

## WATCHING THE NUMBERS

A six-year statistical survey monitoring New York City's child welfare system

CITAFFAIRS								
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15		
REPORTS OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT:	65,114	65,731	63,521	59,675	61,798	60,841		
State hotline reports rose since a recent low in FY13.								
PERCENTAGE OF REPORTS SUBSTANTIATED:	41.9	40.1	39.6	39.8	39.5	39.0		
Child protective workers found reason to suspect abust or neglect in two-fifths of reports.								
PENDING RATE:	4.5	4.8	3.9	4.4	5.2	5.2		
The monthly average of new cases per child protective worker has risen in recent years.								
AVERAGE CHILD PROTECTIVE CASELOAD:	9.1	9.4	8.7	8.2	9.8	10.5		
Caseloads have risen markedly since FY13.								
ACS SUPERVISION ORDERED BY FAMILY COURT (PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR):	5,822	4,913	5,180	5,009	5,712	6,158		
The total number of court-ordered supervisions as an outcome of Article 10 filings has risen.								
CHILD FATALITIES IN CASES KNOWN TO ACS (PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR):	39	46	43	50	44	58		
This includes deaths from natural causes, which increased from 4 in 2013 to 19 in 2014.								
PREVENTIVE SERVICES								
FAMILIES RECEIVING ACS-CONTRACTED PREVENTIVE SERVICES (ANNUAL, CUMULATIVE):	23,063	21,535	19,172	20,853	21,039	22,28		
The number of families in preventive programs has risen.								
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN PREVENTIVE CASES (ACTIVE, JUNE):	27,532	23,294	22,952	25,762	25,172	26,12		
The number of children in preventive programs has stablized after a decline.								
PERCENT OF PREVENTIVE CASES REFERRED BY ACS:	64	71	72	72	68	72		
The marjority of cases in preventive services are referred by ACS Child Protective Services.								
FOSTER CARE SERVICES								
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO FOSTER CARE:	7,108	6,313	5,698	4,779	4,501	4,104		
A record low in FY15.								
NUMBER OF CHILDREN DISCHARGED FROM FOSTER CARE:	7,181	7,055	6,453	5,416	4,969	4,250		
Slightly more children were discharged than admitted.								
TOTAL AVERAGE FOSTER CARE POPULATION:	15,895	14,843	13,820	12,958	11,728	11,098		
The number of children in foster care continues to decline.								
MEDIAN LENGTH OF STAY FOR CHILDREN BEFORE RETURN TO PARENTS (MONTHS):	5.3	6.4	5.5	6.8	7.5	6.6		
Children entering foster care for the first time returned home in about 7 - 8 months in FY14.								
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH REUNIFICATION GOAL (PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR):	51.1	51.5	52.1	49.1	48.5	50.0		
About half of the children in foster care at any point in time are expected to return home.								
PERCENTAGE OF SEPARATED SIBLINGS (PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR):	48.1	47.4	47.1	44.7	44.7	45.6		
Fewer than half of siblings in foster care were living apart from one another in 2014.								
RECIDIVISM RATE (%) (PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR):	11.3	12.6	13.6	13.1	13.0	11.6		
This is the percentage of children returning to foster care within one year of discharge.								
PERCENTAGE OF FOSTER CHILDREN IN KINSHIP CARE:	35.0	34.9	35.0	34.4	33.5	32.8		
Kinship care remains about one-third of the foster care system.								
PERCENTAGE OF FOSTER PLACEMENTS IN BOROUGH OF ORIGIN:	58.8	60.5	57.9	60.7	61.6	62.4		
This number includes residential care as well as foster boarding homes.								
PERCENTAGE OF FOSTER PLACEMENTS IN CONTIGUOUS COMMUNITY DISTRICTS:	31.2	35.4	33.5	33.5	33.3	36.8		
The number of childred placed in foster homes close to home remained at one-third of the system.								
ADOPTION SERVICES								
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH ADOPTION AS A GOAL (PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR):	30.3	31.1	30.7	32.4	31.5	29.8		
The percentage of children in care with a goal of adoption has fallen below one-third.								
NUMBER OF FINALIZED ADOPTIONS:	1,165	1,186	1,295	1,310	1,101	1,004		
Nearly one-quarter of children discharged from foster care were adopted in FY14.								
AVERAGE TIME TO COMPLETE ADOPTIONS (YEARS):	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.7		
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