



Mike Braun, Governor
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"Every child in Indiana thrives in a safe, loving, forever home."

Safe Children. Strong Families.

Following the successful completion of Indiana's CFSR Round 4 Program Improvement Plan (PIP) on May 1, 2026, the state joined ACF's *A Home for Every Child* initiative and the associated TB14 PIP. Participation in TB14 strengthens Indiana's efforts to prevent unnecessary removals, expand kinship capacity, and accelerate safe, timely permanency—advancing the agency's true north, **Safe Children. Strong Families**. Indiana will monitor progress through ACF's Core and Chaser Measures¹ (Home-to-Child Ratio, Maintaining Family Connections, Recent Maltreatment History, and Home Disruptions), and the state-defined lead measures outlined in the table below.

Priority	Strategies (How we will do it)	Lead Measures (How we will know)
Keep Children Safely at Home	- Strengthen front-end prevention and early support before case opening and court involvement. - Increase concrete support and kin-based solutions to stabilize safety.	% Timely Initiation % Substantiated intakes served in-home
Right Resources, Right Time	- Improve collaboration and communication with courts, CMHCs, and providers to coordinate support. - Strengthen referrals and frontline staff knowledge of services/resources to better match the family's needs. - Improve quality and consistency of case planning practices. - Utilize targeted case reviews to explore lead measure concerns.	% of children achieving permanency within 12 months % of cases with required monthly contacts - Average time from case opening to first referral (Quarterly) - Average time from referral to first contact (Quarterly) % of cases with a CFTM held in the last 90 days.
A Safe, Stable, Quality Home	- Prioritize early identification and engagement of relatives/kin for first placement. - Build and maintain a network of well-trained foster/resource homes. - Explore separate licensing path for relatives/kin.	% of children placed with relatives/kin at first placement % Change month to month of newly licensed foster/kinship homes. - The ratio of available foster/kinship beds to the number of children in out-of-home care.

¹ [CFSR TB #14 Core Measure and Chaser Measures Analytic Technical Instructions](#)

Appendix I: TB14 PIP Data Dictionary

LEAD MEASURES

Priority / Focus	Measure	Definition	Calculation	Population / Parameters	Frequency
Keep Children Safely at Home	% Timely Initiation	Percent of victim contacts initiated within required timeframes.	Number of victim contacts initiated on time ÷ total victim contacts required in the month.	All assessments opened during the reporting month.	Monthly
Keep Children Safely at Home	% Substantiated Intakes Served In-Home	Percent of substantiated intakes resulting in in-home services (vs. removal).	Substantiated intakes resulting in ongoing involvement (case, IA) where child's placement is at home ÷ total substantiated intakes.	Substantiated intakes (excluding substantiation-and-close).	Monthly
Right Resources, Right Time	% of Children Achieving Permanency Within 12 Months	Percent of children who exit to reunification, guardianship, or adoption within 12 months of entering foster care.	Number of children who exited to reunification, guardianship, or adoption within 12 months of entry ÷ number of children who entered foster care 12 months prior.	All children who entered foster care during the 12-month entry cohort.	Monthly
Right Resources, Right Time	% of Cases with Required Monthly Contacts	Measures compliance with mandated monthly FCM/FCS contacts with children, parents, and foster parents (per active state policy).	Cases with all required contacts documented ÷ total open cases subject to contact requirements.	All open cases with required monthly contacts.	Monthly
Right Resources, Right Time	Average Time from Referral to First Contact	Average days between referral to a service and first provider/client contact.	Sum of (contact date – referral date) ÷ number of referrals.	All referrals initiated in reporting month.	Quarterly
Right Resources, Right Time	% of Cases with a CFTM in Last 90 Days	Percent of cases with a Child and Family Team Meeting documented within the last 90 days.	Cases with CFTM in last 90 days ÷ cases open ≥90 days.	All cases open for at least 90 days.	Monthly
Right Resources, Right Time	Average Time from Case Opening to First Referral	Measures the average number of days between the date a case is opened and the date the first service referral is made. This assesses how quickly families receive initial service linkage.	Sum of (first referral date – case opening date) ÷ total cases with a referral in the period.	All cases opened in the reporting month that have at least one service referral.	Quarterly
A Safe, Stable, Quality Home	% of Children Placed with Relatives/Kin at First Placement	Percent of children whose first placement after removal is with a relative or kin.	Children with kin as first placement ÷ children entering care.	Children newly entering foster care.	Monthly
A Safe, Stable, Quality Home	% Change Month-to-Month in Newly Licensed Foster/Kinship Homes	Month-to-month percent change in new foster/kinship home licenses.	(New homes this month – new homes last month) ÷ last month's homes.	Newly licensed foster/kinship homes.	Monthly
A Safe, Stable, Quality Home	Ratio of Available Foster/Kinship Beds to Children in Out-of-Home Care	Measures system capacity using beds rather than homes to reflect variations in household size.	Total available licensed beds ÷ number of children in out-of-home care.	All licensed foster/kinship homes and all children in care.	Monthly

CORE/CHASER MEASURES

Priority / Focus	Measure	Definition	Calculation	Population / Parameters	Frequency
Core Measure	Home-to-Child Ratio	Ratio of the number of children in foster care on the last day of the month to the number of homes available to those children.	Numerator: Count of licensed homes with active license on last day + unlicensed homes with a child placed on the last day. Denominator: Count of all children in foster care on the last day.	- Children under 18 only. - Exclude juvenile justice placements. - Include trial home visits. - Homes: include licensed homes and unlicensed homes with a placed child. - Out-of-state placements counted by state with care responsibility.	Monthly
Chaser Measure	Maintaining Family Connections	% of children in foster care on last day of the month who were living with a relative or kin.	Numerator: Children living with relative/kin. Denominator: All children in care on last day.	- Children under 18 only. - Exclude juvenile justice placements. - Relative/kin as defined in AFCARS TB #20.	Monthly
Chaser Measure	Use of Congregate Care	% of all days children spent in foster care during the month that occurred in congregate care.	Numerator: Total days spent in congregate care. Denominator: Total days in foster care (all settings).	- Children under 18 only. - Congregate care includes specific AFCARS living arrangement categories (group home, RTC, QRTP, childcare institution, etc.). - Count days based on arrangement at 11:59 p.m.	Monthly
Chaser Measure	Recent Maltreatment History	% of children with a substantiated/indicated maltreatment report reaching disposition during the month who had a prior substantiated/indicated report within the previous 182 days.	Numerator: Children with a prior qualifying report within 182 days. Denominator: Children with substantiated/indicated report reaching disposition during the month.	- Children under 18 only. - Dispositions per NCANDS definitions. - Count each child only once even if multiple reports.	Monthly
Chaser Measure	Home Disruptions	% of homes that had a child placed during the month and also had a disruption that month.	Numerator: Homes with a disruption (child moved out for any reason other than exit or trial home visit). Denominator: Homes with a placed child for at least 1 day.	- Homes with at least one child under 18 for at least one day. - Respite returns to same home not counted as disruption. - Count homes once even if multiple moves.	Monthly

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