



Annual Indicators Report

Fiscal Year 2024
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024



Office of
Children and Families
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Department of Human Services

Purpose

The Quarterly Indicators Report highlights trends in essential Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) and Community Umbrella Agency (CUA) functions, key outcomes, and progress toward the four primary goals of Improving Outcomes for Children (IOC):



More children and youth maintained safely in their own homes and communities.



A reduction in the use of residential placement.



More children and youth achieving timely reunification or other permanence.



Improved child, youth, and family functioning.



Executive Summary

Strengths: Progress towards right-sizing



Fewer families are accepted for DHS services. All CUAs closed more cases than were referred in Fiscal Year 2024. Also, there were fewer families open for formal services at the end of Fiscal Year 2024 than in the four previous years.

Strengths: Safely reduce residential placement



Decrease in residential placement. At the end of Fiscal Year 2024, 182 dependent youth in placement were in residential placement, which is lower than the previous four fiscal years. There has been a 54% decline in youth in dependent residential placement since 2020.



Executive Summary

Strengths: More children maintained in their own communities



Emphasize placing children with kin. Almost half (46%) of the children and youth in dependent placement on June 30, 2024, were in kinship care.



Fewer children and youth are in placement. The number of children and youth in dependent placement decreased by 13% from 3,333 children in June 2023 to 2,891 children in June 2024.

Areas of Focus: Ongoing challenges with permanency



Ongoing challenges with permanency. The percentage of children and youth reunifying with family has decreased since FY20.

Executive Summary

Areas of Focus: Staff recruitment and retention



Staff turnover at CUAs remains high. CUA providers are still experiencing challenges with recruitment and turnover. DHS and CUA are engaged in multiple strategies to improve recruitment and retention at the CUAs.

Areas of Focus: Increased youth and length of stay in Delinquent Residential Placement



More youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement. While the number of youth detained at PJJSC decreased by 13% since FY23, the number of youth placed in delinquent residential placement increased by 49%.



Youth have longer lengths of stay in Delinquent Residential Placement. The median length of stay in delinquent residential placement increased by 26 days since FY23.



Content Areas

- 1 Hotline and Investigations
- 2 DHS Diversion Programs
- 3 Dependent Services
- 4 Juvenile Justice Programs
- 5 Permanency



Hotline and Investigations

Glossary of Terms

DHS Hotline and Investigations Divisions are responsible for receiving and investigating reports of suspected child abuse and neglect.

- **Hotline-** Division within DHS responsible for receiving reports of suspected child abuse and neglect and determining if reports rise to the level of needing an investigation.
- **Secondary Screen Out-** A process to review General Protective Service (GPS) reports that were accepted for investigation with a 3-7-day priority and were not assessed as present or impending danger. The goal is to screen out these reports if possible, using the Safe Diversion protocol.
- **Intake –** Division within DHS responsible for investigating reports of suspected child abuse and neglect that have been referred from Hotline.

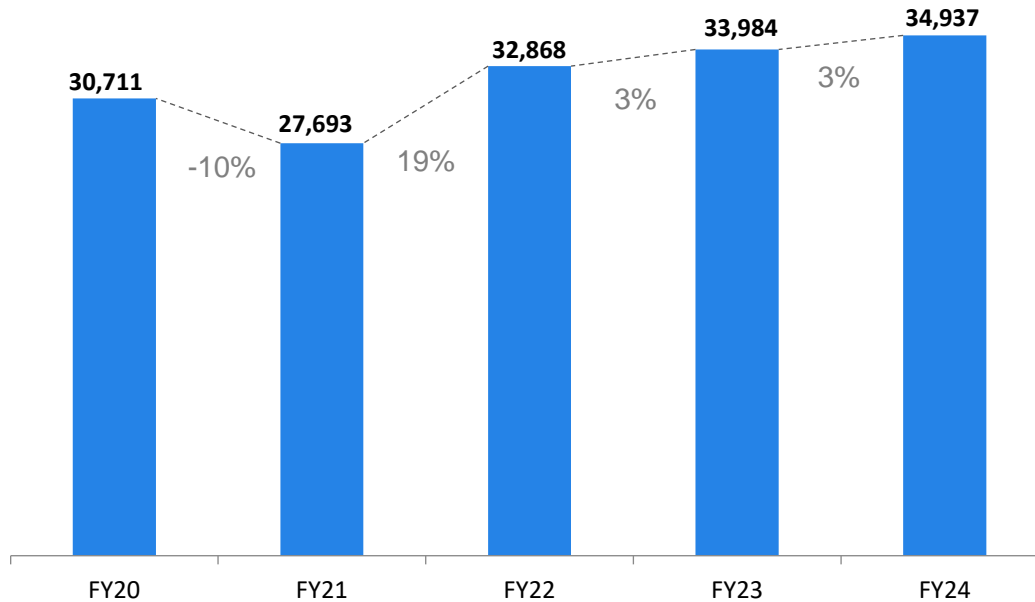
Glossary of Terms (continued)

Hotline and Investigations Counts and Measures

- **Report-** Document outlining a family's allegation(s) of abuse or neglect. Each report is assigned a reference number as a unique identifier. Reports are the typical unit of measurement for Hotline and Investigations indicators.
- **Investigation-** A report being investigated. Findings from the investigation inform whether a family will be accepted for child welfare services.
- **Repeated Maltreatment: Federal Measure-** Youth with an indicated or founded CPS report who have a second indicated/founded CPS report within 12 months following the original report.
- **Repeated Maltreatment: State Measure-** Youth with a CPS report who had a previous CPS report; broken into indicated reports with suspected re-abuse and indicated reports with confirmed re-abuse.

Call Volume

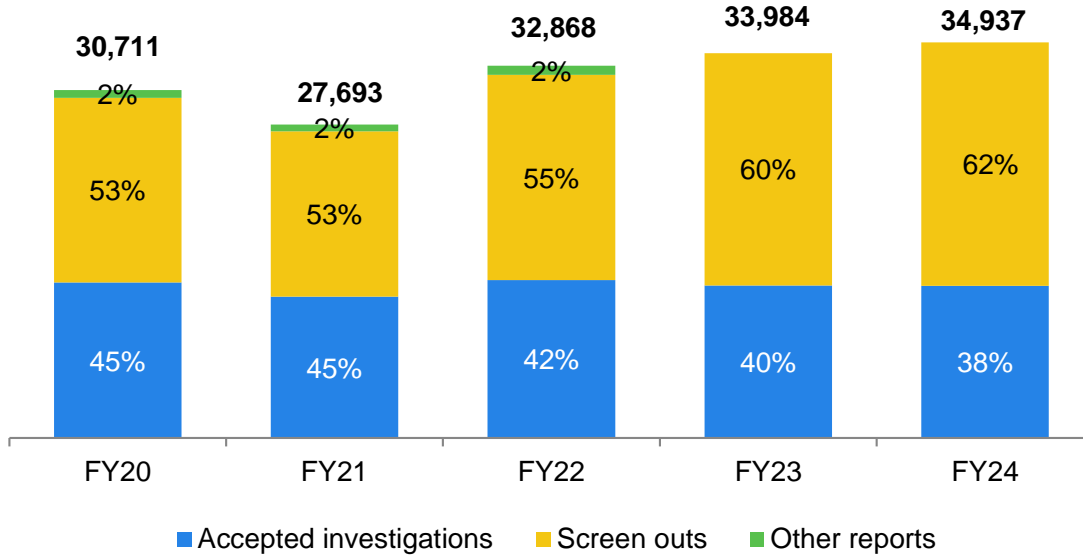
Figure 1. Total Hotline Reports



- Hotline reports in FY24 increased by 3% compared to FY23.

Hotline Decisions

Figure 2. Hotline Action

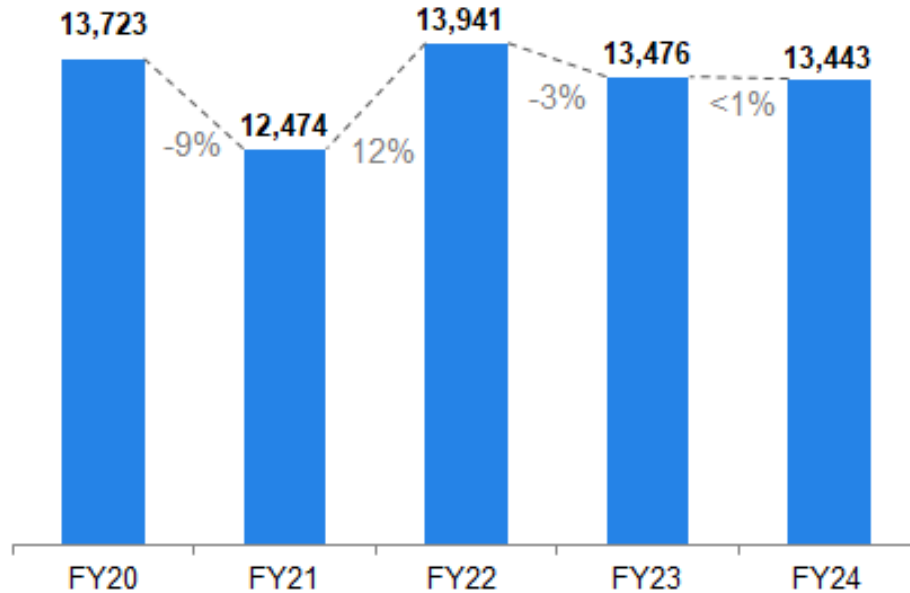


- More than three in five (62%) Hotline reports were screened out in FY24. This is the highest rate in the past five years.
- Less than two in five (38%) reports were accepted for investigation in FY24. This is the lowest point in the past five years.

Data run after 9/04/2024
 In 2023, we redefined these categories to remove the category of “Other” because reports previously categorized as Other are still screened using Hotline Guided Decision Making and can potentially be accepted for investigation
 *Other reports include referrals for law enforcement only, other jurisdictions, information only, and follow-up on a prior report

Investigations

Figure 3. Total Investigations

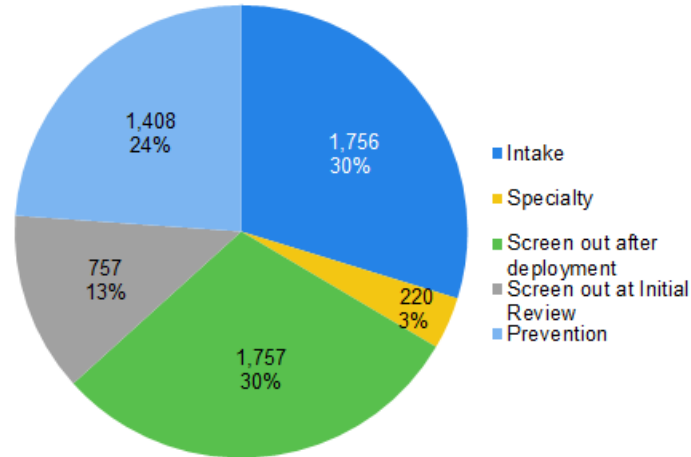


- Investigations decreased slightly from FY23 to FY24.
- In FY24, 13,443 calls from Hotline were sent to Intake for investigation, representing 38% of total reports.

Hotline Decisions

Figure 4. Fiscal Year 2024 Q4 Secondary Screen Outs

DHS created the **Secondary Screen Out Process** in Summer 2017 to review GPS reports with a 3-7 day priority that were accepted for investigation and were not assessed as present or impending danger. Using the **Safe Diversion Protocol** Hotline supervisors screen out a case after an initial review (with or without Prevention services) or deploy a Hotline worker for screening. Deployed Hotline workers may choose to send a case to Intake for investigation or screen it out.



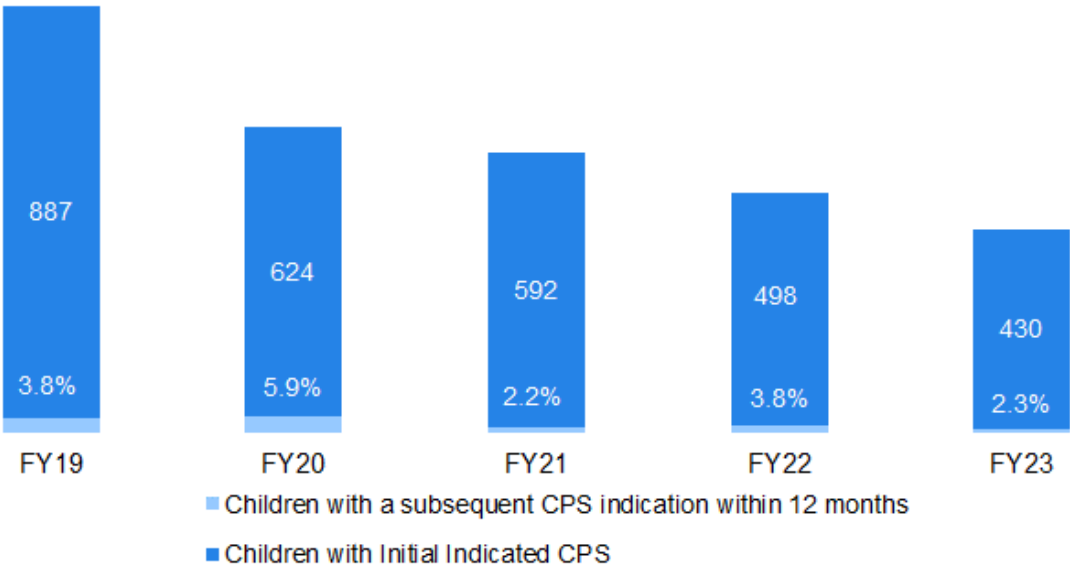
N= 5,898

- In FY24, 5,898 reports were sent to the secondary-screen-out unit, and two thirds of reports (67%) were screened out.
 - More than two in five (43%) reports were screened out either at initial review or after deploying Hotline staff.
 - Almost a quarter (24%) of reports were referred to Prevention.
- One in three (33%) secondary-screen-out reports were ultimately sent to Intake (30%) or Specialty Investigations (3%).

Repeat Maltreatment: Federal Measure

The federal measure for repeat maltreatment examines the percentage of children in a given fiscal year with an indicated CPS report who had **another indicated report** within 12 months.

Figure 5. Repeat Maltreatment: Federal Measure



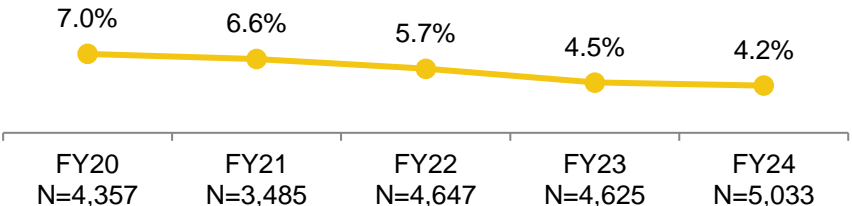
- Of the 430 children with an indicated CPS report in FY23, 2.3% had a repeat indicated CPS report.
- This percentage is lower than the previous fiscal year and less than one-third the national average of 9.7%.

Federal data checked on 9/04/2024
Because this measure looks forward in time, there is a one-year lag in reporting repeat maltreatment.
National Average comes from CFSR Round 4 Statewide Data Indicator Series. Last updated in 2022. <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/resources/cfsr-r4-swdi-recurrence-of-maltreatment>

Repeat Maltreatment: State Measure

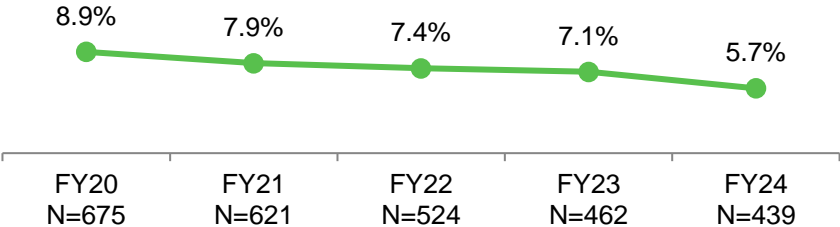
The Pennsylvania measure for repeat maltreatment looks at the number of CPS reports received per year and identifies those children who **have ever had a previous** indication of abuse.

Figure 6. CPS Reports with Suspected Re-Abuse



- The rate of CPS reports with **suspected** re-abuse (4.2%) in FY24 was the lowest in the most recent five years and is lower than the PA state rate of 5.5%.

Figure 7. Indicated CPS Reports with Re-Abuse



- The rate of CPS reports with **indicated** re-abuse (5.7%) in FY24 was lower than the previous four years and is lower than the PA state rate of 6.4%.

Data run on 9/04/2024

PA state rate comes from the Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children. Last updated in December 2023. <https://www.papartnerships.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2023-SOCW-Pennsylvania.pdf>



Hotline and Investigations Summary

- In FY24, the total number of reports to the DHS Hotline of suspected abuse and neglect increased by 3% from the previous year, returning to pre-COVID levels.
- Less than two in five reports were accepted for investigation in FY24, a lower rate than recent full fiscal years.
- Hotline staff continued to screen out two in three reports, and repeat maltreatment was lower than the national average.

In summary, despite Hotline reports returning to pre-COVID levels. Hotline and secondary-screen-out staff continued to screen out most reports.



DHS Diversion Programs

Glossary of Terms

DHS Diversion Programs are voluntary services offered to families in Philadelphia who have been reported to DHS' Hotline but may not need a formal safety service.

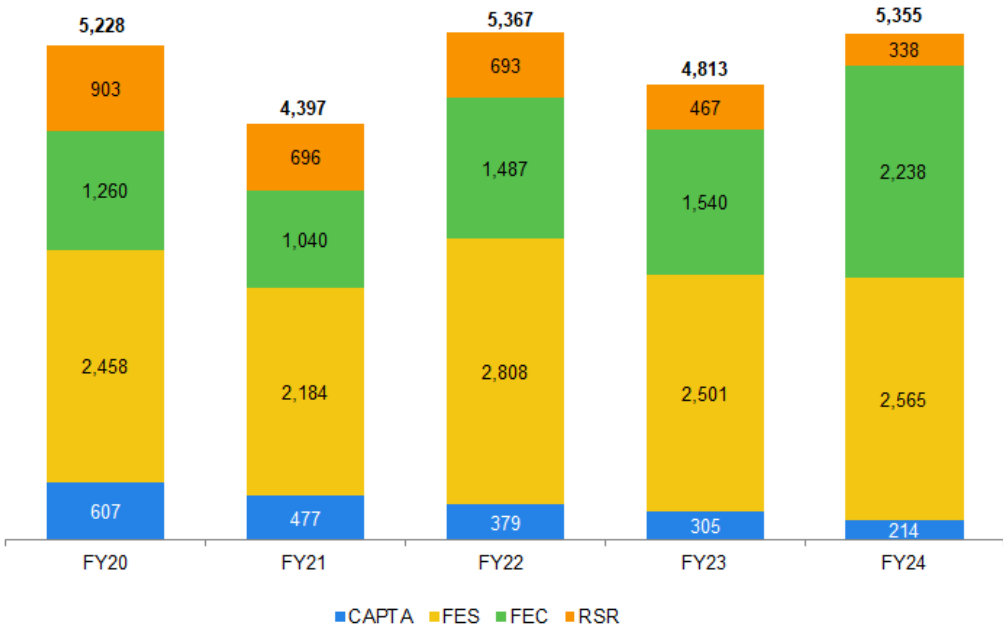
- **CAPTA** - Family Case Coordination Program
- **FEP** - Family Empowerment Programs, refers to:
 - **FES** - Family Empowerment Services
 - **FEC** - Family Empowerment Centers
- **RSR** - Rapid Service Response
 - Note - All families receiving RSR are referred by Intake and most have an open investigation.

Measures

- **Total Referrals** - all families referred to child welfare diversion programs, including **Front-End Referrals** (diverted from Hotline or Investigations) or **non-Front-End Referrals** (from CUA or other sources).
- **Voluntary Service Rate** - the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases received.

Total Referrals

Figure 8. Total Referrals to DHS Diversion Programs by Program



- In FY24, there were 5,355 families referred to DHS Diversion Programs.
- Family Empowerment Services (FES) and Family Empowerment Centers (FEC) received nine in 10 referrals.

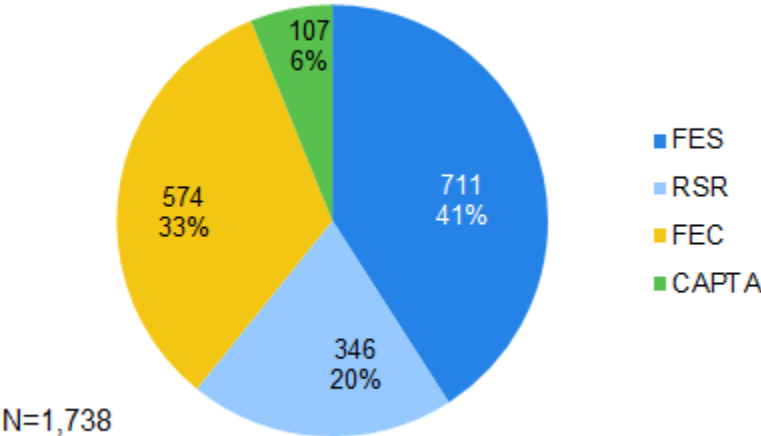
Data run on 9/04/24

Total Referrals refers to all families referred to DHS Prevention Programs and can consist of **Front-End Referrals** (diverted from Hotline or Investigations) or **non-Front-End Referrals** (from CUA or other sources).

Referrals are now being counted as referrals that are received by the CWO Diversion programs, rather than referrals made by front end staff. Of all referrals made, some may be subsequently rejected because families are already receiving services, referrals were made for the incorrect program or multiple referrals were made. Therefore, referral totals in this report are lower than in past versions of the report.

Total Families Served

Figure 9. Total Families Served by DHS Diversion Programs in FY24 by Program



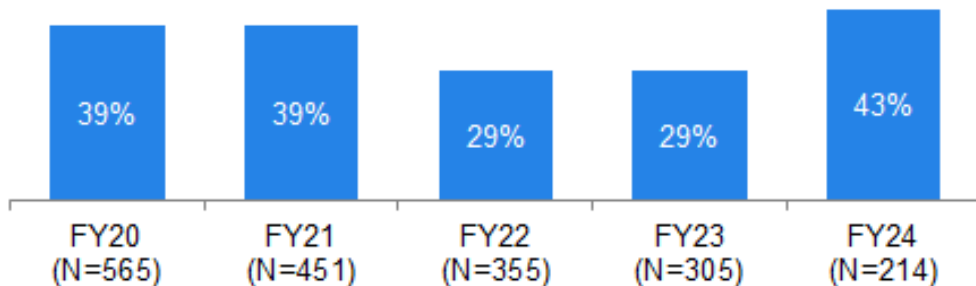
- In FY24, there were 1,738 families served by DHS Diversion Programs.
- Family Empowerment Services and Family Empowerment Centers are the most common DHS Diversion program, serving almost three quarters (74%) of families receiving Diversion services.

Data run on 9/04/24

Family Case Coordination Program (CAPTA)

Family Case Coordination Program (CAPTA) provides intensive home visitation and case management for women and their infants who are affected by substance exposure at birth.

Figure 10. Voluntary Service Rate

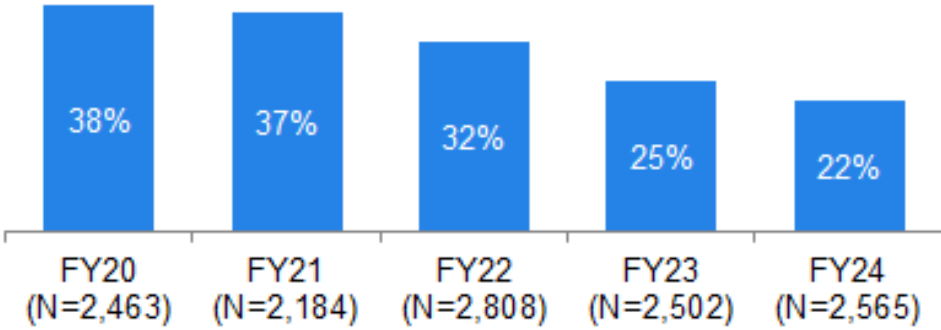


- Out of 214 families referred in FY24, 43% of mothers voluntarily enrolled in services, a higher percentage than in the previous four fiscal years.

Family Empowerment Services (FES)

Family Empowerment Services (FES) offers intensive case management supports that stabilize families to **limit future involvement** with formal child welfare services.

Figure 11. Voluntary Service Rate



- Out of 2,565 families referred in FY24, about one in five families (22%) voluntarily enrolled in services, which continues the downward trend from recent fiscal years.

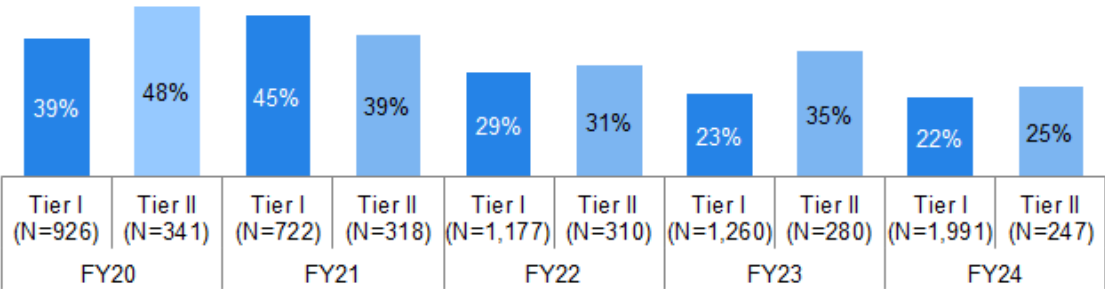
Data run on 9/4/24

Voluntary Service Rate refers to the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases received

Family Empowerment Centers (FEC)

Family Empowerment Centers (FEC) are community-based hubs that provide intensive supports to families to prevent future involvement with DHS. Families receive different levels of support based on risk: lower risk families are serviced through Tier I and higher risk through Tier II.

Figure 12. Voluntary Service Rate



- One in five Tier I families voluntarily enrolled in services in FY24. This is slightly less than the previous fiscal year.
- In FY24, a quarter of Tier II families voluntarily enrolled in service, 10 percentage points lower than in FY23.

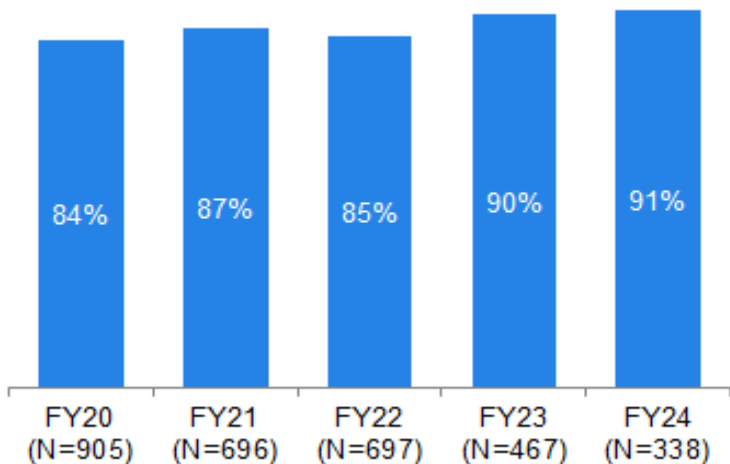
Data run on 9/4/24

Voluntary Service Rate refers to the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases received. While the rate slightly decreased in FY24, the total number of cases increased from 1,260 to 1,991.

Rapid Service Response (RSR)

Rapid Service Response (RSR) provides in-home support services focused on increasing parents' ability to provide a safe and nurturing home environment to prevent out of home placement or formal in-home services.

Figure 13. Voluntary Service Rate



- Out of 338 families referred to RSR in FY24, 91% voluntarily enrolled in services, continuing an upward trend from previous years.

Data run on 9/04/24

Voluntary Service Rate refers to the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases received. RSR is voluntary for families referred. However, families may be accepted for formal DHS safety service if they do not participate in the RSR service to address their identified needs.



DHS Diversion Programs Summary

- The number of families referred to DHS Diversion Programs in FY24 was higher than three of the four most recent years
- The rate of families accepting services decreased from previous fiscal years for FES and FEC services for both Tier I and II families.
- The rate of families accepting services increased slightly for RSR.

In FY24, DHS Diversion programs served 1,738 families in their own homes to prevent formal involvement with DHS.



Dependent Services

Glossary of Terms

DHS Dependent services are for families who have been determined through an investigation to have a safety issue that cannot be addressed without formal services.

- **Community Umbrella Agencies (CUAs)** - Community based organizations that provide case management for families accepted for formal child welfare services.
- **Accepted for Service** - Process to formally open cases for families who, through investigation, were determined to need formal services.
- **Close** - Process for families who have received CUA services and are no longer in need of formal service.
- **In-Home Safety** - Services provided to families that have been found to be experiencing active safety threats but whose children, with the implementation of a Safety Plan, can be maintained safely in their own homes.
- **In-Home Non-safety** - Services provided to families in the home without active safety threats. These services are generally for families who are court mandated to receive CUA case management services due to ongoing truancy issues.

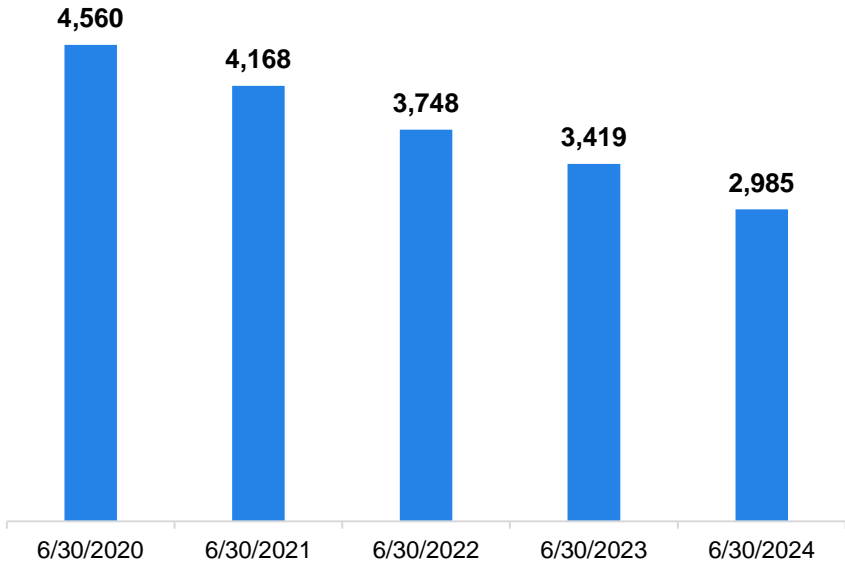
Glossary of Terms (continued)

Dependent Services Placement Types and Measures

- **Dependent Placement** - A temporary placement for children when their safety can not be ensured in their home of origin. Includes family-based placements and residential placement.
- **Kinship Care** - A family-based, out-of-home placement with caregivers who are already known to the children/youth.
- **Foster Care** - A family-based, out-of-home placement with caregivers who were previously unknown to the children/youth.
- **Dependent Residential Placement** - Placement in a group setting for children or youth that are in dependent out of home placement. Includes Emergency Shelter, Group Home, Community Behavioral Health-Funded Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities and Institutions.
- **Caseload** - The number of cases each caseworker within DHS/CUA is responsible for managing.
- **Visitation** - Case Managers are expected to visit with children on a regular basis to ensure their safety and well-being and help family work towards case closure. Visitation measures the percentage of on time visits that occurred within a given period.

Total Families Open for Service

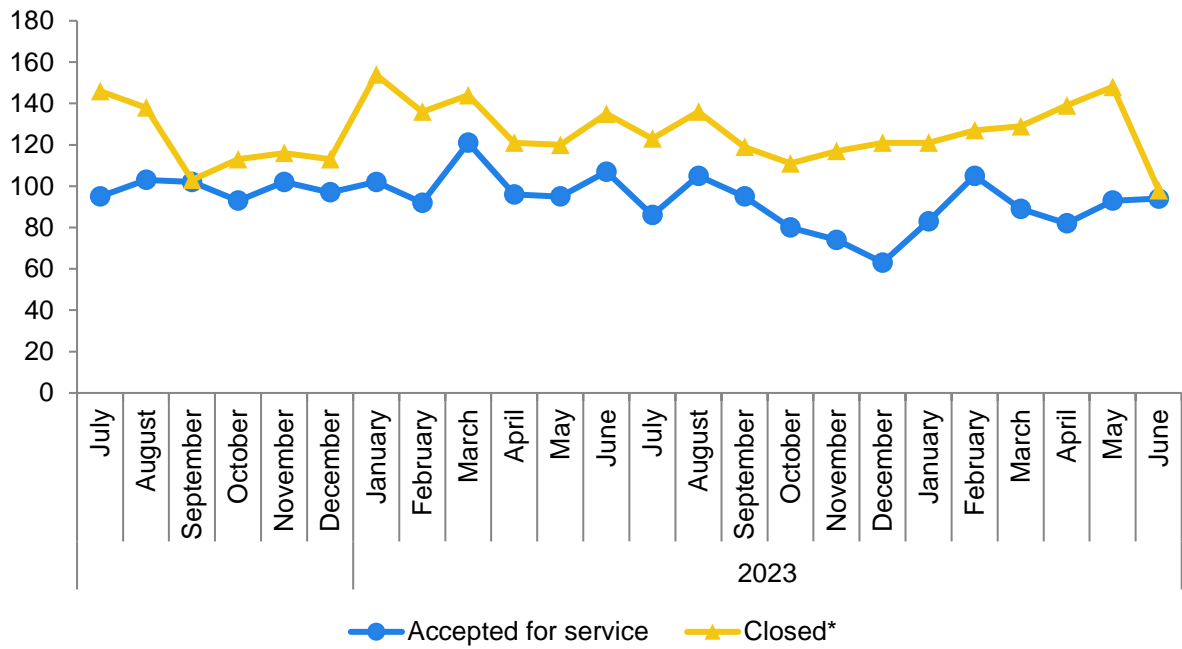
Figure 14. Total Families Open for Service on June 30, 2024



- There were 2,985 families open for service on June 30, 2024.
- The number of families open for service has consistently declined since FY20.

Families Accepted for Service and Families Closed

Figure 15. Families Accepted and Closed by Month

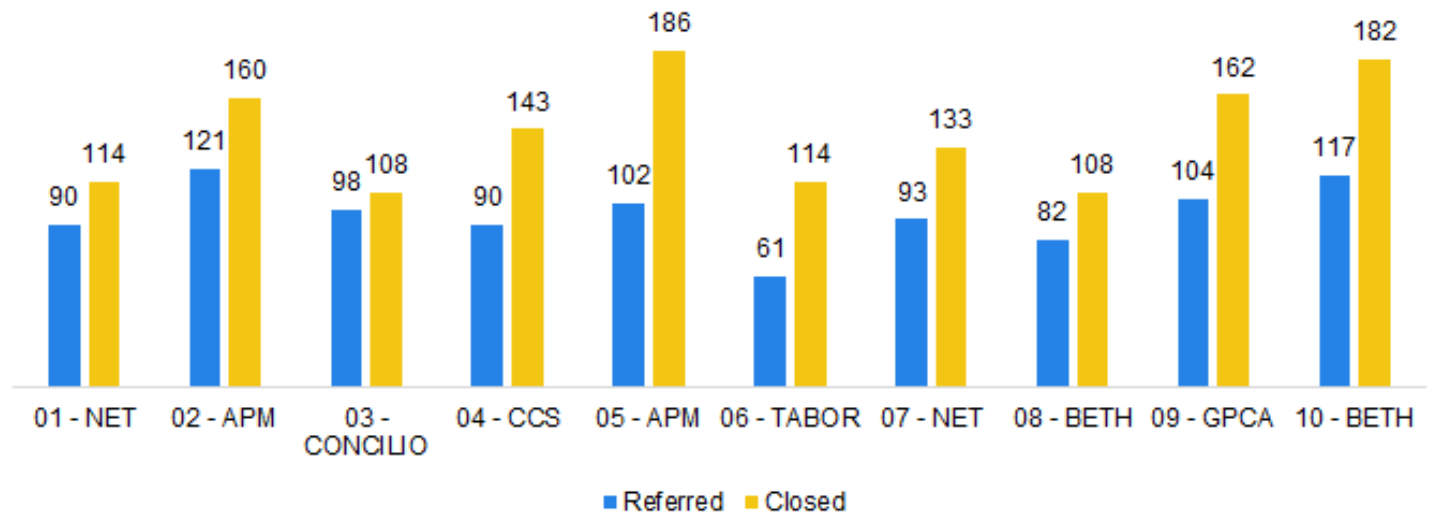


- More families were closed than accepted for service nearly every month since July 2022.

Data run on 9/11/2024
Families closed includes those transferred to Non-CWO Services (Delinquent or Subsidy)

Families Referred and Families Closed

Figure 16. Families Referred and Closed in FY24, by CUA

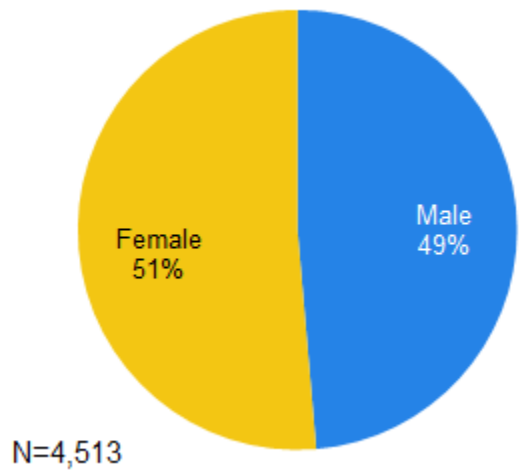


- All CUAs closed more families' cases in FY24 than were referred to them.
- Of the CUAs who were not involved in a transition, CUA 4 - CCS had the highest ratio of closed cases to referrals, closing 59% more cases than were referred to them.

Data run on 9/11/2024
Families closed includes those transferred to Non-CWO Services (Delinquent or Subsidy)

Sex of Dependent Youth –June 30, 2024

Figure 17. Sex of All Dependent Youth

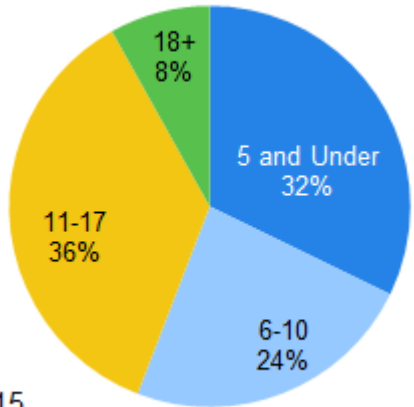


- As of 6/30/24, there were slightly more female children and youth than male children and youth receiving dependent services.

Data run after 9/1/2024
*Sample size discrepancy across sex, age, and race/ethnicity is the result of unreported sex and age

Age of Dependent Youth – June 30, 2024

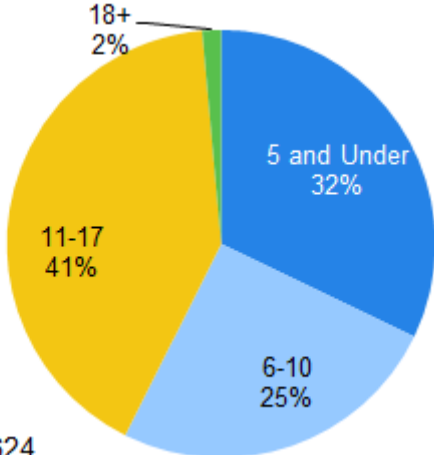
Figure 18. Age of All Dependent



N=4,515

- On 6/30/24, older children 11-17 were the most represented age group among dependent children.

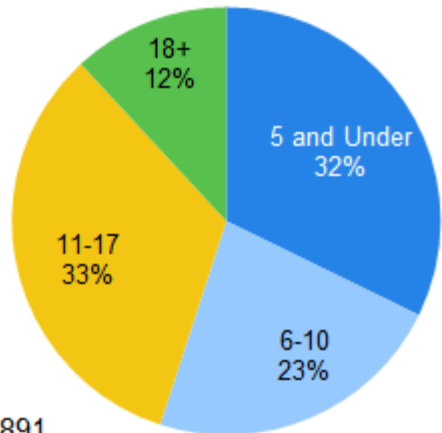
Figure 18a. Age of Dependent In-Home Youth



N=1,624

- On 6/30/24, 11-17-year-olds made up 41% of in-home youth and 33% of placement youth, the largest age group for both categories.

Figure 18b. Age of Dependent Placement Youth



N=2,891

Data run after 9/1/2024
*Sample size discrepancy across sex, age, and race/ethnicity is the result of unreported sex and age

Race/Ethnicity of Dependent Youth – June 30, 2024

Figure 19. Race/Ethnicity of All Dependent Youth

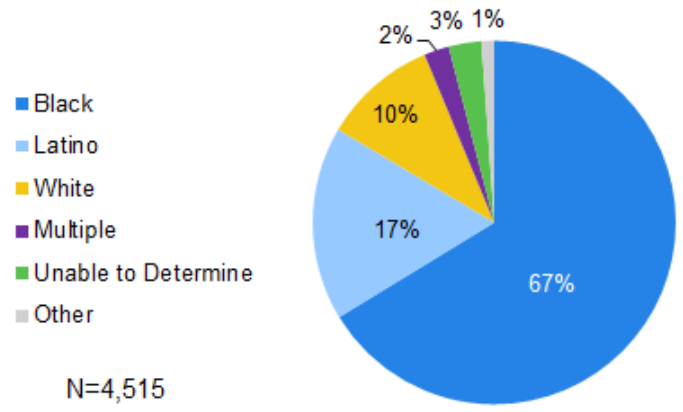


Figure 19a. Race/Ethnicity of Dependent **In-Home** Youth

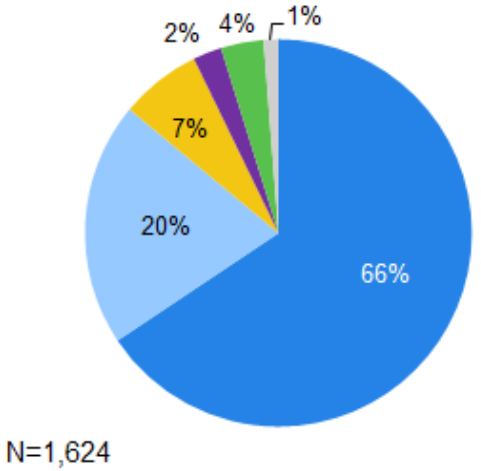
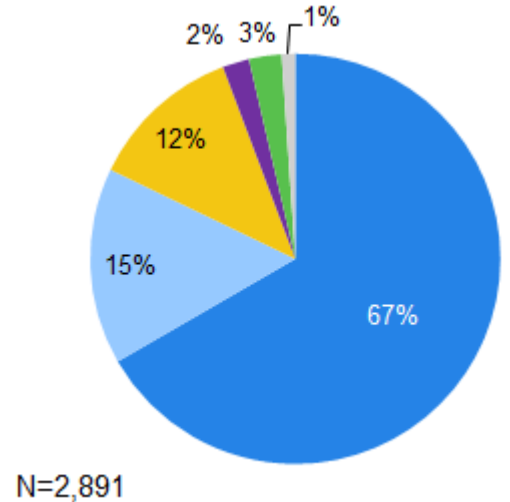


Figure 19b. Race/Ethnicity of Dependent **Placement** Youth



- More than two of every three (67%) dependent youth on 6/30/24 were Black.
- 17% of dependent youth were Latino/a.
- Dependent youth who were White made up a larger proportion of youth in placement (12%) than in-home (7%).

Data run after 9/1/2024

*Sample size discrepancy across sex, age, and race/ethnicity is the result of unreported sex and age

In-Home Services

Figure 20. Total **Families** with In-Home Services

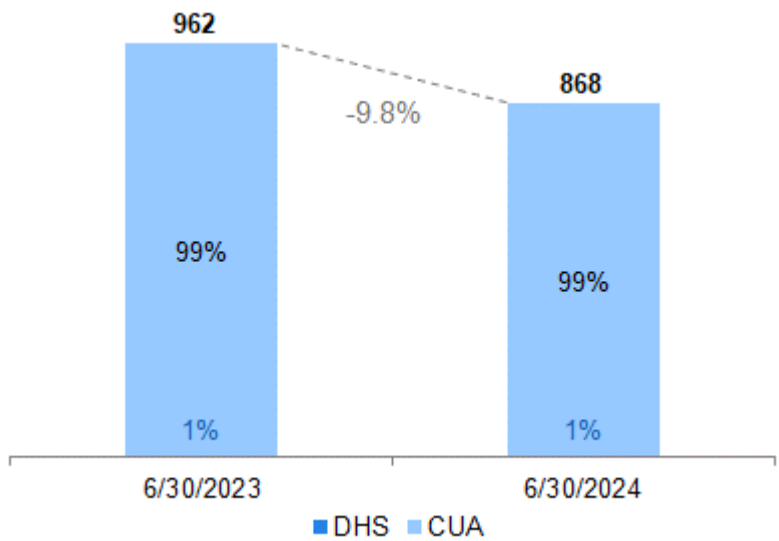
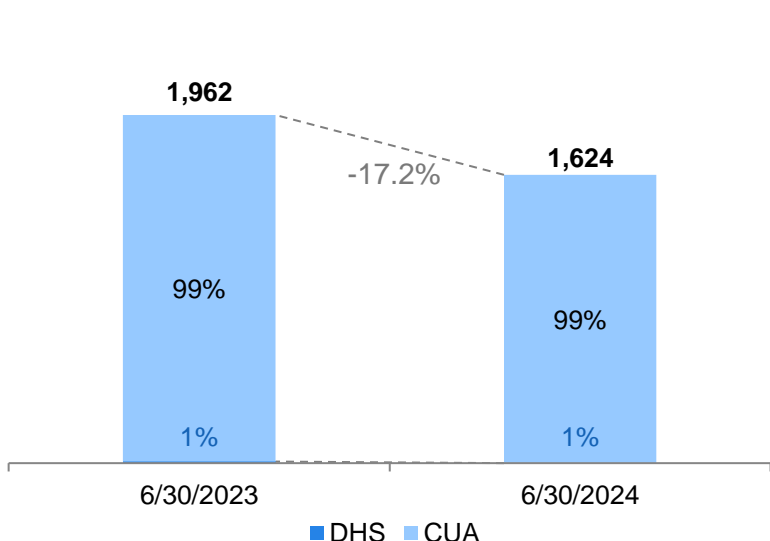


Figure 21. Total **Children** with In-Home Services



- Compared to last fiscal year, the total number of families and children with In-Home Services declined by 9.8% and 17.2%, respectively.
- CUA provided In-Home Services for 99% of all in-home families and children.

Data run after 9/1/2024
Family and child totals vary slightly from next slide because of missing data for CUA and Service Type.

In-Home Services

Figure 22. Total **Families** with In-Home Services by Service Type

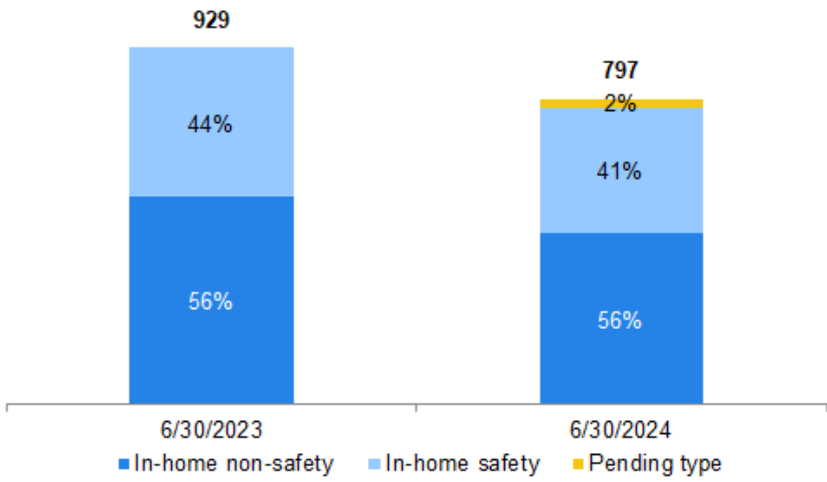
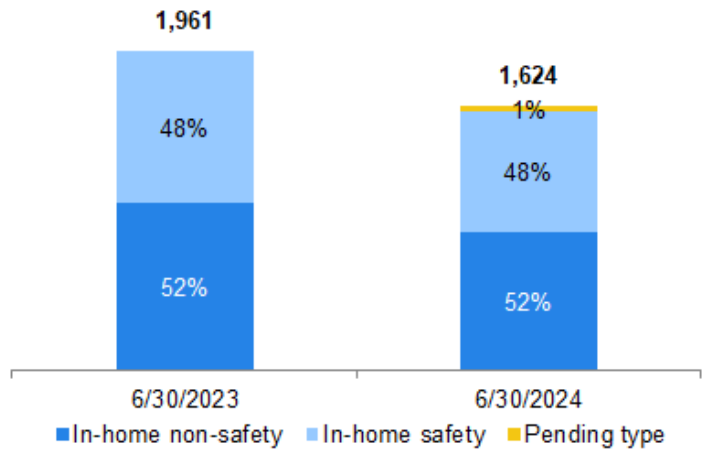


Figure 23. Total **Children** with In-Home Services by Service Type



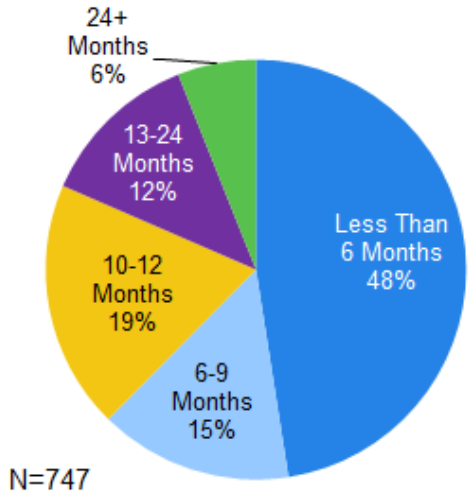
- While the ratio of In-Home Safety to Non-Safety Services remained consistent, the total number of In-Home Services decreased by more than 15%.

Data run on 9/1/2024

If families included multiple children, some with in-home safety services and others with non-safety services, that family is counted twice. Family and child totals vary slightly from previous slide because of missing data for CUA and Service Type.

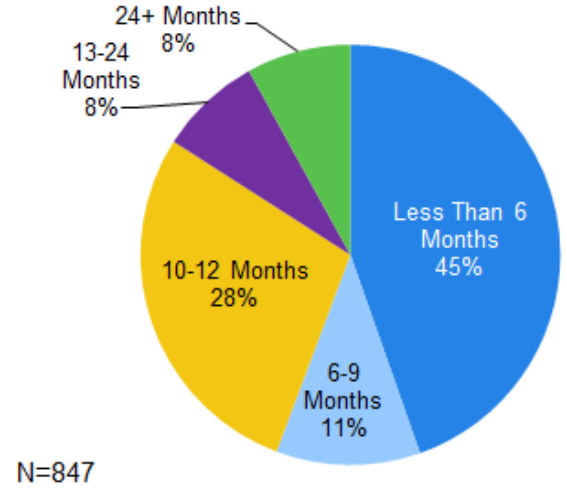
In-Home Services

Figure 24. Length of In-Home **Safety** Services on June 30, 2024



- On 6/30/24, 48% of youth with In-Home Safety Services had been receiving services for less than six months, a lower percentage than in FY23.

Figure 25. Length of In-Home **Non-Safety** Services on June 30, 2024



- On 6/30/24, 45% of youth with In-Home Non-Safety Services had been receiving services for less than six months, a lower percentage than in FY23.

Data run on 9/1/2024
Youth whose service information had yet to be entered into the electronic database are excluded from these figures.

Dependent Placement Services

Figure 26. Total **Families** with Placement Services

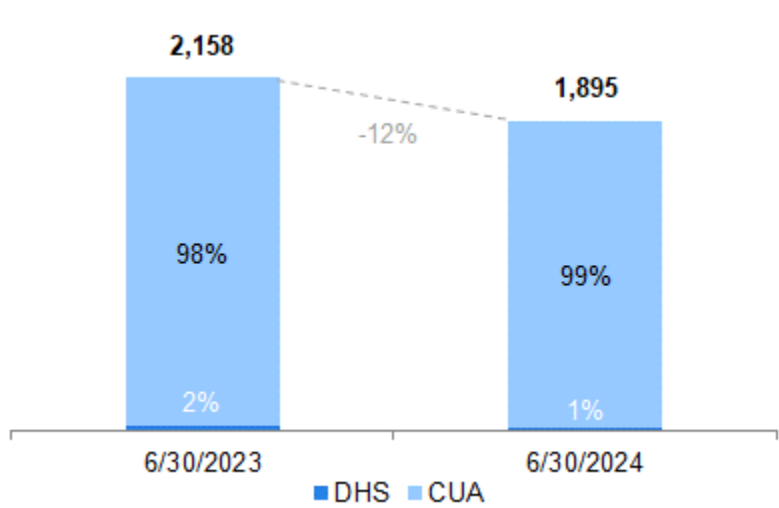
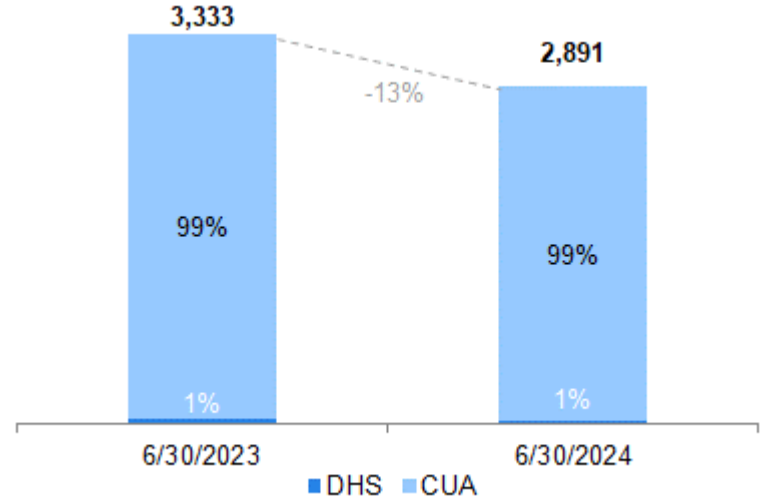


Figure 27. Total **Children** with Placement Services

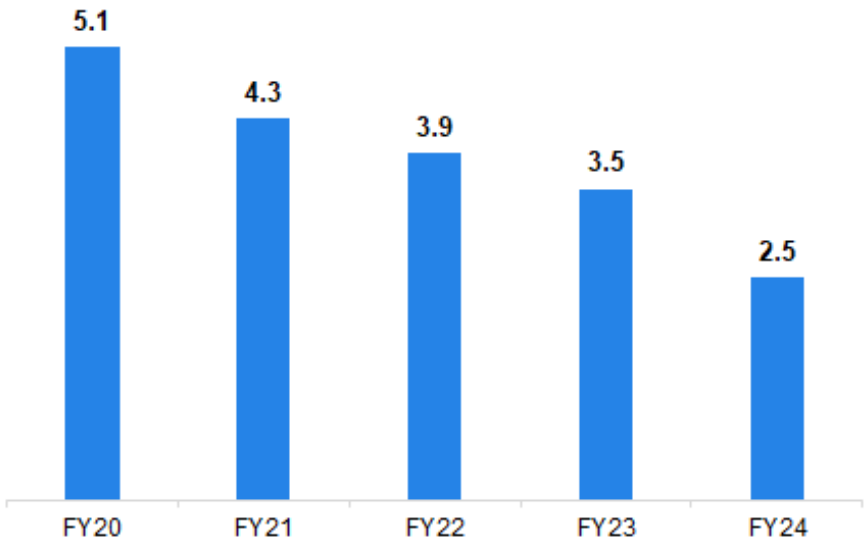


- Continuing a similar decline between FY22 and FY23, total families with children in placement at the end of FY24 decreased by 12%, and total children decreased by 13%.
- CUA continued to manage services for almost all (99%) families and children in placement.

Data run on 9/1/2024
DHS cases include those receiving services from the Adoption and Special Investigations teams

Dependent Placements

Figure 28. Entry Rate of Children into Out of Home Care per 1,000 Philadelphia Children, by Federal Fiscal Year

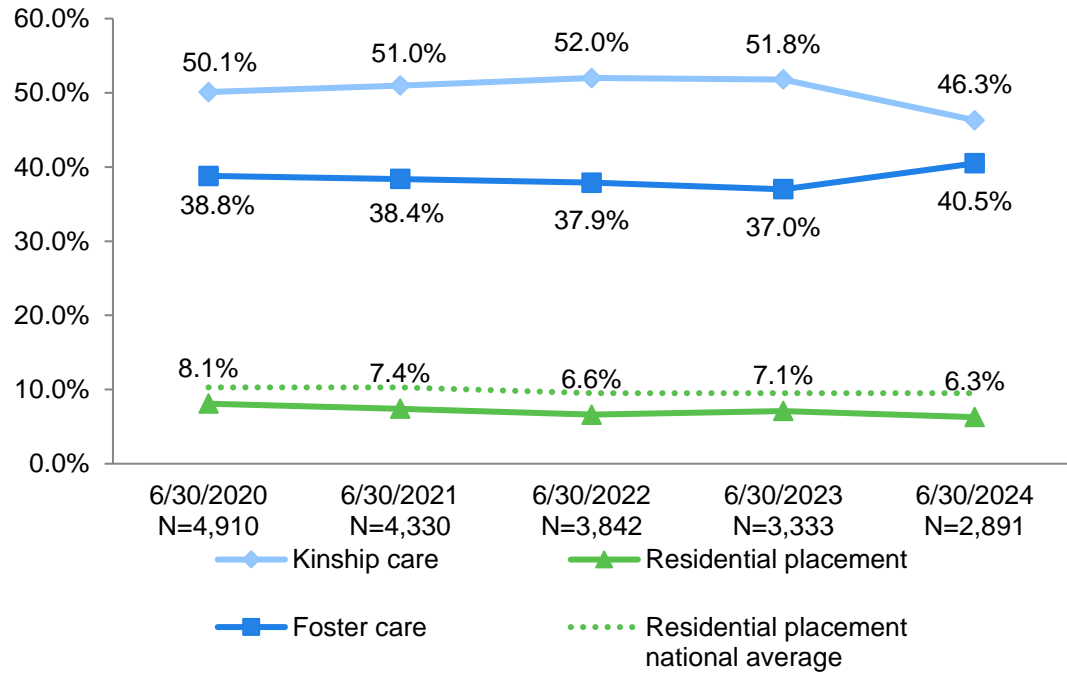


- The entry rate of children into out-of-home care was 2.5 per 1,000 children, continuing a decline that started in FY20.
- The most recent national rate for out-of-home placement was 5.1 in 2021, higher than the rate in Philadelphia.

Data run on 9/1/2024.
Data reflects the federal fiscal year which runs from 10/1 to 9/30. This was done so that DHS could compare data to other jurisdictions.
Current population of children in Philadelphia drawn from the American Community Survey estimates at the U.S. Census for 2024. National rate information available at Annie E. Casey Foundation data center, <https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/customreports/1/6242>.

Dependent Placements

Figure 29. Dependent Placements on June 30th of Each Year



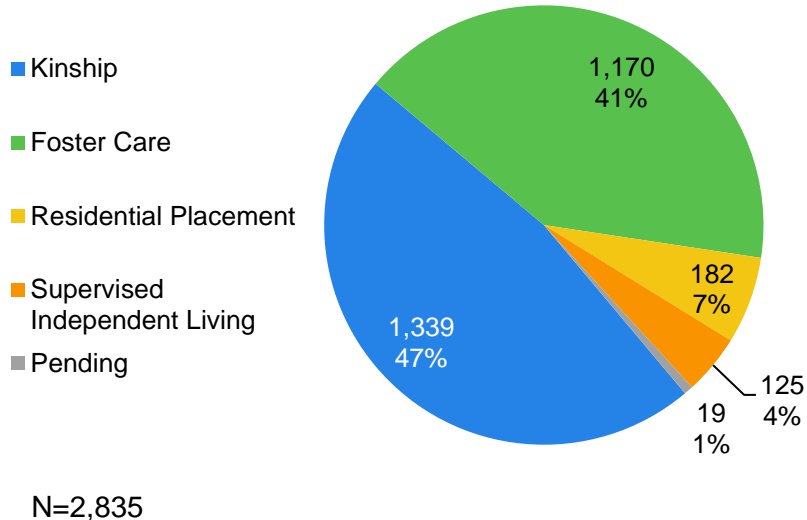
- In FY24, kinship care was less than half of all dependent placements for the first time in the last five years.
- The percentage of youth in residential placement (6.3%) was lower than in FY23 (7.1%), remaining below the most recent national average (9.5%).

Data Run on 9/1/2024.

Residential Placement national average was calculated by aggregating national institution and group home totals reported in AFCARS Reports. Current average is from AFCARS Report # 29, Preliminary Estimate for Federal Fiscal Year 2021, the most recent report available.

Dependent Placement Services

Figure 30. Children in Dependent Placements on June 30, 2024, by Placement Type



- Almost nine in 10 youth in placement on June 30, 2024, were in Kinship and Foster Care (88%).
- Fewer than one in 15 (6.4%) youth in placement were in residential placement.

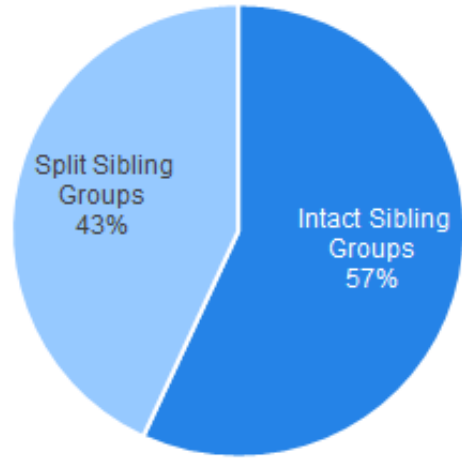
Data run on 9/1/2024
*Pending youths' service information had yet to be entered into the electronic database as of the date the data were run
Percentages for this figure have been rounded to the nearest whole number, so total will not equal 100%

Family Foster Care Sibling Composition

Table 1. Sibling Composition of Youth in Foster Care and Kinship Care on June 30, 2024

CUA	Total Number of Sibling Groups	Total Number of Intact Sibling Groups	Percentage of Intact Sibling Groups
01 - NET	44	22	50%
02 - APM	52	32	62%
03 - CONCILIO	60	34	57%
04 - CCS	30	18	60%
05 - APM	101	59	58%
06 - TABOR	51	26	51%
07 - NET	40	25	63%
08 - BETH	47	30	64%
09 - GPCA	49	27	55%
10 - TPFC	55	28	51%
Overall	529	301	57%

Figure 31. Sibling Composition of Youth in Foster Care and Kinship Care on June 30, 2024

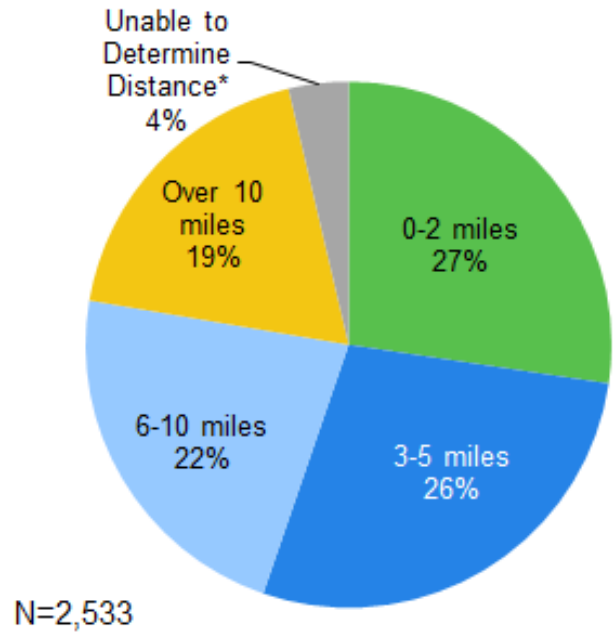


- Of the 529 sibling groups placed in Family Foster Care, 57% were placed together
- CUA 8 had the highest percentage of intact sibling groups at 64%, while CUA 1 had the lowest percentage (50%).

Data run on 9/08/2024
As of August 2024, CUA 10 is Bethanna

Family Foster Care Distance From Home

Figure 32. Distance from Home for Youth in Kinship and Foster Care as of June 30, 2024



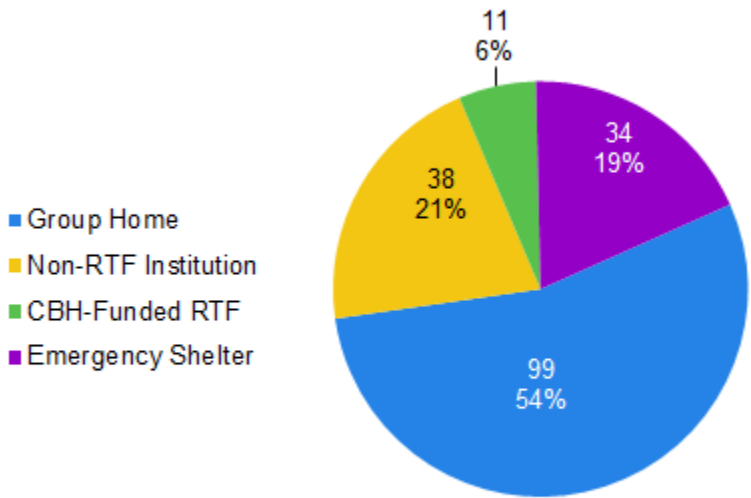
- Of the addresses that could be determined, the majority of youth in Kinship and Foster Care (53%) lived within five miles of their home of origin, and four in every five lived within 10 miles.

Data run on 7/1/2024

"Unable to Determine Distance" included houses located outside of Philadelphia or incomplete addresses that could not be geocoded. Distances were calculated using ArcMap 10.6 GIS Software. 43

Dependent Placement Services

Figure 33. Children in Dependent Residential Placement on June 30, 2024

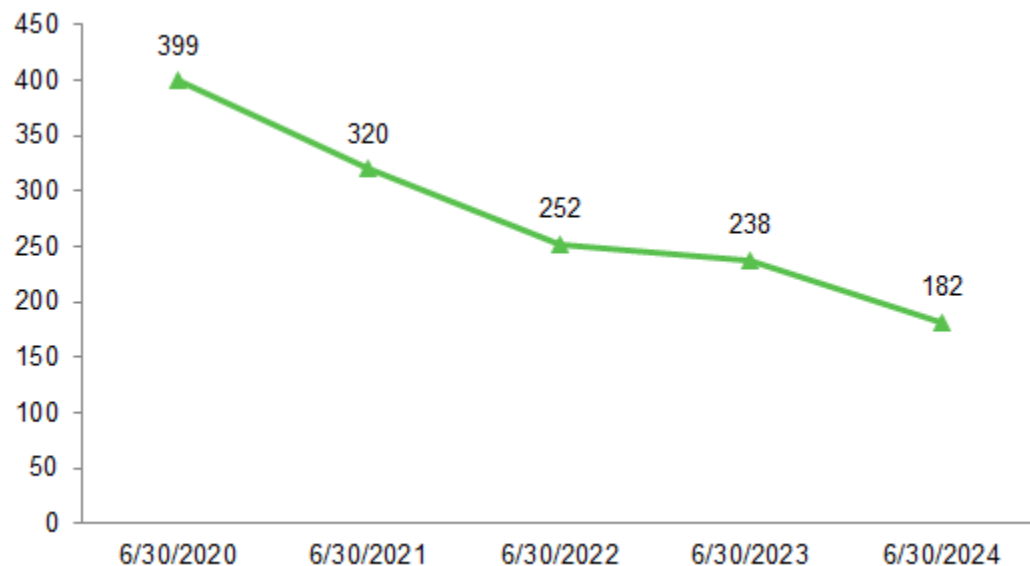


N=182

- More than half (54%) of all youth in dependent residential placement were in group homes on 6/30/24.
- Slightly over one in five (21%) youth were in a non-Residential Treatment Facility (non-RTF).

Dependent Placement Services

Figure 34. Dependent Residential Placement Totals on June 30, 2024



- Since June 30, 2020, the number of dependent youth in residential placement settings decreased 54% from 399 youth to 182 youth.
- For the same timespan, overall youth in dependent placements decreased by 41%.

Dependent Residential Placement Distance from Home

Table 2. Distance between Residential Placement Facilities and City Limits as of June 30, 2024

Distance	# of Facilities	# of Youth
In Philadelphia	10 (26%)	64 (35%)
Within 5 Miles	7 (18%)	66 (36%)
6 - 10 Miles	6 (16%)	13 (7%)
11 - 25 Miles	5 (13%)	12 (7%)
26 - 50 Miles	6 (16%)	12 (7%)
Over 50 Miles	4 (11%)	15 (8%)
Total	38	182

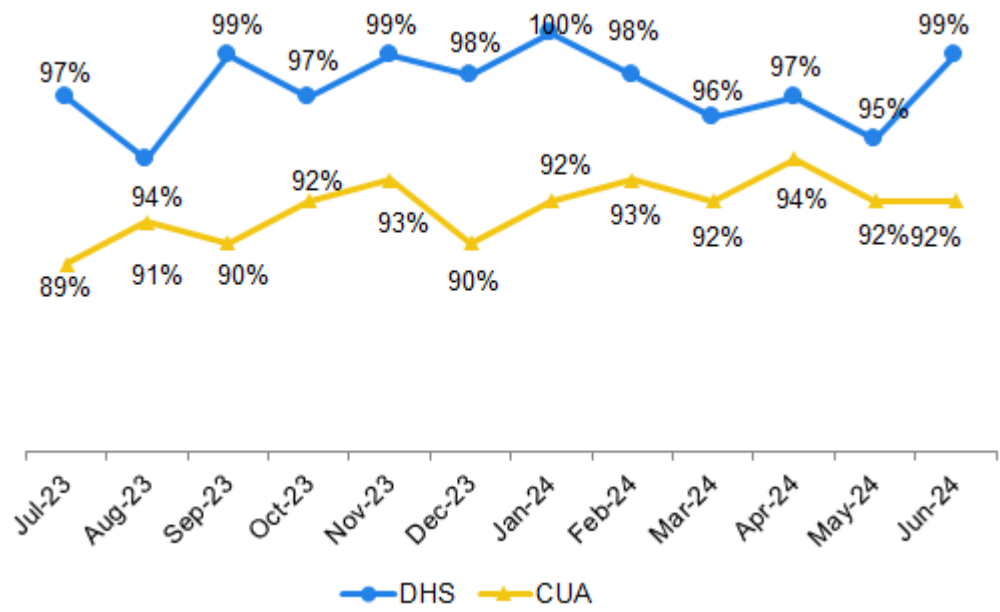
- 60% of dependent residential placement facilities (serving 78% of youth) were either in Philadelphia or within 10 miles of the City limits.

Data run on 7/1/2024

A facility is defined as an agency site and/or campus. Providers with multiple sites within the same ZIP code are considered a campus and counted only once. Providers with sites spread across multiple zip codes are counted multiple times—once for every ZIP code.

Monthly Visitation

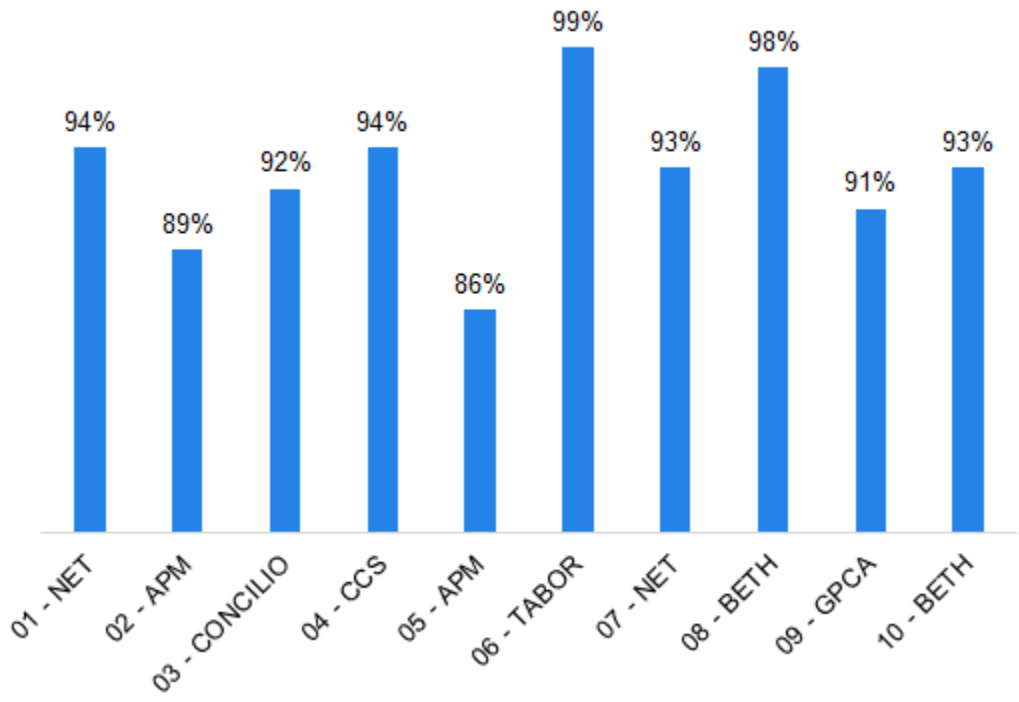
Figure 35. DHS and CUA Visitation Rates by Month



- DHS monthly visitation rates have exceeded 94% throughout FY24.
- Overall CUA monthly visitation rate remained relatively stable with an increasing trendline during FY24.

Monthly Visitation

Figure 36. June 2024 Visitation Rates, by CUA



- In June 2024, eight CUAs had visitation rates above 90%.
- The lowest two visitation rates from June 2024 (86% and 89%) were both higher than the lowest rates in June 2023 (81% and 85%).

Caseload

Table 3. Case Management Workers' Caseload Distribution on June 30, 2024

CUA	Total Workers	Total Cases	Median Caseload	Average Caseload
01 - NET	30	317	11	11
02 - APM	16	227	16	14
03 - CONCILIO	22	309	16	14
04 - CCS	20	215	14	11
05 - APM	22	395	18	18
06 - TABOR	27	256	10	9
07 - NET	29	286	11	10
08 - BETH	31	266	10	9
09 - GPCA	25	287	14	11
10 - TPFC	38	305	9	8
Overall	260	2,863	11	11

- The average caseload for CUAs was 11 cases per worker.
- CUA 10 had the lowest average caseload (8), and CUA 5 had more than double that at 18.
 - CUA 5 also had the largest number of cases (395).

Data run on 9/1/2024

Cases that did not have a case manager designated in the electronic database at the time the data were run were excluded from the analysis

As of August 2024, CUA 10 is Bethanna



Dependent Services Summary

- There were fewer families open at the end of FY24 than in the previous four fiscal years. Both the number of families with In-Home Services and children with Placement Services continued to decrease from previous fiscal years.
- Slightly less than half of youth in dependent placement were in kinship care, lower than in previous fiscal years.
- The total number of youth in dependent residential placement placements continues to decrease.
- Some CUAs experience lower visitation rates and high caseloads.

In summary, while some CUAs experienced challenges, as a system, more children and youth are maintained in their own homes and communities.



Juvenile Justice Programs

Glossary of Terms

DHS Juvenile Justice Programs provide prevention and diversion services, alternatives to detention, and detention and placement services for youth with juvenile justice involvement.

- **Intensive Prevention Services (IPS)** - Community-based services that provide support to youth (ages 10-19) who are having disciplinary issues at school or conflicts at home. The goal is to improve their behavior and prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system.
- **Evening Reporting Centers (ERCs)** - Serve as alternatives to detention. ERCs offer programming to help youth complete probation terms, prevent re-placement in the juvenile justice system, and successfully reintegrate them into their communities. There are four different ERCs:
 - **The Pre-ERC:** for youth in the pre adjudicatory phase.
 - **The Community Intervention Center (CIC) ERC:** for youth during their court case.
 - **The Post-ERC:** for youth after their case has been adjudicated.
 - **Aftercare ERC (AERC):** for youth who have been discharged from JJ residential placement.

Glossary of Terms (continued)

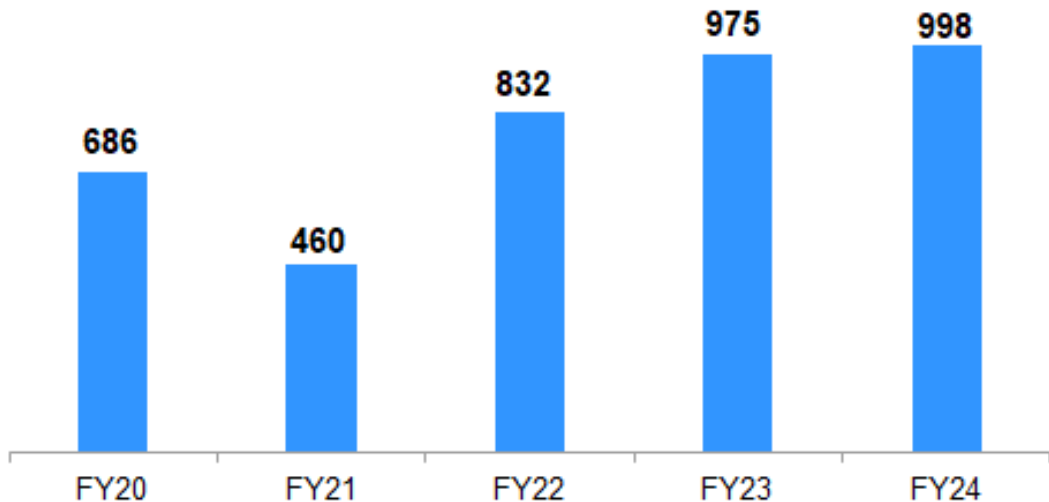
Juvenile Justice Detention and Residential Placement and Measures

- **Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)** - Philadelphia's only secure juvenile detention center for youth. The PJJSC holds youth at the request of the Courts while they wait for their cases to be heard.
- **Delinquent Residential Placement** - Facility-based placements for juvenile justice-involved youth who are adjudicated delinquent by the Court and ordered into placement in a residential placement service contracted by DHS. Includes Group Homes, CBH-Funded Residential Treatment Facilities (RTFs), Non-RTF Institutions, and State Institutions.
- **Length of Stay** - Amount of time youth has spent in a particular service location. Length of stay is calculated by taking the median number of days stayed for all youth leaving the PJJSC or residential placement within a specific time period.

Intensive Prevention Services

Intensive Prevention Services (IPS) serve youth between 10 and 19 years old who are at risk for becoming dependent or juvenile justice-involved due to high-risk behaviors.

Figure 37. IPS Service **Referrals**



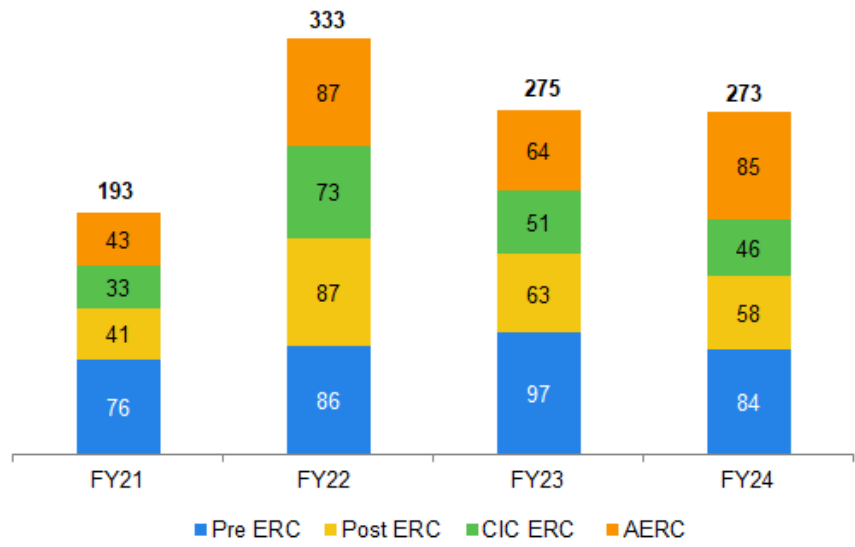
- 998 youth were referred to IPS in FY24, more than in the previous four fiscal years.

Data run on 9/8/2024
Service Referrals consist of all youth referred who were eligible to be served.

Evening Reporting Centers

Evening Reporting Centers (ERCs) are community-based, afterschool programs that provide daily structured activities and serve as an alternative to placement for juvenile justice-involved youth ages 14-18.

Figure 38. Youth Receiving Evening Reporting Center Services



- Evening Reporting Centers served 273 youth in FY24.
- AERC served the most youth in FY24 with 85 youth, followed closely by Pre-ERC with 84 youth.

Evening Reporting Center Types

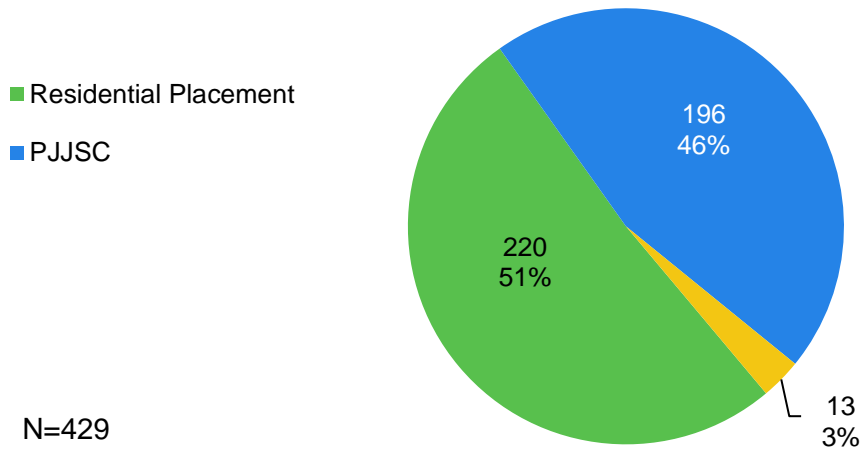
- **The Pre-ERC:** for youth in the pre-adjudicatory phase
- **The Community Intervention Center (CIC) ERC:** for youth during their court case
- **The Post-ERC:** for youth after their case has been adjudicated
- **Aftercare ERC (AERC):** for youth who have been discharged from JJ residential placement

Data run on 9/8/2024

Juvenile Justice Involved Youth Placed Outside of Home

PJJSC, Delinquent Residential Placement & Community Placements

Figure 39. Juvenile Justice Involved Youth Placed Outside of the Home on June 30, 2024, by Location



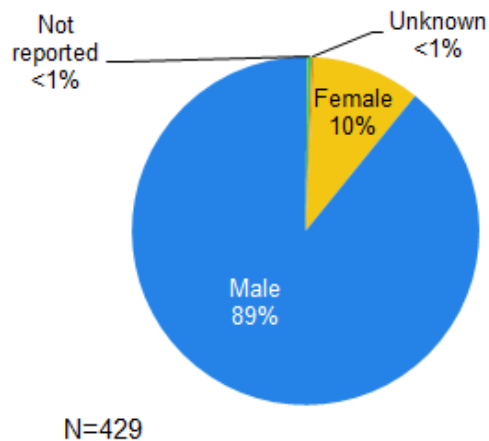
- On June 30, 2024, there were 429 juvenile justice-involved youth placed outside the home.
- More than half (51%) of youth were placed in residential placement, and 46% were detained at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC).

Data run on 9/8/2024
"Other community placements" include foster care and supervised independent living
Data for Juvenile Justice-involved youth in placement alternatives, such as GPS monitoring, are not tracked directly by DHS
Percentages in pie chart may not equal 100% because of rounding

Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth Demographics – June 30, 2024

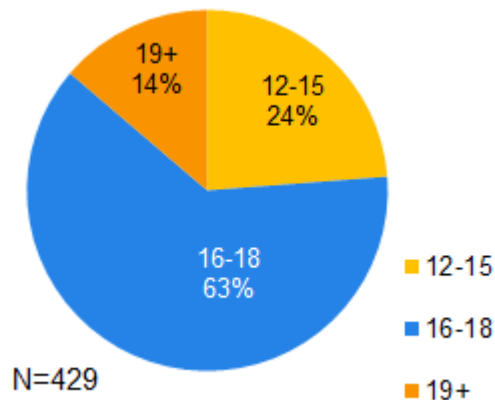
PJJSC, Delinquent Residential Placement & Community Placements

Figure 40. Sex



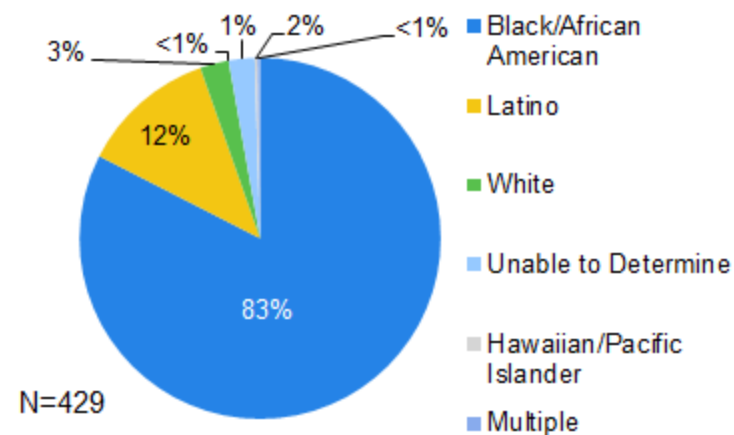
- As of 6/30/24, nearly all (89%) juvenile justice-involved youth were male.

Figure 41. Age



- Over three in five (63%) juvenile justice-involved youth were between the ages of 16 and 18 years old.

Figure 42. Race/Ethnicity

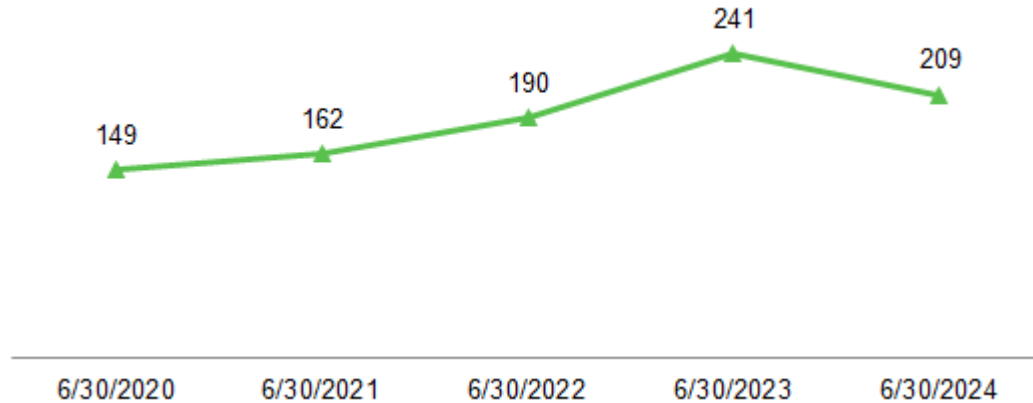


- Over 4 in 5 (83%) juvenile justice-involved youth were Black/African American.

Juvenile Justice Placement Services

PJJSC

Figure 43. PJJSC Placement Totals on June 30, 2024

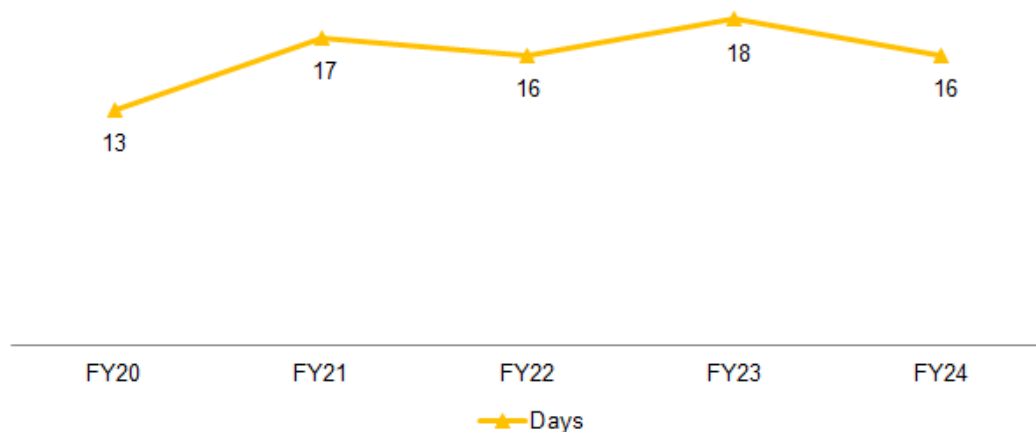


- At the end of FY24, there were 209 youth detained in the PJJSC.
- Since June 30, 2020, the number of youth in the PJJSC has increased by 40% from 149 youth to 209 youth.

Juvenile Justice Placement Services

PJJSC Length of Stay

Figure 44. Median Length of Stay (Days) for Youth Exiting the **PJJSC**



- The median length of stay for youth who left the PJJSC during FY24 was 16 days.
- The median length of stay for youth leaving the PJJSC has remained relatively stable since FY21.

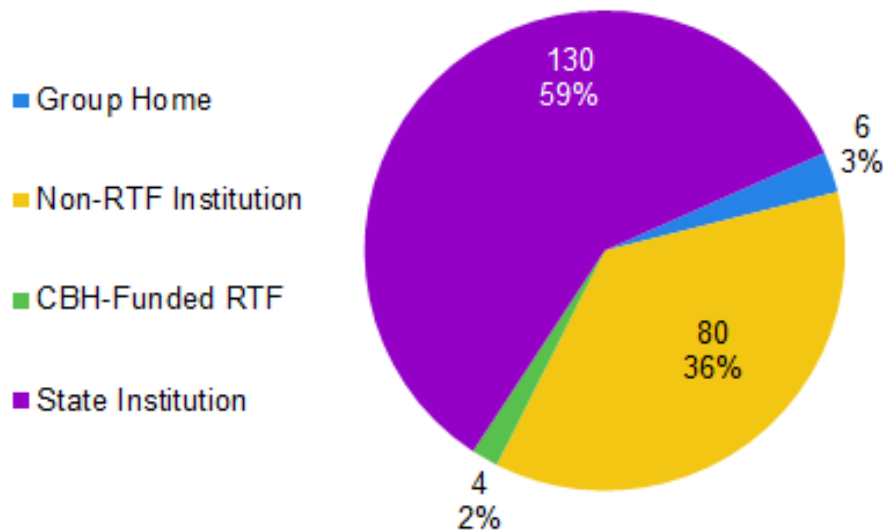
Data run on 7/1/2024

Median length of stay (midpoint) is used to describe trends in length of stay over average length of stay, which can be affected by very long and short stayers. Youth who entered and exited the PJJSC on the same day were not counted.

This measure uses an exit cohort which may over represent those youth who leave the PJJSC quickly.

Juvenile Justice Placement Services *Delinquent Residential Placement*

Figure 45. Children in Delinquent Residential Placement on June 30, 2024



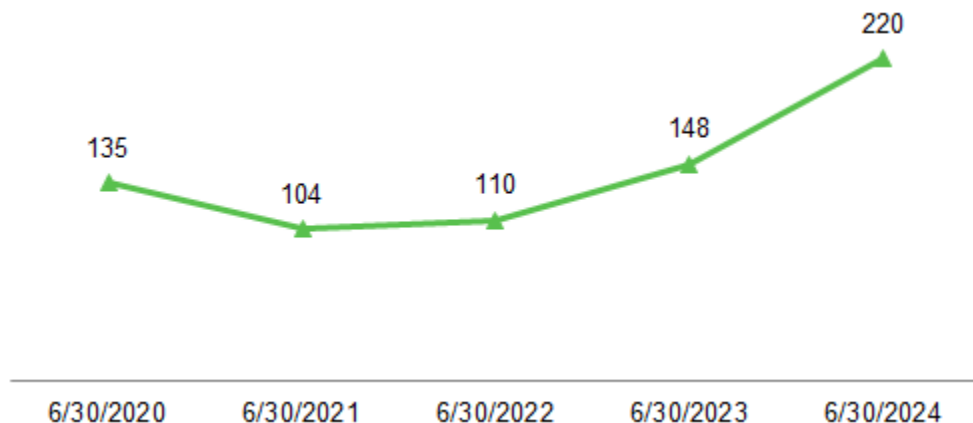
- Three in five (59%) youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement on June 30, 2024, were placed in a state institution.
- One in 20 (5%) youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement were in Group Home or CBH-Funded RTF settings.

N=220

Juvenile Justice Placement Services

Delinquent Residential Placement

Figure 46. Delinquent Residential Placement Totals on June 30, 2024

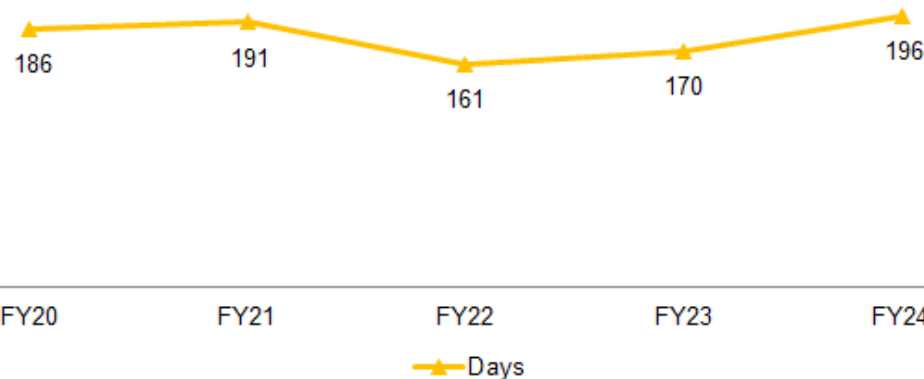


- Since June 30, 2020, the total number of youth in Delinquent Residential Placement settings settled before increasing from a low of 104 youth to the current high at 220.
- The increase in youth in Delinquent Residential Placement settings represents a 63% increase over five years, more than doubling since FY21.

Juvenile Justice Placement Services

Delinquent Residential Placement

Figure 47. Median Length of Stay (Days) for Youth Exiting **Delinquent Residential Placement**



- The median length of stay for youth who left Delinquent Residential Placement settings in FY24 was 196 days, slightly higher than in the previous four fiscal years.

Data run on 7/1/2024

Median length of stay (midpoint) is used to describe trends in length of stay over average length of stay, which can be affected by very long and short stayers. Residential Placement placements include Group Homes, CBH-Funded Residential Treatment Facilities (RTFs), Non-RTF Institutions, and State Institutions. This measure uses an exit cohort which may over represent those youth who leave residential placement quickly.

Delinquent Residential Placement Distance from Home

Table 4. Distance between Residential Placement Facilities and City Limits as of June 30, 2024

Distance	# of Facilities	# of Youth
In Philadelphia	1 (7%)	3 (1%)
Within 10 Miles	1 (7%)	2 (1%)
11 – 50 Miles	1 (7%)	9 (4%)
51 – 100 Miles	3 (20%)	78 (35%)
101 – 200 Miles	4 (27%)	99 (45%)
200 + Miles	5 (33%)	29 (13%)
Total	15	220

- Only one Delinquent Residential Placement facility (serving just three youth) was located in Philadelphia.
- One more facility was within 10 miles of City limits, housing just 2 youth.



Juvenile Justice Services Summary

- In FY24, Intensive Prevention Services, a juvenile justice prevention-diversion program, received more referrals than in the previous four fiscal years. Evening Reporting Centers provided an alternative to detention for 273 youth.
- The number of youth detained at the PJJSC decreased slightly, while the number of youth in Delinquent Residential Placement increased sharply.
- Youth are experiencing longer lengths of stay at the PJJSC and in Delinquent Residential Placement than five years ago, but the length of stay has stabilized.
- Only one Residential Placement facility serving just three youth was located in Philadelphia.

In summary, DHS served more children and youth in their own homes and communities through juvenile justice prevention-diversion programs and alternatives to detention. However, taken together, the number of youth in Residential Placement increased and most Residential Placement facilities for JJ involved-youth are far from Philadelphia.



Permanency

Glossary of Terms

DHS Permanency Services aim to reunite children in placement with their families of origin or with a permanent family to achieve a stable, long-term living arrangement.

- **Reunification** - Process of returning children in dependent placement with their families of origin. Reunification is always attempted first for children in dependent placement.
- **Adoption** - Process of establishing a legal relationship of parent and child between persons who are not related by birth with the same rights and obligations that exist between children and their birth parents.
- **Permanent Legal Custodianship (PLC)** - The legal option the Court can approve granting legal custody of a child to a person or persons without fully terminating the birth parents' rights.

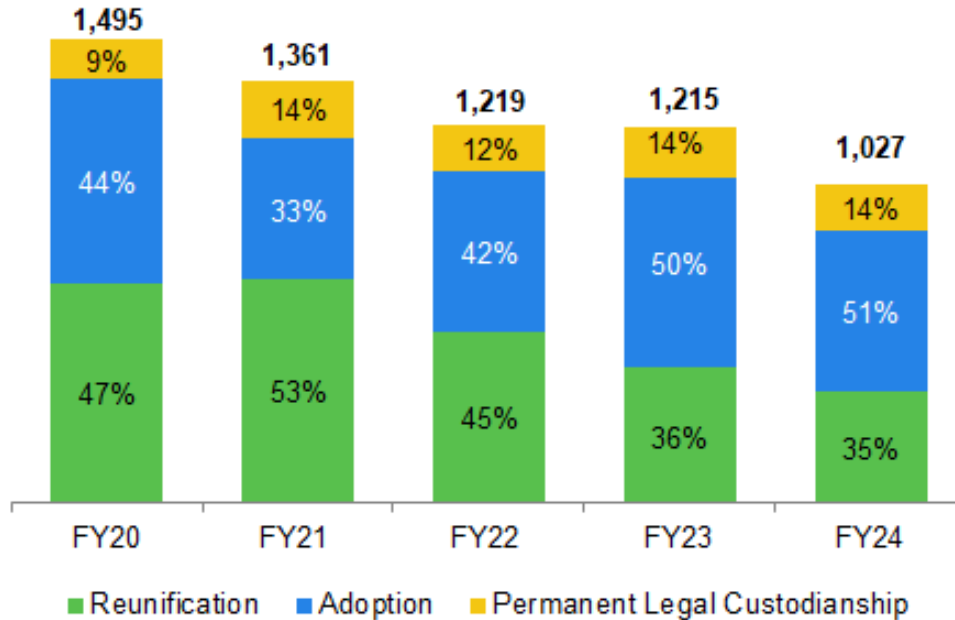
Glossary of Terms (continued)

Permanency Measures

- **Performance Based Contracting (PBC) Permanency Timeliness Measures** - allows DHS to incentivize and reward CUAs financially who excel in the area of permanency. PBC measures follow youth from the time they enter care instead of looking at only youth who leave care and have separate measures assessing both timeliness and stability.
 - **T1** - Performance Based Contracting (PBC) permanency timeliness measure. Measures the proportion of youth who achieved permanency within a year of entering care.
 - **T2** - Performance Based Contracting (PBC) permanency timeliness measure. Measures the proportion of youth who achieved permanency within 36 months for youth in care for at least 12 continuous months.
- **One Year Re-Entry Rate** - Percentage of children who are reunified that re-enter foster care within one year of reunification.
- Permanency data are only presented for the first half and full fiscal year to more clearly show patterns on youth attaining permanency.

Permanency Rates and Totals

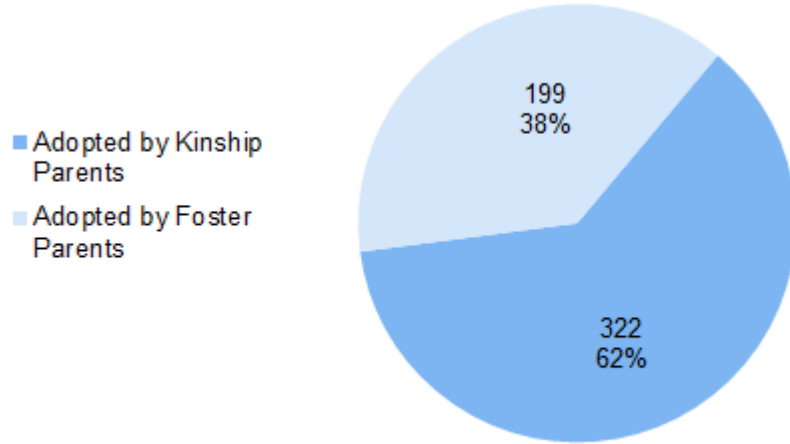
Figure 48. Permanency Totals by Permanency Type



- In FY24 1,027 children and youth attained permanency through Reunification, Adoption, and Permanent Legal Custodianship.
- Slightly more than one in three (35%) permanencies in FY24 were Reunifications, continuing a recent downward trend.

Adoptions and Permanent Legal Custody (PLC)

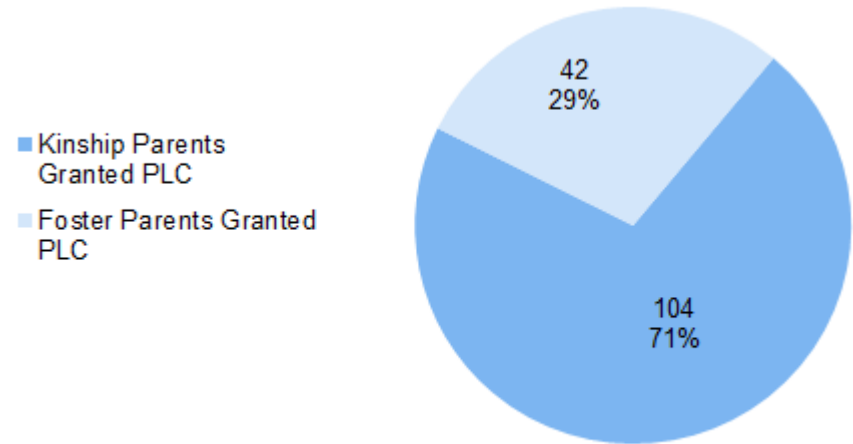
Figure 49. Youth Who were **Adopted** by Foster and Kinship Parents



N=521

- Of the 521 children and youth who were adopted in FY24, six in 10 (62%) were adopted by their kinship parents.

Figure 50. Youth Who were **Discharged to PLC** with Foster and Kinship Parents



N=146

- Of the 146 children and youth who were discharged to PLC, seven in 10 (71%) were discharged to their kinship parents.

Permanency Timeliness – PBC Measures

- Since FY19, DHS has been evaluating system permanency using our Performance Based Contracting (PBC).
- As an established best practice, we are now only reporting the PBC measures.
- **PBC measures are based on entry cohorts.** This means we track all youth who enter within the given fiscal year to determine how many achieve permanency within 12 and 36 months.
- **Entry cohorts are considered best practice** when measuring the experiences of children in placement because of their accuracy and ability to track changes over time.^{1,2}

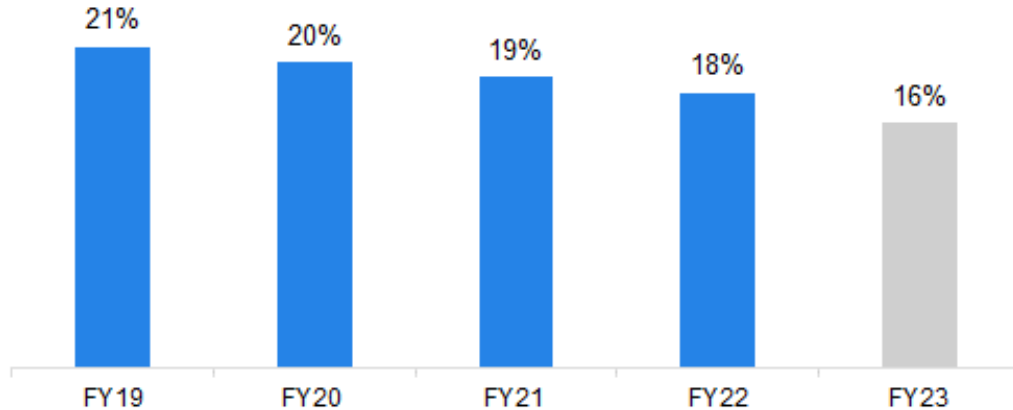
¹Wulczyn, F., Alpert, L., Orlebeke, B., & Haight, J. (2014). Principles, language, and shared meaning: Toward a common understanding of CQI in child welfare. *The Center for State Child Welfare Data, Chapin Hall: Chicago, IL, USA.*

²Courtney, M. E., Needell, B., & Wulczyn, F. (2004). Unintended consequences of the push for accountability: The case of national child welfare performance standards. *Children and Youth Services Review, 26*(12), 1141-1154.

Permanency Timeliness –PBC Measures

Figure 51. Timeliness of Permanency – PBC T1

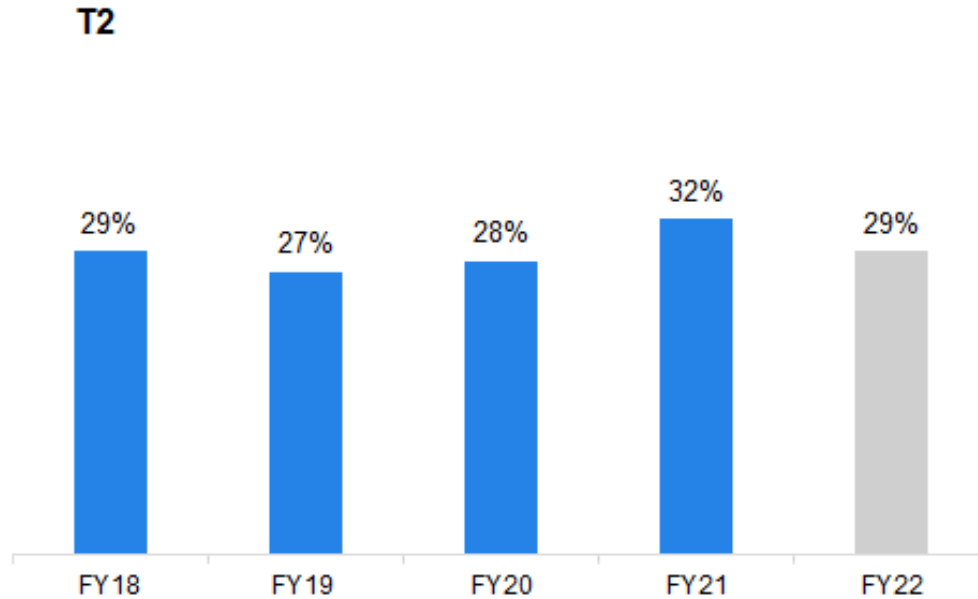
T1



- **PBC T1** measures the percentage of youth who reached permanency within 12 months of entering placement.
- About one in six youth (16%) who entered placement in FY23 reached permanency within 12 months—lower than the previous fiscal years and the benchmark of 30%.

Permanency Timeliness –PBC Measures

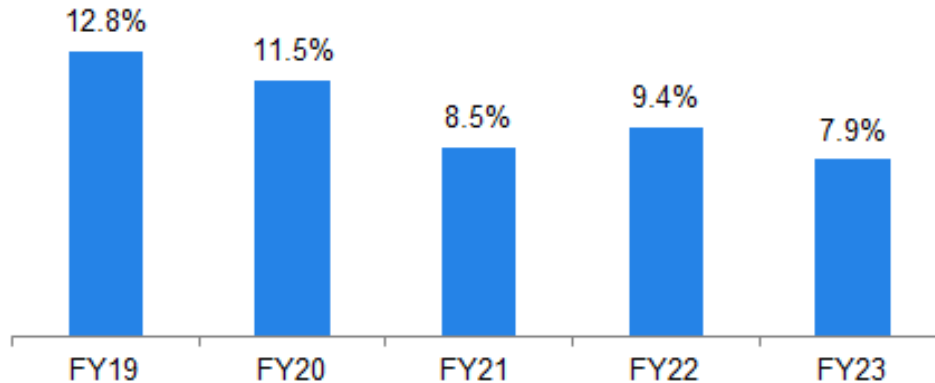
Figure 52. Timeliness of Permanency – PBC T2



- **PBC T2** measures the percentage of youth that reached permanency within 36 months for youth in care for at least 12 continuous months.
- Not quite three in 10 (29%) youth who entered placement during FY22 and remained in care for at least 12 months reached permanency within 36 months, just below the 30% benchmark.

Permanency Re-Entry

Figure 53. One-Year Re-Entry Rate



- Fewer than one in 12 (7.9%) youth who were reunified in FY23, re-entered dependent placement within one year.
- This percentage is lower than the last five years.
- The FY23 re-entry rate was lower than the most recent PA state rate (13.2%), but slightly higher than the US national rate (7.5%).

Data run on 9/1/2024

Pennsylvania state and National median re-entry rates were obtained from the Children's Bureau's most recent public Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data. The most current publicly available National and PA state figures are from 2019 and are located here: <https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/fourTwo/index>



Permanency Summary

- The percentage of permanencies through Reunification decreased in FY24 from recent previous fiscal years.
- Both the percentage of permanencies within one year and the percentage within 36 months decreased in the most recent year.
- Re-entry of children to Foster Care following Reunification decreased slightly from last year and remains lower than the Commonwealth.

In summary, permanency within one year or 36 months decreased. Also, FY24 saw a continued downward trend in the percentage of permanencies that were Reunifications.



Questions?

Thank You!



Office of
Children and Families
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Department of Human Services