



# CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEWS

## Indiana

# FINAL REPORT

# 2023



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**  
Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
Children's Bureau

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# Final Report: Indiana Child and Family Services Review

## INTRODUCTION

This document presents the findings of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) for the state of Indiana. The CFSRs enable the Children's Bureau (CB) to: (1) ensure conformity with certain federal child welfare requirements; (2) determine what is happening to children and families as they are engaged in child welfare services; and (3) assist states in enhancing their capacity to help children and families achieve positive outcomes. Federal law and regulations authorize the CB, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, to administer the review of child and family services programs under titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. The CFSRs are structured to help states identify strengths and areas needing improvement in their child welfare practices and programs as well as institute systemic changes that will improve child and family outcomes.

The findings for Indiana are based on:

- The Statewide Assessment, prepared by the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) and submitted to the CB on January 31, 2023. The Statewide Assessment is the state's analysis of its performance on outcomes and the functioning of systemic factors in relation to title IV-B and IV-E requirements and the title IV-B Child and Family Services Plan.
- The August 2022 State Data Profile, prepared by the CB, which provides the state's Risk-Standardized Performance (RSP) compared to national performance on 7 statewide data indicators.
- The results of case reviews of 65 cases [40 foster care and 25 in-home], conducted via a State-Led Review process statewide in Indiana during April-September 2023, examining case practices occurring during April 2022 through September 2023.
- Interviews and focus groups with state stakeholders and partners, which included:
  - Attorneys representing the agency and parents
  - Court Appointed Special Advocates
  - Child welfare caseworkers and supervisors
  - Child welfare contractors/service providers
  - Judges/judicial officers, and representatives from the court system, juvenile justice department/probation staff, Court Improvement Project/court system, and Indiana Office of Court Services
  - Foster/adoptive parents and relative caregivers
  - Parents
  - Youth
  - Tribal leadership and representatives from Tribes
  - Foster/adoptive parent licensing staff and training staff
  - Child welfare regional management
  - Child welfare director/local office directors, chief of staff, deputy directors, and assistant deputy directors

## Background Information

The Round 4 CFSR assesses state performance with regard to substantial conformity with 7 child and family outcomes and 7 systemic factors. Each outcome incorporates 1 or more of the 18 items included in the case review, and each item is rated as a Strength or Area Needing Improvement based on an evaluation of certain child welfare practices and processes in the cases reviewed in the state. With two exceptions, an item is assigned an overall rating of Strength if 90% or more of the applicable cases reviewed were rated as a Strength. Because Item 1 is the only item for Safety Outcome 1 and Item 16 is the only item for Well-Being Outcome 2, the requirement of a 95% Strength rating applies to those items. For a state to be in substantial

conformity with a particular outcome, 95% or more of the cases reviewed must be rated as having substantially achieved the outcome. In addition, for Safety Outcome 1 and Permanency Outcome 1, the state’s RSP on applicable statewide data indicators must be better than or no different than national performance. This determination for substantial conformity is based on the data profile transmitted to the state to signal the start of that state’s CFSR. The state’s RSP in subsequent data profiles will be factored into the determination of indicators required to be included in the state’s Program Improvement Plan (PIP).

Eighteen items are considered in assessing the state’s substantial conformity with the 7 systemic factors. Each item reflects a key federal program requirement relevant to the Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) for that systemic factor. An item is rated as a Strength or an Area Needing Improvement based on how well the item-specific requirement is functioning. A determination of the rating is based on information provided by the state to demonstrate the functioning of the systemic factor in the Statewide Assessment and, as needed, from interviews with stakeholders and partners. For a state to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factors, no more than 1 of the items associated with the systemic factor can be rated as an Area Needing Improvement. For systemic factors that have only 1 item associated with them, that item must be rated as a Strength for a determination of substantial conformity. An overview of the pathways to substantial conformity for the CFSR outcomes and systemic factors is in Appendix B of the Round 4 *CFSR Procedures Manual*.

The CB made several changes to the CFSR process, items, and indicators that are relevant to evaluating performance, based on lessons learned during the third round of reviews. As such, a state’s performance in the fourth round of the CFSRs may not be directly comparable to its performance in the third round.

## I. SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE

### Indiana 2023 CFSR Assessment of Substantial Conformity for Outcomes and Systemic Factors

The CB has established high standards of performance for the CFSR based on the belief that because child welfare agencies work with our country’s most vulnerable children and families, only the highest standards of performance should be considered acceptable. The high standards ensure ongoing attention to achieving positive outcomes for children and families regarding safety, permanency, and well-being. This is consistent with the CFSR’s goal of promoting continuous improvement in performance on these outcomes. A state must develop and implement a PIP to address the areas of concern identified for each outcome or systemic factor for which the state is found not to be in substantial conformity. The CB recognizes that the kinds of systemic and practice changes necessary to bring about improvement in some outcome areas often take time to implement. The results of this CFSR are intended to serve as the basis for continued improvement efforts addressing areas where a state still needs to improve.

Table 1 provides a quick reminder of how case review items and statewide data indicators are combined to assess substantial conformity on each outcome:

**Table 1. Outcomes, Case Review Items, and Statewide Data Indicators**

Outcome	Case Review Item(s)	Statewide Data Indicators
Safety Outcome 1	Item 1	Maltreatment in foster care Recurrence of maltreatment
Safety Outcome 2	Items 2 and 3	N/A
Permanency Outcome 1	Items 4, 5, and 6	Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12–23 months Permanency in 12 months for children in care 24 months or more

Outcome	Case Review Item(s)	Statewide Data Indicators
		Reentry to foster care in 12 months Placement stability
Permanency Outcome 2	Items 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11	N/A
Well-Being Outcome 1	Items 12, 13, 14, and 15	N/A
Well-Being Outcome 2	Item 16	N/A
Well-Being Outcome 3	Items 17 and 18	N/A

Indiana was found in substantial conformity with none of the 7 outcomes.

The following 1 of the 7 systemic factors was found to be in substantial conformity:

- Agency Responsiveness to the Community

## CB Comments on State Performance

In its Round 3 CFSR in 2016, Indiana was not in substantial conformity with any of the CFSR outcomes and was in substantial conformity with one systemic factor: Agency Responsiveness to the Community. Indiana entered into a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) to address the areas of nonconformity and successfully completed implementation of its PIP. In Round 4, Indiana conducted a State-Led Review in April through September 2023. As with Round 3, in Round 4 Indiana is not in substantial conformity with any of the outcomes and is in substantial conformity with one systemic factor: Agency Responsiveness to the Community.

The Round 4 CFSR case review results identified practices that Indiana put into place during its Round 3 PIP and that can continue to be built upon in its Round 4 PIP toward achievement of substantial conformity with the CFSR outcomes and systemic factors. Additionally, during CFSR Round 3, Indiana implemented a safety staffing process and used resources for staff recruitment and retention to reduce the number of cases that each family case manager holds.

Indiana case reviews consistently reveal strong performance on placement stability, as well as placement with siblings, and the state shows similar strength for the placement stability statewide data indicator. Statewide performance on that indicator is better than national performance. While data from both case reviews and the statewide data indicators demonstrate strong placement stability practices overall, the case review and stakeholder interview results surfaced some practice concerns that could affect performance. For example, findings indicated that the state lacks placements for youth with high needs. There are waitlists to get into residential facilities, and some youth are staying in emergency shelters, offices, or houses where they are supervised by Family Case Managers. Further, the state frequently uses non-contracted placements that are not entered into the system, and this consequently makes it difficult for staff to easily locate these children or track their placements in the state's data. Finally, stakeholders noted that additional training for foster parents about appropriate expectations regarding children in care might reduce placement disruptions.

Indiana also demonstrated solid performance in assessing and meeting the educational needs of children. Both assessment and appropriately addressing services for educational needs were rated highly but were much higher for foster care cases than in-home cases. Case reviews also indicated that the state collaborated with schools, supported the development of Individualized Education Plans, and monitored school performance.

In the areas of Safety Outcomes 1 and 2 for the applicable cases reviewed, the state struggled with initiating and making face-to-face contact with children in accepted child maltreatment reports within the timeframes established by agency policy. Improving initiation and responsiveness to maltreatment reports categorized with a 24-hour response time and assessing all children in the family may improve this outcome. Further, improving the thoroughness of risk/safety and needs assessments will set the foundation for addressing needs through appropriate services. Additional focus on safety/risk assessments for in-home cases where performance was

lower in the cases reviewed and at critical junctures in the case will improve performance and enhance safety for children and families.

Current indicators for maltreatment in care and recurrence of maltreatment suggest that the state is performing statistically worse than national performance. While the state believes that data entry issues affect performance on this metric, until data problems are identified and corrected, current performance remains unknown. Addressing data issues will both provide a clear picture of performance and help the state and partners understand if, and the extent to which, there are safety concerns for children who are receiving care and attention from the state. It is also important to note from the case reviews that there were a few cases where allegations about the family were not formally reported and assessed, and additionally, allegations not substantiated that should have been substantiated were found. The state must also target lower performance in in-home cases regarding safety practices to ensure that all allegations are formally reported and investigated while also working to refine caseworker skills so those cases meeting the criterion for substantiation are substantiated. Further, the review also found that once the case was investigated and needs and services were identified, there were gaps in time prior to initiating services, which must be addressed.

Parent engagement is foundational for improving safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children and families involved in the Indiana child welfare system. Improving worker engagement with parents is a cross-cutting concern that when achieved can affect a variety of practices assessed in specific case review items such as Item 8, Visiting With Parents and Siblings in Foster Care; Item 10, Relative Placement; Item 11, Relationship of Child in Care With Parents; Item 12B, Needs Assessment and Services to Parents; Item 13, Case Planning; and Item 15, Caseworker Visits With Parents, as well as (systemic factor) Item 20, Written Case Plan, which ensures that each child has a written case plan that is developed jointly with the child's parent(s) and includes the required provisions. Together these items show lower performance with fathers than mothers; incarcerated fathers appear to be a subset of fathers who require specific attention and improved engagement. Family engagement will be a key practice area to address in Indiana's PIP. Improving how caseworkers assess parents' needs, ensure they are provided necessary services, and engage them in case planning is critical to achieving better outcomes. Requiring and strengthening the capacity of caseworkers to build relationships with parents through regular, quality visits is also a cornerstone of child welfare practice that affects safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes. Improving both quantity and quality of visits will need to be reinforced through its inclusion in the state's PIP, as well as continued collaboration with legal and judicial system partners to understand and resolve any difficulties that contribute to parents not being fully engaged in case planning and the achievement of case plan goals.

Strong collaboration between the agency and legal and judicial system partners is essential for moving children and families toward timely and appropriate permanency. The three statewide indicators for Permanency in 12 months (entries, 12–23 months, and 24+ months) show that Indiana's performance is statistically better than national performance. Also, in many cases reviewed, the initial permanency goal was established timely and was appropriate to the case circumstances, which is a positive practice. However, in some cases the permanency goal was not changed timely given the child's age, case circumstances, and need for permanency. Often there was not a concurrent goal in place, which may have provided for earlier permanency rather than having the one permanency goal ruled out before an alternative goal was identified.

While practices regarding the achievement of timely permanency were mixed, there were many cases where efforts to achieve the permanency goal of reunification were made, and most of these cases were open for under a year. However, in several cases, it took years to achieve the permanency goal (whether it was reunification, adoption, or guardianship), which may have resulted in children and youth spending a longer amount of time in foster care than necessary. There were delays in increasing visitation to make progress toward a trial home visit; issues with securing appropriate mental health and behavioral services to address the child's needs; termination of parental rights (TPR) occurring at different times for the mother and father; delays in the trial court or appellate court issuing the final TPR order; and delays in finalizing the adoption once a child was legally free. Additionally, in several cases a petition for TPR was filed when the child had been in care for the most recent 15 out of 22 months, and a motion to dismiss was shortly filed thereafter documenting the compelling reason not to file, which is required by state statute. This process should be explored further, because while it generally ensures the timely filing of TPR petitions in accordance with federal provisions, it

creates extra work for the agency and judges when efforts are needed to achieve timely permanency and there is a compelling reason not to file a petition.

It is necessary for the agency and the legal and judicial systems to clearly identify the key factors that support and impede the achievement of timely and appropriate permanency for children and families and to develop strategies that will effectively address barriers. This should be an area of focus in the PIP, along with ensuring timely periodic reviews and permanency hearings. The Statewide Assessment revealed challenges with initial and subsequent periodic reviews, and initial and subsequent permanency hearings that were not occurring timely across the state.

Indiana was not in substantial conformity with the Service Array systemic factor; however, the Indiana Family Preservation Services' Service Hub model appears promising. Some children are involved in the juvenile justice system and ordered into out-of-home care, which means they are in the placement and care of DCS. Probation officers can also refer youth on probation and their families to Indiana's Family Preservation Services to assist the family and reduce the number of such youth being removed from the home. The Service Hub model is available to provide family preservation services for both in-home and probation cases. This Hub is an online system that shows real-time service openings and capacity. Although theoretically all service needs can be met and there are no indicated wait lists in the Hub, stakeholders indicated that the system does not create wait lists when services are unavailable. This means that there is no clear record for demand that exceeds the supply of services, and also requires that workers continually check back for services. This practice relies on the family case manager to repeatedly call providers and try to find available services. Alternatively, the caseworker is asked to take down the referral, leaving some families without services and creating a situation where the lack of service is not seen in the data. Stakeholders also discussed significant gaps in services in the following areas: lack of therapists, which is particularly challenging for high acuity children; wait lists for medication management; delays in the initiation of services after assessment; lack of transportation; and overall lack of mental health services, especially in rural parts of the state. There were also gaps in individualization of services as they tended not to be tailored to individual needs, such as the child or families' language and developmental needs. For the case reviews, needs and services related to parents were lowest rated in Item 12, followed by needs and services to foster parents, with needs and services to children rated highest. Performance on Item 18, which looks at the extent to which the mental and behavioral health needs of children are met, was also low. Delays in initiation of services contributed to lower ratings overall; improvement may be seen with increased refinement of the worker's ability to engage in difficult conversations, meet with children and parents alone, and attend to medication management needs. Increasing engagement with children and parents will assist caseworkers in their assessments, allow them to match services that target the assessments, and provide for increased engagement in case planning, so when services are offered to children and families, they will be more inclined to participate in services rather than reject them. The state must also further explore the Service Hub model to understand areas where it may not be operating as anticipated and work through those difficulties so staff can either understand the model better or work within an improved model to obtain the needed services for their families.

The state continues to struggle with probation cases as noted in Indiana's Round 3 Final Report. Probation staff lack data to ensure that staff are adequately trained in a variety of aspects of child welfare matters. There were probation cases that lacked initial and ongoing assessments, efforts to locate parents, insufficient quality and quantity of visits with children, and insufficient visits with parents. Further, probation caseworkers manually entered case plan goals into two systems, which created data inaccuracies. Even with two systems, state probation cases often lacked data on case planning and hearing quality, timeliness of periodic and permanency hearings, and initial and ongoing training.

The Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews revealed that the state struggles with data integrity and lacks complete, accurate, and reliable data. Given the degree of data quality challenges, the state's PIP will need to focus on this concern so there can be a full analysis of the state's progress and challenges. Data challenges were noted with the statewide information system; the judicial branch faces data challenges in accurately tracking the timeliness of periodic reviews and permanency hearings due to data entry errors; errors in the tracking of the filing of TPR petitions in accordance with federal law; there was no ability to track whether foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers were given notice of periodic reviews and

permanency hearings, and whether the notice included the caregivers' right to be heard; ongoing training; and quality of training.

As Indiana begins its work to develop a PIP and understand the root causes of some of the challenges the system is confronting, it will be important to identify, consider, and critically analyze any evidence of disparities in services and/or outcomes among those served by the state child welfare system. Following that analysis, the state may propose solutions to decision-making processes, programs, and policies that may be contributing to inequities in services and outcomes. Indiana's Quality Assurance System and processes will have an important role in collecting and analyzing data needed to examine contributing factors and underlying causes of practice and systems concerns, and to identify strengths to build upon in making improvements.

As Indiana begins to organize itself to address the concerns that have been highlighted in the CF SR, the state is encouraged to engage its legal/judicial partners, Tribes, parents, youth, and other community partners, which will be a foundation for this work, and to look to further engage people with lived experience in the process of PIP development to ensure that any systemic change is meaningful across the state. Involving partners and stakeholders in a collaborative way has been shown to contribute to authentic and lasting change for those experiencing the child welfare system.

## Equity Observations and Considerations

Ensuring that child welfare is serving all people equitably and with respect for all individuals is essential to the work in child welfare and is a focused priority at the Children's Bureau. To create a system that is effective and equitable for all, states must pay particular attention to variation in performance metrics because disparity in outcomes could signal inequity that should be explored and addressed. During Round 4 of the CF SR, there is a focus on using data and evidence to identify disparities in services and outcomes; understand the role that child welfare programs, policies, and practices may play in contributing to those disparities; and inform and develop system improvements to address them.

As noted below in the sections on notable changes and observations in performance on the Safety Outcome 1 and Permanency Outcome 1 data indicators during Round 4, the data for these statewide indicators showed the following performance-related information by race/ethnicity in Indiana:

- Maltreatment in care: White children comprised approximately two-thirds of both the total number of days children spent in care and total victimizations. Black and Hispanic children experienced a notable decrease in the rate of maltreatment in care over the last 3 reporting years, while the rate of maltreatment for White children, and the state as a whole, remained largely the same.
- Recurrence of maltreatment: White children comprised the majority of initial and subsequent victimizations and experienced the highest percentage of recurrence of maltreatment. Black children and children of two or more races experienced an increase in the recurrence of maltreatment over the past 3 reporting years compared to an overall decrease statewide.
- Timeliness to permanency: Black children were over-represented in the proportion of children entering foster care compared to the overall child population. This group had the highest percentage of permanency in 12 months for children entering care while consistently the lowest percentage of permanency in 12 months for children in care longer than 12 months.
- Reentry into care: Hispanic children and children of two or more races were over-represented in the total percentage of reentries compared to percentage of exits, and they experienced the highest percentage of reentries in the most recent reporting year.
- Placement stability: Hispanic children experienced a decrease in the rate of placement moves over the last 3 reporting periods while White children and Black children experienced an increase in the rate of placement moves. White children consistently experienced a lower rate of placement moves compared to state performance, while Black children consistently experienced rates higher than the state.

## II. KEY FINDINGS RELATED TO OUTCOMES

For each outcome, we provide the state's performance on the applicable statewide data indicators from the data profile that was transmitted to the state to signal the launch of the CF SR and performance summaries from the case review findings of the onsite review. Results have been rounded to the nearest whole number. A summary of the state's performance for all outcomes and systemic factors is in Appendix A. Additional information on case review findings, including the state's performance on case review item rating questions, is in the state's practice performance report in Appendix B.

### **Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.**

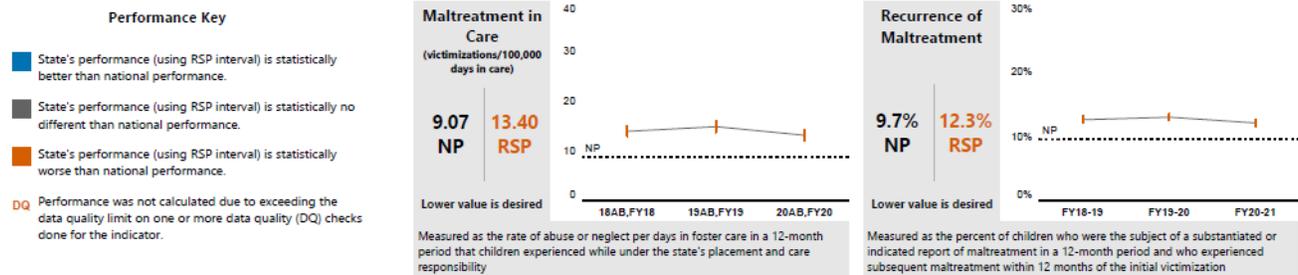
The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's RSP on two statewide data indicators and the state's performance on Item 1: Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment.

The state's policy requires that DCS initiate assessments via face-to-face contact with all alleged child victims (1) within 2 hours if the allegations would cause a reasonable person to believe the child is in imminent danger of serious bodily harm; (2) within 24 hours if the allegations involve abuse but the conditions in #1 do not apply; or (3) within 5 days if the allegations involve neglect and none of the conditions in #1 or #2 applies. Specific response times for situations involving allegations of domestic violence, release of a child from the hospital, or a child entering emergency shelter without a parent are also included in the policy.

#### **Statewide Data Indicators**

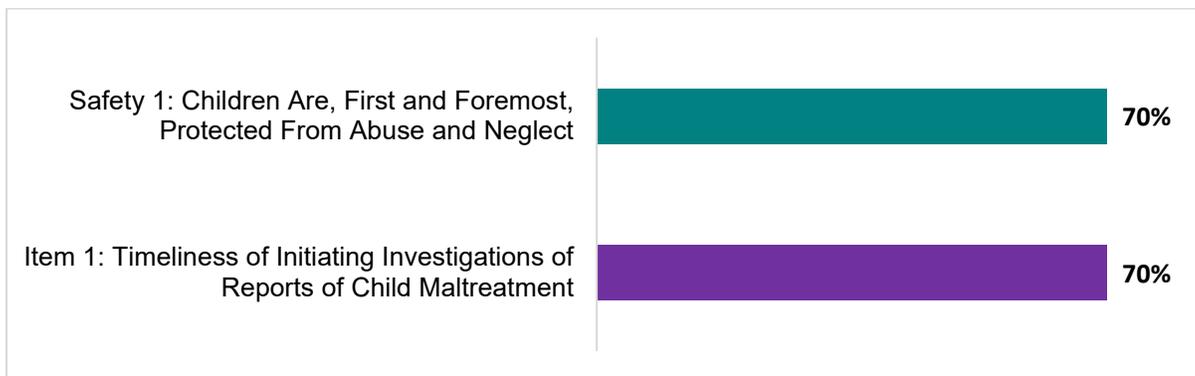
The chart below shows the state's performance from the August 2022 data profile that signaled the start of the statewide assessment process and was used to determine substantial conformity for Safety Outcome 1.

**Figure 1. State's Performance on Safety Outcome 1 Indicators**



**Case Review**

**Figure 2. Performance on Safety Outcome 1 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Safety Outcome 1:

- The state's performance on the "maltreatment in foster care" data indicator was statistically worse than national performance.
- The state's performance on the "recurrence of maltreatment" data indicator was statistically worse than national performance.
- Less than 95% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 1.

**Notable Changes and Observations in Performance on the Safety Outcome 1 Data Indicators During Round 4**

**Table 2. Risk-Standardized Performance Compared to National Performance—Safety 1 Data Indicators**

Statewide Data Indicator	Data Profile Transmitted With Statewide Assessment and Used to Determine Substantial Conformity	February 2023 Profile	Inclusion in PIP?
Maltreatment in Foster Care	Worse	Worse	Yes
Recurrence of Maltreatment in 12 months	Worse	Worse	Yes

Indiana has performed worse than national performance over the past 3 reporting years on both indicators associated with Safety Outcome 1. However, performance on Maltreatment in Care has improved between

FYs 2018 and 2020; the total number of days of children in care decreased by 22%, and the number of victimizations decreased by 26%.

- While children in care under the age of 1 year and youth aged 17 years contribute a small proportion (approximately 12%) of the total days children in the state spend in care, these were the only age groups whose performance worsened over the last 3 reporting years.
- Three-fourths of the state’s counties contributed 1% or less to the total number of days in care for FY 2020, and eight counties represented half of all days in care. Among these counties, three saw performance declines over the past 3 reporting years despite the improved performance for the state overall: Delaware, Madison, and Marion County (metro).

For Recurrence of Maltreatment, overall performance improved between FYs 2018–19 and 2020–21. The number of children with an initial substantiated or indicated maltreatment report decreased by 12% during that period and the number of children who experienced recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months of that report decreased by 16%.

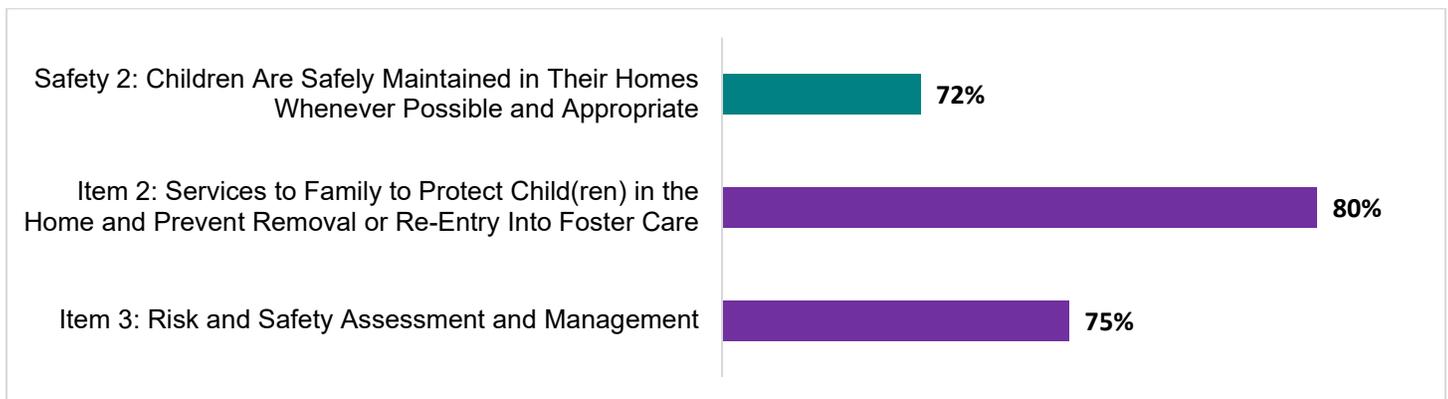
- Children aged 1–5 years represented 29% of all initial victims during FY 2020–21 and 33% of all recurring victims. Furthermore, this was the only age group in the state whose performance worsened over the last 3 reporting years.
- While the number of initial victims, the number of recurring victims, and overall performance decreased over the last 3 reporting years, 5 of the top 10 counties in initial victims (representing half of all initial victims in the state) reported an increase in the number of recurring victims during this period.

## Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Items 2 and 3.

### Case Review

**Figure 3. Performance on Safety Outcome 2 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Safety Outcome 2:

- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were rated as substantially achieved.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 2.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 3.

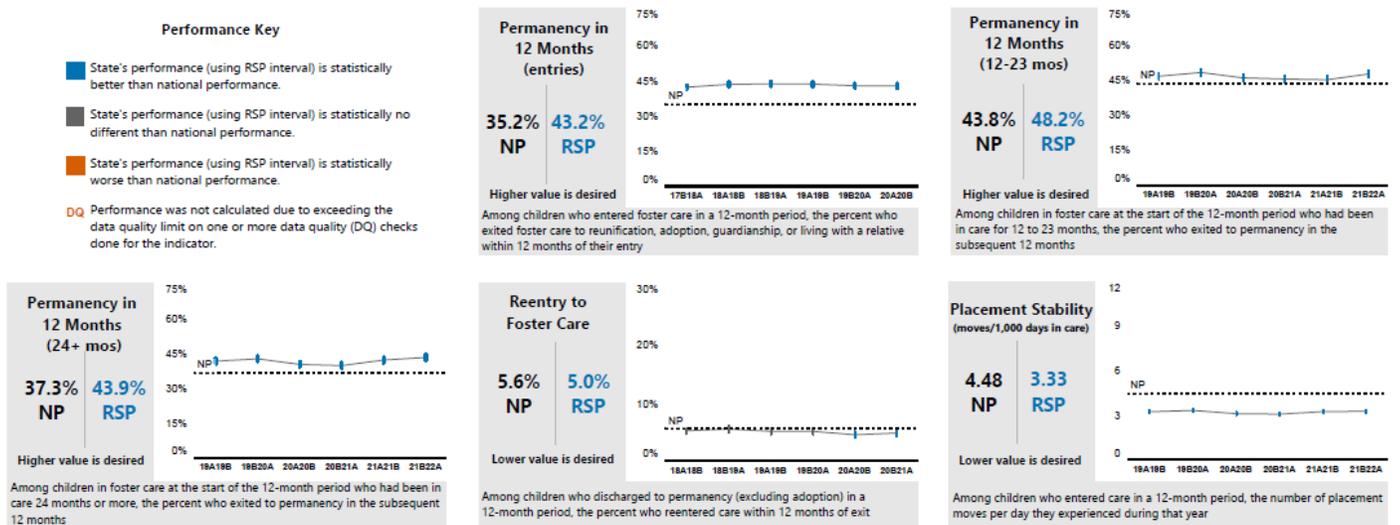
# Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s RSP on 5 statewide data indicators and the state’s performance on Items 4, 5, and 6.

## Statewide Data Indicators

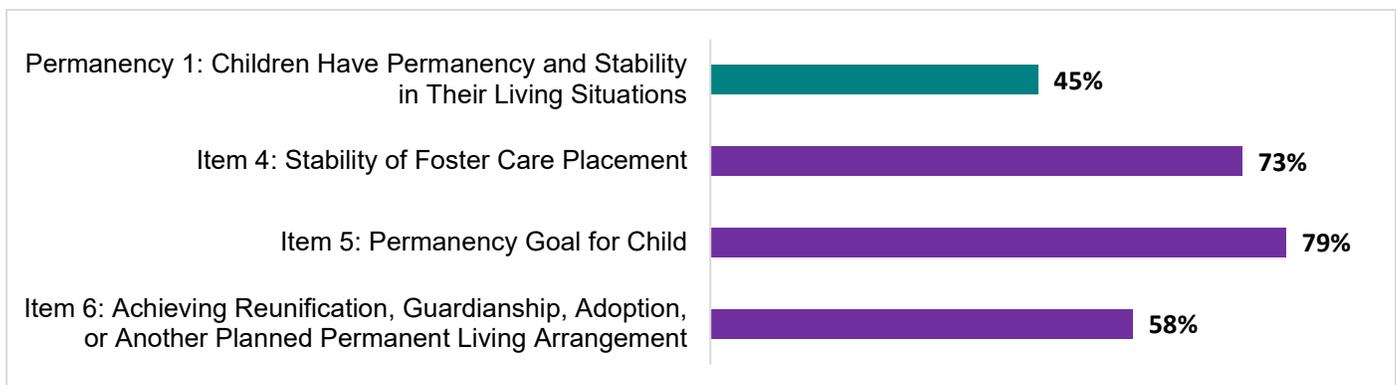
The chart below shows the state’s performance from the August 2022 data profile that signaled the start of the statewide assessment process and was used to determine substantial conformity for Permanency Outcome 1.

**Figure 4. State’s Performance on Permanency Outcome 1 Indicators**



## Case Review

**Figure 5. Performance on Permanency Outcome 1 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Permanency Outcome 1:

- The state’s performance on the “permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care” data indicator was statistically better than national performance.
- The state’s performance on the “permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12–23 months” data indicator was statistically better than national performance.
- The state’s performance on the “permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or more” data indicator was statistically better than national performance.

- The state’s performance on the “reentry to foster care in 12 months” data indicator was statistically better than national performance.
- The state’s performance on the “placement stability” data indicator was statistically better than national performance.
- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were rated as substantially achieved.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 4.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 5.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 6.

### Notable Changes and Observations in Performance on the Permanency Outcome 1 Data Indicators During Round 4

**Table 3. Risk-Standardized Performance Compared to National Performance—Permanency 1 Data Indicators**

Statewide Data Indicator	Data Profile Transmitted With Statewide Assessment and Used to Determine Substantial Conformity	February 2023 Profile	Inclusion in PIP?
Permanency in 12 months for children entering care	Better	Better	No
Permanency in 12 months for children in care 12–23 months	Better	Better	No
Permanency in 12 months for children in care 24 months or more	Better	Better	No
Reentry to foster care in 12 months	Better	No Different	No
Placement stability	Better	Better	No

Indiana has performed better or no different than national performance on all 5 permanency indicators over the past 6 reporting periods.

Indiana’s performance on achieving permanency in a 12-month period has been consistently better than national performance for the past 6 data periods for each cohort: children entering care, children in care 12–23 months, and children in care 24 months or more. Of note, the state’s observed performance for children achieving permanency within 12 months among children entering care has decreased in each of the most recent 6 data periods.

- White children represented nearly two-thirds of all children entering care across the state but achieved permanency at lower rates compared to the state’s observed performance for each of the last 3 reporting years.
- Children aged 11–17 experienced lower rates of permanency compared to the state’s observed performance regardless of how long they were in care.

Performance on placement stability has remained relatively steady; both the number of total days in care and the number of placement moves have decreased by approximately 31% over the past 6 reporting periods.

- Children aged 11–16 represented approximately 22% of all days in care but 30% of all placement moves; this group had the highest rate of placement moves for all children except for children aged 17 years.

- Of the 10 counties representing half of all days children spent in care across the state, 7 experienced an increase in the rate of placement moves over the last 3 reporting periods.

State performance for children reentering care within 12 months has consistently been better or no different than national performance over the last 6 reporting periods.

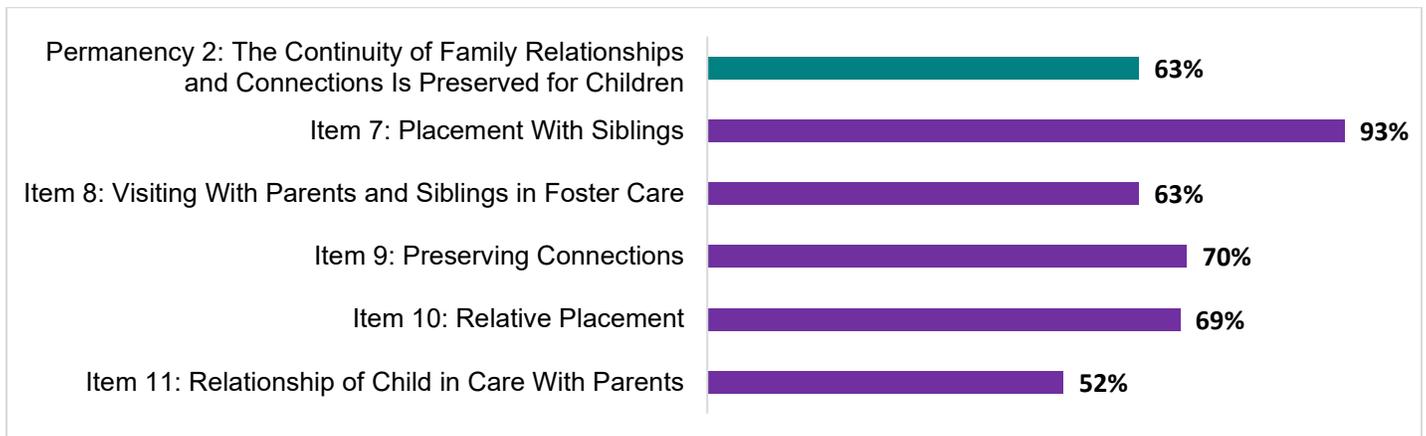
- The numbers of children exiting to reunification, living with relatives, and guardianship, and the number of reentries have decreased by approximately 21% over the last 3 reporting years. Marion County (metro) reported a 16% decrease in the number of children exiting and a 51% decrease in the number of reentries during the same timeframe.
- Children less than 1 year old at exit had reentry rates worse than any other age group in the state for each of the last 3 reporting years.

## Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Items 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

### Case Review

**Figure 6. Performance on Permanency Outcome 2 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Permanency Outcome 2:

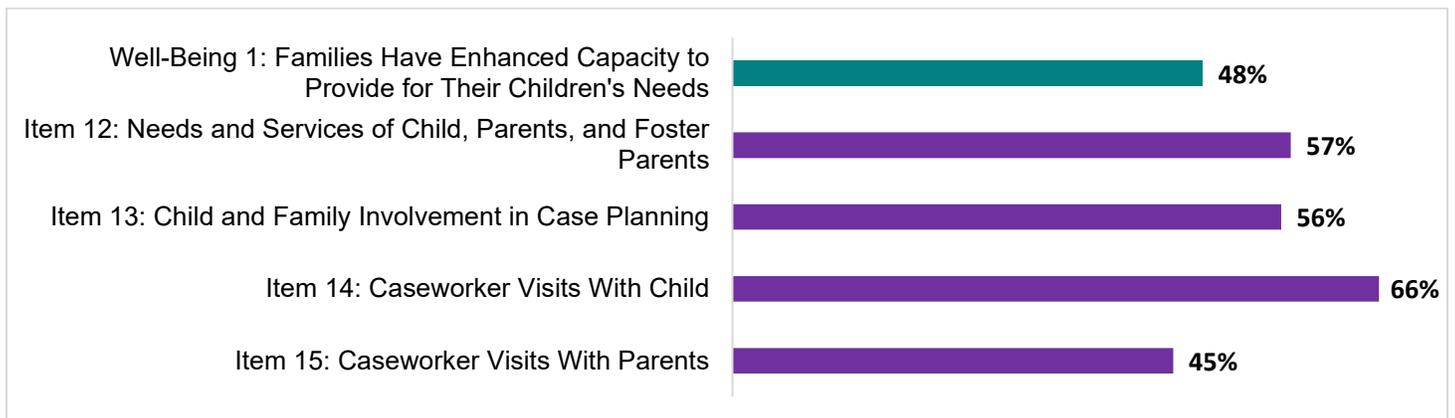
- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were rated as substantially achieved.
- More than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 7.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 8.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 9.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 10.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 11.

## Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children’s needs.

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Items 12, 13, 14, and 15.

## Case Review

**Figure 7. Performance on Well-Being Outcome 1 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Well-Being Outcome 1:

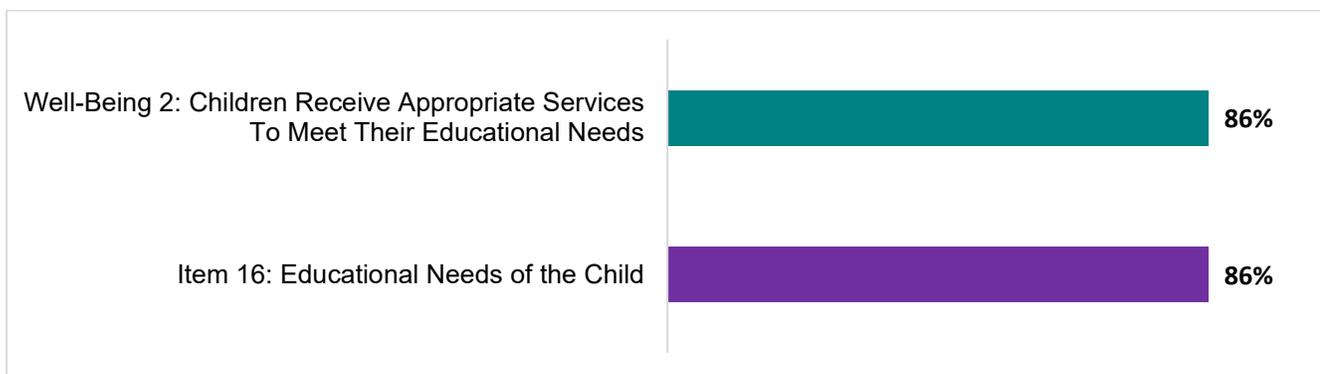
- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were rated as substantially achieved.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 12.
  - Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 12A.
  - Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 12B.
  - Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 12C.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 13.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 14.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 15.

## Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's performance on Item 16.

## Case Review

**Figure 8. Performance on Well-Being Outcome 2 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Well-Being Outcome 2:

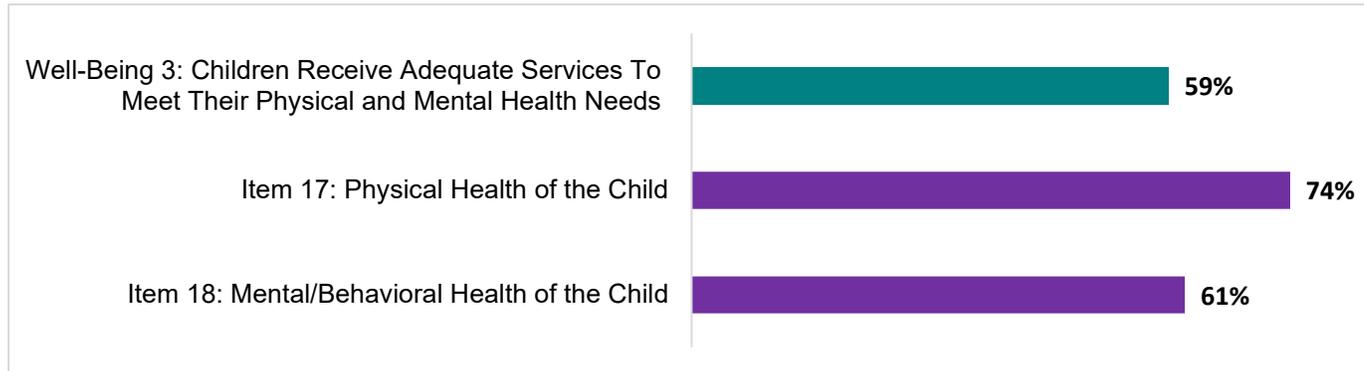
- Less than 95% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 16.

## Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's performance on Items 17 and 18.

### Case Review

**Figure 9. Performance on Well-Being Outcome 3 and Supporting Items**



Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with Well-Being Outcome 3:

- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were rated as substantially achieved.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 17.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 18.

### III. KEY FINDINGS RELATED TO SYSTEMIC FACTORS

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity with federal requirements for the 7 systemic factors based on the level of functioning of each systemic factor across the state. The CB determines substantial conformity with the systemic factors based on ratings for the item or items within each factor. Performance on 5 of the 7 systemic factors is determined based on ratings for multiple items or plan requirements. For a state to be found in substantial conformity with these systemic factors, the CB must find that no more than 1 of the required items for that systemic factor fails to function as required. For a state to be found in substantial conformity with the 2 systemic factors that are determined based on the rating of a single item, the CB must find that the item is functioning as required. For each systemic factor below, we provide performance summaries and a determination of whether the state is in substantial conformity with that systemic factor. In addition, we provide ratings for each item.

#### Statewide Information System

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's performance on Item 19.

Item	Rating
Item 19: Statewide Information System	Area Needing Improvement

Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Statewide Information System.

#### Item 19: Statewide Information System

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The statewide information system is functioning statewide to ensure that, at a minimum, the state can readily identify the status, demographic characteristics, location, and goals for the placement of every child who is (or, within the immediately preceding 12 months, has been) in foster care.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 19 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. In discussion between the CB and the state, it was agreed that this item is an Area Needing Improvement; therefore, stakeholder interviews were not conducted.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that while the Indiana information system has the capacity to collect and report information related to the status, location, demographic characteristics, and goals for placement for every child who is (or within the immediately preceding 12 months, has been) in child welfare services, the state lacked complete, accurate, and reliable data; there are data entry errors or gaps in the information for status, demographic characteristics, placement location, and placement goals. Further, the state reported that the state has no information or data to support that the system is functioning as intended for youth on probation. Data for case plan goals for such youth must be manually entered into two systems, resulting in data entry problems. Pertaining to demographics, the state also reported that it was unable to identify the needed information for children who are diagnosed with disabilities and medical conditions. Further, temporary, non-contracted placements are not entered into the system and this made it difficult to locate the child. Indiana is unable to accurately determine whether a child is in foster care or has been discharged.

## Case Review System

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's performance on Items 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24.

Items	Rating
Item 20: Written Case Plan	Area Needing Improvement
Item 21: Periodic Reviews	Area Needing Improvement
Item 22: Permanency Hearings	Area Needing Improvement
Item 23: Termination of Parental Rights	Area Needing Improvement
Item 24: Notice of Hearings and Reviews to Caregivers	Area Needing Improvement

Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Case Review System.

### Item 20: Written Case Plan

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that each child has a written case plan that is developed jointly with the child's parent(s) and includes the required provisions.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 20 based on information in the Statewide Assessment. The state asserted this item is an Area Needing Improvement, indicated that additional information collected during stakeholder interviews would not affect the rating, and declined stakeholder interviews.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the data demonstrated that a significant portion of parents were not engaged in developing the case plans jointly, with fathers having a significantly lower rate of engagement by the state. The data regarding probation cases lacked information on the case planning process. Data entry methods create data inconsistency, and there was no consistent statewide process to monitor timely completion of case plans.

### Item 21: Periodic Reviews

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that a periodic review for each child occurs no less frequently than once every 6 months, either by a court or by administrative review.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 21 based on information in the Statewide Assessment and the state's assertion that this item is an Area Needing Improvement. Stakeholder interviews were conducted with agreement from the state to integrate judges and attorneys into the PIP process.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that while periodic reviews are typically calendared at the 3-month mark, the data indicated that they were not occurring consistently on a timely basis. Information from stakeholders indicated that there were data entry errors, which were created when staff did not understand the different types of hearings and how to enter the information into the system.

### Item 22: Permanency Hearings

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that each child has a permanency hearing in a qualified court or administrative body that occurs no later than 12 months from the date the child entered foster care and no less frequently than every 12 months thereafter.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 22 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. Stakeholder interviews were conducted with agreement from the state to integrate judges and attorneys into the PIP process.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews indicated that the state lacks standardized practice and data reports to monitor the timeliness of hearings, and there was variation in the quality of the data entry. Additionally, the state lacks information on the tracking of permanency hearings for probation cases.

**Item 23: Termination of Parental Rights**

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that the filing of termination of parental rights proceedings occurs in accordance with required provisions.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 23 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. In discussion between the CB and the state, it was agreed that this item is an Area Needing Improvement; therefore, stakeholder interviews were not conducted.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the filing of termination of parental rights (TPR) proceedings occurs; however, there are challenges with missing and inaccurate data. Indiana did not address the exceptions to TPR filings, including documentation of compelling reasons.

**Item 24: Notice of Hearings and Reviews to Caregivers**

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The case review system is functioning to ensure that foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers of children in foster care are notified of, and have a right to be heard in, any review or hearing held with respect to the child.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 24 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. The state asserted this item is an Area Needing Improvement; no interviews were conducted.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state does not have a method to track whether foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers were given notice of periodic reviews and permanency hearings, and whether the notice included the caregivers’ right to be heard.

**Quality Assurance System**

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Item 25.

Item	Rating
Item 25: Quality Assurance System	Area Needing Improvement

Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Quality Assurance System.

**Item 25: Quality Assurance System**

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The quality assurance system is functioning statewide to ensure that it (1) is operating in the jurisdictions where the services included in the Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) are provided, (2) has standards to evaluate the quality of services (including standards to ensure that children in foster care are provided quality services that protect their health and safety), (3) identifies strengths and needs of the service delivery system, (4) provides relevant reports, and (5) evaluates implemented program improvement measures.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 25 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. In discussion between the CB and the state, it was agreed that this item is an Area Needing Improvement; therefore, stakeholder interviews were not conducted.

- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state did not address the quality assurance (QA) process for probation data and did not describe how the state collects such data from multiple sources and then consistently follows up to ensure that statewide issues and challenges are addressed, program improvement is evaluated, and adjustments to practice and policy are made. The Statewide Assessment did not include information related to the strengths and needs of service delivery, and the state did not address how the system implements Program Improvement Plan measures. It was also unclear how the feedback loop was closed at the local and state levels. Relevant reports were unavailable.

## Staff and Provider Training

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Items 26, 27, and 28.

Items	Rating
Item 26: Initial Staff Training	Area Needing Improvement
Item 27: Ongoing Staff Training	Area Needing Improvement
Item 28: Foster and Adoptive Parent Training	Area Needing Improvement

Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Staff and Provider Training.

### Item 26: Initial Staff Training

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The staff and provider training system is functioning statewide to ensure that initial training is provided to all staff who deliver services pursuant to the CFSP that includes the basic skills and knowledge required for their positions.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 26 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews indicated that the state did not present quality data that shows the number of probation officers who attend and complete the training. In addition, the state does not have information and data to support that the quality of training is sufficient to adequately prepare probation and child welfare staff to carry out their jobs. The state has initial training in place for DCS staff and tracks the training; child welfare staff complete the training before carrying a caseload. Information gathered from stakeholders indicated that initial training lacks sufficient information about the court processes, including discussion of court findings regarding preventing removal, reunifying children, and achieving permanency; application of diversity, equity, and inclusion concepts; and information pertaining to service delivery; and that probation staff are not adequately trained on child welfare matters.

### Item 27: Ongoing Staff Training

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The staff and provider training system is functioning statewide to ensure that ongoing training is provided for staff that addresses the skills and knowledge base needed to carry out their duties with regard to the services included in the CFSP.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 27 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. No interviews were conducted.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state does not have a process to track ongoing training and its quality for child welfare and probation staff. Indiana does not have a data tracking system to know if a particular worker is due for training and to assess if the worker is ready to take an Advanced Skills course.

## Item 28: Foster and Adoptive Parent Training

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The staff and provider training system is functioning statewide to ensure that training is occurring statewide for current or prospective foster parents, adoptive parents, and staff of state licensed or approved facilities (that care for children receiving foster care or adoption assistance under title IV-E) that addresses the skills and knowledge base needed to carry out their duties with regard to foster and adopted children.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 28 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews indicated that while DCS tracked that training requirements are met, the training was not sufficient to adequately support foster parents in parenting the children placed in their homes. Foster parents were unclear about the overall process of child welfare casework, and there was confusion around permanency planning. In addition, foster parents were asked to care for children who presented with behavioral challenges due to trauma, but they were not given adequate training or support, often resulting in disrupted placements. Additionally, interviews indicated a need for more pre-adoptive training for families preparing for adoption.

## Service Array and Resource Development

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's performance on Items 29 and 30.

Items	Rating
Item 29: Array of Services	Area Needing Improvement
Item 30: Individualizing Services	Area Needing Improvement

Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Service Array and Resource Development.

### Item 29: Array of Services

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The service array and resource development system is functioning to ensure that the following array of services is accessible in all political jurisdictions covered by the CFSP: (1) services that assess the strengths and needs of children and families and determine other service needs, (2) services that address the needs of families in addition to individual children in order to create a safe home environment, (3) services that enable children to remain safely with their parents when reasonable, and (4) services that help children in foster and adoptive placements achieve permanency.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 29 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews indicated that although the state has made significant progress in providing services through Indiana Family Preservation Services, the state has significant gaps in its array of services. These gaps include extensive wait lists due to the limited pool of available and qualified service providers across the state, limited transportation and housing options, and limited services for substance use issues, mental health treatment, diagnosis and assessment, father engagement, and youth treatment. Also, the state lacks a process to address safety concerns, particularly for those children left in offices overnight or placed in non-contracted facilities.

### Item 30: Individualizing Services

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The service array and resource development system is functioning statewide to ensure that the services in Item 29 can be individualized to meet the unique needs of children and families served by the agency.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 30 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews indicated that the services provided by the state are mostly generic and not consistently tailored to meet the unique needs of children and families. In addition, translation telephone lines are limited in some counties; there are gaps in language services, especially for families who speak Spanish and Burmese; and the state has limited bilingual and hearing-impaired services. Services for developmentally delayed clients are also limited.

## Agency Responsiveness to the Community

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Items 31 and 32.

Items	Rating
Item 31: State Engagement and Consultation With Stakeholders Pursuant to CFSP and APSR	Area Needing Improvement
Item 32: Coordination of CFSP Services With Other Federal Programs	Strength

Indiana was found to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Agency Responsiveness to the Community.

### Item 31: State Engagement and Consultation With Stakeholders Pursuant to CFSP and APSR

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The agency responsiveness to the community system is functioning statewide to ensure that, in implementing the provisions of the CFSP and developing related Annual Progress and Services Reports (APSRs), the state engages in ongoing consultation with Tribal representatives, consumers, service providers, foster care providers, the juvenile court, and other public and private child- and family-serving agencies and includes the major concerns of these representatives in the goals, objectives, and annual updates of the CFSP.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 31 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information in the statewide assessment and stakeholder interviews indicated that there is not sufficient evidence to support that the state is responsive and engages various stakeholders in ongoing consultation and ensures that major concerns of stakeholders are integrated into the goals and objectives in the CFSP and annual updates. Although the state consults with a variety of stakeholders, information was lacking to indicate whether stakeholder information was used to inform the APSR/CFSP and if the state was integrating stakeholder information into state plans.

### Item 32: Coordination of CFSP Services With Other Federal Programs

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The agency responsiveness to the community system is functioning statewide to ensure that the state’s services under the CFSP are coordinated with services or benefits of other federal or federally assisted programs serving the same population.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Strength for Item 32 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state coordinates services with other federal or federally assisted programs such as the Department of Workforce, the Department of Education, and multiple divisions of the Family and Social Services Administration, including the Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning, First Steps/Bureau of Child Development Services, Indiana Head Start Collaboration, the Office of Youth Services/Division of Mental Health and Addiction,

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning. The state coordinates with other state organizational units responsible for other federal programs to promote the alignment of policies and streamline access to services for families involved in the child welfare system. The Statewide Assessment describes the state’s strong collaborative working relationship with other federal programs that affect the child welfare population, such as Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

## Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state’s performance on Items 33, 34, 35, and 36.

Items	Rating
Item 33: Standards Applied Equally	Strength
Item 34: Requirements for Criminal Background Checks	Area Needing Improvement
Item 35: Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes	Area Needing Improvement
Item 36: State Use of Cross-Jurisdictional Resources for Permanent Placements	Area Needing Improvement

Indiana was found not to be in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention.

### Item 33: Standards Applied Equally

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning statewide to ensure that state standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes or child care institutions receiving title IV-B or IV-E funds.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Strength for Item 33 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state’s process for monitoring compliance with licensing requirements demonstrated that state standards are applied equally to all licensed or approved foster family homes or child-care institutions receiving title IV-B or IV-E funds. Indiana uses and monitors waivers and ensures that exceptions cannot negatively affect the health, safety, or welfare of any child receiving services from the applicant for the waiver.

### Item 34: Requirements for Criminal Background Checks

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning statewide to ensure that the state complies with federal requirements for criminal background clearances as related to licensing or approving foster care and adoptive placements and has in place a case planning process that includes provisions for addressing the safety of foster care and adoptive placements for children.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 34 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. In discussion between the CB and the state, it was agreed that this item is an Area Needing Improvement; therefore, stakeholder interviews were not conducted.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment was lacking on the process for ensuring that foster care and adoptive placements met and remained in compliance with criminal background requirements.

### **Item 35: Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes**

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning to ensure that the process for ensuring the diligent recruitment of potential foster and adoptive families who reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the state for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed is occurring statewide.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 35 based on information from the Statewide Assessment. In discussion between the CB and the state, it was agreed that this item is an Area Needing Improvement; therefore, stakeholder interviews were not conducted.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state has a severe shortage of foster homes and does not have a process to track the effectiveness of recruitment plans. The state does not have a plan that clearly describes how data informs recruitment efforts statewide based on the characteristics of the children in care and lacks diversity in the foster homes to meet the individualized needs of the children. The state also lacks a process to track the primary language spoken in foster homes to match the primary language of children and youth being placed.

### **Item 36: State Use of Cross-Jurisdictional Resources for Permanent Placements**

**Description of Systemic Factor Item:** The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning to ensure that the process for ensuring the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely adoptive or permanent placements for waiting children is occurring statewide.

- Indiana received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 36 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- Information in the Statewide Assessment indicated that the state lacks valid data to support timely completion of home studies and does not have a mechanism to track overdue or delayed requests.

## IV. APPENDIX A

### Summary of Indiana 2023 Child and Family Services Review Performance

#### I. Ratings for Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being Outcomes and Items and Performance on Statewide Data Indicators

**Outcome Achievement:** Outcomes may be rated as in substantial conformity or not in substantial conformity. 95% of the applicable cases reviewed must be rated as having substantially achieved the outcome for the state to be in substantial conformity with the outcome.

**Item Achievement:** Items may be rated as a Strength or as an Area Needing Improvement. For an overall rating of Strength, 90% of the cases reviewed for the item (with the exception of Item 1 and Item 16) must be rated as a Strength. Because Item 1 is the only item for Safety Outcome 1 and Item 16 is the only item for Well-Being Outcome 2, the requirement of a 95% Strength rating applies.

**Statewide Data Indicators:** For Safety Outcome 1 and Permanency Outcome 1, the state's performance is also considered against the national performance for each statewide data indicator. State performance may be statistically better, worse, or no different than the national performance. If a state did not provide the required data or did not meet the applicable item data quality limits, the CB did not calculate the state's performance for the statewide data indicator.

**RSP** (Risk-Standardized Performance) is derived from a multi-level statistical model, reflects the state's performance relative to states with similar children, and takes into account the number of children the state served, the age distribution of these children and, for some indicators, the state's entry rate. It uses risk adjustment to minimize differences in outcomes due to factors over which the state has little control and provides a fairer comparison of state performance against national performance.

**RSP Interval** is the 95% confidence interval estimate for the state's RSP. The values shown are the lower RSP and upper RSP of the interval estimate. The interval accounts for the amount of uncertainty associated with the RSP. For example, the CB is 95% confident that the true value of the RSP is between the lower and upper limit of the interval.

**Data Period(s) Used** refers to the initial 12-month period and the period(s) of data needed to follow the children to observe their outcomes. The FY or federal fiscal year refers to NCANDS data, which spans the 12-month period October 1–September 30. All other periods refer to AFCARS data. "A" refers to the 6-month period October 1–March 31. "B" refers to the 6-month period April 1–September 30. The 2-digit year refers to the calendar year in which the period ends.

#### ***SAFETY OUTCOME 1: CHILDREN ARE, FIRST AND FOREMOST, PROTECTED FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT.***

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
<b>Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.</b>	Not in Substantial Conformity	70% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 1: Timeliness of investigations</b>	Area Needing Improvement	70% Strength

**DATA INDICATORS FOR SAFETY OUTCOME 1**

Statewide Data Indicator	National Performance	Overall Determination	Direction of Desired Performance	RSP	RSP Interval	Data Period(s) Used
Maltreatment in foster care (victimizations per 100,000 days in care)	9.07	Worse Than National Performance	Lower	13.40	12.33–14.56	20A–20B, FY20–21
Recurrence of maltreatment	9.7%	Worse Than National Performance	Lower	12.3%	11.8%–12.8%	FY20–21

**SAFETY OUTCOME 2: CHILDREN ARE SAFELY MAINTAINED IN THEIR HOMES WHENEVER POSSIBLE AND APPROPRIATE.**

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
<b>Safety Outcome 2:</b> Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.	Not in Substantial Conformity	72% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 2:</b> Services to protect child(ren) in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care	Area Needing Improvement	80% Strength
<b>Item 3:</b> Risk and safety assessment and management	Area Needing Improvement	75% Strength

**PERMANENCY OUTCOME 1: CHILDREN HAVE PERMANENCY AND STABILITY IN THEIR LIVING SITUATIONS.**

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
<b>Permanency Outcome 1:</b> Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.	Not in Substantial Conformity	45% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 4:</b> Stability of foster care placement	Area Needing Improvement	73% Strength
<b>Item 5:</b> Permanency goal for child	Area Needing Improvement	79% Strength
<b>Item 6:</b> Achieving reunification, guardianship, adoption, or another planned permanent living arrangement	Area Needing Improvement	58% Strength

**DATA INDICATORS FOR PERMANENCY OUTCOME 1**

Statewide Data Indicator	National Performance	Overall Determination	Direction of Desired Performance	RSP	RSP Interval	Data Period(s) Used
Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care	35.2%	Better Than National Performance	Higher	43.2%	42.2%–44.2%	20A–22A
Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12-23 months	43.8%	Better Than National Performance	Higher	48.2%	46.6%–49.7%	21B–22A
Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or more	37.3%	Better Than National Performance	Higher	43.9%	42.5%–45.2%	21B–22A
Reentry to foster care in 12 months	5.6%	Better Than National Performance	Lower	5.0%	4.4%–5.5%	20B–22A
Placement stability (moves per 1,000 days in care)	4.48	Better Than National Performance	Lower	3.33	3.22–3.44	21B–22A

**PERMANENCY OUTCOME 2: THE CONTINUITY OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS IS PRESERVED FOR CHILDREN.**

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
<b>Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.</b>	Not in Substantial Conformity	63% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 7: Placement with siblings</b>	Strength	93% Strength
<b>Item 8: Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care</b>	Area Needing Improvement	63% Strength
<b>Item 9: Preserving connections</b>	Area Needing Improvement	70% Strength
<b>Item 10: Relative placement</b>	Area Needing Improvement	69% Strength
<b>Item 11: Relationship of child in care with parents</b>	Area Needing Improvement	52% Strength

**WELL-BEING OUTCOME 1: FAMILIES HAVE ENHANCED CAPACITY TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S NEEDS.**

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Overall Determination</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.</b>	Not in Substantial Conformity	48% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 12: Needs and services of child, parents, and foster parents</b>	Area Needing Improvement	57% Strength
<b>Sub-Item 12A: Needs assessment and services to children</b>	Area Needing Improvement	83% Strength
<b>Sub-Item 12B: Needs assessment and services to parents</b>	Area Needing Improvement	60% Strength
<b>Sub-Item 12C: Needs assessment and services to foster parents</b>	Area Needing Improvement	79% Strength
<b>Item 13: Child and family involvement in case planning</b>	Area Needing Improvement	56% Strength
<b>Item 14: Caseworker visits with child</b>	Area Needing Improvement	66% Strength
<b>Item 15: Caseworker visits with parents</b>	Area Needing Improvement	45% Strength

**WELL-BEING OUTCOME 2: CHILDREN RECEIVE APPROPRIATE SERVICES TO MEET THEIR EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.**

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Overall Determination</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.</b>	Not in Substantial Conformity	86% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 16: Educational needs of the child</b>	Area Needing Improvement	86% Strength

**WELL-BEING OUTCOME 3: CHILDREN RECEIVE ADEQUATE SERVICES TO MEET THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS.**

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Overall Determination</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.</b>	Not in Substantial Conformity	59% Substantially Achieved
<b>Item 17: Physical health of the child</b>	Area Needing Improvement	74% Strength
<b>Item 18: Mental/behavioral health of the child</b>	Area Needing Improvement	61% Strength

## II. Ratings for Systemic Factors

The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity with federal requirements for the 7 systemic factors based on the level of functioning of each systemic factor across the state. The CB determines substantial conformity with the systemic factors based on ratings for the item or items within each factor. Performance on 5 of the 7 systemic factors is determined on the basis of ratings for multiple items or plan requirements. For a state to be found in substantial conformity with these systemic factors, the CB must find that no more than 1 of the required items for that systemic factor fails to function as required. For a state to be found in substantial conformity with the 2 systemic factors that are determined based on the rating of a single item, the CB must find that the item is functioning as required.

### STATEWIDE INFORMATION SYSTEM

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Statewide Information System	Statewide Assessment	Not in Substantial Conformity
Item 19: Statewide Information System	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement

### CASE REVIEW SYSTEM

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Case Review System	Statewide Assessment	Not in Substantial Conformity
Item 20: Written Case Plan	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
Item 21: Periodic Reviews	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
Item 22: Permanency Hearings	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
Item 23: Termination of Parental Rights	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
Item 24: Notice of Hearings and Reviews to Caregivers	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement

### QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Quality Assurance System	Statewide Assessment	Not in Substantial Conformity
Item 25: Quality Assurance System	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement

### STAFF AND PROVIDER TRAINING

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Staff and Provider Training	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Not in Substantial Conformity

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Source of Data and Information</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Item 26: Initial Staff Training</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement
<b>Item 27: Ongoing Staff Training</b>	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
<b>Item 28: Foster and Adoptive Parent Training</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement

### ***SERVICE ARRAY AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT***

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Source of Data and Information</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Service Array and Resource Development</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Not in Substantial Conformity
<b>Item 29: Array of Services</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement
<b>Item 30: Individualizing Services</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement

### ***AGENCY RESPONSIVENESS TO THE COMMUNITY***

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Source of Data and Information</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Agency Responsiveness to the Community</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Substantial Conformity
<b>Item 31: State Engagement and Consultation With Stakeholders Pursuant to CFSP and APSR</b>	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement
<b>Item 32: Coordination of CFSP Services With Other Federal Programs</b>	Statewide Assessment	Strength

### ***FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENT LICENSING, RECRUITMENT, AND RETENTION***

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Source of Data and Information</b>	<b>State Performance</b>
<b>Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention</b>	Statewide Assessment	Not in Substantial Conformity
<b>Item 33: Standards Applied Equally</b>	Statewide Assessment	Strength
<b>Item 34: Requirements for Criminal Background Checks</b>	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
<b>Item 35: Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes</b>	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement
<b>Item 36: State Use of Cross-Jurisdictional Resources for Permanent Placements</b>	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement

## APPENDIX B: PRACTICE PERFORMANCE REPORT Indiana CFSR (State-Led) 2023

The Practice Performance Report provides an aggregated summary of practice performance for all 18 items in the Onsite Review Instrument and Instructions (OSRI) for all approved and final cases from all the sites in the [state] CFSR ([CB-Led/State-Led]) and includes a breakdown of performance by case type. Please refer to the Rating Criteria section at the end of each item in the OSRI to identify which responses to questions will result in a Strength rating. For more information on the OSRI, see <https://www.cfsrportal.acf.hhs.gov/resources/round-4-resources/cfsr-round-4-instruments-tools-and-guides>

### Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

#### Item 1: Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of Reports of Child Maltreatment

Practice Description	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 1A) Investigations or assessments were initiated in accordance with the state's timeframes and requirements in cases.	72.09% (31 of 43)
(Question 1B) Face-to-face contact with the child(ren) who is (are) the subject of the report were made in accordance with the state's timeframes and requirements in cases.	72.09% (31 of 43)
(Question 1C) Reasons for delays in initiation of investigations or assessments and/or face-to-face contact were due to circumstances beyond the control of the agency.	0% (0 of 13)
Item 1 Strength Ratings	69.77% (30 of 43)

### Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

#### Item 2: Services to Family to Protect Child(ren) in the Home and Prevent Removal or Re-Entry Into Foster Care

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Questions 2A and 2B) Agency made concerted efforts to provide or arrange for appropriate services for the family to protect the children and prevent their entry or reentry into foster care.	40% (10 of 25)	84% (21 of 25)	62% (31 of 50)

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Questions 2A and 2B) Although the agency did not make concerted efforts to provide or arrange for appropriate services for the family to protect the children and prevent their entry into foster care, the child(ren) was removed from the home because this action was necessary to ensure the child's safety.	28% (7 of 25)	Not Applicable	28% (7 of 25)
(Questions 2A and 2B) Agency did not make concerted efforts to provide services and the child was removed without providing appropriate services.	20% (5 of 25)	Not Applicable	20% (5 of 25)
(Questions 2A and 2B) Concerted efforts were not made to provide appropriate services to address safety/risk issues and the child(ren) remained in the home.	4% (1 of 25)	16% (4 of 25)	10% (5 of 50)
<b>Item 2 Strength Ratings</b>	<b>76% (19 of 25)</b>	<b>84% (21 of 25)</b>	<b>80% (40 of 50)</b>

### **Item 3: Risk and Safety Assessment and Management**

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 3A1) There were no maltreatment allegations about the family that were not formally reported or formally investigated/assessed.	97.5% (39 of 40)	88% (22 of 25)	93.85% (61 of 65)
(Question 3A1) There were no maltreatment allegations that were not substantiated despite evidence that would support substantiation.	97.5% (39 of 40)	92% (23 of 25)	95.38% (62 of 65)
(Question 3A) The agency conducted an initial assessment that accurately assessed all risk and safety concerns.	92.31% (12 of 13)	70% (7 of 10)	82.61% (19 of 23)
(Question 3B) The agency conducted ongoing assessments that accurately assessed all risk and safety concerns.	85% (34 of 40)	76% (19 of 25)	81.54% (53 of 65)
(Question 3C) When safety concerns were present, the agency developed an appropriate safety plan with the family and continually monitored the safety plan as needed, including monitoring family engagement in safety-related services.	63.64% (7 of 11)	55.56% (10 of 18)	58.62% (17 of 29)
(Question 3D) There were no safety concerns pertaining to children in the family home that were not adequately or appropriately addressed by the agency.	88.46% (23 of 26)	72.22% (13 of 18)	81.82% (36 of 44)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 3E) There were no concerns related to the safety of the target child in foster care during visitation with parent(s)/caregiver(s) or other family members that were not adequately or appropriately addressed by the agency.	100% (29 of 29)	Not Applicable	100% (29 of 29)
(Question 3F) There were no concerns for the target child's safety in the foster home or placement facility that were not adequately or appropriately addressed by the agency.	95% (38 of 40)	Not Applicable	95% (38 of 40)
Item 3 Strength Ratings	82.5% (33 of 40)	64% (16 of 25)	75.38% (49 of 65)

## Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

### Item 4: Stability of Foster Care Placement

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 4B) Placement changes for the child were planned by the agency in an effort to achieve the child's case goals or to meet the needs of the child.	25% (3 of 12)	25% (3 of 12)
(Question 4C) The child's current or most recent placement setting is stable.	90% (36 of 40)	90% (36 of 40)
Item 4 Strength Ratings	72.5% (29 of 40)	72.5% (29 of 40)

### Item 5: Permanency Goal for Child

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 5A3) Permanency goal(s) is (are) specified in the case file.	100% (39 of 39)	100% (39 of 39)
(Question 5B) Permanency goals in effect during the period under review were established in a timely manner.	82.05% (32 of 39)	82.05% (32 of 39)
(Question 5C) Permanency goals in effect during the period under review were appropriate to the child's needs for permanency and to the circumstances of the case.	94.87% (37 of 39)	94.87% (37 of 39)
(Question 5D) Child has been in foster care for at least 15 of the most recent 22 months.	41.03% (16 of 39)	41.03% (16 of 39)
(Questions 5E and 5F) Child meets other Adoption and Safe Families Act criteria for termination of parental rights (TPR).	0% (0 of 23)	0% (0 of 23)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Questions 5F and 5G) The agency filed or joined a TPR petition before the period under review (PUR) or in a timely manner during the PUR or an exception applied.	93.75% (15 of 16)	93.75% (15 of 16)
Item 5 Strength Ratings	79.49% (31 of 39)	79.49% (31 of 39)

### Item 6: Achieving Reunification, Guardianship, Adoption, or Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Questions 6A4 and 6B) The agency and court made concerted efforts to achieve reunification in a timely manner.	73.91% (17 of 23)	73.91% (17 of 23)
(Questions 6A4 and 6B) The agency and court made concerted efforts to achieve guardianship in a timely manner.	33.33% (1 of 3)	33.33% (1 of 3)
(Questions 6A4 and 6B) The agency and court made concerted efforts to achieve adoption in a timely manner.	30% (3 of 10)	30% (3 of 10)
(Questions 6A4 and 6C) The agency and court made concerted efforts to place a child with a goal of Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) in a living arrangement that can be considered permanent until discharge from foster care.	100% (1 of 1)	100% (1 of 1)
(Questions 6A4 and B or 6A4 and C) The agency and court made concerted efforts to achieve concurrent goals. If one of two concurrent goals was achieved during the period under review, rating is based on the goal that was achieved.	33.33% (1 of 3)	33.33% (1 of 3)
Item 6 Strength Ratings	57.5% (23 of 40)	57.5% (23 of 40)

## Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

### Item 7: Placement With Siblings

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 7A) The child was placed with all siblings who also were in foster care.	44.83% (13 of 29)	44.83% (13 of 29)
(Question 7B) When all siblings were not placed together, there was a valid reason for the child's separation from siblings in placement.	87.5% (14 of 16)	87.5% (14 of 16)
Item 7 Strength Ratings	93.1% (27 of 29)	93.1% (27 of 29)

## Item 8: Visiting With Parents and Siblings in Foster Care

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was more than once a week.	41.67% (10 of 24)	41.67% (10 of 24)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was once a week.	25% (6 of 24)	25% (6 of 24)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	8.33% (2 of 24)	8.33% (2 of 24)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	0% (0 of 24)	0% (0 of 24)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was less than once a month.	12.5% (3 of 24)	12.5% (3 of 24)
(Question 8A1) Child never had visits with mother.	12.5% (3 of 24)	12.5% (3 of 24)
(Question 8A) Concerted efforts were made to ensure that the frequency of visitation between the mother and child was sufficient to maintain or promote the continuity of the relationship.	79.17% (19 of 24)	79.17% (19 of 24)
(Question 8C) Concerted efforts were made to ensure that the quality of visitation between the mother and child was sufficient to maintain or promote the continuity of the relationship.	90.48% (19 of 21)	90.48% (19 of 21)
(Questions 8A and 8C) The frequency and quality of visitation between the child and mother was sufficient to maintain and promote the continuity of the relationship.	79.17% (19 of 24)	79.17% (19 of 24)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was more than once a week.	28.57% (6 of 21)	28.57% (6 of 21)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was once a week.	19.05% (4 of 21)	19.05% (4 of 21)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	14.29% (3 of 21)	14.29% (3 of 21)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	9.52% (2 of 21)	9.52% (2 of 21)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was less than once a month.	28.57% (6 of 21)	28.57% (6 of 21)
(Question 8B1) Child never had visits with father.	0% (0 of 21)	0% (0 of 21)
(Question 8B) Concerted efforts were made to ensure that the frequency of visitation between the father and child was sufficient to maintain or promote the continuity of the relationship.	71.43% (15 of 21)	71.43% (15 of 21)

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 8D) Concerted efforts were made to ensure that the quality of visitation between the father and child was sufficient to maintain or promote the continuity of the relationship.	76.19% (16 of 21)	76.19% (16 of 21)
(Questions 8B and 8D) The frequency and quality of visitation between the child and father was sufficient to maintain and promote the continuity of the relationship.	71.43% (15 of 21)	71.43% (15 of 21)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was more than once a week.	18.75% (3 of 16)	18.75% (3 of 16)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was once a week.	18.75% (3 of 16)	18.75% (3 of 16)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	12.5% (2 of 16)	12.5% (2 of 16)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	12.5% (2 of 16)	12.5% (2 of 16)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was less than once a month.	25% (4 of 16)	25% (4 of 16)
(Question 8E1) Child never had visits with siblings in foster care.	12.5% (2 of 16)	12.5% (2 of 16)
(Question 8E) Concerted efforts were made to ensure that the frequency of visitation between the child and siblings in foster care was sufficient to maintain or promote the continuity of the relationship.	75% (12 of 16)	75% (12 of 16)
(Question 8F) Concerted efforts were made to ensure that the quality of visitation between the child and siblings in foster care was sufficient to maintain or promote the continuity of the relationship.	85.71% (12 of 14)	85.71% (12 of 14)
(Questions 8E and 8F) The frequency and quality of visitation with siblings in foster care was sufficient to maintain and promote the continuity of the relationship.	75% (12 of 16)	75% (12 of 16)
Item 8 Strength Ratings	62.86% (22 of 35)	62.86% (22 of 35)

### Item 9: Preserving Connections

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 9A) Concerted efforts were made to maintain the child's important connections (for example, neighborhood, community, faith, language, extended family members including siblings who are not in foster care, Tribe, school, and/or friends).	70% (28 of 40)	70% (28 of 40)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
Item 9 Strength Ratings	70% (28 of 40)	70% (28 of 40)

### Item 10: Relative Placement

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 10A1) The child's current, or most recent, placement was with a relative.	40% (14 of 35)	40% (14 of 35)
(Question 10A2) The child's current or most recent placement with a relative was appropriate to the child's needs.	92.86% (13 of 14)	92.86% (13 of 14)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Identify</b> maternal relatives.	77.78% (7 of 9)	77.78% (7 of 9)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Locate</b> maternal relatives.	77.78% (7 of 9)	77.78% (7 of 9)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Inform</b> maternal relatives.	88.89% (8 of 9)	88.89% (8 of 9)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Evaluate</b> maternal relatives.	88.89% (8 of 9)	88.89% (8 of 9)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Identify</b> paternal relatives.	72.73% (8 of 11)	72.73% (8 of 11)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Locate</b> paternal relatives.	63.64% (7 of 11)	63.64% (7 of 11)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Inform</b> paternal relatives.	72.73% (8 of 11)	72.73% (8 of 11)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to <b>Evaluate</b> paternal relatives.	81.82% (9 of 11)	81.82% (9 of 11)
Item 10 Strength Ratings	68.57% (24 of 35)	68.57% (24 of 35)

### Item 11: Relationship of Child in Care With Parents

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 11A) Concerted efforts were made to promote, support, and otherwise maintain a positive, nurturing relationship between the child in foster care and his or her mother.	66.67% (16 of 24)	66.67% (16 of 24)
(Question 11B) Concerted efforts were made to promote, support, and otherwise maintain a positive, nurturing relationship between the child in foster care and his or her father.	60% (12 of 20)	60% (12 of 20)
Item 11 Strength Ratings	51.72% (15 of 29)	51.72% (15 of 29)

## Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

### Item 12: Needs and Services of Child, Parents, and Foster Parents

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
Item 12 Strength Ratings	55% (22 of 40)	60% (15 of 25)	56.92% (37 of 65)

#### Sub-Item 12A: Needs Assessment and Services to Children

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 12A1) The agency conducted formal or informal initial and/or ongoing comprehensive assessments that accurately assessed the children's needs.	92.5% (37 of 40)	88% (22 of 25)	90.77% (59 of 65)
(Question 12A2) Appropriate services were provided to meet the children's needs.	75% (18 of 24)	66.67% (10 of 15)	71.79% (28 of 39)
Sub-Item 12A Strength Ratings	85% (34 of 40)	80% (20 of 25)	83.08% (54 of 65)

#### Sub-Item 12B: Needs Assessment and Services to Parents

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 12B1) The agency conducted formal or informal initial and/or ongoing comprehensive assessments that accurately assessed the mother's needs	75% (21 of 28)	87.5% (21 of 24)	80.77% (42 of 52)
(Question 12B3) Appropriate services were provided to meet the mother's needs.	70.37% (19 of 27)	75% (18 of 24)	72.55% (37 of 51)
(Questions 12B1 and B3) Concerted efforts were made to assess and address the needs of mothers.	67.86% (19 of 28)	75% (18 of 24)	71.15% (37 of 52)
(Question 12B2) The agency conducted formal or informal initial and/or ongoing comprehensive assessments that accurately assessed the father's needs.	69.23% (18 of 26)	63.16% (12 of 19)	66.67% (30 of 45)

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 12B4) Appropriate services were provided to meet the father's needs.	72% (18 of 25)	61.11% (11 of 18)	67.44% (29 of 43)
(Questions 12B2 and 12B4) Concerted efforts were made to assess and address the needs of fathers.	69.23% (18 of 26)	63.16% (12 of 19)	66.67% (30 of 45)
Sub-Item 12B Strength Ratings	60.61% (20 of 33)	60% (15 of 25)	60.34% (35 of 58)

**Sub-Item 12C: Needs Assessment and Services to Foster Parents**

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 12C1) The agency adequately assessed the needs of the foster or pre-adoptive parents related to caring for children in their care on an ongoing basis.	85.29% (29 of 34)	85.29% (29 of 34)
(Question 12C2) The agency provided appropriate services to foster and pre-adoptive parents related to caring for children in their care.	69.57% (16 of 23)	69.57% (16 of 23)
Sub-Item 12C Strength Ratings	79.41% (27 of 34)	79.41% (27 of 34)

**Item 13: Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning**

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 13A) The agency made concerted efforts to actively involve the child in the case planning process.	76.92% (20 of 26)	62.5% (10 of 16)	71.43% (30 of 42)
(Question 13B) The agency made concerted efforts to actively involve the mother in the case planning process.	59.26% (16 of 27)	79.17% (19 of 24)	68.63% (35 of 51)
(Question 13C) The agency made concerted efforts to actively involve the father in the case planning process.	66.67% (16 of 24)	63.16% (12 of 19)	65.12% (28 of 43)
Item 13 Strength Ratings	56.41% (22 of 39)	56% (14 of 25)	56.25% (36 of 64)

### Item 14: Caseworker Visits With Child

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was more than once a week.	2.5% (1 of 40)	0% (0 of 25)	1.54% (1 of 65)
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was once a week.	2.5% (1 of 40)	4% (1 of 25)	3.08% (2 of 65)
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	20% (8 of 40)	16% (4 of 25)	18.46% (12 of 65)
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	62.5% (25 of 40)	80% (20 of 25)	69.23% (45 of 65)
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was less than once a month.	10% (4 of 40)	0% (0 of 25)	6.15% (4 of 65)
(Question 14A1) Caseworker never had visits with child(ren).	2.5% (1 of 40)	0% (0 of 25)	1.54% (1 of 65)
(Question 14A) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and the child (ren) was sufficient.	87.5% (35 of 40)	96% (24 of 25)	90.77% (59 of 65)
(Question 14B) The quality of visits between the caseworker and the child(ren) was sufficient.	69.23% (27 of 39)	64% (16 of 25)	67.19% (43 of 64)
Item 14 Strength Ratings	67.5% (27 of 40)	64% (16 of 25)	66.15% (43 of 65)

### Item 15: Caseworker Visits With Parents

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was more than once a week.	0% (0 of 27)	0% (0 of 24)	0% (0 of 51)
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was once a week.	3.7% (1 of 27)	0% (0 of 24)	1.96% (1 of 51)

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	14.81% (4 of 27)	16.67% (4 of 24)	15.69% (8 of 51)
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	33.33% (9 of 27)	62.5% (15 of 24)	47.06% (24 of 51)
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was less than once a month.	44.44% (12 of 27)	20.83% (5 of 24)	33.33% (17 of 51)
(Question 15A1) Caseworker never had visits with mother.	3.7% (1 of 27)	0% (0 of 24)	1.96% (1 of 51)
(Question 15A2) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and the mother was sufficient.	59.26% (16 of 27)	83.33% (20 of 24)	70.59% (36 of 51)
(Question 15C) The quality of visits between the caseworker and the mother was sufficient.	53.85% (14 of 26)	75% (18 of 24)	64% (32 of 50)
(Questions 15A2 and 15C) Both the frequency and quality of caseworker visitation with the mother were sufficient.	44.44% (12 of 27)	70.83% (17 of 24)	56.86% (29 of 51)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was more than once a week.	0% (0 of 24)	0% (0 of 19)	0% (0 of 43)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was once a week.	8.33% (2 of 24)	0% (0 of 19)	4.65% (2 of 43)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	4.17% (1 of 24)	5.26% (1 of 19)	4.65% (2 of 43)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	50% (12 of 24)	42.11% (8 of 19)	46.51% (20 of 43)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was less than once a month.	37.5% (9 of 24)	42.11% (8 of 19)	39.53% (17 of 43)
(Question 15B1) Caseworker never had visits with father.	0% (0 of 24)	10.53% (2 of 19)	4.65% (2 of 43)
(Question 15B2) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and the father was sufficient.	62.5% (15 of 24)	57.89% (11 of 19)	60.47% (26 of 43)
(Question 15D) The quality of visits between the caseworker and the father was sufficient.	62.5% (15 of 24)	64.71% (11 of 17)	63.41% (26 of 41)
(Question 15B2 and 15D) Both the frequency and quality of caseworker visitation with the father were sufficient.	50% (12 of 24)	47.37% (9 of 19)	48.84% (21 of 43)
Item 15 Strength Ratings	42.42% (14 of 33)	48% (12 of 25)	44.83% (26 of 58)

## Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

### Item 16: Educational Needs of the Child

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 16A) The agency made concerted efforts to accurately assess the children's educational needs.	91.43% (32 of 35)	57.14% (4 of 7)	85.71% (36 of 42)
(Question 16B) The agency made concerted efforts to address the children's educational needs through appropriate services.	90% (18 of 20)	57.14% (4 of 7)	81.48% (22 of 27)
Item 16 Strength Ratings	91.43% (32 of 35)	57.14% (4 of 7)	85.71% (36 of 42)

## Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

### Item 17: Physical Health of the Child

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 17A1) The agency accurately assessed the children's physical health care needs.	87.5% (35 of 40)	57.14% (4 of 7)	82.98% (39 of 47)
(Question 17B1) The agency provided appropriate oversight of prescription medications for the physical health issues of the target child in foster care.	62.5% (5 of 8)	Not Applicable	62.5% (5 of 8)
(Question 17B2) The agency ensured that appropriate services were provided to the children to address all identified physical health needs.	86.67% (26 of 30)	50% (3 of 6)	80.56% (29 of 36)
(Question 17A2) The agency accurately assessed the children's dental health care needs.	86.49% (32 of 37)	50% (1 of 2)	84.62% (33 of 39)
(Question 17B3) The agency ensured that appropriate services were provided to the children to address all identified dental health needs.	78.57% (22 of 28)	0% (0 of 1)	75.86% (22 of 29)
Item 17 Strength Ratings	77.5% (31 of 40)	57.14% (4 of 7)	74.47% (35 of 47)

### Item 18: Mental/Behavioral Health of the Child

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 18A) The agency accurately assessed the children's mental/behavioral health needs.	96.15% (25 of 26)	66.67% (8 of 12)	86.84% (33 of 38)
(Question 18B) The agency provided appropriate oversight of prescription medications for the mental/behavioral health issues of the target child in foster care.	53.85% (7 of 13)	Not Applicable	53.85% (7 of 13)

<b>Practice Description</b>	<b>Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>	<b>All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases</b>
(Question 18C) The agency ensured that appropriate services were provided to the children to address all identified mental/behavioral health needs.	72% (18 of 25)	58.33% (7 of 12)	67.57% (25 of 37)
Item 18 Strength Ratings	61.54% (16 of 26)	58.33% (7 of 12)	60.53% (23 of 38)