

California Child Welfare Services
Outcome & Accountability County Data Report
(Child Welfare Supervised Caseload)
Kern
October 2004

Quarterly Outcome and Accountability County Data Reports published by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) provide summary level Federal and State program measures that will serve as the basis for the county self-assessment reviews and be used to track State and county performance over time. The initial January 2004 report served as the baseline level of performance for each county and represented the starting point that each county is using to measure improvement. It is important that counties not draw comparisons to performance in other counties or even the State as a whole due to the differences in demographics, resources, and practice. The intent of the new system is for each county, through their self-assessment review based on their data, to determine the reasons for their current level of performance and to develop a plan for measurable improvement.

Assembly Bill (AB) 636 requires a series of measures that provide indicators of key program outcomes, processes, and receipt of critical services. The outcome measures are also, at a minimum, consistent with those outcomes of the federal Child and Family Services Review in that the federal indicators are a subset of the State's indicators under this new system. Under the new Outcomes and Accountability System it is expected that the state will not only improve its performance on the federal indicators but on an even broader set of state enhanced indicators. The data in this report focuses on critical safety, stability, family, and well-being measures that are currently available, and that are provided to counties for on-going assessment of their programs' performance. The data in this report reflects the outcomes for data available through March 31, 2004. Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) included in this document direct the viewer to summary data across counties and breakouts by age, race, gender, and over time. This Outcome and Accountability County Data Report will provide the state with a county-by-county detailed description of each element that comprises the service delivery system.

The data source for these reports is the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS), which became fully operational in all 58 counties on December 31, 1997. Counties are responsible for inputting data on CWS/CMS as part of their process to manage their caseloads of children and families who receive child welfare services. The accuracy of the information derived from CWS/CMS is continuously improving. As with any large automation system it provides a broad range of challenges and benefits as it continues to undergo improvements to keep abreast of the changing child welfare system.

Comparison of data across counties should be done with caution. First, counties may have different data management practices. Though data are recorded on one statewide database system (CWS/CMS), differences in data entry and update may influence outcome measures reported here. Second, the social and economic contexts within

which child welfare services are provided vary widely among the fifty-eight counties of California.

In this report data measures have been grouped into the four general categories of information: Child Welfare Services Participation Rates; Safety Outcomes; Permanency Outcomes; and Child and Family Well-Being Outcomes. The data for these categories are presented as follows:

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES PARTICIPATION RATES

This section provides data on the number, and number per 1,000 children in the county/state, for key child welfare indicators. It is intended as background information to assist your county in analyzing your county's performance by the outcome indicators. This section was developed by the University of California, Berkeley (UCB). These numbers and rates are updated once per year. Please note: Population projections have been revised using California Department of Finance data. This revision affects reported population numbers and the denominator of rate calculations.

Number of children < 18 in population

Population projections from California Department of Finance (based on the 2000 U.S. Census).

Year	Number
2003 (revised)	219,040
2002 (revised)	215,665

Number and rate of children with referrals

Unduplicated count of child clients < age 18 in referrals during the indicated year, per 1,000 children < age 18 in population

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Referrals/rates.asp#countyrate>

Year	Number	Rate
2003 (rate revised)	17,681	80.7 per 1,000
2002 (rate revised)	18,377	85.2 per 1,000

Number and rate of children with substantiated referrals

Unduplicated count of child clients < age 18 in referrals during the indicated year that had substantiated allegations, per 1,000 children < age 18 in population

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Referrals/rates.asp#countyrate>

Year	Number	Rate
2003 (rate revised)	4,930	22.5 per 1,000
2002 (rate revised)	5,268	24.4 per 1,000

Number and rate of first entries

Unduplicated count of children < age 18 entering a child welfare supervised placement episode of at least five days duration for the first time during the indicated year, per 1,000 children < age 18 in population

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/firstentries/Rates.asp>

Year	Number	Rate
2003 (rate revised)	1,233	5.6 per 1,000
2002 (rate revised)	1,252	5.8 per 1,000

Number and rate of children in care

Number of children < age 19 in child welfare supervised foster care on the indicated date, per 1,000 children < age 19 in population.

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Pointintime/fostercare/childwel/prevalence.asp>

Date	Number	Rate
Jul 1, 2003 (rate revised)	3,079	13.3 per 1,000

SAFETY OUTCOMES

These measures are designed to reflect the effectiveness of efforts to protect children from abuse/neglect by reporting instances of abuse and neglect at various stages of child welfare services and process measures which reflect the frequency of social worker contact with children and the speed of face-to-face investigation of abuse/neglect allegations.

Recurrence of Maltreatment (1A and 1B)

This measure reflects the percent of children who were victims of child abuse/neglect with a subsequent substantiated report of abuse/neglect within specific time periods. It is both a state and federal outcome measure. This measure was developed by UCB. Since the methodology for computing the number of children with repeat maltreatment has been changed, all previously reported time periods have been revised for 1A and both 1B indicators.

Federal: Of all children with a substantiated allegation within the first six months of the 12-month study period, what percent had another substantiated allegation within six months? (limited to dispositions within the study year, according to federal guidelines).

URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cfsrdata/standards/cfsr_recurrence.asp

1A. Percent recurrence of maltreatment (Fed)	
12-month study period	
04/01/03-03/31/04	10.0%
01/01/03-12/31/03 (revised)	11.1%
10/01/02-09/30/03 (revised)	12.5%
07/01/02-06/30/03 (revised)	13.8%

State: Of all children with a substantiated referral during the 12-month study period, what percent had a subsequent substantiated referral within 12 months?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Referrals/recurrence.asp>

1B. Percent recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months	
12-month study period	
04/01/02-03/31/03	18.4%
01/01/02-12/31/02 (revised)	18.6%
10/01/01-09/30/02 (revised)	18.1%
07/01/01-06/30/02 (revised)	17.9%

State: Of all children with a *first* substantiated referral during the 12-month study period, what percent had a subsequent substantiated referral within 12 months?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Referrals/recurrence.asp>

1B. Percent recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months after first substantiated allegation	
12-month study period	
04/01/02-03/31/03	15.9%
01/01/02-12/31/02 (revised)	15.8%
10/01/01-09/30/02 (revised)	15.8%
07/01/01-06/30/02 (revised)	15.6%

Rate of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (1C)

This measure reflects the percent of children in foster care who are abused or neglected while in foster care placement (currently limited due to data constraints to children in foster or FFA homes). This data was developed by UCB. It is a federal outcome measure.

For all children in county supervised or Foster Family Agency child welfare supervised foster care during the nine-month review period (timeframe established according to federal guidelines), what percent had a substantiated allegation by a foster parent during that time?

URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cfsrdata/standards/cfsr_abuse.asp

1C. Percent rate of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care (Fed)	
Nine-month review period	
07/01/03-03/31/04	0.71%
04/01/03-12/31/03	1.05%
01/01/03-09/30/03	0.92%
10/01/02-06/30/03	0.64%

Rate of Recurrence of Abuse and/or Neglect in Homes Where Children Were Not Removed (2A)

This measure reflects the occurrence of abuse and/or neglect of children who remain in their own homes. This data was developed by CDSS. It is a state outcome measure. Since the methodology for computing the number of children with repeat maltreatment has been changed, all previously reported time periods have been revised.

Of all the children with allegation (inconclusive or substantiated) during the 12-month study period who were not removed, what percent had a subsequent substantiated allegation within 12 months?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Ccfsr.asp#2A>

2A. Percent rate of recurrence of abuse/neglect in homes where children were not removed	
12-month study period	
04/01/02-03/31/03	13.9%
01/01/02-12/31/02 (revised)	14.8%
10/01/01-09/30/02 (revised)	14.4%
07/01/01-06/30/02 (revised)	14.8%

Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals with a Timely Response (2B)

This is a process measure designed to determine the percent of cases in which face-to-face contact with a child occurs, or is attempted, within the regulatory time frames in those situations in which a determination is made that the abuse or neglect allegations indicate significant danger to the child. This data was developed by CDSS. It is a state process measure.

Percent of child abuse and neglect referrals in the study quarter that have resulted in an in-person investigation stratified by immediate response and ten-day referrals, for both planned and actual visits.

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Ccfsr.asp#2B>

2B. Percent of child abuse/neglect referrals with a timely response	Immediate Response Compliance	10-Day Response Compliance
Q1 2004	97.0%	94.1%
Q4 2003	94.7%	95.4%
Q3 2003	96.7%	93.1%
Q2 2003	95.8%	92.4%

Timely Social Worker Visits With Child (2C)

This is a process measure designed to determine if social workers are seeing the children on a monthly basis when that is required. Children for whom a determination is made that monthly visits are not necessary (e.g. valid visit exception) are not included in this measure. This data was developed by CDSS. It is a state process measure. This report is based on CWS/CMS only. (Other data analysis measurements such as the SafeMeasures application may provide different results.)

Of all children who required a monthly social worker visit, how many received a monthly visit?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Ccfsr.asp#2C>

2C. Percent of timely social worker visits with child			
Q1 2004	Jan 2004 88.4% (revised 11/16/04)	Feb 2004 89.0%	Mar 2004 89.8%
Q4 2003	Oct 2003 86.7%	Nov 2003 87.4%	Dec 2003 87.9%
Q3 2003	Jul 2003 86.8%	Aug 2003 87.4%	Sep 2003 87.9%
Q2 2003	Apr 2003 86.5%	May 2003 87.0%	Jun 2003 87.9%

PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

These measures are designed to reflect the number of foster care placements for each child, the length of time a child is in foster care, and the rate that children re-enter foster care after they have returned home or other permanent care arrangements have been made.

Length of Time to Exit Foster Care to Reunification (3E and 3A)

This is an outcome measure reflecting the percent of children reunified within 12 months of removal of a child from the home. The data was developed by UCB. It is a federal and state outcome measure.

Federal: Of all children who were reunified from child welfare supervised foster care during the 12-month study period, what percent had been in care for less than 12 months?

URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cfsrdata/standards/cfsr_standardsForm.asp

3E. Percent reunified within 12 months (Fed)	
12-month study period	
04/01/03-03/31/04	74.5%
01/01/03-12/31/03	76.7%
10/01/02-09/30/03	79.7%
07/01/02-06/30/03	81.4%

State: For all children who entered foster care for the first time (and stayed at least five days) during the 12-month study period, what percent were reunified within 12 months?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/exits/>

3A. Percent reunified within 12 months (entry cohort)	
12-month study period	
04/01/02-03/31/03	32.2%
01/01/02-12/31/02	32.0%
10/01/01-09/30/02	33.9%
07/01/01-06/30/02	36.0%

Length of Time to Exit Foster Care to Adoption (3D and 3A)

This is an outcome measure reflecting the percent of children adopted within 24 months of removal of a child from the home. The data was developed by UCB. It is a federal and state outcome measure.

Federal: Of all children who were adopted from child welfare supervised foster care during the 12-month study period, what percent had been in care for less than 24 months?

URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cfsrdata/standards/cfsr_standardsForm.asp

3D. Percent adopted within 24 months (Fed)	
12-month study period	
04/01/03-03/31/04	33.3%
01/01/03-12/31/03	35.6%
10/01/02-09/30/03	33.3%
07/01/02-06/30/03	34.5%

State: For all children who entered child welfare supervised foster care for the first time (and stayed at least five days) during the 12-month study period, what percent were adopted within 24 months?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/exits/>

3A. Percent adopted within 24 months (entry cohort)	
12-month study period	
04/01/01-03/31/02	6.5%
01/01/01-12/31/01	6.2%
10/01/00-09/30/01	5.8%
07/01/00-06/30/01	5.9%

Multiple Foster Care Placements (3B and 3C)

These measures reflect the number of children with multiple placements within 12 months of placement. This data was developed by UCB. It is a federal and state outcome measure.

Federal: For all children in child welfare supervised foster care for less than 12 months during the 12-month study period, what percent had no more than two placements?

URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cfsrdata/standards/cfsr_standardsForm.asp

3B. Percent with 1-2 placements within 12 months (Fed)	
12-month study period	
04/01/03-03/31/04	82.5%
01/01/03-12/31/03	80.8%
10/01/02-09/30/03	81.6%
07/01/02-06/30/03	81.6%

State: For all children who entered child welfare supervised foster care for the first time (and stayed at least five days) during the 12-month study period, and were in care for 12 months, what percent had no more than two placements?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cohorts/stability/>

3C. Percent with 1-2 placements – if still in care at 12 months (entry cohort)	
12-month study period	
04/01/02-03/31/03	51.7%
01/01/02-12/31/02	54.9%
10/01/01-09/30/02	57.8%
07/01/01-06/30/02	58.3%

Rate of Foster Care Re-Entry (3F and 3G)

This measure reflects the number of children who re-enter foster care subsequent to reunification or guardianship. The data was developed by UCB. It is a federal and state outcome measure.

Federal: For all children who entered child welfare supervised foster care during the 12-month study period, what percent were subsequent entries within 12 months of a prior exit?

URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cfsrdata/standards/cfsr_standardsForm.asp

3F. Percent of admissions who are re-entries (Fed)	
12-month study period	
04/01/03-03/31/04	13.0%
01/01/03-12/31/03	12.2%
10/01/02-09/30/03	11.5%
07/01/02-06/30/03	11.2%

State: For all children who entered child welfare supervised foster care for the first time (and stayed at least five days) during the 12-month study period and were reunified within 12 months of entry, what percent re-entered foster care within 12 months of reunification?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/reentries/>

3G. Percent who re-entered within 12 months of reunification (entry cohort reunified within 12 months)	
12-month study period	
04/01/01-03/31/02	14.8%
01/01/01-12/31/01	16.3%
10/01/00-09/30/01	16.4%
07/01/00-06/30/01	18.2%

CHILD & FAMILY WELL-BEING OUTCOMES

These measures are designed to reflect the degree to which children in foster care retain relationships with the family and extended communities with whom they are associated at the time of their removal from their parents

Siblings Placed Together in Foster Care (4A)

These measures reflect the number of children placed with all or some of their siblings in foster care. The data was developed by UCB. It is a state outcome measure.

For all children in child welfare supervised foster care on the point-in-time, of those with siblings in care, what percent were placed with some and/or all of their siblings?

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/pointintime/fostercare/childwel/siblings.asp>

4A. Percent of children in foster care that are placed with ALL siblings	
Point-in-time	
Apr 1, 2004	37.4%
Jan 1, 2004	39.2%
Oct 1, 2003	38.1%
Jul 1, 2003	39.3%

4A. Percent of children in foster care that are placed with SOME or ALL siblings	
Point-in-time	
Apr 1, 2004	63.4%
Jan 1, 2004	64.2%
Oct 1, 2003	64.2%
Jul 1, 2003	66.9%

Foster Care Placement in Least Restrictive Settings (4B)

This measure reflects the percent of children placed in each type of foster care setting. The data was developed by UCB. It is a state outcome measure.

For all children who entered child welfare supervised foster care for the first time (and stayed at least five days) during the 12-month study period, what percent were in kin, foster, FFA, group, and other placements (first placement type, predominant placement type)? What percent of children in child welfare supervised foster care were in kin, foster, FFA, group, and other placements at the specified point in time?

URL: (entry cohort) <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/cohorts/firstentries/>

URL: (point in time) <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/pointintime/fostercare/childwel/ageandethnic.asp>

	Initial Placement	Primary Placement	Point in Time (PIT) Placement
	04/01/03-03/31/04	04/01/03-03/31/04	Apr 1, 2004
4B. Relative	12.1%	37.5%	36.0%
4B. Foster Home	75.9%	36.0%	19.3%
4B. FFA	9.3%	22.4%	21.0%
4B. Group/Shelter	2.2%	1.9%	5.5%
4B. Other	0.6%	2.2%	18.2%

	Initial Placement	Primary Placement	PIT Placement
	01/01/03-12/31/03	01/01/03-12/31/03	Jan 1, 2004
4B. Relative	11.7%	40.6%	36.7%
4B. Foster Home	75.9%	31.8%	19.7%
4B. FFA	9.6%	22.8%	21.6%
4B. Group/Shelter	1.9%	1.7%	5.2%
4B. Other	0.9%	3.1%	16.8%

	Initial Placement	Primary Placement	PIT Placement
	10/01/02-09/30/03	10/01/02-09/30/03	Oct 1, 2003
4B. Relative	12.2%	38.4%	35.7%
4B. Foster Home	74.6%	33.2%	21.1%
4B. FFA	10.6%	24.0%	20.9%
4B. Group/Shelter	2.0%	2.1%	5.5%
4B. Other	0.6%	2.4%	16.9%

	Initial Placement	Primary Placement	PIT Placement
	07/01/02-06/30/03	07/01/02-06/30/03	Jul 1, 2003
4B. Relative	11.9%	35.5%	36.8%
4B. Foster Home	74.9%	32.3%	21.3%
4B. FFA	10.7%	27.2%	21.0%
4B. Group/Shelter	2.0%	1.8%	5.4%
4B. Other	0.6%	3.1%	15.5%

****Rate of ICWA Placement Preferences (4E)**

4E (1) Of those children identified as American Indian, what percent were placed with relatives, non-relative Indian families and non-relative non-Indian families? This data was developed by CDSS. It is a state outcome measure.

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Ccfsr.asp#4E>

Q1 2004	
4E. Relative Home	48.3%
4E. Non-Relative Indian Family	0.0%
4E. Non-Relative Non-Indian Family	44.8%

Q4 2003	
4E. Relative Home	61.5%
4E. Non-Relative Indian Family	0.0%
4E. Non-Relative Non-Indian Family	38.5%

Q3 2003	
4E. Relative Home	57.1%
4E. Non-Relative Indian Family	0.0%
4E. Non-Relative Non-Indian Family	42.9%

Q2 2003	
4E. Relative Home	58.3%
4E. Non-Relative Indian Family	0.0%
4E. Non-Relative Non-Indian Family	41.7%

4E (2) This measure reflects the percent of Indian Child Welfare Act eligible children placed in foster care settings defined by the ICWA. This data was developed by CDSS. It is a state outcome measure.

URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Ccfsr.asp#4E>

Q1 2004	
4E. Relative Home	67.9%
4E. Non-Relative Indian Family	0.0%
4E. Non-Relative Non-Indian Family	32.1%

****Measure 4E(2)** was recently developed to reflect percent of ICWA eligible placement types. For county information only.

Children Transitioning to Self-Sufficient Adulthood (8A)

These measures are designed to reflect the degree to which children and families receiving child welfare services are receiving the services necessary to provide for their care and developmental needs.

This measure reflects the percent of foster children eligible for Independent Living Services who receive appropriate educational and training, and/or achieve employment or economic self-sufficiency. The data was collected by CDSS. This measure includes data regarding youths, ages 16 through 20, who receive services from the Independent Living Foster Care Program. It identifies the number of youths receiving Independent Living Program services, the program outcomes for those youths, and certain client characteristics. This report is limited to a subset population obtained from State of California form 405A. It is a state outcome measure.

This data is based on hard copy reports submitted by counties to the CDSS for the time period covered by the report. These numbers are updated once per year.

URL: http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/research/SOC405A-In_415.htm

Number of Children Transitioning to Self-Sufficient Adulthood with:

10/01/02-9/30/03	
8A. High School Diploma	73
8A. Enrolled in College/Higher Education	24
8A. Received ILP Services	537
8A. Completed Vocational Training	28
8A. Employed or other means of support	63

10/01/01-09/30/02	
8A. High School Diploma	70
8A. Enrolled in College/Higher Education	33
8A. Received ILP Services	539
8A. Completed Vocational Training	0
8A. Employed or other means of support	81