

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEWS

Connecticut FINAL REPORT 2025

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Final Report: Connecticut Child and Family Services Review

INTRODUCTION

This document presents the findings of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) for the state of Connecticut. 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 Connecticut are based on:

- The Statewide Assessment prepared by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) and submitted to the CB on July 31, 2024. 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 February 2024 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 96 cases (51 foster care and 45 in-home services), conducted via a State-Led Review process at Bridgeport, Milford, Norwich, Hartford, Danbury, and New Britain Counties in Connecticut October 1, 2024–March 31, 2025, examining case practices occurring during October 2023 through March 2025.
- Interviews and focus groups with state stakeholders and partners, which included:
 - Academy for Workforce Development
 - Administrative Review Board
 - Attorneys for the agency
 - Attorneys for parents
 - Attorneys for children/youth, and guardians ad litem
 - Child welfare agency caseworkers and supervisors
 - Child welfare agency program managers
 - Judges and members of the Court Improvement Program (CIP)
 - Foster and adoptive parent licensing staff
 - Foster and adoptive parents
 - Service providers
 - Parents
 - Youth

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

Connecticut 2025 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 Reentry to foster care in 12 months Placement stability

Outcome	Case Review Item(s)	Statewide Data Indicators
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

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

The following 2 of the 7 systemic factors were found to be in substantial conformity:

- Quality Assurance System
- Agency Responsiveness to the Community

CB Comments on State Performance

In its Round 3 CFSR in 2016, Connecticut was not in substantial conformity with any of the 7 outcomes and was found to be in substantial conformity with 2 of the 7 systemic factors: Quality Assurance and Agency Responsiveness to the Community. Connecticut entered into a PIP to address the areas of non-conformity and successfully completed implementation of its PIP and met all its measurement goals. For its Round 4 CFSR, the CB approved Connecticut to conduct a State-Led Review, which was completed in 2025. Connecticut was found not in substantial conformity with any of the 7 outcomes and in substantial conformity with 2 of the 7 systemic factors: Quality Assurance and Agency Responsiveness to the Community.

The results of the case review identified several areas of strong child welfare practice in Connecticut. In the case review, 88% or 22 of 25 applicable foster care cases were rated as a Strength for placing siblings together. Relative or kin placement was identified as a strong practice with 43% (22 of 51) cases having children placed with relatives. In most of the remaining cases, there was evidence of concerted efforts to evaluate relatives for placement throughout the Period Under Review. This is consistent with data presented in Connecticut's Statewide Assessment, showing that it is a routine practice to engage relatives to become caregivers. In addition, the case review revealed consistent practice in accurately assessing the social/emotional, educational, physical, and behavioral health needs of children in foster care. The case review also demonstrated strong practice in providing services to meet the educational needs of children in foster care.

Inconsistent practice was observed in safety-related practice, especially with in-home services cases. Timely face-to-face contacts with children in investigations (Item 1) did not occur most frequently in previously open cases where the timeframe for face-to-face contact was 72 hours. There was also a lack of providing services to address safety and risk concerns and to prevent entry or re-entry into foster care. Some of the issues identified were delays in referrals, lack of engagement with parents, and a lack of urgency in addressing family needs. Most of the safety and risk services needed were substance abuse and intimate partner violence services. Adequately assessing safety and risk with families on an ongoing basis and managing safety concerns through monitoring of safety plans was also a challenge, particularly with in-home services cases.

Permanency Outcome 1 was the state's lowest performing outcome at 20% of cases achieving Substantial Conformity. This is largely driven by Connecticut's performance on Item 6, Achieving Reunification, Guardianship, Adoption, or Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA). Item 6 was rated as a Strength in 33% of the 51 foster care cases reviewed.

CT has a strong practice of using concurrent planning. Cases with concurrent goals were often observed to have concerted efforts made toward both goals simultaneously. When it was appropriate to establish concurrent goals, Connecticut consistently established concurrent goals in a timely manner. The state also has a strong practice of identifying alternate permanency goals early in the case when reunification was not appropriate. In those circumstances, permanency was achieved in a more timely manner. There were also cases where the goal or goals in place were not appropriate to case circumstances, and in those cases, permanency was almost always not achieved timely. In the foster care sample of 51 cases, 19 cases were

found to have inappropriate permanency goals. Of those, 15 cases were rated as an Area Needing Improvement because of not achieving permanency timely. Most often the inappropriate goal was reunification. In the cases reviewed, when reunification was inappropriate it was because parents had not engaged in services over an extended period or had indicated an intent not to reunify. There were several cases where guardianship was deemed not appropriate. This was most often when the child was young; there was no parental involvement with the child or with services, and there was a relative caregiver who indicated a willingness to adopt.

When adoption was the permanency goal, either sole or concurrent, the goal was almost always appropriate. However, in the cases reviewed, Connecticut found it challenging to achieve timely adoption. In the cases where adoption was achieved timely, it was observed that the processes moved swiftly between the agency and the courts. When there was an early assignment of an adoption goal, many times termination of parental rights (TPR) petitions were filed earlier than the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) requires; hearings were held timely without continuances or rescheduling of court hearings; the agency paperwork, including securing of an adoption subsidy, were filed swiftly; and the court held a finalization hearing expeditiously, sometimes within 2 weeks of receiving the agency's paperwork. This occurred in 6 cases. It was also observed that often, despite an adoption goal, TPR filings did not occur within ASFA timeframes. There were delays in the agency practice of completing necessary adoption paperwork including the adoption subsidy. There were cases where the agency deliberately delayed the TPR filing upon recognition of a lack of grounds against the parent because the agency had not provided reasonable efforts toward reunification. One or more of these issues was found in 12 of the cases.

Although children in Connecticut experience placement moves at a rate that had been statistically no different or better than national performance over the last 5 AFCARS reporting periods, performance has been trending in the wrong direction. Most recently, in February of 2025, Connecticut's performance on placement stability was worse than national performance. Item 4 in the case review assesses whether children are stable in their current placements and whether any move is made in furtherance of a case plan goal or due to the needs of the child. 100% of children in the cases reviewed were in stable placements. However, of the children who had moved, 63% were moved for reasons other than achievement of case plan goals or the child's needs.

As stated previously, timely reunification was most often not achieved when reunification was an inappropriate goal in the case. Additionally, when the goal of reunification was appropriate, Connecticut struggled with achieving reunification within 12 months of entering care. The statewide data indicator for permanency in 12 months from entry into care examines the achievement of all types of permanency, of which permanency by reunification is the most likely. Connecticut's performance on this indicator is worse than national performance. This is consistent with the observations made within the cases reviewed. The practices that were observed to have delayed reunification where the permanency goal of reunification was appropriate included delays in assessing the needs of the parents timely and/or delays in providing necessary services to parents including securing psychological evaluations and parenting and reunification assessments (Sub-Item 12B). Although frequent and quality visits with parents (Item 8) overall was adequate (80% for mothers and 71% for fathers), delays in ensuring this occurred was also a factor in permanency not being achieved timely. While these practices were observed with both parents, they were more frequently observed with fathers, including not establishing paternity or identifying fathers swiftly. Item 20 examines whether case plans are developed jointly with the child's parents. Overwhelmingly, stakeholders reported this was an area of challenge for Connecticut and speaks to the continued need for Connecticut to examine and improve engagement practices with parents.

Legal and judicial professionals' policies and practices also contributed to the outcomes observed in Permanency Outcome 1. As noted above, many cases continued to retain inappropriate goals in the case files. We observed cases in which the court approved those goals for a prolonged time despite the unlikelihood of permanency being achieved through that goal. In Connecticut, most goal changes must be presented to and approved by the court. It is evident that the judges are making thoughtful inquiry when faced with a goal change request. Active advocacy on the part of GALs and parents' counsel was also observed with motions to terminate commitments being filed, and requests for evaluations and services being levied by attorneys. In addition to permanency delays due to inappropriate goals, and delays caused by late TPR filings as more fully articulated above, it was observed that continuances and rescheduled hearings often create delays in

advancing children to timely permanency. Continuances happened at the request of parties and for reasons beyond anyone's control. There were also several instances where the court process created delay. Lack of judge availability, hearings being rescheduled, and courts not scheduling trials timely where the parties clearly were not in agreement, contributed to delays in the cases reviewed. While Connecticut achieved a Strength rating for the timeliness of permanency hearings, achieving timely permanency requires that hearings are of good quality in addition to being timely.

While assessing the needs of children is strong in foster care cases, the ability of the agency to provide services to address children's needs is limited, especially in meeting social/emotional needs (13 of 27 cases) and behavioral health needs (12 of 26 cases). During stakeholder interviews relating to community service providers, concerns were expressed about waitlists, limited workforce, and transportation availability to and from service providers. The case review further identified issues related to missed appointments and delays in making referrals to behavioral health services. Regarding social and emotional needs, there was often insufficient focus on the expressed concerns of the child and on opportunities to address the parent-child relationship.

Another significant area of concern is ensuring that parents have enhanced capacity to provide for their children. Caseworkers can accomplish this through assessing and providing services to parents, engaging parents in case planning, and participating in high-quality visits with parents (Sub-Item 12B, and Items 13 and 15). Strength ratings were seen in 19 of 81 or 24% of cases across case types. Casework practice with mothers was often better than with fathers.

Generally, in-home services cases were rated better on these items than were foster care cases. This may indicate that the focus of casework practice in family preservation cases is more often on the parents, especially the mother, while in foster care cases the focus of practice is on the child in care.

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 CFSR and performance summaries from the case review findings of the onsite review. CFSR statewide data indicators provide performance information on states' child safety and permanency outcomes. The statewide data indicators are aggregate measures calculated using information that states report to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). For a detailed description of the statewide data indicators, see CFSR Technical Bulletin #13A, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/training-technical-assistance/cfsr-technical-bulletin-13a>. 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.

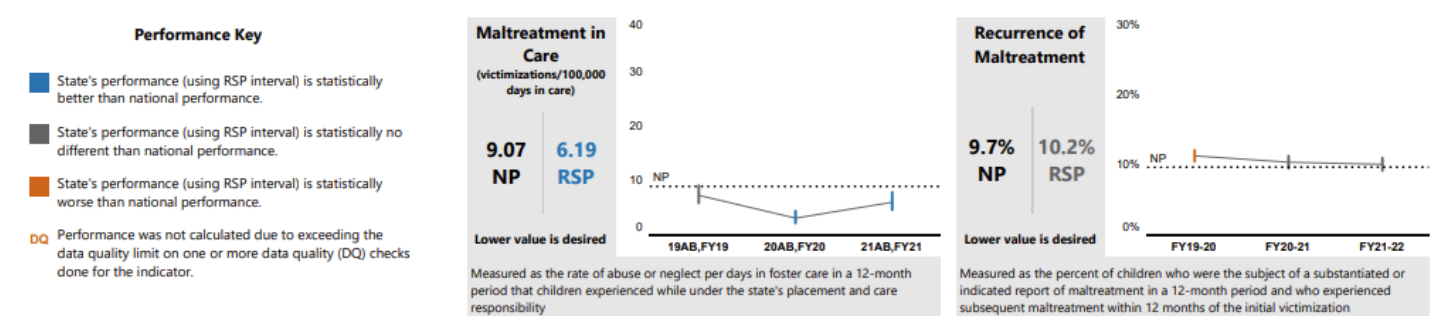
The CB determines whether a state is in substantial conformity based on the state's RSP on two statewide data indicators and the state's performance on Item 1: Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment.

The state's policy defines commencement of the CPS investigation or Family Assessment as having initial face-to-face contact, or attempted face-to-face contact, with the family within the assigned response time. There are 3 response times for an accepted report of child maltreatment: same day, 24 hours, and 72 hours. Reports selected for a Family Assessment are assigned the 72-hour response time.

Statewide Data Indicators

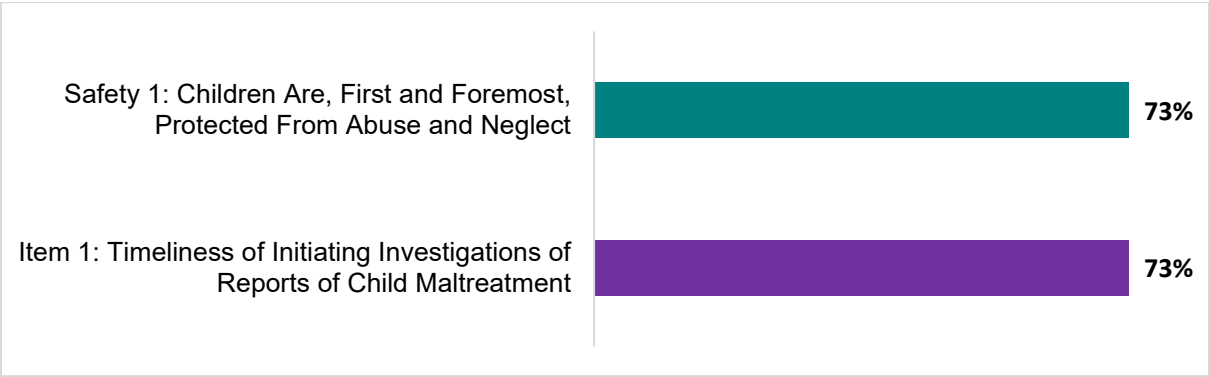
The chart below shows the state’s performance from the February 2024 data profile that signaled the start of the statewide assessment process and was used to determine substantial conformity for Safety Outcome 1.

Figure 1. State’s Performance on Safety Outcome 1 Indicators



Case Review

Figure 2. Performance on Safety Outcome 1 and Supporting Items



Connecticut 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 better than national performance.
- The state’s performance on the “recurrence of maltreatment” data indicator was statistically no different 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	August 2024 Profile	February 2025 Profile	Inclusion in PIP?
Maltreatment in Foster Care	Better	No Different	No Different	No
Recurrence of Maltreatment in 12 months	No Different	Worse	Worse	No

All results reported here are based on the February 2025 data profile and supplementary context data and may describe performance that is different from what is depicted in Table 2, which shows performance as of the February 2024 data profile, which was transmitted with the Statewide Assessment, and whose latest reporting periods were used to determine substantial conformity.

Connecticut’s performance on the Maltreatment in Foster Care indicator has steadily worsened over the last 2 federal fiscal years. While still no different than national performance, the rate of maltreatment has more than tripled since FY 2020 to FY 2022.

- The total number of days children spent in care decreased by nearly 25% from FY 2020 to FY 2022; however, the total number of victimizations more than doubled from 30 victimizations to 73 during this timeframe.
- The rate of maltreatment in care doubled for children ages 1–5 years and 6–10 years, but this increase was most prominent for children ages 11–16 years, who had a fivefold increase from 2.11 to 11.49 victims per 100,000 days in care. Children in this group account for about 30% of the child population in the state, but nearly 47% of all victimizations.
- Black children make up approximately 22% of the child population and nearly 48% of all victimizations. Between FY 2020 and FY 2022, the rate of victimizations among Black children went from 1.25 to 15.54—an increase of 1,143%.
- Hartford and New Haven Counties account for half the state’s total child population; nearly two-thirds of the overall increase in the number of victimizations within the state occurred within these two localities.

Since the data period transmitted with the Statewide Assessment, Connecticut’s RSP on Recurrence of Maltreatment has worsened from no different to worse than national performance.

- Children ages 1–5 years account for 34% of all recurring victims in the state—the most of any age group—and had the most notable change in performance from 8.3% to 10.0% of children experiencing a recurrence of abuse within 12 months of a substantiated maltreatment report.

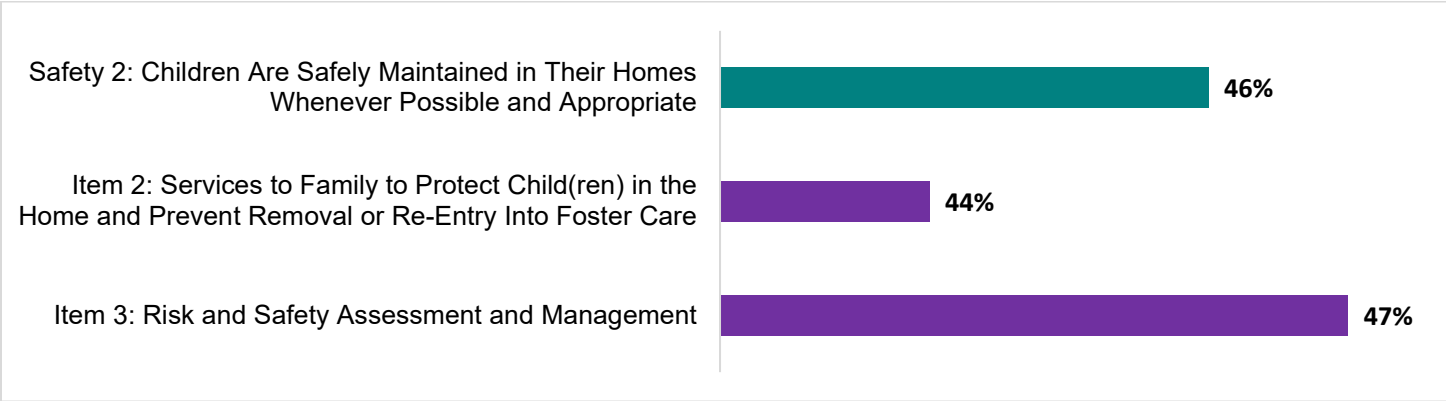
Hispanic and White children account for 37% and 35%, respectively, of all recurring victims. While the performance among Hispanic children on this indicator in FYs 2022–23 is largely similar to the performance in FYs 2020–21, the recurrence of maltreatment among White children has steadily climbed over the last 3 reporting years, from 7.6% to 8.9%—the highest for any racial/ethnic group in the state.

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



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

- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were 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.

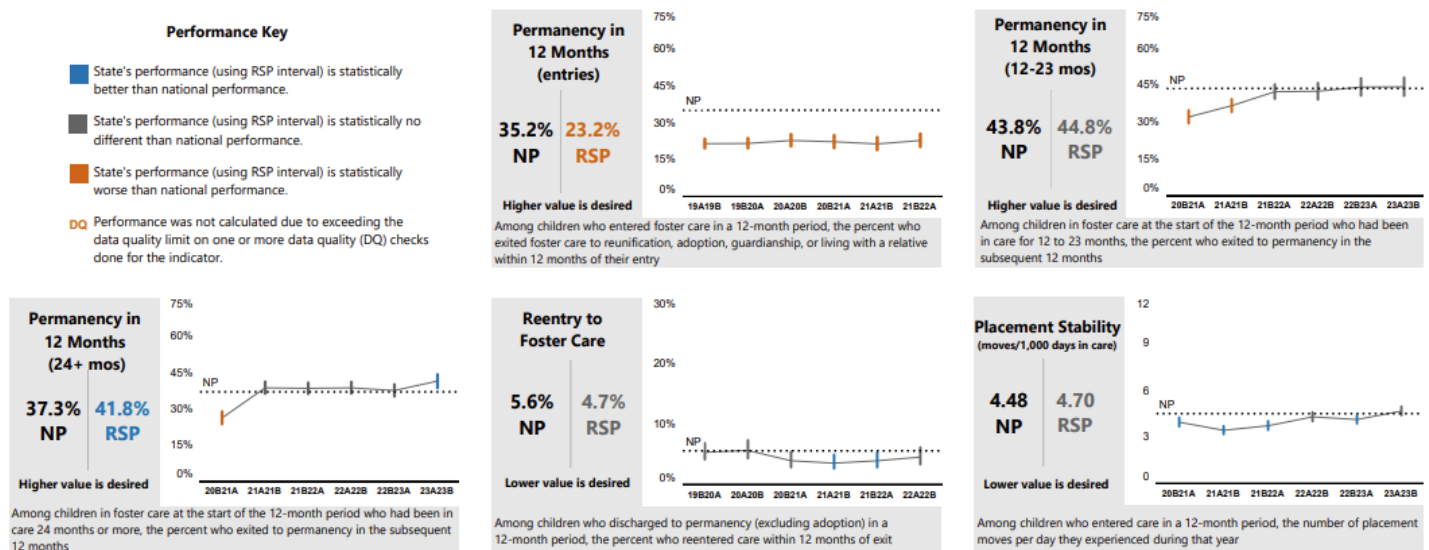
Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

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

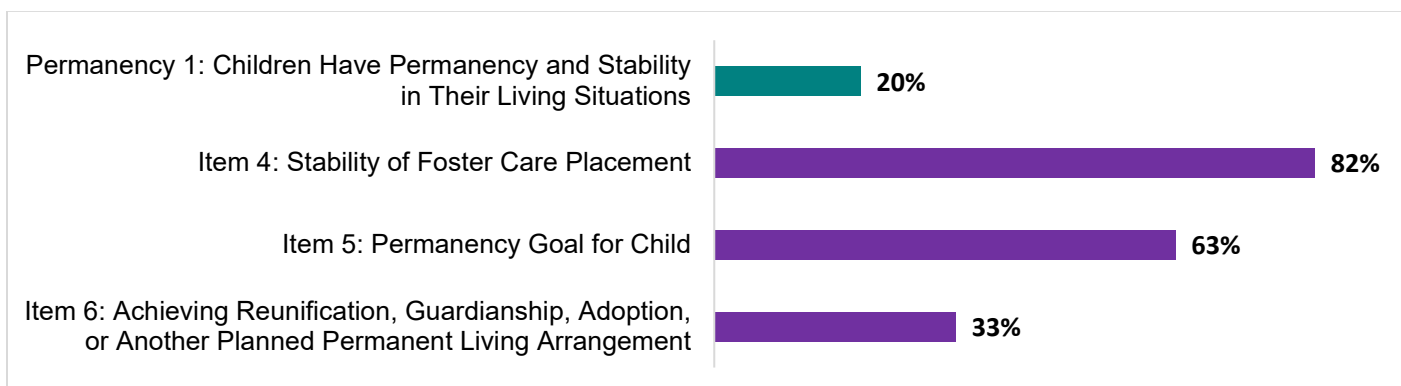
The chart below shows the state's performance from the February 2024 data profile that signaled the start of the statewide assessment process and was used to determine substantial conformity for Permanency Outcome 1.

Figure 4. State's Performance on Permanency Outcome 1 Indicators



Case Review

Figure 5. Performance on Permanency Outcome 1 and Supporting Items



Connecticut 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 worse 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 no different 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 no different than national performance.
- The state’s performance on the “placement stability” data indicator was statistically no different than national performance. Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were 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	August 2024 Profile	February 2025 Profile	Inclusion in PIP?
Permanency in 12 months for children entering care	Worse	Worse	Worse	Yes
Permanency in 12 months for children in care 12–23 months	No Different	Better	No Different	No
Permanency in 12 months for children in care 24 months or more	Better	Better	No Different	No
Reentry to foster care in 12 months	No Different	No Different	Better	No
Placement stability	No Different	No Different	Worse	No

All results reported here are based on the February 2025 data profile and supplementary context data and thus may describe performance that is different from what is depicted in Figure 1 because that is from the February 2024 data profile, which was transmitted with the Statewide Assessment and used to determine substantial conformity.

Overall, Connecticut’s performance across all three Permanency in 12 Months indicators has remained largely steady across the last 6 reporting periods. However, since the reporting periods transmitted with the Statewide Assessment, there has been a slight decrease in performance, especially among children in care 12–23 months and at least 24 months, with the state’s RSP shifting from better than national performance to no different.

- While overall performance did not change among children entering care, the state reported an improvement in permanency among Black children and children of two or more races, while reporting a decrease in permanency among Hispanic and White children.
- In contrast, among children in care 12–23 months, Black children and children of two or more races experienced a decrease in permanency while Hispanic and White children experienced an increase in permanency performance.

Connecticut's performance on reentry to foster care has steadily improved over time; while the number of children discharged to permanency has remained largely unchanged, the number of children reentering care within 12 months has decreased by over 21% over the last 6 reporting periods.

- Children over the age of 6 years have experienced a notable increase in reentry during this timeframe and should continue to be monitored. However, this has been outweighed by an even greater drop in reentry among children under 5 years of age, resulting in overall improvement for the state.

Connecticut's performance on placement stability continues to trend in an undesirable direction over the last 6 reporting periods, with the state's RSP categorized as worse than national performance in the most recent data profile.

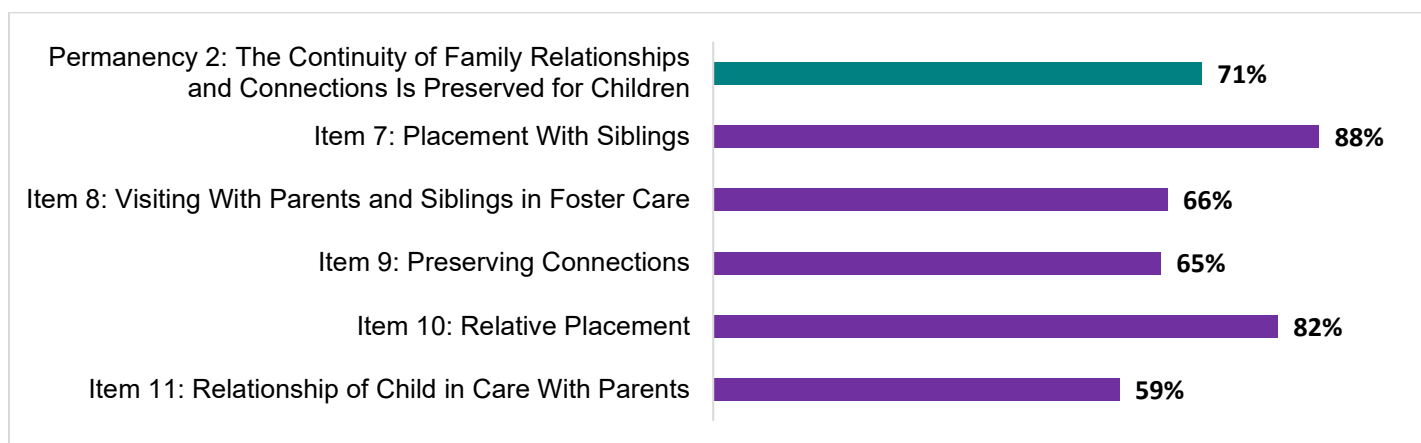
- The total number of days in care experienced by children statewide increased by 28% during this timeframe and was far outpaced by a 73% increase in the number of placement moves.
- Children ages 11–16 years make up the most placement moves while in care (41%) and have the overall highest rate of moves (7.81) across all age groups in the state. However, the increase in the state's placement stability rate is most pronounced among children ages 6–10 years, which went from 3.85 to 5.61 moves per 1,000 days in care—a 31% overall increase.
- Black children were the only racial/ethnic group that reported a decrease in the rate of placement moves over 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



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

- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were substantially achieved.

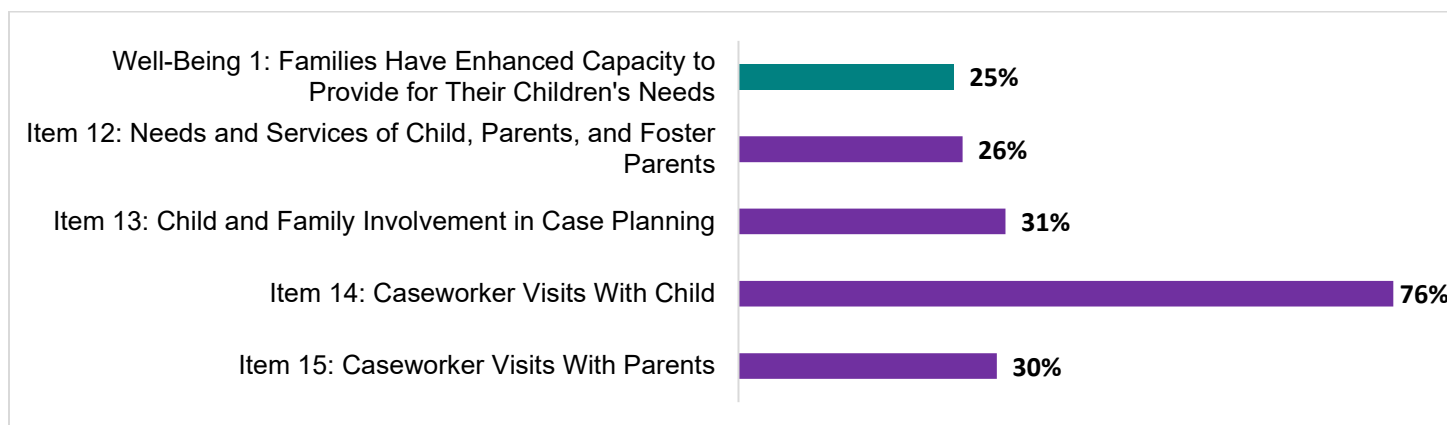
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 7.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 8.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 9.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 10.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated 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



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

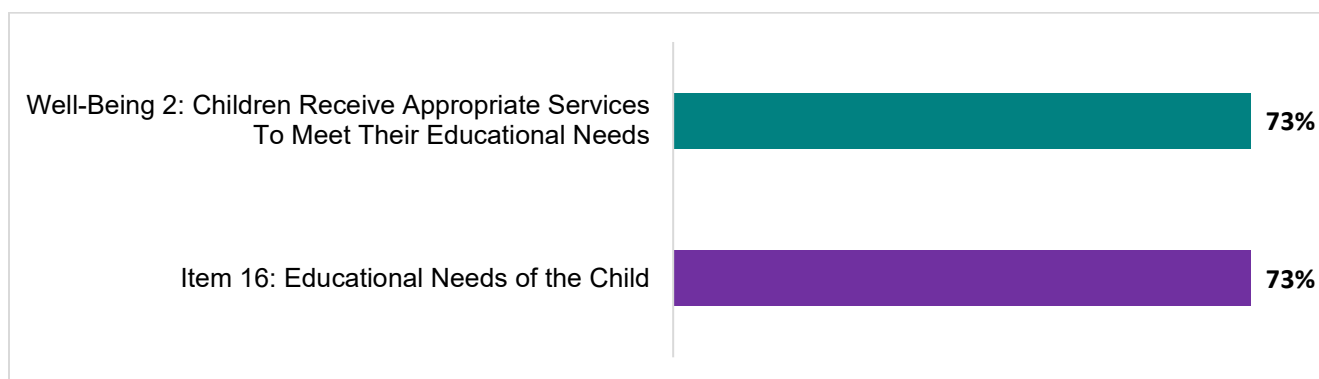
- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were substantially achieved.
- Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 12.
 - Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Sub-Item 12A.
 - Less than 90% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Sub-Item 12B.
 - Less than 90% of the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



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

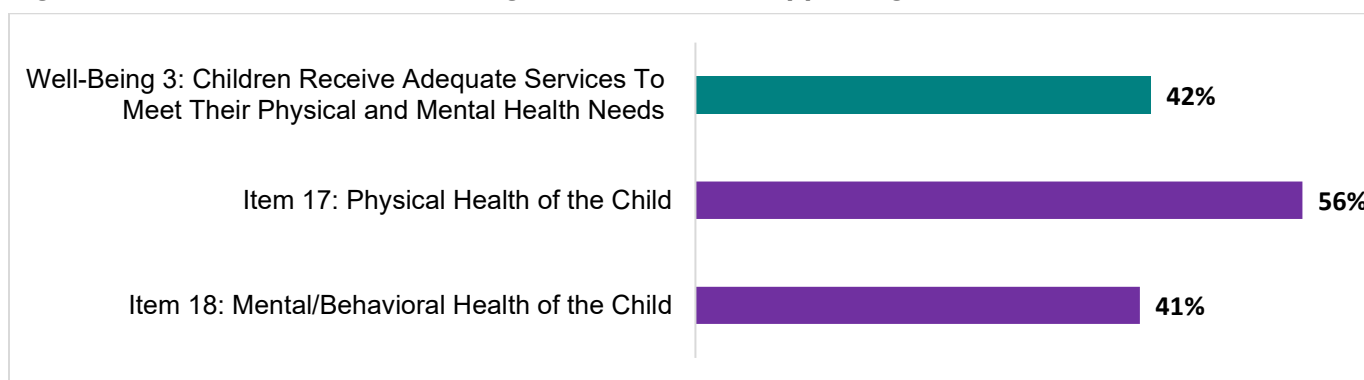
- Less than 95% of the cases were rated as a Strength on Item 16.

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



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

- Less than 95% of the cases reviewed were 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

Connecticut 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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 19 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- The data provided by DCF demonstrates that recording new placements or placement changes often occurs outside of the policy requirement of 5 days. The data system can identify the status, demographics, and permanency plan of the children in care, but the state does not have a well-defined process to audit the accuracy of the data.

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	Strength
Item 22: Permanency Hearings	Strength
Item 23: Termination of Parental Rights	Area Needing Improvement
Item 24: Notice of Hearings and Reviews to Caregivers	Area Needing Improvement

Connecticut 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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 20 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- The data and evidence did not demonstrate that every child has a case plan that was developed jointly with the parent(s). DCF does not have specific, reliable data to identify whether parents are engaged in the development of the case plan and do not have a consistent process for ensuring parents are involved in the development of case plans. Information gathered indicates that a primary means of collecting parents' input into the case plans is through a Family Feedback section, but the feedback provided is not consistently integrated into the case plan itself, nor does this process constitute joint development of the case plan.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 21 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- The information collected showed that initial and subsequent administrative case reviews (periodic reviews) were routinely held timely across the state. The date of removal from home is used to calculate when the initial periodic review was due and there is a process in place to notify the parties, schedule and hold initial and subsequent reviews at or before 6 months and every 6 months thereafter.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 22 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information gathered demonstrated that permanency hearings are routinely being held within 12 months of the child's entry into foster care and every 12 months thereafter. There is a system in place to ensure that initial and subsequent permanency hearings are scheduled earlier than the required timeframes so that if there are delays, the hearings are still held within the 12-month requirement. As a result, even when delays happen, the state is routinely meeting the federal timeframes.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 23 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- Information gathered showed that statewide, TPRs are not routinely filed within the required timeframes. There is no systematic method to track documentation of compelling reasons not to file a TPR within the required timeframes.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 24 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- The data and evidence provided did not establish that foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers of children in foster care are receiving notification of permanency hearings routinely across the state. Although there is evidence that foster and adoptive parents are routinely notified of periodic reviews, information about the right to be heard was not provided in the notice.

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	Strength

Connecticut was found 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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 25 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- The Bureau of Strategic Planning leads the Quality Assurance System (QAS) and continuous quality improvement activities for DCF. It operates across the 14 area offices and various divisions of the agency. The QAS has standards and quality assurance processes to evaluate the quality of services provided to the children and families that they serve, including the use of the federal Onsite Review Instrument and Instructions (OSRI). Data from the quality assurance system identifies the strengths and needs of the system and is used to inform decision-making in all aspects of DCF work. Reports are completed to review the quality of casework and practice. This data is shared routinely with agency staff to guide quality improvement efforts. DCF uses the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycle as the model for implementing and monitoring program improvement strategies, processes, and measures.

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	Strength
Item 27: Ongoing Staff Training	Area Needing Improvement
Item 28: Foster and Adoptive Parent Training	Area Needing Improvement

Connecticut 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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 26 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- The new worker training includes the assignment of a Child Welfare Trainer Coach, classroom learning, structured shadowing in the new worker's area office, self-guided trainings, and a home visit simulation practice conducted with parent advocacy partners. Information gathered showed that Connecticut's Academy for Workforce Development holds focus groups with new workers to see how they are transferring classroom learning into practice as well as meeting with area office leadership and supervisors. Data and information showed that trainees complete the training within the required timeframes and that the training provides new staff with skills necessary to carry out their duties.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 27 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- DCF does not have reliable data on the percentage of staff who meet the 30-hour ongoing training requirement and has only recently started tracking the completion of the requirement. Information gathered showed that the focus on training completion varies across the state and often depends on factors such as staff turnover and caseload size. Initial and ongoing supervisor training appears to be functioning well and prepares new supervisors for their roles.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 28 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- Information gathered shows that many foster parents found the pre-licensing training to be too general and pointed to a need for more skill-specific learning and better preparation for understanding and navigating the DCF system. Data provided also showed that license renewal training requirements were met by a very small percentage of the foster parents requiring a license renewal.

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

Connecticut 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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 29 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information gathered shows that the service array has many challenges including waitlists, limited workforce, and limited transportation availability. Although a wide array of services is available in many parts of the state, rural areas have fewer services, and accessibility is a challenge in both urban and rural areas. Housing and a lack of available foster homes were also noted as challenges across Connecticut.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 30 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information gathered shows that although there are efforts to individualize services through flexible funding mechanisms, the process is complex and time consuming, making it challenging to meet families' and children's immediate needs. There is a lack of consistently available and accessible services to address families' unique needs, especially for parents with cognitive disabilities and children on the autism spectrum.

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

Connecticut 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 Child and Family Services Plan (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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 31 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- DCF routinely engages in listening sessions and/or focus groups, and ongoing consultation, with many groups in the development of the CFSP and APSR. These groups include people with lived experience in the child welfare system, parents with DCF involvement, youth in DCF care, kinship caregivers, licensed foster parents, Tribes, Assistant Attorney General, and the juvenile courts. Feedback regarding stakeholders' major concerns from these consultations is included in the CFSP and APSRs. DCF engages stakeholders in ongoing consultation through several councils, committees, and advisory boards on an ongoing basis.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 32 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- DCF provided information on data exchanges and interfaces with other federally assisted programs, such as the Department of Social Services (DSS) for medical coverage, entitlements, and child support enforcement; the Social Security Administration (SSA) for entitlements and identifying information for children in care; and the State Department of Education (SDE) for monitoring the educational needs of children served by DCF. DCF jointly contracts for mental/behavioral health services with the DSS and Mental Health and Addiction Services. They maintain a partnership with Head Start to provide support to families with young children. DCF also works with Housing Advocacy Groups to address the housing needs of the children and families in DCF's care.

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

Connecticut 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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 33 based on information from the Statewide Assessment and stakeholder interviews.
- Information gathered does not support that standards are applied equally among DCF licensed homes and Child Placing Agency (CPA) homes. Oversight of CPA homes is managed through a contract management unit that audits each CPA. While the contract management unit completes random audits to ensure they are meeting contract standards, the results of those audits were not routinely available to the DCF staff who oversee DCF homes. DCF does not receive all the documents on the foster parents licensed by CPAs such as the home study, so it is not clear that the same standards are applied across the CPAs.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 34 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- DCF showed that they conduct checks of agency background records, Federal Bureau of Investigation and state criminal records, and follow the federal regulations for national criminal records checks. Foster Care Division (FCD) social workers and supervisors use a standardized DCF form to assure compliance with required criminal and child protective services background clearances. In addition, as a part of the verification for IV-E reimbursement, staff review the secure electronic record of background checks to ensure CPA homes are meeting requirements. DCF has developed a Caregiver Practice Model (CPM) to support a case planning process to ensure safety of children placed in foster homes or adoptive homes. The CPM requires the FCD worker to assess safety at critical case junctions, i.e., entering care, change in care, allegations of abuse or neglect, regulatory violations, permanency, etc. The model supports and mirrors the CPS assigned social worker safety assessment and case planning process.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Strength for Item 35 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- DCF demonstrated that foster and adoptive family recruitment uses the racial and ethnic demographic data for children in foster care and the racial and ethnic demographic data for current foster families and pre-adoptive families to develop and adjust recruitment efforts. The two data sets are compared, and the data is routinely shared on a regional level to adjust localized recruitment plans accordingly.

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.

- Connecticut received an overall rating of Area Needing Improvement for Item 36 based on information from the Statewide Assessment.
- DCF does not routinely complete incoming interstate requests for home studies within the required timeframes. Connecticut uses the National Electronic Interstate Compact Enterprise (NEICE) to assist in the facilitation of interstate requests. Connecticut also uses interstate resources such as the Heart Gallery to recruit families for waiting children.

APPENDIX A

Summary of Connecticut 2025 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
Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.	Not in Substantial Conformity	73% Substantially Achieved
Item 1: Timeliness of investigations	Area Needing Improvement	73% 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	Better Than National Performance	Lower	6.19	4.78–8.03	21A–21B, FY21–22
Recurrence of maltreatment	9.7%	No Different Than National Performance	Lower	10.2%	9.3%–11.1%	FY21–22

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

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.	Not in Substantial Conformity	46% Substantially Achieved
Item 2: Services to protect child(ren) in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care	Area Needing Improvement	44% Strength
Item 3: Risk and safety assessment and management	Area Needing Improvement	47% Strength

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

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.	Not in Substantial Conformity	20% Substantially Achieved
Item 4: Stability of foster care placement	Area Needing Improvement	82% Strength
Item 5: Permanency goal for child	Area Needing Improvement	63% Strength
Item 6: Achieving reunification, guardianship, adoption, or another planned permanent living arrangement	Area Needing Improvement	33% 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%	Worse Than National Performance	Higher	23.2%	20.7%–25.9%	21B–23B
Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12–23 months	43.8%	No Different Than National Performance	Higher	44.8%	41.1%–48.6%	23A–23B
Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or more	37.3%	Better Than National Performance	Higher	41.8%	39.0%–44.5%	23A–23B
Re-entry to foster care in 12 months	5.6%	No Different Than National Performance	Lower	4.7%	3.5%–6.3%	22A–23B
Placement stability (moves per 1,000 days in care)	4.48	No Different Than National Performance	Lower	4.70	4.43–4.99	23A–23B

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

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.	Not in Substantial Conformity	71% Substantially Achieved
Item 7: Placement with siblings	Area Needing Improvement	88% Strength
Item 8: Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care	Area Needing Improvement	66% Strength
Item 9: Preserving connections	Area Needing Improvement	65% Strength
Item 10: Relative placement	Area Needing Improvement	82% Strength
Item 11: Relationship of child in care with parents	Area Needing Improvement	59% Strength

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

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.	Not in Substantial Conformity	25% Substantially Achieved
Item 12: Needs and services of child, parents, and foster parents	Area Needing Improvement	26% Strength
Sub-Item 12A: Needs assessment and services to children	Area Needing Improvement	70% Strength
Sub-Item 12B: Needs assessment and services to parents	Area Needing Improvement	23% Strength
Sub-Item 12C: Needs assessment and services to foster parents	Area Needing Improvement	76% Strength
Item 13: Child and family involvement in case planning	Area Needing Improvement	31% Strength
Item 14: Caseworker visits with child	Area Needing Improvement	76% Strength
Item 15: Caseworker visits with parents	Area Needing Improvement	30% Strength

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

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.	Not in Substantial Conformity	73% Substantially Achieved
Item 16: Educational needs of the child	Area Needing Improvement	73% Strength

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

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.	Not in Substantial Conformity	42% Substantially Achieved
Item 17: Physical health of the child	Area Needing Improvement	56% Strength

Data Element	Overall Determination	State Performance
Item 18: Mental/behavioral health of the child	Area Needing Improvement	41% 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 and Stakeholder Interviews	Not in Substantial Conformity
Item 19: Statewide Information System	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement

CASE REVIEW SYSTEM

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Case Review System	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Not in Substantial Conformity
Item 20: Written Case Plan	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement
Item 21: Periodic Reviews	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Strength
Item 22: Permanency Hearings	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Strength
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	Substantial Conformity
Item 25: Quality Assurance System	Statewide Assessment	Strength

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
Item 26: Initial Staff Training	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Strength
Item 27: Ongoing Staff Training	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement
Item 28: Foster and Adoptive Parent Training	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement

SERVICE ARRAY AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

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

AGENCY RESPONSIVENESS TO THE COMMUNITY

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Agency Responsiveness to the Community	Statewide Assessment	Substantial Conformity
Item 31: State Engagement and Consultation With Stakeholders Pursuant to CFSP and APSR	Statewide Assessment	Strength
Item 32: Coordination of CFSP Services With Other Federal Programs	Statewide Assessment	Strength

FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENT LICENSING, RECRUITMENT, AND RETENTION

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Not in Substantial Conformity
Item 33: Standards Applied Equally	Statewide Assessment and Stakeholder Interviews	Area Needing Improvement
Item 34: Requirements for Criminal Background Checks	Statewide Assessment	Strength

Data Element	Source of Data and Information	State Performance
Item 35: Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes	Statewide Assessment	Strength
Item 36: State Use of Cross-Jurisdictional Resources for Permanent Placements	Statewide Assessment	Area Needing Improvement

APPENDIX B: PRACTICE PERFORMANCE REPORT

Connecticut CFSR (State-Led) 2025

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 Connecticut CFSR (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.cfsportal.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.	97.3% (36 of 37)
(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.	67.57% (25 of 37)
(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.	16.67% (2 of 12)
Item 1 Strength Ratings	72.97% (27 of 37)

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.	38.89% (7 of 18)	28.57% (6 of 21)	33.33% (13 of 39)
(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.	22.22% (4 of 18)	Not Applicable	22.22% (4 of 18)

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 did not make concerted efforts to provide services and the child was removed without providing appropriate services.	11.11% (2 of 18)	Not Applicable	11.11% (2 of 18)
(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.	27.78% (5 of 18)	71.43% (15 of 21)	51.28% (20 of 39)
Item 2 Strength Ratings	61.11% (11 of 18)	28.57% (6 of 21)	43.59% (17 of 39)

Item 3: Risk and Safety Assessment and Management

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 3A1) There were no maltreatment allegations about the family that were not formally reported or formally investigated/assessed.	98.04% (50 of 51)	86.67% (39 of 45)	92.71% (89 of 96)
(Question 3A1) There were no maltreatment allegations that were not substantiated despite evidence that would support substantiation.	100% (51 of 51)	97.78% (44 of 45)	98.96% (95 of 96)
(Question 3A) The agency conducted an initial assessment that accurately assessed all risk and safety concerns.	100% (4 of 4)	50% (6 of 12)	62.5% (10 of 16)
(Question 3B) The agency conducted ongoing assessments that accurately assessed all risk and safety concerns.	54.9% (28 of 51)	37.78% (17 of 45)	46.88% (45 of 96)
(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.	75% (6 of 8)	50% (8 of 16)	58.33% (14 of 24)
(Question 3D) There were no safety concerns pertaining to children in the family home that were not adequately or appropriately addressed by the agency.	84.62% (11 of 13)	45% (9 of 20)	60.61% (20 of 33)
(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.	87.8% (36 of 41)	Not Applicable	87.8% (36 of 41)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(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.	96.08% (49 of 51)	Not Applicable	96.08% (49 of 51)
Item 3 Strength Ratings	54.9% (28 of 51)	37.78% (17 of 45)	46.88% (45 of 96)

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.	35.71% (5 of 14)	35.71% (5 of 14)
(Question 4C) The child's current or most recent placement setting is stable.	100% (51 of 51)	100% (51 of 51)
Item 4 Strength Ratings	82.35% (42 of 51)	82.35% (42 of 51)

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% (51 of 51)	100% (51 of 51)
(Question 5B) Permanency goals in effect during the period under review were established in a timely manner.	84.31% (43 of 51)	84.31% (43 of 51)
(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.	72.55% (37 of 51)	72.55% (37 of 51)
(Question 5D) Child has been in foster care for at least 15 of the most recent 22 months.	66.67% (34 of 51)	66.67% (34 of 51)
(Questions 5E) Child meets other Adoption and Safe Families Act criteria for termination of parental rights (TPR).	0% (0 of 17)	0% (0 of 17)
(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.	73.53% (25 of 34)	73.53% (25 of 34)
Item 5 Strength Ratings	62.75% (32 of 51)	62.75% (32 of 51)

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.	60% (3 of 5)	60% (3 of 5)
(Questions 6A4 and 6B) The agency and court made concerted efforts to achieve guardianship in a timely manner.	40% (2 of 5)	40% (2 of 5)
(Questions 6A4 and 6B) The agency and court made concerted efforts to achieve adoption in a timely manner.	21.43% (3 of 14)	21.43% (3 of 14)
(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.	75% (3 of 4)	75% (3 of 4)
(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.	26.09% (6 of 23)	26.09% (6 of 23)
Item 6 Strength Ratings	33.33% (17 of 51)	33.33% (17 of 51)

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.	60% (15 of 25)	60% (15 of 25)
(Question 7B) When all siblings were not placed together, there was a valid reason for the child's separation from siblings in placement.	70% (7 of 10)	70% (7 of 10)
Item 7 Strength Ratings	88% (22 of 25)	88% (22 of 25)

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.	46.67% (14 of 30)	46.67% (14 of 30)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was once a week.	30% (9 of 30)	30% (9 of 30)

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 less than once a week but at least twice a month.	0% (0 of 30)	0% (0 of 30)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	3.33% (1 of 30)	3.33% (1 of 30)
(Question 8A1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and mother was less than once a month.	16.67% (5 of 30)	16.67% (5 of 30)
(Question 8A1) Child never had visits with mother.	3.33% (1 of 30)	3.33% (1 of 30)
(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.	83.33% (25 of 30)	83.33% (25 of 30)
(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.	86.21% (25 of 29)	86.21% (25 of 29)
(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.	80% (24 of 30)	80% (24 of 30)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was more than once a week.	21.43% (3 of 14)	21.43% (3 of 14)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was once a week.	42.86% (6 of 14)	42.86% (6 of 14)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	7.14% (1 of 14)	7.14% (1 of 14)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	7.14% (1 of 14)	7.14% (1 of 14)
(Question 8B1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and father was less than once a month.	14.29% (2 of 14)	14.29% (2 of 14)
(Question 8B1) Child never had visits with father.	7.14% (1 of 14)	7.14% (1 of 14)
(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% (10 of 14)	71.43% (10 of 14)
(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.	76.92% (10 of 13)	76.92% (10 of 13)
(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% (10 of 14)	71.43% (10 of 14)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was more than once a week.	20% (2 of 10)	20% (2 of 10)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was once a week.	20% (2 of 10)	20% (2 of 10)
(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.	0% (0 of 10)	0% (0 of 10)
(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.	10% (1 of 10)	10% (1 of 10)
(Question 8E1) The usual frequency of visits between the child and siblings in foster care was less than once a month.	30% (3 of 10)	30% (3 of 10)
(Question 8E1) Child never had visits with siblings in foster care.	20% (2 of 10)	20% (2 of 10)
(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.	50% (5 of 10)	50% (5 of 10)
(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.	87.5% (7 of 8)	87.5% (7 of 8)
(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.	50% (5 of 10)	50% (5 of 10)
Item 8 Strength Ratings	65.79% (25 of 38)	65.79% (25 of 38)

Item 9: Preserving Connections

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(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).	64.71% (33 of 51)	64.71% (33 of 51)
Item 9 Strength Ratings	64.71% (33 of 51)	64.71% (33 of 51)

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.	43.14% (22 of 51)	43.14% (22 of 51)
(Question 10A2) The child's current or most recent placement with a relative was appropriate to the child's needs.	100% (22 of 22)	100% (22 of 22)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Identify maternal relatives.	50% (4 of 8)	50% (4 of 8)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Locate maternal relatives.	62.5% (5 of 8)	62.5% (5 of 8)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Inform maternal relatives.	62.5% (5 of 8)	62.5% (5 of 8)
(Question 10B) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Evaluate maternal relatives.	100% (8 of 8)	100% (8 of 8)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Identify paternal relatives.	71.43% (5 of 7)	71.43% (5 of 7)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Locate paternal relatives.	71.43% (5 of 7)	71.43% (5 of 7)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Inform paternal relatives.	71.43% (5 of 7)	71.43% (5 of 7)
(Question 10C) Cases in which concerns existed due to a lack of concerted efforts to Evaluate paternal relatives.	100% (7 of 7)	100% (7 of 7)
Item 10 Strength Ratings	82.35% (42 of 51)	82.35% (42 of 51)

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.	65.52% (19 of 29)	65.52% (19 of 29)
(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.	57.14% (8 of 14)	57.14% (8 of 14)
Item 11 Strength Ratings	59.38% (19 of 32)	59.38% (19 of 32)

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	23.53% (12 of 51)	28.89% (13 of 45)	26.04% (25 of 96)

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.	80.39% (41 of 51)	73.33% (33 of 45)	77.08% (74 of 96)
(Question 12A2) Appropriate services were provided to meet the children's needs.	48.15% (13 of 27)	37.5% (9 of 24)	43.14% (22 of 51)
Sub-Item 12A Strength Ratings	72.55% (37 of 51)	66.67% (30 of 45)	69.79% (67 of 96)

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	34.15% (14 of 41)	47.73% (21 of 44)	41.18% (35 of 85)
(Question 12B3) Appropriate services were provided to meet the mother's needs.	31.71% (13 of 41)	37.21% (16 of 43)	34.52% (29 of 84)
(Questions 12B1 and B3) Concerted efforts were made to assess and address the needs of mothers.	29.27% (12 of 41)	36.36% (16 of 44)	32.94% (28 of 85)
(Question 12B2) The agency conducted formal or informal initial and/or ongoing comprehensive assessments that accurately assessed the father's needs.	20.69% (6 of 29)	37.84% (14 of 37)	30.3% (20 of 66)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 12B4) Appropriate services were provided to meet the father's needs.	20.69% (6 of 29)	34.29% (12 of 35)	28.13% (18 of 64)
(Questions 12B2 and 12B4) Concerted efforts were made to assess and address the needs of fathers.	20.69% (6 of 29)	35.14% (13 of 37)	28.79% (19 of 66)
Sub-Item 12B Strength Ratings	16.28% (7 of 43)	28.89% (13 of 45)	22.73% (20 of 88)

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

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(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.	80% (40 of 50)	80% (40 of 50)
(Question 12C2) The agency provided appropriate services to foster and pre-adoptive parents related to caring for children in their care.	72.22% (26 of 36)	72.22% (26 of 36)
Sub-Item 12C Strength Ratings	76% (38 of 50)	76% (38 of 50)

Item 13: Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 13A) The agency made concerted efforts to actively involve the child in the case planning process.	76.92% (20 of 26)	65.79% (25 of 38)	70.31% (45 of 64)
(Question 13B) The agency made concerted efforts to actively involve the mother in the case planning process.	34.15% (14 of 41)	59.09% (26 of 44)	47.06% (40 of 85)
(Question 13C) The agency made concerted efforts to actively involve the father in the case planning process.	27.59% (8 of 29)	35.14% (13 of 37)	31.82% (21 of 66)
Item 13 Strength Ratings	28.57% (14 of 49)	33.33% (15 of 45)	30.85% (29 of 94)

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.	0% (0 of 51)	0% (0 of 45)	0% (0 of 96)
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was once a week.	0% (0 of 51)	0% (0 of 45)	0% (0 of 96)
(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.	17.65% (9 of 51)	88.89% (40 of 45)	51.04% (49 of 96)
(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.	80.39% (41 of 51)	6.67% (3 of 45)	45.83% (44 of 96)
(Question 14A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and child(ren) was less than once a month.	1.96% (1 of 51)	4.44% (2 of 45)	3.13% (3 of 96)
(Question 14A1) Caseworker never had visits with child(ren).	0% (0 of 51)	0% (0 of 45)	0% (0 of 96)
(Question 14A) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and the child (ren) was sufficient.	96.08% (49 of 51)	88.89% (40 of 45)	92.71% (89 of 96)
(Question 14B) The quality of visits between the caseworker and the child(ren) was sufficient.	86.27% (44 of 51)	68.89% (31 of 45)	78.13% (75 of 96)
Item 14 Strength Ratings	84.31% (43 of 51)	66.67% (30 of 45)	76.04% (73 of 96)

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 41)	0% (0 of 44)	0% (0 of 85)
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was once a week.	0% (0 of 41)	0% (0 of 44)	0% (0 of 85)

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 less than once a week but at least twice a month.	14.63% (6 of 41)	75% (33 of 44)	45.88% (39 of 85)
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	34.15% (14 of 41)	6.82% (3 of 44)	20% (17 of 85)
(Question 15A1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and mother was less than once a month.	43.9% (18 of 41)	13.64% (6 of 44)	28.24% (24 of 85)
(Question 15A1) Caseworker never had visits with mother.	7.32% (3 of 41)	4.55% (2 of 44)	5.88% (5 of 85)
(Question 15A2) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and the mother was sufficient.	53.66% (22 of 41)	81.82% (36 of 44)	68.24% (58 of 85)
(Question 15C) The quality of visits between the caseworker and the mother was sufficient.	36.84% (14 of 38)	57.14% (24 of 42)	47.5% (38 of 80)
(Questions 15A2 and 15C) Both the frequency and quality of caseworker visitation with the mother were sufficient.	34.15% (14 of 41)	52.27% (23 of 44)	43.53% (37 of 85)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was more than once a week.	0% (0 of 29)	0% (0 of 37)	0% (0 of 66)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was once a week.	0% (0 of 29)	0% (0 of 37)	0% (0 of 66)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was less than once a week but at least twice a month.	17.24% (5 of 29)	37.84% (14 of 37)	28.79% (19 of 66)
(Question 15B1) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and father was less than twice a month but at least once a month.	24.14% (7 of 29)	18.92% (7 of 37)	21.21% (14 of 66)

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.	44.83% (13 of 29)	35.14% (13 of 37)	39.39% (26 of 66)
(Question 15B1) Caseworker never had visits with father.	13.79% (4 of 29)	8.11% (3 of 37)	10.61% (7 of 66)
(Question 15B2) The typical pattern of visits between the caseworker and the father was sufficient.	48.28% (14 of 29)	54.05% (20 of 37)	51.52% (34 of 66)
(Question 15D) The quality of visits between the caseworker and the father was sufficient.	28% (7 of 25)	41.18% (14 of 34)	35.59% (21 of 59)
(Question 15B2 and 15D) Both the frequency and quality of caseworker visitation with the father were sufficient.	27.59% (8 of 29)	35.14% (13 of 37)	31.82% (21 of 66)
Item 15 Strength Ratings	23.26% (10 of 43)	35.56% (16 of 45)	29.55% (26 of 88)

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.	95.56% (43 of 45)	44.44% (8 of 18)	80.95% (51 of 63)
(Question 16B) The agency made concerted efforts to address the children's educational needs through appropriate services.	85.29% (29 of 34)	33.33% (6 of 18)	67.31% (35 of 52)
Item 16 Strength Ratings	88.89% (40 of 45)	33.33% (6 of 18)	73.02% (46 of 63)

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.	96.08% (49 of 51)	63.64% (7 of 11)	90.32% (56 of 62)
(Question 17B1) The agency provided appropriate oversight of prescription medications for the physical health issues of the target child in foster care.	62.5% (10 of 16)	Not Applicable	62.5% (10 of 16)
(Question 17B2) The agency ensured that appropriate services were provided to the children to address all identified physical health needs.	86% (43 of 50)	60% (6 of 10)	81.67% (49 of 60)
(Question 17A2) The agency accurately assessed the children's dental health care needs.	72.55% (37 of 51)	55.56% (5 of 9)	70%(42 of 60)
(Question 17B3) The agency ensured that appropriate services were provided to the children to address all identified dental health needs.	66% (33 of 50)	42.86% (3 of 7)	63.16% (36 of 57)
Item 17 Strength Ratings	54.9% (28 of 51)	63.64% (7 of 11)	56.45% (35 of 62)

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.	84.62% (22 of 26)	53.33% (16 of 30)	67.86% (38 of 56)
(Question 18B) The agency provided appropriate oversight of prescription medications for the mental/behavioral health issues of the target child in foster care.	80% (8 of 10)	Not Applicable	80% (8 of 10)

Practice Description	Foster Care— Performance of Applicable Cases	In-Home Services— Performance of Applicable Cases	All Case Types— Performance of Applicable Cases
(Question 18C) The agency ensured that appropriate services were provided to the children to address all identified mental/behavioral health needs.	46.15% (12 of 26)	43.33% (13 of 30)	44.64% (25 of 56)
Item 18 Strength Ratings	42.31% (11 of 26)	40% (12 of 30)	41.07% (23 of 56)