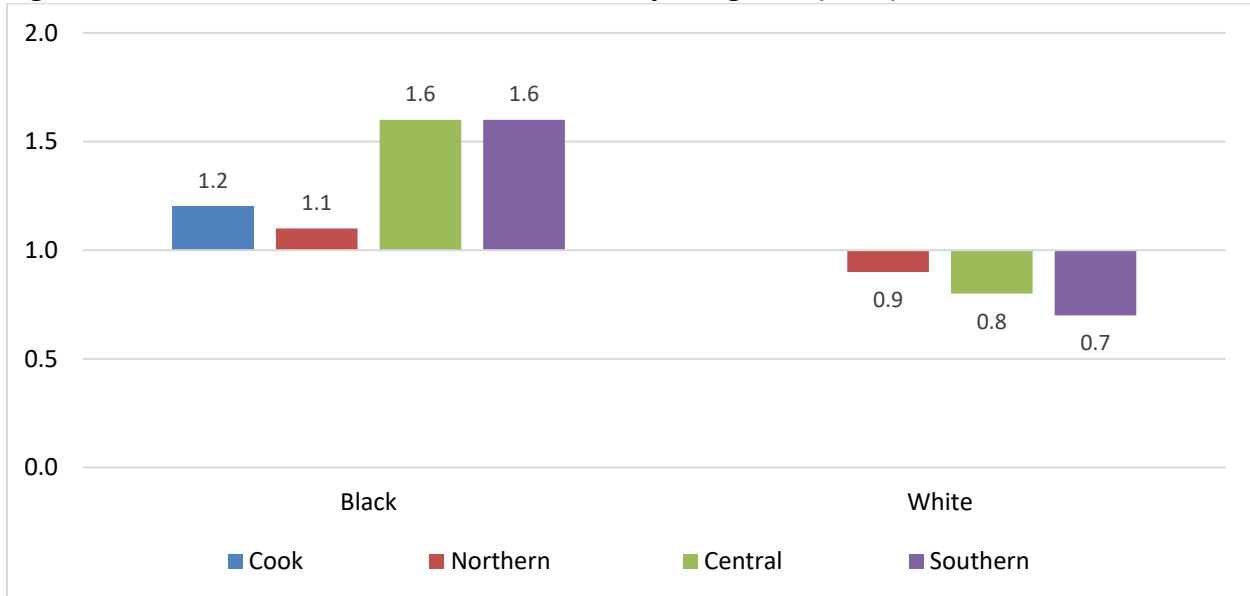


Figure 4.18 shows the 2022 regional relative RDIs for placement instability in substitute care. The amount of over-representation for placement instability among Black children was greatest in the Central and Southern regions (see Appendix C, Table C.20)

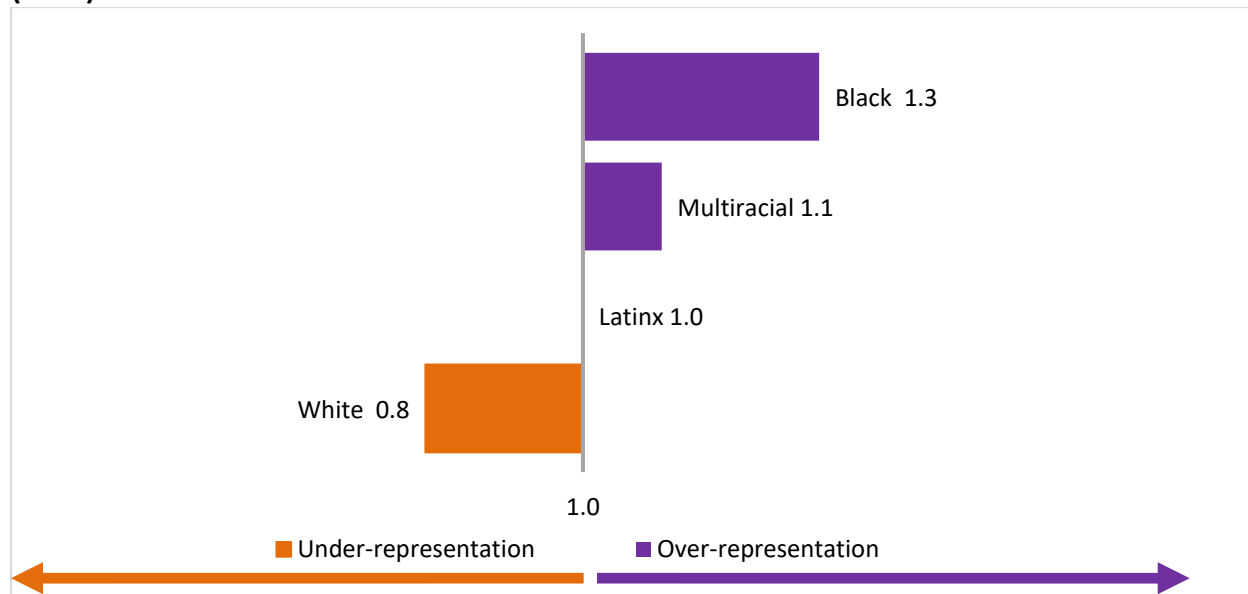
Figure 4.18 Relative RDI for Placement Instability—Regional (2022)



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. To examine the length of time that children spend in substitute care, this indicator examines the percentage of children who remained in care for 48 months or more before achieving legal permanence through reunification, adoption, or guardianship. The relative RDI for this indicator compares the representation of each racial/ethnic group among children in substitute care for 48 months or more to that group's representation among children in substitute care during the year (see Figure 4.19 and Appendix C, Table C.21). The results indicate that Black and Multiracial children were over-represented among children who remained in care 48 months or more before exiting compared to their percentage in substitute care during the year. Conversely, White children were under-represented relative to their representation among children in substitute care (RDI = 0.8). The regional relative RDIs for children in care 48 months or more are similar to those for the state (see Appendix C, Table C.22).

Figure 4.19 Relative RDI for Children in Care for 48 Months or More Before Exiting—State (2022)



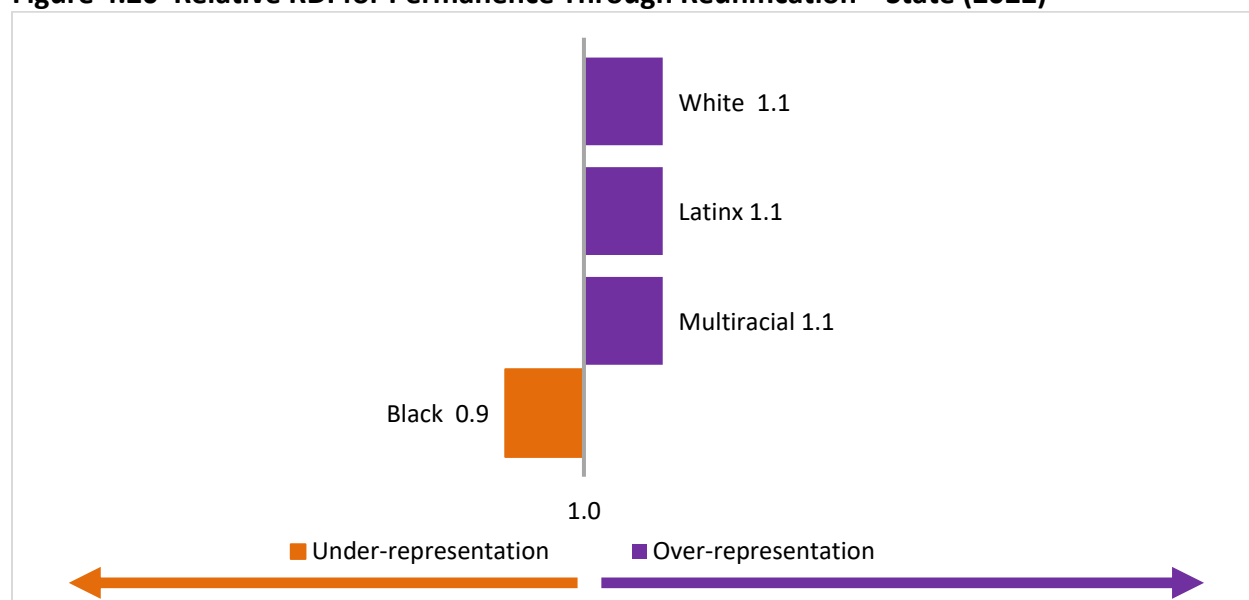
Permanence Through Reunification, Adoption, and Guardianship

All children deserve permanent homes. Although abuse and neglect sometimes make it necessary to place children temporarily in substitute care, 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. 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. *Guardianship* is a third permanency option in which allows caregivers, almost always kin, to assume legal custody and permanent care of children while not requiring the terminate the parental rights of the biological parent, who is typically a close relative of the guardian. Legal guardians typically, but not always, receive financial support from the state. Guardianship is less common than reunification and adoption.

Permanence Through Reunification. Figure 4.20 contains the state-level data for children who achieved permanence through reunification in 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.23). This indicator

compares the percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group who achieved permanence through reunification with their percentage among children in substitute care during the same year. Black children were the only racial/ethnic group that was under-represented among children who were reunified (RDI = 0.9). Conversely, White, Latinx, and Multiracial children were over-represented among children who were reunified during 2022. These patterns were relatively stable for White children over the past seven years, however, the patterns were fluctuated for Latinx and Multiracial children. Data on the regional relative RDI for permanence through reunification are provided in Appendix C, Table C.24. The regional RDIs for Latinx children in all regions and Black children in the Southern region vary considerably from year to year.

Figure 4.20 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Reunification—State (2022)



Permanence Through Adoption. Figure 4.21 contains the state-level data for children who achieved permanence through adoption in 2022 (see Appendix C, Table C.25). This indicator compares the percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group who achieved permanence through adoption with their percentage among children in substitute care during the same year. White and Multiracial children were over-represented among children who were adopted in 2022, while Black and Latinx children were under-represented among children who were adopted. These patterns were fairly consistent over the past seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.25).

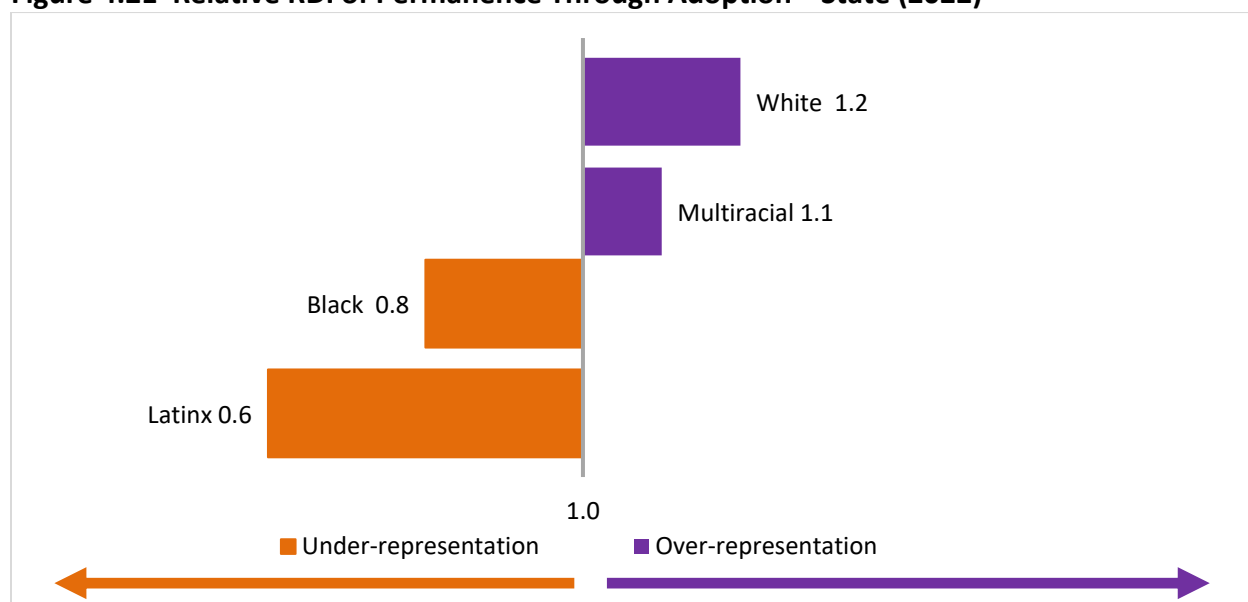
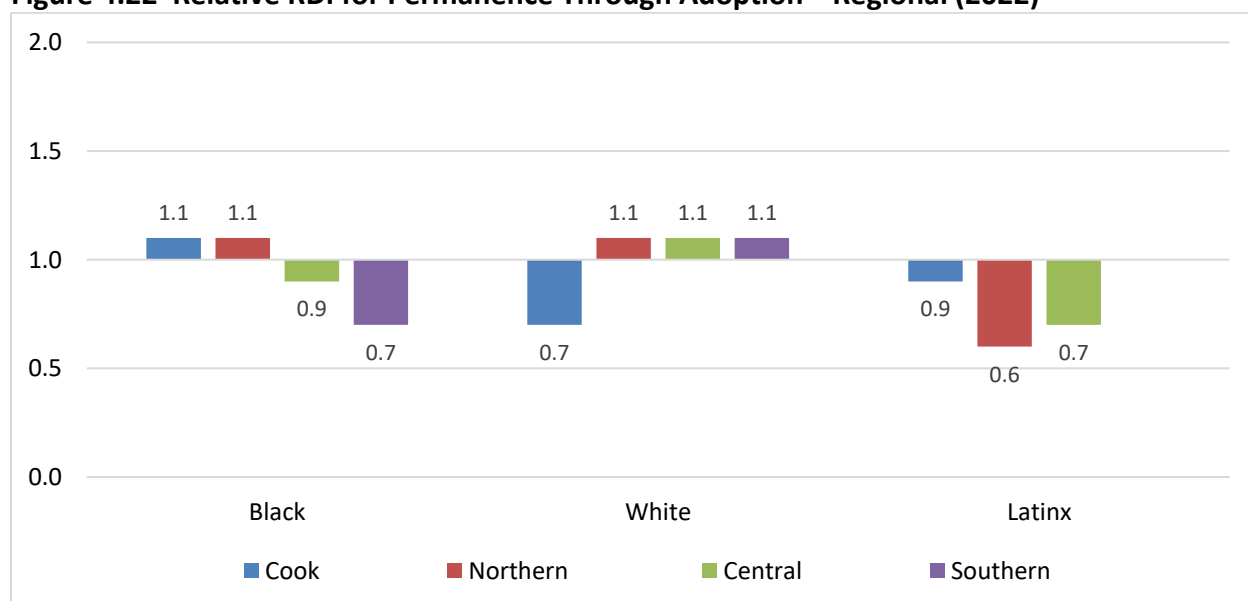
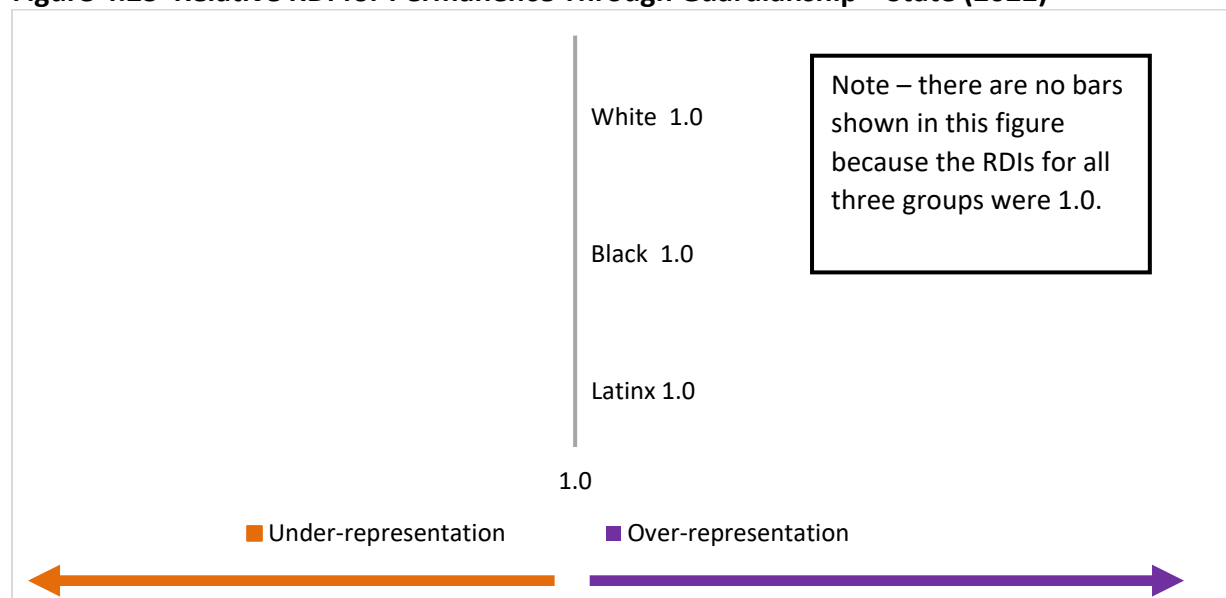
Figure 4.21 Relative RDI of Permanence Through Adoption—State (2022)

Figure 4.22 shows the regional relative RDIs for adoption by race/ethnicity for 2022. Black children were slightly over-represented among adopted children in the Cook and Northern regions, slightly under-represented in the Central region, and under-represented in the Southern region. In addition, the amount of under-representation for Black children adopted in the Southern region has increased over the past seven years (see Appendix C, Table C.26). White children were slightly over-represented among adopted children in the Northern, Central, and Southern regions and under-represented among adopted children in the Cook region. Latinx children were under-represented in all regions for which RDI are reported, although the RDI varied from year to year (see Appendix C, Table C.26).

Figure 4.22 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Adoption—Regional (2022)

Permanence Through Guardianship. Figure 4.23 provides relative RDIs for Black, White, and Latinx children who achieved permanence through guardianship in 2022. Children in all three groups were proportionally represented among children achieving permanence through guardianship as compared to their representation among children in substitute care during the year (see Appendix C, Table C.27). Data on the regional relative RDI for permanence through guardianship are provided in Appendix C, Table C.28. The regional RDI vary considerably from year to year.

Figure 4.23 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Guardianship—State (2022)



Discussion and Conclusions: Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality

Previous *B.H.* monitoring reports have documented that Black children are over-represented in the Illinois child welfare system at six indicators including investigations, protective custodies, indicated investigations, intact family services, substitute care entries, and lengthy stays in substitute care. Recognizing that systematic and ongoing data collection is the first step in developing strategic interventions to reduce these long-standing inequities, this chapter examined racial disproportionality in an expanded number of indicators related to children's experiences in substitute care including placement instability and substitute care exits via reunification, adoption, and guardianship. Racial/ethnic disproportionality at each indicator was examined at both the state and regional level for the past seven fiscal years. Analyses in previous *B.H.* reports examined disproportionality among three racial/ethnic groups of children: Black, White, and Latinx. This year's report provides data on additional groups of children including Asian American, Multiracial, Native American, and Pacific Islander; however, the small number of children in some of these groups prevented us from calculating their RDIs. This discussion focuses on racial disproportionality among the three largest racial/ethnic groups of children in Illinois: Black, White, and Latinx.

DISPROPORTIONALITY

Absolute RDIs compare the percentage of children in a racial group in an indicator to their percentage in the general child population. Examination of the absolute RDIs in this chapter reveals that in FY2022, Black children were over-represented at every indicator including investigations, protective custodies, indicated investigations, intact family services, and substitute care entries. For most of these indicators, the absolute RDIs for Black children were slightly over 2.0, which means that the percentages of Black children involved in that part of the child welfare system were over two times more than the percentage of Black children in the Illinois child population (15.3% in FY2022). Analyses by region indicate that disproportionality among Black children during investigations is highest in the Northern region and lowest in the Southern region.

Relative RDIs compare the percentage of a particular racial/ethnic group in an indicator to the percentage in a prior indicator and tell us if disproportionality increases or decreases compared to the prior indicator. When the relative RDIs for Black children are examined at the state level, there is a small increase (10%) in the amount of over-representation in protective custodies compared to that in investigations. The relative RDIs for Black children in indicated investigations, intact family services, and substitute care entries were 1.0, which means that there were no increases or decreases in the amount of over-representation at these indicators when compared to the amount in investigations. This does not mean that disproportionality does not exist for Black children at these indicators; we know from the absolute RDI that Black children are over-represented in investigations over two times their percentage in the Illinois child population. Also, examination of the relative RDI at the regional level reveals that over-representation of Black children increases in the Northern and Cook regions for protective custodies and substitute care entries.

Examination of the RDI for the placement indicators identifies two areas where Black children are over-represented compared to the percentage of Black children in care. The first is placement instability, which was measured by looking at the percentage of children who experienced three or more placements during their first year in substitute care. In FY2022, the RDI for placement instability among Black children was 1.4, which means that the percentage of Black children who experienced placement instability was 40% higher than the percentage of Black children who entered substitute care. The second indicator where Black children are over-represented was length of stay in substitute care. When children are removed from their homes, the goal is to move them out of substitute care as soon as it is safe and reasonable to do so. The current report examined this indicator by looking at the percentage of children who remained in care 48 months or more before exiting to permanence. The results show that Black children were over-represented among those who remained in care 48 months or more in FY2022 (RDI = 1.3). Conversely, Black children were slightly under-represented among exits from substitute care to reunification and adoption when compared to their representation in substitute care during the year.

The results in this chapter reveal that White children were proportionately represented for almost all of the child welfare indicators examined. The exceptions to this were indicators

involving placement instability and substitute care stays 48 months or more. For both of these indicators, White children were under-represented.

Latinx families are historically under-represented in child welfare systems despite having similar socioeconomic issues as Black families;⁸ the findings in this chapter regarding Latinx children in the Illinois child welfare system are no different. Latinx children were under-represented in all the indicators examined except for substitute care stays 48 months or more, in which they were proportionately represented compared to their percentage in substitute care. Asian children were also under-represented in every indicator that could be calculated. The continued under-representation of Latinx and Asian children in the child welfare system deserves further analysis to help elucidate the protective factors that may be at play for these families versus Black families.

⁸ Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2021). *Child welfare practice to address racial disproportionality and disparity*. Available online: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/issue-briefs/racial-disproportionality/>



Appendix A

Indicator and Variable Definitions

The first section of this appendix provides definitions for each of the outcome indicators used in the following chapters of this report:

- Chapter 1 – Child Safety
- Chapter 2 – Family Continuity, Placement Stability, and Length of Time in Care
- Chapter 3 – Legal Permanence: Reunification, Adoption, and Guardianship

For each indicator, a general definition is provided, followed by a description of the population of children included in the denominator and numerator, and any children who were excluded from the calculations. 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 18 years and older, except for Indicator 2.G (Median Length of Stay in Substitute Care). Indicators used in the Child and Family Service Reviews are designated by (CFSR) in the indicator title. For indicators involving children in substitute care, a child is defined as in substitute care if they were in a legal spell (see Appendix F for the definition of legal spell).

The second section provides definitions of the racial disproportionality index (RDI) for each of the indicators included in Chapter 4—Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality.

The third section provides the operational definition of race/ethnicity used in this report.

I. Indicator Definitions for Chapters 1 – 3

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 who 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; 2) multiple reports on the same incident date; 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.

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 seven days or fewer; 2) intact family cases with any child who enters substitute care within 30 days of case open date; 3) multiple reports on the same incident date; 4) 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; 5) maltreatment reports in childcare facilities, including day care facilities, foster homes, group homes, and residential treatment centers.

¹ Information on all seven of the CFSR statewide data indicators can be found here:
<https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/focus-areas/cqi/cfsr-data-syntax-toolkit/>

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.

Exclusions: 1) subsequent reports of maltreatment within 14 days of the initial report; 2) multiple reports on the same incident date; 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.

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

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 that 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 eight days; 2) if a youth turns age 18 while in care, the time in care and maltreatment reports that occur after their 18th birthday; 3) maltreatment reports that occur within the first seven days of removal; 4) subsequent reports that occur within one day of the initial report; 5) maltreatment reports if the incident date did not occur during the substitute care spell; 6) 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.

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

The placement type for Indicators 2.A.1 through 2.D is determined by two fields from the database in the Child and Youth Centered Information System: service code and child living arrangement code. Table A.1 shows how the service codes and child living arrangements were used to determine each placement type. In constructing each placement type, the service code was given priority over the child living arrangement type. There were cases where the service code was not available, and in those cases the child living arrangement code was used to define the placement type.

Table A.1 Service and Child Living Arrangement Codes by Placement Type

Placement Type	Service Code	Child Living Arrangement
Home of Parents	<i>Service code was not used to define this placement type.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home of Parents (HMP)
Kinship Foster Home	Home of Relative or Kinship Foster Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegated Relative Authority (DRA) • Home of Relative Applicant (HRA) • Home of Relative (HMR) • Home of Fictive Kin (HFK)
Traditional Foster Home	Traditional Foster Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster Home Adoption (FHA) • Foster Home Boarding DCFS (FHB) • Foster Home Boarding Private Agency (FHP)
Specialized Foster Home	Specialized Foster Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster Home Specialized (FHS) • Therapeutic Foster Home (TFH)
Emergency Shelter/Emergency Foster Home	Emergency Shelter or Emergency Foster Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Foster Care (EFC) • Youth Emergency Shelters (YES)
Group Home	Group Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Home (GRH)
Institution	Institutional Care Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detention Facility/Jail (DET) • Institute Private Shelter (IPS) • Institution DCFS (ICF) • Institution Department of Corrections (IDC) • Institution Department of Mental Health (IMH) • Institution Private Child Care Facility (IPA) • Institution Rehabilitation Services (IRS) • Nursing Care Facility (NCF)

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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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

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 homes.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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

Definition: Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was 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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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.

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 at the end of the fiscal year.

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 at the end of the fiscal year.

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 at the end of the fiscal year.

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

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.

Numerator: The number of children placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes at the end of the fiscal year.

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 at the end of the fiscal year .

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 at the end of the fiscal year.

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 their siblings in substitute care in their initial placement.

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

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 their siblings in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year.

Exclusion: Children with no siblings in substitute care.

Indicator 2.E: Placement Stability (CFSR)

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. The initial removal from the home is not counted as a placement move.

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 seven days or fewer; 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; 3) placements for which the provider's ID is missing.

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

Definition: Of all children age 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 age 12 to 17 entering substitute care during the fiscal year.

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

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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

Definition: The median length of stay in substitute care of all children who exit substitute care during the fiscal year. The median represents the amount of time in months that it took half of the children who exited substitute care in a fiscal year to exit care or emancipate.

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

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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 who 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).

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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 who 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).

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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 who 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).

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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).

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

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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).

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

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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).

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

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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).

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

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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 who were adopted within 24 months of the date of entry into substitute care.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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 who were adopted within 36 months of the date of entry into substitute care.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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 who did not re-enter substitute care within two years of adoption.

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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 who did not re-enter substitute care within five years of adoption.

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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 who did not re-enter substitute care within ten years of adoption.

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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.

Exclusion: Children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer.

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 who did not re-enter substitute care within two years of guardianship.

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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 who did not re-enter substitute care within five years of guardianship.

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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 who did not re-enter substitute care within ten years of guardianship.

Exclusion: Children who re-entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer.

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

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

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

Numerator: The 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 seven days or fewer; 2) youth entering care at age 17 who turn 18 while in care or discharge at age 18 are excluded from the numerator.

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

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 was discharged to permanency within 12 months.

Denominator: The 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: The 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)

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 was discharged to permanency within 12 months.

Denominator: The 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: The 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)

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: The 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: The 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 their first re-entry is selected.

Exclusions: 1) children who enter care and stay seven days or fewer are excluded from the denominator; 2) children who re-enter care and stay seven days or fewer are excluded from the numerator.

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: The 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: The 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 their first re-entry is selected.

Exclusions: Children who re-enter care and stay seven days or fewer are excluded from the numerator.

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 their first re-entry is selected.

Exclusions: Children who re-enter care and stay seven days or fewer are excluded from the numerator.

II. Racial Disproportionality Index (RDI) Definitions

Table A.2 presents the numerator and exclusions used to calculate the absolute RDI in Chapter 4. The denominator for these indices is the percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group in the Illinois child population (ages 0-19).

Table A.2 Absolute RDI: Numerator and Exclusion

Indicator	Numerator	Exclusion
A Investigations	Percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group who had at least one maltreatment report during the fiscal year	For exclusions, see Indicator 1.A
B Protective Custodies	Percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group in investigated reports with at least one allegation of any type and a report date during the fiscal year who were taken into protective custody	For exclusions, see Indicator 1.A
C Indicated Investigations	Percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group who had at least one substantiated maltreatment report during the fiscal year	For exclusions, see Indicator 1.A
D Intact Family Services	Percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group who received intact family services during the fiscal year	For exclusions, see Indicator 1.B
E Substitute Care Entries	Percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group who entered substitute care during the year (i.e., had a legal substitute care entry date)	For exclusions, see Indicators 2.A.1 through 2.A.6

Table A.3 presents the numerators, denominators, and exclusions of the relative RDI for the indicators in Chapter 4. Please note that there is no relative RDI for the Investigations indicator.

Table A.3 Relative RDI: Numerator, Denominator, and Exclusion

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Exclusion
B Protective Custodies	Percentage of children who had at least one maltreatment report during the fiscal year and were taken into protective custody	Percentage of children with at least one maltreatment report	See Indicator 1.A to see what was excluded from the denominator
C Indicated Investigations	Percentage of children who had at least one indicated maltreatment report during the fiscal year	Percentage of children with at least one maltreatment report	See Indicator 1.A to see what was excluded from the denominator

(Table A.3 continues)

Table A.3 (continued)

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Exclusion
D Intact Family Services	Percentage of children who received intact family services during the fiscal year	Percentage of children with at least one maltreatment report	See Indicator 1.B to see what was excluded from the numerator. See Indicator 1.A to see what was excluded from the denominator.
E Substitute Care Entries	Percentage of children who entered substitute care during the year (i.e., had a legal substitute care entry date)	Percentage of children with at least one maltreatment report	Children who entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer are excluded from the numerator. See Indicator 1.A to see what was excluded from the denominator.
F Placement Instability	Percentage of children who had three or more placements within their first year in substitute care	Percentage of children who entered substitute care during the year	The following placement types are excluded from the numerator: runaway, detention, respite care (defined as a placement of less than 30 days where the child returns to the same placement), hospital stays, and placements coded as “whereabouts unknown.” Children who entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer are excluded from the denominator.
G Children in Substitute Care 48 Months or More Before Exiting	Percentage of children who had been in substitute care for 48 or more months and exited substitute care to achieve legal permanence	Percentage of children who were in substitute care during the year	Children who entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer are excluded from the denominator.

(Table A.3 continues)

Table A.3 (continued)

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Exclusion
H Permanence Through Reunification	Percentage of children who exited substitute care and achieved legal permanence through reunification during the fiscal year	Percentage of children who were in substitute care during the year	If the child was 18 years old or older when exiting substitute care, the child is excluded from the numerator. Children who entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer are excluded from the denominator.
I Permanence Through Adoption	Percentage of children who exited substitute care and achieved legal permanence through adoption during the fiscal year.	Percentage of children who were in substitute care during the year.	If the child was 18 years old or older when exiting substitute care, the child is excluded from the numerator. Children who entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer are excluded from the denominator.
J Permanence Through Guardianship	Percentage of children who exited substitute care and achieved legal permanence through guardianship during the fiscal year	Percentage of children who were in substitute care during the year.	If the child was 18 years old or older when exiting substitute care, the child is excluded from the numerator. Children who entered substitute care and stayed seven days or fewer are excluded from the denominator.

III. Operational Definition of Race/Ethnicity

The race/ethnicity variable used in this report was created from several data fields in the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) and the Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS): primary race, ethnicity, secondary race flag, and additional race related fields. The ethnicity variable includes several codes designating Hispanic origin, including Hispanic South American, Hispanic Cuban, Hispanic Mexican, Hispanic Puerto Rican, Hispanic Spanish Descent, Hispanic Dominican, Hispanic Central American, and Hispanic Other. If the individual's ethnicity was coded as any of these, their race/ethnicity in this report was coded as "Latinx" regardless of the primary race code.

The secondary race flag field was coded as yes or no to indicate whether the child had a secondary race. If the child's ethnicity was not Latinx and the secondary race was coded as yes, their race/ethnicity was defined as multiracial.

If the individual's ethnicity was not Latinx and the secondary race was coded as no, then their race/ethnicity in this report was determined using the code in the primary race variable contained in SACWIS and CYCIS. Values of the primary race variable include: White, Black, Native American/Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders.

In Chapters 1 through 3, four racial/ethnic groups were defined:

- Latinx (any race)
- Black/African American
- White
- Other (race)

Categories other than White and Black were combined into one category labeled as "other" in Chapters 1 through 3. If the value of primary race was "could not be verified," "unknown," "declined to identify," or missing (null), it was treated as missing and excluded when indicators are reported by race/ethnicity.

In Chapter 4, seven racial/ethnic groups were defined:

- Latinx (any race)
- Black/African American
- White
- Asian American
- Native American/Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- Multiracial



Appendix B

Outcome Data by Region, Gender, Age, and Race/Ethnicity

Appendix B provides data on each of the outcome indicators included in Chapters 1 – 3 and 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/ethnicity. The data used to compute these indicators come from two Illinois DCFS data systems: Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) and Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS). Both the SACWIS and CYCIS data were extracted on December 31, 2022. All indicators are calculated based on the state fiscal year, which spans the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30.

Indicator 1.A Maltreatment Recurrence (CFSR)

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.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children with a substantiated maltreatment report	30,729	29,702	28,874	31,994	33,374	35,565	37,650
Children with another substantiated report within 12 months	3,513	3,589	3,816	4,178	4,674	5,152	5,442
Percent	11.4%	12.1%	13.2%	13.1%	14.0%	14.5%	14.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	838	9.3%	723	9.2%	784	10.3%	886	9.9%	1,077	11.2%	1,189	11.4%	1,255	12.1%
Northern	895	10.3%	897	10.7%	796	10.8%	891	11.5%	1,032	12.2%	1,298	13.7%	1,416	12.7%
Central	1,168	13.4%	1,220	13.9%	1,418	15.6%	1,567	15.3%	1,612	16.1%	1,869	17.5%	1,911	17.8%
Southern	612	14.3%	749	16.2%	813	17.0%	834	16.6%	948	18.1%	796	15.9%	858	16.2%

Male	1,762	11.7%	1,790	12.2%	1,993	14.0%	2,037	12.9%	2,369	14.3%	2,557	14.5%	2,732	14.8%
Female	1,749	11.3%	1,798	12.0%	1,823	12.6%	2,137	13.3%	2,303	13.8%	2,593	14.6%	2,709	14.2%

0 to 2	1,142	13.4%	1,175	13.8%	1,243	15.0%	1,340	14.7%	1,461	15.9%	1,656	16.6%	1,677	16.3%
3 to 5	758	12.3%	776	13.3%	820	14.7%	882	14.4%	970	14.9%	1,078	15.5%	1,179	15.9%
6 to 11	1,111	11.1%	1,146	12.0%	1,205	13.0%	1,296	12.7%	1,494	13.9%	1,514	13.7%	1,667	14.2%
12 to 17	501	8.4%	488	8.4%	544	9.5%	659	10.3%	743	10.8%	901	12.0%	910	11.2%

Black	1,130	10.6%	1,074	11.1%	1,161	12.1%	1,252	11.4%	1,561	13.8%	1,645	13.2%	1,797	14.1%
White	1,838	13.3%	2,022	14.5%	2,084	15.3%	2,306	15.4%	2,429	15.9%	2,602	16.6%	2,724	16.6%
Latinx	485	8.7%	446	8.0%	514	10.1%	571	10.4%	618	10.2%	831	12.5%	852	11.4%
Other Race	50	9.9%	44	9.8%	53	11.9%	47	10.2%	63	12.2%	67	11.6%	62	8.9%

Indicator 1.B Maltreatment Among Children in Intact Family Cases

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

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children in intact family cases	11,174	10,277	11,688	12,880	14,403	15,080	14,898
Children with substantiated reports	1,565	1,412	1,940	2,086	2,606	2,725	2,687
Percent	14.0%	13.7%	16.6%	16.2%	18.1%	18.1%	18.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	500	10.7%	347	9.0%	476	12.4%	466	10.6%	579	12.7%	524	12.7%	564	14.4%
Northern	335	14.2%	292	13.2%	367	13.5%	364	15.7%	502	18.5%	573	17.8%	586	15.6%
Central	413	16.3%	416	17.1%	648	22.0%	769	20.3%	965	21.6%	1,087	22.0%	945	21.8%
Southern	317	20.0%	357	20.1%	449	20.4%	487	20.6%	560	21.0%	541	19.3%	592	20.5%

Male	812	14.3%	702	13.5%	1,003	16.8%	1,046	16.0%	1,319	17.9%	1,392	18.2%	1,377	18.2%
Female	753	13.7%	710	14.0%	937	16.4%	1,040	16.4%	1,287	18.3%	1,333	18.0%	1,309	17.8%

0 to 2	578	18.7%	454	16.5%	652	20.3%	701	20.1%	816	21.7%	879	22.9%	839	21.4%
3 to 5	334	14.6%	303	14.8%	412	18.3%	432	16.9%	570	19.1%	610	19.7%	555	18.5%
6 to 11	458	12.1%	477	13.5%	626	15.9%	671	15.2%	841	17.3%	802	15.8%	898	18.3%
12 to 17	195	9.7%	178	9.2%	250	10.9%	282	11.6%	379	13.5%	434	14.2%	395	12.8%

Black	499	11.9%	392	10.8%	603	15.0%	633	13.3%	782	16.2%	839	16.3%	824	16.4%
White	788	16.8%	837	18.2%	1,054	19.5%	1,169	20.2%	1,476	21.6%	1,464	20.8%	1,421	20.9%
Latinx	243	12.2%	164	8.9%	243	12.2%	230	11.3%	294	12.7%	352	14.2%	349	13.4%
Other Race	26	17.1%	18	11.8%	30	14.9%	48	21.7%	47	15.9%	63	19.2%	81	22.9%

Indicator 1.C Maltreatment Recurrence Among Children Receiving No Services

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.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children receiving no services	21,214	21,604	19,963	21,912	22,427	23,953	26,727
Children with substantiated reports	2,005	2,287	2,205	2,370	2,689	2,925	3,343
Percent	9.5%	10.6%	11.0%	10.8%	12.0%	12.2%	12.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	471	7.7%	472	8.1%	501	9.3%	523	8.1%	725	10.0%	818	10.4%	915	10.9%
Northern	527	8.2%	622	9.5%	472	8.6%	573	9.6%	671	10.4%	835	11.6%	920	10.7%
Central	725	12.0%	832	13.1%	825	13.3%	902	13.5%	852	14.2%	941	15.0%	1,086	15.9%
Southern	282	11.0%	361	12.7%	403	14.2%	372	13.3%	438	16.0%	331	12.8%	421	14.6%

Male	991	9.6%	1,140	10.8%	1,157	11.8%	1,142	10.6%	1,382	12.5%	1,437	12.3%	1,656	12.9%
Female	1,012	9.4%	1,146	10.4%	1,048	10.4%	1,224	11.0%	1,305	11.6%	1,486	12.3%	1,686	12.2%

0 to 2	551	11.1%	708	13.1%	651	13.4%	669	12.8%	752	14.6%	840	15.0%	956	15.6%
3 to 5	458	10.6%	495	11.6%	471	12.2%	479	11.4%	561	12.9%	614	13.2%	732	13.9%
6 to 11	670	9.2%	757	10.4%	723	10.7%	773	10.5%	882	11.5%	889	11.2%	1,029	11.7%
12 to 17	325	7.0%	323	7.0%	358	8.0%	449	8.8%	489	9.3%	580	10.1%	621	9.5%

Black	629	8.7%	695	9.8%	723	10.6%	751	10.0%	989	12.4%	993	11.4%	1,151	12.3%
White	1,080	11.5%	1,276	13.0%	1,145	12.7%	1,239	12.7%	1,261	13.5%	1,357	14.0%	1,578	14.7%
Latinx	262	6.6%	287	6.8%	305	8.1%	346	8.3%	411	9.0%	540	10.9%	574	9.7%
Other Race	28	7.8%	26	7.7%	30	9.5%	32	10.3%	26	7.0%	29	7.1%	35	6.8%

Indicator 1.D Maltreatment in Substitute Care (CFSR)

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

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care during the fiscal year	19,055	19,062	19,760	21,245	23,417	25,474	25,166
Days in substitute care	5,352,354	5,248,468	5,354,138	5,670,654	6,384,745	7,057,273	7,114,028
Substantiated maltreatment reports	720	754	753	1,019	1,250	1,339	1,132
Maltreatment rate per 100,000 days	13.5	14.4	14.1	18.0	19.6	19.0	15.9

	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	11.2	13.8	13.5	18.0	18.6	15.3	14.5
Northern	14.2	12.3	11.2	16.7	19.0	18.9	12.6
Central	15.4	15.2	15.2	18.6	21.0	22.8	18.9
Southern	15.0	16.5	16.0	17.8	19.3	18.8	15.8

Male	12.9	13.3	13.7	16.8	19.1	18.0	14.4
Female	14.1	15.6	14.5	19.2	20.0	20.0	17.5

0 to 2	10.3	9.8	10.7	11.1	13.9	13.5	12.8
3 to 5	16.5	15.4	16.3	21.9	23.2	22.1	17.1
6 to 11	15.7	18.4	15.7	22.8	21.7	22.2	17.7
12 to 17	13.2	15.3	15.2	19.5	23.2	21.4	17.7

Black	13.7	14.3	14.4	19.1	20.2	17.9	15.0
White	13.4	14.2	14.9	18.3	18.1	19.8	16.9
Latinx	13.2	16.7	8.6	12.0	22.7	20.5	14.1
Other Race	9.3	11.4	9.9	14.2	21.7	13.8	18.2

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in the home of their parent(s) in their first placement.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087	5,717
Children placed in home of parents	189	170	176	212	237	233	190
Percent	4.1%	3.6%	3.1%	3.3%	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	10	0.8%	9	0.8%	7	0.5%	6	0.5%	40	2.3%	14	1.1%	11	1.1%
Northern	4	0.4%	8	0.9%	0	0.0%	10	0.9%	8	0.6%	13	0.8%	8	0.6%
Central	141	8.9%	118	6.7%	103	4.8%	133	5.4%	129	4.6%	146	5.5%	118	5.5%
Southern	34	3.9%	35	3.6%	66	5.0%	63	3.9%	60	4.0%	60	3.9%	53	4.0%

Male	107	4.5%	89	3.6%	87	2.9%	112	3.5%	128	3.4%	122	3.4%	96	3.3%
Female	82	3.7%	81	3.5%	89	3.2%	100	3.1%	109	3.0%	111	3.2%	94	3.3%

0 to 2	39	2.1%	38	2.0%	37	1.6%	49	1.9%	60	2.0%	58	2.0%	24	1.0%
3 to 5	42	5.5%	30	3.6%	39	4.2%	50	4.2%	48	3.7%	44	3.6%	41	4.2%
6 to 11	71	6.7%	61	5.4%	60	4.3%	71	4.5%	67	3.9%	82	5.0%	63	4.6%
12 to 17	37	4.0%	41	4.6%	40	3.9%	42	3.7%	62	4.5%	49	3.9%	62	6.0%

Black	54	2.9%	57	3.2%	56	2.5%	83	3.6%	74	2.7%	78	3.4%	47	2.5%
White	123	5.5%	99	4.2%	105	3.6%	109	3.2%	135	3.7%	137	3.6%	134	4.4%
Latinx	5	1.2%	10	2.3%	10	2.7%	9	1.8%	18	2.3%	12	1.5%	3	0.5%
Other Race	7	9.6%	3	2.6%	5	3.9%	10	6.3%	5	2.8%	4	1.8%	5	3.0%

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

Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in kinship foster homes in their first placement.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087	5,717
Children placed in kinship foster homes	2,942	3,015	3,745	4,592	5,401	5,405	4,294
Percent	64.0%	63.7%	65.7%	71.2%	73.2%	76.3%	75.1%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	724	59.2%	698	59.8%	771	57.1%	790	63.4%	1,254	70.8%	961	73.9%	707	70.3%
Northern	634	70.1%	586	69.0%	648	70.9%	798	71.2%	994	74.6%	1,260	78.0%	964	76.8%
Central	976	61.4%	1,098	62.7%	1,392	65.5%	1,768	71.1%	2,046	73.6%	1,992	75.2%	1,585	74.4%
Southern	608	69.0%	633	65.4%	934	71.1%	1,236	77.5%	1,107	74.2%	1,192	78.3%	1,038	78.2%

Male	1,478	62.0%	1,519	62.2%	1,909	64.7%	2,273	70.1%	2,709	72.3%	2,738	75.3%	2,103	72.7%
Female	1,464	66.1%	1,496	65.2%	1,836	66.8%	2,319	72.3%	2,691	74.2%	2,667	77.3%	2,191	77.6%

0 to 2	1,152	62.1%	1,187	62.6%	1,515	64.0%	1,695	67.2%	2,095	70.1%	2,143	72.7%	1,626	70.0%
3 to 5	543	71.5%	597	72.1%	646	69.8%	907	75.6%	1,039	79.6%	1,015	82.6%	814	82.5%
6 to 11	778	73.7%	800	71.0%	1,013	73.0%	1,245	78.7%	1,378	80.9%	1,357	82.8%	1,128	81.7%
12 to 17	469	50.4%	431	48.6%	570	55.9%	745	65.2%	889	64.4%	890	70.0%	726	70.6%

Black	1,141	61.3%	1,074	59.8%	1,364	61.4%	1,524	65.6%	1,941	71.8%	1,677	74.2%	1,390	73.0%
White	1,464	65.5%	1,581	66.6%	2,044	69.3%	2,541	74.4%	2,707	73.8%	2,908	77.3%	2,289	75.4%
Latinx	283	69.5%	279	64.4%	225	60.8%	391	77.1%	599	76.9%	628	76.7%	481	80.0%
Other Race	43	58.9%	71	62.3%	92	71.9%	103	64.4%	124	70.1%	173	78.6%	126	75.9%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in traditional foster homes in their first placement.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087	5,717
Children placed in traditional foster homes	991	1,146	1,337	1,305	1,321	1,130	1,013
Percent	21.5%	24.2%	23.4%	20.2%	17.9%	15.9%	17.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	207	16.9%	237	20.3%	315	23.3%	263	21.1%	268	15.1%	198	15.2%	200	19.9%
Northern	204	22.6%	208	24.5%	207	22.6%	270	24.1%	268	20.1%	265	16.4%	227	18.1%
Central	395	24.8%	461	26.3%	561	26.4%	519	20.9%	528	19.0%	439	16.6%	389	18.3%
Southern	185	21.0%	240	24.8%	254	19.3%	253	15.9%	257	17.2%	228	15.0%	197	14.8%

Male	503	21.1%	595	24.4%	696	23.6%	653	20.1%	679	18.1%	584	16.1%	560	19.4%
Female	488	22.0%	551	24.0%	641	23.3%	652	20.3%	642	17.7%	546	15.8%	452	16.0%

0 to 2	598	32.2%	629	33.2%	758	32.0%	738	29.3%	785	26.3%	707	24.0%	642	27.6%
3 to 5	148	19.5%	184	22.2%	215	23.2%	224	18.7%	196	15.0%	146	11.9%	119	12.1%
6 to 11	152	14.4%	215	19.1%	242	17.4%	218	13.8%	214	12.6%	167	10.2%	160	11.6%
12 to 17	93	10.0%	118	13.3%	122	12.0%	125	10.9%	126	9.1%	110	8.6%	92	8.9%

Black	410	22.0%	436	24.3%	556	25.0%	528	22.7%	474	17.5%	354	15.7%	356	18.7%
White	490	21.9%	567	23.9%	650	22.0%	644	18.9%	686	18.7%	585	15.6%	529	17.4%
Latinx	66	16.2%	100	23.1%	90	24.3%	80	15.8%	118	15.1%	152	18.6%	97	16.1%
Other Race	17	23.3%	34	29.8%	28	21.9%	44	27.5%	34	19.2%	34	15.5%	31	18.7%

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

Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in specialized foster homes in their first placement.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087	5,717
Children placed in specialized foster homes	73	105	131	95	62	69	52
Percent	1.6%	2.2%	2.3%	1.5%	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	57	4.7%	82	7.0%	93	6.9%	65	5.2%	37	2.1%	38	2.9%	19	1.9%
Northern	0	0.0%	7	0.8%	14	1.5%	8	0.7%	11	0.8%	9	0.6%	16	1.3%
Central	12	0.8%	11	0.6%	15	0.7%	14	0.6%	9	0.3%	11	0.4%	7	0.3%
Southern	4	0.5%	5	0.5%	9	0.7%	8	0.5%	5	0.3%	11	0.7%	10	0.8%

Male	42	1.8%	51	2.1%	57	1.9%	54	1.7%	33	0.9%	36	1.0%	31	1.1%
Female	31	1.4%	54	2.4%	74	2.7%	41	1.3%	29	0.8%	33	1.0%	21	0.7%

0 to 2	22	1.2%	29	1.5%	43	1.8%	34	1.3%	22	0.7%	30	1.0%	15	0.6%
3 to 5	9	1.2%	11	1.3%	20	2.2%	14	1.2%	5	0.4%	12	1.0%	8	0.8%
6 to 11	14	1.3%	25	2.2%	30	2.2%	14	0.9%	10	0.6%	8	0.5%	10	0.7%
12 to 17	28	3.0%	40	4.5%	38	3.7%	33	2.9%	25	1.8%	19	1.5%	19	1.8%

Black	39	2.1%	67	3.7%	87	3.9%	53	2.3%	37	1.4%	43	1.9%	18	0.9%
White	17	0.8%	18	0.8%	29	1.0%	28	0.8%	19	0.5%	18	0.5%	28	0.9%
Latinx	12	2.9%	16	3.7%	14	3.8%	12	2.4%	5	0.6%	4	0.5%	4	0.7%
Other Race	2	2.7%	3	2.6%	1	0.8%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	3	1.4%	1	0.6%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

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

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087	5,717
Children placed in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes	132	93	75	54	84	56	35
Percent	2.9%	2.0%	1.3%	0.8%	1.1%	0.8%	0.6%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	59	4.8%	35	3.0%	42	3.1%	38	3.0%	55	3.1%	25	1.9%	19	1.9%
Northern	29	3.2%	16	1.9%	13	1.4%	10	0.9%	9	0.7%	16	1.0%	6	0.5%
Central	12	0.8%	12	0.7%	8	0.4%	5	0.2%	5	0.2%	10	0.4%	5	0.2%
Southern	32	3.6%	30	3.1%	12	0.9%	1	0.1%	15	1.0%	5	0.3%	5	0.4%

Male	80	3.4%	53	2.2%	49	1.7%	32	1.0%	44	1.2%	35	1.0%	20	0.7%
Female	52	2.3%	40	1.7%	26	0.9%	22	0.7%	40	1.1%	21	0.6%	15	0.5%

0 to 2	10	0.5%	1	0.1%	3	0.1%	1	0.0%	14	0.5%	4	0.1%	2	0.1%
3 to 5	6	0.8%	2	0.2%	2	0.2%	2	0.2%	8	0.6%	1	0.1%	2	0.2%
6 to 11	14	1.3%	7	0.6%	14	1.0%	12	0.8%	16	0.9%	1	0.1%	10	0.7%
12 to 17	102	11.0%	83	9.4%	56	5.5%	39	3.4%	46	3.3%	50	3.9%	21	2.0%

Black	62	3.3%	39	2.2%	35	1.6%	35	1.5%	46	1.7%	29	1.3%	21	1.1%
White	59	2.6%	43	1.8%	27	0.9%	14	0.4%	25	0.7%	21	0.6%	11	0.4%
Latinx	10	2.5%	10	2.3%	12	3.2%	5	1.0%	7	0.9%	3	0.4%	2	0.3%
Other Race	1	1.4%	1	0.9%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	6	3.4%	3	1.4%	1	0.6%

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

Of all children entering substitute care, the percentage that was placed in group homes or institutions in their first placement.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087	5,717
Children placed in group homes or institutions	272	207	238	190	271	194	133
Percent	5.9%	4.4%	4.2%	2.9%	3.7%	2.7%	2.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	167	13.6%	106	9.1%	122	9.0%	85	6.8%	117	6.6%	65	5.0%	50	5.0%
Northern	33	3.7%	24	2.8%	32	3.5%	25	2.2%	43	3.2%	52	3.2%	34	2.7%
Central	54	3.4%	52	3.0%	46	2.2%	46	1.9%	63	2.3%	50	1.9%	25	1.2%
Southern	18	2.0%	25	2.6%	38	2.9%	34	2.1%	48	3.2%	27	1.8%	24	1.8%

Male	173	7.3%	135	5.5%	154	5.2%	117	3.6%	153	4.1%	120	3.3%	84	2.9%
Female	99	4.5%	72	3.1%	84	3.1%	73	2.3%	118	3.3%	74	2.1%	49	1.7%

0 to 2	34	1.8%	11	0.6%	13	0.5%	6	0.2%	11	0.4%	6	0.2%	13	0.6%
3 to 5	11	1.4%	4	0.5%	3	0.3%	3	0.3%	9	0.7%	11	0.9%	3	0.3%
6 to 11	26	2.5%	18	1.6%	28	2.0%	22	1.4%	19	1.1%	23	1.4%	9	0.7%
12 to 17	201	21.6%	174	19.6%	194	19.0%	159	13.9%	232	16.8%	154	12.1%	108	10.5%

Black	156	8.4%	122	6.8%	124	5.6%	99	4.3%	132	4.9%	80	3.5%	71	3.7%
White	81	3.6%	65	2.7%	93	3.2%	79	2.3%	97	2.6%	91	2.4%	45	1.5%
Latinx	31	7.6%	18	4.2%	19	5.1%	10	2.0%	32	4.1%	20	2.4%	14	2.3%
Other Race	3	4.1%	2	1.8%	1	0.8%	2	1.3%	8	4.5%	3	1.4%	2	1.2%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

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).							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in home of parents	826	695	786	869	866	1,006	908
Percent	5.9%	5.0%	5.4%	5.5%	4.8%	5.3%	4.9%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	157	3.2%	126	2.7%	127	2.8%	150	3.3%	98	1.9%	64	1.2%	73	1.5%
Northern	81	2.8%	52	2.0%	60	2.4%	73	2.8%	86	2.9%	103	3.1%	80	2.5%
Central	438	10.7%	326	7.9%	401	8.7%	437	8.4%	416	6.8%	586	8.9%	514	8.0%
Southern	150	6.8%	191	8.0%	198	7.0%	209	6.2%	266	7.1%	253	6.5%	241	6.2%

Male	417	5.6%	385	5.3%	410	5.4%	448	5.5%	456	4.9%	502	5.1%	477	5.0%
Female	409	6.1%	310	4.7%	376	5.4%	421	5.5%	410	4.6%	503	5.4%	431	4.8%

0 to 2	171	5.3%	147	4.6%	179	5.0%	191	4.8%	172	3.7%	219	4.5%	197	4.4%
3 to 5	196	6.5%	165	5.5%	178	5.7%	209	6.1%	228	5.7%	254	5.9%	234	5.5%
6 to 11	265	6.4%	241	5.8%	272	6.3%	310	6.6%	276	5.2%	334	6.0%	305	5.5%
12 to 17	194	5.2%	142	4.0%	157	4.5%	159	4.3%	190	4.6%	199	4.6%	172	4.0%

Black	321	4.8%	251	4.0%	282	4.4%	350	5.3%	322	4.3%	311	4.2%	297	4.1%
White	428	7.2%	376	6.3%	428	6.5%	448	6.1%	480	5.7%	578	6.3%	530	6.0%
Latinx	54	4.5%	57	4.6%	49	4.2%	44	3.5%	40	2.4%	81	4.1%	52	2.7%
Other Race	17	9.1%	8	3.3%	24	8.1%	25	6.9%	15	3.6%	30	6.3%	24	4.9%

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

Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in kinship foster homes.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in kinship foster homes	6,477	6,700	7,358	8,483	10,431	11,290	11,176
Percent	45.9%	48.4%	50.5%	53.8%	57.7%	59.1%	60.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	2,148	43.7%	2,135	45.5%	2,093	45.9%	2,175	47.3%	2,781	53.7%	3,015	56.7%	2,877	57.3%
Northern	1,335	46.3%	1,240	47.0%	1,208	47.4%	1,267	48.4%	1,569	52.2%	1,779	53.9%	1,790	55.7%
Central	1,850	45.1%	2,037	49.5%	2,395	51.9%	2,903	55.7%	3,693	60.0%	3,973	60.3%	4,014	62.7%
Southern	1,144	51.6%	1,288	54.1%	1,662	58.5%	2,138	63.9%	2,388	63.8%	2,523	64.7%	2,495	64.2%

Male	3,210	43.3%	3,299	45.4%	3,657	48.1%	4,225	51.9%	5,152	55.7%	5,676	57.6%	5,545	58.1%
Female	3,267	48.7%	3,401	51.7%	3,701	53.2%	4,258	55.8%	5,278	59.8%	5,614	60.6%	5,630	62.6%

0 to 2	1,644	50.8%	1,735	54.4%	2,015	55.8%	2,256	56.6%	2,786	60.0%	2,980	61.6%	2,711	61.1%
3 to 5	1,564	52.1%	1,599	53.4%	1,698	54.4%	1,977	57.9%	2,437	60.8%	2,626	60.7%	2,607	61.7%
6 to 11	2,079	50.1%	2,127	51.6%	2,289	53.2%	2,672	57.1%	3,180	60.2%	3,398	60.8%	3,463	62.7%
12 to 17	1,190	31.9%	1,239	35.1%	1,356	38.4%	1,578	42.7%	2,028	48.8%	2,286	52.5%	2,395	55.2%

Black	2,826	42.3%	2,782	44.0%	2,944	46.2%	3,201	48.1%	3,922	52.7%	4,089	55.0%	4,024	56.1%
White	2,879	48.7%	3,094	52.1%	3,637	54.9%	4,358	58.9%	5,184	61.4%	5,611	61.6%	5,561	62.7%
Latinx	620	51.5%	651	52.7%	588	50.0%	671	53.1%	1,026	61.4%	1,251	62.9%	1,263	64.6%
Other Race	94	50.5%	131	53.9%	149	50.2%	200	55.6%	251	60.2%	290	60.5%	300	61.9%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in traditional foster homes.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in traditional foster homes	3,745	3,550	3,522	3,462	3,733	3,796	3,676
Percent	26.5%	25.7%	24.2%	21.9%	20.6%	19.9%	19.8%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	1,239	25.2%	1,147	24.4%	1,077	23.6%	994	21.6%	1,001	19.3%	1,004	18.9%	990	19.7%
Northern	819	28.4%	752	28.5%	677	26.6%	621	23.7%	632	21.0%	693	21.0%	689	21.4%
Central	1,066	26.0%	1,035	25.2%	1,118	24.2%	1,170	22.4%	1,334	21.7%	1,327	20.1%	1,219	19.0%
Southern	621	28.0%	616	25.9%	650	22.9%	677	20.2%	766	20.5%	772	19.8%	778	20.0%

Male	1,913	25.8%	1,811	24.9%	1,801	23.7%	1,723	21.2%	1,871	20.2%	1,911	19.4%	1,851	19.4%
Female	1,832	27.3%	1,739	26.5%	1,721	24.7%	1,739	22.8%	1,862	21.1%	1,885	20.4%	1,825	20.3%

0 to 2	1,255	38.8%	1,159	36.3%	1,231	34.1%	1,301	32.6%	1,452	31.3%	1,397	28.9%	1,329	29.9%
3 to 5	979	32.6%	944	31.5%	961	30.8%	920	26.9%	969	24.2%	1,046	24.2%	997	23.6%
6 to 11	1,052	25.3%	984	23.9%	913	21.2%	845	18.1%	928	17.6%	956	17.1%	921	16.7%
12 to 17	459	12.3%	463	13.1%	417	11.8%	396	10.7%	384	9.2%	397	9.1%	429	9.9%

Black	1,845	27.6%	1,698	26.9%	1,607	25.2%	1,546	23.3%	1,566	21.1%	1,479	19.9%	1,465	20.4%
White	1,499	25.4%	1,453	24.4%	1,515	22.9%	1,513	20.4%	1,733	20.5%	1,832	20.1%	1,734	19.6%
Latinx	305	25.4%	298	24.1%	297	25.2%	298	23.6%	320	19.1%	371	18.7%	372	19.0%
Other Race	47	25.3%	67	27.6%	76	25.6%	79	21.9%	85	20.4%	93	19.4%	92	19.0%

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

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

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in specialized foster homes	2,024	1,964	1,977	2,031	2,151	2,149	1,980
Percent	14.3%	14.2%	13.6%	12.9%	11.9%	11.2%	10.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	995	20.2%	974	20.7%	972	21.3%	953	20.7%	986	19.0%	941	17.7%	820	16.3%
Northern	415	14.4%	413	15.6%	415	16.3%	486	18.6%	522	17.4%	528	16.0%	496	15.4%
Central	470	11.5%	437	10.6%	421	9.1%	430	8.2%	465	7.6%	469	7.1%	440	6.9%
Southern	144	6.5%	140	5.9%	169	5.9%	162	4.8%	178	4.8%	211	5.4%	224	5.8%

Male	1,169	15.8%	1,166	16.1%	1,136	14.9%	1,167	14.3%	1,217	13.1%	1,227	12.5%	1,156	12.1%
Female	855	12.8%	798	12.1%	841	12.1%	864	11.3%	934	10.6%	922	10.0%	824	9.2%

0 to 2	161	5.0%	144	4.5%	182	5.0%	237	5.9%	232	5.0%	232	4.8%	194	4.4%
3 to 5	258	8.6%	280	9.4%	280	9.0%	297	8.7%	358	8.9%	387	8.9%	378	8.9%
6 to 11	623	15.0%	652	15.8%	703	16.3%	707	15.1%	765	14.5%	788	14.1%	731	13.2%
12 to 17	982	26.4%	888	25.2%	812	23.0%	790	21.4%	796	19.2%	742	17.0%	677	15.6%

Black	1,151	17.2%	1,113	17.6%	1,108	17.4%	1,106	16.6%	1,197	16.1%	1,136	15.3%	1,004	14.0%
White	679	11.5%	623	10.5%	619	9.3%	675	9.1%	661	7.8%	725	8.0%	693	7.8%
Latinx	161	13.4%	186	15.0%	196	16.7%	191	15.1%	225	13.5%	224	11.3%	219	11.2%
Other Race	21	11.3%	30	12.3%	35	11.8%	41	11.4%	50	12.0%	48	10.0%	55	11.3%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

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.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in emergency shelters or emergency foster homes	47	33	42	27	37	41	73
Percent	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	13	0.3%	16	0.3%	11	0.2%	10	0.2%	13	0.3%	18	0.3%	25	0.5%
Northern	7	0.2%	6	0.2%	9	0.4%	3	0.1%	9	0.3%	8	0.2%	9	0.3%
Central	13	0.3%	4	0.1%	10	0.2%	7	0.1%	6	0.1%	11	0.2%	18	0.3%
Southern	14	0.6%	7	0.3%	12	0.4%	7	0.2%	9	0.2%	4	0.1%	21	0.5%

Male	30	0.4%	17	0.2%	27	0.4%	20	0.2%	24	0.3%	24	0.2%	44	0.5%
Female	17	0.3%	16	0.2%	15	0.2%	7	0.1%	13	0.1%	17	0.2%	29	0.3%

0 to 2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
3 to 5	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.1%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	5	0.1%
6 to 11	0	0.0%	3	0.1%	4	0.1%	7	0.1%	7	0.1%	3	0.1%	17	0.3%
12 to 17	47	1.3%	30	0.9%	38	1.1%	17	0.5%	29	0.7%	36	0.8%	50	1.2%

Black	24	0.4%	21	0.3%	20	0.3%	9	0.1%	13	0.2%	20	0.3%	31	0.4%
White	22	0.4%	8	0.1%	19	0.3%	15	0.2%	20	0.2%	14	0.2%	36	0.4%
Latinx	0	0.0%	3	0.2%	1	0.1%	3	0.2%	4	0.2%	6	0.3%	2	0.1%
Other Race	1	0.5%	1	0.4%	2	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	4	0.8%

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

Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in group homes.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in group homes	132	101	101	119	96	103	93
Percent	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	54	1.1%	36	0.8%	33	0.7%	43	0.9%	28	0.5%	32	0.6%	34	0.7%
Northern	40	1.4%	23	0.9%	24	0.9%	26	1.0%	35	1.2%	24	0.7%	13	0.4%
Central	31	0.8%	34	0.8%	34	0.7%	32	0.6%	26	0.4%	33	0.5%	36	0.6%
Southern	7	0.3%	8	0.3%	10	0.4%	18	0.5%	7	0.2%	14	0.4%	10	0.3%

Male	69	0.9%	61	0.8%	64	0.8%	70	0.9%	62	0.7%	67	0.7%	58	0.6%
Female	63	0.9%	40	0.6%	37	0.5%	49	0.6%	34	0.4%	36	0.4%	35	0.4%

0 to 2	3	0.1%	2	0.1%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
3 to 5	1	0.0%	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%
6 to 11	14	0.3%	12	0.3%	11	0.3%	15	0.3%	10	0.2%	10	0.2%	9	0.2%
12 to 17	114	3.1%	84	2.4%	89	2.5%	101	2.7%	86	2.1%	93	2.1%	83	1.9%

Black	72	1.1%	46	0.7%	48	0.8%	52	0.8%	39	0.5%	44	0.6%	40	0.6%
White	46	0.8%	46	0.8%	49	0.7%	59	0.8%	51	0.6%	49	0.5%	44	0.5%
Latinx	12	1.0%	8	0.6%	4	0.3%	5	0.4%	4	0.2%	8	0.4%	7	0.4%
Other Race	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%	2	0.5%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

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

Of all children in substitute care at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed in institutions.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in substitute care at end of year	14,116	13,832	14,563	15,774	18,083	19,107	18,534
Children in institutions	865	789	777	783	769	722	628
Percent	6.1%	5.7%	5.3%	5.0%	4.3%	3.8%	3.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	308	6.3%	262	5.6%	249	5.5%	270	5.9%	273	5.3%	239	4.5%	205	4.1%
Northern	185	6.4%	154	5.8%	153	6.0%	140	5.4%	154	5.1%	163	4.9%	139	4.3%
Central	234	5.7%	242	5.9%	235	5.1%	237	4.5%	214	3.5%	195	3.0%	165	2.6%
Southern	138	6.2%	131	5.5%	140	4.9%	136	4.1%	128	3.4%	125	3.2%	119	3.1%

Male	605	8.2%	520	7.2%	506	6.7%	491	6.0%	475	5.1%	442	4.5%	415	4.3%
Female	260	3.9%	269	4.1%	271	3.9%	292	3.8%	294	3.3%	280	3.0%	213	2.4%

0 to 2	2	0.1%	2	0.1%	4	0.1%	1	0.0%	4	0.1%	8	0.2%	8	0.2%
3 to 5	4	0.1%	3	0.1%	6	0.2%	7	0.2%	12	0.3%	13	0.3%	6	0.1%
6 to 11	120	2.9%	103	2.5%	109	2.5%	121	2.6%	113	2.1%	100	1.8%	80	1.4%
12 to 17	739	19.8%	681	19.3%	658	18.7%	654	17.7%	640	15.4%	601	13.8%	534	12.3%

Black	447	6.7%	407	6.4%	361	5.7%	385	5.8%	379	5.1%	357	4.8%	310	4.3%
White	359	6.1%	343	5.8%	362	5.5%	332	4.5%	320	3.8%	299	3.3%	267	3.0%
Latinx	51	4.2%	33	2.7%	42	3.6%	51	4.0%	53	3.2%	48	2.4%	39	2.0%
Other Race	6	3.2%	5	2.1%	11	3.7%	12	3.3%	14	3.4%	15	3.1%	8	1.6%

Indicator 2.C Initial Placement with Siblings

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.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Kinship Foster Care	1-2 siblings						
Children with 1-2 siblings	1,372	1,438	1,805	2,271	2,512	2,591	2,038
Children initially placed with all siblings	1,096	1,145	1,456	1,865	2,014	2,156	1,665
Percent	79.9%	79.6%	80.7%	82.1%	80.2%	83.2%	81.7%
Traditional Foster Care	1-2 siblings						
Children with 1-2 siblings	360	446	483	502	475	379	300
Children initially placed with all siblings	248	289	303	318	243	218	170
Percent	68.9%	64.8%	62.7%	63.3%	51.2%	57.5%	56.7%
Kinship Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	638	642	764	1028	1392	1,148	888
Children initially placed with all siblings	310	284	422	592	715	584	514
Percent	48.6%	44.2%	55.2%	57.6%	51.4%	50.9%	57.9%
Traditional Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	143	205	254	238	231	142	151
Children initially placed with all siblings	12	20	34	27	17	17	16
Percent	8.4%	9.8%	13.4%	11.3%	7.4%	12.0%	10.6%

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

Indicator 2.D End of Year Placement with Siblings

Of all children in kinship or traditional foster homes at the end of the fiscal year, the percentage that was placed with their siblings.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Kinship Foster Care	1-2 siblings						
Children with 1-2 siblings	3,245	3,358	3,701	4,329	5,223	5,662	5,641
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	2,333	2,410	2,682	3,085	3,665	4,044	3,949
Percent	71.9%	71.8%	72.5%	71.3%	70.2%	71.4%	70.0%
Traditional Foster Care	1-2 siblings						
Children with 1-2 siblings	1,856	1,713	1,695	1,618	1,824	1,815	1,767
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	1,039	1,025	1,023	950	1,037	1,000	933
Percent	56.0%	59.8%	60.4%	58.7%	56.9%	55.1%	52.8%
Kinship Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	1,582	1,625	1,742	2,007	2,629	2,676	2,623
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	535	571	552	661	1,004	971	909
Percent	33.8%	35.1%	31.7%	32.9%	38.2%	36.3%	34.7%
Traditional Foster Care	3 or more siblings						
Children with 3 or more siblings	968	963	957	980	1,017	1,045	981
Children placed with all siblings at end of year	68	84	117	109	102	141	116
Percent	7.0%	8.7%	12.2%	11.1%	10.0%	13.5%	11.8%

Indicator 2.E Placement Stability (CFSR)

Of all children who entered substitute care during the fiscal year, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of care.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children entering substitute care	4,382	4,559	5,509	6,228	7,108	6,837	5,478
Days in substitute care	734,977	749,984	906,418	1,001,009	1,235,902	1,174,840	926,507
Placement moves	2,781	2,987	3,243	3,687	3,888	3,555	2,974
Placement moves per 1,000 days in substitute care	3.8	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.1	3.0	3.2

	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	4.5	4.1	4.2	4.0	3.2	3.0	3.4
Northern	3.5	3.9	3.7	4.4	3.3	3.4	3.2
Central	3.4	4.0	3.2	3.4	2.9	2.7	3.2
Southern	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0

Male	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.1	3.0	3.1
Female	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.0	3.3

0 to 2	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.3	2.4
3 to 5	3.1	3.3	3.0	3.4	2.9	3.1	2.8
6 to 11	3.5	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.2	3.0	3.5
12 to 17	7.3	7.6	6.8	6.4	5.4	4.9	5.2

Black	4.6	4.9	4.2	4.2	3.5	3.5	3.9
White	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.3	2.9	2.8	2.8
Latinx	3.7	3.9	3.3	3.5	2.6	2.8	3.0
Other Race	3.7	4.5	4.2	3.2	3.3	2.6	3.7

CONTINUITY AND STABILITY IN CARE

Indicator 2.F Children Who Run Away from Substitute Care

Of all children ages 12 to 17 entering substitute care, the percentage that run away from a substitute care placement during their first year.							
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children entering substitute care between age 12 to 17	1,026	930	887	1,020	1,143	1,380	1,272
Children who run away during their first year	208	166	152	172	161	196	131
Percent	20.3%	17.8%	17.1%	16.9%	14.1%	14.2%	10.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	110	31.7%	85	28.1%	61	22.3%	85	27.8%	61	21.9%	98	21.3%	53	17.0%
Northern	33	14.7%	32	18.1%	30	19.2%	22	12.1%	31	14.8%	29	12.9%	27	9.1%
Central	34	11.2%	31	11.0%	39	13.4%	41	12.5%	32	8.1%	41	9.3%	26	6.5%
Southern	31	20.5%	18	10.7%	22	13.3%	24	11.8%	37	14.3%	28	11.0%	25	9.5%

Male	111	22.3%	74	15.8%	76	17.2%	87	16.9%	82	15.1%	97	15.2%	56	9.3%
Female	97	18.3%	92	19.9%	76	17.0%	85	16.9%	79	13.2%	99	13.3%	75	11.2%

12 to 14	66	12.1%	41	8.5%	45	10.0%	62	11.2%	67	10.2%	66	8.3%	43	5.8%
15 to 17	142	29.5%	125	27.9%	107	24.4%	110	23.6%	94	19.2%	130	22.3%	88	16.4%

Black	131	25.9%	94	23.4%	87	22.8%	104	23.8%	87	19.0%	110	19.4%	74	16.6%
White	58	13.6%	59	13.7%	45	11.6%	56	11.4%	57	10.2%	68	11.1%	45	7.0%
Latinx	19	24.7%	11	13.1%	19	20.2%	11	16.9%	14	13.9%	16	9.5%	12	7.6%
Other Race	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	1	4.8%	1	4.2%	1	6.7%	2	8.3%	0	0.0%

Indicator 2.G Median Length of Stay in Substitute Care

The median length of stay in substitute care of all children who exited substitute care during the fiscal year.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children exiting substitute care	4,912	5,128	5,085	5,390	5,046	6,172	6,348
Median length of stay (in months)	35	36	34	31	27	26	29

	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months	N	Months
Cook	1,417	51	1,469	49	1,570	47	1,461	49	1,209	45	1,292	49	1,334	45
Northern	1,102	31	1,132	34	1,048	31	1,011	29	963	27	1,271	21	1,331	22
Central	1,580	28	1,698	29	1,592	30	1,854	25	1,798	24	2,225	23	2,357	26
Southern	813	31	828	31	875	27	1,064	28	1,075	24	1,382	26	1,326	30

Male	2,537	35	2,646	36	2,636	34	2,814	31	2,613	28	3,147	27	3,226	28
Female	2,372	35	2,482	35	2,449	34	2,576	31	2,433	27	3,025	26	3,121	29

0 to 2	742	18	774	19	784	19	905	17	904	17	1,103	15	1,055	17
3 to 5	1,025	36	1,159	37	1,148	35	1,188	33	1,130	31	1,422	28	1,542	31
6 to 11	1,411	37	1,502	38	1,442	36	1,552	33	1,457	29	1,766	27	1,926	31
12 to 17	776	29	817	34	817	33	918	31	853	24	1,072	26	1,098	29
18 and Older	958	69	876	70	894	64	827	67	702	63	809	65	727	64

Black	2,260	42	2,284	42	2,250	41	2,157	36	1,927	33	2,360	32	2,239	34
White	2,222	30	2,350	31	2,287	29	2,667	28	2,596	25	3,119	24	3,273	27
Latinx	326	31	378	33	439	31	427	35	372	30	490	26	628	24
Other Race	68	14	73	24	80	29	105	21	134	20	190	20	190	21

Indicator 3.A.1 Reunification Within 12 Months

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

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children entering substitute care	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376	7,087
Children reunified within 12 months	736	688	648	878	982	1,175	1,348
Percent	14.7%	15.0%	13.7%	15.4%	15.2%	15.9%	19.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	112	7.7%	63	5.1%	70	6.0%	138	10.2%	87	7.0%	138	7.8%	117	9.0%
Northern	183	17.7%	185	20.5%	157	18.5%	184	20.1%	213	19.0%	316	23.7%	465	28.8%
Central	270	16.3%	302	19.0%	289	16.5%	356	16.8%	439	17.7%	457	16.4%	500	18.9%
Southern	171	19.6%	138	15.7%	132	13.6%	200	15.2%	243	15.2%	264	17.7%	266	17.5%

Male	360	14.1%	369	15.5%	330	13.5%	460	15.6%	483	14.9%	613	16.4%	698	19.2%
Female	376	15.2%	319	14.4%	318	13.9%	418	15.2%	499	15.6%	562	15.5%	650	18.8%

0 to 2	282	13.8%	257	13.9%	225	11.9%	308	13.0%	322	12.8%	406	13.6%	501	17.0%
3 to 5	133	15.9%	122	16.1%	121	14.6%	158	17.1%	200	16.7%	243	18.6%	259	21.1%
6 to 11	193	17.2%	183	17.3%	192	17.1%	254	18.3%	279	17.6%	329	19.3%	367	22.4%
12 to 17	128	12.5%	126	13.5%	110	12.4%	158	15.5%	181	15.8%	197	14.3%	221	17.4%

Black	281	12.8%	245	13.2%	215	12.0%	326	14.7%	332	14.3%	405	15.0%	385	17.0%
White	368	16.5%	365	16.3%	358	15.1%	470	15.9%	531	15.5%	643	17.5%	745	19.8%
Latinx	61	13.3%	61	15.0%	60	13.9%	55	14.9%	82	16.2%	86	11.0%	160	19.5%
Other Race	18	18.4%	15	20.5%	12	10.5%	23	18.0%	29	18.1%	26	14.7%	51	23.2%

Indicator 3.A.2 Reunification Within 24 Months

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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children entering substitute care	4,787	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376
Children reunified within 24 months	1,369	1,451	1,301	1,304	1,721	1,976	2,446
Percent	28.6%	28.9%	28.3%	27.5%	30.2%	30.6%	33.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	194	14.6%	259	17.7%	183	15.0%	202	17.3%	295	21.9%	221	17.7%	325	18.4%
Northern	384	35.7%	365	35.2%	319	35.3%	268	31.6%	328	35.9%	391	34.9%	582	43.7%
Central	492	31.9%	548	33.1%	554	34.8%	575	32.8%	748	35.2%	861	34.6%	1,062	38.2%
Southern	299	35.9%	279	32.0%	245	27.8%	259	26.8%	350	26.7%	503	31.5%	477	32.0%

Male	675	27.6%	736	28.8%	694	29.1%	665	27.2%	904	30.6%	978	30.2%	1,257	33.6%
Female	694	29.6%	715	29.0%	607	27.4%	639	27.9%	817	29.7%	998	31.1%	1,188	32.7%

0 to 2	478	26.3%	566	27.8%	497	26.8%	468	24.7%	614	25.9%	680	27.0%	899	30.1%
3 to 5	251	32.6%	271	32.5%	232	30.6%	250	30.2%	309	33.4%	415	34.6%	517	39.6%
6 to 11	404	34.4%	366	32.5%	340	32.2%	381	33.8%	523	37.7%	547	34.6%	653	38.3%
12 to 17	236	23.0%	248	24.2%	232	24.9%	205	23.1%	275	27.0%	334	29.2%	377	27.3%

Black	539	25.6%	571	25.9%	487	26.2%	457	25.5%	632	28.4%	665	28.6%	847	31.3%
White	709	31.7%	685	30.7%	666	29.8%	693	29.2%	922	31.3%	1,093	32.0%	1,293	35.2%
Latinx	94	27.4%	159	34.7%	121	29.7%	119	27.5%	119	32.2%	149	29.4%	214	27.5%
Other Race	7	21.9%	25	25.5%	22	30.1%	28	24.6%	40	31.3%	51	31.9%	69	39.0%

Indicator 3.A.3 Reunification Within 36 Months

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

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Children entering substitute care	4,686	4,787	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448
Children reunified within 36 months	1,842	1,696	1,848	1,681	1,644	2,184	2,527
Percent	39.3%	35.4%	36.8%	36.6%	34.7%	38.3%	39.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	294	23.9%	288	21.6%	394	26.9%	289	23.6%	279	23.9%	405	30.0%	322	25.8%
Northern	531	45.0%	441	40.9%	439	42.4%	375	41.5%	333	39.2%	391	42.8%	484	43.2%
Central	715	46.4%	617	40.0%	667	40.3%	687	43.2%	699	39.9%	926	43.6%	1,073	43.2%
Southern	301	41.2%	350	42.0%	348	40.0%	330	37.5%	333	34.4%	462	35.2%	648	40.6%

Male	963	39.9%	844	34.5%	960	37.6%	896	37.6%	839	34.4%	1,150	39.0%	1,252	38.6%
Female	879	38.7%	852	36.4%	888	36.0%	785	35.4%	805	35.1%	1,034	37.6%	1,275	39.8%

0 to 2	691	36.6%	600	33.0%	734	36.0%	651	35.1%	603	31.8%	809	34.1%	903	35.8%
3 to 5	362	46.6%	306	39.7%	333	39.9%	309	40.7%	320	38.6%	392	42.4%	536	44.7%
6 to 11	508	49.1%	499	42.5%	481	42.8%	429	40.7%	470	41.7%	635	45.8%	693	43.8%
12 to 17	281	28.5%	291	28.4%	300	29.2%	292	31.4%	251	28.3%	348	34.1%	395	34.6%

Black	696	35.0%	677	32.1%	740	33.6%	638	34.3%	575	32.0%	810	36.5%	854	36.8%
White	973	43.5%	863	38.6%	856	38.4%	838	37.5%	875	36.9%	1,164	39.5%	1,387	40.6%
Latinx	127	36.3%	125	36.4%	212	46.3%	172	42.3%	146	33.7%	150	40.5%	198	39.1%
Other Race	15	46.9%	10	31.3%	28	28.6%	28	38.4%	37	32.5%	50	39.1%	62	38.8%

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

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

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children reunified	2,152	1,983	1,895	1,976	2,284	2,490	3,273
Children stable at one year	2,043	1,841	1,787	1,827	2,090	2,289	3,025
Percent	94.9%	92.8%	94.3%	92.5%	91.5%	91.9%	92.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	387	91.5%	339	93.1%	365	95.1%	455	92.7%	409	93.0%	393	88.5%	406	89.0%
Northern	587	95.8%	436	93.4%	392	93.8%	369	92.5%	376	89.7%	446	91.8%	704	91.2%
Central	702	96.0%	735	92.5%	706	94.8%	632	91.9%	856	91.3%	933	93.1%	1,240	93.8%
Southern	367	95.3%	331	92.7%	324	93.1%	371	93.2%	449	92.2%	516	92.6%	674	93.4%

Male	1,024	94.7%	981	93.8%	932	94.4%	990	93.4%	1,065	90.8%	1,188	92.2%	1,554	93.1%
Female	1,019	95.1%	860	91.8%	855	94.2%	837	91.4%	1,025	92.3%	1,101	91.7%	1,471	91.7%

0 to 2	446	93.9%	422	91.3%	370	91.1%	401	89.9%	471	89.9%	519	89.3%	680	88.8%
3 to 5	476	95.0%	416	93.3%	436	96.2%	458	93.9%	479	90.7%	528	91.8%	758	93.7%
6 to 11	703	95.8%	599	93.3%	590	95.3%	600	93.8%	704	93.2%	780	94.0%	976	94.0%
12 to 17	418	94.6%	404	93.3%	391	93.8%	368	91.5%	436	91.4%	462	91.7%	611	92.6%

Black	838	94.1%	780	92.9%	709	94.9%	737	90.4%	795	91.7%	798	90.9%	1,074	92.8%
White	994	95.6%	863	92.5%	869	94.4%	847	93.0%	1,080	91.2%	1,229	92.0%	1,579	91.7%
Latinx	173	94.5%	155	95.1%	167	91.8%	214	98.2%	164	92.7%	175	94.1%	261	94.2%
Other Race	38	100.0%	43	91.5%	42	93.3%	29	90.6%	51	91.1%	87	96.7%	111	94.1%

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

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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children reunified	1,996	2,152	1,983	1,895	1,976	2,284	2,490
Children stable at two years	1,846	2,007	1,774	1,730	1,744	1,998	2,186
Percent	92.5%	93.3%	89.5%	91.3%	88.3%	87.5%	87.8%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	320	92.5%	380	89.8%	336	92.3%	356	92.7%	444	90.4%	396	90.0%	386	86.9%
Northern	494	92.0%	577	94.1%	423	90.6%	374	89.5%	345	86.5%	354	84.5%	428	88.1%
Central	648	93.0%	690	94.4%	699	87.9%	682	91.5%	603	87.6%	822	87.6%	882	88.0%
Southern	384	92.3%	360	93.5%	316	88.5%	318	91.4%	352	88.4%	426	87.5%	489	87.8%

Male	1,002	93.1%	1,008	93.2%	943	90.2%	898	91.0%	940	88.7%	1,020	87.0%	1,139	88.4%
Female	844	91.7%	999	93.3%	831	88.7%	832	91.6%	804	87.8%	978	88.0%	1,047	87.2%

0 to 2	374	88.4%	436	91.8%	394	85.3%	356	87.7%	375	84.1%	438	83.6%	490	84.3%
3 to 5	457	94.0%	465	92.8%	401	89.9%	422	93.2%	437	89.5%	455	86.2%	504	87.7%
6 to 11	639	93.3%	696	94.8%	585	91.1%	570	92.1%	576	90.0%	687	91.0%	742	89.4%
12 to 17	376	93.5%	410	92.8%	394	91.0%	382	91.6%	356	88.6%	418	87.6%	450	89.3%

Black	683	92.4%	832	93.4%	751	89.4%	690	92.4%	708	86.9%	768	88.6%	775	88.3%
White	991	91.8%	966	92.9%	830	89.0%	837	90.9%	807	88.6%	1,019	86.1%	1,157	86.6%
Latinx	122	96.1%	171	93.4%	152	93.3%	161	88.5%	200	91.7%	161	91.0%	170	91.4%
Other Race	50	98.0%	38	100.0%	41	87.2%	42	93.3%	29	90.6%	50	89.3%	84	93.3%

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

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

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children reunified	2,242	2,157	1,999	1,996	2,152	1,983	1,895
Children stable at five years	2,002	1,886	1,722	1,769	1,872	1,668	1,641
Percent	89.3%	87.4%	86.1%	88.6%	87.0%	84.1%	86.6%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	349	91.6%	309	84.9%	311	89.1%	316	91.3%	367	86.8%	333	91.5%	341	88.8%
Northern	465	88.7%	468	84.0%	406	86.6%	479	89.2%	553	90.2%	411	88.0%	363	86.8%
Central	803	88.0%	741	91.9%	584	84.4%	612	87.8%	636	87.0%	642	80.8%	638	85.6%
Southern	385	90.6%	368	85.6%	421	86.1%	362	87.0%	316	82.1%	282	79.0%	299	85.9%

Male	1,030	90.4%	954	86.4%	899	86.6%	956	88.8%	942	87.1%	876	83.7%	857	86.8%
Female	969	88.1%	930	88.5%	823	85.6%	813	88.4%	930	86.8%	792	84.5%	784	86.3%

0 to 2	388	86.2%	358	85.6%	310	80.9%	355	83.9%	400	84.2%	363	78.6%	329	81.0%
3 to 5	511	90.3%	472	88.2%	437	87.1%	431	88.7%	431	86.0%	368	82.5%	402	88.7%
6 to 11	672	89.7%	628	86.0%	619	85.7%	613	89.5%	645	87.9%	549	85.5%	536	86.6%
12 to 17	431	90.4%	428	90.3%	356	90.8%	370	92.0%	396	89.6%	388	89.6%	374	89.7%

Black	815	88.9%	720	84.3%	605	85.2%	655	88.6%	789	88.6%	719	85.6%	669	89.6%
White	1,008	89.0%	1,004	89.2%	950	86.1%	946	87.7%	886	85.2%	762	81.7%	783	85.0%
Latinx	130	91.5%	122	91.7%	126	90.0%	119	93.7%	160	87.4%	147	90.2%	150	82.4%
Other Race	49	98.0%	40	90.9%	41	91.1%	49	96.1%	37	97.4%	40	85.1%	39	86.7%

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

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

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Children reunified	2,031	1,920	1,913	2,005	2,096	2,242	2,157
Children stable at ten years	1,678	1,645	1,630	1,689	1,778	1,941	1,798
Percent	82.6%	85.7%	85.2%	84.2%	84.8%	86.6%	83.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	422	85.8%	376	84.3%	276	87.9%	348	88.3%	314	84.2%	341	89.5%	301	82.7%
Northern	331	84.9%	372	84.5%	329	89.2%	383	84.7%	393	83.4%	451	86.1%	452	81.1%
Central	562	80.3%	556	86.7%	684	83.6%	681	81.9%	766	87.4%	782	85.7%	704	87.3%
Southern	363	80.8%	341	86.8%	341	82.8%	277	84.5%	305	81.1%	367	86.4%	341	79.3%

Male	856	83.6%	858	85.5%	861	85.3%	883	84.8%	906	86.4%	998	87.6%	908	82.2%
Female	821	81.6%	787	85.8%	765	85.1%	801	83.6%	872	83.3%	940	85.5%	888	84.5%

0 to 2	312	80.4%	273	80.1%	320	80.4%	319	80.6%	357	80.6%	370	82.2%	337	80.6%
3 to 5	360	77.1%	352	83.4%	374	84.6%	377	80.7%	415	81.9%	494	87.3%	435	81.3%
6 to 11	556	83.0%	556	87.1%	511	84.2%	586	84.7%	575	84.6%	646	86.2%	598	81.9%
12 to 17	450	88.9%	464	89.4%	425	91.2%	407	90.4%	431	92.5%	431	90.4%	428	90.3%

Black	690	81.3%	654	82.2%	567	84.2%	630	82.0%	703	84.7%	793	86.5%	691	80.9%
White	857	82.9%	850	87.7%	885	84.8%	875	84.6%	921	84.3%	977	86.2%	950	84.4%
Latinx	110	86.6%	88	89.8%	113	90.4%	139	90.3%	97	88.2%	124	87.3%	118	88.7%
Other Race	21	100.0%	53	93.0%	65	91.5%	45	91.8%	57	90.5%	47	94.0%	39	88.6%

Indicator 3.C.1 Adoption Within 24 Months

Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 24 months.							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children entering substitute care	4,787	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376
Children adopted within 24 months	166	207	241	260	239	199	159
Percent	3.5%	4.1%	5.2%	5.5%	4.2%	3.1%	2.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	19	1.4%	18	1.2%	19	1.6%	19	1.6%	16	1.2%	15	1.2%	3	0.2%
Northern	22	2.0%	59	5.7%	56	6.2%	64	7.5%	49	5.4%	39	3.5%	37	2.8%
Central	78	5.1%	90	5.4%	117	7.4%	112	6.4%	108	5.1%	86	3.5%	65	2.3%
Southern	47	5.6%	40	4.6%	49	5.6%	65	6.7%	66	5.0%	59	3.7%	54	3.6%

Male	92	3.8%	102	4.0%	124	5.2%	132	5.4%	124	4.2%	96	3.0%	85	2.3%
Female	74	3.2%	105	4.3%	117	5.3%	128	5.6%	115	4.2%	103	3.2%	74	2.0%

0 to 2	128	7.0%	162	8.0%	169	9.1%	179	9.4%	190	8.0%	152	6.0%	134	4.5%
3 to 5	21	2.7%	22	2.6%	30	4.0%	35	4.2%	18	1.9%	20	1.7%	9	0.7%
6 to 11	13	1.1%	18	1.6%	27	2.6%	31	2.8%	20	1.4%	19	1.2%	7	0.4%
12 to 17	4	0.4%	5	0.5%	15	1.6%	15	1.7%	11	1.1%	8	0.7%	9	0.7%

Black	45	2.1%	68	3.1%	65	3.5%	59	3.3%	65	2.9%	36	1.6%	24	0.9%
White	111	5.0%	129	5.8%	165	7.4%	170	7.2%	153	5.2%	142	4.2%	125	3.4%
Latinx	3	0.9%	6	1.3%	7	1.7%	17	3.9%	11	3.0%	7	1.4%	8	1.0%
Other Race	4	12.5%	4	4.1%	2	2.7%	10	8.8%	6	4.7%	13	8.1%	0	0.0%

Indicator 3.C.2 Adoption Within 36 Months

Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was adopted within 36 months.							
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Children entering substitute care	4,686	4,787	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448
Children adopted within 36 months	535	594	667	687	788	689	665
Percent	11.4%	12.4%	13.3%	14.9%	16.6%	12.1%	10.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	41	3.3%	66	5.0%	74	5.1%	74	6.0%	76	6.5%	47	3.5%	32	2.6%
Northern	142	12.0%	169	15.7%	176	17.0%	173	19.1%	180	21.2%	146	16.0%	112	10.0%
Central	219	14.2%	252	16.3%	299	18.1%	291	18.3%	324	18.5%	282	13.3%	317	12.8%
Southern	133	18.2%	107	12.8%	118	13.5%	149	16.9%	208	21.5%	214	16.3%	204	12.8%

Male	266	11.0%	303	12.4%	334	13.1%	352	14.8%	410	16.8%	346	11.7%	332	10.2%
Female	269	11.8%	291	12.4%	333	13.5%	335	15.1%	378	16.5%	343	12.5%	333	10.4%

0 to 2	385	20.4%	401	22.1%	482	23.7%	437	23.6%	484	25.5%	507	21.4%	442	17.5%
3 to 5	77	9.9%	95	12.3%	90	10.8%	117	15.4%	138	16.7%	75	8.1%	95	7.9%
6 to 11	62	6.0%	85	7.2%	79	7.0%	105	10.0%	130	11.5%	83	6.0%	102	6.4%
12 to 17	11	1.1%	13	1.3%	16	1.6%	28	3.0%	36	4.1%	23	2.3%	26	2.3%

Black	145	7.3%	186	8.8%	203	9.2%	194	10.4%	203	11.3%	191	8.6%	158	6.8%
White	360	16.1%	370	16.5%	405	18.2%	446	20.0%	510	21.5%	441	15.0%	447	13.1%
Latinx	15	4.3%	17	5.0%	34	7.4%	31	7.6%	53	12.2%	33	8.9%	26	5.1%
Other Race	1	3.1%	8	25.0%	20	20.4%	12	16.4%	17	14.9%	17	13.3%	28	17.5%

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

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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children adopted	1,525	1,850	1,560	1,850	1,712	1,848	1,508
Children stable at two years	1,513	1,833	1,547	1,840	1,700	1,831	1,487
Percent	99.2%	99.1%	99.2%	99.5%	99.3%	99.1%	98.6%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	318	99.4%	493	100.0%	391	99.0%	418	98.6%	396	99.5%	408	98.6%	305	96.8%
Northern	363	99.7%	405	98.5%	394	99.0%	474	99.8%	431	99.3%	411	98.3%	304	99.3%
Central	548	98.9%	575	99.3%	497	99.2%	640	99.7%	593	99.3%	618	99.7%	529	99.2%
Southern	284	99.0%	360	98.1%	265	99.6%	307	99.7%	280	98.9%	394	99.5%	349	98.6%

Male	800	99.5%	927	99.1%	777	98.9%	950	99.3%	855	98.8%	943	99.3%	777	98.1%
Female	713	98.9%	906	99.0%	768	99.5%	890	99.7%	845	99.8%	888	98.9%	710	99.2%

0 to 2	212	99.5%	270	100.0%	249	99.2%	326	99.7%	289	98.6%	338	99.4%	287	99.7%
3 to 5	549	99.6%	662	99.7%	505	99.0%	626	99.7%	578	99.8%	578	99.5%	496	99.0%
6 to 11	560	99.3%	715	98.9%	618	99.4%	669	99.3%	625	99.0%	663	99.3%	504	98.2%
12 to 17	192	97.5%	186	96.4%	175	98.9%	219	99.1%	208	99.5%	252	97.3%	200	97.1%

Black	620	99.0%	768	99.4%	646	98.9%	758	99.2%	693	99.1%	637	98.8%	525	98.3%
White	796	99.5%	947	98.9%	787	99.2%	931	99.7%	854	99.3%	994	99.2%	828	98.7%
Latinx	58	96.7%	71	100.0%	81	100.0%	99	100.0%	107	100.0%	141	99.3%	87	98.9%
Other Race	11	100.0%	13	100.0%	9	100.0%	17	94.4%	30	100.0%	35	100.0%	35	100.0%

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

Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at five years.							
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children adopted	1,198	1,739	1,483	1,525	1,850	1,560	1,850
Children stable at five years	1,175	1,694	1,457	1,493	1,809	1,517	1,817
Percent	98.1%	97.4%	98.2%	97.9%	97.8%	97.2%	98.2%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	338	98.8%	446	97.8%	379	98.4%	313	97.8%	485	98.4%	386	97.7%	414	97.6%
Northern	200	98.0%	335	98.8%	290	99.7%	359	98.6%	398	96.8%	388	97.5%	466	98.1%
Central	422	98.4%	624	96.0%	530	98.1%	540	97.5%	572	98.8%	485	96.8%	633	98.6%
Southern	215	96.4%	289	98.3%	258	96.6%	281	97.9%	354	96.5%	258	97.0%	304	98.7%

Male	565	98.1%	880	97.2%	727	98.5%	793	98.6%	916	98.0%	759	96.6%	936	97.8%
Female	609	98.1%	812	97.6%	730	98.0%	700	97.1%	893	97.6%	756	97.9%	881	98.7%

0 to 2	181	100.0%	241	98.8%	209	98.6%	212	99.5%	269	99.6%	248	98.8%	325	99.4%
3 to 5	435	99.3%	609	98.4%	533	99.1%	547	99.3%	657	98.9%	503	98.6%	625	99.5%
6 to 11	425	96.6%	644	96.0%	546	97.8%	547	97.0%	703	97.2%	599	96.3%	650	96.4%
12 to 17	134	96.4%	200	97.6%	169	96.6%	187	94.9%	180	93.3%	167	94.4%	217	98.2%

Black	516	97.7%	754	96.7%	646	98.5%	610	97.4%	756	97.8%	627	96.0%	750	98.2%
White	583	98.3%	825	98.0%	710	97.8%	787	98.4%	936	97.7%	776	97.9%	916	98.1%
Latinx	62	98.4%	96	99.0%	70	100.0%	57	95.0%	70	98.6%	81	100.0%	99	100.0%
Other Race	5	100.0%	2	100.0%	8	100.0%	11	100.0%	13	100.0%	9	100.0%	17	94.4%

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

Of all children who were adopted during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at ten years.							
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Children adopted	1,712	1,761	1,562	1,419	1,364	1,198	1,739
Children stable at ten years	1,661	1,698	1,488	1,348	1,294	1,148	1,652
Percent	97.0%	96.4%	95.3%	95.0%	94.9%	95.8%	95.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	767	95.4%	662	95.4%	561	97.2%	503	95.3%	449	95.9%	325	95.0%	439	96.3%
Northern	242	99.2%	307	96.8%	280	95.9%	205	96.2%	278	95.2%	199	97.5%	329	97.1%
Central	443	98.0%	524	96.3%	479	93.0%	448	94.1%	409	95.3%	414	96.5%	607	93.4%
Southern	209	98.6%	205	99.5%	168	94.4%	192	95.0%	158	90.3%	210	94.2%	277	94.2%

Male	844	97.2%	882	95.8%	763	94.7%	668	94.1%	671	95.6%	554	96.2%	858	94.8%
Female	816	96.8%	815	97.1%	723	95.9%	675	96.0%	617	94.1%	593	95.5%	792	95.2%

0 to 2	318	100.0%	334	98.8%	301	98.7%	271	98.5%	235	98.7%	181	100.0%	239	98.0%
3 to 5	554	97.4%	628	97.5%	504	96.6%	470	96.5%	466	95.7%	424	96.8%	599	96.8%
6 to 11	552	94.7%	539	94.4%	520	92.4%	455	90.3%	445	91.8%	409	93.0%	614	91.5%
12 to 17	237	97.9%	197	94.7%	163	94.8%	152	99.3%	148	96.1%	134	96.4%	200	97.6%

Black	944	95.8%	875	95.2%	759	95.5%	716	94.5%	654	93.6%	498	94.3%	733	94.0%
White	606	98.9%	683	98.3%	591	94.7%	524	95.1%	552	96.2%	574	96.8%	806	95.7%
Latinx	75	98.7%	93	96.9%	88	98.9%	73	98.6%	62	95.4%	62	98.4%	95	97.9%
Other Race	1	100.0%	4	100.0%	13	92.9%	4	100.0%	2	100.0%	5	100.0%	2	100.0%

Indicator 3.E.1 Guardianship Within 24 Months

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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children entering substitute care	4,787	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448	7,376
Children taken into guardianship within 24 months	60	69	85	80	94	72	72
Percent	1.3%	1.4%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.1%	1.0%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	13	1.0%	11	0.8%	8	0.7%	4	0.3%	9	0.7%	8	0.6%	4	0.2%
Northern	11	1.0%	22	2.1%	23	2.5%	19	2.2%	27	3.0%	14	1.2%	11	0.8%
Central	19	1.2%	23	1.4%	30	1.9%	32	1.8%	29	1.4%	24	1.0%	26	0.9%
Southern	17	2.0%	13	1.5%	24	2.7%	25	2.6%	29	2.2%	26	1.6%	31	2.1%

Male	32	1.3%	34	1.3%	38	1.6%	50	2.0%	39	1.3%	37	1.1%	25	0.7%
Female	28	1.2%	35	1.4%	47	2.1%	30	1.3%	55	2.0%	35	1.1%	47	1.3%

0 to 2	12	0.7%	15	0.7%	16	0.9%	26	1.4%	35	1.5%	27	1.1%	23	0.8%
3 to 5	7	0.9%	8	1.0%	18	2.4%	12	1.4%	13	1.4%	10	0.8%	7	0.5%
6 to 11	17	1.4%	19	1.7%	24	2.3%	20	1.8%	22	1.6%	12	0.8%	19	1.1%
12 to 17	24	2.3%	27	2.6%	27	2.9%	22	2.5%	24	2.4%	23	2.0%	23	1.7%

Black	18	0.9%	21	1.0%	15	0.8%	22	1.2%	26	1.2%	18	0.8%	10	0.4%
White	40	1.8%	45	2.0%	64	2.9%	44	1.9%	62	2.1%	54	1.6%	58	1.6%
Latinx	2	0.6%	1	0.2%	4	1.0%	11	2.5%	4	1.1%	0	0.0%	4	0.5%
Other Race	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	1	1.4%	3	2.6%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Indicator 3.E.2 Guardianship Within 36 Months

Of all children who entered substitute care during the year, the percentage that was taken into guardianship within 36 months.							
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Children entering substitute care	4,686	4,787	5,023	4,599	4,736	5,702	6,448
Children taken into guardianship within 36 months	182	171	175	169	154	158	151
Percent	3.9%	3.6%	3.5%	3.7%	3.3%	2.8%	2.3%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	43	3.5%	50	3.8%	52	3.6%	47	3.8%	25	2.1%	21	1.6%	24	1.9%
Northern	37	3.1%	37	3.4%	42	4.1%	28	3.1%	31	3.7%	36	3.9%	34	3.0%
Central	50	3.2%	53	3.4%	54	3.3%	59	3.7%	55	3.1%	51	2.4%	51	2.1%
Southern	52	7.1%	31	3.7%	27	3.1%	35	4.0%	43	4.4%	50	3.8%	42	2.6%

Male	87	3.6%	96	3.9%	75	2.9%	81	3.4%	90	3.7%	74	2.5%	76	2.3%
Female	95	4.2%	75	3.2%	100	4.1%	88	4.0%	64	2.8%	84	3.1%	75	2.3%

0 to 2	44	2.3%	39	2.1%	39	1.9%	40	2.2%	48	2.5%	48	2.0%	37	1.5%
3 to 5	31	4.0%	28	3.6%	24	2.9%	27	3.6%	24	2.9%	23	2.5%	25	2.1%
6 to 11	58	5.6%	67	5.7%	64	5.7%	61	5.8%	39	3.5%	44	3.2%	43	2.7%
12 to 17	49	5.0%	37	3.6%	48	4.7%	41	4.4%	43	4.8%	43	4.2%	46	4.0%

Black	59	3.0%	71	3.4%	57	2.6%	51	2.7%	46	2.6%	45	2.0%	45	1.9%
White	103	4.6%	87	3.9%	102	4.6%	105	4.7%	83	3.5%	97	3.3%	94	2.8%
Latinx	14	4.0%	11	3.2%	12	2.6%	10	2.5%	20	4.6%	8	2.2%	8	1.6%
Other Race	4	12.5%	0	0.0%	3	3.1%	1	1.4%	5	4.4%	7	5.5%	2	1.3%

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

Of all children taken into guardianship during the year, the percentage that remained with their family at two years.							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children taken into guardianship	375	490	365	469	463	401	308
Children stable at two years	368	480	361	452	453	391	304
Percent	98.1%	98.0%	98.9%	96.4%	97.8%	97.5%	98.7%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	129	99.2%	203	99.0%	125	100.0%	179	97.3%	186	97.9%	168	98.2%	91	96.8%
Northern	84	97.7%	92	94.8%	94	98.9%	100	92.6%	95	96.0%	51	100.0%	67	98.5%
Central	86	96.6%	96	98.0%	85	96.6%	112	98.2%	112	99.1%	110	95.7%	88	100.0%
Southern	69	98.6%	89	98.9%	57	100.0%	61	96.8%	60	98.4%	62	96.9%	58	100.0%

Male	191	99.0%	250	97.3%	184	97.9%	234	95.5%	219	97.3%	206	96.3%	159	97.5%
Female	177	97.3%	230	98.7%	177	100.0%	218	97.3%	234	98.3%	185	98.9%	145	100.0%

0 to 2	17	94.4%	26	100.0%	22	100.0%	27	96.4%	35	94.6%	30	88.2%	28	100.0%
3 to 5	91	98.9%	97	98.0%	64	100.0%	72	94.7%	79	98.8%	73	98.6%	48	98.0%
6 to 11	140	99.3%	191	98.5%	138	99.3%	200	98.5%	163	99.4%	121	96.8%	103	97.2%
12 to 17	120	96.8%	166	97.1%	137	97.9%	153	94.4%	176	96.7%	167	99.4%	125	100.0%

Black	170	97.1%	256	97.0%	155	99.4%	200	95.7%	202	96.7%	180	97.3%	134	98.5%
White	169	98.8%	187	98.9%	174	98.9%	197	96.6%	188	98.4%	167	97.1%	138	99.3%
Latinx	21	100.0%	30	100.0%	26	96.3%	44	97.8%	45	100.0%	37	100.0%	26	96.3%
Other Race	2	100.0%	4	100.0%	1	100.0%	6	100.0%	13	100.0%	6	100.0%	2	100.0%

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

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

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Children taken into guardianship	241	348	382	375	490	365	469
Children stable at five years	223	324	363	357	461	353	440
Percent	92.5%	93.1%	95.0%	95.2%	94.1%	96.7%	93.8%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	97	88.2%	113	91.1%	130	93.5%	126	96.9%	192	93.7%	124	99.2%	170	92.4%
Northern	47	92.2%	61	95.3%	61	98.4%	82	95.3%	87	89.7%	89	93.7%	98	90.7%
Central	46	97.9%	110	94.8%	110	98.2%	82	92.1%	96	98.0%	84	95.5%	111	97.4%
Southern	33	100.0%	40	90.9%	62	89.9%	67	95.7%	86	95.6%	56	98.2%	61	96.8%

Male	113	95.0%	176	92.6%	198	95.7%	187	96.9%	236	91.8%	182	96.8%	230	93.9%
Female	110	90.2%	148	93.7%	165	94.3%	170	93.4%	225	96.6%	171	96.6%	210	93.8%

0 to 2	31	91.2%	32	100.0%	25	96.2%	17	94.4%	23	88.5%	22	100.0%	26	92.9%
3 to 5	49	94.2%	84	95.5%	78	96.3%	90	97.8%	93	93.9%	63	98.4%	72	94.7%
6 to 11	89	91.8%	124	95.4%	156	95.1%	133	94.3%	184	94.8%	133	95.7%	192	94.6%
12 to 17	54	93.1%	84	85.7%	104	93.7%	117	94.4%	161	94.2%	135	96.4%	150	92.6%

Black	121	89.6%	148	91.4%	167	94.4%	162	92.6%	247	93.6%	152	97.4%	192	91.9%
White	90	96.8%	159	94.6%	171	95.0%	166	97.1%	181	95.8%	169	96.0%	194	95.1%
Latinx	9	90.0%	15	93.8%	20	100.0%	21	100.0%	26	86.7%	26	96.3%	43	95.6%
Other Race	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	2	100.0%	4	100.0%	1	100.0%	6	100.0%

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

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

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Children taken into guardianship	603	569	454	495	512	241	348
Children stable at ten years	521	526	402	458	469	211	308
Percent	86.4%	92.4%	88.5%	92.5%	91.6%	87.6%	88.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	287	83.7%	254	89.8%	169	85.8%	231	91.3%	187	87.0%	89	80.9%	105	84.7%
Northern	55	84.6%	74	97.4%	63	90.0%	75	90.4%	104	93.7%	45	88.2%	60	93.8%
Central	96	88.9%	139	93.9%	106	90.6%	120	96.0%	129	95.6%	45	95.7%	104	89.7%
Southern	83	95.4%	59	95.2%	63	92.6%	32	94.1%	49	96.1%	32	97.0%	39	88.6%

Male	295	88.1%	274	91.9%	204	88.7%	246	93.2%	252	91.6%	106	89.1%	165	86.8%
Female	226	84.3%	252	93.0%	196	88.3%	212	91.8%	217	91.6%	105	86.1%	143	90.5%

0 to 2	43	91.5%	36	97.3%	29	85.3%	34	100.0%	27	100.0%	31	91.2%	31	96.9%
3 to 5	75	86.2%	86	92.5%	73	96.1%	87	91.6%	82	95.3%	46	88.5%	76	86.4%
6 to 11	176	78.9%	178	88.6%	131	82.9%	158	89.8%	180	89.1%	80	82.5%	117	90.0%
12 to 17	227	92.3%	226	95.0%	169	90.9%	179	94.2%	180	91.4%	54	93.1%	84	85.7%

Black	346	84.2%	321	92.0%	231	85.6%	256	89.5%	243	88.4%	115	85.2%	139	85.8%
White	151	90.4%	186	93.9%	143	92.9%	179	96.2%	177	95.2%	86	92.5%	152	90.5%
Latinx	22	95.7%	10	90.9%	24	100.0%	19	100.0%	33	94.3%	7	70.0%	15	93.8%
Other Race	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

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

Of all children who entered substitute care during the fiscal year, the percentage that was discharged to permanency within 12 months.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children entering substitute care	5,033	4,612	4,748	5,713	6,464	7,403	7,148
Children discharged to permanency within 12 months	721	678	657	871	962	1,113	1,312
Percent	14.3%	14.7%	13.8%	15.2%	14.9%	15.0%	18.4%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	107	7.3%	61	5.0%	67	5.7%	138	10.2%	96	7.6%	143	8.0%	128	9.6%
Northern	187	18.0%	179	19.6%	164	19.2%	193	21.1%	202	18.0%	291	21.8%	449	27.5%
Central	256	15.5%	297	18.7%	285	16.2%	336	15.8%	418	16.8%	423	15.2%	477	18.0%
Southern	171	19.6%	141	16.0%	141	14.5%	204	15.5%	246	15.4%	256	17.1%	258	16.9%

Male	355	13.9%	362	15.2%	337	13.8%	450	15.2%	476	14.6%	570	15.2%	665	18.1%
Female	366	14.8%	316	14.2%	320	13.9%	421	15.3%	486	15.1%	543	14.9%	647	18.6%

0 to 2	275	13.5%	245	13.2%	237	12.5%	313	13.2%	319	12.6%	378	12.6%	491	16.5%
3 to 5	129	15.4%	123	16.2%	118	14.2%	160	17.3%	196	16.3%	223	17.0%	243	19.7%
6 to 11	188	16.7%	183	17.3%	192	17.0%	247	17.8%	268	16.9%	311	18.2%	361	21.9%
12 to 17	129	12.5%	127	13.5%	110	12.4%	151	14.8%	179	15.6%	201	14.5%	217	16.7%

Black	278	12.6%	236	12.7%	214	11.9%	325	14.6%	315	13.5%	374	13.8%	385	16.8%
White	369	16.5%	364	16.3%	370	15.6%	464	15.7%	542	15.8%	614	16.7%	709	18.8%
Latinx	52	11.3%	61	15.0%	57	13.1%	57	15.4%	70	13.8%	86	10.9%	161	19.4%
Other Race	14	14.1%	14	17.9%	14	12.3%	21	16.4%	30	18.6%	26	14.5%	50	22.6%

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

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 was discharged to permanency within 12 months.							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care between 12 and 23 months	3,499	3,697	3,334	3,534	4,177	4,859	5,262
Children discharged to permanency within 12 months	845	959	884	1,014	1,045	1,196	1,293
Percent	24.1%	25.9%	26.5%	28.7%	25.0%	24.6%	24.6%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	164	14.6%	190	15.8%	174	17.1%	157	16.1%	164	15.2%	163	15.0%	239	16.1%
Northern	166	23.6%	210	31.0%	188	31.5%	205	34.9%	166	28.2%	213	26.7%	242	29.8%
Central	347	31.0%	395	33.0%	366	33.9%	427	33.9%	490	32.2%	484	27.0%	551	28.5%
Southern	168	30.3%	164	26.4%	156	24.4%	225	31.7%	225	22.8%	336	28.5%	261	25.3%

Male	434	24.1%	493	26.1%	461	26.6%	530	29.1%	529	24.6%	576	23.7%	650	24.4%
Female	411	24.2%	466	25.7%	423	26.4%	484	28.3%	516	25.5%	620	25.5%	642	24.8%

0 to 2	308	29.2%	376	32.4%	345	32.9%	379	34.0%	386	28.6%	385	26.5%	445	26.1%
3 to 5	164	24.2%	211	27.8%	183	27.0%	225	29.9%	217	25.0%	276	25.7%	294	27.2%
6 to 11	237	25.2%	236	24.4%	236	26.1%	267	28.5%	288	25.9%	344	25.8%	351	25.7%
12 to 17	136	16.4%	136	16.9%	120	17.0%	143	19.6%	154	18.1%	191	19.1%	203	18.3%

Black	300	18.9%	334	20.2%	312	22.4%	331	23.8%	335	20.2%	382	21.2%	394	20.1%
White	477	30.1%	527	32.7%	487	30.9%	584	33.9%	630	29.3%	686	27.4%	711	28.1%
Latinx	49	19.4%	75	22.5%	73	24.4%	70	21.9%	51	19.8%	84	21.2%	139	22.7%
Other Race	5	20.8%	16	20.8%	11	21.6%	24	26.1%	20	22.0%	33	28.4%	38	28.8%

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

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

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children in care on the first day of the fiscal year who had been in care 24 months or more	6,408	6,439	6,348	6,072	5,941	6,770	7,794
Children discharged to permanency within 12 months	1,922	2,167	2,070	2,054	1,681	2,004	2,381
Percent	30.0%	33.7%	32.6%	33.8%	28.3%	29.6%	30.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	563	21.4%	669	24.4%	748	27.0%	670	25.8%	516	20.6%	581	21.7%	589	21.1%
Northern	479	35.9%	519	41.0%	391	35.9%	365	36.9%	292	32.8%	313	33.9%	370	34.0%
Central	584	36.2%	654	40.5%	629	38.9%	632	41.3%	524	33.2%	655	34.3%	866	36.3%
Southern	296	35.7%	325	39.5%	302	34.8%	387	40.4%	349	36.2%	455	36.1%	556	36.3%

Male	986	28.5%	1,132	32.9%	1,074	31.9%	1,054	32.9%	894	28.5%	1,017	28.8%	1,188	29.4%
Female	934	31.6%	1,035	34.5%	996	33.4%	1,000	34.9%	787	28.0%	987	30.5%	1,193	31.8%

0 to 2	191	37.7%	230	46.9%	226	44.9%	216	47.3%	175	37.9%	220	34.9%	254	37.0%
3 to 5	598	40.7%	679	45.1%	656	43.9%	613	42.7%	528	37.2%	632	37.4%	750	36.7%
6 to 11	808	36.9%	869	39.4%	808	37.2%	813	38.4%	669	32.1%	752	32.1%	909	33.2%
12 to 17	325	14.5%	389	17.4%	380	17.4%	412	20.0%	309	15.7%	400	19.0%	468	20.2%

Black	914	26.6%	1,024	29.5%	999	29.4%	856	27.3%	706	23.4%	846	25.4%	882	24.5%
White	857	36.3%	933	40.1%	827	36.8%	970	42.9%	786	35.6%	938	35.0%	1,225	37.0%
Latinx	116	24.2%	154	30.0%	189	34.1%	180	33.2%	138	24.3%	161	27.9%	198	29.3%
Other Race	7	18.4%	16	36.4%	33	37.9%	28	31.1%	36	30.3%	49	34.8%	56	33.1%

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

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.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Children who entered care and exited to permanency within 12 months	643	721	678	657	871	962	1,113
Children re-entering substitute care within 12 months	42	43	33	59	66	68	106
Percent	6.5%	6.0%	4.9%	9.0%	7.6%	7.1%	9.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	8	10.0%	11	10.3%	6	9.8%	8	11.9%	15	10.9%	14	14.6%	16	11.2%
Northern	11	5.6%	7	3.7%	7	3.9%	11	6.7%	14	7.3%	15	7.4%	26	8.9%
Central	10	5.0%	17	6.6%	11	3.7%	30	10.5%	28	8.3%	24	5.7%	38	9.0%
Southern	13	7.7%	8	4.7%	9	6.4%	10	7.1%	9	4.4%	15	6.1%	26	10.2%

Male	21	6.6%	22	6.2%	18	5.0%	35	10.4%	30	6.7%	29	6.1%	51	8.9%
Female	21	6.5%	21	5.7%	15	4.7%	24	7.5%	36	8.6%	39	8.0%	55	10.1%

0 to 2	10	0.0%	20	7.3%	11	4.5%	23	9.7%	26	8.3%	23	7.2%	46	12.2%
3 to 5	8	7.6%	7	5.4%	9	7.3%	5	4.2%	16	10.0%	16	8.2%	26	11.7%
6 to 11	11	5.9%	7	3.7%	4	2.2%	21	10.9%	11	4.5%	16	6.0%	19	6.1%
12 to 17	13	9.8%	9	7.0%	9	7.1%	10	9.1%	13	8.6%	13	7.3%	15	7.5%

Black	19	8.1%	29	10.4%	12	5.1%	22	10.3%	31	9.5%	34	10.8%	30	8.0%
White	16	4.6%	11	3.0%	16	4.4%	28	7.6%	31	6.7%	32	5.9%	65	10.6%
Latinx	6	0.0%	2	3.8%	5	8.2%	5	8.8%	3	5.3%	2	2.9%	9	10.5%
Other Race	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.0%

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

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.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children who exited to permanency within 12 and 23 months	948	845	959	884	1,014	1,045	1,196
Children who re-entered substitute care within 12 months	10	17	10	22	38	53	45
Percent	1.1%	2.0%	1.0%	2.5%	3.7%	5.1%	3.8%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	6	3.6%	8	4.9%	3	1.6%	3	1.7%	3	1.9%	16	9.8%	15	9.2%
Northern	0	0.0%	2	1.2%	5	2.4%	5	2.7%	11	5.4%	15	9.0%	5	2.3%
Central	2	0.5%	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	10	2.7%	18	4.2%	13	2.7%	14	2.9%
Southern	2	1.3%	2	1.2%	2	1.2%	4	2.6%	6	2.7%	9	4.0%	11	3.3%

Male	7	1.5%	7	1.6%	4	0.8%	10	2.2%	23	4.3%	28	5.3%	20	3.5%
Female	3	0.6%	10	2.4%	6	1.3%	12	2.8%	15	3.1%	25	4.8%	25	4.0%

0 to 2	2	0.6%	5	1.6%	2	0.5%	10	2.9%	13	3.4%	18	4.7%	12	3.1%
3 to 5	4	2.1%	1	0.6%	3	1.4%	3	1.6%	6	2.7%	10	4.6%	12	4.3%
6 to 11	0	0.0%	6	2.5%	0	0.0%	5	2.1%	9	3.4%	11	3.8%	8	2.3%
12 to 17	4	2.4%	5	3.7%	5	3.7%	4	3.3%	10	7.0%	14	9.1%	13	6.8%

Black	4	1.2%	11	3.7%	6	1.8%	5	1.6%	14	4.2%	22	6.6%	27	7.1%
White	6	1.1%	5	1.0%	3	0.6%	17	3.5%	20	3.4%	26	4.1%	18	2.6%
Latinx	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	5.9%	0	0.0%
Other Race	0	0.0%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	16.7%	2	10.0%	0	0.0%

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

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.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Children who exited to permanency after 24 months or more in care	2,303	1,922	2,167	2,070	2,054	1,681	2,004
Children who re-entered substitute care within 12 months	12	21	24	25	32	38	30
Percent	0.5%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.6%	2.3%	1.5%

	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Cook	2	0.3%	4	0.7%	11	1.6%	13	1.7%	9	1.3%	12	2.3%	7	1.2%
Northern	4	0.8%	3	0.6%	4	0.8%	3	0.8%	11	3.0%	3	1.0%	7	2.2%
Central	5	0.8%	9	1.5%	6	0.9%	7	1.1%	10	1.6%	15	2.9%	10	1.5%
Southern	1	0.2%	5	1.7%	3	0.9%	2	0.7%	2	0.5%	8	2.3%	6	1.3%

Male	6	0.5%	9	0.9%	14	1.2%	12	1.1%	16	1.5%	24	2.7%	11	1.1%
Female	6	0.5%	12	1.3%	10	1.0%	13	1.3%	16	1.6%	14	1.8%	19	1.9%

0 to 2	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	1	0.4%	3	1.3%	3	1.4%	5	2.9%	3	1.4%
3 to 5	1	0.1%	5	0.8%	3	0.4%	7	1.1%	8	1.3%	7	1.3%	9	1.4%
6 to 11	4	0.4%	7	0.9%	7	0.8%	7	0.9%	15	1.8%	16	2.4%	9	1.2%
12 to 17	7	2.0%	7	2.2%	13	3.3%	8	2.1%	6	1.5%	10	3.2%	9	2.3%

Black	7	0.6%	10	1.1%	10	1.0%	22	2.2%	19	2.2%	16	2.3%	14	1.7%
White	5	0.5%	10	1.2%	11	1.2%	2	0.2%	11	1.1%	20	2.5%	15	1.6%
Latinx	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	2	1.3%	1	0.5%	2	1.1%	1	0.7%	1	0.6%
Other Race	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	6.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	0	0.0%



Appendix C

Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality Data

Appendix C provides data for the racial/ethnic disproportionality analyses included in Chapter 4. For each indicator, data are presented for the state and the four DCFS administrative regions for the past seven fiscal years. The data used in this appendix come from three sources. Illinois child population data was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau.¹ The 2021 Illinois child population data was used to calculate RDIs in FY2021 and FY2022. Child welfare data was obtained from the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) and the Child and Youth Centered Information System (CYCIS). Both the SACWIS data and the CYCIS data were extracted on December 31, 2022.

Although the calculations done to compute the RDIs were completed using numbers rounded to the fourth decimal place, the numbers in the tables are rounded to two decimal places for display purposes. This can lead to what looks like calculation errors in the RDI, especially for those that are very small (i.e., < 0.1). If the number of children in a racial/ethnic group for an indicator was 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) because percentages based on small numbers are unreliable. For the regional tables, if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years, the racial/ethnic group was not included in the table.

¹The data source for the Illinois child population from FY2016-2020 was the following:
 U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. (2020). CC-EST2020-ALLDATA6-17: Annual county resident population estimates by age, sex, 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races), and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019; April, 2020; and July 1, 2020. Retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2020/counties/asrh/>
 The data source for the Illinois child population from FY2021-2022 was the following:
 U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. (2020). CC-EST2021-ALLDATA6-17: Annual county resident population estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021. Retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2020-2021/counties/asrh/>

Table C.1 Absolute RDI for Investigations

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in investigations (%)	32.95	33.04	32.88	32.99	33.04	32.72	33.11
Total child population (%)	15.55	15.43	15.38	15.33	15.29	15.25	15.25
Absolute RDI	2.12	2.14	2.14	2.15	2.16	2.15	2.17
White							
Children in investigations (%)	46.59	46.56	46.12	45.16	45.59	45.52	43.73
Total child population (%)	51.73	51.50	51.23	51.00	50.81	50.59	50.59
Absolute RDI	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.86
Latinx							
Children in investigations (%)	17.58	17.60	18.09	18.64	18.20	18.28	19.03
Total child population (%)	24.13	24.27	24.41	24.53	24.62	24.81	24.81
Absolute RDI	0.73	0.73	0.74	0.76	0.74	0.74	0.77
Asian American							
Children in investigations (%)	1.20	1.21	1.32	1.38	1.34	1.43	1.56
Total child population (%)	5.11	5.26	5.37	5.47	5.54	5.56	5.56
Absolute RDI	0.23	0.23	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.26	0.28
Multiracial							
Children in investigations (%)	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.35
Total child population (%)	3.30	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.10
Native American							
Children in investigations (%)	0.09	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.08
Total child population (%)	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
Absolute RDI	0.65	0.52	0.69	0.71	0.61	0.62	0.55
Pacific Islander							
Children in investigations (%)	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06
Total child population (%)	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Absolute RDI	2.14	2.38	2.15	1.72	1.96	1.91	1.84

Table C.2 Absolute RDI for Investigations by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in investigations(%)	50.31	50.67	49.37	49.02	50.34	49.59	48.44
Total child population (%)	25.05	24.66	24.42	24.25	24.08	23.80	23.80
Absolute RDI	2.01	2.05	2.02	2.02	2.09	2.08	2.03
White							
Children in investigations(%)	16.72	16.35	16.01	15.52	16.01	15.58	15.24
Total child population (%)	30.84	30.91	30.93	30.96	31.04	31.17	31.17
Absolute RDI	0.54	0.53	0.52	0.50	0.52	0.50	0.49
Latinx							
Children in investigations(%)	29.40	29.52	30.96	31.14	29.52	30.09	30.99
Total child population (%)	34.95	34.98	34.98	34.94	34.87	34.91	34.91
Absolute RDI	0.84	0.84	0.89	0.89	0.85	0.86	0.89
Asian American							
Children in investigations(%)	1.83	1.96	2.09	2.34	2.29	2.46	2.53
Total child population (%)	6.31	6.53	6.67	6.80	6.88	6.89	6.89
Absolute RDI	0.29	0.30	0.31	0.34	0.33	0.36	0.37
Multiracial							
Children in investigations(%)	0.19	0.17	0.18	0.21	0.15	0.17	0.12
Total child population (%)	2.72	2.79	2.86	2.92	2.99	3.09	3.09
Absolute RDI	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.04
Native American							
Children in investigations(%)	*	0.07	0.07	0.09	*	0.11	*
Total child population (%)	*	0.12	0.12	0.12	*	0.12	*
Absolute RDI	*	0.63	0.55	0.75	*	0.89	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in investigations(%)	*	*	0.07	*	*	0.09	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	0.02	*	*	0.01	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	4.11	*	*	5.92	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in investigations(%)	25.64	25.66	26.41	26.29	25.74	26.06	25.87
Total child population (%)	7.87	7.92	8.00	8.06	8.13	8.16	8.16
Absolute RDI	3.26	3.24	3.30	3.26	3.17	3.19	3.17
White							
Children in investigations(%)	46.62	46.06	45.00	44.22	44.40	43.87	42.31
Total child population (%)	57.21	56.56	55.91	55.34	54.84	54.45	54.45
Absolute RDI	0.81	0.81	0.80	0.80	0.81	0.81	0.78
Latinx							
Children in investigations(%)	24.62	25.09	25.03	26.02	26.33	26.24	26.62
Total child population (%)	25.35	25.71	26.07	26.39	26.67	26.92	26.92
Absolute RDI	0.97	0.98	0.96	0.99	0.99	0.97	0.99
Asian American							
Children in investigations(%)	1.70	1.67	2.01	1.82	1.80	2.03	2.28
Total child population (%)	6.04	6.20	6.36	6.50	6.62	6.68	6.68
Absolute RDI	0.28	0.27	0.32	0.28	0.27	0.30	0.34

(continues)

DISPROPORTIONALITY

Table C.2 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Multiracial							
Children in investigations(%)	0.34	0.32	0.30	0.32	0.38	0.41	0.29
Total child population (%)	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.56	3.59	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.08
Native American							
Children in investigations(%)	0.14	*	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.07	0.09
Total child population (%)	0.13	*	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13
Absolute RDI	1.06	*	0.94	0.86	0.69	0.56	0.69
Pacific Islander							
Children in investigations(%)	*	*	0.07	0.07	0.08	*	0.06
Total child population (%)	*	*	0.03	0.03	0.03	*	0.03
Absolute RDI	*	*	2.58	2.45	2.67	*	2.01
Central							
Black							
Children in investigations(%)	25.80	26.13	25.72	26.19	26.65	26.83	28.13
Total child population (%)	10.13	10.27	10.37	10.42	10.49	10.66	10.66
Absolute RDI	2.55	2.54	2.48	2.51	2.54	2.52	2.64
White							
Children in investigations(%)	66.69	66.33	66.57	65.71	64.85	64.71	63.12
Total child population (%)	75.45	75.08	74.72	74.46	74.18	73.85	73.85
Absolute RDI	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.87	0.88	0.85
Latinx							
Children in investigations(%)	5.08	5.30	5.60	5.66	6.11	6.07	6.15
Total child population (%)	7.24	7.35	7.53	7.67	7.78	7.93	7.93
Absolute RDI	0.70	0.72	0.74	0.74	0.79	0.77	0.78
Asian American							
Children in investigations(%)	0.49	0.46	0.40	0.48	0.45	0.37	0.45
Total child population (%)	2.71	2.75	2.77	2.78	2.77	2.69	2.69
Absolute RDI	0.18	0.17	0.14	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.17
Multiracial							
Children in investigations(%)	0.74	0.66	0.77	0.74	0.73	0.66	0.54
Total child population (%)	4.24	4.30	4.37	4.43	4.54	4.62	4.62
Absolute RDI	0.17	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.12
Native American							
Children in investigations(%)	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.13	0.09	0.08
Total child population (%)	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
Absolute RDI	0.43	0.40	0.45	0.59	0.66	0.45	0.44
Pacific Islander							
Children in investigations(%)	0.08	0.09	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	0.04	0.04	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	1.79	2.14	*	*	*	*	*

(continues)

Table C.2 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children in investigations(%)	24.63	24.69	25.73	25.09	25.42	24.38	26.12
Total child population (%)	13.64	13.67	13.75	13.69	13.65	13.53	13.53
Absolute RDI	1.81	1.81	1.87	1.83	1.86	1.80	1.93
White							
Children in investigations(%)	70.65	70.49	69.60	70.05	69.45	70.04	68.11
Total child population (%)	76.93	76.65	76.39	76.16	75.98	75.99	75.99
Absolute RDI	0.92	0.92	0.91	0.92	0.91	0.92	0.90
Latinx							
Children in investigations(%)	2.93	3.00	2.90	2.97	3.06	3.37	3.37
Total child population (%)	4.49	4.63	4.74	4.91	5.04	5.11	5.11
Absolute RDI	0.65	0.65	0.61	0.60	0.61	0.66	0.66
Asian American							
Children in investigations(%)	0.25	0.23	0.25	0.27	0.25	0.26	0.25
Total child population (%)	0.95	0.96	0.96	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.98
Absolute RDI	0.27	0.24	0.26	0.28	0.25	0.27	0.25
Multiracial							
Children in investigations(%)	0.45	0.56	0.47	0.59	0.52	0.51	0.53
Total child population (%)	3.76	3.84	3.92	4.02	4.10	4.15	4.15
Absolute RDI	0.12	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.13
Native American							
Children in investigations(%)	*	*	0.14	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	0.19	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	0.73	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in investigations(%)	0.15	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	0.05	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	3.25	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.3 Absolute RDI for Protective Custodies

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	42.13	40.62	41.58	38.81	38.22	33.25	35.62
Total child population (%)	15.55	15.43	15.38	15.33	15.29	15.25	15.25
Absolute RDI	2.71	2.63	2.70	2.53	2.50	2.18	2.34
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	44.57	46.81	49.13	49.57	48.56	51.88	50.63
Total child population (%)	51.73	51.50	51.23	51.00	50.81	50.59	50.59
Absolute RDI	0.86	0.91	0.96	0.97	0.96	1.03	1.00
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	11.94	10.78	7.85	10.07	11.66	12.93	11.99
Total child population (%)	24.13	24.27	24.41	24.53	24.62	24.81	24.81
Absolute RDI	0.49	0.44	0.32	0.41	0.47	0.52	0.48
Asian American							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	0.51	*	0.57	0.65	0.58
Total child population (%)	*	*	5.37	*	5.54	5.56	5.56
Absolute RDI	*	*	0.09	*	0.10	0.12	0.10
Multiracial							
Children in protective custodies (%)	0.55	0.90	0.62	0.66	0.59	0.73	0.67
Total child population (%)	3.30	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.17	0.27	0.18	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.18
Native American							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.4 Absolute RDI for Protective Custodies by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	66.53	66.41	71.86	66.45	66.10	59.73	63.79
Total child population (%)	25.05	24.66	24.42	24.25	24.08	23.80	23.80
Absolute RDI	2.66	2.69	2.94	2.74	2.74	2.51	2.68
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	10.89	10.77	12.19	12.35	9.99	13.48	13.07
Total child population (%)	30.84	30.91	30.93	30.96	31.04	31.17	31.17
Absolute RDI	0.35	0.35	0.39	0.40	0.32	0.43	0.42
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	20.96	20.54	14.65	20.13	21.91	24.26	20.58
Total child population (%)	34.95	34.98	34.98	34.94	34.87	34.91	34.91
Absolute RDI	0.60	0.59	0.42	0.58	0.63	0.70	0.59
Asian American							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	*	*	1.38	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	6.88	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	0.20	*	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	41.49	43.06	40.67	44.15	36.28	30.86	35.43
Total child population (%)	7.87	7.92	8.00	8.06	8.13	8.16	8.16
Absolute RDI	5.27	5.43	5.08	5.48	4.46	3.78	4.34
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	38.90	41.04	42.64	37.32	41.77	42.48	38.28
Total child population (%)	57.21	56.56	55.91	55.34	54.84	54.45	54.45
Absolute RDI	0.68	0.73	0.76	0.67	0.76	0.78	0.70
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	18.49	15.15	14.83	17.27	20.62	24.67	24.79
Total child population (%)	25.35	25.71	26.07	26.39	26.67	26.92	26.92
Absolute RDI	0.73	0.59	0.57	0.65	0.77	0.92	0.92
Central							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	31.88	29.90	31.84	29.79	30.89	29.75	30.45
Total child population (%)	10.13	10.27	10.37	10.42	10.49	10.66	10.66
Absolute RDI	3.15	2.91	3.07	2.86	2.95	2.79	2.85
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	61.46	63.47	63.21	63.69	61.96	63.28	62.69
Total child population (%)	75.45	75.08	74.72	74.46	74.18	73.85	73.85
Absolute RDI	0.81	0.85	0.85	0.86	0.84	0.86	0.85
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	4.87	4.19	3.48	4.24	5.46	5.08	5.11
Total child population (%)	7.24	7.35	7.53	7.67	7.78	7.93	7.93
Absolute RDI	0.67	0.57	0.46	0.55	0.70	0.64	0.65
Multiracial							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	1.11	1.16	0.90	1.05	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	4.37	4.43	4.54	4.62	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	0.25	0.26	0.20	0.23	*

(continues)

Table C.4 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	23.16	22.18	21.71	21.99	20.71	20.46	23.87
Total child population (%)	13.64	13.67	13.75	13.69	13.65	13.53	13.53
Absolute RDI	1.70	1.62	1.58	1.61	1.52	1.51	1.76
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	73.80	71.83	75.52	73.17	75.67	75.45	71.45
Total child population (%)	76.93	76.65	76.39	76.16	75.98	75.99	75.99
Absolute RDI	0.96	0.94	0.99	0.96	1.00	0.99	0.94
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	5.05	*	3.67	2.55	2.71	3.42
Total child population (%)	*	4.63	*	4.91	5.04	5.11	5.11
Absolute RDI	*	1.09	*	0.75	0.51	0.53	0.67

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.5 Relative RDI for Protective Custodies

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	42.13	40.62	41.58	38.81	38.22	33.25	35.62
Children in investigations (%)	32.95	33.04	32.88	32.99	33.04	32.72	33.11
Relative RDI	1.28	1.23	1.26	1.18	1.16	1.02	1.08
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	44.57	46.81	49.13	49.57	48.56	51.88	50.63
Children in investigations (%)	46.59	46.56	46.12	45.16	45.59	45.52	43.73
Relative RDI	0.96	1.01	1.07	1.10	1.07	1.14	1.16
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	11.94	10.78	7.85	10.07	11.66	12.93	11.99
Children in investigations (%)	17.58	17.60	18.09	18.64	18.20	18.28	19.03
Relative RDI	0.68	0.61	0.43	0.54	0.64	0.71	0.63
Asian American							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	0.51	*	0.57	0.65	0.58
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	1.32	*	1.34	1.43	1.56
Relative RDI	*	*	0.38	*	0.43	0.45	0.37
Multiracial							
Children in protective custodies (%)	0.55	0.90	0.62	0.66	0.59	0.73	0.67
Children in investigations (%)	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.35
Relative RDI	1.31	2.22	1.47	1.50	1.36	1.72	1.93
Native American							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.6 Relative RDI for Protective Custodies by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	66.53	66.41	71.86	66.45	66.10	59.73	63.79
Children in investigations (%)	50.31	50.67	49.37	49.02	50.34	49.59	48.44
Relative RDI	1.32	1.31	1.46	1.36	1.31	1.20	1.32
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	10.89	10.77	12.19	12.35	9.99	13.48	13.07
Children in investigations (%)	16.72	16.35	16.01	15.52	16.01	15.58	15.24
Relative RDI	0.65	0.66	0.76	0.80	0.62	0.87	0.86
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	20.96	20.54	14.65	20.13	21.91	24.26	20.58
Children in investigations (%)	29.40	29.52	30.96	31.14	29.52	30.09	30.99
Relative RDI	0.71	0.70	0.47	0.65	0.74	0.81	0.66
Asian American							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	*	*	1.38	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	2.29	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	0.60	*	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	41.49	43.06	40.67	44.15	36.28	30.86	35.43
Children in investigations (%)	25.64	25.66	26.41	26.29	25.74	26.06	25.87
Relative RDI	1.62	1.68	1.54	1.68	1.41	1.18	1.37
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	38.90	41.04	42.64	37.32	41.77	42.48	38.28
Children in investigations (%)	46.62	46.06	45.00	44.22	44.40	43.87	42.31
Relative RDI	0.83	0.89	0.95	0.84	0.94	0.97	0.90
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	18.49	15.15	14.83	17.27	20.62	24.67	24.79
Children in investigations (%)	24.62	25.09	25.03	26.02	26.33	26.24	26.62
Relative RDI	0.75	0.60	0.59	0.66	0.78	0.94	0.93
Central							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	31.88	29.90	31.84	29.79	30.89	29.75	30.45
Children in investigations (%)	25.80	26.13	25.72	26.19	26.65	26.83	28.13
Relative RDI	1.24	1.14	1.24	1.14	1.16	1.11	1.08
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	61.46	63.47	63.21	63.69	61.96	63.28	62.69
Children in investigations (%)	66.69	66.33	66.57	65.71	64.85	64.71	63.12
Relative RDI	0.92	0.96	0.95	0.97	0.96	0.98	0.99
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	4.87	4.19	3.48	4.24	5.46	5.08	5.11
Children in investigations (%)	5.08	5.30	5.60	5.66	6.11	6.07	6.15
Relative RDI	0.96	0.79	0.62	0.75	0.89	0.84	0.83
Multiracial							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	*	1.11	1.16	0.90	1.05	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	0.77	0.74	0.73	0.66	*
Relative RDI	*	*	1.45	1.58	1.24	1.59	*

(continues)

Table C.6 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children in protective custodies (%)	23.16	22.18	21.71	21.99	20.71	20.46	23.87
Children in investigations (%)	24.63	24.69	25.73	25.09	25.42	24.38	26.12
Relative RDI	0.94	0.90	0.84	0.88	0.81	0.84	0.91
White							
Children in protective custodies (%)	73.80	71.83	75.52	73.17	75.67	75.45	71.45
Children in investigations (%)	70.65	70.49	69.60	70.05	69.45	70.04	68.11
Relative RDI	1.04	1.02	1.09	1.04	1.09	1.08	1.05
Latinx							
Children in protective custodies (%)	*	5.05	*	3.67	2.55	2.71	3.42
Children in investigations (%)	*	3.00	*	2.97	3.06	3.37	3.37
Relative RDI	*	1.68	*	1.23	0.84	0.80	1.02

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.7 Absolute RDI for Indicated Investigations

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	32.54	33.38	34.21	33.95	34.93	33.96	33.42
Total child population (%)	15.55	15.43	15.38	15.33	15.29	15.25	15.25
Absolute RDI	2.09	2.16	2.22	2.22	2.28	2.23	2.19
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	46.80	46.98	46.74	45.78	44.14	43.63	43.82
Total child population (%)	51.73	51.50	51.23	51.00	50.81	50.59	50.59
Absolute RDI	0.90	0.91	0.91	0.90	0.87	0.86	0.87
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	18.65	17.58	17.11	18.12	18.73	19.86	19.95
Total child population (%)	24.13	24.27	24.41	24.53	24.62	24.81	24.81
Absolute RDI	0.77	0.72	0.70	0.74	0.76	0.80	0.80
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.87	0.86	0.85	0.96	1.00	1.20	1.16
Total child population (%)	5.11	5.26	5.37	5.47	5.54	5.56	5.56
Absolute RDI	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.22	0.21
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.45	0.53	0.45	0.46	0.51	0.49	0.51
Total child population (%)	3.30	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.14	0.16	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.13	0.14
Native American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.14	0.10	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.11	0.07
Total child population (%)	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
Absolute RDI	0.96	0.70	0.63	0.79	0.55	0.76	0.47
Pacific Islander							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.8 Absolute RDI for Indicated Investigations by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	47.50	51.02	52.43	51.65	53.80	50.62	48.42
Total child population (%)	25.05	24.66	24.42	24.25	24.08	23.80	23.80
Absolute RDI	1.90	2.07	2.15	2.13	2.23	2.13	2.03
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	16.76	14.81	14.14	14.17	13.83	14.11	13.88
Total child population (%)	30.84	30.91	30.93	30.96	31.04	31.17	31.17
Absolute RDI	0.54	0.48	0.46	0.46	0.45	0.45	0.45
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	33.19	31.40	31.04	31.45	29.75	31.64	34.08
Total child population (%)	34.95	34.98	34.98	34.94	34.87	34.91	34.91
Absolute RDI	0.95	0.90	0.89	0.90	0.85	0.91	0.98
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	1.51	1.69	1.42	1.74	1.75	2.24	2.15
Total child population (%)	6.31	6.53	6.67	6.80	6.88	6.89	6.89
Absolute RDI	0.24	0.26	0.21	0.26	0.25	0.33	0.31
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	0.27	*	*	*	0.21	*
Total child population (%)	*	2.79	*	*	*	3.09	*
Absolute RDI	*	0.10	*	*	*	0.07	*
Native American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	*	*	0.22	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	0.12	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	1.80	*	*	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	27.34	27.45	27.88	28.75	27.48	27.55	28.89
Total child population (%)	7.87	7.92	8.00	8.06	8.13	8.16	8.16
Absolute RDI	3.47	3.47	3.48	3.57	3.38	3.38	3.54
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	42.39	42.81	43.79	41.09	40.74	39.91	37.47
Total child population (%)	57.21	56.56	55.91	55.34	54.84	54.45	54.45
Absolute RDI	0.74	0.76	0.78	0.74	0.74	0.73	0.69
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	27.96	27.52	26.00	27.70	29.33	29.77	30.34
Total child population (%)	25.35	25.71	26.07	26.39	26.67	26.92	26.92
Absolute RDI	1.10	1.07	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.11	1.13
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	1.22	1.12	1.33	1.27	1.12	1.57	1.65
Total child population (%)	6.04	6.20	6.36	6.50	6.62	6.68	6.68
Absolute RDI	0.20	0.18	0.21	0.19	0.17	0.24	0.25
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.38	0.43	0.41	0.43	0.57	0.47	0.38
Total child population (%)	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.56	3.59	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.16	0.13	0.11

(continues)

Table C.8 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Central							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	28.71	29.02	27.88	27.04	29.68	30.20	30.63
Total child population (%)	10.13	10.27	10.37	10.42	10.49	10.66	10.66
Absolute RDI	2.84	2.83	2.69	2.59	2.83	2.83	2.87
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	64.62	64.03	65.29	66.03	62.41	61.66	61.05
Total child population (%)	75.45	75.08	74.72	74.46	74.18	73.85	73.85
Absolute RDI	0.86	0.85	0.87	0.89	0.84	0.83	0.83
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	4.91	5.29	5.21	5.05	5.93	6.37	6.21
Total child population (%)	7.24	7.35	7.53	7.67	7.78	7.93	7.93
Absolute RDI	0.68	0.72	0.69	0.66	0.76	0.80	0.78
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.40	0.35	0.33	0.35	0.57	0.32	0.30
Total child population (%)	2.71	2.75	2.77	2.78	2.77	2.69	2.69
Absolute RDI	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.21	0.12	0.11
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.79	0.77	0.76	0.74	0.78	0.74	0.74
Total child population (%)	4.24	4.30	4.37	4.43	4.54	4.62	4.62
Absolute RDI	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16
Southern							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	23.56	22.49	24.32	22.98	20.80	22.04	22.88
Total child population (%)	13.64	13.67	13.75	13.69	13.65	13.53	13.53
Absolute RDI	1.73	1.64	1.77	1.68	1.52	1.63	1.69
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	72.34	72.72	71.91	72.98	75.26	73.38	71.90
Total child population (%)	76.93	76.65	76.39	76.16	75.98	75.99	75.99
Absolute RDI	0.94	0.95	0.94	0.96	0.99	0.97	0.95
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	3.05	3.39	2.61	2.91	2.68	3.09	3.31
Total child population (%)	4.49	4.63	4.74	4.91	5.04	5.11	5.11
Absolute RDI	0.68	0.73	0.55	0.59	0.53	0.60	0.65
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	0.62	*	0.49	0.57	0.58	0.82
Total child population (%)	*	3.84	*	4.02	4.10	4.15	4.15
Absolute RDI	*	0.16	*	0.12	0.14	0.14	0.20

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.9 Relative RDI for Indicated Investigations

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	32.54	33.38	34.21	33.95	34.93	33.96	33.42
Children in investigations (%)	32.95	33.04	32.88	32.99	33.04	32.72	33.11
Relative RDI	0.99	1.01	1.04	1.03	1.06	1.04	1.01
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	46.80	46.98	46.74	45.78	44.14	43.63	43.82
Children in investigations (%)	46.59	46.56	46.12	45.16	45.59	45.52	43.73
Relative RDI	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.01	0.97	0.96	1.00
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	18.65	17.58	17.11	18.12	18.73	19.86	19.95
Children in investigations (%)	17.58	17.60	18.09	18.64	18.20	18.28	19.03
Relative RDI	1.06	1.00	0.95	0.97	1.03	1.09	1.05
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.87	0.86	0.85	0.96	1.00	1.20	1.16
Children in investigations (%)	1.20	1.21	1.32	1.38	1.34	1.43	1.56
Relative RDI	0.72	0.72	0.64	0.69	0.75	0.84	0.74
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.45	0.53	0.45	0.46	0.51	0.49	0.51
Children in investigations (%)	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.35
Relative RDI	1.07	1.29	1.08	1.05	1.19	1.15	1.47
Native American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.14	0.10	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.11	0.07
Children in investigations (%)	0.09	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.08
Relative RDI	1.49	1.34	0.92	1.12	0.90	1.23	0.86
Pacific Islander							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.10 Relative RDI for Indicated Investigations by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	47.50	51.02	52.43	51.65	53.80	50.62	48.42
Children in investigations (%)	50.31	50.67	49.37	49.02	50.34	49.59	48.44
Relative RDI	0.94	1.01	1.06	1.05	1.07	1.02	1.00
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	16.76	14.81	14.14	14.17	13.83	14.11	13.88
Children in investigations (%)	16.72	16.35	16.01	15.52	16.01	15.58	15.24
Relative RDI	1.00	0.91	0.88	0.91	0.86	0.91	0.91
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	33.19	31.40	31.04	31.45	29.75	31.64	34.08
Children in investigations (%)	29.40	29.52	30.96	31.14	29.52	30.09	30.99
Relative RDI	1.13	1.06	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.05	1.10
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	1.51	1.69	1.42	1.74	1.75	2.24	2.15
Children in investigations (%)	1.83	1.96	2.09	2.34	2.29	2.46	2.53
Relative RDI	0.83	0.86	0.68	0.74	0.76	0.91	0.85
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	0.27	*	*	*	0.21	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	0.17	*	*	*	0.17	*
Relative RDI	*	1.56	*	*	*	1.19	*
Native American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	*	*	0.22	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	0.09	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	2.39	*	*	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	27.34	27.45	27.88	28.75	27.48	27.55	28.89
Children in investigations (%)	25.64	25.66	26.41	26.29	25.74	26.06	25.87
Relative RDI	1.07	1.07	1.06	1.09	1.07	1.06	1.12
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	42.39	42.81	43.79	41.09	40.74	39.91	37.47
Children in investigations (%)	46.62	46.06	45.00	44.22	44.40	43.87	42.31
Relative RDI	0.91	0.93	0.97	0.93	0.92	0.91	0.89
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	27.96	27.52	26.00	27.70	29.33	29.77	30.34
Children in investigations (%)	24.62	25.09	25.03	26.02	26.33	26.24	26.62
Relative RDI	1.14	1.10	1.04	1.06	1.11	1.13	1.14

(continues)

Table C.10 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	1.22	1.12	1.33	1.27	1.12	1.57	1.65
Children in investigations (%)	1.70	1.67	2.01	1.82	1.80	2.03	2.28
Relative RDI	0.72	0.67	0.66	0.70	0.62	0.77	0.72
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.38	0.43	0.41	0.43	0.57	0.47	0.38
Children in investigations (%)	0.34	0.32	0.30	0.32	0.38	0.41	0.29
Relative RDI	1.10	1.34	1.37	1.36	1.49	1.15	1.34
Central							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	28.71	29.02	27.88	27.04	29.68	30.20	30.63
Children in investigations (%)	25.80	26.13	25.72	26.19	26.65	26.83	28.13
Relative RDI	1.11	1.11	1.08	1.03	1.11	1.13	1.09
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	64.62	64.03	65.29	66.03	62.41	61.66	61.05
Children in investigations (%)	66.69	66.33	66.57	65.71	64.85	64.71	63.12
Relative RDI	0.97	0.97	0.98	1.00	0.96	0.95	0.97
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	4.91	5.29	5.21	5.05	5.93	6.37	6.21
Children in investigations (%)	5.08	5.30	5.60	5.66	6.11	6.07	6.15
Relative RDI	0.97	1.00	0.93	0.89	0.97	1.05	1.01
Asian American							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.40	0.35	0.33	0.35	0.57	0.32	0.30
Children in investigations (%)	0.49	0.46	0.40	0.48	0.45	0.37	0.45
Relative RDI	0.82	0.76	0.83	0.73	1.28	0.86	0.66
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	0.79	0.77	0.76	0.74	0.78	0.74	0.74
Children in investigations (%)	0.74	0.66	0.77	0.74	0.73	0.66	0.54
Relative RDI	1.07	1.17	0.99	1.01	1.07	1.12	1.38
Southern							
Black							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	23.56	22.49	24.32	22.98	20.80	22.04	22.88
Children in investigations (%)	24.63	24.69	25.73	25.09	25.42	24.38	26.12
Relative RDI	0.96	0.91	0.95	0.92	0.82	0.90	0.88
White							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	72.34	72.72	71.91	72.98	75.26	73.38	71.90
Children in investigations (%)	70.65	70.49	69.60	70.05	69.45	70.04	68.11
Relative RDI	1.02	1.03	1.03	1.04	1.08	1.05	1.06

(continues)

DISPROPORTIONALITY

Table C.10 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Latinx							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	3.05	3.39	2.61	2.91	2.68	3.09	3.31
Children in investigations (%)	2.93	3.00	2.90	2.97	3.06	3.37	3.37
Relative RDI	1.04	1.13	0.90	0.98	0.88	0.92	0.98
Multiracial							
Children in indicated investigations (%)	*	0.62	*	0.49	0.57	0.58	0.82
Children in investigations (%)	*	0.56	*	0.59	0.52	0.51	0.53
Relative RDI	*	1.11	*	0.82	1.11	1.14	1.55

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.11 Absolute RDI for Intact Family Services

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	35.27	34.39	37.01	33.60	34.19	33.80	32.60
Total child population (%)	15.55	15.43	15.38	15.33	15.29	15.25	15.25
Absolute RDI	2.27	2.23	2.41	2.19	2.24	2.22	2.14
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	44.80	46.15	44.89	47.53	46.73	45.72	45.71
Total child population (%)	51.73	51.50	51.23	51.00	50.81	50.59	50.59
Absolute RDI	0.87	0.90	0.88	0.93	0.92	0.90	0.90
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	17.93	17.07	15.82	16.13	16.43	17.43	18.32
Total child population (%)	24.13	24.27	24.41	24.53	24.62	24.81	24.81
Absolute RDI	0.74	0.70	0.65	0.66	0.67	0.70	0.74
Asian American							
Children in intact family services (%)	0.65	0.76	0.49	0.76	0.77	0.71	0.88
Total child population (%)	5.11	5.26	5.37	5.47	5.54	5.56	5.56
Absolute RDI	0.13	0.14	0.09	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.16
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	0.61	0.86	1.16	1.11	1.32	1.56	1.57
Total child population (%)	3.30	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.19	0.25	0.34	0.32	0.37	0.43	0.43
Native American							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.12 Absolute RDI for Intact Family Services by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	52.14	51.17	54.76	51.22	48.92	53.30	47.13
Total child population (%)	25.05	24.66	24.42	24.25	24.08	23.80	23.80
Absolute RDI	2.08	2.07	2.24	2.11	2.03	2.24	1.98
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	15.47	15.33	12.18	14.09	13.61	14.41	15.10
Total child population (%)	30.84	30.91	30.93	30.96	31.04	31.17	31.17
Absolute RDI	0.50	0.50	0.39	0.46	0.44	0.46	0.48
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	30.79	30.70	31.62	31.15	34.49	29.47	34.41
Total child population (%)	34.95	34.98	34.98	34.94	34.87	34.91	34.91
Absolute RDI	0.88	0.88	0.90	0.89	0.99	0.84	0.99
Asian American							
Children in intact family services (%)	1.17	1.64	0.73	1.78	1.82	1.20	1.92
Total child population (%)	6.31	6.53	6.67	6.80	6.88	6.89	6.89
Absolute RDI	0.18	0.25	0.11	0.26	0.26	0.17	0.28
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	*	0.56	0.79	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	2.99	3.09	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	0.19	0.26	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	26.12	27.81	30.87	27.68	31.02	26.27	27.42
Total child population (%)	7.87	7.92	8.00	8.06	8.13	8.16	8.16
Absolute RDI	3.32	3.51	3.86	3.44	3.82	3.22	3.36
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	46.68	45.74	46.92	46.10	43.95	40.47	37.74
Total child population (%)	57.21	56.56	55.91	55.34	54.84	54.45	54.45
Absolute RDI	0.82	0.81	0.84	0.83	0.80	0.74	0.69
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	24.94	23.94	19.03	23.60	22.66	29.92	31.64
Total child population (%)	25.35	25.71	26.07	26.39	26.67	26.92	26.92
Absolute RDI	0.98	0.93	0.73	0.89	0.85	1.11	1.18
Asian American							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	0.81	0.81	1.07	1.06
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	6.50	6.62	6.68	6.68
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	0.12	0.12	0.16	0.16
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	0.89	1.46	1.14	0.93	1.44	1.21
Total child population (%)	*	3.44	3.50	3.56	3.59	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	*	0.26	0.42	0.32	0.26	0.40	0.33

(continues)

Table C.12 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Central							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	27.59	30.00	28.50	26.65	28.61	28.76	29.14
Total child population (%)	10.13	10.27	10.37	10.42	10.49	10.66	10.66
Absolute RDI	2.72	2.92	2.75	2.56	2.73	2.70	2.73
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	67.11	63.73	64.42	66.69	63.60	62.69	61.36
Total child population (%)	75.45	75.08	74.72	74.46	74.18	73.85	73.85
Absolute RDI	0.89	0.85	0.86	0.90	0.86	0.85	0.83
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	2.75	3.73	3.83	4.21	5.29	5.66	5.98
Total child population (%)	7.24	7.35	7.53	7.67	7.78	7.93	7.93
Absolute RDI	0.38	0.51	0.51	0.55	0.68	0.71	0.75
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	1.81	1.83	2.27	1.79	1.83	2.19	2.44
Total child population (%)	4.24	4.30	4.37	4.43	4.54	4.62	4.62
Absolute RDI	0.43	0.43	0.52	0.40	0.40	0.47	0.53
Southern							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	20.53	19.18	23.68	21.21	25.94	24.59	26.52
Total child population (%)	13.64	13.67	13.75	13.69	13.65	13.53	13.53
Absolute RDI	1.51	1.40	1.72	1.55	1.90	1.82	1.96
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	75.69	76.77	72.39	73.92	69.03	69.73	67.36
Total child population (%)	76.93	76.65	76.39	76.16	75.98	75.99	75.99
Absolute RDI	0.98	1.00	0.95	0.97	0.91	0.92	0.89
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	2.03	2.73	2.53	2.84	2.25	2.42	2.79
Total child population (%)	4.49	4.63	4.74	4.91	5.04	5.11	5.11
Absolute RDI	0.45	0.59	0.53	0.58	0.45	0.47	0.55
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	1.16	2.00	1.80	2.02
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	4.02	4.10	4.15	4.15
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	0.29	0.49	0.43	0.49

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.13 Relative RDI for Intact Family Services

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	35.27	34.39	37.01	33.60	34.19	33.80	32.60
Children in investigations (%)	32.95	33.04	32.88	32.99	33.04	32.72	33.11
Relative RDI	1.07	1.04	1.13	1.02	1.03	1.03	0.98
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	44.80	46.15	44.89	47.53	46.73	45.72	45.71
Children in investigations (%)	46.59	46.56	46.12	45.16	45.59	45.52	43.73
Relative RDI	0.96	0.99	0.97	1.05	1.03	1.00	1.05
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	17.93	17.07	15.82	16.13	16.43	17.43	18.32
Children in investigations (%)	17.58	17.60	18.09	18.64	18.20	18.28	19.03
Relative RDI	1.02	0.97	0.87	0.87	0.90	0.95	0.96
Asian American							
Children in intact family services (%)	0.65	0.76	0.49	0.76	0.77	0.71	0.88
Children in investigations (%)	1.20	1.21	1.32	1.38	1.34	1.43	1.56
Relative RDI	0.54	0.63	0.37	0.55	0.58	0.50	0.56
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	0.61	0.86	1.16	1.11	1.32	1.56	1.57
Children in investigations (%)	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.35
Relative RDI	1.46	2.10	2.77	2.53	3.06	3.67	4.52
Native American							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.14 Relative RDI for Intact Family Services by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	52.14	51.17	54.76	51.22	48.92	53.30	47.13
Children in investigations (%)	50.31	50.67	49.37	49.02	50.34	49.59	48.44
Relative RDI	1.04	1.01	1.11	1.04	0.97	1.07	0.97
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	15.47	15.33	12.18	14.09	13.61	14.41	15.10
Children in investigations (%)	16.72	16.35	16.01	15.52	16.01	15.58	15.24
Relative RDI	0.93	0.94	0.76	0.91	0.85	0.92	0.99
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	30.79	30.70	31.62	31.15	34.49	29.47	34.41
Children in investigations (%)	29.40	29.52	30.96	31.14	29.52	30.09	30.99
Relative RDI	1.05	1.04	1.02	1.00	1.17	0.98	1.11
Asian American							
Children in intact family services (%)	1.17	1.64	0.73	1.78	1.82	1.20	1.92
Children in investigations (%)	1.83	1.96	2.09	2.34	2.29	2.46	2.53
Relative RDI	0.64	0.84	0.35	0.76	0.79	0.49	0.76
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	*	0.56	0.79	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	0.15	0.17	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	3.79	4.53	*
Northern							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	26.12	27.81	30.87	27.68	31.02	26.27	27.42
Children in investigations (%)	25.64	25.66	26.41	26.29	25.74	26.06	25.87
Relative RDI	1.02	1.08	1.17	1.05	1.21	1.01	1.06
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	46.68	45.74	46.92	46.10	43.95	40.47	37.74
Children in investigations (%)	46.62	46.06	45.00	44.22	44.40	43.87	42.31
Relative RDI	1.00	0.99	1.04	1.04	0.99	0.92	0.89
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	24.94	23.94	19.03	23.60	22.66	29.92	31.64
Children in investigations (%)	24.62	25.09	25.03	26.02	26.33	26.24	26.62
Relative RDI	1.01	0.95	0.76	0.91	0.86	1.14	1.19
Asian American							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	0.81	0.81	1.07	1.06
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	1.82	1.80	2.03	2.28
Relative RDI	*	*	*	0.44	0.45	0.52	0.46
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	0.89	1.46	1.14	0.93	1.44	1.21
Children in investigations (%)	*	0.32	0.30	0.32	0.38	0.41	0.29
Relative RDI	*	2.77	4.93	3.60	2.43	3.53	4.21

(continues)

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Table C.14 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Central							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	27.59	30.00	28.50	26.65	28.61	28.76	29.14
Children in investigations (%)	25.80	26.13	25.72	26.19	26.65	26.83	28.13
Relative RDI	1.07	1.15	1.11	1.02	1.07	1.07	1.04
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	67.11	63.73	64.42	66.69	63.60	62.69	61.36
Children in investigations (%)	66.69	66.33	66.57	65.71	64.85	64.71	63.12
Relative RDI	1.01	0.96	0.97	1.01	0.98	0.97	0.97
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	2.75	3.73	3.83	4.21	5.29	5.66	5.98
Children in investigations (%)	5.08	5.30	5.60	5.66	6.11	6.07	6.15
Relative RDI	0.54	0.70	0.68	0.74	0.87	0.93	0.97
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	1.81	1.83	2.27	1.79	1.83	2.19	2.44
Children in investigations (%)	0.74	0.66	0.77	0.74	0.73	0.66	0.54
Relative RDI	2.46	2.77	2.96	2.44	2.50	3.33	4.52
Southern							
Black							
Children in intact family services (%)	20.53	19.18	23.68	21.21	25.94	24.59	26.52
Children in investigations (%)	24.63	24.69	25.73	25.09	25.42	24.38	26.12
Relative RDI	0.83	0.78	0.92	0.85	1.02	1.01	1.02
White							
Children in intact family services (%)	75.69	76.77	72.39	73.92	69.03	69.73	67.36
Children in investigations (%)	70.65	70.49	69.60	70.05	69.45	70.04	68.11
Relative RDI	1.07	1.09	1.04	1.06	0.99	1.00	0.99
Latinx							
Children in intact family services (%)	2.03	2.73	2.53	2.84	2.25	2.42	2.79
Children in investigations (%)	2.93	3.00	2.90	2.97	3.06	3.37	3.37
Relative RDI	0.69	0.91	0.87	0.96	0.74	0.72	0.83
Multiracial							
Children in intact family services (%)	*	*	*	1.16	2.00	1.80	2.02
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	0.59	0.52	0.51	0.53
Relative RDI	*	*	*	1.96	3.84	3.55	3.80

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.15 Absolute RDI for Substitute Care Entries

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children entering substitute care (%)	40.49	37.90	38.97	36.01	36.66	31.90	33.29
Total child population (%)	15.55	15.43	15.38	15.33	15.29	15.25	15.25
Absolute RDI	2.60	2.46	2.53	2.35	2.40	2.09	2.18
White							
Children entering substitute care (%)	48.58	50.11	51.70	52.96	49.74	53.05	53.10
Total child population (%)	51.73	51.50	51.23	51.00	50.81	50.59	50.59
Absolute RDI	0.94	0.97	1.01	1.04	0.98	1.05	1.05
Latinx							
Children entering substitute care (%)	8.85	9.14	6.49	7.86	10.56	11.56	10.51
Total child population (%)	24.13	24.27	24.41	24.53	24.62	24.81	24.81
Absolute RDI	0.37	0.38	0.27	0.32	0.43	0.47	0.42
Asian American							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	*	0.39	*	0.37	0.45	0.45
Total child population (%)	*	*	5.37	*	5.54	5.56	5.56
Absolute RDI	*	*	0.07	*	0.07	0.08	0.08
Multiracial							
Children entering substitute care (%)	1.20	1.96	1.79	2.17	1.93	2.41	2.38
Total child population (%)	3.30	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	0.36	0.58	0.52	0.62	0.54	0.66	0.65
Native American							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total child population (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Absolute RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.16 Absolute RDI for Substitute Care Entries by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	66.67	64.52	72.81	68.81	62.73	61.11	64.61
Total child population (%)	25.05	24.66	24.42	24.25	24.08	23.80	23.80
Absolute RDI	2.66	2.62	2.98	2.84	2.60	2.57	2.71
White							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	14.05	13.45	12.67	12.11	12.59	13.22	13.32
Total child population (%)	30.84	30.91	30.93	30.96	31.04	31.17	31.17
Absolute RDI	0.46	0.44	0.41	0.39	0.41	0.42	0.43
Latinx							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	17.40	19.97	12.07	17.24	22.76	23.90	19.88
Total child population (%)	34.95	34.98	34.98	34.94	34.87	34.91	34.91
Absolute RDI	0.50	0.57	0.35	0.49	0.65	0.68	0.57
Northern							
Black							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	41.26	38.99	37.20	40.59	37.43	27.86	31.79
Total child population (%)	7.87	7.92	8.00	8.06	8.13	8.16	8.16
Absolute RDI	5.24	4.92	4.65	5.04	4.61	3.41	3.89
White							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	42.15	45.47	46.17	42.91	42.99	46.13	43.11
Total child population (%)	57.21	56.56	55.91	55.34	54.84	54.45	54.45
Absolute RDI	0.74	0.80	0.83	0.78	0.78	0.85	0.79
Latinx							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	14.71	12.13	13.13	13.65	16.43	21.55	22.23
Total child population (%)	25.35	25.71	26.07	26.39	26.67	26.92	26.92
Absolute RDI	0.58	0.47	0.50	0.52	0.62	0.80	0.83
Multiracial							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	*	2.47	*	1.96	2.40	2.97	1.99
Total child population (%)	*	3.44	*	3.56	3.59	3.63	3.63
Absolute RDI	*	0.72	*	0.55	0.67	0.82	0.55
Central							
Black							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	31.01	29.79	30.21	27.77	29.17	27.45	27.01
Total child population (%)	10.13	10.27	10.37	10.42	10.49	10.66	10.66
Absolute RDI	3.06	2.90	2.91	2.66	2.78	2.57	2.53
White							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	63.46	63.70	63.29	64.59	62.12	64.35	65.19
Total child population (%)	75.45	75.08	74.72	74.46	74.18	73.85	73.85
Absolute RDI	0.84	0.85	0.85	0.87	0.84	0.87	0.88
Latinx							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	2.77	3.42	3.25	3.58	4.64	4.19	4.27
Total child population (%)	7.24	7.35	7.53	7.67	7.78	7.93	7.93
Absolute RDI	0.38	0.47	0.43	0.47	0.60	0.53	0.54
Multiracial							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	2.08	2.11	2.64	3.02	2.81	3.13	2.91
Total child population (%)	4.24	4.30	4.37	4.43	4.54	4.62	4.62
Absolute RDI	0.49	0.49	0.60	0.68	0.62	0.68	0.63

(continues)

Table C.16 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	20.43	19.52	19.57	20.00	18.97	18.98	21.02
Total child population (%)	13.64	13.67	13.75	13.69	13.65	13.53	13.53
Absolute RDI	1.50	1.43	1.42	1.46	1.39	1.40	1.55
White							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	76.28	73.76	76.92	73.86	76.81	74.79	73.32
Total child population (%)	76.93	76.65	76.39	76.16	75.98	75.99	75.99
Absolute RDI	0.99	0.96	1.01	0.97	1.01	0.98	0.96
Latinx							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	*	3.82	*	3.13	1.88	3.22	2.34
Total child population (%)	*	4.63	*	4.91	5.04	5.11	5.11
Absolute RDI	*	0.83	*	0.64	0.37	0.63	0.46
Multiracial							
Children in entering substitute care (%)	*	2.17	*	2.07	1.61	2.43	3.01
Total child population (%)	*	3.84	*	4.02	4.10	4.15	4.15
Absolute RDI	*	0.56	*	0.51	0.39	0.59	0.73

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.17 Relative RDI for Substitute Care Entries

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children entering substitute care (%)	40.49	37.90	38.97	36.01	36.66	31.90	33.29
Children in investigations (%)	32.95	33.04	32.88	32.99	33.04	32.72	33.11
Relative RDI	1.23	1.15	1.19	1.09	1.11	0.98	1.01
White							
Children entering substitute care (%)	48.58	50.11	51.70	52.96	49.74	53.05	53.10
Children in investigations (%)	46.59	46.56	46.12	45.16	45.59	45.52	43.73
Relative RDI	1.04	1.08	1.12	1.17	1.09	1.17	1.21
Latinx							
Children entering substitute care (%)	8.85	9.14	6.49	7.86	10.56	11.56	10.51
Children in investigations (%)	17.58	17.60	18.09	18.64	18.20	18.28	19.03
Relative RDI	0.50	0.52	0.36	0.42	0.58	0.63	0.55
Asian American							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	*	0.39	*	0.37	0.45	0.45
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	1.32	*	1.34	1.43	1.56
Relative RDI	*	*	0.29	*	0.27	0.32	0.29
Multiracial							
Children entering substitute care (%)	1.20	1.96	1.79	2.17	1.93	2.41	2.38
Children in investigations (%)	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.35
Relative RDI	2.84	4.82	4.25	4.95	4.46	5.69	6.87
Native American							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in investigations (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.18 Relative RDI for Substitute Care Entries by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children entering substitute care (%)	66.67	64.52	72.81	68.81	62.73	61.11	64.61
Children in investigations (%)	50.31	50.67	49.37	49.02	50.34	49.59	48.44
Relative RDI	1.33	1.27	1.47	1.40	1.25	1.23	1.33
White							
Children entering substitute care (%)	14.05	13.45	12.67	12.11	12.59	13.22	13.32
Children in investigations (%)	16.72	16.35	16.01	15.52	16.01	15.58	15.24
Relative RDI	0.84	0.82	0.79	0.78	0.79	0.85	0.87
Latinx							
Children entering substitute care (%)	17.40	19.97	12.07	17.24	22.76	23.90	19.88
Children in investigations (%)	29.40	29.52	30.96	31.14	29.52	30.09	30.99
Relative RDI	0.59	0.68	0.39	0.55	0.77	0.79	0.64
Northern							
Black							
Children entering substitute care (%)	41.26	38.99	37.20	40.59	37.43	27.86	31.79
Children in investigations (%)	25.64	25.66	26.41	26.29	25.74	26.06	25.87
Relative RDI	1.61	1.52	1.41	1.54	1.45	1.07	1.23
White							
Children entering substitute care (%)	42.15	45.47	46.17	42.91	42.99	46.13	43.11
Children in investigations (%)	46.62	46.06	45.00	44.22	44.40	43.87	42.31
Relative RDI	0.90	0.99	1.03	0.97	0.97	1.05	1.02
Latinx							
Children entering substitute care (%)	14.71	12.13	13.13	13.65	16.43	21.55	22.23
Children in investigations (%)	24.62	25.09	25.03	26.02	26.33	26.24	26.62
Relative RDI	0.60	0.48	0.52	0.52	0.62	0.82	0.84
Multiracial							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	2.47	*	1.96	2.40	2.97	1.99
Children in investigations (%)	*	0.32	*	0.32	0.38	0.41	0.29
Relative RDI	*	7.73	*	6.21	6.26	7.29	6.95
Central							
Black							
Children entering substitute care (%)	31.01	29.79	30.21	27.77	29.17	27.45	27.01
Children in investigations (%)	25.80	26.13	25.72	26.19	26.65	26.83	28.13
Relative RDI	1.20	1.14	1.17	1.06	1.09	1.02	0.96
White							
Children entering substitute care (%)	63.46	63.70	63.29	64.59	62.12	64.35	65.19
Children in investigations (%)	66.69	66.33	66.57	65.71	64.85	64.71	63.12
Relative RDI	0.95	0.96	0.95	0.98	0.96	0.99	1.03
Latinx							
Children entering substitute care (%)	2.77	3.42	3.25	3.58	4.64	4.19	4.27
Children in investigations (%)	5.08	5.30	5.60	5.66	6.11	6.07	6.15
Relative RDI	0.54	0.65	0.58	0.63	0.76	0.69	0.69
Multiracial							
Children entering substitute care (%)	2.08	2.11	2.64	3.02	2.81	3.13	2.91
Children in investigations (%)	0.74	0.66	0.77	0.74	0.73	0.66	0.54
Relative RDI	2.82	3.19	3.44	4.10	3.85	4.75	5.40

(continues)

Table C.18 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children entering substitute care (%)	20.43	19.52	19.57	20.00	18.97	18.98	21.02
Children in investigations (%)	24.63	24.69	25.73	25.09	25.42	24.38	26.12
Relative RDI	0.83	0.79	0.76	0.80	0.75	0.78	0.80
White							
Children entering substitute care (%)	76.28	73.76	76.92	73.86	76.81	74.79	73.32
Children in investigations (%)	70.65	70.49	69.60	70.05	69.45	70.04	68.11
Relative RDI	1.08	1.05	1.11	1.05	1.11	1.07	1.08
Latinx							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	3.82	*	3.13	1.88	3.22	2.34
Children in investigations (%)	*	3.00	*	2.97	3.06	3.37	3.37
Relative RDI	*	1.27	*	1.06	0.61	0.96	0.69
Multiracial							
Children entering substitute care (%)	*	2.17	*	2.07	1.61	2.43	3.01
Children in investigations (%)	*	0.56	*	0.59	0.52	0.51	0.53
Relative RDI	*	3.89	*	3.49	3.09	4.79	5.68

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.19 Relative RDI for Placement Instability

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	49.21	48.12	46.81	44.58	42.39	39.37	47.57
Children who entered substitute care (%)	40.49	37.90	38.97	36.01	36.66	31.90	33.29
Relative RDI	1.22	1.27	1.20	1.24	1.16	1.23	1.43
White							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	40.87	41.16	43.57	44.49	44.30	48.12	39.32
Children who entered substitute care (%)	48.58	50.11	51.70	52.96	49.74	53.05	53.10
Relative RDI	0.84	0.82	0.84	0.84	0.89	0.91	0.74
Latinx							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	8.47	7.75	6.92	8.06	10.57	10.58	8.25
Children who entered substitute care (%)	8.85	9.14	6.49	7.86	10.56	11.56	10.51
Relative RDI	0.96	0.85	1.07	1.03	1.00	0.92	0.79
Asian American							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Multiracial							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Native American							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.20 Relative RDI for Placement Instability by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	73.20	75.10	70.76	77.44	67.83	70.27	76.00
Children who entered substitute care (%)	66.67	64.52	72.81	68.81	62.73	61.11	64.61
Relative RDI	1.10	1.16	0.97	1.13	1.08	1.15	1.18
White							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	11.60	8.43	13.62	8.65	11.78	*	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	14.05	13.45	12.67	12.11	12.59	*	*
Relative RDI	0.83	0.63	1.08	0.71	0.94	*	*
Latinx							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	13.60	14.86	14.29	12.03	18.79	20.27	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	17.40	19.97	12.07	17.24	22.76	23.90	*
Relative RDI	0.78	0.74	1.18	0.70	0.83	0.85	*
Northern							
Black							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	53.50	39.46	49.34	47.68	43.14	37.00	36.14
Children who entered substitute care (%)	41.26	38.99	37.20	40.59	37.43	27.86	31.79
Relative RDI	1.30	1.01	1.33	1.17	1.15	1.33	1.14
White							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	31.85	43.54	38.82	39.66	39.22	40.53	39.76
Children who entered substitute care (%)	42.15	45.47	46.17	42.91	42.99	46.13	43.11
Relative RDI	0.76	0.96	0.84	0.92	0.91	0.88	0.92
Latinx							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	14.01	*	*	10.55	13.73	18.50	*
Children who entered substitute care (%)	14.71	*	*	13.65	16.43	21.55	*
Relative RDI	0.95	*	*	0.77	0.84	0.86	*
Central							
Black							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	32.31	41.80	38.01	32.09	36.07	31.99	42.45
Children who entered substitute care (%)	31.01	29.79	30.21	27.77	29.17	27.45	27.01
Relative RDI	1.04	1.40	1.26	1.16	1.24	1.17	1.57
White							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	63.59	51.08	58.90	59.03	55.46	63.35	53.24
Children who entered substitute care (%)	63.46	63.70	63.29	64.59	62.12	64.35	65.19
Relative RDI	1.00	0.80	0.93	0.91	0.89	0.98	0.82

(continues)

Table C.20 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	27.27	26.58	18.89	22.03	15.02	20.75	34.44
Children who entered substitute care (%)	20.43	19.52	19.57	20.00	18.97	18.98	21.02
Relative RDI	1.33	1.36	0.97	1.10	0.79	1.09	1.64
White							
Children with three or more placements in their first year in care (%)	68.83	70.25	72.78	69.16	77.93	74.06	47.78
Children who entered substitute care (%)	76.28	73.76	76.92	73.86	76.81	74.79	73.32
Relative RDI	0.90	0.95	0.95	0.94	1.01	0.99	0.65

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.21 Relative RDI for Children in Care in 48 Months or More Before Exiting

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	53.93	52.95	55.43	50.73	53.83	51.78	47.57
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	46.66	45.21	43.89	41.72	40.61	38.84	37.92
Relative RDI	1.16	1.17	1.26	1.22	1.33	1.33	1.25
White							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	38.65	37.72	33.37	38.42	34.07	35.27	38.37
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.93	43.76	45.29	47.44	47.57	48.18	48.63
Relative RDI	0.90	0.86	0.74	0.81	0.72	0.73	0.79
Latinx							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	5.47	6.97	8.73	8.81	8.11	10.45	10.89
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	8.18	8.66	8.27	8.04	8.88	9.92	10.43
Relative RDI	0.67	0.81	1.06	1.10	0.91	1.05	1.04
Asian American							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Multiracial							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.33
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.11
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.10
Native American							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children in care in 48 or more months (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.22 Relative RDI for Children in Care 48 Months or More Before Exiting by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	73.91	74.87	71.85	68.38	71.84	71.08	69.60
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	66.87	66.54	67.08	65.69	63.47	62.47	63.60
Relative RDI	1.11	1.13	1.07	1.04	1.13	1.14	1.09
White							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	11.30	14.36	13.09	15.42	13.00	12.16	10.93
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	17.24	16.79	16.79	18.33	19.05	18.53	16.46
Relative RDI	0.66	0.86	0.78	0.84	0.68	0.66	0.66
Latinx							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	12.46	8.21	12.59	14.40	13.00	15.95	16.27
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	13.71	14.65	14.07	14.05	15.51	17.23	17.95
Relative RDI	0.91	0.56	0.89	1.02	0.84	0.93	0.91
Northern							
Black							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	50.79	44.39	41.57	37.50	54.68	41.94	39.86
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.78	41.53	40.31	41.21	40.83	36.52	35.24
Relative RDI	1.19	1.07	1.03	0.91	1.34	1.15	1.13
White							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	45.50	39.51	41.01	51.25	30.22	36.29	35.66
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	43.46	43.39	43.51	42.35	40.91	42.03	41.92
Relative RDI	1.05	0.91	0.94	1.21	0.74	0.86	0.85
Latinx							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	*	13.66	12.36	*	*	16.94	20.28
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	12.16	12.89	*	*	17.68	19.50
Relative RDI	*	1.12	0.96	*	*	0.96	1.04
Central							
Black							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	38.68	41.11	44.91	42.27	41.79	41.15	36.36
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	35.61	34.07	32.66	30.96	30.70	29.85	27.67
Relative RDI	1.09	1.21	1.38	1.37	1.36	1.38	1.31
White							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	60.85	54.44	52.31	51.82	47.01	52.21	59.50
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	59.24	60.21	61.22	62.41	61.78	62.35	64.23
Relative RDI	1.03	0.90	0.85	0.83	0.76	0.84	0.93
Southern							
Black							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	30.53	29.41	35.11	25.86	26.56	22.95	23.66
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	24.43	23.23	22.66	21.19	20.13	20.35	21.35
Relative RDI	1.25	1.27	1.55	1.22	1.32	1.13	1.11
White							
Children in care 48 or more months (%)	64.89	65.36	62.77	72.41	70.31	72.95	68.28
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	72.48	72.67	73.52	73.90	75.19	74.07	73.22
Relative RDI	0.90	0.90	0.85	0.98	0.94	0.98	0.93

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.23 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Reunification

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	42.21	39.51	41.27	38.04	35.21	35.35	32.65
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	46.66	45.21	43.89	41.72	40.61	38.84	37.92
Relative RDI	0.90	0.87	0.94	0.91	0.87	0.91	0.86
White							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	47.17	48.52	46.08	51.82	53.68	52.58	52.05
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.93	43.76	45.29	47.44	47.57	48.18	48.63
Relative RDI	1.10	1.11	1.02	1.09	1.13	1.09	1.07
Latinx							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	8.25	9.59	11.04	7.77	7.48	8.46	11.54
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	8.18	8.66	8.27	8.04	8.88	9.92	10.43
Relative RDI	1.01	1.11	1.33	0.97	0.84	0.85	1.11
Asian American							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.67
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.35
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.90
Multiracial							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	*	1.43	*	1.54	2.29	2.23	2.23
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	1.17	*	1.76	1.89	2.03	2.11
Relative RDI	*	1.22	*	0.87	1.22	1.10	1.06
Native American							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.24 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Reunification by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	69.15	63.54	62.53	64.32	66.52	63.38	60.14
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	66.87	66.54	67.08	65.69	63.47	62.47	63.60
Relative RDI	1.03	0.95	0.93	0.98	1.05	1.01	0.95
White							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	13.22	12.24	12.83	13.64	16.29	15.13	14.16
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	17.24	16.79	16.79	18.33	19.05	18.53	16.46
Relative RDI	0.77	0.73	0.76	0.74	0.86	0.82	0.86
Latinx							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	15.15	20.83	22.81	20.45	14.71	19.30	23.25
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	13.71	14.65	14.07	14.05	15.51	17.23	17.95
Relative RDI	1.10	1.42	1.62	1.46	0.95	1.12	1.30
Northern							
Black							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	41.34	43.48	41.60	42.96	41.12	31.99	32.01
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.78	41.53	40.31	41.21	40.83	36.52	35.24
Relative RDI	0.97	1.05	1.03	1.04	1.01	0.88	0.91
White							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	39.61	38.89	42.86	42.00	39.67	47.67	43.44
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	43.46	43.39	43.51	42.35	40.91	42.03	41.92
Relative RDI	0.91	0.90	0.98	0.99	0.97	1.13	1.04
Latinx							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	16.45	16.67	14.04	11.22	15.29	15.67	20.22
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	11.10	12.16	12.89	13.06	14.80	17.68	19.50
Relative RDI	1.48	1.37	1.09	0.86	1.03	0.89	1.04
Central							
Black							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	39.42	34.91	33.62	28.89	28.24	37.22	29.26
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	35.61	34.07	32.66	30.96	30.70	29.85	27.67
Relative RDI	1.11	1.02	1.03	0.93	0.92	1.25	1.06
White							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	54.79	59.43	59.53	65.46	63.07	55.30	61.18
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	59.24	60.21	61.22	62.41	61.78	62.35	64.23
Relative RDI	0.92	0.99	0.97	1.05	1.02	0.89	0.95
Latinx							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	3.53	3.50	5.24	3.41	3.89	3.78	5.46
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	2.87	3.01	3.03	3.10	3.52	3.79	4.28
Relative RDI	1.23	1.16	1.73	1.10	1.11	1.00	1.28
Multiracial							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	*	*	*	*	3.69	2.87	3.02
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	2.94	3.00	2.93
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	1.25	0.96	1.03

(continues)

Table C.24 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	22.13	18.10	27.89	27.59	17.81	17.73	16.87
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	24.43	23.23	22.66	21.19	20.13	20.35	21.35
Relative RDI	0.91	0.78	1.23	1.30	0.88	0.87	0.79
White							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	74.51	76.72	67.09	68.67	78.78	76.59	76.36
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	72.48	72.67	73.52	73.90	75.19	74.07	73.22
Relative RDI	1.03	1.06	0.91	0.93	1.05	1.03	1.04
Latinx							
Children who achieved reunification (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	3.31
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.55
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.30

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.25 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Adoption

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	41.86	41.30	40.83	34.90	35.41	35.11	32.13
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	46.66	45.21	43.89	41.72	40.61	38.84	37.92
Relative RDI	0.90	0.91	0.93	0.84	0.87	0.90	0.85
White							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	50.83	50.49	50.23	54.22	55.64	54.40	57.96
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.93	43.76	45.29	47.44	47.57	48.18	48.63
Relative RDI	1.18	1.15	1.11	1.14	1.17	1.13	1.19
Latinx							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	5.19	5.35	6.25	7.68	5.84	7.07	6.77
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	8.18	8.66	8.27	8.04	8.88	9.92	10.43
Relative RDI	0.63	0.62	0.76	0.96	0.66	0.71	0.65
Asian American							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Multiracial							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	*	*	1.29	1.68	1.86	2.40	2.32
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	1.44	1.76	1.89	2.03	2.11
Relative RDI	*	*	0.89	0.96	0.98	1.18	1.10
Native American							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.26 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Adoption by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	69.37	70.52	67.59	62.32	68.57	68.47	68.56
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	66.87	66.54	67.08	65.69	63.47	62.47	63.60
Relative RDI	1.04	1.06	1.01	0.95	1.08	1.10	1.08
White							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	15.44	17.92	17.34	17.63	19.05	12.42	10.98
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	17.24	16.79	16.79	18.33	19.05	18.53	16.46
Relative RDI	0.90	1.07	1.03	0.96	1.00	0.67	0.67
Latinx							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	13.16	7.55	12.31	17.39	10.16	17.52	16.67
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	13.71	14.65	14.07	14.05	15.51	17.23	17.95
Relative RDI	0.96	0.52	0.87	1.24	0.65	1.02	0.93
Northern							
Black							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	39.70	36.84	38.48	31.82	38.56	34.75	38.51
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.78	41.53	40.31	41.21	40.83	36.52	35.24
Relative RDI	0.93	0.89	0.95	0.77	0.94	0.95	1.09
White							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	52.26	50.11	48.85	52.87	45.42	51.48	46.89
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	43.46	43.39	43.51	42.35	40.91	42.03	41.92
Relative RDI	1.20	1.15	1.12	1.25	1.11	1.22	1.12
Latinx							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	5.28	9.68	9.91	11.96	12.42	11.15	11.49
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	11.10	12.16	12.89	13.06	14.80	17.68	19.50
Relative RDI	0.48	0.80	0.77	0.92	0.84	0.63	0.59
Central							
Black							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	32.34	35.05	34.51	30.48	28.14	32.44	26.02
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	35.61	34.07	32.66	30.96	30.70	29.85	27.67
Relative RDI	0.91	1.03	1.06	0.98	0.92	1.09	0.94
White							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	65.07	61.21	60.64	62.26	64.73	60.03	67.47
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	59.24	60.21	61.22	62.41	61.78	62.35	64.23
Relative RDI	1.10	1.02	0.99	1.00	1.05	0.96	1.05
Latinx							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	3.18
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	4.28
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.74
Multiracial							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	*	*	*	*	*	3.68	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	3.00	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	1.23	*

(continues)

Table C.26 (continued)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southern							
Black							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	22.18	21.10	20.14	16.41	14.12	15.71	14.65
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	24.43	23.23	22.66	21.19	20.13	20.35	21.35
Relative RDI	0.91	0.91	0.89	0.77	0.70	0.77	0.69
White							
Children who achieved adoption (%)	74.44	73.38	76.68	81.31	83.33	78.10	80.09
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	72.48	72.67	73.52	73.90	75.19	74.07	73.22
Relative RDI	1.03	1.01	1.04	1.10	1.11	1.05	1.09

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.

Table C.27 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Guardianship

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Black							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	43.55	44.12	45.04	45.57	44.41	44.36	38.89
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	46.66	45.21	43.89	41.72	40.61	38.84	37.92
Relative RDI	0.93	0.98	1.03	1.09	1.09	1.14	1.03
White							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	47.58	43.91	41.38	43.10	45.05	44.62	48.22
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.93	43.76	45.29	47.44	47.57	48.18	48.63
Relative RDI	1.11	1.00	0.91	0.91	0.95	0.93	0.99
Latinx							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	7.26	9.66	9.70	9.11	8.63	8.21	10.22
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	8.18	8.66	8.27	8.04	8.88	9.92	10.43
Relative RDI	0.89	1.12	1.17	1.13	0.97	0.83	0.98
Asian American							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Multiracial							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Native American							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pacific Islander							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported.

Table C.28 Relative RDI for Permanence Through Guardianship by Region

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cook							
Black							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	73.02	72.28	72.63	71.93	71.88	72.73	61.63
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	66.87	66.54	67.08	65.69	63.47	62.47	63.60
Relative RDI	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.10	1.13	1.16	0.97
White							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	*	11.58	12.87	*	*	16.28
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	16.79	18.33	*	*	16.46
Relative RDI	*	*	0.69	0.70	*	*	0.99
Latinx							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	13.59	11.05	13.45	*	*	19.77
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	14.65	14.07	14.05	*	*	17.95
Relative RDI	*	0.93	0.79	0.96	*	*	1.10
Northern							
Black							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	52.00	40.18	32.32	*	41.43	42.03	37.88
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	42.78	41.53	40.31	*	40.83	36.52	35.24
Relative RDI	1.22	0.97	0.80	*	1.01	1.15	1.07
White							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	40.00	46.43	44.44	58.82	42.86	46.38	48.48
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	43.46	43.39	43.51	42.35	40.91	42.03	41.92
Relative RDI	0.92	1.07	1.02	1.39	1.05	1.10	1.16
Central							
Black							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	23.93	24.56	32.17	27.27	25.25	21.50
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	34.07	32.66	30.96	30.70	29.85	27.67
Relative RDI	*	0.70	0.75	1.04	0.89	0.85	0.78
White							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	80.90	67.52	67.54	60.87	67.05	66.67	71.96
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	59.24	60.21	61.22	62.41	61.78	62.35	64.23
Relative RDI	1.37	1.12	1.10	0.98	1.09	1.07	1.12
Southern							
Black							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	20.00
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	*	*	*	*	*	*	21.35
Relative RDI	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.94
White							
Children who achieved guardianship (%)	91.23	92.06	80.33	76.81	71.19	74.36	76.19
Children in substitute care during the year (%)	72.48	72.67	73.52	73.90	75.19	74.07	73.22
Relative RDI	1.26	1.27	1.09	1.04	0.95	1.00	1.04

Note. If the number of children is 20 or fewer, the RDI and the percentages used to compute the RDI are masked with an asterisk (*) and are not reported. A racial/ethnic group for a region was not included in the table if the number of children was 20 or fewer across all seven years.



Appendix D

Illinois Child Population Data

Appendix D provides Illinois child population data at the state and regional level for the seven racial/ethnic groups of children used in Chapter 4 – Racial and Ethnic Disproportionality. Illinois child population data were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau.¹ Census data for children ages 0 – 17 were not available at the county level for all the racial/ethnic groups included in Chapter 4. Therefore, Census data for children ages 0 – 19 were used to compute the number and percentage of children in each racial/ethnic group in these tables. The 2021 Illinois child population data were used to calculate RDIs in FY2021 and FY2022. Note that the numbers in the tables are rounded to two decimal places for display purposes.

¹The data source for the Illinois child population from FY2016-2020 was the following:
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. (2020). CC-EST2020-ALLDATA6-17: Annual county resident population estimates by age, sex, 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races), and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019; April, 2020; and July 1, 2020. Retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2020/counties/asrh/>

The data source for the Illinois child population from FY2021-2022 was the following:
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. (2020). CC-EST2021-ALLDATA6-17: Annual county resident population estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021. Retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2020-2021/counties/asrh/>

POPULATION DATA

Table D.1 Illinois Child Population (age 0-19): 2016 – 2022

		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
Black²	Number	507,328	497,620	489,948	482,000	473,699	477,087	477,087
	Percent	15.55	15.43	15.38	15.33	15.29	15.25	15.25
White	Number	1,687,493	1,660,629	1,632,177	1,603,986	1,574,173	1,583,027	1,583,027
	Percent	51.73	51.50	51.23	51.00	50.81	50.59	50.59
Latinx	Number	787,107	782,644	777,846	771,605	762,822	776,232	776,232
	Percent	24.13	24.27	24.41	24.53	24.62	24.81	24.81
Asian American	Number	166,762	169,625	171,199	172,009	171,546	173,845	173,845
	Percent	5.11	5.26	5.37	5.47	5.54	5.56	5.56
Multiracial	Number	107,651	108,759	109,578	110,175	110,516	113,743	113,743
	Percent	3.30	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.63
Native American³	Number	4,620	4,579	4,507	4,472	4,368	4,417	4,417
	Percent	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
Pacific Islander⁴	Number	887	883	882	896	917	942	942
	Percent	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03

¹The 2021 Illinois child population data were used in 2022.

²Black/African American

³Native American/Alaska Native

⁴Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander

Table D.2 Illinois Child Population by Region (age 0-19): 2016 – 2022

		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
Cook								
Black²	Number	322,203	312,724	305,300	298,899	292,167	293,548	293,548
	Percent	25.05	24.66	24.42	24.25	24.08	23.80	23.80
White	Number	396,675	391,885	386,710	381,705	376,515	384,461	384,461
	Percent	30.84	30.91	30.93	30.96	31.04	31.17	31.17
Latinx	Number	449,578	443,506	437,266	430,696	423,024	430,528	430,528
	Percent	34.95	34.98	34.98	34.94	34.87	34.91	34.91
Asian American	Number	81,124	82,760	83,443	83,817	83,461	84,994	84,994
	Percent	6.31	6.53	6.67	6.80	6.88	6.89	6.89
Multiracial	Number	34,977	35,413	35,773	36,035	36,278	38,082	38,082
	Percent	2.72	2.79	2.86	2.92	2.99	3.09	3.09
Native American³	Number	1,495	1,497	1,492	1,475	1,454	1,482	1,482
	Percent	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
Pacific Islander⁴	Number	219	195	200	199	186	178	178
	Percent	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Northern								
Black²	Number	88,098	87,678	87,599	87,035	86,435	87,397	87,397
	Percent	7.87	7.92	8.00	8.06	8.13	8.16	8.16
White	Number	640,162	625,999	611,947	597,768	583,102	582,977	582,977
	Percent	57.21	56.56	55.91	55.34	54.84	54.45	54.45
Latinx	Number	283,600	284,556	285,291	284,998	283,594	288,247	288,247
	Percent	25.35	25.71	26.07	26.39	26.67	26.92	26.92
Asian American	Number	67,583	68,671	69,648	70,187	70,347	71,485	71,485
	Percent	6.04	6.20	6.36	6.50	6.62	6.68	6.68
Multiracial	Number	37,740	38,114	38,335	38,429	38,195	38,844	38,844
	Percent	3.37	3.44	3.50	3.56	3.59	3.63	3.63
Native American³	Number	1,479	1,436	1,415	1,412	1,358	1,378	1,378
	Percent	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13
Pacific Islander⁴	Number	290	292	294	303	323	326	326
	Percent	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Central								
Black²	Number	57,061	57,375	57,317	56,960	56,556	57,821	57,821
	Percent	10.13	10.27	10.37	10.42	10.49	10.66	10.66
White	Number	425,183	419,390	412,794	406,886	400,060	400,413	400,413
	Percent	75.45	75.08	74.72	74.46	74.18	73.85	73.85
Latinx	Number	40,782	41,081	41,580	41,888	41,981	42,976	42,976
	Percent	7.24	7.35	7.53	7.67	7.78	7.93	7.93

(continues)

POPULATION DATA

Table D.2 (continued)

		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
Asian American	Number	15,284	15,389	15,327	15,203	14,933	14,598	14,598
	Percent	2.71	2.75	2.77	2.78	2.77	2.69	2.69
Multiracial	Number	23,910	24,038	24,154	24,218	24,473	25,062	25,062
	Percent	4.24	4.30	4.37	4.43	4.54	4.62	4.62
Native American ³	Number	1,088	1,091	1,051	1,044	1,024	1,033	1,033
	Percent	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
Pacific Islander ⁴	Number	239	243	247	252	272	305	305
	Percent	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06
Southern								
Black ²	Number	39,966	39,843	39,732	39,106	38,541	38,321	38,321
	Percent	13.64	13.67	13.75	13.69	13.65	13.53	13.53
White	Number	225,473	223,355	220,726	217,627	214,496	215,176	215,176
	Percent	76.93	76.65	76.39	76.16	75.98	75.99	75.99
Latinx	Number	13,147	13,501	13,709	14,023	14,223	14,481	14,481
	Percent	4.49	4.63	4.74	4.91	5.04	5.11	5.11
Asian American	Number	2,771	2,805	2,781	2,802	2,805	2,768	2,768
	Percent	0.95	0.96	0.96	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.98
Multiracial	Number	11,024	11,194	11,316	11,493	11,570	11,755	11,755
	Percent	3.76	3.84	3.92	4.02	4.10	4.15	4.15
Native American ³	Number	558	555	549	541	532	524	524
	Percent	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
Pacific Islander ⁴	Number	139	153	141	142	136	133	133
	Percent	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05

¹The 2021 Illinois child population data were used in 2022.

²Black/African American

³Native American/Alaska Native

⁴Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander



Appendix E

Maltreatment Type Definitions

Appendix E presents definitions of the maltreatment types which were used in Box 1.1

MALTREATMENT TYPES

Maltreatment Type	Allegation Number	Allegation Description and Old Allegation Number
Risk of Harm	8	Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare (10)
	31	Substantial Risk of Physical Injury/Environment Injurious to Health and Welfare by Neglect (60)
	86	Substantial risk of physical injury environment injurious to health and welfare - incidents of violence or intimidation (10a)
	87	Substantial risk of physical injury/environment injurious to health and welfare - medical child abuse (Factitious disorder by proxy or Munchausen by proxy syndrome) (10b)
Neglect	24	Death by Neglect (51)
	25	Head Injuries by Neglect (52)
	26	Internal Injuries by Neglect (54)
	27	Burns by Neglect (55)
	28	Poison - Noxious Substances by Neglect (56)
	29	Wounds by Neglect (57)
	30	Bone Fractures by Neglect (59)
	32	Cuts Bruises Welts Abrasions and Oral Injuries by Neglect (61)
	33	Human Bites by Neglect (62)
	34	Sprains/Dislocations by Neglect (63)
	42	Medical Neglect (79)
	43	Failure to Thrive (81)
	45	Malnutrition (83)
	47	Medical Neglect of Disabled Infants (85)
	96	Neglect by Agency (86)
Environmental Neglect	39	Inadequate Food (76)
	40	Inadequate Shelter (77)
	41	Inadequate Clothing (78)
	44	Environmental Neglect (82)
Lack of Supervision/Lock Out	37	Inadequate Supervision (74)
	38	Abandonment/Desertion (75)
	46	Lock Out (84)
	78	Inadequate Supervision - Left Alone at Home, Outside or in the Community (74a)
	79	Inadequate Supervision - Left Alone in Vehicle (74b)
	80	Inadequate Supervision - Left in the Care of an Inadequate Caregiver (74c)
	81	Inadequate Supervision - General Category (74d)
	93	Lock Out – Community Location (84a)
	94	Lock Out – Psychiatrically Hospitalized (84b)
	95	Lock Out – Correctional Facility (84c)
Physical Abuse	1	Death (1)
	2	Head Injuries (2)
	3	Internal Injuries (4)
	4	Burns (5)
	5	Poison Noxious Substances (6)

	6	Wounds (7)
	7	Bone Fractures (9)
	10	Cuts Bruises Welts Abrasions and Oral Injuries (11)
	11	Human Bites (12)
	12	Sprains/Dislocations (13)
Sexual Abuse/ Human Trafficking	17	Sexually Transmitted Diseases (18)
	18	Sexual Penetration (19)
	19	Sexual Exploitation (20)
	20	Sexual Molestation (21)
	21	Substantial Risk of Sexual Abuse - Sex offender has access (22a)
	22	Substantial Risk of Sexual Abuse - Sibling of sex abuse victim (22b)
	23	Substantial Risk of Sexual Abuse - Sexualized behavior of young child (22c)
	75	Substantial Risk of Sexual Abuse - Child Pornography (22d)
	76	Human Trafficking of Children (40)
	77	Human Trafficking of Children by Neglect (90)
	92	Substantial Risk of Sexual Abuse - Suggestive Behavior (22e)
Emotional Abuse	13	Tying/Close Confinement (14)
	15	Torture (16)
	16	Mental Injury (17)
	36	Mental Injury by Neglect (67)
Substance Exposure	14	Substance Misuse (15)
	35	Substance Misuse by Neglect (65)



Appendix F

Data Adjustments

Appendix F describes five data adjustments that were made to the indicators in the *B.H.* monitoring report. They are:

- I. Replacing the term Hispanic with Latinx;
- II. Adjusting the definition of Indicator 2.G (median length of stay in substitute care);
- III. Adjusting the data for Indicators 3.E.1, 3.E.2, 3.F.1, 3.F.2, and 3.F.3 (guardianship within 24/36 months and stability of guardianship at two/five/ten years);
- IV. Changes in indicators in Chapter 4 – Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality; and
- V. Adjusting the definition of a substitute care spell to include the use of legal entry and exit dates.

I. Change from Hispanic to Latinx

The term “Hispanic” has been replaced with "Latinx," the gender-neutral term to describe individuals in the U.S. who have Latin American origins. The term "Hispanic" refers to individuals ethnically identified as of Latin American descent, such as Mexican descent and Puerto Rican descent. The change was made in an attempt to use more inclusive terminology for the culturally, linguistically, and racially diverse population in the United States historically referred to as having a “Hispanic origin.”

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

The definition Indicator 2.G, median length of stay (LOS) in substitute care, was changed. Previously, entry cohorts were used to calculate the median number of months that children/youth spend in substitute care before exiting. In the FY2023 report, the indicator now uses the exit cohort to calculate the median number of months that children spend in care before exiting. See Table F.1 for the definition of the indicator, how the median was computed, and the population used for the calculation.

Table F.1 Changes in the Definition for the Median Length of Stay in Substitute Care Indicator

	Prior to FY2023	FY2023
Definition	The median length of stay in substitute care of all children who <u>entered</u> substitute care during the fiscal year.	The median length of stay in substitute care of all children who <u>exited</u> substitute care during the fiscal year.
Measure	The median represents the length of time in months that it took half of the children who <u>entered</u> substitute care in a fiscal year to exit care or emancipate.	The median represents the length of time in months that it took half of the children who <u>exited</u> substitute care in a fiscal year to exit care or emancipate.
Population	Children 0-17 years old who <u>entered</u> substitute care during the fiscal year.	Children who <u>exited</u> substitute care during the fiscal year. No age limit for the child’s age.

Another change for this indicator was to remove the age restriction of 0-17 and include all children/youth who exit in a given fiscal year regardless of age. If the age is limited to 0-17 years and exit cohorts are used, this excludes youth who exit substitute care by aging out or emancipation, which does not accurately reflect the population of those who exit substitute care.

III. Indicators 3.E.1, 3.E.2, 3.F.1 – 3.F.3: Guardianship within 24/36 Months and Stability of Guardianship at Two/Five/Ten Years

Table F.2 describes how the indicators involving guardianship were changed. Starting in FY2023, children under 18 who exit substitute care to live with relatives are now included in the counts of children who exit to guardianship. This change affects the following indicators:

- Guardianship within 24/36 Months (Indicators 3.E.1 and 3.E.2)
- Stability of Guardianship at Two/Five/Ten Years (Indicators 3.F.1, 3.F.2, and 3.F.3)

Table F.2 Change in Living with Relatives as an Exit Type

	Prior to FY2023	FY2023
Living with relatives as a legal permanence type	If the child exits substitute care and the exit type was “living with relatives,” then the permanence type was coded as living with relatives.	If the child was younger than 18 years old when exiting substitute care and the exit type was “living with relatives,” then the permanence type was coded as guardianship.

IV. Changes in Chapter 4 – Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality

Additional indicators were included and some existing indicators were modified in Chapter 4. The changes and additions are summarized in Table F.3.

Table F.3 Indicator Changes in Chapter 4 – Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality

Indicator	Prior to FY2023	FY2023
D Intact Family Services	The numerator was children who were in an indicated investigation and received intact family services. The denominator for the relative RDI was children who were in an indicated investigation.	The numerator was all children who received intact family services, whether indicated or not. The denominator for the relative RDI was all children who were in investigations.
E Substitute Care Entries	The numerator was children who were in an indicated investigation and entered into substitute care. The denominator for the relative RDI was children who were in an indicated investigation.	The numerator was all children who entered substitute care, whether indicated or not. The denominator for the relative RDI was all children who were in investigations.
F Placement instability		This is a new indicator. Only the relative RDI was computed. For the composition of the RDI, see Appendix A.

DATA ADJUSTMENTS

G Children in Substitute Care 48 Months or More Before Exiting	Entry cohorts were used. Children who remained in substitute care longer than <i>36 months</i> was counted, whether or not children exited to achieve permanence. The denominator for the relative RDI was children with an indicated investigation who stayed in substitute care.	Only the relative RDI was computed and the <u>exit</u> cohorts were used (see F-2 for more details about the data adjustments for this indicator). We counted the children who remained in substitute care for <i>48 months or more</i> and exited substitute care to achieve permanence (i.e., reunification, adoption, and guardianship), and that was used as the numerator. The denominator for the relative RDI was children who were in substitute care during the year.
H Permanence Through Reunification		This is a new indicator. Only the relative RDI was computed. For the definition of the RDI, see Appendix A.
I Permanence Through Adoption		This is a new indicator. Only the relative RDI was computed. For the definition of the RDI, see Appendix A.
J Permanence Through Guardianship		This is a new indicator. Only the relative RDI was computed. For the definition of the RDI, see Appendix A.

V. Legal Spell¹

A legal spell is defined as the period a child is in DCFS legal custody during an open child placement case. In other words, it is the time period that a child *legally* enters substitute care until the child *legally* exits care. For outcome indicators 1.D through 3.L, the child was defined as in substitute care if the child was in legal spell.

Legal custody information was obtained from the “*cftvcm9400*” table in the Child and Youth Centered Information System. From this table, the legal status code and the legal entry and exit dates were used to define the legal spell. If a child’s legal status was “adoptive rights (AR),” “guardianship (GO),” “protective custody (PC),” “surrender both parents (SB),” or “temporary custody with right to consent or without rights to consent (TR TW),” they were defined as being in DCFS legal custody, and the initial date for the child’s legal status was coded as the legal entry date. If the legal status code was “NO (no legal),” then the legal custody ended on the date shown in the *lgl_stat_date* field. There were a small number of cases where the case

¹ This change was first made in FY2022.

closing date was available but there was no information on when legal custody ended. In these situations, it was assumed that DCFS custody ended on the case closing date.

Table F.4 describes how the legal entry and exit dates have been adjusted for each outcome indicator by substitute care cohort type. There are three substitute care cohort types used to generate the outcome indicators from 1.D through 3.L: (a) entry cohort; (b) exit cohort; and (c) cross-sectional counts of active substitute care cases. An entry cohort consists of the children who enter substitute care during a fiscal year and an exit cohort consists of the children who leave substitute care during a fiscal year by achieving legal permanencies (reunification, adoption, guardianship, and living with relatives). The cross-sectional count of active substitute care cases includes children whose cases are open and make up the active caseload during the fiscal year.

Table F.4 Legal Spell Data Adjustments by Substitute Care Cohort Type

Cohort Type	Data Adjustment	Outcome Indicator¹
Entry cohort	The legal substitute care entry date was used to define the beginning of the legal spell. Prior to FY2022, the case opening date was used to define the beginning of the spell.	2.A.1 – 2.A.6, 2.C, 2.E, 2.F, 3.A.1 – 3.A.3, 3.C.1 – 3.C.3, 3.E.1 – 3.E.3, 3.G
Exit cohort	The legal substitute care exit date and the last placement type code were used. Prior to FY2022, the legal substitute care exit date and the last permanency type were used to define reunification; the last placement type only was used to define adoption and guardianship cases.	2.G, 3.B.1 – 3.B.4, 3.D.1 – 3.D.3, 3.F.1 – 3.F.3, 3.J – 3.L
Cross-sectional counts	Both the legal entry and exit dates were used to define the legal spell. Prior to FY2022, the case opening and closing dates were used to define the spell.	1.D, 2.B.1 – 2.B.7, 2.D, 3.H, 3.I

¹See Appendix A for the corresponding list of indicator numbers and definitions.

An additional legal spell data adjustment was applied to the permanency stability outcome indicators, including Indicators 3.B (stability of reunification), 3.D (stability of adoption), and 3.F (stability of guardianship). Prior to FY2022, re-entry into care was counted when the child was placed in one of the following placement types:

- Home of relative;
- Specialized foster home;
- Traditional foster home;
- Group home; and
- Institution (excluding hospital facilities).

With the data adjustment, a child was counted as re-entering substitute care regardless of the placement type as long as the child was back in DCFS legal custody.



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